



**Barcelona  
Supercomputing  
Center**

*Centro Nacional de Supercomputación*



# Requisitos de cómputo de alto rendimiento para la investigación en clima y calidad del aire

Francisco J. Doblas-Reyes  
BSC-ES Director  
ICREA Research Professor

- Created in 2005, now 470 employees
- Research, develop, manage information technology
- Facilitate scientific progress and its application in society

## The BSC

Five departments:

- Computer Sciences
- Computer Applications for Science and Engineering
- Life Sciences
- Operations
- Earth Sciences

Hosts Marenostrum3, a 1.1 PF machine with 50,000 cores



## What

Environmental modelling and forecasting

## Why

Our strength ...

- ... research ...
- ... operations ...
- ... services ...
- ... high resolution ...

## How

Develop a capability to model air quality processes from urban to global and the impacts on weather, health and ecosystems

Implement climate prediction system for subseasonal-to-decadal climate prediction

Develop user-oriented services that favour both technology transfer and adaptation

Use cutting-edge HPC and Big Data technologies for the efficiency and user-friendliness of Earth system models

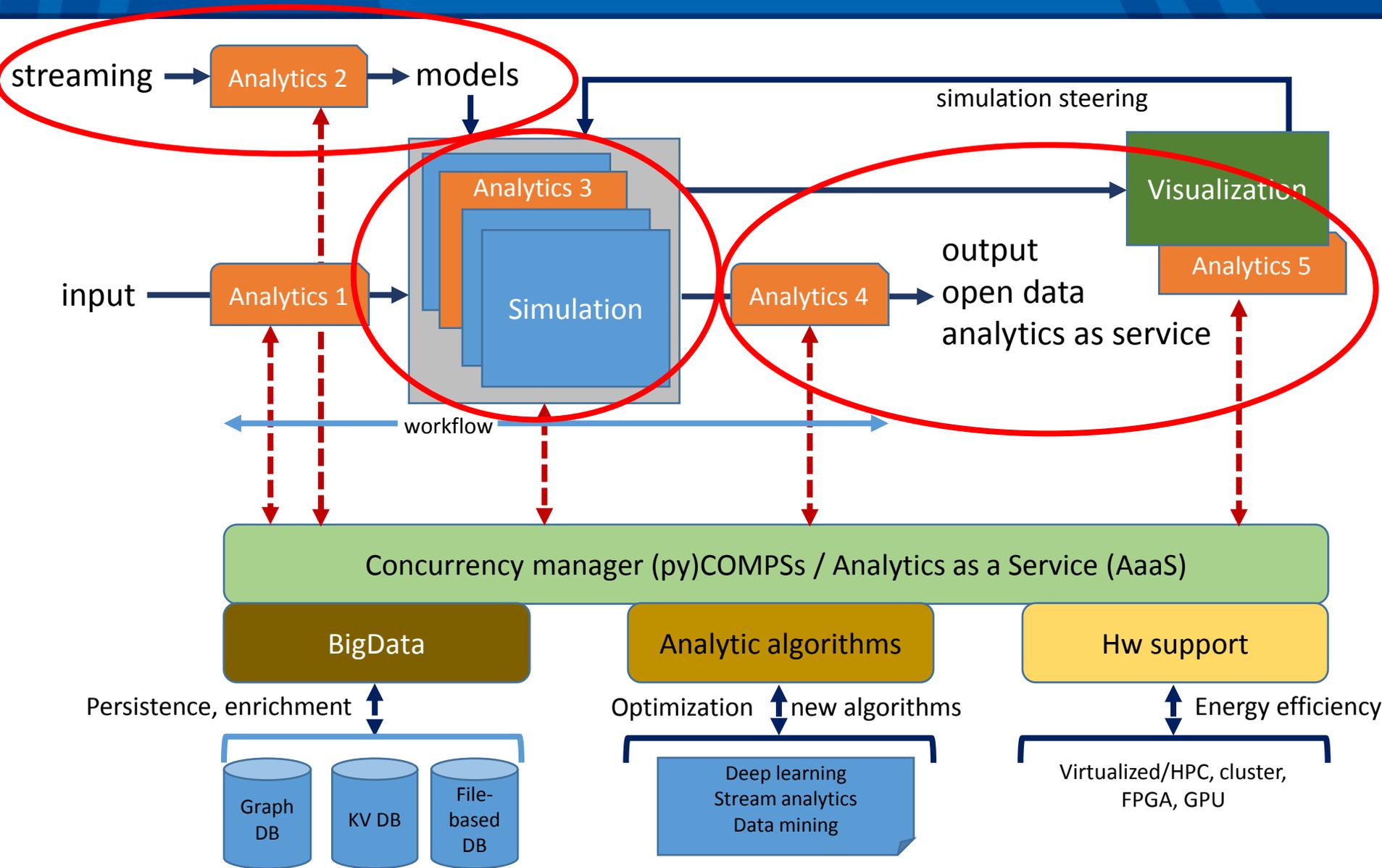
Earth system  
services

Climate  
prediction

Atmospheric  
composition

Computational  
Earth sciences

# A conceptual model from CS



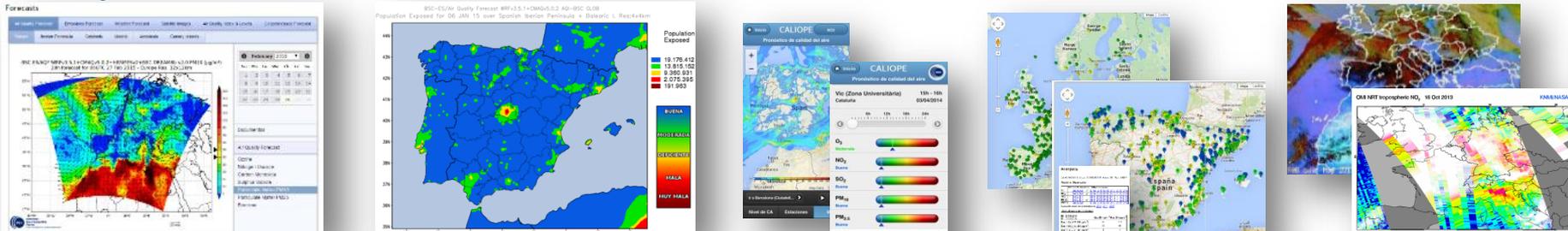
## Atmospheric Composition

1. **Development of modeling systems for atmospheric composition from local to global scales.**
2. **Advanced research on atmospheric composition processes using modeling techniques and Earth observations.**

# Air quality operational forecasts

**AQF CALIOPE system: daily forecast and evaluation**  
Forecast products

Daily forecast for **meteorology, emissions and air quality**: Europe (12km), Iberian Peninsula (4km), Andalusia, Catalonia and Madrid (1km), since 2007



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## CALIOPE: Air Quality

Barcelona Supercomputing Center Health & Fitness

★★★★★ 164

PEGI 3

This app is compatible with your device.

Add to wishlist

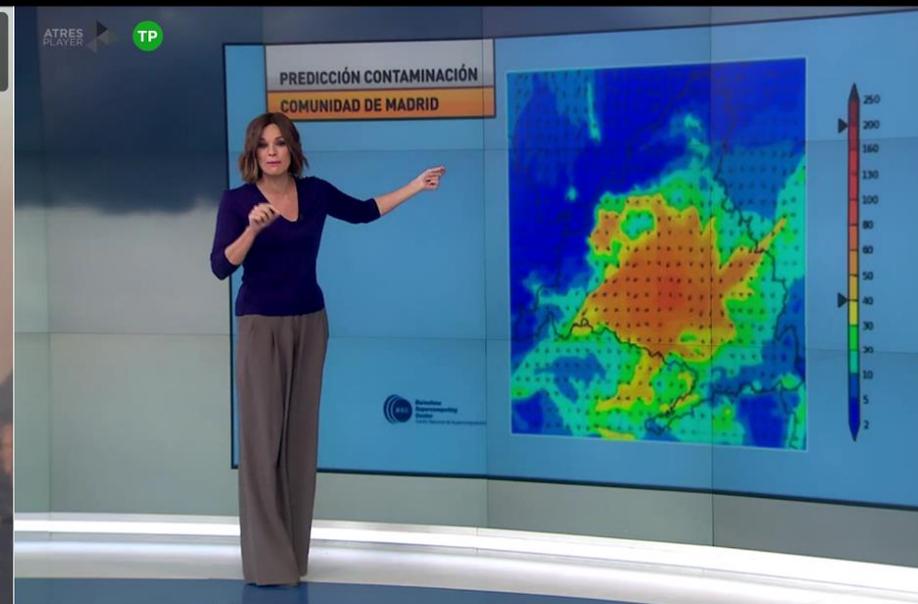
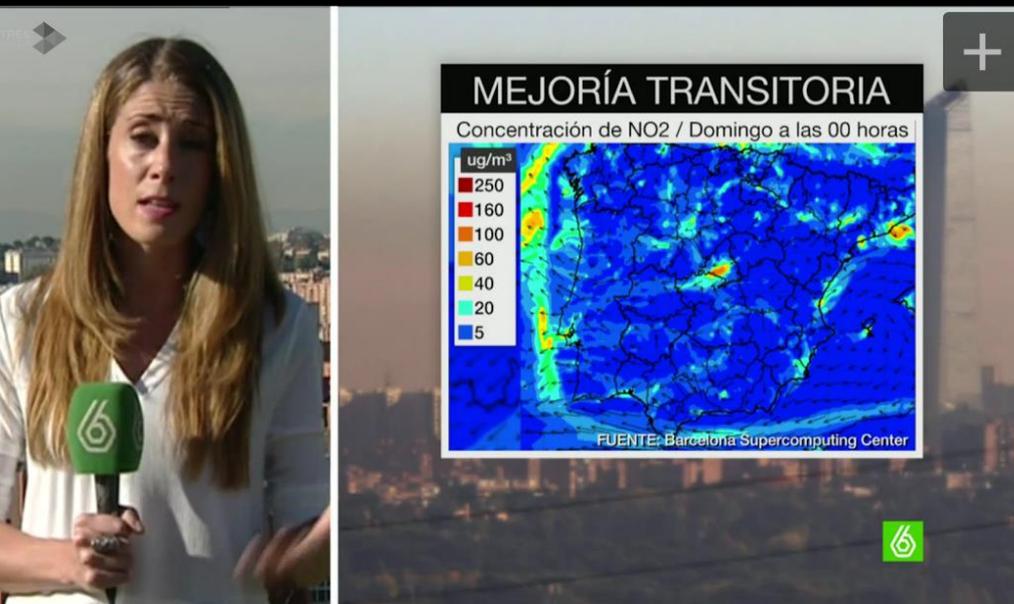
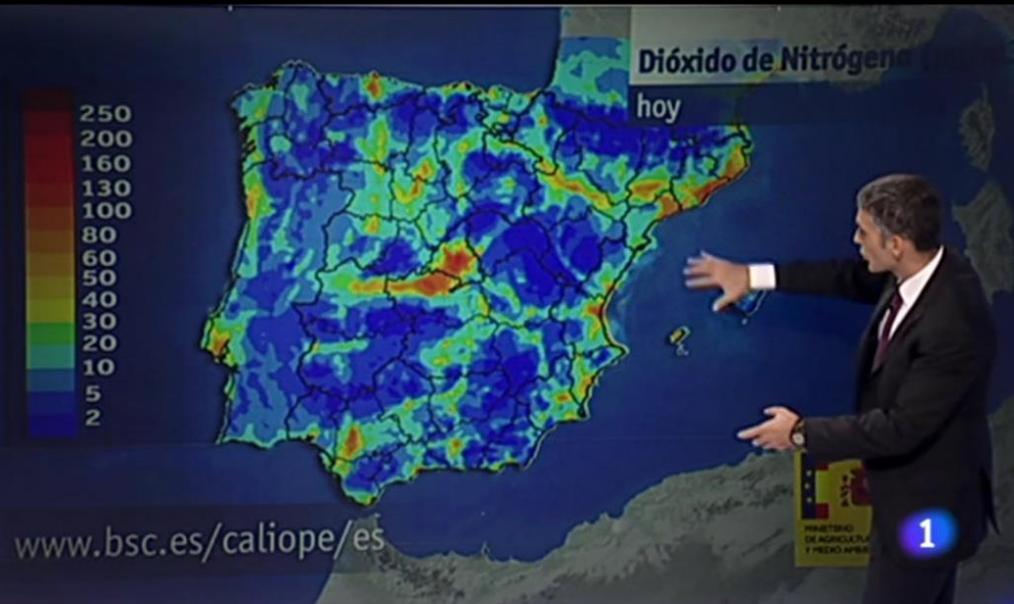
Install

PM10\_KF annual average skill evolution (2011-2014)

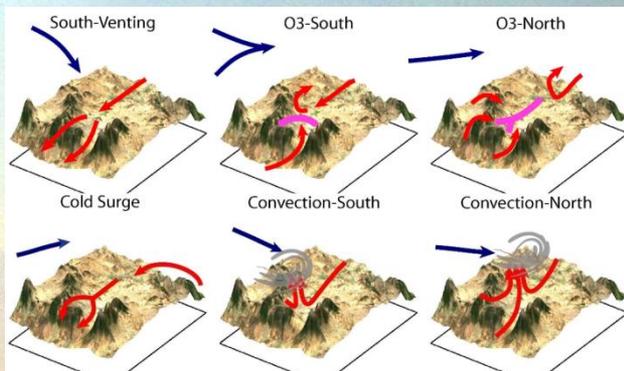
Urban Suburban Rural Urban Suburban Rural Urban Suburban Rural Urban Suburban Rural



