

# REPRODUCIBILITY OF SCIENTIFIC FINDINGS



Beate Geyer

Institute of Coastal Research

Karlsruhe, 19.9.2018

## Why?

- Proposals for Safeguarding **Good Scientific Practice**
  - ‘The primary test of a scientific discovery is its reproducibility.’
  - ‘Experiments and numerical calculations can only be repeated if all important steps are reproducible. ‘
  - ‘Every publication based on experiments or numerical simulations includes an obligatory chapter on “materials and methods” summing up these records in such a way that the work may be reproduced in another laboratory.’
  
- **Collaboration** with data from different HPC platforms
- **Store or redo** simulations

# THE 3 ENEMIES OF REPRODUCIBILITY

- Reproducibility of regional climate simulations – machine dependency of results



Daniel Lüthi



Susanne Brienens



Hendrik Wouters



Klaus Keuler  
Beate Geyer



Edoardo Buchignani



Andrew Ferrone

- Reproducibility of regional climate simulations – internal variability



Daniel Lüthi

- Reproducibility of scientific findings due to 'changing truth': eObs data through the ages 2013-2017



# ENEMY 1 - MACHINE DEPENDENCY

## Set up

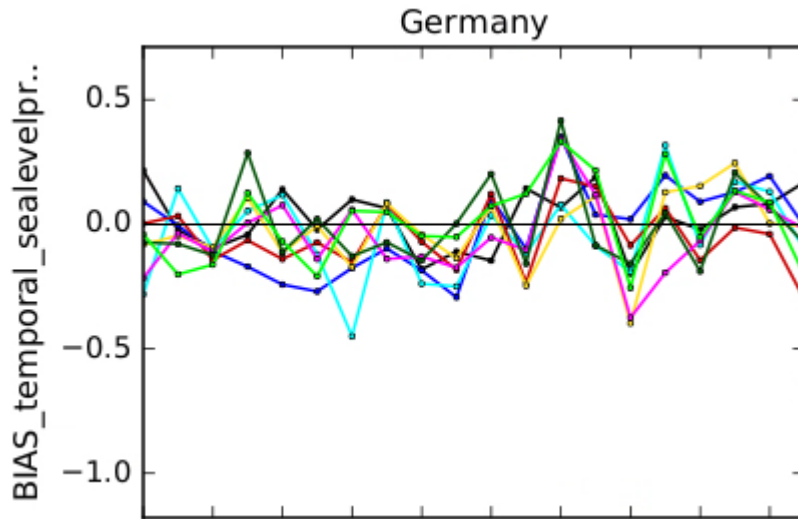
- Simulation period 1981-2000
- Equal forcing, namelists and model version at 8 computer systems (DKRZ: blizzard & mistral)  
ERAint, namelist CON502, model version cosmo\_131108\_5.00\_clm2

or

- Equal forcing, namelists and model version at one computer systems, but different compilers

# ENEMY 1 - MACHINE DEPENDENCY

PMSL yearly mean differences to CON502 for 1981-2000

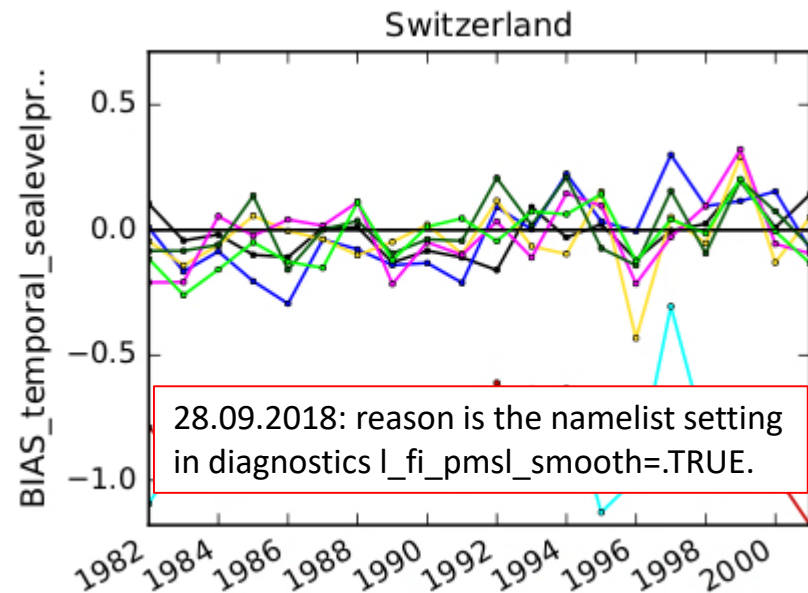


CON502 at blizzard (DKRZ) as reference



most countries look like Germany

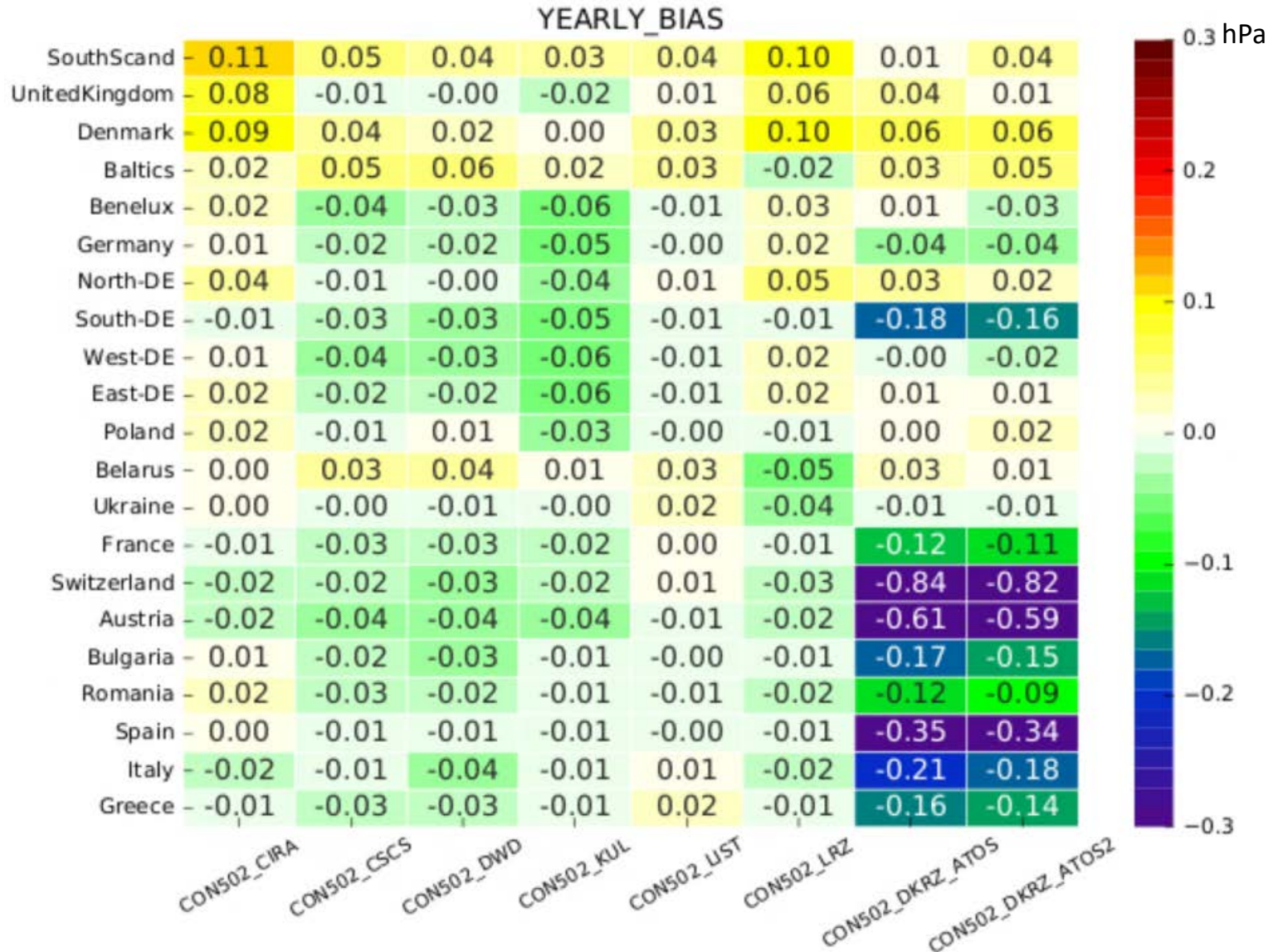
Spain and Austria look like Switzerland



Range:  $\pm 0.3$  hPa + strange mistral-values  
Max. of 20-year-mean differences: -0.05-0.03hPa

