In this way, a dynamically consistent global climate reconstruction can be retrieved from patchy data.

Progress in understanding the mechanisms that lead to both millennial-scale natural climate variability and its spatial patterns depends at least partly on the ability of climate models to simulate all the relevant processes. As part of the ongoing assessment by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the next generation of climate models will be challenged with the task

of realistically simulating the processes that have determined the climate of the past millennium.

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ERRATUM

Insight despite imperfection

Mat Collins

Nature Geoscience **2**, 315–316 (2009); published online: 30 April 2009; corrected after print 2 June 2009.

In this News & Views, Figure 1 incorrectly shows an Antarctic iceberg rather than Arctic sea-ice as stated in the caption.