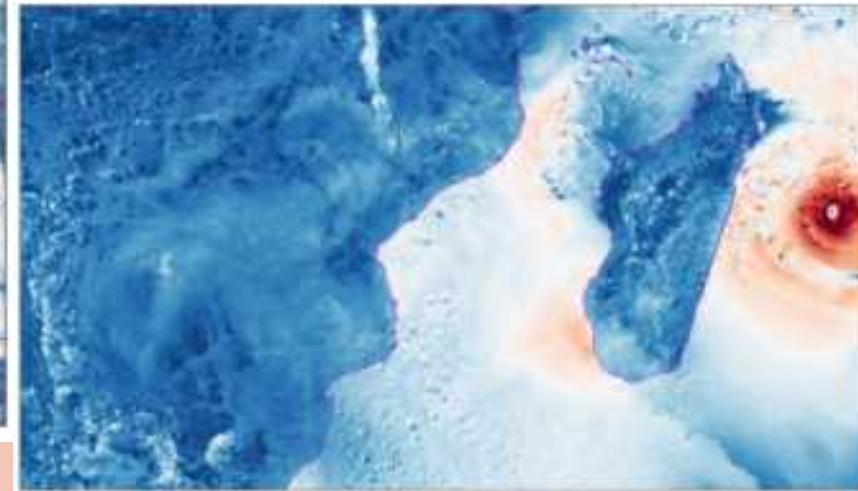
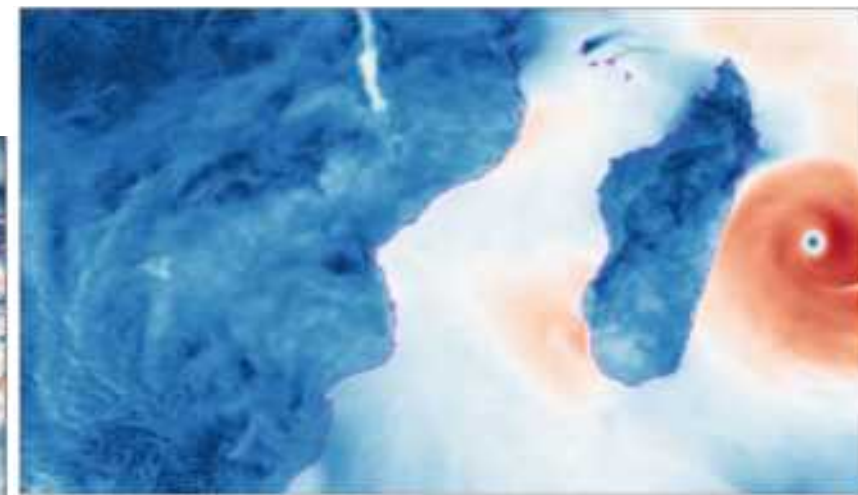
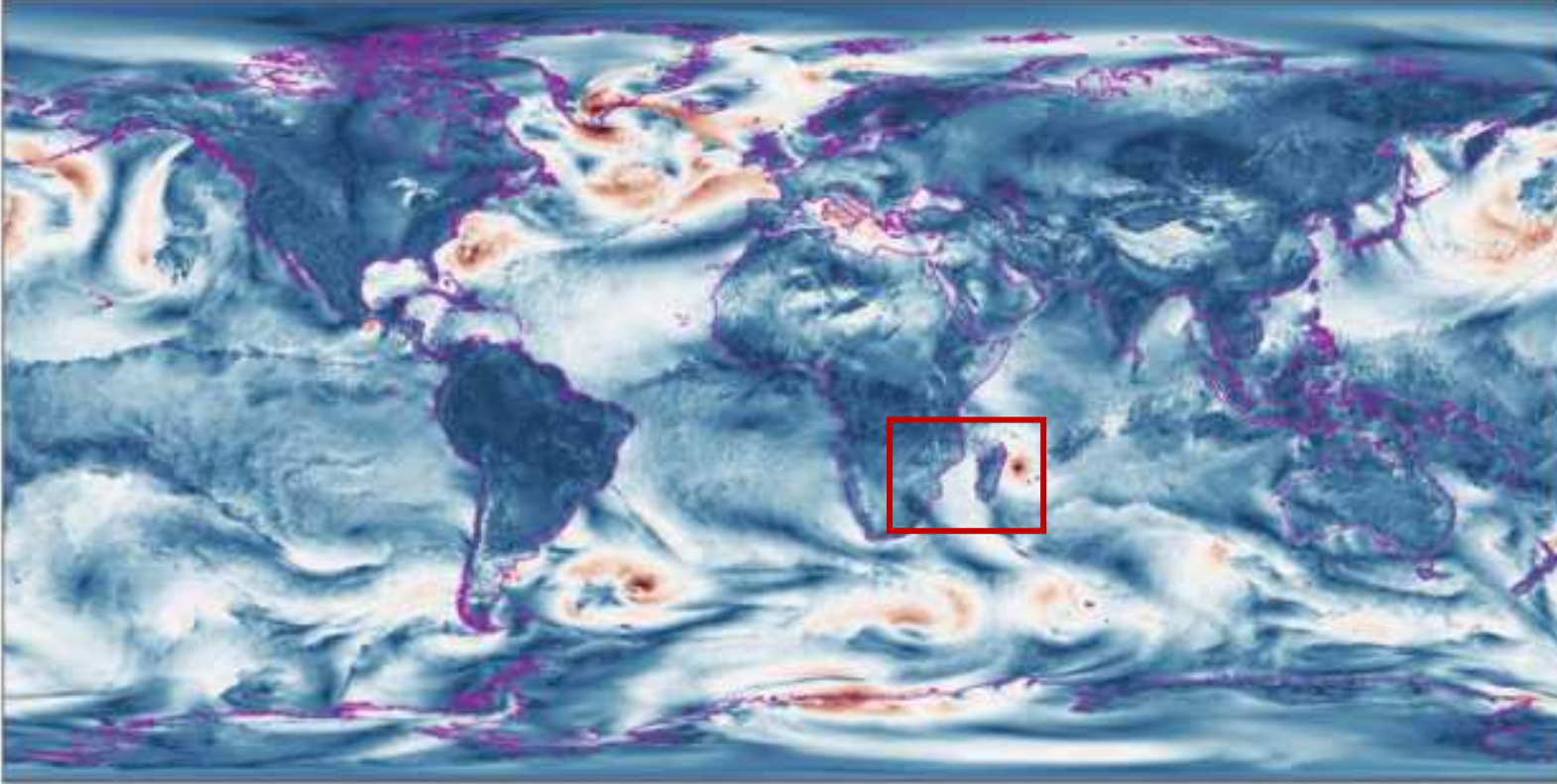


K-Scale: Year-long global UM simulations for DYAMOND-3

Richard W Jones, Huw Lewis
Sally Lavender, Claudio Sanchez,
Dasha Shchepanovska, Calum Scullion &
wider K-Scale project team

Global seamless modelling workshop, June 2025





“...it's *not* about having a better downscaled forecast,...

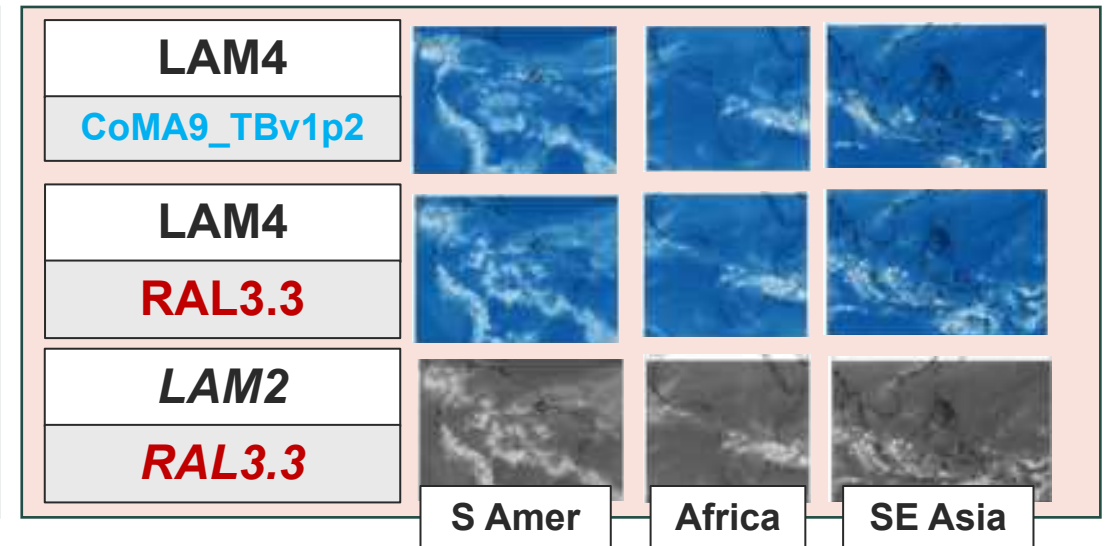
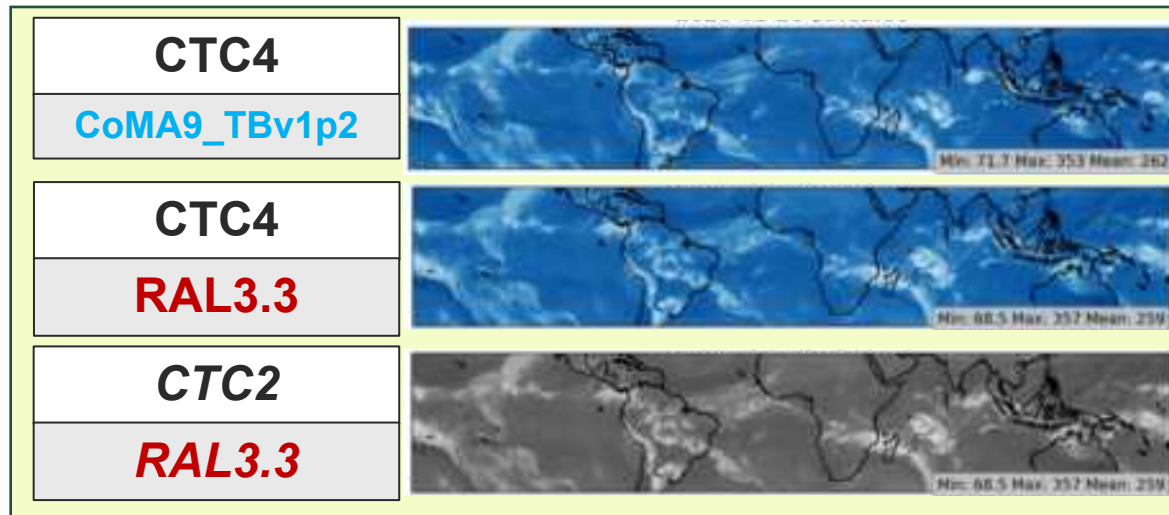
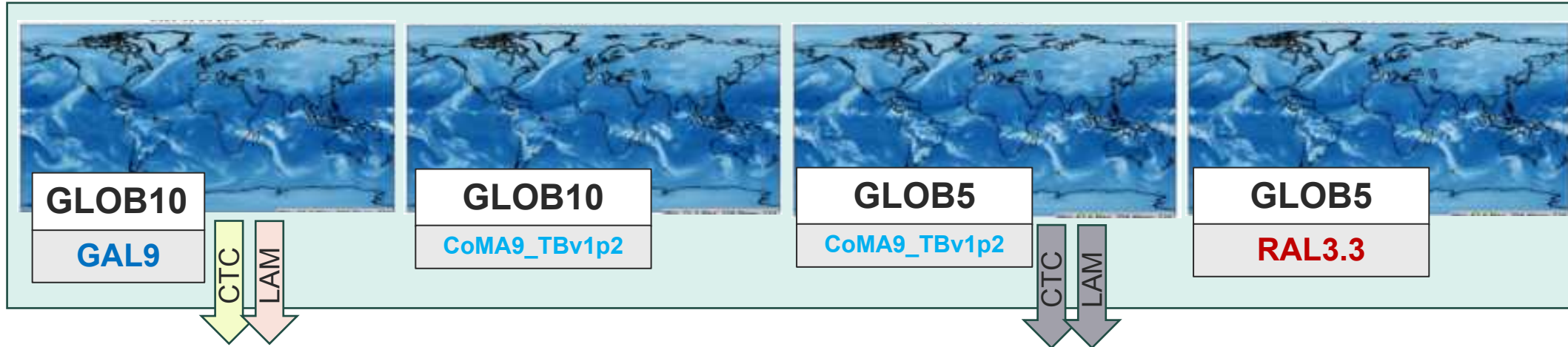
...it's actually about how better resolving the kilometre scale will upscale to these synoptic and larger planetary scale.

