

Satellite Observations for CMIP5: The Genesis of Obs4MIPs

Objective

- To make better use of satellite data for climate model evaluation and research

Background and Status

- CMIP specifies a series of standardized experimental protocols that facilitate community-based study of Earth system models. Obs4MIPs ensures that these protocols are applied to satellite data and that relevant documentation is made available.
- Launched and led by NASA and DOE, since this paper was accepted obs4MIPs has grown into an international activity with contributions now being made by NOAA, ESA and other agencies. obs4MIPs is considered a centralizing community effort by the WCRP Data Advisory Council which has established a task team to help further advance the project
- DOE scientists co-organized a May 2014 meeting at NASA HQ to help define the role of obs4MIPs in CMIP6

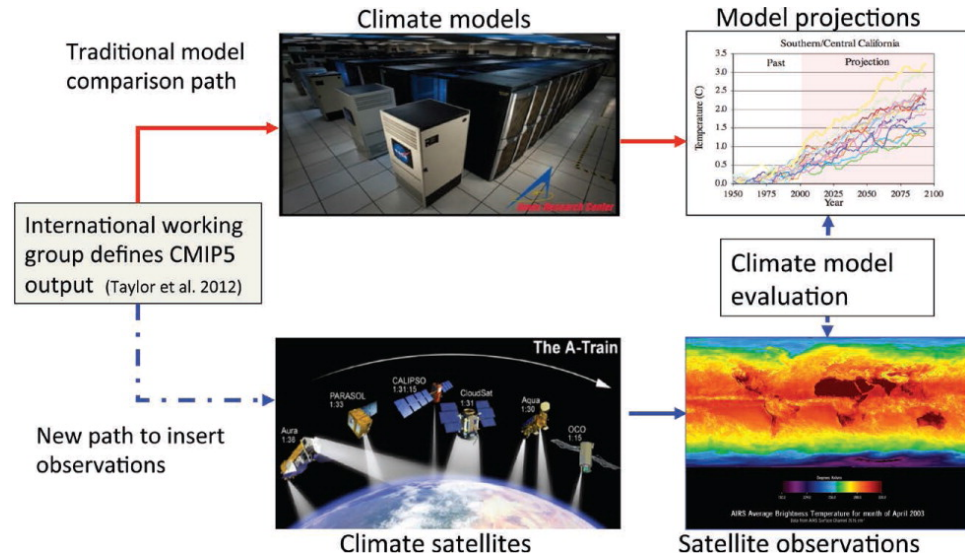


Fig. 1. Schematic showing the essence of the Obs4MIPs approach: to use the CMIP5 simulation protocol, produced by WGCM, which organizes climate model intercomparisons (top path), to select the satellite observations that are in the Obs4MIPs project and create a parallel path for the observations (bottom path).

Impact

obs4MIPs provides a connectedness between modeling and satellite communities that greatly facilitates the evaluation of climate models

<https://www.earthsystemcog.org/projects/obs4mips>

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