



NASA Center for Climate Simulation – Change is Constant

Laura Carriere, NCCS HPC Lead
HPC User Forum – Spring 2022





- **NASA Center for Climate Simulation**
 - One of two NASA Supercomputer facilities, located at Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD
 - Focus on climate research
- **Collaboration with the NASA Advanced Supercomputing Division at NASA Ames**



NASA Center for
Climate Simulation
Facility



About the NCCS



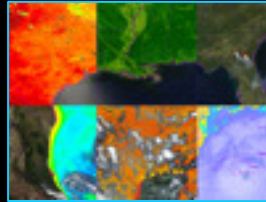
Part of Computational and Information Sciences and Technology Office (CISTO)



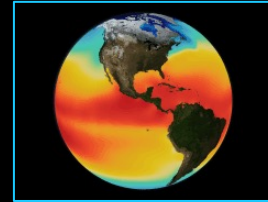
High End Networks and
Information Technology
Security Group



NCCS – High
Performance
Computing (HPC)



Data Science Group, Large
Scale Analytics, Artificial
Intelligence, and Machine
Learning



Scientific Visualization Studio
(SVS) – *funded outside
Scientific Computing*



Science Managed Cloud
Environment (SMCE)

User Community is the Goddard Sciences and Exploration Directorate, e.g.:

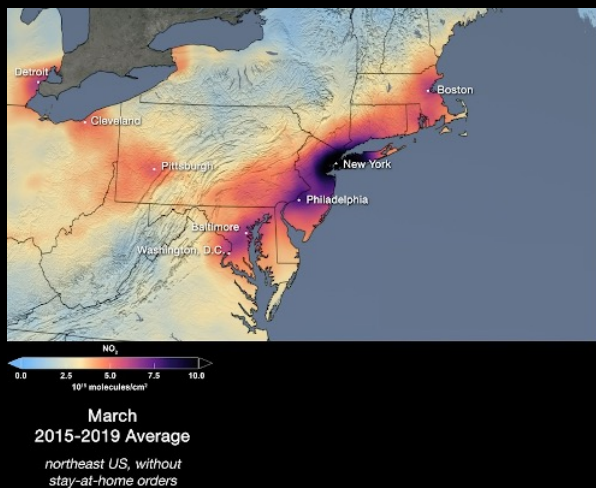
- Global Modeling and Assimilation Office (GMAO)
- Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS)
- Hydrological Sciences Laboratory
- Lots of others



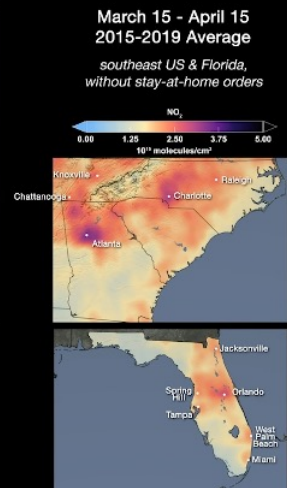
GEOS-CF COVID-19 NO₂ Emissions



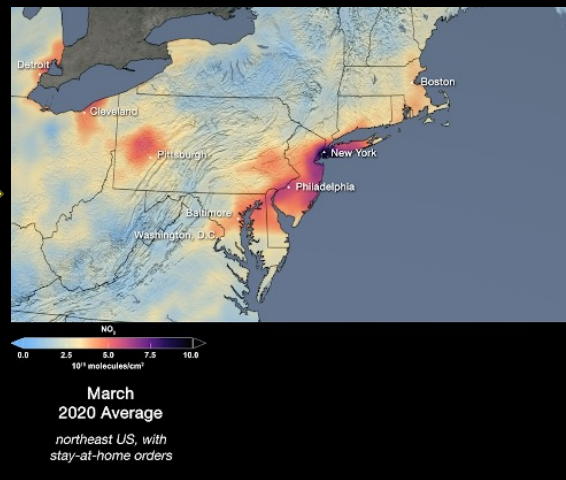
GEOS Composition Forecast Model was run at 25-kilometer resolution on 3,416 cores of the NCCS Discover supercomputer and produces approximately 300 gigabytes of output per day found reductions of 20%-50%



