

# Do Models Generate Realistic Simulations?

Timothy DelSole

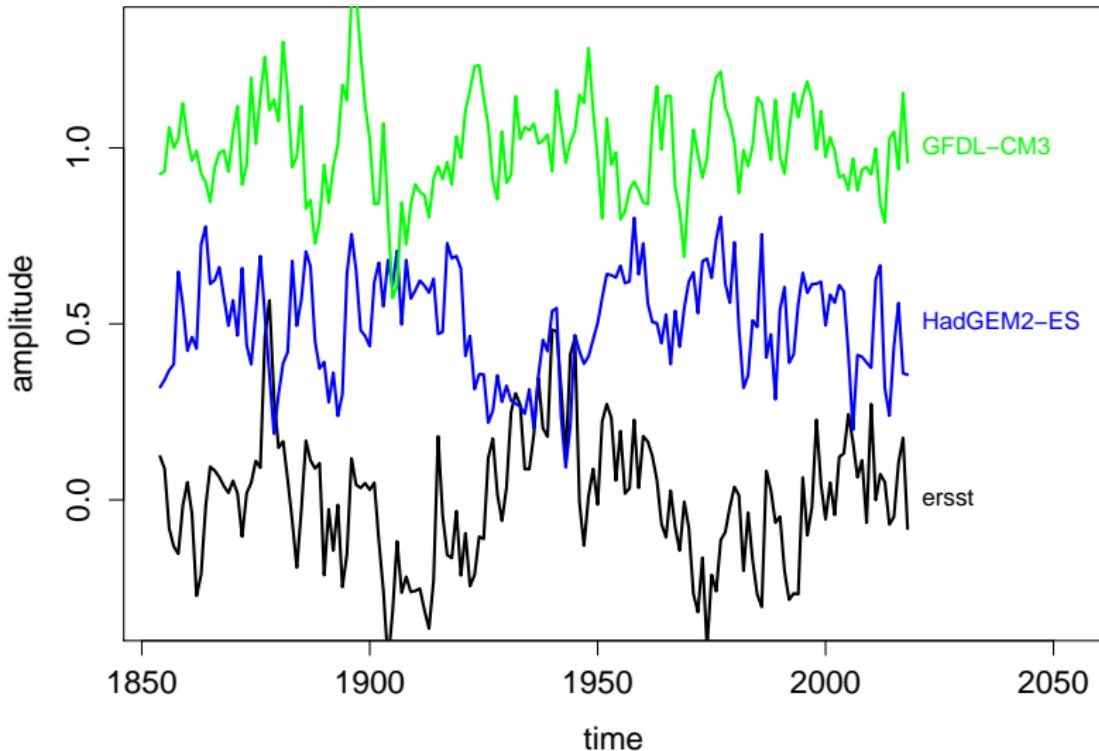
George Mason University, Fairfax, Va and  
Center for Ocean-Land-Atmosphere Studies

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Collaborators: Michael K. Tippett

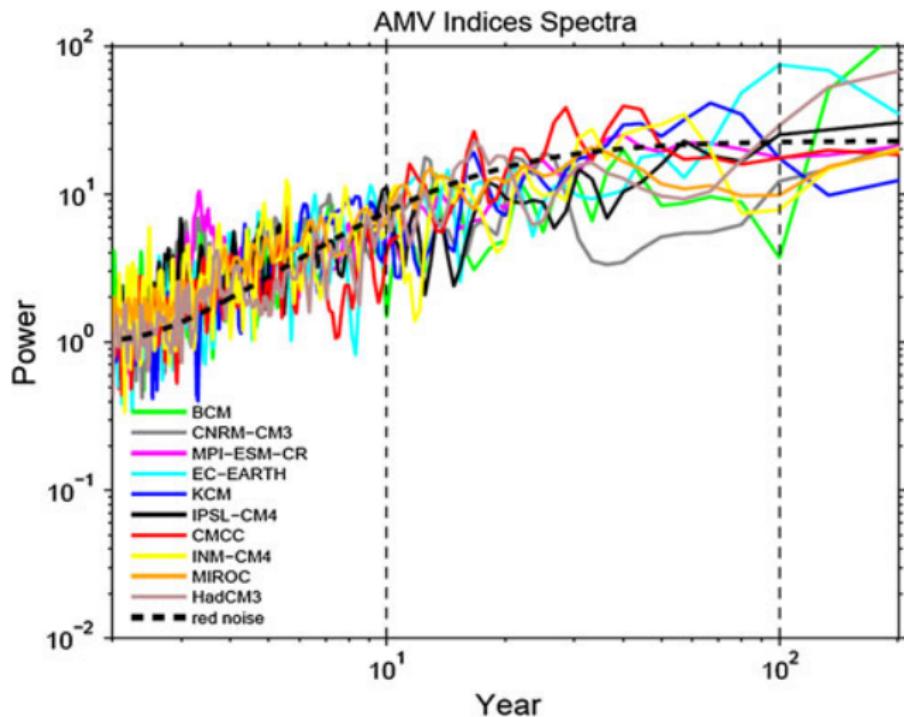
## AMV indices



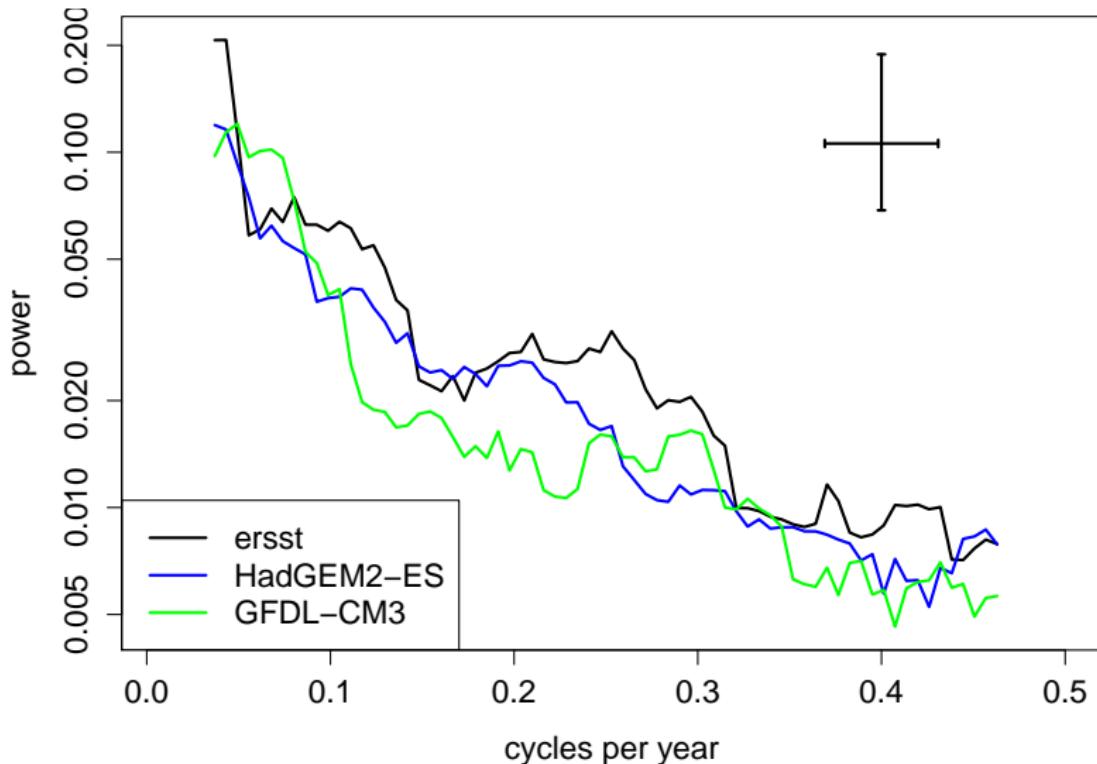
CMIP6 pre-industrial control runs. 2nd-order polynomial removed

## **How Do You Compare Serially Correlated Time Series?**

# **Power Spectra**



## Power Spectra of AMV indices

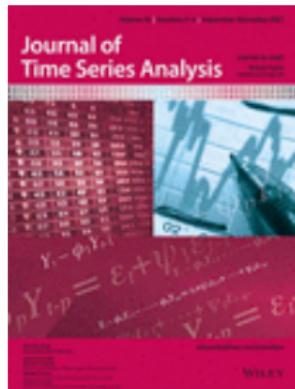


## TESTS FOR COMPARING TWO ESTIMATED SPECTRAL DENSITIES

BY D. S. COATES AND P. J. DIGGLE

*Department of Statistics, University of Newcastle upon Tyne*

**Abstract.** This paper was motivated by a problem in the gas industry and describes a number of periodogram-based tests of the hypothesis that two independent time-series are realizations of the same stationary process. Non-parametric tests analogous to the maximum periodogram ordinates and cumulative periodogram tests for white noise are compared with a likelihood ratio test based on a postulated quadratic model for the log spectral ratio. The latter is found to be generally more powerful against alternatives in which the two series are realizations of different low order AR processes. The operation of the likelihood ratio test is illustrated by two sets of data, the classic Beveridge wheat price series and a set of data supplied by British Gas.



