



Systematic Assessment and Benchmarking of Earth System Models

*Forrest M. Hoffman^{1,2}, Nathan Collier¹, Mingquan Mu³, Min Xu¹, Weiwei Fu³,
Cheng-En Yang^{2,1}, Gretchen Keppel-Aleks⁴, David M. Lawrence⁵,
Charles D. Koven⁶, William J. Riley⁶, and James T. Randerson³*

¹Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN, USA

²University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, USA

³University of California, Irvine, CA, USA

⁴University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

⁵National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, CO, USA

⁶Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA, USA

Resource Competition, Environmental Security and Stability (RECESS) Meeting

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Forrest M. Hoffman, Computational Earth System Scientist

- Group Leader for the ORNL Computational Earth Sciences Group
- 35 years at ORNL in Environmental Sciences Division, then Computer Science and Mathematics Division, and now Computational Sciences and Engineering Division
- Develop and apply Earth system models to study global biogeochemical cycles, including terrestrial & marine carbon cycle
- Investigate methods for reconciling uncertainties in carbon-climate feedbacks through comparison with observations
- Apply artificial intelligence methods (machine learning and data mining) to environmental characterization, simulation, & analysis
- Joint Faculty, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering





US Dept. of Energy's RUBISCO Scientific Focus Area (SFA)

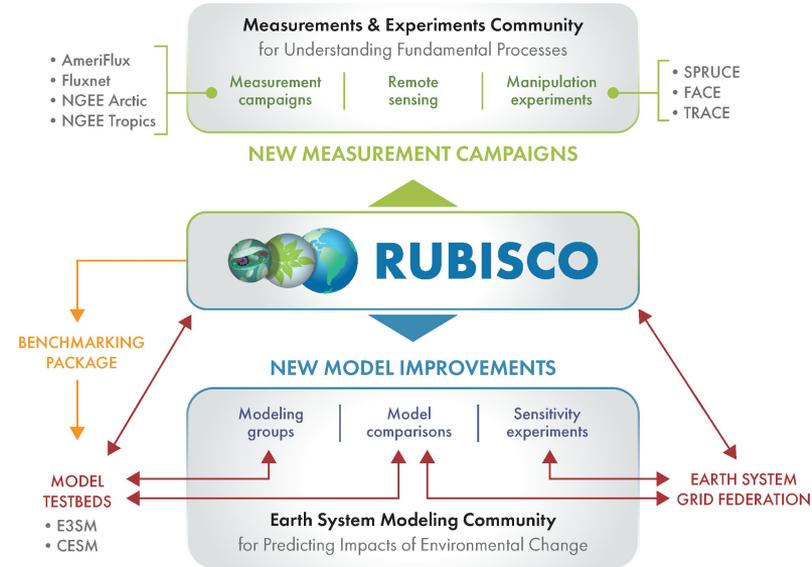
Forrest M. Hoffman (Laboratory Research Manager), William J. Riley (Senior Science Co-Lead), and James T. Randerson (Chief Scientist)

Research Goals

- Identify and quantify feedbacks between biogeochemical cycles and the Earth system
- Quantify and reconcile uncertainties in Earth system models (ESMs) associated with interactions

Research Objectives

- Perform hypothesis-driven analysis of biogeochemical & hydrological processes and feedbacks in ESMs
- Synthesize in situ and remote sensing data and design metrics for assessing ESM performance
- Design, develop, and release the International Land Model Benchmarking (ILAMB) and International Ocean Model Benchmarking (IOMB) tools for systematic evaluation of model fidelity
- Conduct and evaluate CMIP6 experiments with ESMs

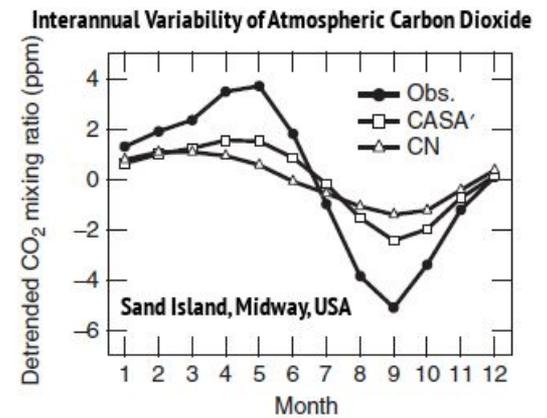


The RUBISCO SFA works with the measurements and the modeling communities to use best-available data to evaluate the fidelity of ESMs. RUBISCO identifies model gaps and weaknesses, informs new model development efforts, and suggests new measurements and field campaigns.

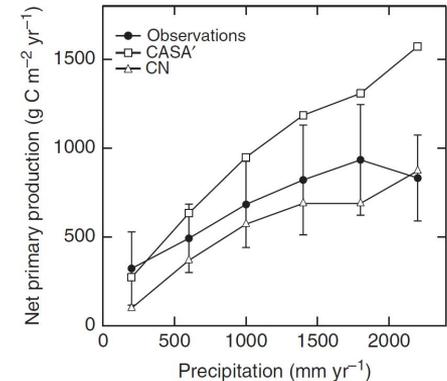


What is a Benchmark?

- A **benchmark** is a quantitative test of model function achieved through comparison of model results with observational data
- Acceptable performance on a benchmark **is a necessary but not sufficient condition** for a fully functioning model
- **Functional relationship benchmarks** offer tests of model responses to forcings and yield insights into ecosystem processes
- Effective benchmarks must draw upon **a broad set of independent observations** to evaluate model performance at multiple scales



Models often fail to capture the amplitude of the seasonal cycle of atmospheric CO₂



Models may reproduce correct responses over only a limited range of forcing variables

(Randerson et al., 2009)

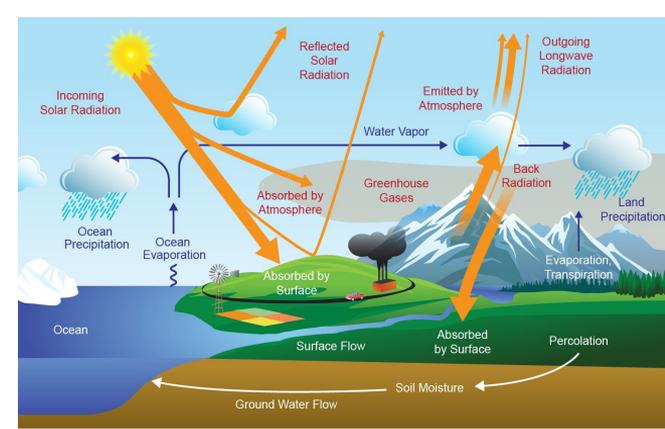
Why Benchmark Models?

- To **quantify and reduce uncertainties** in carbon cycle feedbacks to improve projections of future climate change (Eyring et al., 2019; Collier et al., 2018)
- To **diagnose impacts of process-based or machine learning model development** on process representations and their interactions
- To **guide synthesis efforts**, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), by determining which models are broadly consistent with observations (Eyring et al., 2019)
- To **increase scrutiny of key datasets** used for model evaluation
- To **identify gaps in existing observations** needed to inform model development
- To **accelerate delivery of new measurement datasets** for rapid and widespread use in model assessment

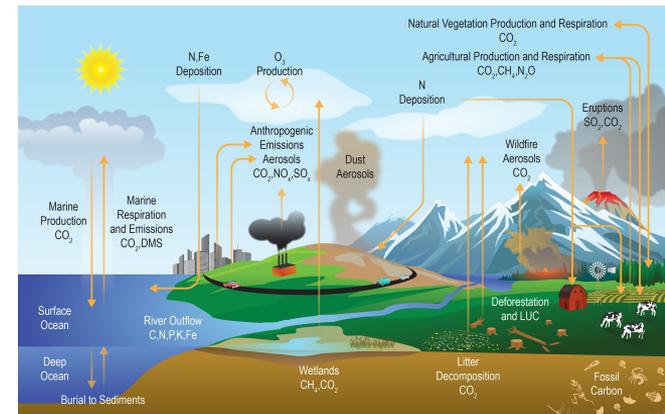
What is ILAMB?

A community coordination activity created to:

- **Develop internationally accepted benchmarks** for land model performance by drawing upon collaborative expertise
- **Promote the use of these benchmarks** for model intercomparison
- **Strengthen linkages between experimental, remote sensing, and Earth system modeling communities** in the design of new model tests and new measurement programs
- **Support the design and development of open source benchmarking tools**



Energy and Water Cycles



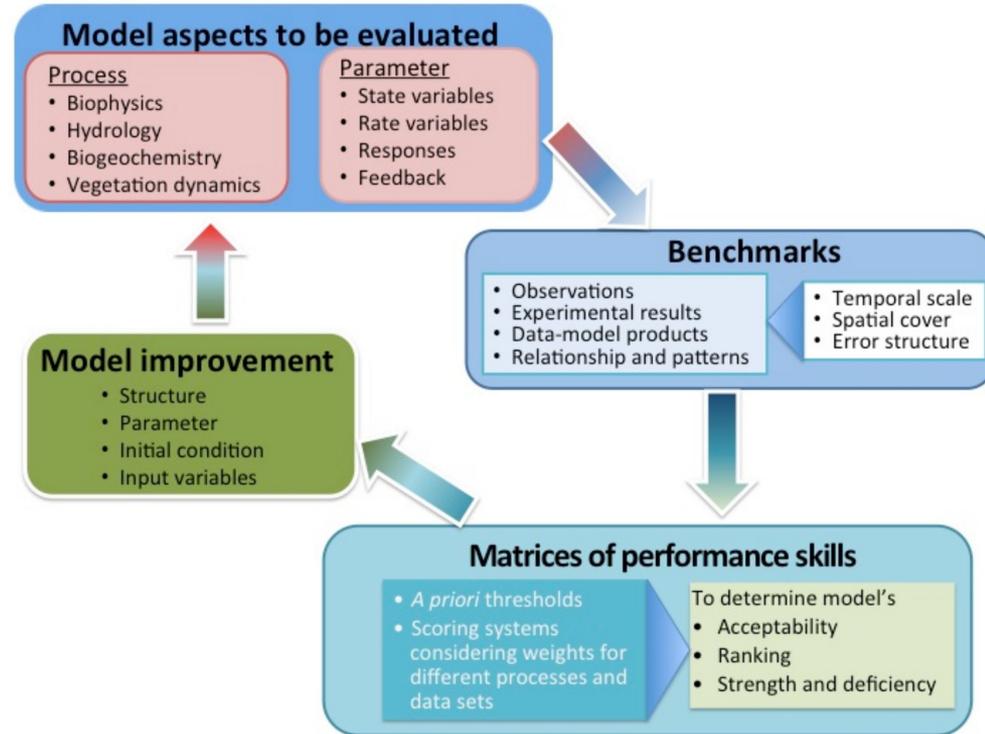
Carbon and Biogeochemical Cycles



- **First ILAMB Workshop** was held in Exeter, UK, on June 22–24, 2009
- **Second ILAMB Workshop** was held in Irvine, CA, USA, on January 24–26, 2011
 - ~45 researchers participated from the US, Canada, UK, Netherlands, France, Germany, Switzerland, China, Japan, and Australia
 - Developed methodology for model-data comparison and baseline standard for performance of land model process representations (Luo et al., 2012)

