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# Higher-Resolution IA Models

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Presented at the Third Meeting of the Committee on Assessing  
Approaches to Updating the Social Cost of Carbon

November 13, 2015



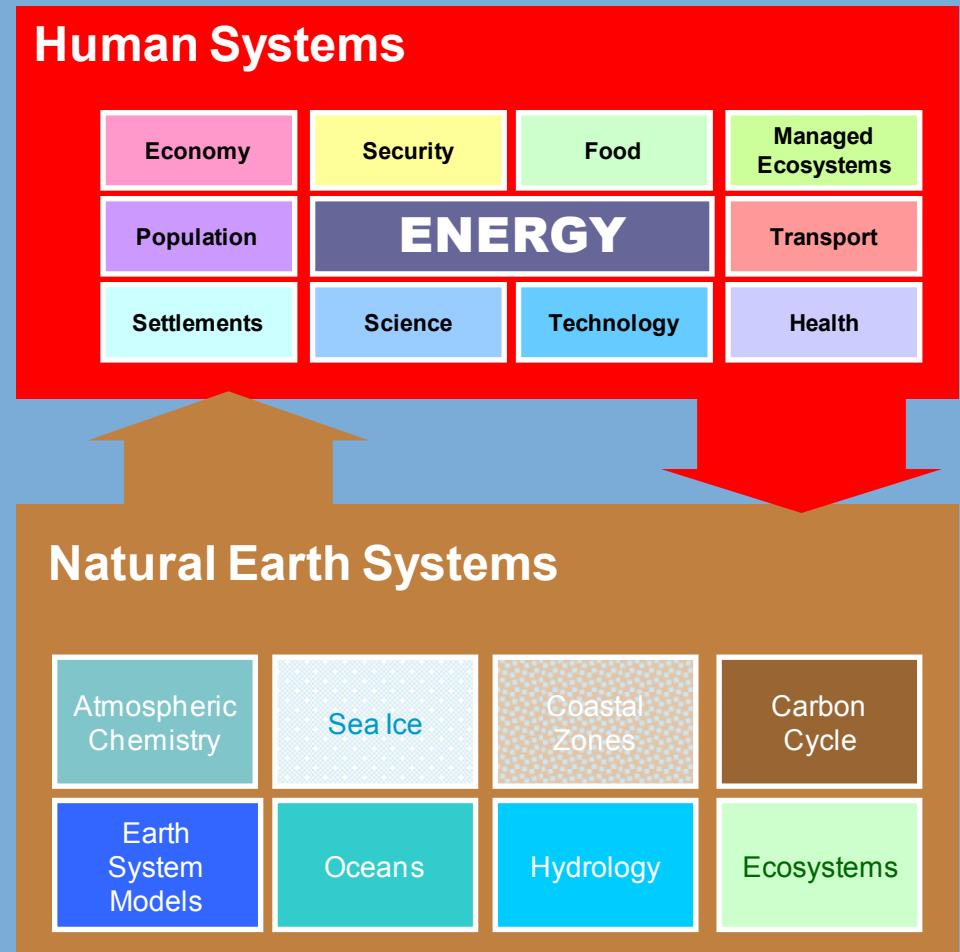
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# Higher-Resolution IA Models

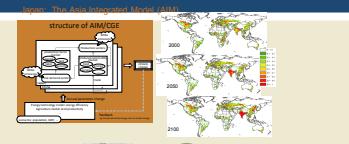
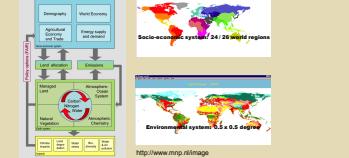
# Higher-Resolution Integrated Assessment (IA) Models

- ▶ Capture interactions between complex and highly nonlinear systems
- ▶ In the context of mitigation, they have traditionally focused on cost-effectiveness analysis
- ▶ They are increasingly being used to explore climate impacts, with a particular focus on energy-water-land interactions
- ▶ They are part of a larger stream of IA research that includes multi-model approaches to bridge scales



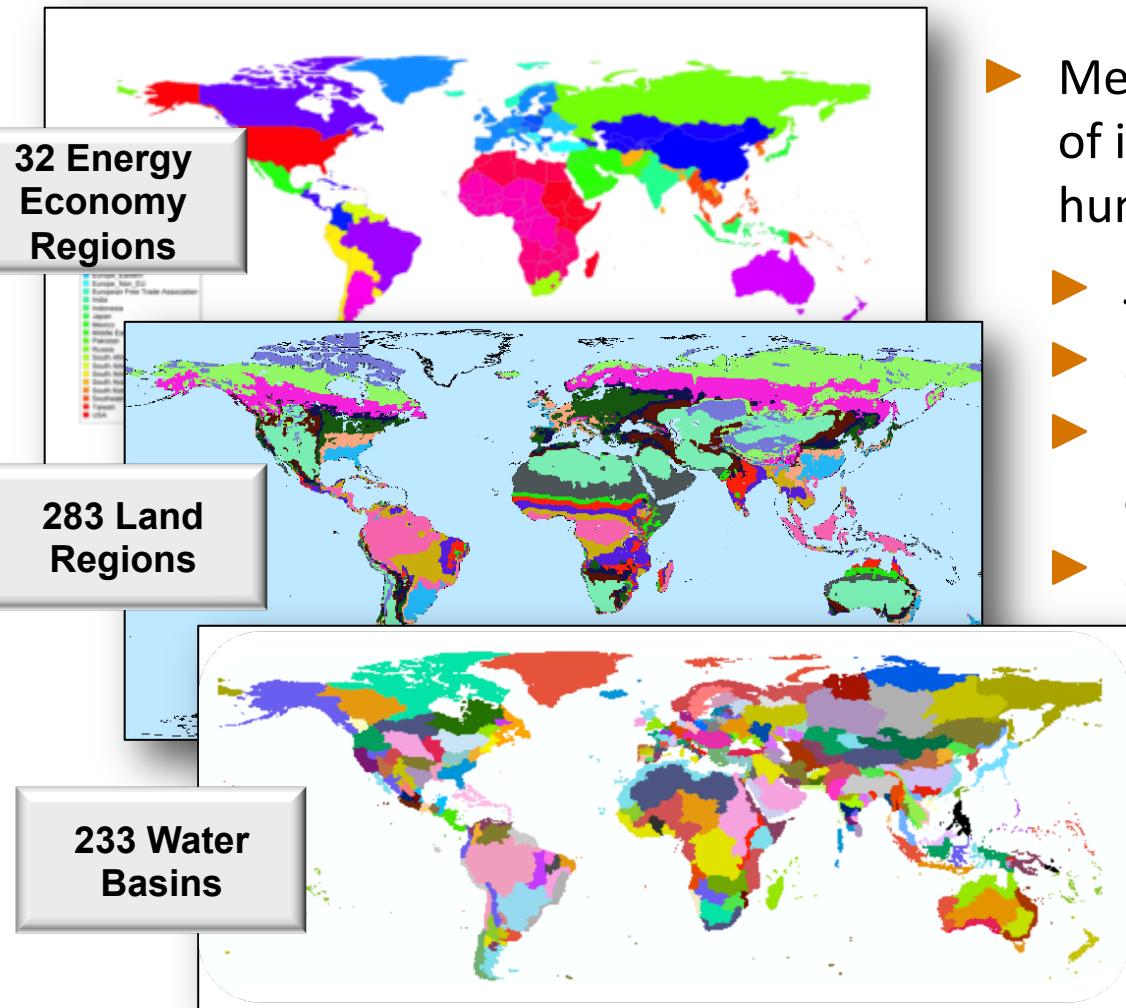


# Higher-Resolution IA Models and Teams

Model	Home Institution	
<b>AIM</b> Asia Integrated Model	National Institutes for Environmental Studies, Tsukuba Japan	
<b>GCAM</b> Global Change Assessment Model	Joint Global Change Research Institute, PNNL, College Park, MD	
<b>IGSM</b> Integrated Global System Model	Joint Program, MIT, Cambridge, MA	
<b>IMAGE</b> The Integrated Model to Assess the Global Environment	PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, Bilthoven, The Netherlands	
<b>MESSAGE</b> Model for Energy Supply Strategy Alternatives and their General Environmental Impact	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis; Laxenburg, Austria	 <p>The image cannot be displayed. Your computer may not have enough memory to open the image, or the image may have been corrupted. Restart your computer, and then open the file again. If the red x still appears, you may have to delete the image and then insert it again.</p>
<b>REMIND</b> Regionalized Model of Investments and Technological Development	Potsdam Institute for Climate Impacts Research; Potsdam, Germany	

