

A multidisciplinary approach for weather & climate

A multi-physics ensemble over the CORDEX-Africa domain

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Thanks to:

J. Fernández M.García-Díez M.E.Magariño



Outline

Santander Meteorology Group

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- 1. Objectives
- 2. Data
- 3. Results
 - 3.1. Main differences among the ensemble members
 - 3.2. Seasonal cycle
 - 3.3. Interannual variability

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- 4. Conclusions

Objectives

 To study the effect of different WRF schemes in Africa.

 To analize if WRF is able to reproduce the seasonal cycle and interannual variability.

Objectives

The area of study is the the African domain.

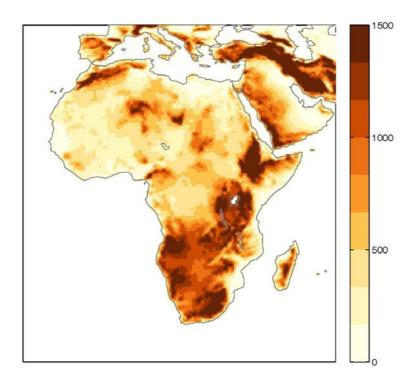


Fig.1: Domain used for all the simulations. The altitude (m) is shown.

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Data

Observations:

CRU¹ 3.1:

Monthly gridded fields based on daily values.

0.5x0.5 degree.

It has been used for maximum and minimum temperatures.

TRMM² 3B43:

The Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) is a joint U.S.-Japan satellite mission to monitor tropical and subtropical monthly precipitation.

0.25x0.25 resolution.

It has been used for precipitation.

¹University of East Anglia Climatic Research Unit (CRU). [Phil Jones, Ian Harris]. CRU Time Series (TS) high resolution gridded datasets, [Internet]. NCAS British Atmospheric Data Centre, 2008, *Date of citation*. Available from http://badc.nerc.ac.uk/view/badc.nerc.ac.uk__ATOM__dataent_1256223773328276

²Huffman, G.J., R.F. Adler, D.T. Bolvin, G. Gu, E.J. Nelkin, K.P. Bowman, Y. Hong, E.F. Stocker, D.B. Wolff, 2007: The TRMM Multi-satellite Precipitation Analysis: Quasi-Global, Multi-Year, Combined-Sensor Precipitation Estimates at Fine Scale. J. Hydrometeor., **8**:38-55.

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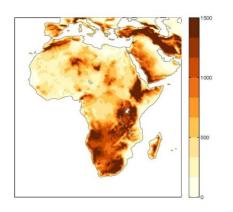
Data

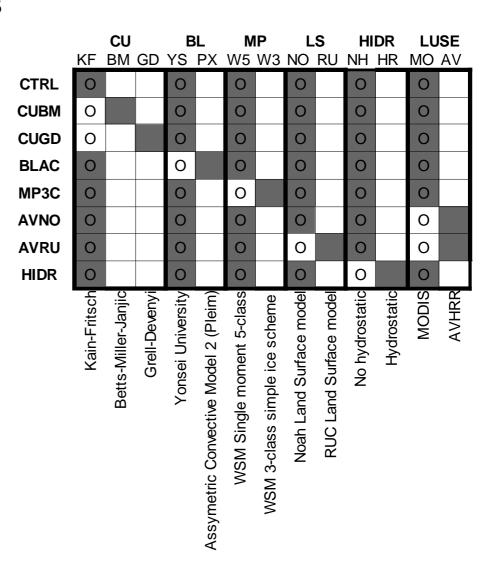
Observations: CRU and TRMM

WRF Multiphysics experiments

8 different multiphysics experiments

WRF 3.3.1.
African CORDEX domain
Period: 2002-2006
Resolution: 50 km
Mercator Projection





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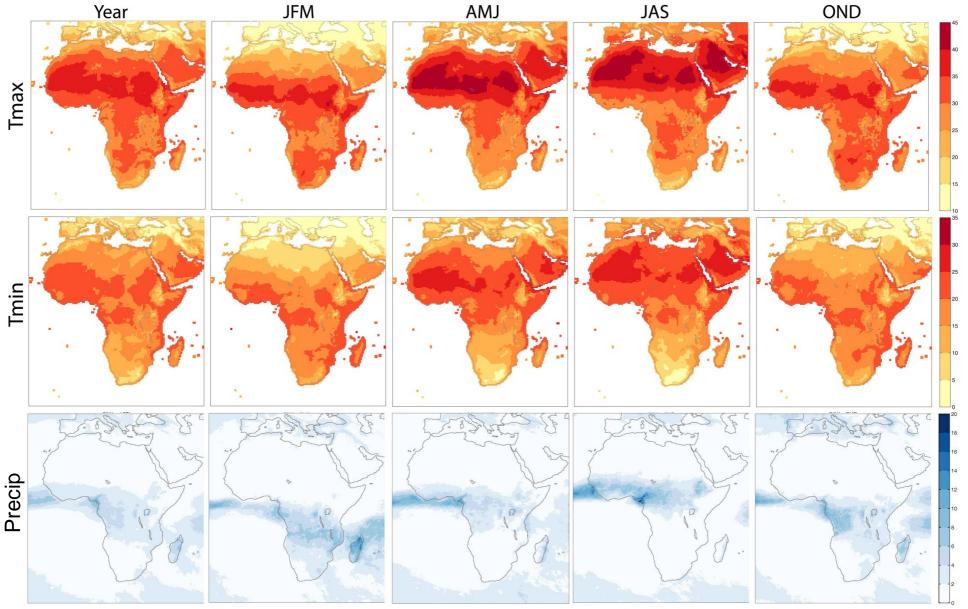


