



**Barcelona
Supercomputing
Center**

Centro Nacional de Supercomputación

A Digital Twin of the Earth for Climate Change Adaptation

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on behalf of the Climate DT DestinE team

22 February 2024



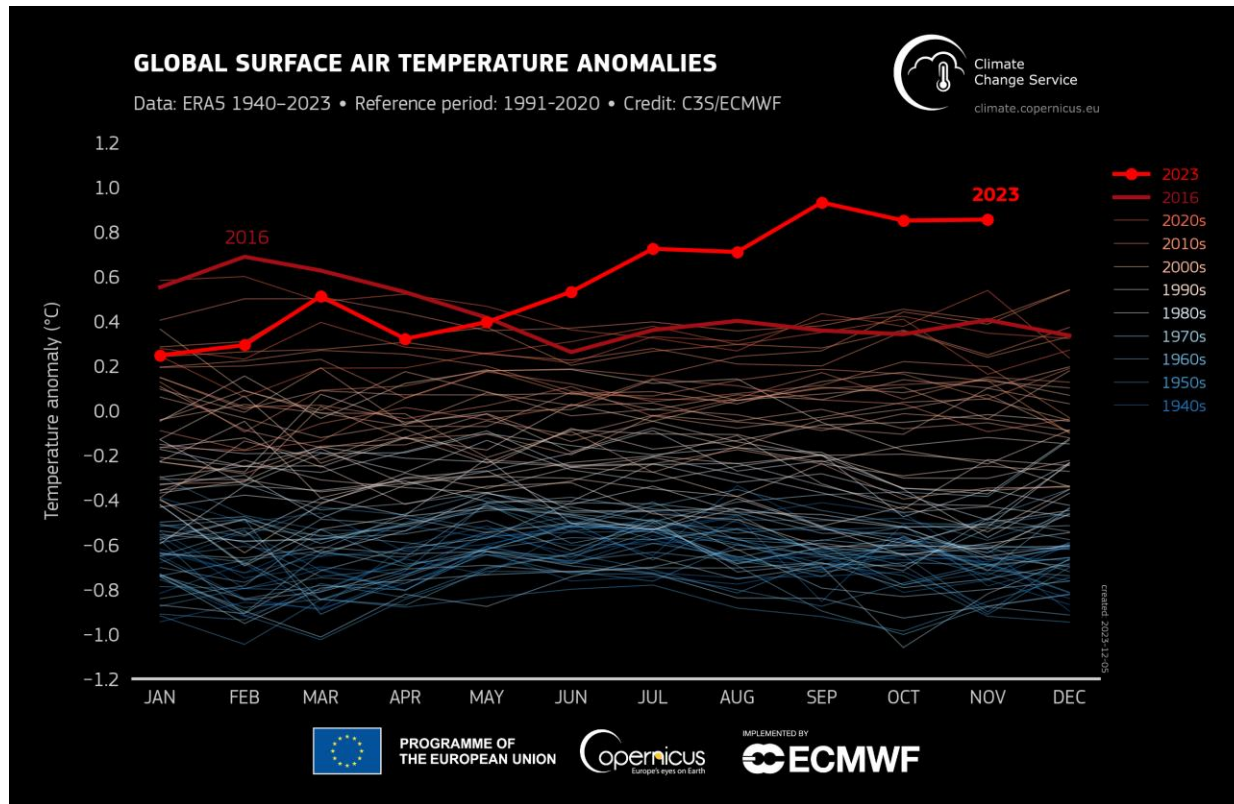
Funded by
the European Union

Destination Earth

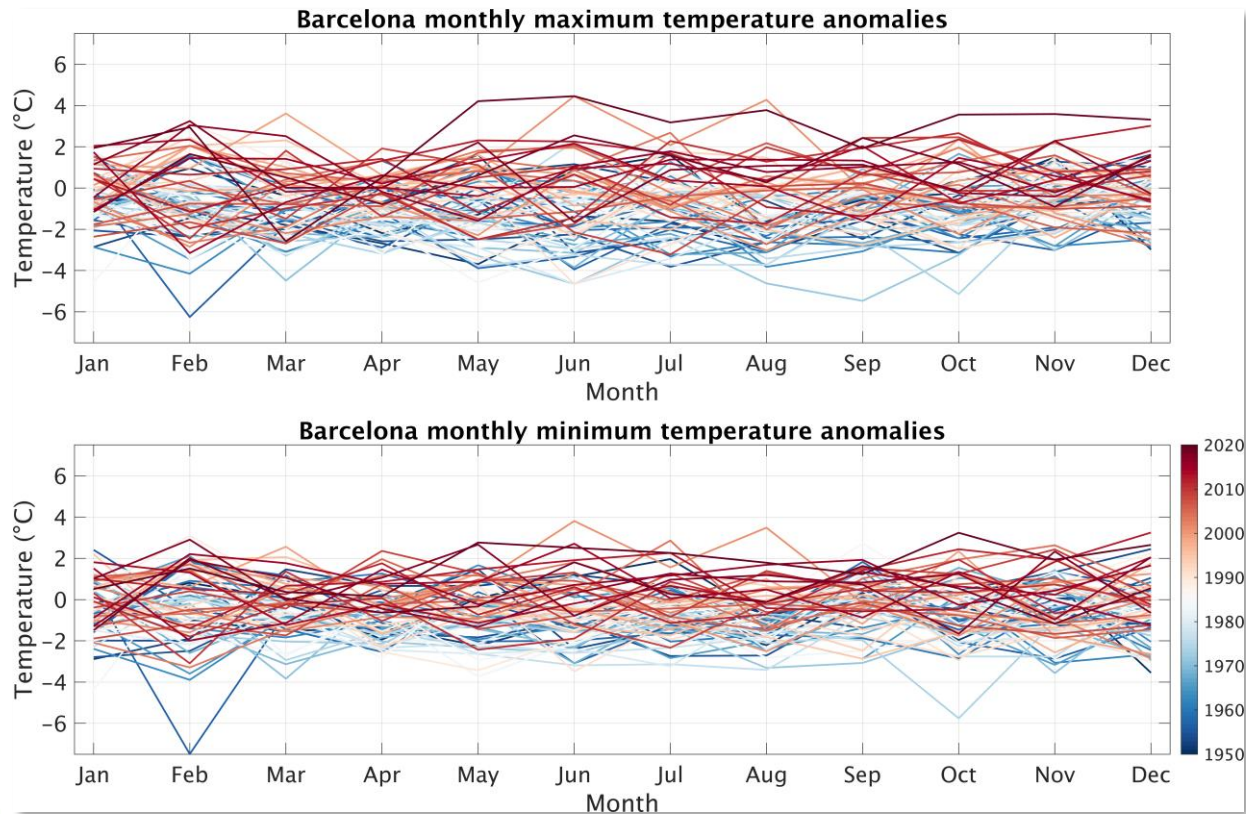
implemented by



Something is going on with global climate



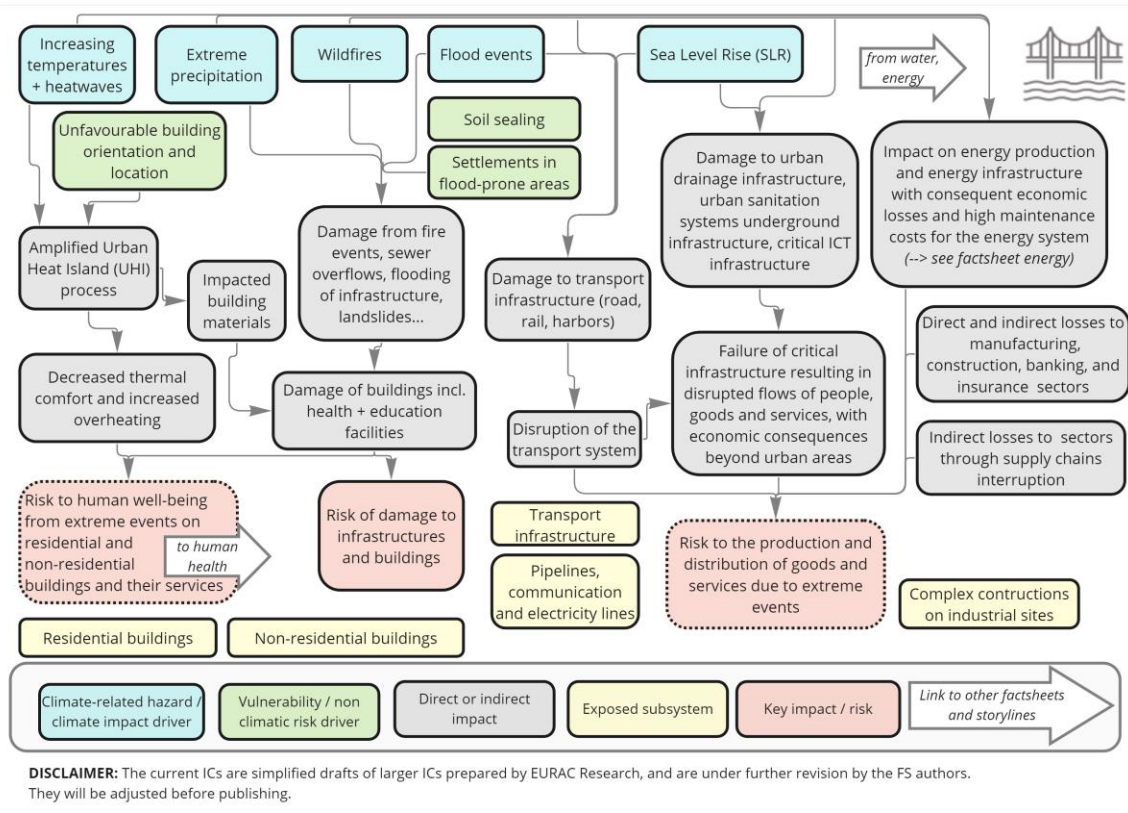
Global warming has also a local expression



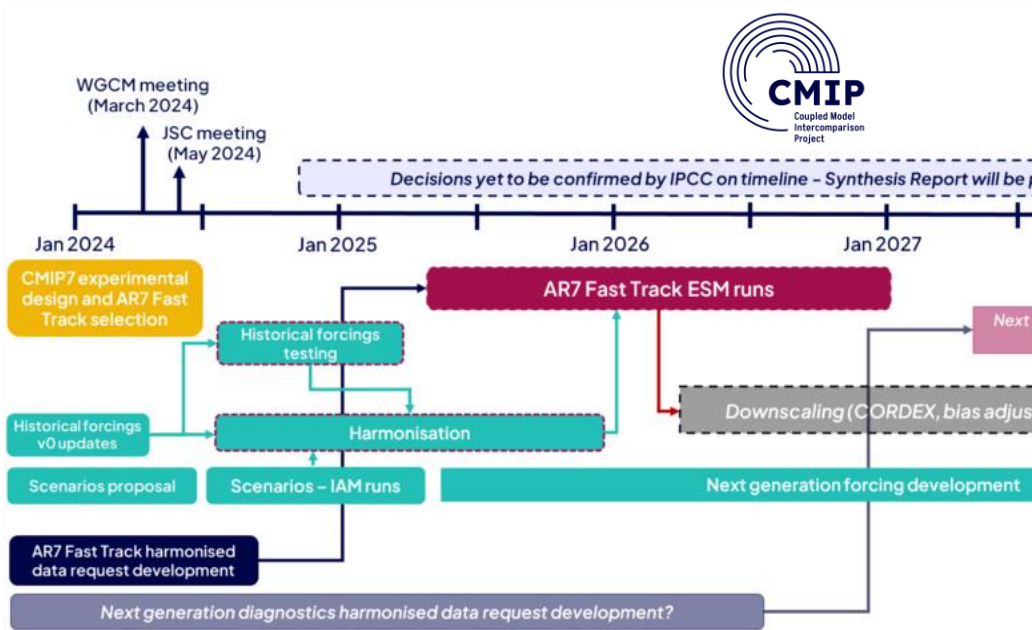
Let's focus on climate adaptation

Adaptation is the action that leads to limiting the consequences of a warming climate and requires, among many other elements, **climate information** about climate hazards.

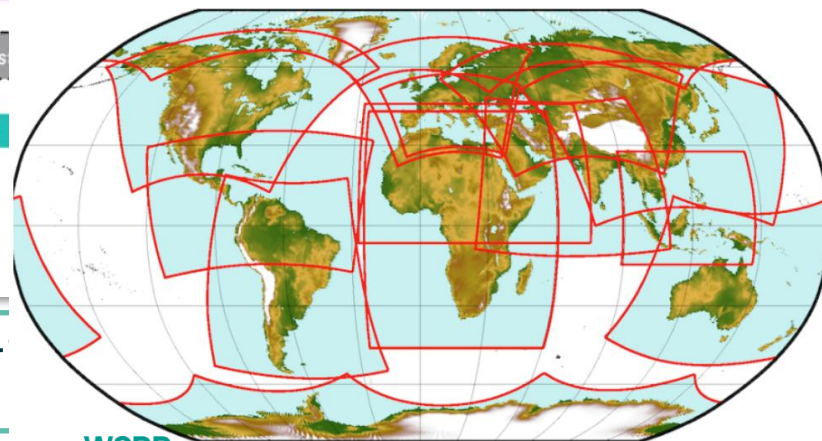
A **digital twin for climate adaptation** is a system that supports decision-making in adaptation to climate change using the best models available in an environment that allows **an interactive relation with the user**.



