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Historical and idealized climate model experiments: an EMIC intercomparison

M. Eby¹, A. J. Weaver¹, K. Alexander¹, K. Zickfeld², A. Abe-Ouchi^{3,4}, A. A. Cimatoribus⁵, E. Crespin⁶, S. S. Drijfhout⁵, N. R. Edwards⁷, A. V. Eliseev⁸, G. Feulner⁹, T. Fichefet⁶, C. E. Forest¹⁰, H. Goosse⁶, P. B. Holden⁷, F. Joos^{11,12}, M. Kawamiya⁴, D. Kicklighter¹³, H. Kienert⁹, K. Matsumoto¹⁴, I. I. Mokhov⁸, E. Monier¹⁵, S. M. Olsen¹⁶, J. O. P. Pedersen¹⁷, M. Perrette⁹, G. Philippon-Berthier⁶, A. Ridgwell¹⁸, A. Schlosser¹⁵, T. Schneider von Deimling⁹, G. Shaffer^{19,20}, R. S. Smith²¹, R. Spahni^{11,12}, A. P. Sokolov¹⁵, M. Steinacher^{11,12}, K. Tachiiri⁴, K. Tokos¹⁴, M. Yoshimori³, N. Zeng²², and F. Zhao²²

¹School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

²Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

³Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, The University of Tokyo, Kashiwa, Japan

⁴Research Institute for Global Change, JAMSTEC, Yokohama, Japan

⁵Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute, De Bilt, The Netherlands

⁶Georges Lemaître Centre for Earth and Climate Research, Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium



Discussion Paper ⁷The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK ⁸A. M. Obukhov Institute of Atmospheric Physics, RAS, Moscow, Russia ⁹Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Potsdam, Germany ¹⁰Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania, USA ¹¹Climate and Environmental Physics, Physics Institute, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland ¹²Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland ¹³The Ecosystems Center, MBL, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA ¹⁴University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA **Discussion** Paper ¹⁵Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA ¹⁶Danish Meteorological Institute, Copenhagen, Denmark ¹⁷National Space Institute, Technical University of Denmark, Kgs. Lyngby, Denmark ¹⁸School of Geographical Sciences, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK ¹⁹Department of Geophysics, University of Concepcion, Concepcion, Chile ²⁰Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark ²¹National Centre for Atmospheric Science – Climate, University of Reading, Reading, UK ²²University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, USA Received: 27 July 2012 – Accepted: 6 August 2012 – Published: 28 August 2012

Correspondence to: M. Eby (eby@uvic.ca)

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Abstract

Both historical and idealized climate model experiments are performed with a variety of Earth System Models of Intermediate Complexity (EMICs) as part of a community contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Re-

- ⁵ port. Historical simulations start at 850 CE and continue through to 2005. The standard simulations include changes in forcing from solar luminosity, Earth's orbital configuration, CO₂, additional greenhouse gases, land-use, and sulphate and volcanic aerosols. In spite of very different modelled pre-industrial global surface air temperatures, overall 20th century trends in surface air temperature and carbon uptake are reasonably well
- simulated when compared to observed trends. Land carbon fluxes show much more variation between models than ocean carbon fluxes, and recent land fluxes seem to be underestimated. It is possible that recent modelled climate trends or climate-carbon feedbacks are overestimated resulting in too much land carbon loss or that carbon uptake due to CO₂ and/or nitrogen fertilization is underestimated.
- Several one thousand year long, idealized, 2x and 4x CO₂ experiments are used to quantify standard model characteristics, including transient and equilibrium climate sensitivities, and climate-carbon feedbacks. The values from EMICs generally fall within the range given by General Circulation Models. Seven additional historical simulations, each including a single specified forcing, are used to assess the contributions of differ-
- ²⁰ ent climate forcings to the overall climate and carbon cycle response. The response of surface air temperature is the linear sum of the individual forcings, while the carbon cycle response shows considerable synergy between land-use change and CO_2 forcings for some models. Finally, the preindustrial portions of the last millennium simulations are used to assess historical model carbon-climate feedbacks. Given the specified forc-
- ing, there is a tendency for the EMICs to underestimate the drop in surface air temperature and CO₂ between the Medieval Climate Anomaly and the Little Ice Age estimated from paleoclimate reconstructions. This in turn could be a result of errors in the reconstructions of volcanic and/or solar radiative forcing used to drive the models or the



incomplete representation of certain processes or variability within the models. Given the datasets used in this study, the models calculate significant land-use emissions over the pre-industrial. This implies that land-use emissions might need to be taken into account, when making estimates of climate-carbon feedbacks from paleoclimate reconstructions.

1 Introduction

Climate models are powerful tools that help us to understand how climate has changed in the past and how it may change in the future. Climate models vary in complexity from highly parameterized box models to sophisticated Earth System Models with cou-

- pled Atmosphere-Ocean General Circulation Model (AOGCM) subcomponents, such as those involved in the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5; Taylor et al., 2012). Different models are designed to address different scientific questions. Simple models are often useful in developing and understanding individual processes and feedbacks, or teasing apart the basic physics of complex systems. However, they
- ¹⁵ usually lack the complex interactions that are an integral part of the climate system. Current "state of the art" Earth System Models are both sophisticated and complex, but the number and length of simulations that can be performed is limited by the availability of computing resources. Another class of models, known as Earth System Models of Intermediate Complexity (EMICs), helps fill the gap between the simplest and the most
 ²⁰ complex climate models (Claussen et al., 2002).

Usually EMICs are complex enough to capture essential climate processes and feedbacks while compromising on the complexity of one or more climate model component. Often EMICs are used at lower resolution and model components may have reduced dimensionality. While generally simpler, EMICs sometimes include more subcomponent

²⁵ models than Earth System AOGCMs. New subcomponents (for example, continental ice sheets, representations of peatlands, wetlands or permafrost) are often developed within the EMIC framework before they are embedded into coupled AOGCMs because



development and testing is less computationally expensive. In addition, there are some processes operating within the Earth system (e.g. carbonate dissolution from sediments or chemical weathering) with very long inherent timescales that can only be integrated by EMICs.

- Over the years a number of model intercomparison projects have been designed us-5 ing EMICs (e.g. Pethoukhov et al., 2005; Rahmstorf et al., 2005; Brovkin et al., 2006; Plattner et al., 2008). More typically, however, EMICs have been included in model intercomparisons with coupled AOGCMs (e.g. Gregory et al., 2005; Stouffer et al., 2006; Friedlingstein et al., 2006). Results from EMIC simulations were used extensively in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report 10 (AR4; IPCC, 2007). As part of the EMIC community's contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report, 15 EMICs have contributed results from a series of experiments designed to examine climate change over the last millennium and to extend the representative
- concentration pathways projections that are being simulated by the CMIP5 models. This paper summarizes the results of historical and idealized experiments. Histori-15 cal experiments are used to explore the linearity and contribution of various specified forcings over the last millennium. The climate and carbon cycle responses of models over the historical period are also compared to observational estimates. Idealized experiments are used to generate climate and carbon cycle metrics for comparison with previous studies or results from other models. The preindustrial portion of the last 20 millennium is also used to assess the climate carbon cycle feedback over this period. Details of experiments that explore future climate change commitment and irreversibil
 - ity can be found in Zickfeld et al. (2012).



2 Experimental design

2.1 Models

Fifteen EMICs participated in this intercomparison project. The participating model names with version numbers, followed by a two letter abbreviation (in parentheses), and contributing institution are as followed Barr2D (B2) from the University of Barr

- and contributing institution, are as follows: Bern3D (B3) from the University of Bern, CLIMBER-2.4 (C2) from the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research; CLIMBER-3α (C3) from the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research; DCESS v1 (DC) from the Danish Centre for Earth System Science; FAMOUS vXFXWB (FA) from the University of Reading; GENIE release 2-7-7 (GE) from The Open University; IAP RAS CM
- (IA) from the Russian Academy of Sciences; IGSM v2.2 (I2) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; LOVECLIM v1.2 (LO) from the Université Catholique de Louvain; MESMO v1.0 (ME) from the University of Minnesota; MIROC-lite (MI) from the University of Tokyo; MIROC-lite-LCM (ML) from the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology; SPEEDO (SP) from the Royal Netherlands Meteorological
- ¹⁵ Institute; UMD v2.0 (UM) from the University of Maryland; UVic v2.9 (UV) from the University of Victoria. Model characteristics are compared in Table 1 and more complete descriptions are provided in the appendix. Unlike the EMICs cited in the AR4, several models now calculate land-use change carbon fluxes internally (B3, GE, I2, ML, UV) and/or include ocean sediment and terrestrial weathering (B3, DC, GE, UV).
- Eight EMICs (B3, DC, GE, I2, ME, ML, UM and UV) include interactive land and ocean carbon cycle components that allow them to diagnose emissions that are compatible with specified CO₂ concentrations.

2.2 Methods

To be consistent with other intercomparison projects, forcing for the initial condition and the historical period were obtained from the Paleoclimate Modelling Intercomparison Project Phase 3 (PMIP3) and CMIP5 recommended datasets. Specified



forcings included orbital configuration (from Berger, 1978), trace gases from various ice cores (Schmidt et al., 2012; Meinshausen et al., 2011), volcanic aerosols (Crow-ley et al., 2008), solar irradiance (Delaygue and Bard, 2009; Wang et al., 2005), sulphate aerosols (Lamarque et al., 2010) and land-use (Pongratz et al., 2007; Hurtt et al.,

5 2011). Forcing data from PMIP3 and CMIP5 were concatenated or linearly blended before 1850 when necessary. From 1850 to 2005, all specified forcings are identical to the historical portion of the RCP scenarios.

Most models that participated in the historical last millennium simulations (B3, C2, C3, DC, GE, IA, I2, LO, ME, MI, UM, UV) used steady forcing to create the initial equilibrium state. The B3 model started from equilibrium at the Last Glacial Maximum in order to ensure that its permafrost and peatland components were in a consistent initial state by the year 850.

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Models were then integrated to the year 2005 under various specified forcings. Up to nine historical simulations with specified CO₂ concentrations were performed. Seven consisted of simulations with forcing changing only due to changes in orbit, non-CO₂ tracer gases, CO₂, land-use, solar luminosity, sulphate aerosols or volcanic aerosols. Two additional simulations specified all or none of these forcing changes. The simulation with no changes in forcing is merely a continuation of the equilibrium simulation and can be considered a control experiment. The all-forcing simulation was used as the initial condition for future simulations in Zickfeld et al. (2012).

For models with complete carbon cycles (B3, DC, GE, I2, ME, UM and UV), three additional historical simulations were performed. In these experiments, the initial conditions were the same as for the historical specified CO_2 simulations, but CO_2 concentrations were allowed to evolve freely. Two simulations had the same forcing as the

historical all-forcing and control simulations (except for CO₂), but here the all-forcing simulation also had specified anthropogenic CO₂ emissions. The third simulation only had changes in natural forcing (orbit, solar luminosity and volcanic aerosols).

