

The Community Land Model (CLM)

Representing terrestrial processes in the Earth System

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NCAR is sponsored by the National Science Foundation



The Community Terrestrial Systems Model (CTSM)

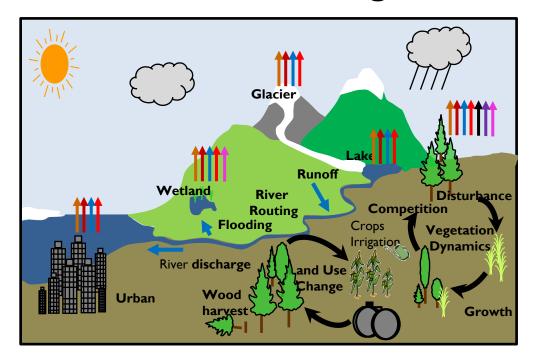
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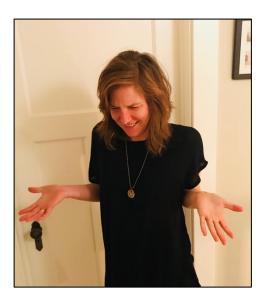
Land Modeling



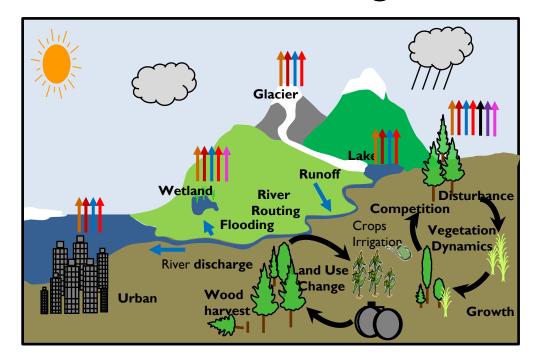


"Why?"

"Are you sure this is necessary?"



Land Modeling



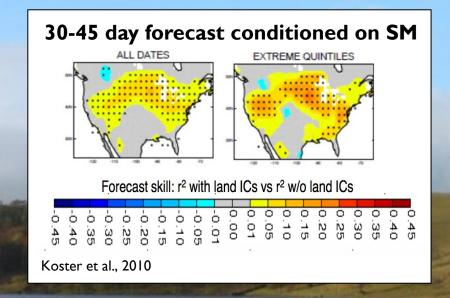
Yes!

Land is the critical interface through which humanity affects and is affected by, adapts to, and mitigates global environmental change

Land modelling, why? Land-atmosphere interactions



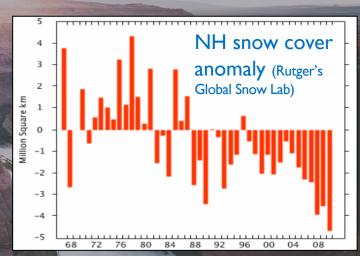
- When, where, and by how much do land fluxes influence atmosphere, surface temperature, clouds, precipitation, etc.?
- Land-driven predictability
 - Significant skill, especially when conditioned on amplitude of initial soil moisture anomaly
 - Increased land-atmosphere coupling in future warmer climate, increased landdriven skill?
- Land influence on extremes

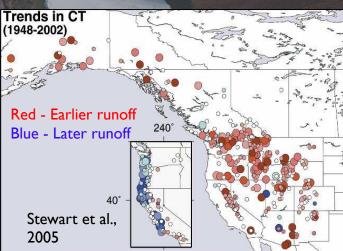


Land modeling, why?

Water

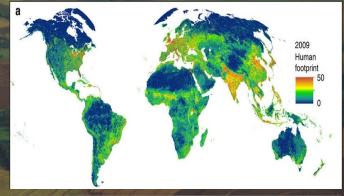
- Land feedbacks on droughts and floods
- Snow-albedo and snow-soil T feedbacks
- Water and food security
 - >I/6th world population dependent on water from seasonal snowpacks
- Water plant interactions
 - Plant water use efficiency likely to increase with CO₂
- Streamflow prediction

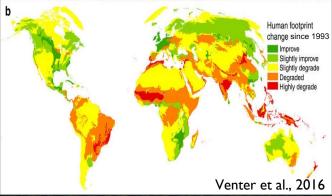


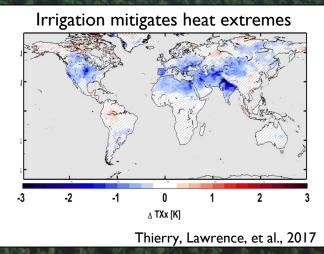


Land modeling why? Land-use and land-cover change

- ~25% non-ice land area undergone anthropogenic land-cover change
- ~80% non-ice land area under some form of land management
- Regionally, LULCC as impactful on surface climate as greenhouse gases
- ~1/3 of direct historic carbon emissions (180 ± 80PgC from land use, ~400 PgC from fossil fuel and cement),
- Deforestation: loss of Additional Sink
 Capacity yields indirect C impact
- Effectiveness of afforestation and biofuels for CO₂ mitigation
- Urban-rural differences in climate change impacts, e.g., heat stress







Land modeling, why? Carbon and ecology

- Carbon and nitrogen cycle interactions and their impact on long term trajectory of terrestrial carbon sink
- High uncertainty in projected land C sink
 - Emissions driven RCP8.5:
 795 to 1140 ppm (source of ±1.2C uncertainty on top of 3.7C projected change)
- Vulnerability of ecosystems to climate change as well as natural and human disturbances
- Ecosystem services
- Ecosystem management to mitigate climate change









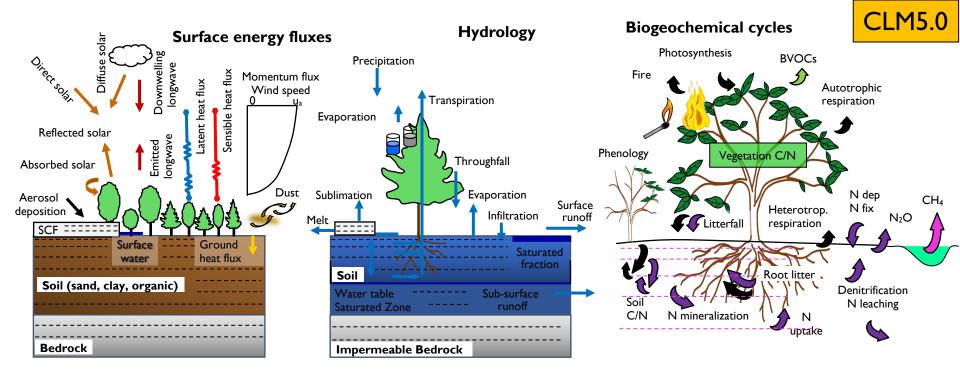
The interdisciplinary evolution of land models

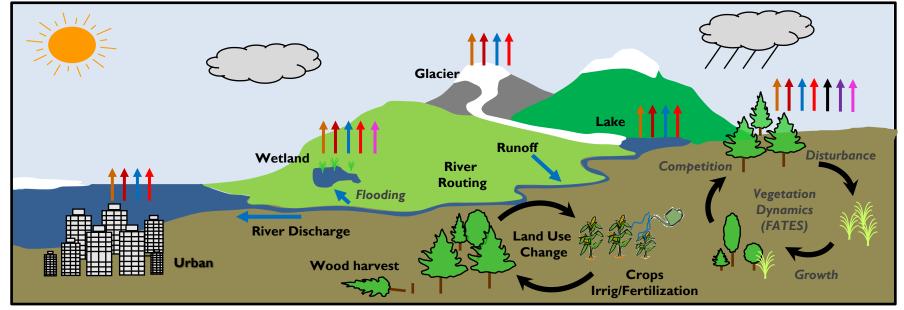
Land as a lower boundary to the atmosphere

Land as an integral component of the Earth System

Surface Energy Fluxes

70's ! 80's ! 90's ! 10's



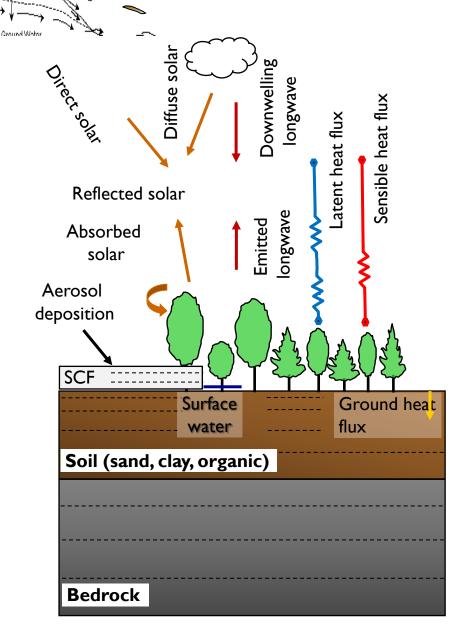


Lawrence et al., 2011; Lawrence et al., 2019

The role of a land model within an Earth System Model

- Simulate exchanges of momentum, energy, water vapor, CO₂, dust, and other trace gases/materials between land surface and the overlying atmosphere (and routing of runoff to the ocean)
- Prognose land states (soil moisture, soil temperature, canopy temperature, snow water equivalent, carbon and nitrogen stocks in vegetation and soil)

At each time step the land model solves Surface Energy Balance



$S^{\uparrow} - S^{\psi} + L^{\uparrow} - L^{\psi} = \lambda E + H + G$

 S^{\uparrow} , S^{Ψ} are down(up)welling solar radiation,

 L^{\uparrow} , L^{Ψ} are up(down)welling longwave rad,

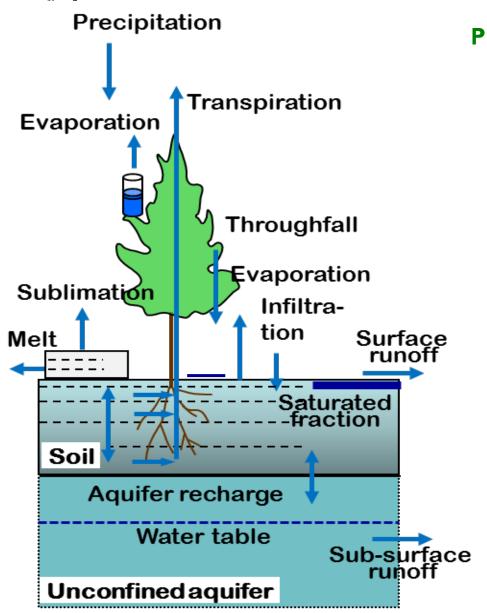
 λ is latent heat of vaporization,

E is evaporation,

H is sensible heat flux

G is ground heat flux

... and the Surface Water Balance



$$P = E_S + E_T + E_C + R + (\Delta W_{soi} + \Delta W_{snw} + \Delta W_{sfcw} + \Delta W_{can}) / \Delta t$$

P is rainfall/snowfall,

E_S is soil evaporation,

E_T is transpiration,

E_C is canopy evaporation,

R is runoff (surf + sub-surface),

 ΔW_{soi} / Δt , ΔW_{snw} / Δt , ΔW_{sfcw} / Δt , ΔW_{can} / Δt , are the changes in soil moisture, surface water, snow, and canopy water over a timestep

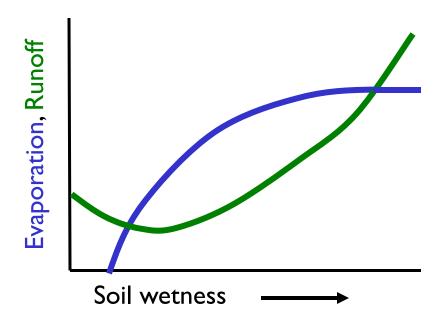
Terrestrial water and energy cycles intricately linked

"The ability of a land-surface scheme to model evaporation correctly depends crucially on its ability to model runoff correctly. The two fluxes are intricately related through soil moisture."

