



**Barcelona  
Supercomputing  
Center**  
Centro Nacional de Supercomputación



**UAB**  
Universitat Autònoma  
de Barcelona

# Towards exa-scale ocean simulation

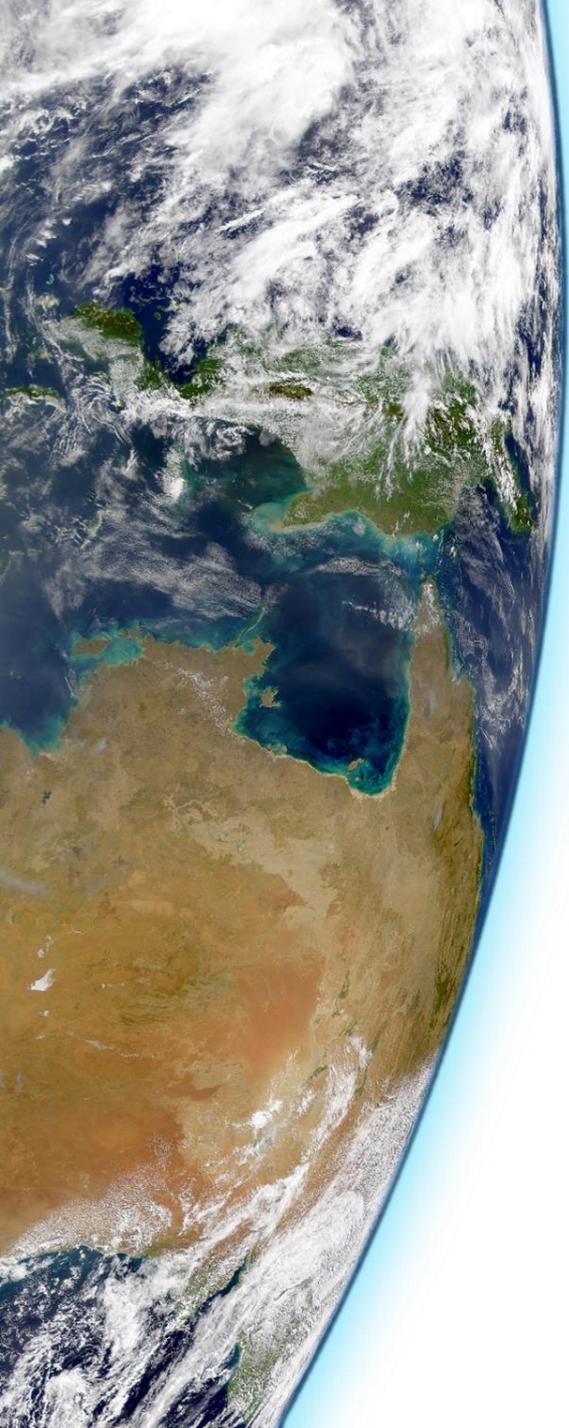
Oriol Tintó Prims

Advisors:

- Anna Cortés
- Mario C. Acosta
- Francisco J. Doblas-Reyes

26/04/2019

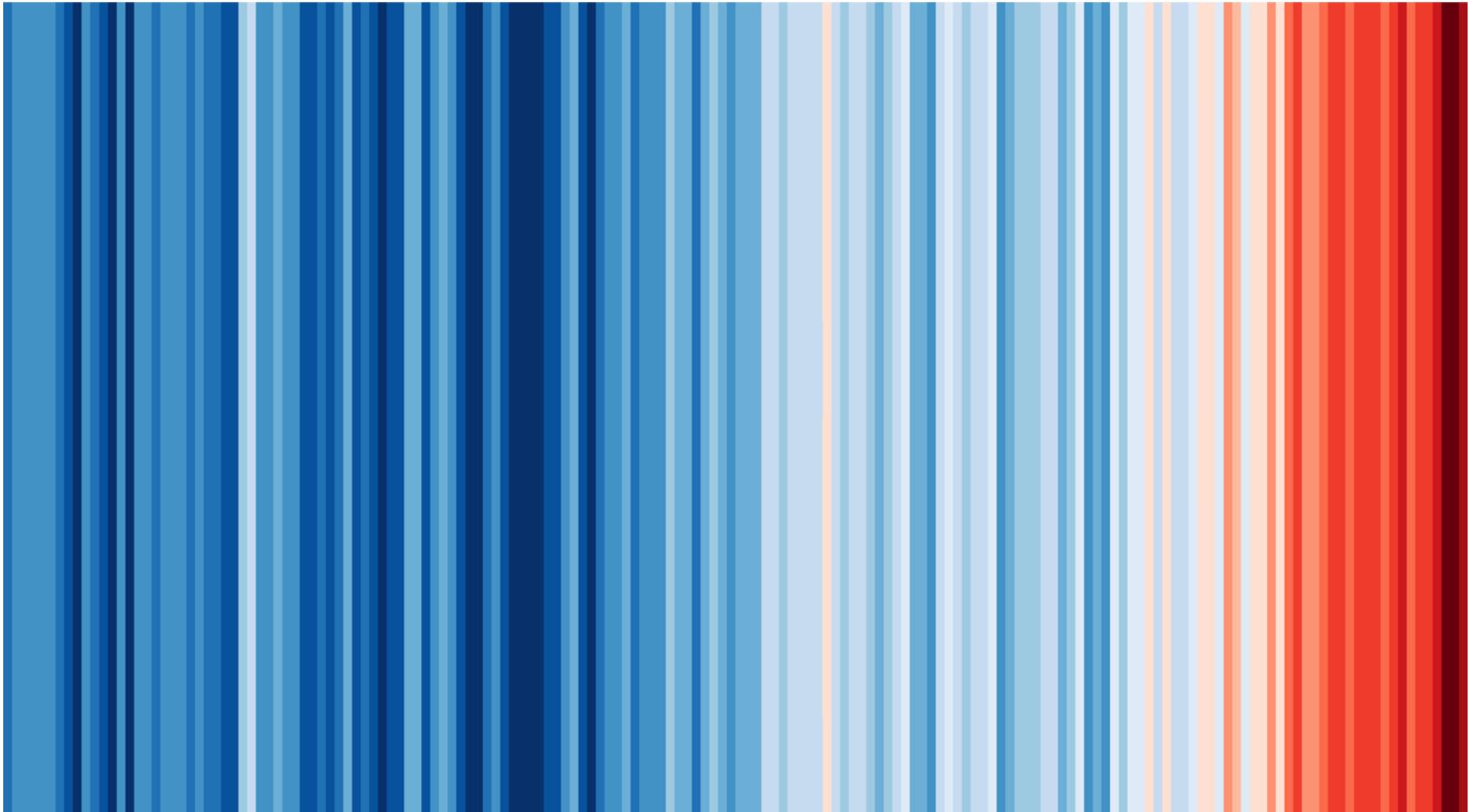
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

A satellite view of the Earth, showing the Middle East, the Red Sea, and the surrounding landmasses. The image is positioned on the left side of the slide, with the Earth's curvature visible.

# Outline

- Introduction
- Challenges
- Work done
- Future Plans

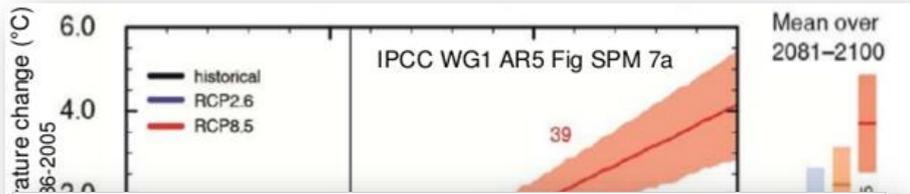
# Motivation





# Motivation

- Projections
- Impact analysis
- Adaptation to climate change.



now you see it

now you don't



Currently, **only computational models** have the **potential** to provide geographically and physically consistent estimates.

Muir Glacier, Alaska: Al

NASA CLIMATE 365



# Motivation

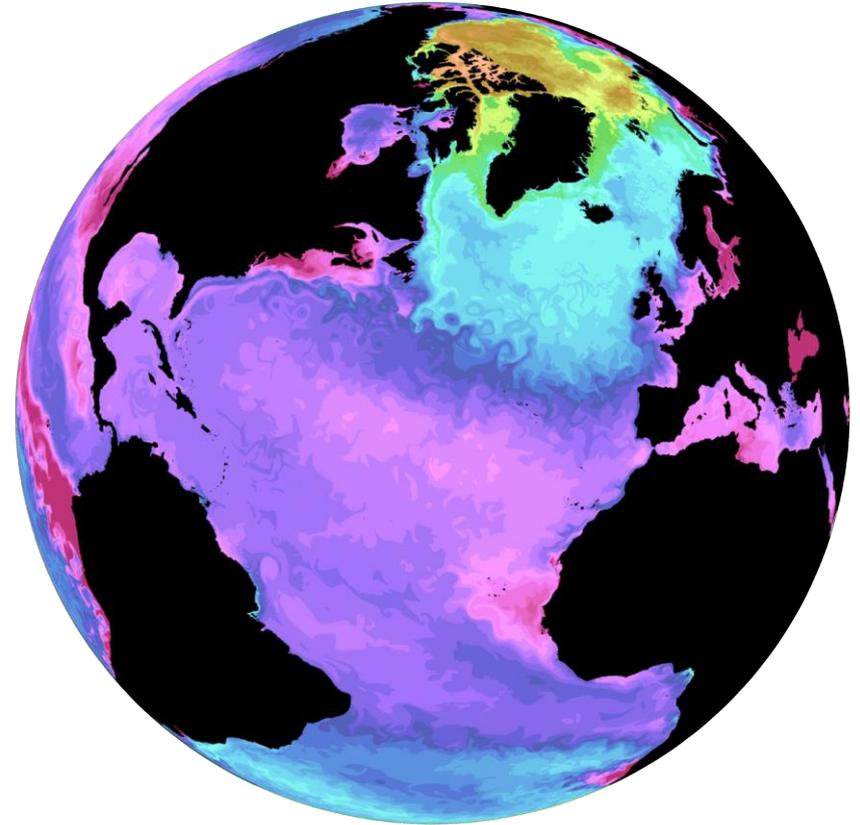
- The same models are used for both **weather and climate**.
- Weather models have a **huge value for society**.
- Improving the computational performance of these models pays back in several ways:
  - Saving resources.
  - Allowing new experiments:
    - Improving climate knowledge
    - Improving weather predictions



**Nucleus for European Modeling of the Ocean (NEMO)** is a **state-of-the-art** global ocean model

It is used in oceanographic research, operational oceanography, seasonal forecast and climate studies

