

# ICON-Land: Current development lines

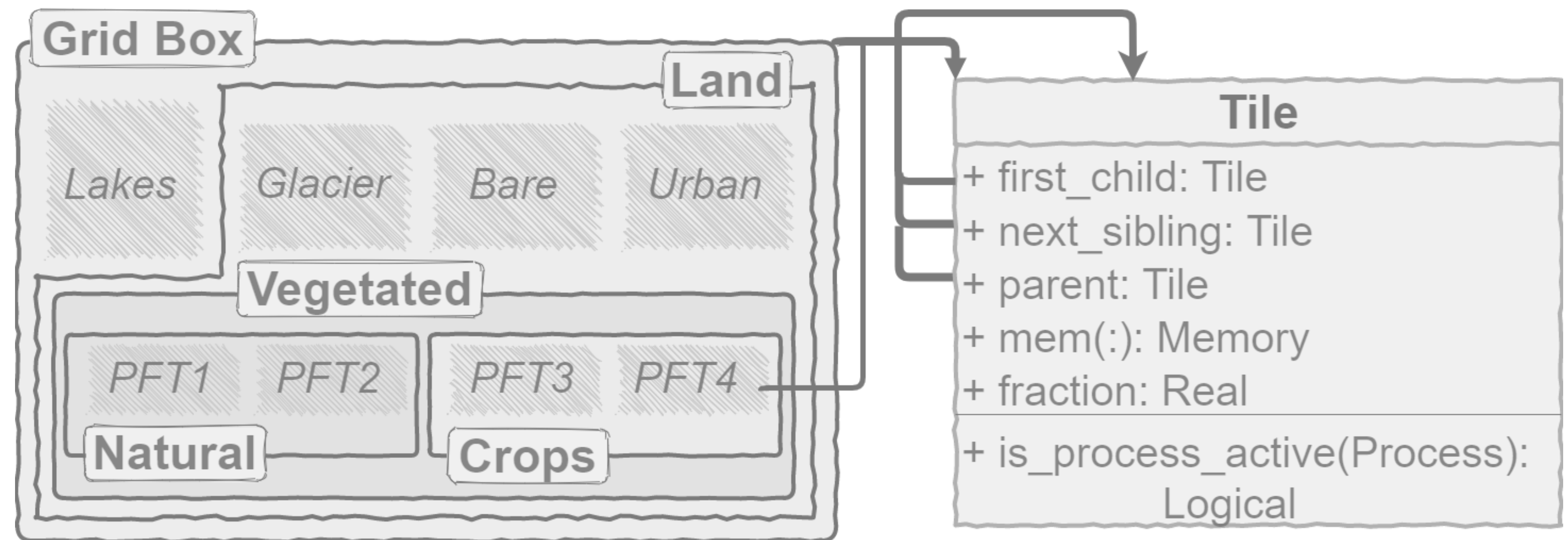
Sönke Zaehle (MPI Biogeochemistry)

With contributions from

Reiner Schnur (MPI-M)

Victor Brovkin (MPI-M)

Julia Pongratz (LMU)



# ICON-Land Framework

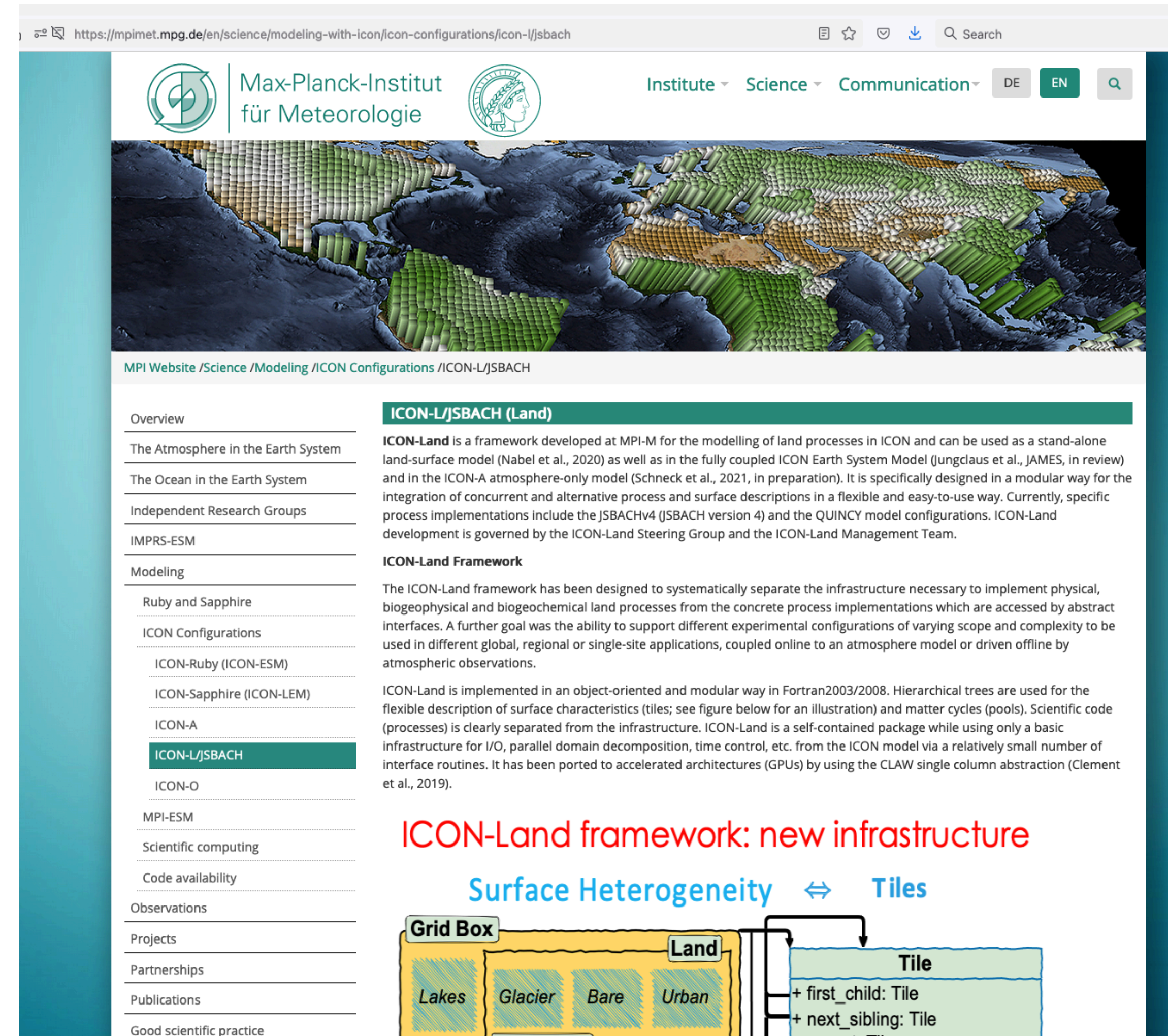
- *ICON-Land is a framework for the modeling of land processes in ICON*
- **Goals**
  - Integration of concurrent process and surface descriptions in a flexible and easy-to-use way
  - Separate the infrastructure required to implement physical, bio-geophysical and bio-geochemical land processes from concrete process implementations accessed by abstract interfaces
  - Support various experimental configurations regarding scope and complexity, spatial and temporal extend, offline as well as coupled

# ICON-Land governance

ICON-Land is governed by the ICON-Land Steering Group.

- includes the representatives from several groups contributing to development of models of the land processes
  - key institutions: MPI-M, MPI-BGC, LMU
  - Also involved: DWD, MPI-C, UNI-HH, FMI Helsinki
- to coordinate and facilitate ICON-Land development across the different scientific institutions contributing to ICON-Land, and to decide on strategic developments.

<https://mpimet.mpg.de/en/science/modeling-with-icon/icon-configurations/icon-land/jsbach>



Max-Planck-Institut für Meteorologie

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MPI Website / Science / Modeling / ICON Configurations / ICON-L/JSBACH

Overview
The Atmosphere in the Earth System
The Ocean in the Earth System
Independent Research Groups
IMPRS-ESM
Modeling
Ruby and Sapphire
ICON Configurations
ICON-Ruby (ICON-ESM)
ICON-Sapphire (ICON-LEM)
ICON-A
<b>ICON-L/JSBACH</b>
ICON-O
MPI-ESM
Scientific computing
Code availability
Observations
Projects
Partnerships
Publications
Good scientific practice

### ICON-L/JSBACH (Land)

ICON-Land is a framework developed at MPI-M for the modelling of land processes in ICON and can be used as a stand-alone land-surface model (Nabel et al., 2020) as well as in the fully coupled ICON Earth System Model (Jungclaus et al., JAMES, in review) and in the ICON-A atmosphere-only model (Schneck et al., 2021, in preparation). It is specifically designed in a modular way for the integration of concurrent and alternative process and surface descriptions in a flexible and easy-to-use way. Currently, specific process implementations include the JSBACHv4 (JSBACH version 4) and the QUINCY model configurations. ICON-Land development is governed by the ICON-Land Steering Group and the ICON-Land Management Team.


#### ICON-Land Framework

The ICON-Land framework has been designed to systematically separate the infrastructure necessary to implement physical, biogeophysical and biogeochemical land processes from the concrete process implementations which are accessed by abstract interfaces. A further goal was the ability to support different experimental configurations of varying scope and complexity to be used in different global, regional or single-site applications, coupled online to an atmosphere model or driven offline by atmospheric observations.

ICON-Land is implemented in an object-oriented and modular way in Fortran2003/2008. Hierarchical trees are used for the flexible description of surface characteristics (tiles; see figure below for an illustration) and matter cycles (pools). Scientific code (processes) is clearly separated from the infrastructure. ICON-Land is a self-contained package while using only a basic infrastructure for I/O, parallel domain decomposition, time control, etc. from the ICON model via a relatively small number of interface routines. It has been ported to accelerated architectures (GPUs) by using the CLAW single column abstraction (Clement et al., 2019).