A Framework for Benchmarking Land Models

- A **benchmarking framework for evaluating land models** emerged and included (1) defining model aspects to be evaluated, (2) selecting benchmarks as standardized references, (3) developing a scoring system to measure model performance, and (4) stimulating model improvement
- Based on this methodology and prior work on the **Carbon-Land Model Intercomparison Project (C-LAMP)** (Randerson et al., 2009), a prototype model benchmarking package was developed for ILAMB



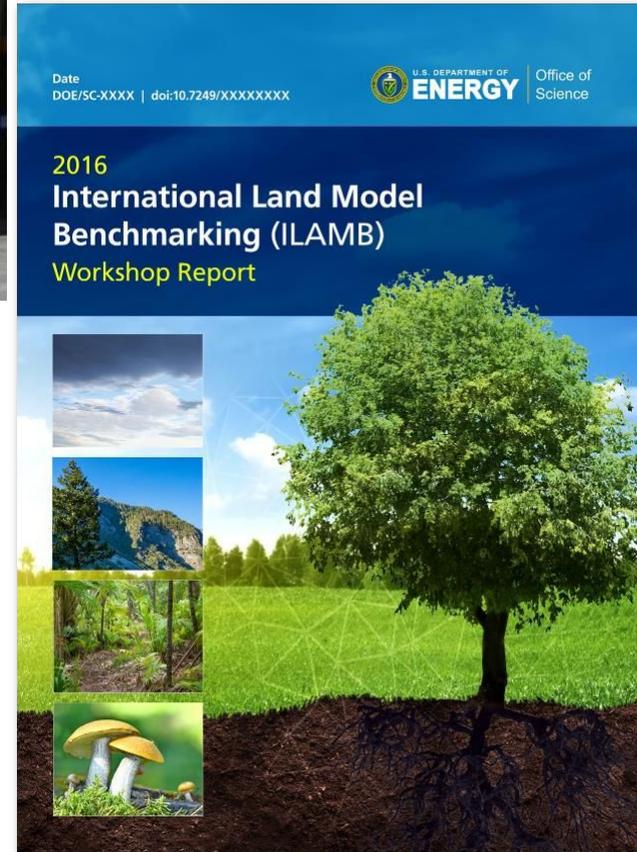
(Luo et al., 2012)



2016 International Land Model Benchmarking (ILAMB) Workshop May 16–18, 2016, Washington, DC

Third ILAMB Workshop was held May 16–18, 2016

- Workshop Goals
 - Design of new metrics for model benchmarking
 - Model Intercomparison Project (MIP) evaluation needs
 - Model development, testbeds, and workflow processes
 - Observational datasets and needed measurements
- Workshop Attendance
 - 60+ participants from Australia, Japan, China, Germany, Sweden, Netherlands, UK, and US (10 modeling centers)
 - ~25 remote attendees at any time

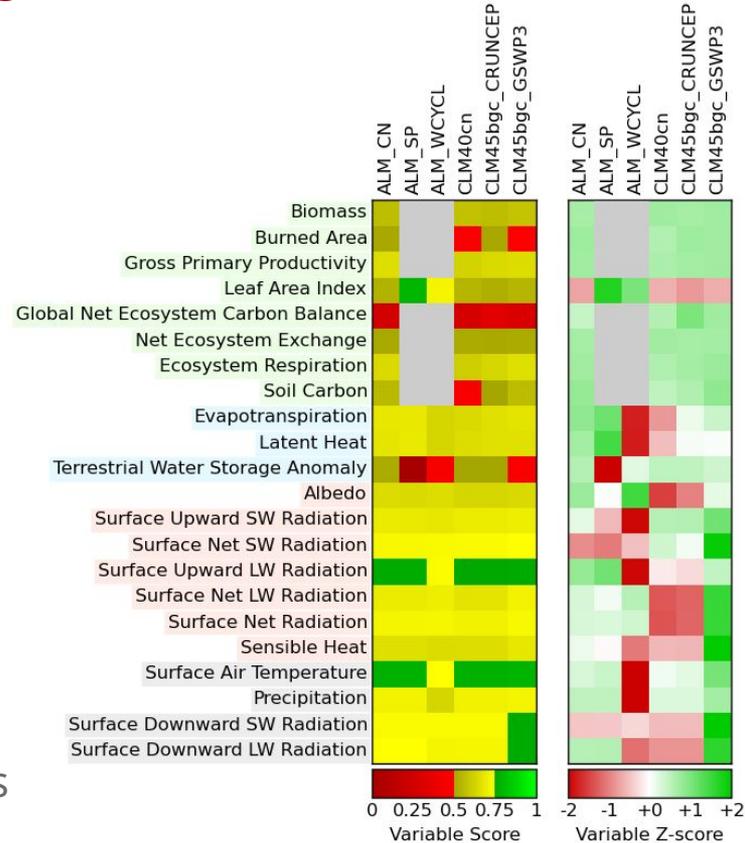


(Hoffman et al., 2017)



Development of ILAMB Packages

- **ILAMBv1** released at 2015 AGU Fall Meeting Town Hall, doi:[10.18139/ILAMB.v001.00/1251597](https://doi.org/10.18139/ILAMB.v001.00/1251597)
- **ILAMBv2** released at 2016 ILAMB Workshop, doi:[10.18139/ILAMB.v002.00/1251621](https://doi.org/10.18139/ILAMB.v002.00/1251621)
- **Open Source software** written in Python; **runs in parallel** on laptops, clusters, and supercomputers
- Routinely used for land model evaluation during development of ESMs, including the **E3SM Land Model** (Zhu et al., 2019) and the **CESM Community Land Model** (Lawrence et al., 2019)
- **Models are scored** based on statistical comparisons and functional response metrics



ILAMB Produces Diagnostics and Scores Models

- ILAMB generates a top-level **portrait plot** of models scores
- For every variable and dataset, ILAMB can automatically produce
 - **Tables** containing individual metrics and metric scores (when relevant to the data), including
 - Benchmark and model **period mean**
 - **Bias** and **bias score** (S_{bias})
 - **Root-mean-square error (RMSE)** and **RMSE score** (S_{rmse})
 - **Phase shift** and **seasonal cycle score** (S_{phase})
 - **Interannual coefficient of variation** and **IAV score** (S_{iav})
 - **Spatial distribution score** (S_{dist})
 - **Overall score** (S_{overall}) \longrightarrow
$$S_{\text{overall}} = \frac{S_{\text{bias}} + 2S_{\text{rmse}} + S_{\text{phase}} + S_{\text{iav}} + S_{\text{dist}}}{1 + 2 + 1 + 1 + 1}$$
 - **Graphical diagnostics**
 - Spatial contour maps
 - Time series line plots
 - Spatial Taylor diagrams (Taylor, 2001)
- Similar **tables** and **graphical diagnostics** for functional relationships

ILAMBv2.6 Package Current Variables

- **Biogeochemistry:** Biomass (Contiguous US, Pan Tropical Forest), Burned area (GFED3), CO₂ (NOAA GMD, Mauna Loa), Gross primary production (Fluxnet, GBAF), Leaf area index (AVHRR, MODIS), Global net ecosystem carbon balance (GCP, Khatiwala/Hoffman), Net ecosystem exchange (Fluxnet, GBAF), Ecosystem Respiration (Fluxnet, GBAF), Soil C (HWSD, NCSCDv22, Koven)
- **Hydrology:** Evapotranspiration (GLEAM, MODIS), Evaporative fraction (GBAF), Latent heat (Fluxnet, GBAF, DOLCE), Runoff (Dai, LORA), Sensible heat (Fluxnet, GBAF), Terrestrial water storage anomaly (GRACE), Permafrost (NSIDC)
- **Energy:** Albedo (CERES, GEWEX.SRB), Surface upward and net SW/LW radiation (CERES, GEWEX.SRB, WRMC.BSRN), Surface net radiation (CERES, Fluxnet, GEWEX.SRB, WRMC.BSRN)
- **Forcing:** Surface air temperature (CRU, Fluxnet), Diurnal max/min/range temperature (CRU), Precipitation (CMAP, Fluxnet, GPCC, GPCP2), Surface relative humidity (ERA), Surface down SW/LW radiation (CERES, Fluxnet, GEWEX.SRB, WRMC.BSRN)

