

living planet symposium | BONN

23–27 May
2022

TAKING THE PULSE
OF OUR PLANET FROM SPACE

Project Overview

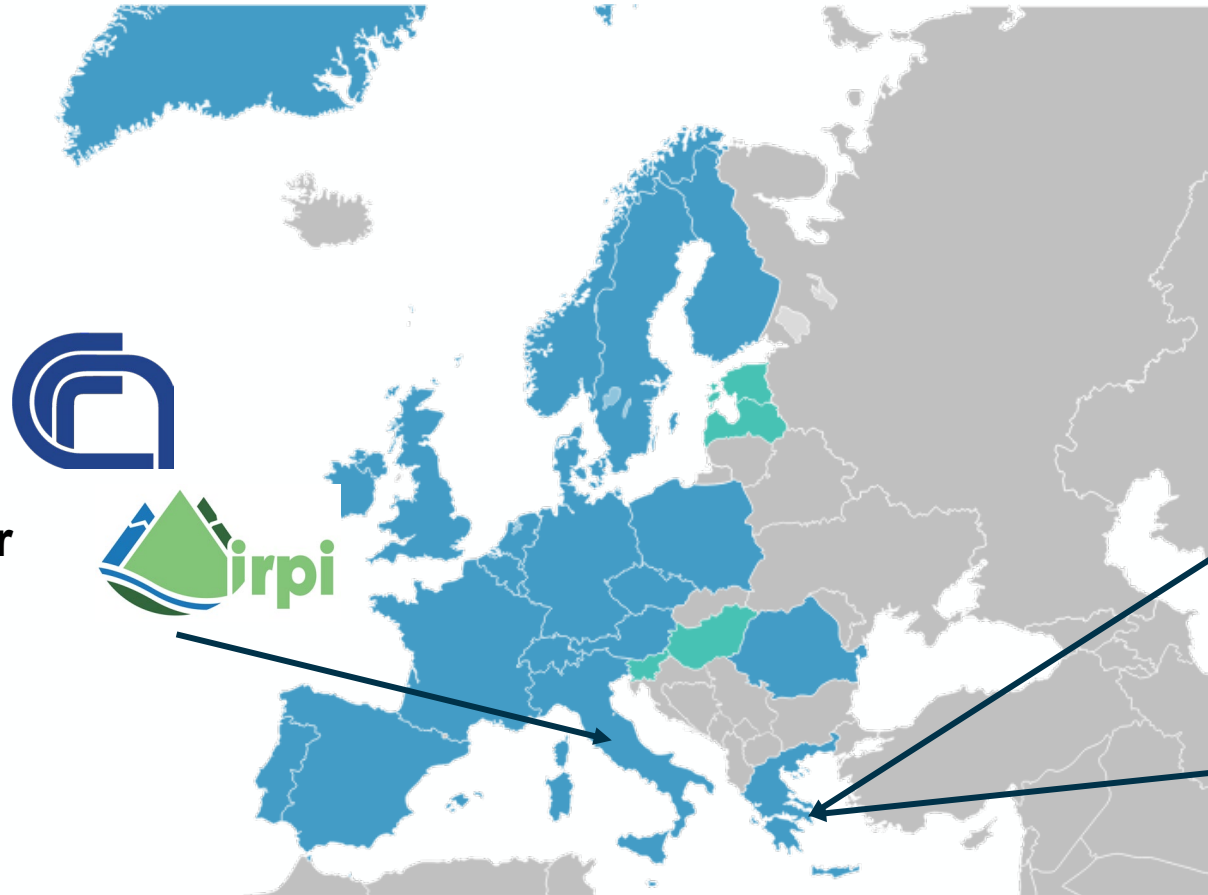


extrAIM: AI-enhanced uncertainty quantification of satellite-derived hydroclimatic extremes

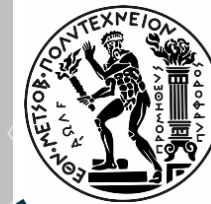
Ioannis Tsoukalas - Dr. Civil Engineer (PhD NTUA)
Panagiotis Kossieris - Dr. Civil Engineer (PhD NTUA)

Tethys consulting, Athens, Greece
e-mail: jtsoukalas@hotmail.com
24/May/2022

Who is who?



**Istituto di Ricerca per
la Protezione
Idrogeologica**



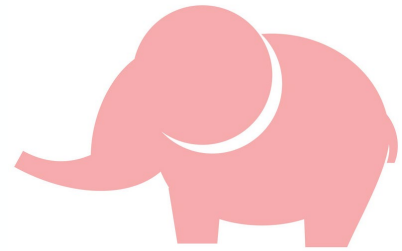
**National Technical
University of Athens**
Laboratory of Hydrology and
Water Resources



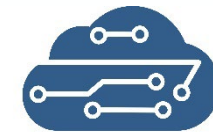
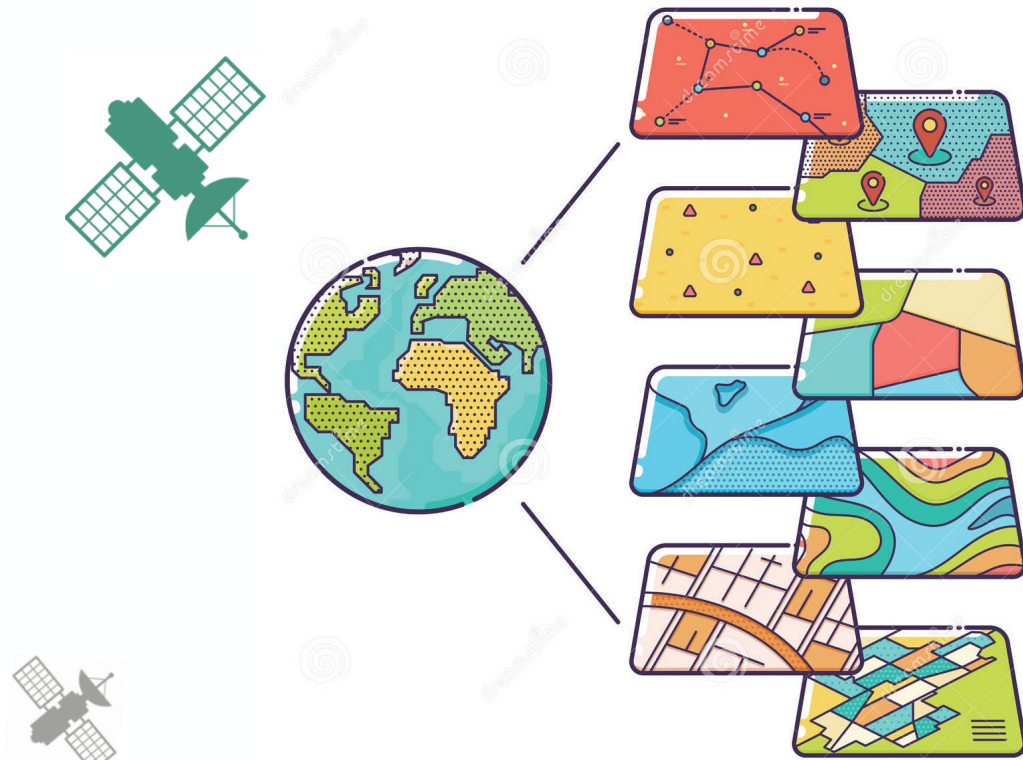
Tethys Consulting

