

SDS Lab Overview  
+  
Physics-guided statistical approach to uncertainty  
quantification from climate model ensembles

Evan Kodra

Introduction: Auroop Ganguly

08/2013

**Professor**  
**Auroop Ganguly**

**Postdocs:**

**Poulomi Ganguli** - drought characterization and prediction

**Rachindra Mawagaledara** - regional climate modeling

**David Wang** – oceanography and climate physics



**Research Assistant**

**Babak Fard** – computer science

**PhD Candidates:**

**Debasish Das** – climate extremes data mining

**Evan Kodra** – extremes uncertainty quantification

**Devashish Kumar** – non linear dynamics and natural hazards

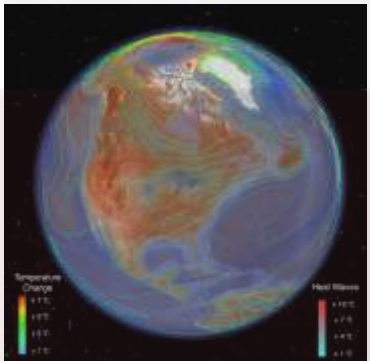
**Saeed Zabet** – Hydrological data analysis



# Selected SDS Lab Members' Research

2009

Increasing intensity and uncertainty in heatwaves

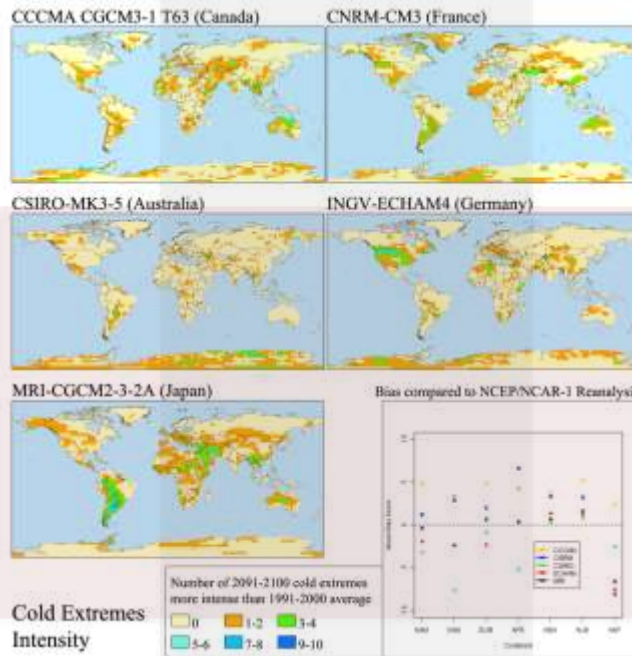


PNAS

Ganguly et al. 2009

2011

Persistence of cold extremes under climate change



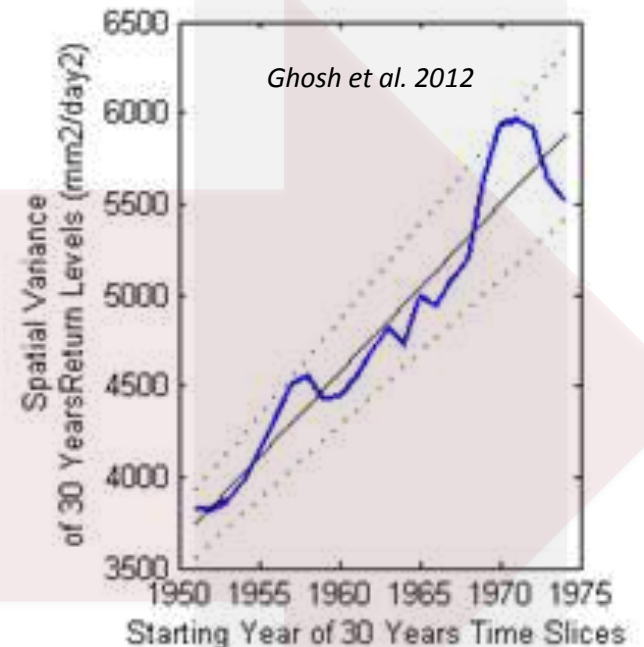
Cold Extremes Intensity

Kodra et al. 2011

GRL

2012

nature  
climate change



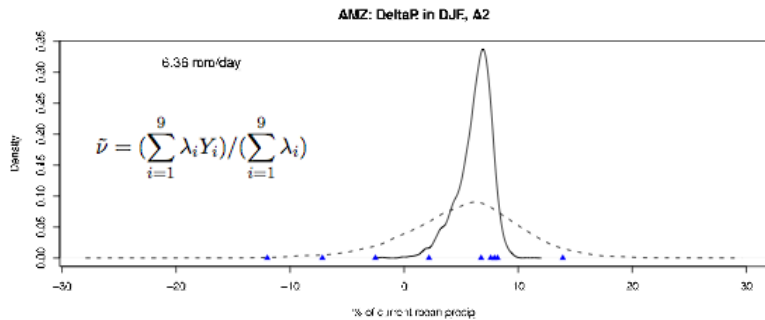
Increasing spatial variability in Indian rainfall extremes