Prof. Tim Palmer
[Climate Computing
Summit, Sept 2024]

...So we still in a way have to prove that that is the case –
that we can reduce these large biases with much higher resolution models”

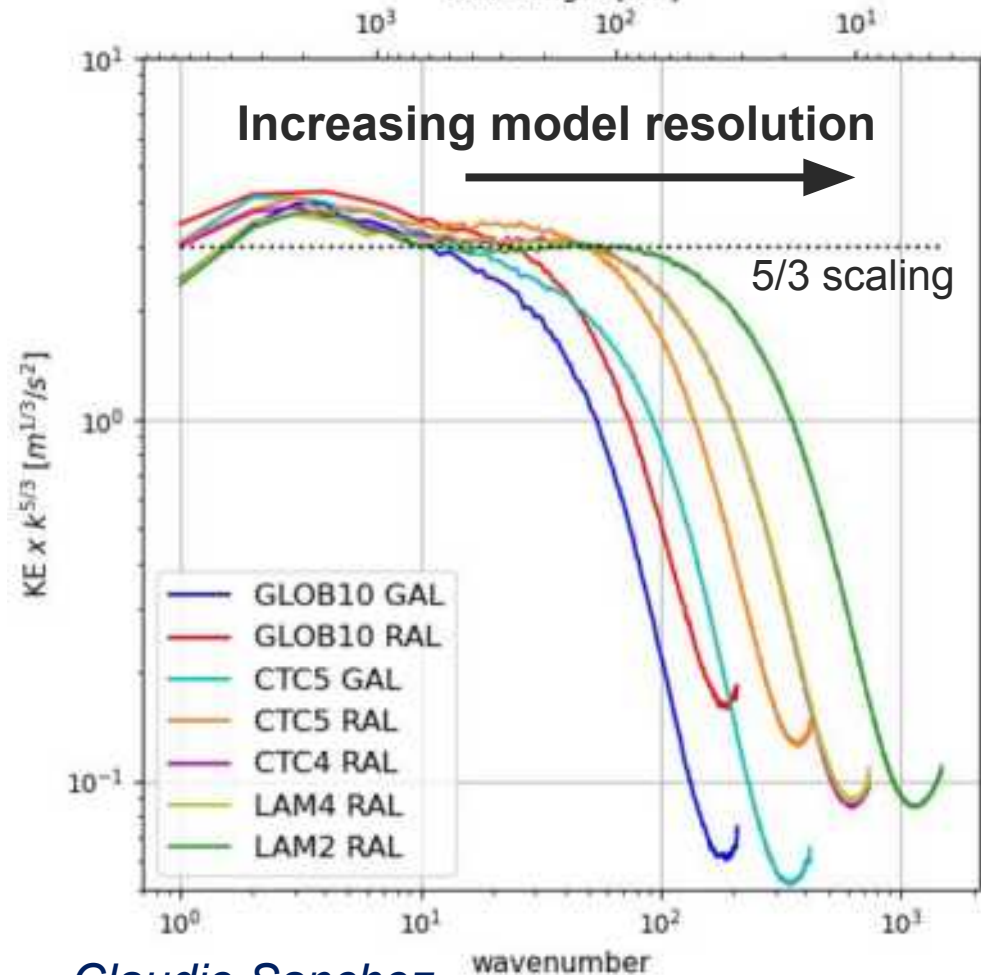
A global-regional model hierarchy

UK contribution to DYAMOND3



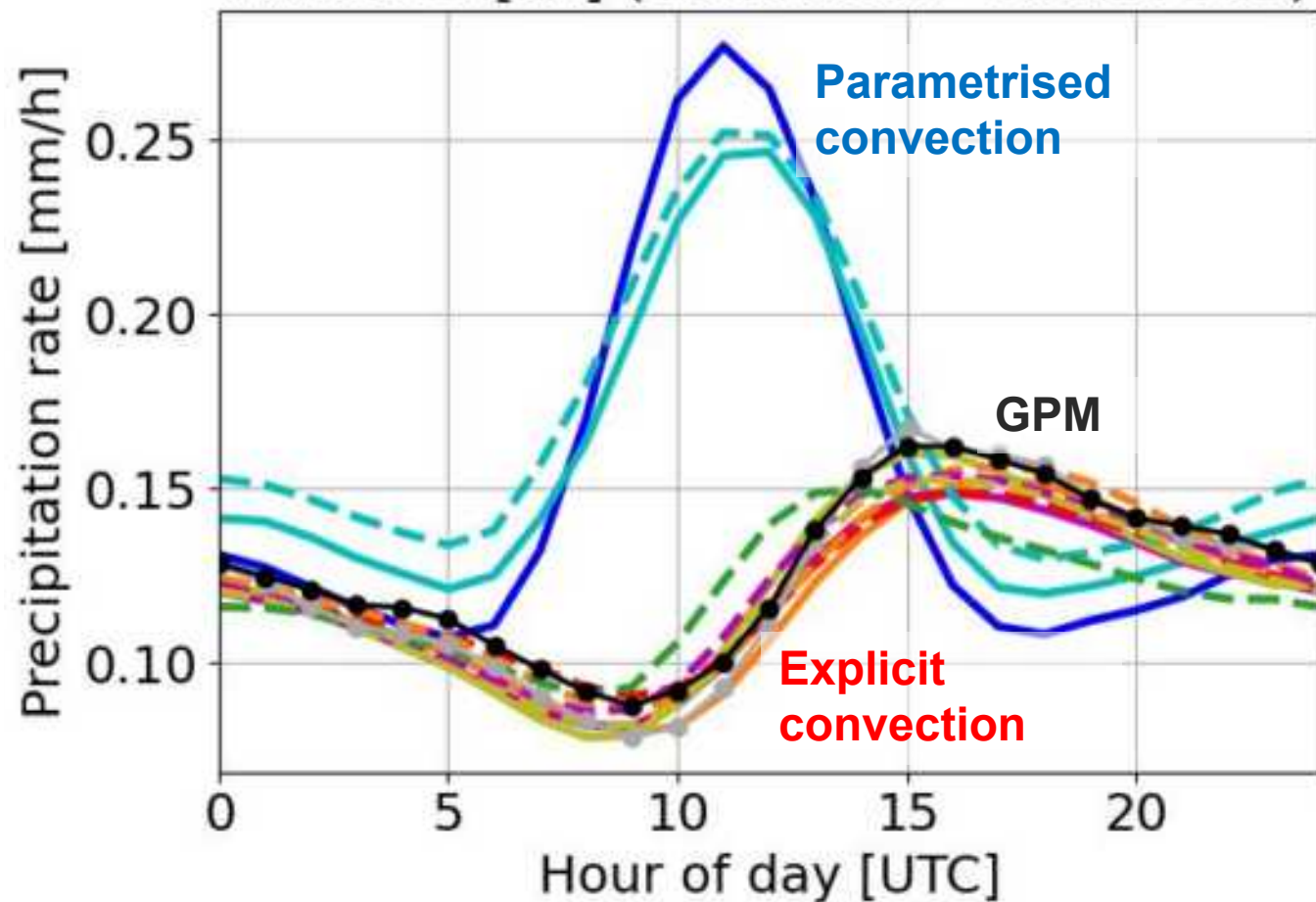
Regional evaluation of resolution and physics dependencies

(a) SAmer DW GAL-driven 200hPa
Wavelength [km]



Claudio Sanchez

AfricaDS [all] (20160810 - 20160909)



Adapting convection parametrization for km-scale resolutions:

CoMorph-A

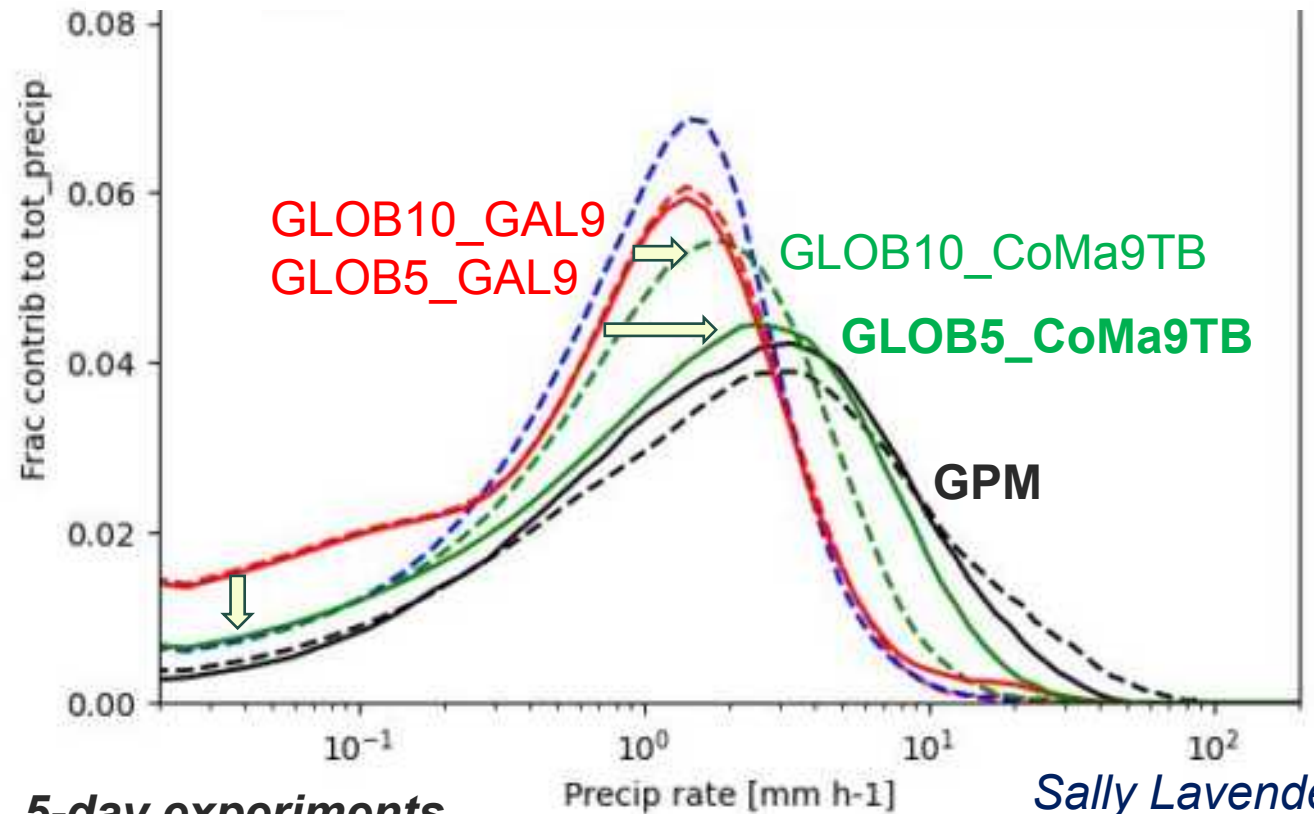
- New mass-flux convection scheme
- Developed for use across traditional global weather (10km) to climate (25-150 km) model resolutions

Modifications for higher grid resolutions

“Trailblazer” CoMA9_TBv1p2:

- Reduced initial moisture perturbations
- Reduced scaling of initiating mass-flux at each height
- Increased precipitation rate leading to the maximum updraught size (and introduced grid-size dependency)
- Higher rain evaporation at high rain rates
- *[Moisture conservation settings when run for regional domains]*

Tropics [20S-20N]: Contribution precipitation to total



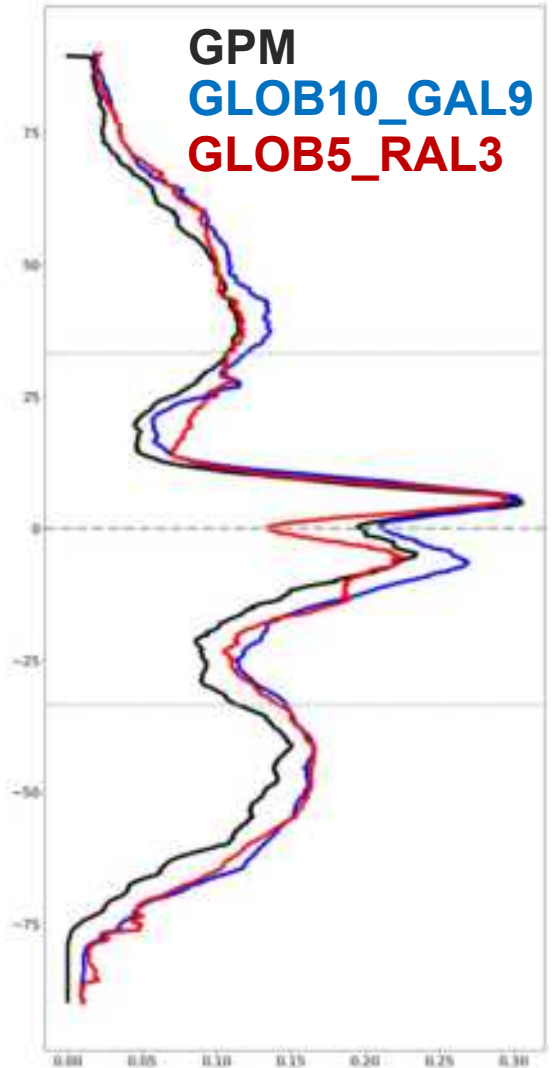
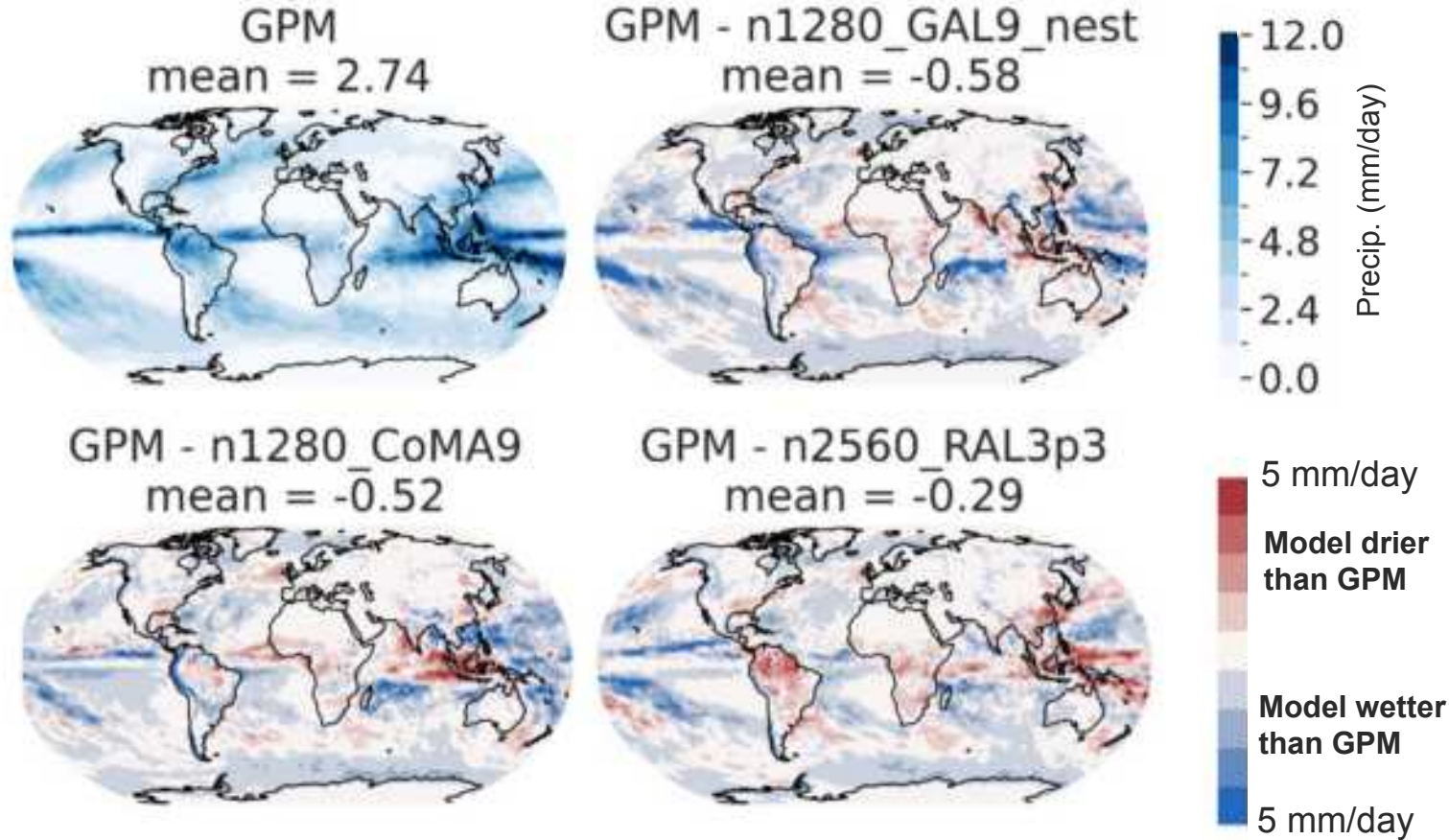
5-day experiments

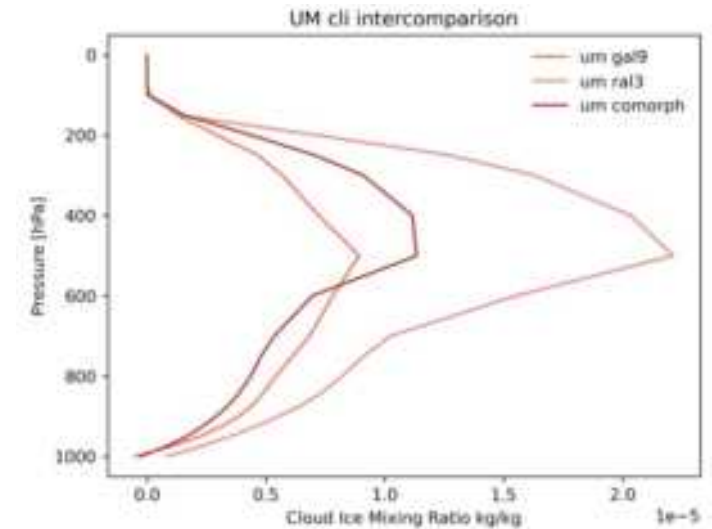
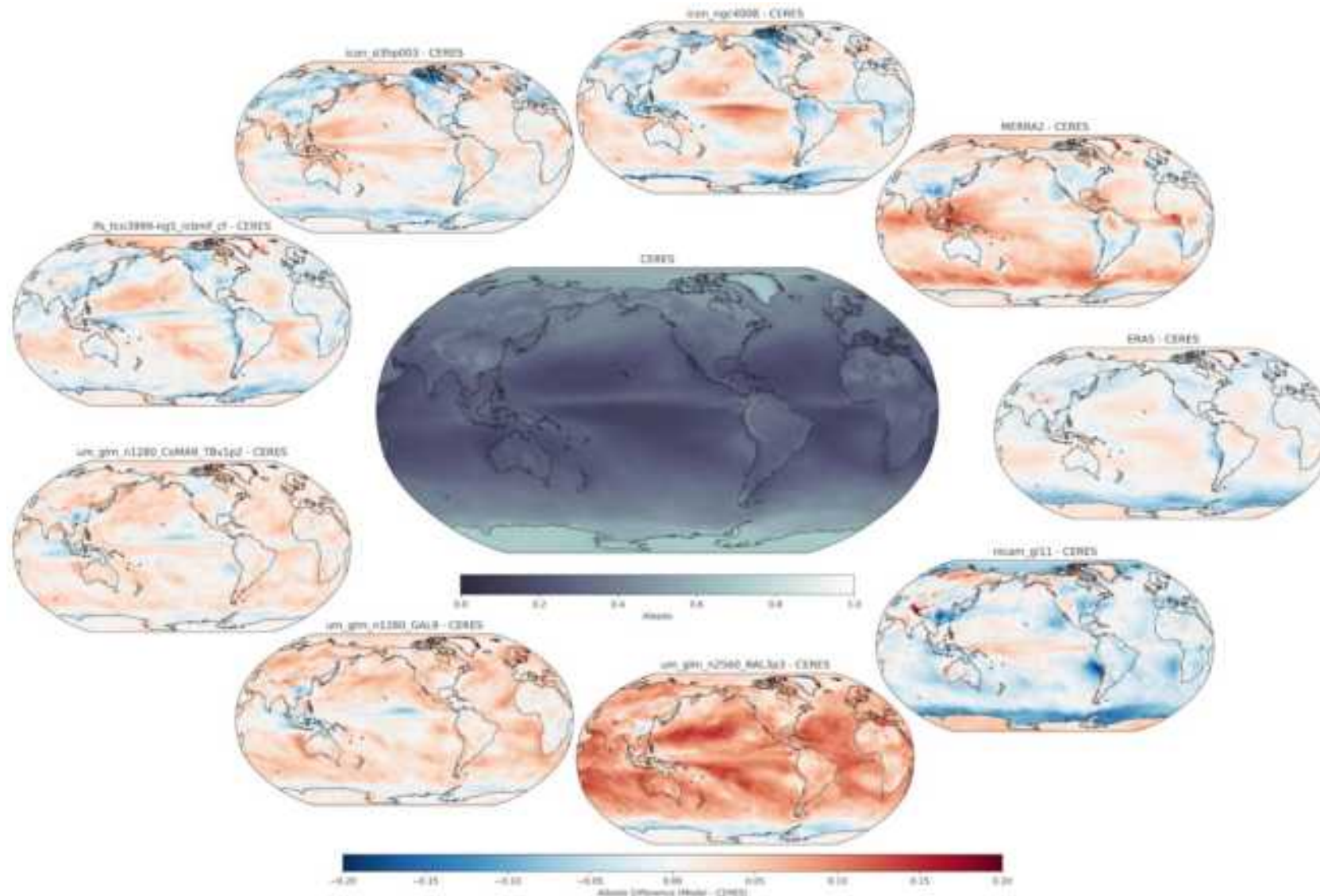
Sally Lavender



