

Towards machine learning-based Earth system models

Christian Lessig, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
christian.lessig@ecmwf.int



Machine learning-based Earth system models?

ERA5

Weather forecasting

Machine learning-based Earth system models?

ERA5

Weather forecasting

Post-processing

Climate projections

Scenario generation

• • •

Machine learning-based Earth system models?

ERA5

Weather forecasting

Post-processing

Climate projections

Scenario generation

CO₂ monitoring

• • •

Machine learning-based Earth system models?

ERA5

CERRA

COSMO-REA6

• • •

Weather forecasting

Post-processing

Climate projections

Scenario generation

CO₂ monitoring

• • •

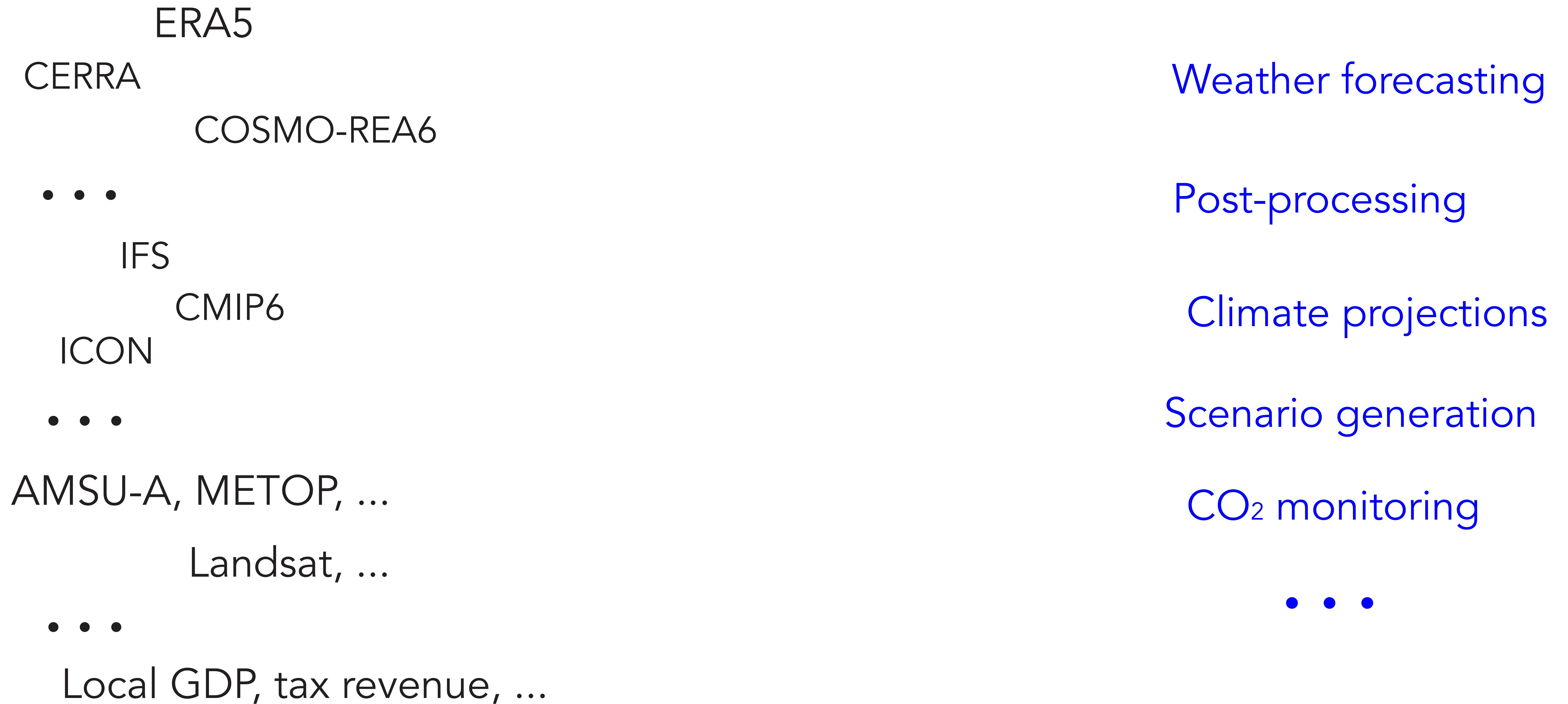
Machine learning-based Earth system models?



