



x4c: Xarray for efficient CESM postprocessing, analysis, and visualization

Motivation, Design, and Features

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☐ Self-Introduction



MS in AOS
(2016; UW-Madison)



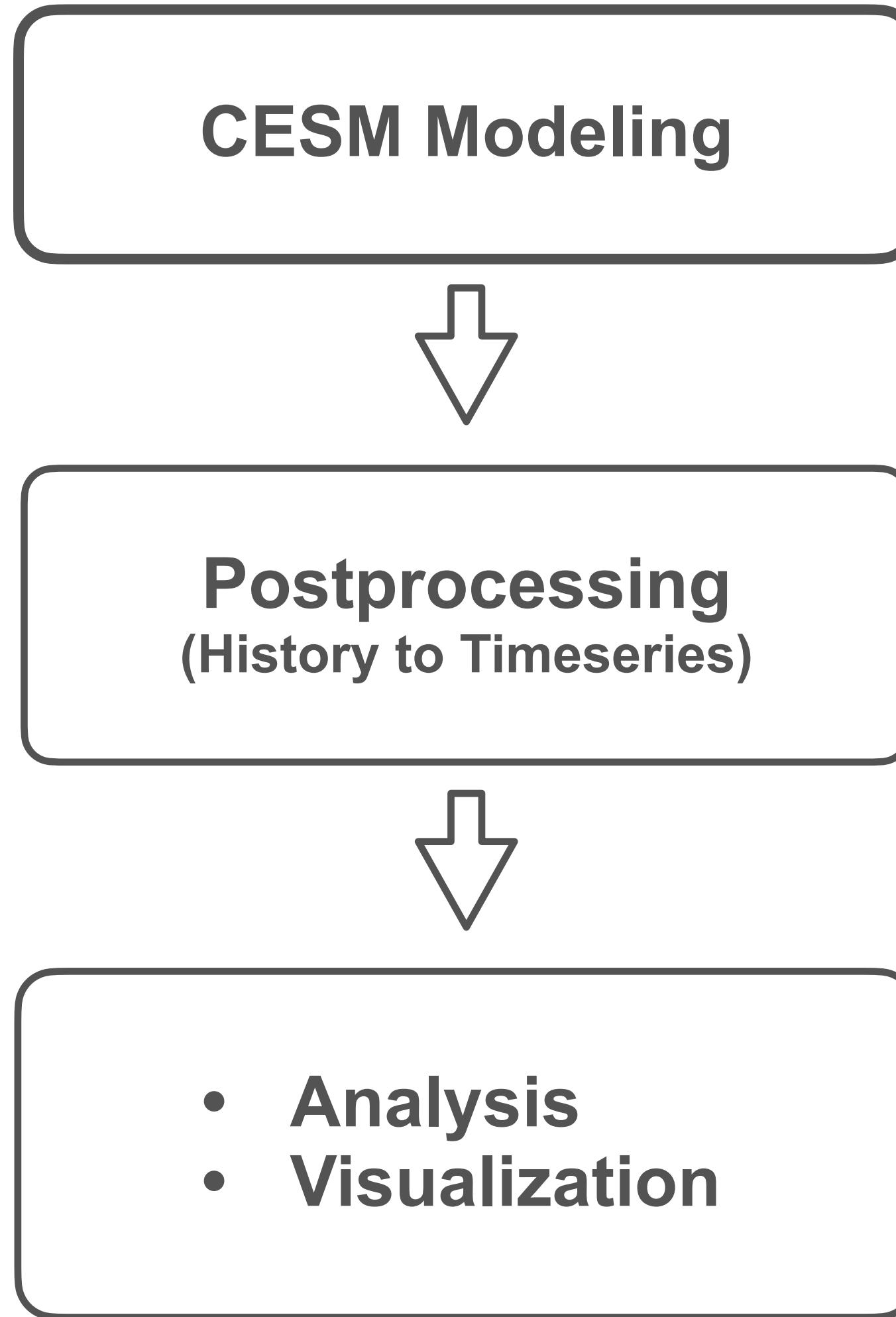
PhD in Earth Sciences
(2021; USC)

Research Interests:

- **Paleoclimate Modeling, Data Assimilation, and Machine Learning (led two NSF-funded proposals on ML-enhanced Earth system sciences)**
- **Scientific Programming for facilitating Scientific Discovery**

Motivation

A typical workflow for a CESM-based research:



- Out of maintenance
- Not very flexible to use and debug
- Small issues (e.g., timestamps, metadata/variable handling)

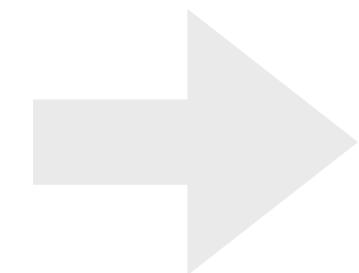
Motivation



Xarray is a great tool that has provided powerful, fundamental blocks for scientific analysis and visualization tasks. However, it still requires nontrivial programming skills and efforts.

an **interruption** to the scientific mind flow

lengthy & **error-prone**



what scientists really need is a tool that works, but with minimal programming skills and efforts, and thus minimal interruption to the mind flow, so as to better focus on scientific thinking

A Typical Earth System Data Analysis Task

Given a CESM simulation with an SE dycore (ne30),
plot:

- a map of the MJJAS Land Surface Temperature
- a 100-yr time series of its Global Mean

projection

annualization/
seasonalization

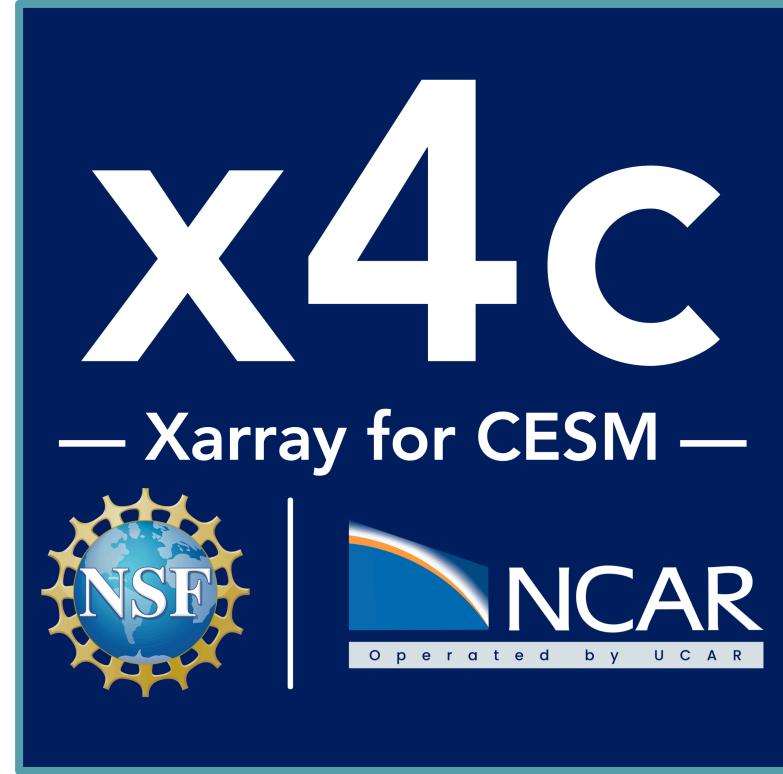
data
selection &
merge

geospatial
averaging

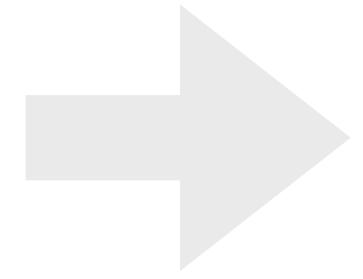
regridding

derived
variables

Motivation



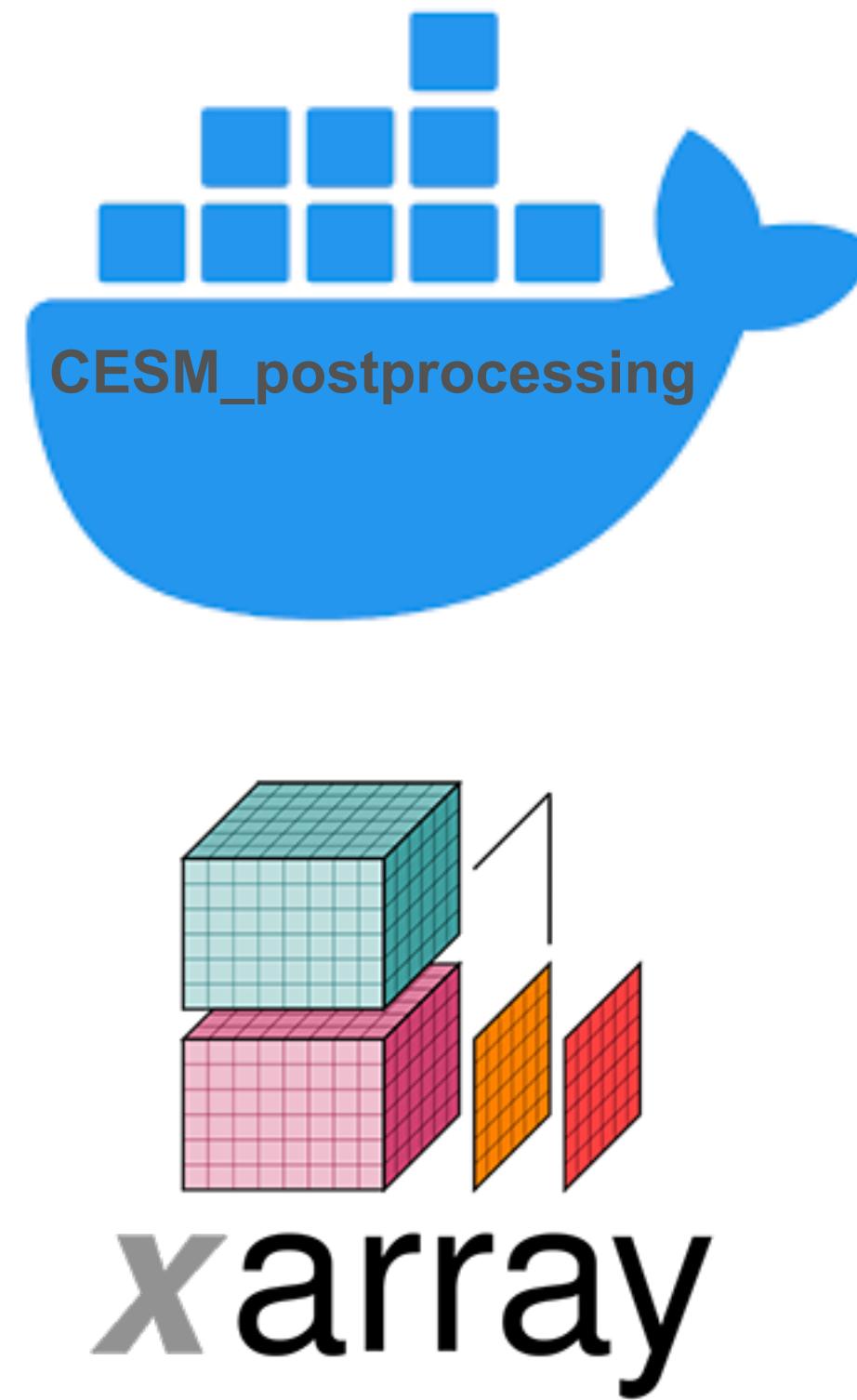
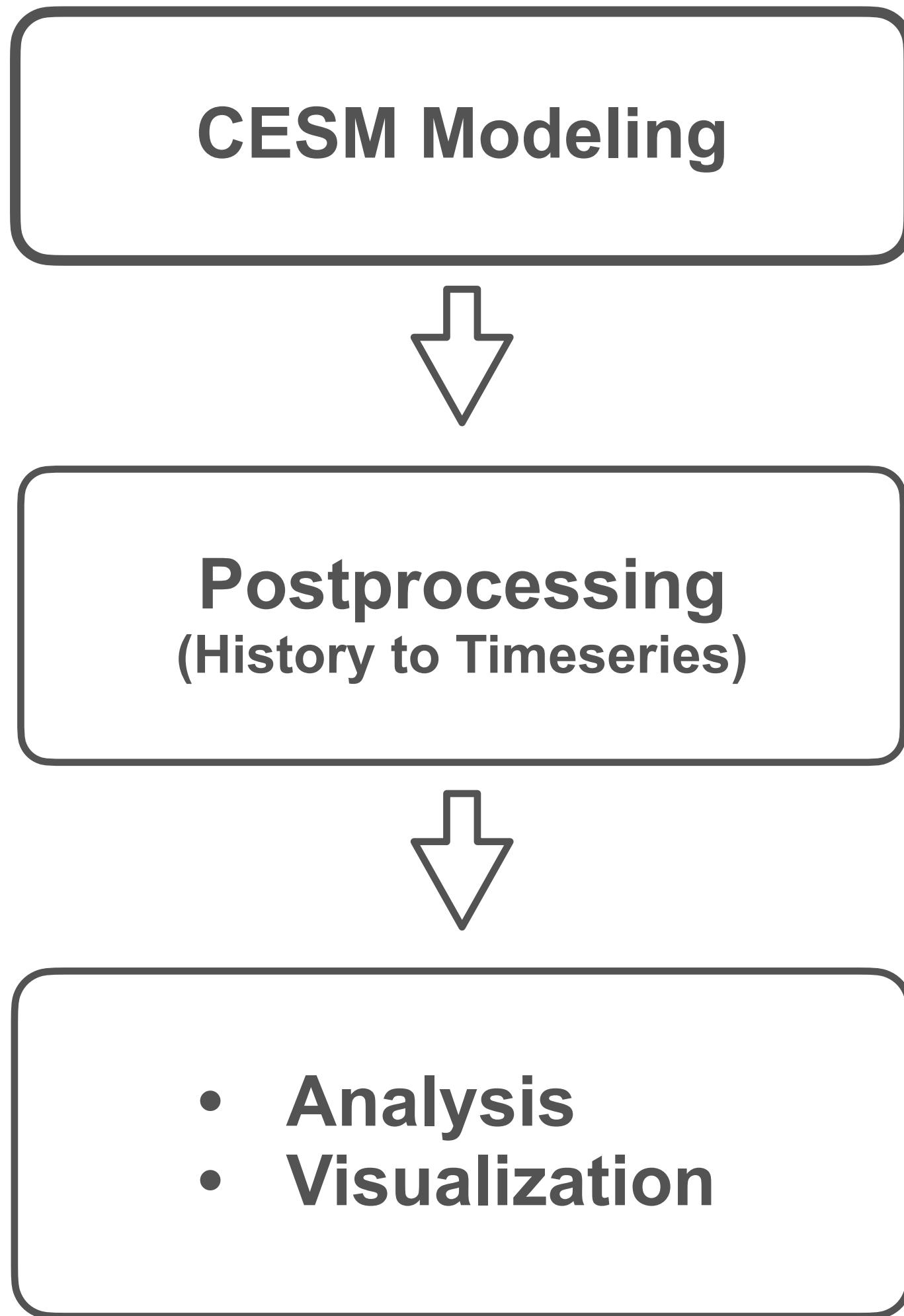
x4c is an Xarray extension that features intuitive, flexible, concise, and easy-to-use workflows for CESM postprocessing, analysis, and visualization.



x4c aims to liberate scientists from technical details and facilitate scientific thinking.