Fig 2: Climatology for observed maximum temperature (up), minimum temperature (middle) and precipitation (low), considering CRU for temperatures and TRMM for precipitation.

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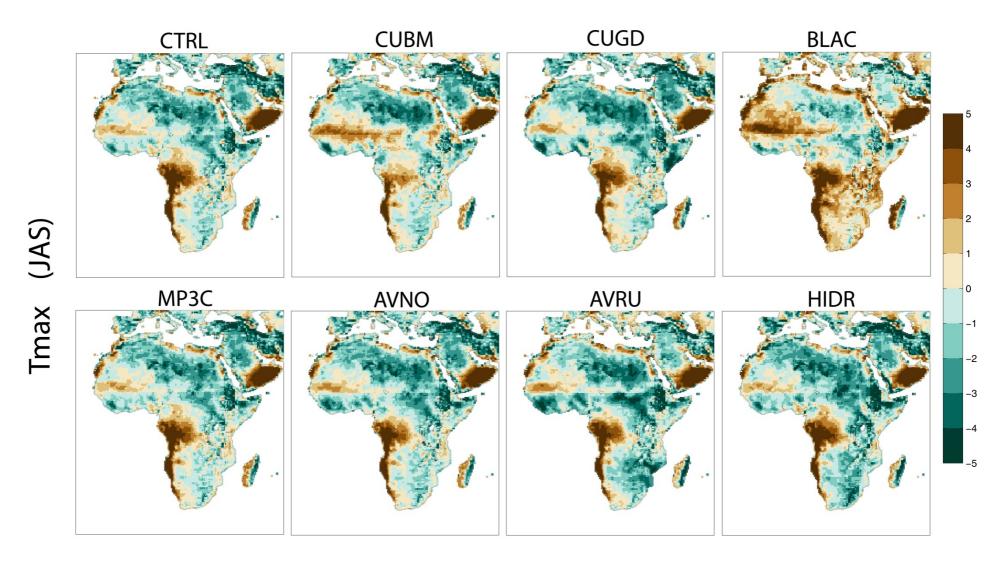


Fig. 3: Spatial bias distribution for maximum temperature (°C) in boreal summer with respect to CRU (3.1) for the period 2002-2006.

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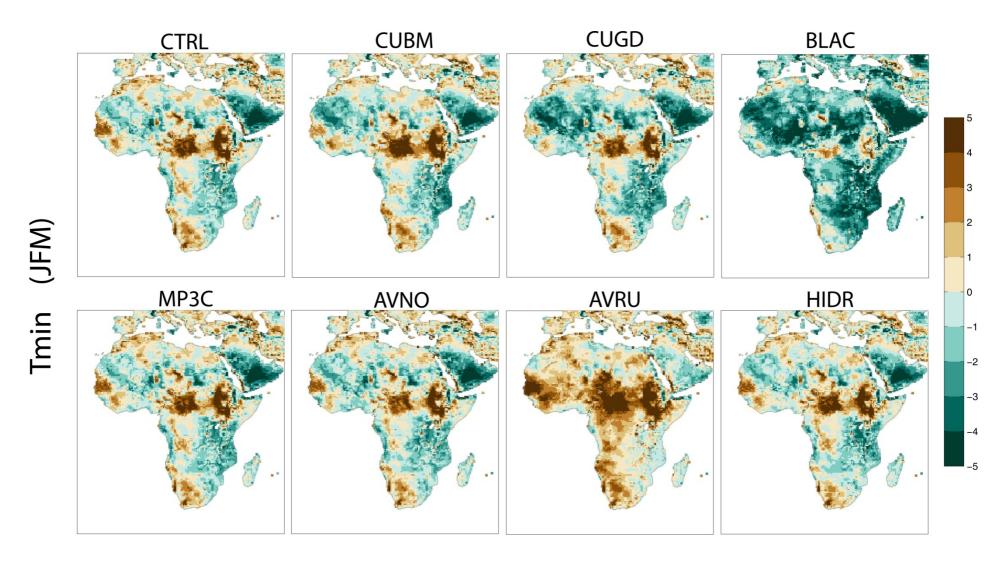


Fig. 4: Spatial bias distribution for minimum temperature (°C) in boreal winter with respect to CRU (3.1) for the period 2002-2006.

