



# 2025 CESM Tutorial

Challenge exercises: Lab intro

*Multiple speakers*  
*CGD*

**Jul 7-11, 2025**

# Challenge Exercises

<https://ncar.github.io/CESM-Tutorial/README.html>

## Challenge Exercises

Atmosphere

Paleo

Atmospheric chemistry

Land

Ocean

Sea Ice

Land Ice

Biogeochemistry



Q Search

Welcome to the CESM Tutorial

Introduction

Prerequisites for Success

Basics

Simple XML Modifications

Namelist Modifications

Troubleshooting runtime errors

Source Modifications

Challenge Exercises

Atmosphere

Paleo

Atmospheric chemistry

Land

Ocean

Sea Ice

Land Ice

Biogeochemistry

Diagnostics

Resources



## Challenge Exercises

This section of the CESM tutorial is designed to test your understanding of the CESM model that you have learned about in previous sections.

We provide challenge exercises for the individual model components for you to test yourself.

Feel free to try all the challenge exercises or just the one(s) that are relevant for the CESM components of interest to you.

Previous

[Modify the rain\\_threshold in CLM](#)

Next

[Atmosphere](#)

# Breakout leads for challenge exercises



Cecile Hannay  
Atmosphere



Sophia Macarewich  
Paleo



Gunter Leguy  
Land Ice



David Bailey  
Sea Ice



Kristen Krumhardt  
Biogeochemistry



Alper Altuntas  
Ocean



Rebecca Buchholz  
Atmospheric Chemistry

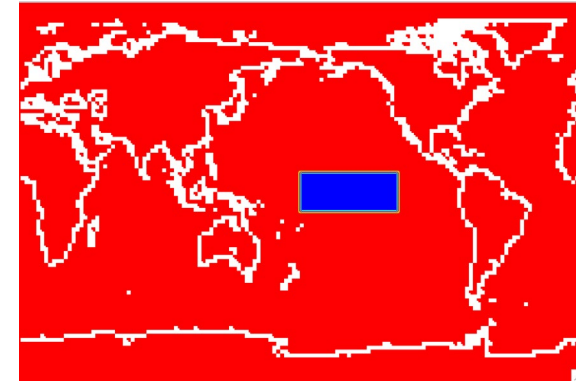
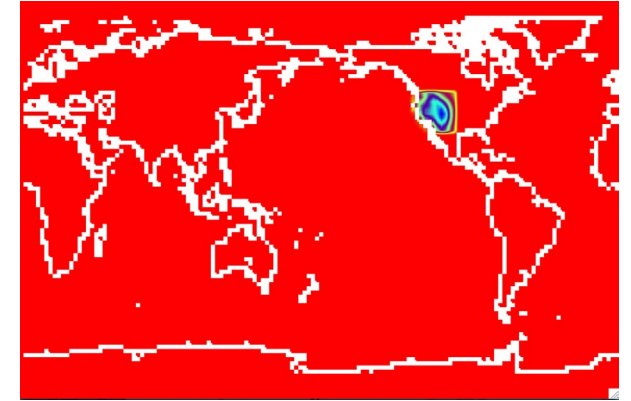
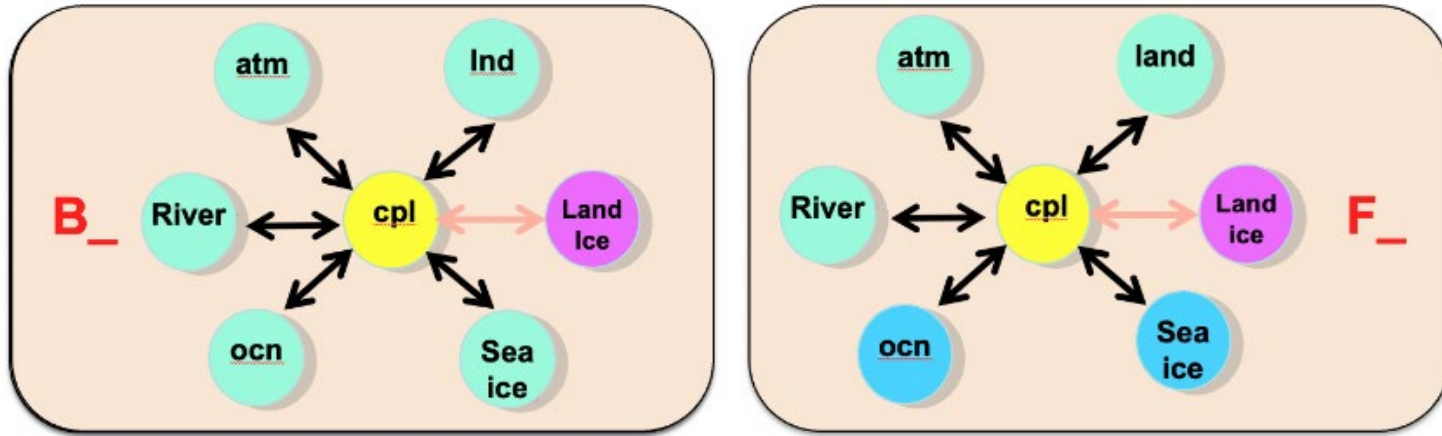


