



Science and
Technology
Facilities Council

Natural
Environment
Research Council



CLIMATE IMPACT EXPLORER

DIGITAL TWIN EARTH PRECURSOR

ESA Living Planet Symposium, 26 May 2022

Philip Kershaw
Centre for Environmental Data Analysis



ESA Digital Twin Earth Precursor: Climate Use Case

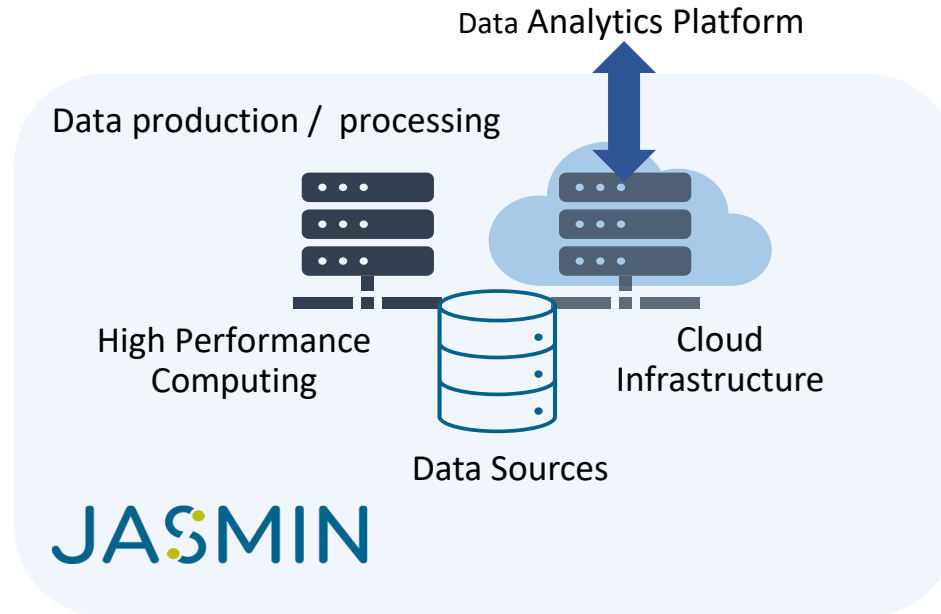
- Help decision makers to generate and visualise information relating to regionalised impacts of **climate change** in real-time
- Land surface and drought risk (utilising JULES model) as focus
- Rapid prototyping and explorative
- Aggressive time scales



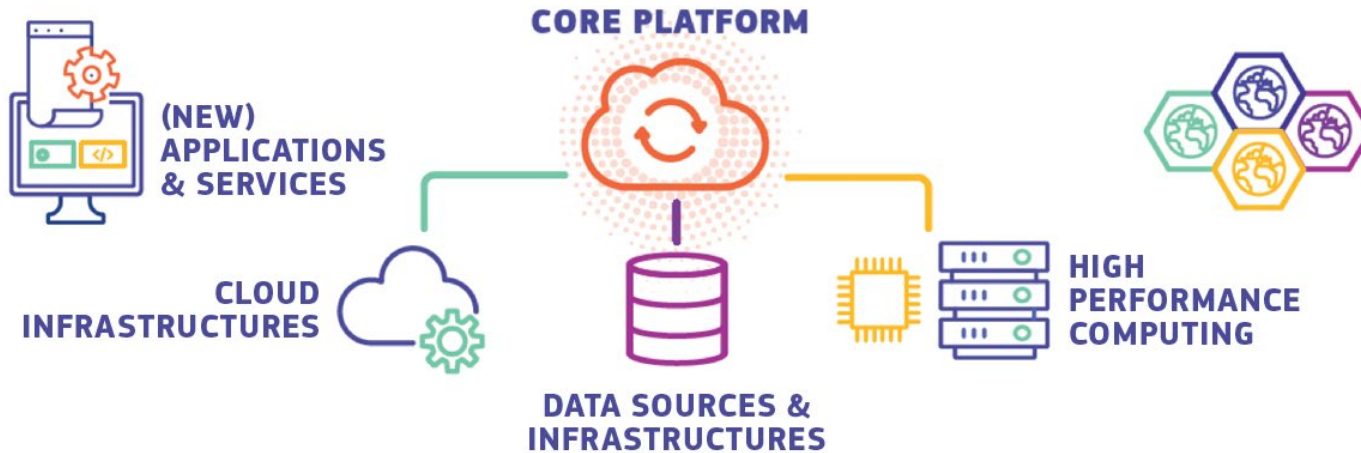
Summary – what did we achieve?