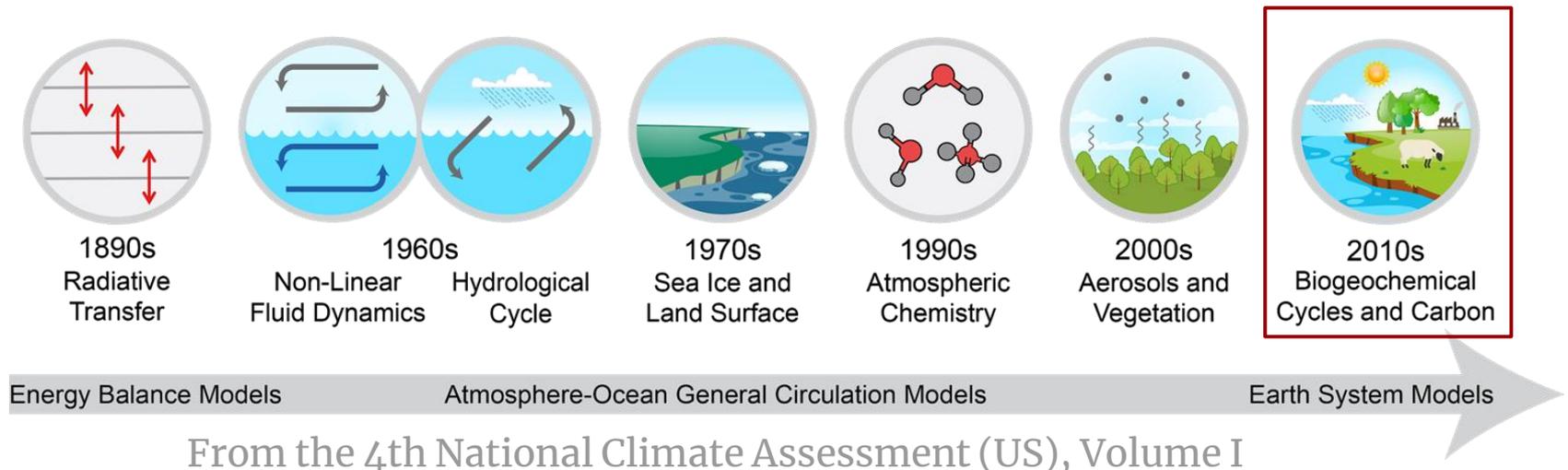
Includes several **sub-models**. Many of them can work in standalone version , many others need to be coupled



Sea Surface  
Temperature  
Chlorophyll  
e Velocity

# A climate modeling Timeline

## Inclusion of new components

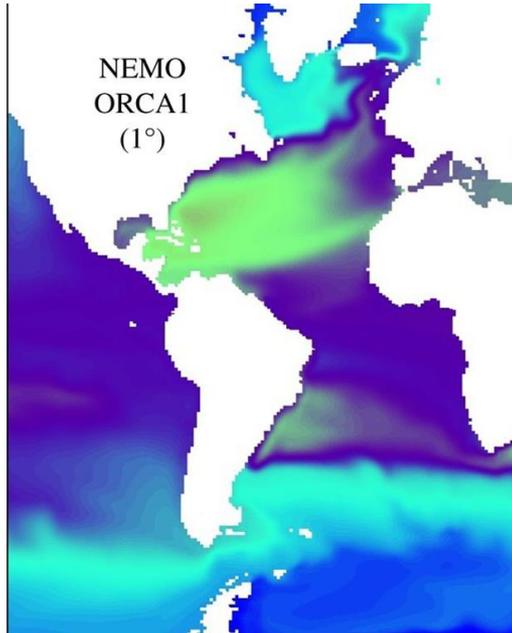


- Allowed the representation of new climate and biogeochemical processes
- Improved the ESMs ability to represent the real world
- Provides a new framework to investigate the interactions between the different components

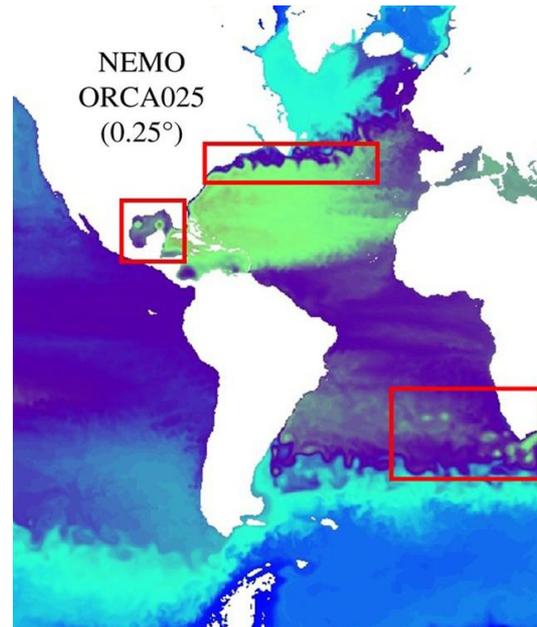
# A climate modeling Timeline

## Increase in spatial resolution: Ocean

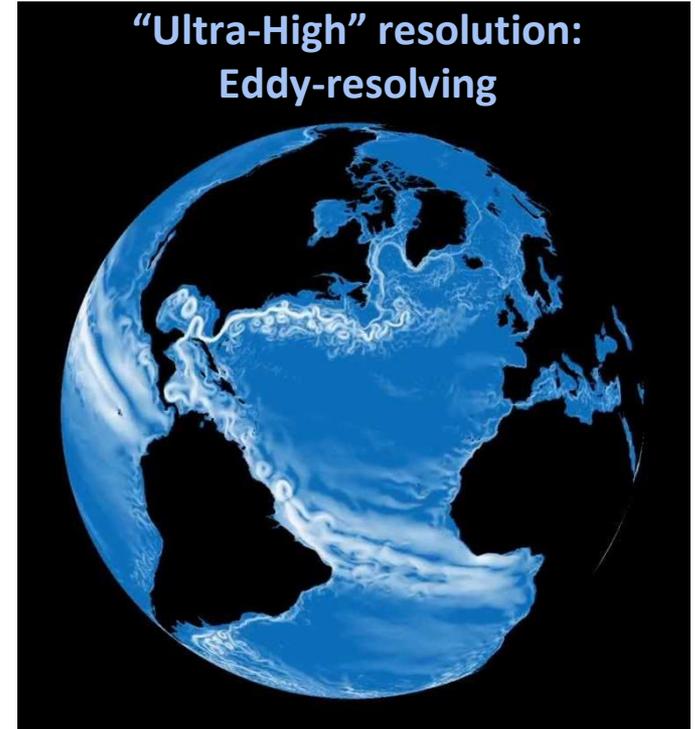
Standard  
Resolution (1°)



High Resolution (0.25°)  
Eddy-permitting



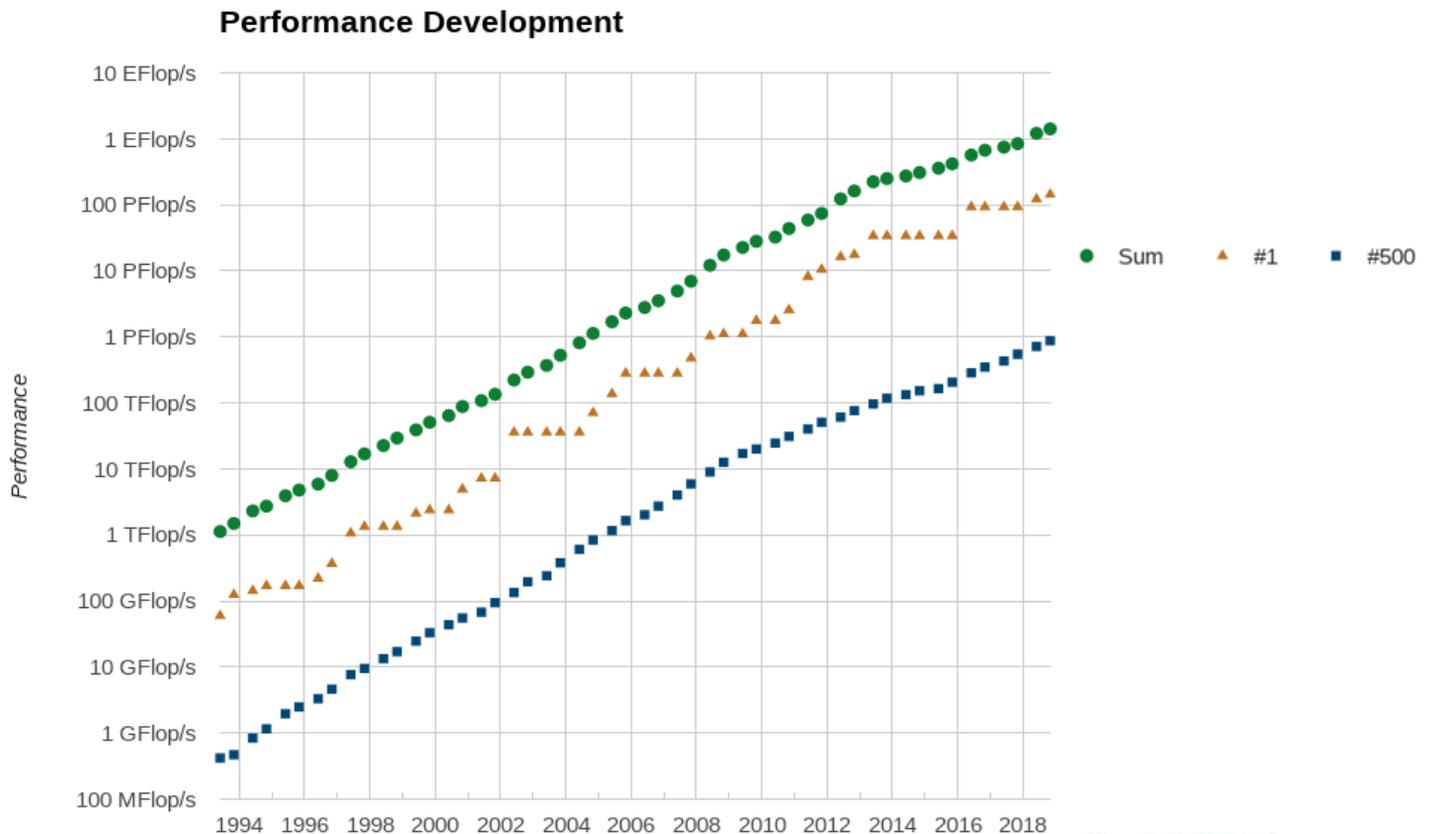
“Ultra-High” resolution:  
Eddy-resolving