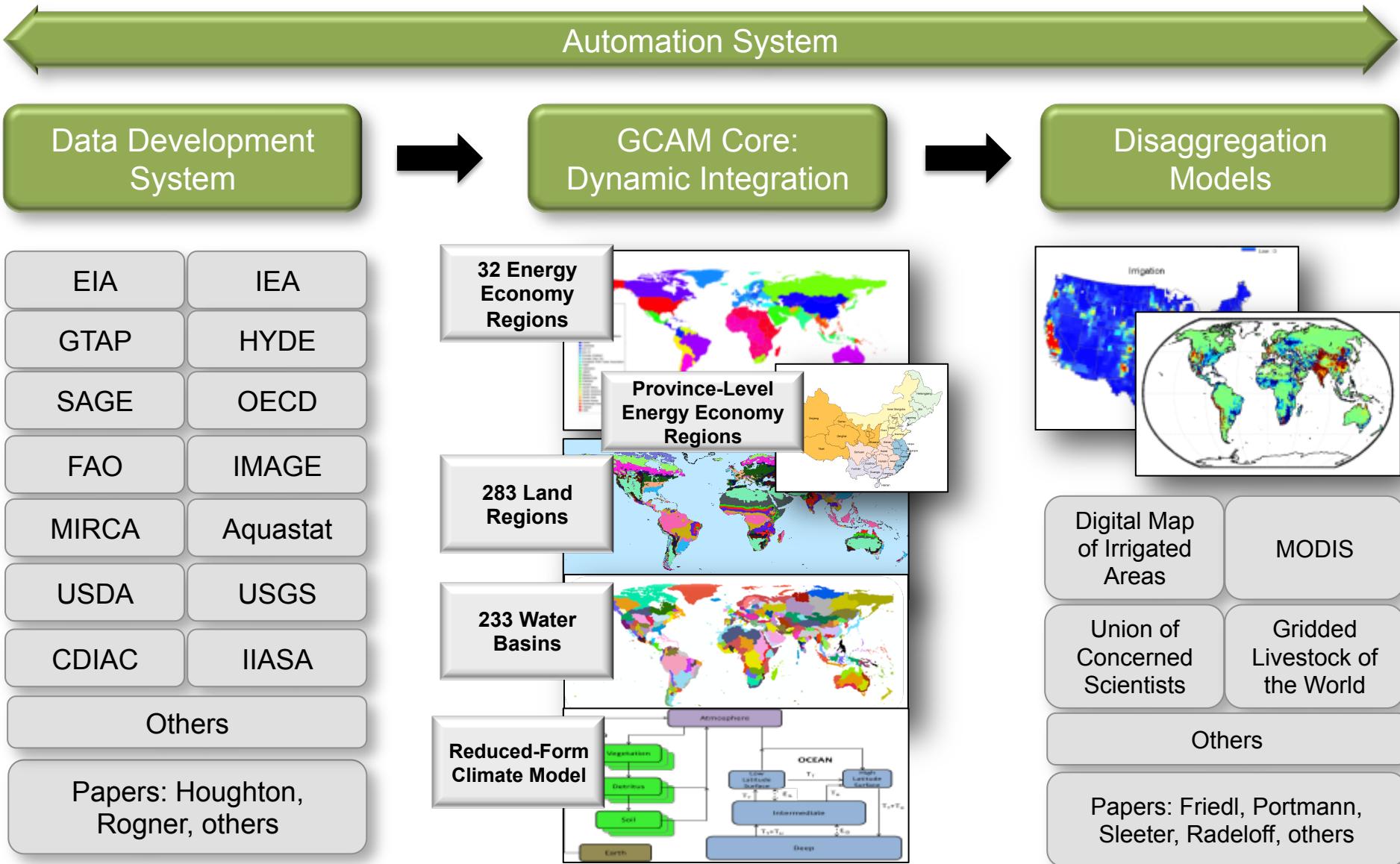
# The Global Change Assessment Model (GCAM): A Higher-Resolution IA Model

- GCAM is a **global integrated assessment model**
- GCAM links **Economic**, **Energy**, **Land-use**, **Water**, and **Climate** systems



- Meant to analyze consequences of interdependencies between human and Earth systems
  - *Socioeconomic development*
  - *Effects of climate*
  - *Technology and resource developments*
  - *Energy and other policies*
- Runs in **5-year time-steps**.
- GCAM is a community model
- Documentation available at: [wiki.umd.edu/gcam](http://wiki.umd.edu/gcam)

# IA Models Have Become Increasingly Complex Over the Last 30 Years



# Inputs and Output

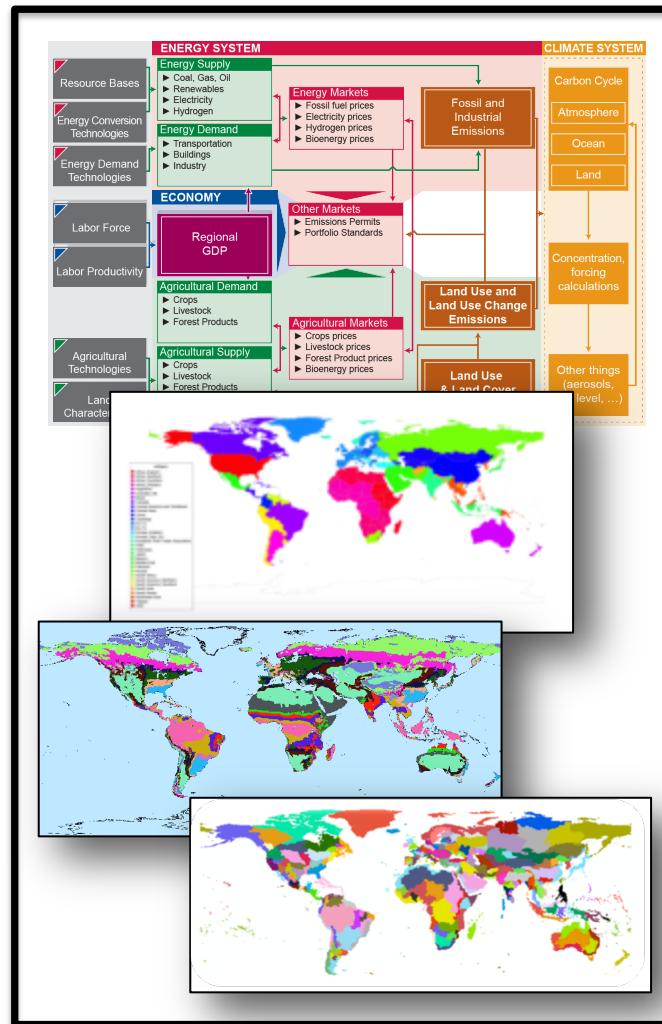
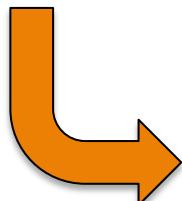


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## Scenario Assumptions

- Socioeconomic assumptions
- Energy, land use, and water technologies
- Policies
- Resources



## Scenario Outputs

- Prices and production quantities:
  - Energy sectors
  - Transportation
  - Primary energy resources
  - Agricultural products
- Land use
  - Crops (by type)
  - Pasture
  - Unmanaged
- Water demand
  - Raw demand by sector
  - Response to scarcity
- Greenhouse gases
- Economic indicators
  - Economic losses
  - Income transfer





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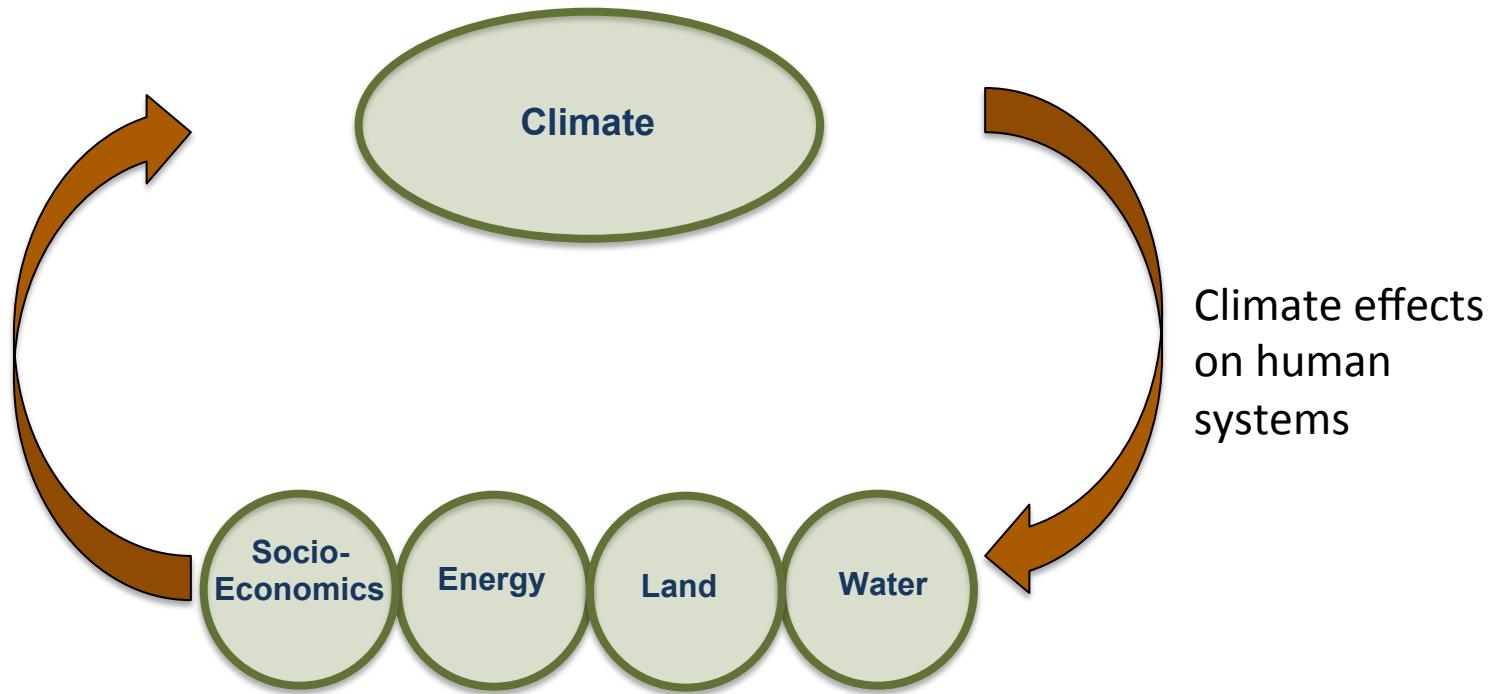
# Climate and Highly-Resolved IA Models