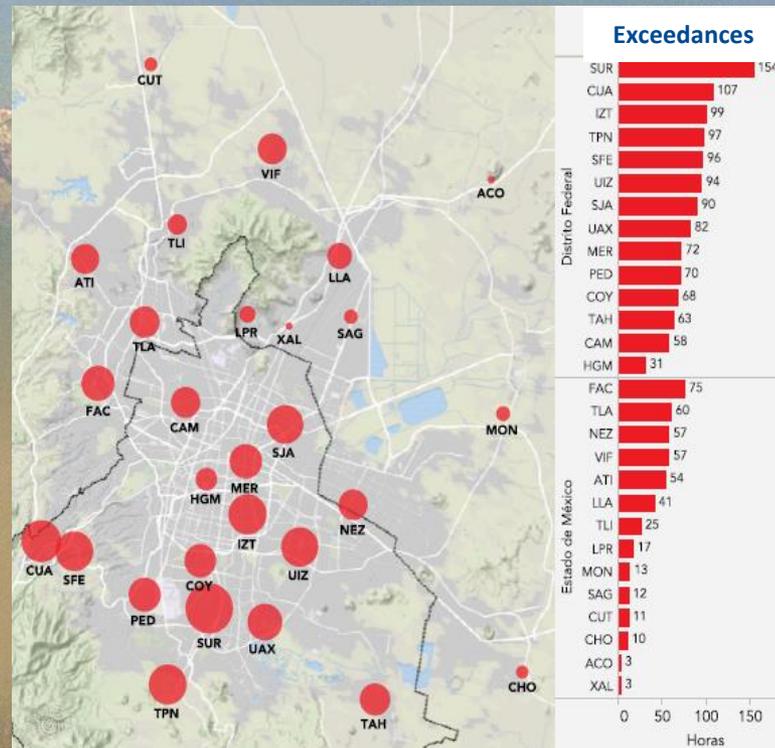
# Impact of our air quality forecasts



## Meteorology



## Air Quality



Local meteorology strongly influenced by the surrounding terrain that favours stagnant conditions and air pollution episodes

Exceedance of air quality limit values: Need for a management tool to develop and evaluate emission mitigation measures

## Emissions

Second largest metropolitan area in the world: more than 86,000 million vehicle-kilometre travelled per year

### Mexico City limits private car use to battle pollution

*Despite criticism, authorities take drastic measures to tackle the city's first environmental emergency in 14 years.*





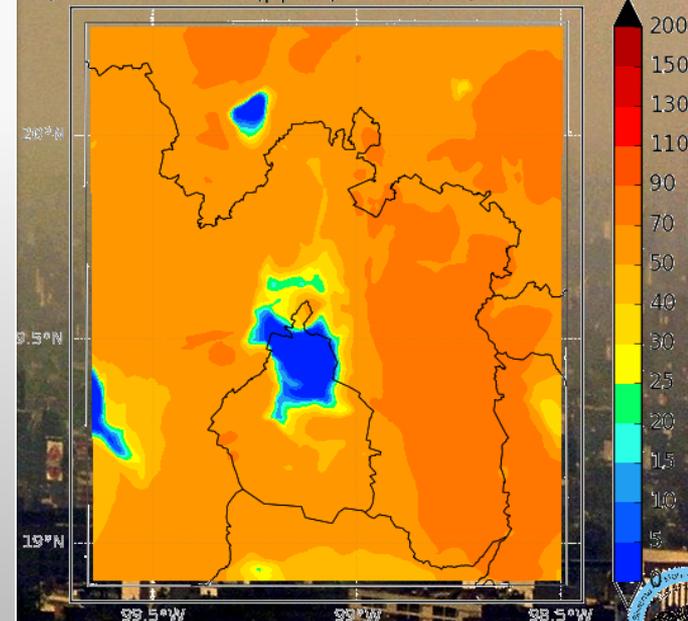
## Current Status

Characterization of the air quality state through a network of automatic air quality stations

## Development of an air quality forecast System for Mexico DF (AQFS-MexDF), a modelling tool for air quality management:

- Complement the public information service provided by the monitoring network
- Know in advance the possibility that air pollution episodes occur
- Contribute to the development and evaluation of air quality plans (ProAire)

AQFS-MexDF - O<sub>3</sub> (ppbV) - 2014/02/20-06:00:00

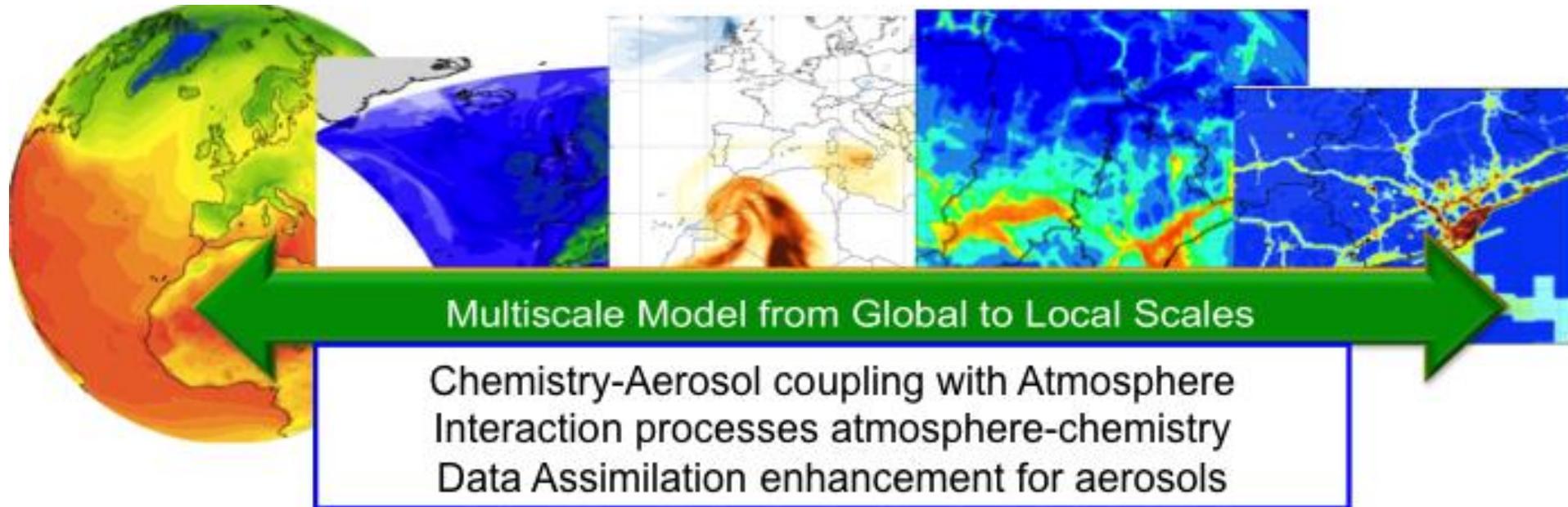


# Unified modelling solution

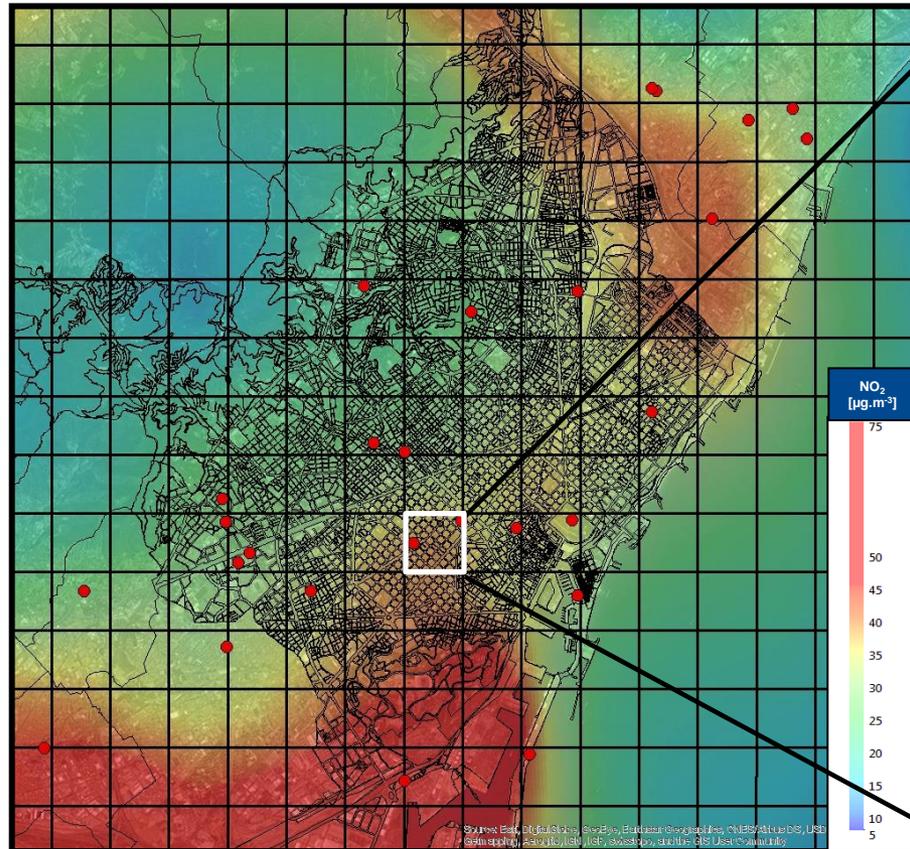


NMMB/BSC-CTM: Unified multiscale atmosphere-chemistry modelling system across spatial scales.

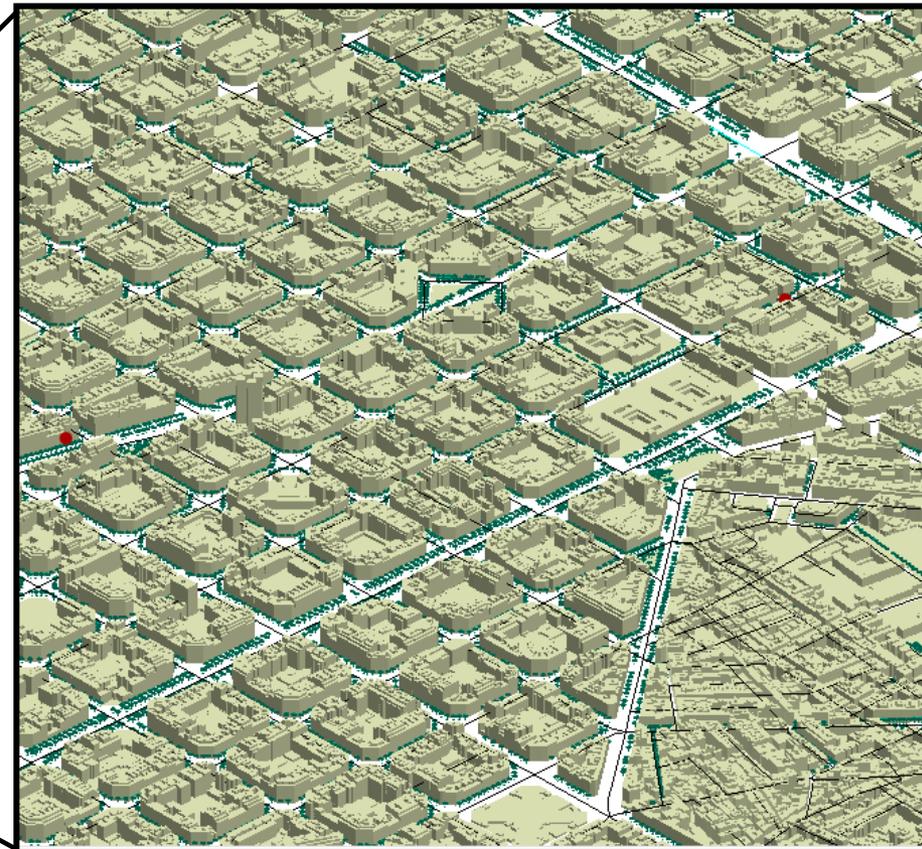
Joint venture with NCEP.



Where we are now



Where we want to be



Objective

To develop an air quality model based on a CFD coupled to an atmospheric chemistry model at city scale, enhanced by the use of Big Data technologies, to assess urban air quality.