Several idealized experiments were also performed in order to calculate standard climate and carbon cycle metrics. All of these experiments were started from an



equilibrium state with a CO₂ concentration near 280 ppm and integrated for 1000 yr. There were seven idealized experiments performed in total. Two experiments specified an instantaneous increase of CO₂ to a constant concentration at 2x and 4x the initial concentration. These were used to help assess equilibrium climate sensitivity. Another ⁵ experiment specified an instantaneous increase to 4x the initial CO₂ but then allowed CO₂ to evolve freely. This experiment was used to determine the time scales over which carbon perturbations are removed from the atmosphere.

The other four idealized experiments specified an increase in CO_2 at 1 % per year until reaching 4x the initial CO_2 concentration. One experiment allowed CO_2 to freely evolve after reaching 4x the initial concentration. This experiment was used to as-

- evolve after reaching 4x the initial concentration. This experiment was used to assess the models' carbon-climate response (CCR). This is calculated as the change in surface air temperature (SAT) divided by the total amount of accumulated emissions from some reference period (Matthews et al., 2009). For the other three experiments, CO₂ was fixed after reaching 4x the initial concentration. These three experiments was used to assess the models' carbon and the medals' carbon and the set of the set of the set.
- were used to determine the models' carbon cycle feedbacks. One experiment was fully coupled, one excluded the changes in radiative forcing from increasing CO_2 , and one excluded the direct effects of increasing CO_2 on land and ocean carbon fluxes. The CO_2 concentration-carbon sensitivity can be calculated directly as the change in land or ocean carbon in the experiment that excludes the radiative forcing from increasing
- CO₂ (radiatively uncoupled) divided by the change in atmospheric CO₂. The climatecarbon sensitivity can be calculated directly as the change in land or ocean carbon in the experiment that excludes the effects of increasing CO₂ on land and ocean carbon fluxes (biogeochemically uncoupled) divided by the change in SAT. The fully coupled simulation was also used to assess transient climate sensitivities, ocean heat uptake
- ²⁵ efficiency and zonal amplification. Ocean heat uptake efficiency is the global average heat flux divided by the change in SAT and zonal temperature amplification is the zonal average SAT anomaly divided by the global average SAT anomaly.



3 Results and discussion

3.1 Climate

There is a very large range in the absolute SAT simulated over the historical period by the models involved in this intercomparison. Absolute SAT is a difficult quantity to

- ⁵ measure, but Jones et al. (1999) estimate the absolute global average value of SAT to be approximately 14 °C between the years 1960 to 1990. As seen in Fig. 1a, the annual average SAT at 850 CE varies from 12.3 °C to 17.2 °C. All of the models are using the same externally specified forcing, so this large range in initial conditions must be due to internal model differences. Most comparisons between models and observational
- datasets only examine anomalies from a particular reference period (as in Fig. 1b). However, the large differences between initial states might influence the models' responses to changing climate forcing. Some feedbacks, such as the albedo changes from reductions in snow or ice, and hence an individual model's climate sensitivity (Weaver et al., 2007), would likely depend on the models' initial states.
- ¹⁵ Although the average model trend over the 20th century (0.79 °C) is close to the observed trends (0.73 °C) (Jones et al., 2012), there is still considerable spread in model response (0.4 to 1.2 °C). One difficulty in comparing EMICs involves the large variation in complexity between models. Some of the forcing changes over the preindustrial period need to be highly parameterized or even specified in many models. Aerosols
- and land-use change can be particularly challenging to implement in some models. A few EMICs are not able to apply all of the forcings specified in the experimental design, which adds to the model spread. Since most EMICs are not able to simulate the warming from black carbon, the indirect effect of ozone, or the cooling from the indirect effect of sulphate aerosols, these forcings were excluded. In general these excluded forcings tand to expect out and as no extre net external forcing uses are able to are all the second to excluded.
- ²⁵ forcings tend to cancel out, and so no extra net external forcing was specified in order to compensate for their exclusion (Meinshausen et al., 2011).

For the specified external forcings over the 20th century, five models appear to stay mostly within the observational uncertainty envelope for this period, five tend to



overestimate the observed trends, and two tend to underestimate the trends (Fig. 1b). The model with the largest trend (ME) did not include any sulphate aerosol forcing. Without the cooling associated with this forcing, the model would be expected to overestimate 20th century warming. On the other hand, the UM model, which simulates the
 20th century trend well, includes estimates of the indirect effect of sulphate aerosols

⁵ 20th century trend weil, includes estimates of the indirect ellect of supplate aerosols but not the countering ozone and black carbon forcing. Given the large number of models included in this intercomparison, the variation in the application of external forcing appears to average out, and the model mean trend agrees well with observations.

There may be a very weak relationship between the pre-industrial climate state and the climate response over the 20th century. The two models with the strongest 20th century response also start from the coldest initial state. The model with the weakest response starts from the second warmest state. Using all models, the linear correlation (*r*) between initial state and 20th century warming is about 0.4. If the two models with the strongest and the model with the weakest response are excluded, there is no clear relationship (r = 0.2). Given that many factors other than initial state influence a model's 20th century climate response, a strong relationship might not be expected.

The amount of heat taken up by the ocean is an important factor in determining transient climate response and sea level change. The models' changes in ocean heat content over the 20th century are shown in Fig. 2a. While the data estimates are only to 2000 m depth and the model heat content change shown is over the entire ocean depth, it appears that many models may be overestimating ocean heat uptake. Some of the modeled differences from observations could be due to too much or too little surface warming. The two models that agree well with ocean heat uptake estimates

are the same models that slightly underestimate atmospheric surface warming over the 20th century. Estimates of past thermosteric sea level rise (Fig. 2b) show similar differences between the models' and data estimates, with the models generally simulating more thermosteric sea level rise than observed. This is not surprising since the



largest component of thermosteric sea level changes is from changes in ocean heat content.

The response of the thermohaline circulation in the Atlantic, as indicated by a simple Atlantic meridional overturning index (defined as the maximum value of the overturning streamfunction in the North Atlantic), indicates a moderate slowing in all models

(between about 0.8 to 2.1 Sv, or 3 to 13%). Direct measurements of the thermohaline circulation are difficult and trends are hard to distinguish from natural variability. There is, therefore, still some controversy as to the response of the MOC over the 20th century (Latif et al., 2006). However, this moderate response to a warming climate is similar
to what has been seen in previous studies (Plattner et al., 2008).

In order to assess the models' responses in a more controlled environment, several standard idealized experiments were performed. Idealized experiments with CO_2 increasing at a rate of 1 % per year until reaching two or four times the initial level of pre-industrial CO_2 were used to assess the transient climate response and equilibrium elimete constituities.

- rium climate sensitivities. Here we define the equilibrium climate sensitivity to be the change in SAT after 1000 yr, even though the models are not truly in equilibrium. There is a large range in the equilibrium climate sensitivity (see Fig. 3a and Table 2). Equilibrium climate sensitivity at 2x CO₂ ranges between 1.9 and 4.0 °C and at 4x CO₂ between 3.5 and 8.0 °C. The ocean heat uptake efficiency was also calculated from
- this idealized experiment and it is interesting to note that the model with the highest uptake efficiency (LO) is also one of the models with the lowest ocean heat uptake over the 20th century. This implies that the lower than average (but closer to observed) heat uptake is most likely due to the model's lower than average 20th century warming. This may not be the case with B3, which also has lower than average 20th century ocean heat uptake, but shows one of the lowest heat uptake efficiencies.

Figure 3b shows the zonal SAT amplification, which is calculated as the zonal SAT change divided by the global mean change at year 140 of the 1% increase to $4x \text{ CO}_2$ experiment. The temperature amplification at year 70 (when $2x \text{ CO}_2$ is reached, not shown) is similar. Some models (DC, ME, MI, ML) exhibit very little polar amplification,



showing a nearly flat zonal response. Two models (IA and LO) show polar amplification in the north to be larger than 3.0. Although the two models with the highest polar amplification have lower than average climate sensitivities, and start from warmer than average initial states, there appears to be no simple relationship between polar amplification, climate sensitivity and initial state.

3.2 Carbon

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The ability to reproduce trends in the carbon cycle is another important requirement for models that are used to predict the fate of anthropogenic carbon. For the historical all-forcing experiment (as for RCPs) CO₂ concentrations are specified, but models a with complete carbon cycle can still calculate emissions that are compatible with the specified CO₂. The overall average EMIC carbon cycle response for the 1990s is within the uncertainty range of estimated values, except for diagnosed emissions, which are slightly underestimated (see Table 3). The EMIC mean in Table 3 excludes the two models (ME, UM) that do not transfer carbon with land-use change. These models would be expected to overestimate diagnosed emissions due to the lack of emissions from land-use change. This can be seen in the accumulated fluxes from 1800–2000, where they underestimate land fluxes to the atmosphere, and thus overestimate total diagnosed emissions by 61 to 103 Pg of carbon.

The fluxes of carbon to the atmosphere are shown in Fig. 4a. All models reproduce estimated fluxes to the ocean within uncertainty ranges between 1980 and 2005. Although all models remain within the large range of uncertainty for land fluxes, many appear to underestimate recent land fluxes, especially since 2000. Many of the models are able to reproduce trends in emissions reasonably well, but most underestimate recent emissions, and this appears to be from having too little net uptake on land.

Figure 4b shows the accumulated fluxes of carbon since 1800. The integral changes in pools (or emissions) are also shown with associated uncertainty as cross bars at 1994 (estimates from Sabine et al., 2004). Again, all models estimate total ocean uptake within the range of uncertainty (see Table 3). Total land pool changes are much



more variable, with only half of the models estimating fluxes within the range of uncertainty. Most models do remarkably well at estimating total emissions between 1800 and 1994. Two models overestimate total emissions and one underestimates emissions. Here it is clear that in order to diagnose the correct overall fossil fuel emissions, models must have the ability to estimate reasonable land fluxes.

