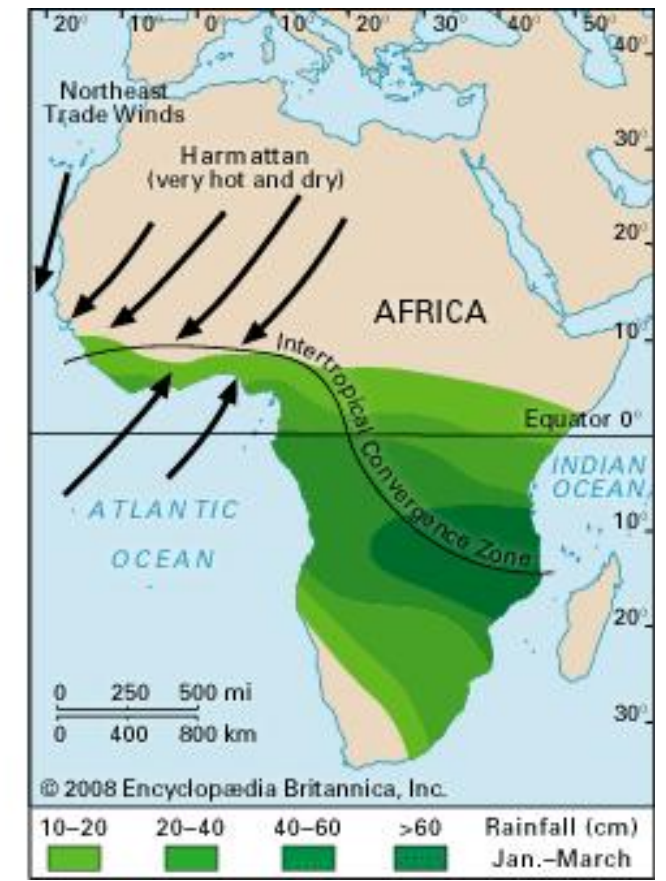
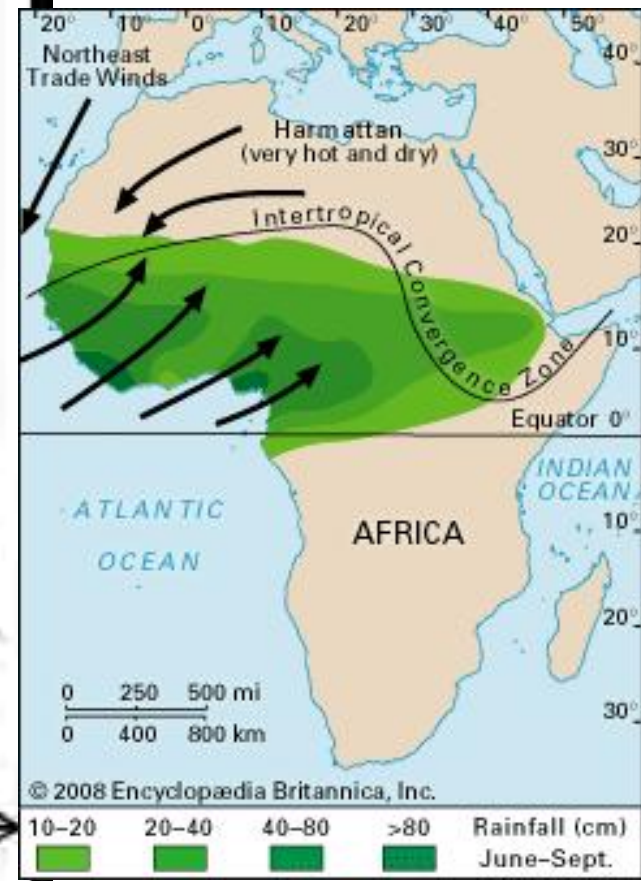
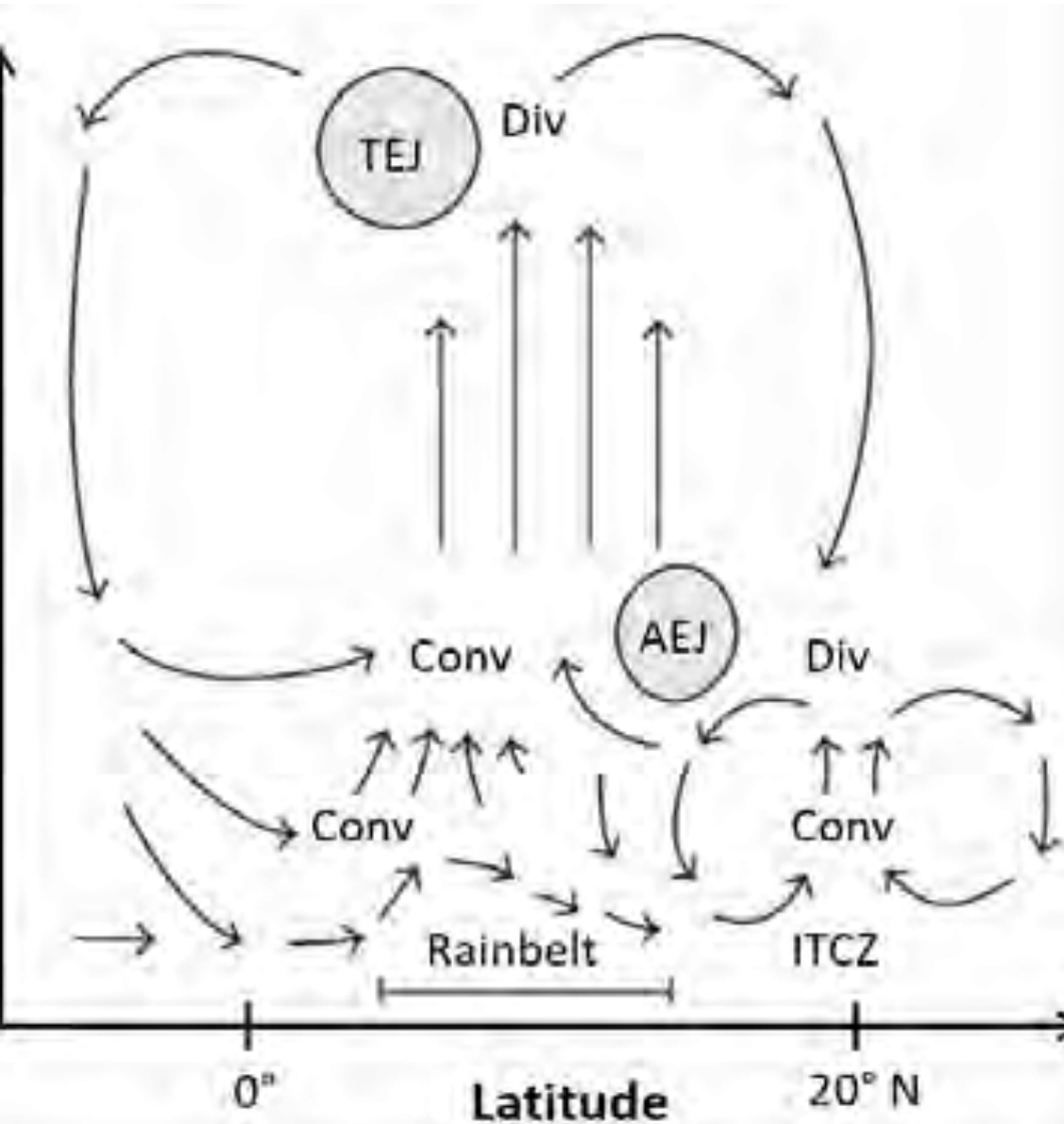
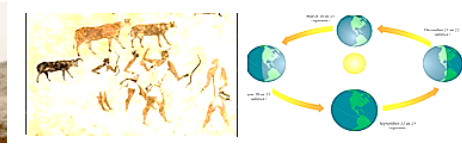


# La fin de la période humide africaine comme exemple de changement radical du climat et de la végétation

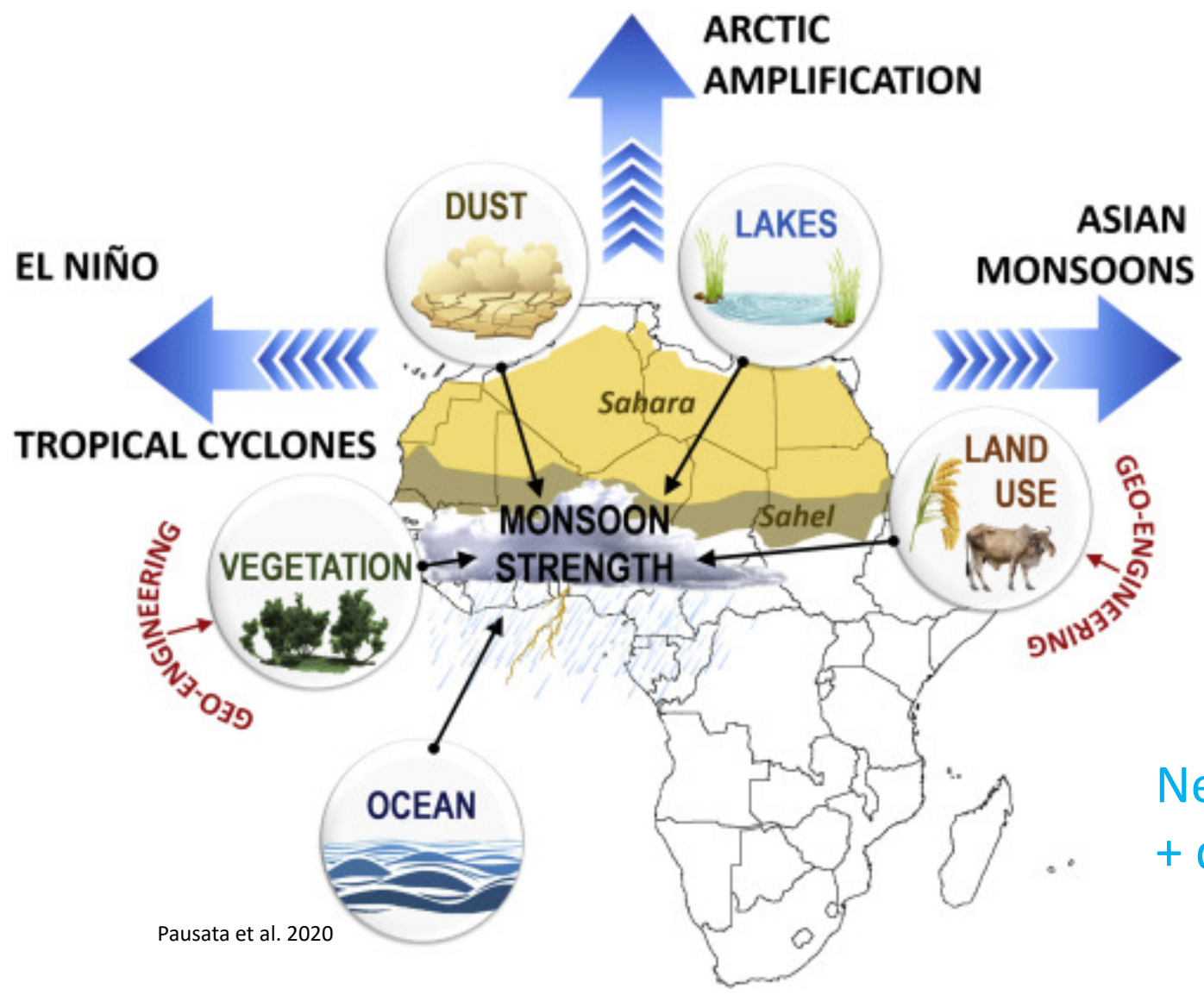
Pascale Braconnot

Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l'Environnement – Institut Pierre Simon  
Laplace, France

# African monsoon : a winter/summer reversal



# At the heart of lots of interactions and teleconnections

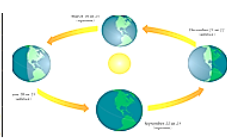


Lots of progress in the last 30 years

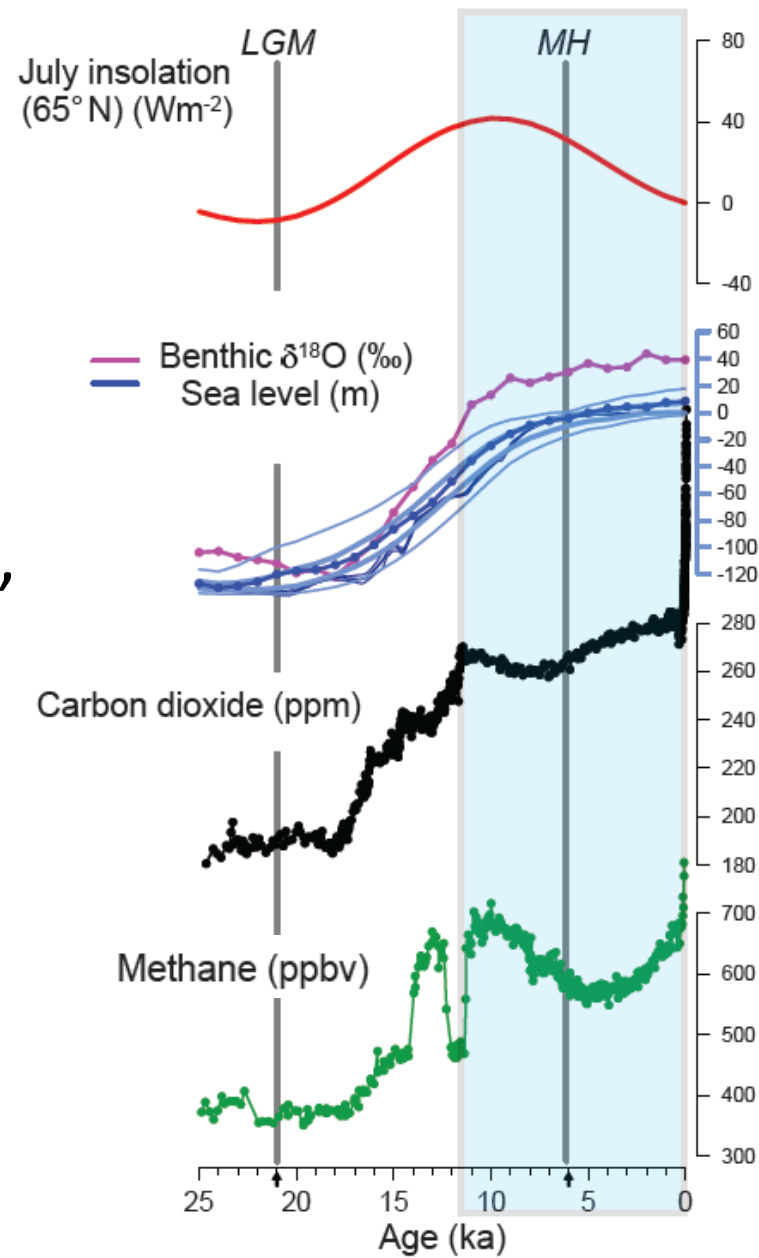
**BUT** relative impact or importance of the different factors not understood and still under debate

Need to deal with : lack of observations + difficult for climate model

# The Holocene



- Period during which agriculture, farming, writing, cities, ..... developed



VOLUME 29 · NO 2 · NOVEMBER 2021

## PAST GLOBAL CHANGES

MAGAZINE

The PMIP model family

### PALEOCLIMATE MODELLING INTERCOMPARISON PROJECT (PMIP): 30TH ANNIVERSARY

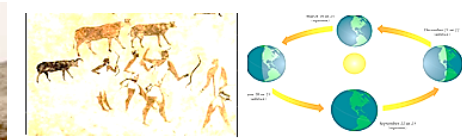
EDITORS  
Paul J. Valdes, Pascale Braconnot, Katrin J. Meissner and Sarah Eggleston

PAGES

futurearth  
Research. Innovation. Sustainability.

*Models are not good or bad, they are like us, they are all different and have their own skill ...*

# Monsoon at the time of the green Sahara



In now dry regions : evidence of humid conditions



# A schematic for the last 6000 years

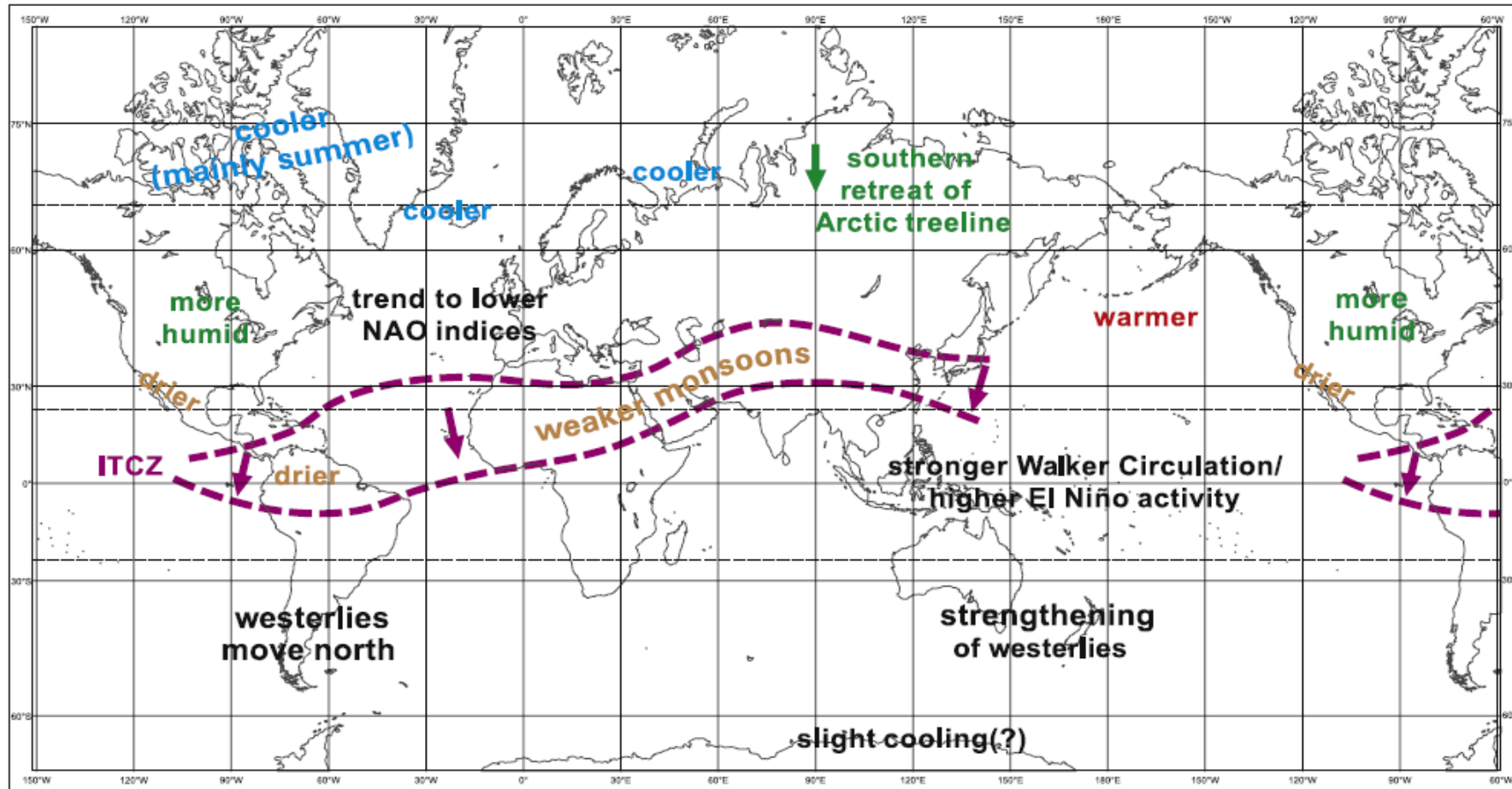
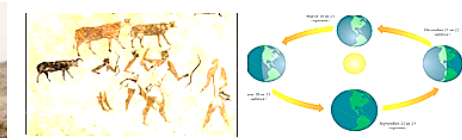
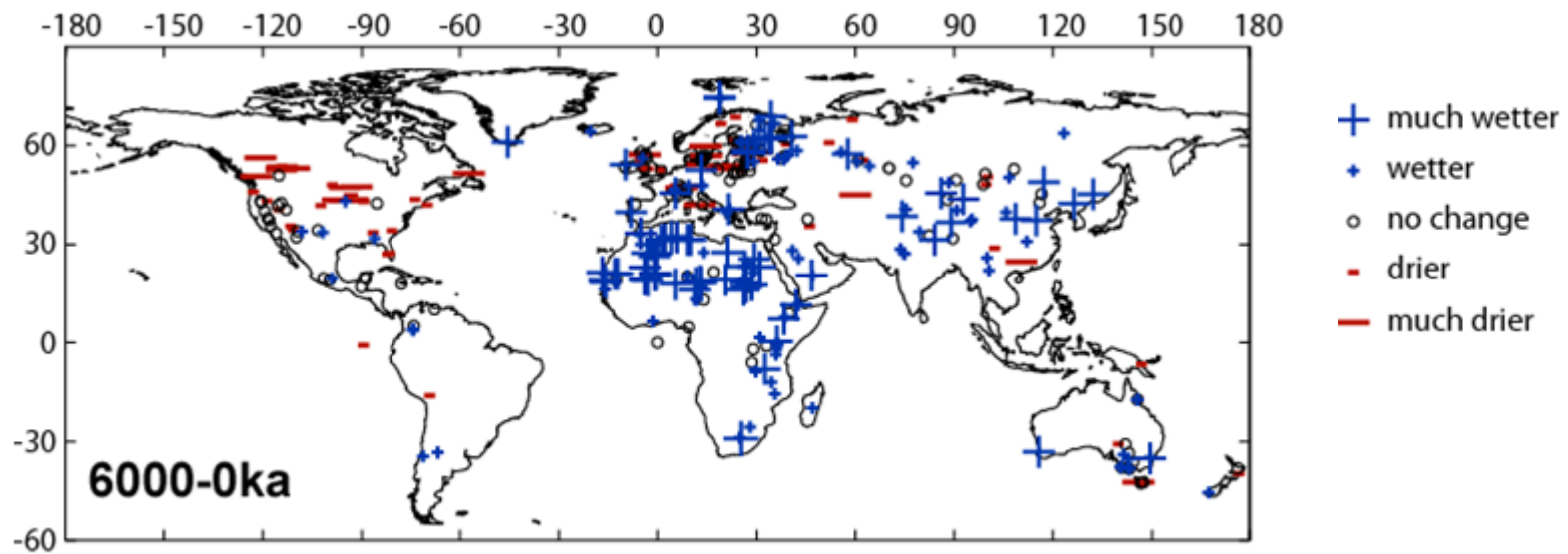