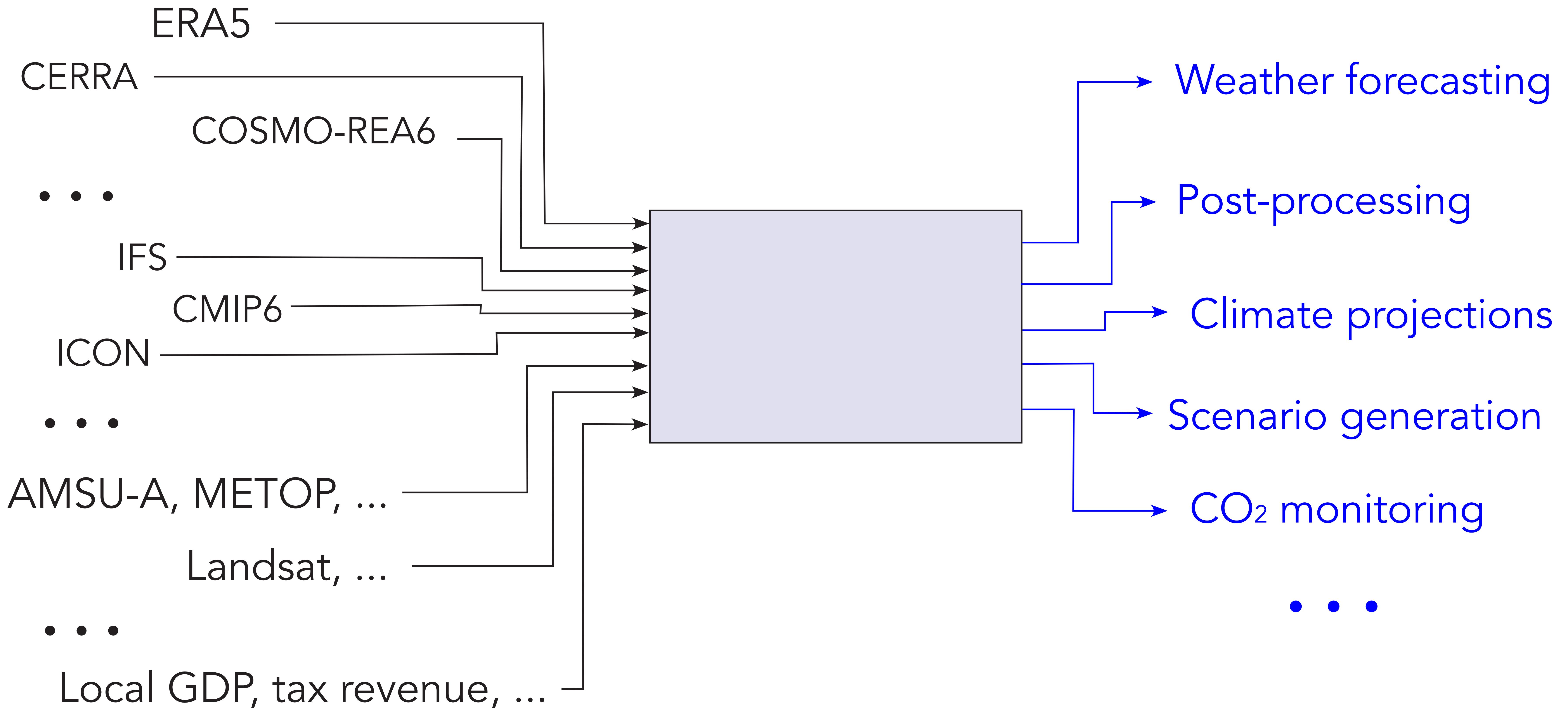
Machine learning-based Earth system models?

ERA5	
CERRA	Weather forecasting
COSMO-REA6	
• • •	Post-processing
IFS	
CMIP6	Climate projections
ICON	
• • •	Scenario generation
AMSU-A, METOP, ...	CO ₂ monitoring
Landsat, ...	
• • •	• • •

