

Impacts of CO₂ concentration and climate change on NPP and NEP by six coupled models

Focusing on:

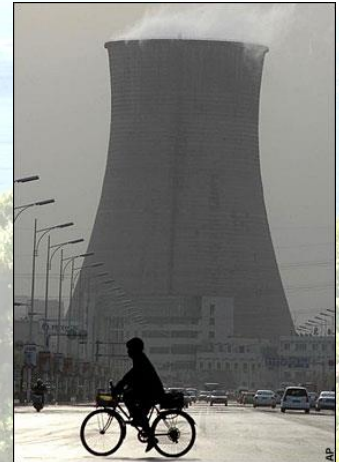
- What does climate change influence net primary production(NPP), net ecosystem production (NEP)?
- What does NPP and NEP respond to rising CO₂ ?
- Which determines the terrestrial carbon sink or source? (increasing CO₂ or climate change)

Dr. Jing PENG

Key Laboratory of Regional

Climate-Environment Research for

Temperate East Asia(RCE-TEA), Chinese Academy of Sciences



Introduction

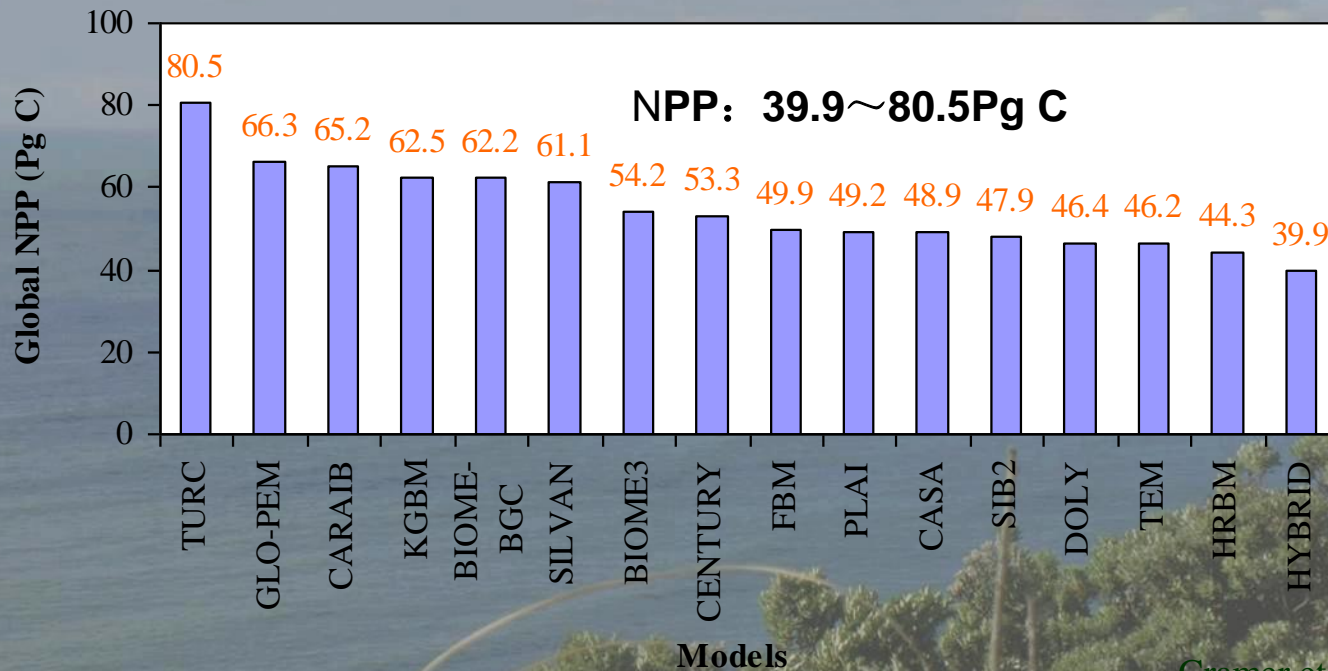
- Increasing atmospheric CO₂ concentration is a primary factor in climate system. It can cause significant land–atmosphere carbon exchanges and enhanced the land carbon uptake, in addition to long-term impacts on the terrestrial carbon balance at both regional and global scales by affecting vegetation photosynthesis and water use efficiency (Brodribb et al., 2009; Beer et al., 2010; Cox et al., 2013).
- Climate change can play direct role on the carbon exchange between land and atmosphere through influencing the photosynthesis, respiration, land cover, and fire disturbances (Flannigan et al., 2009; Lawrence and Chase, 2010; Scheller et al., 2012).

Introduction

- Friedlingstein et al. (2006) compared 11 fully coupled climate–carbon cycle models and suggested that none was in agreement on the changes in NPP versus respiration.
- It is difficult to accurately estimate the strength of response of NPP to climate change in northern versus tropical forests and drought effect on NPP in tropics using models (Cramer et al., 2001; Zhao and Running, 2010).

Introduction

The magnitude of the global NPP varies markedly among models



Cramer et al., 1999

MODELS

1. HadGEM2-ES
2. IPSL-CM5A-LR
3. CESM1-BGC
4. MPI-ESM-LR
5. CanESM2
6. BCC-CSM1-1

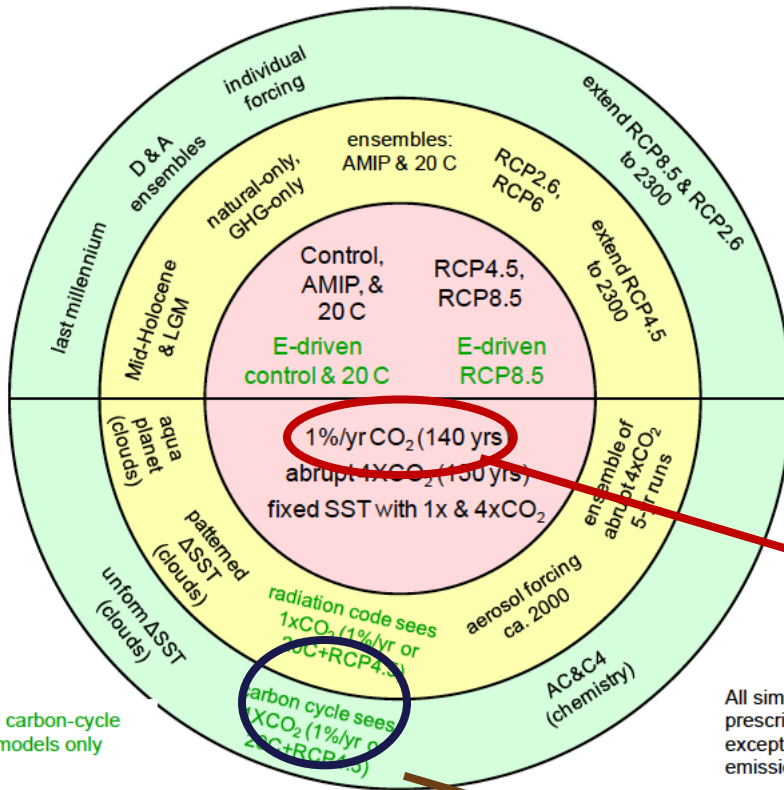


Figure 3: Schematic summary of CMIP5 long-term experiments.

CMIP5 long-term experiment
(Taylor, et al. 2012)

CO₂+Climate

CO₂ or Climate

Experiments

Including three experiments:

A “CO₂” experiment is conducted in which biogeochemistry responds to the increasing CO₂, while the CO₂ radiation is calculated by the pre-industrial CO₂ concentration.

