



**EARTH &
ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCES**



Surrogate modeling for E3SM wildfire activity with deep neural network

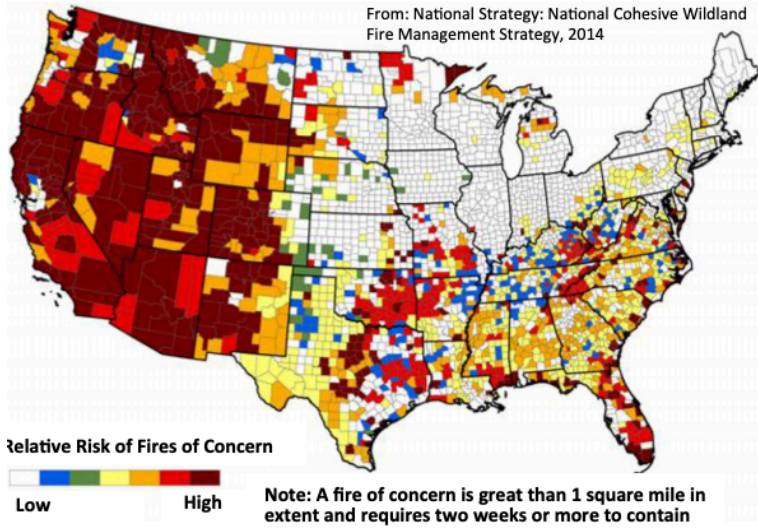
Qing Zhu, William J. Riley

Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, Climate Sciences Department, Climate & Ecosystem Sciences Division

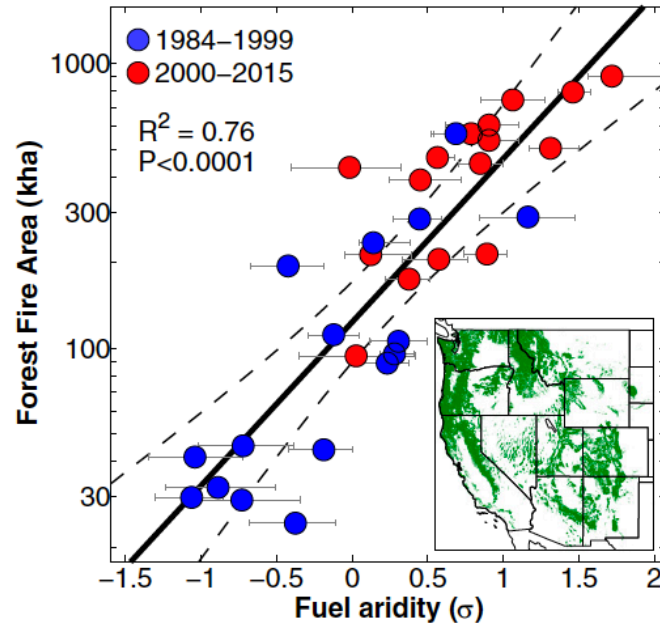
Li Xu, James T. Randerson

University of California Irvine, Earth System Science, Irvine, CA, United States

From: National Strategy: National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, 2014