# Now: Putting a bunch of ideas together

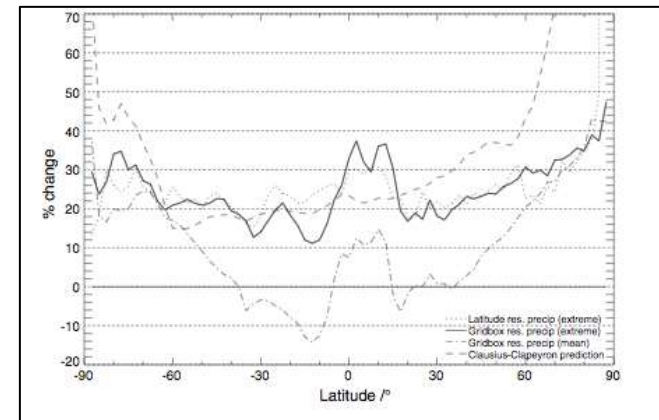
Opportunity to use known physics, statistical models, and observed data to quantify (and reduce??) uncertainty in rainfall extremes

Tebaldi et al. 2004 & 2005

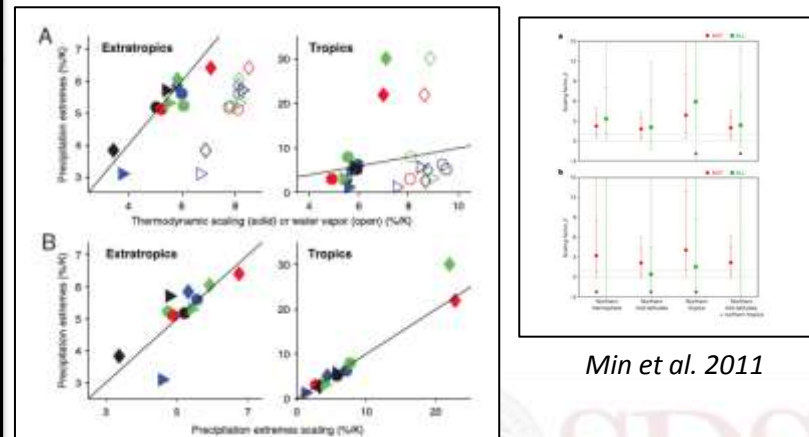


$$E(\lambda_i | \{X_0, \dots, X_9, Y_1, \dots, Y_9\}) \approx \frac{a + 1}{b + \frac{1}{2}((X_i - \bar{\mu})^2 + \theta(Y_i - \bar{v} - \beta_x(X_i - \bar{\mu}))^2)}$$