- ▶ If two power spectra are equal, then their ratio is a constant.
- ▶ A constant power spectra indicates white noise.
- ▶ There already exists (ingenious) spectral tests for white noise.
- ▶ Tests for white noise can be adapted to tests of equal power spectra.

doi:10.1111/j.1467-9892.2009.00616.x

## TESTING EQUALITY OF STATIONARY AUTOCOVARIANCES

BY ROBERT LUND\*, HANY BASSILY\* AND BRANI VIDAKOVIC<sup>†</sup>

\*Clemson University and <sup>†</sup>Georgia Institute of Technology

First Version received August 2007

**Abstract.** This article studies tests for assessing whether two stationary and independent time series have the same dynamics – specifically, whether the autocovariances of both series coincide at all lags. Frequency domain statistics previously proposed for this purpose are reviewed. A time domain statistic is then developed and investigated. The performance of these statistics are compared. Multivariate versions of the results are constructed. The methods are applied in the analysis of temperatures and precipitations from Atlanta and Athens, Georgia. Our interest here is driven by the need to identify a good climatological reference series for a given station.

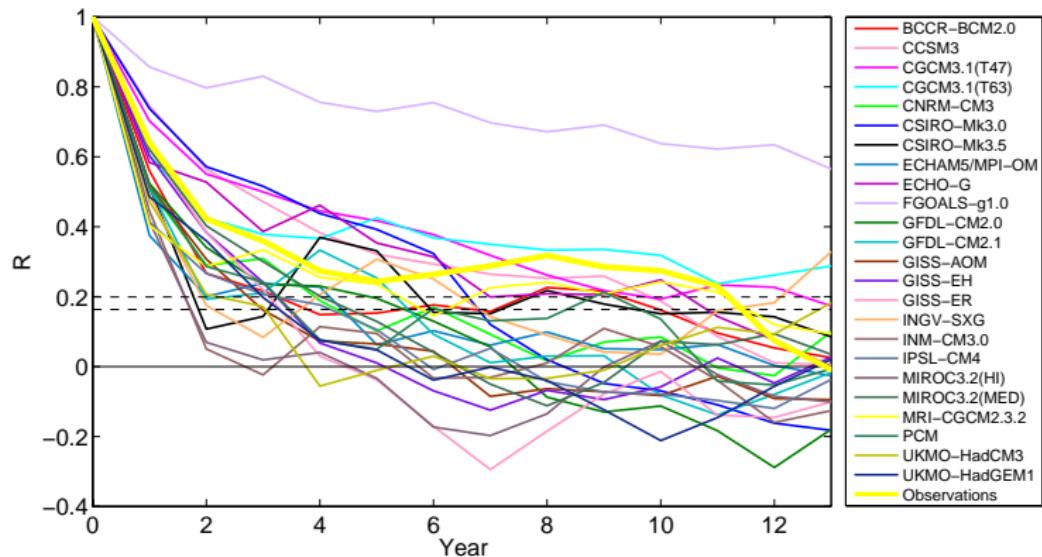
**Keywords.** Multivariate series; periodogram; spectral density.



- ▶ Lund et al. (2009) reviews tests of differences in power spectra.
- ▶ Difference-in-spectra tests have low statistical power; i.e., only large differences in spectra can be detected.

# **Autocorrelation Function**

# Autocorrelation function for annual mean AMO index



doi:10.1111/j.1467-9892.2009.00616.x

## TESTING EQUALITY OF STATIONARY AUTOCOVARIANCES

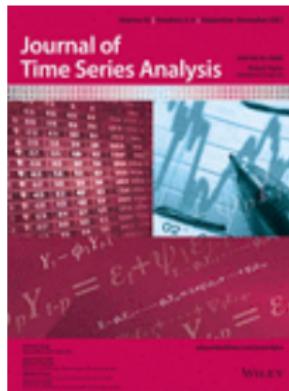
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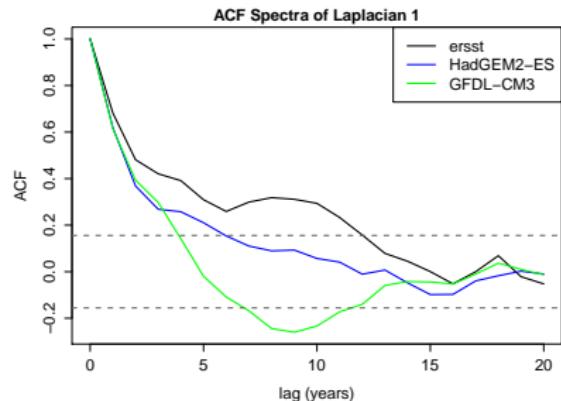
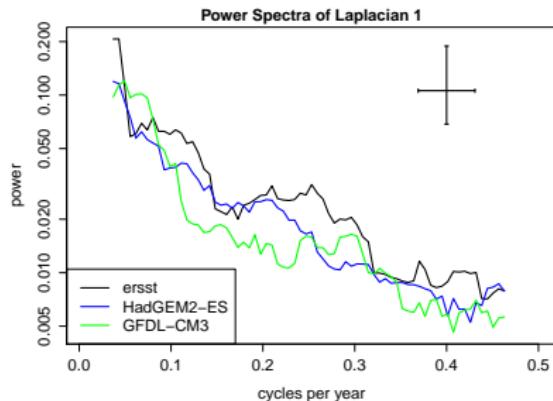
**Abstract.** This article studies tests for assessing whether two stationary and independent time series have the same dynamics – specifically, whether the autocovariances of both series coincide at all lags. Frequency domain statistics previously proposed for this purpose are reviewed. A time domain statistic is then developed and investigated. The performance of these statistics are compared. Multivariate versions of the results are constructed. The methods are applied in the analysis of temperatures and precipitations from Atlanta and Athens, Georgia. Our interest here is driven by the need to identify a good climatological reference series for a given station.

**Keywords.** Multivariate series; periodogram; spectral density.



- ▶ Lund et al. (2009) develop a test for equality of autocovariances.
- ▶ This test requires estimating a covariance matrix, but the proposed estimate is not guaranteed to be positive definite.
- ▶ In practice, we find that the matrix often is non-positive definite, hence it cannot be applied.

**Climate time series generally produce distinctive shapes for the autocorrelation and power spectrum.**



## Autoregressive models of order p: AR(p)

We assume time series  $X_t$  and  $Y_t$  come from the models

$$\begin{aligned} X_t &= \phi_1^X X_{t-1} + \cdots + \phi_p^X X_{t-p} + \gamma_X + \epsilon_t^X \\ Y_t &= \phi_1^Y Y_{t-1} + \cdots + \phi_p^Y Y_{t-p} + \gamma_Y + \epsilon_t^Y, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\epsilon_t^X \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{GWN}(0, \sigma_X^2) \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon_t^Y \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{GWN}(0, \sigma_Y^2).$$

$$\boxed{\phi_1^2, \dots, \phi_p^X, \gamma_X, \sigma_X^2}$$

**Are the parameters of the AR(p) models equal?**

## Are the parameters of the AR(p) models equal?

null hypothesis  $H_0$  :  $\phi_1^X = \phi_1^Y, \dots, \phi_p^X = \phi_p^Y, \sigma_X^2 = \sigma_Y^2$

alternative hypothesis  $H_A$  : at least one parameter differs

$\gamma_X$  and  $\gamma_Y$  are unrestricted, to forgive biases.

- ▶ An AR( $p$ ) model uniquely specifies the ACF and power spectra.
- ▶ Equality of AR( $p$ ) models implies equality of ACFs and of spectra.
- ▶ If two time series could have come from the same AR( $p$ ) model,  
then I will say they are statistically indistinguishable.