Erik Kluzek  
Land (SE)

You are welcome to do exercises from different components

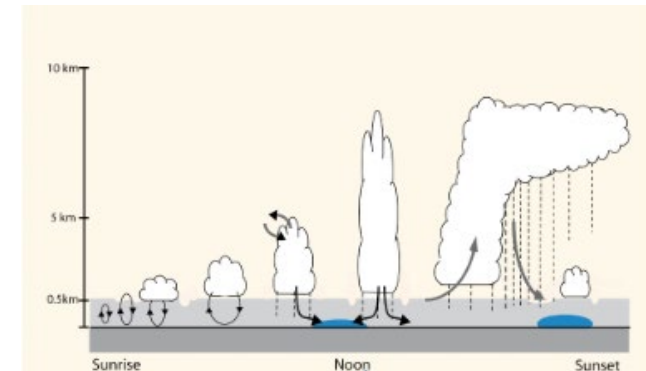
## Difference between a B case and a F case

Color code:



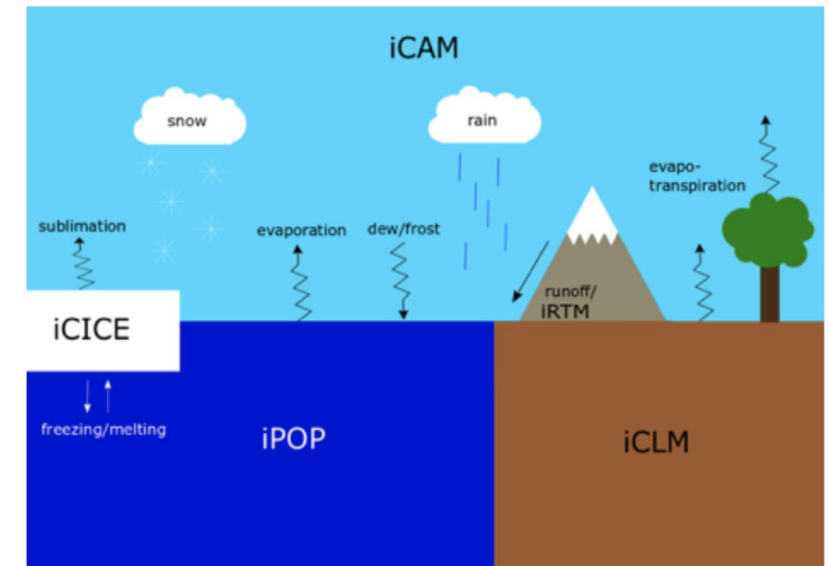
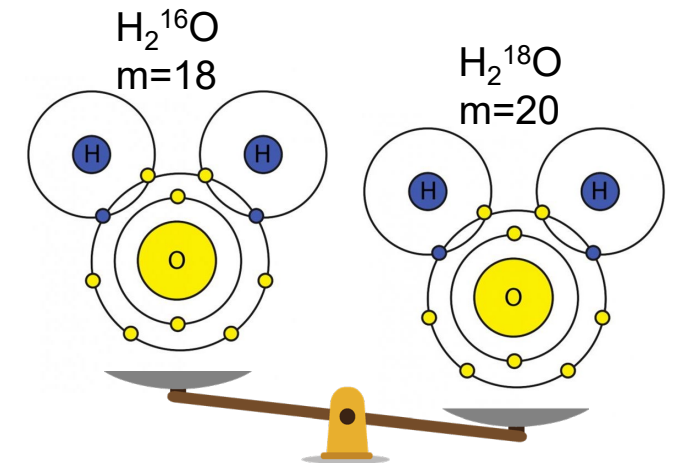
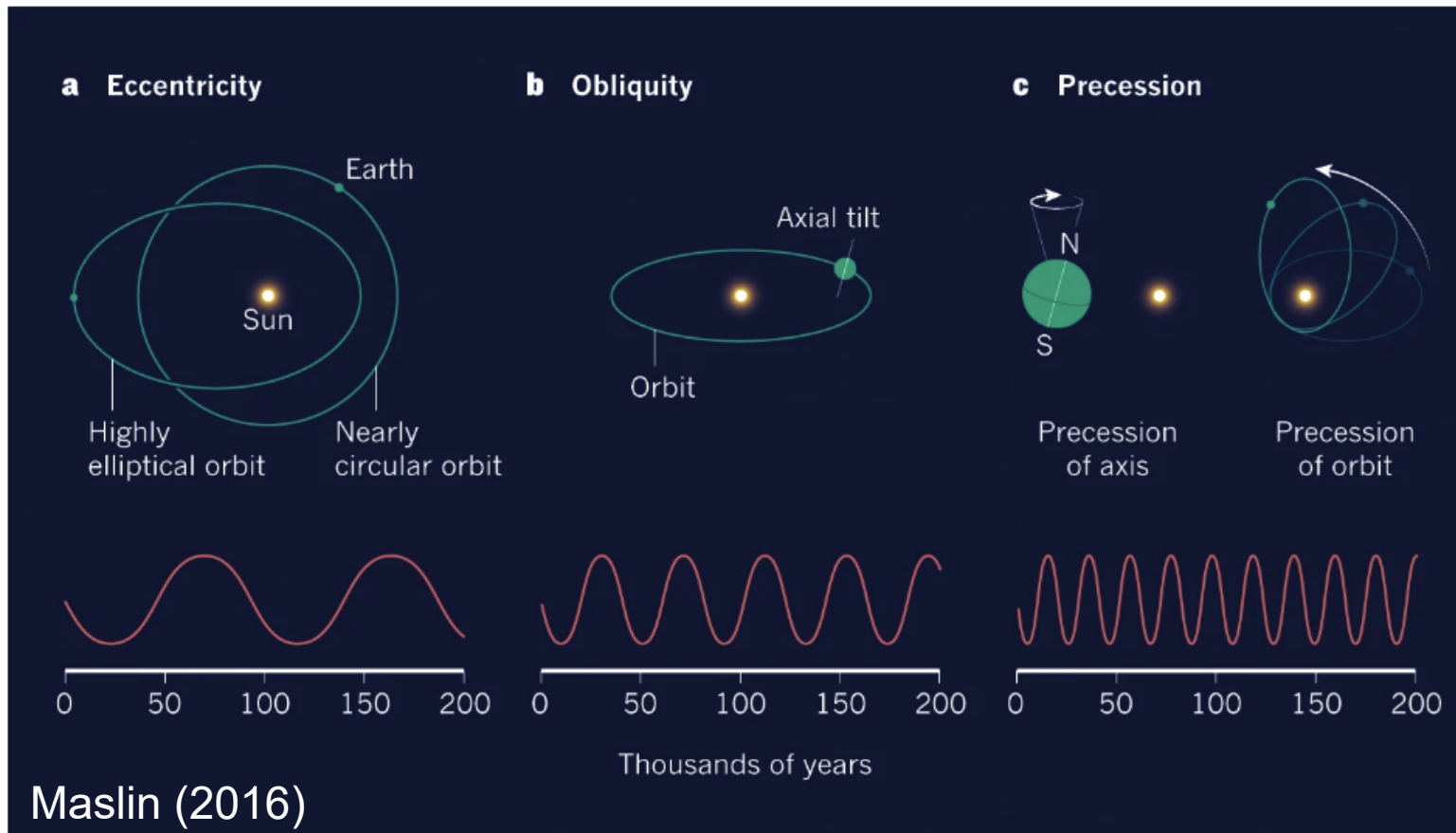
### Proposed exercises