### ICON-Land framework: new infrastructure

Surface Heterogeneity ↔ Tiles



# JSBACH4 within ICON-Land

Nabel et al. 2020, GMD,  
Schneck et al. in review, GMD,  
available under the MPI-M license  
Version used within ICON-seamless

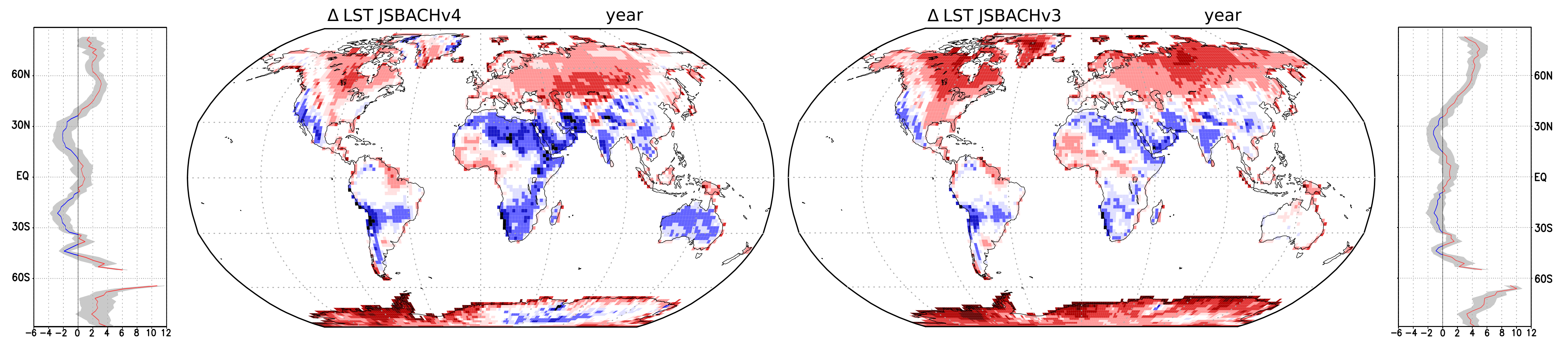
## Processes included:

- Surface energy balance (implicitly coupled to atmosphere)
- Multi-layer soil model for temperature and moisture
- Multi-layer snow model
- Lakes: simple scheme for water temperature, ice thickness and temperature, and snow
- Hydrologic discharge (HD): freshwater flux from land into oceans, coupled via YAC
- Phenology (LAI): leaf growth and shedding rates under environmental conditions
- Photosynthesis: dynamics of plant carbon uptake by assimilation and water loss via stomata
- Natural carbon cycle: transport of assimilated carbon through storage pools in vegetation and soil
- Natural disturbances of vegetation by fires and wind throw
- Land cover change (LCC)
  - Anthropogenic LCC by reading annual maps of cover fractions based on agricultural change
  - Natural LCC: dynamic vegetation based on bioclimatic limits
  - Relocation of quantities for which matter is to be conserved upon land cover change



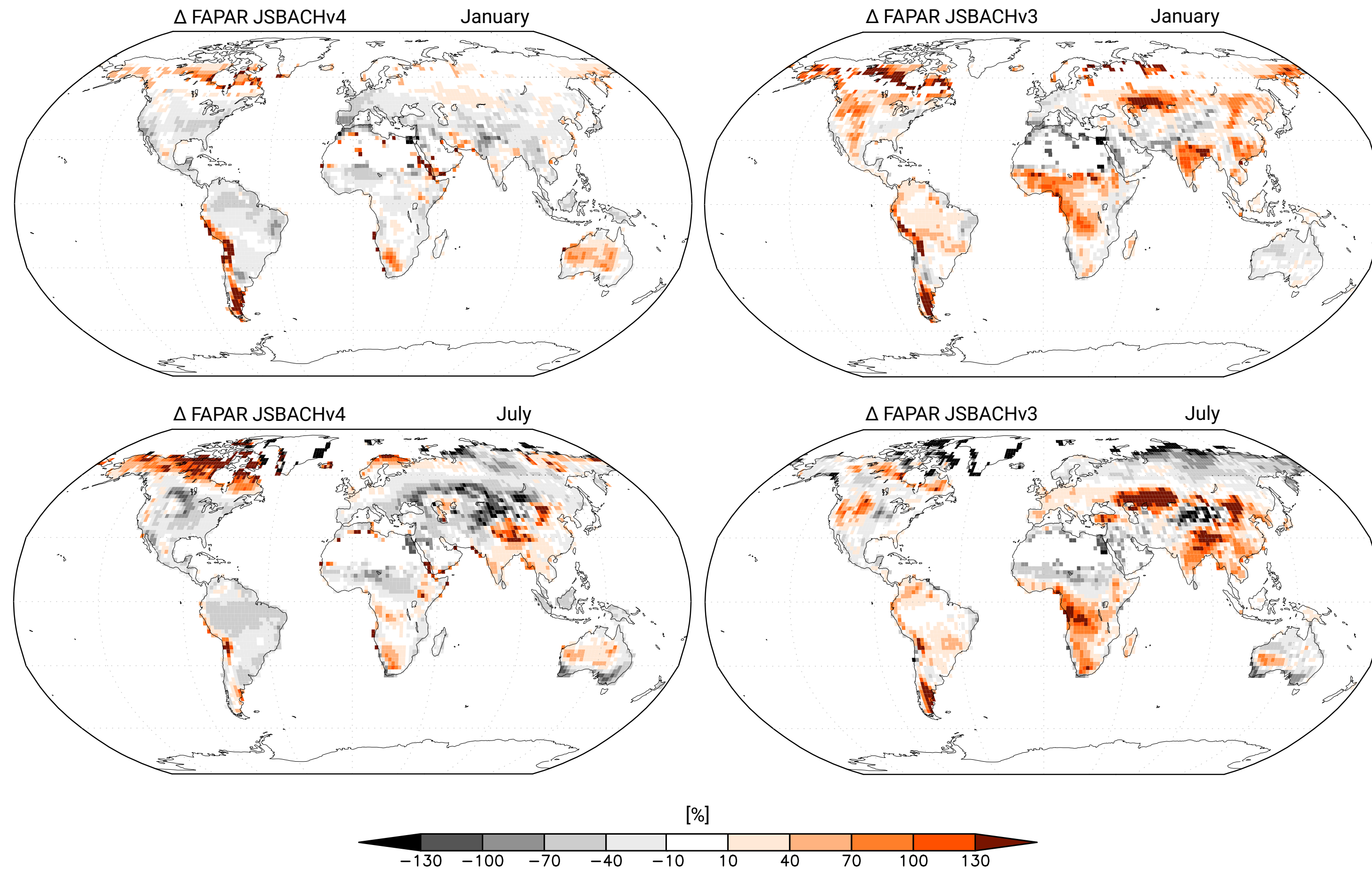
# ICON-Land / JSBACH4 evaluation

Bias in 2001-2014 Land Surface Temperature against MODIS observations



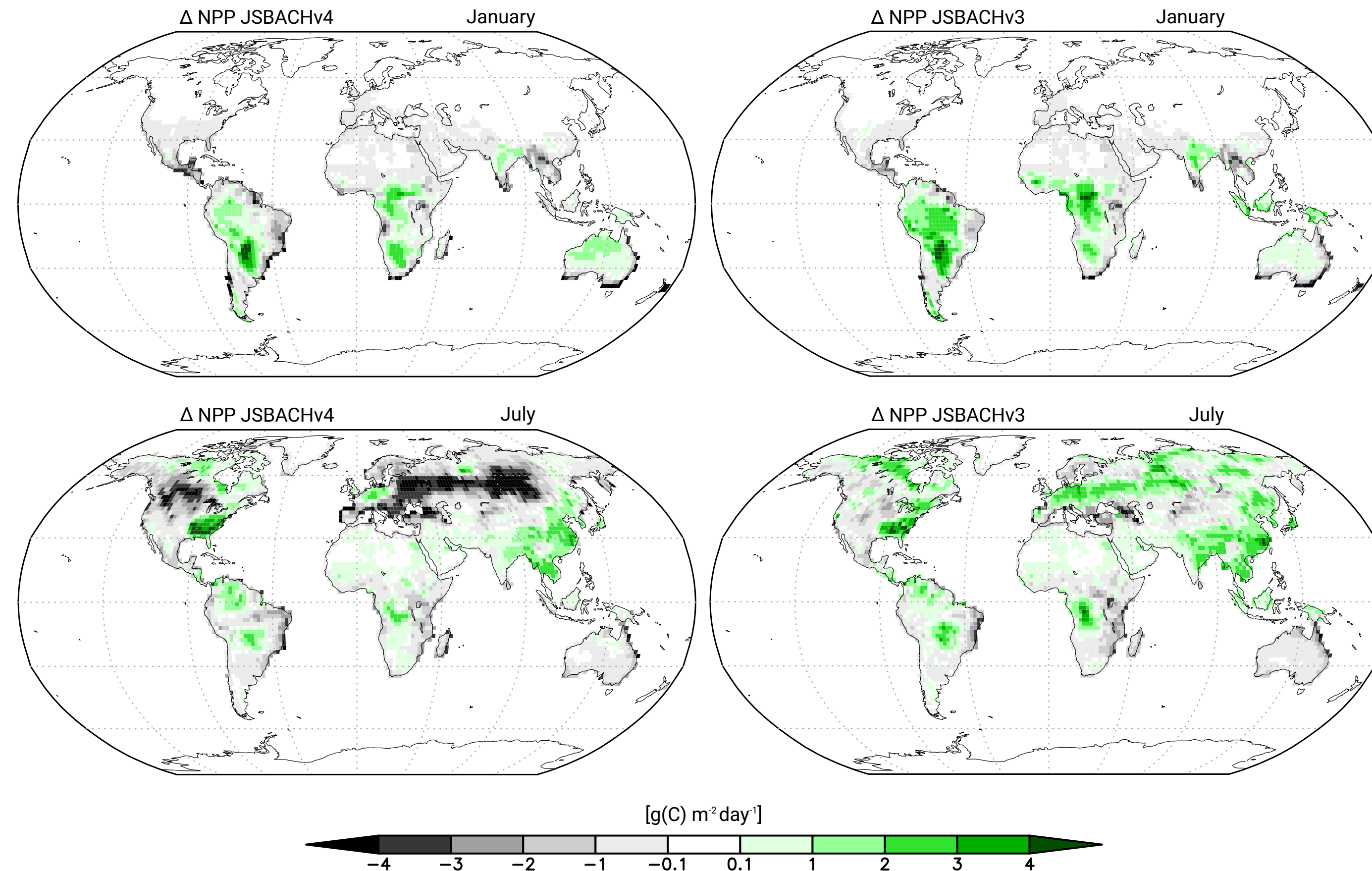
# ICON-Land / JSBACH4 evaluation

Bias in 2001-2014 Fraction of Absorbed Photosynthetically Active Radiation (fAPAR) against MODIS observations



# ICON-Land / JSBACH4 evaluation

Bias in 2001-2014 Net Primary production against MODIS estimates



# Focus: Boreal + Arctic environments (Victor Brovkin, MPI-M)

## Rationale:

- the **permafrost** module performance in ICON-ESM1.0 (Ruby-0) was suboptimal in most of Siberia.

