

# Regional climate simulations for West Africa

## Comparison of input bias correction methods

INSTITUTE OF METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE RESEARCH, ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH (IMK-IFU)  
Regional Climate Systems/Regional Climate and Hydrology



KIT-Campus Alpin  
IMK-IFU, Atmospheric Environmental Research


**Future SOC Lab Day, Spring 2014**

**Dominikus Heinzeller & Harald Kunstmann**

Supported by



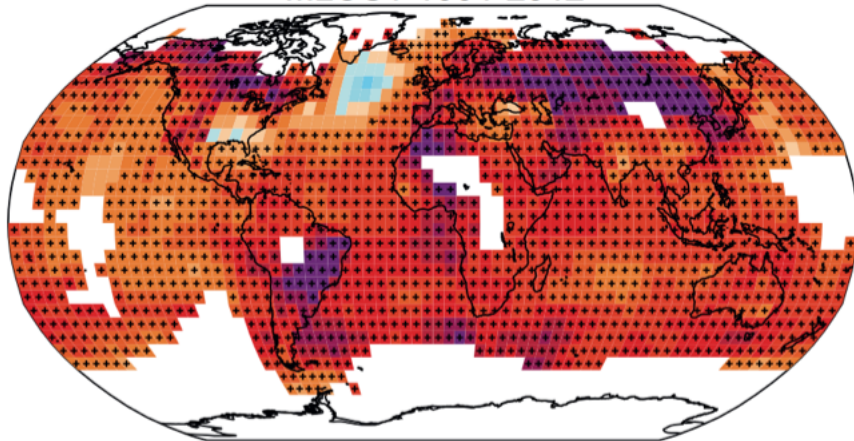
WASCAL



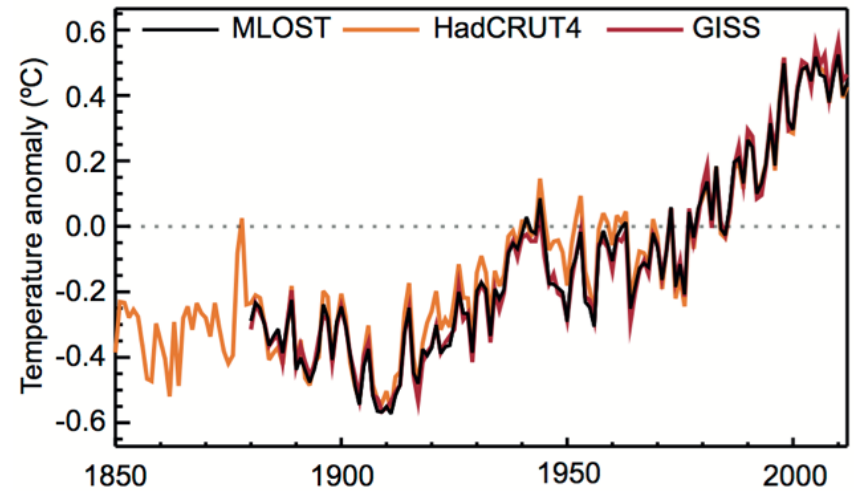
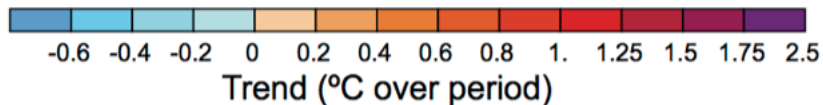
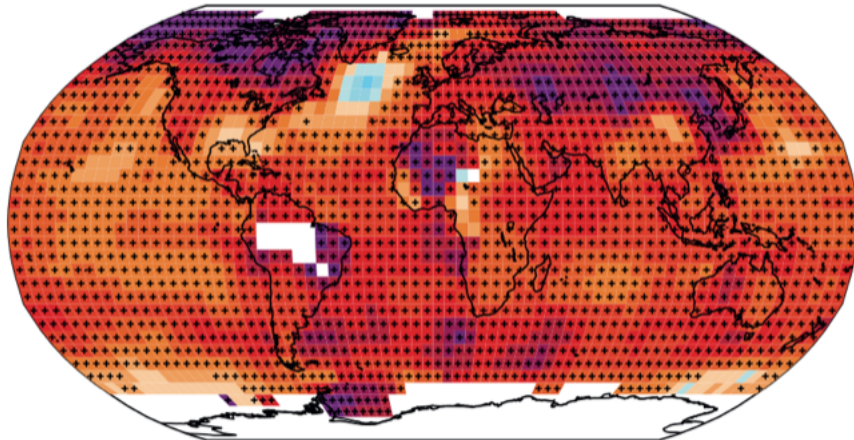
West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use

# Global climate change: warmer and wetter

MLOST 1901-2012



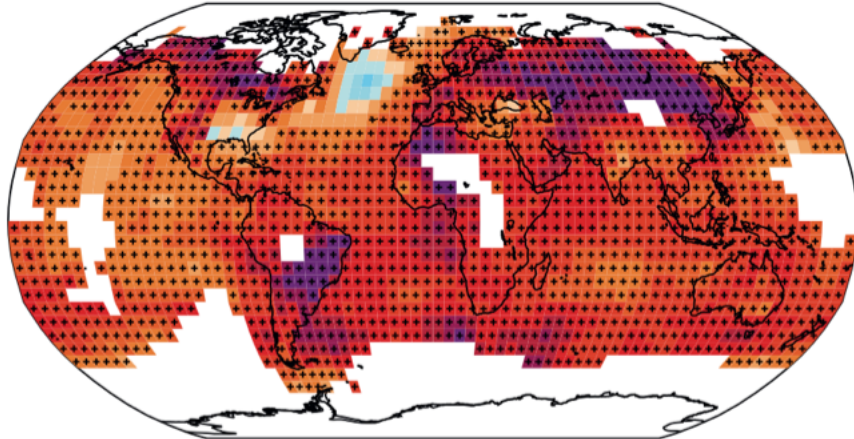
GISS 1901-2012



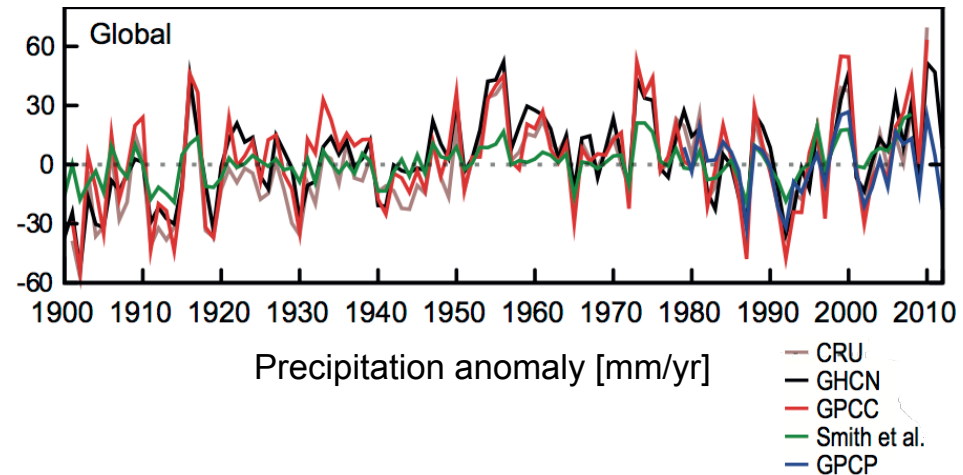
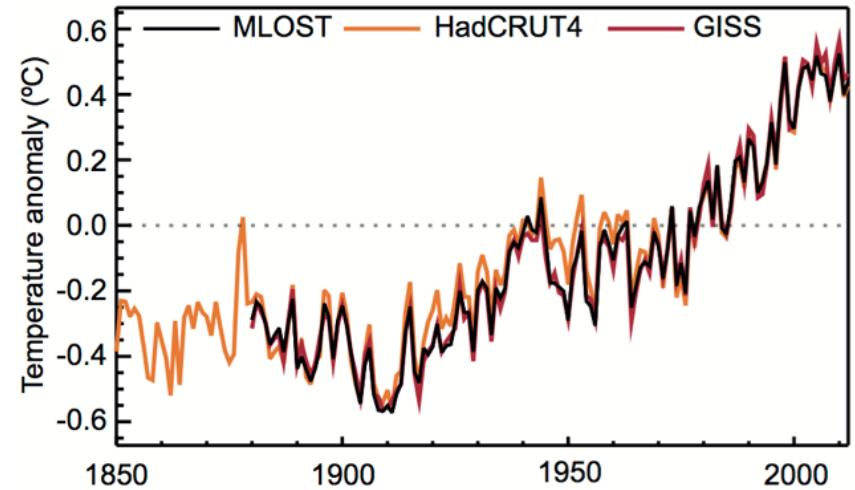
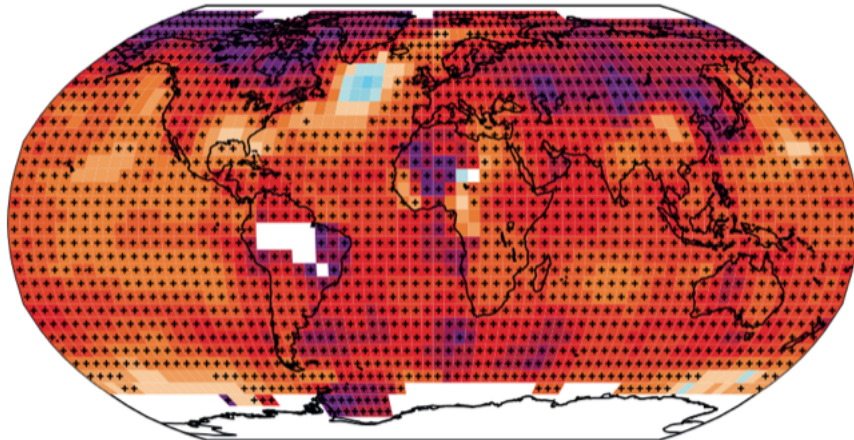
IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5), 2013

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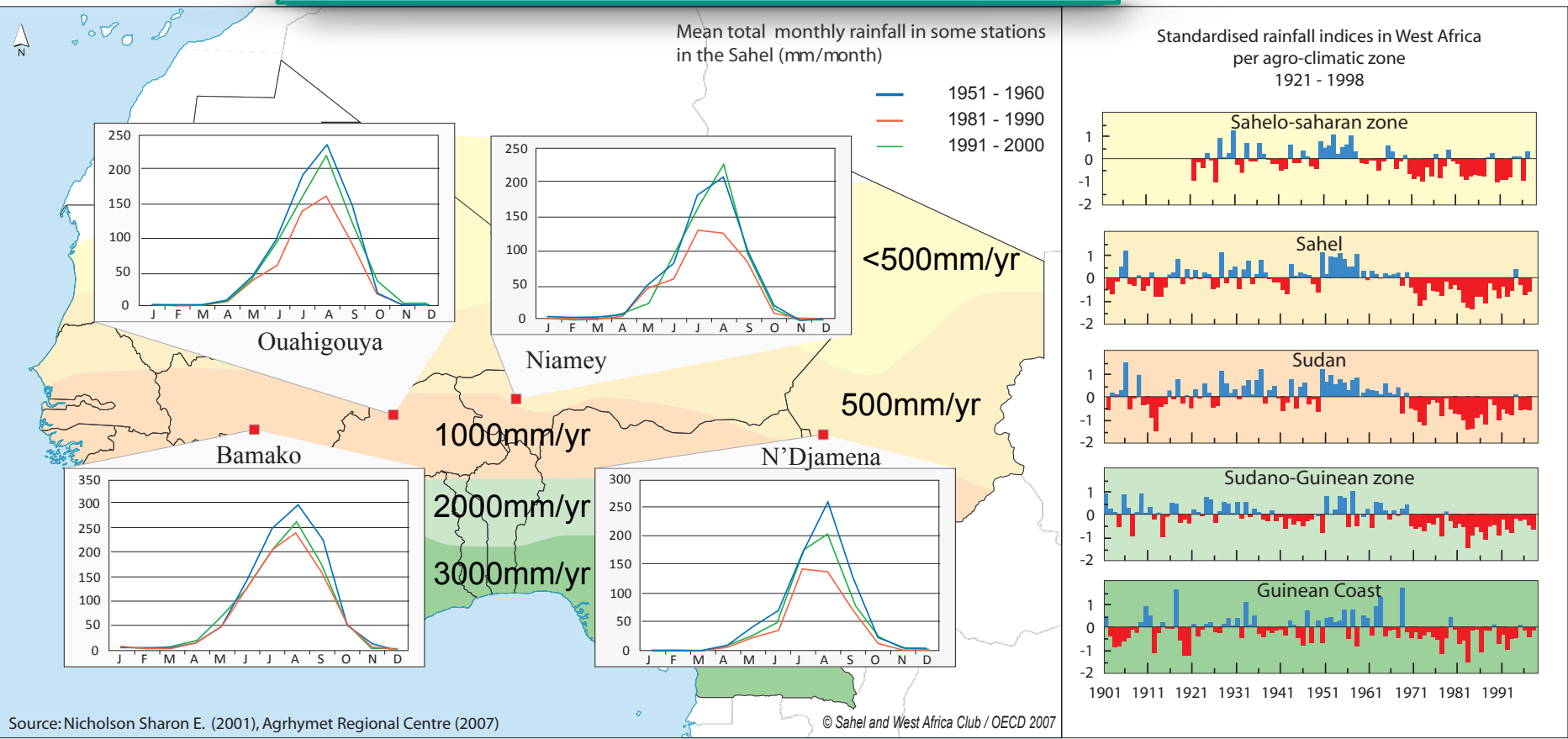
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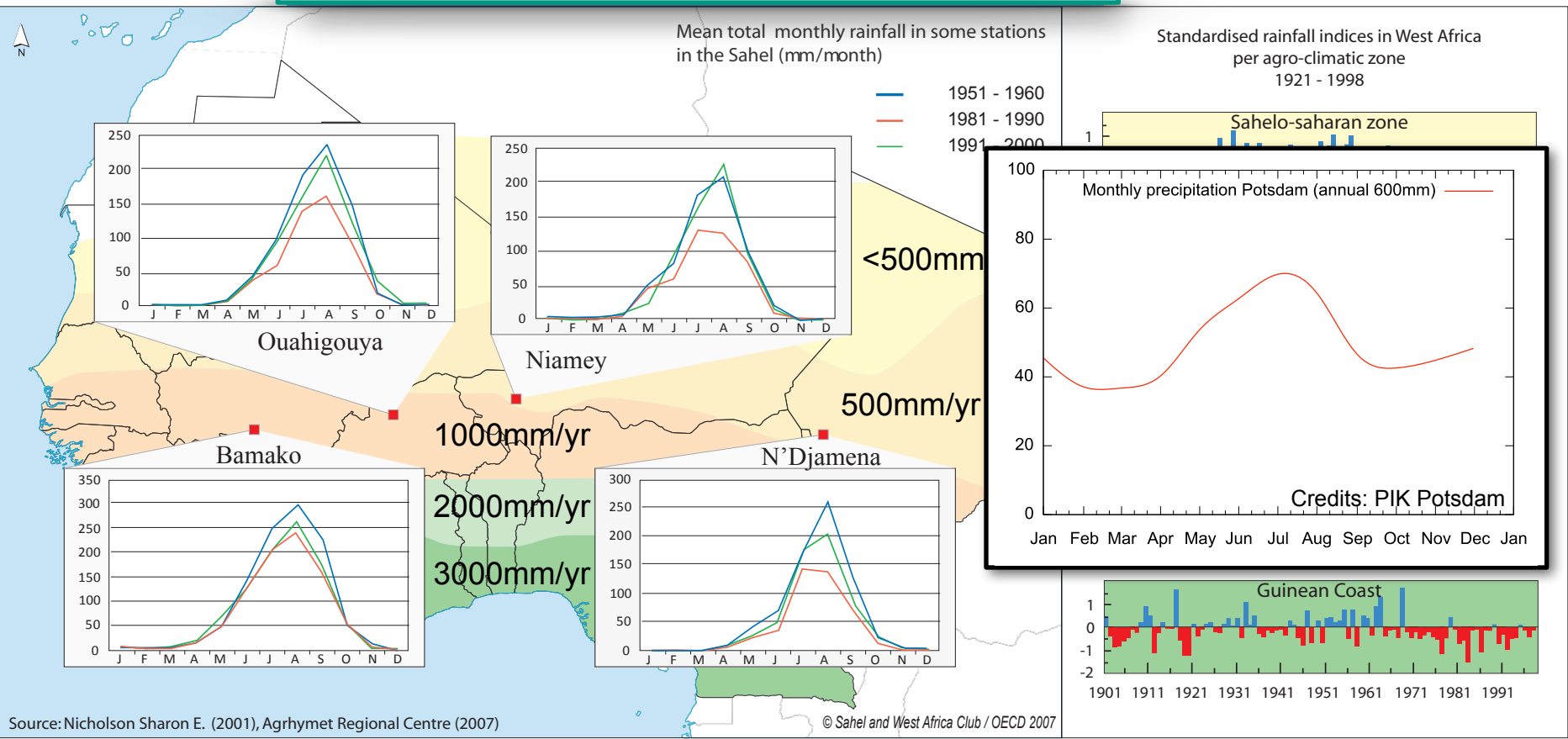
# West Africa: a region of low adaptive capacity

