

Anthropogenic influence on multi-decadal changes in reconstructed global EvapoTranspiration (ET)



Hervé Douville, A. Ribes, B. Decharme,
R. Alkama and J. Sheffield

CNRM-GAME/GMGEC/VDR

herve.douville@meteo.fr

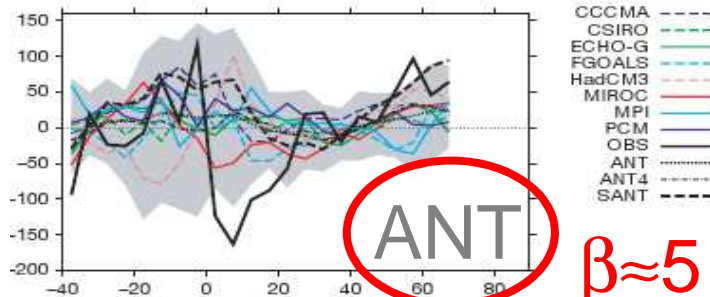
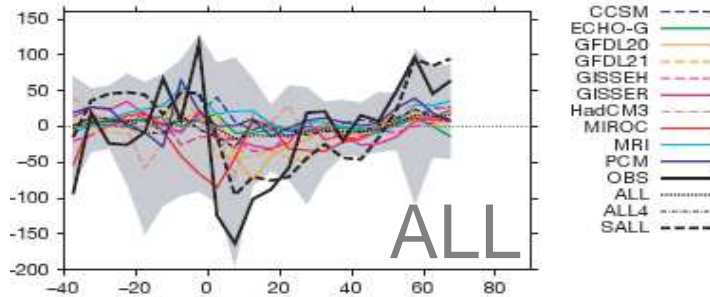
More details in Nature Climate Change, doi:10.1038/NCLIMATE1632

Atelier de Modélisation de l'Atmosphère, 22-24 Janvier 2013

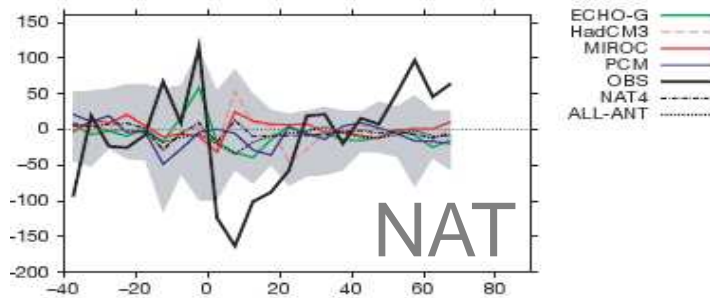


Early D&A studies of changes in the terrestrial hydrological cycle

1950-1999 trends in **Precip** as a function of latitude

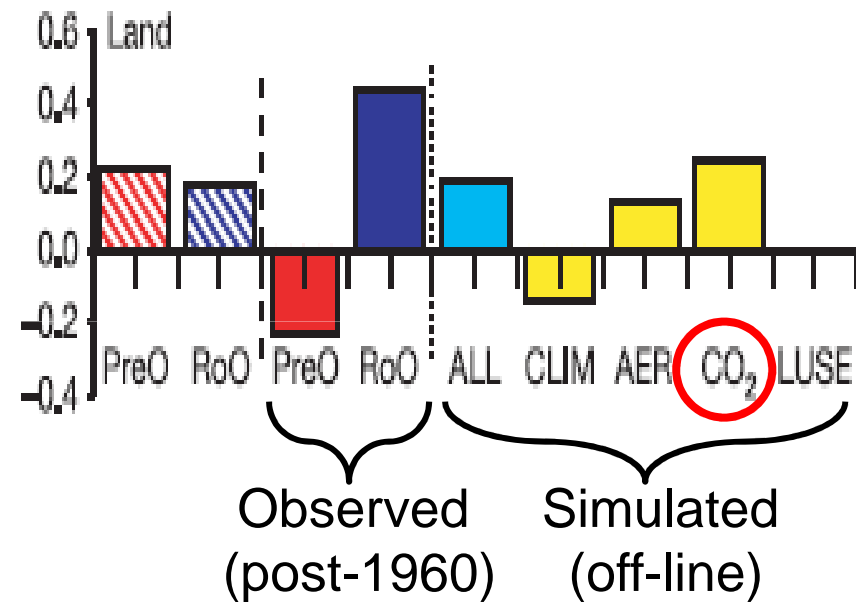


$\beta \approx 5 !$



Zhang et al., Nature 2007

1960-1994 trends in Precip & **Runoff** per continent (here global average)



Gedney et al., Nature 2006

Not confirmed by further studies !

No D&A study about ET

Reconstructed global ET variations

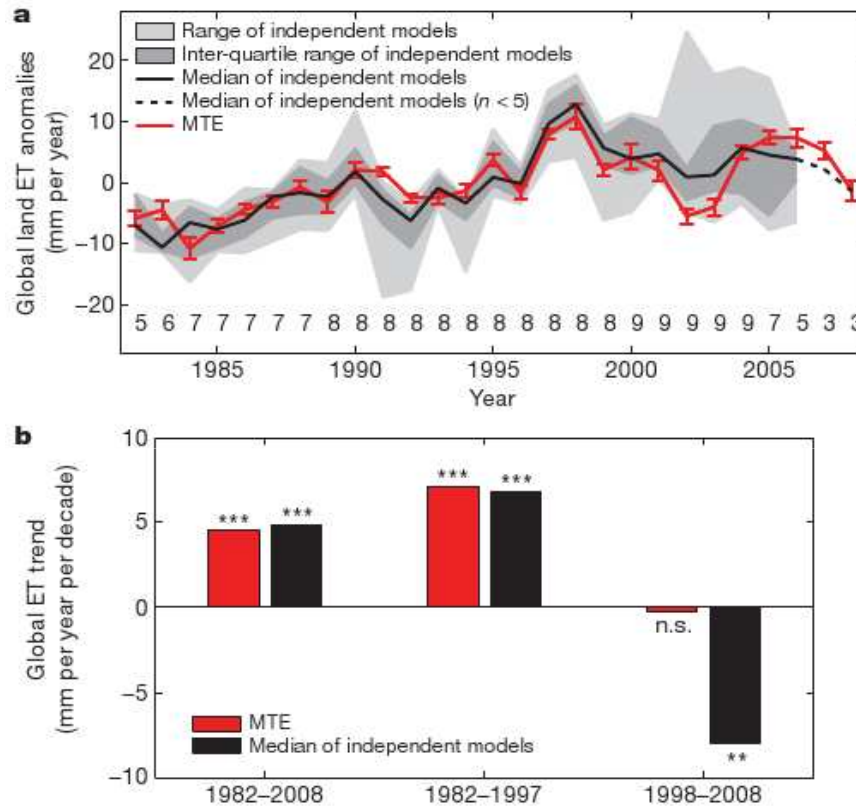


Figure 2 | Global land-ET variability according to MTE and independent models. **a**, Annual global land ET anomalies based on MTE and an ensemble of up to nine independent process-oriented models. Error bars indicate one s.d. within the MTE. Numbers at the bottom show the number of models available each year. **b**, Trends in ET based on MTE estimates and based on the median of the independent models for three different time periods. ***, significance of the trends at the 99% confidence interval; **, significance of the trends at the 95% confidence interval; n.s., not significant.