Main challenge, idea & rationale

Address the elephant in the room (or slide)...



Satellite EO data exhibits significant mismatches/differences with observation-based measurements (i.e., in-situ).

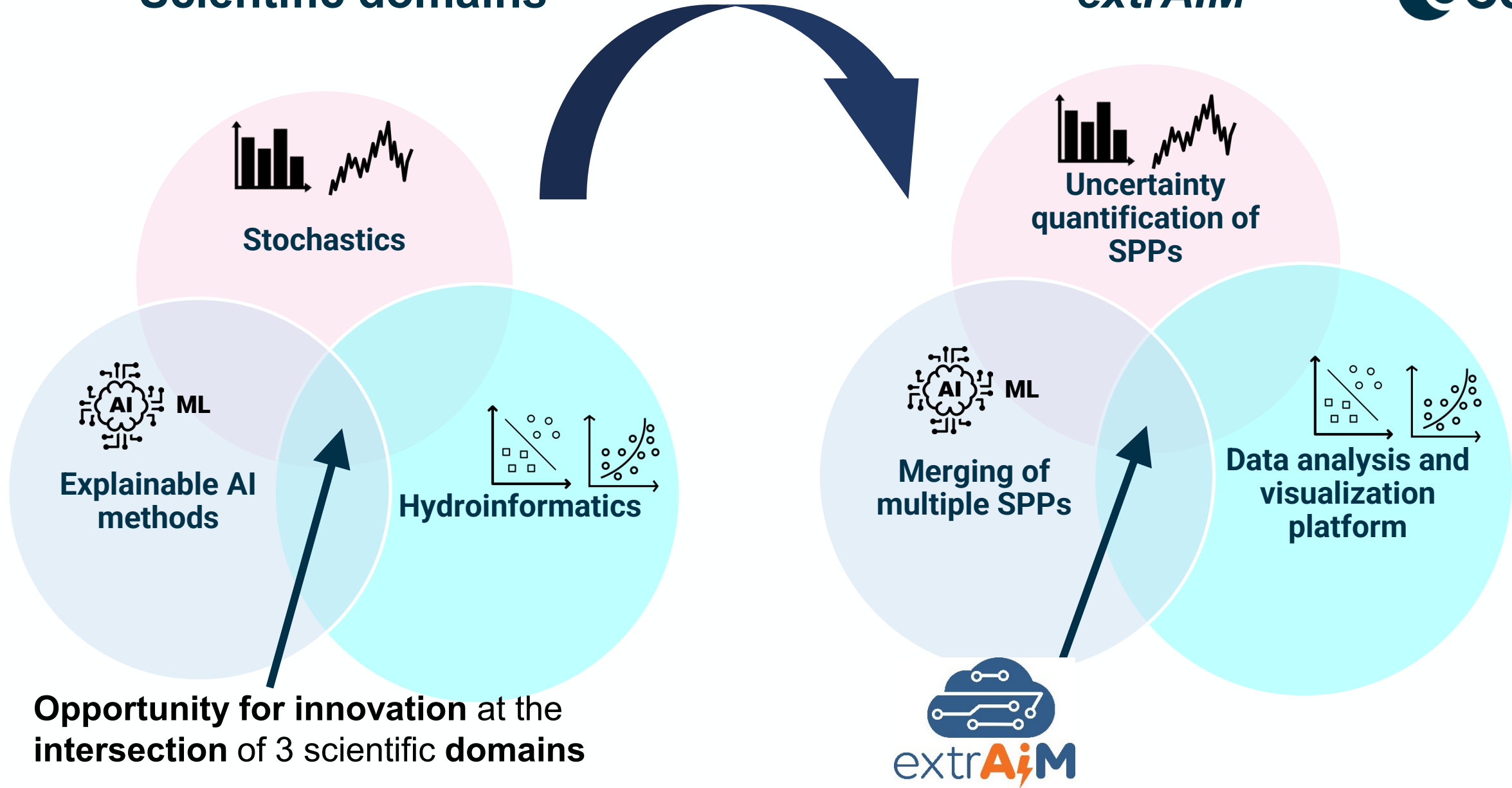


What **extrAiM** will do?

Develop/explore methods, frameworks and algorithms, tailored for EO data, to address this issue *per se*.