Pall et al. 2007

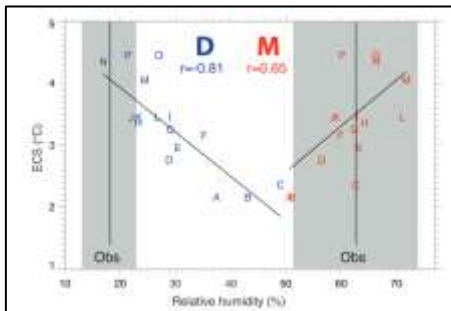


O'Gorman et al. 2009

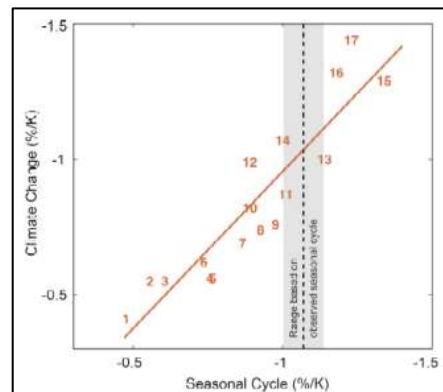


Min et al. 2011

Fasullo and Trenberth 2012



Hall and Qu 2006



$$P_e \sim - \left\{ \omega_e \frac{dq_s}{dp} \Big|_{\theta^*, T_e} \right\}$$



# Physics Infused Statistical Uncertainty Quantification

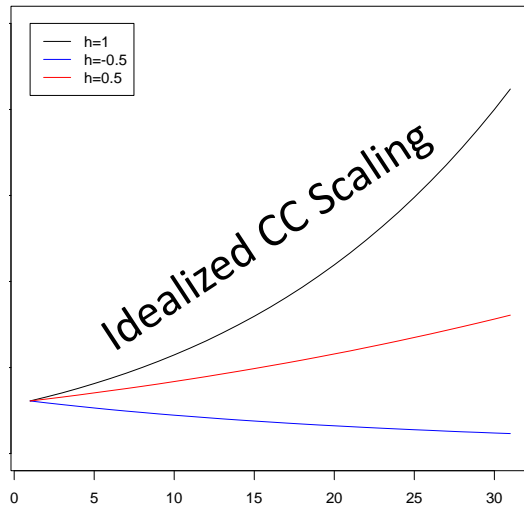
What processes dictate rainfall extremes?

- Vertical wind velocity
- Horizontal moisture convergence
- Moist adiabatic temperature lapse rate
- Saturation vapor pressure → Local mean air temperature when extremes occur
- Idea: weight ESMs by which ones get the **link** between temperature and rainfall extremes right... let the unknown and unmeasured fall into uncertainty terms

Modeled and measured well  
Modeled and measured less well

# Physics Infused Statistical Uncertainty Quantification

*Measuring ESM reliability: realism in portraying adherence to Clausius-Clapeyron Scaling*



Example deviations from the August-Roche-Magnus, where  $h=1$  is the original August-Roche-Magnus.

$$e_s(T) = 6.1094 \exp \left[ \frac{17.625T}{T+243.04} \right]$$

$$\ln[e_s(T)] = \ln(6.1094) + \frac{17.625T}{T+243.04}$$

$$\ln[R] = \ell + \tilde{h} \frac{17.625T}{T+243.04} + \varepsilon$$

intercept      slope      error

The original August-Roche-Magnus approximation to the CC...

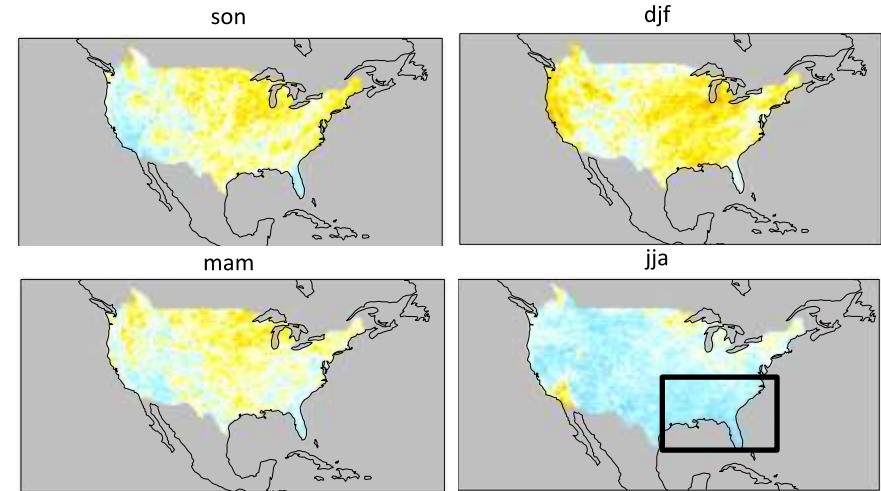
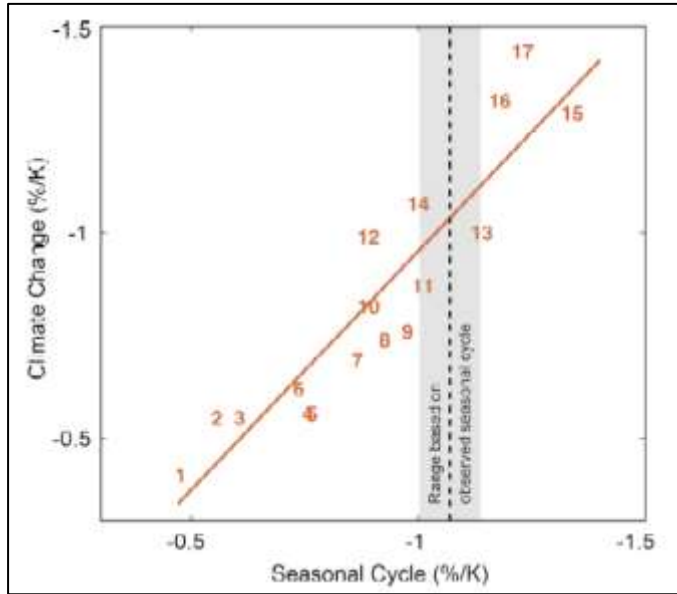
A log transformation...