## Likelihood Ratio Test (Bias-Corrected)

$$\text{deviance } D = \log \left( \frac{\hat{\sigma}_0^{2\nu_X + 2\nu_Y}}{(\hat{\sigma}_X^{2\nu_X})(\hat{\sigma}_Y^{2\nu_Y})} \right)$$

$\hat{\sigma}_X^2$  : unbiased estimate of  $\sigma_X^2$

$\hat{\sigma}_Y^2$  : unbiased estimate of  $\sigma_Y^2$

$\hat{\sigma}_0^2$  : unbiased estimate of  $\sigma^2$  under  $H_0$

$\nu_X$  : degrees of freedom for  $X_t$

$\nu_Y$  : degrees of freedom for  $Y_t$

$D$  vanishes if and only if  $\hat{\sigma}_X^2 = \hat{\sigma}_Y^2$  and  $\hat{\phi}_j^X = \hat{\phi}_j^Y$ , and is positive otherwise

$$X_t = \phi_1^X X_{t-1} + \cdots + \phi_p^X X_{t-p} + \gamma_X + \epsilon_t^X$$
$$Y_t = \phi_1^Y Y_{t-1} + \cdots + \phi_p^Y Y_{t-p} + \gamma_Y + \epsilon_t^Y,$$

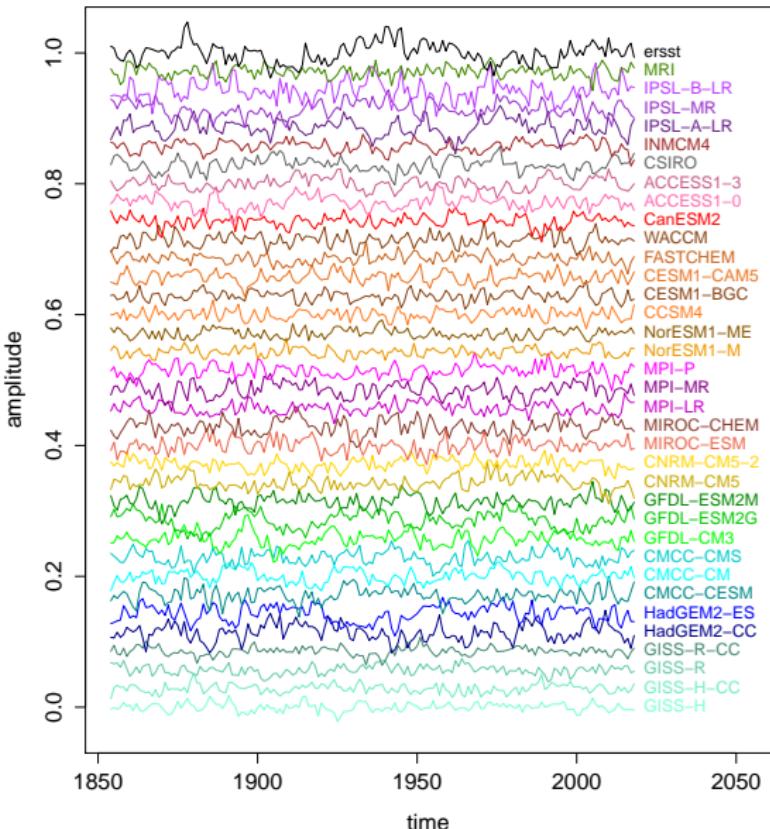
This test uses prewhitened variances, rather than variances directly.

$$\hat{\epsilon}_t^X = X_t - (\hat{\phi}_1^X X_{t-1} + \cdots + \hat{\phi}_p^X X_{t-p} + \hat{\gamma}_X)$$

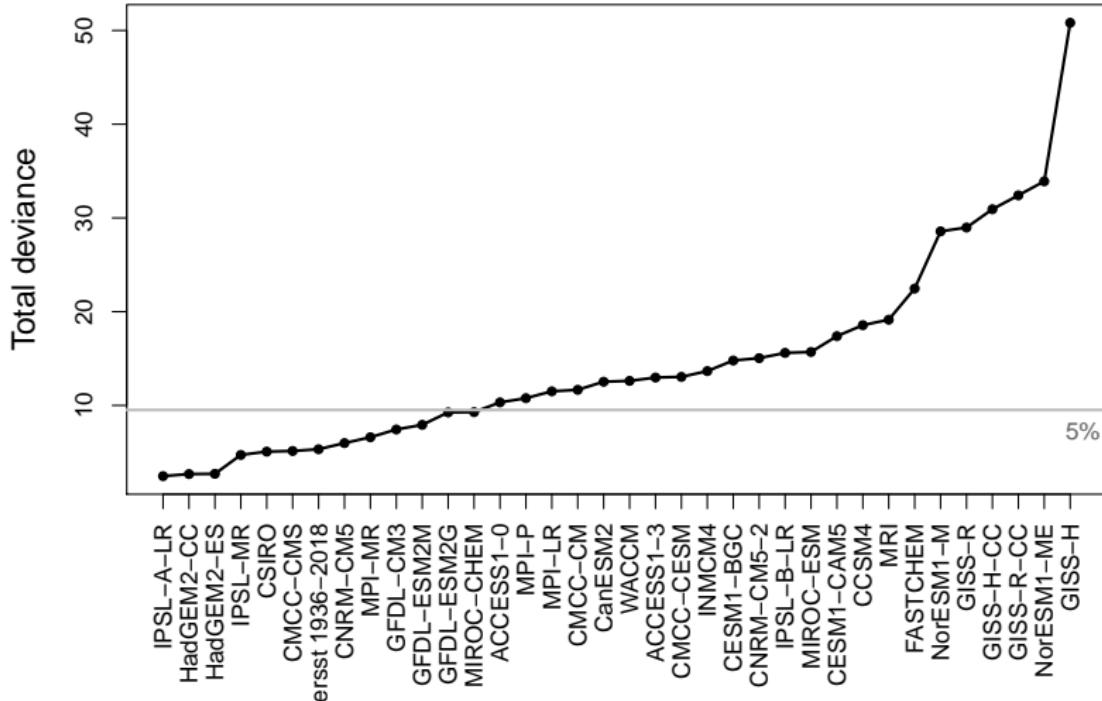
For large sample size,  $\hat{\epsilon}_t^X$  is approximately white noise.

## Application

- ▶ **Variable:** AMV index: annual-mean SST averaged over the Atlantic between  $0 - 60^{\circ}\text{N}$ .
- ▶ **Model Simulations:** Pre-industrial control simulations of SST from phase 5 of the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP5).
- ▶ **Observations:** the 165-year period 1854–2018 from ERSSTv5.
- ▶ **Removal of Forced Variability:** Response to human and natural forcings assumed to be removed after regressing out second-order polynomial over 1854–2018 (other approaches were explored but not included in this talk).
- ▶ **p selection:** AICr selects  $p = 1$  for most CMIP5 models, suggests  $p = 3$  is adequate for all but two CMIP5 models. We use AR(3).



Total Deviance Relative to ERSSTv5 1854–1935  
NASST; PI CMIP5; 82yr; poly 2; VAR(3); 1 laplacians



**For simulations of AMV, more than half the models are inconsistent with observations.**

**For simulations of AMV, more than half the models are inconsistent with observations.**

**How do they differ?**

$$X_t = \boxed{\phi_1^X X_{t-1} + \cdots + \phi_p^X X_{t-p}} + \gamma_X + \boxed{\epsilon_t^X}$$