Jung et al., Nature 2010

1982-2008 global land ET variability from:

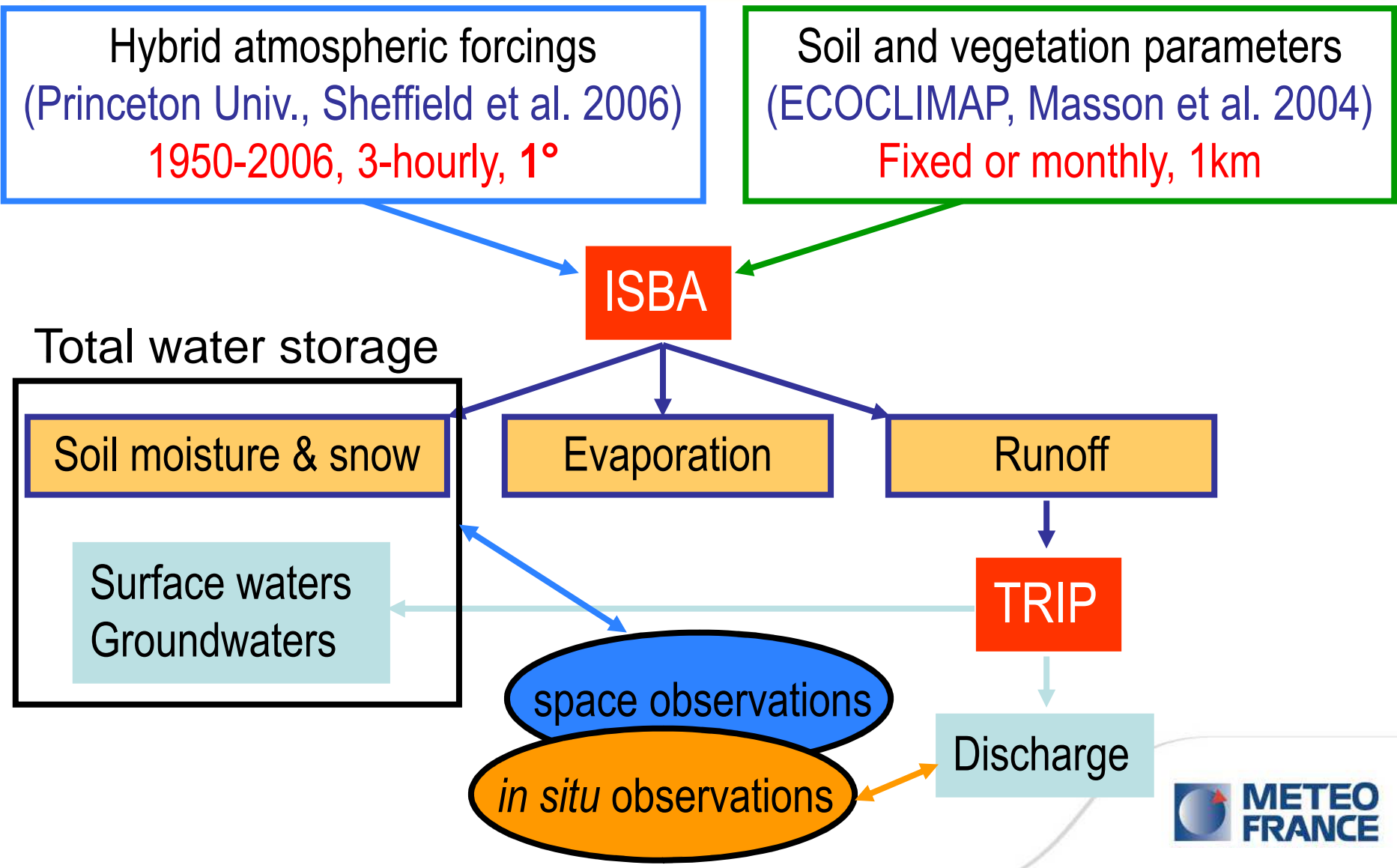
- MTE (a machine-learning algorithm based on FLUXNET data)
- an ensemble of off-line LSMs (including the ISBA contribution to GSWP2)

Is there a recent decline in global land ET trend due to limited soil moisture supply?

Objectives

- Produce and evaluate global ET reconstructions from 1950 to 2006 (using ISBA and VIC off-line land surface models) ?
- Detect and attribute changes in reconstructed ET (using CNRM-CM5 ensembles of 20th century climate and a formal optimal fingerprint method) ?