Motivation

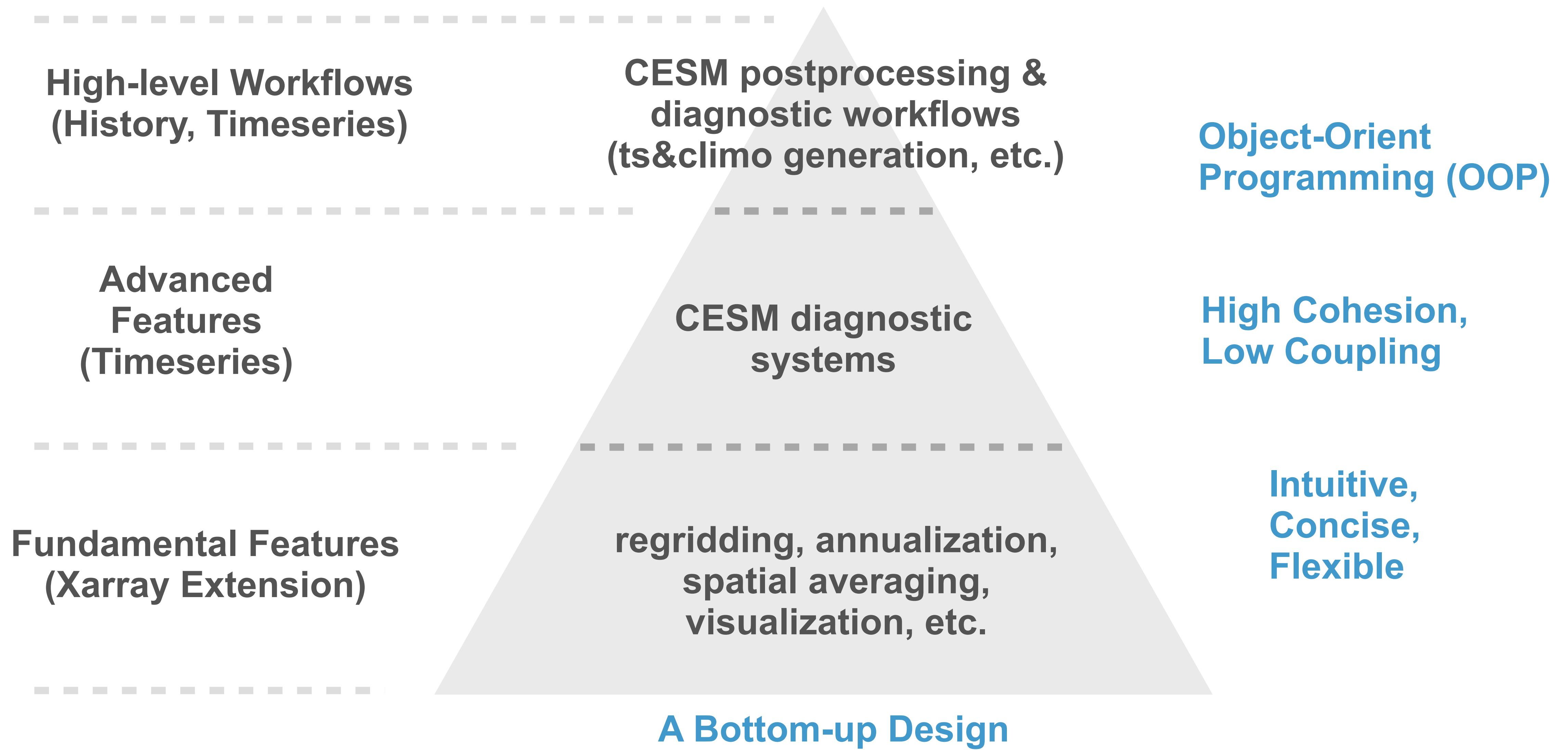
A typical workflow for a CESM-based research:



CGD-SIF Award on CESM
Postprocessing (under the guidance
of Michael Levy & Brian Dobins)



Design

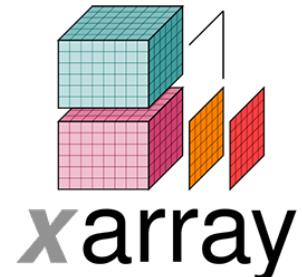


Fundamental Features (Xarray Extension)

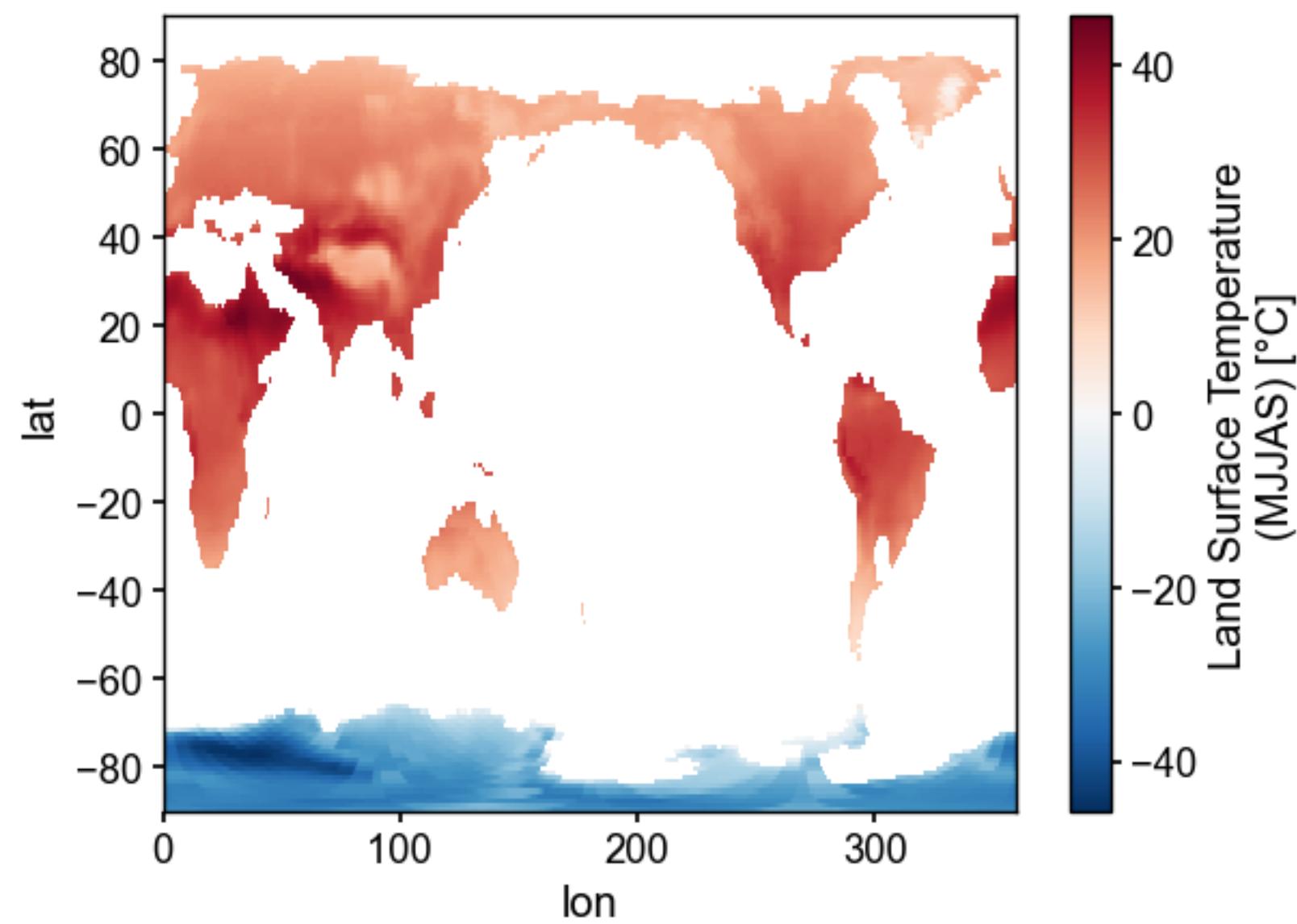
Visualization

Given a CESM simulation with an SE dycore (ne30),
plot:

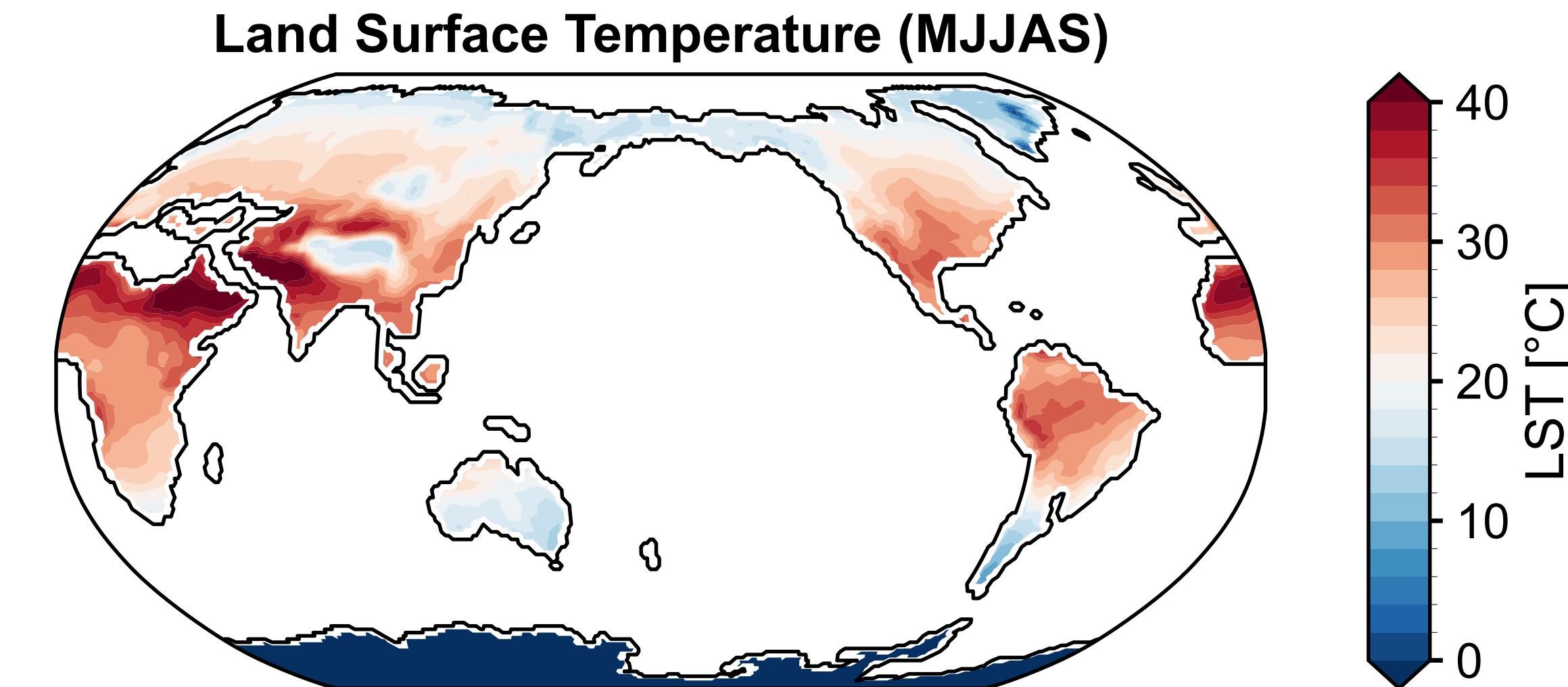
- a map of the MJJAS Land Surface Temperature



`da.plot()`



`da.x.plot()`

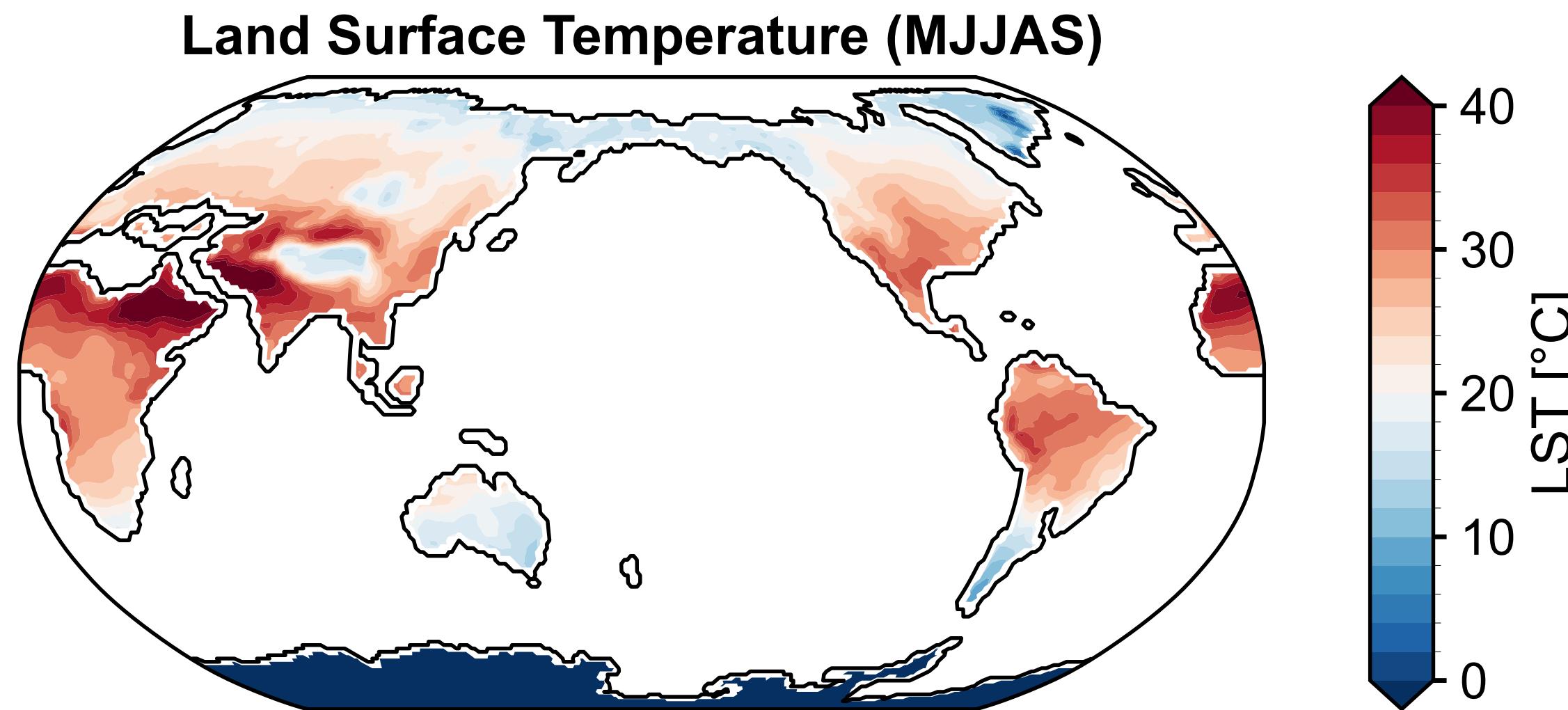


❑ Fundamental Features (Xarray Extension)

Visualization



da.x.plot()

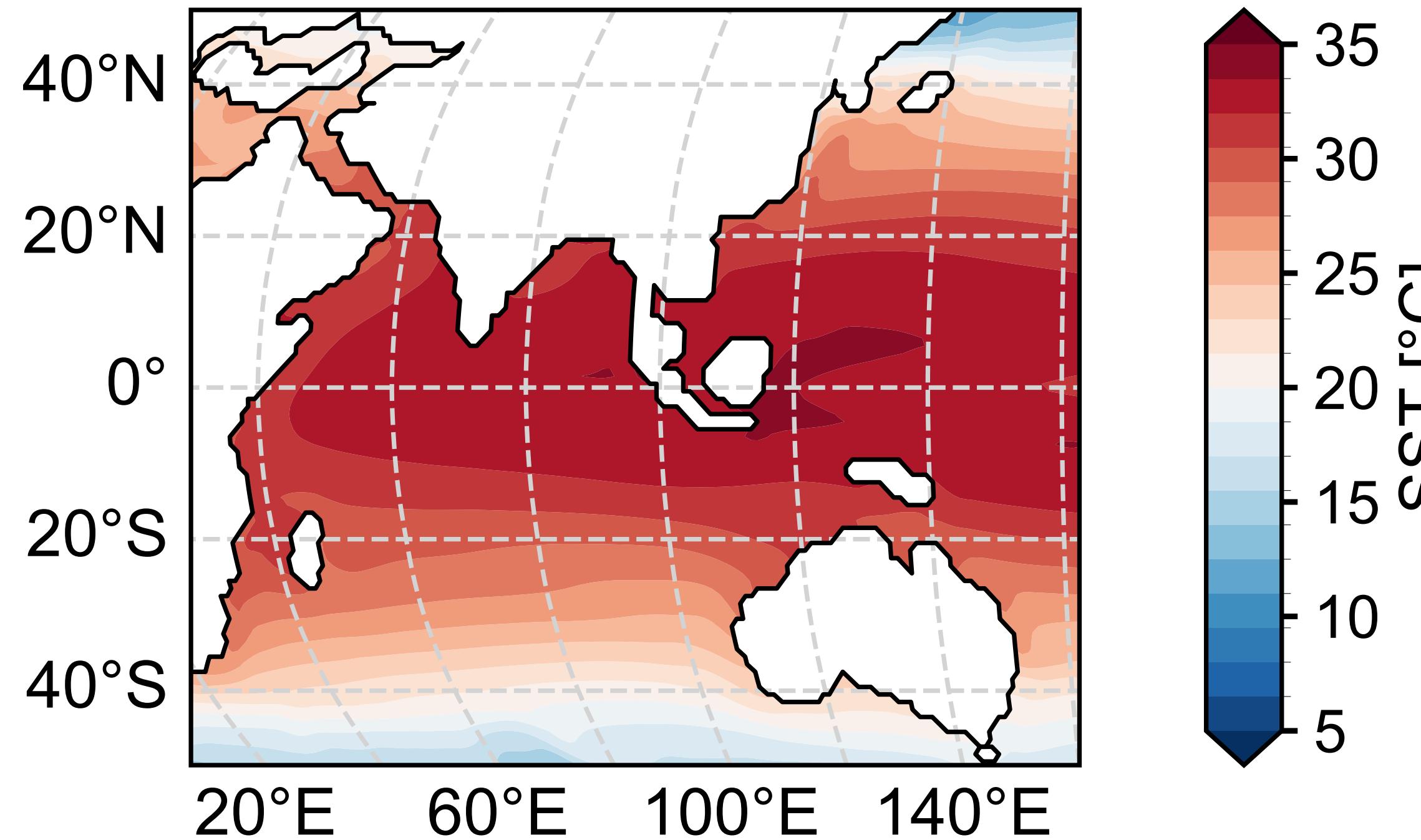


```
x4c.set_style('journal_spines', font_scale=1.2)  
  
fig, ax = da.x.plot()  
  
x4c.showfig(fig)  
x4c.savefig(fig, './figs/LST_MJJAS.pdf')
```

