



ISC – workshop
Deep Learning for Science
Frankfurt, June 2019



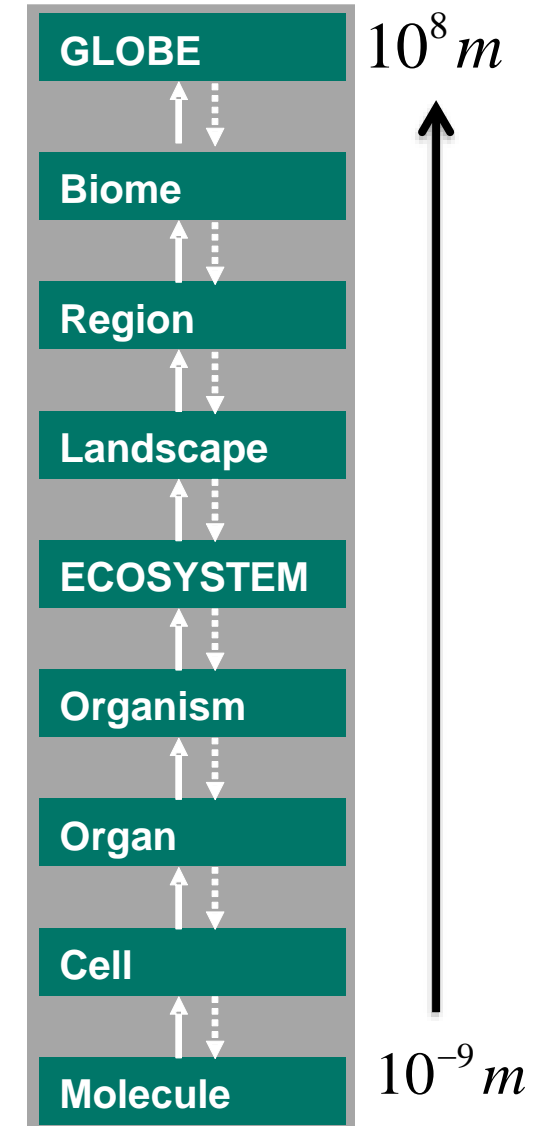
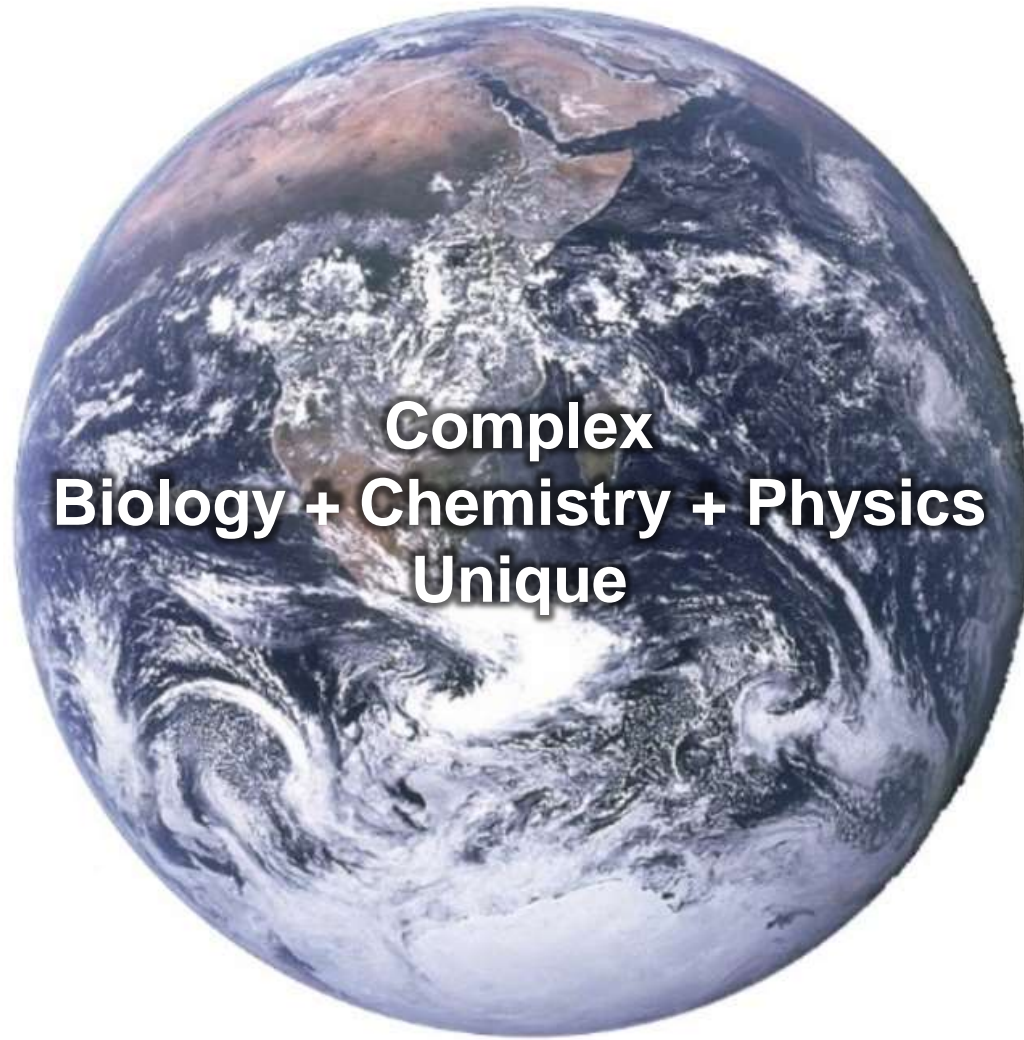
Understanding the Earth system with machine learning

Markus Reichstein

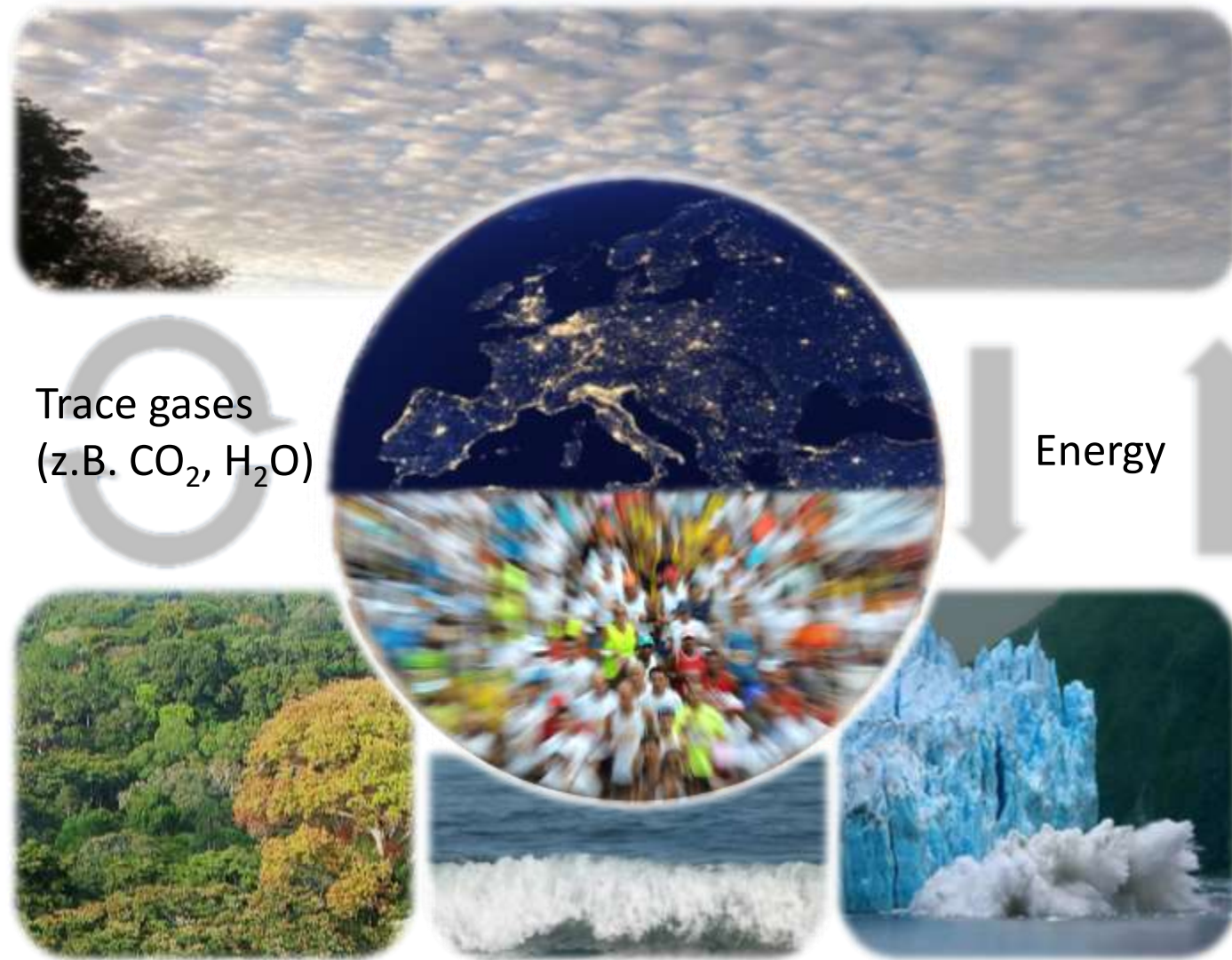
Max-Planck-Institute for Biogeochemistry, Jena