A “Climate” experiment was implemented in which CO₂ radiation is calculated by increasing atmospheric CO₂ concentration with an increased rate of 1% per year, while biogeochemistry is fixed at the pre-industrial CO₂ level.

The effects of both CO₂ and climate change are included in the results of the “Total” experiment, in which both CO₂ biogeochemistry and radiation respond to the increasing CO₂ concentration.

Methods

$$\text{NPP} = \text{GPP} - \text{Ra} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{NEP} = \text{NPP} - \text{RH} \quad (2)$$

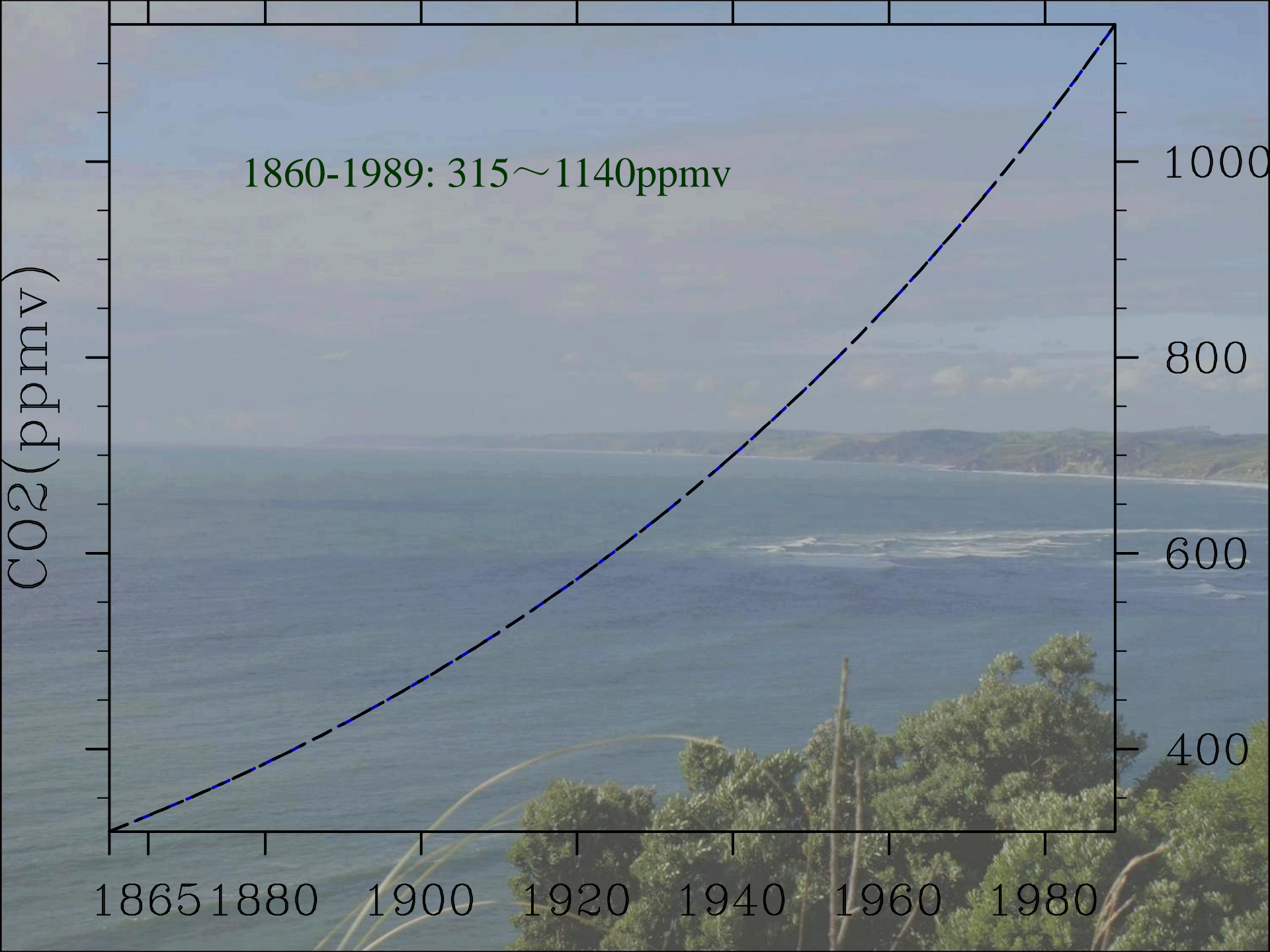
NPP: net primary production;

NEP: net ecosystem production;

GPP: gross primary production;