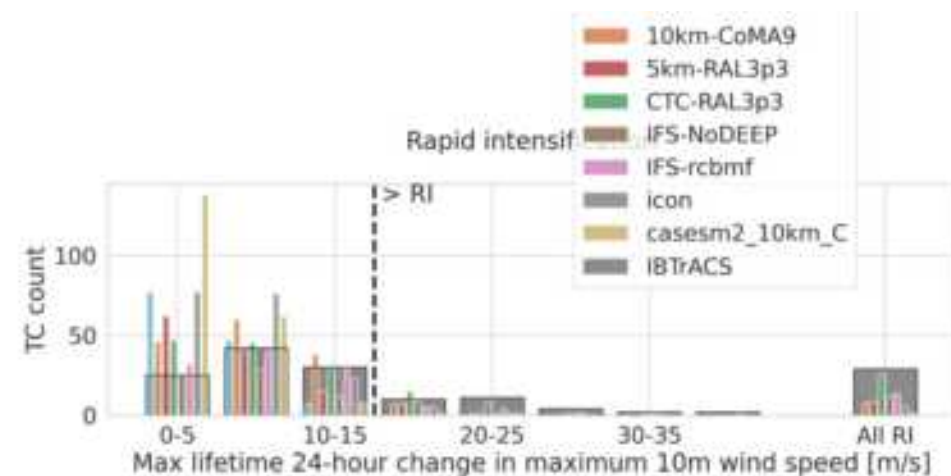
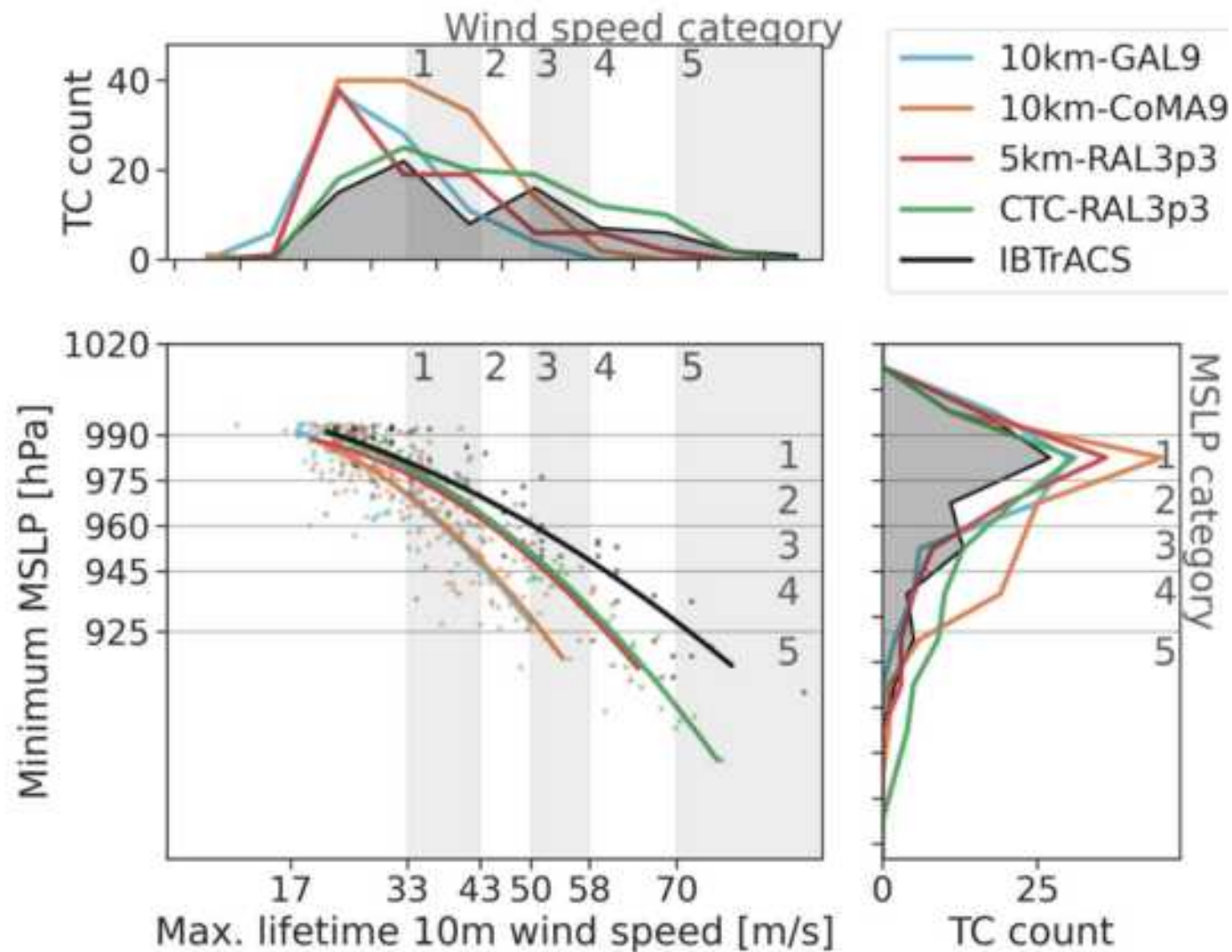
Running with explicit convection on global domains: *Utilising a unified RAL3 science configuration*

Global precipitation patterns and zonal mean

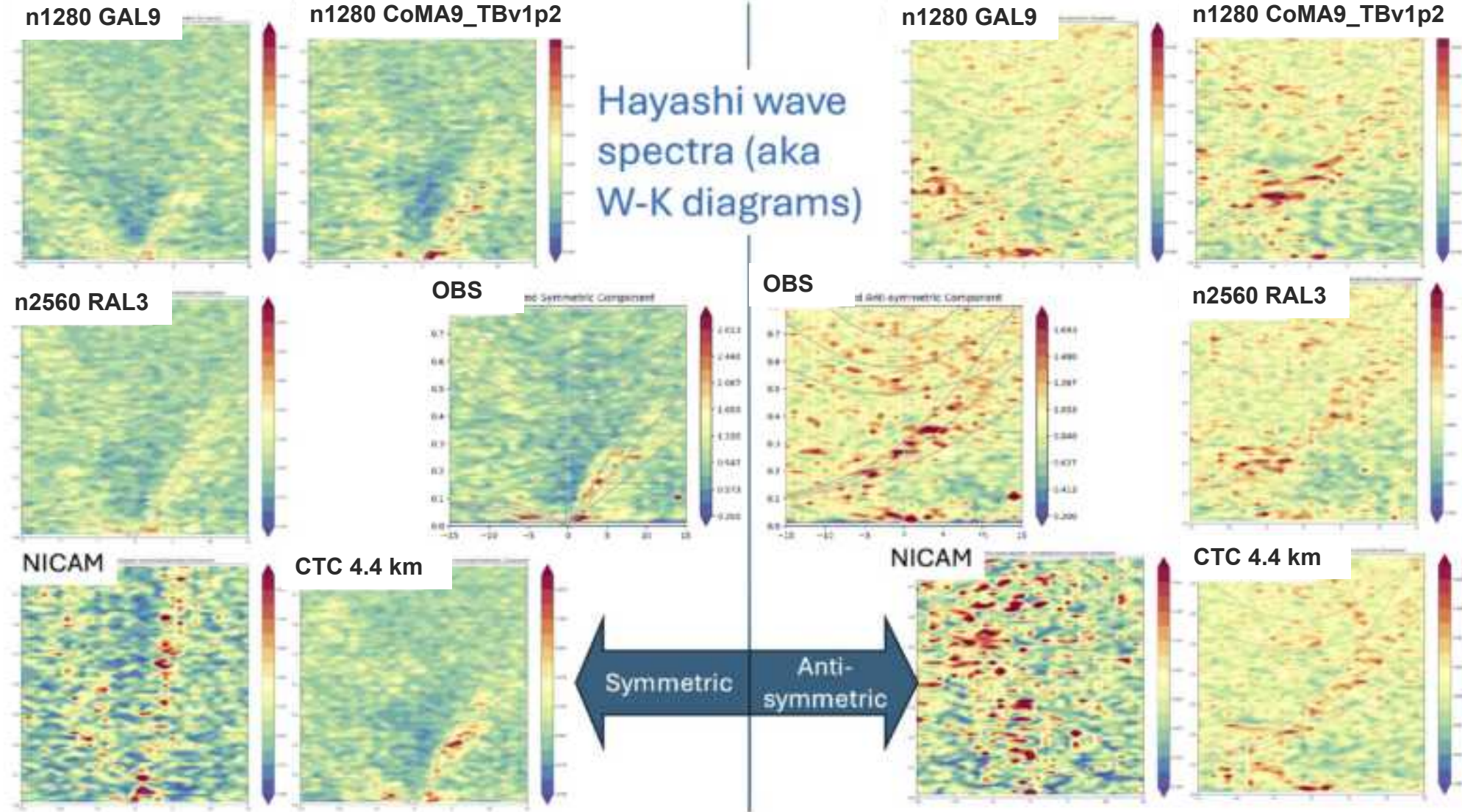




Clouds in N2560 RAL3p3 simulations are more reflective than other GSRMs and CERES. Profile plot above shows additional ice in RAL3p3 – cloud fraction is largely similar to other GSRMs and UM CoMA9 and GAL9