Michael-Stifel-Center Jena for Data-driven and Simulation Science

The Earth System



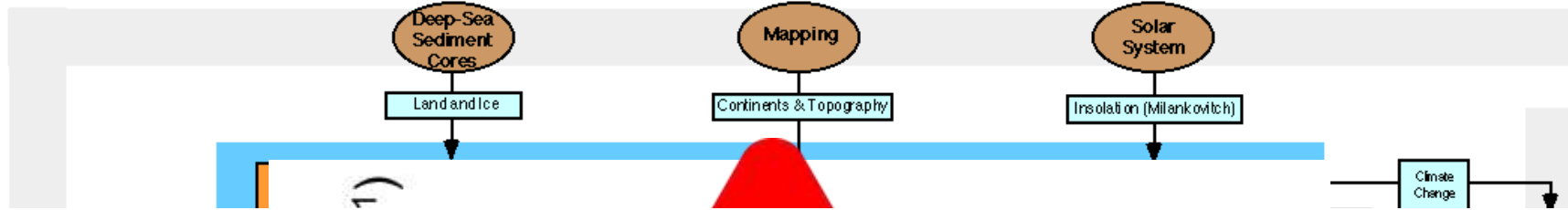
“Spheres” in the Earth System



Earth System Science established in the Max-Planck-Society

“Reductionistic dream”: wiring all together

CONCEPTUAL MODEL of Earth System process operating on timescales of decades to centuries

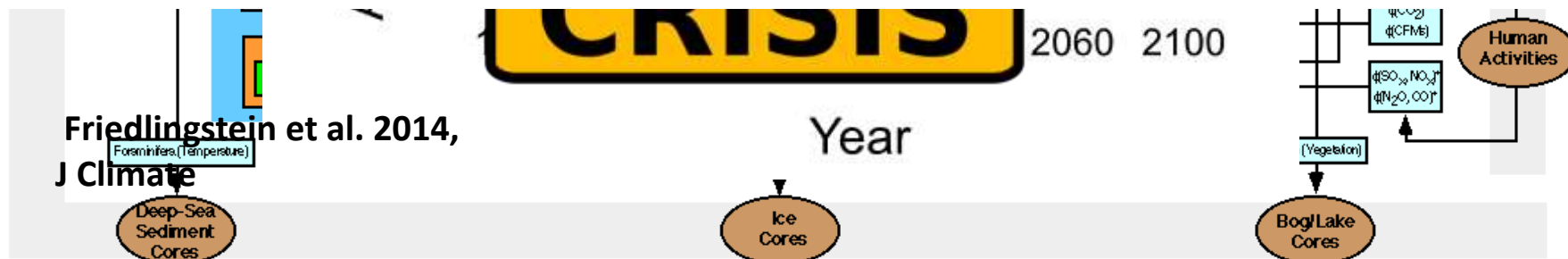


PERSPECTIVE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-0912-1>

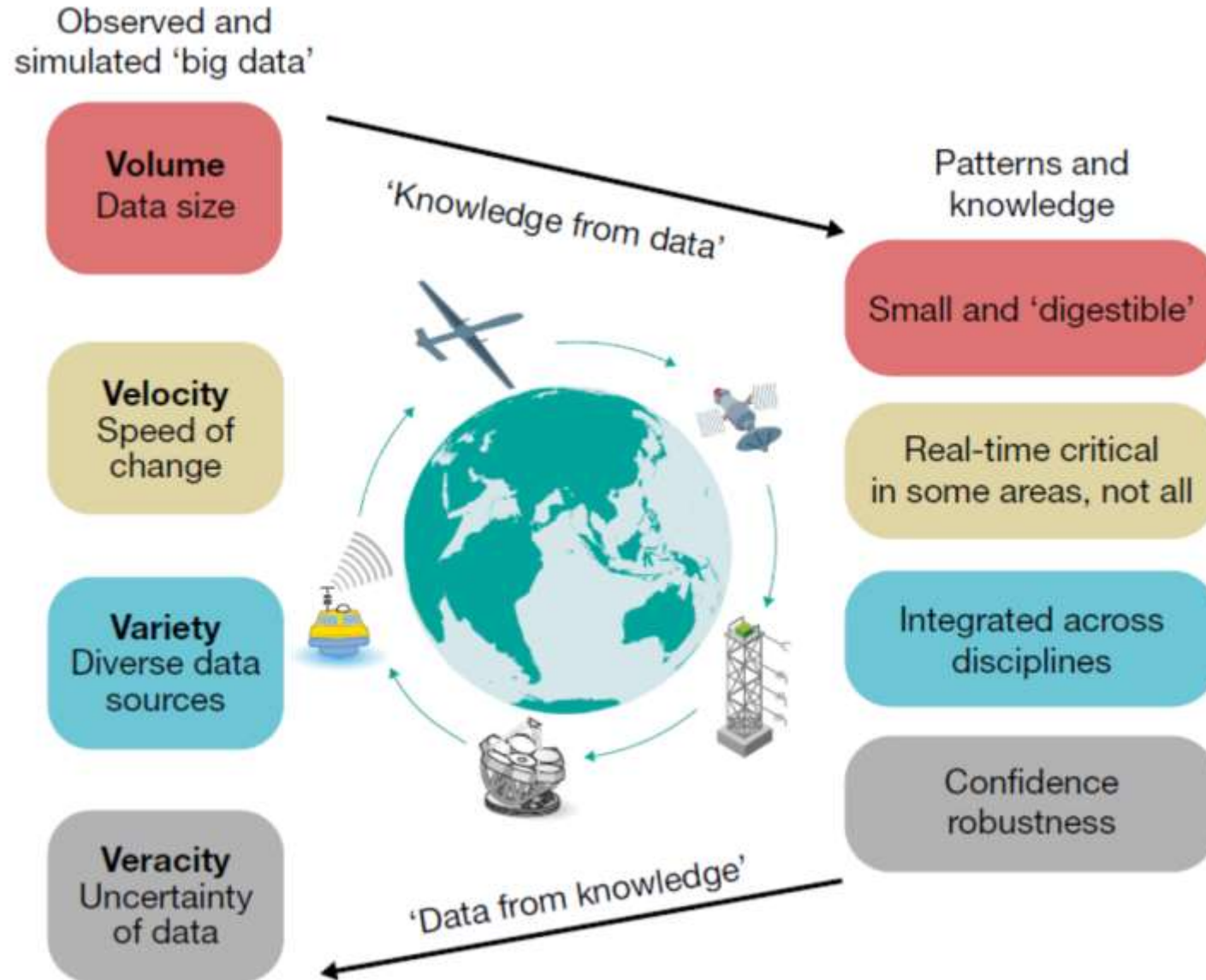
Deep learning and process understanding for data-driven Earth system science

Markus Reichstein^{1,2*}, Gustau Camps-Valls³, Bjorn Stevens⁴, Martin Jung¹, Joachim Denzler^{2,5}, Nuno Carvalhais^{1,6} & Prabhat⁷