**AR parameters**  $\phi_1^X, \dots, \phi_p^X$

**noise parameters**  $\sigma_X^2$

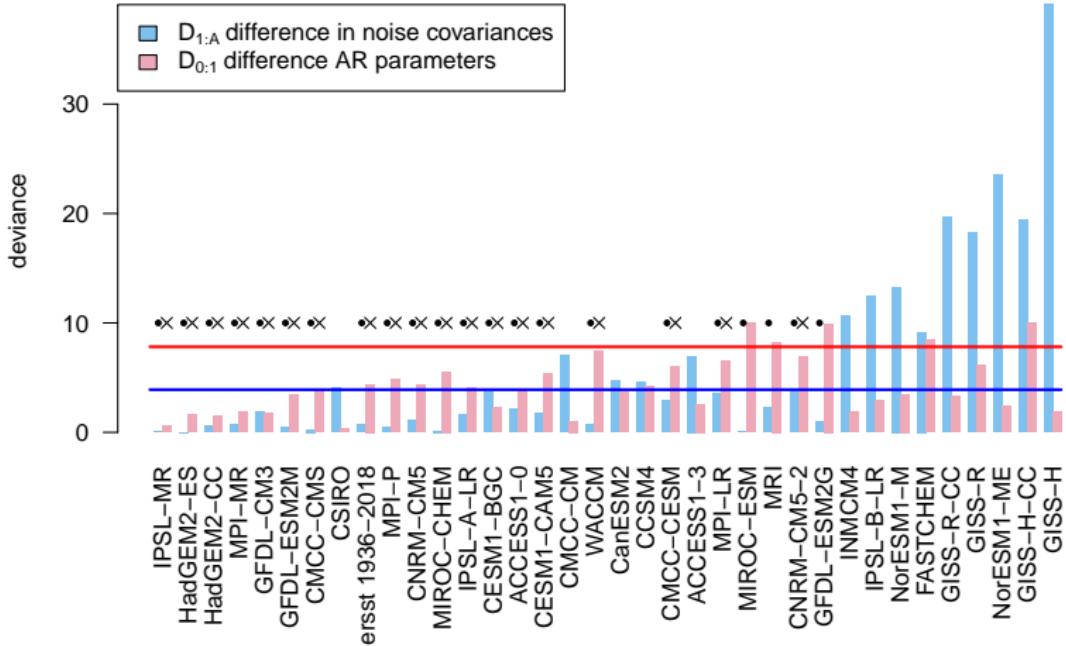
- ▶ Difference in noise parameters?
  - ▶ Implies differences in prewhitened variances.
  - ▶ Implies differences in one-step prediction errors.
- ▶ Differences in AR parameters?
  - ▶ Implies differences in memory.
  - ▶ Implies differences in predictability.
  - ▶ Implies differences in “dynamics”

$$D_{\text{total}} = D_{\text{noise}} + D_P$$

difference in noise                              difference in AR parameters

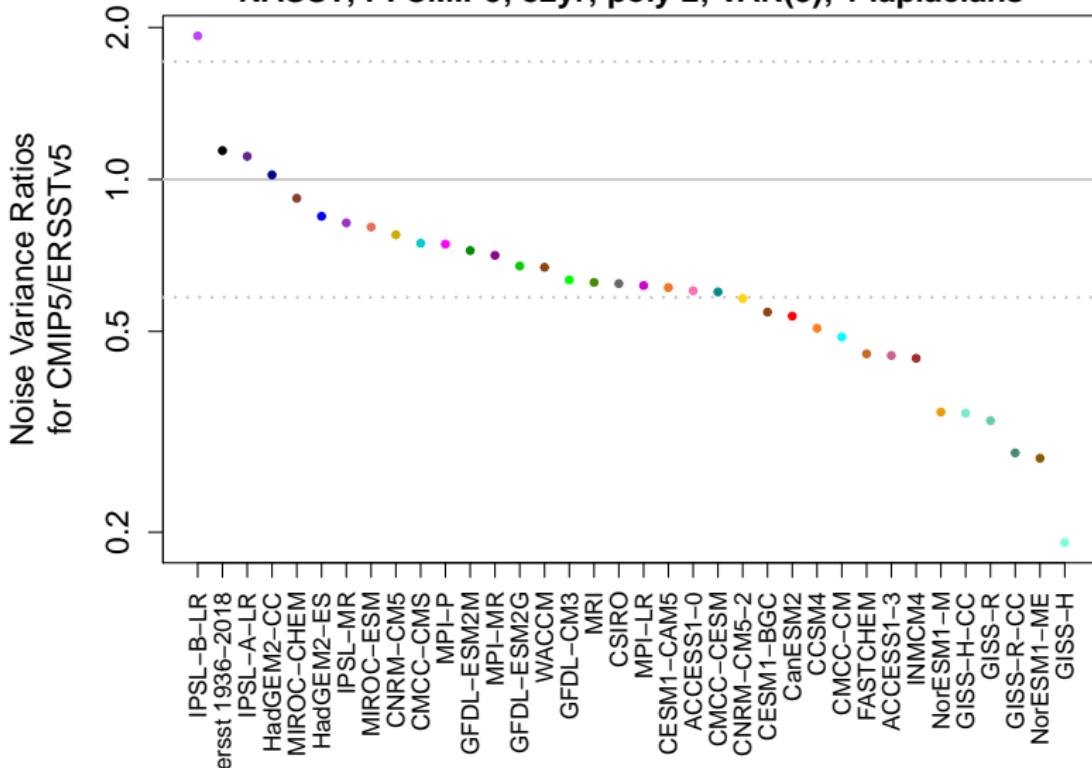
**Under the null hypothesis,  $D_{\text{noise}}$  and  $D_P$  are independent and have chi-squared distributions.**

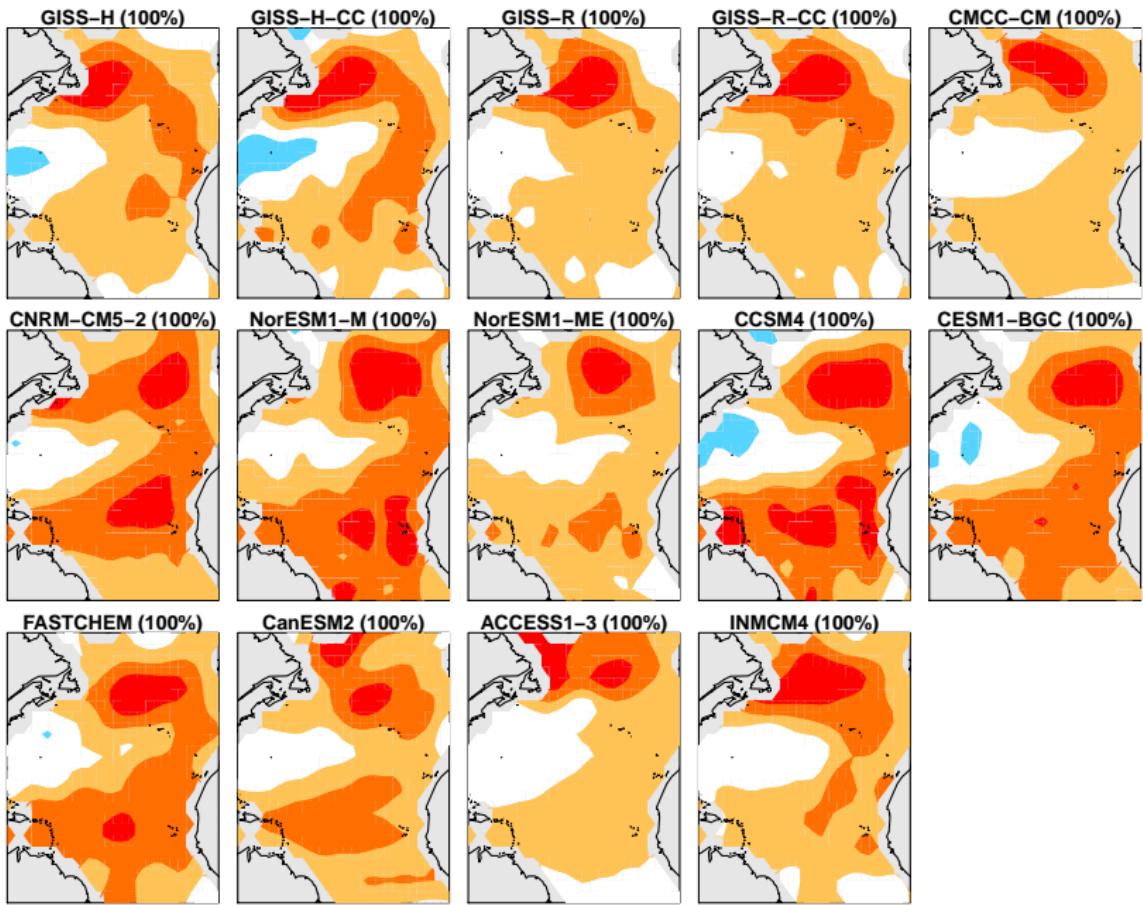
**Deviance Relative to ERSSTv5**  
**NASST; PI CMIP5; 82yr; poly 9; VAR(3); 1 laplacians**