CURRENT SOURCES OF CLIMATE INFORMATION: CMIP AND CORDEX



Many regional models, research driven, resolution 10-50 km, long time between cycles, often no ocean, inconsistent across regions, static archive



Many global models, research driven, resolutions 50-many years between update cycles, static archive

OPERATIONAL CLIMATE PROJECTIONS

Are the needs taken care of? Are timing, quality, adequacy, and authority addressed?

The digital twin emerges as an alternative to **operationalise** the on-demand production of climate information.

Comment | Published: 02 November 2023

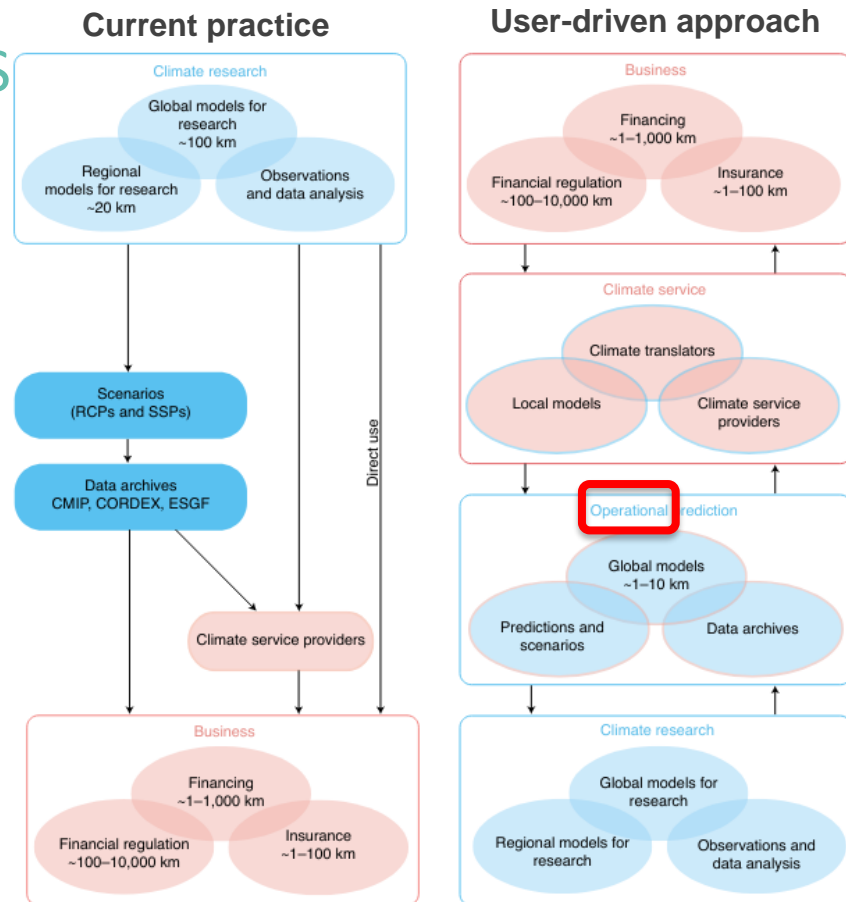
The need to operationalize climate modelling

Christian Jakob , Andrew Gettelman & Andrew Pitman

Nature Climate Change 13, 1158–1160 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

2168 Accesses | 35 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

Climate models have evolved from research tools to underpin decision-making across the globe. To provide optimal value for society in the future, the models need to be made operational.



