A preliminary analysis of atmosphere-only high-resolution climate simulations with IPSL-CM

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The typical resolution used in CMIP-class Earth system models limits, among others, the ability to assess climate risks that are associated with smaller-scale weather phenomena such as tropical cyclones. We introduce higher-resolution atmosphere-only simulations following the HighResMIP Tier1 protocol. A baseline simulation (LMDZ-OR) is run with LMD-Z, the atmospheric component of the IPSL-CM Earth System model, with CMIP6 physics including the land-surface model ORCHIDEE, at a resolution equivalent to 50km at mid-latitudes. Large-scale parallel I/O with on-the-fly data processing is enabled by the XIOS I/O server. In two additional simulations (ICO-LMDZ-OR), the LMD-Z latitude-longitude dynamical core is replaced by the more scalable DYNAMICO dynamical core, using icosahedral-hexagonal meshes with quasi-uniform resolution of 50km and 25km.

We provide a description and preliminary analysis of these simulations. We present the scalability and throughput of LMDZ-OR and ICO-LMDZ-OR. Some differences between LMDZ-OR and ICO-LMDZ-OR with respect to the processing of input datasets, especially orography, are discussed. The climates in LMDZ-OR and ICO-LMDZ-OR simulations at similar resolutions are compared. Dependence on resolution of key climate features is examined.