

Use of high-resolution modelling techniques in Australia: examples and some issues

Climate Adaptation National Research Flagship

Penny Whetton

Acknowledgements: Jack Katzfey, John McGregor, Kevin Hennessy, John Clarke, Ian Watterson, David Kent and others

National Research
FLAGSHIPS
Climate Adaptation



Outline

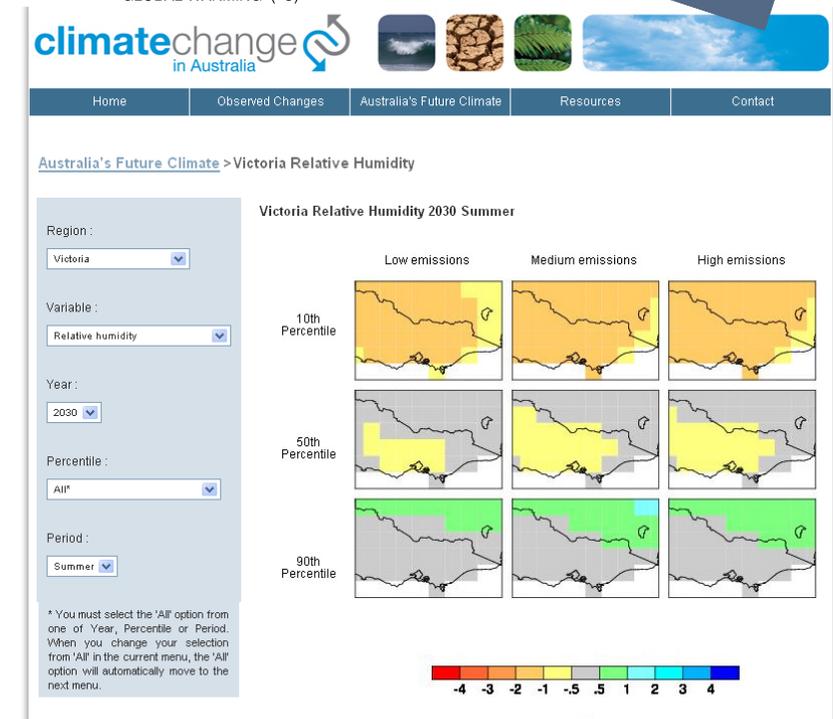
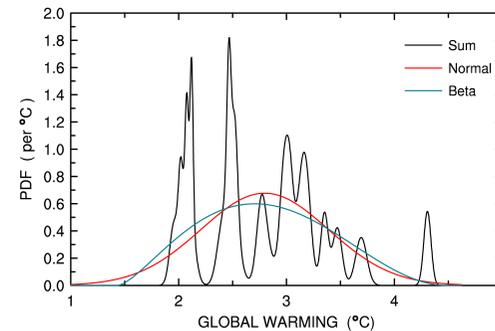
- Where I am coming from
- Australian regional modelling applications
 - CCAM
 - Other
- GCM selection issue

Climate change in Australia (2007)

- Probabilistic projections for seven variables
- CMIP3 database
- Full uncertainty sampling
- No downscaling

Reactions

- Multiple variable combinations
- Demand for finer resolution
- Massive demand for future application ready data sets



Where I am coming from

Planning new national projections for 2013/14

Considering the role dynamical and statistical downscaling will play in these

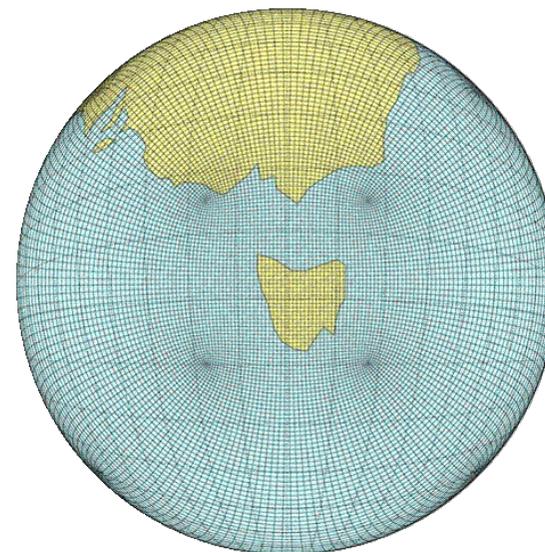
- CORDEX

Concerns regarding representation of uncertainty

- GCM selection issue
- Dependence on one or two downscaling techniques

CCAM (McGregor and Katzfey, CSIRO)

- **Lateral boundaries**
 - Stretched-grid
- **Domain size and placement**
 - Stretched-grid
 - Scale-selective filter
- **Ensembles**
 - Downscale multiple GCMs
- **Host model forcing**
 - Bias-adjusted SSTs (with or without nudging)
- **Variability – internal and external (from host model)**
 - External same as GCMs (ENSO)



CCAM regional applications

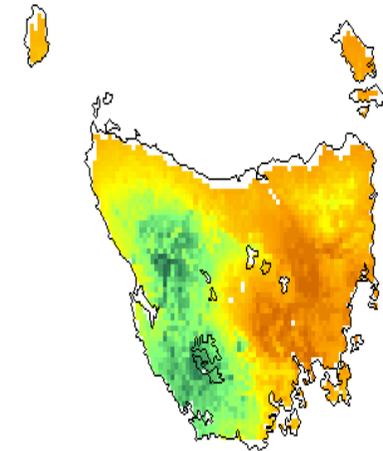
- 'Climate Futures Tasmania'
- Pacific
- Indonesia
- Other

Climate Futures Tasmania



- Major research program
- CCAM-based climate scenarios
- Multi-sectoral impact assessment

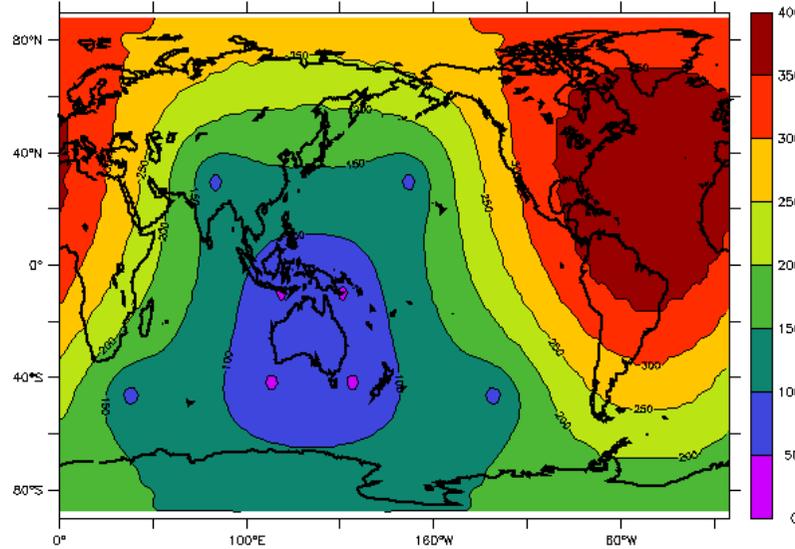
Acknowledgements: Grose, MR, Corney SP, Bennett JB, Bindoff NL, Katzfey, J, and McGregor, J.



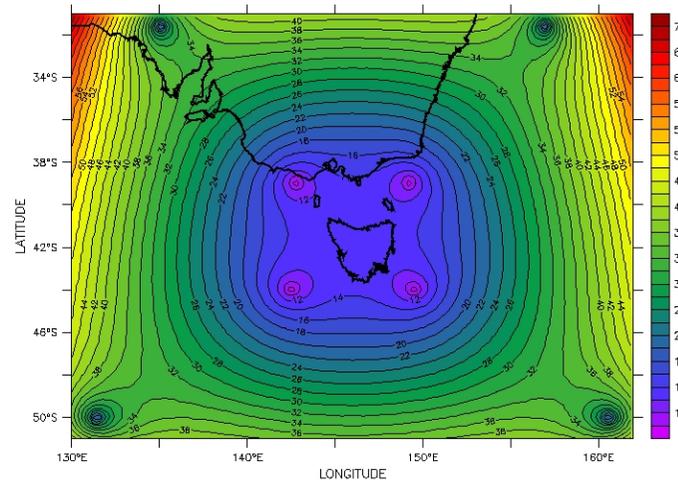
CCAM modelling for *Climate Futures Tasmania*

1) 60 km C64 runs over Australia for Climate Futures Tasmania (1961-2100) – 140 years

| | | |
|-----------|----|----|
| Mk3.5 | A2 | B1 |
| GFDL 2.1 | A2 | B1 |
| GFDL 2.0 | A2 | B1 |
| ECHAM5 | A2 | B1 |
| HADCM3 | A2 | B1 |
| MIROC-Med | A2 | B1 |