## Changes in precipitation in West Africa



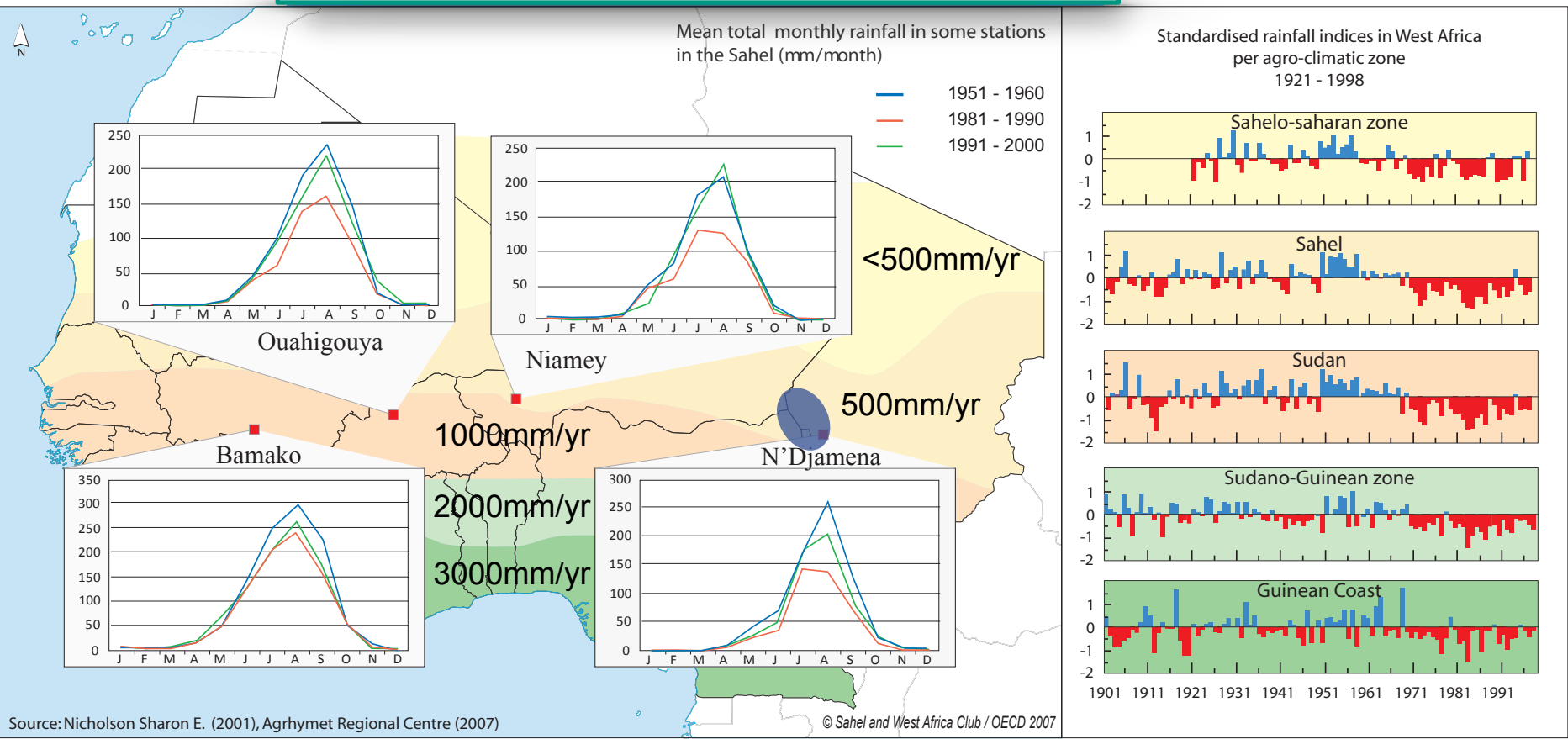
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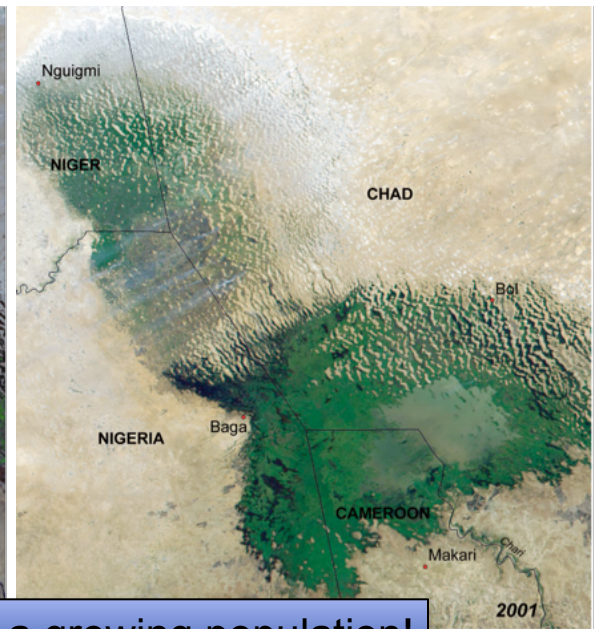
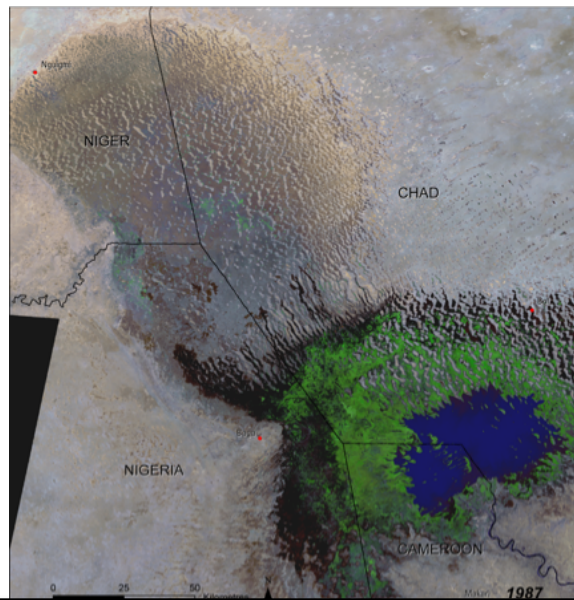
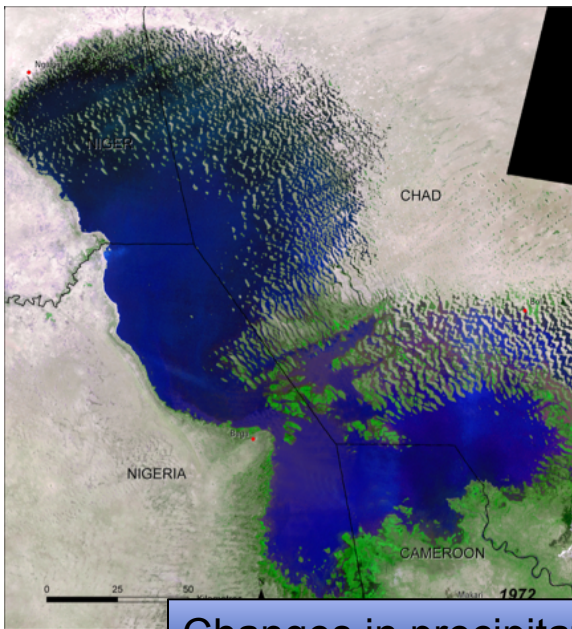
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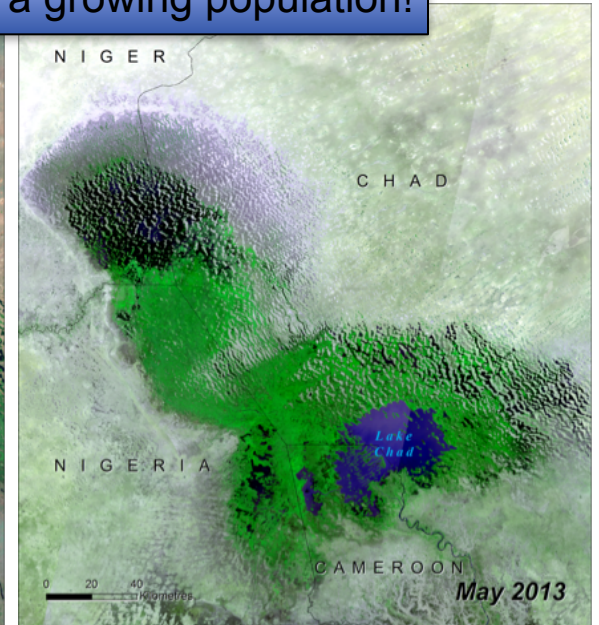
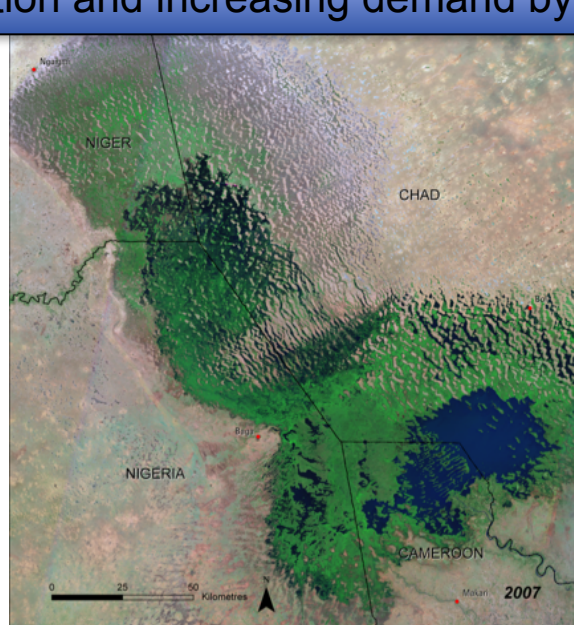
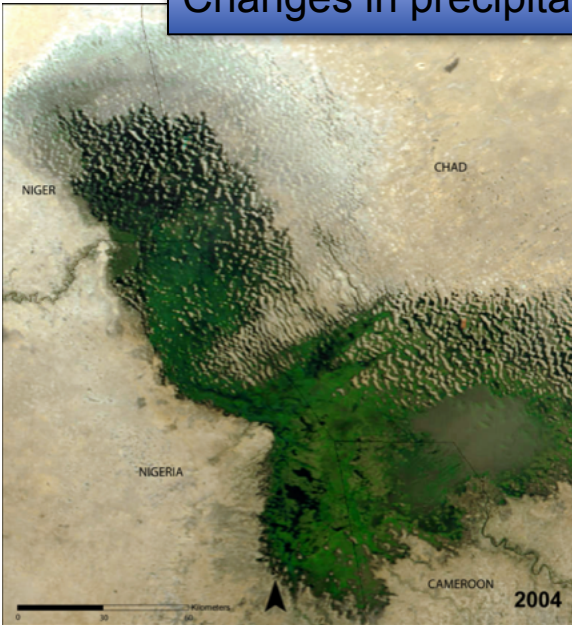
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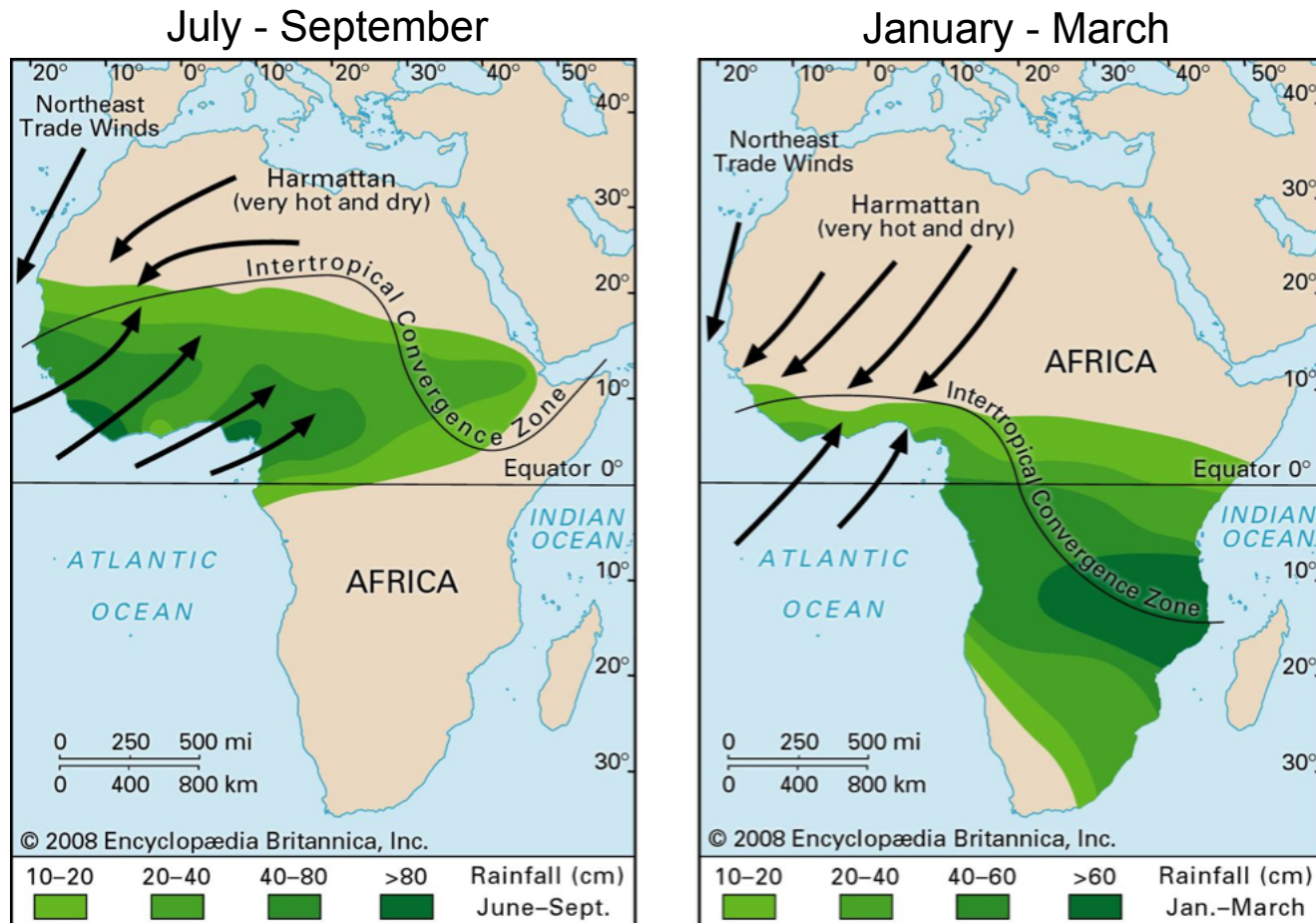


Changes in precipitation and increasing demand by a growing population!



United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP, 2013)

# West African Monsoon - the big sea breeze

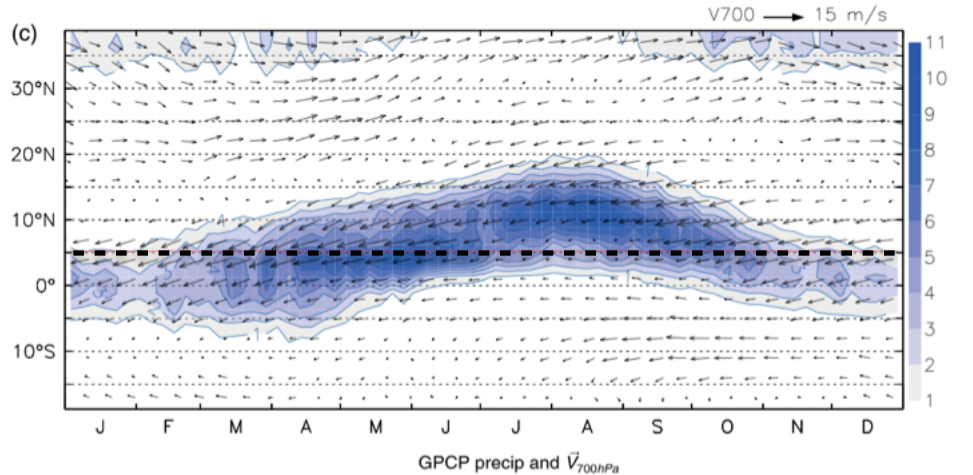
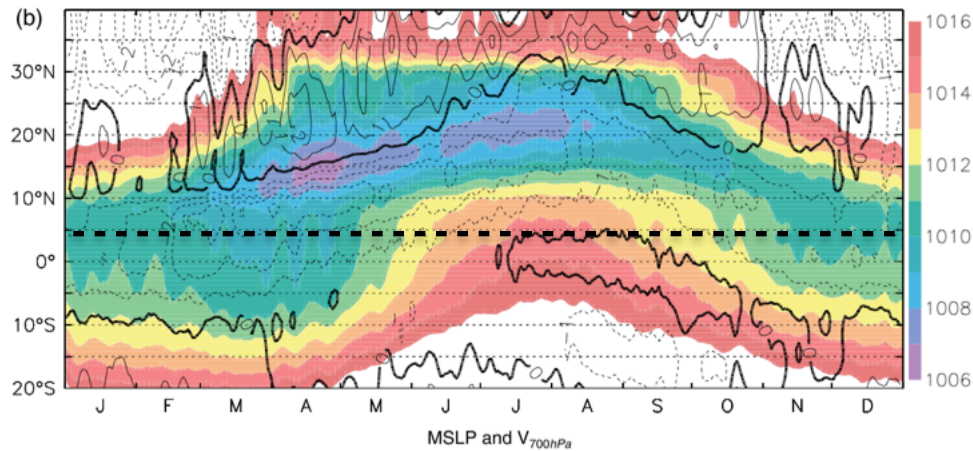


Credits: C. Klein

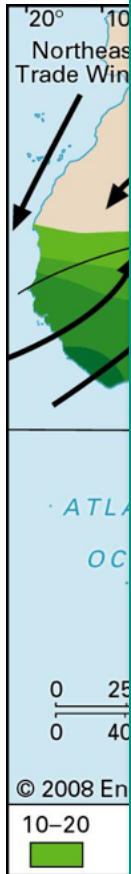


# West African Monsoon - the big sea breeze

Hovmüller diagrams (10°W-10°E averages)



Mean sea level pressure [hPa] and daily precipitation [mm]

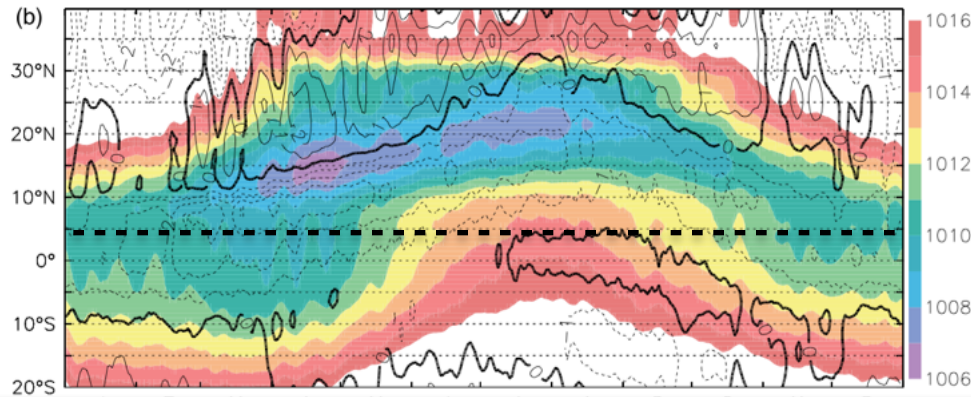


Thorncroft et al. (2011)

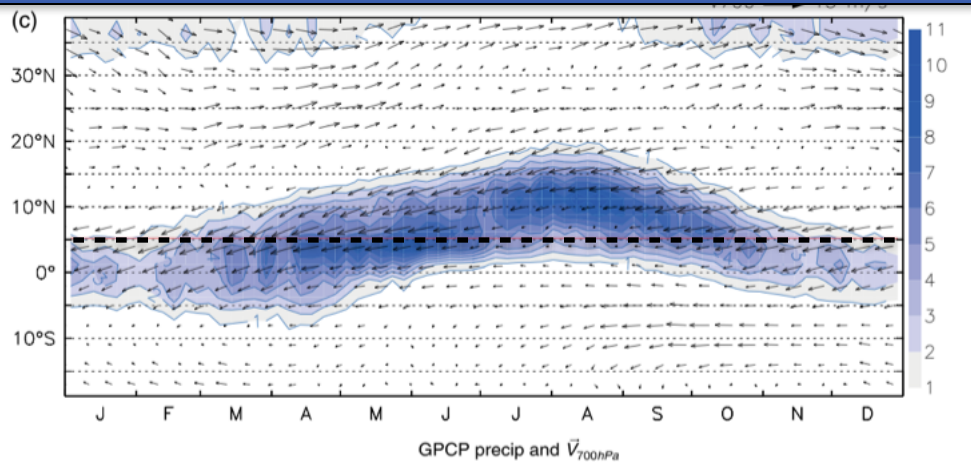
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# West African Monsoon - the big sea breeze

Hovmüller diagrams (10°W-10°E averages)



Key question: Onset and duration of the rainy season?