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Figure 4c breaks down the land fluxes into two components. The land-use change (LUC) flux component is estimated from a simulation with only land-use change forcing. The residual flux is the total flux from an all-forcing simulation minus the LUC component. As in Houghton (2008), the LUC component does not include any interaction
between land-use change and changes in climate or CO₂. Any interaction terms are part of the residual flux. As expected, the UM model, which does not include carbon transfer as part of the model's land-use forcing, shows near zero LUC carbon fluxes. It is clear that most other models also underestimate carbon fluxes to the atmosphere from LUC. Most models also underestimate residual land uptake. The underestimate

- tion of LUC and the residual flux partially cancel, allowing some models to generate reasonable overall land fluxes. If LUC fluxes were better simulated, then the residual uptake by land would need to be even greater. In general, it would appear that all models are either overestimating the response of the land carbon cycle to climate change or not taking up sufficient carbon through fertilization of vegetation (either from CO₂ or
- deposition of N). Only the I2 model includes an interactive land nitrogen cycle, which incorporates nitrogen limitation of photosynthesis. None of the models include anthropogenic nitrogen deposition as part of their vegetation component forcing. There is a great deal of uncertainty in future vegetation response but even the current response does not appear to be well simulated by most models.
- Standard carbon cycle metrics are also calculated from specified 1 % increasing to 4x CO₂ experiments. In addition to the standard fully coupled experiment, two additional partially coupled experiments were done by EMICs with a complete carbon cycle. One experiment excluded only the direct greenhouse radiative effects of increasing CO₂ (radiatively uncoupled) while the other experiment excluded only the direct effects



of increasing CO₂ on land and ocean carbon fluxes (biogeochemically uncoupled). For specified CO₂ experiments, the CO₂ concentration-carbon sensitivity (β) can be calculated directly as the change in land or ocean carbon divided by the change in atmospheric CO₂ in a radiatively uncoupled simulation. The climate-carbon sensitivity (γ) is calculated directly as the change in land or ocean carbon divided by the change in SAT in a biogeochemically uncoupled simulation.

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These parameters are calculated differently from the C⁴MIP intercomparison project (Friedlingstein et al., 2006) due to the specification of CO₂ concentrations rather than emissions, which results in somewhat lower estimates of γ (Plattner et al., 2008; Gre-

¹⁰ gory et al., 2009; Zickfeld et al., 2011). Carbon cycle sensitivities can also be calculated indirectly from the difference between a fully coupled simulation and either a biogeochemically uncoupled simulation (for γ), or a radiatively uncoupled simulation (for β). The value of γ , and to a lesser extent β , is highly dependent on the method of calculation for models with large nonlinear climate and CO₂ interactions (Zickfeld et al., 2011). ¹⁵ Plattner et al. (2008) calculated β directly and γ indirectly.

Directly calculated sensitivities at year 140 (and year 995) are shown in Table 4 and Fig. 5 shows how these sensitivities change through time. The CO₂ concentration-carbon sensitivities for land (β_L) are relatively constant after 140 yr (CO₂ quadrupling) for most models. This is similar for γ_L , except for the B3 model and, to a lesser extent,

²⁰ the UM model. The large continuing change in $\gamma_{\rm L}$ in the B3 model is likely due to the inclusion of permafrost in that model, which reacts to climate change over much longer timescales than most other land processes. The I2 model has the lowest value of $\beta_{\rm L}$ and this is likely due to nitrogen limitation reducing land uptake in this model (Sokolov et al., 2008). Over the ocean, the changes in both sensitivities, $\beta_{\rm O}$ and $\gamma_{\rm O}$, largely occur after year 140 (CO₂ quadrupling). As expected, the response time of most land processes (possibly excluding permafrost and peat) is much faster than the response time of the ocean to either CO₂ or climate change.

The dashed lines in Fig. 5 show sensitivities calculated indirectly (as differences from fully coupled simulations). If γ_{L} is calculated indirectly, the I2 model indicates



a positive rather than a negative land sensitivity (see Fig. 5b). This is due to a strong interaction between climate warming, which causes an increase in nitrogen availability and photosynthesis, and land carbon uptake. When calculated indirectly, the interaction is strong enough to change the climate-carbon feedback on atmospheric CO_2 from

- ⁵ positive to negative for the I2 model. UM also has a positive γ_L for a short period when calculated indirectly, while all other models always show negative γ_L , using either method of calculation. UV, B3, GE and ME always show more negative γ and β , while I2 and UM always show more positive γ and β , when these sensitivities are calculated indirectly rather than directly. UM shows more positive sensitivities for land and more negative for the ocean, while DC is the opposite, when γ and β are calculated indirectly
- rather than directly. Presumably the same nonlinear interactions that cause both γ and β to always change in the same direction (depending on the calculation method, for either the ocean or land) must be very different in the models.

Figure 6a shows the residence time of CO_2 emissions from a 4x CO_2 pulse simulation. This pulse is equivalent to about 1800 Pg. As seen in Table 4, the EMIC mean time for half of the emitted CO_2 to be absorbed by the land and ocean sinks is 130 yr. This is considerably longer than the estimate of 30 yr to remove 50% of emissions given in Chapter 7 of the AR4 (Denman et al., 2007). The main reason for this difference is that the emission pulses used to assess the CO_2 absorption timescales in the

- AR4 were small (40 Pg) compared to both the pulse used here and any likely future emissions. Absorption timescales depend on the amount of emissions (Maier-Reimer, 1987; Archer et al., 2009; Joos et al., 2012) and this could have been stated more clearly in chapter 7 of the AR4. Two models (B3 and ME) show considerably longer times to absorb half of emissions. The longer time for the B3 model is likely due to the increasing climate feedback over land due to the inclusion of permafrost and peat in
- ²⁵ Increasing climate feedback over land due to the inclusion of permatrost and that model.

The carbon-climate response has been proposed as a simple metric that combines both the climate and carbon cycle sensitivities into a single value. It has been suggested that this metric is relatively insensitive to emission scenarios and approximately



constant over several hundred years (Matthews et al., 2009). Figure 6b shows the CCR from a 1 % increasing CO₂ experiment which has zero emissions after reaching 4 x CO₂. The EMIC results show that, at least for this scenario, CCR is not constant over time for any of the models, although the intra-model range is smaller for most models
than the inter-model range. This metric decreases in all models until emissions are set to zero. After CO₂ is allowed to freely evolve, CCR generally increases and then declines in most models. After emissions are set to zero any changes in CCR are just due to changes in SAT and so CCR becomes a measure of a model's zero emissions commitment. Two models show a continual increase while one shows a continual decrease. At the time of CO₂ doubling the range in CCR is between 1.4 and 2.5 °C Eg⁻¹

¹⁰ crease. At the time of CO₂ doubling the range in CCR is between 1.4 and 2.5 °CEg of carbon (1 Eg or Tt = 1000 Pg or Gt) and after 500 yr the range is between 0.9 and $2.3 \degree CEg^{-1}$. Further discussion of the response of CCR in these models can be found in Zickfeld et al. (2012).

3.3 Forcing components

- Several experiments were designed to examine the linearity of temperature and carbon cycle response to various climate forcings. In each experiment, only one major climate forcing was allowed to vary over the historical period (850 to 2005 CE). The individual experiments applied forcing from "additional" or non-CO₂ greenhouse gases (AGG), CO₂ (CO2), land-use change (LUC), orbital (ORB), solar luminosity (SOL), sulphate
 aerosols (SUL) and volcanic aerosols (VOL). Figure 7 shows the EMIC mean results from the individual forcing experiments compared to the experiment that applied all forcings together. Since specified CO₂ forcing is treated sonarately, any changes in
- forcings together. Since specified CO_2 forcing is treated separately, any changes in CO_2 due to other forcings, either directly, as with land-use change, or indirectly, through climate-carbon feedbacks, are included as part of the CO_2 forcing.
- As expected, orbital forcing was found to have almost no effect on the modeled SAT over the last millennium (not shown). Volcanic aerosol forcing has a large but short lived negative effect on modeled SAT; its overall influence over the last thousand years is also very small, although this is in part due to the experimental design. Volcanic forcing



is applied as an anomaly forcing, so the average volcanic forcing over the historical period is specified to be zero. The direct albedo effect from land-use change caused a model average cooling of roughly 0.1 °C since 1750, while sulphate forcing caused cooling of about 0.2 °C. This may seem weak, but it is mostly due to the exclusion of the

- indirect forcing from sulphates in the experimental design. The lack of negative forcing from the indirect effect of sulphates is balanced by also excluding similar positive forcing from ozone and black carbon. The change in solar luminosity since 1750 was found to have a small positive effect on SAT (< 0.1 °C). Non-CO₂ greenhouse gases have a large influence on SAT since 1750, but this is largely countered by the combined negative forcing from land-use and aerosols. As a result, CO₂ alone is capable of providing the user mainting of the alignet advance and aerosols.
- vast majority of the climate change signal since pre-industrial times.

Figure 8a shows the difference between the anomalous response of the all-forcing experiment and the sum of the anomalous responses of the individual forcing simulations. If the climate system responded linearly to the individual forcings then the

- resulting summation would be zero. In general this is the case for all models. There are some slight differences after 1900 for the ME and UM model but these differences are still small compared to overall model noise. Figure 8b shows similar results for diagnosed carbon emissions. Here some models appear to show an interaction between individual forcing that is larger than noise, particularly the UV model. This interaction
- is between land-use change and CO₂ forcing. In models that simulate land-use forcing by removing vegetation (B3, GE, I2 and UV) it would be expected that there would be less CO₂ fertilization of vegetation that is removed due to land-use change (Strassmann et al., 2008). This reduction in land uptake by CO₂ fertilization would result in lower diagnosed emissions and thus total carbon in a simulation that has both land-
- ²⁵ use change and CO_2 fertilization acting together. The GE model is not shown because one of the ensemble members that constitute the ensemble mean was not useable. In the DC model most of the land carbon removed by land-use change was taken from the soil rather than from the vegetation. The ME and UM models also do not show this interaction between vegetation removal (due to land-use change) and the CO_2



fertilization feedback since they do not reduce vegetation or directly exchange carbon with land-use. The UV model has one of the largest CO_2 concentration-carbon sensitivities (Table 4) and the largest recent land-use emissions (Table 3). As such, it shows the largest interaction between land-use change and CO_2 .

5 3.4 Freely evolving CO₂

Freely evolving CO_2 simulations have the advantage of not forcing the model into a specified state. Thus, these types of experiments can show how CO_2 might change under different scenarios. Two historical simulations in which CO_2 was allowed to freely evolve were conducted to determine the anthropogenic influence on the carbon cycle.

- ¹⁰ While one simulation applied natural forcing, the other included natural and anthropogenic forcing, including specified emissions from fossil fuel combustion. The anomalous SAT from these two simulations since 1750 is shown in Fig. 9. The range in the simulations with only natural forcing is very small compared to the range of the models when anthropogenic forcing is also applied. This is not surprising since the magnitude
- of the anthropogenic forcing is much greater than the magnitude of the natural forcing, so any differences in model response are amplified. The simulations with only natural forcing produce almost no change in overall SAT between 1750 and 2005. As seen in many other studies (see Hegerl et al., 2007 for a review), when only natural forcing is applied, the models are not capable of simulating the rise in SAT that has been observed over this time period.

It is important to understand the feedbacks between the carbon cycle and the climate system in order to have confidence in future projections. Most models show a positive climate-carbon cycle feedback (Friedlingstein et al., 2006). However, the magnitude, the constancy and perhaps even the sign of the feedback is still uncertain

(Sokolov et al., 2008). Reconstructions of past climate variables and forcing, combined with carbon cycle model simulations, may help constrain model climate-carbon cycle feedbacks. On the other hand, climate reconstructions are also often highly uncertain and disparate. Models may then be useful in assessing the plausibility of differing



paleoclimate reconstructions, by allowing reconstructions and forcing to be compared in a physically consistent manner.

