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**Probabilistic Evaluation of Competing Climate Models**

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1 **Probabilistic Evaluation of Competing Climate Models**

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## ABSTRACT

13 Climate models produce output over decades or longer at high spatial and  
14 temporal resolution. Starting values, boundary conditions, greenhouse gas  
15 emissions and so forth make the climate model an uncertain representation of  
16 the current climate system and, by implication, of the future climate system.  
17 Modern observational datasets offer opportunities for evaluation of competing  
18 climate models; in this article, we propose evaluation of competing climate  
19 models through probabilities. The probabilities are derived from summary  
20 statistics of climate model output and observational data, through a statistical  
21 resampling technique known as the Wild Scale-Enhanced Bootstrap. Here we  
22 compare monthly sequences of CMIP5 model output of average global near-  
23 surface temperature to similar sequences obtained from the well known Had-  
24 CRUT4 data set. The summary statistics we choose come from working in  
25 the space of decorrelated and dimension-reduced wavelet space and regress-  
26 ing wavelet coefficients of model output on wavelet coefficients of observa-  
27 tions. The dimension-reduced slope and intercept statistics are bootstrapped  
28 to allow a probability to be assigned to each model that reflects its output's  
29 compatibility with observations.

## 30 **1. Introduction**

31 Climate models are computational algorithms that model the climate system. They simulate  
32 many complex and inter-dependent processes, yielding global or regional fields that evolve from  
33 the past to the present and into the future. The models allow scientists to understand the conse-  
34 quences of different assumptions about both the physics of the climate system and forcings on  
35 it, including human influences. Climate models are also now viewed as decision-making tools  
36 because their projections of the future increasingly inform policy-making at the local, national,  
37 and international levels. The reliability of these future projections is central to both political and  
38 scientific debates about climate change.

39 Understanding climate and climate change is truly an international effort, with modeling centers  
40 from around the world contributing model runs for the most recent IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel  
41 on Climate Change) report. The diversity of scientific opinion reflected by these multiple runs,  
42 which use different initial conditions, parameterizations, and assumptions, is a key strength of this  
43 very democratic approach to science. However, it also leads to uncertainty because the results  
44 differ, and hence uncertainty quantification has become a critical issue in the interpretation of  
45 climate model output.

46 While the physical laws that underlie climate models are well understood, it is generally ac-  
47 knowledged that multiple sources of uncertainty continue to affect climate model projections.  
48 Broadly speaking, the sources of uncertainty that affect climate model simulations include natu-  
49 ral climate variability at multiple scales, uncertainty in exogenous forcings such as anthropogenic  
50 greenhouse gas emissions, and uncertainty due to the models' abilities to represent the true physics  
51 of the climate system (Collins 2007).

52 Increasing computational power has made it possible to produce ensembles of runs under various  
53 controlled conditions, facilitating quantification of model uncertainty. Perturbed physics ensem-  
54 bles (PPEs) (Murphy et al. 2004; Deser et al. 2010) are created by running a single climate model  
55 multiple times with the model’s parameters taking on different values for each trial. This allows  
56 quantification of the impact of uncertainty in these parameters on a model-by-model basis. Multi-  
57 model ensembles (MMEs; Tebaldi and Knutti (2007)) are constructed from single runs of each  
58 member of a collection of different climate models; they are aimed at quantifying so-called struc-  
59 tural uncertainties, namely those due to “the numerical techniques used for solving the dynamical  
60 equations, the analytic form of parameterization schemes and the choices of inputs for fixed or  
61 varying boundary conditions” (Stocker et al. 2013).

62 There is by now a substantial literature on formal statistical modeling of climate model ensem-  
63 bles to produce probabilistic uncertainty estimates for future climate (Tebaldi et al. 2005; Rougier  
64 2007; Smith et al. 2009; Stephenson et al. 2012; Rougier et al. 2013), and on the closely related  
65 topic of how to combine projections from its members (Min et al. 2007; Knutti et al. 2010). All  
66 these contributions rely on being able to specify a statistical model that describes the relationships  
67 among ensemble members’ output and between those outputs and true climate. The latter is almost  
68 always achieved by comparing model output with observed data (Flato et al. 2013).

69 Typically, comparisons between climate model output and observed data are made on the basis  
70 of simple statistics, termed “metrics” in the literature (Gleckler et al. 2008). Observations are  
71 preprocessed by averaging across time and space to coincide with the resolution of climate model  
72 output (Teixeira et al. 2014), from which comparisons of means, medians, standard deviations,  
73 and correlations can be done straightforwardly. Results are often provided visually, using maps  
74 and other graphical devices, and they are not generally given probabilistic interpretations.

75 In this article, we propose a method for evaluating the fidelity of climate model runs to observed  
76 data that *does* produce a probabilistic measure of fidelity. For two time sequences, one produced  
77 by a climate model and one derived from observations, we test the null hypothesis that the “climate  
78 signals” (to be defined below) expressed by the two are the same. The probability under the null  
79 hypothesis that a given test statistic is equal to or more extreme than the observed value of the test  
80 statistic is called the  $p$ -value. A small  $p$ -value indicates incompatibility of the data with the null  
81 hypothesis (Wasserstein and Lazar 2016); in our case it indicates incompatibility of the climate  
82 model output with the observations.

83 Central to our approach is that climate signals are quantified in a spectral decomposition when  
84 a wavelet transform is applied to the time sequence. The level of agreement between the set  
85 of climate-signal wavelet coefficients derived from a climate model output and that of the cor-  
86 responding observational sequence can be quantified by the intercept and slope obtained from a  
87 simple linear regression of the former on the latter. Our test statistic is constructed from these  
88 regression coefficients, and represents an important enhancement over current practice of using  
89 simple summary statistics that average over time to compare two series.

90 The null hypothesis we test is that the wavelet coefficients representing climate-scale behavior  
91 in the two series are the same. The null probability distribution that is required to perform this  
92 test is obtained using a new resampling technique that we call the Wild Scale-Enhanced (WiSE)  
93 Bootstrap. Thus, each model is assigned a  $p$ -value that can be used to weight the importance of  
94 the model in a multi-model ensemble. The reweighted  $p$ -values represent a probabilistic quan-  
95 tification of the uncertainty of the ensemble of models as judged by their compatibilities with the  
96 observations.

97 The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we motivate our approach  
98 with a discussion of a probabilistic formalism for climate prediction, and we show the role of our

99 contribution in facilitating it. Section 3 describes the WiSE Bootstrap and how it is used in this  
100 setting. In Section 4 we provide an end-to-end example of probabilistic climate model evaluation  
101 against observational data. We use monthly time sequences of global average near-surface tem-  
102 perature from a set of CMIP5 historical model runs for the period 1861–2005, which we compare  
103 to the HadCRUT4 monthly global average near-surface temperature data set. Conclusions follow  
104 in Section 5. There are two appendices: Appendix A gives a detailed, algorithmic description  
105 of our method, and Appendix B presents a simulation study that substantiates and quantifies the  
106 performance of our method on simulated data.

## 107 **2. A probabilistic formalism for climate inference**

108 This section explains how our methodology addresses the larger scientific objective of under-  
109 standing and managing the uncertainties in climate model projections. We start from the probabil-  
110 ity model proposed in Rougier (2007) that relates model-generated and observed time sequences  
111 to that of true climate. Then, we identify the role of climate model output and how observational  
112 data can be used to to evaluate competing climate models and subsequently associate probabilities  
113 with them.

### 114 *a. True climate and proxy time sequences*

115 In what follows, we consider a single climate variable (e.g., global average near-surface tem-  
116 perature) whose true value is generically denoted as  $Y$ . Define  $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_t, \dots, Y_M)'$  to be a  
117 column vector of length  $M$  representing a sequence of values of  $Y$  through time. The vector  $\mathbf{Y}$  can  
118 be partitioned as  $\mathbf{Y} = (\mathbf{Y}_h, \mathbf{Y}_f)'$ , where  $\mathbf{Y}_h$  is the column vector of  $T$  components corresponding to  
119 the historical period, including the present, and  $\mathbf{Y}_f$  is the column vector of  $(M - T)$  components  
120 corresponding to the future.

121 Observations for the historical period are represented by the  $T$ -dimensional column vector  $\mathbf{Z}_h$ .  
 122 In principle, statistical inference about climate (both historical and future) using observations, is  
 123 based on the conditional distribution,  $P(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{Z}_h)$ , which is, via Bayes' Rule,

$$P(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{Z}_h) = \frac{P(\mathbf{Z}_h|\mathbf{Y})P(\mathbf{Y})}{P(\mathbf{Z}_h)}. \quad (1)$$

124 The right-hand side of Eq. (1) can be written as,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{P(\mathbf{Z}_h|\mathbf{Y})P(\mathbf{Y})}{P(\mathbf{Z}_h)} &= \frac{P(\mathbf{Z}_h|\mathbf{Y}_h)}{P(\mathbf{Z}_h)}P(\mathbf{Y}_f|\mathbf{Y}_h)P(\mathbf{Y}_h), \\ &= \frac{P(\mathbf{Z}_h, \mathbf{Y}_h)}{P(\mathbf{Z}_h)}P(\mathbf{Y}_f|\mathbf{Y}_h), \\ &= P(\mathbf{Y}_h|\mathbf{Z}_h)P(\mathbf{Y}_f|\mathbf{Y}_h), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

125 where the first equality assumes, quite naturally, that historical data depend only on the historical  
 126 climate, not the future climate.

127 The distribution  $P(\mathbf{Y})$  is unknown, but the ensemble of climate model outputs provides us with  
 128 a set of proxy sequences,  $\{\mathbf{X}_l\}_{l=1}^L$ , where  $L$  is the number of ensemble members. These are  
 129 the result of  $L$  climate model runs; either runs of different models (a multi-model ensemble) or  
 130 different runs of the same model with perturbed inputs (perturbed physics ensemble). A selection  
 131 from the ensemble of climate model runs is represented by the vector  $\mathbf{X}^\dagger$ :

$$\mathbf{X}^\dagger = \sum_{l=1}^L 1_l \mathbf{X}_l, \quad (3)$$

132 where  $1_l$  is an indicator taking value one if the  $l$ -th ensemble member is chosen, and zero other-  
 133 wise.

134 We now break the problem into the two parts given by the right-hand side of Eq. (2). Write  
 135  $\mathbf{X}_l = (\mathbf{X}'_{lh}, \mathbf{X}'_{lf})'$  and  $\mathbf{X}^\dagger = (\mathbf{X}^\dagger_h, \mathbf{X}^\dagger_f)'$ . We consider how well the probability distribution of  
 136  $\mathbf{X}^\dagger_f | \mathbf{X}^\dagger_h$  represents the probability distribution of  $\mathbf{Y}_f | \mathbf{Y}_h$ , and how well the probability distribution of  
 137  $\mathbf{X}^\dagger_h | \mathbf{Z}_h$  represents the probability distribution of  $\mathbf{Y}_h | \mathbf{Z}_h$ . Since our aim is to exploit the observations,

138 and there are no observations of future climate, we focus on the second problem, which involves  
 139  $\mathbf{X}_h^\dagger$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_h$ .

140 With respect to the historical period only, Eq. (3) becomes

$$\mathbf{X}_h^\dagger = \sum_{l=1}^L 1_l \mathbf{X}_{lh}. \quad (4)$$

141 Two sources of uncertainty contribute to uncertainty in  $\mathbf{X}_h^\dagger$ : randomness of the selection procedure  
 142 represented by the random variables  $\{1_l\}$ , and the model uncertainty embodied by the random  
 143 vectors  $\{\mathbf{X}_{lh}\}$ . We capture the model uncertainty by modeling each ensemble member  $\mathbf{X}_l$  as a  
 144 random vector, and hence  $\mathbf{X}_{lh}$  is a time sequence covering the same historical period as  $\mathbf{Z}_h$ . We  
 145 would like the distribution of the sequence  $\mathbf{X}_h^\dagger | \mathbf{Z}_h$  to be a reasonable proxy for the distribution of  
 146 the sequence  $\mathbf{Y}_h | \mathbf{Z}_h$ .

147 Our interest is in the evaluation of the members of the ensemble, and we shall reformulate this  
 148 as specification of the marginal selection probabilities,  $P(1_l = 1)$  for  $l = 1, 2, \dots, L$ . This is the  
 149 probabilistic uncertainty quantification referred to in Section 1. Assignment of the probabilities  
 150 will be based on comparisons of  $\mathbf{X}_{lh}$  to  $\mathbf{Z}_h$ , for  $l = 1, \dots, L$ .

151 *b. A statistical model for relating the proxy time sequence to true climate*

152 Assume that the true historical sequence  $\mathbf{Y}_h$ , the  $l$ -th climate model's historical sequence  $\mathbf{X}_{lh}$ ,  
 153 and sequence of observations  $\mathbf{Z}_h$ , are related statistically as follows:

$$\mathbf{X}_{lh} = \mathbf{Y}_h + \mathbf{e}_{lh} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{Z}_h = \mathbf{Y}_h + \mathbf{e}_{0h}, \quad (5)$$

154 where  $\mathbf{e}_{lh}$  is the error of the  $l$ -th climate model sequence, and  $\mathbf{e}_{0h}$  is an observational error term  
 155 (Rougier 2007). Denote the joint distribution of  $\mathbf{X}_{lh}$ ,  $\mathbf{Y}_h$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}_h$  by  $P(\mathbf{X}_{lh}, \mathbf{Y}_h, \mathbf{Z}_h)$ ; the conditional  
 156 distribution,  $P(\mathbf{X}_{lh}, \mathbf{Y}_h | \mathbf{Z}_h)$  quantifies the relationship between  $\mathbf{X}_{lh}$ , and  $\mathbf{Y}_h$ , conditional on the  
 157 historical observations.

