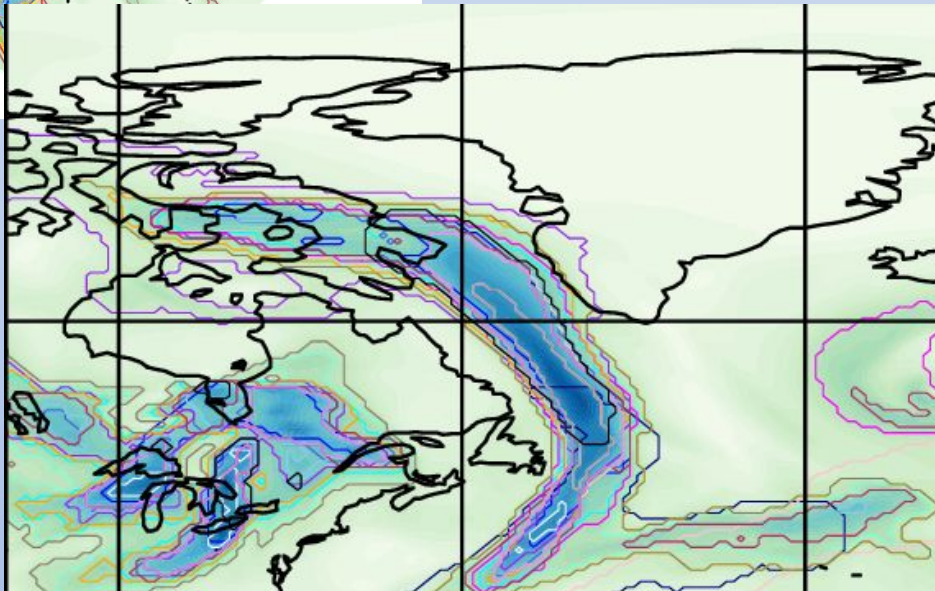
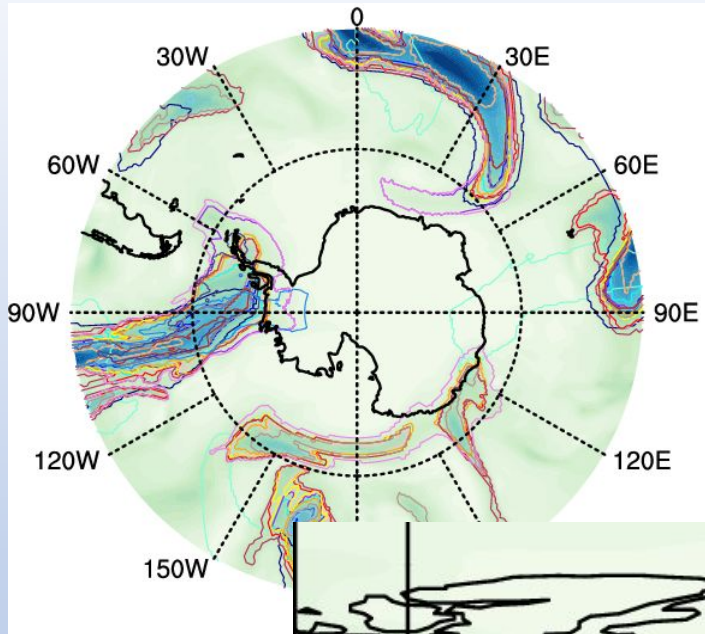




# Identifying High Latitude Atmospheric Rivers with Machine Learning

Christine A. Shields (NCAR)  
Teagan King (NCAR)  
Katie Dagon (NCAR)  
Sol Kim (UC Berkeley)  
Annette Greiner (LBNL)

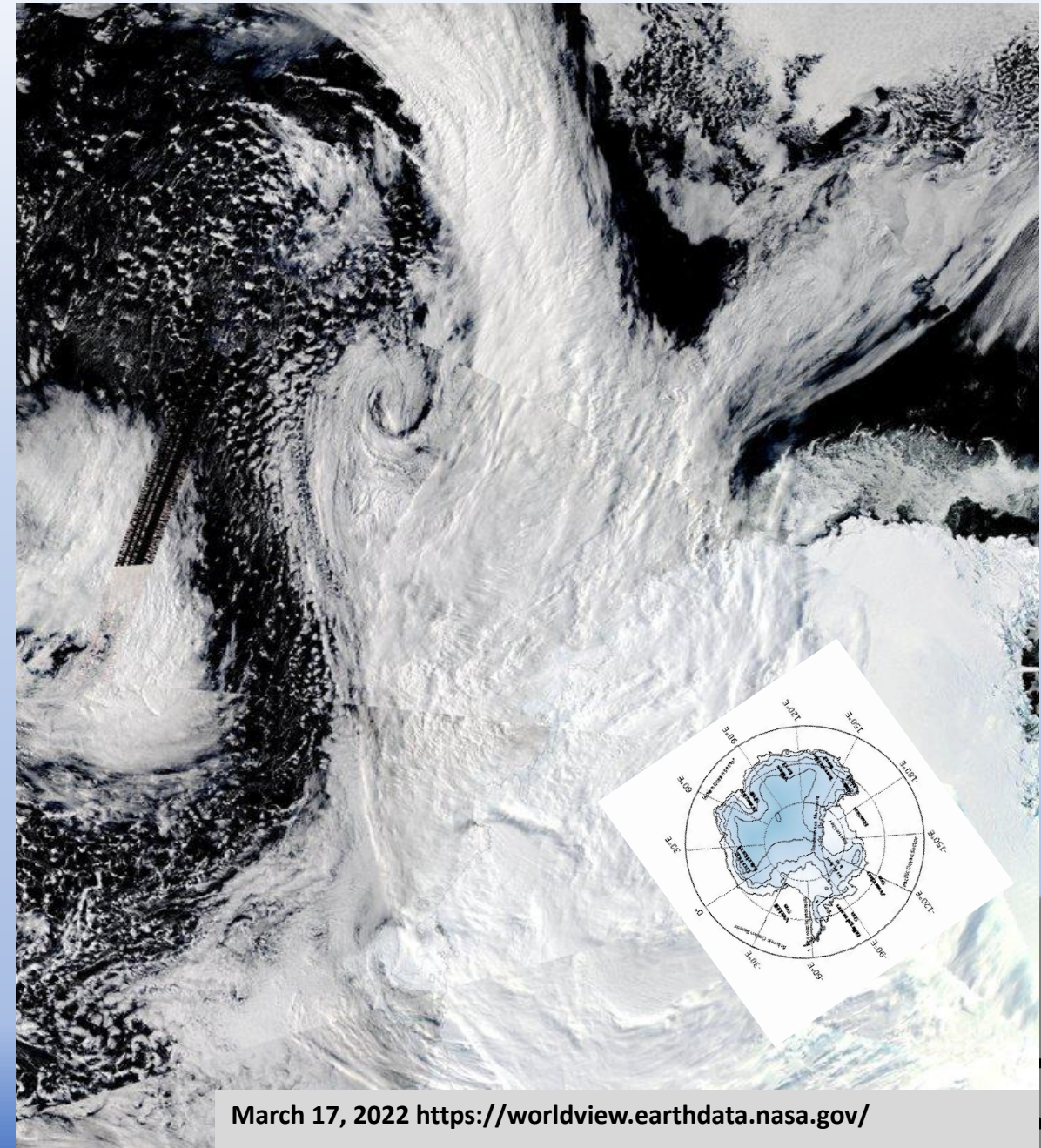
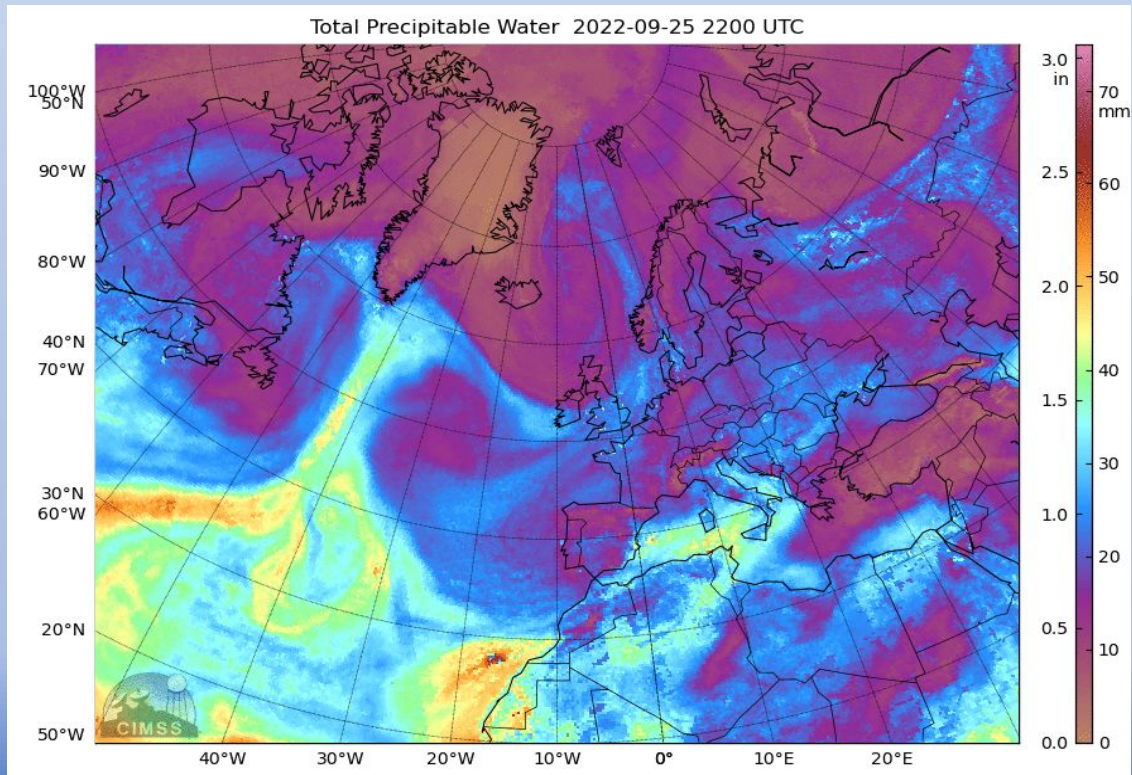


What are High Latitude Atmospheric Rivers?

Why do we need polar-specific detectors?

Machine Learning is an option!

Our project thus far....