A (potentially generalized) linear regression relationship— with some unknown parameters – that can be mapped back to nonlinear deviations from CC scaling

A statistical mechanism to encapsulate a basic physical process – and the rest falling into an error term

# But will this link tell us anything useful?

We might want something like this...



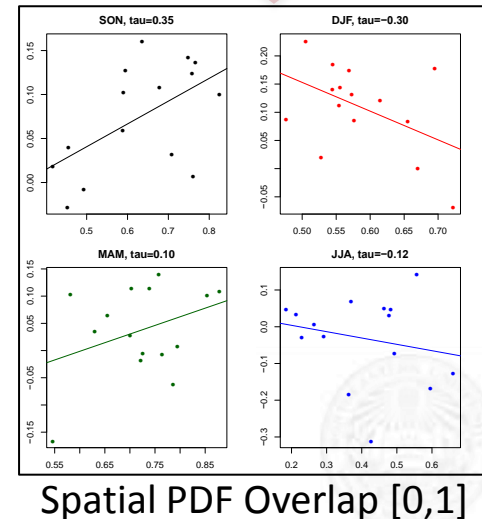
*In CONUS Observations: Processes that dictate rainfall extremes differ across seasons*

Pearson's  $\rho$  (seasonal maxima rainfall total, same day average temperature, 1915-2011)

- Which ESMs capture these patterns?
- And do they say something different about the future?

Hints that this approach *might* be useful in constraining uncertainty  
 Variability by region  
 Variability by season  
 Host of additional considerations...

% Change in Seasonal Maxima (1950-1999 → 2050-2099)



# Applying the idea in a UQ Framework

$$\ln[H_r] \cong \mu_r \cong I_r + (\delta_r)X_r$$

$$\ln[H_{j,r}] \cong \mu_{j,r} \cong I_r + (\delta_{j,r} + \delta_r)X_r$$

$$\ln[P_{j,r} | H_{j,r}] \cong \mu'_{j,r} \cong I_r + \{(\delta'_{j,r} + \delta'_r)Y_r - \beta[(\delta_{j,r} + \delta_r)X_r]\}$$

- GLMs for location parameters in a GEV or GPD model to be updated in a recursive MCMC algorithm
- Use concepts of **skill** and **consensus** (e.g. Tebaldi et al. 2004 and Smith et al. 2009)

$H_{k,r}$

Historical observation from dataset  $k$  at location  $r$

$H_{j,r}$

Historical simulation from ESM  $j$  at location  $r$

$P_{j,r} | H_{j,r}$

Projection from GCM  $j$  at location  $r$ , conditioned on GCM  $j$ 's historical simulation

$X_r, Y_r$

Historical temperature and future at location  $r$  (in reality uncertain)

$\delta$

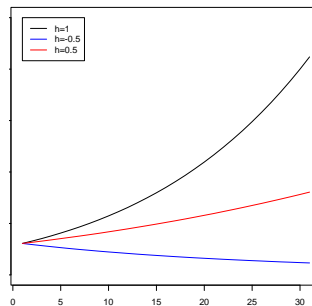
Regression coefficients relating  $X_r$  and  $Y_r$  to central tendency of log transformed rainfall extremes.

Weight assignment:

$$f(\delta_r, \delta_{j,r}, \delta'_{j,r})$$



$$\ln[R] = \ell + \hbar \frac{17.625T}{T+243.04} + \varepsilon$$



Weights should decay as GCMs fall further from “true” nature of adherence to real CC scaling described by  $\delta_r$  (but not necessarily from *theoretical* CC scaling)