# Closing the Climate in IA Models

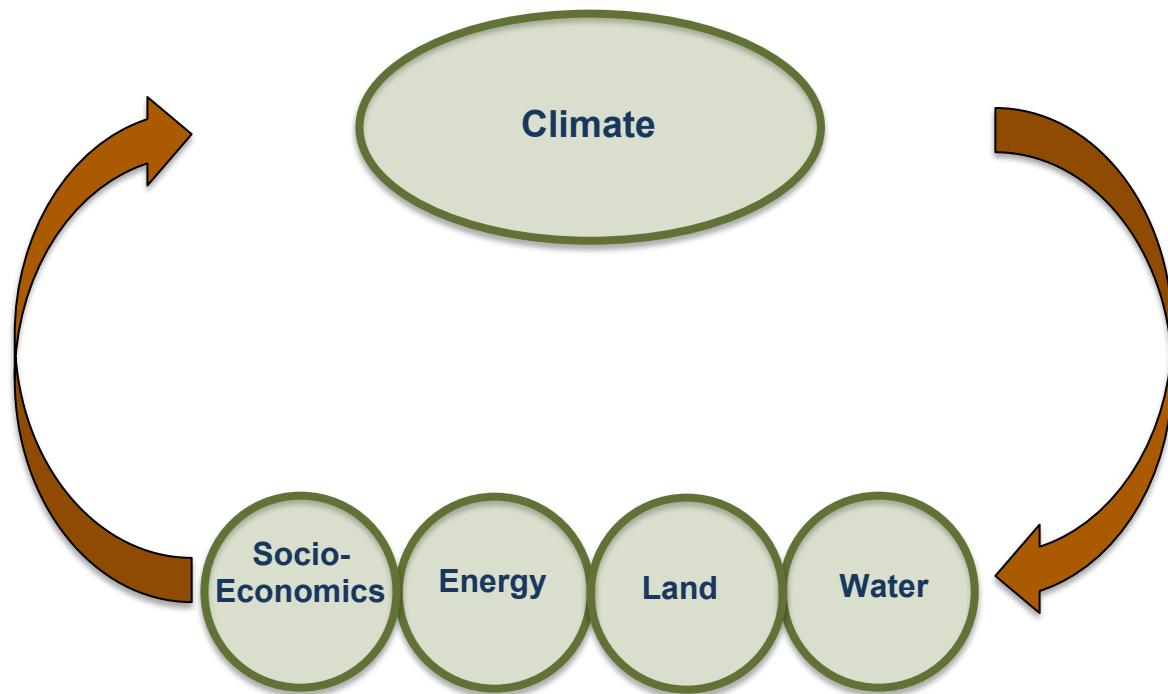


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# The Challenges of Full-Coupling in Highly-Resolved IA Research



Challenge 1. Spatially- and temporally-resolved climate information that effectively represents uncertainty

Challenge 2. Intermediate Responses (e.g., response surfaces for agricultural yields)

Challenge 3. “Hooks” to take on climate or intermediate information in IA models, incorporating higher-resolution phenomenon

