

# Joint Working Group on Forecast Verification Research report

**Caio Coelho**  
CPTEC/INPE

**Marion Mittermaier**  
*Met Office*



# Outline

- Overview of working group involvement with WMO projects/activities
- Summary of contributions to WWRP/WCRP projects
- Quantifying observation uncertainty on verification measures - A MesoVICT example
- Progress with process-oriented and surface verification

# WG involvement in WMO projects/activities

- SWFDPs – Workshop in March 2018 (Viet Nam) including verification training
- Winter Olympics 2018 (PyeongChang) – Drafted verification plan. Actual verification to be performed after the Olympics.
- HIGHWAY/ L. Victoria – Funded by UK DfID. Research into the surface observation availability on GTS. Case studies into lightning diagnostics. Website for real-time forecasts and monthly verification statistics. To be concluded in March 2020.
- AvRDP – Working on verification guidelines for convection with focus on users' needs.
- TLFDP – WG member in SC contributing to verification planning. Currently in 3<sup>rd</sup> phase. End in Dec 2018.
- CBS – Flash flood verification. Developed guidance document.

# WG involvement in WWRP/WCRP

- PPP – Verification activities focussed on Year of Polar Prediction (YOPP), internationally coordinated period of intensive observations, modelling, prediction, verification, user-engag. and education activities. YOPP is a key component of the Polar Prediction Project
- HIW – Contributing to verification activities through the evaluation task team
- S2S (joint WWRP/WCRP)– Produced chapter and scientific papers on S2S verification
  - - Book: Sub-seasonal to seasonal prediction. The gap between weather and climate forecasting (1<sup>st</sup> Edition, Oct 2018). Chapter 16: Forecast verification for S2S time scales
  - A verification framework for South American sub-seasonal precipitation predictions
  - Global precipitation hindcast quality assessment of the Subseasonal to Seasonal (S2S) prediction project models

PPP activities:

Lead by Barbara Casati

# Summary: ongoing YOPP verification activities

1. NWP **process-based evaluation** against high frequency multivariate observations **at the YOPP super-sites**.

- A unique dataset of paired NWP model output and multivariate high-frequency obs which enables detailed process-based diagnostics.
- Target processes: clouds micro- and macro-physics; aerosols and hydro-meteors micro-physics; radiation, turbulence and energy budgets; energy and momentum fluxes.



2. **Operational summary verification** scores:

- YOPP is providing the framework for analyzing current verification practices in the Polar Regions, propose novel approaches, reveal issues and investigate solutions



3. Verification of **sea-ice** prediction during YOPP

- User-informative distance metrics alongside traditional scores



Thank you!

barbara.casati@canada.ca

Figure 1. The sea ice edge (SIE) concentration contours for two months of an AMIP-GOOS-based forecast ensemble on 15 September (left) and on 1 July of the same arbitrary year. Assuming the ice center is 60°N and the red contour is each observation, the SIE is the sum of all light blue ice extent concentrations. 0 and light and the extent and thickness (L) sea, compare equations (1)–(3). The depicted lead ice distribution corresponds to the AMIP-GOOS project.



# Sub-seasonal to Seasonal Prediction

1st Edition

The Gap Between Weather and Climate  
Forecasting

☆☆☆☆☆ [Write a review](#)

Editors: Andrew Robertson, Frederic Vitart

Paperback ISBN: 9780128117149

Imprint: Elsevier

Published Date: 26th October 2018

Page Count: 570

**Chapter 16: Forecast verification for S2S time scales**  
*Caio A. S. Coelho, Barbara Brown,  
Laurie Wilson, Marion Mittermaier,  
Barbara Casati*

**Overview of S2S verification methods and  
practices**

# Sampling strategies and information levels for sub-seasonal verification

## Proposed framework for quantitative sub-seasonal precip. forecast quality assessment

- Level 1: Target week **hindcast verification** (11 ens. members)  
Similar to traditional seasonal forecast verification (~30 samples)  
Uses ECMWF S2S hindcasts initialized on Thu 14 April, 7 April, 31 March and 24 March of the 2016 calendar for the period 1996-2015 (20 samples)
  - Level 2: All season **hindcast verification** (11 ens. members) **Increased robustness**  
In addition to the hindcasts produced for the four Thu initialization dates previously selected, aggregates hindcasts produced for nine additional initialization dates during the weeks of the previous and following month in order to incorporate in the sample all hindcasts initialized on Thu of March, April and May of the 2016 calendar (260 samples: 13 initialization dates times 20 years)  
**MAM: Austral summer season, similar atmospheric features in S. American regions**
  - Level 3: All season **near real time forecast verification** (51 ens. members)  
Aggregate the real time forecasts produced on Thu during the 13 weeks of March, April and May of each of the past three years (2015, 2016 and 2017). This aggregation leads to a verification sample of 39 pairs of near real time forecasts and observations (39 samples: 13 initialization dates times 3 years)
- Large degree of differences in some characteristics of sub-seasonal hindcasts and real time forecasts, directly impacting the verification sample size.

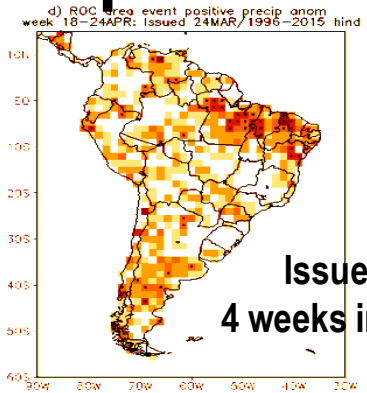
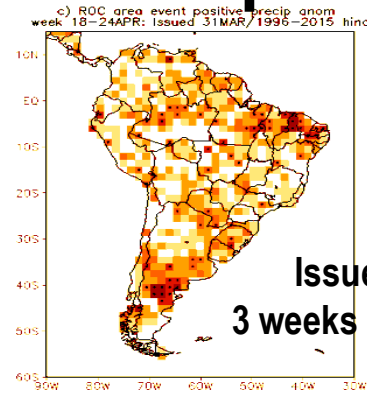
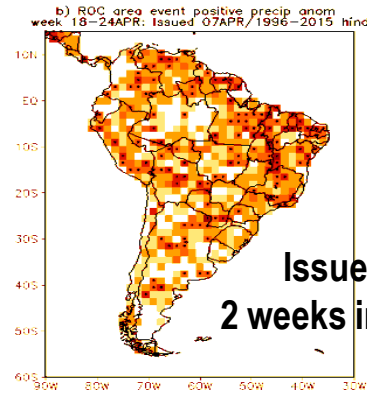
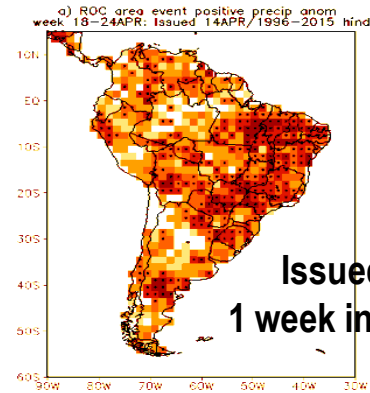
Coelho, Caio A.S.; Firpo, Mári A.F.; de Andrade, Felipe M., 2018: A verification framework for South American sub-seasonal precipitation predictions. Meteorologische Zeitschrift.

# Discrimination comparative assessment:

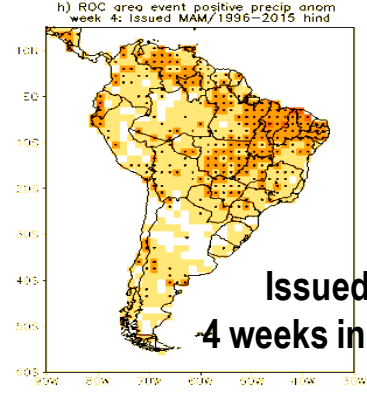
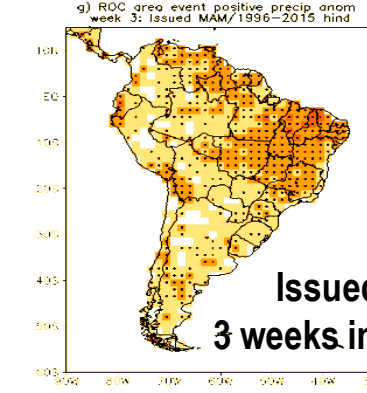
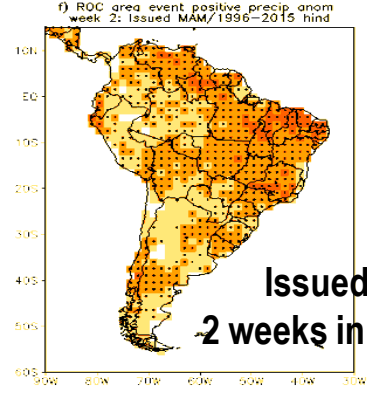
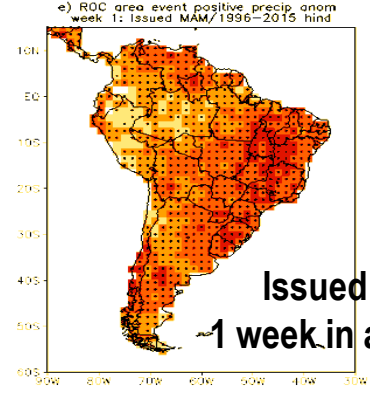
## Area under the ROC curve for event pos. precip. anom.