CLIMATE ADAPTATION DIGITAL TWIN (CLIMATE DT)

Climate DT is a new type of climate information system funded by the Destination Earth programme that focuses on **assessing the impacts of climate change and different adaptation strategies** at **local and regional levels with a global perspective** using a strategy where **user requests drive the production chain**.

The Climate DT includes

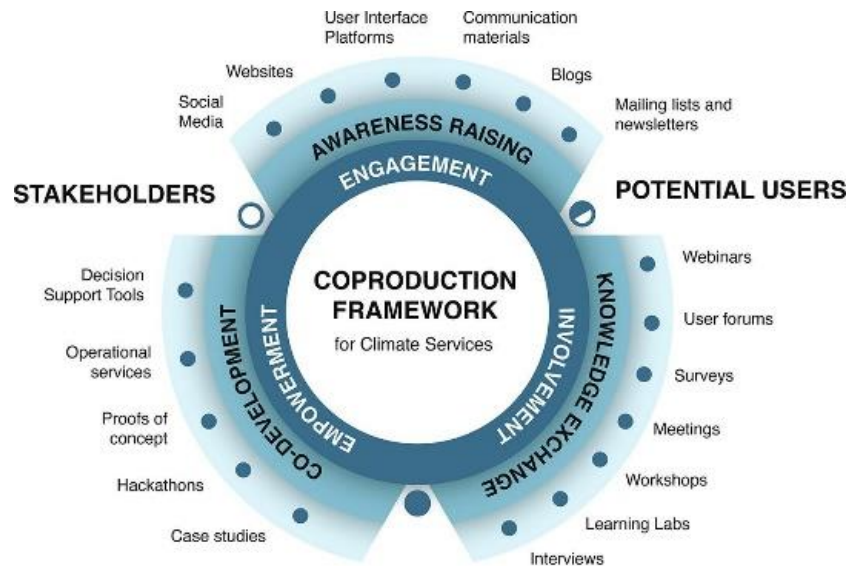
- A **user-driven approach**
- **Global climate simulations** at an unprecedented resolution
- **Quality assessment and uncertainty quantification**
- Deployment on **EuroHPC pre-exascale computers** (LUMI and MareNostrum5)
- Relevance of both **climatic and non-climatic drivers**
- **Integration of large amounts of relevant European R&D**



USERS AS A DRIVING FORCE OF THE DIGITAL TWIN

Challenge: The digital twin emerges in a **busy context**, with many requirements for climate information, a cacophony of sources, a strong political load, a growing market, increasing needs, no defined standards, and some well-positioned actors.

Opportunity: **Social sciences and humanities** play an increasingly important role in the services that provide climate information, leading to more efficient and successful links to both public administrations and the private sector.

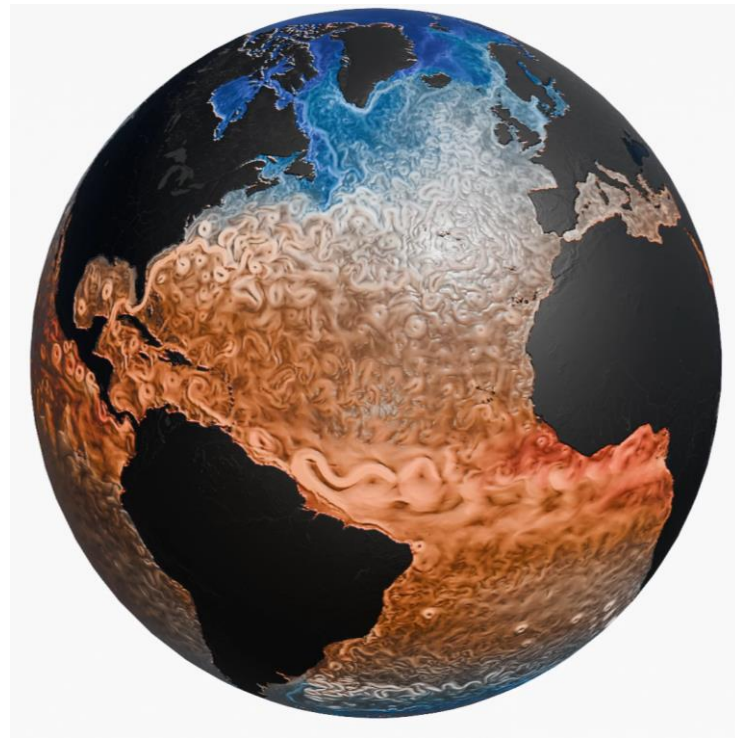


CHAMPION USERS

Bojovic et al. (2021, GEC)

A NEW GENERATION OF CLIMATE MODELS IS NEEDED

- Climate DT uses **three next-generation Earth system models**: ICON and IFS-NEMO/FESOM
- **Global multi-decadal simulations at 5 km**, following a common simulation protocol
- High-resolution simulations enable **smaller-scale processes** to influence the climate trajectory, and provide **local information** relevant to users at global scales

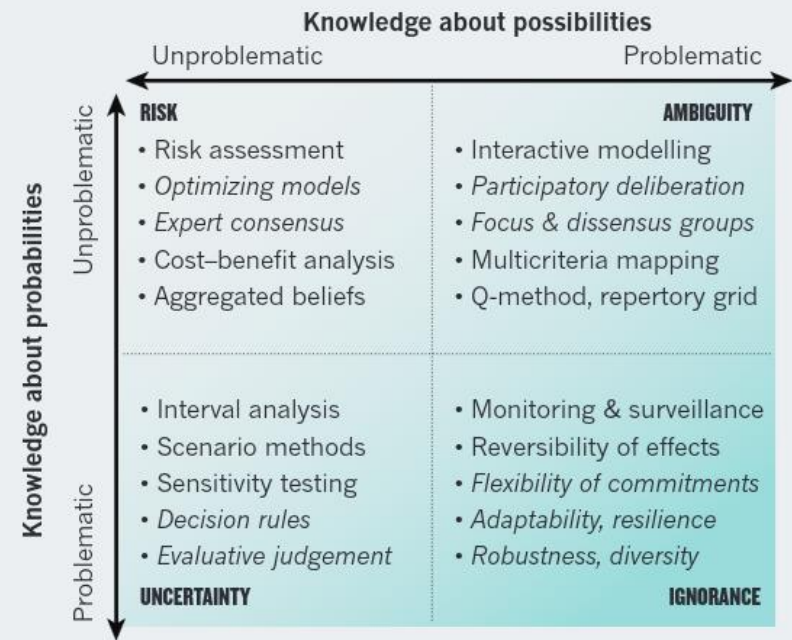


CONFIDENCE, WILDCARDS, AMBIGUITY AND IGNORANCE

- While schemes to interact with the users and produce **salient information** are indispensable, reliance on models that are not good enough leads to either **overconfidence** or **underconfidence**, which, in turn, **leads to both inadequate uncertainty estimation and insufficiently credible risk assessments**.
- Events and processes (unprecedented extremes, tipping points caused by land-ice melting) that make the climate trajectory non-monotonic are known as **wildcards** and are associated with ambiguity and ignorance.

