



Empowering Earth System Science Research: Federated Data and Compute for Earth System Predictability

Thomas Hauser

Director, Computational and Information Systems Lab, NSF NCAR

December XX, 20XX

NSF NCAR Provides Research, Facilities & Services

weather • water • space weather
climate • air quality
Earth system

- Collaborative Research
- World-class Computer Models
- Supercomputing

- Data Archive
- Observing Systems & Sensors
- Field Campaigns
- Education & Outreach

NSF NCAR
DIRECTOR
Everette Joseph

NSF NCAR Directorate

ATMOSPHERIC
CHEMISTRY
OBSERVATIONS
& MODELING LAB
Pieter Levelt
Director

CLIMATE &
GLOBAL
DYNAMICS LAB
Jon Petch
Director

COMPUTATIONAL
& INFORMATION
SYSTEMS LAB
Thomas Hauser
Director

EARTH
OBSERVING LAB
**Allison
McComiskey**
Director

HIGH ALTITUDE
OBSERVATORY
LAB
Holly Gilbert
Director

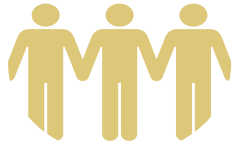
MESOSCALE &
MICROSCALE
METEOROLOGY
LAB
**Gretchen
Mullendore**
Director

RESEARCH
APPLICATIONS
LAB
**Matthias
Steiner**
Acting Director

EDUCATION,
ENGAGEMENT &
EARLY-CAREER
DEVELOPMENT
**Rebecca
Haacker**
Director

LABS

CISL, a key CI provider for the Earth System Science Community



People, organizations,
and communities



Data
Infrastructure



Software and
Workflow
Systems



Computing
Resources



CI-Enabled
Instrumentation



R&E
Networks,
Security
Layers



Gateways,
Hubs,
and Services



Pilots,
Testbeds



Coordination
& User support

Transforming Science through Cyberinfrastructure

- Dual role for CISL
 - Research CI provider
 - CI research

NSF NCAR-Wyoming Supercomputing Center (NWSC)

- Maximal energy efficiency of facility infrastructure
- Implementation of sustainable design practices for office and other personnel spaces
 - Harvesting of natural daylight and ventilation
 - Use of engineered, reclaimed, or recycled materials
- Conservation of potable water
 - Specialized cooling tower equipment
 - Low-flow plumbing fixtures
- **LEED certification Gold**
- Utilize the region's cool, dry climate to minimize energy use
- Utilize the waste heat generated from computing to provide:
 - Building heating
 - Generator block heating
 - Reheating of coils



- *Expandability*
- *Flexibility*
- *Upgradeability*
- *Sustainability*

- Focus on the biggest losses
 - Compressor based cooling
 - UPS losses
 - Transformer losses
- Minimizing energy use makes good environmental and economic sense
- PUE
 - Current Operations 1.07 - 1.10

NCAR's HPC Systems

2017

2023

SGI/HPE

4032 Nodes, **145,152 Cores**, 313 TB total memory, **4.79 PFlop/s**
#21 Supercomputer in the world at debut, #109 presently



New
Exhibit at
NWSC



Delivery & Installation: 01/23
Acceptance Testing Complete: 5/23
ASD Project Concludes: 7/23
Production: 7/23



Cray/HPE

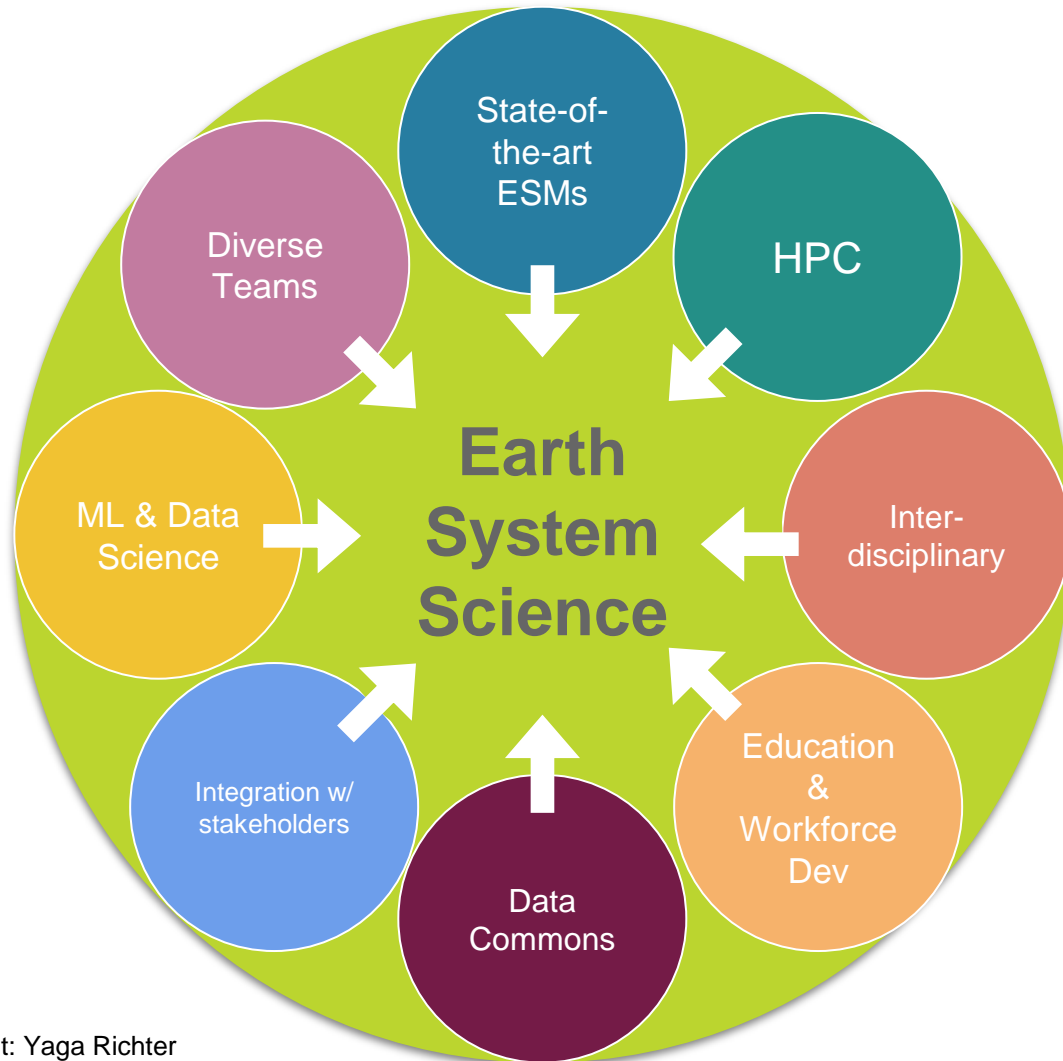
2570 Nodes, **323,712 CPU Cores**, 680 TB total memory, **3.5X performance vs Cheyenne**
328 NVidia A100 GPUs providing 20% of overall performance,
19.87 PFlop/s (projected)

