

# *Verifying Coupled Land-Hydro: NWP to S2S, and longer timescales*

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with material from:

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Craig Ferguson (SUNY-Albany),  
and the GEWEX GLASS LoCo WG,  
i.e. Kirsten Findell (GFDL) et al,  
Grant Firl (NCAR/RAL/JNT) & the DTC

**Developmental Testbed Center Metrics Workshop  
30 July – 01 August 2018**



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# Verifying Coupled Land-Hydro: NWP to S2S (and longer timescales)

## **Tara's questions:**

**Users:** What is(are) the target audience(s) for your temporal application or specialty? What products do they typically use and how? What level of skill is considered to signify "success"?

*Traditionally 2-m T & RH, 10-m wind for NWP, Hydro & S2S forecasting, plus all the usual NWP metrics, e.g. **500mb AC, profiles, etc.** But now water resources & drought, e.g. veg. cover/density (veg stress), snowpack, streamflow, flooding/standing water, etc.*

**Current Status:** What are the legacy verification methods used for this particular application? How does EMC currently verify this aspect of models currently and is this sufficient? What are the diagnostics/metrics needed for evaluating performance? How are they similar to other applications? How are they different? What observation data sets are available to conduct a comprehensive evaluation?

*Traditionally 2-m T & RH, 10-m wind, etc, per above.*

*Obs data sets: Surface fluxes/radiation, comprehensive energy, water & biogeochemical evaluation & other process-level metrics for plants, soils, snow, hydrology/groundwater, plus PBL information (e.g. height, profiles & mean properties).*

**What's Missing:** What aspects should be verified but are currently not?

*Per above, re-cast into **Land-Atmosphere Interaction (L-AI) Coupling metrics.**  
(See subsequent slides.)*

## **Other Ques. re: Land**

How does land surface influence forecasts at different time scales? How much of the errors are coming from poor atmospheric predictions vs. LSM prediction? Also relevant: What are the differences between verifying S2S forecasts and Global NWP forecasts?

*Land has a big impact, from the first diurnal cycle to S2S and longer. NWP vs S2S: Still need to get the right land-hydro states, fluxes, **diurnal cycle, & land-atmos. coupling.***

**Hierarchical Testing:** Which diagnostics can be used to evaluate results from simplified versions of the model (e.g., single column model, low-res global etc.), so 1) we cut down on non-linear interactions among components, and 2) we can do some tests without using too much computer power (helpful for the research community to participate).

*Land-hydrology states, fluxes, and **L-AI coupling** evaluated at all steps along the way.*

# Land-Atmosphere Interactions: Important! (Factors)

## Land-Atmosphere Interactions:

Paul Dirmeyer,  
George Mason Univ.

been segregated but

Land  
couple

## The emerging role of the land surface in weather and climate prediction

Paul Dirmeyer

Center for Ocean-Land-Atmosphere Studies  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, Virginia, USA

L-A Interactions & Extremes V  
the United States and Errors at the  
between model predictions and obs  
Mountain-Prairie / Rick Bohn (CC

NCWCP – 29 May 2018

Paul Dirmeyer



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# Land-Atmosphere Interactions: Important!

## First results of the Land-Atmosphere Feedback Experiment (LAFE)

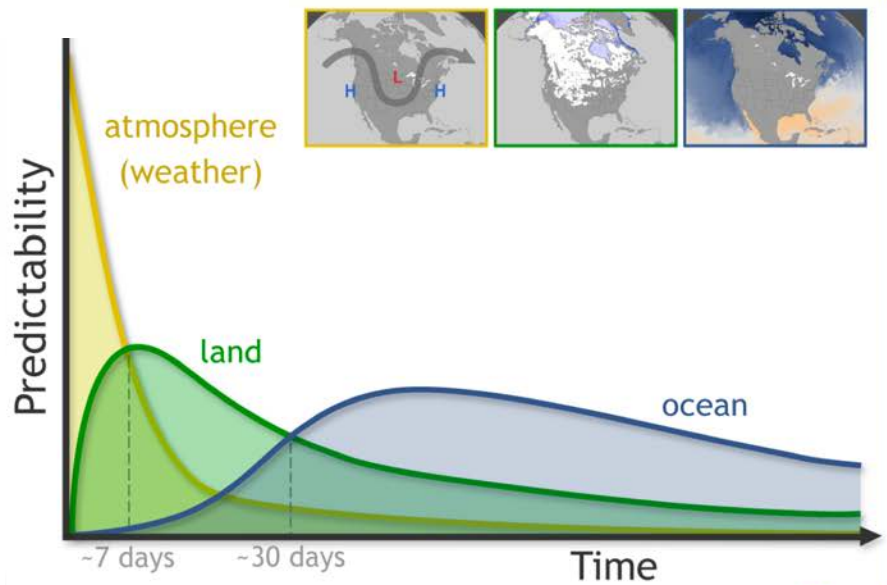
**Volker Wulfmeyer<sup>1</sup>, David D. Turner<sup>2</sup>, B. Baker<sup>3</sup>, R. Banta<sup>2</sup>, A. Behrendt<sup>1</sup>, T. Bonin<sup>4</sup>, W.A. Brewer<sup>2</sup>, M. Buban<sup>3,5</sup>, A. Choukulkar<sup>4</sup>, E. Dumas<sup>3,5</sup>, R.M. Hardesty<sup>4</sup>, T. Heus<sup>6</sup>, J. Ingwersen<sup>7</sup>, D. Lange<sup>1</sup>, T.R. Lee<sup>3,5</sup>, S. Metzendorf<sup>1</sup>, S.K. Muppa<sup>1</sup>, T. Meyers<sup>3</sup>, R. Newsom<sup>8</sup>, E. Olson<sup>9</sup>, M. Osman<sup>5,10</sup>, J. Santanello<sup>11</sup>, C. Senff<sup>4</sup>, F. Späth<sup>1</sup>, T. Wagner<sup>9</sup>, T. Weckwerth<sup>12</sup>**