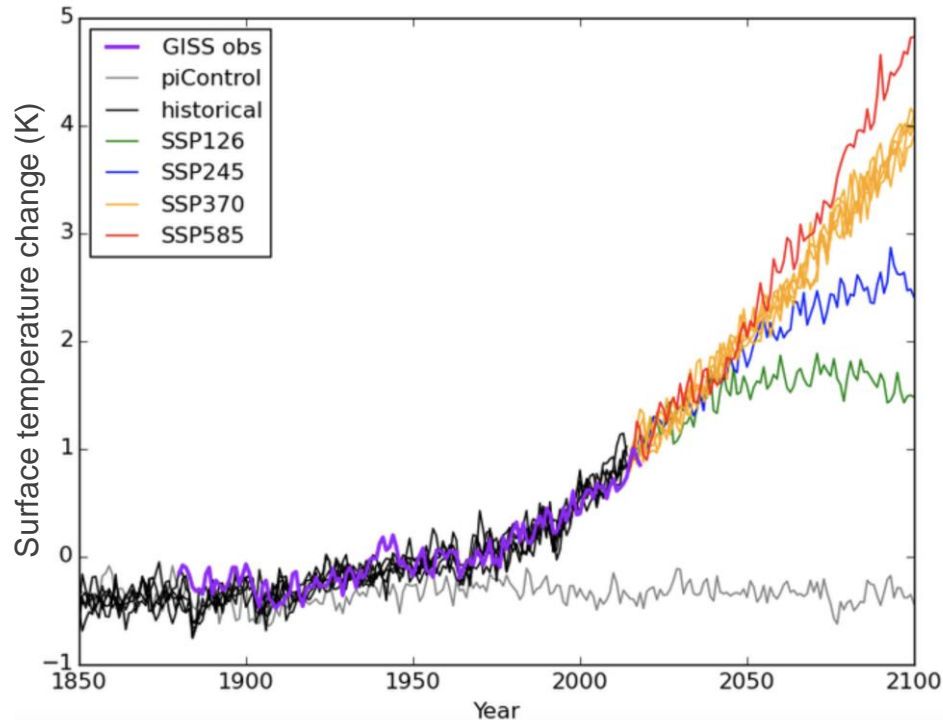
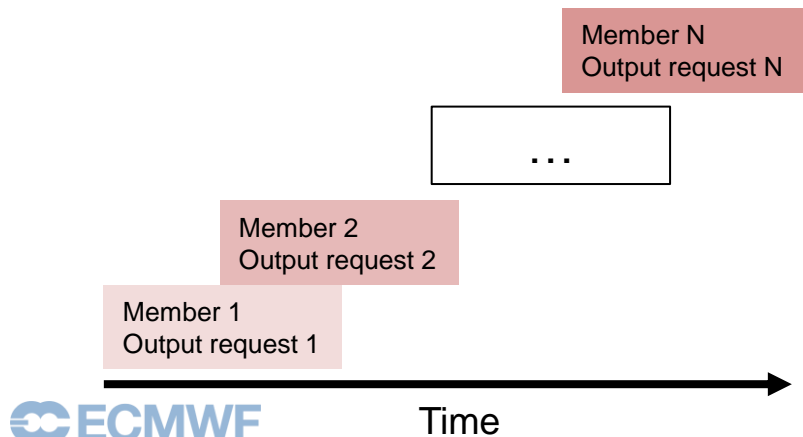
UNCERTAINTY MATRIX

A tool to catalyse nuanced deliberations: experts must look beyond risk (top left quadrant) to ambiguity, uncertainty and ignorance using quantitative and *qualitative* methods.

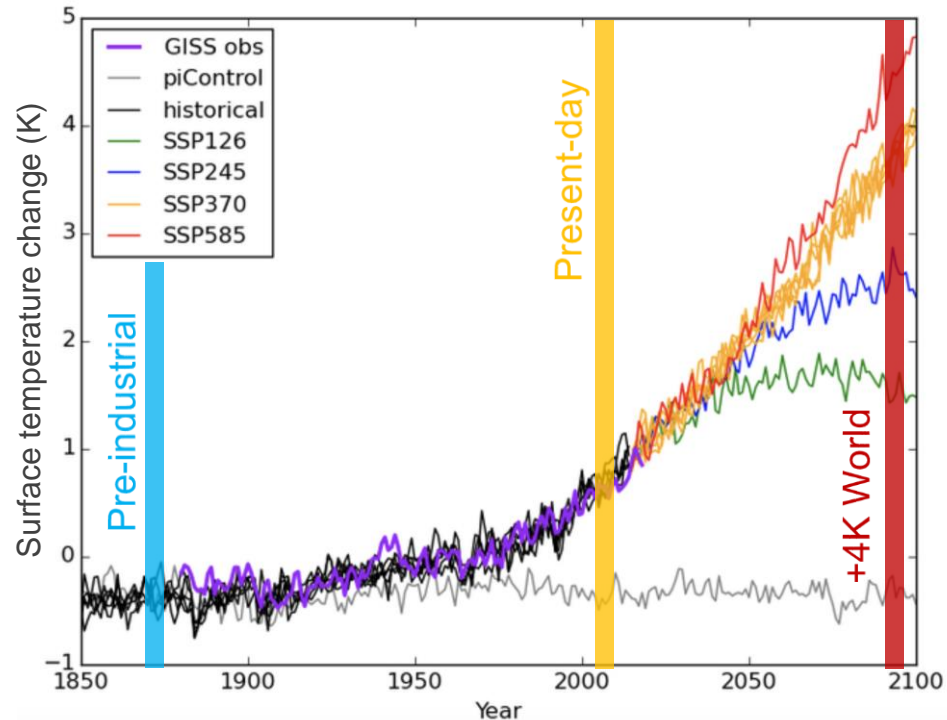
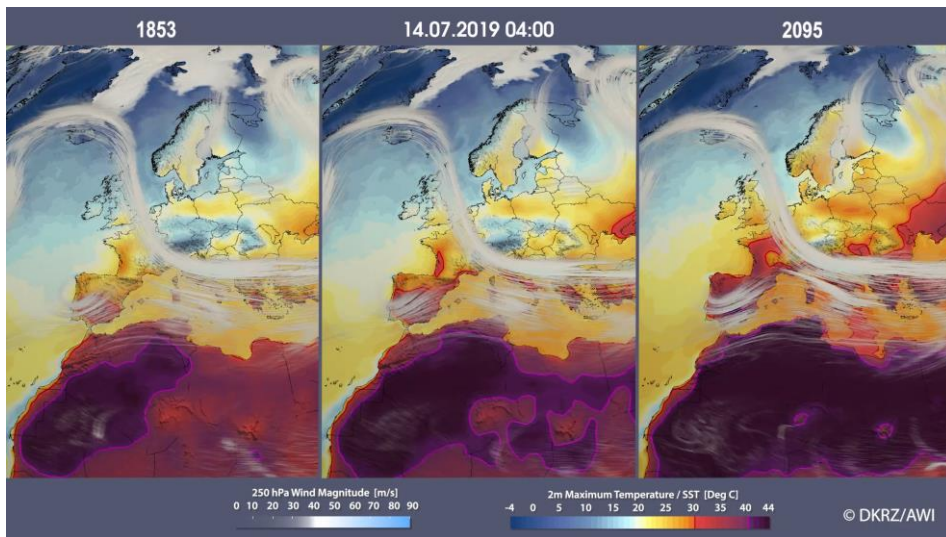


OPERATIONAL CLIMATE PROJECTIONS IN THE CLIMATE DT

- Performing the global high-resolution projections is **expensive**: 360 node-days in LUMI-C (using 15% of the machine), 36 TB of output, per simulated year.
- Production of projections should be **continuous, with on-demand output and ensemble members are staggered**.