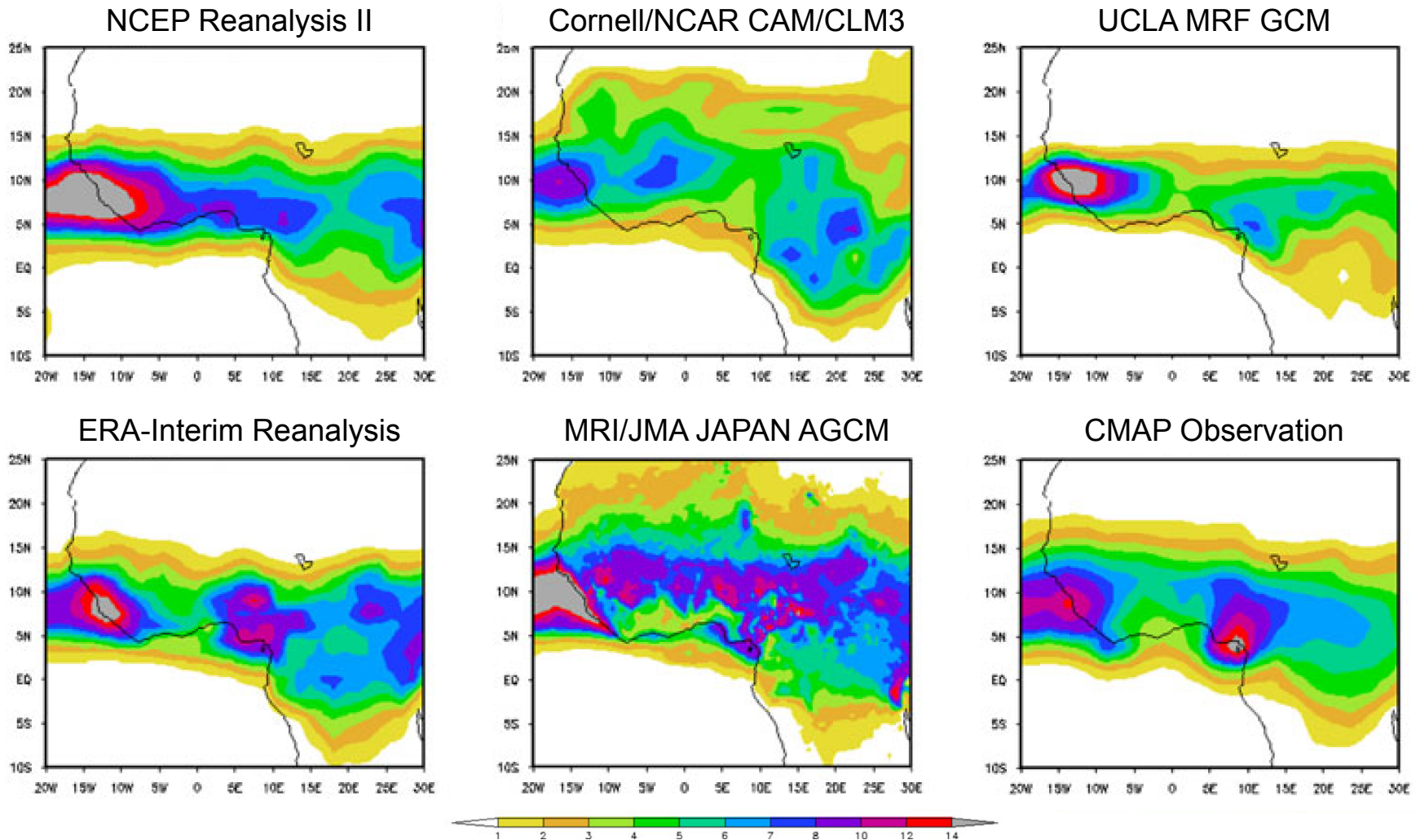
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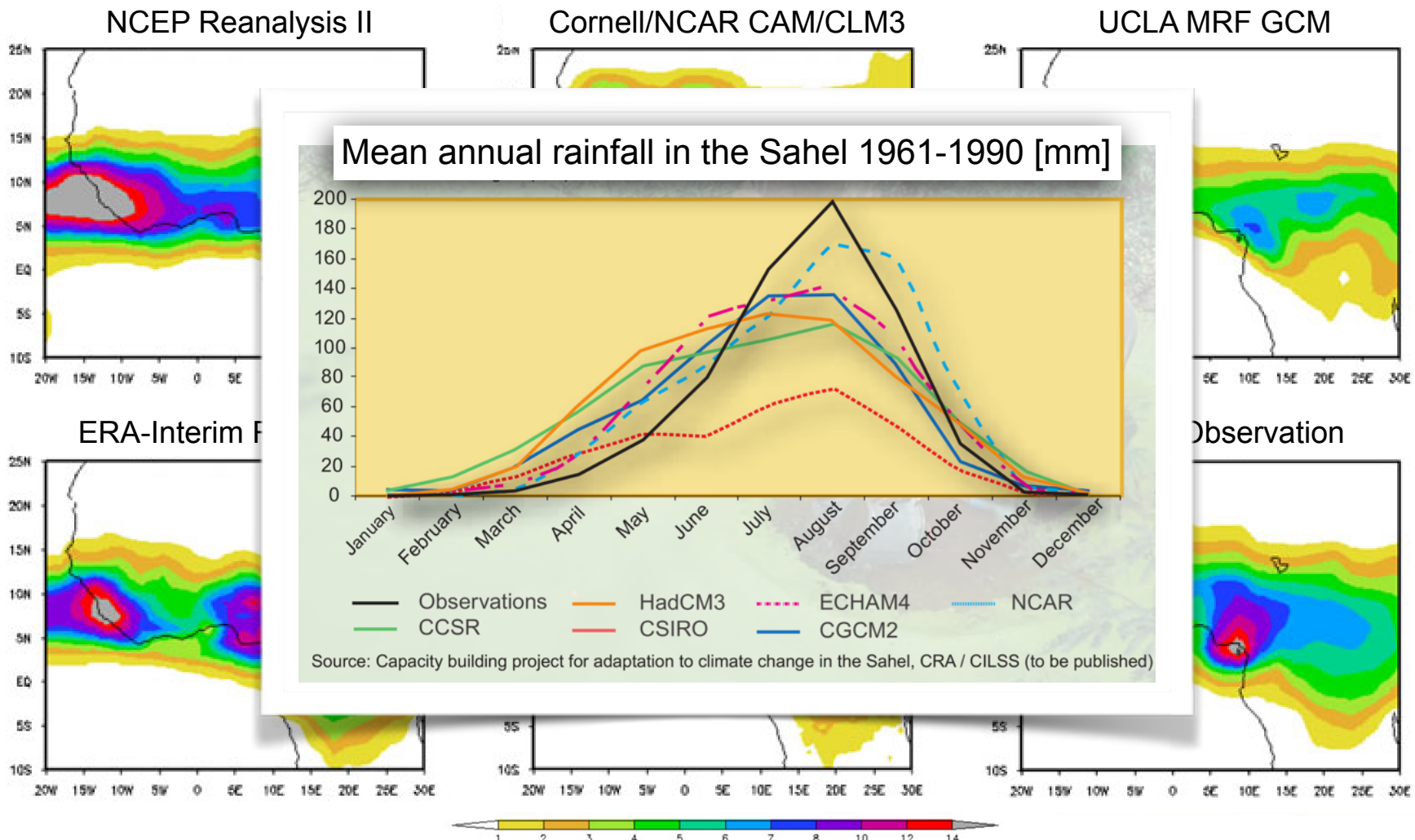
# The failure of global climate projections



June-August 2003-2006 mean precipitation [mm/day]

Xue et al. (2010)

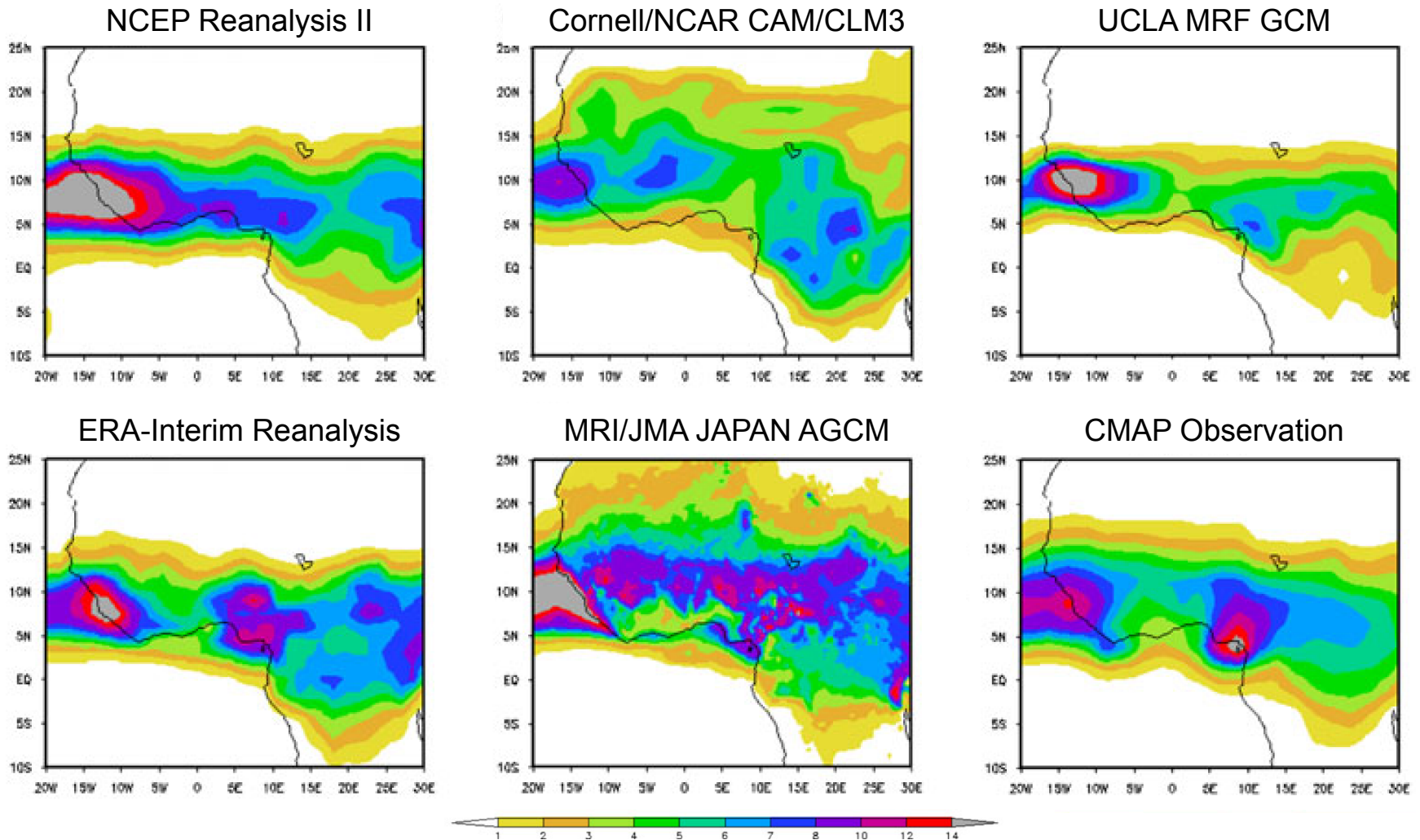
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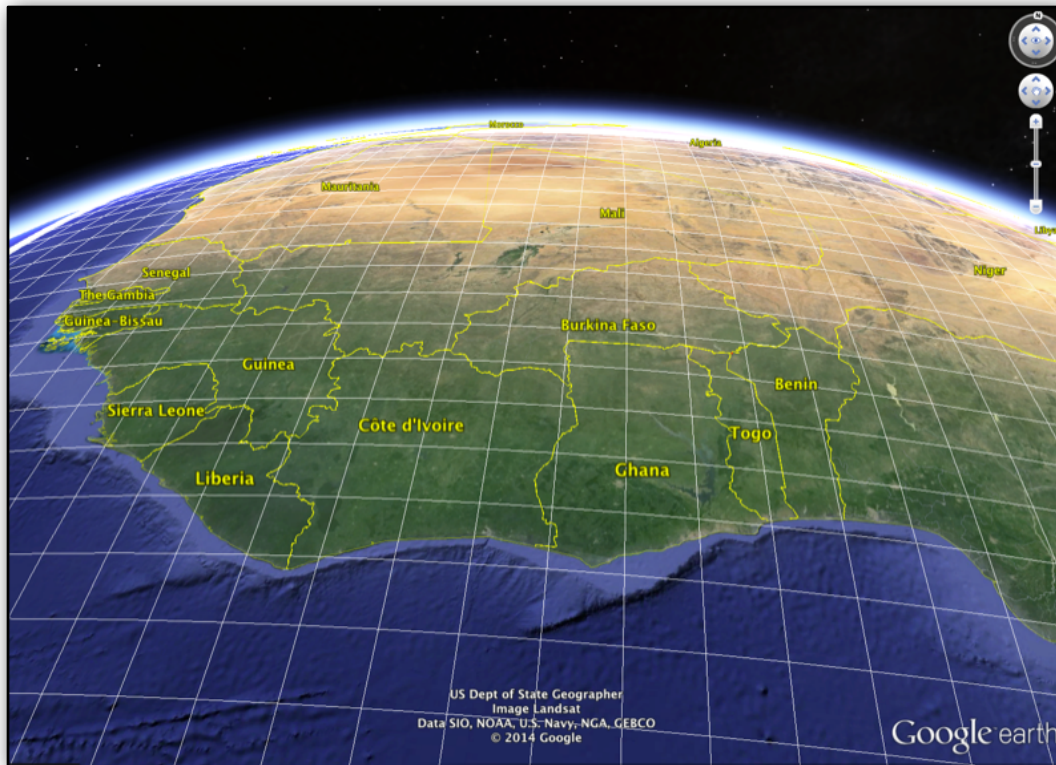
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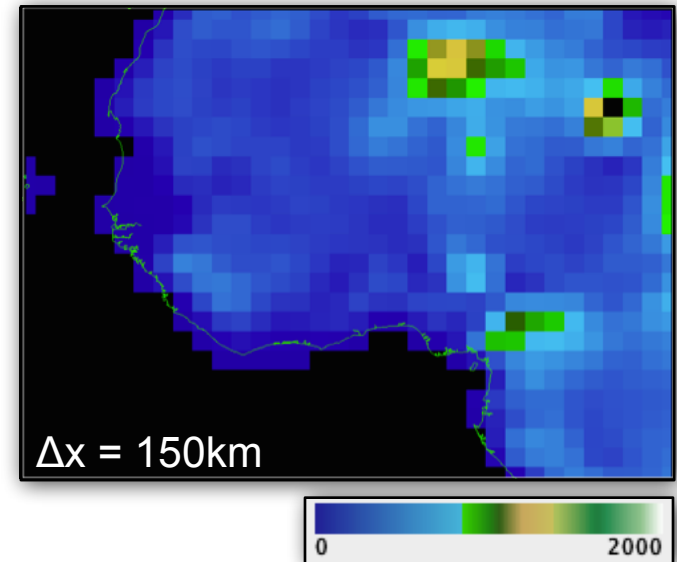
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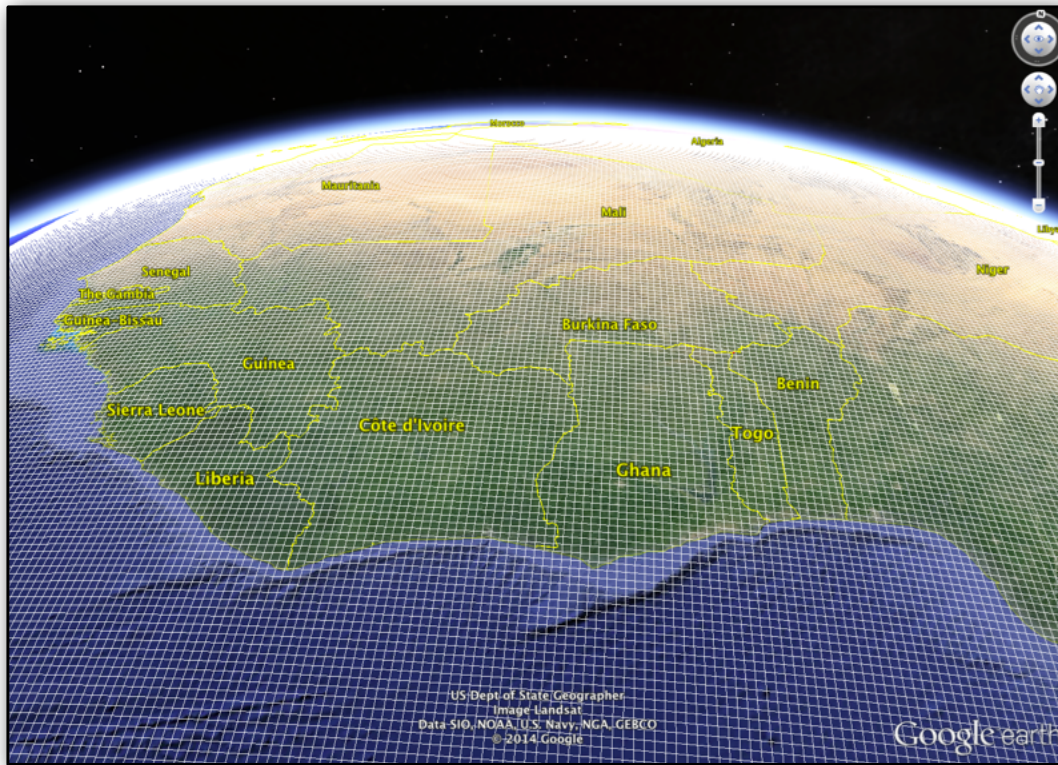
# Why resolution matters: from global to regional