# Noise Variance Ratios from Discriminant Analysis

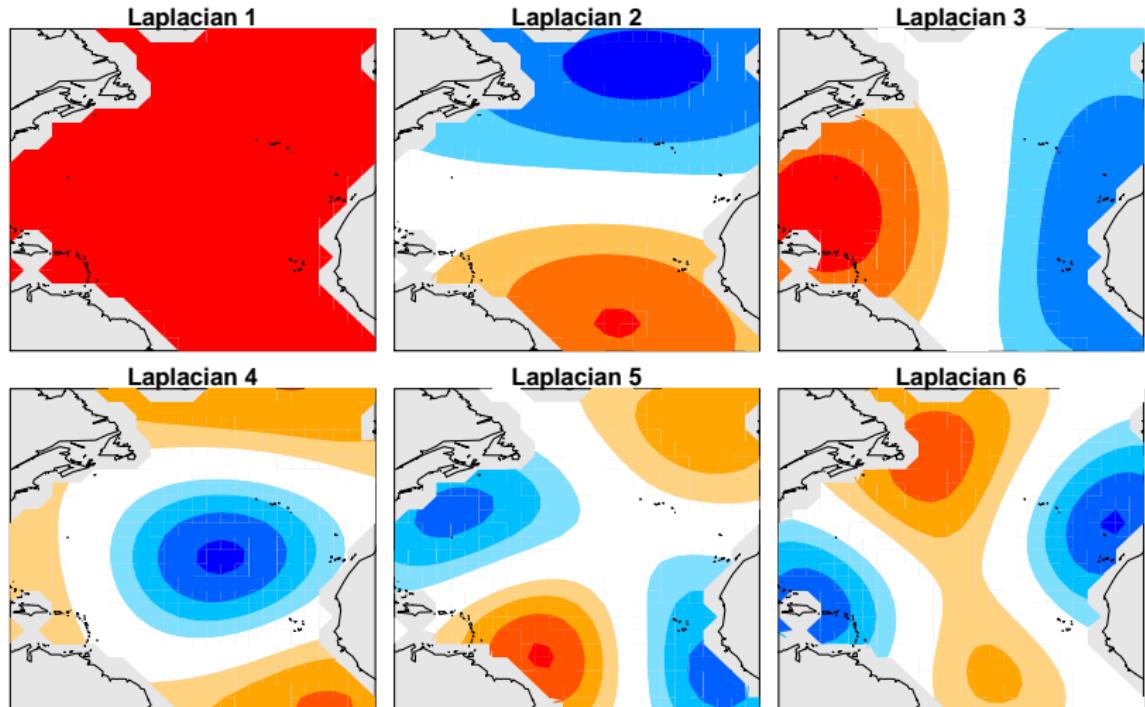
## NASST; PI CMIP5; 82yr; poly 2; VAR(3); 1 laplacians





## **Is the Relation Between AMV and Other Patterns Realistic?**

# Laplacian Eigenfunctions over the Atlantic



# Multivariate Generalization

## Vector Autoregressive Model (p)

$$\mathbf{z}_t = \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{z}_{t-1} + \cdots + \mathbf{A}_p \mathbf{z}_{t-p} + \boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t,$$

- ▶ For  $p = 1$ , this is equivalent to Linear Inverse Model (LIM).
- ▶ Deviance statistic is analogous to univariate case, except with variances replaced by determinants of covariance matrices.

## **Order $p$ and number of Laplacians selected using Mutual Information Criterion (MIC)**

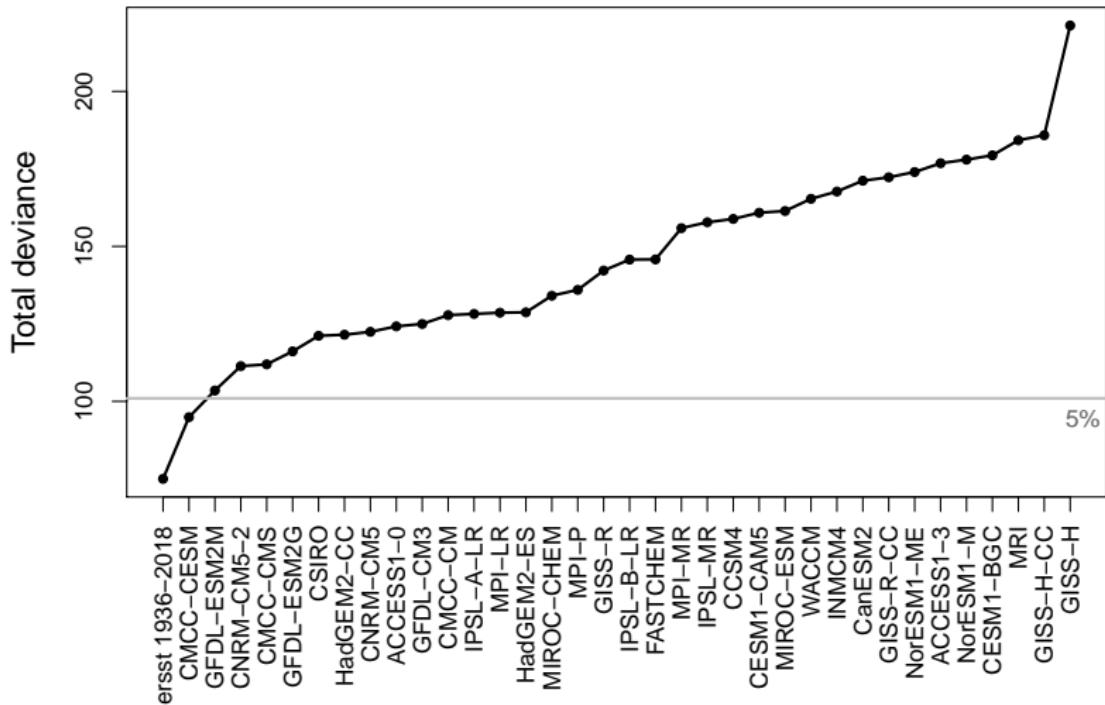
This criterion also can be used to select

- ▶ number of EOFs in LIM
- ▶ number of EOFs in CCA

**A VAR(1) with 7 Laplacians is adequate for most models.**

# Laplacian Eigenfunctions over the Atlantic

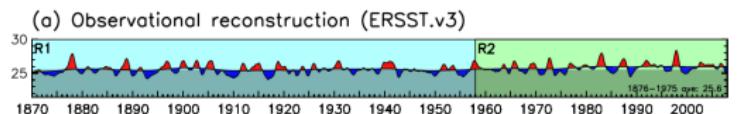
Total Deviance Relative to ERSSTv5 1854–1935  
NASST; PI CMIP5; 82yr; poly 2; VAR(1); 7 laplacians



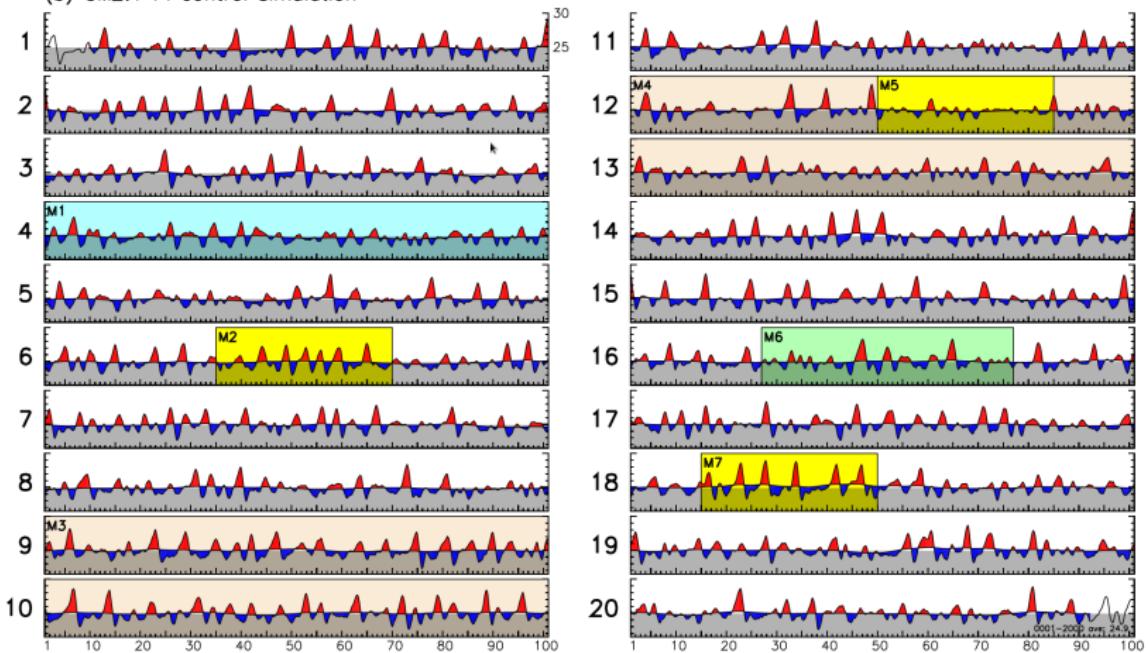
**By including smaller scale variability  
( $\sim 2000\text{km}$ ), virtually all models are unrealistic.**