mid-2023



Earth System Science Leadership: NSF NCAR

World leader in **Earth system science** with and for the community



CISL as an enabler and leader through Cyberinfrastructure services, research, and development

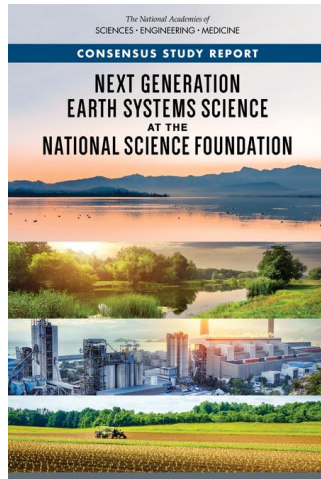
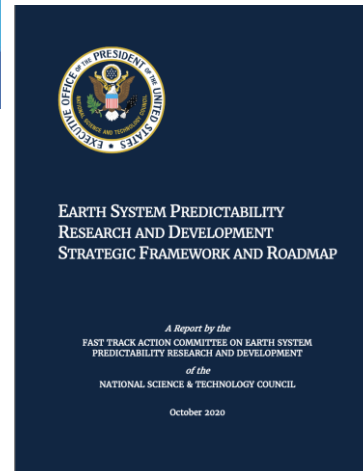
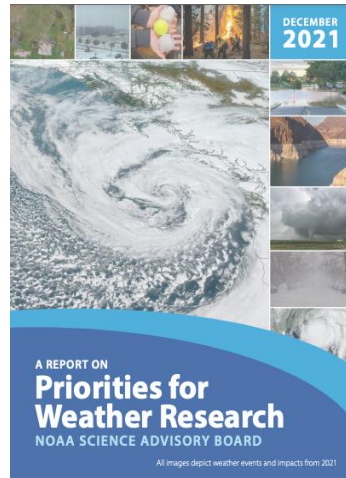
Credit: Yaga Richter

What is Earth System Predictability Across Timescales?

Focused NSF NCAR Priority: in response to urgent calls to advance Earth system predictability research across scales

