



ORCHIDEE DEV meeting — 26th September 2023

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## Reducing the High Mountain Asia cold bias in GCMs by adapting snow cover parameterization to complex topography areas

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Mickaël Lalande<sup>1</sup>, Martin Ménégoz<sup>1</sup>, Gerhard Krinner<sup>1</sup>, Catherine Ottlé<sup>2</sup>, and Frédérique Cheruy<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Univ. Grenoble Alpes, CNRS, IRD, G-INP, IGE, 38000 Grenoble, France

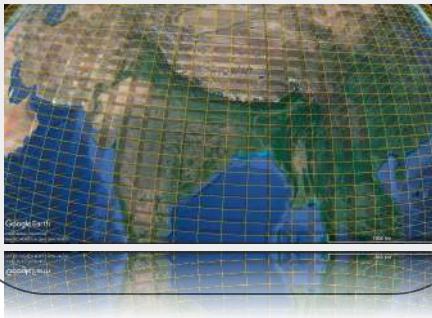
<sup>2</sup> LSCE-IPSL (CNRS-CEA-UVSQ), Université Paris-Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette, France

<sup>3</sup> Laboratoire de Météorologie Dynamique (LMD)/IPSL/Sorbonne Université/CNRS, UMR 8539, Paris, France

# Objective and presentation outline

**Objective:** Improving the representation of **snow cover** in **mountain regions** in CMGs.

#1 Description and evaluation of the IPSL model in HMA



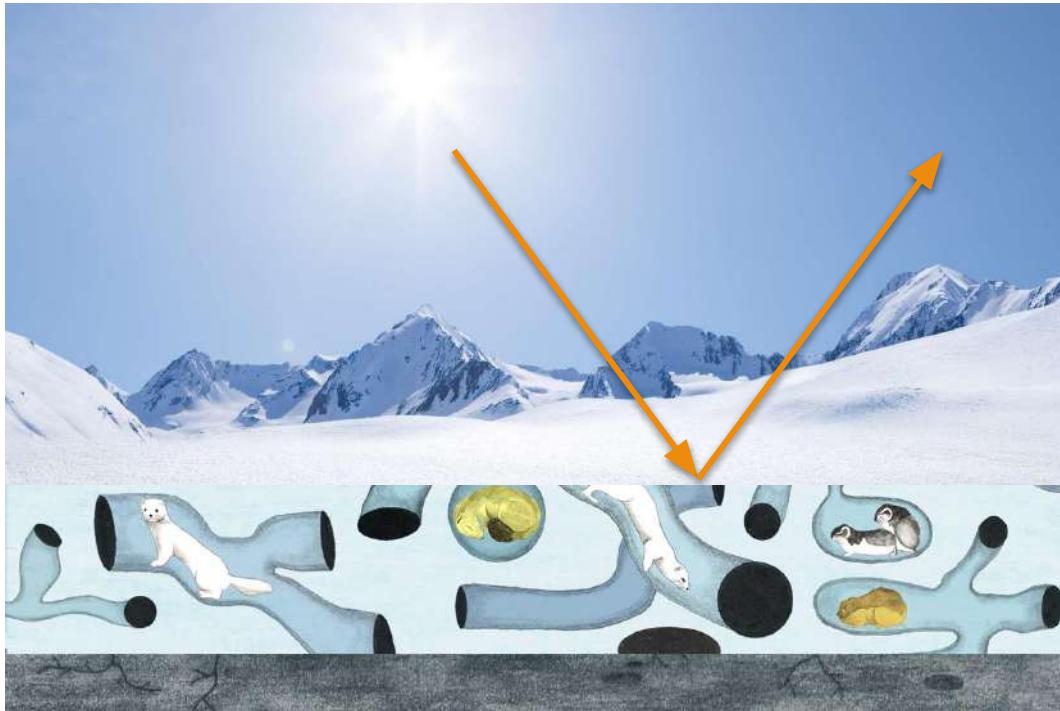
#2 Parameterization of snow cover in mountain regions



#3 Technical and practical information



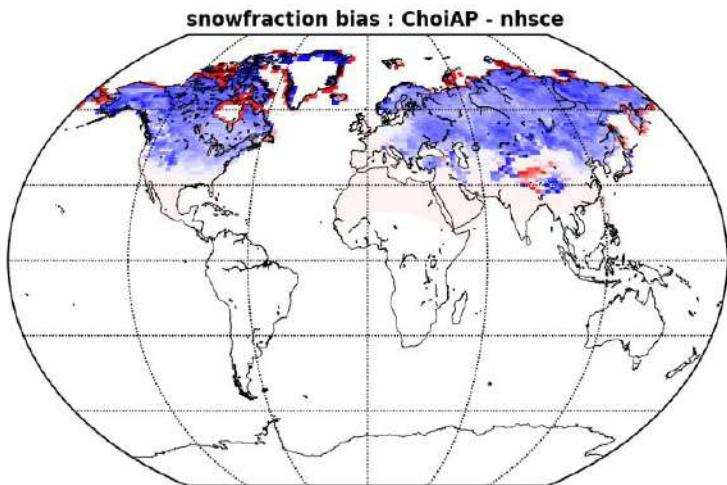
# Context: what is snow?



# Context: snow bias in IPSL model CMIP5 versus CMIP6

Bias of the snow cover fraction  
(i.e., simulated - observed snow fraction)

Old version (CMIP5)



New version (CMIP6)

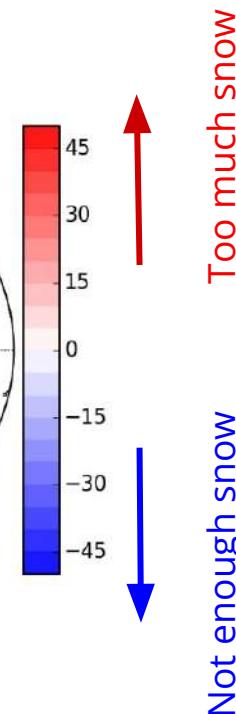
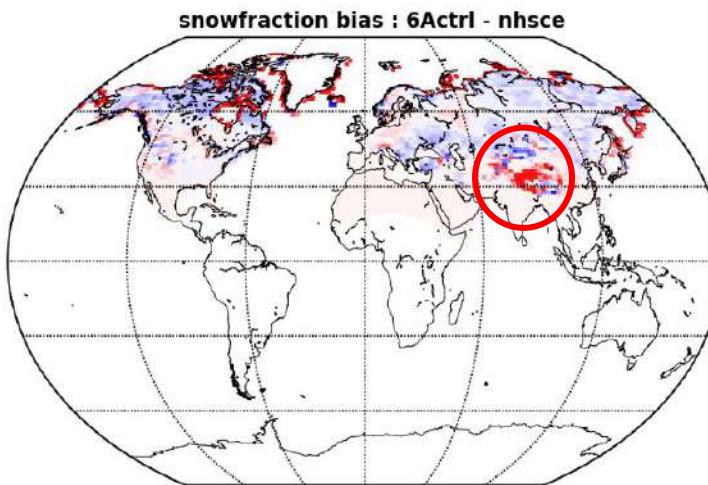
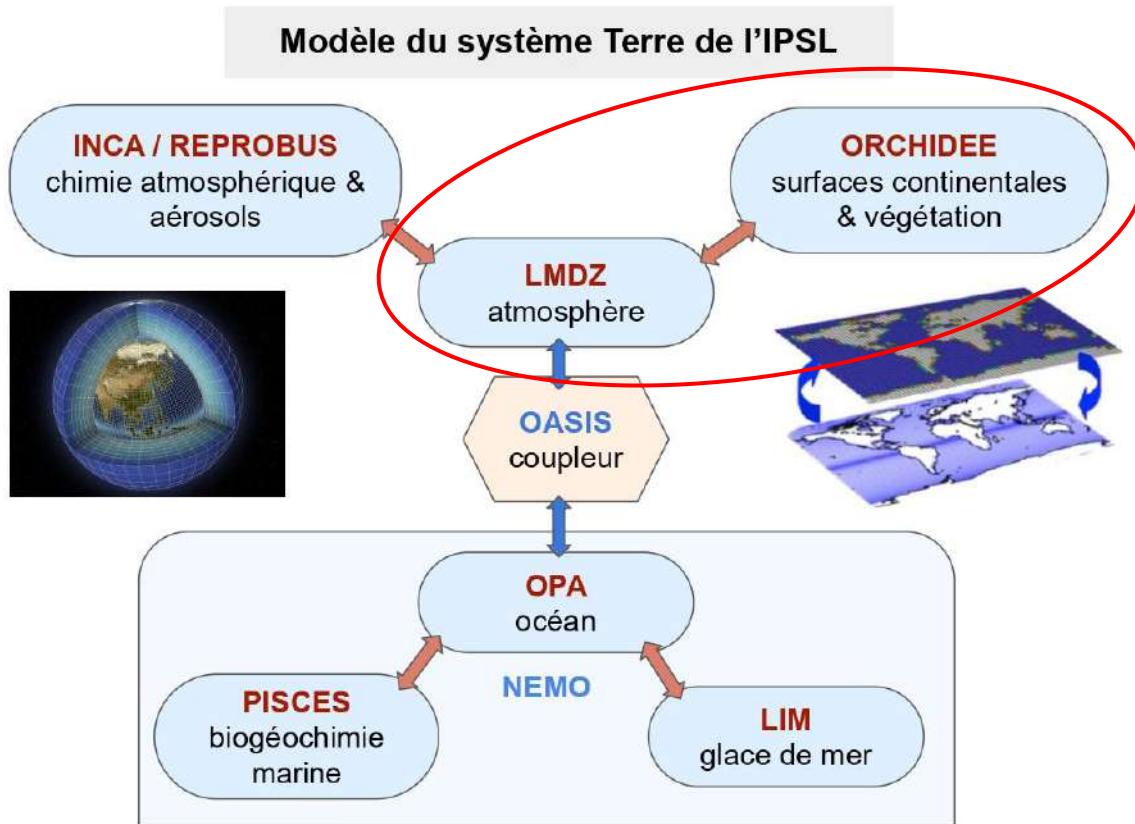


Fig. 7 Cheruy et al. (2020)

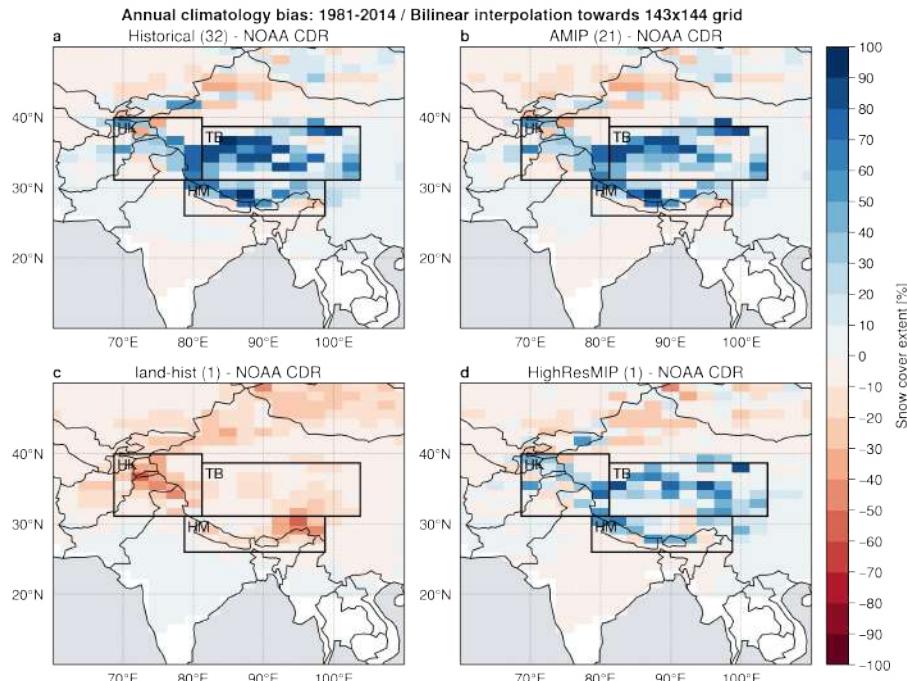
# IPSL Earth System Model



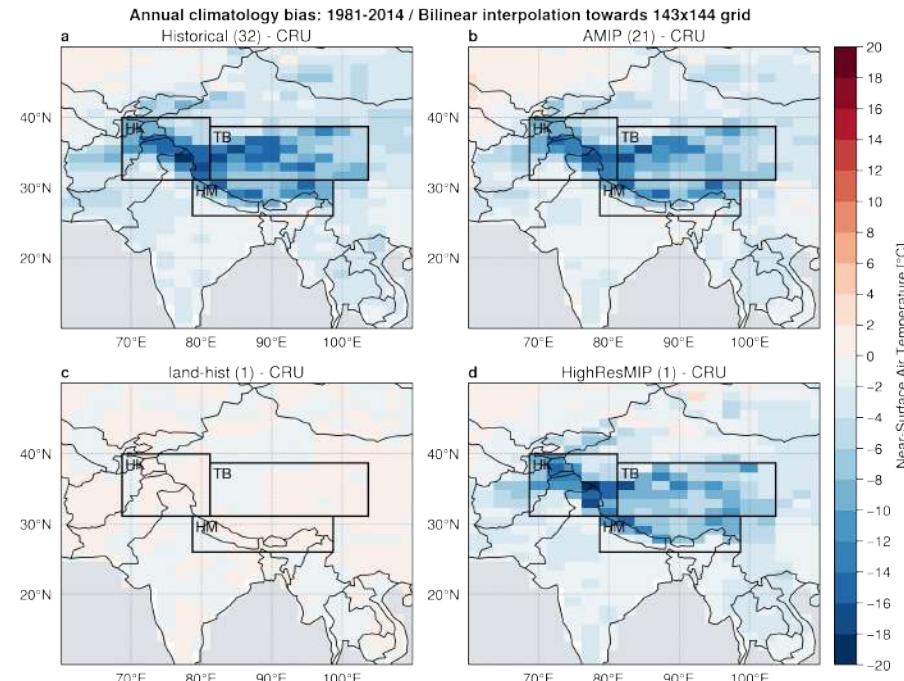
- Version **6A-LR** (CMIP6):
  - 144 x 142 (grid points lon / lat)
  - $\sim 2,5^\circ \times 1,25^\circ$
  - 79 vertical layers (up to  $\sim 80$  km altitude)
  - time step of the physics: 15 min
- Version **6A-HR** (CMIP6):
  - 360 x 180 (grid points lon / lat)
  - $\sim 0,5^\circ \times 0,5^\circ$
  - time step of the physics: 3,75 min

# IPSL-CM6A-LR: Historical, AMIP, land-hist / IPSL-CM6A-ATM-HR bias

## Snow cover bias

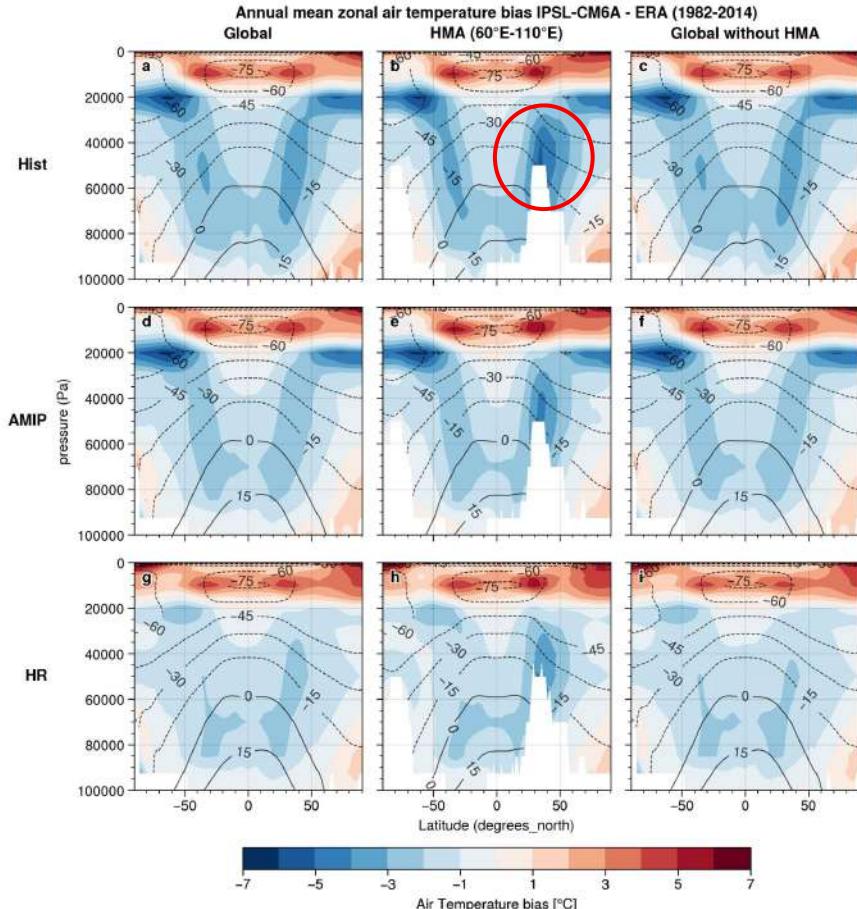


## Temperature bias



- Large cold bias (up to -20 °C) and excess of snow cover (> 50 %) mainly located on the Tibetan Plateau
  - Historical / AMIP similar and reduced biases in HighResMIP
  - land-hist slightly underestimate the snow cover (/!\ poor quality of atmospheric forcing? /!\)

# Air Temperature zonal means bias global versus HMA



- Cold bias in troposphere and hot bias in stratosphere
- Cold bias of air temperature not restricted to HMA!
  - HMA seems to amplify this bias
  - The bias is reduced in HighResMIP

## QUESTIONS

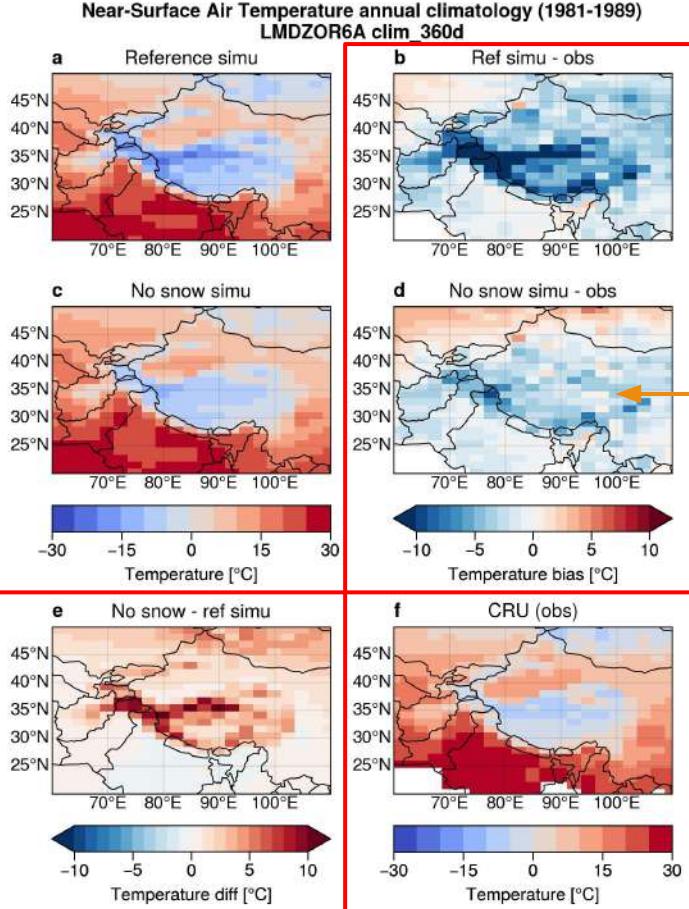
1. Does the surface biases trigger tropospheric biases?
2. Are the tropospheric biases responsible of surface biases?

## EXPERIMENTS

1. Experience without snow
2. Nudged experiments (temperature and wind)

# Impact of the surface: experiment without snow

avec neige



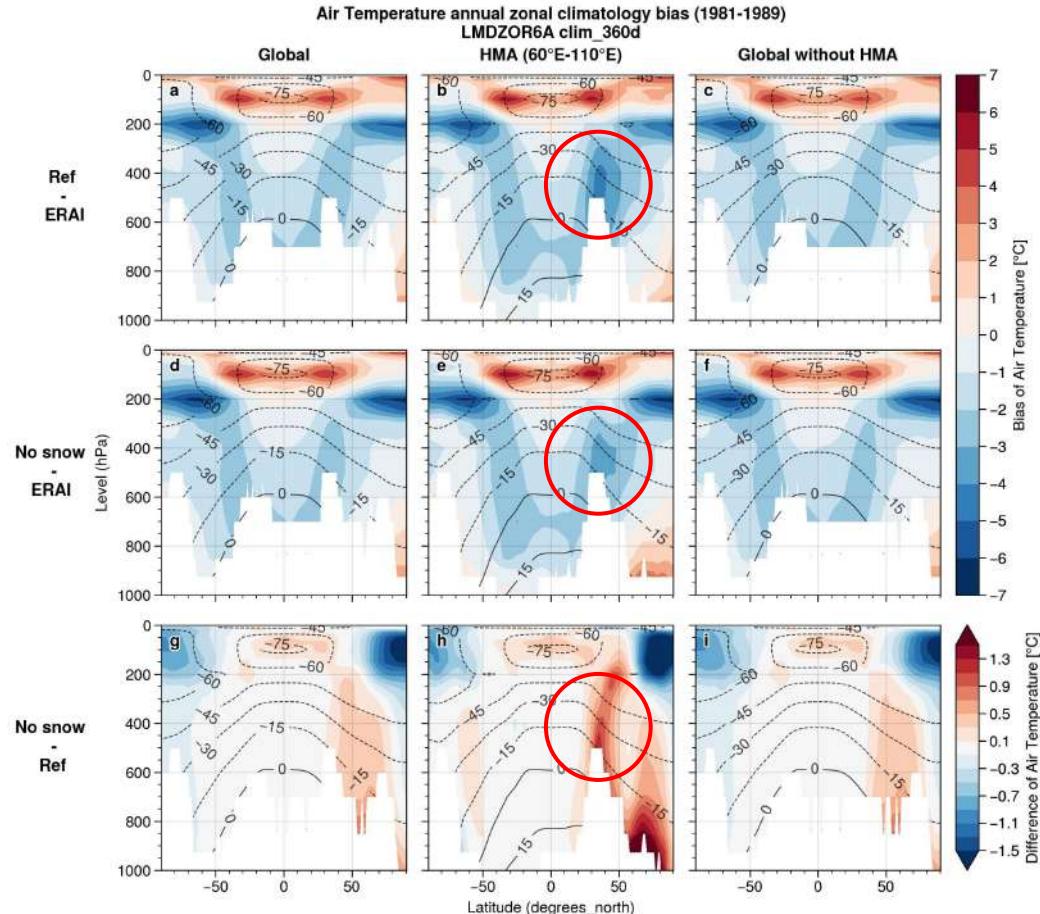
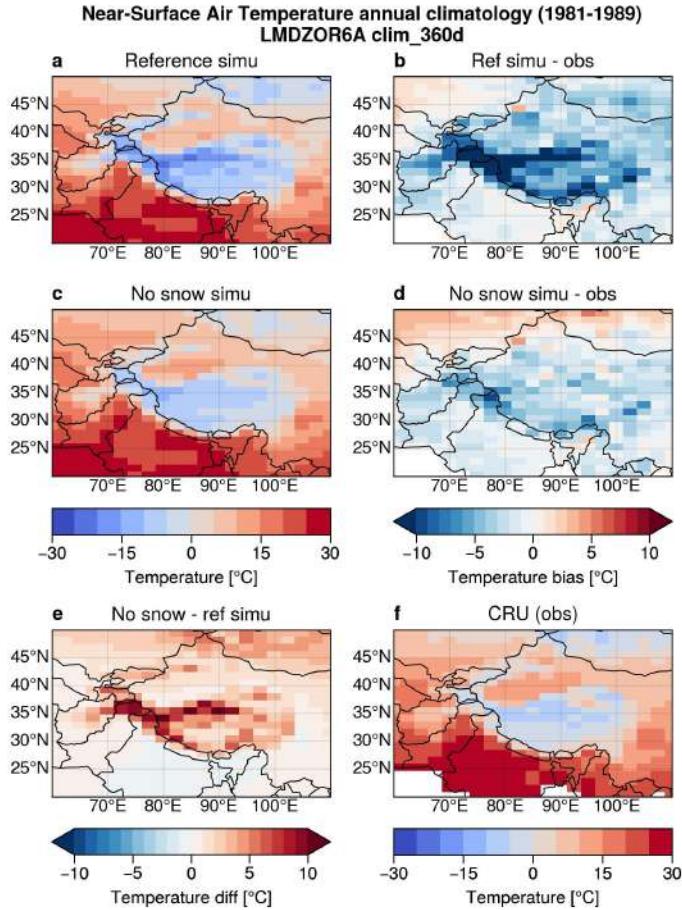
obs

bias froid persistant même sans neige!



