Digital Twins

To Safeguard the Planet

Elie Alhajjar, United States Military Academy John M. Anderies, Arizona State University elix J. Herrmann, Georgia Institute of Technology Nicole D. Jackson, Sandia National Laboratories Chun Liu, Illinois Institute of Technology Campbell Watson, IBM Research Greg Yetman, CIESIN, Columbia University

SIAM Convening on Climate Science, Sustainability, and Clean Energy Funded by NSF (DMS 2227218) Image source: <u>AMSE</u>



The Big Idea

To develop a multi-fidelity, scalable, long-lived open-source platform to build problem-specific Digital Twins

"A digital twin is a virtual representation of an object or system that spans its lifecycle, is updated from real-time data, and uses simulation, machine learning and reasoning to help decision-making." – IBM



What is the reasoning, justification, and/or supporting evidence behind the idea?

- The Earth is a very complex system
- We need 'what if' scenarios
- Singapore completed work on the world's first Digital Twin; Europe has launched Destination Earth



The US cannot fall behind, we only know how to lead!

Example for Digital Twins for Carbon Capture Storage (CCS)



https://slim.gatech.edu/research/geological-carbon-storage

What Goal Area(s) does this address?

- Advance Scientific Knowledge
- Anticipate Future Conditions
- Increase Climate Change Resilience
- Accelerate Clean Energy Infrastructure transitions
- Increase Outreach and Broader Impacts
- Promote Sustainable Practices

Development a community of practice around the **Digital Twin** paradigm, which consists of **protocols** that enable **systematic analysis** of **Earth system processes**, including quantification/analysis of dynamic **uncertainty**.

What is required to pursue this?

An interdisciplinary collaboration between:

- Mathematical modelers, physicists & chemists to inform *in silico* simulations
- **Statisticians** to assess uncertainty & inform policy decisions w/ confidence
- Scientific domain experts for developing problem-specific digital twins
- Software engineers to develop & maintain open, long-lived reproducible code
- **Social scientists** to incorporate understanding of human behavior and impact

Additional resources:

- Access to truly *massive* computations (exabytes & months on Summit for CCS)
- Long-term (~100 y for CCS), sustained investment & software maintenance

What are the broader impacts and expected value of this idea?



Interdisciplinary teams spanning math, stats, engineering, and the social sciences

Creation of **huge amounts** of data for education & experimentation purposes



Prototype models for **global cooperation** between the US & other countries

Training of the next generation workforce



Access to massive computational power



Expected Value

Create the infrastructure to safeguard the planet