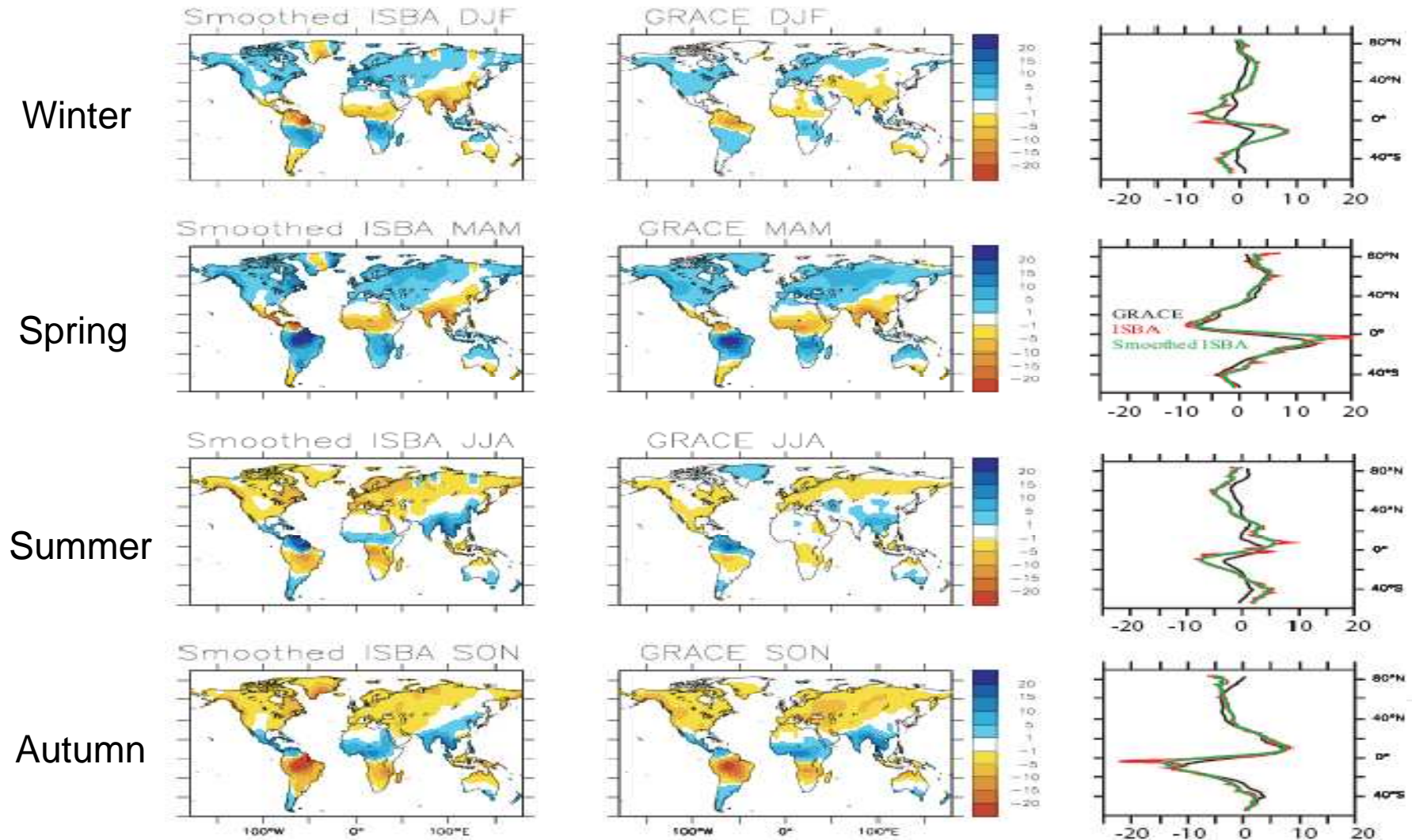
The off-line ISBA-TRIP hydrological system



Global evaluation vs GRACE (2002-2006)

Alkama et al., J. Hydromet. 2010

Seasonal variations in total water storage (cm)

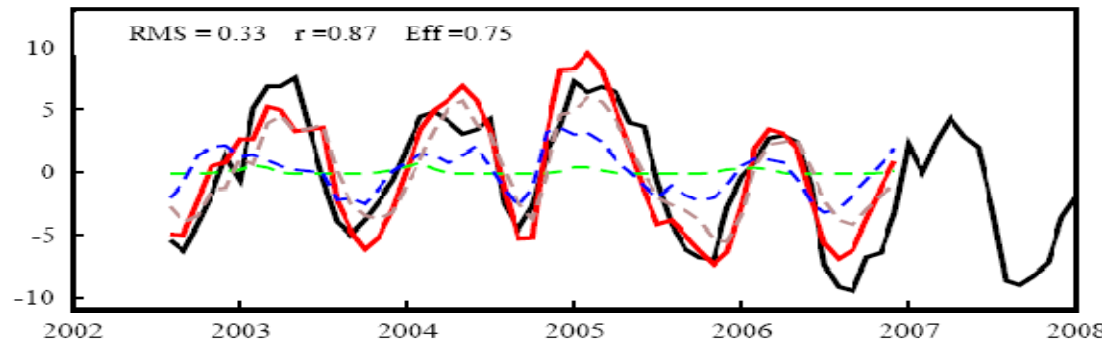


Basin-scale evaluation (e.g. Mississippi)

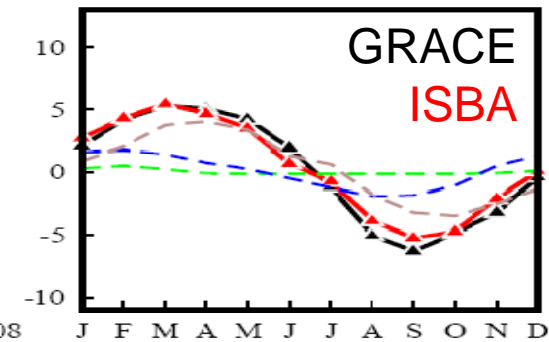
Alkama et al., J. Hydromet. 2010

Evaluation of interannual variability & mean annual cycle

(cm) Monthly water storage variations

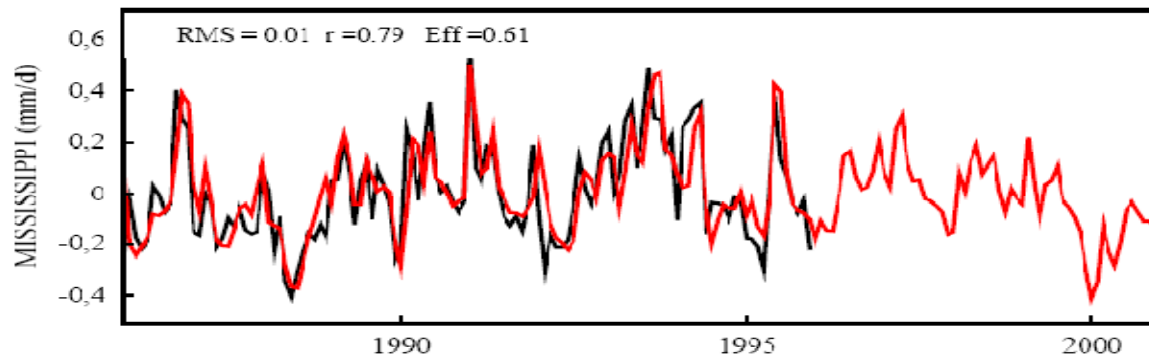


(cm) Mean annual cycle

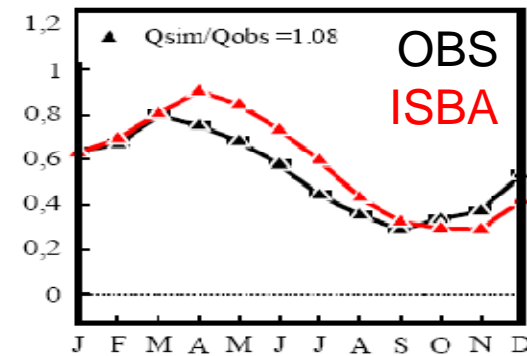


$$\Delta \text{ Water Storage} = \Delta \text{ Soil Moisture} + \Delta \text{ Snow} + \Delta \text{ Rivers}$$