ECMWF S2S database

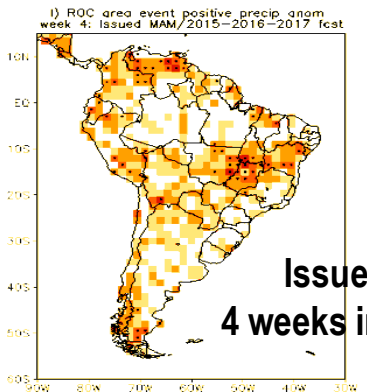
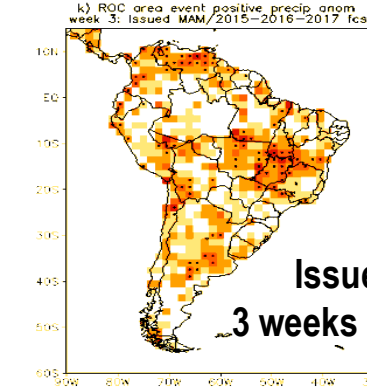
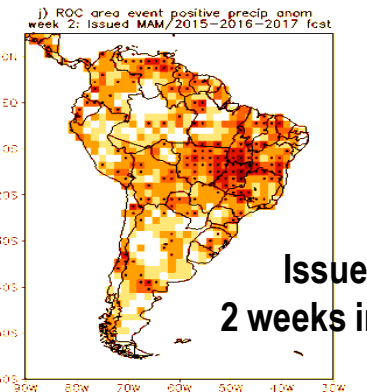
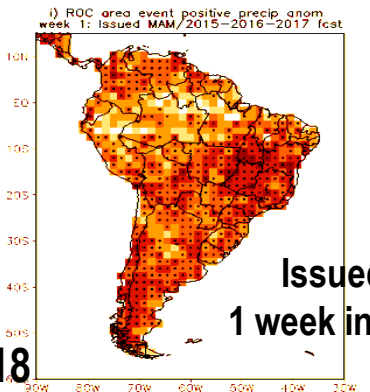
Level 1:  
Target week  
hindcast verification



Level 2:  
All season  
hindcast verification



Level 3:  
All season  
near real time  
forecast verification

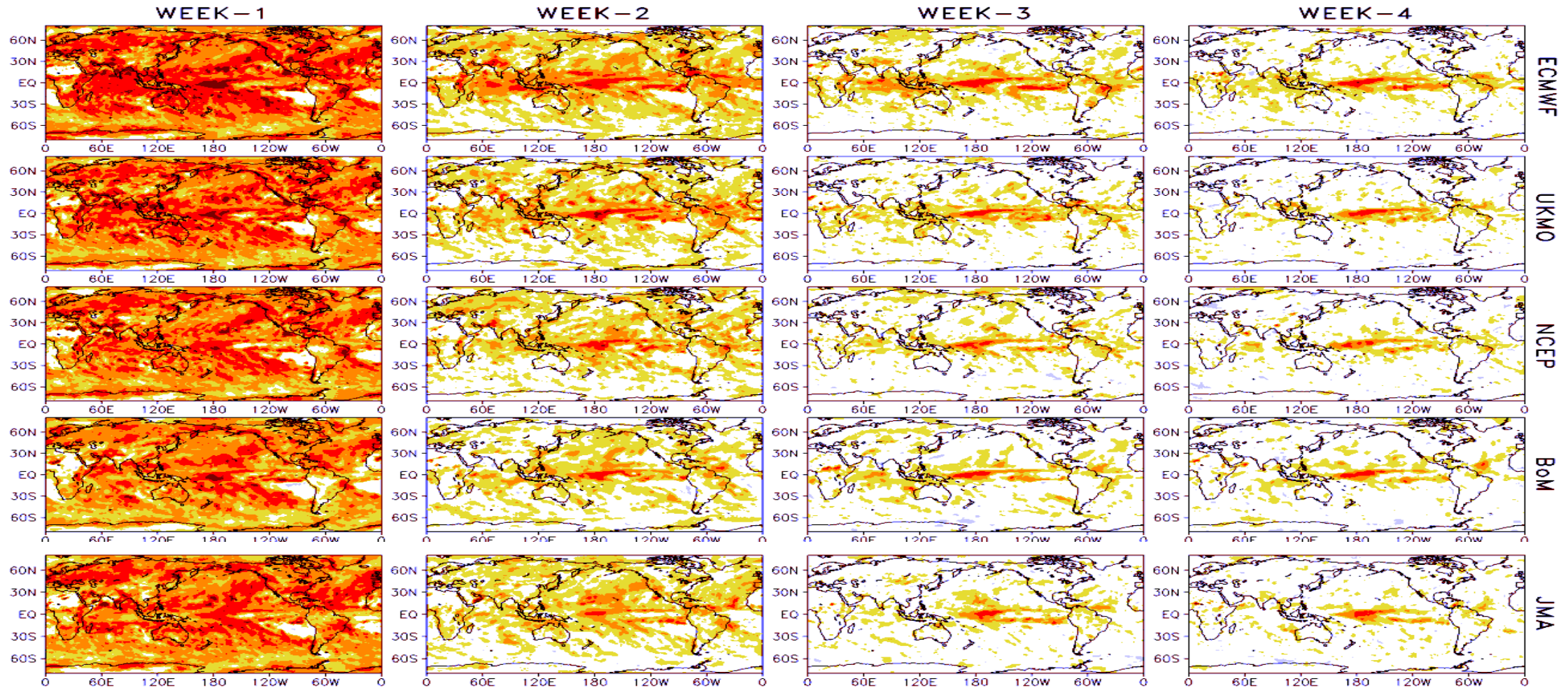


Coelho, Firpo, de Andrade, 2018

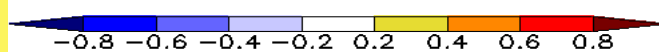
Discrimination: ability to distinguish events from non-events