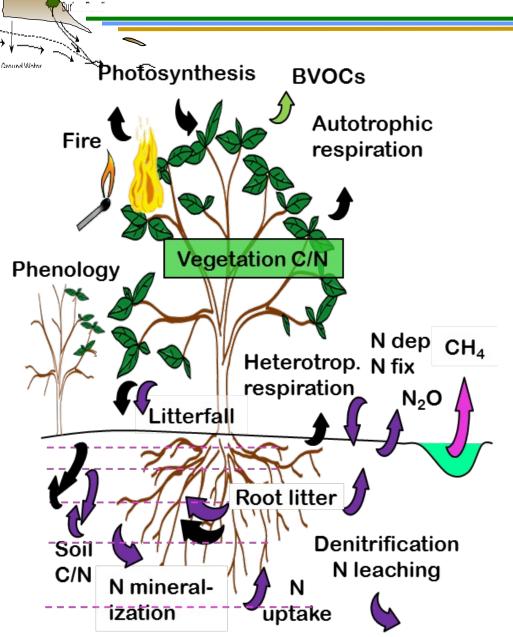
(Koster and Milly, 1997).

Ground Water

Runoff and evaporation both vary non-linearly with soil moisture



... and Surface Carbon Exchange



NEE = GPP - HR - AR -Fire - LUC

NEE is net ecosystem exchange
GPP is gross primary productivity
HR is heterotrophic respiration
AR is autotrophic respiration
Fire is carbon flux due to fire
LUC is C flux due to land use change

Land complexity: Submodels of CLM

Biogeophysics

- Photosynthesis and stomatal resistance
- Hydrology
- Snow
- Soil thermodynamics
- Surface albedo and radiative fluxes

Biogeochemistry

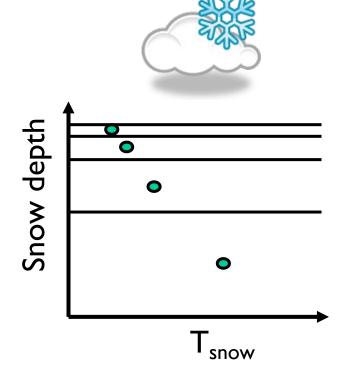
- Carbon / nitrogen pools, allocation, respiration
- Vegetation phenology
- Decomposition
- Plant mortality
- External nitrogen cycle
- Methane production and emission

- Vegetation dynamics
- Urban
- Crop and irrigation
- Lakes
- Glaciers and ice sheets
- Fire and fire emissions
- Dust emissions
- River flow
- Biogenic Volatile Organic
 Compound emissions

Land model complexity: Snow model example

State Variables

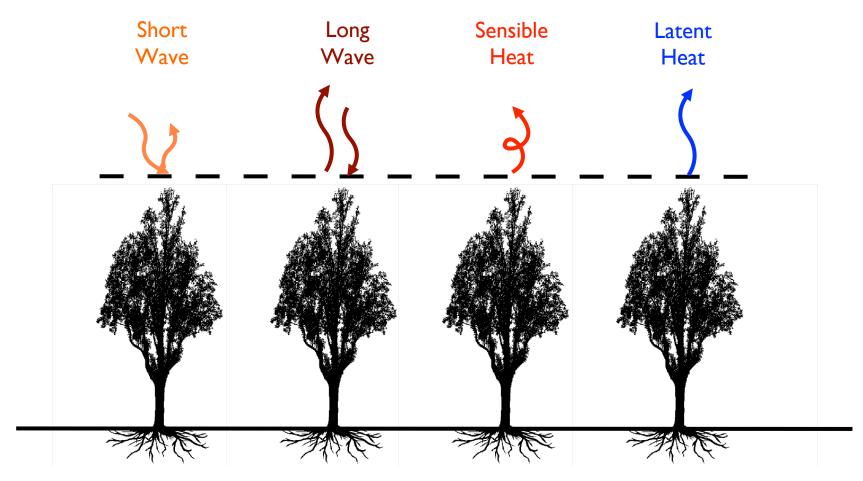
$$N, w_{liq,i}, w_{ice,i}, \Delta z_i, T_i$$



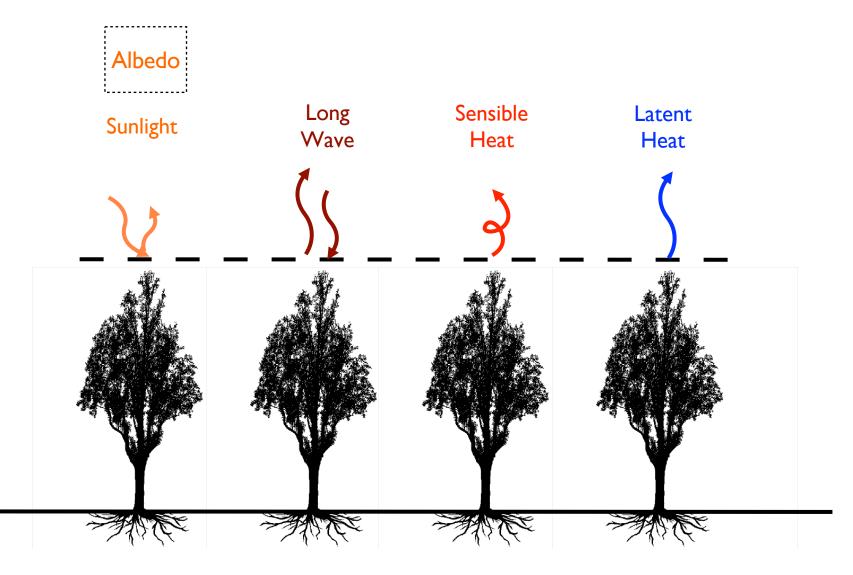
- Up to 10-layers of varying thickness
- Represented processes
 - Accumulation and fresh snow density *f* (T, wind)
 - Snow melt and refreezing
 - Snow aging
 - Water and energy transfer across snow layers
 - Snow compaction
 - destructive metamorphism due to temperature and wind
 - overburden
 - melt-freeze cycles
 - Sublimation
 - Aerosol (black carbon, dust) deposition
 - Canopy snow storage and unloading
 - Canopy snow radiation
 - Snow burial of vegetation
 - Snow cover fraction
- Missing processes
 - Blowing snow
 - Subgrid variations in snow depths
 - Depth hoar

