
CESM Coupled Data Assimilation

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DART

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This documents our effort to configure CESM to run in various configurations to test concepts relevant to coupled data assimilation, including:

- forced ocean-ice experiments, and
- CESM B-compsets with active CAM6, CLM, CICE6 and POP2 components.

COMPILING

Since DART is designed to minimize dependencies and maximize cross-platform compatibility, compiling DART on Cheyenne is trivial.

```
cd /glade/work/$USER
git clone https://github.com/NCAR/DART
```

Since Cheyenne is a Linux system with Intel processors, there is already a `mkmf.template` that works. Move it into place.

```
cd DART/build_templates
mv mkmf.template.intel.linux mkmf.template
```

Build the `lorenz_63` model to ensure the setup is correct.

```
cd ../models/lorenz_63/work
./quickbuild.csh
[...]
```

Success: All single task DART programs compiled.
Script **is** exiting after building the serial versions of the DART programs.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problems can arise if the DART executables weren't built with the same compilers that were used to compile the netCDF library.

```
vim /glade/scratch/damrhein/GNYF.f09_g17_e80/run/da.log.2810502.chadmin1.ib0.cheyenne.  
↪ucar.edu.220209-231033
```

```
Error: Wed Feb 9 23:21:33 MST 2022 – BEGIN FILTER /glade/scratch/damrhein/GNYF.f09_g17_e80/bld/filter:  
error while loading shared libraries: libhwloc.so.15: cannot open shared object file: No such file or directory MPT  
ERROR: could not run executable. HPE MPT 2.19 02/23/19 05:31:12
```

2.1 Rebuilding the DART executables

As a first attempt at troubleshooting, try rebuilding the DART executables.

```
cd /glade/work/johnsonb/git/DAN_DART_2021-11-17/models/POP/work  
./quickbuild.csh  
./setup_CESM_hybrid_ensemble.csh  
Building cesm with output to /glade/scratch/johnsonb/GNYF.f09_g17_e3/bld/cesm.bldlog.  
↪220214-161400  
Time spent not building: 1286.737632 sec  
Time spent building: 1622.594832 sec  
MODEL BUILD HAS FINISHED SUCCESSFULLY  
cd /glade/work/johnsonb/cases/GNYF.f09_g17_e3  
./case.submit -M begin,end  
[...]  
Wait for run to finish  
[...]  
./CESM_DART_config.csh  
./case.submit -M begin,end  
[...]  
Wait for run to finish  
[...]  
vim /glade/scratch/johnsonb/GNYF.f09_g17_e3/run/GNYF.f09_g17_e3.pop.dart_log.2010-01-04-  
↪000000.out
```

This rebuilt case ran successfully. Check to see if the DART state output is present.

```
cd /glade/scratch/johnsonb/GNYF.f09_g17_e3/run
ls *prior*
GNYF.f09_g17_e3.pop.output_priorinf_mean.2010-01-04-000000.nc
GNYF.f09_g17_e3.pop.output_priorinf_sd.2010-01-04-000000.nc
GNYF.f09_g17_e3.pop.preassim_priorinf_mean.2010-01-04-000000.nc
GNYF.f09_g17_e3.pop.preassim_priorinf_sd.2010-01-04-000000.nc
input_priorinf_mean.nc
input_priorinf_sd.nc
ls *output*
GNYF.f09_g17_e3.pop.output_mean.2010-01-04-000000.nc
GNYF.f09_g17_e3.pop.output_priorinf_mean.2010-01-04-000000.nc
GNYF.f09_g17_e3.pop.output_priorinf_sd.2010-01-04-000000.nc
GNYF.f09_g17_e3.pop.output_sd.2010-01-04-000000.nc
```

This output matches the `stages_to_write` entry in `input.nml`.

GETTING STARTED

Community Earth System Model (CESM) installation instructions are available via the [README](#) on the GitHub repository. The cube sphere grid is available as of CESM2.2.0.

3.1 Cloning and installing

Important: CESM has already been ported and should work “out of the box” on most of the supercomputers that are widely used in the geosciences community, including Pleiades. When compiling the model, ensure to set the machine command line option, `--mach` to match the supercomputer you are working on.

```
cd <installation_directory>
git clone https://github.com/ESCOMP/CESM.git cesm2_1_3
cd cesm2_1_3
git checkout release-cesm2.1.3
./manageExternals/checkoutExternals
```

3.2 Commonly used grids

The CESM documentation includes a [comprehensive list of grids](#). Typically, grids have descriptive long names when they are defined such as `fv0.9x1.25` – which is the atmospheric finite volume $\sim 1^\circ$ grid – or `gx1v7` – which is the seventh version of the oceanic displaced Greenland pole $\sim 1^\circ$ grid.