The improvements in ocean resolution translate in a better representation of eddies and ocean currents, which are key to describe realistically decadal variability in the ocean

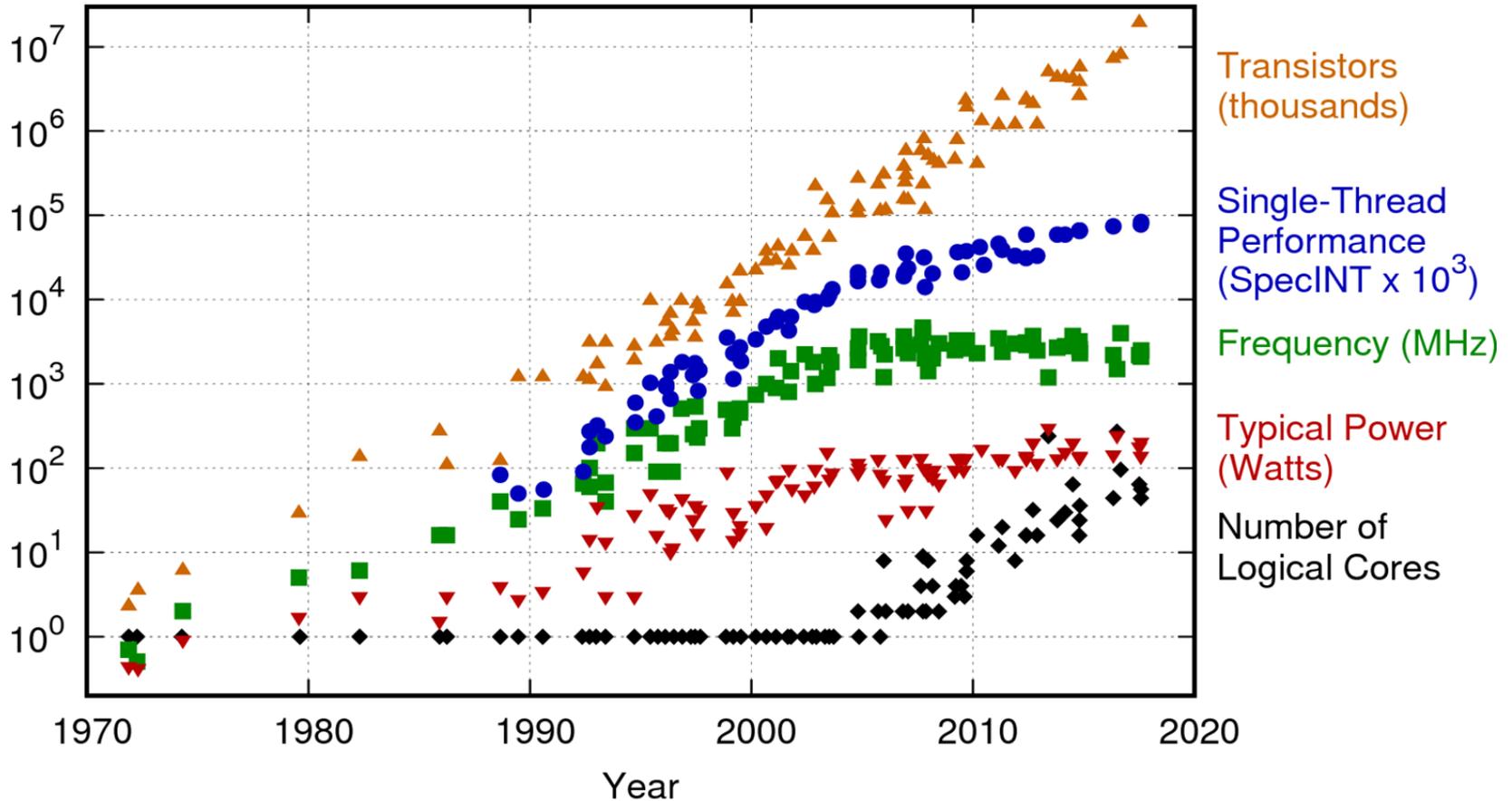
# Challenges

TOP500 Ranking of most powerful supercomputers



# Challenges

42 Years of Microprocessor Trend Data



Original data up to the year 2010 collected and plotted by M. Horowitz, F. Labonte, O. Shacham, K. Olukotun, L. Hammond, and C. Batten  
New plot and data collected for 2010-2017 by K. Rupp

# Challenges

- How to exploit exascale systems:
  - Synchronization-reducing algorithms.
  - Communication reducing algorithms.
  - Mixed Precision methods.
  - Autotuning.
  - Fault resilient algorithms.
  - Reproducibility.

# Challenges

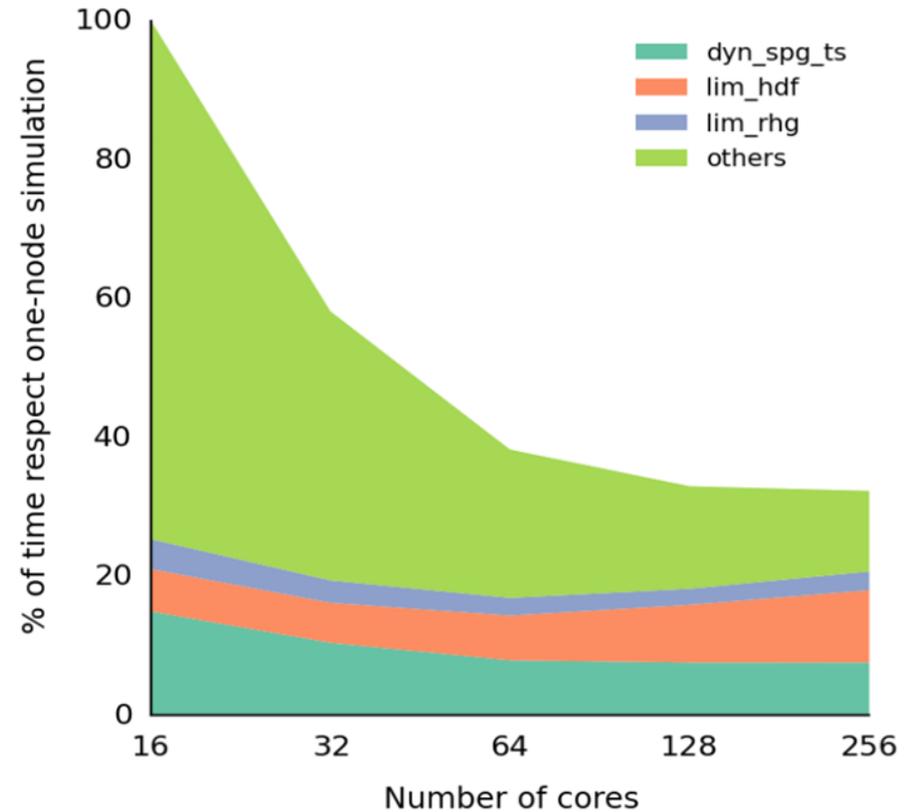
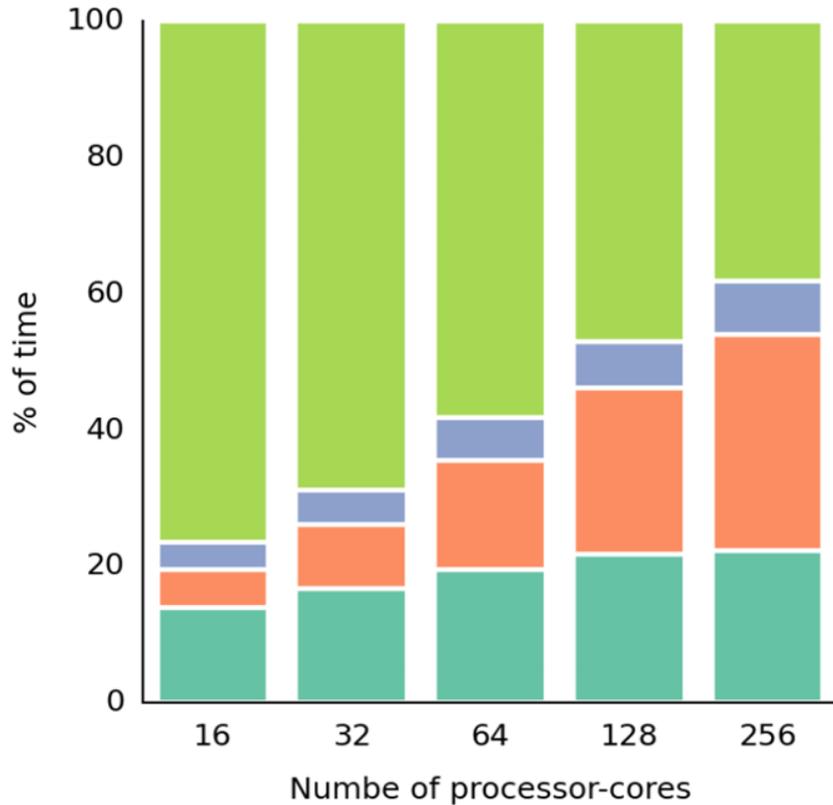
- Start from scratch to use better the resources?

Development cost of a climate model is estimated to be between 500-1000 person year.

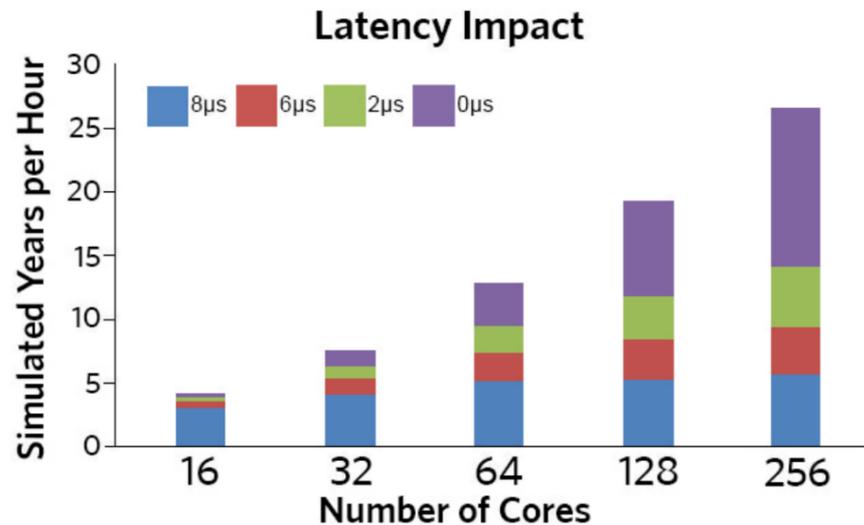
Most of models are community models and communities are reluctant to deep changes.