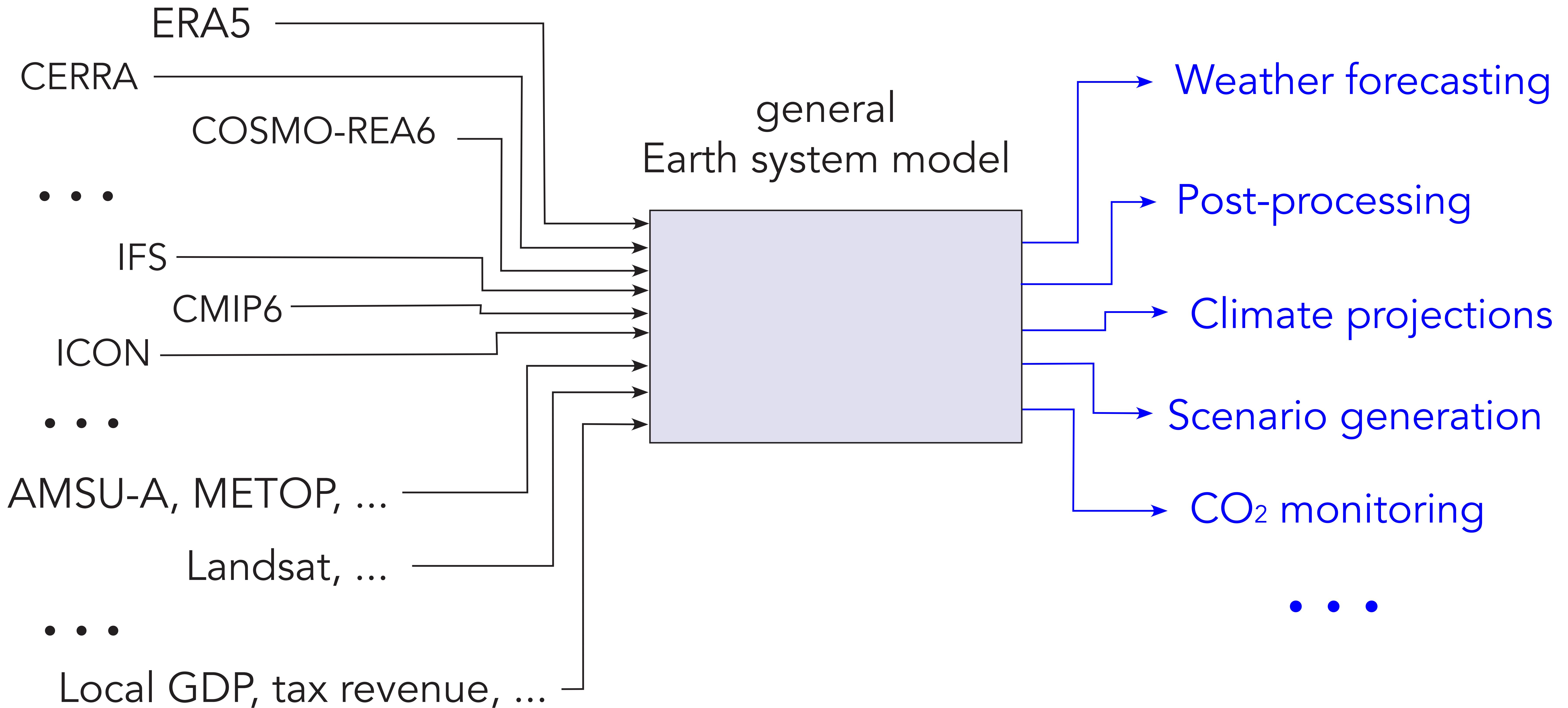
Machine learning-based Earth system models?



