

Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America  
15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil

SOCIETY

DEVELOPMENT

## Regional Earth System Climate modelling at ICTP: current status and future prospective

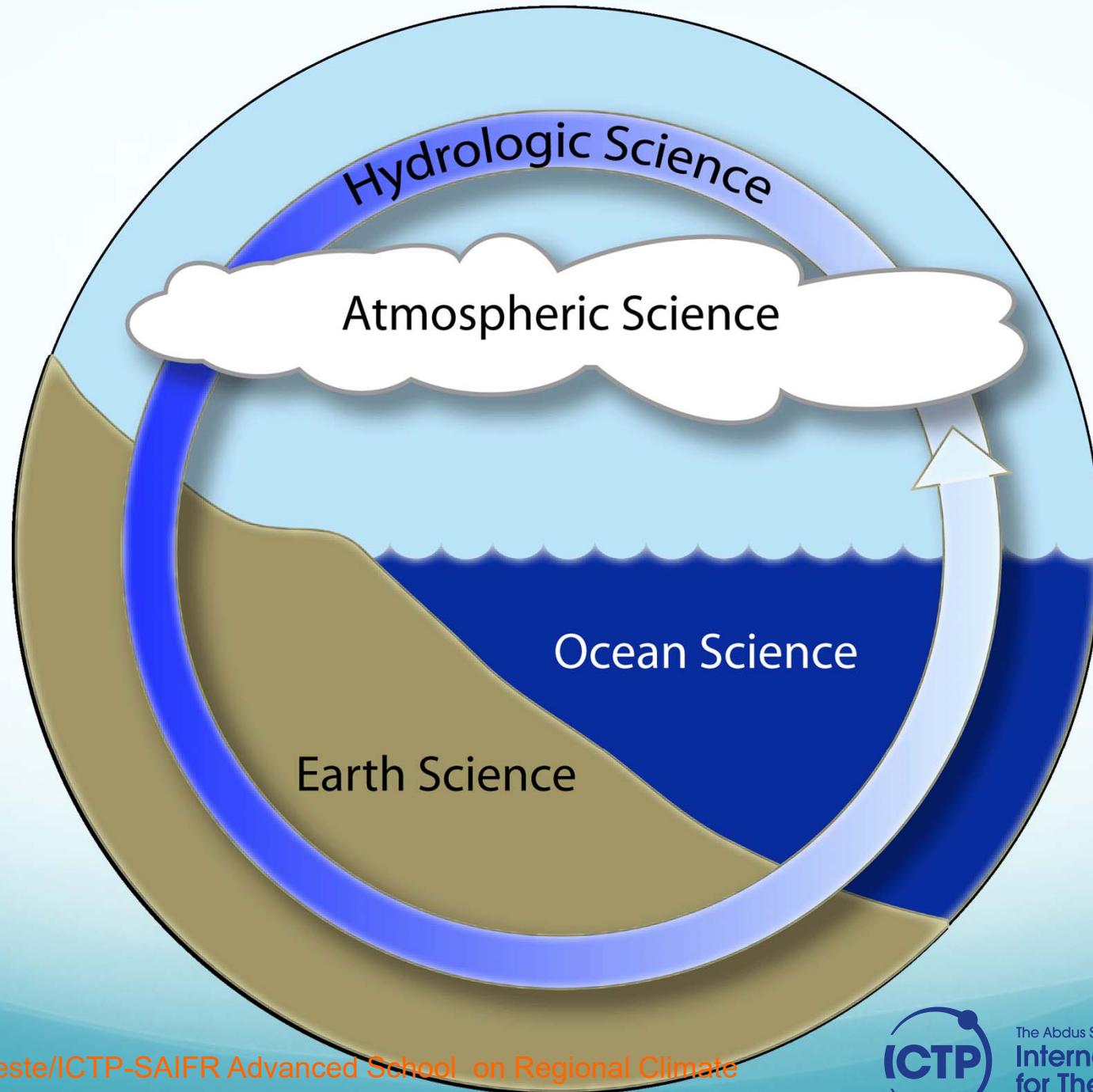
Erika Coppola

Earth System Physics Section, ICTP, Trieste, Italy



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

ENVIRONMENT



Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America. 15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# Earth System model

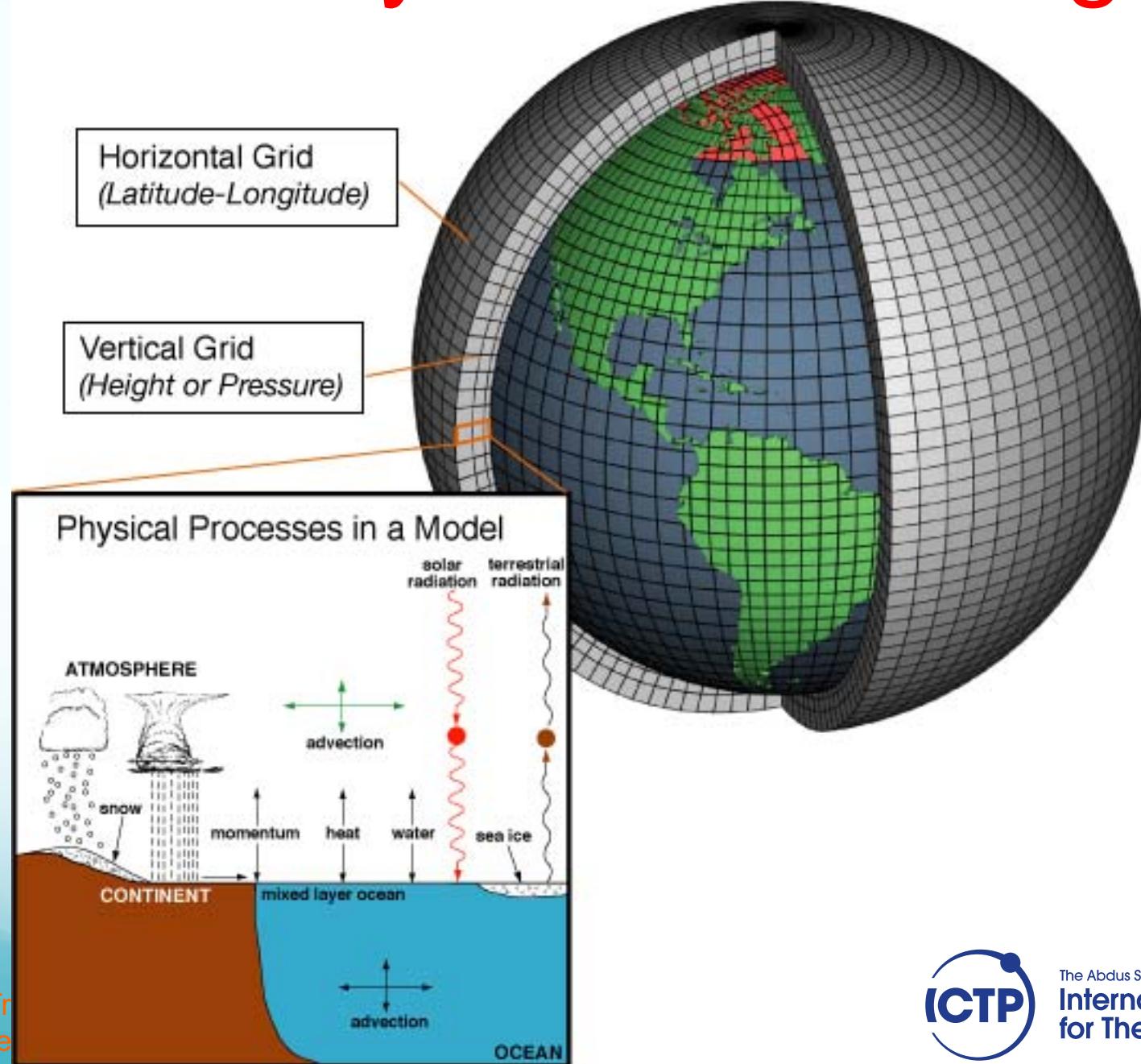


Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America. 15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# Earth System modelling



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# Earth System model



Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America. 15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# "Nested" Regional Climate Modeling: Technique and Strategy

**Motivation:** The resolution of GCMs is still too coarse to capture regional and local climate processes

**Technique:** A "Regional Climate Model" (RCM) is "nested" within a GCM in order to locally increase the model resolution.

- Initial conditions (IC) and lateral boundary conditions (LBC) for the RCM are obtained from the GCM ("One-way Nesting") or analyses of observations (perfect LBC).

**Strategy:** The GCM simulates the response of the general circulation to the large scale forcings, the RCM simulates the effect of sub-GCM-grid scale forcings and provides fine scale regional information

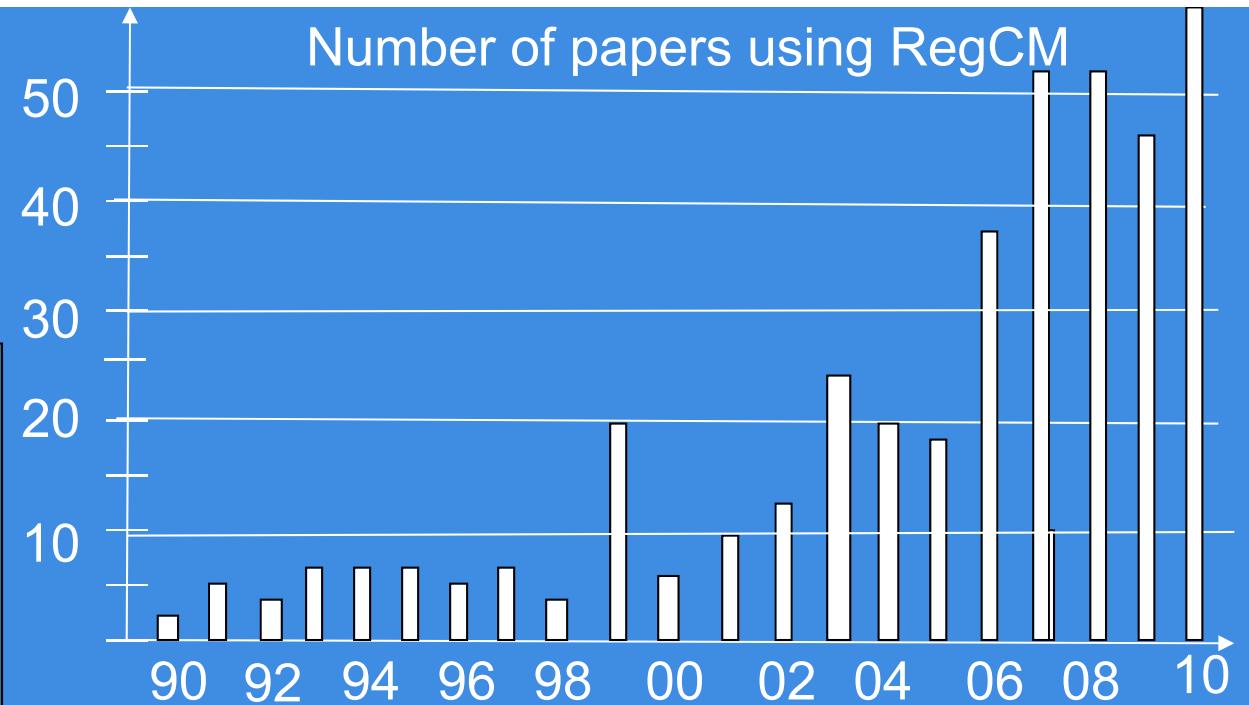
- Technique borrowed from NWP



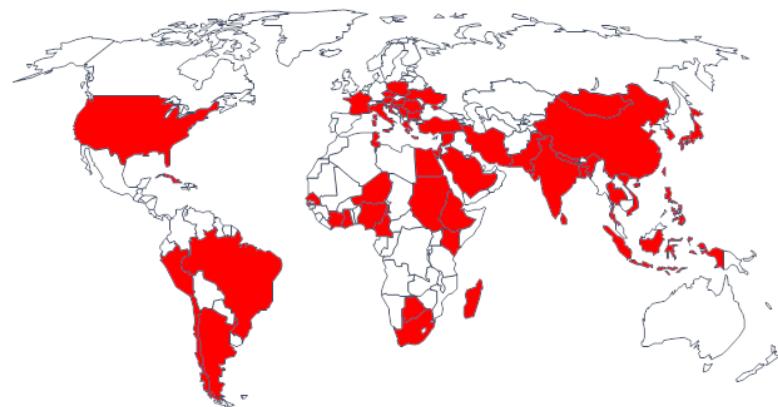
The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# The RegCM System

Release of new version  
**RegCM4**  
About 3000 downloads  
since June 2010



Countries where RegCM is used



Joint  
Mode

RegCM training workshops:  
ICTP, June 2010

Turunc, Turkey, August 2010  
New Delhi, India, December 2010

Amman, Jordan, March 2011

Agua Calientes, Mexico, 2014

ICTP, May 2012

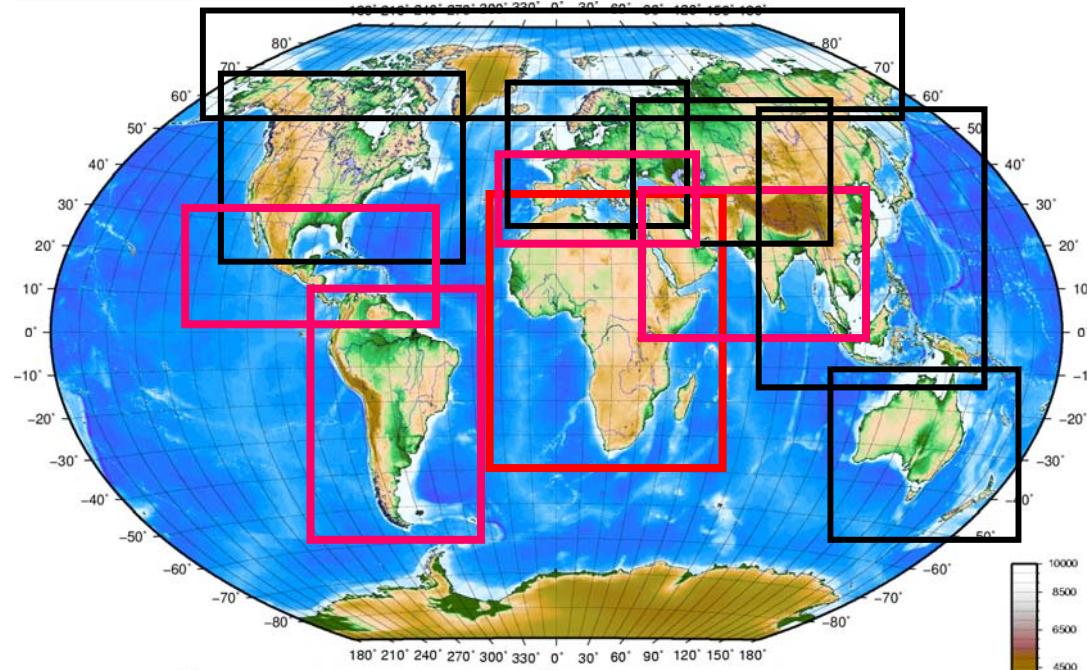
ICTP, May 2014

ICTP, May 2016

Strengthening of the model software  
development and user support team

Sao Paulo, Brazil

# RegCM for CORDEX CREMA experiments



- 33 scenario simulations were completed, each extending from 1970 to 2100
- 1976-2005 being used as reference for the assessment of the model present day climate