These long names are shortened when the atmospheric/land grids are coupled to the ocean/sea ice grid. Instead of `fv0.9x1.25` and `gx1v7`, the shortened name becomes `f09_g17`.

3.2.1 Atmospheric grids

The workhorse atmospheric grid is the $\sim 1^\circ$ finite-volume `f09` grid, which is used for CMIP experiments and the Large Ensemble. Other grids used for iHESP are the `f05` $\sim 0.5^\circ$ finite volume grid and the `f02` $\sim 0.25^\circ$ finite volume grid.

Cube sphere

As of CESM2.2.0, CAM supports a spectral element dynamical core (CAM-SE) on cube-sphere grids. Lauritzen et al. (2017)¹ list the available cube-sphere grids in their Table 1. A subset of their table is reproduced here.

Grid name	Average node spacing	Model timestep
ne16np4	208 km	1,800 s
ne30np4	111 km	1,800 s
ne60np4	56 km	900 s
ne120np4	28 km	450 s
ne240np4	14 km	225 s

The analog to the $\sim 1.0^\circ$ f09 finite volume grid is the ne30 $\sim 1.0^\circ$ spectral element grid.

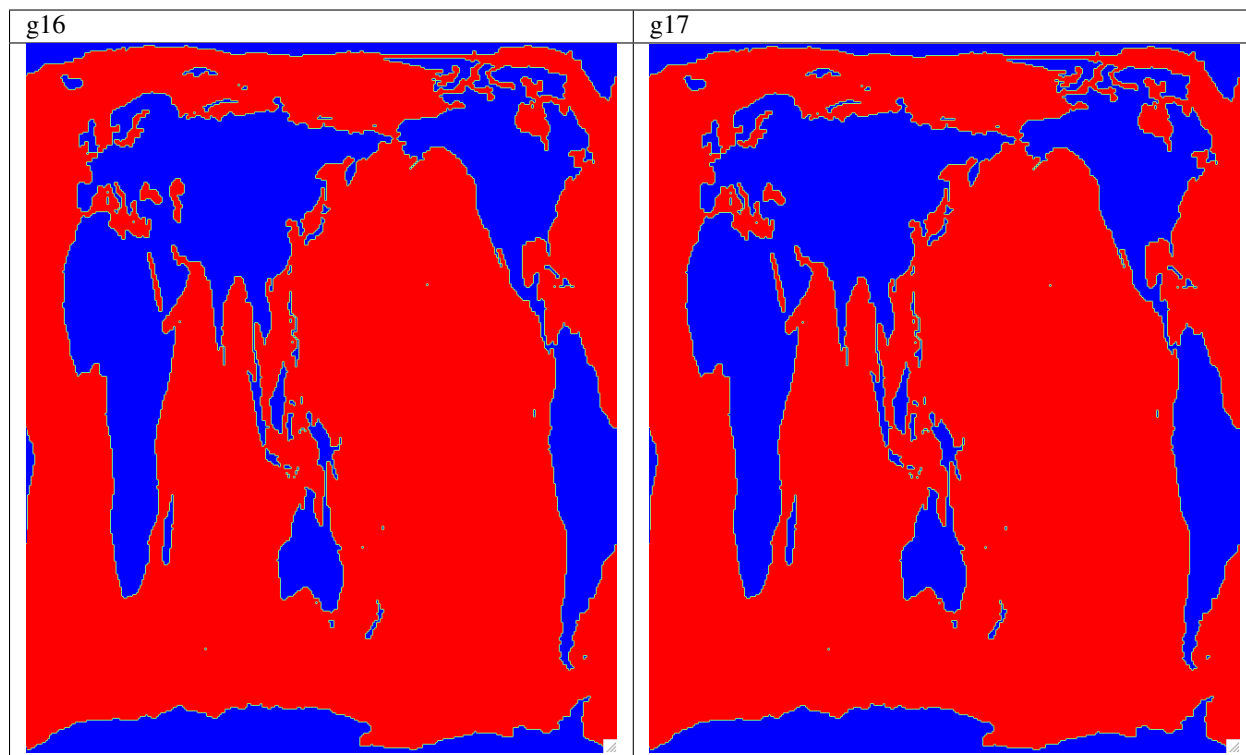
Note: In addition to supporting the spectral element dynamical core on these grids, CAM also supports GFDL's FV3 dynamical core on the $\sim 1.0^\circ$ C96 grid. For more information, see the [CAM developmental compsets documentation](#).

