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NEMS
(NOAA Environmental Modeling System)
and the ESMF and NUOPC layers it depends upon

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What is NEMS?

The **NOAA Environmental Modeling System (NEMS)** is a unified modeling system that supports multiple coupled modeling applications.

Each **coupled modeling application** is associated with a purpose, a set of model components, and a range of supported options including grids and resolutions. These are called **NEMS applications**.

A **unified infrastructure** means that many parts of NEMS are shared across modeling applications, including the build system, the coupling infrastructure, mediators, testing infrastructure, a common way of representing run configurations, and a common way to execute configurations.

Some Forces Affecting NEMS Design

- Increase in number of modeling component types
 - e.g., atmosphere, ocean, ice, land, hydrology, wave, surge, ionosphere, chemistry
- Multiple options for each modeling component type
 - e.g., MOM5, MOM6, HYCOM, “data” ocean component
- Community components developed external to EMC
- Multiple configurations needed for controlled experimentation
 - standalone model
 - coupled with “data” component
 - coupled with limited feedbacks
 - fully coupled
 - ensembles
 - alternative parameterizations
 - different resolutions

NEMS Nightly Regression Tests

Sample downloaded June 11, 2018 from <http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/projects/rt/>

driven by <https://vlab.ncep.noaa.gov/redmine/projects/nems-ext/repository/revisions/multi-app-test/entry/tests/apps.def>

Test	Result	Age	Duration
xJet NEMSFV3GFS	PASS	23:29:39	01:28:05
sJet and vJet NEMSFV3GFS	PASS	23:29:33	01:28:11
Theia NEMSFV3GFS	PASS	20:07:24	00:39:42
Theia NEMSGSM	PASS	20:22:55	00:24:08
Theia HYCOM-GSM-CICE	PASS	20:22:51	00:24:10
Theia WW3-FV3	PASS	20:24:07	00:22:27
Theia WW3-ATM	PASS	20:03:21	00:43:08
Theia GSM-MOM5-CICE5	PASS	20:10:28	00:36:15
Theia FV3-MOM6-CICE5	PASS	20:17:34	00:29:22
WCOSS Phase 1 NEMSFV3GFS	PASS	18:03:35	01:10:05
WCOSS Phase 1 NEMSGSM	PASS	18:34:54	00:38:38
WCOSS Phase 2 NEMSFV3GFS	FAIL	17:38:15	01:35:13
WCOSS Phase 2 WW3-FV3	PASS	18:12:14	01:00:40
WCOSS Phase 2 WW3-ATM	PASS	18:25:49	00:47:02
WCOSS Phase 2 GSM-MOM5-CICE5	PASS	18:13:44	00:59:04
WCOSS Cray NEMSFV3GFS	PASS	17:03:34	02:10:15
WCOSS Cray WW3-FV3	PASS	18:27:13	00:46:16

Earth System Modeling Framework

The [Earth System Modeling Framework](#) (ESMF) was initiated in 2002 as a multi-agency response to calls for common modeling infrastructure.

ESMF provides:

- high performance utilities, including grid remapping, data communications, and model time management
- a component-based architecture for model construction

ESMF Metrics:

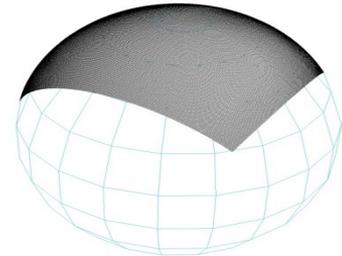
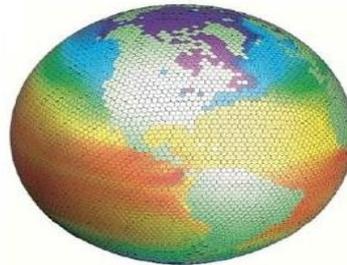
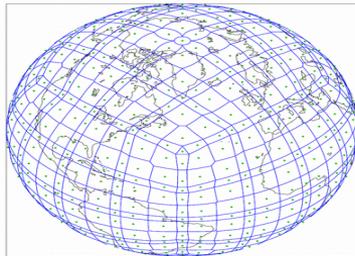
- ~7000 downloads
- ~100 components in use
- ~3000 individuals on info mailing list
- ~40 platform/compiler regression tested nightly
- ~6500 regression tests
- ~1M SLOC



[NUOPC](#) is a software layer on top of ESMF 7+ that ensures interoperability of components. Most major U.S. modeling centers have adopted NUOPC conventions.