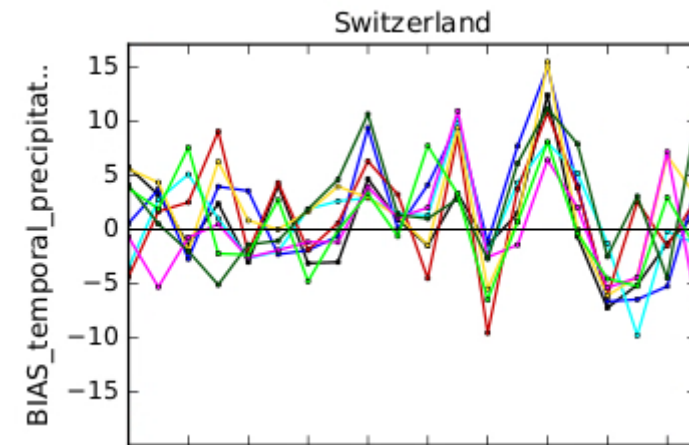
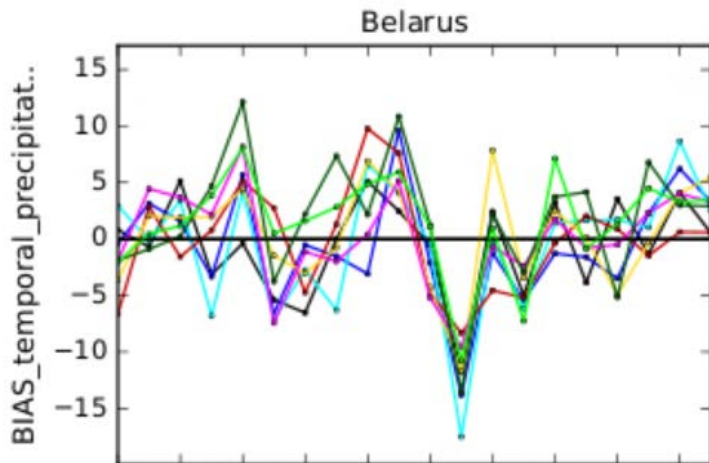
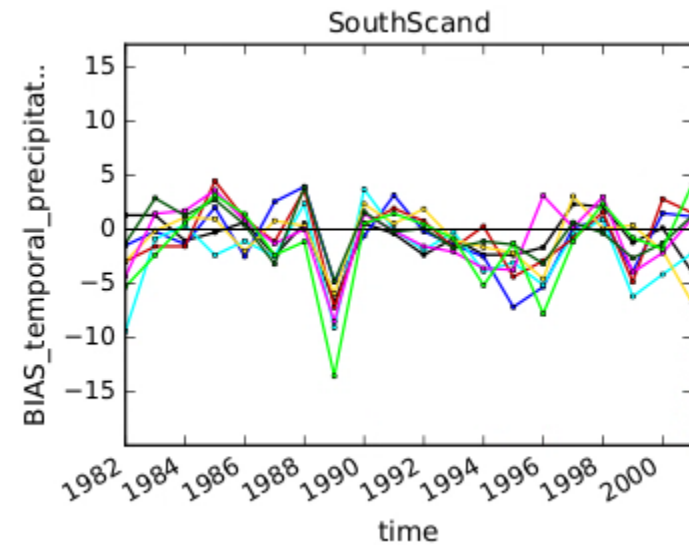
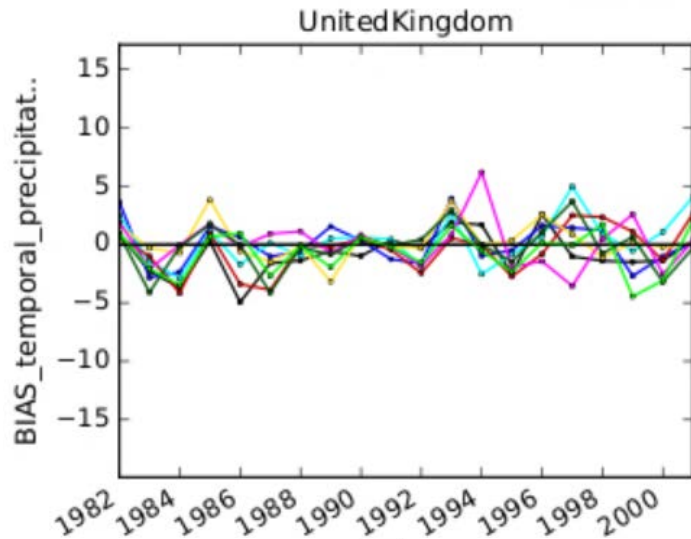
# ENEMY 1 - MACHINE DEPENDENCY

PMSL mean differences to CON502 for 1981-2000



# ENEMY 1 - MACHINE DEPENDENCY

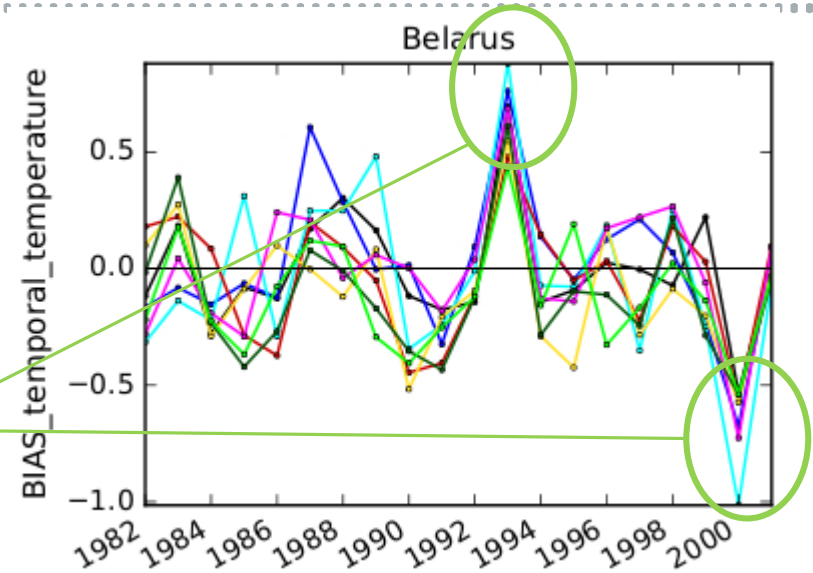
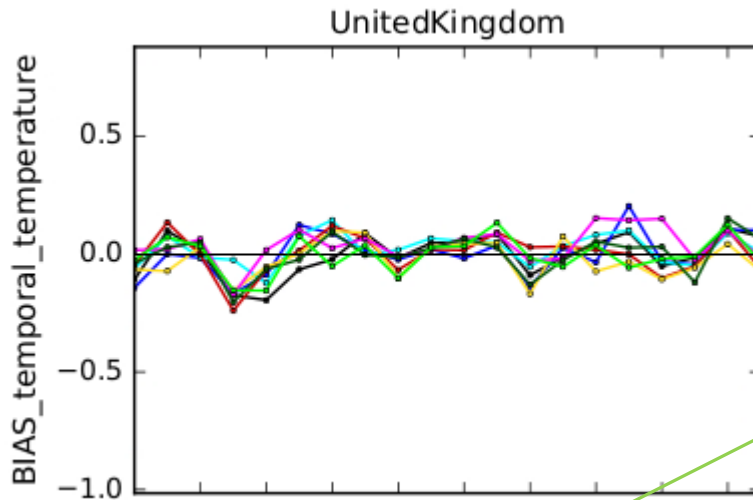
TOT\_PREC yearly mean differences to CON502 of monthly sums



- Range: W:  $\pm 5$ mm/month
- Range: E:  $\pm 10$  mm/month
- ❖ Max. of 20-year-mean differences: -2.7-2.3 mm/month

# ENEMY 1 - MACHINE DEPENDENCY

T<sub>2M</sub> yearly mean differences to CON502

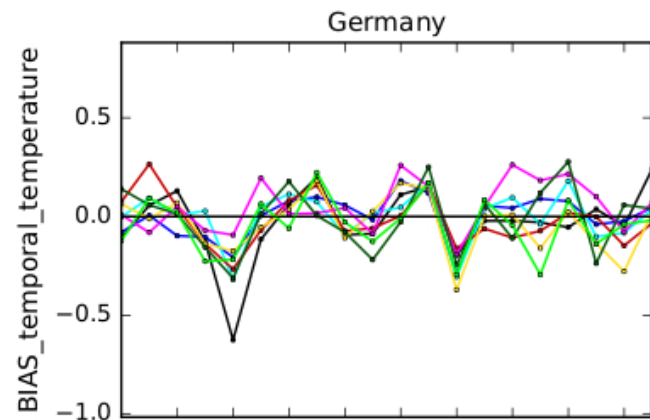


- E: UK, Ital., France, Spain with  $\pm 0.2K$
- W: Belarus  $\pm 0.5K$
- ❖ Max. of 20-year-mean differences:  $-0.12K - 0.7K$

All simulations differ in the same direction from CON502 (by chance blizzard-simulation)

A measure for uncertainty (e.g.  $2\sigma$ ; in this talk inspection by eye) would be dependent on the choice of the reference

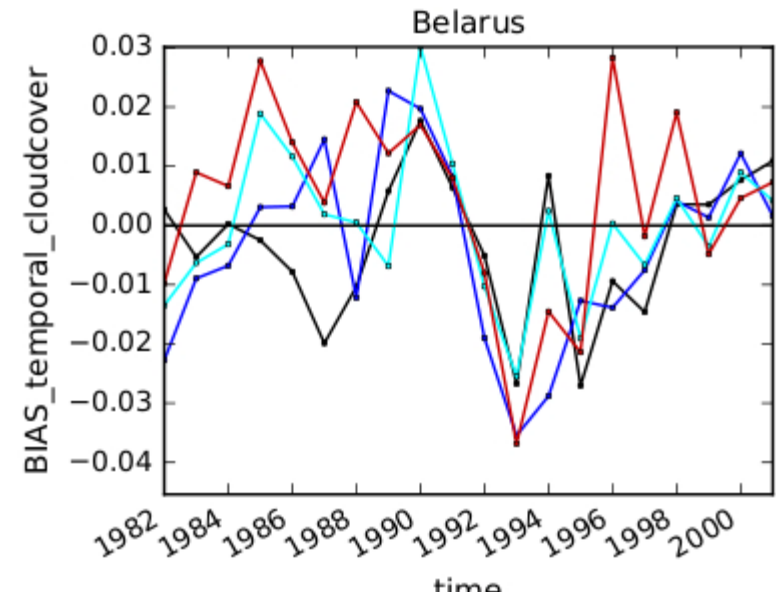
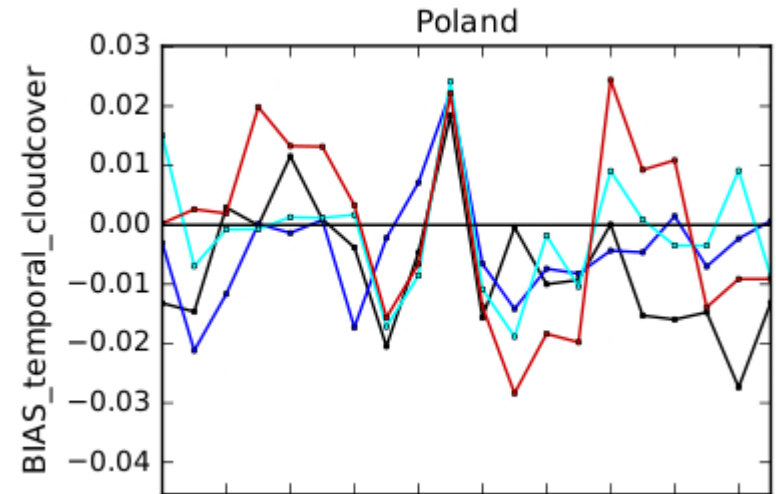
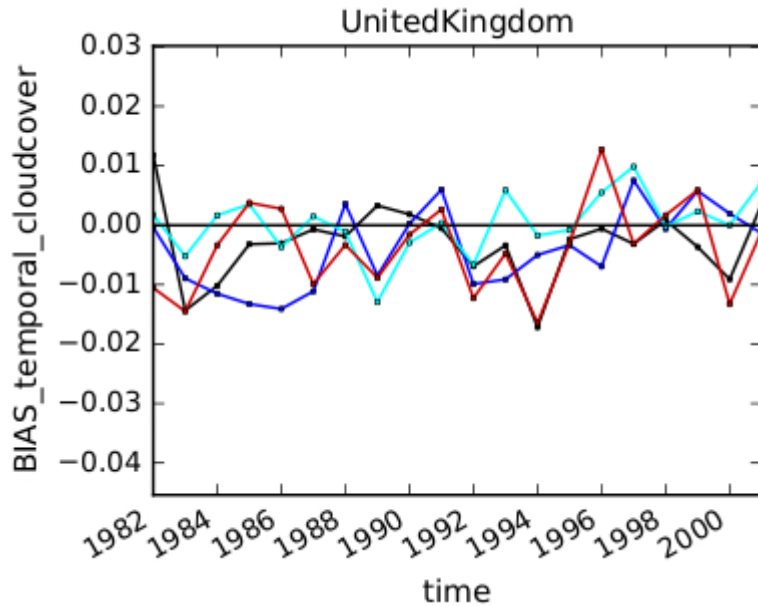
Solutions??