# How well in phase are sub-seasonal precip. predicted anomalies with the corresponding observations?



Linear **association** assessment: Correlation



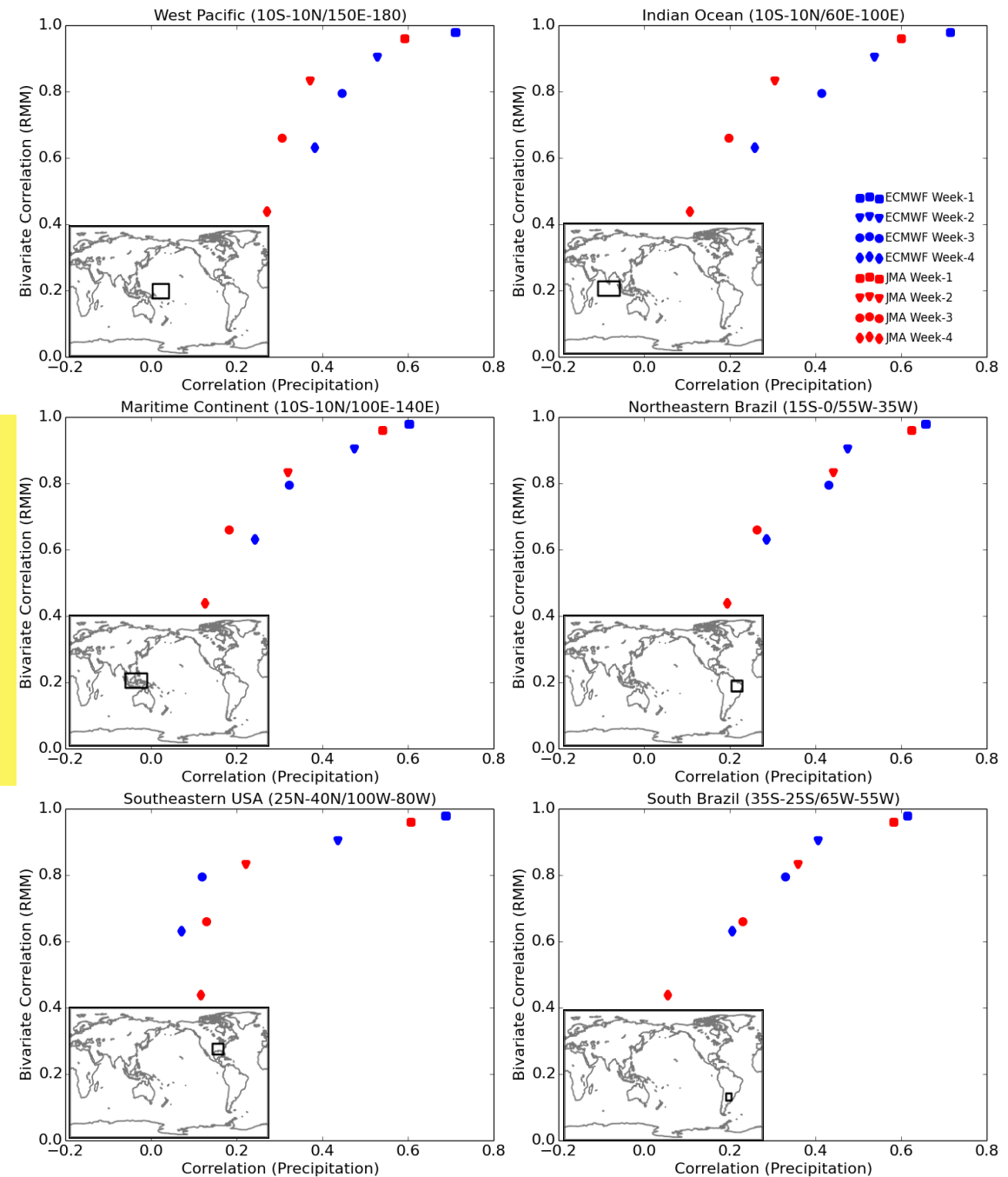
Extended austral summer: Nov to Mar 1999-2009

Felipe M. de Andrade, Caio A. S. Coelho, Iracema F. A. Cavalcanti, 2018: Global precipitation hindcast quality assessment of the Subseasonal to Seasonal (S2S) prediction project models. *Climate Dynamics*

# What is the relationship btw MJO and precip. prediction ability in a coupled and an uncoupled model?

Linear association btw MJO and precip. prediction ability

Ocean-atmosphere coupling likely has an important contribution for providing better subseasonal MJO and precipitation prediction ability, particularly on the tropical region.



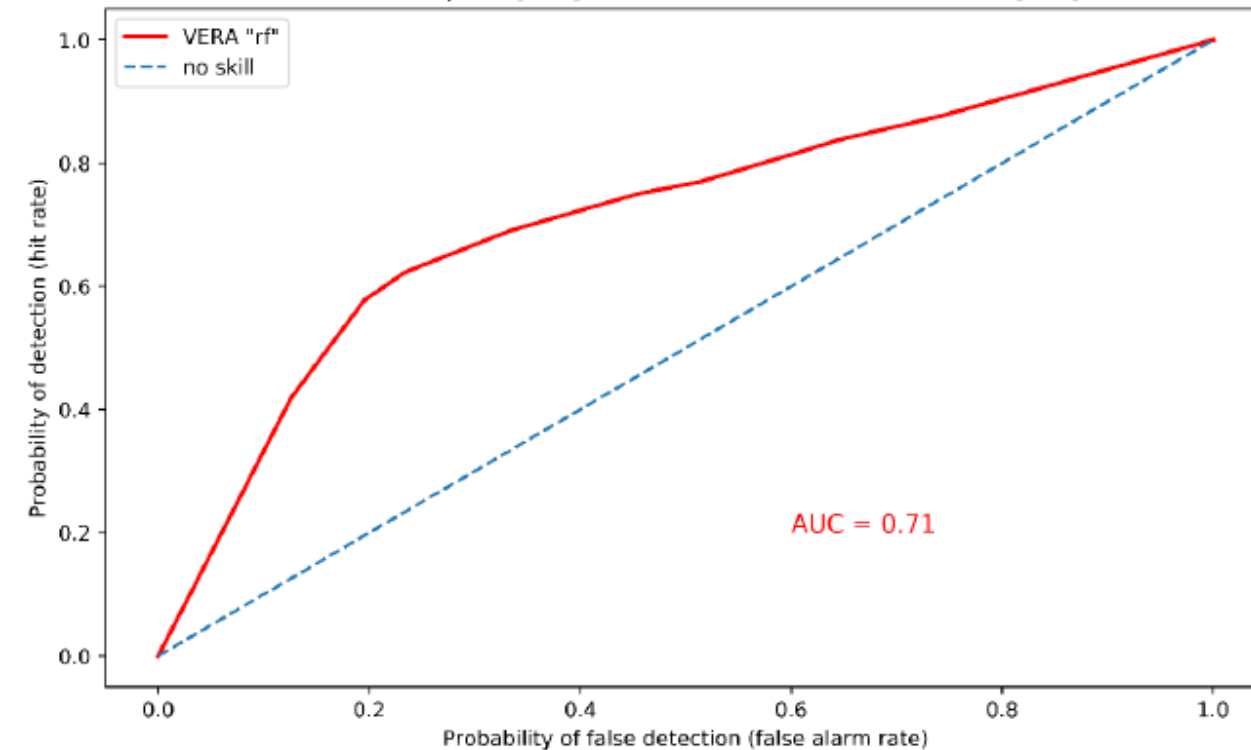
# Quantifying observation uncertainty on verification measures - A MesoVICT example

Manfred Dorninger and Simon Kloiber

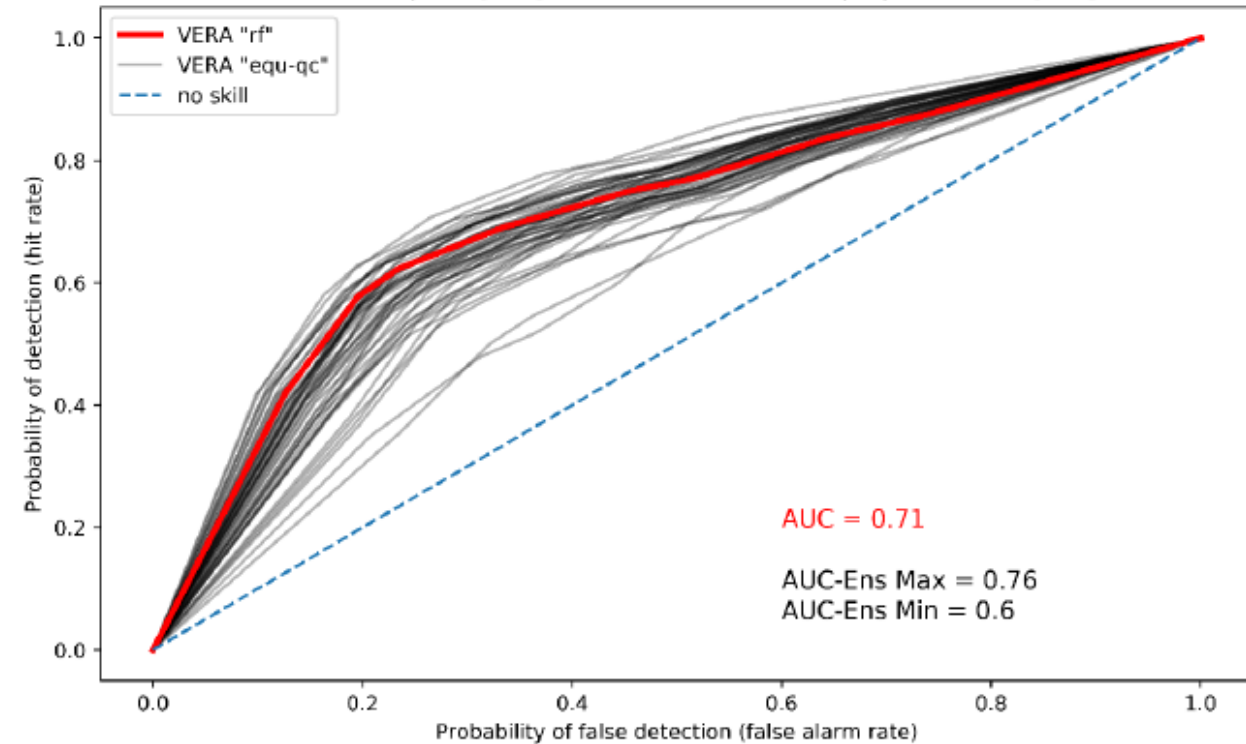
University of Vienna, Department of Meteorology and Geophysics; Vienna, Austria

email: Manfred.Dorninger@univie.ac.at

ROC curve for the "whole area" at Jun-21-2007 18 UTC  
PAR=Wind speed [m/s]; FC: CLE; OBS: VERA "rf"; thold: 2 [m/s]