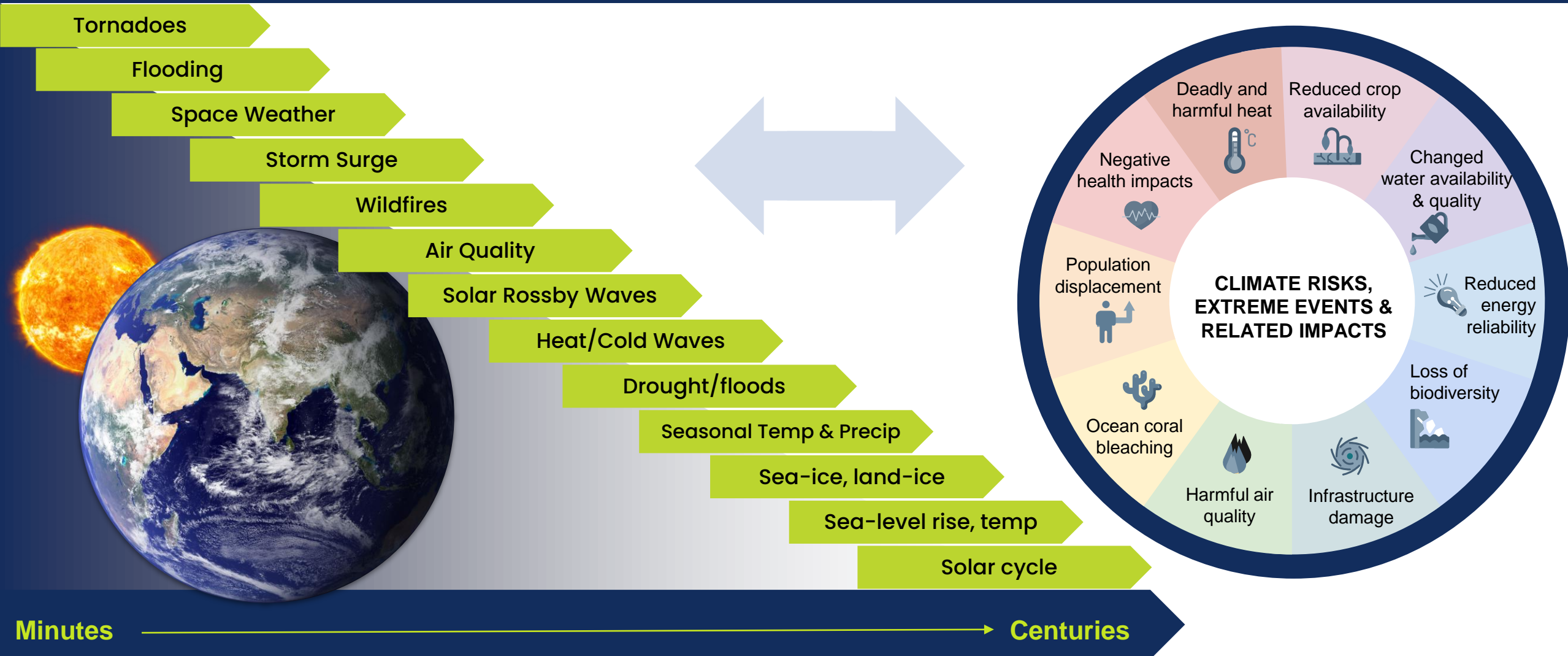
National Needs from Community Reports

- Foundational understanding & interdisciplinary/convergent research
- Advancement of ESP modeling & tools
- Computational advancements
- Reduction of observational gaps
- Partnerships across sectors & agencies
- Workforce development



Earth System Predictability: Earth to Sun

Guided by societal needs, spanning minutes to centuries

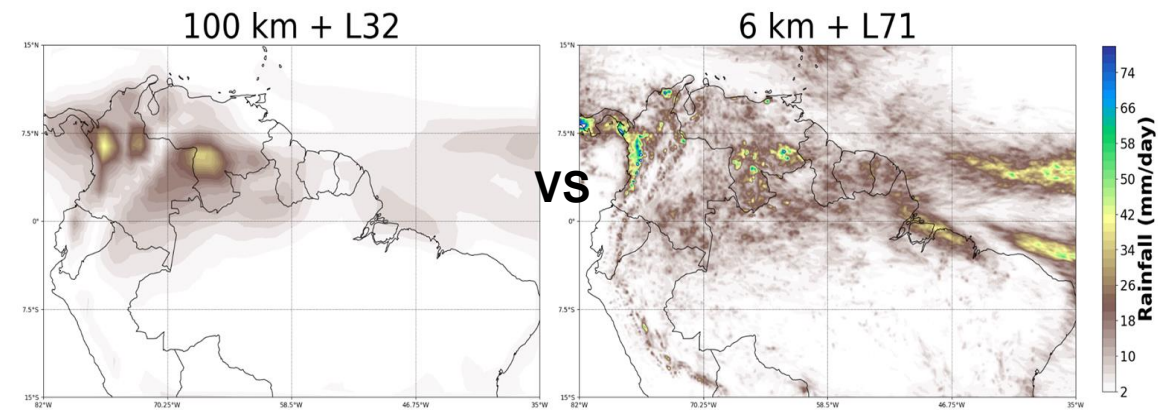
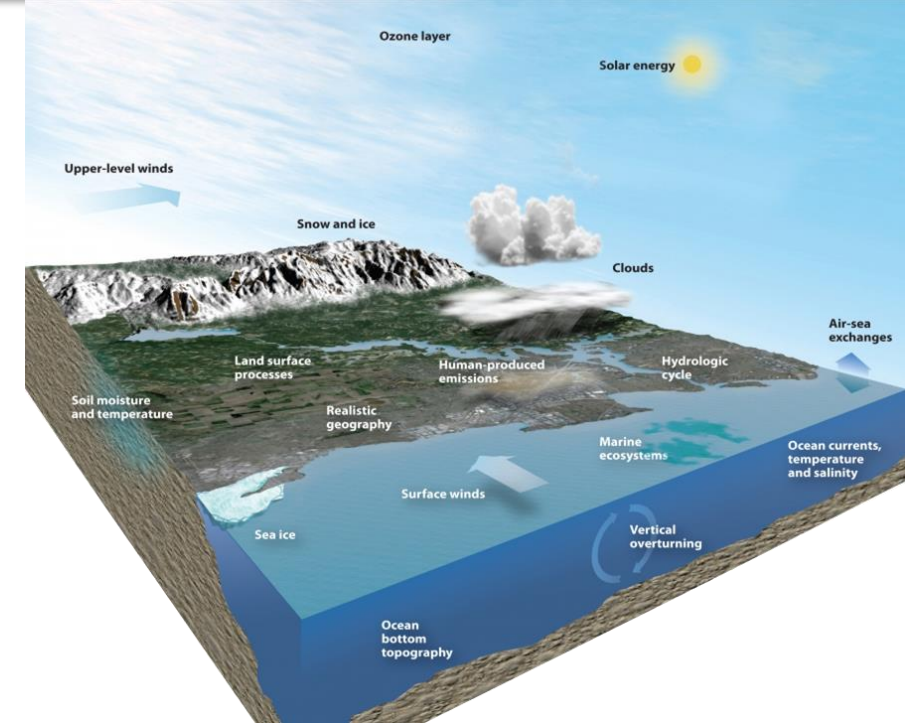


ESPP: Key Science Questions

How do **coupled interactions** give rise to **predictability** across the Earth system (atmosphere, ocean, land, sea ice, terrestrial, geospace, and marine ecosystems)?

What is the **needed observational and model complexity** to increase prediction and projection skill?

How do the **interactions across spatial scales** impact predictability and predictions of Earth and Space weather and climate?