(mm/d) Monthly river discharge anomalies



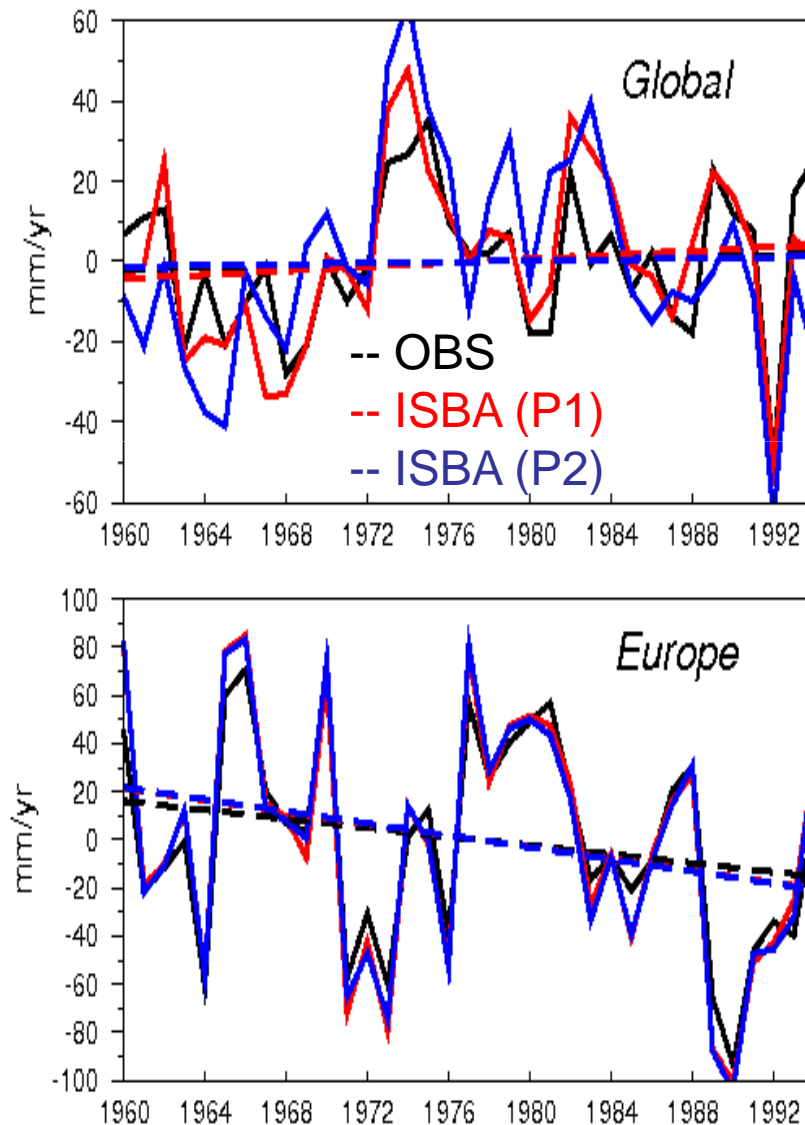
(mm/d) Mean annual cycle



Continental runoff anomalies (1960-1994)

Alkama et al., J. Climate 2011

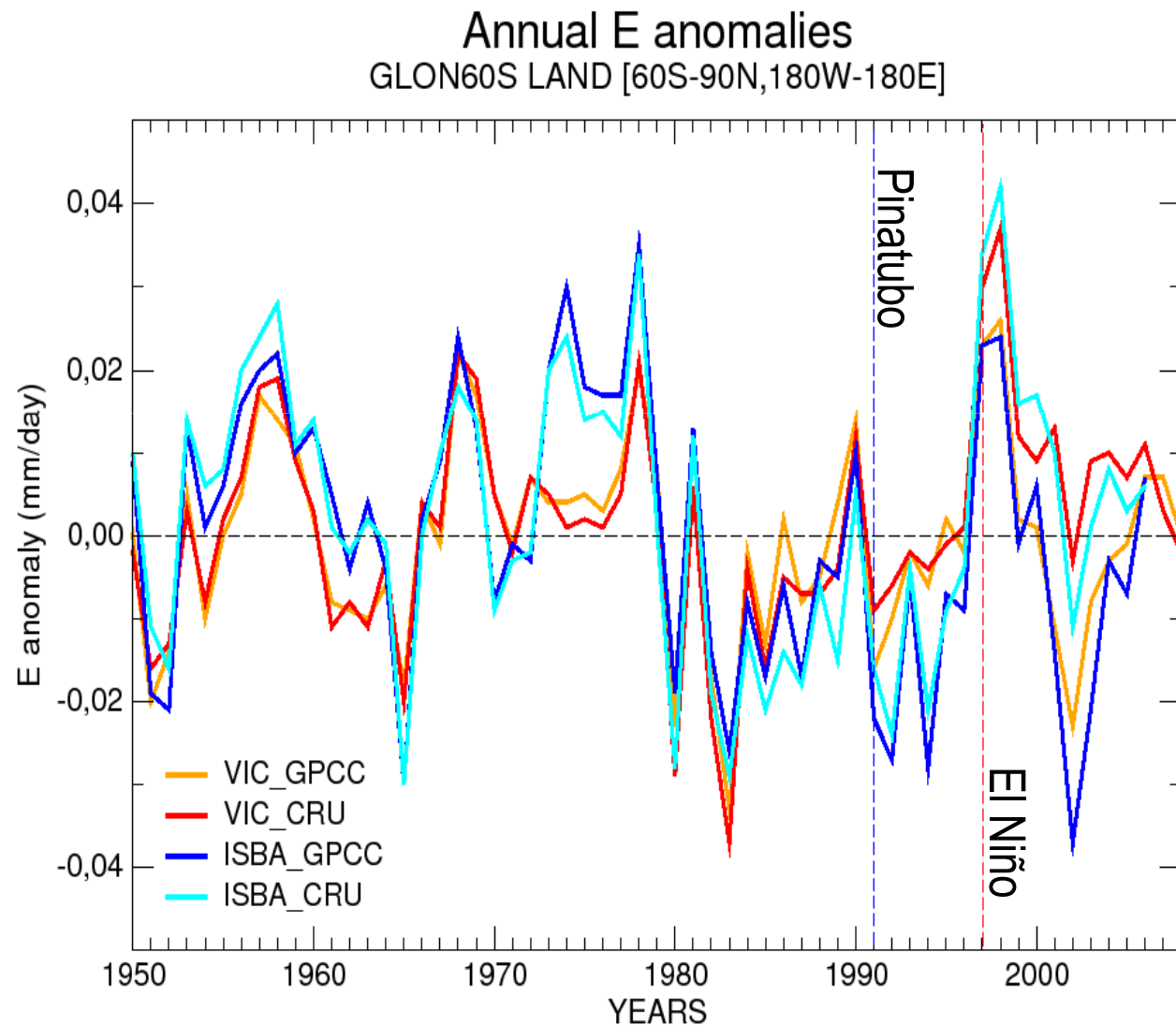
Despite uncertainties in precipitation, ISBA captures the observed variability of runoff => the multi-decadal variability of the simulated evapotranspiration is robust and reliable