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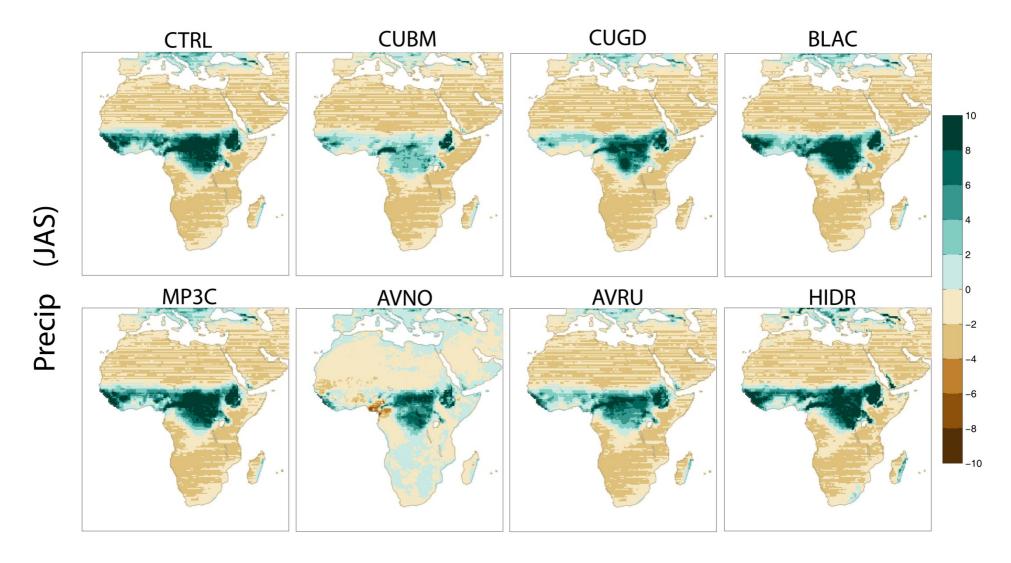


Fig. 5: Spatial bias distribution for precipitation (mm/day) in boreal summer with respect to TRMM for the period 2002-2006.

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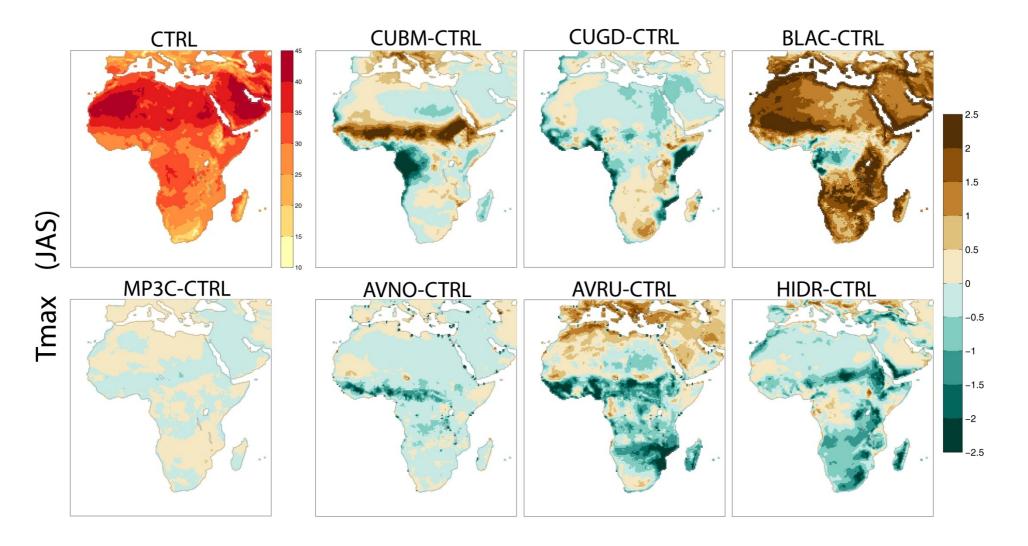


Fig. 6: Maximum temperature (°C) in boreal summer for the control simulation (upper left corner) and the differences with the other simulations for the period 2002-2006.

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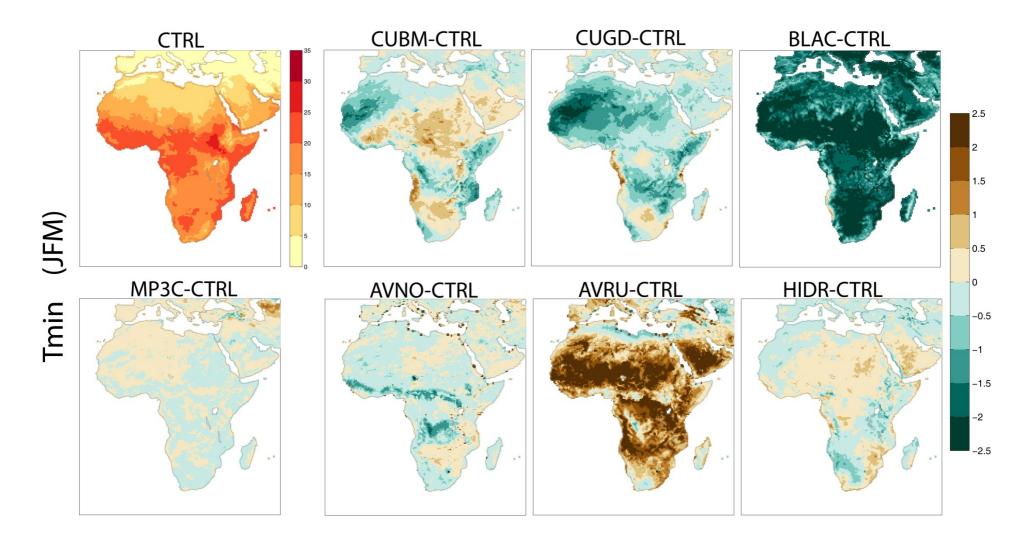