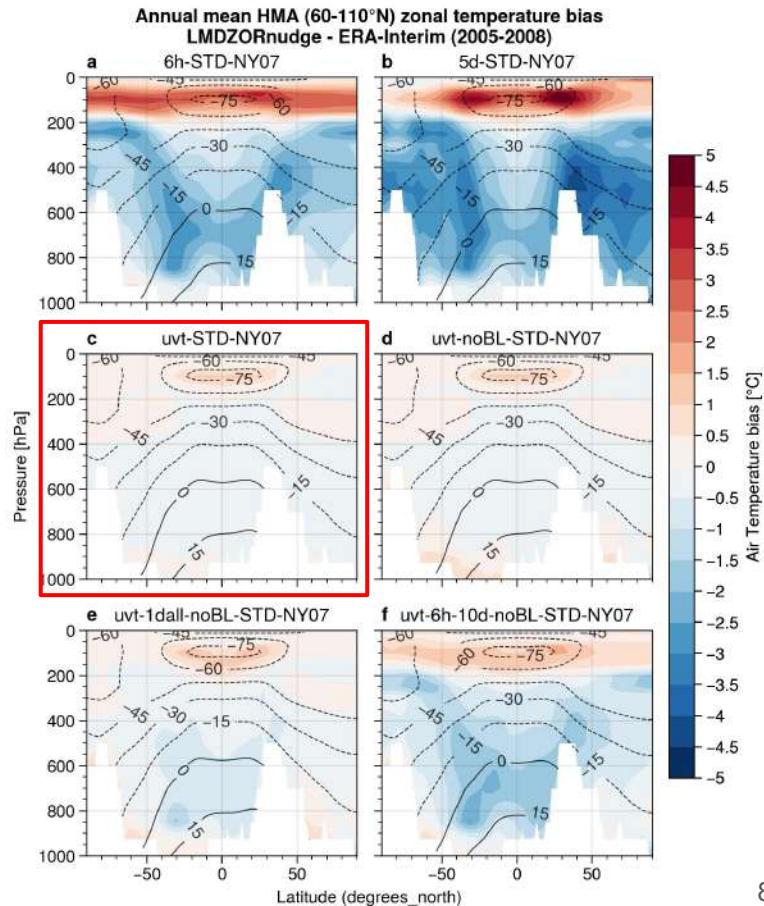
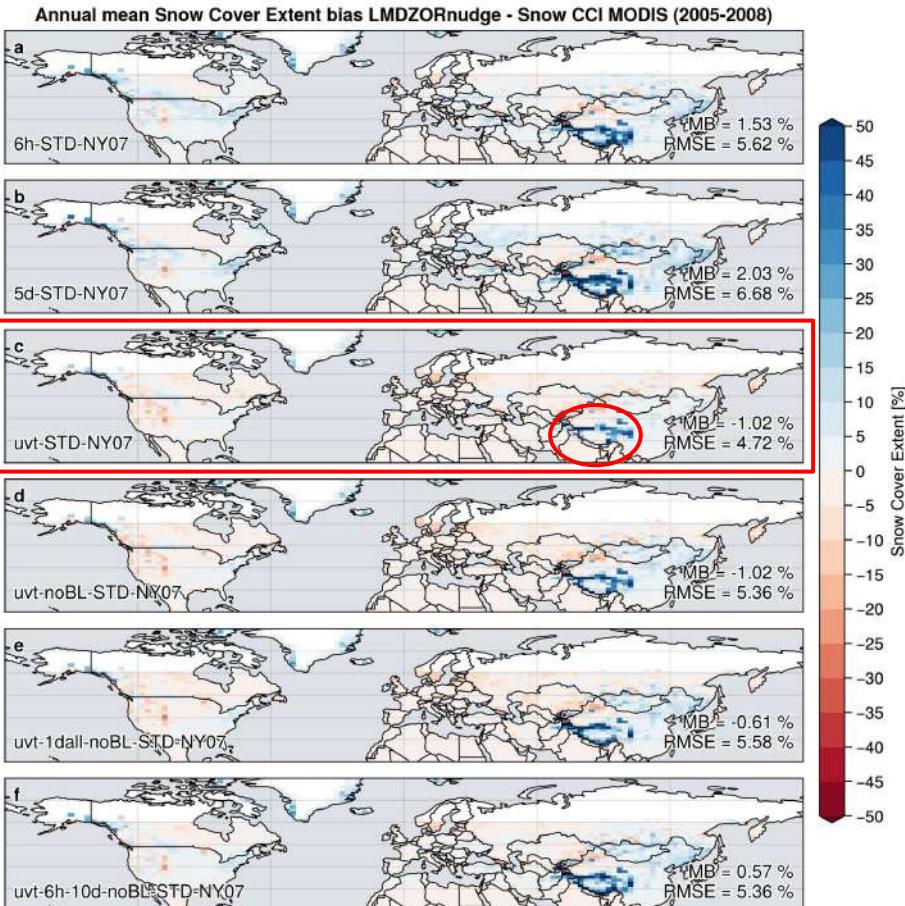
# Impact #2 of the surface: experiment without snow

avec neige



# Tropospheric bias reduction: nudged experiments

6h u, v  
5j u, v  
3h u, v, T  
3h u, v, T  
NoBL  
1j u, v, T  
NoBL  
6h u, v,  
10j T  
NoBL



## Take home messages

- **Surface biases** don't seem to be the source of the tropospheric biases

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  - Snow cover biases seem partly related to the **topography**

# Take home messages

- **Surface biases** don't seem to be the source of the tropospheric biases
  - Tropospheric biases **amplify** surface biases
- Surface biases seem to have **distinct cause** of the tropospheric biases
  - Snow cover biases seem partly related to the **topography**
    - Other important possible causes (not investigated): cloud cover, albedo, aerosols, boundary layer processes, etc.

## Part #2

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### Parameterization of snow cover in mountain regions

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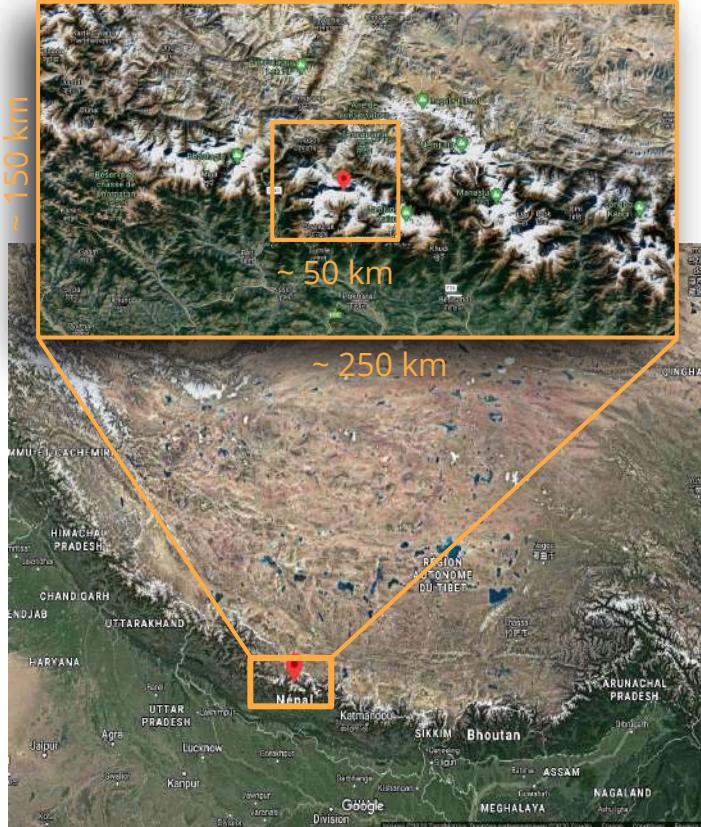








# Snow cover over mountainous areas in global climate models

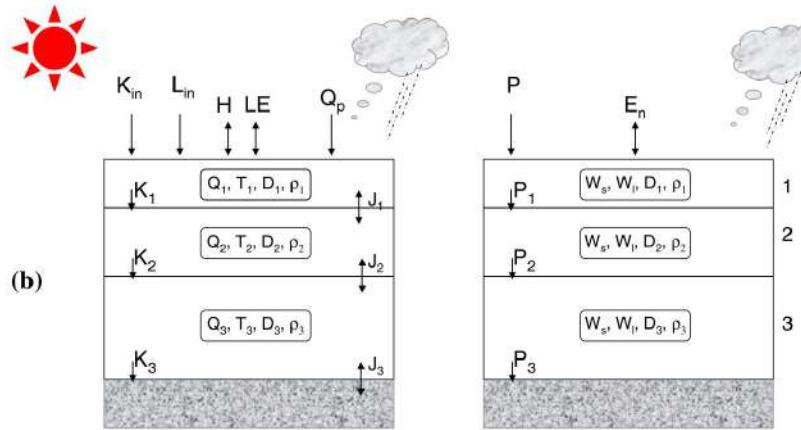


IPSL-CM6A

HOW DO WE COMPUTE THE  
SNOW COVER FRACTION (SCF)  
IN GLOBAL CLIMATE MODELS?

&  
HOW DOES THE SCF EVOLVES  
OVER MOUNTAINOUS AREAS?

# Snow scheme



$K_{in}$  (short wave radiation),  $L_{in}$  (longwave radiation),  $H$  (sensible heat flux),  $LE$  (latent heat flux),  $J$  (conduction heat flux),  $Q$  (snow layer heat content),  $Q_p$  (advection heat from rain and snow),  $W$  (snow layer SWE),  $W_l$  (snow layer liquid water content),  $D$  (snow layer depth),  $\rho$  (snow layer density),  $P$  (precipitation),  $E_n$  (evaporation)

snow scheme in the ORCHIDEE land surface model

(Wang et al., 2013)

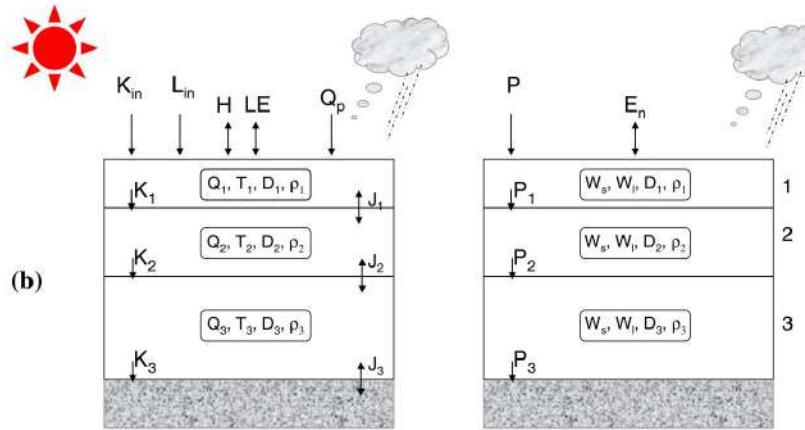


SNOW DEPTH

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT

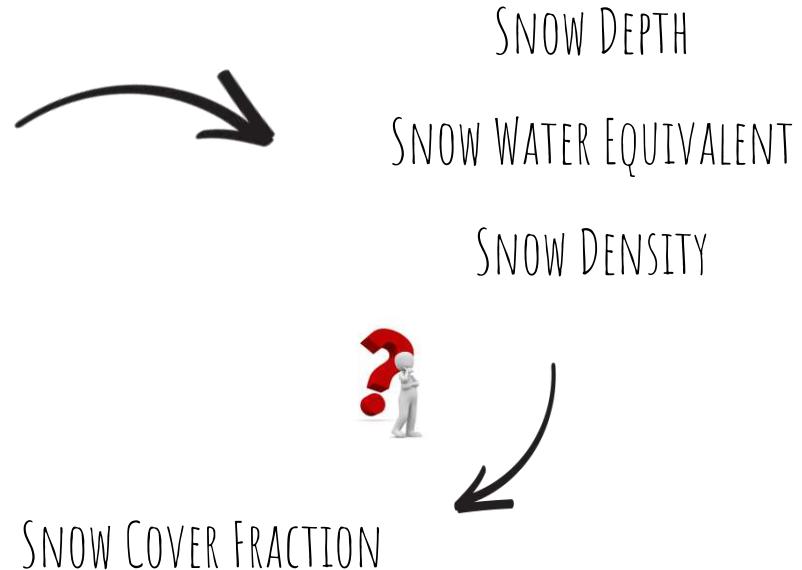
SNOW DENSITY

# Snow scheme

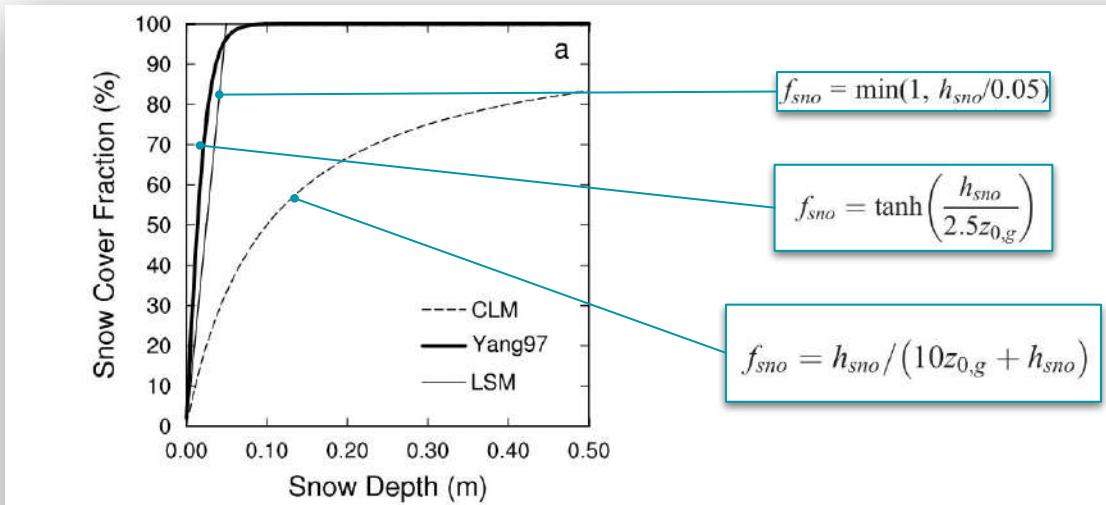


$K_{in}$  (short wave radiation),  $L_{in}$  (longwave radiation),  $H$  (sensible heat flux),  $LE$  (latent heat flux),  $J$  (conduction heat flux),  $Q$  (snow layer heat content),  $Q_p$  (advectional heat from rain and snow),  $W$  (snow layer SWE),  $W_l$  (snow layer liquid water content),  $D$  (snow layer depth),  $\rho$  (snow layer density),  $P$  (precipitation),  $E_n$  (evaporation)

snow scheme in the ORCHIDEE land surface model  
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# Snow cover parameterizations

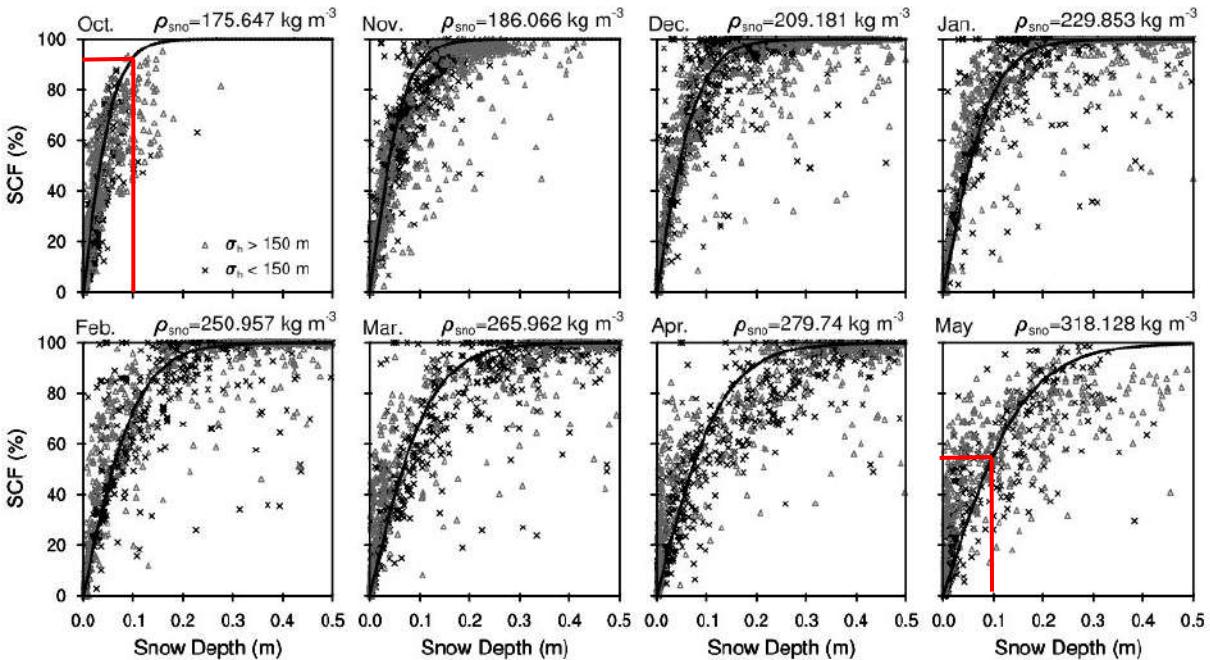


**Figure 1.** (a) SCF (or  $f_{sno}$ ) computed from equation (2) (used in the default CLM and BATS), equation (3) of Yang *et al.* [1997], and a formulation used in the NCAR LSM1.0,  $f_{sno} = \min(1, h_{sno}/0.05)$ , where  $h_{sno}$  is snow depth (m) and (b) SCF as a function of ground surface roughness, snow depth, and snow density computed from equation (4) with new snow density  $\rho_{new} = 100 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  and  $m = 1.6$ . The thick line (i.e.,  $\rho_{sno} = 100 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ ) is equivalent to equation (3).

Niu and Yang ([2007](#))

# Snow Cover parameterization: Niu and Yang (2007) - NY07

$$f_{sno} = \tanh\left(\frac{h_{sno}}{2.5z_{0g}(\rho_{sno}/\rho_{new})^m}\right)$$

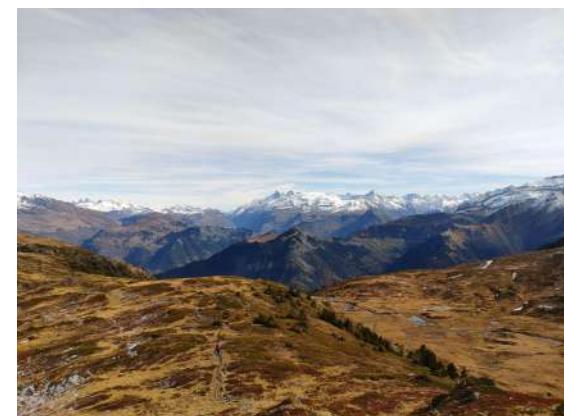


**Figure 2.** Relationship between AVHRR SCF (%) and CMC snow depth (m) in  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  grid cells of major NA river basins including the Mackenzie, Yukon, Churchill, Fraser, St. Lawrence, Columbia, Colorado, and Mississippi from October to May. The darker crosses stand for  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  grid cells where the standard deviation of topography  $\sigma_h < 150 \text{ m}$ , and the lighter triangles stand for  $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$  grid cells where  $\sigma_h > 150 \text{ m}$ . The fitted lines are computed from equation (4) ( $m = 1.6$ ) with the mean snow densities shown above each frame.

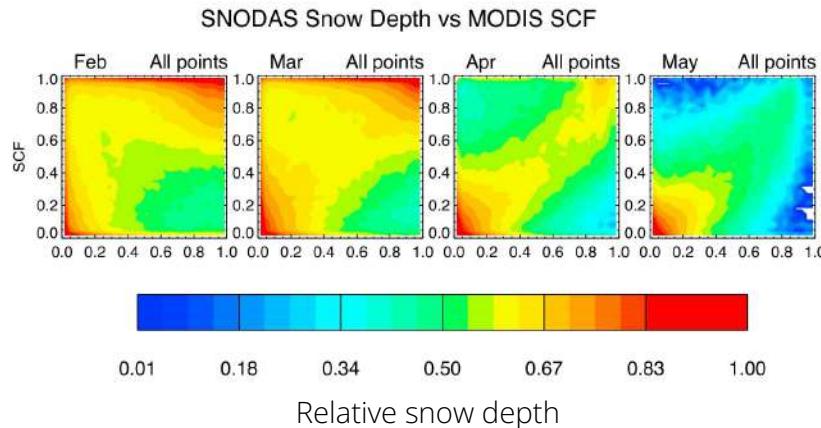
# Snow cover micro to macro



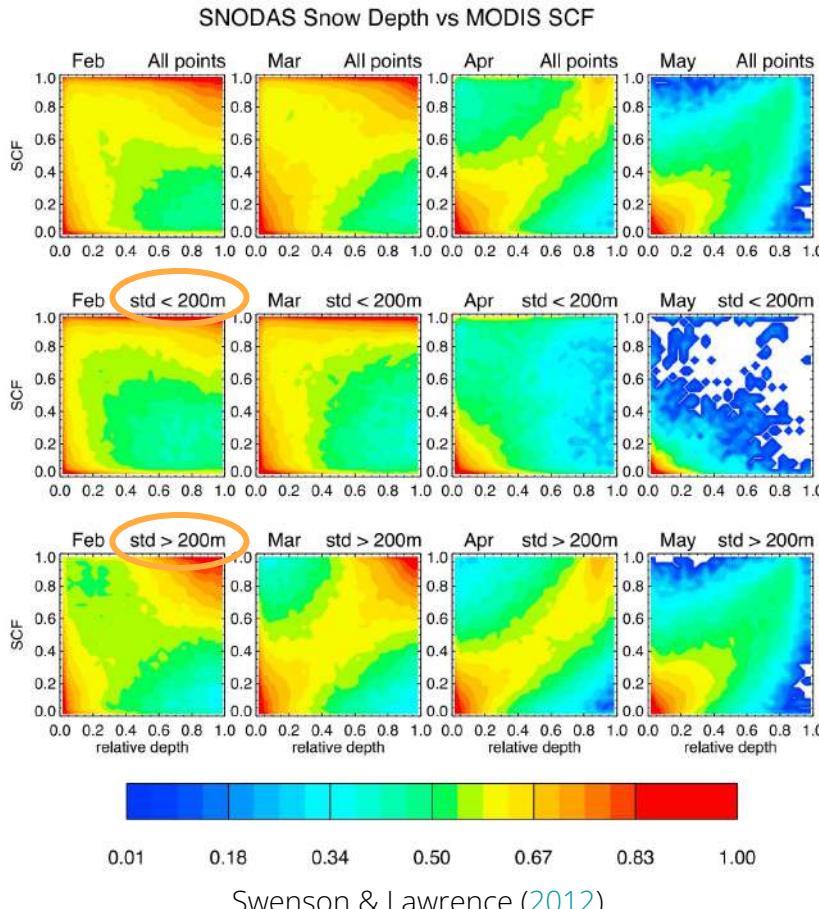
# Snow cover micro to macro



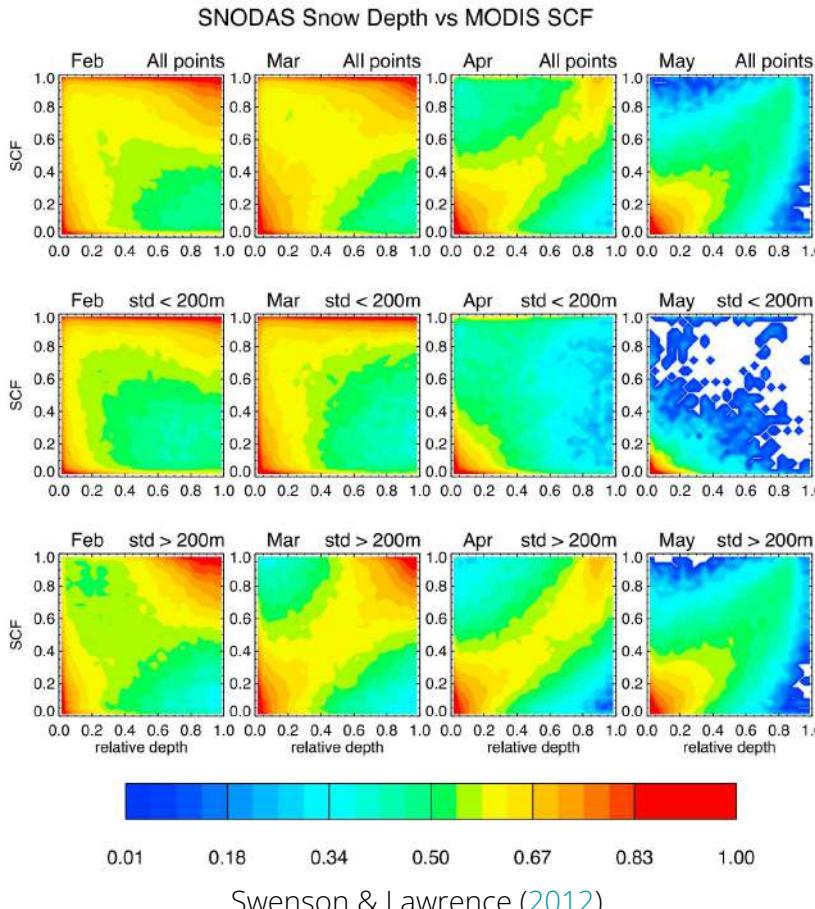
# Snow cover in mountainous area: Swenson & Lawrence ([2012](#)) - SL12



