



Supplement of

Complexity in biogeochemical models: consequences for the biological carbon pump

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Introduction

This supplementary section provides additional details and supporting analyses related to the main manuscript. It includes the following:

- S1** - Regional Carbon Cycle Assessment and Processes (RECCAP2) biomes
- S2** - Different remote-sensing NPP algorithms
- S3** - Different remote-sensing export production algorithms
- S4** - Export production equations and references
- S5** - Ensemble mean NPP and C_{exp} of PISCES and remote-sensing
- S6** - N and P inventories
- S7** - Phytoplankton biomass percentage contribution in Quota-based configurations
- S8** - Zooplankton dynamics
- S9** - Skill assessment of PISCES configurations versus ensemble mean of remote-sensing NPP and C_{exp} .

References

S1 Regional Carbon Cycle Assessment and Processes (RECCAP2) biomes

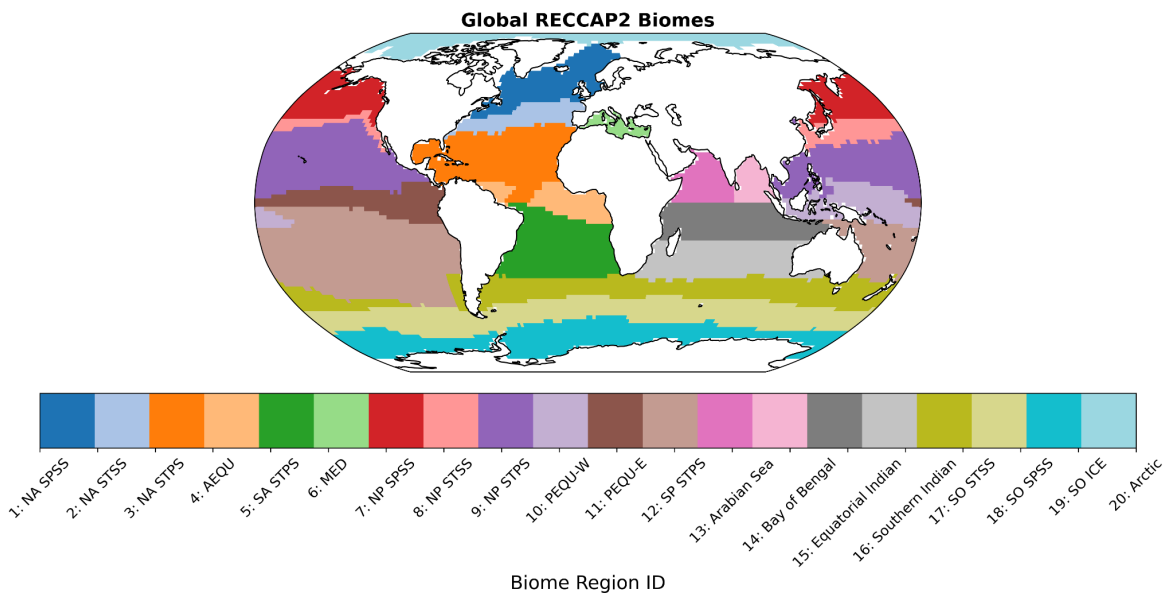


Figure S1: RECCAP2 biomes, based on Fay and McKinley (2014)