# A Range of Ways to Treat Climate Impacts



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## Process Representation



## Parameterized Impacts

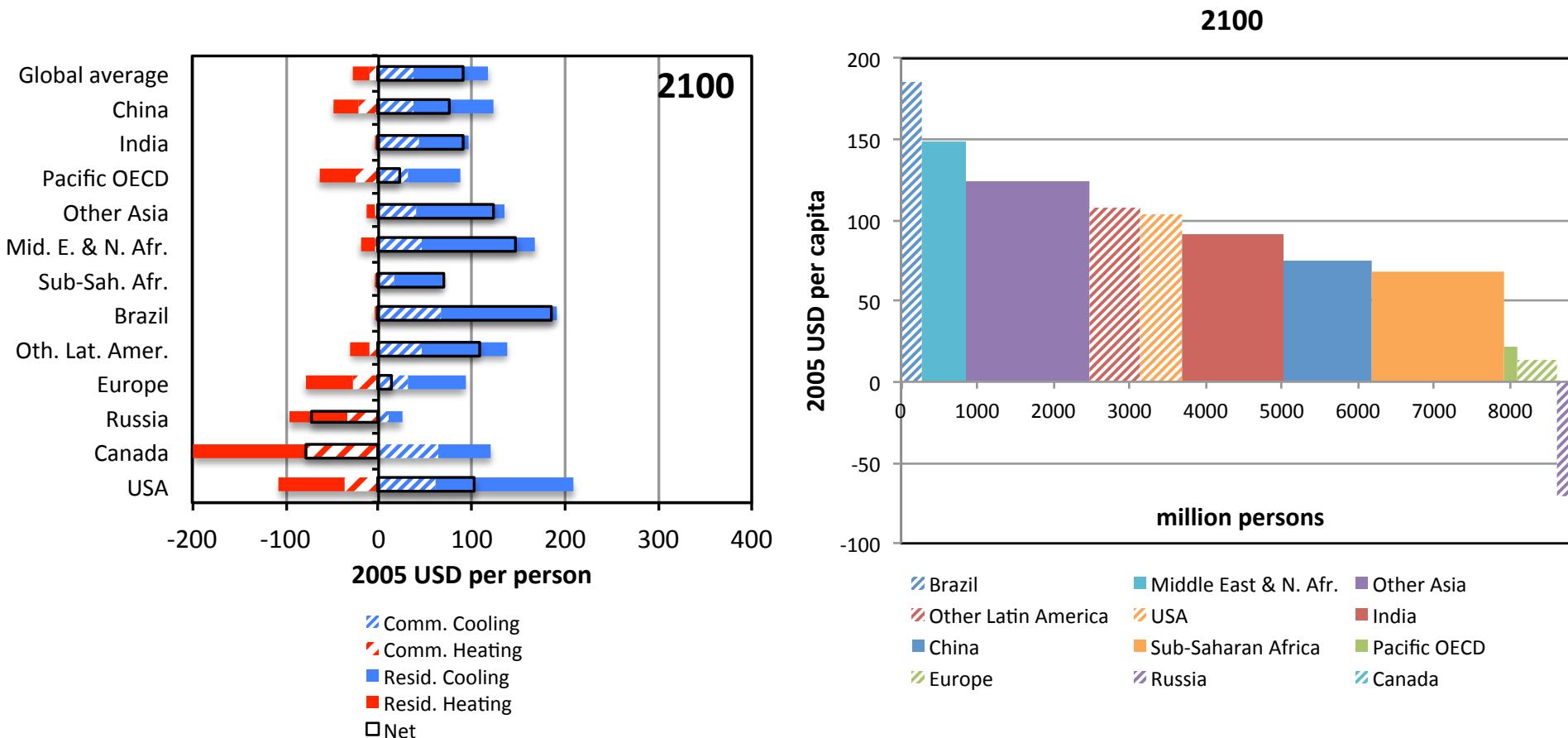
Producer of  
Damage  
Information

Large Energy-Water-  
Land Focus

Consumer of  
Damage  
Information

# Impact on Building Energy Expenditures

## Change in energy expenditures for heating & cooling



# Impact on Building Energy Expenditures



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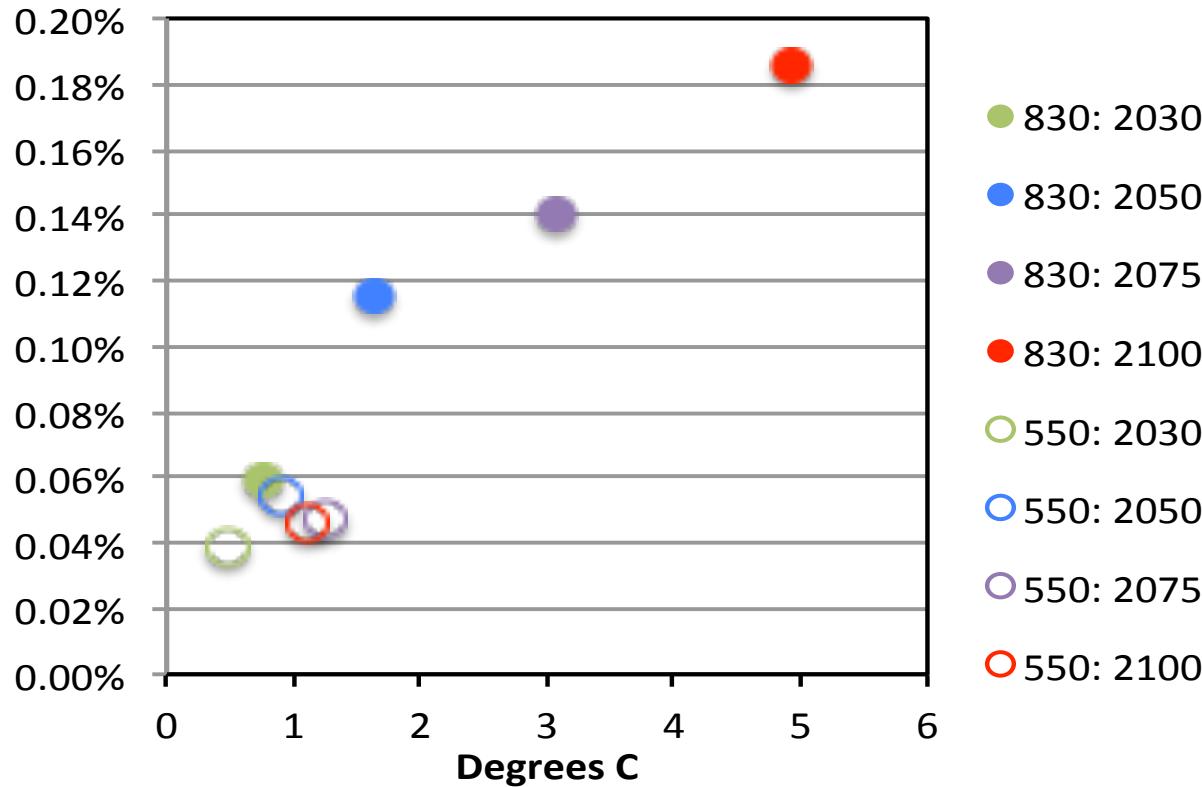
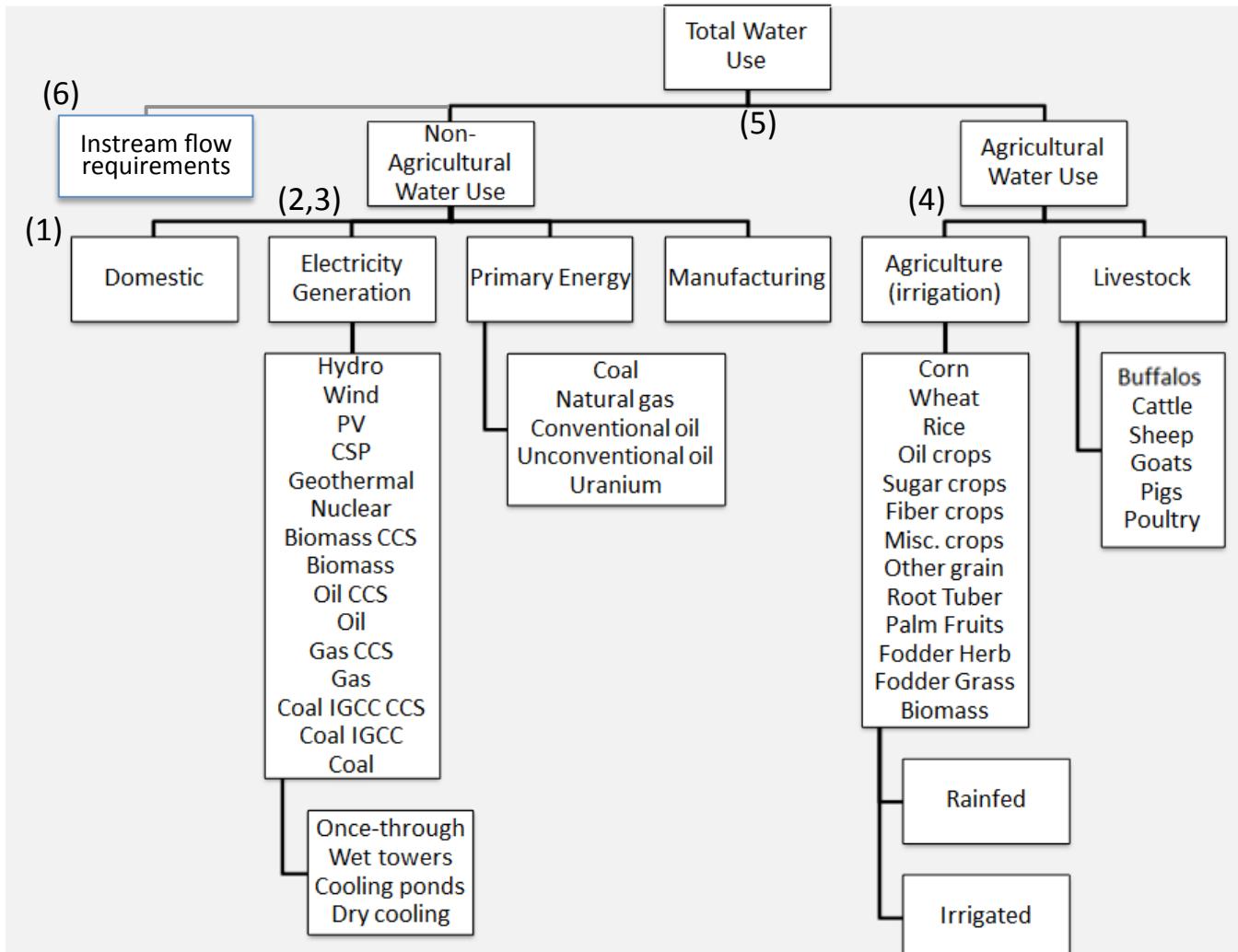


Figure 12: Global average additional expenditures per unit of income on heating and cooling as a function of the increase in global average surface temperature from 2010.

# Water Demands in GCAM



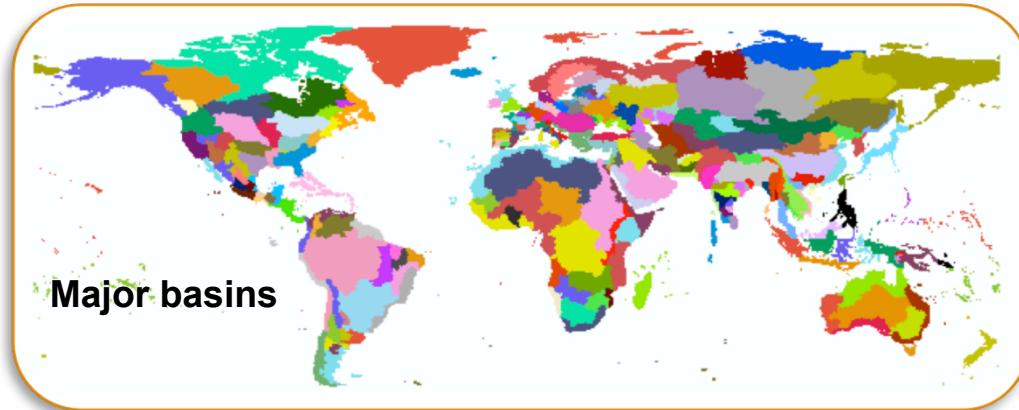
GCAM tracks water demands for several sectors, subsectors, and technologies, & at various spatial scales

- (1) Hejazi et al. (2013). Hydrological Sciences Journal
- (2) Kyle et al. (2013). Int. J. of Greenhouse Gas Control
- (3) Davies et al. (2013). Advances in Water Resources
- (4) Chaturvedi et al. (2013). Mitigation & Adaptation Strategies for Global Change.
- (5) Hejazi et al. (2014). Technological Forecasting and Social Change
- (6) Kim et al. (in review). Climatic Change

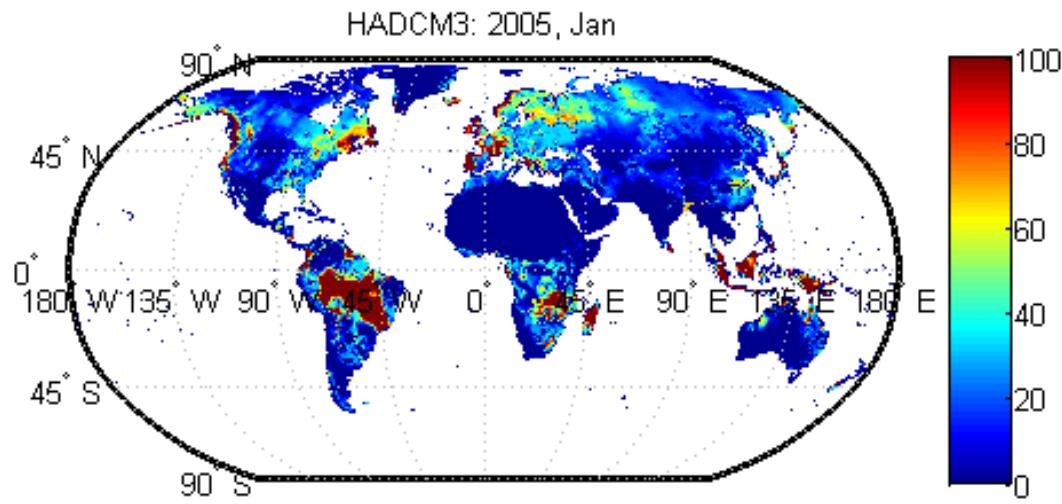
# Transforming Climate Information to Streamflow