NSF NCAR'S Modeling & Observational Ecosystem

Airborne Observations



Research Aircraft:

NSF/NCAR HIAPER Gulfstream V
NSF/NCAR C-130



Airborne Instrumentation Suite:

Wide range of airborne instrumentation, sensors and samplers providing in-situ and remote sensing measurements

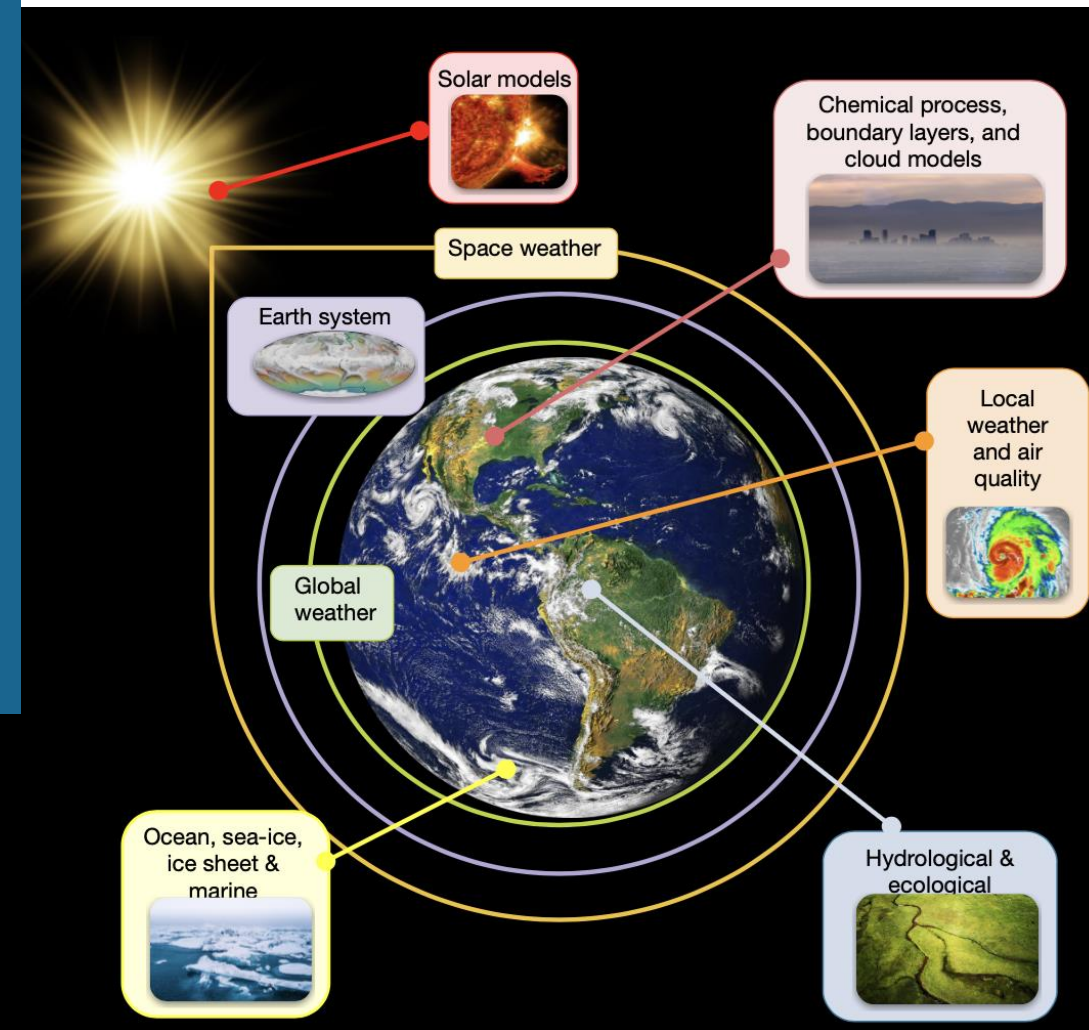


Remote sensing capabilities to provide valuable atmospheric and solar satellite data

Enables interdisciplinary Earth system predictability research across

- global to local scales
- timescales from minutes to decades
- array of complex Earth system interactions

Fosters Community



Upper Atmosphere Wind Observations:
Fabry-Perot Interferometer Network



Remote Sensing:
Radar and lidar instrumentation



In-situ Sensing:
Suite of surface flux, and vertical profiling instrumentation

NSF NCAR Computational Science Strategy



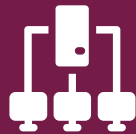
- Enabling and supporting the community through a digital Earth System Science lab
- Democratizing Research Capabilities in support of Earth System Science
- Integration and Federation with the National and International Cyberinfrastructure (NAIRR, National Discovery Cloud for Climate, ...)



Image created by DALL-E, OpenAI, 2023



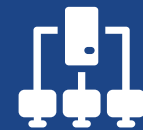
**NSF NCAR Community
Software Facility**



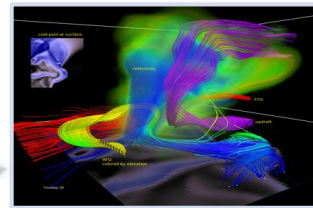
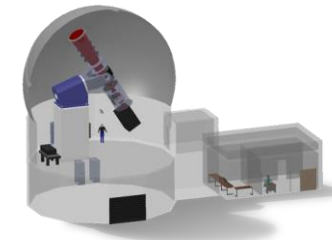
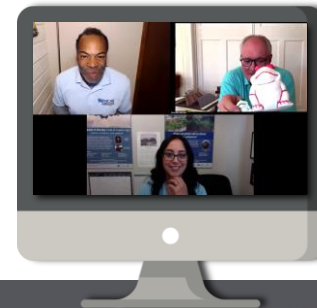
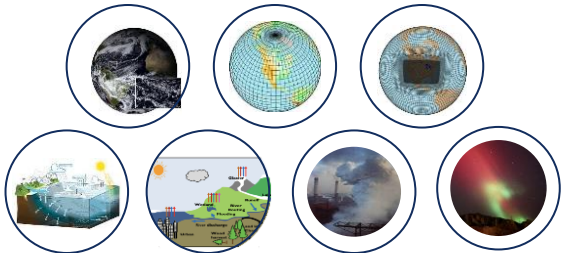
**NSF NCAR Compute
Infrastructure**



**Translational
Computational Science**



**NSF NCAR Research Data
Commons**



The changing Cyberinfrastructure Landscape – Disruption Ahead



Broad, growing, and diverse user community and needs

Disruption along multiple dimensions



Evolving Science Requirements

- Extreme scales & complex workflows
- Data-driven & AI/ML revolution

Changing Values

- Ease of use and access
- Time to science
- Transparency, robustness, security, trust
- Societal benefits

Evolving Technology Landscape

- End of Moore/Dennard Scaling impacts all aspects of computing
- Importance of software and its sustainability
- Novel paradigms
 - Cloud computing
 - Edge computing

Opportunity to reinvent!