Scientific domains

extrAIM



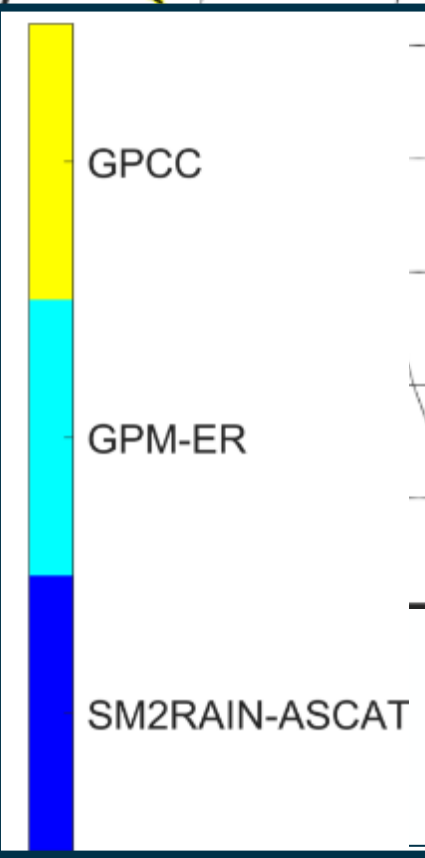
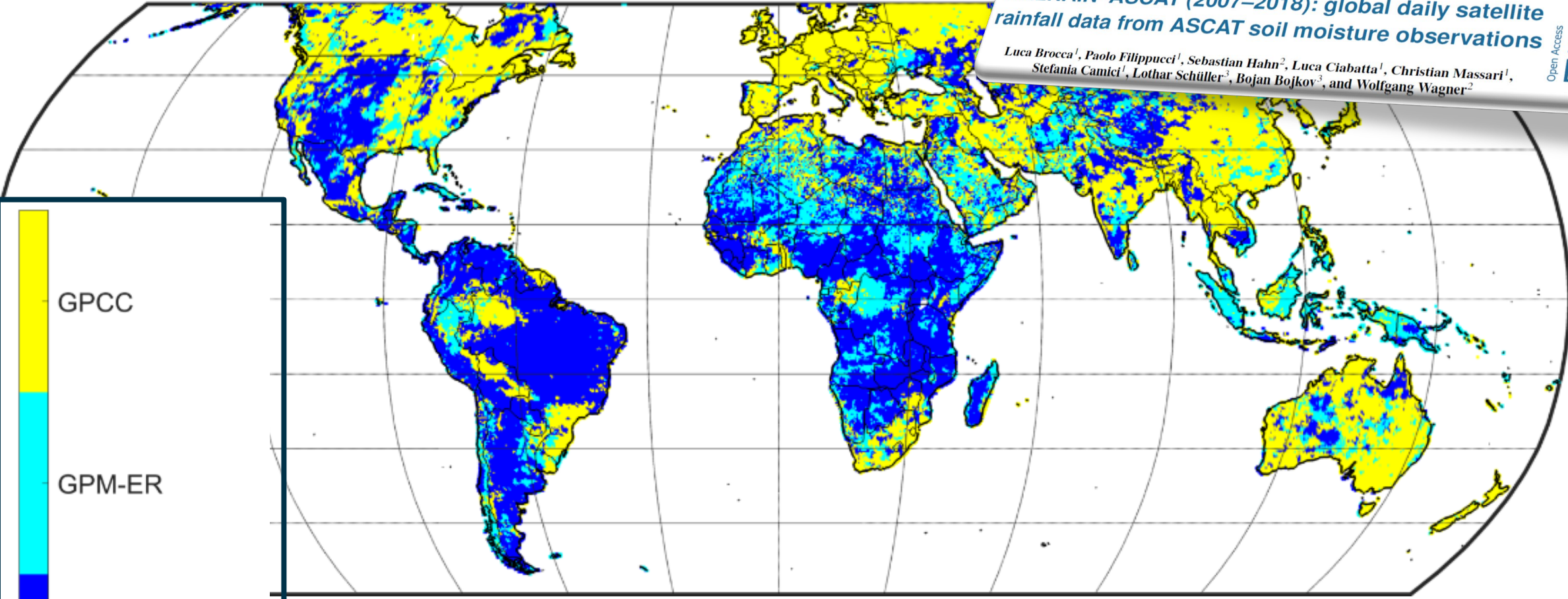


Why multiple SPPs?

Global SM2RAIN project

SM2RAIN-ASCAT (2007-2018): global daily satellite rainfall data from ASCAT soil moisture observations
Luca Brocca¹, Paolo Filippucci¹, Sebastian Hahn², Luca Ciabatta¹, Christian Massari¹, Stefania Camici¹, Lothar Schüller³, Bojan Bojkov³, and Wolfgang Wagner²

Open Access Earth System Science Data



BLUE AREAS where SM2RAIN-ASCAT is performing the best, even better than GPCP!

Brocca et al. (2019 ESSD), Massari et al. (2019 JoH)
Ciabatta et al. (2017 JoH, 2018 ESSD)



Why and How to **merge** multiple SPPs?

AI-enhanced and explainable generation of integrated satellite-based precipitation products

Can we open the Black-Box of AI/ML?

A typical situation: An SPP appears with an error 15% for Italy and 35% for Greece.

A ML *enthusiast*:



- **What** a breakthrough!
- **Why** does the model predict this outcome?
- **Which** features have the most impact?
- **When** can I trust this outcome?
- **Where** is the largest errors in the outcome?

A ML *denier*:



- **What?! This is just glorified regression!**
- **Why** should I trust this outcome obtained from a black (probably also magic) box?
- **Where** is the physical consistency?
- **What** is the explanation of this?

A possible remedy? Explainable AI (XAI) – also known as the third-wave of AI!

- XAI aims to give answers to the “*wh-*” questions, by complementing predictions with explanations.
- **Build trust and confidence** with end-users/society, aiming to enhance the uptake of AI.



Why uncertainty quantification of SPP's estimates?

Probabilistic framework for the uncertainty quantification of satellite-based precipitation estimates

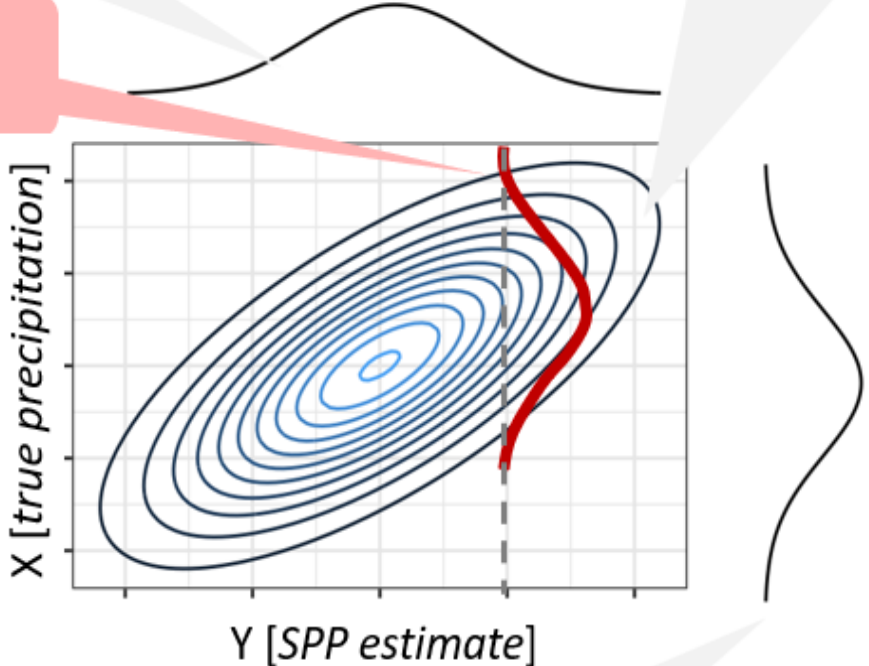
Quantification of uncertainty of SPP's estimates