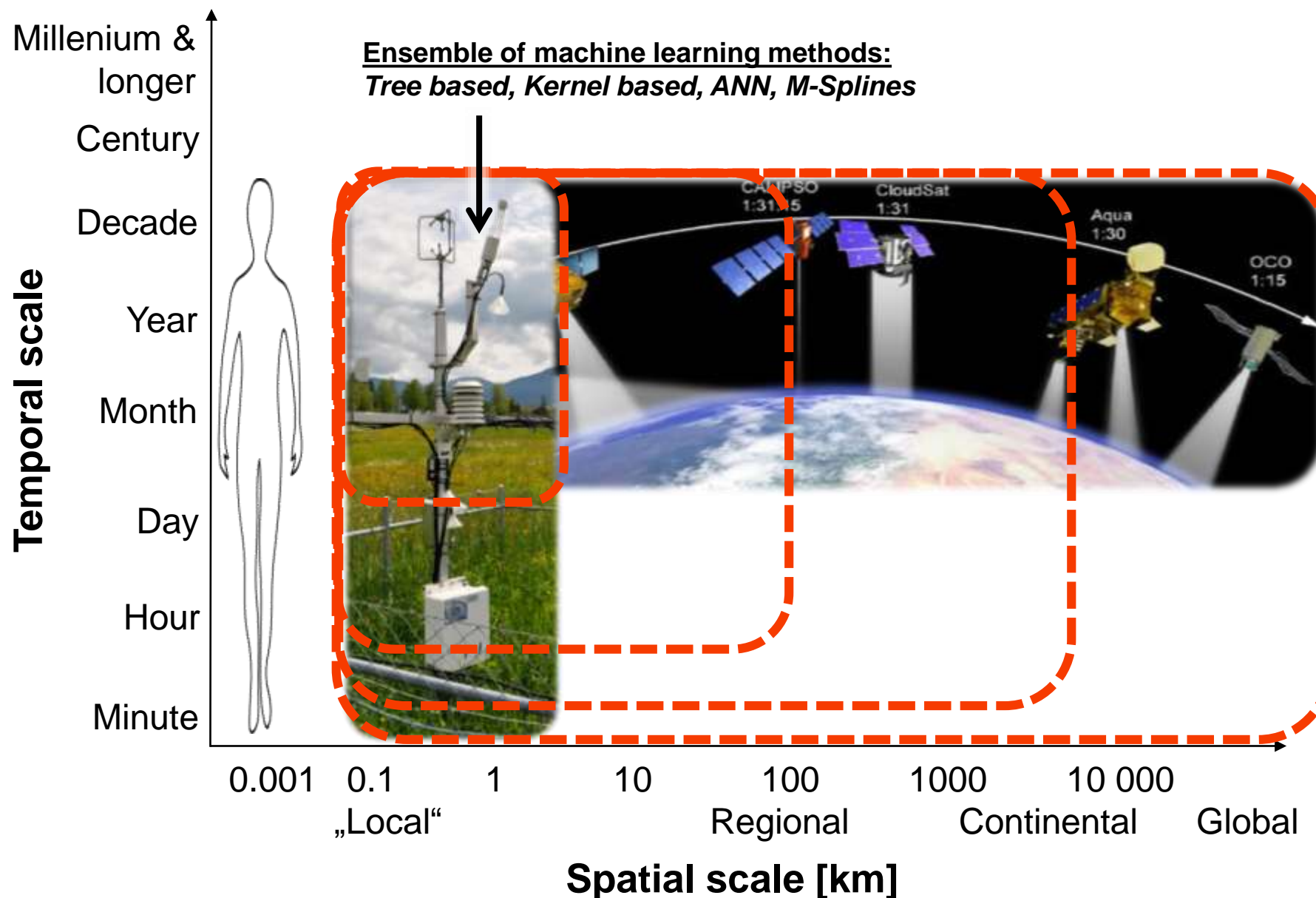
^{*} = on timescale of hours to days ^{*} = on timescale of months to seasons φ = flux n = concentration

Data-driven Earth System Science: prototypical



Reichstein et al. (2019)

Scaling from flux-towers to globe



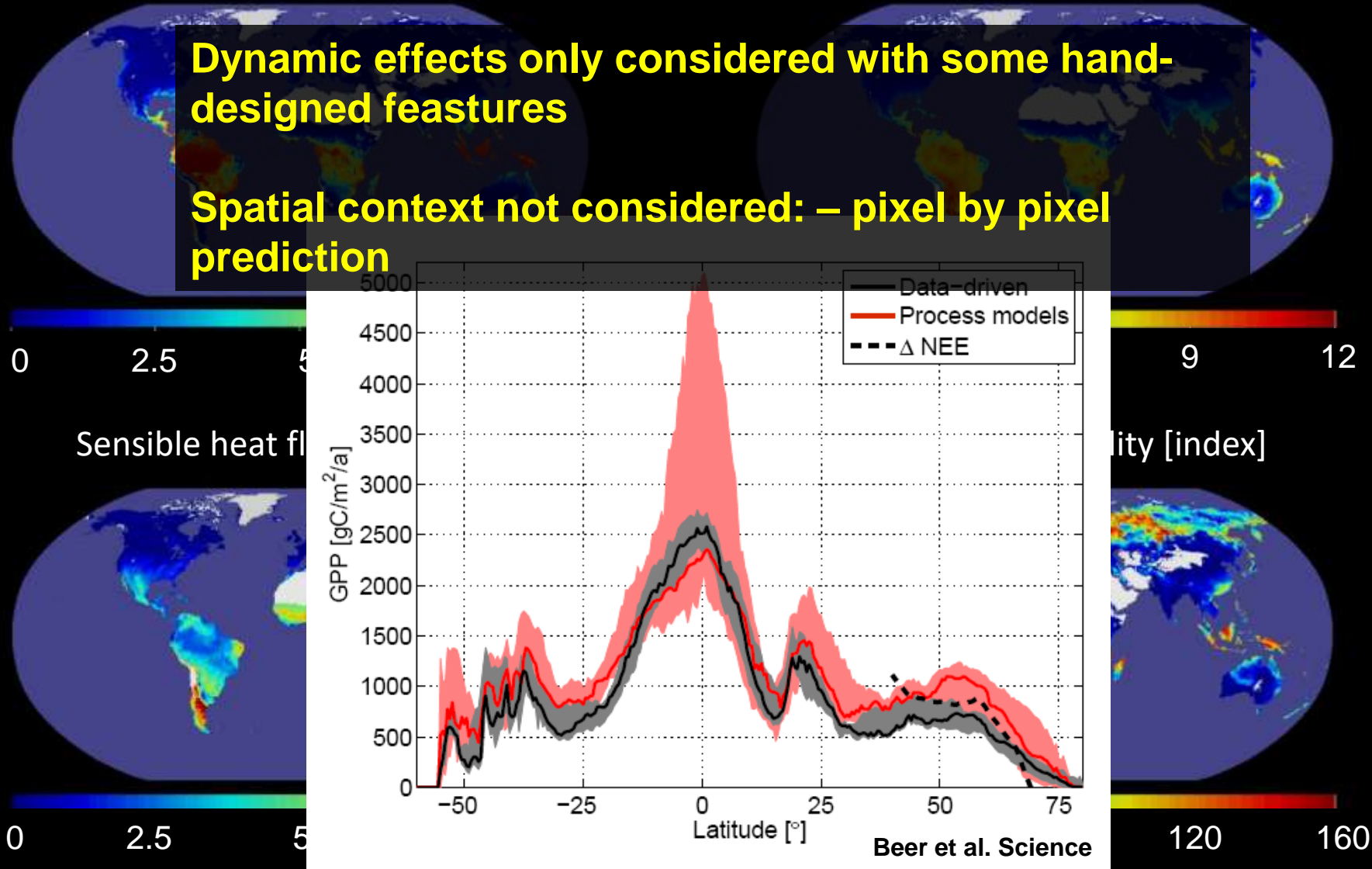
Data-driven view on dynamic Biosphere-Atmosphere Exchange

Primary production (GPP) [$\text{g m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$]

Evapotranspiration [$\text{MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$]

Dynamic effects only considered with some hand-designed features

Spatial context not considered: – pixel by pixel prediction

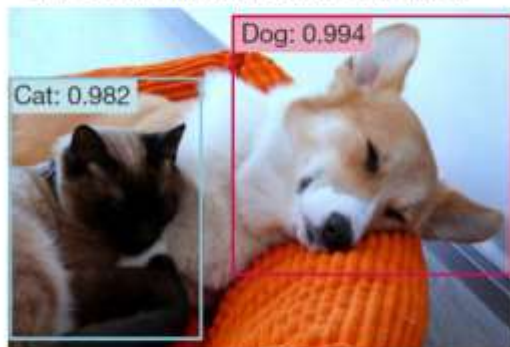


Data: Jung et al. (2010, 2017), Nature. Animations: F. Gans, MPI-BGC

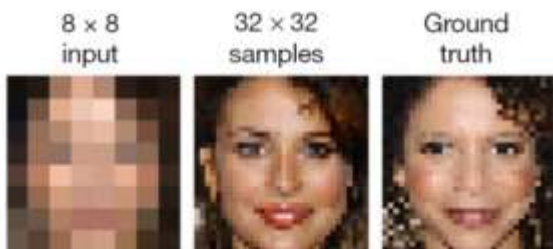
Deep learning for Earth System Science...