3.2.2 Oceanic grids

Low-resolution

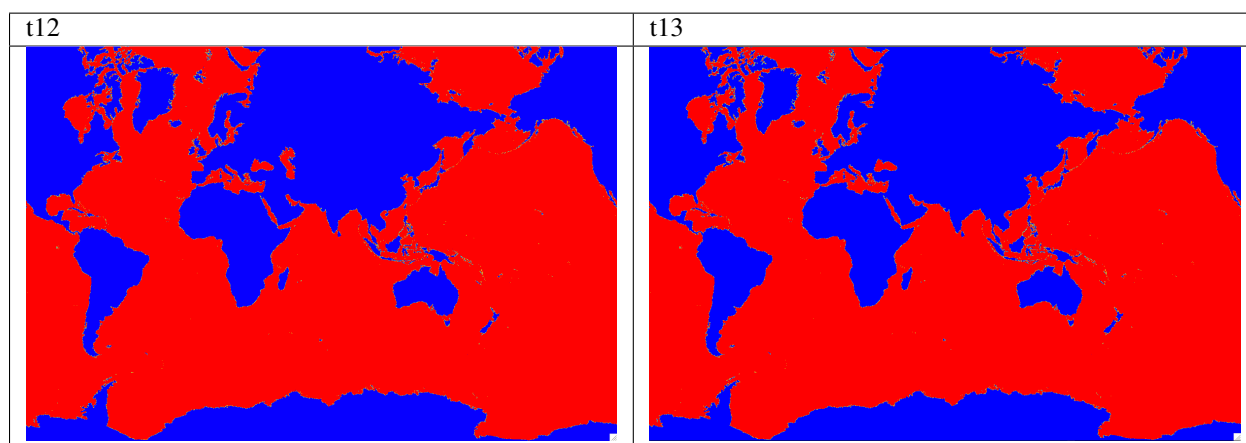
The workhorse oceanic grid is the $\sim 1^\circ$ displaced Greenland pole grid. There are two configurations of it that CESM2.1.3 is compatible with, gx1v6 (g16) and gx1v7 (g17). These grids are identical, except in g17, the Caspian Sea has been removed from the ocean/sea ice domain and inserted into the land domain.

¹ Lauritzen, P. H., and Coauthors, 2018: NCAR Release of CAM-SE in CESM2.0: A Reformulation of the Spectral Element Dynamical Core in Dry-Mass Vertical Coordinates With Comprehensive Treatment of Condensates and Energy. *Journal of Advances in Modeling Earth Systems*, **10**, 1537–1570, doi:10.1029/2017MS001257.



High-resolution

The eddy-resolving grid is $\sim 0.1^\circ$ Poseidon Tripole grid. Again, just like with the low-resolution grid, there are two configurations of it that CESM2.1.3 is compatible with, `tx0.1v2` (`t12`) and `tx0.1.v3` (`t13`). These grids are identical, except in `t13`, the Caspian Sea has been removed from the ocean/sea ice domain and inserted into the land domain.



3.3 Building a case

The scripts for building cases within CESM are part of a software collection known as the Common Infrastructure for Modeling the Earth (CIME). This software supports both NCAR models and those developed within the Department of Energy's Energy Exascale Earth System Model (E3SM) collection. Thus the build scripts to create a new case are contained within the `cime` subdirectory.

```
cd <installation_directory>/cesm2_1_3/cime/scripts
ls
create_clone      create_test      fortran_unit_testing  query_config      tests
create_newcase    data_assimilation  lib                   query_testlists   Tools
```

The `create_newcase` script is invoked and passed command line arguments to build a new case.