Fundamental Features (Xarray Extension)

Visualization

Sea Surface Temperature (Annual)



```
x4c.set_style('journal_spines', font_scale=1.2)

fig, ax = da.x.plot(
    levels=np.linspace(5, 35, 21),
    cbar_kwargs={'ticks': np.linspace(5, 35, 7)},
    add_gridlines=True,
    latlon_range=(-50, 50, 30, 160),
)

x4c.showfig(fig)
x4c.savefig(fig, './figs/SST_ann_global.pdf')
```

☐ Fundamental Features (Xarray Extension)

Regridding

`ds.x.regrid([dlon=1, dlat=1, weight_file=...])`

- **dlon**: the longitude spacing
- **dlat**: the latitude spacing
- **weight_file**: the path to a user-provided ESMF weighting file for other regridding cases

Leveraging xESMF

- atm: ne16/30/120np4/pg3 to 1x1 / 2x2
- ocn: gXX to any regular grid

```
ds = x4c.open_dataset(fpath, comp='atm', grid='ne30np4')
ds_rgd = ds.x.regrid()
ds_rgd['TS']
```

xarray.DataArray 'TS' (time: 600, lat: 180, lon: 360)

285.0 285.0 285.0 285.0 285.0 ... 277.7 277.7 277.7 277.7 277.7

▼ Coordinates:

time	(time)	object	0451-02-01 00:00:00 ... 0501-01-...	 
lat	(lat)	float64	-89.5 -88.5 -87.5 ... 88.5 89.5	 
lon	(lon)	float64	0.5 1.5 2.5 ... 357.5 358.5 359.5	 

► Indexes: (3)

▼ Attributes:

units : K
long_name : Surface temperature (radiative)
cell_methods : time: mean



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❑ Fundamental Features (Xarray Extension)

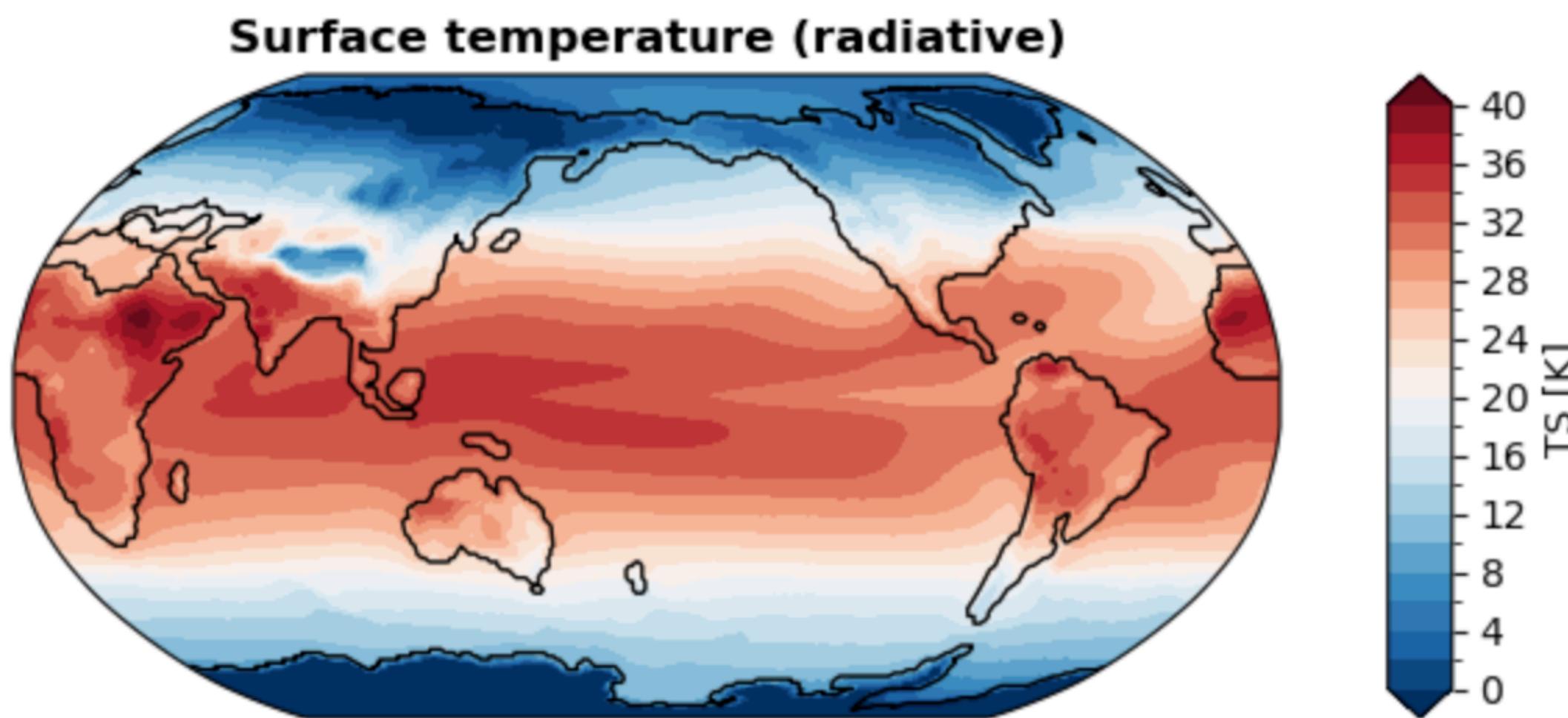
Visualization (ne30)

1. x4c w/ regridding

```
1 %%time
2
3 fig, ax = da_tas.x.regrid().x.plot(
4     levels=np.linspace(0, 40, 21),
5     cbar_kwargs={
6         'ticks': np.linspace(0, 40, 11),
7     },
8     ssv=da_sst_rg,    # coastline based on given sea surface variable
9 )
```

CPU times: user 1.07 s, sys: 3.85 ms, total: 1.07 s

Wall time: 1.08 s



Fundamental Features (Xarray Extension)

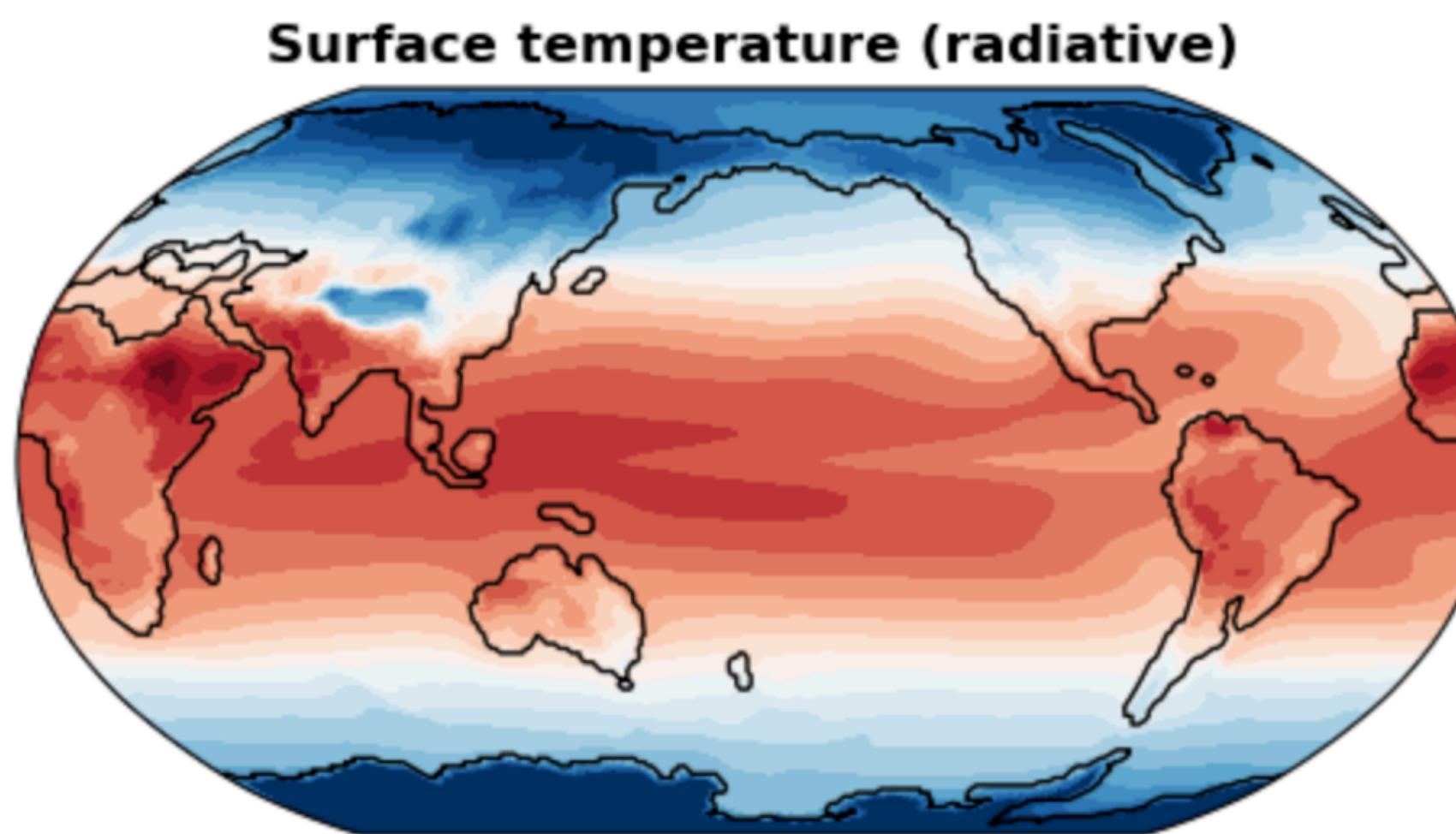
Visualization (ne30)

2.1 x4c w/o regridding

```
1 %%time
2 fig, ax = da_tas.x.plot(
3     levels=np.linspace(0, 40, 21),
4     cbar_kwargs={
5         'ticks': np.linspace(0, 40, 11),
6     },
7     ssv=da_sst_rg,    # coastline based on given sea surface variable
8 )
```

CPU times: user 287 ms, sys: 0 ns, total: 287 ms

Wall time: 286 ms

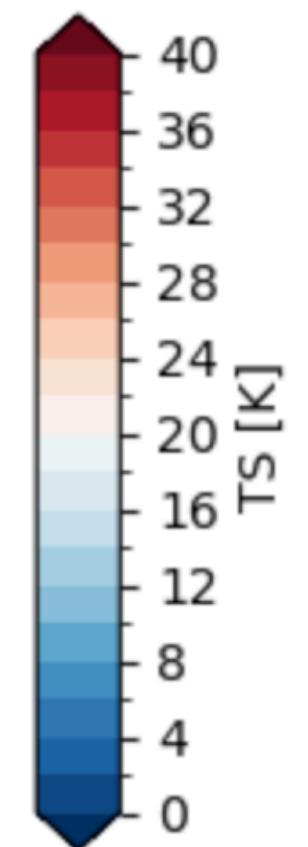
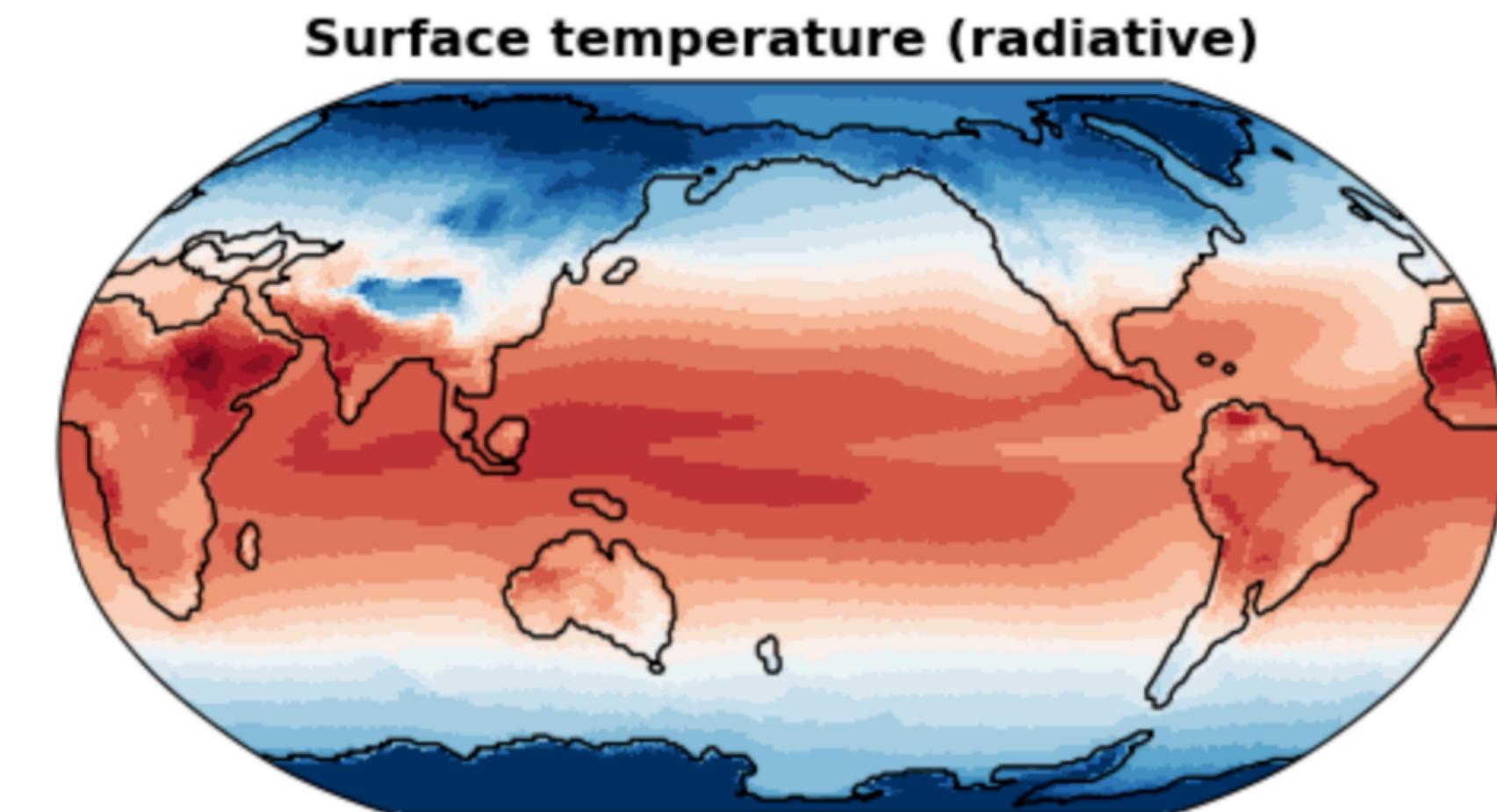


