

acp-2021-100
Responses (highlighted with blue) to Referee #2
31 May 2021

General comment:

The manuscript described two different wind intensification cases in a mountain area from one event, using the reanalysis data, Doppler lidar data, and wind profiler data. The authors performed many analyses using the limited datasets, and the manuscript included many figures. However, the manuscript lacked important descriptions about the novelty of this study, validations of the data used, and the generality of the observed case(s), as commented below.

We appreciate Referee#2's helpful and constructive comments, which help us to improve the manuscript substantially. We have more emphasized the importance and uniqueness of our selected event; the capability and reliability of adopted datasets were also addressed in our revised manuscript. Additionally, the climatological information has been added to understand more about the generality for the event. A set of responses to your comments is provided below and specific locations of revised manuscript were also noted as following responses and revised/added lines in the manuscript.

Major comments:

- If I understand the study correctly, the manuscript described two different wind intensification cases from one event. The first part of the manuscript described characteristics of a wind intensification observed at the lee side of the mountain range, and the latter part described another intensification in a valley. The title of this manuscript included "downslope," therefore, I did not know why the latter part was needed. I could not understand the relationship between the two intensification cases. The introduction also lacked information about the relationship.

Thank you for pointing out the problems. In this extreme strong wind event, there were two different wind patterns (one is more like "gust" in the leeward side of the mountain, another one is "sustained" strong wind over the mountainous area), and they all have huge impacts on human activities (ex: Olympic games and wildfires) in Korea. Furthermore, these two different wind patterns were both presented near Taebeak Mountain Range (TMR) at the same time when a low-pressure system (LPS) was approaching. The results implied that the interactions between large-scale weather systems and complex terrain should play an important role in dominating the wind patterns in this area. We have analyzed the detailed evolution of the winds and their

mechanisms have been verified. Although the pressure gradient force (PGF) is main factor to accelerate the winds, different mechanisms were found in these two locations due to different topographic features. A description has been improved (especially in abstract, [Lines 45-47](#)) and to emphasize the discrepancies of wind patterns in this mountain range, additionally, the title has been modified for clarity.

- It seems that a large part of the analysis of this study relies on the reanalysis data (LDAPS), which are not pure observational data. Were the observations assimilated enough to resolve the local wind intensifications (time? spatial resolution?)? The authors should provide more details about the dataset and evaluate the dataset in terms of how the data can resolve the local wind intensifications.

It is a valid point. In this study, we use the reanalysis dataset of the LDAPS but does not used its forecast outputs. Basically, the LDAPS reanalysis dataset was assimilated by various platforms with high resolution of wind observations (like weather radar, AWS, sounding, wind profiler and satellite). The errors between conventional observations and LDAPS have been minimized conscientiously by the KMA and the quality of wind information is able to resolve small-scale weather phenomena over complex terrain in Korea. We modified the title to “**An analysis of an extreme wind event in a clear air condition associated with a low-pressure system during ICE-POP 2018**”. The detailed descriptions about the LDAPS dataset have been improved in Section 2.3 ([Line 220](#)).

- This manuscript presented a case study of one case only and lacked descriptions/analysis about the generality of the event. How frequent did the wind intensifications happen? Is the mesoscale pressure pattern common? Did the mesoscale pressure pattern always produce the wind intensifications? Are the analyzed phenomena unique in this area?

This a particularly good suggestion. The uniqueness of our selected event has been addressed based on the historic observational record of KMA. In fact, this event is one of two extreme strong wind events in past decade. The two extreme strong wind events were both affected by the passing LPS (low-pressure system), the result implied that the mesoscale pressure pattern is usually an important factor to dominate the wind intensifications in Korea. The detailed descriptions about the climatological information have been revised in [Lines 352-367](#).

- It was unclear what is the new finding(s) of this study. What are different compared with the previous studies?

This study is first attempt to document the evolution of extreme strong winds in the TMR associated with the moving LPS by observationally cased datasets. Furthermore, the mechanisms of the strong winds over complex terrain have also been verified. Although there were a few numerical studies to investigate the wind patterns and they provided some explanations in the same areas, it still lacks observationally based evidence to convince their findings. This study provided new insights that the PGF play an important role to accelerate the wind speed, however, there were two different mechanisms dominating the PGF associated with the interactions between the LPS and terrain (i.e., channeling effect and adiabatic heating coupled with LPS). We have emphasized these points in the paragraphs of this revision ([Lines 102-106, Lines 139-142](#)).

- It was tough to follow the manuscript, because I felt a difficulty to identify a downstream/upstream site through the manuscript. I was confused about which site corresponded to a downstream/upstream in each sentence. I think that major reasons of my confusion are:
- Observation sites had similar names (e.g., DGW, GWW, GWU).

Since these were officially given names from the KMA, we still prefer to use those names in this study. However, we summarized that information for each station in a table ([Line 211](#)) to make it clearer (based on the suggestion from Referee#1).

- Fonts of the site names in each figure are too small.

The fonts of the site names have been enlarged in all figures throughout the manuscript.

- In the first part of the study, DGW was referred as an upstream site, while it was referred as a downstream site in the later part. I would suggest reorganizing the paragraph or rewording sentences to make the reader easy to identify the downstream/upstream sites.

The paragraphs and sections have been reorganized and the words (upstream) have been replaced when we mentioned the difference between the YPO and DGW (Section 4.2.2, [Line 635](#)).

- It was unclear that how the pressure gradient force was produced by adiabatic warming at the lee side of the mountain. Was there precipitation in the mountain area? It was also unclear that how/why the pressure gradient force was intensified in the DGW site.

To clarify the causes of PGF in the leeward side of the mountain. We were following a constructive suggestion from Referee#1; relatively lower pressure may have contributed from large-scale weather systems. Therefore, we did a new analysis to evaluate the contributions from the LPS. The results from this new analysis suggested that relatively lower pressure was deduced by the combined effect in speed-up stage. In particular, the PGF was produced by adiabatic warming coupled with the passing LPS at the leeward side of the mountain, the details about the intensified PGF have been revised in last paragraph in Section 4.1.2 ([Lines 579-597](#)) and Figure 10. There are no precipitation along the northeastern coast of South Korea according to the AWS observations. Thus, we can eliminate the effects from the precipitation in this event.

- Language:
- There were so many “can” and “could” used in the manuscript, especially in Section 2. This obfuscates the sentences. I was confused by this, and it was unclear that the things were actually done or not.

We have checked these problems and corrected them carefully throughout the manuscript.

- Sentences with past forms and those with present forms were mixed inconsistently in the same paragraphs, even in the same sentences.

The manuscript edited by a professional editorial company to avoid this kind of sentences and to improve readability.

- There were many sentences that used parentheses to state inverse things (e.g., lines 405, 420, and many others). I needed to read the sentences back and forth. This technique should not be used so frequently in a manuscript.

We have fixed all of these sentences throughout the manuscript.

- “East Sea”: Because I did not know “East Sea,” I googled it and found that there is “Sea of Japan naming dispute.” I recommend using “Sea of Japan,” which has been

most commonly, historically used in the world, or putting down with "East Sea," like "Sea of Japan (a.k.a. East Sea in Korea)." Alternatively, do not use both names in the manuscript to avoid the unnecessary argue.

We modified to "East Sea in Korea" ([Line 328](#))

Minor comments:

Line 49: GDW was first used here.

Rewords to "a mountainous station" in abstract for clarity ([Lines 53-54](#)).

Figure 2: Use consistent formats for x- and y-axis labels.

The format of labels in Figure 2 have been modified ([Line 319](#)).

Line 323: What is 184 for?

This redundant word has been removed.

Figure 4: What does the wind burb direction represent? Horizontal wind direction, direction along the cross section, or others?

The tail of wind barbs indicates the wind direction. This description about the wind barbs has been added in the figure caption ([Line 404-405](#)).

10 and 11: Are the labels of terms consistent? I was confused.

They are different. Since the wind speed have significantly different between lower and higher layers, it is difficult to identify the wind speed patterns by the same color. Thus, we preferred to use different color labels in these two figures to emphasize their characteristics.

Line 470 "sub-cloud warming": Did clouds form? Where? Maybe this manuscript needs more descriptions about the weather condition including clouds (and precipitation).

Introduction highlighted and stated that wind intensification influences precipitation, while this case did not produce precipitation. This could be a reason that the value of this study was ambiguous.

There were no precipitation in this event, to avoid the confusing and follow the suggestions from the reviewer. We have removed redundant descriptions about the precipitation in introduction and emphasize clear air conditions in this event ([Lines 335-338](#)). We have also evaluated the contributions from large-scale weather system. The

results indicates that the PGF was produced by adiabatic warming coupled with the passing LPS. The details have been revised in Section 4.1.2 ([Lines 579-597](#)).

Lines 366-367: I did not understand how/why the propagation of the upper wind toward the low level was related to the wind intensification.

This sentence was moved to [Lines 504-505](#) to appropriately explain the wind intensifications from the LDAPS dataset.

Figure 11: I did not see any wind intensification near the surface at the DGW site. This is inconsistent with Fig. 13. Why?

There were no significant wind intensifications at the DGW site since it has manifested persistent strong wind when the LPS was approaching. This sustained strong wind produced the PGF associated with channeling effects, and the channeling effect accelerated the wind speed only around the DGW site. This is the reason why DGW always measures stronger wind than the YPO site (this result is consistent with Figure 13).

Line 564: What does “an almost out of phase” mean?

It means that there is a negative relation (opposite phase) between the wind speed and pressure. The wind speed usually increased when the pressure was dropped. The description has been improved in [Line 640](#).

Lines 572-576: I could not understand this sentence. This is too long. Please also check the grammar.

This sentence has been removed due to the new analysis was performed.

Lines 626-630: The sentences did not make sense to me. The second sentence did not follow the third sentence. Maybe need more descriptions.

These sentences have been revised for clarity in [Lines 695-704](#).

Line 651: I could not find the high wind speed area.

The color labels have been changed in Figure 15 ([Line 729](#)) to clarify the strong wind speed near the DGW site (narrow segment along the valley).

**An analysis of an extreme wind event in a clear air condition
associated with a low-pressure system during ICE-POP 2018**

**Chia-Lun Tsai¹, Kwonil Kim¹, Yu-Chieng Liou², Jung-Hoon Kim³, YongHee Lee⁴, and
GyuWon Lee^{*1}**

¹Department of Astronomy and Atmospheric Sciences, Center for Atmospheric REmote
sensing (CARE), Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Korea

²Department of Atmospheric Sciences, National Central University, Jhongli, Taiwan

³School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea

⁴Numerical Modeling Center (NMC), Korea Meteorological Administration, Seoul, Korea

Revised

Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics

31 May 2021

* Corresponding author: Prof. GyuWon Lee, E-mail: gyuwon@knu.ac.kr

35 **Abstract**

36 An extreme wind event under clear air conditions on 13–15 February 2018 during the 2018
37 Winter Olympic and Paralympic games in Pyeongchang, Korea, was examined using various
38 observational datasets and reanalysis data. High spatiotemporal resolution wind information was
39 obtained by Doppler lidars, automatic weather stations (AWSs), a wind profiler, sounding
40 observations, global reanalysis (ERA5) and the local reanalysis datasets from the 3DVAR data
41 assimilation system under the International Collaborative Experiments for Pyeongchang 2018
42 Olympic and Paralympic winter games (ICE-POP 2018). This study aimed to understand the
43 possible generation mechanisms of localized strong winds across a high mountainous area and
44 on the leeward side of mountains associated with the underlying large-scale pattern of a low-
45 pressure system (LPS). The evolution of surface winds shows quite different patterns, exhibiting
46 1) intensification of strong winds in the leeward side and 2) persistent strong winds in upstream
47 mountainous areas with the approaching LPS. The two different mechanisms of strong winds
48 were investigated. The surface wind speed was intensified dramatically from ~ 3 to $\sim 12 \text{ m s}^{-1}$
49 (gusts were stronger than 20 m s^{-1} above the ground) at a surface station in the leeward side of
50 the mountain range. A budget analysis of the horizontal momentum equation suggested that the
51 pressure gradient force (PGF) contributed from adiabatic warming and the passage of LPS was
52 the main factor in the dramatic acceleration of the surface wind in the downslope, leeward side
53 of the mountains. However, a mountainous station appeared to have persistent strong winds (~ 10
54 m s^{-1}). Detailed analysis of the retrieved 3D winds revealed that the PGF also dominated at the
55 mountainous station, which caused persistent strong winds related to the channeling effect along
56 the narrow segment of the valley in the mountainous area. The observational evidence showed
57 that under the same synoptic condition of a LPS, different mechanisms are important for strong
58 winds in this local areas in determining the strength and persistence of orographic-induced strong
59 winds under clear air conditions.

1. Introduction

Wind is an important atmospheric phenomenon, and topography can significantly affect the behavior of winds to accelerate/decelerate the wind speed or to change the wind direction (Mitchell, 1956; Brinkmann, 1974; Houze, 2012; Yu and Tsai, 2017; Tsai et al., 2018). Such orographically strong wind and mountain waves can easily induce very large impacts on aviation operations (Clark et al., 2000; Kim and Chun, 2010, 2011; Kim et al., 2019; Park et al., 2016, 2019), outdoor sport activities, and forest wildfires in a relatively dry environment under clear air conditions (Smith et al., 2018). Downslope windstorms can produce strong winds on the leeward side and play an essential role in creating and maintaining wildfires near northern California with easterly winds across the Sierra Nevada and southern Cascade Mountains (Mass and Ovens, 2019). Lee et al. (2020) also suggested that downslope windstorms favor wildfires along the northeastern coast of Korea with westerly winds across the Taebeak Mountain Range (TMR). In addition, wind speeds are also usually accelerated locally near narrow valleys or channels between mountains, such as the “gap winds” occurring along the strait of Juan de Fuca in Washington (Reed, 1931; Colle and Mass, 2000), Columbia River Gorge in Oregon (Sharp, 2002), and Jangjeon area in South Korea (Lee et al., 2020).

The environmental conditions of large-scale weather systems are key factors in determining the locations where strong winds are generated. Downslope windstorms usually occur on the leeward side of a mountain range, and the upstream prevailing wind direction is mostly perpendicular to the orientation of the mountain range. An elevated inversion layer and the height of the mean-state critical level are also important references to evaluate the occurrence of downslope windstorms. The occurrence of downslope windstorms are usually accompanied with hydraulic jumps, partial reflection, and critical-level reflection, according to various numerical and theoretical studies in the past few decades (Long, 1953; Houghton and Kasahara, 1968; Klemp and Lilly, 1975; Smith, 1985; Durran, 1990; Afanasyev and Peltier, 1998; Epifanio and

Qian, 2008; Rögnvaldsson et al., 2011; Cao and Fovell, 2016). The combination of hydraulic jumps and wave breaking can also enhance downslope windstorms and increase the wind speed (Shestakova et al., 2018; Tollinger et al., 2019). The pressure gradient force (PGF) is one of the possible factors that accelerates the wind speed near the exit of the gap between the mountains when prevailing winds blow into a narrow valley with appropriate directions (Reed, 1931; Finnigan et al., 1994; Colle and Mass, 2000). Although the characteristics of these two kinds of orographically strong winds (downslope windstorms and gap winds) are fundamentally different, they may occur on adjacent mountains at the same time (Hughes and Hall, 2010; Lee et al., 2020).

A few previous numerical studies have provided insightful explanations about the development of the strong winds associated with the downslope windstorms along the northeastern coast of South Korea (on the leeward side of the TMR). Most of the strong downslope wind events were mainly explained by the three mechanisms in this region: hydraulic jump, partial reflection, and critical-level reflection (Lee, 2003; Kim and Cheong, 2006; Jang and Chun, 2008; Lee and In, 2009). Strong winds can occur during any season with the appropriate environmental conditions, such as westerly winds and upstream inversion. Lee et al. (2020) confirmed these conclusions with numerical modeling studies. Furthermore, they also found that the PGF is one of the possible factors to produce the gap wind, and the variability of the PGF is highly related to the local topographic features. However, sufficient observational studies to examine the detailed mechanisms of orographically-induced strong winds and their relations with large-scale weather systems in Korea are still lacking because relatively dense wind observations from ground-based remote sensing techniques cannot be easily collected under clear air conditions.