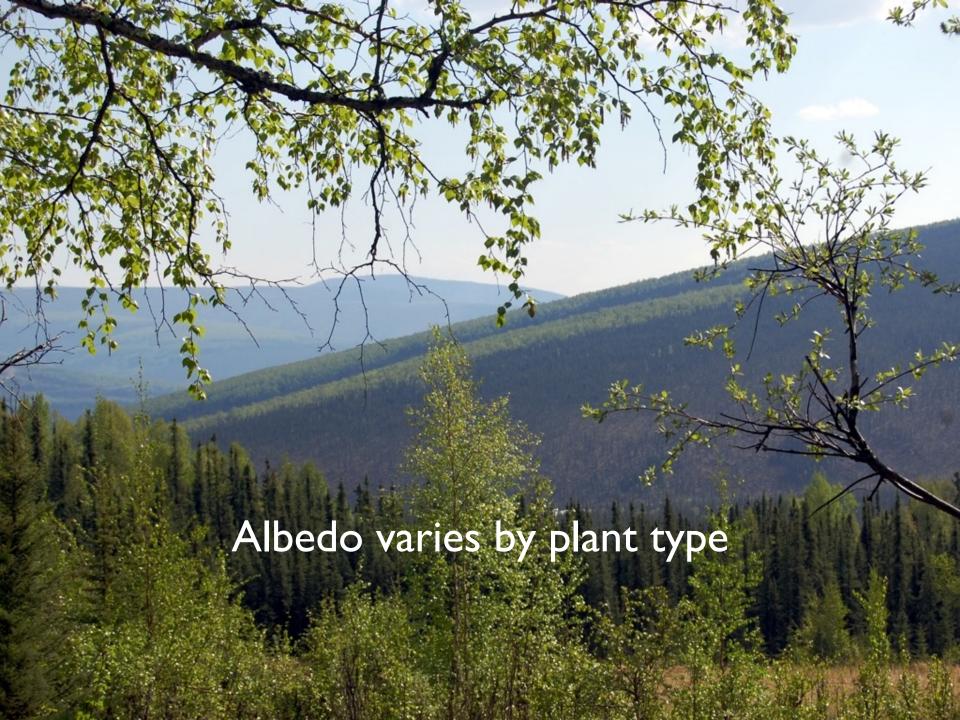
Plants Climate

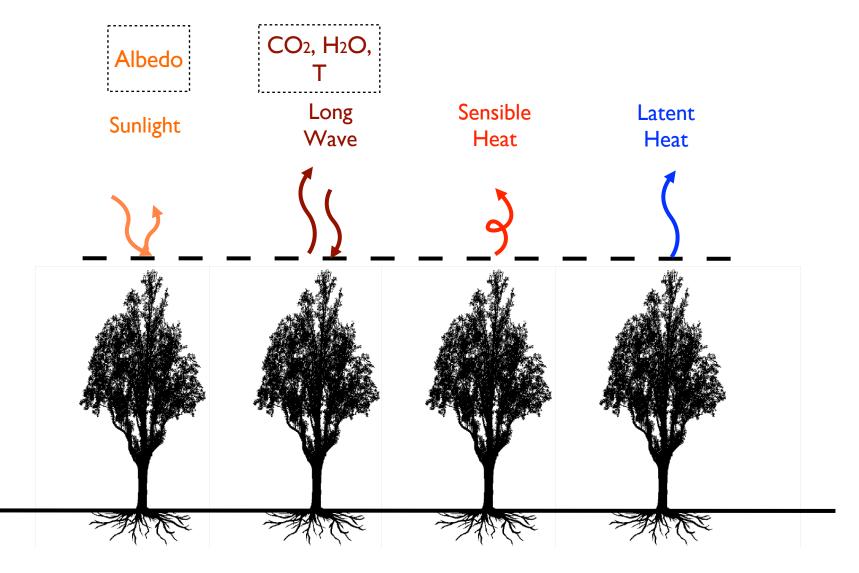


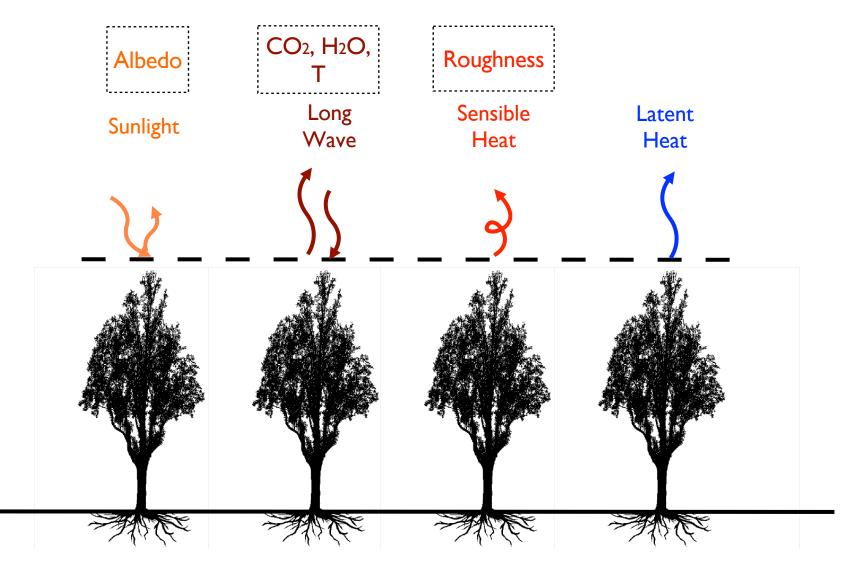


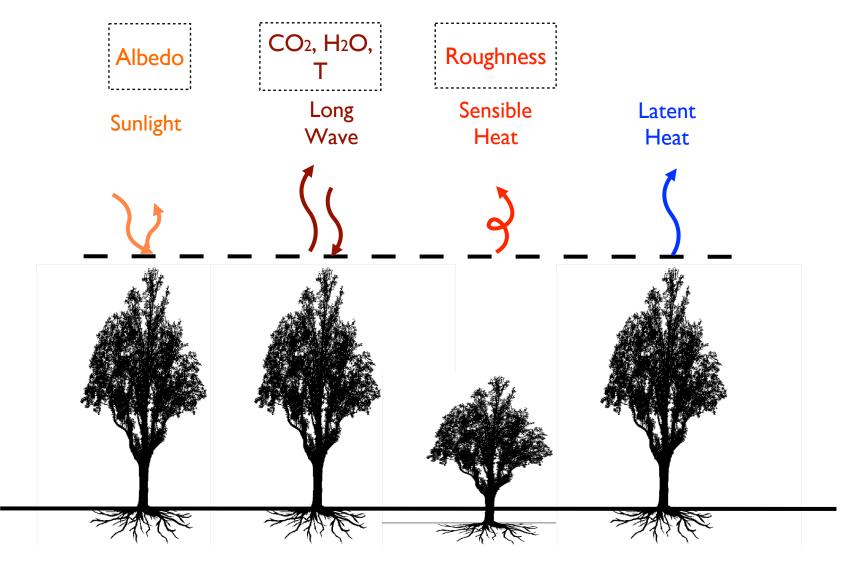
Terrestrial Surface Energy Budget

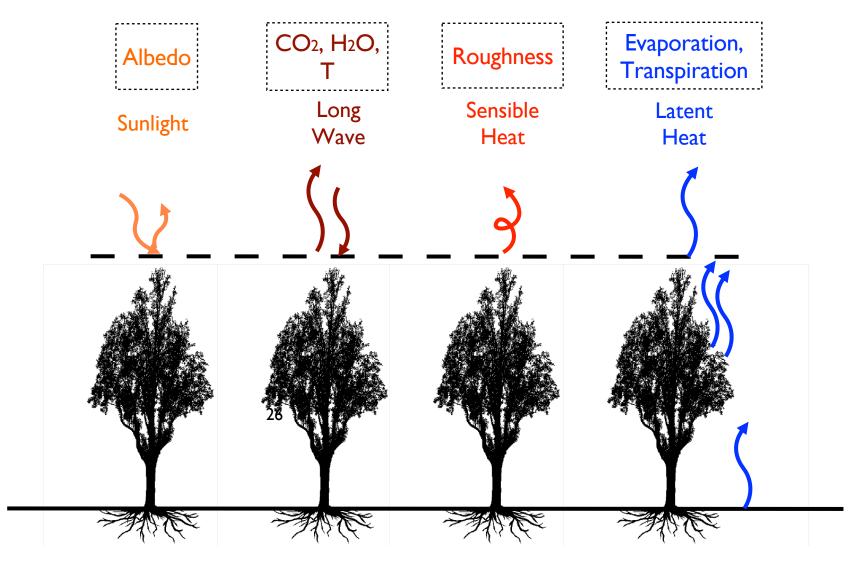




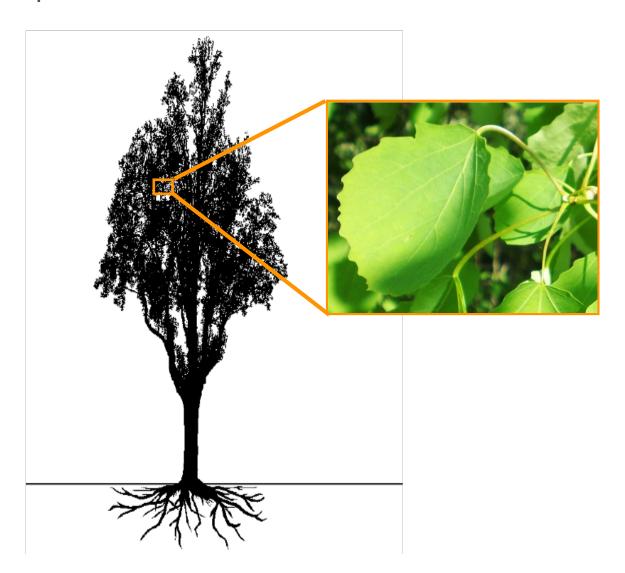




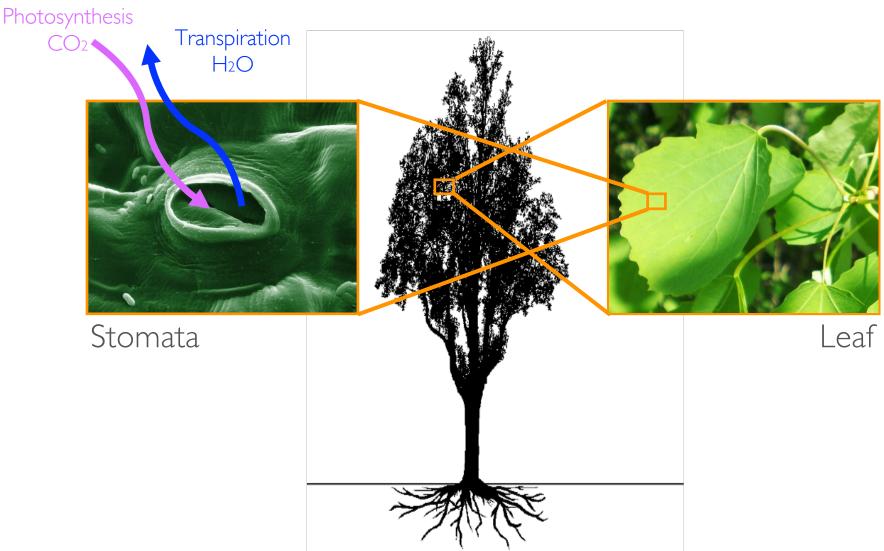




Transpiration flux of water



Carbon in, water out

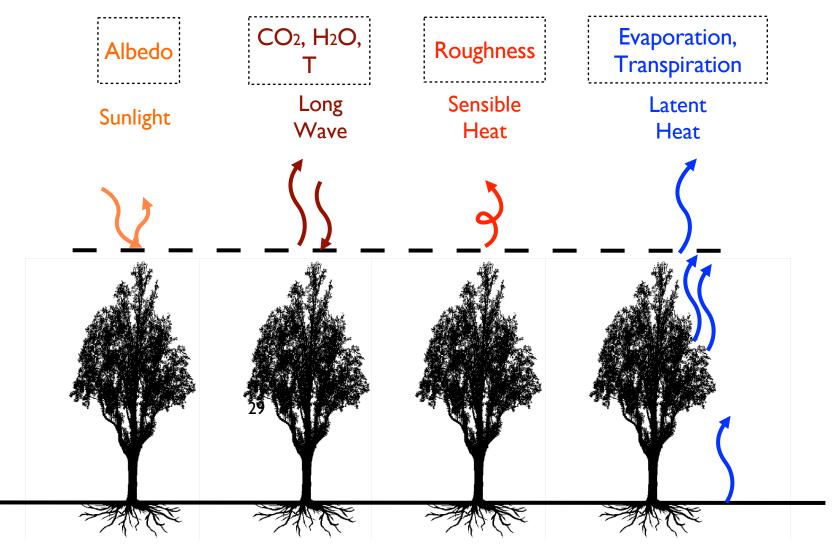


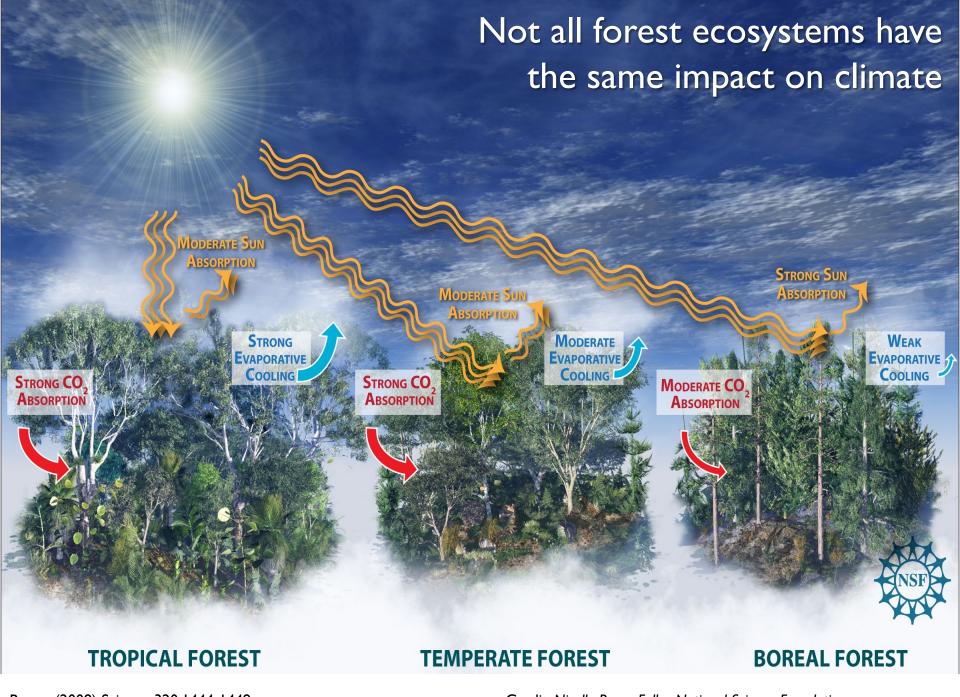
Plant physiological controls on CO₂ exchange and transpiration