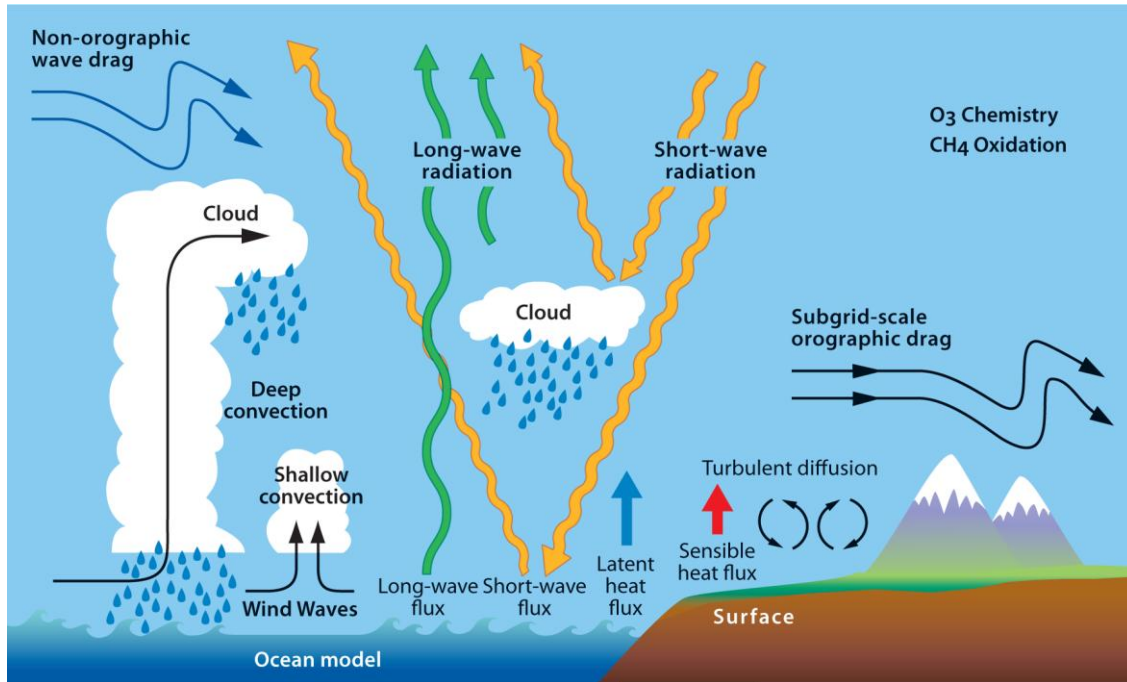
ROC curve for the "whole area" at Jun-21-2007 18 UTC  
PAR=Wind speed [m/s]; FC: CLE; Ens: VERA "equ-qc"; thold: 2 [m/s]



Use of analysis ensemble allows quantification of uncertainty in verification scores

# Process-oriented verification

Thomas Haiden, ECMWF and JWGFVR



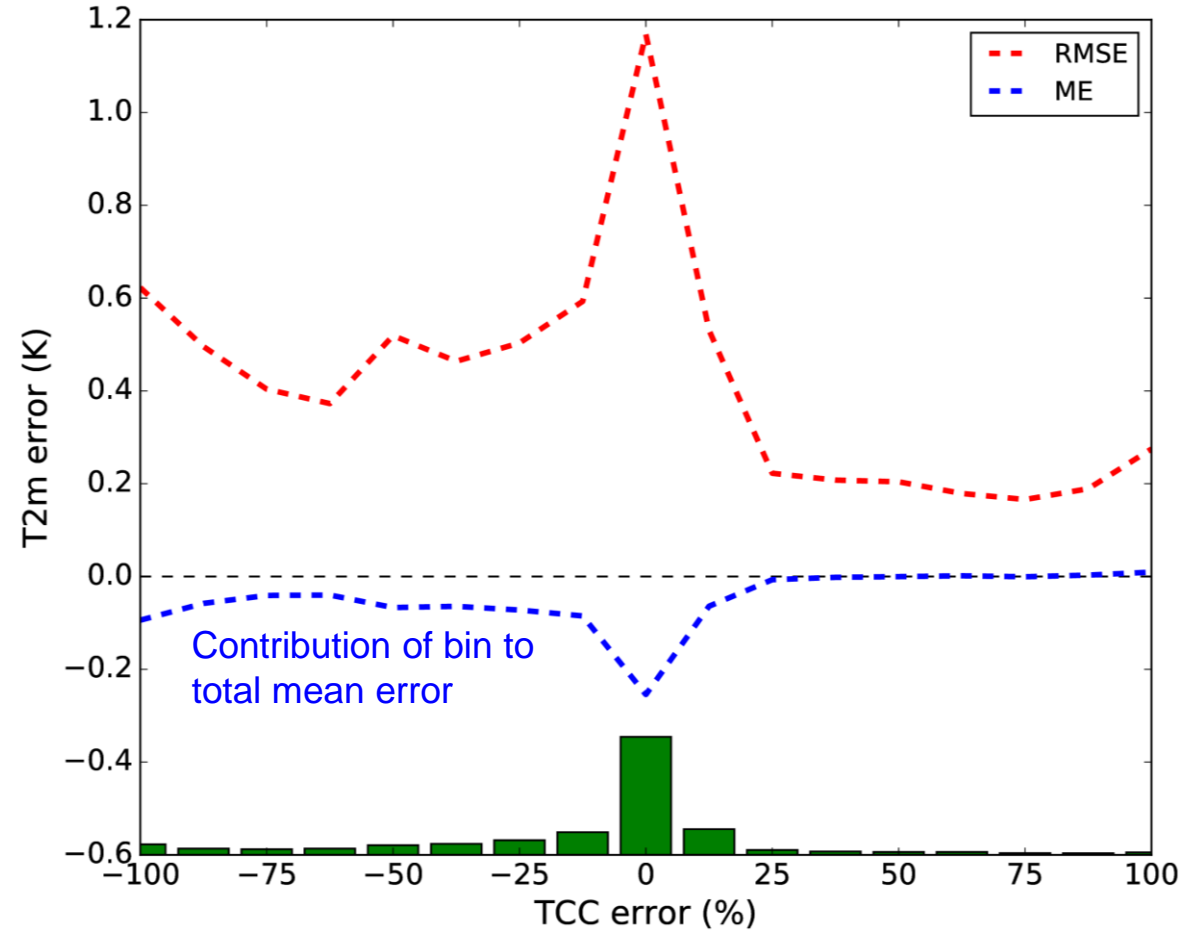
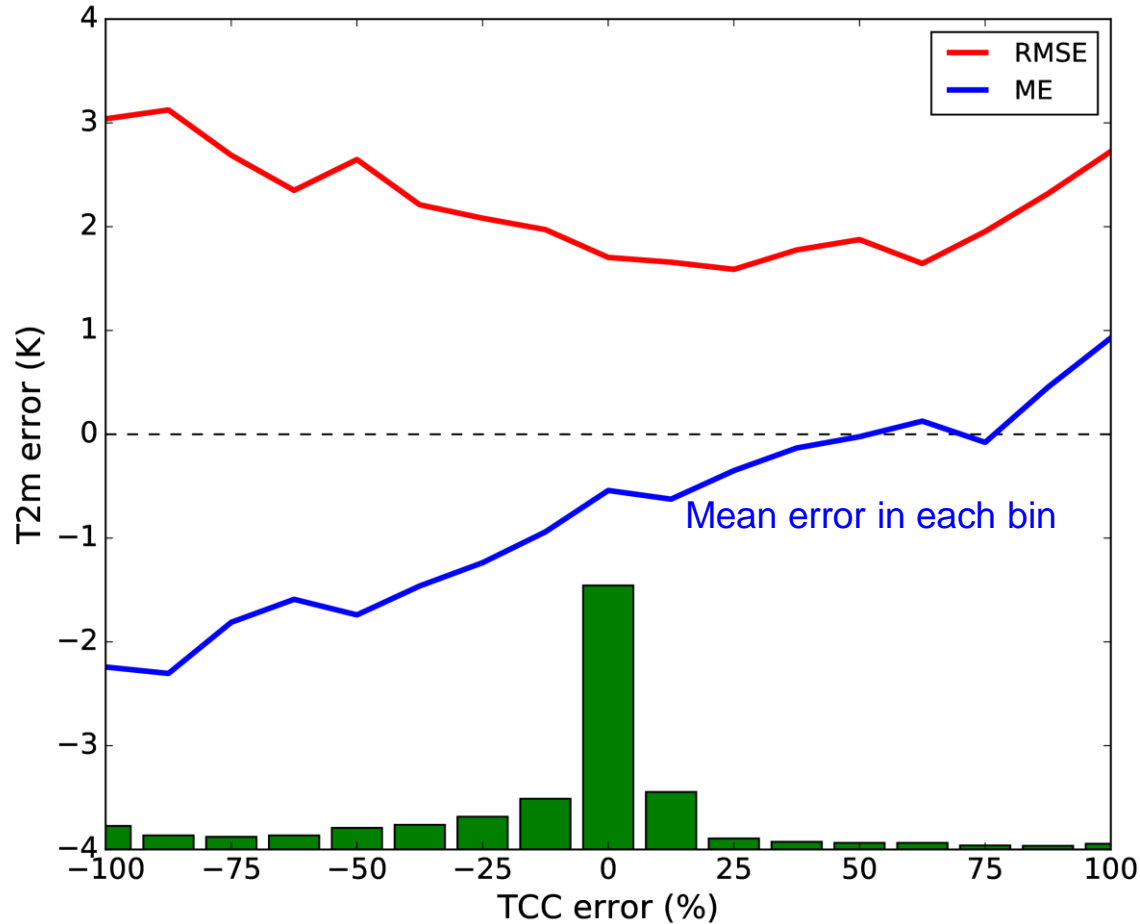
# Why is process-oriented verification of interest?

