

**The Community Earth System Model: Evaluation and CMIP5 simulations. Activities of the Climate Variability Working Group**

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We describe the contributions of the Community Earth System Model Climate Variability Working Group to evaluation of CMIP5 simulations. Work will be highlighted on evaluations of the atmospheric general circulation, the ENSO phenomenon, and Pacific decadal variability, in a 1300-year pre-industrial control simulation of Community Climate System Model Version 4.