- Challenge: complex modelling required and access to specialised High-Performance Computing
- Applied machine learning to develop an emulator
 - suitable for deployment on a commodity cloud computing environment
 - accessible on-demand when required by end-users
- The above made possible through key elements provided by underlying JASMIN infrastructure

JASMIN – a platform with the essential elements to build a Digital Twin Earth Precursor

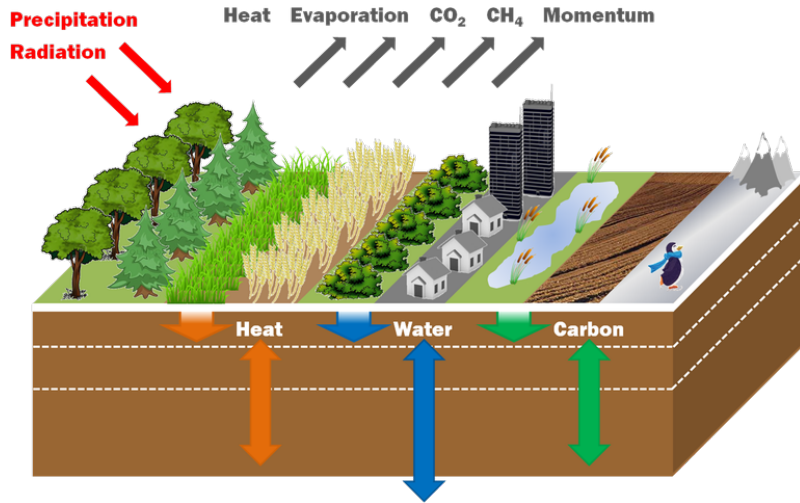


DestinE and Blueprint Architecture



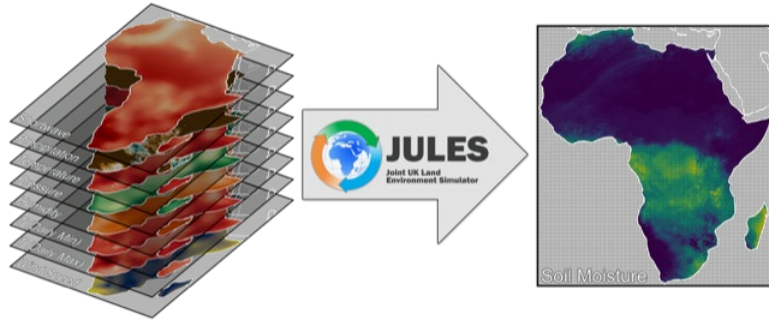
<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/destination-earth>

Climate Explorer focus on land surface modelling use case



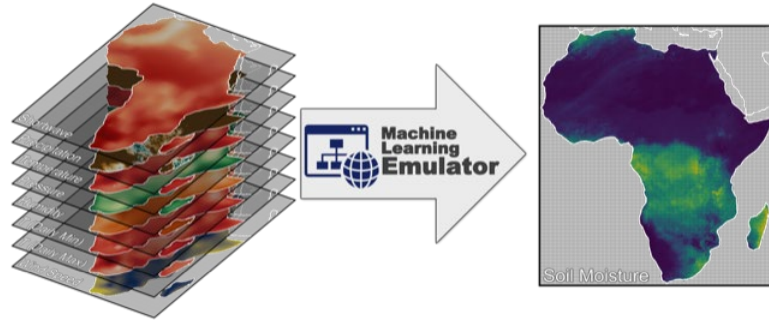
- Using JULES (Joint UK Land Environment Simulator)
 - the land surface component in the Met Office Unified Model
- Improvements with LAVENDAR data assimilation system (Reading University)
 - Feed in satellite observations – SIF and SMAP data

What could be the future impact of climate change on the soil moisture?