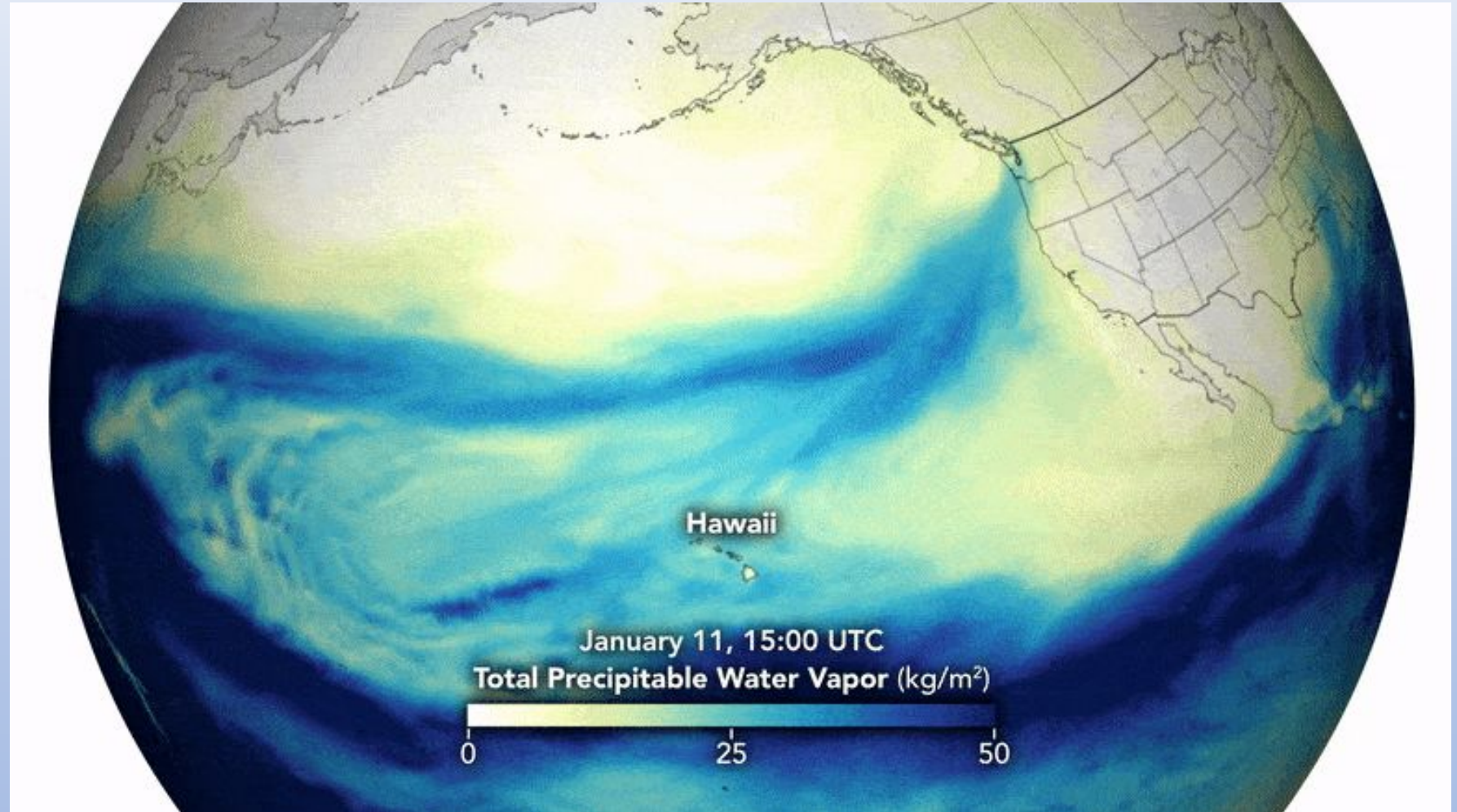


# What is an Atmospheric River (AR)?

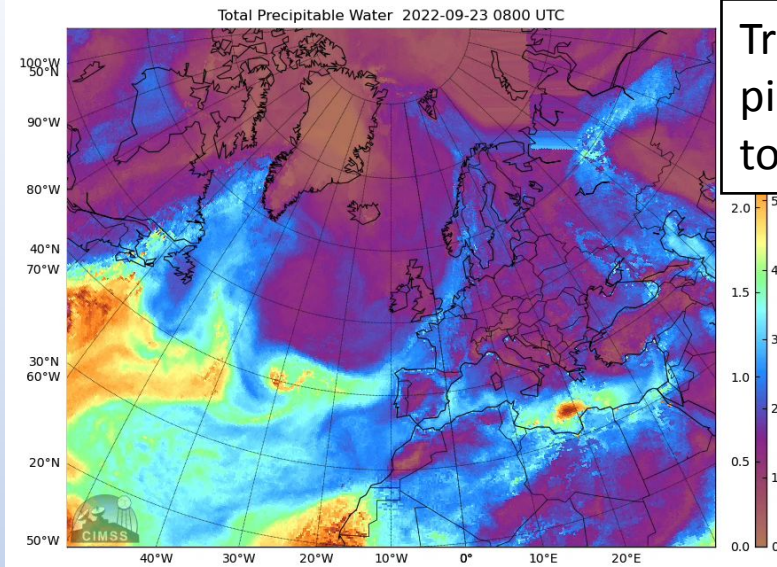
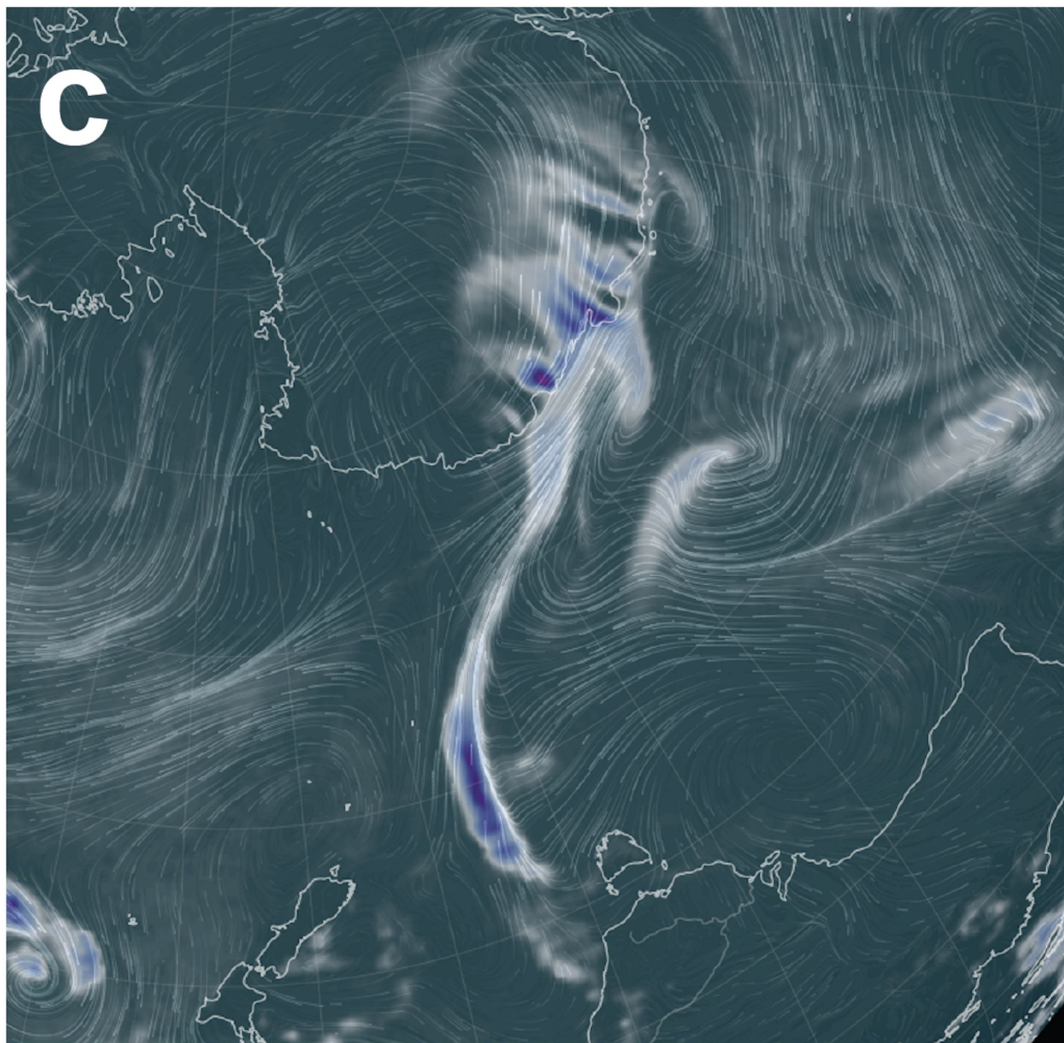
Synoptic scale,  
filamentary moisture  
transport vehicles!

Mid latitude Impacts:  
Drought busters  
(beneficial) to extreme  
precipitation and  
floods (damaging)

**Polar Impacts: Sea ice  
changes and +/- SMB  
land ice**

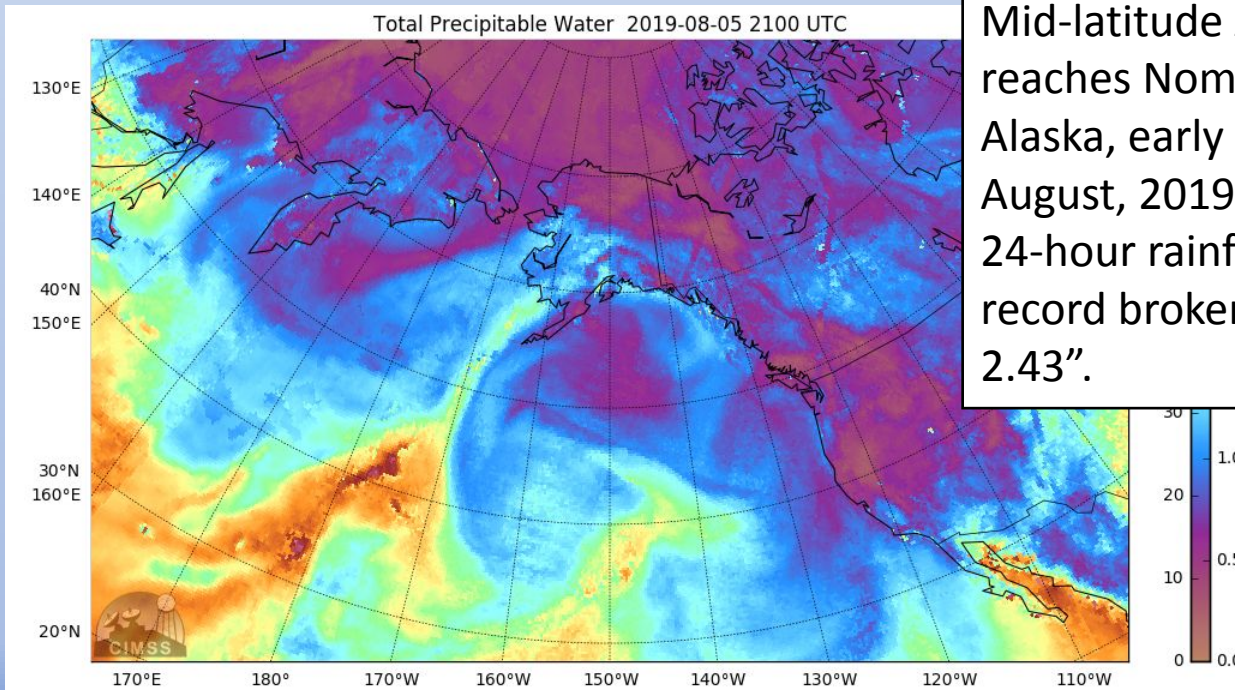


# Antarctic Atmospheric River Event March 16, 2022



Tropical-Extratropical Transition to AR

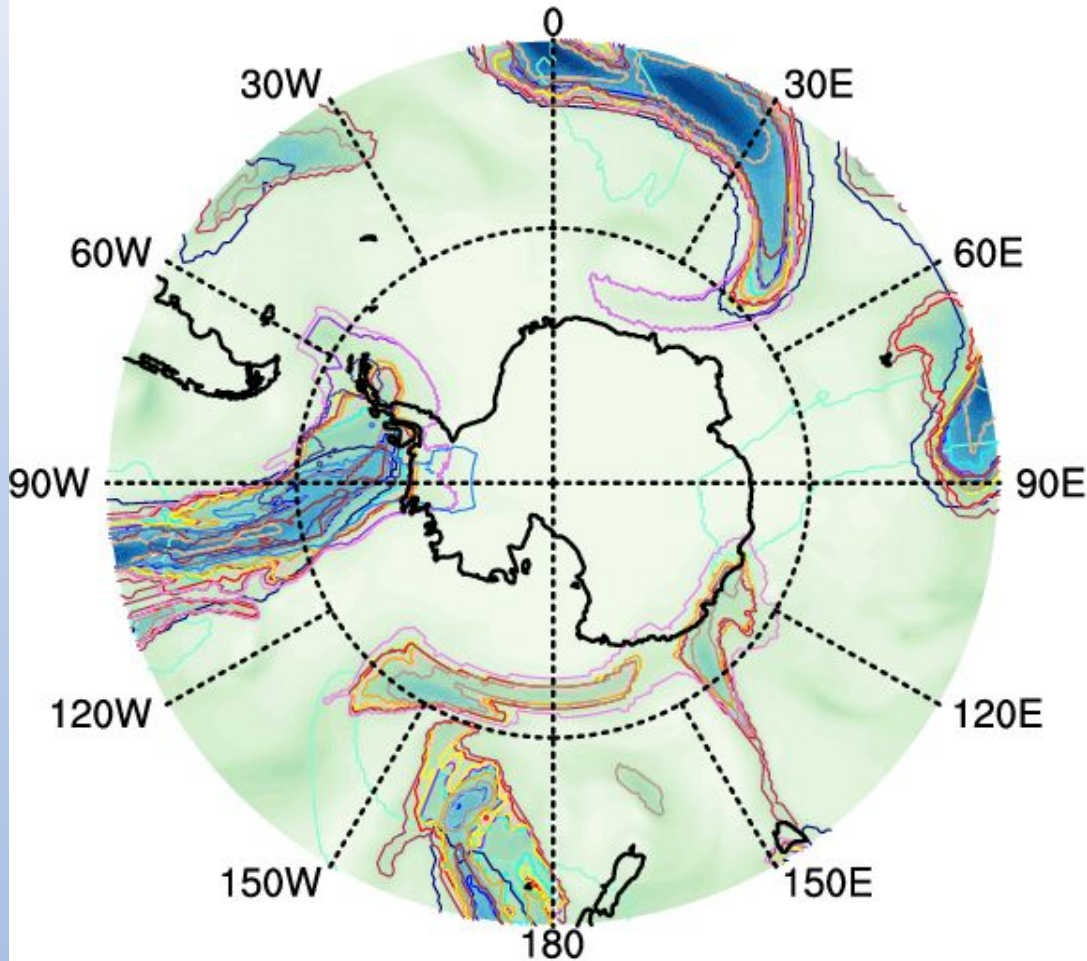
Credit: MIMIC-TPW v2 © 2022 Space Science & Engineering Center University of Wisconsin - Madison



Mid-latitude AR reaches Nome, Alaska, early August, 2019, 24-hour rainfall record broken, 2.43".