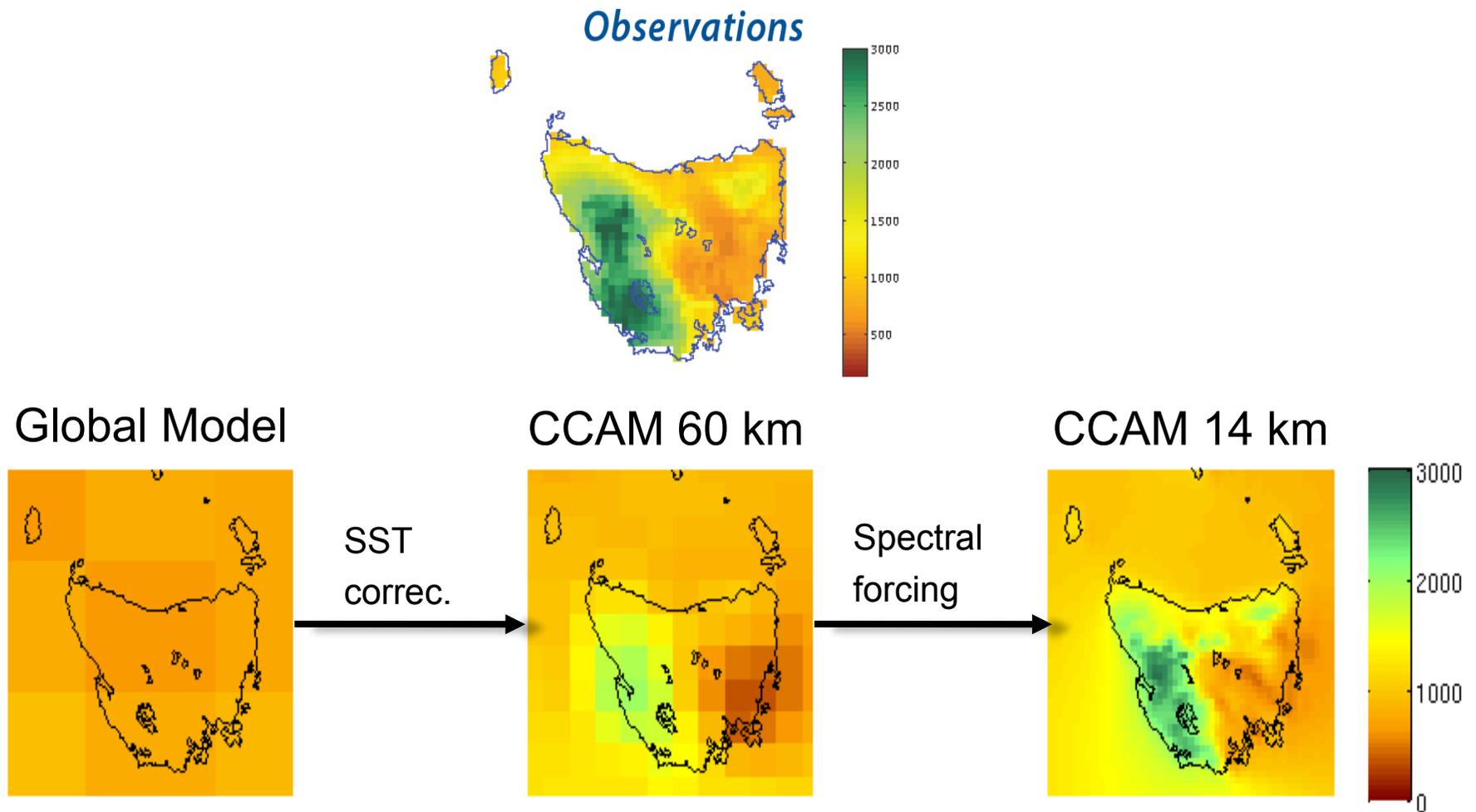


2) 14 km C48 runs over Tasmania
Australia (1961-2100) – 140 years
downscaled from above 60 km
CCAM runs



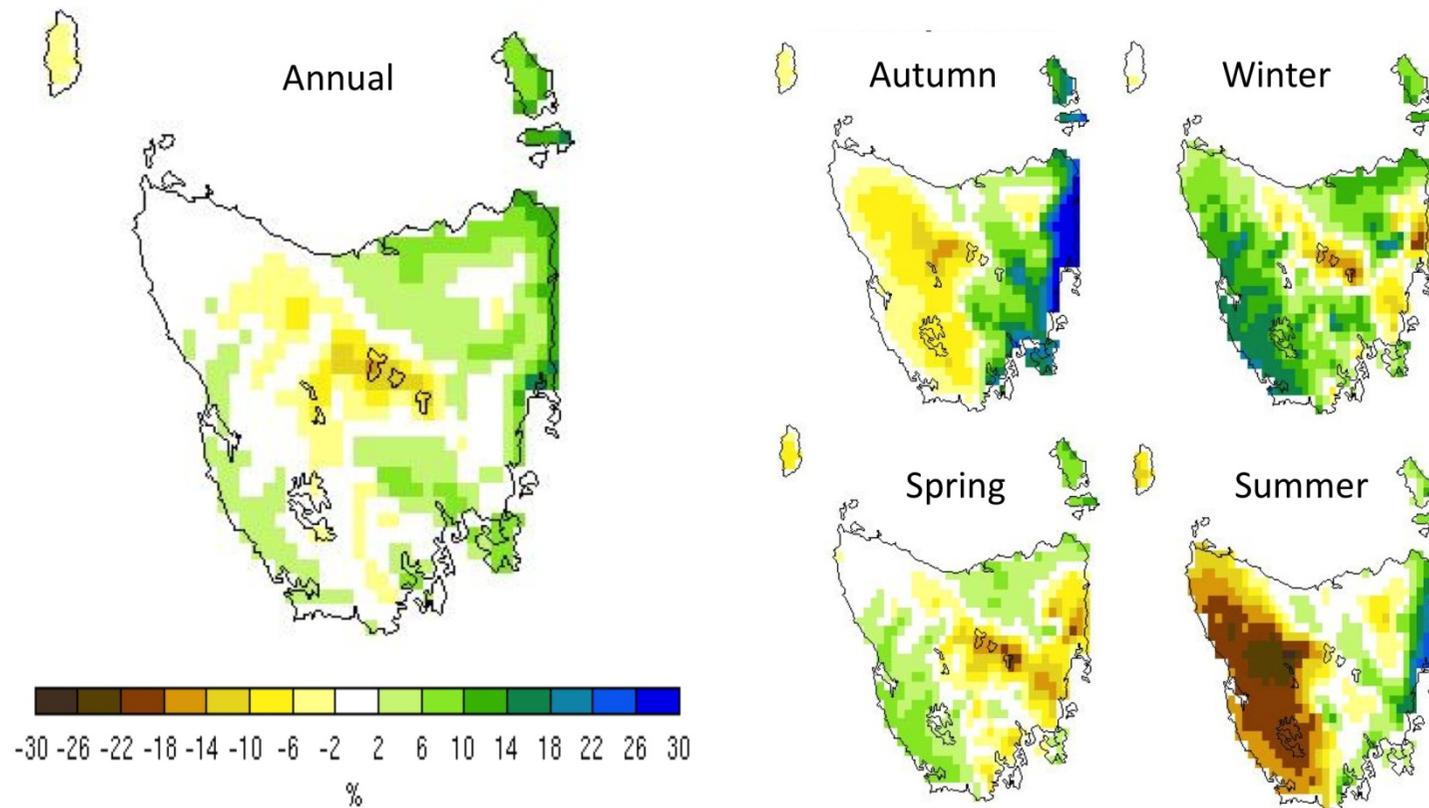
Current climate rainfall simulation

Simulated annual rainfall for Tasmania at different resolutions

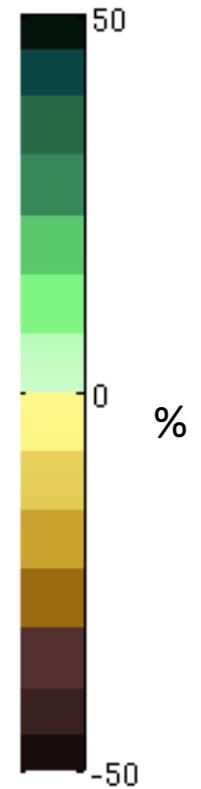
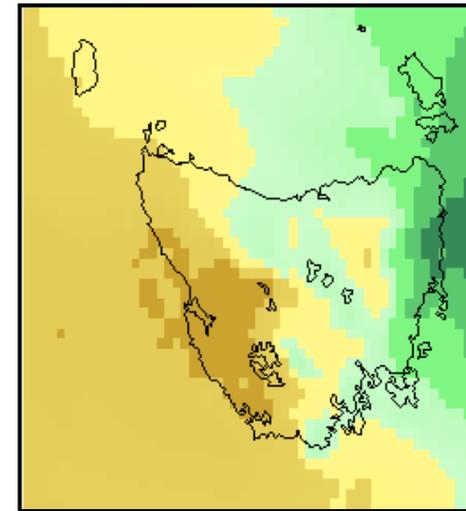
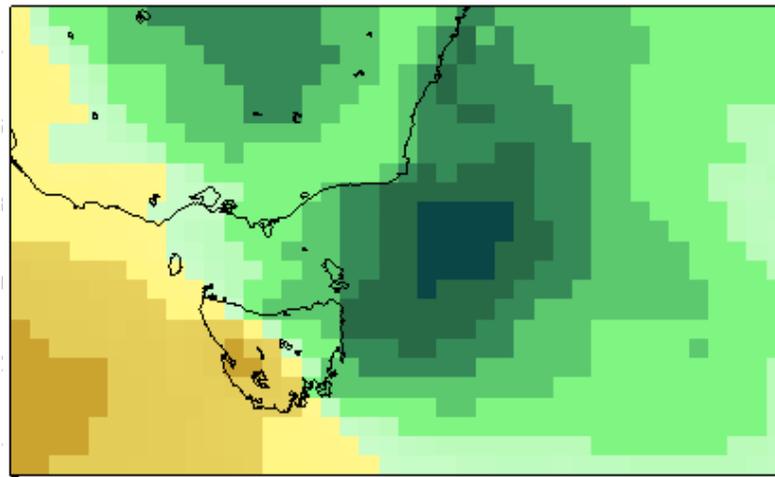
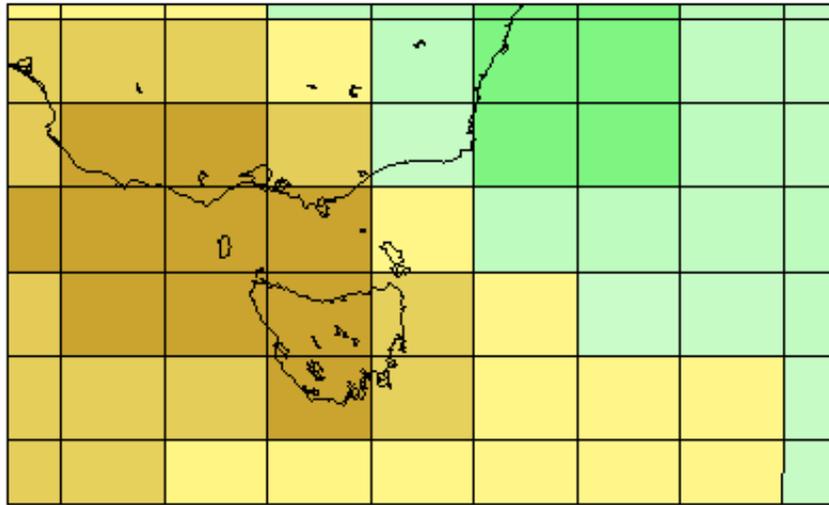


