



# ESM-Tools

unified and modular workflows for  
reproducible Earth system simulations

**Deniz Ural**

AWI, Climate Dynamics  
Potsdam

**Miguel Andrés-Martínez**

AWI, Climate Dynamics  
Bremerhaven

## PalMod - ESM-Tools Workshop

DKRZ, 20-21 April, 2022



ALFRED-WEGENER-INSTITUT  
HELMHOLTZ-ZENTRUM FÜR POLAR-  
UND MEERESFORSCHUNG



**PAL  
MOD**

GERMAN  
CLIMATE  
MODELING  
INITIATIVE



**DKRZ**  
DEUTSCHES  
KLIMARECHENZENTRUM

**HELMHOLTZ**  
RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGES

# AGENDA

## Day 1

- 12:00-12:30** - Lunch
- 12:30-13:00** - Introduction to the workshop and participants  
ESM-Tool introduction
- 13:00-13:15** - Introduction to YAML
- 13:15-14:15** - Hands-on introduction
  - Build and run FESOM
- 14:15-15:30** - ESM-Tools extended YAML syntax and hands-on exercises
- 15:30-16:00** - Coffee break
- 16:00-17:30** - Introduction to the workflow manager (offline coupling) and machine environments

## Day 2 (Hands-on)

- 09:00-10:45** - Working groups
  - New models into ESM-Tools
  - Offline coupling
  - Levante
- 10:45-11:15** - Coffee break
- 11:15-12:45** - Working groups
  - New models into ESM-Tools
  - Offline coupling
  - Levante
- 12:45-13:00** - Resume
- 13:00-14:00** - Lunch and adjourn

# OUTLINE:

1

## What are ESM-Tools?

- Motivation & Aim
- Advantages
- Supported systems
- Repository, Documentation, Community



2

## Introduction to YAML

- Basic YAML Syntax
- Brief overview of ESM-Tools Extended YAML Syntax



3

## Lets's Get Started: (Hands-on introduction)

- Install ESM-Tools and verify
- Troubleshooting
- Installed programs, command-line options
- Brief overview of the folders and files



# OUTLINE:

4

## ESM-Tools Terminology

- Overview
- YAML Hierarchy
- Configuration files
- Runscripts
- YAML Sections
- Feature Variables
- Compilation Scripts
- .run files



5

## Hands-on Practice with FESOM 2

- Briefing
- Install FESOM and verify
- Write our (very basic) first runscript
- Check run and verify our settings.
- Submit our simulation
- Monitor and check our simulation



# OUTLINE:

6

## ESM-Tools extended YAML syntax & operations (Hands-on session)



- Finished YAML config file
- Declaring and accessing variables
- Switches, adds, removes
- Arithmetic, Math and calendar options
- Namelist changes
- YAML hierarchy

7

## Machine files and environment\_changes

- Relevant feature variables
- environment\_changes dictionaries

8

## Workflow manager and offline coupling

- Intro to the workflow manager
- Workflow dictionary
- VILMA-PISM

# Before we start:



- ▶ <https://github.com/esm-tools/workshops>
- ▶ Presentations, runscripts, exercises, ...
- ▶ <https://github.com/esm-tools>
- ▶ [https://github.com/esm-tools/esm\\_tools/discussions](https://github.com/esm-tools/esm_tools/discussions)

# ESM-Tools development history

Period	Developments	Team
pre-2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>First version of the tools written in <b>ksh</b> with to support AWI couple setups</li></ul>	Dirk Barbi Nadine Wieters Luisa Cristini
Summer 2019- Spring 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Version 3.1: Translating all the functionality to <b>Python</b></li><li>More modular and generalized</li><li>Separation of concerns (functionality in <b>Python</b>, model-specific in <b>yaml</b>)</li><li>Support for AWI coupled systems and FOCI (GEOMAR)</li></ul>	Dirk Barbi Paul Gierz Nadine Wieters Luisa Cristini Sebastian Wahl
Spring 2020-Spring 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Version 4.0 (April 2020): finishing off most of the Python functionality</li><li>Version 5.0 (December 2020): new models and features<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- AWI-ESM-2 (ECHAM6 + FESOM2)</li><li>- FOCI (ECHAM6 + NEMO4) and FOCI-OpenIFS (OpenIFS43 + NEMO4)</li><li>- AWI-CM-3 (OpenIFS43 + FESOM2)</li></ul></li></ul>	Dirk Barbi Paul Gierz Miguel Andres Deniz Ural Nadine Wieters Luisa Cristini Sebastian Wahl

