

CONSTRAINING CLIMATE SENSITIVITY:

TRANSIENT CLIMATE RESPONSE (TCR) AND EQUILIBRIUM CLIMATE SENSITIVITY (ECS)

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[DISCUSSION PAPER](#) PUBLISHED IN EARTH SYSTEM
DYNAMICS

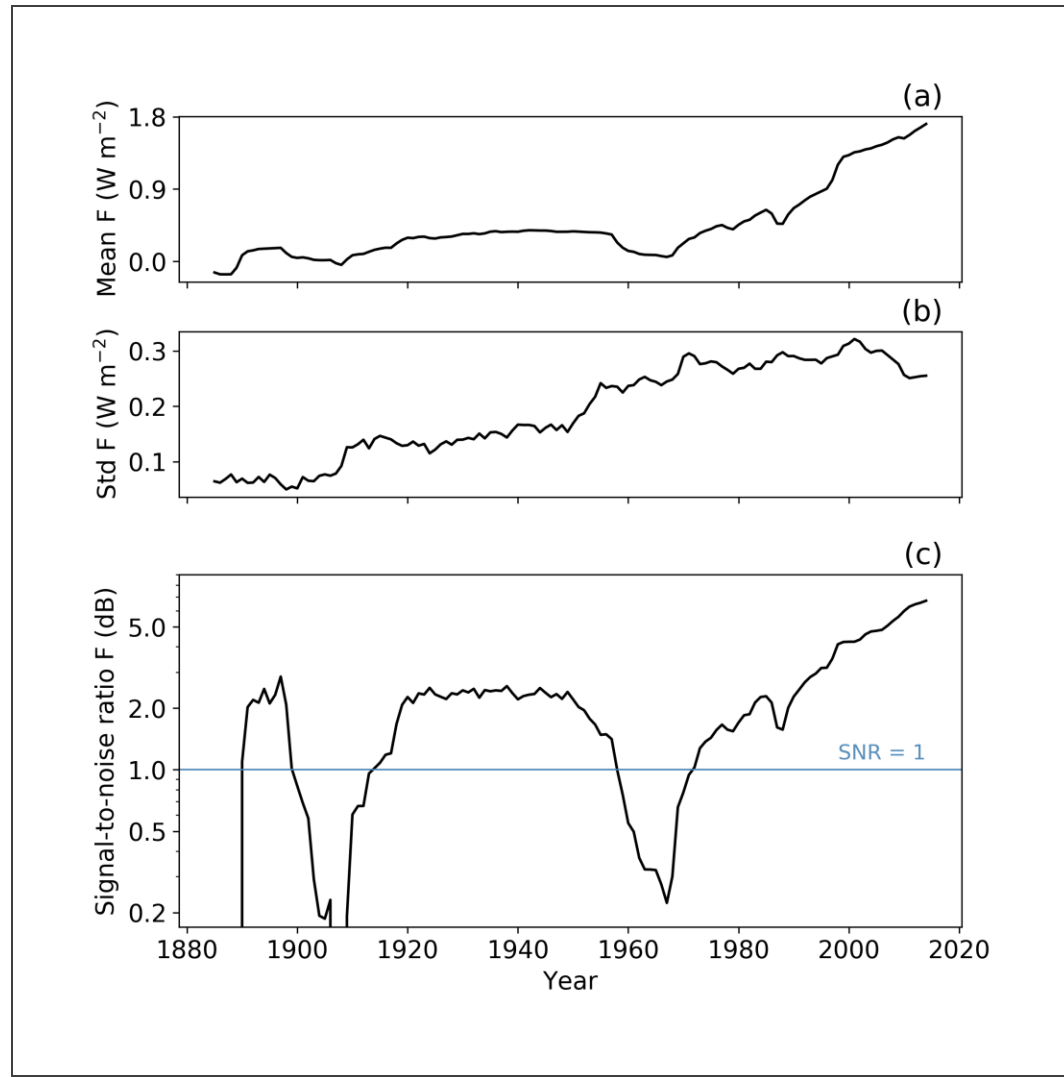


CMIP6 ensemble historical simulations.

Radiative forcing: $N = F + \lambda T$.

- F : Radiative forcing
- N : Top of the atmosphere radiative imbalance
- T : Temperature anomaly
- λ : Climate feedback parameter

The model GHG signal was extremely weak compared to variance between 1960-1970 due to aerosols.