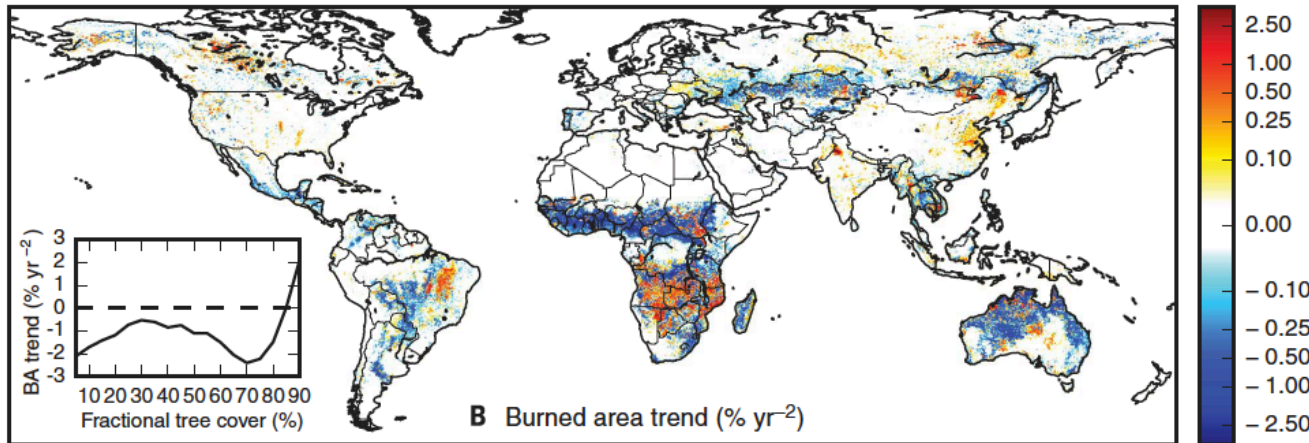


NOAA



Drier climate
Higher fire risk

Abatzoglou 2016

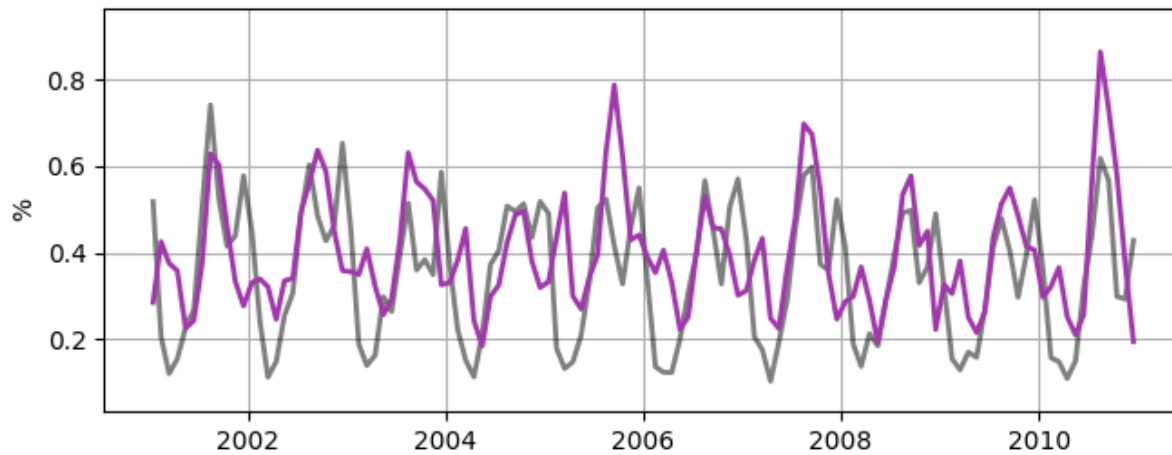