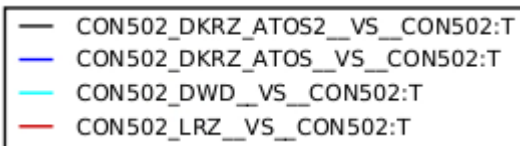


# ENEMY 1 - MACHINE DEPENDENCY

## CLCT yearly mean differences to CON502



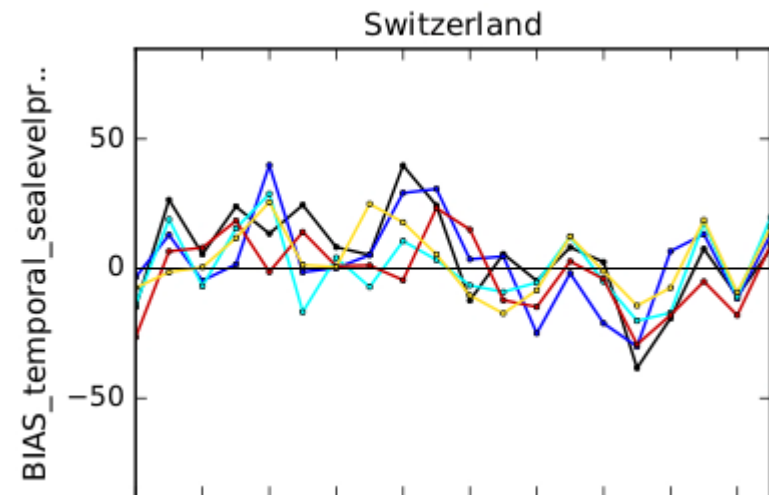
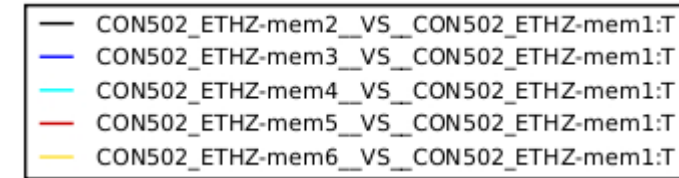
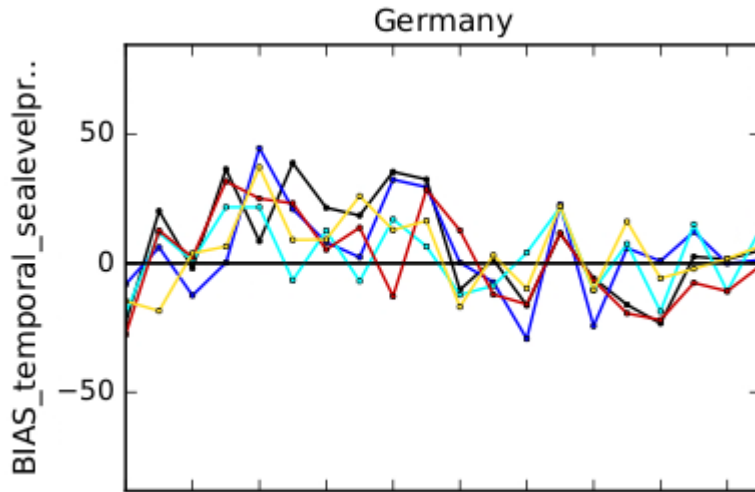
- UK, France, Spain:  $\pm 1\%$
- Poland, Ukraine, Baltics:  $\pm 2\%$
- ❖ Max. of 20-year-mean differences:  $-1\%$



# SUMMARY-TABLE

Element	Range / max. 20yearØ Machine dependency	Range / max. 20yearØ Internal variability	Range / max. 20yearØ Changing Observations
PMSL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ ±0.3 hPa</li> <li>■ Switzerland, Austria, Spain: 2 outlying simulations (-0.5—1.0hPa)</li> <li>❖ -0.05—0.03hPa</li> </ul>		
TOT_PREC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ West: ±5mm/month</li> <li>■ East: ±10mm/month</li> <li>❖ -2.7-2.3 mm/month</li> </ul>		
T_2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ West:±0.2K</li> <li>■ East: ±0.5K</li> <li>❖ W: 0.04K; E: -0.12K</li> </ul>		
TMIN_2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ As T_2M</li> </ul>		
TMAX_2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ As T_2M</li> </ul>		
CLCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ W: ±1%</li> <li>■ E: ±2%-±3%</li> <li>❖ -1%</li> </ul>		

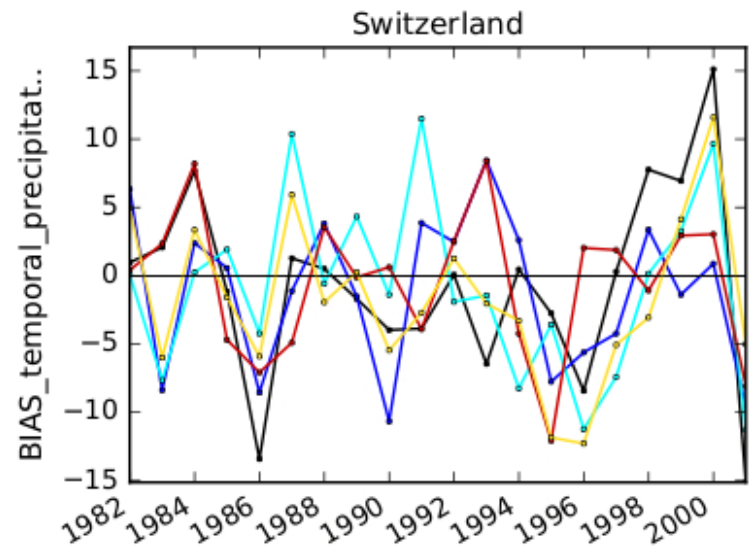
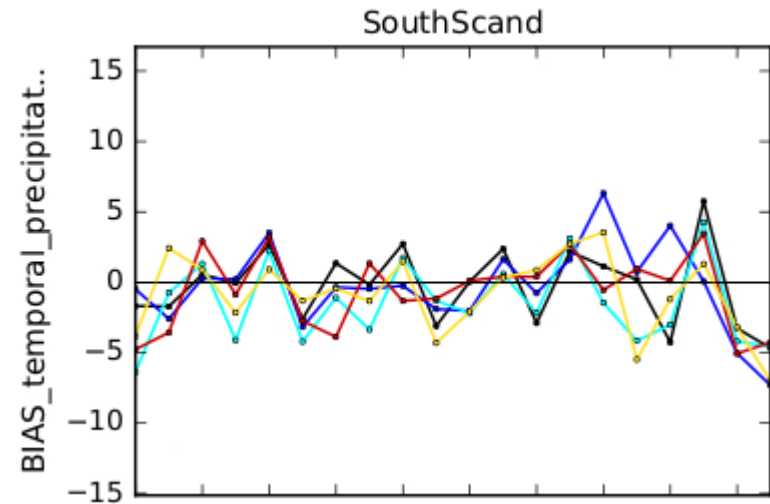
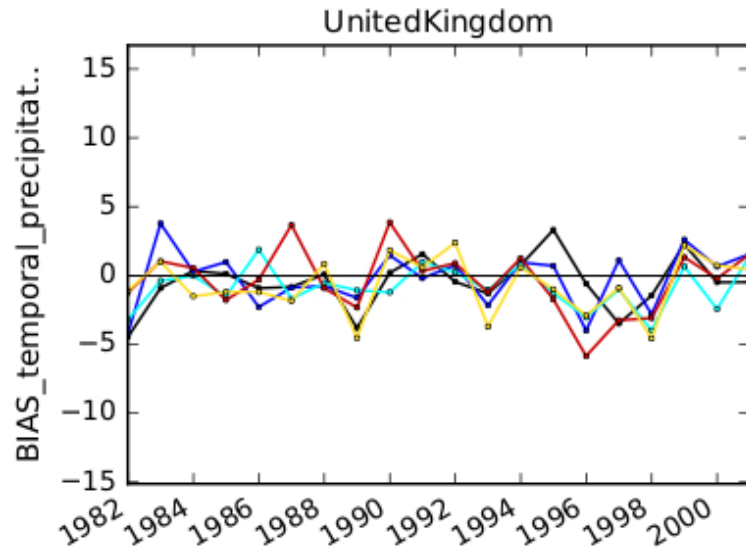
# ENEMY 2 – INTERNAL VARIABILITY



- Range:  $\pm 0.4$ hPa
- Max. of 20-year-mean differences: -0.04-0.11hPa

# ENEMY 2 – INTERNAL VARIABILITY

## TOT\_PREC yearly mean differences of monthly sums

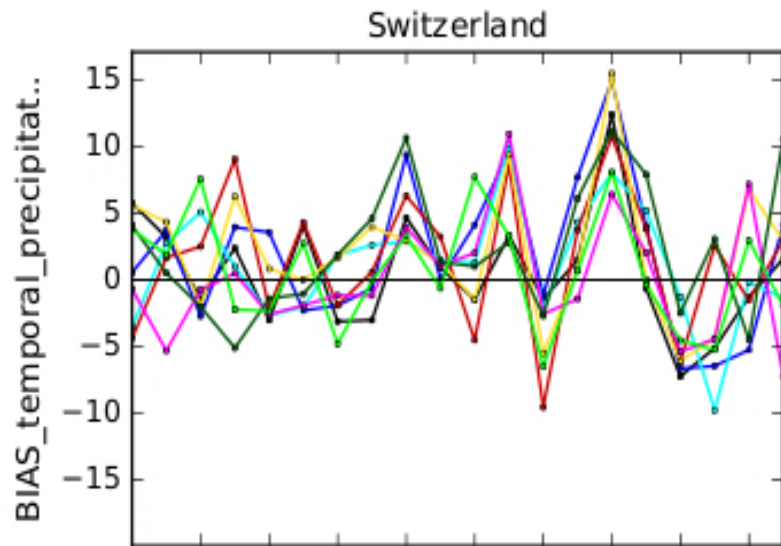


- W:  $\pm 5\text{mm/month}$
- E:  $\pm 10\text{mm/month}$
- ❖ Max. of 20-year-mean differences:  
-2.2 – 1.6 mm/month