Fig. 18. Spatial synthesis: global climate change for the preindustrial period (AD ~1700) compared to the MH (~6000 cal years BP).

- Long term trends those detailed characteristics/timing still need refinements
- Response to insolation forcing? Annual, seasonal Internal variability? Role of ocean, ice, vegetation, dust.... Feedbacks?

# Un Holocène moyen plus humide : prédiode de référence (PMIP)

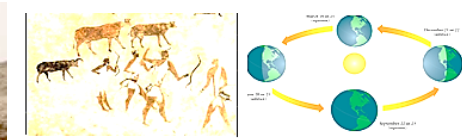
## Lake status



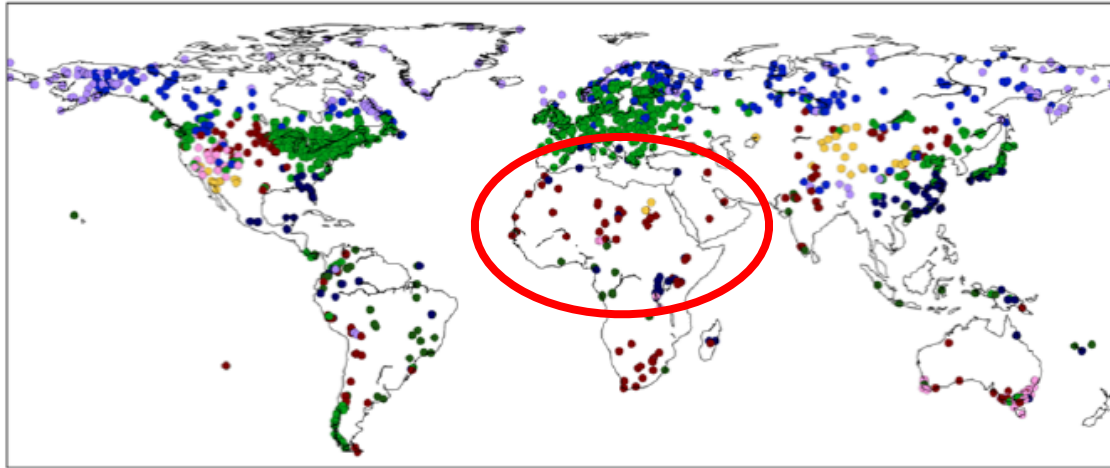
Kohfeld and Harrison, 2000

@PMIP2 <https://pmip2.lsce.ipsl.fr/synth/lakestatus.shtml>

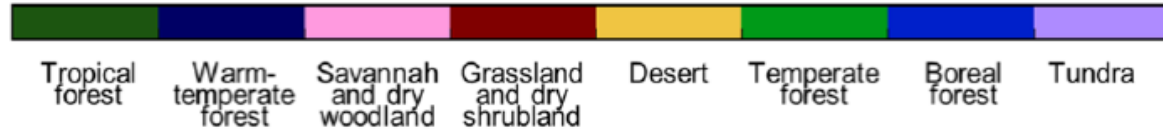
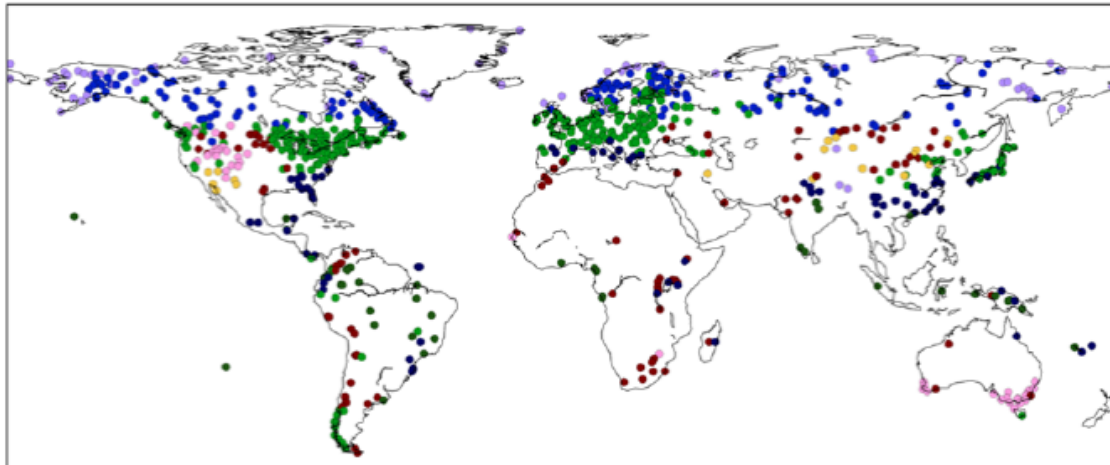
# BIOME6000: from pollen data



(b) Reconstructed 6 ka biome from BIOME 6000



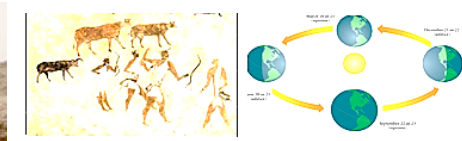
(c) Reconstructed 0 k, where 6 ka data exists in each model grid cell



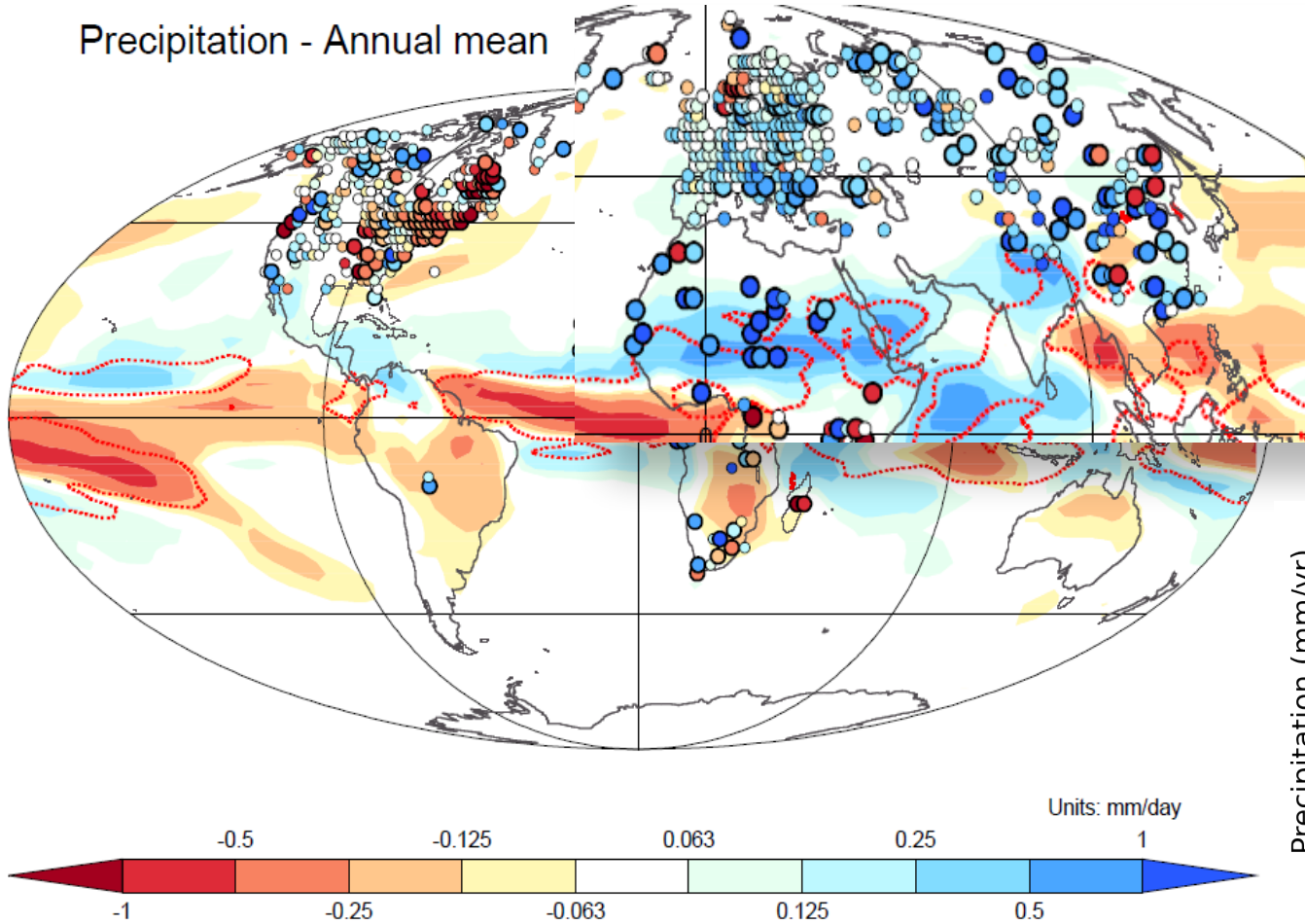
Prentice et al. 1996 (data set see [Harrison, Sandy \(2017\): BIOME 6000 DB classified plotfile version 1. University of Reading. Dataset.](#) <https://doi.org/10.17864/1947.99>)



# Precipitation reconstruction and simulations

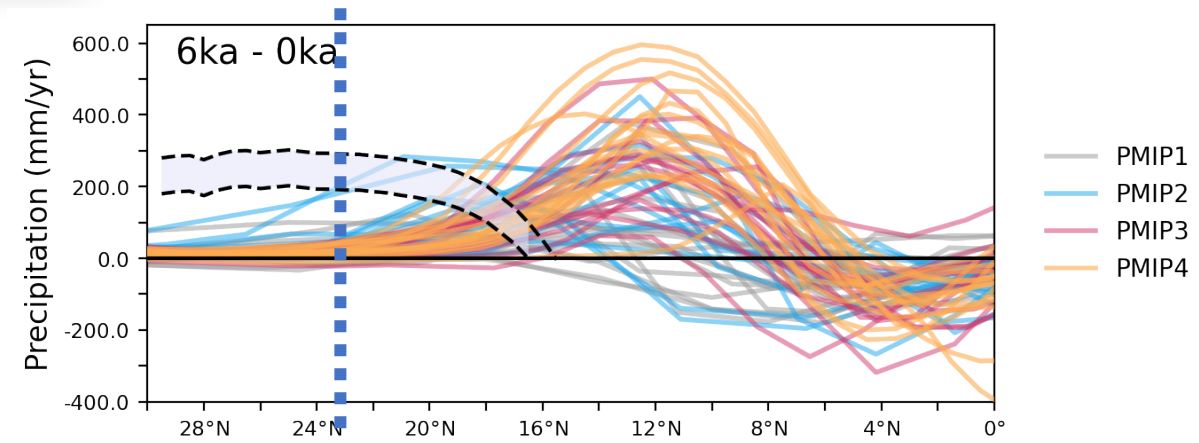


Precipitation - Annual mean

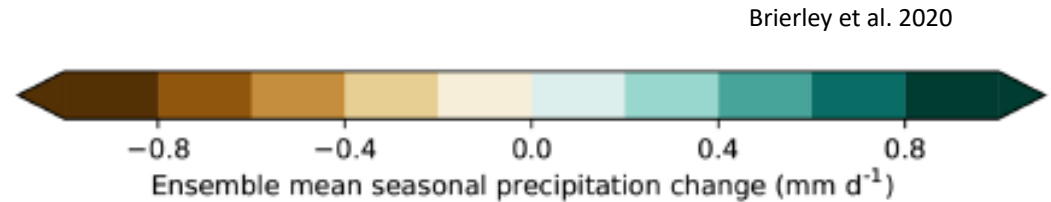
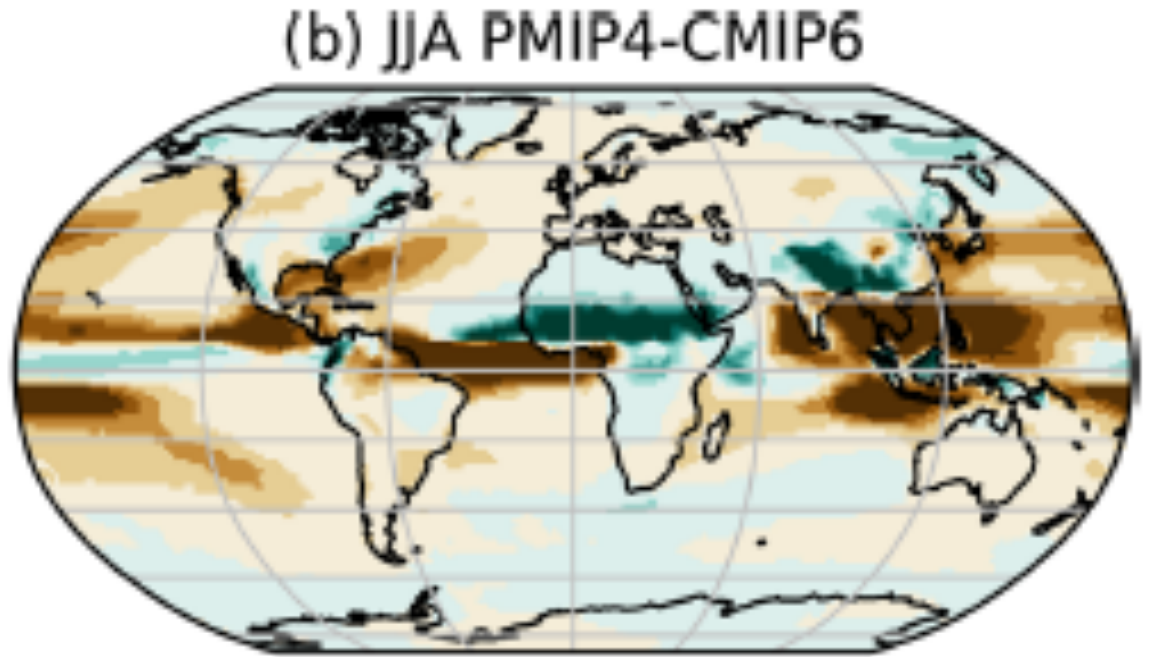
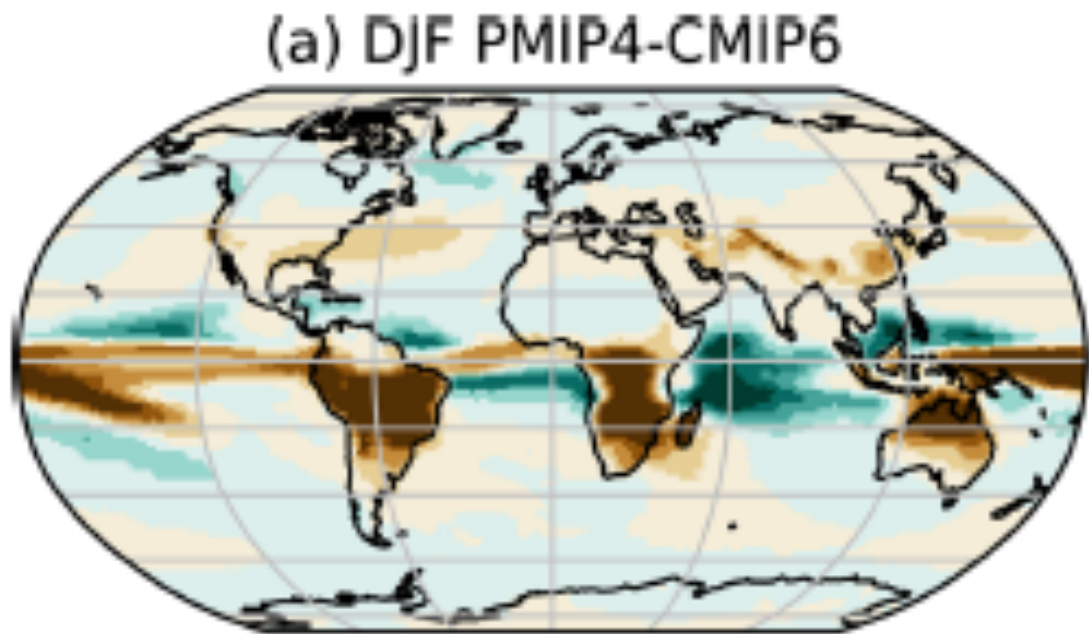


Reconstruction precipitation and temperature  
see Bartlein et al. 2011  
PMIP3 simulations  
See AR4 chap. 9

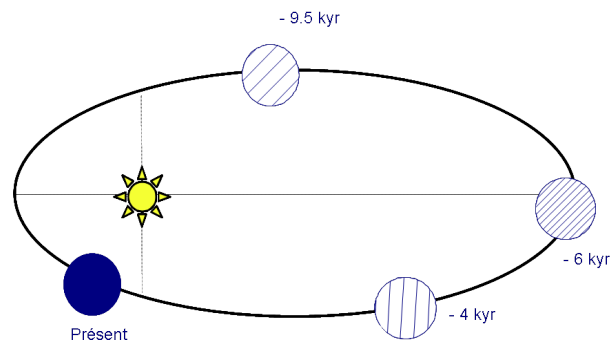
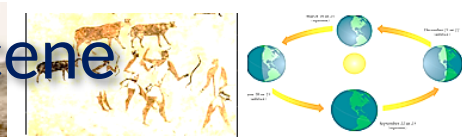
Precipitation in Africa (W monsoon 20°W-30°E)



