



Paleoclimate Modelling



's perspectives on CMIP6



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PMIP₃ in brief

- Currently: 21 modelling groups, 26 models
- PMIP3-CMIP5 simulations (# in CMIP db/# final number in CMIP/PMIP db):
last millenium (8/15), mid-Holocene (13/21), Last Glacial Maximum (8/15)
- PMIP3 non CMIP5 simulations:
last interglacial, Mid Pliocene, ...
- Scientific discussions organised with 11 working groups:
 - **5 on specific periods:** past 2 millenia, Quaternary Interglacials, Mid-Pliocene, Pre-Pliocene climates, Last Glacial Maximum (ice-sheet uncertainties)
 - **3 on model-data comparison or proxy-modelling:** isotopic modelling, paleo-data assimilation, ocean model-data comparison, benchmarking
 - **2 cross-cutting across periods:** past2future, variability

PMIP₃ in CMIP: motivations



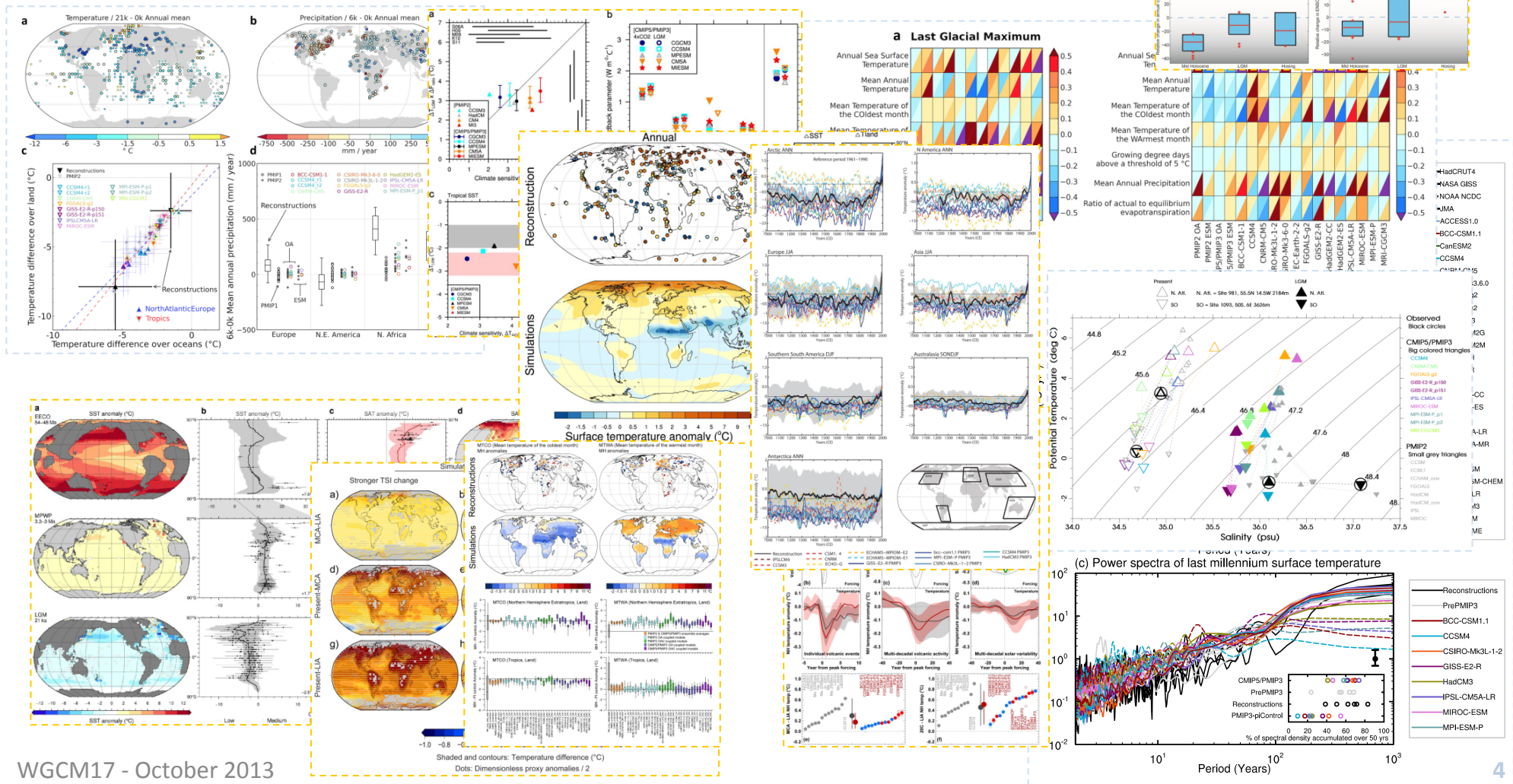
Period	Main forcing(s)	Scientific interest
Last Millenium	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solar variability• Volcanic activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural climatic variability• Sensitivity to volcanic and solar forcings
Mid-Holocene (6000 years ago)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Insolation (amplification of seasonal cycle in northern hemisphere)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes in hydrological cycle (e.g. monsoons)• Changes in variability (e.g. ENSO)
Last Glacial Maximum (21000 years ago)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lower CO₂ (and other GHG)• Northern hemisphere ice- sheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate changes comparable to predicted future climate changes in amplitude• Potential constraints on climate sensitivity