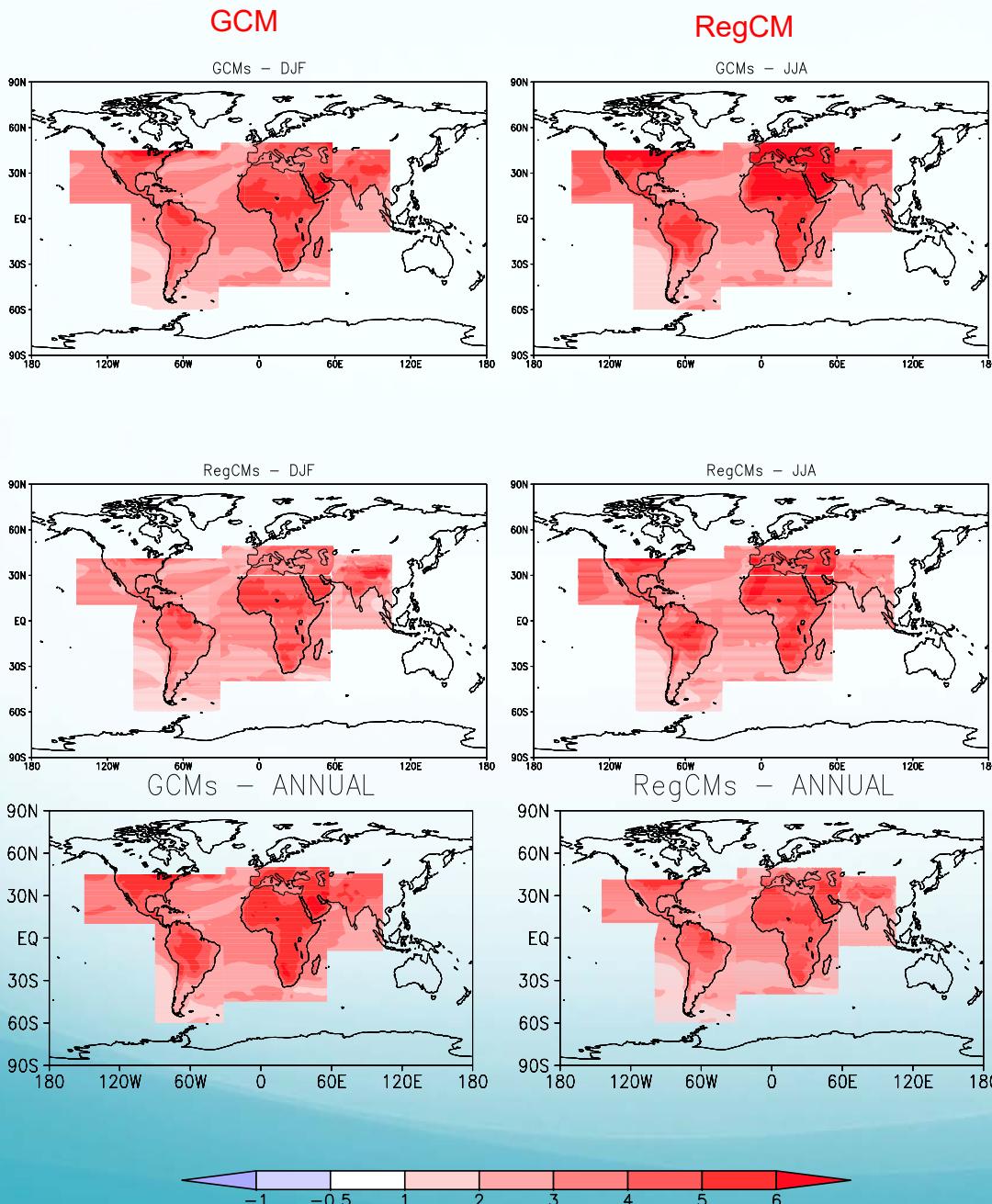
	Africa	C America	India	Med	S. America
HAD-CLM-GE	2			1	
HAD-CLM-E		2			2
HAD-BATS-G	2				
HAD-BATS-GE				1	2
MPI-CLM-E		1	1		1
MPI-BATS-G	1	1			
MPI-BATS-GE				1	
MPI-CLM-GE				1	
GFDL-CLM-E			2		1
GFDL-CLM-EG			2		

Joint  
Modelling over South America. 15-19 February 2010, São Paulo, Brazil



The Abdus Salam  
**International Centre**  
for Theoretical Physics

## Temperature change RCP8.5 (2070/2100-1976/2005)



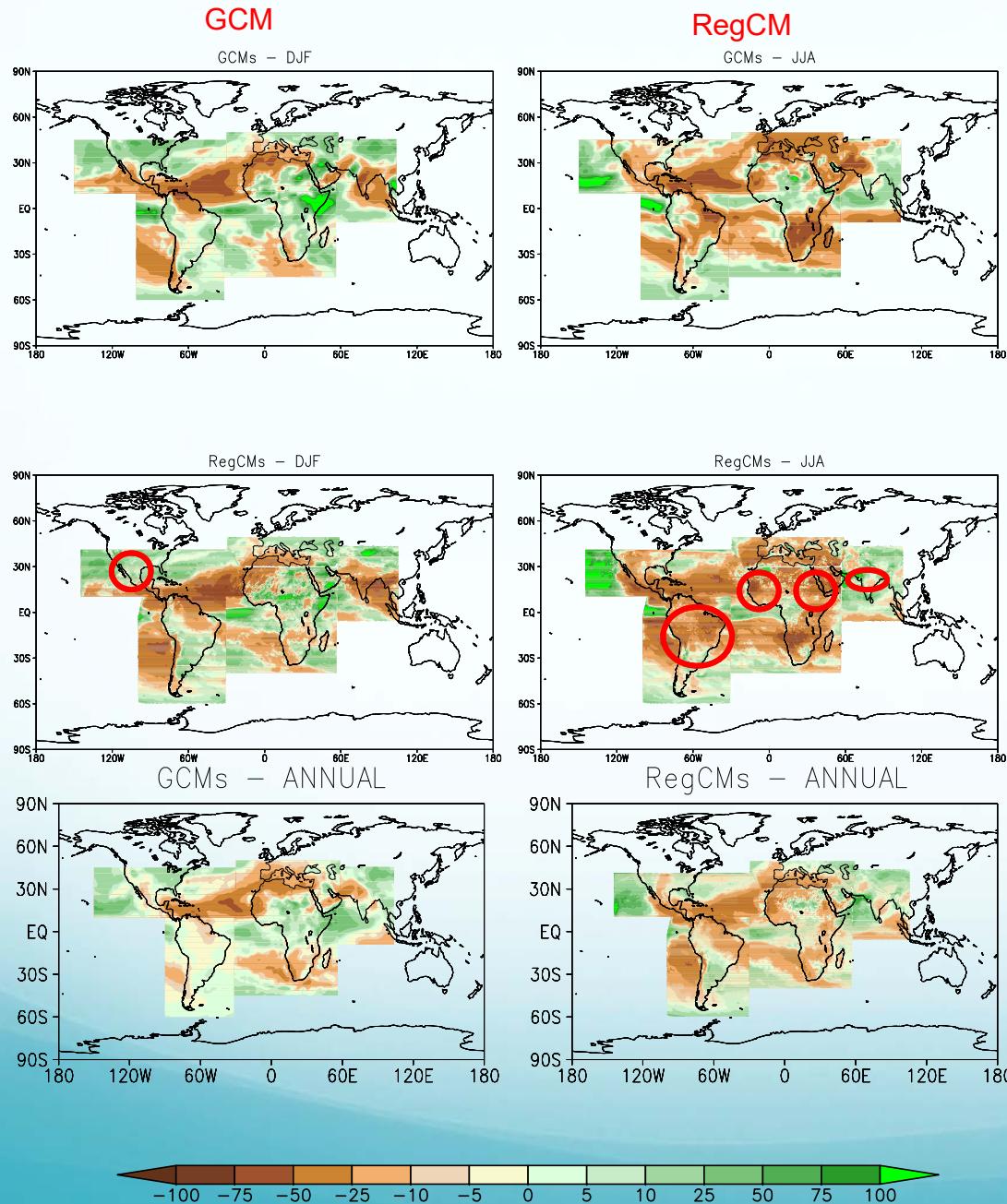
- values exceeding 5 degrees in the inner continental interiors
- RegCM ensemble shows lower amounts of warming by several tenths of a degree
- CLM scheme generally exhibits less sensitivity to increased GHG forcing than BATS

Coppola et al. (2013)



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

## Precipitation change RCP8.5 (2070/2100-1976/2005)

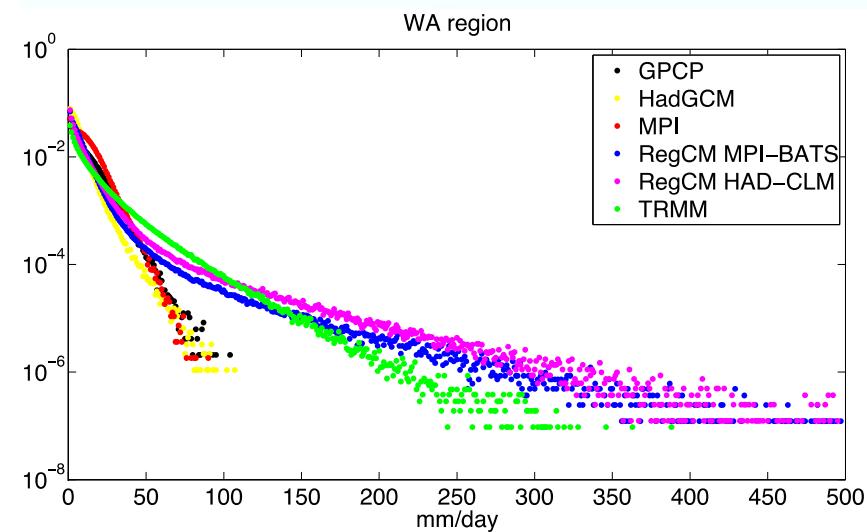
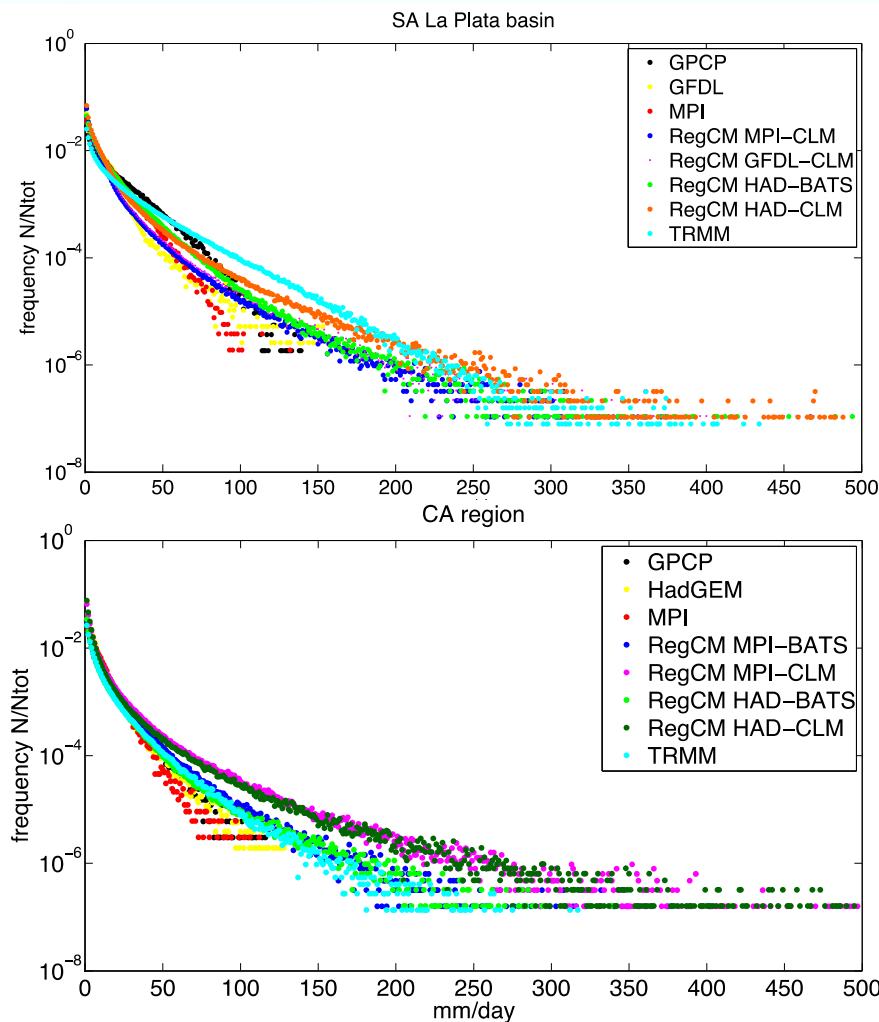


- The forcing of the driving GCMs on the large scale patterns of change simulated by the RCMs is evident from the similarities in the large scale structure of the changes
- important regional differences between GCM and RegCM (different descriptions by the models of land-atmosphere interactions, response to SST changes and local topographical forcings)



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# Added value of RCM



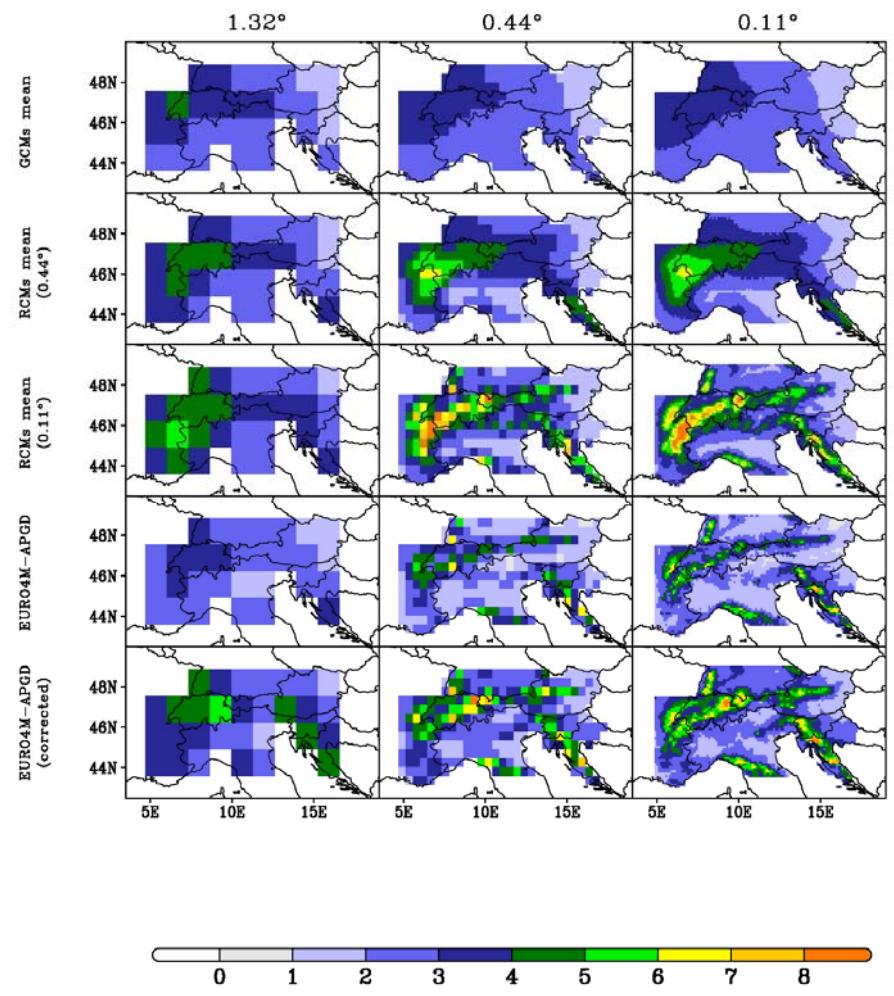
Giorgi et al. (2013)