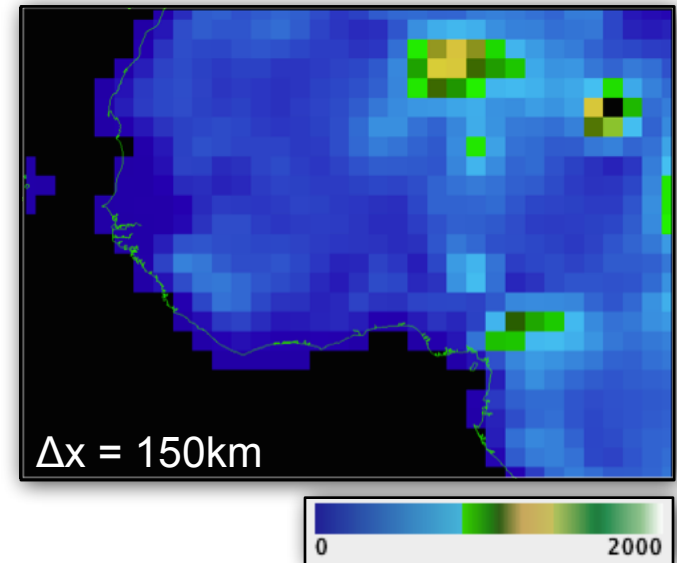
Terrain height [m]



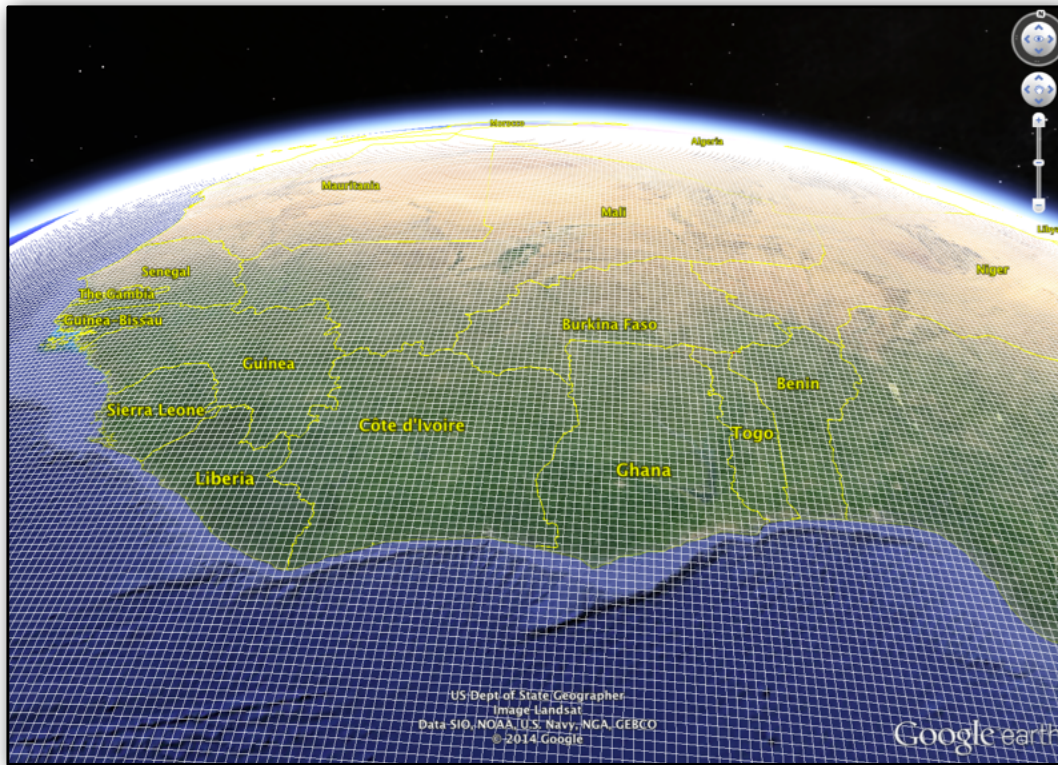
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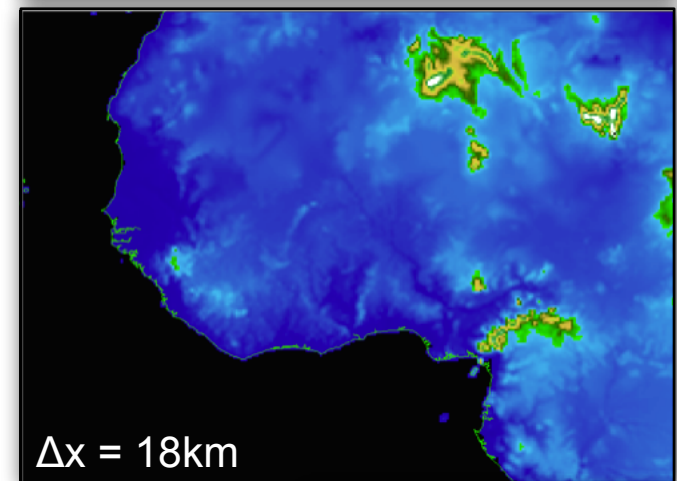
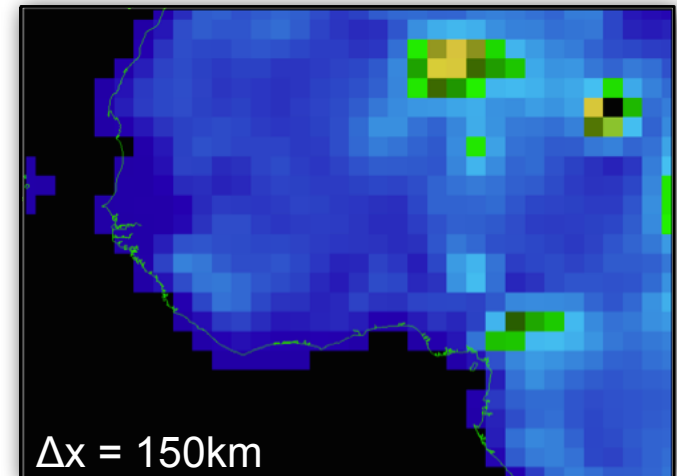
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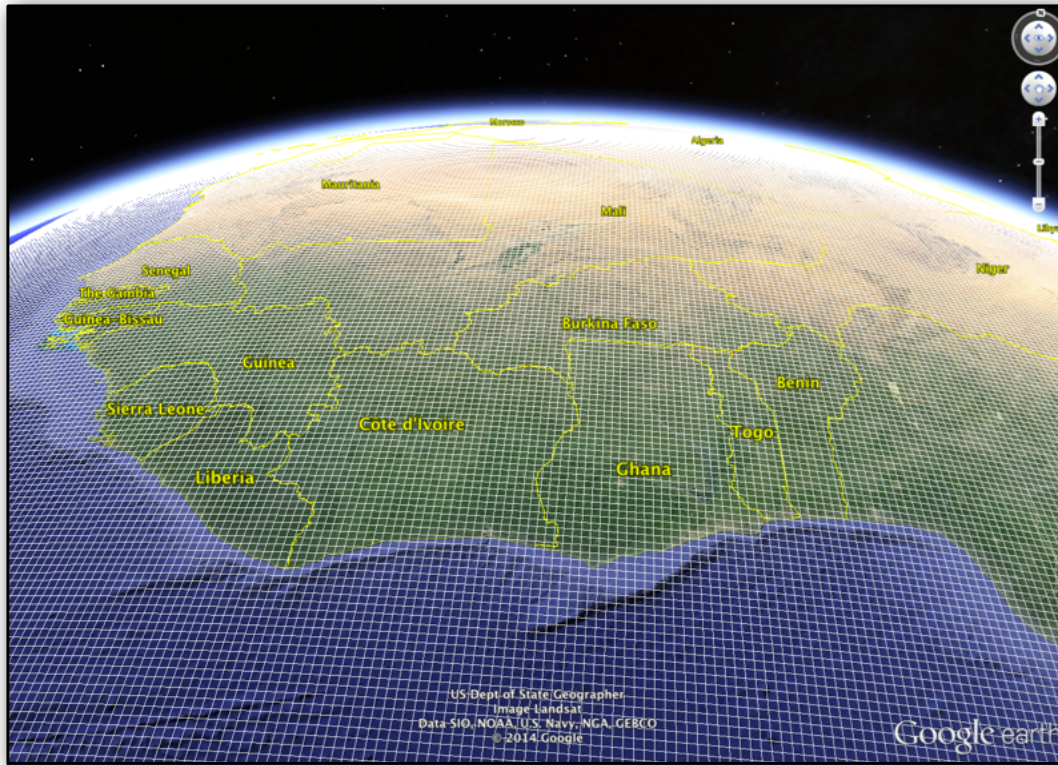


Terrain height [m]

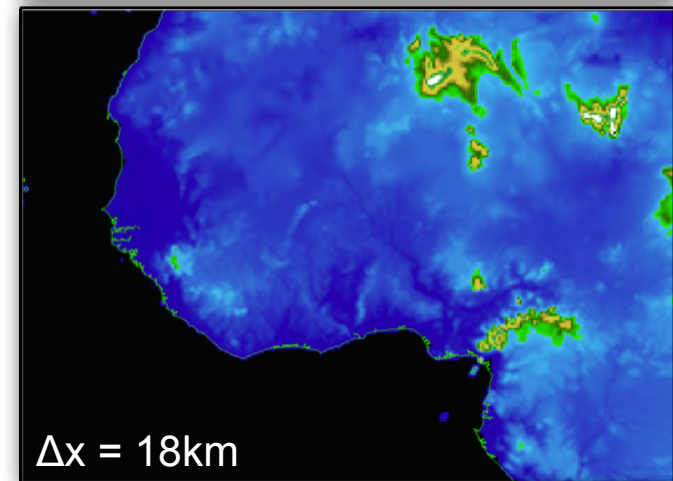
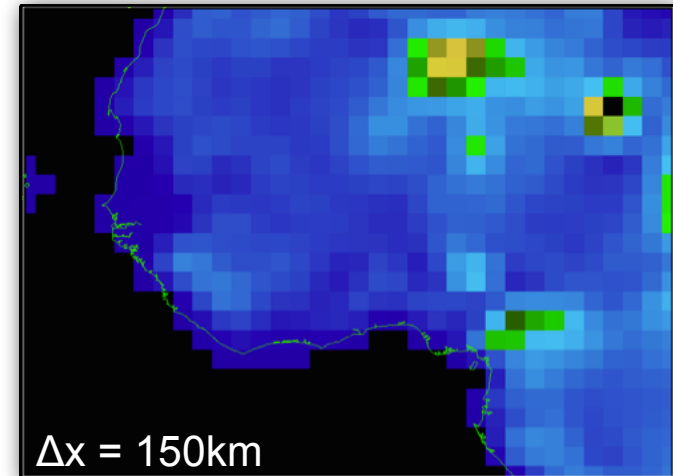




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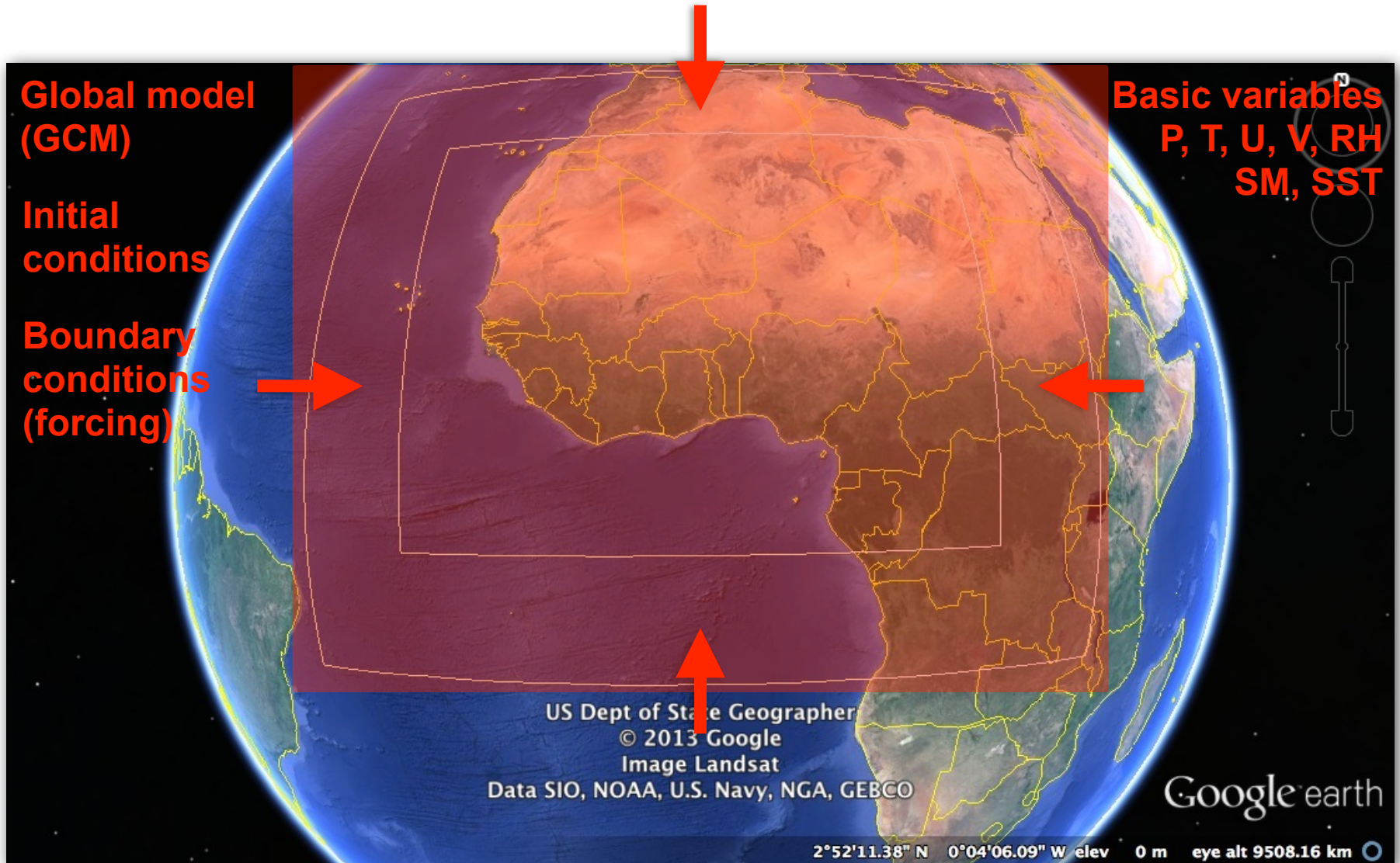


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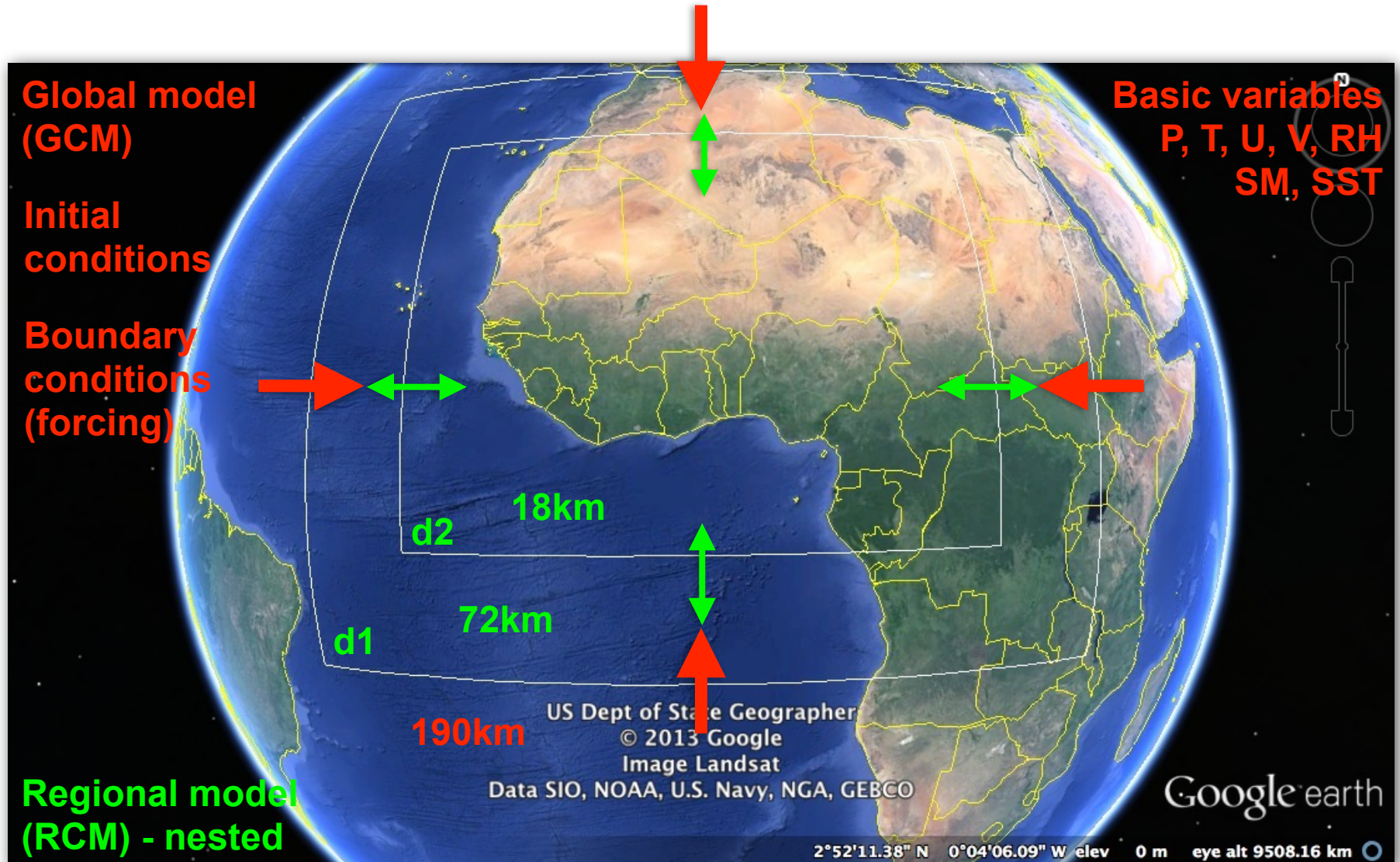


Model	Grid size	Time step
Global circulation model (GCM)	100-200km	10-20min
Global reanalysis (REA)	50-100km	(5-10min)
Regional climate model (RCM)	10-50km	1-5min