- Adapt the existing state-of-the-art models seems wiser choice!

# Stress Test



# Impact of Communication

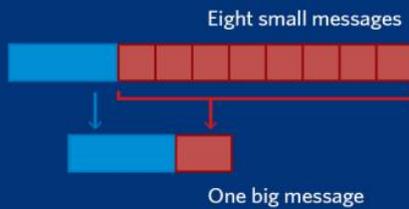


# Optimizations

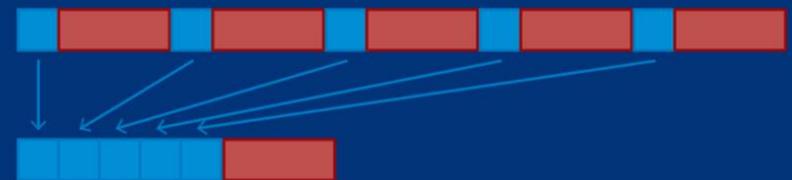
- Reduction of communication:
  - Message aggregation
  - Removing unnecessary collective communication

# Optimizations

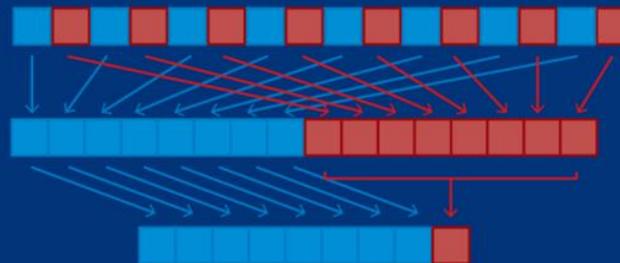
## MESSAGE PACKING



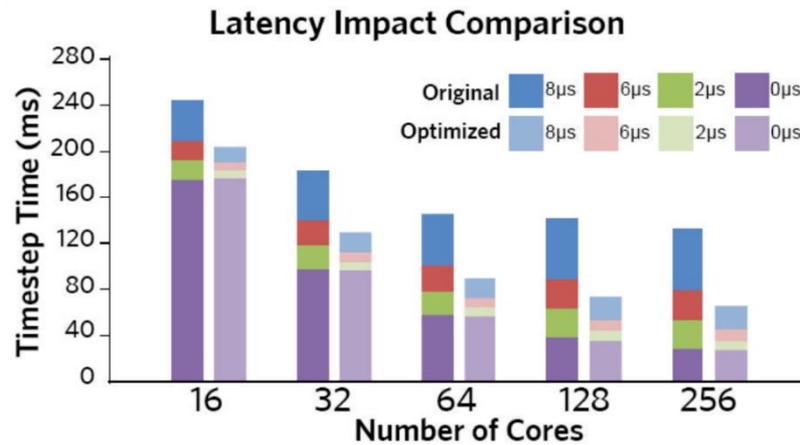
## CONVERGENCE CHECK REDUCTION



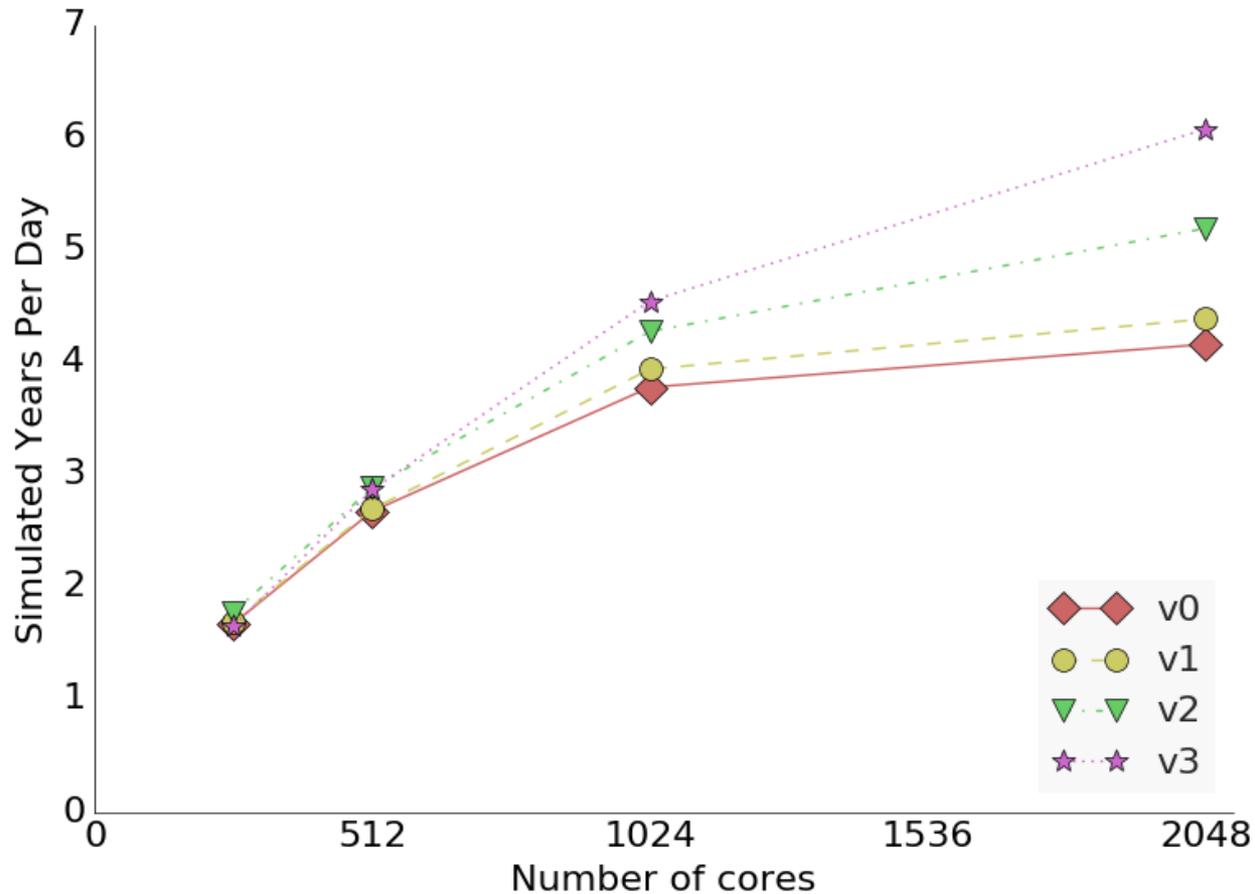
## REORDERING



# Optimization Impact



# Optimization Impact on ORCA025 simulations



# Impact of our work

- Our optimizations have been included and used from NEMO 3.6 . Hundreds of users around the world take profit of it and millions of computer hours are saved.
- Publication:
  - Finding, analysing and solving MPI communication bottlenecks in Earth System models - Journal of computational Science  
( <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jocs.2018.04.015> )



Finding, analysing and solving MPI communication bottlenecks in Earth System models

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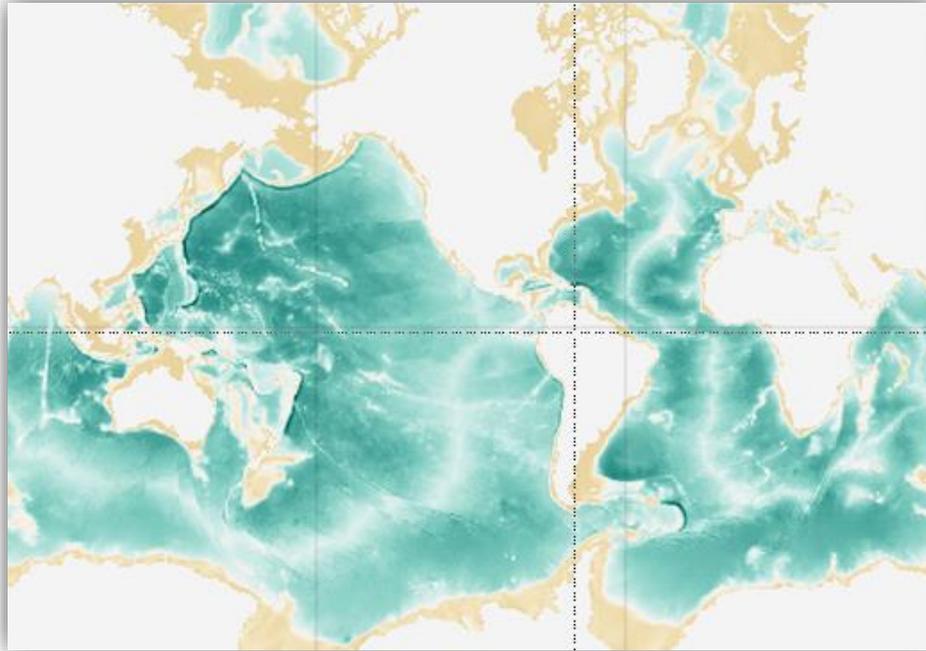
<sup>a</sup> Barcelona Supercomputing Center, Spain

<sup>b</sup> Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

<sup>c</sup> Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies, ICREA, Spain

# ELPiN

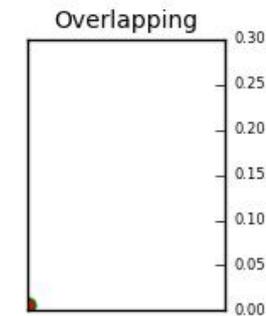
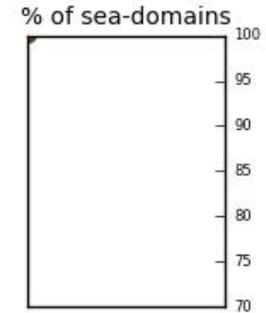
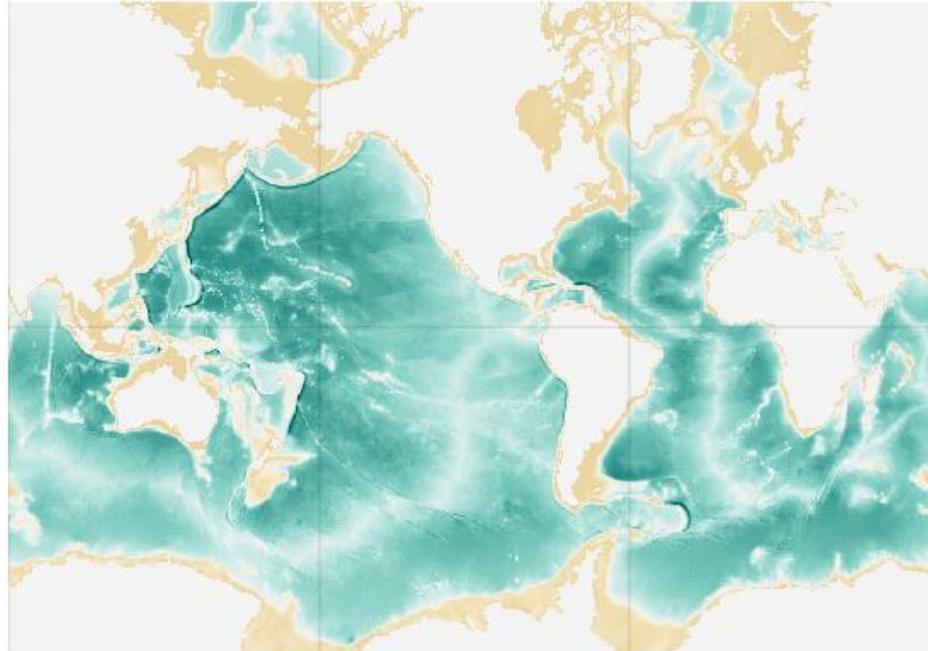
- Removing the land-only processes in the smart way.