- **Potential to improve the research to operations process in NWP**
- Verification that helps to identify causes of issues allows more efficient feedback to model developers
- WGNE-32: JWGFVR to provide a document on process-oriented verification (draft version to be circulated within JWGFVR by the end of 2018)
- What methods does it involve?
  - Conditional verification
  - Use of supersite observations
  - Model intercomparison
  - Combination of independent datasets
  - Other ..

# **Process-oriented verification methodology examples**

# Conditional verification: T2m error stratified by total cloud cover error

Winter in Europe at night



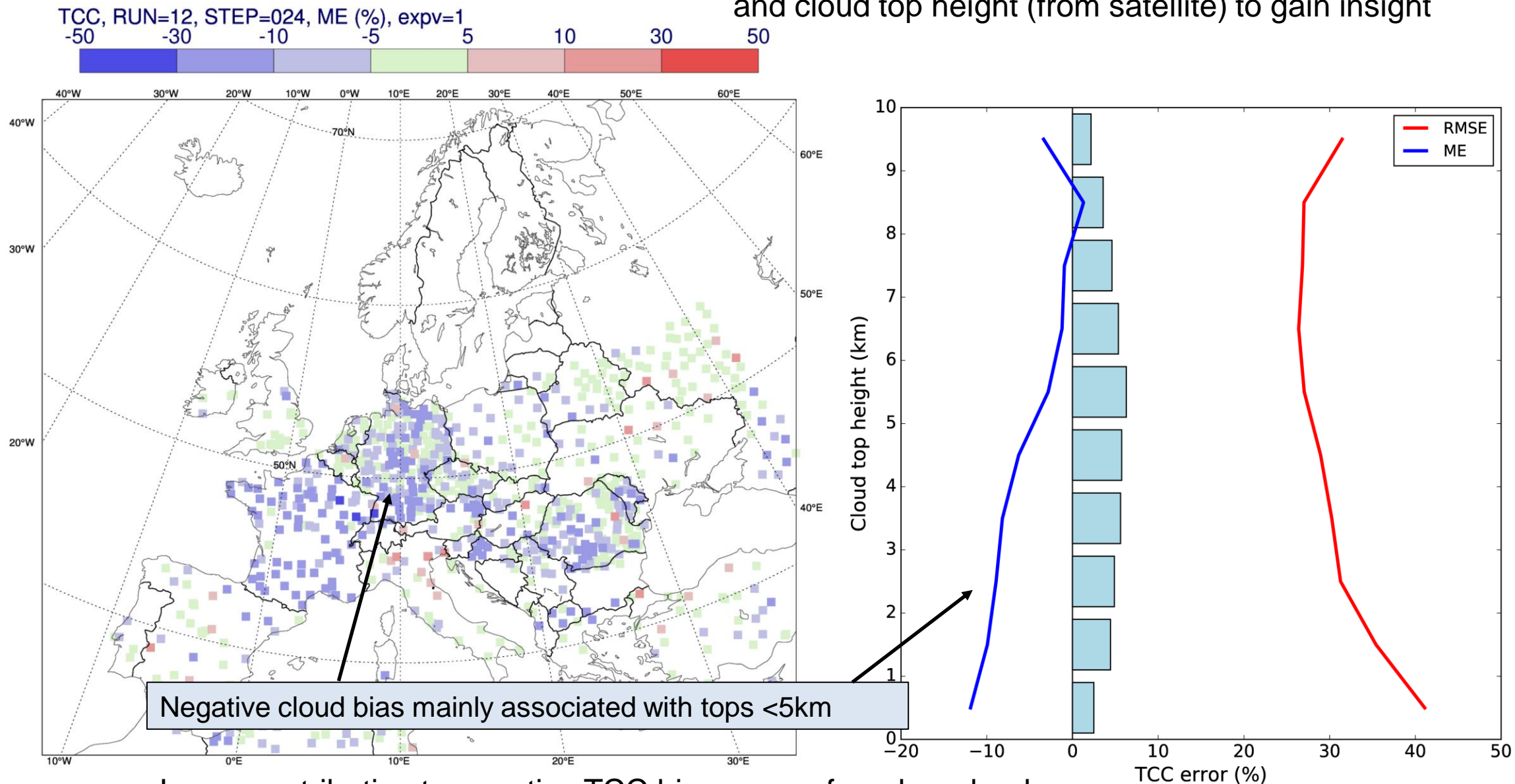
Overcast observed, clear sky predicted: T2m too low (neg. bias)

Total RMSE = 1.99 K  
Total ME = -0.84 K

Reveals the importance for overall T2m bias of cases with/without TCC error

# Conditional verification: TCC error stratification by cloud top height

Example of combined use of sfc. obs. (TCC from SYNOP), and cloud top height (from satellite) to gain insight