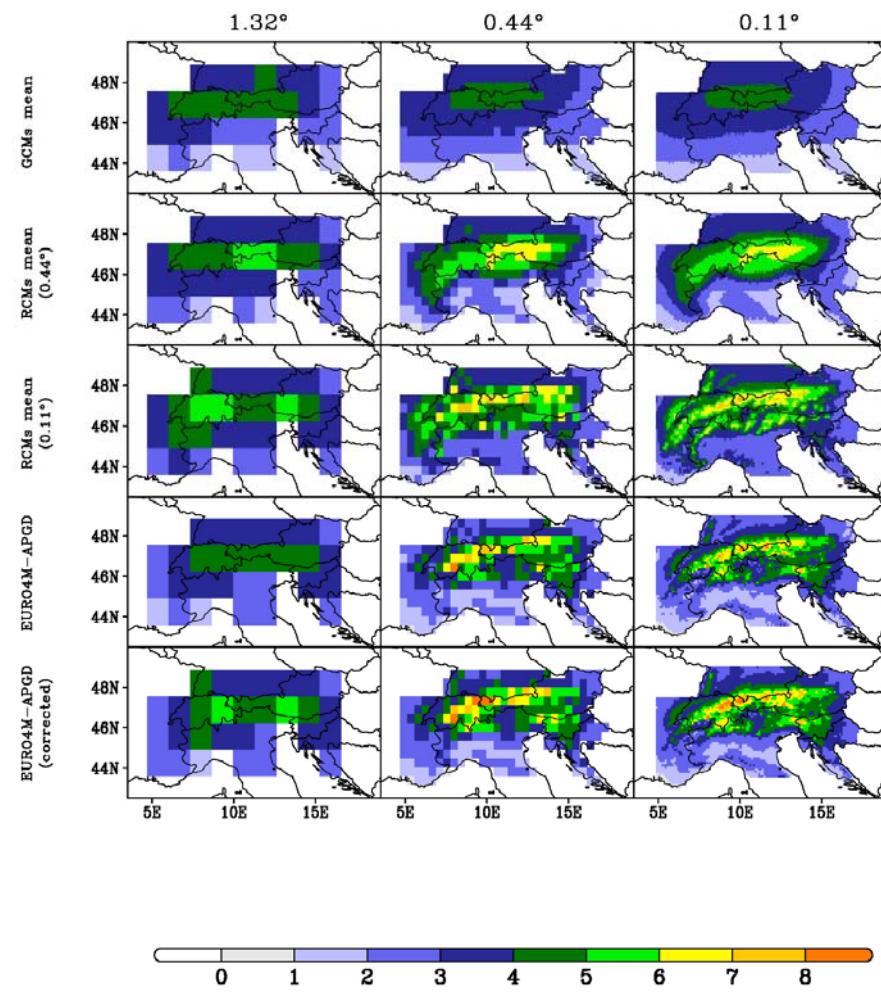
The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# Euro and Med CORDEX

Winter (DJF)

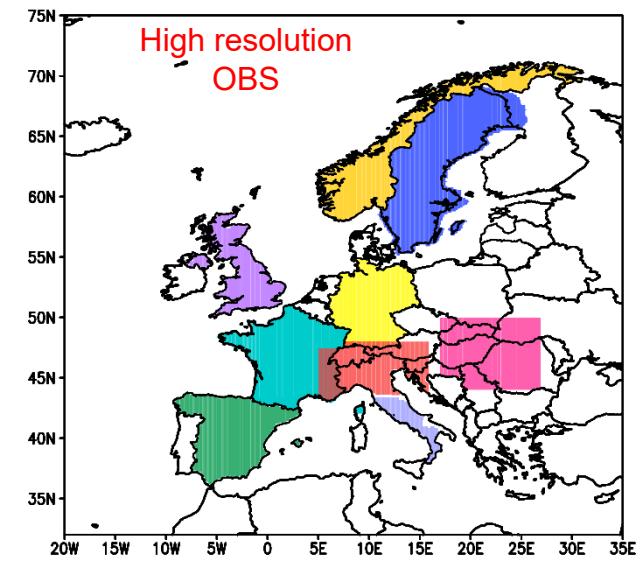


Summer (JJA)



Torma, C., Giorgi F., Coppola E. Added value of regional climate modeling over areas characterized by complex terrain- Precipitation over the Alps., Geophysical Research-atmospheres

# Euro and Med CORDEX



Fantini et al., Assessment of multiple daily precipitation statistics in ERA-Interim driven Med-CORDEX and EURO-CORDEX experiments against high resolution observations . Submitted to *Climate Dynamics* Med-CORDEX special issue.



The Abdus Salam  
**International Centre**  
for Theoretical Physics

# Some key projects and literature

- Review papers: Giorgi and Mearns (1991), McGregor (1997), Giorgi and Mearns (1999), Giorgi et al. (IPCC 2001), Leung et al. (2003), Mearns et al. (2003), Wang et al. (2004), Giorgi (2006), Rummukainen (2010)
- European projects: PRUDENCE, AMMA, ENSEMBLES, CECILIA, CLARIS, ACQWA
- Intercomparison projects: PIRCS, RMIP, NARCCAP, NEWBALTIC, ARCMIP, PLATIN, ARC, NAMAP, QUIRCS, Transferability
- Special issues: JGR 1999; JMSJ 2004; TAC 2006; CC 2007; MAP 2004, 2008; CCH 2006; MET.-ZEIT. 2008; CR 2012; CC 2014.

# Regional Climate Modeling

## Advantages

- Physically based downscaling
  - Comprehensive climate modeling system
- Wide variety of applications
  - Process studies
  - Paleoclimate
  - Climate change
  - Seasonal prediction
- High resolution through multiple nesting  
(currently <10 to 50 km grid interval)

# Regional Climate Modeling Limitation

- One-way nesting
  - No regional-to-global feedbacks
- Technical issues in the nesting technique
  - Domain, LBC procedure, physics, etc.
- Not intended to correct systematic errors in the large scale forcing fields
  - Always analyse first the forcing fields
- Computationally demanding

# Earth System model

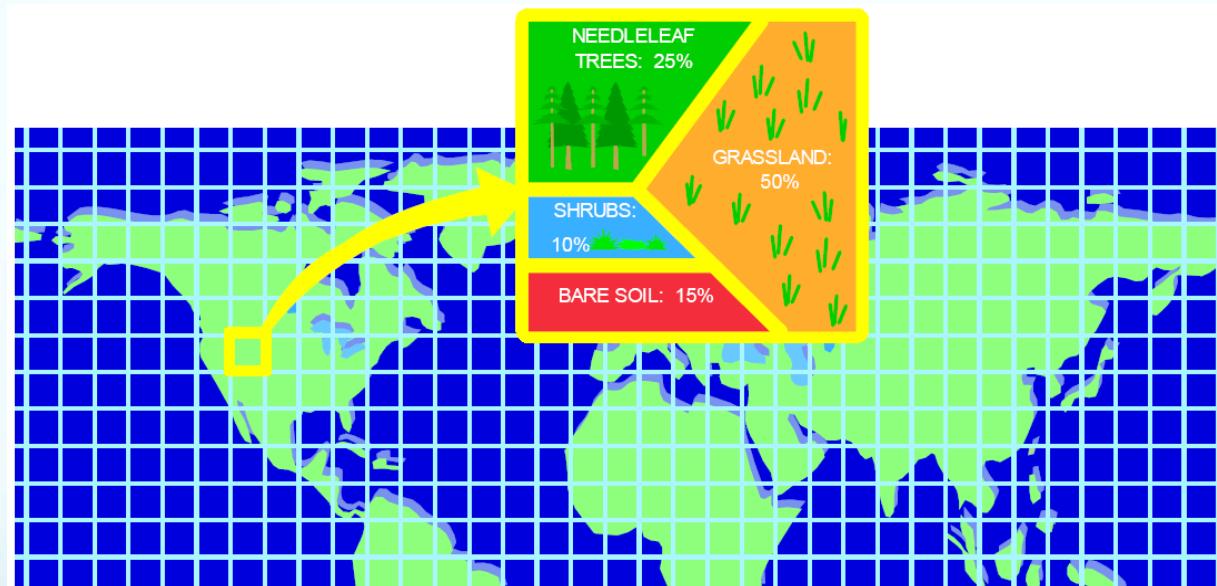


Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America. 15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

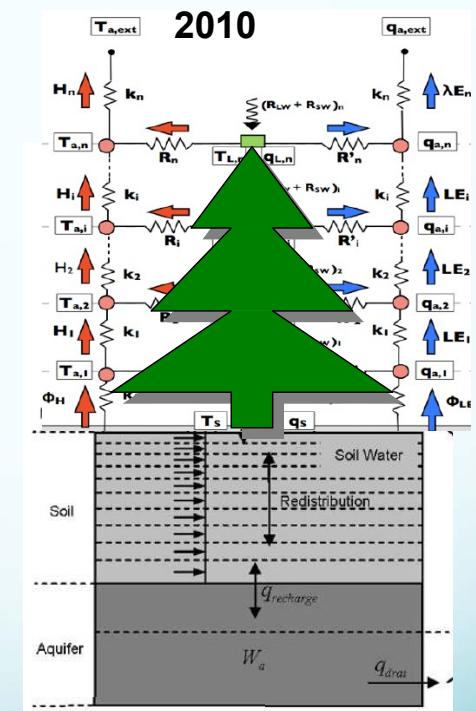
# Land Surface Modelling



## CLM4.5

Oleson et al., 2013

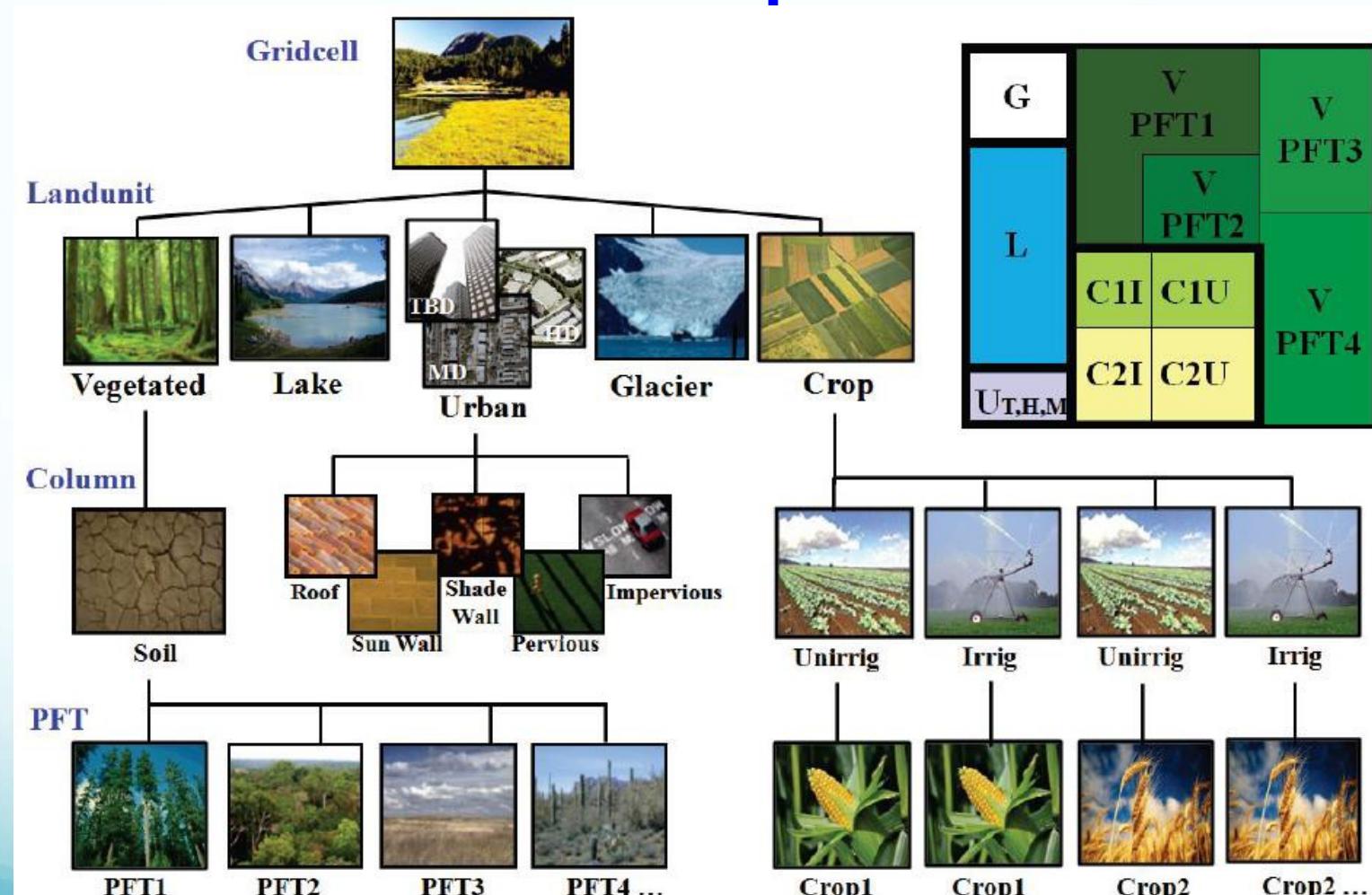
Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America. 15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# Subgrid hierarchy of tiles: an example

(Oleson et al., 2013)



## 3<sup>rd</sup> generation: Photosynthesis model

- Stomatal conductance explicitly related to photosynthetic assimilation using Ball-Berry conductance model (Collatz et al. 1991):

$$g_{stom} = m \frac{A}{c_s} h_s p + b$$

$m$  empirical coefficient derived from observations

$A$  photosynthetic assimilation

$c_s$  CO<sub>2</sub> concentration at the leaf surface

$h_s$  relative humidity at the leaf surface

$p$  atmospheric pressure

$b$  minimum value of  $g_{stom}$

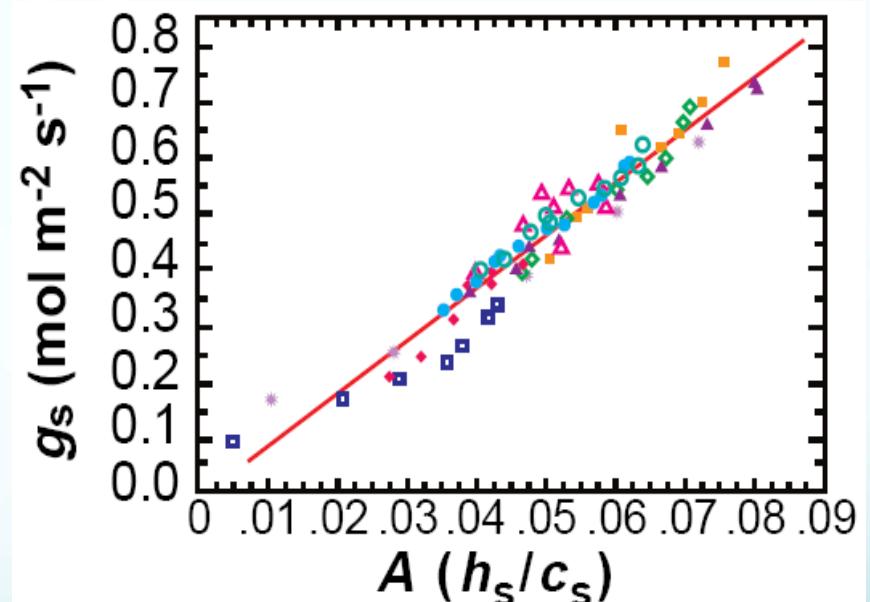
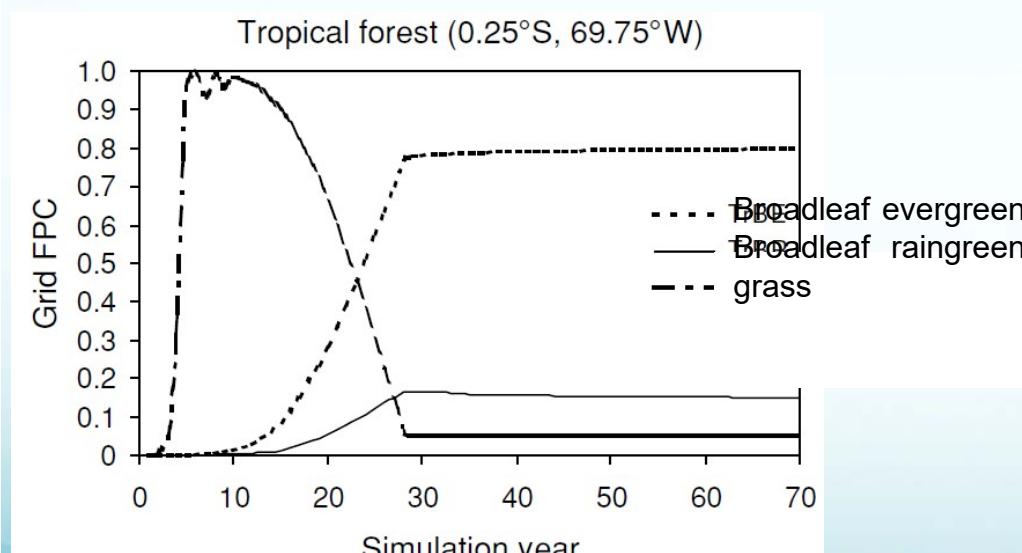