Marginal distribution of Y
 $f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{XY}(x, y) dx$

Joint distribution
 $f_{XY}(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2 F_{XY}(x, y)}{\partial x \partial y}$

Conditional distribution
 $f_{X|Y}(x) = f_{XY}(x, y) / f_Y(Y)$

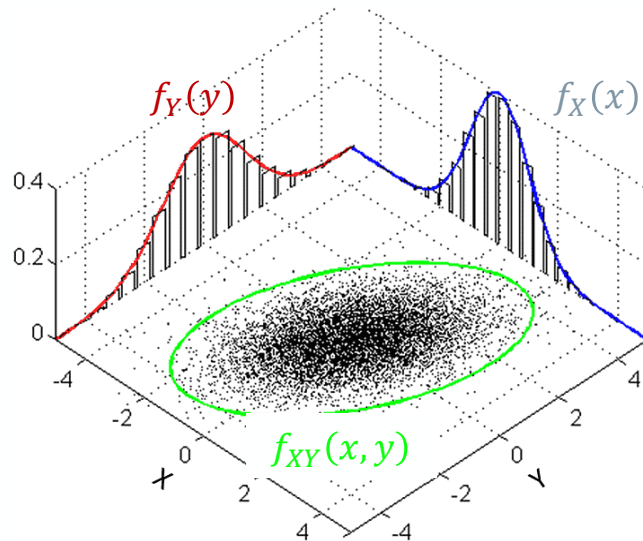
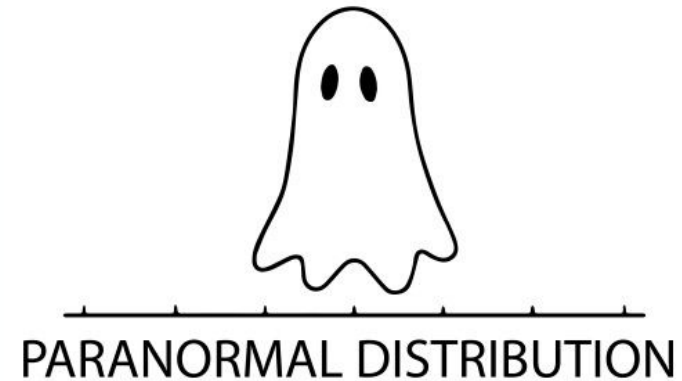
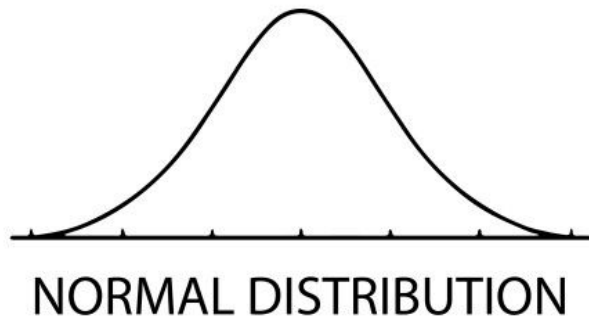
Quantification of uncertainty of SPP estimates



Marginal distribution of X
 $f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{XY}(x, y) dy$

Aims

- Quantify SPP's uncertainty
- Move beyond single-valued QPEs to multiple-valued, equiprobable QPEs
- Creation of a **first-of-its-kind**, low-latency, **uncertainty-aware (UA) daily satellite precipitation product (SPP)** for the **Mediterranean**
- **Adjust SPPs to cope with the probabilistic behavior of for extremes**

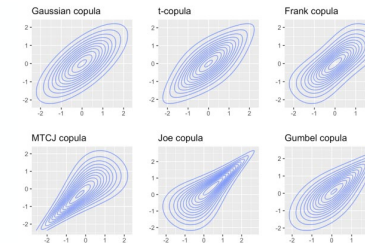
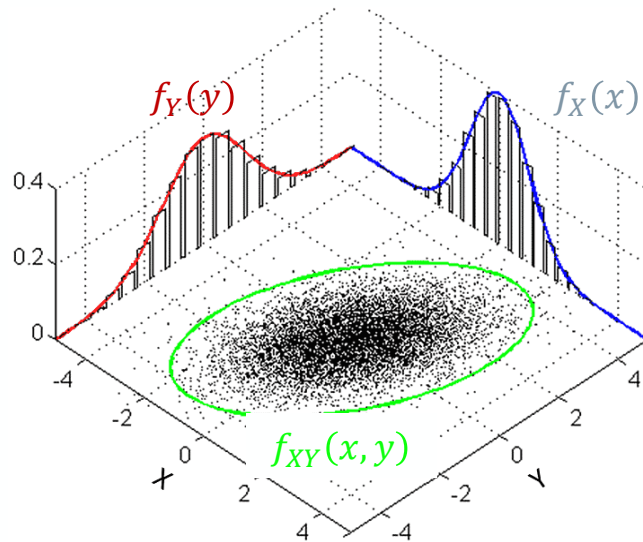
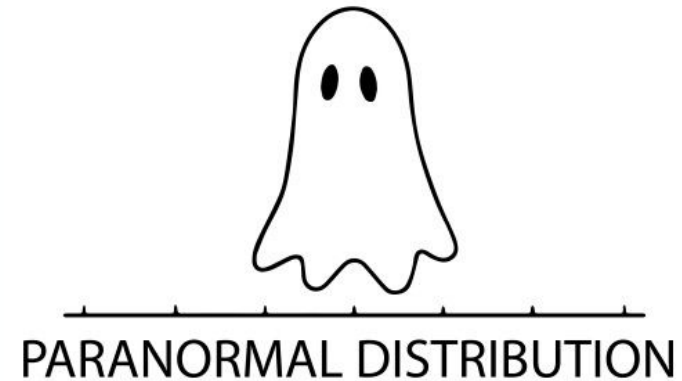
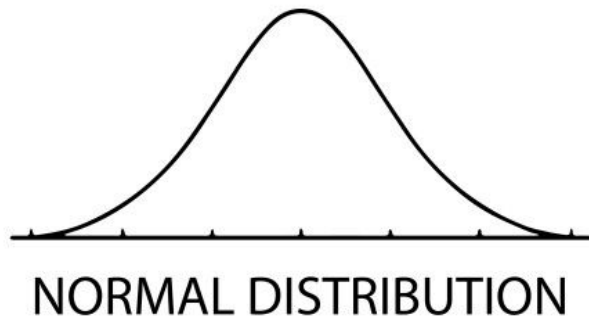