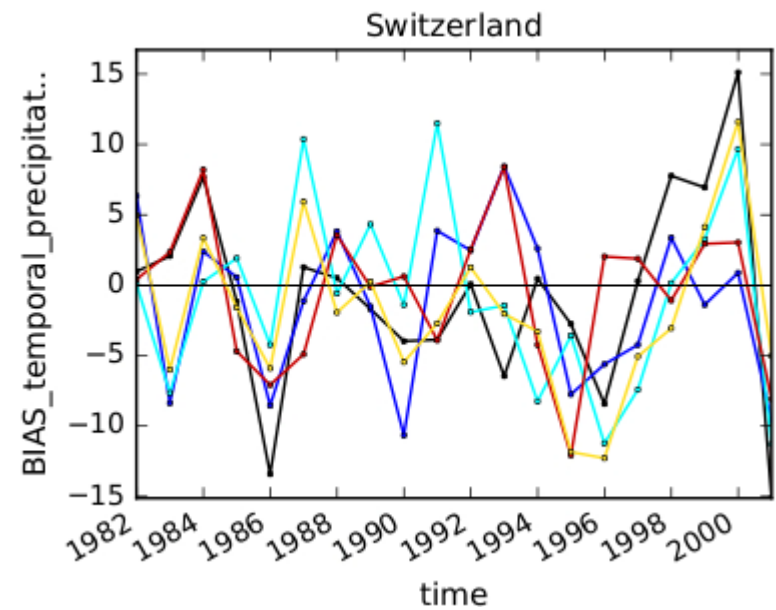
# ENEMY 1 AND 2

## TOT\_PREC yearly mean differences of monthly sums

Machine dependency (to CON502)

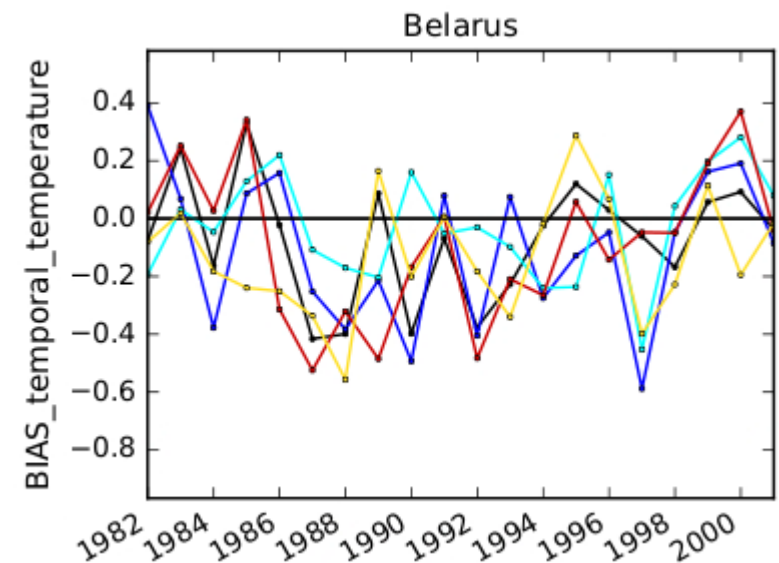
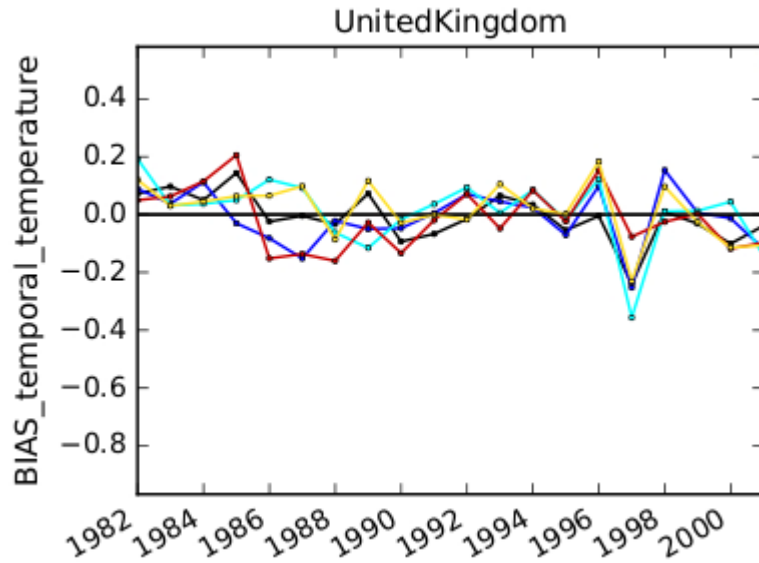


Internal variability (to ETHZ member 1)



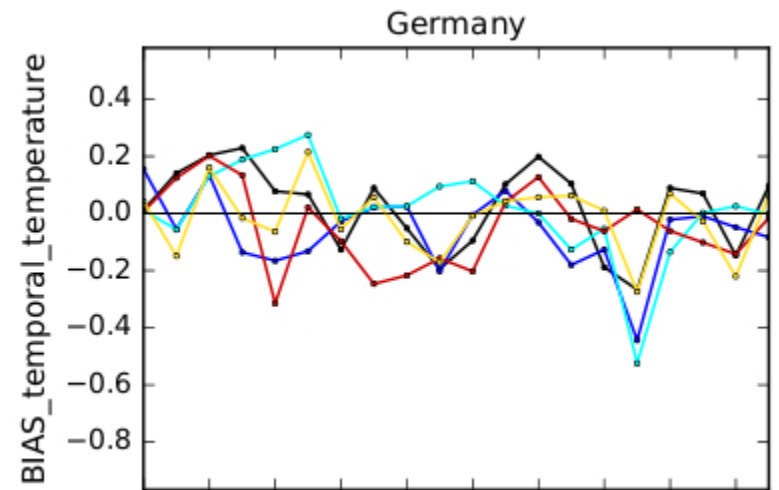
# ENEMY 2 – INTERNAL VARIABILITY

T<sub>2M</sub> yearly mean differences to ETHZ member 1 for 1981-2000



— CON502\_ETHZ-mem2\_VS\_CON502\_ETHZ-mem1:T  
— CON502\_ETHZ-mem3\_VS\_CON502\_ETHZ-mem1:T  
— CON502\_ETHZ-mem4\_VS\_CON502\_ETHZ-mem1:T  
— CON502\_ETHZ-mem5\_VS\_CON502\_ETHZ-mem1:T  
— CON502\_ETHZ-mem6\_VS\_CON502\_ETHZ-mem1:T

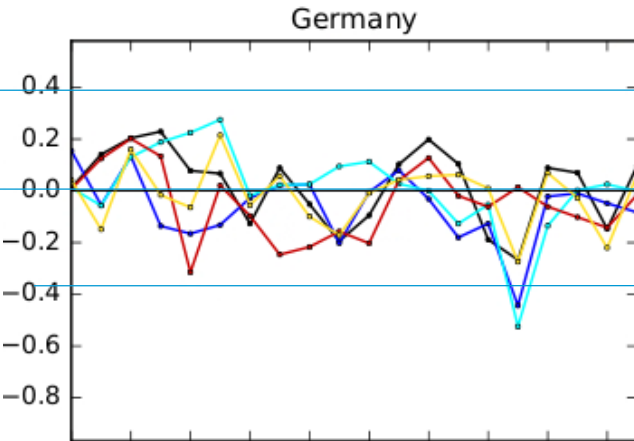
- W:  $\pm 0.2K$
- E:  $\pm 0.4K$
- ❖ Max. of 20-year-mean differences:  
-0.15-0.05K