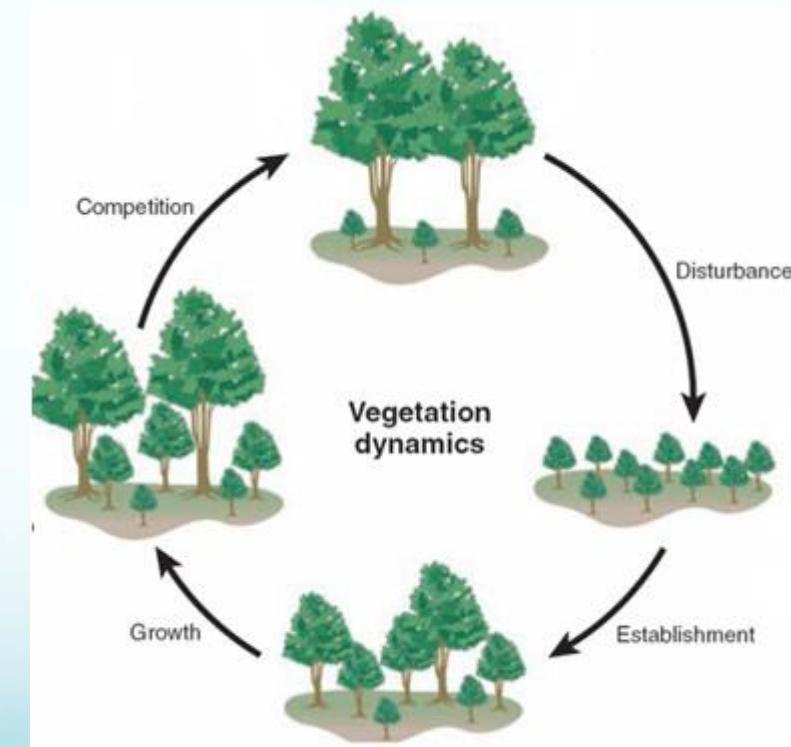
Figure Sellers et al., 1997

# Concepts of dynamic vegetation models

- Use Plant Functional Type (PFT) instead of biomes
- Competition for light, water and nutrients
- Successional dynamics



Sitch et al., 2003



# Earth System model

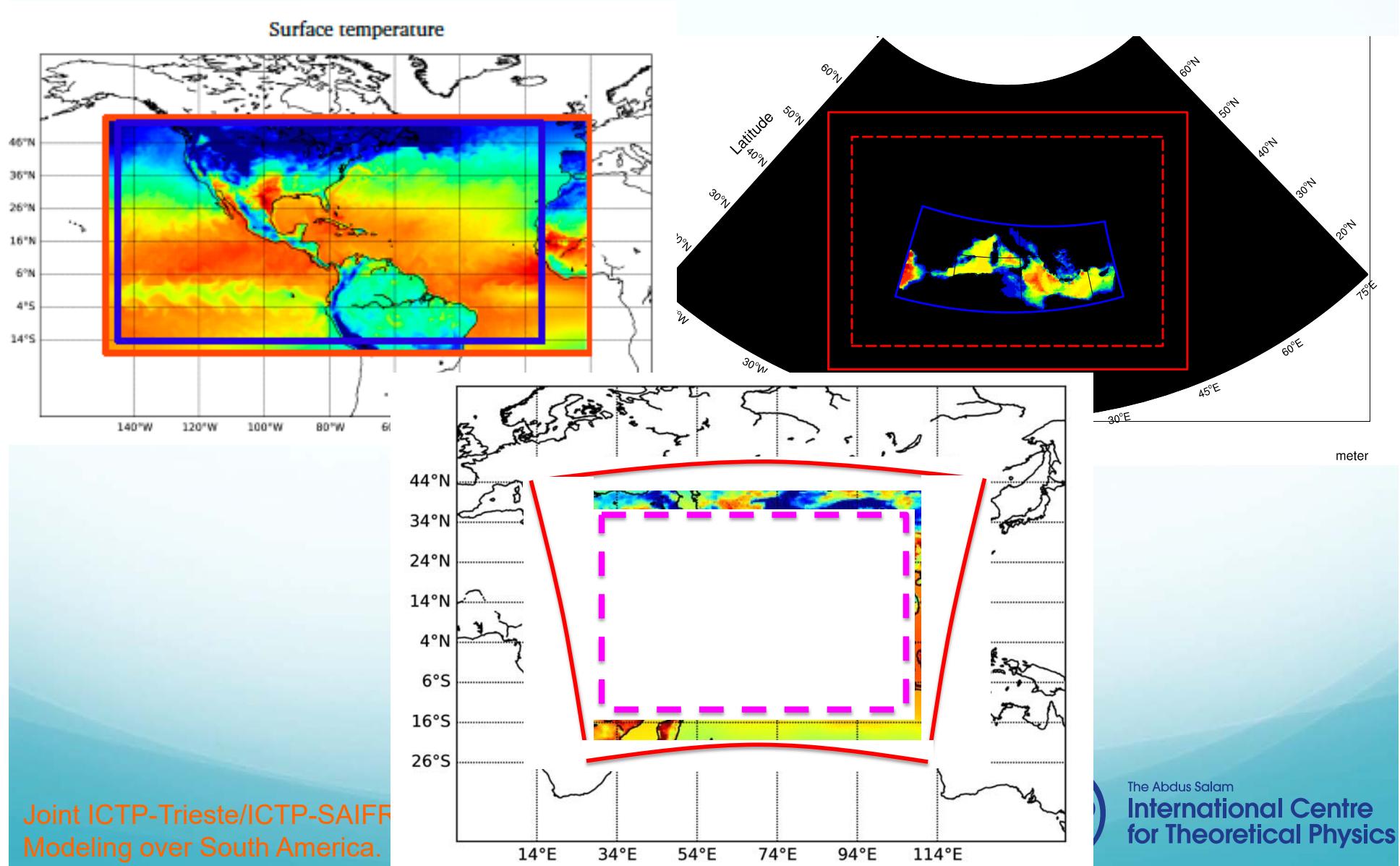


Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America. 15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil

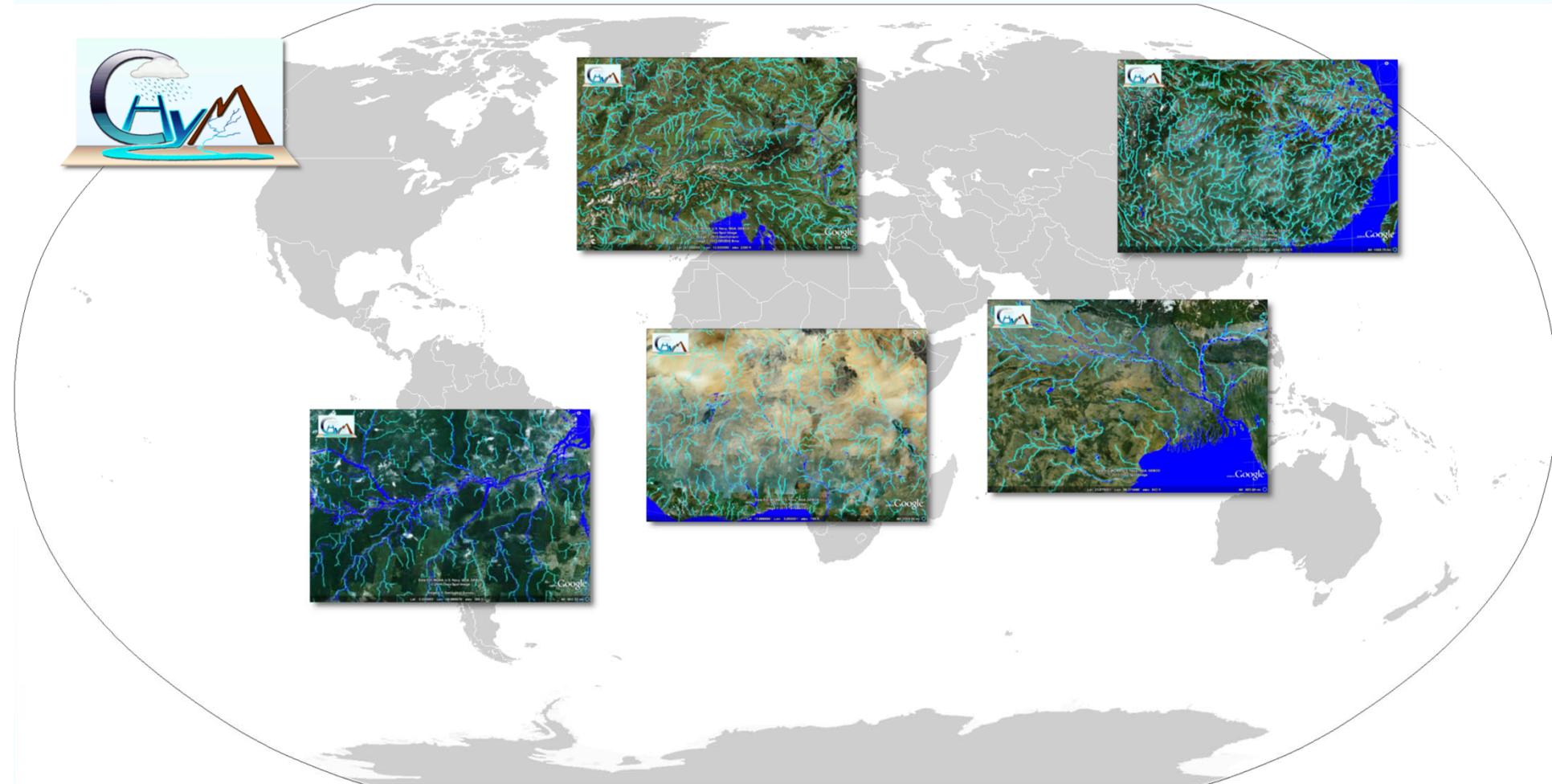


The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# MIT GCM



# CHyM Hydrological model

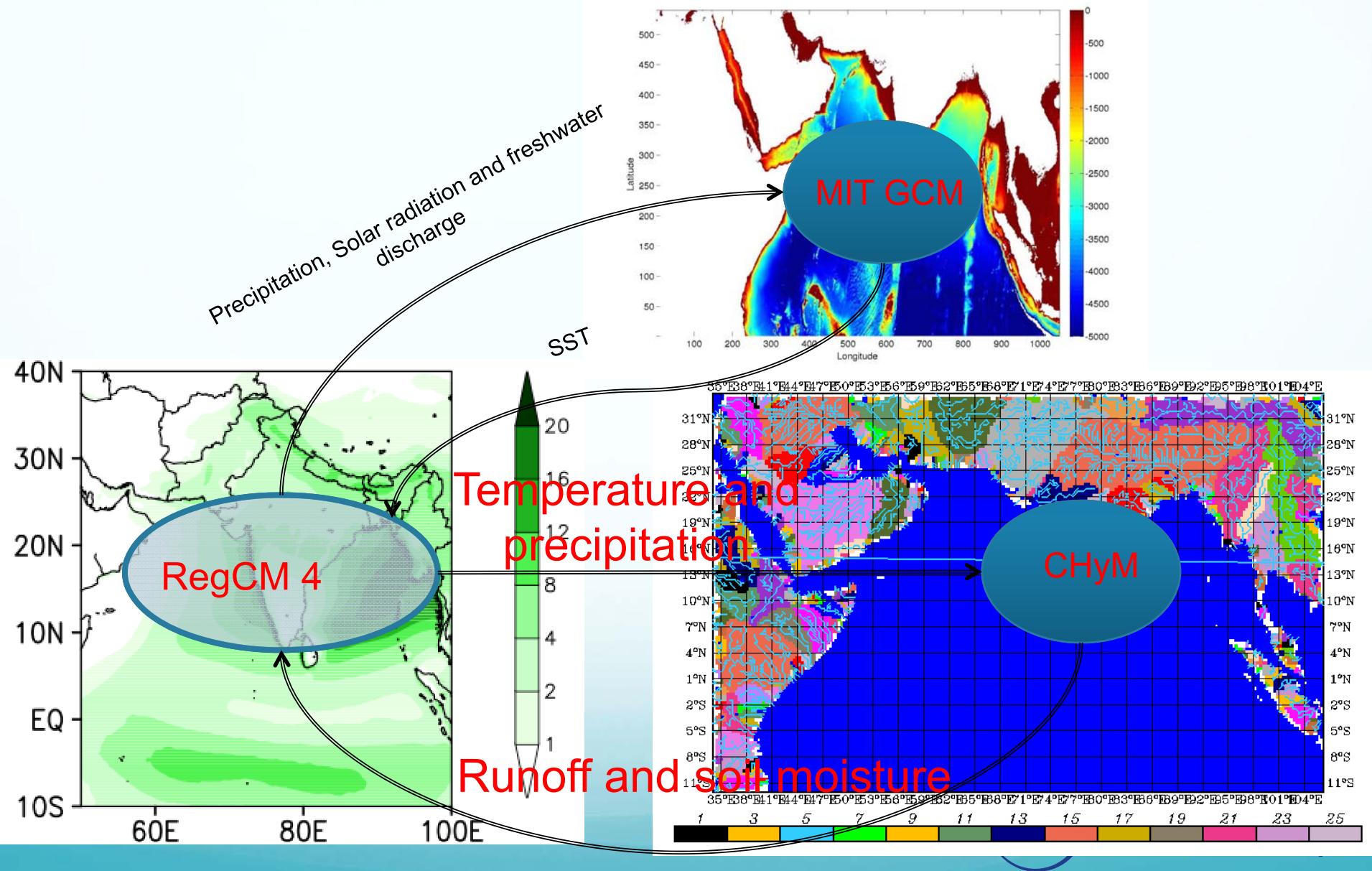


Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America. 15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil