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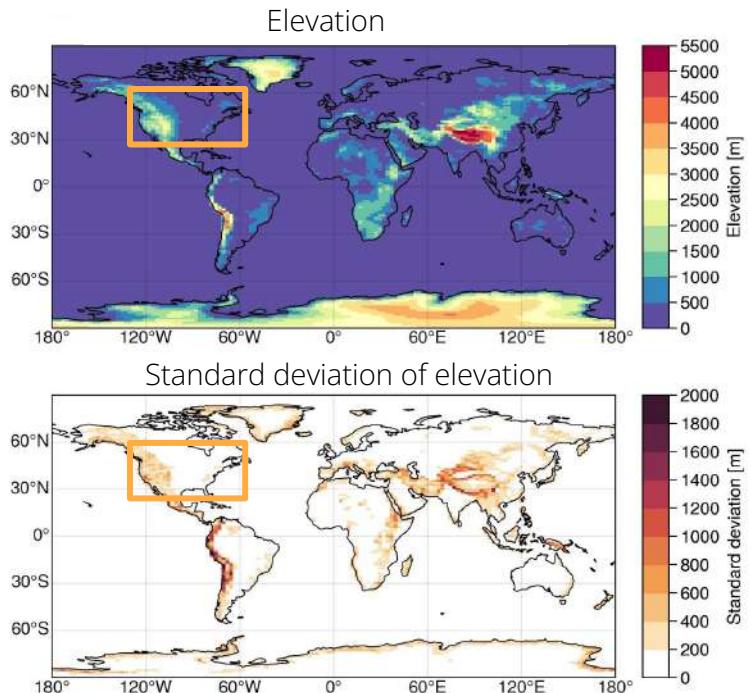
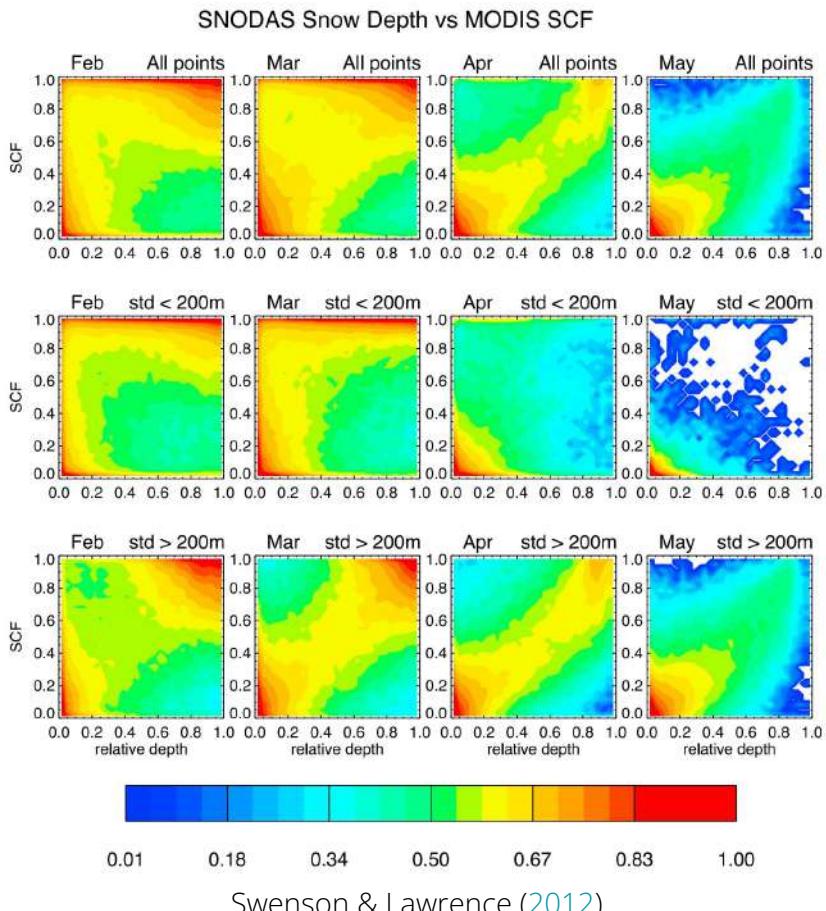
# Snow cover in mountainous area: Swenson & Lawrence (2012) - SL12



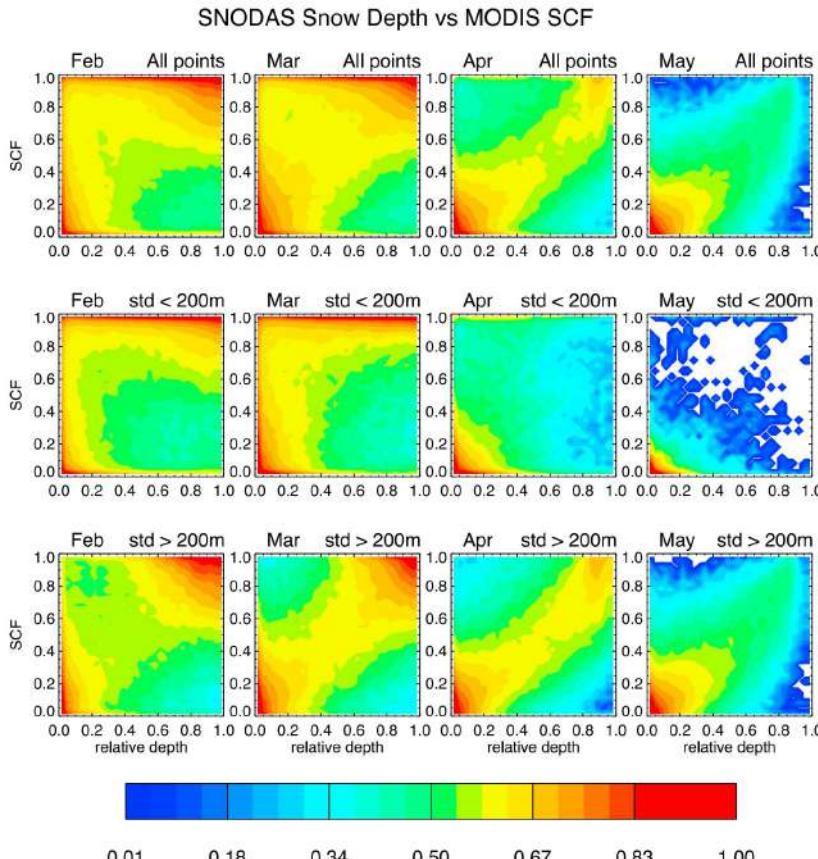
Standard deviation of topography ( $\sigma_{\text{topo}}$ ) in SCF parameterization first introduced by Douville et al. (1995), then Roesch et al. (2001), etc.

$$\text{SCF} = 1 - \left[ \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \left( 2 \frac{\text{SWE}}{\text{SWE}_{\max}} - 1 \right) \right]^{N_{\text{melt}}}$$
$$N_{\text{melt}} = \frac{200}{\max(30, \sigma_{\text{topo}})}$$

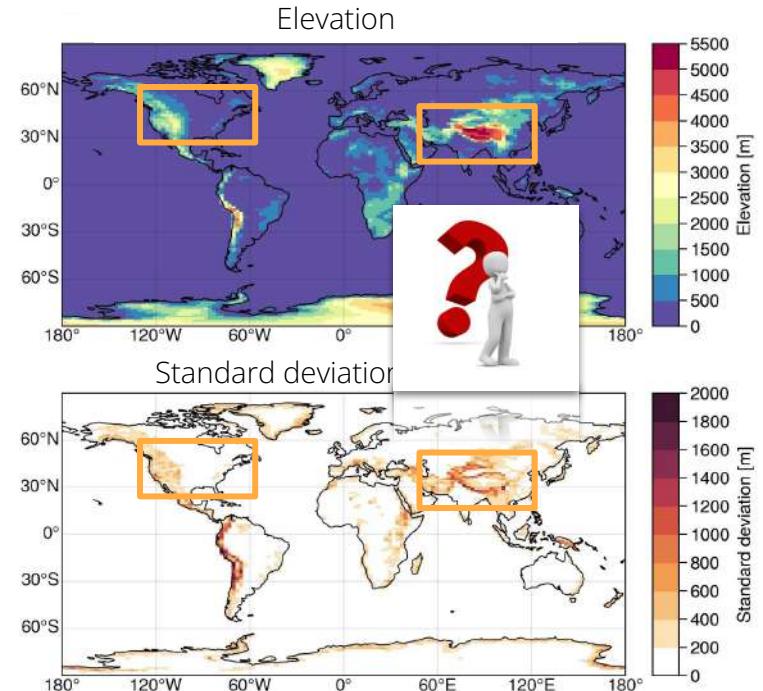
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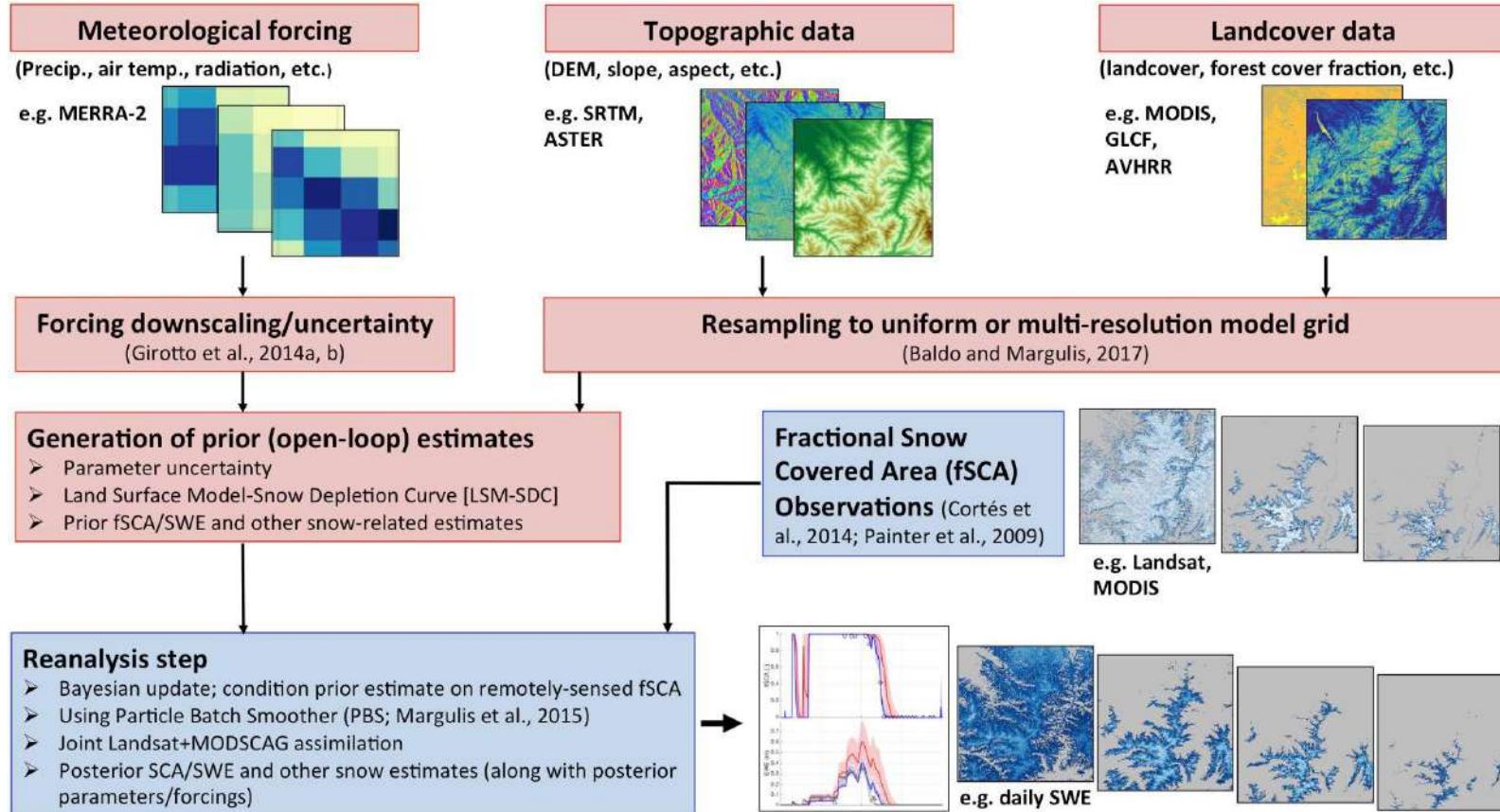
Swenson & Lawrence (2012)



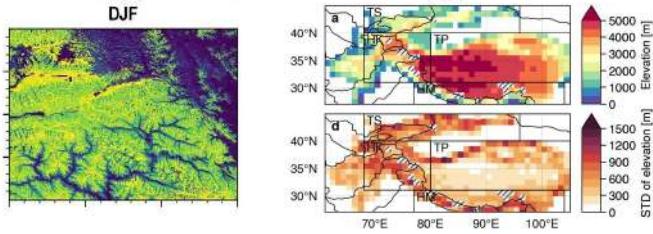
*"Estimating the spatial distribution of snow water equivalent (SWE)  
in mountainous terrain is currently  
the most important unsolved problem in snow hydrology."*

Dozier et al. (2016)

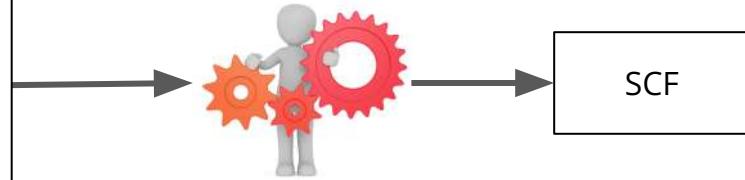
# High Mountain Asia UCLA Daily Snow Reanalysis ([HMASR](#))



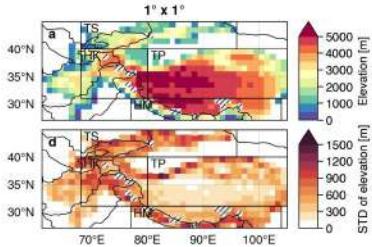
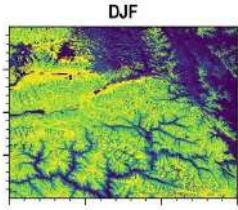
# HMASR -> snow cover parameterizations



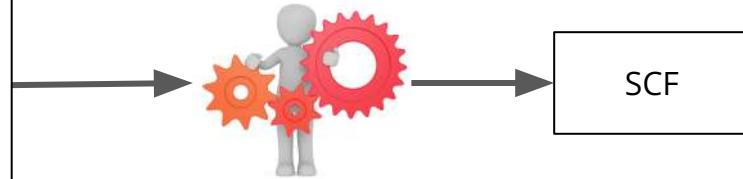
HMASR  
SD / SWE / density  
+ STD topo  
at 1°x1°



# HMASR -> snow cover parameterizations



HMASR  
SD / SWE / density  
+ STD topo  
at 1°x1°



R01 ([Roesch et al., 2001](#))

$$\text{SCF} = 0.95 \cdot \tanh(100 \cdot \text{SWE}) \sqrt{\frac{1000 \cdot \text{SWE}}{1000 \cdot \text{SWE} + \varepsilon + 0.15 \cdot \sigma_z}}$$

NY07 ([Niu and Yang, 2007](#))

$$\text{SCF} = \tanh\left(\frac{\text{SD}}{2.5 \cdot z_{0g} (\rho_{\text{snow}}/\rho_{\text{new}})^m}\right)$$

+  $\sigma_{\text{topo}}$  (LA23)

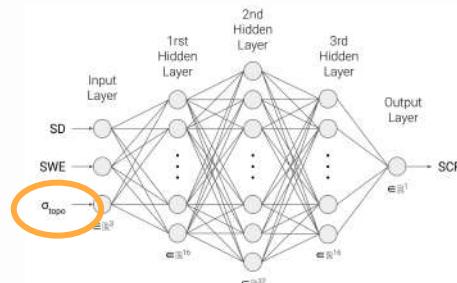
SL12 ([Swenson and Lawrence, 2012](#))

$$\text{SCF} = 1 - \left[ \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \left( 2 \frac{\text{SWE}}{\text{SWE}_{\max}} - 1 \right) \right]^{N_{\text{melt}}}$$

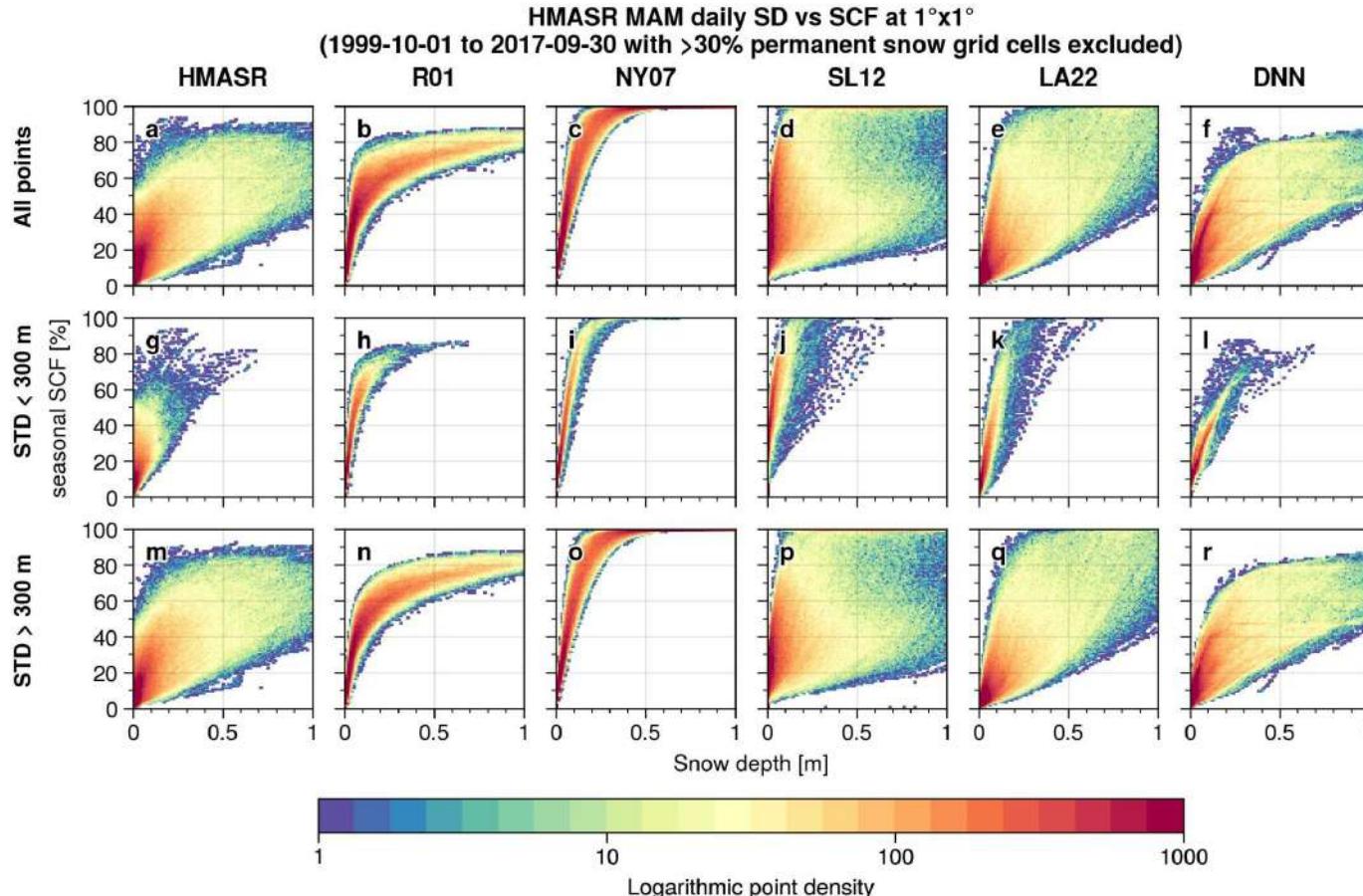
$$N_{\text{melt}} = \frac{200}{\max(30, \sigma_{\text{topo}})}$$

$$\text{SWE}_{\max} = \frac{2 \cdot \text{SWE}}{\cos[\pi(1 - \text{SCF})^{1/N_{\text{melt}}}] + 1}$$

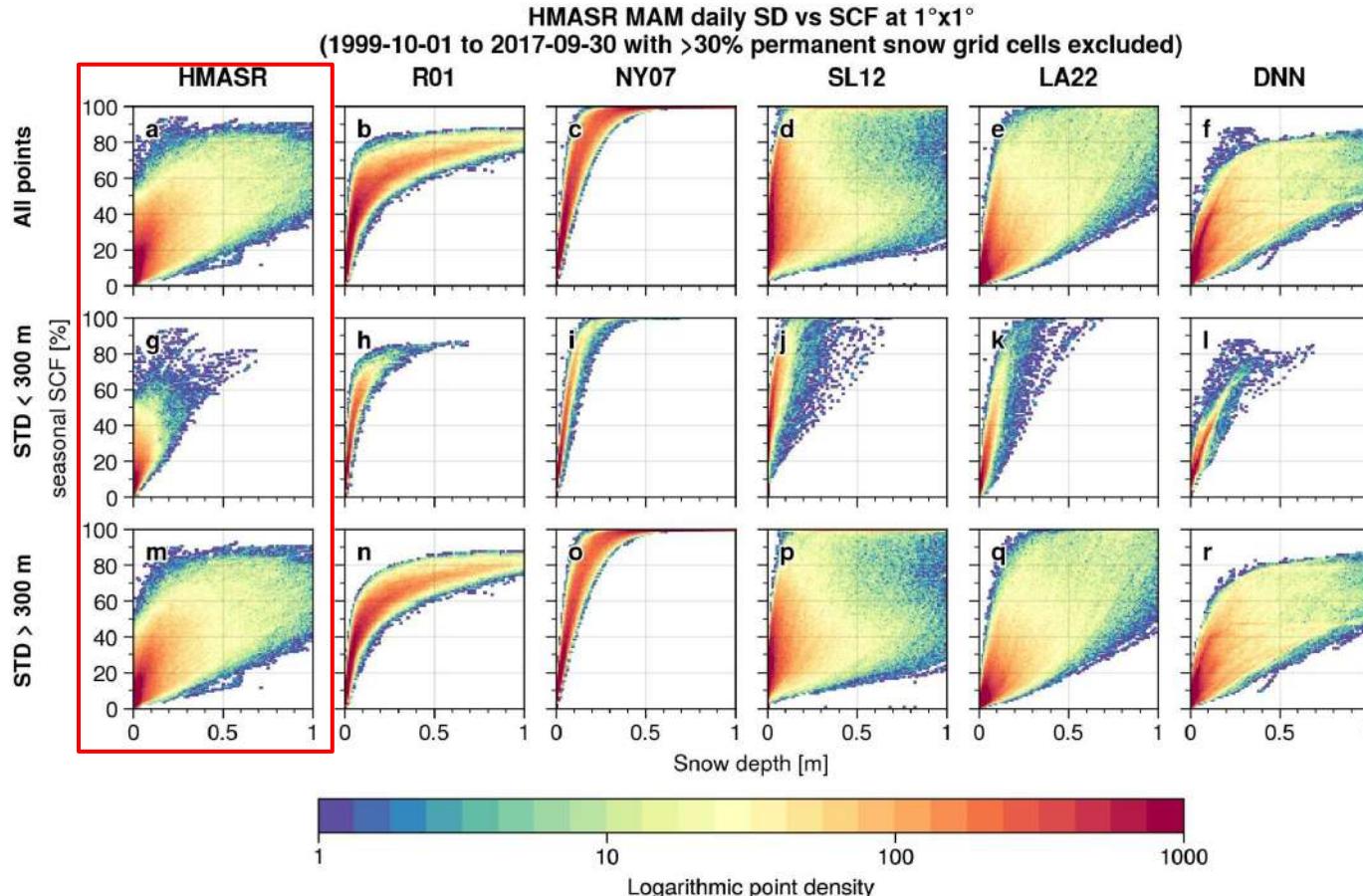
DNN (deep neural network)