ESMF Grid Remapping

- Uniquely fast, reliable, and general – interpolation weights computed in parallel in 3D space
- Supported grids:
 - Logically rectangular and unstructured grids in 2D and 3D, point clouds/observations
 - Global and regional grids
- Supported interpolation methods:
 - Nearest neighbor, bilinear, higher order patch recovery, and 1st order conservative methods
 - Options for straight or great circle lines, masking, and a variety of pole treatments
- Multiple ways to call ESMF grid remapping:
 - Generate and apply weights using the **ESMF API**, within a model
 - Generate and apply weights using **ESMPy**, through a Python interface
 - Generate weights from grid files using **ESMF_RegridWeightGen**, a command-line utility



Standard Component Interfaces

ESMF/NUOPC components have three kinds of methods with standard interfaces:

- Initialize, Run, and Finalize

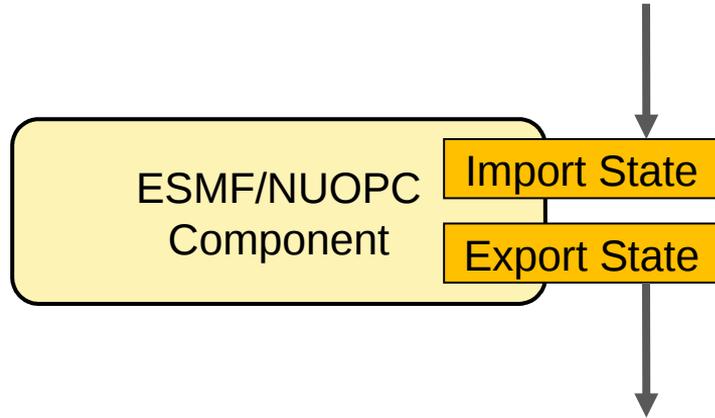
```
subroutine InitP1(comp, importState, exportState, clock, rc)
  type(ESMF_GridComp)  :: comp
  type(ESMF_State)     :: importState
  type(ESMF_State)     :: exportState
  type(ESMF_Clock)     :: clock
  integer, intent(out) :: rc

  ! This is where the model specific setup code goes.
  rc = ESMF_SUCCESS
```

```
end subroutine InitP1
```

Interfaces are wrappers and can often be introduced in a **non-intrusive and high-performance way**. ESMF is designed to coexist with native model infrastructure.