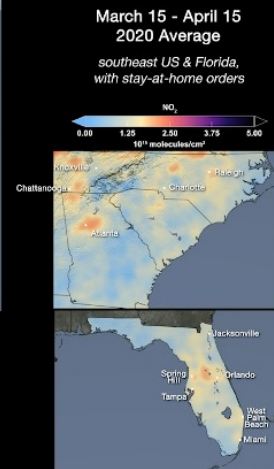
March 2015-2019 Average



Credit: Trent Schindler (SVS)



March 2020



GEOS Atmospheric Chemistry



GEOS-CF modeled 240 chemical species over 3 months

Incorporates the latest scientific understanding of the physics and chemistry that guide the formation of ozone, along with measurements from satellites and other instrument platforms.

These chemicals undergo rapid changes as they are being emitted by natural and anthropogenic activities, transported by prevailing winds and vertical lifting motions, deposited to the surface, or chemically transformed.

Visualization shows 96 species, e.g. Ozone, Hydrocarbons, Aerosols, and Halogens



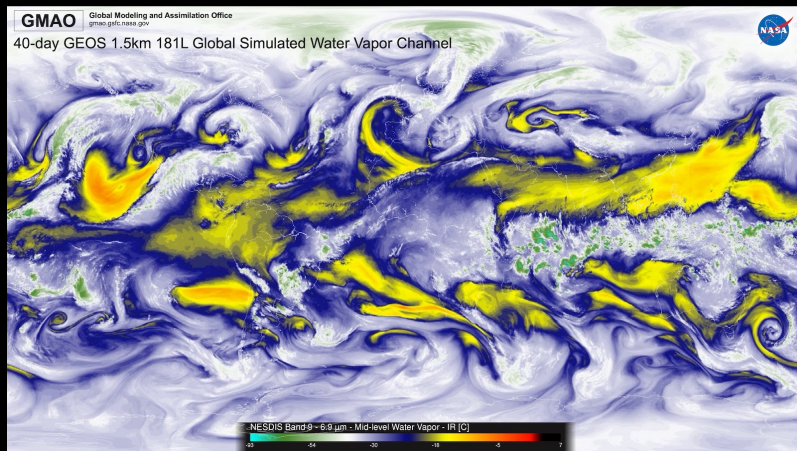
Credit: Greg Shirah, SVS

GMAO GEOS DYAMOND



DYAMOND Phase II – An international project to study northern hemisphere winter simulations with atmosphere-ocean coupling.

The GMAO improved the representation of convection, precipitation, aerosols, carbon, and chemistry in the NASA GEOS model. Runs required just under 40,000 Intel Skylake cores and produced 3.3 PB of output



Credit: William Putman, NASA GSFC

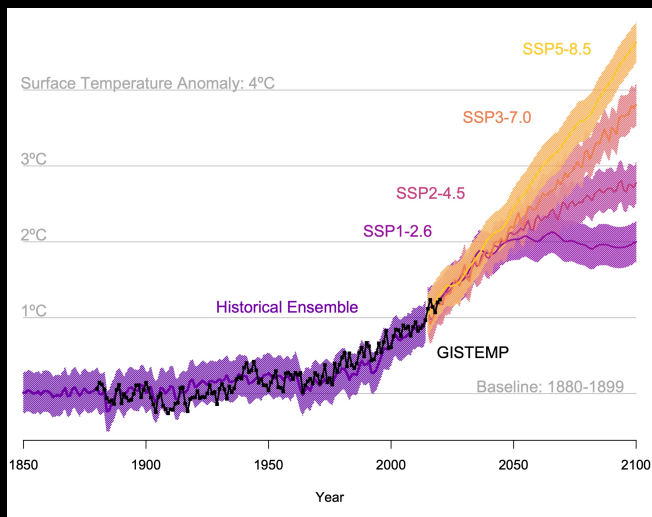
A snapshot of mid-level simulated water vapor from the GEOS 1.5-km global DYAMOND Phase II 40-day simulation. This image details the presence of dry (yellow-orange) and wet (white-green) air in the middle levels of the troposphere.