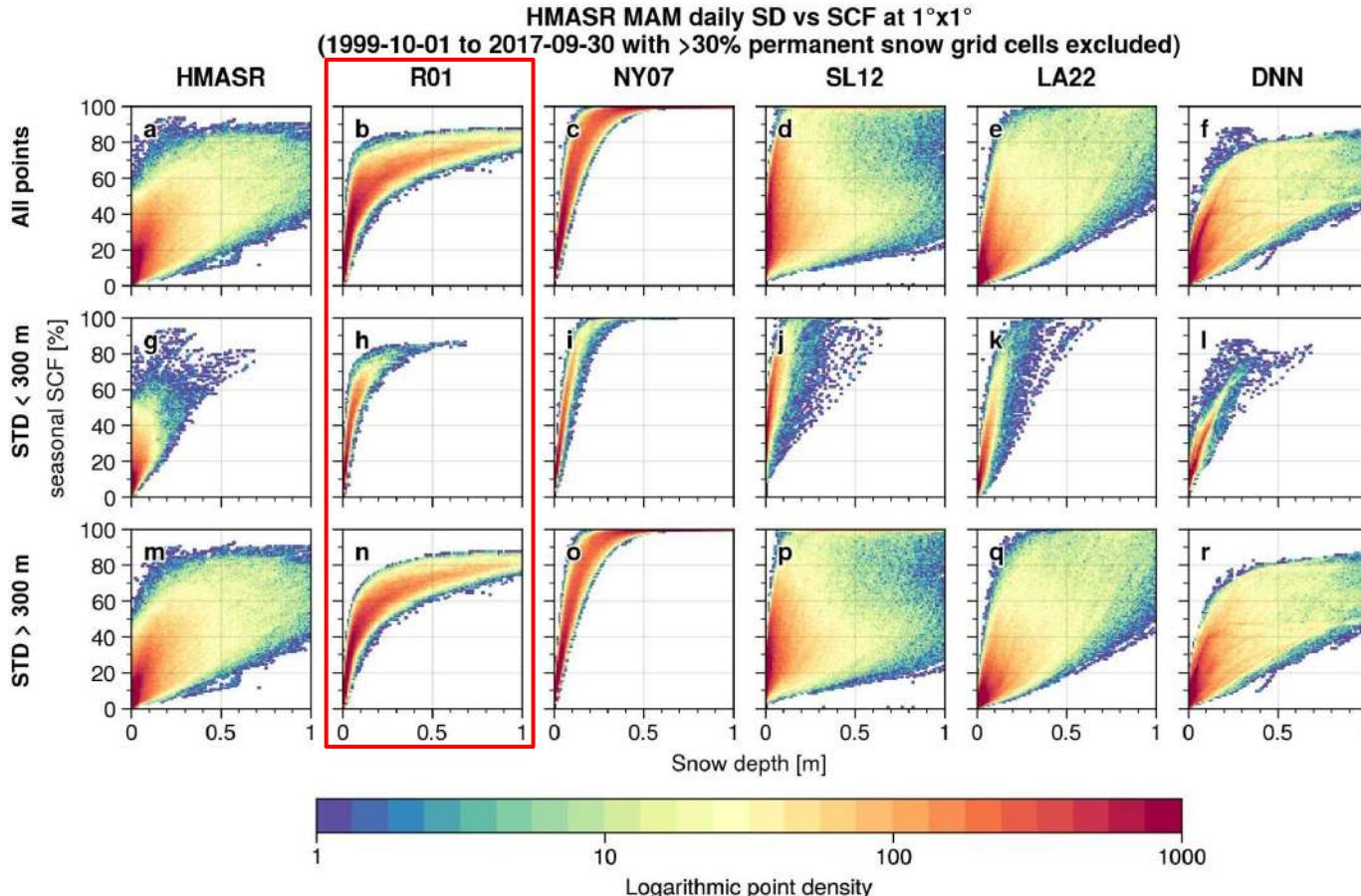
# Histograms of the daily HMASR seasonal SCF and SD



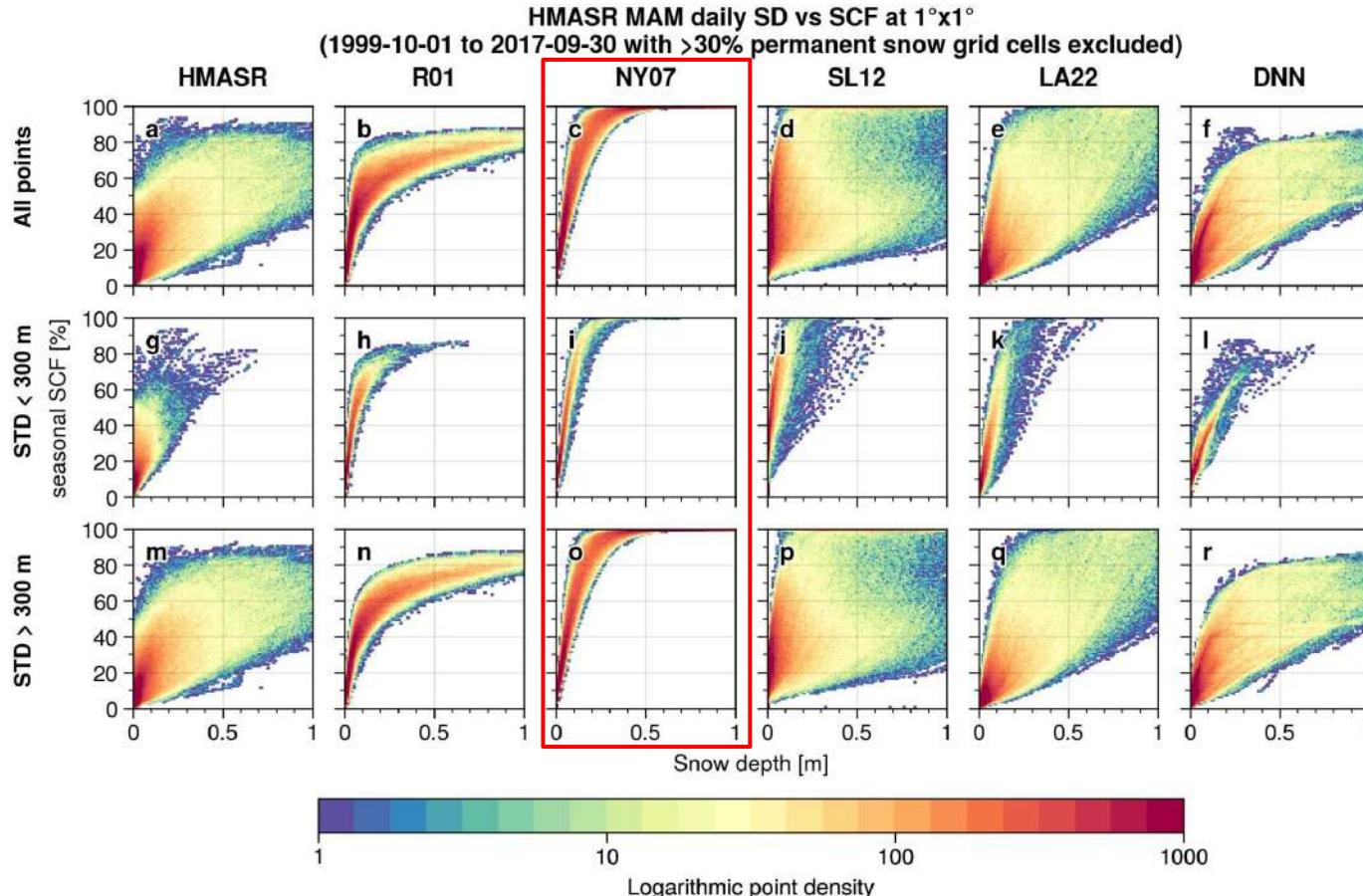
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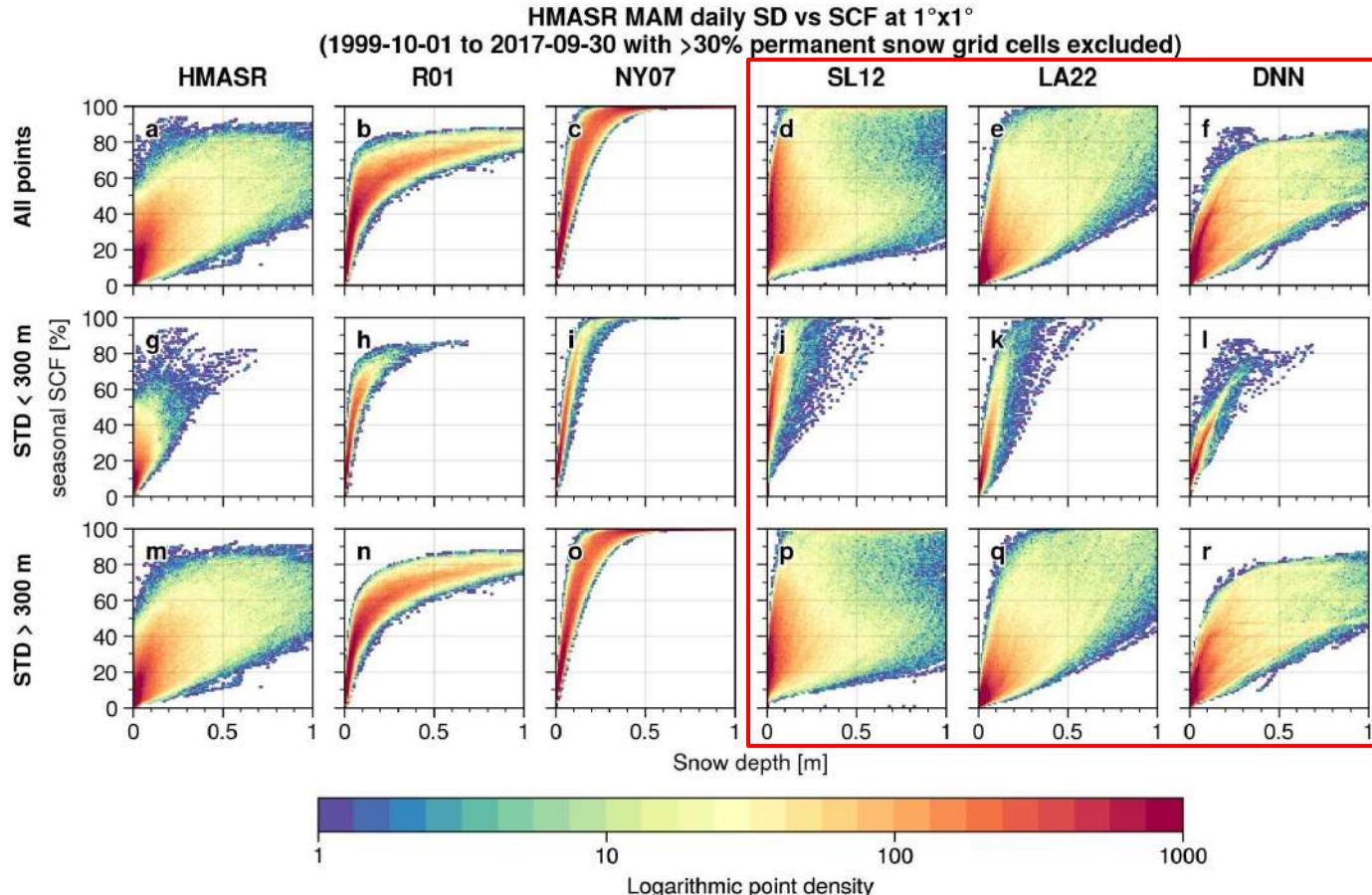
# Histograms of the daily HMASR seasonal SCF and SD



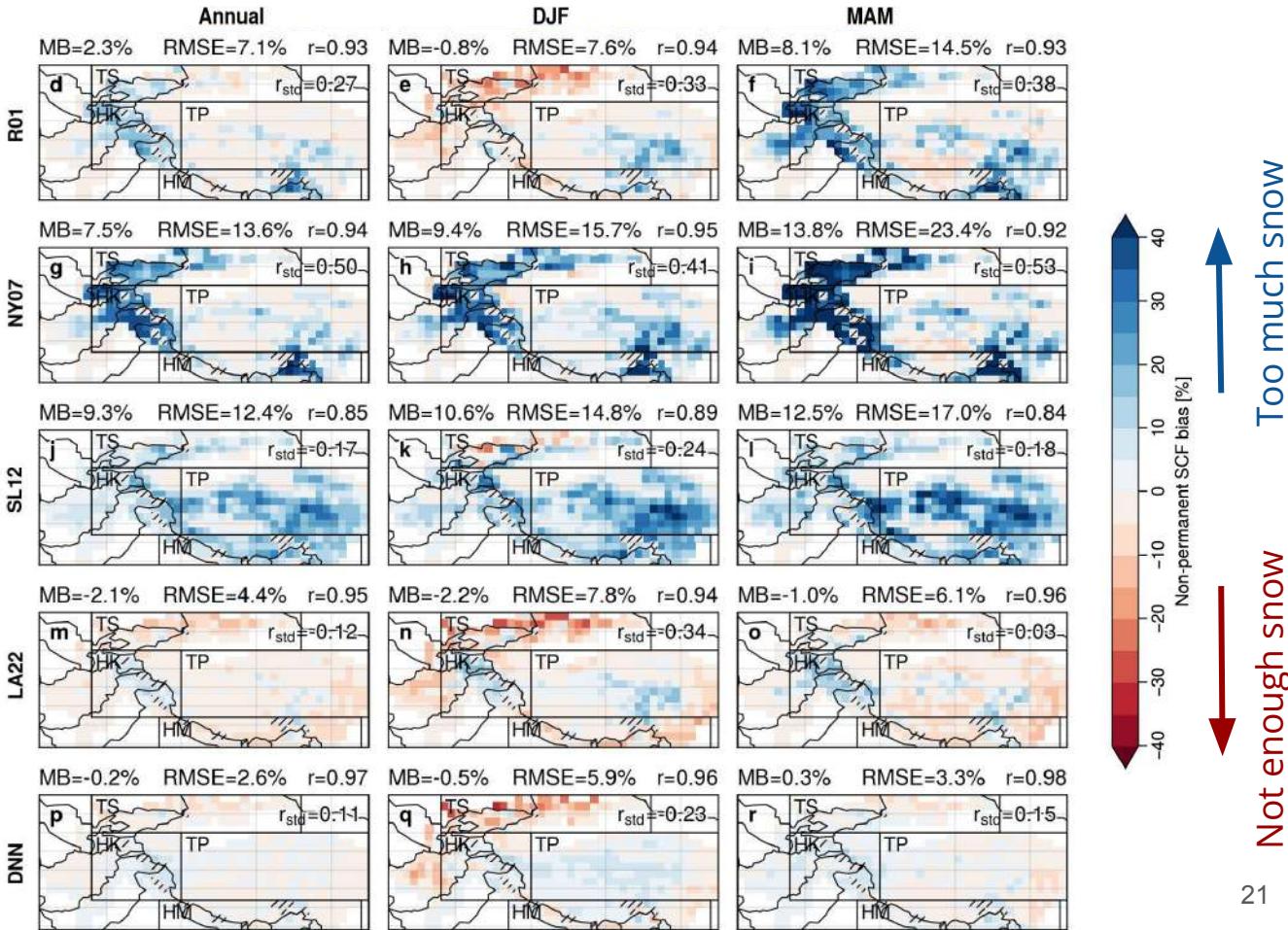
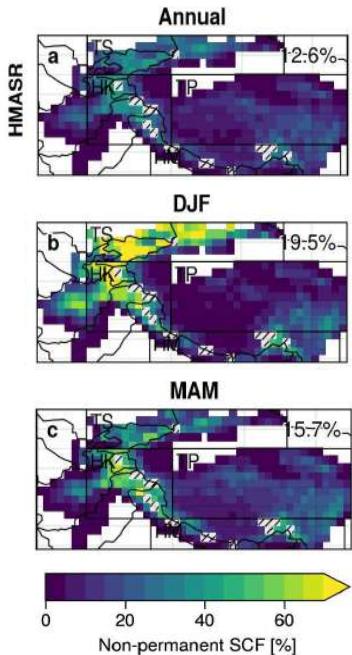
# Histograms<sup>#3</sup> of the daily HMASR seasonal SCF and SD



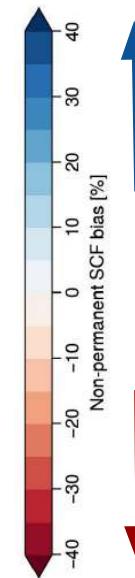
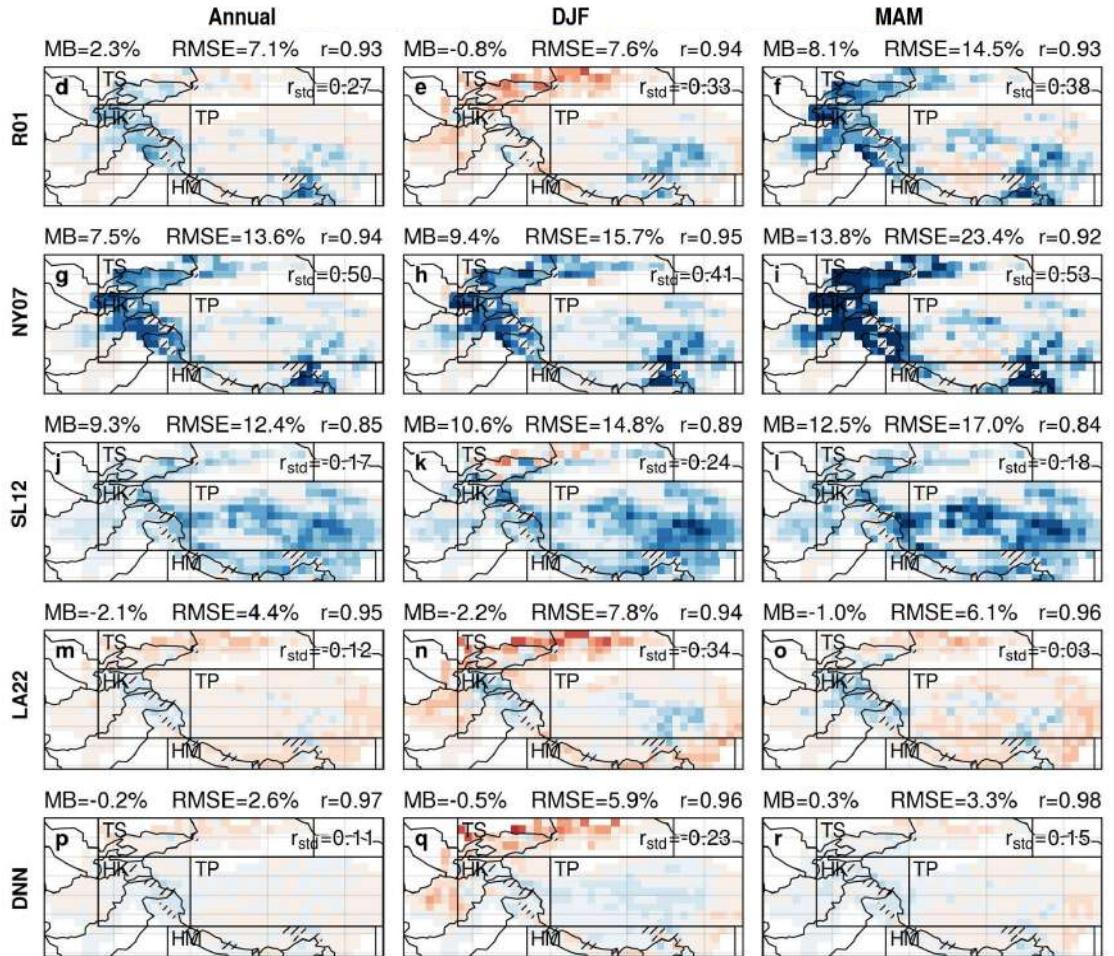
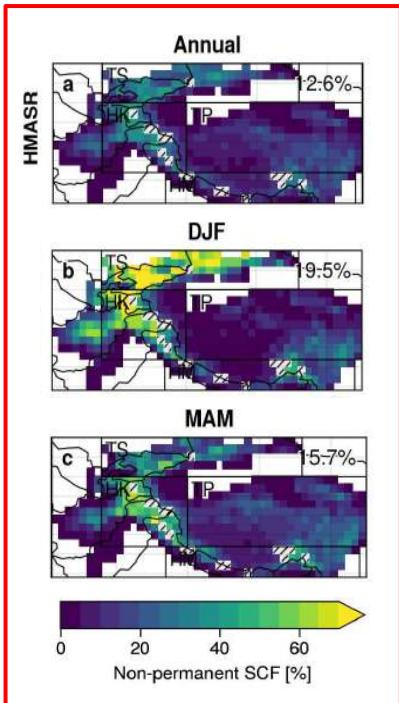
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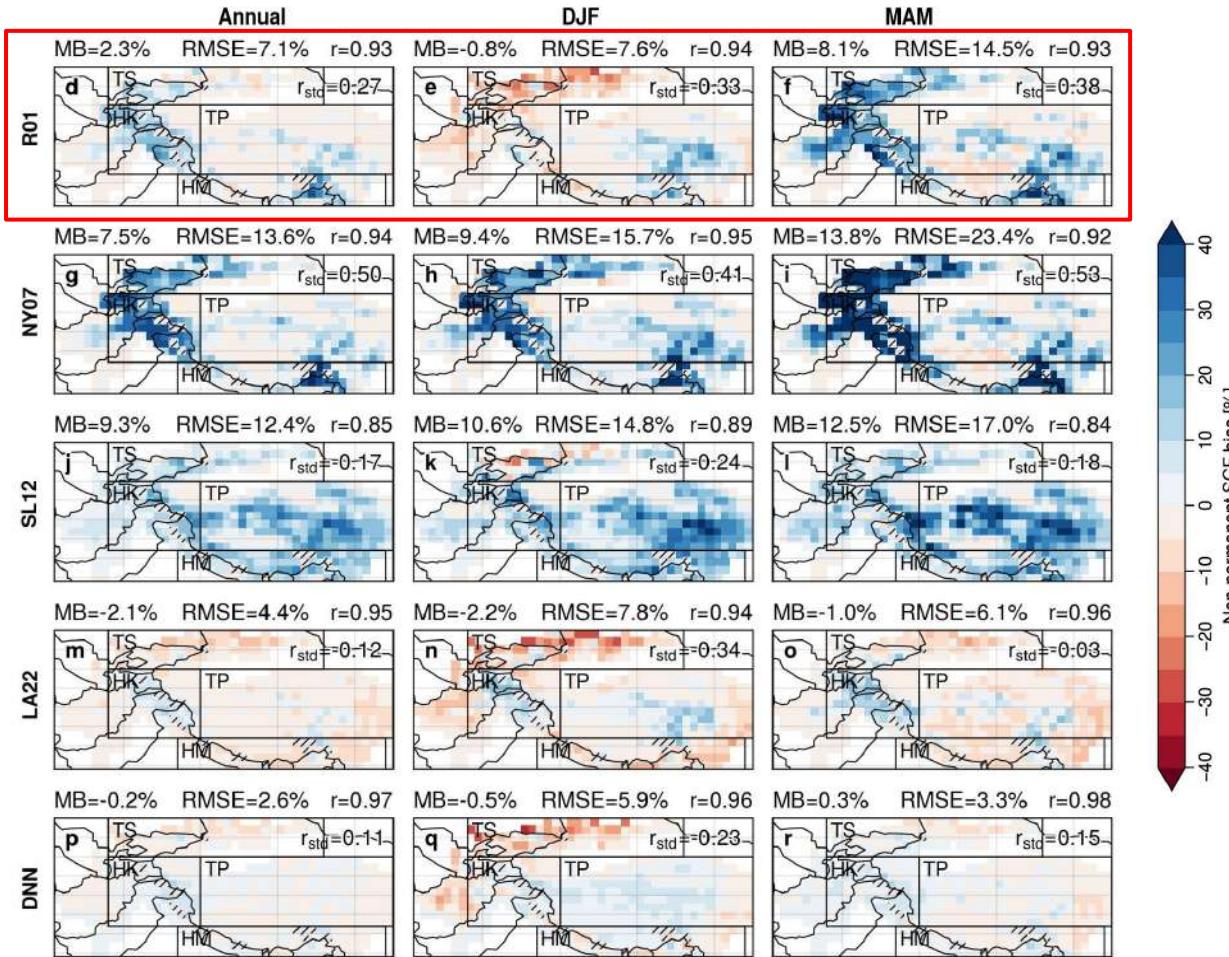
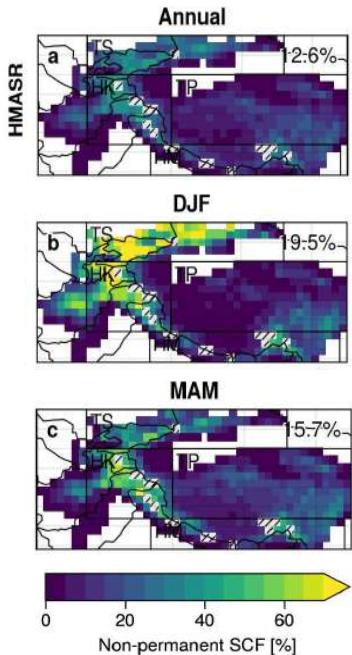
# HMASR -> snow cover parameterizations