Credit: Manish Parashar

- **Models as scientific instruments**

- Opportunity to rethink how we develop and support our models
 - Unified support across NSF NCAR
 - Co-Design with computational facility
 - Technology evaluation - Domain Specific Abstractions (DSA)
 - Verification approaches (non bitwise)
 - Standardization and APIs (Destination Earth, EVE, Earth 2)
- Democratize access to our models - Ease of Use
 - Science gateways
 - Cloud technologies

- AI/ML disruption



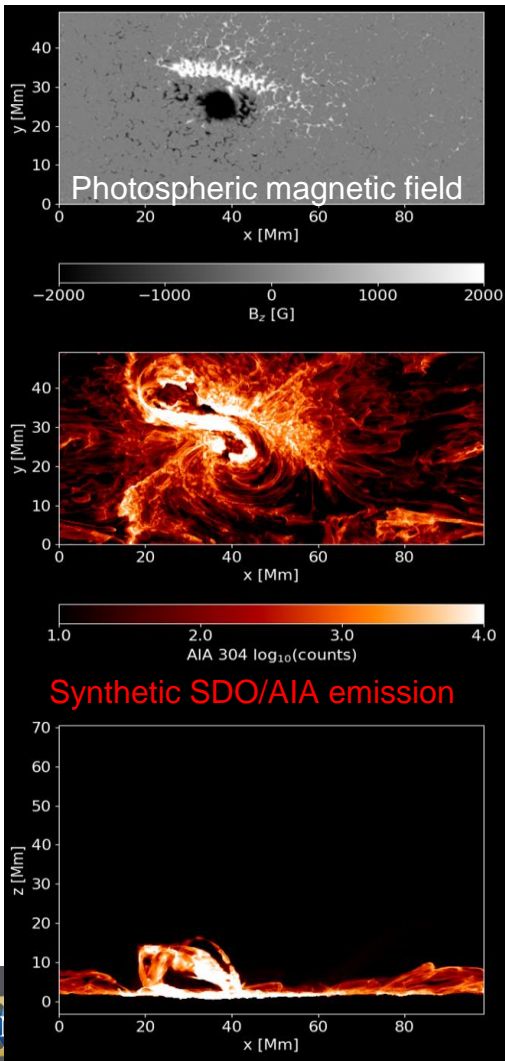
**Community
Software Facility**

How GPUs are accelerating solar physics...

Solar simulations need faster throughput *and* higher resolution. MURaM OpenACC will help meet these requirements.

- Max Planck University of Chicago Radiative MHD (MURaM) models the solar atmosphere from upper convection zone to lower solar corona
- **Goals & Actionable Science for MURaM-OpenACC:**
 - **Short-term:** Solar models capable of running models at the resolution of DKIST telescope observations.
 - **Long-term:** Better prediction of space weather events using data-driven models of solar eruptions
- **Refactoring of MURaM for GPU using OpenACC**

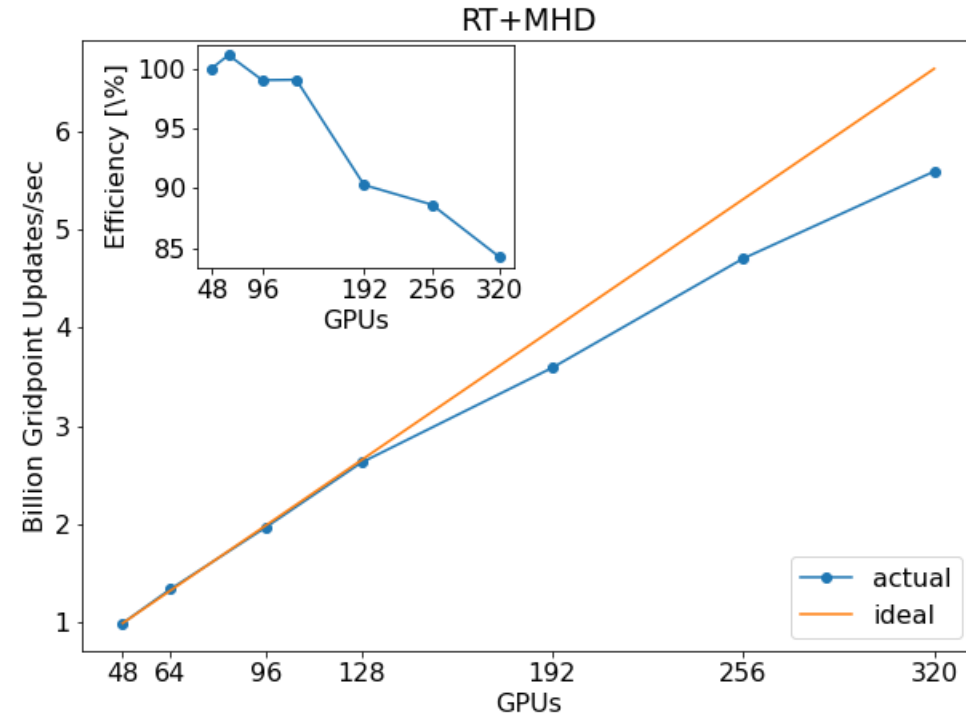
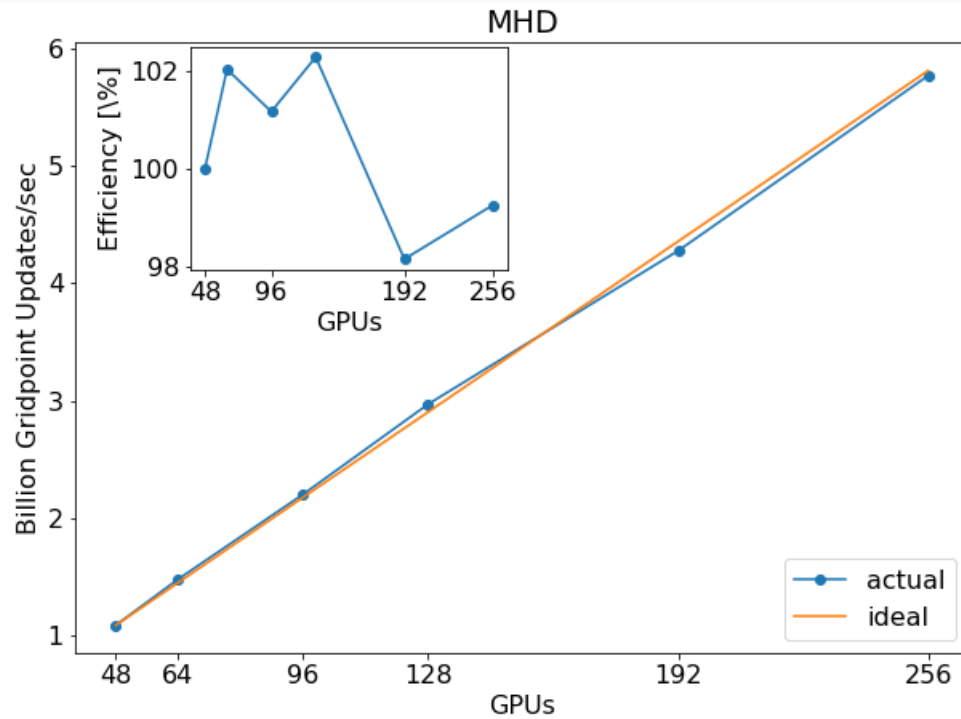
DKIST Telescope