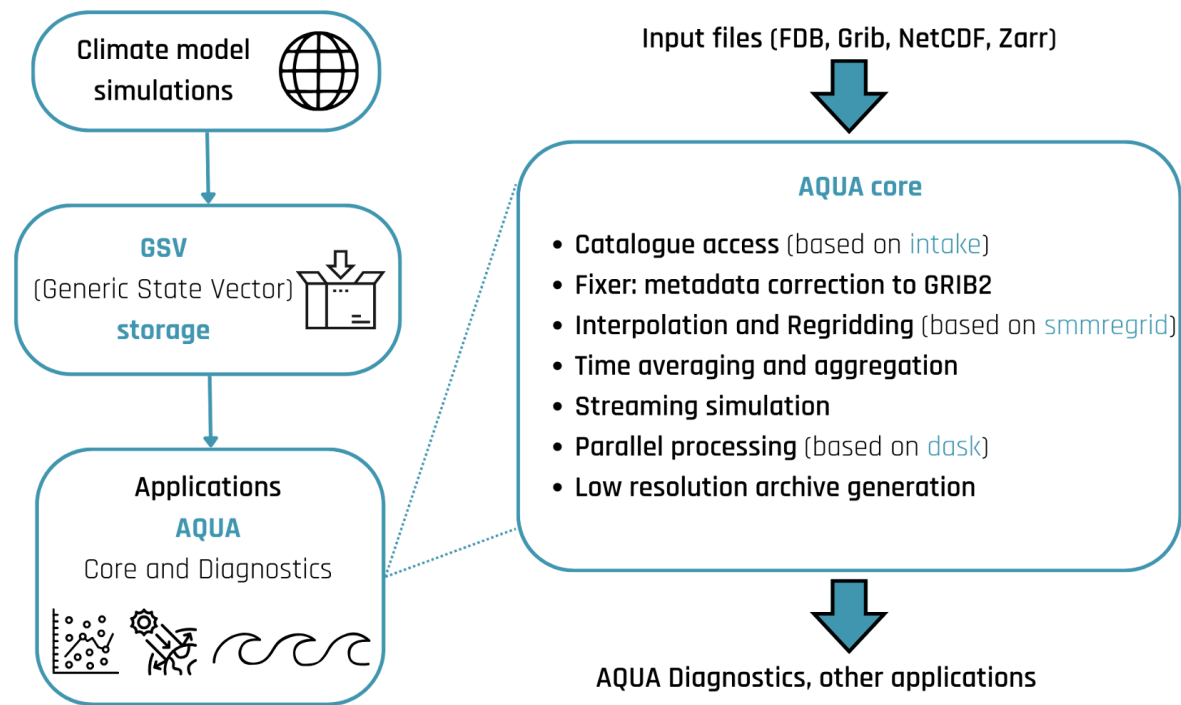


OPERATIONAL PROJECTIONS IN THE CLIMATE DT



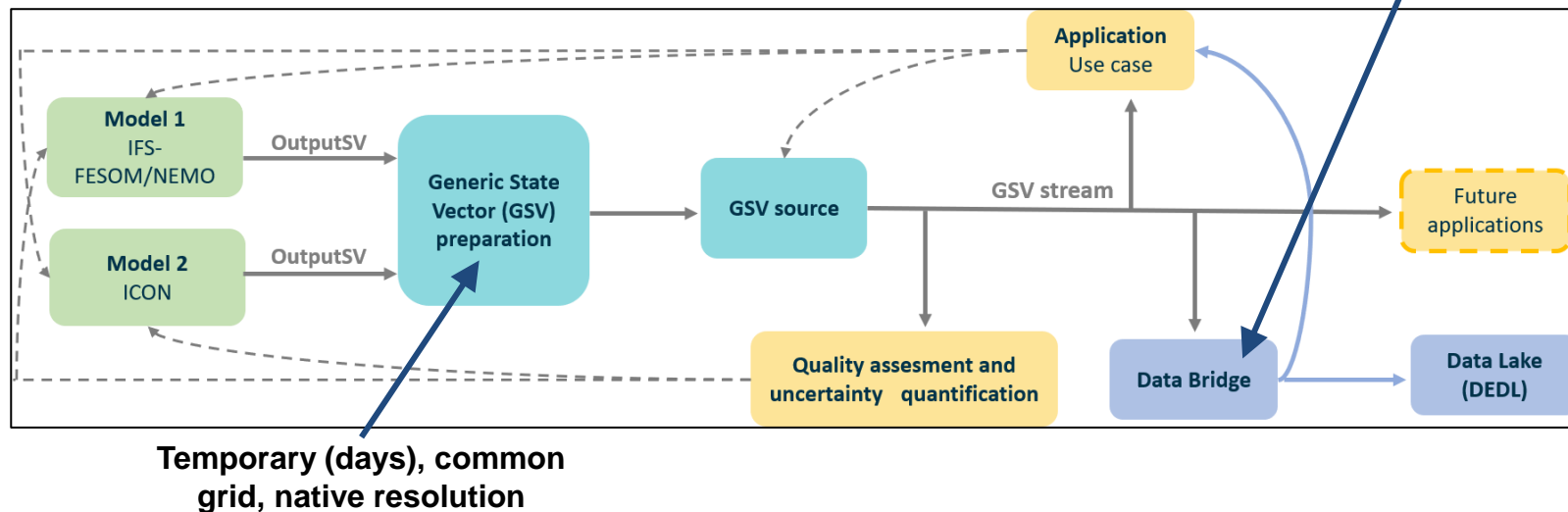
OPERATIONAL PROJECTIONS IN THE CLIMATE DT: MONITORING

- A long list of **data checks** are implemented and run as part of the whole workflow.
- Model **validation** is performed at regular intervals, with a purpose-built set of metrics that take into account the high resolution of the climate models.



CLIMATE SIMULATION WORKFLOW: STREAMING

Permanent, lossy
compression, interpolated

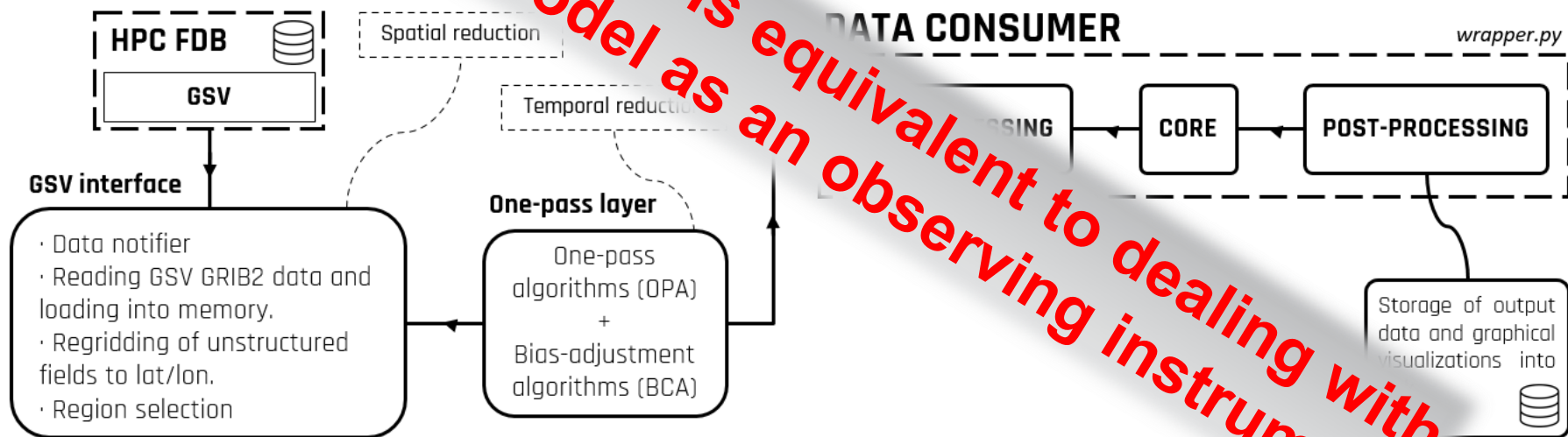


Streaming of model output in a standardized form (*generic state vector, GSV*) enables

- **Data consumers have access to the full model state** as soon as it is produced
- **Interactivity:** development to allow simulations and variables on demand
- **Scalability:** new applications and requirements can be added

