

# Going with the flow

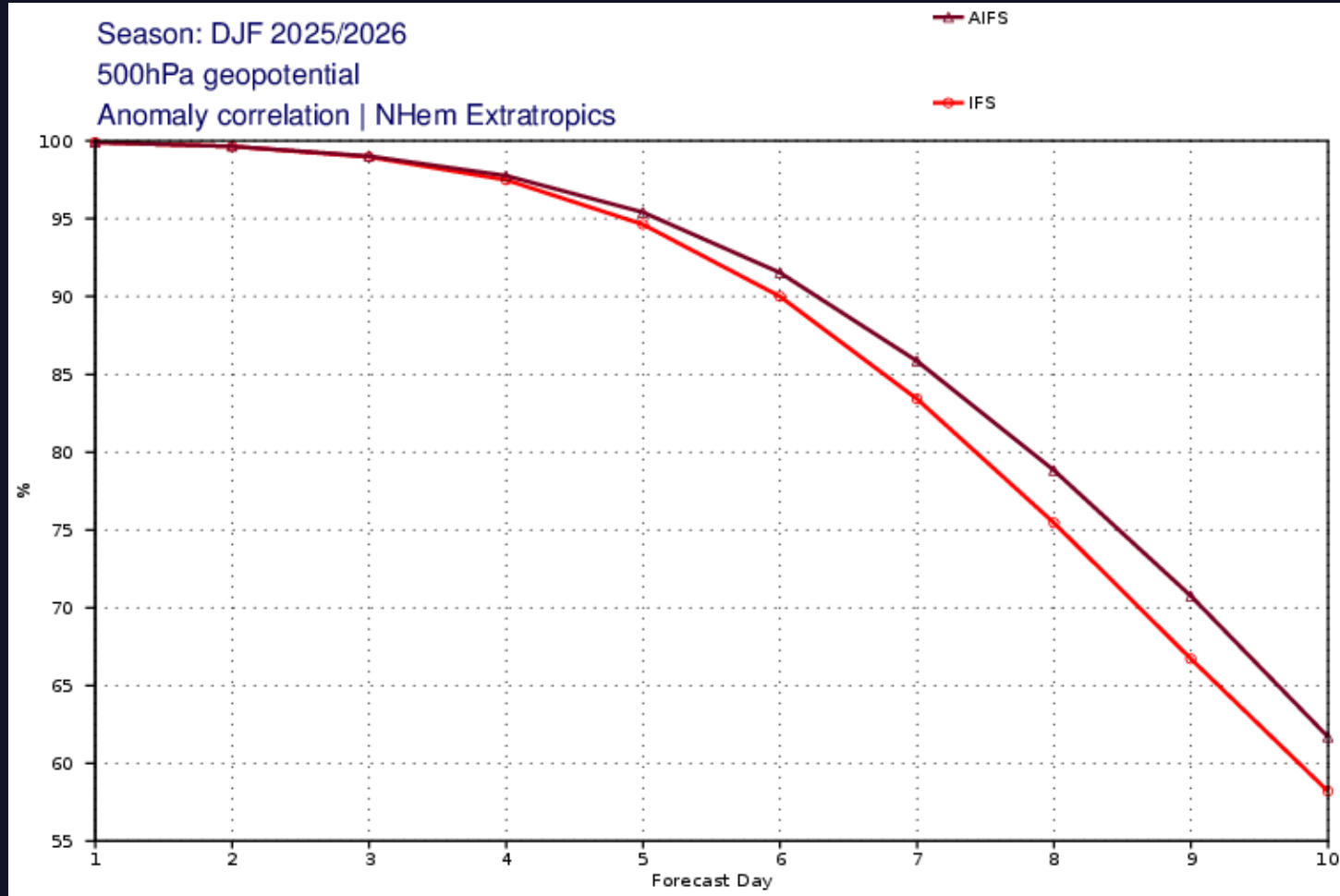
## generalising physically consistent data-driven sea-ice models

Tobias Sebastian Finn

Marc Bocquet, Pierre Rampal, Freddy Bouchet, Alberto Carrassi,  
Charlotte Durand, Flavia Porro, Alban Farchi, et al.

This research was funded by Schmidt Sciences - a philanthropic initiative that seeks to improve societal outcomes through the development of emerging science and technologies

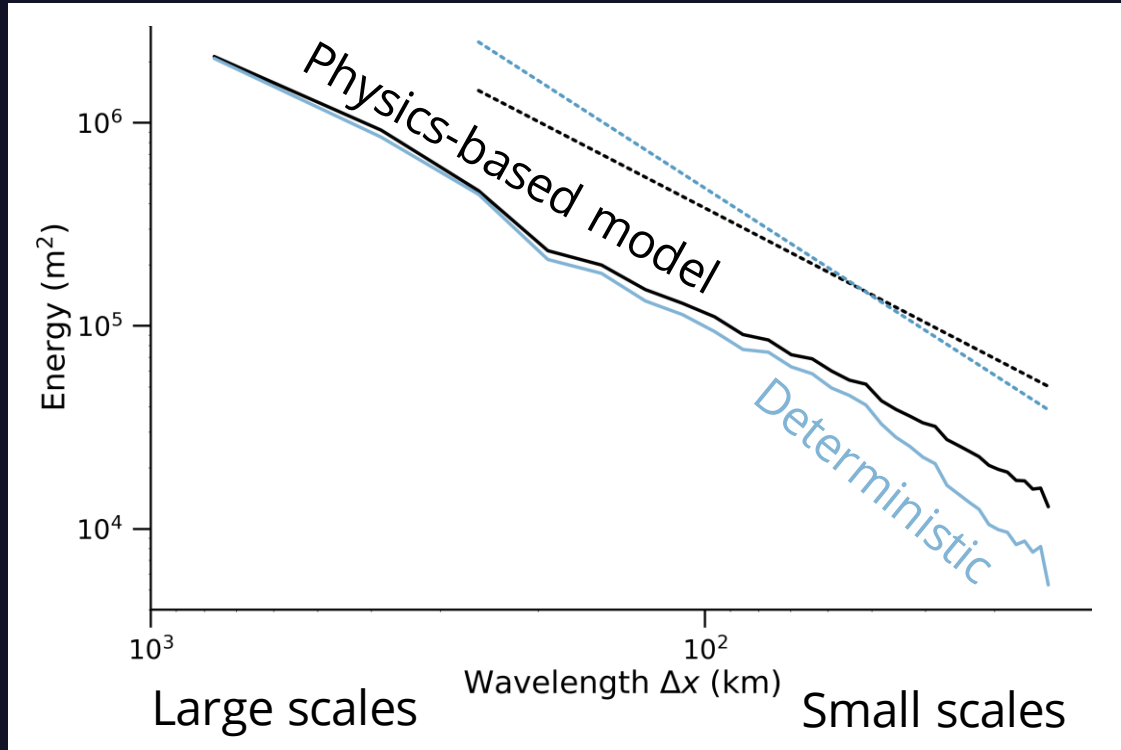
# Deep learning based surrogate models are great ...



... but struggle with ...

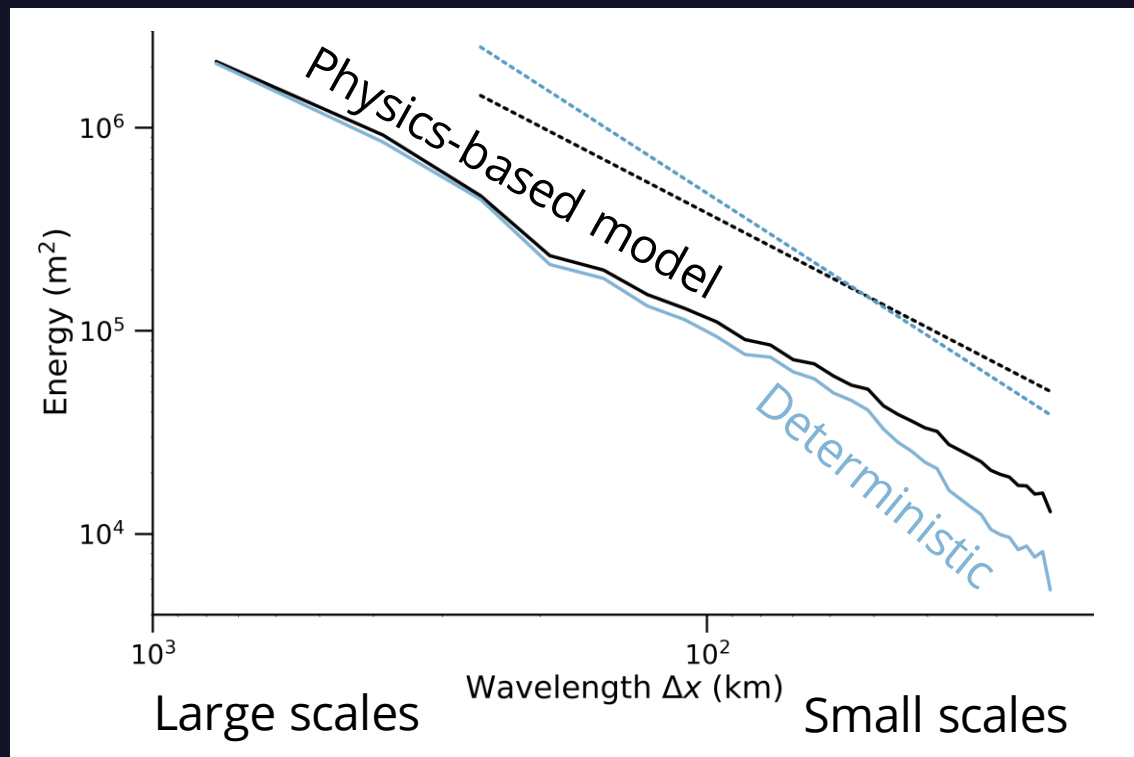
... but struggle with ...

... small-scale information

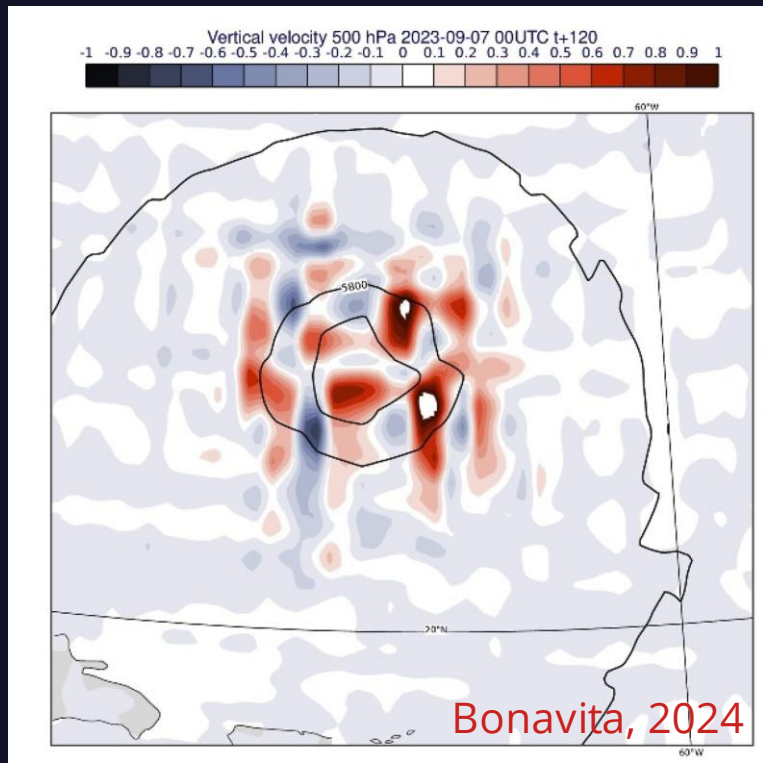


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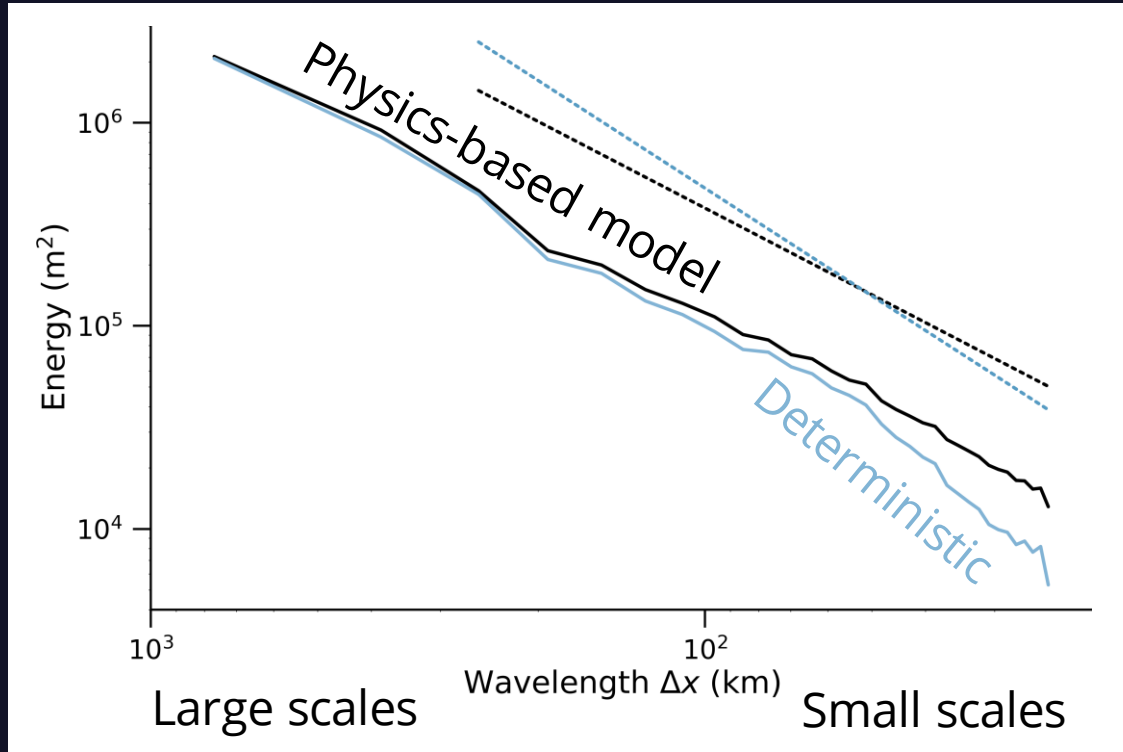


... physical realism

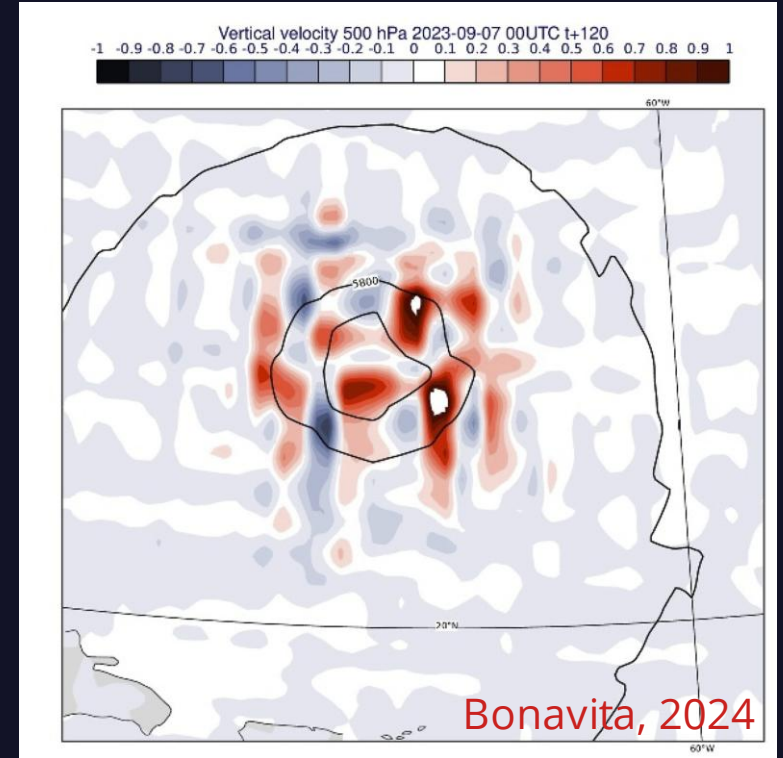


... but struggle with ...

... small-scale information



... physical realism



Claim: generative modelling is the right tool (at least for sea ice) 1



... the revolution of generative computer vision



**Article**

# Probabilistic weather machine learning

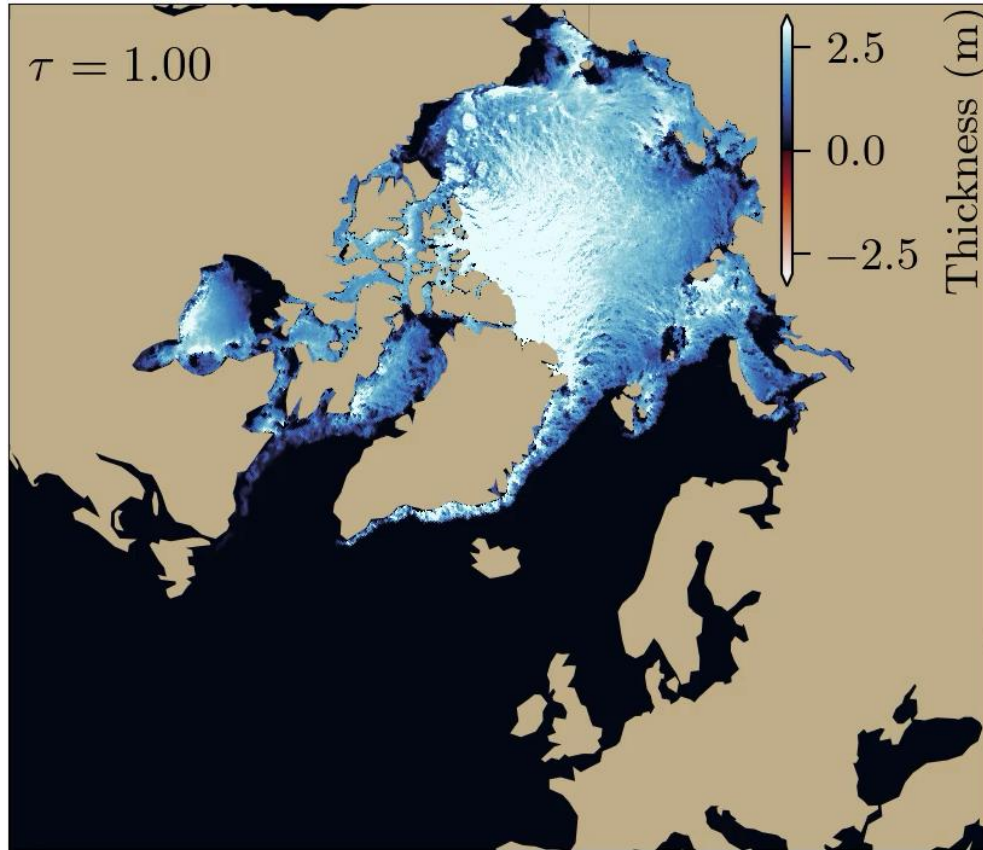
Climate in a Bottle: Towards a Generative Foundation Model for the Kilometer-Scale Global Atmosphere

Noah D. Brenowitz    Tao Ge    Akshay Subramaniam    Aayush Gupta  
David M. Hall    Morteza Mardani    Arash Vahdat    Karthik Kashinath  
Michael S. Pritchard

NVIDIA, Santa Clara, CA, USA

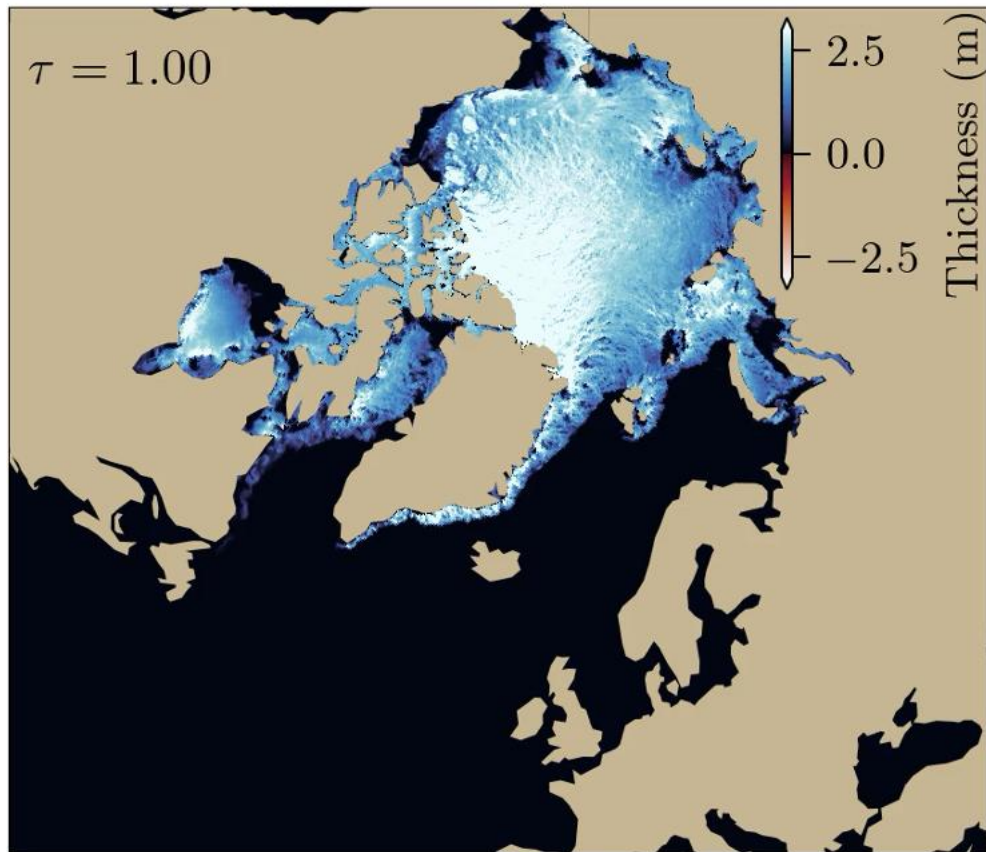
... the revolution of generative computer vision starts also for Earth system modelling!