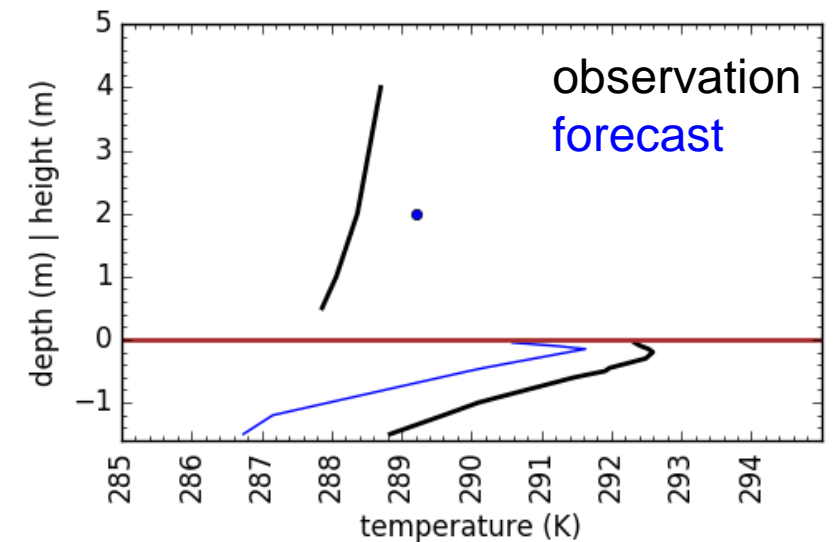
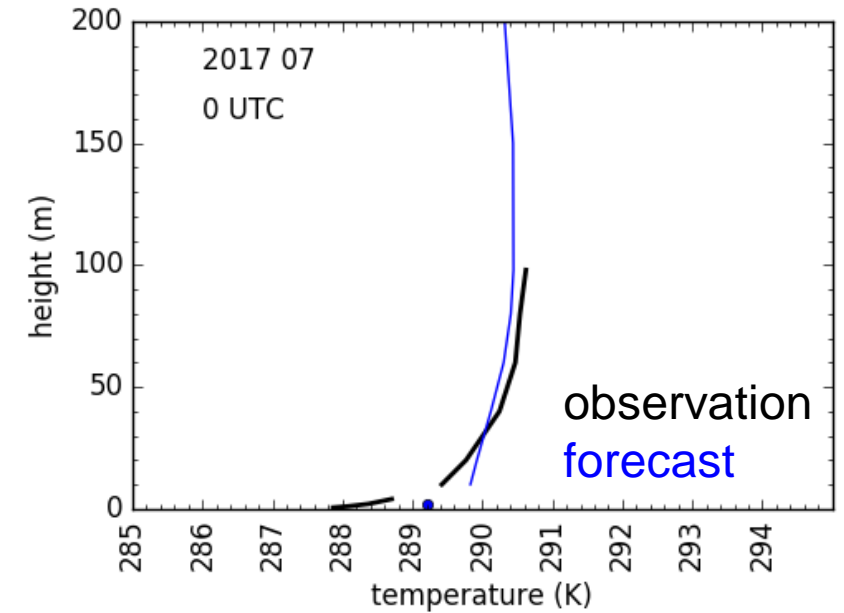
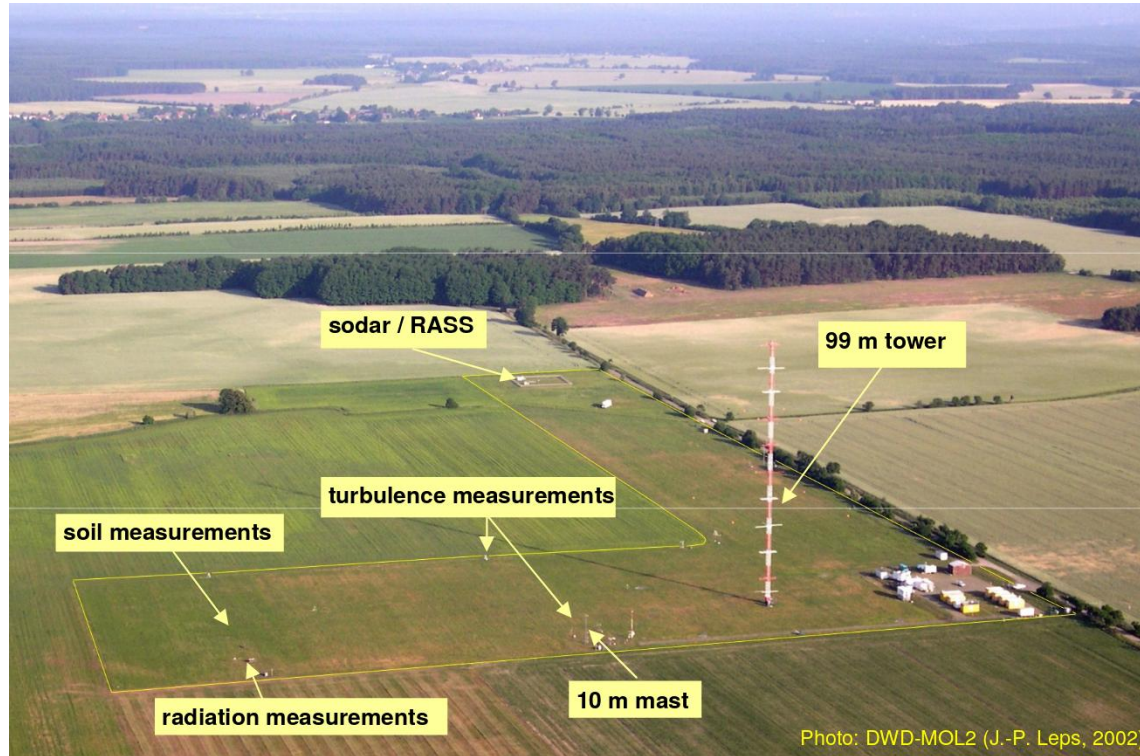