GISS CMIP6



GISS's CMIP6 runs have consumed approximately 200 million core hours and the NCCS hosts over 150 TB of GISS CMIP6 data, available through NCCS and ESGF.



Credit: NASA GISS

GISS researchers ran several hundred paleoclimate (distant past), historical (starting in 1850), carbon cycle, and future simulations. In the GISS CMIP6 simulations, historical drivers of emissions and greenhouse gas concentrations produce responses (purple line) that match well to GISTEMP surface temperature observations (black line) going back to 1880.

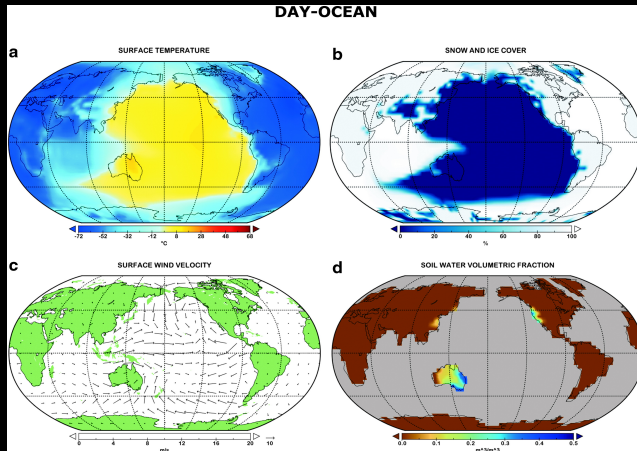
GISS is now using their ModelE 3 — with 111 km grid resolution and 106 levels which uses a cubed-sphere atmospheric dynamical core and grid as well as new “moist physics”.



GISS Exoplanets



Ran 43 ROCKE-3D simulations using 44 cores and producing 3.3 TB of output.
Found that under a wide range of conditions, Proxima Centauri b can host liquid water on much of its surface, potentially raising its prospects for harboring living organisms
Simulations assumed an atmosphere and an ocean, 11-day year, tidally locked



Atmosphere simulation of Proxima Centauri b,
using Earth's continental configuration.

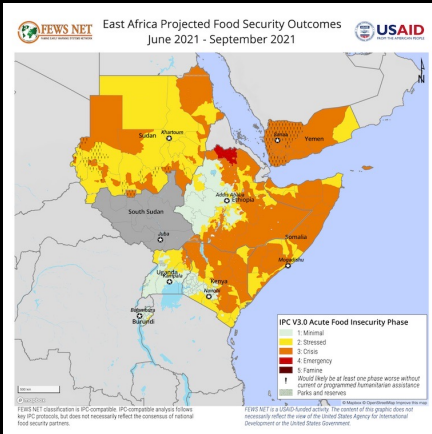
Credit: Del Genio et al.D



Excellent example of NASA's ability to do interdisciplinary science –
results may guide researchers to the most promising exoplanet
candidates for James Webb Space Telescope observations



Other NCCS Science Results



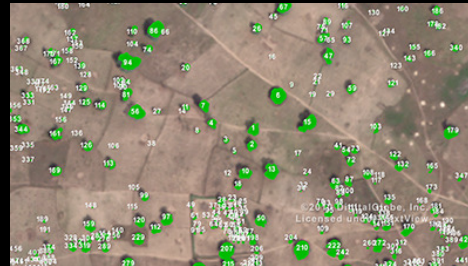
Credit: Abheera Hazra, Kimberly Slinski, NASA

Hydrological Forecast System

NHyFAS is used to produce monthly drought and flood potential monitoring and seasonal forecast products in a partnership with USAID and DoD

Satellite Tree Enumeration

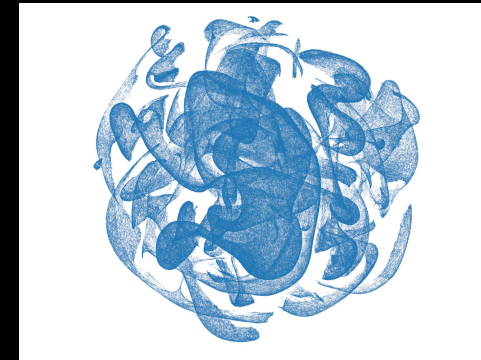
HPC is used to generate DEMs from very high-resolution satellite imagery. AI/ML is used to identify and count trees and shrubs