158 It remains to determine how the relationship between  $\mathbf{X}_{lh}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}_h$  can be quantified in order to  
159 model  $P(1_l = 1)$ . One obvious way would be through  $\mathbf{D}_l = (\mathbf{X}_{lh} - \mathbf{Y}_h)$ , and to assign  $P(1_l = 1)$   
160 proportional to the probability that  $\mathbf{D}_l$  falls into some restricted region around the origin in high-  
161 dimensional space. Operationally, this would likely be difficult because of the high dimensionality  
162 and the ad hoc choice of a restricted region. The distance  $D_l = \|\mathbf{D}_l\|$  (or some weighted version)  
163 could be used instead, and we could assign  $P(1_l = 1) \propto P(D_l \leq d)$ , where  $d$  is a positive real num-  
164 ber. However, taking the (possibly weighted) norm is a huge simplification that allows bad fidelity  
165 in one portion of the time sequence to offset good fidelity in another, which can lead to undesirable  
166 results. Moreover, these sequences exhibit temporal dependence, and so any methodology and its  
167 associated theory needs to incorporate this.

168 One way to account for temporal dependence is to transform the sequences so that the trans-  
169 formed values are decorrelated; in spectral analysis, this is sometimes called pre-whitening. In  
170 wavelet analysis, the Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT) can be used:

$$\mathcal{C}_X \equiv W\mathbf{X}, \quad (6)$$

171 where  $W$  is a square, orthonormal matrix (i.e.,  $W'W = I$ ) that acts on a generic time sequence  $\mathbf{X}$   
172 resulting in the wavelet *coefficients*  $\mathcal{C}_X$  (Percival and Walden 2006). The choice of wavelet basis  
173 functions (father and mother wavelets) will determine the form of  $W$ .

174 In our analysis, we shall apply the same wavelet transform to detrended versions of  $\{\mathbf{X}_{lh}\}$ ,  $\mathbf{Y}_h$ ,  
175 and  $\mathbf{Z}_h$ ; we work in the equivalent space of wavelet coefficients since those random quantities are  
176 decorrelated (Shen et al. 2002). Critically, our climate model evaluations are based on conditional  
177 distributions,  $P(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}_{lh}}, \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h} | \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h})$ , where  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}_{lh}}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h}$  denote coefficient vectors of  $\mathbf{X}_{lh}$ ,  $\mathbf{Y}_h$ , and  
178  $\mathbf{Z}_h$ , respectively.

179 We now establish some important notation for specifying the statistical models. Write  $\mathbf{X}_{lh} =$   
 180  $(X_{lh}(1), \dots, X_{lh}(T))'$ ,  $l = 1, \dots, L$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}_h = (Z_h(1), \dots, Z_h(T))'$ . For the moment, assume that  $T$   
 181 is a power of two:  $T = 2^J$ . We model  $X_{lh}(t)$  and  $Z_h(t)$  as follows:

$$X_{lh}(t) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 t + \gamma_2 V_l(t/T) + \mu_l(t) + e_{lh}(t), \text{ for } t = 1, \dots, T, l = 1, \dots, L, \quad (7)$$

$$Z_h(t) = \gamma_{00} + \gamma_{01} t + \gamma_{02} V_0(t/T) + \mu_0(t) + e_{0h}(t), \text{ for } t = 1, \dots, T, \quad (8)$$

182 where  $\gamma_{l0}$  and  $\gamma_{l1}$  are linear trend coefficients, and  $V_l$  are scaling coefficients,  $l = 0, \dots, L$ . Note  
 183 that the case  $l = 0$  refers to quantities in the statistical model of the observations. In Eqs. (7) and  
 184 (8),

$$\mu_l(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \gamma_{jk} W_{j,k}(t/T), \text{ for } l = 0, \dots, L, t = 1, \dots, T, \quad (9)$$

185 where  $W_{j,k}(\cdot)$  is a fixed family of wavelet basis functions. The vectors of coefficients are

$$\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}_{lh}} = \left( \gamma_{l0}, \gamma_{l1}, \gamma_{l2}, \gamma_{l00}, \dots, \gamma_{l(J-1)(2^{J-1})} \right)', \text{ for } l = 1, \dots, L, \quad (10)$$

186 and

$$\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h} = \left( \gamma_{00}, \gamma_{01}, \gamma_{02}, \gamma_{000}, \dots, \gamma_{0(J-1)(2^{J-1})} \right)'. \quad (11)$$

187 Further, we assume that the noise terms,  $e_{lh}(t)$  and  $e_{0h}(t)$ , are all mutually independent with means  
 188 equal to zero but potentially unequal variances,  $E(e_{lh}^2(t)) = \sigma_l^2(t)$  and  $E(e_{0h}^2(t)) = \sigma_0^2(t)$ .

189 The wavelet decomposition is a decorrelator, just like the usual Fourier spectral decomposi-  
 190 tion, but wavelets easily capture local behavior through functions that are of compact support,  
 191 multi-resolutional, and translational within a resolution. The decorrelational aspect has proved  
 192 particularly powerful for comparing two-dimensional spatial fields (Shen et al. 2002), and more  
 193 recently Lin and Franzke (2015) showed that wavelets can capture multiresolution temporal struc-  
 194 ture in global average near-surface temperatures. Under the model (5), we would expect to see the

195 wavelet coefficients associated with the  $l$ -th climate model,  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}_{lh}}$ , track more or less closely those  
 196 of the observations,  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h}$ .

197 *c. Summary statistics that capture a relationship to the true climate*

198 After applying  $W$  to the detrended versions of  $\{\mathbf{X}_{lh}\}$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_h$ , we obtain the wavelet coefficients  
 199  $\{\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}_{lh}}\}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h}$ , respectively. The summary statistics that we shall use are based on a linear re-  
 200 gression of  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}_{lh}}$  on  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h}$ . The wavelet coefficients are decorrelated and obtained from a linear  
 201 transformation of the time sequence; hence, a plot of this regression line would all allow us to vi-  
 202 sualize the relationship between the output of a given climate model and the observations, without  
 203 concern for misinterpretation due to temporal-dependence structures. Consider a generic climate  
 204 model sequence,  $\mathbf{X}_{lh}$ ; then the plot would ideally show that the coefficient pairs line up, with  
 205 scatter, on a  $45^\circ$  line through the origin. When this does not happen, the obvious simple-linear-  
 206 regression summary statistics, intercept  $\hat{\alpha}_l$  and slope  $\hat{\beta}_l$ , express in wavelet space how “close” the  
 207 climate model output comes to the noisy version of true climate provided by the observations.  
 208 Thus, our evaluation of model  $l$  will be through comparison of  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$  to the null value  $(0, 1)$  for  
 209 each  $l = 1, \dots, L$ .

210 Of course, we would prefer to compare  $\{\mathbf{X}_{lh}\}$  directly to the true climate  $\mathbf{Y}_h$ , but a noisy version  
 211 of it,  $\mathbf{Z}_h$ , is what we have. Hence, we denoise the observations to reveal the underlying climate  
 212 signal. That is, we partition  $\mathbf{Y}_h$  into a signal component,  $\mathbf{Y}_h^s$ , and a noise component,  $\mathbf{Y}_h^n$ , and we  
 213 make a substitution of  $\mathbf{X}_{lh}$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_h$  in Eq. (5) with their wavelet coefficients, as follows.

$$\mathbf{Y}_h = \mathbf{Y}_h^s + \mathbf{Y}_h^n, \quad \mathbf{X}_{lh} = \mathbf{Y}_h^s + \mathbf{Y}_h^n + \mathbf{e}_{lh}, \quad \mathbf{Z}_h = \mathbf{Y}_h^s + \mathbf{Y}_h^n + \mathbf{e}_{0h}. \quad (12)$$

$$\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h} = \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h^s} + \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h^n}, \quad \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}_{lh}} = \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h^s} + \left( \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h^n} + \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{e}_{lh}} \right), \quad \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h} = \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h^s} + \left( \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h^n} + \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{e}_{0h}} \right). \quad (13)$$

214 Here,  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h^s}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h^n}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{e}_{lh}}$ , and  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{e}_{0h}}$  are the vectors of wavelet coefficients of  $\mathbf{Y}_h^s$ ,  $\mathbf{Y}_h^n$ ,  $\mathbf{e}_{lh}$ , and  $\mathbf{e}_{0h}$ ,  
 215 respectively. The terms in parentheses in Eq. (13) cannot be separately identified, so we consider  
 216 them to be residual errors.

217 The key assumption that we shall make is that  $\mathbf{Z}_h$  can be denoised to leave behind only the  
 218 wavelet coefficients associated with climate signal,  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h}$ . Let  $\check{J}$  be a constant,  $\check{J} \leq J$ , that specifies  
 219 the number of coarse-scale wavelet-decomposition levels that define climate signal in the wavelet-  
 220 level hierarchy. Let  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}}, \check{J})$  be a smoothing function that operates on  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}}$  by setting elements  
 221 corresponding to levels greater than  $\check{J}$ , to zero. So,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}} &= \left( \gamma_{00}, \gamma_{01}, \dots, \gamma_{(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}}, \gamma_{\check{J}1}, \dots, \gamma_{(J-1)2^{(J-1)}} \right)', \\ \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}}, \check{J}) &= \left( \gamma_{00}, \gamma_{01}, \dots, \gamma_{(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}}, 0, \dots, 0 \right)',\end{aligned}\quad (14)$$

222 and the corresponding smoothed time sequence is  $S(\mathbf{X}, \check{J}) = W' \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}}, \check{J})$ . Our assumption is that  
 223 after smoothing,  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h}, \check{J}) = \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Y}_h^s}$ , the wavelet coefficients of the climate signal.

224 Climate model sequences  $\{\mathbf{X}_{lh}\}$  can be evaluated according to how well their wavelet coeffi-  
 225 cients corresponding to levels  $1, \dots, \check{J}$ , reproduce those of  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h}$ . Define  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}}, \check{J})$  as a truncation  
 226 operator that deletes all elements of  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}}$  that correspond to levels greater than  $\check{J}$ . Then,

$$\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}}, \check{J}), \check{J}) = \left( \gamma_{00}, \gamma_{01}, \dots, \gamma_{(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}} \right)'. \quad (15)$$

227 Now the vectors  $\{\mathbf{c}_l\}$  and  $\mathbf{c}_0$  are defined as

$$\mathbf{c}_l = \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{X}_{lh}}, \check{J}), \check{J}) \text{ for } l = 1, \dots, L, \text{ and } \mathbf{c}_0 = \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{Z}_h}, \check{J}), \check{J}). \quad (16)$$

228 For the  $l$ -th climate model, a low-dimensional summary of the agreement between  $\mathbf{c}_l$  and  $\mathbf{c}_0$  is  
 229 motivated by simple linear regression. Define,

$$\bar{\gamma}_l = \left( \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} 1 \right)^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \gamma_{jk}, \quad l = 0, 1, \dots, L,$$

$$\hat{\beta}_l = \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} (\gamma_{jk} - \bar{\gamma}_0)^2 \right]^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} (\gamma_{jk} - \bar{\gamma}_0) (\gamma_{jk} - \bar{\gamma}_l), \quad l = 1, \dots, L, \quad (17)$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_l = \bar{\gamma}_l - \hat{\beta}_l \bar{\gamma}_0, \quad l = 1, \dots, L. \quad (18)$$

230 In what follows, we shall consider a test statistic based on  $\hat{\alpha}_l$  and  $\hat{\beta}_l$ . It is crucial to obtain  
 231 good estimates of the test statistic's variance under  $H_0 : (\alpha_l, \beta_l) = (0, 1)$  against the alternative  
 232  $H_A : (\alpha_l, \beta_l) \neq (0, 1); l = 1, \dots, L$ . We shall obtain variance estimates using a technique we call  
 233 the Wild Scaled-Enhanced Bootstrap (the WiSE bootstrap). Briefly, this method allows us to  
 234 generate  $B$  “pseudo-realizations” of a time sequence from a single parent time sequence (under  
 235  $H_0$ ) by perturbing the wavelet coefficients of the parent and inverting the wavelet transform. Then,  
 236 for each pseudo-realization, indexed by  $b$ , we perform the wavelet decomposition and regression  
 237 described above to obtain  $B$  resampled values,  $\left\{ \left( \hat{\alpha}_{lb}^*, \hat{\beta}_{lb}^* \right) : b = 1, \dots, B \right\}$ . The empirical variance  
 238 of this bootstrap sample is an approximation to the sampling variance of  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$ ; see Eqs. (35)  
 239 and (36) below.

240 The quantile of  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$  in the distribution of  $\left\{ \left( \hat{\alpha}_{lb}^*, \hat{\beta}_{lb}^* \right) : b = 1, \dots, B \right\}$  is an empirical ap-  
 241 proximation to one minus the  $p$ -value of the test of the null hypothesis  $H_0 : (\alpha_l, \beta_l) = (0, 1)$  under  
 242 the conditions and assumptions described above. It is interpreted here as being proportional to a  
 243 probability-scale measure of compatibility between the test statistic's value and how extreme it  
 244 is under the null hypothesis. To emphasize this interpretation, we shall refer to these  $p$ -values as  
 245 compatibility measures.

### 246 3. Statistical Methodology

247 In this section, we provide the details of our methodology for evaluating a set of climate models  
248 based on the statistical approach given in Section 2. There are four main steps: preprocessing,  
249 estimating the summary statistics, obtaining the null distribution of the summary statistics, and  
250 assignment of selection probabilities. From this point forward, all climate-variable sequences  
251 shall be understood to cover the historical period only, so for simplicity we drop the  $h$  subscript.

#### 252 *a. Preprocessing*

253 Preprocessing is necessary for two reasons. First, it removes the effects of obvious, non-  
254 oscillatory components of the signals that are captured as trend in our models in Eqs. (7) and  
255 (8). Second, in order to apply the standard DWT software (e.g., R's wavethresh package due to  
256 Nason (2015)), the time sequences must have lengths that are powers of two.