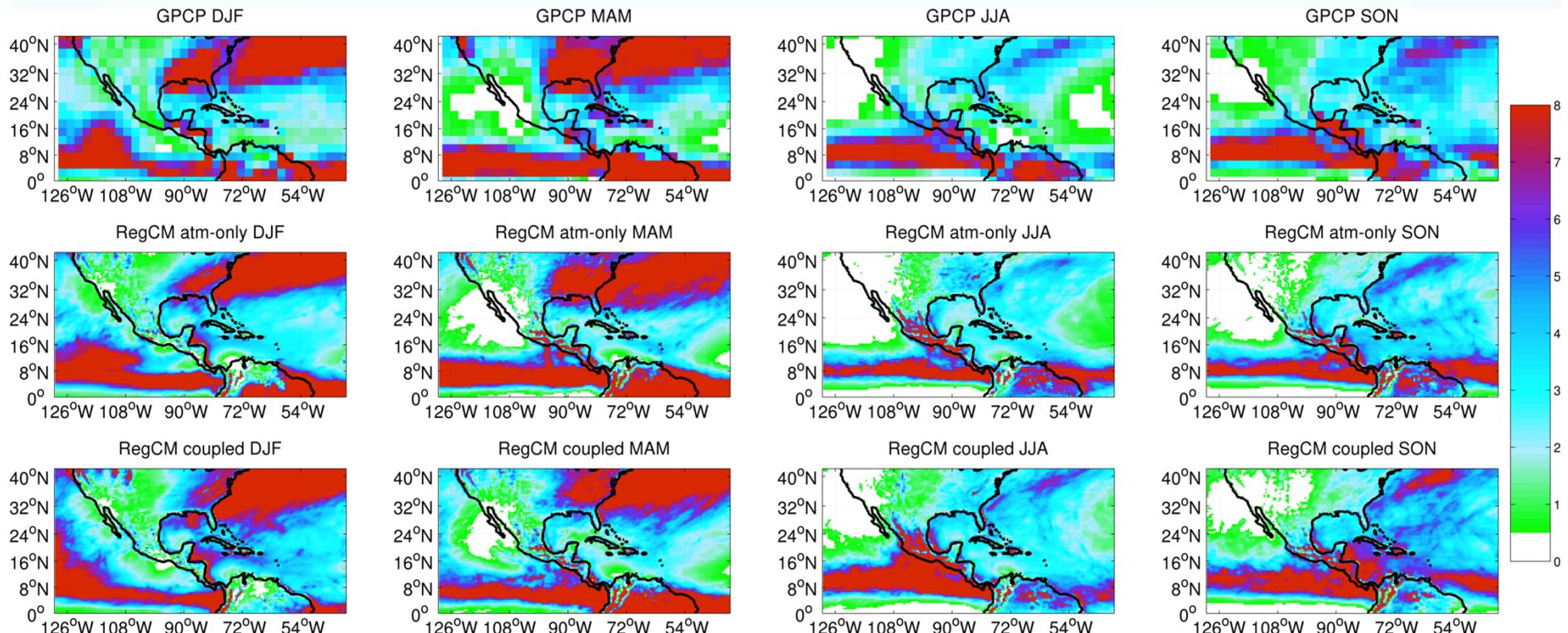


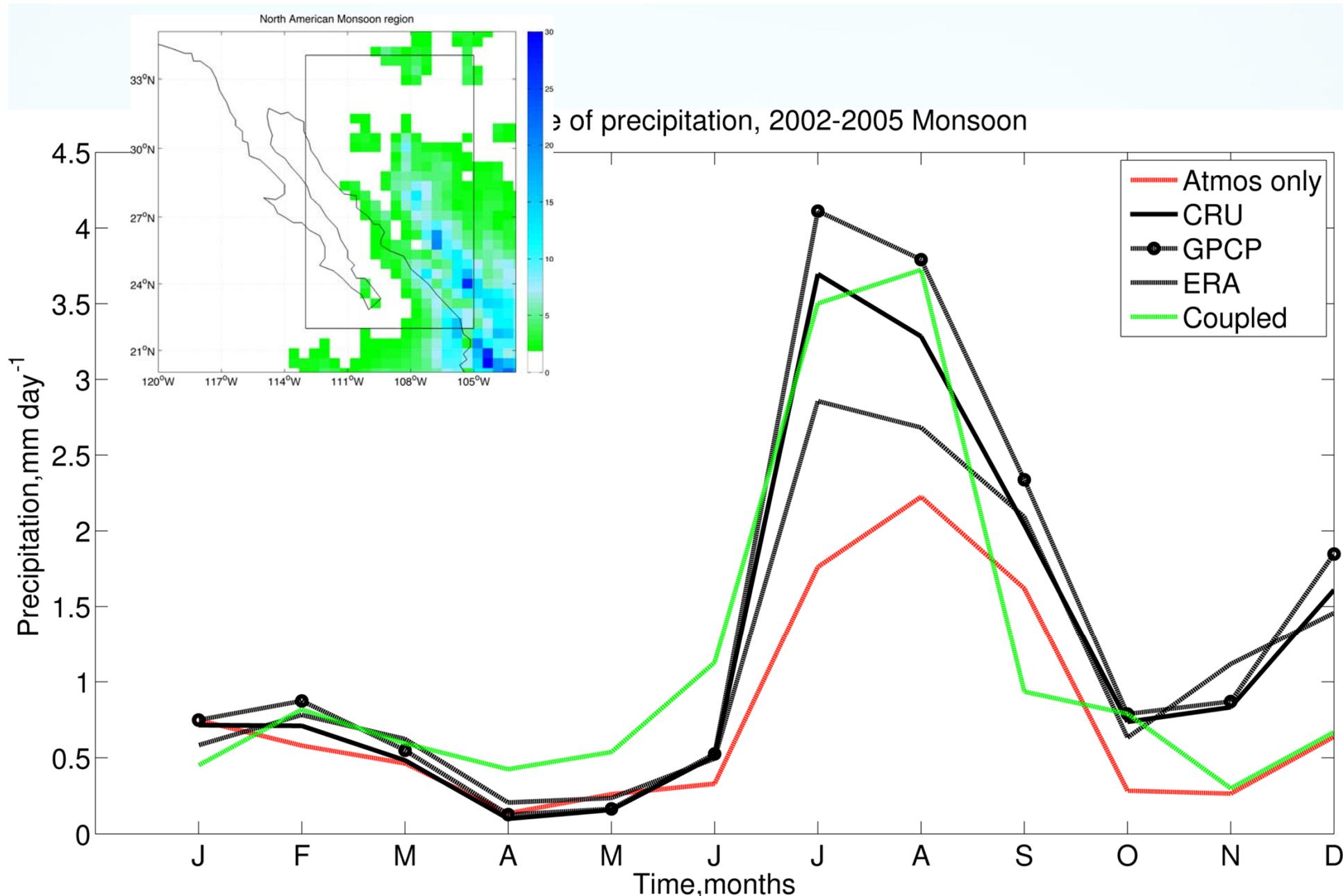
The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# Regional Earth System Model

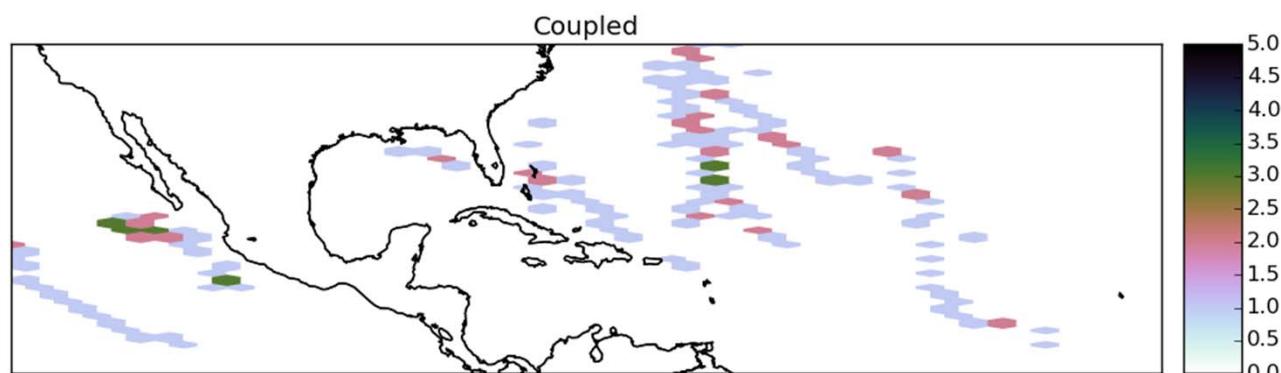
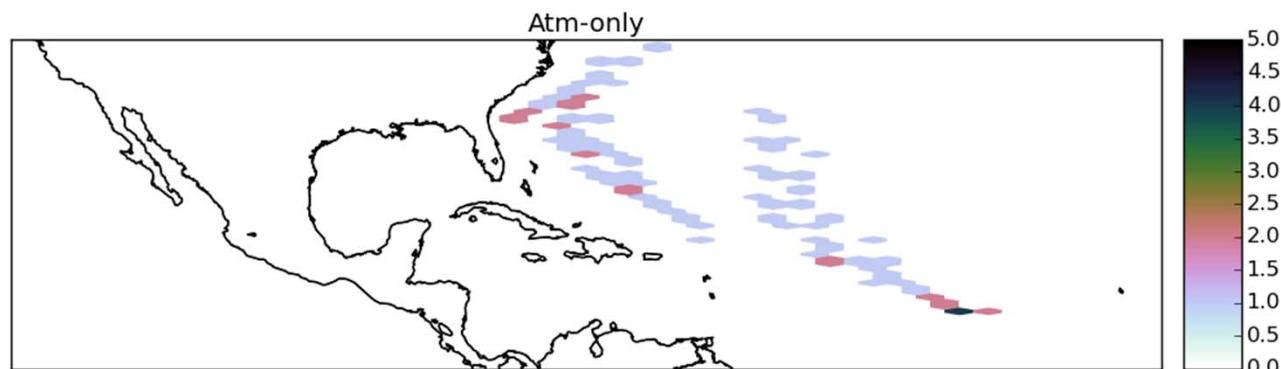
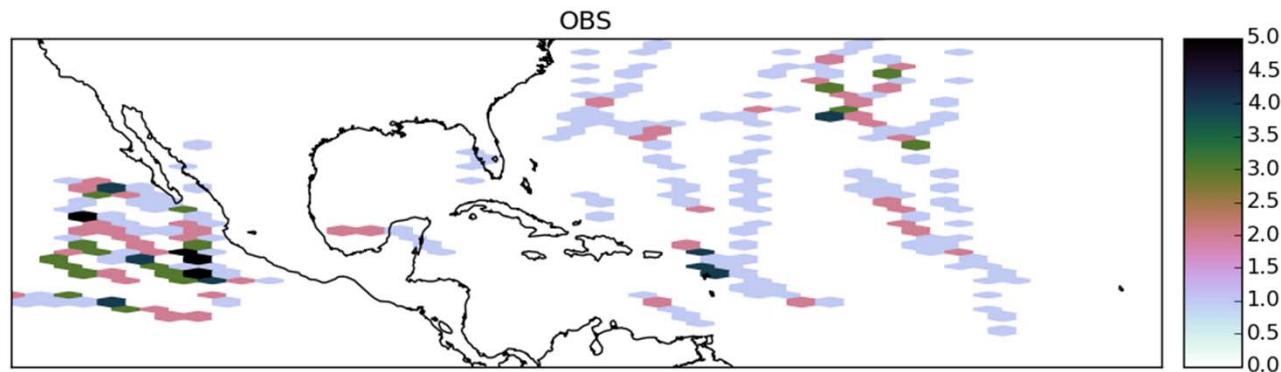