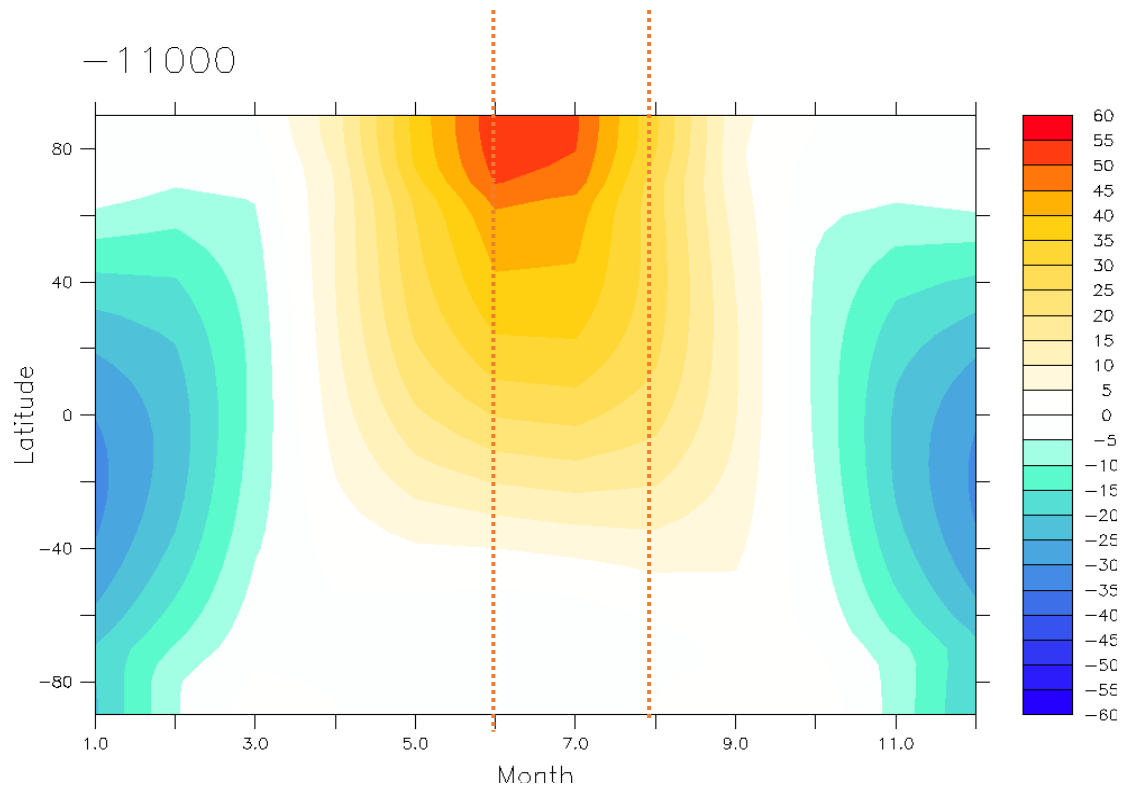
Do not forget : annual mean is the result of changes in seasonality



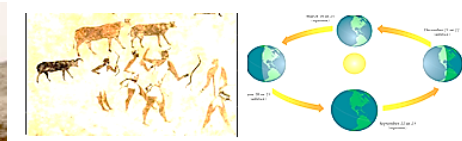
# Earth's orbital parameters and changes in seasonality : Holocene



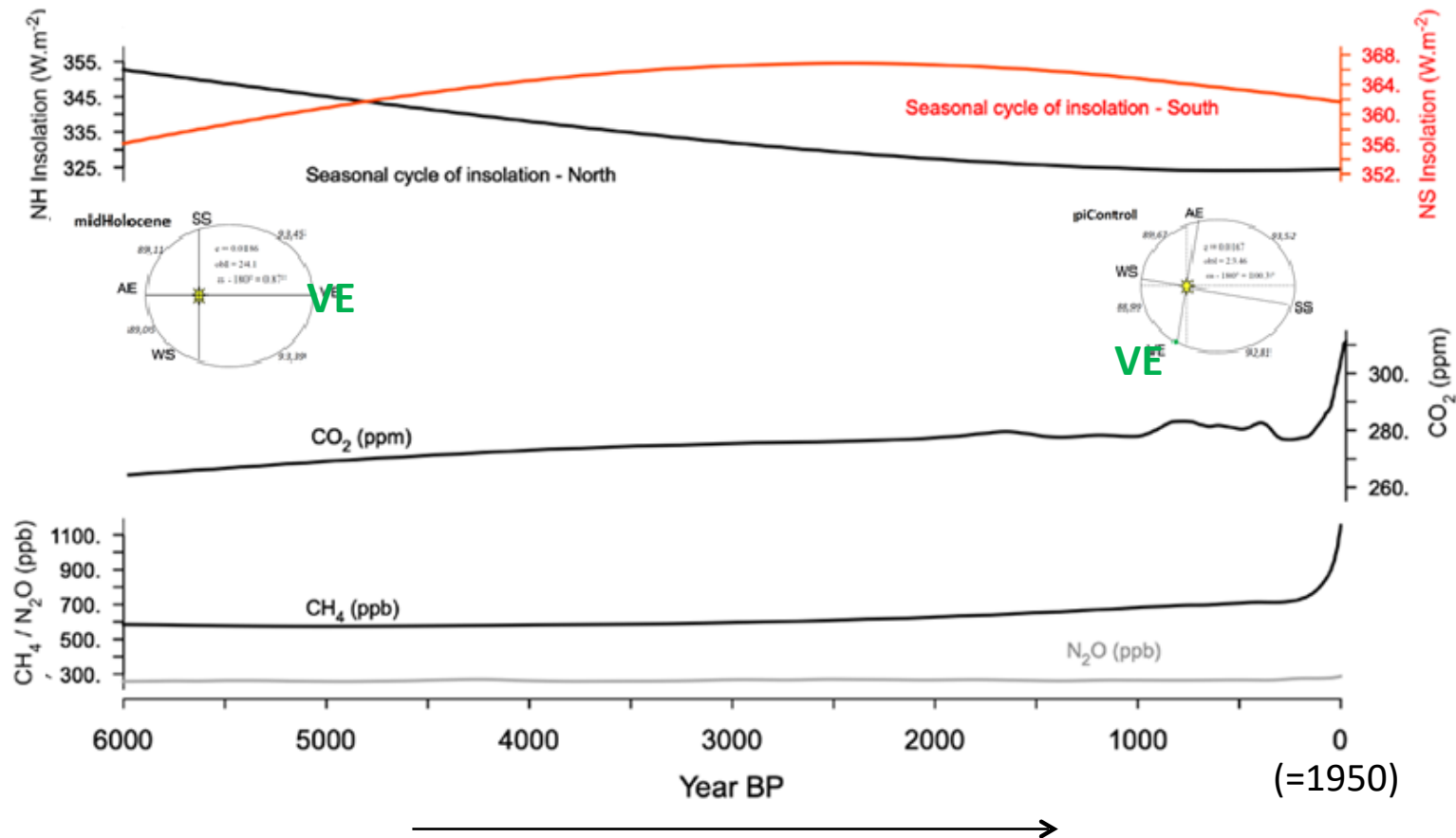
Position de l'équinoxe de printemps



# Transient Holocene simulations

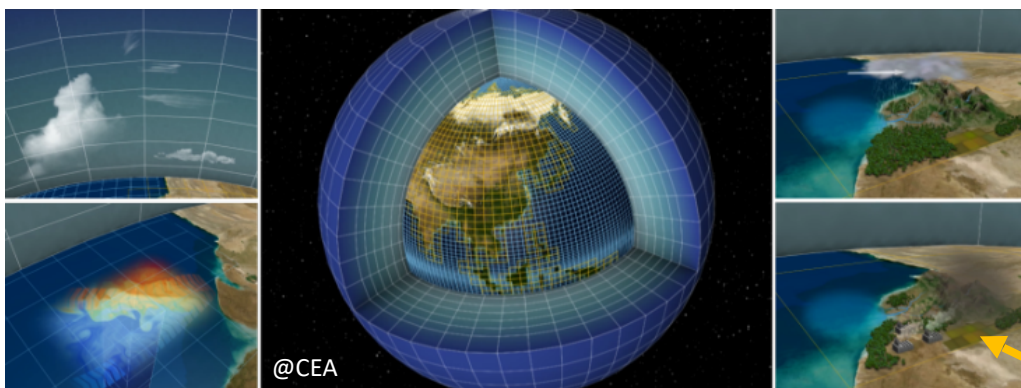
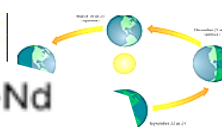


- Test climate response to insolation (Earth's orbit) and trace gases



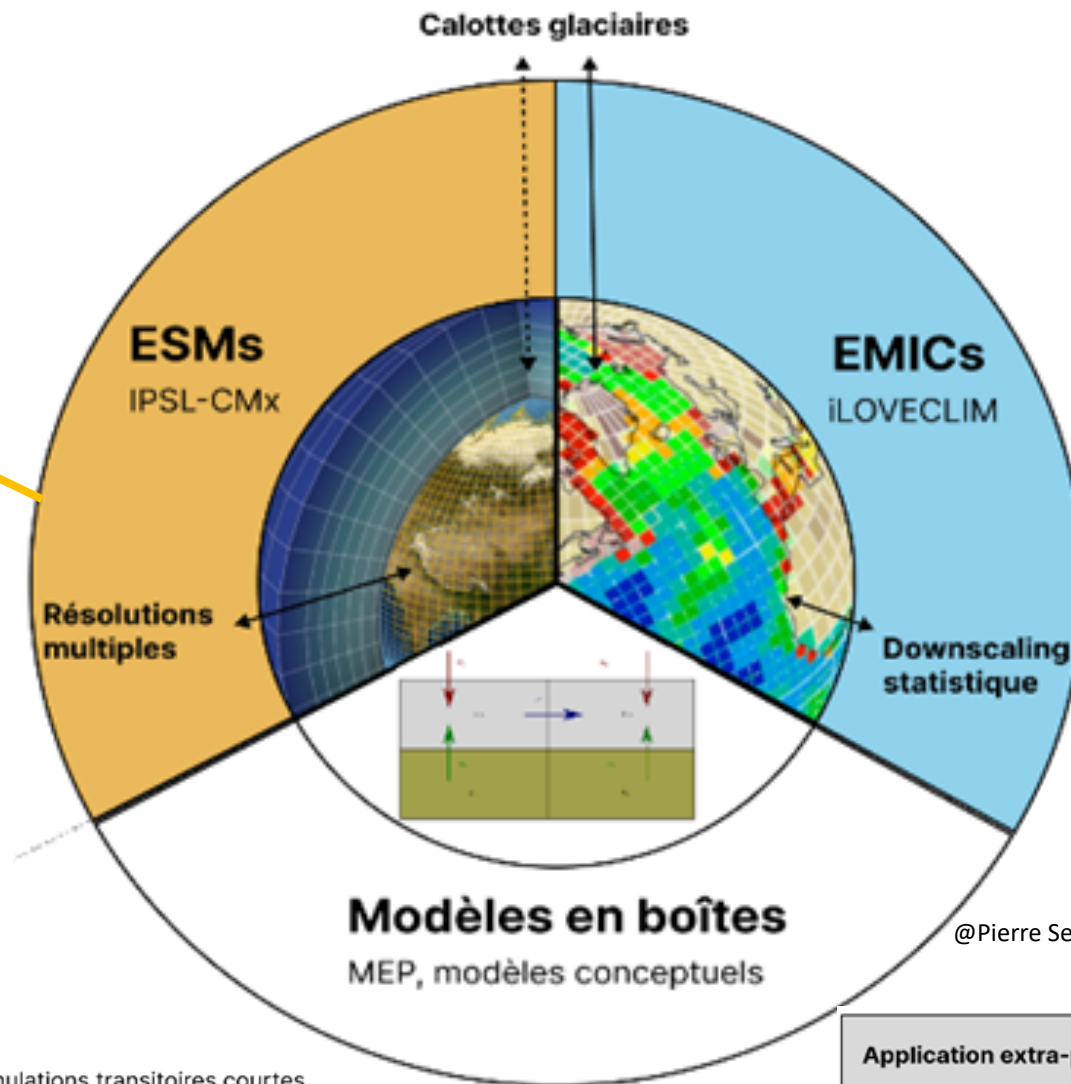
# Un terrain de jeu pour la modélisation

Proxies simulés:  $\delta^{18}O$ ,  $\delta^{13}C$ ,  $pCO_2$ ,  $\epsilon_{ps-Nd}$



## Earth System model : ex IPSL

- Atmosphere (LMDZ)-2°ocean (NEMO)-sea-ice (LIM) et land surface (ORCHIDEE)
- Ocean and land carbone cycle, (dynamical vegetation)



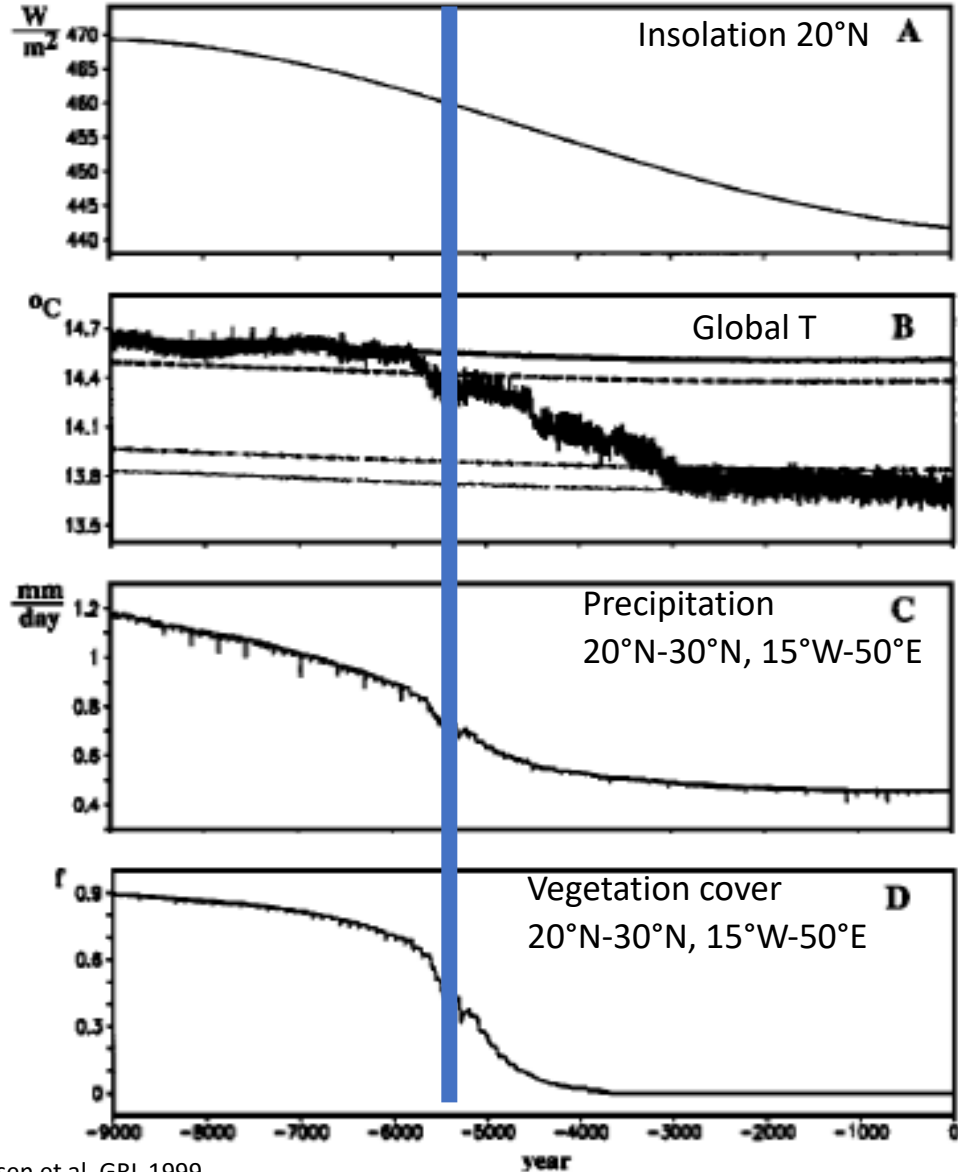
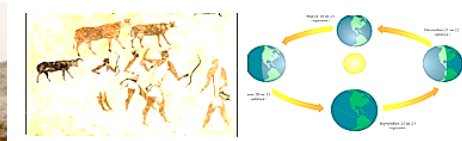
@Pierre Sepulchre

- Paléoclimats anciens et récents, Simulations transitoires courtes, Coût calcul élevé (moyens nationaux)
- Paléoclimats Quaternaire, Simulations transitoires longues, Coût calcul faible (clusters locaux)
- Tous les paléoclimats, Etude de processus oscillatoires, Coût calcul négligeable (poste de travail)