# Data streaming for emissions

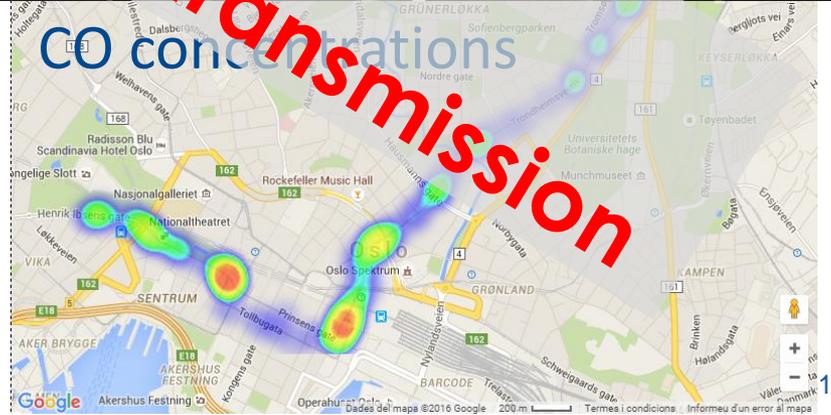
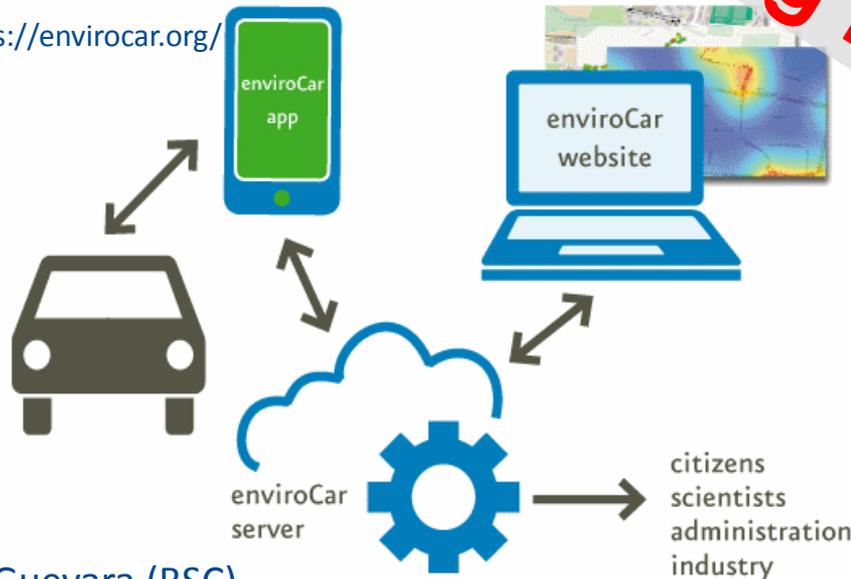
High-resolution air quality modelling requires appropriate emissions

- Collection and processing of sensor-generated data to feed a real-time emission model (and to validate air quality predictions)
- Providing the sensors with the adequate technology is a challenge
- Managing large volumes is another one: sampling 10 Hz, ten variables  $\sim 30$  MB/day, city-wide  $\sim 300$  GB/day (10,000 vehicles)

**Need for Many more sensors possible before transmission**



<https://envirocar.org/>



# The WMO dust forecast centres



NMMB/BSC-CTM is used for, among many other things, producing operational dust forecasts.

| MODEL           | RUN TIME | DOMAIN   | DATA ASSIMILATION  |
|-----------------|----------|----------|--------------------|
| BSC-DREAM8b     | 12       | Regional | No                 |
| MACC            | 00       | Global   | MODIS AOD          |
| DREAM-NMME-MACC | 12       | Regional | MACC analysis      |
| NMMB/BSC-Dust   | 12       | Regional | No                 |
| MetUM           | 00       | Global   | MODIS AOD          |
| GEOS-5          | 00       | Global   | MODIS reflectances |
| NGAC            | 00       | Global   | No                 |
| EMA REG CM4     | 12       | Regional | No                 |
| DREAMABOL       | 12       | Regional | No                 |

WMO Sand

Advisory and Assessment System  
Regional Center for Northern Africa, Middle  
East and Europe <http://sds-was.aemet.es>

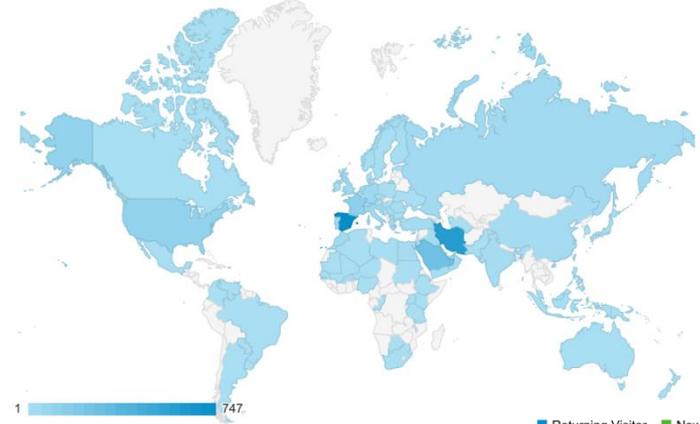
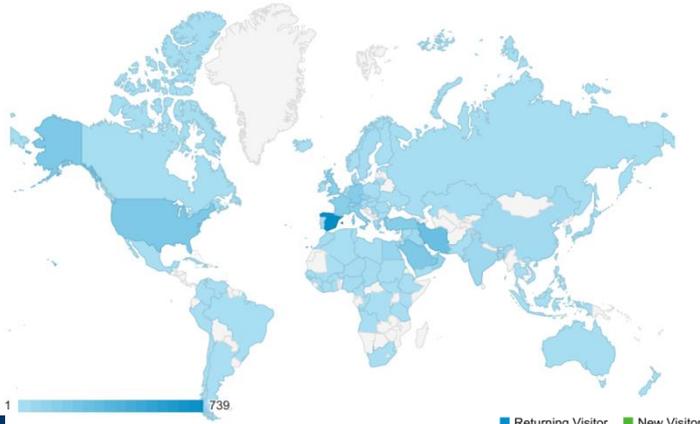
<http://dust.aemet.es>

# The WMO dust forecast centres

SDS web site visits 1 Jan 2015-12 Mar 2015

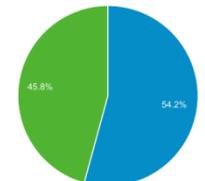
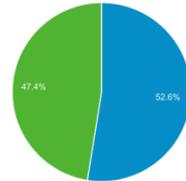
SDS-WAS NAMEE Regional Center

Barcelona Dust Forecast Center



■ Returning Visitor ■ New Visitor

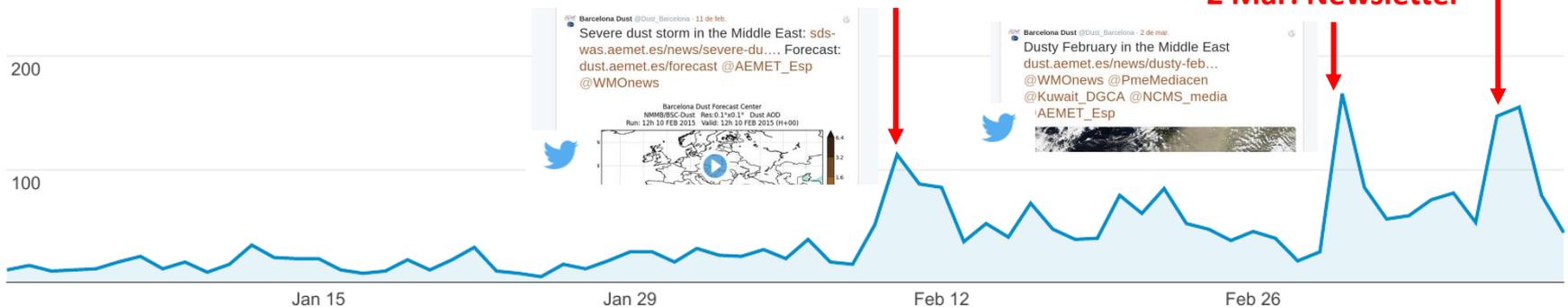
■ Returning Visitor ■ New Visitor



Barcelona Dust Forecast Center

10 Feb: Middle East event

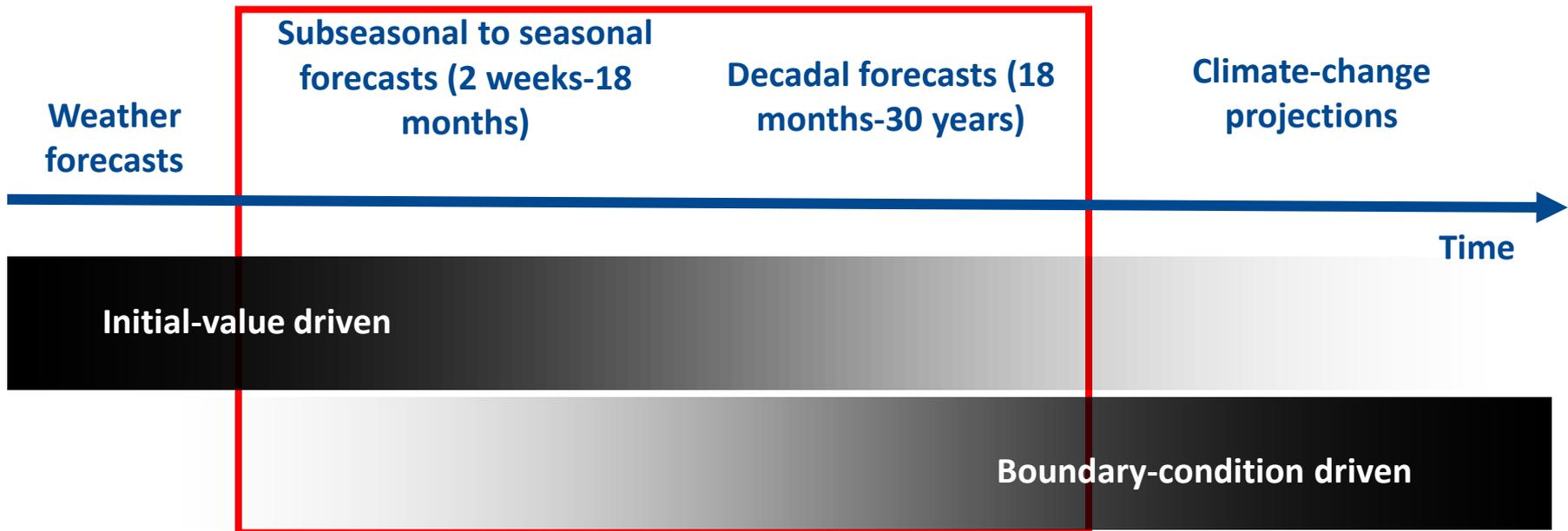
9-10 Mar: Canary Islands event  
2 Mar: Newsletter



## Climate Prediction

1. **Development of climate prediction systems focused on sub-seasonal to decadal time scales.**
2. **Exploitation of climate predictions to understand predictability mechanisms and forecast system limitations.**

Progression from initial-value problems with weather forecasting at one end and multi-decadal to century projections as a forced boundary condition problem at the other, with climate prediction (**sub-seasonal, seasonal and decadal**) in the middle. Prediction involves initialization and systematic comparison with a **simultaneous** reference.