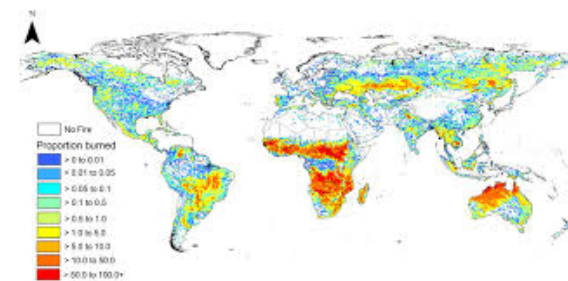
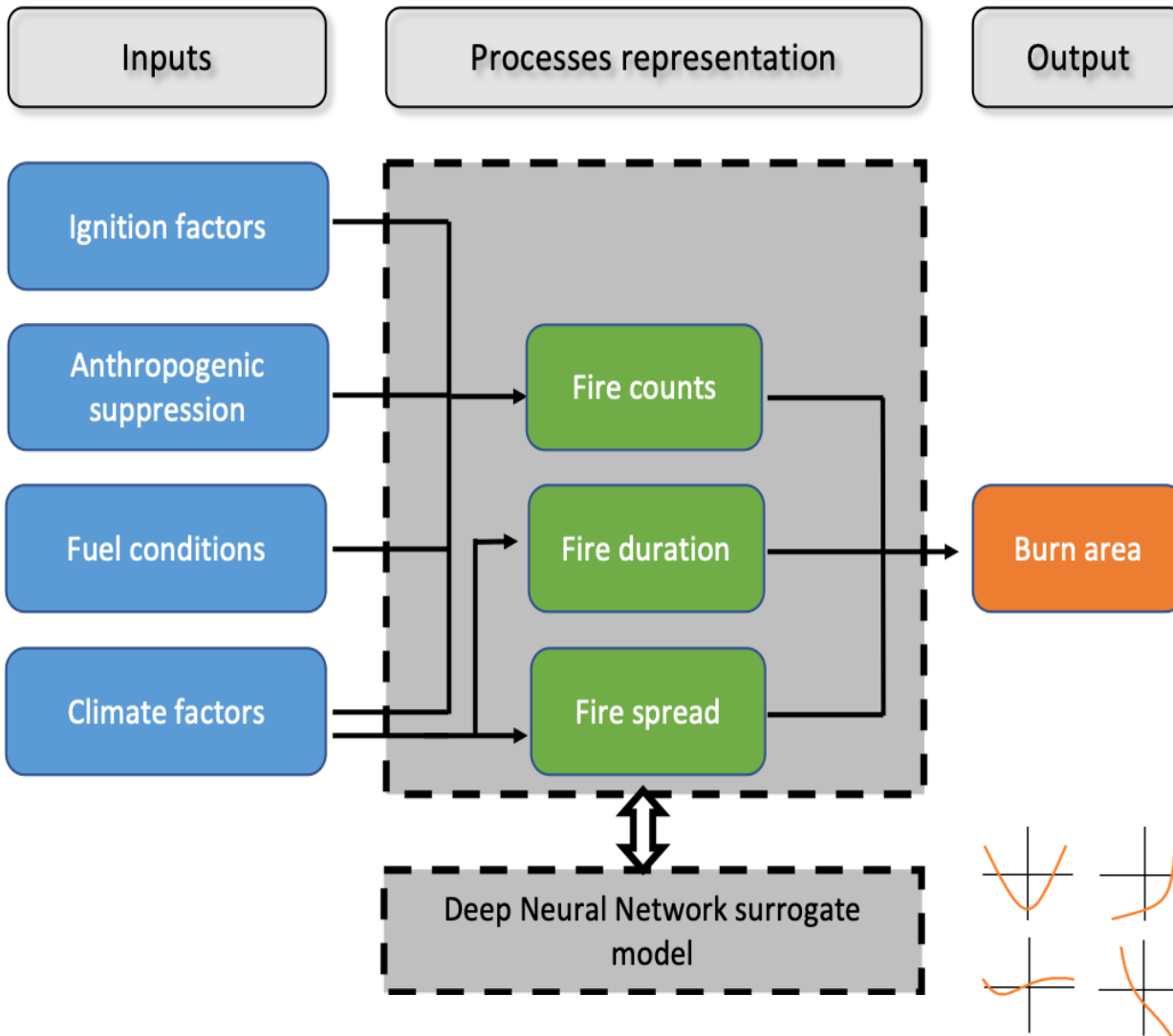
Denser population
Lower burn area