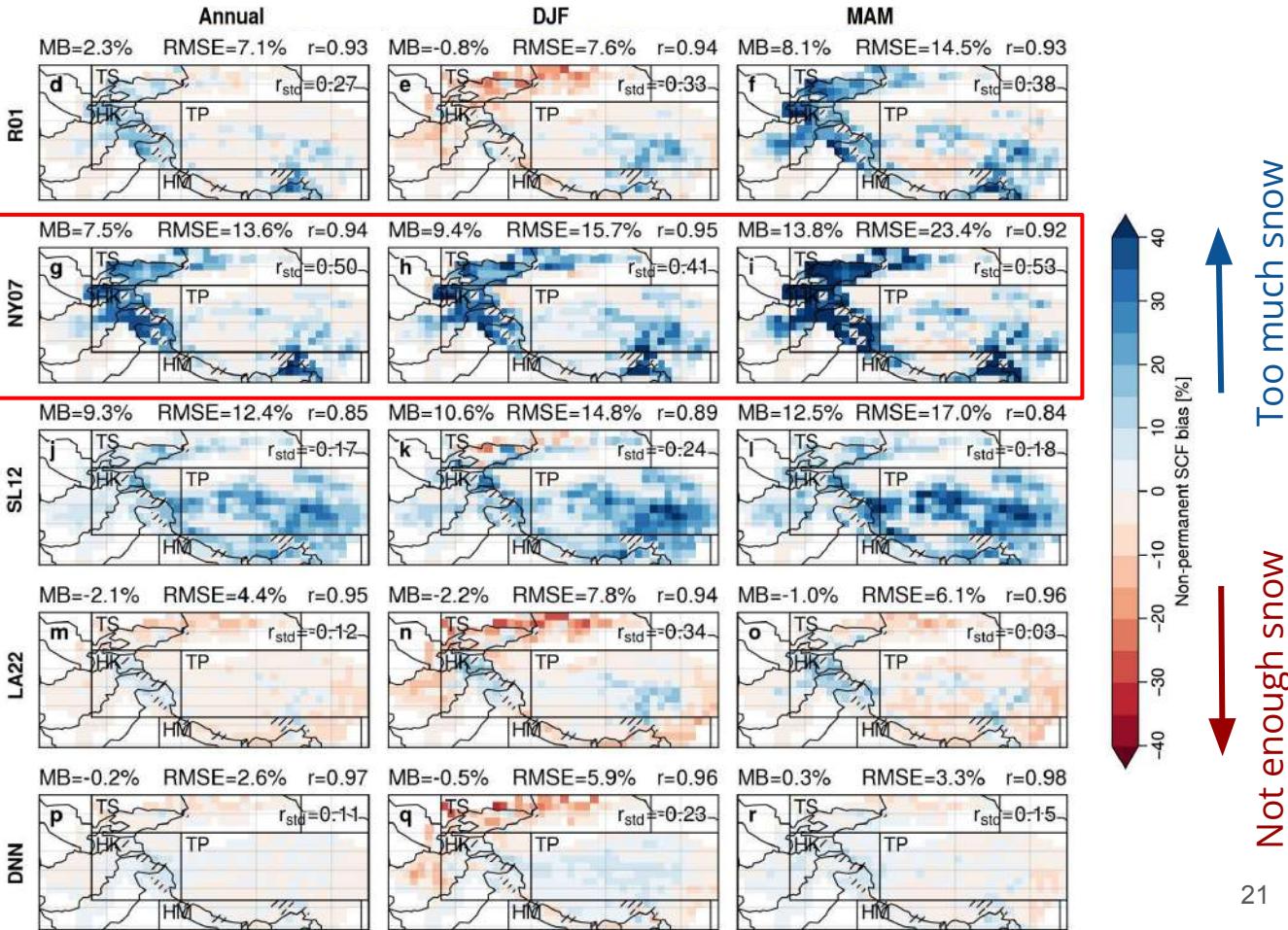
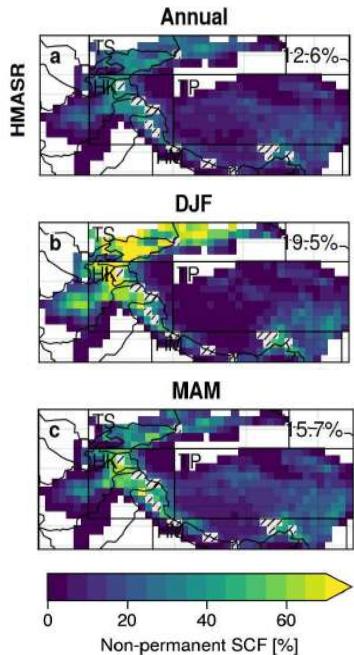
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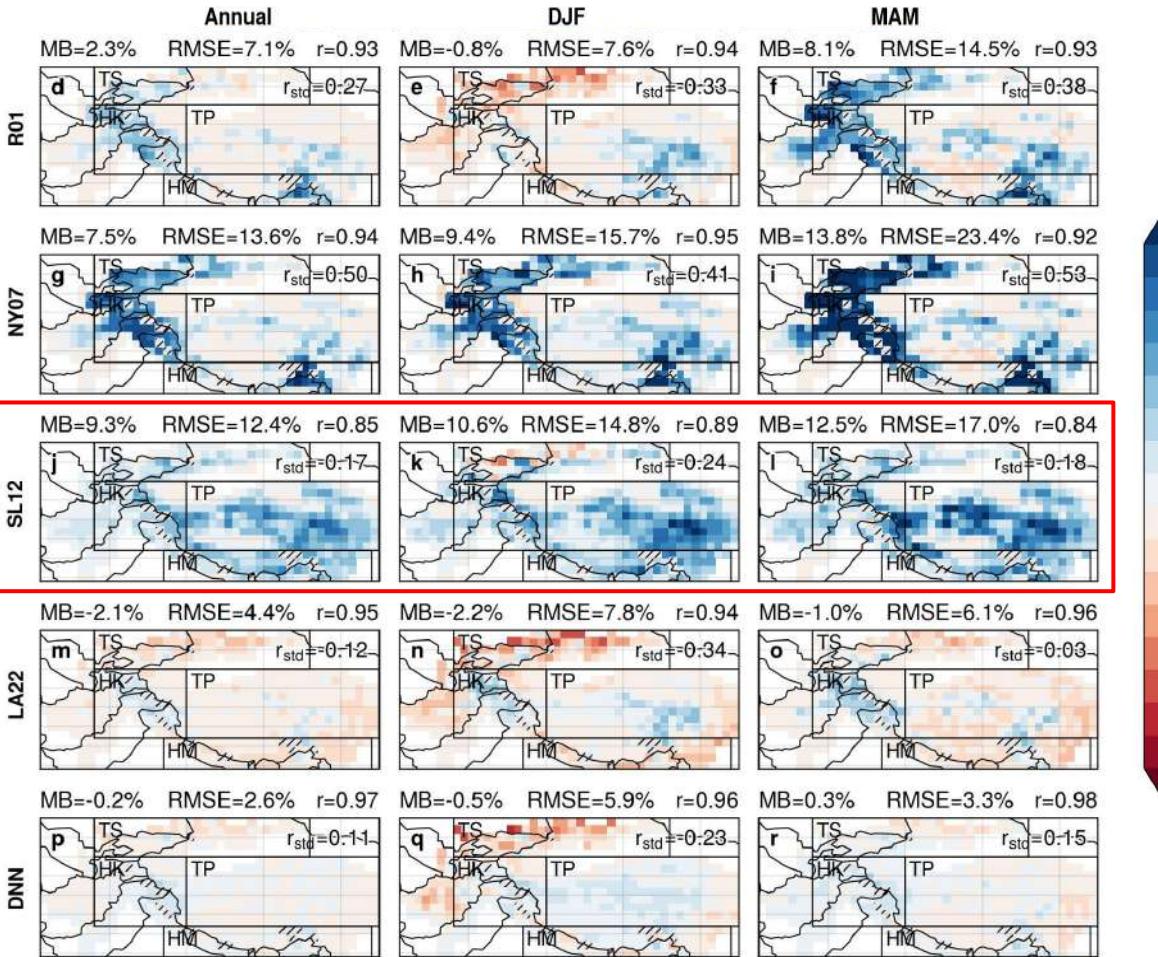
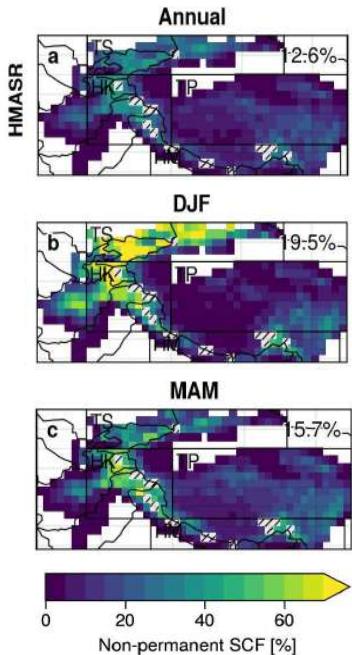
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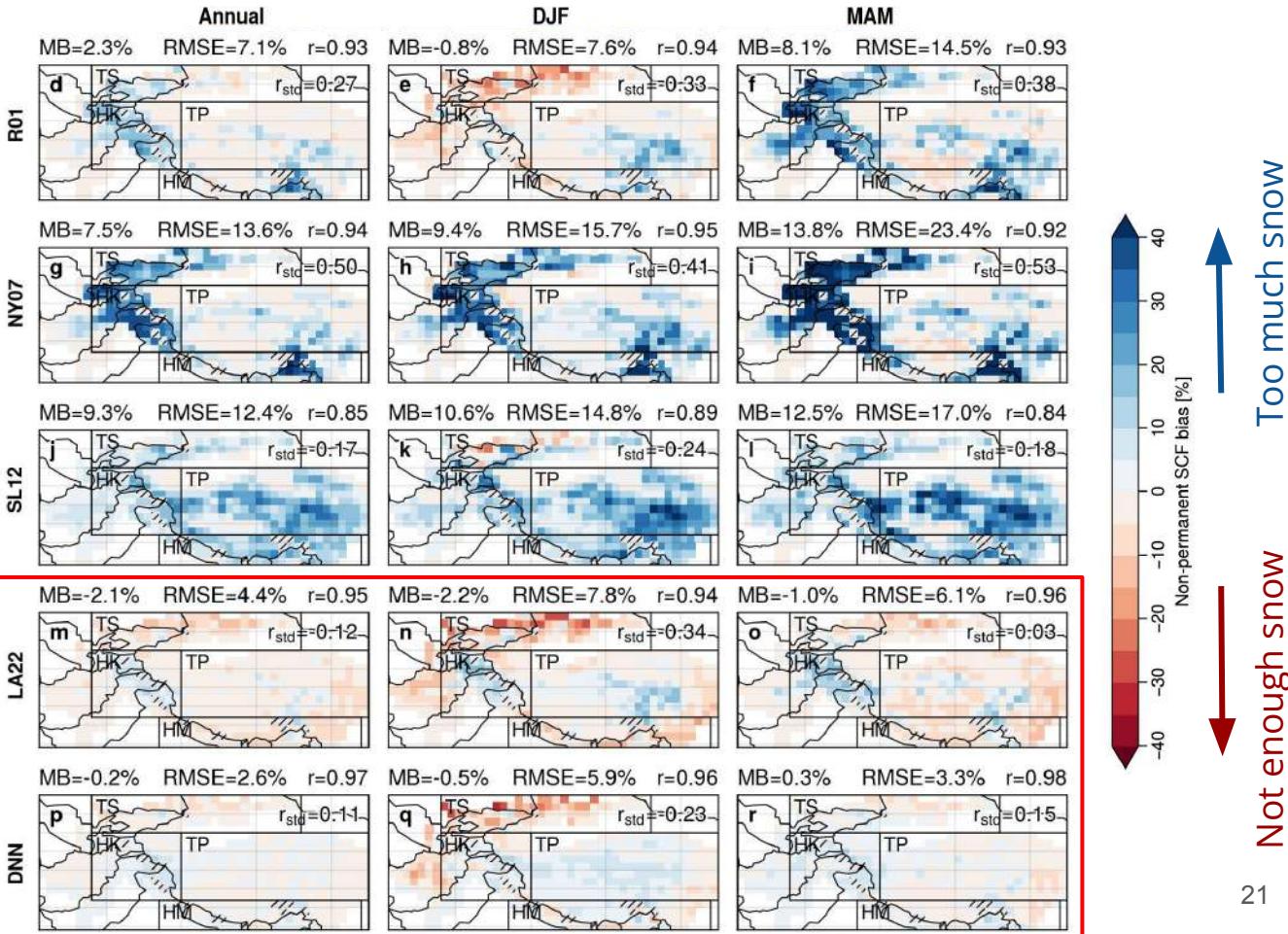
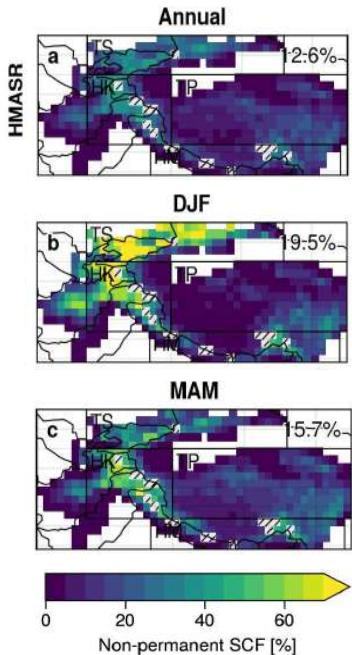
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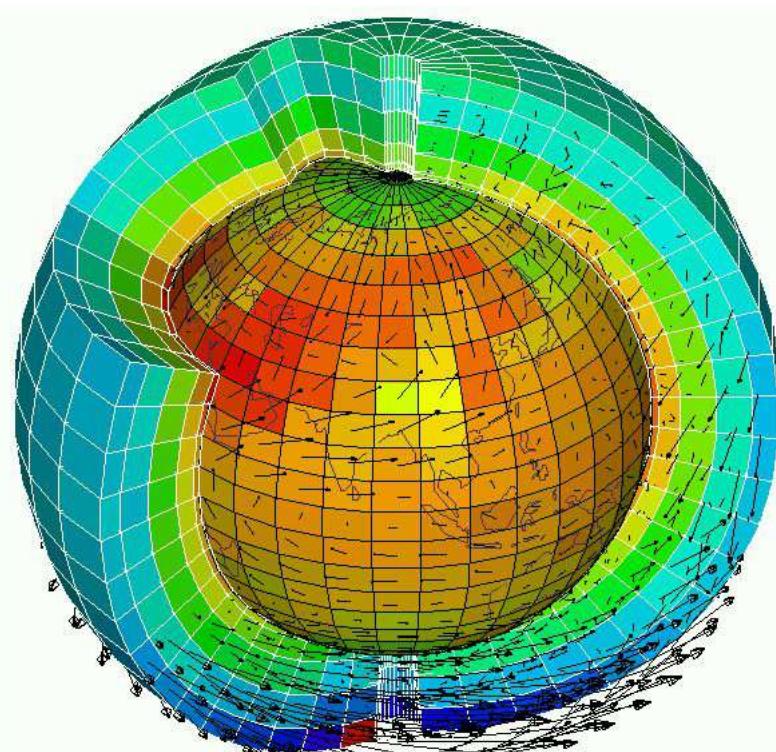
# HMASR -> snow cover parameterizations



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# Application in GCM (LMDZ/ORCHIDEE)



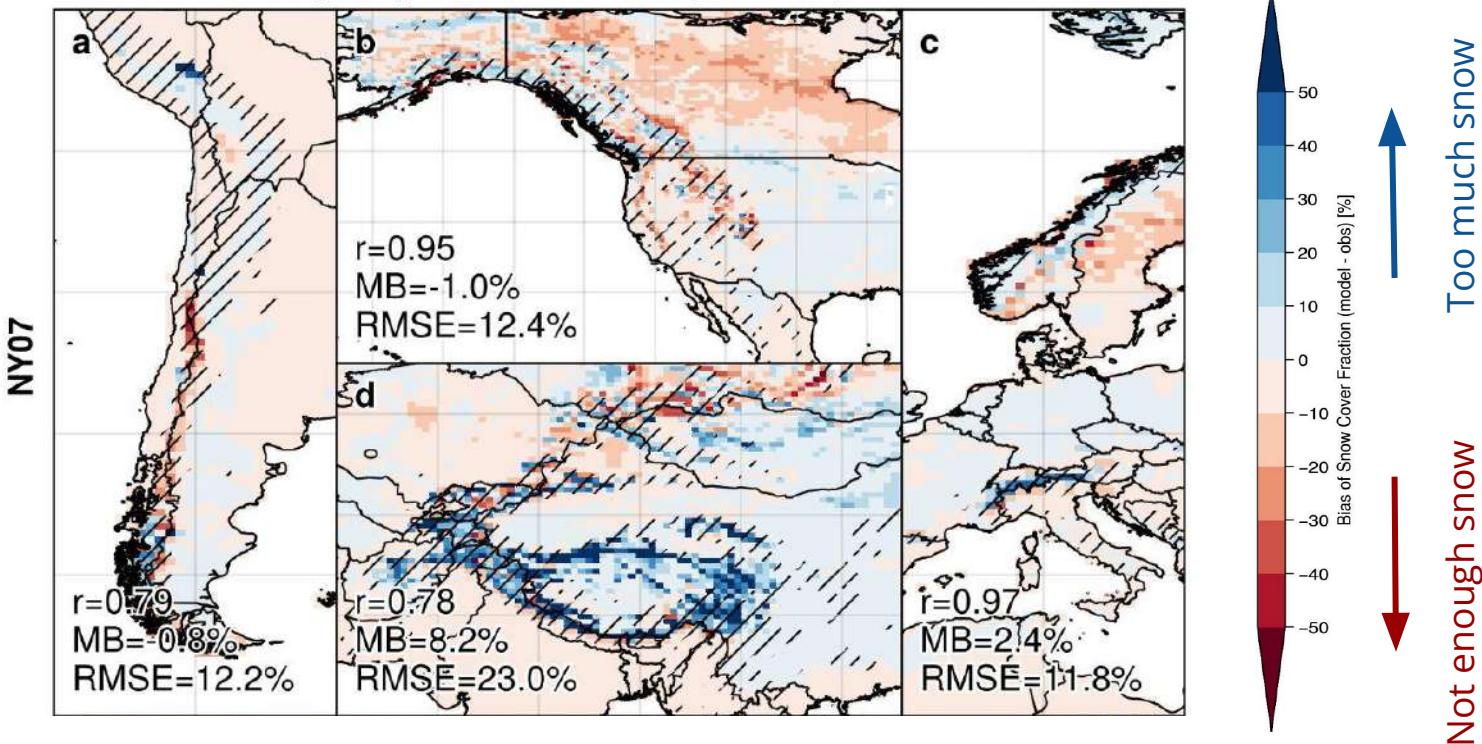
- Nudged land-atmosphere coupled simulations (LMDZ/ORCHIDEE)
- 2 resolutions:
  - LR 144x142 (~100/200 km)
  - HR 512x360 (~50 km)
- 2005-2008 (2004 spin-up)
- NY07, LA23, and SL12 parameterizations
- Snow CCI MODIS observational reference

# Application in GCM (LMDZ/ORCHIDEE)

Reference  
(Niu and Yang, 2007)

## Spring snow cover bias

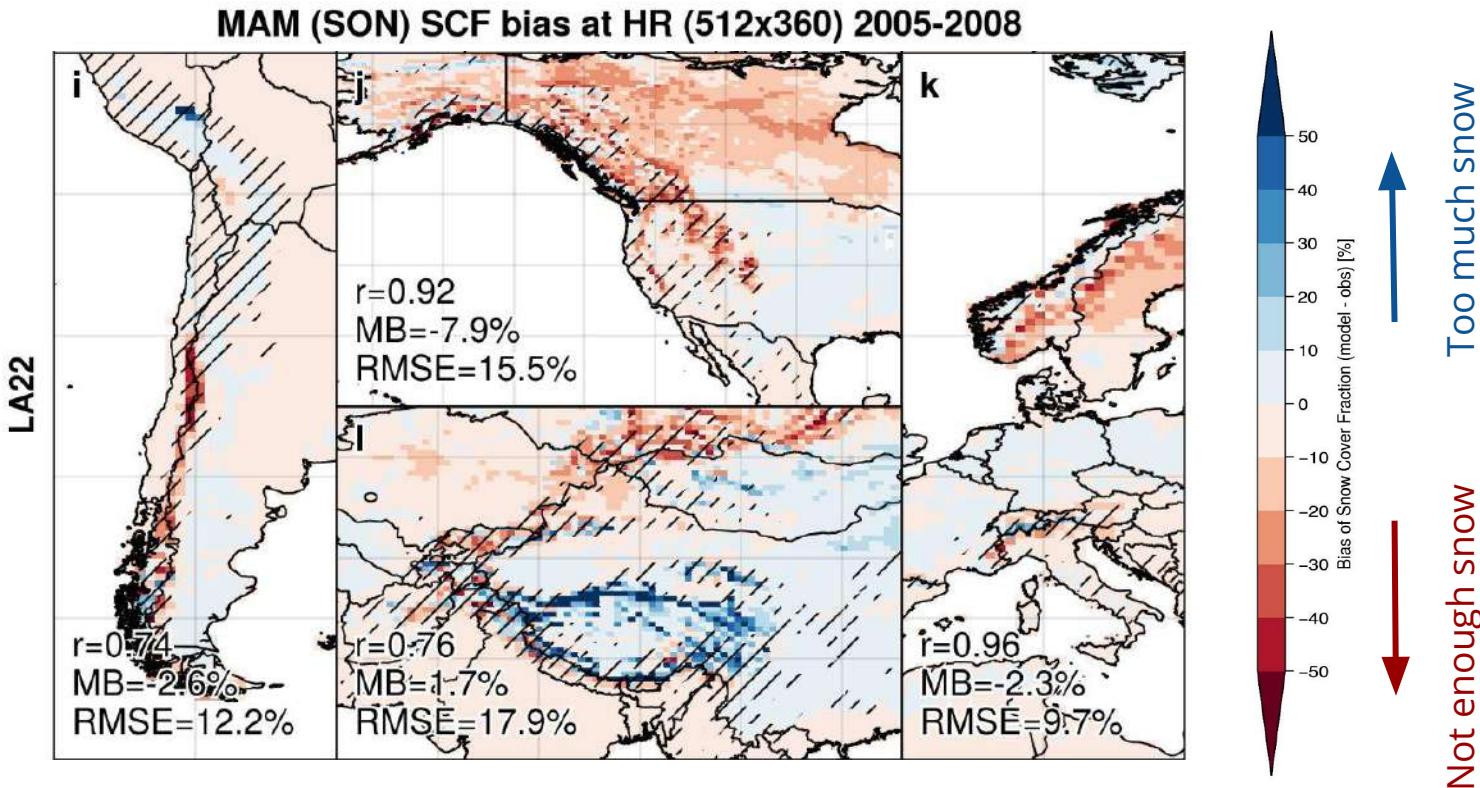
MAM (SON) SCF bias at HR (512x360) 2005-2008



