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# Sea ice modes of interannual variability

**WP5 - Task 5.2.3: Sources of predictability for polar climate  
and its influence on the mid-latitudes**

Juan C. Acosta Navarro, Virginie Guemas, Alasdair Hunter,  
Pablo Ortega



**APPLICATE**

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Advanced prediction in Polar regions and beyond



- Apply a general method to study **interannual modes** of Arctic sea ice variability.

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- Identify **sources of predictability** for Arctic sea ice.
- Provide a **framework** to evaluate the capacity of a given model to simulate Arctic sea ice variability.



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  - Low SIC autumn East **Siberian-Chukchi** ---> possible extreme **cold events in winter** in N. America (Kug et al., 2016).
  - Information for shipping, fishing, local communities.

Data: **38 years** (1979-2016) of continuous observations of monthly **Sea Ice Concentration** (SIC) from NSIDC & monthly North Atlantic Oscillation Index (**NAOI**) from NCEP-NOAA (<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>).

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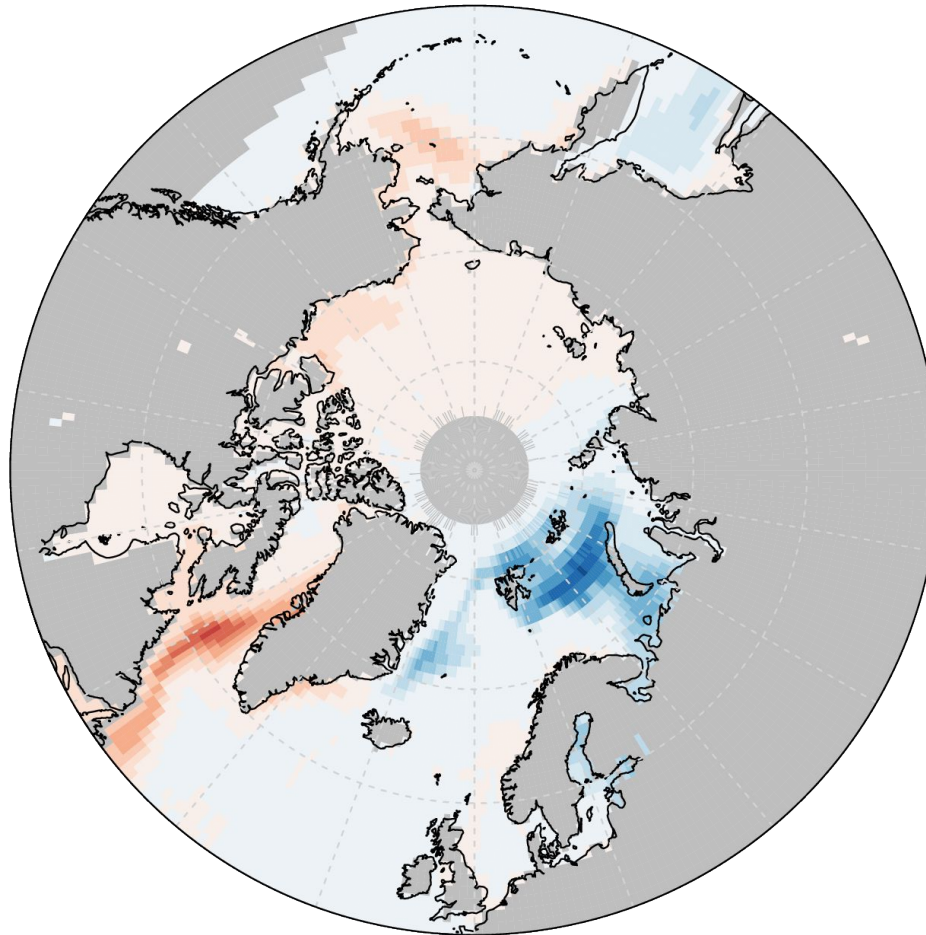
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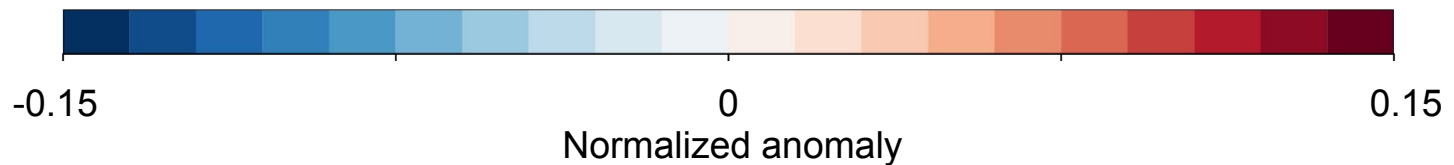
Associated **Principal Component** (PC) time series.