S2 Different remote-sensing NPP algorithms

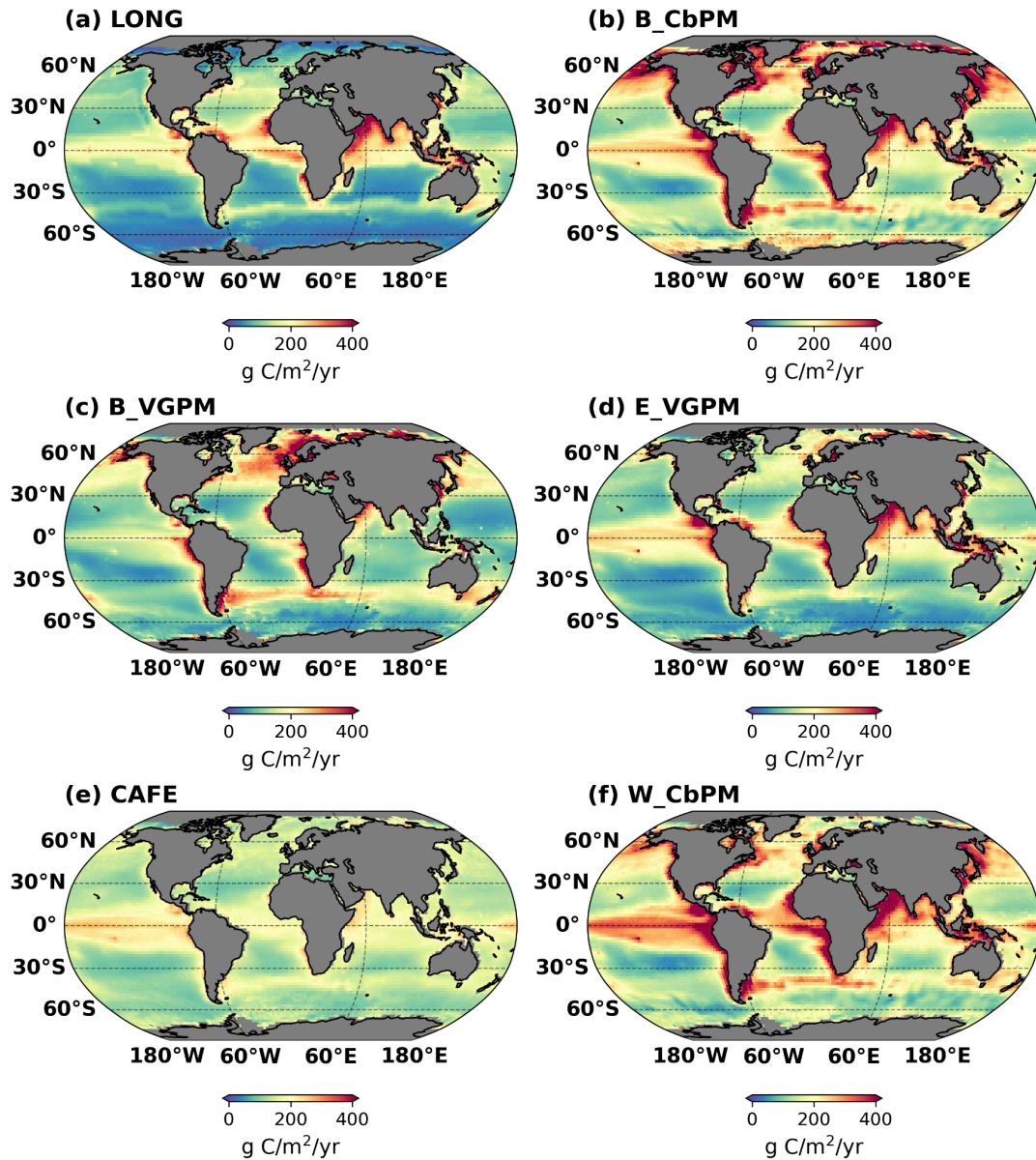


Figure S2: Mean (1998-2005) of different NPP algorithms.