Fig 7: Minimum temperature (°C) in boreal winter for the control simulation (upper left corner) and the differences with the other simulations for the period 2002-2006.

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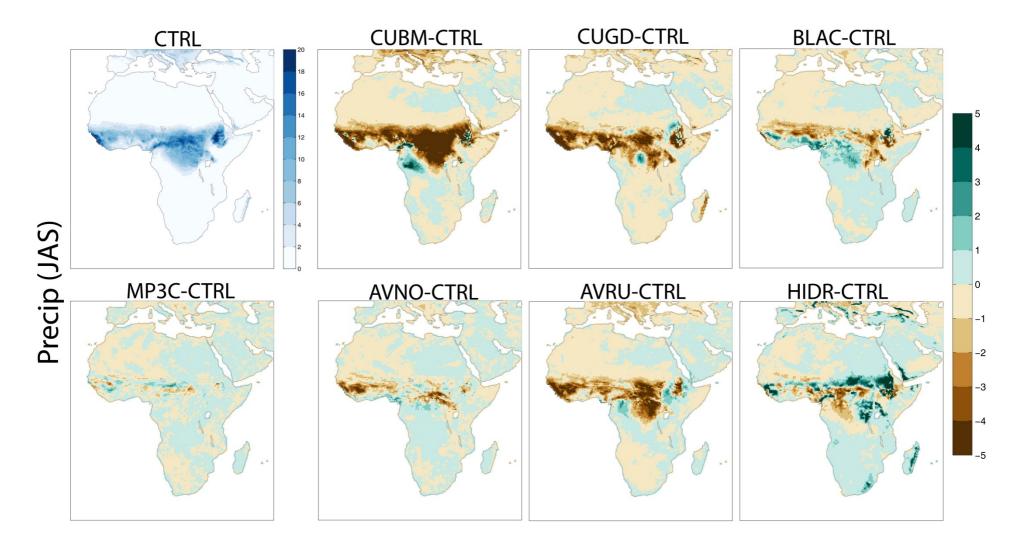
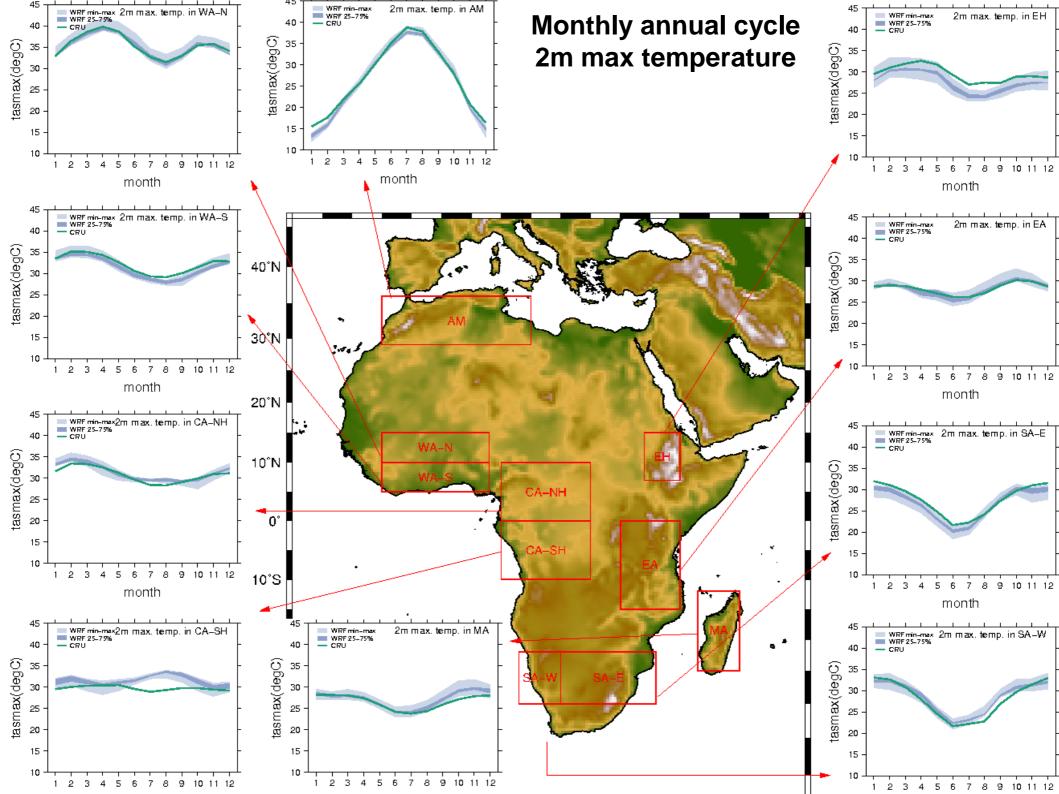