# ELPiN

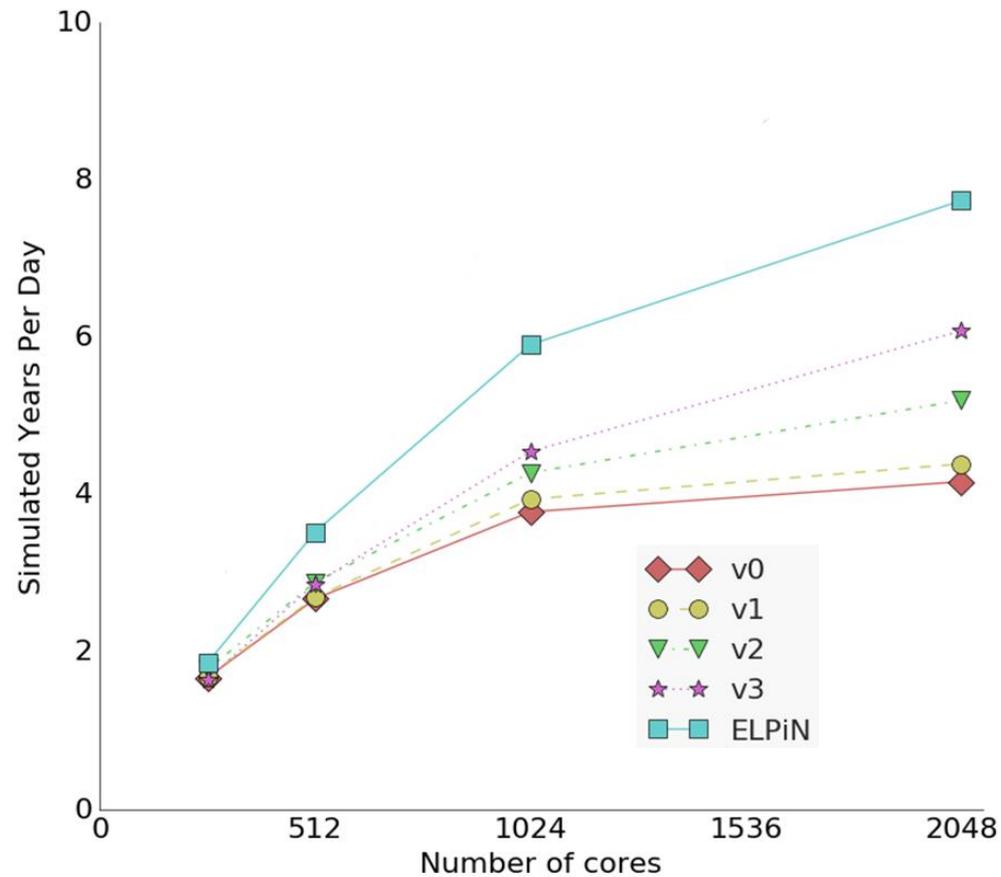
- Removing the land-only processes in the smart way.

Sub-domains: 6



# ELPiN

- Impact on ORCA025 simulations



# Impact of our work

- This tool has been implemented in the EC-Earth **production** workflow. CMIP-6 simulations with EC-Earth will be using it and therefore saving millions of computing hours.
- Presented and published in proceedings of the **ICCS 2017 @ Zurich**



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



Procedia Computer Science 108C (2017) 776–785

International Conference on Computational Science, ICCS 2017, 12-14 June 2017,  
Zurich, Switzerland

Optimizing domain decomposition in an ocean model: the  
case of NEMO

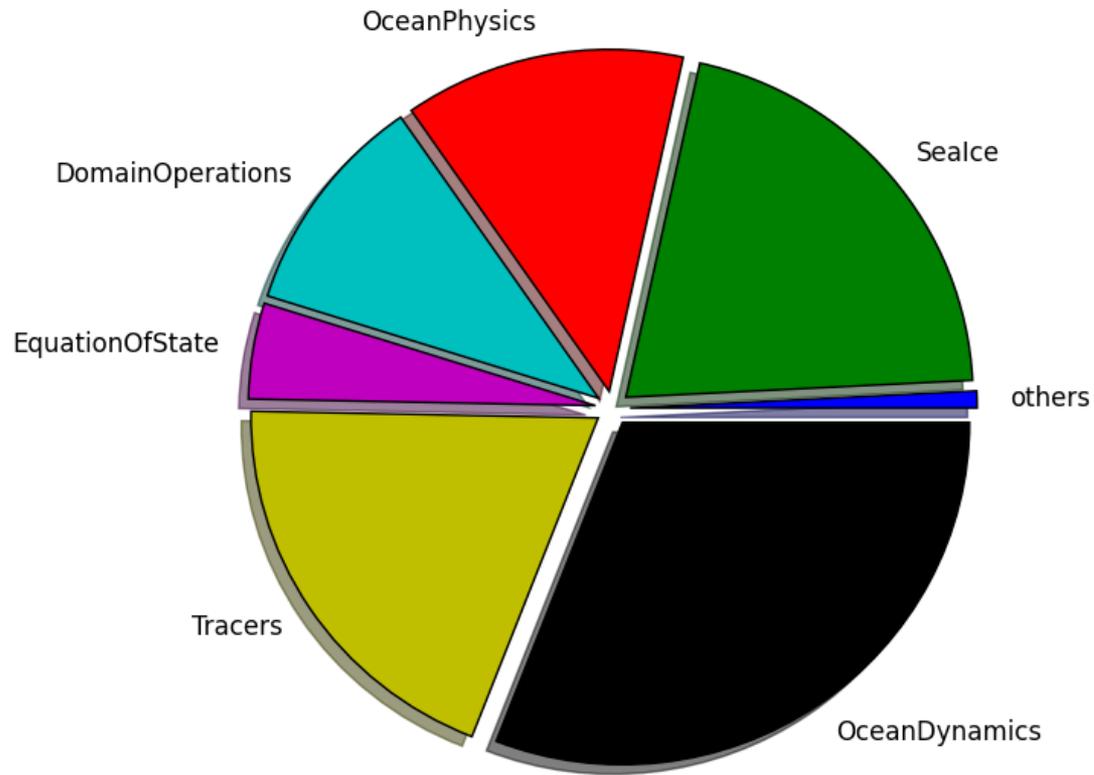
Oriol Tintó<sup>1,2</sup>, Mario Acosta<sup>1</sup>, Miguel Castrillo<sup>1</sup>, Ana Cortés<sup>2</sup>, Alicia Sanchez<sup>1</sup>,  
Kim Serradell<sup>2</sup>, and Francisco J. Doblas-Reyes<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Barcelona Supercomputing Center, Barcelona, Spain  
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<sup>3</sup> ICREA, Pg. Llus Companys 23, 08010 Barcelona, Spain  
[oriol.tinto@bsc.es](mailto:oriol.tinto@bsc.es)

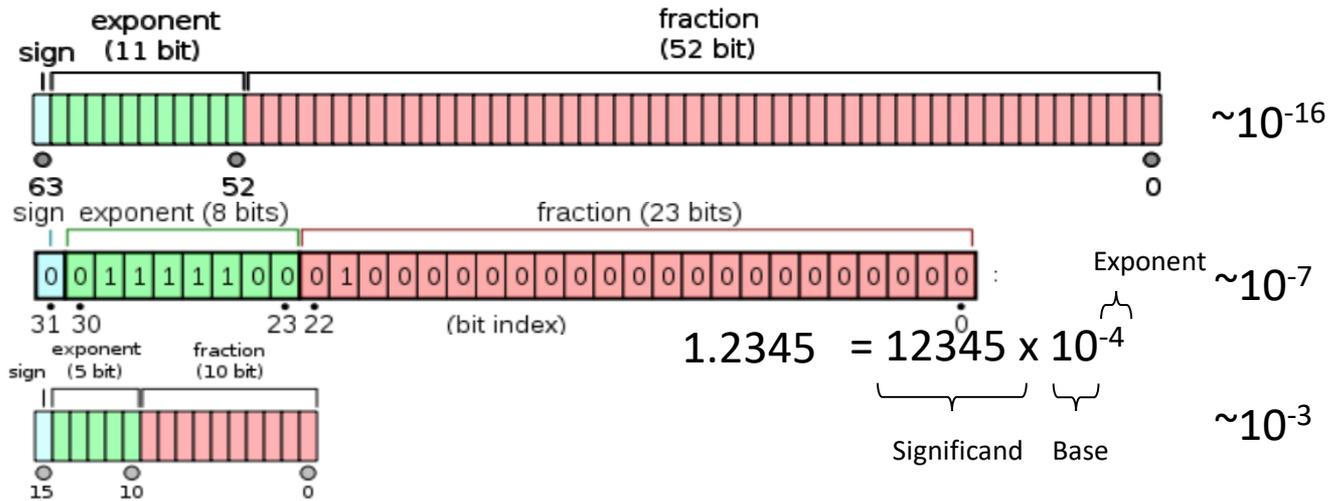
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**Abstract**  
Earth System Models are critical tools for the study of our climate and its future trends. These models are in constant evolution and their growing complexity entails an incrementing

# How to keep improving the model?



# Exploring the use of mixed Precision



- Which precision is needed for the data that we want to represent?