257 Let  $N$  denote the original length of the time sequences,  $\{\mathbf{X}_l\}$  and  $\mathbf{Z}$ , each indexed by  $t = 1, \dots, N$ .  
258 To detrend, we fit simple linear regressions of  $\mathbf{X}_l$  and  $\mathbf{Z}$  on the vector  $(1, \dots, N)'$ . This yields  
259  $\{(\hat{\gamma}_{l0}, \hat{\gamma}_{l1})\}$  and  $(\hat{\gamma}_{00}, \hat{\gamma}_{01})$ , respectively which are estimates of the trend intercepts and trend slopes  
260 for the climate model outputs ( $l = 1, \dots, L$ ) and the observations. Then the trend coefficients are

261 obtained as follows: For  $l = 1, \dots, N$ ,

$$\bar{X}_l = N^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^N X_l(t), \quad (19)$$

$$\hat{\gamma}_{1l} = \left( \sum_{t=1}^N (t - (N+1)/2)^2 \right)^{-2} \sum_{t=1}^N (t - (N+1)/2) X_l(t), \quad (20)$$

$$\hat{\gamma}_{0l} = \bar{X}_l - \hat{\gamma}_{1l}(N+1)/2, \quad (21)$$

$$\bar{Z} = N^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^N Z(t), \quad (22)$$

$$\hat{\gamma}_{01} = \left( \sum_{t=1}^N (t - (N+1)/2)^2 \right)^{-2} \sum_{t=1}^N (t - (N+1)/2) Z(t), \quad (23)$$

$$\hat{\gamma}_{00} = \bar{Z} - \hat{\gamma}_{01}(N+1)/2. \quad (24)$$

262 Thus, the detrended series are:

$$\tilde{X}_l(t) = X_l - \hat{\gamma}_{0l} - \hat{\gamma}_{1l}t, \quad t = 1, \dots, N, \quad l = 1, \dots, L, \quad (25)$$

$$\tilde{Z}(t) = Z(t) - \hat{\gamma}_{00} - \hat{\gamma}_{01}t, \quad t = 1, \dots, N. \quad (26)$$

263 To prepare for the DWT, we pad  $\tilde{X}_l$  and  $\tilde{Z}$  so that they have lengths equal to  $T = 2^{\lceil \log_2 N \rceil}$ , where

264  $\lceil \cdot \rceil$  is the ceiling function that returns the smallest integer greater than or equal to its argument.

265 To do this, we reflect the appropriate subsequences of components at the beginning and end of

266 each sequence. That is, let  $m_1 = m_2 = \lceil (T - N)/2 \rceil$  if  $N$  is even, and if  $N$  is odd, let  $m_1 =$

267  $\lceil (T - N)/2 \rceil + 1$  and  $m_2 = \lceil (T - N)/2 \rceil$ . Then define the padded data as

$$\tilde{X}_l = \left( \tilde{X}_{lm_1}, \dots, \tilde{X}_{l2}, \tilde{X}_l', \tilde{X}_{l(T-1)}, \dots, \tilde{X}_{l(T-m_2)} \right)', \quad (27)$$

$$\tilde{Z} = \left( \tilde{Z}_{m_1}, \dots, \tilde{Z}_2, \tilde{Z}', \tilde{Z}_{(T-1)}, \dots, \tilde{Z}_{(T-m_2)} \right)'. \quad (28)$$

### 268 *b. Estimating summary statistics*

269 The second step is to obtain the simple-linear-regression summary statistics  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$ ,  $l = 1, \dots, L$ .

270 We perform wavelet decompositions, with  $J$  levels, on  $\tilde{X}_l$  and  $\tilde{Z}_h$  using a common wavelet basis.

271 The model we use for the detrended, padded series with individual terms  $\tilde{X}_l(t)$  and  $\tilde{Z}(t)$  is:

$$\tilde{X}_l(t) = \gamma_{l2}V_l(t/T) + \mu_l(t) + e_l(t), \quad t = 1, \dots, T, \quad l = 1, \dots, L, \quad (29)$$

272 where

$$\mu_l(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \gamma_{ljk} W_{j,k}(t/T), \quad l = 1, \dots, L; \quad (30)$$

273 and

$$\tilde{Z}(t) = \gamma_{02}V_0(t/T) + \mu_0(t) + e_0(t), \quad t = 1, \dots, T, \quad (31)$$

274 where

$$\mu_0(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \gamma_{0jk} W_{j,k}(t/T). \quad (32)$$

275 Recall that  $\check{J}$  is the wavelet decomposition level corresponding to the finest temporal scale deemed  
 276 to represent climate signal. After performing the DWT on  $\{\mathbf{X}_l : l = 1, \dots, L\}$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}$ , we obtain the  
 277 wavelet coefficients

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathbf{X}_l} &= \left( \hat{\gamma}_{00}, \hat{\gamma}_{01}, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{l(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}}, \hat{\gamma}_{l\check{J}1}, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{l(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}} \right)', \\ \hat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathbf{Z}} &= \left( \hat{\gamma}_{000}, \hat{\gamma}_{001}, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{0(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}}, \hat{\gamma}_{0\check{J}1}, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{0(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}} \right)', \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

278 and we set

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{c}}_l &= \mathcal{T} \left( \mathcal{S}(\hat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathbf{X}_l}, \check{J}), \check{J} \right) = \left( \hat{\gamma}_{00}, \hat{\gamma}_{01}, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{l(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}} \right), \\ \hat{\mathbf{c}}_0 &= \mathcal{T} \left( \mathcal{S}(\hat{\mathcal{C}}_{\mathbf{Z}}, \check{J}), \check{J} \right) = \left( \hat{\gamma}_{000}, \hat{\gamma}_{001}, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{0(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

279 Finally, summary statistics  $\{(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)\}$ ,  $l = 1, \dots, L$  in Eqs. (17) and (18) are computed from,

$$\hat{\gamma}_l = \left( \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} 1 \right)^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \hat{\gamma}_{ljk}, \quad l = 0, 1, \dots, L,$$

$$\hat{\beta}_l = \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} (\hat{\gamma}_{ljk} - \hat{\gamma}_l)^2 \right]^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} (\hat{\gamma}_{ljk} - \hat{\gamma}_l) (\hat{\gamma}_{ljk} - \hat{\gamma}_l), \quad l = 1, \dots, L, \quad (35)$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_l = \hat{\gamma}_l - \hat{\beta}_l \hat{\gamma}_0, \quad l = 1, \dots, L. \quad (36)$$

280 *c. Obtaining the null distribution of the summary statistics*

281 Under  $H_{0l} : (\alpha_l, \beta_l) = (0, 1)$ , the detrended series  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_l$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$  share the same climate signal. That  
 282 is,  $\mathbf{c}_l = \mathbf{c}_0$ , or equivalently,  $\{\mu_{lt}\} = \{\mu_{0t}\}$  in Eq. (9). To test  $H_{0l}$ , we will simulate the sampling  
 283 distribution of  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$  under this null hypothesis and assess the observed value,  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$ , against it.  
 284 This results in a  $p$ -value, which we interpret as a measure of compatibility of the model output with  
 285 the observations. Small values indicate incompatibility of the model output under consideration  
 286 (Wasserstein and Lazar 2016). To do this, we create a collection of paired, resampled pseudo-  
 287 series from the original, parent time sequences using a method based on the wild bootstrap (Wu  
 288 1986; Mammen 1993), under the assumption that the null hypothesis is true. For the  $l$ th model,  
 289 denote the  $b$ -th pseudo-sequence pair by  $\{\mathbf{X}_{lb}^*, \mathbf{Z}_b^*\}$  and the regression coefficients derived from it  
 290 by  $(\hat{\alpha}_{lb}^*, \hat{\beta}_{lb}^*)$ . The empirical distribution of  $\left\{ (\hat{\alpha}_{lb}^*, \hat{\beta}_{lb}^*) : b = 1, 2, \dots, B \right\}$  is then an estimate of  
 291 the null distribution under  $H_{0l}$ . In Appendix A, we give the algorithmic details of this procedure,  
 292 which we call the Wild Scale-Enhanced (WiSE) Bootstrap.

293 *d. Computing compatibilities*

294 We now compute compatibilities of the model outputs with the observations via tests of the null  
 295 hypotheses,  $H_{l0} : (\alpha_l, \beta_l) = (0, 1)$ , for  $l = 1, \dots, L$ . We use the test statistic,

$$Q_l = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\alpha}_l & \hat{\beta}_l - 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{K}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\alpha}_l \\ \hat{\beta}_l - 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (37)$$

296 where  $\mathbf{K}$  is the bootstrap covariance matrix of  $\left\{ \hat{\alpha}_{bl}^*, \hat{\beta}_{bl}^* : b = 1, \dots, B \right\}$ , namely

$$\mathbf{K} = B^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{b=1}^B (\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^* - \bar{\alpha}_l^*)^2 & \sum_{b=1}^B (\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^* - \bar{\alpha}_l^*) (\hat{\beta}_{bl}^* - \bar{\beta}^*) \\ \sum_{b=1}^B (\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^* - \bar{\alpha}_l^*) (\hat{\beta}_{bl}^* - \bar{\beta}^*) & \sum_{b=1}^B (\hat{\beta}_{bl}^* - \bar{\beta}^*)^2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (38)$$

297 with  $\bar{\alpha}_l^* = B^{-1} \sum_{b=1}^B \hat{\alpha}_{bl}^*$  and  $\bar{\beta}_l^* = B^{-1} \sum_{b=1}^B \hat{\beta}_{bl}^*$ . Finally,  $Q_l$  is evaluated relative to the bootstrap  
 298 distribution based on

$$Q_{bl}^* = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\alpha}_l^* & \hat{\beta}_l^* - 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{K}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\alpha}_l^* \\ \hat{\beta}_l^* - 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for } b = 1, \dots, B. \quad (39)$$

299 Specifically, the  $p$ -value associated with our test is estimated by

$$P(Q_l^* > Q_l | H_{0l}) \equiv \frac{\#(Q_{bl}^* > Q_l)}{B}. \quad (40)$$

300 We call this the ‘‘compatibility’’ of model  $l$ ’s output time sequence with the observational sequence  
 301 under the null hypothesis  $H_{0l}$  specified above (Wasserstein and Lazar 2016). In what follows, we  
 302 assign a probability distribution to  $\{1_l : l = 1, \dots, L\}$  in Eq. (4) by making  $P(1_l = 1)$  proportional to  
 303 model  $l$ ’s  $p$ -value. Below we show that model averaging according to this probability assignment  
 304 results in high compatibility with the observed time sequence.

#### 305 **4. Case study: Evaluating CMIP5 models using observations**

306 In this section, we demonstrate the methodology described in Section 3 by applying it to the  
 307 evaluation of monthly global average near-surface temperatures produced by 44 CMIP5 models.  
 308 We evaluate these against a benchmark observational data set used in a similar comparison pre-  
 309 sented in the 2013 IPCC report specifically in Chapter 9, Evaluation of Climate Models, (Flato  
 310 et al. 2013).

##### 311 *a. Data sources*

312 In this subsection, we describe both the climate model outputs from CMIP5 and the global  
 313 average near-surface temperature observations against which the CMIP5 climate models will be  
 314 evaluated.

## 315 1) CLIMATE MODEL OUTPUT

316 The CMIP5 experiments are broadly divided into near-term and long-term, with the long-term  
317 experiments designed specifically for model evaluation (Taylor et al. 2012). One sub-category  
318 of long-term experiments are the so-called “historical” runs for which climate modeling centers  
319 have provided simulated time sequences from the mid-nineteenth through the early twenty-first  
320 centuries. These simulations start where pre-industrial control runs finish, and they are forced by  
321 both natural and anthropogenic conditions. Both simulated and observed time sequences exhibit  
322 variability due to these forcings and also due to internal variability, which is defined by Taylor  
323 et al. (2012) as “variations solely due to internal interactions within the complex nonlinear climate  
324 system.” They go on to say, “A realistic climate model should exhibit internal variability with  
325 spatial and temporal structure like the observed” and caution that this does not mean there will be  
326 a one-to-one match between simulated and observed occurrences of specific events or patterns. In  
327 other words, statistical agreement is what matters in these comparisons, and this is precisely what  
328 our probability-based measure of compatibility focuses on.

329 We obtained time sequences of global monthly mean near-surface air temperature produced  
330 by 44 different CMIP5 models from the KNMI Data Explorer website ([https://climexp](https://climexp.knmi.nl/selectfield_cmip5.cgi?id=someone@somewhere)  
331 [.knmi.nl/selectfield\\_cmip5.cgi?id=someone@somewhere](https://climexp.knmi.nl/selectfield_cmip5.cgi?id=someone@somewhere)). Climate Data Explorer allows  
332 on-the-fly aggregation, averaging, and renormalization of data sets with a simple menu-driven  
333 interface. We selected all models for which the variable tas (near-surface air temperature) was  
334 available in the historical experiment, except for the GISS (Goddard Institute for Space Studies)  
335 models. For the GISS models, we limited our selection to those that were designated physics  
336 version 1 (“p1”), since they represent prescribed rather than calculated aerosol and ozone fields  
337 and thus more closely match what is done by the other centers for the historical experiment. The

338 monthly global mean is expressed as an anomaly from the mean of the period 1960 – 1991, as in  
339 Flato et al. (2013). Where multiple runs (ensemble members) of the same model were available,  
340 we selected the ensemble mean. Most sequences cover the period 1850-2005, although some start  
341 as late as 1861 and some end as late as 2015. The common period that we shall use in our case  
342 study is January 1861 through November 2005. Table 1 lists the 44 models used in this study and  
343 the modeling centers that are responsible for them.