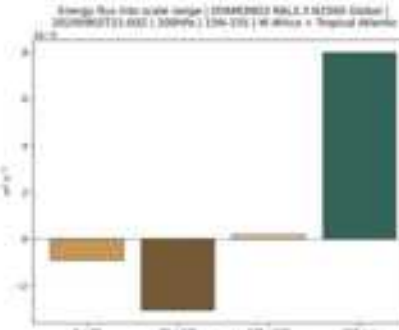
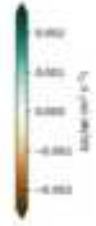
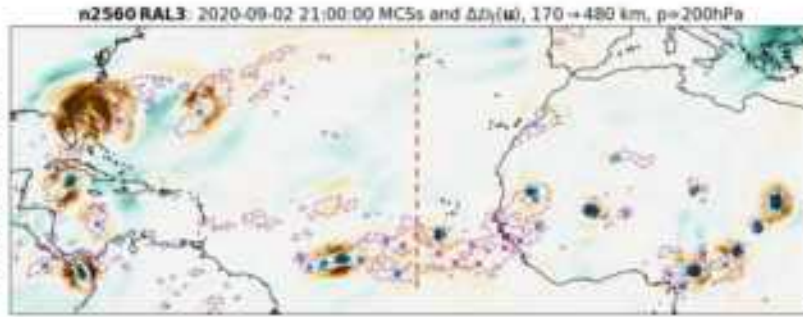


UM CTC 4.4 km has too many intense (\geq cat 3 storms) TCs. N2560 RAL3p3 slightly too few. Absence of cat 5 storms in N1280 CoMA9_TBv1p2 and N1280 GAL9 is expected at this resolution.

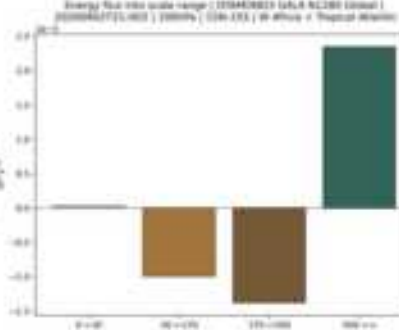
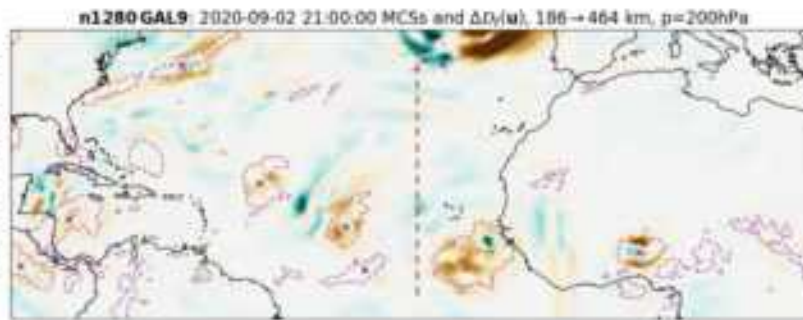


RAL3.3
n2560

Explicit, 5km



Param, 10km



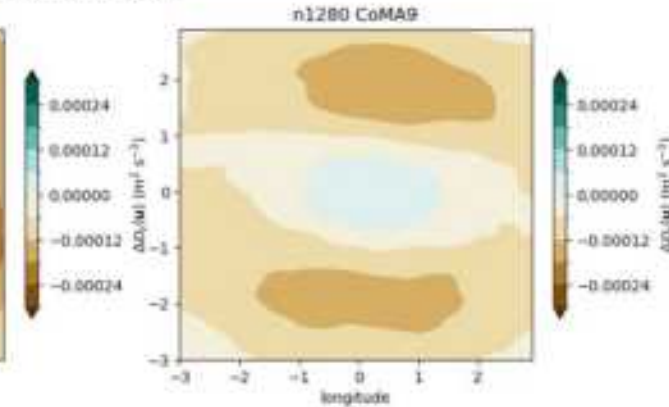
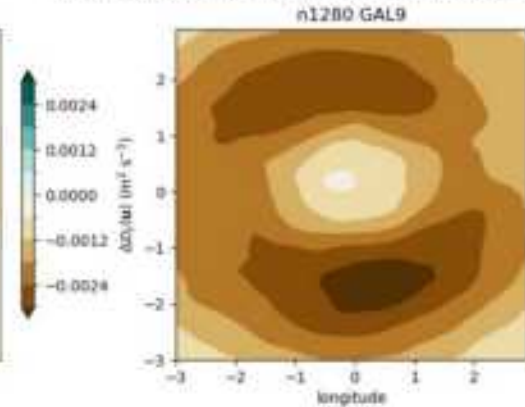
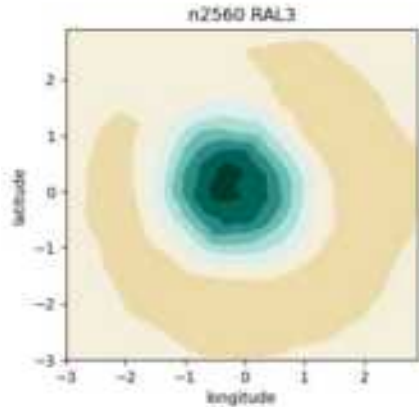
Shading is the difference between ~450km and ~85km scale kinetic energy transfer at 200hPa, so positive here is upscale transport from scales >140km to those beyond ~450km. Bars show cumulative mean flux into distinct scale ranges across W Africa

Note different y-axis limits – 3-4x more flux into scales >480km in RAL3.3!

241K brightness
T tracked MCS
centroid

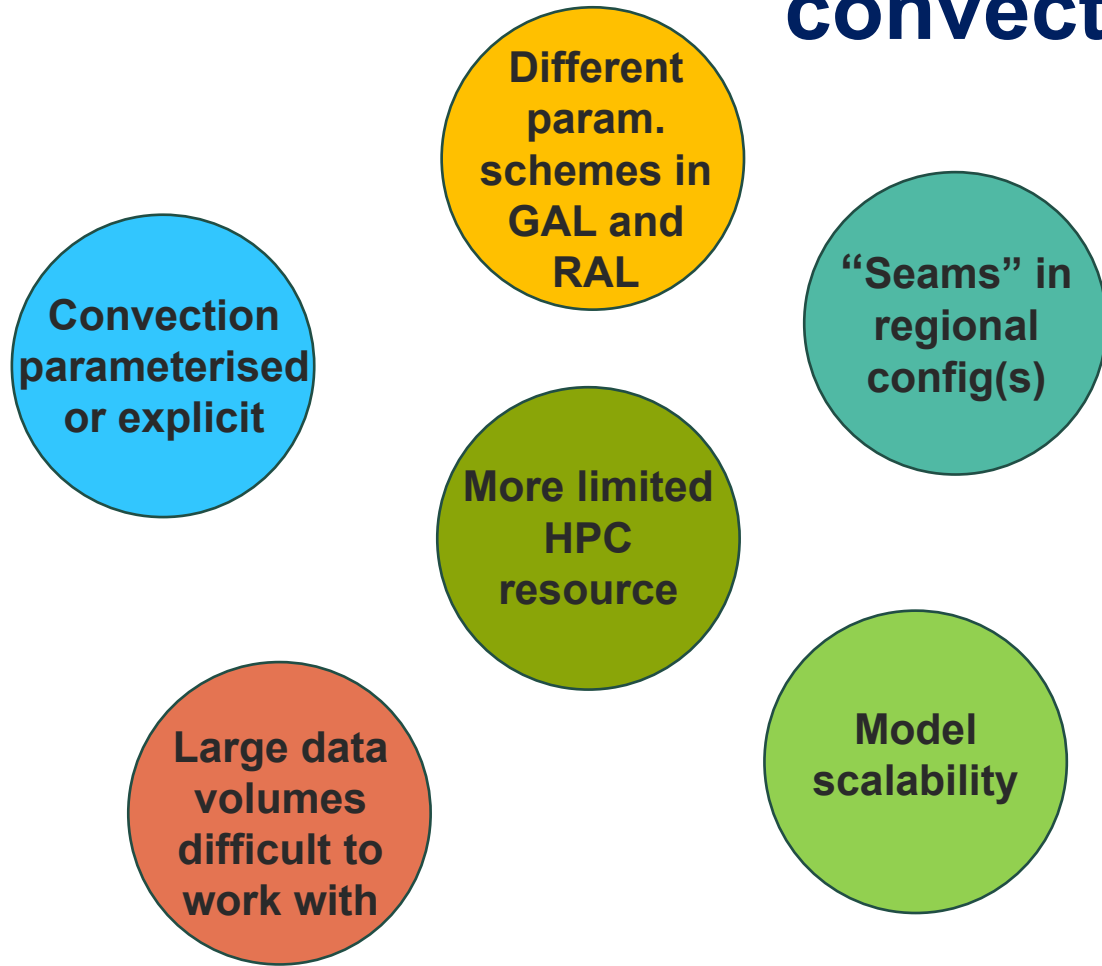
GAL9
n1280

15-21 UTC Waf MCS composite $\Delta D_y(u)$, 170 → 480km, 200hPa

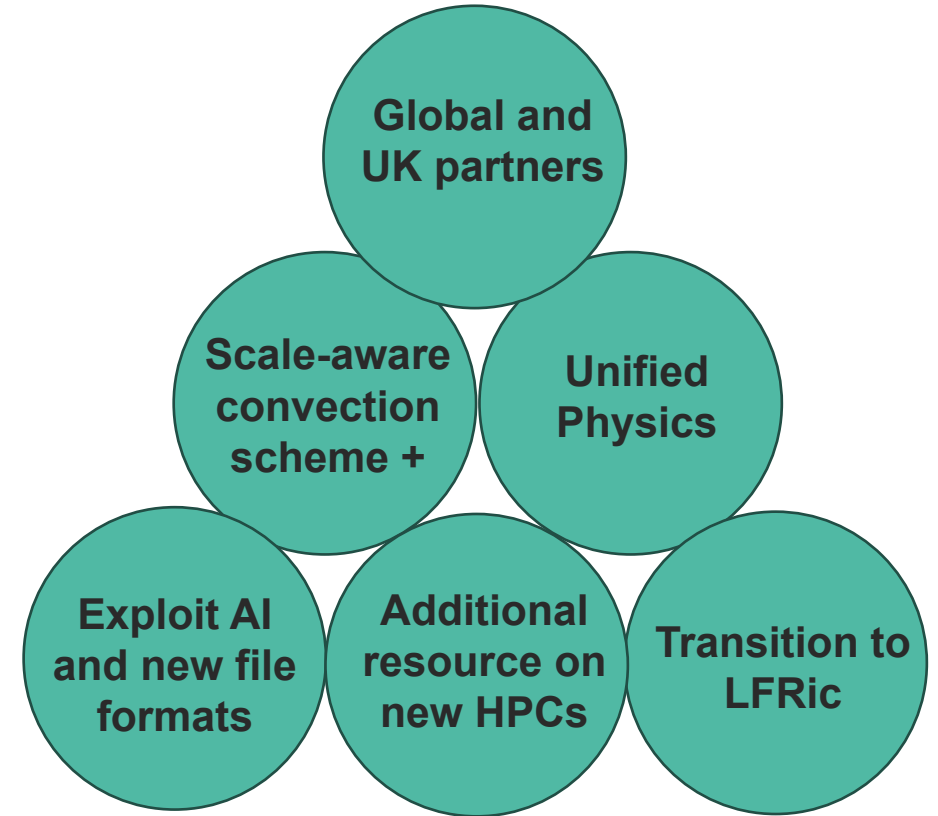


Composites of all September evening MSCs over W Africa show similar story. CoMA9 is beginning to show progress towards RAL3p3.

