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### The EUCP Project

The **EUropean Climate Prediction system** project (EUCP) is a new EU Horizon 2020 project, which will develop an **innovative** European ensemble climate prediction system based on a new generation of improved, typically higher-resolution climate models, covering **timescales from seasons to decades** initialized with observations. The climate information provided by the system will be **co-designed with users** to support practical and strategic climate adaptation and mitigation decision-taking on local, national and global scales.

### Development of an interannual-to-decadal Climate Forecast System

Objectives:

- Produce and collect decadal climate predictions
- Assess **forecast quality**
- Construct **probability forecasts** from multiple sources for specific applications
- Explore new avenues for the **improvement** of the decadal prediction systems

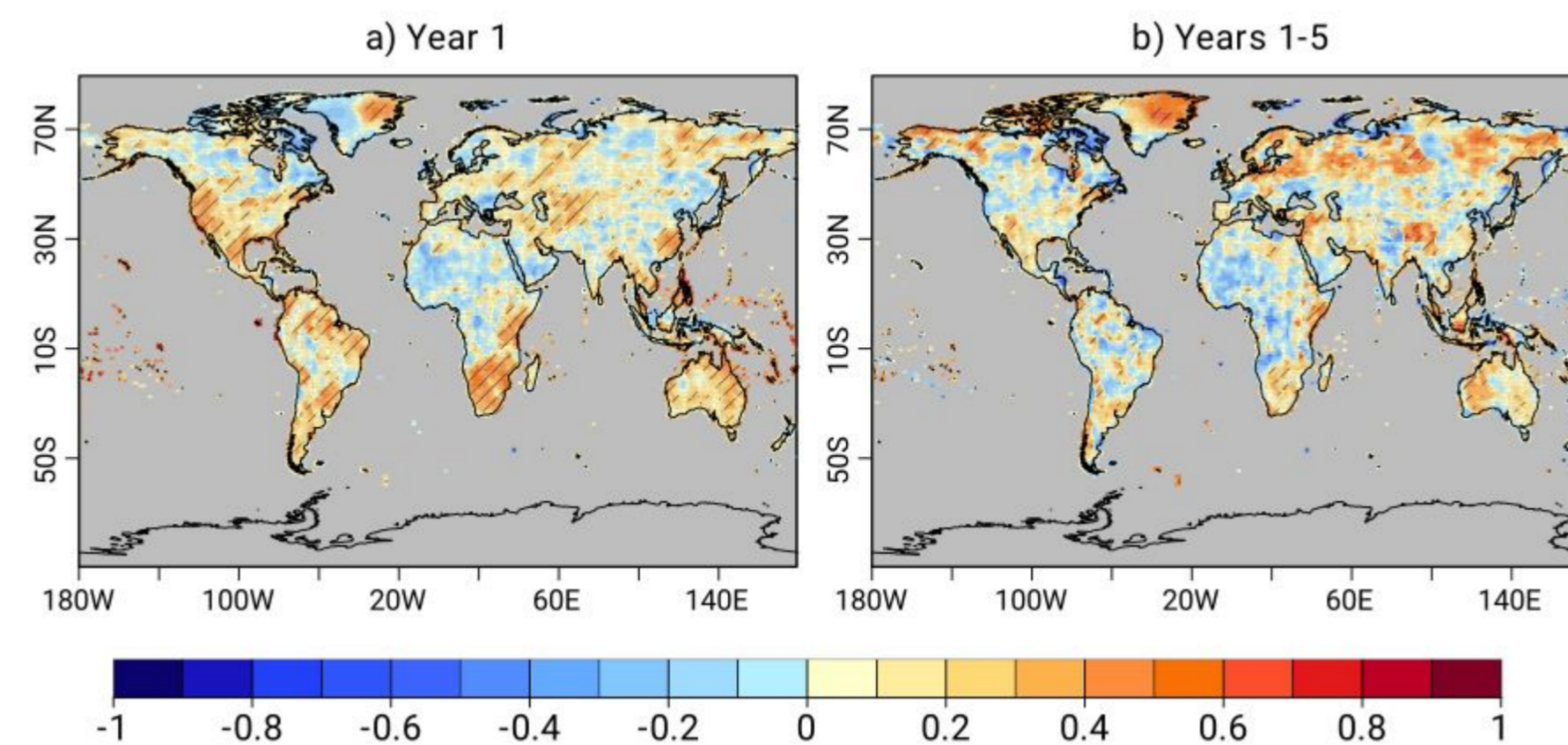


Fig. 1: Illustration of the forecast quality assessment using EC-Earth 2.3. Left: Anomaly correlation coefficients for precipitation, for a) forecast year 1 and b) average over forecast years 1 to 5. The forecasts are verified against GPCP v7. Hatched areas: statistically significant at the 5% level (taking into account the serial correlation of the time series). Right: anomaly reliability diagram for average forecast years 1-5 for the European region. Three events are represented: above-normal (red), normal (orange) and below-normal (blue). The sharpness diagrams (smaller panels) show the predicted frequencies for each event and probability range. The diagonal line indicates perfect reliability. The dot-dashed line represents the no-skill line. Consistency bars illustrate how likely the observed relative frequencies are under the assumption that predicted probabilities are reliable.