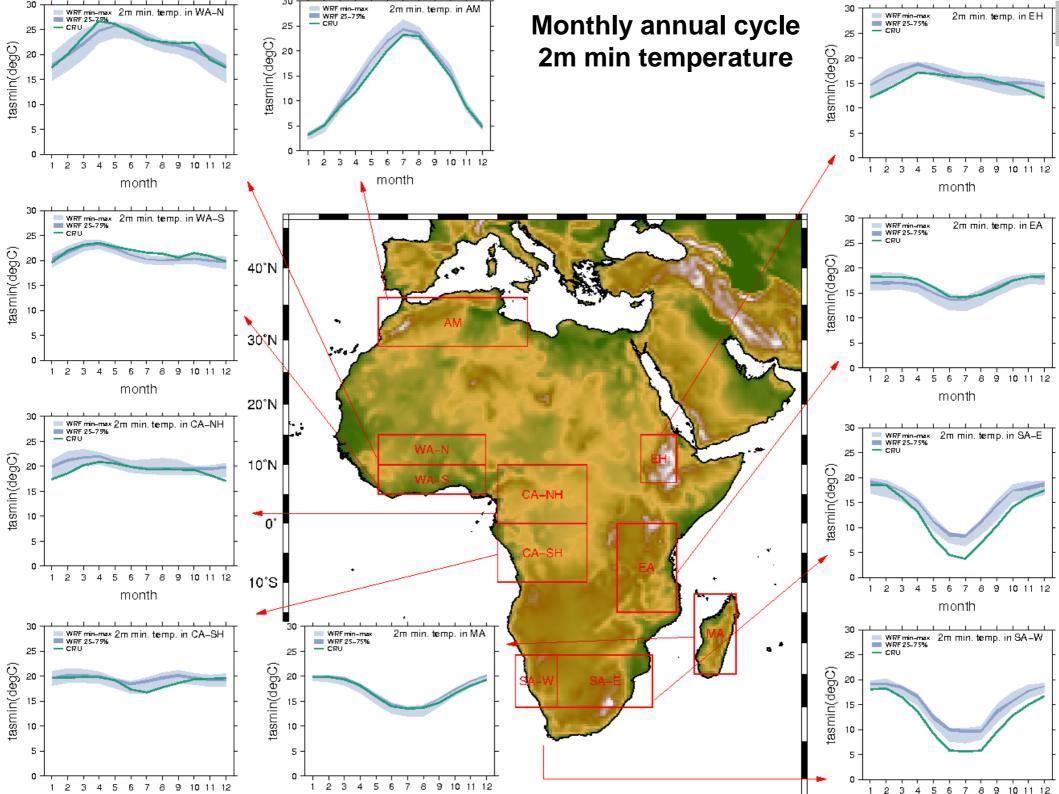
Fig. 8: Precipitation (mm/day) in boreal summer for the control simulation (upper left corner) and the differences with the other simulations for the period 2002-2006.