Temperature evolution

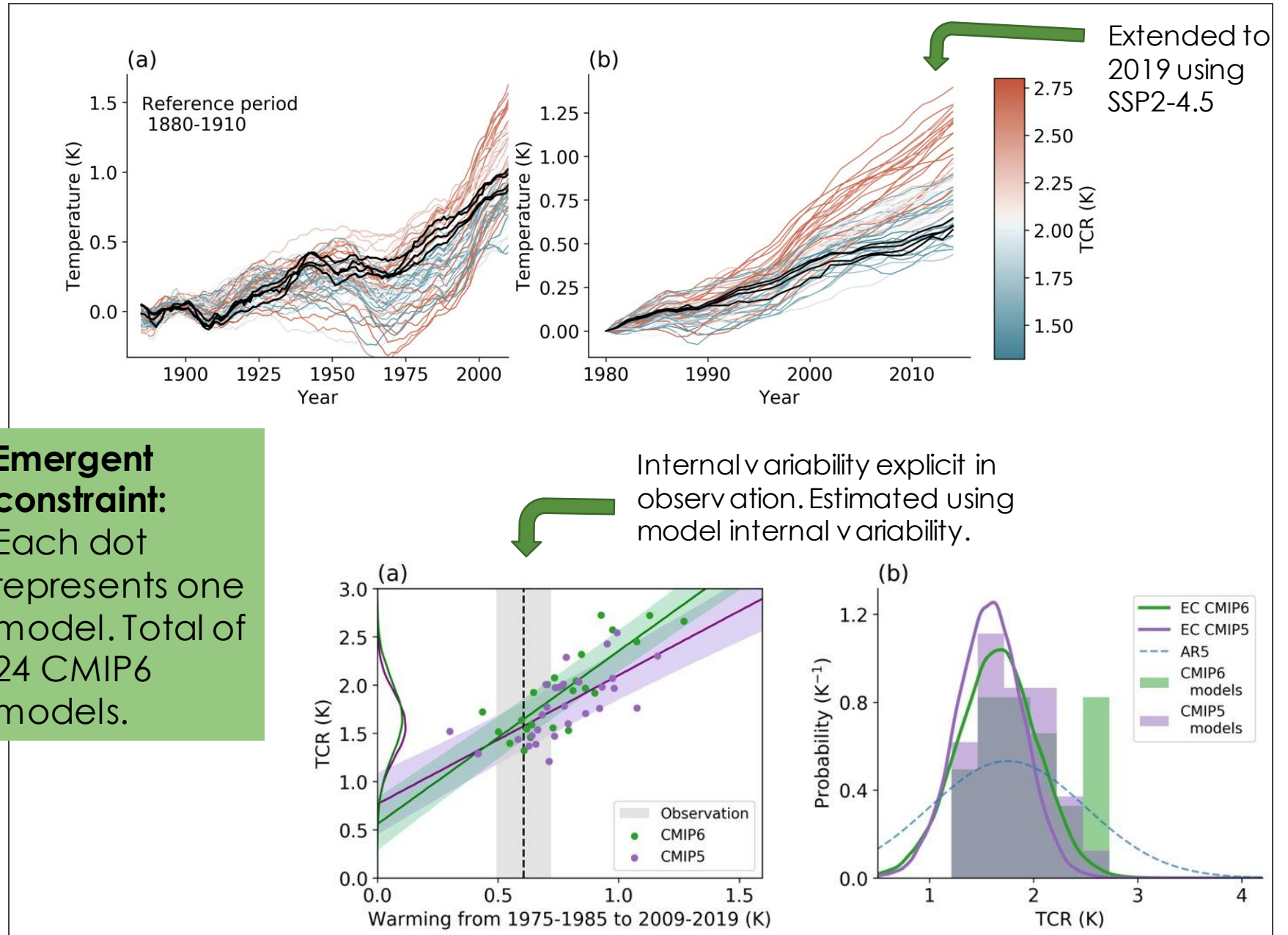
(a) Entire period: no clear pattern between warming and TCR

(b) Identified period: beautiful simplicity

Emergent constraint (EC)

- Observational error includes estimate of internal variability
- CMIP6 more variable.
- **TCR: 1.68**
[5-95%, 1.02 - 2.10]

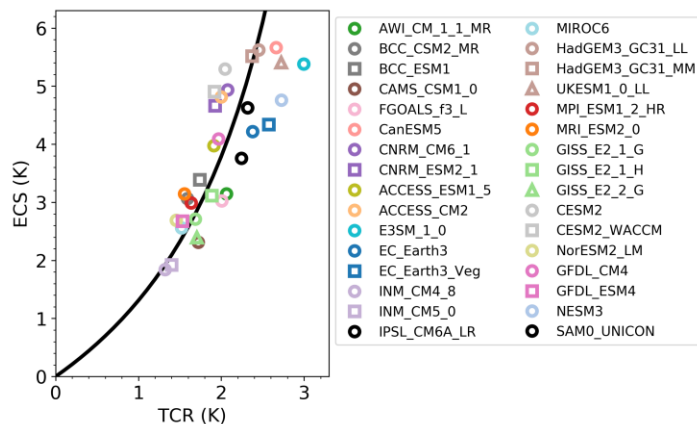
Emergent constraint:
Each dot represents one model. Total of 24 CMIP6 models.