Andela 2017

Science Questions

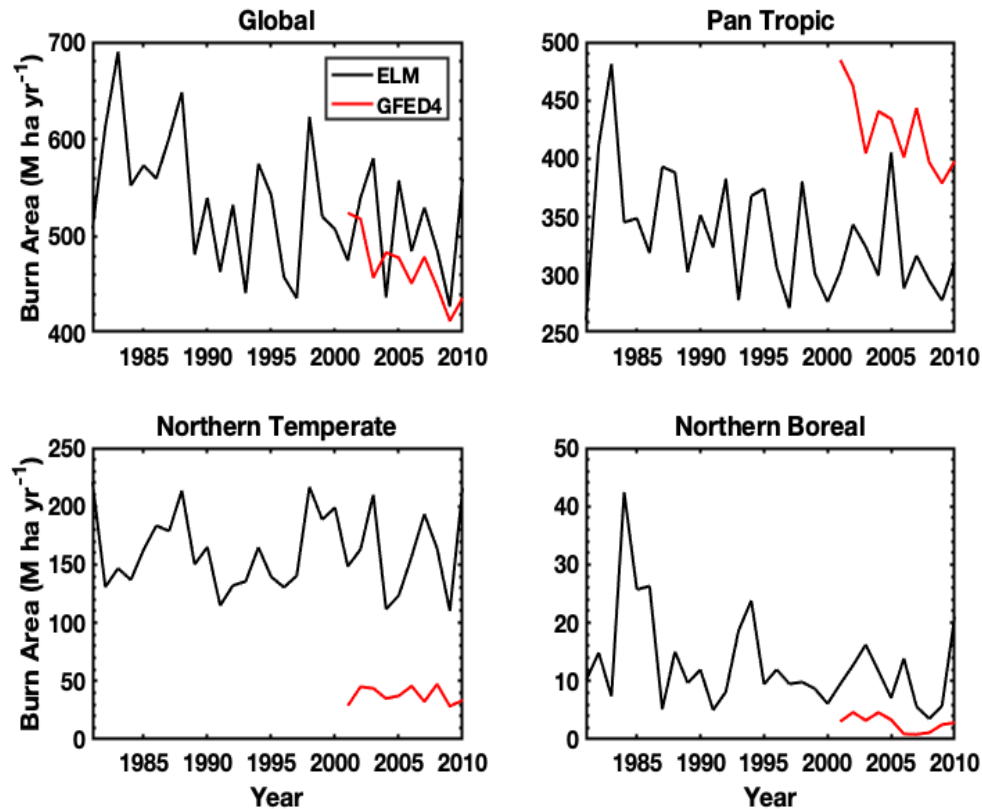
- How accurate is the current E3SM fire model in simulating burn area?
- How could machine learning help improve fire model?





Development of a Machine Learning Fire Model in E3SM

1



- ~ 500 Mha yr⁻¹ burn area
- Declining trend of burn area
- Underestimate tropical fire burn area
- Overestimate temperate and boreal fire burn area

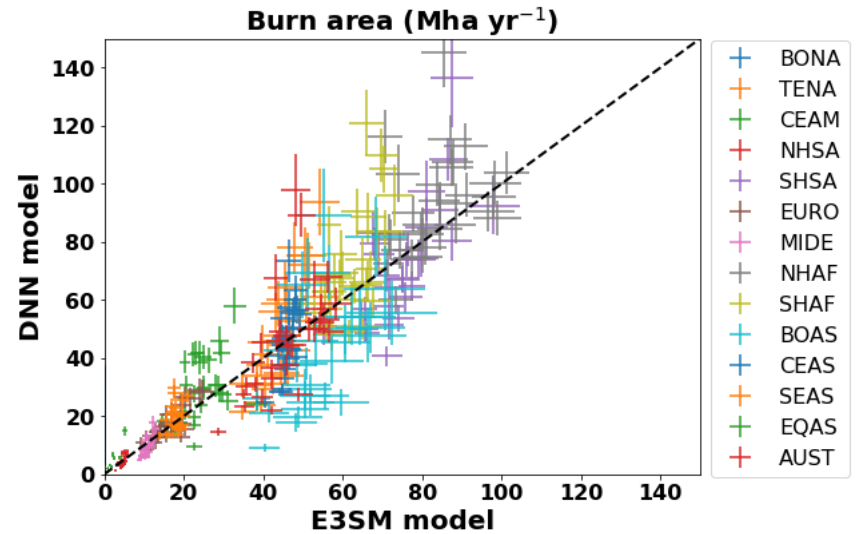
Development of a Machine Learning Fire Model in E3SM

2

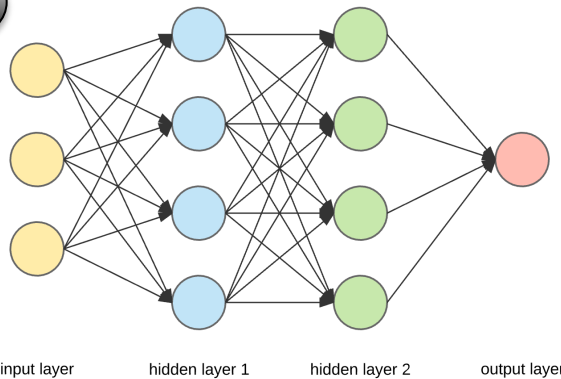


- | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|------|----------------------------|
| BONA | Boreal North America | NHAf | Northern Hemisphere Africa |
| TENA | Temperate North America | SHAF | Southern Hemisphere Africa |
| CEAM | Central America | BOAS | Boreal Asia |
| NHSA | Northern Hemisphere South America | CEAS | Central Asia |
| SHSA | Southern Hemisphere South America | SEAS | Southeast Asia |
| EURO | Europe | EQAS | Equatorial Asia |
| MIDE | Middle East | AUST | Australia and New Zealand |