ILAMB Assessing Several Generations of CLM

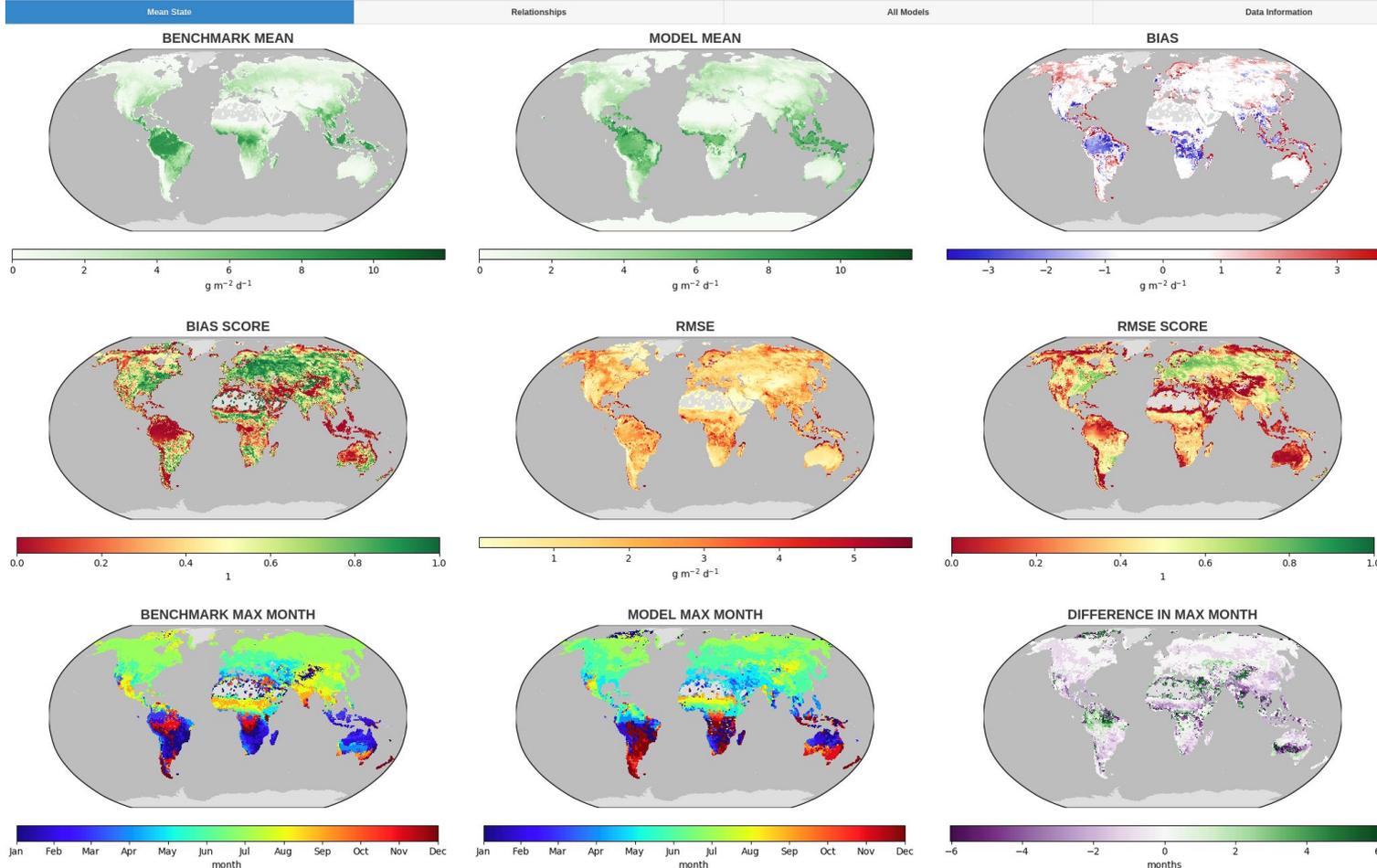
	CLM4	CLM4.5	CLM5
Ecosystem and Carbon Cycle			
Biomass			
Burned Area			
Carbon Dioxide			
Gross Primary Productivity			
Leaf Area Index			
Global Net Ecosystem Carbon Balance			
Net Ecosystem Exchange			
Ecosystem Respiration			
Soil Carbon			
Hydrology Cycle			
Evapotranspiration			
Evaporative Fraction			
Latent Heat			
Runoff			
Sensible Heat			
Terrestrial Water Storage Anomaly			
Permafrost			
Radiation and Energy Cycle			
Albedo			
Surface Upward SW Radiation			
Surface Net SW Radiation			
Surface Upward LW Radiation			
Surface Net LW Radiation			
Surface Net Radiation			
Forcings			

- Improvements in mechanistic treatment of hydrology, ecology, and land use with much more complexity in Community Land Model version 5 (CLM5)
- Simulations improved even with enhanced complexity
- Observational datasets not always self-consistent
- Forcing uncertainty confounds assessment of model development

http://webext.cgd.ucar.edu/I20TR/build_set1F/

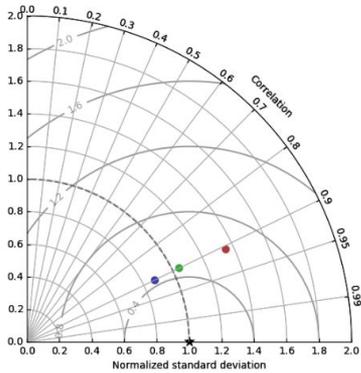
(Lawrence et al., 2019)

ILAMB Graphical Diagnostics





SPATIAL TAYLOR DIAGRAM



MODEL COLORS



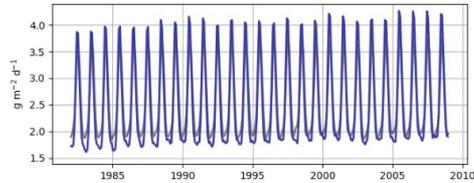
ILAMB Graphical Diagnostics

Spatially integrated regional mean

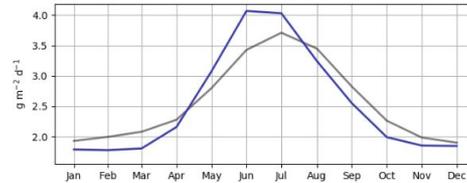
MODEL COLORS



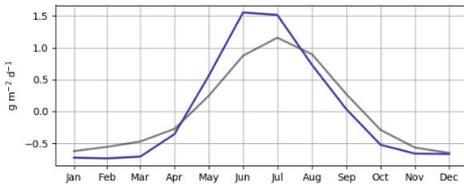
REGIONAL MEAN



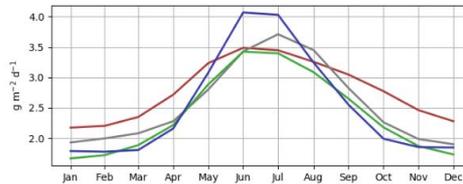
ANNUAL CYCLE



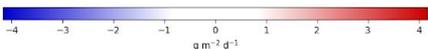
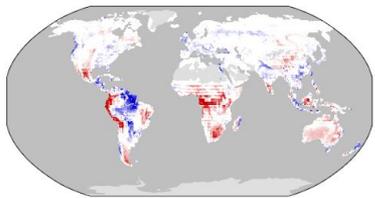
MONTHLY ANOMALY



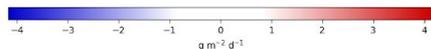
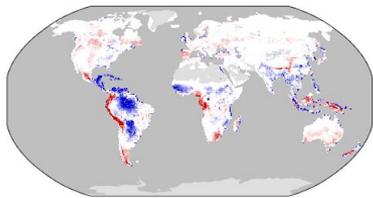
ANNUAL CYCLE



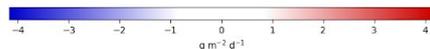
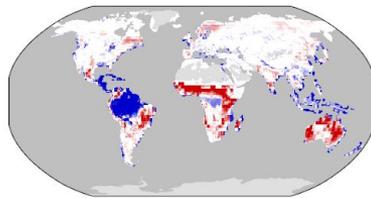
bcc-csm1-1



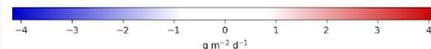
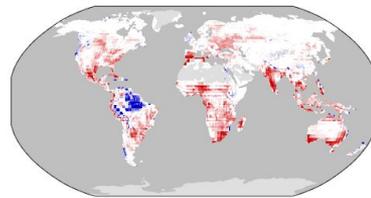
BCC-CSM2-MR



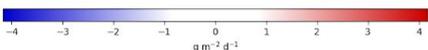
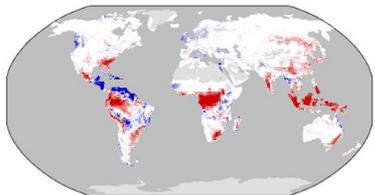
CanESM2



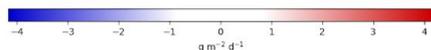
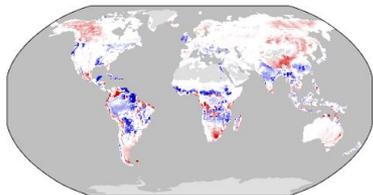
CanESM5



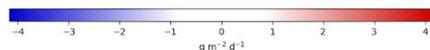
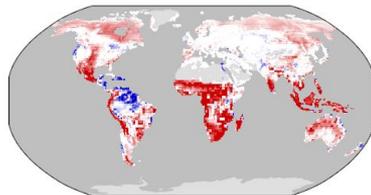
CESM1-BGC



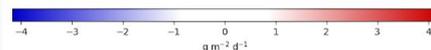
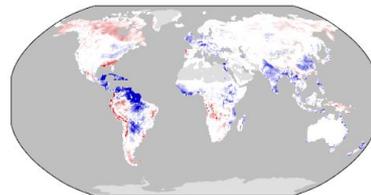
CESM2



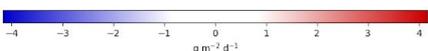
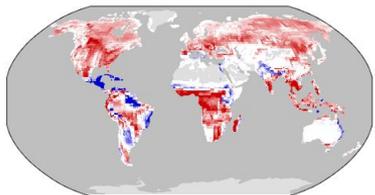
GFDL-ESM2G



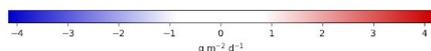
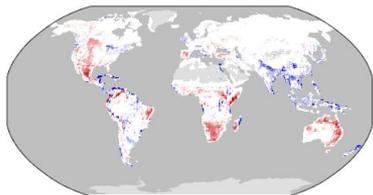
GFDL-ESM4



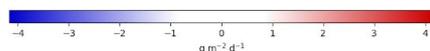
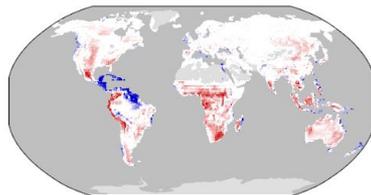
IPSL-CM5A-LR