Pyeongchang hosted the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2018 (most venues were located in coastal and higher elevation areas of the TMR). More detailed weather conditions and accurate prediction for several key parameters, such as precipitation, visibility, wind directions, and wind speed, are important to ensure the safety of all athletes and attendees. The Numerical

Modeling Center (NWC) of the Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA) organized an intensive field experiment named the International Collaborative Experiments for Pyeongchang 2018 Olympic and Paralympic winter games, ICE-POP 2018 (http://155.230.157.230:8080/Icepop_2018/index.jsp). A very dense observational network was built to provide a high-quality observational dataset at high temporal and spatial resolutions under either precipitation or clear air conditions. Many kinds of instruments were involved in ICE-POP 2018, which allows the observationally based investigation of the nature of the strong wind event in the nearby mountainous area.

Scanning Doppler lidar can be one approach to obtain more complete wind information in such conditions with even finer resolutions. A few studies have used Doppler lidar to document orographic flow, downslope windstorms and rotors (Neiman et al., 1988; Hill et al., 2010; Mole et al., 2017; Bell et al., 2020). Kühnlein et al. (2013) found that transient internal hydraulic jumps are characterized by turbulence. Menke et al. (2019) identified the recirculation zone over an area with complex terrain using six scanning Doppler lidars. The interactions between the winds and terrain dominantly affected the occurrence of flow recirculation. However, only radial winds were used, resulting in incomplete wind observations that can provide only limited information for realistic airflow structures. Complete 3D wind fields could be retrieved from 4D-Variational Assimilation (4DVAR) using Doppler lidar. The accuracy of wind speed, direction and water vapor flux are improved when assimilating lidar data (Kawabata, 2014). Thus, lidar observations can indeed provide high-quality 3D wind information under clear air conditions.

The objective of this study is to use high spatiotemporal resolution datasets to investigate the fine-scale structural evolution of strong winds over the complex terrain in the northeastern part of South Korea (i.e., in the Pyeongchang area) during 13–15 February 2018. Multiple Doppler lidars, automatic weather stations (AWSs), a wind profiler, sounding observations, global reanalysis (ERA5) and the local reanalysis datasets from the 3DVAR data assimilation system (LDAPS: Local Data Assimilation and Prediction System) were adopted to analyze the detailed

wind patterns over the TMR and northeastern coastal regions. The 3D winds were also derived through the WInd Synthesis System using DOppler Measurements (WISSDOM, Liou and Chang, 2009; Tsai et al., 2018) synthesis. Since only a few extreme wind events were identified here based on the KMA historic record in the past decade (see details in Section 3.1), the impact of large-scale weather systems on triggering strong winds over complex terrain is still unclear, especially under clear air conditions. Therefore, this study is the first observationally based attempt to recognize the mechanisms of the strong winds over the TMR while a low-pressure system (LPS) passes through the northern side of the Korean Peninsula. A unique extreme wind event was selected for further analysis not only because the Olympic games were interrupted due to the strong wind invading the mountainous area and leeward side of the mountain range but also because dense observations are available during ICE-POP 2018. Furthermore, three scanning Doppler lidars were established in this area, which provided more sufficient wind information under clear air conditions.

2. Data and methodology

2.1 Scanning Doppler lidar

Two different models of scanning Doppler lidars were adopted in this study: (1) “WINDEX-2000” produced by the manufacturer Laser Systems and (2) the “Stream Line” produced by the manufacturer HALO Photonics. The scanning Doppler lidar measures the radial Doppler velocity by detecting atmospheric aerosols and dust via a laser (class 1 M) at an exceedingly high spatial resolution. The radial winds were sufficiently observed by an adjustable scanning strategy in three modes: plan position indicator (PPI), range height indicator (RHI), and zenith pointing (ZP). Furthermore, these lidar observations were used to construct the complete wind information under clear air conditions via WISSDOM.

The WINDEX-2000 lidar operated a full volume scan every ~27 min with seven PPIs (elevation angles of 5°, 7°, 10°, 15°, 30°, 45°, and 80°) and one hemispheric RHI (azimuth angle of 0°, that is, starting from the north). There are 344 gates along a lidar radial direction with 360 azimuth angles between 0° and 360°. The gate spacing is 40 m, and the maximum observed radius distance is ~13 km. The Stream Line lidar operated a full volume scan every ~13 min with five PPIs (7°, 15°, 30°, 45°, and 80° before 10:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018 and 4°, 8°, 14°, 25°, and 80° after 10:00 UTC) and two hemispheric RHIs (azimuth angles of 51° and 330°). There are 1660 gates along the 360 lidar beams with azimuth angles between 0° and 360°.

Quality control (QC) of the radial winds (in PPI and RHI modes) was performed by applying the signal noise ratio (SNR) threshold in advance. To obtain correct and useful measurements, QC is necessary for each lidar observation, where the nonmeteorological echoes are removed when the SNR threshold is smaller than 0.04. This threshold was obtained by a series of tests, and it can appropriately remove most of the noise and retain sufficient meteorological signals at the same time.

2.2 Automatic weather stations (AWSs), soundings, and the wind profiler

Fig. 1 shows the main study domain (larger box in Fig. 1a), WISSDOM domain (box in Fig. 1b) and domain of mountain clusters during ICE-POP 2018. The locations of all AWSs are also marked in Fig. 1a. There were 727 regular operational stations, and the mean distance between AWS stations was ~10 km. Two distinct dense areas of the AWS observations were found: one was located near Seoul city (~37.5°N, 126.7°E), and the other was located inside the smaller box over the TMR. This is because additional AWS sites (32 stations) were deployed in the mountainous area during ICE-POP 2018. This dense AWS network (black dots in Fig. 1) is utilized to document the detailed evolution of surface parameters and as one of the constraints in WISSDOM (details are given in the following subsection). The AWSs mainly provide the surface wind speed, wind direction, pressure, and temperature at high temporal resolution (1-min

interval). Original AWS observations reveal semirandom distribution and must be interpolated on given grids in a Cartesian coordinate system after applying objective analysis (Cressman, 1959) with a suitable influence of radius (10 km in this study). These gridded AWS data will be of great benefit to WISSDOM and further analysis of wind speed changes in Korea. Note that three AWS stations were selected to represent the fluctuations of pressure, temperature and winds in the mountainous areas (YPO and DGW sites) and the leeward side of the mountain range (GWW site).

There is only one regular sounding station (GWW) inside the main study domain operated by the KMA twice a day (00Z and 12Z); such a coarse dataset is quite limited for representing the local changes in environmental conditions near the TMR. Therefore, four additional soundings (DGW, BKC, JSC, MOO) were launched every 3 hours (from 00Z) during the research period (except for the JSC site, see Table 1 for details), and the sounding sites were located inside the study domain near the northeastern part of South Korea (black squares in Figs. 1b and 1c). The MOO and JSC sounding stations were located in the southwestern TMR with a gentle slope, and the DGW station was the closest site to most outdoor venues of the Olympic games near the crest of the TMR. The other two sounding stations, BKC and GWW, were located on the northeastern slope of the TMR and in the coastal area, respectively (Fig. 1b). The sounding observations provide detailed horizontal winds, temperature profiles (~1 m vertical resolution), and stability information across the mountainous and coastal areas. Such dense sounding observations are adequate to represent the local environmental conditions on a relatively small scale (~15 km) in the study domain when the LPS passed through.

A wind profiler was deployed at the GWW site to measure the winds in the case of a lack of sounding observations. In addition, the high temporal resolution of wind profiler measurements (10-min interval) could potentially be a reference for the surface and retrieved winds. The names of adopted sites, their equipped instruments and temporal resolutions are summarized in Table. Additionally, intensive observations during ICE-POP 2018 are marked by asterisks.

Table 1 General information of the observational sites

Observation site	Operating instrument(s)	Temporal resolution	Location	Elevation (m, MSL)
DGW	Lidar (Stream Line)* Sounding* AWS (#100)	13 mins 3 hours 1 min	37.677°N,128.718°E (mountainous site)	773
MHS	Lidar (WINDEX-2000)*	27 mins	37.665°N,128.699°E (mountainous site)	789
GWW	Wind Profiler Sounding AWS(#104)	10 mins 12 hours 1 min	37.804°N,128.854°E (leeward side)	79
GWU	Lidar (Stream Line)*	13 mins	37.770°N,128.866°E (leeward side)	36
BKC	Sounding*	3 hours	37.738°N,128.805°E (leeward side slope)	175
JSC	Sounding*	3-6 hours	37.475°N,128.610°E (mountainous site)	424
MOO	Sounding*	3 hours	37.562°N,128.371°E (mountainous site)	532
YPO	AWS(#318)	1 min	37.643°N,128.670°E (mountainous site)	772

*operated only during ICE-POP 2018

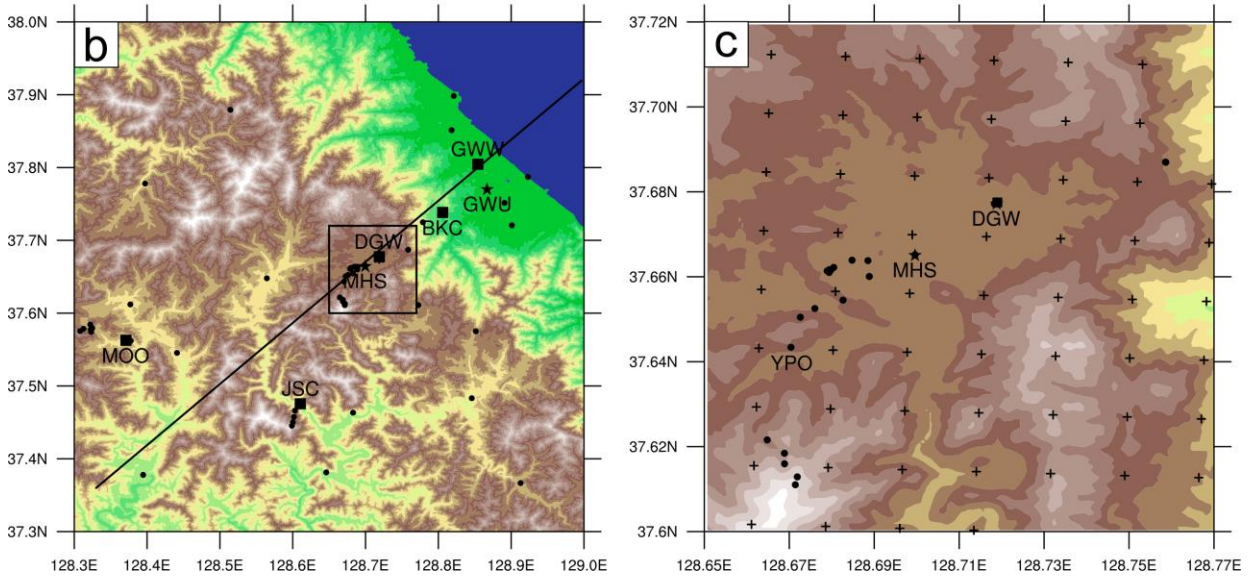
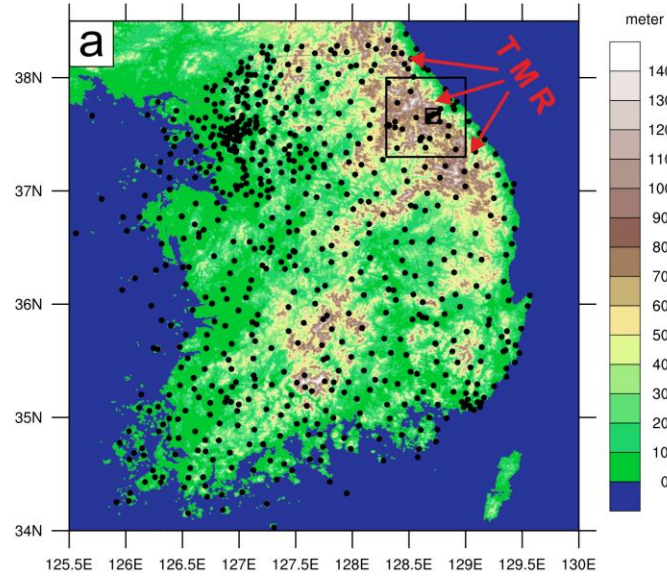


Figure 1. (a) Observation sites used in this study and the topographic features (color shading) from the digital elevation model (DEM) in Korea; the arrows mark the location of the TMR. (b) The study domain corresponding to the large box in Fig. 1a was chosen in this study. (c) The WISSDOM synthesis domain adopted in this study corresponds to the small box in Fig. 1a. The locations of the scanning Doppler lidar sites are denoted by asterisks. The locations of the sounding sites are denoted by squares. Note that the sounding and lidar observations are both operated at the DGW site and that a wind profiler is located at the GWW site. The locations of the AWS sites and LDAPS grids are denoted by dots and plus symbols, respectively.

2.3 Reanalysis data: LDAPS and ERA5

Generally, LDAPS is a 3DVAR numerical weather prediction (NWP) product generated by the KMA with a spatial resolution of ~1.5 km and temporal resolution of 3 hours with 70 vertical

levels. The local reanalysis dataset of LDAPS was used here for further analysis, and the LDAPS forecast outputs were not included in this study. Various observations were assimilated in this reanalysis dataset to be the initial conditions of LDAPS, and those observations included the AWS, sounding, wind profiler, radar, buoy, satellite (polar orbit and geostationary equatorial orbit), and aircraft (research and commercial) data. These observational platforms provided high-quality and high spatiotemporal resolution wind observations (especially from the AWSs, radar and satellites) for the LDAPS reanalysis dataset, and the error between observations and this reanalysis dataset was sufficiently minimized after careful corrections from the KMA. Such initial conditions have also significantly improved LDAPS forecasting ability of small-scale weather phenomena over complex terrain in Korea (Kim et al., 2019; Choi et al., 2020; Kim et al., 2020). The wind fields from LDAPS are used as one of the constraints in WISSDOM to minimize the errors of retrieved 3D winds and to compare the discrepancies of winds with previous numerical studies (Section 4.1.1). This dataset is freely available from the KMA website (<https://data.kma.go.kr>).

The ERA5 reanalysis dataset is an atmospheric reanalysis of the global climate and was generated by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF). ERA5 is the fifth generation ECMWF reanalysis with a combination of model and observations. ERA5 provides winds in regular latitude-longitude grid data at $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$ and 37 pressure levels between 1000 and 1 hPa every hour from 1979 to the present (DOI: 10.24381/cds.adbb2d47).

2.4 WInd Synthesis System using DOppler Measurements (WISSDOM)

WISSDOM was originally developed by Liou and Chang (2009) and has been applied in the Pyeongchang area (Tsai et al., 2018). This study adopted a newly improved version, which includes more observations as constraints compared with a previous version. In the new version of WISSDOM, the following cost function [eq. (1)] is minimized by using a mathematical variational-based method at the retrieval time:

$$J = \sum_{M=1}^8 J_M. \quad (1)$$

This cost function comprises eight constraints, and the 3D wind fields are obtained by variationally adjusting solutions to simultaneously satisfy those constraints at the same time. The first constraint is the geometric relation between the radial velocity (V_r) observations from multiple lidars and Cartesian winds $V_t = (u_t, v_t, w_t)$, which are control variables, defined as

$$J_1 = \sum_{t=1}^2 \sum_{x,y,z} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_{1,i} (T_{1,i,t})^2, \quad (2a)$$

$$T_{1,i,t} = (V_r)_{i,t} - \frac{(x - P_x^i)}{r_i} u_t - \frac{(y - P_y^i)}{r_i} v_t - \frac{(z - P_z^i)}{r_i} (w_t - W_{T,t}), \text{ and} \quad (2b)$$

$$r_i = \sqrt{(x - P_x^i)^2 + (y - P_y^i)^2 + (z - P_z^i)^2}. \quad (2c)$$

Any numbers of lidar [subscripts i in eq. (2a)] can be applied to this constraint at two time levels (subscripts t). α_1 in eq. (2a) is the weighting coefficient corresponding to J_1 (which is the same in the following equations for $J_2 - J_8$). The subscripts i and t in $(V_r)_{i,t}$ represent the radial velocity observed by the i -th lidar, (u_t, v_t, w_t) indicate the 3D wind at location (x, y, z) , and the terminal velocity ($W_{T,t}$) of particles is estimated by radar reflectivity at two time levels. (P_x^i, P_y^i, P_z^i) are the coordinates of the i -th lidar, and the distance between each grid point and the i -th lidar is denoted by r_i . Note that $W_{T,t}$ is zero when there is no radar reflectivity, or the terminal velocity is possibly negligible under clear air conditions. Furthermore, all observational inputs (i.e., lidar radial winds, AWS, sounding and LDAPS horizontal winds) must be bilinearly interpolated to given grids in a Cartesian coordinate system before running WISSDOM.