Components Share Data via Import and Export States



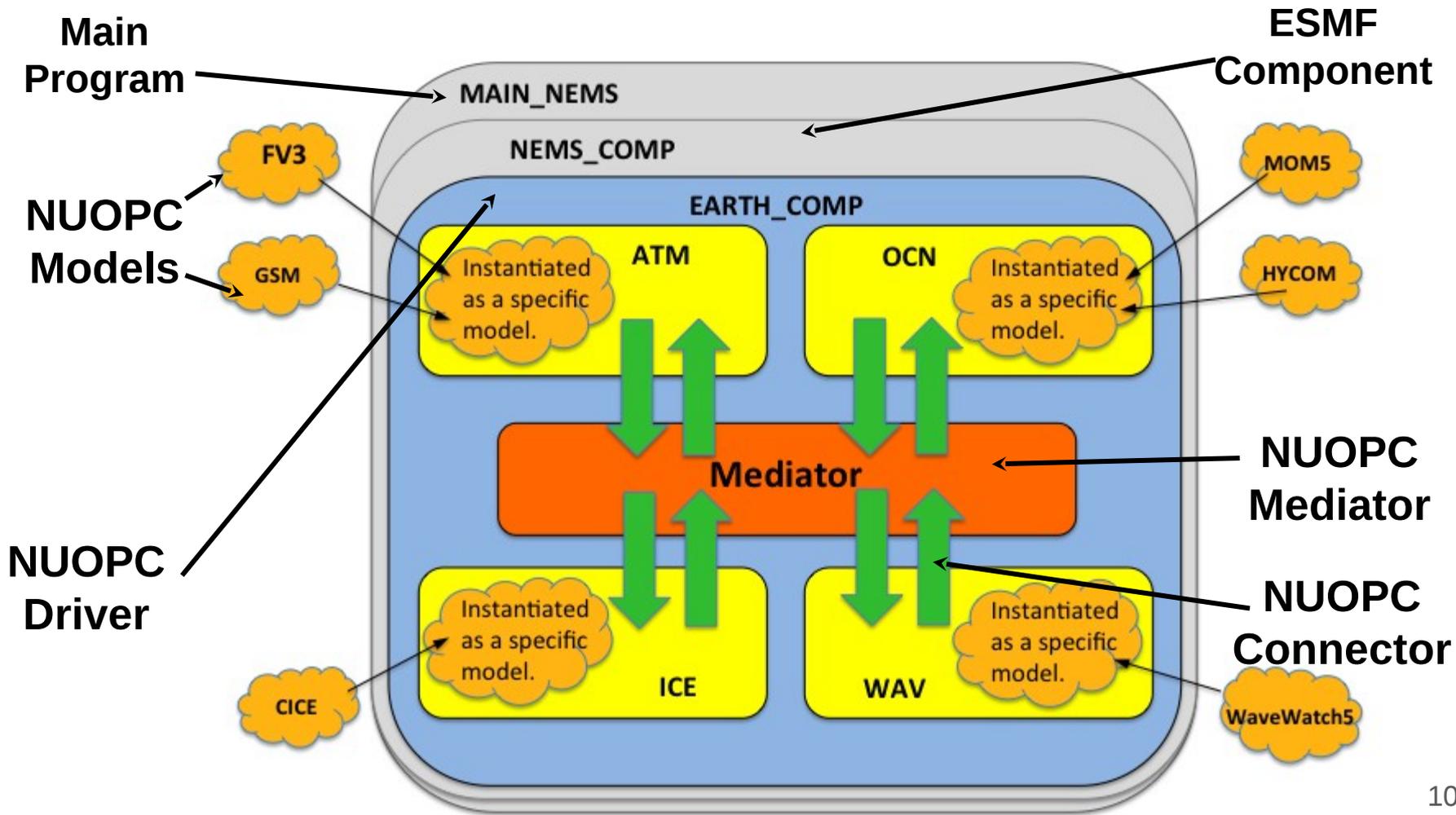
- **Components do not directly access each other's data.**
- The only way data moves in or out of a Component is via instances of the ESMF **State** class (`ESMF_State`).
- A State is a **container** for ESMF data types that wrap native model data.
- Model data can be **referenced**, avoiding duplicates and copies.
- **Metadata** (e.g., name, coordinates, decomposition) travels with data objects.

NUOPC Layer Components

The NUOPC Layer's four **generic components** represent the major structural pieces needed to build coupled models.

NUOPC Generic Components	
	Harness that initializes components according to an <i>Initialization Phase Definition</i> , and drives their Run() methods according to a customizable run sequence.
	Implements field matching based on standard metadata and executes simple transforms (e.g. grid remapping, redistribution). It can be plugged into a generic Driver component to connect Models and/or Mediators.
	Wraps model code so it is suitable to be plugged into a generic Driver component.
	Wraps custom coupling code (flux calculations, averaging, etc.) so it is suitable to be plugged into a generic Driver component.

From [Theurich et al. 2016](#)