Progress towards seamless convection-permitting global simulations

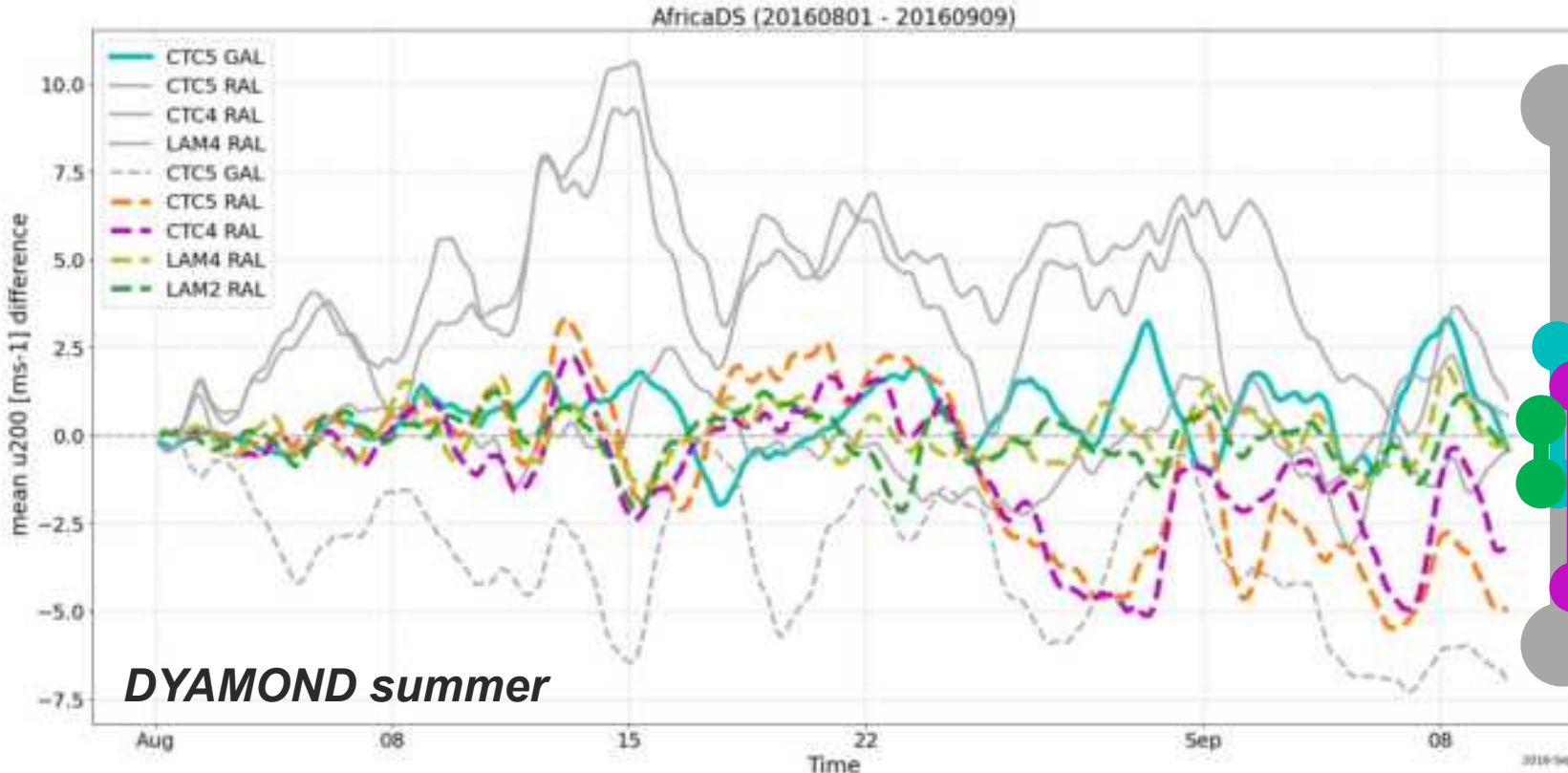


Previous delays or barriers

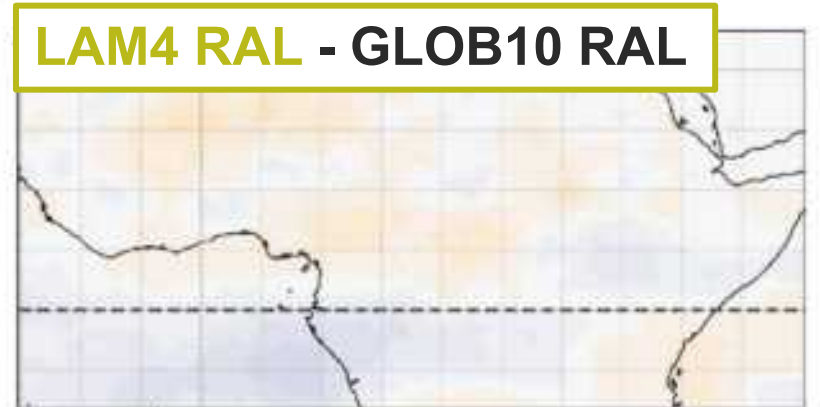
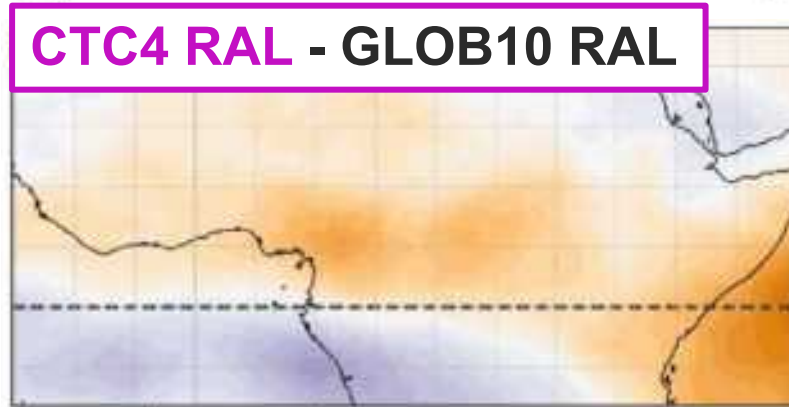
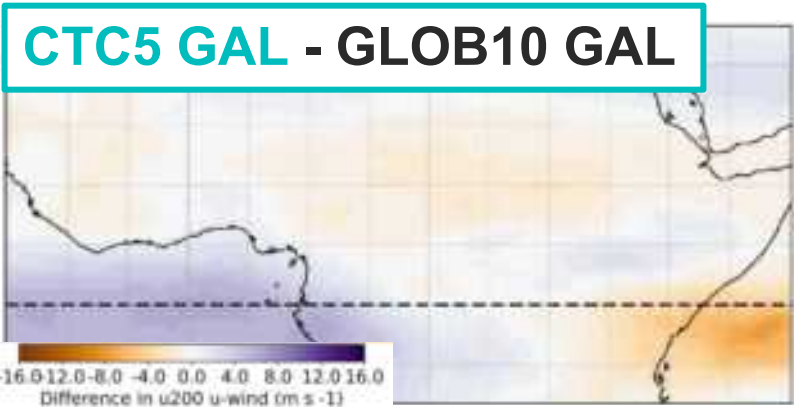