4



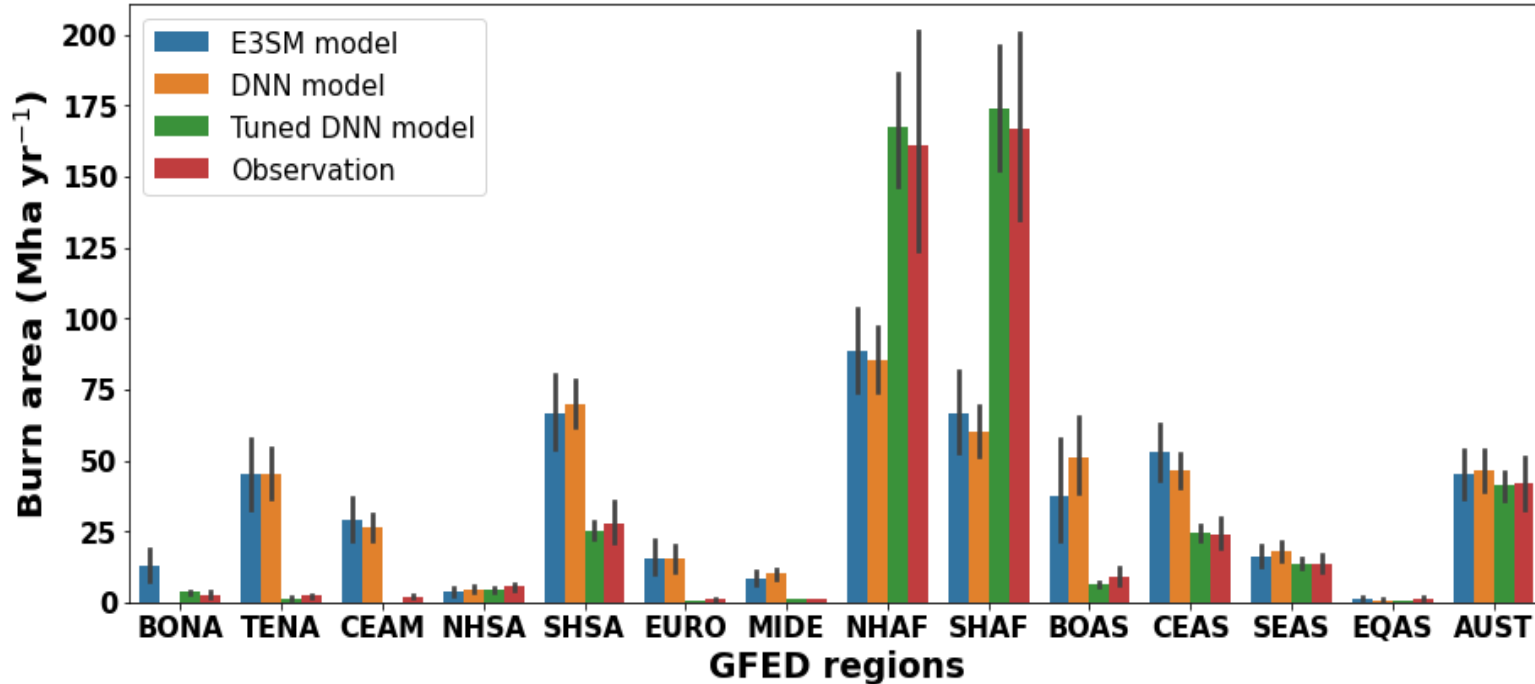
3



Pearson correlation $\rho = 0.91$
 Coefficient of determination $R^2 = 0.79$
 MAE: 8 Mha yr⁻¹ averaged over 14 GFED regions