# CA precipitation

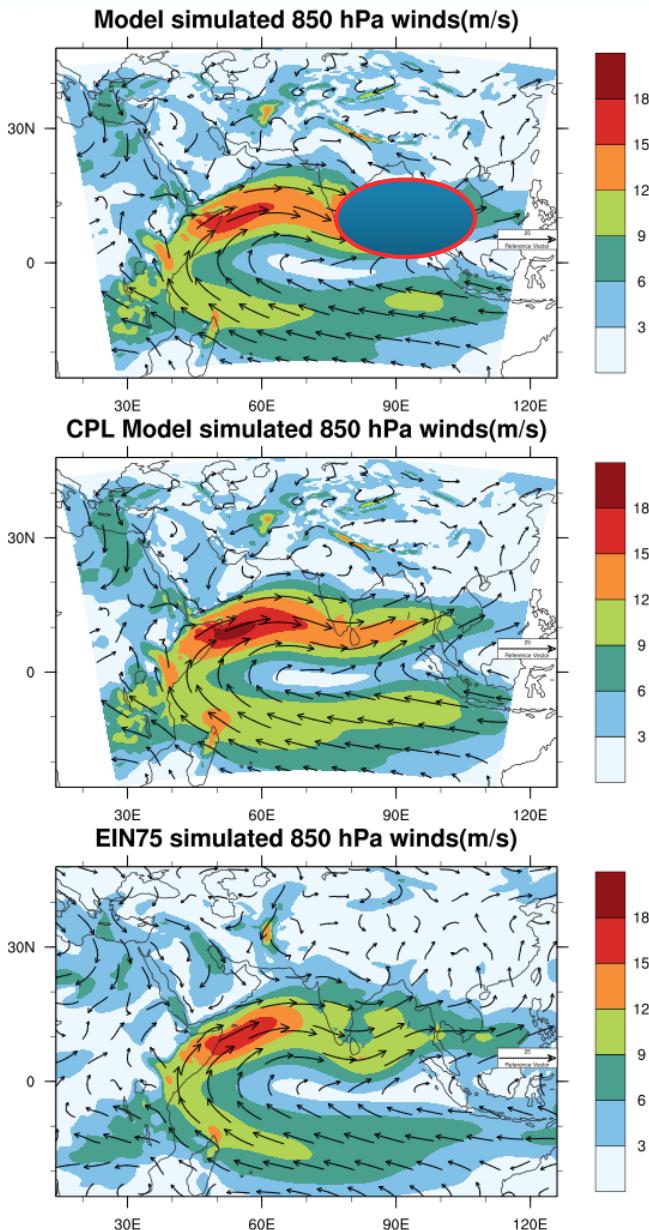




# Cyclone density



# The circulation pattern JJAS

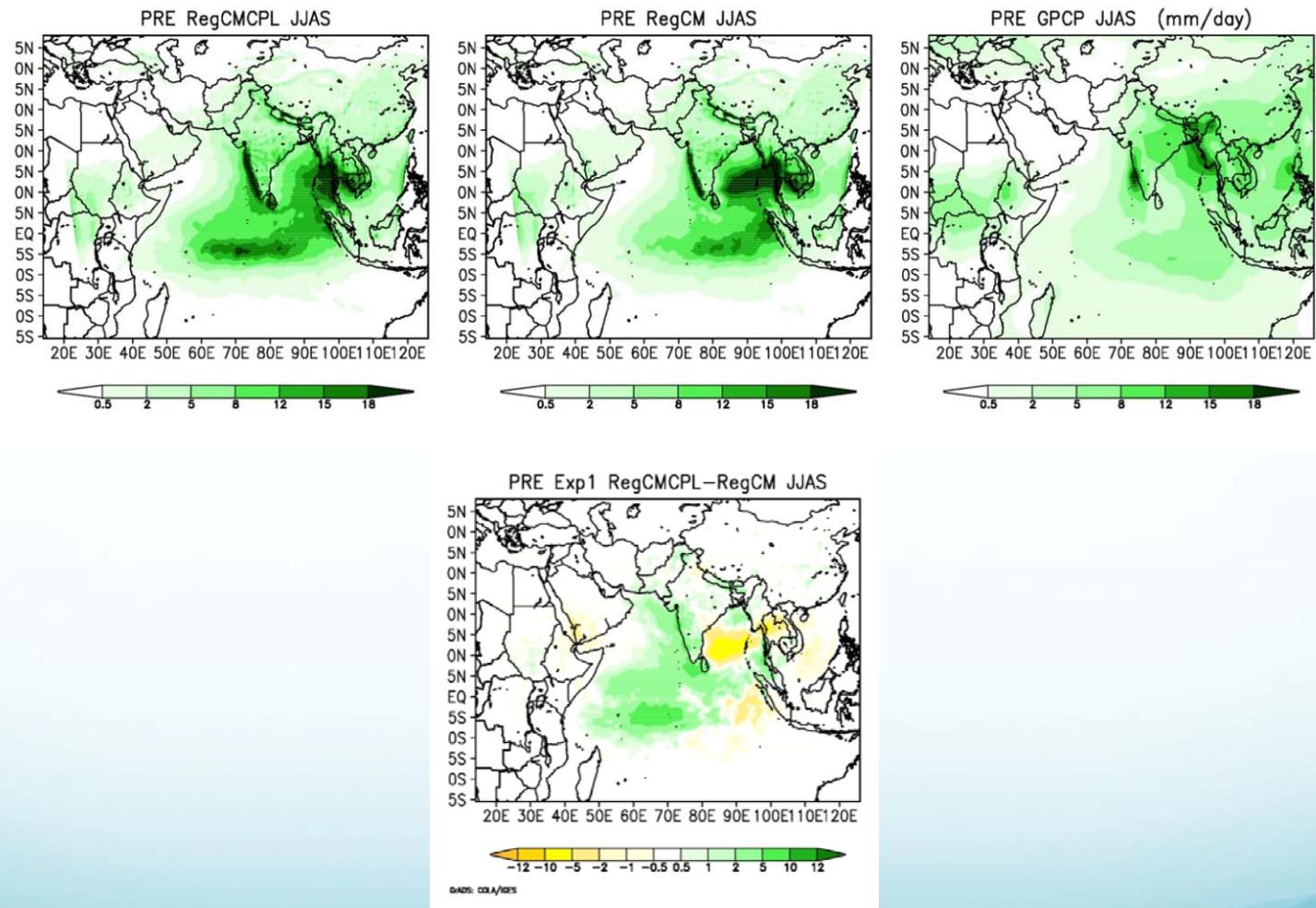


# ATM stand alone

# Coupled model

ERA-interim

# India precipitation



# Earth System model



Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America. 15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil

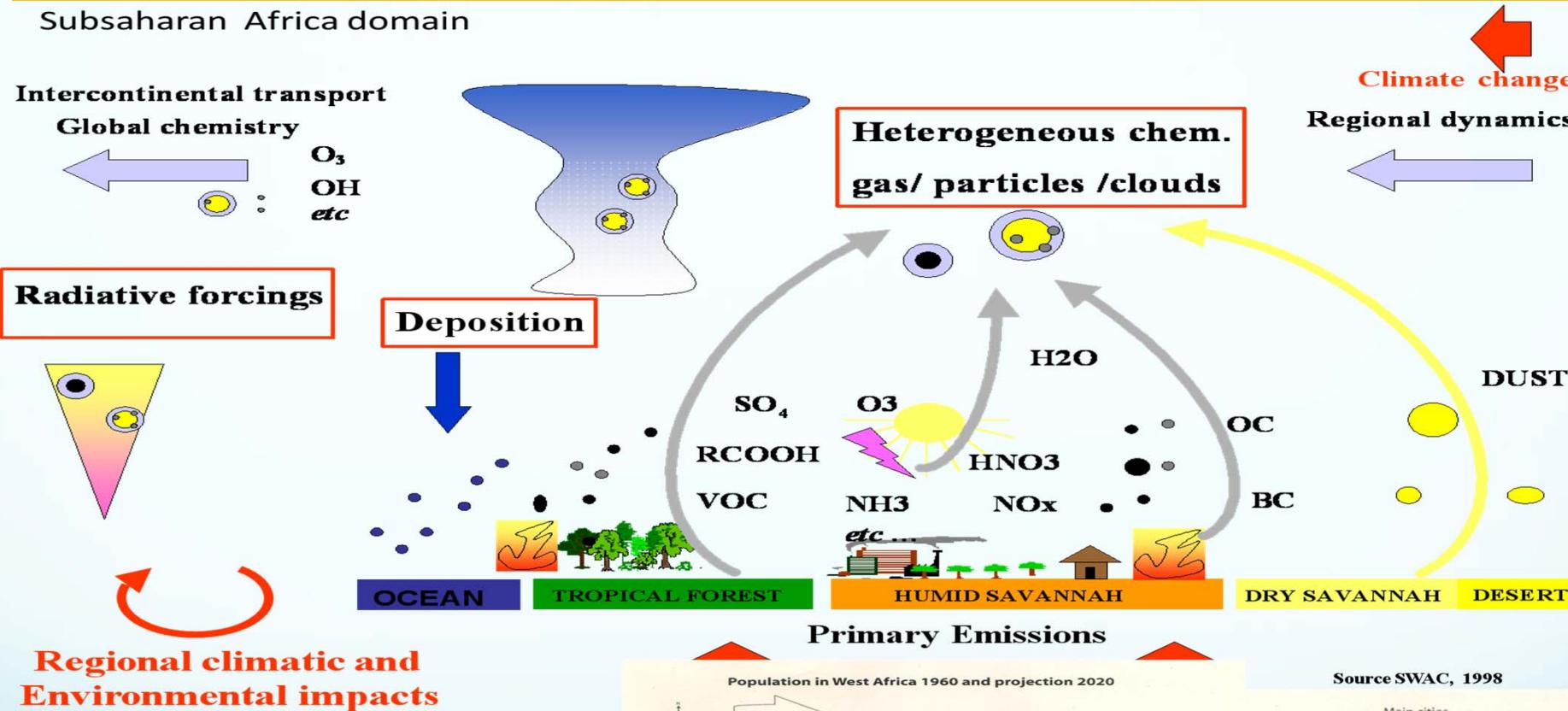


The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics



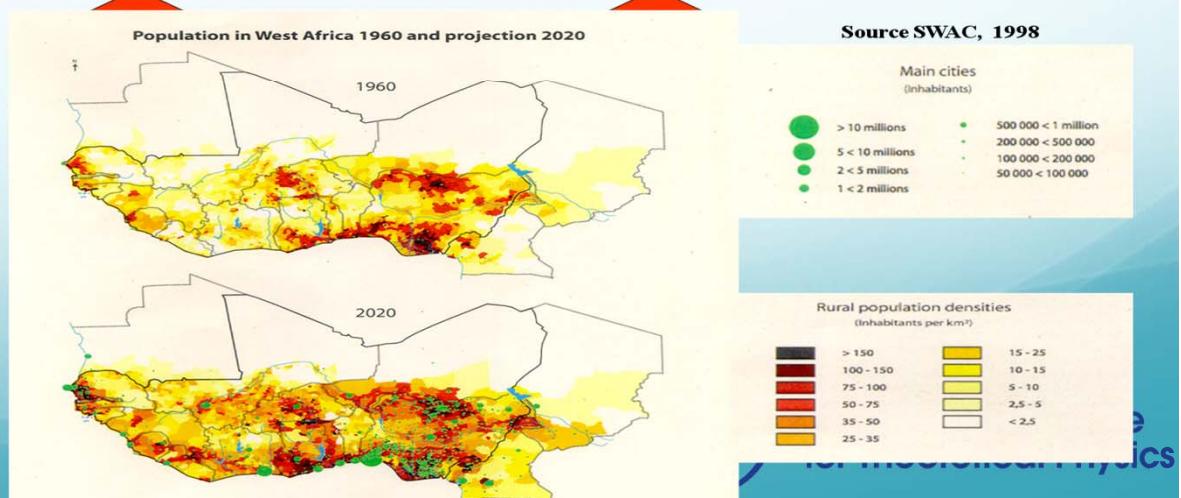
# Interaction between atmospheric chemistry, climate, and biogeochemical cycles in a changing environment.

## Subsaharan Africa domain

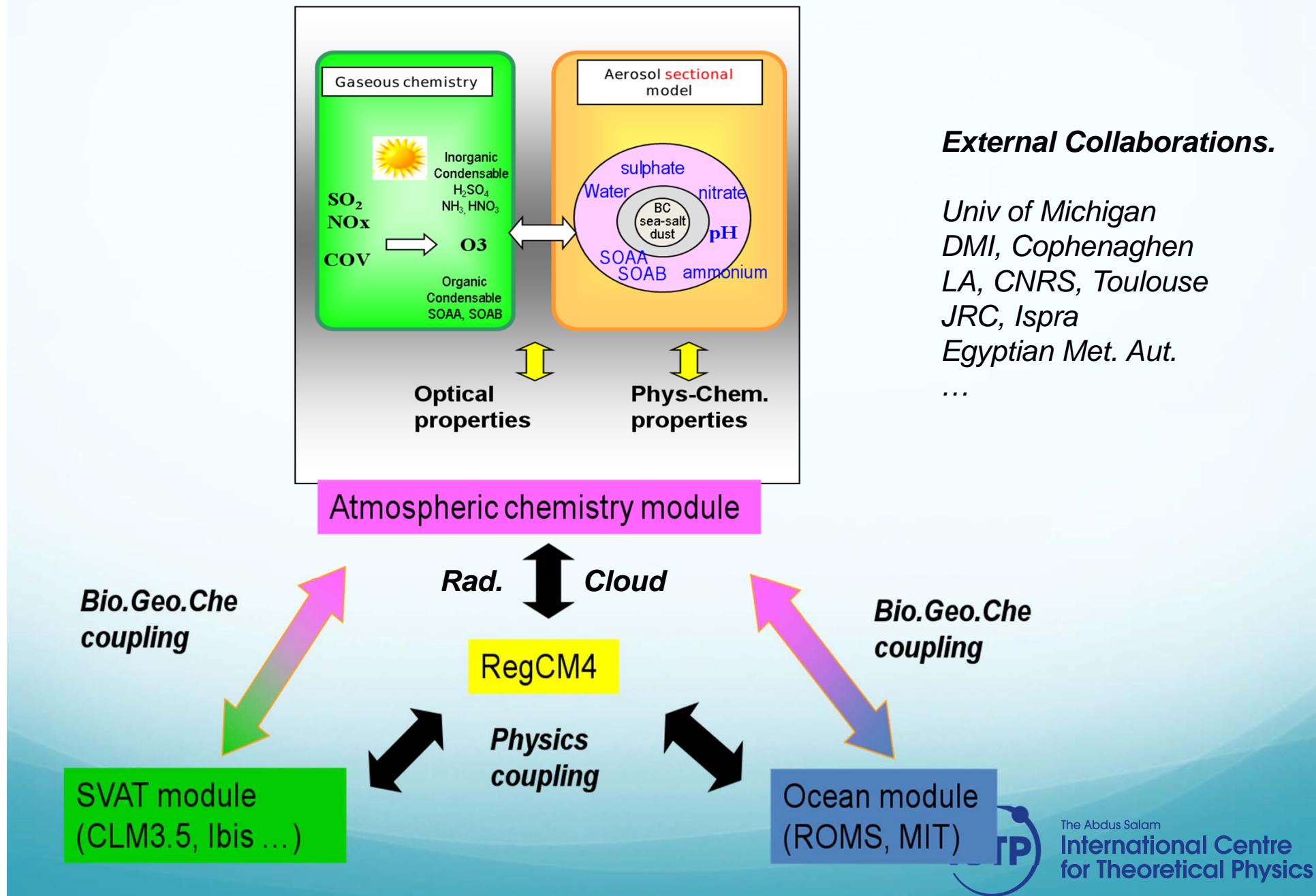


# Understanding and modeling the mechanisms

## Impact studies

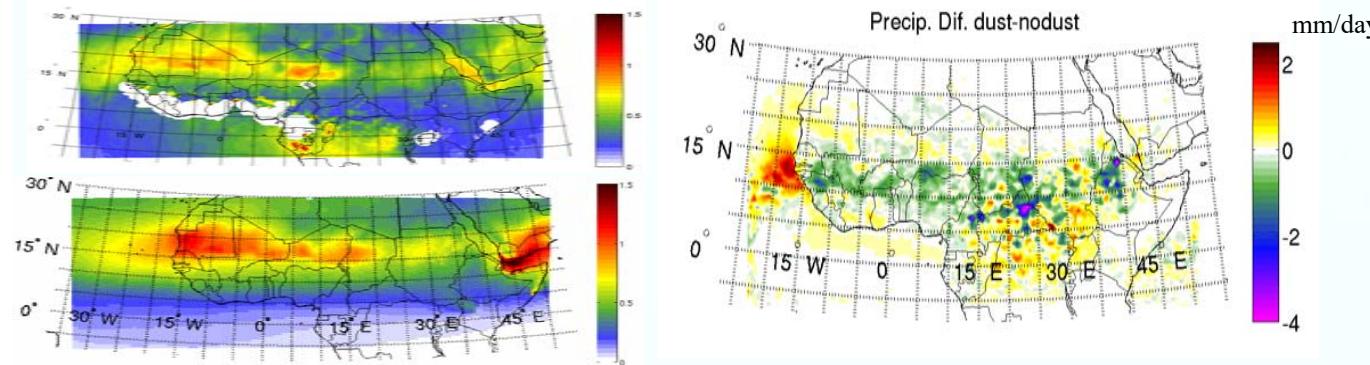


## Model developments ...

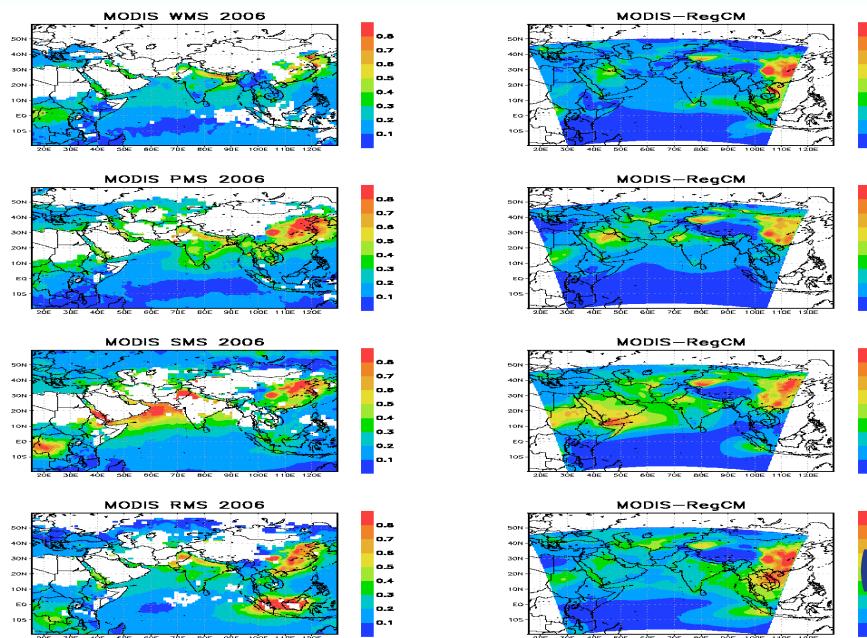


# Examples of studies

- Aerosols impacts over Africa ( Dust and Biomass burning)  
Solomon et al., 2008; 2011 ; Tummon et al., 2010; Malavelle et al., 2011