# Application in GCM (LMDZ/ORCHIDEE)

## Spring snow cover bias

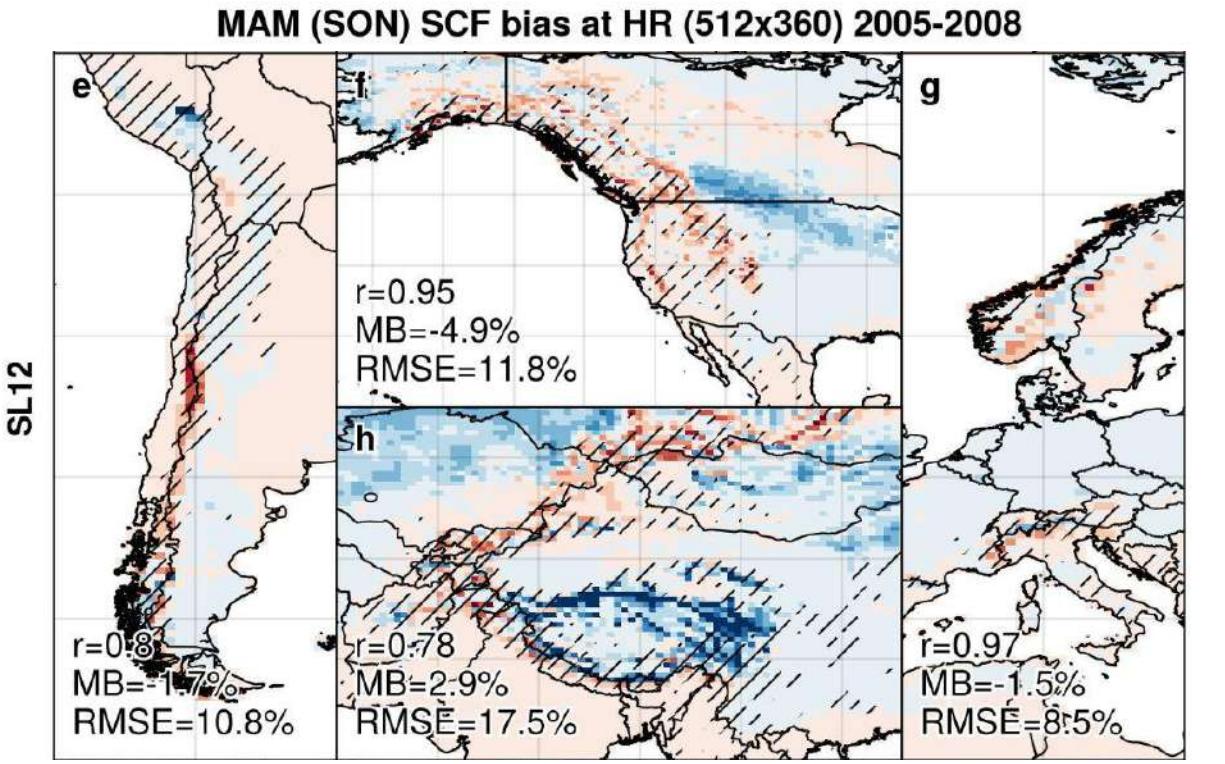
New LA22  
(based on NY07)



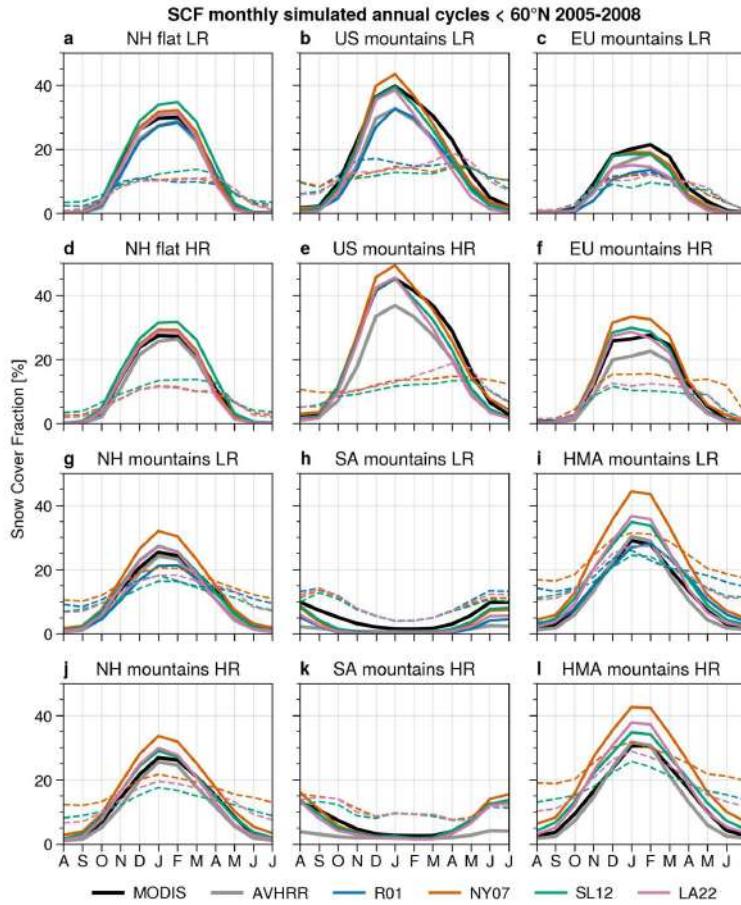
New SL12  
(Swenson and Lawrence, 2012)

# Application in GCM (LMDZ/ORCHIDEE)

## Spring snow cover bias



# Application in GCM (LMDZ/ORCHIDEE)



- Contrasting results depending on the location
- **Snow cover** overestimation in **mountain areas** is **reduced by about 5 to 10 %** (when including a dependency on the subgrid topography in the SCF parameterizations)
- No deterioration over flat areas (in average) and no increase of the spatial RMSE
- Surface **cold bias decrease from  $-1.8^{\circ}\text{C}$  to about  $-1^{\circ}\text{C}$**  in the High Mountain Asia (HMA) region
- Increasing the resolution improves the simulated SCF in certain areas (e.g., Alps)

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## Conclusion and general outlook

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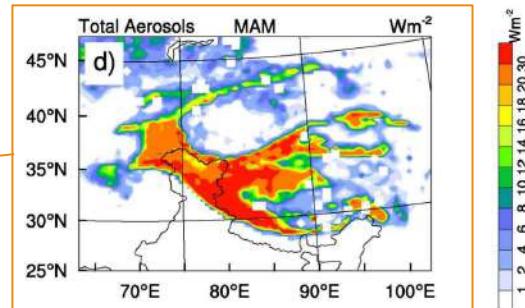
# Take home messages

- Taking into account the **sub-grid topography** in **SCF parameterization** seems essential over **mountainous areas** (Swenson and Lawrence, [2012](#); Miao et al., [2022](#); Lalande et al., in prep)
- **Other processes** might be involved in current **biases over HMA**:
  - precipitation (orographic drag; e.g, Wang et al., [2020](#)) / aerosol deposition on snow (e.g., Usha et al., [2020](#)) / boundary layer (e.g., Serafin et al., [2020](#)) / tropospheric cold bias, etc.
- Further **calibration** -> **other regions / datasets** (+ other variables, forested areas?, etc.) +  
↳ **Crucial need of snowfall, SD/SWE observations over mountainous areas!**
- Limitation over **permanent snow** areas? (glaciers, etc.)
  - elevation bands (e.g., Walland and Simmonds, [1996](#); Younas et al., [2017](#))
- Other parameterizations not tested, e.g.: Liston ([2004](#)), Helbig et al. ([2021](#)), etc.
- **Deep learning** very **promising** for such parameterizations (+ help to test the influence of other parameters)

# Perspectives : conseils SCF CMIP6 -> CMIP7 LMDZ/ORCHIDEE

- Amélioration de la représentation de l'**albédo de la neige** incluant le dépôt d'aérosols (ex., Warren and Wiscombe, [1980](#); Kokhanovsky and Zege, [2004](#); Wang et al., [2020b](#))

Fig. 7 Usha et al. ([2020](#))

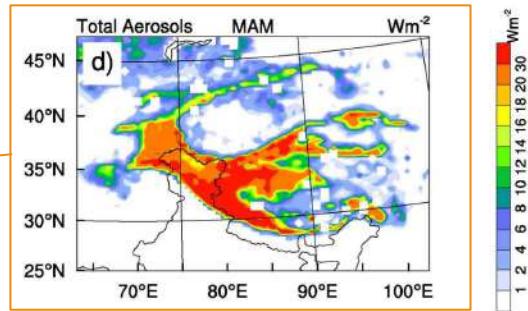


Le sable du Sahara a partiellement recouvert le manteau neigeux de plusieurs stations des Pyrénées, comme ici à la station de Plaü (Hautes-Pyrénées), le 15 mars 2022. | BASTIEN ARBERET / AFP

# Perspectives : conseils SCF CMIP6 -> CMIP7 LMDZ/ORCHIDEE

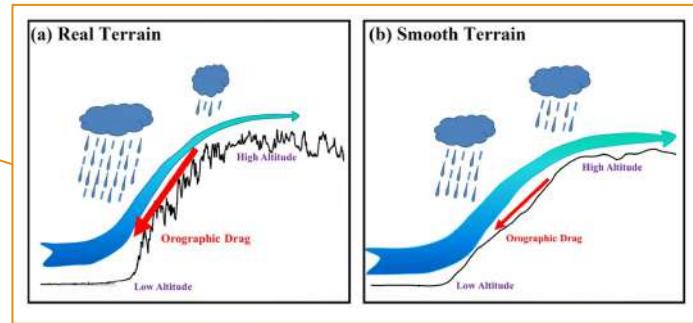
- Amélioration de la représentation de l'**albédo de la neige** incluant le dépôt d'aérosols (ex., Warren and Wiscombe, [1980](#); Kokhanovsky and Zege, [2004](#); Wang et al., [2020b](#))

Fig. 7 Usha et al. ([2020](#))



- **Trainée orographique** de petite échelle

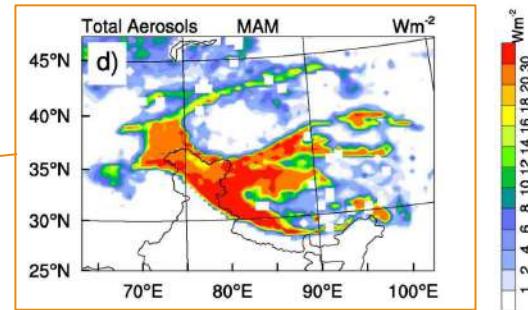
Fig. 5 Wang et al. ([2020](#))



# Perspectives : conseils SCF CMIP6 -> CMIP7 LMDZ/ORCHIDEE

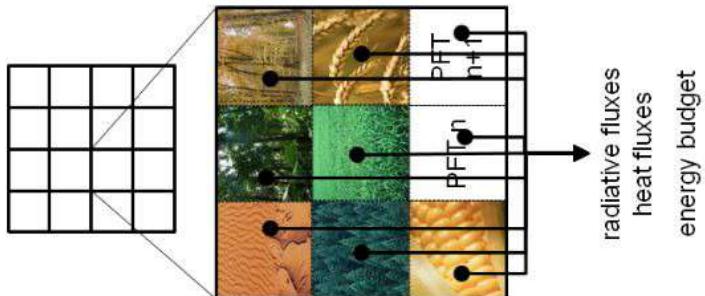
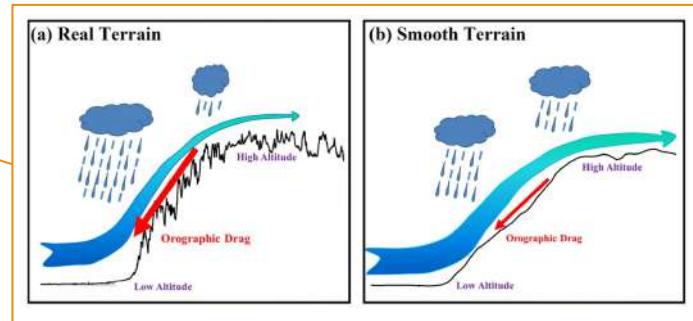
- Amélioration de la représentation de l'**albédo de la neige** incluant le dépôt d'aérosols (ex., Warren and Wiscombe, [1980](#); Kokhanovsky and Zege, [2004](#); Wang et al., [2020b](#))

Fig. 7 Usha et al. ([2020](#))



- Trainée orographique** de petite échelle
- Amélioration du calcul du **bilan d'énergie de surface**

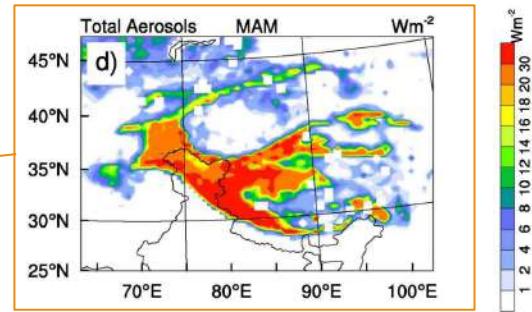
Fig. 5 Wang et al. ([2020](#))



# Perspectives : conseils SCF CMIP6 -> CMIP7 LMDZ/ORCHIDEE

- Amélioration de la représentation de l'**albédo de la neige** incluant le dépôt d'aérosols (ex., Warren and Wiscombe, [1980](#); Kokhanovsky and Zege, [2004](#); Wang et al., [2020b](#))

Fig. 7 Usha et al. ([2020](#))



- Trainée orographique** de petite échelle
- Amélioration du calcul du **bilan d'énergie de surface**
- Bandes d'altitudes et couplage **neige-glace**

Fig. 5 Wang et al. ([2020](#))

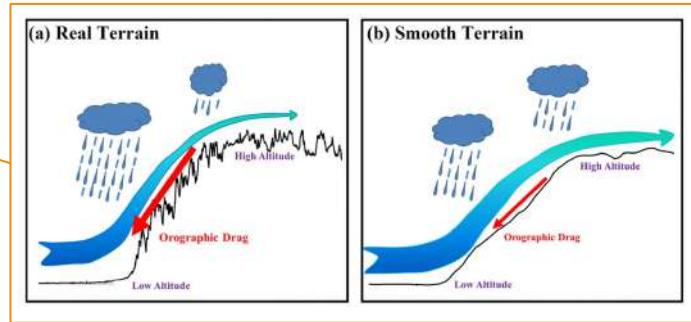
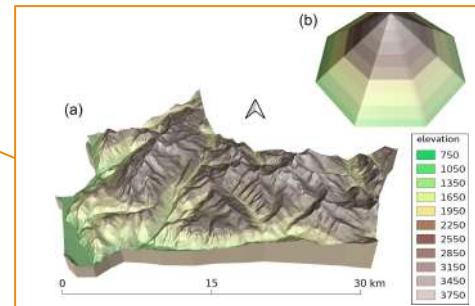


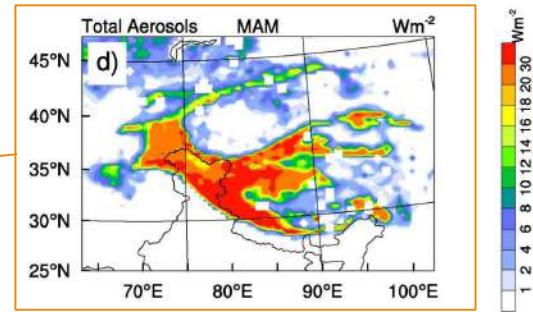
Fig. 3 Vernay et al. ([2022](#))



# Perspectives : conseils SCF CMIP6 -> CMIP7 LMDZ/ORCHIDEE

- Amélioration de la représentation de l'**albédo de la neige** incluant le dépôt d'aérosols (ex., Warren and Wiscombe, [1980](#); Kokhanovsky and Zege, [2004](#); Wang et al., [2020b](#))

Fig. 7 Usha et al. ([2020](#))



- **Trainée orographique** de petite échelle
- Amélioration du calcul du **bilan d'énergie de surface**
- **Bandes d'altitudes** et couplage **neige-glace**
- **Couche limite** en zone de montagne (Wekker and Kossmann, [2015](#); Serafin et al., [2020](#))

Fig. 5 Wang et al. ([2020](#))

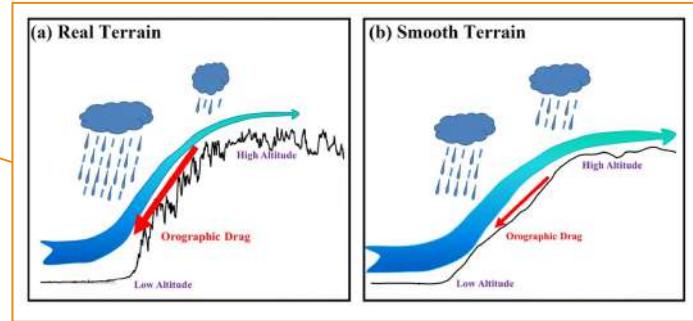
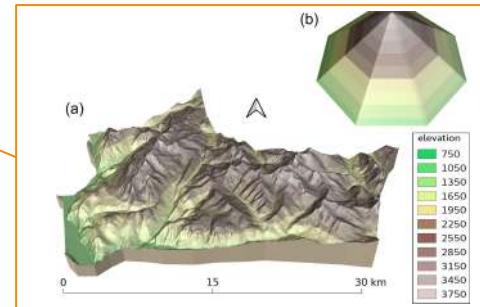


Fig. 3 Vernay et al. ([2022](#))



## Part #3

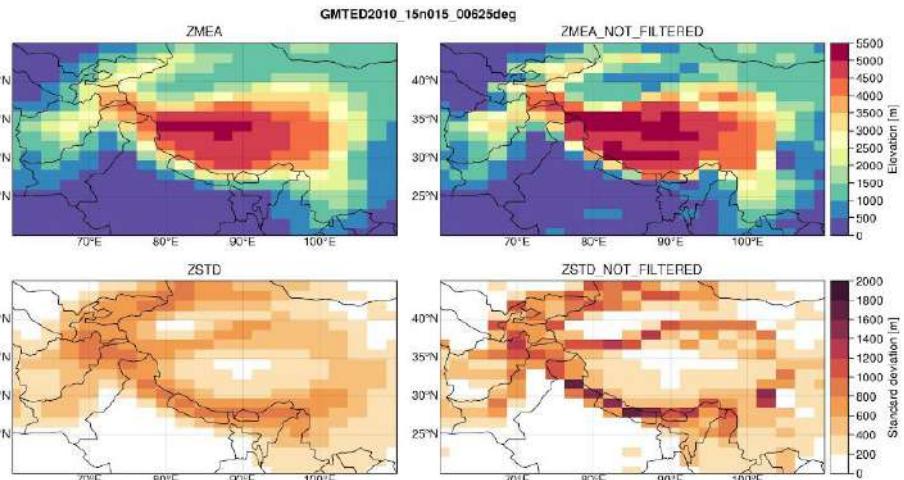
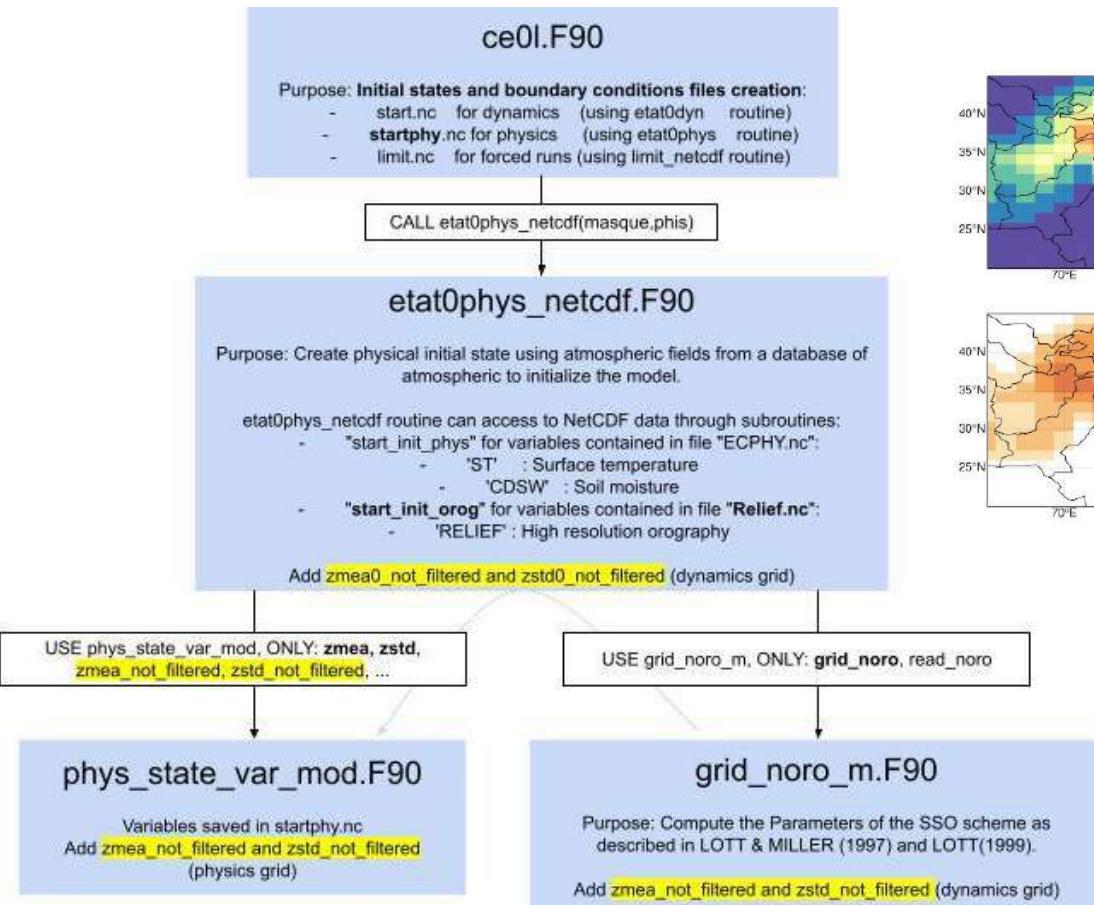
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Technical and practical  
information

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# Get the topography not smoothed



```

!---- FILTERS TO SMOOTH OUT FIELDS FOR INPUT INTO SSO SCHEME.
!---- FIRST FILTER, MOVING AVERAGE OVER 9 POINTS.
!
zphi(:,:,)=zmea(:,:,)
zmea_not_filtered(:,:,)=zmea(:,:,)
zstd_not_filtered(:,:,)=zstd(:,:)

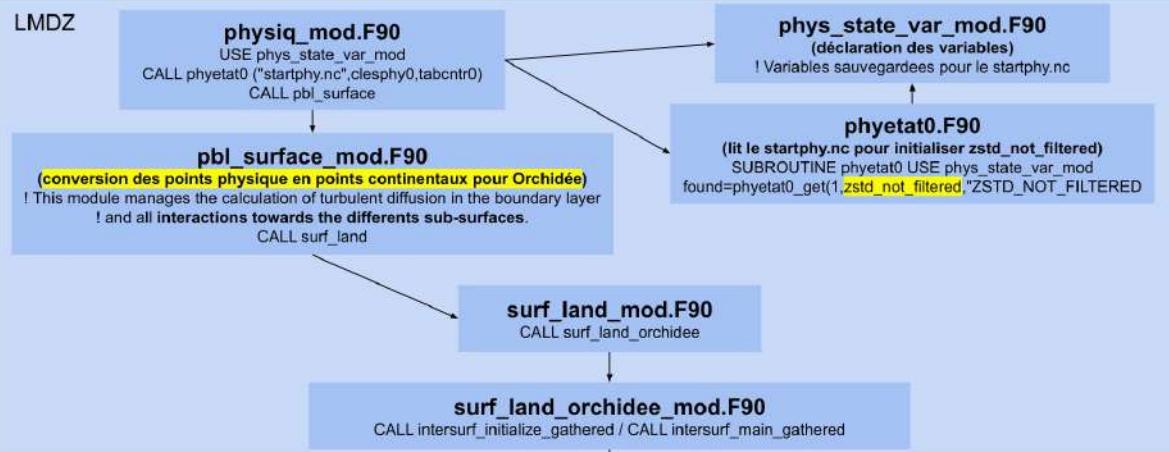
CALL MVA9(zmea); CALL MVA9(zstd); CALL MVA9(zpic); CALL MVA9(zval)
CALL MVA9(ztxz); CALL MVA9(zxtzy); CALL MVA9(zytzy)

