



From regional climate models to climate change impact assessment: data support and demand

Susanne Pfeifer, Hinnerk Ries, and Daniela Jacob

Climate Service Center, Helmholtz Zentrum Geesthacht, Hamburg, Germany (susanne.pfeifer@zmaw.de)

Data from regional climate model (RCM) simulations are increasingly used in climate change impact assessment. The data requirements of the impact researchers ranges from the original grid point data to complex statistics or parameter based on multiple RCM output variables. In many cases, data is requested which would need much higher temporal and spatial resolution than can be provided by state of the art regional climate models, so that the demand as formulated by the impact researchers can hardly be covered by what is usually available from RCMs. Based on examples, we will show some typical mismatches of "support and demand" and how they can or cannot be handled. This work is neither touching the extensively discussed questions of bias correction prior to impact modeling, nor does it consider the similarly discussed issue of uncertainty of the projected changes and how they are transported into the impact models.