# Destroy information

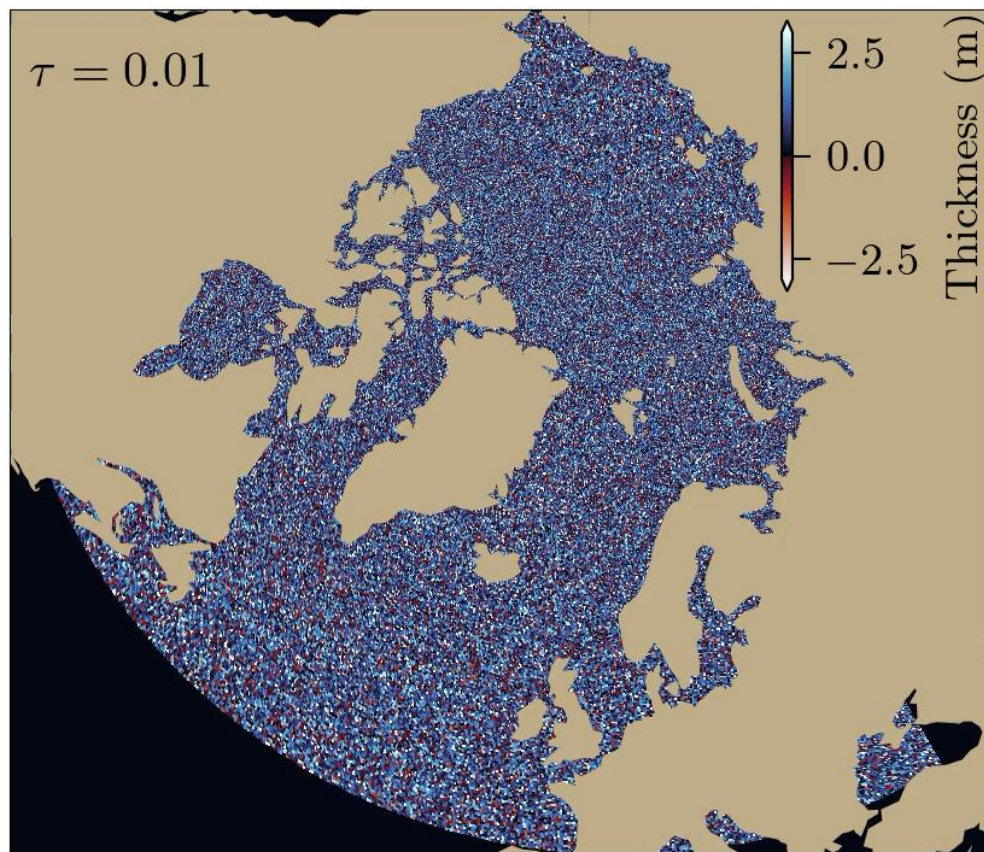


$$\mathbf{z}(\tau) = \tau \mathbf{x} + (1 - \tau) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

## Destroy information



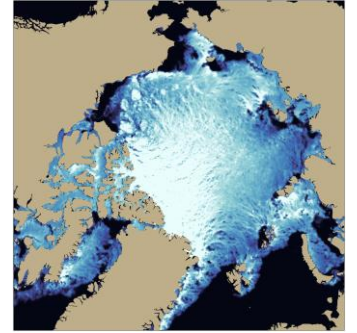
## Learn to recover/denoise



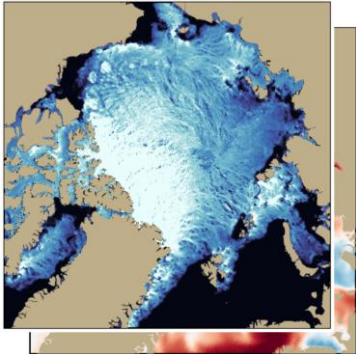
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# How to train a generative forecasting model?

Target  $x_{t+\Delta t}$

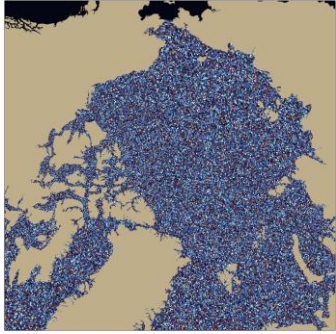


Initial conditions  $x_t$   
+ *external forcings*

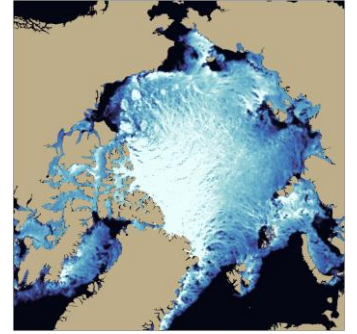


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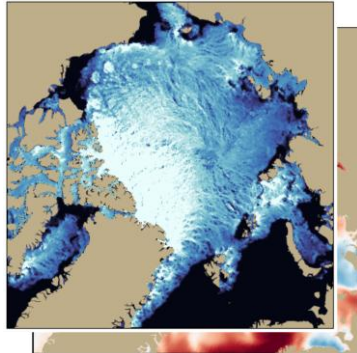
$$\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$



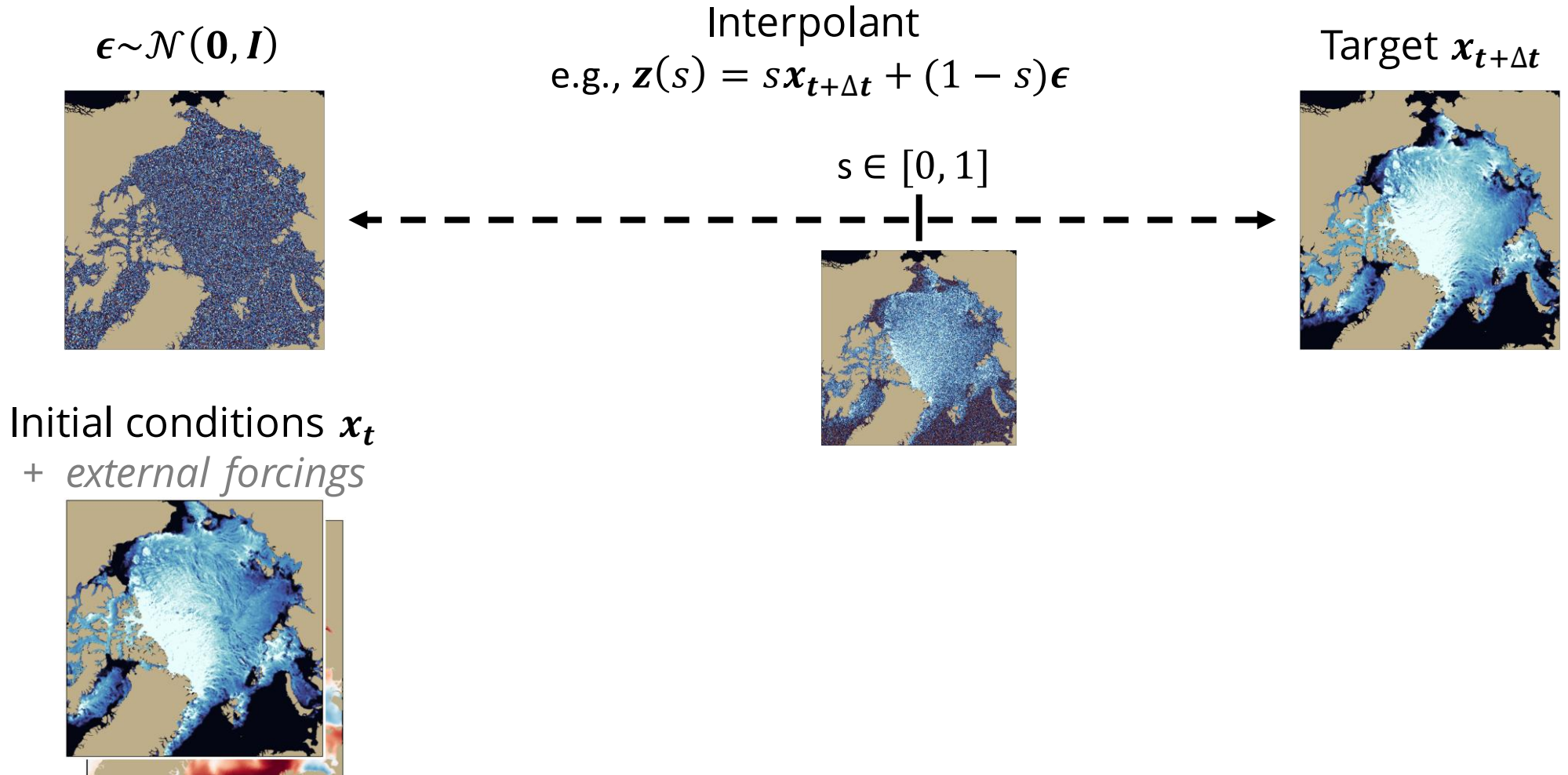
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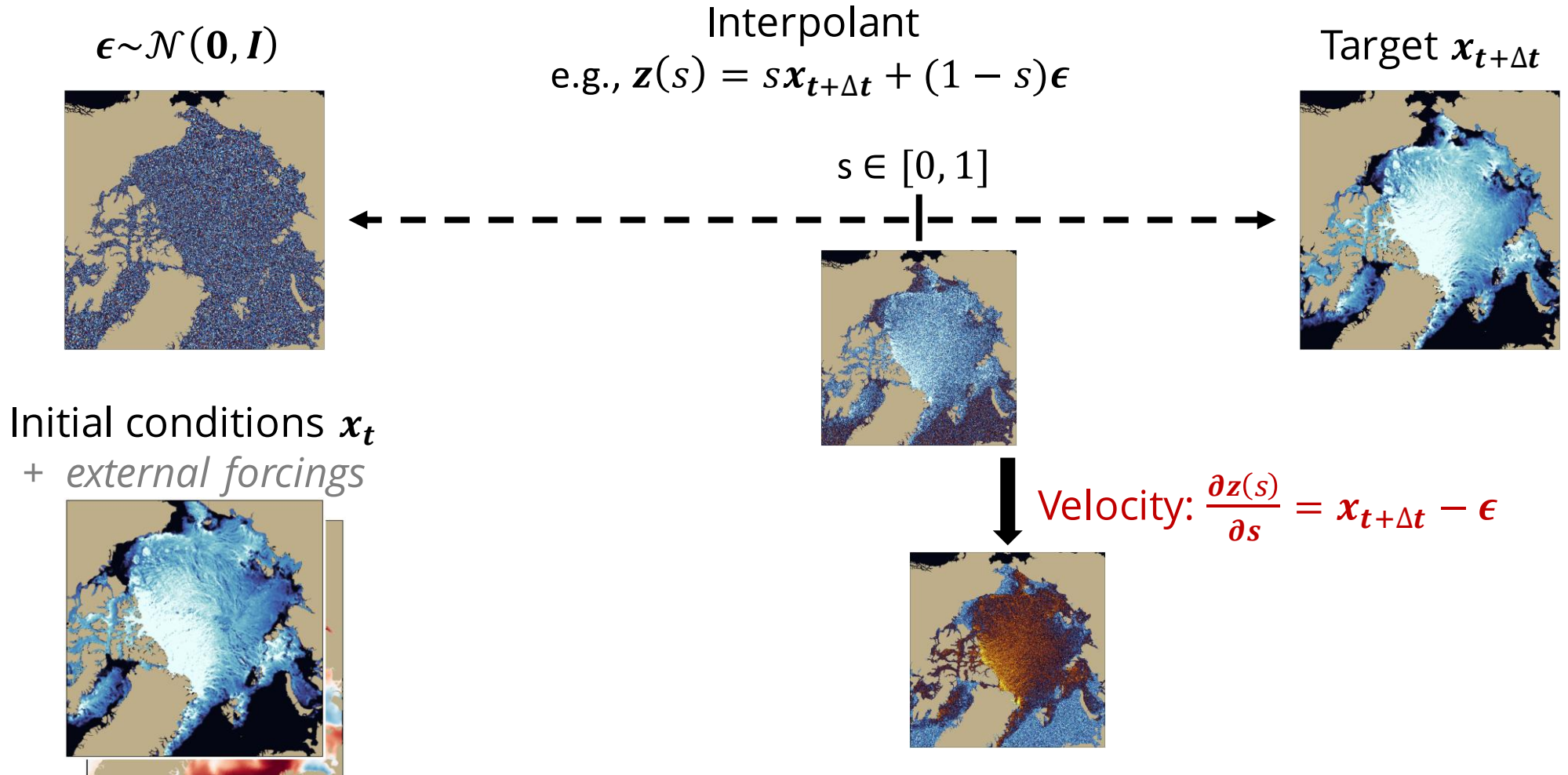
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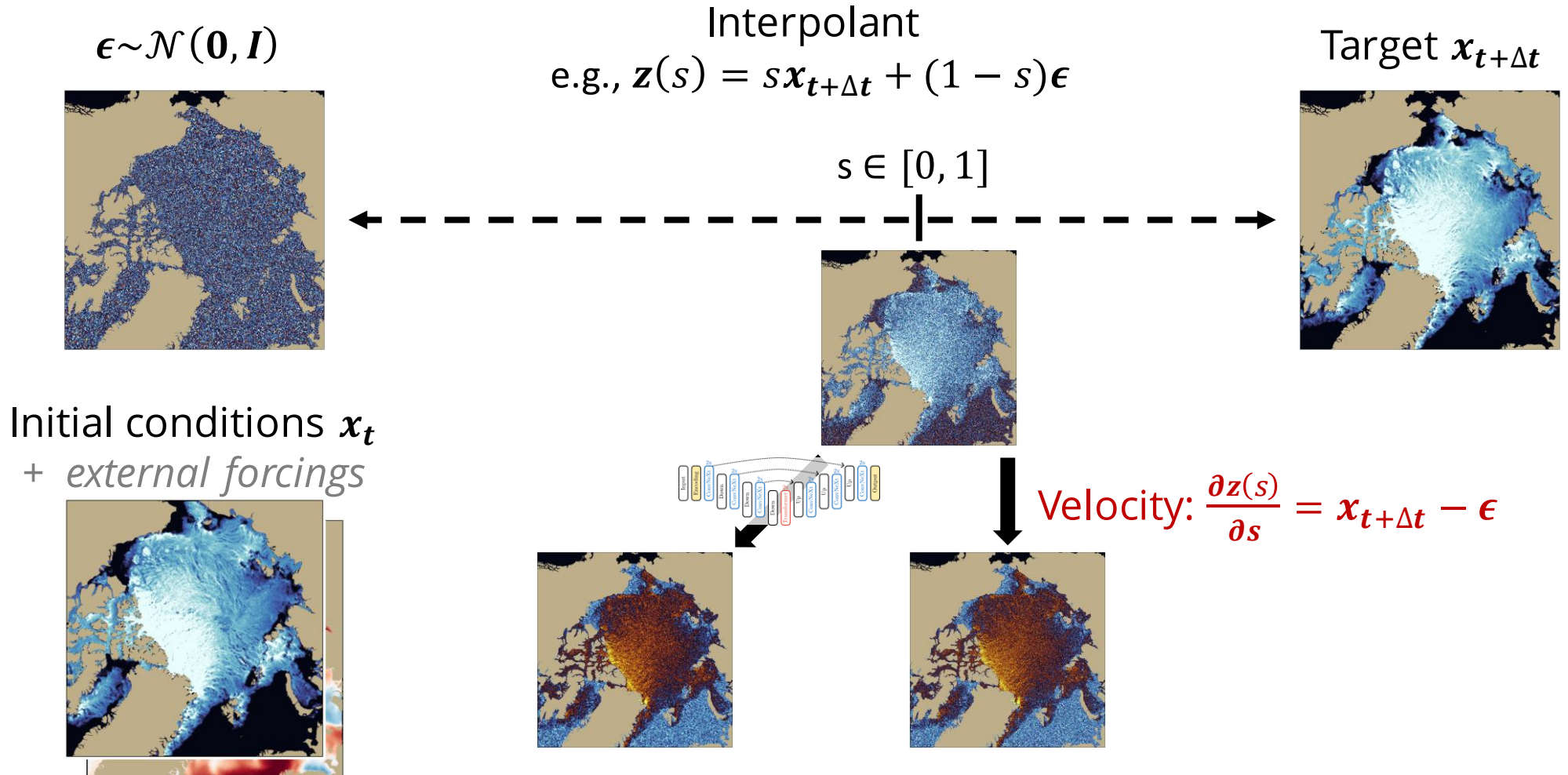
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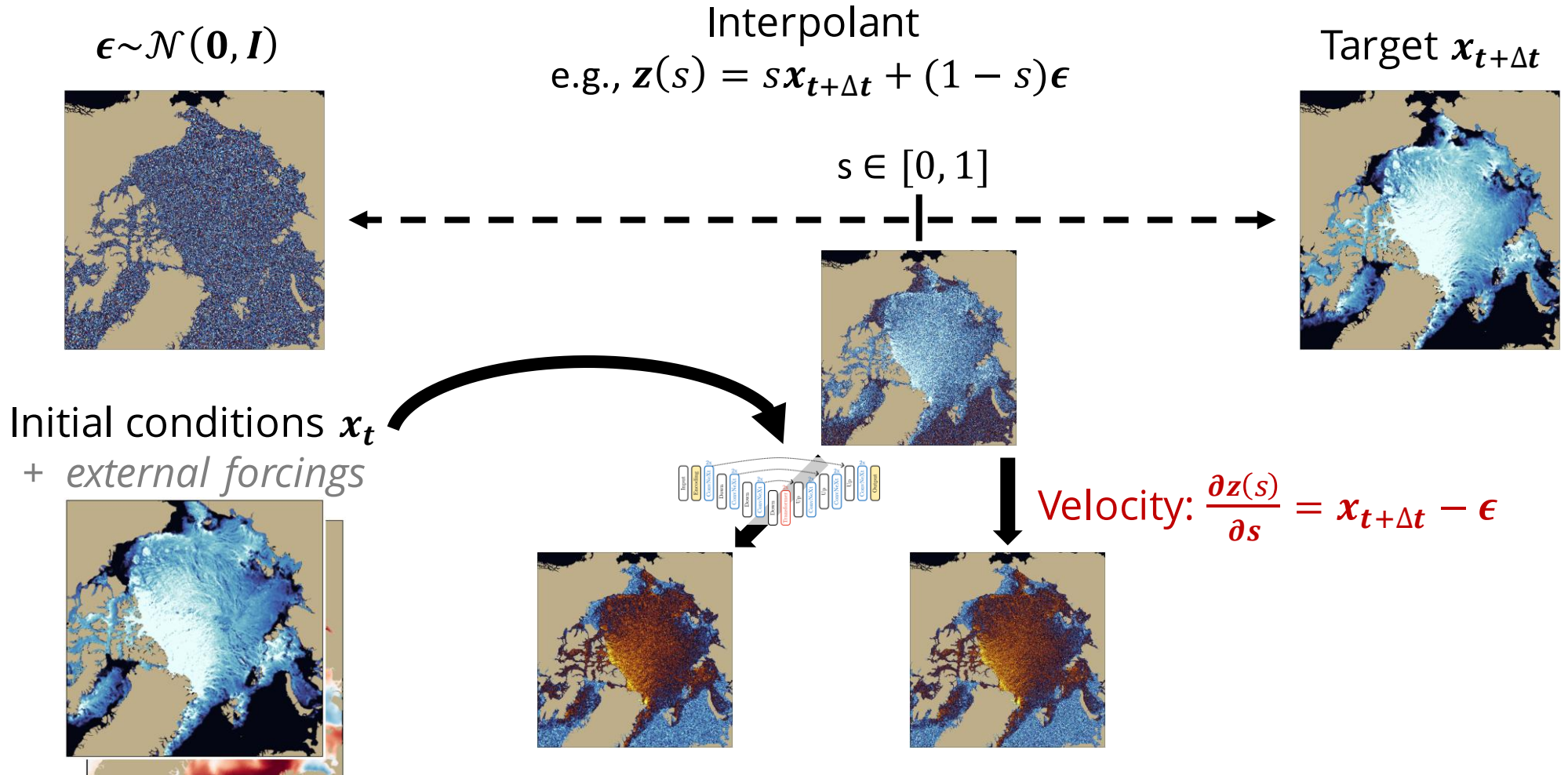
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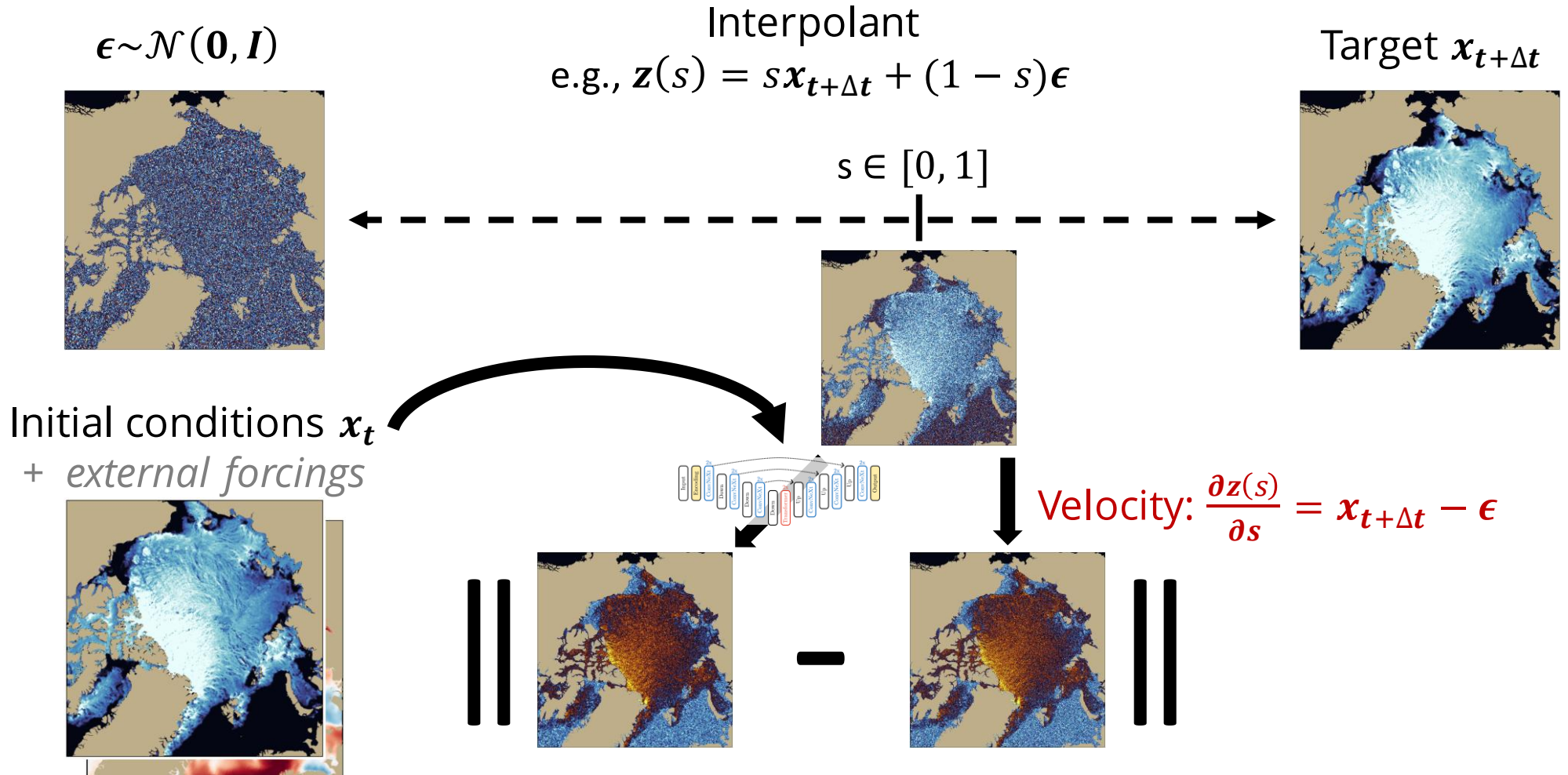
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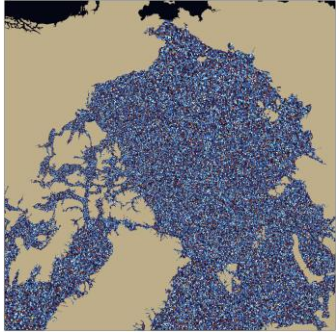