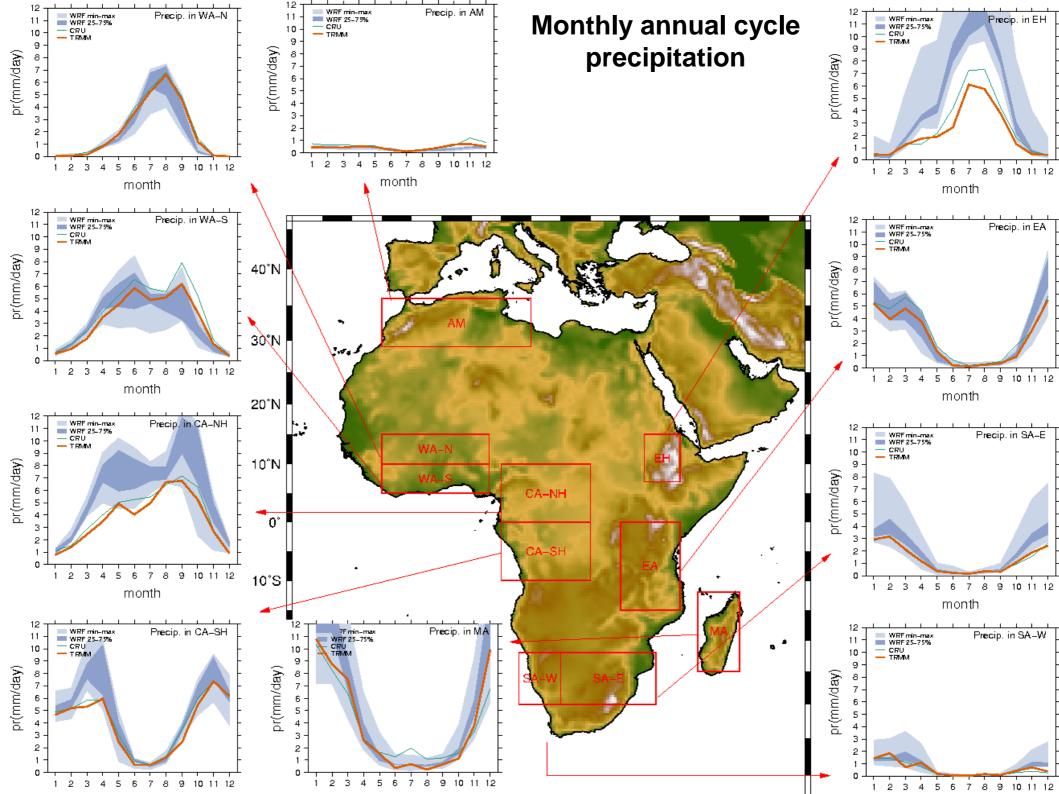
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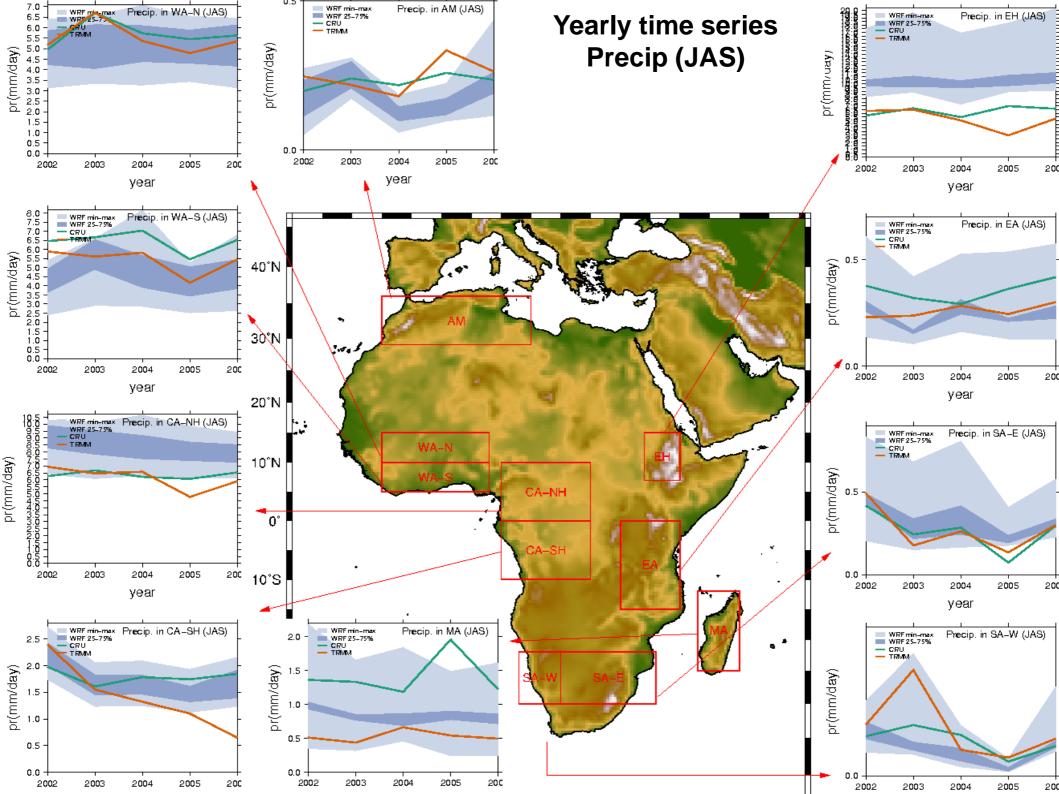