Climate projections mean rainfall (6 model mean)

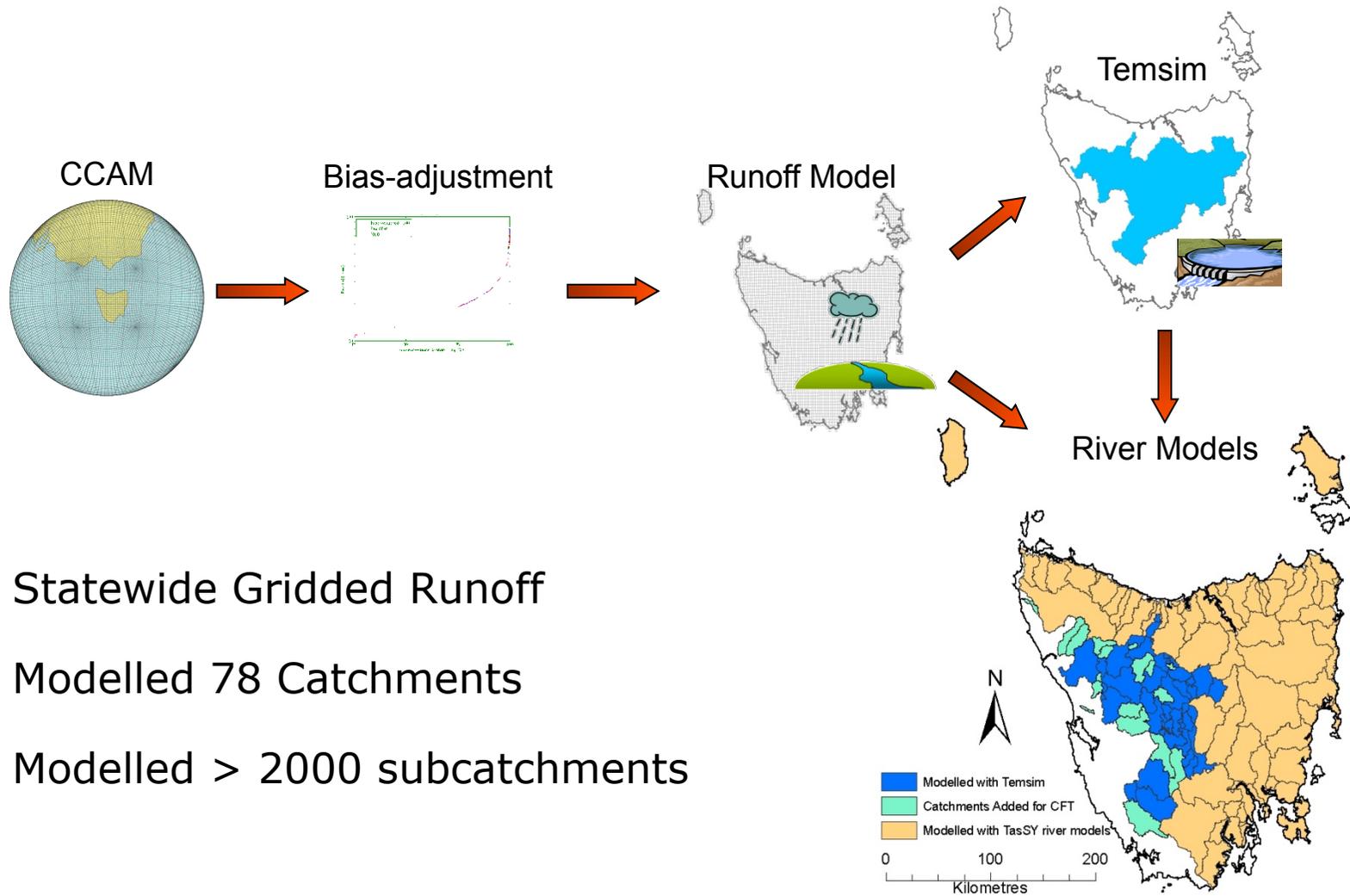
1980-1999 to 2090-2099 SRES A2



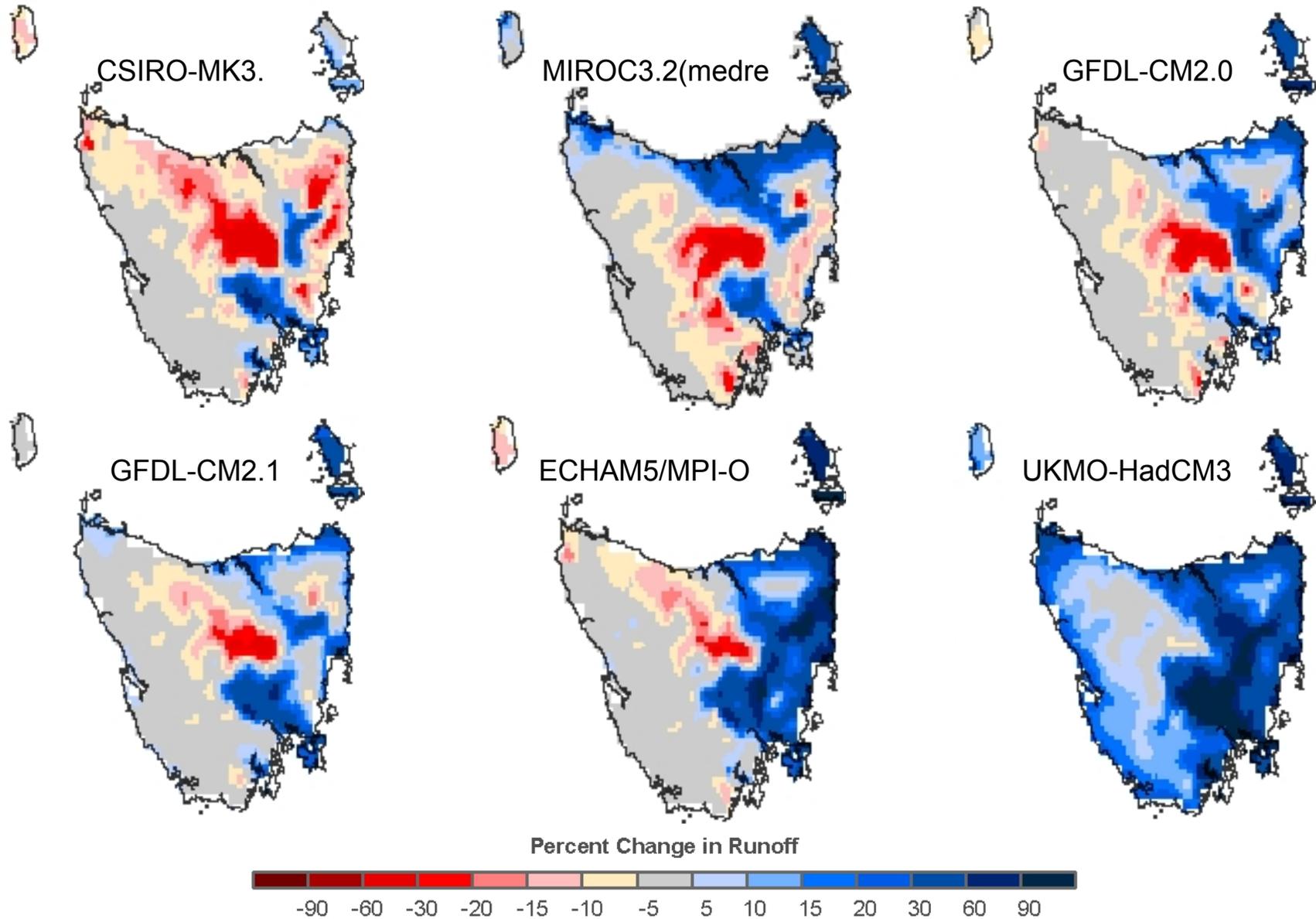
Summer rainfall response – impact of downscaling