The next constraint is the difference between V_t and the background winds ($V_{B,t}$) defined in eq. (3)

$$J_2 = \sum_{t=1}^2 \sum_{x,y,z} \alpha_2 (\mathbf{v}_t - \mathbf{v}_{B,t})^2. \quad (3)$$

The sounding observations are used as the background winds in eq. (3). The constraint of the

anelastic continuity equation is

$$J_3 = \sum_{t=1}^2 \sum_{x,y,z} \alpha_3 \left[\frac{\partial(\rho_0 u_t)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho_0 v_t)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\rho_0 w_t)}{\partial z} \right]^2, \quad (4)$$

where ρ_0 is the air density. The fourth constraint was deduced from the vertical vorticity equation given by

$$J_4 = \sum_{x,y,z} \alpha_4 \left\{ \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} + \left[u \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial z} + (\xi + f) \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) \right] \right\}^2, \quad (5)$$

where f indicates the Coriolis parameter and the meaning of the overbar in eq. (5) is the temporal average of the two time levels. The constraint of the Laplacian smoothing filter is

$$J_5 = \sum_{t=1}^2 \sum_{x,y,z} \alpha_5 [\nabla^2(u_t + v_t + w_t)]^2. \quad (6)$$

The horizontal winds observed by the soundings, AWSs and LDAPS, can be interpolated to each given grid in the WISSDOM synthesis domain. The sixth constraint is the difference between the \mathbf{V}_t and the sounding observations ($\mathbf{V}_{S,t}$), as defined in eq. (7):

$$J_6 = \sum_{t=1}^2 \sum_{x,y,z} \alpha_6 (V_t - V_{S,t})^2. \quad (7)$$

The seventh constraint represents the discrepancy between the retrieved winds and AWS ($\mathbf{V}_{A,t}$), as expressed in eq. (8):

$$J_7 = \sum_{t=1}^2 \sum_{x,y,z} \alpha_7 (V_t - V_{A,t})^2. \quad (8)$$

Finally, the eighth constraint measures the squared errors between the horizontal winds and the LDAPS ($\mathbf{V}_{L,t}$), as defined in eq. (9):

$$J_8 = \sum_{t=1}^2 \sum_{x,y,z} \alpha_8 (V_t - V_{L,t})^2. \quad (9)$$

The main purpose of this constraint is to minimize the squared errors between the horizontal

winds of LDAPS and synthesis winds of WISSDOM, which improves the accuracy of retrieved winds. A relatively weak weighting of the LDAPS reanalysis dataset was applied in the WISSDOM synthesis because more emphasis on the contributions from the other observations is preferred in this study.

The original version of WISSDOM is used only in the case of rain or snow with the first five constraints; it has already been comprehensively applied to synthesize high-quality 3D winds in some previous studies. The retrieved 3D winds consistently revealed reasonable patterns compared with conventional observations or observing system simulation experiment (OSSE)-type tests (Liou and Chang, 2009; Liou et al., 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016; Lee et al., 2017; Chen, 2019). Chen (2019) concluded that the retrieved 3D winds show good relations with observations in several typhoon cases (the mean correlation coefficient was from 0.56 to 0.86, and the root mean square deviation was between 1.13 and 1.74 m s⁻¹). The primary advantages and additional details of WISSDOM can be found in Tsai et al. (2018). The main improvement of the new version of WISSDOM is that all available wind observations are considered as one of the constraints to minimize the cost function. In addition, this new version extends its applicability by including multiple-lidar observations and thus, realistic wind fields can be retrieved under clear air conditions.

3. Overview of the extreme wind event

3.1 Synoptic conditions

The hourly ERA5 dataset was used here to document the synoptic conditions. At the beginning of the research period at 12:00 UTC on 13 February 2018, a high-pressure system (HPS) was located in the southernmost Korean Peninsula (as shown in Fig. 2a). Surface southwesterly winds were dominant from the Yellow Sea to the western coast of South Korea

312 associated with the anticyclonic circulation of the HPS. The southwesterly winds were also
313 related to the cyclonic circulation of a LPS centered at 39°N, 117°E near Beijing, China.
314 Compared to the winds over the western coast, relatively weak winds existed over the land and
315 eastern coast of Korea. The westerly wind came from China accompanying warm air in a higher
316 layer (850 hPa, Fig. 2b). This veering wind also indicated that the prevailing southwesterly wind
317 was dominated by warm advection. Thus, a temperature gradient existed between the land and
318 the western and eastern coasts (exceeding an ~4K difference).

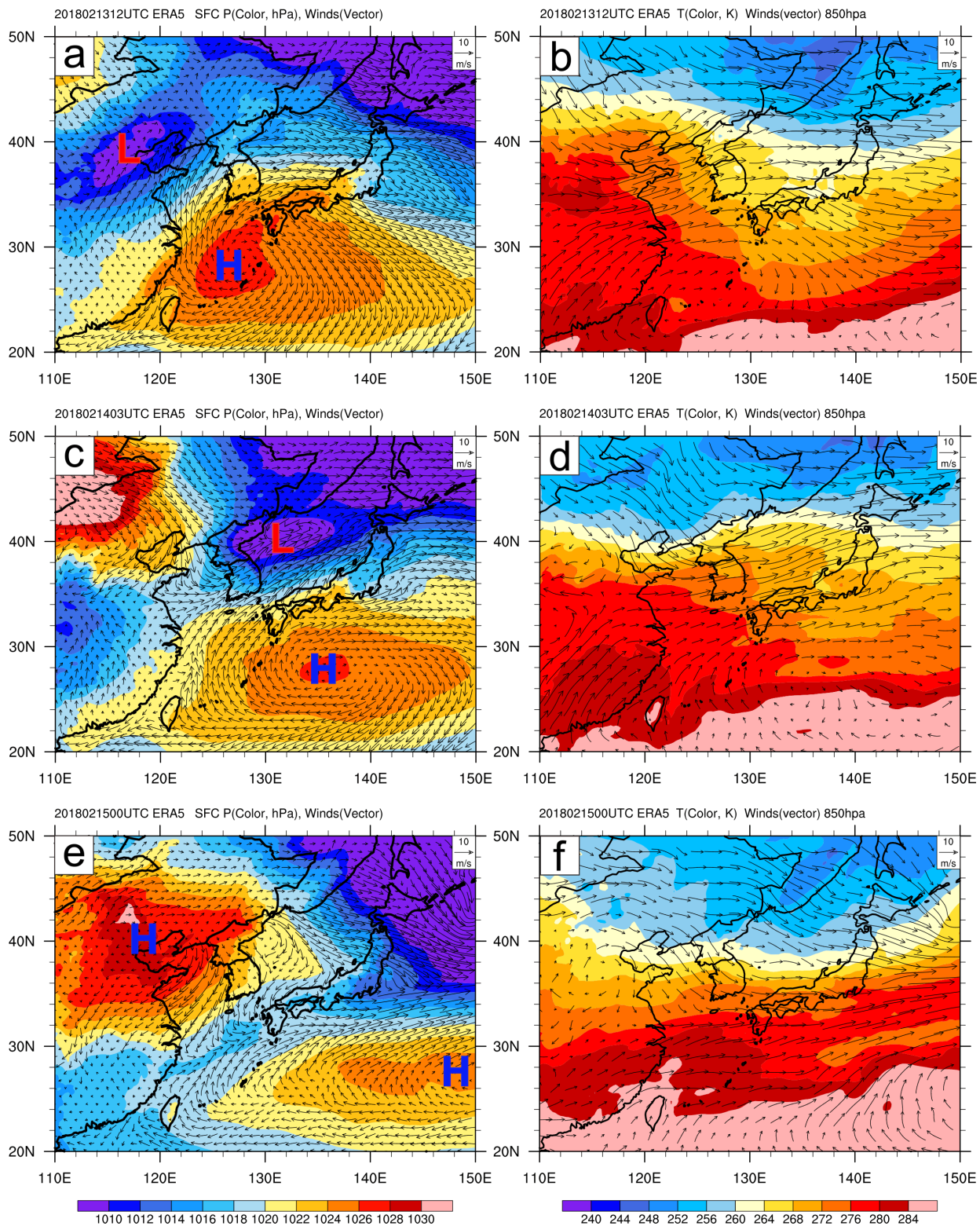


Figure 2. (a) Horizontal winds (vectors) and pressure (hPa, color shading) at the surface level, and (b) horizontal winds (vectors) and temperature (K, color shading) at the 850 hPa level obtained from the ERA5 reanalysis dataset at 12:00 UTC on 13 Feb. (c) and (d) Same as (a) and (b) but at 03:00 UTC on 14 Feb. (e) and (f) Same as (a) and (b) but at 00:00 UTC on 15 Feb. 2018. The location of the low pressure system is marked by “L”, and the location of the high pressure system is marked by “H”.

Consequently, the LPS and HPS were both moving eastward. The surface wind became stronger and turned to westerly winds over the Korean Peninsula associated with the confluences between these two systems (Fig. 2c). The horizontal pressure gradient intensified along the northeastern coast of Korea as the LPS moved to the East Sea in Korea. A relatively low temperature was detected over the mountainous area (i.e., near the northeastern coast of South Korea), even when the warm advection was approaching Korea (Fig. 2d). Another HPS was moving out from the northeastern coast of China ($\sim 40^{\circ}\text{N}$, 120°E) at approximately 00:00 UTC on 15 February 2018 and the environmental winds surrounding Korea switched to relatively weak northwesterly or northeasterly winds over land at the surface (Fig. 2e). Relatively weak pressure gradients and small temperature differences between the western and eastern coasts are shown in Figs. 2e and 2f. Since there was no precipitation along the northeastern coast of South Korea according to the AWS observations during the research period (not shown), the lidar observations certainly had the most complete coverages in the study domain without significant attenuations from precipitation particles in this event.

The evolution of surface wind speed observed from all AWS stations over the Korean Peninsula is shown as a sequence of figures in Fig. 3. At the beginning of the research period, the observed wind speeds were weak in most areas of Korea except for an area near the TMR (Figs. 3a, 3b, and 3c). The surface wind speed was intensified in most areas of Korea when the LPS was approaching at approximately 03:00 UTC on 14 February 2018 (Figs. 3d, 3e, and 3f) and weakened when the LPS moved away from Korea (Figs. 3g, 3h, and 3i). Two distinct wind speed patterns were clearly identified as sustained strong wind speed existed along the TMR and was even stronger in some local mountainous areas from 12:00 UTC on 13 to 14 February 2018, and the strongest surface winds (exceeding $\sim 10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) occurred along the northeastern coast of Korea during a shorter period (approximately 03:00 to 06:00 UTC on 14 February 2018). Since strong winds occurred during both day and night, the changes in surface winds were mainly affected by the interactions between the movement of synoptic weather systems and complex terrain (cf. Fig.

2) and manifested relatively weak relations with diurnal effects in this event.

According to the KMA historic record in the past decade during winter seasons (December to March, 2010-2019), the total number of days with daily maximum wind speeds larger than 10 m s^{-1} is 299 days at DGW and only 19 days at the YPO site. This result indicates that persistent strong winds usually occurred at certain locations over the TMR, such as the DGW site. Although the DGW and YPO sites are both located in mountainous areas with similar elevations and environments ($\sim 10 \text{ km}$ distance between these two sites), stronger winds are always measured at the DGW site compared to those measured at the YPO site. On the leeward side of the TMR, there were six strong wind events during winter in the past decade based on the KMA AWS measurements (daily maximum wind speed larger than 10 m s^{-1}) at the GWW site. Furthermore, there were only two extreme wind events (wind gusts over 20 m s^{-1}) in the past decade at the same site. In these two extreme wind events, their synoptic conditions were both mainly dominated by LPSs. These historical records imply that the frequency of extreme wind events in this local area is highly related to LPSs. One of these two extreme events was chosen, and this unique extreme wind event allowed us to investigate the mechanisms of persistent strong and gusty winds across the mountainous area and the leeward side of the mountain range associated with the influences of LPS movement.

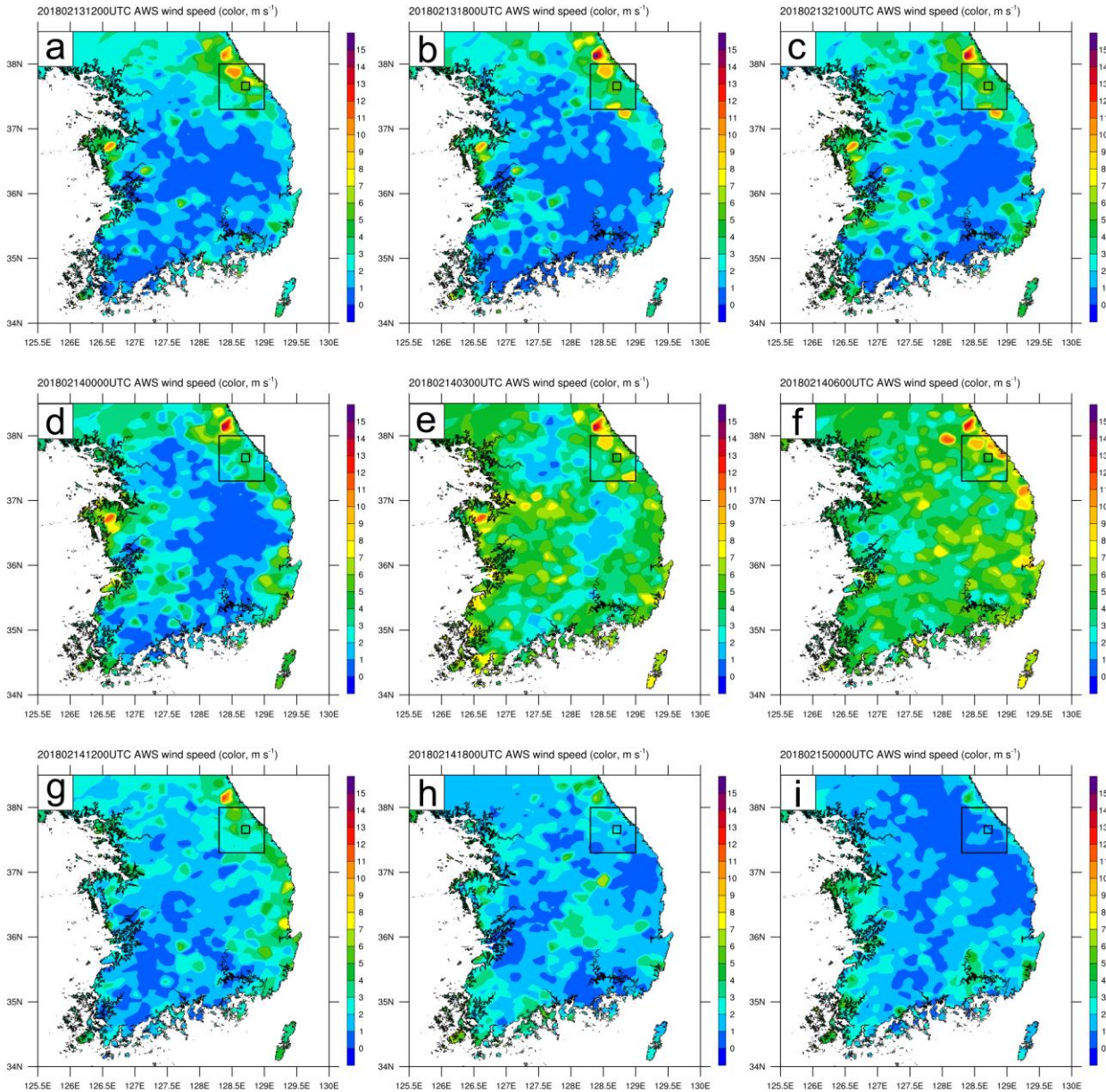


Figure 3. (a) Surface wind speed (m s^{-1} , color shading) calculated from all automatic weather station observations when the low-pressure system passed through the Korean Peninsula at (a) 12:00, (b) 18:00 and (c) 21:00 UTC on 13 Feb. 2018; (d) 00:00, (e) 03:00, (f) 06:00, (g) 12:00 and (h) 18:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018; and (i) 00:00 UTC on 15 Feb. 2018.