Tools development phase

Tools development phase

Tools development phase

# ESM-Tools development history

Period	Developments	Team
Spring 2021 – end 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Version 6.0:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Workflow manager and <b>offline coupling</b></li><li>- <b>VILMA-PISM</b></li><li>- Stability</li><li>- Focus on the end user</li><li>- All packages in one single repository</li><li>- CI, automatic testing</li><li>- Production runs</li></ul></li></ul>	Dirk Barbi Miguel Andres Deniz Ural Paul Gierz Sebastian Wahl Jan Streffing
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stability</li><li>• Clean the Python code (refactorizations) -&gt; adding transparency to the “blackbox”</li><li>• Encourage advance users to contribute</li><li>• Community building</li></ul>	Miguel Andres Paul Gierz Deniz Ural Sebastian Wahl Jan Streffing

Stability and user-friendliness

Stability and advance user friendly



1

# What are ESM-Tools?

Motivation & Aim

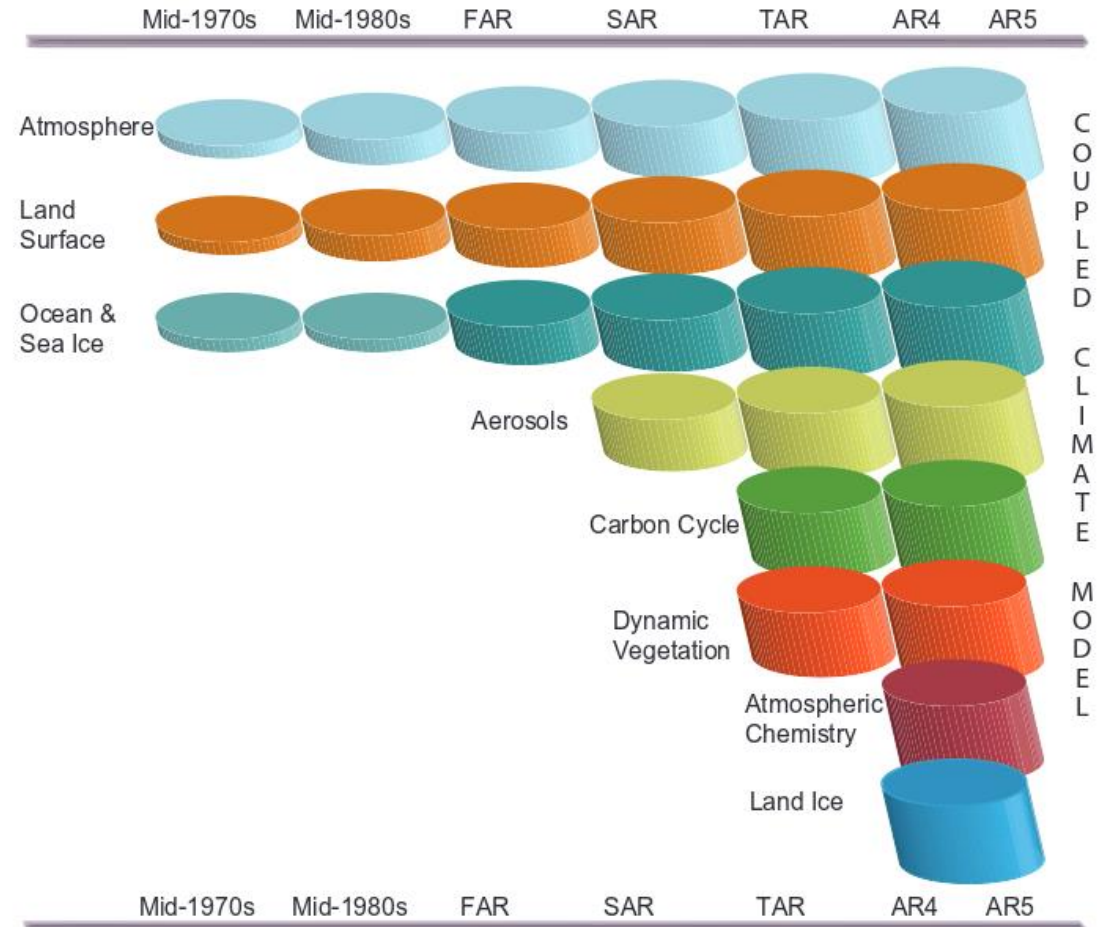
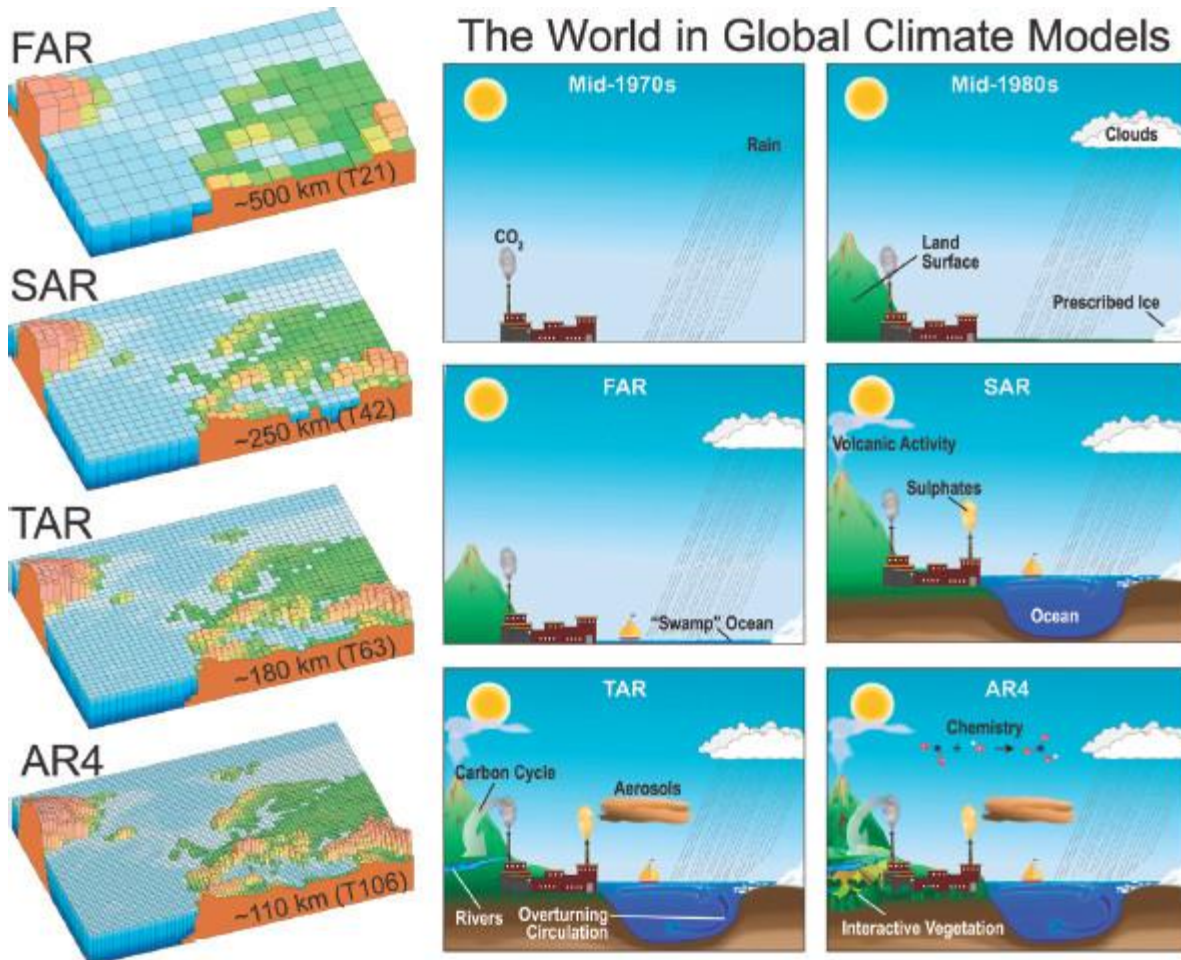
Advantages

Supported systems

Repository, Documentation, Community

# Fact: Models are getting more complicated

- Great for science but hard job for the modellers



# 1 What are ESM-Tools?



Collection of programs to **download**, **compile**, **configure**, and **run** different Earth system models (ESM)