Too dry soils caused *too little ice in soils* and bias in surface energy budget, especially in summer, leading to *too dry atmosphere and potential boreal forest dieback*

## Approach:

1. update hydrology and soil carbon processes in ICON/JSBACH-4 (ICON-Land) including recent permafrost developments in JSBACH (de Vrese et al., The Cryosphere, 2021)
2. run updated Ruby-0 model in AMIP and coupled experiments

## Results:

- Pronounced warm-dry bias over continental areas in summer is reduced
- improved, more pronounced diurnal cycle in arid regions
- improved representation of the soil water and energy fluxes globally
- Distribution of ice in the soil layers in North America / Eurasia is improved

Cool Ruby: internal project at MPI-M

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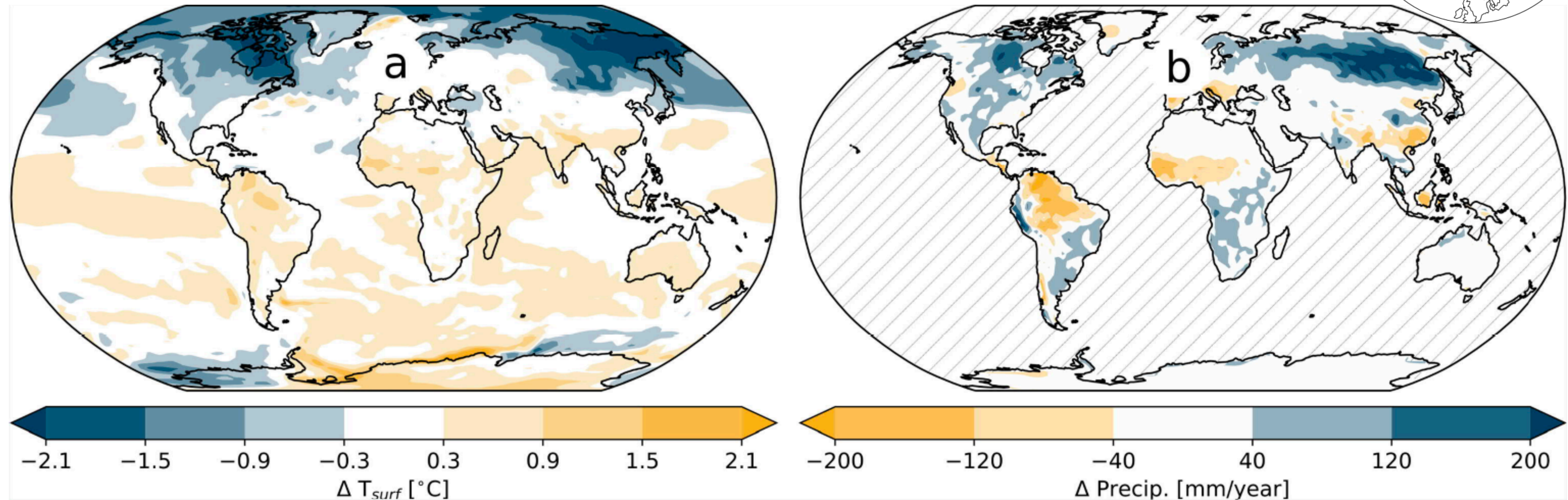




# Wet vs Dry Arctic: changing permafrost hydrology in JSBACH



“Wet - Dry Arctic” impact on global climate at 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels



Changes in permafrost hydrology affect climate far beyond Arctic

- “Wet Arctic” setup leads to cooler North, warmer and drier tropics
  - “Dry Arctic” setup results in warmer North, wetter tropics and North Africa
- MPI-ESM results; to be repeated with the ICON-ESM

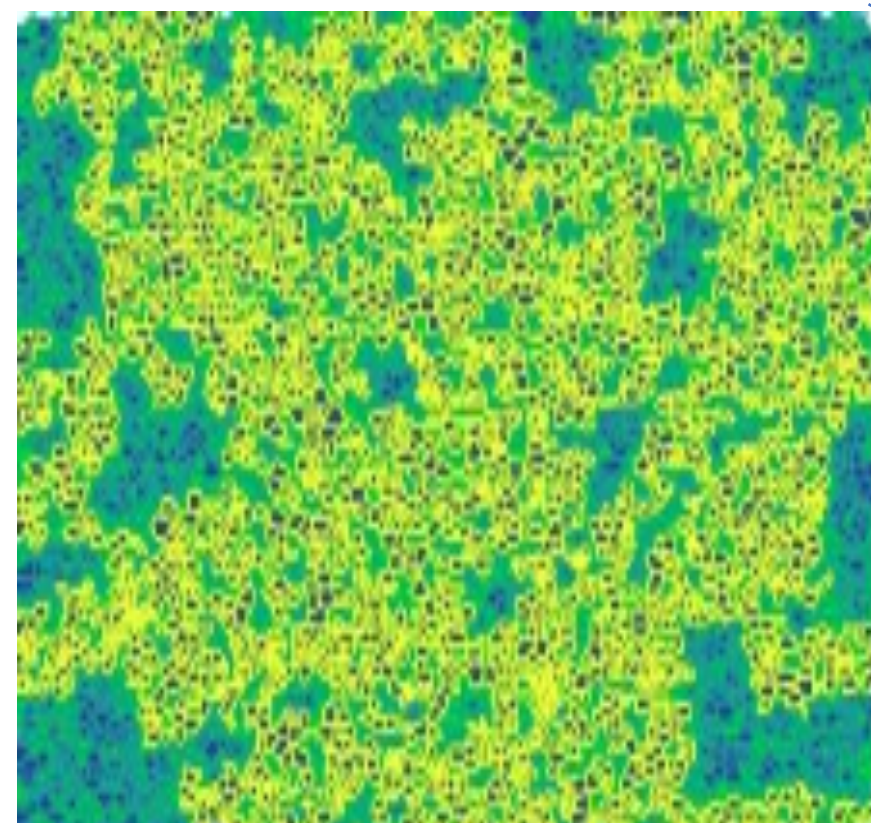
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# Q-ARCTIC: Multi-scale approach in the ICON framework

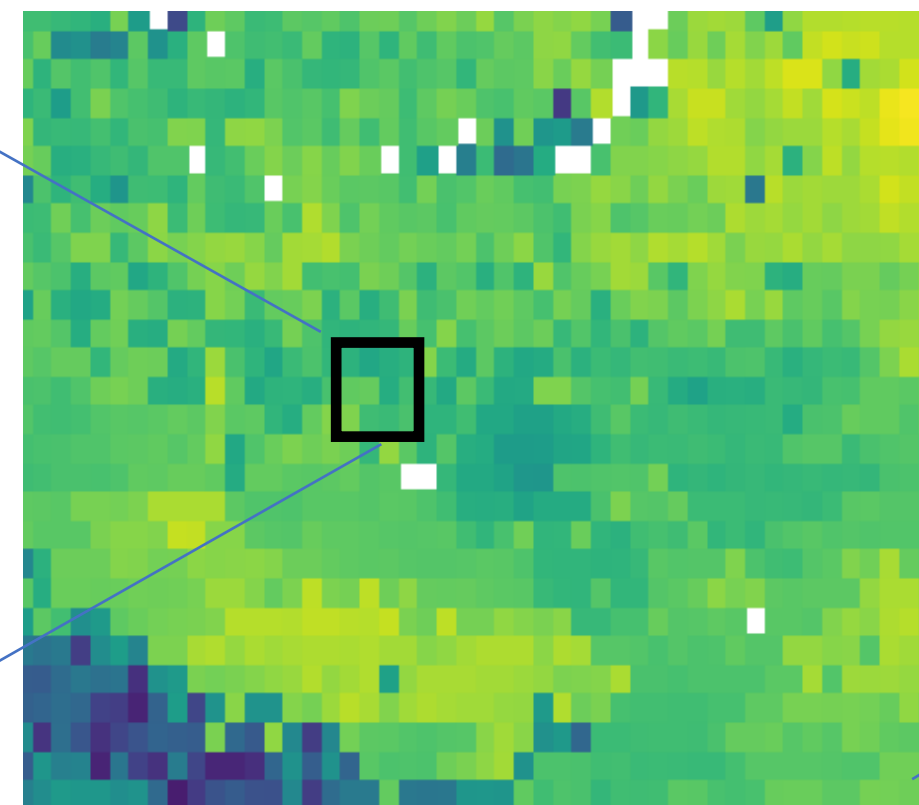
- lifetime: Oct 2021 – 2027

Micro scale

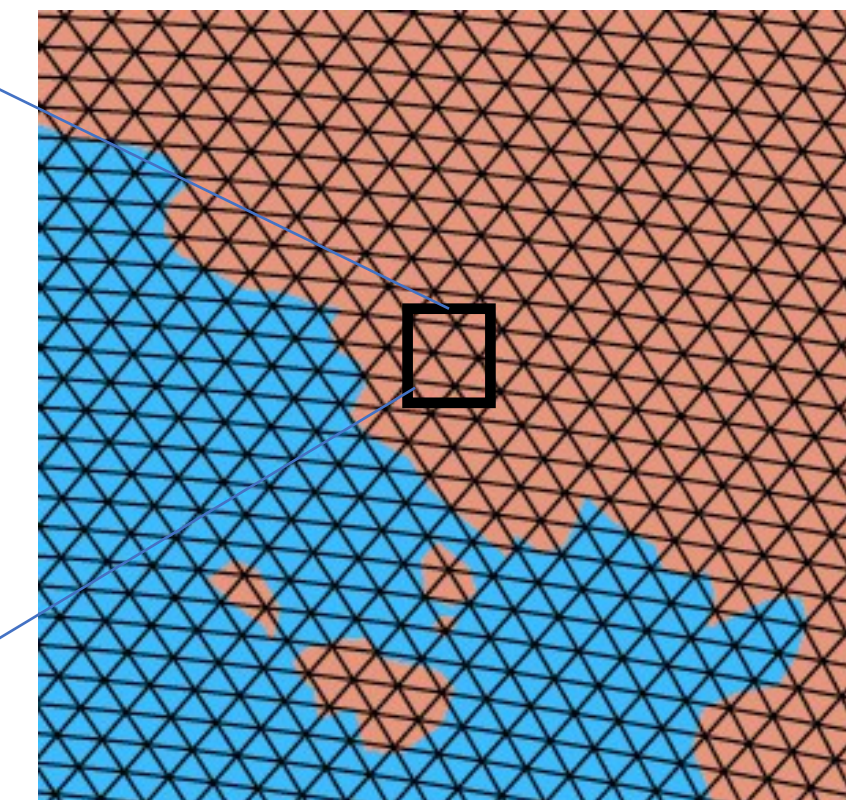


1-30 m

Meso scale

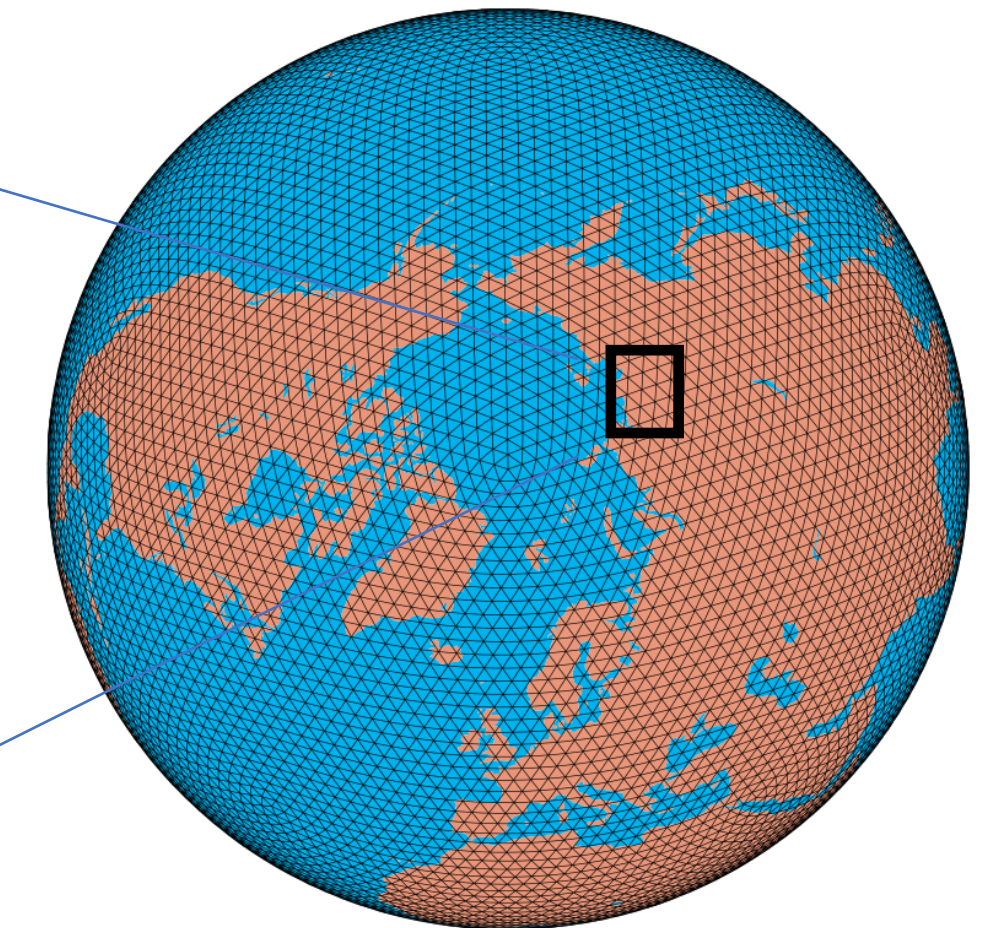


1-5 km (JSBACH)