Simulation of a solar flare resulting from sunspot collision

MURaM OpenACC project is an HAO/CISL collaboration with the University of Delaware and the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research & Lockheed

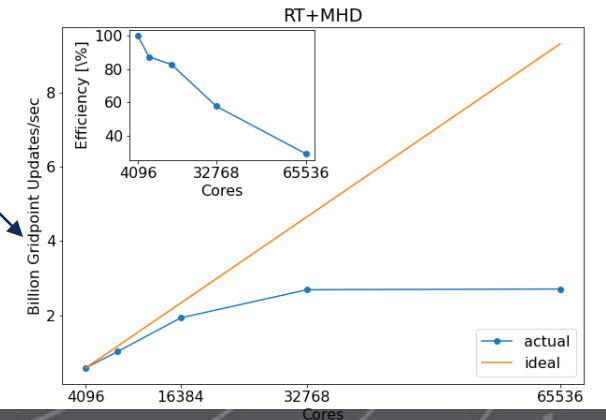
Diverse Team Success Story - MURaM



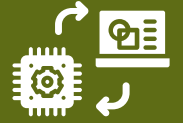
Strong scaling for MHD and MHD+RT physics within MURaM

CPU scaling for same case falls off above 16K cores, cannot catch up!!

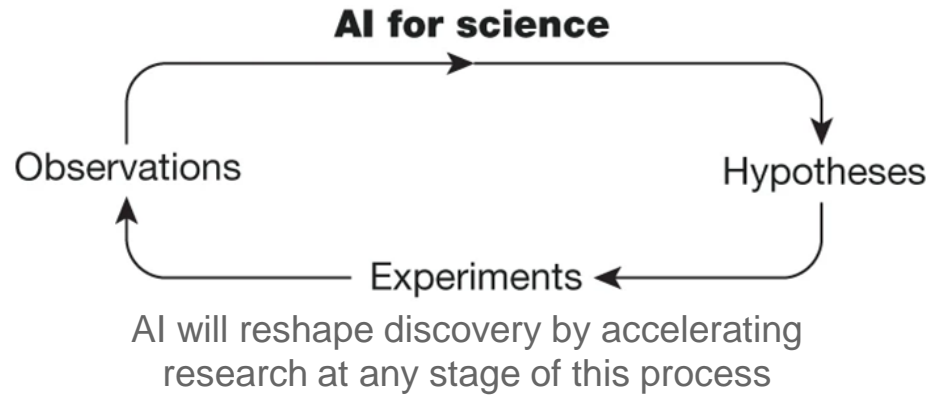
MURaM can run the same problem efficiently on 192+ of Derecho's GPUs than currently possible on any number of CPU cores, courtesy Matthias Rempel et al.



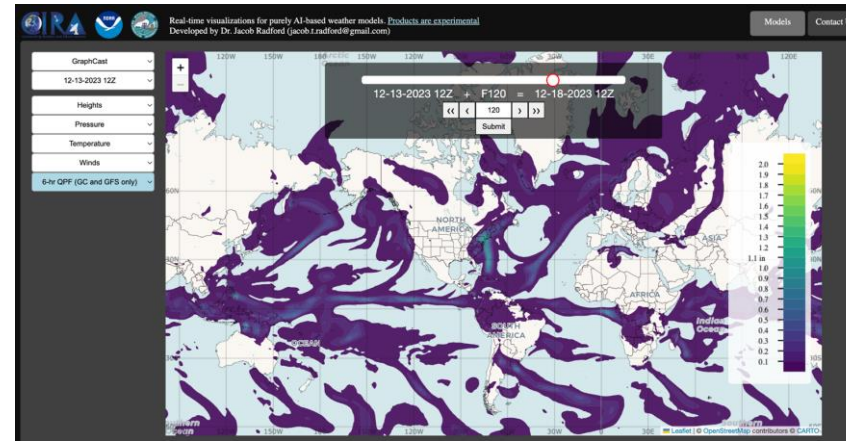
NSF NCAR's computational science strategy - Applied Research