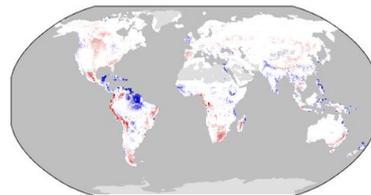
IPSL-CM6A-LR



MeanCMIP5

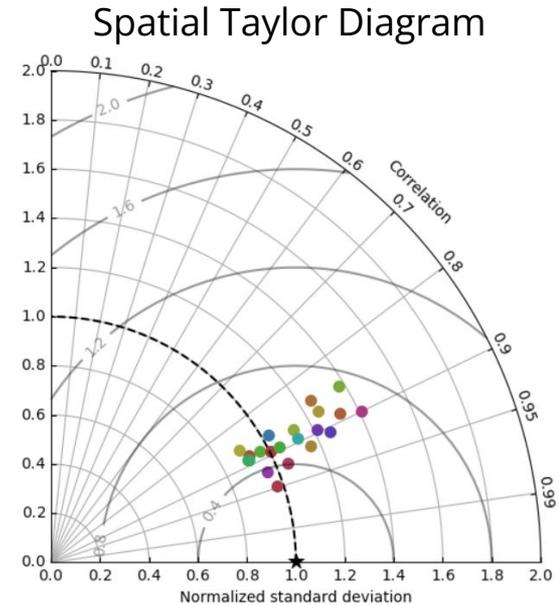


MeanCMIP6



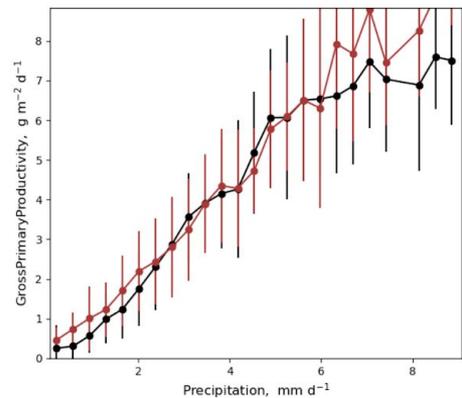
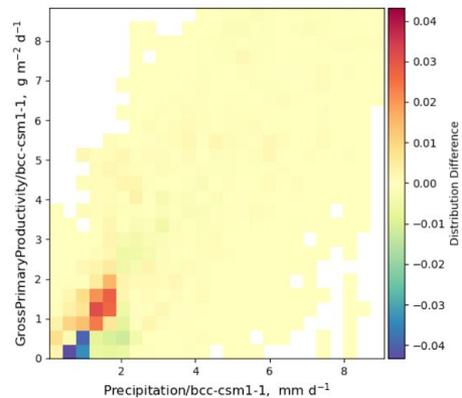
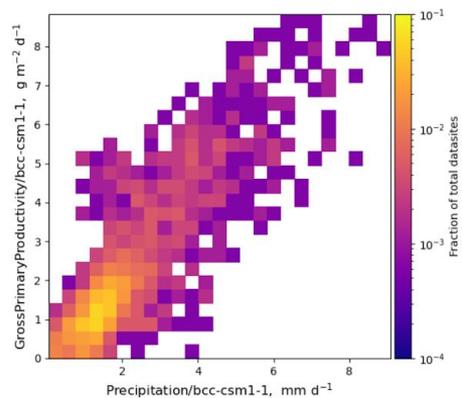
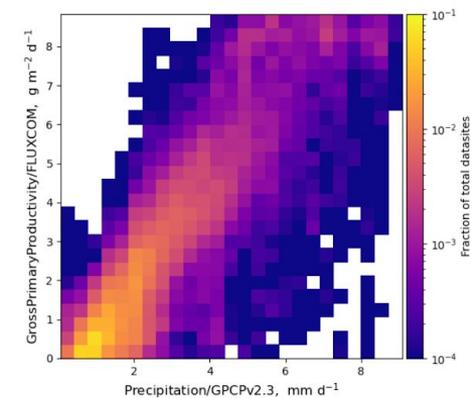
Gross Primary Productivity

- Multimodel GPP is compared with global seasonal GBAF estimates
- We can see Improvements across generations of models (e.g., CESM1 vs. CESM2, IPSL-CM5A vs. 6A)
- The mean CMIP6 and CMIP5 models perform best



Benchmark	Download Data Period Mean [1]	Model Period Mean (original grids) [Pg yr ⁻¹]	Benchmark Period Mean (intersection) [Pg yr ⁻¹]	Model Period Mean (intersection) [Pg yr ⁻¹]	Benchmark Period Mean (complement) [Pg yr ⁻¹]	Model Period Mean (complement) [Pg yr ⁻¹]	Bias [g m ⁻² d ⁻¹]	RMSE [g m ⁻² d ⁻¹]	Phase Shift [months]	Bias Score [1]	RMSE Score [1]	Seasonal Cycle Score [1]	Spatial Distribution Score [1]	Overall Score [1]
bcc-csm1-1	114.	123.	112.	114.	8.79	0.0945	0.238	1.51	1.01	0.484	0.435	0.830	0.955	0.628
BCC-CSM2-MR	114.	107.	113.	5.88	0.671	-0.0233	1.52	1.11	0.479	0.447	0.817	0.941	0.626	
CanESM2	129.	117.	114.	9.54	0.0601	2.31	2.00	0.388	0.437	0.880	0.888	0.549		
CanESM5	141.	128.	114.	10.1	0.730	1.87	1.60	0.449	0.418	0.710	0.948	0.589		
CESM1-BGC	129.	123.	113.	5.55	0.660	0.379	1.66	1.20	0.426	0.468	0.765	0.889	0.603	
CESM2	110.	104.	113.	5.57	0.642	-0.0542	1.62	1.32	0.458	0.466	0.774	0.933	0.619	
GFDL-ESM2G	167.	152.	114.	12.4	1.26	2.78	1.38	0.377	0.288	0.735	0.897	0.817		
GFDL-ESM4	105.	99.0	114.	6.18	-0.177	1.59	1.49	0.495	0.403	0.702	0.939	0.588		
IPSL-CM5A-LR	165.	150.	113.	11.7	0.515	1.18	2.68	1.20	0.327	0.352	0.781	0.896	0.542	
IPSL-CM6A-LR	115.	109.	113.	5.27	0.708	0.111	1.39	1.14	0.547	0.477	0.790	0.961	0.650	
MeanCMIP5	121.	115.	114.	6.65	0.574	1.41	0.981	0.494	0.502	0.799	0.965	0.652		
MeanCMIP6	116.	110.	114.	6.26	0.129	1.17	0.931	0.572	0.522	0.826	0.956	0.676		
MIROC-ESM	129.	118.	102.	9.04	11.4	0.396	1.90	1.27	0.463	0.435	0.767	0.920	0.604	
MIROC-ESM2L	116.	104.	113.	9.90	0.119	-0.0111	1.95	1.99	0.409	0.379	0.828	0.920	0.543	
MPI-ESM-LR	169.	159.	104.	8.91	9.81	1.36	2.36	1.29	0.402	0.371	0.715	0.930	0.558	
MPI-ESM1.2-LR	141.	133.	104.	6.89	9.81	0.725	2.06	1.13	0.409	0.393	0.769	0.925	0.578	
NorESM1-ME	129.	120.	114.	7.82	0.386	1.86	1.25	0.387	0.456	0.761	0.856	0.583		
NorESM2-LM	107.	97.5	114.	7.59	-0.0828	1.63	1.31	0.443	0.472	0.791	0.938	0.623		
UK-HadGEM2-ES	137.	130.	113.	6.93	0.848	0.602	2.01	1.10	0.389	0.388	0.820	0.855	0.568	
UKESM1-0-LL	126.	119.	113.	7.06	0.825	0.387	1.77	1.16	0.436	0.419	0.791	0.924	0.598	

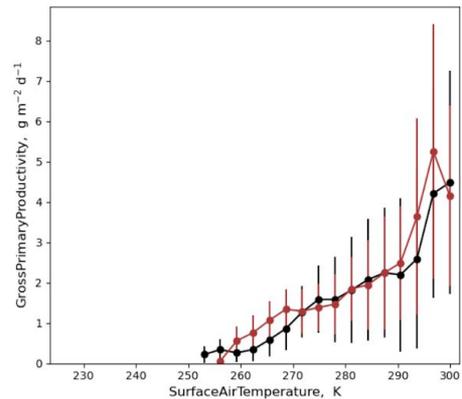
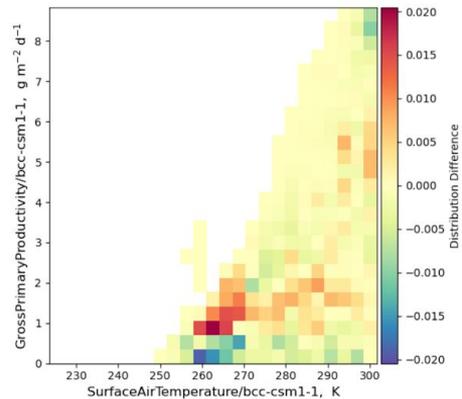
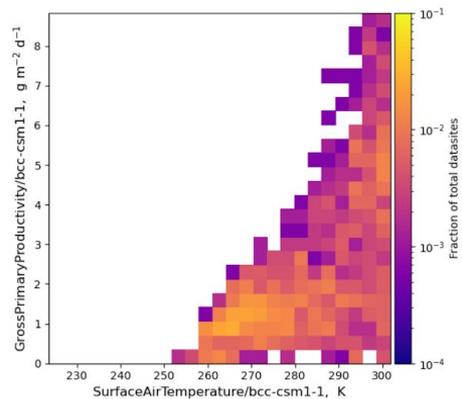
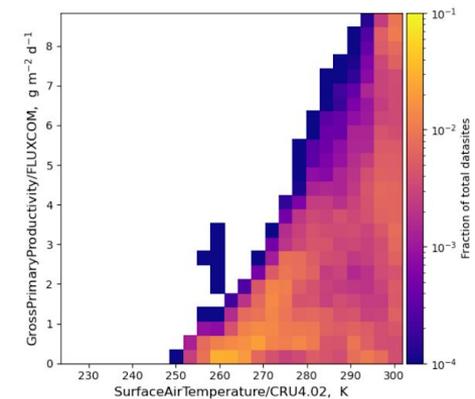
⊕ Precipitation/GPCPv2.3