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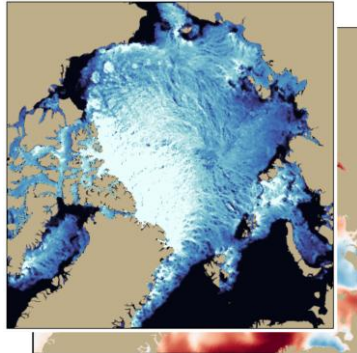


# How to forecast with the model?

$$\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$

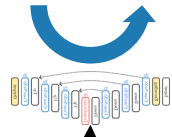
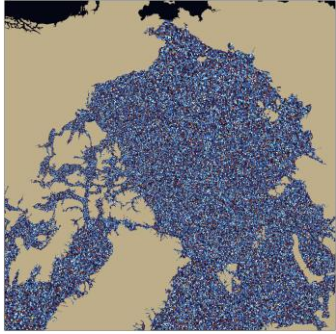


Initial conditions  $\mathbf{x}_t$   
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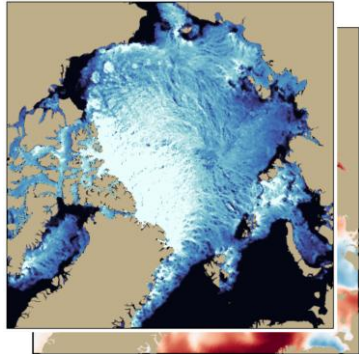


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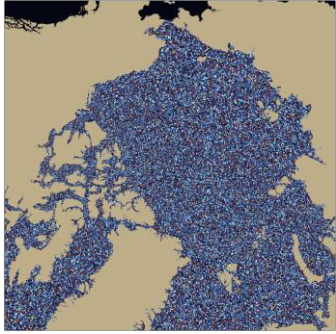


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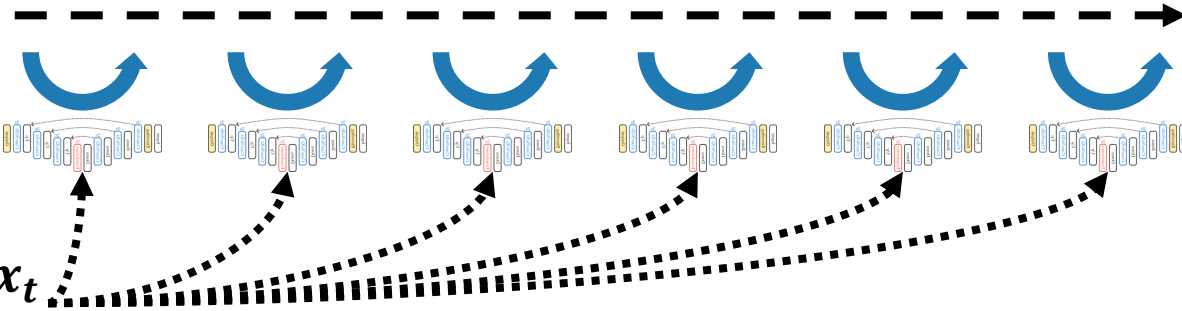
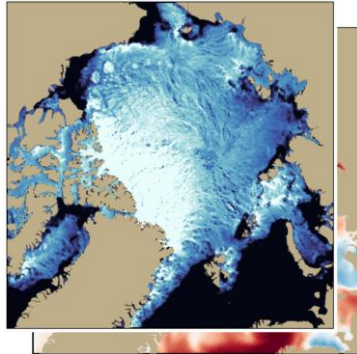


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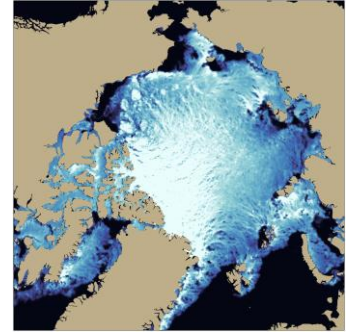
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Prediction  $x_{t+\Delta t}$



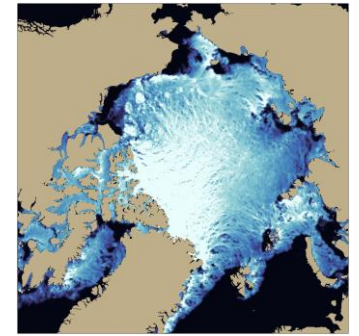
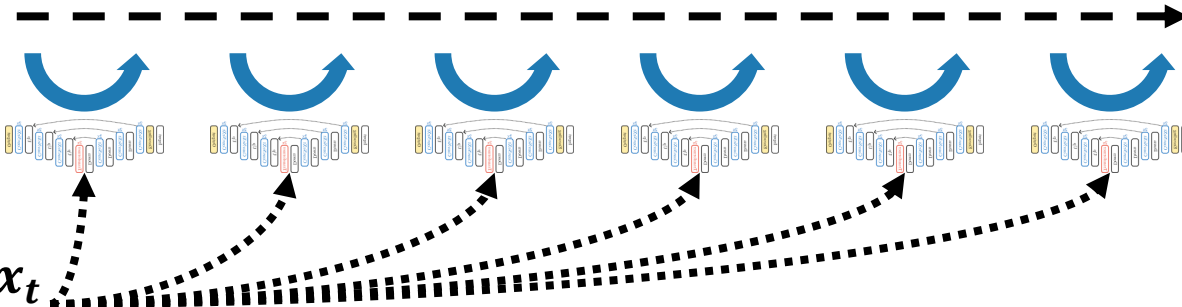
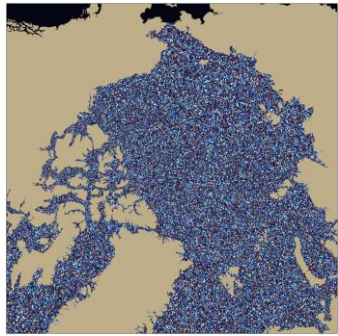
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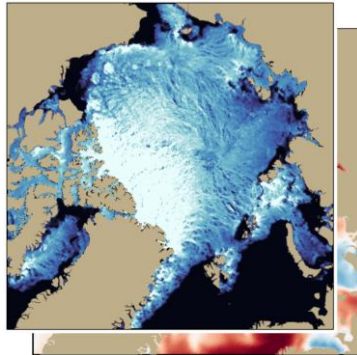
Flow ODE

Prediction  $\mathbf{x}_{t+\Delta t}$

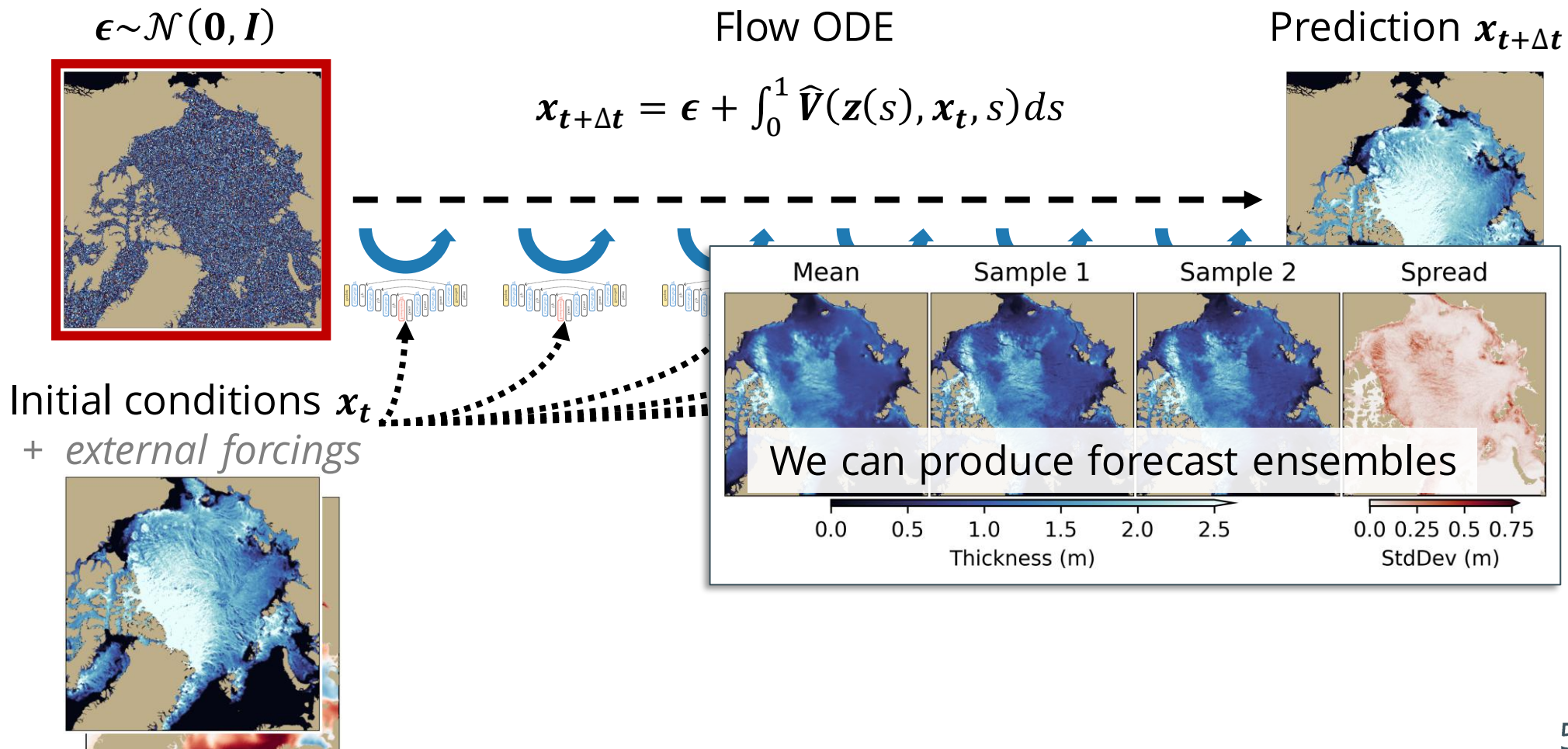
$$\mathbf{x}_{t+\Delta t} = \epsilon + \int_0^1 \widehat{\mathbf{V}}(\mathbf{z}(s), \mathbf{x}_t, s) ds$$



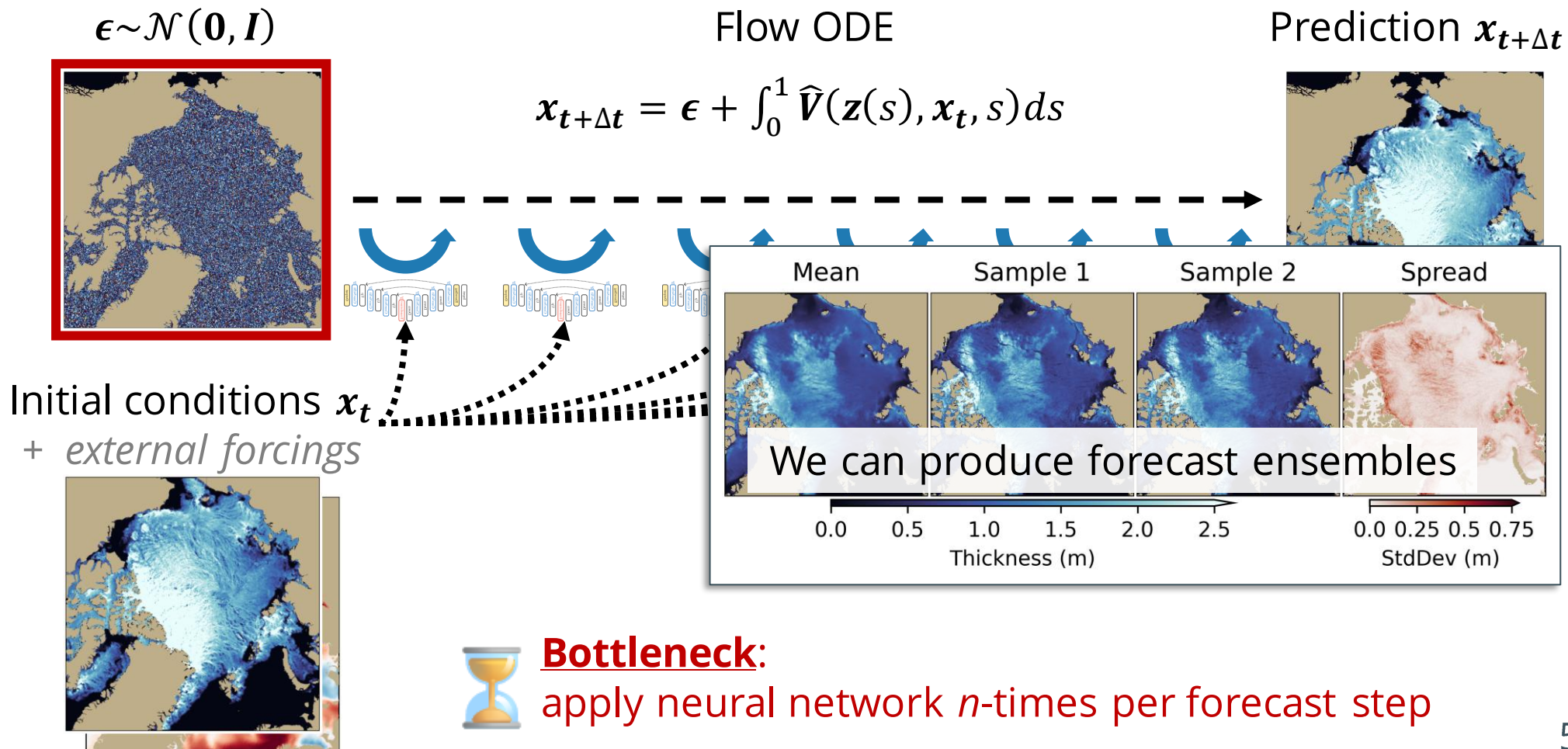
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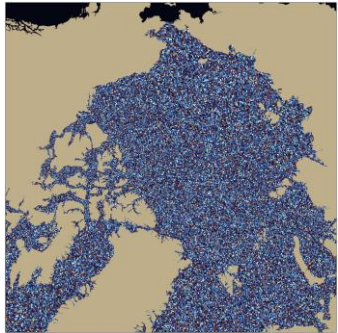


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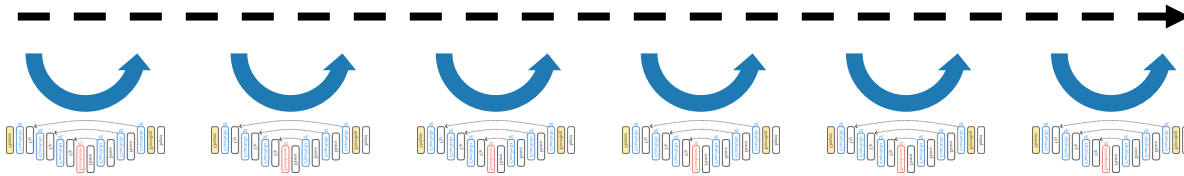
# Generative flows work like numerical models