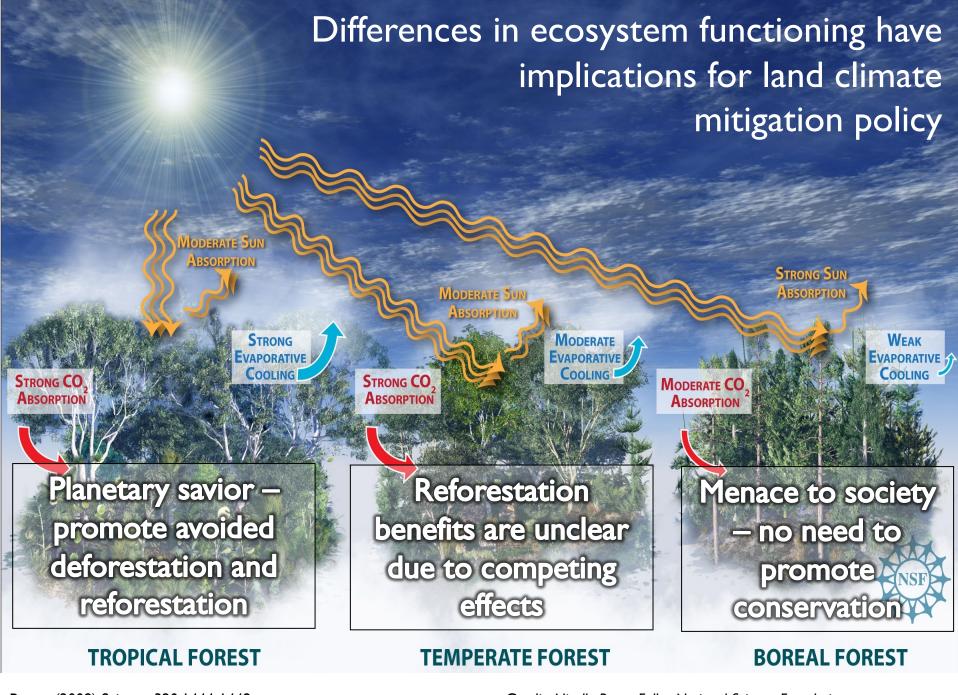
Function of solar radiation, humidity deficit, soil moisture, [CO2], temperature, leaf N content

Photos: Wikimedia Commons

Δ Plants => Δ Surface Energy Budget



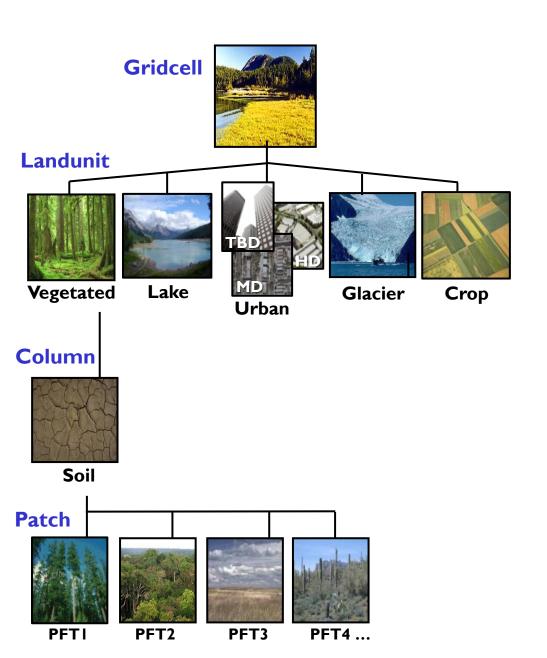




Land Modeling Challenges: Land surface heterogeneity



Land surface heterogeneity: Subgrid tiling



Plant Functional Types:

0. Bare

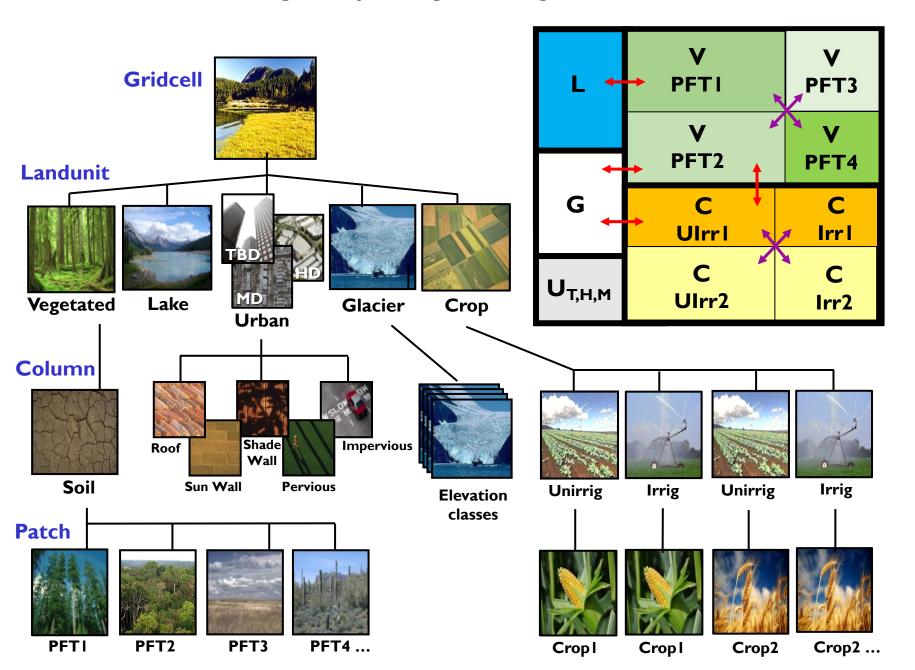
Tree:

- 1. Needleleaf Evergreen, Temperate
- 2. Needleleaf Evergreen, Boreal
- 3. Needleleaf Deciduous, Boreal
- 4. Broadleaf Evergreen, Tropical
- 5. Broadleaf Evergreen, Temperate
- 6. Broadleaf Deciduous, Tropical
- 7. Broadleaf Deciduous, Temperate
- 8. Broadleaf Deciduous, Boreal

Herbaceous / Understorey:

- 9. Broadleaf Evergreen Shrub, Temperate
- 10. Broadleaf Deciduous Shrub, Temperate
- 11. Broadleaf Deciduous Shrub, Boreal
- 12. C3 Arctic Grass
- 13. C3 non-Arctic Grass
- 14. C4 Grass
- 15. Crop

Land surface heterogeneity: Subgrid tiling





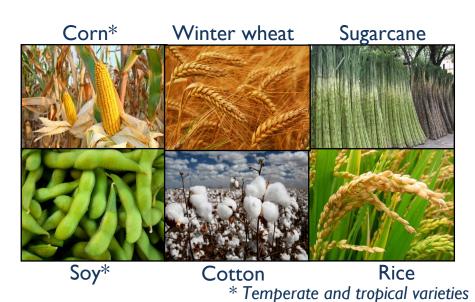
Included in default CLM5

- Global crop model with 8 basic crop types; planting, grain fill, harvest
- Crop irrigation
- Crop industrial fertilization
- Wood harvest
- Urban environments
- Anthropogenic fire ignition and suppression

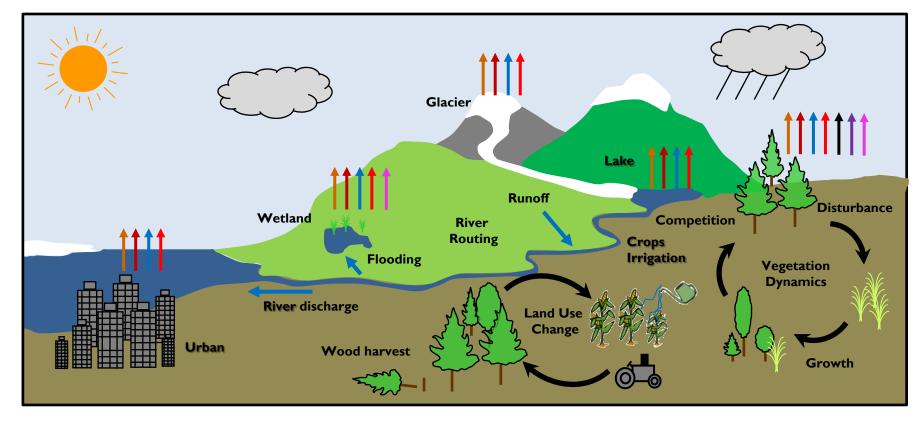


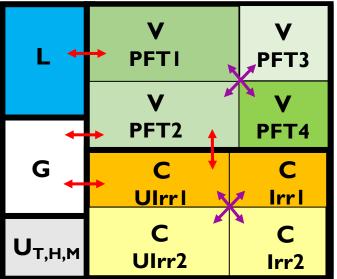










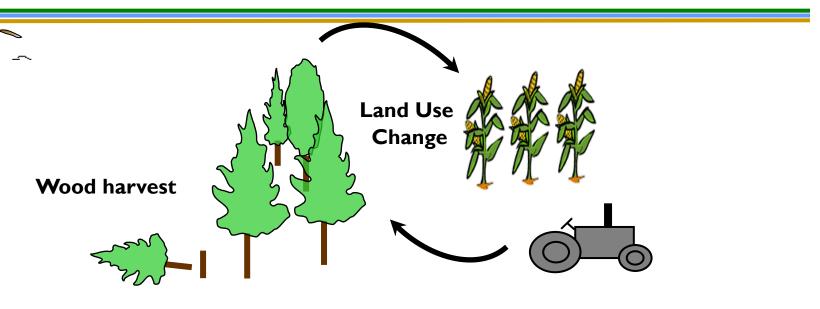


Landscape-scale dynamics

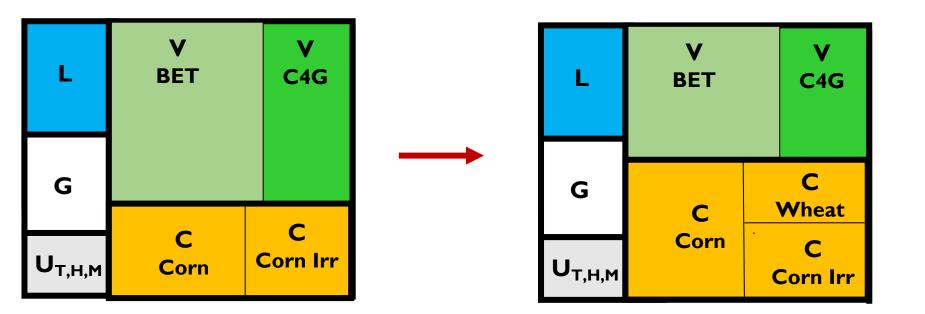
Long-term dynamical processes that affect fluxes in a changing environment (disturbance, land use, succession)

Land-cover / land-use change (prescribed)

Ground Water



Deforestation example



Land Modeling Challenges: Land surface heterogeneity



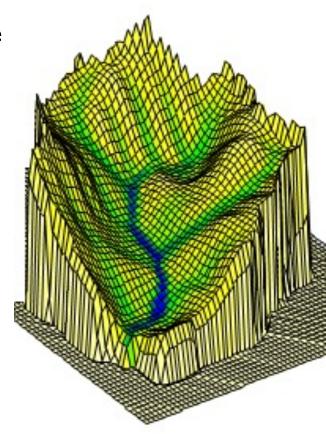
Parameterize impact of subgrid-scale soil moisture heterogeneity

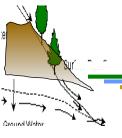
A major control on soil moisture heterogeneity and thus runoff is topography.