⊕ SurfaceDownwardSWRadiation/CERESed4.1

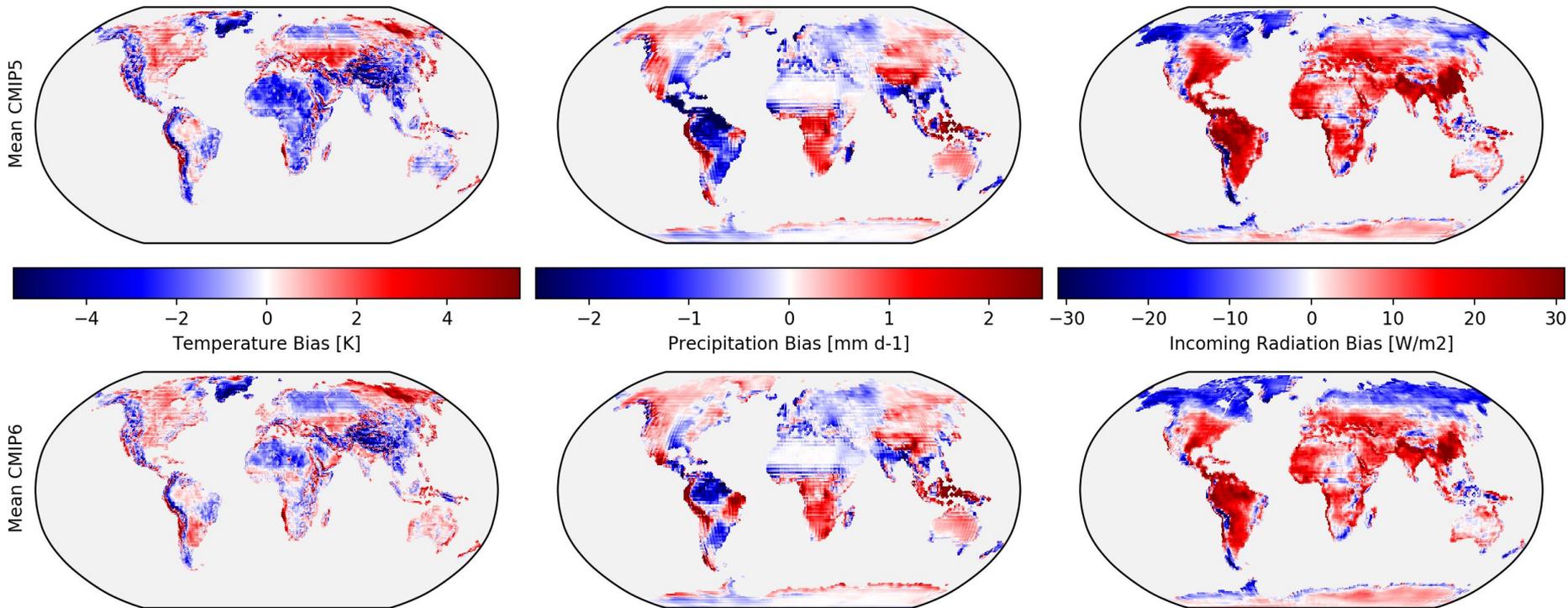
⊕ SurfaceNetSWRadiation/CERESed4.1

⊖ SurfaceAirTemperature/CRU4.02



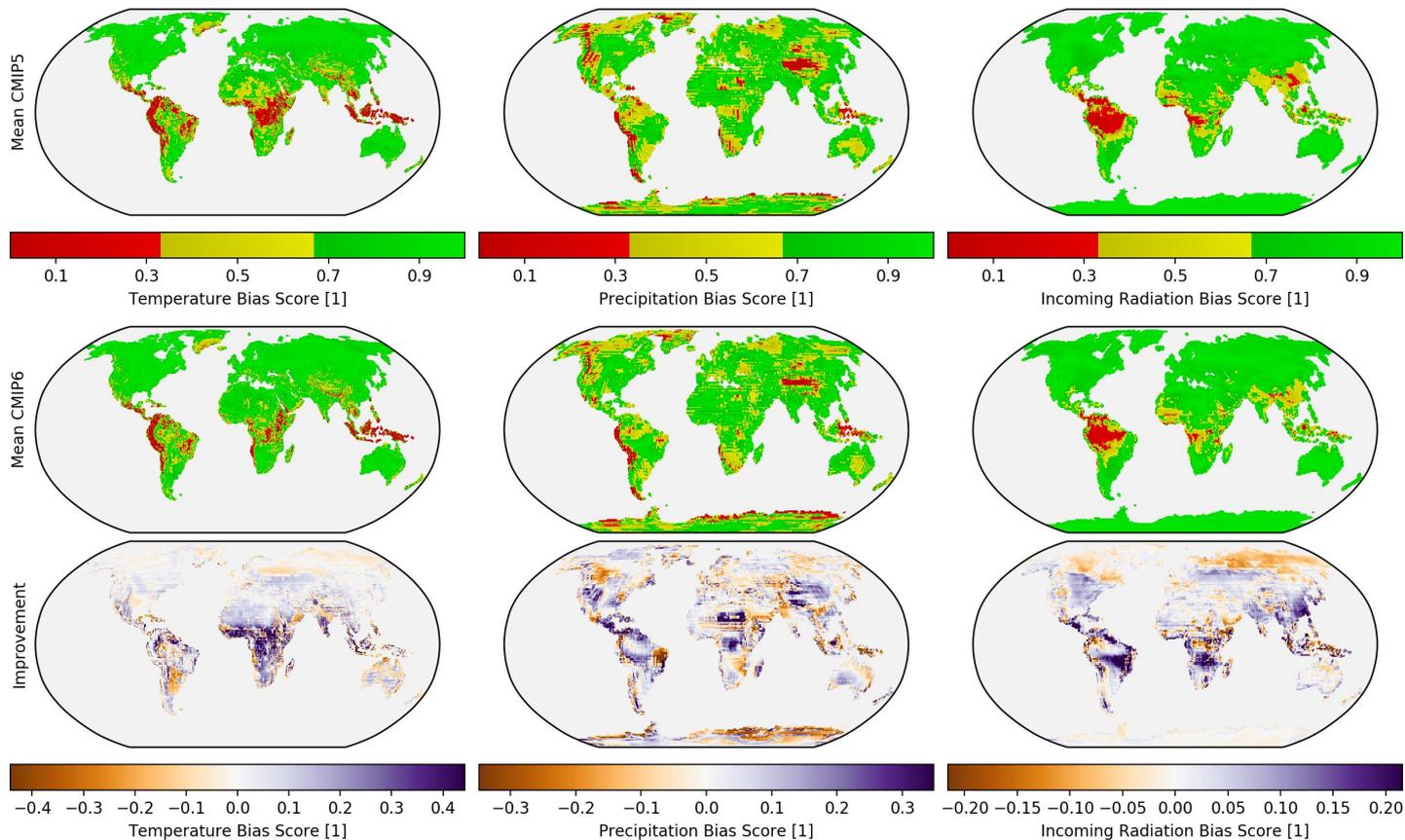
Reasons for Land Model Improvements

ESM improvements in climate forcings (temperature, precipitation, radiation) likely partially drove improvements exhibited by land carbon cycle models

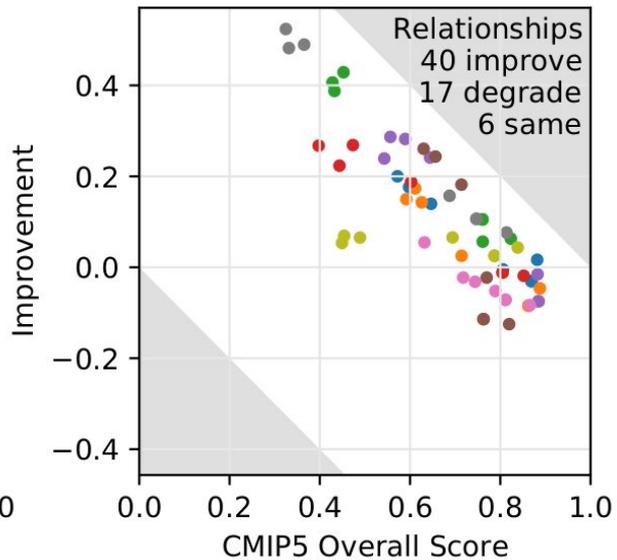
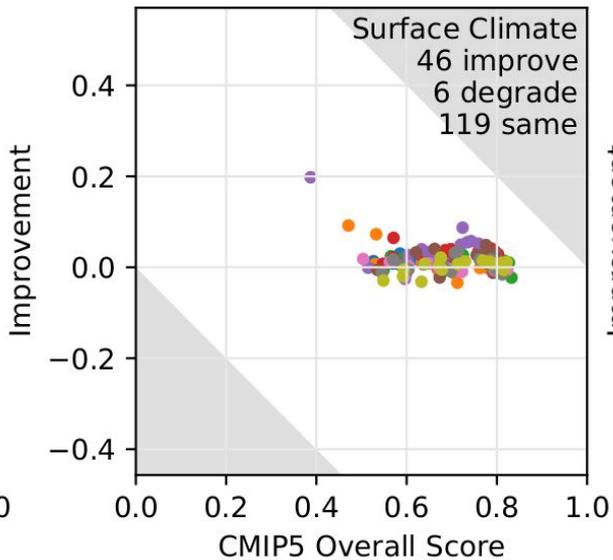
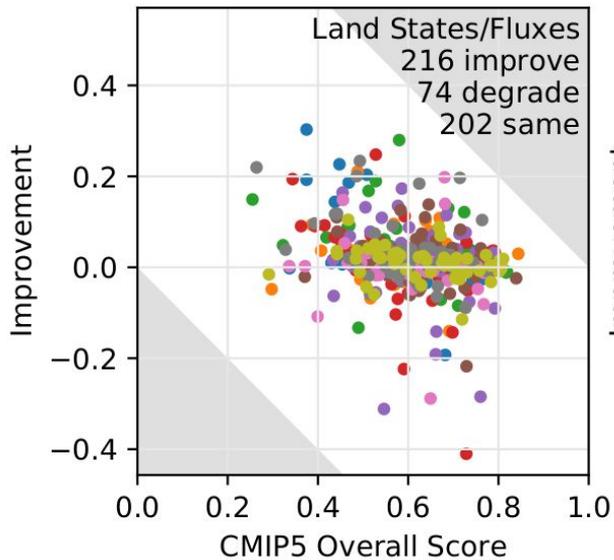


Reasons for Land Model Improvements

Differences in bias scores for temperature, precipitation, and incoming radiation were primarily positive, further indicating more realistic climate representation



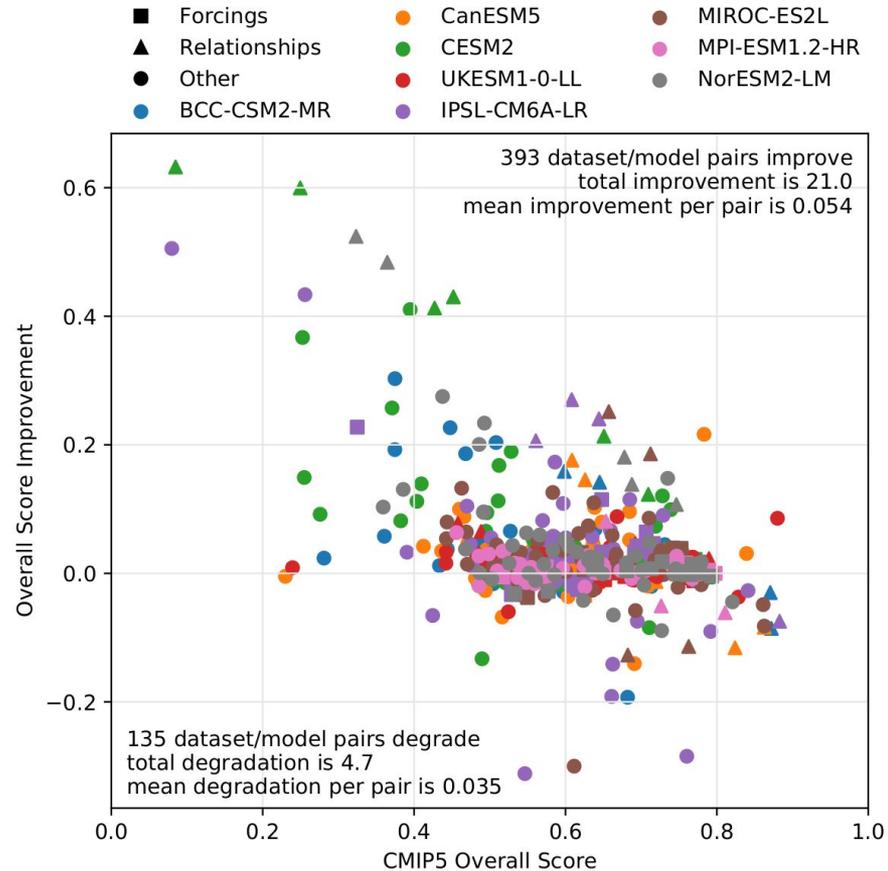
- BCC-CSM2-MR
- CanESM5
- CESM2
- GFDL-ESM4
- IPSL-CM6A-LR
- MIROC-ES2L
- MPI-ESM1.2-LR
- NorESM2-LM
- UKESM1-0-LL



Across all land models, scores for most state and flux variables improved (216) or remained nearly the same (202), although some were degraded (74). While atmospheric forcings from CMIP6 ESMs were improved over those from CMIP5 ESMs, the largest improvements were in land model **variable-to-variable relationships**, suggesting that increased land model development was also partially responsible for higher CMIP6 land model scores.