Development of a Machine Learning Fire Model in E3SM

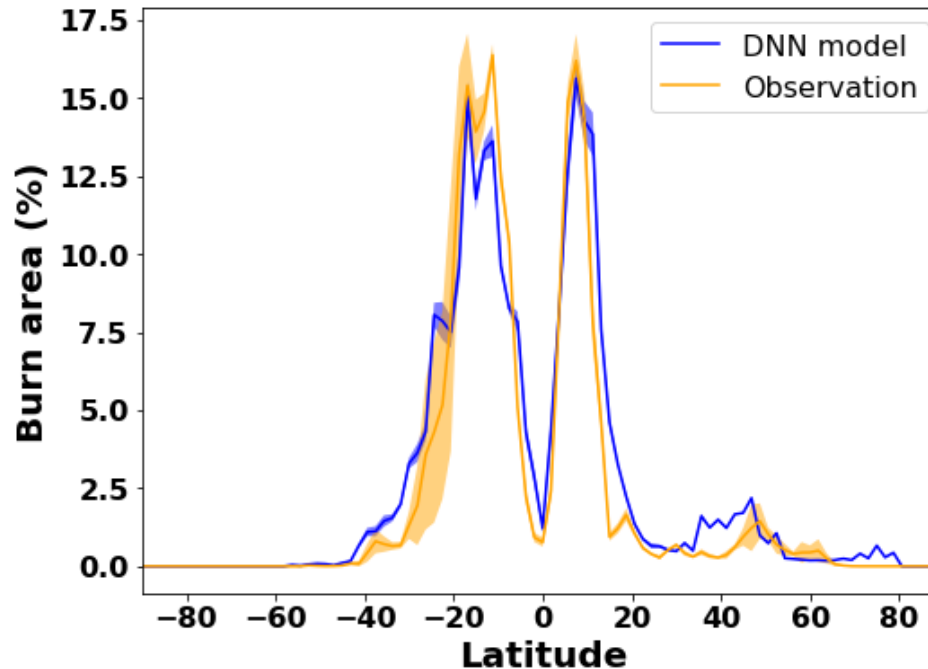
5



- Fine tune surrogate model with GFED burn area observations 2001-2010
- MAE reduction ~ 90%
- Parameterization time ~ minutes (compared with traditional parameterization ~ days-months)

Development of a Machine Learning Fire Model in E3SM

6



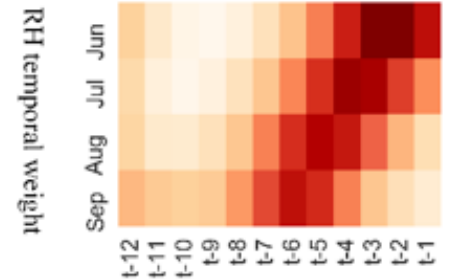
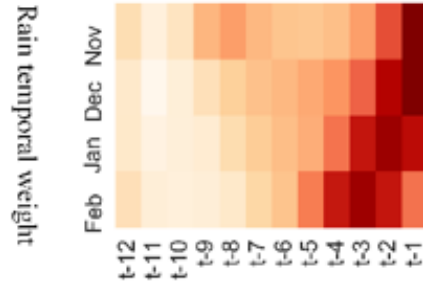
- Prognostic simulation of surrogate model during 2011-2015
- Latitudinal distribution of modelled and observed burn area
- Two peaks correspond to Southern Hemisphere Africa, and Northern Hemisphere Africa

summary

- The DNN model reproduced the original E3SM wildfire behavior with high accuracy.
- The fine-tuned DNN wildfire model was significantly improved over the 14 GFED regions.
- Fine tune cost 99% less computational time, achieved 90% higher accuracy
- The improved DNN also generalized well that it prognostically simulated 2011-2015 global burn area
- DNN model could serve as an alternative wildfire model coupled in E3SM (fast, accurate, flexible)