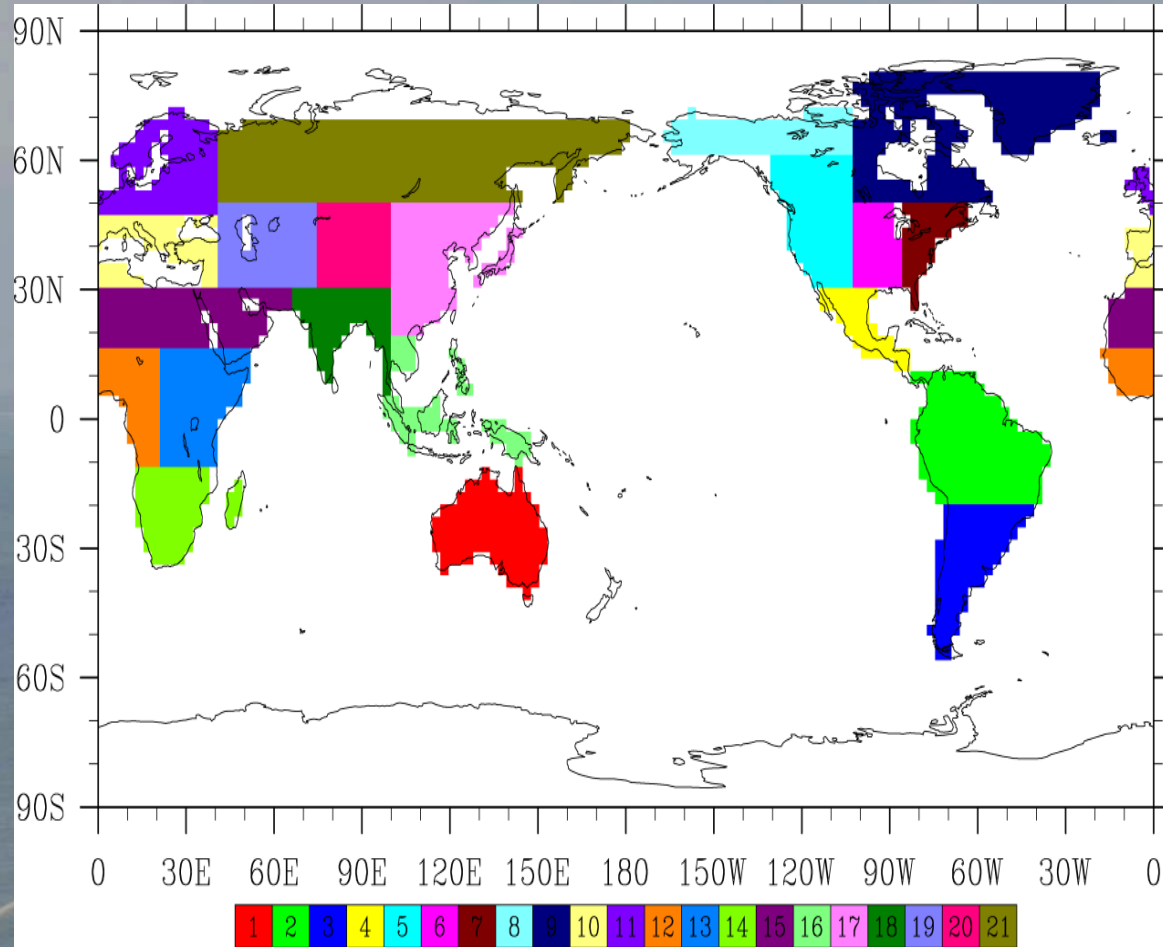
RH: heterotrophic respiration

Ra: growth and maintenance respiration



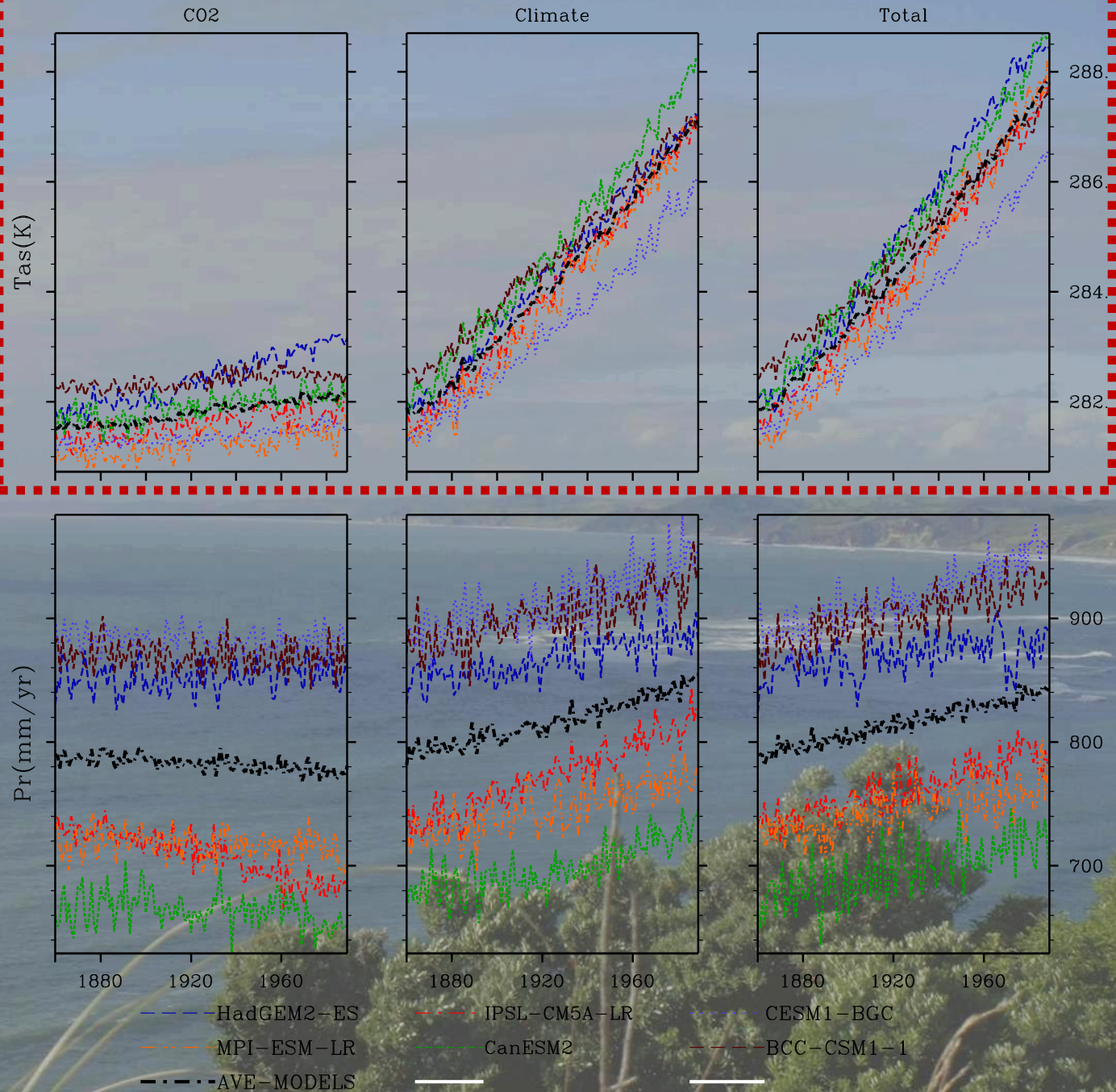
List of 21 regions

Region	Abbreviation
Australia	AUS
Amazon basin	AMZ
southern South America	SSA
Central America	CAM
western North America	WNA
central North America	CNA
eastern North America	ENA
Alaska	ALA
Greenland	GRL
Mediterranean basin	MED
northern Europe	NEU
western Africa	WAF
eastern Africa	EAF
southern Africa	SAF
Sahara	SAH
southeastern Asia	SEA
eastern Asia	EAS
southern Asia	SAS
central Asia	CAS
Tibet	TIB
northern Asia	NAS



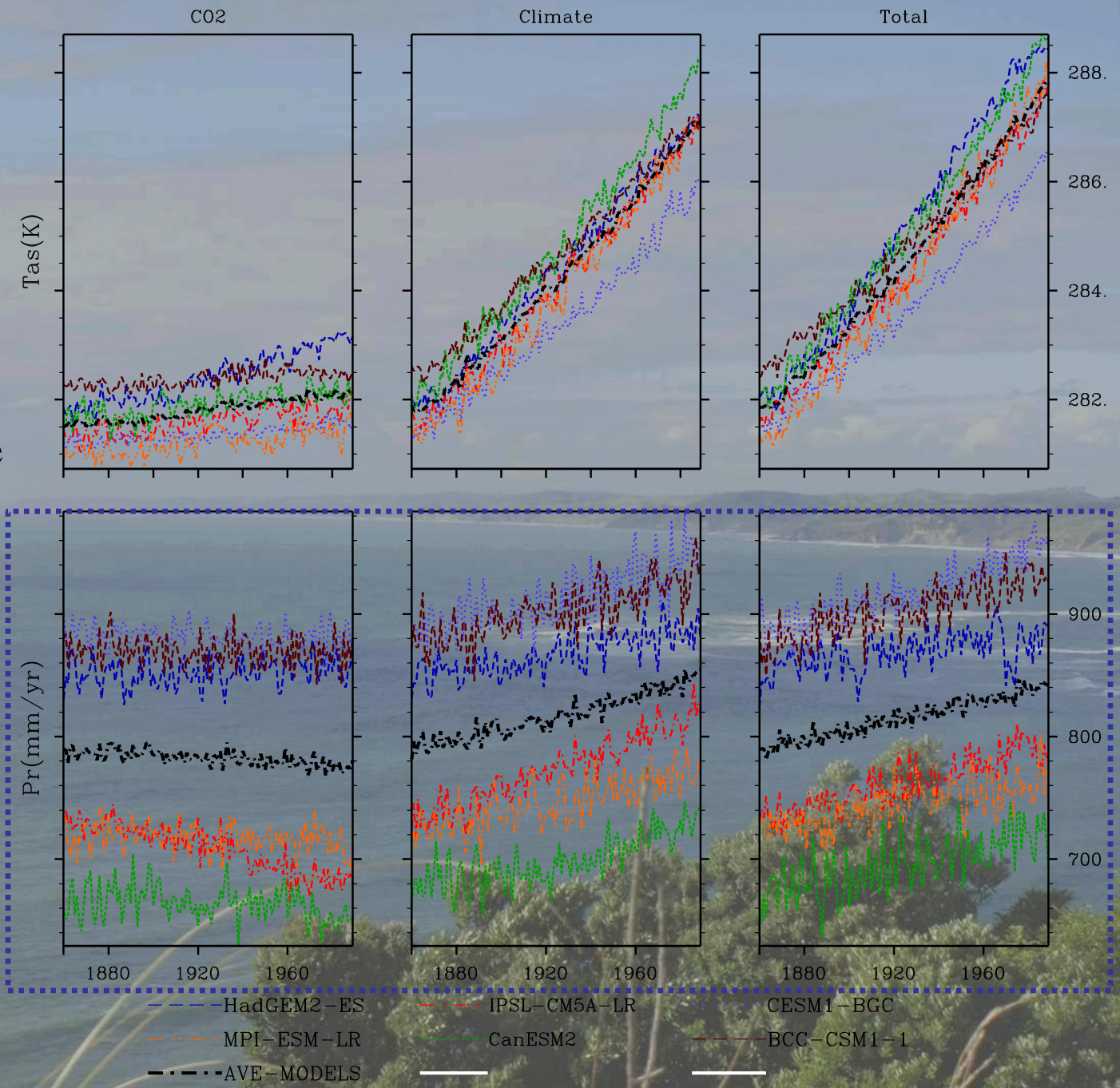
Changes in temperature :