ARTMIP ARDTs (Atmospheric River Tracking Method  
Intercomparison Project)

MERRA2 IVT for 2016052512 kg/m/s



0 60 120 180 240 300 360 420 480 540 600 660 720 780 840 900 960

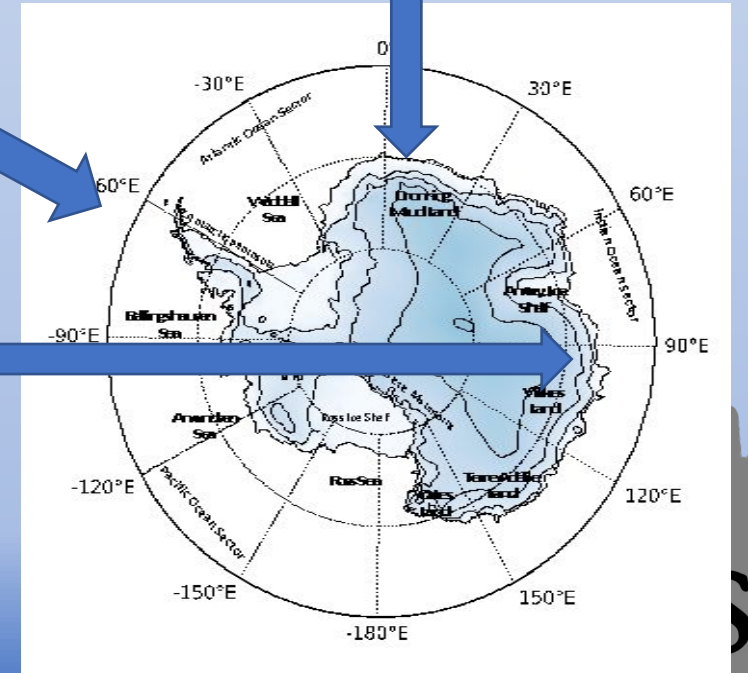
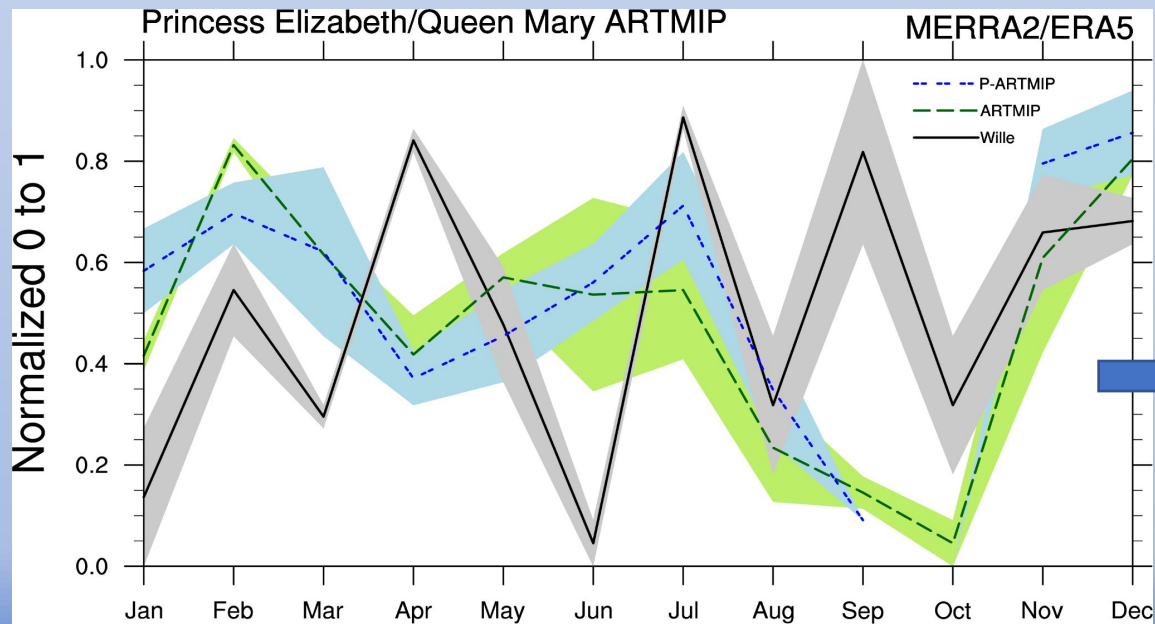
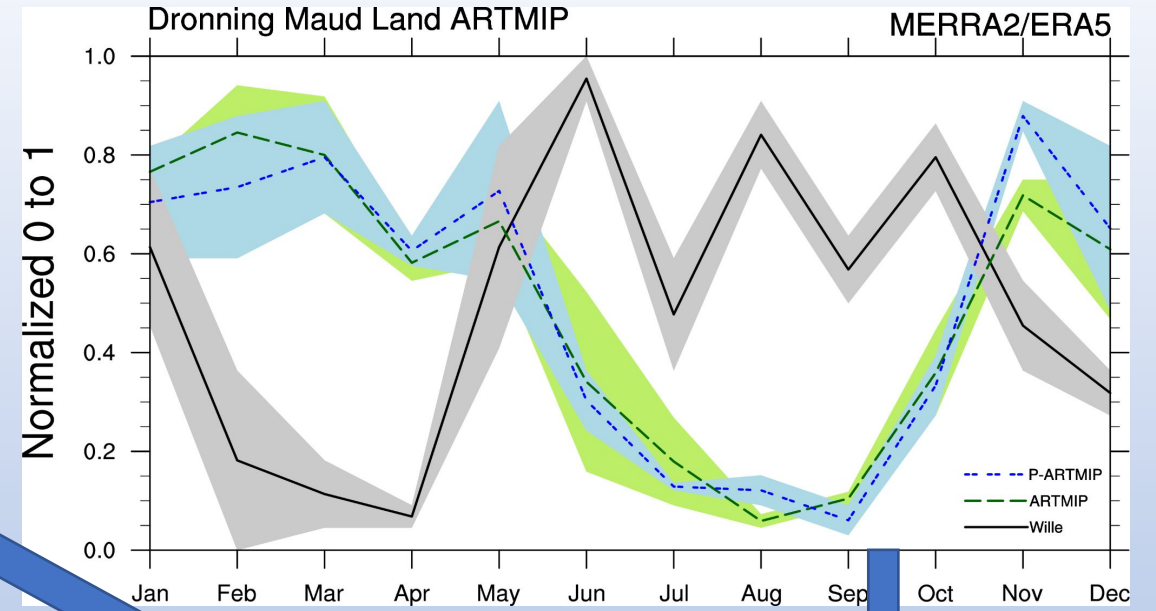
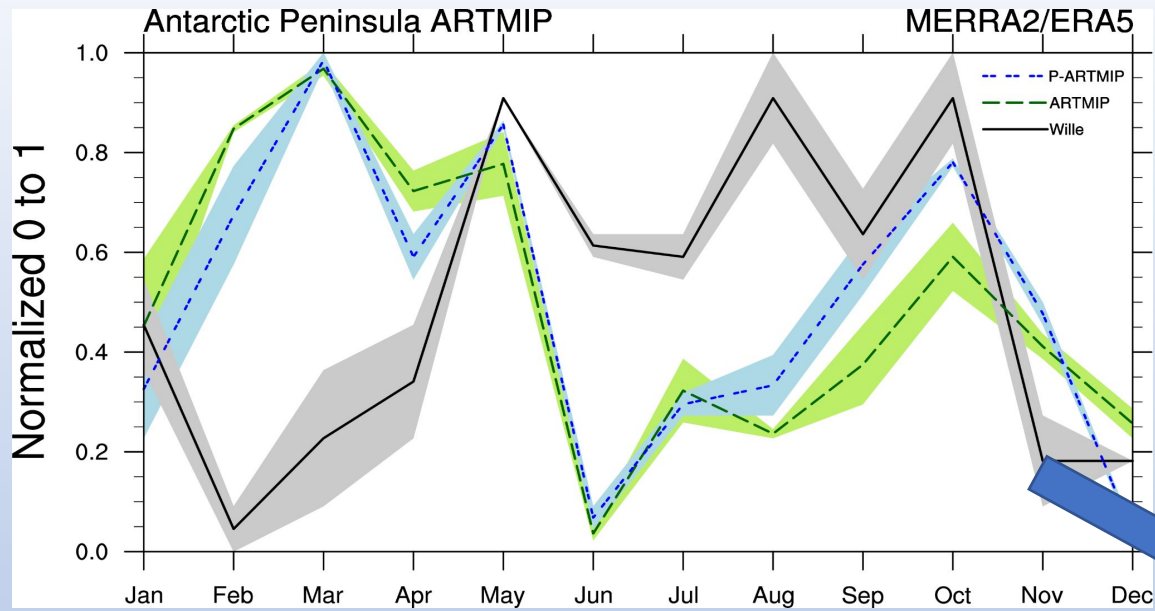
# Uncertainty in AR Detection Tools

Global ARs designed for mid-latitudes and weight zonal and meridional components equally

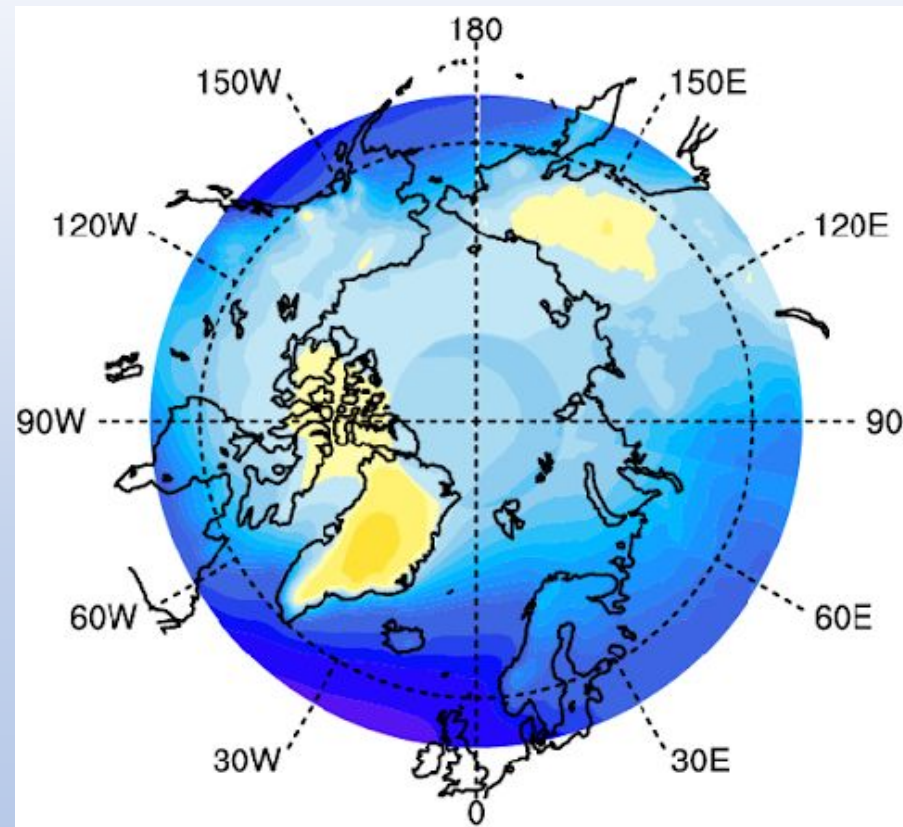
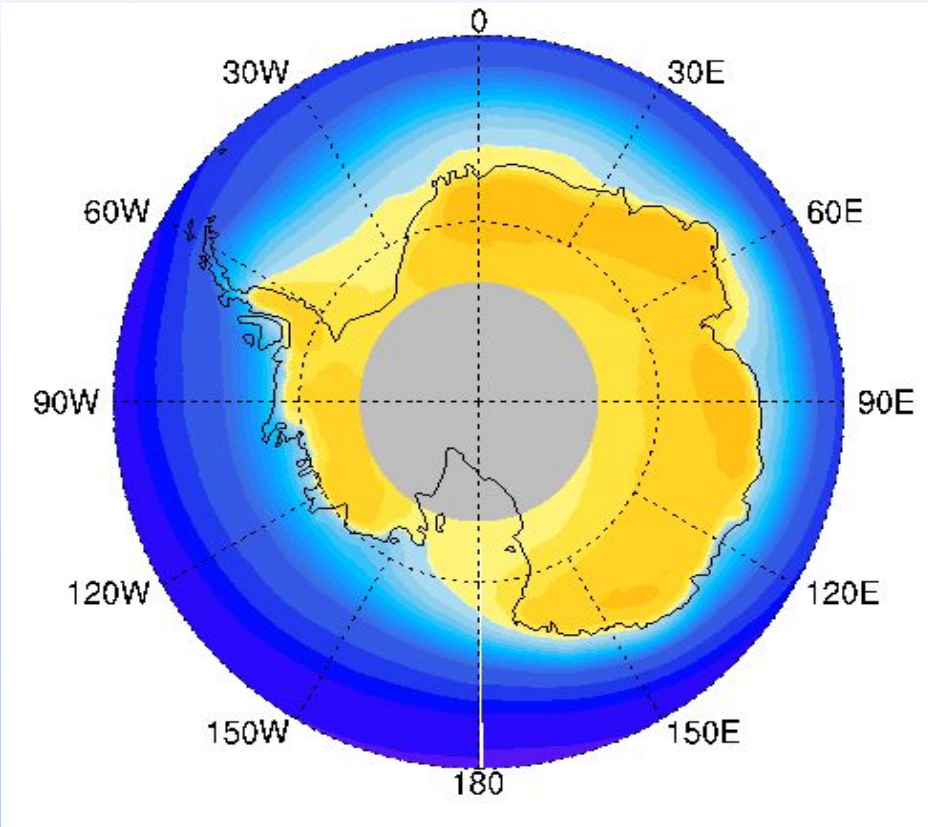
Antarctic-Specific factors in meridional geometry and cold, low humidity environments

West Antarctica Peninsula projects further out into Southern Ocean, so for ARDTs designed for mid-latitudes, these ARDTs are more likely to detect the AR.