$\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, I)$

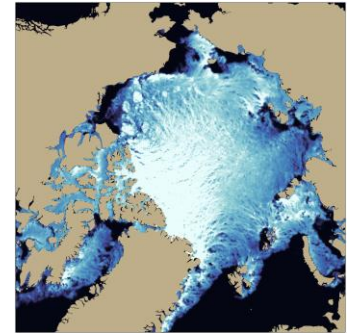


Flow ODE

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Prediction  $\mathbf{x}_{t+\Delta t}$

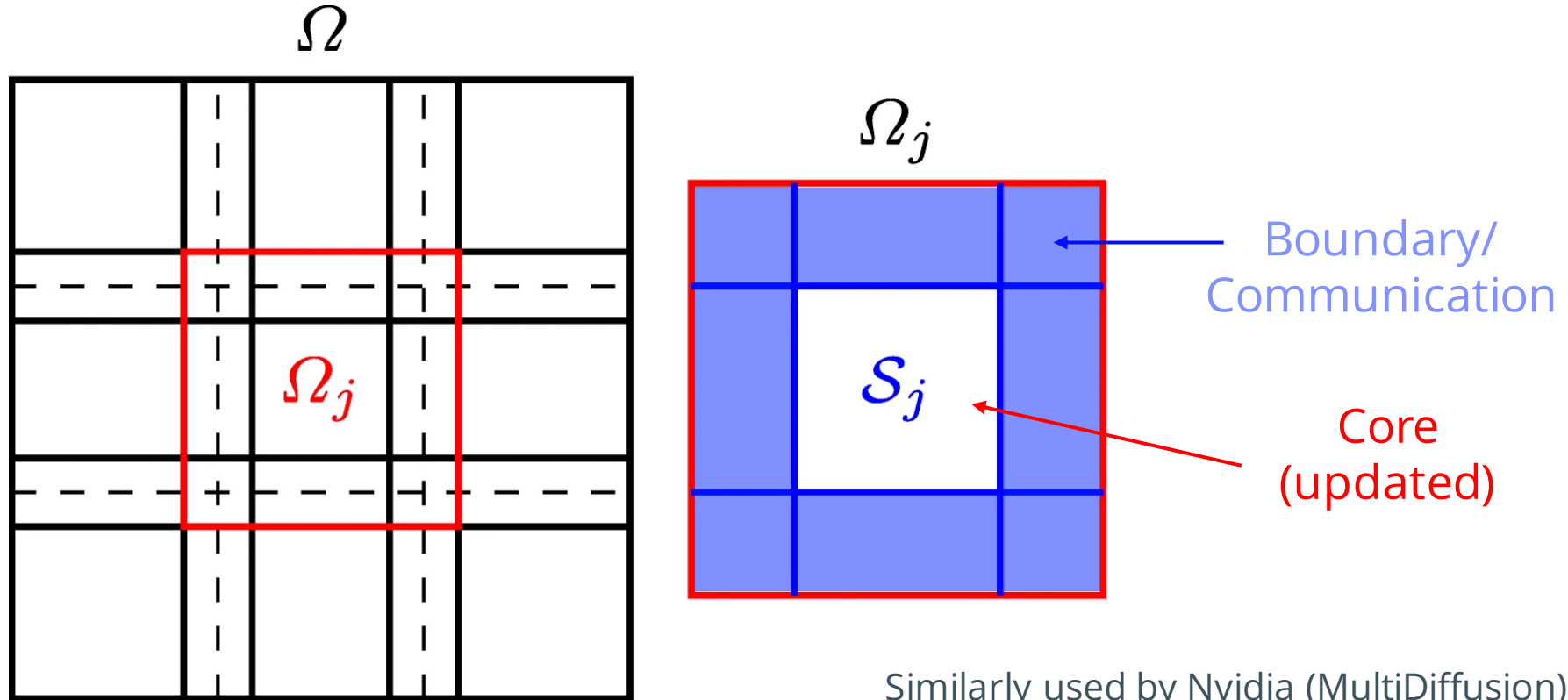


Integration of differential equation in pseudo time

Prior physical knowledge: sensitivity for short term is localised

# Domain decomposition comes to rescue

Allows efficient training and inference with different datasets



Similarly used by Nvidia (MultiDiffusion)

# GenSIM – first efficient generative sea-ice model

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a Generative flow-based sea-ice model

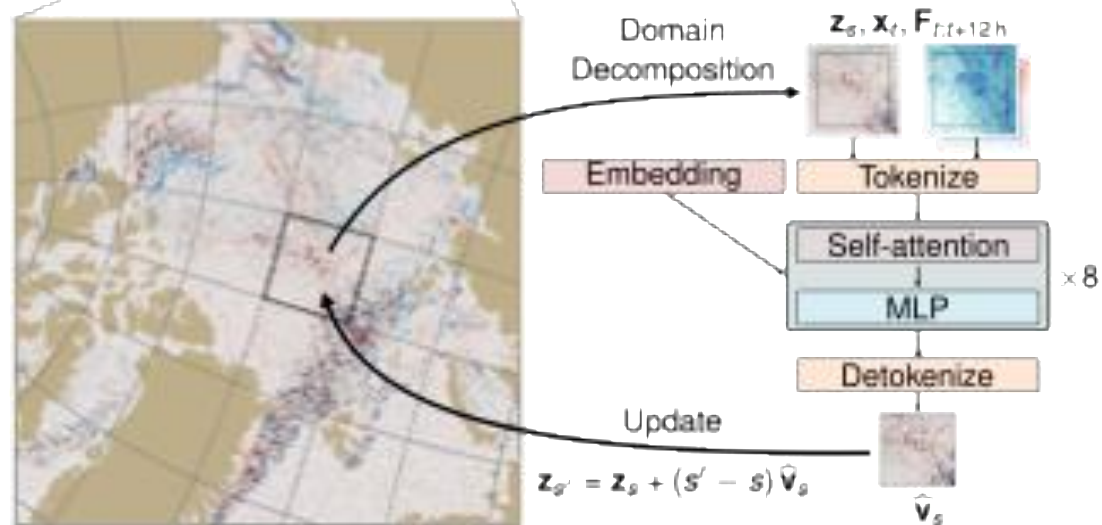


# GenSIM – first efficient generative sea-ice model

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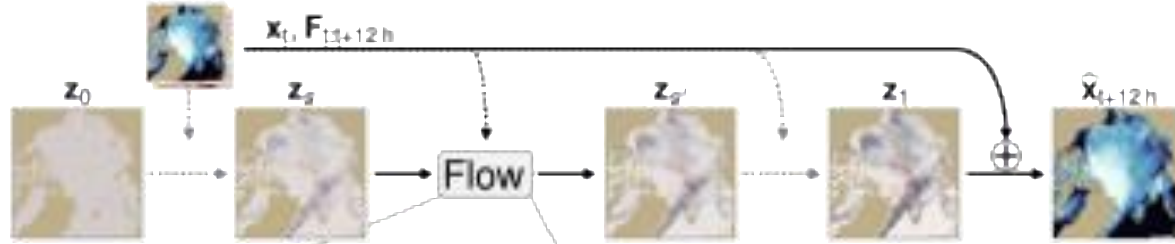


b Efficient transformer with domain decomposition

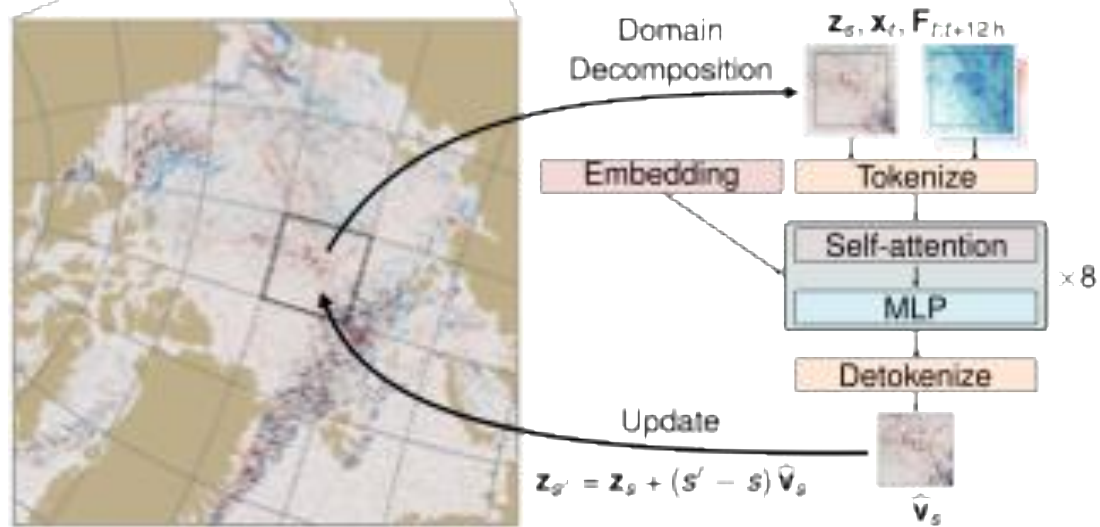


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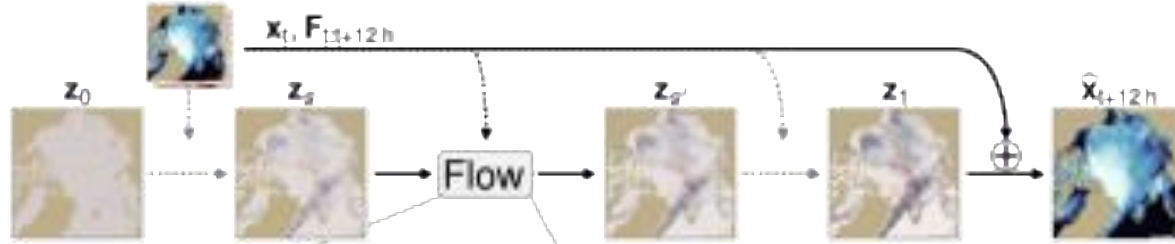
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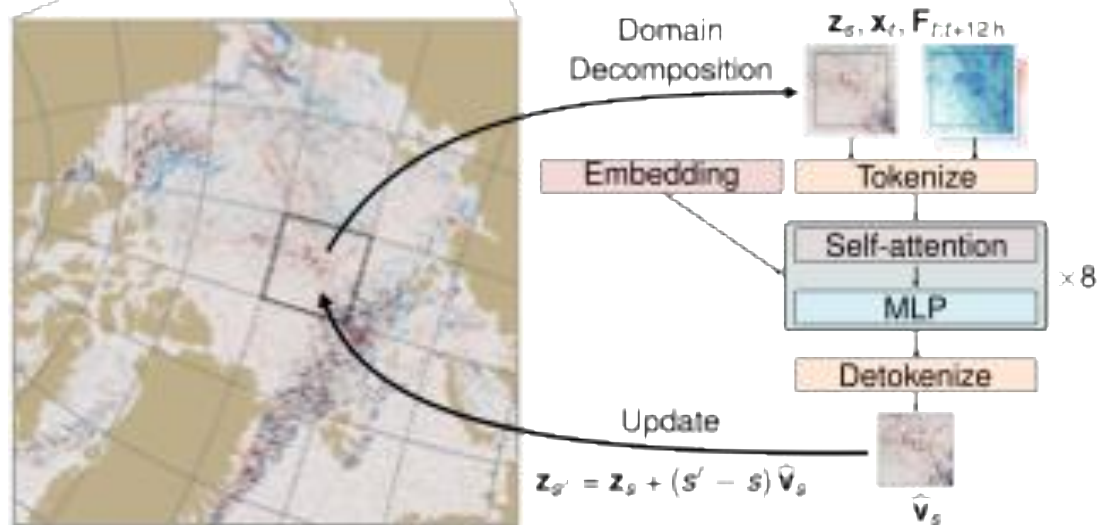
12 h lead time, neXtSIM-OPA(1995-2014), full state, ERA5 forcing

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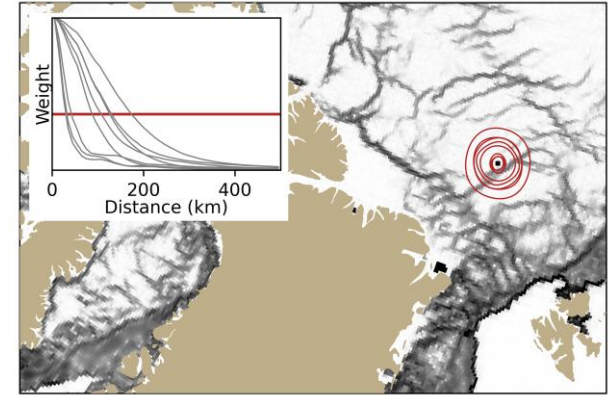
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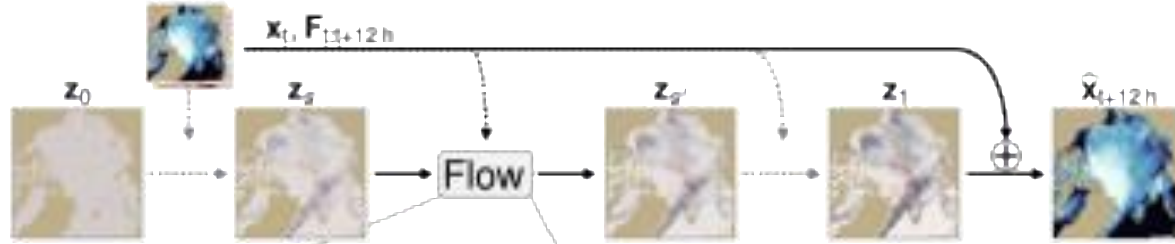
Learned soft localisation



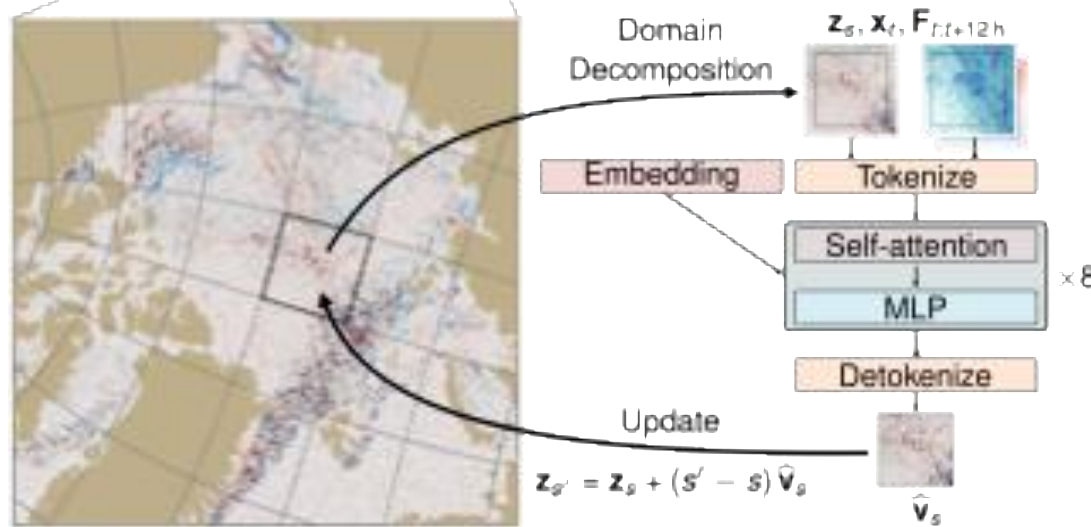
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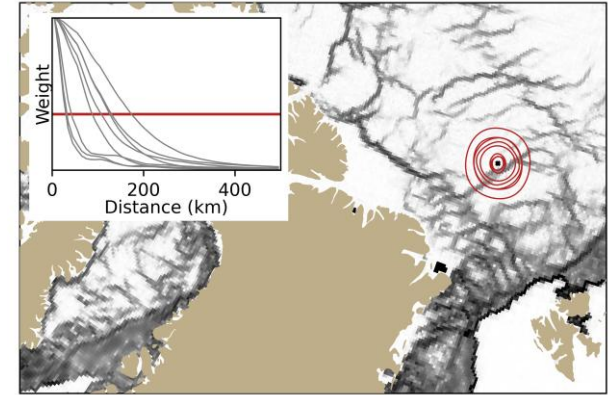
a Generative flow-based sea-ice model



b Efficient transformer with domain decomposition



## Learned soft localisation



Resolution-agnostic

Mesh-agnostic

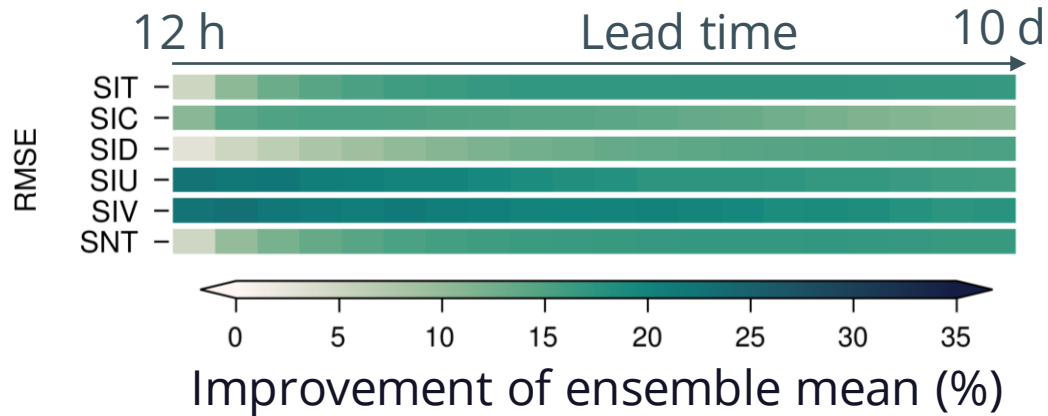
Accounts for bounds

Efficient (< 4 GB & 25 sy/d)

12 h lead time, neXtSIM-OPA(1995-2014), full state, ERA5 forcing

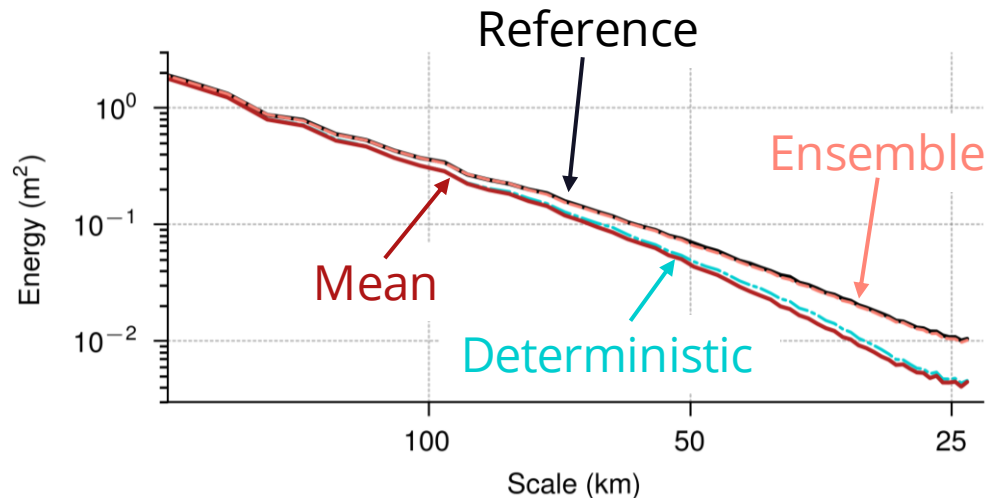
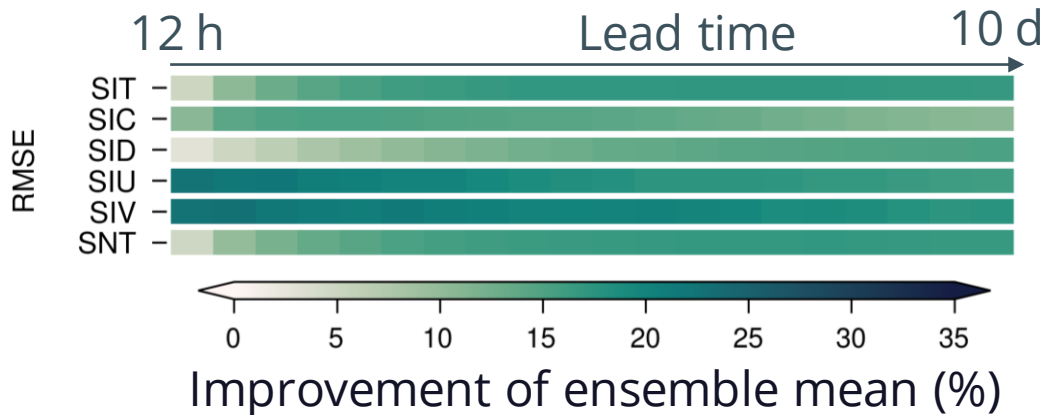
# Outperforms deterministic baseline