Com- mand line op- tion	Meaning
<code>--case</code>	The directory the case will be built in. It is common practice to include the experiment's grid resolution and component set (described below) in the name of the case so that these aspects can be easily identified when browsing the file system later.
<code>--compset</code>	The component set of the experiment, including which models will be actively integrating (atmosphere, land, ocean, sea ice) and what boundary forcing will be used. CESM has an extensive list of component set definitions and these instructions using the FHIST compset, which has an active atmospheric component, the Community Atmosphere Model version 6, and historical sea surface forcing, starting in 1979.
<code>--res</code>	The grid resolution the model will run on. Each grid includes at least two parts, the atmospheric/land grid and the ocean/sea ice grid to which it is coupled. These instructions use a low-resolution finite volume grid for the atmosphere, <code>fv0.9x1.25</code> and couple it to a $\sim 1^\circ$ ocean/sea ice grid, <code>gx1v7</code> . These grid names are truncated into <code>f09_g17</code> . Again, CESM has an extensive list of available grids .
<code>--mach</code>	The supercomputer the case will be built on. These instructions build a case on NCAR's Cheyenne computer, however, if you are building on Pleiades, consult the table in the note below.
<code>--project</code>	The account code the project will be run on. When jobs from the experiment are run, the specified account will automatically be debited. Replace PXXXXXXX with your project code.
<code>--run-unsupported</code>	The atmosphere grid is a newly released aspect of CESM that is not used in Coupled Model Inter-comparison Project runs, it is not considered a scientifically supported grid yet. In order to use it, you need to append this option.

Note: If you are building on `pleiades`, the core layout per node differs based on which nodes you are using. These differences are already accounted for within CESM. When specifying `--mach` there are four valid options:

Compute node processor	Corresponding <code>--mach</code> option
Broadwell	<code>pleiades-bro</code>
Haswell	<code>pleiades-has</code>
Ivy Bridge	<code>pleiades-ivy</code>
Sandy Bridge	<code>pleiades-san</code>

To build a case using the $\sim 1^\circ$ `f09` finite volume grid:

```
./create_newcase --case /glade/work/johnsonb/cesm_runs/FHIST.cesm2_1_3.f09_g17.001 --
→compset FHIST --res f09_g17 --mach cheyenne --project PXXXXXXX --run-unsupported
[...]
Creating Case directory /glade/work/johnsonb/cesm_runs/FHIST.cesm2_1_3.f09_g17.001
```

The case directory has successfully been created. Change to the case directory and set up the case.

```
cd /glade/work/johnsonb/cesm_runs/FHIST.cesm2_1_3.f09_g17.001
./case.setup
```

The `case.setup` script scaffolds out the case directory, creating the `Buildconf` and `CaseDocs` directories that you can customize. These instructions use the default configurations and continue on to compiling the model. On machines that don't throttle CPU usage on the login nodes, the `case.build` command can be invoked. On Cheyenne, however, CPU intensive activities are killed on the login nodes, you will need to use a build wrapper to build the model on a shared compute node and specify a project code. Again, replace `PXXXXXXX` with your project code.

```
qcmd -q share -l select=1 -A PXXXXXXX -- ./case.build
```

The model build should progress for several minutes. If it compiles properly, a success message should be printed.

```
Time spent not building: 6.320388 sec
Time spent building: 603.685347 sec
MODEL BUILD HAS FINISHED SUCCESSFULLY
```

The model is actually built and run in a user's scratch space.

```
/glade/scratch/johnsonb/FHIST.cesm2_1_3.f09_g17.001/bld/cesm.exe
```

3.4 Submitting a job

To submit a job, change to the case directory and use the `case.submit` script. The `-M begin,end` option sends the user an email when the job starts and stops running.

When the case is built, its default configuration is to run for five model days. This setting can be changed to run for a single model day using `./xmlchange STOP_N=1`.

```
cd /glade/work/johnsonb/cesm_runs/FHIST.cesm2_1_3.f09_g17.001
./xmlchange STOP_N=1
./case.submit -M begin,end
[...]
Submitted job id is 2658061.chadmin1.ib0.cheyenne.ucar.edu
Submitted job case.run with id 2658060.chadmin1.ib0.cheyenne.ucar.edu
Submitted job case.st_archive with id 2658061.chadmin1.ib0.cheyenne.ucar.edu
```

3.5 Restart file

After the job completes, restart files are written to the run directory which is also in scratch space. These restart files are written for both active and data components. The CAM restart file contains a `cam.r` substring. By default, the FHIST case begins on January 1st, 1979. Thus, the restart file will be for January 2nd, 1979.

```
/glade/scratch/johnsonb/FHIST.cesm2_1_3.f09_g17.001/run/FHIST.cesm2_1_3.f09_g17.001.cam.  
↪r.1979-01-02-000000.nc
```

The fields in the restart file can be plotted using various languages such as MATLAB or Python's matplotlib.