STREAMING DATA FOR A MANAGEABLE SYSTEM

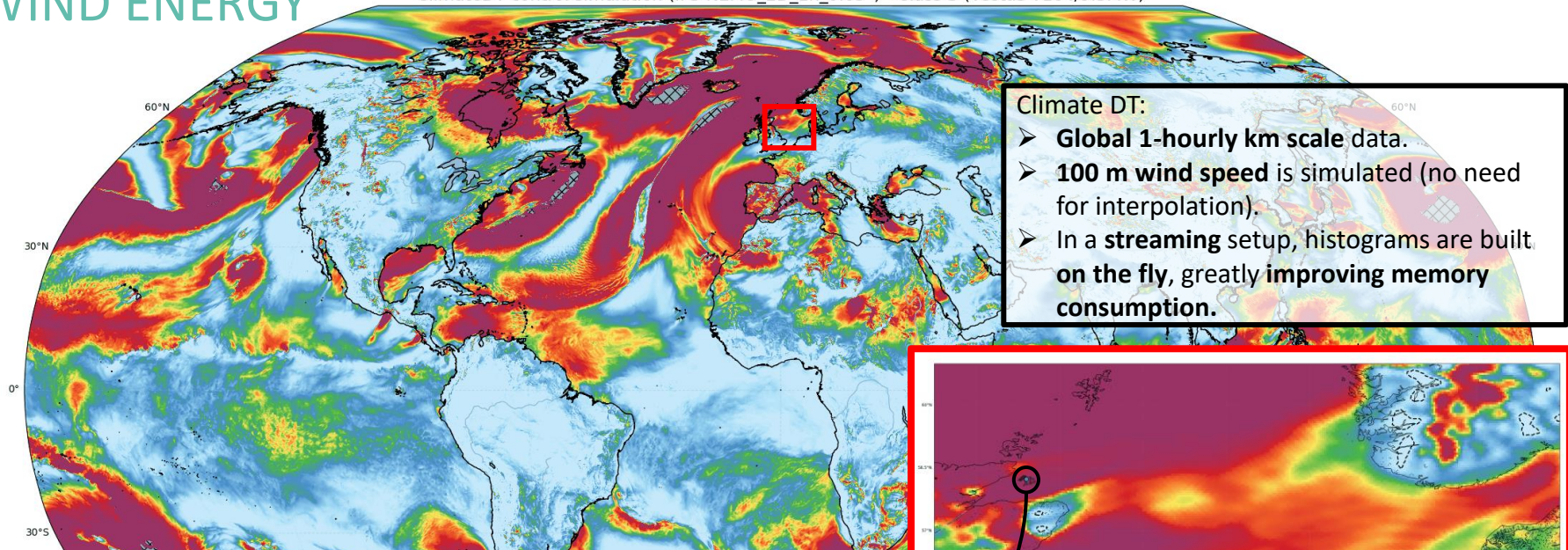
- The **streaming** is fundamental in the Climate DT because it gives data consumers access to the **data vector** (limited in time) to generate unprecedented indicators.
- Streaming at will is **possible** with **machine learning-based emulators** of the climate trajectory.



GSV-DATA CONSUMER WORKFLOW

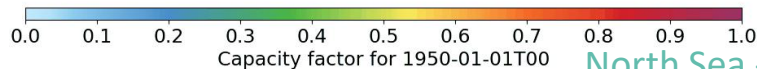
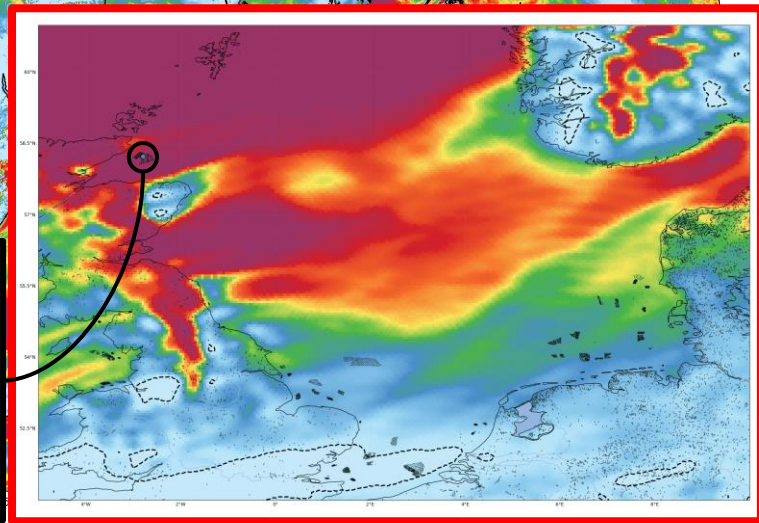
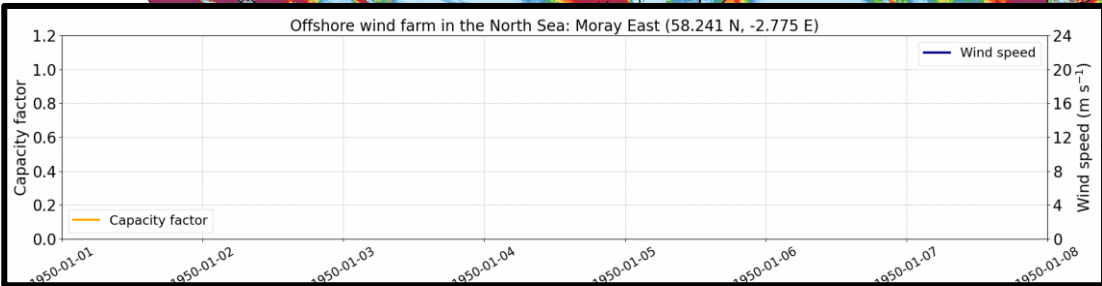
WIND ENERGY

ClimateDT control simulation (IFS-NEMO_2D_1h_0.05°) - Class S (Vestas V164/9.5MW)



Climate DT:

- **Global 1-hourly km scale data.**
- **100 m wind speed** is simulated (no need for interpolation).
- In a **streaming** setup, histograms are built **on the fly**, greatly improving memory consumption.

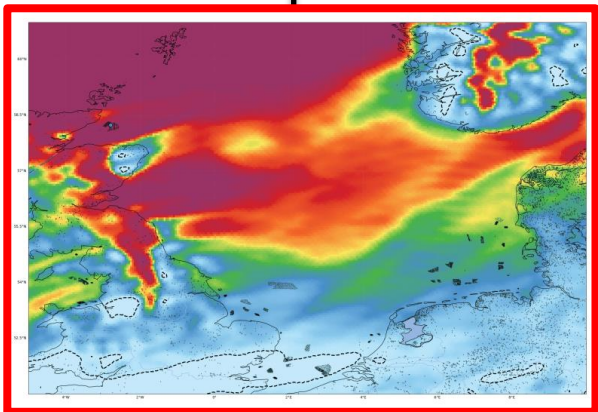


North Sea - Moray East wind farm: 58°N, -2°E

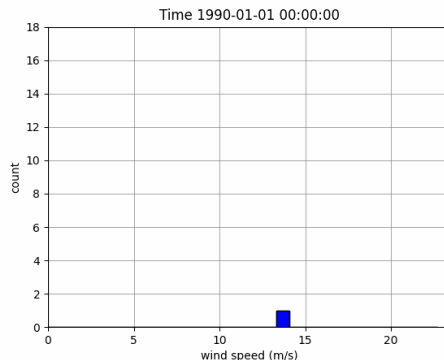
CONSUMING STREAMED CLIMATE DATA

- Streams raw climate variables through the **one-pass layer** (data-reduction tasks that compute indicators) to the data consumer computing user-relevant indicators on-the-fly.
- Implemented either in the climate model workflow or a separate one.