- Use historical SSTs/forcings instead of fixed forcing
- Change run starting date
- Increase orographic height over the western US
- Modify sea surface temperature in the tropics
- Increase the triggering threshold for deep convection over land



## Proposed exercises

- Modify orbital parameters to mid -Holocene (~6 ka) and calendar-adjust monthly CAM output
- Run a CESM simulation with water isotope tracers





## Using F cases

Proposed exercises with CAM-chem (FCHIST) or WACCM (FWHIST)

1. **Control** : Run chemistry with daily output
2. **Test**: Change reaction rate in the chemical mechanism
3. **Test**: Change emissions

Bonus

1. **Visualization** : Quick analysis using GEOV tool

e.g. of super-simple chemistry mechanism

```
SPECIES
  Solution
O3, O, O1D -> O, O2, O2_1S -> O2, O2_1D -> O2
  End Solution

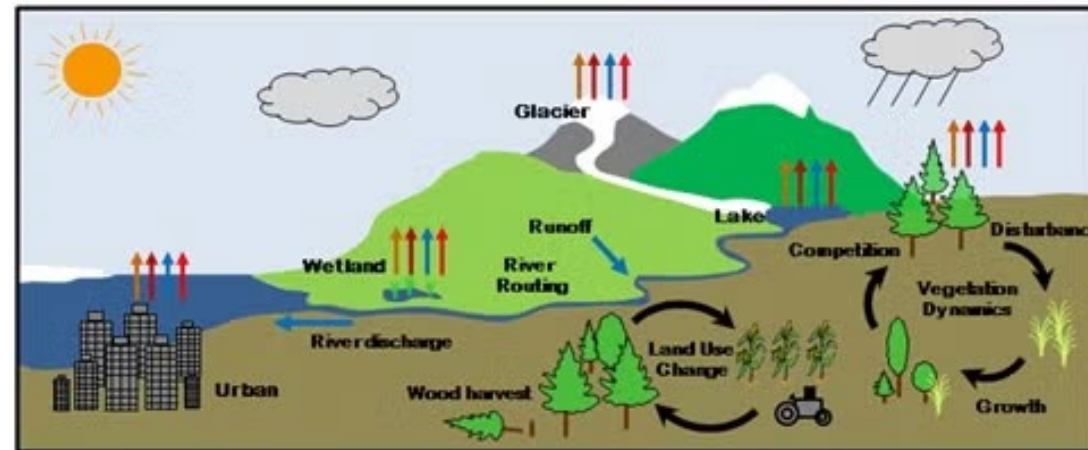
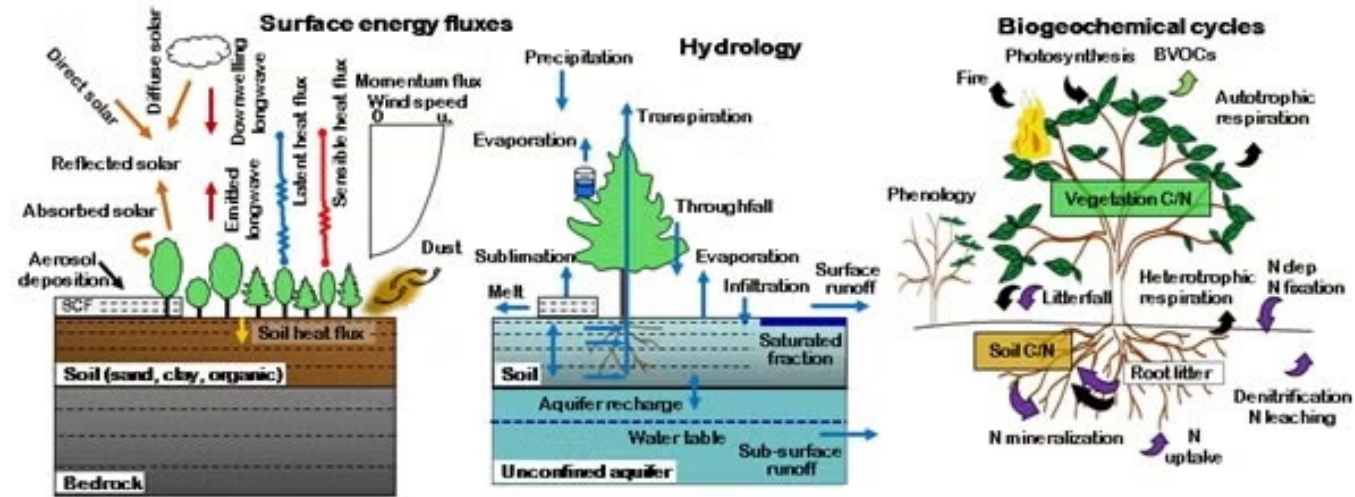
  Fixed
M, N2
  End Fixed
End SPECIES

Solution Classes
  Explicit
  CH4, N2O, CO, H2, CH3CL, CH3BR, CFC11, CFC12
  End explicit
  Implicit
  O3, O, O1D, O2, O2_1S, O2_1D
  End implicit
End Solution Classes

CHEMISTRY
  Photolysis
[jo2_a] O2 + hv -> O + O1D
  End Photolysis

  Reactions
[cph1,cph] O + O3 -> 2*O2      ; 8e-12, -2060
  End Reactions
END CHEMISTRY
```

# Land



## Introduction to land only cases (“l” compsets)

**Control:** SP (Satellite Phenology) vegetation

**Test:** BGC (Biogeochemistry) vegetation

**Test:** Change an input parameter

### **Proposed Exercise:**

1. Run a control case: compset: l2000CIm50Sp at f09\_g17\_gl4
2. Run the experiment: compset: lHistCIm50BgcCrop (at what resolution?)
3. Compare results – what’s different about them?
4. Run a new experiment based on the SP case changing an input parameter
5. Compare results – what’s different between this and the control in “1”?