S3 Different remote-sensing export production algorithms

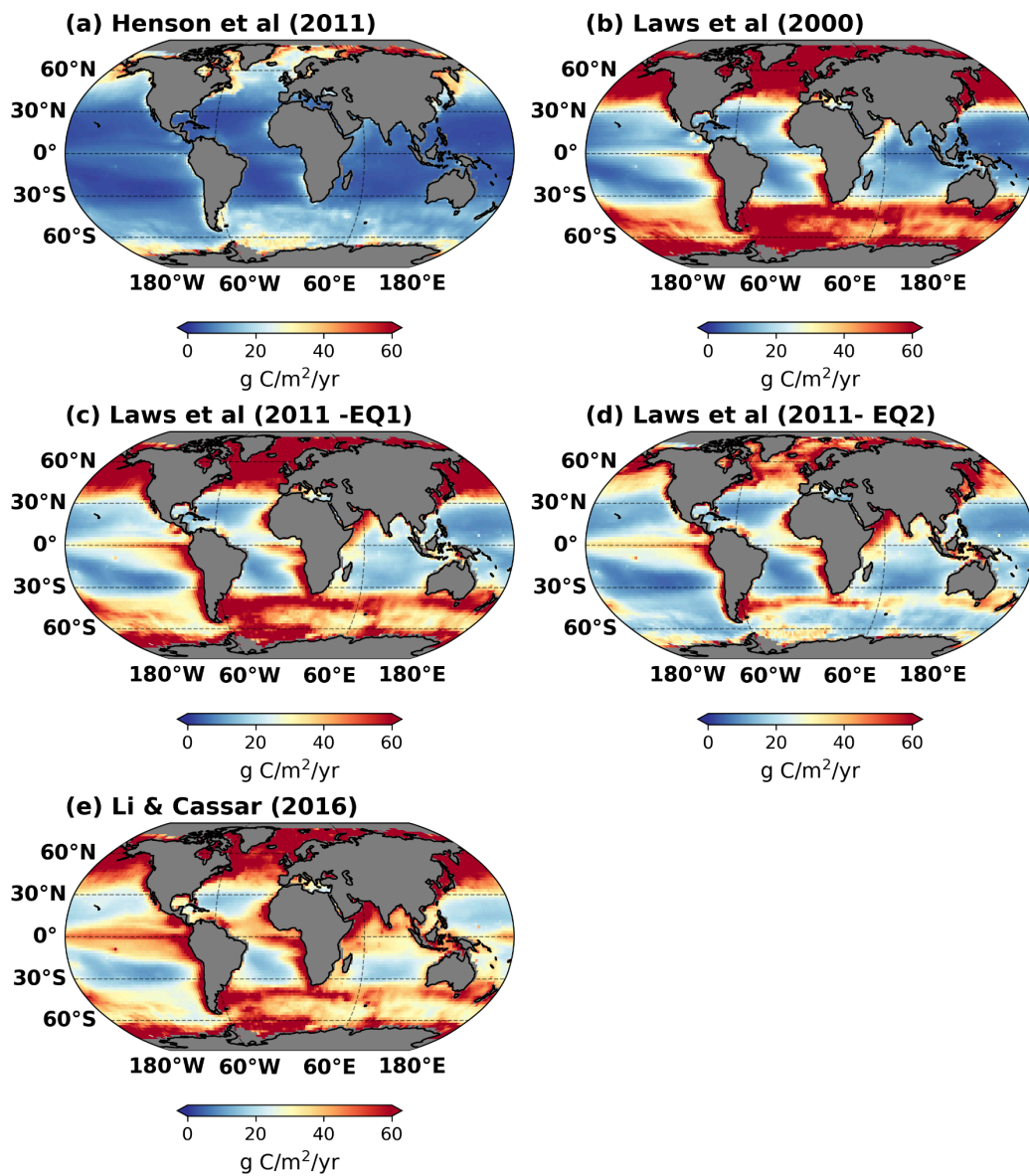


Figure S3: Mean (1998-2005) of different export production algorithms

S4 Export production equations and references

Table S1: Summary of equations used to compute export production (EP). Both NPP and EP are expressed in units of $\text{mg C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ and sea surface temperature (SST) in $^{\circ}\text{C}$. The equations are written as they are shown in Jönsson et al. (2023).

Reference	Equation
Laws et al. (2000)	$EP = NPP \cdot (0.62 - 0.02 SST)$
Henson et al. (2011)	$EP = NPP \cdot 0.23e^{-0.08 SST}$
Laws et al. (2011) - Eq. (1)	$EP = NPP \cdot \frac{(0.5857 - 0.0165 SST) \cdot NPP}{51.7 + NPP}$
Laws et al. (2011) - Eq. (2)	$EP = NPP \cdot 0.04756(0.78 - \frac{0.43 SST}{30}) \cdot NPP^{0.307}$
Li and Cassar (2016)	$EP = \frac{8.57 \cdot NPP}{17.9 + SST}$