The pre-industrial SAT anomalies from the naturally forced, freely evolving CO₂ simulation is shown in Fig. 10a. The models simulate a Medieval Climate Anomaly (MCA)
or medieval warm period and a decline in SAT into the Little Ice Age (LIA). Although there is considerable uncertainty, estimates from paleoclimate reconstructions suggest about 0.38 °C as the difference between the warmest (1071–1100) and coolest (1601–1630) pre-industrial periods in the Northern Hemisphere over the last millennium (Frank et al., 2010). The start and end of these climate periods is still debated but for the simple analysis used here we define an MCA index period to be between 1100 and 1200, and a LIA index period between 1600 and 1700. The 100-yr periods used for these indices were chosen to represent the models' warmest period between year 950

and 1250 and the coolest period between 1450 and 1750. These periods are slightly later than the times estimated from reconstructions for the highest and lowest temper-

ature change for the pre-industrial portion of the last millennium (Frank et al., 2010). Between the 100-yr MCA and LIA periods, the model average difference in globallyaveraged SAT is 0.19 °C. The largest difference occurs in GE which simulates a drop in temperature of 0.33 °C between the reference periods.

For the all-forcing simulation (with land-use change and specified CO₂), the average

- ²⁰ EMIC global SAT response for the transition between the MCA and the LIA index periods is about 0.21 °C (see Fig. 10b). The slightly smaller change in SAT in the naturally forced, free CO_2 simulation is in part due to the lack of cooling from land-use change (which is not included in the natural forcing simulation) but mostly because the simulated drop in CO_2 is not as great as suggested from ice cores (see Fig. 10c). With the
- additional cooling from the specified reduction in CO₂, the largest difference once more occurs in GE which simulates a drop in temperature of 0.35 °C. It is, however, difficult to compare SAT changes averaged over different periods and regions. For example, the UV model simulates a 0.05 °C larger drop in SAT over the Northern Hemisphere (for which the observational estimate was reconstructed) than globally. However, even after



correcting for this difference, most models appear to be underestimating the change in SAT over this period.

The lack of cooling in the models may be from underestimating the specified forcing changes over this period. The individual forcing component contributions to the change

in SAT are shown in Fig. 10b. The CO₂, solar and volcanic forcings are, in nearly equal proportions, the major contributors to the total drop in SAT between the MCA and the LIA index periods. There is also a small cooling contribution from the direct climate effects of land-use change, and very small warming contributions from changes in orbit and non-CO₂ greenhouse gases. There are earlier periods in the simulations that are
 as cold or nearly as cold as the LIA index period. These early minima in simulated temperature are mostly caused by a series of volcanic eruptions.

 CO_2 can be extracted directly from ice cores and is relatively well reconstructed over the past millennium, although there are still uncertainties in both the timing of the CO_2 record and in determining how well CO_2 records from individual ice cores are repre-

sentative of global values. The large fluctuations in modeled CO₂ before the LIA are not seen in the PMIP3 CO₂ dataset (Fig. 10c and d), although other records may be more variable (Mitchell et al., 2011). If we assume that the CO₂ record is accurate and that changes in CO₂ are determined by changes in SAT over this period (through climate-carbon cycle feedbacks), then there would appear to be an inconsistency between the
 lack of change in the CO₂ record and the large model temperature change generated

by the forcing before the LIA.

The models also underestimate the reduction in CO_2 during the MCA-LIA transition. The model average reduction in CO_2 is 2.4 ppm compared to 7.9 ppm from the reconstruction within the PMIP3 protocol (Schmidt et al., 2012), calculated over the same ²⁵ MCA and LIA index periods. Since most models appear to have a positive climatecarbon cycle feedback over this period (see Fig. 10a and c), some of the small reduction in CO_2 would be attributable to an underestimated reduction in SAT. Assuming all of the reduction in CO_2 is driven by changes in climate, a crude estimate of the climate feedback can be calculated from the simulated change in CO_2 and SAT over the MCA-LIA



transition. This estimate of the climate-carbon cycle sensitivity has a model average of 2.4 ppm/0.19 °C = 12.6 ppm °C⁻¹, with a range between 5.1 and 18.8 ppm °C⁻¹. This estimate is relatively insensitive to the reference periods. Using the average change in SAT and CO₂ between 950 to 1250 and 1450 to 1750 yields very similar results (model ⁵ average of 13.5 ppm °C⁻¹ with a range between 4.5 and 23.3 ppm °C⁻¹). If this estimate of sensitivity were to hold for larger changes in temperature, then the model average drop in CO₂ for a 0.4 °C reduction in temperature would be 5.1 ppm. Even scaling the response of the model with the largest sensitivity (18.8 ppm °C⁻¹ for B3) would still only produce a drop in CO₂ of 7.5 ppm. Apparently, in order to simulate the large observed drop in CO₂ during the MCA-LIA transition, either the temperature drop must be larger than 0.4 °C or the climate-carbon cycle feedback must be large (> 18 ppm °C⁻¹).

The direct comparison of EMIC model results with proxy data reconstructions over the last millennium is hampered by the large uncertainty in developing annual-mean proxies from sporadic point source measurements in space and time. In addition, our

- ¹⁵ EMIC results are globally-averaged and there are few proxy records in the Southern Hemisphere so that current SAT reconstructions focus only on the Northern Hemisphere records. Even after accounting for the different averaging periods over which the MCA and LIA are defined, there is a suggestion that the models might be underestimating both the drop in SAT and CO₂ during the transition from the MCA into the LIA.
- ²⁰ This in turn could be a result of errors in the reconstructions of volcanic and/or solar radiative forcing used to drive the models or the incomplete representation of certain processes within the models.

It is possible that past changes in CO_2 are unrelated to changes in SAT. Long timescale natural variability, unrelated to any climate-carbon feedbacks, could be re-

²⁵ sponsible for many of the past large changes in SAT or CO₂. If preindustrial land-use changes were significant, then land-use emissions to the atmosphere would also alter the climate-carbon sensitivity estimated from paleoclimate records. While the effects of unresolved variability are difficult to assess, the possible influence of land-use change on the climate-carbon sensitivity can be investigated with the freely evolving



 CO_2 experiments. The evolution of CO_2 in the simulation including anthropogenic forcing, which before 1800 was almost entirely from land-use change, is shown in Fig. 10d. Including anthropogenic forcing reduces the model average estimate of the climatecarbon cycle sensitivity from 12.6 ppm°C⁻¹ to 8.4 ppm°C⁻¹ (a reduction of 30%). This result depends on the simulation of uncertain land-use change, but at least for these models, there is considerable sensitivity in diagnosing climate-carbon feedbacks when emissions from land-use change are included.

4 Conclusions

5

We have evaluated EMIC simulations over the last millennium with respect to other models and historical data. Although some model defects are noted, the EMICs in this intercomparison generally perform well. There is a large range in initial pre-industrial model state, at least in terms of SAT (12.3 to 17.3 °C), but this seems to have little relationship to the models' transient responses to recent changes in radiative forcing. A few models appear to overestimate ocean heat uptake and sea level rise compared to ob-

- ¹⁵ servational estimates over the last several decades. All models show a small decline in the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation over the last century. Ocean carbon uptake is well simulated by all models (within observational uncertainty estimates) but recent land carbon uptake appears to be slightly underestimated by most models. The low land uptake is not due to an overestimation of land-use change emissions, which
- are generally underestimated, but due to overly low residual uptake. This may be due to an overestimation of climate-carbon feedbacks, but is more likely due to an underestimation of the fertilization of photosynthesis.

Idealized experiments were used to calculate a number of standard climate and carbon cycle metrics. The range in the transient climate response is similar to that of CMIP3 models (Plattner et al., 2008). The model climate sensitivities (diagnosed at

²⁵ CMIP3 models (Plattner et al., 2008). The model climate sensitivities (diagnosed at year 1000 from 2x pulse experiments) range from 1.9 to 4.0 °C, spanning the most likely range given in the IPCC AR4 (2.0 to 4.5 °C). The model average climate sensitivity is



3.0 °C. The models also show a large range in the carbon cycle, CO_2 concentration and climate feedbacks, but all models show negative concentration feedbacks and most show positive climate feedbacks. The carbon climate response (CCR) is not constant for most models either before or after emissions cease, which suggests caution when using this metric. On average, the models suggest that the time to absorb half of an atmospheric CO_2 perturbation (from a relatively large pulse of approximately 1800 Pg)

is 130 yr (see also Joos et al., 2012).

The linearity of the climate and carbon cycle components and the importance of different external forcings were assessed with a series of simulations in which each

- forcing was applied separately. In general, the SAT of a simulation with all forcings is well represented by the sum of individual forcings. The same is true for the diagnosed emissions, except for the case of changing land-use and CO₂ concentrations. The response of the all-forcing simulations is very similar to simulations with only CO₂ forcing. This implies that historical and modern-day climate forcing can largely be captured by O2 share persent other forcing to a simulation of the second.
- 15 CO₂, alone, as most other forcings tend to cancel.

Free CO₂ simulations were also performed to assess how CO₂ might evolve under different forcing scenarios. Simulations without anthropogenic forcing show almost identical SAT and CO₂ in 2005 compared to 1750. It is only when anthropogenic forcing is added that the models warm by 0.8 °C, on average, over the 20th century.

- The climate-carbon sensitivity over the preindustrial portion of the last millennium was compared to paleoclimate proxy estimates. The uncertainties in paleoclimate estimates of model forcing and climate make it difficult to constrain the models' climate-carbon cycle response. None of the models were able to reproduce the drop in CO_2 of ~ 8ppm from the MCA to the LIA that is inferred from ice cores. If we assume that
- ²⁵ this reduction in CO₂ is entirely due to temperature and that the best estimates of CO₂ and SAT reductions from paleo reconstructions are accurate, and we correct for the underrepresentation of temperature change simulated by the models, then this still implies that a model with a large positive climate-carbon cycle feedback (> 18 ppm °C⁻¹) is required to simulate the observed drop in CO₂.



The effect of land-use emissions on estimates of climate-carbon cycle sensitivities were assessed and, for most models, this reduced the diagnosed feedback. For some models it changed the apparent feedback from positive to negative. This suggests that any attempt to estimate climate-carbon feedbacks from paleoclimate data, which does not take into account land-use emissions, may result in an underestimation of the feedback. While some of our conclusions remain tentative, our analysis suggests that EMICs are useful tools in aiding in the reconciliation of different paleoclimate proxy datasets in a physically consistent manner.