## 344 2) HADCRUT4 OBSERVATIONS

345 Following Flato et al. (2013), we used the HadCRUT4 data set (Monice et al. 2012) as the ob-  
346 servational time sequence. HadCRUT4 combines land, air, and sea-surface temperature data to  
347 produce a 100-member ensemble of monthly gridded surface temperature fields reaching back  
348 to 1850. Documentation for these data and an in-depth description of how they were produced  
349 can be found in Monice et al. (2012). As with the model simulations, we used the KNMI Cli-  
350 mate Explorer to obtain the monthly global average near-surface temperature anomalies for the  
351 period 1850-2005, where the anomalies are computed relative to the average of the period 1960-  
352 1991. Our observational time sequence is computed from the median value of the 100 ensem-  
353 ble members' global average near-surface temperature value. Additional details can be found at  
354 <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/hadobs/hadcrut4/faq.html>.

### 355 *b. Exploratory comparison*

356 Figure 1 shows a sample of time sequence plots of the 44 CMIP5 model outputs, with the  
357 HadCRUT4 observations superimposed. All our sequences are truncated to the period January  
358 1861 through November 2005, which is the period of intersection for all models and HadCRUT4.  
359 The figure is similar but not identical to Figure 9.8(a) in Flato et al. (2013) due to differences

360 in normalization and masking. The HadCRUT4 values lie mostly inside the envelope defined by  
 361 the 44 output sequences. Note that the spread among the model sequences appears to decrease  
 362 over time, as does the variability of individual sequences including HadCRUT4. There are sharp  
 363 increases in all the anomaly values starting in about 1961.

364 The cyclical nature of these data is easier to see if their linear trends are removed. Figure 2  
 365 shows plots of  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_l$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}_h$  computed in Eqs. (25) and (26), respectively. Both low-frequency and  
 366 high-frequency components are evident.

367 *c. Application of the WiSE bootstrap to comparison of CMIP5 model simulations and observed*  
 368 *HadCRUT4*

369 We shall now discuss how each of the four steps delineated in Sections 3a through 3d are applied  
 370 in our analysis. We start from truncated sequences of length  $N = 1739$  for the period January 1861  
 371 through November 2005, which is the longest period covered by all models' sequences simultane-  
 372 ously.

373 1) PREPROCESSING

374 As a first step, we removed the linear trend from each series by estimating the simple linear  
 375 regression coefficients  $(\hat{\gamma}_0, \hat{\gamma}_1)$ ,  $l = 1, \dots, 44$  (Eqs. (19) through (21)) for the model sequences,  
 376 and  $(\hat{\gamma}_0, \hat{\gamma}_1)$  (Eqs. (22) through (24)) for the observational sequence. The residuals from the  
 377 regression lines defined by these estimated parameters are denoted by  $\{\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_l, l = 1, \dots, 44\}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$ ,  
 378 respectively, as shown in Eqs. (25) and (26).

379 The second preprocessing step is to pad the sequences so that they have lengths equal to the next-  
 380 largest power of two. In this case, we require sequences of length  $T = 2048$ , requiring that we pad  
 381 the beginning of the series with 155 values and the end of the series with 154 values, as described

382 in Eqs. (27) and (28). The padded values are the reflections of the first 155 and last 154 elements  
 383 of the sequences, respectively. Denote the detrended, padded sequences by  $\{\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_l : l = 1, \dots, 44\}$   
 384 and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$ , as in Eqs. (27) and (28).

## 385 2) ESTIMATING SUMMARY STATISTICS

386 Next, we obtain estimates of the slopes and intercepts of the regressions of the climate-scale  
 387 wavelet coefficients of  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_l$  on those of  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$ . Formulas are given in Eqs. (35) and (36). We  
 388 choose to set the threshold for distinguishing between climate-scale and noise at  $\check{J} = 5$ ; see  
 389 below for an explanation of this choice. That is,  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_l = (\hat{\gamma}_{l00}, \hat{\gamma}_{l01}, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{l,5,32})'$ ,  $l = 1, \dots, 44$ , and  
 390  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_0 = (\hat{\gamma}_{000}, \hat{\gamma}_{001}, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{0,5,32})'$ ; all these vectors are of length 64.

391 The choice of  $\check{J}$  is important because it defines the set of temporal scales over which we shall  
 392 evaluate agreement between models and observations. This may also be impacted by the choice  
 393 of the wavelet basis; here we use the Daubechies Least Asymmetric wavelet family with eight  
 394 vanishing moments (DB8). The choice of wavelet family was made after experimentation with  
 395 this and other families, in the context of the simulation study reported in Appendix B. The choice  
 396 of wavelet family did not affect our results significantly and so we used the DB8 family which was  
 397 also used by Lin and Franzke (2015).

398 The threshold,  $\check{J} = 5$  was chosen as follows. We examined the progressive reconstruction of the  
 399 HadCRUT4 detrended and padded sequence as wavelet decomposition levels were added. The  
 400 left panel of Figure 3 shows the original sequence in light gray, the reconstructed versions of the  
 401 sequence using levels up to and including level 5 (thick black line) and up to and including level  
 402 6 (thin black line). The right panel of Figure 3 zooms in on the first 300 time points in order to  
 403 highlight periodicity. The smoothed series using levels up to and including level 5 has a periodicity  
 404 of roughly 180 months, while the smoothed series using levels up to and including level 6 has a

405 periodicity of roughly 50 months. These correspond to cycles of about 15 and 4 years, respectively.  
 406 While there is no hard-and-fast definition of climate time scale, we define it as corresponding to  
 407 periodicities of 15 years or more. That is sufficient to capture the Pacific Decadal Oscillation  
 408 and the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation, though not the El Niño Southern Oscillation or the  
 409 Madden-Julian Oscillation (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution 2015).

410 We computed estimated regression coefficients using formulas given in Section 3b. Results  
 411 are shown in Table 2, and Figure 4 presents the same results in the form of a scatterplot of  $\hat{\alpha}_l$   
 412 versus  $\hat{\beta}_l$ , with one symbol for each model. It is clear that there is much less variability in the  
 413 intercepts ( $\hat{\alpha}_l$ ) than in the slopes ( $\hat{\beta}_l$ ). Moreover, 35 of the 44 slope values are smaller than one, in  
 414 some cases far below one. Slope coefficients less than one are characteristic of models for which  
 415 climate-scale wavelet coefficients underestimate those of the observations.

### 416 3) OBTAINING THE NULL DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUMMARY STATISTICS

417 To generate an approximation to the sampling distribution of  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$  under  $H_{0l} : (\alpha_l, \beta_l) = (0, 1)$ ,  
 418 we follow the prescription of Section 3c. We fit a wavelet model using  $J = 11$  to the detrended,  
 419 padded, HadCRUT4 observational sequence, and we reconstruct the (detrended and padded)  
 420 time sequence using levels  $j = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  (recall that  $\check{J} = 5$ ). This smoothed sequence is  
 421  $\hat{\mu}_0 = (\hat{\mu}_0(1), \hat{\mu}_0(2), \dots, \hat{\mu}_0(2048))'$ , and it is the starting point for constructing a pair of bootstrap  
 422 resamples; one for the  $l$ th climate model paired with one for the observations.

423 For the model's resample, we add both the model's trend and a pseudo-residual based on the  
 424 model series, to  $\hat{\mu}_0$  (see Eq. (A1)). The model's pseudo-residual is the residual of the padded,  
 425 raw model series relative to its level  $\check{J} = 5$  smoothed version, multiplied by 1) independent stan-  
 426 dard normal random deviates, one for each time index, and 2) a scale-enhancement factor  $\tau$ . For  
 427 the observations' resample, we add both the observations' trend and a pseudo-residual based on

428 the observational series, to  $\hat{\mu}_0$  (see Eq. (A2)). The observations' pseudo-residual is the residual  
 429 of the padded, raw observational series relative to its level  $\check{J} = 5$  smoothed version, multiplied  
 430 by independent standard normal random deviates, one for each time index, and the same scale-  
 431 enhancement factor  $\tau$ . Finally, both sets of resamples are truncated at their beginning and end to  
 432 remove the artificial values added by padding.

433 For  $l = 1, \dots, 44$ , the result of the resampling procedure described above is a pair of bootstrap-  
 434 resampled time sequences that share the same climate signal component and thus obey the condi-  
 435 tions of the null hypothesis,  $H_{0l} : (\alpha_l, \beta_l) = (0, 1)$ . Figure 7 shows one of the resampled sequences  
 436 plotted on the same graph. The resampled HadCRUT4 sequence is in green, with its smoothed  
 437 version shown as the thick green line. The resampled model sequence (CCSM4 is used here  
 438 as an example) is in blue, with its smoothed version shown as the thick blue line. This results  
 439 in the  $b$ th instance,  $(\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^*, \hat{\beta}_{bl}^*)$ , obtained by regressing the wavelet coefficients corresponding to  
 440 levels zero through five of the paired-resampled CCSM4 sequence on those of the correspond-  
 441 ing pair-resampled HadCRUT4 sequence. We repeat the process to create a total of  $B = 1000$   
 442 pairs, and perform regressions within each resampled pair as illustrated in Figure 6. This yields  
 443  $\left\{ (\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^*, \hat{\beta}_{bl}^*) : b = 1, \dots, 1000 \right\}$ .

#### 444 4) COMPUTING COMPATIBILITIES

445 The left panel of Figure 5 shows the scatterplot of the bootstrapped values  
 446  $\left\{ (\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^*, \hat{\beta}_{bl}^*) : b = 1, \dots, 1000 \right\}$  along with the actual value of  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$  for the CCSM4-model-  
 447 observation pair. Recall that the bootstrapped values were obtained under  $H_{0l} : (\alpha_l, \beta_l) = (0, 1)$ .  
 448 To evaluate the  $l$ -th model, we require the proportion of resampled points that are further away,  
 449 in terms of the scaled squared distance  $Q_l$  (given by Eq. (37)), from the point  $(0, 1)$ , than the red  
 450 point at  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$  is from  $(0, 1)$ . This is depicted in the right panel of Figure 5 by the proportion of

451 the histogram that is to the right of the red vertical line, which is the bootstrapped  $p$ -value. Here,  
452  $Q_l = 3.155$ , and 199 of the 1000 values of  $\{Q_{bl}^*, b = 1, \dots, 1000\}$  are greater than 3.155, leading  
453 to a WiSE bootstrap measure of compatibility for CCSM4 against HadCRUT4 of 0.199. Columns  
454 3 and 8 of Table 3 show the compatibility values,  $p_l$ , for all 44 models, with non-zero values  
455 highlighted. Clearly, some models' compatibility values are quite high (e.g., CESM1-BCG), but  
456 many do not compare well to the HadCRUT4 observational sequence.

## 457 5) RESULTS

458 In Table 3, ten of the 44 models have non-trivial compatibility values;  $p_l \geq .001$ . CESM1-BGC  
459 has the highest compatibility measure ( $p_l = 0.241$ ), followed by GFDL-CM3 ( $p_l = 0.200$ ) and  
460 CCSM4 ( $p_l = 0.199$ ). CESM1 is a new version of CCSM4 and CESM1-BGC is a version that  
461 includes biogeochemistry. Next, HadGEM2-CC has compatibility measure  $p_l = 0.137$ , followed  
462 by two more CESM1 models: CESM1-FASTCHEM ( $p_l = 0.089$ ) and CESM1-WACCM ( $p_l =$   
463  $0.078$ ). Rounding out the models with compatibilities greater than 0.001 are CanESM2 ( $p_l =$   
464  $0.015$ ), BNU-ESM ( $p_l = 0.010$ ), and MPI-ESM-MR and NorESM1-ME, which both have  $p_l =$   
465  $0.001$ . If we were to go beyond model evaluation and carry out significance testing of each of  
466 these hypothesis tests individually, we would reject the null hypotheses that CanESM2, BNU-  
467 ESM, MPI-ESM-MR, NorESM1-ME, and all models with  $p_l < .001$  share the same HadCRUT4  
468 climate-scale structure at the 0.05 significance level. We would not reject the null hypothesis for  
469 the models with  $p_l > 0.05$ . Testing a compound null hypothesis involving multiple models would  
470 require quantifying model dependence; in this article we consider model-ensemble members one-  
471 at-a-time.

472 Table 3 also compares our compatibility evaluation to two simple metrics sometimes used by the  
473 climate community: root mean squared error and correlation. The first statistic has been rescaled

474 so that it is a number between zero and one, with higher values corresponding to better model  
 475 agreement with observations. See Eq. (41) where we define  $srmse_l$ . Both simple metrics are com-  
 476 puted using the original-length model simulations and the HadCRUT4 observational sequence.

477 Define

$$srmse_l = 1 - \frac{rmse_l}{\max_k \{rmse_k\}}, \quad \text{where} \quad rmse_l = \sqrt{\sum_{t=1}^N [X_l(t) - Z(t)]^2}; \quad (41)$$

478 and define

$$corr_l = \frac{N^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^N [X_l(t) - \bar{X}_l](Z(t) - \bar{Z})}{\sqrt{N^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^N [X_l(t) - \bar{X}_l]^2} \sqrt{N^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^N [Z(t) - \bar{Z}]^2}}, \quad (42)$$

479 where  $\bar{X}_l = N^{-1} \sum_{n=1}^N X_l(n)$  and  $\bar{Z} = N^{-1} \sum_{n=1}^N Z(n)$ .