S5 Ensemble mean NPP and C_{exp} of PISCES and remote-sensing

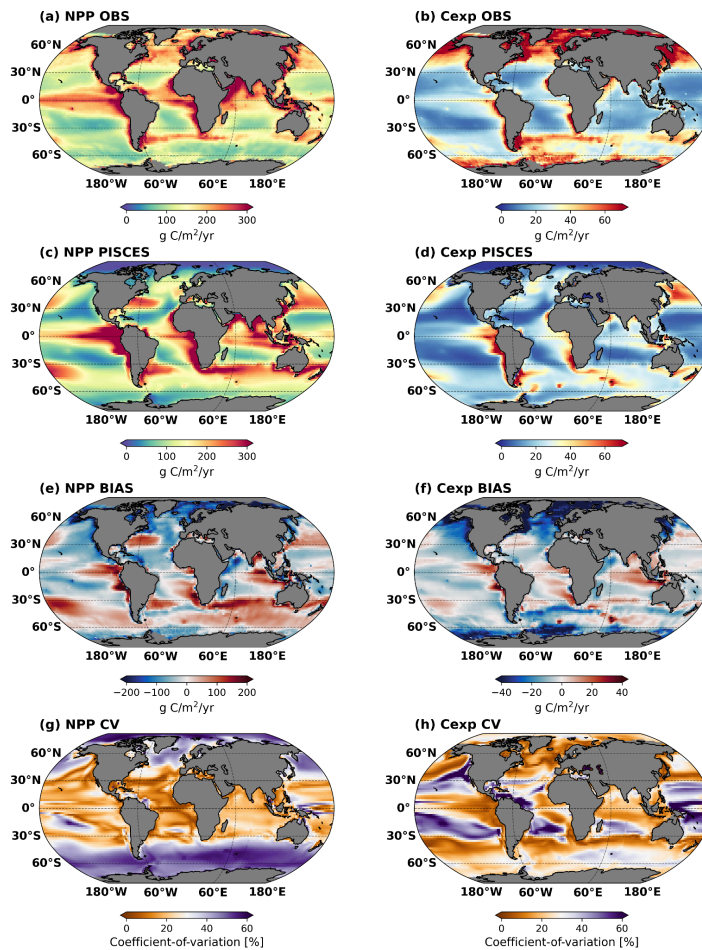


Figure S4: Global maps of satellite derived (a, b) and ensemble model mean (c, d) NPP and C_{exp} . Panels (e) and (f) show the multi-model mean minus remote-sensing bias while (g) and (h) are the coefficient of variation (CV) for model NPP and C_{exp} , respectively.