Key enablers to future progress

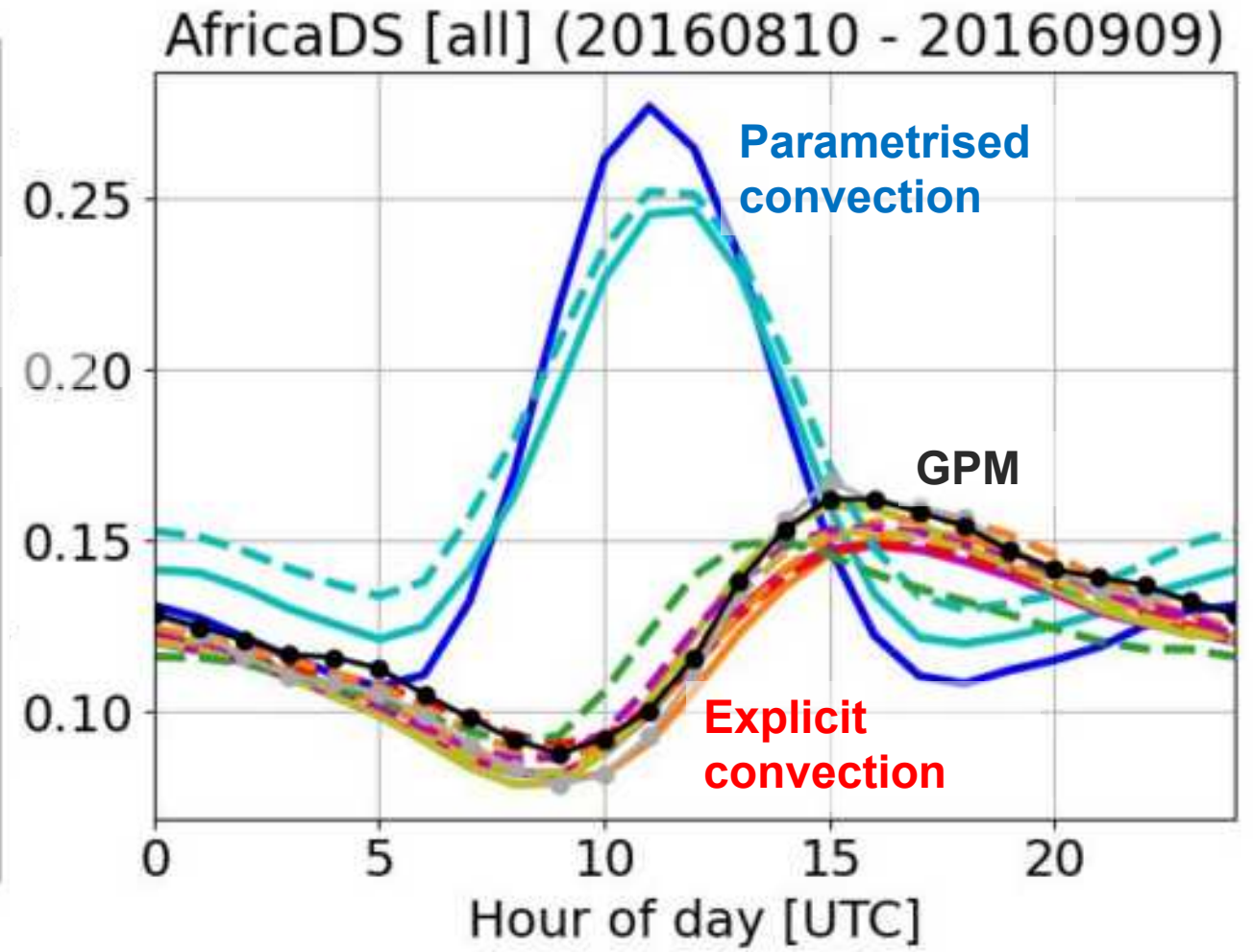
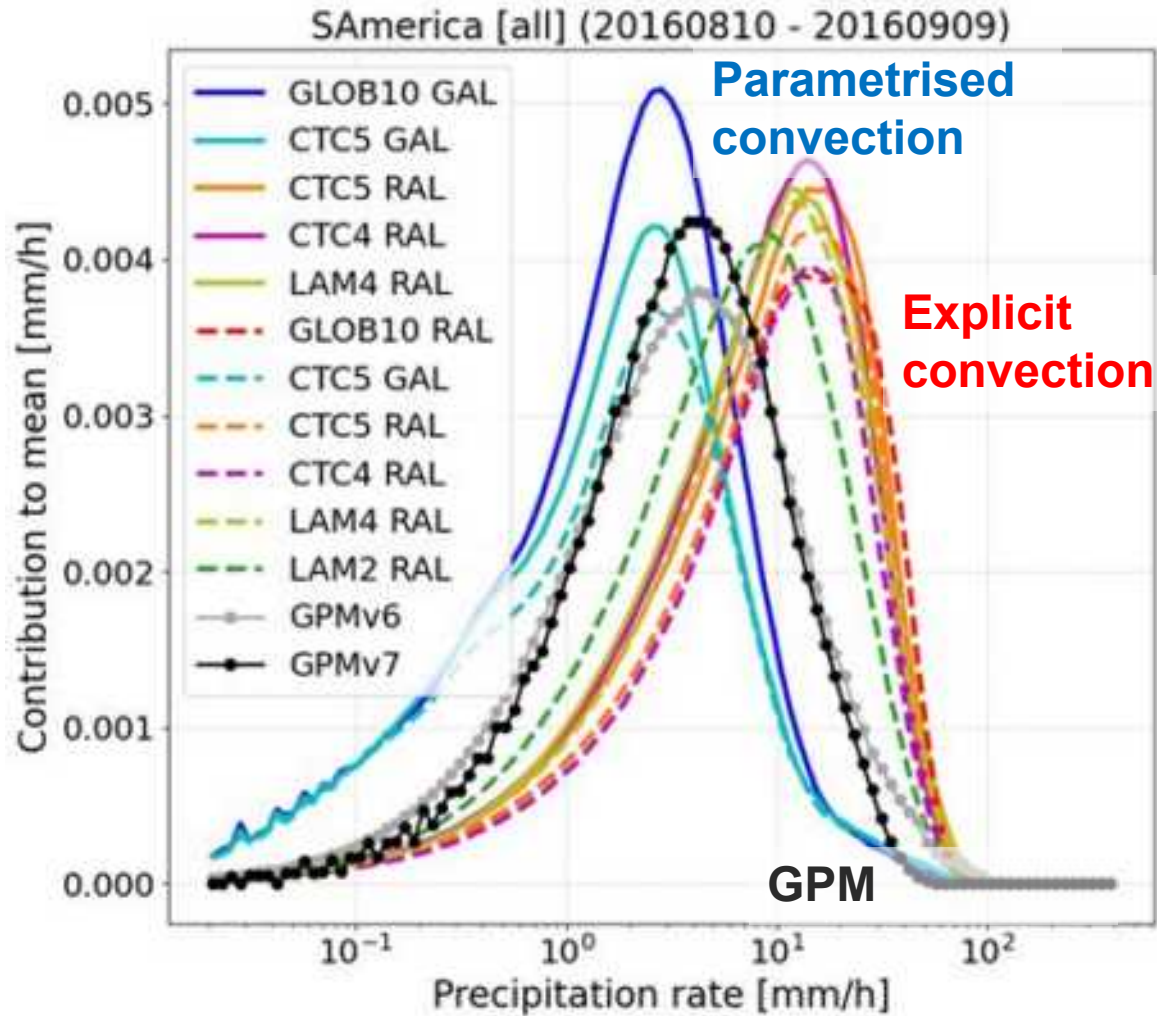
Signatures of upscale to large-scale flow



- Consider differences in u200 relative to global driving model
- Strong sensitivity to physics (GAL vs RAL); differences within hours
- Large-scale in continental LAM closely follows driving model
- Large-scale in CTC diverges from driving model more strongly, but only when convection is explicit
- ~10-day spin up period to upscale

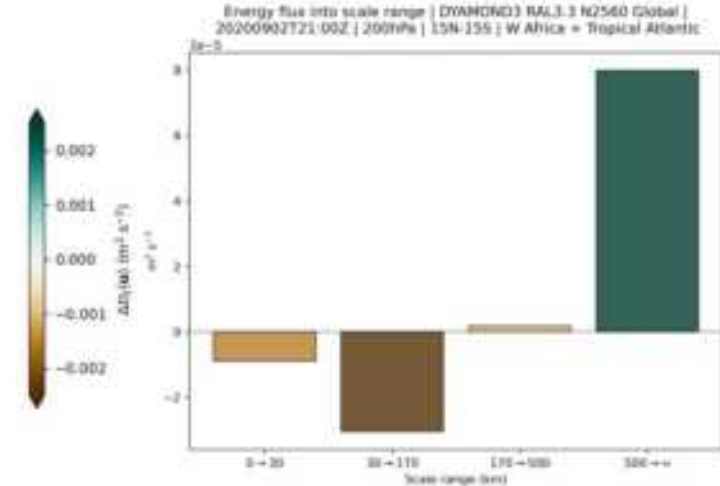
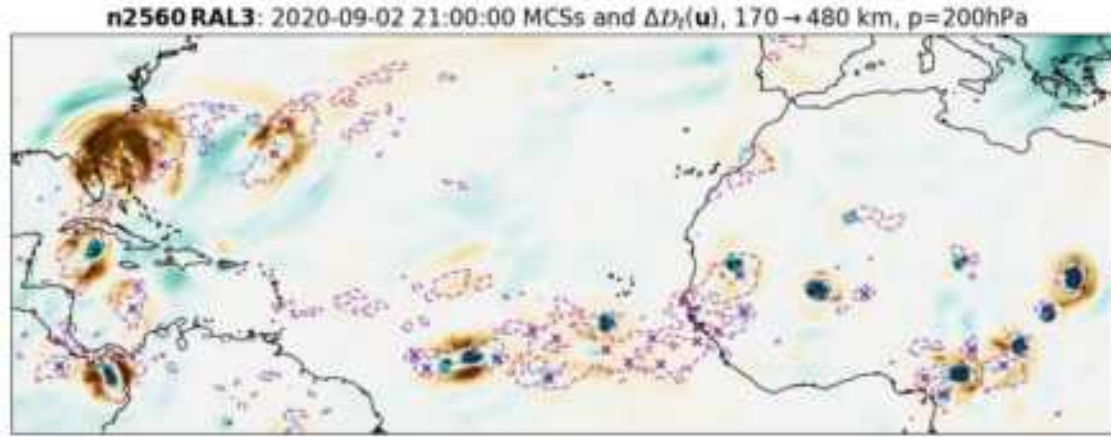


Regional evaluation of resolution and physics dependencies



RAL3.3
n2560

- - - 241K brightness
x Tracked MCS centroid

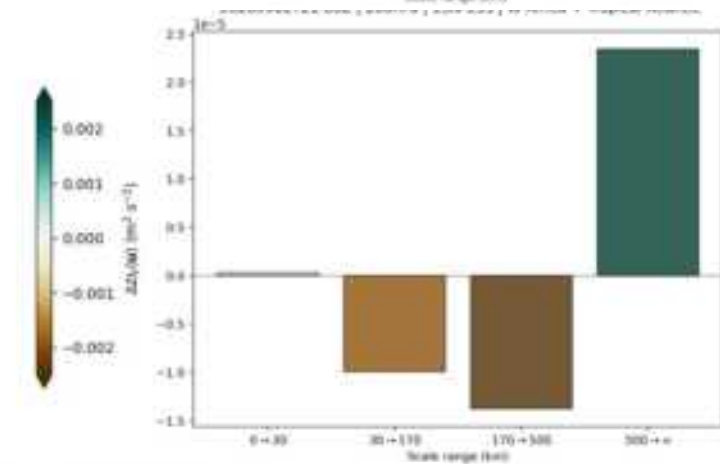
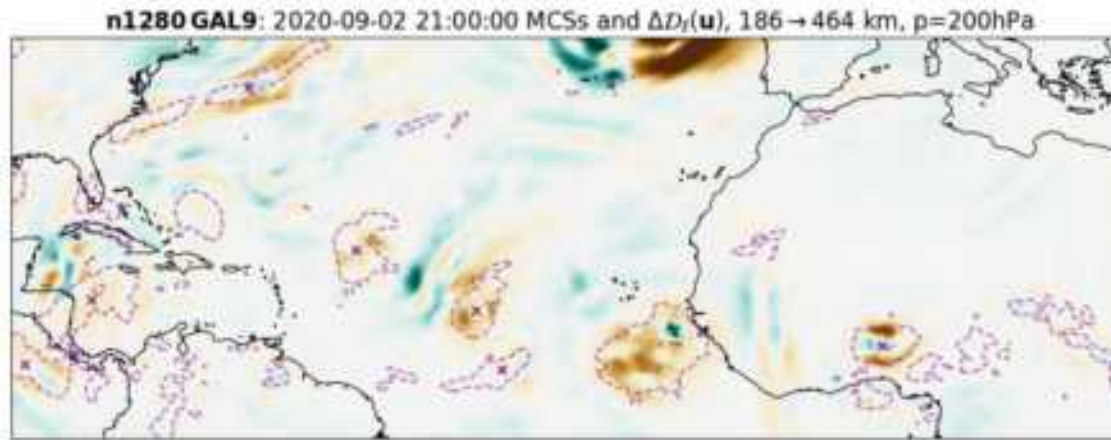