- The paprika project : impact of absorbing aerosol deposition on snow in the Hymalayas (Post doc : Vijayakumar S Nair)

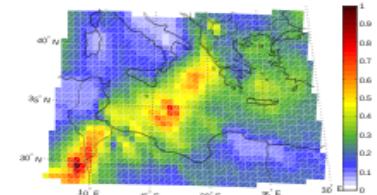


The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

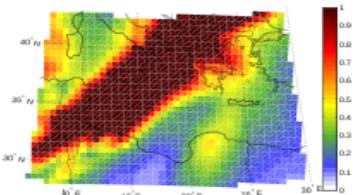


## Aerosols impacts on Euro / Mediterranean climate (proj. : MEGAPOLI, CharMex/HyMEx, P.Nabat, M. Chiaccio)

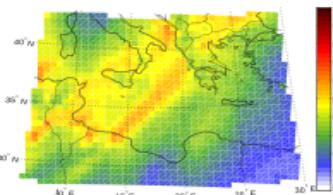
(a) - MODIS



(b) - REF



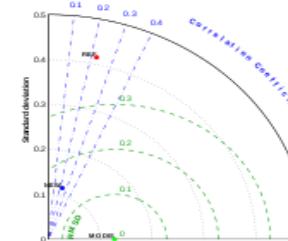
(c) - NEW



(d) - Visible



(e) - Taylor diagram

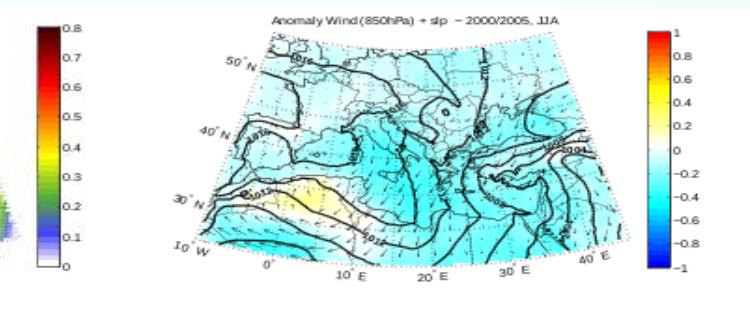
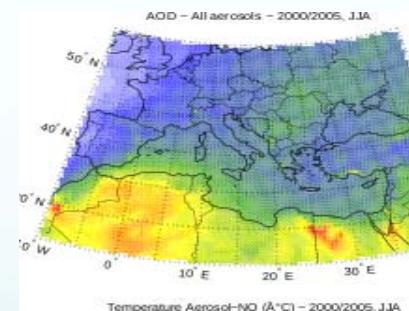


Improving the aerosol scheme at event the scale  
(eg here dust emission)

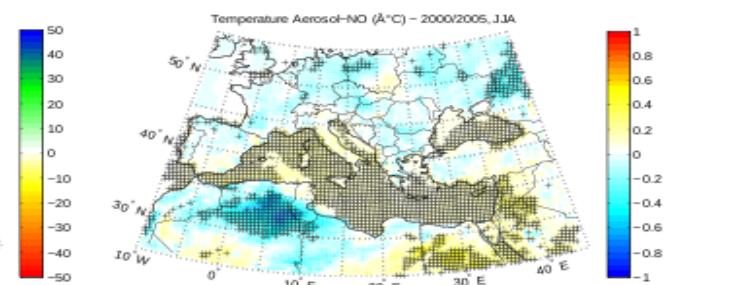
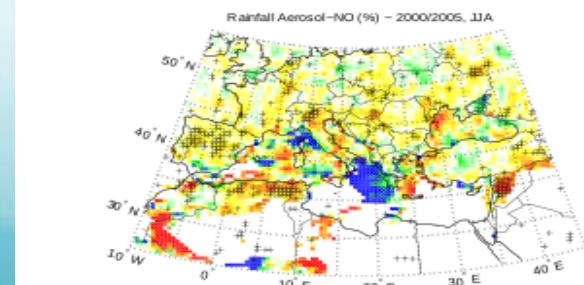
P.Nabat

M. Chiaccio

Impact of aerosol on radiative budget and hydrological cycle.



Impact of aerosol deposition on marine ecosystems



e  
sics

# Earth System model

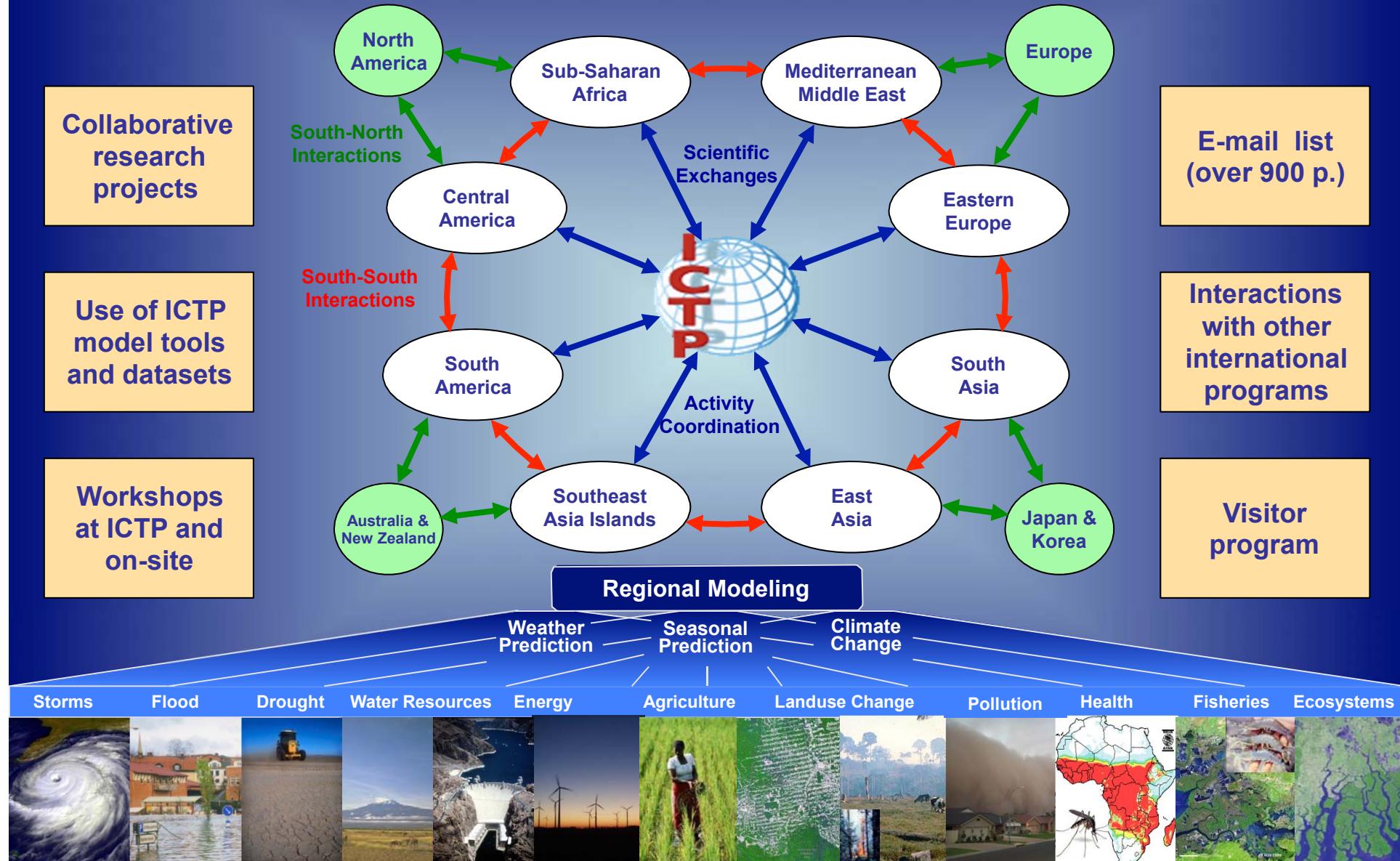


Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America. 15-19 February 2016, São Paulo, Brazil



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics

# The ESP RegCM and Regional Climate research NETwork, RegCNET



# What 's next?

## Atmosphere

- Decoupling of convection time step and integration time step to speed up the model **Done**

Target : 12 km projections over all the COORDEX domain for the COORDEX phase 2

- Non hydrostatic version of the model : RegCM5 **Done**

## Ocean-Hydro-Chem

- Benchmark simulations over all the 3 coupled domains.
- Scenario simulations over the coupled Indian domain
- Fully coupled 12km RCSM simulation over the Med-CORDEX domain: ocean-atm-land-river + realistic 2D spatial, seasonal, trend variability of aerosols + GHG

Joint ICTP-Trieste/ICTP-SAIFR Advanced School on Regional Climate Modeling over South America  
15-19 SEptember 2016, São Paulo, Brazil

**SOCIETY**

**DEVELOPMENT**

**ENVIRONMENT**

# Thank you



The Abdus Salam  
**International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics**



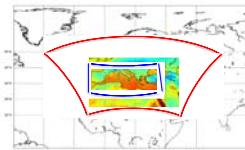
The Abdus Salam  
International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics  
[www.ictp.it](http://www.ictp.it)



8<sup>th</sup> ICTP WORKSHOP ON THE THEORY AND USE OF

# REGIONAL CLIMATE MODELS

23 May - 3 June 2016  
Miramare, Trieste, Italy



The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) is organizing its "Eighth ICTP Workshop on The Theory and Use of Regional Climate Models" to be held on 23 May - 3 June 2016 in Trieste, Italy.

The directors of the Workshop are **F. Giorgi** (ICTP, Italy), **E. Coppola** (ICTP, Italy), **T. Cavazos** (CICESE, Mexico), **X. Gao** (CMA, China).

Regional climate models (RCMs) are widely used tools to produce high resolution climate information at regional scales, and can be run at resolutions of a few km which allow explicit description of convective processes. The ICTP regional climate modeling system, RegCM, is one of the most used RCMs worldwide. Its latest version, RegCM4, has been recently augmented in several aspects, in particular towards the application of the model to very high resolution convective-permitting simulations. Among the main model improvements in this direction are the implementation of non-hydrostatic dynamics, the refinement of an advanced explicit cloud microphysics scheme and the full coupling with the MIT ocean model, the CHYM hydrological model, the CLM4.5 land-surface model including interactive vegetation and an augmented version of a chemistry/aerosol module.

As in previous workshops of this series, this event will provide lectures and extensive hands-on sessions on the theory of regional climate change and regional climate modeling as well as on the use of the RegCM4 modeling system. The focus of the present workshop will be on the application of the RegCM4 to high resolution experiments, in particular within the framework of the international program CORDEX (COordinated Regional Downscaling Experiment). During the workshop, the new features of the model will be described and tested, and a new version of the model will be released. In addition, the contribution of the RegCM community to the next phase of the CORDEX program will be discussed. The workshop will also include a special session on the interactions between air quality, climate processes and climate change in diverse regions of the world under the framework of the EU REQUA (Regional climate-airquality interactions) project.

The workshop is also aimed at providing a forum for current and future model users to discuss relevant issues and formulate needs and priorities for further model development and dissemination. A limited number of participants are envisioned, with proven experience in climate modeling and a strong interest in using the RegCM4 system for regional climate studies.

#### Participation:

The workshop is intended for scientists and graduate students working in the areas of Atmospheric Physics and Dynamics, Climatology, Oceanography, Physics and Mathematics. It is open to scientists from all member countries of the United Nations, UNESCO and IAEA. The activity will be conducted in English. Limited funding (including travel grants) for participation in the conference is available for scientists from developing countries. No registration fee is required.

#### How to apply for Participation:

The on-line application form can be accessed at ICTP activity website:

<http://indico.ictp.it/event/7613>

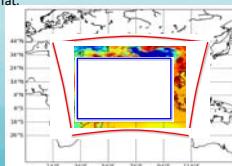
Once in the website, comprehensive instructions will guide you step-by-step, on how to fill out and submit the application form. Please send all attachments in Word or PDF format.

#### Contact Information:

Phone: +39 040 2240 426, E-mail: [smr2831@ictp.it](mailto:smr2831@ictp.it)

ICTP Home page: <http://www.ictp.it>

November 2015



#### Directors:

**F. Giorgi**  
(ICTP, Italy)

**E. Coppola**  
(ICTP, Italy)

**T. Cavazos**  
(CICESE, Mexico)

**X. Gao**  
(IPA/CAS, China)

#### Invited Speakers

- N. Ban** (ETH, Switzerland)
- M. Bukovsky** (NCAR, USA)
- L. Caporaso** (CMCC, Italy)
- R. Farneti** (ICTP, Italy)
- I. Guettler** (DHMZ, Croatia)
- E. S. Im** (MIT-SMART, Singapore)
- R. Porfirio da Rocha** (U. Sao Paulo, Brazil)
- F. Stordhal** (U. Oslo, Norway)
- M. B. Sylla** (WASCAL, Burkina Faso)
- U.U. Turuncoglu** (ITU, Turkey)
- N. van Lipzig** (KU Leuven, Belgium)
- P. Zanis** (U. Thessaloniki)

#### Laboratory Instructors:

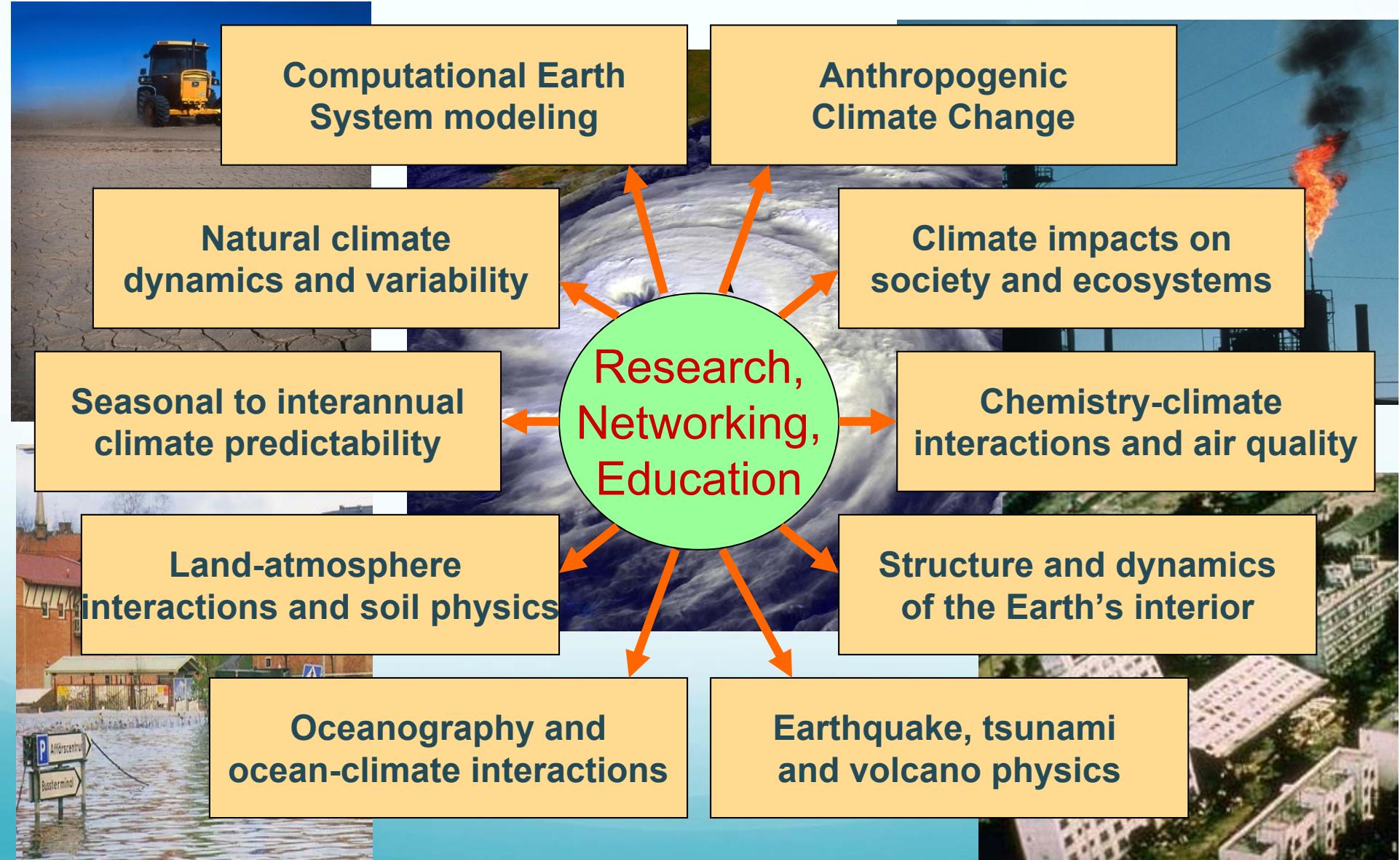
- G. Giuliani** (ICTP)
- L. Mariotti** (ICTP)
- U.U. Turuncoglu** (ITU, Turkey)
- C. Torma** (ICTP)
- R. Fuentes Franco** (ICTP)
- R. Farneti** (ICTP)
- F. Di Sante** (ICTP)
- F. Solmon** (ICTP)