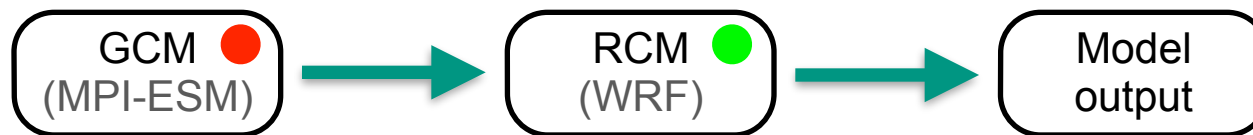
# Regional downscaling at a glance



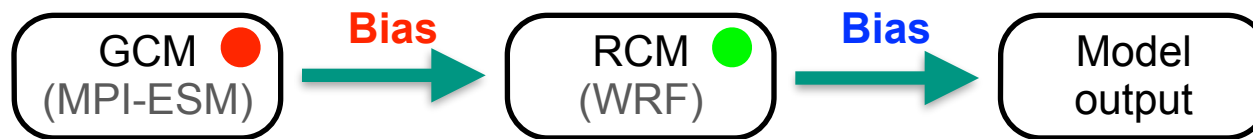
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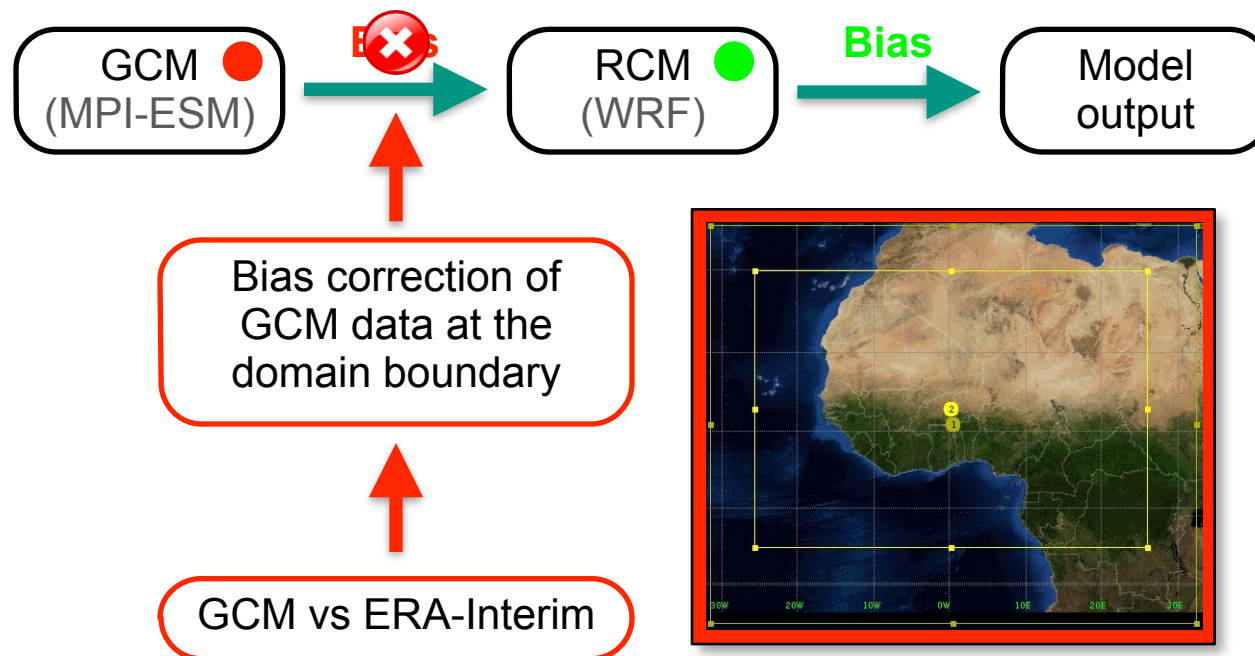
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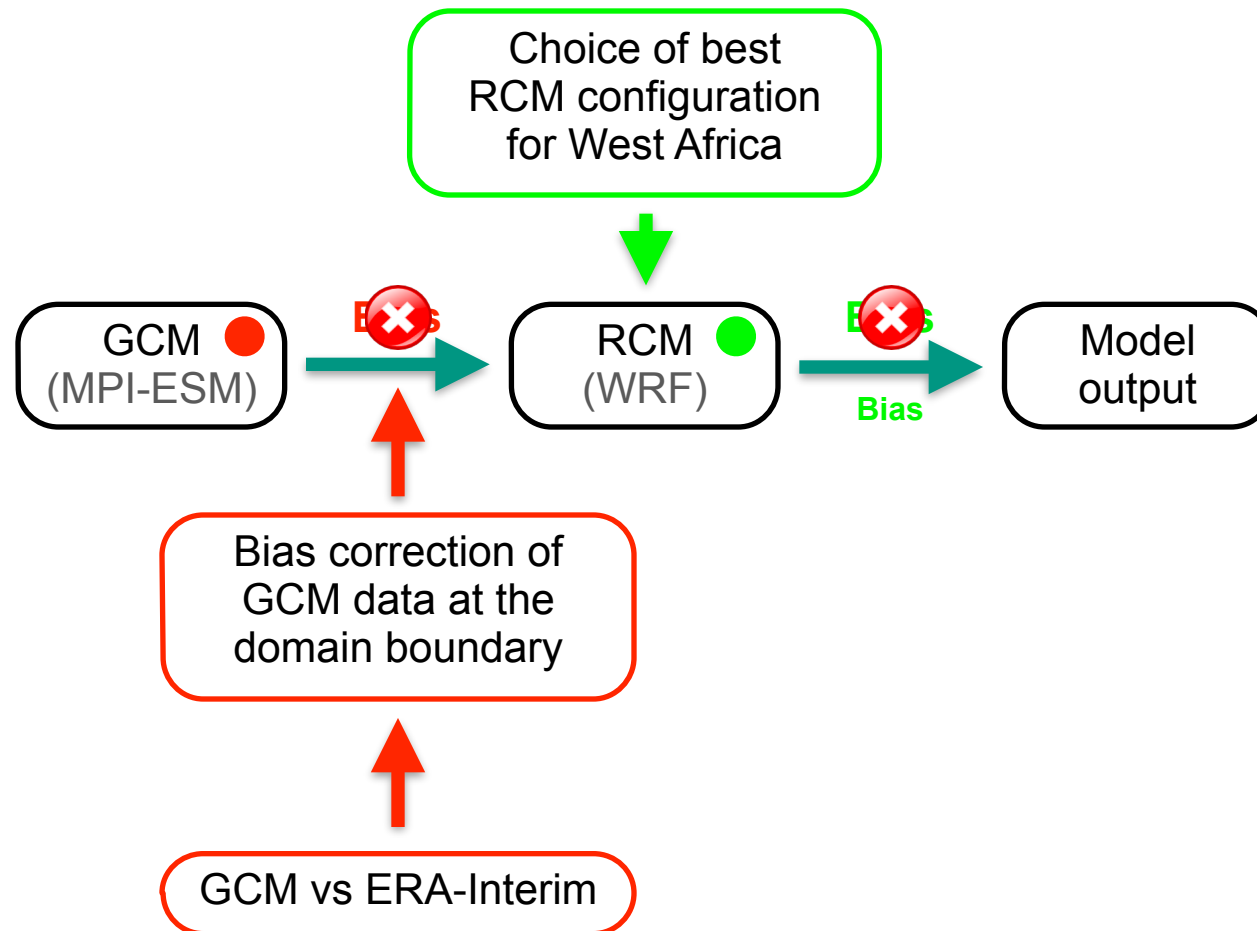
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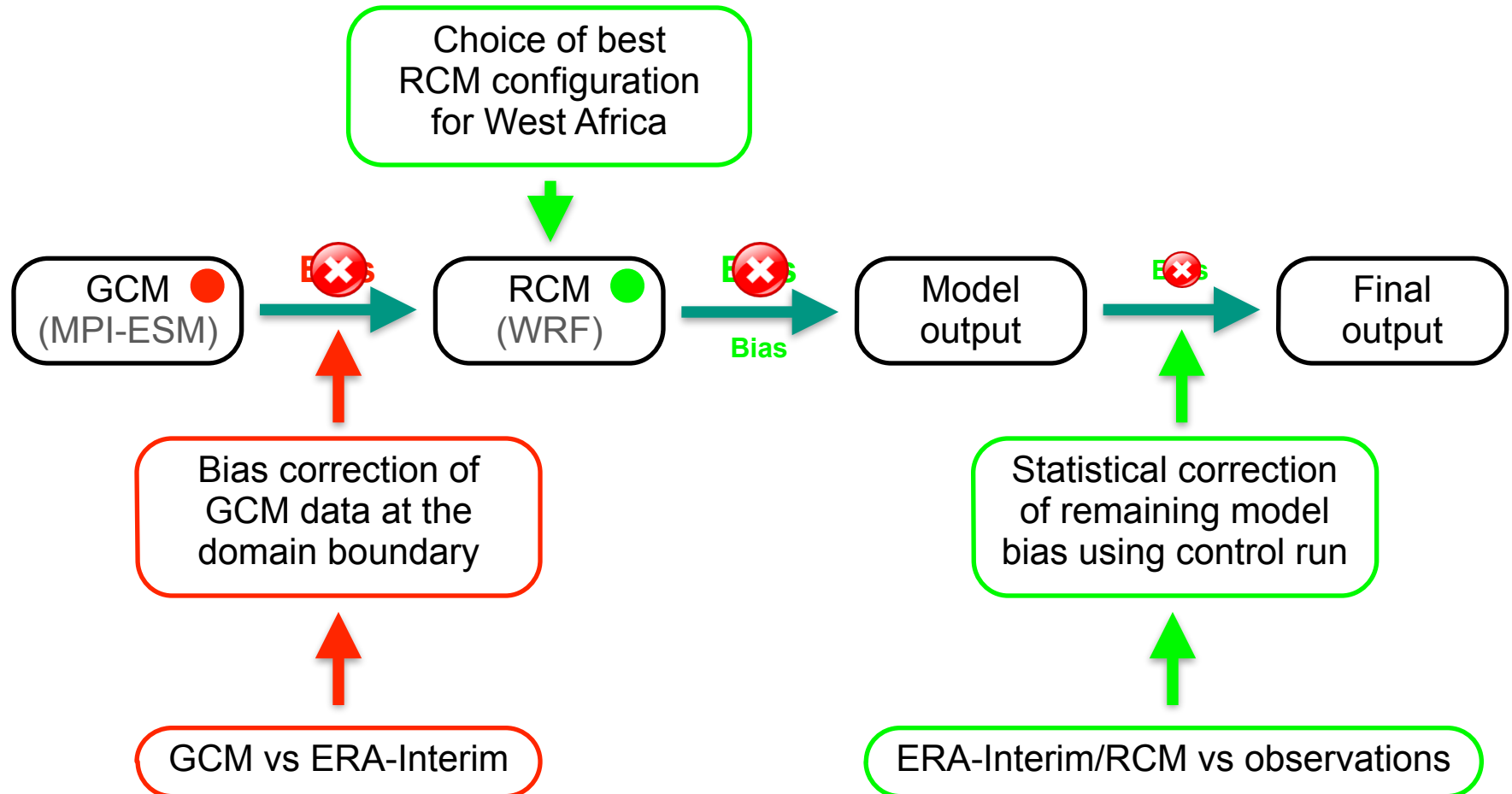
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# Two concurring bias correction algorithms

past: 1990-2000; "future": 2000-2010

**Pseudo-global warming**  
Rasmussen et al. (2011)

Monthly mean of  
past GCM

Monthly mean of  
"future" GCM

Warming signal  
future - past

+

ERA Interim Reanalysis  
for past period

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Allows one to see how current weather would look like in the future. Assumes that key climate features do not change.

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**Perturbed average climate**  
Done et al. (2012)

Average annual cycle  
of GCM for past

Substract from  
future gives GCM'

Average annual cycle  
of REA for past

Use average annual  
cycle of past REA

Revised climate data  
 $GCM = REA + GCM'$

# Two concurring bias correction algorithms

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**Perturbed average climate**  
Done et al. (2012)

Average annual cycle  
of GCM for past

Average annual cycle  
of REA for past

Allows one to look at changes in weather and climate. Assumes that model biases are stationary in the future.

**Revised climate data**  
**GCM = REA + GCM'**

# The code - from a pilot to a production stage

## Python pilot code

Serial execution

Dictionary-based

Pro: easy to develop & debug

Con: damn slow, memory use

```
# Start

# Read data into dictionaries
RAW_REA[date/time] = array(...)
RAW_GCM[date/time] = array(...)

# Calculate averages and decompose
AVG_REA[date/time] = array(...)
AVG_GCM[date/time] = array(...)
VAR_GCM[date/time] = array(...)

# Combine to revised climate data
CMB_GCM[date/time] = array(...)

# Write to disk, finish
```

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Original proposal



## Parallel Python/Fortran

Parallelized by model,  
period and files (np=9)

Array-based storage

Python shared-memory  
threads calling Fortran

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Python Global Interpreter Lock (GIL) problem;  
forced to use private-memory multiprocessing



Communication with Fortran routines requires  
passing large arrays in/out (copy in memory)

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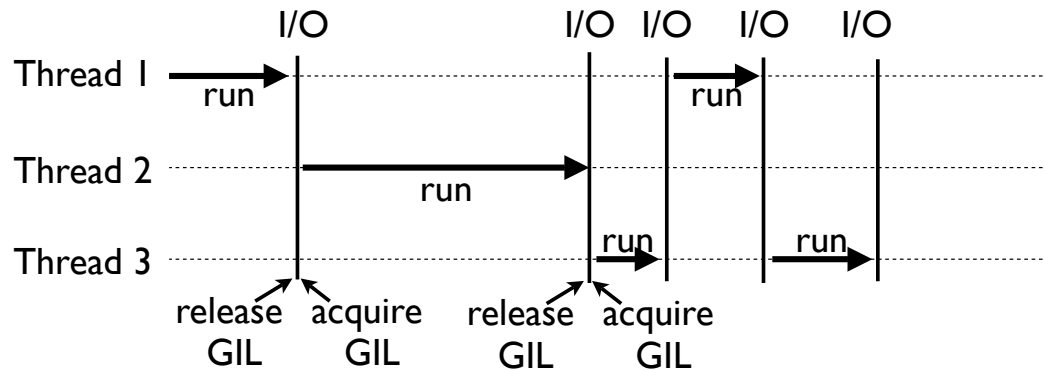
## The Python Global Interpreter Lock (GIL)

Python threads are system threads (POSIX etc.), representing threaded execution of Python interpreter.

The GIL ensures only one thread runs in the interpreter at once (simplifies low-level details: memory ...)

With the GIL, you get cooperative multitasking!

Original



Beazley (2010), <http://www.dabeaz.com/python/UnderstandingGIL.pdf>

ictionaries  
array(...)  
array(...)  
and decompose  
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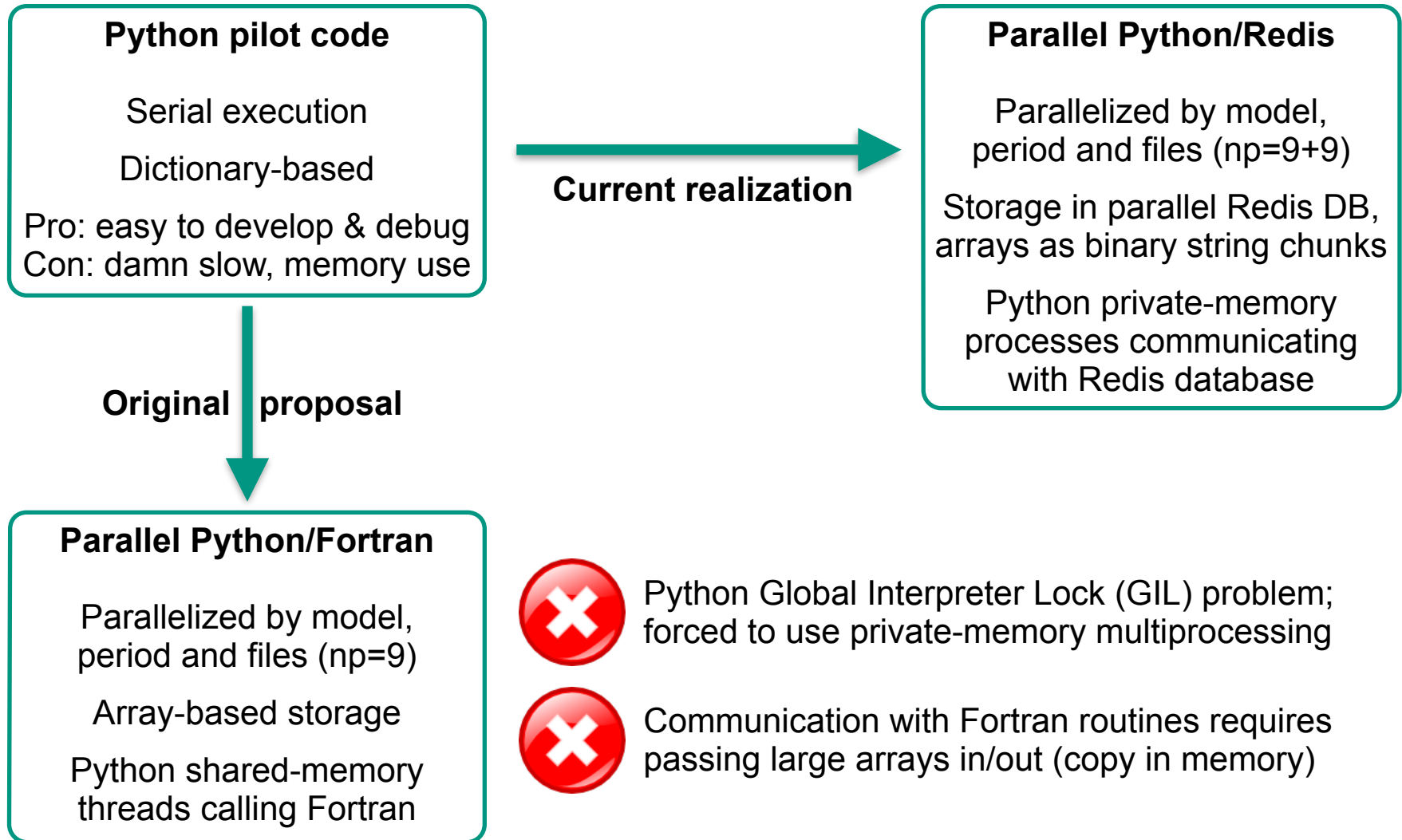