16 members, 2016-2018



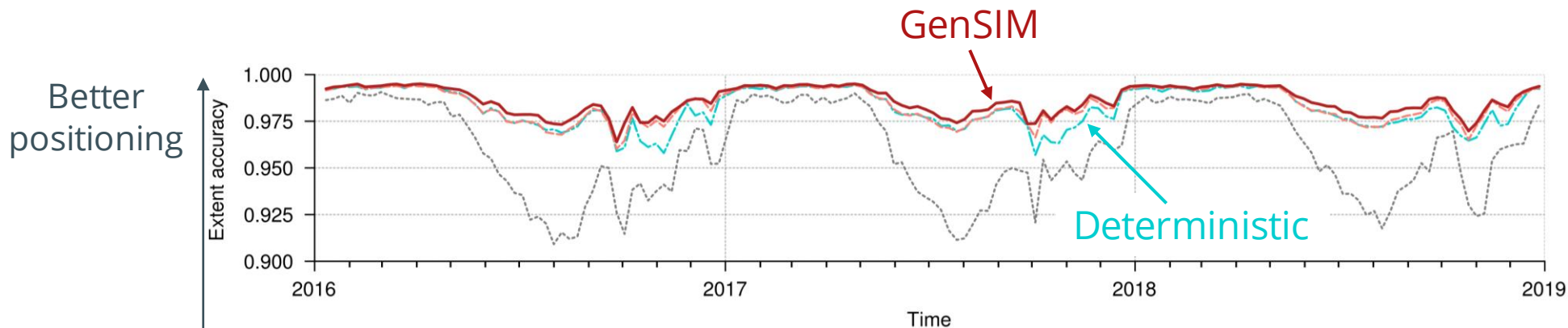
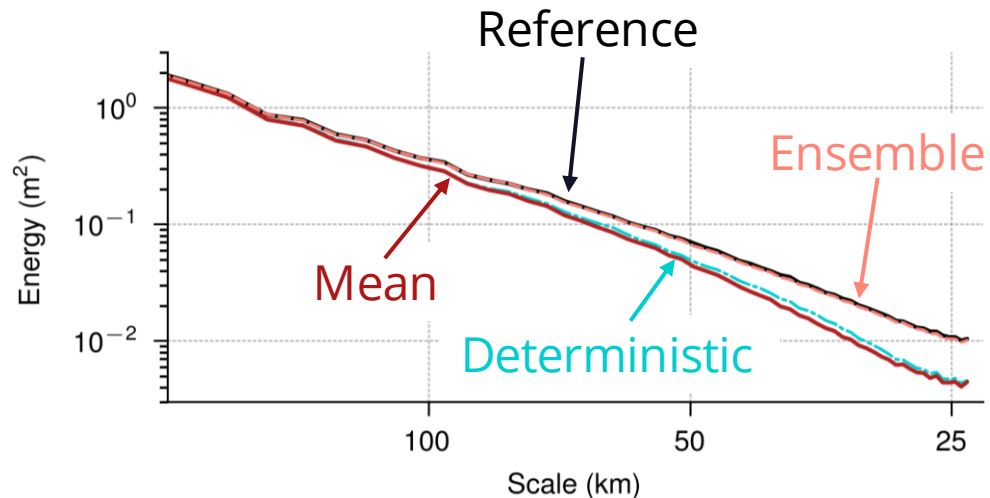
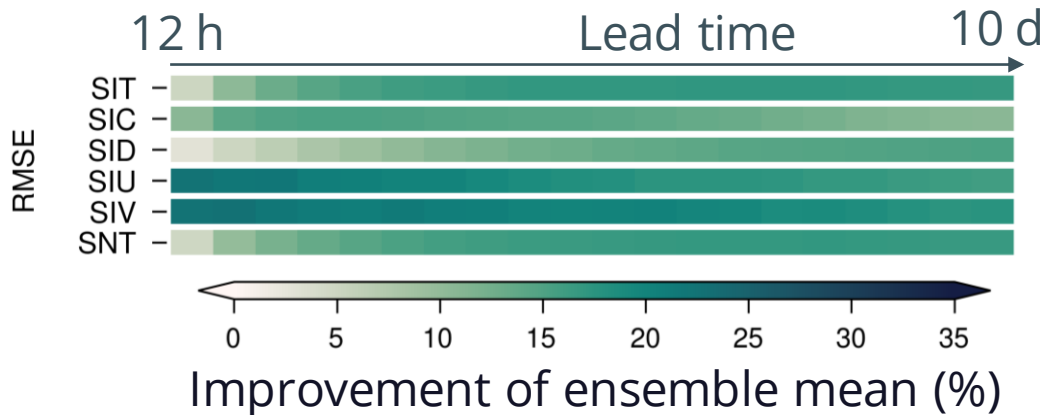
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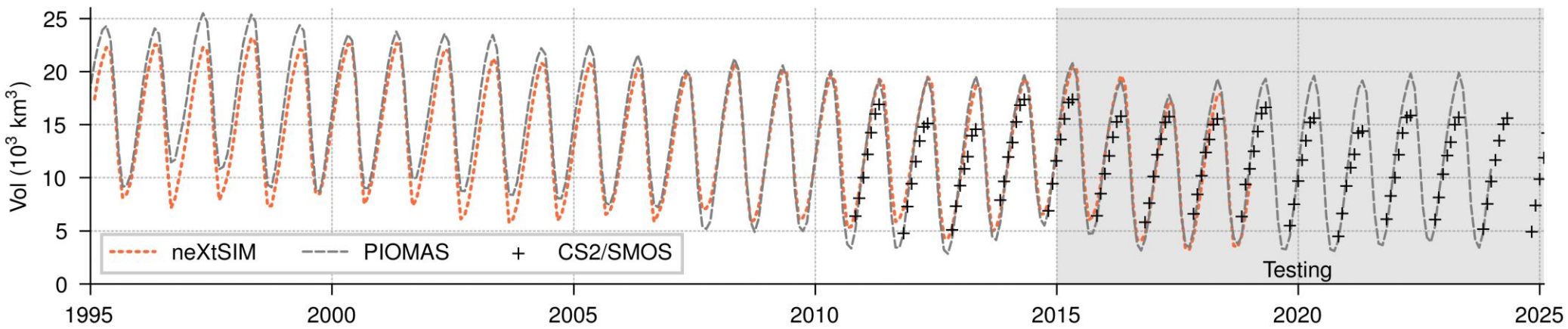
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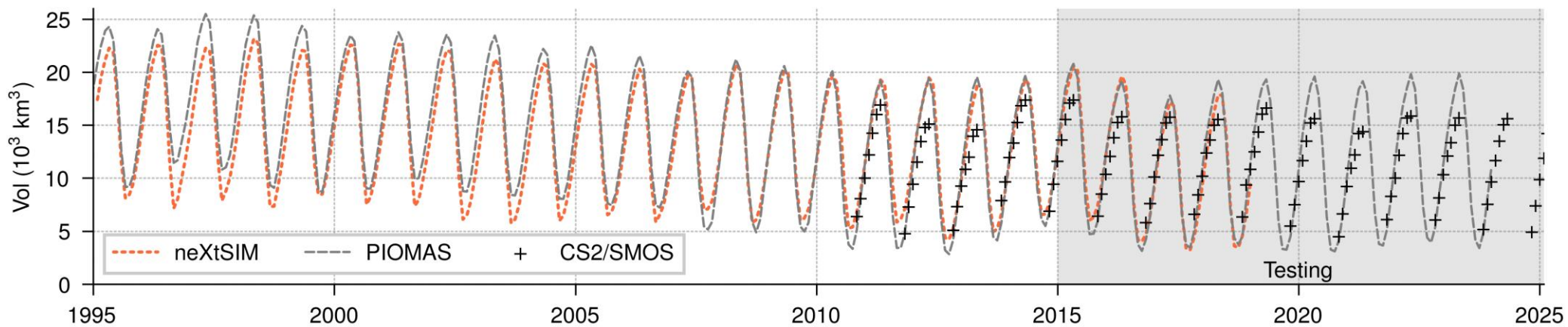
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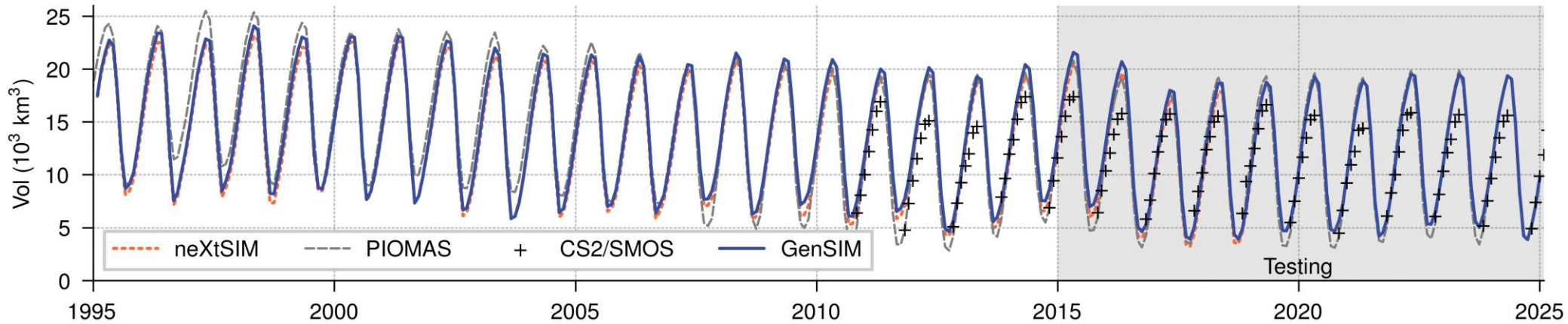


Remember: only trained for 12 hour forecasts



# Stable extrapolation to decade-long simulations

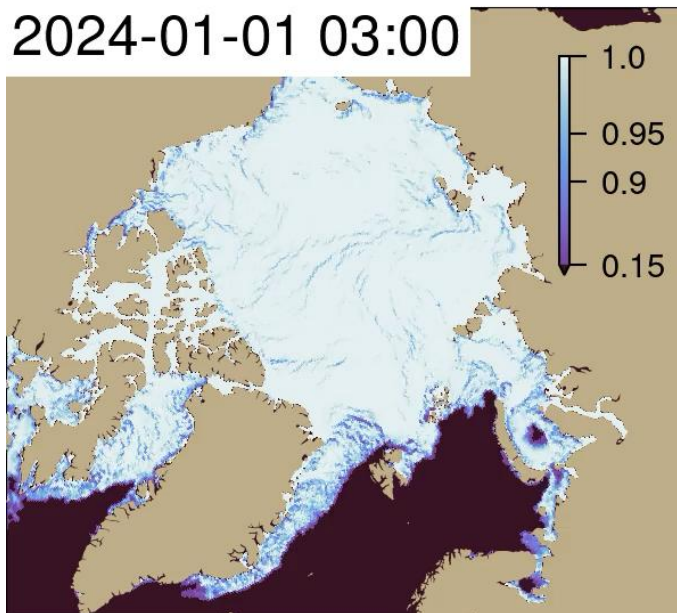
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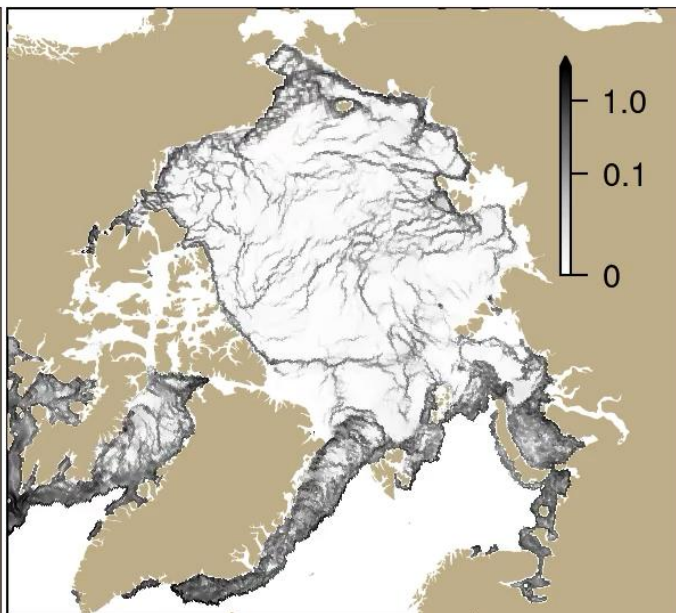
# Temporal consistency even after nearly 30 years

Concentration (1)

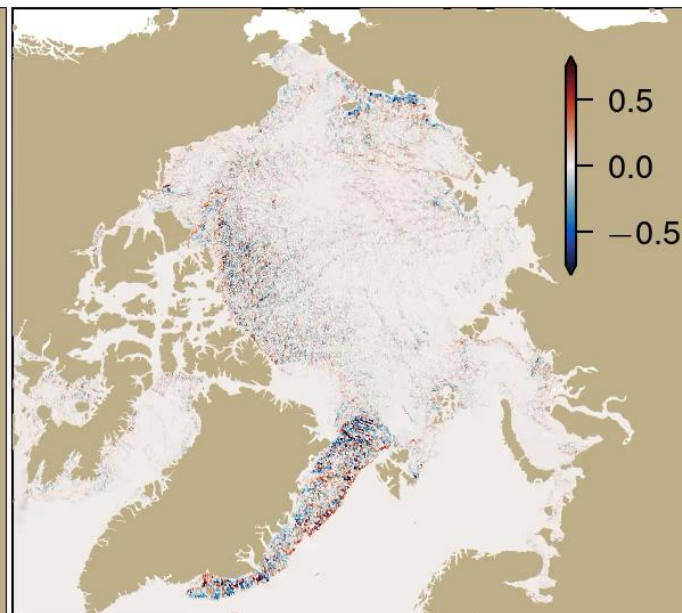
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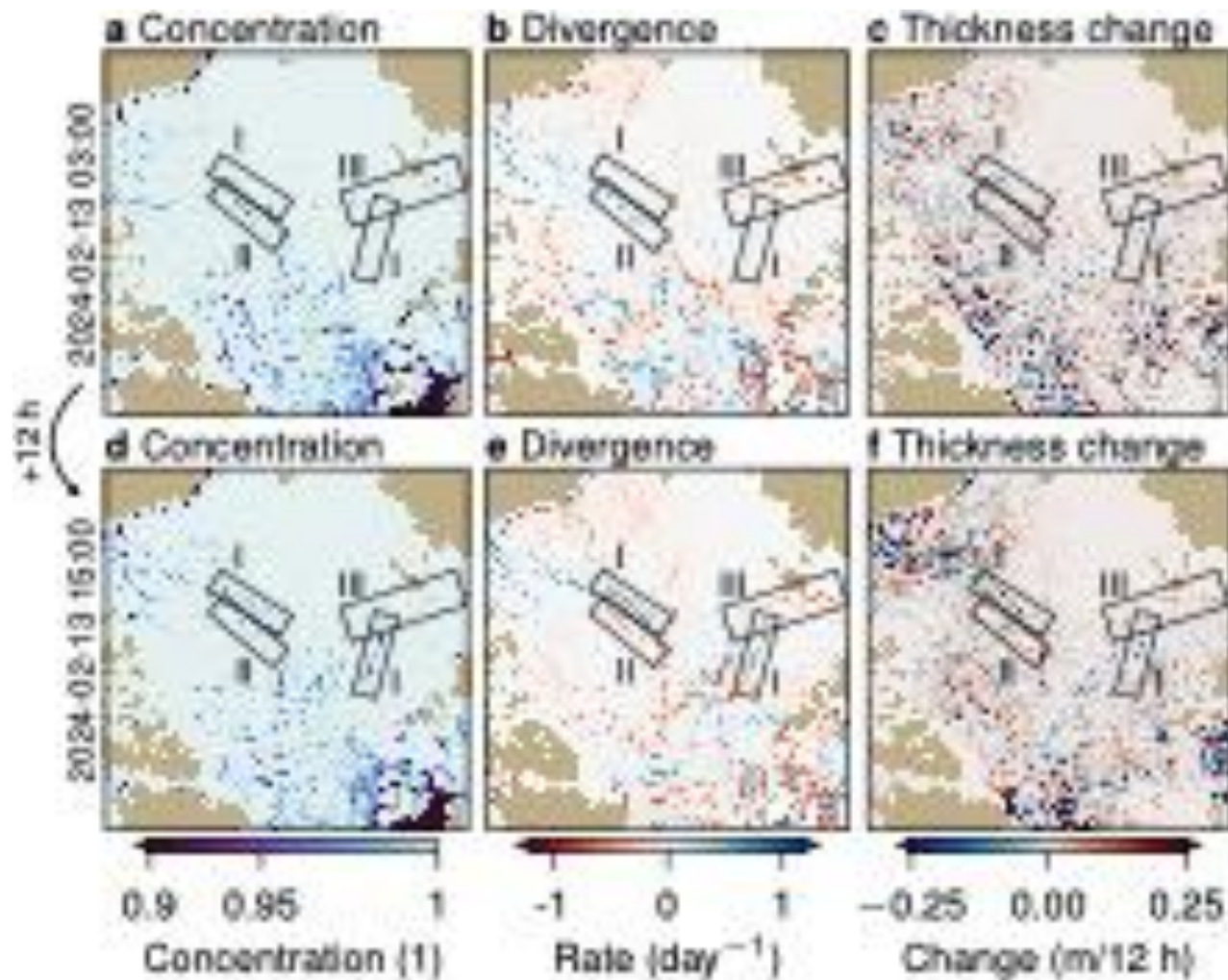
Deformation  $\dot{\epsilon}$  ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ )



$\Delta$  Thickness (m / 12h)