energy flux into scale ranges

- <30km
- 30-170km
- 170-480km
- >480km

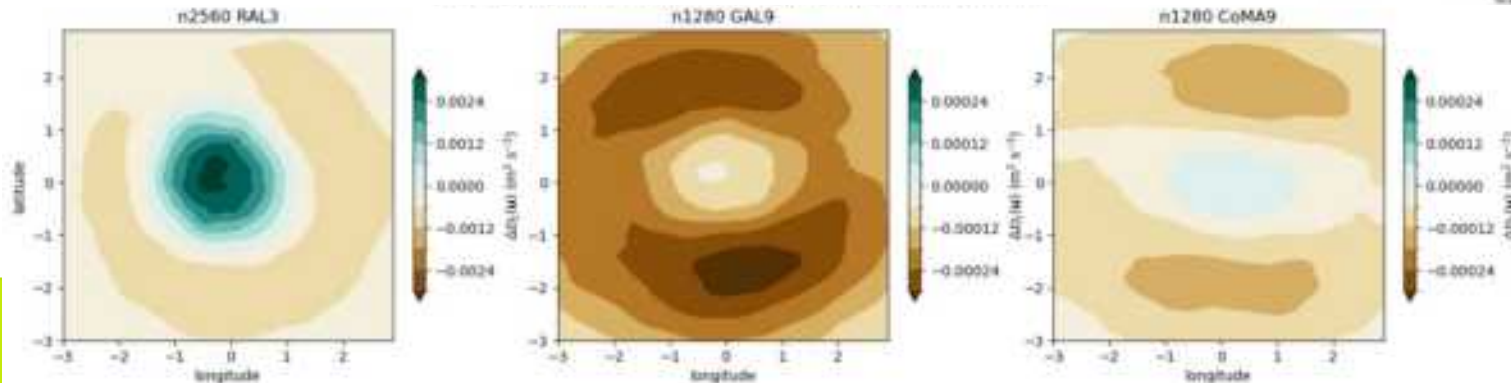
averaged over domain of left column plots

GAL9
n1280



Note different y-axis limits – 3-4x more flux into scales >480km in RAL3.3!

*Ben Maybee,
Elliot McKinnon-Gray,
Dan Shipley,
Callum Scullion*



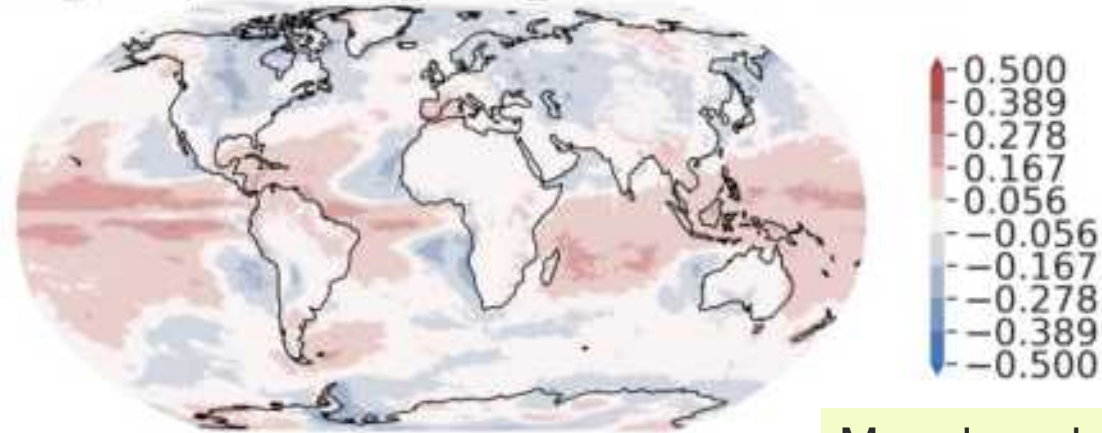
← Composites for Sept. 15-21UTC MCSs in W. Africa + Trop Atlantic

Messages to get across

- Why the hierarchy – its not about having a better downscaled forecast(!) – as well as comparing with coarser resolution benchmarks also compare with high-res regional simulations
- DYAMOND-3 simulations – year long (Jan 2020-Feb 2021) – simulations using a variety of physics configurations including explicit convection global (N2560 RAL3p3) and the utilising the new CoMA9_TBv1p2 convection parameterisation (tuned for running at ~5 km resolution).
- Initial results – often physics dominates over resolution in terms of model behaviour, however when looking at KE spectra its of course resolution that dominates what wavelengths are resolved...
- First looks from WCRP hackathon outputs – exciting new results – further configuration development needed for exp. convection global
- A nod to the past and a look to the future

Running with explicit convection on global domains: *Cloud and radiation feedbacks*

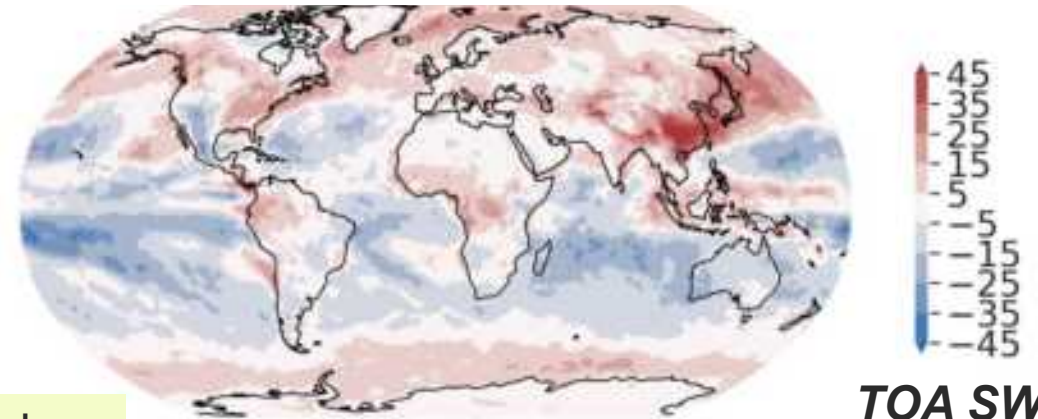
Low cloud fraction difference



GLOB5_RAL3 - GLOB10_GAL9

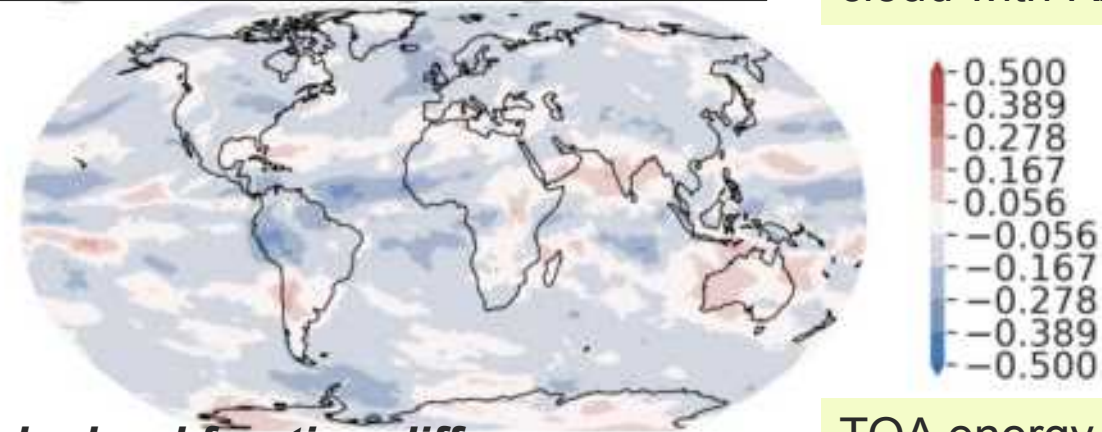
More low cloud, less high cloud with RAL3 than GAL9

Cloud radiative effect [TOA clear-sky – actual]



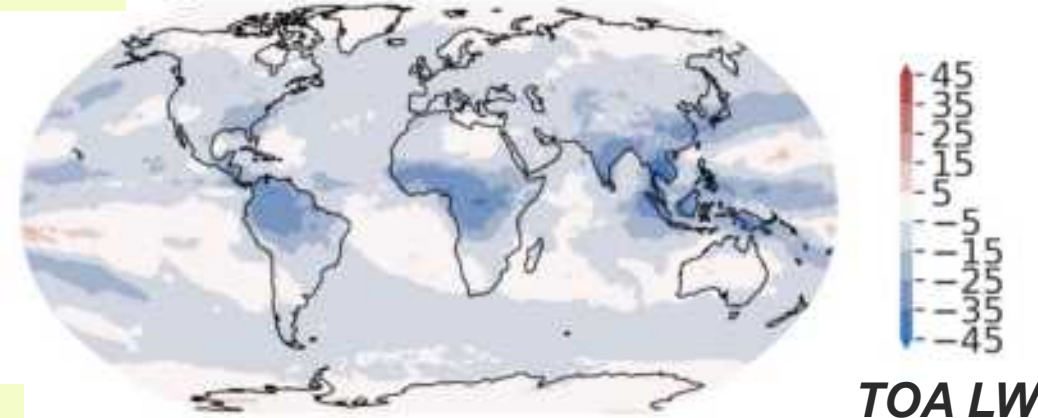
GLOB5_RAL3 - CERES

TOA SW



High cloud fraction difference

TOA energy imbalance with RAL3



TOA LW

The past

- Convection-permitting (RAL) configurations with differences between mid-latitude and tropical regions
- Significant “seams” between regional and global configurations e.g. different large-scale cloud and cloud microphysics schemes
- Push towards high-resolution global simulation slowed by competing challenges of LFRic global and regional development (also the present!)
- Technical challenges with ancillary generation, HPC resources, STASH output limited due to data volumes...



(My) Vision for the future

- Unified physics across regional and global model configurations to enable agile model development
- Scale-aware parameterisations to simplify comparison of high-resolution with coarser resolution benchmarks
- **Collaborative effort to push towards a global physics configuration that can be exploited in LFRic (and UM) at resolutions of ~ 5 km and finer (use of GAL vs RAL physics options?).**
- **Convection-permitting global simulations running on our new HPC**
- Exploiting new technologies and file formats that allow new global collaborations to grow



- Encouragement to develop and exploit global and regional (coupled) model *hierarchies*...
- ...to unpick impacts of resolution, physics and domain size on unlocking representation of *upscale processes* in weather and climate models
- Many more outputs to come out of the WCRP global hackathon and new collaborations created. International intercomparison and learning from each other
- Sharing of evaluation and diagnostic tools, *e.g. CSET*, will enhance our community efforts



Introducing CSET: Convective-Scale Evaluation Toolkit

- Open-source, portable
- python-based libraries
- Recipe-driven flexibility
- **Collaboration welcome!**

The collage includes:

- A screenshot of the CSET GitHub repository page with the title "CSET (Convective and turbulence scale Evaluation and verification Toolkit)".
- A "CSET Documentation" page with a table of contents and introductory text.
- A code editor window showing a complex configuration file with various parameters and their values.
- A line graph showing a time series of data with a sharp peak.
- A satellite-style map of a region, likely the UK, with a red box highlighting a specific area.