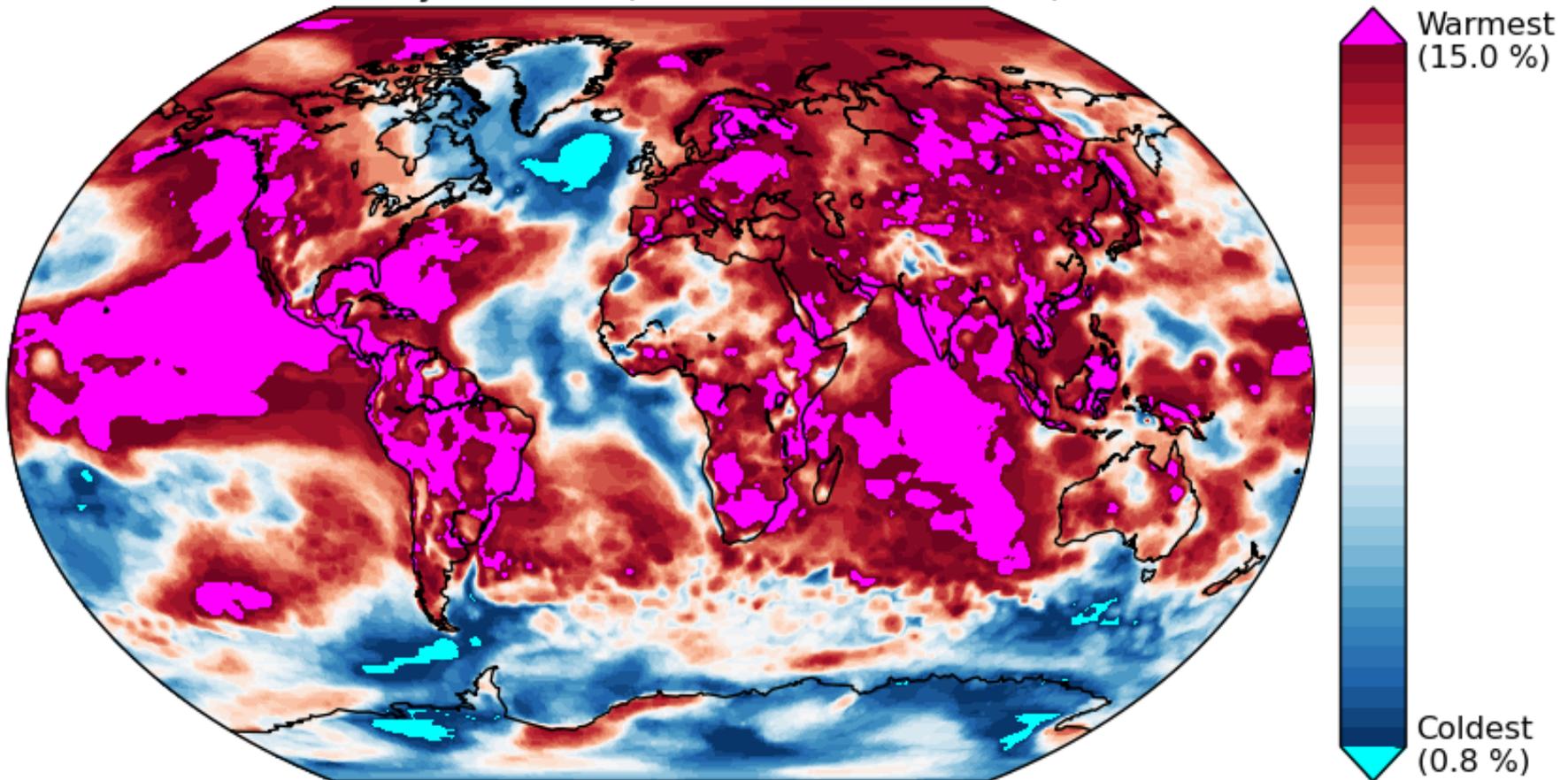


# Climate change is taking place



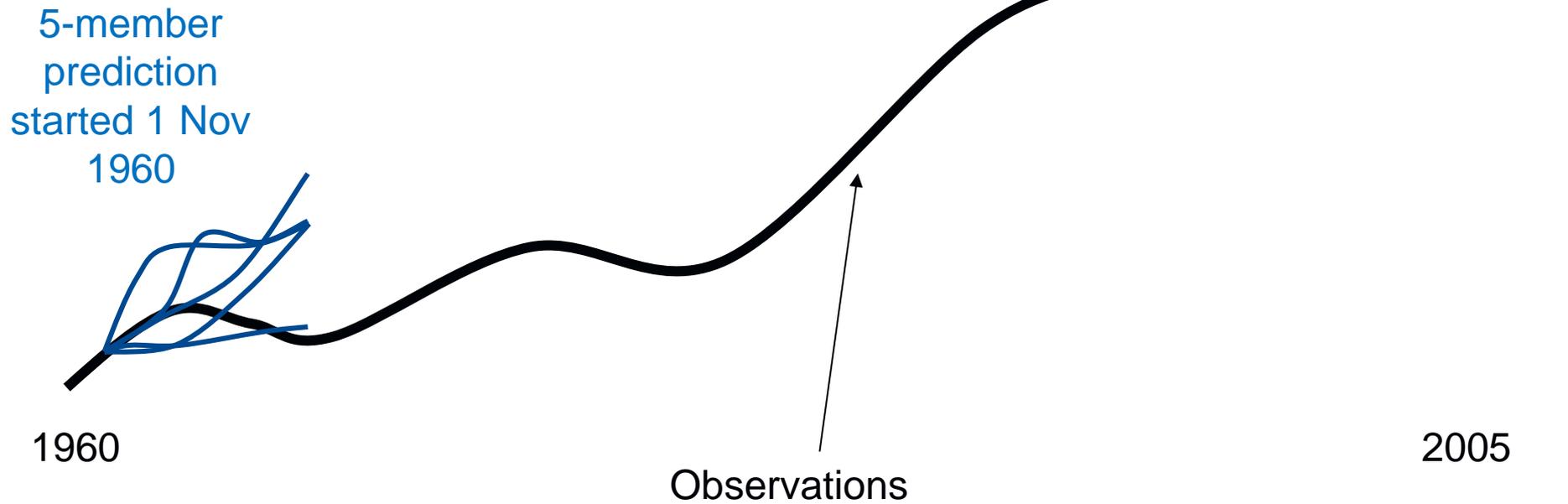
Rank of the 2015 annual mean temperature over the last 37 years from ERA Interim.

Annual mean 2m temperature  
Rank of year 2015 (reference: 1979-2015)