3.2. Upstream environmental conditions in the local area near northeastern Korea

Because the evolution of surface wind speed revealed quite different patterns in the mountainous area and on the leeward side of the TMR, two domains were selected in this study, which are shown as boxes in Figs. 1a and Fig. 3. All available observations during the intensive observation period are also marked in Fig. 1b and 1c. One type of scanning Doppler lidar was

deployed at DGW and GWU (Stream Line), and the other type was deployed at MHS (WINDEX-2000), indicated by asterisks in Fig. 1b. Five sounding stations are aligned from the mountainous area to the coastal area (i.e., perpendicular to the orientation of the TMR). In addition, a wind profiler is located on the leeward side (GWW). The WISSDOM synthesis domain was set over the mountainous area with a horizontal spatial coverage of $12 \times 12 \text{ km}^2$, as shown in Fig. 1c. The horizontal and vertical grid sizes were both set to 50 m, and the vertical extent was from 0 km to 3 km height mean sea level (MSL). Additional AWS stations were deployed around the venues (black dots in Fig. 1c) during ICE-POP 2018.

Fig. 4 shows the variations in the environmental winds observed by the soundings and/or wind profiler along the crossline (black line in Fig. 1b) from the mountainous area to the leeward side of the mountain range. The wind profiler observations are used to provide wind information near the coastal area when the LPS was passing Korea. At the beginning of the research period, prevailing westerly winds were dominant at all sounding sites (Fig. 4a). However, stronger winds were measured at heights below $\sim 1.5 \text{ km}$ at only the DGW site near the crest of the TMR ($\sim 25 \text{ m s}^{-1}$), and weaker winds ($< 15 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) were observed in the lower layers at other sites (MOO, BKC, and GWW) on both the windward slope and leeward side. The wind direction was still westerly at 03:00 UTC on 14 February 2018 (Fig. 4b). Strong winds were detected at the DGW site and downslope with wind speeds larger than 20 m s^{-1} above the BKC and GWW sites. Although the wind speed became stronger above 1.5 km MSL over the DGW site, it did not exhibit a significant change near the surface. These results demonstrate that persistent strong winds existed over the mountainous area (i.e., near the DGW site) while the LPS was approaching. The wind became weak over the mountainous area and leeward side of the mountain range when the LPS moved away from the Korean Peninsula (Fig. 4c).

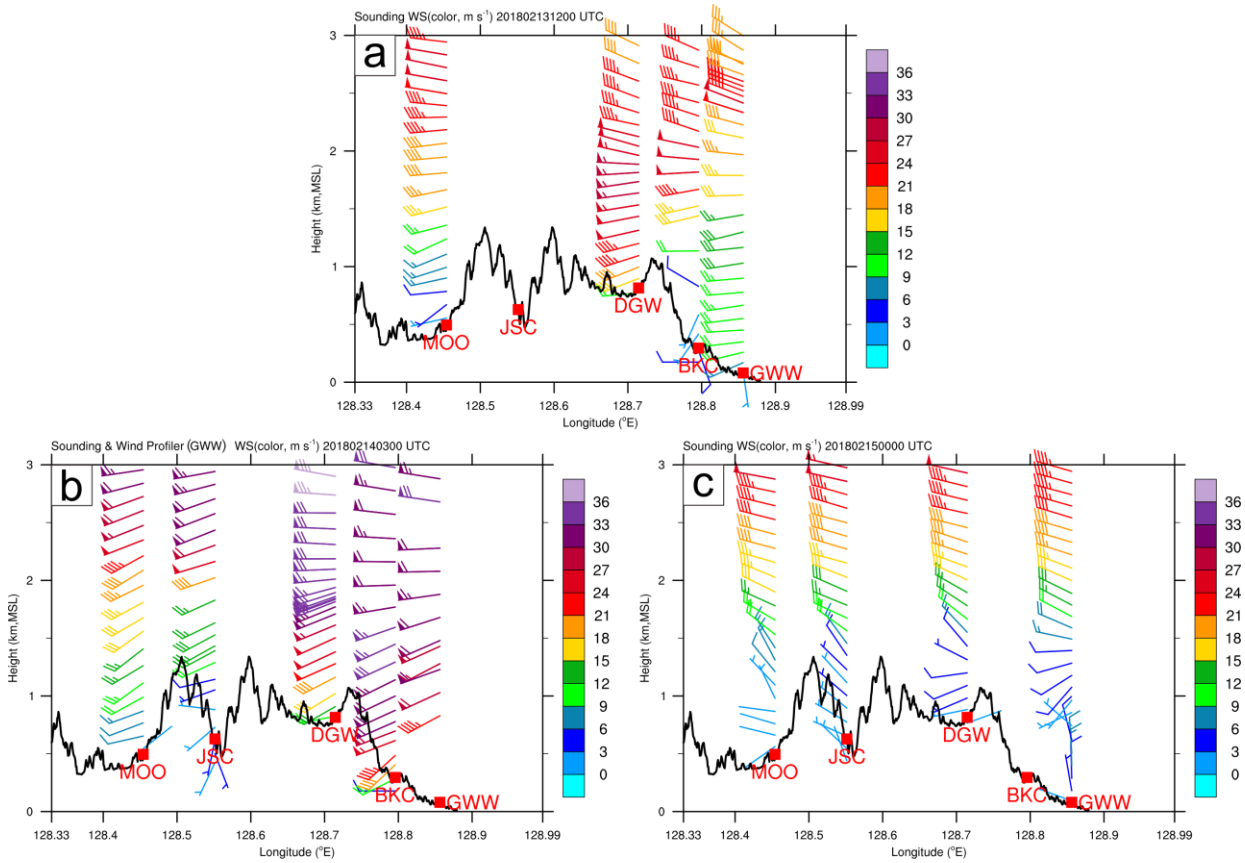


Figure 4. Horizontal winds observed by sounding and wind profiler along the cross line corresponding to Fig. 1b at (a) 12:00 UTC on 13 Feb., (b) 03:00 UTC on 14 Feb., and (c) 00:00 UTC on 15 Feb. 2018. A full wind barb corresponds to 5 m s^{-1} ; a half barb corresponds to 2.5 m s^{-1} . The tail of wind barbs indicates the wind direction (degrees clockwise from the north). The color indicates the wind speed corresponding to the color bars. The thick black line in the lower portion indicates the averaged topography along the line in Fig. 1b. The sounding sites were perpendicularly projected to the cross line from their original locations and are marked in this figure.

Detailed environmental conditions upstream of the leeward site in the TMR (i.e., the mountainous area for westerly winds) were investigated by sounding observations at the DGW site (Fig. 5). Note that the DGW sounding site was selected here to explain upstream environmental conditions because the wind observations seem to have relatively weak relations between farther upstream (MOO) and the GWW sounding site. Unlike the DGW site, the MOO site exhibited unchanging wind patterns when the LPS was passing (cf. Figs. 4a and 4c). Additionally, the JSC sounding site lacks wind observations at a critical time step (12:00 UTC on 13 February 2018). An inversion layer existed at a height of approximately 800 hPa mainly due to the warm advection accompanied by the southwesterly winds at 850 hPa ahead of the LPS

(Figs. 2a and 2b at 12:00 UTC on 13 Feb. 2018) until it passed through the Korean Peninsula (at 03:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018). The air temperature increased near the surface and became drier above the inversion layer between the two time steps. The wind direction was westerly at all levels while the LPS passed through. The wind speed became stronger above the inversion layer, but it exhibited no clear changes below ~ 800 hPa. It is worth mentioning that the inversion layer probably developed due to several factors: (1) large-scale warm advection, (2) a stable boundary layer and (3) large-scale subsidence. However, stable boundary layer is not easily developed at higher levels overnight, and environmental conditions are more like neutral in this event. Thus, determining the separate contributions of these three factors will require a modeling study for this event in the future. The sounding observations showed preferred conditions (i.e., upstream wind direction perpendicular to the mountain range, and upstream inversion) conducive to generating hydraulic jumps and downslope windstorms on the leeward side (Lee et al. 2020).

In summary, the upstream environmental winds associated with the LPS were mostly westerly in this event. However, the wind speeds revealed different characteristics across the TMR, as strong winds ($\sim 10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) persisted near the surface in the mountainous area and the wind speed increased on the leeward side of the mountain range.

DGW 2018 021312Z(black) 021403Z(red)

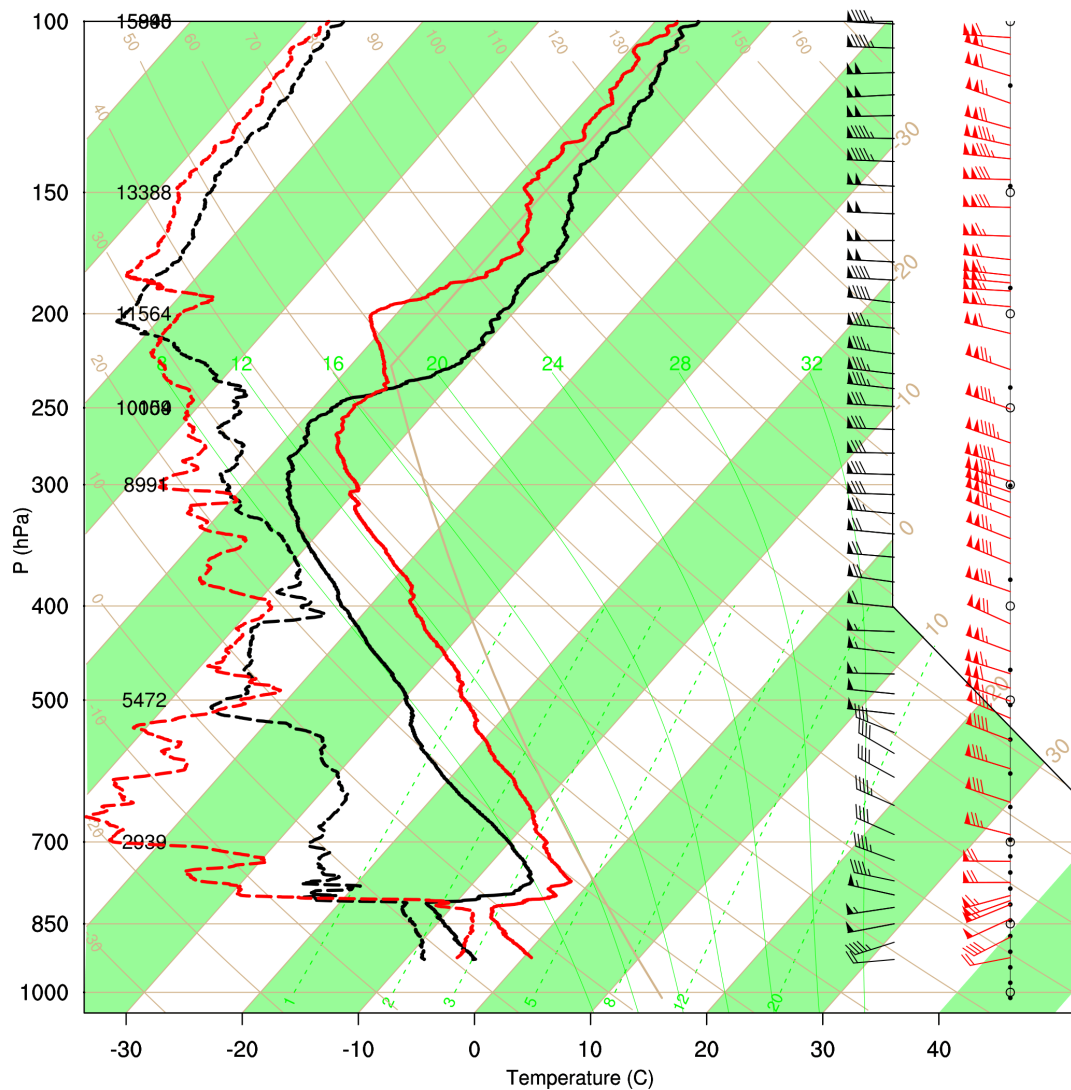


Figure 5. Profiles of temperature (solid lines), dew point (dashed lines), and horizontal winds observed by sounding at the DGW site at 12:00 UTC on 13 Feb. (black lines) and 03:00 UTC on 14 Feb. (red lines) 2018. A full wind barb corresponds to 5 m s^{-1} and a half barb corresponds to 2.5 m s^{-1} . The tail of wind barbs indicates the wind direction (degrees clockwise from the north).

4 Results

4.1 Leeward downslope winds

4.1.1 A dramatic acceleration of downslope winds

Although the prevailing wind direction was westerly, the wind speed had a dramatic increase

on the leeward side of the TMR. The detailed wind speed and surface fluctuations were documented by a lidar quasi-vertical profile (QVP, Ryzhkov et al., 2016) at the GWU site (upper panel) and the AWS observations at the GWW site (lower panel), as shown in Fig. 6. The wind speed was relatively weak at approximately $6\text{--}9\text{ m s}^{-1}$ in the lowest layer at the beginning of the research period. Strong winds were then measured by the lidar QVP reaching $\sim 36\text{ m s}^{-1}$ up to $\sim 1.5\text{ km MSL}$ after 00:00 UTC on 14 February 2018 (Fig. 6a). Finally, the wind speed became weak after 09:00 UTC on 14 February. Winds observed from the sounding and wind profiler were consistent with these QVP winds (cf. Fig. 4).

Fluctuations in surface observations of wind speed, direction, station pressure and temperature at the GWW site are shown in Fig. 6b. The changes in wind speed were similar to the lowest layer of lidar observations (cf. Fig. 6a). Relatively weak winds were measured at the early stage of the period, and the surface wind speed intensified dramatically, exceeding $\sim 12\text{ m s}^{-1}$ between 00:00 and 06:00 UTC on 14 February (named the speed-up stage and highlighted by the shaded area in Fig. 6). The surface wind direction also showed similar patterns to the lidar observations, as it had minor changes from more southerly to westerly. Although these two stations were at different locations along the northeastern coast of Korea, they revealed consistent changes in wind fields. The results also implied that the wind fields along the coast and on the leeward side of the TMR have almost the same characteristics, which could be verified by the analysis of the surface wind speed (cf. Fig. 3f). A relatively low temperature was measured within the first 12 hours at the beginning of the period, and the temperature increased after 00:00 UTC on 14 February from $\sim 3^{\circ}\text{C}$ to 9°C . The fluctuation in station pressure showed an opposite phase with the temperature variations and the magnitude changed from approximately 1008 to 998 hPa. The wind speed increased just after the temperature rose and station pressure dropped. That is, a significant lag between changes in temperature, station pressure and wind speed is evident. Their specific relationships and mechanisms are clarified through a more detailed analysis in next Section.