480 Figures 8 and 9 show the same information as that contained in Table 3, but in the form of  
 481 scatterplots of  $srmse_l$  and  $corr_l$  versus  $p_l$ , respectively. Both  $srmse_l$  and  $corr_l$  compute their  
 482 measures of fitness on a time-point-by-time-point basis and then average over time. This could  
 483 allow good performance in one part of sequence to offset poor performance in another part, making  
 484 both metrics somewhat blunt instruments. Most of the values of  $\{srmse_l : l = 1, \dots, L\}$  lie between  
 485 about 0.15 and 0.50, and only a few lie near the one-to-one line with  $\{p_l : l = 1, \dots, L\}$ . Most of  
 486 the values of  $\{corr_l : l = 1, \dots, L\}$  range between between 0.60 and 0.80, and there is no apparent  
 487 relationship with  $\{p_l : l = 1, \dots, L\}$ .

488 As usually implemented, the two traditional skill scores  $srmse_l$  and  $corr_l$  do not provide a prob-  
 489 abilistic criterion against which to judge their magnitudes. This is an important shortcoming since  
 490 science proceeds by evaluating the compatibility of theoretical predictions (e.g., climate model  
 491 output) with observed evidence using discrepancies that are measured on a probability scale.  
 492 WiSE bootstrap simulations using  $srmse_l$  or  $corr_l$  in place of our wavelet-based statistic could  
 493 be performed. Nevertheless these two metrics require matching time points in the model and  
 494 observational sequences, despite the assertion by Taylor et al. (2012) that no such one-to-one cor-

495 response between model output and the observations should be expected. Our compatibility  
 496 measure takes care of both problems, since it has a built-in probabilistic criterion, and owing to  
 497 working in the wavelet domain it does not require a one-to-one correspondence of time points.

## 498 6) MULTI-MODEL AVERAGING

499 Finally, it is sometimes observed that a time sequence of the multi-model means can outper-  
 500 form individual models. If the WiSE bootstrap compatibility values are accurate reflections of  
 501 the fidelity of climate-model-generated time sequences to an observational benchmark, like Had-  
 502 CRUT4, then we might expect that modeling  $P(1_l = 1)$  with  $P_D(1_l = 1) \propto p_l$  and weight-averaging  
 503 the models' output sequences according to these probabilities, would produce a multi-model time  
 504 sequence that would perform well against HadCRUT4.

505 To explore this, we computed both a differentially weighted model mean,  $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_D = (\bar{X}_D(1), \bar{X}_D(2),$   
 506  $\dots, \bar{X}_D(N))'$ , with normalized weights,

$$P_D(1_l = 1) = \frac{p_l}{\sum_{k=1}^{44} p_k}, \quad (43)$$

507 and a uniformly weighted model mean,  $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_U = (\bar{X}_U(1), \bar{X}_U(2), \dots, \bar{X}_U(N))'$  with weights  $P_U(1_l =$   
 508  $1) = 1/44$ . That is,

$$\bar{X}_D(n) = \sum_{l=1}^{44} X_l(n) \left( \frac{p_l}{\sum_{k=1}^{44} p_k} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{X}_U(n) = \frac{1}{44} \sum_{l=1}^{44} X_l(n), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, 1739. \quad (44)$$

509 Figure 10 shows the climate-scale reconstructions of the HadCRUT4 observations and the two  
 510 multi-model mean sequences. The WiSE bootstrap compatibilities for  $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_D$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_U$  are 0.519 and  
 511 0.000, respectively, demonstrating that using  $P_D(1_l = 1) \propto p_l$  is vastly superior to using uniform  
 512 weights in defining a multi-model ensemble. That is, the compatibilities  $\{p_l : l = 1, \dots, 44\}$   
 513 provided by the WiSE bootstrap imply a distribution on the ensemble of model sequences whose  
 514 mean value is closer to the observational sequence.

## 515 **5. Conclusions**

516 In this final section, we draw some conclusions about probabilistic model evaluation, the as-  
517 sumptions and performance of the WiSE bootstrap method, and the performance of the CMIP5  
518 climate models evaluated here. We close with a discussion of future work.

519 We have introduced a probabilistic method to determine the degree to which climate-scale  
520 temporal-dependence structures in an observational time sequence are reproduced by climate  
521 model-output time sequences. For a given climate model, the degree of agreement, or compat-  
522 ibility, is quantified by the  $p$ -value from a test of the null hypothesis that climate-scale temporal  
523 dependence is the same in both the observed and climate-model-generated time sequences. The  
524  $p$ -value is the probability that a discrepancy as large or larger than that computed from the model-  
525 generated and observed sequences would be obtained, if the null hypothesis were true. In this  
526 context, a small  $p$ -value is indicative of a model-generated sequence that is incompatible with the  
527 climate signal embedded in the observed time sequence.

528 Of course, such conclusions are predicated on the assumptions of the hypothesis-testing frame-  
529 work. These include the underlying statistical models for the time sequences, how we define  
530 “climate scale” in the context of those models, the choice of test statistic, and how the sampling  
531 distribution of the test statistic is simulated under the null hypothesis. We have made certain  
532 choices in this work that we believe to be reasonable, but other choices are certainly possible.  
533 The choice of the wavelet-decomposition level that constitutes the boundary between climate sig-  
534 nal and climate noise is particularly important, as experiments have shown that it can change the  
535 results substantially. Users of the WiSE bootstrap methodology are free to choose differently in  
536 accordance with their own scientific questions and opinions. In fact, one could test hypotheses  
537 about specific temporal scales based on wavelet coefficients corresponding to individual wavelet-

538 decomposition levels. Other test statistics besides ours are also possible and likely useful, since  
539 slopes and intercepts from simple linear regression of wavelet coefficients provide only one of  
540 many possible test statistics.

541 Conclusions about the CMIP5 models themselves are as follows. Table 3 shows that, accord-  
542 ing to our analysis, CCSM-BGC, GFDL-CM3, and HadGEM2-CC are most compatible with the  
543 HadCRUT4 climate-scale temporal behavior, at least for global mean near-surface temperature on  
544 a monthly basis and “climate signal” defined as the five coarsest wavelet scales. Our numerical  
545 measure of how well these models do is given by the values of  $\{p_l\}$ . These values can be inter-  
546 preted as measures of how compatible the actual time sequence from model  $l$  and the HadCRUT4  
547 sequence are. For example, under the assumption that the NorESM-ME really does reproduce the  
548 climate signal in the HadCRUT4 observations, we would expect NorESM-ME to produce a time  
549 sequence as as unlike HadCRUT4 as the the one we obtained for this study, about one time in  
550 1000. This implies low compatibility between the null hypothesis and the NorESM-ME output.  
551 Conversely, the CESM1-BGC model’s time sequence has a compatibility of 241 times in 1000.

552 The WiSE bootstrap compatibility measures and the simple metrics based on root mean squared  
553 error and correlation tell different stories because they emphasize different things. Our method  
554 addresses whether the temporal dependence structure of the observations is reproduced by the  
555 climate model time sequences. Simple metrics based on averages over time do not address whether  
556 statistical structure in observations is preserved by climate model simulations, as called for in  
557 Taylor et al. (2012), nor do they provide probabilistic interpretation.

558 Finally, we are pursuing extensions in several areas. We believe that WiSE bootstrap could  
559 provide a basis for a weighting scheme for multi-model ensembles or perturbed physics ensembles.  
560 The probabilities  $P_D(1_l = 1)$  can be used as marginal selection probabilities when drawing time  
561 sequences from an ensemble in order to form a mean sequence. However, joint probabilities

562 would be required to define a probability structure that captures the dependence between models.  
563 A more complex multiple-testing framework will be required to assign joint probabilities rather  
564 than simple marginal probabilities.

565 There are natural extensions of the WiSE bootstrap to spatial and spatio-temporal contexts. Mov-  
566 ing from one-dimensional to two-dimensional wavelets would allow us to use the same technology  
567 on maps as we have used here on time sequences. However, moving to three spatial dimensions,  
568 three spatial dimensions with time, and multivariate settings may not be straightforward since  
569 wavelets may not be suitable basis functions for these more complex problems. We are investigat-  
570 ing the use of other kinds of basis functions in ongoing research.

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## 579 APPENDIX A

### 580 **The Wild Scale-Enhanced Bootstrap (WiSE bootstrap)**

581 Starting with the original length- $N$  sequences,  $\mathbf{X}_I$  and  $\mathbf{Z}$ , we perform the following steps.

- 582 1. Set  $B$  (the number of trials),  $J = \log_2 T$ ,  $T = 2^{\lceil \log_2 N \rceil}$  (the length of the padded sequences),  
583 and  $\check{J}$  (the number of levels in the wavelet decomposition that constitute climate signal).
- 584 2. Obtain  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_l$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$  by preprocessing on  $\mathbf{X}_l$  and  $\mathbf{Z}$  as specified in Section 3a. Retain the computed  
585 values of the trend coefficients,  $(\hat{\gamma}_0, \hat{\gamma}_1)$  and  $(\hat{\gamma}_{00}, \hat{\gamma}_{01})$ .
- 586 3. Perform the  $J$ -level wavelet decomposition on  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$  to obtain the set of wavelet coefficients  
587  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_0 = (\hat{\gamma}_{000}, \hat{\gamma}_{001}, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{0(j-1)2^{j-1}})$  as shown in Eq. (34).
- 588 4. Compute  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_0 = (\hat{\mu}_0(1), \hat{\mu}_0(2), \dots, \hat{\mu}_0(T))'$  from  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$  as specified in Eq. (9):

$$\hat{\mu}_0(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \hat{\gamma}_{0,jk} W_{j,k}(t/T), \quad t = 1, 2, \dots, T.$$

- 589 5. Generate  $B$  pairs of pseudo-series,  $\{(\mathbf{X}_{bl}^*, \mathbf{Z}_b^*) : b = 1, \dots, B\}$ . The  $b$ th pair contains a length-  
590  $T$  pseudo-series derived from  $\mathbf{X}_l$ , denoted by  $\mathbf{X}_{bl}^*$ , and a length- $T$  pseudo-series derived from  
591  $\mathbf{Z}$ , denoted by  $\mathbf{Z}_b^*$ . To do this, create

$$\mathbf{X}_{bl}^* = (X_{bl}^*(1), \dots, X_{bl}^*(T))', \quad \text{where} \quad X_{bl}^*(t) = \hat{\gamma}_0 + \hat{\gamma}_1 t + \hat{\mu}_0(t) + \tau U_b(t) R_l(t), \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\mathbf{Z}_b^* = (Z_b^*(1), \dots, Z_b^*(T))', \quad \text{where} \quad Z_b^*(t) = \hat{\gamma}_{00} + \hat{\gamma}_{01} t + \hat{\mu}_0(t) + \tau S_b(t) R_0(t), \quad (\text{A2})$$

592 for  $U_b(t)$  and  $S_b(t)$  mutually independent, standard normal random variables;  $R_l(t) = (\tilde{X}_l(t) -$   
593  $\hat{\mu}_0(t))$ ,  $R_0(t) = (\tilde{Z}(t) - \hat{\mu}_0(t))$ ; and  $\tau$  is a constant that depends on  $T$ .

594 The scale-enhancement factor,  $\tau$ , satisfies the conditions  $\tau^2 \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $\tau^2/T \rightarrow 0$  as  $T \rightarrow$   
595  $\infty$ . This term is needed for asymptotic consistency of our results. Mathematical details are  
596 discussed in Chatterjee (2016). The factor  $\tau$  has the same kind of effect that the choice of  
597 a smaller subsample or resample size has on the performance of subsampling for  $m$ -out-of- $n$   
598 bootstrap schemes (Politis and Romano 1994; Bickel et al. 1997; Shao 1996).

599 Here we use  $\tau^2 = \log T$ , which satisfies the two conditions above. Note that the *same* values  
600  $\hat{\mu}_l(t) = \hat{\mu}_0(t)$  are used in Eqs. (A1) and (A2). Using the same values is required to enforce  
601 the null hypothesis.

602 6. For  $b = 1, \dots, B$ , and a fixed  $l$ , obtain  $(\hat{\alpha}_{lb}^*, \hat{\beta}_{lb}^*)$  from  $\mathbf{X}_{bl}^*$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_b^*$  as follows.

603 (a) Obtain  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_{bl}^*$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}_b^*$  by preprocessing  $\mathbf{X}_{bl}^*$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_b^*$  as specified in Section 3a.

604 (b) Perform wavelet decompositions on  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_{bl}^*$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}_b^*$  to obtain wavelet coefficients  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_{bl}^* =$   
605  $(\hat{\gamma}_{bl00}^*, \hat{\gamma}_{bl01}^*, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{bl(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}}^*)$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_{b0}^* = (\hat{\gamma}_{b000}^*, \hat{\gamma}_{b001}^*, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_{b0(\check{J}-1)2^{(\check{J}-1)}}^*)$ , as shown in  
606 Eq. (34). Recall that  $\check{J} \leq J$  is the number of wavelet decomposition levels that define  
607 the climate signal in the time sequences.

608 (c) Regress the elements of  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_{bl}^*$  on the corresponding elements of  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_{b0}^*$  using simple linear  
609 regression. Define

$$\hat{\gamma}_{bl}^* = \left( \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} 1 \right)^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \hat{\gamma}_{bljk}^*,$$

$$\hat{\beta}_{bl}^* = \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} (\hat{\gamma}_{b0jk}^* - \hat{\gamma}_{b0}^*)^2 \right]^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^{\check{J}-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} (\hat{\gamma}_{b0jk}^* - \hat{\gamma}_{b0}^*) (\hat{\gamma}_{bljk}^* - \hat{\gamma}_{bl}^*), \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^* = \hat{\gamma}_{bl}^* - \hat{\beta}_{bl}^* \hat{\gamma}_{b0}^*, \quad (\text{A4})$$

610 (d) The set  $\left\{ (\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^*, \hat{\beta}_{bl}^*) : b = 1, 2, \dots, B \right\}$ , gives an approximation to the null distribution  
611 of  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$  under  $H_0 : (\alpha_l, \beta_l) = (0, 1)$ .