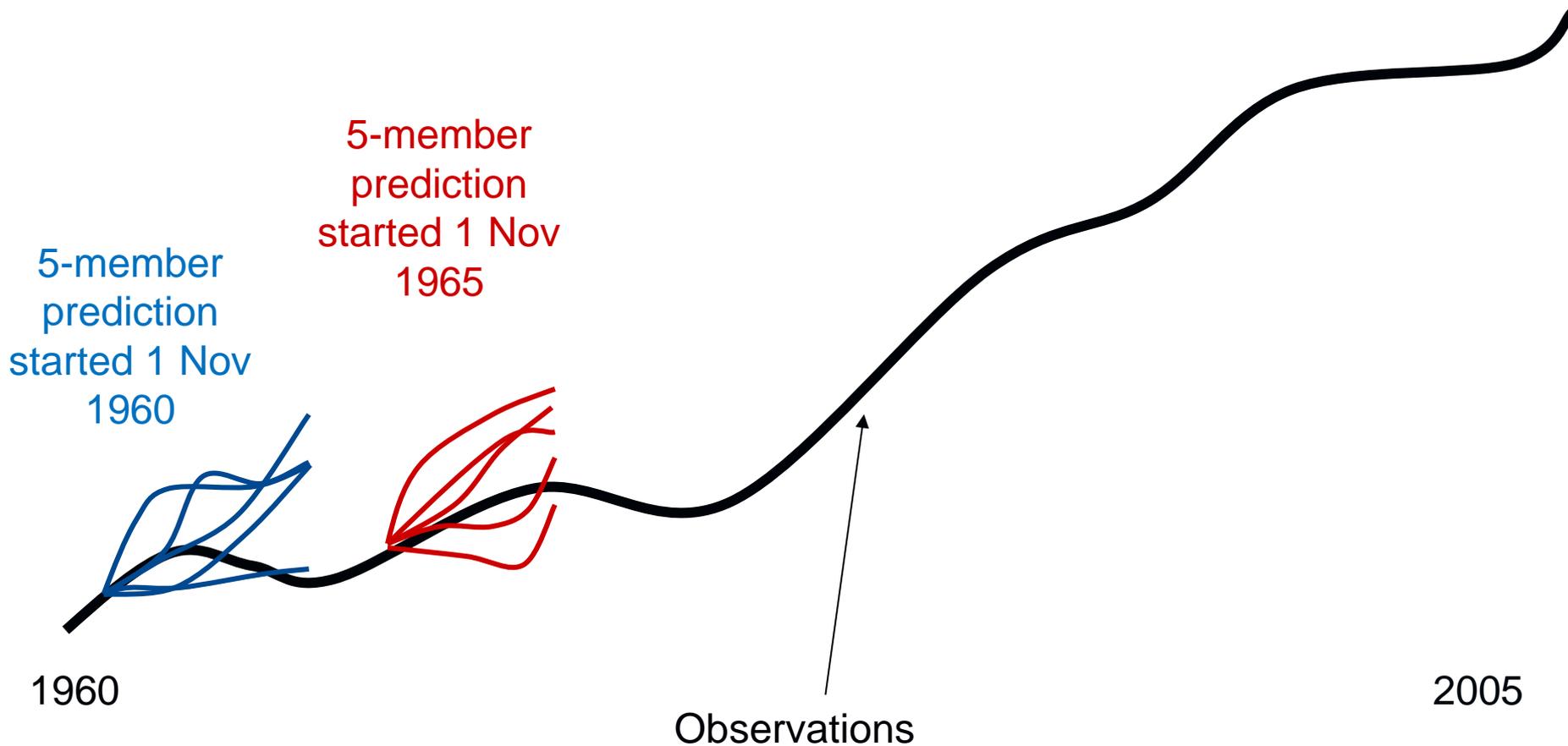


Data: ERA-Interim. Figure: F. Massonnet - BSC

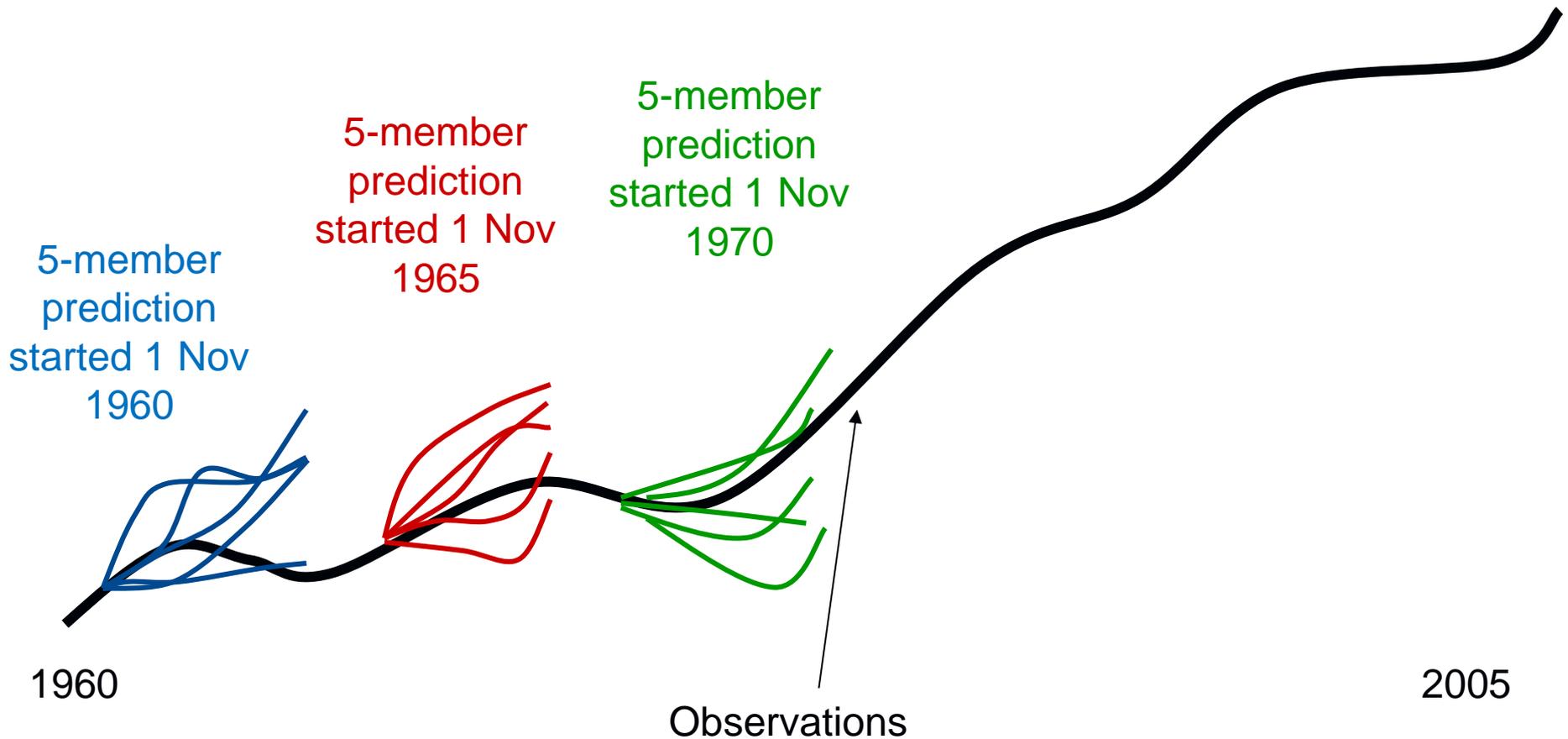
# Climate predictions

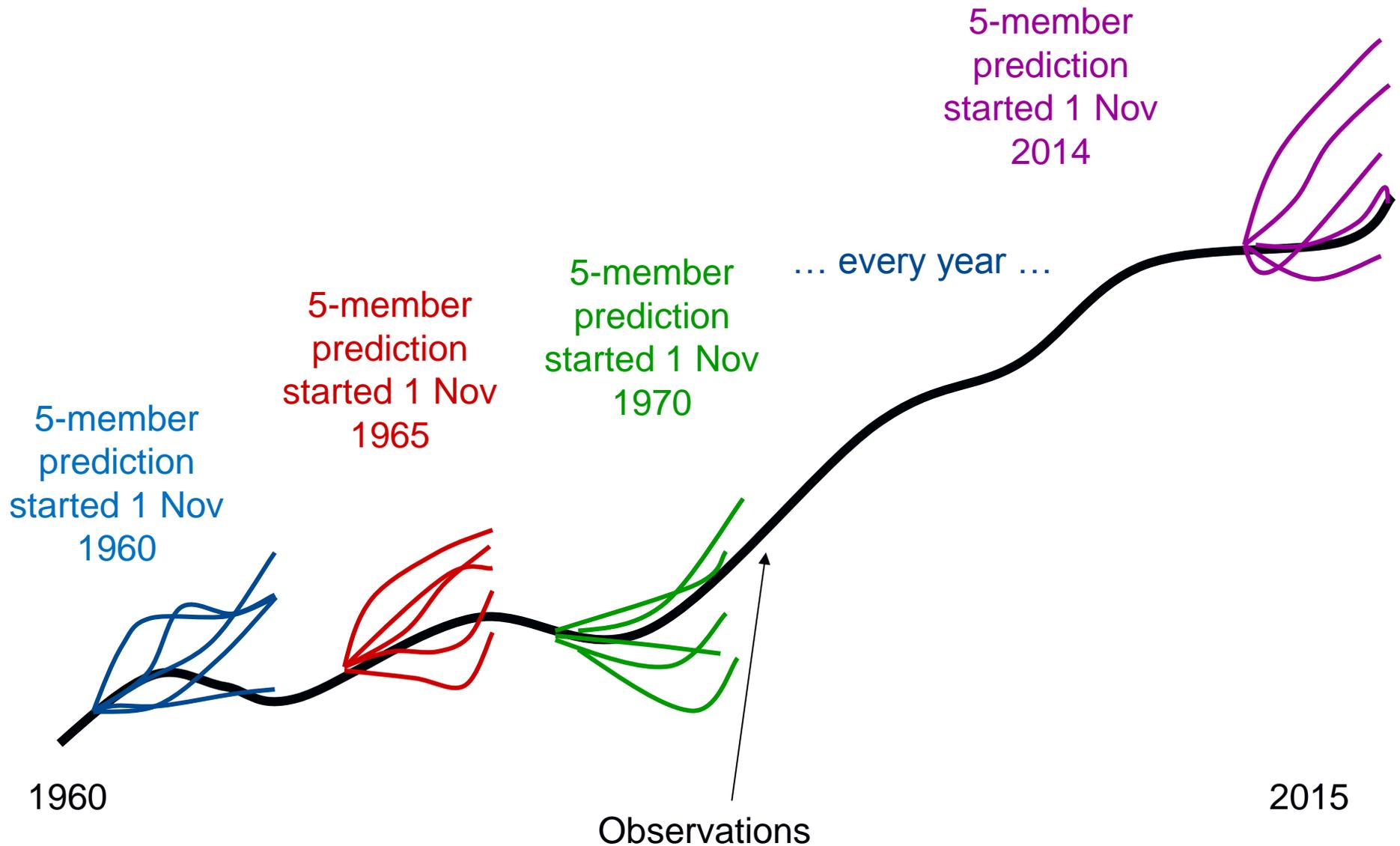


# Climate predictions



# Climate predictions

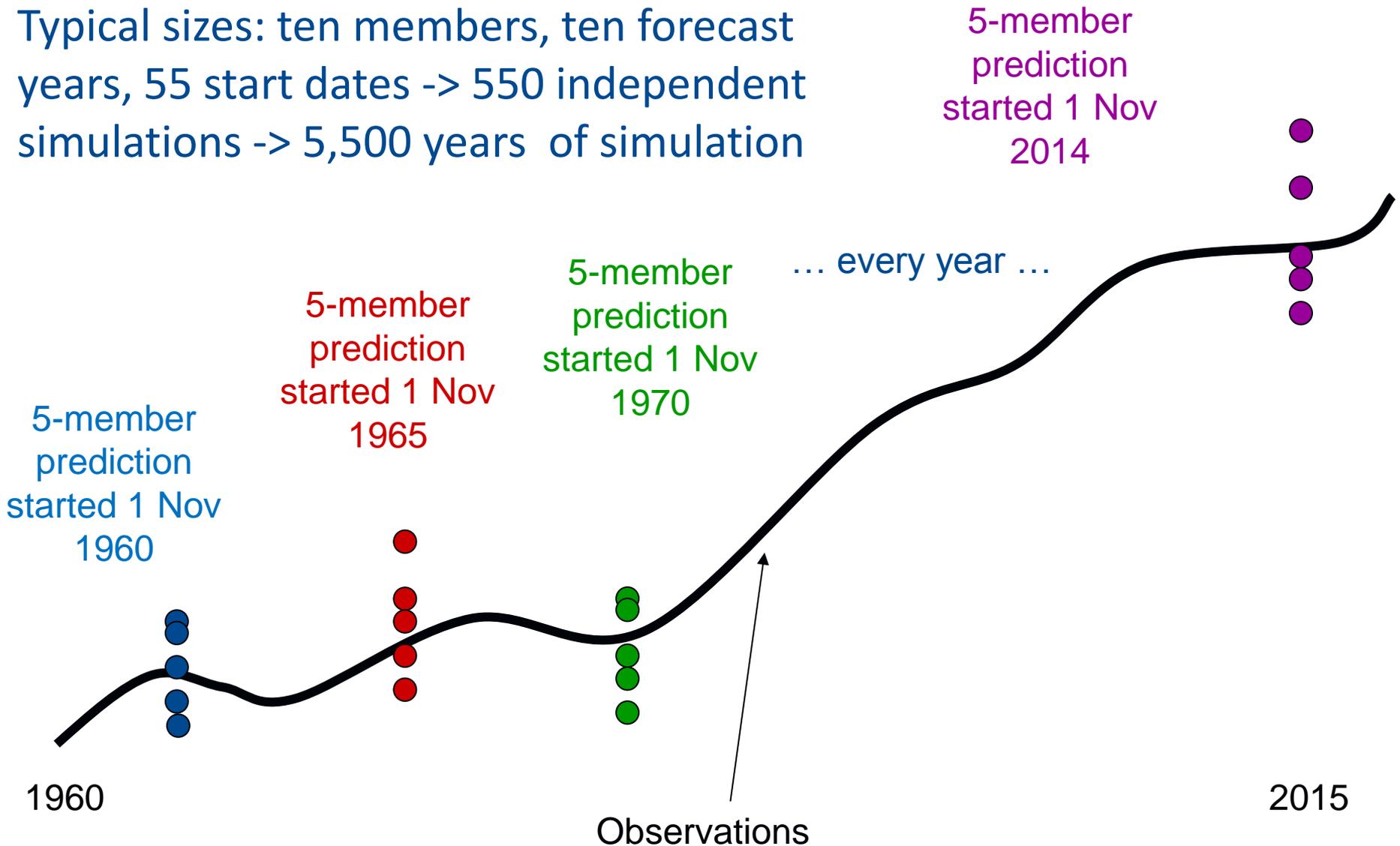




# Climate predictions



Typical sizes: ten members, ten forecast years, 55 start dates -> 550 independent simulations -> 5,500 years of simulation



# Predicting extremes

JJA near-surface temperature correlation of the ensemble mean from experiments with a climatological (top) and difference with one with realistic (bottom) land-surface initialisation. Results for EC-Earth2.3 started in May over 1979-2010.

Two ways for the analysis: reducing data traffic online or offline

a) q90 of Tx

b) nb of warm days

c) q90 of Tn

d) nb of warm nights

e) q10 of Tn

f) nb of cold nights

g) q90 of Tx

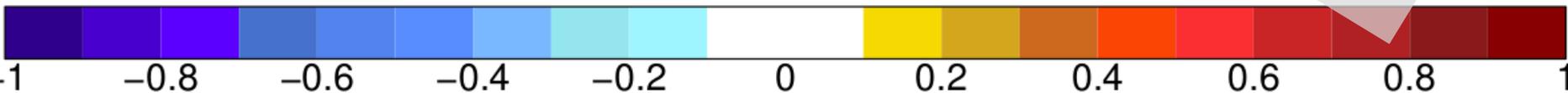
h) nb of warm days

i) q90 of Tn

j) nb of warm nights

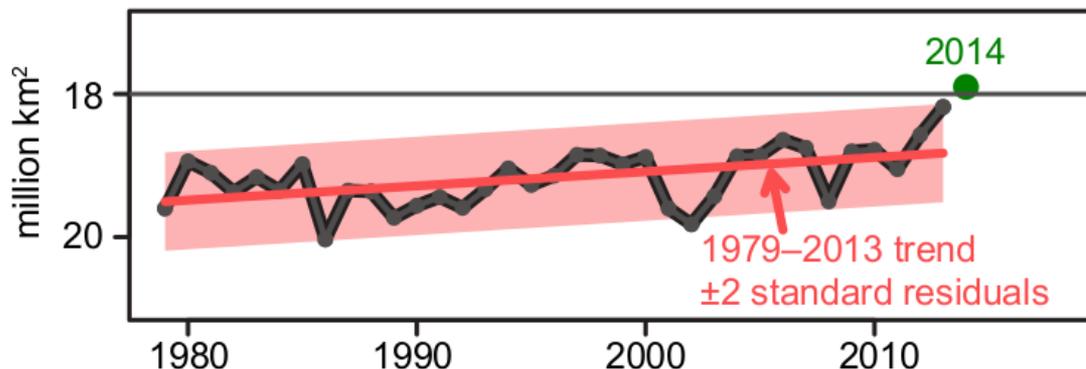
k) q10 of Tn

l) nb of cold nights

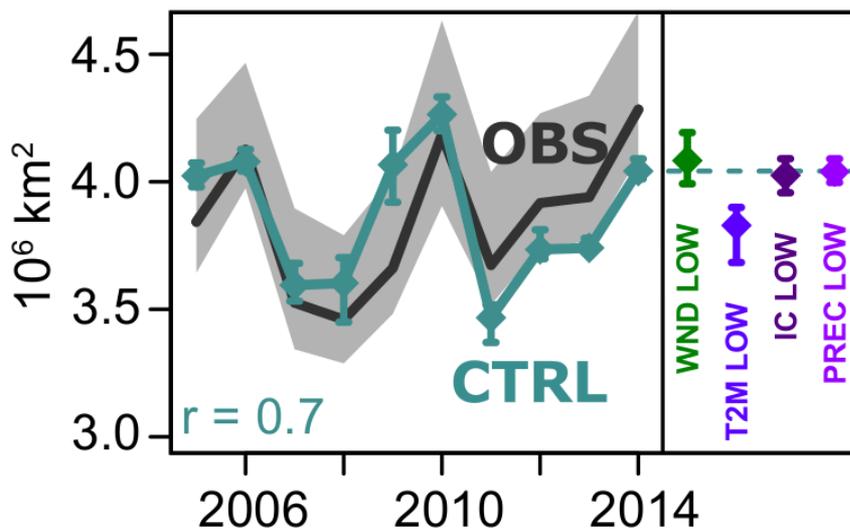


2014 was an exceptional year for the Antarctic sea-ice extent. A set of sensitivity experiments with NEMO allows to attribute it to anomalous southerly advection of cold air (Indian sector) and ocean pre-conditioning (Ross Sea).

September Antarctic Sea Ice Extent

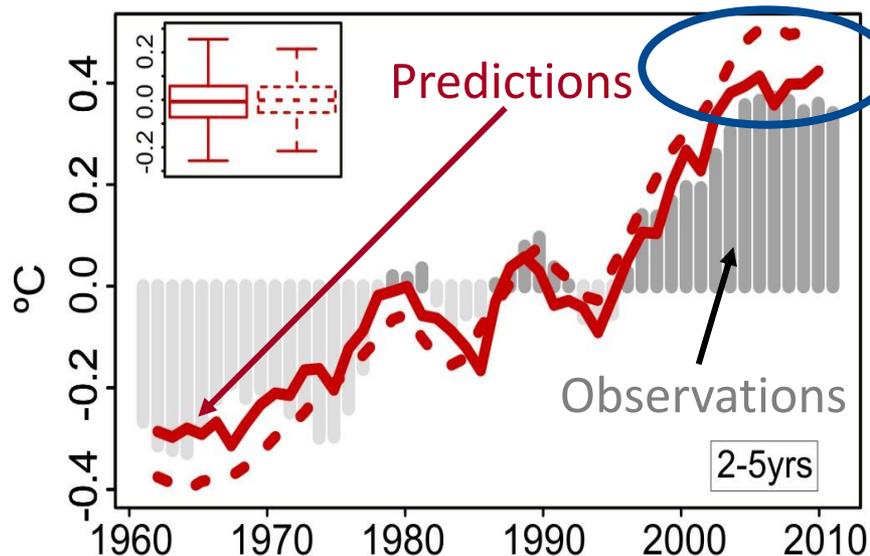


Indian Ocean

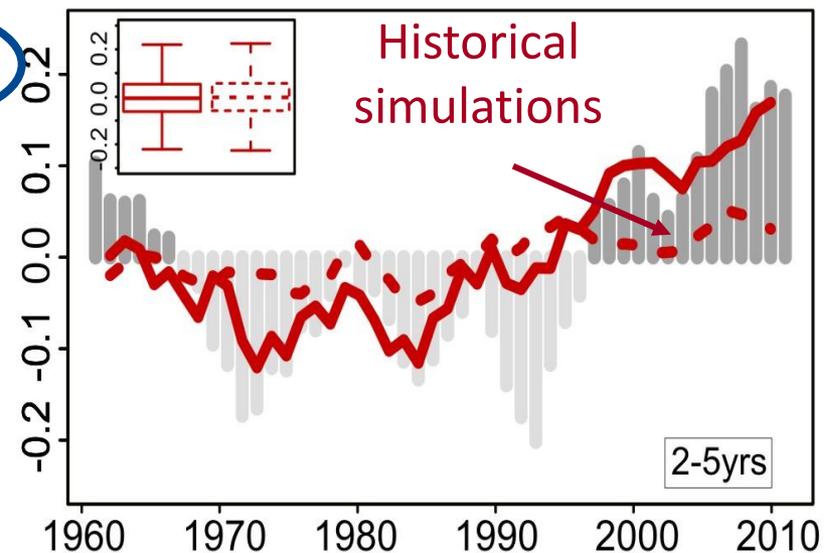


Global-mean near-surface air temperature and AMV against  
GHCN/ERSST3b for forecast years 2-5.

Global mean surface air  
temperature (GMST)



Atlantic multidecadal variability  
(AMV)



Initialised simulations reproduce the global temperature and some of the AMV tendencies and suggest that initialization corrects the forced model response **and** phases in internal variability.

# Climate prediction is very expensive



Climate prediction allows running jobs independently and simultaneously by wrapping together ensemble members for different start dates. This is not trivial parallelisation.

A suitable workflow manager is required.