Credit: Greg Shirah, Compton Tucker, NASA

ML and TESS

HPC was used to generate 70M light curves from TESS
AI/ML was used to identify binary systems and a sextuply star system



Credit: Brian Powell



Change is ability to use HPC and AI/ML



Discover

- Intel based 125,000 cores, 12 NVIDIA A100 nodes
- IB and OPA Fabrics
- 63 PB online storage, 110 PB on tape
- Slurm scheduler

- ➔ • Expansion is done in scalable units – working on SCU17 - AMD Milan



SCU14





Discover Base Unit (2006)

- 130 nodes, 4 cores/node
- 520 total cores
- 3.3 TF
- \$515K/TF



Intel Dempsey



Discover SCU17 (2022) – 1 chassis

- 4 nodes, 128 cores/node
- 512 total cores
- Chassis – 16.4 TF
- Node – 4.1 TF
- \$4K/TF

AMD Milan



Mass Storage Tape Library

110 PB but difficult to access for today's
AI/ML workflows



CSS

Centralized NASA data – 45 PB

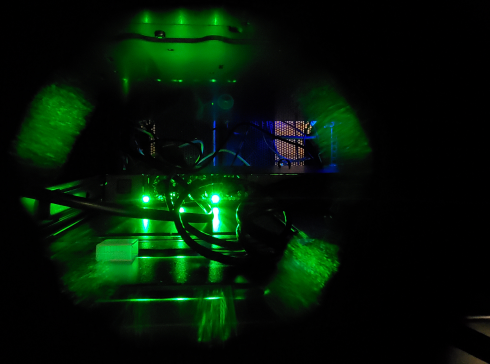
Shared with all NCCS environments

Data Management Plans



ADAPT/Explore

On-premise Cloud environment



Prism

GPU cluster for AI/ML

22 systems 4x NVIDIA V100 GPUs

1 DGX with 4x NVIDIA A100 GPUs

Started as proof of concept with repurposed Discover nodes, is now built from new AMD nodes and repurposed Intel nodes



Explore – OpenStack On-Premise Cloud



Rationale – Complimentary environment to HPC (simulations, MPI, shared parallel filesystem, managed software environment), Explore provides access to large data sets mostly analysis codes, ability to build customized software environments for a group or user

Architecture – Multiple availability zones, with redundant storage and network access, across two different datacenters at Goddard, PIV integration of Keystone/Horizon

Capacity – Total cores 8768, 72 TB RAM, 309 TF

Features – IaaS, PaaS

Implements the OpenStack Python API to provide easier access for scripting and automating cloud activities

Shared storage with HPC, Data Services environments through CSS allows users to compute in both environments on the same data



SMCE/AWS



Rationale – A managed cloud provides the framework for NASA users to quickly get started

Objectives - Facilitate and accelerate collaboration, rapid prototyping, and science research using commercial cloud computing resources

Benefits – Provides security layer for FISMA Low, financial management, cloud training, ease of collaboration with external scientists

Solutions – Gitlab using Kubernetes for CI/CD runners, Jupyter ecosystem, AI/ML workflows, HPC parallel clusters

Data – NASA is moving lots of data to AWS

HPC Research stays on-premise due to cost of experimentation



Future System Challenges



Still power constrained – Discover drops to 2/3 capacity during SCU integrations, need to identify and migrate code to the cloud during integrations

On-Premise cloud and HPC coexistence, including orchestration, containers, graphical interfaces, OS choice

Public Cloud coexistence, including data location

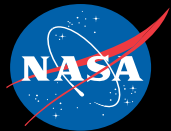
Climate Model Code

- Doesn't easily scale – legacy memory management decisions
- Doesn't port easily to GPUs or integrate AI – progress here
- Efficiency questions as chips become denser (AMD's 96 and 128 core chips)