3.6 References

COMPSETS

4.1 Overview

CESM’s component models can be run in a variety of combinations, ranging from all components being active to all components being off. A given set of component configurations is known as a “component set” or “compset” for short.

Similar compsets are grouped using aliases. The CESM2 documentation [provides a table](#) showing which components are active.

Coupled data assimilation experiments typically use compsets with aliases beginning with B, since the atmosphere, land, sea ice and ocean components are all active in these compsets.

The CESM website provides a [comprehensive list of all available compsets](#).

DATA ASSIMILATION CYCLES

The `DATA_ASSIMILATION_CYCLES` setting within CESM denotes how many model integration, filter and inflation cycles will be attempted within a single CESM job submission. This is a typical setting for CAM:

```
STOP_N: 6  
STOP_OPTION: nhours  
DATA_ASSIMILATION_CYCLES=4
```

Within a single CESM `./case.submit` job, the model will run for 24 hours with filter and inflation running at 6-hour intervals.

This is a typical setting for POP:

```
STOP_N: 1  
STOP_OPTION: ndays  
DATA_ASSIMILATION_CYCLES=5
```

So within a single CESM `./case.submit` job, the model will run for 5 days with filter and inflation running daily.

Note: The CESM `RESUBMIT` setting is distinct from `DATA_ASSIMILATION_CYCLES`. The value that `RESUBMIT` is set to denotes how many times `./case.submit` will be invoked. Each submitted job must be completed within the period denoted by `JOB_WALLCLOCK_TIME`.

MODIFYING SETUP SCRIPTS FOR NUOPC

Note: It isn't actually necessary to use a setup script to create a multi-instance CESM case to test NUOPC functionality. CIME's `./create_newcase` script can be invoked with the `--ninst` option instead.

6.1 Overview

The setup scripts for coupled CESM runs in the DART 9.X.X releases are already Manhattan compliant, however they invoke CESM utilities that are no longer present in CESM2.0.

Upgrading these setup scripts to test NUOPC functionality involves removing references to CESM1 utilities and replacing them the analogous utilities from CIME that CESM2 makes use of.

6.1.1 Example

For example, setting up CESM1 made heavy use of environmental variables that were accessed using the `Tools/ccsm_getenv` utility.

The analogous functionality in CESM2 uses CIME's `xmlquery` utility, since many of these variables are now stored in xml configuration files rather than environmental variables.

6.2 Tractable path

To learn which aspects of the setup scripts need to be modified, you can diff the existing `cam-fv` and `pop` scripts, since both CESM1 and CESM2 versions of these scripts are contained within the DART repository.

You should begin by modifying the CESM perfect model obs setup script in `DART/models/CESM/shell_scripts/CESM1_1_1_setup_pmo`.

6.2.1 POP example

```
cd DART/models/pop/shell_scripts
diff cesm1_x/CESM1_1_1_setup_pmo cesm2_1/setup_CESM_perfect_model.csh
```

6.2.2 CAM example

```
cd DART/models/cam-fv/shell_scripts
diff cesm1_5/setup_hybrid cesm2_1/setup_hybrid
```

FORCING OCEAN AND SEA ICE COMPONENTS

Runs with active ocean and sea ice components that are forced with prescribed atmospheric fluxes can be customized by editing the data atmosphere namelist and streams files.

Note: The data atmosphere fields can come from any source as long as they contain the requisite forcing fields. The easiest way to generate a “correct” set of atmospheric forcing fields is to use coupler history files from a CESM run in which CAM is active, but forcing from other reanalyses and data products such as JRA-55 and GISS are also acceptable.

The CIME documentation does contain [instructions for configuring data atmosphere files](#). However, the instructions contained in that document are vague:

“Edit the user_datm.streams.txt.* file.”