**Questions?**



# Shameless Plug for Computing Survey

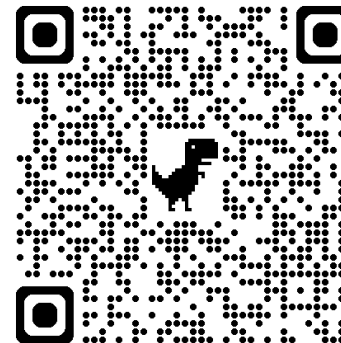
- *Survey on your comfort with HPC computing* and comfort with languages used in CESM
- Also we want to *hear about your experiences*
- So that we can see *how we can best provide help and resources* for you

<https://forms.gle/dSpjLdt3rzxaP1sD8>

Poster

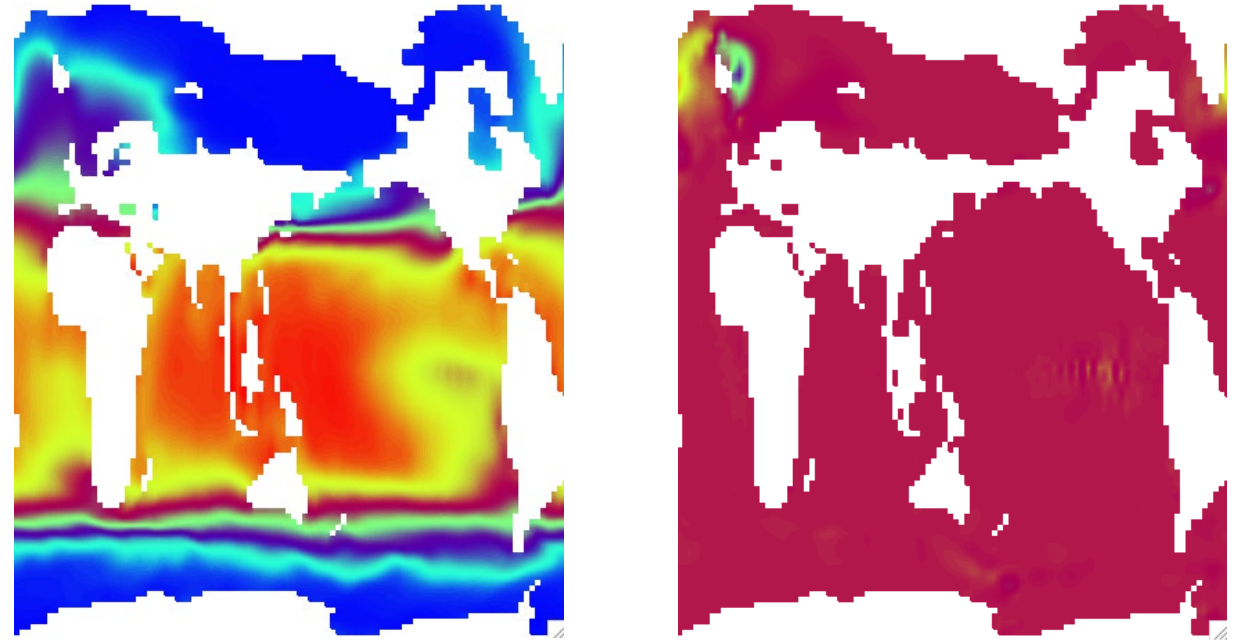


QR code



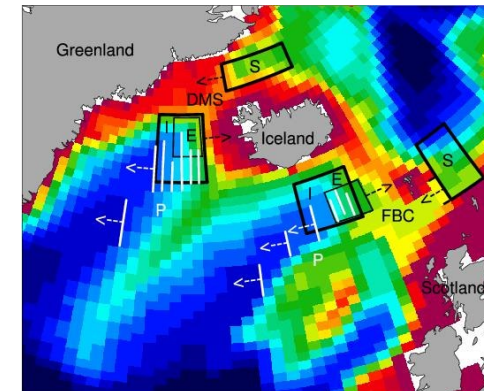
## CESM-POP2 exercise:

1. Run a G compset with “normal year forcing” as a control case.
2. Turn off overflow parameterization to assess its impact.
3. Modify wind stress.
4. Turn on the ecosystem.