# **Verification against supersite observations**

# Verification against profile observations in air and soil

Lindenberg, Germany



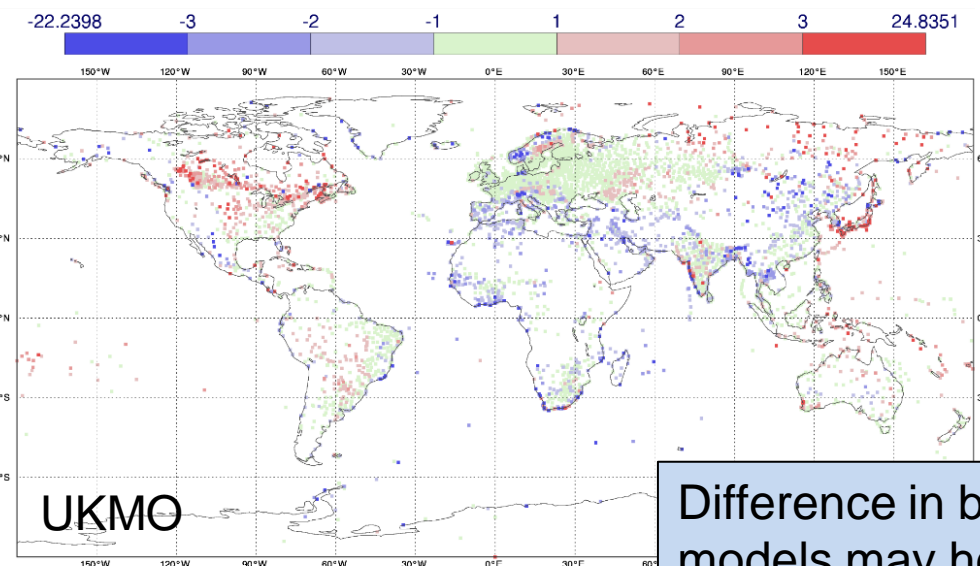
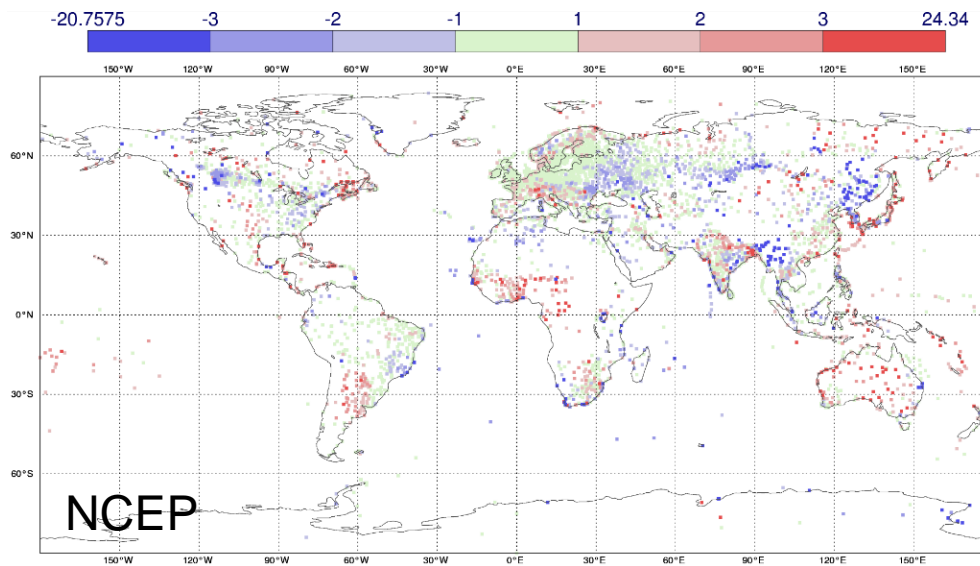
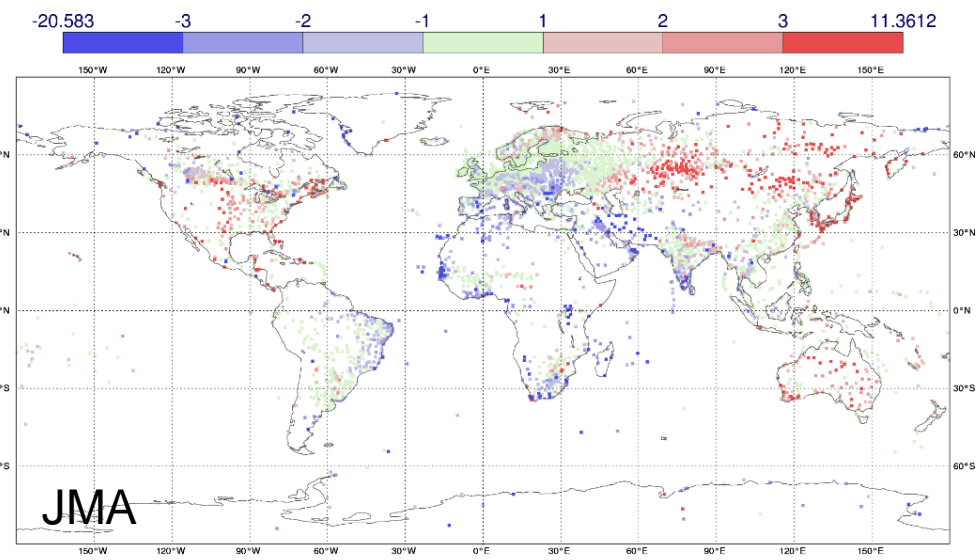
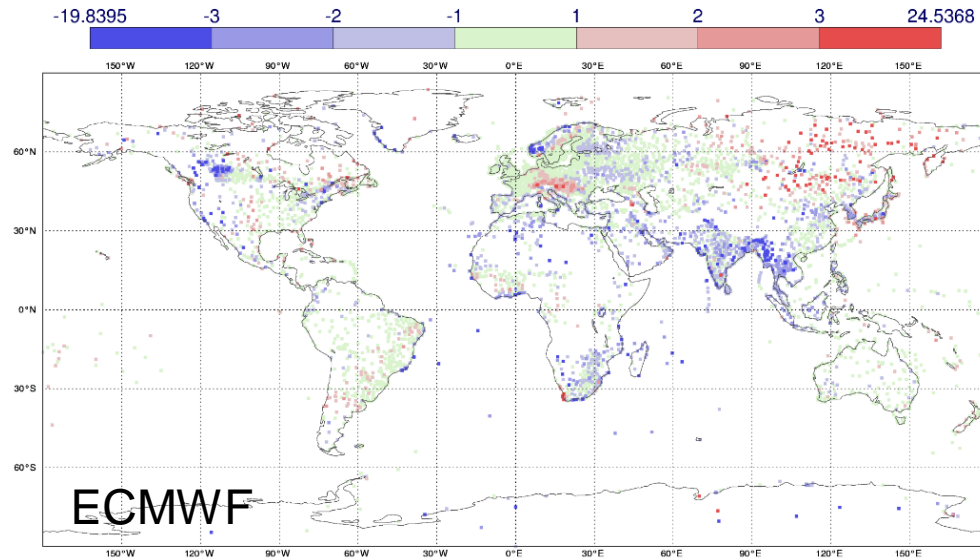
2m temperature too high  
Soil temperature too low



A comprehensive set of observations allows to better constrain parameterizations

# **Model intercomparison**

# T2m bias of different global models (TIGGE)



Day 5  
12 UTC  
DJF 2016-17

Difference in biases between models may help to better understand their causes

# New WMO guidelines for exchange of surface scores (T2m, 10m wind, total cloud cover, precip)



WMO Lead Centre for  
Deterministic NWP  
Verification (LC-DNV)

📄 Páginas

🗨️ Notícias

ÁRVORE DE PÁGINAS

- › Standard verification procedures
- ▾ **Exchange of WMO surface verification scores**
  - Answered Questions on the surface verification exchange
  - SVS: ECMWF Implementation Notes
- › Lead Centre guidelines
- › Reports

Páginas / WMO Lead Centre for Deterministic NWP Verification (LC-DNV) ⋮

## Exchange of WMO surface verification scores

Criado por Martin Janousek, última alteração em fev 27, 2018

The standard procedures for verification of surface variables are defined in the Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System: Annex IV to the WMO Technical Regulations (available from WMO library at [https://library.wmo.int/opac/index.php?lvl=notice\\_display&id=12793#.Wo8mHa0pFrk](https://library.wmo.int/opac/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=12793#.Wo8mHa0pFrk)), appendix 2.2.34.

ECMWF in the capacity of LC DNV collects and archive the scores. Data are exchanged in an ASCII-based format which is simple but flexible and is similar to the format used WMO exchange of domain-averaged upper-air scores.

### Resources

- [The format of the reports of the station-based verification scores.](#)
- [The procedures for the exchange of \(surface\) verification reports.](#)
- [The remarks on the implementation of the surface verification reports at ECMWF.](#)
- [Answered Questions on the surface verification exchange](#)

<https://confluence.ecmwf.int/display/WLD/Exchange+of+WMO+surface+verification+scores>

# WMO CBS exchange of surface scores (please participate!)

ECMWF Spaces Calendars Create

Zied Ben Bouallegue

Pages / Zied Ben Bouallegue's Home

## LC-DNV

Created by Zied Ben Bouallegue, last modified on Feb 27, 2018

Interactive map showing surface verification scores for different centres.

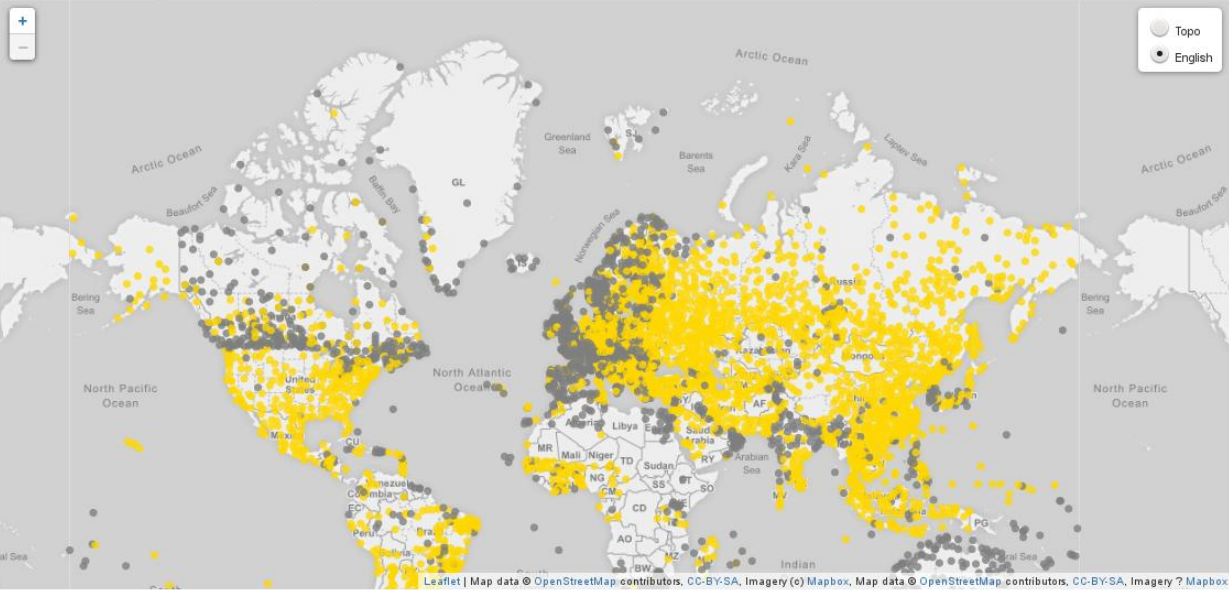
- results for 2 m temperature, 10 m wind speed, and total cloud cover (yellow)
- results for 2 m temperature and 10 m wind speed only (grey)

For more details about the scores, please refer to the page "Exchange of WMO surface verification scores"

The map follows the Observation alarm interactive map setup.