JULES driven with climate projections from ISIMIP data
(Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project)

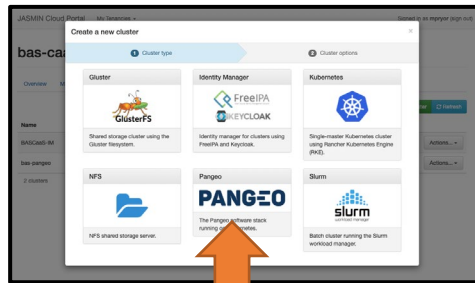
Make a surrogate AI model to JULES



- Experimented with different Machine Learning (ML) techniques
- Goal: a general-purpose algorithm -
 - time series of daily weather data → time series of soil moisture data
- Successfully applied XGBoost (eXtreme Gradient Boosting) algorithm.
- Trained on up to 1000 grid cells, representative of the various biomes in continental Africa
- Demonstrated to accurately emulate JULES output at other locations in Africa
- The credibility of the model is enhanced by its transparency and explainability

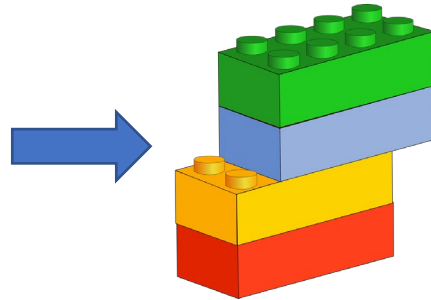
JASMIN Cluster-as-a-Service to build data analysis environments from pre-configured building blocks