Emergent constraint on ECS: theory

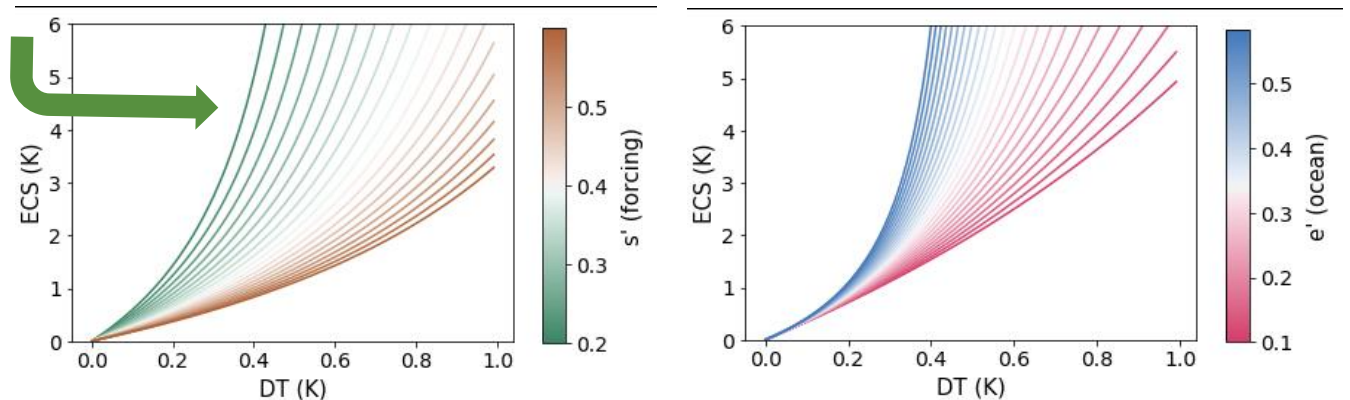
Approximation	Valid when	Equations
Full equations		$C \, dT/dt = -\lambda T + Q - \epsilon \gamma (T - T_0)$ $C_0 \, dT_0/dt = \gamma (T - T_0)$
No deep ocean warming	< century	Algebra
Upper ocean equilibrium	> decade	Algebra
	s' : percentage doubling CO_2 e' : ocean heat uptake	ECS = $\Delta T / (s' - e' \Delta T)^*$

TCR vs ECS



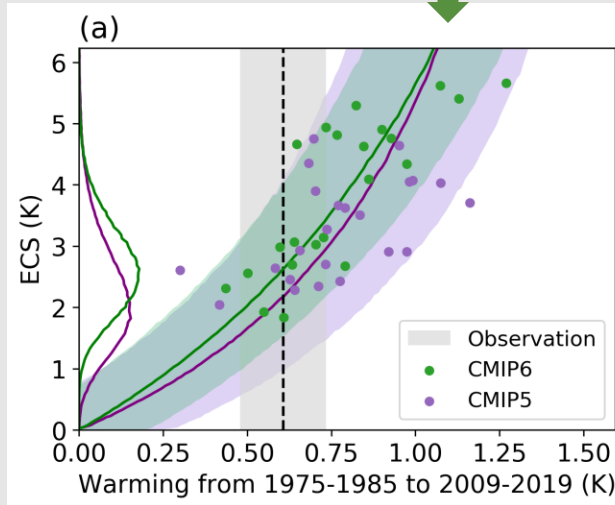
If emergent relationship steep: difficult to constraint ECS using observations

Behaviour parameters



*Jiménez-de-la-Cuesta, D., & Mauritsen, T. (2019). *Nature Geoscience*, 12(11)

Emergent constraint ECS



Similar lines; but not possible to estimate parameters accurately:

CMIP5: e' : 0.233

s' : 0.420

CMIP6: e' : 0.138

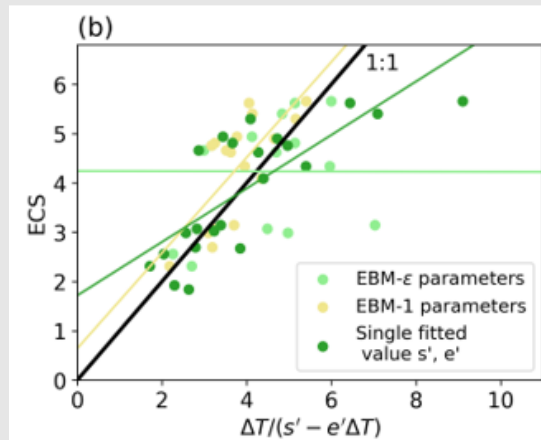
s' : 0.315

Model parameters:

CMIP6: e' : 0.240

s' : 0.200

Double check theory



If theory perfect, all points would be on 1:1 line.

Comparing two two-layer models; with and without ocean heat uptake efficacy.

The emergent constraint:

- Final ECS CMIP5 weaker than CMIP6.
- Consistent upper bound
- ECS: 2.62 K
[5-95%, 1.51 - 4.04]

Checking with respect to theory.

1. Taking model DT
2. Fitted the ocean and forcing parameter per model.
3. Put in equation and compare real ECS

Very unlikely that ECS > 4.5 K and
TCR > 2.5 K.

ECS can possibly be further
restricted using ocean heat uptake,
but theory may need refinement

Emerging consensus on ECS ([Cox et al \(2018\)](#), [Goodwin \(2016\)](#), [Renault \(2020\)](#))?

... and TCR ([Jiménez-de-la-Cuesta \(2019\)](#) and [Tokarska \(2020\)](#))?

Conclusions and Discussion