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- 4: Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES), Boulder, USA
- 5: Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies (CIMMS), Norman, USA
- 6: Cleveland State University, Cleveland, USA
- 7: Institute of Soil Science and Land Evaluation (IBS), UHOH, Stuttgart, Germany
- 8: Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), Richland, USA
- 9: Space Science and Engineering Center (SSEC), University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
- 10: The University of Oklahoma and NOAA/National Severe Storms Laboratory, Norman, USA
- 11: NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, USA
- 12: National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), Earth Observation Laboratory, Boulder, USA



# Why Land?

## Predictability and Prediction

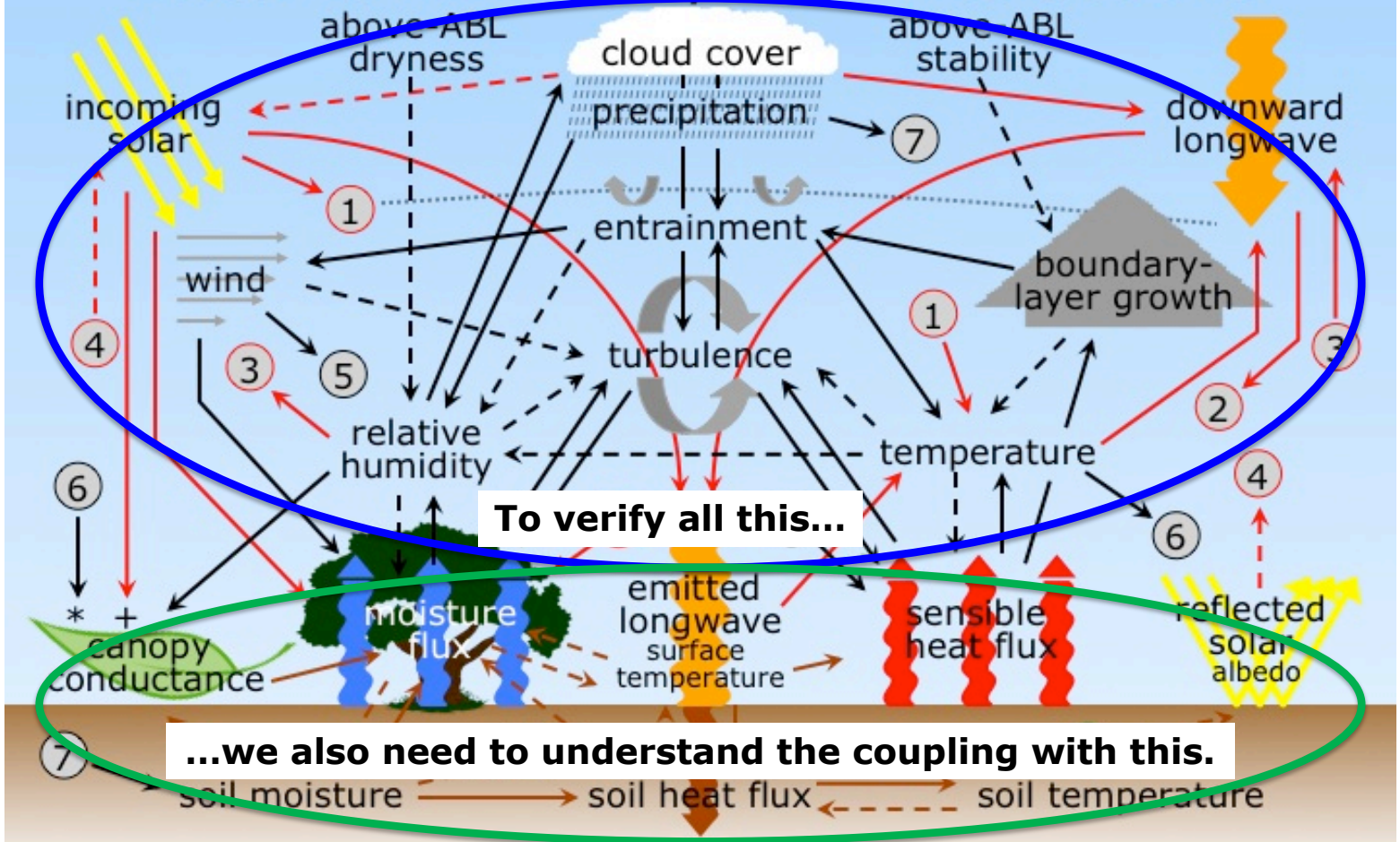


Paul Dirmeyer



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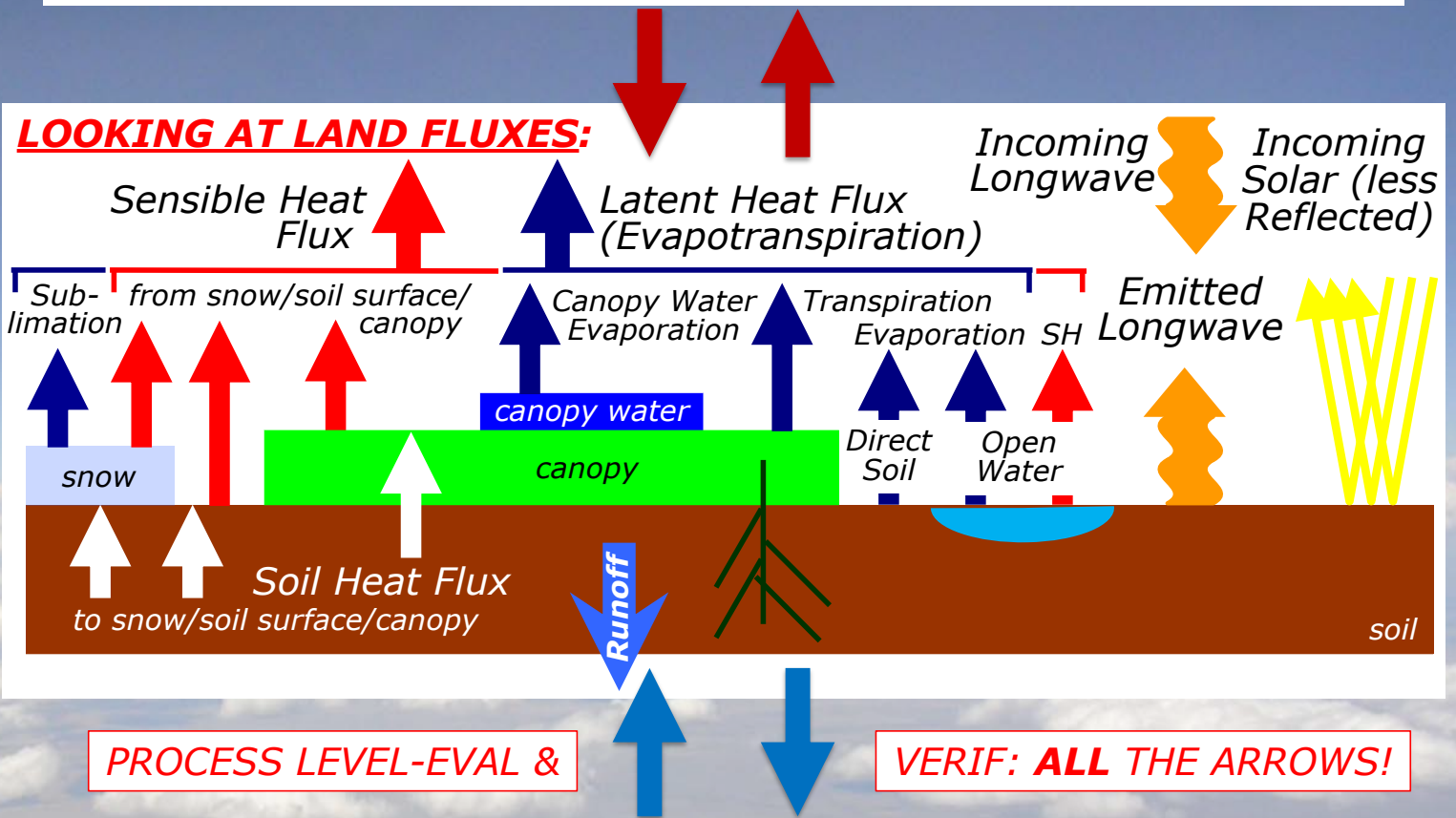
# Local Land-Atmosphere Interactions



- Many land & atmospheric processes and land-atmos feedbacks, some competing. *How to verify all these processes in models? What Metrics?*

# IMPORTANT CONNECTIONS WITH THE ATMOSPHERE

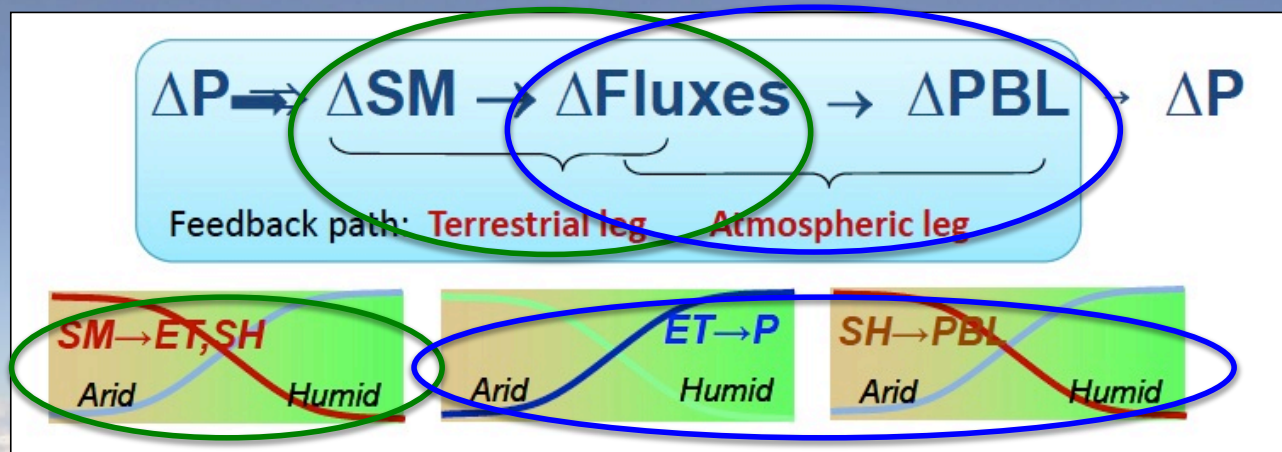
## LOOKING AT LAND FLUXES:



## EQUALLY IMPORTANT CONNECTIONS TO HYDROLOGY

# Land-Atmosphere Interactions

## Land-Atmosphere Feedbacks "Stand on 2 legs"

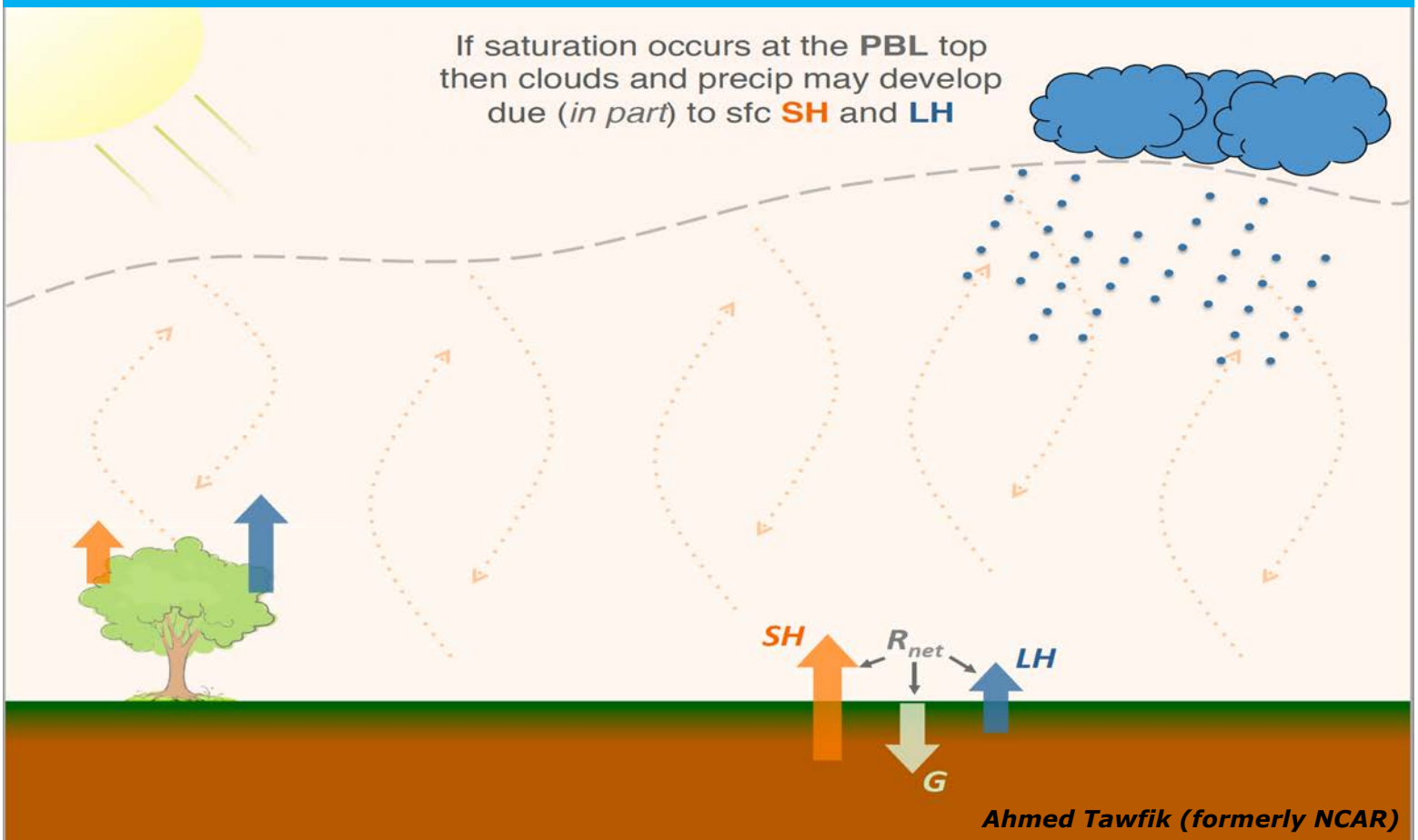


Paul Dirmeyer, George Mason Univ., Joe Santanello, NASA/GSFC.

- **Terrestrial – Soil moisture-surface fluxes relationship.** When/where/how does soil moisture, vegetation and snow (via plant, soil, snow physics and surface-layer physics) control the partitioning of net radiation into sensible, latent & soil heat flux?
- **Atmosphere – Surface fluxes-PBL relationship.** When/where/how do surface fluxes affect boundary-layer evolution, clouds (& microphysical processes) and precipitation?



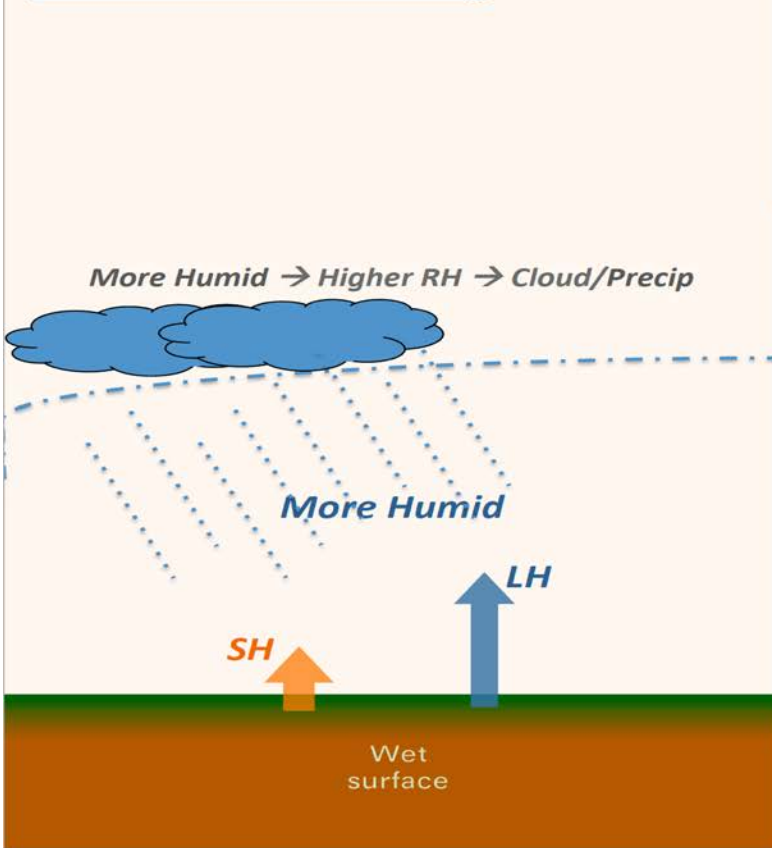
- Many land & atmospheric processes and land-atmos feedbacks, some competing. *Example: Formation of boundary-layer clouds.*



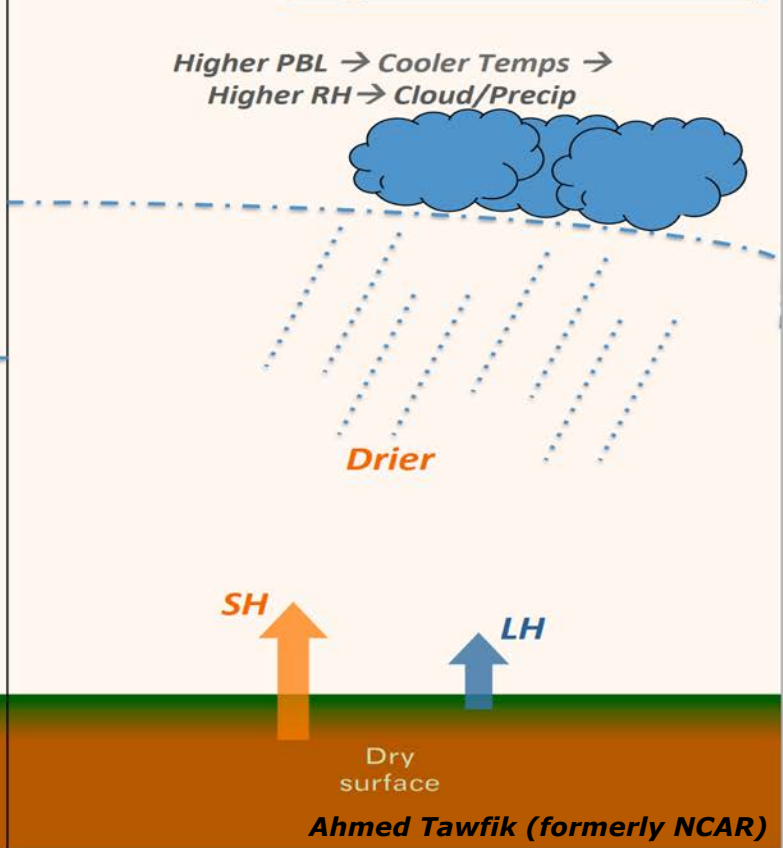
Ahmed Tawfik (formerly NCAR)