Lowland soils tend to be zones of high soil moisture content, while upland soils tend to be progressively drier.

Three main sources of runoff:

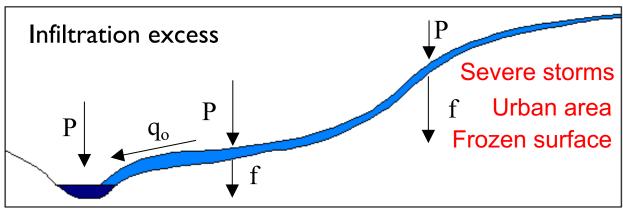
- Infiltration excess
- Saturation excess
- Baseflow (drainage)

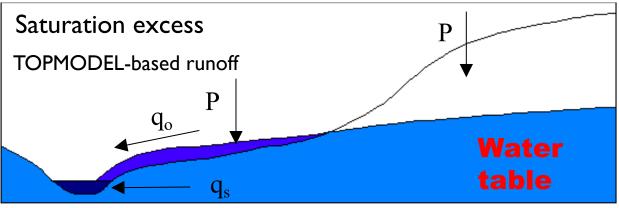


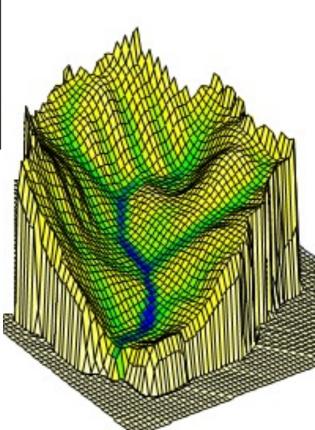


Accounting for subgrid soil moisture heterogeneity impacts on runoff

Surface runoff arises in two ways:







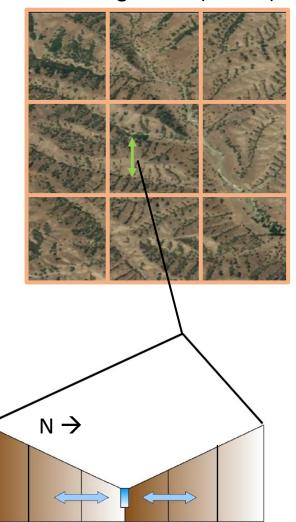


Observed vegetation patterns imply lateral movement of water and strong influence of slope and aspect





CLM grid cell (~1°x1°)

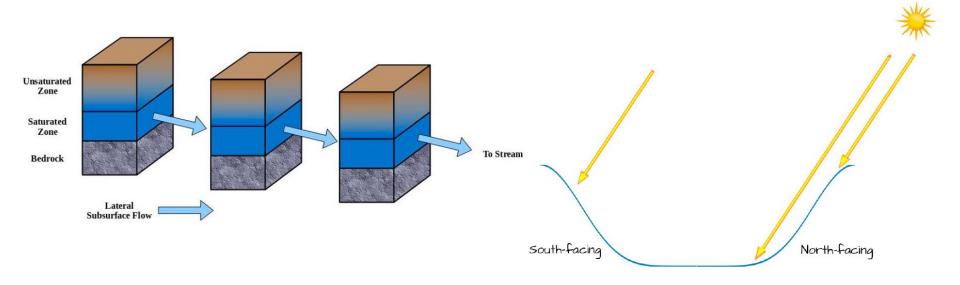


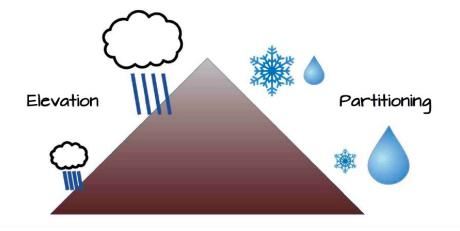
Sub-grid hillslope processes

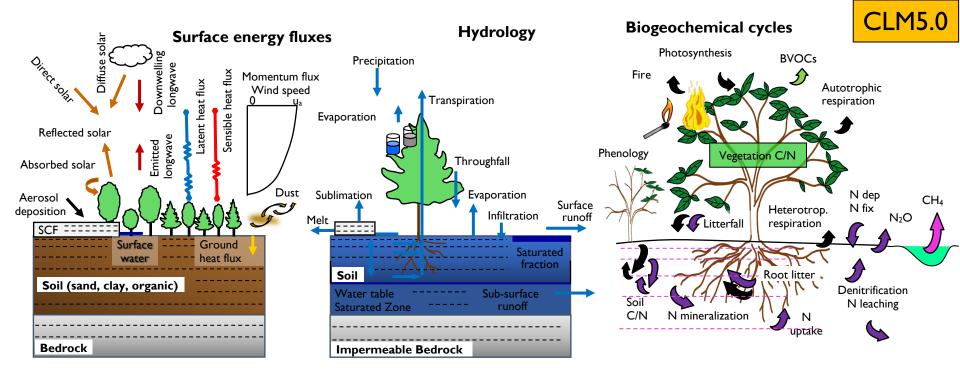
Implementing concept of subgrid 'representative hillslopes' into CLM

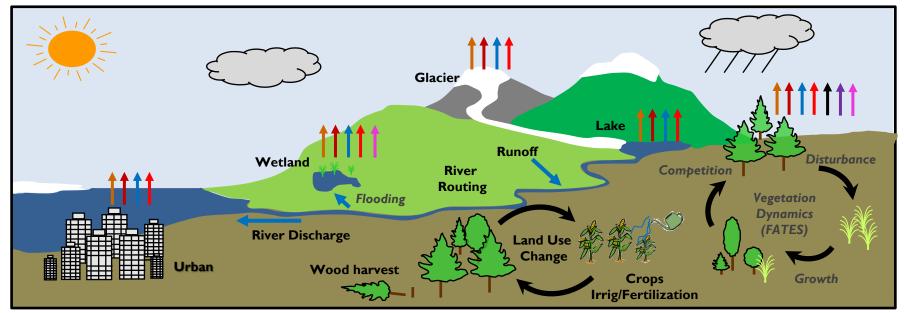
Explicit Lateral Flow Within Gridcell

Downscaled Meteorology



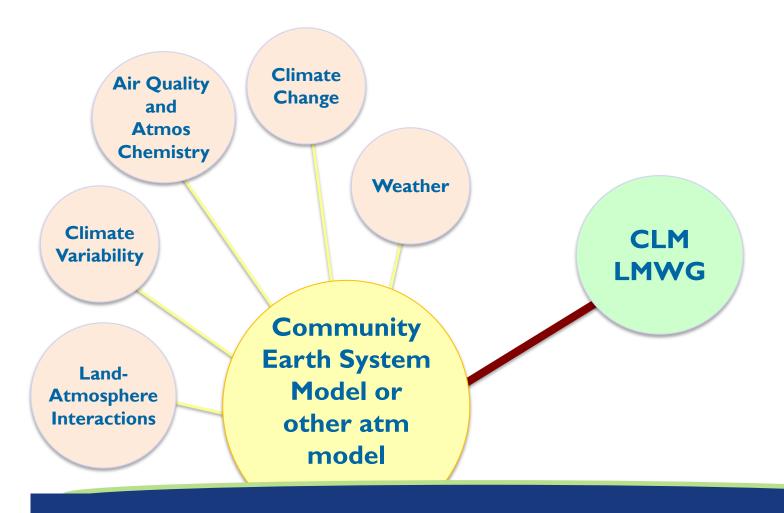




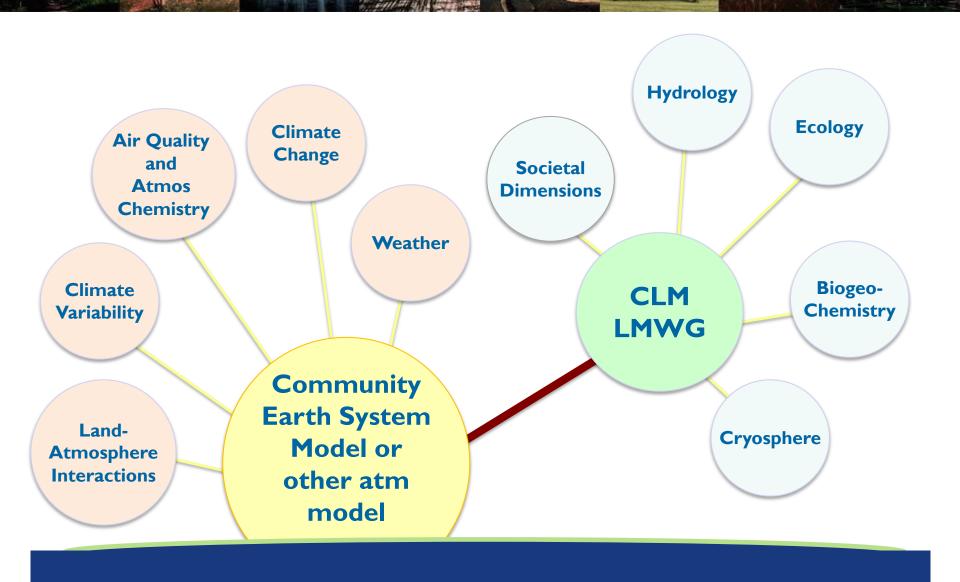


Lawrence et al., 2011; Lawrence et al., 2019

CLM as a community modeling tool

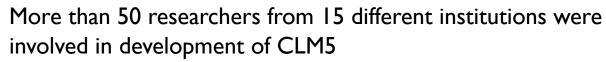


CLM as a community modeling tool



What's New for CLM5 https://github.com/ESCOMP/ctsm





Parallel focus on mechanistic improvements and expansion of capabilities

- hydrology more consistent with state-of-art understanding
- more ecologically relevant plant nutrient, carbon, and water dynamics
- land management including global crop model, wood harvest, urban environments
- prognostic Greenland ice sheet model