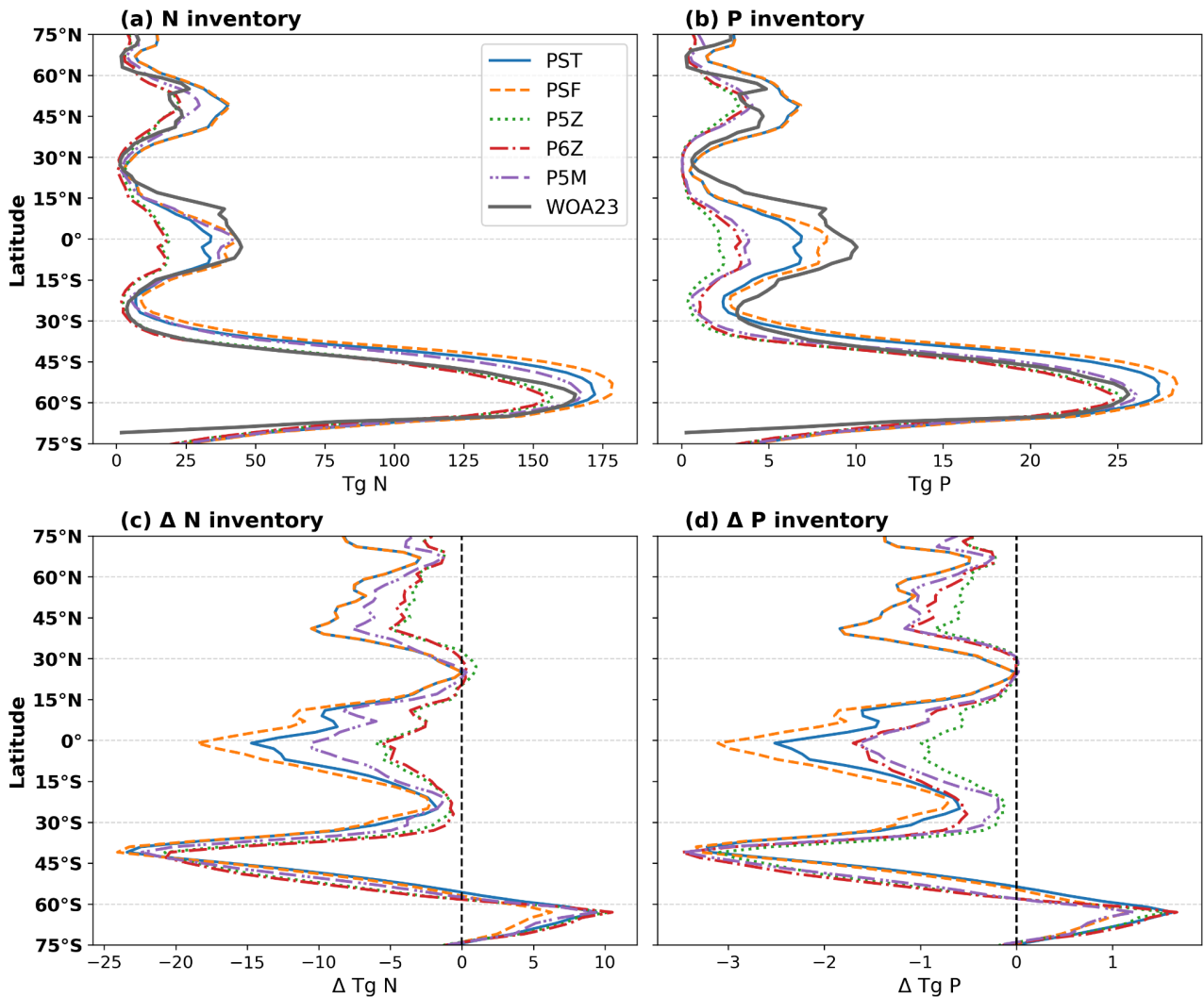


Figure S5: Zonal inventories of (a) N and (b) P integrated over the upper 100 m for the reference period. The solid black line shows data from the World Ocean Atlas 2023 (WOA23: Reagan et al., 2024). Panels (c) and (d) show future shifts in N and P, respectively.

Differences in biogeochemical parameterisations of phytoplankton growth processes across the five PISCES configurations result in some intramodel variability in N and P inventories. In Fig. (S5a, b), the Monod-quota models resolve slightly higher global nutrient inventories than the Quota-based configurations for the reference period but both modelling frameworks exhibit consistent spatial patterns; especially when compared against observational data from the WOA23. Similar future declines in nutrient inventories occur across configurations ($-11.78 \pm 1.85\%$ for N and $-12.39 \pm 1.28\%$ for P).