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- ▶ Global hydrologic model
- ▶ Modified River Transport Model scheme
- ▶ 233 Basins



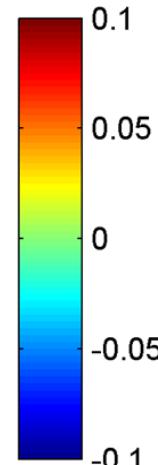
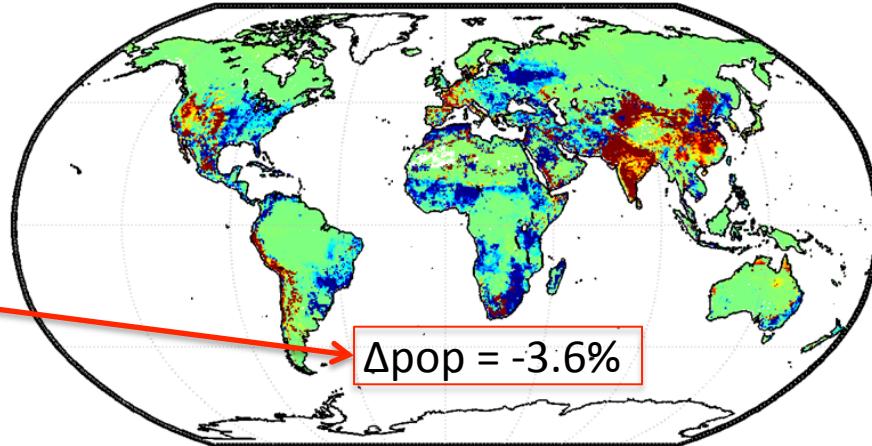
- ▶ Requires climate information from GCMs as inputs
- ▶ Monthly temporal scale
- ▶ 0.5x0.5 degree spatial resolution

# What are the Implications of Different Land Use and Bioenergy Pathways on Water Scarcity?

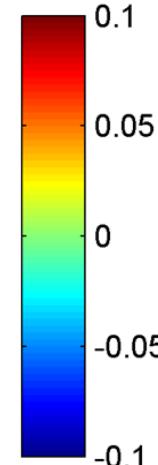
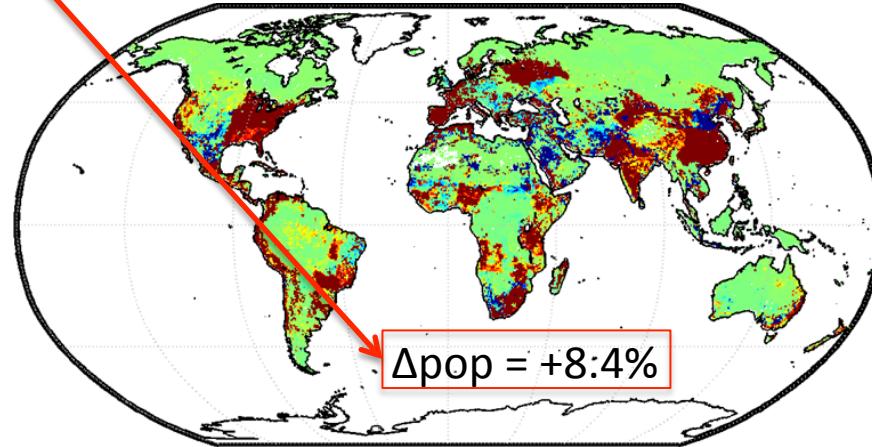
- ▶ Human system dynamics have a critical influence on future water scarcity
- ▶ The percent of global population living in grids classified as water scarce in 2095 depends substantially on the role of bioenergy in future pathways.

Figures show water scarcity associated with different pathways toward roughly  $4 \text{ W/m}^2$  relative to a higher-emissions reference scenario leading to forcing of roughly  $8.5 \text{ W/m}^2$ . Scarcity defined as annual water demand over annual water supply.

Limited biomass production scenario

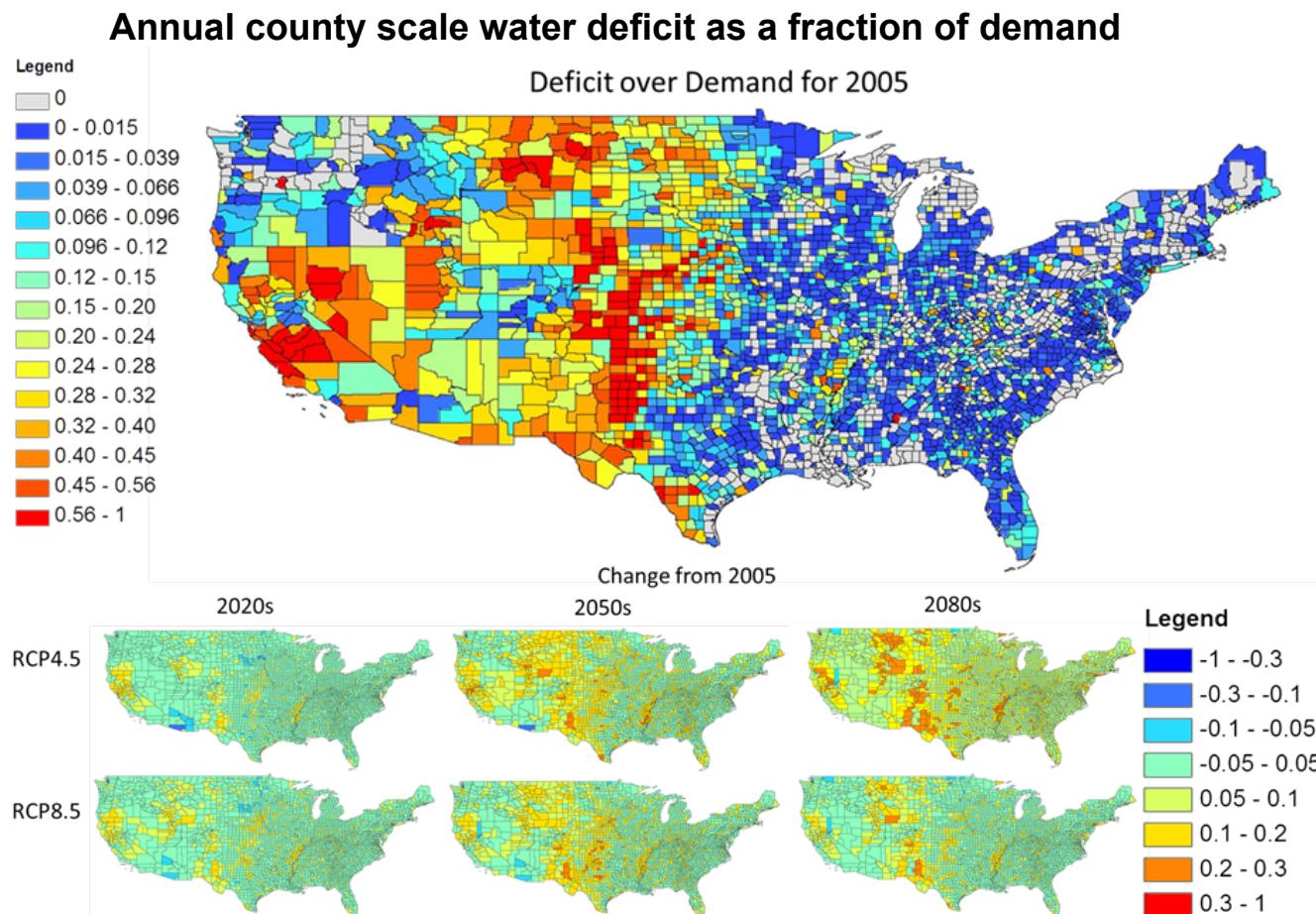


Extreme biomass production scenario



# Linked model experiments will be a key approach for integrated assessment

Linking GCAM-USA, a regional Earth system model, and a coupled hydrology-water management model,



Hejazi, Mohamad I., et al. "21st century United States emissions mitigation could increase water stress more than the 17 climate change it is mitigating." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 112.34 (2015): 10635-10640.