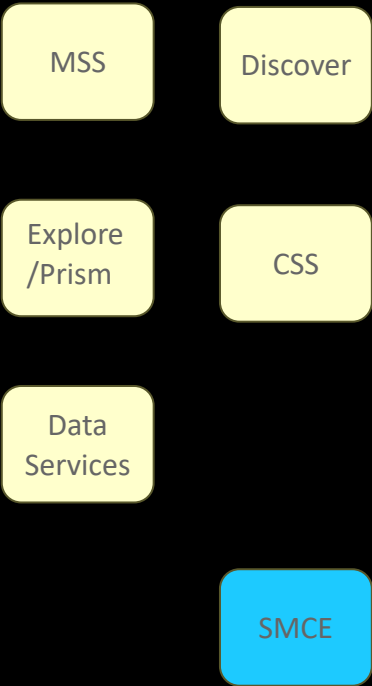
Staffing – combination of HPC and Cloud expertise



Future System



Before

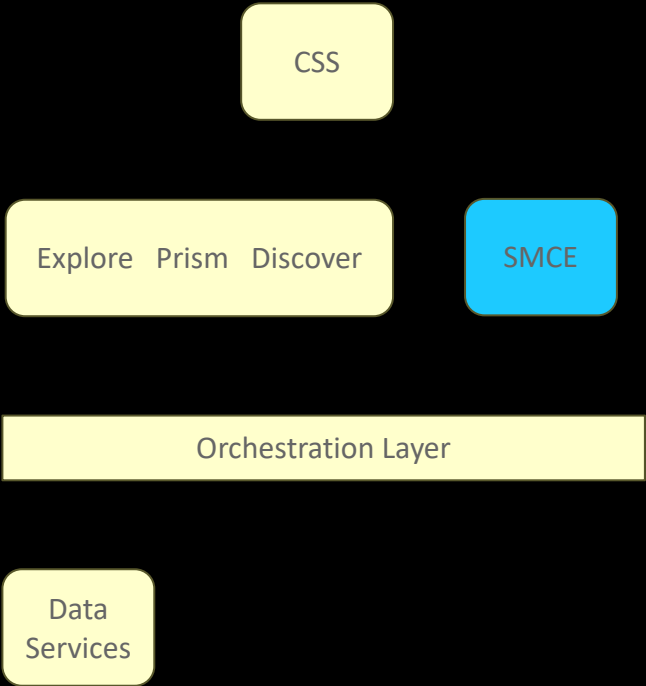


Power: Burst to cloud (SMCE)
On Prem Coexistence: shared hardware, shared access points, e.g. JupyterHub
Public Cloud Data: NASA Open Data, possible CSS access
Model Code: Co-development
Core Counts: Containers, Virtualization



Workforce: Next slide

After



Workforce



Campus Research Computing Consortium (CaRCC) Career Arcs Working Group

Based on the Research Computing and Data (RCD) Capabilities Model to describe five “facings” – Research, Data, Software, Systems, and Strategy and Policy

Two surveys – RCD Professionalization (Job titles, roles, salaries) and RCD Career Arc (recruitment, advancement, retention)

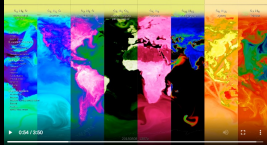
Link to paper when published: <https://carcc.org/career-arcs/>

➡ **Quick take away:**

- Women were more likely than men to believe referrals matter
- Men were more likely than women to rely on referrals for hiring and promotion
- Referrals matter – one way each of us can act is to make more referrals of deserving women and people of color for jobs into which they can grow

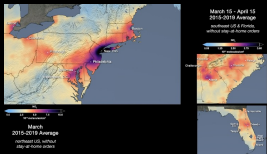


Links to Visualizations



GEOS Composition Forecast (GEOS-CF)

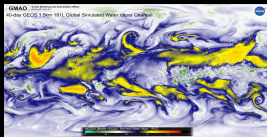
<https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/4754>



GEOS-CF COVID-19 Emissions

<https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/31142>

<https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/13753>



DYAMOND Run

<https://www.nas.nasa.gov/SC21/research/project32.html>

NCCS Science Stories:

<https://www.nccs.nasa.gov/news-events/nccs-highlights/>