**1.4 PB - 5,500 simulated years  
200 million core hours**

EC-Earth3 and Lindgren, PDC

|  |                                | 1      | 5      | 10     | 10     | 20     |
|--|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Number of Start Dates</b>             |                                | 1      | 5      | 10     | 10     | 20     |
| <b>Number of Members</b>                 |                                | 1      | 5      | 5      | 10     | 10     |
| <b>Number of Independent Simulations</b> |                                | 1      | 25     | 50     | 100    | 200    |
| <b>T159-ORCA1</b>                        | Cores                          | 144    | 360    | 720    | 1440   | 2880   |
|  | Wall-clock Time (Hours) / year | 5      | 5      | 5      | 5      | 5      |
|  | CPU Time (Hours) / year        | 720    | 1800   | 3600   | 7200   | 14400  |
|  | Output Size (GB) / year        | 10,80  | 480    | 960    | 1920   | 3840   |
| <b>T255-ORCA1</b>                        | Cores                          | 360    | 900    | 1800   | 3600   | 7200   |
|  | Wall-clock Time (Hours) / year | 5      | 5      | 5      | 5      | 5      |
|  | CPU Time (Hours) / year        | 1800   | 4500   | 9000   | 18000  | 36000  |
|  | Output Size (GB) / year        | 19,20  | 5184   | 10368  | 20736  | 41472  |
| <b>T799-ORCA025</b>                      | Cores                          | 1104   | 2760   | 5520   | 11040  | 22080  |
|  | Wall-clock Time (Hours) / year | 40     | 40     | 40     | 40     | 40     |
|  | CPU Time (Hours) / year        | 44160  | 110400 | 220800 | 441600 | 883200 |
|  | Output Size (GB) / year        | 256,80 | 6420   | 12840  | 25680  | 51360  |

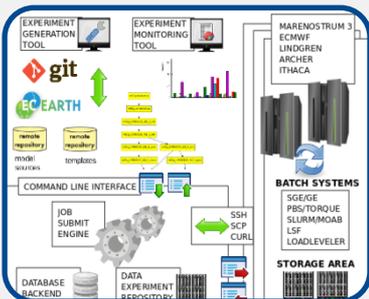
## Computational Earth Sciences

1. **Ensure an efficient use of the computational resources by the research groups.**
2. **Development of HPC user-friendly software framework for Earth system modeling and the management of operational systems.**
3. **Data management.**



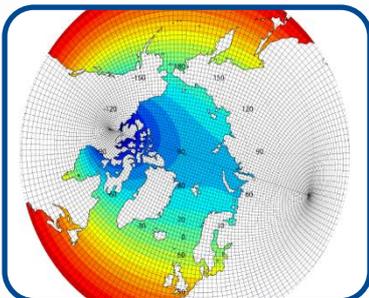
## Performance Team

- Provide HPC services such as performance analysis
- Apply new computational methods



## Models and Workflows Team

- Development of HPC user-friendly software framework
- Support the development of atmospheric research software



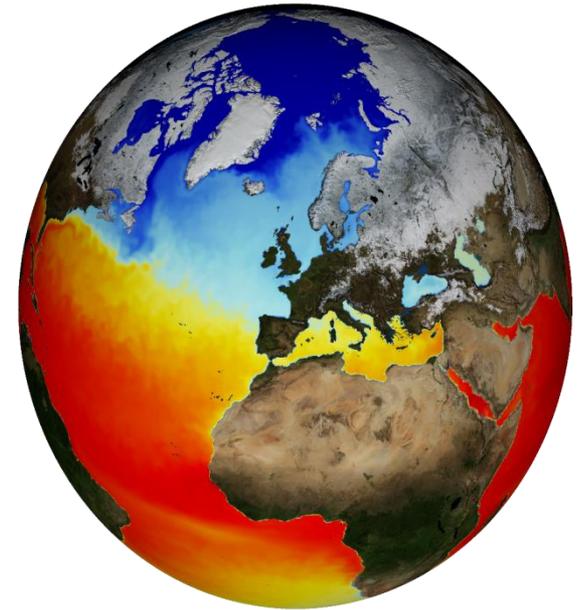
## Data and Diagnostics Team

- Big Data in Earth Sciences
- Data services
- Visualization

**Make the most of the expertise in data and computational technologies at BSC**

- Weather, climate and air quality simulations are continuously performed all over the world, consuming vast amounts of energy, and contributing to large greenhouse gas emissions
- Not all computers have the same consumption
  - Marenstrum 3 Energy efficiency: 910,84 MFLOPS/W (The Green500 List)
  - Montblanc expected energy efficiency: 7 GFLOPS/W\*
- With the same energy, we can do 10x operations
- Running simulations on these new platforms is far from obvious
- Some challenges need to be overcome
  - Take advantage of the whole architecture (GPUs...) → recode some parts
  - Adapt to a less performant and expensive I/O
  - **Communicate the benefits to society**

- Simulations use a **huge amount of resources**.
- Future simulations will need much more resources.
- **NEMO: Nucleus for European Modeling of the Ocean (NEMO)** is a **state-of-the-art global ocean model**.
- Almost 170.000 lines of FORTRAN 90 code.
- Parallelization based on spatial domain decomposition through MPI.
- Mostly small stencil element calculations.
- A performance analysis shows that there are too many global communications and that only 20% of the time is spent in calculations.



0,84 M points



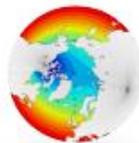
ORCA 2

550 MB of memory

8 CPU hours

10 Gigabytes of output (daily)

68 M points

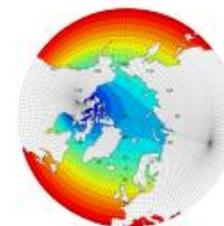


ORCA 1/4

47 Gigabytes of memory

3500 CPU hours

120 Gigabytes of output (daily)



ORCA 1/12

414 Gigabytes of memory

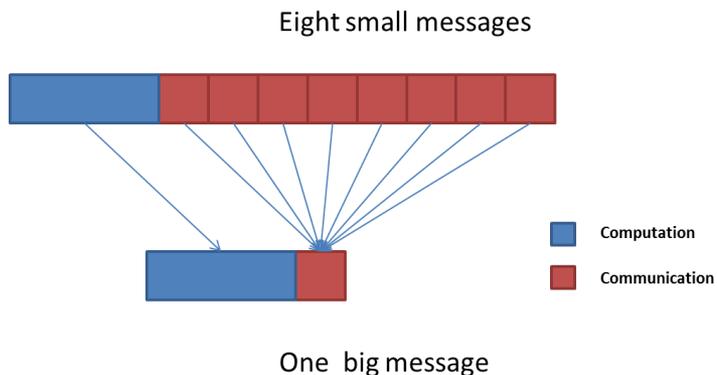
90 000 CPU hours

1 Terabyte of output (daily)

991 M points

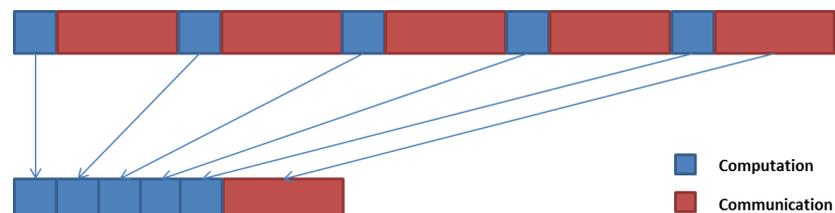
## MPI message packing

Taking in account that NEMO is really sensitive to latency, messages aggregation is the best way to reduce the time invested in communications. Therefore, consecutive messages have been packed wherever the computational dependencies allow to do so.



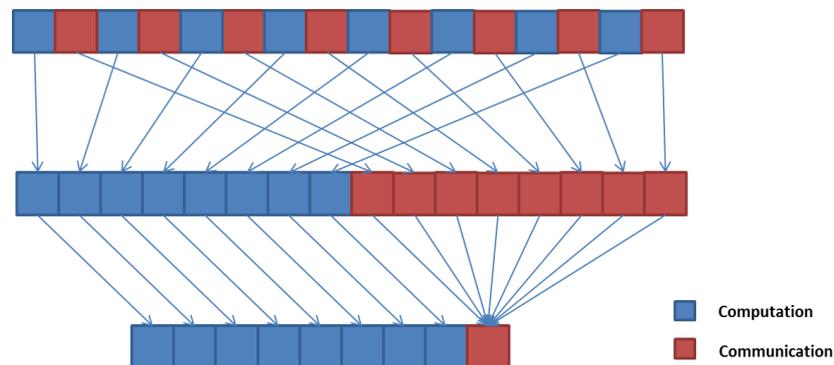
## Convergence check reduction

Some routines use collective communications to perform a convergence check in iterative solvers. The cost of this verifications is really high, reaching a 66% of the time. Wherever the model allowed it, we reduced the frequency of this verifications in order to increase parallel efficiency.



## Reordering

In order to apply the message packing optimization to as many routines as it was possible, it was necessary to rearrange some computation and communication regions, taking into account the dependencies between them, to reduce the number of messages. This way it was possible to compute (and communicate) up to 41 variables at the same time, resulting in a dramatic reduction of the granularity.



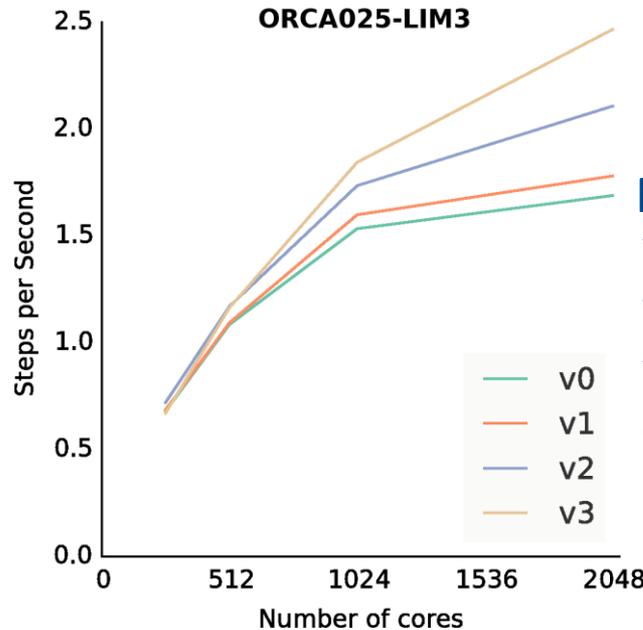
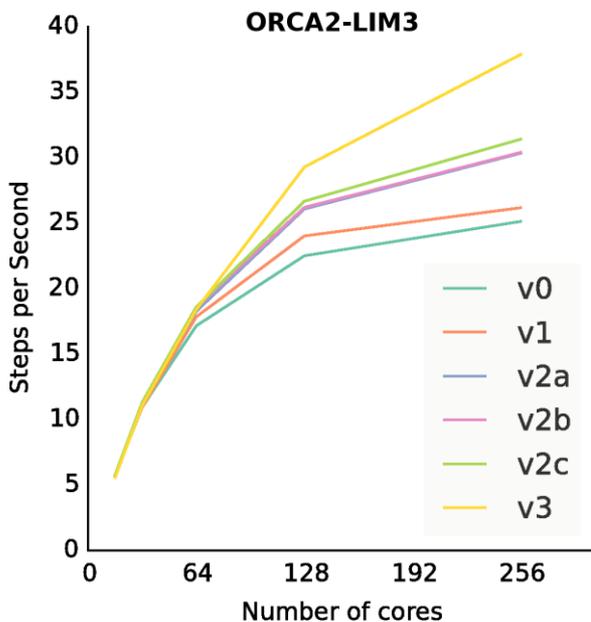
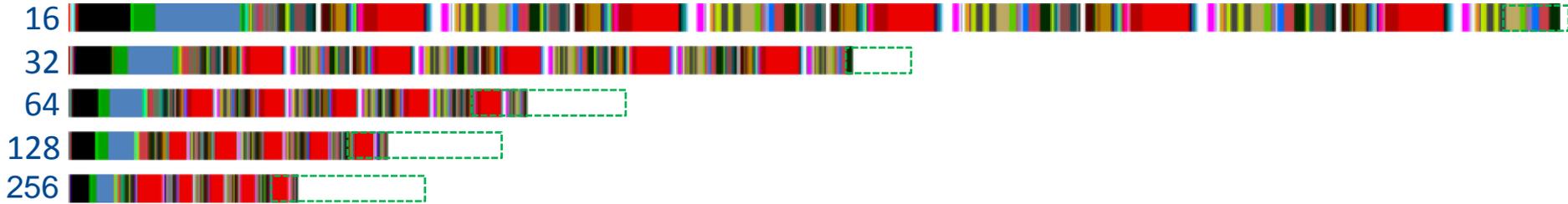
# Ocean model optimisation



## Original code



## Optimized code



NEMO/LIM 3.6  
 V0 → Original  
 V1 → Message packing  
 V2 → Conv. check reduction  
 V3 → Reordering

ESMs need coupling between components to communicate boundaries  
-> communication and interpolation. Coupling improvements:

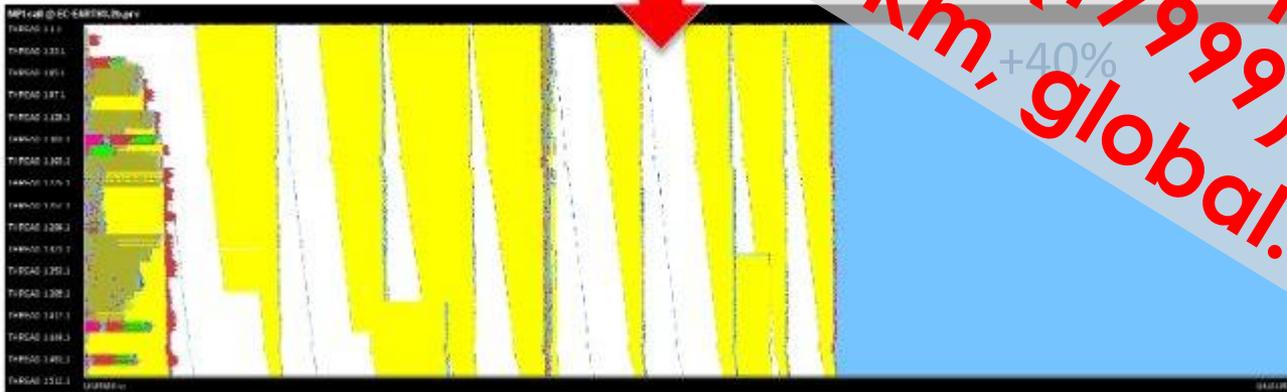
- Message and calculations aggregation
- Parallelize transformation process