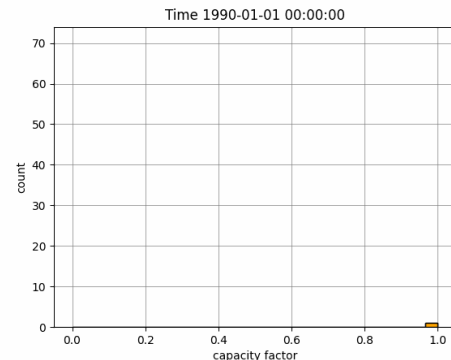
Model outputs **raw climate variables**
(e.g., 100u, 100v)



One-pass algorithms
compute on-the-fly
distribution of **wind speed**

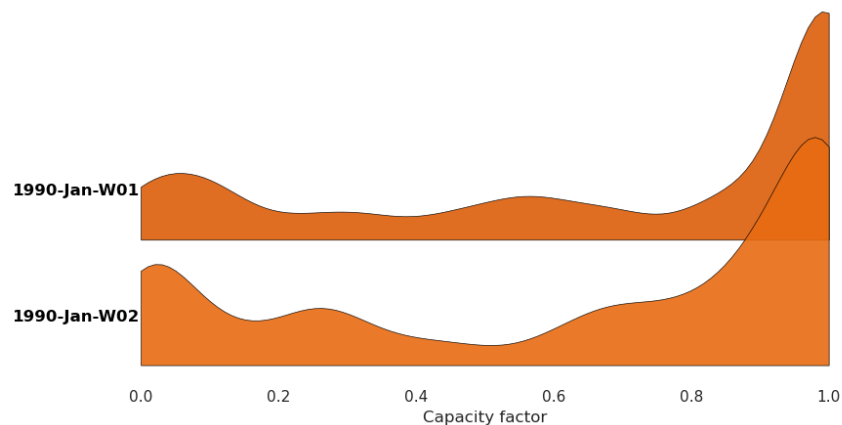
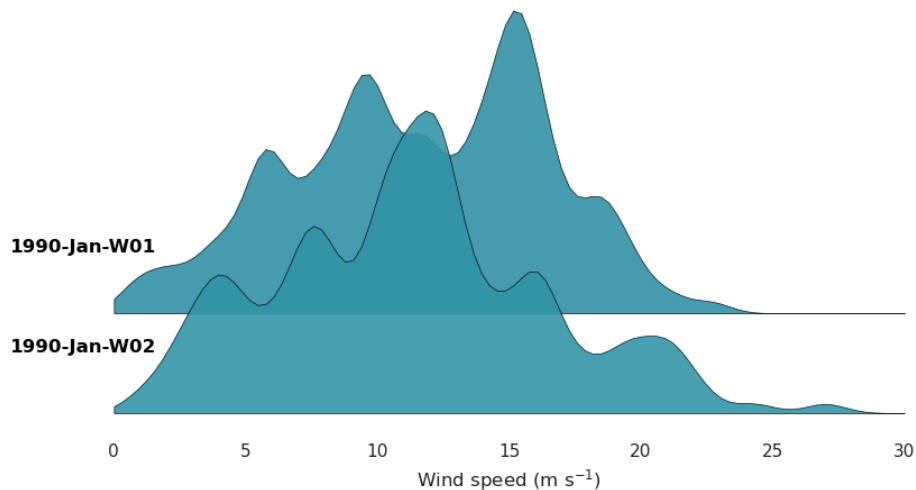


Data consumers can use it to
compute climate indicators
(e.g., weekly capacity factor
of any turbine)

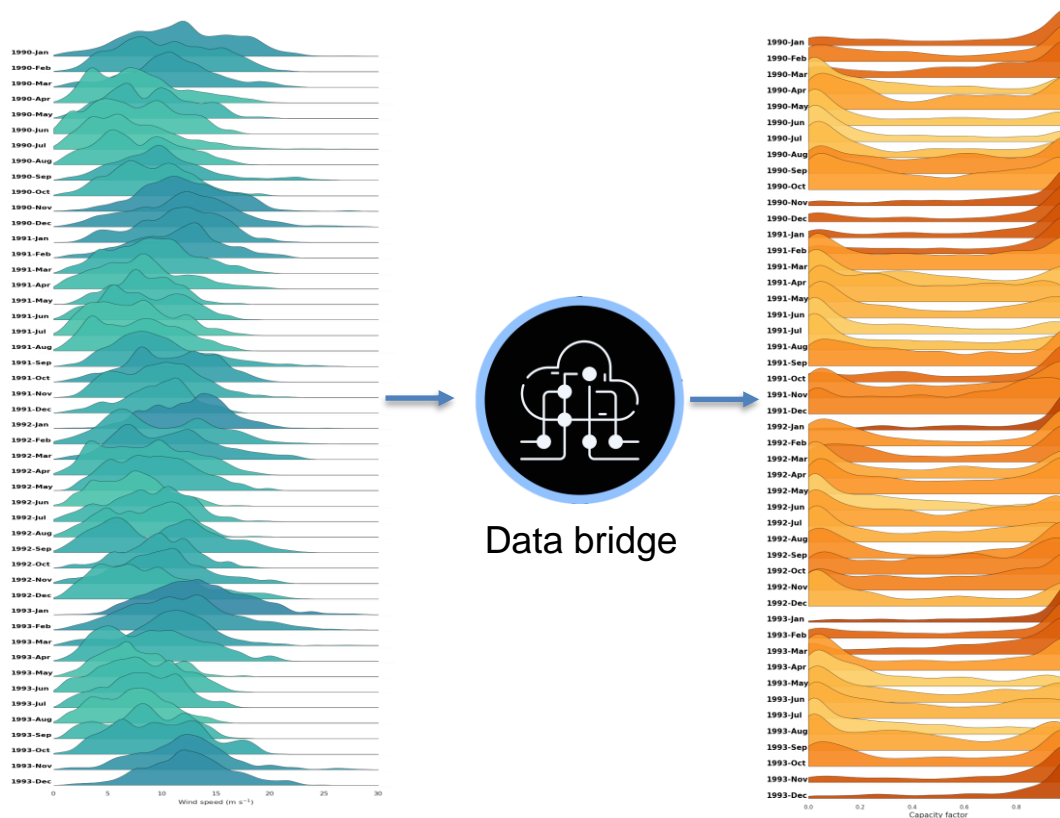


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CONSUMING STREAMED CLIMATE DATA



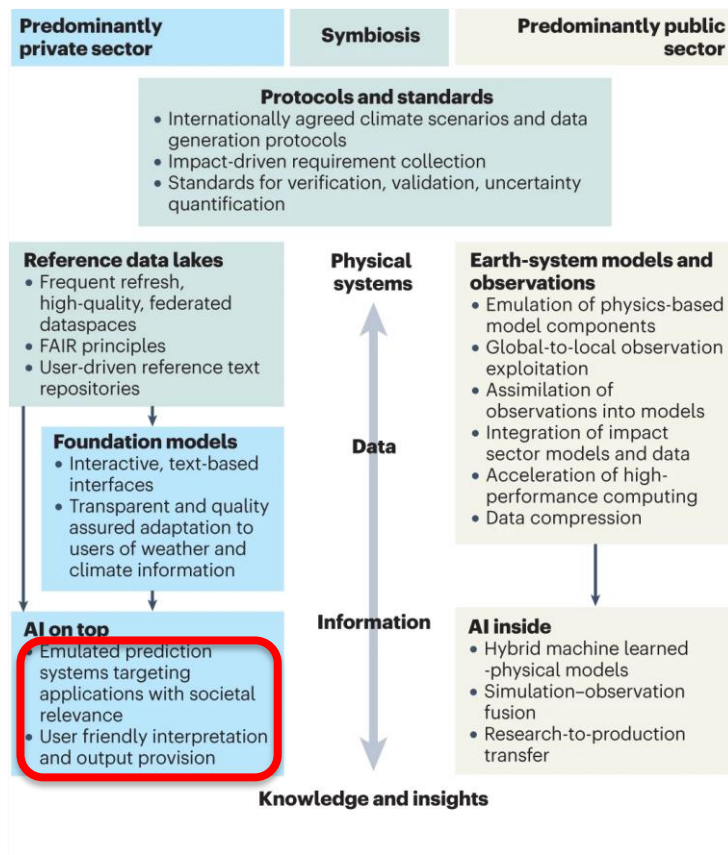
Possibility to compute the capacity factor for any turbine anywhere in the world with access to a manageable data set of indicators

WHAT ROLE FOR AI?

- Why not building a climate model fully based on AI?



WHAT ROLE FOR AI?



