



Decadal predictions for the Arctic with EC-EARTH

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The EC-EARTH community has contributed to the CMIP5 effort with an ensemble of decadal predictions. The analysis of the results is on-going. The focus of our work is in the Arctic where we compare the sea-ice extent and volume from decadal predictions against a recent re-analysis of the sea-ice conditions prepared by UCL. Of special interest is the question whether or not the decadal predictions capture the observed warming of the Arctic and the subsequent thinning of the ice during recent decades. We assess the skills of the decadal predictions as a function of the forecast length. A comparison of initialised and uninitialised forecasts in the Arctic shows the benefits that stem from the initialization.