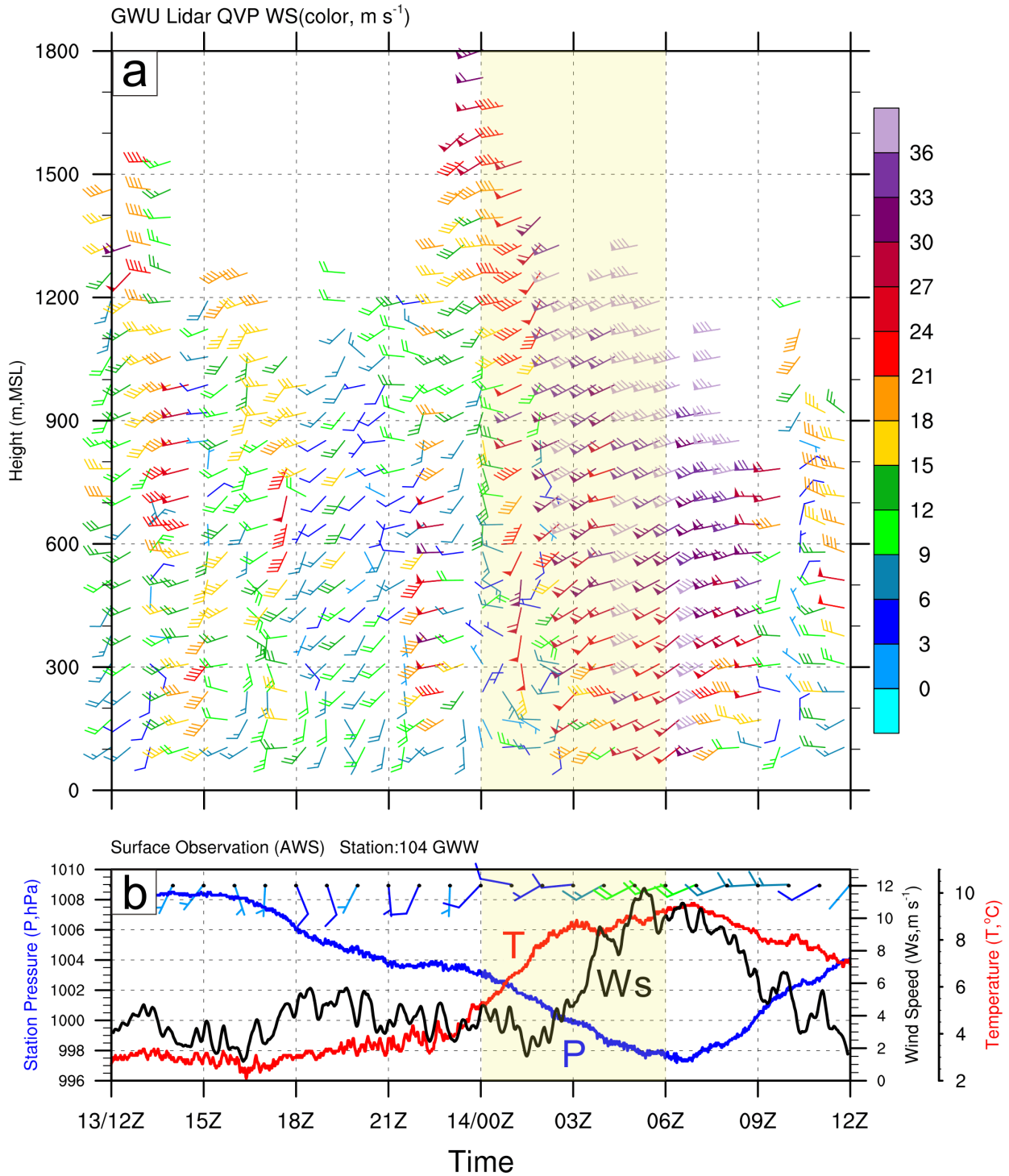


Figure 6. (a) Time series of quasi-vertical profile (QVP) from lidar observations at the GWU site during 12:00 UTC on 13 Feb. to 12:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018. A full wind barb corresponds to 5 m s^{-1} ; a half barb corresponds to 2.5 m s^{-1} and the color indicates the wind speed (m s^{-1}) corresponding to the color scale. The tail of wind barbs indicates the wind direction (degrees clockwise from the north). (b) Time series of horizontal winds (wind barbs), wind speed (m s^{-1} , black line), station pressure (hPa, P, blue line) and temperature ($^\circ\text{C}$, T, red line) observed from the AWS at the GWW site. The time period with accelerating wind speed is also highlighted by light yellow shading (i.e., speed-up stage).

To understand more about the discrepancies in downslope windstorm characteristics from previous numerical studies (Lee, 2003; Kim and Cheong, 2006; Jang and Chun, 2008; Lee and In, 2009). Fig. 7 shows the detailed wind fields and the mountain wave feature that were detected in the local reanalysis dataset of LDAPS. Alternating downdrafts and updrafts were present near the crest (near the DGW site) and leeward side of the TMR at 21:00 UTC on 13 February 2018 (3 hours prior to the speed-up stage, Fig. 7a). The mountain wave propagated toward the northeastern direction (parallel to the TMR) associated with the interactions between the prevailing west-southwesterly winds and topography (lee wave in Fig. 7a). Stronger downdrafts and updrafts were characterized by positive and negative phases stronger than 3 m s^{-1} at the DGW, BKC and GWW sites, and the phase lines were parallel to the orientation of the TMR. Subsequently, in the speed-up stage, the mountain wave structure significantly changed at 03:00 UTC on 14 February 2018. The wavelength became longer, but the wave was still parallel to the TMR and the northeastern coast (Fig. 7b).

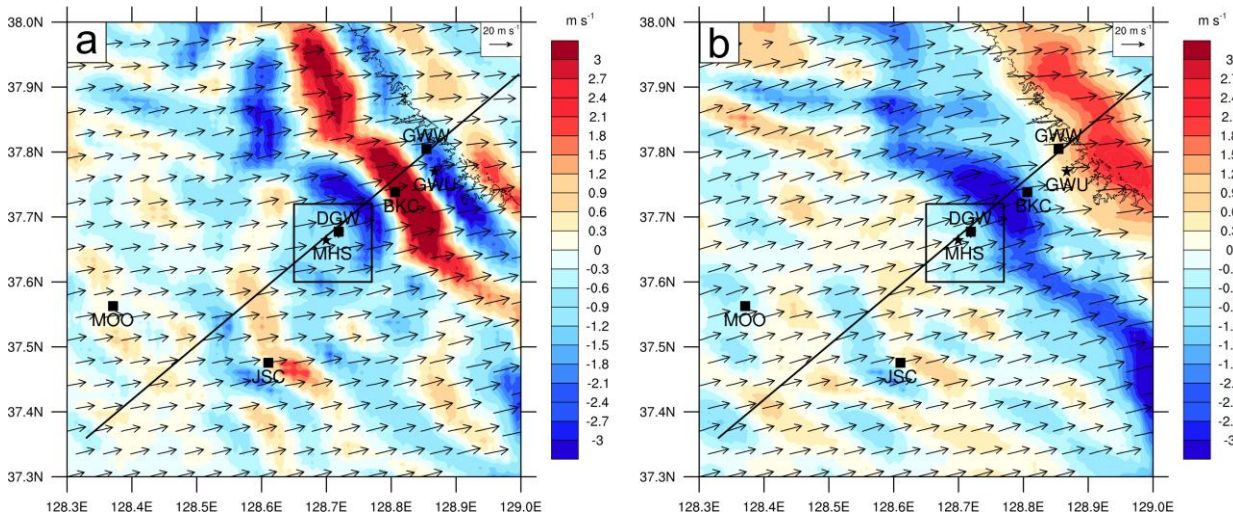


Figure 7. Horizontal distribution of the vertical velocity (m s^{-1} , color shading) and horizontal winds (vectors) at 2 km MSL from LDAPS in the domain corresponding to Fig. 1a at (a) 21:00 UTC on 13 Feb. 2018 and (b) 03:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018. The locations of the scanning Doppler lidar and sounding sites are denoted by asterisks and squares, respectively.

The cross section of the potential temperature (thick solid line in Fig. 8) and streamwise velocity (colors in Fig. 8) perpendicular to the orientation of the TMR demonstrated the mountain

wave characteristics on the leeward side (between the DGW and GWW sites) at 21:00 UTC on 13 February 2018 (Fig. 8a). During this time period, a relatively strong streamwise velocity occurred only near the downslope of the TMR ($\sim 128.78^\circ\text{E}$, ~ 1 km MSL) and coincided with the stronger downdraft. Weaker streamwise velocity ($< 4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) appeared near the GWW site in the coastal area. However, the potential temperature pattern in the speed-up stage was characterized by a longer wavelength with a higher amplitude of the mountain wave (Fig. 8b), which is consistent with the vertical velocity field (Fig. 7b). A stronger wind exceeding 30 m s^{-1} (shaded orange colors in Fig. 8b) stemmed from higher altitudes as the jet stream approached the Korean Peninsula at this time. It was clear that strong upper winds propagated toward the lower layer and intensified the wind speed at 03:00 UTC. The range of Froude number ($F_r = U/NH$) related to the environmental winds (U) at the DGW sounding site was estimated to be approximately 0.55–0.89. These Froude numbers were calculated by using dry and saturated Brunt-Vaisala frequency (N) with different representative terrain heights (H) from 1000 to 2000 m MSL (the average elevation in the TMR is ~ 1200 m). These upstream environmental conditions and characteristics of winds were similar to those from previous numerical studies on the northeastern coast of Korea, and the stronger streamwise velocity extended from the upper to lower layers (exceeding $\sim 36 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) coincident with the downdraft at downslope of the TMR ($\sim 128.78^\circ\text{E}$, ~ 1 km MSL). Along with this, surface wind was intensified exceeding $\sim 12 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ near the surface at the GWW site associated with the downslope wind. Note that the magnitudes of streamwise velocity are consistent with the fluctuations in the surface wind speed observed from the AWS (wind speed in Fig. 6). In this event, the impacts of the ocean on the temperature over the land would be small. The analysis of surface sea temperature (from ERA5) indicates consistent values of approximately 6.85°C offshore of the northeastern coast of Korea during the entire research period (not shown), however, the temperature fluctuates from $\sim 2^\circ\text{C}$ to $\sim 9^\circ\text{C}$ at the GWW site (cf. Fig. 6) associated with the LPS at the same time.

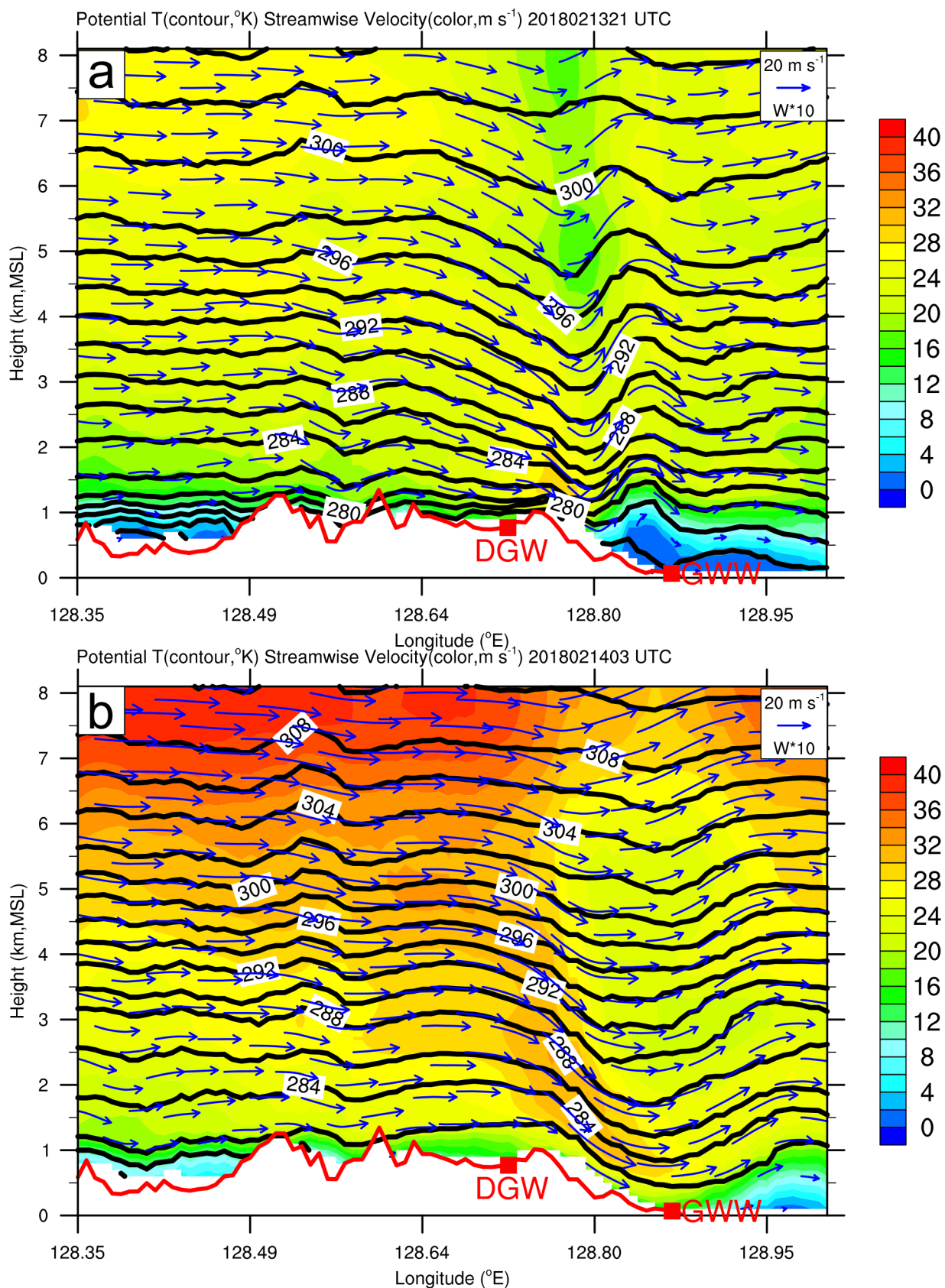


Figure 8. Vertical cross section of the LDAPS potential temperature (K, contours), streamwise velocity (m s⁻¹, color shading), and airflow (vectors) along the black lines in Fig. 7a at (a) 21:00 UTC on 13 Feb. 2018 and (b) 03:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018. The red line in the lower portion indicates the topography along the black line in Fig. 7. Note that the color bars are different from the Fig. 6.

4.1.2 Possible mechanisms of a dramatic acceleration

The winds could usually be accelerated by the PGF between the two different locations, as the stronger wind usually occurred at the site where lower pressure was located. Therefore, the DGW site was selected as the upstream location from the GWW site, and the differences in their surface temperatures and sea level pressures were analyzed. A relatively warm environment was present on the leeward side of the TMR, and the temperature difference between the DGW and GWW sites suddenly increased from $\sim 7^\circ\text{C}$ at the beginning of the research period to $\sim 8.5^\circ\text{C}$ after 00:00 UTC on 14 February (Fig. 9a). The expected temperature difference between the two sites is approximately 6.9°C (adiabatic cooling rate for 0.7 km height difference) when adiabatic heating is assumed. The sea level pressure also decreased from ~ -1 hPa to -4 hPa when the temperature increased. The observed wind speed at the GWW site showed no obvious changes in the beginning. However, the wind speed significantly increased just ~ 1 hour after the sea level pressure decreased and the temperature increased. This result revealed that the changes in wind speed are possibly related to the fluctuations in temperature and pressure. To clarify the effect of the pressure gradient on the wind speed at the DGW site, the local accelerations between the two sites could be approximated based on the horizontal momentum equation expressed as

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}}_A = \underbrace{-u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}}_B - \underbrace{\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x}}_C + \underbrace{fv}_D + \underbrace{\frac{C_d W_s u}{H}}_E. \quad (10)$$

In equation (10), Term A is the change in the u component with time and also corresponds to the wind accelerations along the west-east direction, and Term B is the advective acceleration amount relative to the distance (x) between these two selected sites. Only the u component was considered in this study since the v and w components could be neglected because the environmental winds were mostly composed of westerlies (Yu et al., 2020). The PGF was indicated by Term C, where ρ is the air density and P is the sea level pressure. Coriolis acceleration and friction were indicated by Term D and Term E, respectively, where C_d , W_s ,

550 and H in Term E are the drag coefficient, wind speed and boundary layer height, respectively.
551 The value of the drag coefficient would most likely be a unitless constant based on Stull (1988)
552 and was set as $\sim 3.9 \times 10^{-3}$ in this study. The representative height of H used in this study was
553 150 m (MSL) according to the mean boundary layer height from GWW, and a height of 1500 m
554 (MSL) was observed from the DGW sounding observations during 12:00 UTC on 13 and 00:00
555 UTC on 15 February 2018 (not shown).

556 Basically, the wind accelerations (i.e., Term A) that are derived from equation (10) by adding
557 terms from B to E are in good agreement with the fluctuations in wind speed at the GWW site
558 (Fig. 9b). A relatively weak wind speed occurred in the beginning and coincided with negative
559 and weak accelerations. Consequently, the wind speed rapidly increased at the GWW site in the
560 speed-up stage (i.e., shaded area in Fig. 9) associated with the increased and positive accelerations
561 (i.e., Term A). Furthermore, the contributions of Terms B–E to Term A could also be evaluated
562 individually by calculating each term. The PGF (Term C) dominated the changes in Term A with
563 almost the same magnitudes during the entire research period as shown in Fig. 9c. In the
564 beginning, advective acceleration (Term B) could provide slight positive contribution to Term A,
565 while the PGF term was negative. However, both Term B and friction (Term E) gave negative
566 feedback to Term A in the speed-up stage. Coriolis acceleration (Term D) always exhibited an
567 almost zero acceleration to Term A in such small-scale wind patterns (~ 10 km distances between
568 these two sites and time periods of a few hours). The results suggested that the PGF would be the
569 main factor dominating the changes in wind speed at the GWW site on the leeward side of the
570 TMR.