2.2 uxarray

```
1 %%time
2
3 fig, ax = da_tas.x.plot(
4     levels=np.linspace(0, 40, 21),
5     cbar_kwargs={
6         'ticks': np.linspace(0, 40, 11),
7     },
8     ssv=da_sst_rg,    # coastline based on given sea surface variable
9     ux=True,          # use UXarray
10 )
```

CPU times: user 1.22 s, sys: 11.8 ms, total: 1.23 s

Wall time: 1.17 s



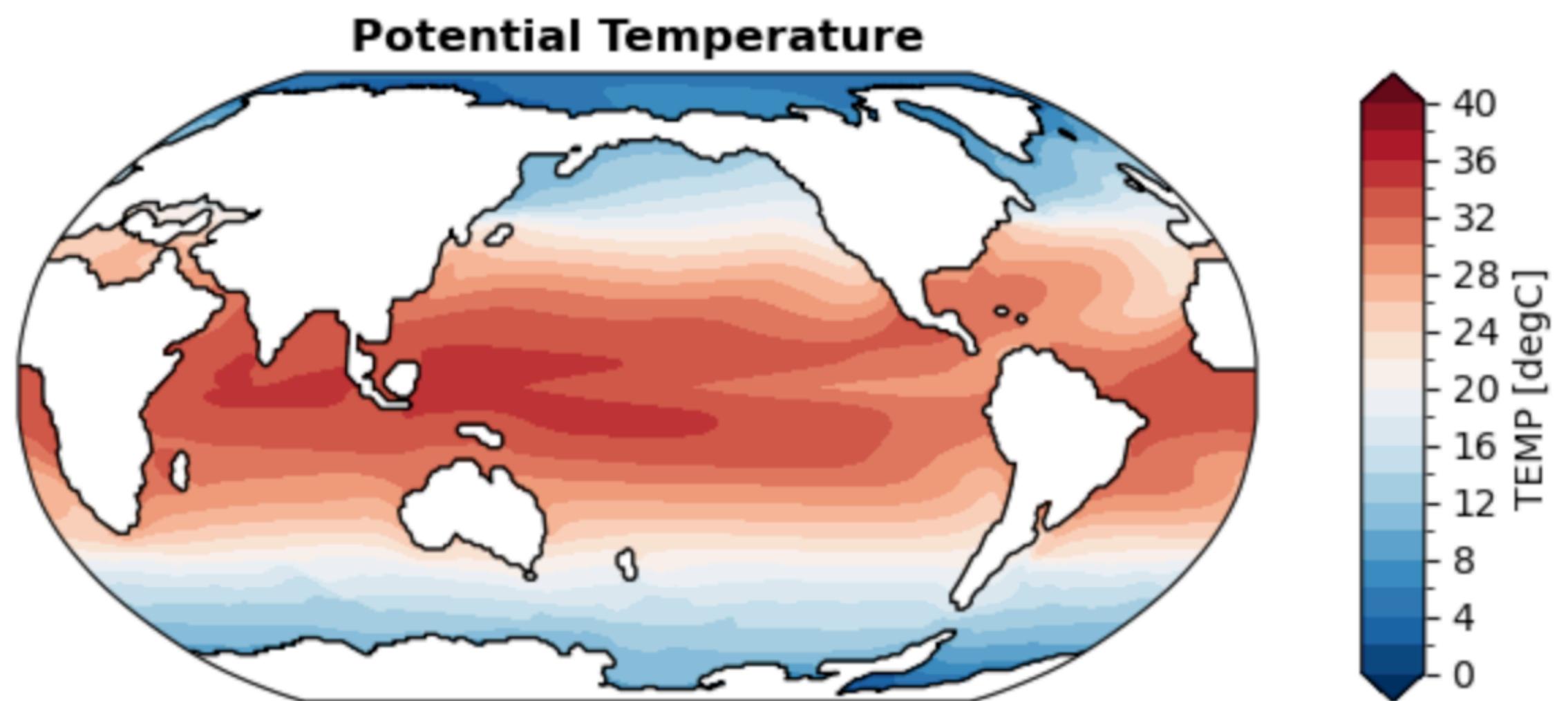
❑ Fundamental Features (Xarray Extension)

Visualization (g16)

1. x4c w/ regridding

```
1 %%time
2
3 fig, ax = da_sst.x.regrid().x.plot(
4     levels=np.linspace(0, 40, 21),
5     cbar_kwargs={
6         'ticks': np.linspace(0, 40, 11),
7     },
8 )
```

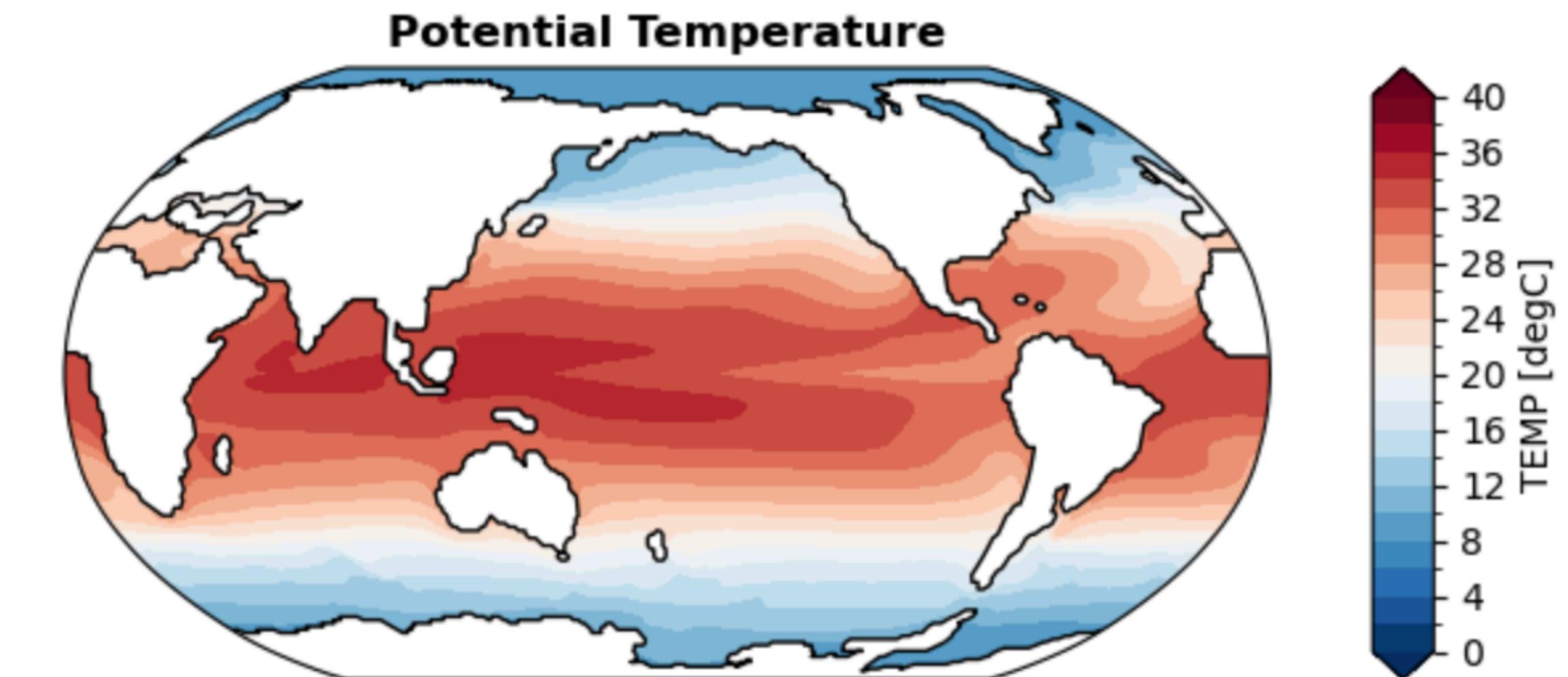
CPU times: user 2.39 s, sys: 19.8 ms, total: 2.41 s
Wall time: 2.41 s



2. x4c w/o regridding

```
1 %%time
2
3 fig, ax = da_sst.x.plot(
4     levels=np.linspace(0, 40, 21),
5     cbar_kwargs={
6         'ticks': np.linspace(0, 40, 11),
7     },
8 )
```

CPU times: user 579 ms, sys: 183 µs, total: 579 ms
Wall time: 577 ms



☐ Fundamental Features (Xarray Extension)

Annualization

ds.x.annualize([months=...])

- **months**: a list of months over which to annualize; default: calendar year. Examples:
 - [6, 7, 8]: JJA seasonalization
 - [12, 1, 2]: DJF seasonalization
 - [3, 9, 10]: any arbitrary combination

```
ds_ann = ds_rg.x.annualize(months=[5, 6, 7, 8, 9], days_weighted=True)  
ds_ann['TS']
```

```
xarray.DataArray 'TS' (time: 50, lat: 180, lon: 360)
```

```
244.8 244.8 244.8 244.8 244.8 244.8 ... 279.4 279.4 279.4 279.4 279.4
```

▼ Coordinates:

lat	(lat)	float64	-89.5 -88.5 -87.5 ... 88.5 89.5	 
lon	(lon)	float64	0.5 1.5 2.5 ... 357.5 358.5 359.5	 
time	(time)	object	0451-09-30 00:00:00 ... 0500-09-...	 

► Indexes: (3)

▼ Attributes:

```
units : K  
long_name : Surface temperature (radiative)  
cell_methods : time: mean
```



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☐ Fundamental Features (Xarray Extension)

Spatial Averaging

`da.x.geo_mean([latlon_range=..., ind=...])`

- `latlon_range`: a square range in [lat_min, lat_max, lon_min, lon_max] to perform an arbitrary geo-spatial averaging; default: global mean
- `ind`: a climate index; 'nino3.4', 'nino1+2', 'nino3', 'nino4', 'tpi', 'wp', 'dmi', 'iobw'

`da.x.gm`; `da.x.nhm`; `da.x.shm`; `da.x.zm`

```
da_gm = ds_ann['TS'].x.geo_mean()  
da_gm
```

```
xarray.DataArray 'TS'
```

```
array(289.81147747)
```

```
▶ Coordinates: (0)  
▶ Indexes: (0)  
▶ Attributes: (9)
```



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CESM Postprocessing (History)

A “Case” System

```
dirpath = '/glade/campaign/cesm/development/cross-wg/diagnostic_framework/CESM_output_for_testing/b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104'
case = x4c.History(dirpath)

✓ 4.0s
```

```
>>> case.root_dir: /glade/campaign/cesm/development/cross-wg/diagnostic_framework/CESM_output_for_testing/b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104
>>> case.casename: b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h0a"] created
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h0i"] created
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h2a"] created
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h2i"] created
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h3a"] created
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h3i"] created
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h4a"] created
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h4i"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6.h.native"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6.h.rho2"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6.h.sfc"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6.h.z"] created
>>> case.paths["lnd"]["clm2.h0"] created
>>> case.paths["ice"]["cice.h"] created
>>> case.paths["rof"]["mosart.h0"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h0a"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h0i"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h2a"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h2i"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h3a"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h3i"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h4a"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h4i"] created
...
>>> case.vns["ocn"]["mom6.h.z"] created
>>> case.vns["lnd"]["clm2.h0"] created
>>> case.vns["ice"]["cice.h"] created
>>> case.vns["rof"]["mosart.h0"] created
```

```
case.comps_info
✓ 0.0s
```

```
{'atm': ['cam.h0a',
          'cam.h0i',
          'cam.h2a',
          'cam.h2i',
          'cam.h3a',
          'cam.h3i',
          'cam.h4a',
          'cam.h4i'],
  'ocn': ['mom6.h.native', 'mom6.h.rho2', 'mom6.h.sfc', 'mom6.h.z'],
  'lnd': ['clm2.h0'],
  'ice': ['cice.h'],
  'rof': ['mosart.h0']}
```

```
dirpath = '/glade/campaign/cesm/development/cross-wg/diagnostic_framework/CESM_output_for_testing/b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104'
case = x4c.History(
    dirpath,
    comps=['atm', 'ocn'],
    comps_info={
        'atm': ['cam.h0a'],
        'ocn': ['mom6.h.sfc'],
    }
)
✓ 0.3s
```

```
>>> case.root_dir: /glade/campaign/cesm/development/cross-wg/diagnostic_framework/CESM_output_for_testing/b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104
>>> case.casename: b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h0a"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6.h.sfc"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h0a"] created
>>> case.vns["ocn"]["mom6.h.sfc"] created
```

```
case.comps_info
✓ 0.0s
```

```
{'atm': ['cam.h0a'], 'ocn': ['mom6.h.sfc']}
```



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CESM Postprocessing (History)

A “Case” System

CESM Postprocessing (History)

```
case.gen_ts(  
    comps={'atm': ['PRECC']},  
    output_dirpath=os.path.join('/glade/campaign/cgd/ppc/fengzhu/x4c/gen_ts/test', case.casename),  
    staging_dirpath=os.path.join('/glade/derecho/scratch/fengzhu/x4c/gen_ts/test', case.casename),  
    timespan=(1, 100),  
    timestep=10,  
    timestep_unit='year',  
    nproc=4,  
    overwrite=True,  
)
```

```
• → b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104 ll atm/proc/tseries/cam.h3a
```

```
total 17G  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:07 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0001010110800-0010122710800.nc  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:08 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0011010110800-0020122710800.nc  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:10 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0021010110800-0030122710800.nc  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:11 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0031010110800-0040122710800.nc  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:12 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0041010110800-0050122710800.nc  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:14 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0051010110800-0060122710800.nc  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:15 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0061010110800-0070122710800.nc  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:16 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0071010110800-0080122710800.nc  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:17 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0081010110800-0090122710800.nc  
-rw-r--r-- 1 fengzhu ncar 1.7G Aug 21 11:19 b.e30_beta02.BLT1850.ne30_t232.104.cam.h3a.PRECC.0091010110800-0100122710800.nc
```

Node 1

OCN: 22.3 mins

Node 2

ATM: 13.3 mins

ICE: 7.5 mins

Node 3

LND: 19.6 mins

ROF:
1.1
mins

History.gen_ts()

```
>>> nproc: 4  
>>> Processing component: atm  
>>> Processing hstr: cam.h3a  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0001', '0010')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:19<00:00, 36.76it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 119.19it/s]  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0011', '0020')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:17<00:00, 41.79it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 119.22it/s]  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0021', '0030')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:16<00:00, 44.11it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 96.59it/s]  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0031', '0040')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:16<00:00, 45.36it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 121.85it/s]  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0041', '0050')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:16<00:00, 43.24it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 115.94it/s]  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0051', '0060')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:16<00:00, 43.16it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 110.46it/s]  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0061', '0070')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:17<00:00, 41.28it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 109.51it/s]  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0071', '0080')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:19<00:00, 37.84it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 117.72it/s]  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0081', '0090')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:15<00:00, 46.14it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 126.99it/s]  
>>> Processing timespan: ('0091', '0100')  
Splitting 730 history files for 1 variables: 100%|██████████| 730/730 [00:17<00:00, 42.13it/s]  
Merging variables: 100%|██████████| 1/1 [00:00<00:00, 112.31it/s]  
>>> Postprocessing component: atm  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0001', '0010')  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0011', '0020')  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0021', '0030')  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0031', '0040')  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0041', '0050')  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0051', '0060')  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0061', '0070')  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0071', '0080')  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0081', '0090')  
>>> Postprocessing timespan: ('0091', '0100')
```



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CESM Postprocessing (History)

History.gen_ts()

For production run, x4c supports multiple nodes leveraging MPI.