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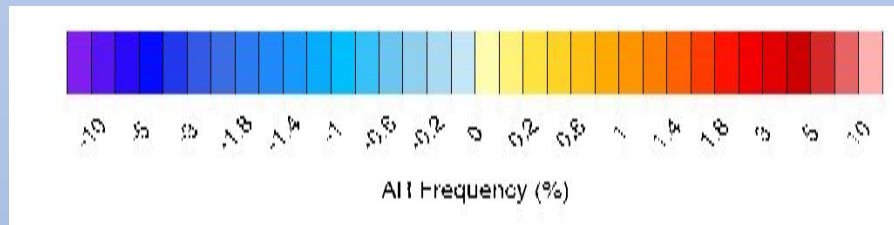


Polar Spec  
 Global-Some Polar logic  
 Global

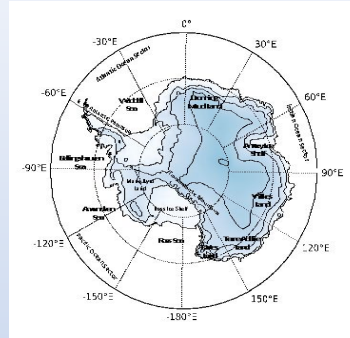


High latitude specific ARDTs vs global ARTMIP ARDTs

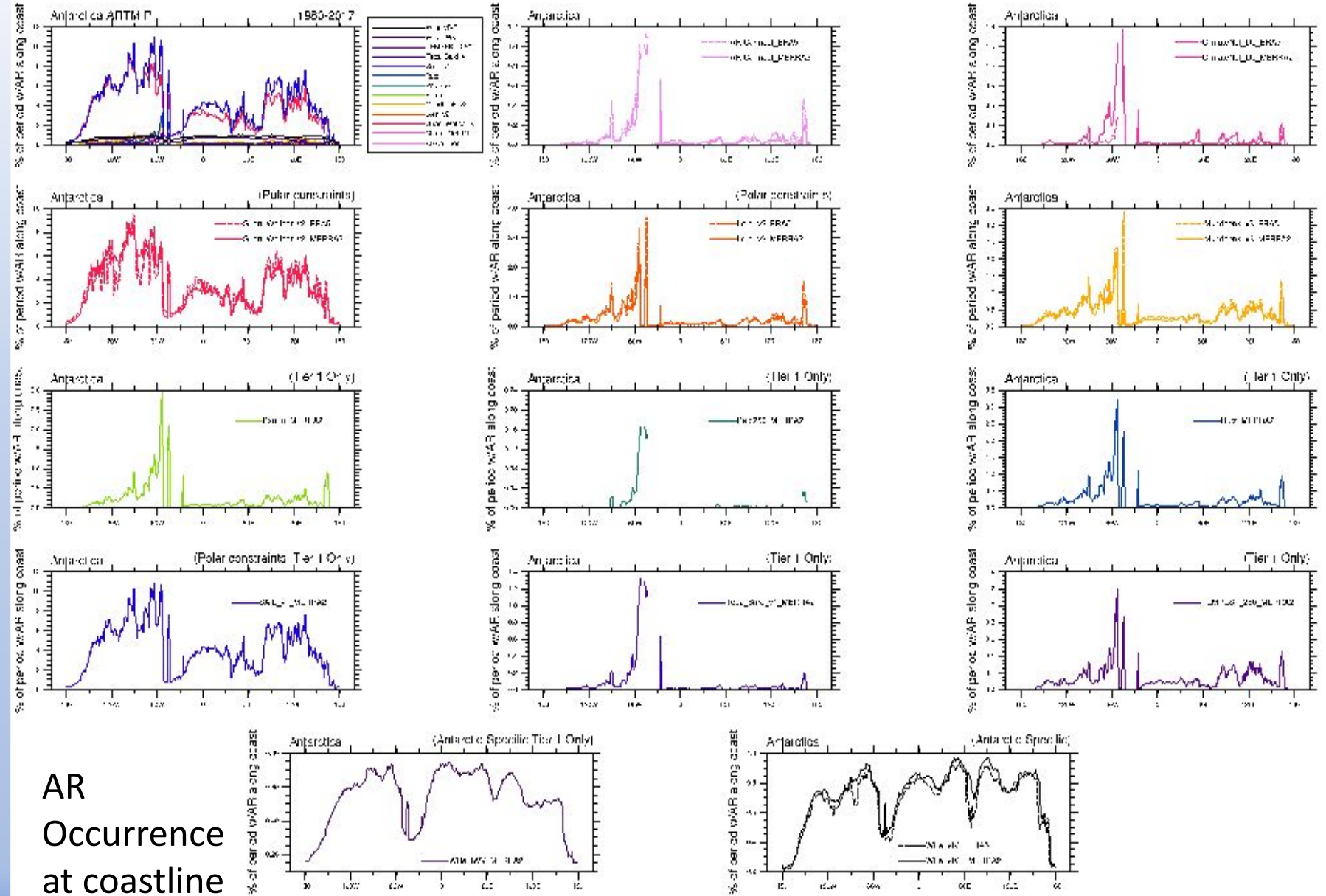
Difference in heatmap between high-lat ARDTs and global ARTMIP ARDTs show that globals still do not capture ARs on the ice sheets.



Shields et al., 2022, GRL



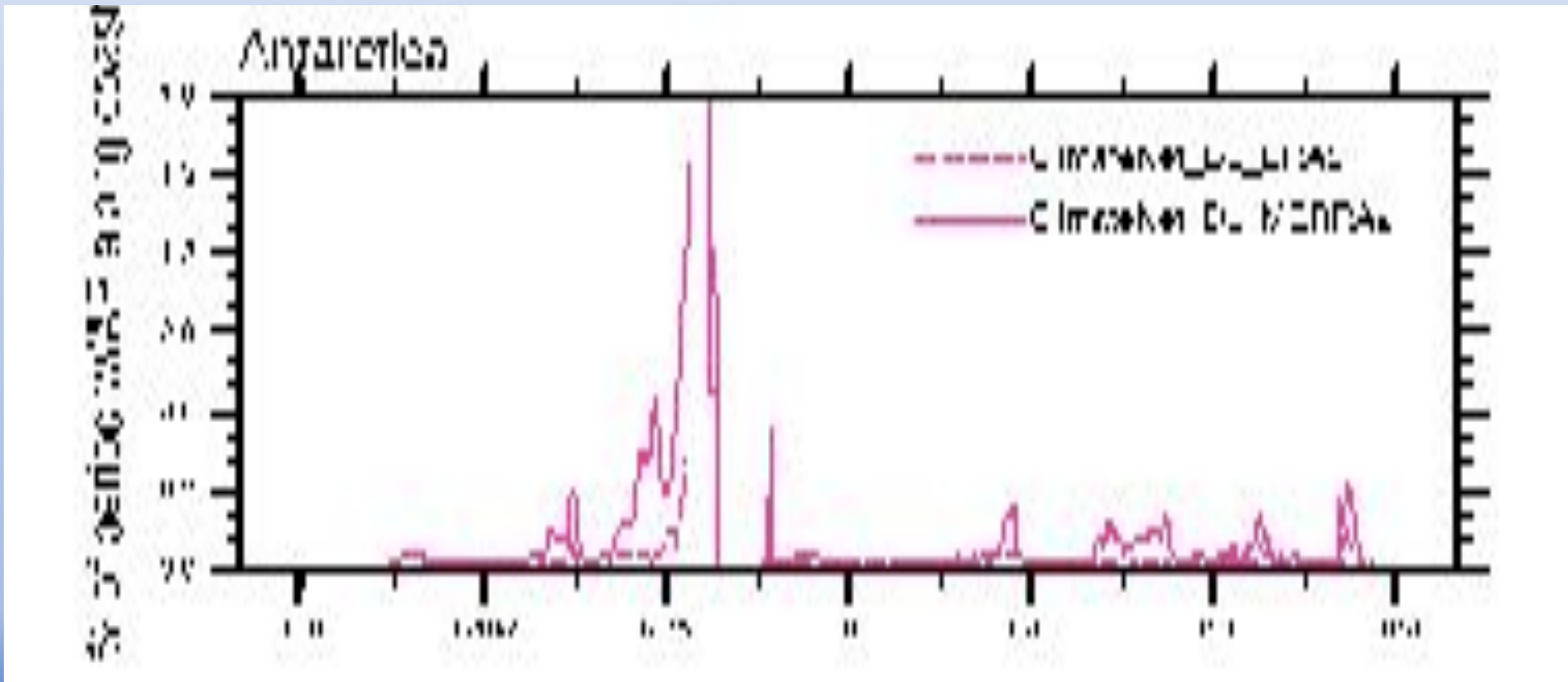
Longitudinal  
landfall by  
ARDTs show  
majority detect  
only at the  
Peninsula



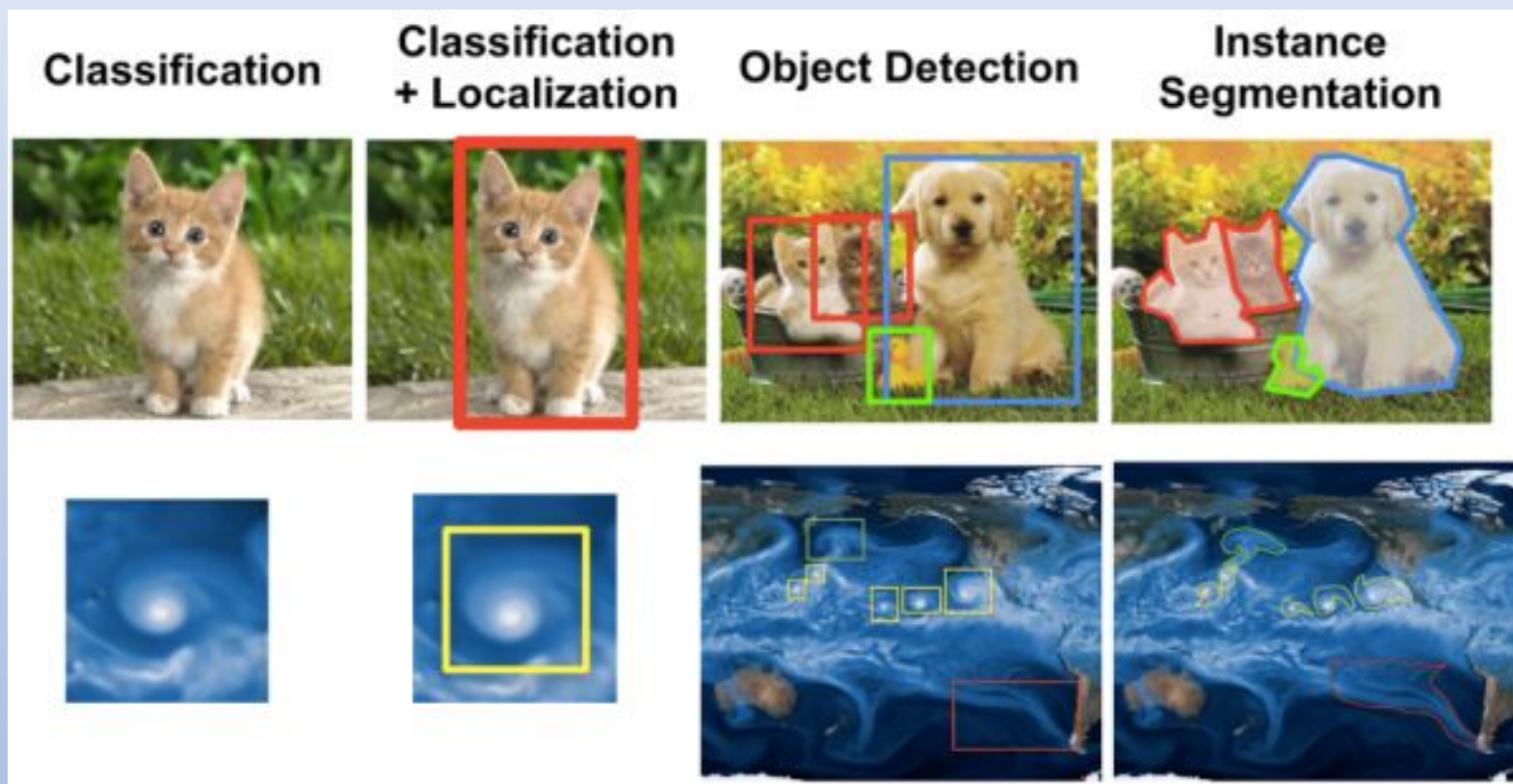


# Machine Learning ARDTs

- ❖ Threshold free (avoid pitfalls for thresholding for climate change)!
- ❖ Only good as it's training data, currently emphasizing mid-latitudes and Antarctic Peninsula