- Increasing temperature is determined primarily by climate change but not increasing CO_2 .
- The averaged temperature is presented from 283K of CESM1-BGC to 285K of CanESM2



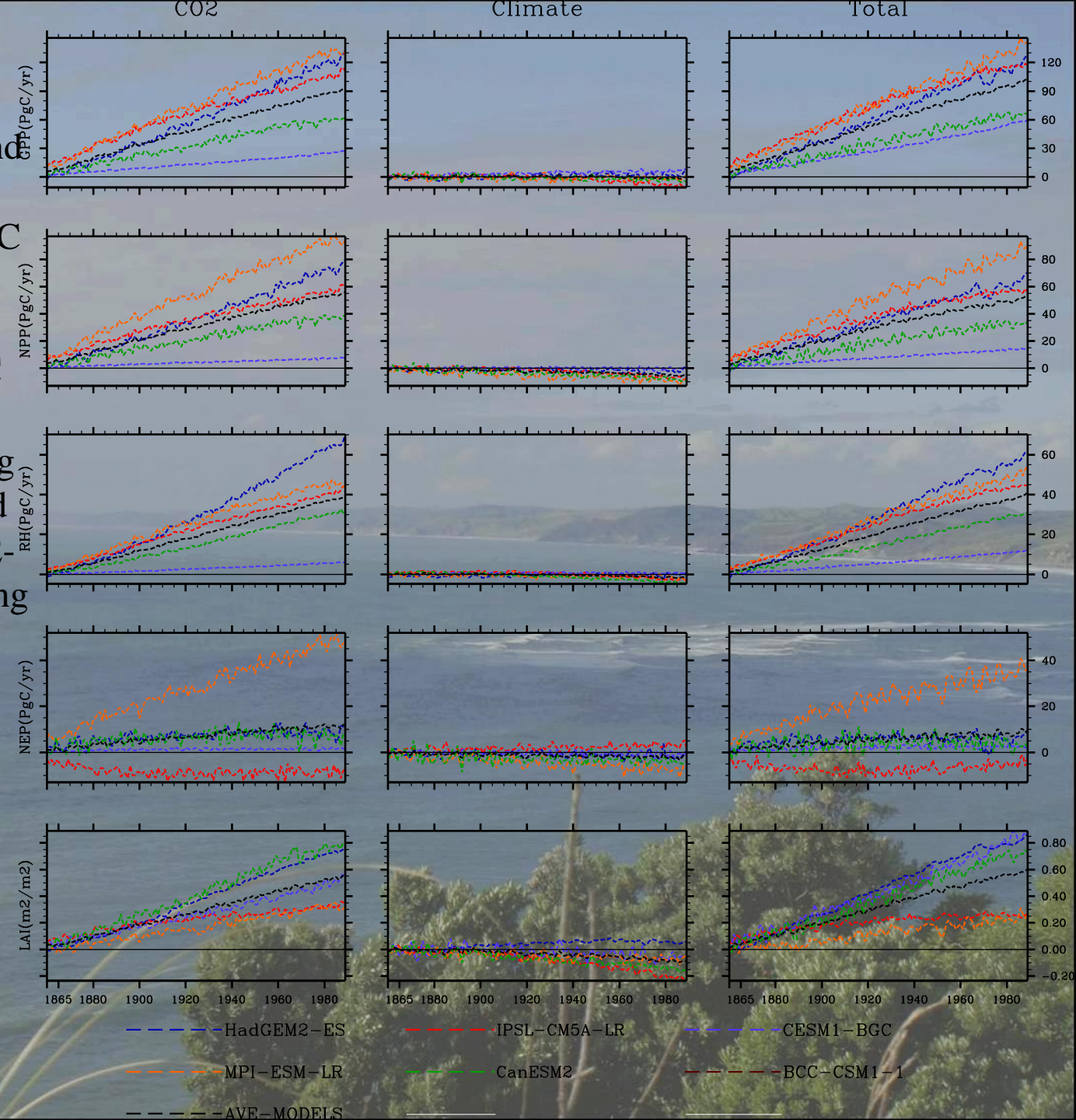
Changes in precipitation:

- Increasing precipitation is determined primarily by climate change.
- There is a large difference in precipitation among models



A large difference in the changes of GPP, NPP and RH ranging from 27PgC/yr in CESM-BGC to 133PgC/yr in MPI-ESM-LR, between 7PgC/yr in CESM-BGC and 94PgC/yr in MPI-ESM-LR, between 6.1PgC/yr in CESM-BGC and 70PgC/yr in HadGEM2-ES, respectively, resulting from rising atmospheric CO₂ concentration.

RH(heterotrophic respiration)