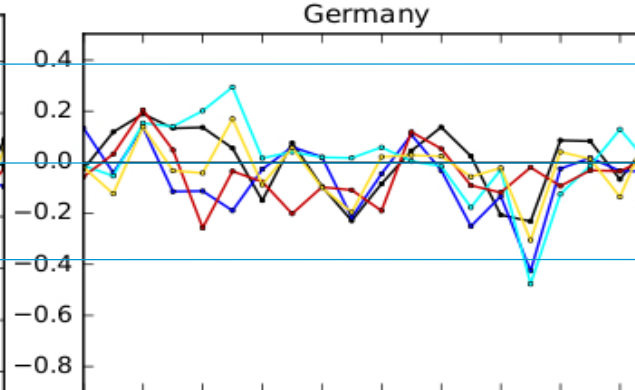
# ENEMY 2 – INTERNAL VARIABILITY

T\_2M, TMIN\_2M, TMAX\_2M

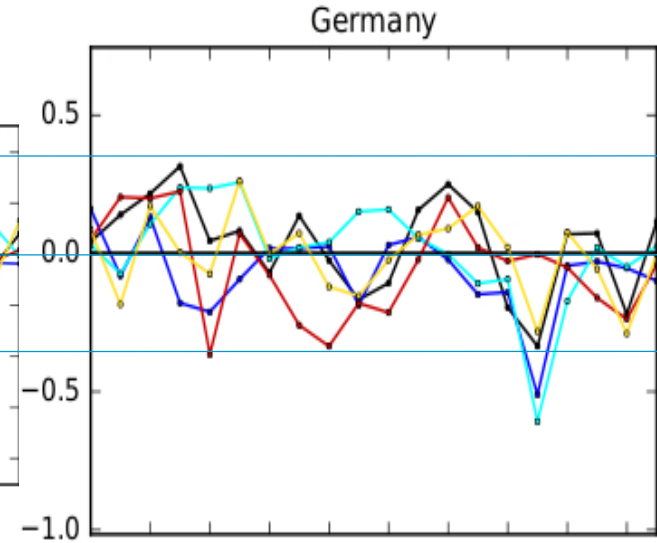
T\_2M



TMIN\_2M



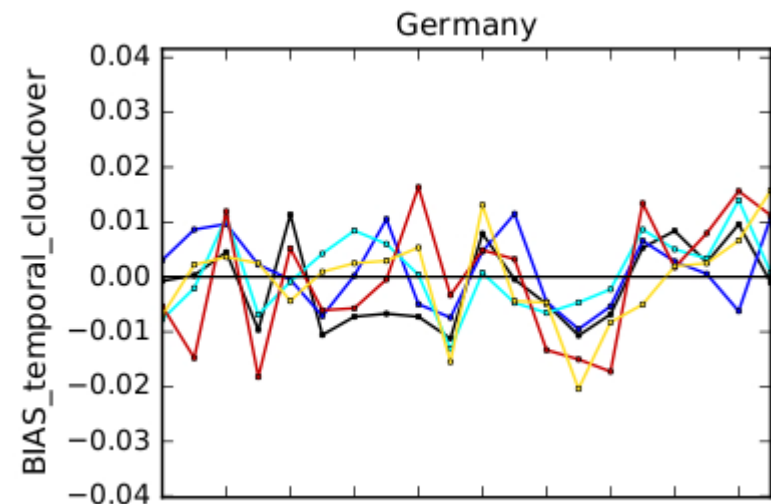
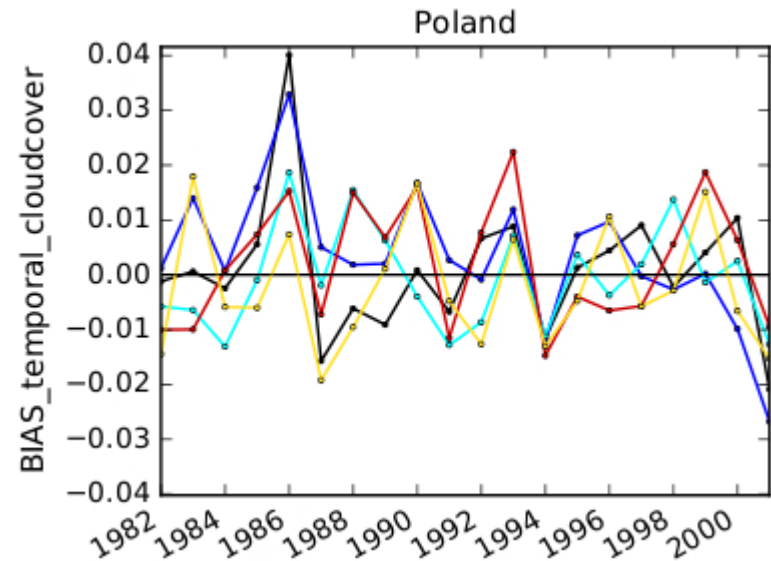
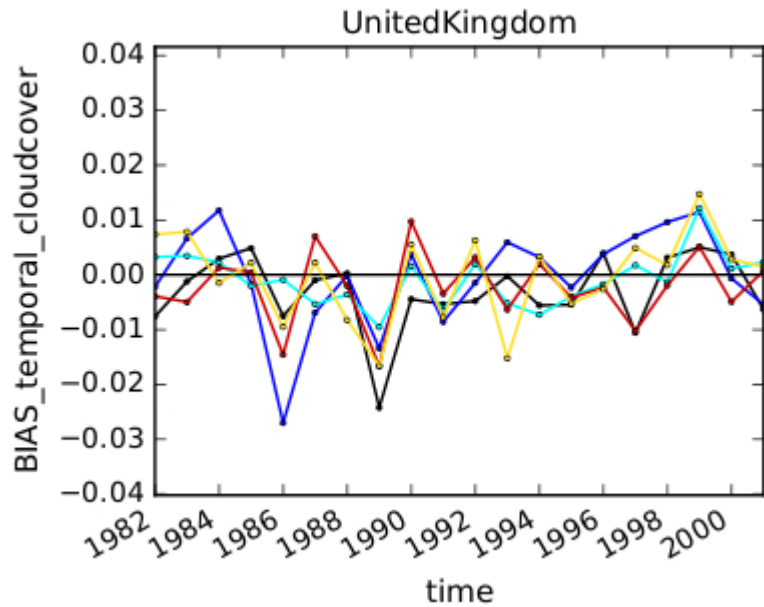
TMAX\_2M



- TMIN\_2M range as T\_2M
- TMAX\_2M a bit higher deviations

# ENEMY 2 – INTERNAL VARIABILITY

CLCT yearly mean differences to ETHZ member 1 for 1981-2000



- W:  $\pm 1\%$
- E:  $\pm 2\%$
- ❖ Max. of 20-year-mean differences:  $\pm 1\%$



# SUMMARY-TABLE

Element	Range / max. 20yearØ Machine dependency	Range / max. 20yearØ Internal variability	Range / max. 20yearØ Changing Observations
PMSL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ±0.3 hPa</li> <li>● Switzerland, Austria, Spain: 2 outlying simulations (-0.5—1.0hPa)</li> <li>❖ -0.05—0.03hPa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ±0.4 hPa</li> <li>❖ -0.04-0.11hPa</li> </ul>	
TOT_PREC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West: ±5mm/month</li> <li>● East: ±10mm/month</li> <li>❖ -2.7-2.3 mm/month</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West: ±5mm/month</li> <li>● East: ±10mm/month</li> <li>❖ -3.1 —1.6mm/month</li> </ul>	
T_2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West:±0.2K</li> <li>● East: ±0.5K</li> <li>❖ W: 0.04K; E: -0.12K</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● W: ±0.1K</li> <li>● East: -0.5—0.4K</li> <li>❖ W: 0.02K; E: -0.15K</li> </ul>	
TMIN_2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As T_2M</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West:±0.2K</li> <li>● E: as T_2M</li> <li>❖ -0.12K - 0.01K</li> </ul>	
TMAX_2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As T_2M</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West:±0.2K</li> <li>● East: ±0.5K</li> <li>❖ W: 0.1K; E: -0.17K</li> </ul>	
CLCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● W: ±1%</li> <li>● E: ±2%-±3%</li> <li>❖ -1%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● W: ±1%</li> <li>● E: ±2%-±3%</li> <li>❖ ±1%</li> </ul>	

# ENEMY 3 - CHANGING TRUTH

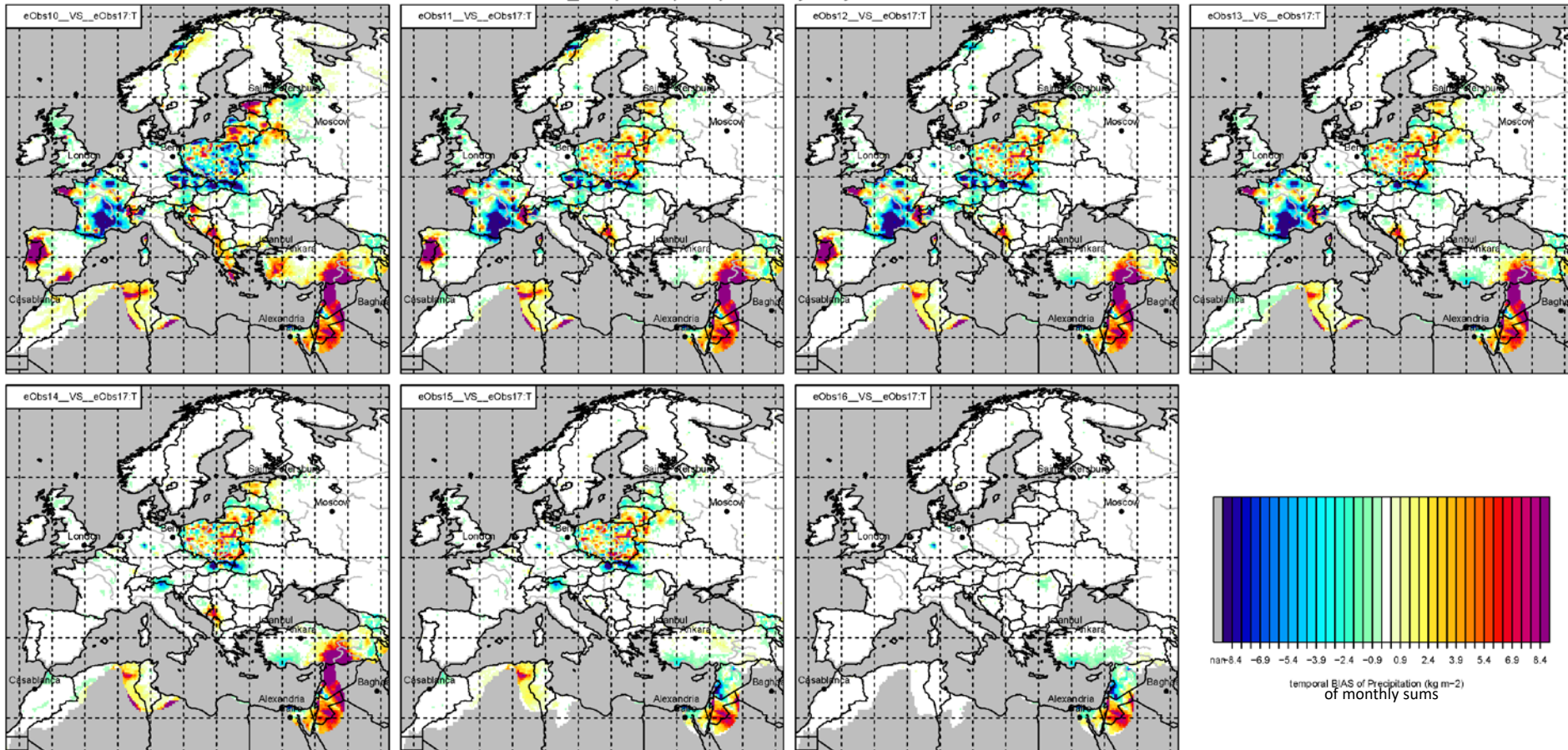
## Measurement data example: eObs data set

- For COPAT version 10.0 was used
- Yearly or half yearly updates: not all changes were improvements
- Changes in data base are mostly at country scale (!)

Version Number	Covered Period
10.0	1950-2013-12-31
11.0	1950-2014-12-31
12.0	1950-2015-06-30
13.1	1950-2015-12-31
14.0	1950-2016-08-31
15.0	1950-2016-12-31
16.0	1950-2017-08-31
17.0	1950-2017-12-31

# ENEMY 3 - CHANGING TRUTH

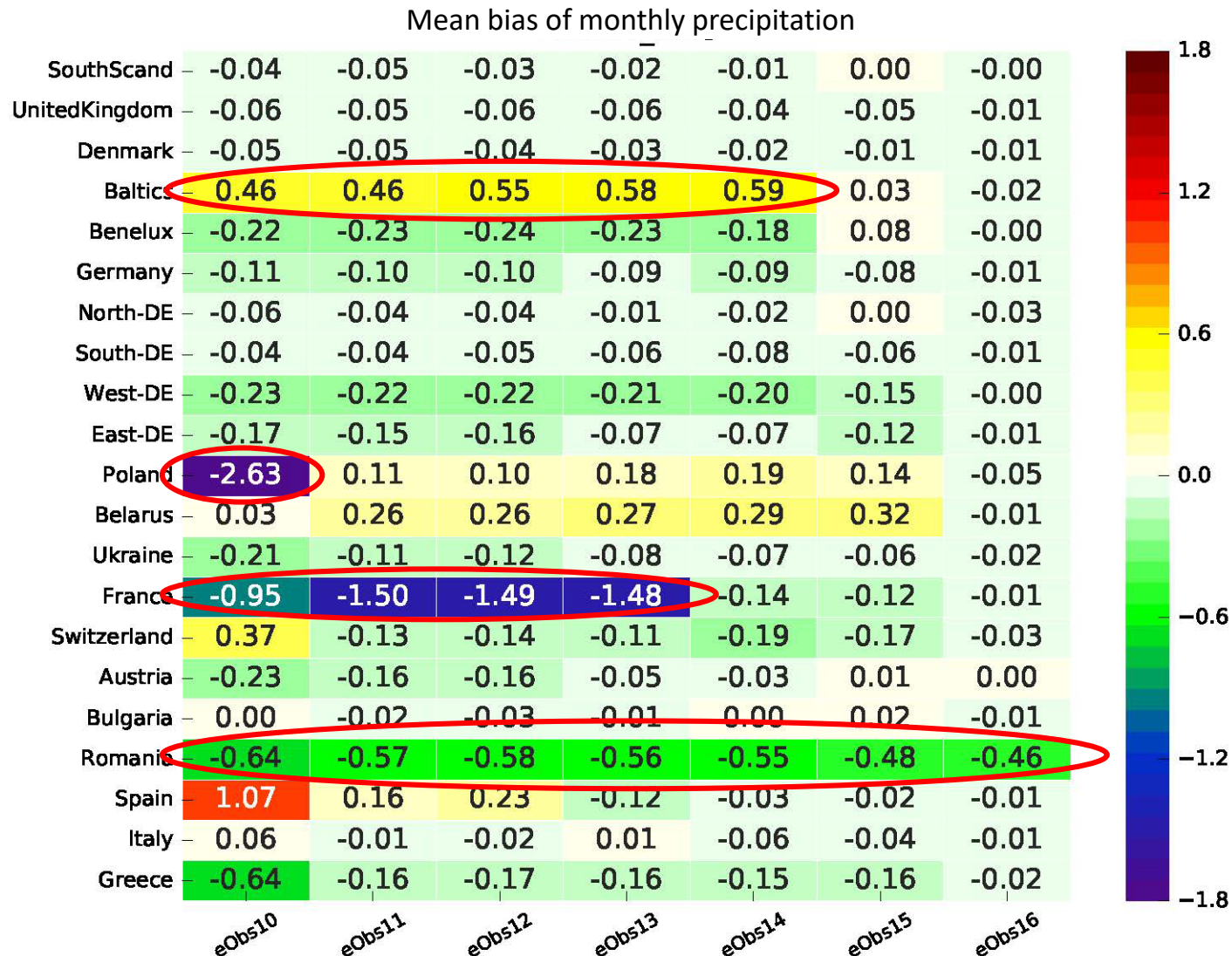
Example TOT\_PREC in 2000 – differences to eObs17.0