## First SIC mode: spatial pattern

9%

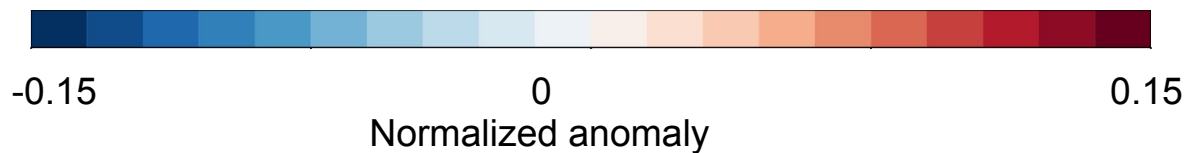
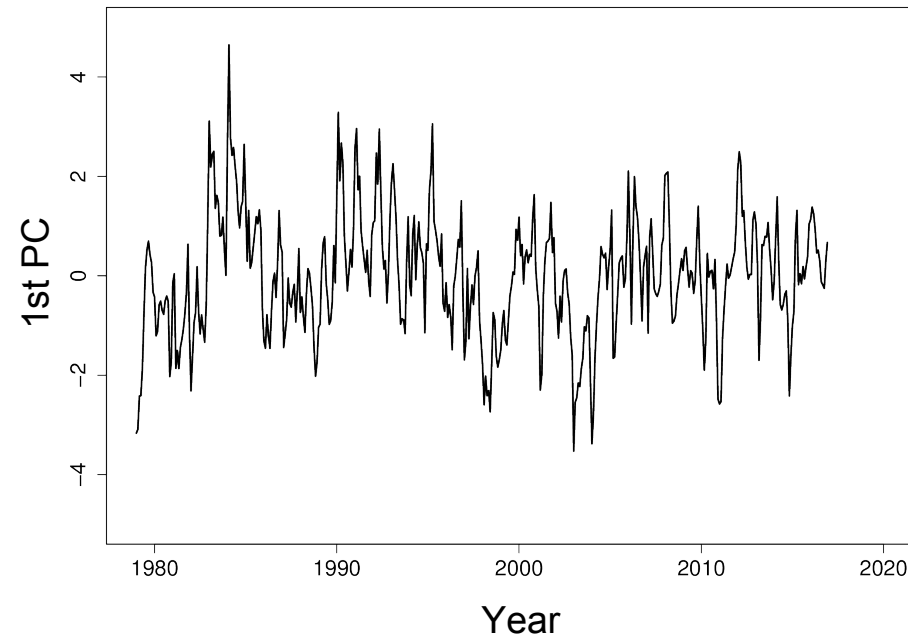
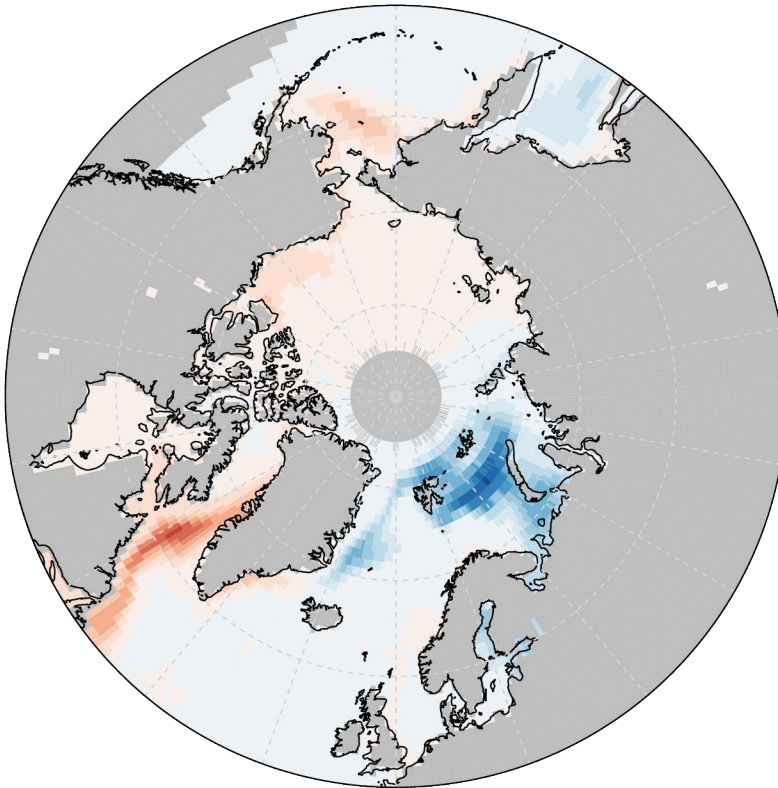


