# **Supporting Information for**

# "Drivers of Arctic Ocean warming in CMIP5 models"

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#### Introduction

This supporting information provides more informations about models, data and methods used in our study.

#### 1 Table S1.

Table S 1: CMIP5 climate models used and their ensemble size. Models with a  $(*/+/^x)$  provide a (reasonable) sea water transport across lines/sea-ice transport across Fram Strait/easily computable sea-ice transport across Fram Strait.

Modeling Center/Group	Model Name	Ensemble size
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) and Bureau of Meteorology	ACCESS1.0*+ ACCESS1.3*+	1 1
(BOM) Australia		
Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis <i>Canada</i>	CanESM2*	5
National Center for Atmospheric Research USA	CCSM4	6
Community Earth System Model Contributors USA	CESM1-BGC CESM1-CAM5	1 3
Centro Euro-Mediterraneo per I Cambiamenti Climatici <i>Italy</i>	CMCC-CM CMCC-CMS	1 1
Centre National de Recherches Météorologiques / Centre Européen de Recherche et Formation Avancée en Calcul Scientifique France	CNRM-CM5 <sup>+</sup>	1
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in collaboration with Queensland Climate Change Centre of Excellence Australia	CSIRO-Mk3.6.0	10
LASG, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences and CESS, Tsinghua University <i>China</i>	FGOALS-g2 <sup>x</sup>	1
NOAA Geophysical Fluid	GFDL-CM3	1
Dynamics Laboratory USA	GFDL-ESM2G <sup>+</sup>	1
	GFDL-ESM2M <sup>+</sup>	1
NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies <i>USA</i>	GISS-E2-R <sup>x</sup>	6
Met Office Hadley Centre (additional HadGEM2-ES	HadGEM2-CC*	1
realizations contributed by Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais) <i>UK</i>	HadGEM2-ES	4
Institut Pierre-Simon Laplace France	IPSL-CM5A-LR	4
	IPSL-CM5A-MR	1
	IPSL-CM5B-LR	1
Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute (The University of Tokyo) and National Institute for Environmental Studies <i>Japan</i>	MIROC5	3
Max Planck Institute for Meteorology Germany	MPI-ESM-LR <sup>+</sup>	3
	MPI-ESM-LR*	3
Meteorological Research Institute Japan	MRI-CGCM3 <sup>+</sup>	1
Norwegian Climate Centre Norway	NorESM1-M*+	1
	NorESM1-ME*+	1

### 2 Definition of the regions

The regions for the temperature calculations in Sec. 4 are defined as follows:

• Barents Sea Opening: 16.5 to 19°E, 70 to 76.5°N

• Bering Strait: 171 to 166°W, 65 to 66°N

• Fram Strait: 11.5°W to 10.5°E, 79.5 to 81.5°N

• Canadian Archipelago: 128.5 to 59.5°W, 70.5 to 82°N

• Denmark Strait: 37 to 22.5°W, 65.5 to 66.5°N

• Iceland-Faroe Channel: 13.6 to 7.4°W, 62.2 to 64.9°N

• Faroe-Scotland Channel: 6.9 to 5°W, 58.7 to 62°N

• Fram Strait East: 0 to 15°E, 77 to 80°N

• Fram Strait West: 30 to 0°W, 77 to 80°N

• Barents Sea: 17.5 to 60°E, 66 to 80°N

#### 3 Calculation of the oceanic heat content

For the calculation of the oceanic heat content, the following formulas were used:

$$H_{\text{tot}} = H_{\text{sens}} + H_{\text{lat}} \tag{1}$$

$$H_{\text{sens}} = \rho_w c_{pw} \int_{66^{\circ} N}^{90^{\circ} N} \int_{z_{\text{max}}}^{0} T \ dz \ dA \tag{2}$$

with  $\rho_w$  the density of the water (taken as constant  $\rho_w = 1025 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ),  $c_{pw}$  the heat capacity of the water (3902  $\leq c_{pw} \leq 4186 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , depending on the model - see https://search.esdoc.org/), T the potential water temperature in K,  $z_{\text{max}}$  the depth of the water column in m and dA the area of the Arctic Ocean domain in the individual models.

Using a constant density between 1015 and 1035 kg/m $^3$  yields an error of up to  $\pm 1\%$  compared to using 1025 kg/m $^3$ . We therefore assume that the error induced by assuming a constant density of 1025 kg/m $^3$  is negligible.

$$H_{\text{lat}} = -\rho_i L_i \int_{66^{\circ} N}^{90^{\circ} N} SIV \, dA \tag{3}$$

with  $\rho_i$  the density of the ice ( $\rho_i = 910 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ),  $L_i$  the latent heat of fusion of fresh ice ( $L_i = 334774 \text{ J/kg}$ ) and SIV the sea-ice volume in each grid cell.

### 4 Mass transport in and out of the Arctic Ocean

The sum of the mass transport at the Arctic Ocean boundaries is shown in Fig. S1. This is the sum of the mass transport through the Fram Strait, the Barents Sea Opening, the Canadian Archipelago and the Bering Strait. We set the threshold for a 'reasonable value' to a net mass gain or loss of below  $0.25 \times 10^9$  kg/s. We do not consider *GFDL-ESM2M*, *MRI-CGCM3* and *MPI-ESM-LR* further in our study, as their mass budget is not closed properly.

#### 5 Figure S1

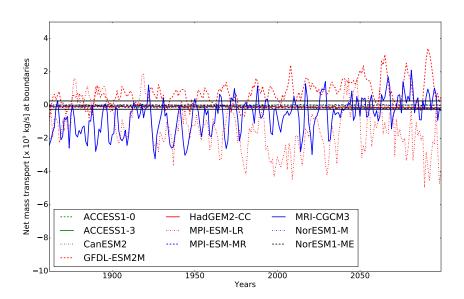


Figure S 1: Mass budget for the Arctic Ocean boundaries for the models providing mass transport across lines. The thick black lines represent our chosen threshold for the variability of the mass budget.

## 6 Calculation of the meridional temperature gradients

The meridional temperature gradients were calculated as the difference of the mean temperature between the Arctic (66°N to 90°N) and the region south of the Arctic (50°N to 66°N). For the atmospheric gradient, the surface air temperature was used. For the oceanic gradient, the sea surface temperature was used.

# 7 Calculation of the Arctic Amplification

The Arctic Amplification was computed as the ratio between the surface air temperature increase in the Arctic  $(66^{\circ}N \text{ to } 90^{\circ}N)$  and the surface air temperature increase in the tropics  $(30^{\circ}S \text{ to } 30^{\circ}N)$  between 1961 and 2099.