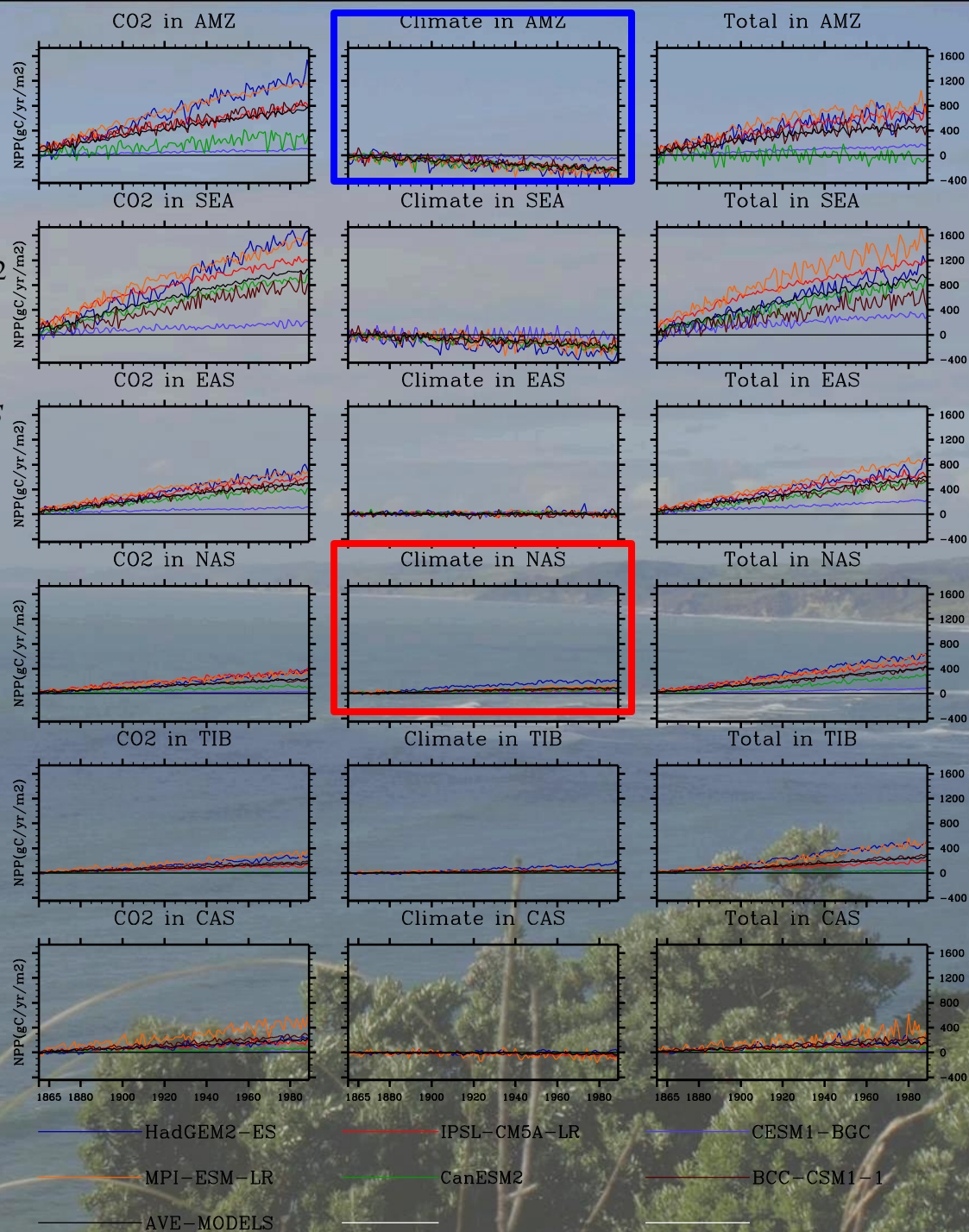


Changes in regional NPP

Messages from regions...

- Increase of NPP everywhere is observed under rising CO_2 concentration
- *The coupled models exhibit large difference in the trends of NPP among regions only considering the effect of climate change.*
- *Changes in NPP among the six regions due to the combined effect of increasing CO_2 and climate change is similar to the changes due to the single effect by increasing CO_2 concentrations.*

Regions: Amazon Basin (AMZ), Southeast Asia (SAS), East Asia (EAS), North Asia (NAS), Tibet (TIB) and Central Asia (CAS)

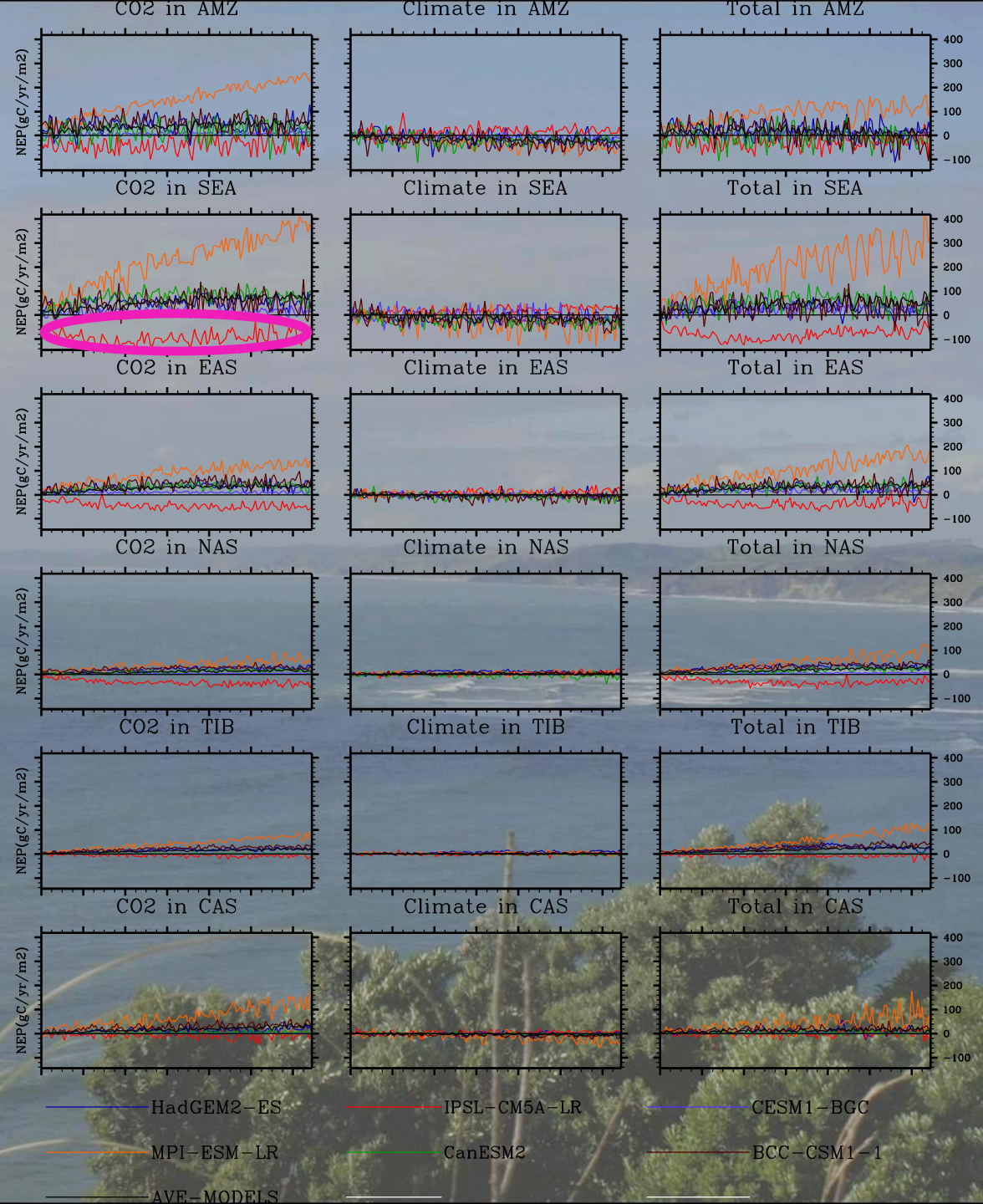


Changes in regional NEP

Enhanced carbon sink (elevated NEP) is shown among regions by models except for IPSL-CM5A-LR responding to the single effect of increasing CO₂.

When only climate change was considered, the models showed marked differences with region-to-region variability.