?

Correlated non-Gaussian random variables

Oh, Lord, please keep the world linear and Gaussian.

~Chester Kisiel's [1967] *pray to the theoretical hydrologist* Klemeš [1997 (p. 288)]



Copulas
Correlated non-Gaussian
 random variables

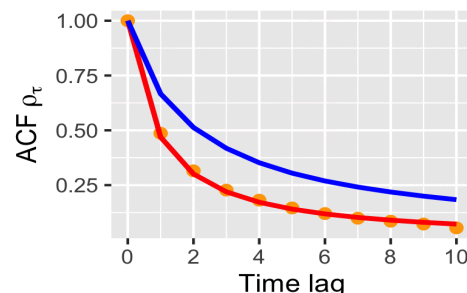
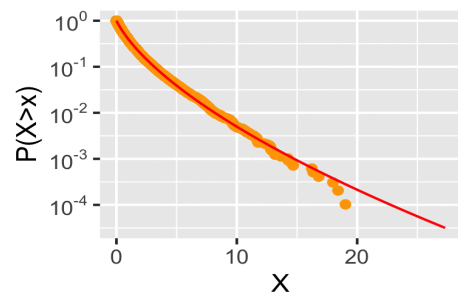
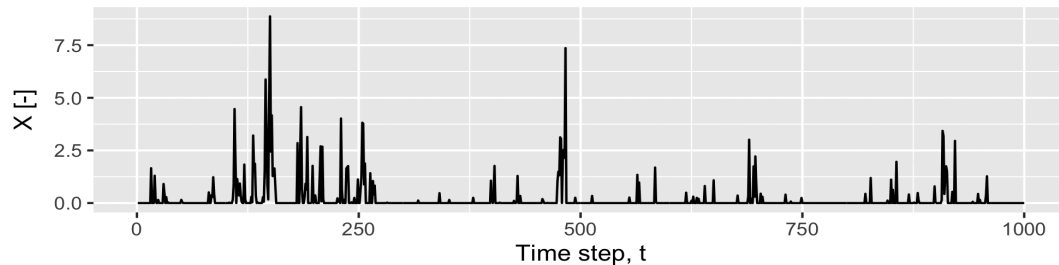
Oh, Lord, please keep the world linear and Gaussian.

~Chester Kisiel's [1967] pray to the theoretical hydrologist Klemeš [1997 (p. 288)]

Modelling and simulation of non-Gaussian stochastic processes

Generic methodology for the stochastic simulation of processes (incl. multivariate ones) of any time scale, any distribution, any correlation structure:

- Stochastic simulation of **physical** (e.g., weather, hydrometeorological) and **non-physical processes** (e.g., water demand, energy demand).
- Stochastic **disaggregation** to support the reproduction of processes' characteristics at **multiple spatiotemporal scales**.



Water Resources Research

RESEARCH ARTICLE
10.1029/2017WR022462

Simulation of Stochastic Processes Exhibiting Any-Range Dependence and Arbitrary Marginal Distributions

Key Points:
• Simulation of processes with arbitrary marginal distributions
• Simulation of short- and long-range dependent processes

Ioannis Tsoukalas¹, Christos Makropoulos¹, and Demetris Koutsoyiannis¹

¹Department of Water Resources and Environmental Engineering, School of Civil Engineering, National Technical University of Athens, Zografou, Greece

Water Resources Research

RESEARCH ARTICLE
10.1002/2017WR021394

Stochastic Periodic Autoregressive to Anything (SPARTA): Modeling and Simulation of Cyclostationary Processes With Arbitrary Marginal Distributions

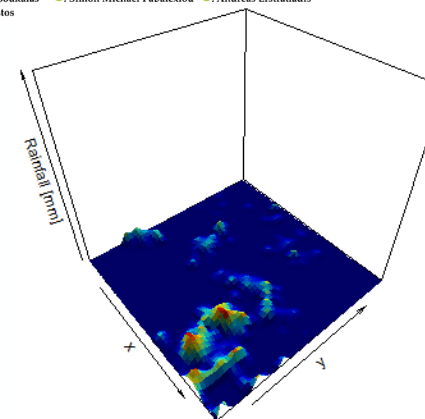
Key Points:
• Simulation of periodic processes with any marginal distribution
• Generation of synthetic time series in univariate or multivariate mode
• Accurate preservation of essential statistics and observed dependencies

Ioannis Tsoukalas¹, Andreas Efstratiadis¹, and Christos Makropoulos¹

¹Department of Water Resources and Environmental Engineering, School of Civil Engineering, National Technical University of Athens, Zografou, Greece

Article
A Cautionary Note on the Reproduction of Dependencies through Linear Stochastic Models with Non-Gaussian White Noise

Ioannis Tsoukalas^{1,*}, Simon Michael Papaalexio², Andreas Efstratiadis¹ and Christos Makropoulos¹



Article

Simulating Marginal and Dependence Behaviour of Water Demand Processes at Any Fine Time Scale

Panagiotis Kossieris^{1,*}, Ioannis Tsoukalas¹, Christos Makropoulos^{1,2} and Dragan Savic^{2,3}