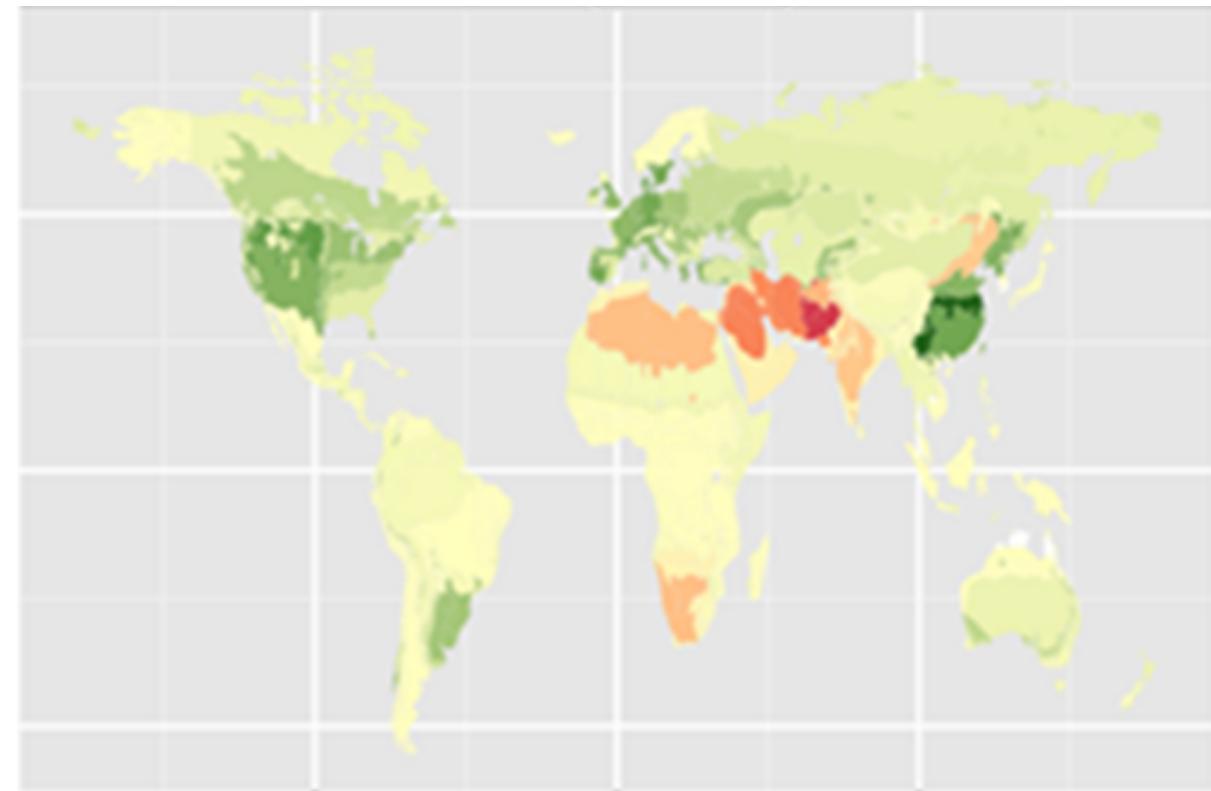
# The emerging frontier – fully coupled water supplies and demands within an integrated framework



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Percent changes in wheat production in 2100



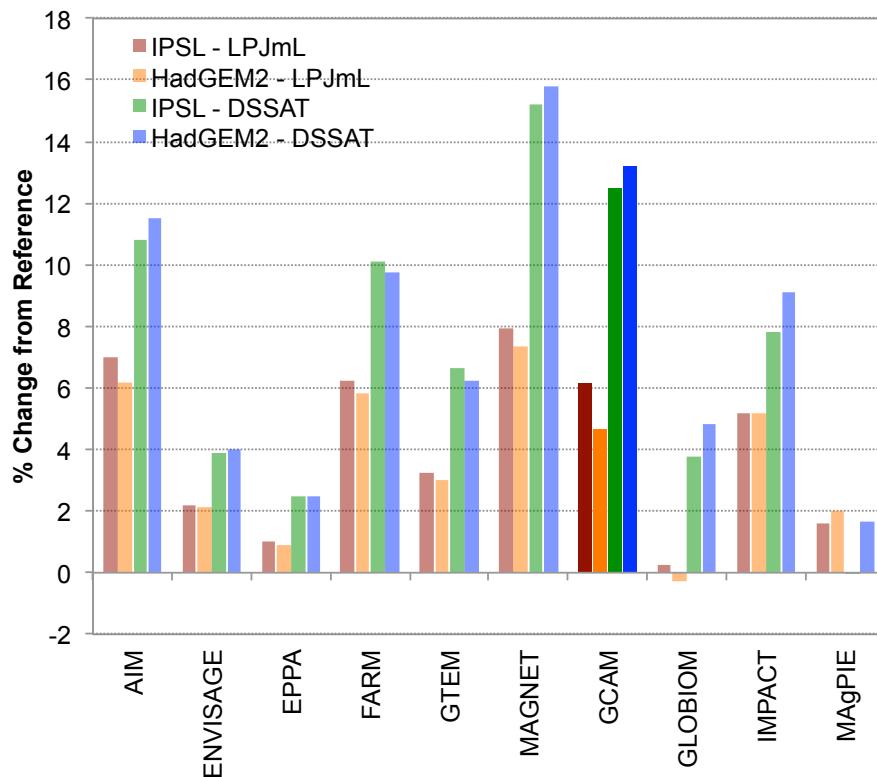
- Adaptive decisions to water scarcity will alter agricultural and land use patterns
- Non-renewable groundwater availability and extraction costs are key determinants of withdrawal projections.

Kim et al. (accepted). Climatic Change

# Climate Change Could Alter the Extent of Cropland Area Required to Feed a Growing Population

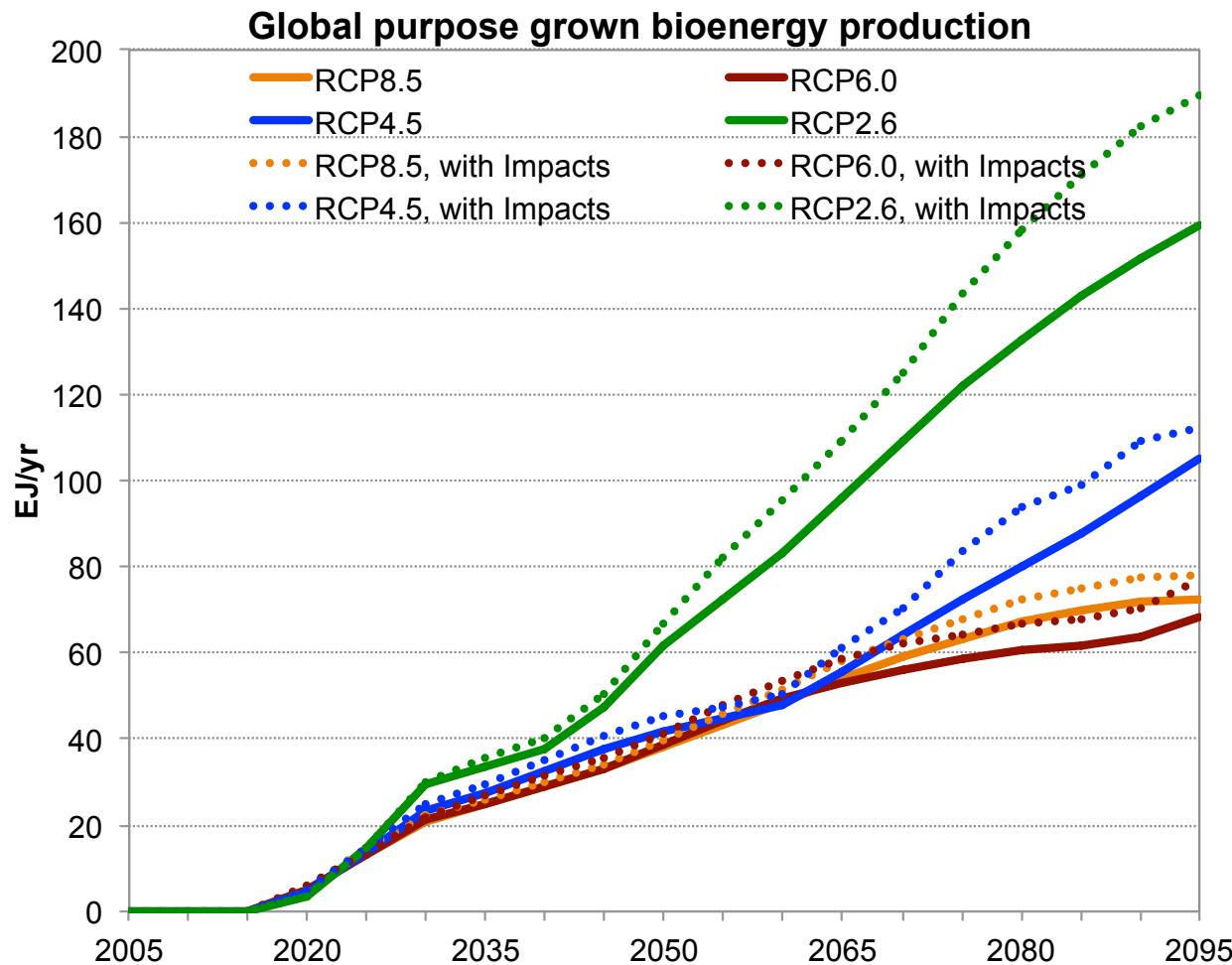
- ▶ **Question:** What is the effect of climate change on agriculture and land use?
- ▶ **Key Results:** The inclusion of changes in climate, without CO<sub>2</sub> fertilization, results in an expansion of cropland globally.