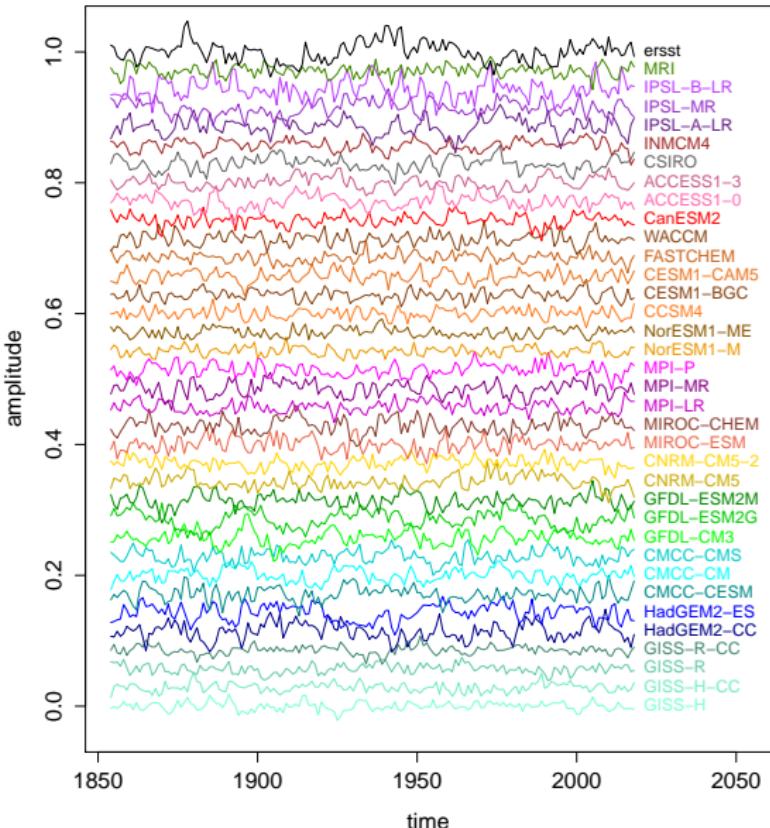
# Epochs

NINO3 SST ( $^{\circ}$ C):  
running annual mean  
& 20yr low-pass



(b) CM2.1 PI control simulation







## **In What Ways Do the Statistics Differ?**

$$\mathbf{z}_t = \boxed{\mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{z}_{t-1} + \cdots + \mathbf{A}_p \mathbf{z}_{t-p}} + \boldsymbol{\mu} + \boxed{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t}$$
$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t \sim \text{GWN}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Gamma})$$

AR parameters  $\mathbf{A}_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}_p$   
noise parameters  $\boldsymbol{\Gamma}$

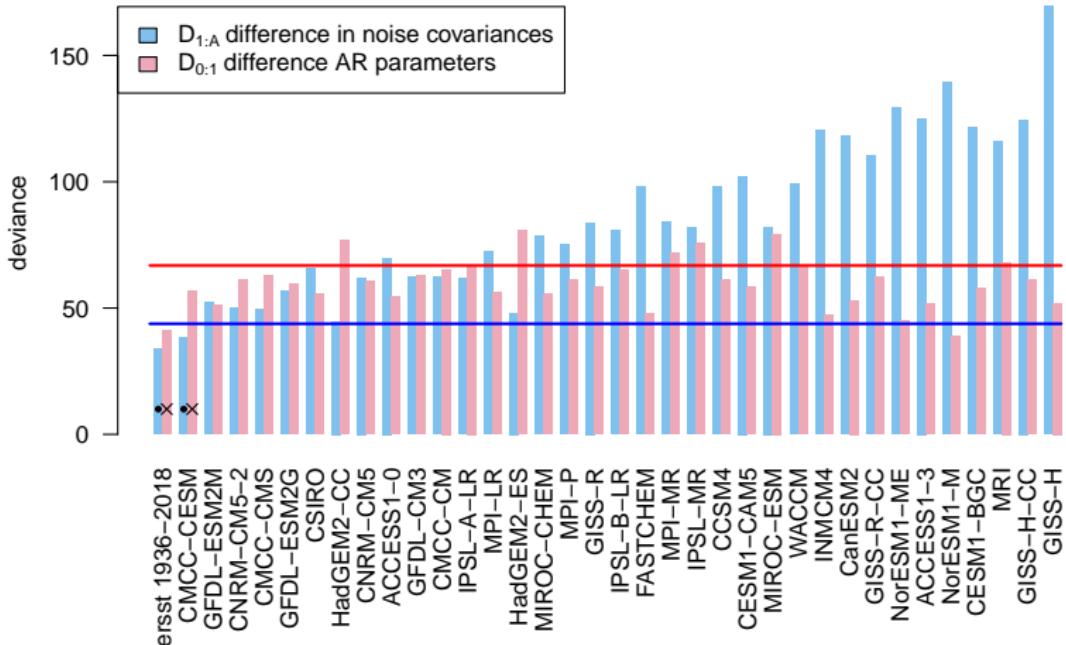
- ▶ Difference in noise parameters?
  - ▶ Implies differences in prewhitened variances.
  - ▶ Implies differences in one-step prediction errors.
- ▶ Differences in AR parameters?
  - ▶ Implies differences in memory.
  - ▶ Implies differences in predictability.
  - ▶ Implies differences in “dynamics”

$$D_{\text{total}} = D_{\text{noise}} + D_P$$

difference in noise                              difference in AR parameters

**Under the null hypothesis,  $D_{\text{noise}}$  and  $D_P$  are independent and have chi-squared distributions.**

**Deviance Relative to ERSSTv5**  
**NASST; PI CMIP5; 82yr; poly 2; VAR(1); 7 laplacians**



Significant  $D_{\text{noise}}$      $\implies$      $\Gamma_X \neq \Gamma_Y$

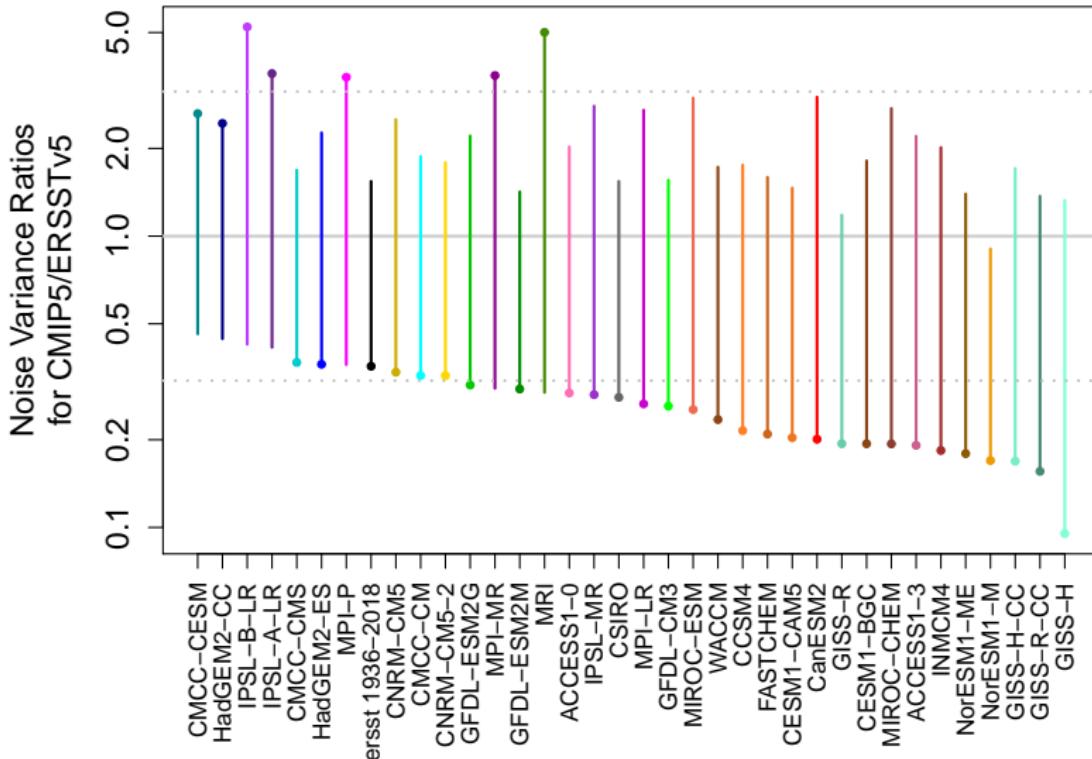
## Find linear combination that optimizes differences in noise variances

- ▶ This is equivalent to maximizing the ratio of variances.
- ▶ You get an uncorrelated set of components that decomposes  $D_{\text{noise}}$  into independent components.