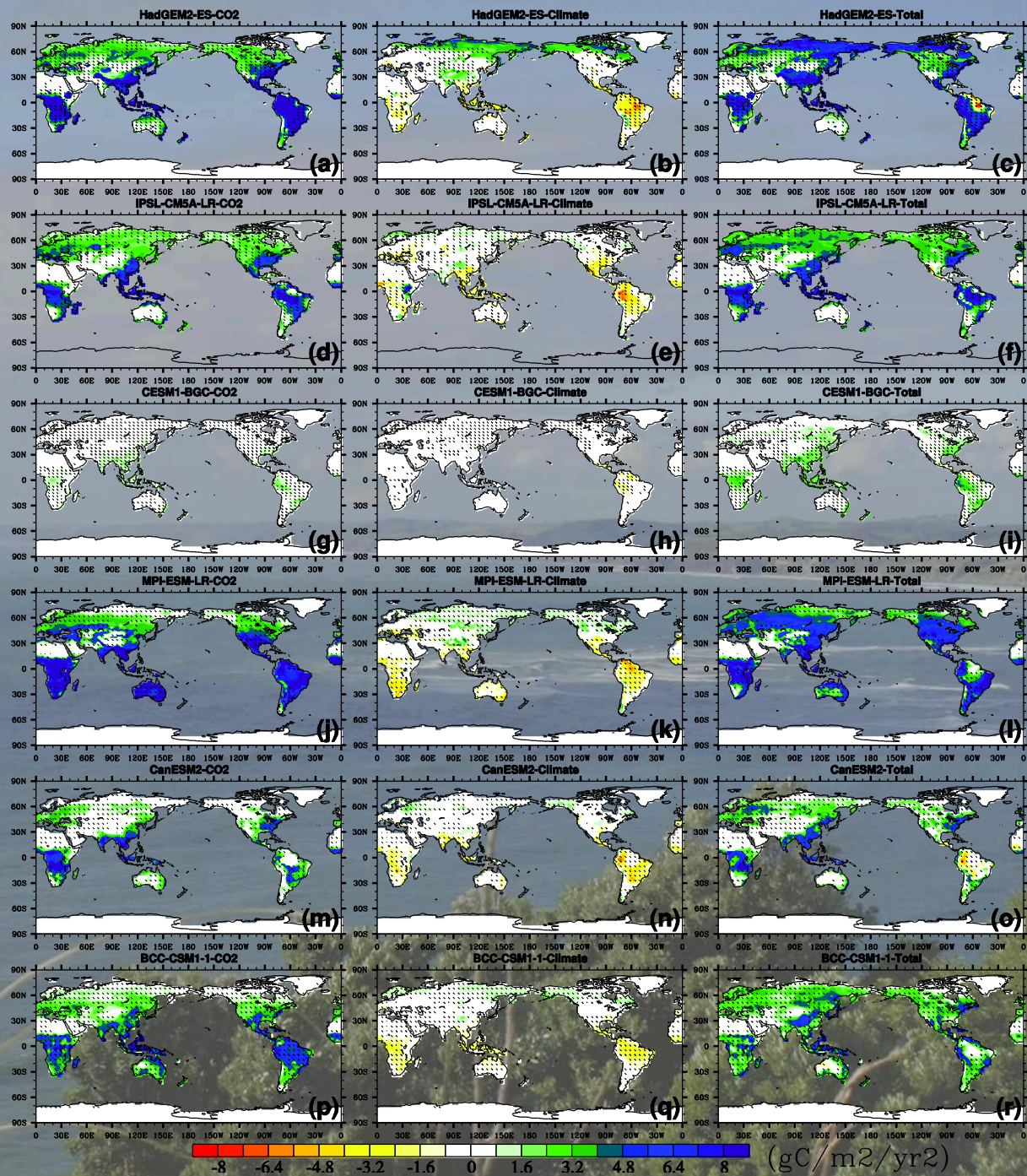
For example, increased carbon loss is shown in Amazon basin, while carbon sink is enhanced in northern Asia.



Due to the rising CO₂ MPI-ES-LR has the largest increase of NPP (0.16gC/m²/yr²) and CESM-BGC shows the smallest increase by 0.01gC/m²/yr².

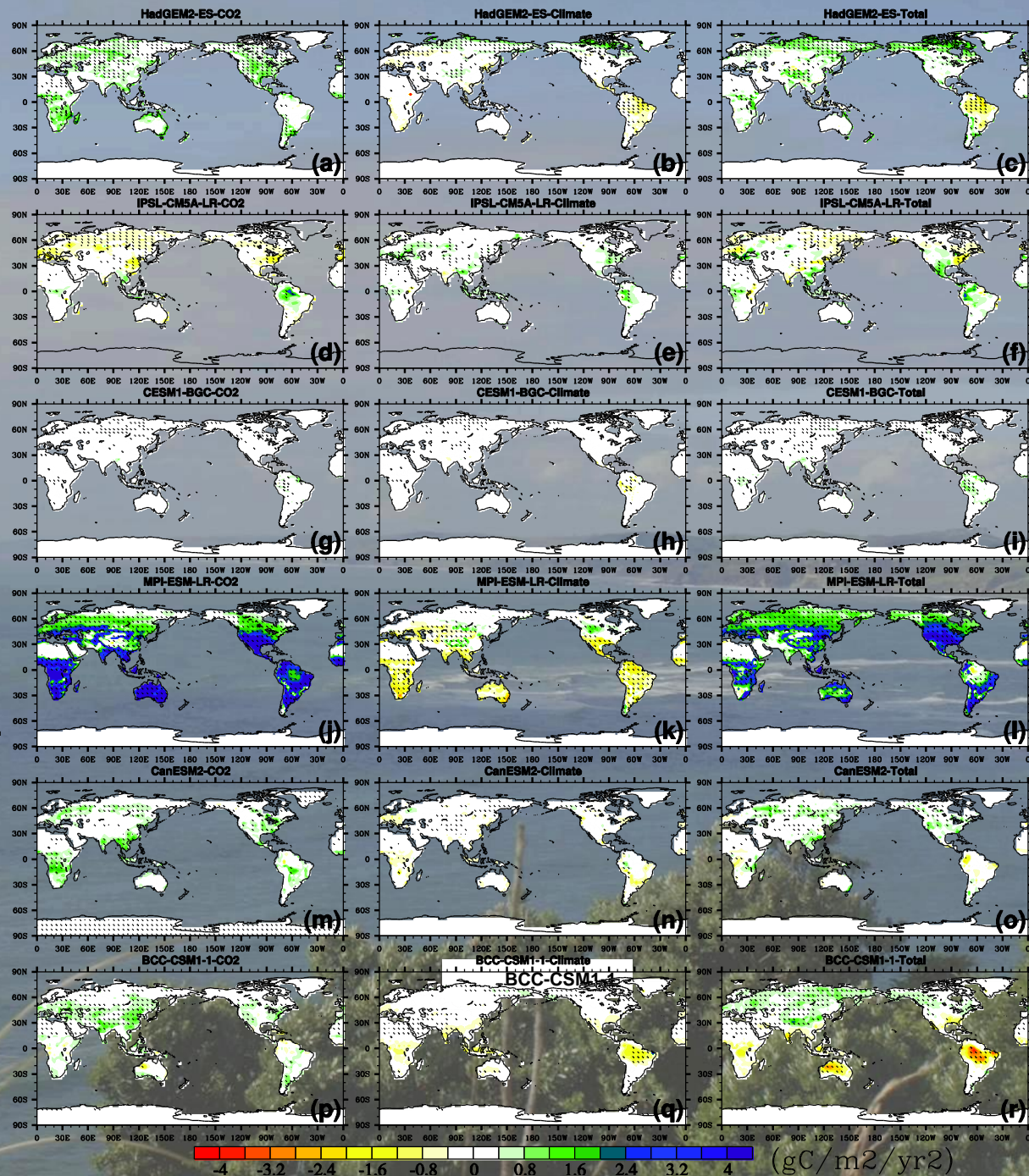
Climate change attributes a decreased trend in NPP for six models.