**All three periods are well documented,
with strong chronological constraints**

Contribution to AR5

- 6 figures in paleoclimate chapter, 4 in evaluation chapter
- PMIP-CMIP and PMIP-non-CMIP simulations

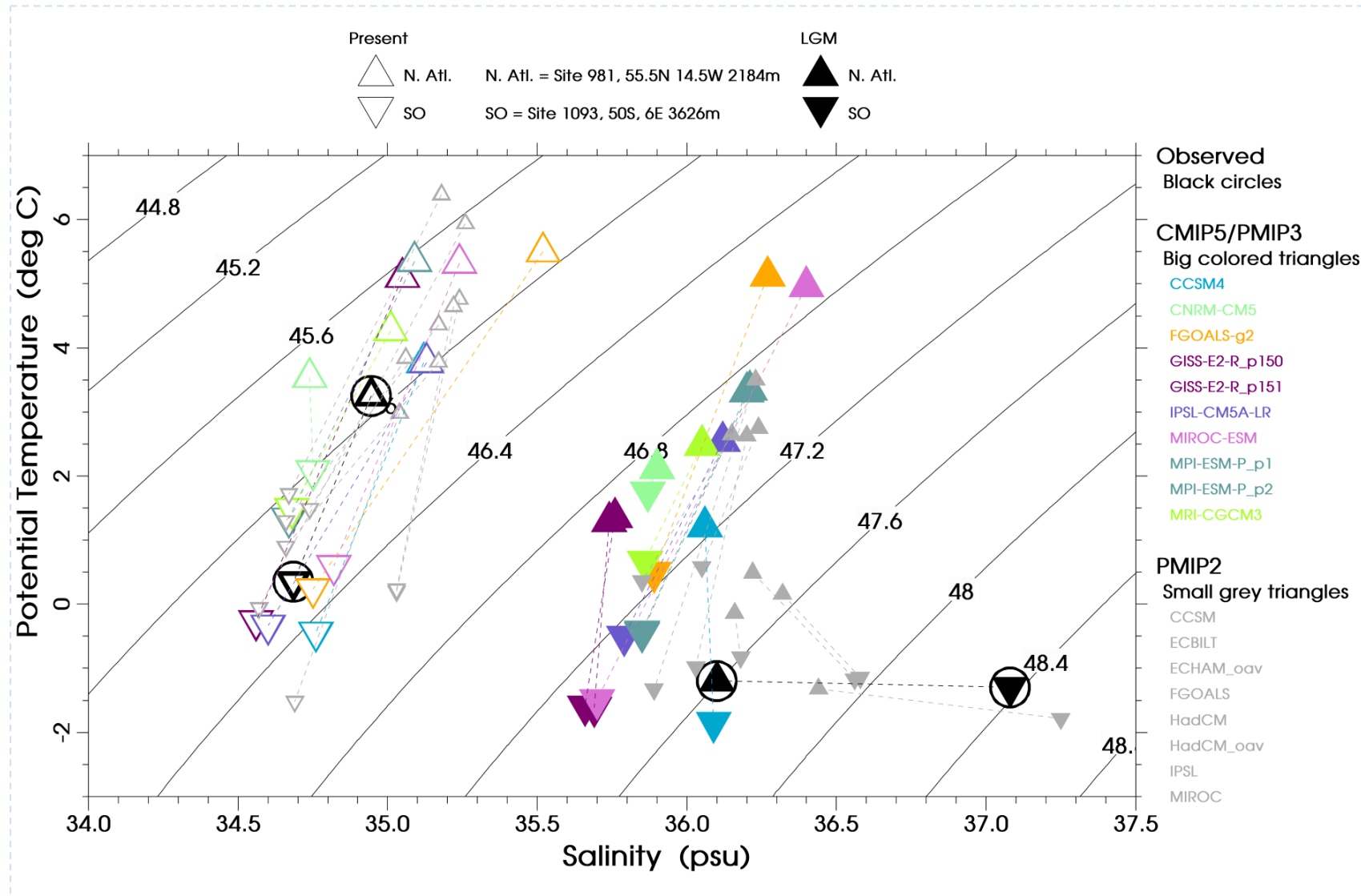


PMIP-CMIP papers



- Officially in CMIP5 publication database:
 - 14 under « Paleoclimate » keyword
 - 12 for « lgm » experiment, 9 for midHolocene, 5 for past1000
- But there are more papers
 - Climate of the Past Special Issue on « Progress in Paleoclimate Modelling »
 - Wider search (ISI web of science, citeulike) gives ~32 papers + a number in discussions in EGU journals + some « regional » reports
 - Generally, « climate/paleoclimate papers » but 6 papers on impact on regional vegetation (Brazil)
 - A few papers from authors outside PMIP community
- Grand Challenges will be a good opportunity to share paleodata/paleoclimate simulation analyses with people from outside the paleo community