7.1 Setting up a case to get acquainted with the files

Setting up a G compset case is the simplest way to become familiar with the data atmosphere stream files (datm.streams*).

```
cd <cesm_root>/cime/scripts/  
./create_newcase --case /glade/work/${USER}/cases/G.fosi.f09_g17.001 --compset G --res_   
↪ f09_g17 --project PXXXXXXX --run-unsupported  
cd /glade/work/${USER}/cases/G.fosi.f09_g17.001  
./case.setup  
./preview_namelist
```

The `preview_namelist` script will fill the CaseDocs with the namelist and data streams files necessary to build a forced ocean/sea ice (FOSI) run.

```
ls CaseDocs/  
atm_modelio.nml          datm.streams.txt.presaero.clim_2000  ice_in            
↪ seq_maps.rc            drof_in                               ice_modelio.nml   
cpl_modelio.nml          datm.streams.txt.rof.diatren_ann_rx1  lnd_modelio.nml   
↪ wav_in                 drv_in                               ocn_modelio.nml   
datm_in                  datm.streams.txt.CORE2_NYF.GISS       pop_in            
↪ wav_modelio.nml        esp_modelio.nml                      rof_modelio.nml   
datm.streams.txt.CORE2_NYF.GXGS  
datm.streams.txt.CORE2_NYF.NCEP      glc_modelio.nml
```

There are four `datm.streams*` files. They contain a lists of all of the forcing fields from coupler history files that are necessary to conduct a FOSI run.

7.2 Structure of a data atmosphere stream file

The data atmosphere stream files are XML files that specify a domain file, a variable file and a time offset.

```
vim CaseDocs/datm.streams.txt.CORE2_NYF.GISS
```

These are the XML nodes in a `datm.streams*` file:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<file id="stream" version="1.0">
  <dataSource>
    GENERIC
  </dataSource>
  <domainInfo>
    <variableNames>
      time    time
      lon     lon
      lat     lat
      area    area
      mask    mask
    </variableNames>
    <filePath>
      /glade/p/cesmdata/cseg/inputdata/atm/datm7/NYF
    </filePath>
    <fileNames>
      nyf.giss.T62.051007.nc
    </fileNames>
  </domainInfo>
  <fieldInfo>
    <variableNames>
      lwdn  lwdn
      swdn  swdn
      swup  swup
    </variableNames>
    <filePath>
      /glade/p/cesmdata/cseg/inputdata/atm/datm7/NYF
    </filePath>
    <fileNames>
      nyf.giss.T62.051007.nc
    </fileNames>
    <offset>
      0
    </offset>
  </fieldInfo>
</file>
```

The `dataSource` node typically specifies where the data come from. While this GISS file merely says `GENERIC`, the `dataSource` node from the [CAM6 reanalysis](#) is more descriptive, `CAM6-DART Ensemble Reanalysis (NCAR RDA ds345.0)`.

The `domainInfo` node specifies a netCDF domain file and the variables it contains, `time`, `lon`, `lat`, `area`, `mask`. In this example, the forcing fields are specified on the T62 spectral grid.

The `fieldInfo` node specifies a netCDF variable file and the variables it contains. There are two strings in the `variableNames` entry because the data source might name a field differently than what the coupler is expecting. For example, in `CaseDocs/datm.streams.txt.CORE2_NYF.GXGXS`, the precipitation variable is declared in this manner:

```
<variableNames>
  prc  prec
</variableNames>
```

The pair of strings translate between the variable key in the GXGXS source file (Large and Yeager, 2004)¹ which specifies this field as `prc` and the key expected by the coupler, which is `prec`.

7.3 Time offset and axis mode

The time offset, `offset`, and time axis mode, `taxmode`, are the trickiest aspects of the `datm.streams*` files to get right.

The best explanation of these settings is in the CLM [Customizing the DATM namelist](#) documentation.

7.4 Specified fields

These are the fields that should be specified for a FOSI run:

- `lwdn` downwelling longwave radiation
- `swdn` downwelling shortwave radiation
- `swup` upwelling shortwave radiation
- `prec` precipitation
- `dens` density
- `pslv` sea level pressure
- `shum` specific humidity
- `tbot` 10-meter temperature
- `u` 10-meter zonal velocity
- `v` 10-meter meridional velocity

¹ Large, W. G., and S. G. Yeager, 2004: Diurnal to decadal global forcing for ocean and sea-ice models: The data sets and flux climatologies. NCAR Tech. Note NCAR/TN-460+STR, 111 pp.

7.5 References

REANALYSIS

The coupler history files from the Reanalysis are available both from:

- NCAR's [Research Data Archive](#) and
- on Campaign storage.

To access the files on Campaign storage you'll need to log onto either Casper or the data-access nodes. Campaign storage is not mounted on Cheyenne.