### Application extra-paléoclimatiques :

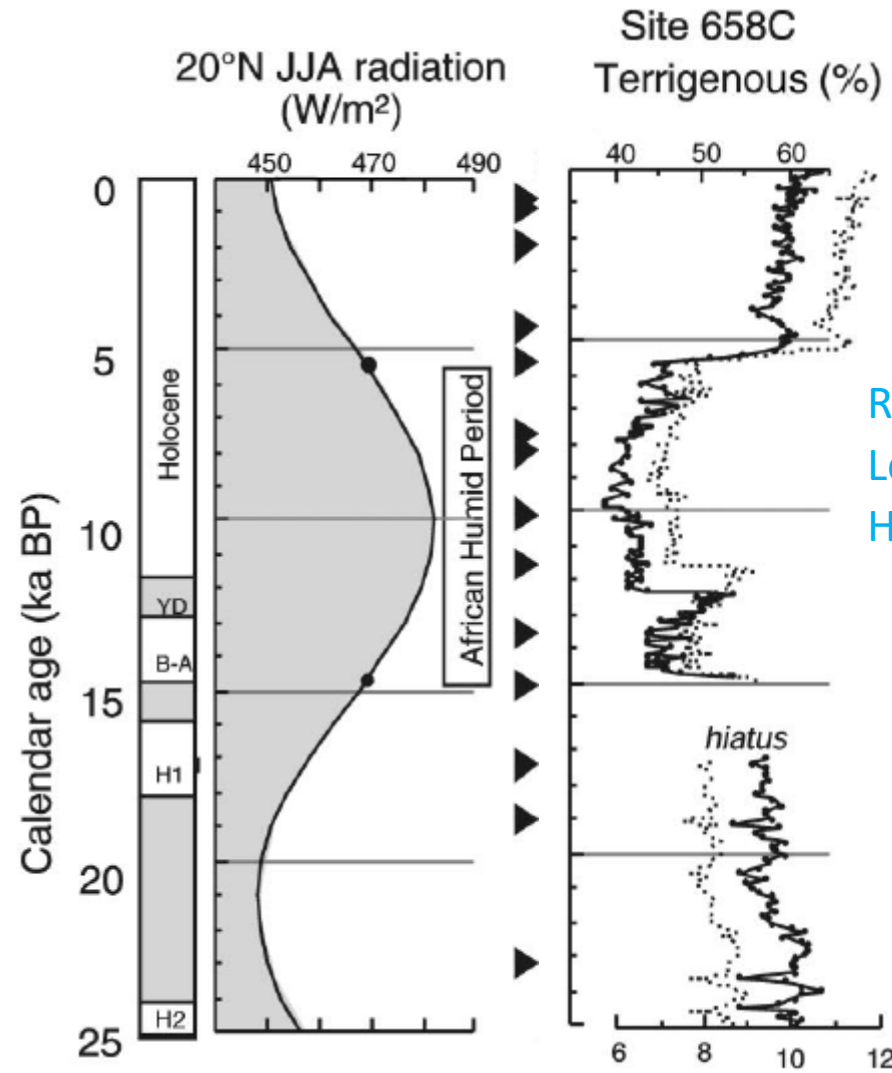
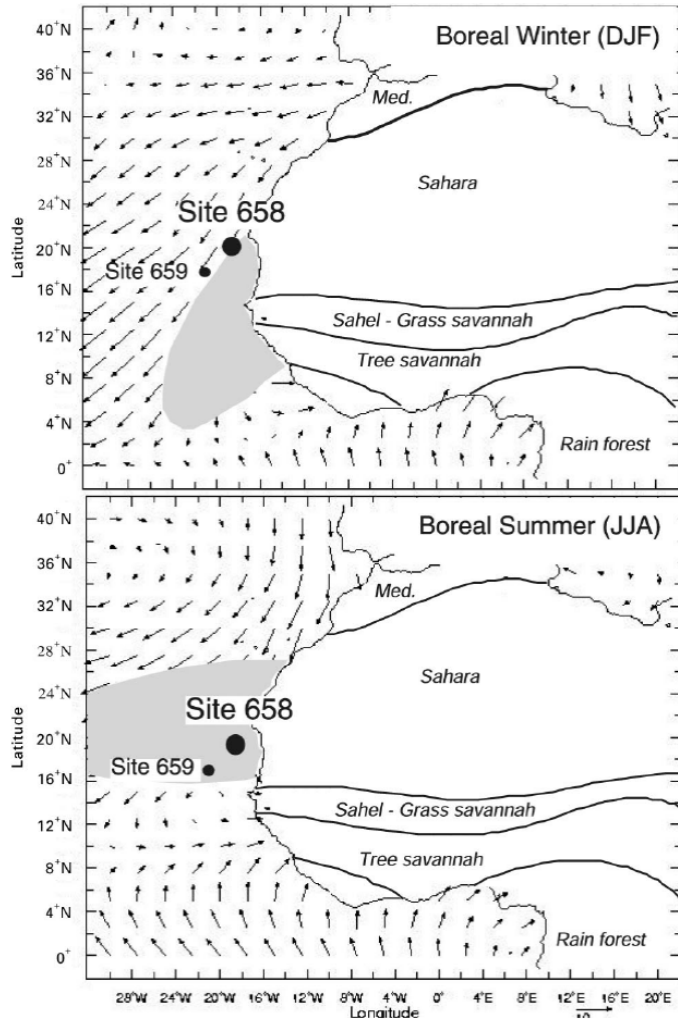
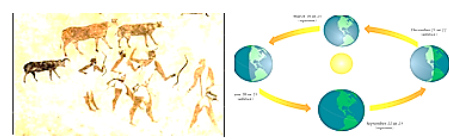
- Cycles biogéochimiques à long-terme
- Distribution d'espèces (e.g. Maxent)
- Biodiversité (e.g. RPANDA, GEN3SIS)

# Abrupt change and vegetation



Climber : Intermediate complexity model  
Forcing : insolation  
Interactive (dynamical) vegetation

# Abrupt change ?



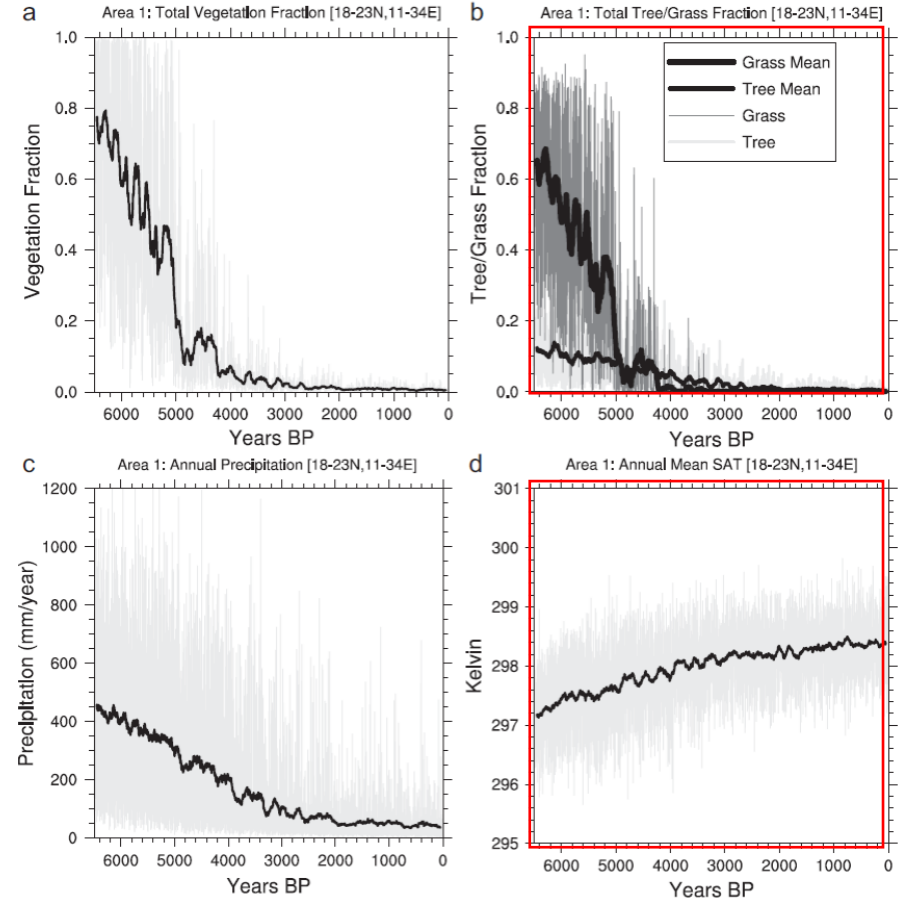
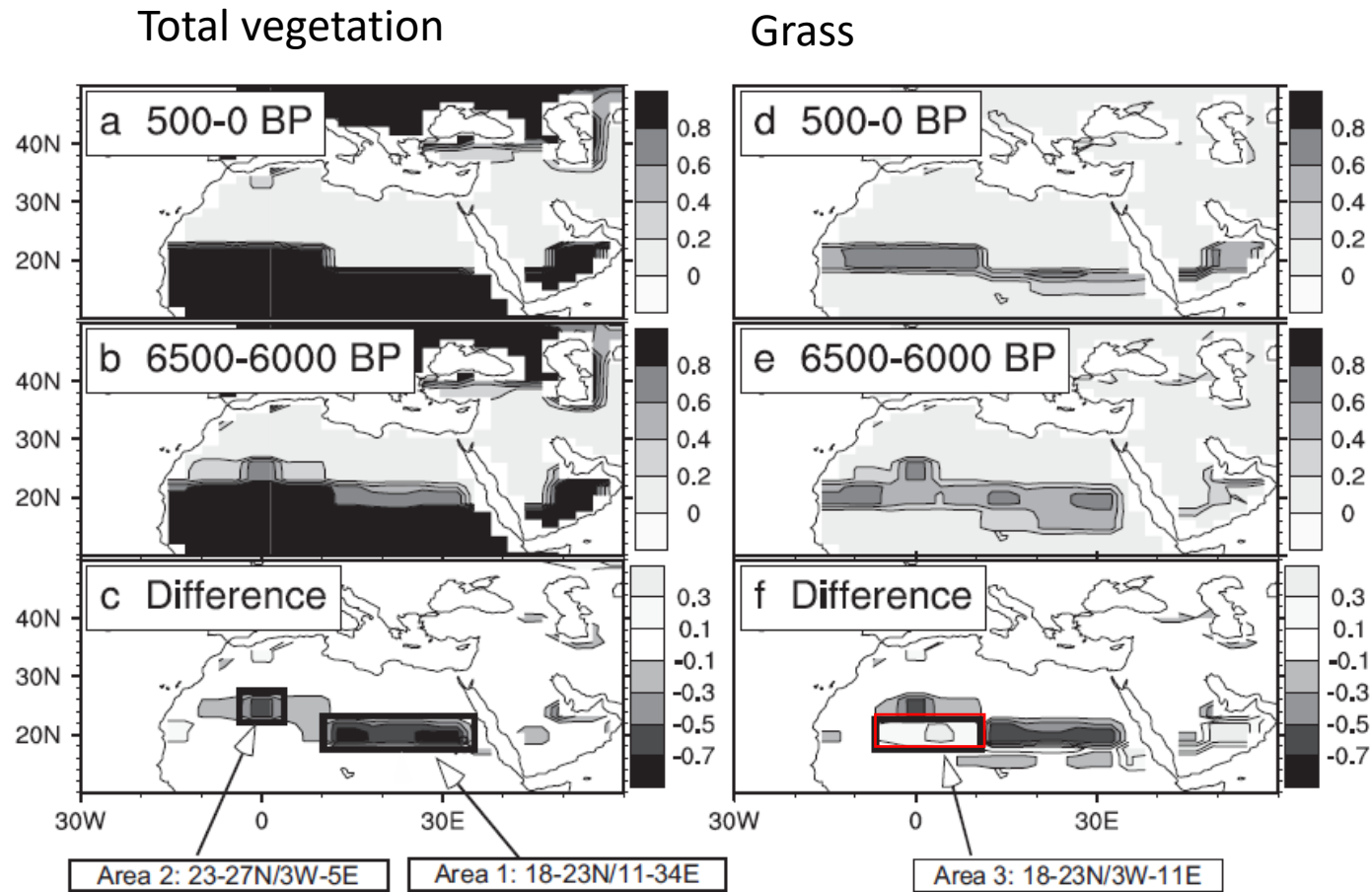
Reduction during AHP  
 Less dust  
 Humidity + vegetation over land

# Abupt change in vegetation also simulated by Liu et al. 2007



Using Foam model: Atmosphere resolution  $7^\circ \times 4.8^\circ \times 18L$   
 + LPJ for dynamical vegetation  
 Ocean  $1.4^\circ \times 2.8^\circ \times 32L$

Small area where vegetation collapses  
 $3^\circ W - 5^\circ E$ ;  $23^\circ N - 27^\circ N$





# Approche conceptuelle: Liu et al. 2006

Start from Brovkin et al. 1998

$$P_E(V) = P_d(t) + D_B V$$

Add noise to account for variability

$$P(V, t) = \max\{P_E(V) + P_N(t), 0\}$$

$P_E$  equilibrium precipitation

$P_d$  : background precipitation

$V$  vegetation

$D_B$  : vegetation feedback

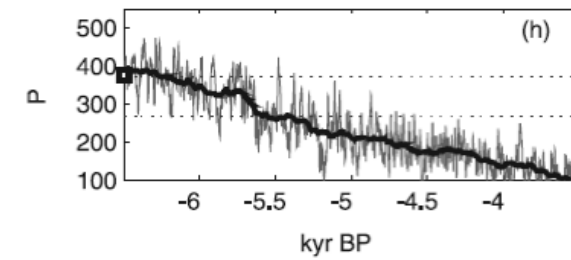
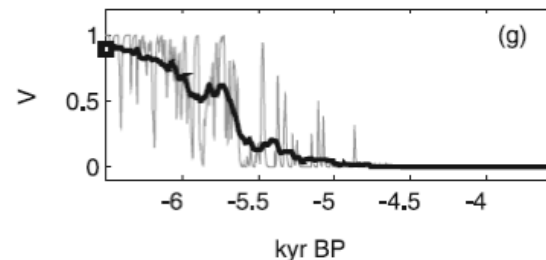
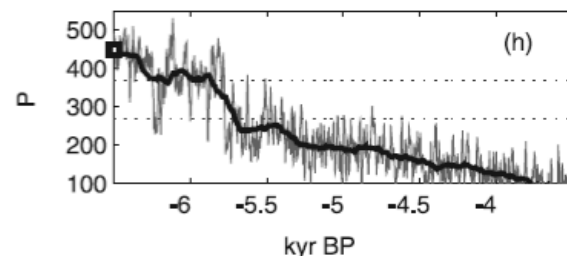
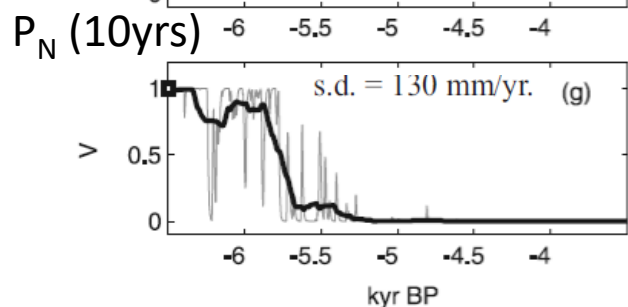
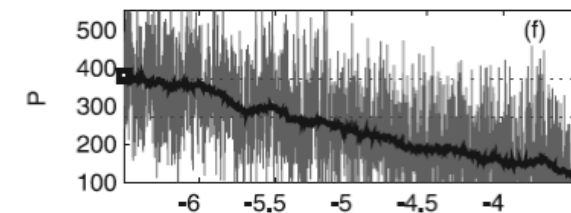
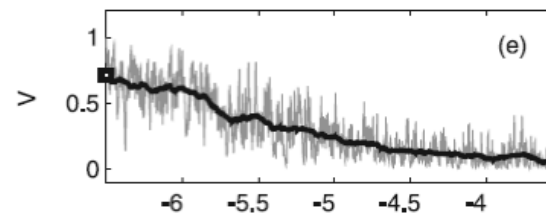
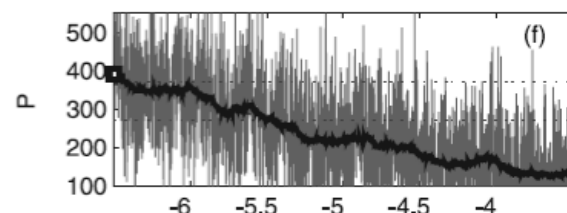
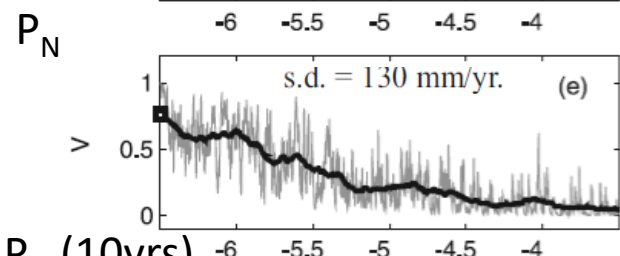
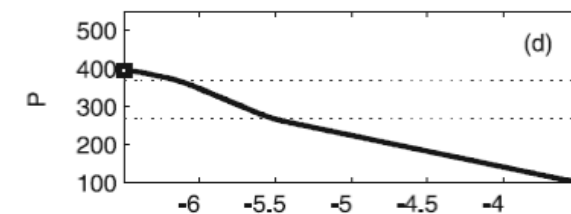
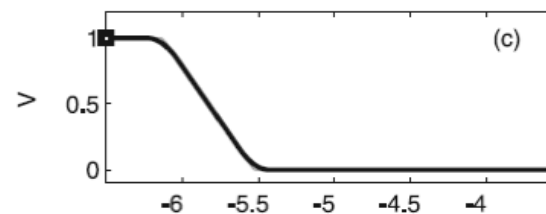
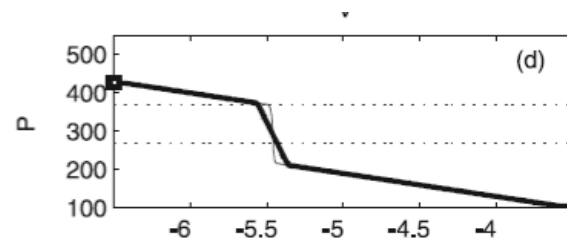
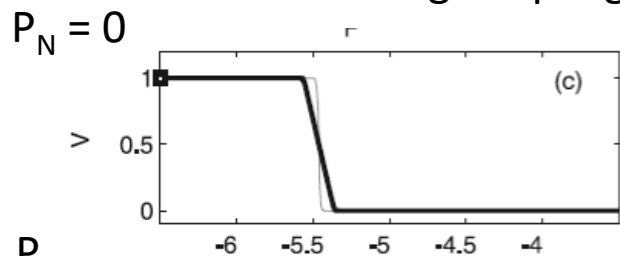
$P_N$  : variability represented as a stochastic forcing



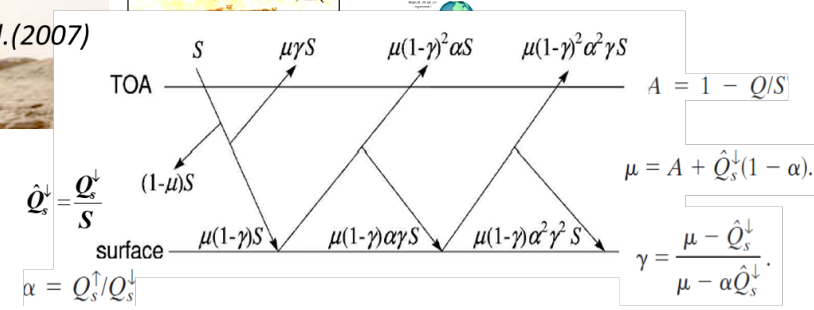
Simulations : vary  $P_d$  and  $V$  to mimic insolation

Strong coupling  $D_B = 150$  mm/yr

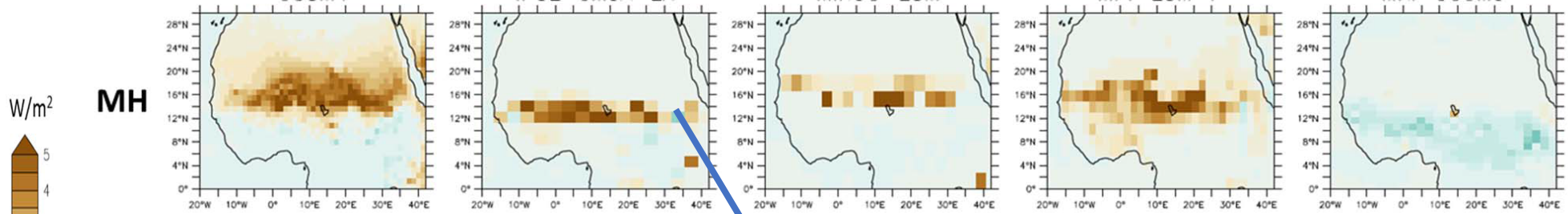
weak coupling  $D_B = 150$  mm/yr



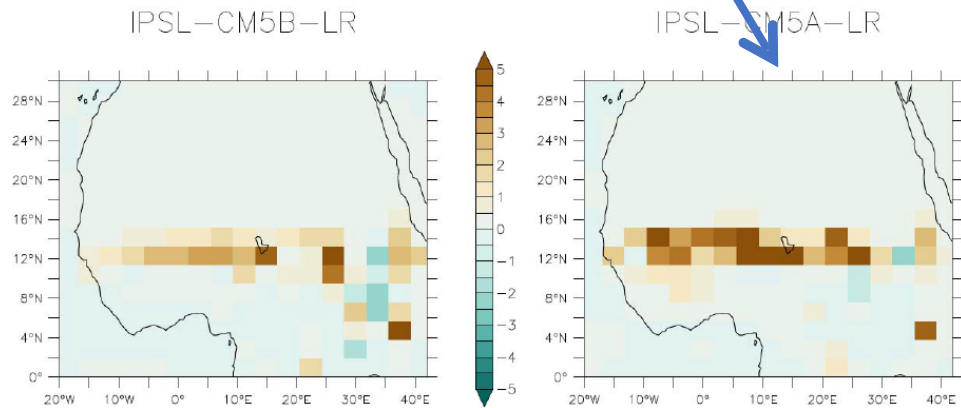
# Radiative impact of vegetation cover (August) Taylor et al. (2007)



PMIP3 simulations (5 models): mid-Holocene (6ka)

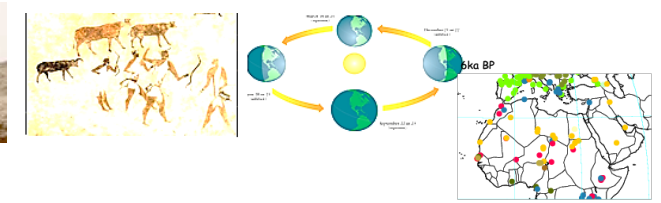


Two versions of the IPSL model : differences only in atm physics.