## 612 APPENDIX B

### 613 Simulation Study

614 We conducted a simulation study to understand the performance of our proposed hypothesis testing  
615 method. We generated data from the two processes,  $Y_{1t} = S_{1t} + \varepsilon_{1t}$  and  $Y_{2t} = S_{2t} + \varepsilon_{2t}$ , for  $t =$

616  $1, \dots, 2^J$ . Here, the first series  $Y_{1t}$  acts as the “observations” and the second series,  $Y_{2t}$ , acts as  
617 the “model output”. In all the cases we consider below,  $\{\varepsilon_{1t}\}$  and  $\{\varepsilon_{2t}\}$  are mutually independent  
618 and identically distributed as  $N(0, V)$ . However, we have conducted studies with heteroskedastic  
619 noise, and the results do not change in substance from those reported below.

620 The signal components of both the processes  $Y_{1t}$  and  $Y_{2t}$  satisfy the framework we adopt in this  
621 paper, namely

$$S_{1t} = \sum_{j=0}^{J_0-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \gamma_{1jk} A_{j,k}(t), \quad (\text{B1})$$

$$S_{2t} = \sum_{j=0}^{J_0-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \gamma_{2jk} A_{j,k}(t), \quad (\text{B2})$$

622 where  $\{A_{j,k}\}$  are a fixed set of wavelet basis functions, and  $\gamma_{2jk} = \alpha + \beta \gamma_{1jk}$ , which directly models  
623 the sort of relation we have in mind between model output and observations.

624 This simulation is achieved by starting with a series  $\{X_t, t = 1, \dots, N\}$ , and obtaining a wavelet  
625 decomposition of it; then consider the first  $\check{J}$  coarse levels from it as defining  $\{S_{1t}\}$  in the temporal  
626 domain. We constructed  $\{X_t\}$  to follow an  $AR(1)$  process that imitated the observed HadCRUT4  
627 temperature data series. Note that the actual structure of the series  $\{X_t\}$  is not relevant, since it is  
628 merely used to elicit a few coarse wavelet coefficients for the series  $\{S_{1t}\}$ . For the series  $\{S_{2t}\}$ ,  
629 we used the relation given above for the wavelet basis functions  $\{A_{j,k}(\cdot)\}$  and reconstructed  $\{S_{2t}\}$   
630 from them.

631 In all the scenarios described above, we obtained the  $p$ -value of the test  $H_0 : (\alpha, \beta) = (0, 1)$   
632 against the alternative hypothesis  $H_1 : (\alpha, \beta) \neq (0, 1)$ . Different values of  $\beta$  were used, and to  
633 simplify the study we chose  $\alpha = 0$ . The constants used for the simulations are given as follows.

- 634 1. We consider sample sizes,  $N \in \{100, 300, 600, 1000\}$ .
- 635 2. We consider noise variances,  $V \in \{0.01, 0.2, 0.5\}$ .
- 636 3. We consider true scales for the coarse wavelet signal,  $\check{J} \in \{1, 3, 5\}$ .

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4. We consider the resample size (bootstrap sample size),  $B = 500$ .

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5. Each of the above scenarios is independently replicated  $R = 200$  times.

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We have tried other variations of 1.–5. that are not reported below. They include cases where the noise has unequal variances (depending on  $t$ ); unequal variances for the observations,  $\{Y_{1t}\}$  and the model output,  $\{Y_{2t}\}$ ; other values of  $N$  in order to evaluate the effect of the padding; other values of  $\check{J}$ ; other values of  $(\alpha, \beta)$ , and both larger and smaller values of  $B$ . Also, we used multiple ways of generating the signal component  $\{S_{1t}\}$ , that is, multiple ways of obtaining the initial time sequence  $\{X_t\}$ . We included trends, both in the  $\{Y_{1t}\}$  and the  $\{Y_{2t}\}$  series. All of these led to results that mimic the results below.

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To illustrate the power-function properties of the proposed hypothesis tests, we fixed the size (maximum allowable probability of type 1 error, which is the probability of rejecting the null hypothesis when it is true) at 0.05, and we studied the power as  $\beta$  varied from 0.5 to 1.5. The power of a hypothesis test is defined as the probability of rejecting the null hypothesis when it is false; thus, a higher power is desirable.

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In Figure B1, we present a selection of the power curves that we obtained from our simulations. Here, the figures in the left panels correspond to the sample size  $N = 600$ , and those in the right panels are for  $N = 1000$ . The top two panels, (a) and (b), use noise variance  $V = 0.01$  and number of coarse wavelet levels  $\check{J} = 3$ ; the middle two panels, (c) and (d), retain the same noise variance but use  $\check{J} = 5$  wavelet levels; and the bottom two panels, (e) and (f), keep  $\check{J} = 5$  but increase the noise variance to  $V = 0.2$ . In all the figures, the red horizontal line is drawn at the probabilities 0.05.

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The power curves illustrate that our proposed method performs as expected in all simulation scenarios. First, corresponding to the null hypothesis regime of  $\beta = 1$  in the center of each of

660 the figures, the probability of rejection is lower than 0.05; thus we maintain the specified size  
661 properties. In all situations, it seems that our test is slightly conservative in the sense that the  
662 actual probability of rejecting a true null hypothesis is lower than 0.05. As  $|\beta - 1|$  increases and  
663 the signal for the alternative hypothesis becomes stronger, the power curves increase (sometimes  
664 quite steeply) to 1.

665 The figures show that (i) power increases with sample size, when we compare the right panels  
666 with  $N = 1000$  with the corresponding left panels for  $N = 600$ ; (ii) the power increases with the  
667 signal, quantified by the increase in  $\check{J}$ , when we compare panel (a) with panel (c) or panel (b) with  
668 panel (d); and (iii) the power decreases with increased noise variance  $V$ , when we compare panel  
669 (c) with panel (e) or panel (d) with panel (f).

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745 **LIST OF TABLES**

746 **Table 1.** 44 CMIP5 models used in this study. . . . . 40

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748 on the corresponding elements of  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_0$ , for  $l = 1, \dots, 44$ . . . . . 41

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751 with compatibilities greater than 0.001 are italicized. . . . . 42

TABLE 1. 44 CMIP5 models used in this study.

<i>l</i>	<i>Model</i>	<i>Center</i>	<i>l</i>	<i>Model</i>	<i>Center</i>
1	ACCESS1-0	CSIRO-BOM (Australia)	23	GFDL-ESM2M	GFDL (USA)
2	ACCESS1-3	CSIRO-BOM (Australia)	24	GISS-E2-H p1	NASA GISS (USA)
3	BCC-CSM-1	Beijing Climate Center (PRC)	25	GISS-E2-H-CC p1	NASA GISS (USA)
4	BCC-CSM-1-M	Beijing Climate Center (PRC)	26	GISS-E2-R p1	NASA GISS (USA)
5	BNU-ESM	Beijing Normal Univ. (PRC)	27	GISS-E2-R-CC p1	NASA GISS (USA)
6	CanSM2	CCCMA (Canada)	28	HadGEM2-AO	NIMR/KMA (UK/Korea)
7	CCSM4	NCAR (USA)	29	HadGEM2-CC	MOHC/INPE (UK/Brazil)
8	CESM1-BGC	NCAR/DOE/NSF (USA)	30	HadGEM2-ES	MOHC/INPE (UK/Brazil)
9	CESM1-CAM5	NCAR/DOE/NSF (USA)	31	INMCM4	INM (Russia)
10	CESM1-CAM5-1-FV2	NCAR/DOE/NSF (USA)	32	IPSL-CM5A-LR	IPSL (France)
11	CESM1-FASTCHEM	NCAR/DOE/NSF (USA)	33	IPSL-CM5A-MR	IPSL (France)
12	CESM1-WACCM	NCAR/DOE/NSF (USA)	34	IPSL-CM5B-LR	IPSL (France)
13	CMCC-CESM	CMCC (Italy)	35	MIROC-ESM	MIROC (Japan)
14	CMCC-CM	CMCC (Italy)	36	MIROC-ESM-CHEM	MIROC (Japan)
15	CMCC-CMS	CMCC (Italy)	37	MIROC5	MIROC (Japan)
16	CNRM-CM5	CNRM (France)	38	MPI-ESM-LR	MPI (Germany)
17	CSIRO-Mk3-6-0	CSIRO (Australia)	39	MPI-ESM-MR	MPI (Germany)
18	EC-EARTH	EC-EARTH Consortium (Europe)	40	MPI-ESM-P	MPI (Germany)
19	FGOALS-g2	LASG (PRC)	41	MRI-CGM3	MRI (Japan)
20	FIO-ESM	FIO (PRC)	42	MRI-ESM1	MRI (Japan)
21	GFDL-CM3	GFDL (USA)	43	NorESM1-M	NCC (Norway)
22	GFDL-ESM2G	GFDL (USA)	44	NorESM1-ME	NCC (Norway)

752 TABLE 2. Intercept and slope estimates obtained from regressions of the elements of  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_l$  on the corresponding  
 753 elements of  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_0$ , for  $l = 1, \dots, 44$ .

$l$	<i>Model</i>	$\hat{\beta}_l$	$\hat{\alpha}_l$	$l$	<i>Model</i>	$\hat{\beta}_l$	$\hat{\alpha}_l$
1	ACCESS1-0	0.764	-0.083	23	GFDL-ESM2M	0.691	0.005
2	ACCESS1-3	0.607	-0.064	24	GISS-E2-H p1	0.647	-0.018
3	BCC-CSM-1	1.161	-0.017	25	GISS-E2-H-CC p1	0.795	0.013
4	BCC-CSM-1-M	0.747	0.002	26	GISS-E2-R p1	0.697	-0.013
5	BNU-ESM	1.184	-0.024	27	GISS-E2-R-CC p1	0.647	-0.031
6	CanESM2	1.067	0.026	28	HadGEM2-AO	1.129	-0.103
7	CCSM4	1.044	0.018	29	HadGEM2-CC	0.915	0.006
8	CESM1-BGC	1.074	0.033	30	HadGEM2-ES	0.713	-0.036
9	CESM1-CAM5	0.898	0.068	31	INMCM4	0.485	-0.004
10	CESM1-CAM5-1-FV2	0.777	0.009	32	IPSL-CM5A-LR	1.093	-0.04
11	CESM1-FASTCHEM	1.069	-0.03	33	IPSL-CM5A-MR	0.86	-0.024
12	CESM1-WACCM	1.06	0.094	34	IPSL-CM5B-LR	0.519	0.019
13	CMCC-CESM	0.59	0.086	35	MIROC-ESM	0.689	0.004
14	CMCC-CM	0.658	0.034	36	MIROC-ESM-CHEM	0.608	0.003
15	CMCC-CMS	0.765	0.036	37	MIROC5	0.669	0.005
16	CNRM-CM5	0.855	-0.03	38	MPI-ESM-LR	0.84	-0.038
17	CSIRO-Mk3-6-0	0.592	-0.056	39	MPI-ESM-MR	0.92	-0.031
18	EC-EARTH	0.764	-0.018	40	MPI-ESM-P	0.806	0.02
19	FGOALS-g2	0.707	0.032	41	MRI-CGM3	0.445	0.024
20	FIO-ESM	0.672	0.042	42	MRI-ESM1	0.575	0.024
21	GFDL-CM3	0.961	-0.03	43	NorESM1-M	0.705	0.02
22	GFDL-ESM2G	0.682	-0.043	44	NorESM1-ME	0.844	-0.099

754 TABLE 3. WiSE bootstrap compatibilities,  $p_l$ , scaled root mean squared error,  $srmse_l$ , and correlation,  $corr_l$ ,  
 755 for  $l = 1, \dots, 44$  CMIP5 models used in this study. Models with compatibilities greater than 0.001 are italicized.