NEMS Schematic

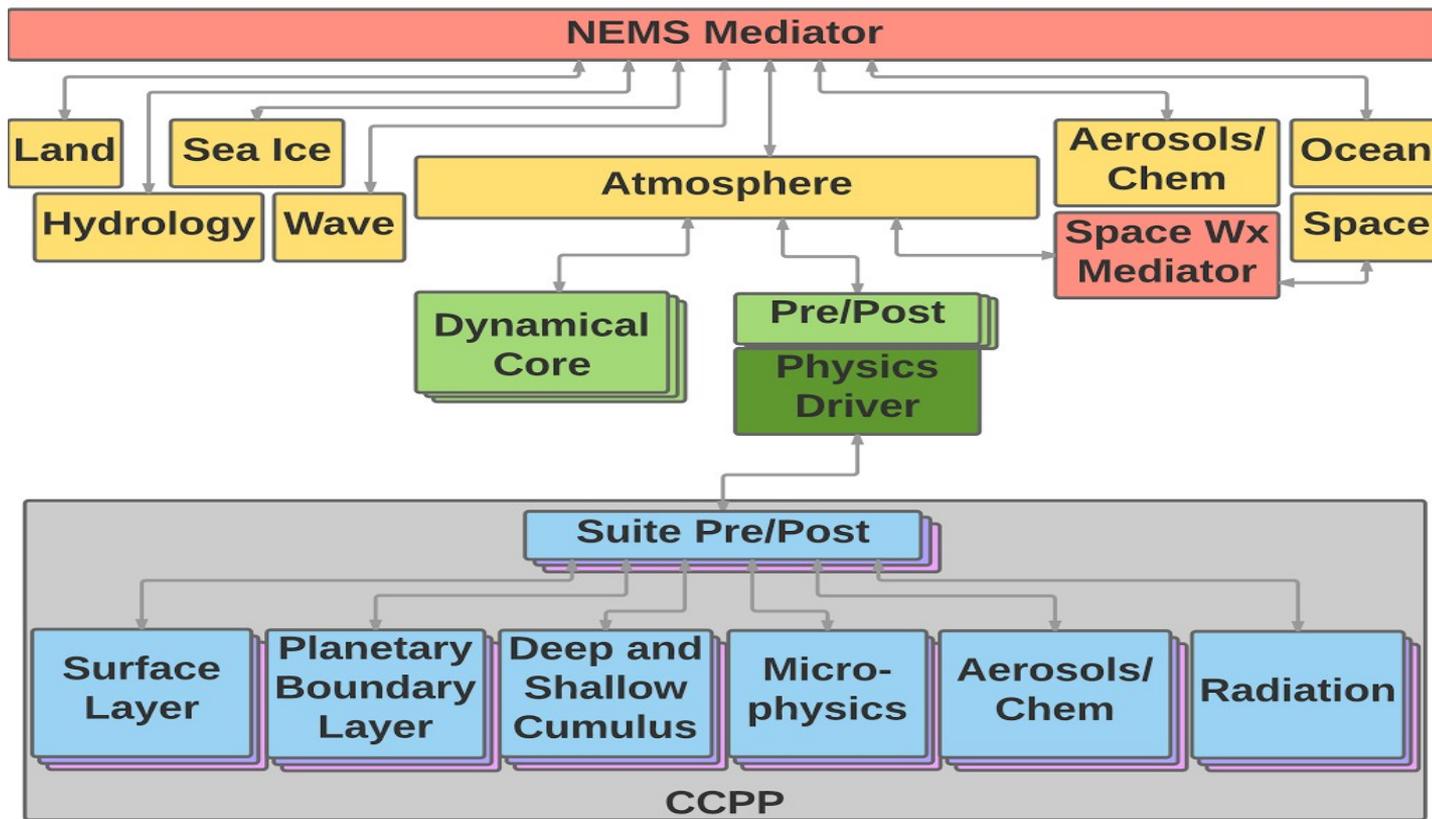


Image courtesy of the Developmental Testbed Center

Sample NEMS Configure File (nems.configure)

Colors show actions
performed by:

ctors (->)
or (MED)

coupling

```
#####  
# NEMS Run Time Configuration File #  
#####  
# EARTH #  
EARTH_component_list: MED ATM OCN ICE  
  
# MED #  
med_model:          nems  
med_petlist_bounds: 60 65  
  
#ATM#  
atm_model:          gsm  
atm_petlist_bounds: 0 31  
  
# OCN #  
ocn_model:          mom5  
ocn_petlist_bounds:  
  
# ICE #  
ice_model:  
ice_petlist_bounds: 56 59
```

Run sequence
ingested into Driver

```
# Run Sequence #  
runSeq::  
@1800.0  
MED MedPhase_prep_ocn  
MED -> OCN :remapMethod=redist  
OCN  
@600.0  
MED MedPhase_prep_ice  
MED MedPhase_prep_atm  
MED -> ATM :remapMethod=redist  
MED -> ICE :remapMethod=redist  
ATM  
ICE  
ATM -> MED :remapMethod=redist  
ICE -> MED :remapMethod=redist  
MED MedPhase_atm_ocn_flux  
MED MedPhase_accum_fast  
@  
OCN -> MED :remapMethod=redist  
@  
::  
::
```

Role of the NEMS Mediator

- The Mediator is set up with ATM, OCN, ICE, LND, and HYD components.
- Slow (ocean) and fast (atmosphere and ice) coupling phases
- The mediator includes the following functions:
 - Connects fields whose standard names match
 - Accumulates and averages atmosphere and ice fields between calls to the ocean model
 - Merges fields with a generic merge method that allows for weighting
 - Performs custom coupling operations, along with unit transformations
 - Performs interpolation (fluxes are mapped conservatively, states bilinearly, higher order also available)

More information about the mediator:

http://cog-esgf.esrl.noaa.gov/projects/coupled-nems/mediator_design

Worksheet of planned coupling fields across all modeling applications:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11t0TqbYfEqH7ImTZ7dYe1DSC6vOUFgX-3qvXgce-q0/edit#gid=0>

Thanks