- Differences in certain regions, not always country border restricted

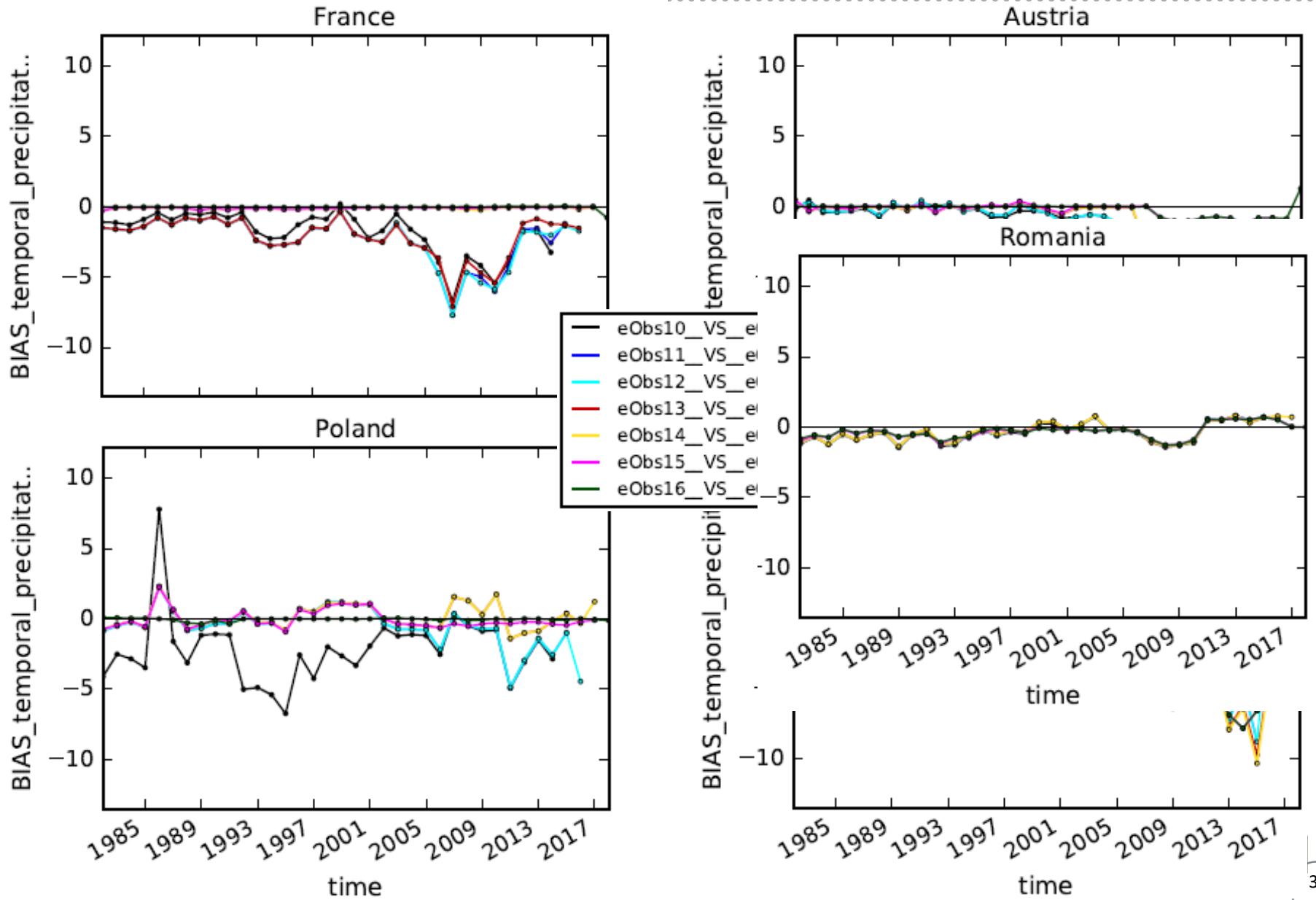
# ENEMY 3 - CHANGING TRUTH

Example TOT\_PREC differences to eObs 17.0 for 1981 – 2000



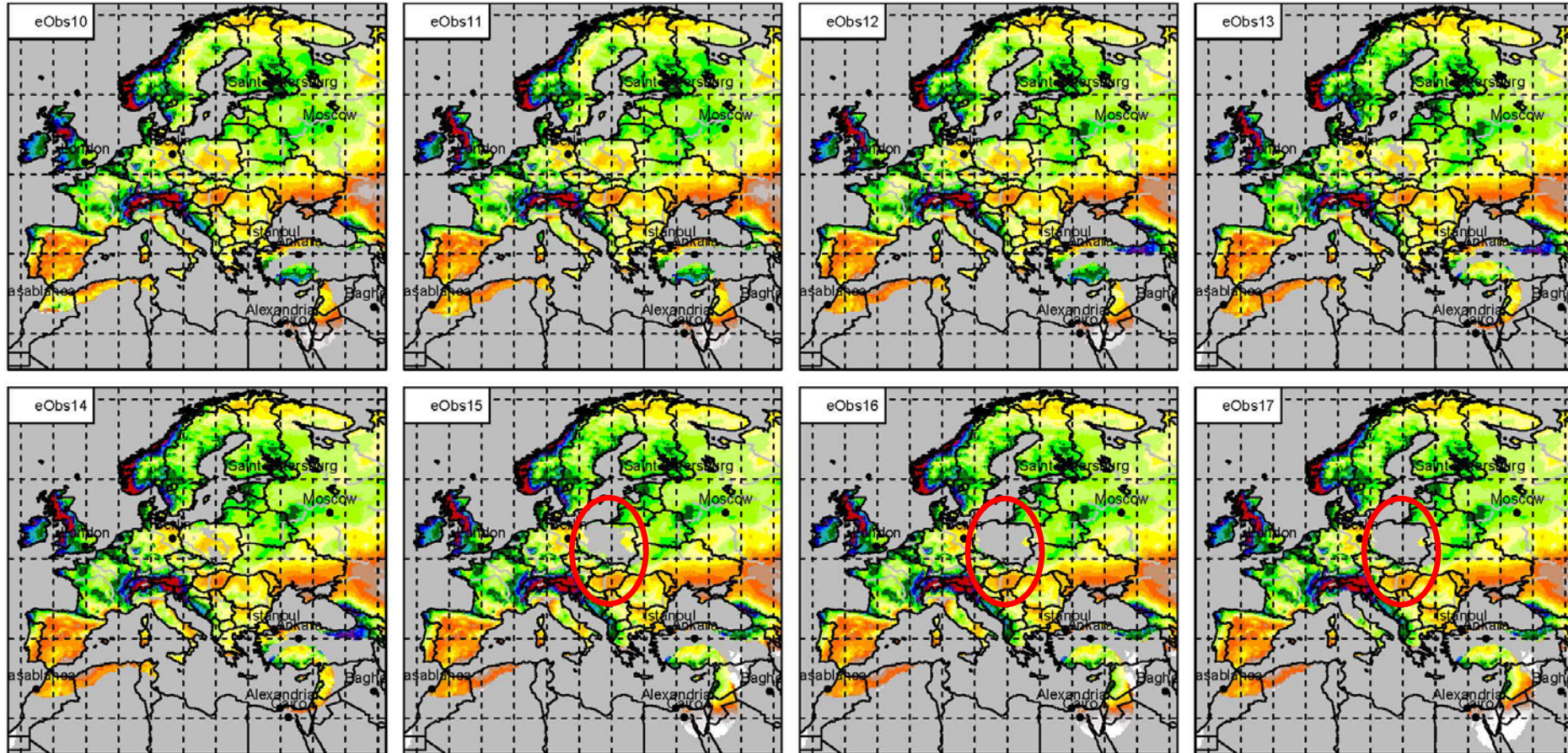
# ENEMY 3 - CHANGING TRUTH

TOT\_PREC country mean differences of monthly sums to eObs17

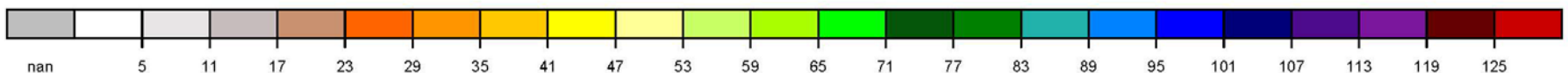


# ENEMY 3 - CHANGING TRUTH

## Monthly precipitation sums - means for 2012

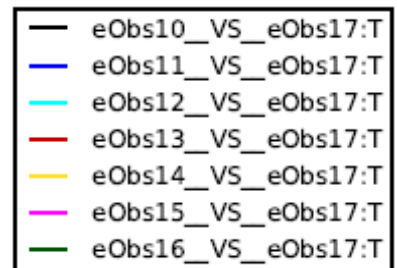
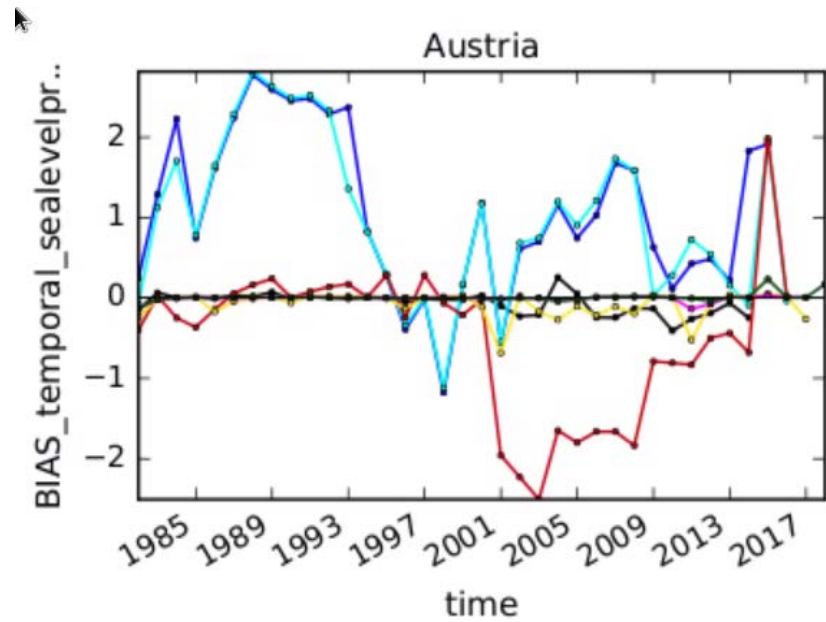
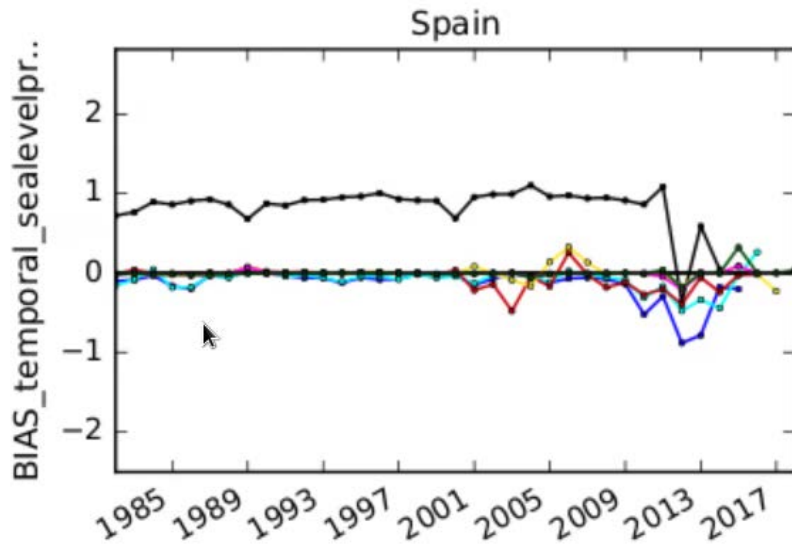