Reasons for Land Model Improvements

While forcings got better, the largest improvements were in **variable-to-variable relationships**, suggesting that increased land model complexity was also partially responsible for higher CMIP6 model scores



ILAMB & IOMB CMIP5 vs 6 Evaluation

- (a) ILAMB and (b) IOMB have been used to evaluate how land and ocean model performance has changed from CMIP5 to CMIP6
- Model fidelity is assessed through comparison of historical simulations with a wide variety of contemporary observational datasets
- The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) from Working Group 1 (WG1) Chapter 5 contains the full ILAMB/IOMB evaluation as Figure 5.22

(a) Land Benchmarking Results

Land Ecosystem & Carbon Cycle

	bcc-csm1-1	CanESM2	CanESM2-BGC	GFDL-ESM2G	IPSL-CM5A-LR	MIROC-ESM	MPI-ESM-LR	NorESM1-ME	HadGEM2-ES	BCC-CSM2-MR	CanESM5	CESM2	GFDL-ESM4	IPSL-CM6A-LR	MIROC-ES2L	MPI-ESM1-2-LR	NorESM2-LM	UKESM1-0-LL	Mean CMIP5	Mean CMIP6
Biomass	-0.72	-0.93	-1.95	-1.51	-0.13	0.60	-0.43	-1.31	0.19	-0.43	0.66	0.48	-1.09	0.22	0.60	-0.07	1.00	0.49	1.63	2.30
Burned Area	0.20	-0.45	-1.52	-0.40	-1.26	-0.26	-1.07	-1.77	0.92	1.39	0.74	-0.20	-0.54	0.16	0.93	-0.96	-0.01	1.04	1.23	1.82
Leaf Area Index	-0.20	-0.64	-1.30	2.53	-0.01	0.30	0.01	1.85	-0.16	0.27	0.08	0.34	-0.70	1.19	0.82	0.46	0.37	0.69	1.04	1.61
Soil Carbon	0.27	1.26	1.46	0.07	0.75	0.47	-0.03	-1.14	0.07	0.23	1.35	-0.99	2.04	-1.55	0.90	-0.75	-0.17	0.24	1.01	1.48
Gross Primary Productivity	0.59	-1.23	0.01	1.81	-1.40	0.29	-0.53	-0.24	-1.04	0.77	0.04	0.59	-0.38	1.17	-1.02	-0.37	0.73	0.09	1.51	2.22
Net Ecosystem Exchange	-0.42	1.81	-0.21	-0.65	1.10	-0.24	0.80	0.02	-1.03	-1.02	-1.19	0.59	1.69	-0.42	0.63	-0.21	1.08	-1.43	1.28	1.43
Ecosystem Respiration	0.90	-0.56	-0.86	-0.24	1.35	0.99	-0.01	-0.94	-1.54	0.81	0.59	0.51	-0.79	0.90	-0.21	-1.24	0.43	-0.94	1.34	2.21
Carbon Dioxide	-1.54	-0.36	-2.92	-0.74	1.53	-0.00	0.37	0.85	0.42	0.26	0.39	0.59	1.10	-0.87	0.21	0.69	0.09	-0.07	0.99	1.47
Global Net Carbon Balance	-1.64	-0.88	-1.13	0.17	-0.31	-0.38	-0.50	0.24	-0.23	1.34	-1.70	0.17	-0.74	1.45	1.56	0.26	0.92	1.40	1.70	2.02

Land Hydrology Cycle

Evapotranspiration	-2.65	-0.42	0.44	-0.18	-0.49	-0.52	-0.57	0.17	0.70	0.15	-0.47	1.51	-1.24	0.58	-0.72	-0.83	0.97	0.87	1.00	1.70
Evaporative Fraction	-0.34	0.74	0.74	-0.14	0.85	0.21	1.98	0.22	-0.34	0.10	0.11	1.25	-0.88	1.29	-1.65	-1.81	1.11	-0.06	0.98	1.29
...																				
Terrestrial Water Storage Anomaly	-2.79	-0.45	0.47	0.50	-0.38	0.34	0.35	0.43	0.58	0.15	-0.08	0.95	-2.91	0.43	0.37	0.15	0.39	0.51	0.49	0.50
Permafrost	-0.88	2.26	0.01	0.13	0.83	0.69	0.56	0.69	-0.56	-0.11	-3.02	0.83	0.74	-0.18	0.49	0.42	0.89	0.43	0.06	0.23

(b) Ocean Benchmarking Results

Ocean Ecosystems

Chlorophyll			2.18	0.20	-0.20	0.04	0.22			-0.37	0.83	-0.37	-0.26	-0.91	-0.67	1.93	0.27	0.30	0.67	
Oxygen, surface	-1.50	2.19	0.44	1.02	0.49	0.56			-0.67	0.88	-0.21	0.10	-1.02	-0.41	2.19	0.18	0.13	0.33	0.64	

Ocean Nutrients

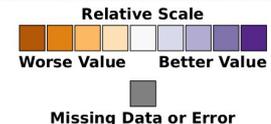
Nitrate, surface	0.73	0.13	1.88			-0.53	-1.53	-0.29		0.73	0.34	-0.09	-0.41	0.35	-0.30	0.40	0.49	0.64	1.57	
Phosphate, surface			-0.84	-0.10	0.91			-0.80	-1.25			-0.02	1.00	1.88		-0.90	-1.14	-0.17	-0.16	1.60
Silicate, surface	0.21	-1.63	0.67	1.22			-0.18	-1.70	0.82		1.21	-0.90	0.29	1.21	1.02	0.39	1.78	-0.56	-0.47	0.18

Ocean Carbon

TALK, surface											1.24	-0.23	-0.62	-0.69	-1.08	-1.12	1.31			1.19
Salinity, 700m	-0.27	1.01	0.12	0.19			0.32	-2.31	-0.22		0.06	-0.36	0.85	-0.42	0.29	2.48	1.27	0.06	1.27	0.54

Ocean Relationships

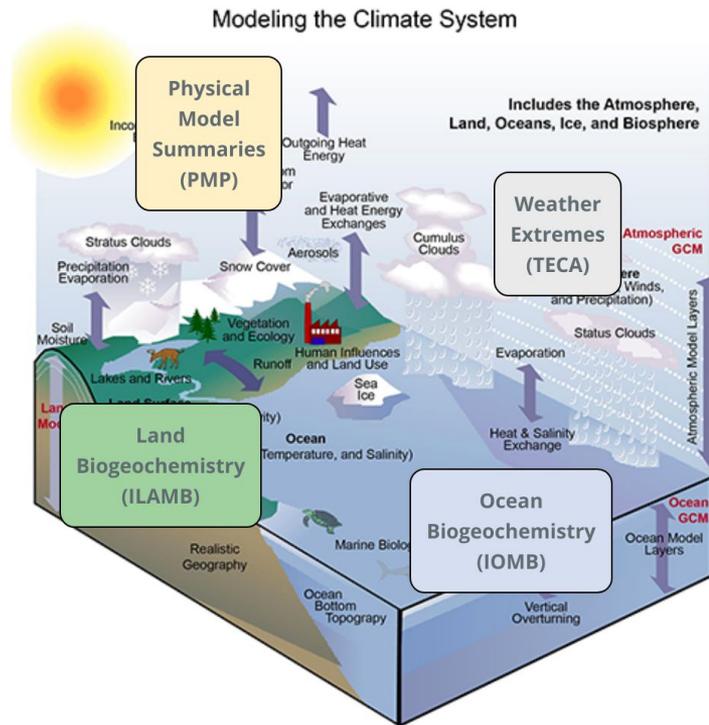
Oxygen, surface/WOA2018	0.44	-0.35	-1.06	-0.54	0.70	0.46	-0.46	-0.80	0.32	0.36	0.25	-1.16	-0.47	0.54	0.33	-0.39	-0.87	-0.54	1.58	1.64
Nitrate, surface/WOA2018			1.86	-0.36	-0.29			1.50	-0.43	0.68		-0.02	0.72	1.20	0.17	1.86	0.02	-1.12	0.39	1.25





Coordinated Model Evaluation Capabilities

Coordinated Model Evaluation Capabilities (CMEC) is an effort to bring together a diverse set of analysis packages that have been developed to facilitate the systematic evaluation of Earth System Models (ESMs). Currently, CMEC includes three capabilities that are supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Biological and Environmental Research (BER), Regional and Global Climate Modeling Program (RGCM). As CMEC advances, additional analysis packages will be included from community-based expert teams as well as efforts directly supported by DOE and other US and international agencies.



<https://cmec.llnl.gov/>

A primary motivation for CMEC is to analyze model simulations that are contributed to the [Coupled Model Intercomparison Project \(CMIP\)](#). Virtually every institution worldwide involved in significant

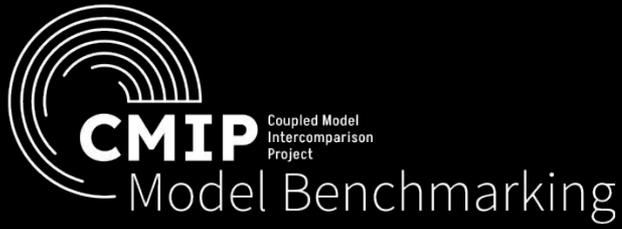
LMT Dashboard: <https://lmt.ornl.gov/unified-dashboard/>

The dashboard displays a table of scores for various models across different metrics. The table is organized into sections: Ecosystem and Carbon Cycle, Biomass, Leaf Area Index, Soil Carbon, Gross Primary Productivity, Net Ecosystem Exchange, Ecosystem Respiration, Carbon Dioxide, Global Net Ecosystem Carbon Balance, Hydrology Cycle, Evapotranspiration, Evaporative Fraction, Runoff, Latent Heat, Sensible Heat, and Terrestrial Water Storage Anomaly. Each row represents a metric, and each column represents a model. The scores are color-coded based on their values, ranging from dark blue (negative) to dark red (positive).