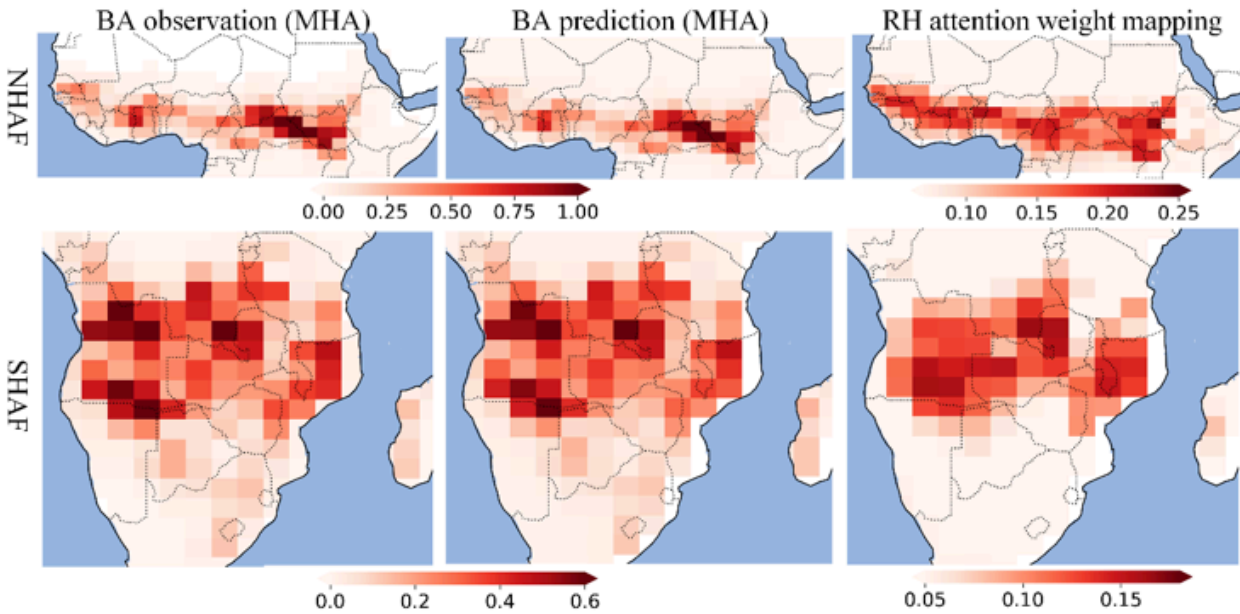
Ongoing & Future work

Spatial-temporal **attention** capability



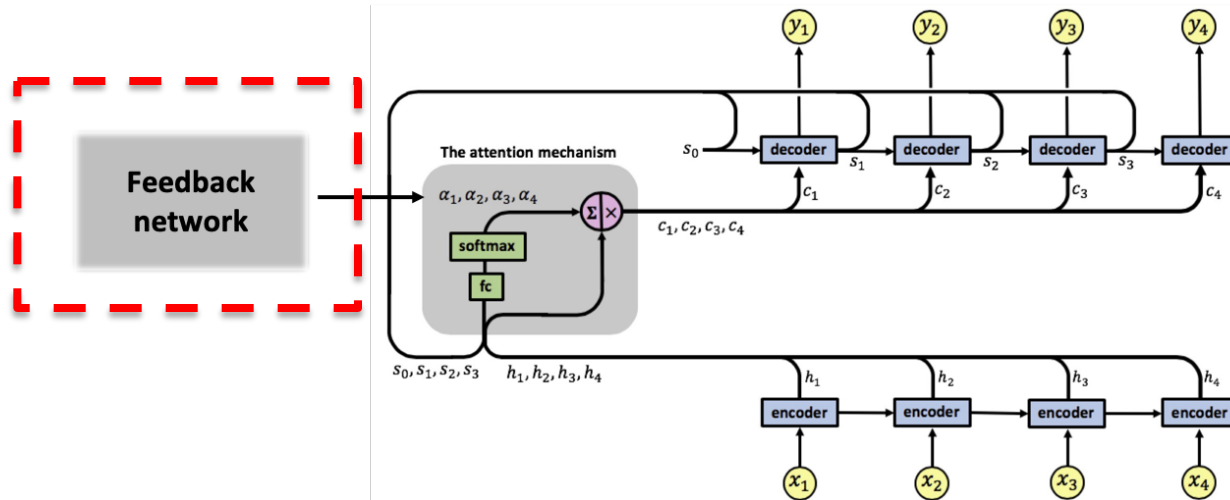
NHAIF

SHAF



Ongoing & Future work

Physically constrained neural network



$$Loss = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^N (y_t^o - y_t)^2 + \lambda \sum_{t=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^M TE \alpha^i \log \frac{TE \alpha^i}{\alpha_t^i}$$

Thanks!