S7 Phytoplankton biomass percentage contribution in Quota-based configurations

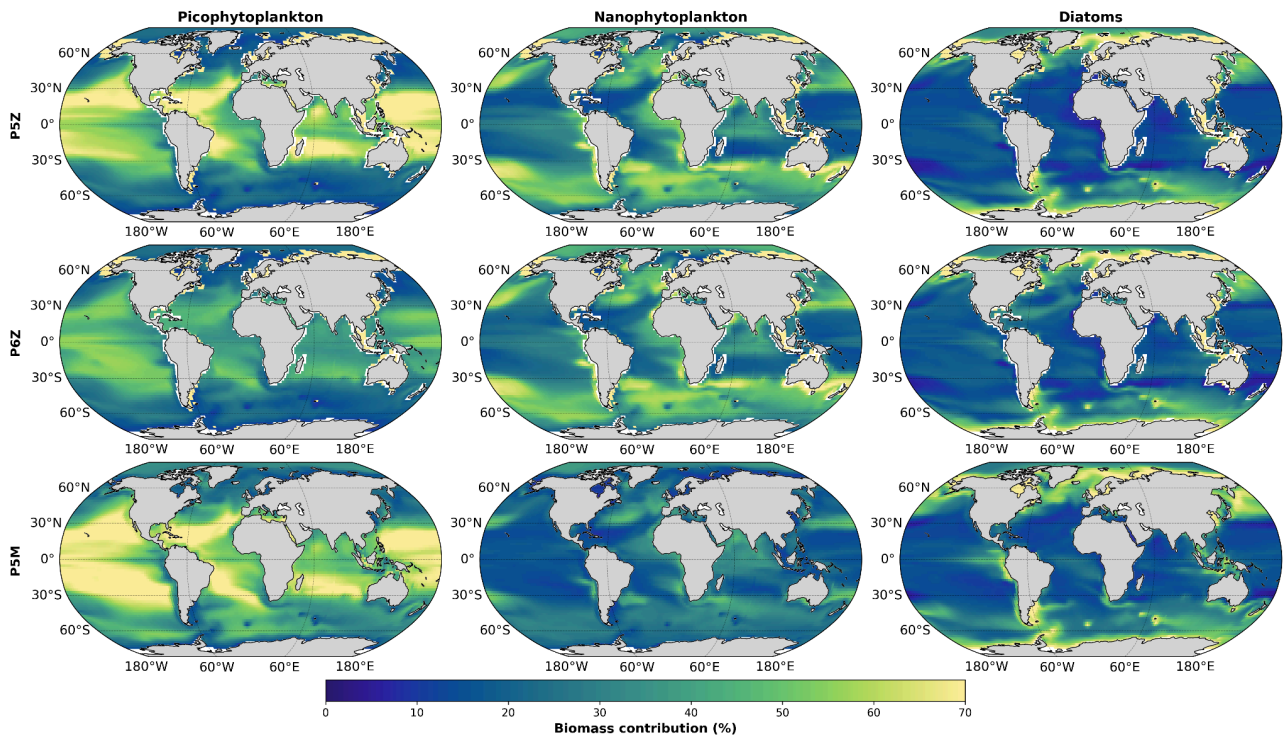


Figure S6: Percentage mass contribution of pico-, nano, and diatoms to total phytoplankton for the reference period for the three Quota-based configurations. Note that P6Z shows lower picophytoplankton biomass because part of the small phytoplankton biomass is allocated to the diazotroph PFT (not shown).