ISBA land surface model driven by Princeton's 3-hourly atmospheric forcings hybridized with **GPCC** or **VASCLIMO** monthly precipitation

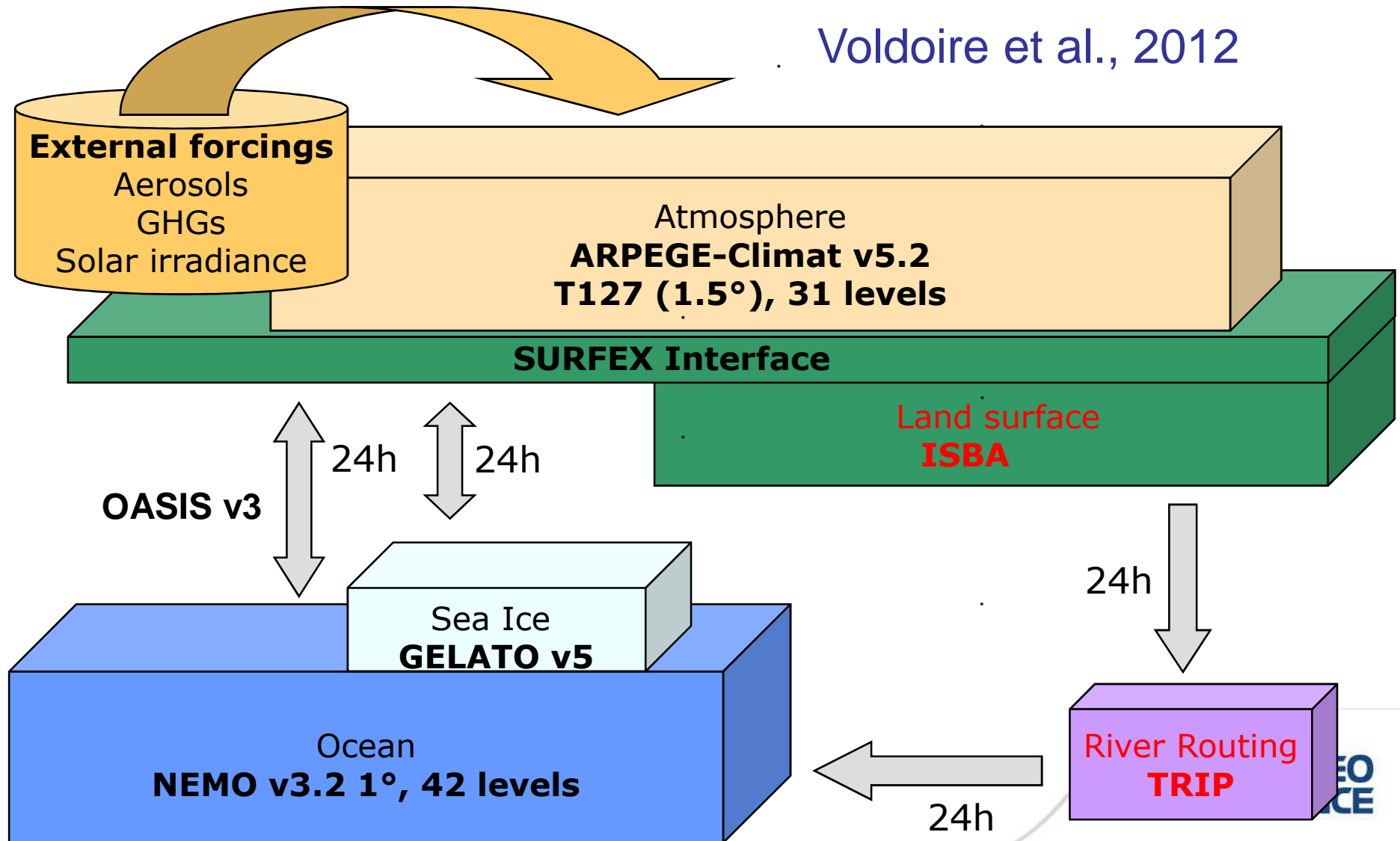
Global annual mean evapotranspiration anomalies

No global trend, but significant and **robust** variations due to both internal variability (e.g. ENSO) and external forcings (e.g. Pinatubo)