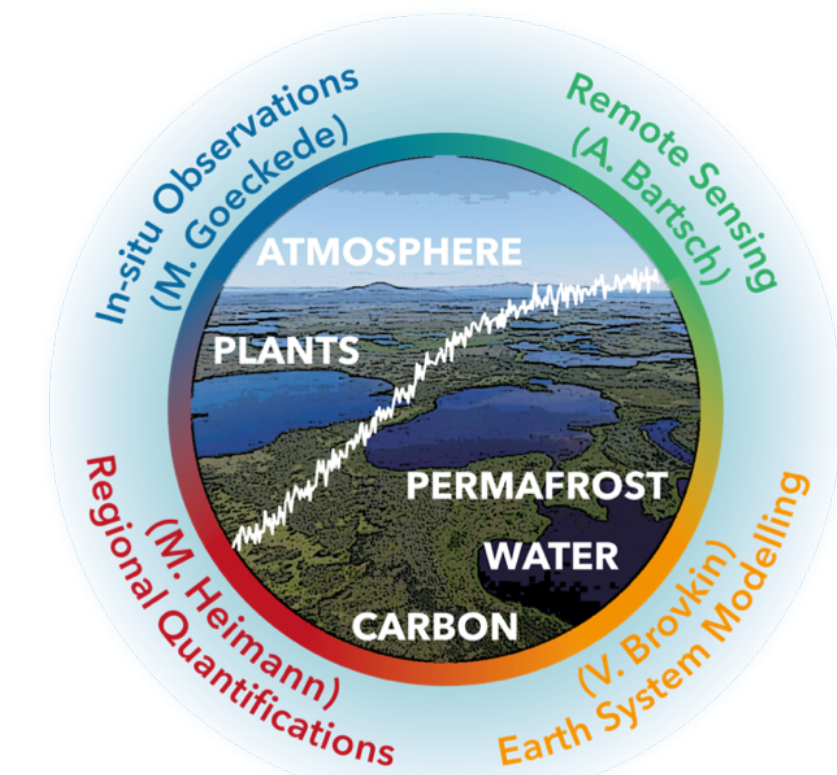
40 km

Macro scale



160 km (ICON-ESM 1.0)

- ESM resolution is too coarse to capture surface transformation after permafrost degradation
- Upscaling methods from *m* to *km* scale (Cresto-Aleina et al., 2013) and high-resolution pan-Arctic simulations of ICON-Land/JSBACH-4 within ICON-ESM
- JSBACH-4 is under restructuring: physical states & processes become tile-specific, new moisture classes (lake/pond, waterlogged, seasonally flooded, wet dry)
- Pan-Arctic meso-scale simulations with updated JSBACH-4 are planned by the end of 2022*

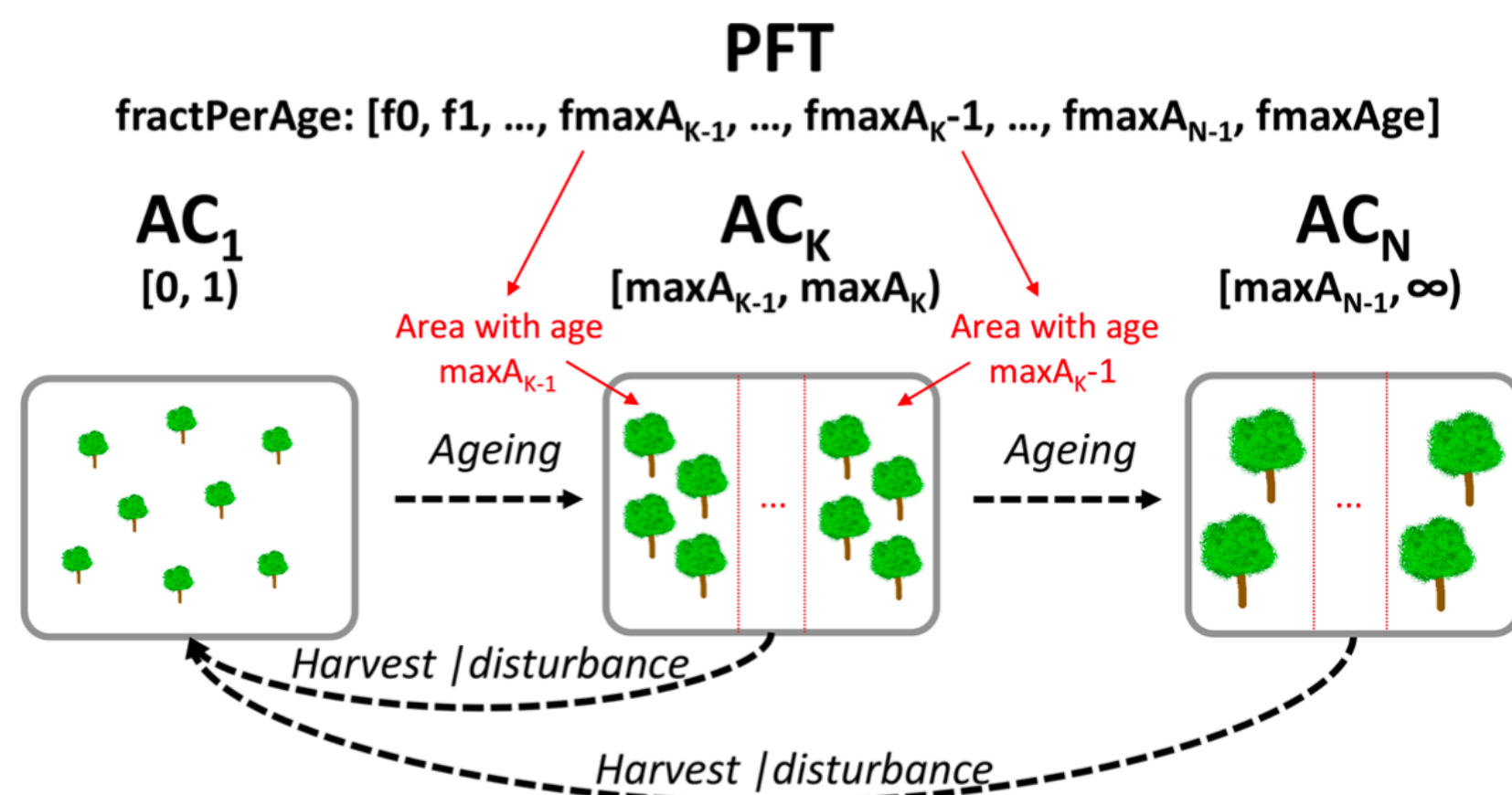


# Focus: Land-use change processes (Julia Pongratz, LMU)

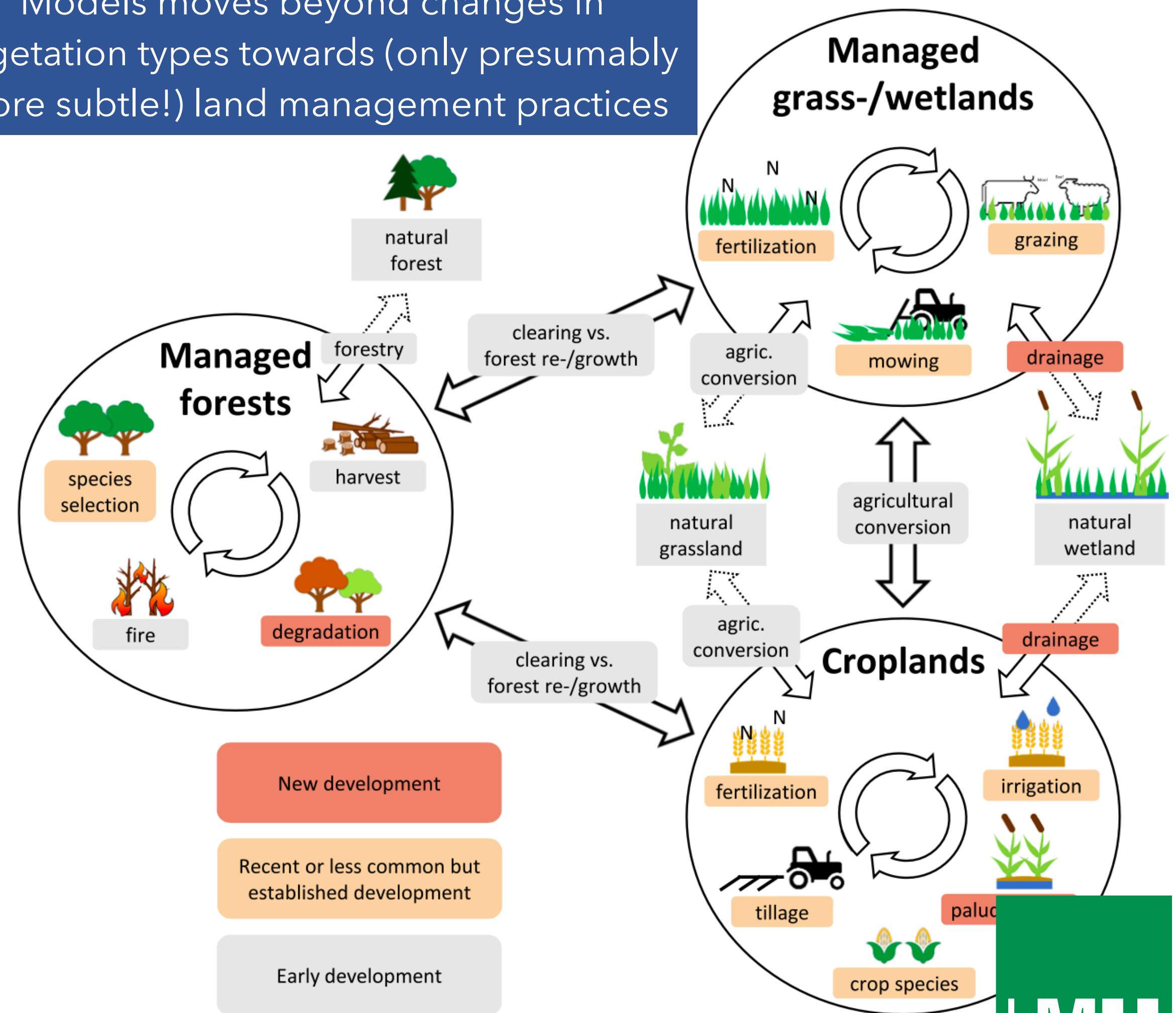
Ongoing developments in ICON-Land / JSBACH4:

- Implement (back- and forth) transitions between land-use types
- Integrate more land *management* practices (e.g., in ESM2025)