### Towards a seamless near term European Climate Prediction System

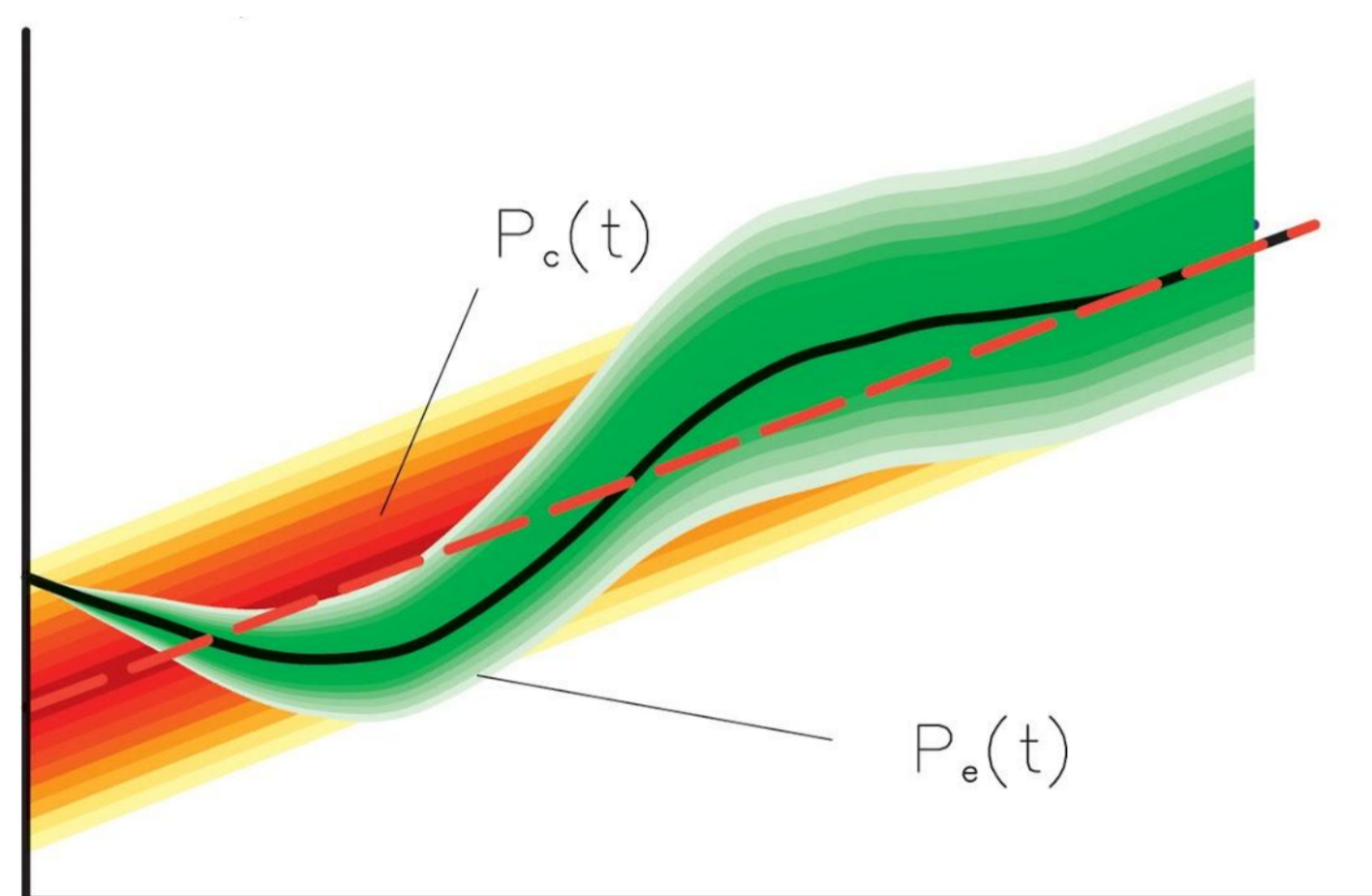


Fig. 2: From Branstator and Teng, 2010, J. Climate. Schematic of a time-evolving distribution under a changing external forcing. The red shadings indicate a probability density distribution of a No-INIT forced simulation (projection) over time, whereas the green shades illustrate the temporal evolution of an INIT forecast distribution of the same quantity.

Develop methodologies to **bring together initialised decadal climate predictions and non-initialised climate projections** based on global climate models, in order to provide **seamless climate information** for users over a period of 1 to 40 years into the future with a focus on the European region

- **Comparisons** of predictions: global **initialised (INIT) versus non-initialised (No-INIT)** simulations for common prediction time horizons. Estimation of the prediction time until which the INIT predictions show more **skill** than No-INIT simulations for different large-scale and local variables
- **Combination** of global INIT forecasts with No-INIT forced-only projections. Tests of the combining methods with a perfect model setting. Estimation of **added value** for combined predictions for different variables and regions.