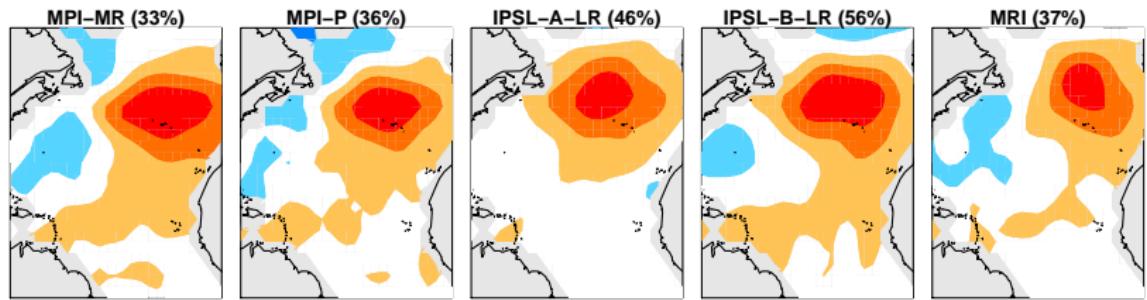
$$D_{\text{noise}} = D_{\text{noise}}^{(1)} + \cdots + D_{\text{noise}}^{(M)}$$

- ▶ This is called Covariance Discriminant Analysis (CDA) and generalizes PCA to describe differences in covariance matrices.

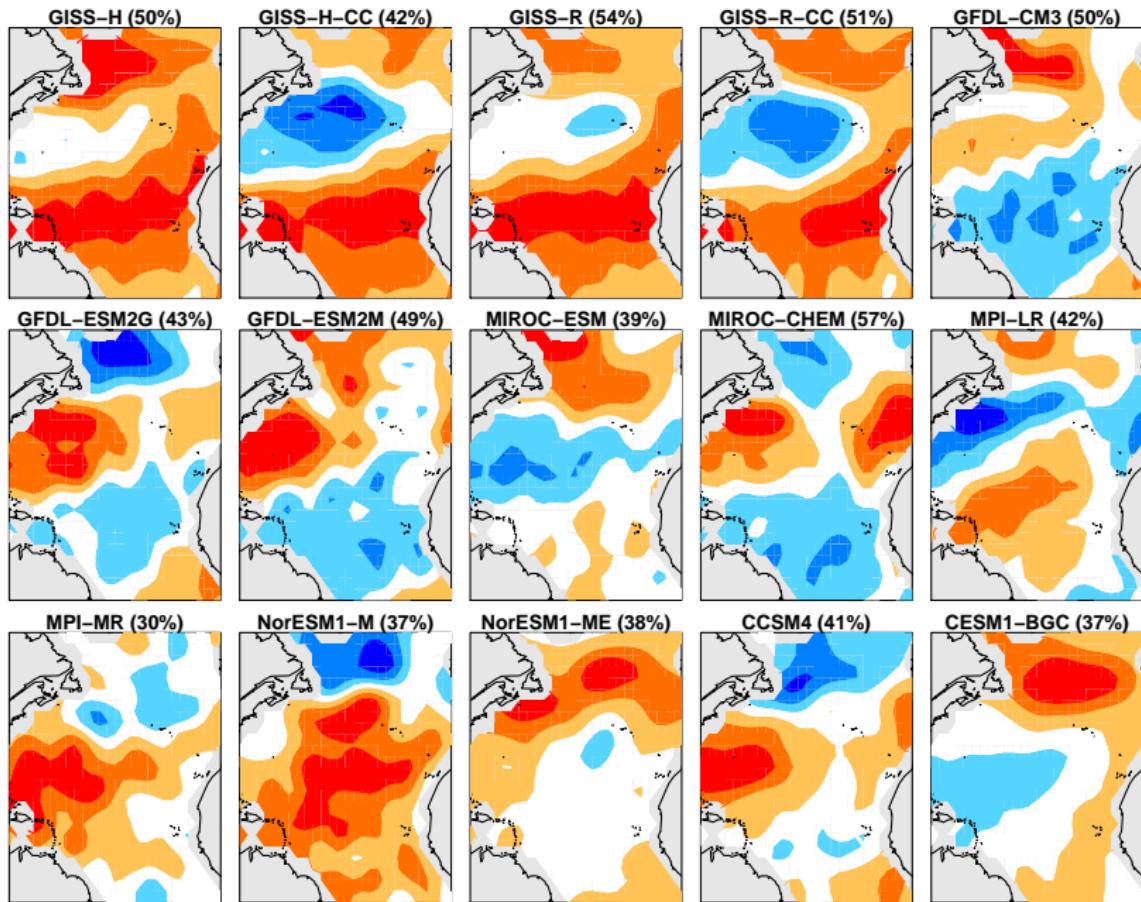
## Noise Variance Ratios from Discriminant Analysis NASST; PI CMIP5; 82yr; poly 2; VAR(1); 7 laplacians



# Components with too much noise variance



# Components with too little noise variance



Significant  $D_P \implies \{\mathbf{A}_1^X, \dots, \mathbf{A}_p^X\} \neq \{\mathbf{A}_1^Y, \dots, \mathbf{A}_p^Y\}$

**Find linear combination that maximizes  $D_P$ .**

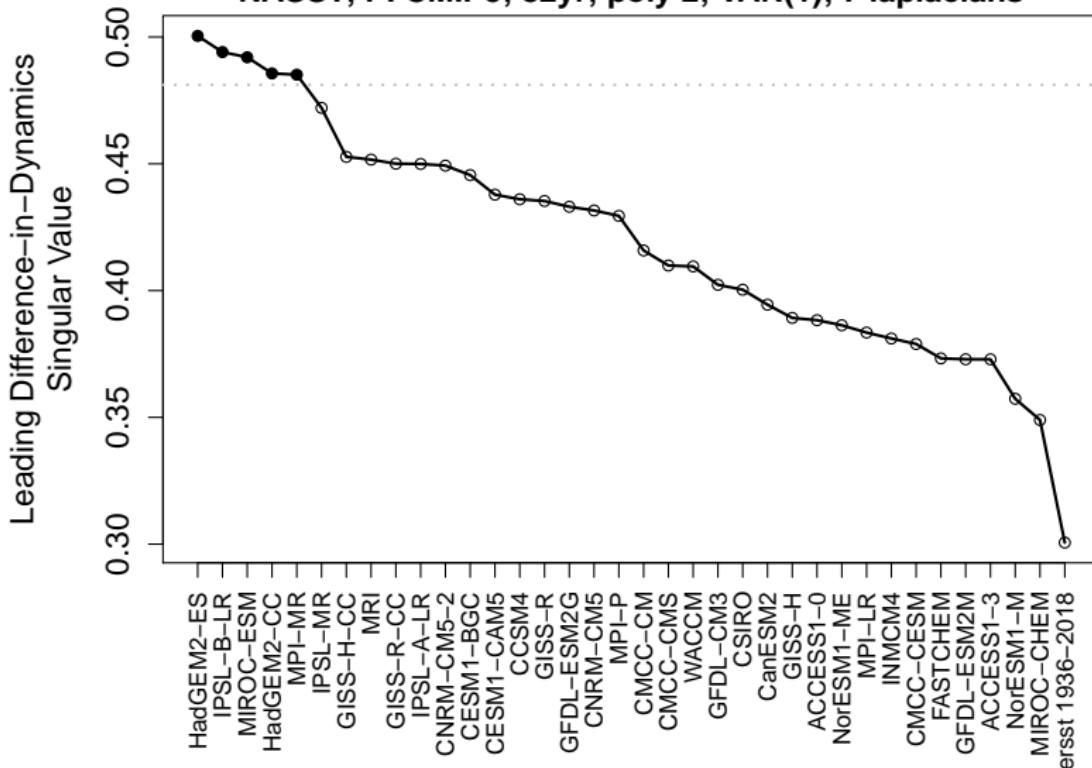
## Find linear combination that maximizes $D_P$ .