- Many land & atmospheric processes and land-atmos feedbacks, some competing. *Clouds via Positive or Negative Feedbacks. How exactly?*

Positive Feedback Story



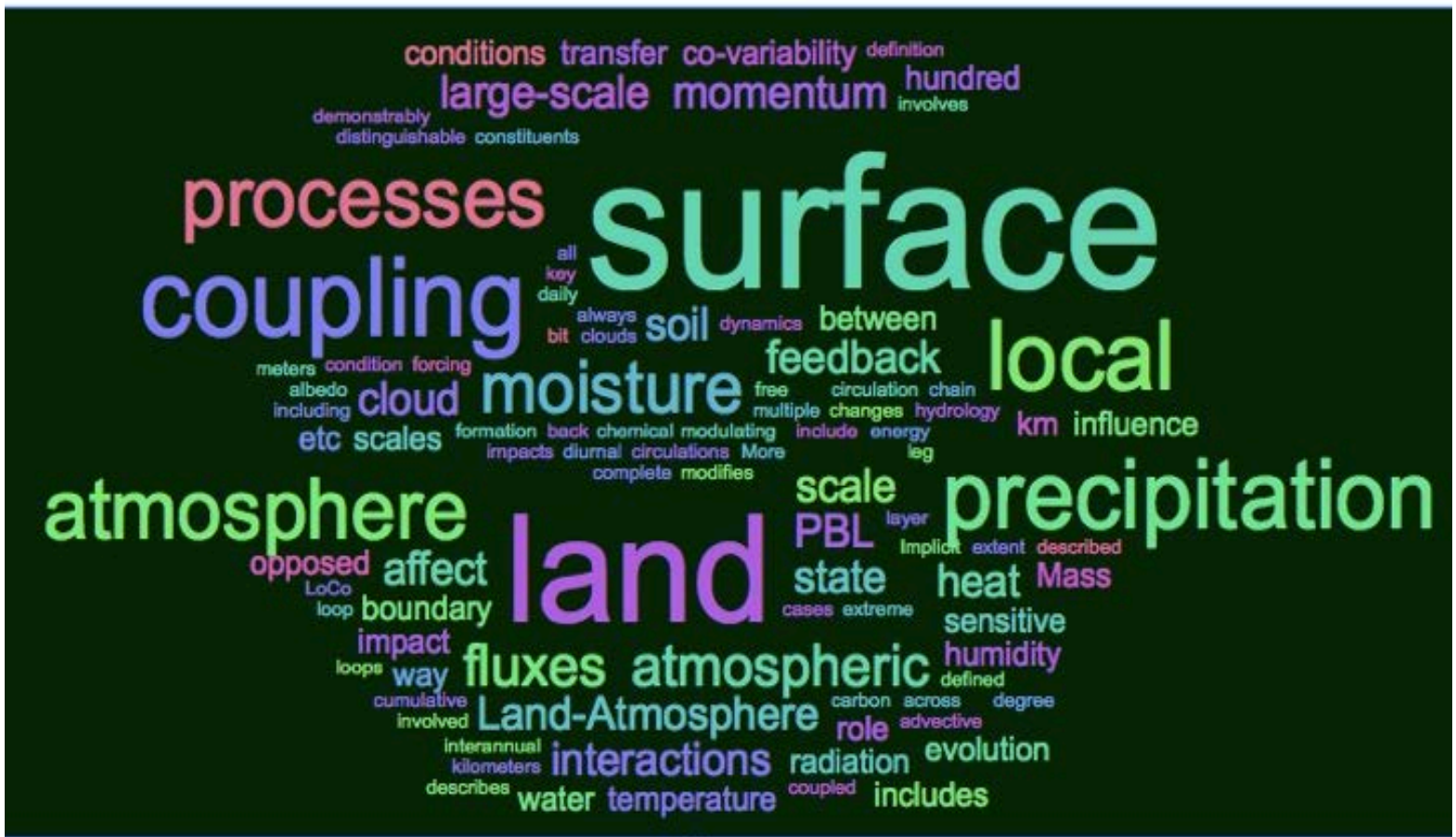
Negative Feedback Story



Ahmed Tawfik (formerly NCAR)

# HOW TO EXAMINE? Local Land-Atmosphere Coupling (LoCo) Project What is LoCo?

Joe Santanello (NASA/GSFC)



v

## **HOW TO EXAMINE? Local Land-Atmosphere Coupling (LoCo) Project** **What is LoCo?**

### Motivation:

- **Land-Atmosphere Interactions (L-AI)** play a critical role in supporting and modulating extreme dry and wet regimes, and must therefore be quantified and simulated correctly in coupled models.

### Objectives:

- Address deficiencies in NWP and climate models by developing diagnostics to quantify the strength and accuracy of the **Local L-A Coupling ('LoCo')** at the process-level.

### Deliverables:

- Diagnostics that can be applied to any model, scale, or observation (in-situ or satellite).
- Assessment of coupled model components and their integration through the land-PBL 'process-chain' linking the soil to precipitation.
- Provide a diagnostic and observational testbed for GEWEX-GLASS directed studies of LoCo and model intercomparisons.