```

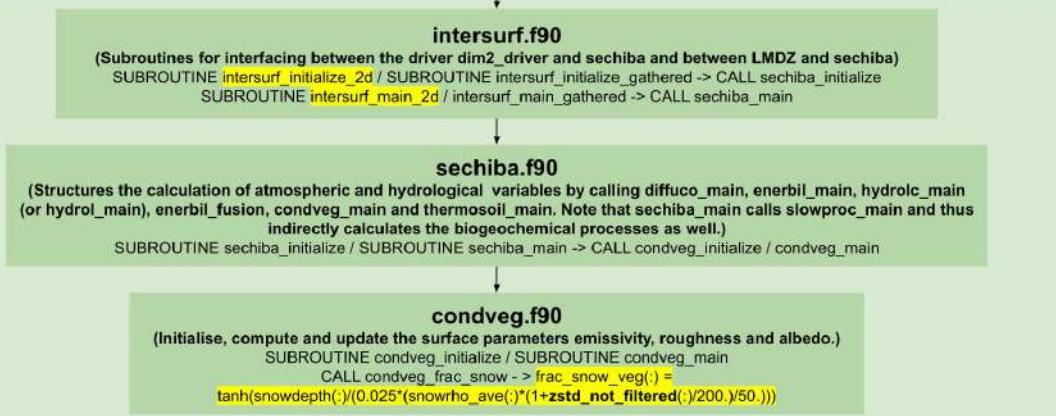
!---- GK211005 (CG) UNSMOOTH

# LMDZ to ORCHIDEE

LMDZ



Orchidée



[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gK69TtH3feRFu4q0MjmuouC8xG6Gcth6Qe9cbeY5vIM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gK69TtH3feRFu4q0MjmuouC8xG6Gcth6Qe9cbeY5vIM/edit?usp=ssharing)

# Parameterizations

```
!! Calculate snow cover fraction for both total vegetated and total non-vegetative surfaces.  
IF (ok_explícitsnow) THEN  
    snowdepth=sum(snowdz,2)  
    snowrho_snowdz=sum(snowrho*snowdz,2)  
    WHERE(snowdepth(:) .LT. min_sechiba)  
        frac_snow_veg(:) = 0.  
    ELSEWHERE  
        snowrho_ave(:)=snowrho_snowdz(:)/snowdepth(:)  
  
        ! LMDZ0R-STD-NY07  
        frac_snow_veg(:) = tanh(snowdepth(:)/(0.025*(snowrho_ave(:)/50.)))  
  
        ! LMDZ0R-STD-LA22  
        ! frac_snow_veg(:) = tanh(snowdepth(:)/(-0.025*(snowrho_ave(:)/50.) + 3e-6*zstd_not_filtered(:)*(snowrho_ave(:)/50.)**3 ))  
  
        ! LMDZ0R-STD-NY07-CUSTOM-200  
        ! frac_snow_veg(:) = tanh(snowdepth(:)/(0.025*(snowrho_ave(:)*(1+zstd_not_filtered(:)/200.)/50.)))  
  
        ! LMDZ0R-STD-NY07-opti  
        ! frac_snow_veg(:) = tanh(snowdepth(:)/(0.6*0.01*(snowrho_ave(:)/50.)**2.5))  
  
        !!!!!!!  
        ! Roesch et al. (2001) !  
        !!!!!!!  
        ! https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s003820100153  
  
        ! LMDZ0R-STD-R01  
        ! swe(:) = (snowdepth(:) * snowrho_ave(:)) / 1000. ! to get swe in meter as in R01 paper  
        ! frac_snow_veg(:) = 0.95 * TANH( 100. * swe(:) ) * SQRT( 1000.*swe(:) / (1000.*swe(:) + 1e-6 + 0.15 * zstd_not_filtered(:) ) )
```

[https://github.com/mickaelalanne/SCA\\_parameterization/blob/R01/modipsl/modeles/ORCHIDEE/src\\_sechiba/condveg.f90](https://github.com/mickaelalanne/SCA_parameterization/blob/R01/modipsl/modeles/ORCHIDEE/src_sechiba/condveg.f90)

# Perspectives : conseils SCF CMIP6 -> CMIP7 LMDZ/ORCHIDEE

- Implémenter **SL12** et **LA23** (en plus de NY07) et conserver un switch pour passer d'une version à l'autre pour déterminer la meilleure en fonction des configurations (+ ML sur du long terme).
- Envisager une **calibration directement dans le modèle** (dès lors que l'on pas — encore — d'obs fiables sur les régions montagneuses).  
↳ **!\\ compensations de biais ≠ couplé ou non /\\**
- Lorsque + de jeux de données revenir sur une calibration + physique
- Approfondir simulations **ORCHIDEE offline** pour déterminer les incertitudes liées aux **jeux de forçages**
- Regarder ce qu'il se passe dans les **zones de forêt**
- En couplé : **!\\ biais tropo /\\** -> impact sur l'ensemble des surfaces continentales

Merci à tous pour votre attention !

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<https://doi.org/10.5194/tc-2023-113>

Preprint. Discussion started: 24 July 2023

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# Reducing the High Mountain Asia cold bias in GCMs by adapting snow cover parameterization to complex topography areas

Mickaël Lalande<sup>1</sup>, Martin Ménégoz<sup>1</sup>, Gerhard Krinner<sup>1</sup>, Catherine Ottlé<sup>2</sup>, and Frédérique Cheruy<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Univ. Grenoble Alpes, CNRS, INRAE, IRD, Grenoble INP, IGE, 38000 Grenoble, France

<sup>2</sup>LSCE-IPSL (CNRS-CEA-UVSQ), Université Paris-Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette, France

<sup>3</sup>LMD-IPSL (Institut Pierre Simon Laplace), Sorbonne Université, CNRS, Paris, France, Sorbonne Université, ENS, École polytechnique

**Correspondence:** Mickaël Lalande ([mickael.lalande@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:mickael.lalande@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr))

## Annex B: Climate Change Initiative Fellowship Project Proposal

Project (2 years) : **Snow cover heterogeneity and its impact on the Climate and Carbon cycle of Arctic regions (SnowC<sup>2</sup>)**

Objectives : **Improving snow model in CLASSIC** (SCF, multi-layer snow scheme, blowing snow sublimation) and **assessment of these improvements over the Arctic**

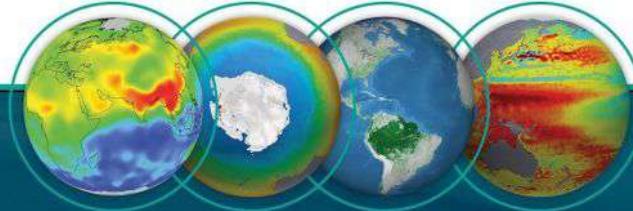
Location : **Trois-Rivières, QC, UQTR / GLACIOLAB / RIVES (Canada)**

Supervision : **Christophe Kinnard** (+ Alexandre Roy / Environnement Canada)



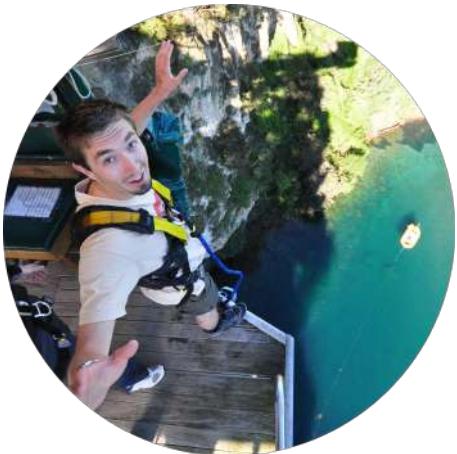
**RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP SCHEME 2022**

[climate.esa.int](http://climate.esa.int)





# MICKAËL LALANDE



## SOCIAL NETWORKS



@LalandeMickael



@mickaellalande



@mickaellalande



mickaellalande.github.io

EMAIL: MICKAEL.LALANDE@UNIV-GRENOBLE-ALPES.FR

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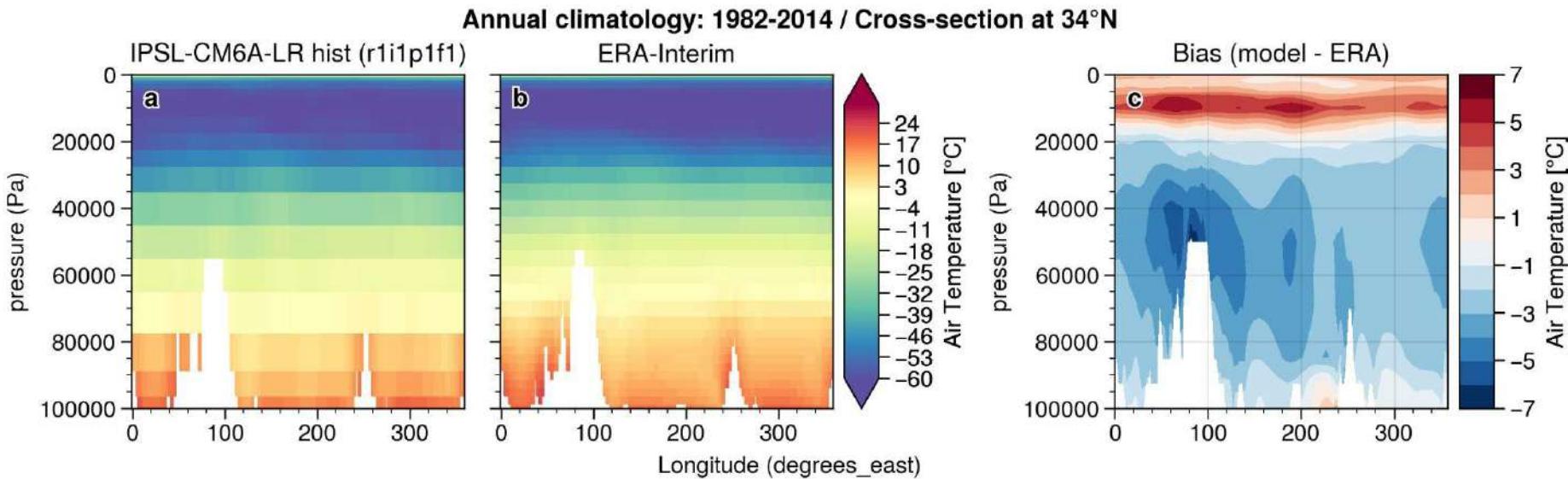
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## Supplementary materials

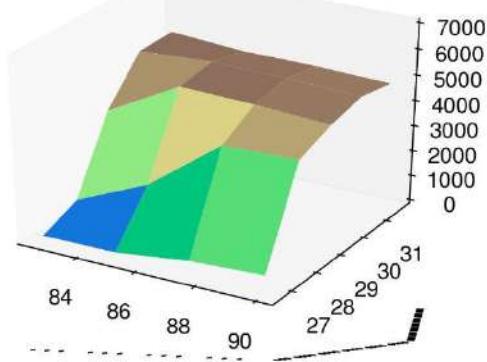
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# Air Temperature meridional cross-section means bias

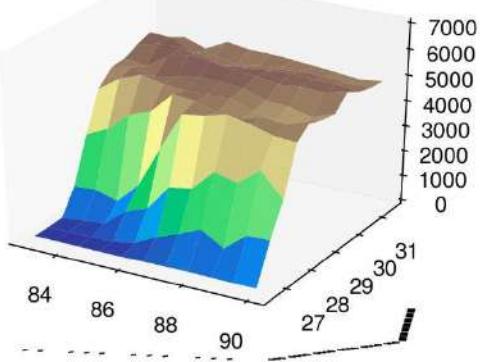


# Lien avec la topographie ?

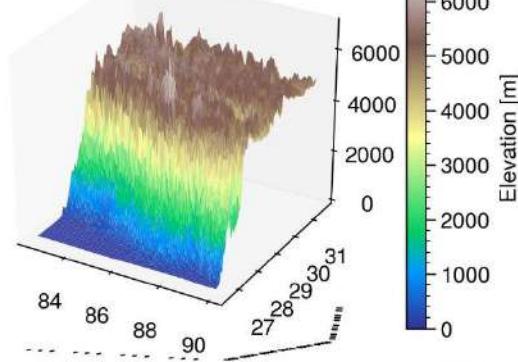
IPSL-CM6A-LR (~150/250km)



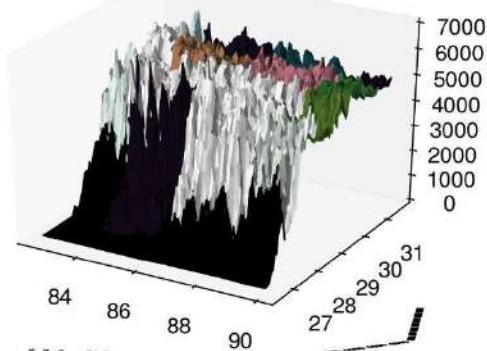
IPSL-CM6A-HR (~50km)



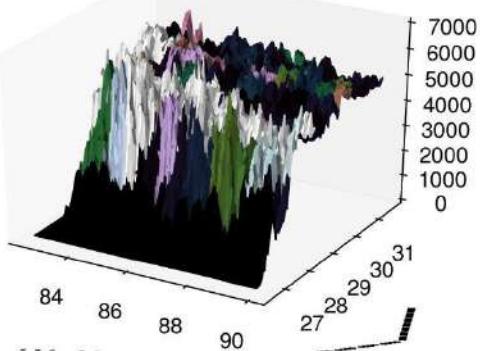
GMTED2010 (~6km)



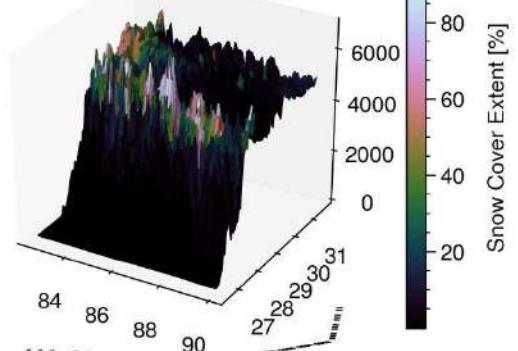
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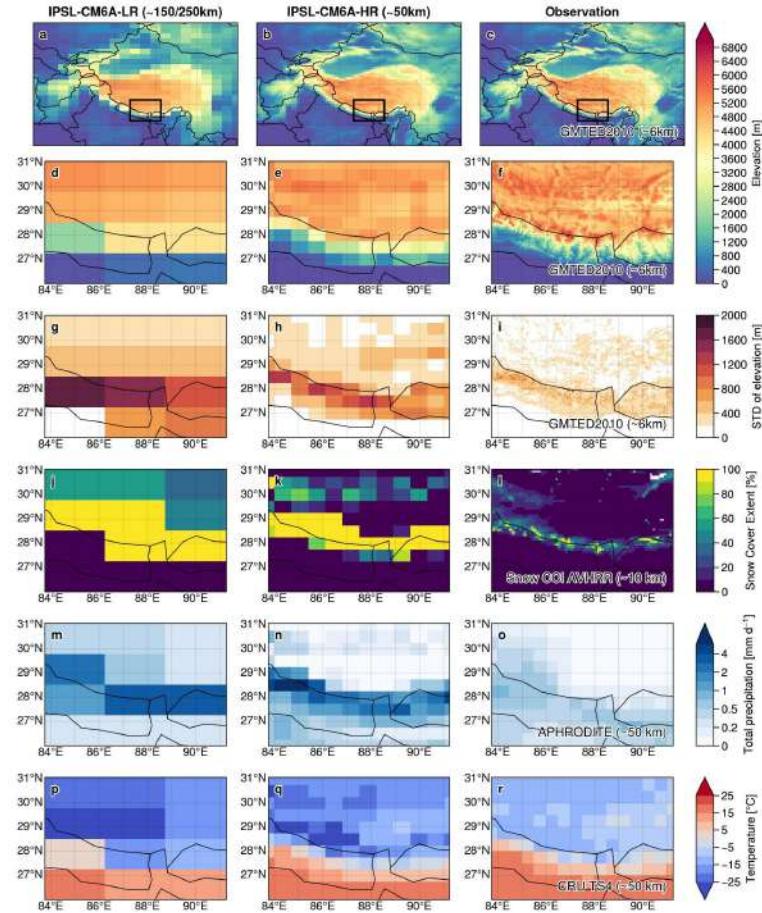
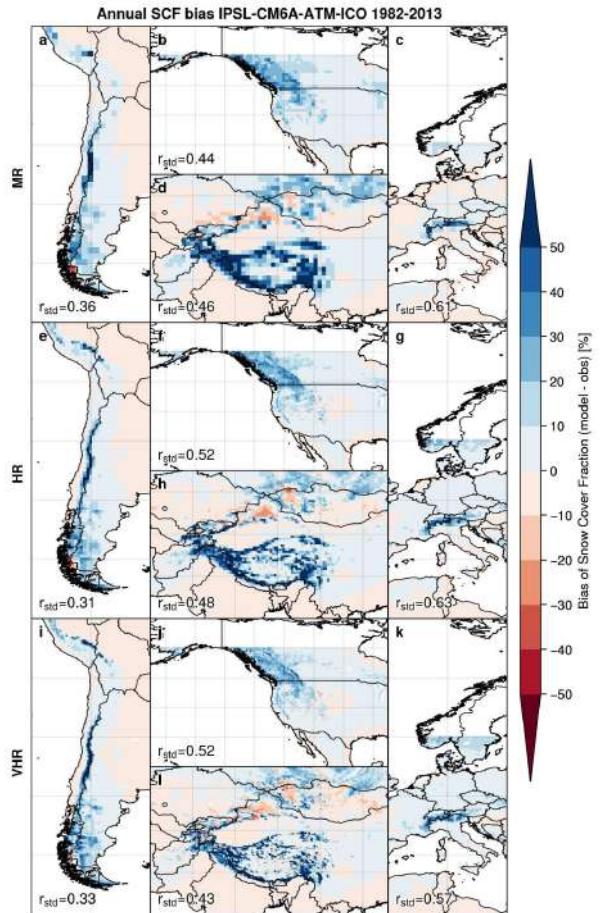
IPSL-CM6A-HR (~50km)



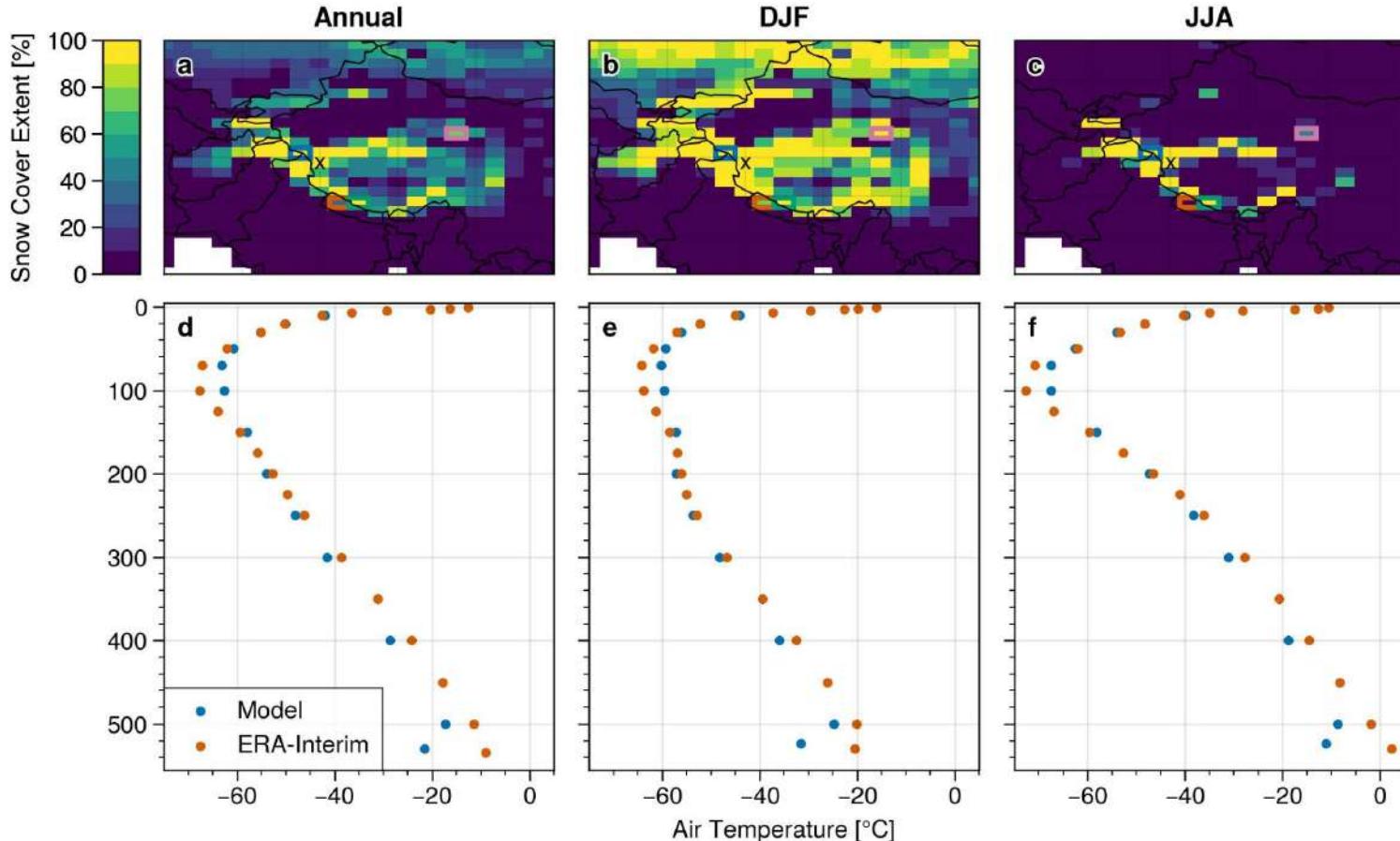
Snow CCI AVHRR (~10km)