Appendix A

10 Model descriptions

B3: Bern3D-LPJ is an Earth System Model of Intermediate Complexity with a fully coupled carbon cycle and components that represent the ocean and sea ice, the ocean sediments, the atmosphere, and the terrestrial biosphere. The ocean component is a seasonally forced three-dimensional frictional geostrophic global ocean model with a resolution of 36 x 36 boxes in the horizontal direction and 32 vertical layers (Edwards et al., 1998; Müller et al., 2006). Marine biogeochemical cycles are implemented following OCMIP-2 (Najjar and Orr, 1999; Orr et al., 2000) with the addition of prognostic formulations for biological productivity and the cycling of iron, silica, ¹³C and ¹⁴C (Parekh et al., 2008; Tschumi et al., 2008), as well as a sedimentary component (Tschumi et al., 2011; Gehlen et al., 2006; Heinze et al., 1999). The atmosphere is represented 20 by a single-layer energy and moisture balance model with the same horizontal resolution as the ocean component (Ritz et al., 2011). The CO₂ forcing is calculated after Myhre et al. (1998) and the model is tuned to produce an equilibrium climate sensitivity of 3°C (excluding albedo feedback). Other greenhouse gases and volcanic aerosols are prescribed as global radiative forcing, while tropospheric sulphate aerosols are 25 taken into account by changing the surface albedo locally (Steinacher, 2011; Reader



and Boer, 1998). The terrestrial biosphere component is based on the Lund-Potsdam-Jena (LPJ) Dynamic Global Vegetation Model at 3.75° × 2.5° resolution (Joos et al., 2001; Gerber et al., 2003; Sitch et al., 2003). Vegetation is represented by 12 plant functional types and CO₂ fertilization is modelled according to the modified Farquhar scheme (Farquhar et al., 1980). The model has recently been extended with modules to account for landuse (Strassmann et al., 2008; Stocker et al., 2011), peatlands and permafrost dynamics (Gerten et al., 2004; Wania et al., 2009a,b), and land surface albedo (Steinacher, 2011). The LPJ component is driven by global mean CO₂ concentrations and changes in surface air temperature relative to a reference period using a pattern scaling approach (Stocker et al., 2011; Steinacher, 2011).

C2: The CLIMBER-2.4 model (Petoukhov et al., 2000; Ganopolski et al., 2001) is a fully coupled climate model without flux adjustments. It consists of a 2.5-dimensional statistical–dynamical atmosphere module with a coarse spatial resolution of 10° in latitude and 360°/7 in longitude, which does not resolve synoptic variability. The vertical structures of the temperature and humidity are parameterized as well. The ocean com-

15 structures of the temperature and humidity are parameterized as well. The ocean component has three zonally averaged basins with a latitudinal resolution of 2.5° and 20 unequal vertical levels. The model also includes a zonally averaged sea ice module, which predicts ice thickness and concentration and includes ice advection.

C3: The intermediate-complexity climate model CLIMBER-3α (Montoya et al., 2006)
 shares CLIMBER-2's statistical-dynamical atmosphere (Petoukhov et al., 2000), but operates at a higher horizontal resolution of 22.5° in longitude and 7.5° in latitude. Additionally, it employs a general circulation model for the ocean component. This ocean module is based on MOM3 (Pacanowski and Griffies, 1998), but includes a second-order moments tracer advection scheme (Hofmann and Morales Maqueda, 2006) as

well as changes to the parameterizations of diffusivity and convection (Montoya et al., 2006). In CLIMBER-3 α , the ocean model has a horizontal resolution of 3.75° in both latitude and longitude. It divides the ocean into 24 vertical levels of variable height, ranging from 25 m at the surface to about 500 m at the largest depths. Sea-ice is represented by the thermodynamic-dynamic sea ice model ISIS (Fichefet and Morales



Maqueda, 1997). Land surface types (including vegetation) are prescribed in the coupler.

DC: The DCESS model consists of fully coupled modules for the atmosphere, ocean, ocean sediment, land biosphere and lithosphere (Shaffer et al., 2008). The model ge ometry consists of one hemisphere, divided into two 360° × 52° zones. Long term climate sensitivity has been calibrated to 3°C. The atmosphere component considers radiation balance, heat and gas exchanges with other modules, and meridional transport of heat and water vapor between low-mid latitude and high latitude zones. The ocean component is 270° wide and extends from the equator to 70° latitude. Both ocean sectors are divided into 55 layers with 100 m vertical resolution. Each layer is assigned an

- ocean sediment section, with width determined from observed ocean depth distributions. Sea ice and snow cover are diagnosed from estimated atmospheric temperature profiles. Circulation and mixing are prescribed, with values calibrated from observations as in the HILDA model (Shaffer and Sarmiento, 1995). The ocean sediment component
- ¹⁵ considers calcium carbonate dissolution as well as oxic-anoxic organic matter remineralisation. The land biosphere component includes leaves, wood, litter and soil. For this experiment, it has been modified to include prescribed land-use change carbon losses, distributed in proportion to the initial inventory sizes of the module components. With this change, the model CO₂ fertilization factor, originally 0.65, has been recalibrated to 0.37 Einally, the lithesphere component considers outcassing and climate-dependent
- ²⁰ 0.37. Finally, the lithosphere component considers outgassing and climate-dependent weathering of carbonate and silicate rocks, as well as rocks containing old organic carbon and phosphorus.

FA: FAMOUS (Smith et al., 2008) is a low resolution AOGCM with no flux adjustments, based on the widely used HadCM3 climate model (Gordon et al., 2000). The atmosphere component is the primitive equation model HadAM3 (Pope et al., 2000),

atmosphere component is the primitive equation model HadAM3 (Pope et al., 2000), with resolution 5° × 7.5° and 11 vertical levels. It uses an Eulerian advection scheme, with a gravity-wave drag parameterization. Radiative transfer is modelled using six shortwave bands and eight longwave bands, while convection follows a mass-flux scheme, with parameterizations of convective downdrafts and momentum transport.



Some of the parameter values in HadAM3 which are poorly constrained by observations have been systematically tuned so that FAMOUS produces a climate more like that of HadCM3 (Jones et al., 2005; Smith et al., 2008). FAMOUS uses a coastal tiling scheme which combines the properties of land and sea in coastal grid boxes in the at-

- ⁵ mosphere model. The ocean component is HadOM3 (Gordon et al., 2000; Cox, 1984). The resolution is 2.5° × 3.75°, with 20 vertical levels. It is a rigid lid model, where surface freshwater fluxes are converted to virtual tracer fluxes via local surface tracer values. HadOM3 uses isopycnal mixing and thickness diffusion schemes with a separate surface mixed layer, while diapycnal mixing of momentum below the mixed layer is param-
- eterized using a Richardson-number dependent scheme. The momentum equations are slowed by a factor of 12 with Fourier filtering applied at high latitudes to smooth instabilities. Outflow from the Mediterranean is parameterized by simple mixing between an area in the Atlantic and an area in the Mediterranean from the surface to a depth of 1300 metres. Iceland has been removed to facilitate ocean heat transport, and an arti-
- ficial island is used at the North Pole to alleviate the problem of converging meridians. The sea-ice component uses simple, zero-layer thermodynamics, which is advected with the surface ocean currents. Land processes are modelled via the MOSES1 land surface scheme (Cox et al., 1999).

GE: The GENIE-1 physical model comprises the 3-D frictional geostrophic ocean model GOLDSTEIN, at 10° × (3 – 19)° horizontal resolution with 16 vertical levels, coupled to a 2-D energy moisture balance atmosphere and a thermodynamic-dynamic sea-ice model (Edwards and Marsh, 2005). Recent developments (Marsh et al., 2011) include the incorporation of stratification-dependent mixing, a more general equation of state through a parameterization of thermobaricity, and improvements to

the representation of fixed wind forcing. The land surface component is ENTS, a dynamic model of terrestrial carbon storage (Williamson et al., 2006) with a relatively simple implementation of spatiotemporal land-use change (Holden et al., 2012). Ocean chemistry is modeled with BIOGEM (Ridgwell et al., 2007), including iron limitation (Annan and Hargreaves, 2010), and is coupled to the sediment model SEDGEM with fixed



weathering, diagnosed during the model spin-up to simulated observed ocean alkalinity (Ridgwell and Hargreaves, 2007). All GENIE results are derived from ensembles applying the same 20-member parameter set. The selected parameters were filtered from a 100-member, 28-parameter pre-calibrated ensemble, constrained for plausible present-day CO₂ concentrations.

I2: The MIT-IGSM2.2 (Sokolov et al., 2005) is an Earth system model of intermediate complexity. The atmospheric component is a zonally averaged primitive equation model (Sokolov and Stone, 1998) with 4° latitudinal resolution and 11 vertical levels. Each zonal band can consist of land, land ice, ocean, and sea ice. Surface temperature, turbulent and radiative fluxes, and their derivatives are calculated over each type of surface. The ocean component is a mixed layer/seasonal thermocline model with 4° × 5° horizontal resolution. Heat mixing into the deep ocean is parameterized through diffusion of the temperature anomaly at the bottom of the seasonal thermocline (Hansen et al., 1984). Embedded in the ocean model are a thermodynamic sea

- ice model and a carbon cycle model (Holian et al., 2001). The terrestrial model is comprised of CLM3.5 (Oleson et al., 2008) for surface heat fluxes and hydrological processes, TEM (Melillo et al., 1993; Felzer et al., 2004) for carbon dynamics of terrestrial ecosystem, and NEM (Liu, 1996) for methane and nitrogen exchange. The coupled CLM/TEM/NEM model system represents the geographical distribution of land cover
- and plant diversity through a mosaic approach, in which all major land cover categories and plant functional types are considered over each cell, and are area-weighted to obtain aggregate fluxes and storages. A distinguishing feature of TEM is explicit interactions between the terrestrial carbon and nitrogen cycles (Sokolov et al., 2008). These simulated carbon/nitrogen interactions allow the model to consider the limiting
- effects of nitrogen availability on plant productivity and how changes in this availability from changing environmental conditions, such as warming (Sokolov et al., 2008) or the application of nitrogen fertilizers (Felzer et al., 2004), might influence future uptake and storage of carbon. For this study, the model also assumes that no nitrogen fertilizers were applied to croplands before 1950, but then after 1950, the proportion of fertilized



croplands increased linearly until all croplands were assumed to be fertilized by 1990 and afterwards.

IA: The IAP RAS climate model (Muryshev et al., 2009; Eliseev and Mokhov, 2011) employs a multi-layer statistical-dynamical atmosphere component with a comprehen-

- sive radiation scheme, interactive cloudiness, and parameterized synoptic-scale fluxes. The ocean component is a primitive equation global circulation model developed at the Institute of Numerical Mathematics, Russian Academy of Sciences. The sea ice component uses a zero-layer thermodynamic scheme with two-level ice thickness distribution (level ice and leads). IAP RAS includes a comprehensive soil scheme with a high vertical recolution (Arzhanov et al. 2008), as well as a terrestrial and ecoapie earbon
- vertical resolution (Arzhanov et al., 2008), as well as a terrestrial and oceanic carbon cycle (Eliseev and Mokhov, 2011). Ice sheets are prescribed. The model does not use flux adjustments for coupling between the model components.