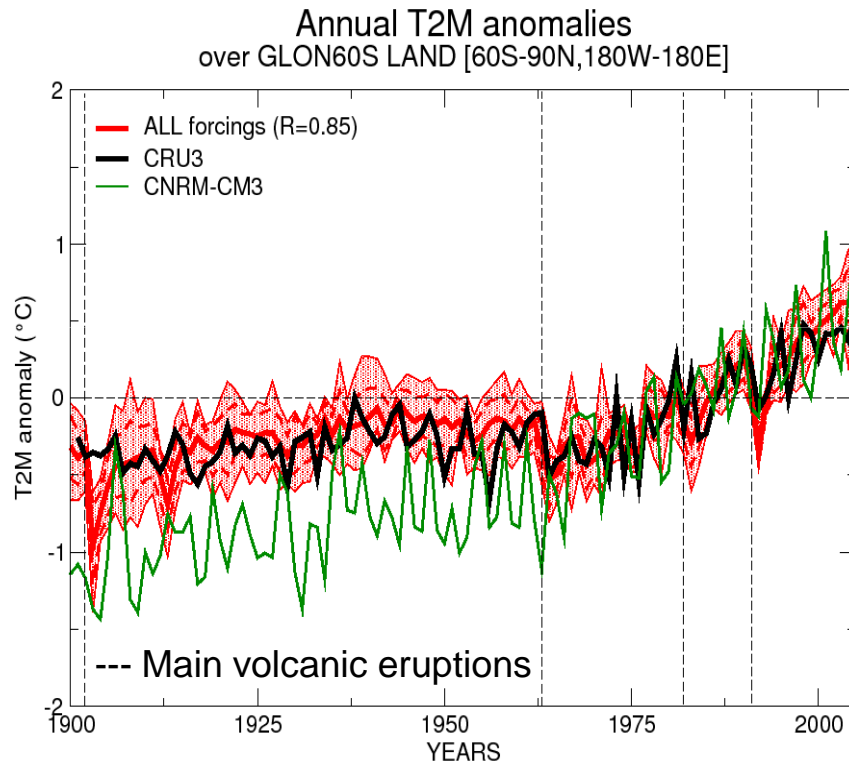
The CNRM-CM5 global climate model

Voldoire et al., 2012

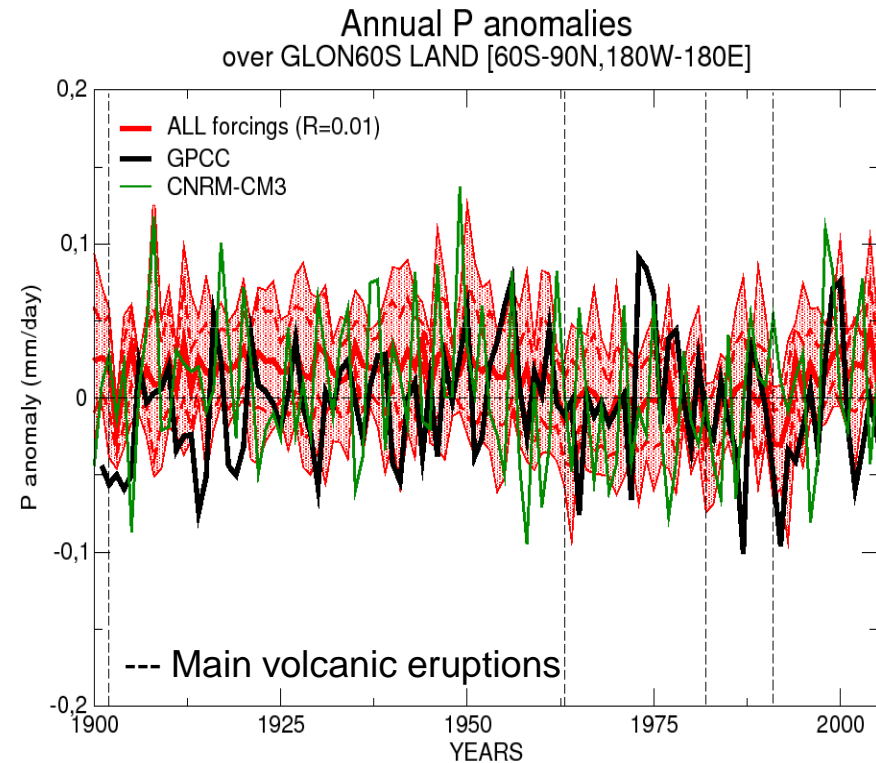


Annual mean T2m and P anomalies (1900-2006) (Global land average except Antarctica)

2-meter temperature (°C)



Precipitation (mm/day)



Annual anomalies relative to 1971-2000

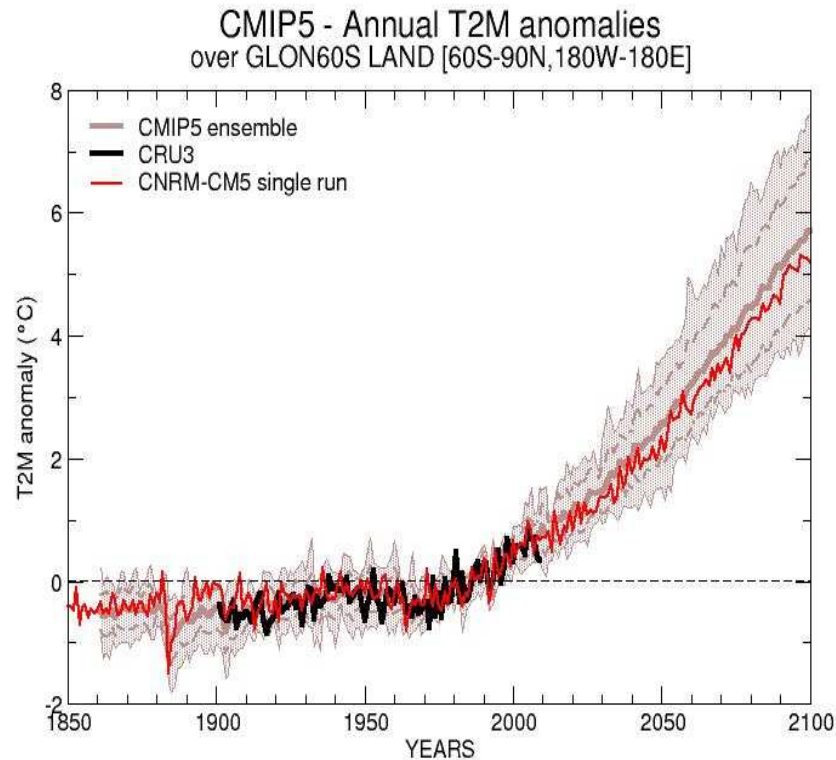
CNRM-CM5 (10 runs)

CNRM-CM3 (1 run)