Journal of Hydrology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jhydrol



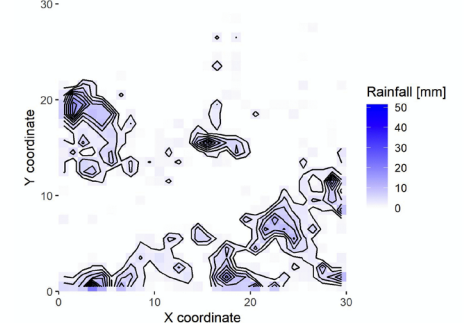
search papers

Building a puzzle to solve a riddle: A multi-scale disaggregation approach for multivariate stochastic processes with any marginal distribution and correlation structure

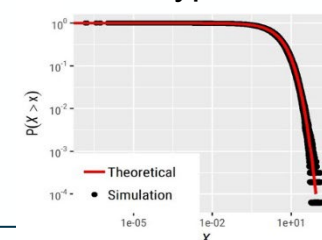
Ioannis Tsoukalas^{*}, Andreas Efstratiadis, Christos Makropoulos

^{*}Department of Water Resources and Environmental Engineering, School of Civil Engineering, National Technical University of Athens, Heroon Polytechniou 5, 15780 Zografou, Greece

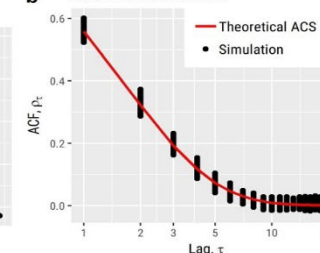
Time step: 1



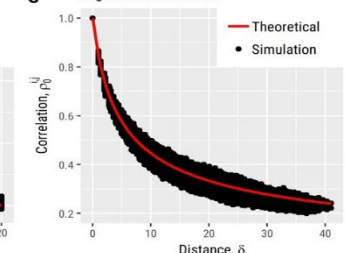
a Burr type XII



b Autocorrelation Structure

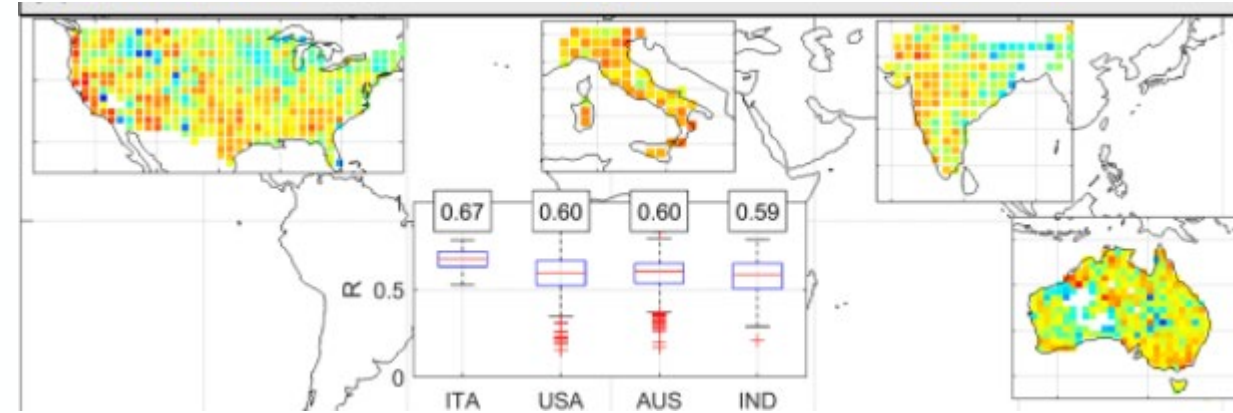


c Lag-0 cross-correlation



Some early results using SM2RAIN-ASCAT SPP [1]