*Joe Santanello (NASA/GSFC)*

# HOW TO EXAMINE? Land-Atmosphere Interactions · LoCo

## LoCo and Indices

### LAND-ATMOSPHERE INTERACTIONS

The LoCo Perspective

**Joe Santanello (NASA/GSFC)**

JOSEPH A. SANTANELLO JR., PAUL A. DIRMAYER, CRAIG R. FERGUSON,  
KIRSTEN L. FINDELL, AHMED B. TAWFIK, ALEXIS BERG, MICHAEL EK, PIERRE GENTINE,  
BENOIT P. GUILLON, CHIEL VAN HEERWAARDEN, JOSHUA ROUNDY, AND VOLKER WULFMAYER

Metrics derived by the LoCo working group have matured and begun to enter the mainstream, signaling the success of the GEWEX approach to foster grassroots participation.

BAMS, June 2018 (EOR available)

**Ahmed Tawfik  
(formerly NCAR)**



**Coupling Metrics Toolkit**

Paul Dirmeyer



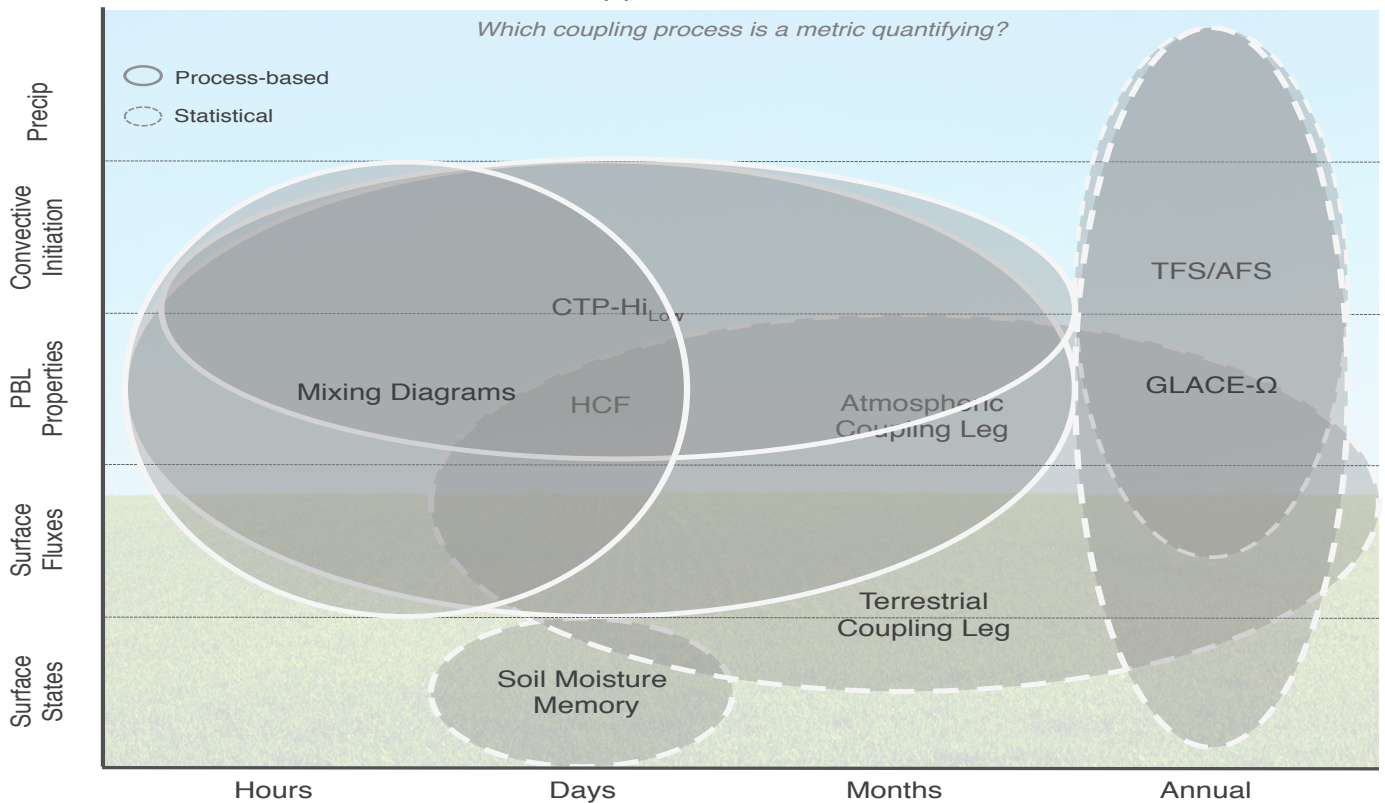
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# LoCo Diagnostics

## "Shopping List" of Different L-AI Coupling Metrics

### Metric Applications and Timescales

*Which coupling process is a metric quantifying?*



# Common Metrics for L-A Coupling and Feedbacks

## Statistical

### Soil moisture memory

- How long a soil moisture anomaly is retained
- Statistically – using the lagged autocorrelation of soil moisture and identify when the correlation falls below some “information threshold”

### Good references:

- Dirmeyer 2016 – models versus observations
- Seneviratne 2012 – decent review and comprehensive process framework

## Process-Based

- **Why we care?** Because persistence of an anomaly is potential for predictability!
- **Process** – using water balance equation to estimate the water storage



Soil Moisture Memory

Soil Only

Soil Moisture Memory

*Ahmed Tawfik (formerly NCAR)*

# Common Metrics for L-A Coupling and Feedbacks

## Statistical

Trigger/Amplification Feedback Strength

Two-legged Metric

Terrestrial Coupling Parameter

Soil Moisture Memory

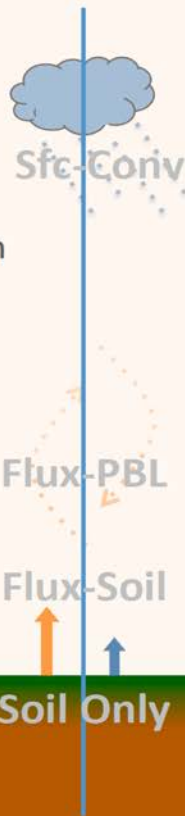
## Process-Based

Convective Triggering Potential  
Heated Condensation Framework  
Relative Humidity Tendency