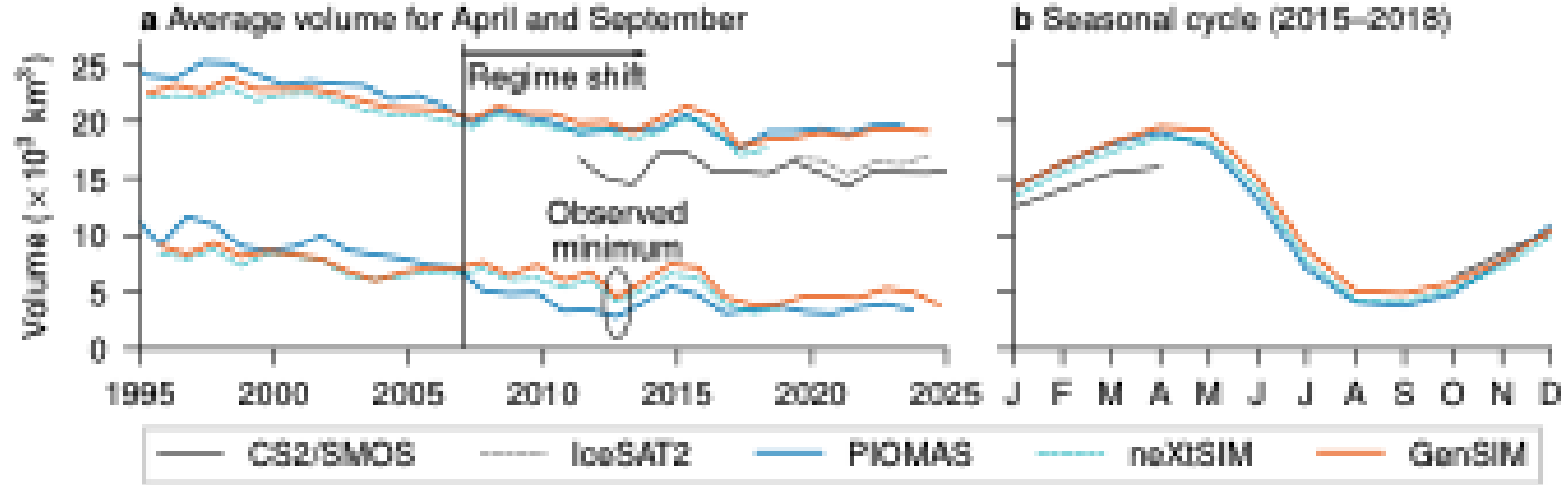


# Implicit representation of resolved physical processes

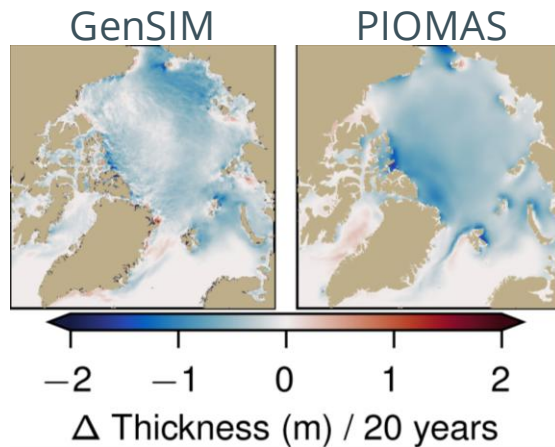
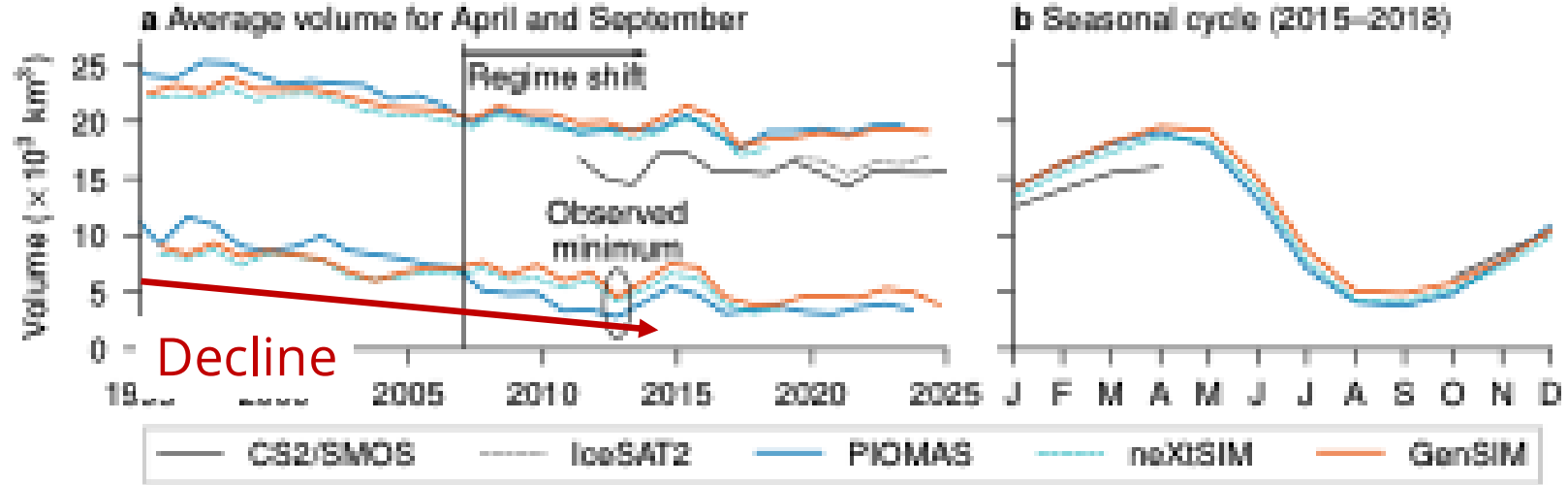


I: Opening of leads  
II: Healing  
III: Ridging

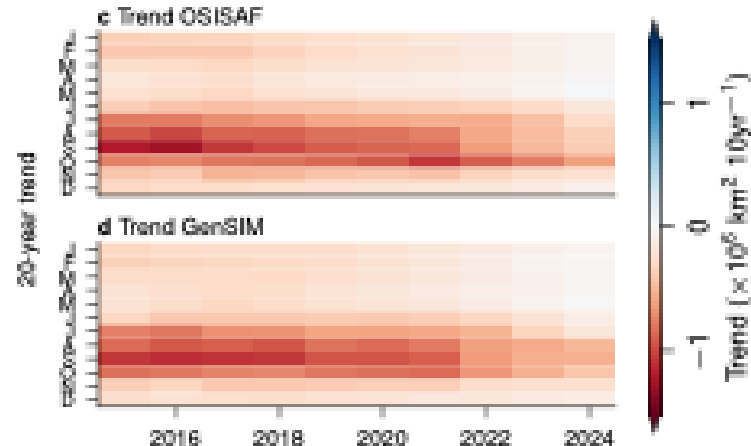
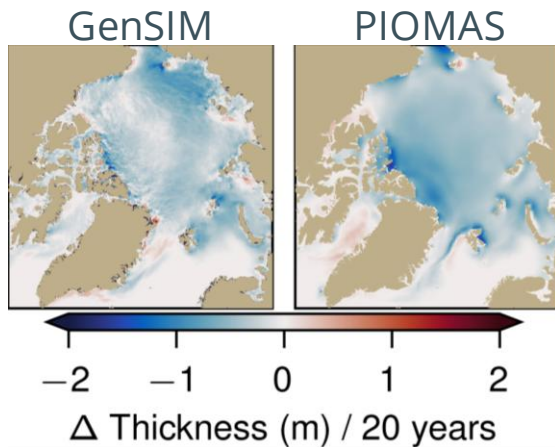
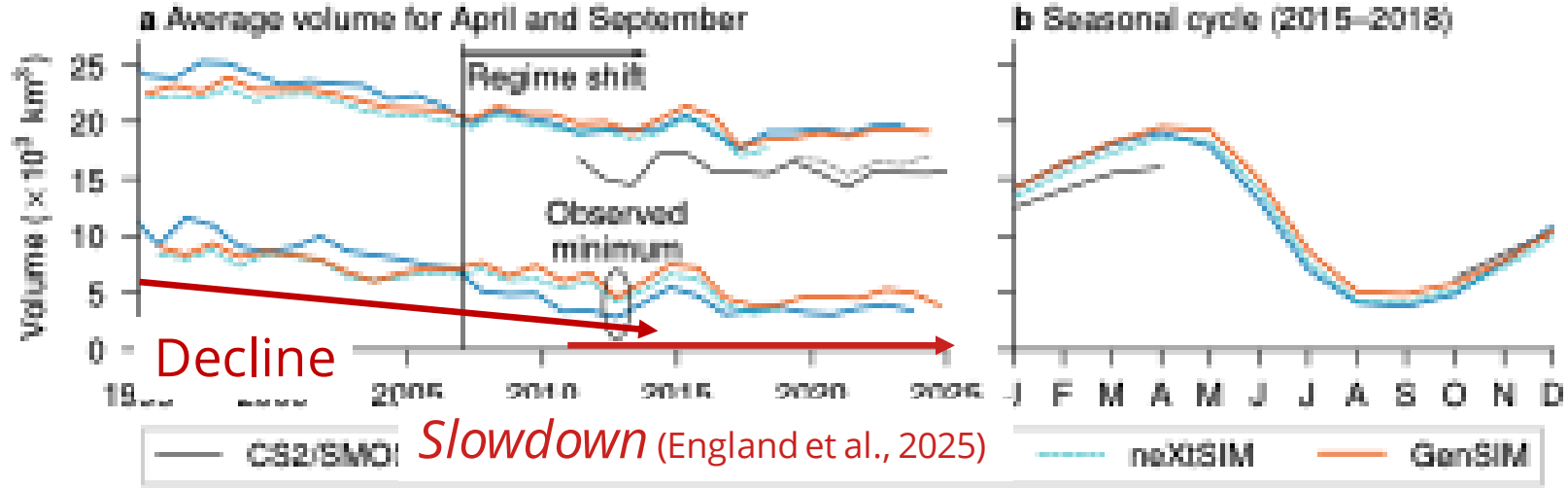
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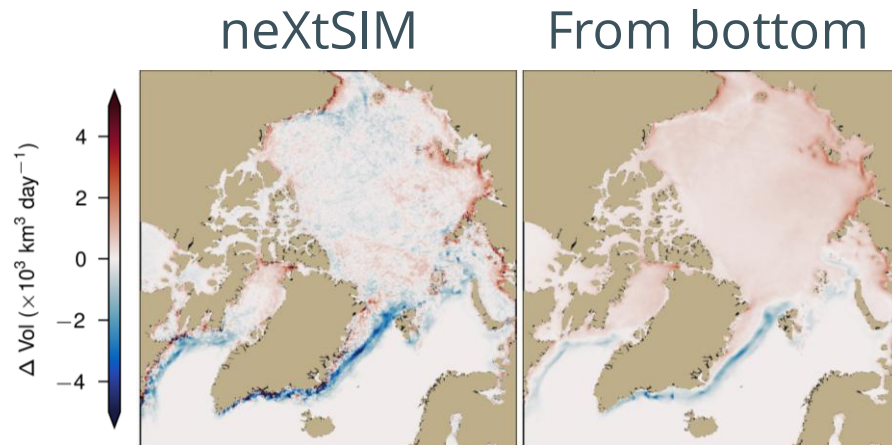


# Correct thermodynamical evolution

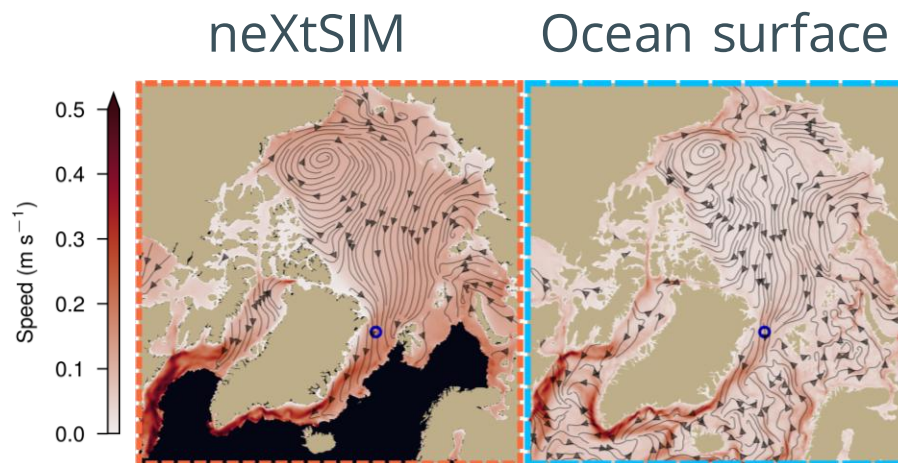


2015→2018

Thermodynamics  
Avg vol change in 12  
h

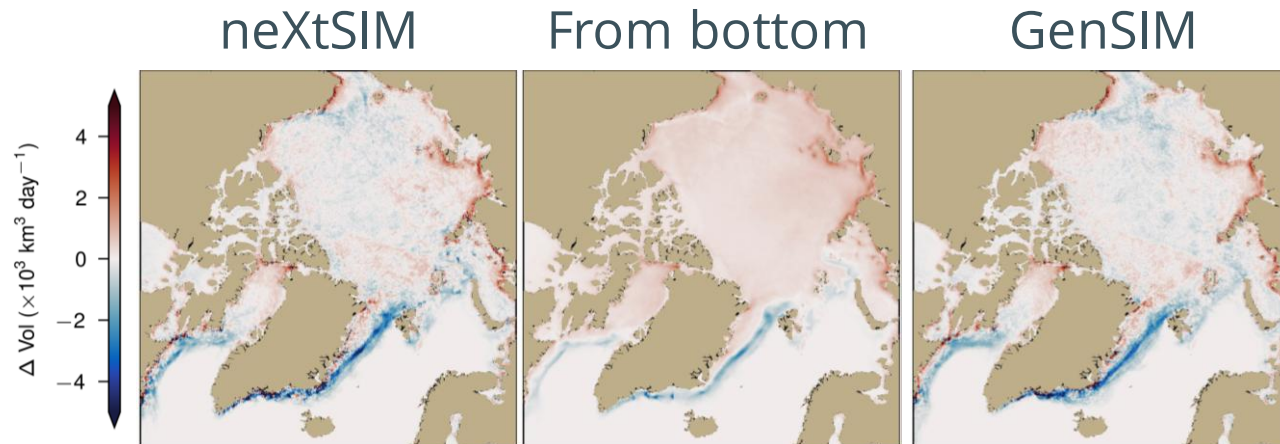


Dynamics  
Average drift

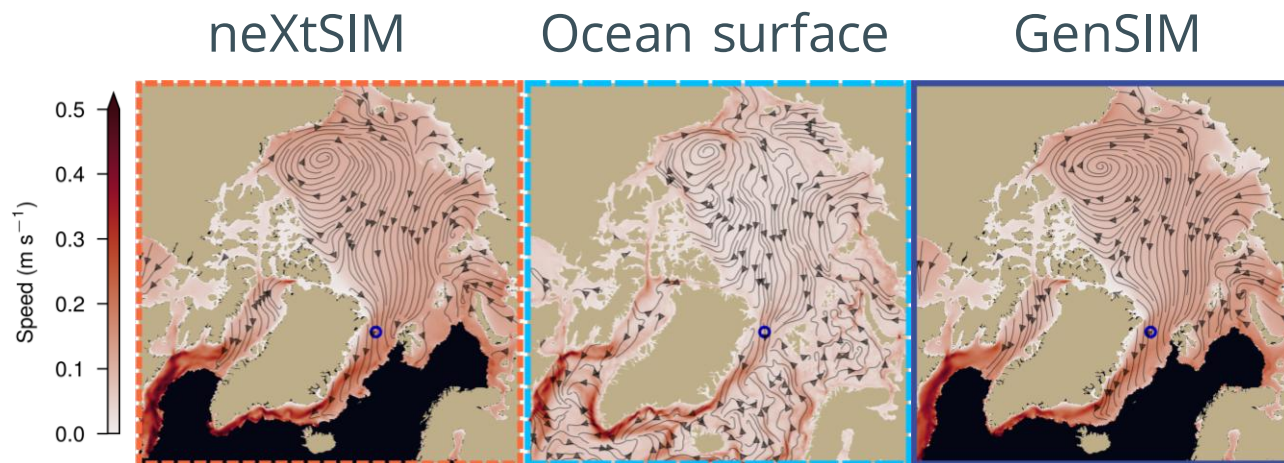


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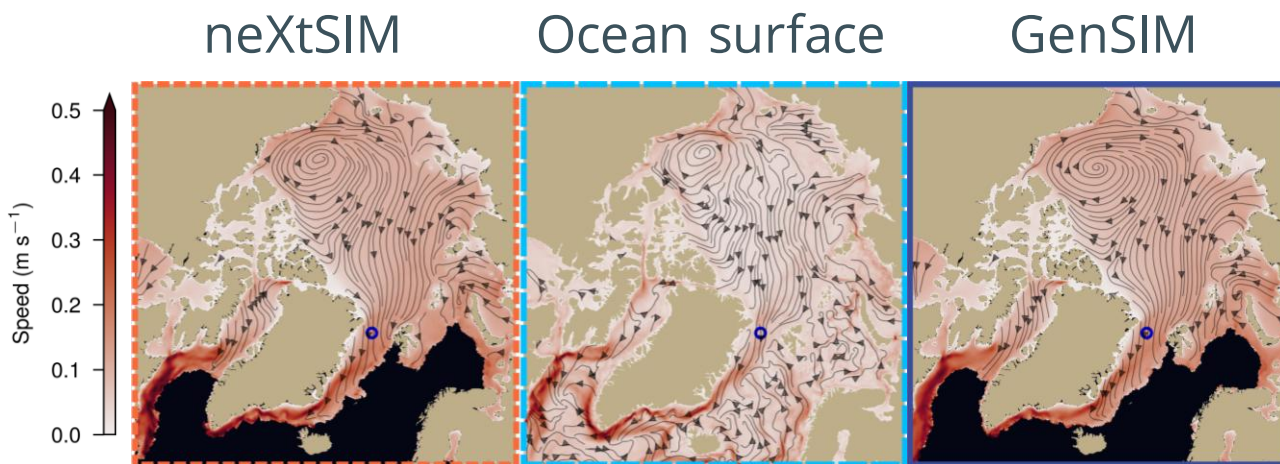


2015→2018

Thermodynamics  
Avg vol change in 12 h



Dynamics  
Average drift



Learning of ocean-like patterns from atmosphere only!

Implications: Learning of slow component + Coupling in AI-ESM difficult

**Claim: Generative flow models are the right tool  
(at least for sea ice)**

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Work similar to classical numerical models  
use domain decomposition to scale model up

Unlock improved data-driven modeling  
exhibit physically realistic and consistent predictions

Extrapolate sub-daily to decade  
implicit learning of slow component and hidden features

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Pre-print  
(under review)



Code + Weights



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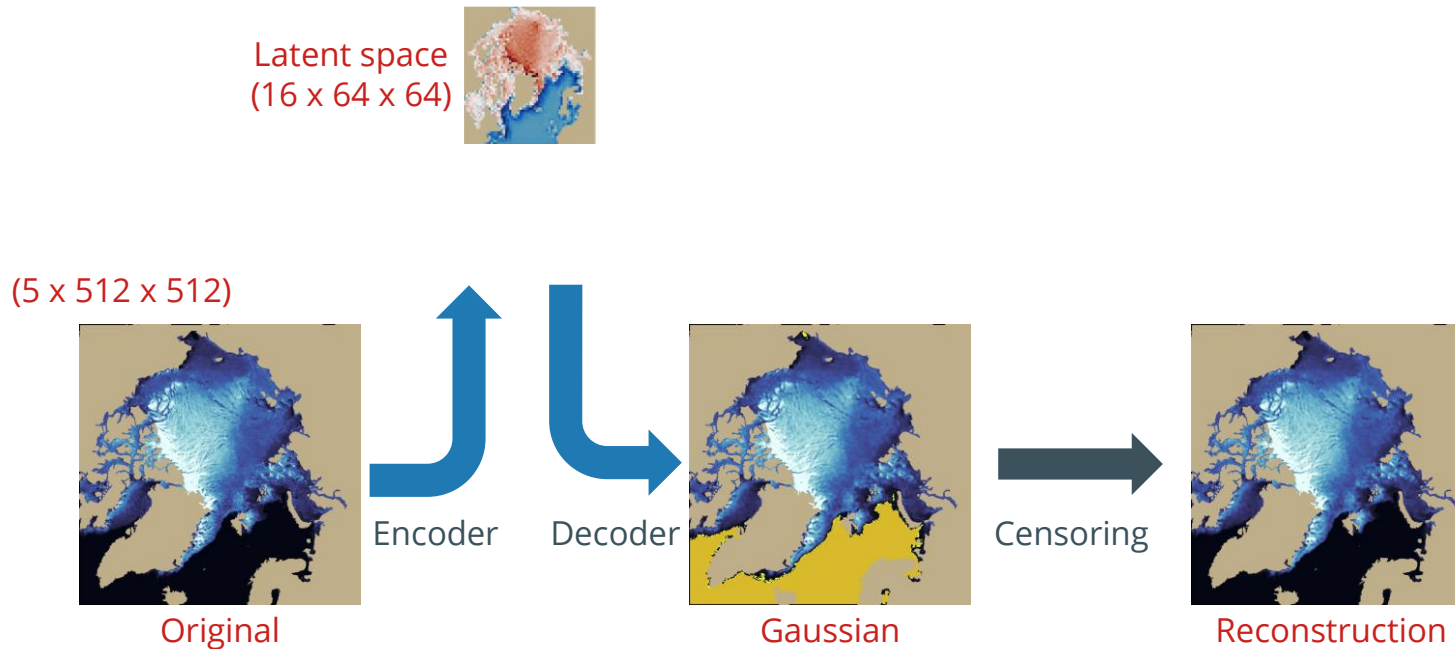