**Standalone** Atmosphere, Ocean, Geo-Biochemistry, Hydrology, Sea-Ice and Ice-sheet models as well as **coupled** systems



Researchers should focus on **science** and less on technical details



Provide a **common infrastructure** for

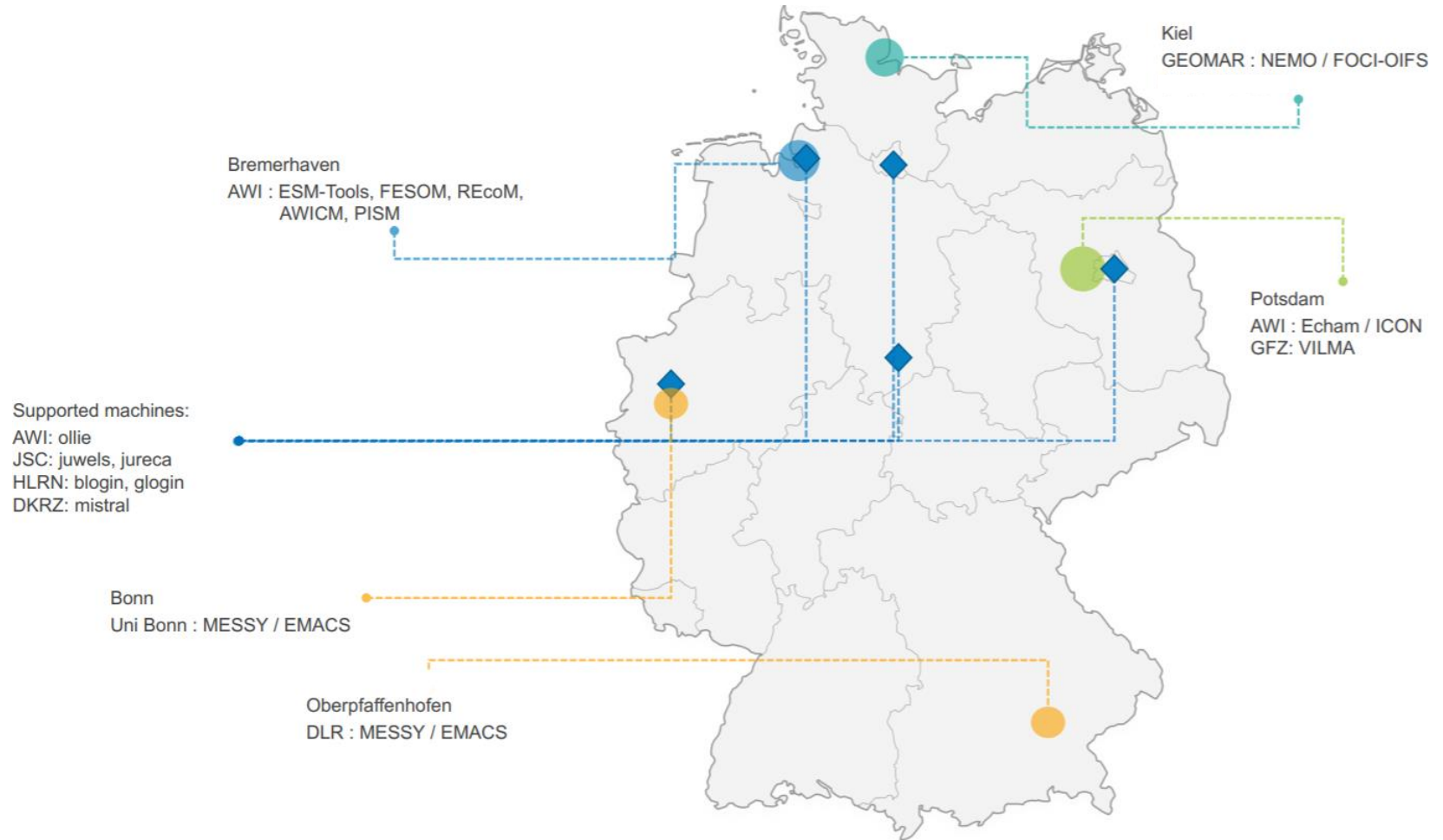
- Models and coupled systems
- HPC environment
- Setup and run model experiments
- Consistent file / directory structure