Example 1: deep ocean LGM



Example 2: Δ precip vs Δ temperature

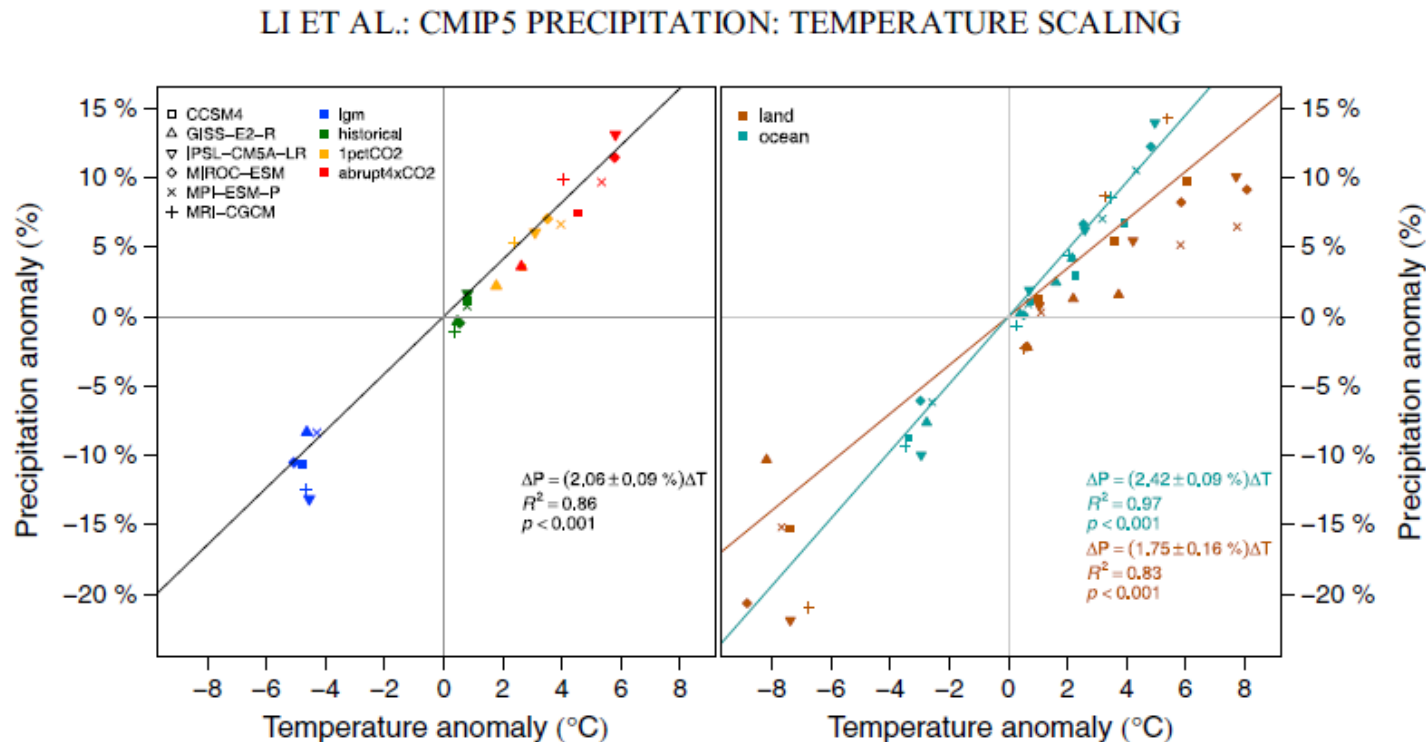


Figure 2. The change in precipitation (%) as a function of the change in global temperature (°C) as simulated by each of the six CMIP5 models (IPSL-CM5A-LR, MPI-ESM-P, MIROC-ESM, CCSM4, MRI-CGCM3, and GISS-E2-R) at the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM), from the historical run (average for period 1979–2005 CE), the 1% CO₂ run (*1pctCO₂*, average for model years 86–115), and the 4xCO₂ run. The left-hand plot shows the global relationship, while the right-hand plots shows the change in global precipitation (%) over (red) land and (blue) ocean as a function of the change in global land and ocean temperature (°C).

Summary of CMIP5 survey



- Real added value of having the same model versions used for past, present and future simulations
- Real added value of having all data on same « archive » system, including « PMIP3 but not CMIP5 » runs (although this was a little hard to achieve + some groups couldn't have access to some nodes « because they were not CMIP5 »)
- Next time, need to be more careful about transition between past1000 and historical (in terms of forcing)
- Simulations with carbon cycle included interesting for comparing to data (e.g. ocean biogeochemistry)
- ➔ A wealth of results which have just started to be analysed
- Need more time for analyses
 - In particular, need to get more « non paleo » groups involved in the analyses

Thoughts for CMIP6 -1



- Great benefit of running same models for all time periods, past, present & future → we should keep this approach
- For better comparison of past vs future climates, we would need one stabilized scenario (e.g. 4xCO₂, for several hundred years). This would also be useful for studying changes in variability.