## CESM-MOM6 exercise:

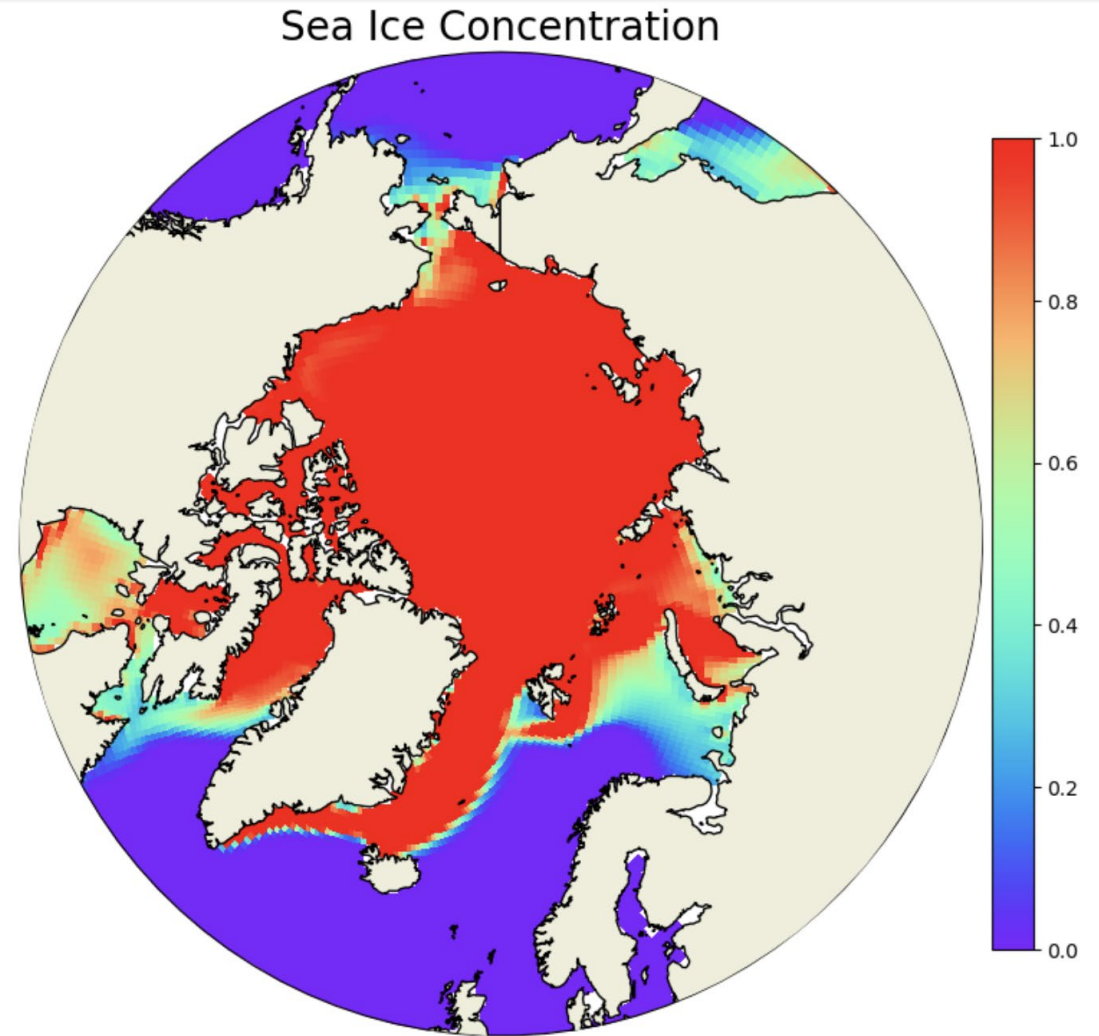
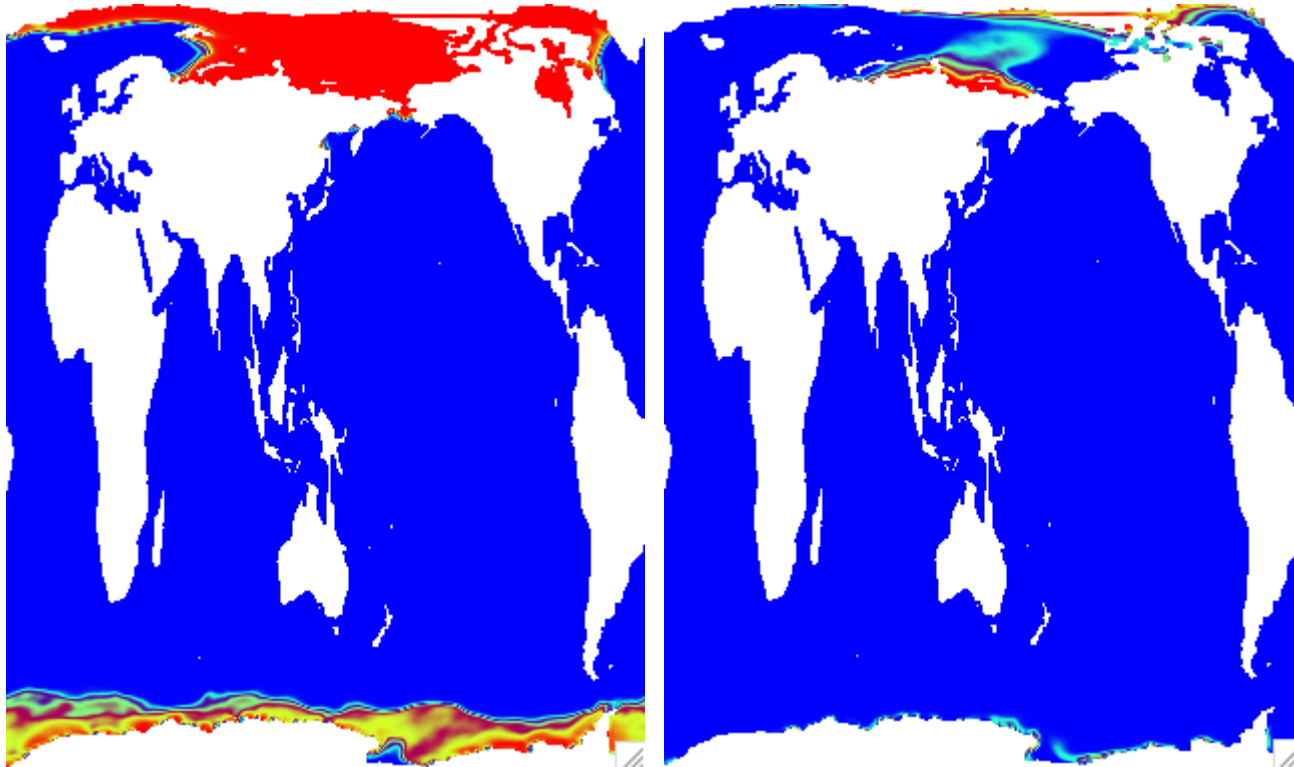
1. Download a CESM version including MOM6.
2. Run a G compset with “normal year forcing” as a control case.