Optimizations improve the execution time for coupling from original version (v0) to the improved version (v1) up to 40%.

v0



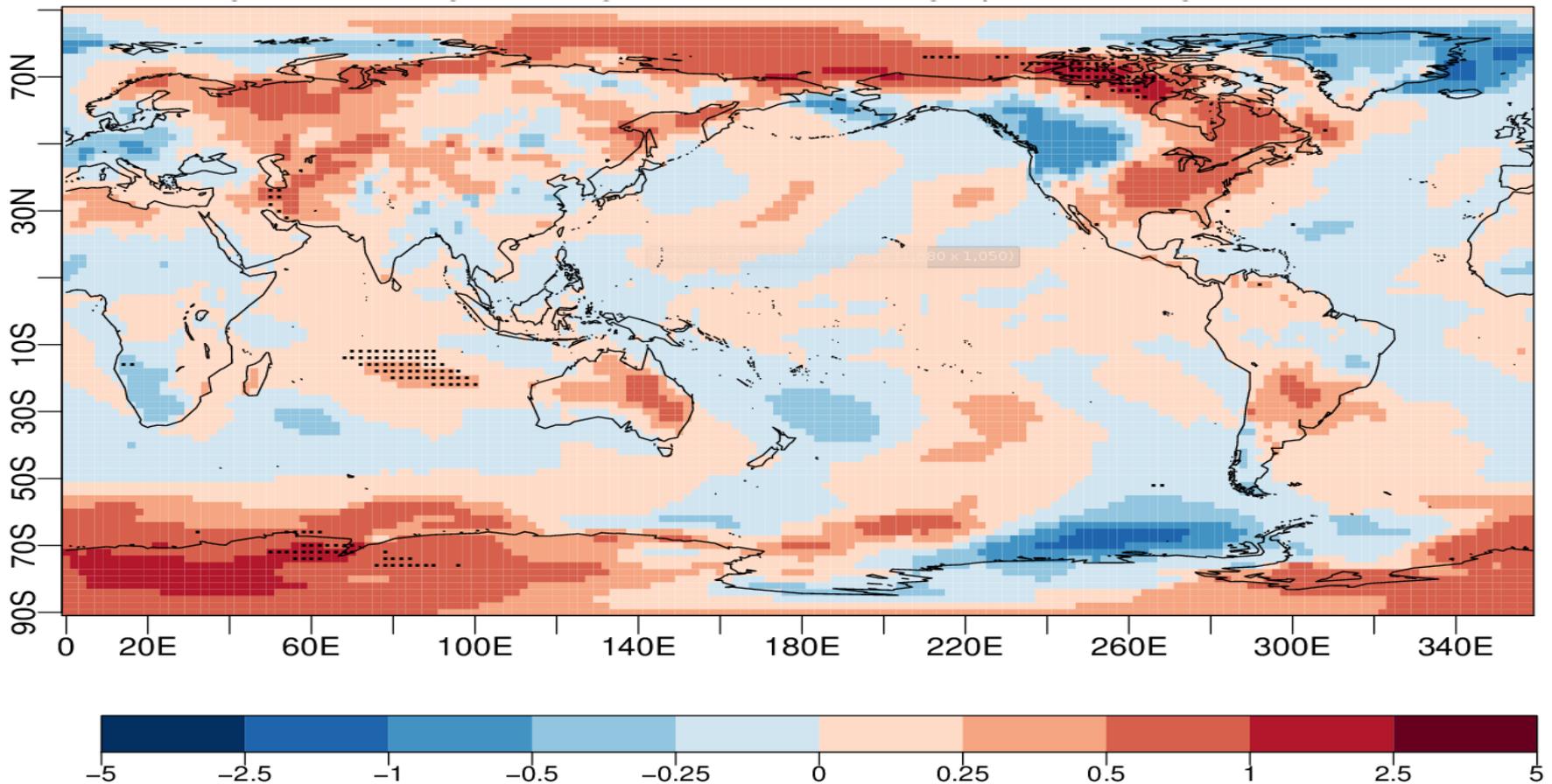
v1



**Fundamental work to run atmosphere-ocean only at 1 km (T7999) and at 10 km, global.**

Strike a balance between **reproducibility**, **accuracy** and **performance**.

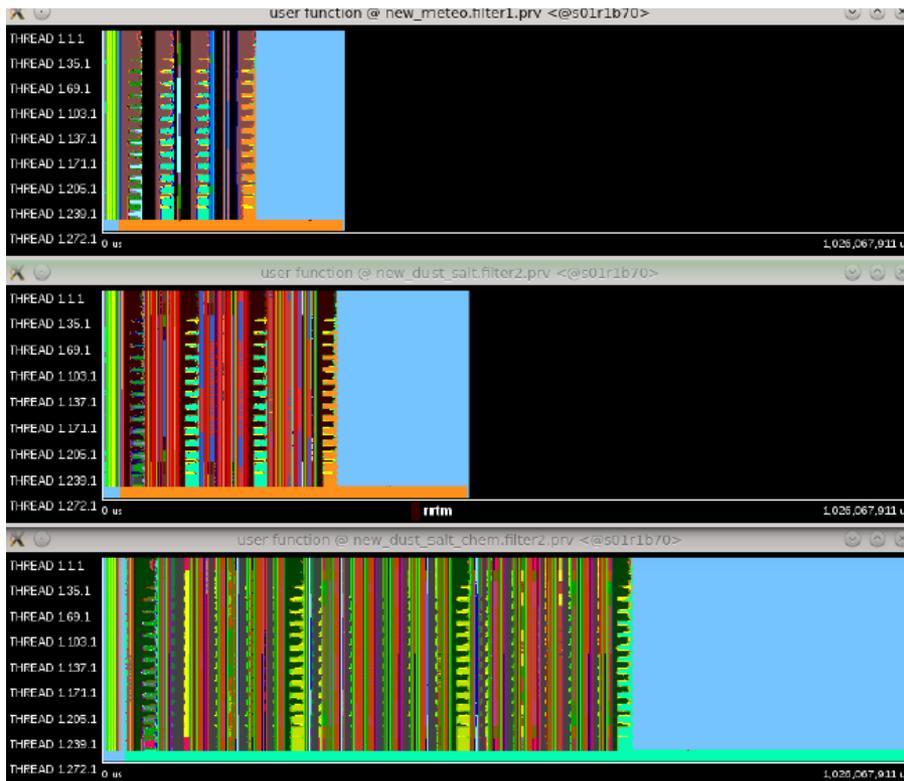
Temperature difference of the ensemble means (five-members) between two experiments using FP\_precise and O2. Black dotted regions for statistically significant differences (K-S test).



## NMMB: Non-hydrostatic Multiscale Meteorological Model on the B-Grid

- Meteorological core developed by NCEP
- Aerosols and gas-phase chemistry by BSC

Daily operational run in Marenostrum (16 nodes).



meteo: 9 tracers

meteo+aerosols: 9+16 tracers

meteo+aerosols+gases:  
9+16+53 tracers

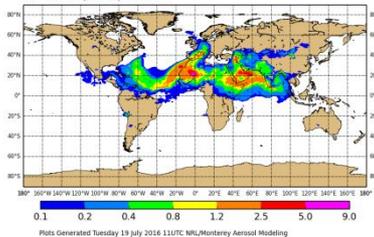
One hour simulation of NMMB/BSC-CTM, global, 24 km, 64 layers

## Data assimilation (EnKF), 12-member ensemble, use Autosubmit.

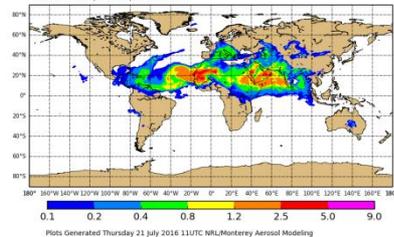


Day 3:

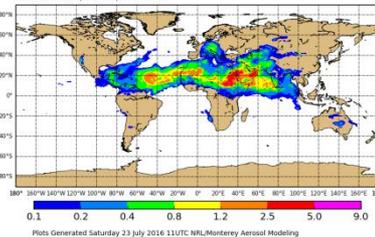
Monday 18 July 2016 00UTC NMMB/BSC-CTM Forecast t+078  
Thursday 21 July 2016 06UTC Valid Time  
DUST Aerosol Optical Depth at 550nm



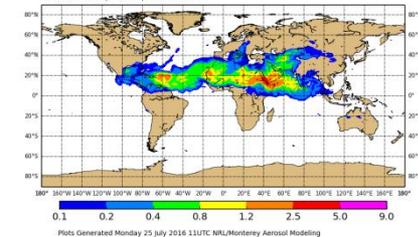
Wednesday 20 July 2016 00UTC NMMB/BSC-CTM Forecast t+078  
Saturday 23 July 2016 06UTC Valid Time  
DUST Aerosol Optical Depth at 550nm

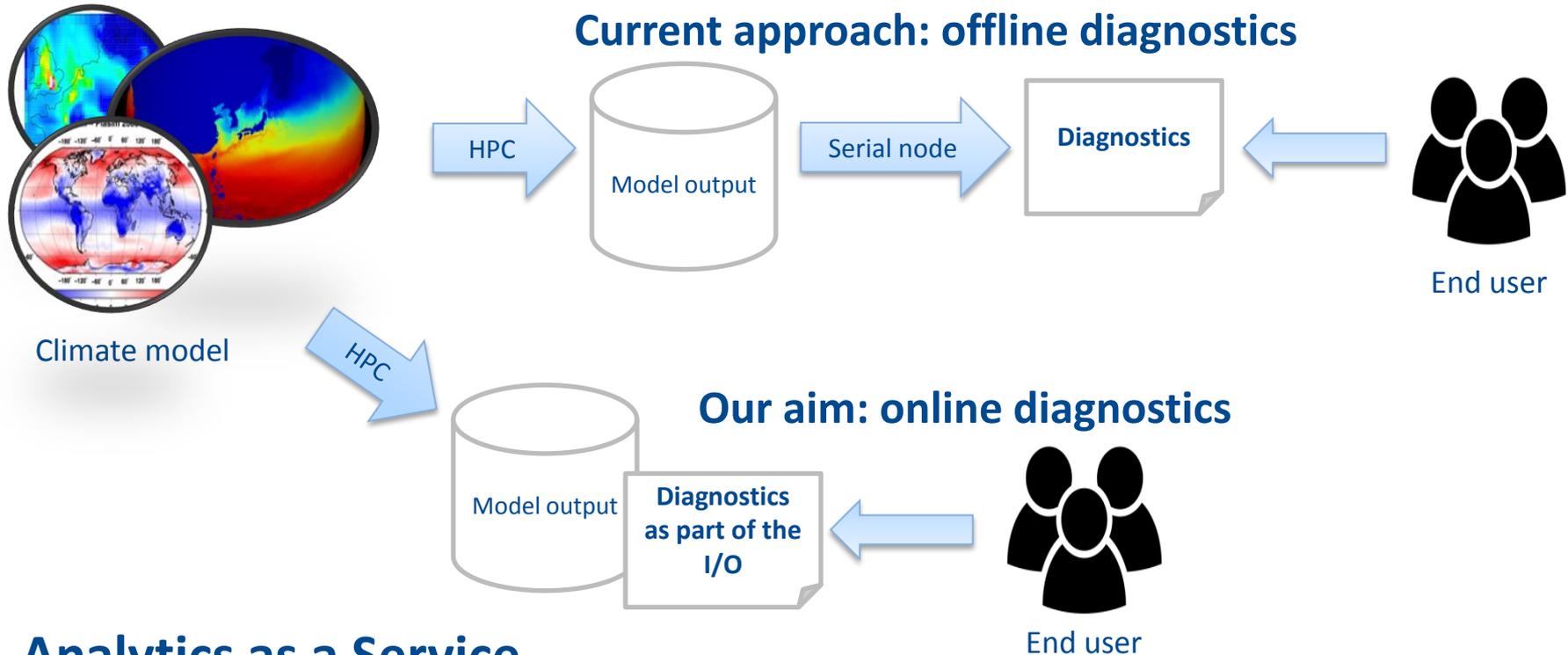


Friday 22 July 2016 00UTC NMMB/BSC-CTM Forecast t+078  
Monday 25 July 2016 06UTC Valid Time  
DUST Aerosol Optical Depth at 550nm



Sunday 24 July 2016 00UTC NMMB/BSC-CTM Forecast t+078  
Wednesday 27 July 2016 06UTC Valid Time  
DUST Aerosol Optical Depth at 550nm





## Analytics as a Service

- Diagnostics online during the run (either on compute node or elsewhere)
- Reduced data traffic and storage
- New diagnostics (data mining of extremes) possible
- The user gets the results faster → crucial to develop climate services (both public and private)

## Earth System Services

1. Design of user-defined research to guide the fundamental science of the BSC-ES department.
2. Development of user-interaction platforms to tailor and disseminate knowledge, tools and technology transfer.
3. Advancement of user and societal benefits via engagement, co-production and feedback from users to the provider.