ME: MESMO version 1 (Matsumoto et al., 2008) is based on the C-GOLDSTEIN ocean model (Edwards and Marsh, 2005). It consists of a frictional geostrophic 3-

- D ocean circulation model coupled to a dynamic-thermodynamic sea ice model and atmospheric model of energy and moisture balance. Ocean production is based on prognostic nutrient uptake kinetics of phosphate and nitrate with dependence on light, mixed layer depth, temperature, and biomass. Interior ocean ventilation is well calibrated against natural radiocarbon on centennial timescale and against transient an-
- thropogenic tracers on decadal time scale. Here MESMO1 is coupled to a simple prognostic land biosphere model (Williamson et al., 2006) that calculates energy, moisture, and carbon exchanges between the land and the atmosphere. Prognostic variables include vegetation and soil carbon as well as land surface albedo and temperature.

MI: MIROC-lite (Oka et al., 2011) consists of a vertically integrated energy mois ture balance atmospheric model, an ocean general circulation model, a dynamic thermodynamic sea ice model, and a single-layer bucket land-surface model. All model components have 4° × 4° horizontal resolution, and the ocean has 35 vertical layers. In the atmosphere component, heat is transported via diffusion and moisture is transported via both advection and diffusion. Internal diagnosis of wind is switched off and



externally specified wind based on observations is used for the computation of moisture advection in the atmosphere and air-sea flux exchanges. To close the water budget, excess land water overflowing from the bucket model is redistributed homogeneously over the entire ocean grid. No explicit flux corrections for heat and water exchanges are applied.

ML: MIROC-lite-LCM (Tachiiri et al., 2010) has the same physical components as MIROC-lite, except that equilibrium sensitivity is tuned for 3 °C, runoff water is returned to the nearest ocean grid, freshwater flux adjustment is used between the Pacific and the Atlantic, and internally diagnosed wind is used in the physical components. Additionally, the marine carbon cycle is represented with an NPZD model (Palmer and Totterdell, 2001) in which a fixed wind speed is used. The terrestrial vegetation model Sim-CYCLE (Ito and Oikawa, 2002) is annually coupled via MIROC3.2 (Hasumi and Emori, 2004) output. To decrease computational cost, the model has a coarser horizontal resolution of 6° × 6° with 15 vertical layers in the ocean.

- ¹⁵ LO: LOVECLIM 1.2 (Goosse et al., 2010) consists of components representing the atmosphere (ECBilt), the ocean and sea ice (CLIO), the terrestrial biosphere (VE-CODE), the oceanic carbon cycle (LOCH) and the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets (AGISM). ECBilt is a quasi-geostrophic atmospheric model with 3 levels and a T21 horizontal resolution (Opsteegh et al., 1998). It includes simple parameterizations of
- the diabatic heating processes and an explicit representation of the hydrological cycle. Cloud cover is prescribed according to present-day climatology. CLIO is a primitiveequation, free-surface ocean general circulation model coupled to a thermodynamicdynamic sea ice model (Goosse and Fichefet, 1999). Its horizontal resolution is 3° × 3° with 20 levels in the ocean. VECODE is a reduced-form model of vegetation dynamics
- and of the terrestrial carbon cycle (Brovkin et al., 2002). It simulates the dynamics of two plant functional types (trees and grassland) at the same resolution as that of ECBilt. A potential fertilization of NPP by elevated atmospheric CO₂ is accounted for by a logarithmic dependence of NPP on CO₂. LOCH is a comprehensive model of the oceanic carbon cycle (Mouchet and François, 1996). It takes into account both the solubility and



biological pumps, and runs on the same grid as CLIO. Finally, AGISM is composed of a three-dimensional thermomechanical model of ice sheet flow, a visco-elastic bedrock model and a model of mass balance at the ice-atmosphere and ice-ocean interfaces (Huybrechts, 2002). For both ice sheets, calculations are made on a 10 km by 10 km
 ⁵ resolution grid with 31 sigma levels. Note that LOCH and AGISM were not activated in the experiments conducted for this intercomparison.

SP: SPEEDO (Severijns and Hazeleger, 2009) is an intermediate complexity coupled climate model. The atmospheric component of SPEEDO is a modified version of the AGCM Speedy (Molteni, 2003; Kucharski and Molteni, 2003), having a horizontal apartal resolution of T20 with a horizontal Causaian latitude langitude grid (ap

- tal spectral resolution of T30 with a horizontal Gaussian latitude-longitude grid (approximately 3° resolution) and 8 vertical density levels. Simple parameterizations are included for large-scale condensation, convection, radiation, clouds and vertical diffusion. The ocean component of SPEEDO is the CLIO model (Goosse and Fichefet, 1999). It has approximately a 3° × 3° horizontal resolution, with 20 vertical layers ranging
- from 10 m to 750 m in depth. It includes the sea ice model LIM (Fichefet and Morales Maqueda, 1997). A convective adjustment scheme, increasing vertical diffusivity when the water column is unstably stratified, is implemented. SPEEDO also includes a simple land model, with three soil layers and up to two snow layers. The hydrological cycle is represented with the collection of precipitation in the main river basins and outflow in the ocean at specific positions. Freezing and melting of soil moisture is included.

UM: The UMD Coupled Atmosphere-Biosphere-Ocean model (Zeng et al., 2004) is an Earth system model with simplified physical climate components including a global version of an atmospheric quasi-equilibrium tropical circulation model (Neelin and Zeng, 2000; Zeng et al., 2000), a simple land model (Zeng et al., 2000), and a slab mixed layer ocean model with Q-flux to represent the effects of ocean dynamics (Hansen et al., 1984). The mixed layer ocean depth is the annual mean derived from Levitus et al. (2000). All models are run at 5.6° × 3.7° horizontal resolution, limited by the atmospheric component. The terrestrial carbon model VEGAS (Zeng, 2003; Zeng et al., 2004, 2005) is a dynamic vegetation model with full soil carbon dynamics.



Competition among four plant functional types is determined by climatic constraints and resource allocation strategy such as temperature tolerance and height-dependent shading. Phenology is simulated dynamically as the balance between growth and respiration/turnover, so whether a PFT is deciduous or evergreen is interactively determined.

- ⁵ There are six soil carbon pools with varying temperature dependence of respiration: microbial, metabolic and structural litter; fast, intermediate, and slow soil. A three-box ocean carbon model including low latitude, high latitude, and deep ocean (Archer et al., 2000) is coupled to the terrestrial component through a fully mixed atmosphere. No ocean biology or sea ice is included in the model.
- ¹⁰ UV: The UVic ESCM version 2.9 (Weaver et al., 2001; Eby et al., 2009) consists of a primitive equation 3-D ocean general circulation model coupled to a dynamicthermodynamic sea-ice model and an atmospheric energy-moisture balance model with dynamical feedbacks (Weaver et al., 2001). The model conserves heat, moisture, and carbon between components to machine precision without flux adjustments. The
- ¹⁵ land surface and terrestrial vegetation components are represented by a simplified version of the Hadley Centre's MOSES land-surface scheme coupled to the dynamic vegetation model TRIFFID (Meissner et al., 2003). Land carbon fluxes are calculated within MOSES and are allocated to vegetation and soil carbon pools (Matthews et al., 2004). Ocean carbon is simulated by means of an OCMIP-type inorganic carbon-cycle
- ²⁰ model and a NPZD marine ecosystem model with two nutrients (PO₄ and NO₃), two phytoplankton classes, and prognostic denitrification (Schmittner et al., 2008). Sed-iment processes are represented using an oxic-only model of sediment respiration (Archer, 1996). Terrestrial weathering is diagnosed from the net sediment flux during spin-up and held fixed at the equilibrium pre-industrial value for transient simulations.
- ²⁵ The model was spun up with boundary conditions from the year 1800 for more than 10 000 yr.



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Table 1. Summary of the primary components of the EMICs that participated in this intercomparison.