1) Cloud Portal – Cluster-as-a-Service



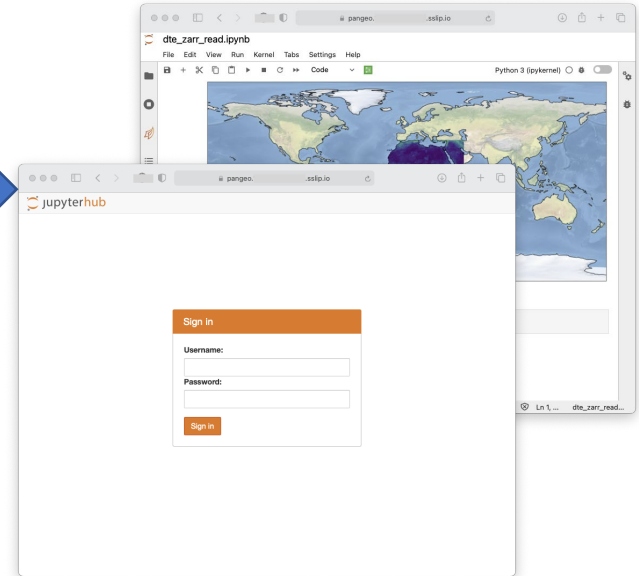
JASMIN

2) Select required building blocks and deploy

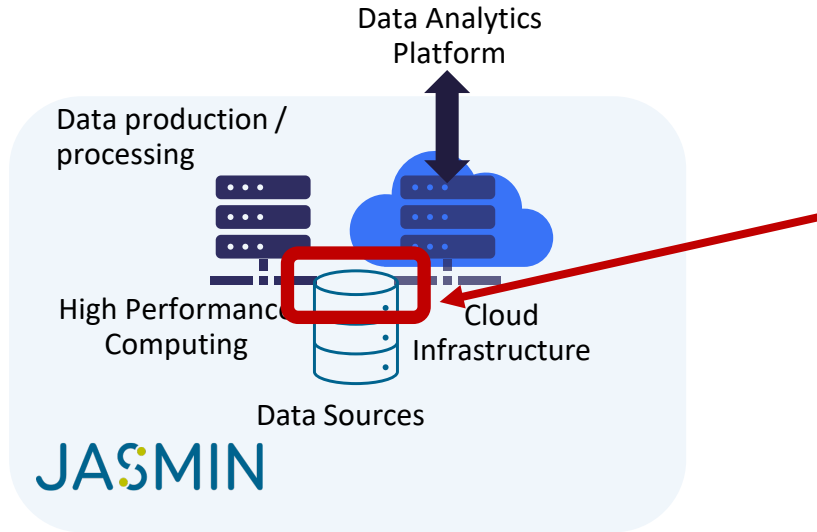


<https://www.goodfreepotos.com/>

3) Use deployed components

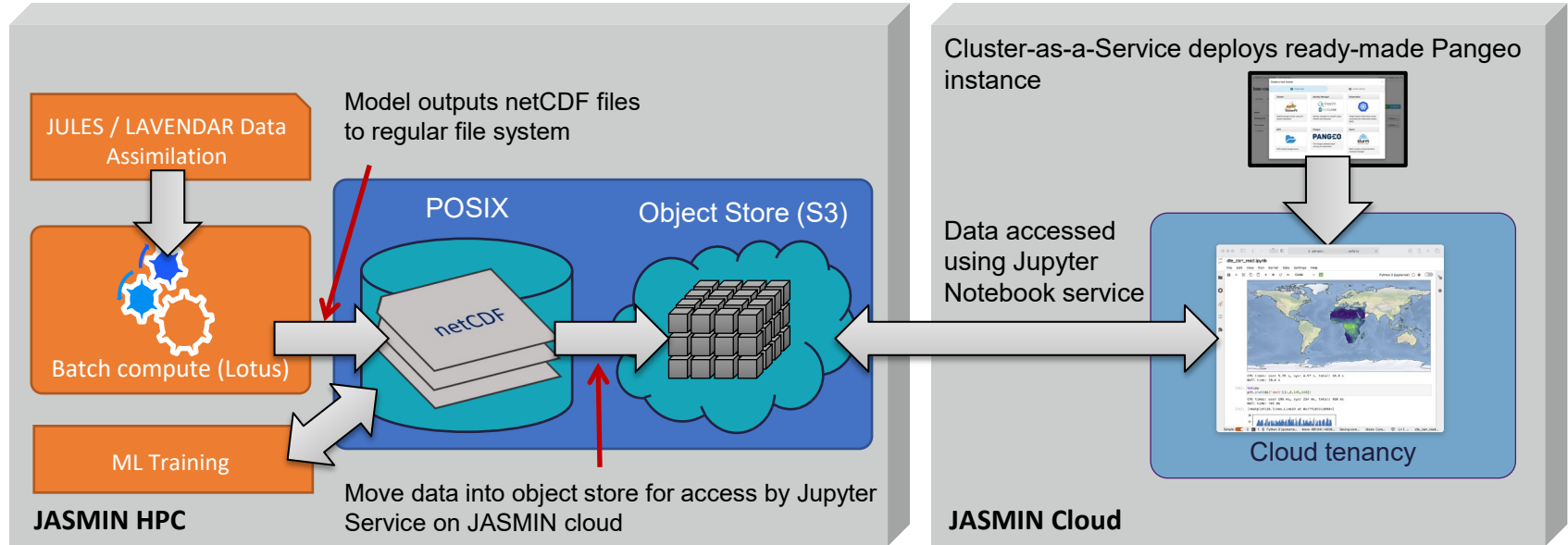


HPC and Cloud data access mismatch

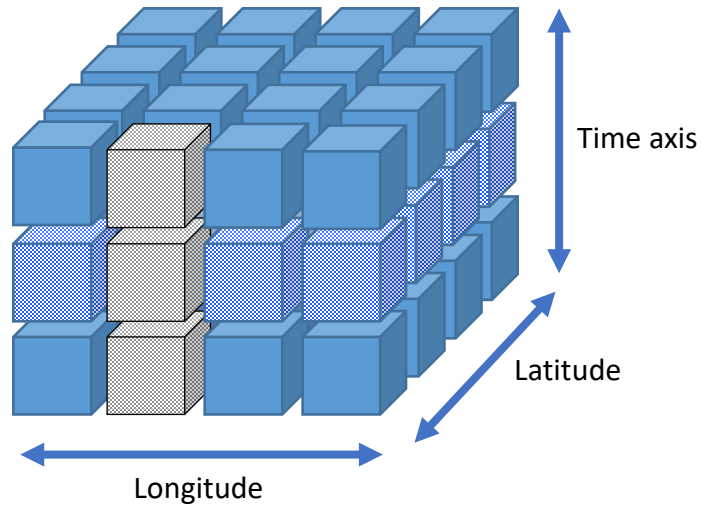


- HPC – POSIX file systems
- Cloud – object store
- Access and format translation needed to map from one to another