```
ssh <user>@data-access.ucar.edu  
cd /gpfs/csfs1/cisl/dares/Reanalyses/f.e21.FHIST_BGC.f09_025.CAM6assim.011/cpl/hist
```

Each ensemble member's coupler history files are stored in their own subdirectories, 0001, 0002, 0003, ... 0080.

CESM2 LARGE ENSEMBLE

The [CESM2 Large Ensemble \(LENS2\)](#) is a 100-member $\sim 1.0^\circ$ ensemble covering the period 1850-2100. It provides restart files that can be used to initialize a CESM ensemble.

The ensemble is constructed in a way that samples internal variability throughout an extended pre-industrial control simulation:

Members 11-90: “The chosen start dates (model years 1231, 1251, 1281, & 1301) sample AMOC and sea surface height (SSH) in the Labrador Sea at their maximum, minimum, and transition states.”

9.1 Access on GLADE

Restart files from the LENS2 are [available on GLADE](#):

`/glade/campaign/cesm/collections/CESM2-LE/restarts`

SMYLE INITIALIZATION

The **Seasonal-to-Multiyear Large Ensemble (SMYLE)** seeks to use a CESM B Compset on the $\sim 1.0^\circ$ f09_g17 finite-volume grid in order to make multi-year predictions.

It's important to note that the peer-reviewed papers used to justify the SMYLE effort use anomaly correlations to support the notion that extended forecasts have meaningful predictive value: Luo et al. (2008),¹ Dunstone et al. (2016),² DiNezio et al. (2017),³ Lovenduski et al. (2019),⁴ Dunstone et al. (2020),⁵ and Esit et al. (2021).⁶

Anomaly correlations are distinct from the skill scores used historically in studies of prediction skill. The skill scores that have been used by the numerical prediction community exhibit two features:

1. they make an explicit prediction
2. they estimate an error in that prediction.

For example, the S_1 score compares the error in the forecasted 500 hPa pressure surface against the magnitude of the horizontal pressure gradient (Teweles and Wobus, 1954⁷). The height of the 500 hPa pressure is an explicit prediction of the future state of the atmosphere and the horizontal gradient “normalizes” in a sense, the magnitude of the error, since the error should be larger in areas where gradients are large.

Skill scores of this type are meaningful and useful – the National Centers for Environmental Prediction have tracked the operational S_1 score throughout the history of the center since it effectively tracks the improvement predictive skill through several scientific generations.

Before devoting considerable time to the SMYLE effort, note that:

1. anomaly correlations aren't predictions,
2. strong, spatially coherent correlations on interannual timescales can be observed even when the “signal” that is being correlated is synthetic noise (Livezey and Chen, 1983⁸), and
3. anomaly correlations aren't predictions (this bears repeating).

¹ Luo et al., 2008: Extended ENSO Predictions Using a Fully Coupled Ocean–Atmosphere Model, *J Clim*, **21**(1), 84–93, <https://doi.org/10.1175/2007JCLI1412.1>.

² Dunstone et al., 2016: Skilful predictions of the winter North Atlantic Oscillation one year ahead, *Nat Geosci*, **9**, 809–814, <https://doi.org/10.1038/NGEO2824>.

³ DiNezio et al., 2017: A 2 Year Forecast for a 60–80% Chance of La Niña in 2017–2018, *GRL*, **44**(22) 11,624–11,635, <https://doi.org/10.1002/2017GL074904>.

⁴ Lovenduski et al., 2019: Predicting near-term variability in ocean carbon uptake, *Earth Syst Dynam*, **10**, 45–57, <https://doi.org/10.5194/esd-10-45-2019>.

⁵ Dunstone et al., 2020: Skilful interannual climate prediction from two large initialized model ensembles, *ERL*, **15**(9), <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ab9f7d>.

⁶ Esit, M., S. Kumar, A. Pandey, D. M. Lawrence, I. Rangwala, and S. Yeager, 2021: Seasonal to multi-year soil moisture drought forecasting. *npj Clim Atmos Sci*, **4**, 1–8, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41612-021-00172-z>.

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10.1 References