Assessing runoff changes



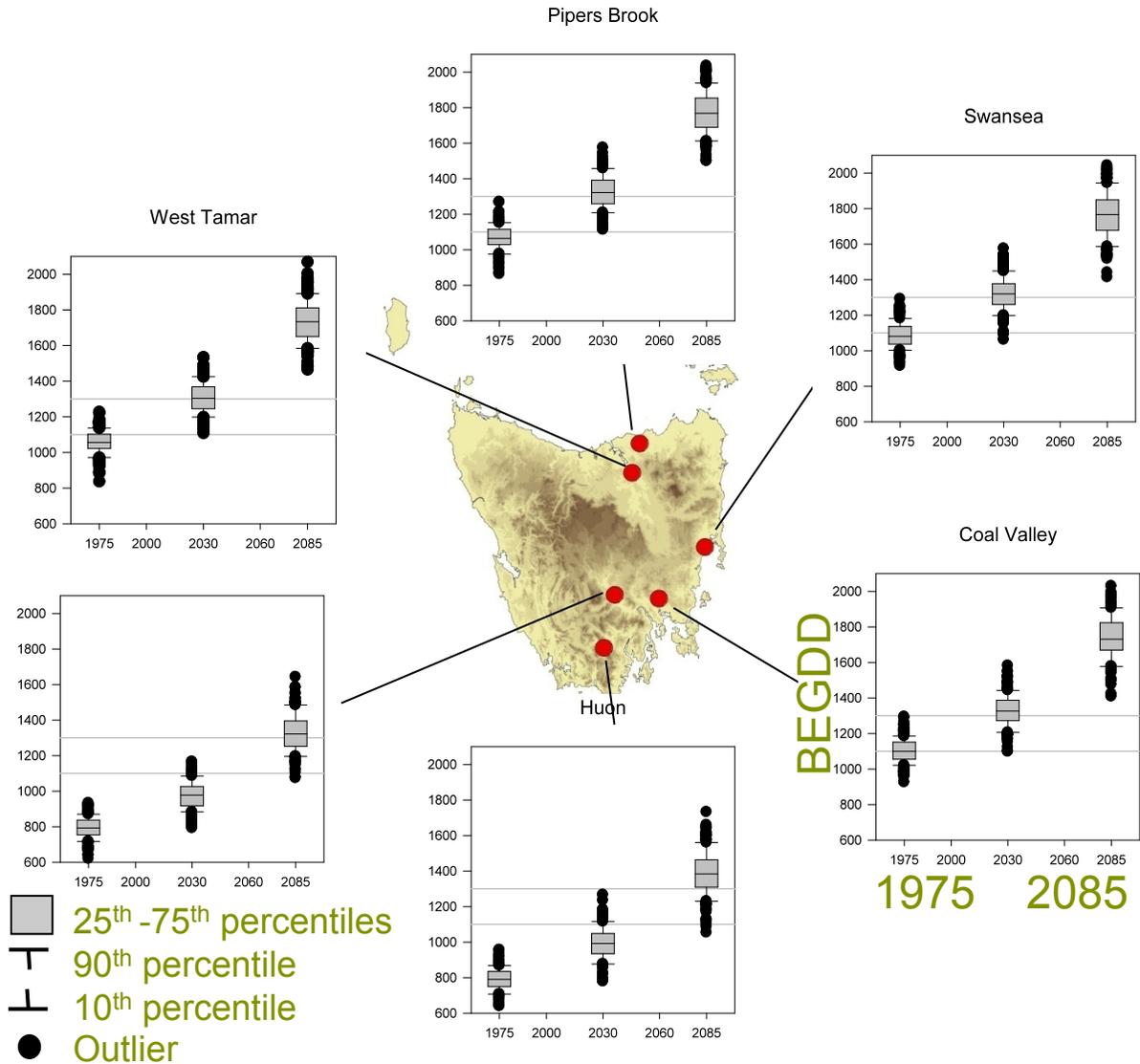
Percent runoff change 2070-2099 v 1961-1990