See <https://ncar.github.io/x4c/notebooks/post-pbs.html#CESM3-Example>



History: /glade/derecho/scratch/cmip7/archive/b.e30_beta06.B1850C_LTso.ne30_t232_wgx3.192.wrkflw.1

x4c Timeseries: /glade/campaign/cesm/development/cross-wg/diagnostic_framework/x4c/timeseries/b.e30_beta06.B1850C_LTso.ne30_t232_wgx3.192.wrkflw.1

Model years: 1 - 10

x4c

Task	Nodes	NCPUs	Mem	CPU	Elap
mom6.h.sfc+z	1	128	129.26	17.23	0.22
mom6.h.native +rho2+mosart	1	128	134.22	23.63	0.20
cam+cice.h+clm2	1	128	138	56.10	0.22
cice.h1	13	13*128	1655.82	34.93	0.25

Baseline: CESM_postprocessing

Task	Nodes	NCPUs	Mem	CPU	Elap
all	16	1024	1952.26	24.66	0.21



Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

A “Case” System

`case = x4c.Timeseries(dirpath, [grid_dict=..., casename=..., cesm_ver=...])`

- **dirpath**: the History.gen_ts() generated timeseries directory
- **grid_dict**: the grid info; default: `{'atm': 'ne30pg3', 'ocn': 'g16'}`

```
dirpath = '/glade/campaign/cesm/development/cross-wg/diagnostic_framework/x4c/timeseries/b.e30_beta06.B1850C_LTso.ne30_t232_wgx3.192.wrkflw.1_32'
case = x4c.Timeseries(
    dirpath,
    casename='b.e30_beta06.B1850C_LTso.ne30_t232_wgx3.192.wrkflw.1',
    grid_dict={'atm': 'ne30gp3'},
)
```

```
>>> case.root_dir: /glade/campaign/cesm/development/cross-wg/diagnostic_framework/x4c/timeseries/b.e30_beta06.B1850C_LTso.ne30_t232_wgx3.192.wrkflw.1_32
>>> case.path_pattern: comp/proc/tseries/*/{casename}.hstr.vn.timespan.nc
>>> case.grid_dict: {'atm': 'ne30gp3', 'ocn': 'g16', 'lnd': 'ne30gp3', 'rof': 'ne30gp3', 'ice': 'g16'}
>>> case.casename: b.e30_beta06.B1850C_LTso.ne30_t232_wgx3.192.wrkflw.1
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h0a"] created
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h2a"] created
>>> case.paths["atm"]["cam.h1a"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6.h.sfc"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6.h.z"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6.h.rho2"] created
>>> case.paths["ocn"]["mom6.h.native"] created
>>> case.paths["lnd"]["clm2.h0"] created
>>> case.paths["rof"]["mosart.h0"] created
>>> case.paths["ice"]["cice.h"] created
>>> case.paths["ice"]["cice.h1"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h0a"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h2a"] created
>>> case.vns["atm"]["cam.h1a"] created
>>> case.vns["ocn"]["mom6.h.sfc"] created
>>> case.vns["ocn"]["mom6.h.z"] created
>>> case.vns["ocn"]["mom6"] created
>>> case.vns["ocn"]["mom6.h.rho2"] created
>>> case.vns["ocn"]["mom6.h.native"] created
>>> case.vns["lnd"]["clm2.h0"] created
>>> case.vns["rof"]["mosart.h0"] created
>>> case.vns["ice"]["cice.h"] created
>>> case.vns["ice"]["cice.h1"] created
```



Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

Timeseries.load(raw)

`case.load(vn, [timespan=..., load_idx=-1])`

- **vn**: an existing variable name under the timeseries directory
- **timespan**: a timespan in (start, end) pointing to a single or multiple files
- **load_idx**: the file index to load; default: -1 (the last file)

```
case.load('TS')
case.ds['TS']
```

```
ValueError
Cell In[8], line 1
----> 1 case.load('TS')
      2 case.ds['TS']

File ~/Github/x4c/x4c/case.py:742, in Timeseries.load(self, vn, vtype, comp, hstr, timespan, load_idx, verbose, reload, **kws)
    740 else:
    741     if comp is None or hstr is None:
--> 742         raise ValueError(f'The input variable name belongs to multiple (comp, hstr) pairs: {found_comp_hstr}. Please specify via the argument `comp` and `hstr`.')
    744 if timespan is not None and not isinstance(timespan[0], str) and not isinstance(timespan[-1], str):
    745     timespan = utils.timespan_int2str(timespan)

ValueError: The input variable name belongs to multiple (comp, hstr) pairs: [('atm', 'cam.h0a'), ('atm', 'cam.h1a')]. Please specify via the argument `comp` and `hstr`.
```

```
case.load('TS', comp='atm', hstr='cam.h0a')
case.ds['TS']
```

```
>>> case.ds["TS"] created

xarray.Dataset

Dimensions: (time: 120, ncol: 48600, ilev: 59, lev: 58, nbnd: 2, trop_cld_lev: 58, trop_pref: 58, trop_prefi: 59)
Coordinates:
  ilev      (ilev)   float64 2.055 3.98 6.909 ... 995.1 1e+03
  lev       (lev)    float64 3.018 5.445 9.087 ... 991.2 997.5
  time      (time)   object  0001-01-16 12:00:00 ... 0010-12-...
  trop_cld_lev (trop_cld_lev) float64 3.018 5.445 9.087 ... 991.2 997.5
  trop_pref   (trop_pref)  float64 3.018 5.445 9.087 ... 991.2 997.5
  trop_prefi  (trop_prefi) float64 2.055 3.98 6.909 ... 995.1 1e+03
Data variables: (19)
Indexes: (6)
Attributes: (19)
```



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Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

Timeseries.load(derived)

```
case.load(vn, [timespan=..., load_idx=-1])
```

- **vn**: an existing variable name under the timeseries directory
 - **timespan**: a timespan in (start, end) pointing to a single or multiple files
 - **load_idx**: the file index to load; default: -1 (the last file)

```
case.load('LST', comp='atm', hstr='cam.h0a'  
case.ds['LST']
```

```
>>> LST is a supported derived variable.  
>>> case.ds["TS"] already loaded; to reload, run case.load("TS", ..., reload=True).  
>>> case.ds["LANDFRAC"] created  
>>> case.ds["LST"] created
```

```
xarray.DataArray 'LST' (time: 120, ncol: 4860)
```

```
array([[      nan,          nan,          nan, ..., 281.56094,          nan],
       [      nan,          nan,          nan, ..., 281.35333,          nan],
       [      nan,          nan,          nan, ..., 282.2262 ,          nan],
       [      nan,          nan,          nan, ..., 295.93307,          nan],
       [      nan,          nan,          nan, ..., 289.19916,          nan],
       [      nan,          nan,          nan, ..., 283.95468,          nan]],
      shape=(120, 48600), dtype=float32)
```

▼ Coordinate

```
time          (time)  object  0001-01-16 12:00:00 ... 0010-12-...
lat           (ncol)  float64 -35.03 -35.48 -35.92 ... 36.2 35.74
lon           (ncol)  float64 315.5 316.5 317.5   136.0 135.0
```

► Indexes:

► Attributes: (1)



Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

Timeseries.load(derived)

```
1 x4c.diags.Registry.funcs
✓ 0.0s
```

```
{'SST': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_SST(case, **kws)>,
 'SSS': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_SSS(case, **kws)>,
 'LST': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_LST(case, **kws)>,
 'MLD': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_MLD(case, **kws)>,
 'PRECT': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_PRECT(case, **kws)>,
 'dD': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_dD(case, **kws)>,
 'd180p': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_d180p(case, **kws)>,
 'd180sw': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_d180sw(case, **kws)>,
 'd180c': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_d180c(case, **kws)>,
 'RESTOM': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_RESTOM(case, **kws)>,
 'MOC': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_MOC(case, **kws)>,
 'ICEFRAC': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_ICEFRAC(case, **kws)>}
```

```
1 @x4c.diags.F
2 def get_H2O(case, **kws):
3     case.load('PRECRC_H20r', **kws)
4     case.load('PRECSC_H20s', **kws)
5     case.load('PRECRL_H20R', **kws)
6     case.load('PRECSL_H20S', **kws)
7     h2o = case.ds['PRECRC_H20r'].x.da + case.ds['PRECSC_H20s'].x.da + case.ds['PRECRL_H20R'].x.da + case.ds['PRECSL_H20S'].x.da
8     h2o = h2o.where(h2o > 1e-18, 1e-18)
9     h2o.name = 'H2O'
10    h2o.attrs['long_name'] = 'H2O'
11    h2o.attrs['units'] = 'kg m-2 s-1'
12    return h2o
13
14 x4c.diags.Registry.funcs
```

```
{'SST': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_SST(case, **kws)>,
 'SSS': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_SSS(case, **kws)>,
 'LST': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_LST(case, **kws)>,
 'MLD': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_MLD(case, **kws)>,
 'PRECT': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_PRECT(case, **kws)>,
 'dD': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_dD(case, **kws)>,
 'd180p': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_d180p(case, **kws)>,
 'd180sw': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_d180sw(case, **kws)>,
 'd180c': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_d180c(case, **kws)>,
 'RESTOM': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_RESTOM(case, **kws)>,
 'MOC': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_MOC(case, **kws)>,
 'ICEFRAC': <function x4c.diags.DiagCalc.get_ICEFRAC(case, **kws)>,
 'H2O': <function __main__.get_H2O(case, **kws)>}
```

```
1 case.load('H2O')
2 case.ds['H2O']
✓ 1.1s
```

```
>>> H2O is a supported derived variable.
>>> case.ds["PRECRC_H20r"] created
>>> case.ds["PRECSC_H20s"] created
>>> case.ds["PRECRL_H20R"] created
>>> case.ds["PRECSL_H20S"] created
>>> case.ds["H2O"] created
```

```
xarray.DataArray 'H2O' (time: 600, ncol: 13826)
```

```
5.971e-08 5.613e-08 3.506e-08 ... 9.426e-08 8.625e-08 8.636e-08
```

▼ Coordinates:

time	(time)	object	8951-02-01 00:00:00 ... 9001-01-01 00:00:00
lat	(ncol)	float64	-35.26 -35.98 ... 37.91 36.74
lon	(ncol)	float64	315.0 316.6 319.1 ... 137.5 135.0

► Indexes: (1)

► Attributes: (10)

Diagnostic Features (Timeseries) Contribution from the Community

NCAR / x4c <https://ncar.github.io/x4c> Type to search

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Welcome to x4c Discussions!

Announcements · fzhu2e

is:open Sort by: Latest activity Label Filter: Open New discussion

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- General
- Ideas
- Polls
- Q&A
- Show and tell

Discussions

- [Sharing Diagnostic Recipes](#) fzhu2e started yesterday in Ideas
- [Welcome to x4c Discussions!](#) fzhu2e announced yesterday in Announcements

Most helpful

Be sure to mark someone's comment as an answer if it helps you resolve your question — they deserve the credit! ❤️

Community guidelines ncar.github.io/x4c Community insights



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□ Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

A “Spell” System

Idea: to summarize a series of data processing steps with a **spell** that can be **calculated** and **plotted**

```
spell = 'vn:[:ann:sa]'  
case.calc(spell)  
case.plot(spell)
```

- **vn**: diagnostic variable name
- **ann**: annualization method
- **sa**: spatial averaging method



Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

A “Spell” System

Given a CESM simulation with an SE dycore (ne30),
plot:

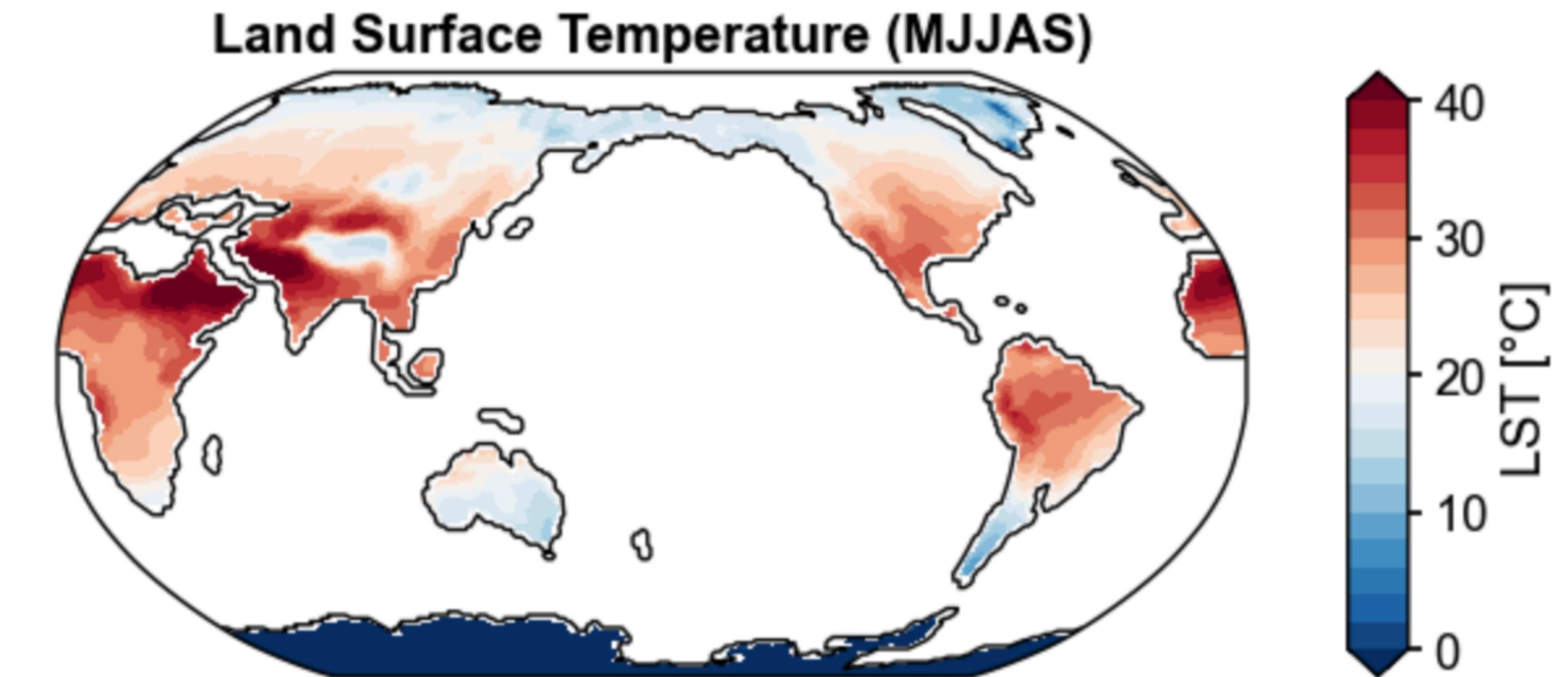
- a map of the MJJAS Land Surface Temperature

```
spell = 'LST:5,6,7,8,9'  
case.calc(spell)  
case.diags[spell]
```

```
>>> LST is an available deduced variable  
>>> case.ds["TS"] created  
>>> case.ds["LANDFRAC"] created  
>>> case.diags["LST:5,6,7,8,9"] created  
  
xarray.DataArray 'LST' (time: 50, ncol: 48602)  
  
array([[nan, nan, nan, ..., nan, nan, nan],  
       [nan, nan, nan, ..., nan, nan, nan],  
       [nan, nan, nan, ..., nan, nan, nan],  
       ...,  
       [nan, nan, nan, ..., nan, nan, nan],  
       [nan, nan, nan, ..., nan, nan, nan],  
       [nan, nan, nan, ..., nan, nan, nan]], dtype=float32)  
  
▼ Coordinates:  
  time      (time) object 0451-09-30 00:00:00 ... 0500-09-...  
► Indexes: (1)  
► Attributes: (9)
```

```
fig, ax = case.plot(spell)
```

```
>>> case.ds["SSH"] created
```



Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

A “Spell” System

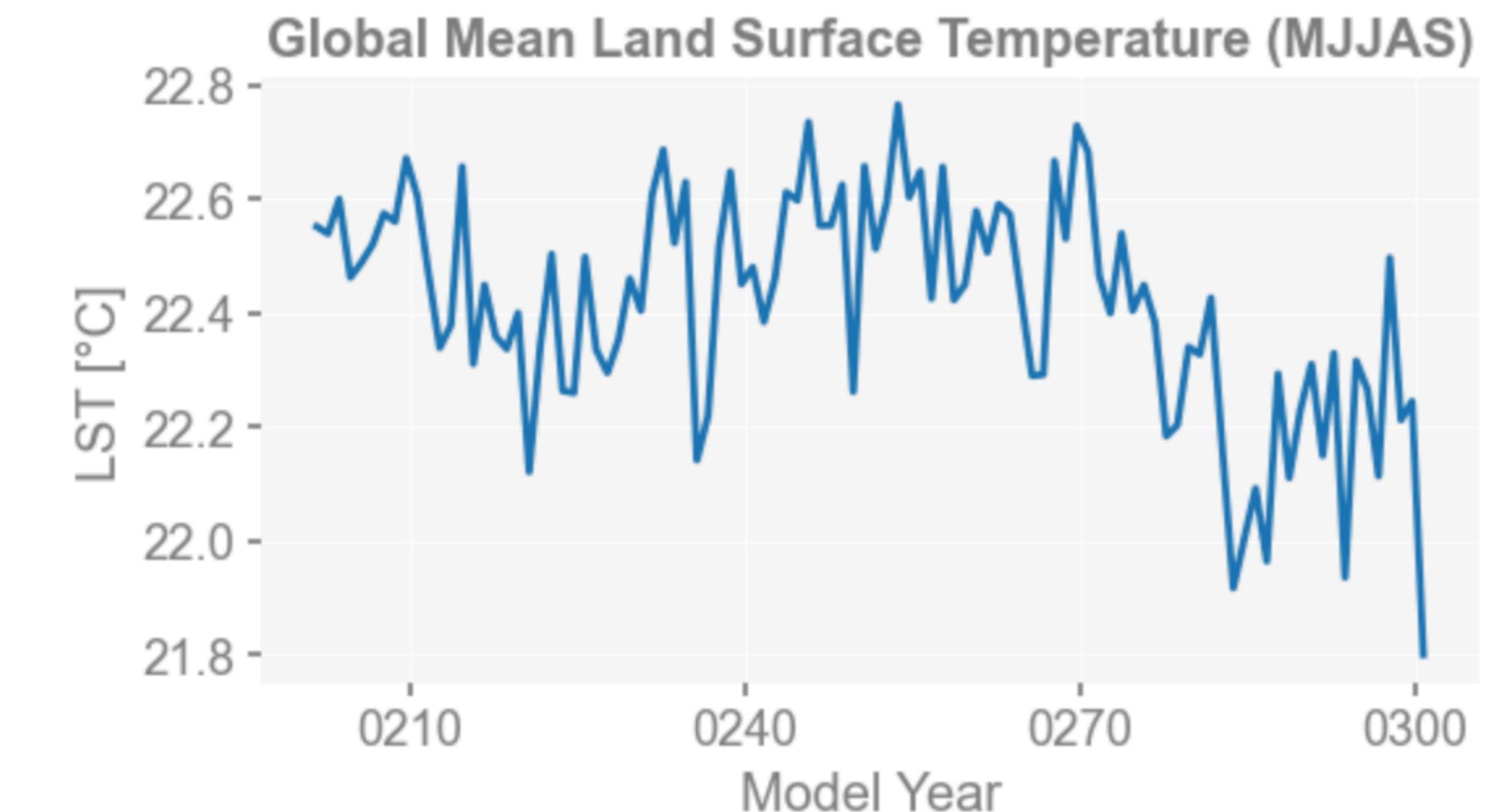
Given a CESM simulation with an SE dycore (ne30),
plot:

- a 100-yr time series of its Global Mean

```
x4c.set_style('web', font_scale=1.2)

spell = 'LST:5,6,7,8,9:gm'
fig, ax = case.plot(spell, timespan=(201, 300))
```

```
>>> "LST:5,6,7,8,9:gm" not calculated yet. Calculating now ...
>>> LST is an available deduced variable
>>> case.ds["TS"] created
>>> case.ds["LANDFRAC"] created
>>> case.diags["LST:5,6,7,8,9:gm"] created
```



Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

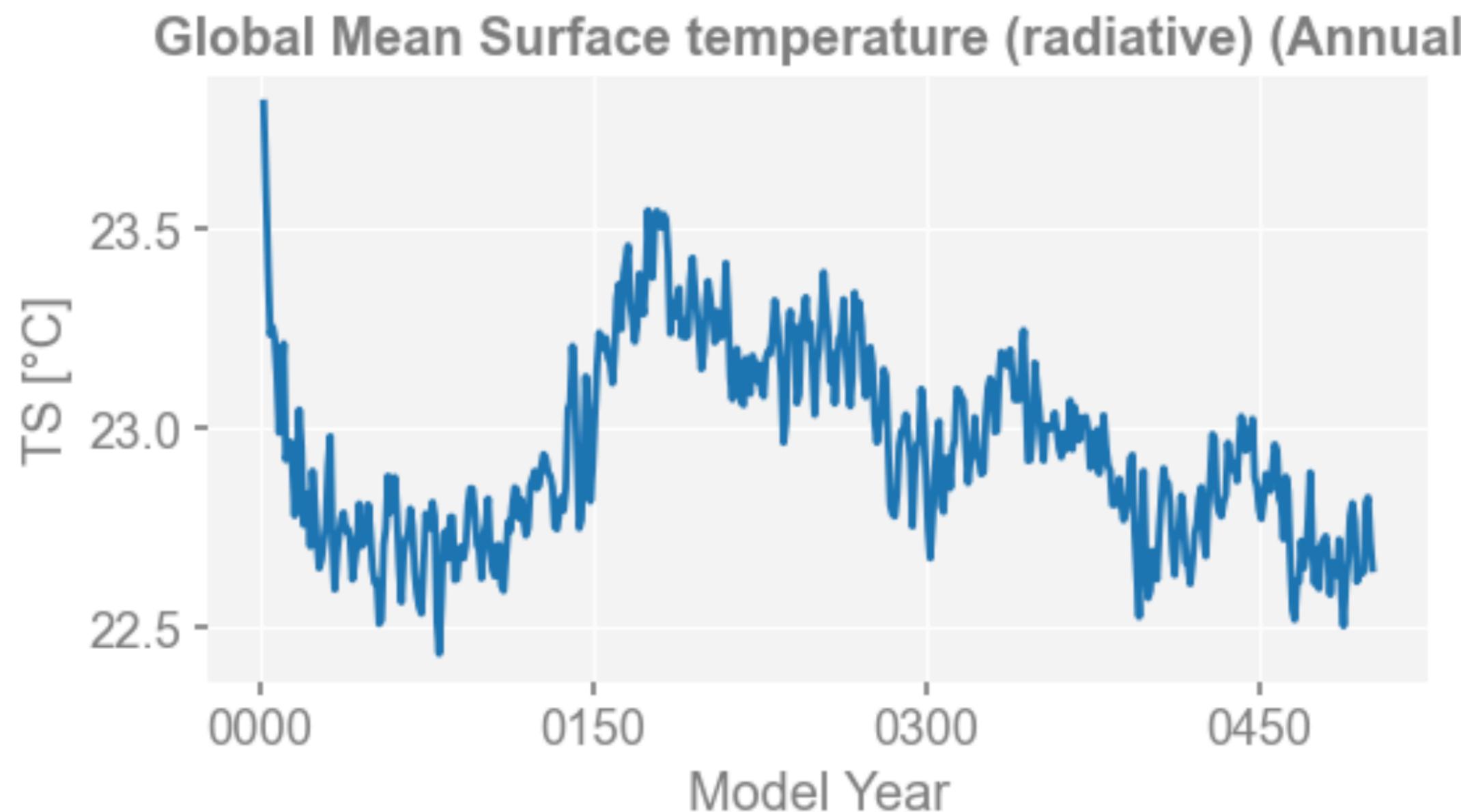
A “Spell” System

GMST

'TS:ann:gm'

```
1 x4c.set_style('web', font_scale=1.2)
2 fig, ax = case.plot('TS:ann:gm', timespan=(1, 500))
✓ 7.7s
```

```
>>> "TS:ann:gm" not calculated yet. Calculating now ...
>>> case.ds["TS"] created
>>> case.diags["TS:ann:gm"] created
```



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Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

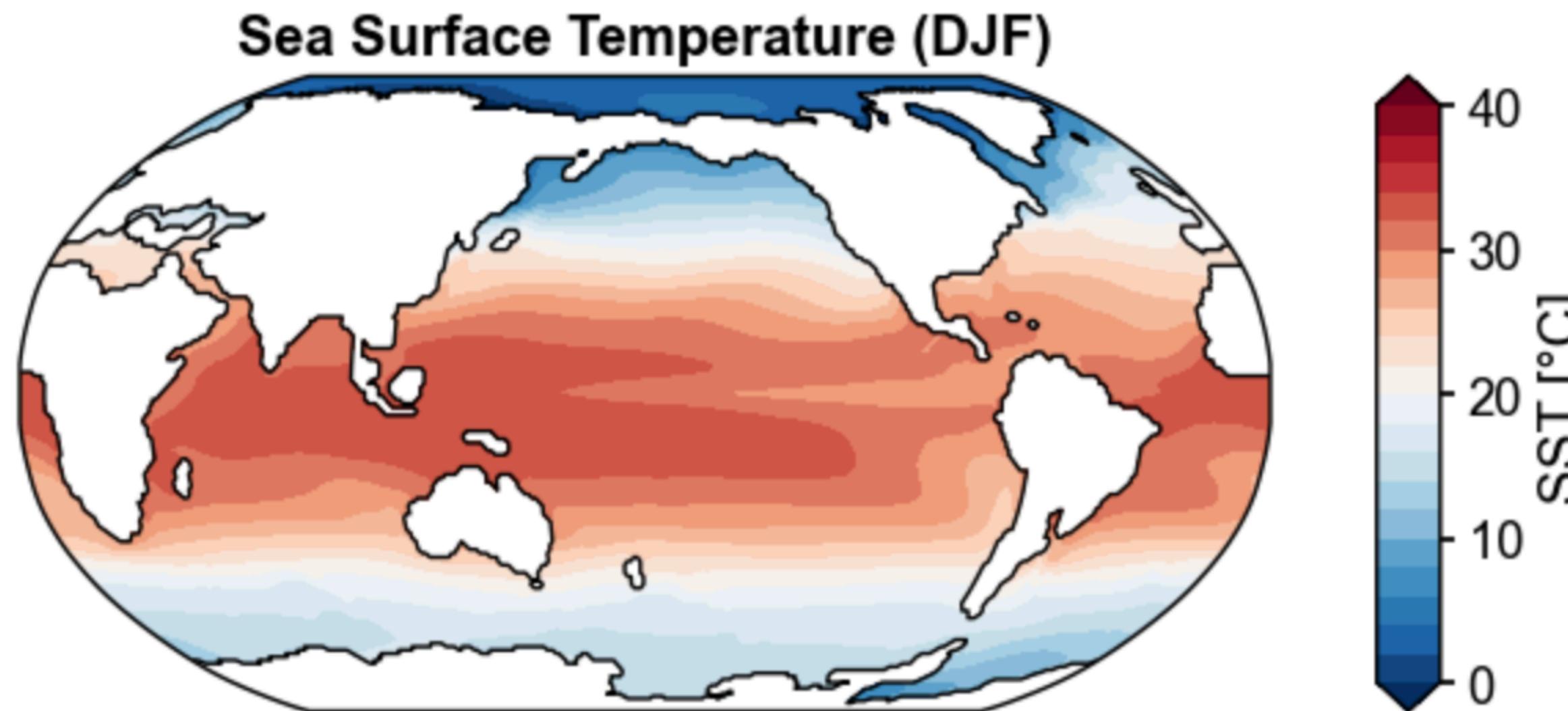
A “Spell” System

A map of DJF SST

'SST:12,1,2'

```
1 x4c.set_style('journal', font_scale=1.2)
2 fig, ax = case.plot('SST:12,1,2')
✓ 20.8s
```

```
>>> "SST:12,1,2" not calculated yet. Calculating now ...
>>> SST is an available deduced variable
>>> case.ds["TEMP"] created
>>> case.diags["SST:12,1,2"] created
```



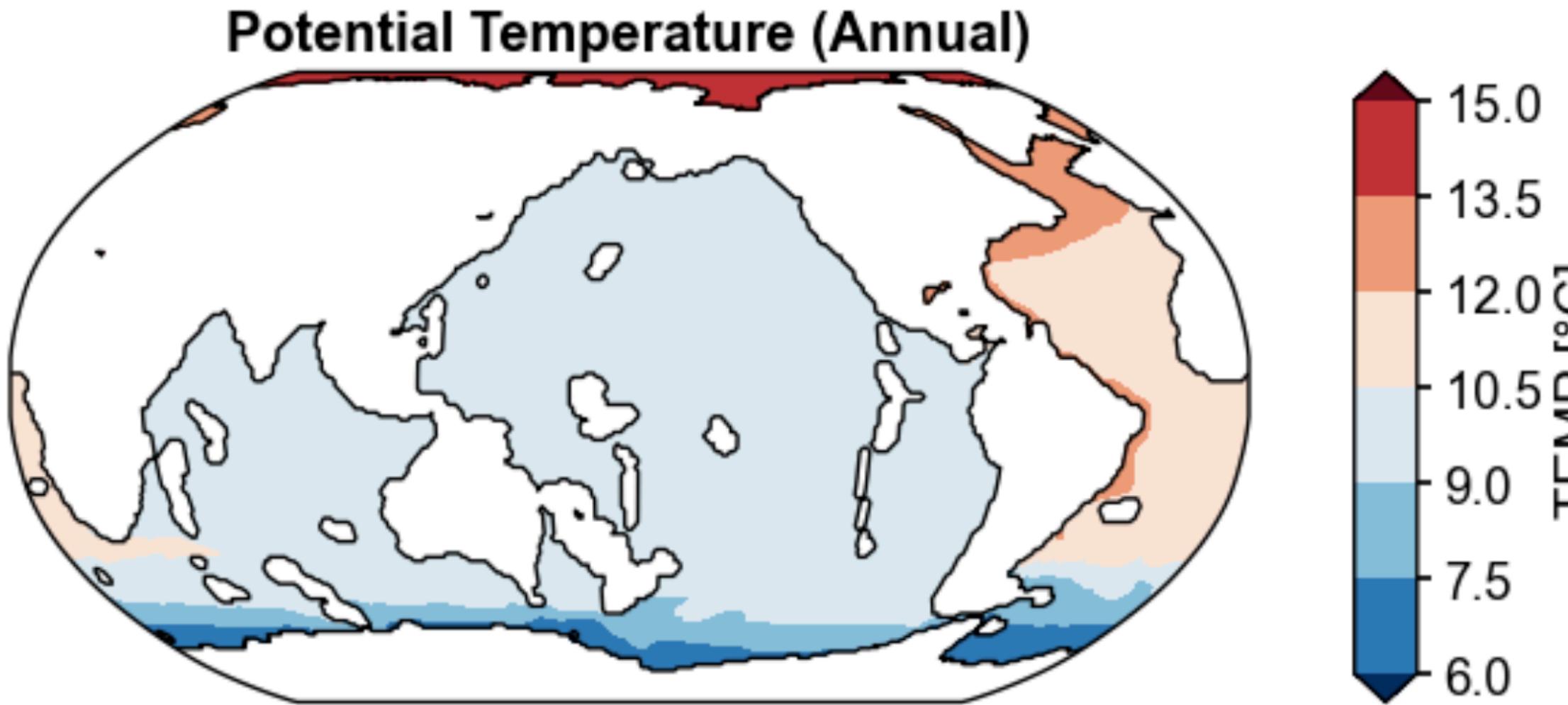
Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

A “Spell” System

A map of annual Bottom Water Temperature ($z_t=49$)

'TEMP.isel($z_t=49$):ann'

```
1 spell = 'TEMP.isel(z_t=49):ann'  
2 fig, ax = case.plot(spell)  
✓ 28.1s  
  
>>> "TEMP.isel(z_t=49):ann" not calculated yet. Calculating now ...  
>>> case.ds["TEMP"] created  
>>> case.diags["TEMP.isel(z_t=49):ann"] created
```



```
1 case.diags[spell]  
✓ 0.0s  
  
xarray.DataArray 'TEMP' (time: 50, nlat: 384, nlon: 320)  
  
    nan nan nan nan nan nan ... nan nan nan nan nan nan nan  
  
    ▼ Coordinates:  
        z_t () float32 2.889e+05  
        long_name : depth from surface to midpoint of layer  
        units : centimeters  
        positive : down  
        valid_min : 500.0  
        valid_max : 537500.0  
        ULONG (nlat, nlon) float64 ...  
        ULAT (nlat, nlon) float64 ...  
        TLONG (nlat, nlon) float64 ...  
        TLAT (nlat, nlon) float64 ...  
        time (time) object 0451-12-31 00:00:00 ... 0500-12-...  
  
    ▶ Indexes: (1)  
    ▶ Attributes: (10)
```

A map of annual Bottom Water Temperature ($z_t=49$)

'TEMP.isel($z_t=49$)|regrid:ann'

```
1 spell = 'TEMP.isel(z_t=49)|regrid:ann'  
2 case.calc(spell)  
3 case.diags[spell]  
✓ 27.4s
```

```
>>> case.ds["TEMP"] already loaded; to reload, run case.clear_ds("TEMP") before case.load("TEMP")  
>>> case.diags["TEMP.isel(z_t=49)|regrid:ann"] created
```

xarray.DataArray 'TEMP' (time: 50, lat: 180, lon: 360)

nan nan nan nan nan nan ... 13.61 13.61 13.61 13.61 13.61 13.61

▼ Coordinates:

lat	(lat)	float64	-89.5 -88.5 -87.5 ... 88.5 89.5	 
lon	(lon)	float64	0.5 1.5 2.5 ... 357.5 358.5 359.5	 
z_t	()	float32	2.889e+05	 
time	(time)	object	0451-12-31 00:00:00 ... 0500-12-...	 
latitude_longitude	()	float64	nan	 