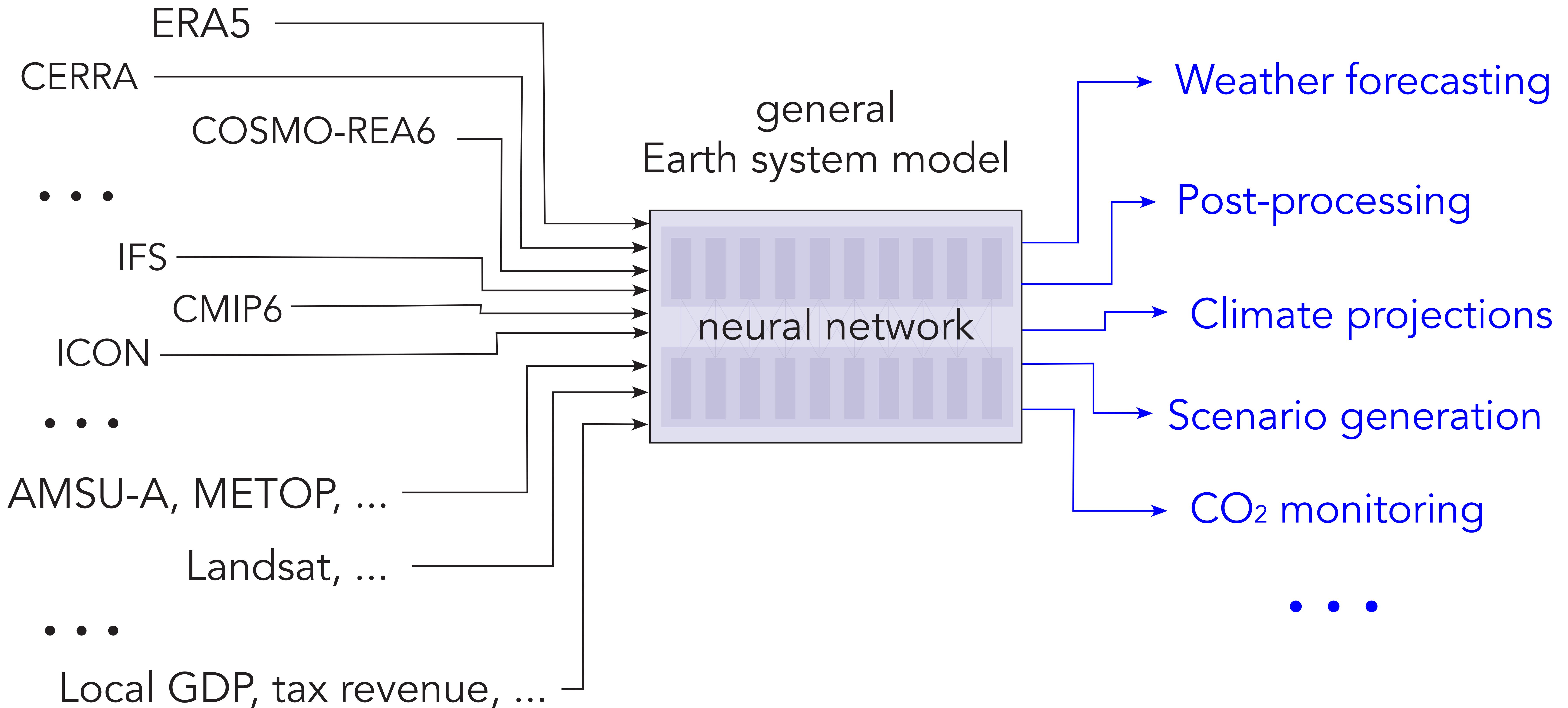
Machine learning-based Earth system models?



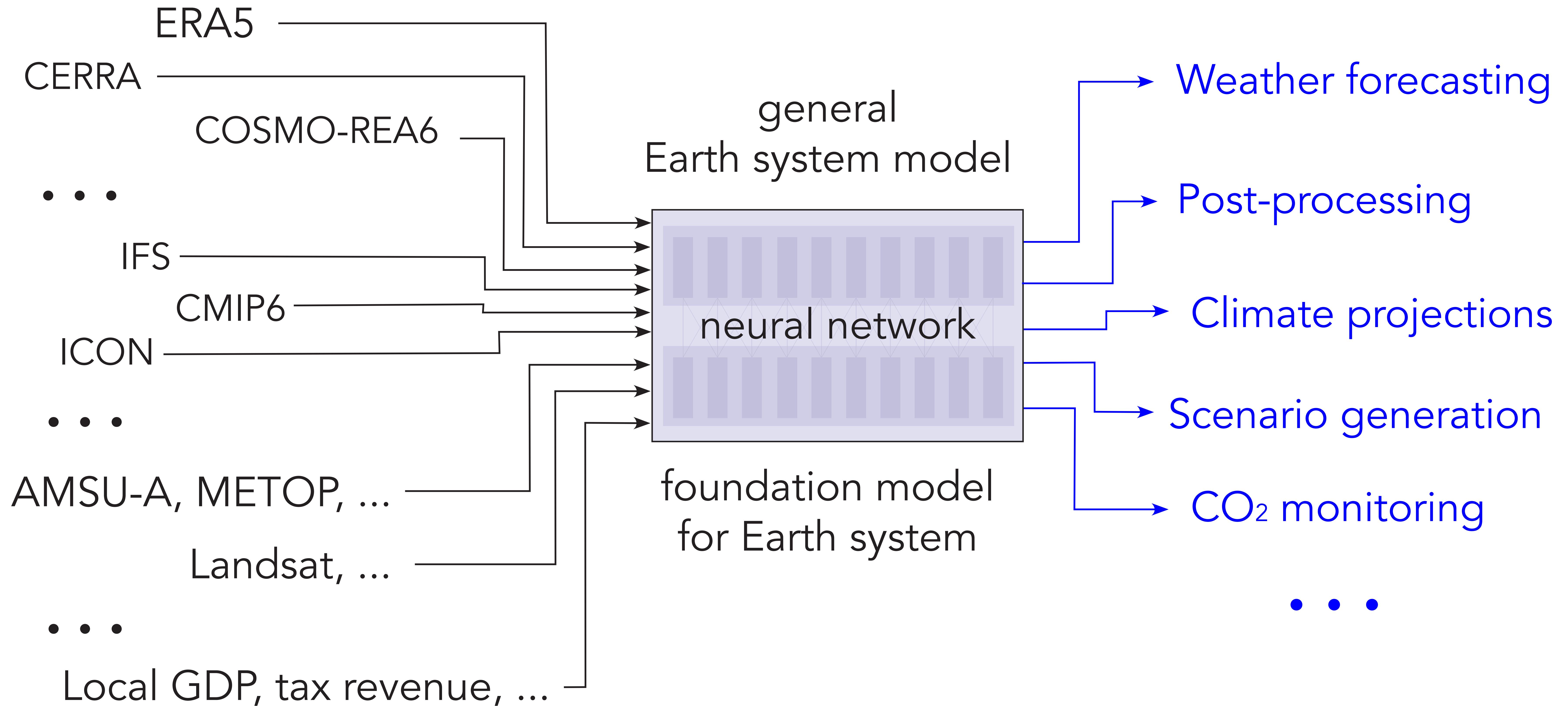
Machine learning-based Earth system models?