- ▶ Yields a set of uncorrelated components that decomposes  $D_P$ .

$$D_P = D_P^{(1)} + \cdots + D_P^{(M)}$$

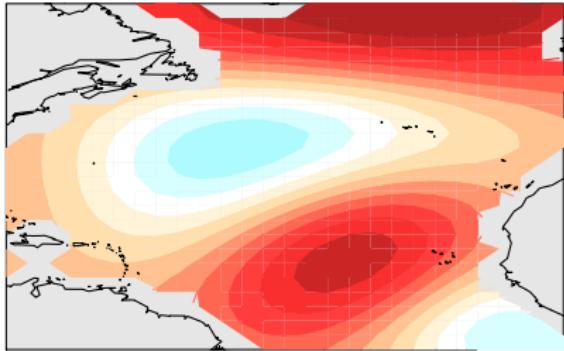
- ▶ Equivalent to GSVD of the difference in AR parameters.
- ▶ GSVD finds the initial condition that maximizes the difference in response of the VAR(p) dynamics.
- ▶ We call this Difference-in-Dynamics SVD.

**Leading Difference-in-Dynamics Singular Value**  
**NASST; PI CMIP5; 82yr; poly 2; VAR(1); 7 laplacians**

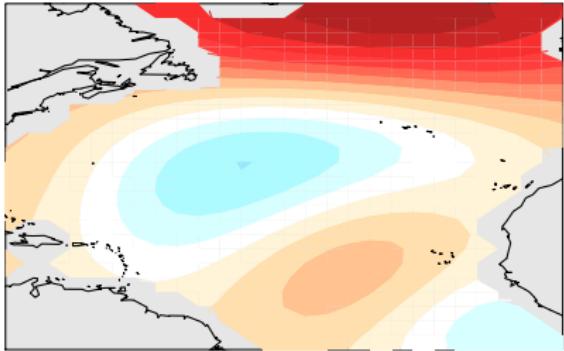


$$\mathbf{z}_t = \boxed{\mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{z}_{t-1}} + \boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$$

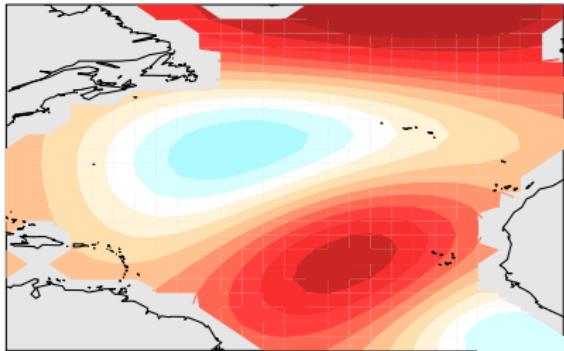
HadGEM2-ES; t=0 year



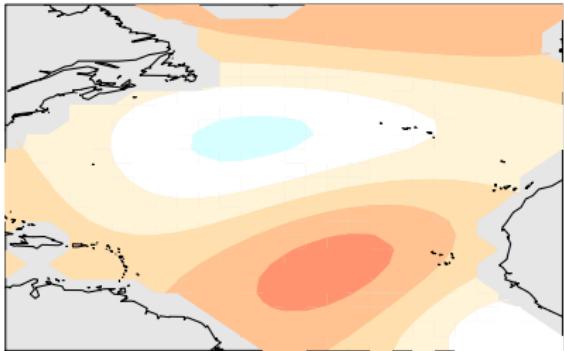
HadGEM2-ES; t=1 year



ersst; t=0 year

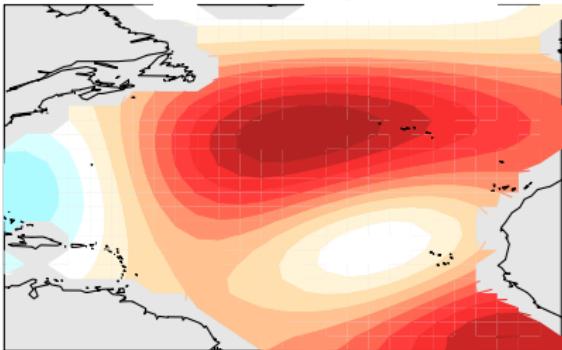


ersst; t=1 year

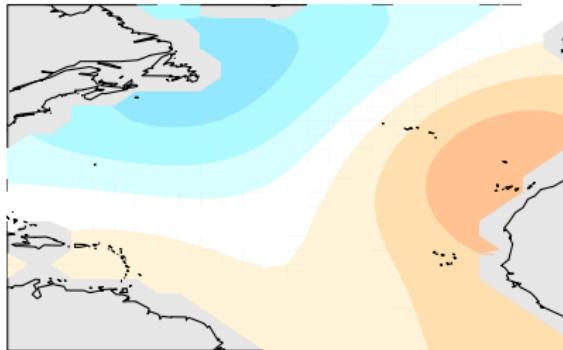


$$\mathbf{z}_t = \boxed{\mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{z}_{t-1}} + \boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$$

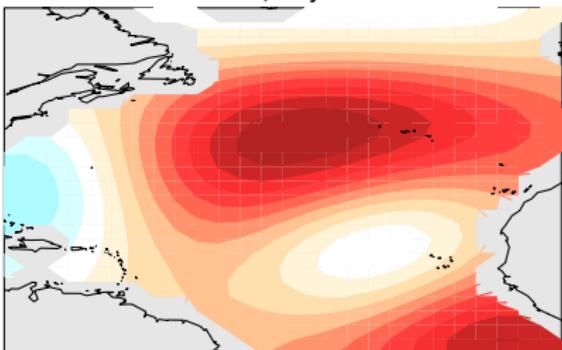
MIROC-ESM; t=0 year



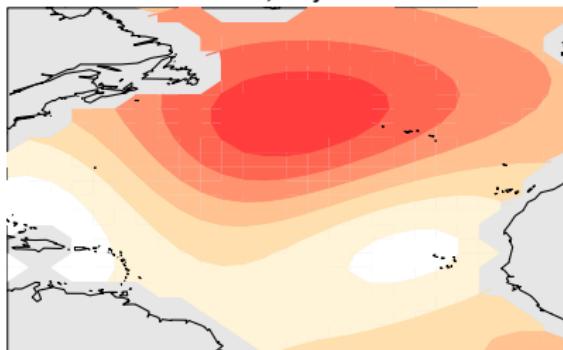
MIROC-ESM; t=1 year



ersst; t=0 year



ersst; t=1 year



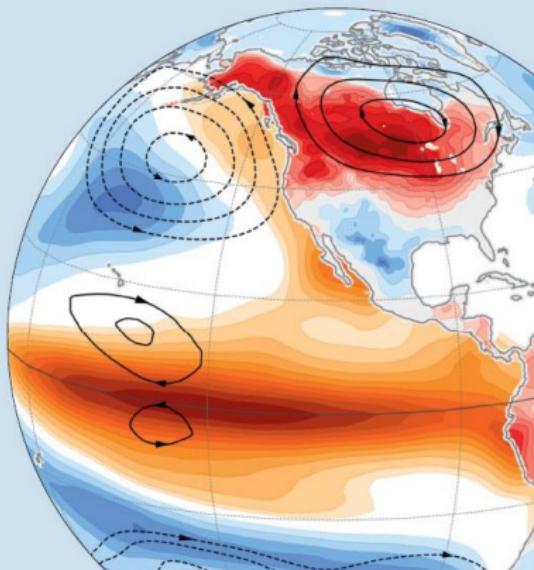
## Summary

- ▶ We propose a rigorous statistical method for comparing simulations and observations that accounts for correlations in space and time.
- ▶ The test statistic  $D$  measures difference in VAR processes.
- ▶ A new criterion called **Mutual Information Criterion (MIC)** is used to select variables and maximum lag in VAR models
- ▶ For annual-mean North Atlantic SST, virtually all models are unrealistic after smaller-scale ( $\sim 2000\text{km}$ ) information is included.
- ▶ Discrimination techniques can be used to optimally diagnose differences in noise statistics and differences in AR parameters.
- ▶ Difference-in-dynamics SVD shows some climate models produce one-year predictions with the wrong sign over large spatial scales.
- ▶ DelSole and Tippett, 2020, 2021a, 2021b, *Advances in Statistical Climatology, Meteorology and Oceanography* (ASCMO)

# Statistical Methods for Climate Scientists

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