# ① Why do we need ESM-Tools?

- ▶ **Target audience:** Earth System modellers working on HPC machines
- ▶ ESM are **complex** softwares that require **technical** knowledge
- ▶ **Build** is difficult:
  - Many different models & different build systems & different configurations
  - Different HPC and batch systems
- ▶ **Setup & Run** are difficult:
  - Complex configurations & Couplings
  - Requires and generates many **files**
  - Requires a **consistent** directory structure, CMORization
  - **Automatization:** Repeating the same simulation multiple times
  - **Reproducibility**

Less technical demand → more time for science & research

# 1 Supported Models & Couplings, Partners

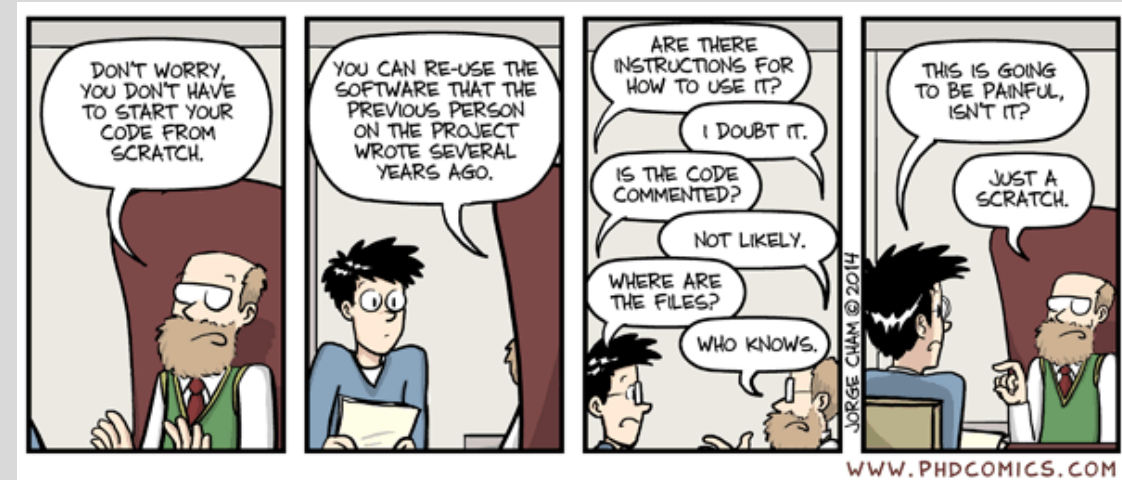
[illegible]

# Need for the high-quality research software

BETTER  
SOFTWARE  
BETTER  
RESEARCH

www.software.ac.uk

VS







# Old Workflow

vs

# ESM-Tools workflow

1. Obtain the model source code (usually a tar ball)
2. Build the model
  1. `configure`
  2. `make`
  3.  **FAIL:** Read the HPC documentation and repeat (libraries, compilers, modules, ...)
3. Prepare the data folders (input, boundary conditions, output, ...)
4. Setup the namelist for the models
5. Submit your job to the HPC system
  -  **Warning:** environment mismatch
6. Resubmit / Iterative coupling
7. Move the data to the storage disk
8. Postprocessing of the results

Repeat the whole process for the next run or write a shell script for automatization.

- **Obtain** and **build** the model code (from a repository)
  - ✓ **Uniform** environment for both installation and running  
→ guaranteed integrity.

```
esm_master install-awicm-2.0
```

- Prepare **YAML** based runscrip
- [OPTIONAL] **Check** if your run would run successfully:

```
esm_runscripts my_awicm_runscript.yaml -e my_first_test -c
```
- **Submit** your job to the system:

```
esm_runscripts my_awicm_runscript.yaml -e my_first_test
```
- Monitor your log files
- **Postprocess** the results (esmviz, in progress)