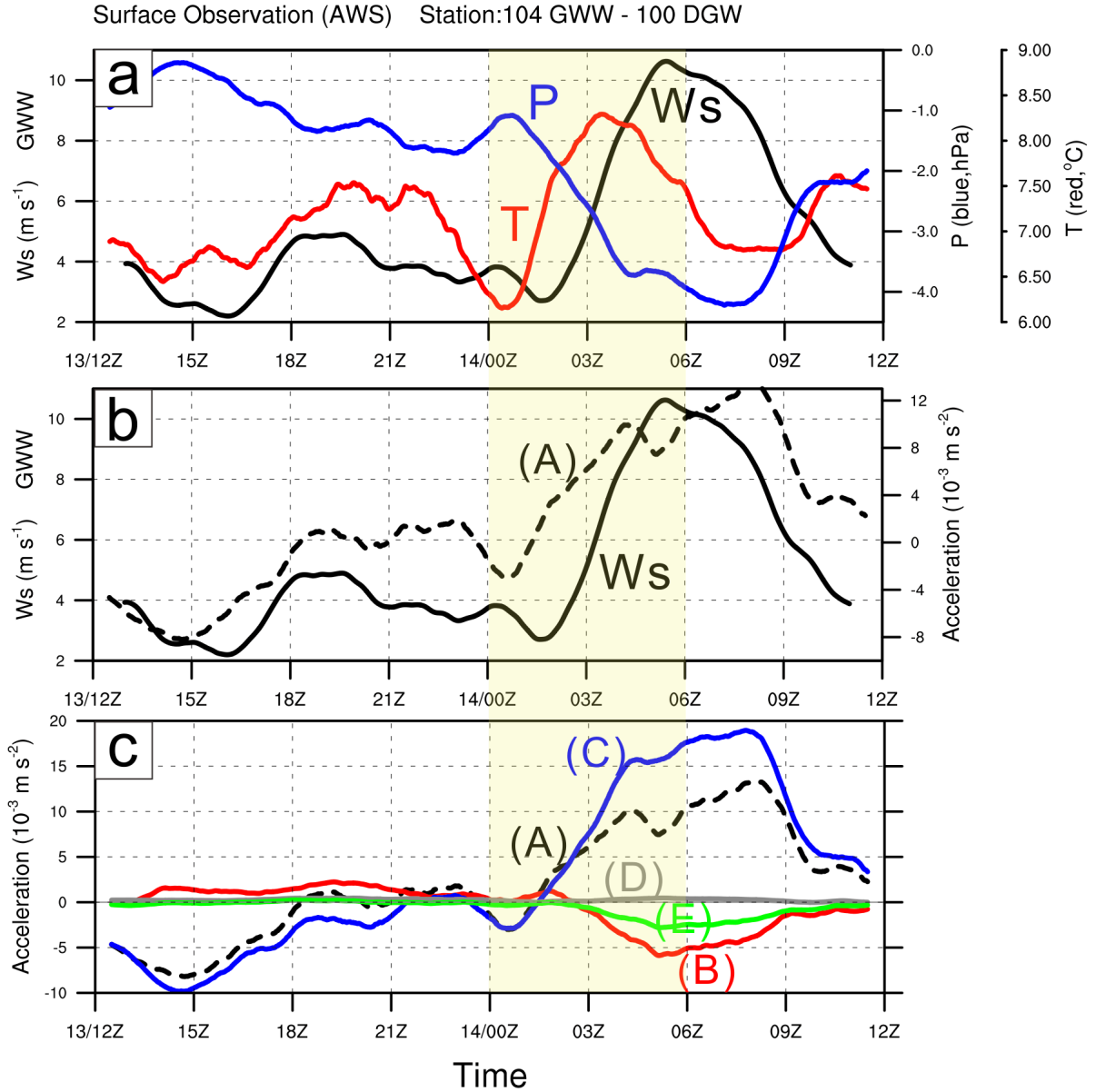


Figure 9. (a) Time series of wind speed (m s^{-1} , black line) observed from the AWS at the GWW site and the differences in sea level pressure (hPa, blue line) and temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$, red line) between the GWW and DGW sites from 12:00 UTC on 13 Feb. to 12:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018. (b) Time series of the u component acceleration (10^{-3} m s^{-2} , Term A, black dashed line) estimated from the horizontal momentum equation [eq. (10)] between the GWW and DGW sites. (c) Time series of the u component acceleration (Term A, black dashed line), advective acceleration (Term B, red line), PGF (Term C, blue line), Coriolis acceleration (Term D, gray line), and friction (Term E, green line). The time period with accelerating wind speed is also highlighted by light yellow shading (i.e., speed-up stage).

Since the gusty wind (the wind speed suddenly increased from ~ 3 to 12 m s^{-1} at the GWW site, cf. Fig. 9a) was mainly explained by the PGF and this result was also consistent with the fluctuations in the sea level pressure from the AWS observations at the GWW site (cf. Fig. 6b), the observed station pressure at the GWW dropped deeply during the speed-up stage. To

understand the possible causes of the relatively low pressure occurring on the leeward side of the TMR, more detailed analysis is needed.

To evaluate the contributions of pressure and temperature from large-scale weather systems, average values of sea level pressure and potential temperature were calculated from selected 24 AWSs (Fig. 1b) to represent the contributions of the passing LPS. The elevations of the selected AWSs must be higher than the GWW site to avoid the effects of adiabatic warming along the northeastern coast. The time series of average sea level pressure and average potential temperature are shown in Fig. 10 with the speed-up stage indicated by shading. In the speed-up stage, the average sea level pressure decreased ~ 3 hPa (from ~ 1015 hPa to 1012 hPa), and the average potential temperature increased ~ 3 K (from ~ 279.5 K to 282.5 K) (Fig. 10). This variation (contributions from large-scale weather systems, i.e., from the LPS) is similar to sea level pressure (~ -3 hPa: from approximately -1 hPa to -4 hPa in Fig. 9a) and temperature ($\sim 2.5^\circ\text{C}$: from approximately 6°C to 8.5°C) difference between the DGW and GWW site. Therefore, the coupled effect of adiabatic warming and the passing LPS is probably the main factor that induced the extreme winds on the leeward side of the TMR.

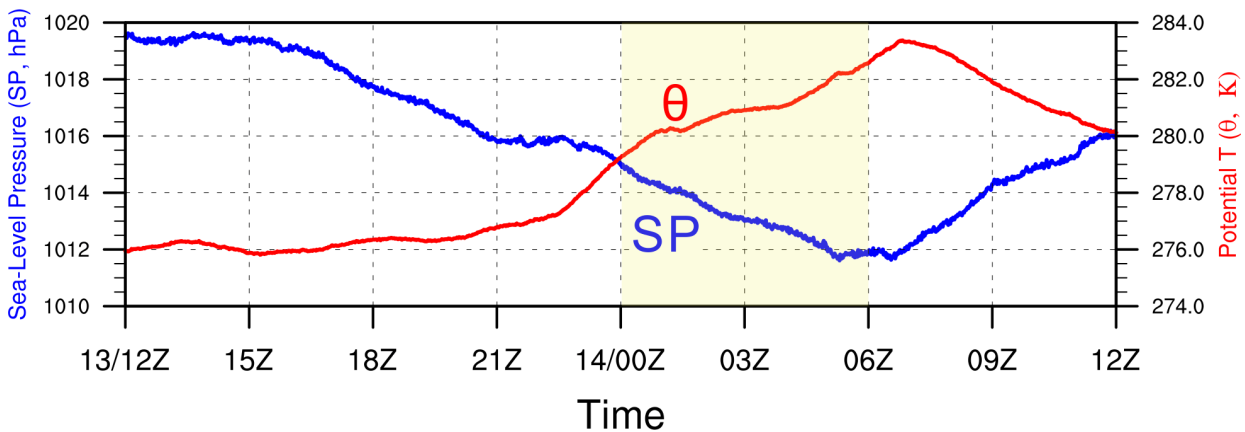


Figure 10. Time series of average sea level pressure (SP, blue line, unit: hPa) and average potential temperature (θ , red line, unit: K) over the 24 AWS stations. from 12:00 UTC on 13 Feb. to 12:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018. The time period with accelerating wind speed is also highlighted by light yellow shading (i.e., speed-up stage).

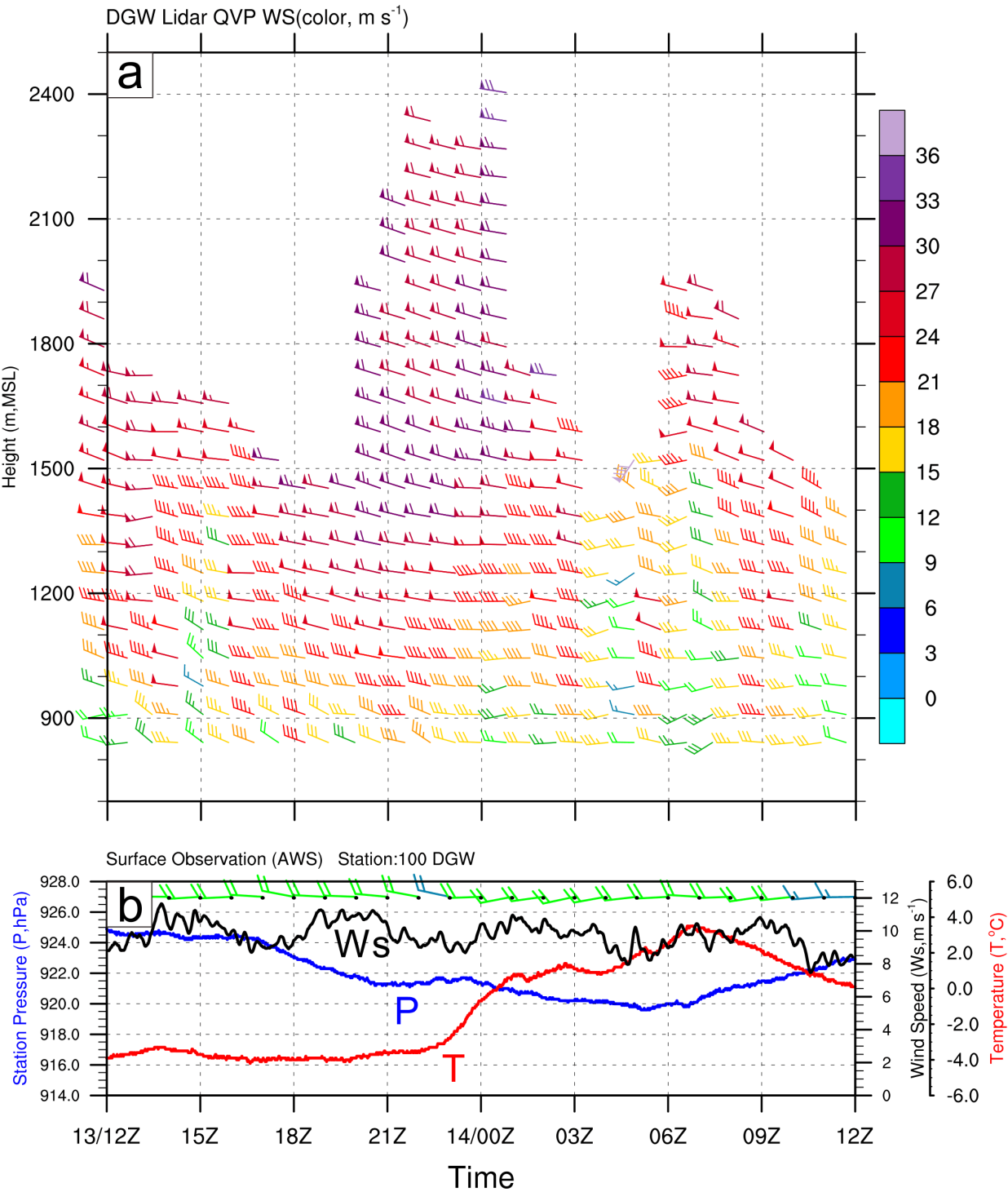
4.2 The winds in mountainous areas

4.2.1 Persistent strong winds in mountainous areas

The combination of the LPS and HPS provided a large-scale environmental wind favorable for westerly winds over the mountainous area. According to the DGW QVP from observations (Fig. 11a), the wind speed ranged from ~ 12 to 36 m s^{-1} at the low-level layers (~ 900 to 1800 m MSL) during 12:00 UTC on 13 February to 12:00 UTC on 14 February 2018. After this time period, the wind decayed so quickly that it became nearly calm associated with the approaching HPS (Fig. 2e). The surface wind fluctuated in the range of 7 m s^{-1} to 12 m s^{-1} with a periodicity of 6 hours at the DGW site, similar to the pattern in the lidar QVP (Fig. 11b). These characteristics were quite different from the AWS and lidar observations on the leeward side of the mountains (for example, the GWW site). Unlike the coastal site, the strong wind was sustained for a day in the mountainous area. In particular, there were persistent westerly winds at all altitudes over the mountainous area, and the winds were enhanced, especially in some local areas (i.e., the DGW site). However, the wind direction was quite variable from southerly to westerly on the leeward side of the TMR (GWU or GWW site). Significant strong winds were measured at the DGW site above 1000 m MSL on 13 February (Fig. 11), and the wind was weak at the GWU site (Fig. 6). Although the wind strengthened at the GWU and GWW sites at $\sim 02:00$ UTC on 14 February, the low-level or surface winds became slightly weaker at the DGW site. This pattern is consistent with the wind fields from the sounding observations at the DGW site (Figs. 4a and 4b).

The AWS observations at the DGW site demonstrated sustained strong westerlies ($\sim 10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) with periodic fluctuations from 12:00 UTC on 13 February to 12:00 UTC on 14 February 2018 (Fig. 11b). Although the wind speed fluctuated periodically, no periodicity was shown in the station pressure or temperature. Instead, the station pressure monotonically dropped from $\sim 925 \text{ hPa}$ at 12:00 UTC on 13 February to $\sim 920 \text{ hPa}$ at 05:00 UTC on 14 February and then increased back to $\sim 925 \text{ hPa}$ at 12:00 UTC on 14 February 2018. The temperature showed a nearly opposite

629 trend to that of the station pressure. The temperature was nearly steady until 22:00 UTC and then
 630 increased from approximately -4 to 3°C at 07:00 UTC on 14 February 2018. Although the
 631 movement of the LPS affected the changes in the station pressure and temperature at the DGW
 632 site, the changes in the wind speed had no clear relation with the station pressure or temperature.



633
 634 **Figure 11.** Same as Figure 6, but for DGW site.

635 4.2.2 Possible mechanisms of persistent strong winds

636 To document the possible mechanisms of sustained strong winds occurring at the DGW site
637 over the mountainous area, differences in temperature and pressure were analyzed in detail. A
638 western surface station (YPO site in Fig. 1b) was selected to calculate the temperature and
639 pressure differences with the DGW site. Fig. 12a reveals that the fluctuations in pressure
640 differences (blue line in Fig. 12a) had an almost negative relation (opposite phase) with the
641 fluctuations in wind speed (black line in Fig. 12a) at the DGW site. Furthermore, the wind speed
642 gently decreased with periodicity (wavelength of approximately 6 hours). This result provided a
643 clue that the pressure gradient likely dominated the wind speed in this local area. Compared to
644 the leeward side of the mountains at the GWW site (Fig. 9), negative values of the temperature
645 differences (minimum of -1.3°C) were calculated in the mountainous area and even became
646 smaller (-0.5°C) after 12:00 UTC on 14 February. Thus, the differences in pressure seemed to
647 affect the wind speed patterns, and the fluctuations in wind speed were less related to the
648 differences in temperature between these two sites. The periodic characteristics of the surface
649 wind may have been linked to nonlinear dynamics, such as gap flow and gravity wave
650 mechanisms (Shun et al., 2003).

651 The acceleration of wind speed at the DGW site can also be estimated by equation (10). Most
652 of the estimated Term A and wind speed were also in a good agreement except for a short time
653 period (Fig. 12b). Basically, the wind speed increased (decreased) when the estimated
654 acceleration (i.e., Term A) was positive (negative). To understand the main contributor that
655 dominates such strong local winds in this area, a detailed budget analysis of the momentum
656 equation was performed (Fig. 12c). The PGF (Term C) was the most important factor for the
657 estimated acceleration, which means that the PGF could possibly determine the changes in the
658 wind speed at the DGW site. The advective acceleration was relatively small. The Coriolis force
659 and friction had no clear impacts on the acceleration (Term A).