Biologically Effective Growing degree days 1975-2030-2085

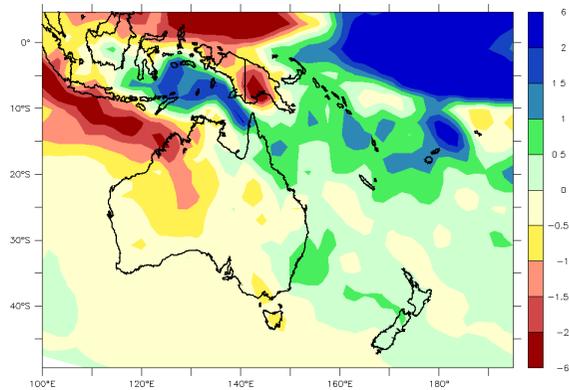


Pinot Noir

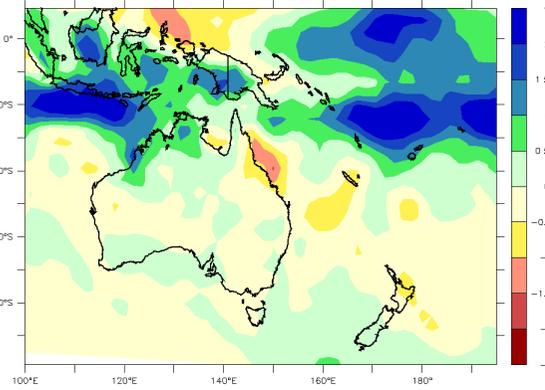


DJF rainfall chg (2085-1985) – GCMs v CCAM

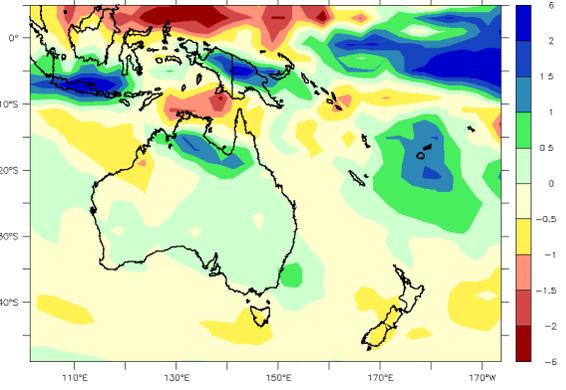
csiromk3.5



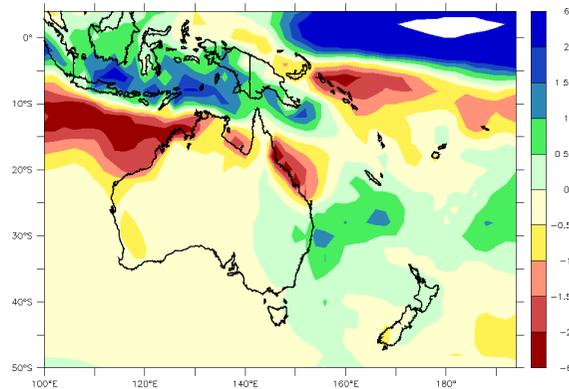
echam5



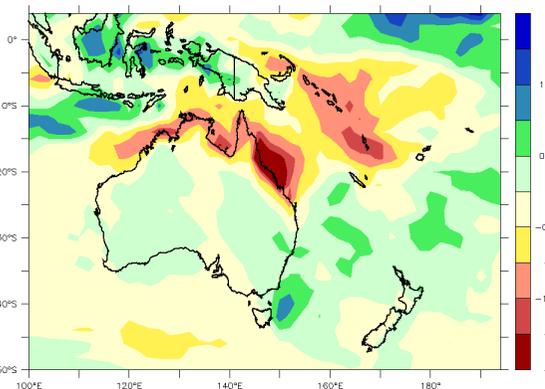
gfdlcm20



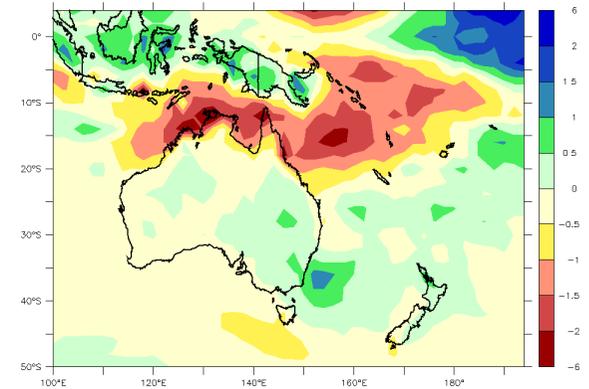
csiromk3.5 - CCAM



echam5 - CCAM

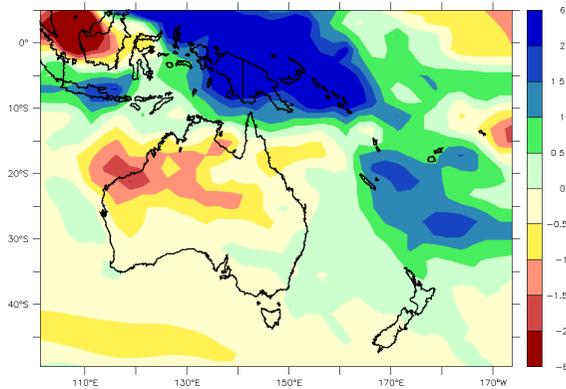


gfdlcm20 - CCAM

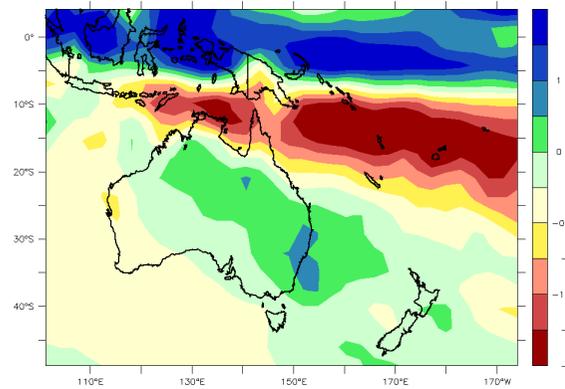


DJF rainfall chg (2085-1985) – GCMs v CCAM

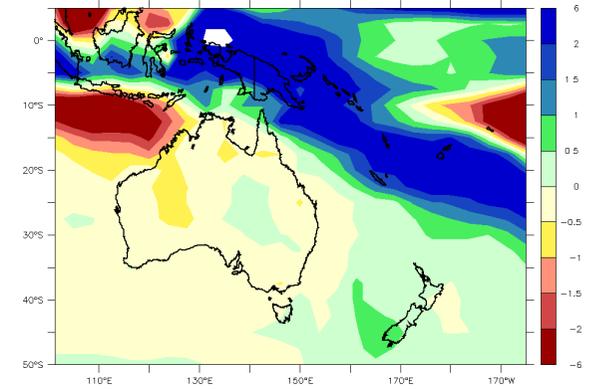
gfdlcm21



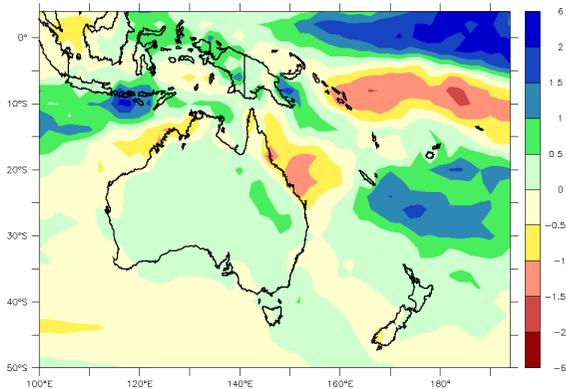
mirocmmr



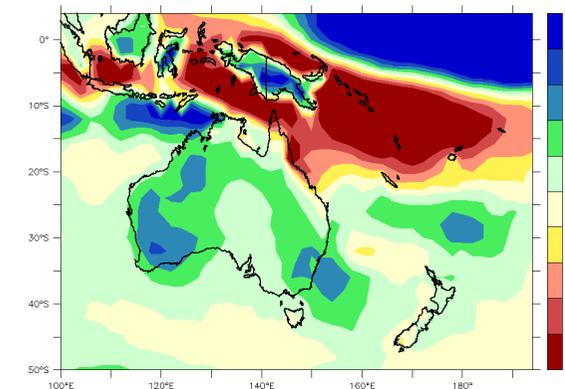
ukhadcm3



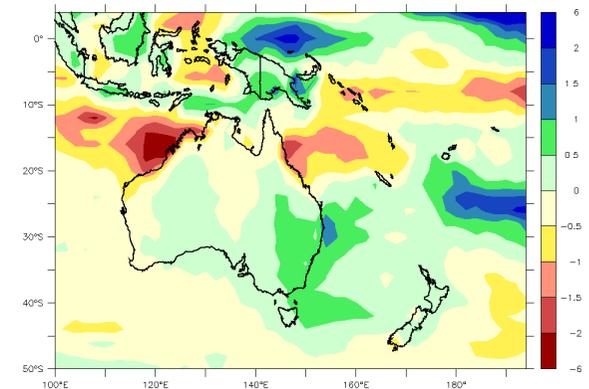
gfdlcm21 - CCAM



mirocmmr - CCAM

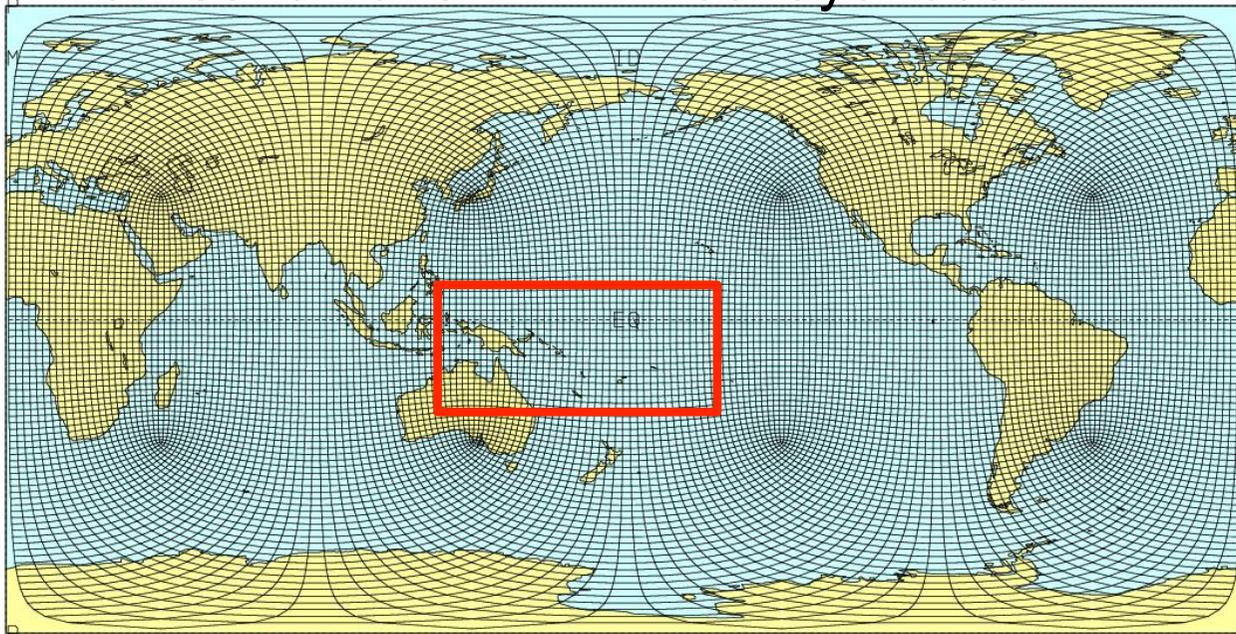


ukhadcm3 - CCAM



Pacific Climate Change Project (PCCSP)

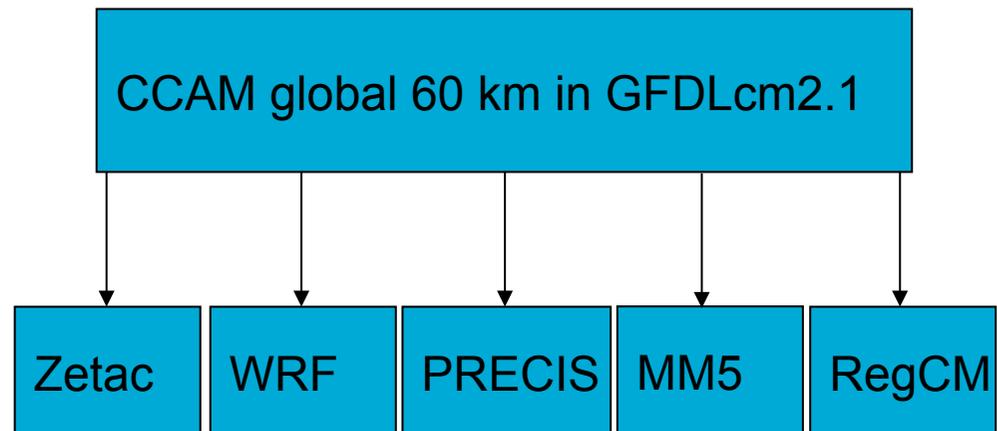
- Same six GCMs and A2
- Uses monthly bias-corrected SSTs
- Grid resolution is about 60 km (C160)
- Simulations from 1961-2100
- Downscaled to 8 km over seven islands
 - employing digital filter
- New set of runs with mixed-layer ocean



C48 grid - 200 km. Actually used C160 grid – 60 km

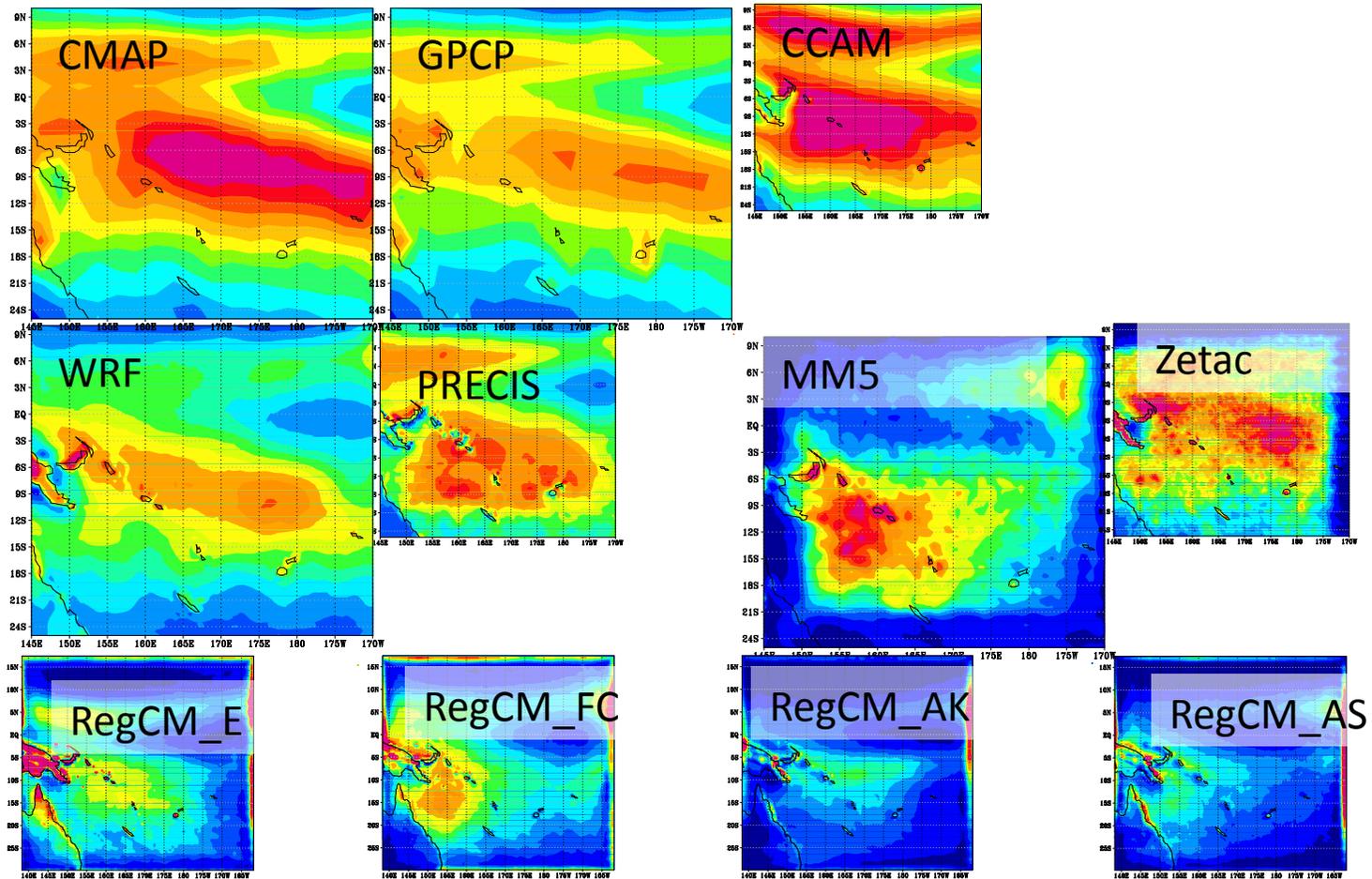
Multi-model dynamical downscaling methodology for Pacific