Satellites can measure sea surface temperature with an uncertainty of 0.3 °C and surface wind with an uncertainty of 1 m/s.

- *Remote Sensing of European Seas* - V.Barale, M.Gad

$\sim 10^{-1}$

To represent data with this level of uncertainty, using **half-precision (16-bit)** should be enough. Instead, double precision (64-bit) is the standard.

# Reduced Precision Emulator

- Fortran group, v

## Overview

The library contains a derived type: `rpe_var`. This type can be used in place of real-valued variables to perform calculations with floating-point numbers represented with a reduced number of bits in the floating-point significand.

## Basic use of the reduced-precision type

The `rpe_var` type is a simple container for a double precision floating point value. Using an `rpe_var` instance is as simple as declaring it and using it just as you would a real number:

```
TYPE(rpe_var) :: myvar
myvar = 12
myvar = myvar * 1.287  ! reduced-precision result is stored in `myvar`
```

## Controlling the precision

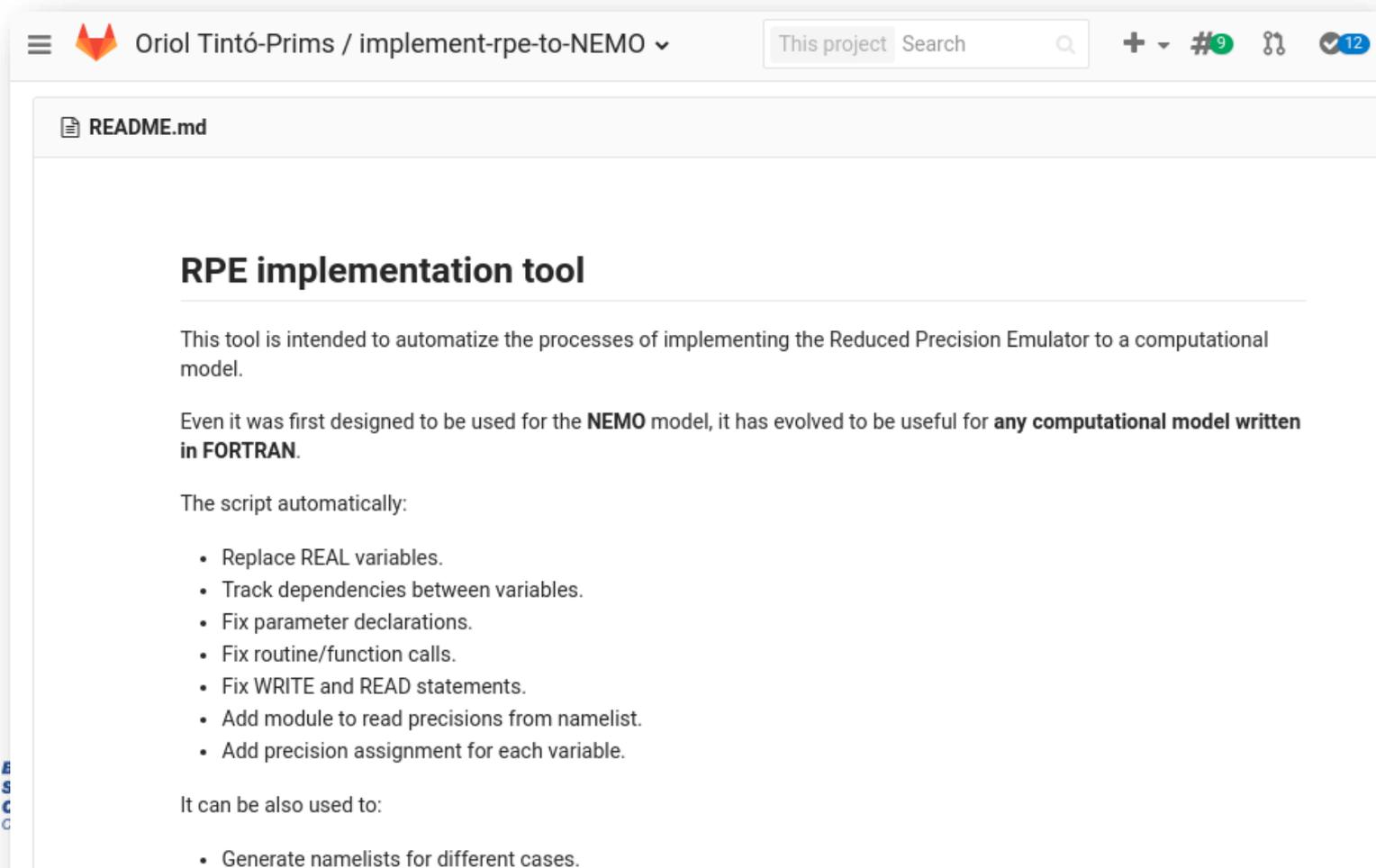
The precision used by reduced precision types can be controlled at two different levels. Each reduced precision variable has an `sbits` attribute which controls the number of explicit bits in its significand. This can be set independently for different variables, and comes into effect after it is explicitly set.

```
TYPE(rpe_var) :: myvar1
TYPE(rpe_var) :: myvar2

! Use 16 explicit bits in the significand of myvar1, but only 12 in the
! significand of myvar2.
myvar1%sbits = 16
myvar2%sbits = 12
```

# Implementing the emulator

- After some months lost manually implementing the emulator... a Python tool to automate the process was created.



☰  Oriol Tintó-Prims / implement-rpe-to-NEMO ▾ This project Search 🔍 + ▾ #9 🔗 12

📄 README.md

## RPE implementation tool

This tool is intended to automatize the processes of implementing the Reduced Precision Emulator to a computational model.

Even it was first designed to be used for the **NEMO** model, it has evolved to be useful for **any computational model written in FORTRAN**.

The script automatically:

- Replace REAL variables.
- Track dependencies between variables.
- Fix parameter declarations.
- Fix routine/function calls.
- Fix WRITE and READ statements.
- Add module to read precisions from namelist.
- Add precision assignment for each variable.

It can be also used to:

- Generate namelists for different cases.

# RPE in NEMO: What we can do with it?

With a **single binary**, we can specify the number of significant bits used for each real variable declaration within the code through a **namelist**.

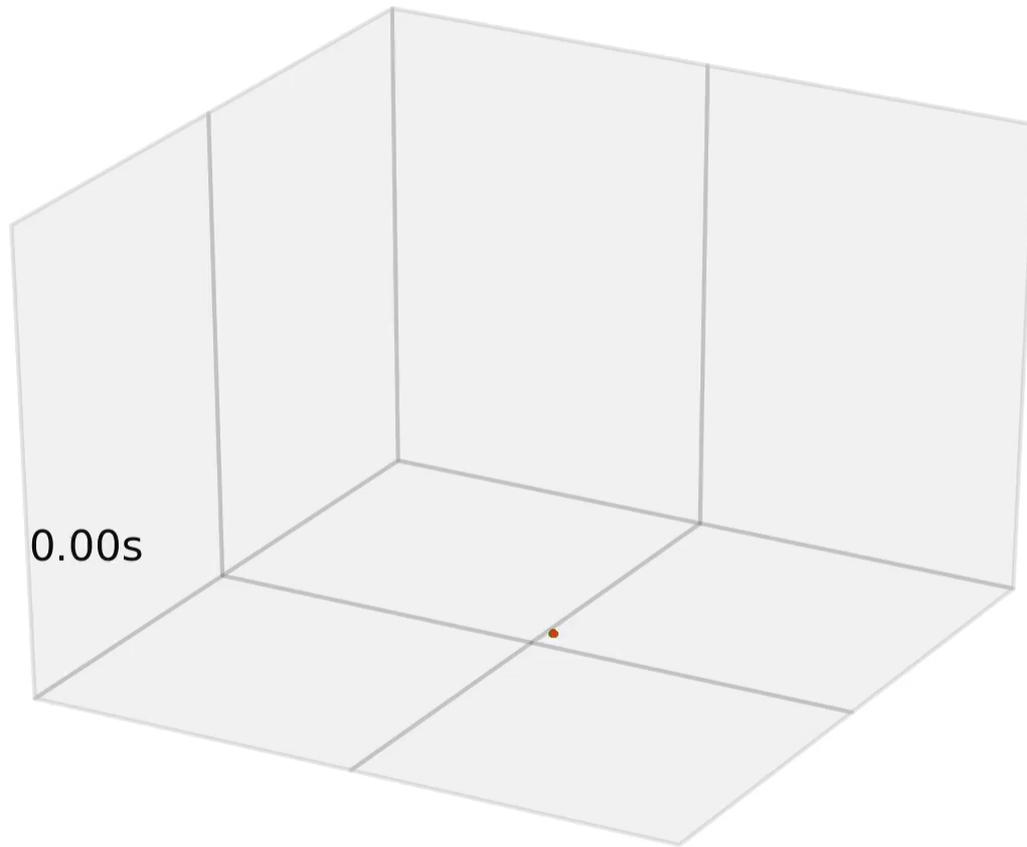
```
1 ! namelist variable precisions
2 &precisions
3 emulator_variable_precisions(1) = 10 ! Variable: ad_u Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
4 emulator_variable_precisions(2) = 10 ! Variable: ad_v Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
5 emulator_variable_precisions(3) = 10 ! Variable: ad_zeta Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
6 emulator_variable_precisions(5) = 10 ! Variable: pc_r2d Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
7 emulator_variable_precisions(6) = 10 ! Variable: r_r2d Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
8 emulator_variable_precisions(7) = 10 ! Variable: br_r2d Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
9 emulator_variable_precisions(8) = 10 ! Variable: p_r2d Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
10 emulator_variable_precisions(9) = 10 ! Variable: bp_r2d Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
11 emulator_variable_precisions(30) = 10 ! Variable: dTdz Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
12 emulator_variable_precisions(31) = 10 ! Variable: dSdz Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
13 emulator_variable_precisions(32) = 10 ! Variable: ad_gradP Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
14 emulator_variable_precisions(33) = 10 ! Variable: ad_phi Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
15 emulator_variable_precisions(34) = 10 ! Variable: ad_gradPx Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
16 emulator_variable_precisions(35) = 10 ! Variable: ad_gradPy Routine: ad_balance_tile Module: ad_balance
17 emulator_variable_precisions(36) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_bc_r2d_tile Module: ad_bc_2d
18 emulator_variable_precisions(37) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_bc_u2d_tile Module: ad_bc_2d
19 emulator_variable_precisions(38) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_bc_v2d_tile Module: ad_bc_2d
20 emulator_variable_precisions(39) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_dabc_r2d_tile Module: ad_bc_2d
21 emulator_variable_precisions(40) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_dabc_u2d_tile Module: ad_bc_2d
22 emulator_variable_precisions(41) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_dabc_v2d_tile Module: ad_bc_2d
23 emulator_variable_precisions(42) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_bc_r2d_bry_tile Module: ad_bc_bry2d
24 emulator_variable_precisions(43) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_bc_u2d_bry_tile Module: ad_bc_bry2d
25 emulator_variable_precisions(44) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_bc_v2d_bry_tile Module: ad_bc_bry2d
26 emulator_variable_precisions(45) = 10 ! Variable: ad_A Routine: ad_conv_r2d_bry_tile Module: ad_conv_bry2d
27 emulator_variable_precisions(46) = 10 ! Variable: ad_Awkr Routine: ad_conv_r2d_bry_tile Module: ad_conv_bry2d
28 emulator_variable_precisions(47) = 10 ! Variable: ad_FE Routine: ad_conv_r2d_bry_tile Module: ad_conv_bry2d
29 emulator_variable_precisions(48) = 10 ! Variable: ad_FX Routine: ad_conv_r2d_bry_tile Module: ad_conv_bry2d
30 emulator_variable_precisions(49) = 10 ! Variable: Hfac Routine: ad_conv_r2d_bry_tile Module: ad_conv_bry2d
```