See e.g.: Deser et al.  
2000-2004, 2007

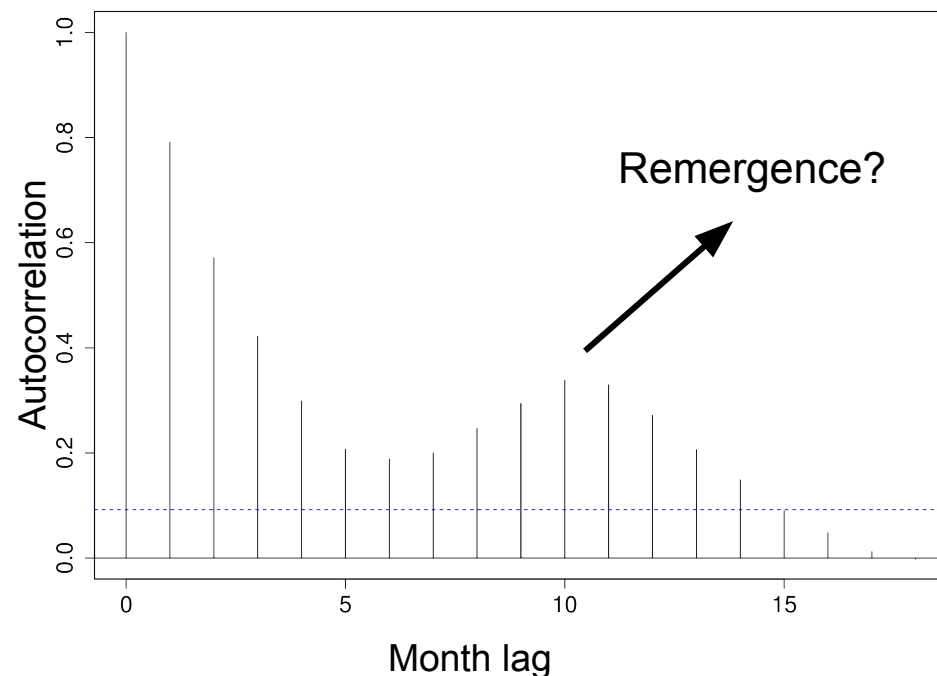
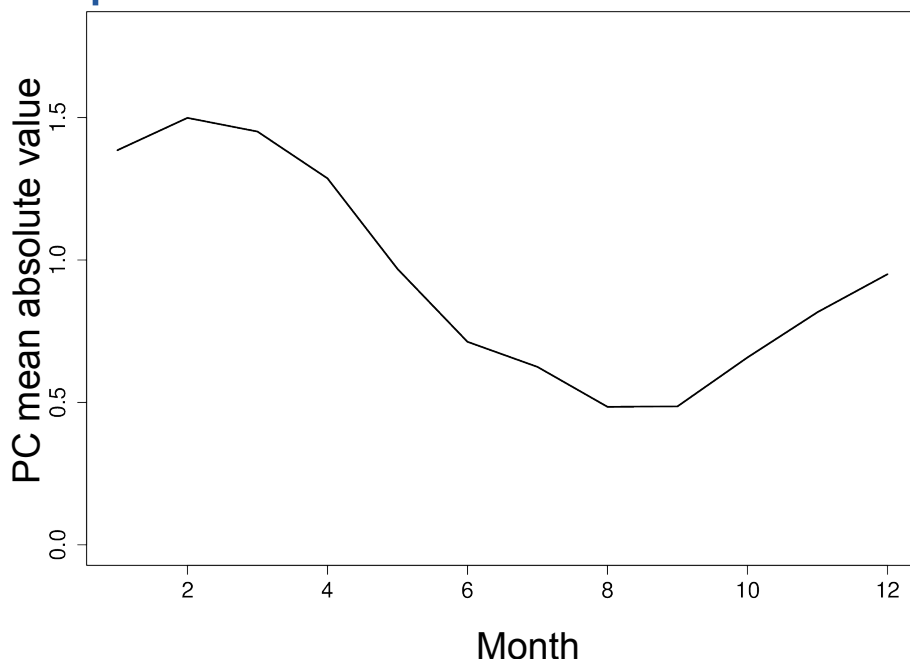