Poland: missing data from eObs 15 onward



# ENEMY 3 - CHANGING TRUTH

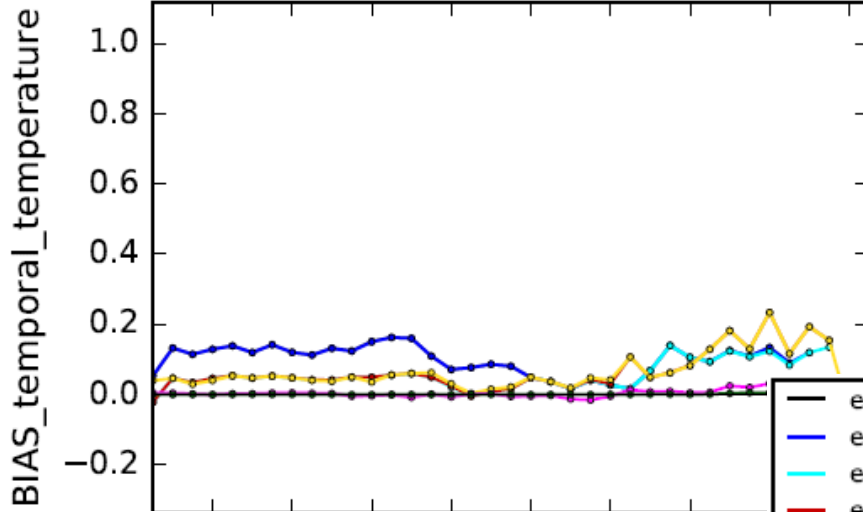
## PMSL yearly mean differences



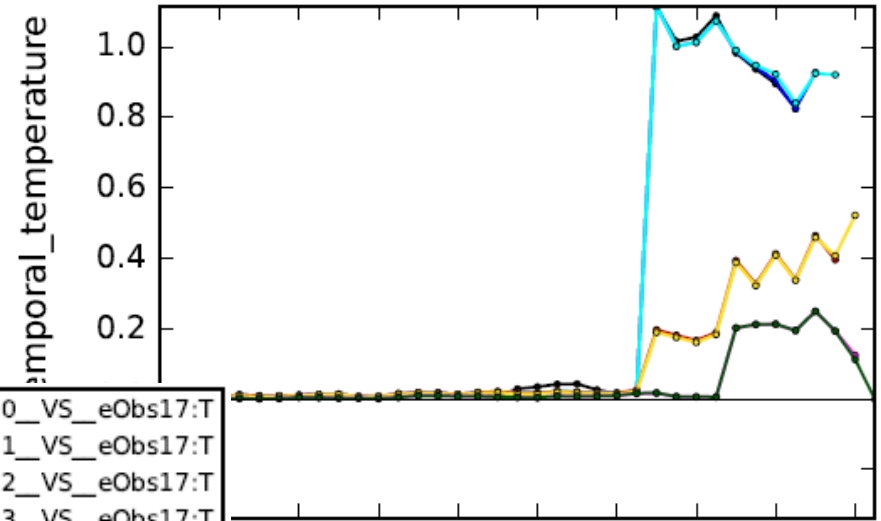
# ENEMY 3 - CHANGING TRUTH

T<sub>2M</sub> yearly mean differences to eObs17

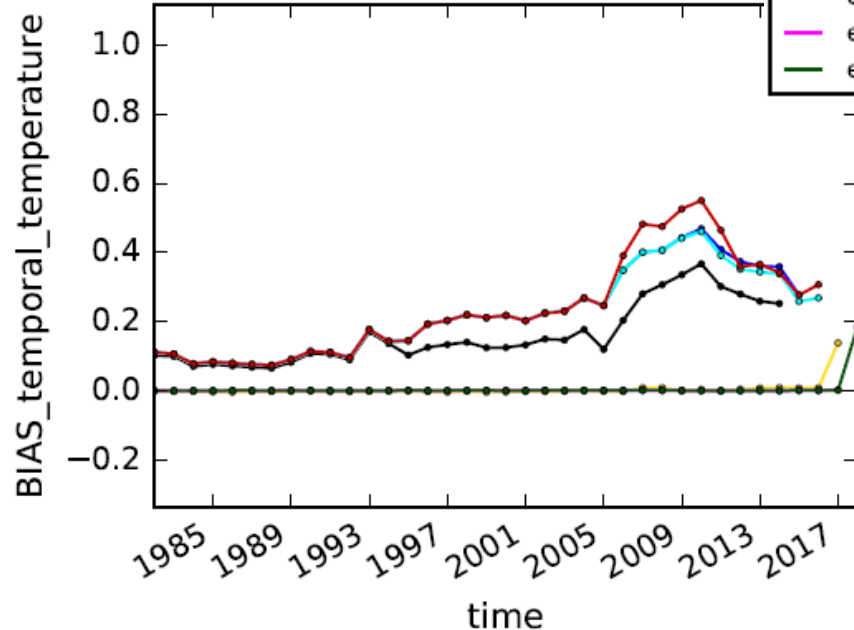
### Baltics



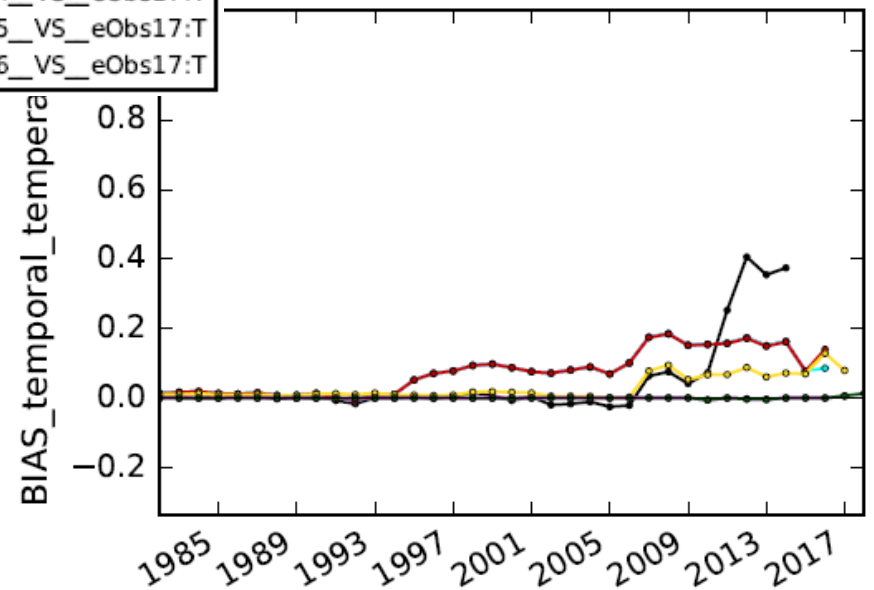
### Bulgaria



### France



### Switzerland

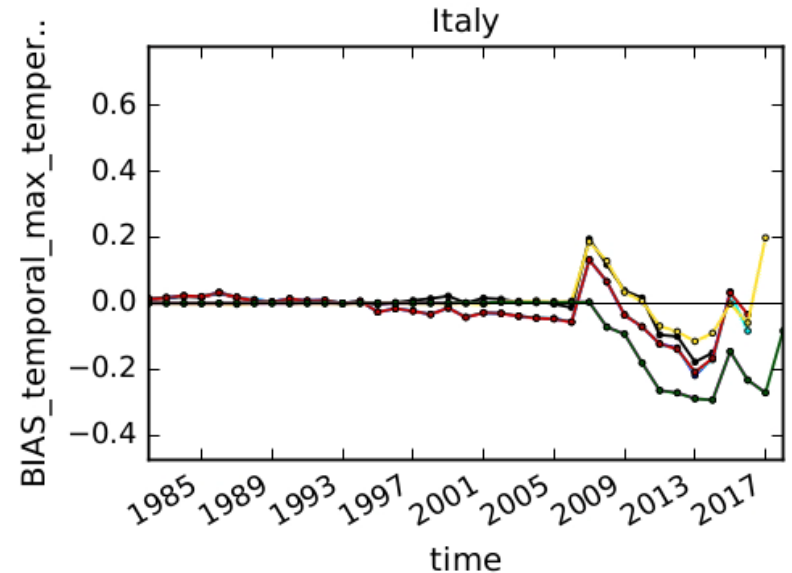
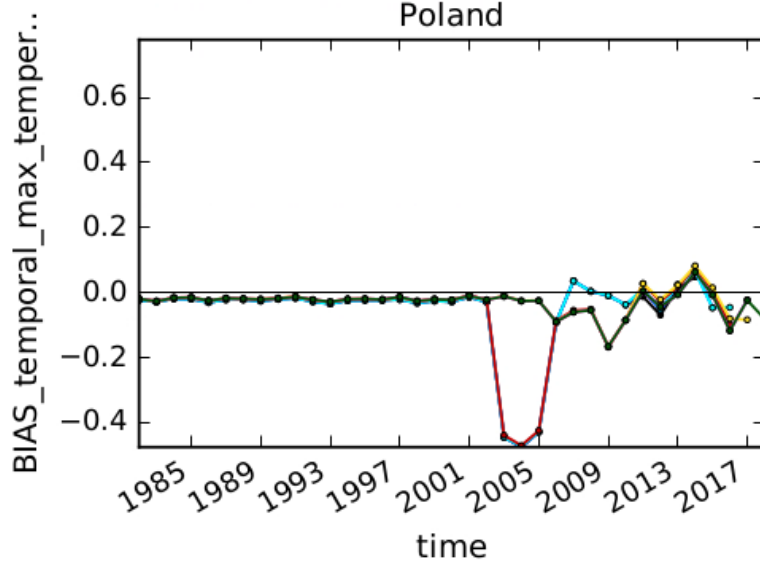
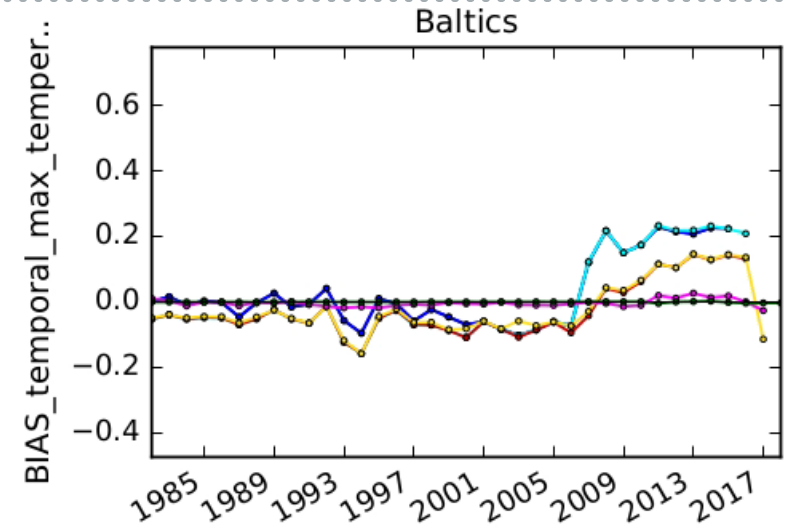
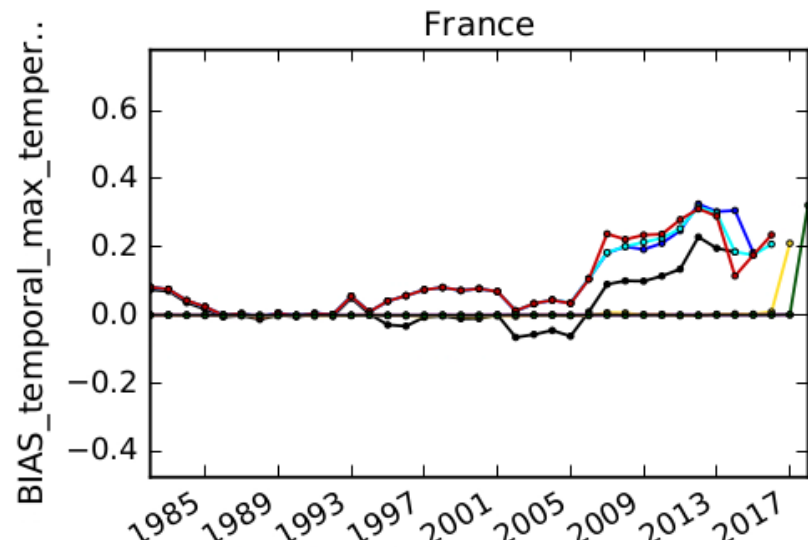


- eObs10\_VS\_eObs17:T
- eObs11\_VS\_eObs17:T
- eObs12\_VS\_eObs17:T
- eObs13\_VS\_eObs17:T
- eObs14\_VS\_eObs17:T
- eObs15\_VS\_eObs17:T
- eObs16\_VS\_eObs17:T



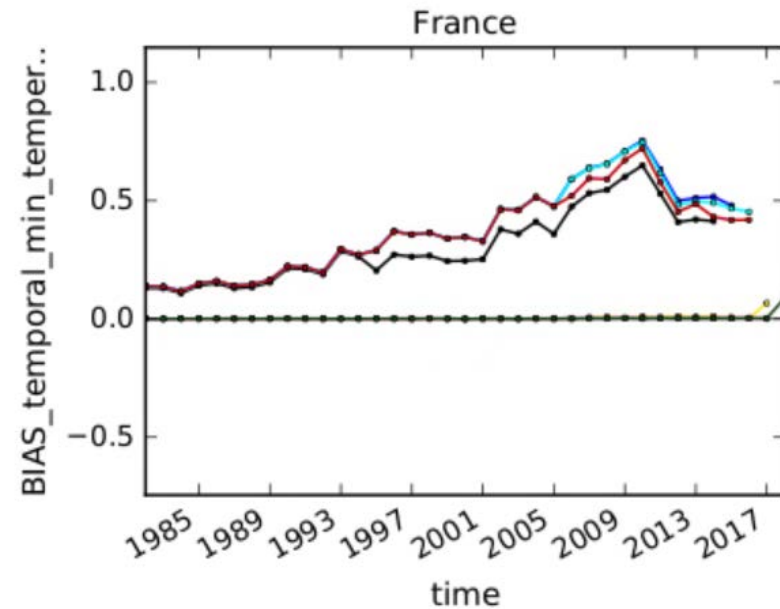
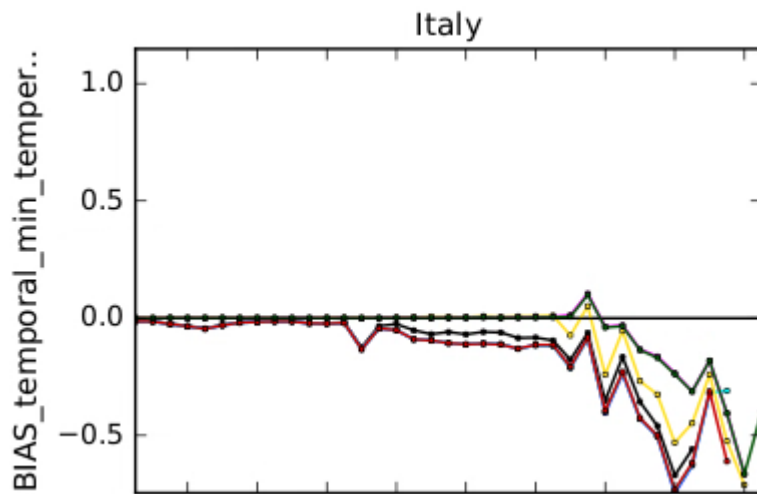
# ENEMY 3 - CHANGING TRUTH

TMAX\_2M differences to eObs17.0



# ENEMY 3 - CHANGING TRUTH

TMIN\_2M differences to eObs17.0



- Similar to T\_2M but for Italy stronger pronounced (up to -0.7K compared to -0.3K)

# SUMMARY-TABLE

Element	Range / max. 20yearØ Machine dependency	Range / max. 20yearØ Internal variability	Range / max. 20yearØ Changing Observations
PMSL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ±0.3 hPa</li> <li>● Switzerland, Austria, Spain: 2 outlying simulations (-0.5—1.0hPa)</li> <li>❖ -0.05—0.03hPa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ±0.4 hPa</li> <li>❖ -0.04-0.11hPa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I: version 11/12 problematic</li> <li>● Main differences in Austria and Spain with -0.5 to 1hPa</li> </ul>
TOT_PREC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West: ±5mm/month</li> <li>● East: ±10mm/month</li> <li>❖ -2.7-2.3 mm/month</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West: ±5mm/month</li> <li>● East: ±10mm/month</li> <li>❖ -3.1 —1.6mm/month</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PL:&gt;-5mm/month and missing data!</li> </ul>
T_2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West:±0.2K</li> <li>● East: ±0.5K</li> <li>❖ W: 0.04K; E: -0.12K</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● W: ±0.1K</li> <li>● East: -0.5—0.4K</li> <li>❖ W: 0.02K; E: -0.15K</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● F+CH: -0.5K</li> <li>● BG: 1K</li> </ul>