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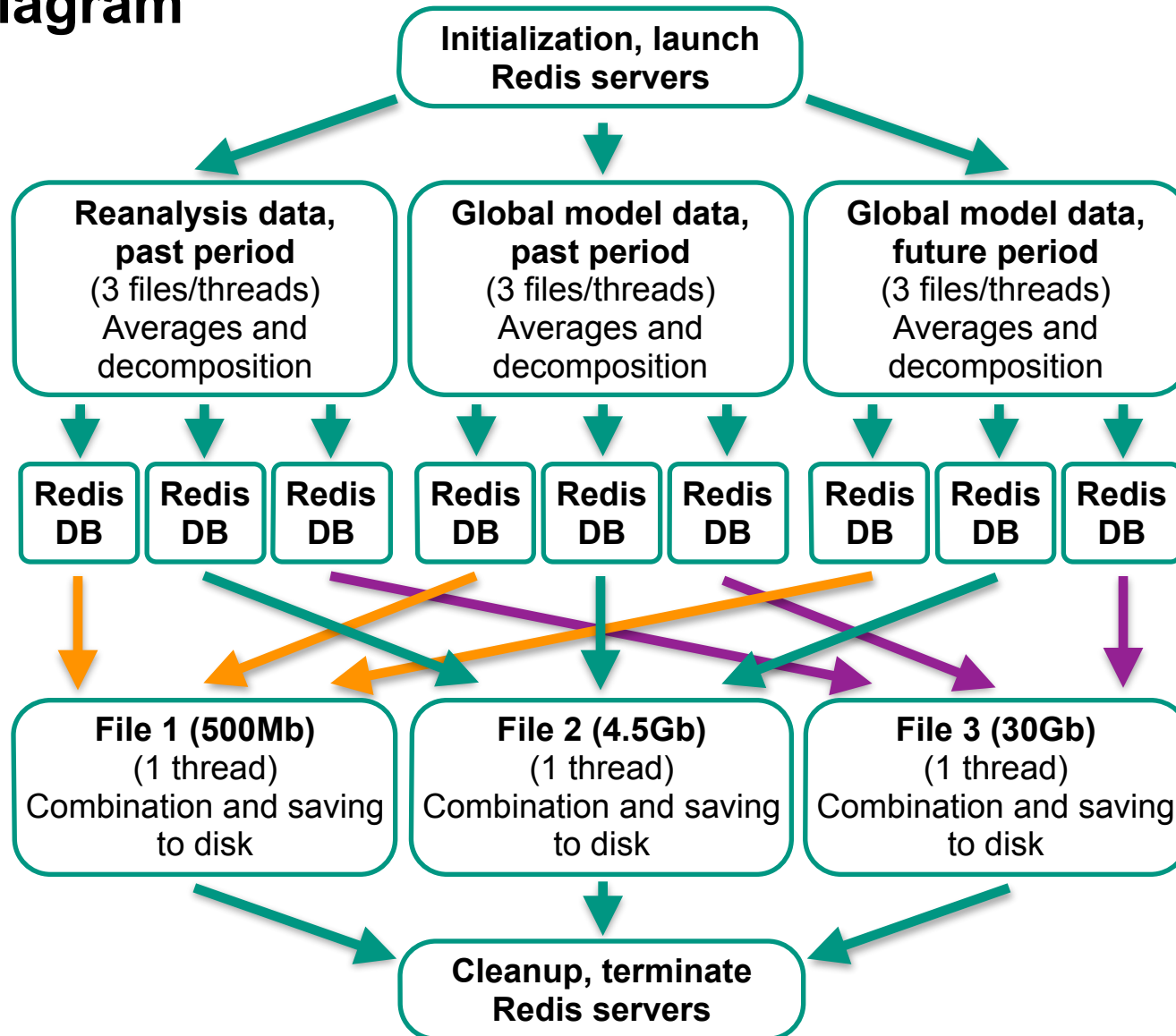


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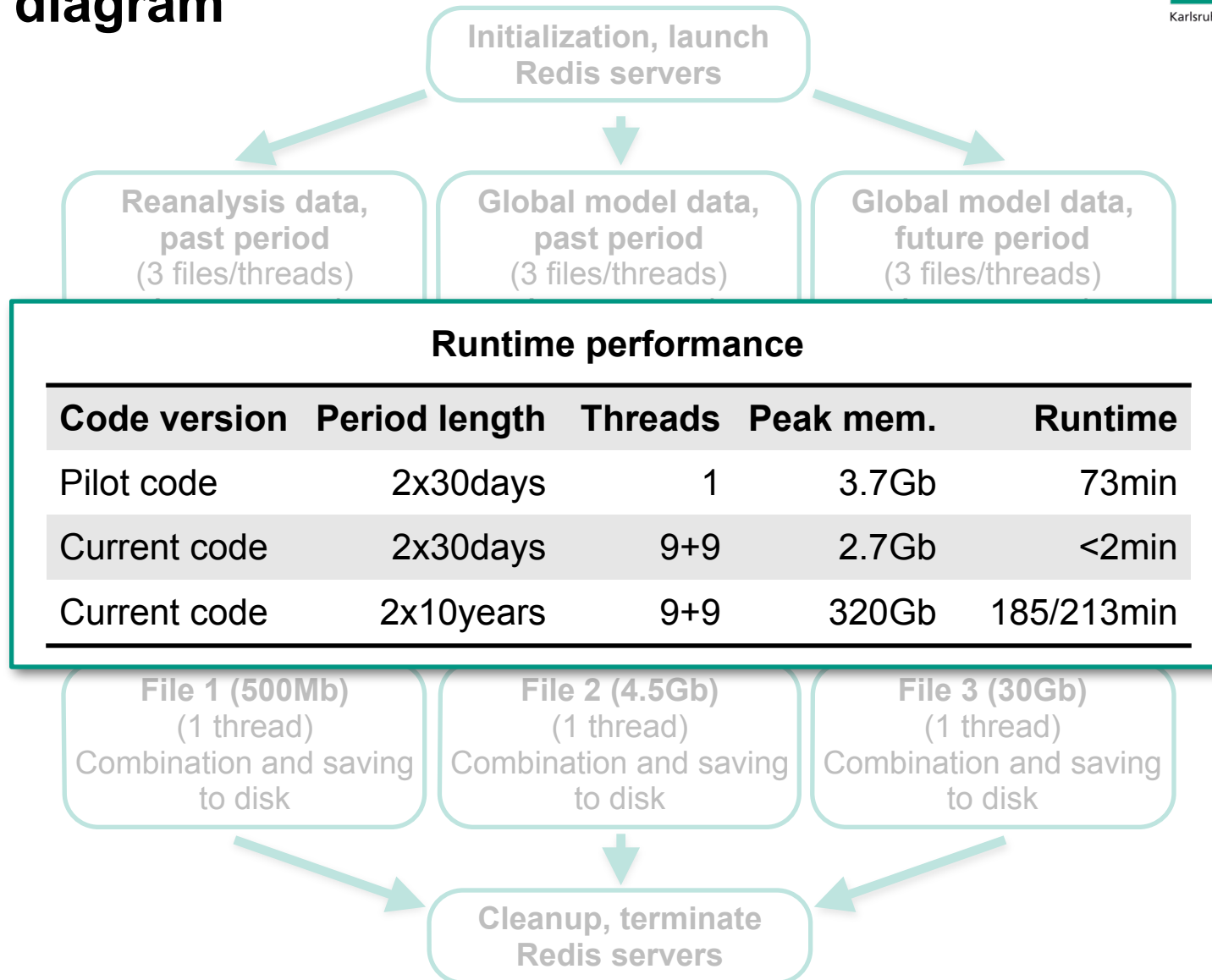
# The code - from a pilot to a production stage



# Flow diagram



# Flow diagram



# Scientific evaluation - 10-year climate runs

Domain configuration for climate simulations with WRF (<http://www.wrf-model.org>)

## WRF model performance on a single Fujitsu RX600 S5 2, 64 threads (SMT)

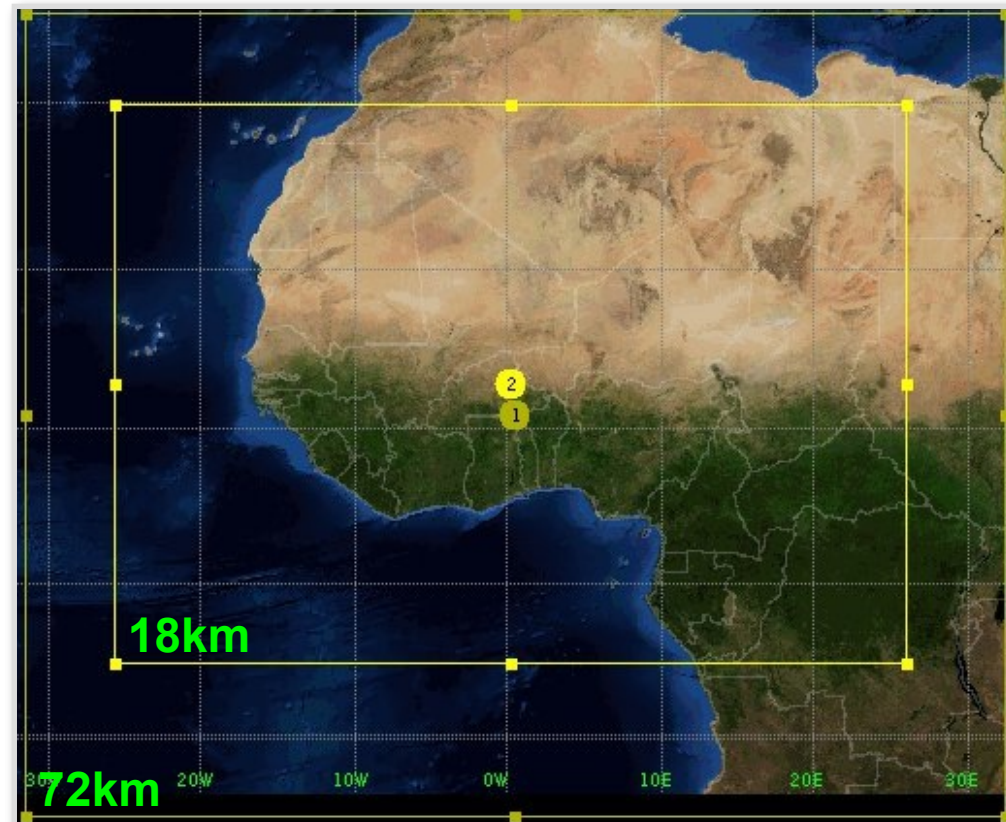
30min realtime (rt) per simulation day  
 58400 CPUh / 76 days rt. per 10-year run

## WRF model performance on JUROPA (FZ Jülich), 5x8 threads per run

20min realtime (rt) per simulation day  
 47500 CPUh / 51 days rt. per 10-year run

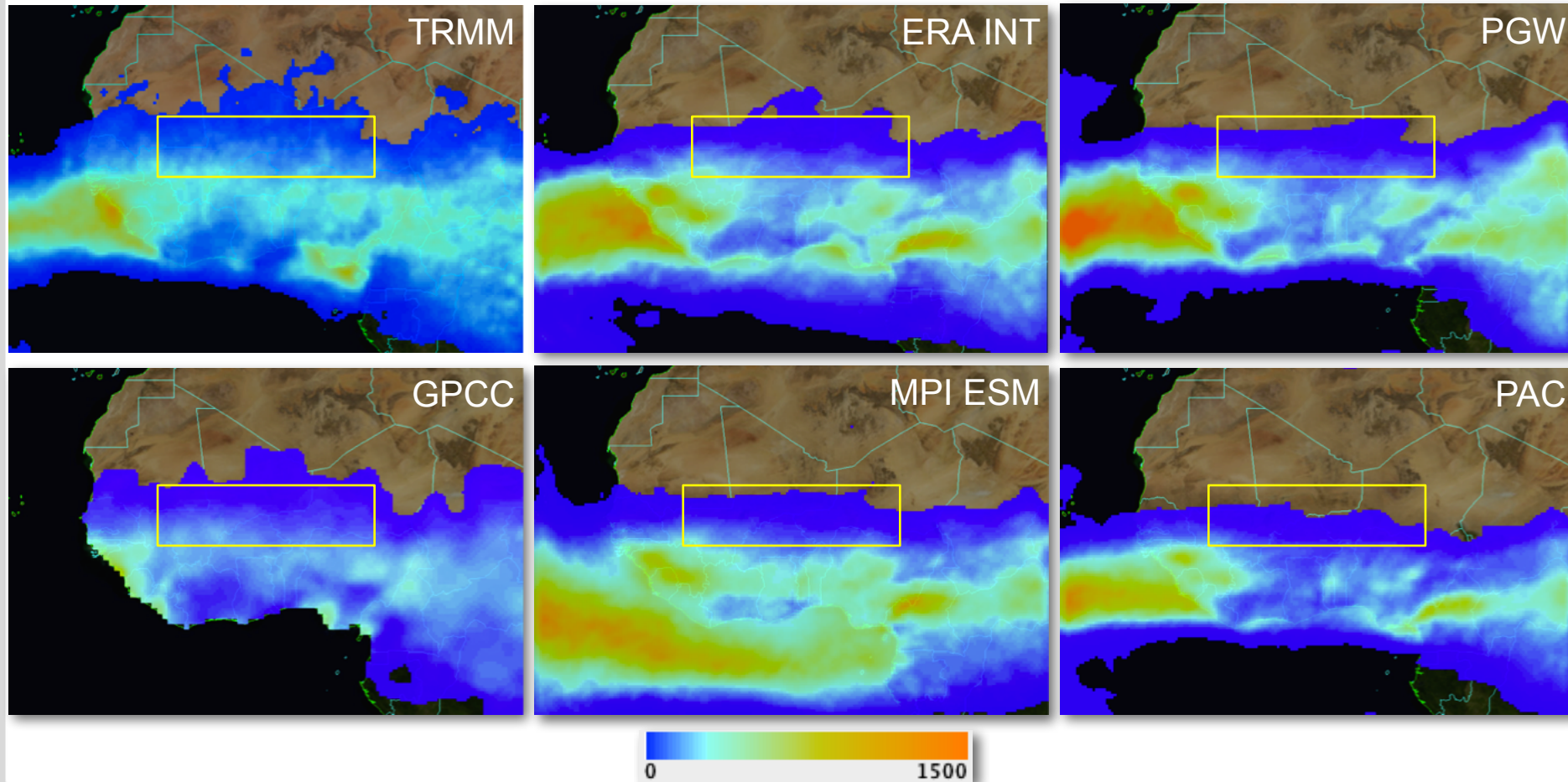
## Multiple model runs required

ERA INT, MPI ESM, PAC, PGW



# Scientific evaluation - precipitation amounts

Average precipitation July (2001-2006) in mm



# Scientific evaluation - precipitation statistics

## Average precipitation and Pearson Correlation Coefficient wrt. TRMM July (2001-2006)

July	AVG [mm]			PCC		
	Total	Land	Sahel	Total	Land	Sahel
TRMM (ref)	110.1	114.7	130.5	1	1	1
GPCC	-	81.7	88.6	-	0.96	0.95
ERAINT	144.5	124.4	99.8	0.88	0.89	0.92
MPI ESM	195.6	118.2	49.0	0.39	0.82	0.91
PAC	87.1	75.1	23.0	0.80	0.79	0.86
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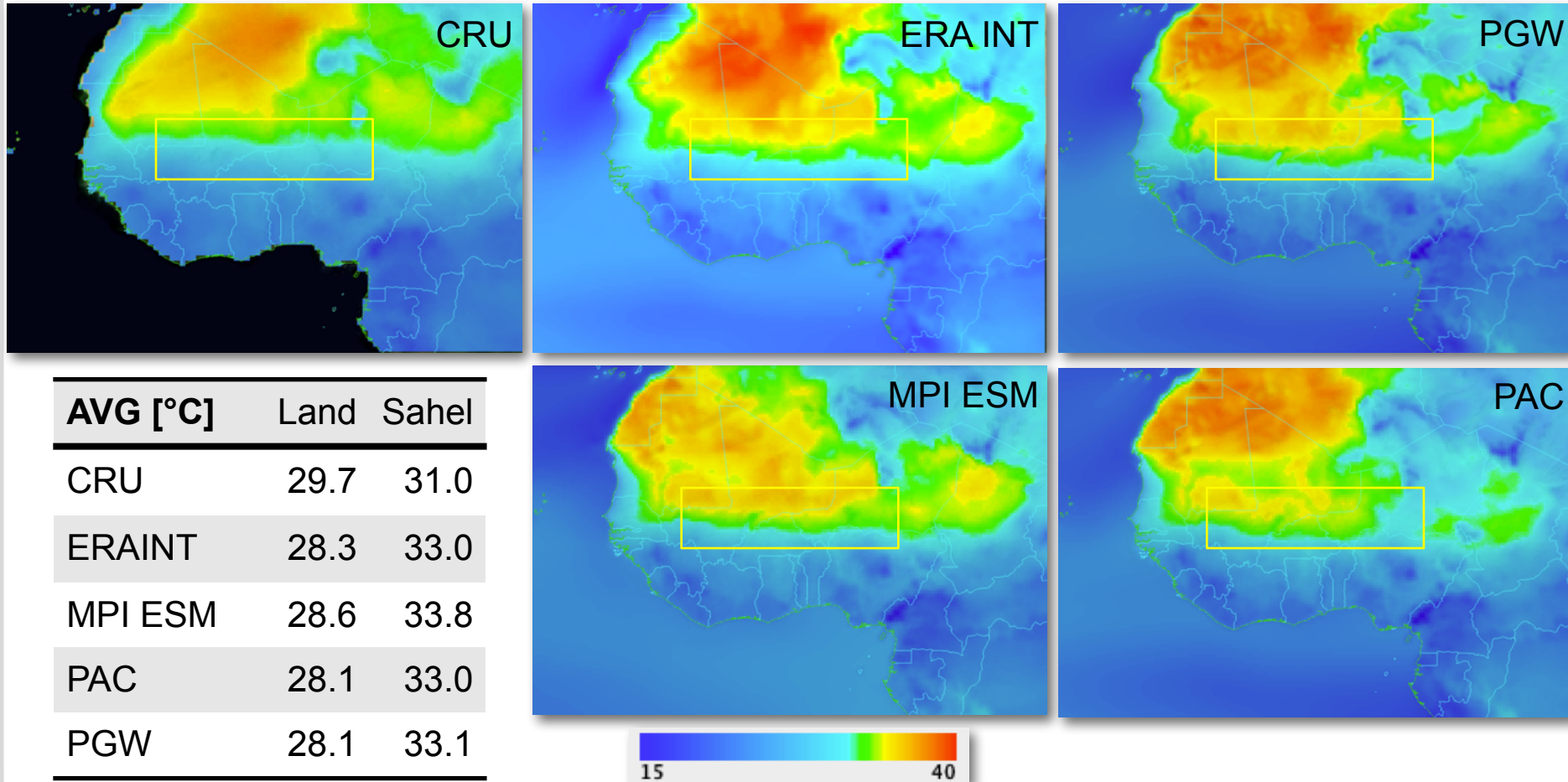
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# Scientific evaluation - 2m surface temperature

Average near surface temperature TRMM July (2001-2006) in °C



# Wrap up - what have we got, what's next?

## Python pilot code

Serial execution  
Dictionary-based



## Parallel Python/Redis

Parallel execution (np=9+9)  
Storage in parallel Redis DB

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## Parallel Python/Redis

Parallel execution (np=9+9)  
Storage in parallel Redis DB



Reading/writing the largest file (30Gb vs. 4.5Gb/500Mb)  
is the bottleneck of the current implementation

**Parallel I/O  
(C/C++)**

# Wrap up - what have we got, what's next?

## Python pilot code

Serial execution  
Dictionary-based



## Parallel Python/Redis

Parallel execution (np=9+9)  
Storage in parallel Redis DB



Reading/writing the largest file (30Gb vs. 4.5Gb/500Mb)  
is the bottleneck of the current implementation

**Parallel I/O  
(C/C++)**



10-year reference/application periods may not be enough  
to smooth out patterns of inter-annual variability (El Niño...)