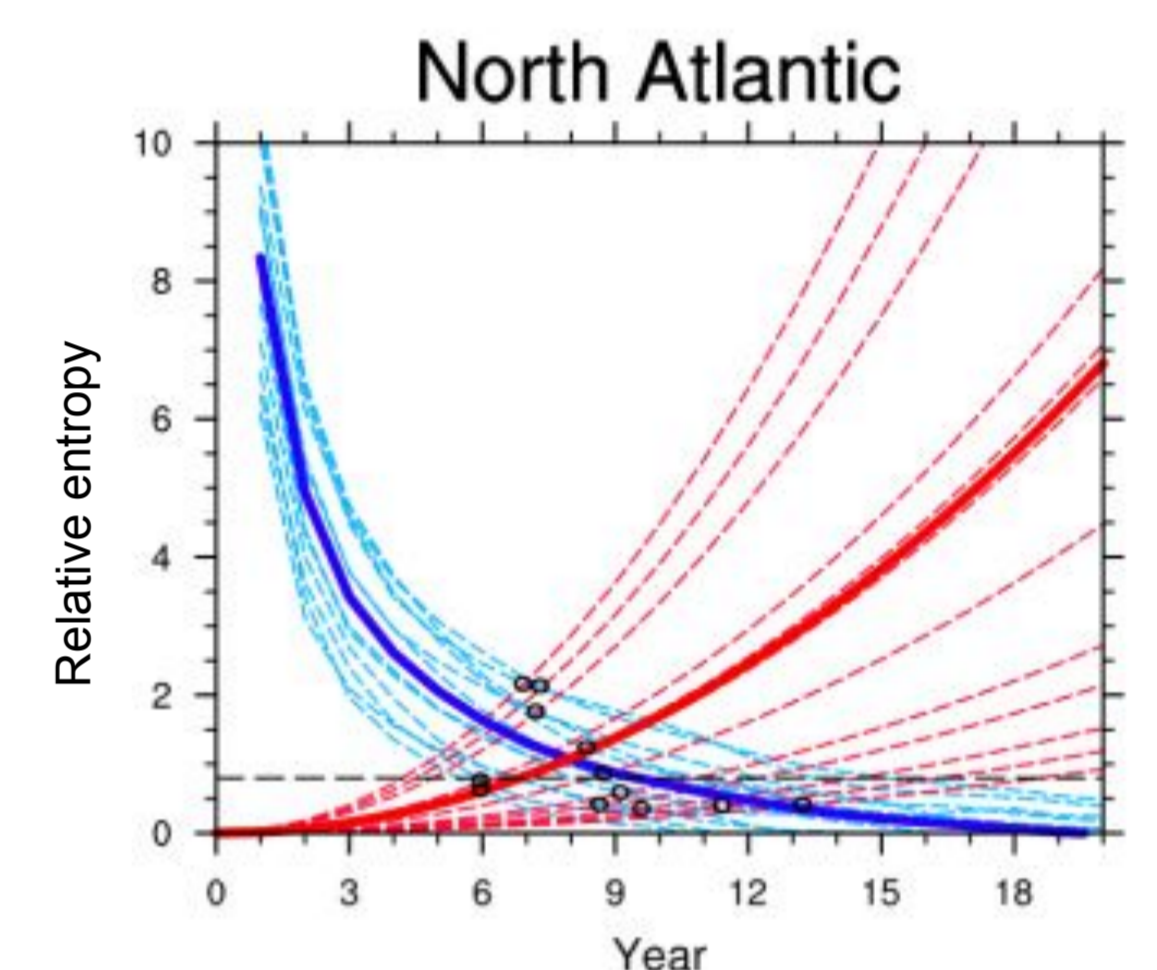


Fig. 3: From Branstator and Teng, 2012, GRL. The dashed lines show the relative entropy of ocean heat content as a function of forecast lead time for INIT (blue) and No-INIT (red) climate simulations from 12 individual CMIP5 models (dashed lines) and the mean of these models (thick solid lines).

### User Engagement in Co-development

For creating effective climate services, a **co-development process** – a collective learning exercise, bringing together climate service providers and users – is indispensable. Stakeholders will be engaged and consulted regularly to guarantee reliable and quality-assured translation of climate prediction into actionable indicators and event triggers.

The project will establish a **multi-user forum** to provide feedback from actors in policy and practice. Validation of the service usability with different users will be an iterative exercise. A subset of highly proficient *Super-users* will help fine-tuning the service into products useful for and usable in decision-making.

To assure the lasting dialogue with stakeholders, we will organise thematic workshops, knowledge mapping exercises, policy briefings, and co-hosted panel discussions at different industry and policy events. Rather than being done in isolation, the user engagement activities will be conducted as a part of the **clustering activity** with European and international scientific communities.

### Decadal Prediction of European Windstorms

Extra-tropical cyclones and associated Windstorms are the **most costly natural hazard** in Europe.

Within the EUCP project we will assess:

- **Quality of decadal predictions** of windstorms in a multi-model framework
- Effect of **spatial resolution** on decadal predictions of windstorms using the CGCM EC-Earth
- Role of the North Atlantic SST, especially the **AMV**, as source of decadal variability and predictability for decadal prediction of windstorms

Fig. 6: Correlation between first PC of North Atlantic SST (HadISST1.1) and windstorm track density (ensemble mean of NOAA-20CRv2)