## Forest age class implementation in JSBACH4



Land use representation in Earth System Models moves beyond changes in vegetation types towards (only presumably more subtle!) land management practices

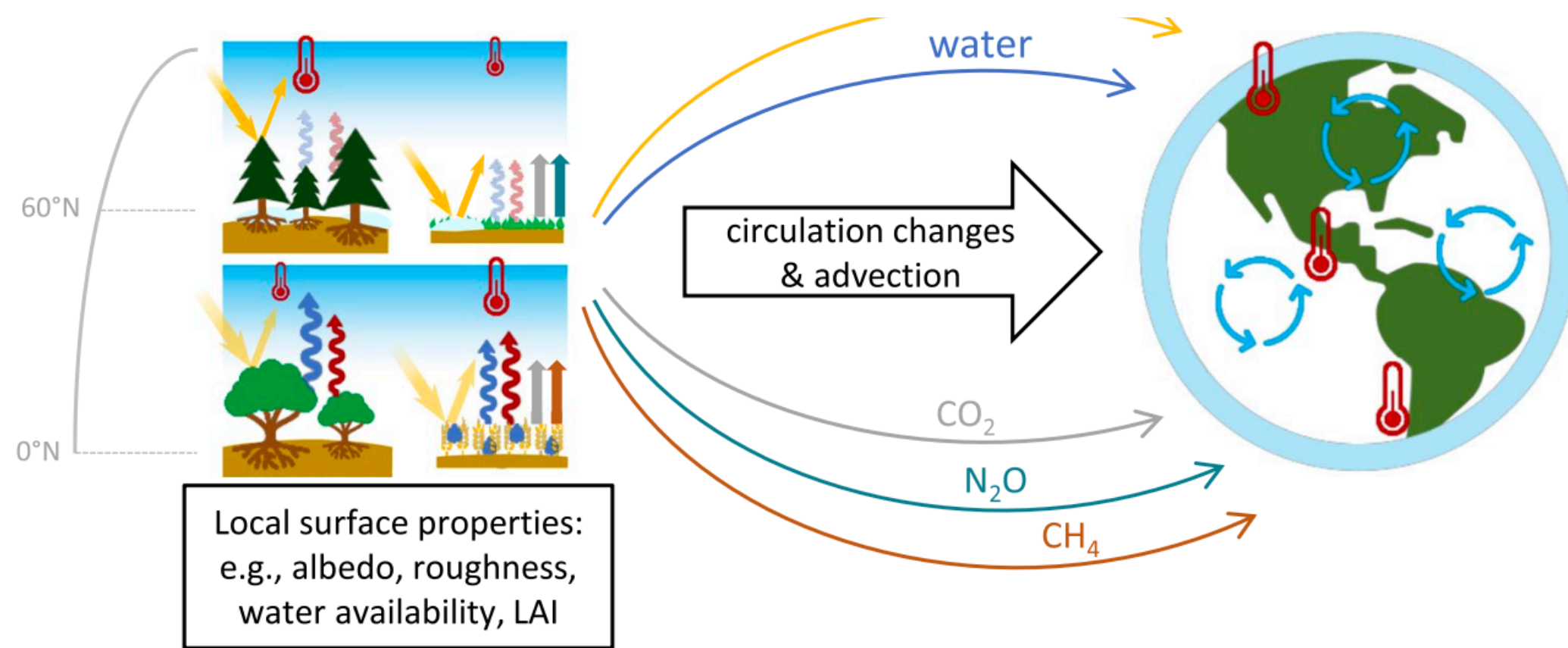


# Focus: Land-use change processes (Julia Pongratz, LMU)

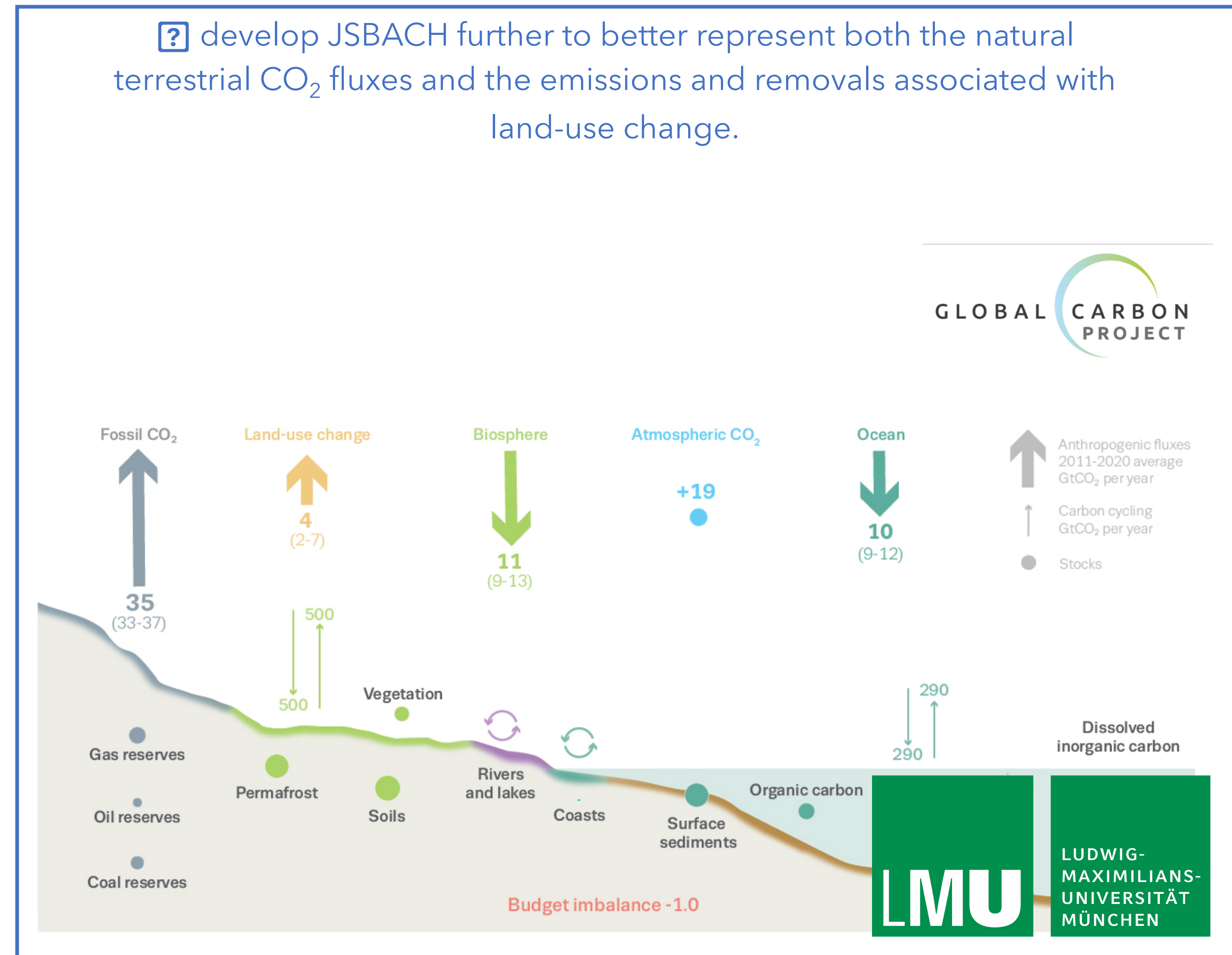
Example for application: Annual global carbon budgets.

Focus: interactions of humans and climate via land use and land management

Assessing both carbon cycle and biogeophysical effects, from local to global scale

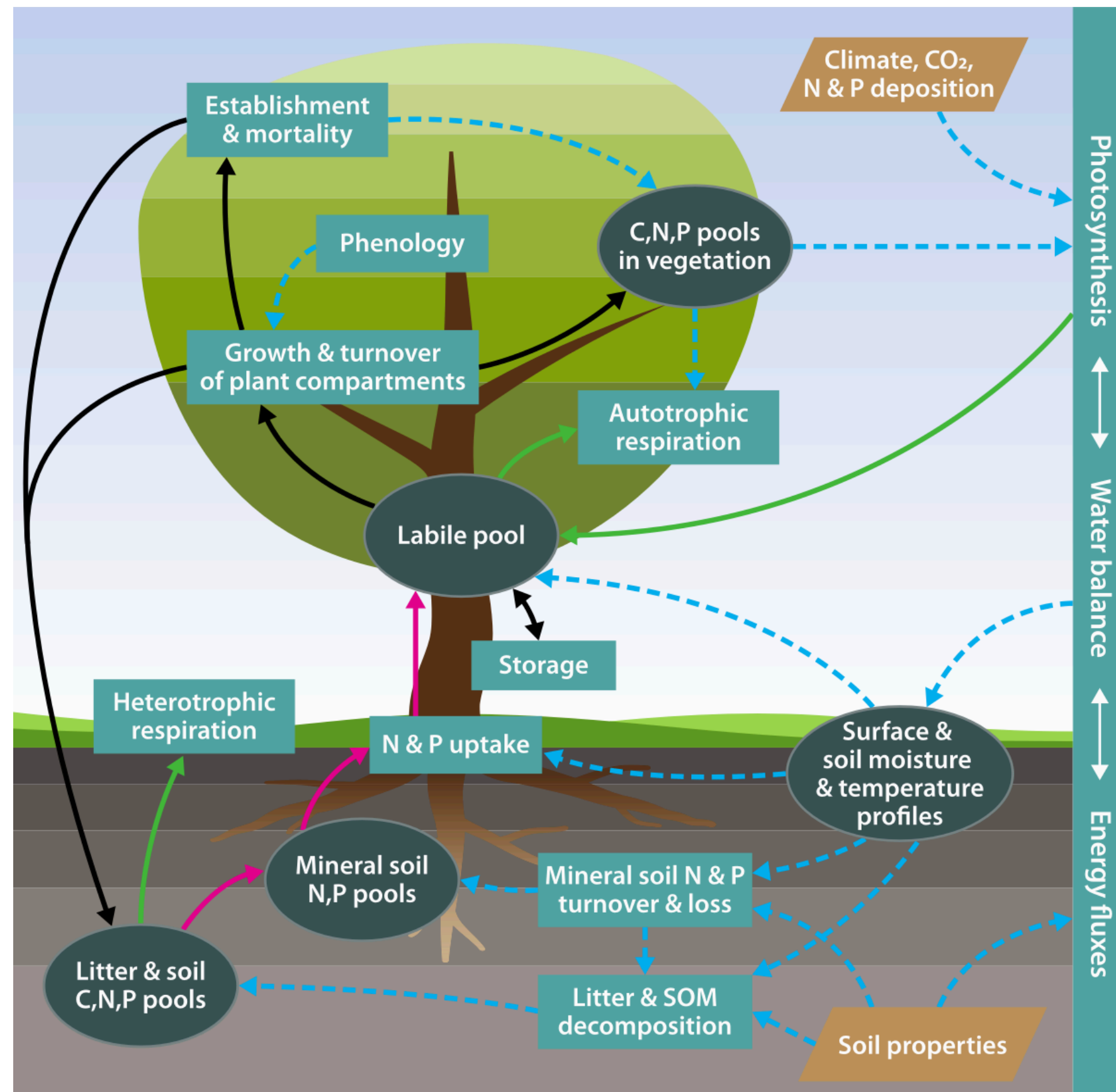


develop JSBACH further to better represent both the natural terrestrial CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes and the emissions and removals associated with land-use change.