Spatial distribution of the NPP trend simulated by HadGEM2-ES, IPSL-CM5A-LR, CESM1-BGC, MPI-ESM-LR, CanESM2 and BCC-CSM1-1 accounting for the effect of atmospheric rising CO₂ concentration ((a,d,g, j, m, p), the effect of climate change (b, e, k, n, q) and the effect of both rising CO₂ concentration and climate change (c, f, l, o,r), units: gC/m²/yr².

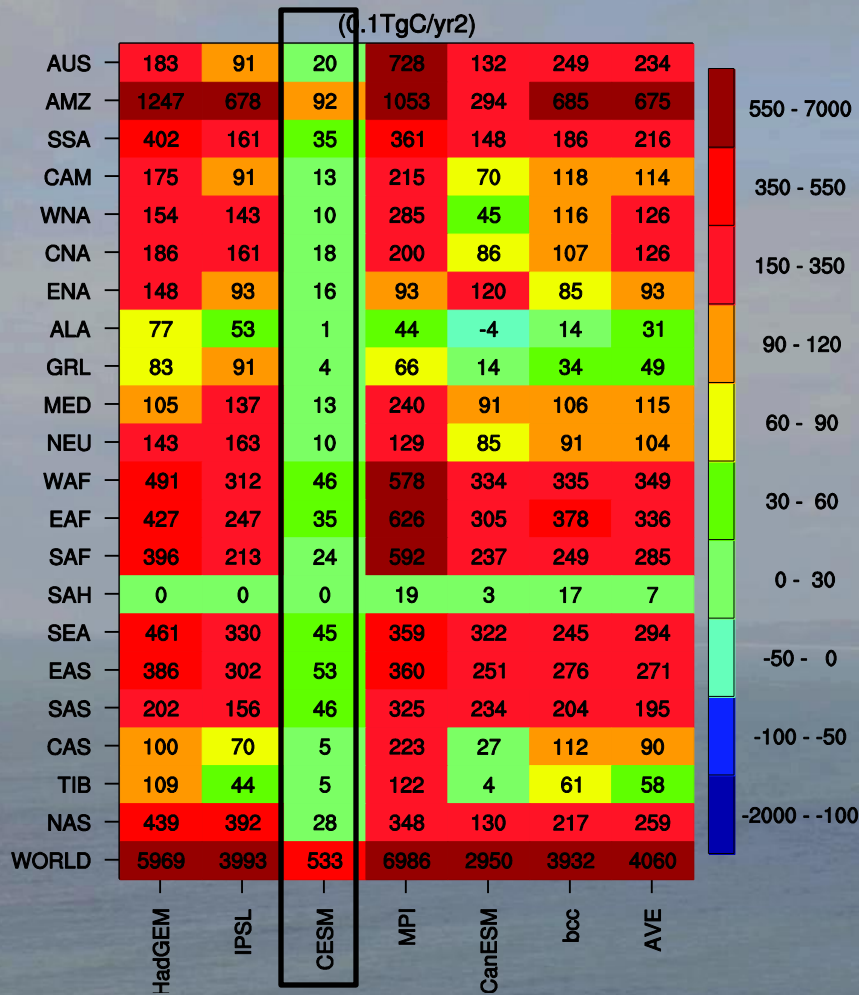


Messages from right figure...

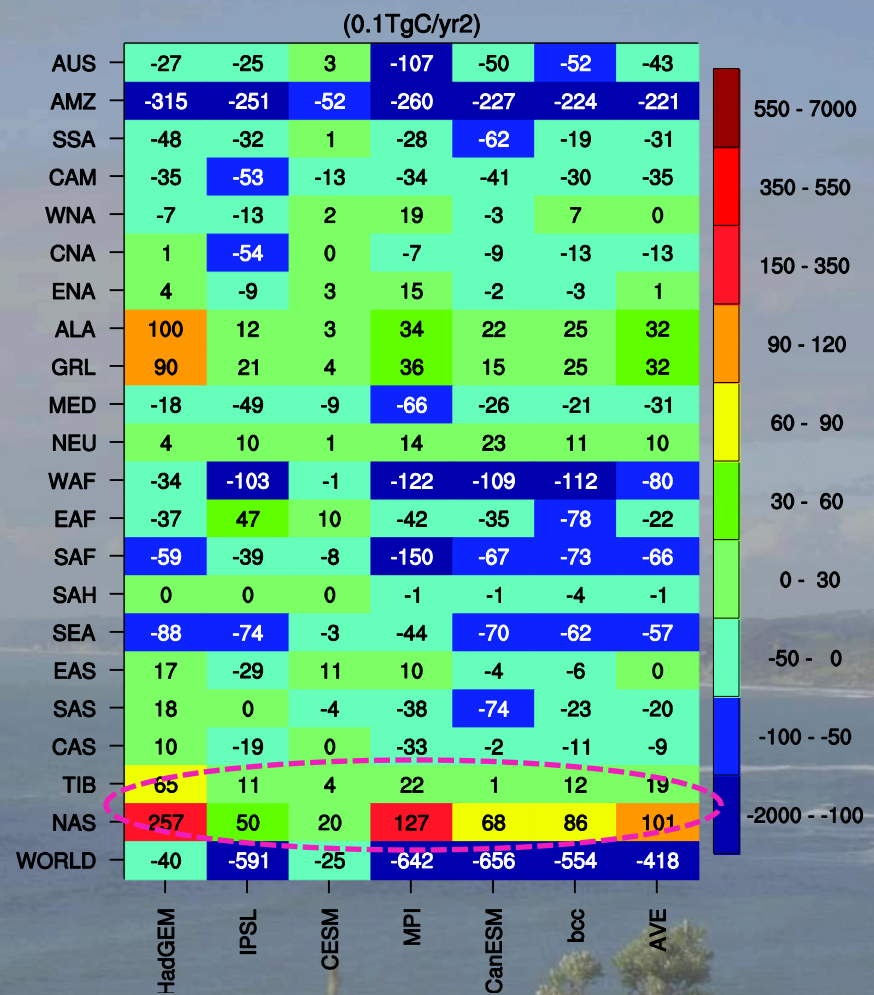
- MPI-ESM-LR has a significant increase in NEP by 340.7TgC/yr^2 ($P < 0.05$). Its increase is 47 times larger than that of CESM-BGC
- Only considering climate change effect, the models show marked difference with regional variability.
- Spatial pattern due to the combined impact is similar to the spatial pattern caused by the single effect of increasing CO_2 .