Machine learning tasks

a Object classification and localization

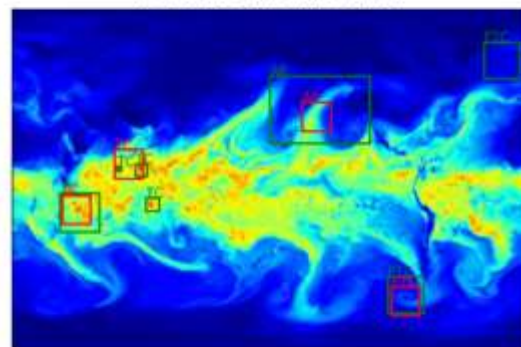


b Super-resolution and fusion

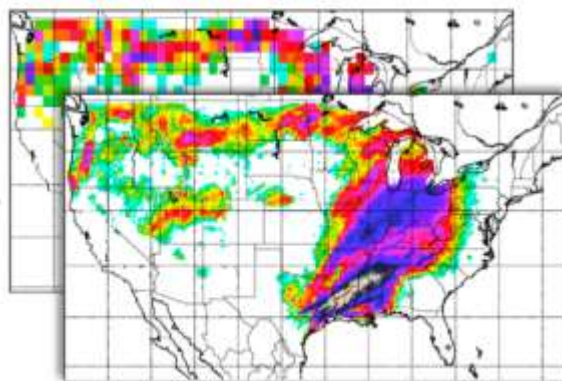


Earth science tasks

Pattern classification

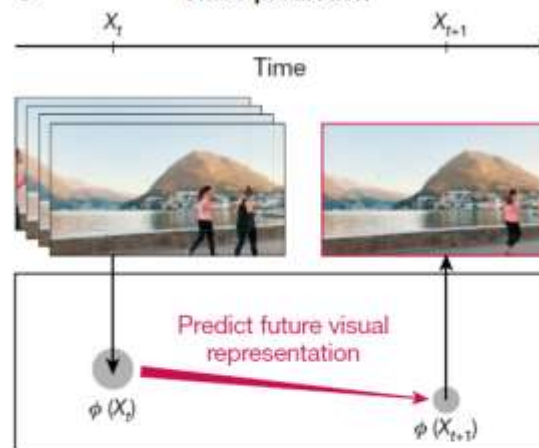


Statistical downscaling and blending

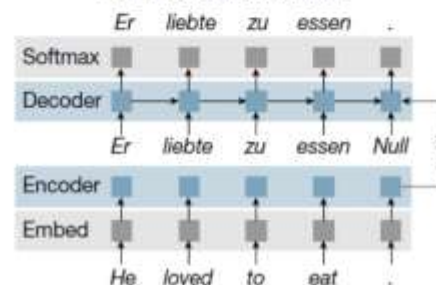


Machine learning tasks

c Video prediction

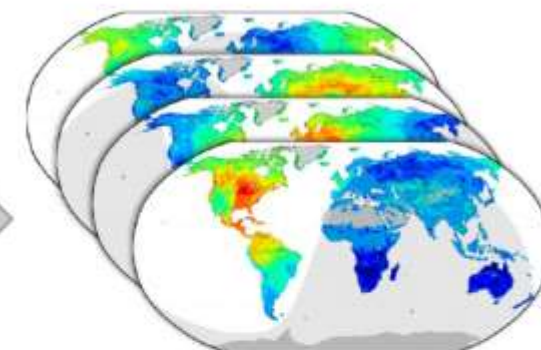


d Language translation

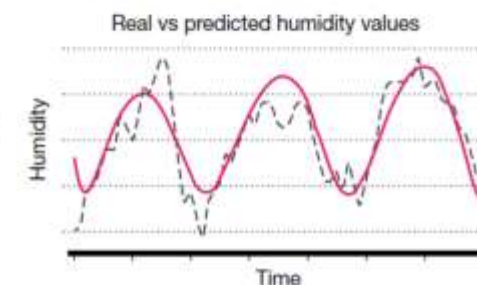


Earth science tasks

Short-term forecasting



Dynamic time series modelling

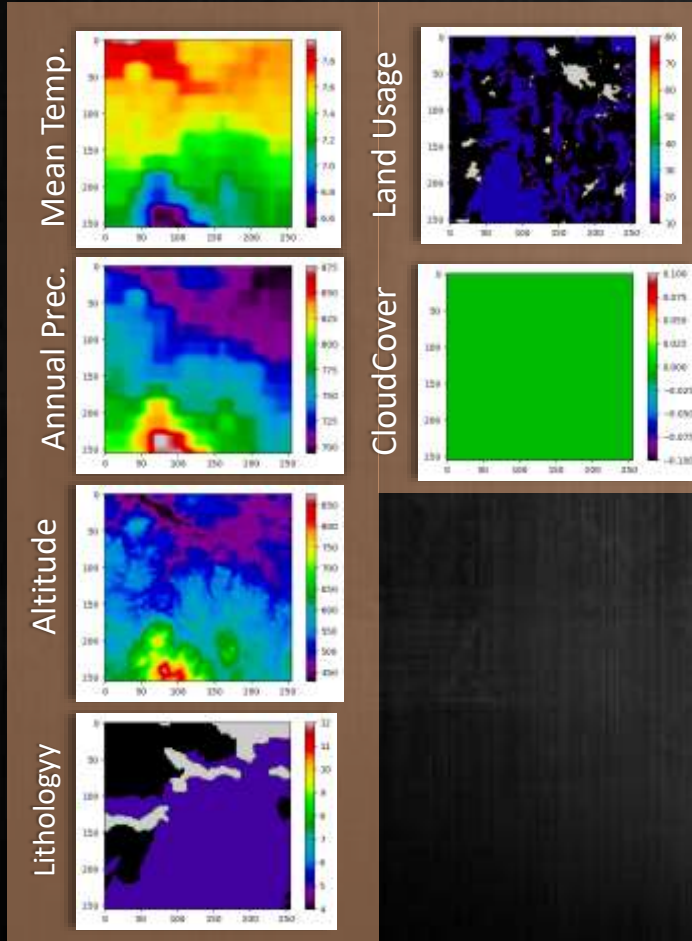


Reichstein et al. (2019)

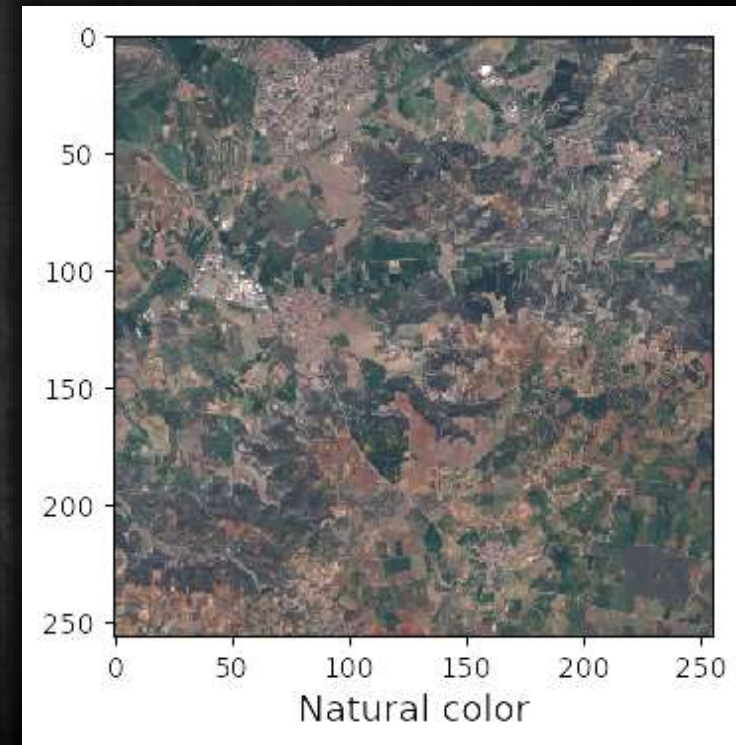
“Predicting” whole landscapes as seen from space

Example data sample : Tile 33UVQ86 (1st April 2017)

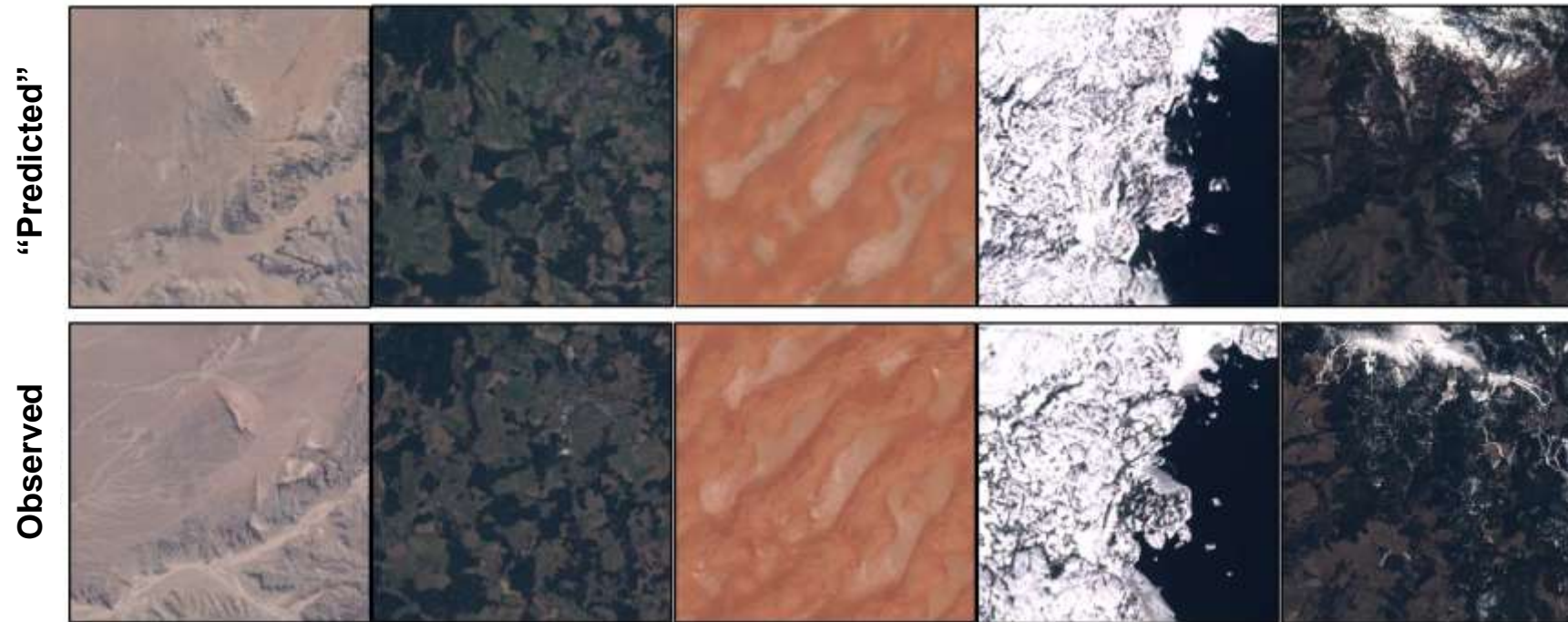
Primary predictors (conditions)