Mixing Diagrams

Intrinsic Biophysical Factors

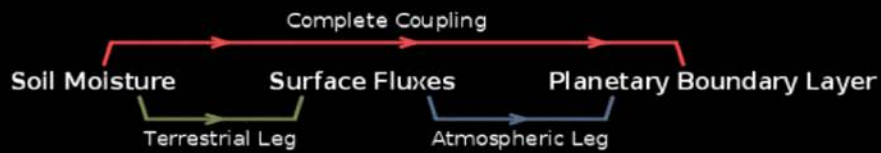
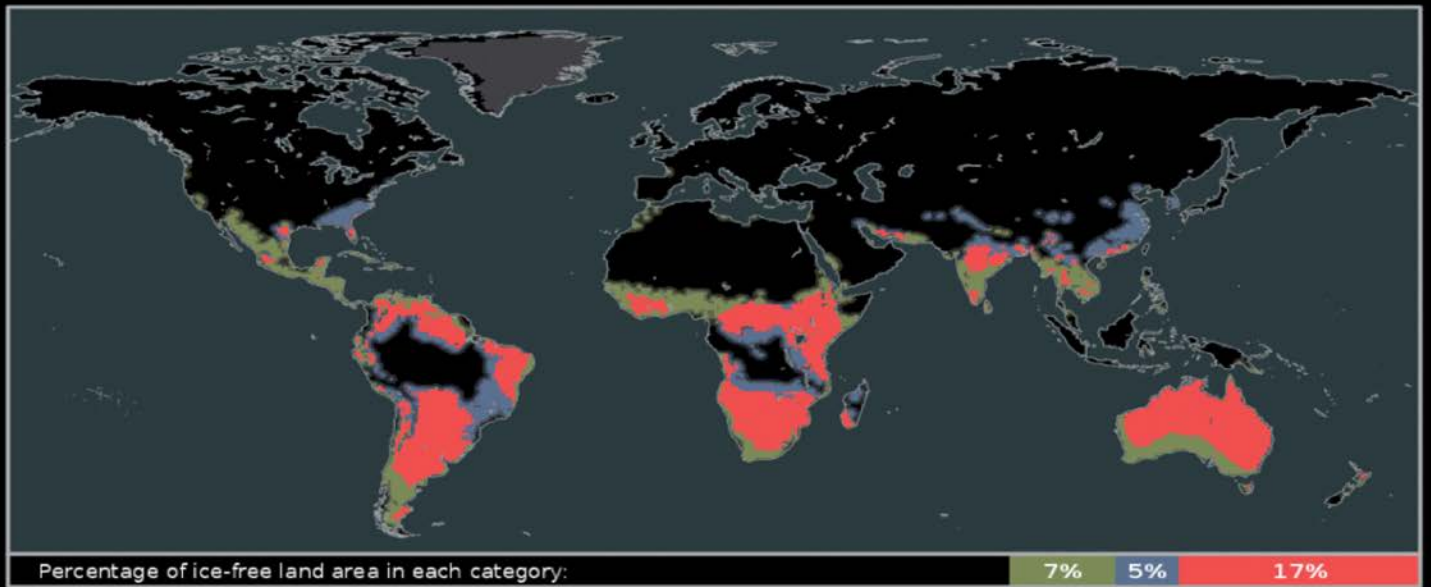
Soil Moisture Memory





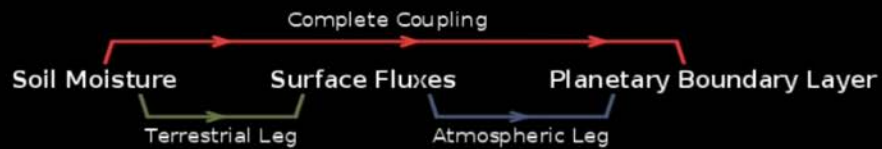
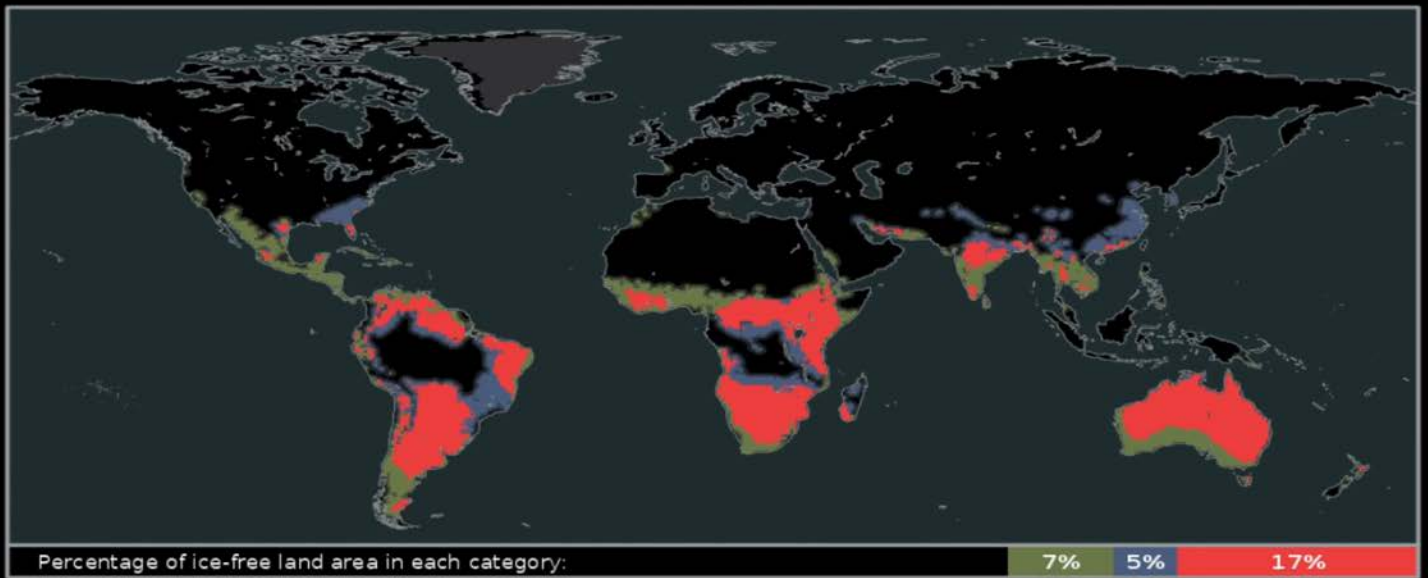
# LoCo Diagnostic: "Two-Legged Metric" (Dirmeyer et al) Snapshot: January