S8 Zooplankton dynamics

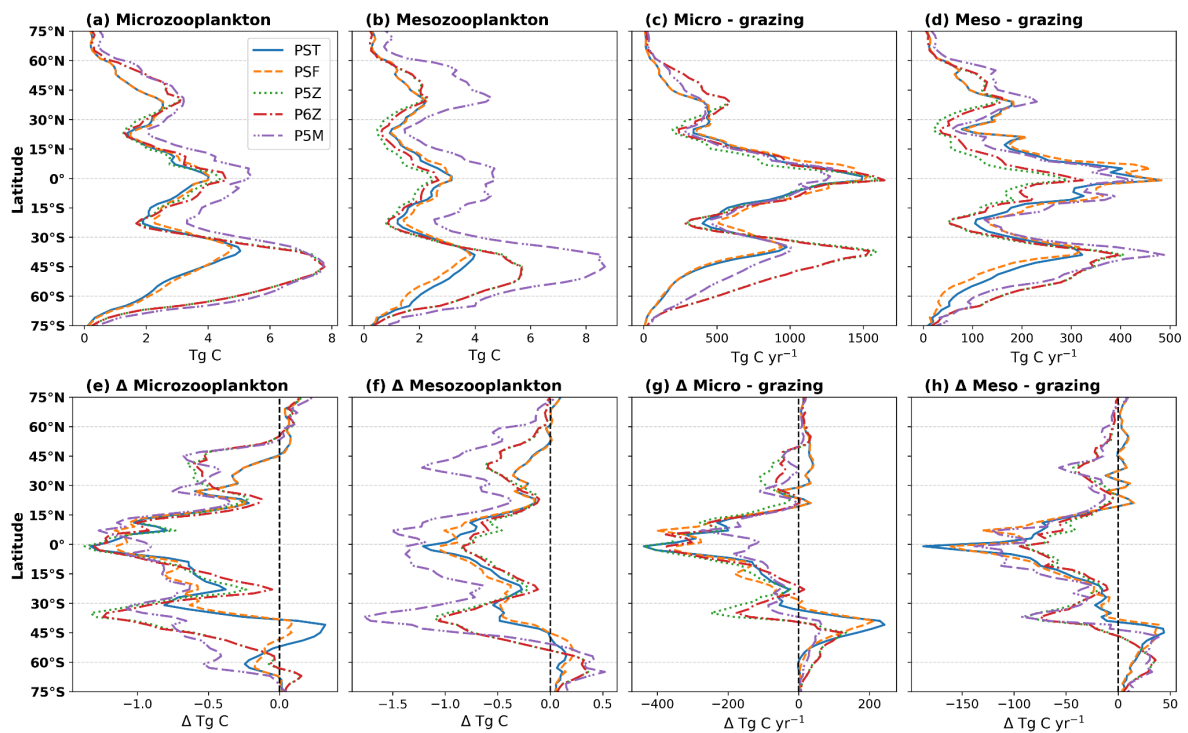


Figure S7: Top row shows zonally integrated (a) micro- and (b) mesozooplankton biomass along with the respective grazing rates over the top 100 m. Bottom row (e-h) shows the future shifts

S9 Skill assessment of PISCES configurations versus ensemble mean of remote-sensing NPP and C_{exp} .

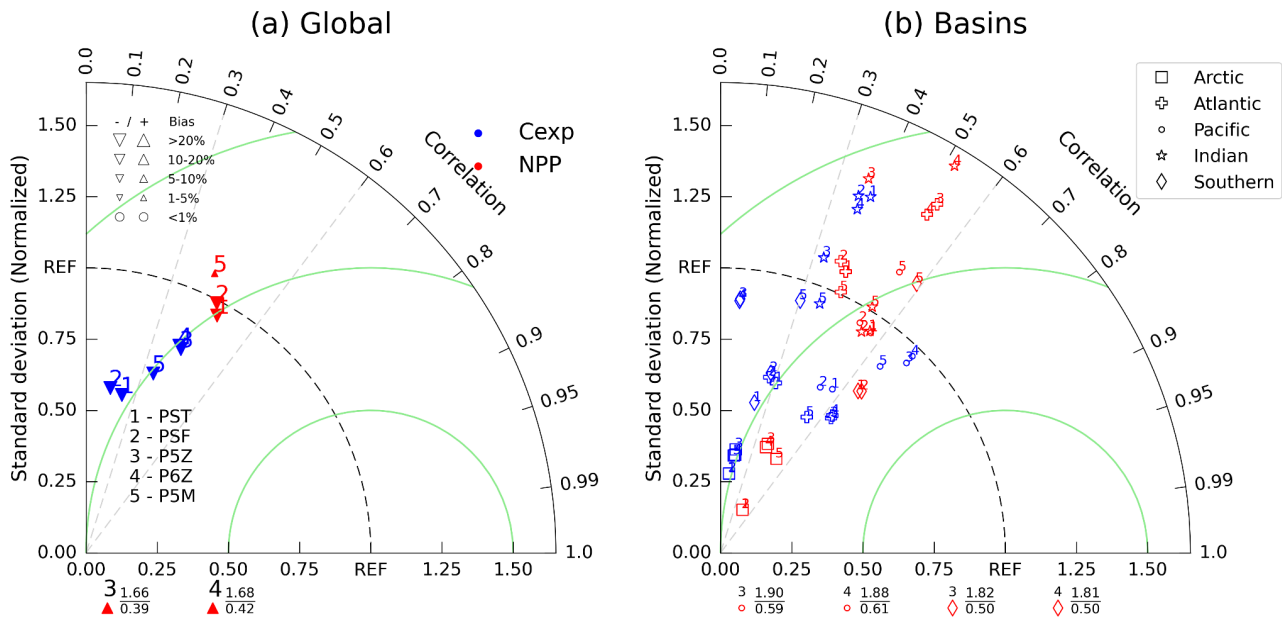


Figure S8: Taylor diagrams (Taylor, 2001) showing the (a) global and (b) basin wide performance of the PISCES configurations compared to remote-sensing. Radial distance represents the ratio of simulated to remote-sensing standard deviation and azimuthal angle is the model-data correlation. Green arcs show centered root mean square error between the model and remote-sensing estimates. In (a) and (b), numbers indicate the PISCES configuration while red and blue points correspond to NPP and C_{exp} , respectively. Outlier points are shown beneath the respective panels. Top numbers are the standard deviation and lower values are the correlation coefficient.

References

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