# How does Machine Learning and ClimateNet work?



For details on ClimateNet, see:  
Prabat, Kashinath et al., GMD,  
(2021)

Geosci. Model Dev., 14, 107–124, 2021  
<https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-14-107-2021>  
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Article Peer review Metrics Related articles

Model description paper 08 Jan 2021

## ClimateNet: an expert-labeled open dataset and deep learning architecture for enabling high-precision analyses of extreme weather

Prabhat<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Karthik Kashinath<sup>1,\*</sup>, Mayur Mudigonda<sup>10,\*</sup>, Sol Kim<sup>2</sup>, Lukas Kapp-Schwoerer<sup>3</sup>, Andre Graubner<sup>3</sup>, Ege Karaismaliglu<sup>3</sup>, Leo von Kleist<sup>3</sup>, Thorsten Kurth<sup>4</sup>, Annette Greiner<sup>1</sup>, Ankur Mahesh<sup>2,1</sup>, Kevin Yang<sup>2</sup>, Colby Lewis<sup>2</sup>, Jayli Chen<sup>2</sup>, Andrew Lou<sup>2</sup>, Sathyavat Chandran<sup>5</sup>, Ben Toms<sup>6</sup>, Will Chapman<sup>7</sup>, Katherine Dagon<sup>8</sup>, Christine A. Shields<sup>9</sup>, Travis O'Brien<sup>9,1</sup>, Michael Wehner<sup>1</sup>, and William Collins<sup>1,2</sup>

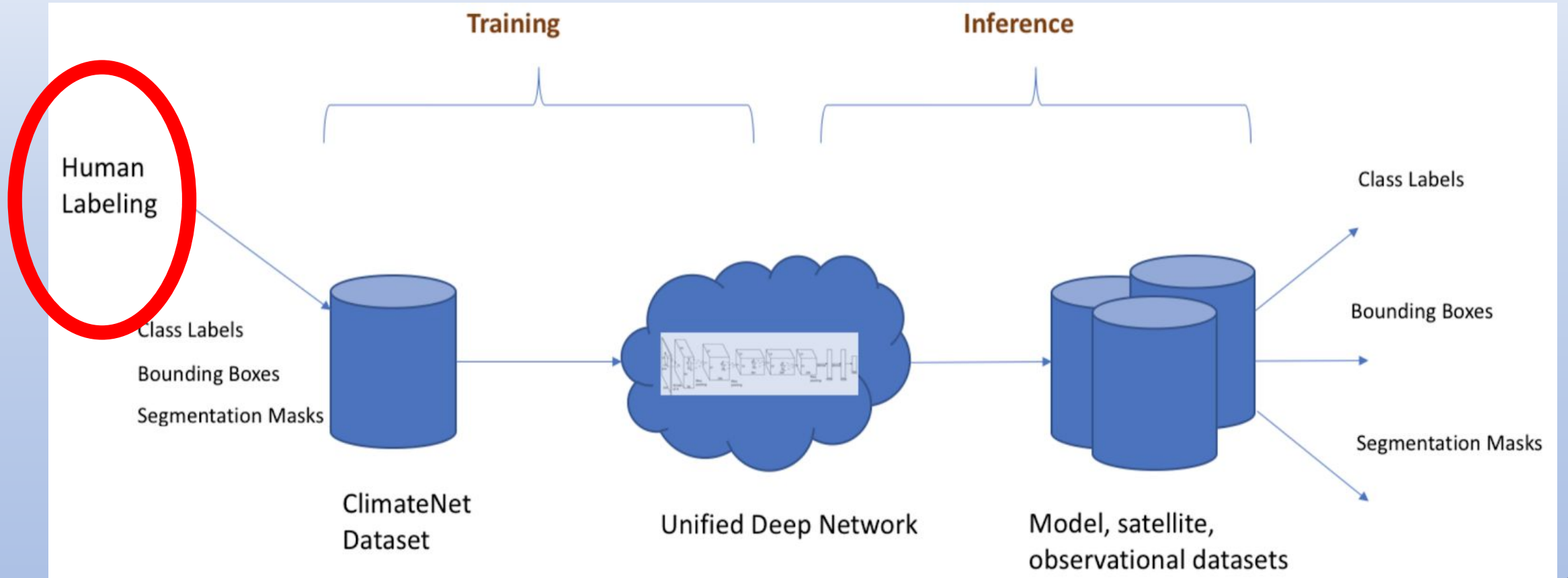
<sup>1</sup>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA, USA  
<sup>2</sup>Department of Earth and Planetary Science, University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA  
<sup>3</sup>ETH Zurich, Zürich, Switzerland  
<sup>4</sup>NVIDIA, Santa Clara, CA, USA  
<sup>5</sup>Department of Computer Science, Rice University, Houston, TX, USA  
<sup>6</sup>Department of Atmospheric Science, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, USA  
<sup>7</sup>Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA, USA  
<sup>8</sup>National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, CO, USA  
<sup>9</sup>Department of Atmospheric Science, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA  
<sup>10</sup>Terrafuse, Berkeley, CA, USA

\*These authors contributed equally to this work.

Correspondence: Karthik Kashinath (kkashinath@lbl.gov)

Image from: <https://www.nersc.gov/research-and-development/data-analytics/climatenet/>

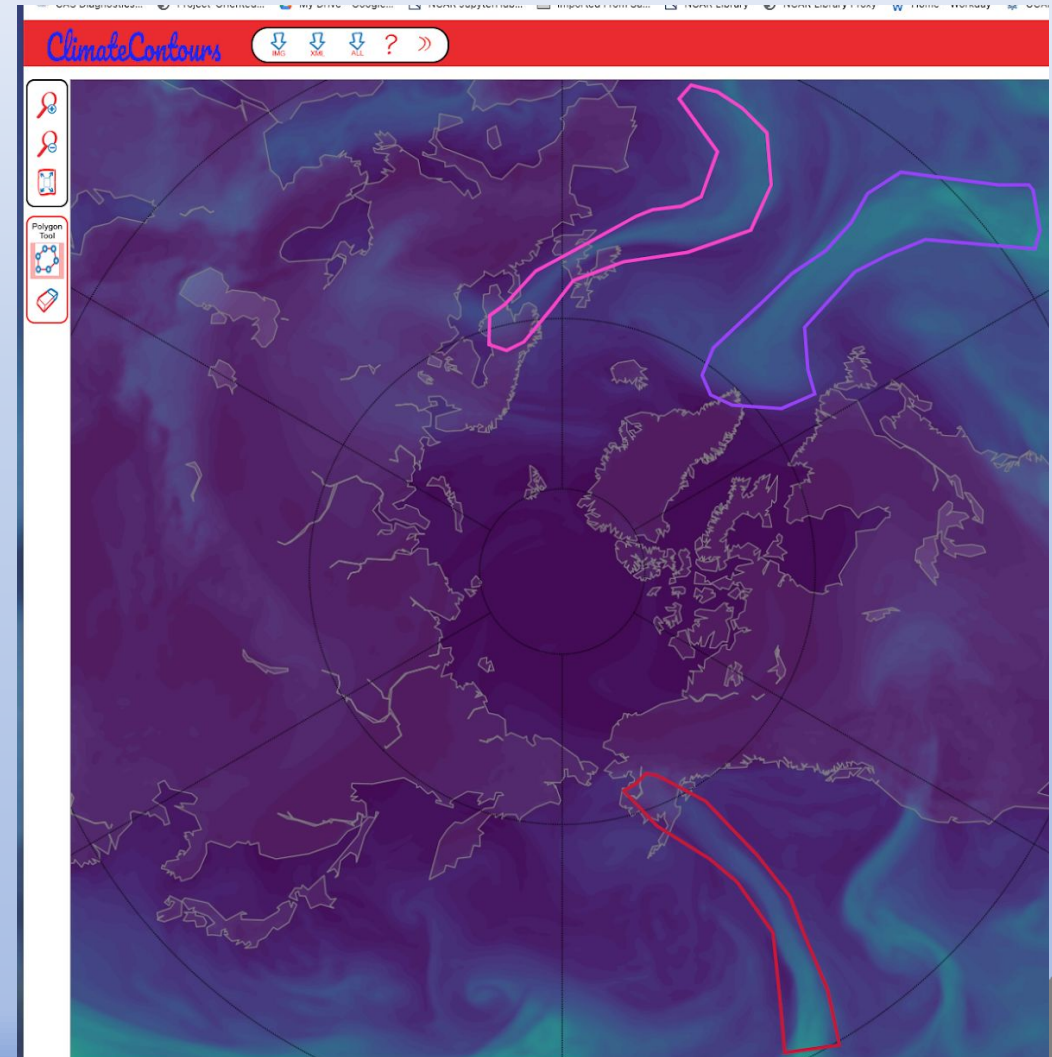
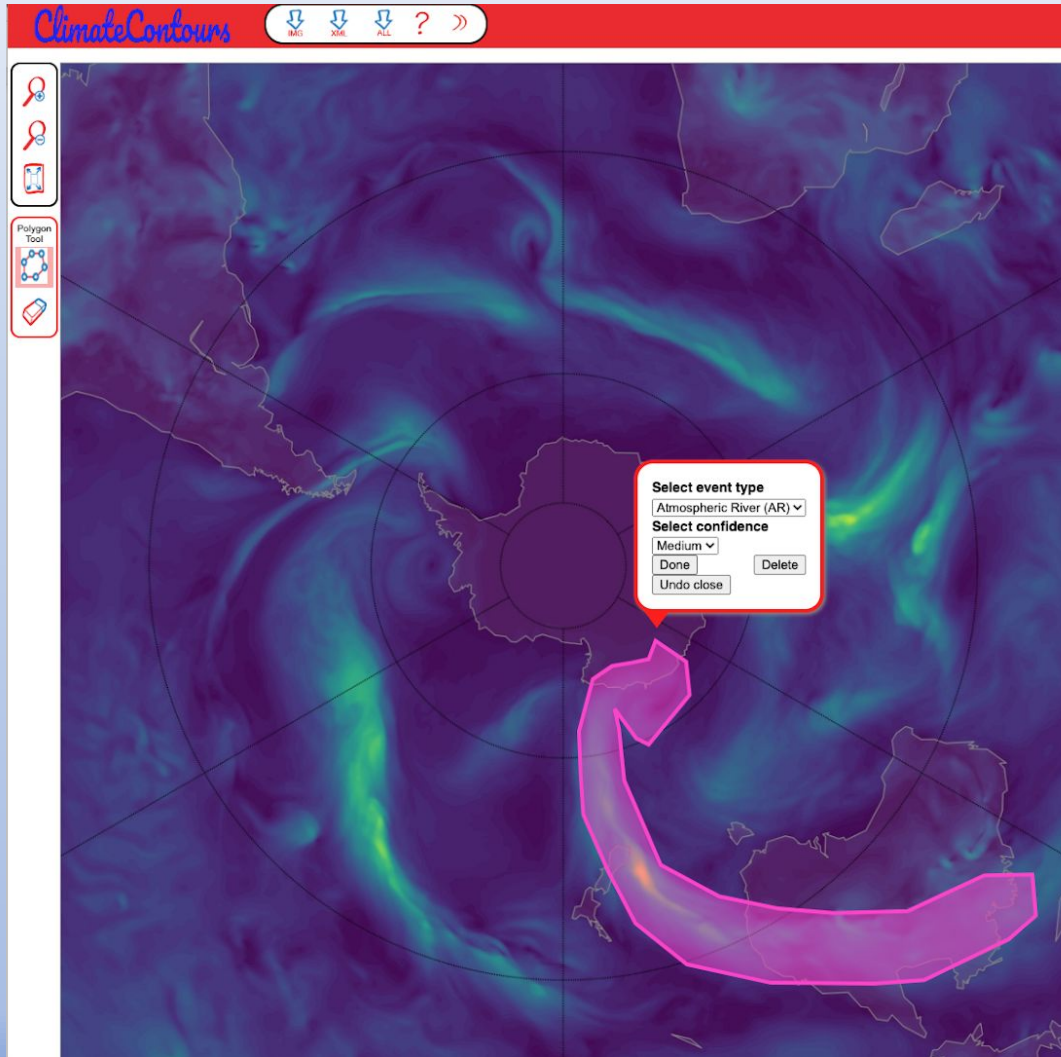
# Training data matters



For details on ClimateNet, see:  
Kashinath et al. (2021)

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# ClimateNet Labelling Tool Used To Create Training Data