Annotations and their corresponding features:

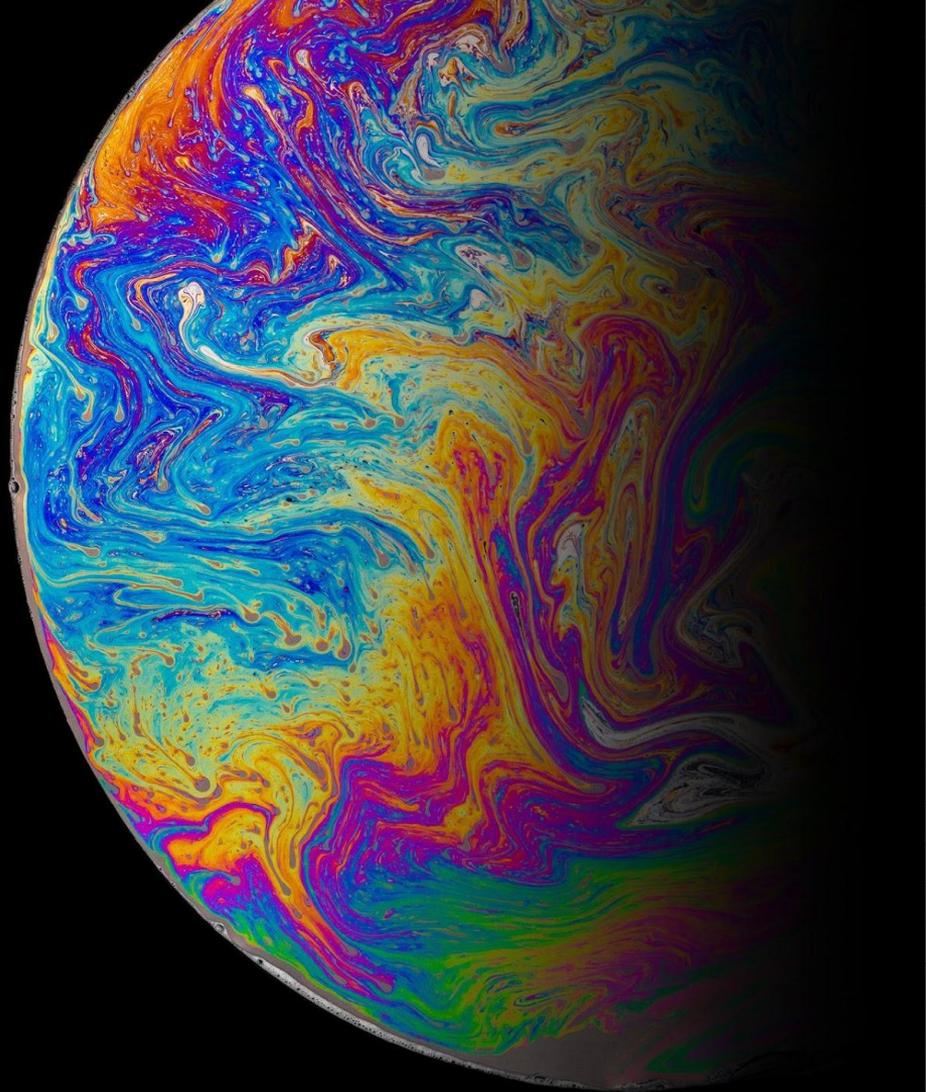
- Show/hide side menu containing multiple functions
- Hyperdimension selection
- Scale/Normalize cell values along the row or column direction and color mappings
- Multiple switches to toggle features
- Collapse and expand Children rows
- Save the dashboard to a plain html file
- Open local json files
- Moveable columns
- Different colors for model groups
- Clickable cell linking to metric page
- Show/Hide cell values

- **Tooltips:** show scores when mouse hovers the cells.
- **Column Hiding:** hide some models (columns) to focus into models of interest.
- **Column sorting:** sort the scores along the columns/models to see the best metric for the model.

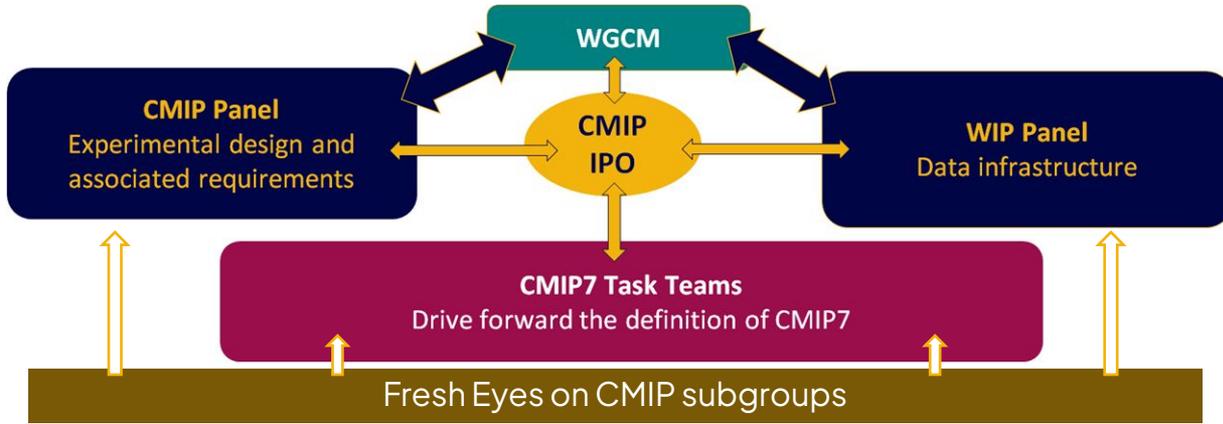


Climate Model Benchmarking for CMIP7

Forrest M. Hoffman and Birgit Hassler
CMIP Climate Model Benchmarking Task Team Co-Leads



CMIP and Preparations for CMIP7



- Two new CMIP co-chairs were appointed (2022/2023):
 - Helene Hewitt (Met Office, UK)
 - John Dunne (NOAA GFDL, USA)
- The CMIP IPO, newly established in March 2022 and hosted at the European Space Agency's (ESA's) ECSAT site in Harwell, UK, is staffed by five people and is tasked with helping coordinate and support CMIP activities and responsibilities

- CMIP is part of the WCRP's Earth System Modelling and Observation (ESMO) realm, and the Working Group on Coupled Modelling (WGCM)
- CMIP activities are coordinated by the CMIP Panel, the WGCM Infrastructure Panel (WIP), the CMIP IPO and the CMIP7 Task Teams

CMIP Task Teams

- The CMIP Panel and WIP have established a number of **Task Teams** to support the **design**, **scope**, and **definition** of the next phase of CMIP and evolution of CMIP infrastructure and future operationalization
 - Individual Task Teams aim to address **specific topics** (shown at right) and **interact with each other** to develop recommendations for the CMIP Panel and WIP
- Data Access
(Robert Pincus & Atef Ben-Nasser)
 - Data Citation
(Martina Stockhause & Sasha Ames)
 - Data Request
(Martin Juckes & Chloe Mackallah)
 - Forcings
(Paul Durack & Vaishali Naik)
 - Model Benchmarking
(Birgit Hassler & Forrest Hoffman)
 - Model Documentation
(David Hassell & Guillaume Levavasseur)
 - Strategic Ensemble Design
(Ben Sanderson & Isla Simpson)

The Model Benchmarking TT



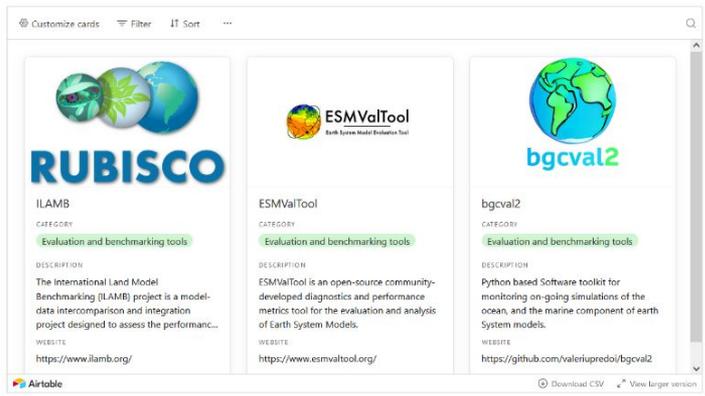
- Rebecca Beadling, *USA*
- Ed Blockley, *UK*
- Jiwoo Lee, *USA*
- Valerio Lembo, *Italy*
- Jared Lewis, *Australia*
- Jianhua Lu, *China*
- Luke Madaus, *USA*
- Elizaveta Malinina, *Canada*
- Brian Medeiros, *USA*
- Wilfried Pokam Mba, *Cameroon*
- Enrico Scoccimarro, *Italy*
- Ranjini Swaminathan, *UK*

- **Diversity** in expertise (realms and methods), user group representation, gender, location, career stage
- **Overarching goals:**
 - Systematic and rapid performance assessment of the expected models participating in CMIP7 (including the model output and documentation)
 - Enhancing existing community evaluation tools that facilitate performance assessment of models
 - Integration of evaluation tools into CMIP publication workflows and fostering publication of their diagnostic outputs alongside the model output on the ESGF
- Collaboration with two **Fresh Eyes on CMIP** Subgroups
 - Model Evaluation
 - Data Analysis

Model Benchmarking Tools – Info “Cards” & Videos

- **Main characteristics** of (open source) benchmarking and evaluation tools available for analyses of CMIP-style data summarized in an overview “card” or an information video
- Collected information **presented centrally** on the CMIP website for easy access
- Cards can be filled out for **all available open source benchmarking and evaluation tools** if they can be used for CMIP data analysis; pre-defined questionnaire available on the CMIP website

<https://wcrp-cmip.org/tools/model-benchmarking-and-evaluation-tools/>



The screenshot shows a web interface with three tool cards. Each card includes a logo, a title, a category, a description, and a website URL.