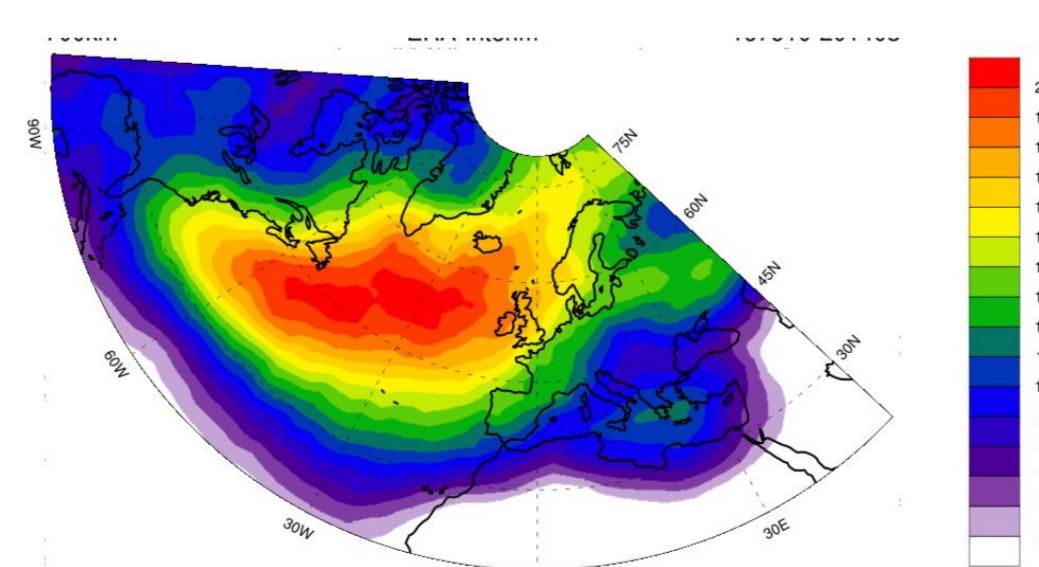
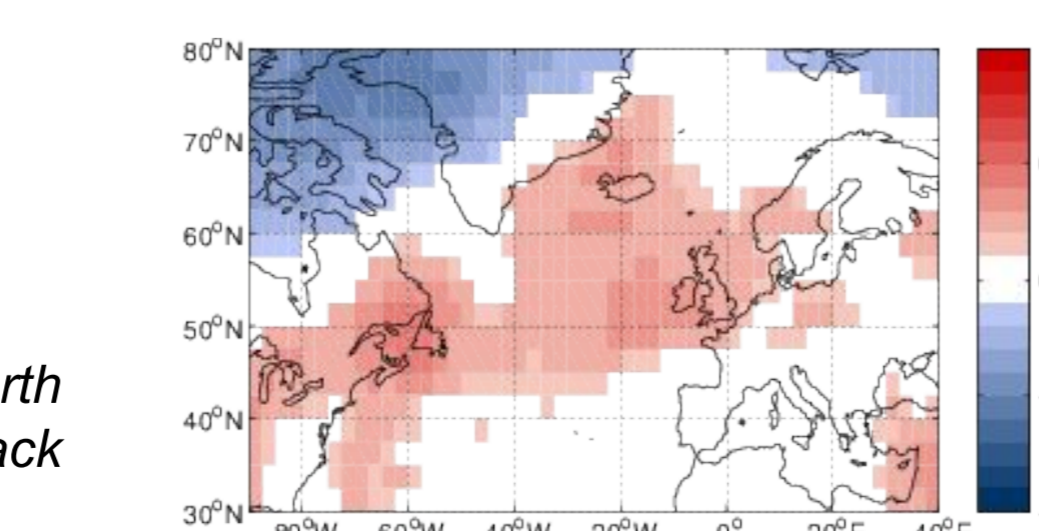


Fig. 5: Windstorm track density in events per winter (Oct-Mar) in ERA-Interim 1979-2014.



### Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

Assessing the **forecast quality** of **user-specific climatic indices** (e.g., drought index - Standardized Potential Evapotranspiration Index, SPEI).

Future work:

- Assessment of **multi-model** forecast quality
- Exploration of the relative improvement in using INIT and No-INIT simulations