**Extension to  
20-year periods**

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**Code to figure  
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**Model comparison and evaluation for full period 2000-2010**



Sunset over the Sissili river, Northern Ghana (Nov. 2013)

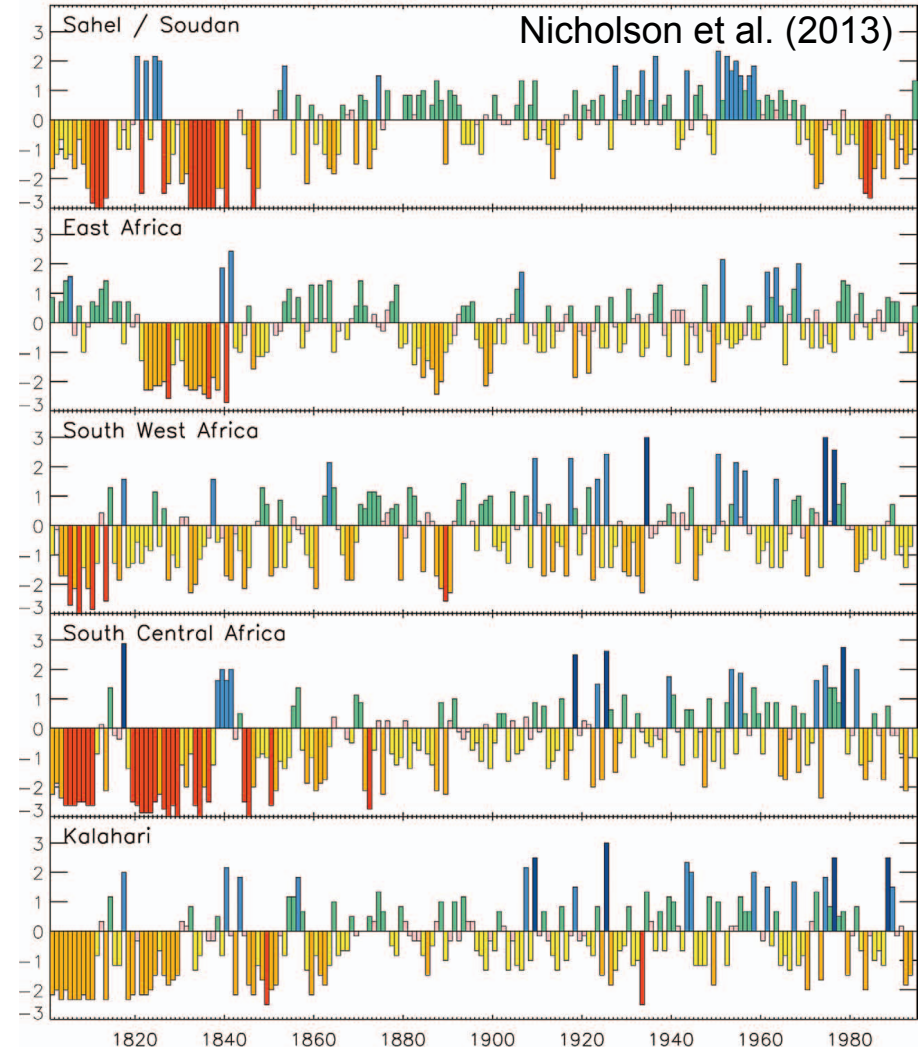


# Backup slides

# Regional climate change: a rag rug with a trend



## Wetness/drought index

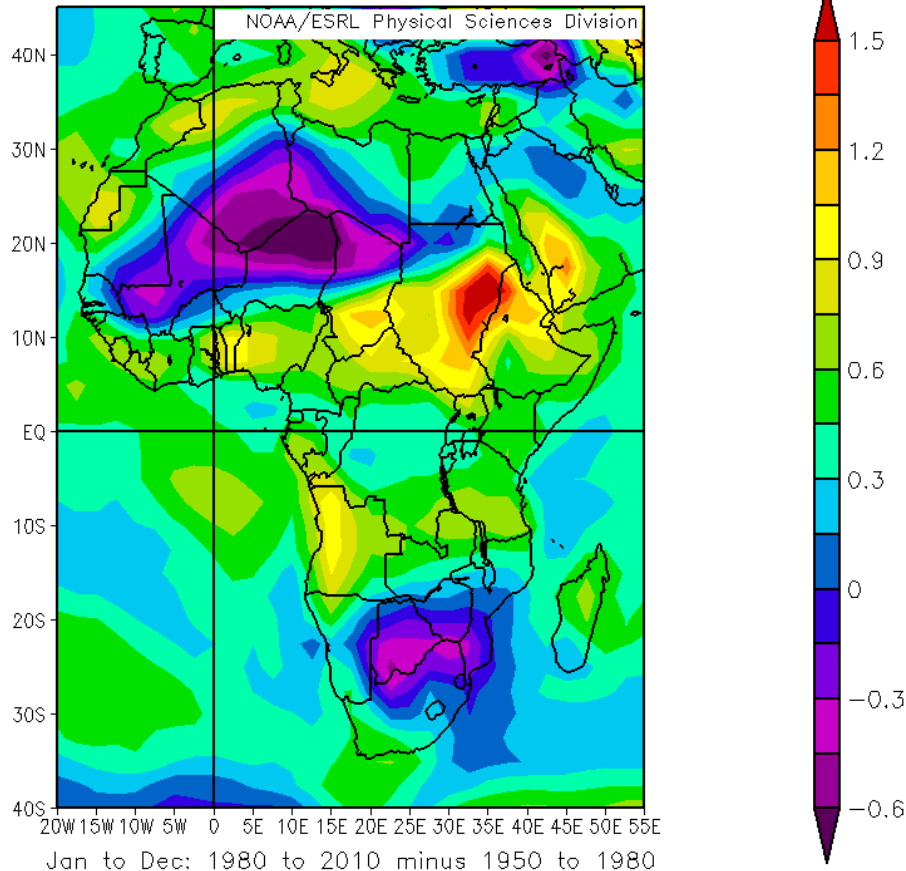


# Regional climate change: a rag rug with a trend

## Monthly temperature and precipitation anomaly: 1980 to 2010 minus 1950 to 1980

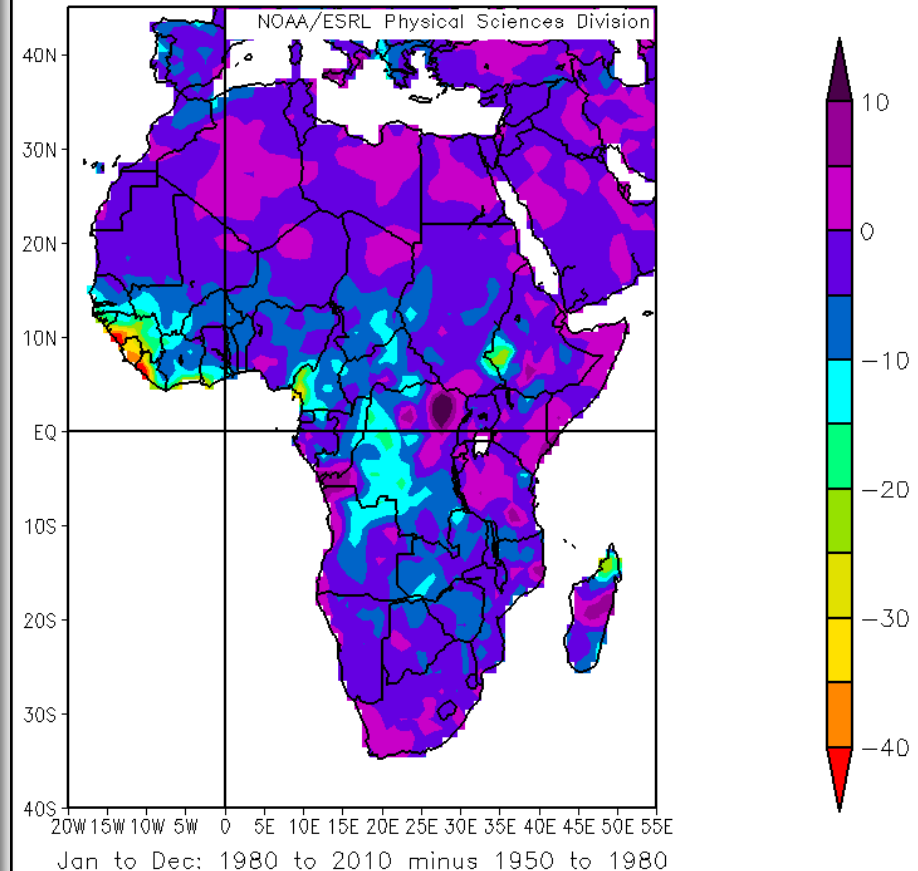
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis  
Surface air (C) Composite Mean

NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division



GPCC Precipitation V6 Combined  
Precipitation (mm) Composite Mean

NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division



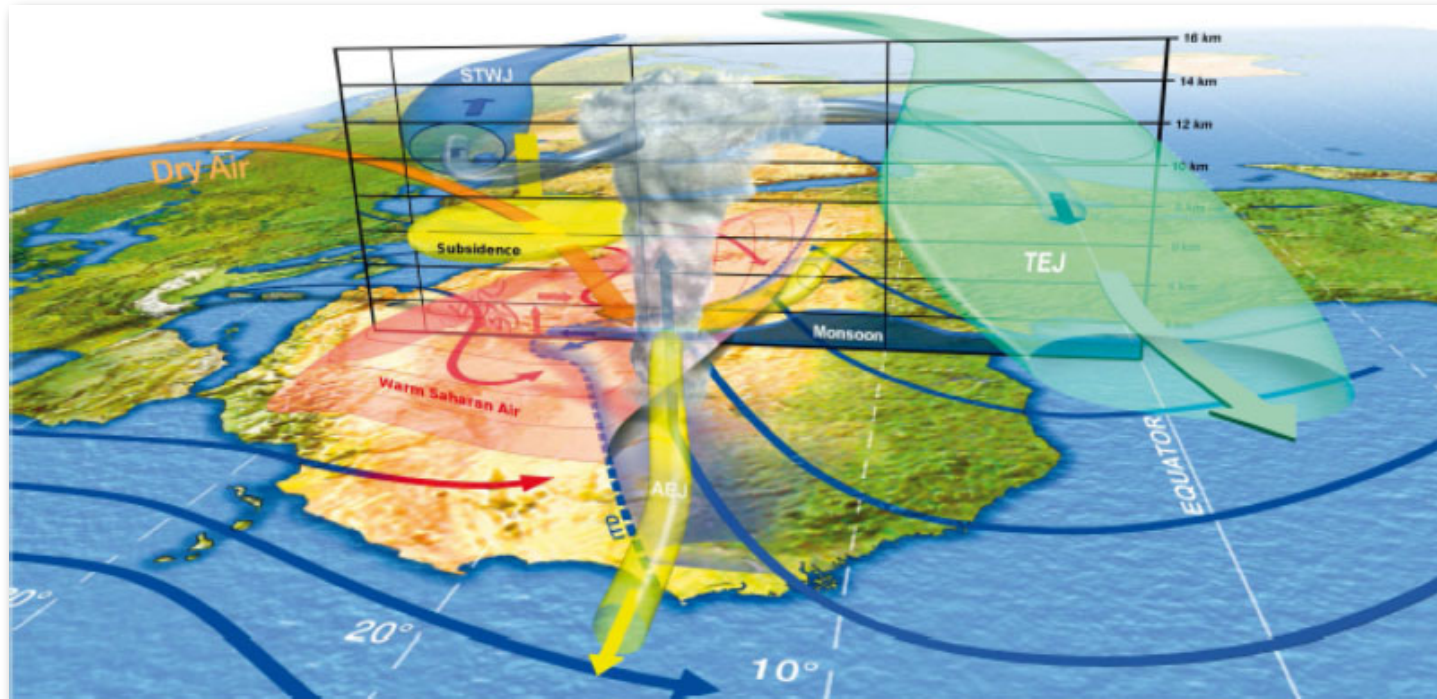
# West Africa: a region of low adaptive capacity

Current average annual precipitation [mm]



# West African Monsoon (WAM) - a cooking recipe

## Schematic view of West African Monsoon System



ITD: InterTropical Discontinuity (north of ITCZ)

AEJ: African Easterly Jet

TEJ: Tropical Easterly Jet

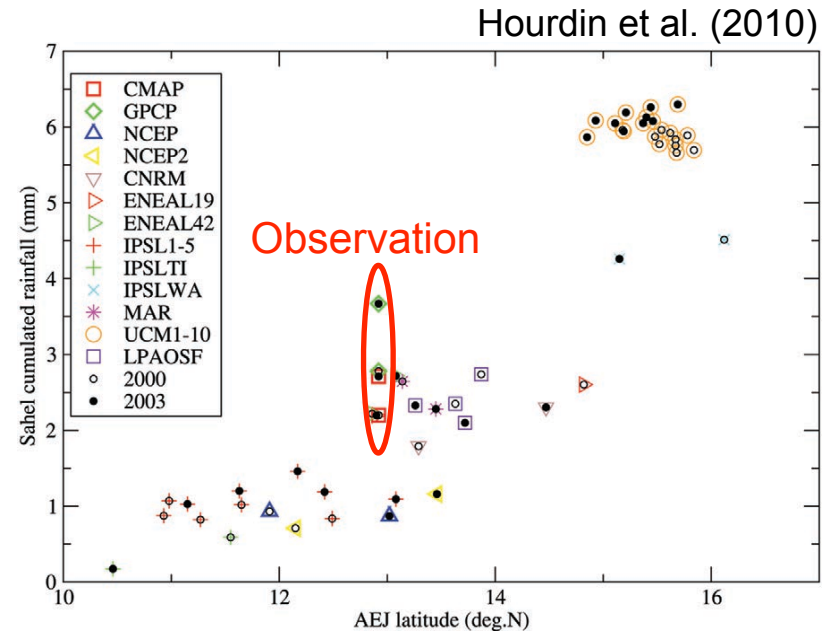
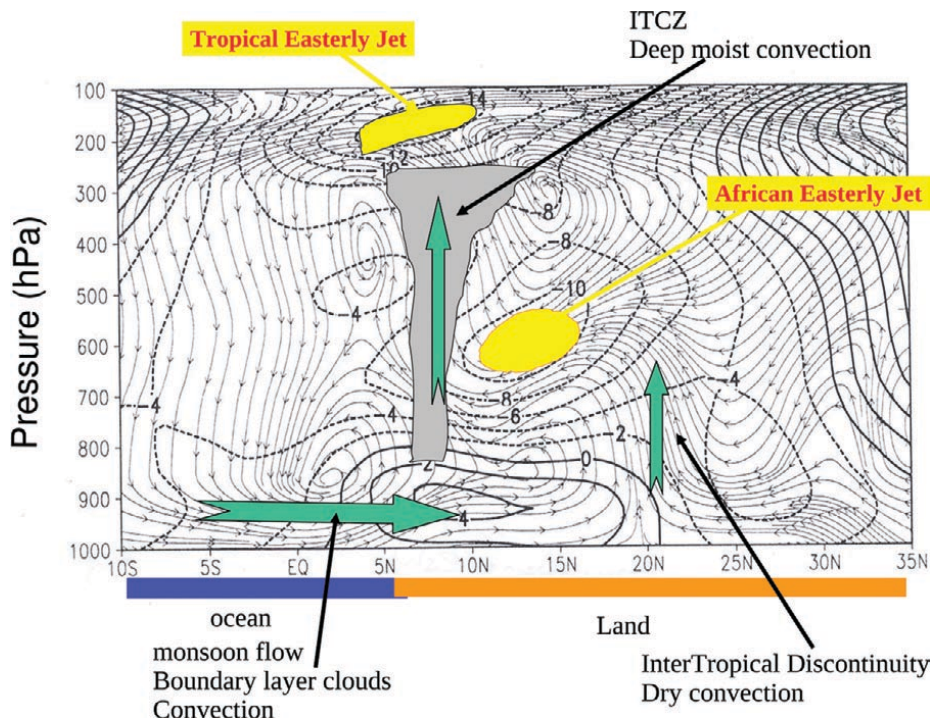
STWJ: SubTropical Westerly Jet

The oscillation of the AEJ yellow tube figures an African Easterly Wave.