**Translational
Computational Science**



Wang, H., Fu, T., Du, Y. et al. Scientific discovery in the age of artificial intelligence. Nature 620, 47–60 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06221-2>



- Generative AI will transform how we do science
 - Google, NVIDIA, Microsoft, ECMWF, and NOAA are pivoting to supporting AI for Earth Science
 - AI based atmosphere and ocean models are advancing rapidly
 - Copilots for software engineering and writing
 - Data analysis and management
- We need an AI-savvy workforce
- Innovate across all areas of the computational science strategy
- Extending our capability through connections and partnerships
- Student and PostDoc programs (collaboration with EDEC)



LEAP

**Learning the Earth
with Artificial
Intelligence and
Physics (LEAP)**



NSF NCAR's computational science strategy - AI

ARCO Community Datasets

High-Resolution Models

- CONUS 404
- FastEddy

Climate Ensembles

- CESM Large Ensemble
- CESM PPEs

Field Observations

- HOLODEC cloud imager
- In-situ and remotely sensed soundings
- Radar and satellite

Accelerating and Emulating Earth System Models

AI Digital Twins

- Global (RDA ERA 5)
- Regional (High-Res)

Parameterization Emulators

- Bin Microphysics
- Surface-Air Flux

Parameter Estimation

- Community Land Model
- Bayesian Microphysics

Adding Value for Community Users

Scalable Analysis

- Feature Tracking
- Explainable AI
- Uncertainty Quantification

Interactive Visualization

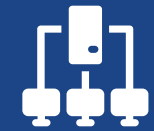
- Real-time cloud workflows
- Low-latency web graphics

Convergence Research

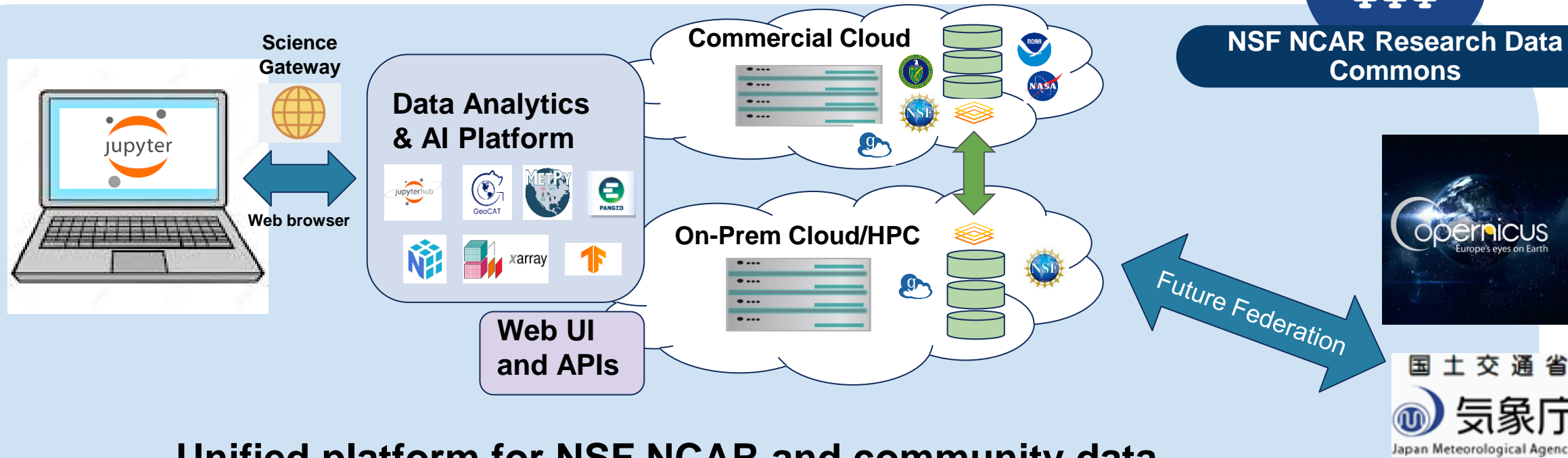
- Impact Estimation
- Social Science Integration