# Different variables used for hand label evaluation

## Channels:

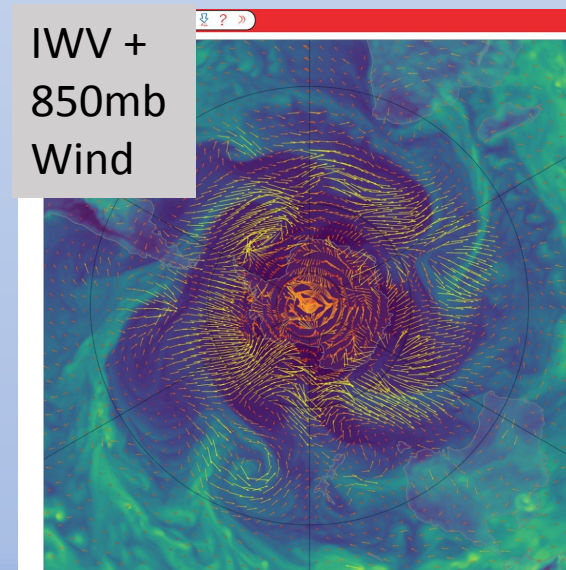
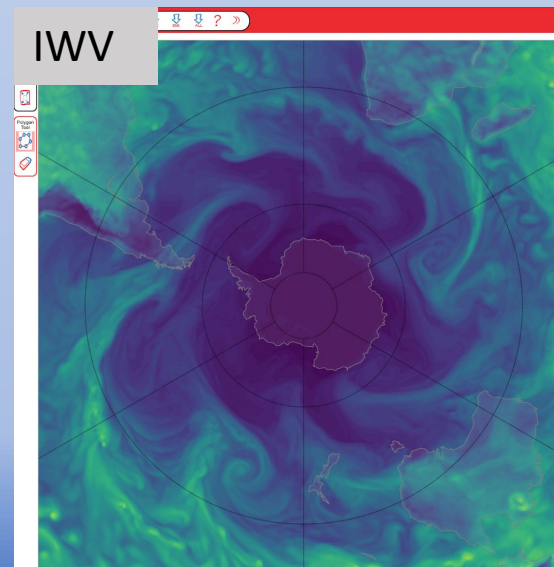
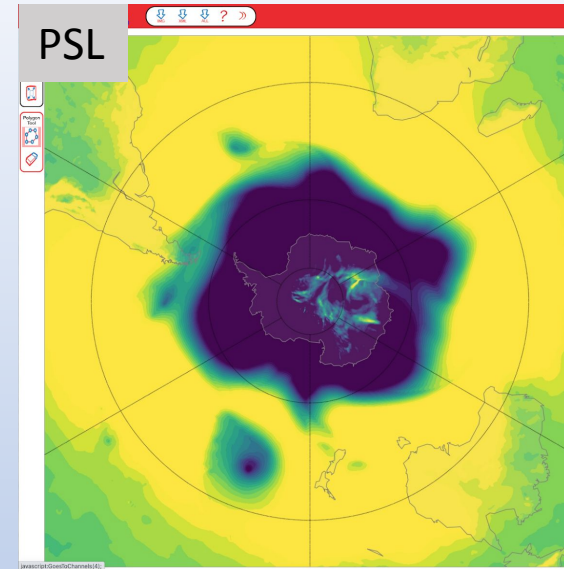
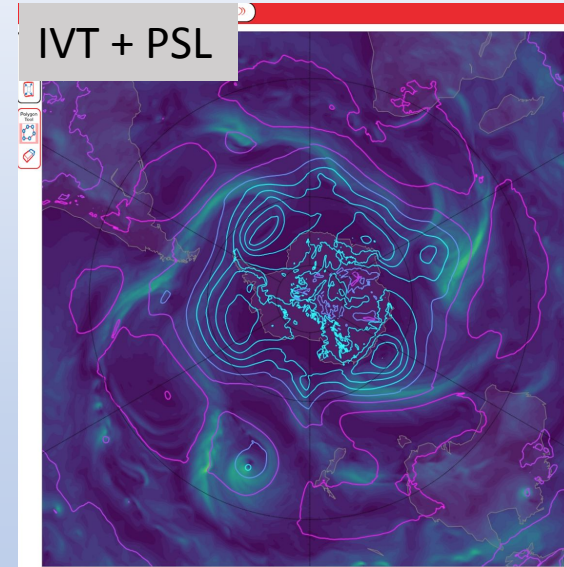
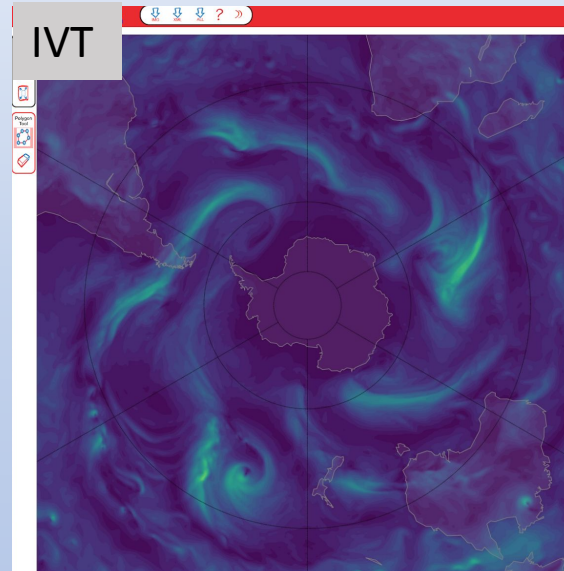
[Integrated Vapor Transport](#)

[Integrated Water Vapor](#)

[IWV & Wind at 850mbar](#)

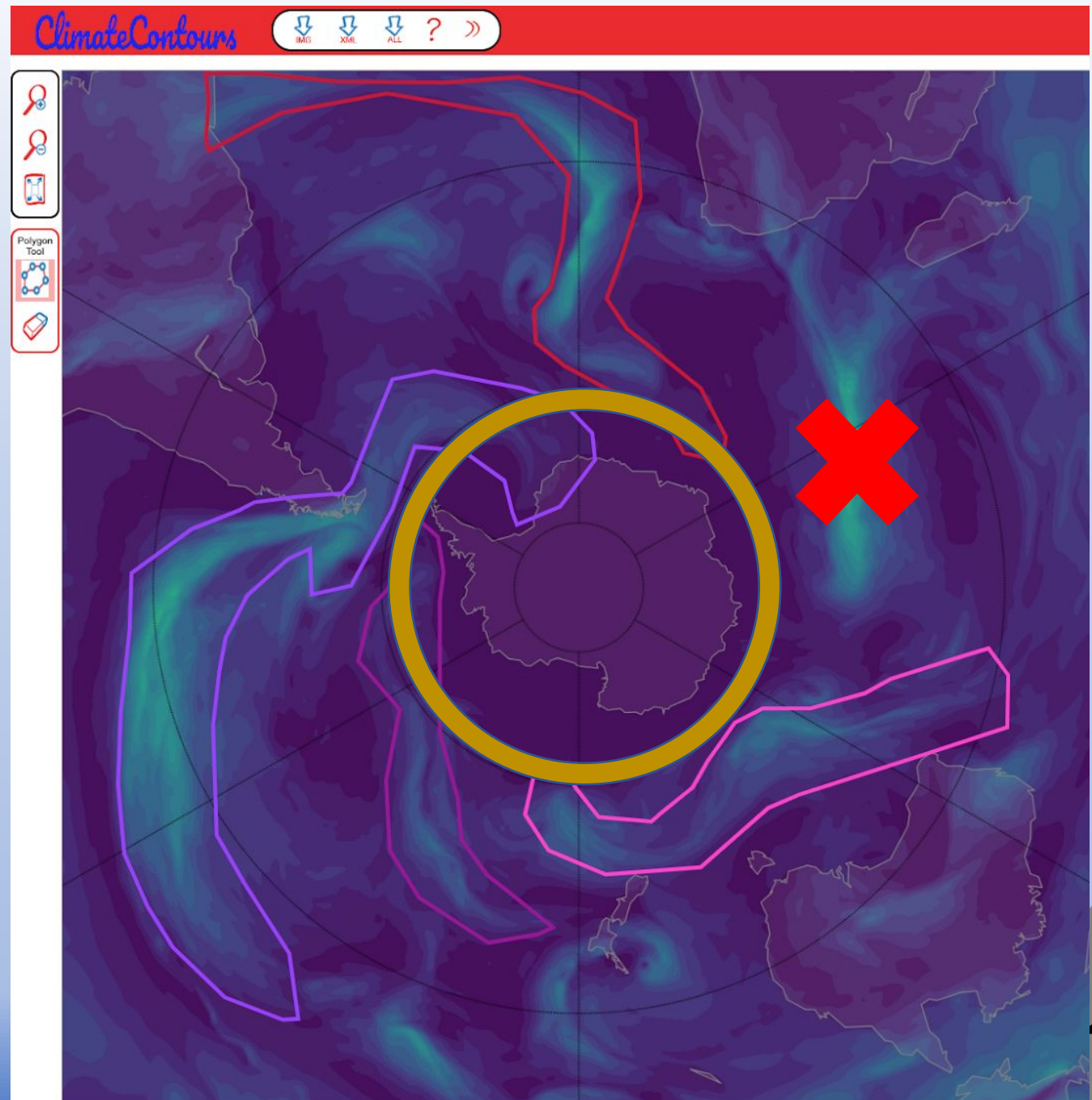
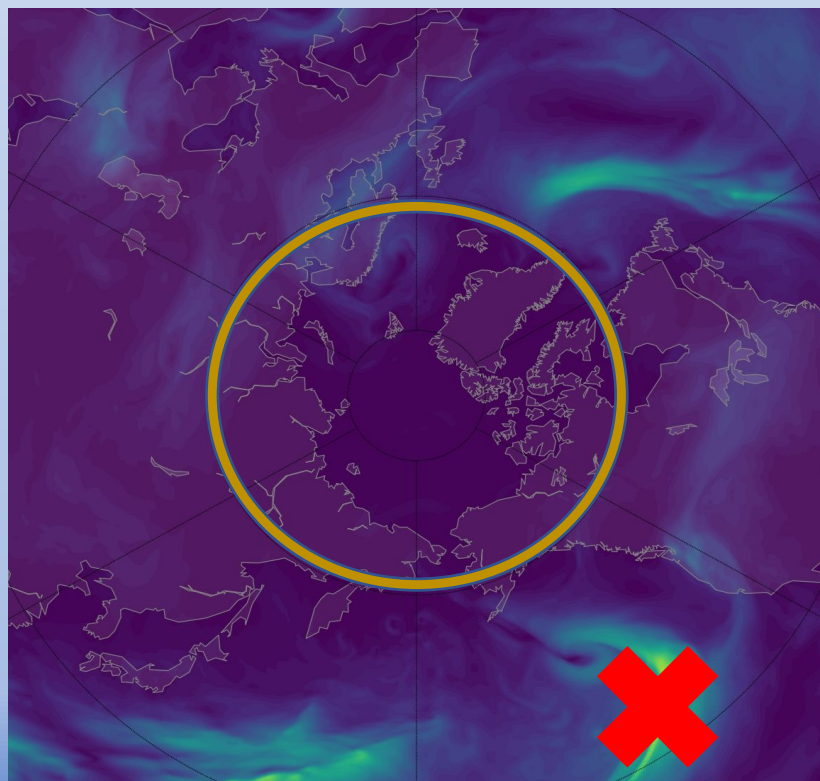
[Pressure at Sea Level](#)

[IVT & PSL](#)



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Focused on High Latitude AR shapes and not mid-latitude shapes, i.e. ARs reaching poleward of 60 N/S



# Labelling Campaigns, Training Data, and Quality Control

## Labelling Campaigns:

- 1) CU PolAR Day, Boulder, CO, August 2022
  - 2) Polar AMS, Madison WI, August 2022
  - 3) IARC, Santiago, Chile, October 2022
  - 4) Random labelling via Contouring Tool website
- Interested in helping? [shields@ucar.edu](mailto:shields@ucar.edu)

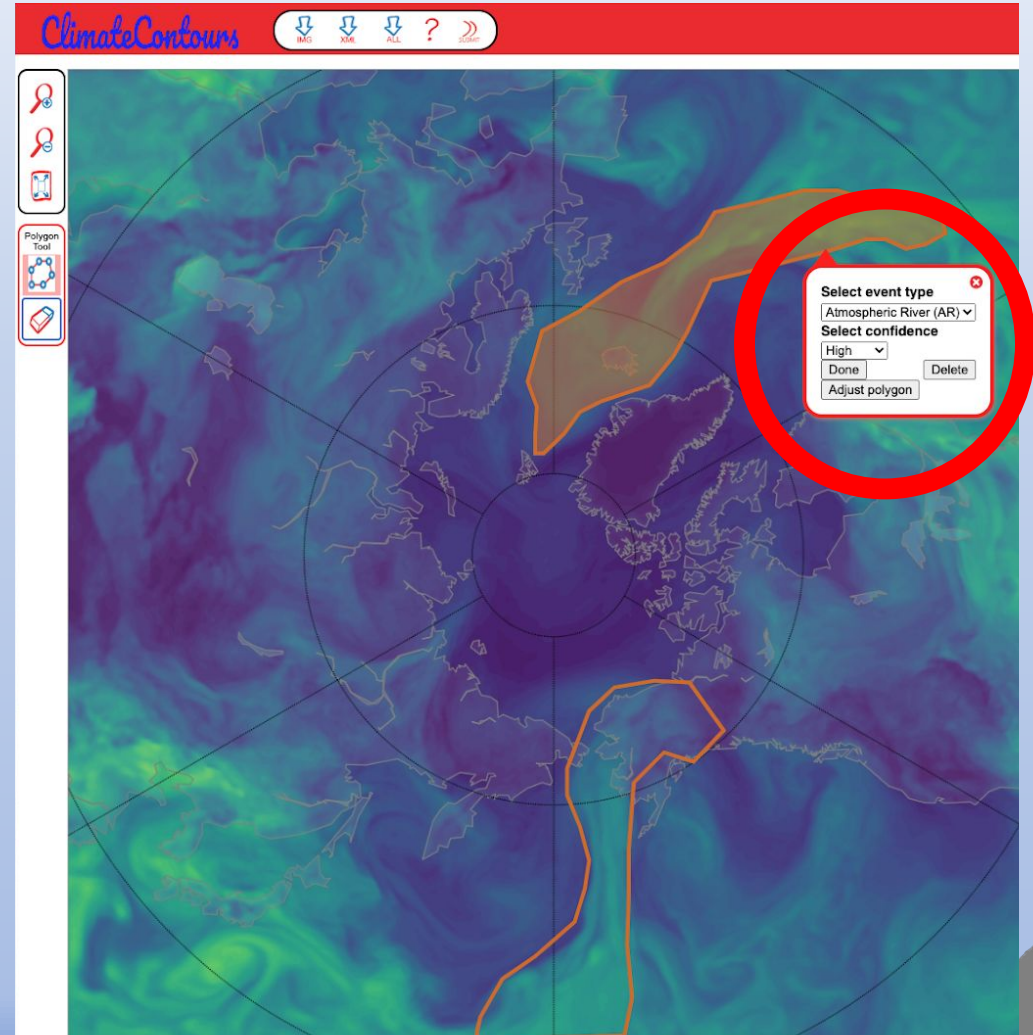
Antarctic Masks created: 301

Arctic Masks created: 92 (probably need more)