Lafore et al. (2010/2011), Sylla et al. (2012)

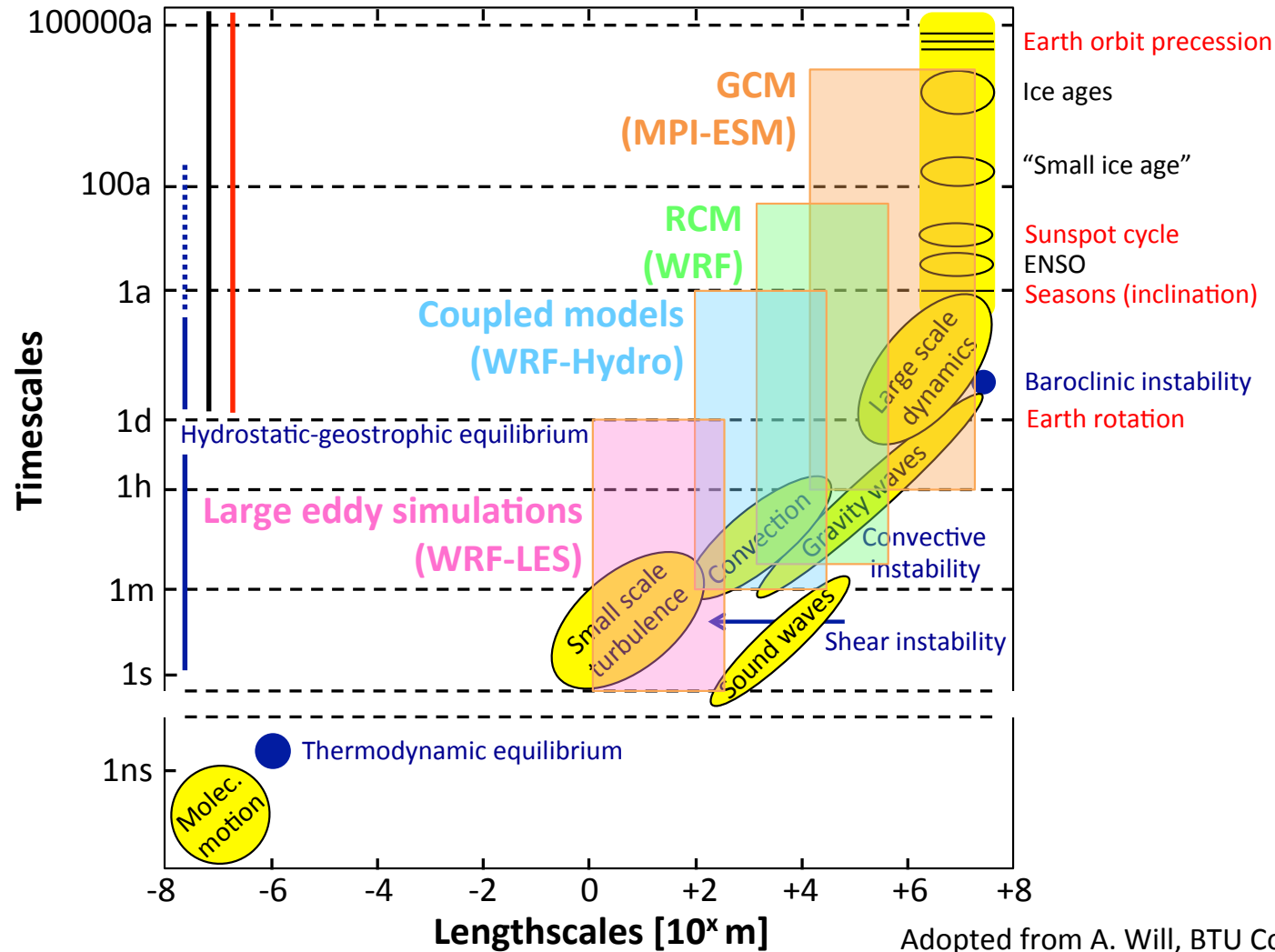
# WAM key ingredients: getting the dynamics right

## The rise and fall in Sahel rainfall accuracy with the position of the ITCZ



Latitude of African Easterly Jet vs. mean daily rainfall [mm] for the Sahel 2000/2003

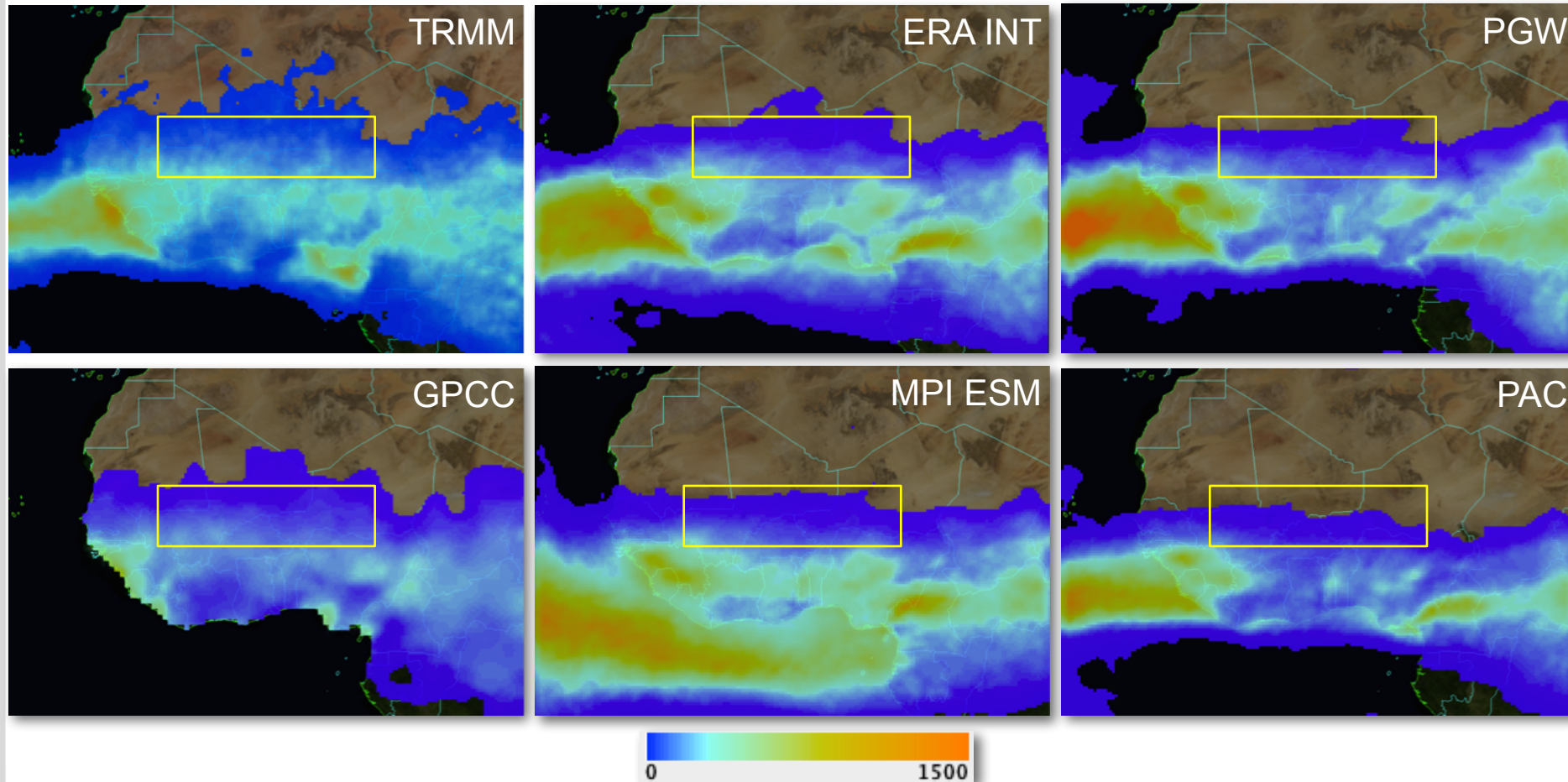
# Length and time scales of atmospheric motion





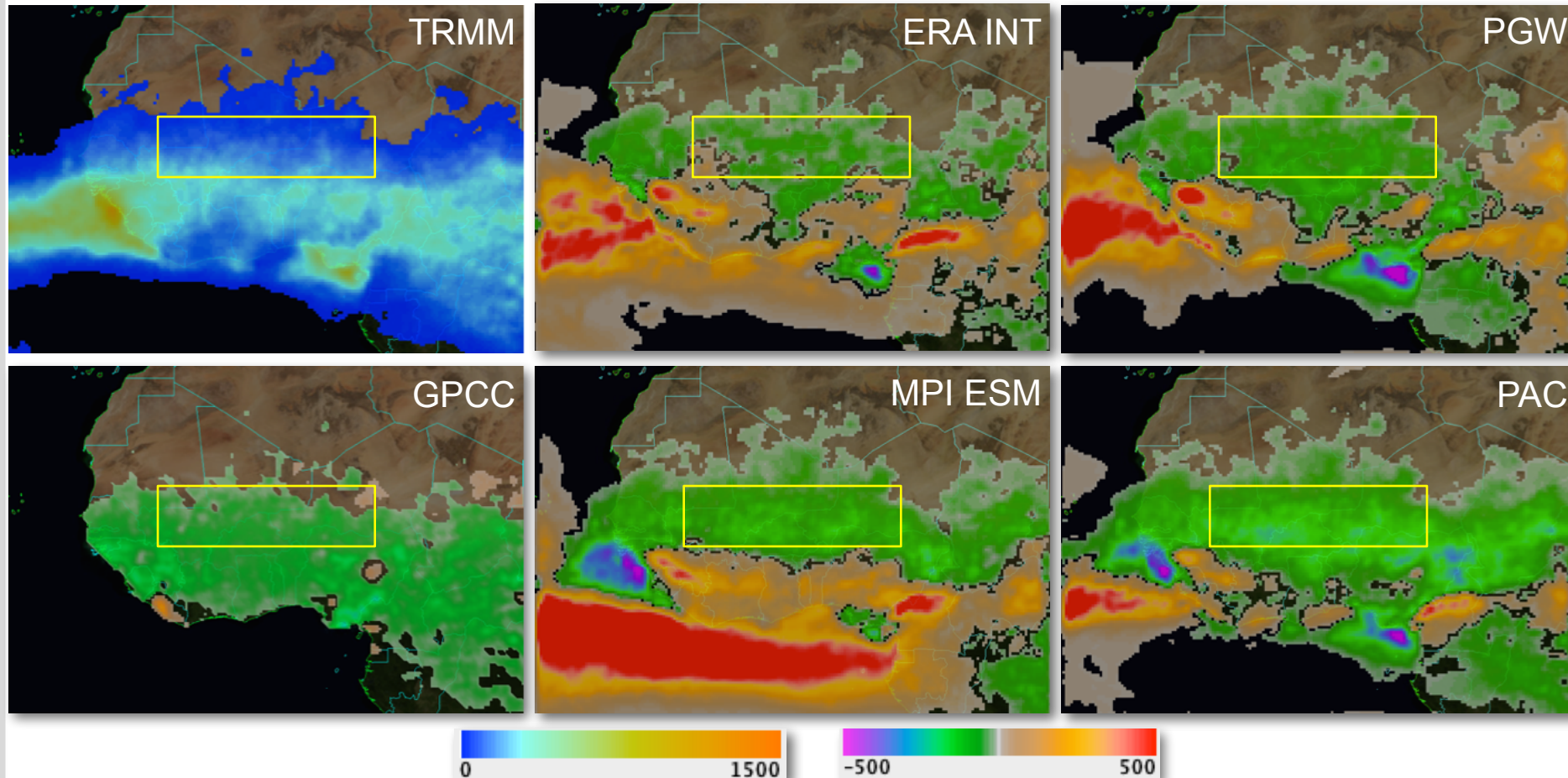
# Scientific evaluation - precipitation amounts

Average precipitation July (2001-2006) in mm



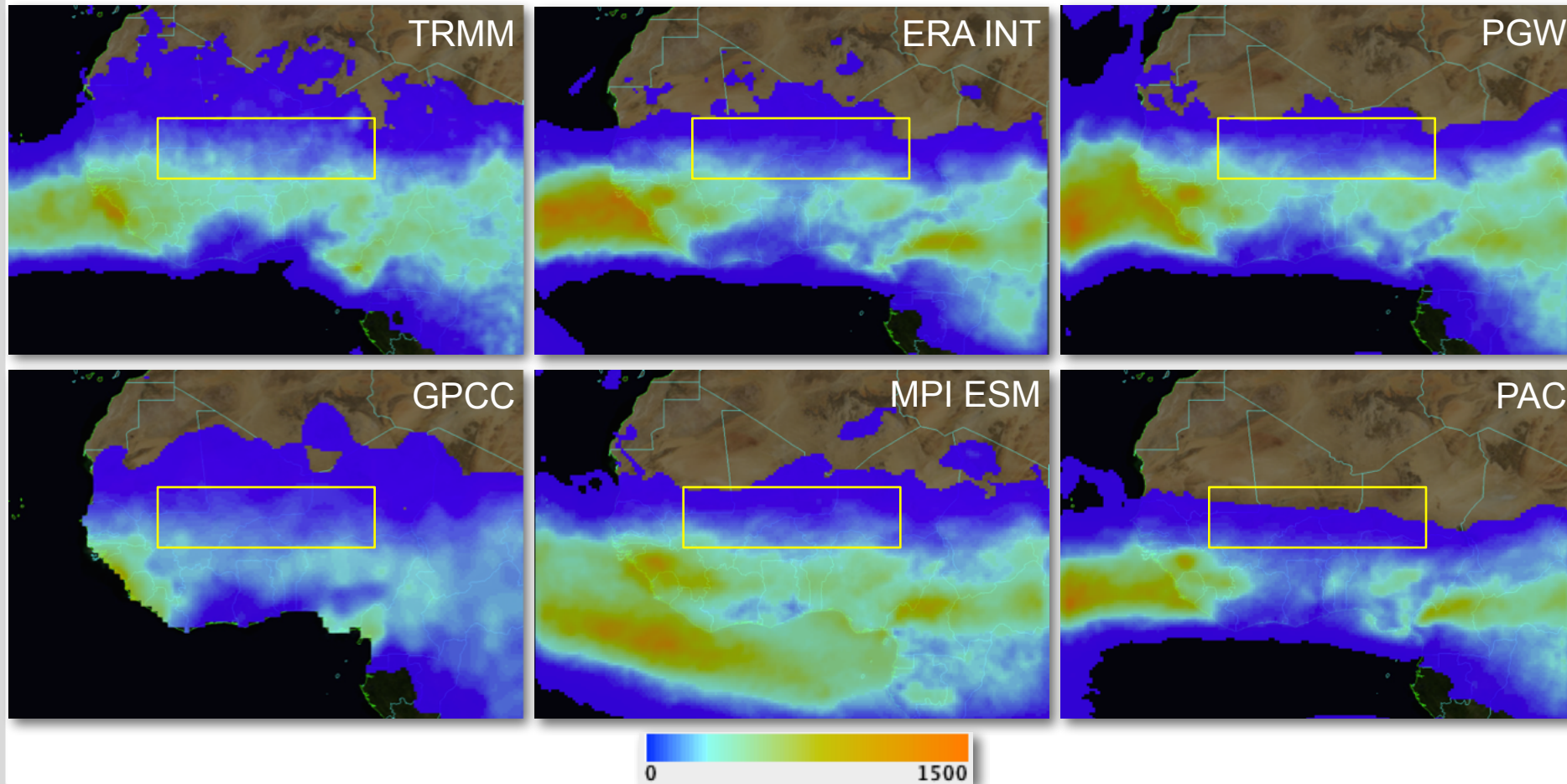
# Scientific evaluation - precipitation differences

Average precipitation / difference in avg. precipitation to TRMM July (2001-2006) in mm



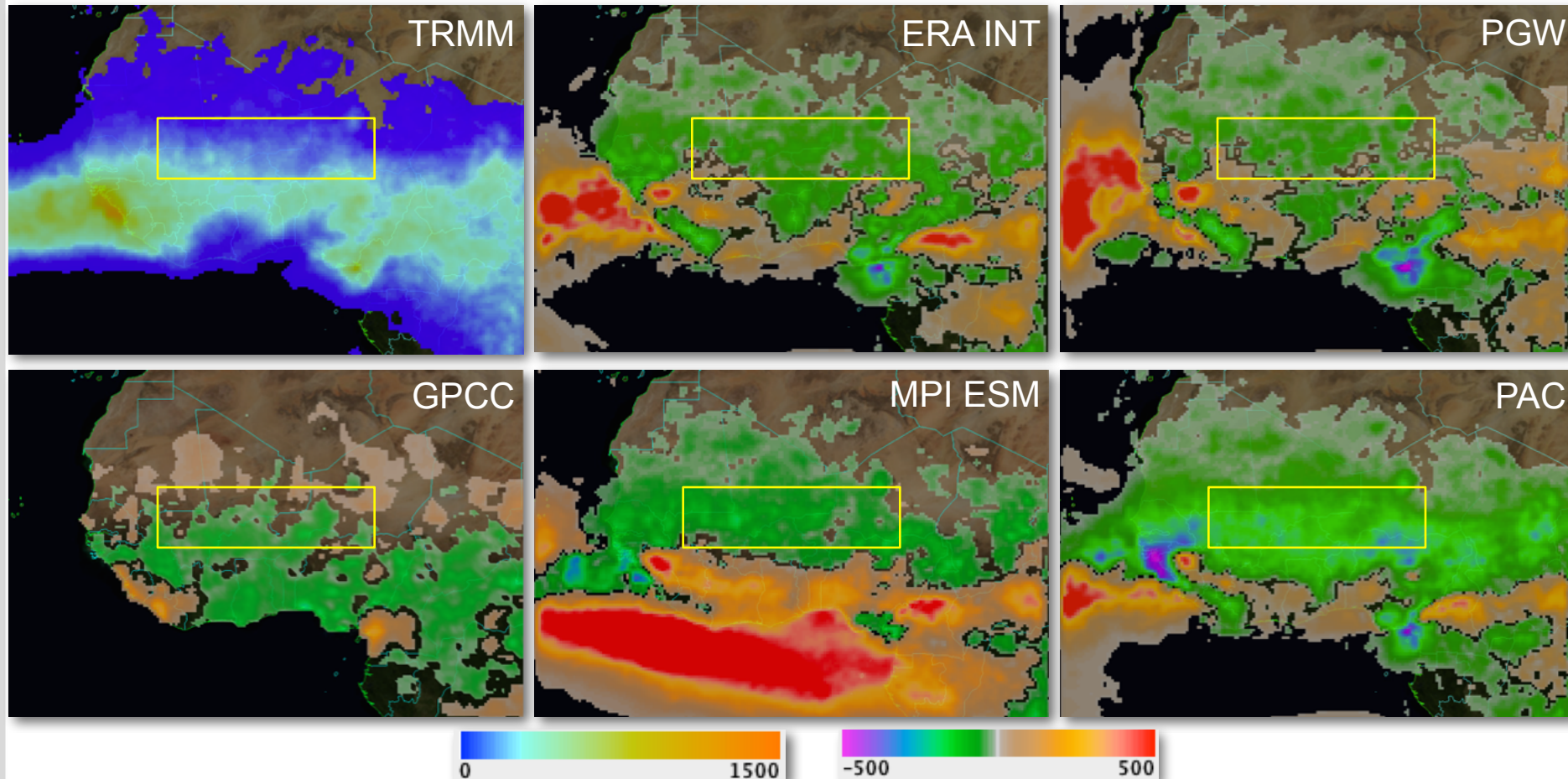
# Scientific evaluation - precipitation amounts

Average precipitation August (2001-2006) in mm



# Scientific evaluation - precipitation differences

Average precipitation / difference in avg. precipitation to TRMM August (2001-2006) in mm



# Scientific evaluation - precipitation statistics

July	AVG [mm]			ME [mm]			PC		
	Total	Land	Sahel	Total	Land	Sahel	Total	Land	Sahel
TRMM	110.1	114.7	130.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
GPCC	-	81.7	88.6	-	-33.0	-41.7	-	0.96	0.95
ERAINT	144.5	124.4	99.8	34.4	9.7	-30.7	0.88	0.89	0.92
MPI ESM	195.6	118.2	49.0	85.6	3.5	-81.5	0.39	0.82	0.91
PAC	87.1	75.1	23.0	-23.0	-39.6	-107.5	0.80	0.79	0.86
PGW	136.2	118.1	69.8	26.1	3.4	-60.7	0.85	0.87	0.91

August	AVG [mm]			ME [mm]			PC		
	Total	Land	Sahel	Total	Land	Sahel	Total	Land	Sahel
TRMM	125.7	143.2	161.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
GPCC	-	103.1	88.6	-	-40.1	-73.0	-	0.95	0.88
ERAINT	139.0	138.9	119.2	13.3	-4.3	-42.4	0.90	0.90	0.93
MPI ESM	217.5	162.0	97.0	91.8	18.8	-64.6	0.50	0.84	0.88
PAC	98.3	94.6	31.0	-27.4	-48.6	-130.6	0.82	0.81	0.87
PGW	145.9	143.4	129.1	20.2	0.2	-32.5	0.87	0.91	0.93

Sunset over the Sissili river, Northern Ghana (Nov. 2013)