## Do you have questions?

# Scaling up: latent diffusion models



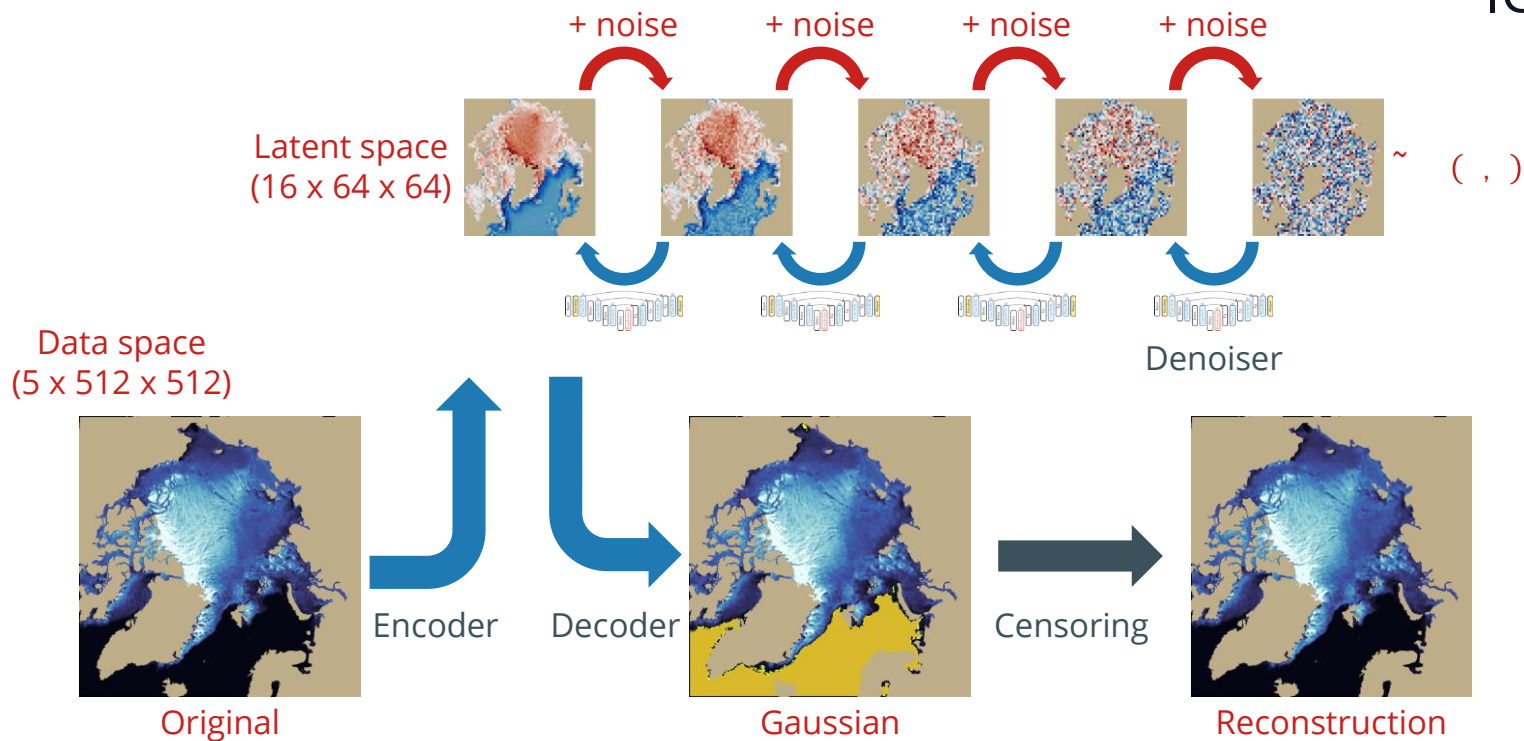
ICML '24



# Scaling up: latent diffusion models



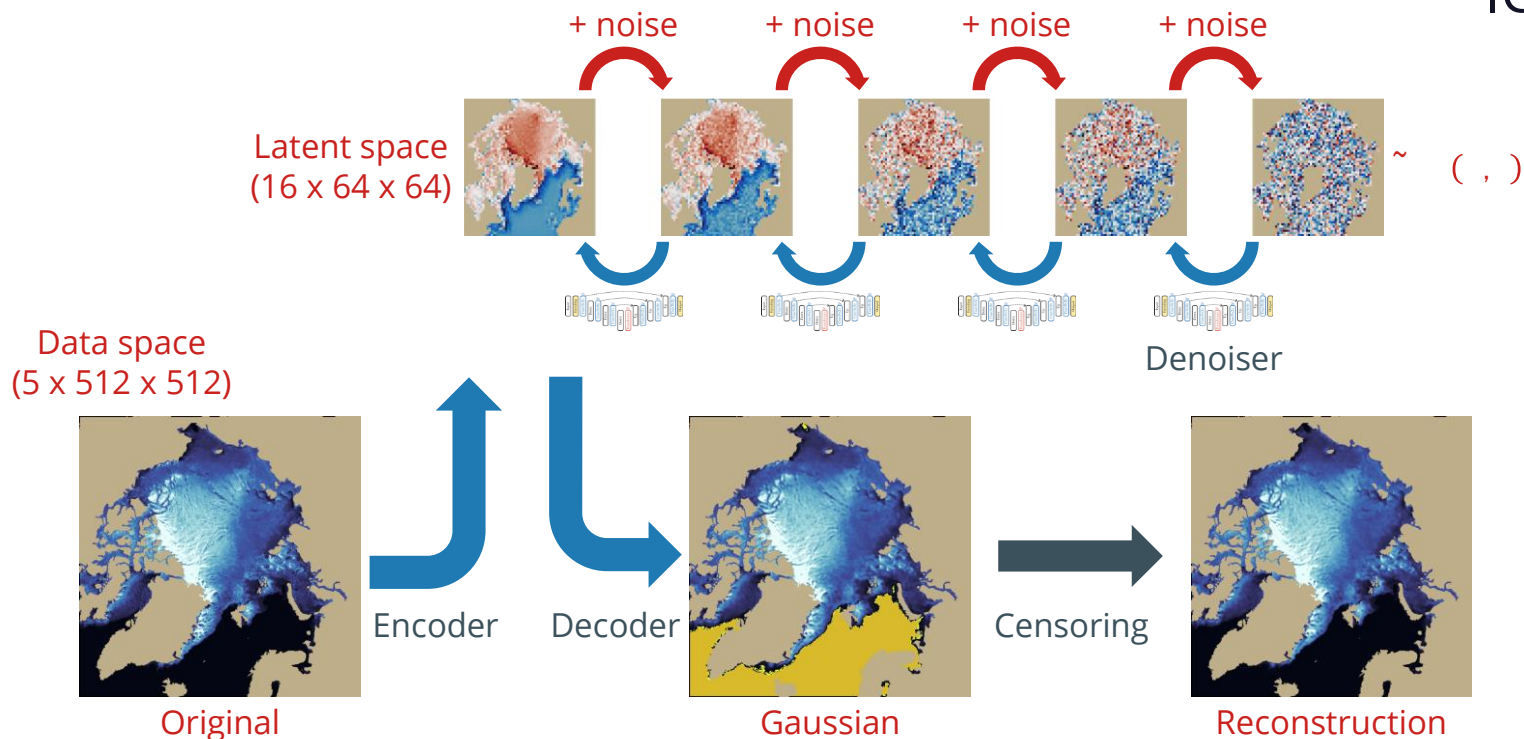
ICML '24



# Scaling up: latent diffusion models



ICML '24

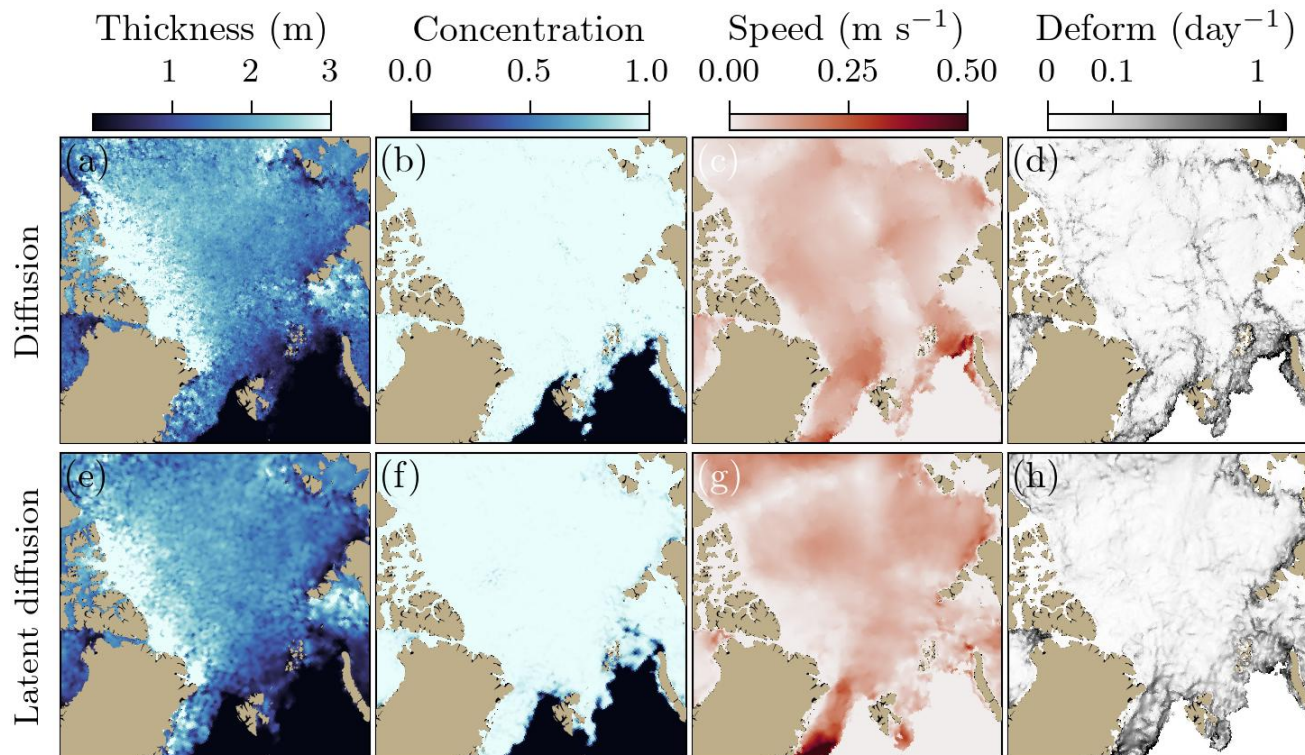


25x faster + Prior physical knowledge

# Scaling up: latent diffusion models



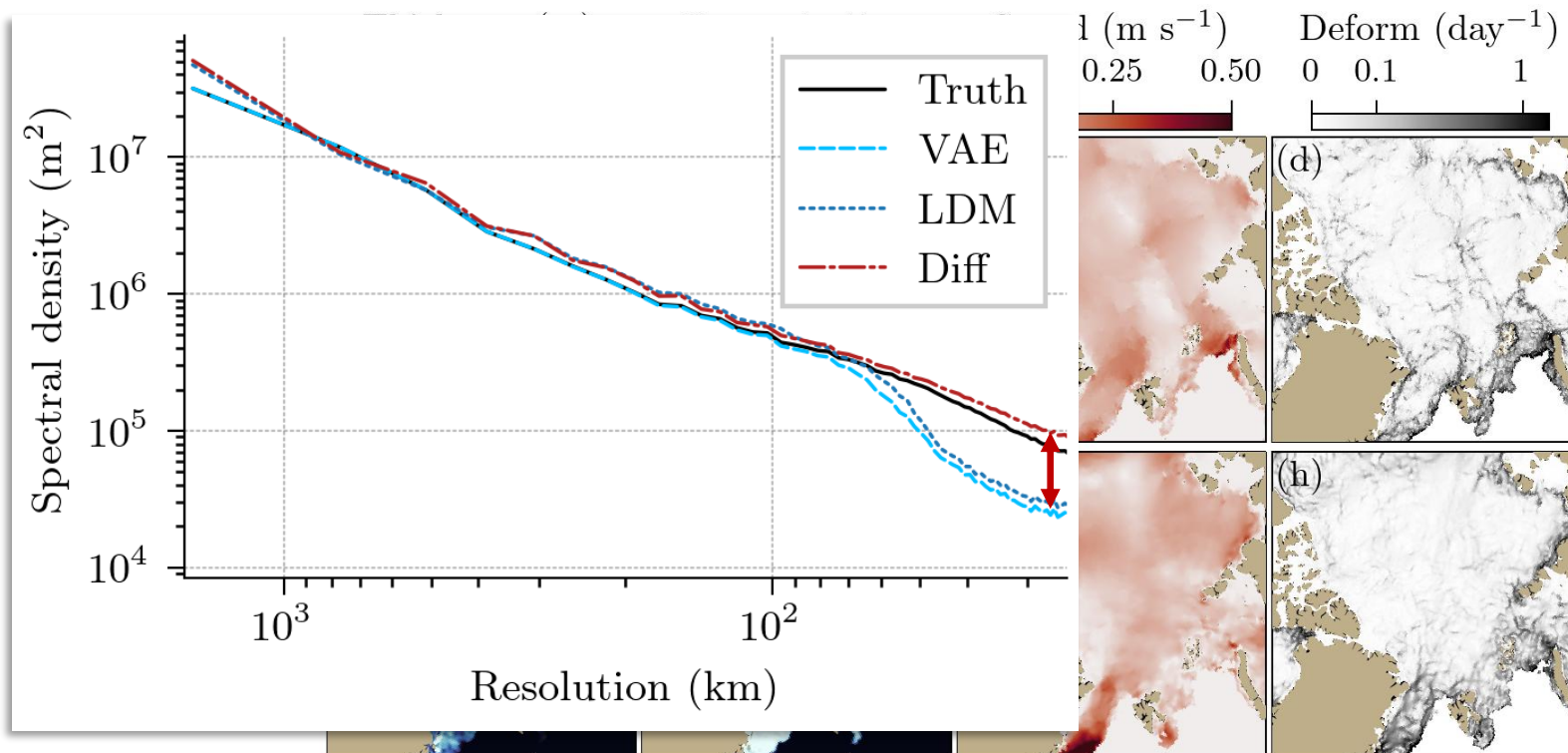
ICML '24



# Scaling up: latent diffusion models

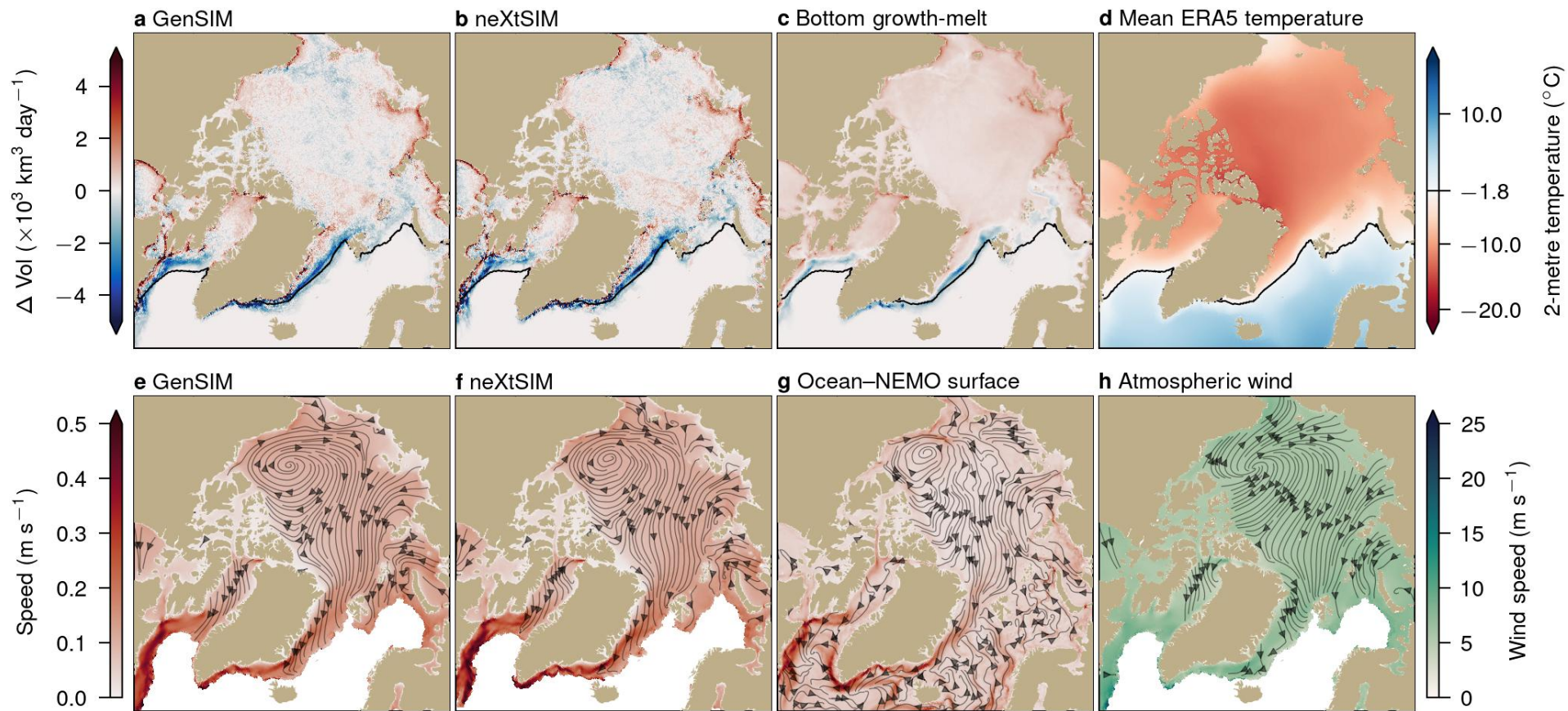


ICML '24

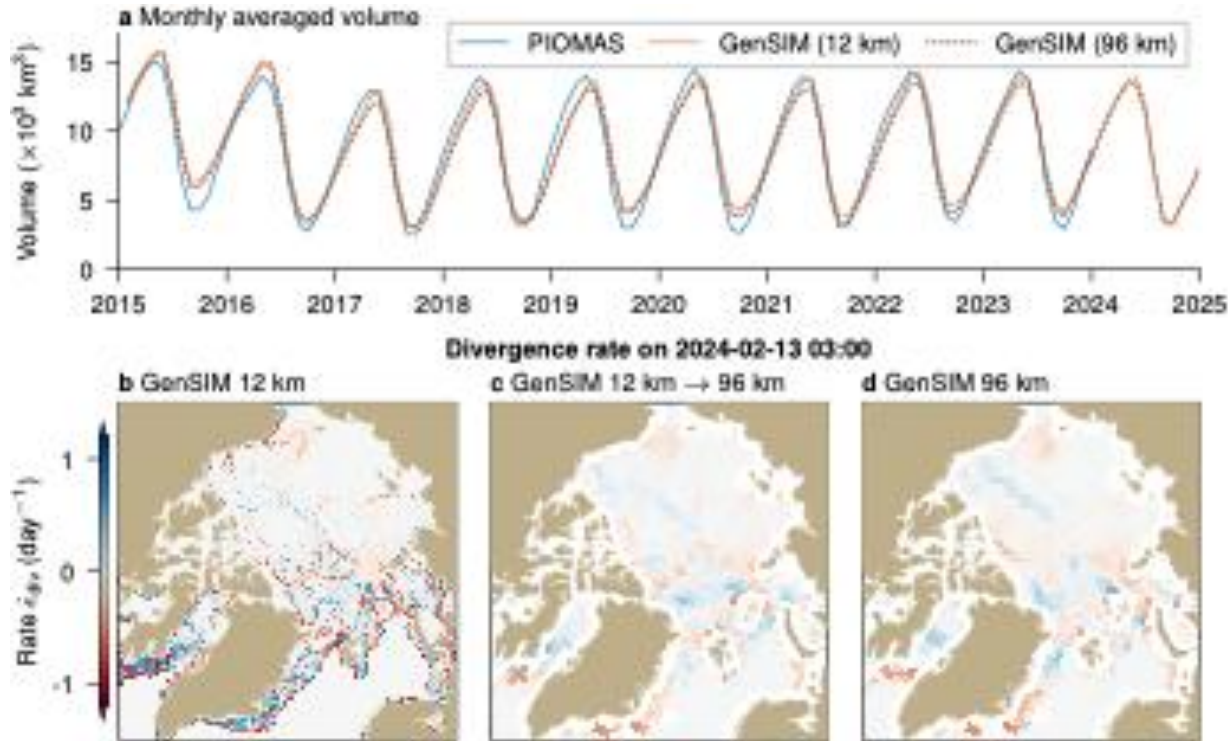


Reintroduce problems with smoothing due to *wrong* compression

# Non-trivial proxy learning



# Generalisation to multiple resolutions and grids

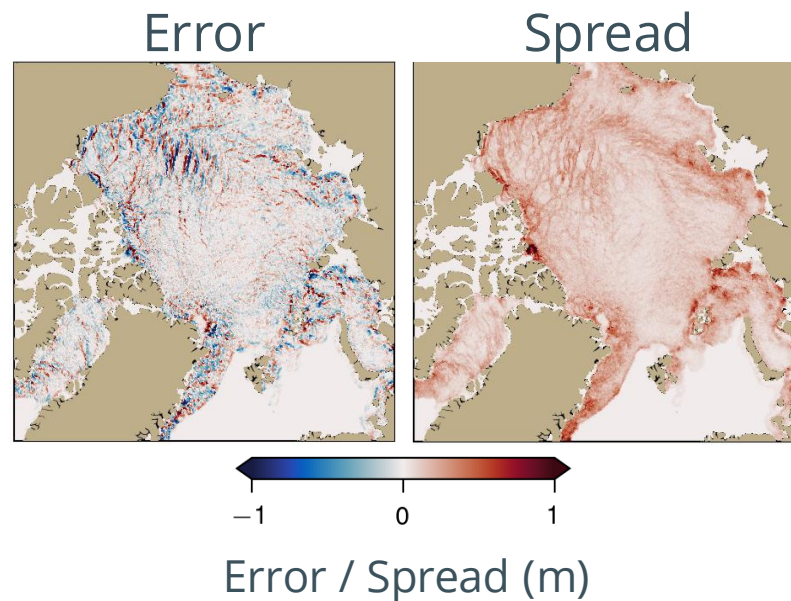
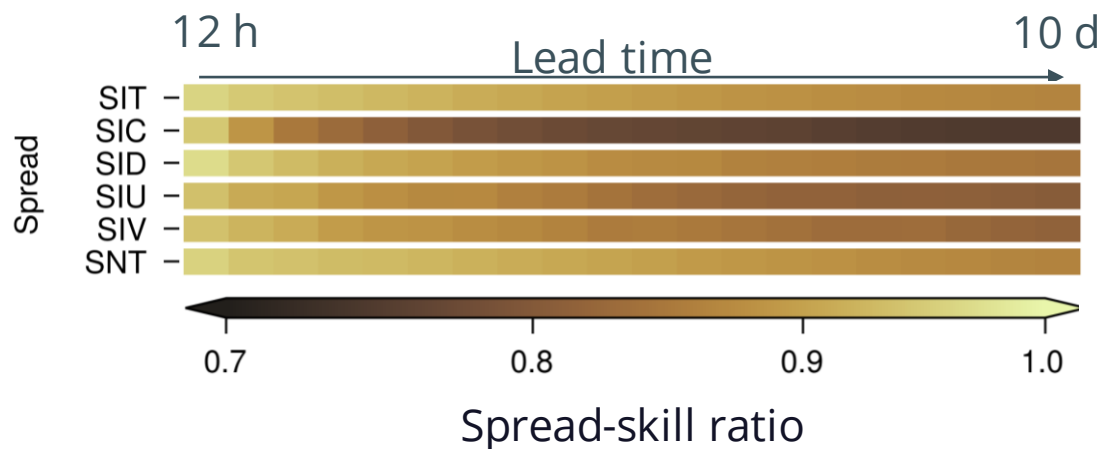