# Thank you

## *PhD Committee*

Auroop Ganguly (NEU) – Climate & Data Science

Snigdhanu Chatterjee (UMN) – Statistics

Albert-László Barabási (NEU) – Network Science

John Drake (UTK, previously lead climate modeler at ORNL) – Climate Modeling

Jerome Hajjar (NEU) – Structures

Ferdi Hellweger (NEU) - Hydrology

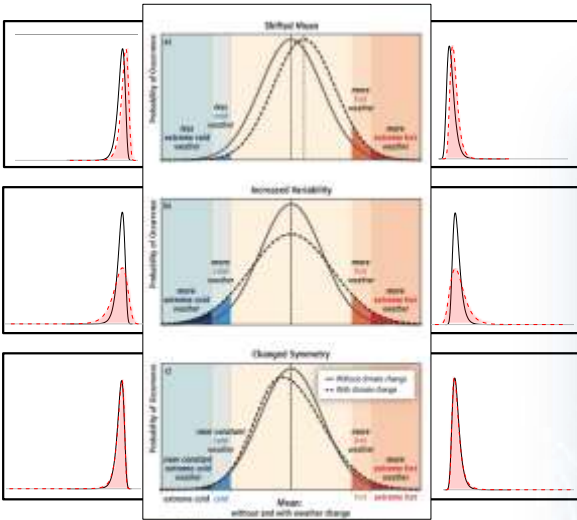


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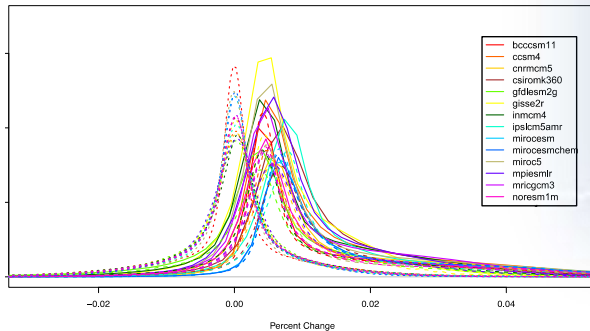
# 2013: Model-data driven insights

Kodra et al. 2013

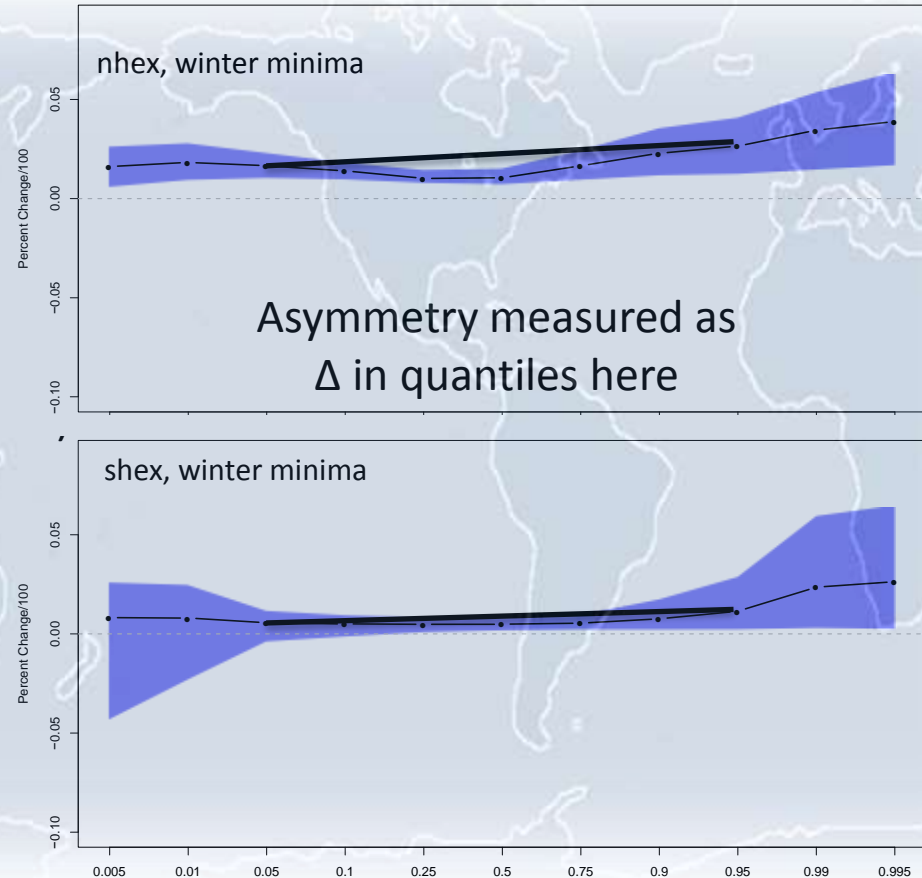


*EVT and resampling: Statistical tools for hypothesis testing*

Global PDF Estimates of Changes in Winter Minima



*Almost unanimous that the global PDF will change asymmetrically – especially for winter and minimum temperature based extremes*



Asymmetry measured as  $\Delta$  in quantiles here

*CMIP5 model ensemble generally projects larger changes in the highest than the lowest statistics of temperature extremes*

*Covariates describing asymmetry:  
season >> tail >> latitude band >> GCM variability*