## Quality Control:

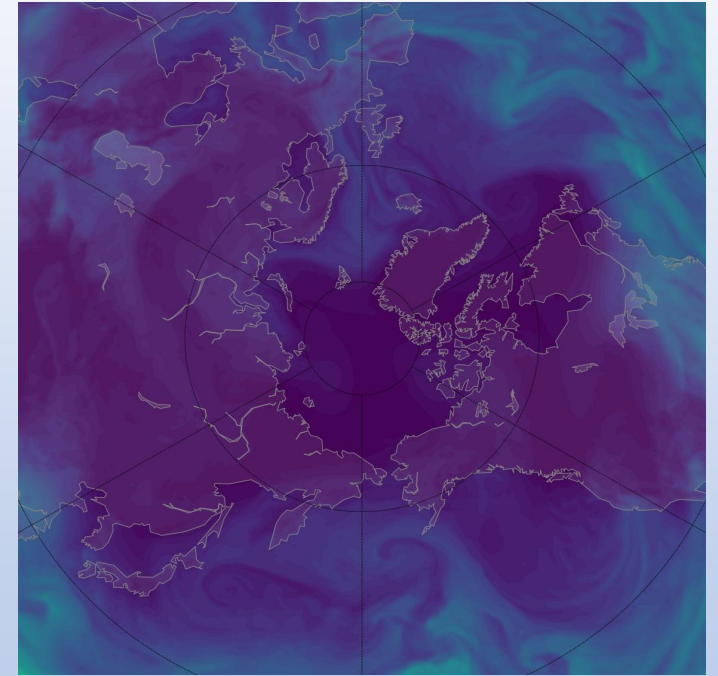
QC tool to remove inconsistent images, or mistakes:

Annette, Sol, Teagan, Christine



# Applying CGNet for training...

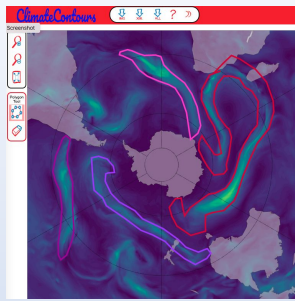
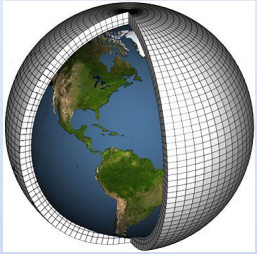
- ❖ Remapping: Polar stereographic to lat/lon coordinates so that QC'd masks match data
- ❖ TMQ used for preliminary training
- ❖ CAM5 25km data for both masks
- ❖ Training vs Testing (80% & 20%) ensures landfall examples are in training
- ❖ *Weights and Biases* is a tool for optimizing training parameters



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# Polar Version



CAM5 NERSC processed data (from labeling campaigns)

Training data: subset of available date range  
Test data: different subset of date range

Train CGnet

1 channel: TMQ

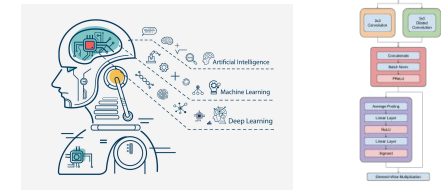
Other polar AR-specific variables

We are here with Polar ARs

Postprocessing CESM history files

- Variable-specific processing
- Remap CESM variables from ne120 to 0.25 deg
- Separate into training and test sets (preparation for CGnet)

Run CESM processed data through previously trained CGnet models (Inference)

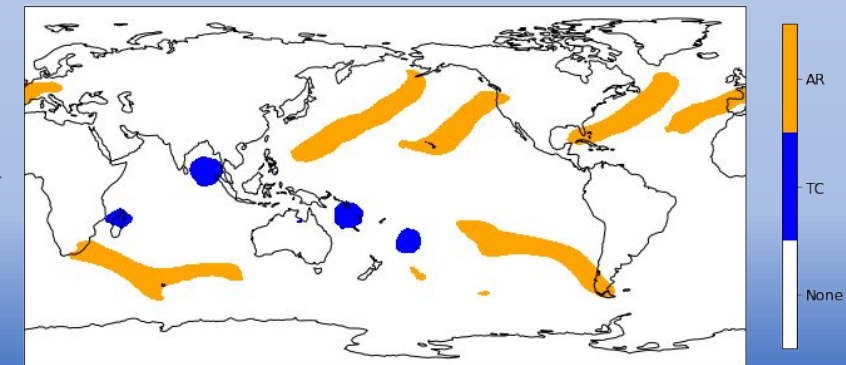
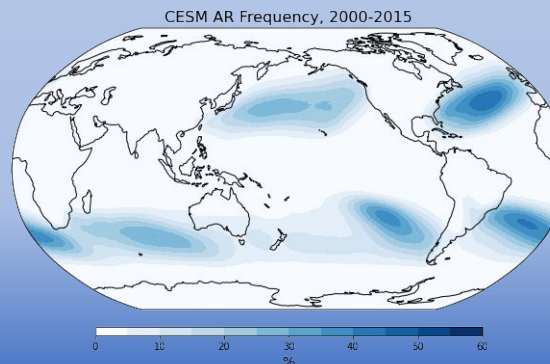
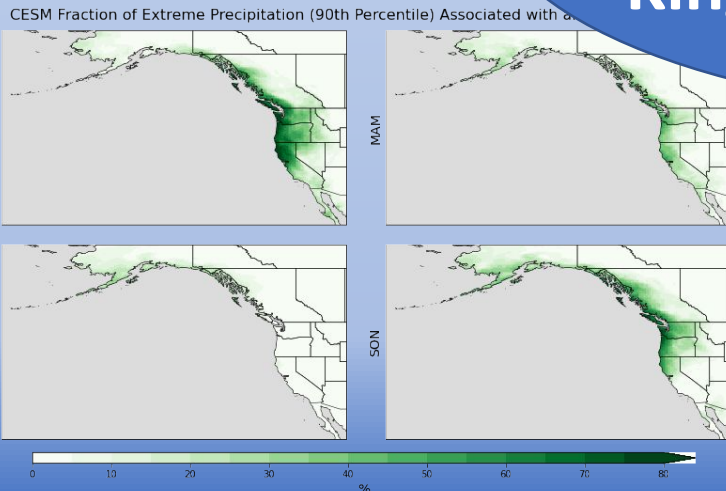


This has been done for global ARs already, (Dagon, King, Truesdale)

Generate Masks!

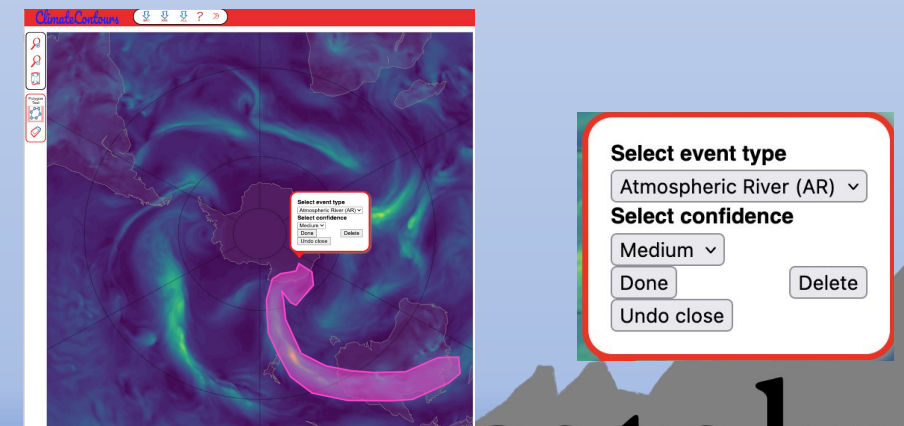
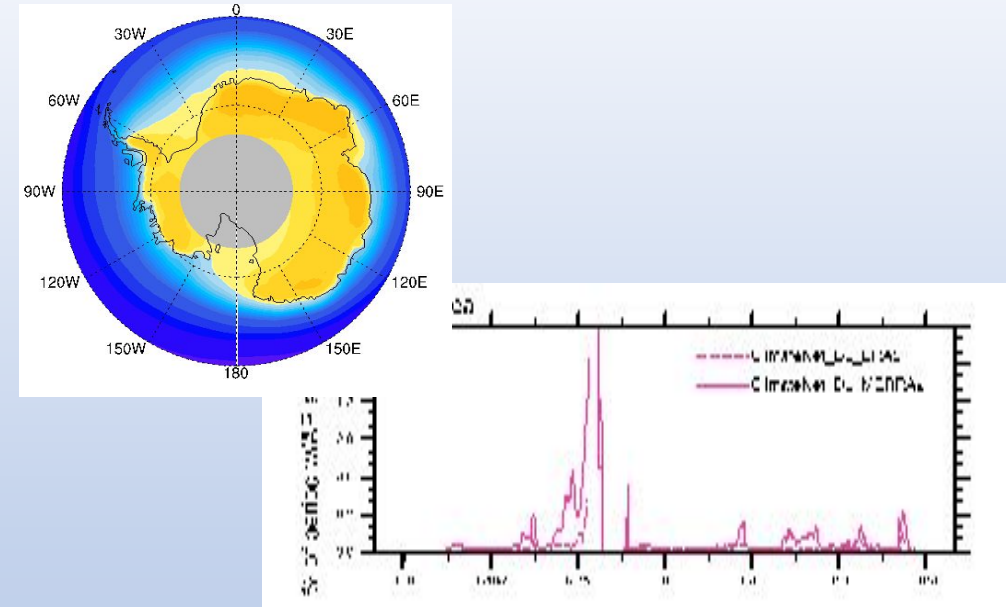
CESM1.3 HighRes (ne120) Simulations

Historical 2000-2005  
RCP2.6: 2006-2015  
RCP8.5: 2086-2100



# Summary

- ❖ Global ARDTs may not be appropriate for Antarctic ARs detection, especially for interior locales
- ❖ Machine Learning is one way to avoid using pitfalls associated with classic thresholding techniques
- ❖ Global ML ARDTs are trained with data designed to capture mid-latitude ARs and do not accurately capture polar ARs
- ❖ Application of the LBNL Climate Contouring Tools has created Antarctic/Arctic AR training datasets
- ❖ CGNet ML framework is being use to create a ML threshold free ARDT for high latitudes
- ❖ Interested in helping create me training data, see me!



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# Questions?