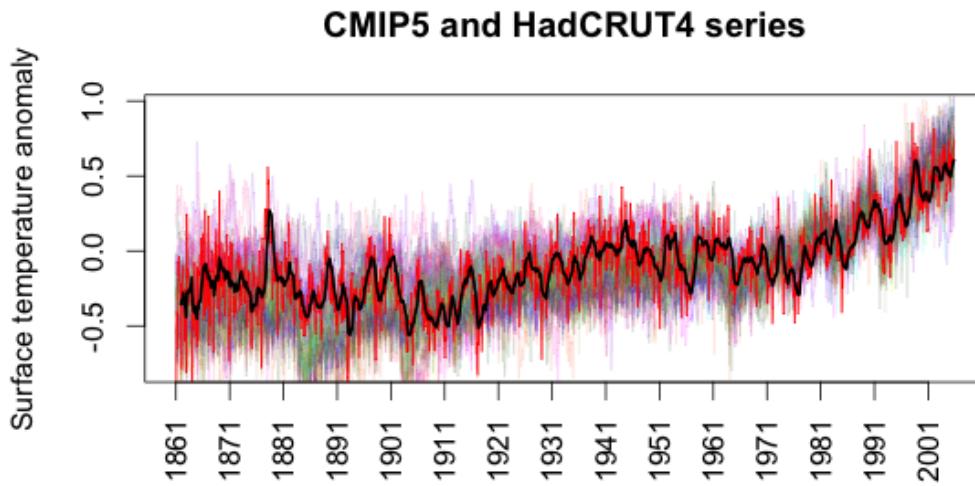
$l$	<i>Model</i>	$p_l$	$srmse_l$	$corr_l$	$l$	<i>Model</i>	$p_l$	$srmse_l$	$corr_l$
1	ACCESS1-0	< 0.001	0.351	0.598	23	GFDL-ESM2M	< 0.001	0.276	0.611
2	ACCESS1-3	< 0.001	0.411	0.659	24	GISS-E2-H p1	< 0.001	0.359	0.751
3	BCC-CSM-1	< 0.001	0.241	0.764	25	GISS-E2-H-CC p1	< 0.001	0.182	0.73
4	BCC-CSM-1-M	< 0.001	0.208	0.711	26	GISS-E2-R p1	< 0.001	0.47	0.746
5	<i>BNU-ESM</i>	<i>0.010</i>	0.000	0.705	27	GISS-E2-R-CC p1	< 0.001	0.415	0.708
6	<i>CanESM2</i>	<i>0.015</i>	0.427	0.729	28	HadGEM2-AO	< 0.001	0.341	0.672
7	<i>CCSM4</i>	<i>0.199</i>	0.214	0.762	29	<i>HadGEM2-CC</i>	<i>0.137</i>	0.165	0.43
8	<i>CESM1-BGC</i>	<i>0.241</i>	0.166	0.709	30	HadGEM2-ES	0.000	0.366	0.667
9	CESM1-CAM5	< 0.001	0.527	0.764	31	INMCM4	< 0.001	0.336	0.658
10	CESM1-CAM5-1-FV2	< 0.001	0.482	0.711	32	IPSL-CM5A-LR	< 0.001	0.305	0.772
11	<i>CESM1-FASTCHEM</i>	<i>0.089</i>	0.105	0.752	33	IPSL-CM5A-MR	< 0.001	0.302	0.75
12	<i>CESM1-WACCM</i>	<i>0.078</i>	0.068	0.692	34	IPSL-CM5B-LR	< 0.001	0.16	0.658
13	CMCC-CESM	< 0.001	0.169	0.36	35	MIROC-ESM	< 0.001	0.442	0.729
14	CMCC-CM	< 0.001	0.39	0.63	36	MIROC-ESM-CHEM	< 0.001	0.377	0.688
15	CMCC-CMS	< 0.001	0.211	0.46	37	MIROC5	< 0.001	0.474	0.714
16	CNRM-CM5	< 0.001	0.514	0.765	38	MPI-ESM-LR	< 0.001	0.225	0.728
17	CSIRO-Mk3-6-0	< 0.001	0.45	0.706	39	<i>MPI-ESM-MR</i>	<i>0.001</i>	0.32	0.749
18	EC-EARTH	< 0.001	0.287	0.758	40	MPI-ESM-P	< 0.001	0.245	0.734
19	FGOALS-g2	< 0.001	0.487	0.723	41	MRI-CGM3	< 0.001	0.428	0.624
20	FIO-ESM	< 0.001	0.303	0.712	42	MRI-ESM1	< 0.001	0.369	0.624
21	<i>GFDL-CM3</i>	<i>0.200</i>	0.264	0.628	43	NorESM1-M	< 0.001	0.484	0.715
22	GFDL-ESM2G	< 0.001	0.446	0.691	44	<i>NorESM1-ME</i>	<i>0.001</i>	0.397	0.658

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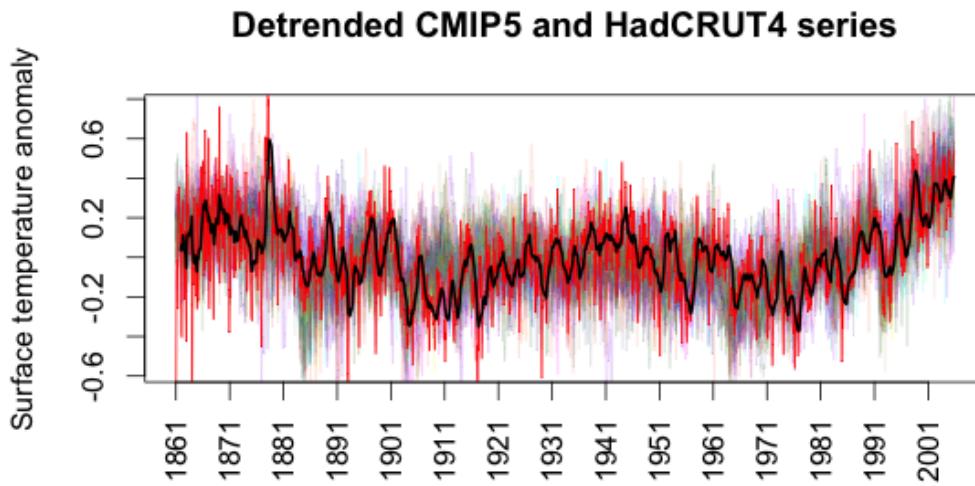
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757	<b>Fig. 1.</b>	Anomaly time sequence plots for 44 CMIP5 outputs of monthly global average near-surface air temperature anomalies (pastels), and the HadCRUT4 observational sequence (red), 1861–2005. The black line is a 12-month running mean computed from the HadCRUT4 (red line) data. . . . . 45
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782	<b>Fig. 7.</b>	Left: Scatterplot of $\{(\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^*, \hat{\beta}_{bl}^*) : b = 1, \dots, 1000\}$ (black dots). The value of $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$ for the CCSM4 model is given by the large red dot. Right: Histogram of $\{Q_{bl}^* : b = 1, \dots, 1000\}$ for $l$ given by the CCSM4 model. The actual $Q_l$ for the CCSM4 model is located at the red vertical line. . . . . 51
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788	<b>Fig. 9.</b>	Scatterplot of $corr_l$ versus $p_l$ ; values are given in Table 3. The $45^\circ$ line is shown in gray. Symbols and colors vary in order to differentiate visually among models. . . . . 53
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793	<b>Fig. B1.</b>	Power curves from different simulation scenarios. Panel (a) shows the power curve corresponding to sample size $N = 600$ , noise variance $V = 0.01$ , and $\check{J} = 3$ coarse wavelet levels. Panel (b) uses $N = 1000$ , $V = 0.01$ , $\check{J} = 3$ . Panel (c) uses $N = 600$ , $V = 0.01$ , $\check{J} = 5$ . Panel (d) uses $N = 1000$ , $V = 0.01$ , $\check{J} = 5$ . Panel (e) uses $N = 600$ , $V = 0.2$ , $\check{J} = 5$ . Panel (f) uses
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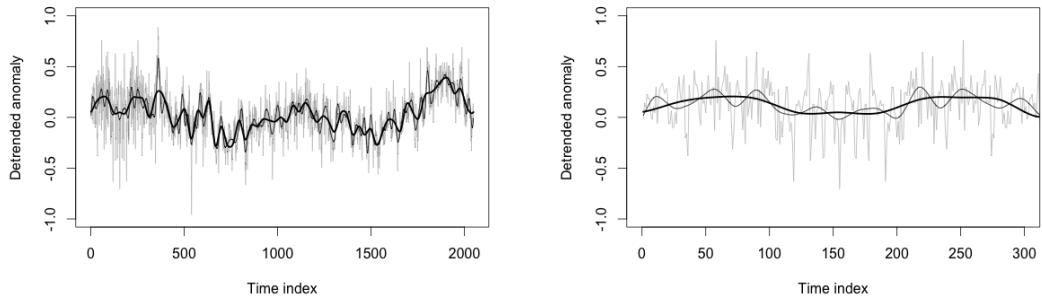
$N = 1000, V = 0.2, \check{J} = 5$ . The dashed lines are point-wise 95% confidence intervals for the power function. . . . . 56



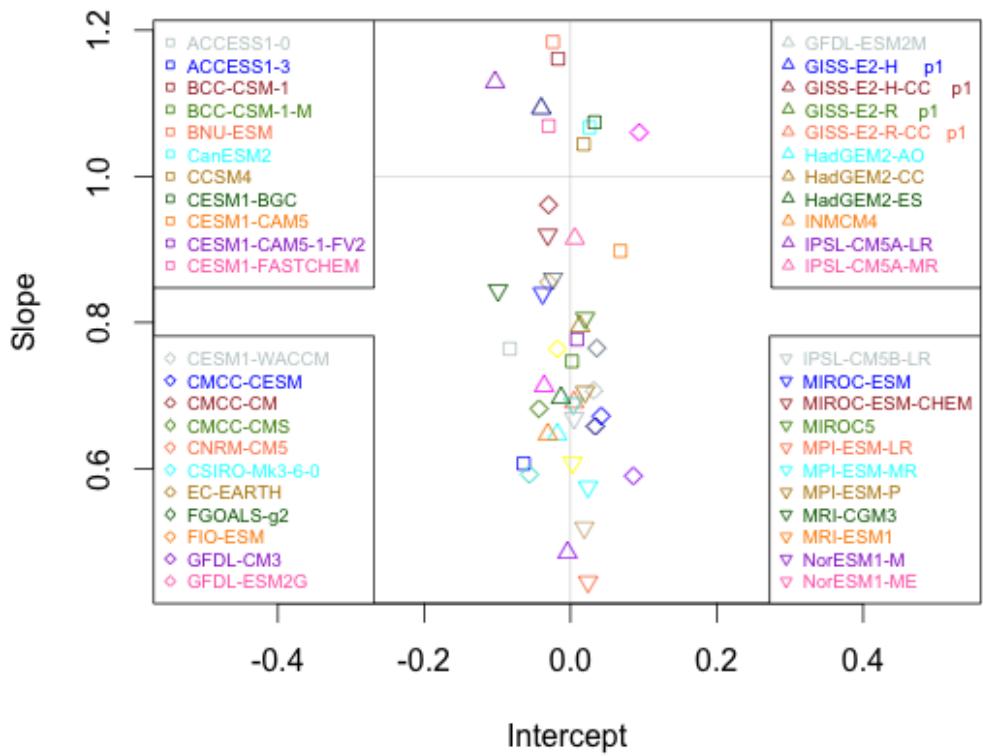
799 FIG. 1. Anomaly time sequence plots for 44 CMIP5 outputs of monthly global average near-surface air  
800 temperature anomalies (pastels), and the HadCRUT4 observational sequence (red), 1861–2005. The black line  
801 is a 12-month running mean computed from the HadCRUT4 (red line) data.



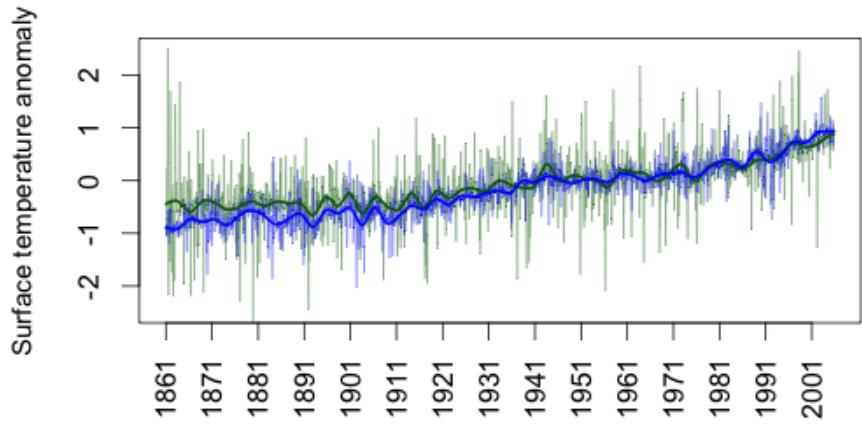
802 FIG. 2. Linearly detrended anomaly time sequence plots for 44 CMIP5 outputs of monthly global average  
803 near-surface air temperature anomalies (pastels), and the HadCRUT4 observational sequence (red), 1861–2005.  
804 The black line is a 12-month running mean computed from the HadCRUT4 (red line) detrended data.



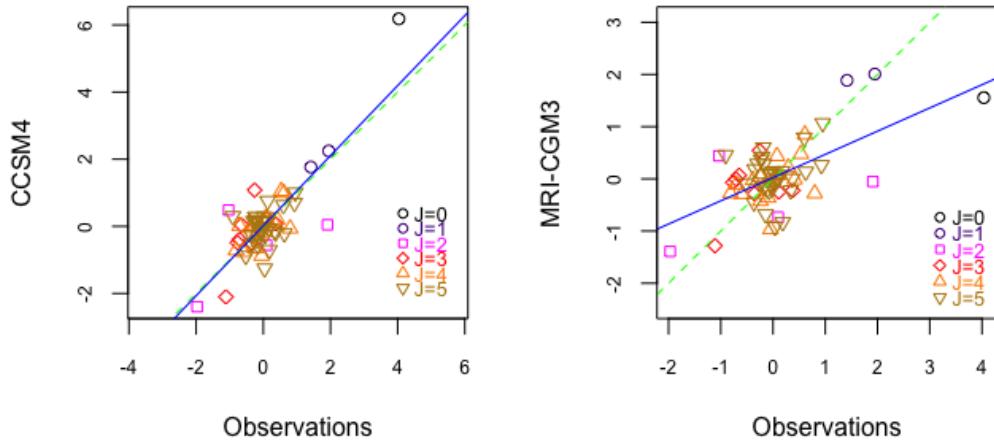
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806 constructed sequence using wavelet levels 1 through  $\check{J} = 6$  is shown by the thin black line. The reconstructed  
807 sequence using wavelet levels up to and including level  $\check{J} = 5$  is shown by the thick black line. Left panel: the  
808 entire sequence. Right panel: only the first 300 time points.