Idealised cyclone

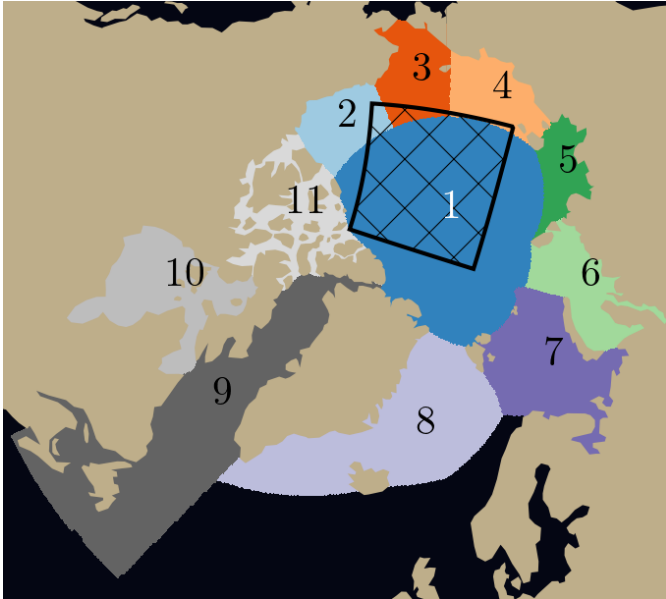


# Realistic ensemble spread, yet slightly underdispersive

## Quantitative evaluation of spread

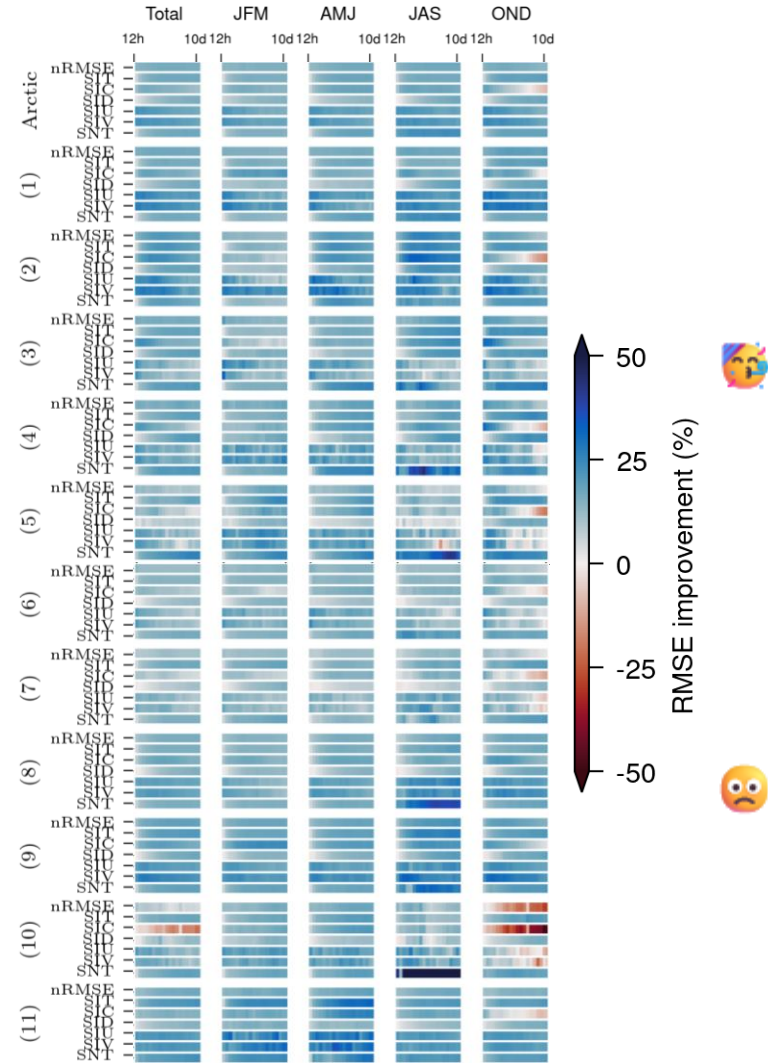


# Better than Deterministic

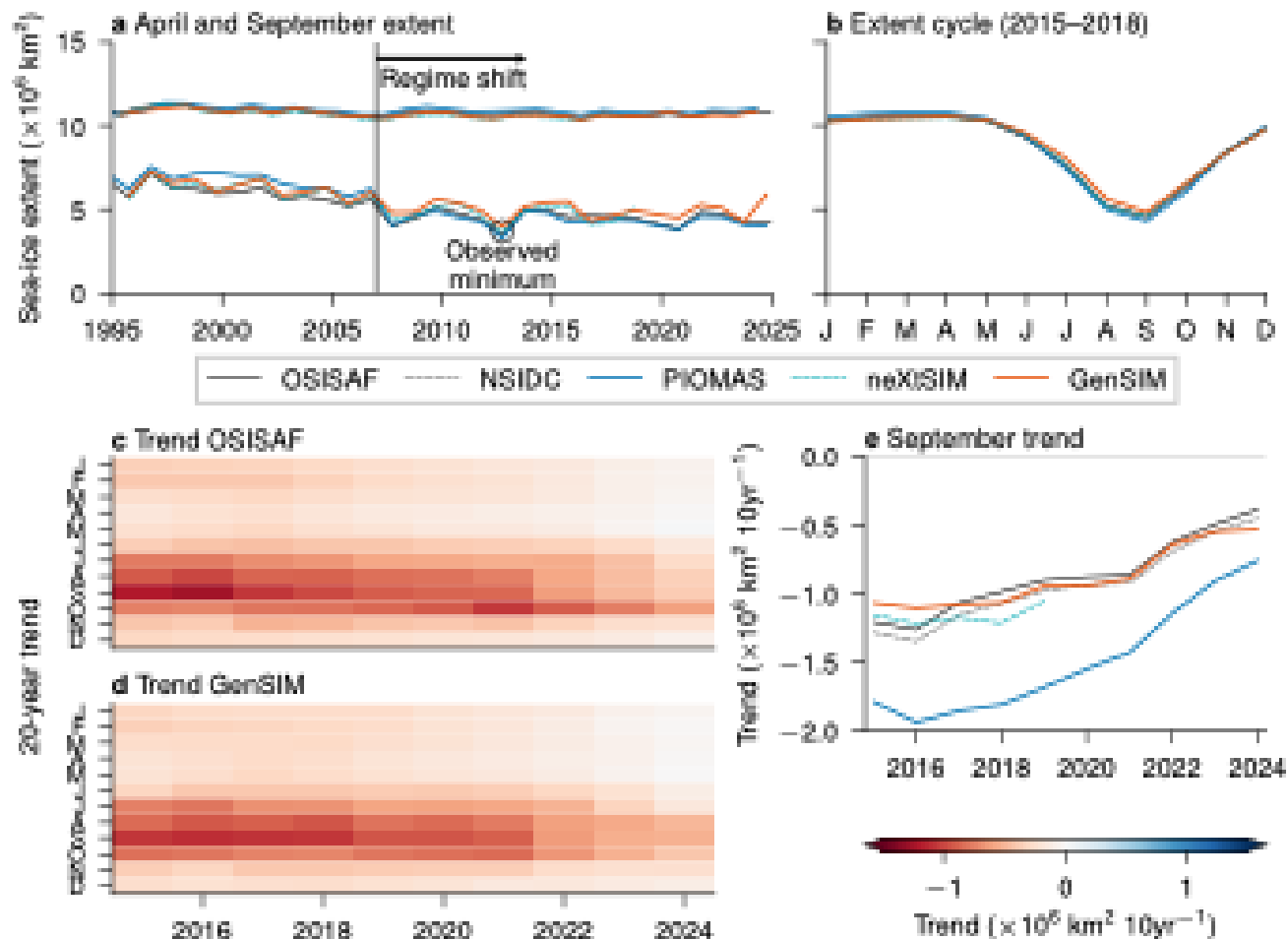


RMSE of GenSIM

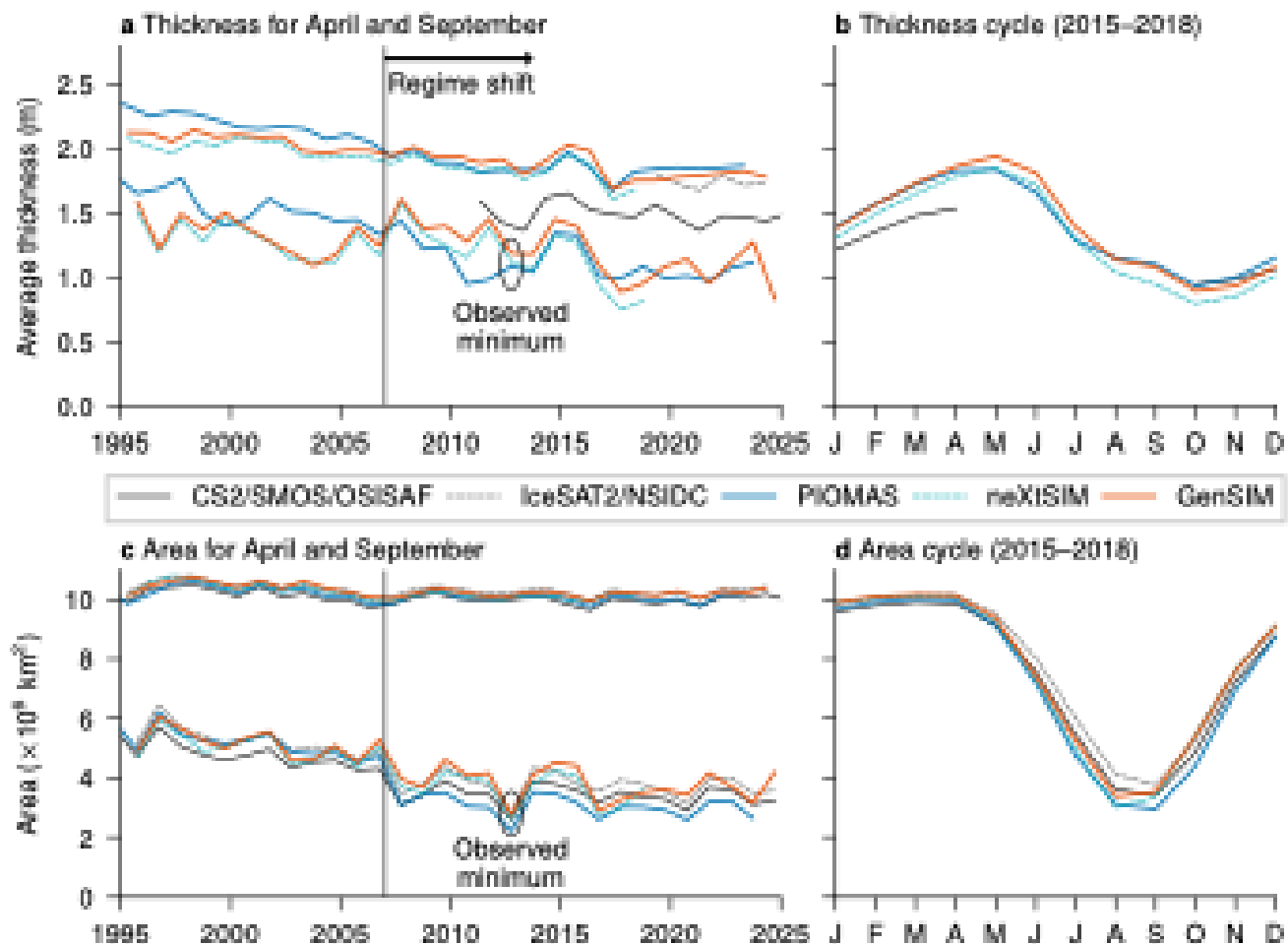
RMSE of Deterministic



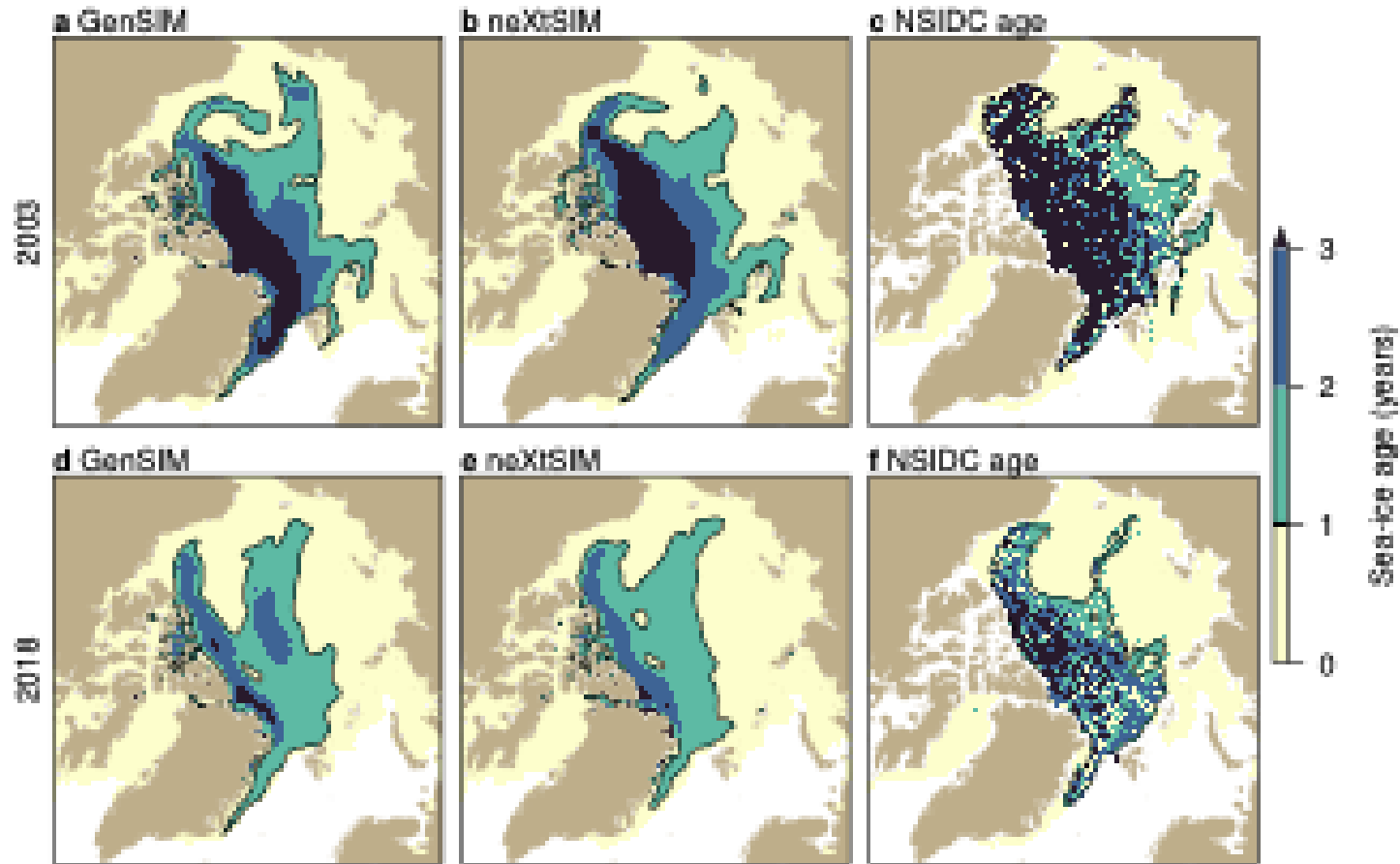
# Capturing of sea-ice extent evolution



# Small bias in thickness

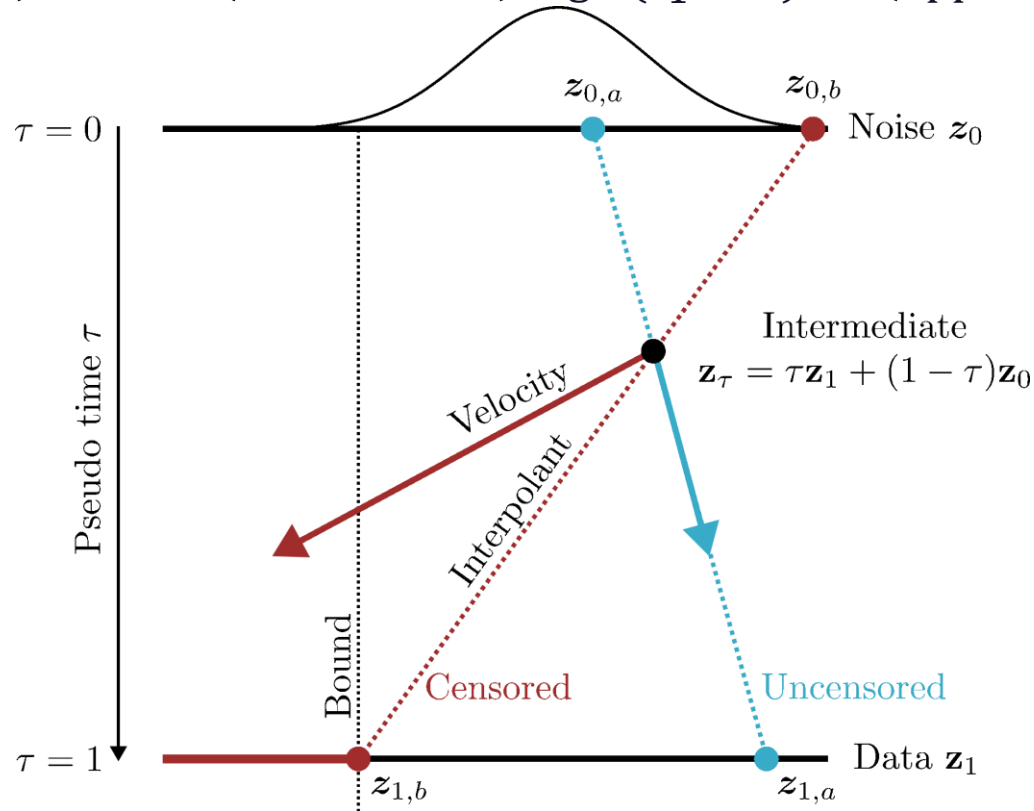


# Transition signature in sea-ice age



# Physical bounded predictions by censored flows

$$\text{Loss} = \mathbb{I}(\text{unbounded}) \text{MSE} - \mathbb{I}(\text{lower bound}) \log P(z_1 \leq L) - \mathbb{I}(\text{upper bound}) \log P(z_1 \geq U)$$



Sampling with clipping into bounds at each step