Photo Credit: Jonathan Wille/MODIS-Terra Aqua/NASA WorldviewSatellite imagery from an atmospheric river over Antarctica on January 25, 2008, which triggered the disintegration of ice in the Larsen A and Larsen B shelves. (Antarctic Peninsula)

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# Extra Slides



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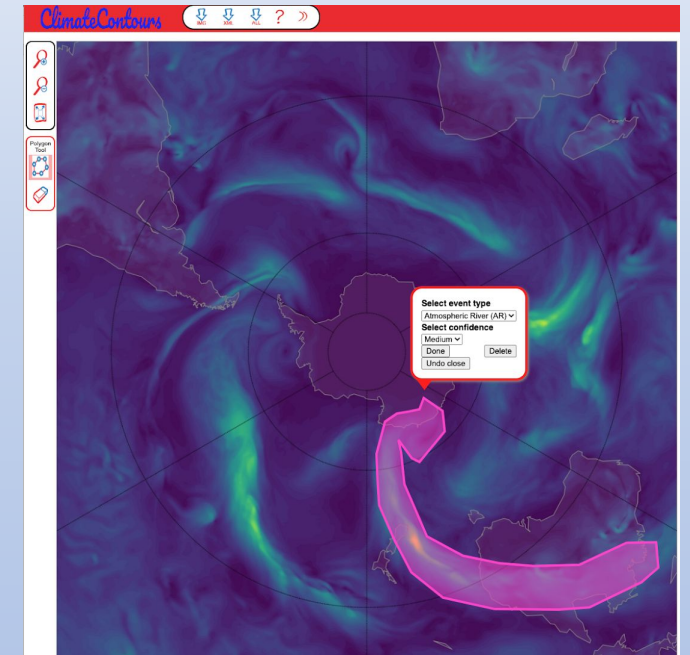
Contouring Tool:

Antarctic: <https://climatecontours-gold.nerisc.gov>

Arctic: <https://climatecontours-arctic.nerisc.gov>

Summary of Rules and Guidelines:

<https://tinyurl.com/36b8yrwk>

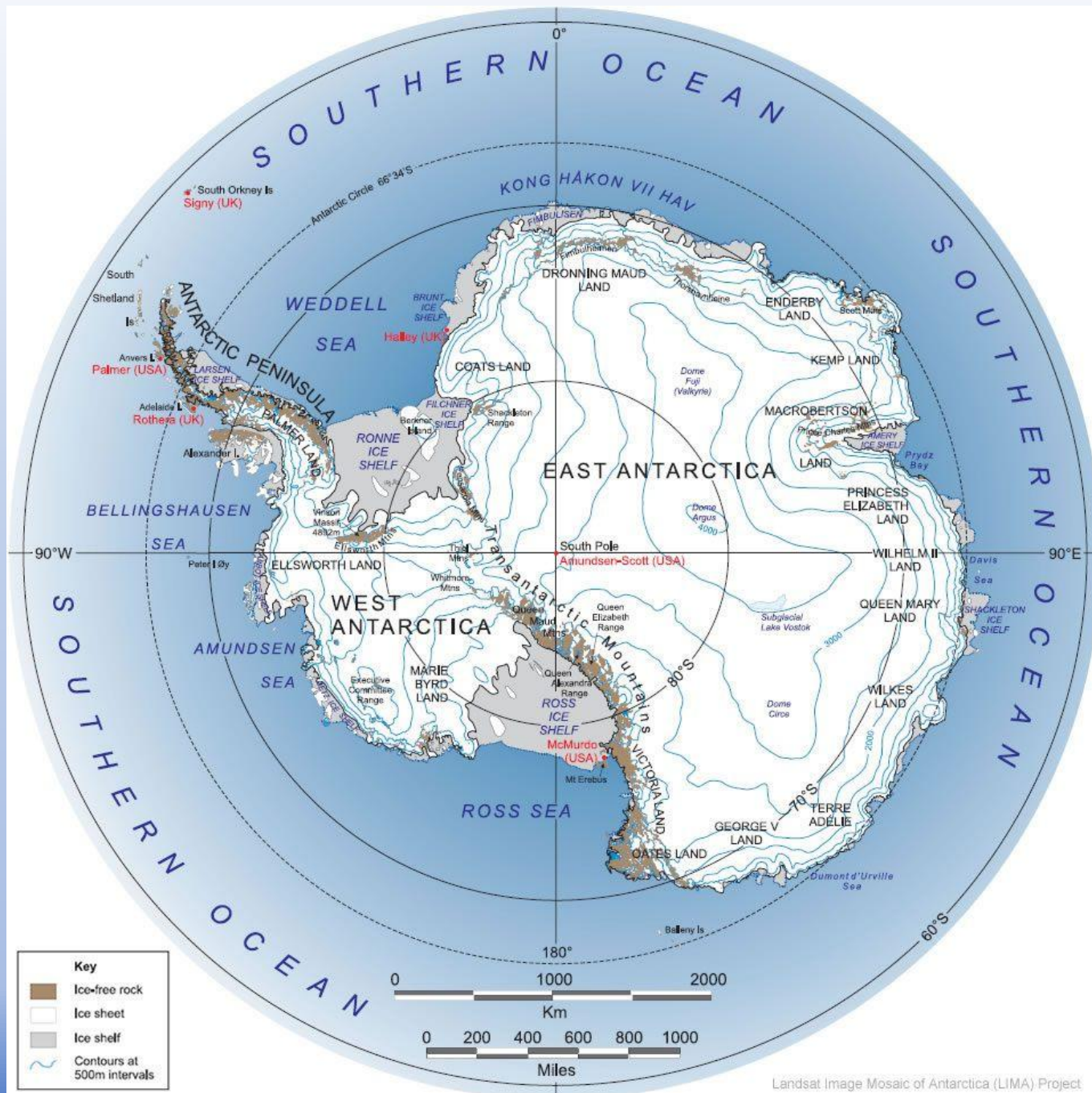


Preliminary results....



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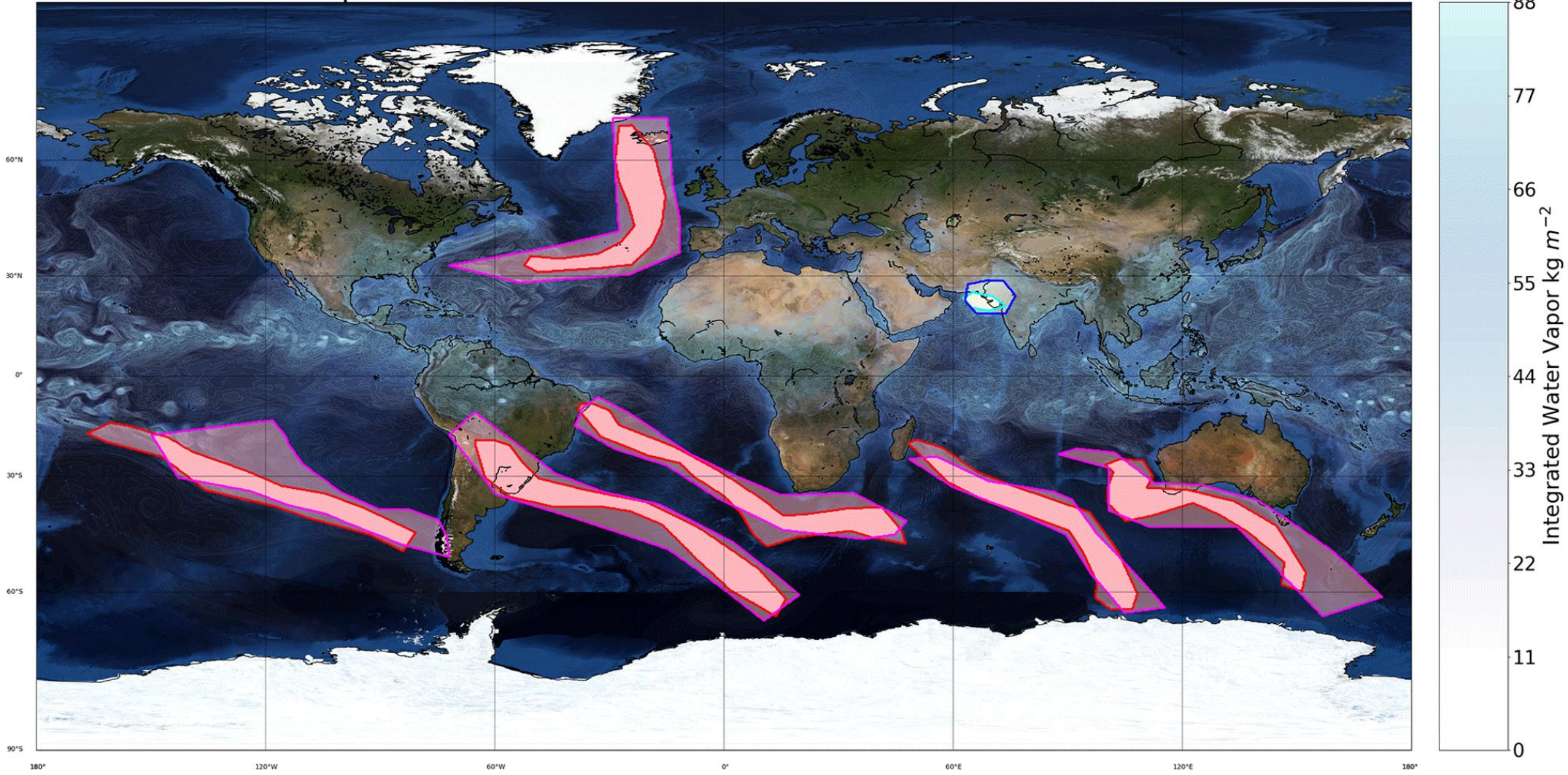
# Antarctic Geography



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# Example Contouring Tool Data for CGNet

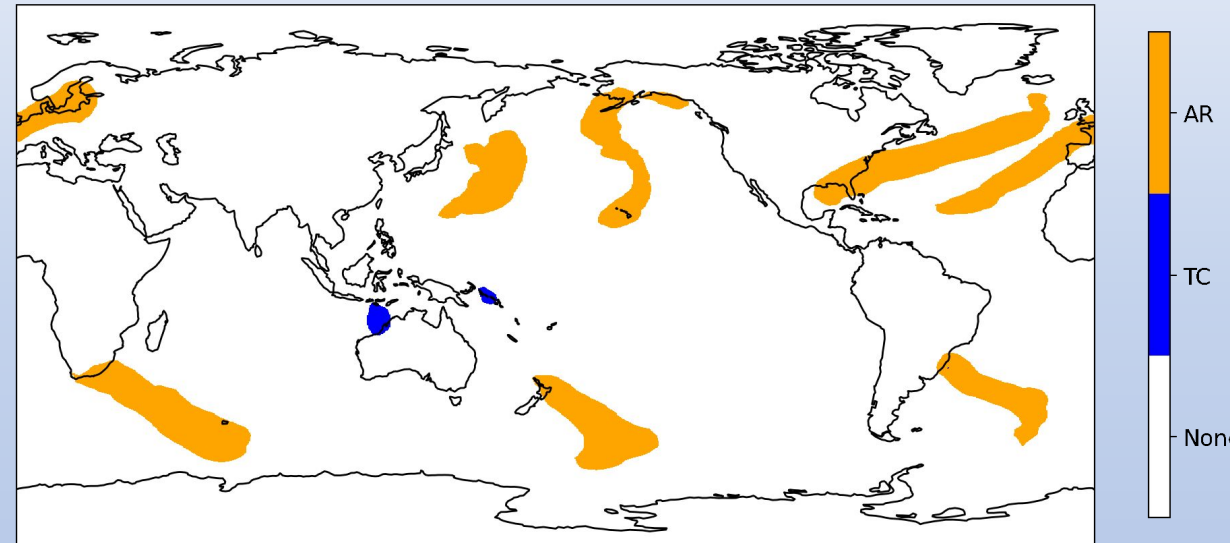
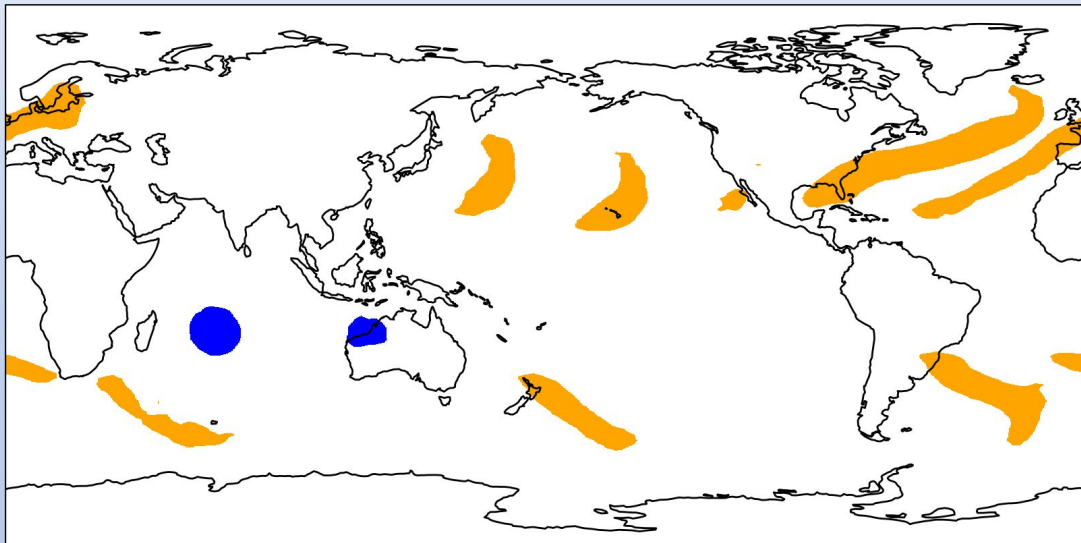
## Expert Labels for Extreme Weather Patterns 2000-09-06



- Tropical Cyclone expert 1
- Tropical Cyclone expert 2
- Atmospheric River expert 1
- Atmospheric River expert 2



# ClimateNet training data: Do the results change when altering input fields?



## Trained on 4 fields:

vertically integrated precipitable water, sea level pressure, and u/v winds at 850mb

## Trained on 1 field:

vertically integrated precipitable water

Unable to detect TCs, but able to **detect ARs with similar spatial/temporal representation as model trained on all 4 input fields**