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE

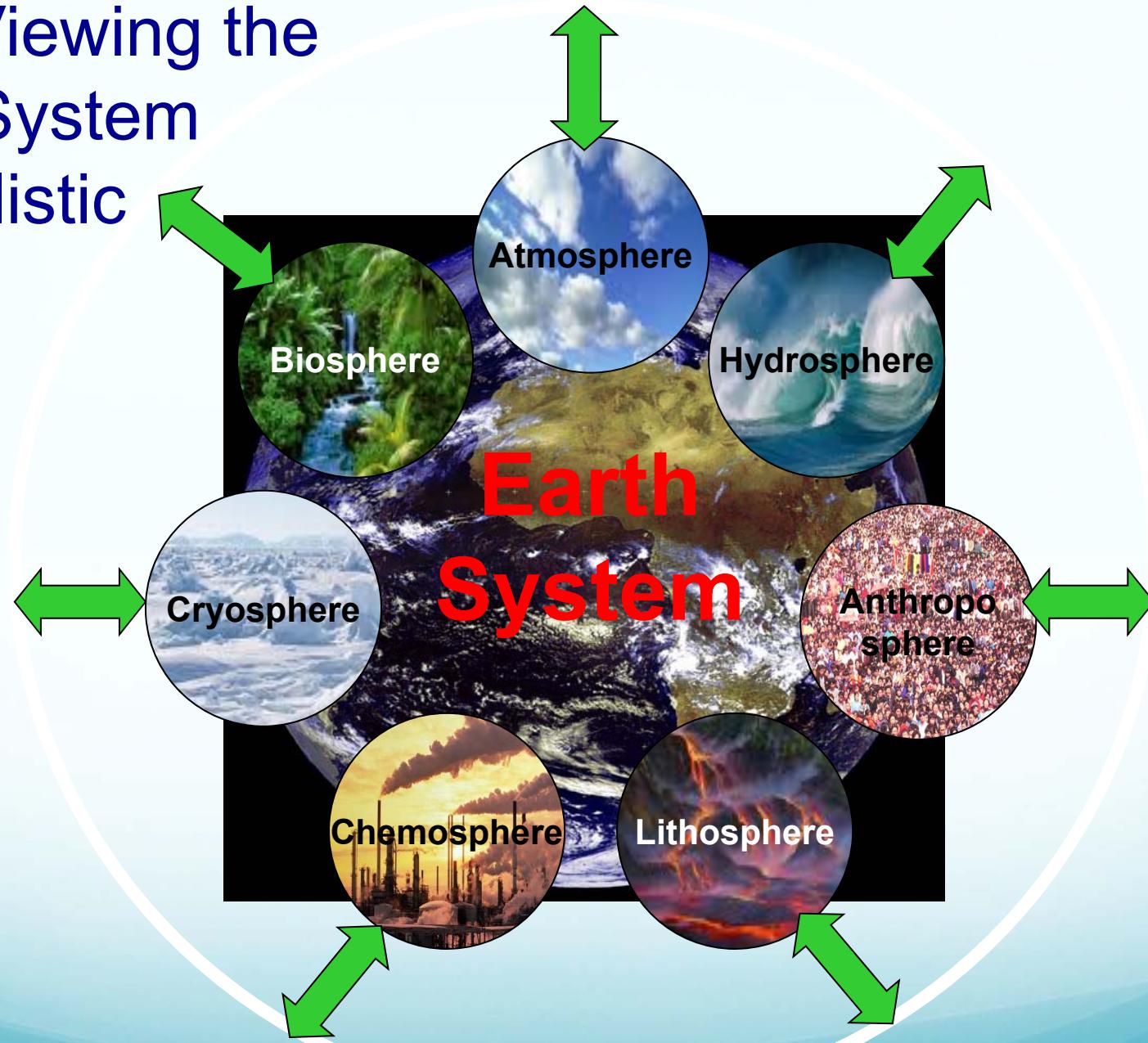
**29 February 2016**



# ESP Main Research Areas

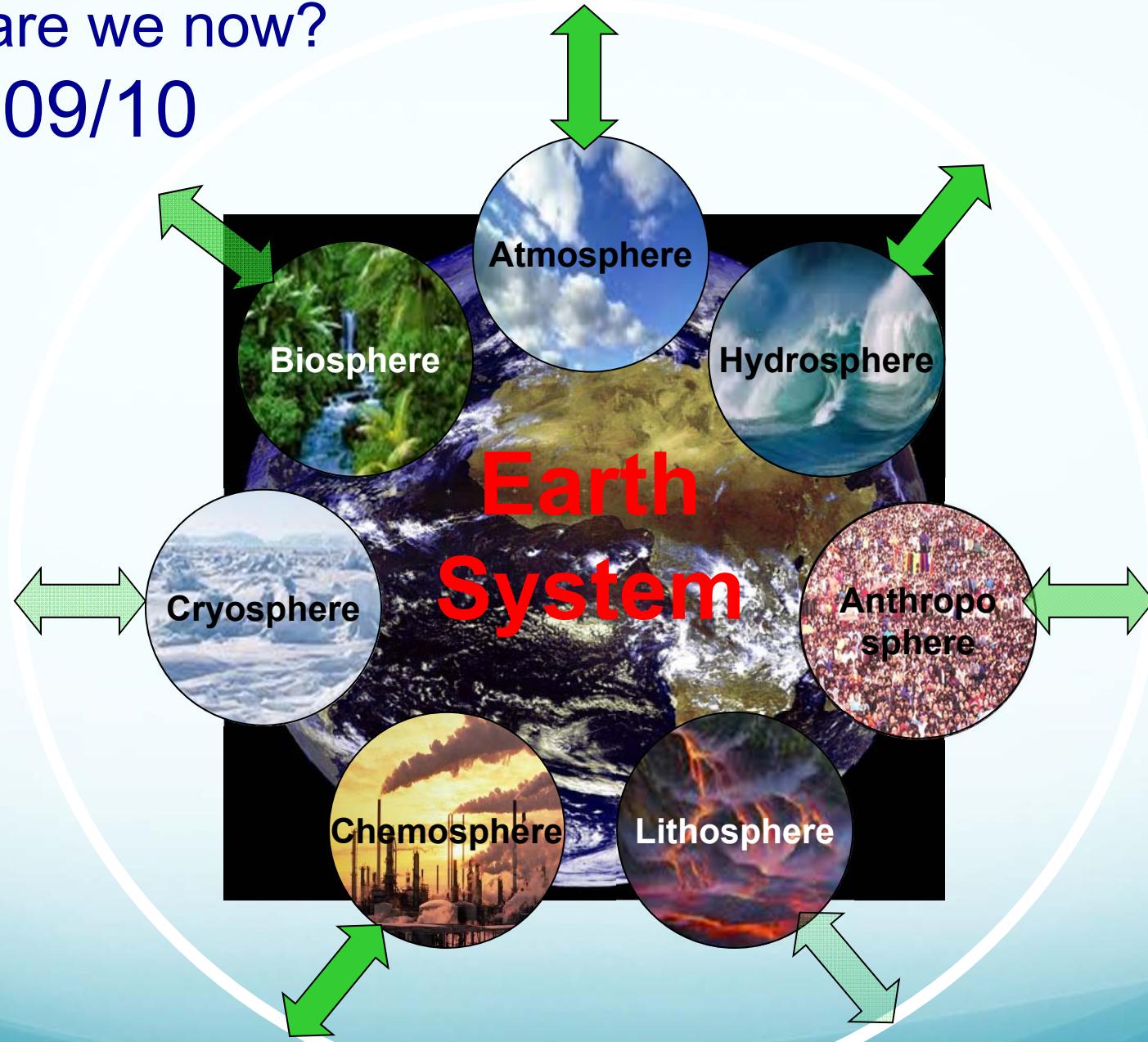


ESP: Viewing the Earth System in a holistic way



Where are we now?

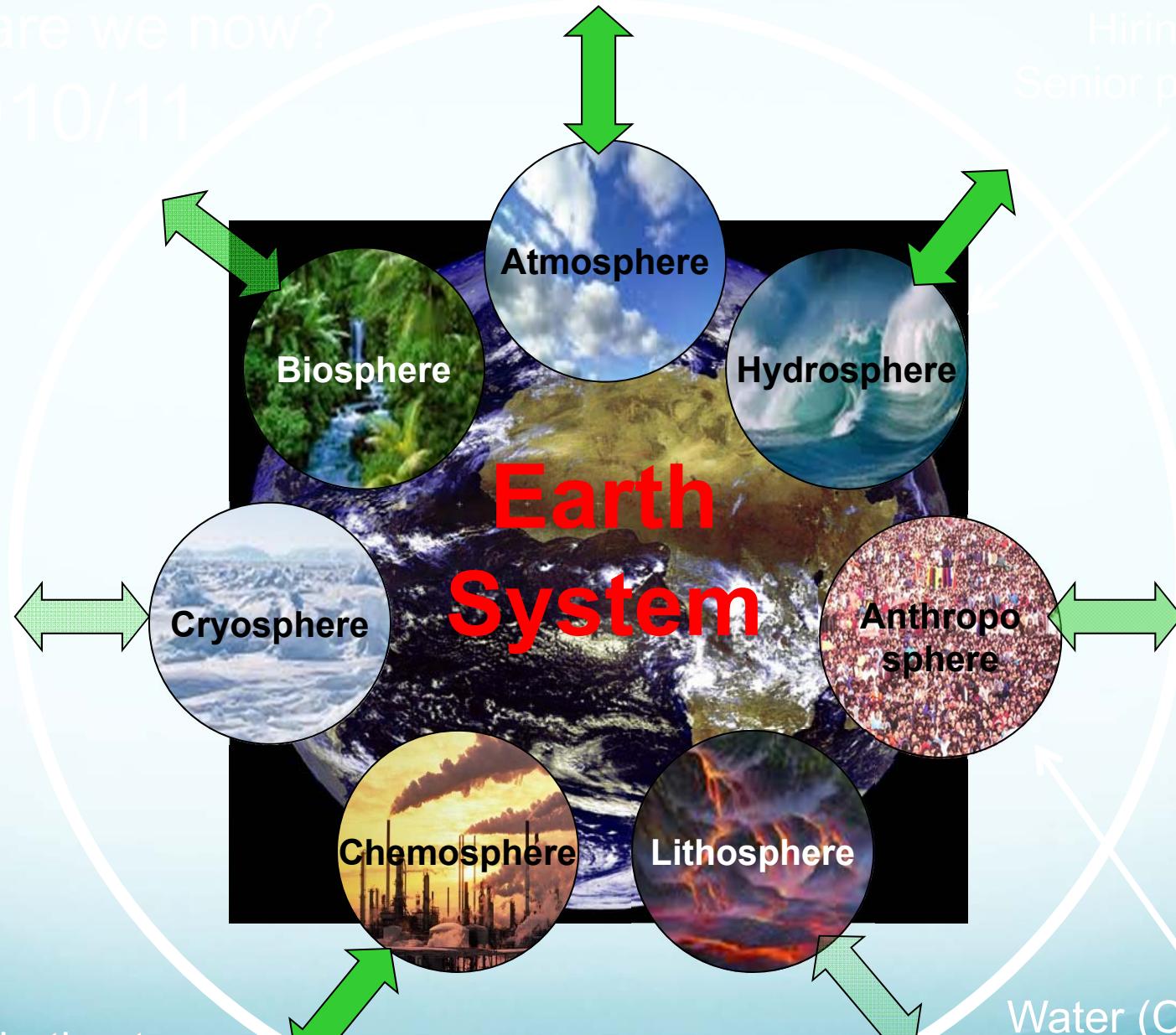
2009/10



Where are we now?

2010/11

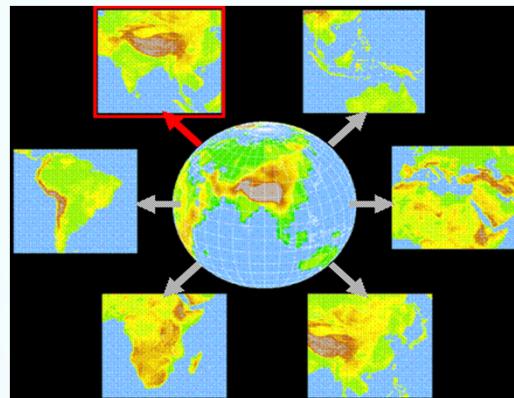
Hiring of  
Senior post-doc



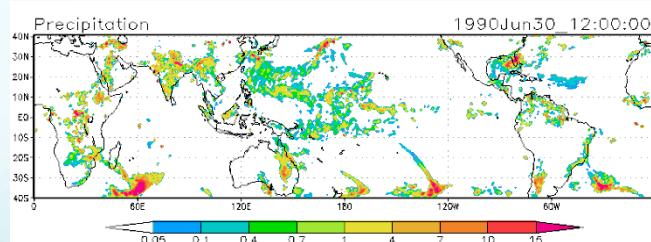
Contribution to  
the ICTP HPC cluster

Water (CR,PAPR)  
Food (CR,ILLY)  
Health (HF, ATOPICA)

# Computational Earth System modeling

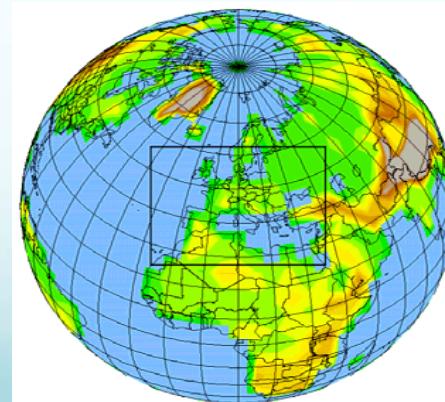


**Regional Earth System  
Modeling (RegCM)**



**Global Earth System  
Modeling  
(ECHAM, SPEEDY)**

**RegCM Tropical Band**



**Computing resources:**  
**Local cluster (ARGO)**  
**SISSA cluster**  
**CINECA**  
**ECMWF**

**Developing flexible and economical tools for developing country needs**