# Old Workflow

VS

# ESM-Tools workflow

```
echam_prepare_forcing()
{
    # forcing

    if [[ "v$setup_name" = "vecham_standalone" ]]; then

        case $SCENARIO_echam in
            1850 | PI-CTRL*)
                add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/${RES_echam}${OCERES_echam}_piControl-LR_sst_1880-2379.nc unit.20
                add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/${RES_echam}${OCERES_echam}_piControl-LR_sic_1880-2379.nc unit.96
                ;;
            HIST )
                ...
                ...

        for ((yr = YR0_echam + -2; yr <= YRN_echam + 2; ++yr)); do
            if [ $yr -le 1849 ] ; then
                eval add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/ozone/$ozonfile_1850 ozon$yr

            elif [ $yr -le 2014 ] ; then
                eval add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/ozone/$ozonfile_hist ozon$yr

            else
                eval add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/ozone/$ozonfile_scen ozon$yr
            fi

            if [ $yr -le 1849 ] ; then
                add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/volcano_aerosols/strat_aerosol_ir_${RES_echam}_1850.nc
                strat_aerosol_ir_${yr}.nc
                add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/volcano_aerosols/strat_aerosol_sw_${RES_echam}_1850.nc
                strat_aerosol_sw_${yr}.nc

            elif [ $yr -le 2024 ] ; then
                add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/volcano_aerosols/strat_aerosol_ir_${RES_echam}_${yr}.nc
                strat_aerosol_ir_${yr}.nc
                add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/volcano_aerosols/strat_aerosol_sw_${RES_echam}_${yr}.nc
                strat_aerosol_sw_${yr}.nc

            elif [ $yr -gt 2024 ] ; then
                add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/volcano_aerosols/strat_aerosol_ir_${RES_echam}_2024.nc
                strat_aerosol_ir_${yr}.nc
                add_to ${echam_INPUT_DIR}/${RES_echam}/volcano_aerosols/strat_aerosol_sw_${RES_echam}_2024.nc
```

... and many more

## general:

```
setup_name: "awicm"
compute_time: "00:15:00"
initial_date: "2000-01-01"
final_date: "2000-02-29"
base_dir: "/work/oillie/dural/sample_work_dir/"
nmonth: 1
nyear: 0
```

## awicm:

```
version: "CMIP6"
postprocessing: false
scenario: "PI-CTRL"
model_dir: "/work/oillie/dbarbi/modelcodes/awicm-CMIP6/"
```

## fesom:

```
pool_dir: "/work/oillie/pool/FESOM/"
mesh_dir: "/work/oillie/pool/FESOM/meshes_default/core/"
restart_rate: 1
restart_unit: "m"
restart_first: 1
further_reading:
    - "fesom_output_control.yaml"
```



# ① Advantages of ESM-Tools

- ▶ **Automation:** minimal manual interaction
- ▶ **Uniform** (same structure), **Data Integrity** → **Reproducible**
- ▶ **Portability:** across different supported HPCs
- ▶ **Abstraction:** configuration (YAML) and operations (Python) are separated
- ▶ **Stateful:** simulation configuration is stored
- ▶ **Modular & Extendable:** easy to implement a new model and coupled setup or user plugins

# 1 Who benefits from ESM-Tools



## System Admins

**Standardized** Compile and Runtime Environments means fewer needed software packages. Deploy optimal machine settings or new modules easily.

## Model developers

**Organize** your developments, **deploy** them on different machines. Co-work with other institutes on the same code.

## Modellers

Run your simulations in an **easy** and **unified** way, independent of the model and hardware. Have lots of functions with a few lines of runscript.

## Model supporters

Solve problems **once**, not over and over again. Deploy **bugfixes** / new hardware configurations **quickly** to all users. Same experiment layout also means less context switching.

# 1 Technical reasons for using ESM-Tools


## For Users



- ▶ (extended) YAML syntax is **easy** to read
- ▶ Sample runscripts are already available
- ▶ Well **maintained**
- ▶ Issues on GitHub (and we will take care of them)
- ▶ **Updated** regularly
- ▶ Portable & **Tested**
- ▶ **Documentation** (sphinx, readthedocs)
- ▶ **Workshops**

## For Developers



- ▶  python powered
- ▶ Easier to read / write (compared to )
- ▶ OOP, High level data structures
- ▶ Easier to **debug** (via pdb, ipdb)
- ▶ Configuration files are **inherited**
- ▶ Hosted on GitHub & robust branching model
- ▶ **Open-source** development is encouraged
- ▶ [In progress] CI/CD, DevOps, Automated **tests**

# 1 Recap: Aim & Motivation

## What ESM-Tools are / do

- A **unified** infrastructure for ESM modelling
- Build the models **without** knowing the details of the HPC system
  - great for education, new colleagues
- **Run** your simulation as easy as possible
- **One interface:** standardize the modelling process for all of your models
  - One software to rule them all
- Provide **easy** to read/write **YAML** based configuration
- Generate a **log** documentation, easy **monitoring**
- **Organize** files & directories (eg. input, forcing, output, log, executables, ...), **achieve** or **clean** your simulations.