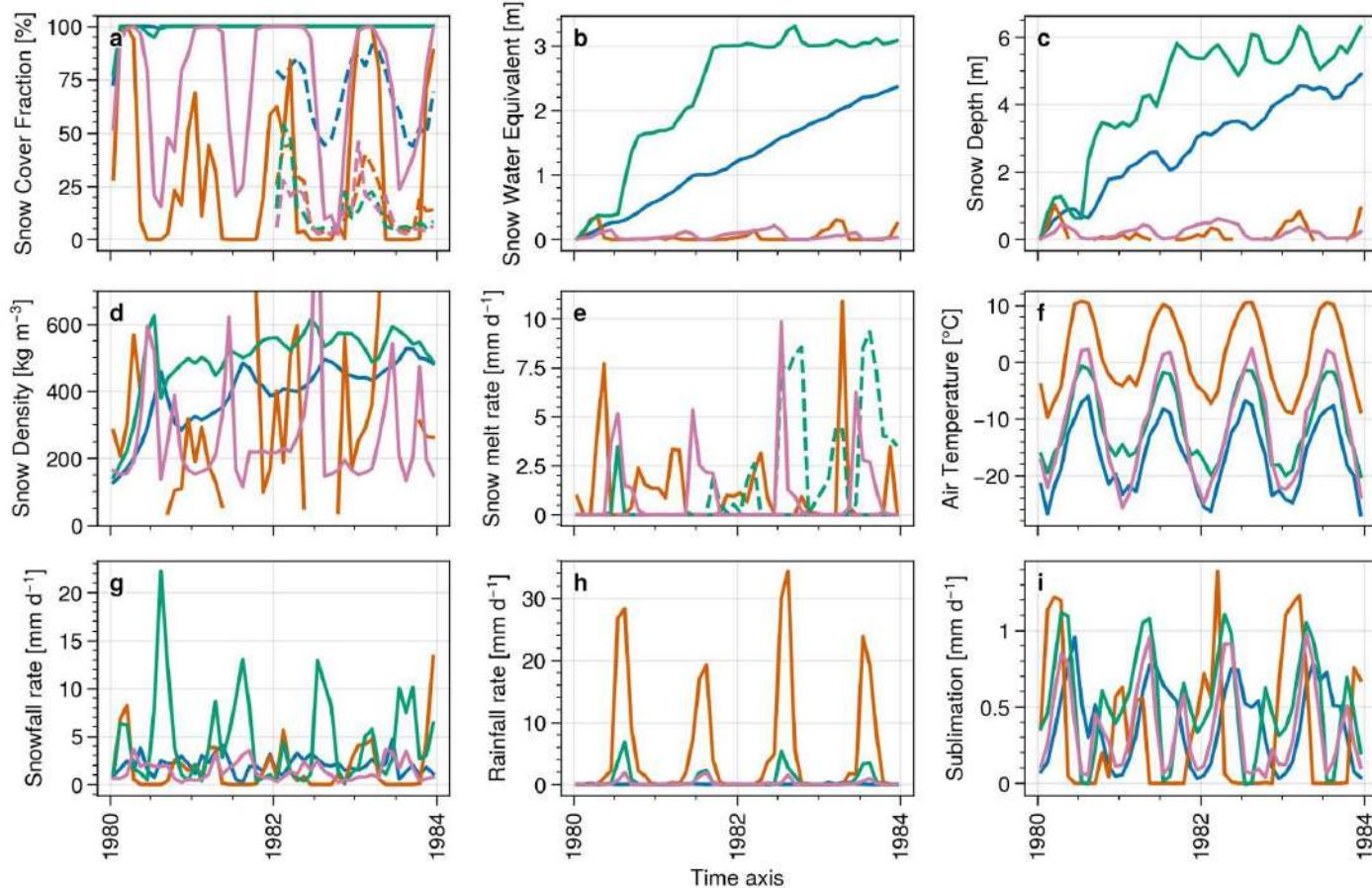
# Influence de la résolution



# Neige permanente

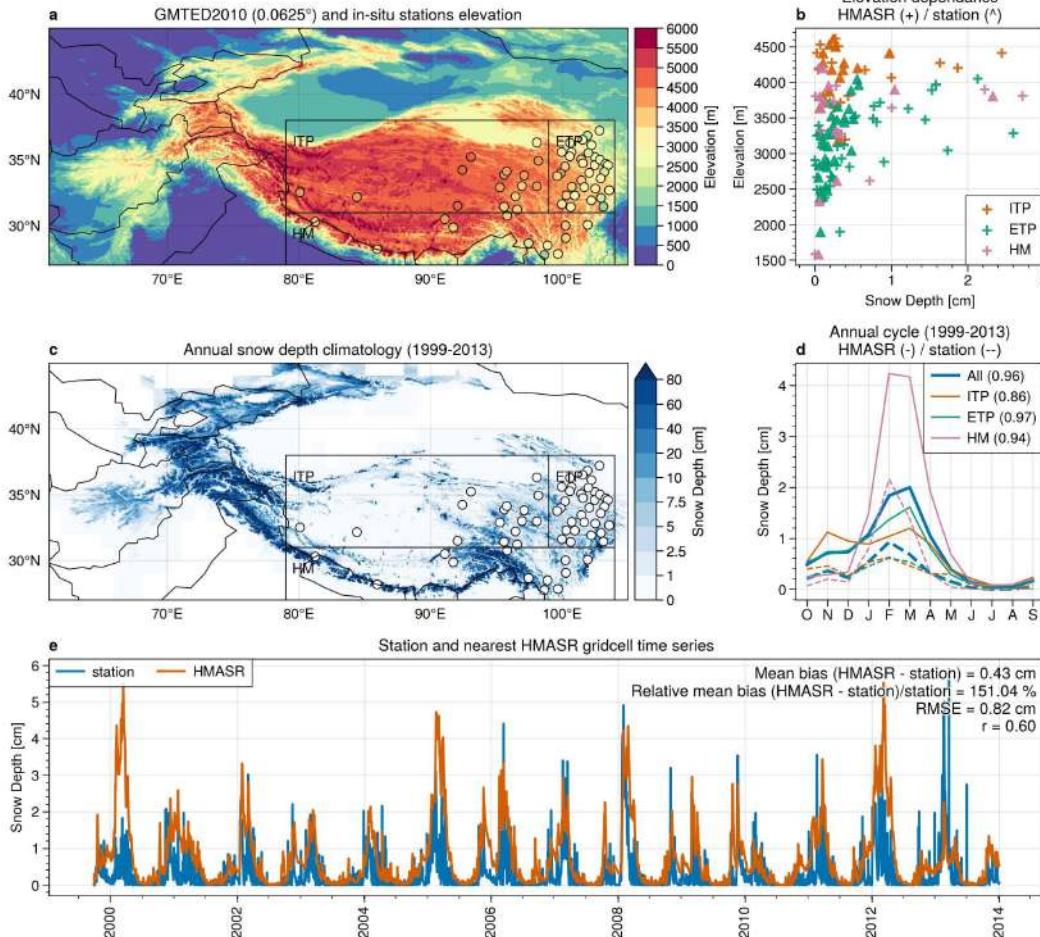


# Neige permanente

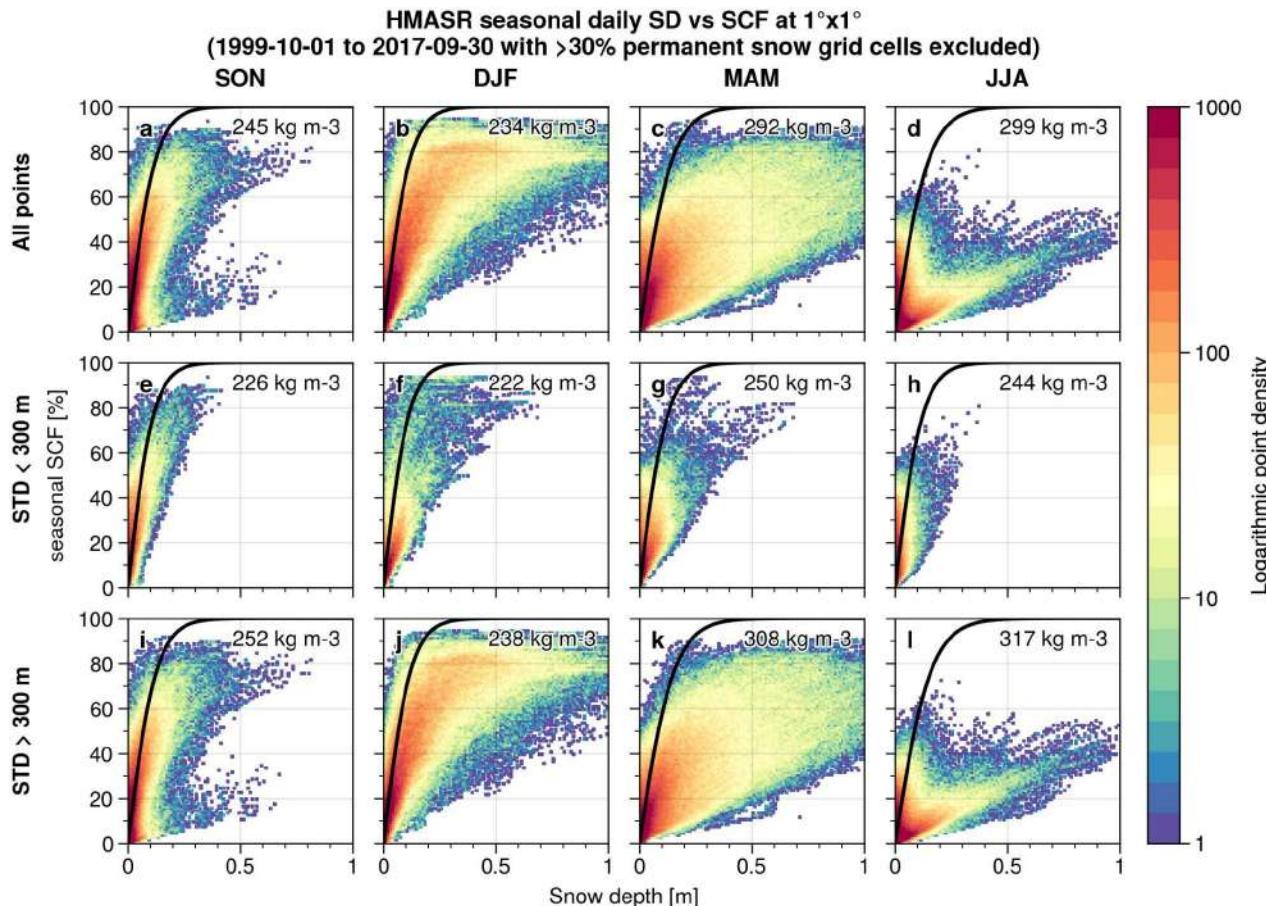


# High Mountain Asia UCLA Daily Snow Reanalysis (HMASR)

Comparison HMASR and in-situ station 1999-2013 (>90% temporal coverage and >1mm SD in winter DJFMA)

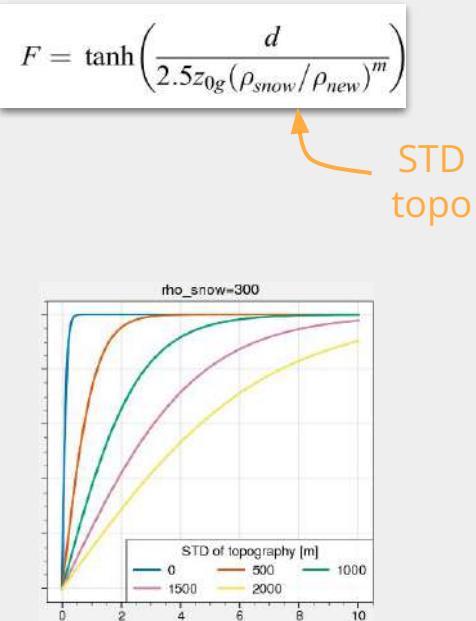


# High Mountain Asia UCLA Daily Snow Reanalysis



# Other snow cover parameterizations

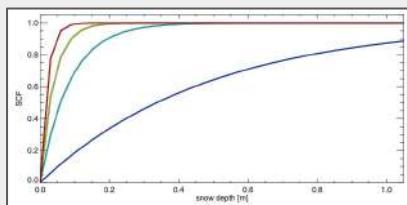
Niu and Yang (2007) custom



Swenson and Lawrence (2012)

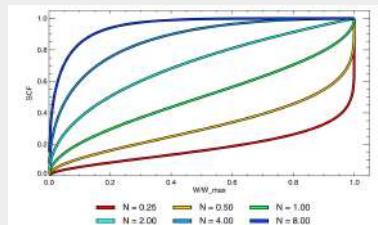
Accumulation

$$F_{N+1} = 1 - (p_{N+1})(p_N) = 1 - (1 - s_{N+1})(1 - F_N)$$



Depletion

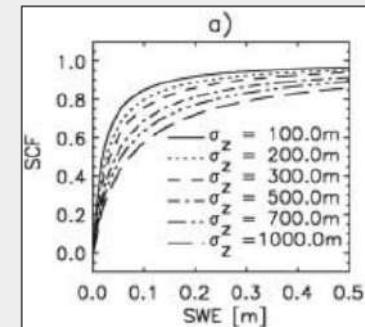
$$F = 1 - \left[ \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos\left( 2 \frac{W}{W_{\max}} - 1 \right) \right]^{N_{\text{melt}}} \quad N_{\text{melt}} = \frac{200}{\sigma_{\text{topo}}}$$



Roesch et al. (2001)

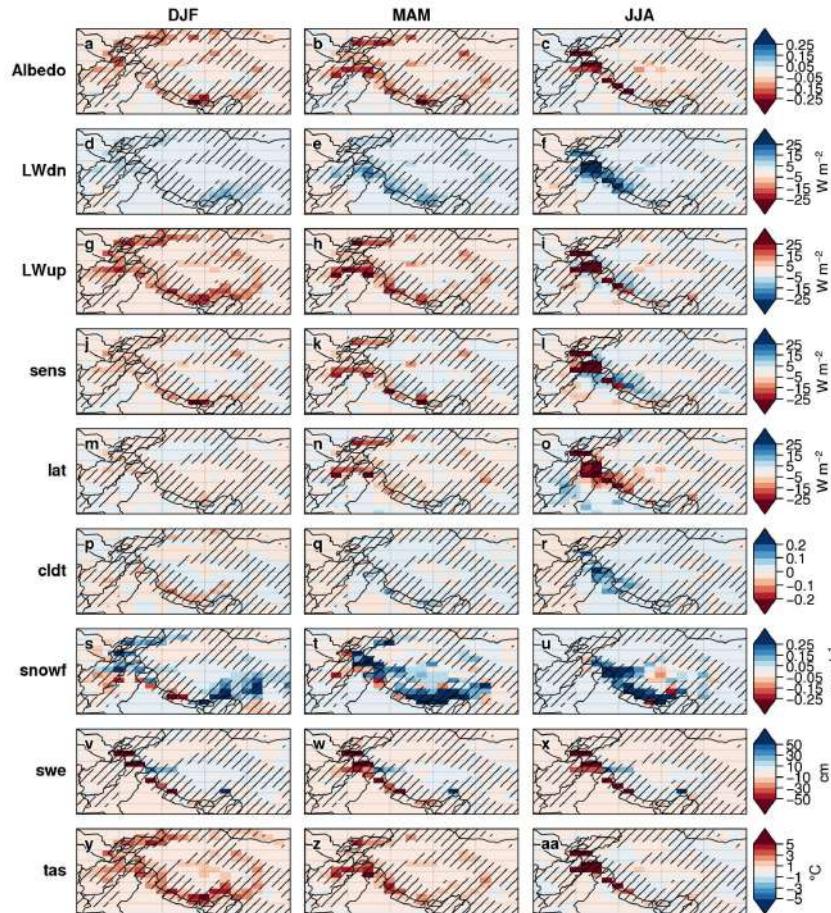
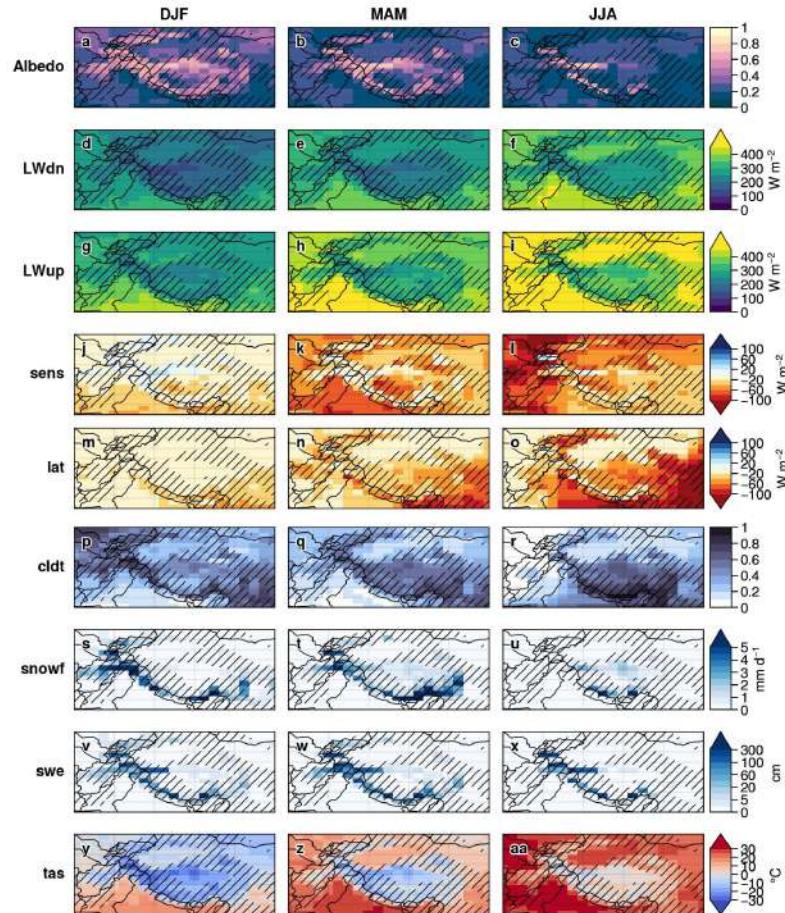
Mountainous areas

$$f_s = 0.95 \cdot \tanh(100 \cdot S_n) \sqrt{\frac{1000 \cdot S_n}{1000 \cdot S_n + \epsilon + 0.15\sigma_z}}$$

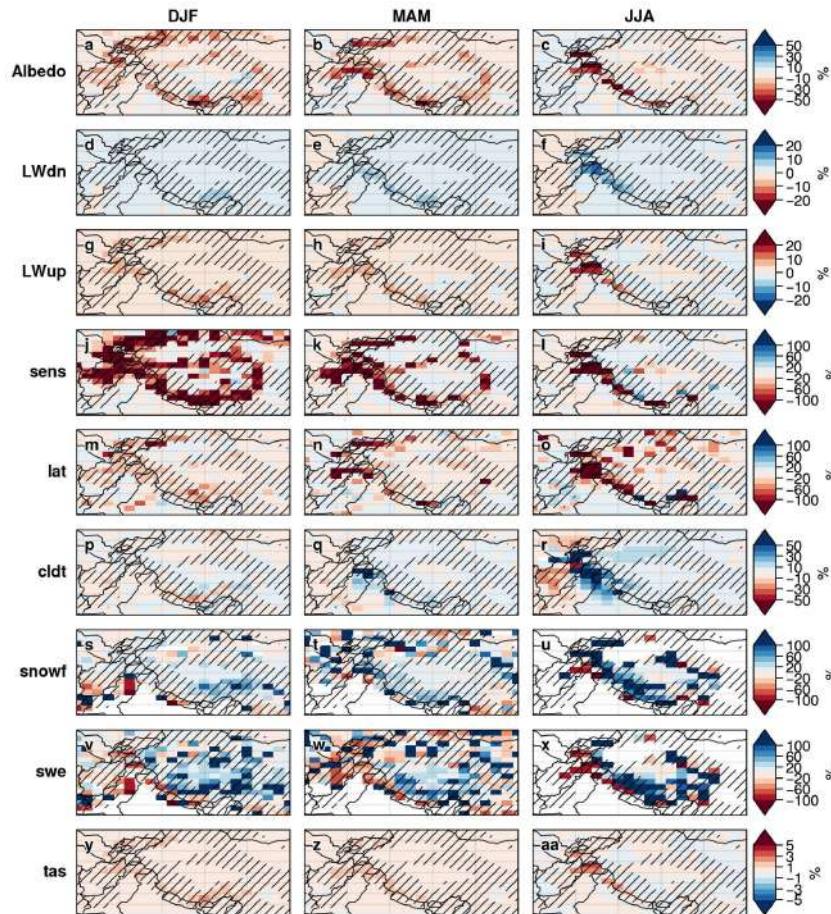
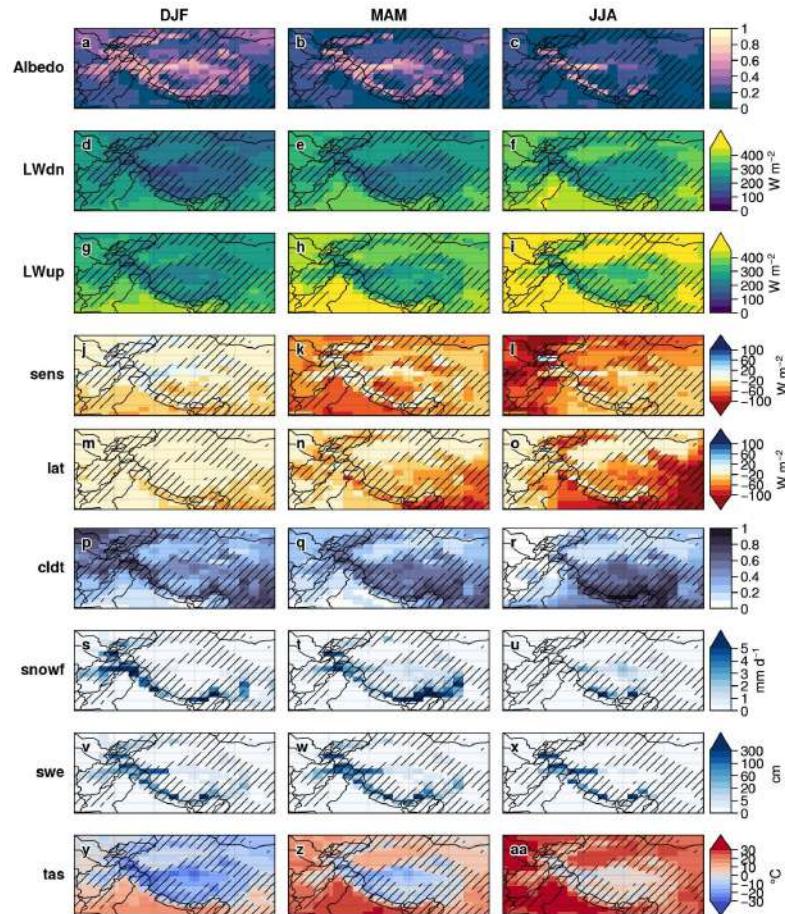


Depends only on SWE so no hysteresis

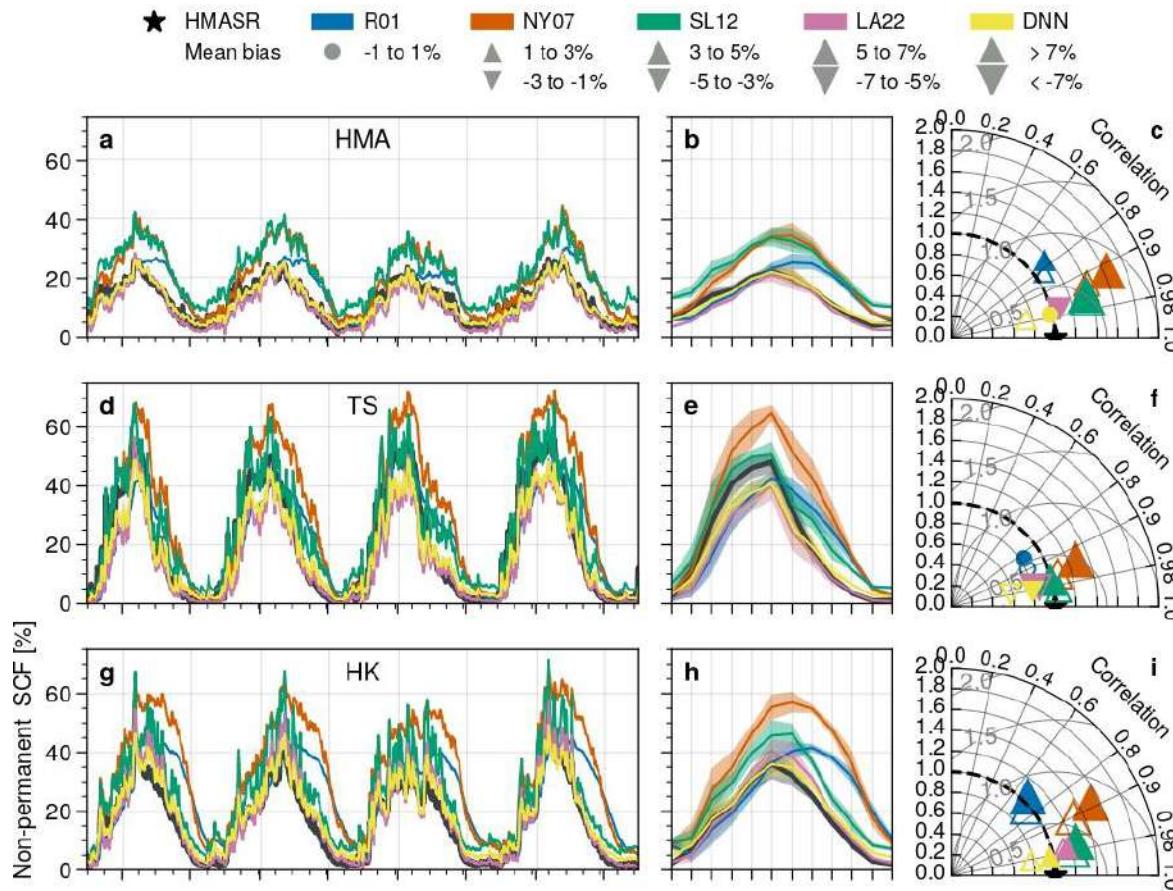
# Feedbacks (LA23 - NY07)



# Feedbacks (LA23 - NY07)/NY07



# Time series



# Time series