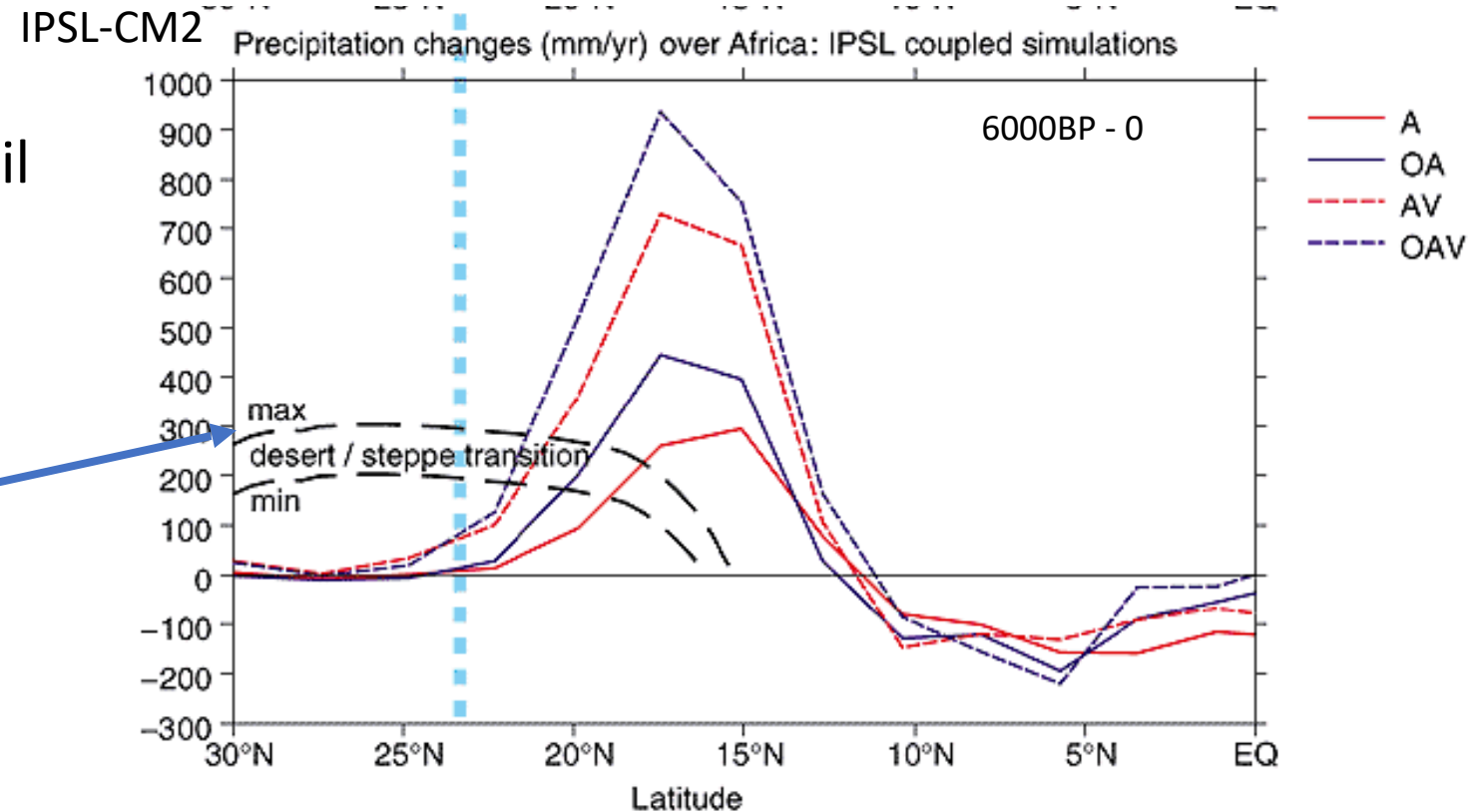
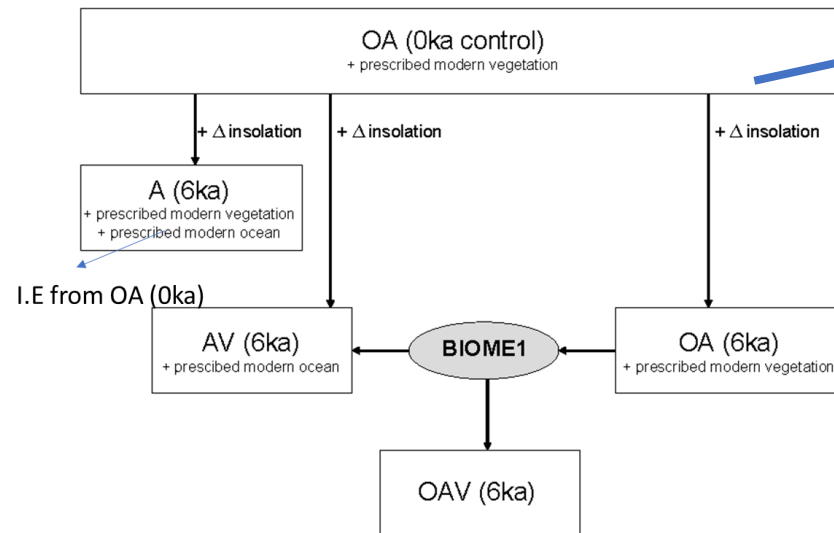


Role or control simulation : not only vegetation or surface modeling but also Location of ITCZ, precipitation /convective regimes, soil moisture in semi-arid area, description of surface vegetation in model gridbox, model tuning....

# Ocean feedback a key factor

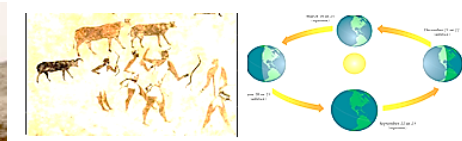


- Model underestimate northward shift
- Ocean and vegetation feedback needed
- But also other factor to consider : soil moisture, lakes, dust, soil composition, resolution

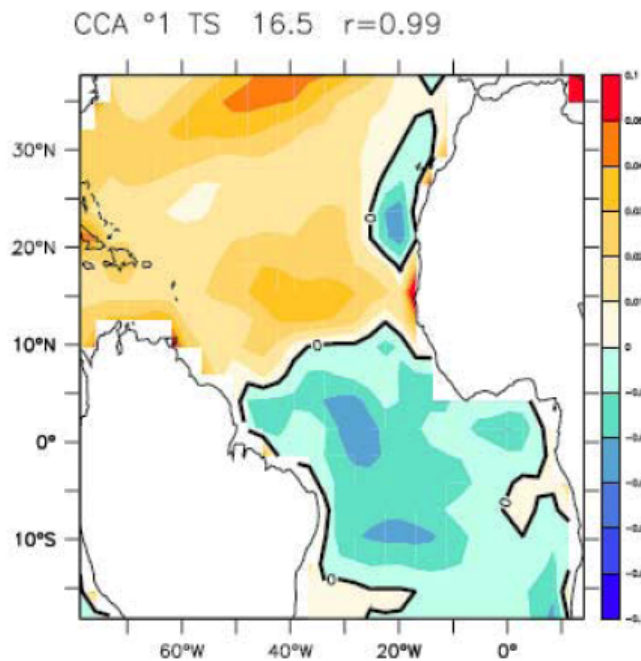


Adapted from Joussaume et al 1999 and Braconnot et al. 1999

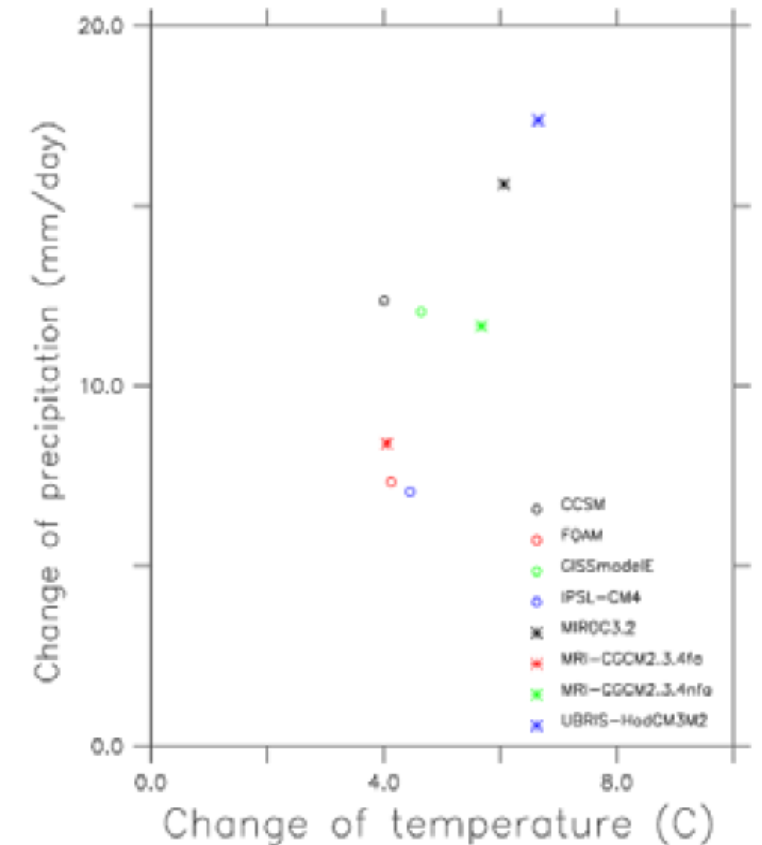
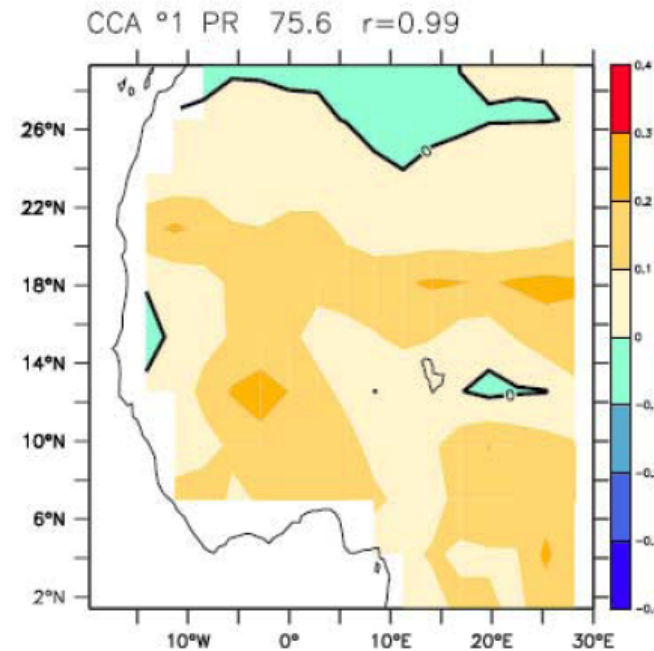
# Ocean feedback : a key factor



- Tropical ocean colder in spring : impact on tropics/extra tropics and land/sea gradients (T, slp, moist static energy)
- Ocean SST dipole favouring humidity transport into African monsoon region + warmer NH in Autumn maintain “summer anomalies” and delay monsoon withdrawal

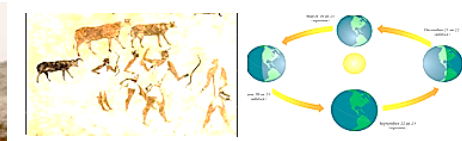


Ensemble Mean of 8 models

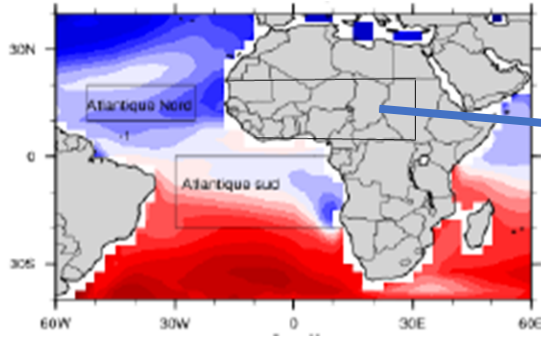


→ Still a need to develop mode-data comparisons to fully assess model results

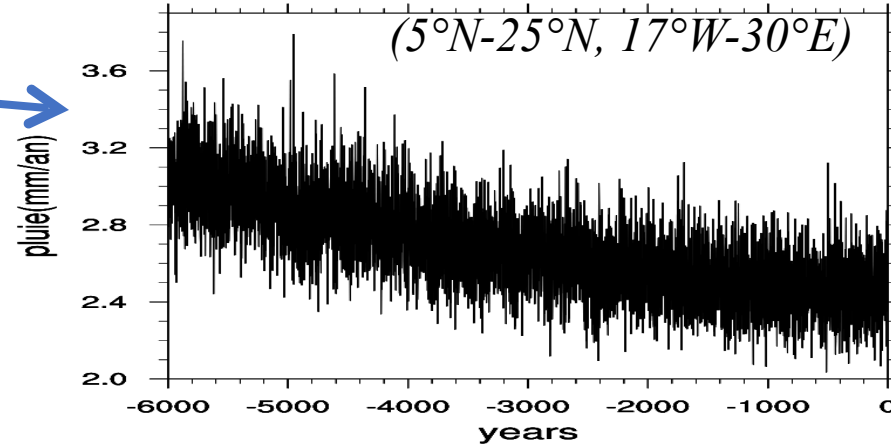
# African monsoon: last 6000 years



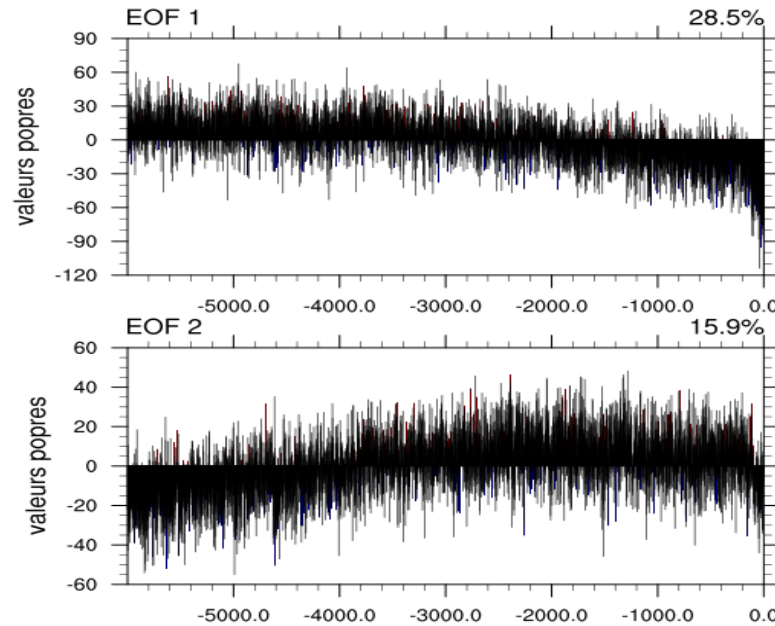
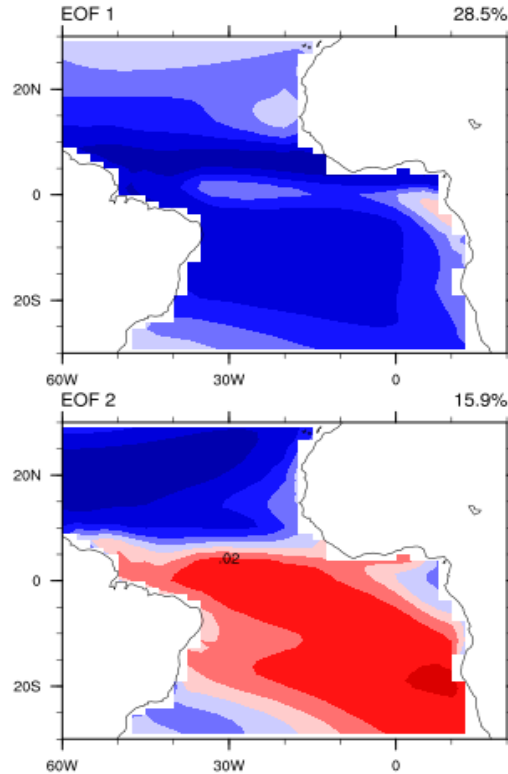
Evolution of JJA monsoon precipitation



Modes of variability of the Atlantic SST

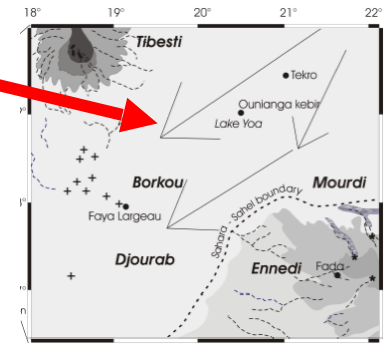
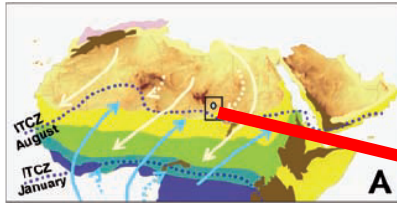