# QUINCY within ICON-Land

## Processes Included



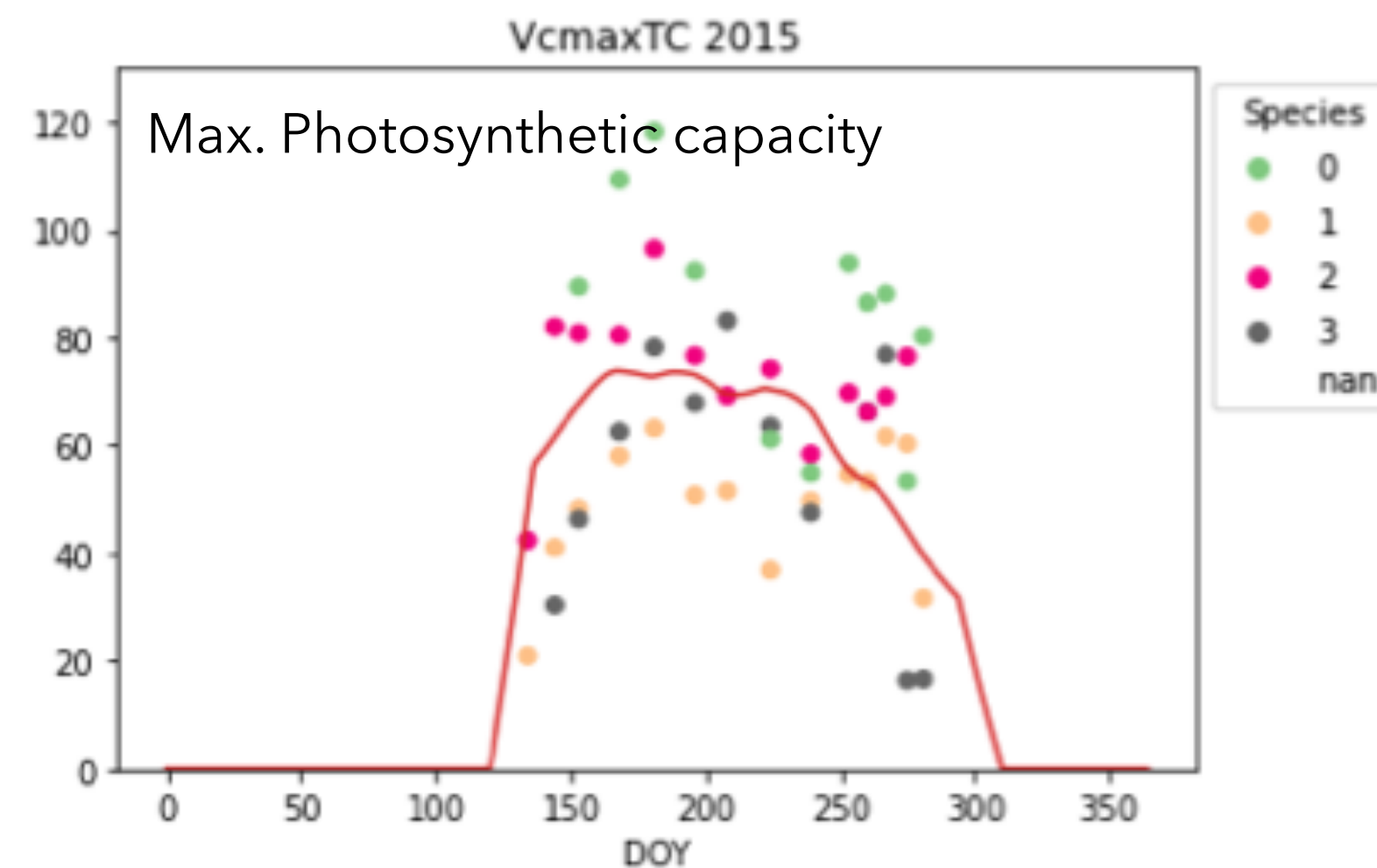
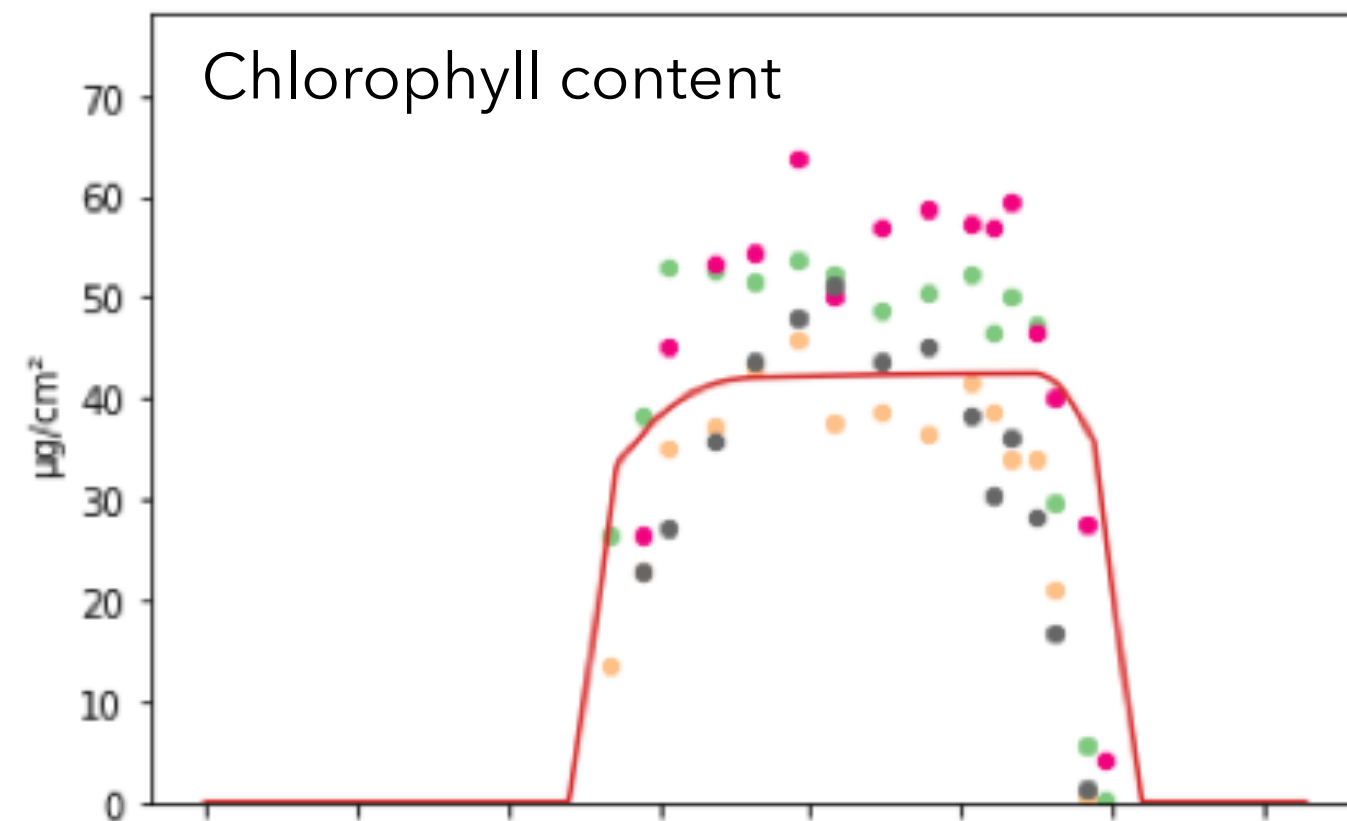
- *Surface energy balance, Multilayer soil physics, Lakes and HD. Land cover change (LCC) (similar to JSBACH4)*
- Multi-layer snow model + simple permafrost
- Phenology (LAI): dependent on plant physiology, stand properties and biogeochemistry, and trade-off between root and leaf growth
- Photosynthesis: coupled N-P limited assimilation and water loss taking into account diffuse and direct radiation / sunlit and shaded leaves / plant buffering capacity
- Natural biogeochemical cycles: coupled carbon-nitrogen-phosphorus biogeochemistry affecting plant growth and allocation, soil and litter dynamics, including stable C and N isotopes
- Emission and deposition of N-trace gases (eg. NO<sub>x</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O)
- Designed for ensemble studies/parameter sensitivity studies
- Natural disturbances of vegetation by fires and wind throw (through a new ERC grant)

Thum et al. 2019, GMD, Yu et al. 2020, GMD, currently available under the GPL3 license, will move to BSD-license consistent with MPI-M