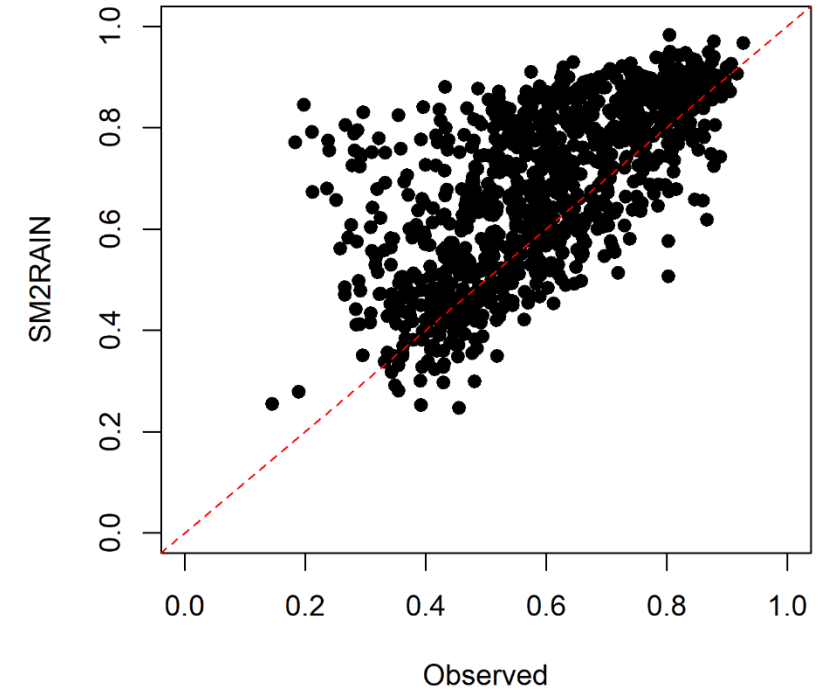
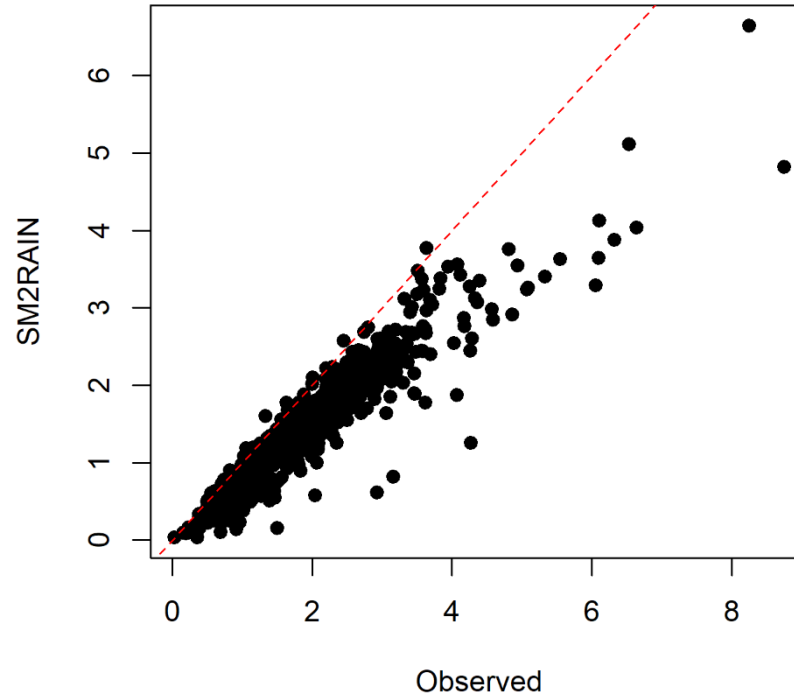
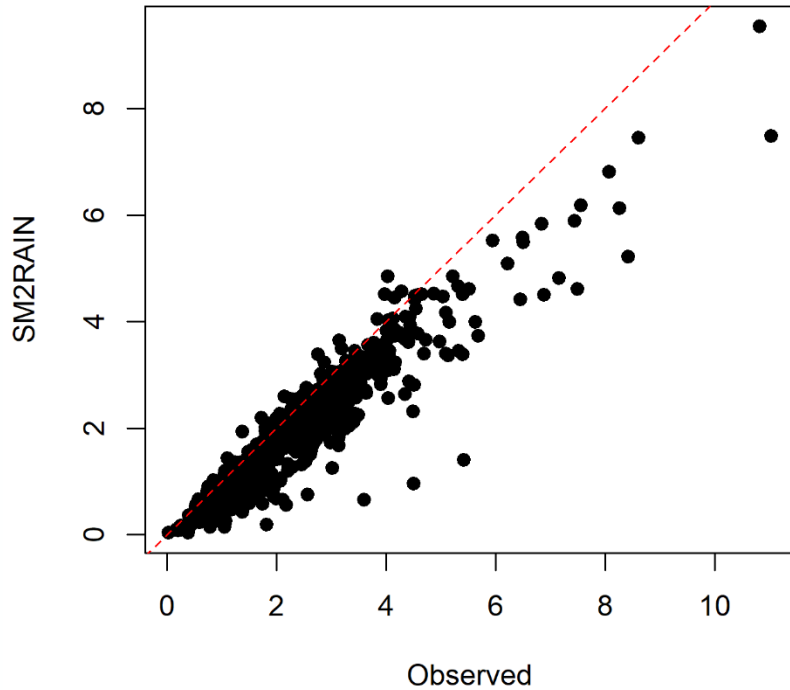
“Test” dataset: 1009 stations, from:
 Brocca, L., Filippucci, P., Hahn, S., Ciabatta, L., Massari, C., Camici, S., Schüller, L., Bojkov, B., and Wagner, W.: *SM2RAIN-ASCAT (2007–2018): global daily satellite rainfall data from ASCAT soil moisture observations*, Earth Syst. Sci. Data, 11, 1583–1601.



Mean value

L-scale

Probability of zero value



Some early results using SM2RAIN-ASCAT SPP [2]

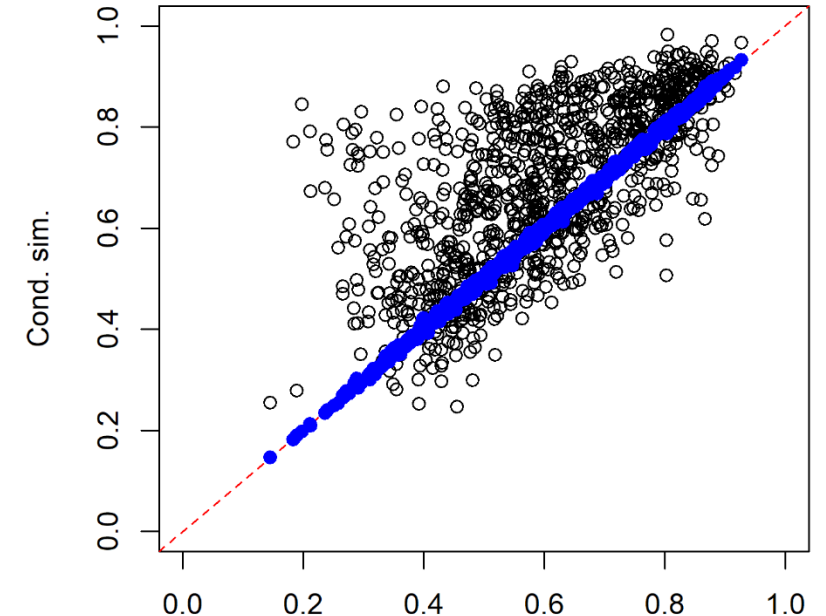
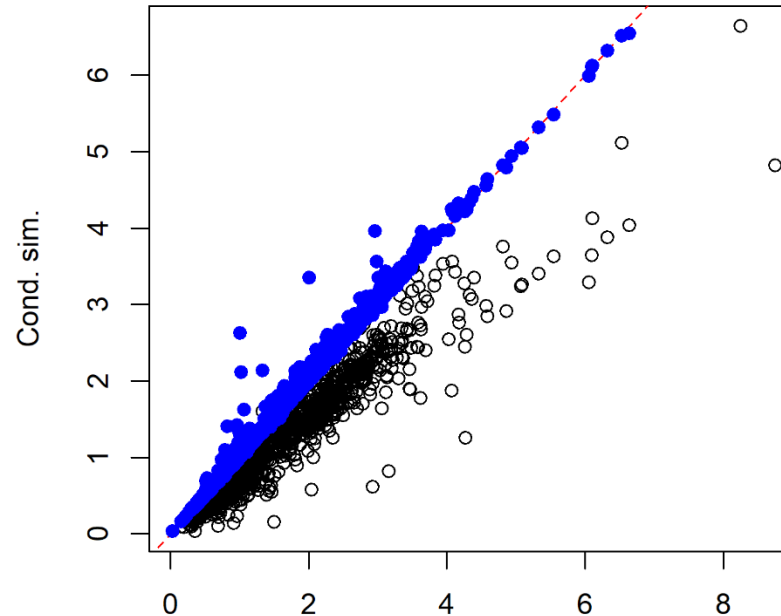
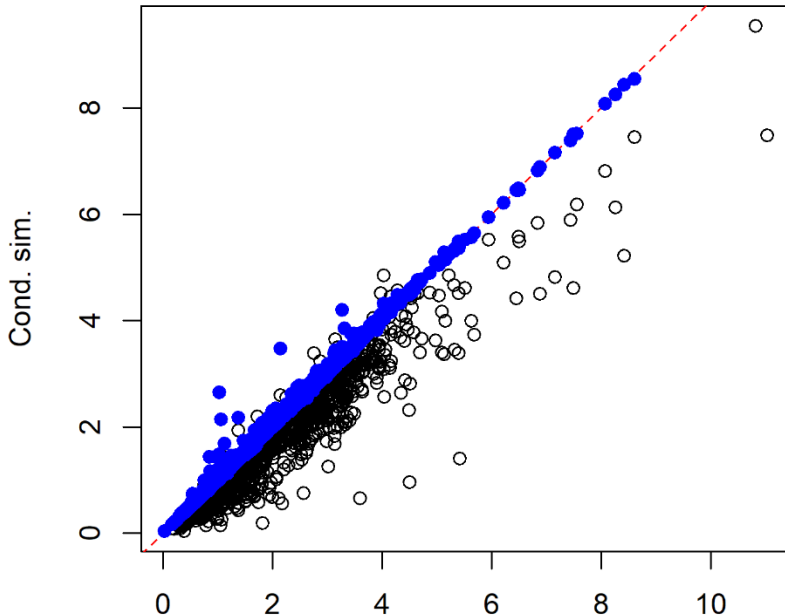
Application: Copula-based modelling of predictive uncertainty