cGAN
→



“Predicting” whole landscapes as seen from space



Major limitation: Understanding and physical consistency

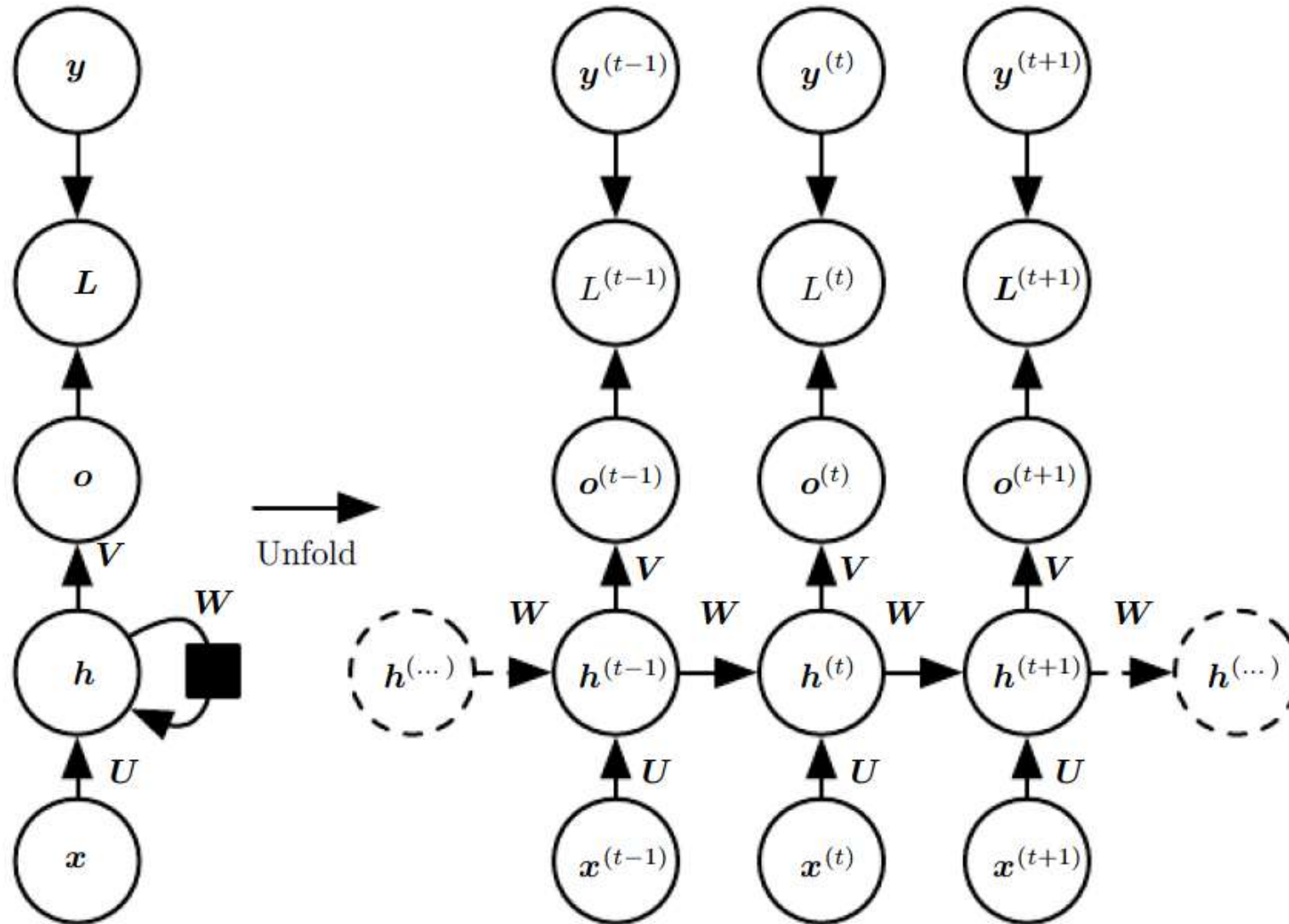
Requena et al. (2018) [conditional GAN]

Throwing away all knowledge?



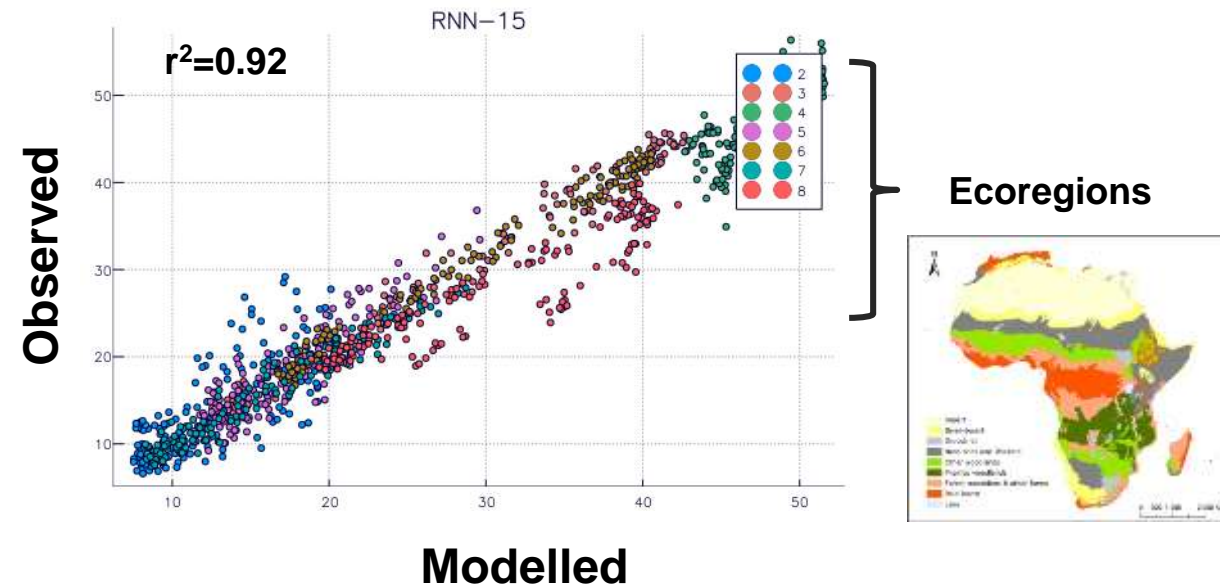
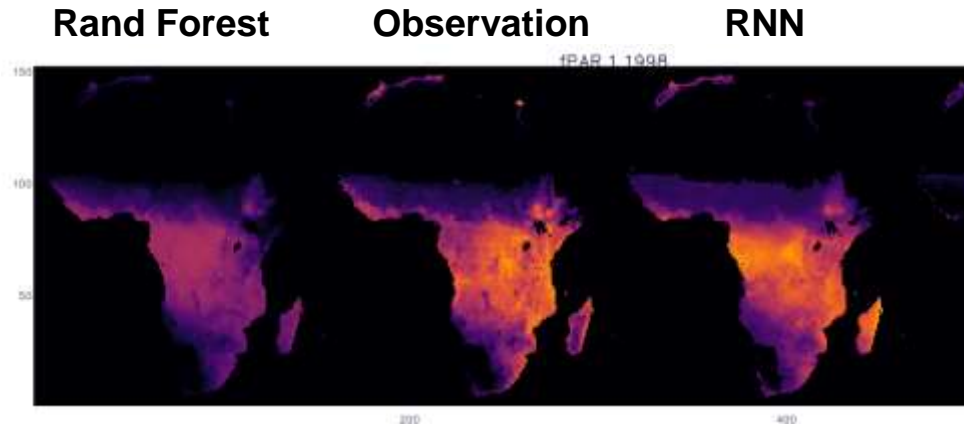
- Time-varying properties which depend on past (possibly latent) variables
- Typically described with differential equations or time-discrete analogue equations
- Examples:
 - Vegetation development depends on cumulative temperature over winter-spring
 - Simple water balance: $SM(t) = \int [P(t) - E(t) - D(t)] dt$