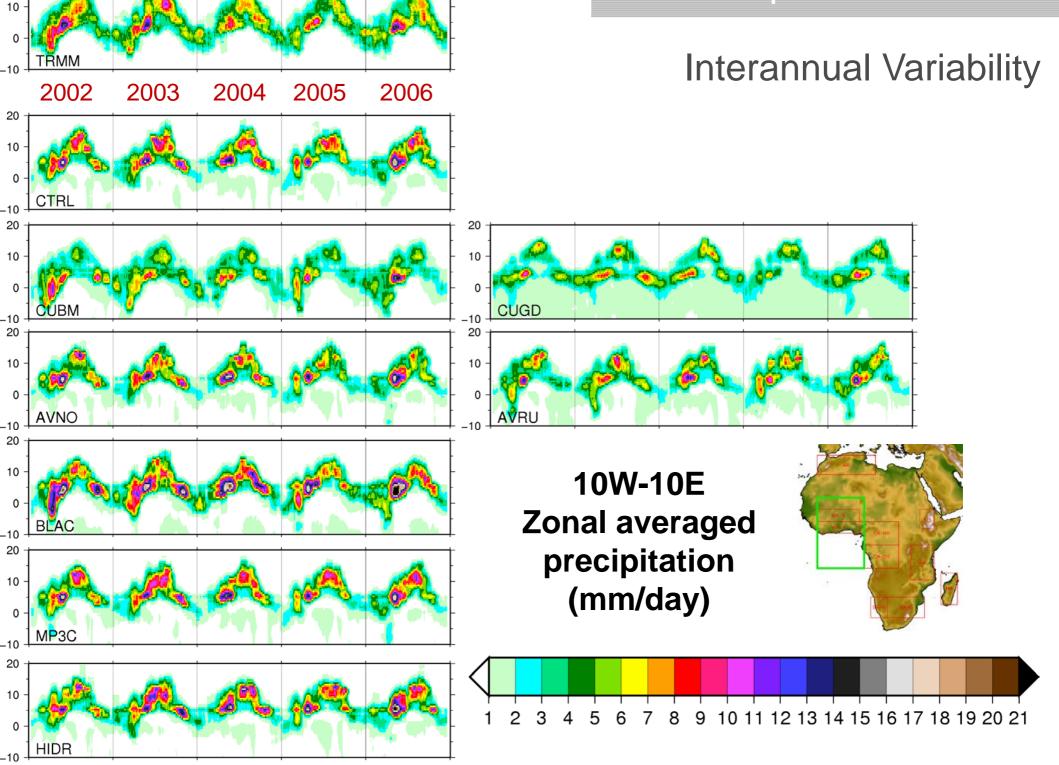


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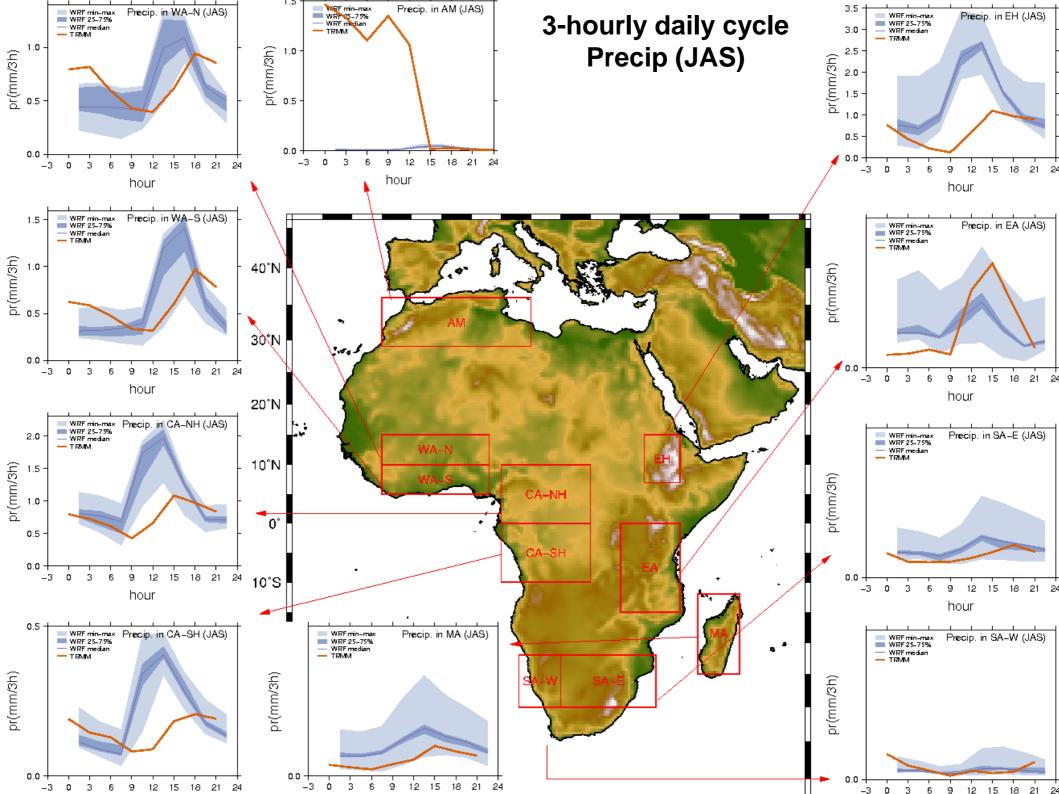
Outline