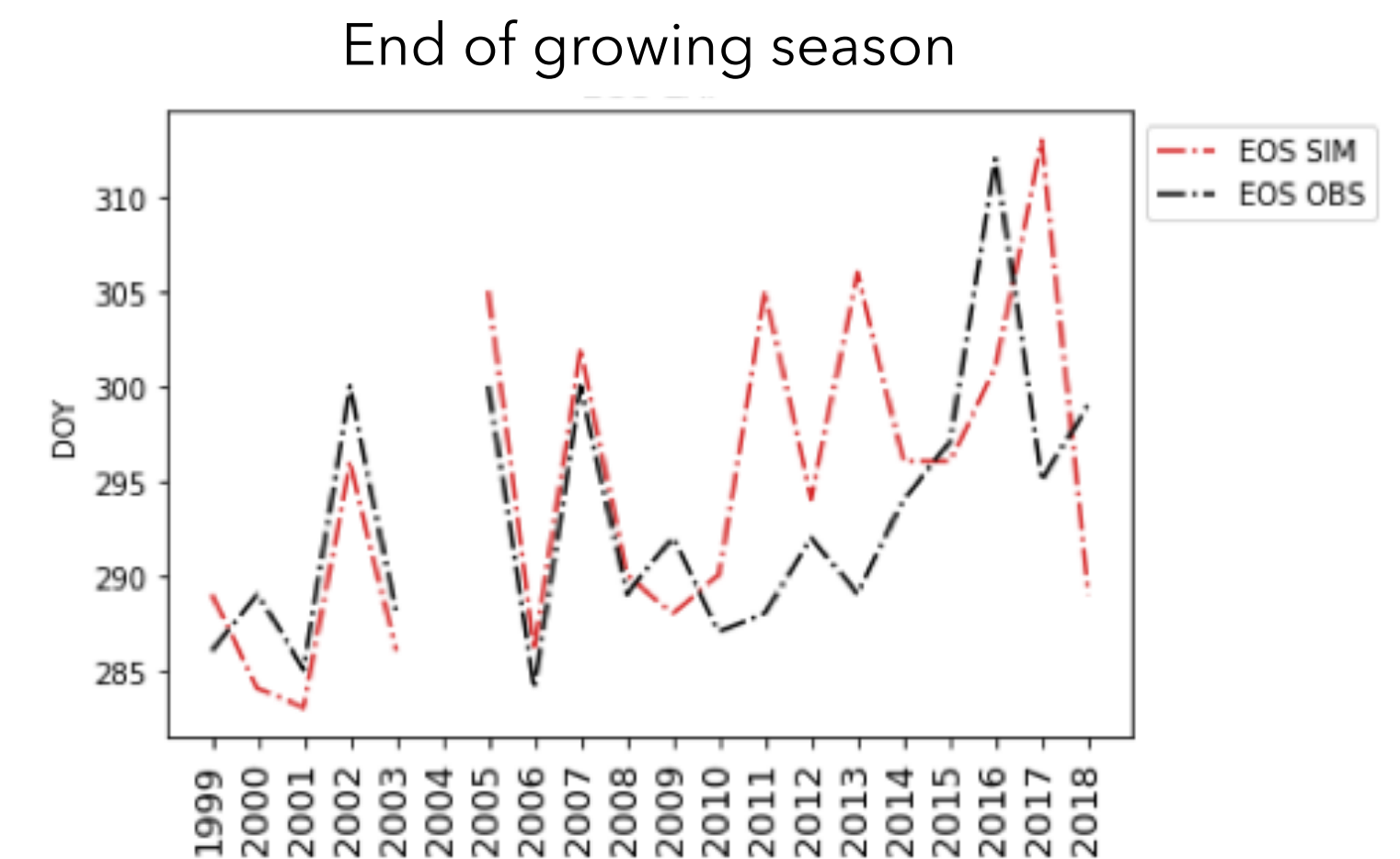
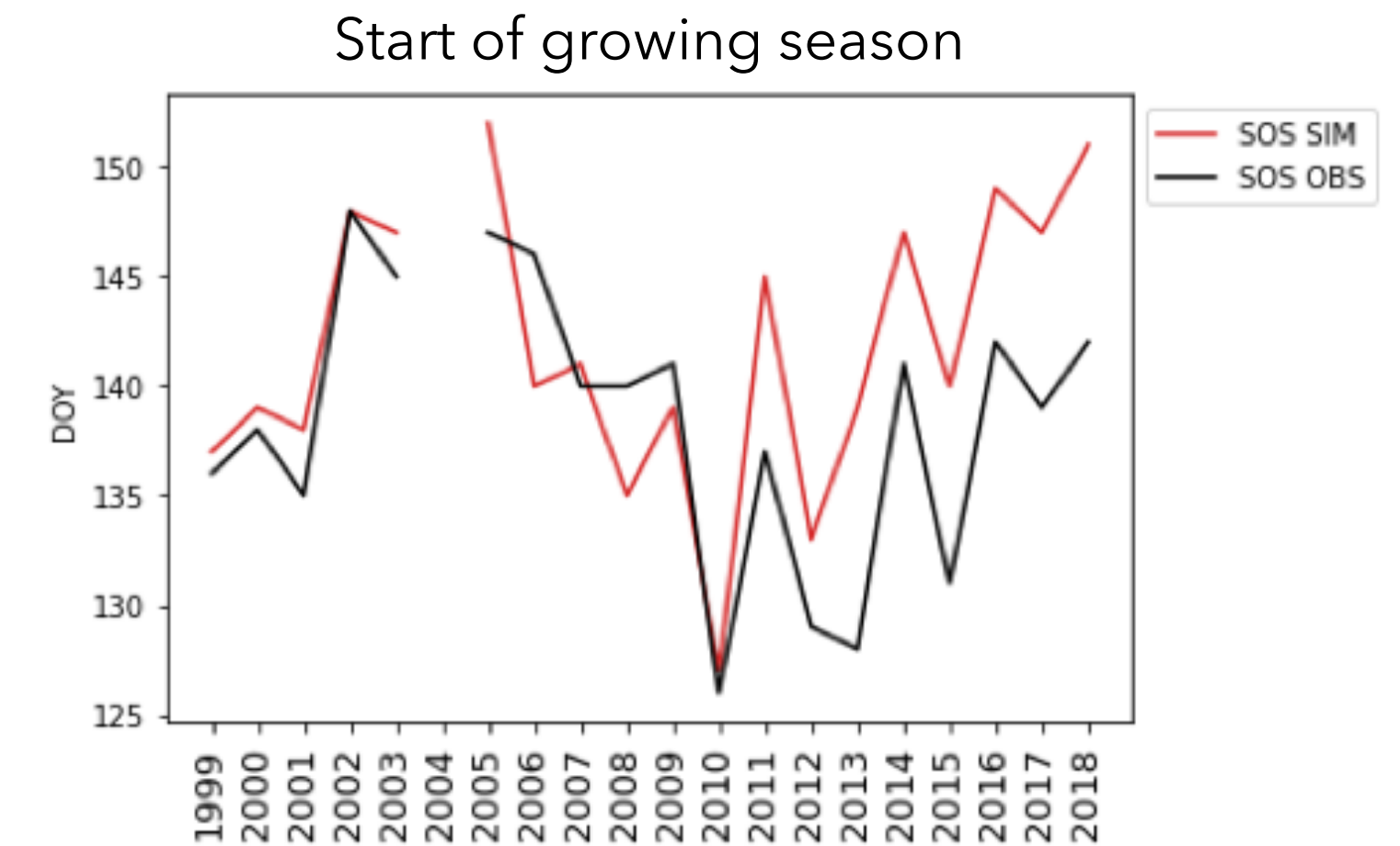
# Focus: Integration of in-situ and remotely sensed data (ICON-Land/QUINCY)

Observed and simulated variability of vegetation activity states  
(start and end of growing season, based on LAI)

Observed and simulated variability of key phenological states  
(start and end of growing season, based on LAI)

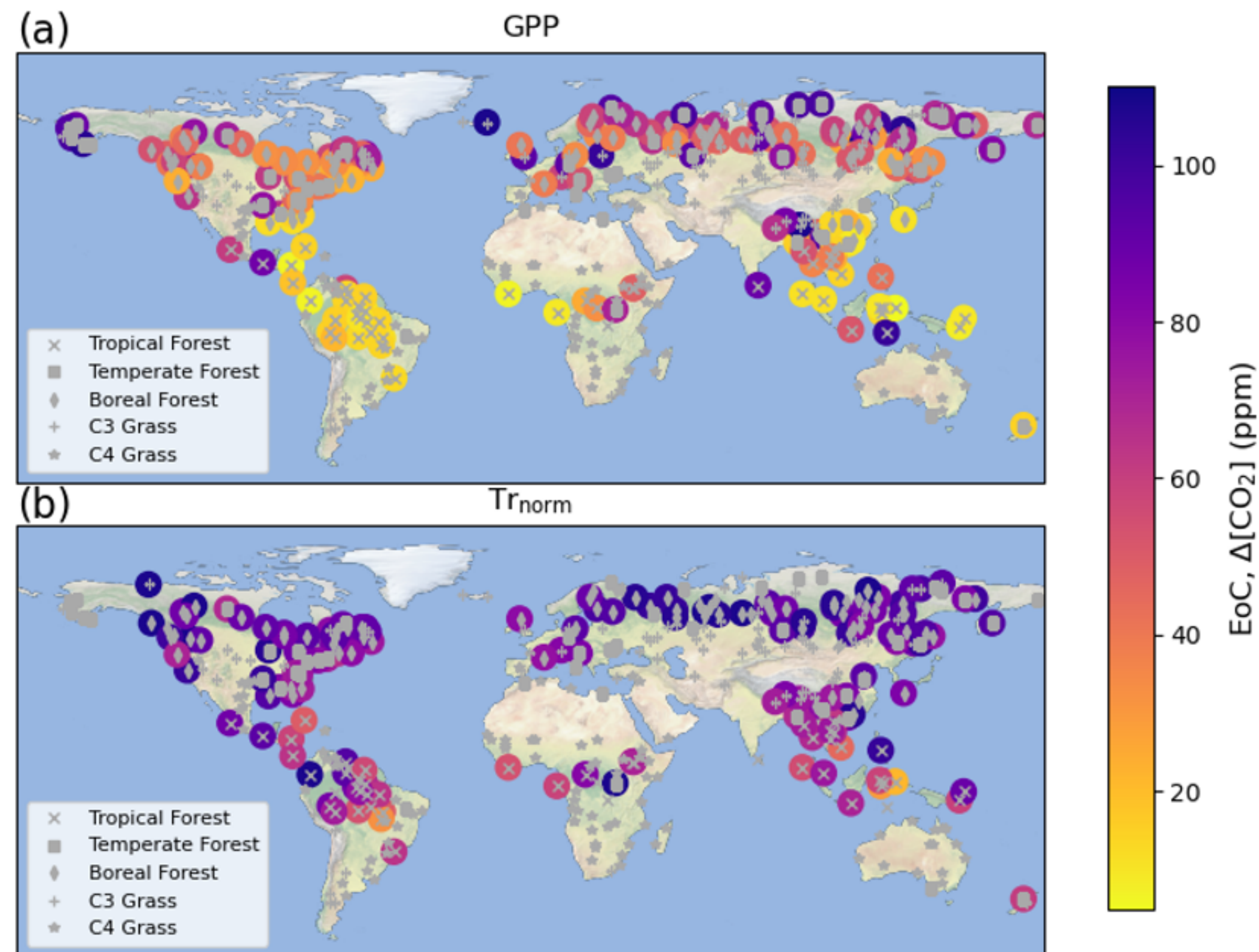


11 % Bigtooth aspen  
73 % Red Maple  
4 % Trembling aspen  
12 % White ash

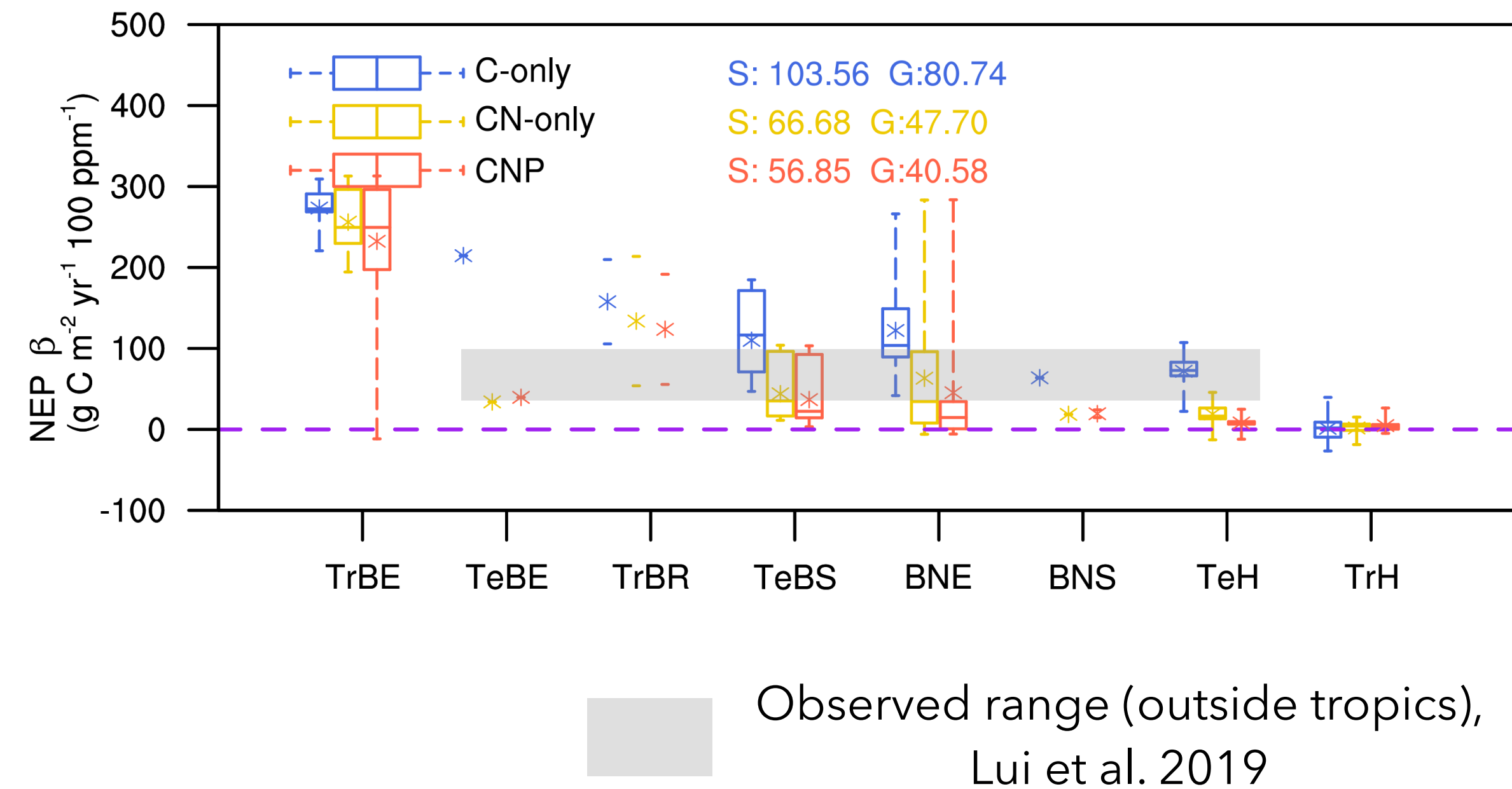


# Focus: Biospheric responses to elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (ICON-Land/QUINCY)

When can we robustly detect trends in carbon and water cycle?