Model	Atmosphere ^a	Ocean ^b	Sea Ice ^c	Coupling ^d	Land Surface ^e	Biosphere ^f	Ice Sheets ^g	Sediment & Weathering ^h
B3: Bern3D-LPJ (Ritz et al., 2011)	EMBM, 2-D(φ, λ), NCL, 10° × (3 – 19)°	FG with parameterized zonal pressure gradient, 3-D, RL, ISO, MESO, 10° × (3 – 19)°, L32 (Müller et al., 2006)	0-LT, DOC, 2-LIT	PM, NH, RW	Bern3D: 1-LST, NSM, RIV LPJ: 8-LST, CSM with uncoupled hydrology (Wania et al., 2009)	BO (Parekh et al., 2008; Tschumi et al., 2008; Gangsto et al., 2011), BT (Sitch et al., 2003; Strassmann et al., 2008; Stocker et al., 2011), BV (Sitch et al., 2003)	N/A	CS, SW (Tschumi et al., 2011)
C2: CLIMBER-2.4 (Petoukhov et al., 2000)	SD, 3-D, CRAD, ICL, 10° × 51°, L10	FG, 2-D(ϕ ,z), RL, 2.5°, L21 (Wright and Stocker, 1992)	1-LT, PD, 2-LIT	NM, NH, NW	1-LST, CSM, RIV	BO, BT, BV (Brovkin et al., 2002)	TM, 3-D, 0.75° ×1.5°, L20 (Calov et al., 2005)	N/A
C3: CLIMBER-3α (Montoya et al., 2005)	SD, 3-D, CRAD, ICL, 7.5° × 22.5°, L10 (Petoukhov et al., 2000)	PE, 3-D, FS, ISO, MESO, TCS, DC, 3.75° ×3.75°, L24	2-LT, R, 2-LIT (Fichefet and Morales Maqueda, 1997)	AM, NH, RW	1-LST, CSM, RIV (Pethoukhov et al., 2000)	BO (Six and Maier- Reimer, 1996), BT, BV (Brovkin et al., 2002)	N/A	N/A
DC: DCESS (Shaffer et al., 2008)	EMBM, 2-box in φ , parameterized LRAD, CHEM	2-box in φ , from surface circulation and exchange, MESO, L55	Parameterized temperature	NH, NW	NST, NSM	BO, BT	N/A	CS, CW
FA: FAMOUS XDBUA (Smith et al., 2008)	PE, 3-D, CRAD, ICL, 5° × 7.5°, L11 (Pope et al., 2000)	PE, 3-D, RL, ISO, MESO, 2.5° × 3.75°, L20 (Gordon et al., 2000)	0-LT, DOC, 2-LIT	NM, NH, NW	4-LST, CSM, RIV (Cox et al., 1999)	BO (Palmer and Totterdell, 2001)	N/A	N/A
GE: GENIE (Holden et al., 2012)	EMBM, 2-D(φ , λ), NCL, 10° × (3 – 19)° (Marsh et al., 2011)	FG, 3-D, RL, ISO, MESO, 10° × (3 – 19)°, L16 (Marsh et al., 2011)	0-LT, DOC, 2-LIT (Marsh et al., 2011)	PM, NH, RW (Marsh et al., 2011)	1-LST, BSM, RIV (Williamson et al., 2006)	BO, BT (Ridgwell et al., 2007; Williamson et al., 2006)	N/A	CS, SW (Ridgwell and Hargreaves, 2007)
IA: IAP RAS CM (Eliseev and Mokhov, 2011)	SD, 3-D, CRAD, ICL, 4.5° × 6°, L8 (Petoukhov et al., 1998)	PE, 3-D, RL, ISO, TCS, 3.5° × 3.5°, L32 (Muryshev et al., 2009)	0-LT, 2-LIT (Muryshev et al., 2009)	NM, NH, NW (Muryshev et al., 2009)	240-LST, CSM (Arzhanov et al., 2008)	ВТ	N/A	N/A
I2: IGSM 2.2 (Sokolov et al., 2005)	SD, 2-D(φ, Z), ICL, CHEM, 4°× 360°, L11 (Sokolov and Stone, 1998).	Q-flux mixed-layer, anomaly diffusing, 4° × 5°, L11 (Hansen et al., 1984)	2-LT, (Hansen et al., 1984)	Q-flux	CSM (Oleson et al., 2008)	BO (Holian et al., 2001), BT (Melillo et al., 1993; Felzer et al., 2004; Liu, 1996)	N/A	N/A
LO: LOVECLIM1.2 (Goosse et al., 2010)	QG, 3-D, LRAD, NCL, 5.6° × 5.6°, L3 (Opsteegh et al., 1998)	PE, 3-D, FS, ISO, MESO, TCS, DC, 3 [°] × 3 [°] , L30 (Goosse and Fichefet, 1999)	3-LT, R, 2-LIT (Fichefet and Morales Maqueda, 1997)	NM, NH, RW (Goosse et al., 2010)	1-LST, BSM, RIV	BO (Mouchet and François, 1996), BT, BV (Brovkin et al., 2002)	TM, 3-D, 10 km ×10 km, L30 (Huybrechts, 2002)	N/A
ME: MESMO 1.0 (Matsumoto et al., 2008)	EMBM, 2-D(φ , λ), NCL, 10° × (3 – 19)° (Fanning and Weaver, 1996)	FG, 3-D, RL, ISO, MESO, 10° × (3 – 19)°, L16 (Edwards and Marsh, 2005)	0-LT, DOC, 2-LIT (Edwards and Marsh, 2005)	PM, NH, RW	NST, NSM, RIV (Edwards and Marsh, 2005)	во	N/A	N/A
MI: MIROC-lite (Oka et al., 2011)	EMBM, 2-D(φ, λ), NCL, 4° × 4°, L35	PE, 3-D, FS, ISO, MESO, TCS, 4° × 4° (Hasumi, 2006)	0-LT, R, 2-LIT (Hasumi, 2006)	PM, NH, NW	1-LST, BSM	N/A	N/A	N/A
ML: MIROC-lite- LCM (Tachiiri et al., 2010)	EMBM, 2-D(φ , λ), NCL, 6° × 6° (Oka et al., 2011), tuned for 3 K ECS	PE, 3-D, FS, ISO, MESO, TCS, 6° × 6°, L15 (Hasumi, 2006)	0-LT, R, 2-LIT (Hasumi, 2006)	NM, NH (Oka et al., 2011), RW	1-LST, BSM (Oka et al., 2011)	BO (Palmer and Totterdell, 2011), loosely coupled BT (Ito and Oikawa, 2002)	N/A	N/A

8, 4121-4181, 2012 **Historical and** idealized climate model experiments M. Eby et al. Title Page Introduction Abstract Conclusions References Tables Figures ► < Close Back Full Screen / Esc Printer-friendly Version Interactive Discussion

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Table 1. Continued.

Model	Atmosphere ^a	Ocean ^b	Sea Ice ^c	Coupling ^d	Land Surface ^e	Biosphere ^f	Ice Sheets ^g	Sediment & Weathering ^h
SP: SPEEDO V2.0 (Severijns and Hazeleger, 2010)	PE, 3-D, LRAD, ICL, T30, L8 (Molteni 2003)	PE, 3-D, FS, ISO, MESO, TCS, DC, 3 × 3, L20 (Goosse and Fichefet, 1999)	3-LT, R, 2-LIT (Fichefet and Morales Maqueda, 1997)	NM, NH, NW (Cimatoribus et al., 2012)	1-LST, BSM, RIV (Opsteegh et al., 1998)	N/A	N/A	N/A
UM: UMD 2.0 (Zeng et al., 2004)	QG, 3-D, LRAD, ICL, 3.75°× 5.625°, L2 (Neelin and Zeng, 2000; Zeng et al., 2000)	Q-flux mixed-layer, 2-D surface (Hansen et al., model, 3.75° x 5.625° 1984), deep ocean box	N/A	Energy and exchange water only	2-LST with 2-layer soil moisture (Zeng et al., 2000)	BO (Archer et al., 2000), BT, BV (Zeng, 2003; Zeng, 2006; Zeng et al., 2005)	N/A	N/A
UV: UVic 2.9 (Weaver et al., 2001)	DEMBM, 2-D(φ, λ), NCL, 1.8°× 3.6°	PE, 3-D, RL, ISO, MESO, 1.8° × 3.6°, L19	0-LT, R, 2-LIT	AM, NH, NW	1-LST, CSM, RIV (Meissner et al., 2003)	BO (Schmittner et al., 2008), BT, BV (Cox, 2001)	TM, 3-D, 20km ×20km, L10 (Fyke et al., 2011)	CS, SW (Eby et al., 2009)

^a EMBM = energy moisture balance model; DEMBM = energy moisture balance model including some dynamics; SD = statistical-dynamical model; QG = quasi-geostrophic model; 2-D(φ , λ) = vertically averaged; 3-D = threedimensional; LRAD = linearized radiation scheme; CRAD = comprehensive radiation scheme; NCL = non-interactive cloudiness; ICL = interactive cloudiness; CHEM = chemistry module; $n^{\circ} \times m^{\circ} = n$ degrees latitude by *m* degrees longitude horizontal resolution; Lp = p vertical levels.

^b FG = frictional geostrophic model; PE = primitive equation model; 2-D(φ ,z) = zonally averaged; 3-D = threedimensional; RL = rigid lid; FS = free surface; ISO = isopycnal diffusion; MESO = parameterization of the effect of mesoscale eddies on tracer distribution; TCS = complex turbulence closure scheme; DC = parameterization of densitydriven downward-sloping currents; $n^{\circ} \times m^{\circ} = n$ degrees latitude by *m* degrees longitude horizontal resolution; Lp = p vertical levels.

^c *n*-LT = *n*-layer thermodynamic scheme; PD = prescribed drift; DOC = drift with oceanic currents; R = viscous-plastic or elastic-viscous-plastic rheology; 2-LIT = two-level ice thickness distribution (level ice and leads).

^d PM = prescribed momentum flux; AM = momentum flux anomalies relative to the control run are computed and added to climatological data; NM = no momentum flux adjustment; NH = no heat flux adjustment; RW = regional freshwater flux adjustment; NW = no freshwater flux adjustment.

^e NST = no explicit computation of soil temperature; n-LST = n-layer soil temperature scheme; NSM = no moisture storage in soil; BSM = bucket model for soil moisture; CSM = complex model for soil moisture; RIV = river routing scheme.

^f BO = model of oceanic carbon dynamics; BT = model of terrestrial carbon dynamics; BV = dynamical vegetation model.

^g TM = thermomechanical model; 3-D = three-dimensional; $n^{\circ} \times m^{\circ} = n$ degrees latitude by *m* degrees longitude horizontal resolution; $n km \times m km =$ horizontal resolution in kilometres; Lp = p vertical levels.

 h CS = complex ocean sediment model; SW = simple, specified or diagnostic weathering model, CW = complex, climate dependent weathering.



Discussion

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Table 2. Standard metrics that help characterize model response. T_{PI} is the average surface air temperature between 850 and 1750, and ΔT_{20th} is the change in surface air temperature over the 20th century, both from the historical "all" forcing experiment. TCR_{2X}, TCR_{4X}, and ECS_{4X} are the changes in global average model surface air temperature from the decades centered at years 70, 140, and 995 respectively, from the idealized 1% increase to 4x CO₂ experiment. The ocean heat uptake efficiency, κ_{4X} , is calculated from the global average heat flux divided by TCR_{4X} for the decade centered at year 140, from the same idealized experiment. Note that ECS_{2x} was calculated from the decade centered about year 995 from a 2x CO₂ pulse experiment.

Model	T _{Pl} (C)	ΔT_{20th} (C)	$TCR_{2X}\left(C\right)$	ECS_{2x} (C)	$TCR_{4X}\left(C\right)$	ECS_{4X} (C)	$\kappa_{4X} (Wm^{-2}C^{-1})$
B3	14.6	0.57	2.0	3.3	4.6	6.8	0.58
C2	14.2	0.91	2.1	3.0	4.7	5.8	0.84
C3	15.7	0.91	1.9	3.2	4.5	5.9	0.93
DC	15.1	0.84	2.1	2.8	3.9	4.8	0.72
FA	-	-	2.3	3.5	5.2	8.0	0.55
GE	12.9	1.00	2.5	4.0	5.4	7.0	0.51
IA	13.5	0.80	1.6	_	3.7	4.3	-
12	13.3	0.70	1.5	1.9	3.7	4.5	-
LO	16.3	0.38	1.2	2.0	2.1	3.5	1.17
ME	12.3	1.15	2.4	3.7	5.3	6.9	0.55
MI	14.7	0.71	1.6	2.4	3.6	4.6	0.66
ML	-	-	1.6	2.8	3.7	5.5	1.00
SP	-	-	0.8	3.6	2.9	5.2	0.84
UM	17.2	0.79	1.6	2.2	3.2	4.3	-
UV	13.2	0.75	1.9	3.5	4.3	6.6	0.92
EMIC mean	14.8	0.8	1.8	3.0	4.0	5.6	0.8
EMIC range	12.3 to17.5	0.4 to 1.2	0.8 to 2.5	1.9 to 4.0	2.1 to 5.4	3.5 to 8.0	0.5 to 1.2



Table 3. Average carbon fluxes to the atmosphere over the 1990s and accumulated carbon fluxes from 1800 to 1994. Land_{LUC} is an estimate of land-use change fluxes from simulations with only land-use forcing. Land_{Res} is the residual land flux, which is derived from the land flux from a simulation with all forcing minus Land_{LUC}. All other model fluxes are from the all-forcing simulations. Estimates of average fluxes are from Table 7.1 of Denman et al. (2007) and estimates of accumulated fluxes are from Table 1 of Sabine et al. (2004). The change in atmospheric carbon storage between 1800 and 1994 is estimated to be 164 ± 4 Pg in Sabine et al. (2004). Although the change in CO₂ between 1800 and 1994 was specified to be 75 ppm in the all-forcing simulations, due to different estimates of atmospheric volume, the change in atmospheric carbon storage in the models is between 158 and 165 Pg.