Describing & detecting dynamic memory effects



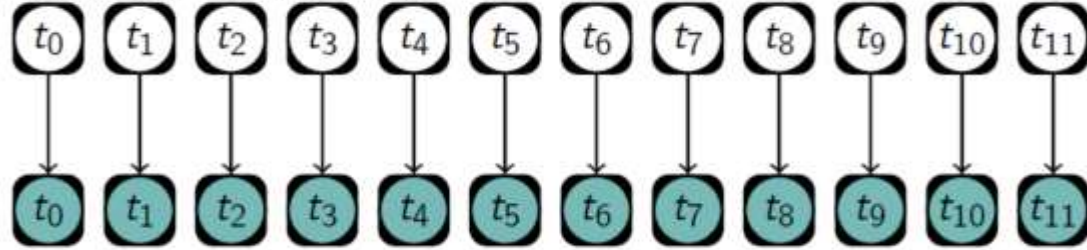
Vegetation state (“leaves” or “greenness”)

- Target: GIMMS fPAR variability over Africa, 0.5° lat/lon, monthly, 1982-2012
- Two approaches:
 1. Random Forest with standard meteorological predictors **plus lagged and cumulative water variables** (e.g. relative humidity, soil moisture previous months) ← from Feature selection algorithm [Jung et al.]
 2. Recurrent neural network with **only** standard meteorological drivers and vegetation type etc. (trained on 4% of the pixels only)

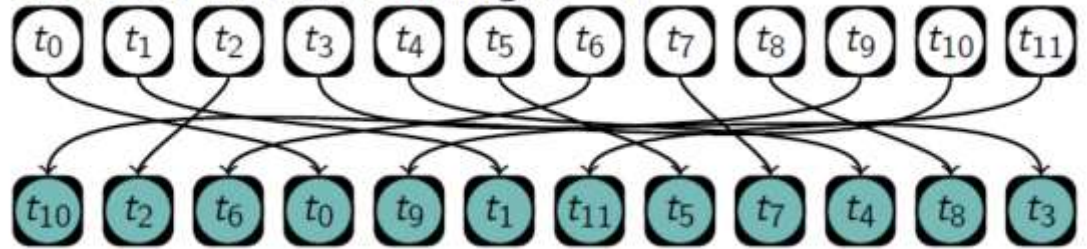


Detecting memory effects by permutation experiments

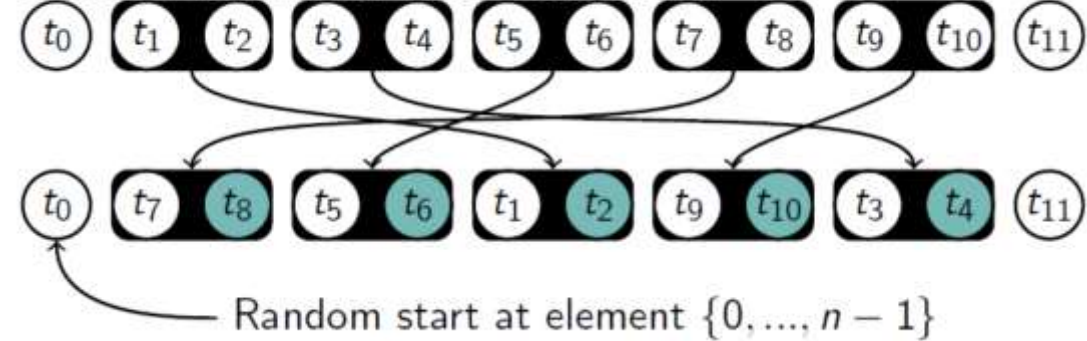
Shuffle 0 No shuffling



Shuffle 1 Random shuffling, $n = 1$



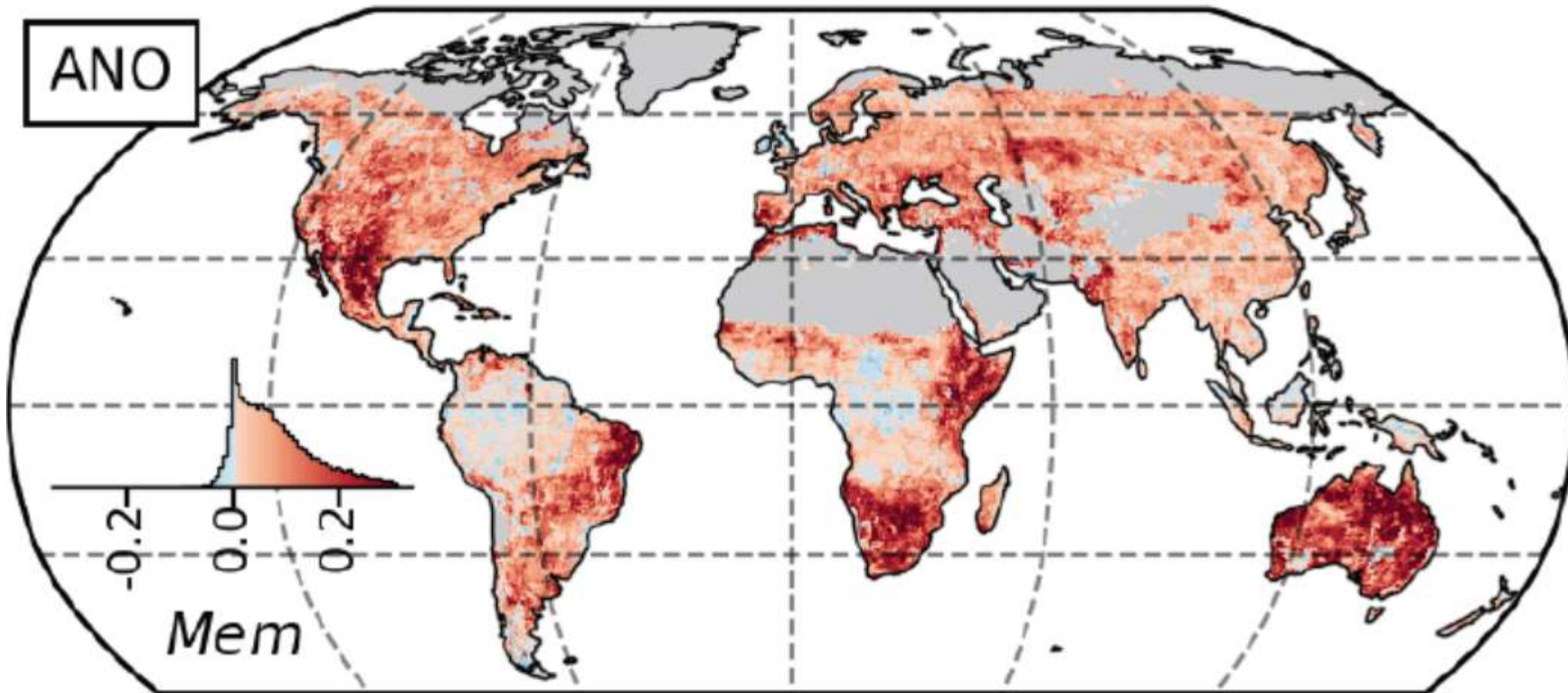
Shuffle 2 Shuffle of blocks with size $n = 2$



$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Memory effect} \\ &= \\ &\text{Error with permutation} \\ &- \\ &\text{Error without permutation} \end{aligned}$$