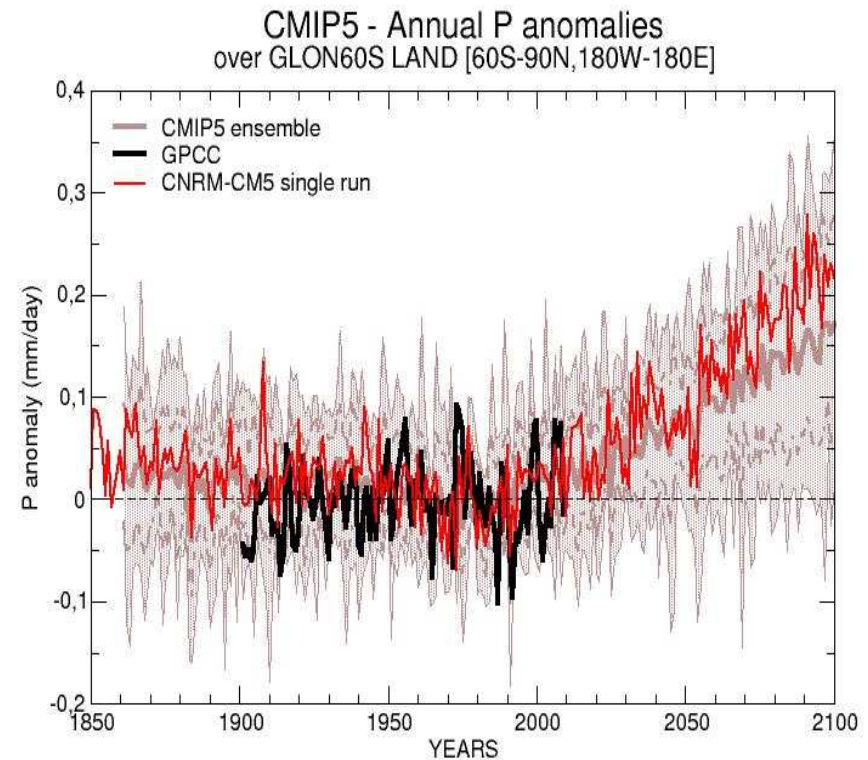
Globally improved simulation
of the 20th century climate

CNRM-CM5 within CMIP5 (1850-2100) (Global land average except Antarctica)

2-meter temperature (°C)



Precipitation (mm/day)

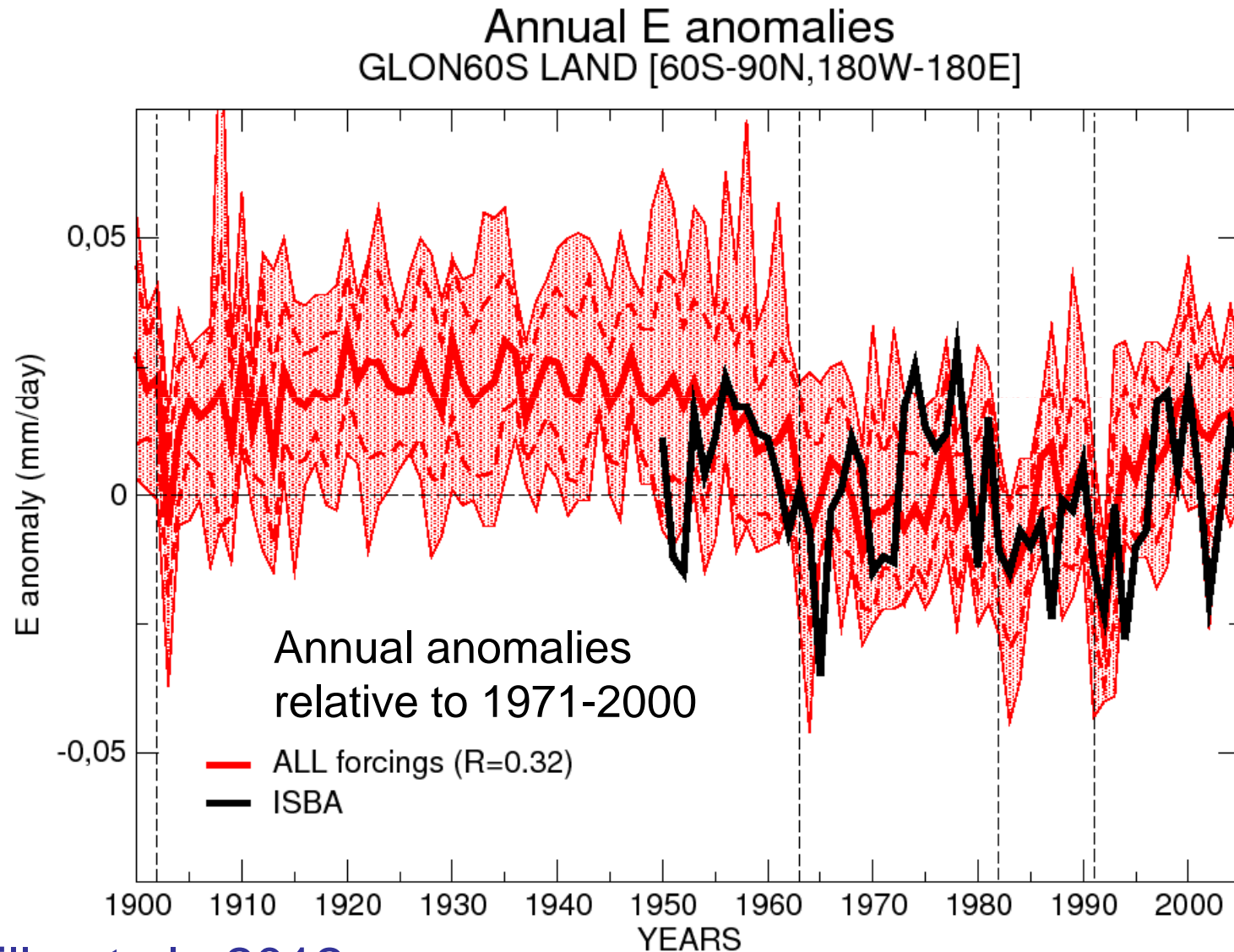


Annual anomalies relative to 1971-2000

CNRM-CM5 (1 run)
 CMIP5 (13 models)