# Verifying a non-linear model a simple example

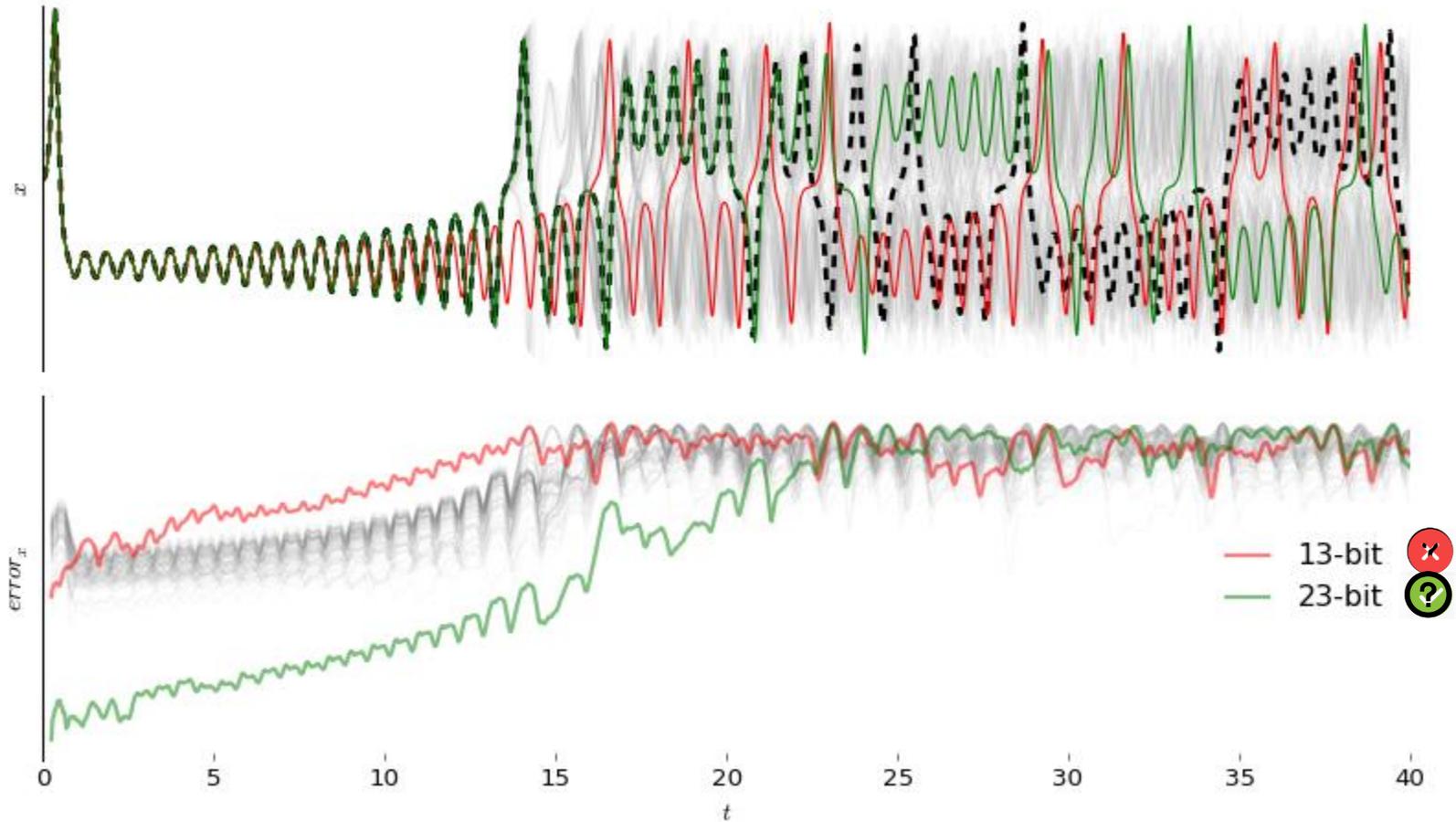
- A simple example:
  - Lorenz system

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= \sigma(y - x), \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= x(\rho - z) - y, \\ \frac{dz}{dt} &= xy - \beta z.\end{aligned}$$