WHAT ROLE FOR AI? MORE EFFICIENT DATA ACCESS SERVICE

- GenAI weather forecast systems emerged in the last couple of years. They are competitive (though not necessarily better) with traditional (based on first principles) systems.
- Climate data for the atmosphere can be recreated and quickly served for any model trajectory by interpolating (**tethering**) between checkpoints (every five days, 15 GB each) stored during the simulation. **Model training needs to be done while streaming !!**

Experimental: GraphCast ML model: 500 hPa geopotential height and 850 hPa temperature

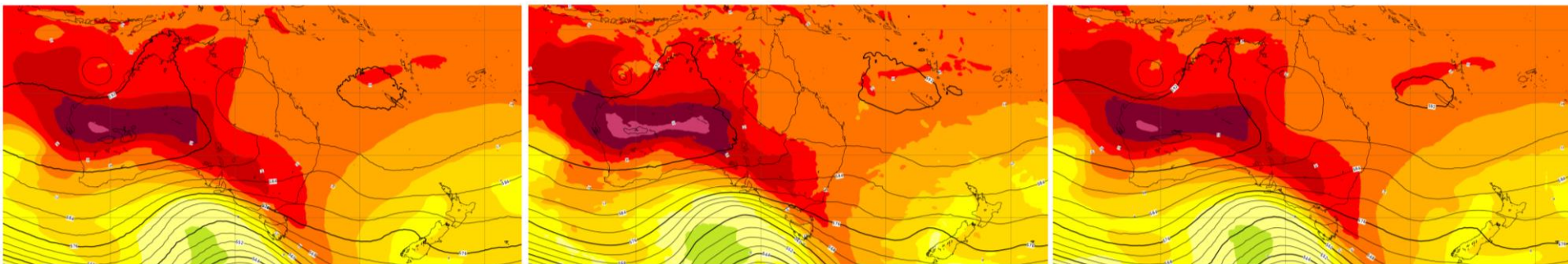
Base time: Tue 20 Feb 2024 12 UTC Valid time: Thu 22 Feb 2024 12 UTC (+48h) Area: Australasia

500 hPa geopotential height and 850 hPa temperature

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Experimental: Pangu-Weather ML model: 500 hPa geopotential height and 850 hPa temperature

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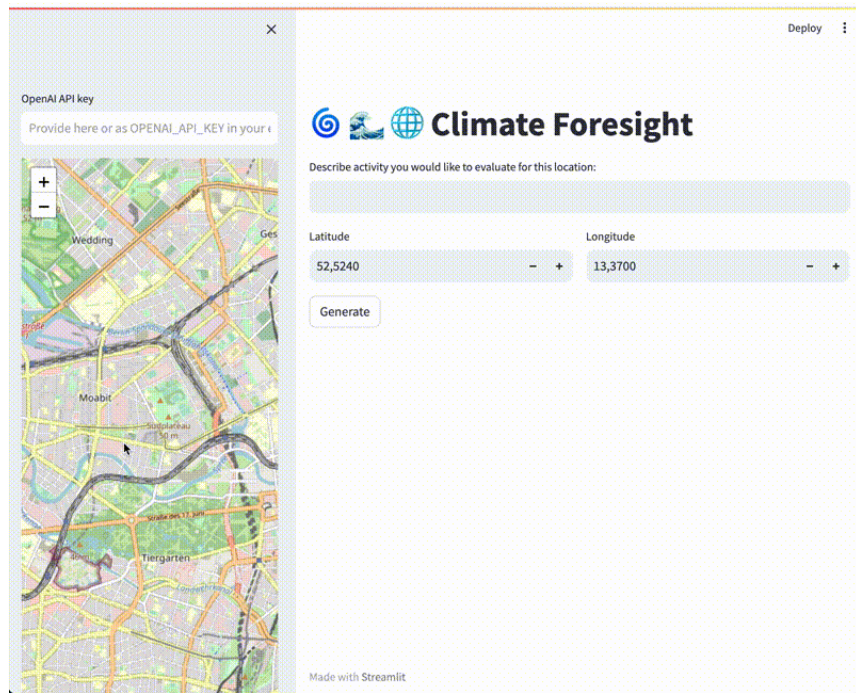


850 hPa temperature (C)



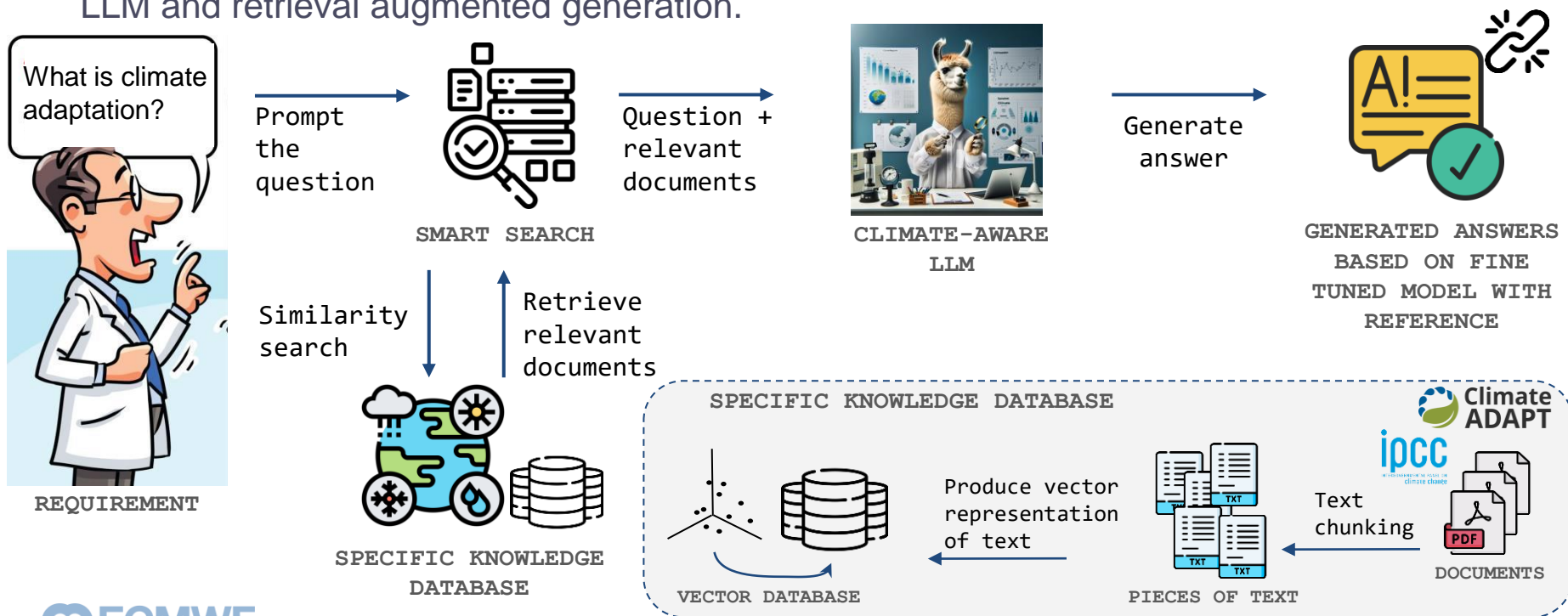
WHAT ROLE FOR AI? SCALABLE CLIMATE ADAPTATION REPORTS

- **ClimSight** is a prototype tool for a climate information system that uses ChatGPT to provide structured reports on local climate changes and their impacts.



WHAT ROLE FOR AI? SCALABLE CLIMATE ADAPTATION REPORTS

- Climate adaptation is a specific domain. More salient results are sought with a fine-tuned LLM and retrieval augmented generation.



SUMMARY: CLIMATE ADAPTATION DIGITAL TWIN

- **A new type of climate information system** based on high-resolution global climate simulations, interactive impact modelling, and high-performance computing.
- **It enables data consumers to access** climate information in a completely new way.
- **Designed to support decision-making** for climate change adaptation strategies.
- **Prototype of operational system currently running**, with many extensions considered for a second phase.
- **Fully compatible with (and complementary to) the Copernicus services** as an interactive source of climate information for the future.