- To dynamically simulate the regional climate, we need to address:
 - **Uncertainty in regional climate model dynamics/physics**
- PCCSP additional downscaling
- Two time periods: 1981-2000, 2046-2065

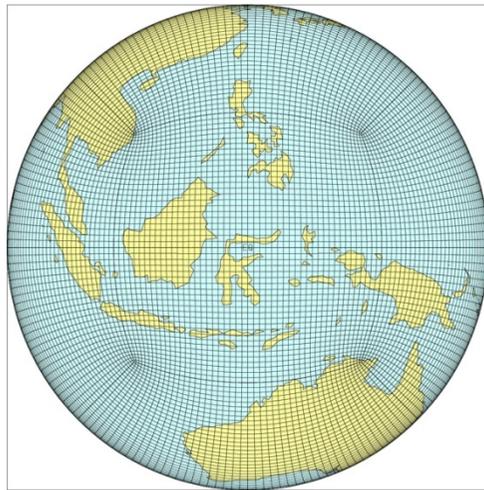
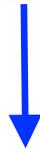
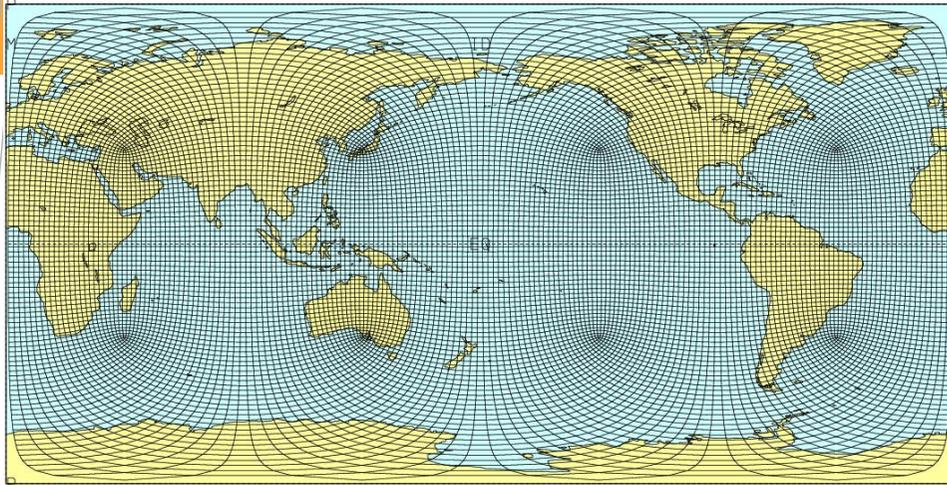


Ensemble of Regional Climate Models,
in addition to CCAM

Observed DJF rainfall and NCEP-based simulations



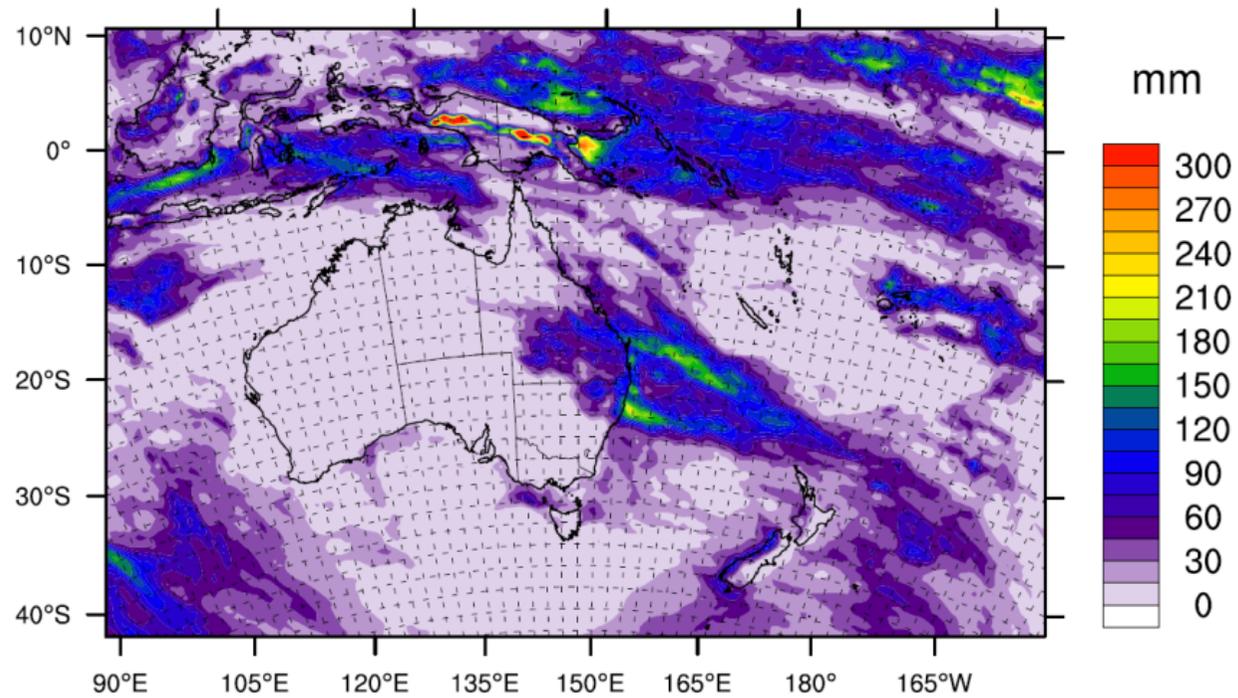
Indonesia ensemble CCAM 60 km simulations



Stretched C48 grid with resolution about 60 km over Indonesia

- Same six GCMs and A2
- Uses monthly bias-corrected SSTs
- Proceeds via 200 km quasi-uniform CCAM simulations
- Final grid resolution is about 60 km
- 60 km simulations from 1971-2000, 2041-2060, 2081-2100

WRF in use at University of NSW (Jason Evans)



Selecting Model Subsets

- Much interest in this issue in the region
 - Both for downscaling and other purposes
 - Attempts to pick best models
- An issue in the CCAM work

Do we know how to select a set of best models?

Smith and Chandler (2010) (updated)