Community standards, APIs, and federated resources

NSF NCAR's computational science strategy - Data



NSF NCAR Research Data Commons

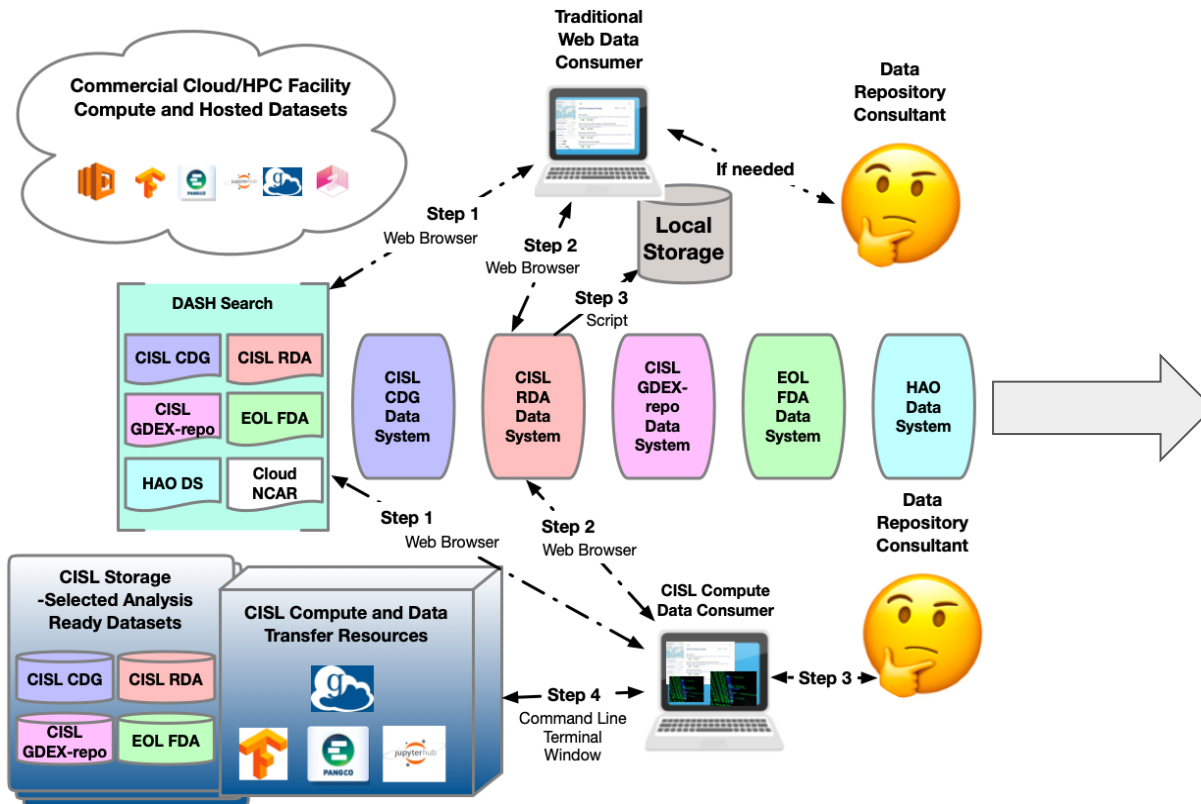


Unified platform for NSF NCAR and community data

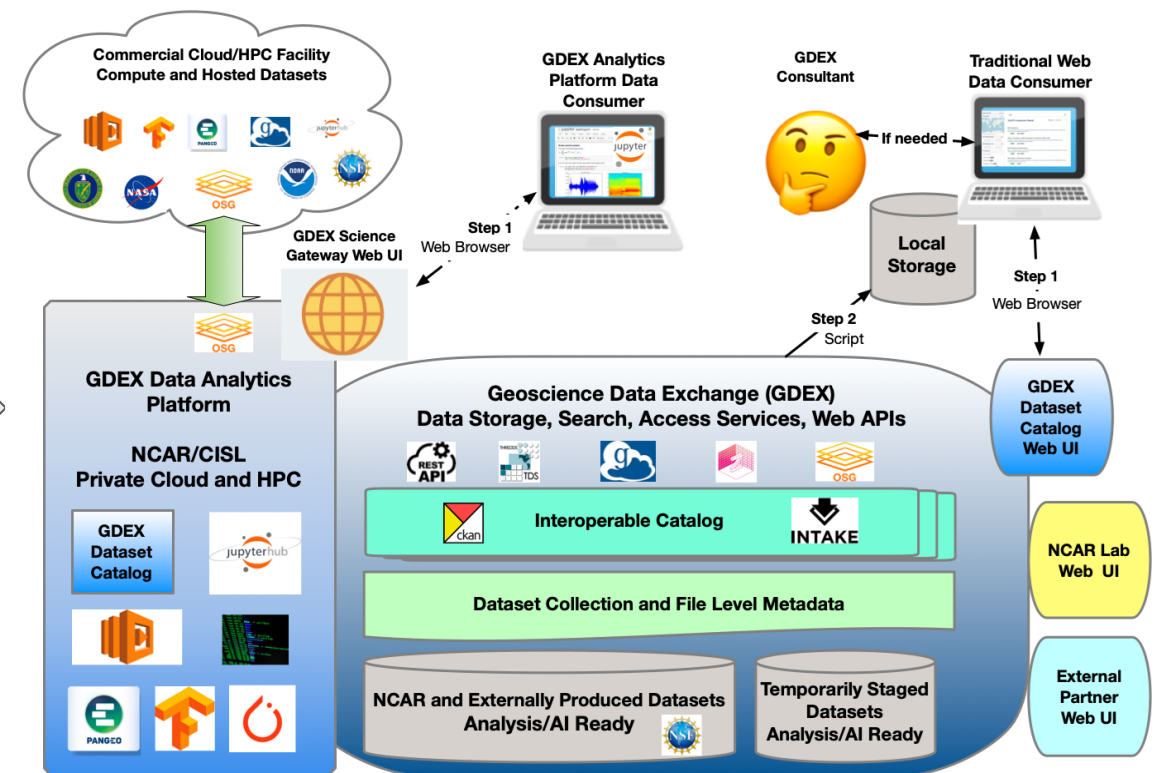
- Sustainable business model
- Support the Geo community with data management services
- Cloud platform services for data analysis, AI/ML, and visualization
- AI disruption (How Large Language Models Will Disrupt Data Management <https://doi.org/10.14778/3611479.3611527>)
- Data Federation with other international centers (DKRZ, ECMWF, ...)

Future NSF NCAR Research Data Commons

Existing - Loosely connected data systems



NSF NCAR GDEX - Integrated Research Data Commons



Grossman, R.L. Ten lessons for data sharing with a data commons. *Sci Data* 10, 120 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-023-02029-x>

- Risk of doing nothing
- **Culture change is difficult**
 - Team Science
 - Software engineering practices
 - Workforce composition
- Partnerships



Questions?

Thank You !

Contributions:

Jadwiga (Yaga) Richter, NCAR DO

Glen Romaine, NCAR DO

Tricia O'Keefe, NCAR DO

David John Gagne, CISL

Doug Schuster, CISL