For more details, see poster n° **P-B4-09** on Wednesday

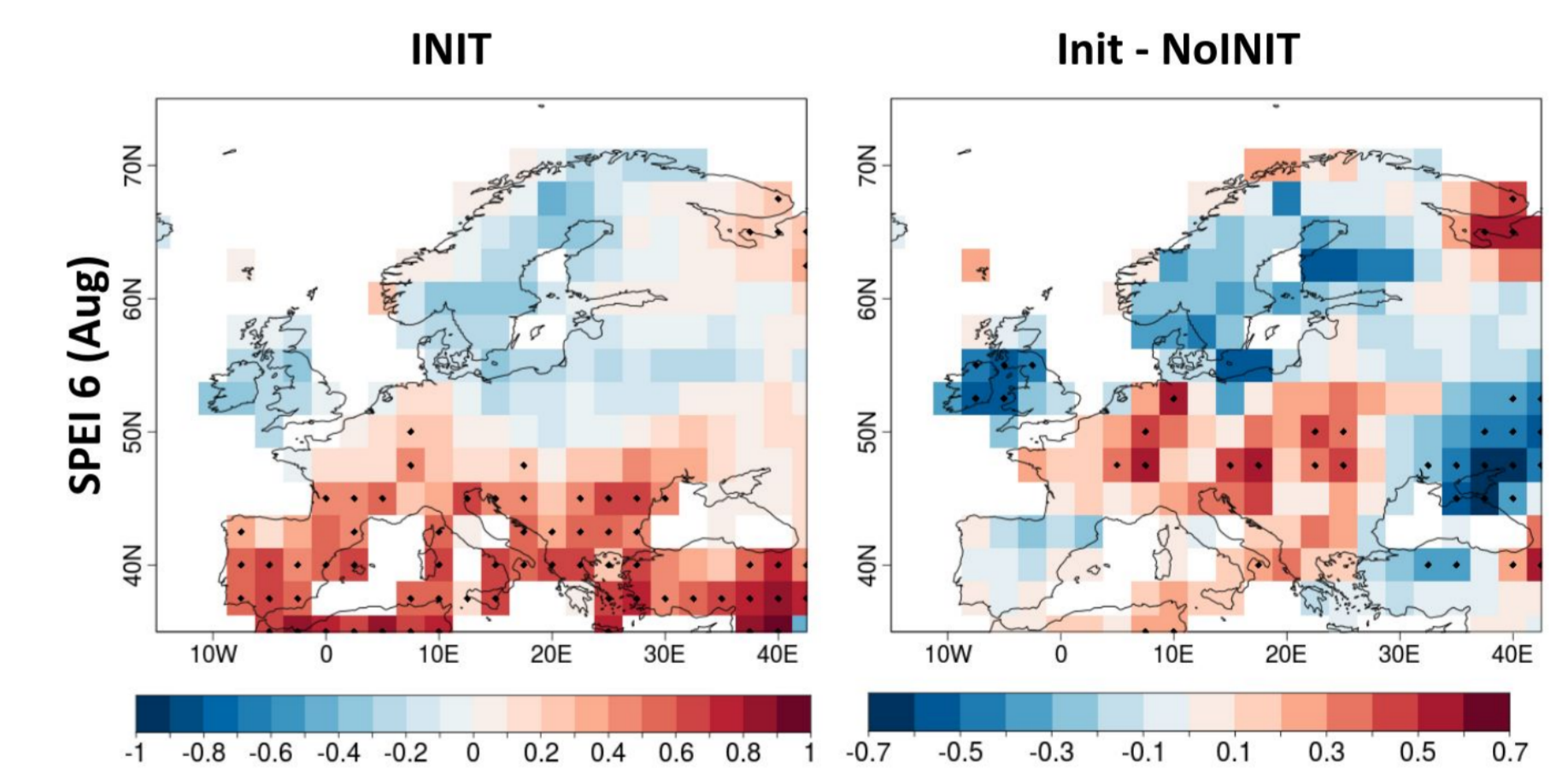


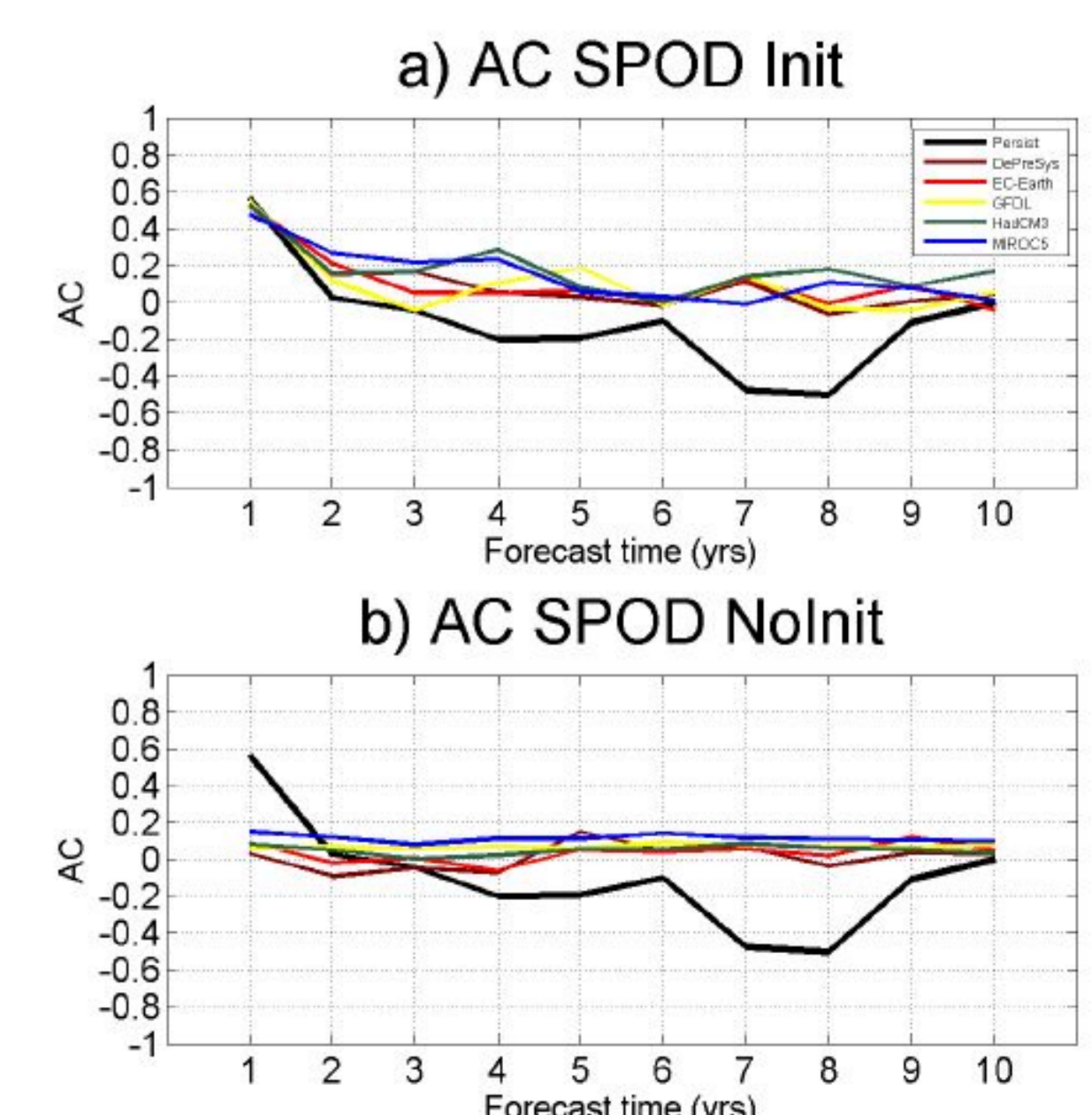
Fig. 4: Ensemble mean correlation map of the SPEI6 drought index (August) from the GFDL model averaged over the forecast years 2 to 5 (left: INIT prediction, right: difference between INIT and No-INIT simulation). Dotted region: statistically significant at 5% level.

### South America and the South Pacific Ocean

Analysis of the **impact of initialization** on the skill of the South Pacific Ocean Dipole (SPOD).

Future work in this area includes using these results to improve interannual-to-decadal predictions of **temperature** and **precipitation** over southern **South America** by means of the documented relationships that exist between variability of SST in the **South Pacific region** and those variables over the continent.

Fig. 7: Anomaly correlation of the SPOD for INIT (top) and No-INIT (bottom) simulations against the observed ERSST dataset. Each color stands for a different forecast system and the black thick line shows the anomaly correlation of a 1-year persisted prediction. There is a clear improvement in the predictions via initialization up to the third year.



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### Acknowledgments

The EUCP project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 776613. Rocío Ormazabal would like to thank the Severo Ochoa programme and the Center for Climate and Resilience Research, Santiago, Chile.

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