# Sea ice

## Proposed exercises

- Run a G compset with “normal year forcing”.
- Adjust the sea ice “albedo”.
- Modify the snow conductivity.



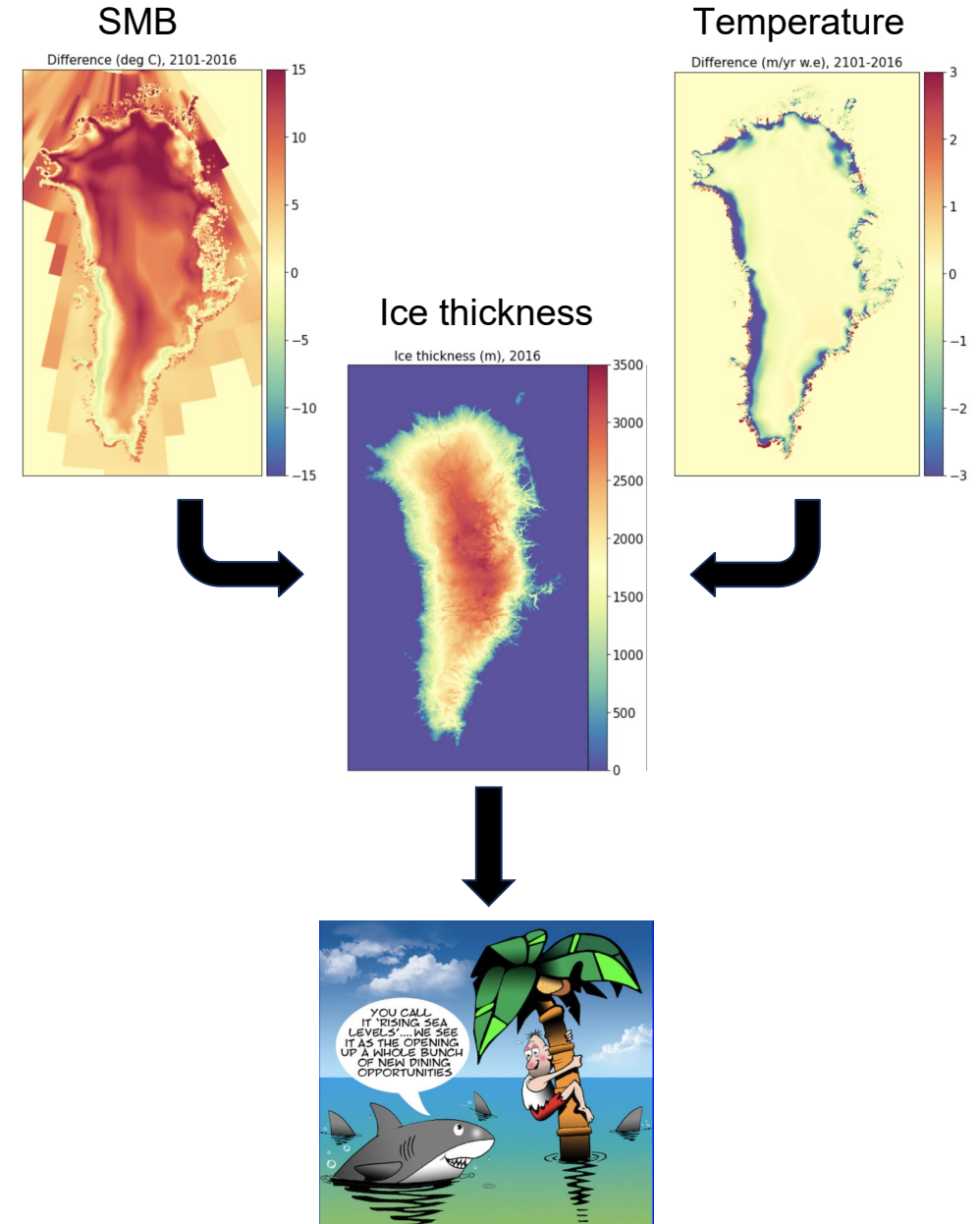
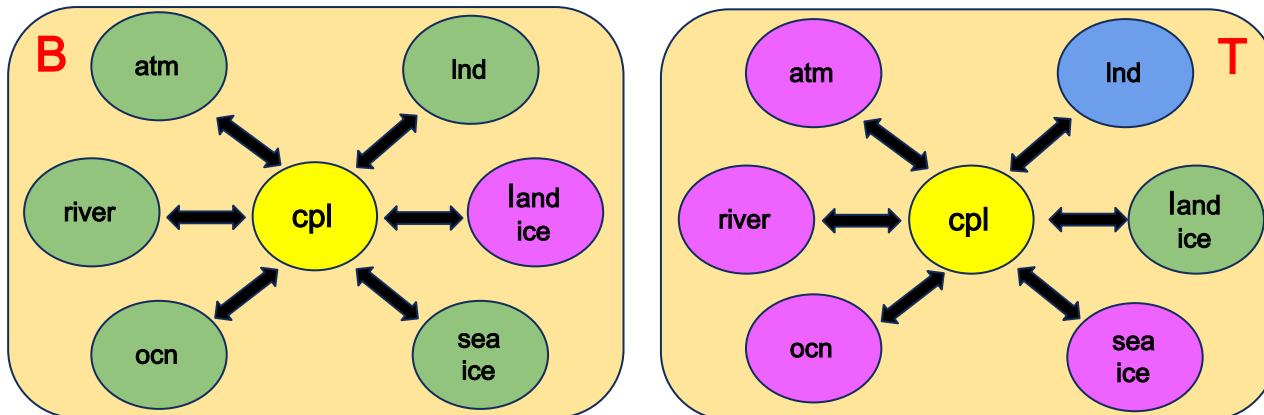
# Land ice