JAMES | Journal of Advances in Modeling Earth Systems*

Research Article 🙃 Open Access 🙃 🛈

The Community Land Model Version 5: Description of New Features, Benchmarking, and Impact of Forcing Uncertainty

David M. Lawrence \bowtie , Rosie A. Fisher, Charles D. Koven, Keith W. Oleson, Sean C. Swenson ... See all authors \vee

First published: 19 October 2019 | https://doi.org/10.1029/2018MS001583 | Citations: 307

http://www.cesm.ucar.edu/models/cesm2/land/

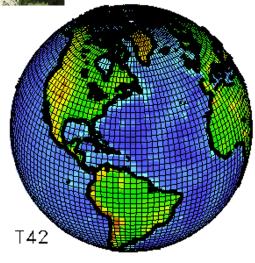
Model configurations

- SP (satellite phenology, prescribed vegetation)
- BGC (prognostic carbon, vegetation)
- BGC-crop (default in CESM2, same as BGC with crops)
- BGC no-anthro
- FATES
- + many options for individual parameterizations (i.e., can revert to CLM4.5)

Spatial configurations

- Global (low and high resolution)
- Regional
- Single point (tower site)
- Irregular grids (cubed sphere, catchment)

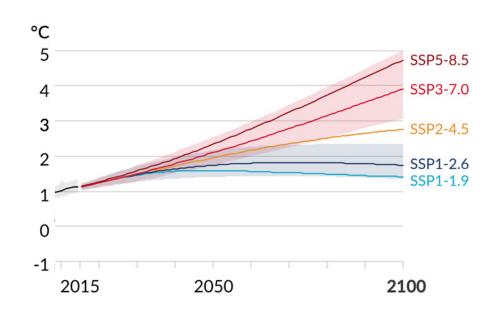




http://www.cesm.ucar.edu/models/cesm2/land/

Modes of forcing

- Anomaly forcing
 - monthly anomalies added to cycled reanalysis
 - o four SSPs available 'out-of-box'
 - enables land-only simulations forced by climate change
- Forcing datasets (GSWP3, CRUJRA, Princeton, WATCH, NLDAS)
- Prescribed soil moisture
- Alternate LULCC
- And, obviously, coupled to CAM, CESM, and also WRF
- Ensembles of simulations
- Data assimilation with DART



CTSM as a research tool

Options to reduce complexity

- CH₄ emissions
- Carbon isotopes
- Land-use change
- VOC emissions
- Plant Hydraulics
- Fewer landunits and PFTs per gridcell
- Soil structure (15-level vs 25-level)

Options to increase complexity

- Representative hillslopes
- FATES (Ecosystem dynamics)
- Fire trace gas emissions
- Additional land management
- Flooding
- Ozone damage to plants

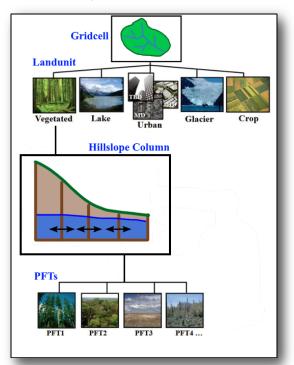
Resources:

- CLM5 release webpage: www.cesm.ucar.edu/models/cesm2/land/
- CLM code repository: github.com/ESCOMP/ctsm
- Lawrence et al. (2019), in review JAMES

Some priorities and plans for next generation CLM

Consumers and

- Water and food security in context of climate variability, change, and extreme weather
- Ecosystem vulnerability and impacts on carbon cycle and ecosystem services
- Sources of predictability from land processes
- Impacts of land use and land-use change on climate, carbon, water, and extremes

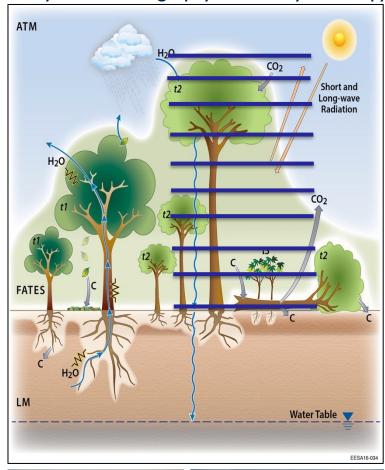


Lateral fluxes of water



Water and land management

Ecosystem Demography / Multi-layer canopy





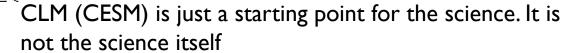
Questions?



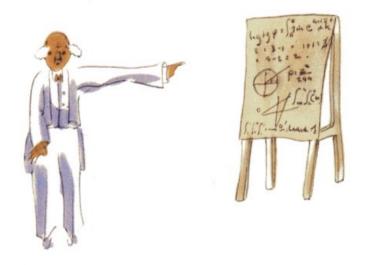
Extra slides



Modeling caveats

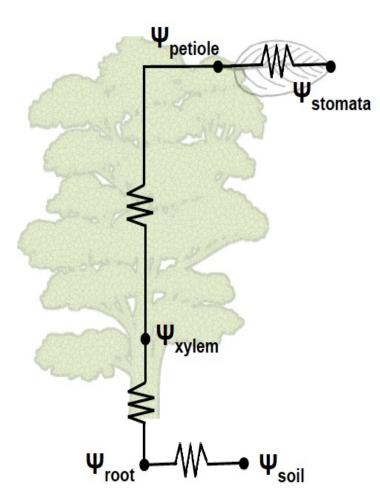


- Easy to run the model and get an answer
- Much harder to understand why you got that answer
- CLM is a very complex, multidisciplinary model





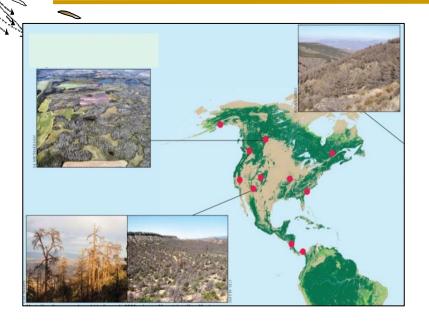
CLM5: Plant Hydrodynamics



Why plant hydrodynamics

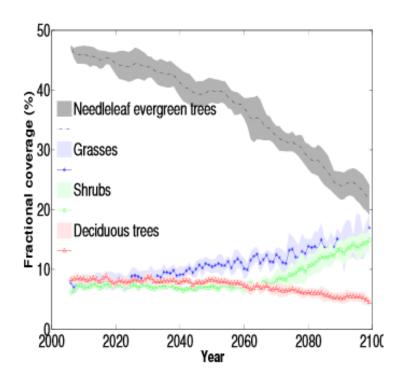
- BTRAN (soil moisture stress), and it's parameters, $\theta_{\rm crit}$ and $\theta_{\rm wilt}$, have no physical meaning and cannot be measured.
- Flux tower ET convolutes transpiration with canopy and soil evap making it difficult to use for process-level assessment. With plant hydrodynamics, sap flow measurements could be utilized.
- Satellites increasingly observe properties related to canopy or leaf water content.

Ecosystem vulnerability to climate change e.g., how vulnerable are western US forests to climate change?



But ... these results are likely unreliable; tree response to soil moisture deficits represented in ad hoc way in land models. Forest loss is complex problem that requires combined consideration of climate, hydrology, ecology, and plant physiology and diversity

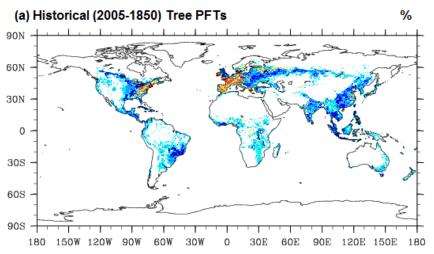
CLM4(DGVM), suggests widespread die-off of forests by 2100, but simple representation of hydrology, plant water use, mortality, ecosystem dynamics

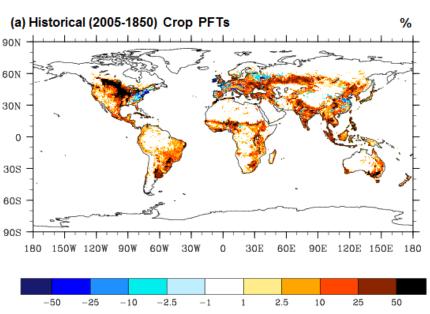


Jiang et al. 2013

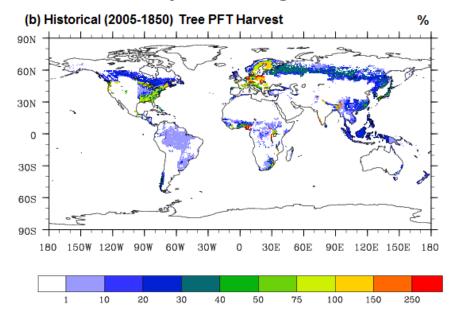
Historical land use & land cover change, 1850-2005

Change in tree and crop cover (% of grid cell)





Cumulative percent of grid cell harvested



Historical LULCC

- Loss of tree cover and increase in cropland
- Farm abandonment and reforestation in eastern U.S. and Europe
- ☐ Extensive wood harvest

Many paths to improve models and reduce model uncertainty

Model intercomparisons (MIPs)

- CMIP6: carbon cycle, land use, land-atmosphere coupling, ...
- Range of plausible outcomes, but more models ≠ better results

Model benchmarking

- Comprehensive model evaluation against observations

Real-world experiments and models

- FACE, N addition

Model-data fusion

- Data assimilation, parameter estimation

"Discover" critical missing process

- Add another process that is ecologically or hydrologically important but poorly known at the global scale. Tune a key parameter to get a good simulation.