Machine learning-based Earth system models?

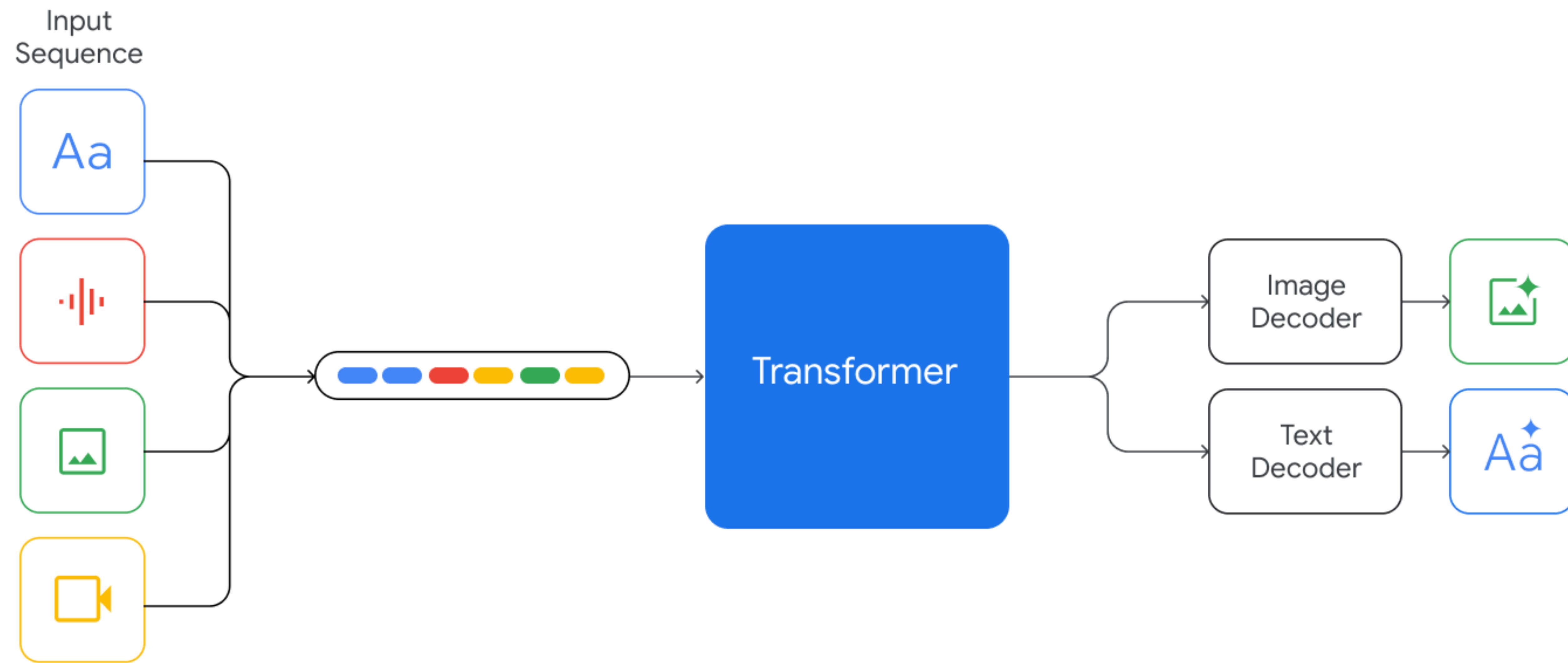


Machine learning-based Earth system models?