## Proposed exercises

- Run a T compset and simulate the Greenland ice sheet evolution in CESM.
- Compute offline global sea level contribution from ice sheet.

## Difference between a B and a T case

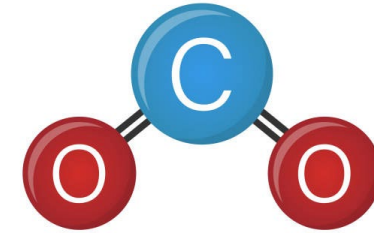
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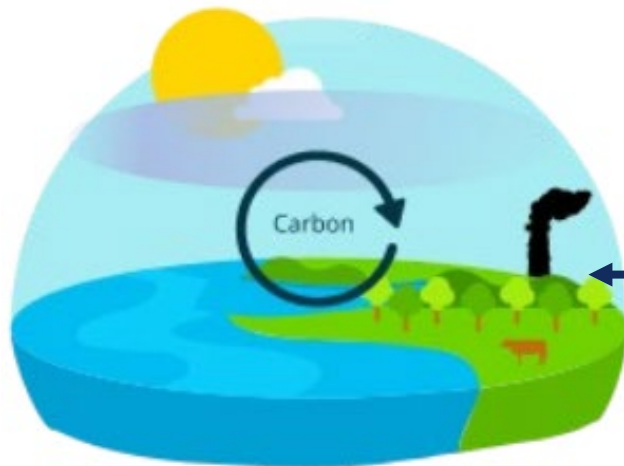
## Proposed exercises

- Set up two different BGC cases and compare case directories (you will **not** be running the model for this exercise)
- Compsets: B1850 and B1850\_BPRP
- Both have f19\_g17 resolution

Differences concern how  $\text{CO}_2$  is handled:



### Carbon emission driven Model (CMIP7 proposal)



Closed carbon cycle.  $\text{CO}_2$  concentrations, aerosols and calculated as a function of human emissions and land use

### Prognostic $\text{CO}_2$

- Compset = B1850\_BPRP
- “Emission-driven”
- Predicted atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$  concentrations, computed from surface fluxes

### Diagnostic $\text{CO}_2$

- Compset = B1850
- “Concentration -driven”
- Prescribed atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$  concentrations that are read from a file



See setup script and analysis notebooks:

<https://github.com/NCAR/CESM> -emission -driven -run-tutorial