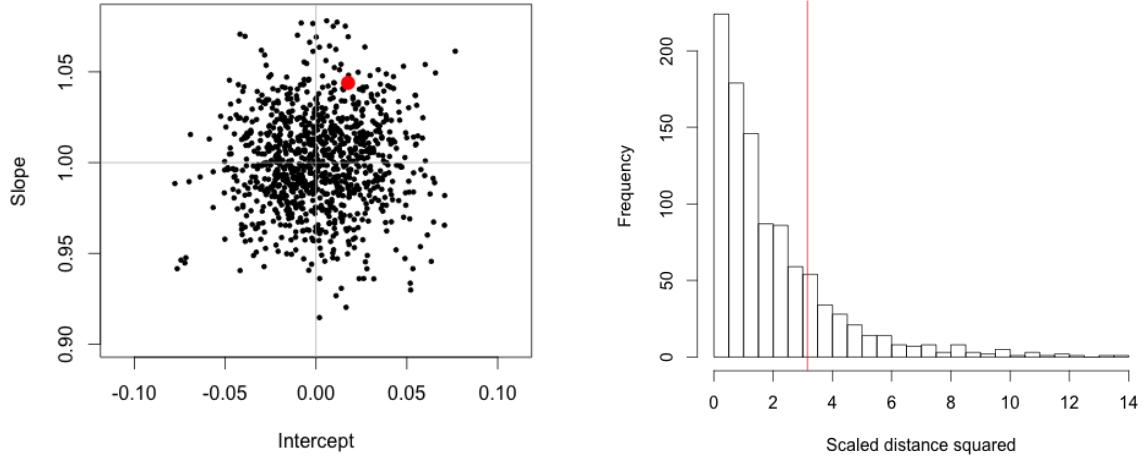
809 FIG. 4. Plot of  $\hat{\beta}_l$  versus  $\hat{\alpha}_l$ , for  $l = 1, \dots, 44$  CMIP5 models. Symbols and colors vary in order to differentiate  
 810 visually among models. The filled circle at plot coordinate (0,1) represents perfect agreement between model  
 811 output and observations.



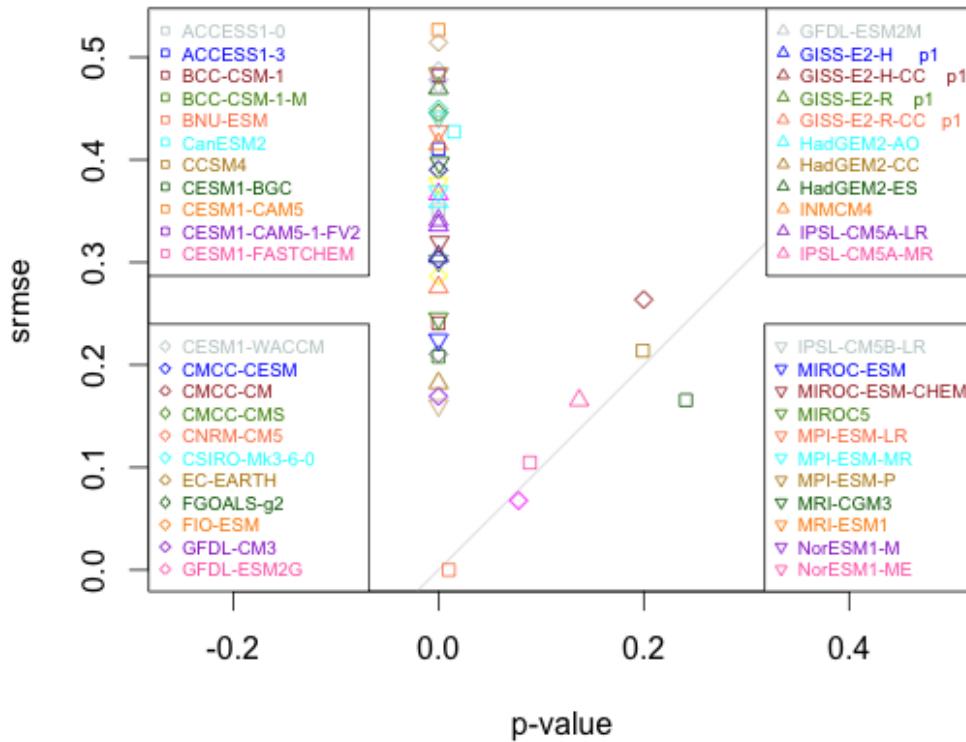
812 FIG. 5. Plots of one pair of resampled time sequences obtained from the CCSM4 model (blue) and the  
813 HadCRUT4 observations (green). Smoothed versions using wavelet decomposition levels up to and including  
814  $\check{J} = 5$  are shown by the thick blue and green lines.



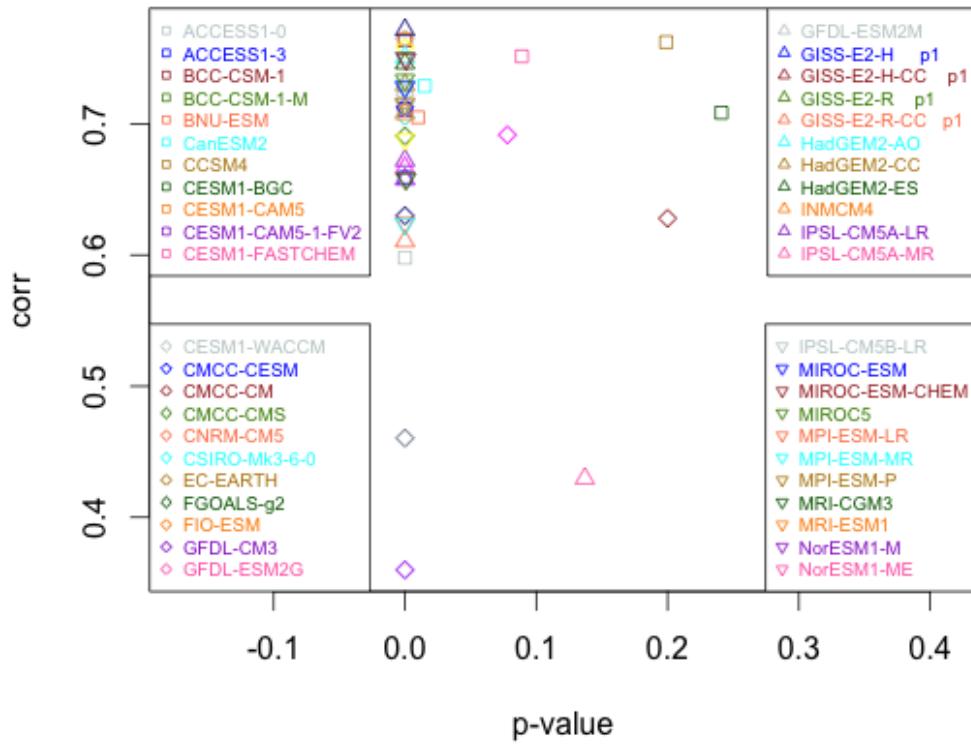
815 FIG. 6. Plots of climate-scale wavelet coefficients of two climate model-output time sequences on those of  
 816 the HadCRUT4 observational time sequence. The two models are CCSM4 (left panel) and MRI-CGM3 (right  
 817 panel). Each point in the plot is color- and symbol-coded to show the level of the wavelet decomposition to  
 818 which it belongs. The solid blue lines are the regression lines determined by the fit to the scatterplots, and the  
 819 dashed green lines are 45° lines.



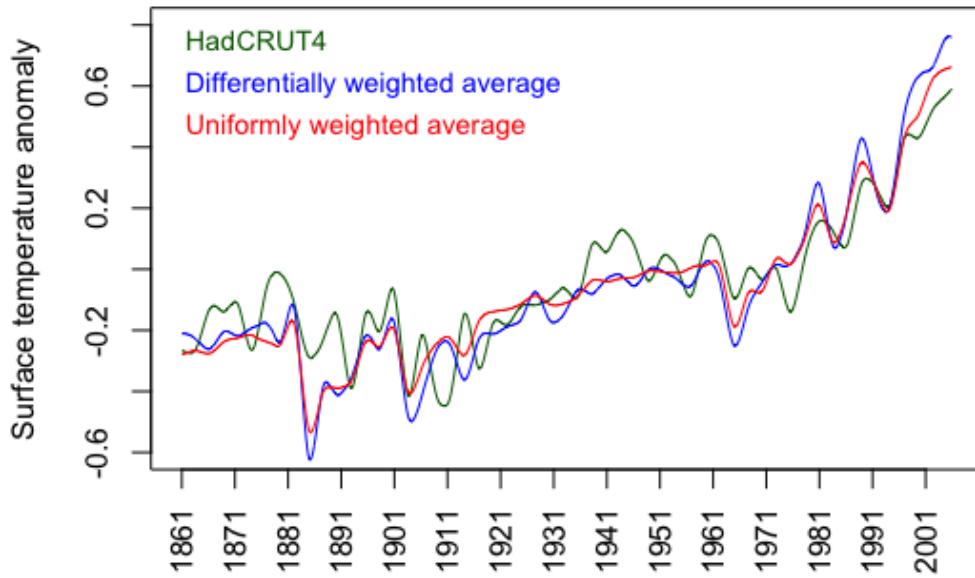
820 FIG. 7. Left: Scatterplot of  $\{(\hat{\alpha}_{bl}^*, \hat{\beta}_{bl}^*) : b = 1, \dots, 1000\}$  (black dots). The value of  $(\hat{\alpha}_l, \hat{\beta}_l)$  for the CCSM4  
 821 model is given by the large red dot. Right: Histogram of  $\{Q_{bl}^* : b = 1, \dots, 1000\}$  for  $l$  given by the CCSM4  
 822 model. The actual  $Q_l$  for the CCSM4 model is located at the red vertical line.



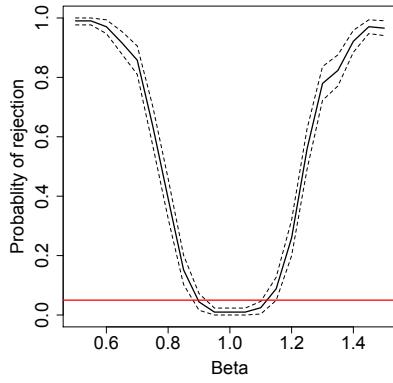
823 FIG. 8. Scatterplot of  $srmse_l$  versus  $p_l$ ; values are given in Table 3. The  $45^\circ$  line is shown in gray. Symbols  
 824 and colors vary in order to differentiate visually among models.



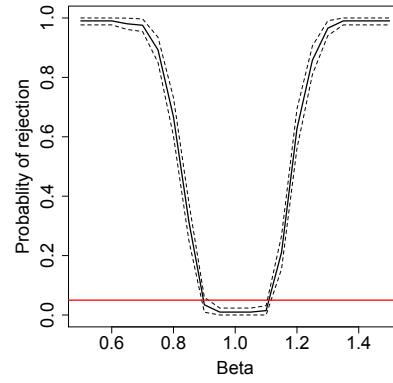
825 FIG. 9. Scatterplot of  $corr_l$  versus  $p_l$ ; values are given in Table 3. The  $o45^\circ$  line is shown in gray. Symbols  
 826 and colors vary in order to differentiate visually among models.



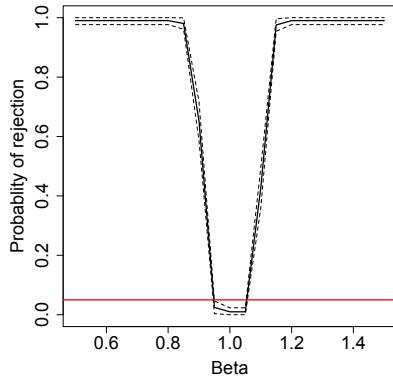
827 FIG. 10. Time sequences of HadCRUT4 observations (green), and the differentially and uniformly weighted  
 828 multi-model averages given by Eq. (44) (blue and red, respectively), reconstructed using wavelet decomposition  
 829 levels up to and including  $\tilde{J} = 5$ , and with trend added back in.



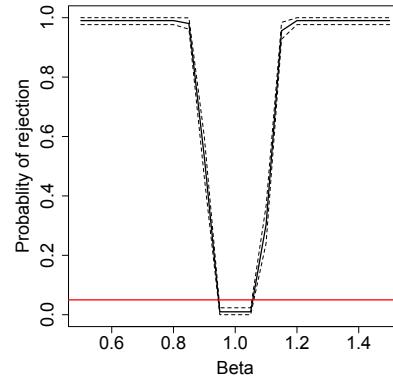
(a)



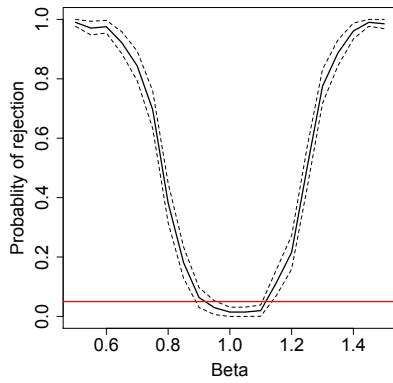
(b)



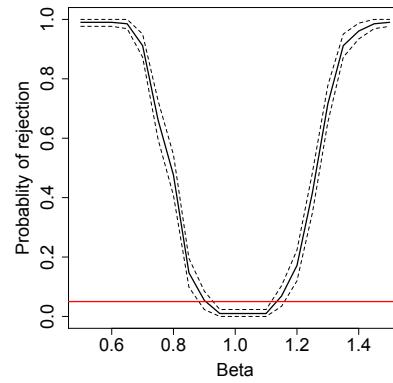
(c)



(d)



(e)



(f)

830 Fig. B1. Power curves from different simulation scenarios. Panel (a) shows the power curve corresponding  
831 to sample size  $N = 600$ , noise variance  $V = 0.01$ , and  $\check{J} = 3$  coarse wavelet levels. Panel (b) uses  $N = 1000$ ,  
832  $V = 0.01$ ,  $\check{J} = 3$ . Panel (c) uses  $N = 600$ ,  $V = 0.01$ ,  $\check{J} = 5$ . Panel (d) uses  $N = 1000$ ,  $V = 0.01$ ,  $\check{J} = 5$ . Panel (e)  
833 uses  $N = 600$ ,  $V = 0.2$ ,  $\check{J} = 5$ . Panel (f) uses  $N = 1000$ ,  $V = 0.2$ ,  $\check{J} = 5$ . The dashed lines are point-wise 95%  
834 confidence intervals for the power function.