	Average carbon flux: 1990 to 1999 (Pgyr ⁻¹)			Accumulated flux: 1800 to 1994 (Pg)			
Model	Land _{LUC}	Land _{Res}	Ocean	Emissions	Land	Ocean	Emissions
B3	0.7	-0.8	-1.8	5.2	108	-104	156
DC	0.3	-0.9	-1.8	5.7	4	-102	258
GE	0.5	-1.4	-2.1	6.1	21	-114	251
12	0.3	-0.7	-2.2	5.9	43	-122	237
ME ¹	-0.6		-1.9	5.9	-38	-102	305
UM ¹	-	-0.6	-2.4	6.2	-51	-136	347
UV	1.3	-1.2	-2.0	5.2	24	-112	248
EMIC mean ¹ EMIC range ¹	0.6 0.3 to 1.3	−1.0 −1.4 to −0.7	−2.0 −2.2 to −1.8	5.6 5.2 to 6.1	40 4 to 108	–111 –122 to –102	230 156 to 258
g-							
Estimates uncertainty	1.6 0.5 to 2.7	−2.6 −4.3 to −0.9	−2.2 −2.6 to −1.8	6.4 6.0 to 6.8	39 11 to 67	–118 –137 to –99	244 224 to 264

¹ The ME and UM models were excluded from the EMIC model mean and range calculations because they did not include any direct carbon exchange due to changes in land-use. Only the total land flux is reported for these models.



Table 4. Carbon cycle sensitivities and metrics from idealized 4x CO₂ experiments. β_L (or β_O) or is the change in land (or ocean) carbon divided by the change in atmospheric CO₂ in a radiatively uncoupled simulation. γ_L (or γ_O) is the change in land (or ocean) carbon divided by the change in atmospheric temperature, in a biogeochemically uncoupled simulation. CCR is the carbon-climate response and is calculated as diagnosed emissions divided by atmospheric temperature change (Matthews et al., 2009). β_L , γ_L , β_O , γ_O , and CCR are all averages over the decade centered about year 140 from a 1% increase to 4x CO₂ experiment. Numbers in parentheses are averages over the decade centered at year 995. Yr50_{4X} is the year that emissions remaining in the atmosphere fall below 50%, from an instantaneous 4x CO₂ pulse experiment.

Model	$\beta_{L} (Pgppm^{-1})$	$\gamma_{\rm L}~({\rm PgC^{-1}})$	$\beta_{\rm O}~({\rm Pgppm^{-1}}$	$\gamma_{\rm O}~({\rm PgC^{-1}})$	$CCR (EgC^{-1})$	Yr50 _{4X} (yr)
B3	0.85 (1.47)	-67.5 (-179.8)	0.77 (3.07)	-6.4 (-24.9)	1.77 (2.02)	248
DC	0.76 (1.35)	-56.1 (-94.1)	0.78 (3.26)	-8.3 (-57.1)	1.42 (1.20)	112
GE	1.04 (1.34)	-78.0 (-78.0)	0.99 (3.86)	-0.1 (-35.8)	1.94 (1.65)	124
12	0.22 (0.24)	-29.7 (-37.5)	1.04 (3.13)	-15.0 (-66.4)	1.37 (1.08)	84
ME	0.67 (0.75)	-75.5 (-71.2)	0.83 (2.90)	-9.6 (-55.9)	2.12 (1.94)	284
ML	0.57 (0.57)	-96.9 (-115.8)	0.86 (2.86)	-6.9 (-22.6)	1.38 (1.43)	60
UM	0.32 (0.48)	-6.9 (-41.0)	1.32 (3.90)	–22.9 (–111.5)	1.07 (0.92)	64
UV	1.09 (1.43)	-81.6 (-72.7)	0.82 (2.69)	-7.8 (-91.6)	1.48 (1.81)	60
EMIC mean EMIC range	0.69 (0.95) 0.22 to 1.09	−61.5 (−86.3) −96.9 to −6.9	0.92 (3.21) 0.77 to 1.32	-9.6 (-58.2) -22.9 to -0.1	1.57 (1.51) 1.07 to 2.12	130 60 to 284





Fig. 1. Surface air temperature from the historical all-forcing simulation for 12 of the participating models. Absolute temperatures are shown for the entire simulation in panel (a). The small dark grey bar at 14 °C between 1960 and 1990 is an estimate of the average absolute surface air temperature from Jones et al. (1999) over this period. Temperature anomalies are shown in panel (b). The dark grey line shows changes in surface air temperature, and the light grey shading indicates the uncertainty, from Jones et al. (2012). The model results and the data estimates are shown as anomalies from the average over the decade centered at year 1900 and have been processed with a 5 yr, moving average, rectangular filter.







Fig. 2. Changes in global ocean heat content (a), thermosteric sea level rise (b), and North Atlantic overturning index (c) over the last century. The dark grey lines are estimates of the change in heat content (a), and the thermosteric component of sea level change (b), of the first 2000 m of the ocean, from Levitus et al. (2012). Ocean heat content (a) and thermosteric sea level (b) are plotted as anomalies from the year 1957 to 2005 average. Note that the model heat content and sea level changes are averages over the entire ocean so these would be expected to be somewhat larger than the values estimated over the first 2000 m. The North Atlantic overturning index (c), is shown as a percent change from the decade centered at year 1900 and was processed with a 30 yr, moving average, rectangular filter.



Fig. 3. Surface air temperature (a) and zonal temperature amplification (b) for all 15 participating models, from a 1% oncrease to $4x CO_2$ simulation. The zonal temperature amplification is calculated as the zonal anomaly divided by the global average anomaly at year 140, which roughly corresponds to the time of CO_2 quadrupling.





Fig. 4. Carbon fluxes to the atmosphere from the land, ocean and anthropogenic emissions since 1800 from models with land and ocean carbon cycle components. Fluxes are shown in panel (a), the accumulated flux or change in pool carbon is shown in panel (b) and the components of the land flux are shown in panel (c). The land-use change component (LUC) was calculated from a simulation that only included land-use change forcing. The residual component (Res.) is calculated as the difference in land fluxes between a simulation with all forcing and one with just land-use change forcing. The data and uncertainty estimates for the years 1980–1989, 1990–1999 and 2000–2005 in panels (a) and (c) are from Table 1 in Denman et al. (2007). The data and uncertainty estimates at year 1994 in panel (b) are from Sabine et al. (2004). The solid black line in panel (c) indicates LUC flux estimates from Houghton (2008).





Fig. 5. Land and ocean carbon cycle sensitivities, diagnosed from a 1 % increase to a 4x CO₂ experiment, for models with land and ocean carbon cycle components. The CO₂ concentration-carbon sensitivity for land (β_L) is shown in pane (**a**) and for ocean (β_O) in panel (**c**). The climate-carbon sensitivity for land (γ_L) is shown in panel (**b**) and for ocean (γ_L) in panel (**d**). The solid lines indicate sensitivities calculated directly from partially coupled experiments while the dashed lines indicate sensitivities calculated indirectly as differences between partially and fully coupled experiments. See the main text for details.





Fig. 6. Indicators of climate change longevity. The percentage of emissions remaining from a 4x CO_2 pulse experiment is shown in panel (a) and the carbon-climate response (CCR) from a 1 % increase to 4x CO_2 experiment is shown in panel (b). CO_2 is allowed to freely evolve in both experiments once CO_2 has reached 4 times the initial pre-industrial level. This is equivalent to about 1800 Pg of carbon emissions. CCR is calculated as the change in SAT divided by the accumulated, diagnosed emissions. After year 140, emissions are zero and any changes in CCR are just due to changes in temperature.





Fig. 7. Individual forcing component contributions to the total surface air temperature response between 1750 and 2005. The model results are from the average of 11 models: B3, C2, C3, DC, GE, I2, LO, MI, ME, UM and UV. The dark grey line shows changes in surface air temperature, and the light grey shading indicates the uncertainty, from Jones et al. (2012). The model results and the data estimates were processed with a 5 yr, moving average, rectangular filter. Model results are shown as anomalies from the decade centered at 1750. The data estimates are shown as an anomaly, which has been offset to show the same SAT anomaly as the all-forcing average over the decade centered on the year 1900.





Fig. 8. The linearity of the surface air temperature response **(a)** and carbon fluxes to the atmosphere **(b)** over the last millennium. Differences are between anomalies from the all-forcing simulation and the sum of the anomalies from all of the individual forcing component simulations. Model results have been processed with a 5 yr, moving average, rectangular filter. The differences are shown as anomalies from the average of the century centered about year 1000. If the individual component responses added linearly to the total response, then the differences should be zero.





Fig. 9. The surface air temperature response of the models in freely evolving CO_2 simulations that include only natural forcing (Nat.) or all-forcing (All). Note all-forcing includes both natural (orbital, solar, stratospheric or volcanic aerosol) and anthropogenic (greenhouse gas, land-use, tropospheric aerosol) forcing. As in Fig. 7, the light grey shading indicates the uncertainty range in SAT, from Jones et al. (2012). The model results and the data estimates were processed with a 5 yr, moving average, rectangular filter. Model results are shown as anomalies from the decade centered at 1750. The data uncertainty estimates are shown as an anomaly, which has been offset to show the same SAT anomaly as the model average over the decade centered on the year 1900.





Fig. 10. Comparison of the surface temperature and CO_2 responses over the pre-industrial portion of the last millennium. The surface air temperature responses in panel (a) are from the freely evolving CO_2 simulations with only natural forcing. The contributions of individual forcing components to the temperature response, shown in panel (b), are model averages from experiments with specified CO_2 . The model averages in panel (b) are from 11 models: B3, C2, C3, DC, GE, I2, LO, MI, ME, UM and UV. Maximum Northern Hemisphere SAT changes between the MCA and LIA are estimated to be about 0.4 °C from paleoclimate reconstructions but this is highly uncertain (Frank et al., 2011). The CO_2 response is shown for the freely evolving CO_2 simulations with only natural forcing in panel (c) and all-forcing panel (d). When multiple model results are shown, the model mean is indicated by a dashed grey line. The solid dark grey lines in panels (c) and (d) are an estimate of reconstructed CO_2 from the PMIP3 forcing dataset (Schmidt et al., 2012). Horizontal lines over two, century long index periods (1100–1200 and 1600–1700), which roughly correspond to the Medieval Climate Anomaly (MCA) and Little Ice Age (LIA), indicate model or data averages over these periods. All model results and data estimates are shown as anomalies from the average over the years 1100 to 1200 CE.