## Change in Cropland Area in Response to Climate Change



Source: Redrawn from Nelson et al. (2014)  
Results from the Agricultural Model Intercomparison Project

# Agriculture Impacts

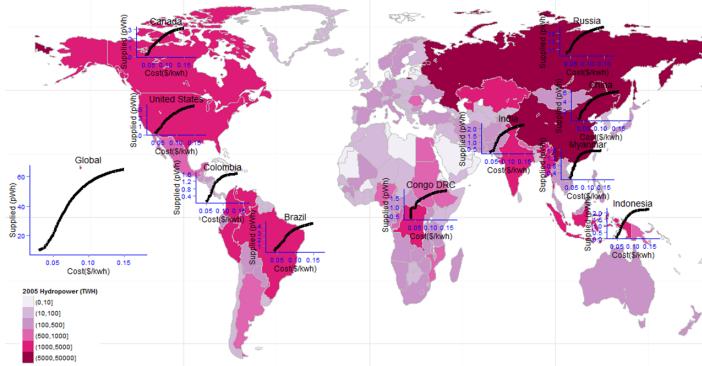


# Many More Examples of IA Impacts Analysis

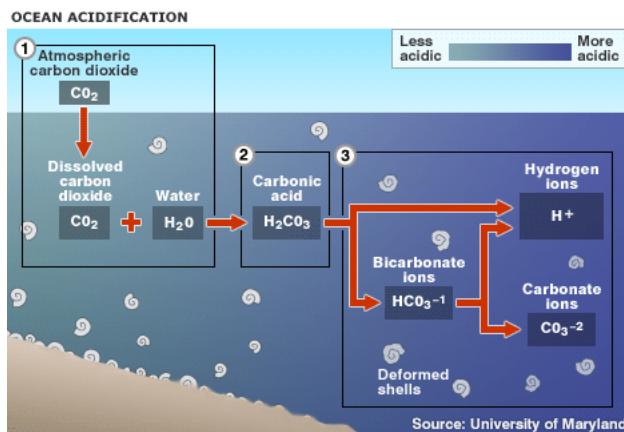


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## Hydropower



## Ocean Acidification



## Water Temperature and Thermal Cooling

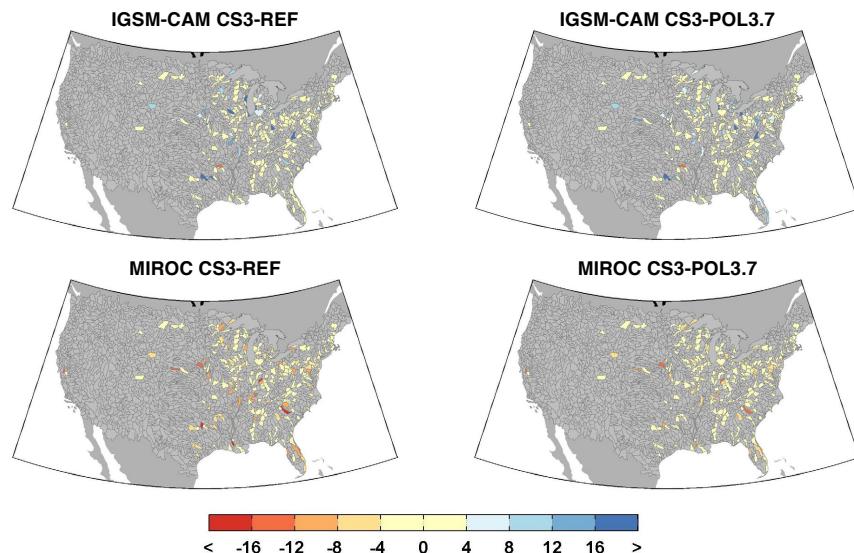


Figure 13. Changes in withdrawal allowed for HUCs with once-through cooling technology in 2050.

From: Water Body Temperature Model for Assessing Climate Change Impacts on Thermal Cooling, Ken Strzepek, Charles Fant, Yohannes Gebretsadik, Megan Lickley, Brent Boehlert, Steven Chapra, Eric Adams, Andrzej Strzepek and C. Adam Schlosser

# Challenge: Climate Variability and Extreme Events



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## Example: Electricity Impacts



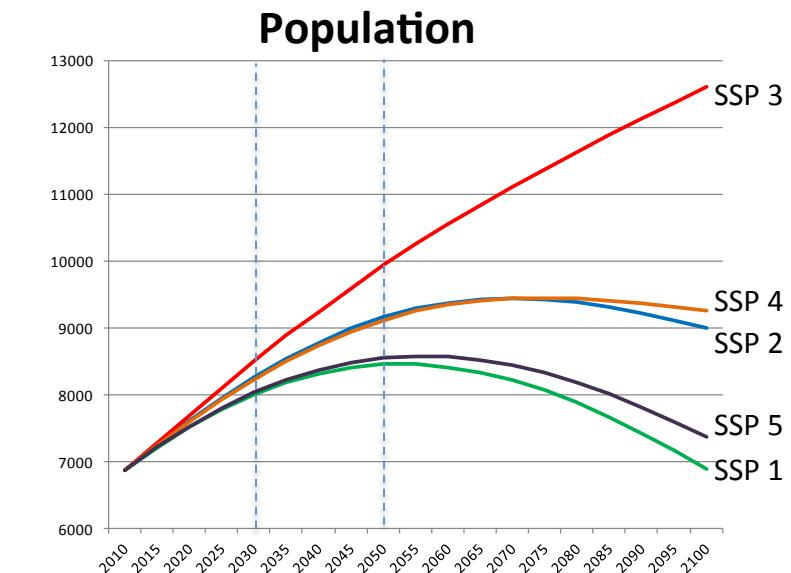
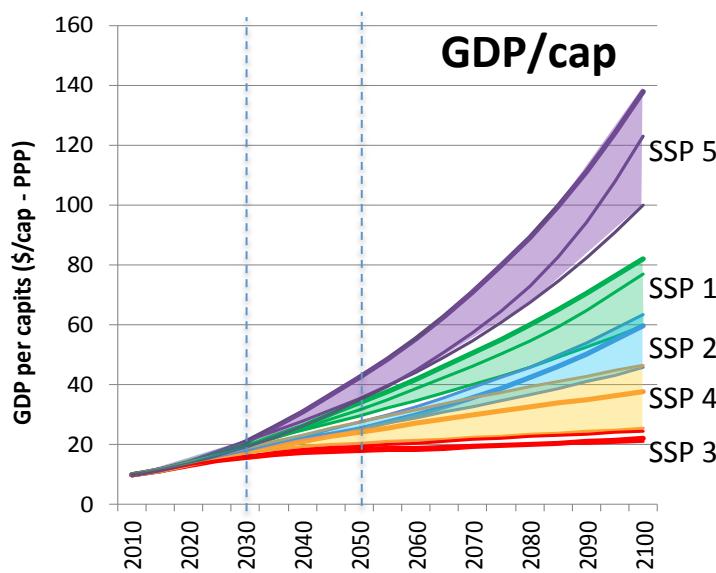
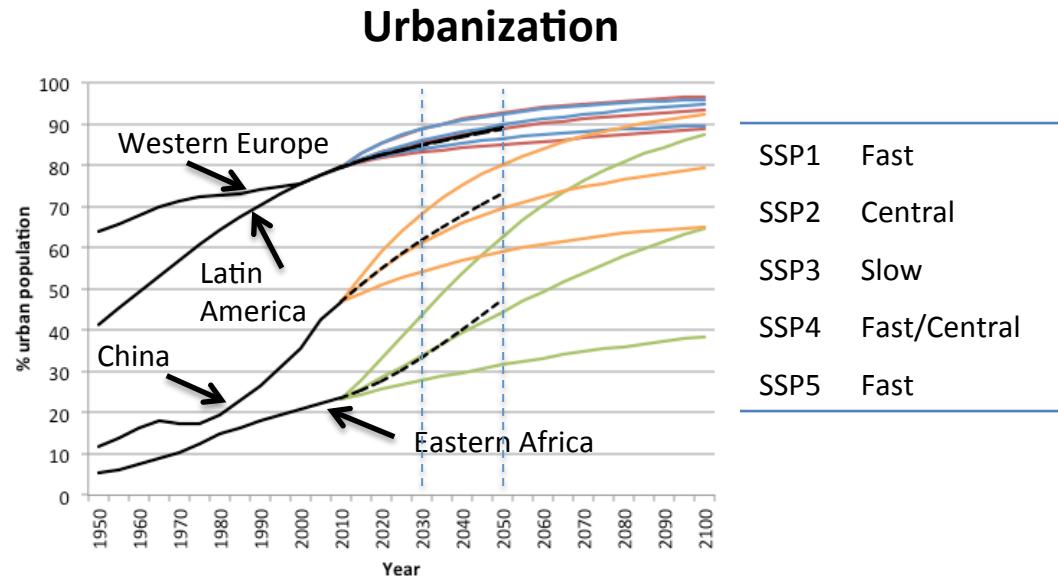
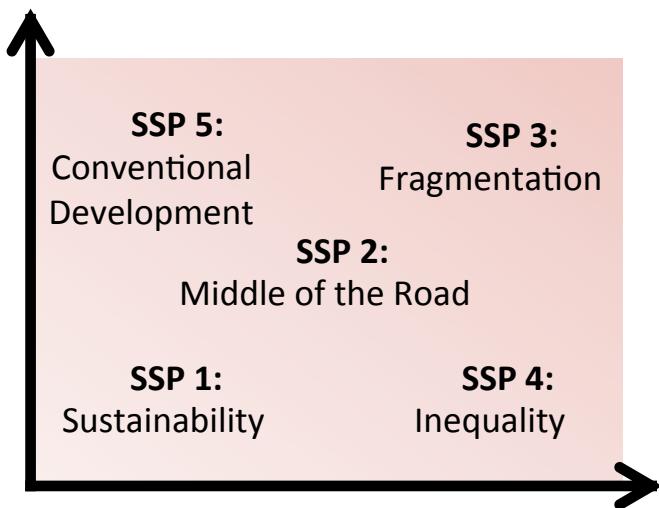
Electricity investments need to consider the confluence of demand increasing and supply decreasing effects:

- heat waves effecting both supplies and demands
- low wind
- droughts

Along with demand management, storage, infrastructure more generally

**Bottom line: For IA research to explore these factors, it needs to address events taking place on the time scale of days to weeks to years and at local to regional scales.**

# The Shared Socioeconomic Pathways

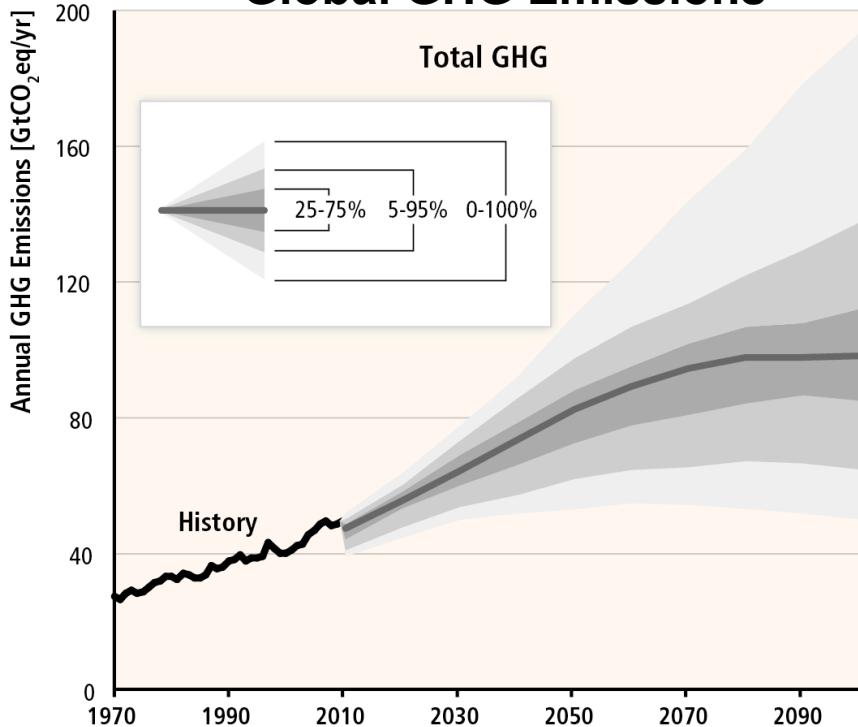


# Emissions and concentrations are expected to continue to rise despite improvements in technology.

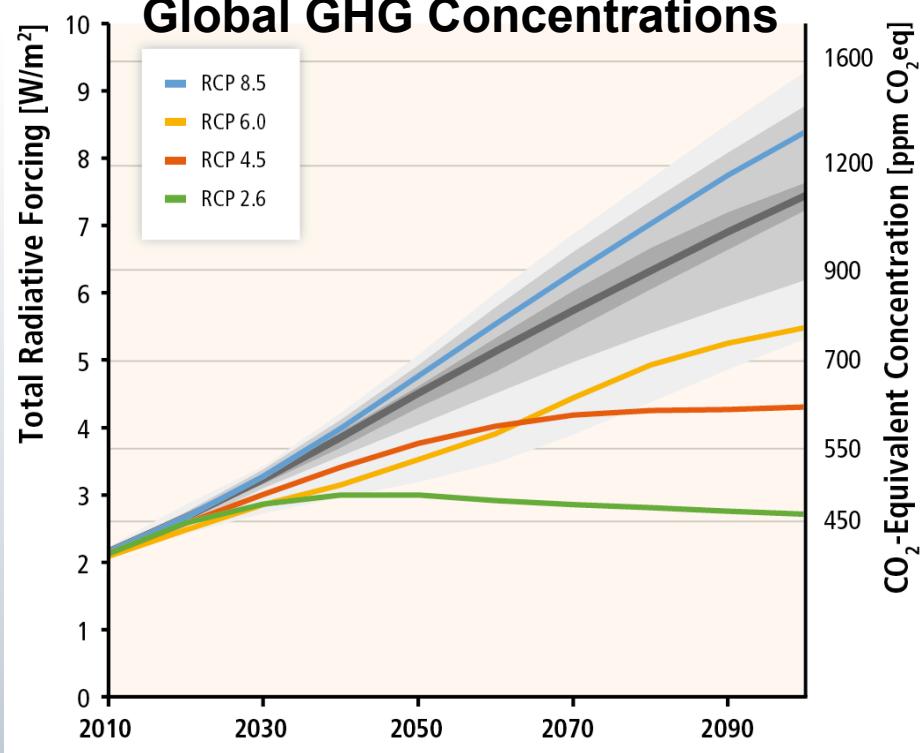
Global mean surface temperature increases in 2100 in baseline scenarios...range from 3.7°C to 4.8°C above the average for 1850–1900 for a median climate response. They range from 2.5°C to 7.8°C when including climate uncertainty (5th to 95th percentile range)

4.5°F  
to 14°F

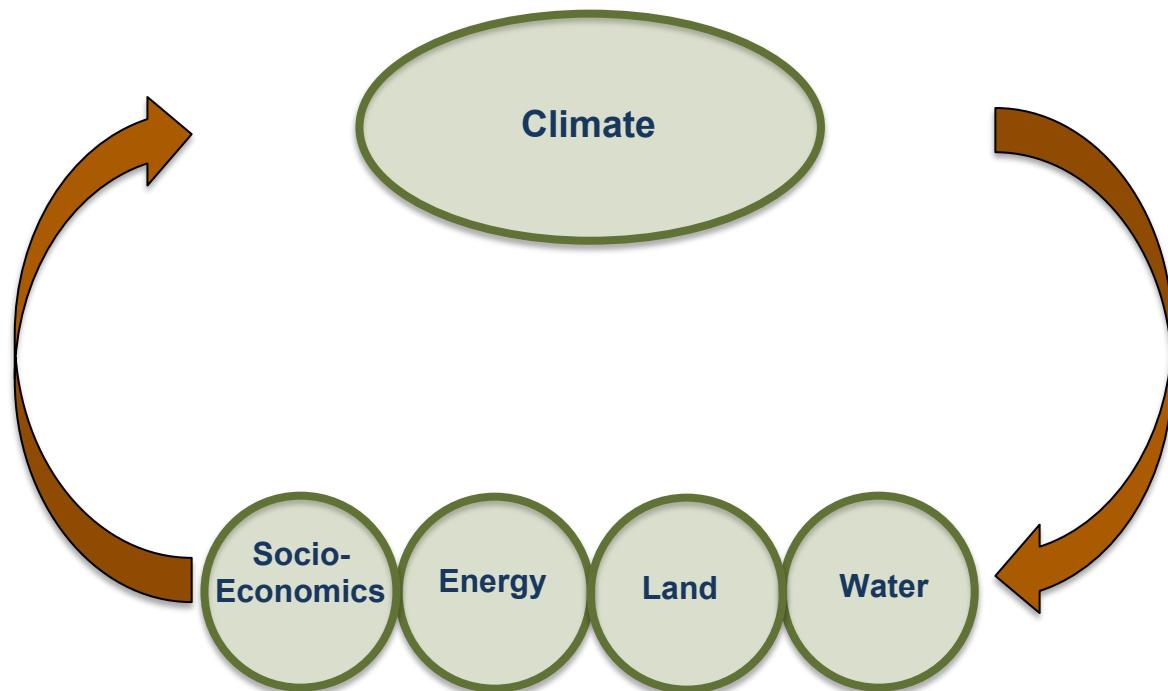
## Global GHG Emissions



## Global GHG Concentrations



# The Challenges of Full-Coupling in Highly-Resolved IA Research



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# Questions