IPSLCM5A model

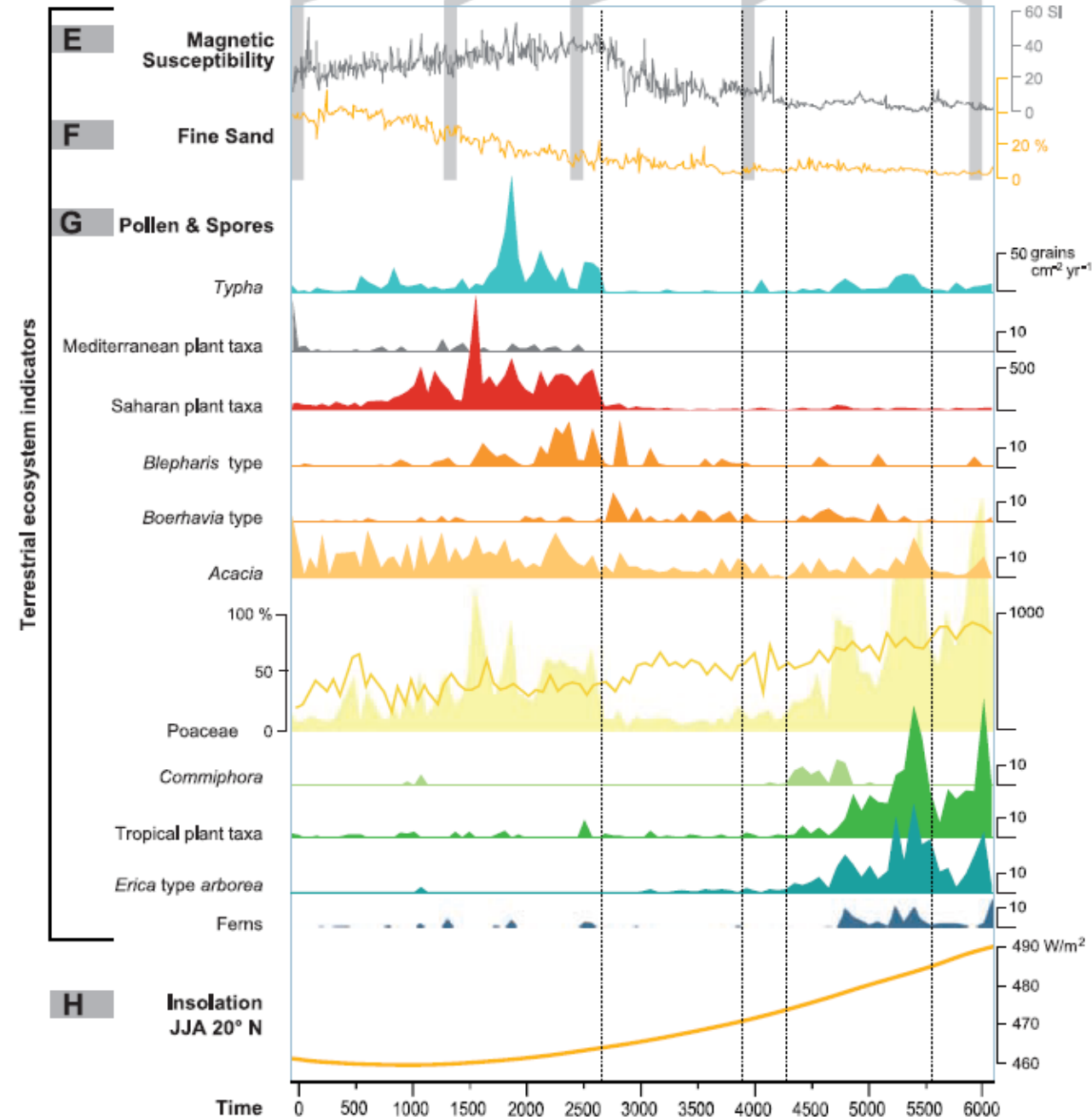
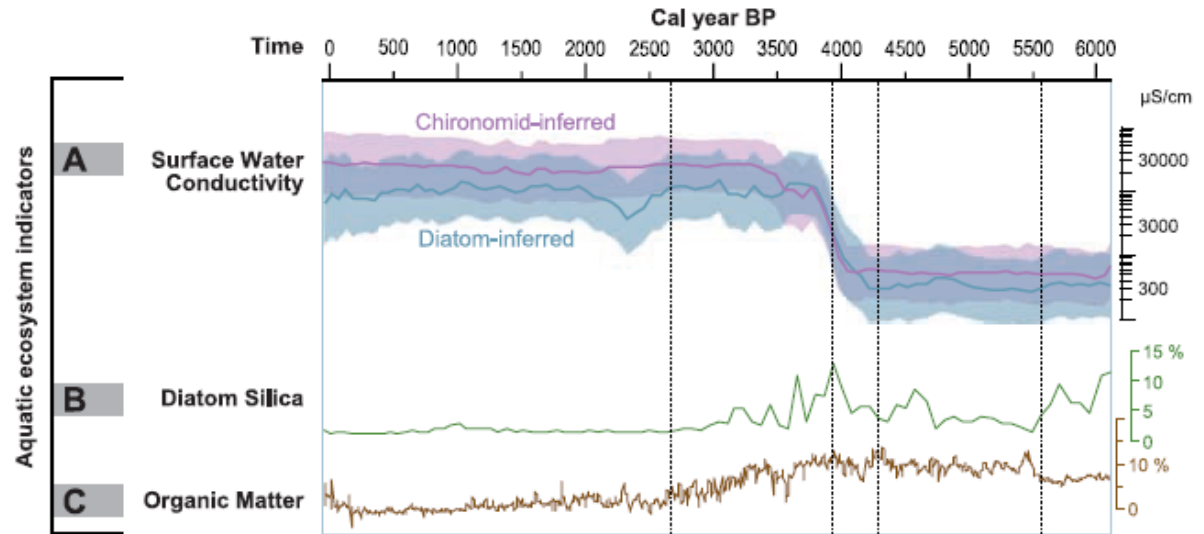


- Drying from 6k to 2k. Different time scales for variability, including large events.
- SST : combination of SST warming, mainly from 2k to 0k, and reduction of the Atlantic dipole from 6k to 2k. → combination of impact of insolation in the first part and trace gases in the second part

# Lake Yoa : 19.03° N, 20.31° E, 380 m



Environnemental changes  
 ✓ Hydrology  
 ✓ vegetation

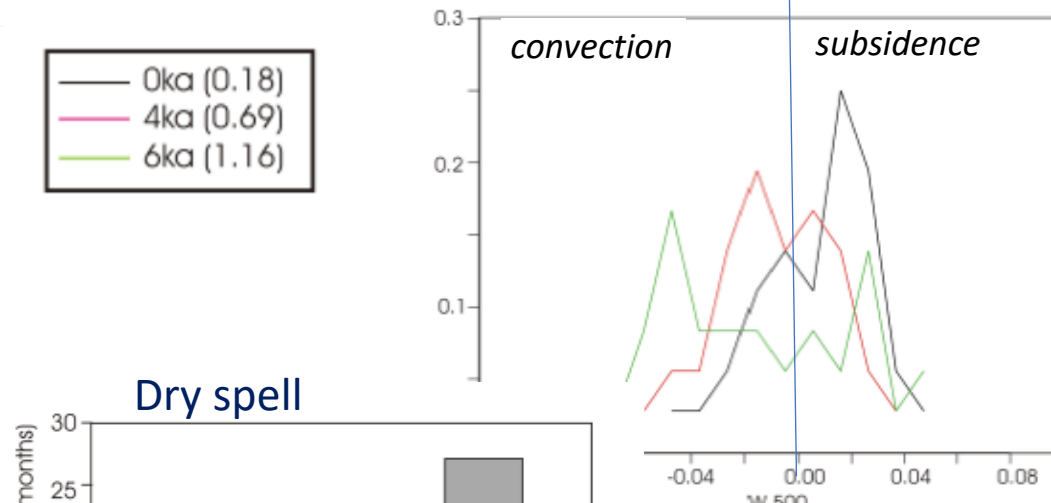
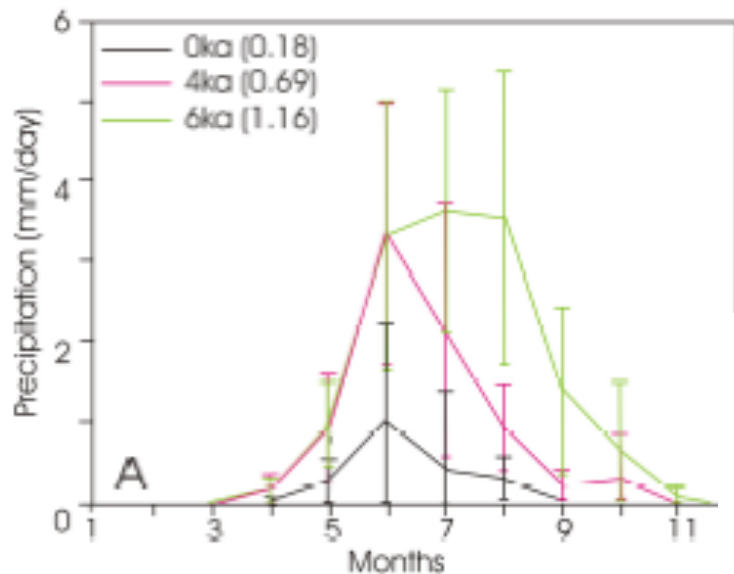
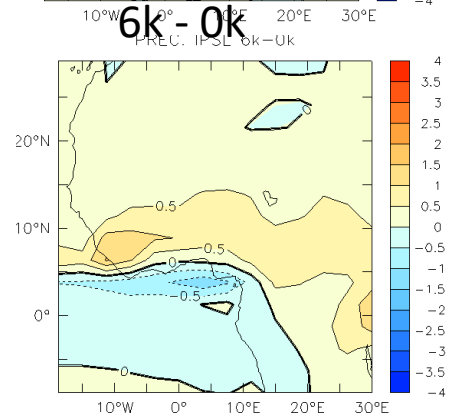
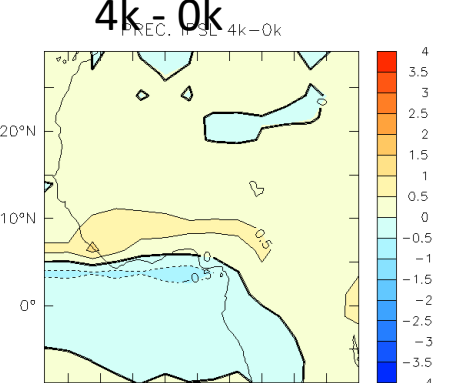
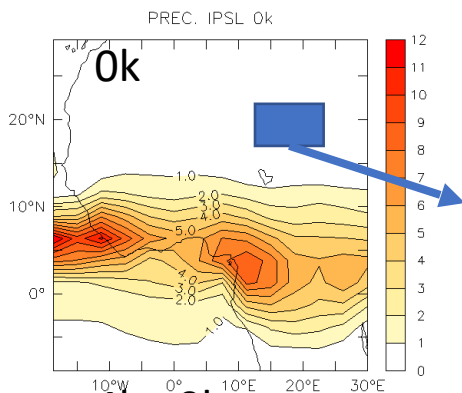