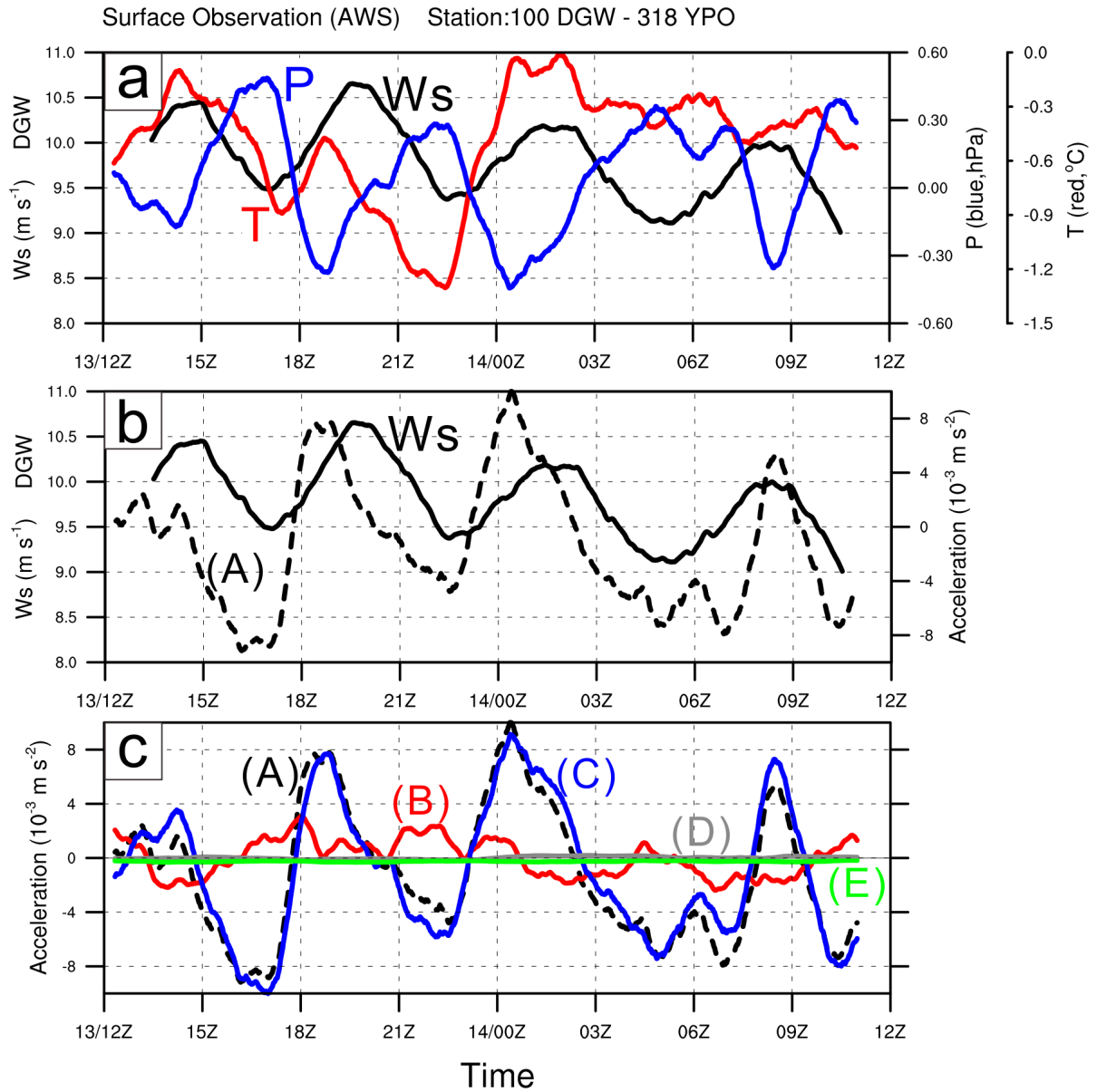


Figure 12. Same as Fig. 9, but for the DGW and YPO sites, and the y-axis indicates the wind speed at DGW site.

The above results show that the PGF is the main factor accelerating wind speed, but temperature is not a critical factor changing the PGF over the mountainous area. To determine the possible factors that contribute to the PGF, a more detailed analysis of horizontal winds was performed with WISSDOM synthesis. Fig. 13 demonstrates the fine-scale wind fields at 800 m MSL (near the surface in the studied domain). At this height, a unique topographic feature was explored, as it occurred over a relatively wide (narrow) area on the western (eastern) side along the valley. This channel-like feature is marked by the area between two thin dashed lines in Fig. 13 for emphasis. Four periods (00:00 UTC on 13 February, 00:00 UTC on 14 February, 12:00

670 UTC on 14 February, and 00:00 UTC on 15 February 2018) were selected to investigate the
671 changes in wind patterns in this channel along the valley. The prevailing wind was westerly with
672 a slight deflection near the center of the domain and the eastern side of the valley, while the LPS
673 approached Korea (Figs 13a, 13b, and 13c). Nevertheless, a relatively weak wind ($\sim 6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$)
674 always existed in the center of the domain near the MHS lidar site (wide segment of the valley)
675 and a stronger wind (14 m s^{-1}) was observed near the DGW site (narrow segment of the valley).
676 The wind speed decreased and nearly became calm after the LPS moved away from Korea (Fig.
677 13d).
678

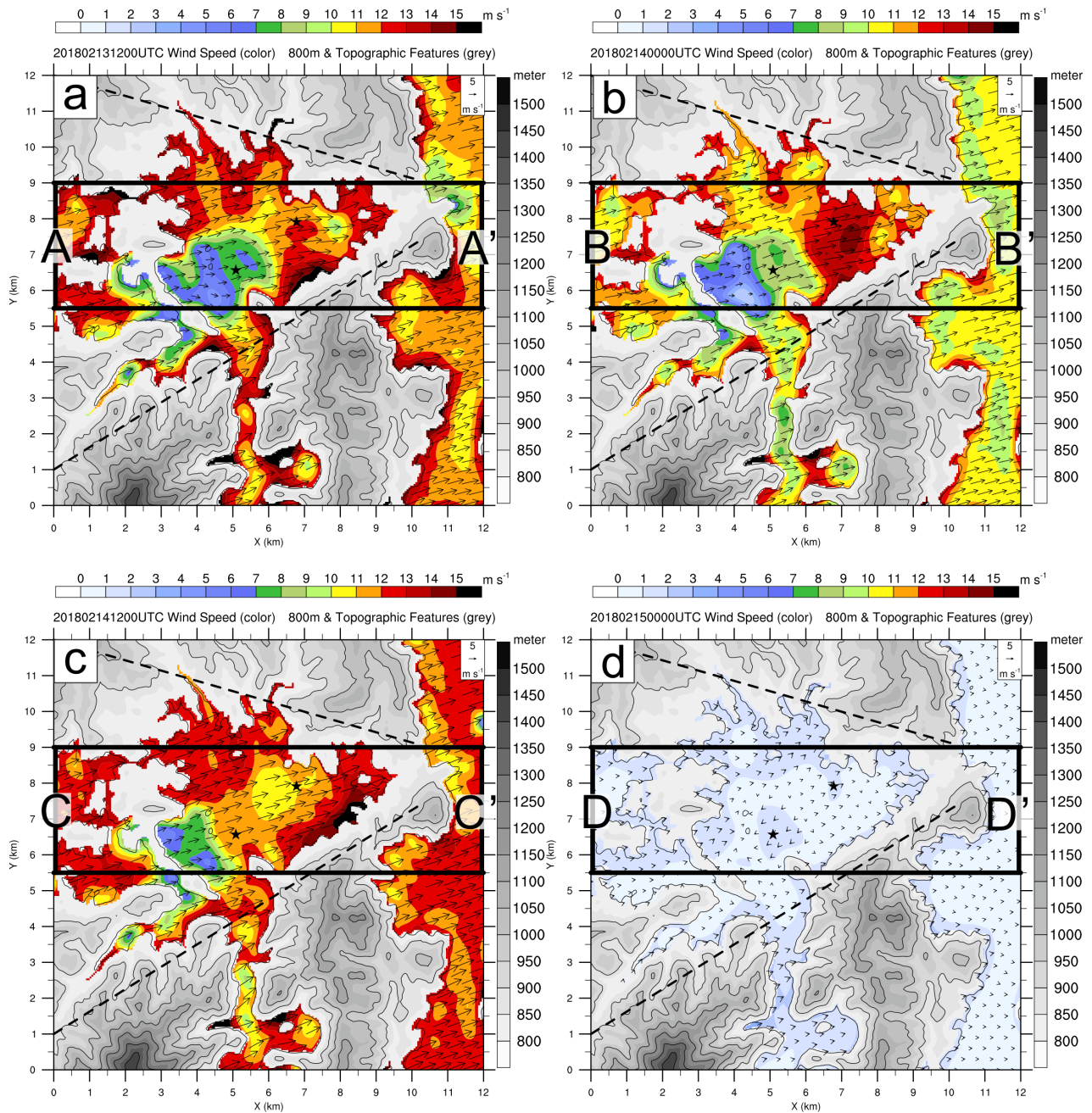


Figure 13. Horizontal distribution of the wind speed (m s^{-1} , color shading) at 800 m (MSL) retrieved in the WISSDOM domain at (a) 00:00 UTC on 13 Feb., (b), 00:00 UTC on 14 Feb., (c) 12:00 UTC on 14 Feb., and (d) 00:00 UTC on 15 Feb. 2018. The black dashed lines mark the area of the channel to calculate the average wind speed and channel width as shown in Fig. 14. The rectangular box indicates the average area in the vertical cross sections along the valley (A-A'). Topographic features are indicated by the gray shading and contours. Locations of the scanning Doppler lidar sites are denoted by asterisks.

The relations between the topography, average wind speed (thick colored lines in Fig. 14) and channel width (thick black line in Fig. 14) along the valley at 800 m MSL were calculated in two time periods when the LPS was approaching (before 12:00 UTC on 14 February 2018) and

689 leaving (after 12:00 UTC on 14 February 2018). The channel width was approximately 2 km at
690 $x = 0$ km to 3 km (western side) and became wider (~ 5.5 km) at $x = 3$ km to 6.5 km. The channel
691 width then decreased significantly to nearly 0 km at $x = 6.5$ km to 9.5 km.

692 When the LPS was approaching (average wind speed in red line and range of minimum and
693 maximum wind speed in shading in Fig. 14), the average wind speed increased from ~ 10 m s⁻¹
694 to ~ 14 m s⁻¹, which was coincident with the change in channel width from ~ 5.5 km to 0 km along
695 the valley. When the LPS was leaving (blue line and shading), the average wind speed increased
696 from ~ 5 m s⁻¹ to ~ 7 m s⁻¹ in the narrow segment. There was a similar increase in wind speed of
697 $\sim 40\%$ in these two stages, and this result also reflected that the wind was indeed accelerated by
698 the channeling effect in this local area. However, the maximum wind speed was larger than 24 m
699 s⁻¹ near the narrowest segment of the valley when the LPS was approaching and was only 12 m
700 s⁻¹ when the LPS was leaving. The maximum wind speed was amplified significantly (~ 10 m s⁻¹
701 more than average) in the narrow segment along the valley when the westerly winds were
702 stronger. In contrast, the wind speed was amplified by only 6 m s⁻¹ when prevailing winds became
703 weaker. This analysis reveals that the channeling effect may play an important role in dominating
704 the spatial distribution of wind speed with the valley.

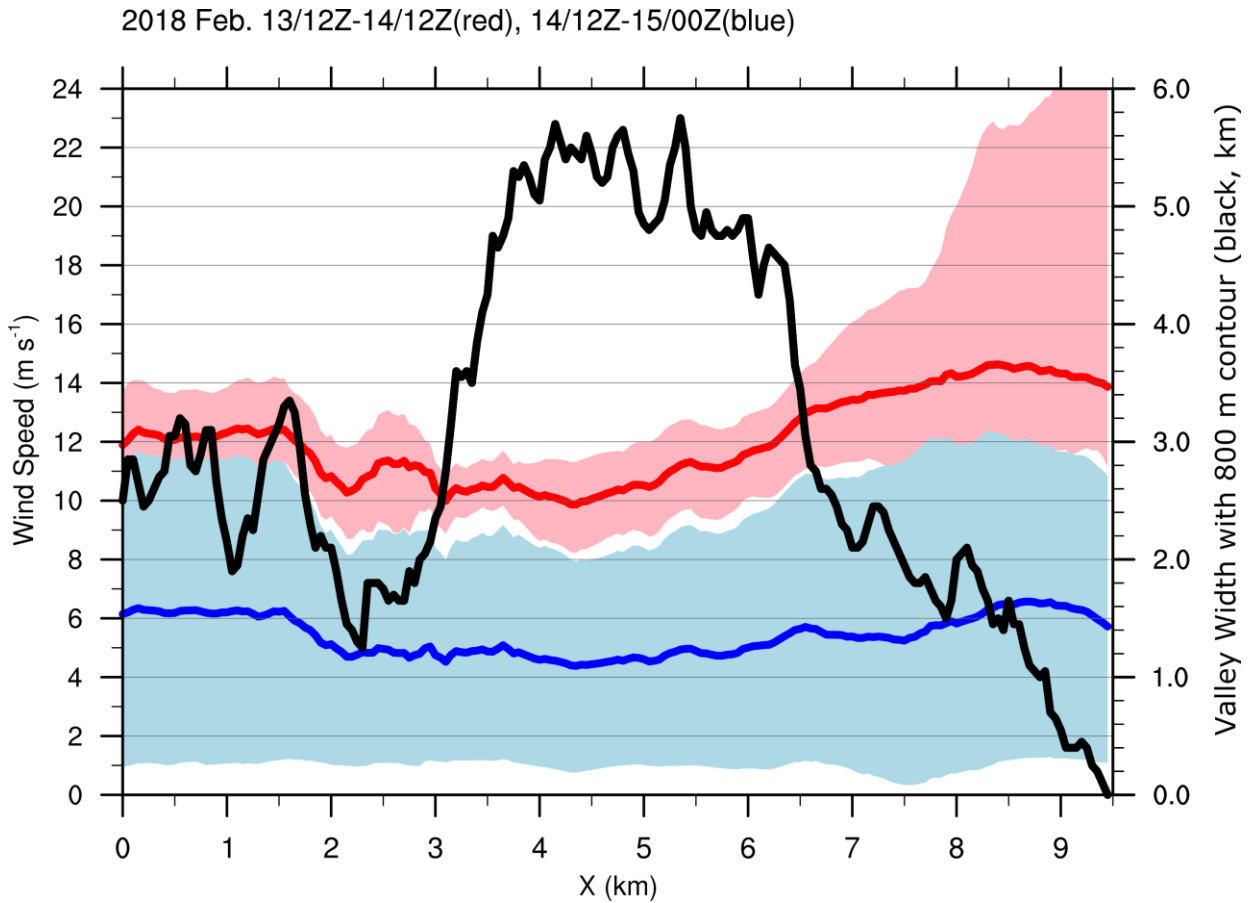


Figure 14. Average wind speed and its range along the valley corresponding to the area indicated by the dashed lines in Fig. 13 at two times: 12:00 UTC on 13 Feb. to 12:00 UTC on 14 Feb. (red line and shading) and 12:00 UTC on 14 Feb. to 00:00 UTC on 15 Feb. (blue line and shading) 2018. The red and blue shading show the maximum and minimum values along the valley for the two times. The average channel width along the valley is plotted by a thick black line.

Fig. 15 shows the mean vertical structures of wind speed, airflow, and topographic features from each cross section along the boxes in Fig. 13. The boxes were set on our main focus area from wider to narrower segments along the valley and parallel to the environmental wind direction (westerly). These analyses allow us to investigate detailed airflow features from near the surface to higher altitudes and their interactions with topography. The four time periods were 12:00 UTC on 13 February 2018, 00:00 UTC and 12:00 UTC on 14 February, and 00:00 UTC on 15 February 2018. The mean vertical structures in the first three periods (when the LPS was approaching) revealed similar characteristics: uniform and stronger westerly winds (larger than $\sim 18 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) in the layers above 1 km MSL. In contrast, the airflow had more significant variability

in the layers near the surface. In the layers below 1 km MSL, the westerly winds were lifted upslope and became downdrafts behind the mountain crests. In the three time periods, the wind speed was quite weak near the MHS site and was strong near the DGW site, which are coincident with the relatively wide and narrow segments in the valley, respectively. In particular, the high wind speed area was only between $x = \sim 6.5$ km and 9.5 km (i.e., the narrowest segment of the valley). The winds became more uniform and weaker in the upper layers and near the surface when the LPS moved away from Korea at 00:00 UTC on 15 February 2018 (Fig. 15d).