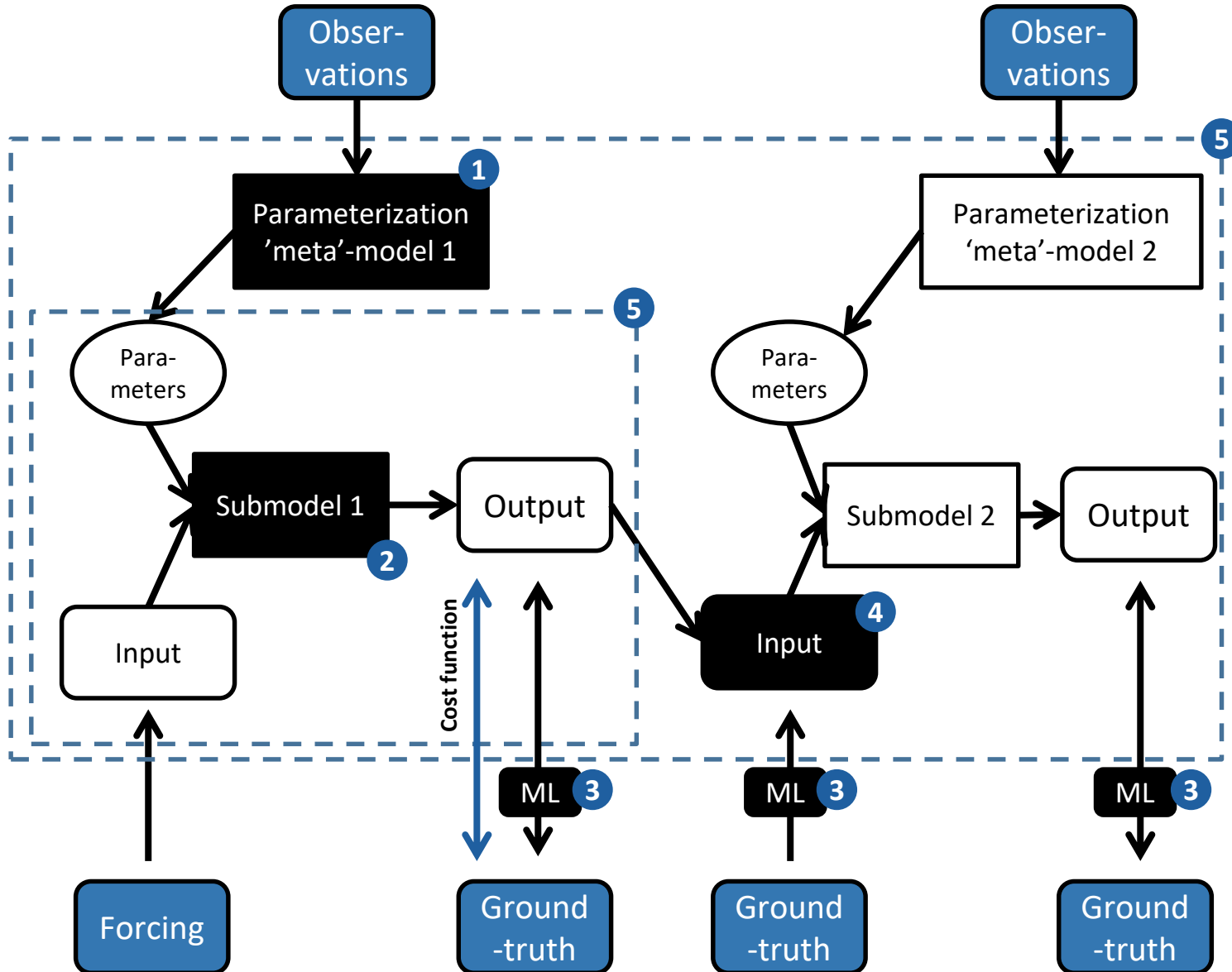
Kraft et al. (2019) in review

Map of memory effects on vegetation



Kraft et al. (2019) in review

Model-data-machine-learning integration...

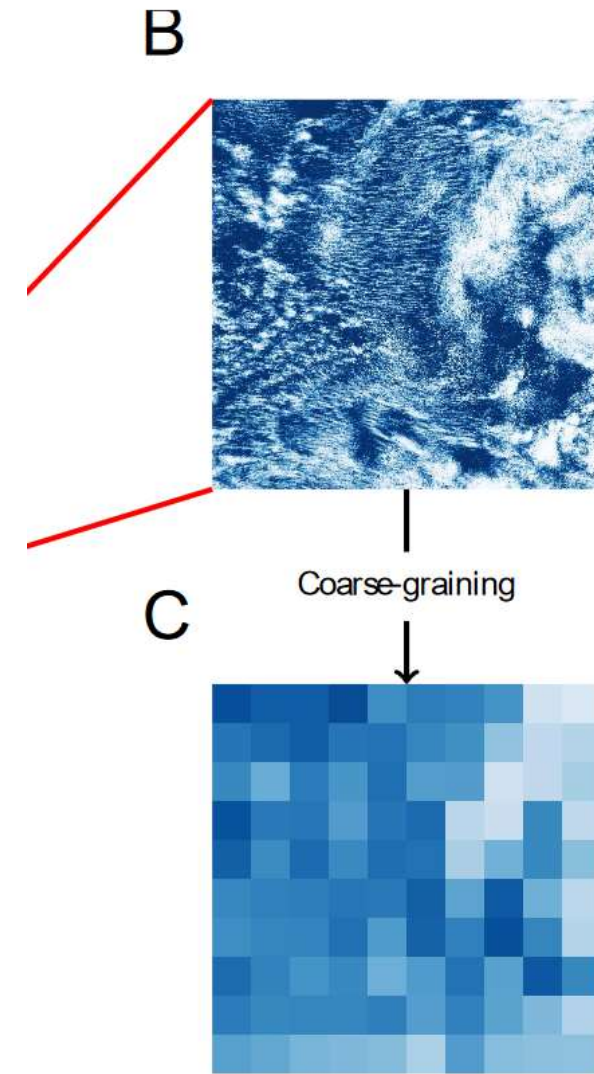


1. Model parameterization
2. Hybrid modelling
3. Pattern-oriented model evaluation and calibration
4. Driving a model with machine learning output
5. Model Emulation

Reichstein et al. (2019)

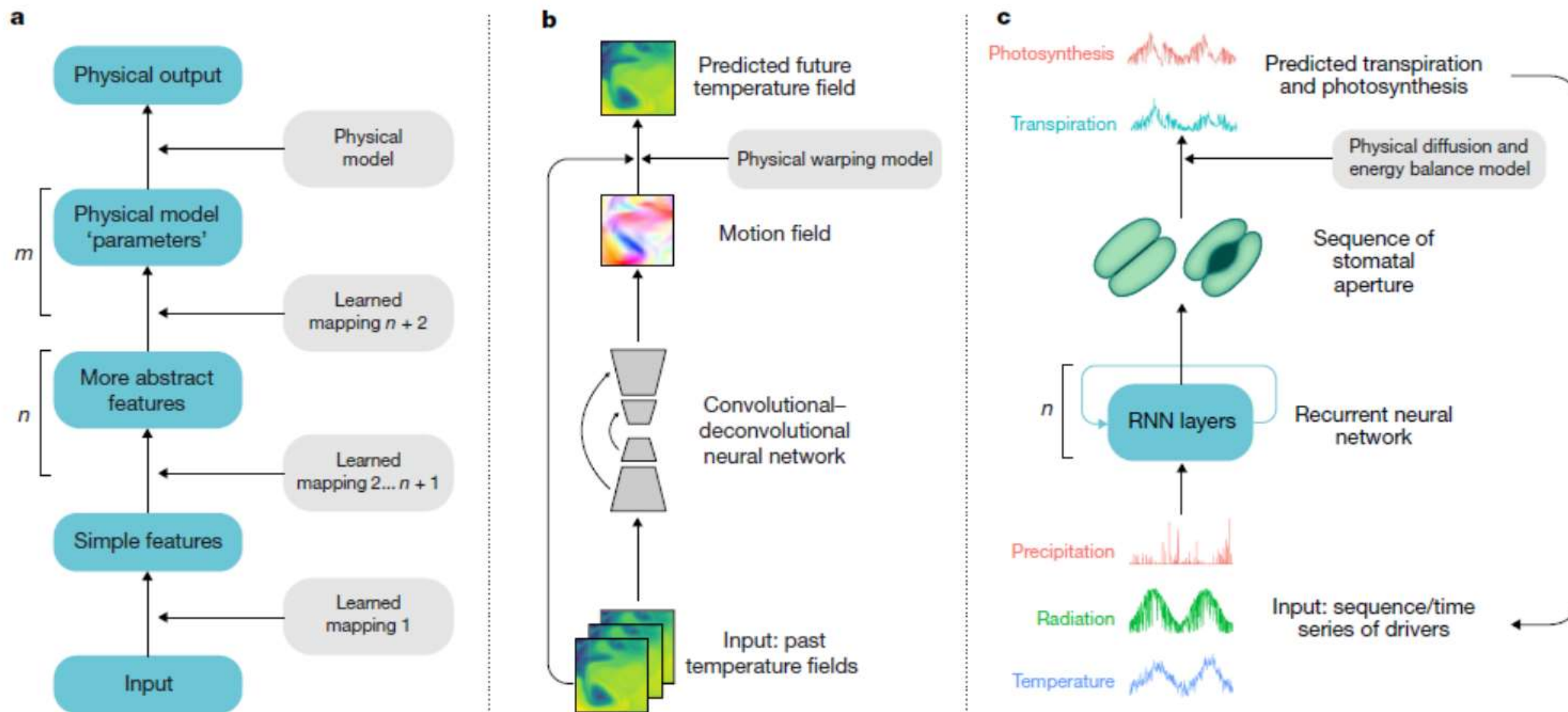
Parameterization, Coarse graining...