- Need to improve quantification of the forcings and their impact for each period and compare to forcings for other periods/future climate

Sensitivity experiments to be designed in coordination with other MIPS:
e.g. AMIP runs → AMIP4xCO₂,
but also AMIP_lgmCO₂, AMIP_midHolocene insolation

Thoughts for CMIP6 -2



- New/interactive components?

 - Vegetation (fully dynamical), aerosols, ice-sheets, « proxy modelling »

 - Discussion at next PMIP meeting

- Regional modelling:

 - Interesting for model-data comparisons, already used to compute impact of climate change on paleo-environnements and early humans

 - to be coordinated with CORDEX activities?

- New periods:

 - Mid-Pliocene? Last Interglacial ?

 - to be discussed next May in PMIP3 general meeting

Thoughts for CMIP6 – contributions from paleo-modelling



- Evaluation: Climate sensitivity, benchmarking (including by modelling paleoclimate proxies) → link with future climate prediction
 - Evaluation/understanding: hydrological cycle changes w.r.t temperature/circulation changes
 - Evaluation/understanding: carbon cycle (proxies + feedbacks)
 - Better quantification of the forcings/feedbacks via sensitivity experiments.
 - « new » feedbacks from components added in ESMs
 - Sensitivity experiments, to be coordinated with those run for other MIPs
- Questions addressed in nearly all other MIPs are valid for paleoclimate simulations too.

Upcoming events



- Main PMIP plans to be discussed at next PMIP meeting in Namur (Belgium) in May 2014
- Workshops until then:
 - Last millenium: Madrid, November 2013
 - COMPARE (ocean model-data comparisons): Corvallis, December 2013
 - PaleoVar, February 2014
 - Grand Challenge on clouds, circulation, climate sensitivity, March 2014