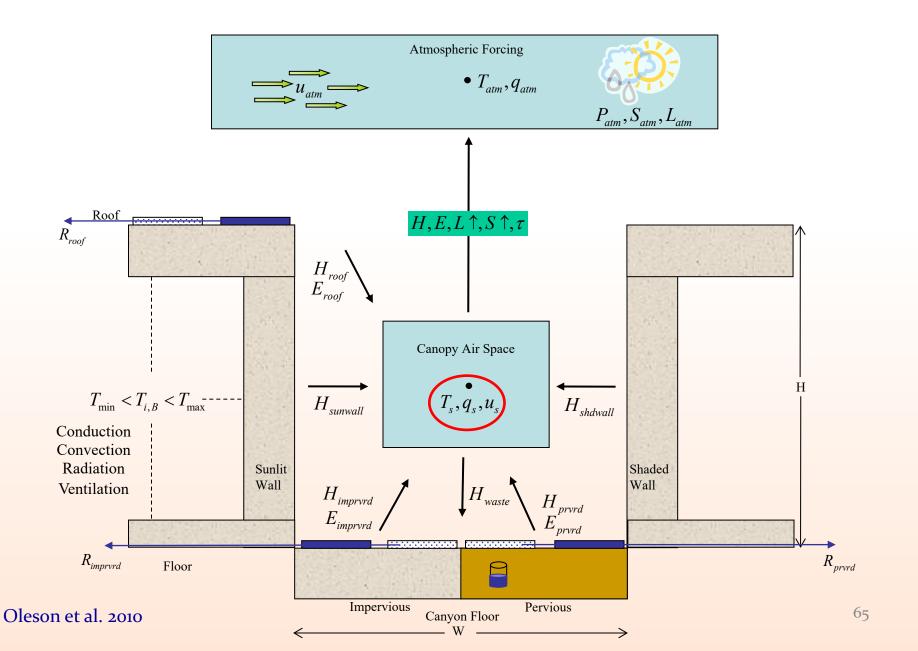
Model intracomparison

- Focus on model structural uncertainty to identify processes contributing to uncertainty

Model hierarchy

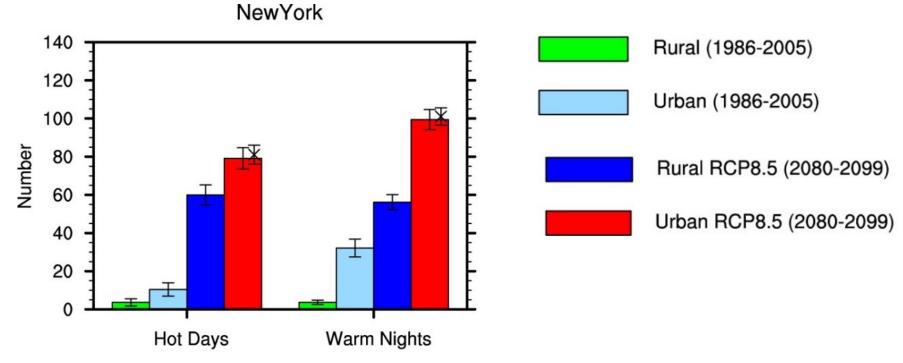
- CLM
- Process models (multilayer canopy, MIMICS)
- Simple land models (Marysa Lague)

Urban Model



Changes in hot days and warm nights - RCP8.5

Hot days (warm nights) – Number of days per year that daily TMAX (TMIN) exceeds 99th percentile of present day Rural daily TMAX (TMIN)



Present-day climate

Cities have more hot days and warm nights than rural land

21st century climate change

Cities increase more in hot days and warm nights than does rural land

The role of CLM in CESM: Land to Atmosphere

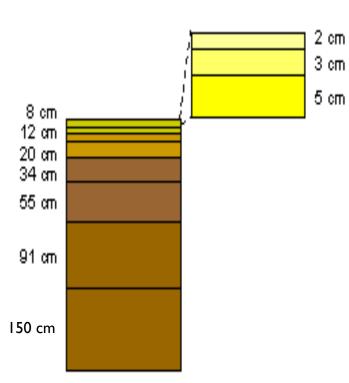
¹ Latent heat flux	$\lambda_{vap}E_v + \lambda E_g$	W m ⁻²
Sensible heat flux	$H_v + H_g$	$\mathrm{W}~\mathrm{m}^{-2}$
Water vapor flux	$E_v + E_g$	mm s ⁻¹
Zonal momentum flux	$ au_x$	$kg m^{-1} s^{-2}$
Meridional momentum flux	$ au_y$	$kg m^{-1} s^{-2}$
Emitted longwave radiation	$L\!\uparrow$	$W m^{-2}$
Direct beam visible albedo	$I\!\uparrow^\mu_{vis}$	-
Direct beam near-infrared albedo	$I \uparrow^{\mu}_{nir}$	-
Diffuse visible albedo	$I \uparrow_{vis}$	-
Diffuse near-infrared albedo	$I \uparrow_{nir}$	-
Absorbed solar radiation	$ec{S}$	$W m^{-2}$
Radiative temperature	T_{rad}	K
Temperature at 2 meter height	T_{2m}	K
Specific humidity at 2 meter height	q_{2m}	$kg kg^{-1}$
Snow water equivalent	W_{sno}	m
Aerodynamic resistance	r_{am}	s m ⁻¹
Friction velocity	u_*	$m s^{-1}$
² Dust flux	$F_{_{j}}$	$kg m^{-2} s^{-1}$
Net ecosystem exchange	NEE	$kgCO_2 m^{-2} s^{-1}$

The role of CLM in CESM: Atmosphere to Land

¹ Reference height	Z_{atm}^{\prime}	m
Zonal wind at z_{atm}	u_{atm}	$m s^{-1}$
Meridional wind at z_{atm}	V_{atm}	$m s^{-1}$
Potential temperature	$\overline{ heta_{atm}}$	K
Specific humidity at z_{atm}	q_{atm}	kg kg ⁻¹
Pressure at z_{atm}	P_{atm}	Pa
Temperature at z_{atm}	T_{atm}	K
Incident longwave radiation	$L_{\rm atm} \downarrow$	$W m^{-2}$
² Liquid precipitation	$q_{\it rain}$	$mm s^{-1}$
² Solid precipitation	q_{sno}	mm s ⁻¹
Incident direct beam visible solar radiation	$S_{atm}\downarrow^{\mu}_{vis}$	$W m^{-2}$
Incident direct beam near-infrared solar radiation	$S_{atm}\downarrow^{\mu}_{nir}$	$W m^{-2}$
Incident diffuse visible solar radiation	$S_{atm} \downarrow_{vis}$	$W m^{-2}$
Incident diffuse near-infrared solar radiation	$S_{atm} \downarrow_{nir}$	$\mathrm{W}~\mathrm{m}^{-2}$
Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) concentration	C_a	ppmv
³ Aerosol deposition rate	D_{sp}	$kg m^{-2} s^{-1}$
⁴ Nitrogen deposition rate	NF_{ndep_sminn}	g (N) m ⁻² yr ⁻¹
⁵ Lightning frequency	I_l	flash km² hr ⁻¹

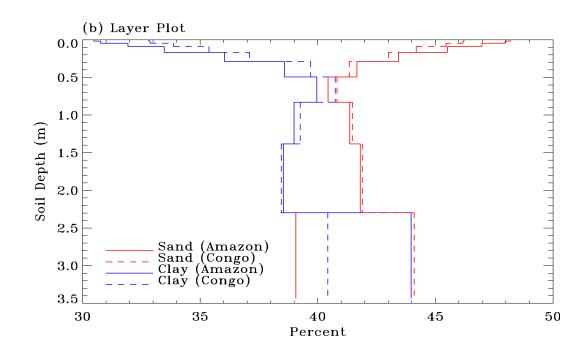
Soil Texture – thermal/hydrologic parameters

Soil parameters are derived from sand / clay percentage and soil organic matter content which is specified geographically and by soil level

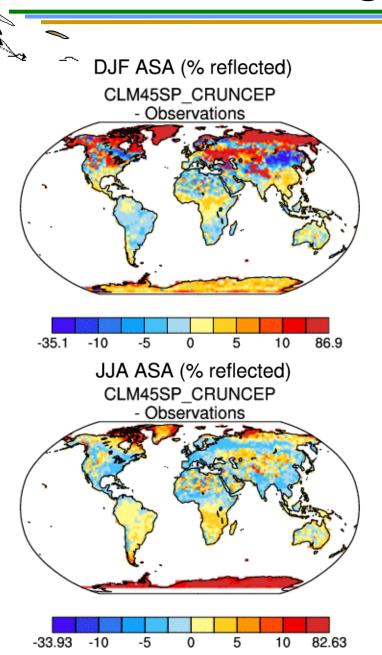


Soil profile 10 soil levels (~3.8m) 5 bedrock levels (~42m)

- Soil moisture concentration at saturation
- Soil moisture concentration at wilting point
- Hydraulic conductivity at saturation
- Saturated soil suction
- Thermal conductivity
- Thermal capacity



Modeling surface albedo



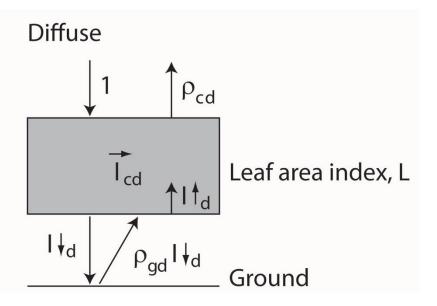
Surface albedo a function of

- Vegetation cover and type
- Snow cover
- Snow age
- Soil moisture
- Soil color
- Solar zenith angle
- Amount of direct vs diffuse solar radiation
- Amount of visible vs IR solar radiation

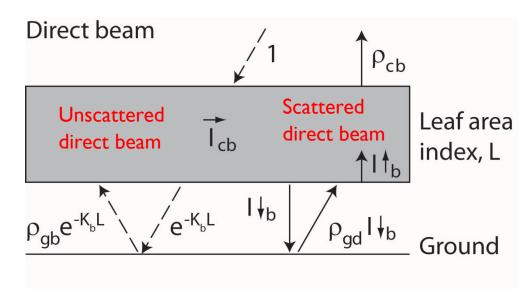
Note: MODIS albedo biased low for snow at high zenith angle

(Wang and Zender, 2010)

Two-stream radiative transfer



Radiative transfer uses the two-stream approximation (Dickinson, Sellers) to determine reflected and absorbed solar radiation



Momentum, and sensible heat and evaporation fluxes

Momentum flux

$$u_*u_* = \tau / \rho$$

and

$$\tau = \rho(u_a - u_s) / r_{aM} = \rho u / r_{aM}$$



 $r_{aM} = \frac{1}{k^2 u} \left[\ln \left(\frac{z - d}{z_{0M}} \right) - \psi_m(\zeta) \right]^2$

Sensible heat flux

$$\theta_* u_* = -H/(\rho c_p)$$
 and

 $H = -\rho c_p(\theta_a - T_s) / r_{aH}$



 $r_{aH} = \frac{1}{k^2 u} \left[\ln \left(\frac{z - d}{z_{0M}} \right) - \psi_m(\zeta) \right] \left[\ln \left(\frac{z - d}{z_{0H}} \right) - \psi_h(\zeta) \right]$