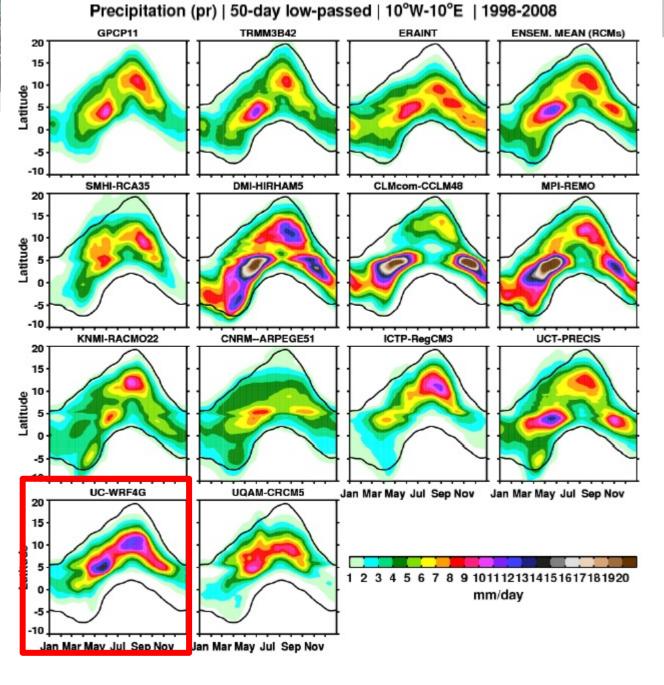
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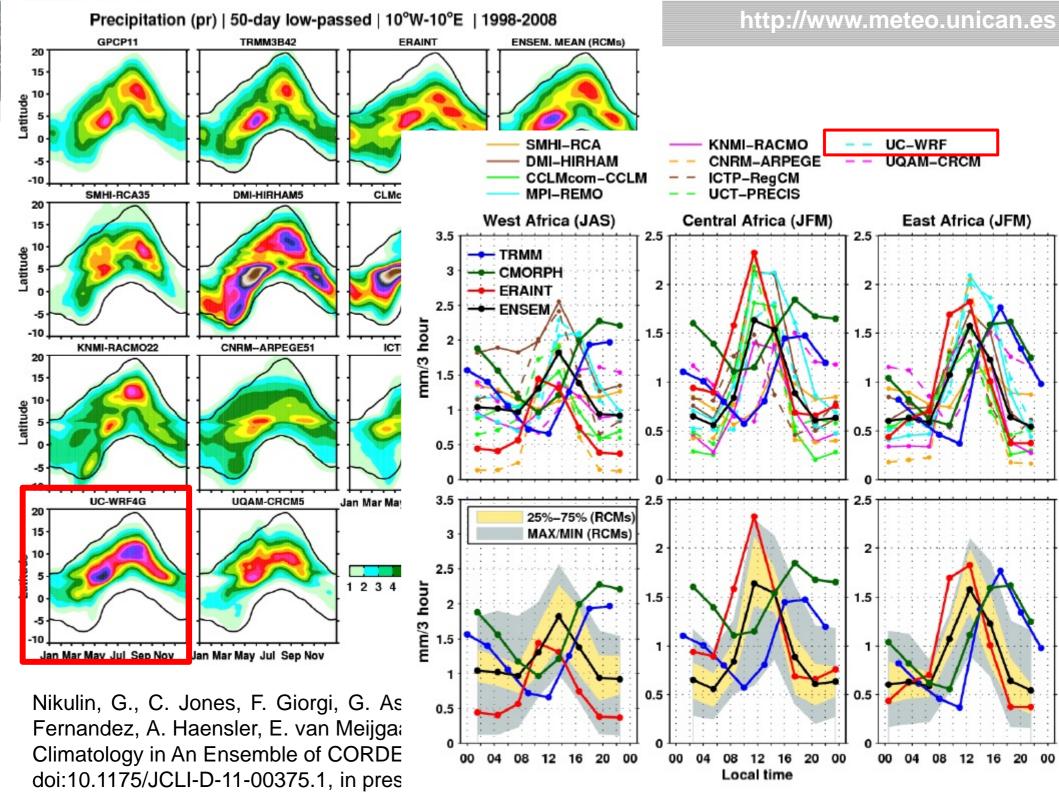
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Nikulin et al. 2012

Nikulin, G., C. Jones, F. Giorgi, G. Asrar, M. Büchner, R. Cerezo-Mota, O. Christensen, M. Déqué, J. Fernandez, A. Haensler, E. van Meijgaard, P. Samuelsson, M. Sylla, and L. Sushama, 2012: Precipitation Climatology in An Ensemble of CORDEX-Africa Regional Climate Simulations. J. Climate. doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-11-00375.1, in press.



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- Different WRF schemes are able to reproduce the main features of the African climate, although some biases were found, specially in precipitation.
- Different WRF configurations show different spatial patterns:
 BLAC present the highest differences wrt CTRL
 CUBM is the most similar to observations in the monsoon rain belt.
- Annual cycle is well reproduced by the ensemble for temperature but not for precipitation, specially in Central Africa and Ethiopian Highlands.
- Precipitation interannual variability is not well captured by WRF.

Future Work

These are very preliminar results.

 We need to study separately each ensemble member to analize individually:

the annual cycle
the interannual variability

the diurnal cycle

• We would like to shed light also on other variables.

Thank you

Gracias

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