Bringing together HPC and Cloud-Friendly Storage

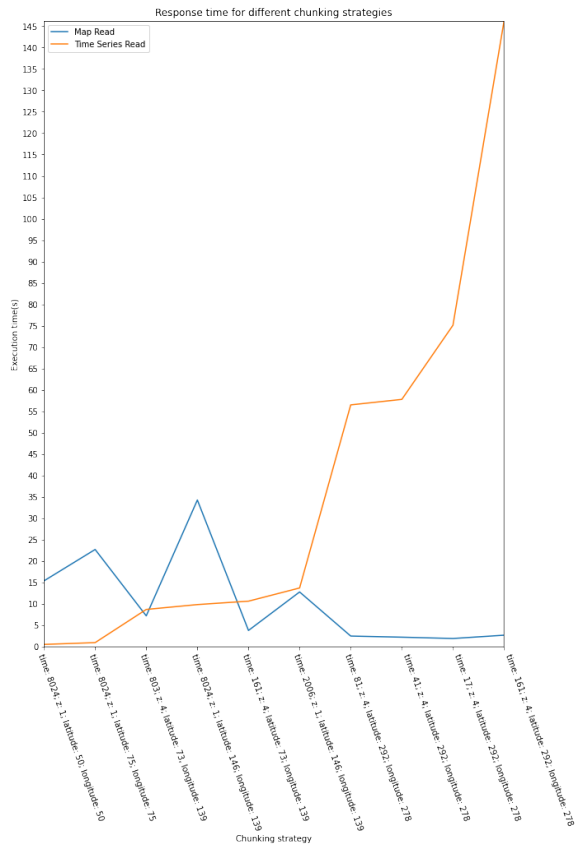


Arrangement of data and efficient access



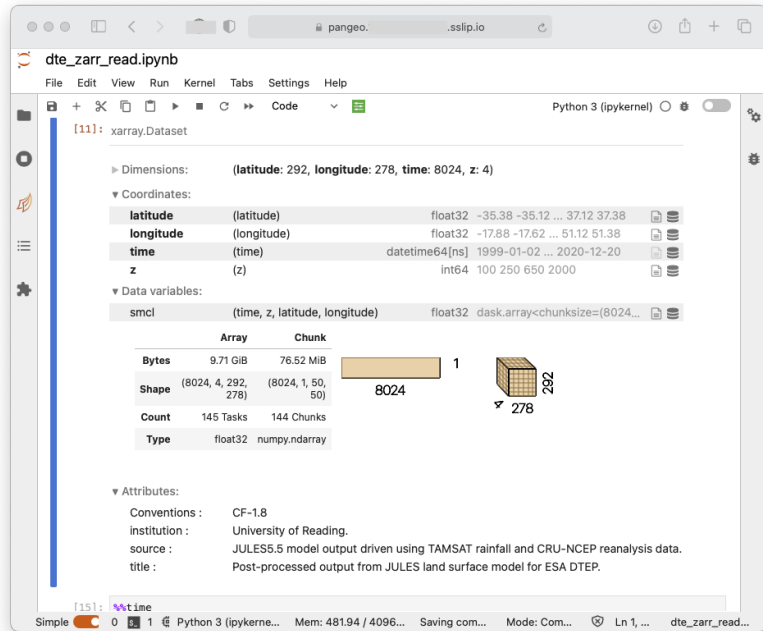
- Data output from models as netCDF format
- Data in files arranged in spatial dimensions one per time step
- But predominate access pattern for analysis of climate data in the project is time series query (grey blocks)

Object Store: Different storage strategies showed radically different performance