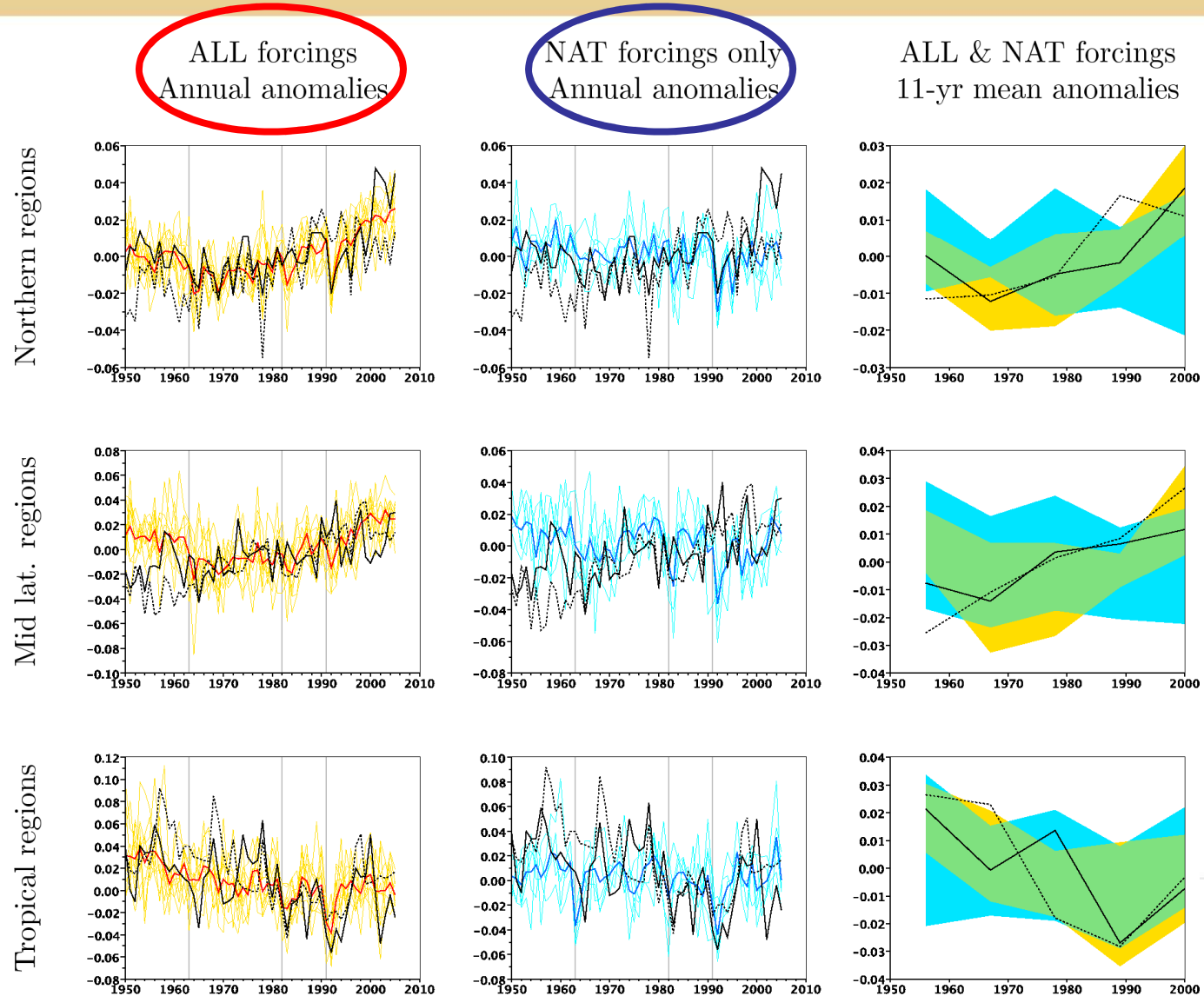
Globally consistent with the
 multi-model ensemble mean

Annual mean anomalies in evapotranspiration (Global land average except Antarctica)



Annual & decadal mean anomalies over 3 latitudinal domains

Northern
latitudes



Middle
latitudes

Douville et al., 2012

Optimal fingerprint D&A: method & results

- Method (Ribes et al. 2009):

$$Y = \sum_i \beta_i g_i + \varepsilon$$

Y : « observations »

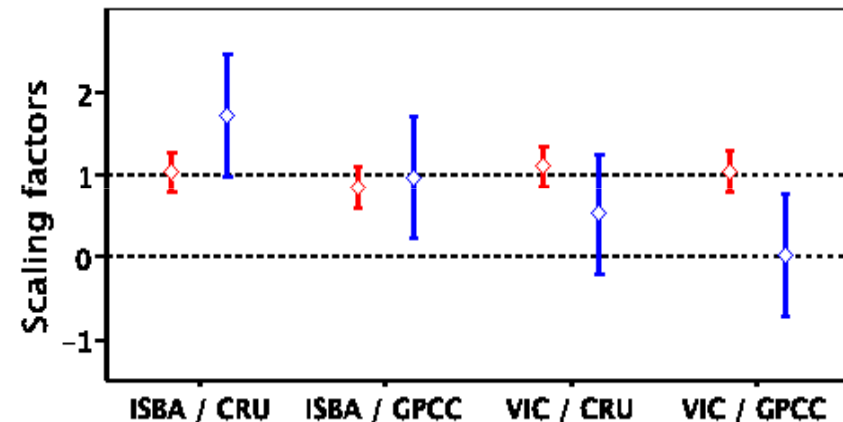
β_i : unknown **scaling factor**
 $\neq 0 \Rightarrow$ detection
 $\approx 1 \Rightarrow$ consistent

g_i : climate response to the i^{th} external forcing (estimated from CNRM-CM5 ensembles)

ε : internal variability

Douville et al. 2012

- Results: β_i best estimates for $i=\text{ANT}$ & $i=\text{NAT}$



Recent variations in reconstructed ET cannot be accounted for without invoking anthropogenic forcings

Conclusions

- The off-line ISBA simulation (1950-2006) compares favorably with observed river discharges and total water storage variations;
- The coupled CNRM-CM5 ensemble of 20th century climate simulations (with ALL radiative forcings) captures the observed global warming over land and is close to the CMIP5 multi-model for both T2m and P
- The optimal fingerprint technique shows that the spatio-temporal variability of our global ET reconstructions (ISBA & VIC) cannot be understood without invoking both anthropogenic (GHG & aerosols) and natural (solar activity & volcanoes) radiative forcings

Prospects

- Understand what are the main atmospheric drivers of regional ET trends;
- Assess the physiological influence of CO₂ increase and/or of changing vegetation on regional ET trends;
- Assess the sensitivity of both off-line and on-line ET trends to recent developments in ISBA-TRIP (ISBA-DIF, groundwaters, floodplains, ...)
- Constrain CMIP model uncertainties in projected regional ET anomalies at the end of the 21st century
- ...

Prospects