► Indexes: (3)

► Attributes: (8)

A map of annual Bottom Water Temperature (z_t=49)

'TEMP.isel(z_t=49)|regrid(dlon=2, dlat=2):ann'

```
1 spell = 'TEMP.isel(z_t=49)|regrid(dlon=2,dlat=2):ann'
2 case.calc(spell)
3 case.diags[spell]
```

✓ 26.4s

```
>>> case.ds["TEMP"] already loaded; to reload, run case.clear_ds("TEMP") before case.load("TEMP")
>>> case.diags["TEMP.isel(z_t=49)|regrid(dlon=2,dlat=2):ann"] created
```

xarray.DataArray 'TEMP' (time: 50, lat: 90, lon: 180)

▀ nan nan nan nan nan nan ... 13.61 13.61 13.61 13.61 13.61 13.61

▼ Coordinates:

lat	(lat)	float64	-89.0 -87.0 -85.0 ... 87.0 89.0	 
lon	(lon)	float64	1.0 3.0 5.0 ... 355.0 357.0 359.0	 
z_t	()	float32	2.889e+05	 
time	(time)	object	0451-12-31 00:00:00 ... 0500-12-...	 
latitude_longitude	()	float64	nan	 

► Indexes: (3)

► Attributes: (8)

Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

A “Spell” System

A map of annual 600 hPa Geopotential Height



'Z3|plev(60000):ann'

```
1 spell = 'Z3|plev(60000):ann'  
2 case.calc(spell)  
3 case.diags[spell]
```

✓ 20.1s

```
>>> case.ds["Z3"] created  
>>> case.ds["PS"] created  
>>> case.diags["Z3|plev(60000):ann"] created
```

xarray.DataArray 'Z3' (time: 50, ncol: 48602)

	Array	Chunk
Bytes	9.27 MiB	189.85 kiB
Shape	(50, 48602)	(1, 48602)
Dask graph	50 chunks in 156 graph layers	
Data type	float32 numpy.ndarray	

▼ Coordinates:

```
plev      ()    int64 60000  
time      (time) object 0451-12-31 00:00:00 ... 0500-12-...
```

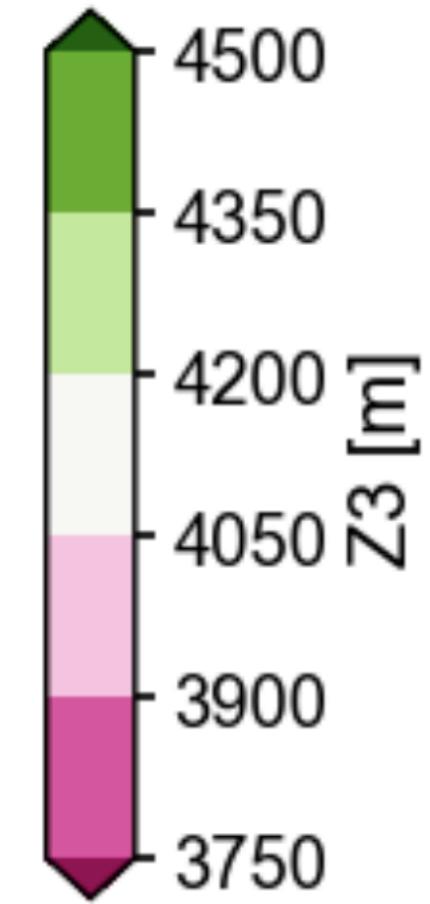
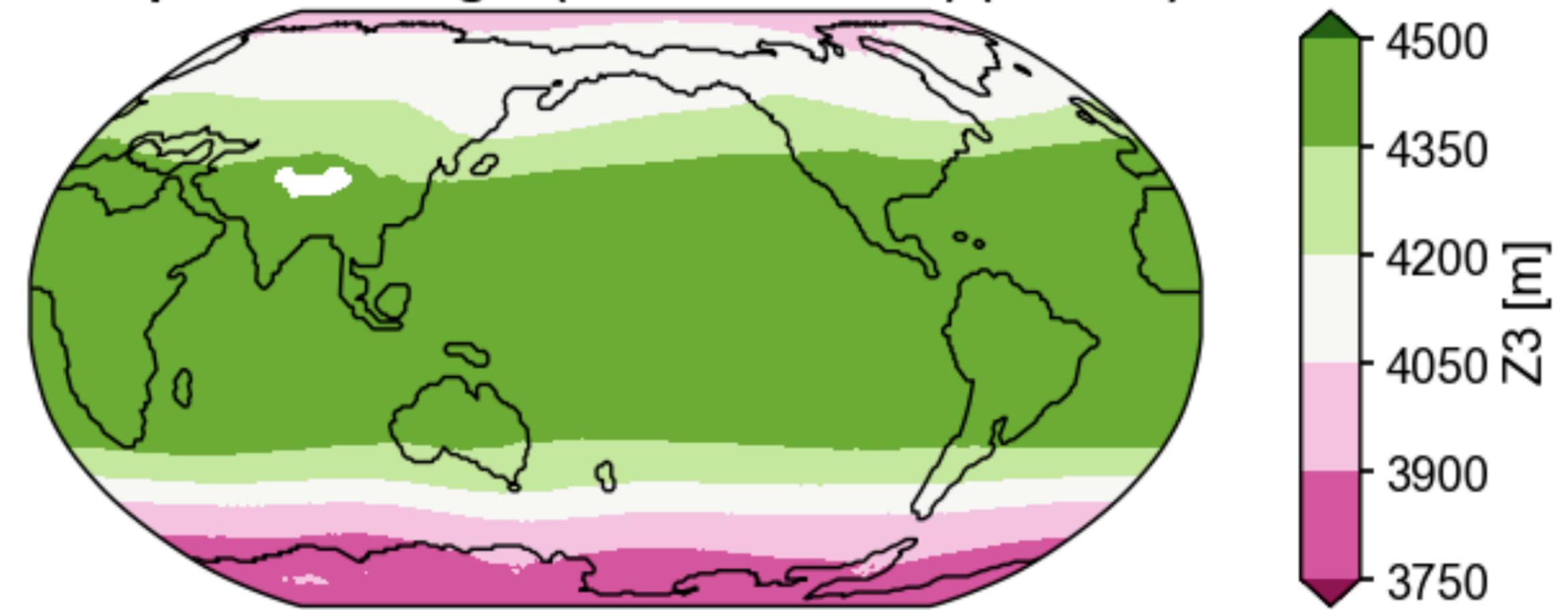
► Indexes: (1)

► Attributes: (10)

```
1 fig, ax = case.plot(spell)  
✓ 1m 56.8s
```

```
>>> case.ds["SSH"] created
```

Geopotential Height (above sea level) (Annual)



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Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

A “Spell” System

A map of annual 600 hPa Geopotential Height

'Z600 ~ Z3|plev(60000)'

```
1 spell = 'Z600 ~ Z3|plev(60000)'
2 case.calc(spell)
3 case.diags['Z600']

✓ 20.6s

>>> case.ds["Z3"] created
>>> case.ds["PS"] created
>>> case.diags["Z600"] created

xarray.DataArray 'Z600' (time: 600, ncol: 48602)
```

	Array	Chunk
Bytes	111.24 MiB	111.24 MiB
Shape	(600, 48602)	(600, 48602)
Dask graph	1 chunks in 5 graph layers	
Data type	float32 numpy.ndarray	

▼ Coordinates:
plev () int64 60000
time (time) object 0451-01-31 00:00:00 ... 0500-12-...
► Indexes: (1)
► Attributes: (10)

'Z600:ann'

```
1 spell = 'Z600:ann'
2 case.calc(spell)
3 case.diags[spell]

✓ 0.4s

>>> Variable `Z600` is already calculated and the calculation is skipped.
>>> case.diags["Z600:ann"] created
```

xarray.DataArray 'Z600' (time: 50, ncol: 48602)

	Array	Chunk
Bytes	9.27 MiB	189.85 kiB
Shape	(50, 48602)	(1, 48602)
Dask graph	50 chunks in 156 graph layers	
Data type	float32 numpy.ndarray	

▼ Coordinates:
plev () int64 60000
time (time) object 0451-12-31 00:00:00 ... 0500-12-...
► Indexes: (1)
► Attributes: (10)



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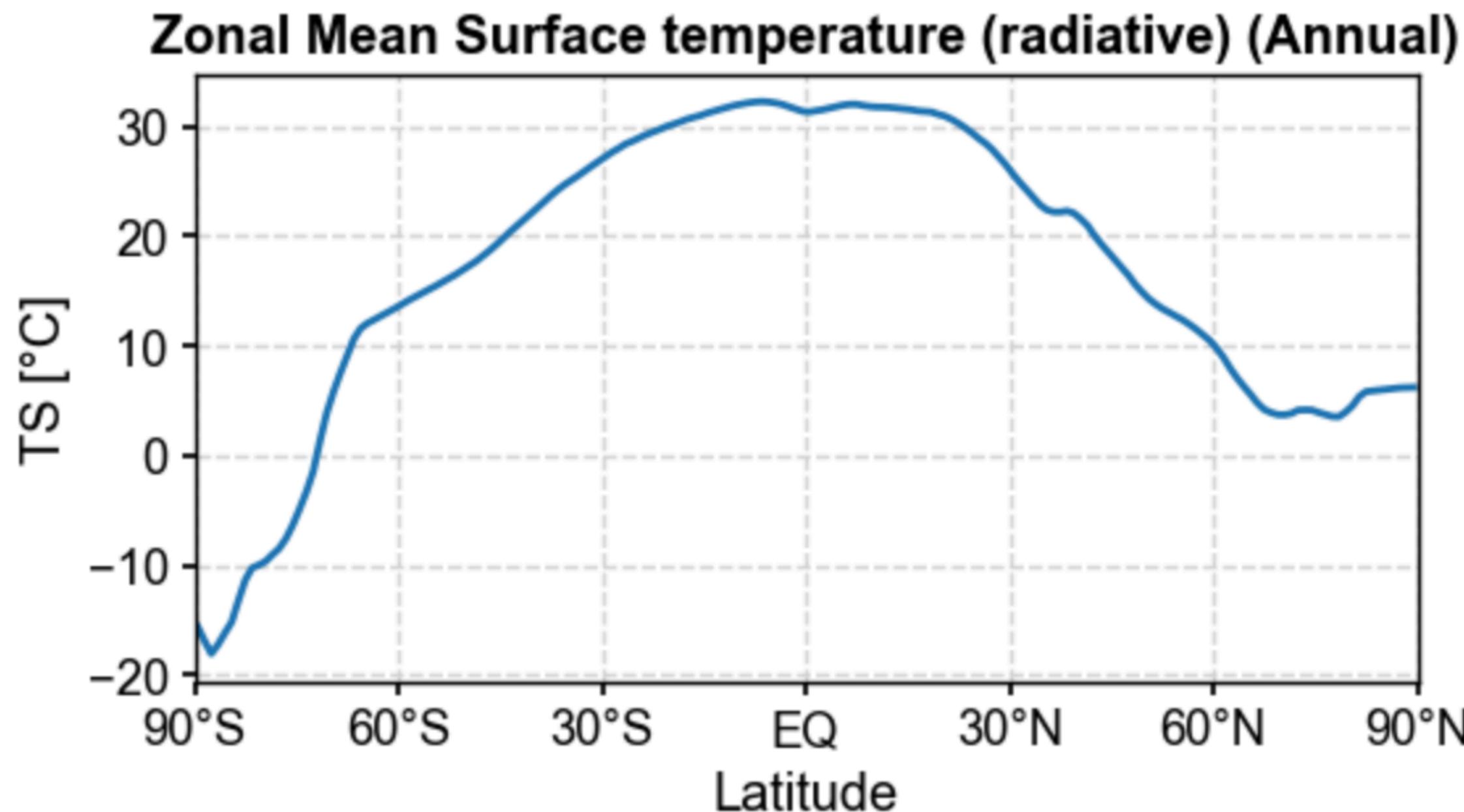
Zonal mean of annual Surface Temperature

'TS:ann:zm'

```
1 x4c.set_style('journal_spines', font_scale=1.2)
2 fig, ax = case.plot('TS:ann:zm')
```

✓ 4.0s

```
>>> "TS:ann:zm" not calculated yet. Calculating now ...
>>> case.ds["TS"] already loaded; to reload, run case.clear_ds("TS") before case.load("TS")
>>> case.diags["TS:ann:zm"] created
```

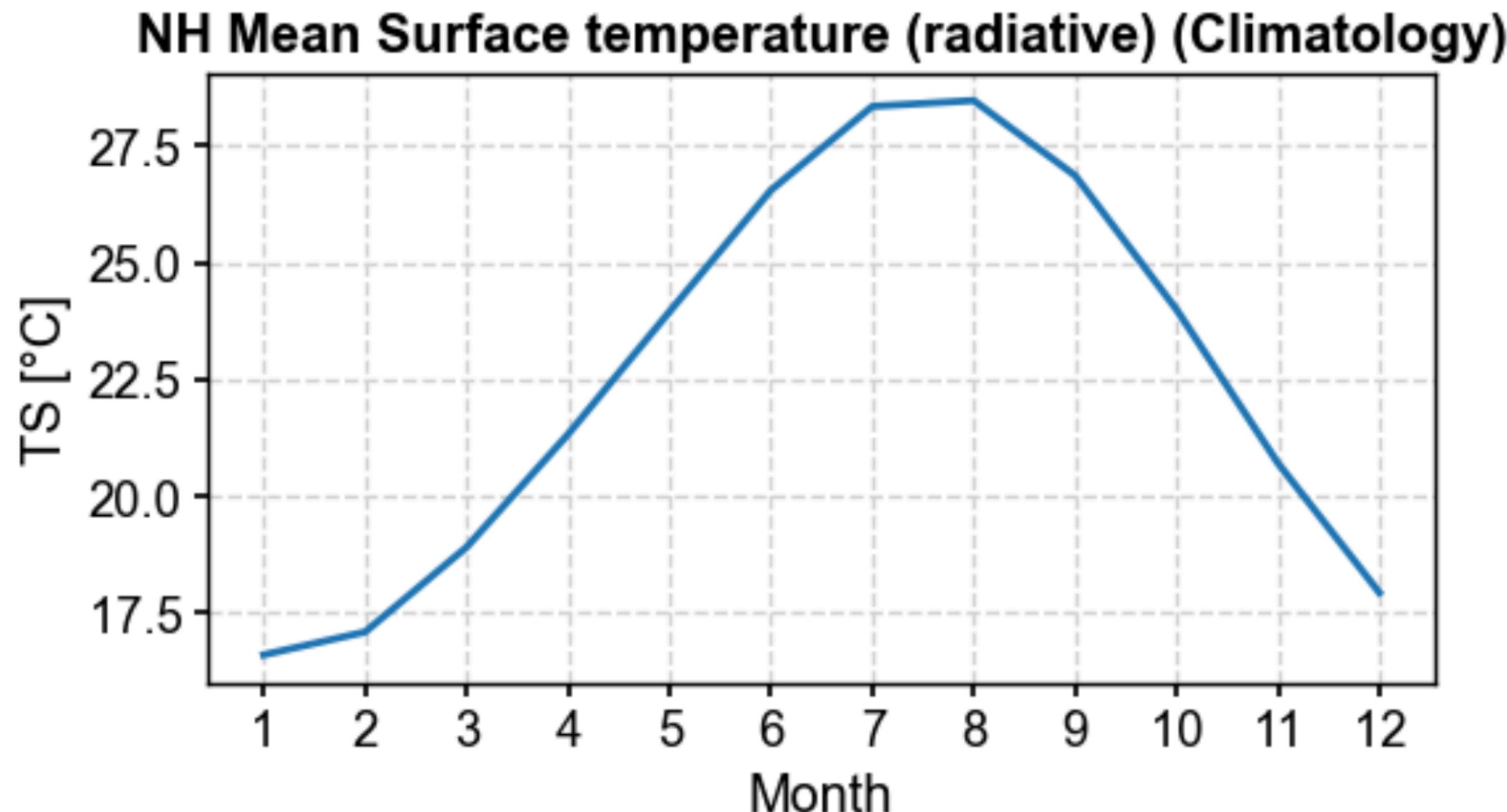


Seasonal cycle of Northern Hemisphere Surface Temperature

'TS:climo:nhm'

```
1 x4c.set_style('journal_spines', font_scale=1.2)
2 fig, ax = case.plot('TS:climo:nhm')
✓ 3.0s
```

```
>>> "TS:climo:nhm" not calculated yet. Calculating now ...
>>> case.ds["TS"] already loaded; to reload, run case.clear_ds("TS") before case.load("TS")
>>> case.diags["TS:climo:nhm"] created
```