Response to CO2



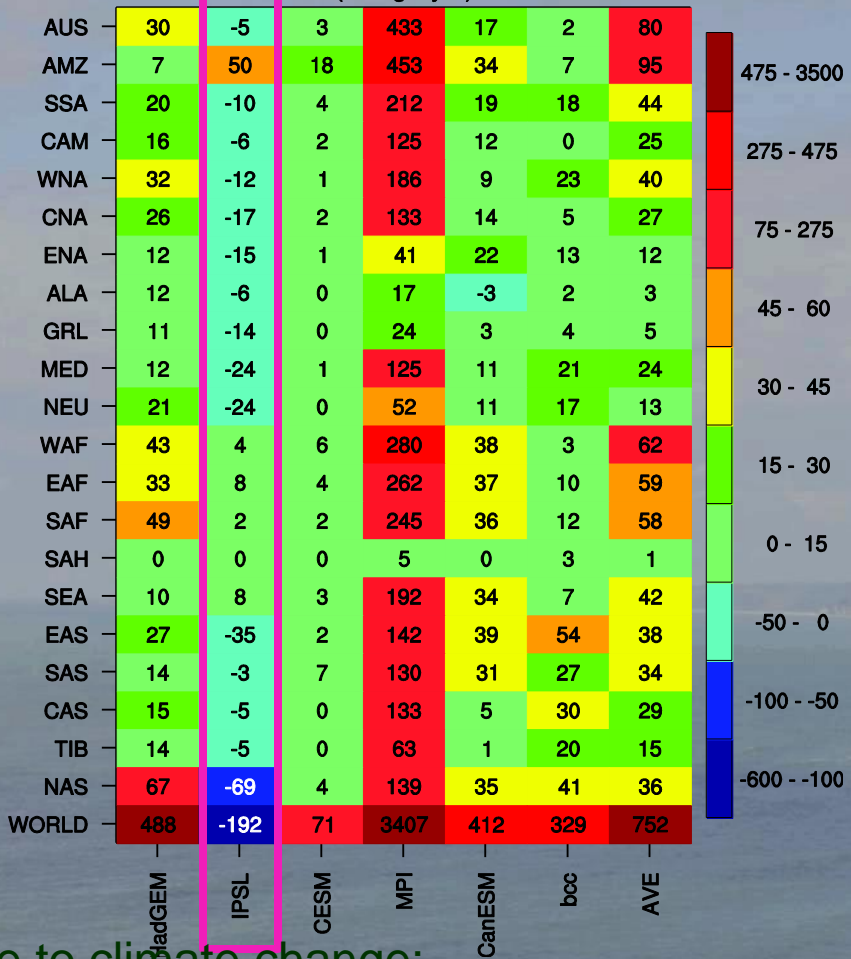
Response to Climate



- Each model trend has a fair agreement on sign of increased NPP trend at global scale, considering the effect of rising CO₂ concentration
- The increased trend in NPP simulated by **CESM1-BGC** is much smaller than values simulated by other models due to considering the limited nitrogen effect.
- Climate change attributes a decreased trend in NPP for six models due to climate change

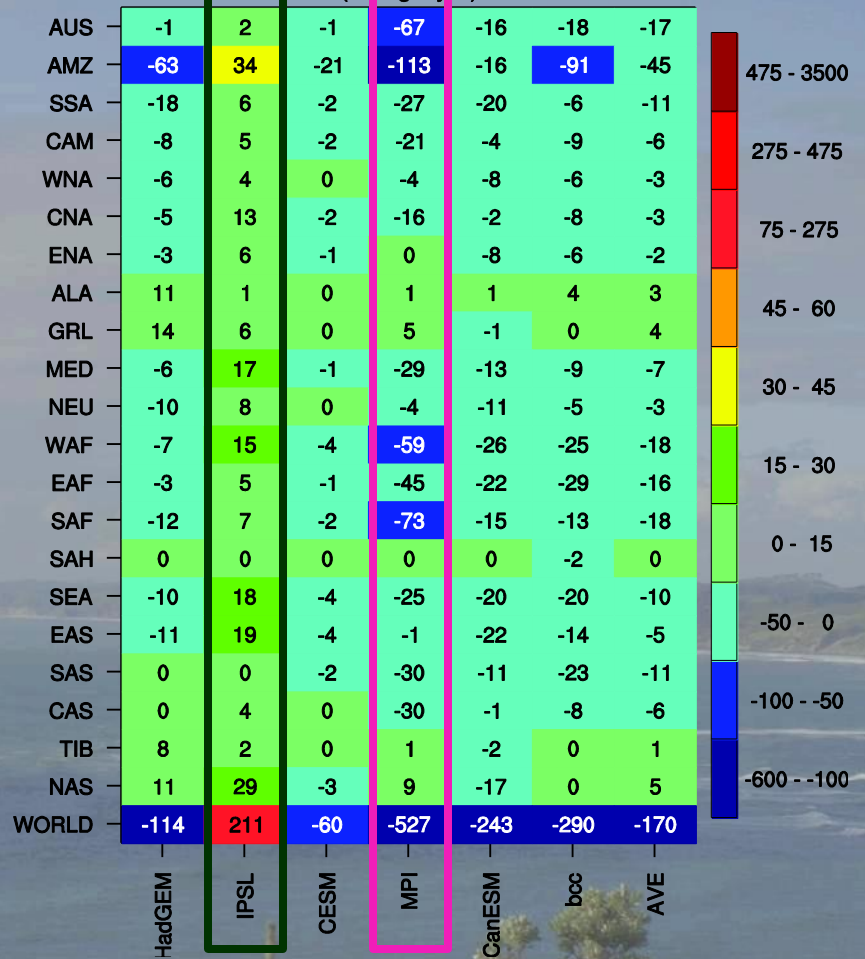
Response to CO2

(0.1TgC/yr2)



Response to Climate

(0.1TgC/yr2)



Due to climate change:

- Simulations from models except for IPSL-CM5A-LR reproduce: enhanced land loss at global scale
- The CESM-BGC shows a more modest negative values of -8.0TgC/yr² in NEP than those simulated by other models.
- Regions except for northern Asia, Tibet, Alaska and Greenland show enhanced land loss (decreased NEP).

Comparison of simulated NPP with previous studies

Time	Region	Factors	NPP (PgCyr ⁻¹)	Trends of NPP(PgCyr ⁻²)	Res.
1830-2100	Global	CO ₂	50~100		Cramer et al.,2001
		Climate	50~60		
		Total	50~85		
1980-2002		CO ₂		0.24	Piao et al., 2009
		Climate		0.05	
		Total		0.30	
1860-1989		CO ₂	20.76~58.28	0.05~0.3	This study
		Climate	18.92~31.55	-0.003~-0.07	
		Total	22.37~56.36	0.05~0.28	

Estimation of simulated NEP

Time	Region	Factors	NEP PgCy ⁻¹	NEP trends PgCy ⁻²	Res.
1830-2100	Global	CO ₂	1.4~8.6	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> 0.091 -0.065 0.065 </div>	Cramer et al.,2001
		Climate	-0.3~-3.8		
		Total	0.3~6.6		
		CO ₂			
		Climate			
		Total	1.9		
2006-2100		Total	-0.3~3.8	Prentice et al., 2001	
		Total	1.32~1.8		
		Total	-0.97~2.27		
2008		Total	3.5~5.9	Ahlström et al.,2013	
1860-1989		CO ₂	0.59~12.9	<div style="border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> 0.006~0.13 -0.002~-0.02 0.006~0.12 </div>	This study
		Climate	-1.94~-0.21		
		Total	0.58~12.7		

Conclusions

From results...

- **Global terrestrial ecosystems act as enhanced carbon sinks (increased NEP), among models except for IPSL-CM5A-LR accompanied with increasing CO₂.**
- **Our results also show that climate change has already accelerated carbon losses at low and middle latitudes.**
- *However, northern high-latitudes show signs of strongly accelerated NPP and NEP in response to the single effect of rising CO₂ or climate change, although large differences in magnitudes of the two variables are clear among models.*
- **To reduce such discrepancies in magnitude at global and regional scales, it is important to accurately quantify the effects of nitrogen limitation on the changes in the terrestrial carbon fluxes.**

THANKS