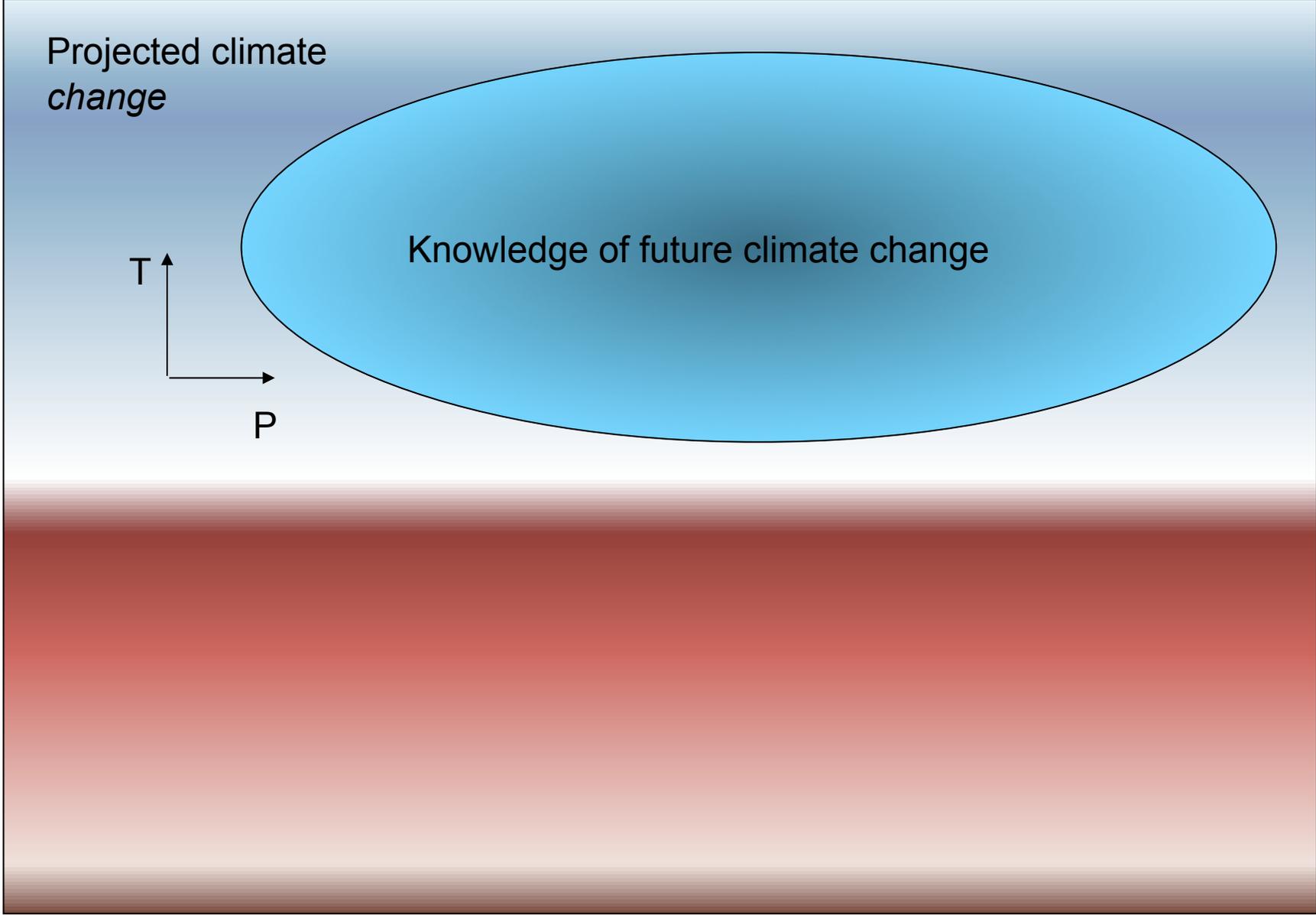
| | A Aus | B Aus | C Aus | D Aus | E ENSO | F North Pacific | G MDB | H MDB | I GLOBE | J NH | K SH |
|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------------------|----------|----------|------------|---------|---------|
| BCCR-BCM2.0 | 5 | 5 | 590 | Yes | | No | No | | No | | No |
| CCSM3 | 0 | 2 | 677 | No | No | Yes | No | | Yes | 7 | Yes |
| CGCM3.1(T47) | 1 | 8 | 518 | No | No | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | 10 | |
| CGCM3.1(T63) | 1 | 10 | 478 | | | Yes | No | | Yes | | Yes |
| CNRM-CM3 | 0 | 4 | 542 | | No | No | | No | No | 3 | No |
| CSIRO-Mk3.0 | 1 | 7 | 601 | Yes | No | No | Yes | No | No | 14 | Yes |
| ECHAM5/MPI | 0 | 1 | 700 | Yes | Yes | No | No | No | Yes | 1 | Yes |
| ECHO-G | 0 | 4 | 632 | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | No | | | |
| FGOALS-G1.0 | 2 | 2 | 639 | No | No | No | Yes | | No | 15 | No |
| GFDL-CM2.0 | 0 | 2 | 671 | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | 5 | No |
| GFDL-CM2.1 | 0 | 2 | 672 | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | 2 | Yes |
| GISS-AOM | 1 | 8 | 564 | No | No | No | Yes | | No | | |
| GISS-EH | 5 | 14 | 304 | | No | No | | | No | | No |
| GISS-ER | 0 | 8 | 515 | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | 12 | No |
| INM-CM3.0 | 1 | 7 | 627 | | No | No | | Yes | No | 8 | No |
| IPSL-CM4 | 2 | 14 | 505 | No | No | No | Yes | | No | 11 | No |
| MIROC3.2(hires) | 0 | 7 | 608 | | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| MIROC3.2(medres) | 2 | 7 | 608 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | 4 | No |
| MRI-CGCM2.3.2 | 1 | 3 | 601 | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | |
| PCM | 3 | 11 | 506 | | No | No | | | No | | |
| UKMO-HadCM3 | 0 | 6 | 608 | | Yes | Yes | | | Yes | | |
| UKMO-HadGEM1 | 0 | 2 | 674 | | No | No | | | Yes | | Yes |

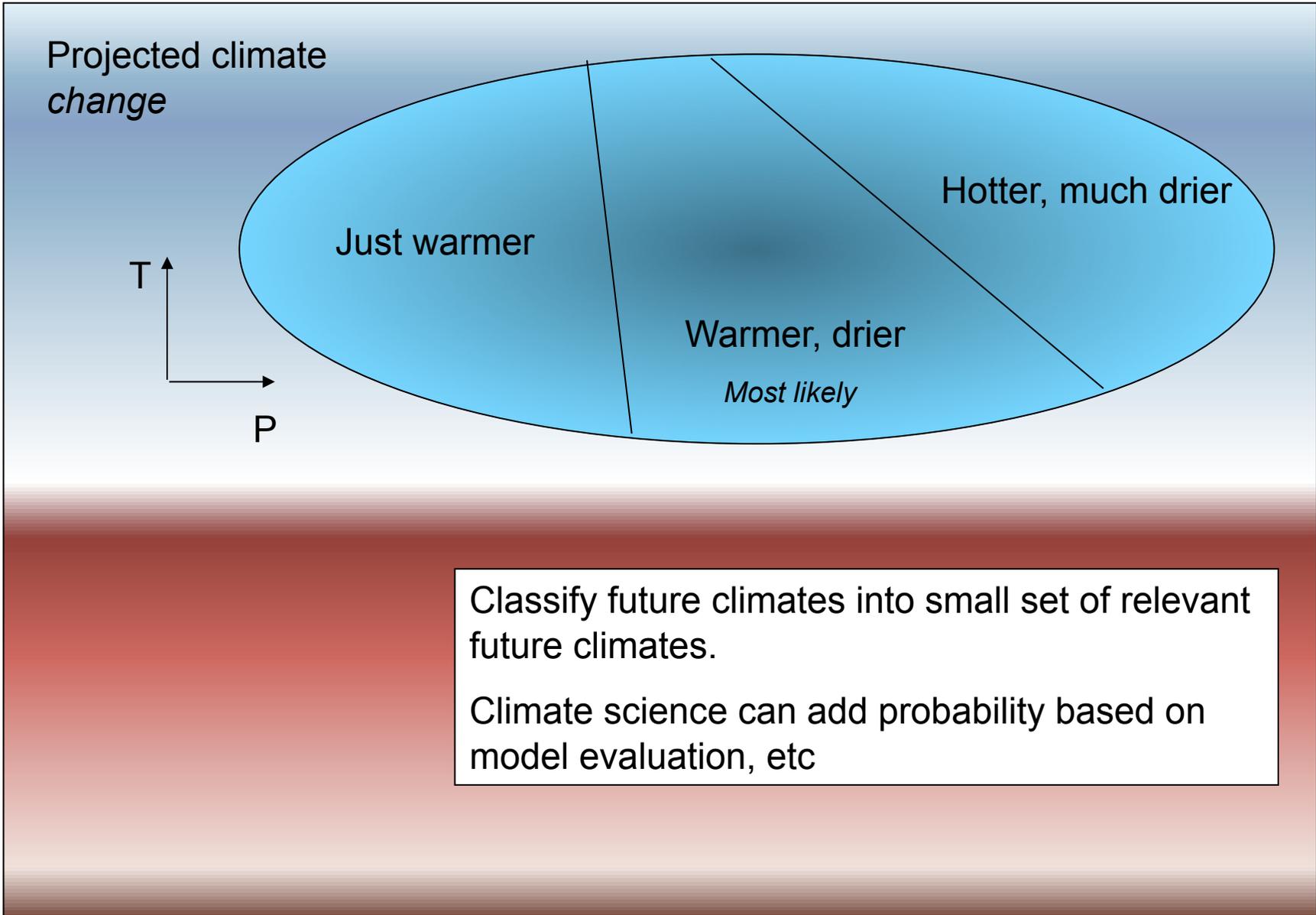
No!

'Reliability' and 'Applicability' and a representative subset of models

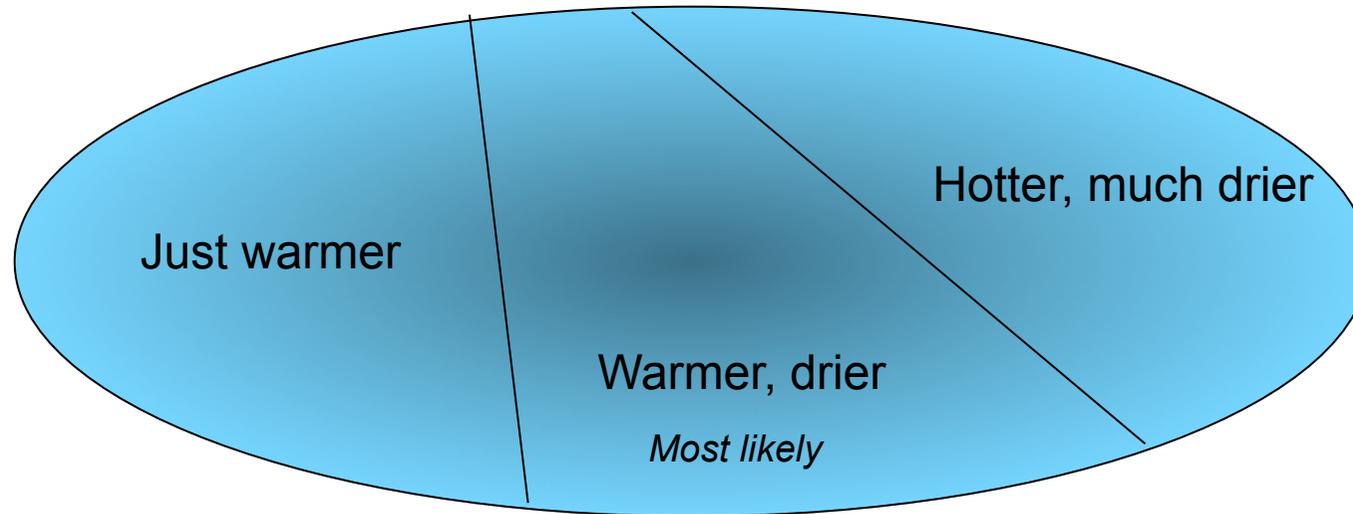
- In attempting to select we are not good at controlling for **reliability**: the extent to which we can trust the simulated future climate *change*
- Even if we could chose more reliable models, the 'robust decision-making*' approach to adaptation requires the range of plausible climates to be considered, not just more likely ones.
- However some models are clearly more **applicable**: have greater realism of simulated surface climate in variables relevant to impact applications
- *Choose a subset of applicable models which are representative of the range of plausible future climates*

* Lempert & Schlesinger, 2000, Dessai 2009





Classifying future climates



How to classify?