## SUCCESSFUL CLIMATE SERVICE

### Principles



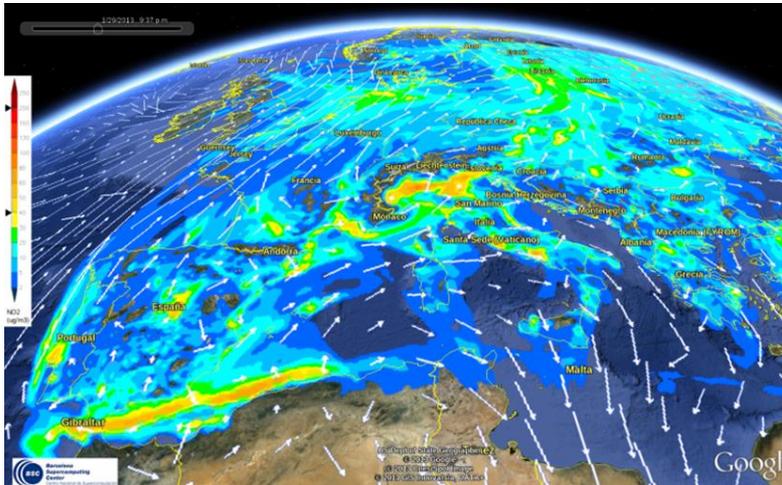
Data is not information

# EUPORIAS

Ethical Framework for Climate Services four core elements: integrity, transparency, humility and collaboration.

## Air quality forecast system: CALIOPE

Provides air quality related information for the coming days and for the application of short term action plans for air quality managers.

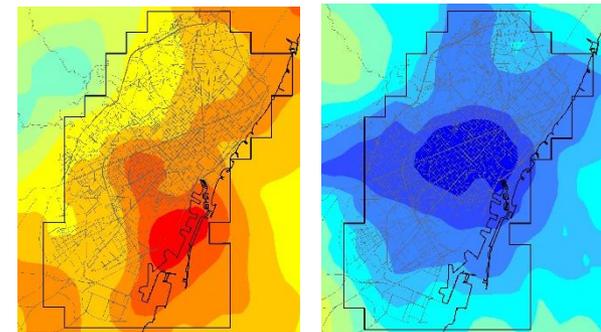


Information is delivered using both online or custom applications:  
[www.bsc.es/caliope](http://www.bsc.es/caliope)



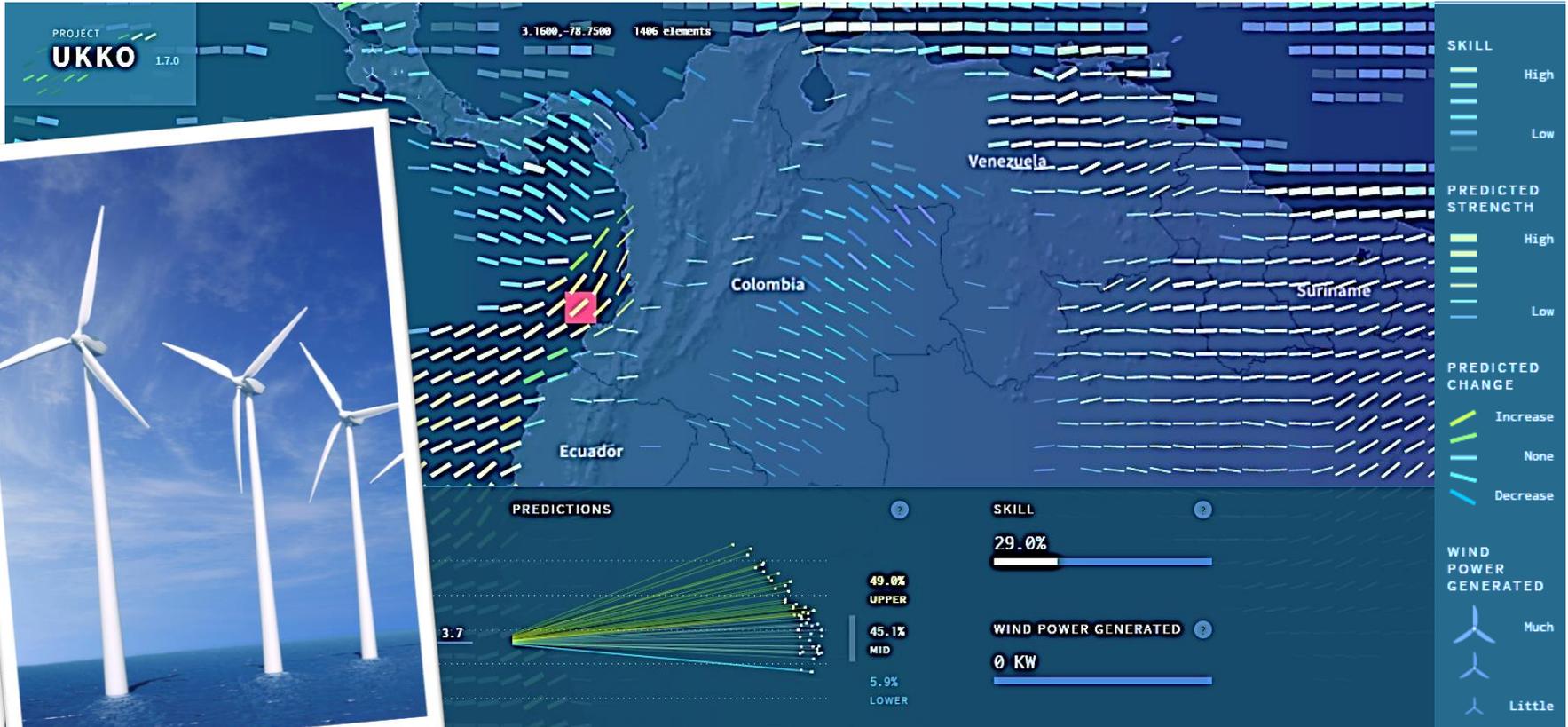
## Air quality impact assessment

Air quality modelling provides comprehensive description of air quality problems by relating emission sources and atmospheric conditions



Left: NO<sub>2</sub> maximum h values in Barcelona (red >200 µg/m<sup>3</sup>)  
Right: Reductions due to fleet electrification (blue >25 µg/m<sup>3</sup>)

# Seasonal wind power predictions

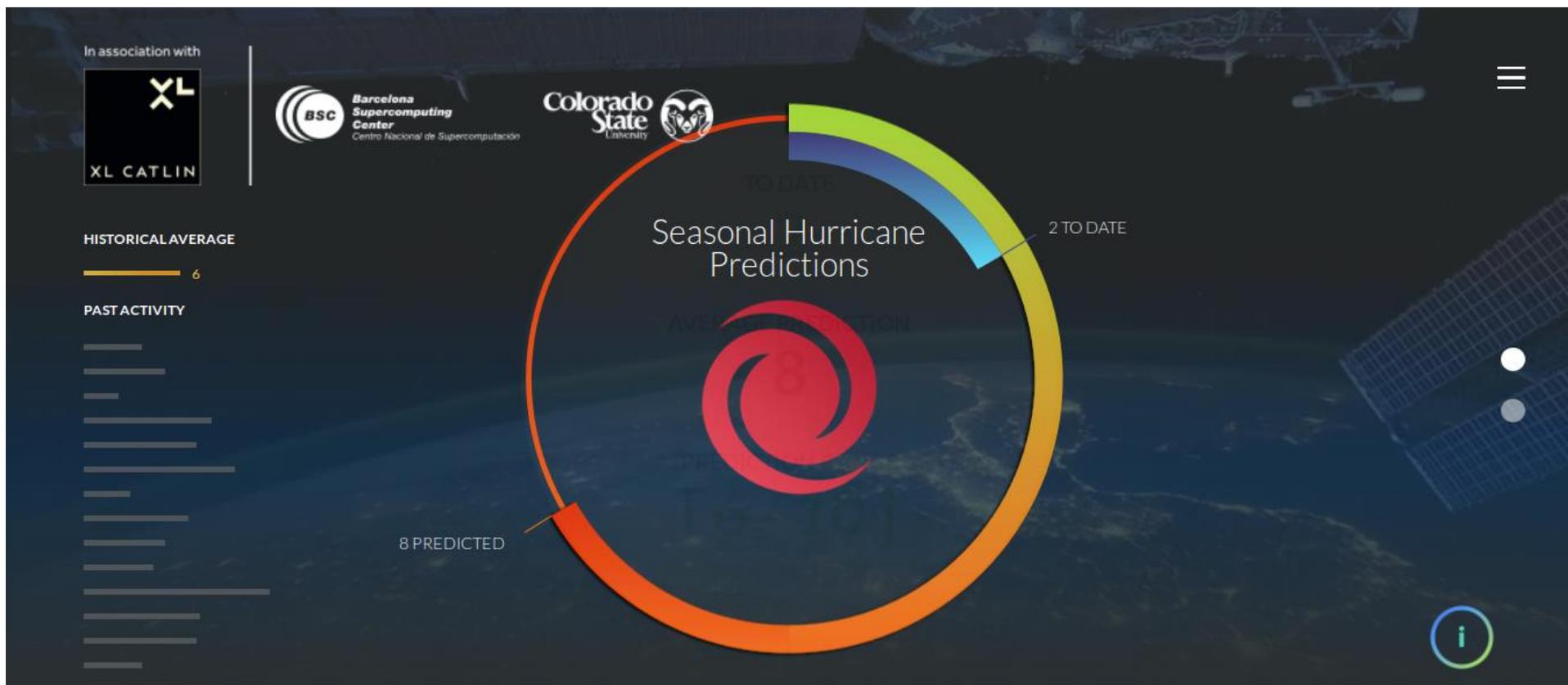


**RESILIENCE**  
PROTOTYPE



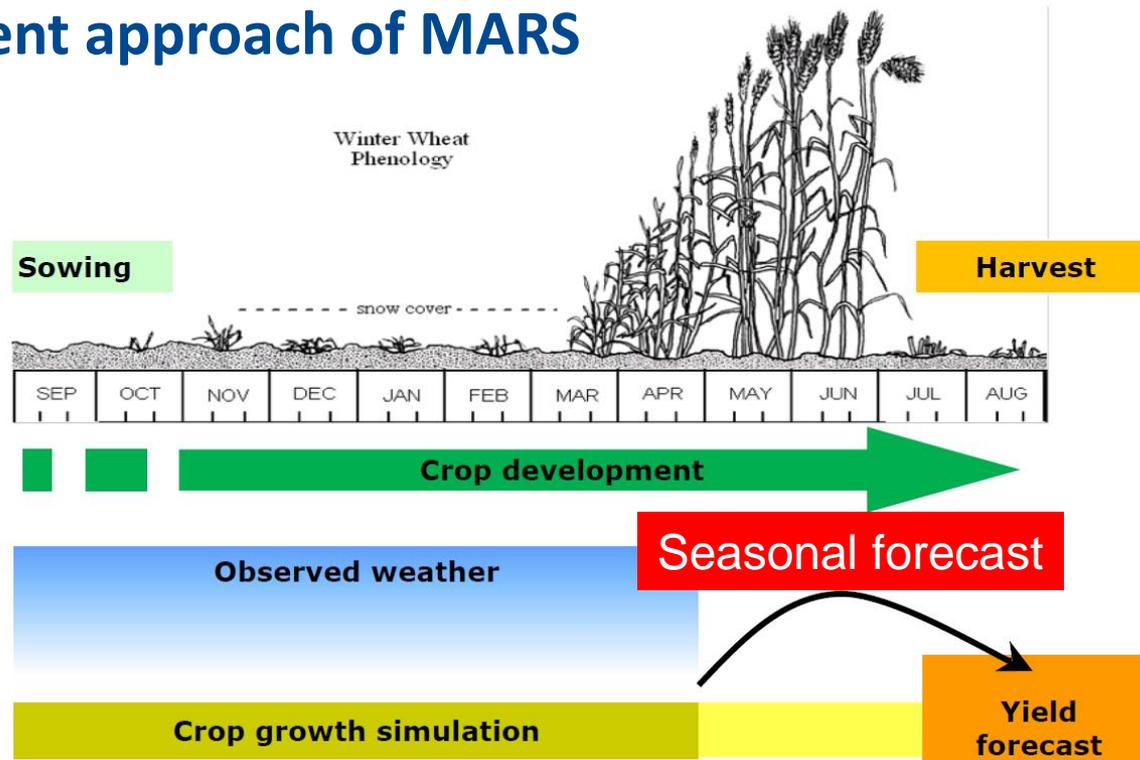
First comprehensive service of predictions of tropical cyclone seasonal frequency

<http://www.bsc.es/ESS/seasonalhurricanepredictions/>



**Testing seasonal forecast for MARS:** BSC and JRC are exploring how the MARS Crop Yield Forecasting System (MCYFS) could ingest the seasonal forecast for a future operational use.

## Current approach of MARS



## A new paradigm has come to stay: user-driven research

- **Education:** in the era of open data, take advantage of the open education opportunities.
- **Heterogeneity:** link to and merge our data with communities with larger impact (urban, arts, social).
- **Standards:** in a collaborative environment standards are a must and everyone's responsibility.
- **Technology:** make the most of a rapidly evolving technology (heterogeneous nodes, data software, mobile data capture, storage/compression, computing and storage outsourcing, visualisation).
- **Industry engagement:** how can we solve the problem of involving more efficiently the private sector?