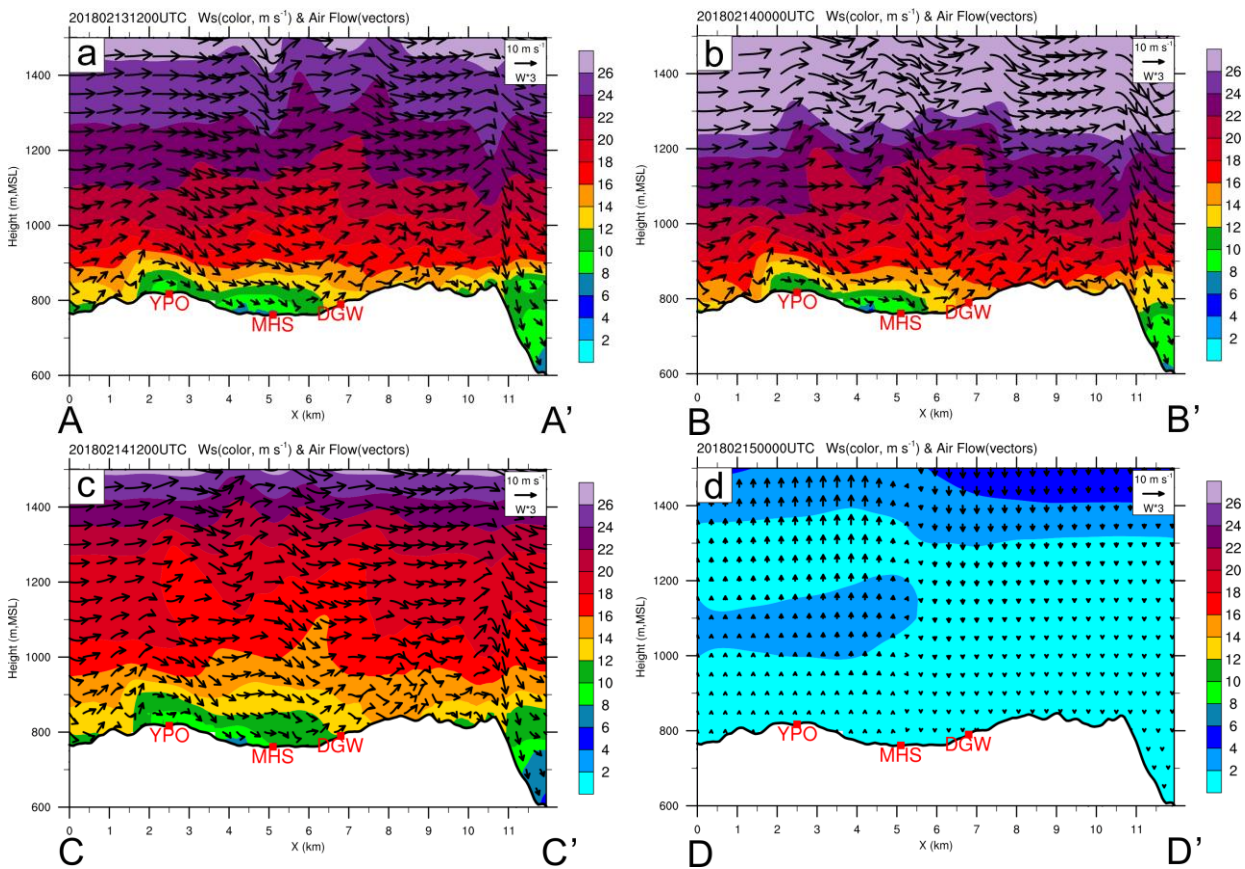


Figure 15. Average vertical cross section of the WISSDOM-derived wind speed (m s^{-1} , color shading) and wind vectors (combined cross barrier flow and threefold vertical velocity) at four time periods (a) 12:00 UTC on 13 Feb. 2018, (b) 00:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018, (c) 12:00 UTC on 14 Feb. 2018, and (d) 00:00 UTC on 15 Feb. 2018. The area of the cross section is shown by the black box in Fig. 13. The black line in the lower portion indicates the topography along the box.

Because the winds manifested clear variations only near the surface layers, the mean vertical structures of wind speed and directions could be further averaged below 1 km MSL. Fig. 16 shows the continuous time series of the averaged wind field during the entire period with the

737 same x axis as that in Fig. 15. The results demonstrate that the winds near the surface layers were
738 accelerated in the narrow segment between $x = \sim 6.5$ km and 9.5 km for sufficiently strong
739 westerly winds (before 00:00 UTC on 14 February). This characteristic is similar to the gap wind
740 or channeling effect from previous simulation and observational studies (Overland and Walter,
741 1981; Neiman et al., 2006; Heinemann, 2018). Consequently, a relatively weak channeling effect
742 induced weaker winds in the narrow segment of the valley during 00:00–15:00 UTC on 14
743 February 2018 because the environmental winds became weaker. Finally, the channeling effect
744 no longer existed when the environmental winds became calm after 15:00 UTC. The wind might
745 accelerate when it blows from wider to narrower segments of the valley due to the PGF, as
746 indicated by Bernoulli's Law, i.e., the pressure decreases when the flow speed increases and vice
747 versa. Observational analysis reveals a relatively low pressure in the narrow segment of the
748 valley, and thus, the PGF would locally dominate the airflow acceleration over the mountainous
749 area.

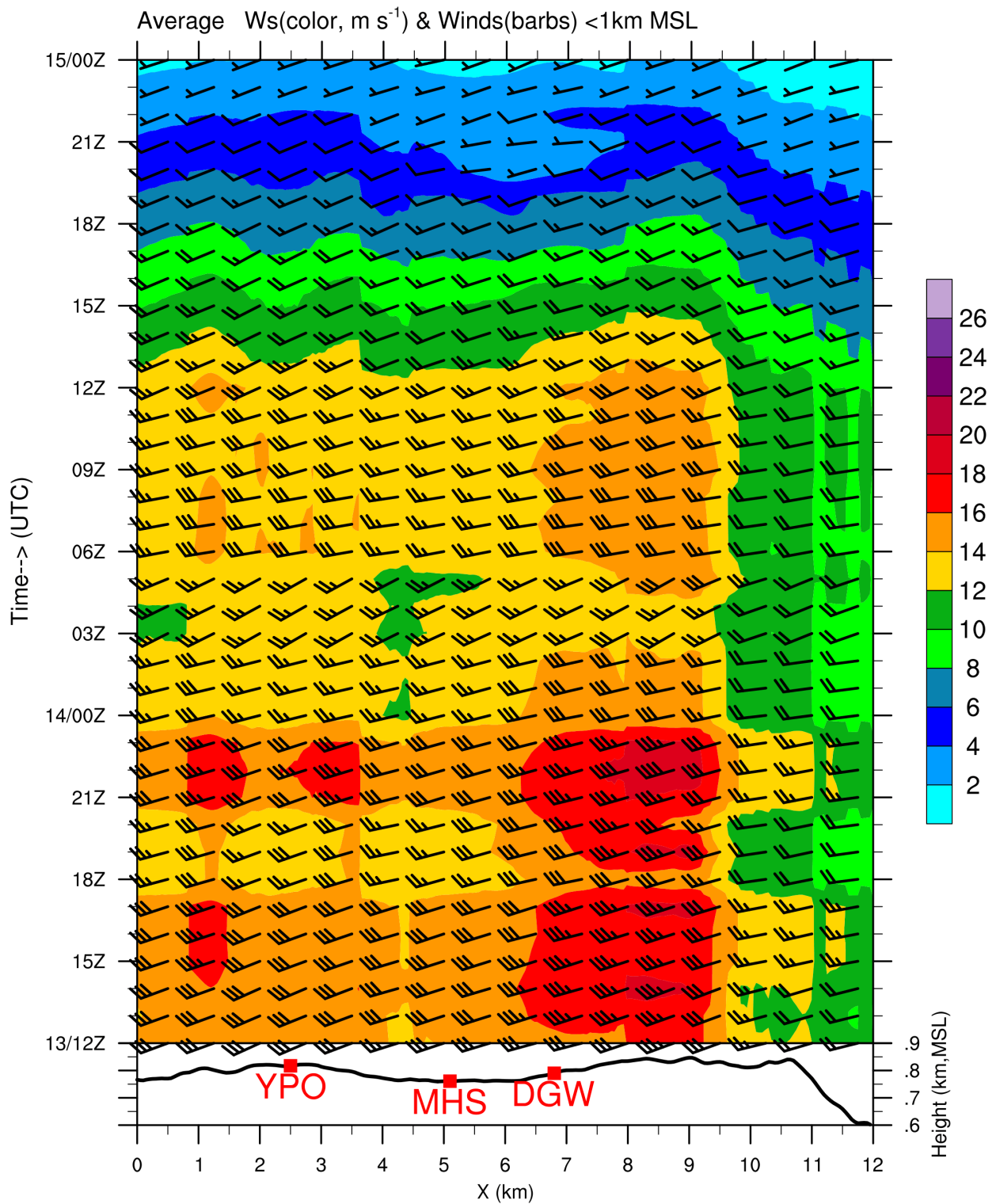


Figure 16. Temporal variation in the average wind speed (m s^{-1} , color shading) and the horizontal winds (wind barbs) from WISSDOM derived in the valley from 00:00 UTC on 13 Feb. to 00:00 UTC on 15 Feb. 2018. The low-level winds (below 1 km MSL) within the black boxes in Fig. 15 were averaged in a direction normal to the orientation of the boxes. The black line in the lower portion indicates the average topography along the boxes.

5. Conclusion

This study uses Doppler lidar, wind profiler, sounding, surface observation, global reanalysis (ERA5) and local reanalysis (LDAPS) datasets to examine an extreme wind event during ICE-POP 2018. Detailed characteristics of wind fields and possible mechanisms during the passage of a low-pressure system (LPS) over the northern part of the Korean Peninsula on 13–15 February 2018 were explored. Although the wind speed in South Korea generally increased when the LPS was approaching, the winds comprised more significant gusty winds along the downslope and on the leeward side of the Taebeak Mountain Range (TMR). In contrast, the wind speed was persistently strong in several local areas over the TMR. Conspicuous gradients in wind speed patterns existed only between the mountainous areas and the leeward side of the mountain range. Moreover, the wind speed decreased synchronously after the LPS moved away from Korea.

From the sounding observations, low-level environmental winds revealed high variability from the mountainous area to the leeward side of the mountains. The wind direction was mostly westerly associated with the LPS, and the wind speed was persistently strong ($\sim 10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) at the DGW site (i.e., mountainous area) during the research period. However, the wind speed on the leeward side (GWW) clearly changed from relatively weak to stronger. The winds then become nearly calm both in the mountainous area and on the leeward side of the mountain range after the LPS moved away from the Korean Peninsula. In addition, upstream inversion layers (at the ~ 850 hPa level) were also detected by sounding observations at the DGW site, while strong winds occurred on the leeward side of the mountains.

On the leeward side of the mountains, the surface wind speed dramatically increased (from ~ 3 to 12 m s^{-1}) at the GWW site during the research period. The surface temperature increased and station pressure decreased, and the fluctuations in temperature and pressure showed a significant time lag with wind speed changes. In addition, the strong winds were well depicted

along the downslope and the leeward side of the TMR from the LDAPS reanalysis data. This result is similar to those from previous numerical studies in Korea, and the development of strong downslope winds is related to mountain waves and hydraulic jumps. In the mountainous area, persistent strong surface winds were observed at the DGW site when the LPS was approaching. The surface wind has no clear relationship with the station pressure or temperature during the research period.

The sea level pressure and temperature differences between the mountainous station at the DGW site and the leeward station at the GWW site demonstrate that the wind speed suddenly increased with increasing temperature (from $\sim 6^{\circ}\text{C}$ to 8.5°C) and decreasing sea level pressure (from ~ -1 hPa to -4 hPa) in the speed-up stage. The estimated wind accelerations [Term A in eq. (10)] are in good agreement with the observed wind speed, which are mainly contributed by the PGF [Term C in eq. (10)]. In the speed-up stage, the average sea level pressure and potential temperature in the AWS observations show fluctuations of approximately -3 hPa and $+3\text{K}$ when the LPS passed over. The differences in the sea level pressure (~ -3 hPa) and temperature ($\sim 2.5^{\circ}\text{C}$) between the DGW and GWW sites were almost equal to the contributions from large-scale weather systems. The results indicate that adiabatic warming coupled with the LPS plays an important role in reducing the surface pressure and those winds are accelerated by the PGF on the leeward side of the TMR.

The sea level pressure differences between the YPO and DGW stations show almost negative relations with the fluctuations in surface wind speed. In contrast, the temperature differences are small (between -0.5°C and 1.2°C) with no clear relations with the fluctuations in surface wind at the DGW site. Although the temperature has no clear relation with the strong wind, estimated wind accelerations [Term A in eq. (10)] are in good agreement with the observed surface wind speeds. This means that the PGF is still the main contributor to the wind acceleration at the DGW site. The 3D winds derived from WISSDOM synthesis also reveal that the wind speed at the DGW site (narrow segment in the valley) was always stronger than that at the YPO

site (wider segment in the valley). In addition, the channeling effect was amplified to effectively accelerate the winds at the DGW site when the westerly winds were stronger due to the approaching LPS. Thus, the channeling effect is a possible mechanism dominating the wind acceleration in the mountainous area.

In this study, observationally based evidence shows that different mechanisms are important for determining the strength and persistence of orographically strong winds in the same underlying LPS under clear air conditions. In the future, high-resolution numerical modeling analysis will be performed for all strong wind events during ICE-POP 2018 because detailed thermodynamic information is desired to provide more complete descriptions about the distribution of potential temperature across the mountainous area. The kinematic and thermodynamic information from the simulations will be important indicators to further investigate the existence of mountain waves, including hydraulic jumps, wave breaking, and partial reflection for the generation of the downslope windstorms. More cases will be included to provide comprehensive explanations of the strong downslope wind in the northeastern mountainous part of South Korea. More importantly, we aim to extend our understanding of the variability in winds around terrain on a very fine-scale even in different seasons.

Author contributions. This work was made possible by contribution from all authors. Conceptualization, CLT, GWL, JHK ; methodology, CLT, YCL, YHL, JHK, and KK; software, CLT, YHL, and KK; validation, KK, YHL, and GWL; formal analysis, CLT, and JHK; investigation, CLT, GWL, and YHL; writing—original draft preparation, CLT; writing—review and editing, GWL, JHK, YCL and YHL; visualization, CLT; supervision, GWL, and YHL; funding acquisition, GWL, YHL, and JHK. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Competing interests. The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Special issue statement. This article is part of the special issue “Winter weather research in complex terrain during ICE-POP 2018 (International Collaborative Experiments for

PyeongChang 2018 Olympic and Paralympic winter games) (ACP/AMT/GMD inter-journal SI)".
It is not associated with a conference.

Acknowledgments. This work was supported by Civil-Military Technology Cooperation Program funded by the Korea Meteorological Administration and Defense Acquisition Program Administration. No. 17-CM-SS-23, KMA2017-04210, [Project Name : Development of fusion technology for Radar wind profiler] and was funded by the Korea Meteorological Administration Research and Development Program under Grant KMI2020-00910. The authors greatly appreciate the participants in the World Weather Research Programme Research Development Project and Forecast Demonstration Project, International Collaborative Experiments for Pyeongchang 2018 Olympic and Paralympic winter games (ICE-POP 2018) hosted by Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA). The Doppler lidars were deployed by the National Institute of Meteorological Sciences (NIMS), KMA and Environment Climate Change Canada (ECCC). We would like to thank many researchers and students (Byung-Chul Choi, Kwang-Deuk Ahn, Namwon Kim, and Seung-bo Choi at KMA, and Choeng-lyong Lee, Daejin Yeom, Kyuhee Shin, DaeHyung Lee, Su-jeong Cho, SeungWoo Baek, Hong-Mok Park, Geunsu Lyu, Eunbi Jeong, Heesang Yoo, Youn Choi, Bo-Young Ye, and Soohyun Kwon at Kyungpook National University) who collected data during the ICE-POP 2018 period.

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