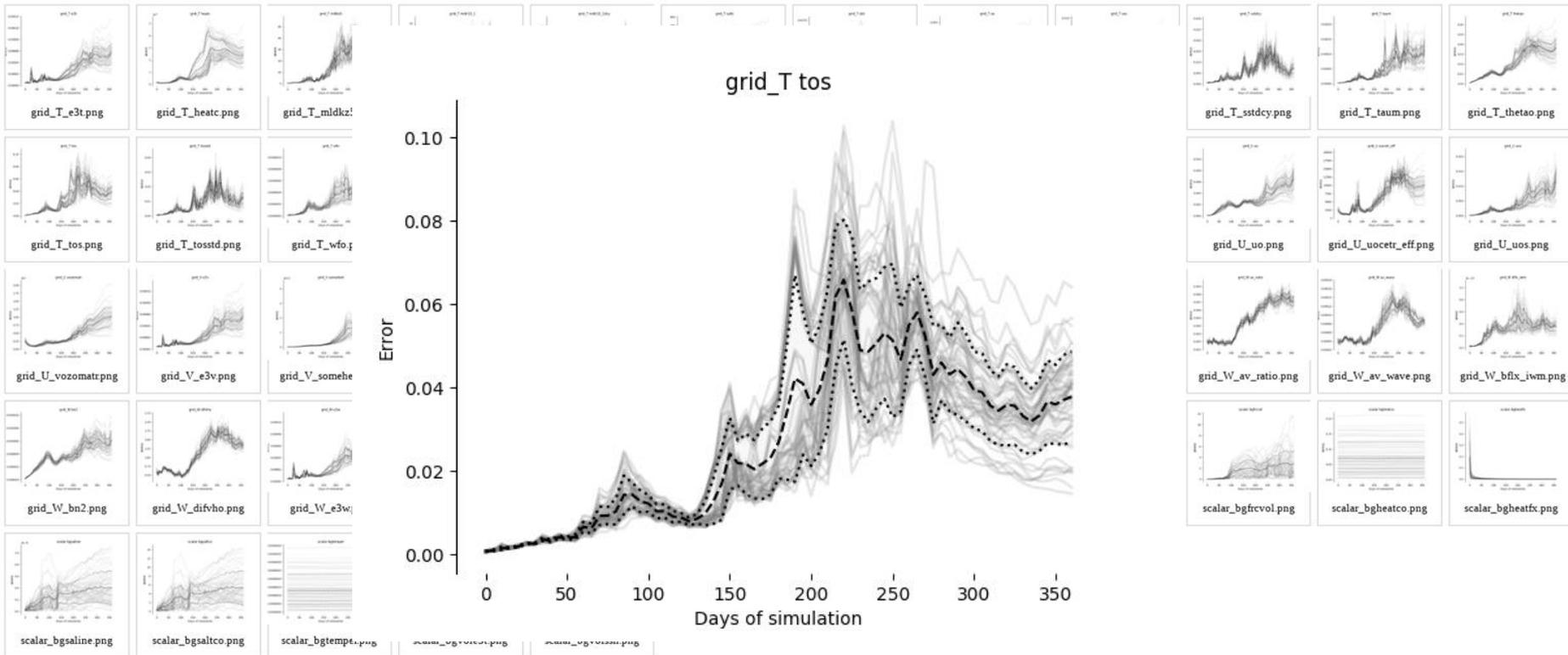
0.00s

# Verifying a non-linear model a simple example



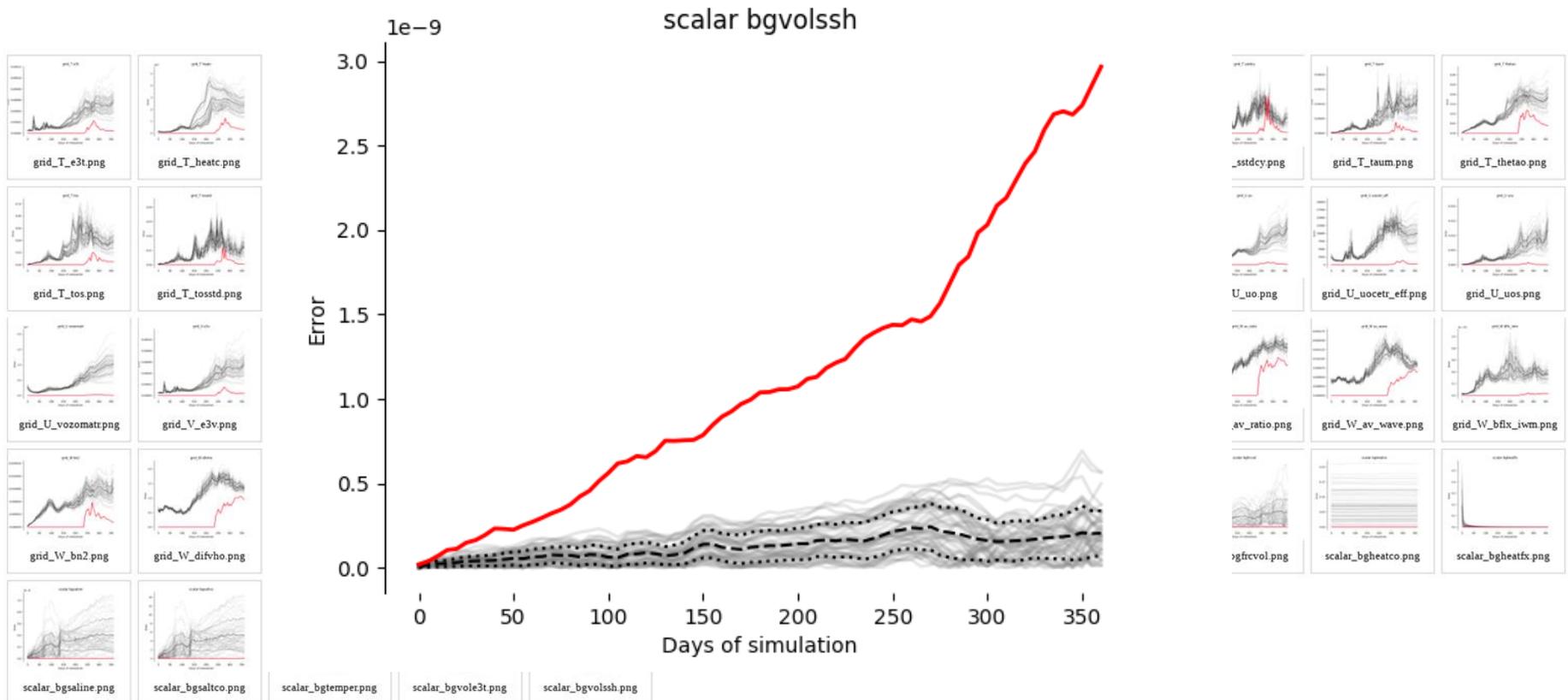
# Verifying NEMO

- Initial conditions perturbed with white noise in the 3D temperature field.
- Evaluating 53 output variables.



# Verifying NEMO

- Example: Compiling with **-xCORE-avx512**



# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



[0 1 2 3 4] ⓘ

[5 6 7 8 9] ⓘ

# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



[0 1 2 3 4] 

[5 6 7 8 9] 

[0 1 2]  [3 4] 

# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



[0 1 2 3 4]

[5 6 7 8 9]

[0 1 2] [3 4]

[3] [4]

# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



[0 1 2 3 4]

[5 6 7 8 9]

[0 1 2] [3 4]

[3] [4]

# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



[0 1 2 3 4]

[5 6 7 8 9]

[0 1 2] [3 4]

[3] [4]

# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



[0 1 2 3 4] ?

[5 6 7 8 9] ✓

[0 1 2] ✓ [3 4] ✓

[3] ✓ [4] ✗

# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



[0 1 2 3 4] ✓

[5 6 7 8 9] ✓

[0 1 2] ✓ [3 4] ✓

[3] ✓ [4] ✗

# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



[0 1 2 3 4] ✓

[5 6 7 8 9] ✓

[0 1 2] ✓ [3 4] ✓

[3] ✓ [4] ✗

# Analysis Algorithm

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]



[0 1 2 3 4] ✓

[5 6 7 8 9] ✓

[0 1 2] ✓ [3 4] ✓

[3] ✓ [4] ✗



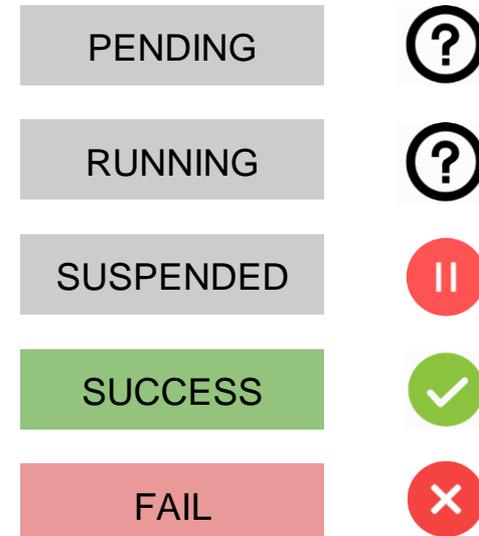
Variable 4 must be kept in double-precision.

# Analysis algorithm: How is it implemented?

Implementation done in Python:

- **class** Job( variable\_set):
  - Submit job to remote machine.
  - Check job status.
  - Evaluate success.
  - Expand subgroups. [0 1 2 3 4] [ 5 6 7 8 9]
  - Check subgroups.

[0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]

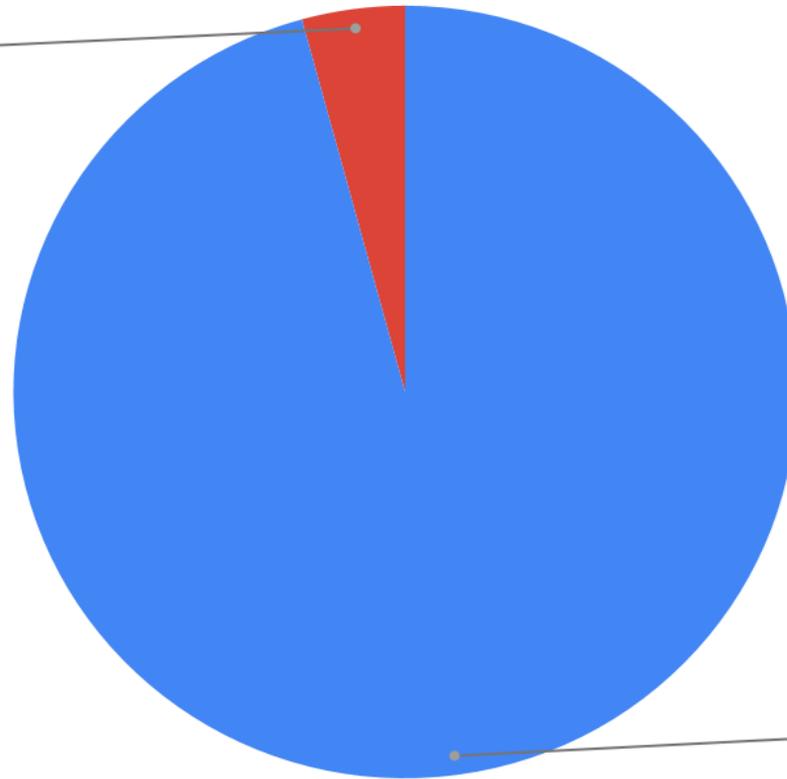




# Results

## Results

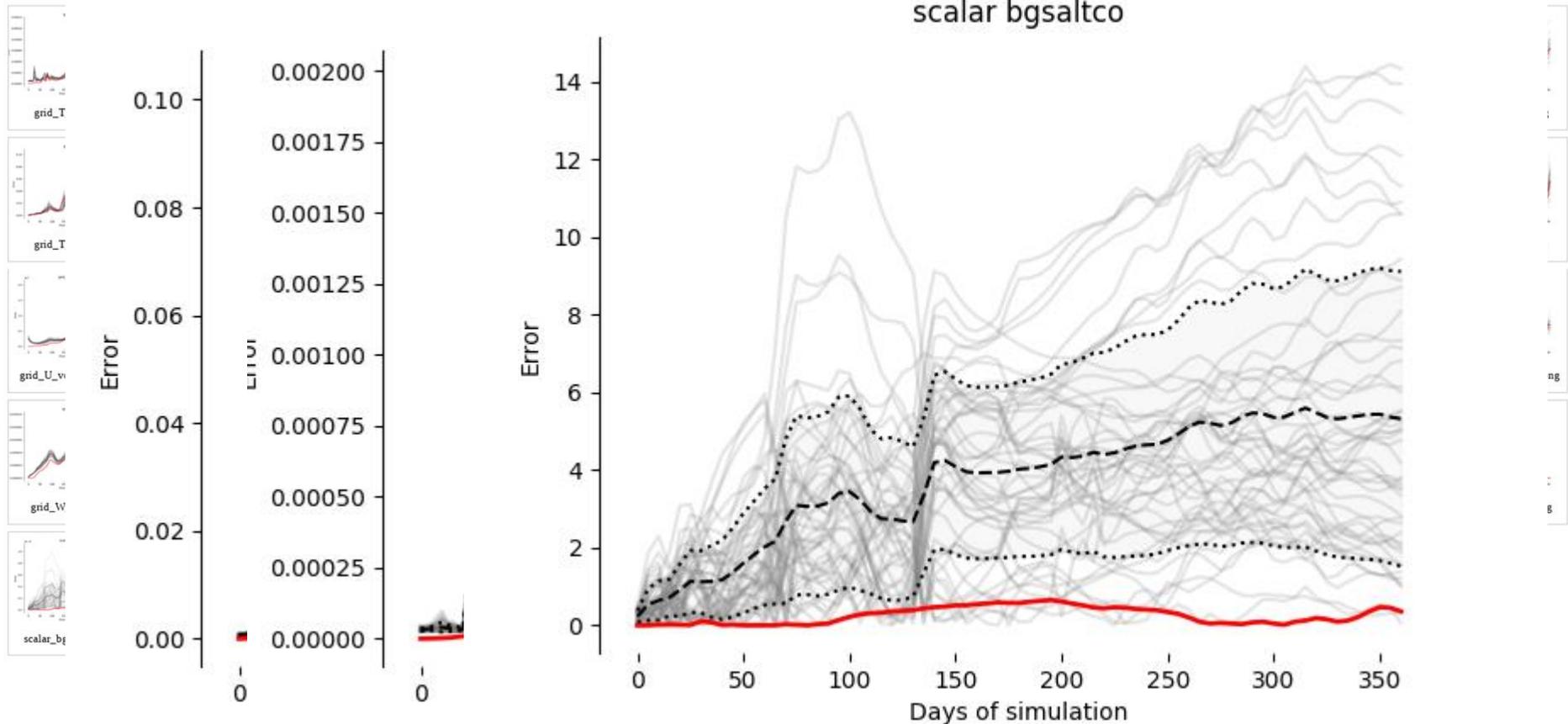
Double Precision  
4.2%



Single Precision  
95.8%

# Results

- Verifying results.



# Contributions

- Performance analysis and optimization
  - Detecting, analyzing and optimizing MPI communication bottlenecks in Earth System models - Published at Journal of Computational Sciences
- Domain decomposition optimization
  - Optimizing domain decomposition in an ocean model: the case of NEMO - Presented at ICCS 2017, published at the proceedings.
- Verifying non-linear models
  - Discriminating accurate results in nonlinear models. - Submitted to WCES @ HPCS 2019
- Numerical precision analysis for Earth Science models
  - How to use mixed precision in Ocean Models - Final stages of revision at Geoscientific Model Development

# Future Plans

- Finish the thesis during this academic year.



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# Thank you

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