# Snap shot experiments 6k, 4k, 0k

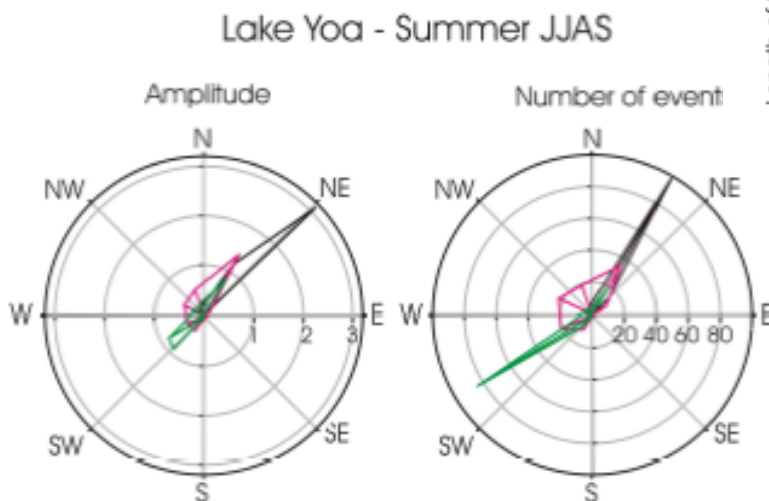


## Changes in JJAS precipitation

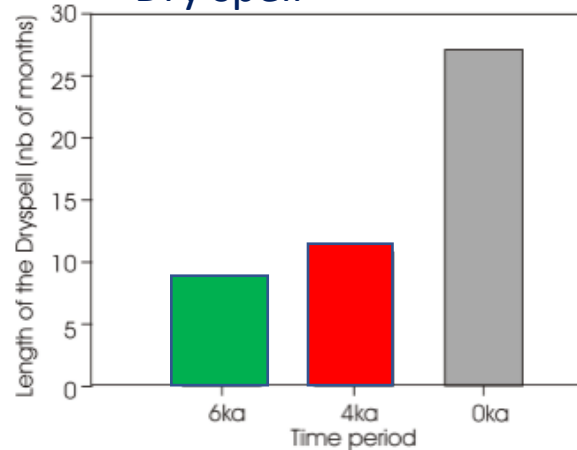
## Length of rainy season



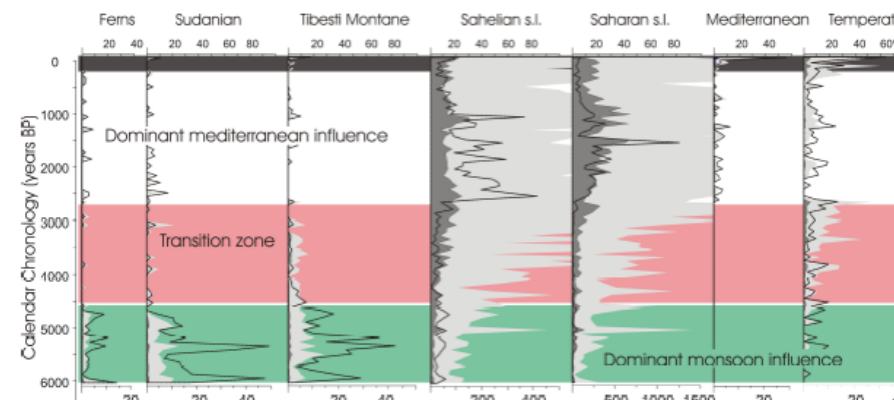
## Wind statistics



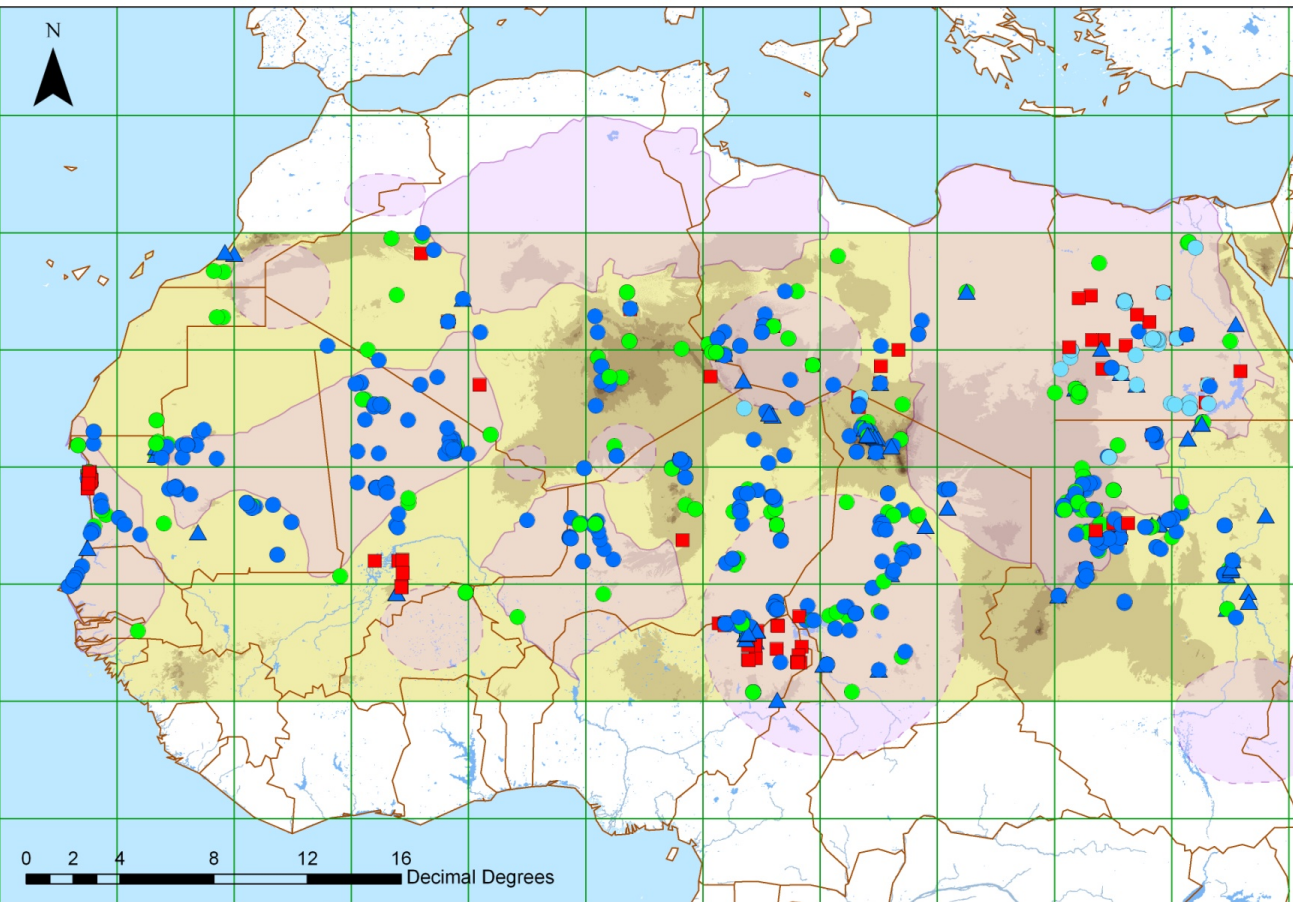
## Dry spell



Larger diversity in precipitation regimes and wind at 4k than at 6k or 0k

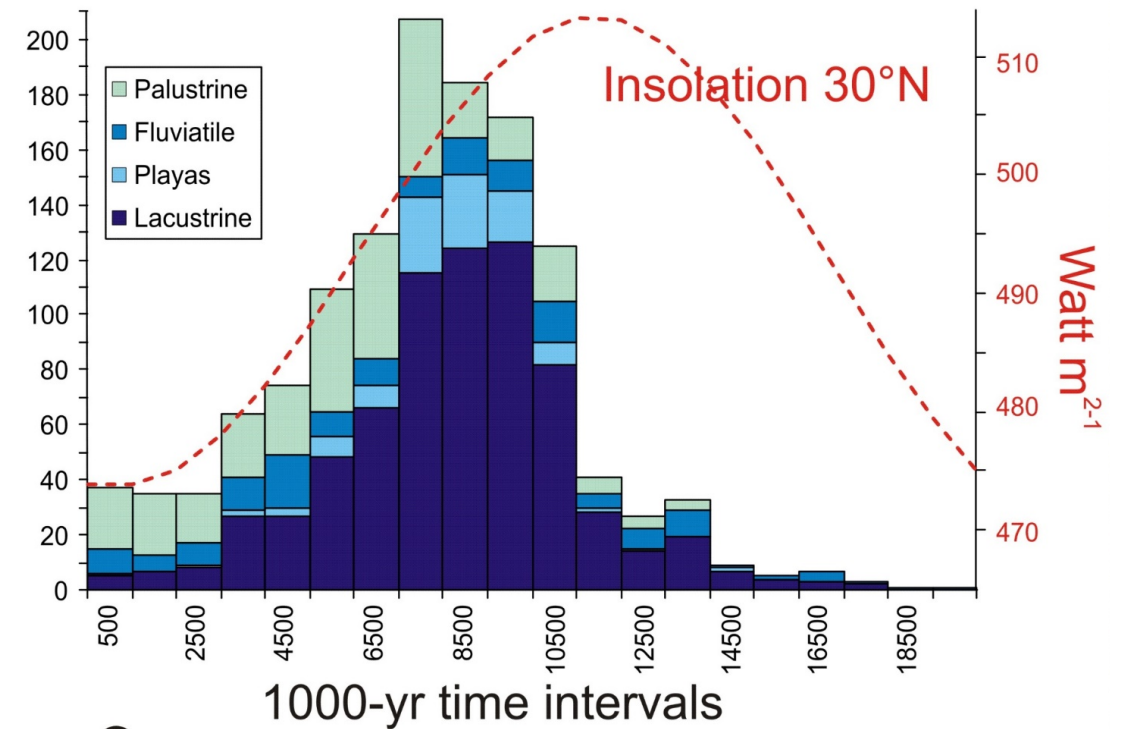


# Hydrological reconstruction



## Hydrological\_status

- Arid
- ▲ Fluvial
- Lacustrine
- Lacustrine\_Playa
- Palustrine

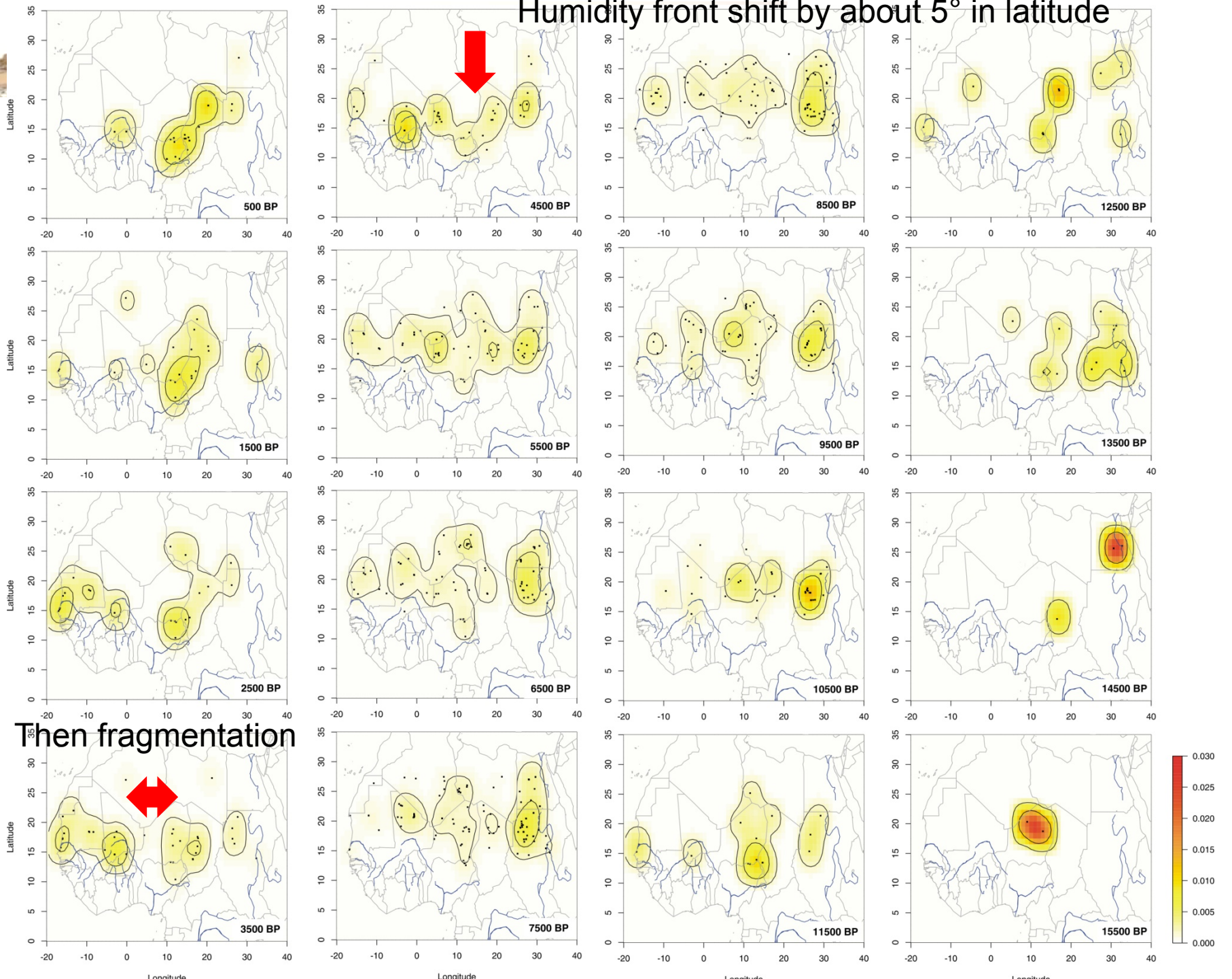


C

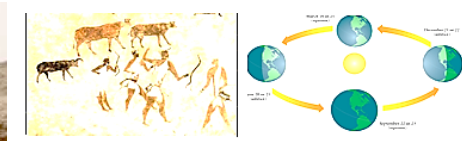




Hydrological evolution inferred from number of dated sites within 1000 year windows



# Northward penetration of tropical taxa during the green Saharap period



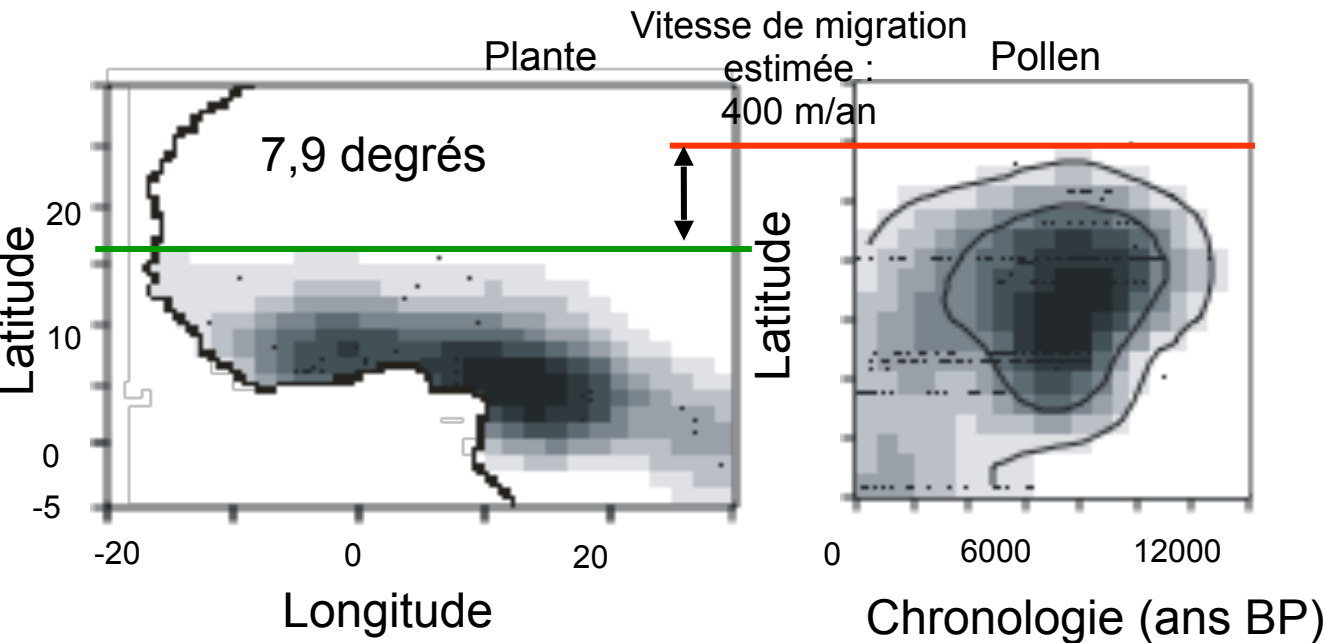
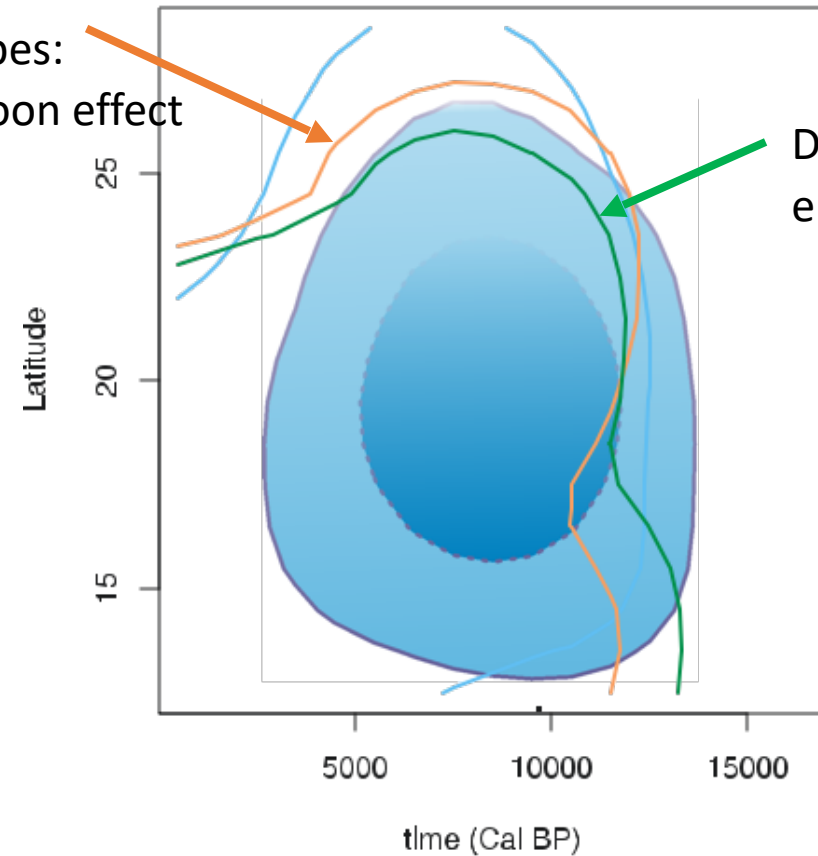
*Celtis*-type



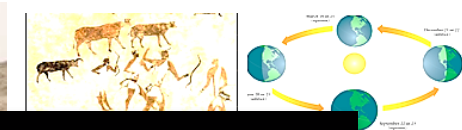
## Synthesis when considering the different taxa

Sahelian types:  
Limit monsoon effect

Dry tropical elements

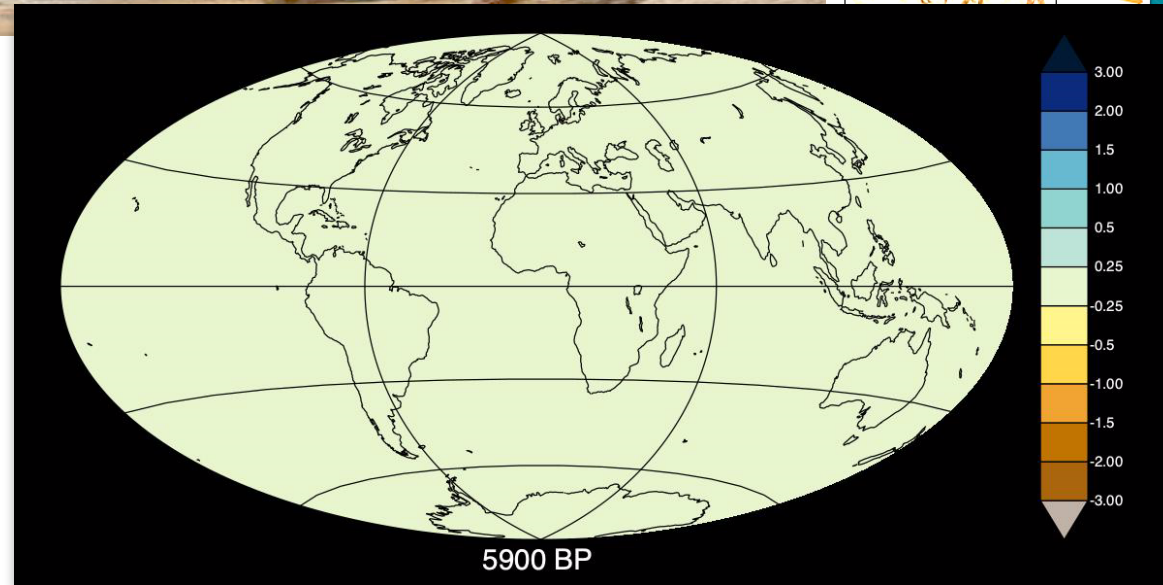


# Evolution of precipitation : IPSLCM5A model



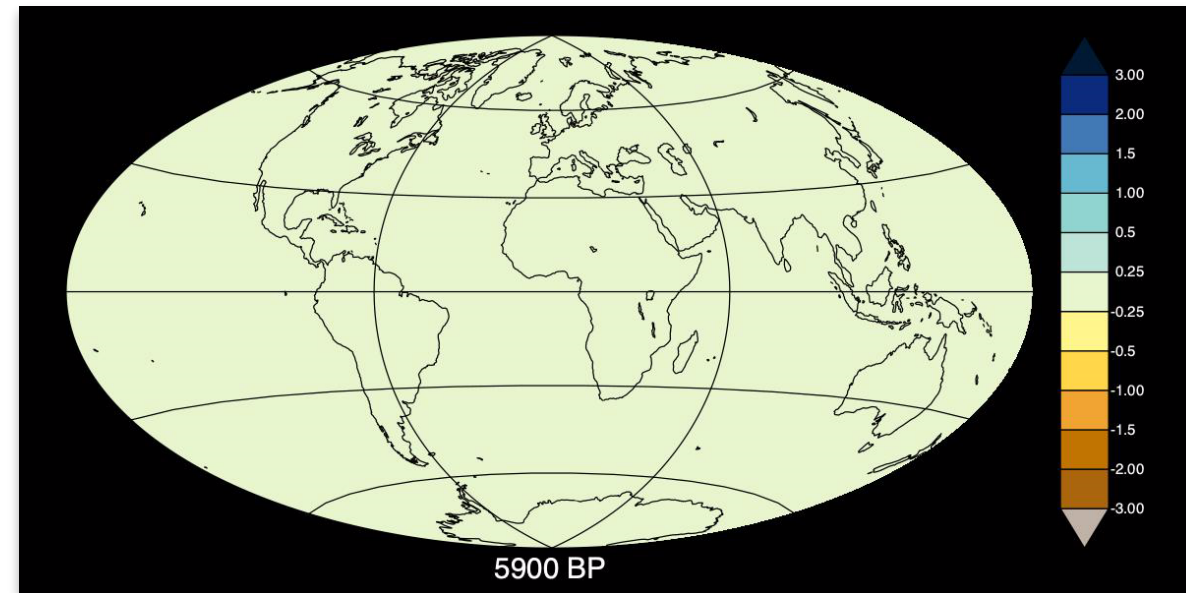
TR5AS-Vlr01

JJA precipitation  
6ka to 0k :  
differences with  
6ka initial state (10  
year averages)



Standard model  
version

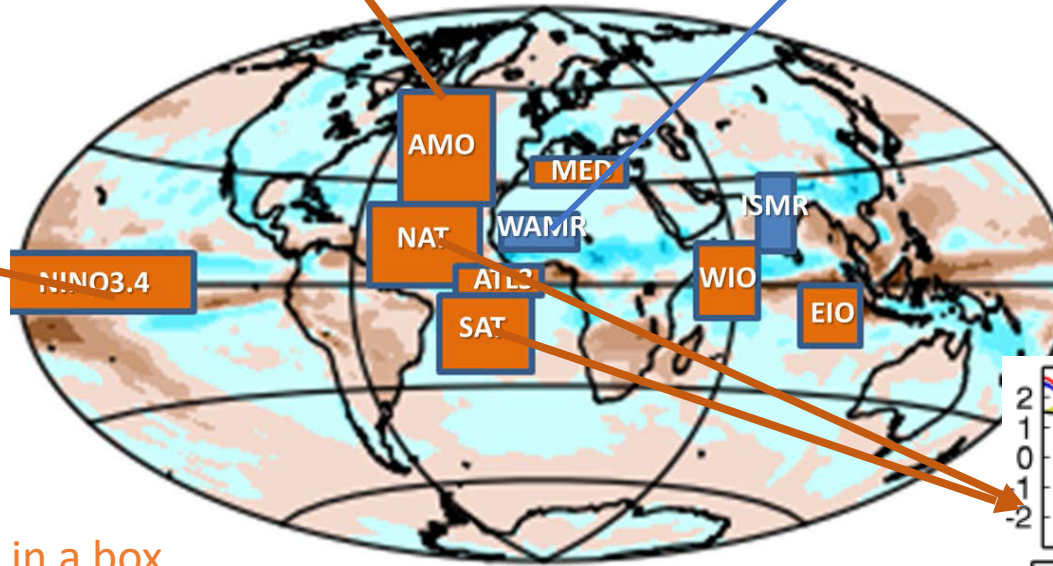
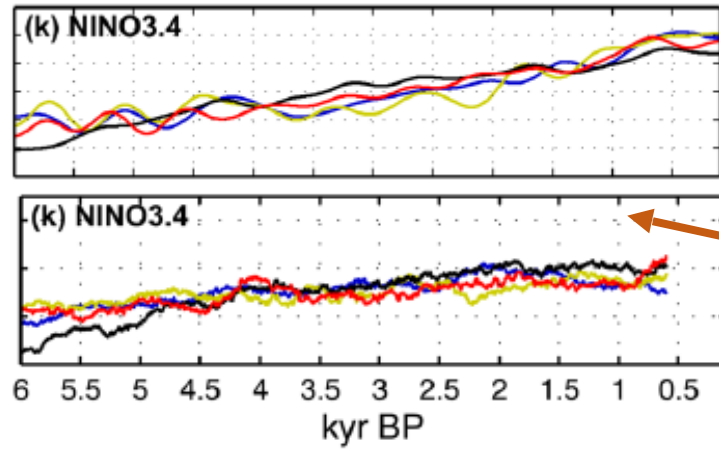
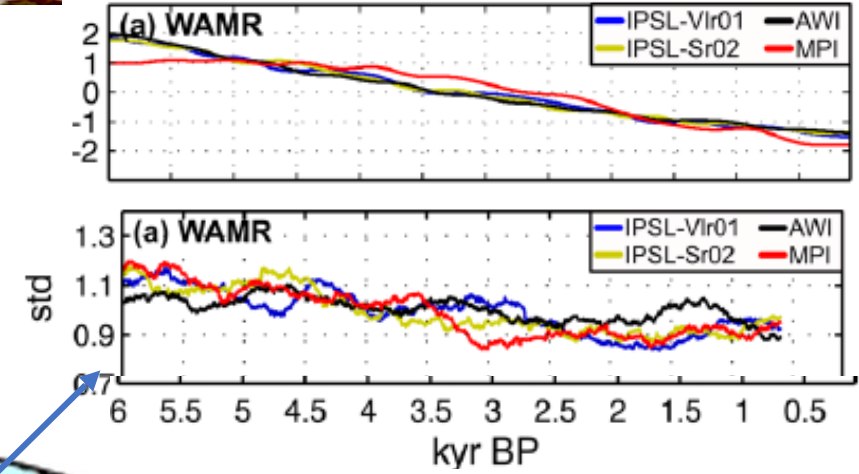
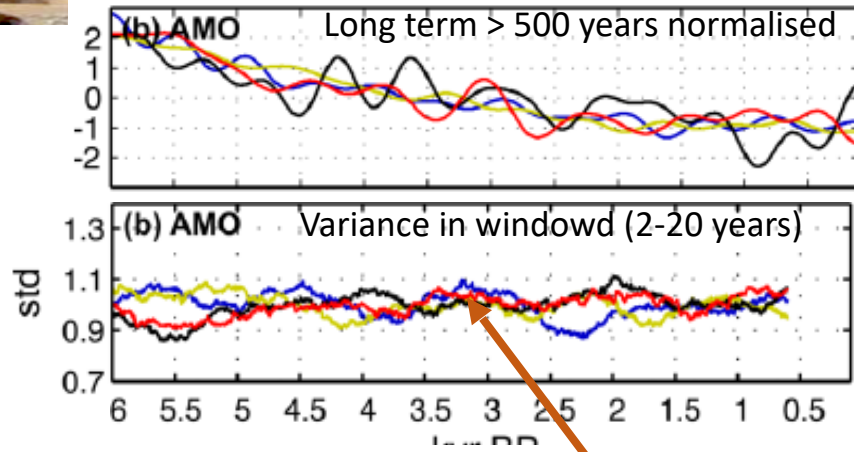
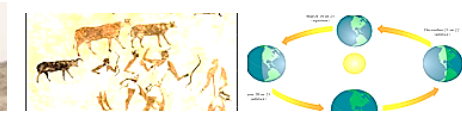
TR6AV-Sr02