Probability?

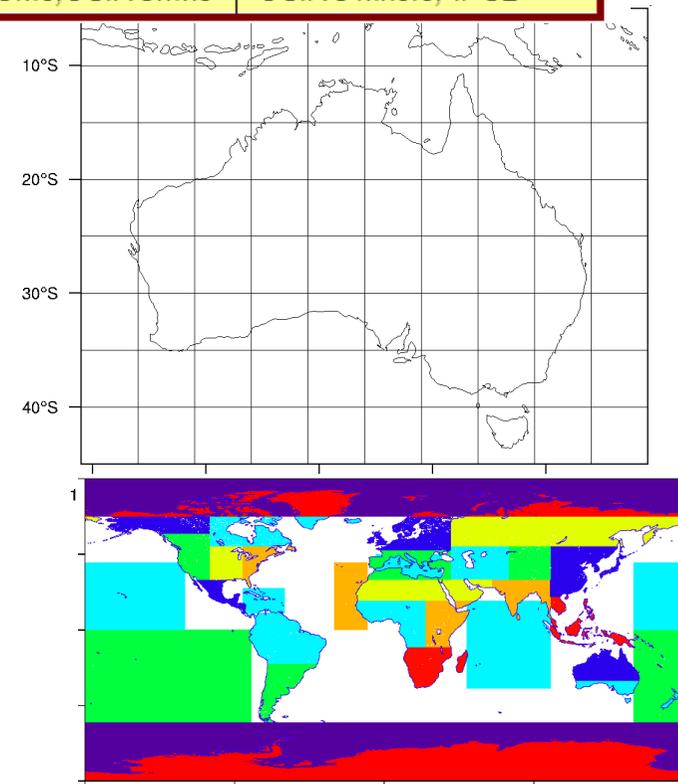
Collaboration between climate scientists and users

Classifying and using plausible future climates

| | Little change up to 0.5C warmer | Warmer 0.5 to 1.5C warmer | Hotter 1.5 – 3.0C warmer | Much hotter more than 3.0C warmer |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Much wetter (more than +15%) | No evidence | No evidence | No evidence | No evidence |
| Wetter (0 to 15% wetter) | No evidence | No evidence | Unlikely 4 models | Very unlikely (CGM3.1 T47) |
| Drier (0 to 15% drier) | No evidence | Very unlikely (GISS AOM) | As likely as not 10 models | Unlikely 3 models |
| Much drier (More than 15% drier) | No evidence | No evidence | Very unlikely CNRM-CM3, CSIROmk3 | Very unlikely CSIRO Mk3.5, IPSL |

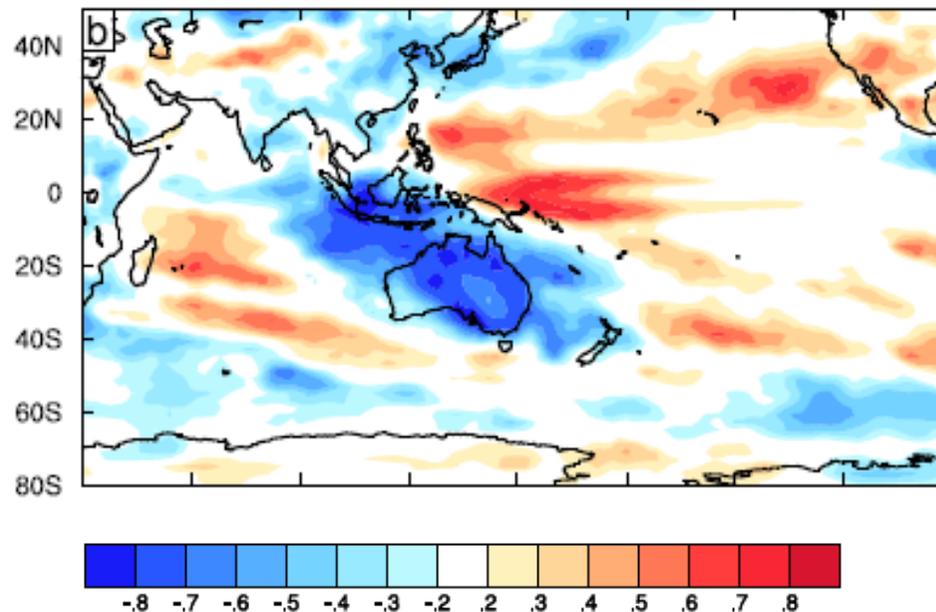
SE Australia region, A1FI, 2070

- Usually T and P, but not always
- With users, subset of climates selected and then populated with applicable data sets
- *Probability?*
- *Classifying downscaled data without seeing them?*
- *Different models selected by user and sector*



Simulated Australian climate change and regional SST (Watterson, submitted)

PID = Warming in Eq. Eastern Pacific minus warming in the Eq Western Indian

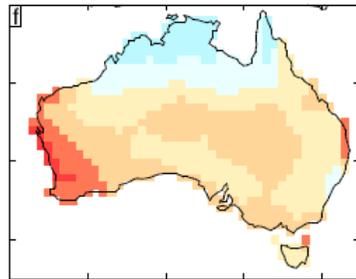
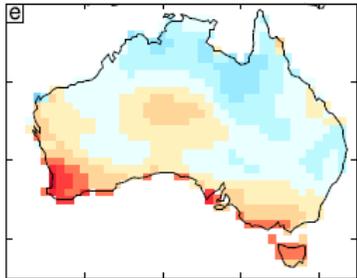


Correlation of CMIP3 simulated precipitation changes with a regional index of SST changes: 'PID'

CMIP3 model spread, PID and global SST

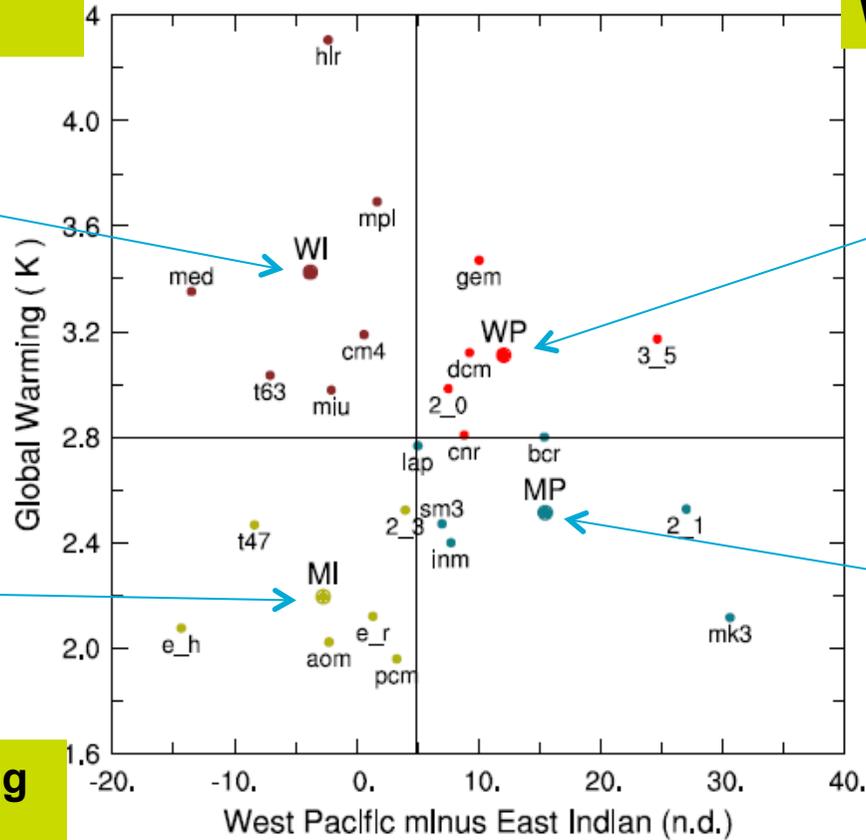
(I. Watterson, submitted)

**Larger global warming
Warmer Indian**

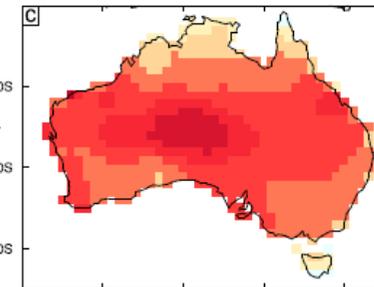
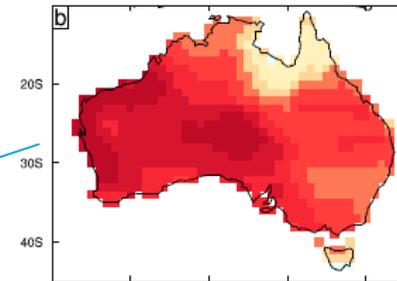


**Lesser global warming
Warmer India**

Ocean warming index values from 23 models



**Larger global warming
Warmer Pacific**



**Lesser global warming
Warmer Pacific**

In most locations 60% of range of change captured

Concluding comments

- Various recent CCAM based simulations available for the region based on six GCMs
 - Well analysed only in some sub-domains
 - Analysis under way for the Southwest Pacific region
 - Set of 60km simulations available globally (i.e. for CORDEX regions)
- Encourage simulations for the Australian region!
- Some methods for model selection presented
 - Temperature and precipitation
 - Regional climate drivers (SST warming patterns), possibly preferable