Nutrient constraints on the carbon storage response to rising CO<sub>2</sub>





European Research Council

# ForE~~X~~D

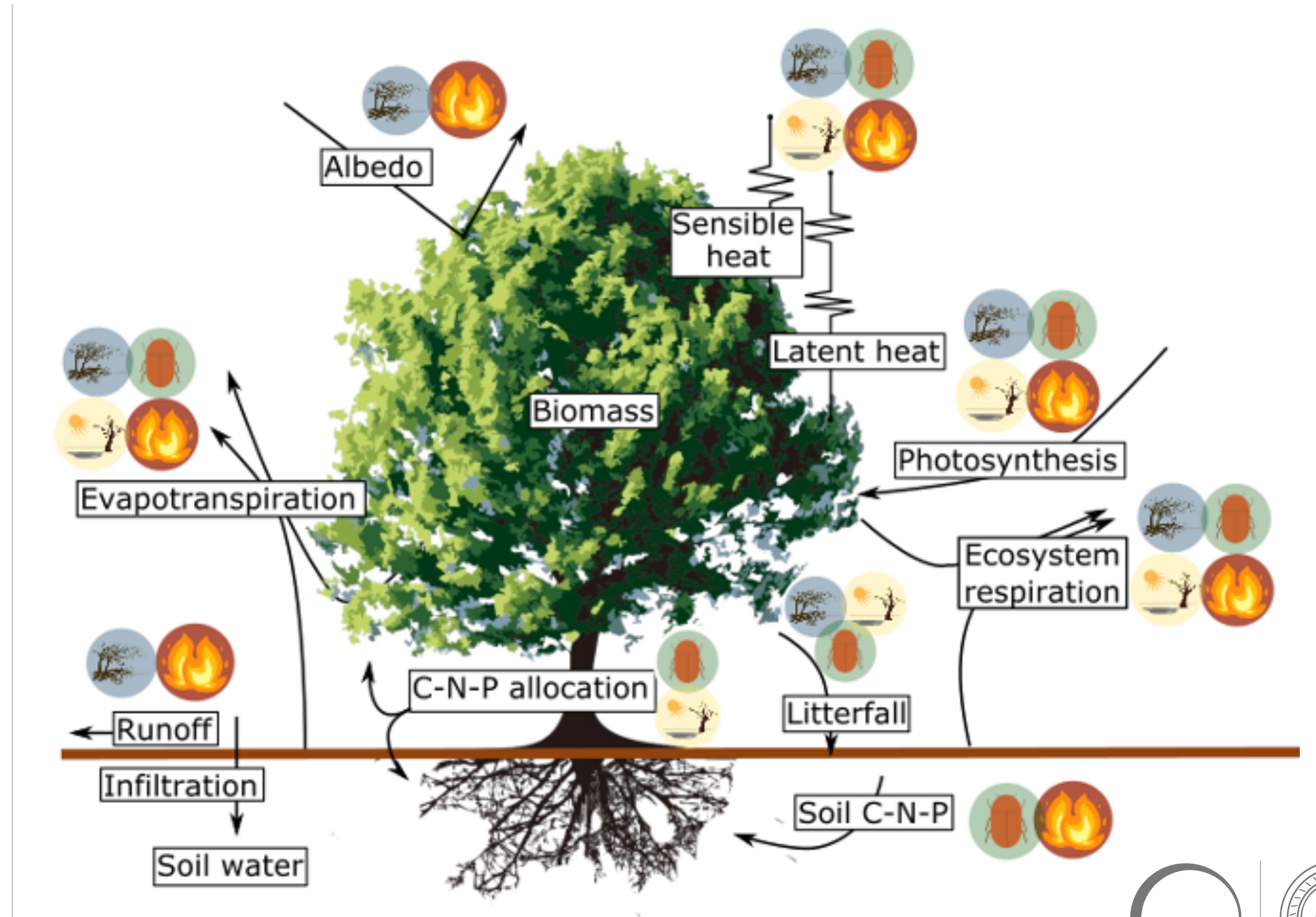
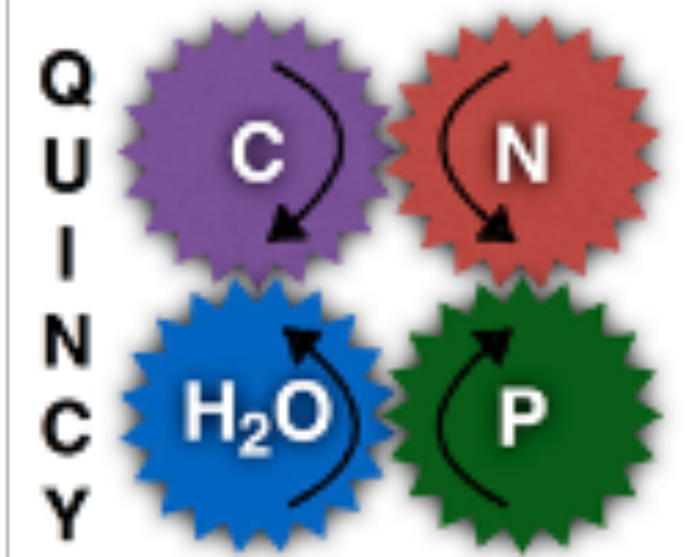
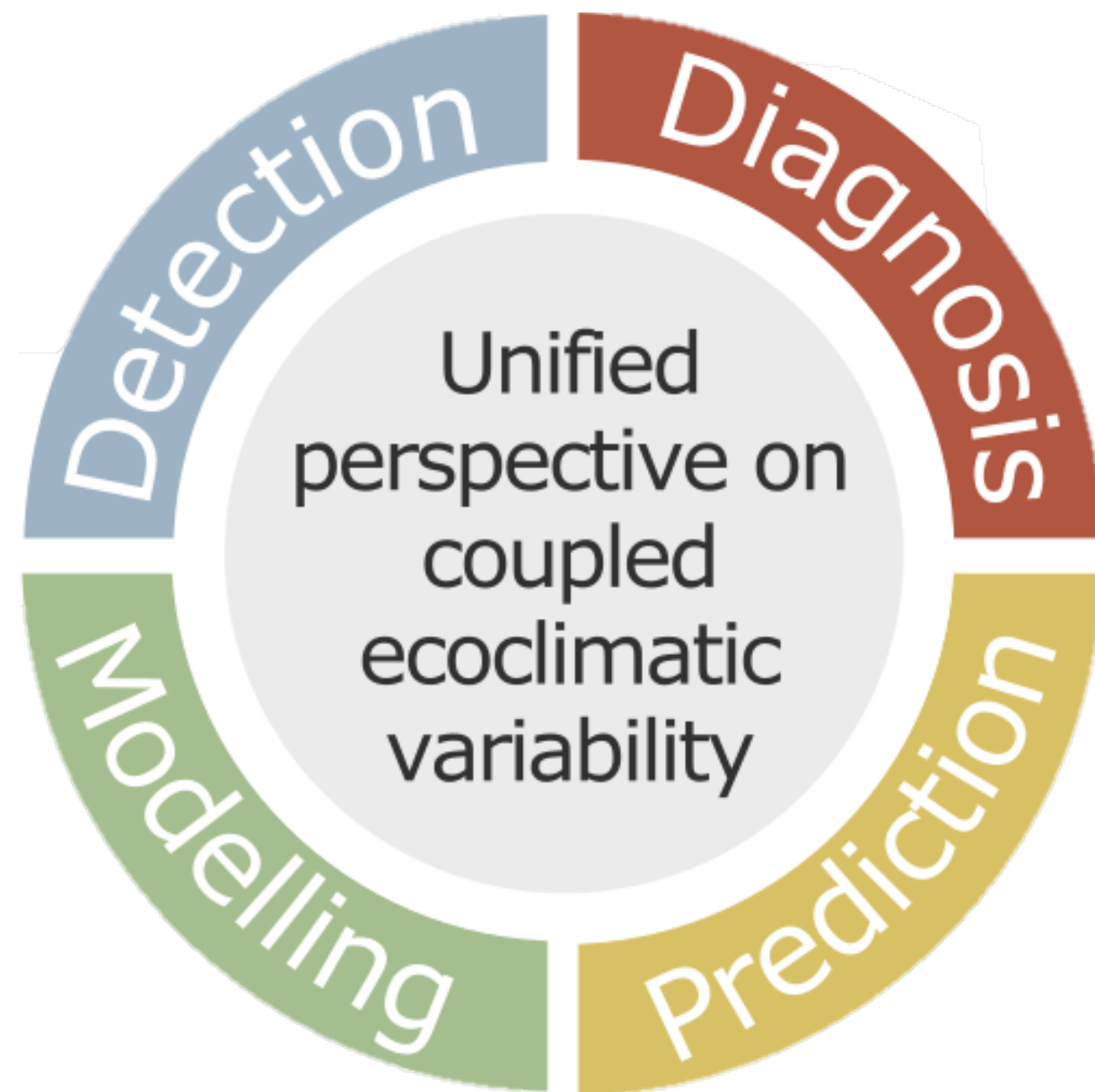
Forest vulnerability to compound extremes and disturbances in a changing climate

Improved representation of disturbance processes and feedbacks in ICON-Land

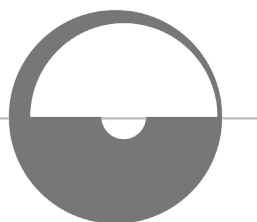
QUINCY

+

Model-Data Synthesis and ML to better quantify disturbance dynamics



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# ICON-Land in a nutshell

- ICON-Land: generic modelling framework for land processes
  - operational JSBACH4 implementation
    - current focus on high arctic and land-use processes
  - pre-operational QUINCY implementation
    - focus on „biology“ effects on land-surface processes and associated climate feedbacks, which should „seamlessly“ interact with relevant JSBACH4 processes
- parallel work planned on hydrology within Warm-World project

# Just for info: ICON-Land/QUINCY global simulation

Gross primary production (2001-2015 average)