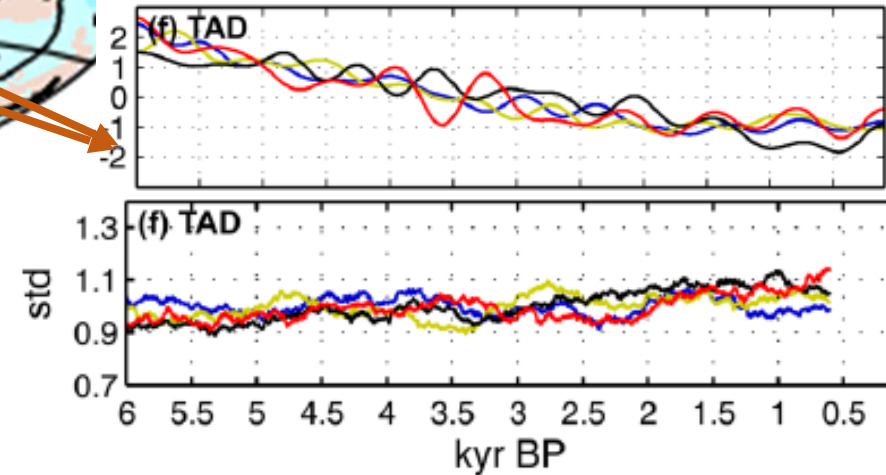
IPSLCM6 soil  
hydrology and  
snow model

Dynamical  
vegetation

# Method : EOFs analyses of climate indices



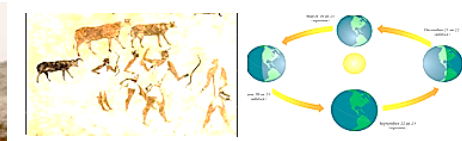
TAD = tropical Atlantic Diapole



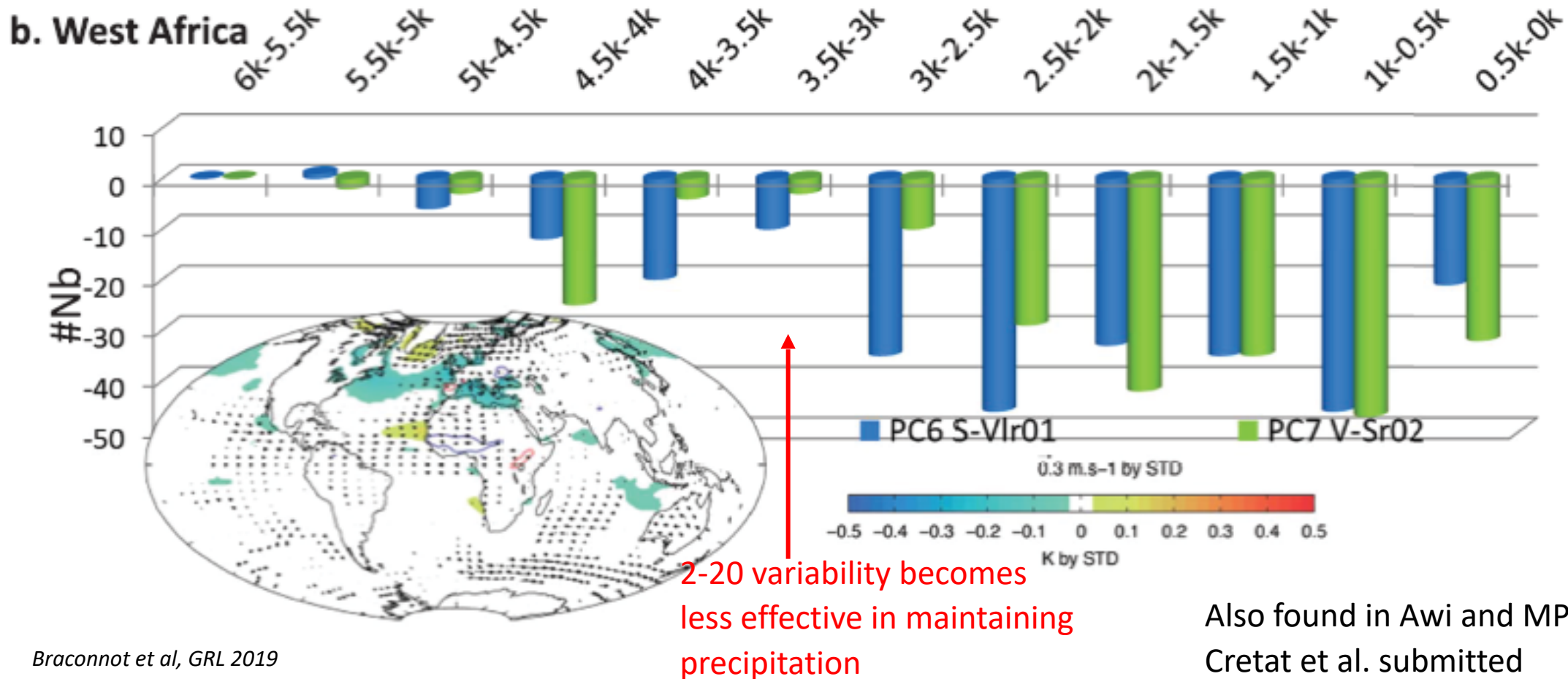
Index sea surface temperature in a box  
 Index precipitation in a box

12 indices, 6000 time steps (JJAS values for each simulated year)  
 Different variability band (2-20 years; 50-500 years; > 500 years)

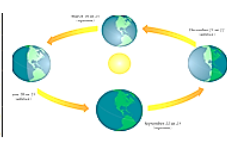
# Origin of rainfall 2-20 year variability trends



- Trends in variability only in 2-20 year band !
  - Possible to isolate variability pattern associated to the trend part of the pattern common to the 2 simulations
- Teleconnection Atlantic/Mediterranean (Africa)



# 50-500 year variability

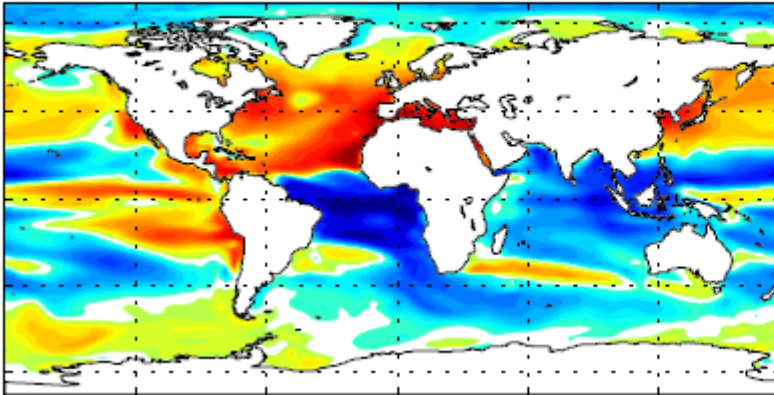


- Modes are different between the two simulations
- No obvious linkage with the long term trend in mean state

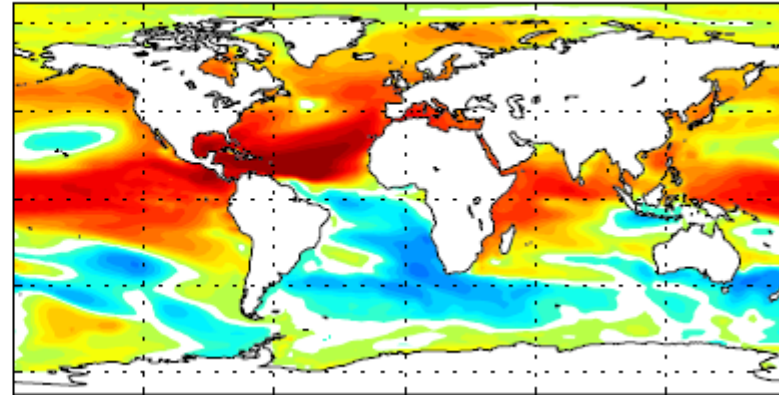


Ex Mode 1 Atlantic dipole pattern → increase African rainfall  
but the other ocean basin are in different states → different impact on the Indian rainfall

TR5AS-Vlr01: PC#1 50-500 vs tso1\_oce 50-500

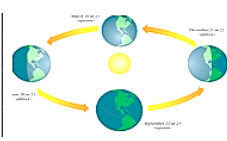


TR6AV-Sr02: PC#1 50-500 vs tso1\_oce 50-500



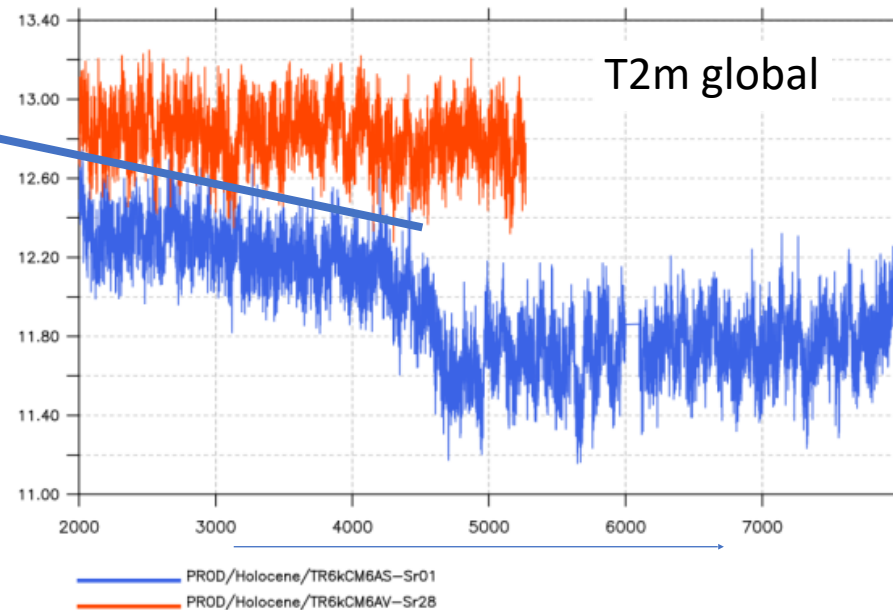
Future research direction : Role of centennial to millennium variability??

# Opportunities

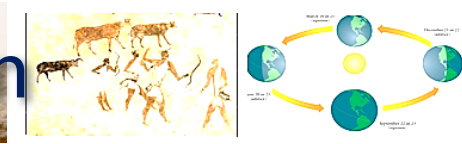


- ✓ New simulations transient simulations with dynamical vegetation in better agreement with observations in different modeling groups : – ex Dallmeyer et al, 2020, 2021, Hoptcroft and Valdes 2022, Thomson 2022 .....
- ✓ New simulations with and without dynamical vegetation with the IPSLCM6 model (ongoing)


Décrochement de la circulation thermohaline





# New transient simulations with interactive vegetation



## Evolution total vegetation, forest limit and Sahelian type region

 Sahelian region  
Precipitation = 200 to 400 mm/yr

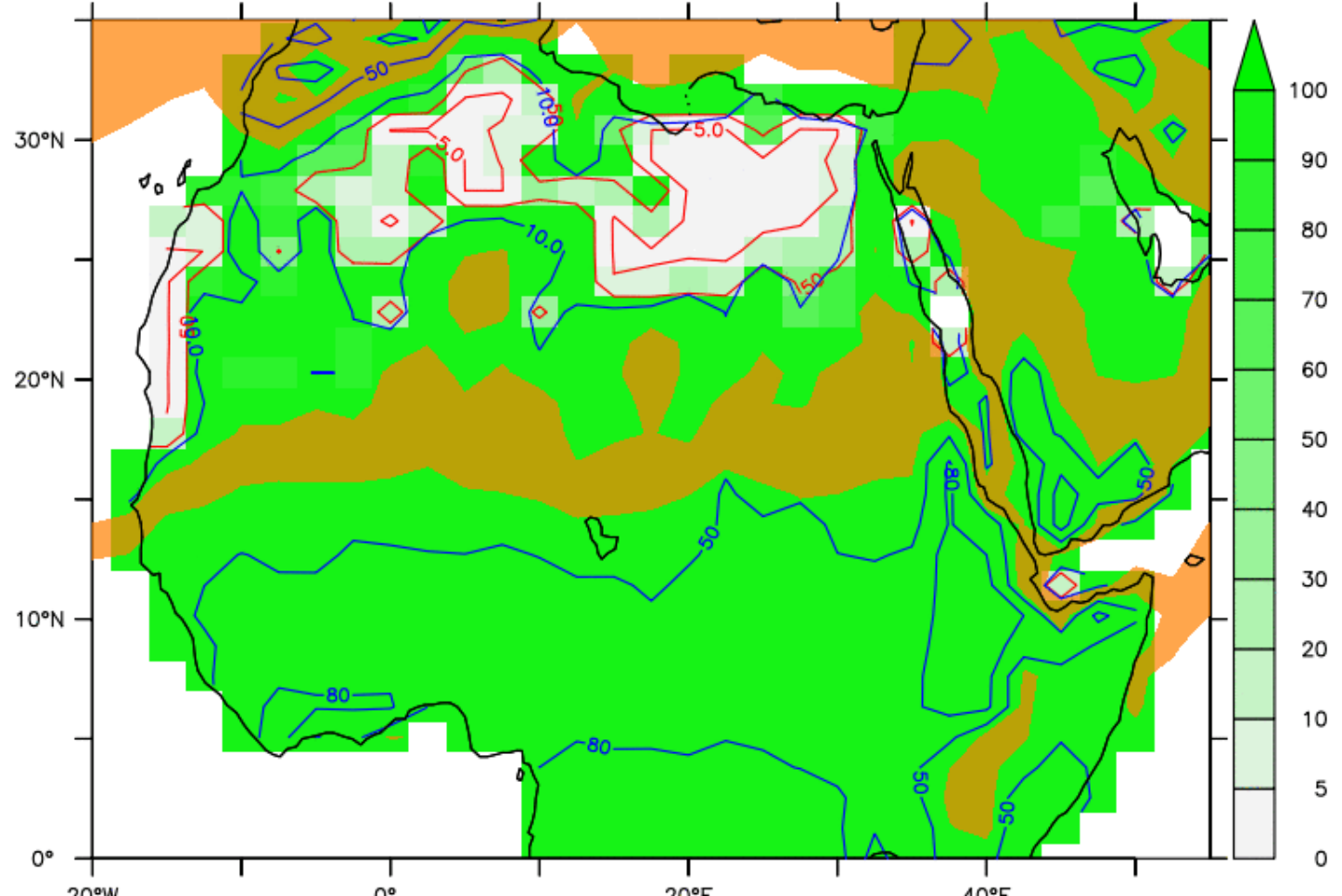
 Total vegetation  
5% and 10% limits

 Total forest  
10%, 50% and 80% limits

from 6000 BP to 5900 BP

Total vegetation cover

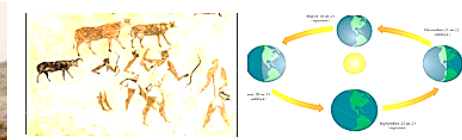
%



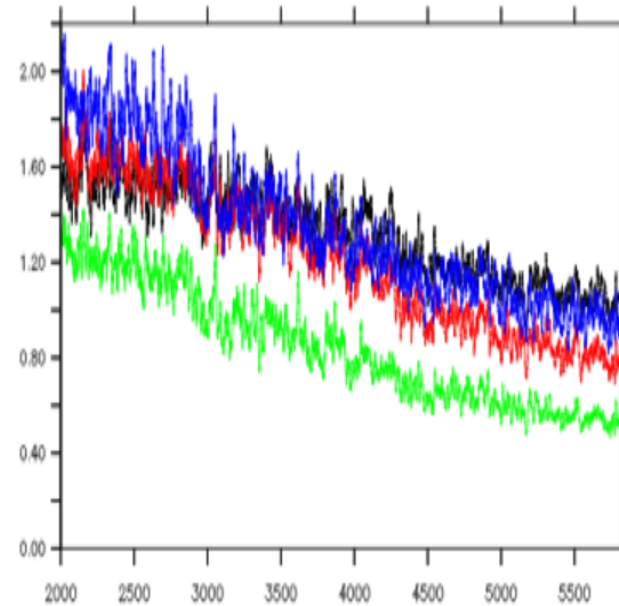
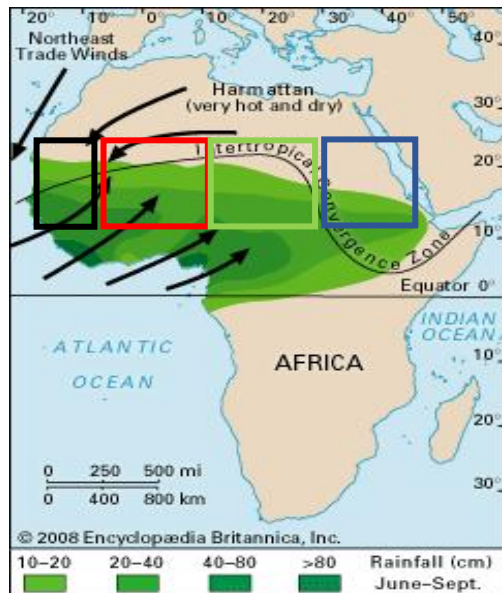
IPSLCM6 with dynamical  
vegetation : ongoing work



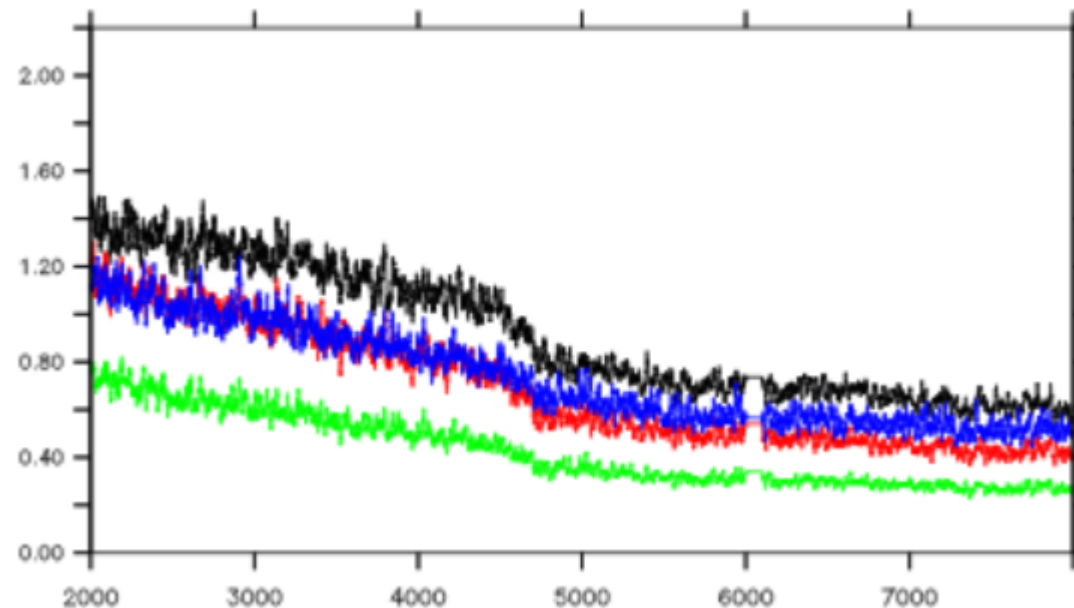
# Precipitation in the new IPSL transient simulations



Version with dynamical vegetation Vdyn28

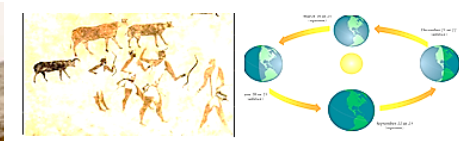


- ✓ Abrupt reduction depending on region with interactive vegetation and larger variability



- ✓ Precipitation less intense in standard version
- ✓ Effect of abrupt thermohaline change seen in some of the regions,

# Conclusion



- Revival of the questions of the AHP around the transient simulations
- EU-TIPESM project (starting January 2024) : analyses of abrupt changes in vegetation, E/W asymmetry in Africa; linkage with ocean and variability
- ANR Nilafar (The Nile and AFAR regions: hydrologic changes and impact on human adaptation in the last 20,000 years)
- Need to develop new types of diagnostics for model-data so as to answer more targeted questions (resilience, threshold, climate/environmental events, society)
- Open question on the role of multi-decadal to millennium variability on key events
- Implications for today's climate and future changes