Tool Name	Category	Description	Website
RUBISCO	Evaluation and benchmarking tools	The International Land Model Benchmarking (ILAMB) project is a model-data intercomparison and integration project designed to assess the performanc...	https://www.ilamb.org/
ESMValTool	Evaluation and benchmarking tools	ESMValTool is an open-source community-developed diagnostics and performance metrics tool for the evaluation and analysis of Earth System Models.	https://www.esmvaltool.org/
bgcval2	Evaluation and benchmarking tools	Python based Software toolkit for monitoring on-going simulations of the ocean, and the marine component of earth System models.	https://github.com/valeriupredoi/bgcval2

Status: first cards available

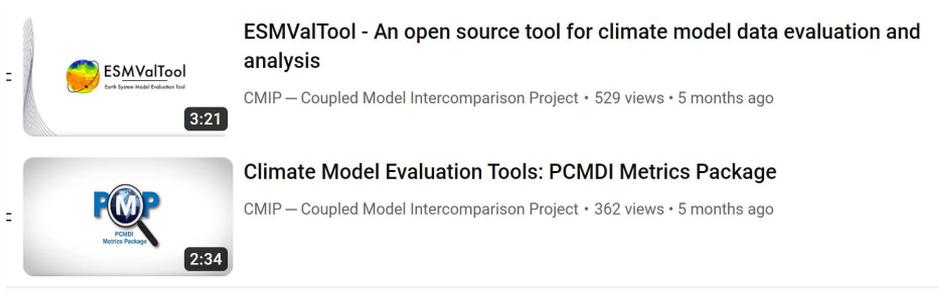
Started: October 2023



#CMIP

Model Benchmarking Tools – Information Videos

- **Videos** with descriptions of different benchmarking and evaluation tools
- Contain also the **main characteristics** of the different tools, just presented in a different way than the “cards”
- Videos can also be of **different style**
- All videos are presented in **one central location** linked to CMIP



ESMValTool - An open source tool for climate model data evaluation and analysis
CMIP — Coupled Model Intercomparison Project • 529 views • 5 months ago
3:21

Climate Model Evaluation Tools: PCMDI Metrics Package
CMIP — Coupled Model Intercomparison Project • 362 views • 5 months ago
2:34

- More **videos** of tools welcome!
- More **info cards** about evaluation/benchmarking tools welcome!

<https://wcrp-cmip.org/tools/model-benchmarking-and-evaluation-tools/>

#CMIP

Retrospective paper



- **Definitions** of “evaluation”, “validation”, and “benchmarking”
- Retrospective look at **evolution of evaluation & benchmarking metrics**
- What tools were **available** for CMIP6 (methods, philosophies, tools)?
- What approaches were **used** for CMIP6?
- Which of them **worked well** for CMIP6 and what **did not work** for CMIP6?
- **Extensive information** about different benchmarking and evaluation tools

Status: Currently being finalized

Planned submission: August 2024

What is the way forward?



- Based on the findings of the extensive information collected about different tools, and the retrospective paper – What do we think should be the **benchmarking/evaluation focus for CMIP7?**
- What **framework** would ideally be available for instantaneous benchmarking and evaluation at the time of data submission? Is such a framework even possible?
- How to **avoid the bottlenecks** encountered in CMIP6 benchmarking/evaluation?
- Comprehensive community evaluation in **near-real time** possible?

Status: Under development

Planned submission: Summer 2024

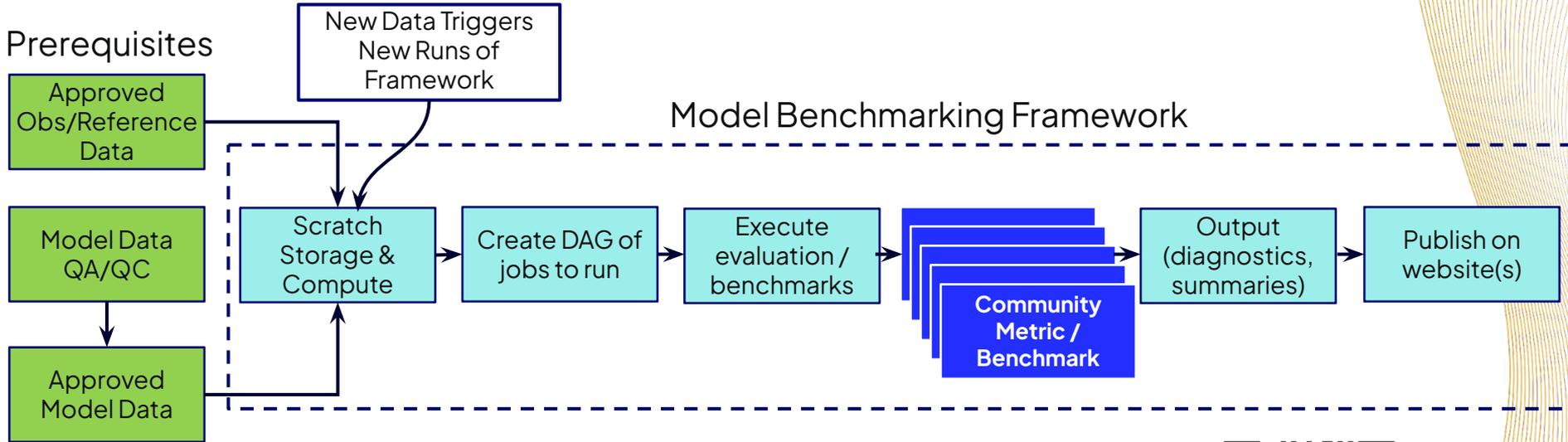
Other Planned TT Activities

- In collaboration with **Fresh Eyes on CMIP** groups
 - Scope out a Rapid Evaluation Framework for automated benchmarking capabilities at the time of AR7 Fast Track data publication
 - Develop scope for better quality assurance / quality control (QA/QC) for CMIP model output
 - Develop a white paper on observational data needs for model benchmarking, including uncertainties



#CMIP

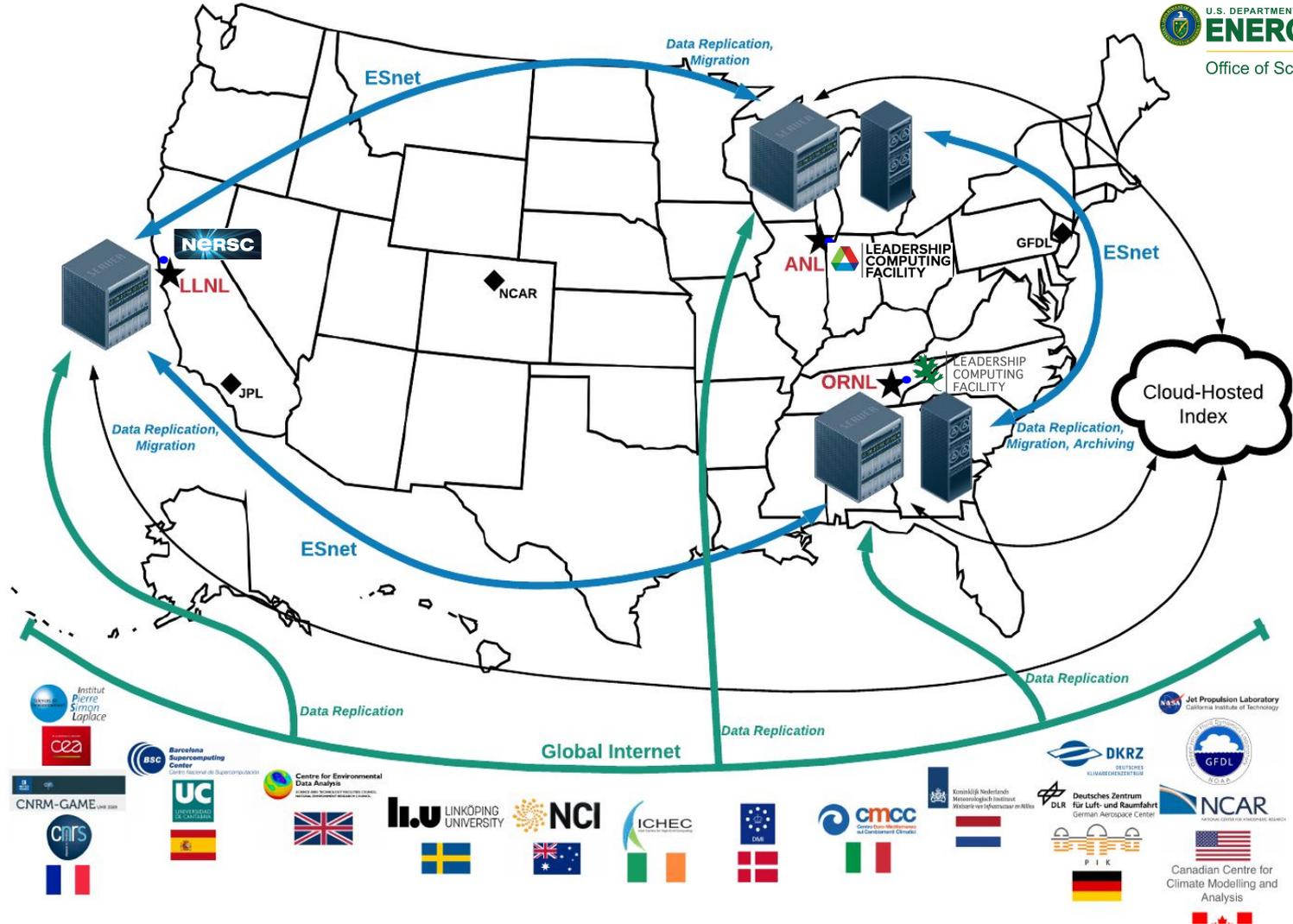
Rapid Evaluation Framework Overview





DOE's Next Generation Earth System Grid Federation

- As many as three nodes co-located at DOE's major computing facilities
- Replicating data from the global Federation
- Providing cloud indexing and tape archiving



Summary

- **Model benchmarking** is increasingly important as model complexity increases
- Systematic model benchmarking is useful for
 - **Verification** – during model development to confirm that new model code improves performance in a targeted area without degrading performance in another area
 - **Validation** – when comparing performance of one model or model version to observations and to other models or other model versions
- The **ILAMB package** employs a suite of in situ, remote sensing, and reanalysis datasets to comprehensively evaluate and score land model performance, *irrespective of any model structure or set of process representations*
- ILAMB is **Open Source**, is written in **Python**, **runs in parallel** on laptops to supercomputers, and has been **adopted in most modeling centers**
- *Usefulness* of ILAMB depends on the quality of incorporated observational data, characterization of uncertainty, and selection of relevant metrics

Questions?

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