## What ESM-Tools are / do not

- A new model
- A new coupler
- A new imperative programming language
- Change the model code / build process

# 1 Contact & Community



<https://github.com/esm-tools>

- ✓ [https://github.com/esm-tools/esm\\_tools/discussions](https://github.com/esm-tools/esm_tools/discussions)
- ✓ [https://github.com/esm-tools/esm\\_tools/issues](https://github.com/esm-tools/esm_tools/issues)



<https://esm-tools.readthedocs.io>



<https://www.esm-tools.net>



@ToolsEsm



YouTube ESMTools

Geosci. Model Dev., 14, 4051–4067, 2021  
<https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-14-4051-2021>  
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Article Assets Peer review Metrics Related articles

Development and technical paper

30 Jun 2021

ESM-Tools version 5.0: a modular infrastructure for stand-alone and coupled Earth system modelling (ESM)



Dirk Barbi<sup>1</sup>, Nadine Wieters<sup>1</sup>, Paul Gierz<sup>1</sup>, Miguel Andrés-Martínez<sup>1</sup>, Deniz Ural<sup>1</sup>, Fatemeh Chegini<sup>1,3</sup>, Sara Khosravi<sup>2</sup>, and Luisa Cristini<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, Germany

<sup>2</sup>Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research, Potsdam, Germany

<sup>3</sup>Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany

Correspondence: Dirk Barbi ([dirk.barbi@awi.de](mailto:dirk.barbi@awi.de))

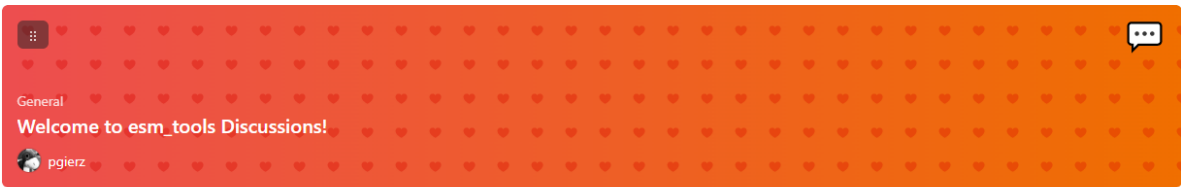
<https://gmd.copernicus.org/articles/14/4051/2021/>

Barbi *et al.*, GMD (2021): <https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-14-4051-2021>

Zenodo: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5787476>

# 1 Community: Issues and Discussions

- ▶ Open to everyone
- ▶ Single platform
- ▶ Searchable
- ▶ Agile



Search all discussions

New Top: All Label Filter New discussion

Categories

- View all
- Announcements
- ESM-Tools support
- General
- HPCs
- Ideas & Feature Requests
- Models
- Polls
- Tips & Tricks

Discussions

- Polls in GitHub Discussions**  
denizural started 10 minutes ago in Polls 0
- Bathymetry & Sill Depth Modifications**  
gknorr asked 24 days ago in Models · Unanswered 4
- Switch from Mistral to Levante**  
denizural asked on 7 Mar in HPCs · Unanswered 6
- Switch from mpp to mpp\_new on ollie**  
fernandadialzira asked 23 days ago in HPCs · Answered 3
- File transfer from ollie to mistral/levante not working**  
fernandadialzira asked 29 days ago in HPCs · Answered 3
- Run experiments with two branches**  
echam asked 29 days ago in HPCs · Answered 1

Most helpful (Last 30 days)

- denizural 1
- pgierz 1

Filters is:issue is:open Labels 31 Milestones 0 New issue

36 Open 188 Closed Author Label Projects Milestones Assignee Sort

- workaround for bug in f90nml package**  
#633 opened 15 days ago by seb-wahl 3
- AWI-ESM: Identify what is currently being used** awiesm question 13
- Improve behaviour of compile\_infos during runtime or simply eliminate this feature** enhancement esm\_master 1
- 1.5 hours of moving files on aleph** enhancement 8
- Order of choose blocks matters in machine.yaml** enhancement error handling feature request 4
- It is not possible to use a manual Recom namelist** awicm-recom enhancement recom 2
- default fesom and recom \*\_outputs not combined if no further\_reading** fesom recom 3