Two Legs of Land-Atmosphere Coupling  
Blended NASA MERRA-2, NOAA/NCEP CFSR & ERA-Interim



# LoCo Diagnostic: "Two-Legged Metric" (Dirmeyer et al) Soil Moisture -> Surface Fluxes -> PBL

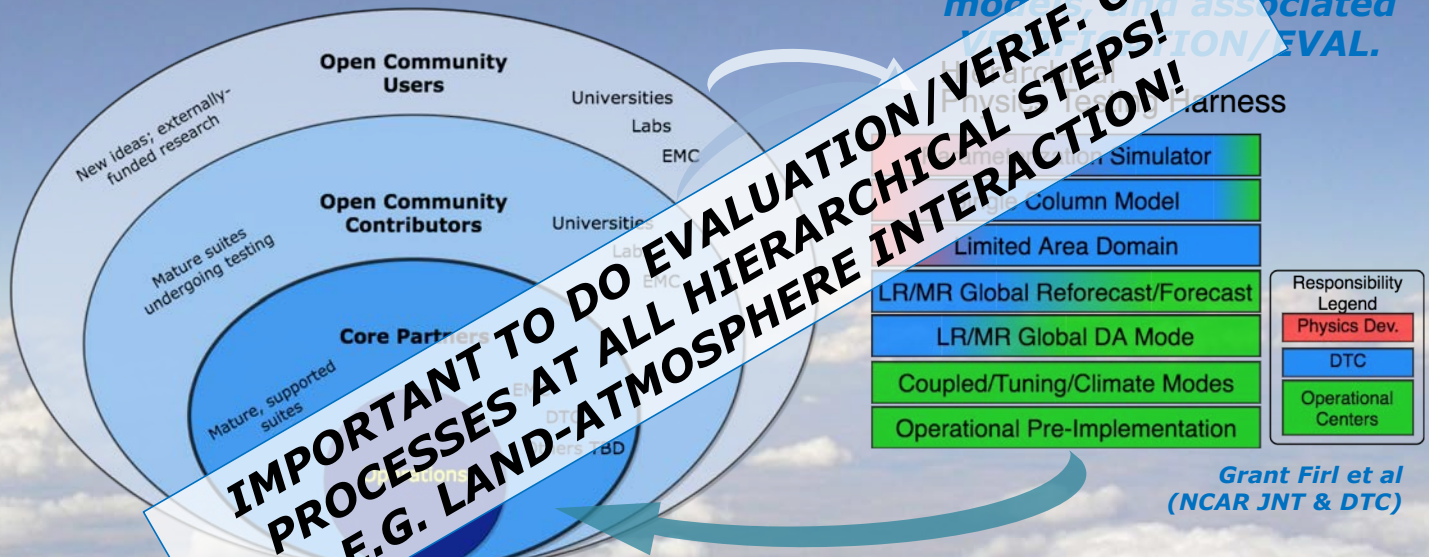
Two Legs of Land-Atmosphere Coupling  
Blended NASA MERRA-2, NOAA/NCEP CFSR & ERA-Interim



# NCAR-NOAA Development Testbed Center (DTC) Global Model Testbed (GMTB) project: Providing a framework & tools for the community to advance atmospheric physics

GMTB Common Community Physics Package (CCPP) Research-to-Operations and Operations-to-Research (R2O2R) "Ecosystem"

R2O2R pathway to move improved physics parameterizations into models and associated operations/eval.



Grant Firl et al (NCAR JNT & DTC)

- Collaborative framework for research and operations to share physics.
- Relies on dycore-/physics-agnostic Interoperable Physics Driver (IPD).

- Standardized set of tools, case studies and data sets (in situ/field programs, remote sensing) for simpler-to-more-complex hierarchy of physical parameterization tests.
- Provides evidence for physics scheme acceptance.

# ***Verifying Coupled Land-Hydro: NWP to S2S (and longer timescales)***

## **Issues:**

### ***A Coupled Land-Atmosphere problem...***

1. Surface Energy Balance partition.
2. Evapotranspiration (ET) partition (vegetation control).
3. Momentum fluxes, transport.
4. Surface emissions of dust, aerosols.
5. Sub-surface to surface heat and moisture transport.
6. Soil thermodynamics and hydraulics/hydrology (surface water-groundwater interactions, lateral transport, terrain effects).
7. Cold season: snowpack, frozen soil processes.
8. Dynamic landscapes (i.e. disturbances, e.g. from fire, urbanization, agriculture, etc.).
9. Stable boundary (surface) layer.
10. Surface heterogeneity, PBL blending height, complex terrain.
11. Land-atmosphere interaction:
  - Soil moisture-surface fluxes (e.g. ET) relationship.
  - Surface fluxes-PBL relationship, feedbacks e.g. via clouds/radiation.

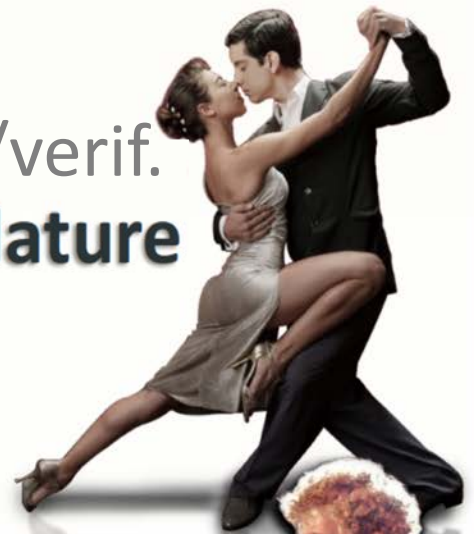
***Thanks, Fei Chen, Dave Gochis, Lulin Xue (NCAR), Brian Cosgrove (OWP/NWM), & many others.***



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# Summary: Coupled L-A Model Development & metrics/verif.

**Nature**



*Models*



Paul Dirmeyer, GMU/TLS

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***THANK YOU!***



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