Green Energy and Technology

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Green Equilibrium

Deciphering Earth's Ecosystems for Sustainable Tomorrow

Springer

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ISSN 1865-3529 ISSN 1865-3537 (electronic)
Green Energy and Technology
ISBN 978-981-96-3992-2 ISBN 978-981-96-3993-9 (eBook)
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-96-3993-9

This Springer imprint is published by the registered company Springer Nature Singapore Pte Ltd.
The registered company address is: 152 Beach Road, #21-01/04 Gateway East, Singapore 189721, Singapore

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Innovations and Advancement in Climate Science: Mechanistic Approaches and Computational Modelling

Ambrina Sardar Khan and Prateek Srivastava

1 Introduction to Meteorological Science

Climate is a multifaceted dynamic system that requires collaboration across various disciplines and methodologies for comprehensive understanding. It exhibits variability across all spatial and temporal scales, ranging from interannual fluctuations to changes over geological timescales and from localized differences in small mountain valleys to broader continental variations.

As in all scientific fields, climate studies rely heavily on observations and data. Today, we benefit from an unprecedented abundance of high-resolution and accurate data collected through satellites and extensive ground station networks. However, the vastness of these datasets poses significant challenges related to storage and efficient access, making it crucial to provide this information to scientists, policymakers, and the public.

To tackle these challenges, international initiatives such as the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEO/GEOSS), coordinated by the Group on Earth Observations, which includes over 90 governments and numerous international organizations, are working to ensure that data are accessible to all interested parties.

Nevertheless, the data alone are insufficient. It must be analyzed and interpreted to form the basis for conceptual understanding and theory development. Along with observational efforts, climate science has established a theoretical framework aimed at creating a coherent and rational understanding of how climate functions.

In scientific inquiry, a coherent understanding of the climate is often conveyed through mathematical equations. However, this approach presents several challenges.

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J. Gupta and A. Verma (eds.), *Green Equilibrium*, Green Energy and Technology,
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-96-3993-9_13

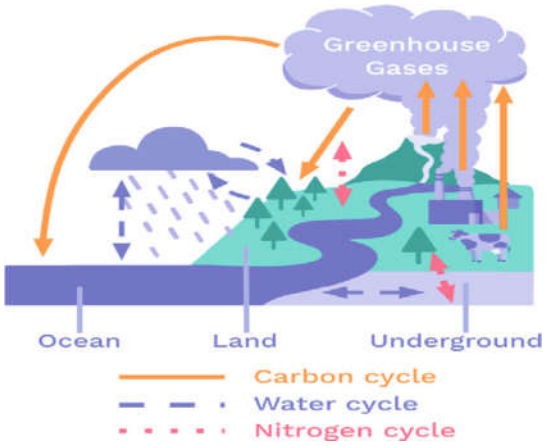

Fig. 1 Climate system. *Source* [3]

While some aspects of the climate system can be articulated through fundamental laws of physics, chemistry, and fluid mechanics, such as the dynamics of the atmosphere and oceans or radiative processes, other critical components, such as forests and vegetation, must be described using empirical laws. We lack specific equations for these ecosystems; however, their role in climate processes is essential.

2 How Do Climate Transitions Occur in This Region?

The climate system is an intricate network comprising the atmosphere, oceans, ice, land, and all living organisms. These components are interconnected, and any changes to one component can affect others, resulting in climatic shifts. For example, water that forms clouds in the sky and rain on land may evaporate from the ocean. Volcanic eruptions and human-caused CO_2 emissions can alter the climate systems. These are termed "forcings." (Fig. 1).

3 How Can Future Changes in Climate Systems Be Projected?

Climate models are mathematical simulations that represent the dynamics of a climate system. Models assist in working on complicated issues and understanding intricate systems. They also enabled us to test the hypotheses and solutions.