Evaporation

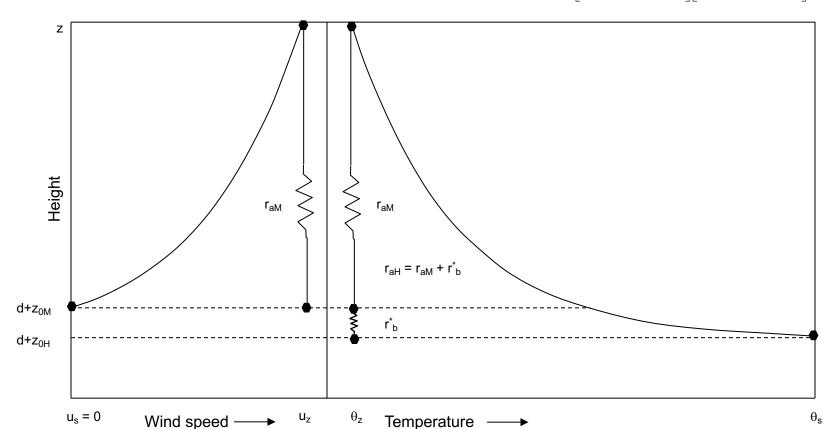
$$q_*u_* = -E/\rho$$

and

$$E = -\rho(q_a - q_s) / r_{aW}$$



$$r_{aW} = \frac{1}{k^2 u} \left[\ln \left(\frac{z - d}{z_{0M}} \right) - \psi_m(\zeta) \right] \left[\ln \left(\frac{z - d}{z_{0W}} \right) - \psi_w(\zeta) \right]$$



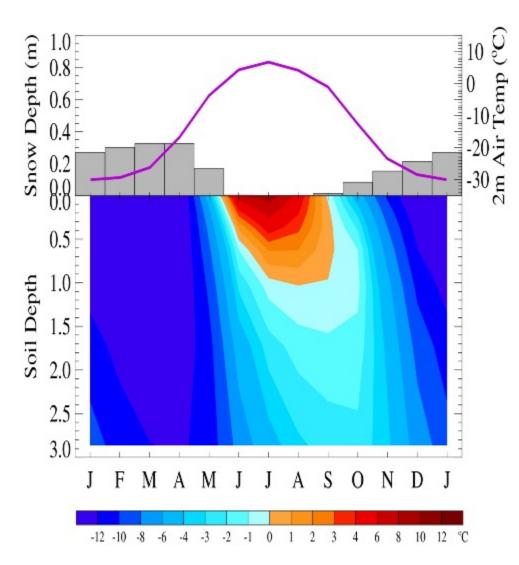
Snow/Soil thermodynamics

Solve the heat diffusion equation for multi-layer snow and soil model

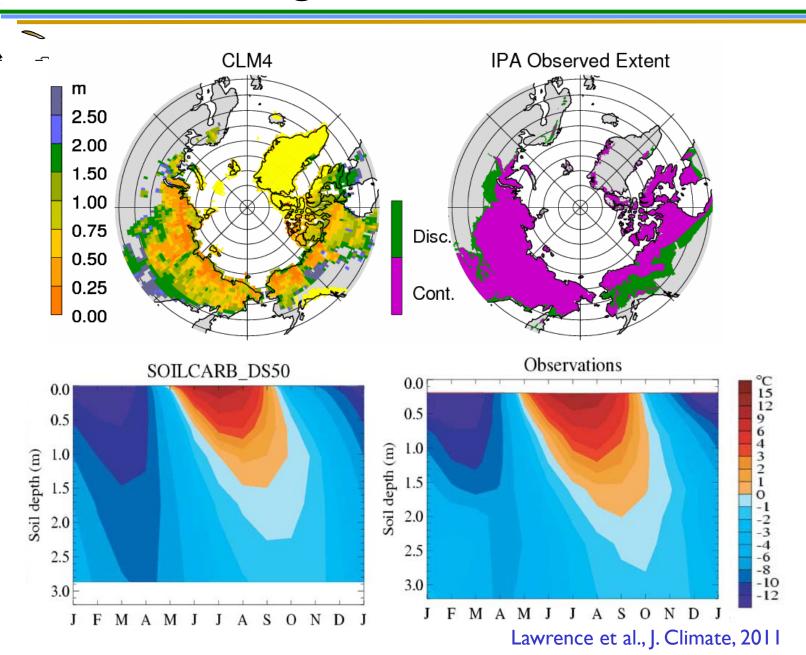
$$C_{p} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(K \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right)$$

where C_p (heat capacity) and K (thermal conductivity) are functions of:

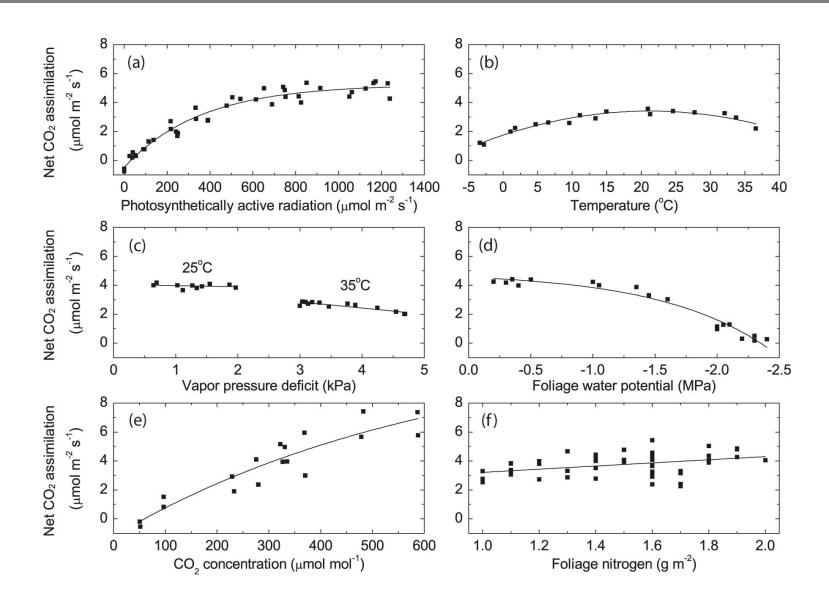
- temperature
- total soil moisture
- soil texture
- ice/liquid content



Modeling Permafrost in CLM



Leaf photosynthesis



Leaf photosynthesis and stomatal conductance

Farquhar photosynthesis model

$$A_n = \min(w_c, w_j, w_p) - R_d$$

 w_c is the rubisco-limited rate of photosynthesis, w_j is light-limited rate allowed by RuBP regeneration, w_p is product limited rate of carboxylation

rubisco-limited rate is

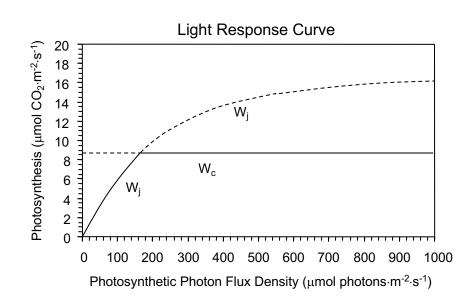
$$w_c = \frac{V_{c \max}(c_i - \Gamma^*)}{c_i + K_c(1 + O_i / K_o)}$$

RuBP regeneration-limited rate is

$$w_j = \frac{J(c_i - \Gamma^*)}{4(c_i + 2\Gamma^*)}$$

product-limited rate is

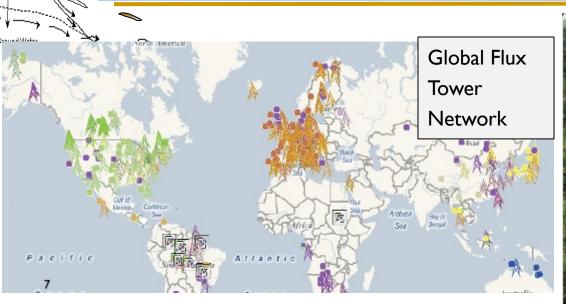
$$w_p = 3T_p$$



Ball-Berry stomatal conductance

$$\frac{1}{r_S} = g_S = g_1 \frac{A_n h_S}{c_S / P_{atm}} + g_0 \beta_t$$

Evaluating the model with tower flux data



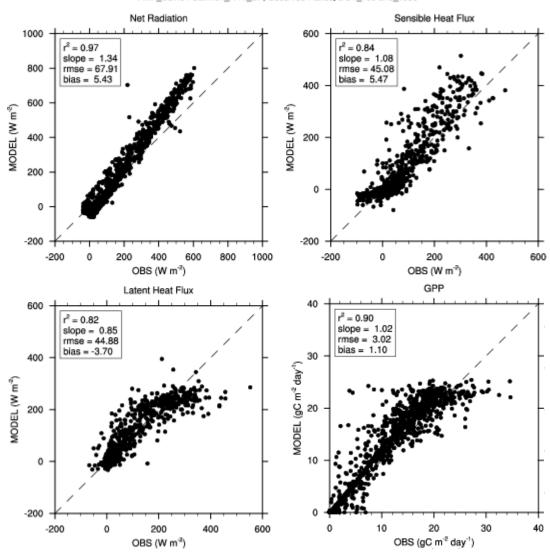




Evaluating CLM4.5 with tower flux data

Howland Forest, Maine, July, 1996

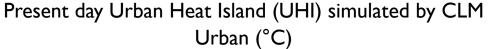
AMF_USHo1 CLM451_r111_SP, Observed Fluxes, DOY_183-213_1996

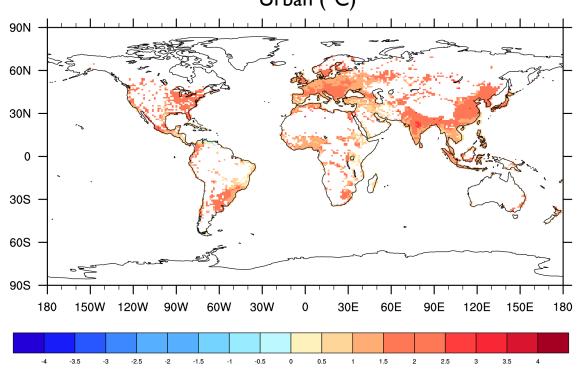




Secured Water

Urban Heat Island in CCSM4





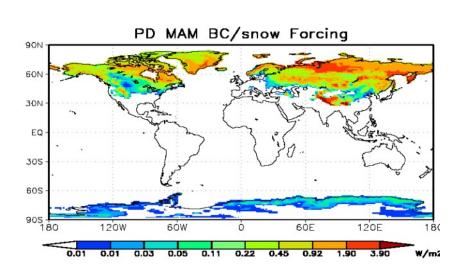
Modeled UHI ranges from nearzero up to 4°C with spatial and seasonal variability controlled by urban to rural contrasts in energy balance.

Snow, Ice, and Aerosol Radiative Model (SNICAR)

- Snow darkening from deposited black carbon, mineral dust, and organic matter
- Vertically-resolved solar heating in the snowpack
- Snow aging (evolution of effective grain size) based on:
 - Snow temperature and temperature gradient
 - Snow density

Ground Water

- Liquid water content and
- Melt/freeze cycling



Flanner et al (2007), JGR Flanner and Zender (2006), JGR Flanner and Zender (2005), GRL