- **Marginal distribution:** Zero-inflated Generalized Gamma distribution (fitted using L-moments)
- **Dependence structure:** Gaussian copula (fitted using the maximum likelihood method)
- **Simulation:** Generation of 500 equally-probable realizations via conditional sampling

Mean value

L-scale

Probability of zero value



Observed

Observed

Observed

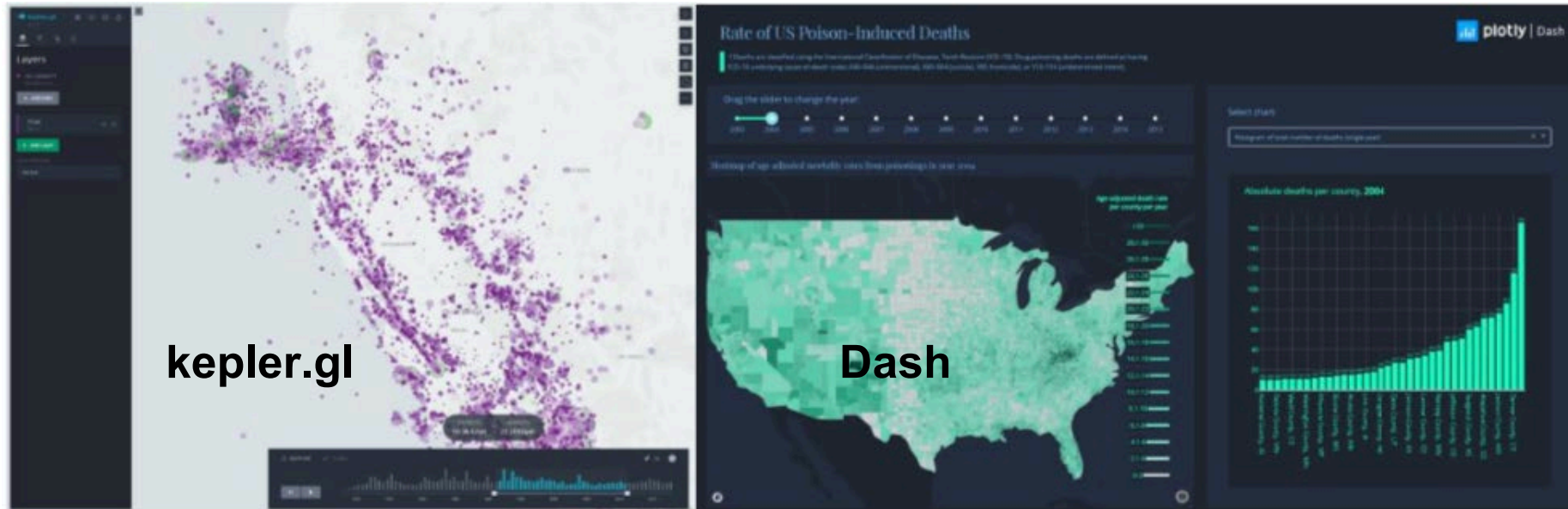




Why develop a Satellite-data analysis and visualization platform?

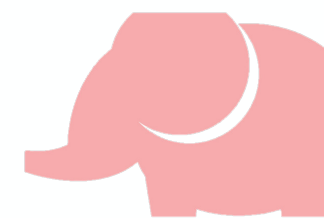
Candidate solutions

- Build upon **latest ICT** and **digital solutions** (cloud computing and big data analytics) to provide a **fast, reliable and user-friendly platform**.
- **Not a one-off service: Operation, maintenance and upgrade** also **after** the end of the **project**, by NTUA team, to guarantee continuous and high-quality service offering.
- Development of a **functional and interactive dashboard** to motivate and facilitate users to **access and analyse the uncertainty-aware extrAIM data products**.
- Candidate open-source visualization options: kepler.gl, Dash, bokeh, project jupyter, Dask.



A take-home message – and a wish!

- extrAIM aspires to catalyse a move to a new era of Satellite-based products: **from single-valued estimates to multi-valued uncertainty aware estimates**
- By also **opening up the “black” box for EO**: Provide Satellite-based products, with more accuracy, transparency, explainability and interpretability!
- Delivered through a **user-friendly and scalable web platform** to make easy the access and analysis of satellite-based products!
- And hopefully, **building trust** between (space) scientists and engineers (on the ground).



Thank you!