SEARCH STATION

Spring 2017 [00UTC] Spring 2017 [12UTC]



Leaflet | Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA, Imagery (c) Mapbox, Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA, Imagery ? Mapbox

Like Be the first to like this

No labels

Space tools

Write a comment

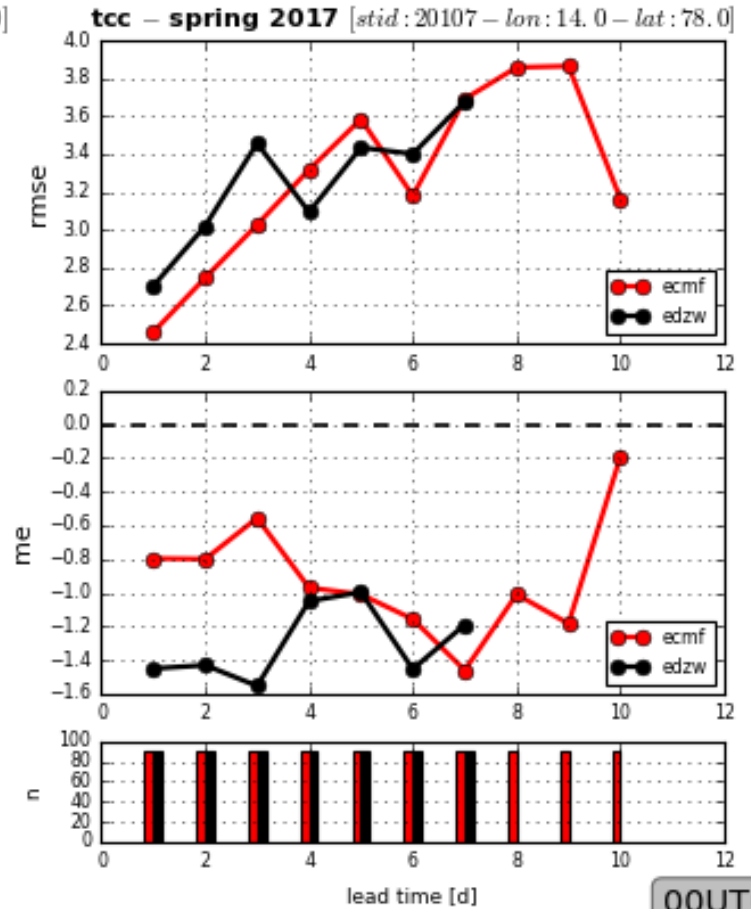
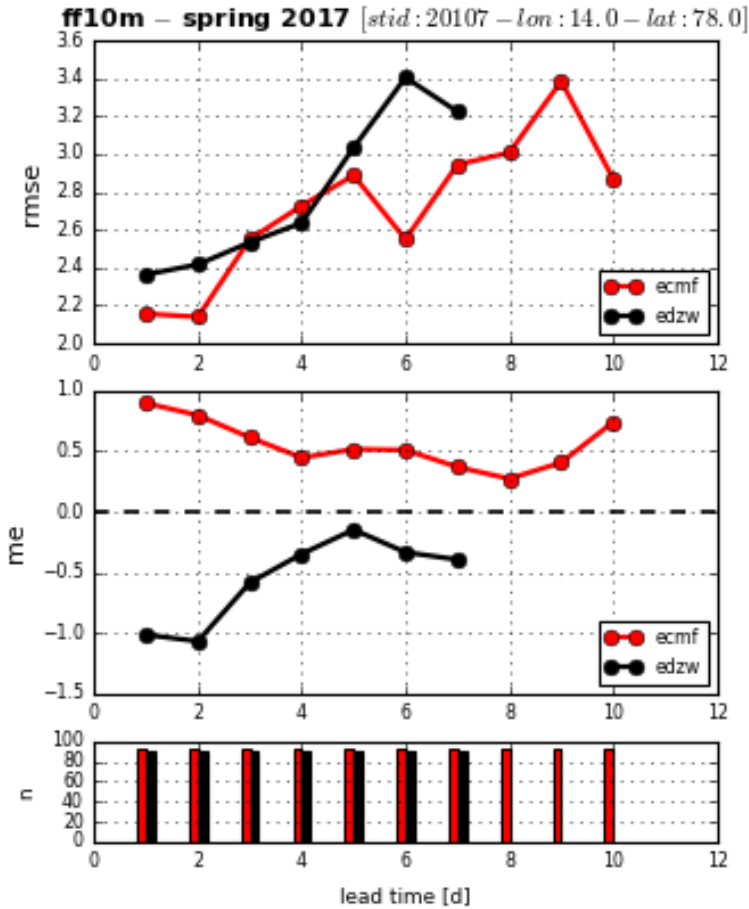
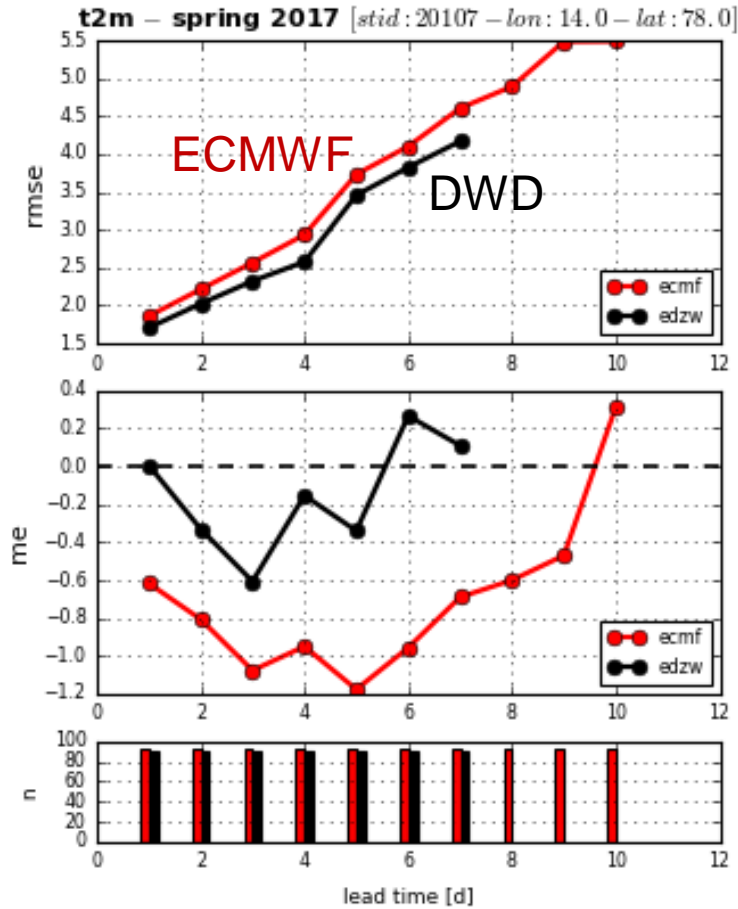
Experimental interactive map for surface scores

# WMO CBS exchange of surface scores (DWD and ECMWF so far)

2m temperature

10m wind speed

Total cloud cover



RMSE

ME

00UTC

Scores for individual SYNOP stations from different models

# Some ingredients for process-based verification

- Decompose scores and metrics
- Stratify errors and perform conditional verification
- Constrain observation error using multiple datasets (e.g. in-situ, satellite)
- Use supersite/tower data
- Use Earth's diverse geography to focus on specific regimes/processes
- Evaluate sensitivity to parameterization changes (also in single-column mode)
- Do the above for a range of models

**These are already common in research, can we adopt in operational verification as well?**



# WG membership

Members: Marion Mittermaier (MetO, co-chair), Thomas Haiden (ECMWF), Barbara Casati (ECCC), Caio Coelho (CPTEC, co-chair), Jing Chen (CMA), Chiara Marsigli (DWD), Manfred Dorninger (U. Vienna), Stephanie Landman (SAWS), Raghu Ashrit (NCMRWF)

Two vacancies.

**Thank you for your attention!**