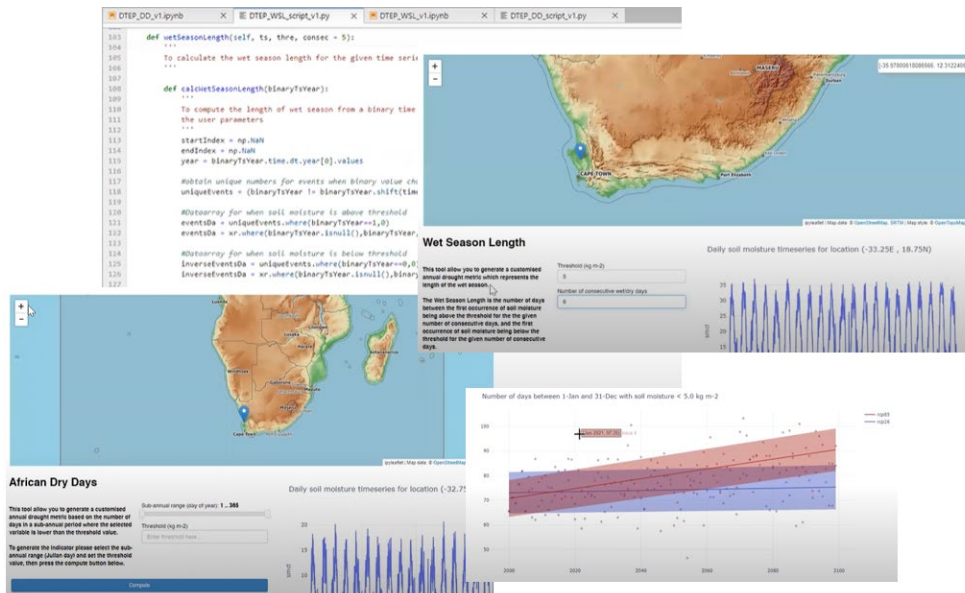
- We experimented with different storage chunking arrangements
- 20-year dataset of soil moisture

Using Object Store for re-arrangement of data to suite our access patterns

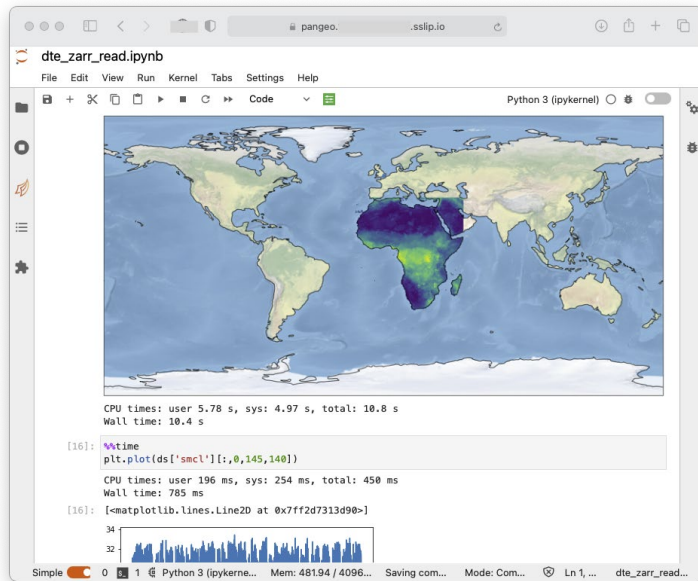


- Using zarr and xarray Python libraries to store and access the data
- Chunked data into a series of strips along the time axis

Rechunking of data made possible interactive maps with long time series



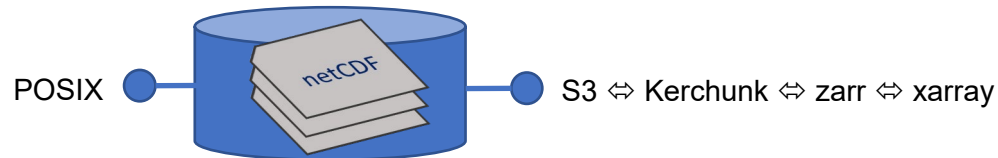
Use of object store for analysis-ready cache specific to project needs



- Object store efficient for access on JASMIN Cloud
- Essential to orient data storage to suit predominant access patterns

Summary

- Emulator: suitable for commodity cloud instead of HPC needed for JULES
- JASMIN: provided HPC, Cloud and storage (object store + POSIX) essential high-level infrastructure constituents needed for the demonstrator
- Cluster-as-a-Service: Rapid prototyping environment possible from day one
- Analysis-ready caches of data on object store
 - Pattern emerging where we make copies of data on the fly arranged to support specific analysis use cases
 - Future: storage for simultaneous POSIX and S3 Interfaces – experiment with *Kerchunk*



Further Information

- Climate Explorer web-site: <https://climate-impact-explorer.org>
- JULES: <https://jules.jchmr.org>
- JASMIN: <https://jasmin.ac.uk>