TMIN_2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As T_2M</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West:±0.2K</li> <li>● E: as T_2M</li> <li>❖ -0.17K-0.01K</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I: -0.5K</li> <li>● F:+0.23K</li> </ul>
TMAX_2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As T_2M</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West:±0.2K</li> <li>● East: ±0.5K</li> <li>❖ W: 0.08K; E: -0.17K</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● UK: 0.2K</li> <li>● BG: -0.5K (from 2006)</li> <li>● CH: -0.1K (from 1995)</li> </ul>
CLCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● W: ±1%</li> <li>● E: ±2%-±3%</li> <li>❖ -1%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● W: ±1%</li> <li>● E: ±2%-±3%</li> <li>❖ ±1%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NA</li> </ul>

- Differences are small, but in worst case they would sum up to remarkable values
- ENEMIES depend on geographic position: ENEMY 1 (machine) & 2 (internal variability)  
Distances to the left boundary ENEMY 3: affiliation to country
  - Generally **spectral nudging helps** to reduce the noise – I'm interested in how much!
  - Does someone volunteers to simulate CON502 with spectral nudging on his machine?**
- 'Changing' observations are a trap – especially the case of Poland precipitation data shows that there is no reason to trust observational data without detailed checks

BIAS-, AME- and RMSE-Plots for the listed countries for TOT\_PREC, PMSL, T\_2M, TMIN\_2M, TMAX\_2M, CLCT are stored at  
[/pool/data/CCLM-EVAL/plots\\_reproducibility/](/pool/data/CCLM-EVAL/plots_reproducibility/)

Discussion of further details - but in WG Eval not possible...



FOR PEOPLE AND THEIR  
FUTURE ENVIRONMENT

Thank you! - for your attention and thanks to Ronny, who developed the HZG-Evaluation-Suite

---

Beate Geyer

Institute of Coastal Research

Beate.Geyer@hzg.de

+49 4152 871871

Max-Planck-Straße 1

21502 Geesthacht

<http://ksr.hzg.de>

 **Helmholtz-Zentrum  
Geesthacht**  
Centre for Materials and Coastal Research