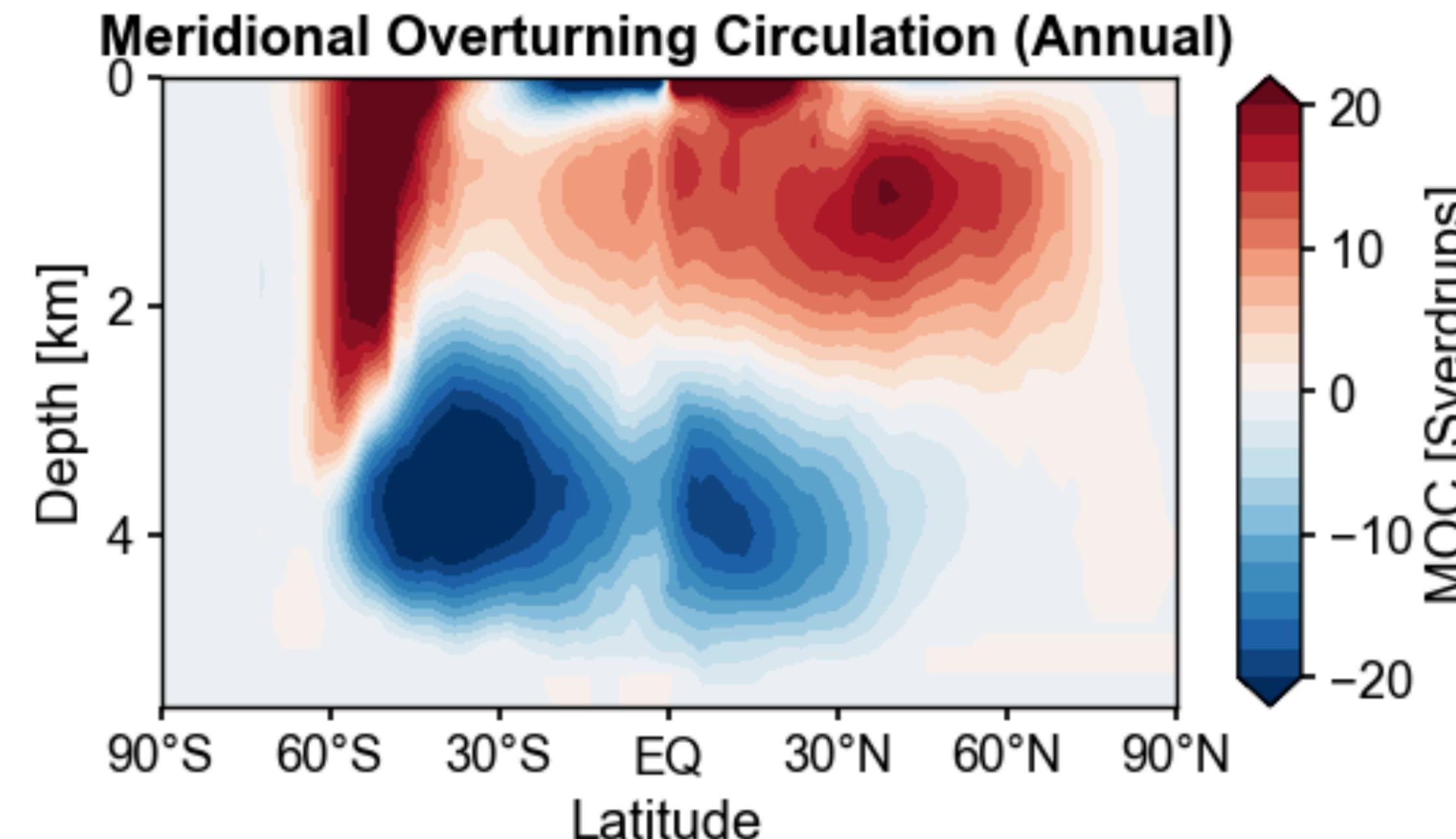
Zonal mean of annual Meridional Ocean Circulation (MOC)

'MOC:ann:yz'

```
1 x4c.set_style('journal_spines', font_scale=1.2)
2 fig, ax = case.plot('MOC:ann:yz')
```

✓ 0.5s

```
>>> "MOC:ann:yz" not calculated yet. Calculating now ...
>>> case.ds["MOC"] created
>>> case.diags["MOC:ann:yz"] created
```



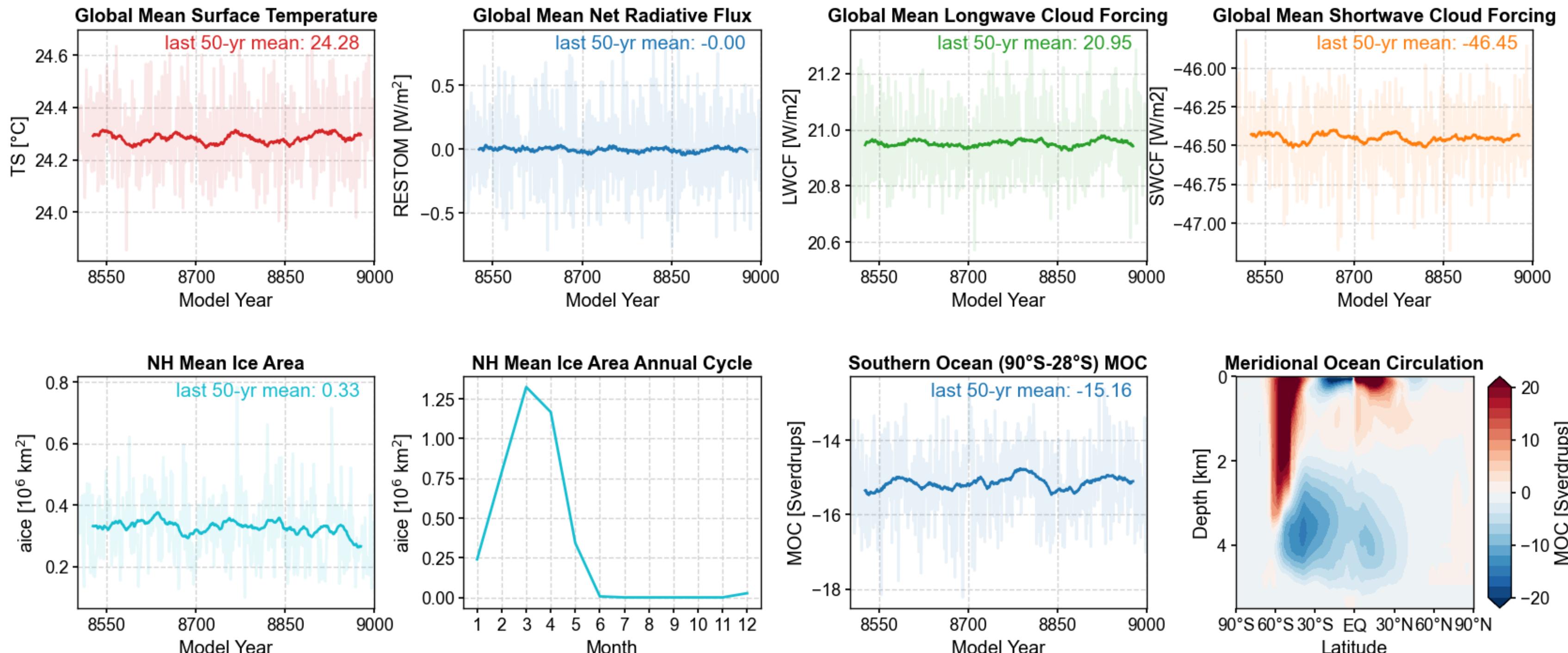
Diagnostic Features (Timeseries)

High-level Workflows

```
fig, ax = case.quickview(timespan=(8501, 9000))

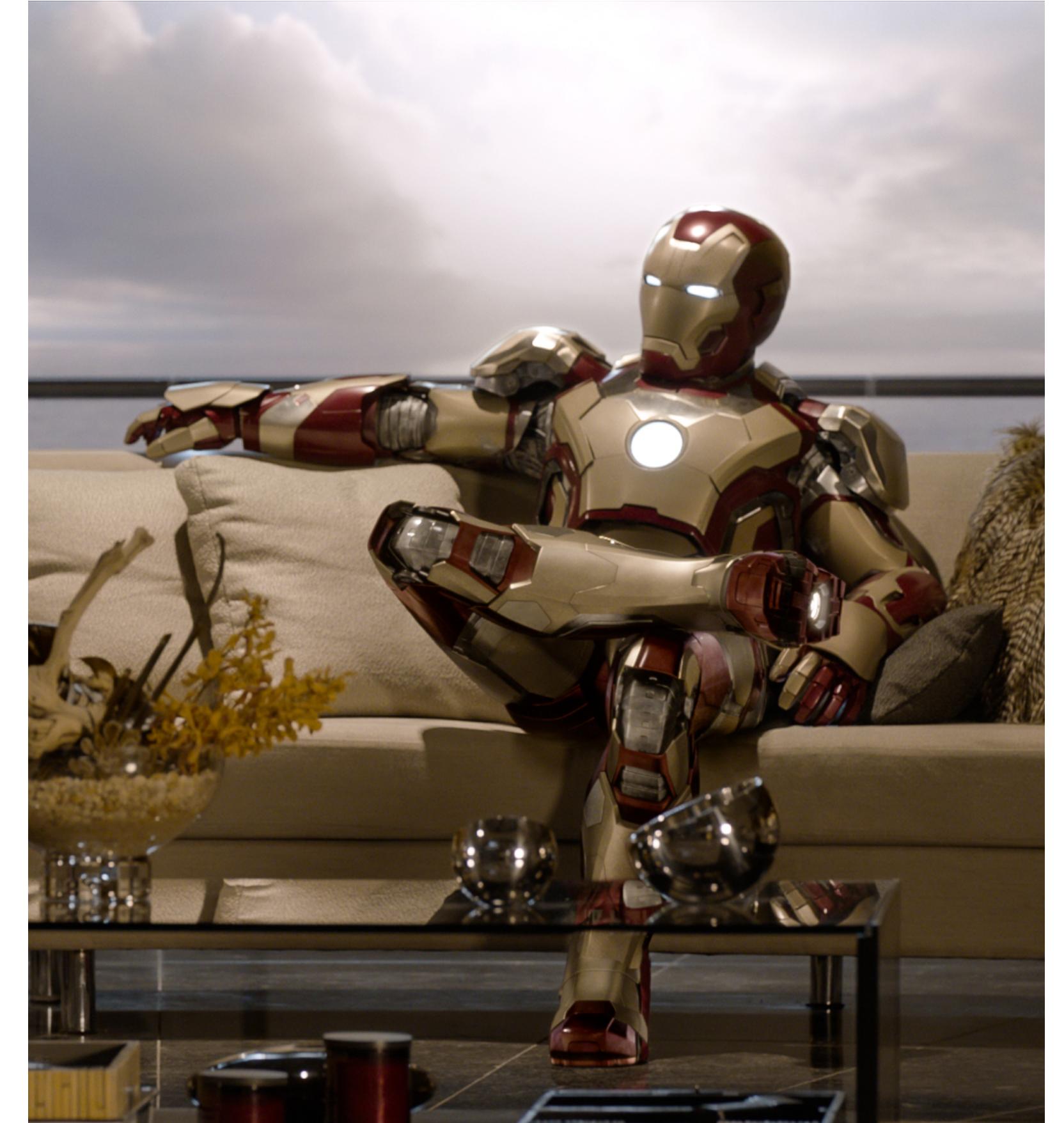
✓ 1m 42.4s

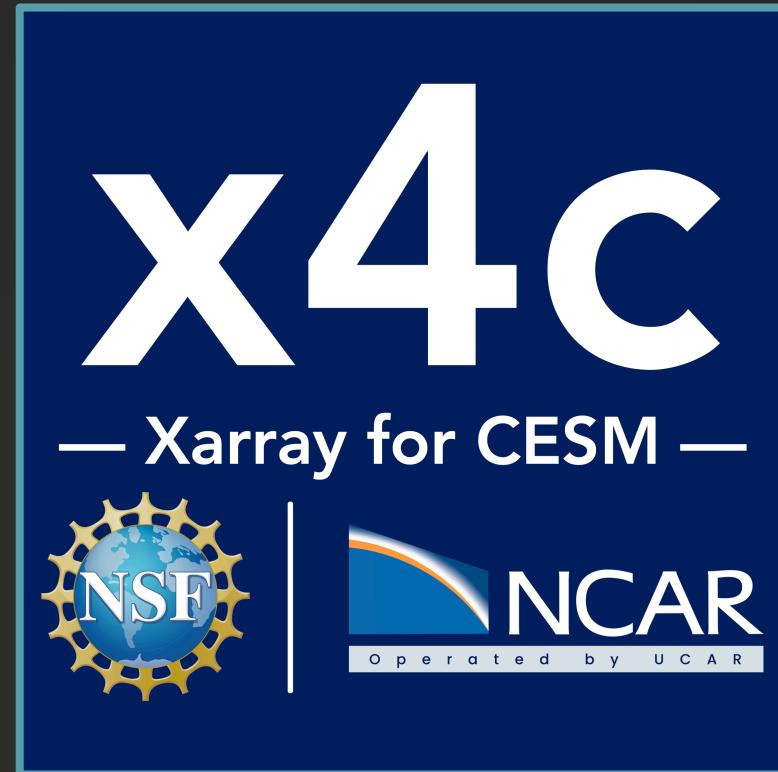
>>> Plotting 8 subplots
>>> nrow = 2, ncol = np.int64(4)
>>> case.ds["TS"] created
>>> Timespan: [8501-01-31 00:00:00, 9000-12-31 00:00:00]
>>> case.diags["TS:ann:gm"] created
>>> RESTOM is a supported derived variable.
>>> case.ds["FSNT"] created
>>> case.ds["FLNT"] created
>>> case.ds["RESTOM"] created
>>> Timespan: [8501-01-31 00:00:00, 9000-12-31 00:00:00]
>>> case.diags["RESTOM:ann:gm"] created
>>> case.ds["LWCF"] created
>>> Timespan: [8501-01-31 00:00:00, 9000-12-31 00:00:00]
>>> case.diags["LWCF:ann:gm"] created
>>> case.ds["SWCF"] created
>>> Timespan: [8501-01-31 00:00:00, 9000-12-31 00:00:00]
>>> case.diags["SWCF:ann:gm"] created
>>> ICEFRAC is a supported derived variable.
>>> case.ds["aice"] created
>>> case.ds["ICEFRAC"] created
>>> Timespan: [8501-01-31 00:00:00, 9000-12-31 00:00:00]
>>> case.diags["ICEFRAC:ann:nhs"] created
>>> ICEFRAC is a supported derived variable.
>>> case.ds["aice"] already loaded; to reload, run case.load("aice", ..., reload=True).
>>> case.ds["ICEFRAC"] created
...
>>> Plotting NHICEFRAC
>>> Plotting NHICEFRAC_clim
>>> Plotting SOMOC
>>> Plotting MOC
```



□ Summary

- x4c aims to liberate scientists from technical details, facilitating scientific thinking.
- x4c enables concise gridded data analysis and publication-ready visualization with the .x command.
- x4c.History() makes CESM postprocessing (hist2ts) flexible and transparent.
- x4c.Timeseries(), along with the “spell” system, makes CESM diagnostic and visualization intuitive and efficient.
- x4c could serve as a foundational framework for diagnostic systems such as CUPiD.
- **Next Step: AI-enhanced Data Analysis and Visualization
Porting LLMs to the “spell” system.
Welcome funding support to expand this work!**





Installation

- `conda install -c conda-forge xesmf cartopy geocat-comp pop-tools`
- `pip install x4c`

Documentation

- <https://ncar.github.io/x4c>

Thank you!
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Feng Zhu

Paleoclimate Software Engineer II

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