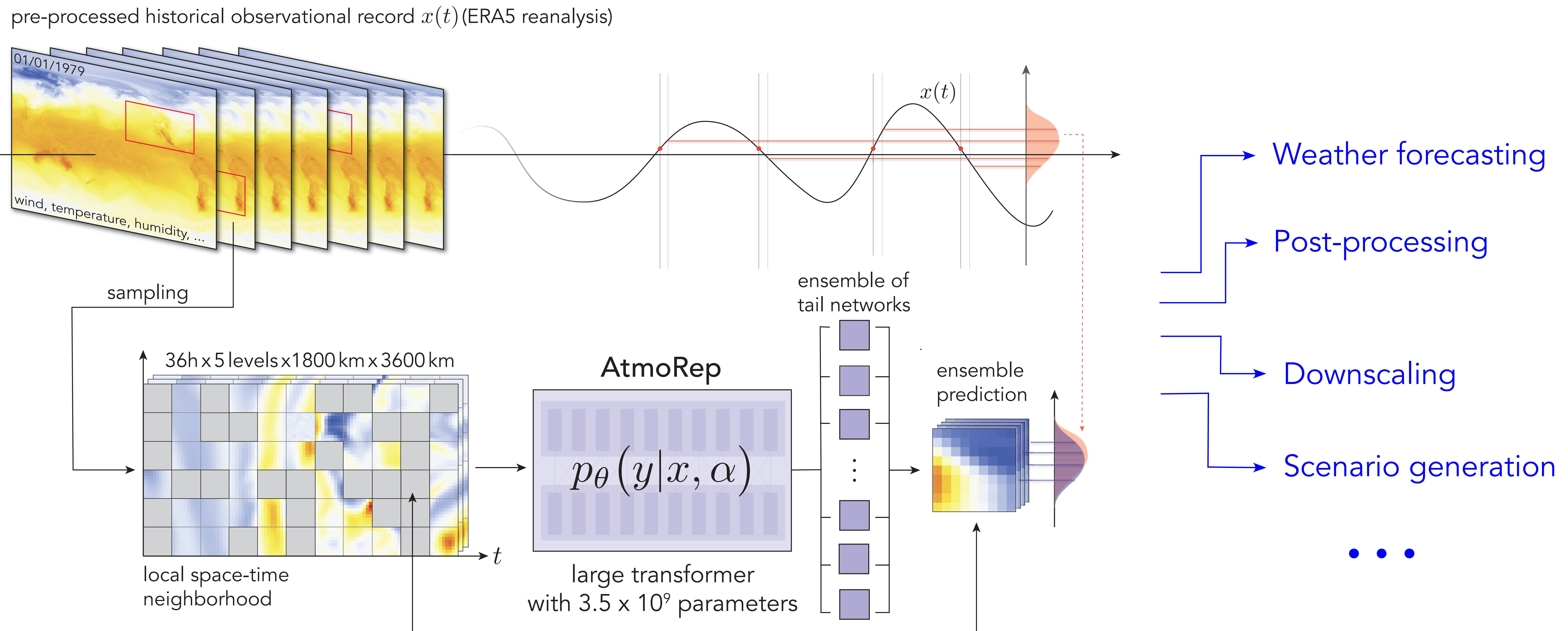
An example

- Google’s Gemini model:¹



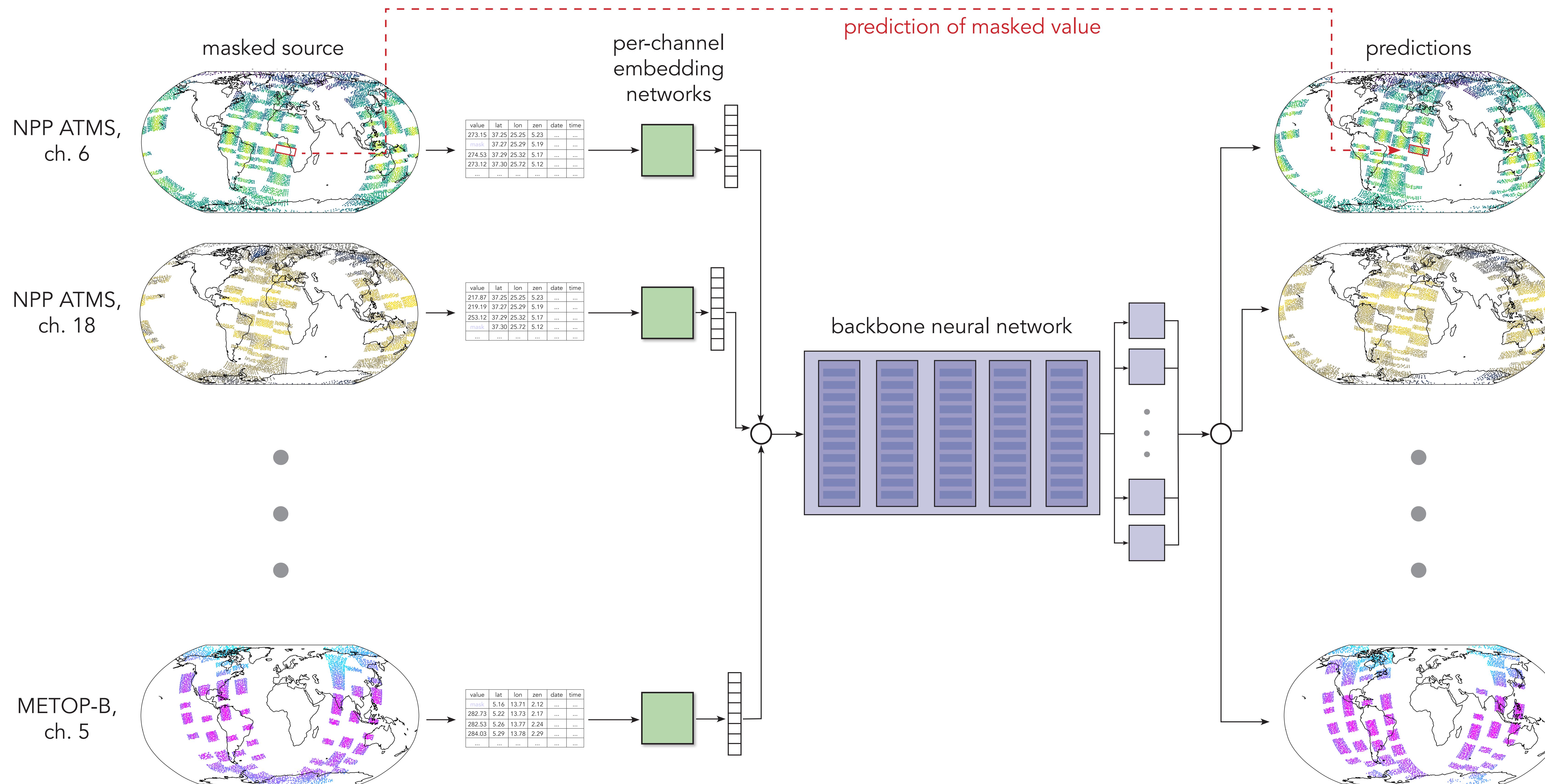
¹ Google Team. Gemini: A family of highly capable multimodal models, 2023.

First steps: AtmoRep



² C. Lessig, I. Luise, B. Gong, M. Langguth, S. Stadler, and M. Schultz. Atmorep: A stochastic model of atmosphere dynamics using large scale representation learning, 2023; <https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.13280>

First steps: Learning from observations



Summary

- Machine learning-based Earth system model is plausible
 - › Extension of multimodal model (with many challenges)
- Integration of many different data streams in the network
 - › Correlations between them learned from the data
 - › Include Earth observations might allow to obtain models with better skill than conventional ones
- Would (also) allow for merged bottom-up and top-down approaches for CO₂ monitoring