A single grid column of a global climate model (100 x 100 km)



Bretherton et al. (2018)

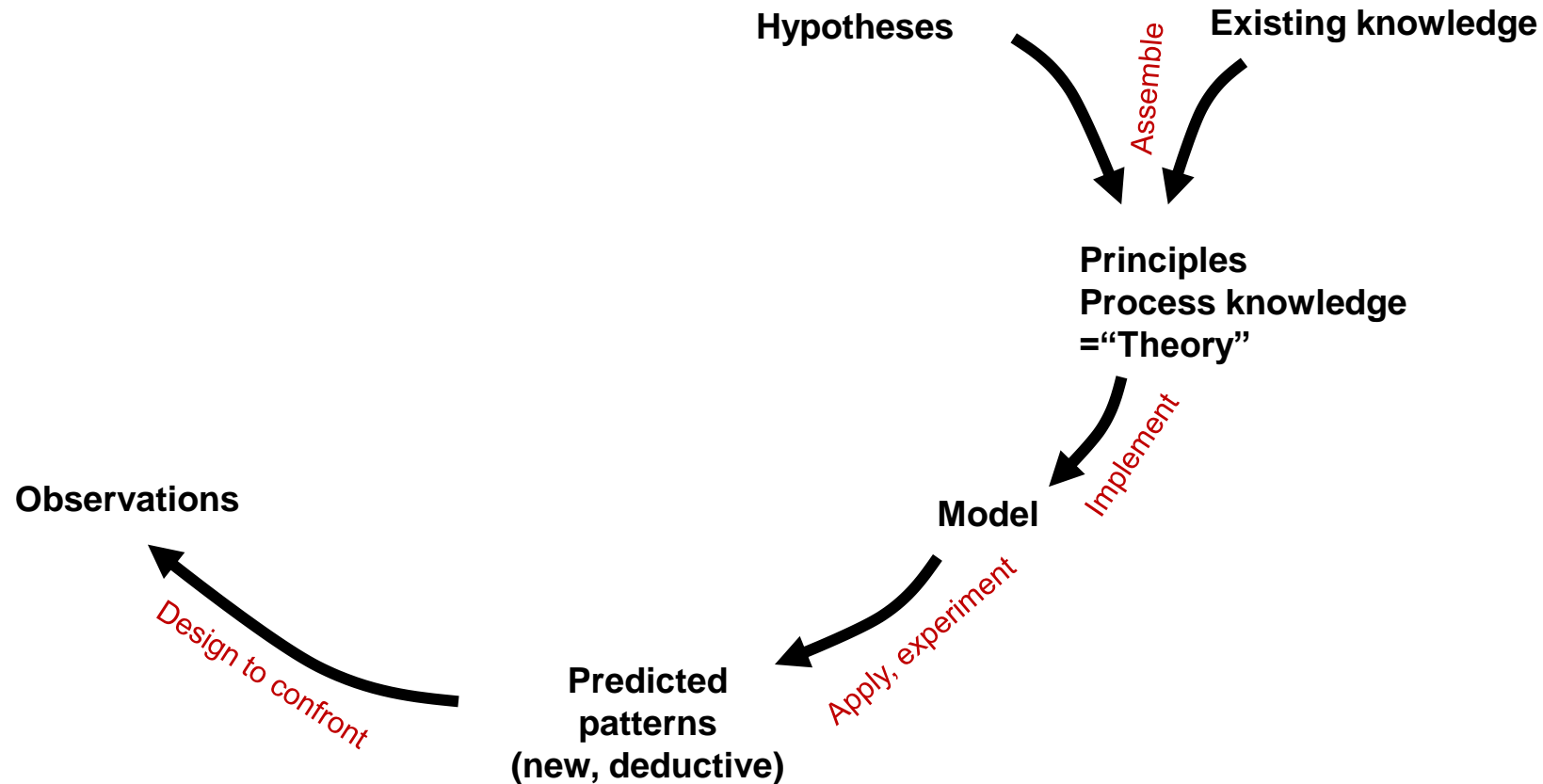
Hybrid modelling – Physicizing Deep learning



Only one perspective: complementary approach

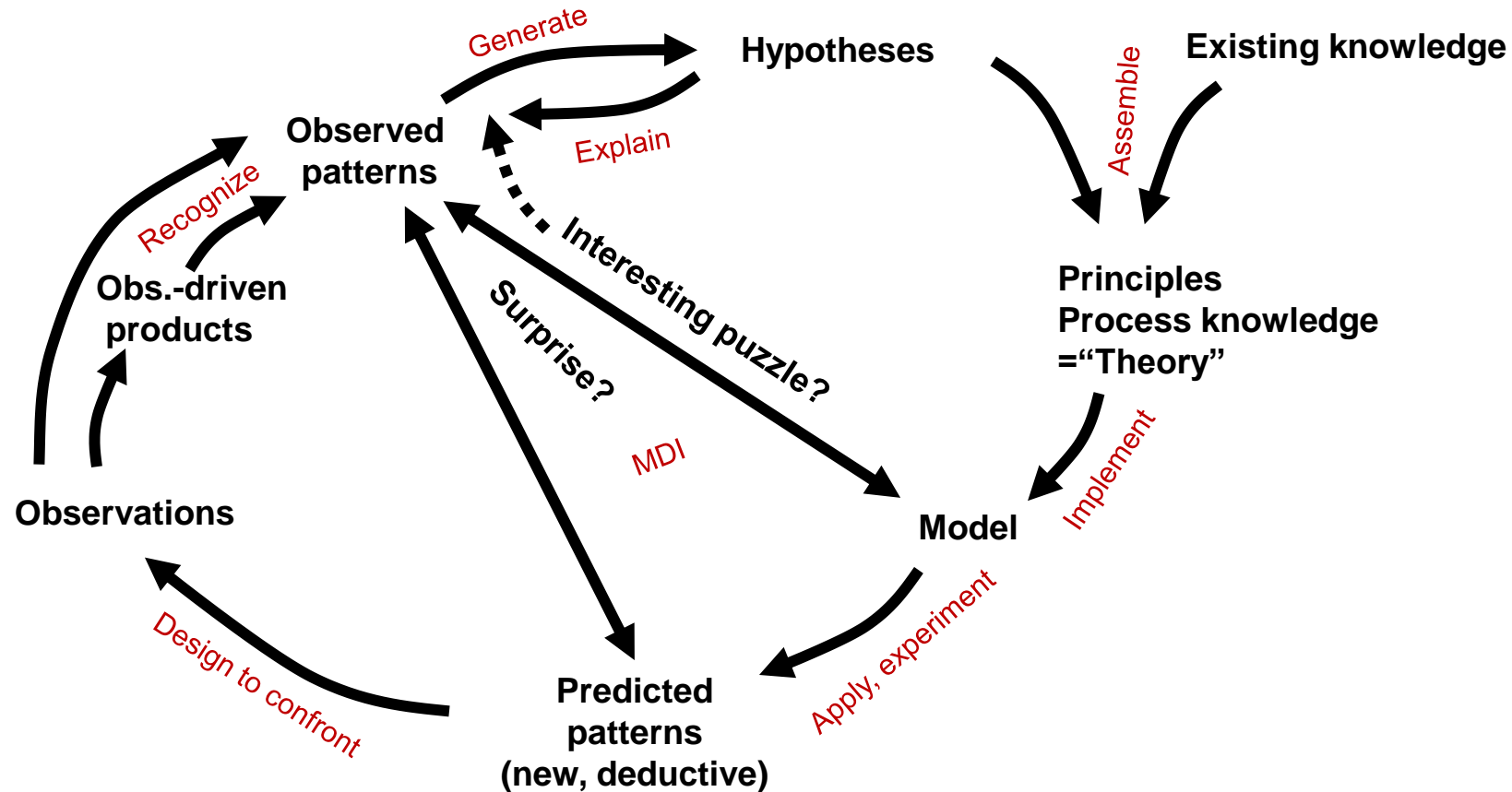
Reichstein et al. (2019)

Wrap-up: Hypothesis-driven / data-driven science



Reichstein et al. (2019)

Wrap-up: Hypothesis-driven / data-driven science



Reichstein et al. (2019)

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e l l i s

European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems

Machine Learning for Earth and Climate Sciences

Gustau Camps-Valls (Universitat de València, València, ES)

Markus Reichstein (Max-Planck-Institute for Biogeochemistry, Jena, DE)

- **Goal:** Model and understand the Earth system with Machine Learning and Process Understanding
 - *Spatio-temporal anomaly and extreme events detection, anticipation and attribution*
 - *Data-driven dynamic modelling and forecasting*
 - *Hybrid modeling: linking physics and machine learning models*
 - *Causal inference, Learning and explaining feature representations*
 - *Earth and Climate model emulation, generative modelling and data-model fusion*
 - *Benchmark synthetic and real datasets*



First program workshop: November 2019, tbd

List of Fellows: Joachim Denzler (University of Jena, DE), Veronika Eyring (DLR, DE), Sancho Salcedo (UAH, ES), Kristian Kersting (TU Darmstadt, DE), Miguel Mahecha (MPI-BGC, DE), Jonas Peters (U Aarhus, DK), Rasp (LMU Munich, DE), Jakob Runge (DLR, DE), Dino Sejdinovic (Oxford Univ, UK), Nuno Carvalhais (Univ. Lisboa, PT), Bjorn Stevens (MPI-MET, DE), Devis Tuia (Wageningen Univ, NL), Xiaoxiang Zhu (DLR, DE), Peter van Leeuwen (Reading University, UK)



Literature

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- Requena-Mesa, C., M. Reichstein, M. Mahecha, B. Kraft, and J. Denzler (2018), Predicting Landscapes as Seen from Space from Environmental Conditions, paper presented at IGARSS 2018-2018 IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium, IEEE.
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- Jung, M., et al. (2011), Global patterns of land-atmosphere fluxes of carbon dioxide, latent heat, and sensible heat derived from eddy covariance, satellite, and meteorological observations, *Journal of Geophysical Research - Biogeosciences*, 116, G00j07, doi:10.1029/2010jg001566.