## First SIC mode: principal component series

9%

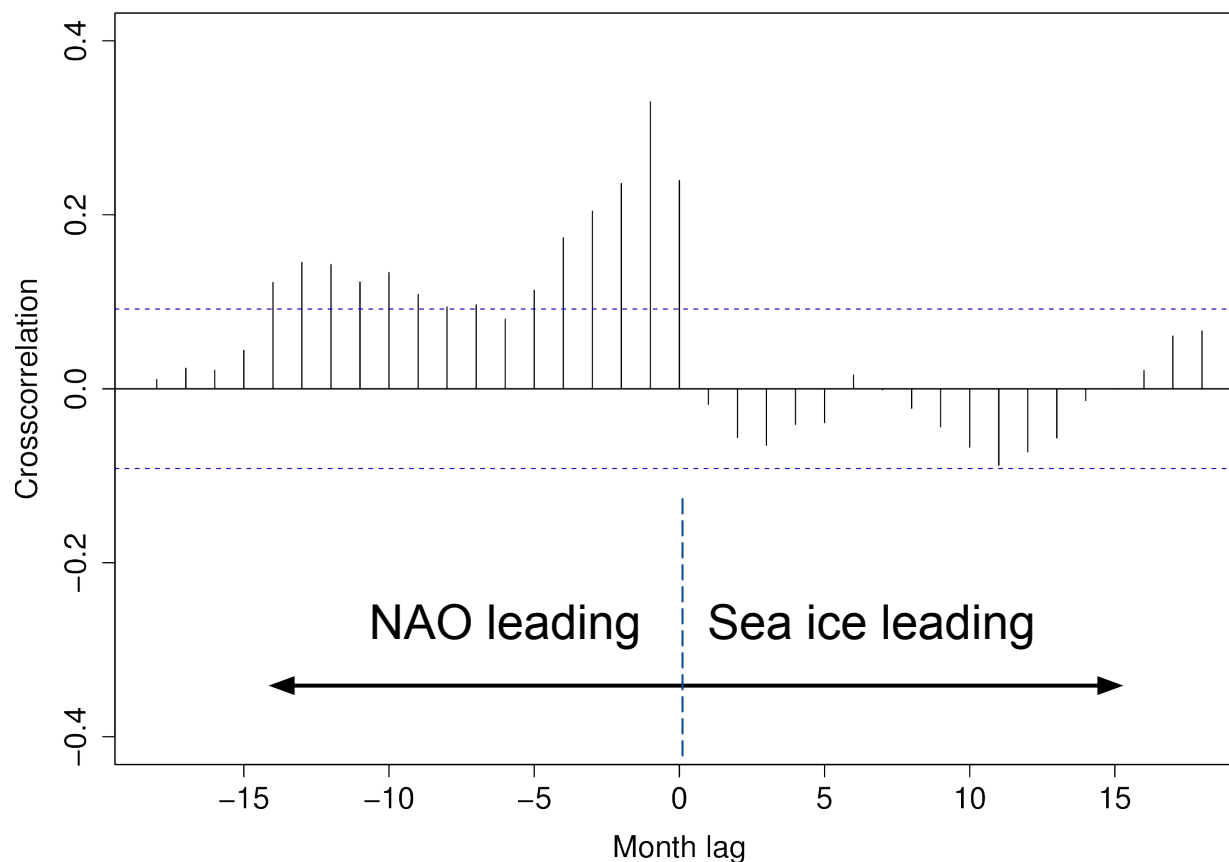


## First SIC mode: seasonality & persistence



- Typical mode of variability during winter (Max. in Feb.).
- Persistence decays (~4-5 months).
- Possible reemergence in the following winter.

## Crosscorrelation between North Atlantic Oscillation Index (NAOI) & First SIC mode



- NAOI **precedes** 1st PC of sea ice concentration.
- Maximum correlation ( $r = 0.33$ ) with **one month lag**.

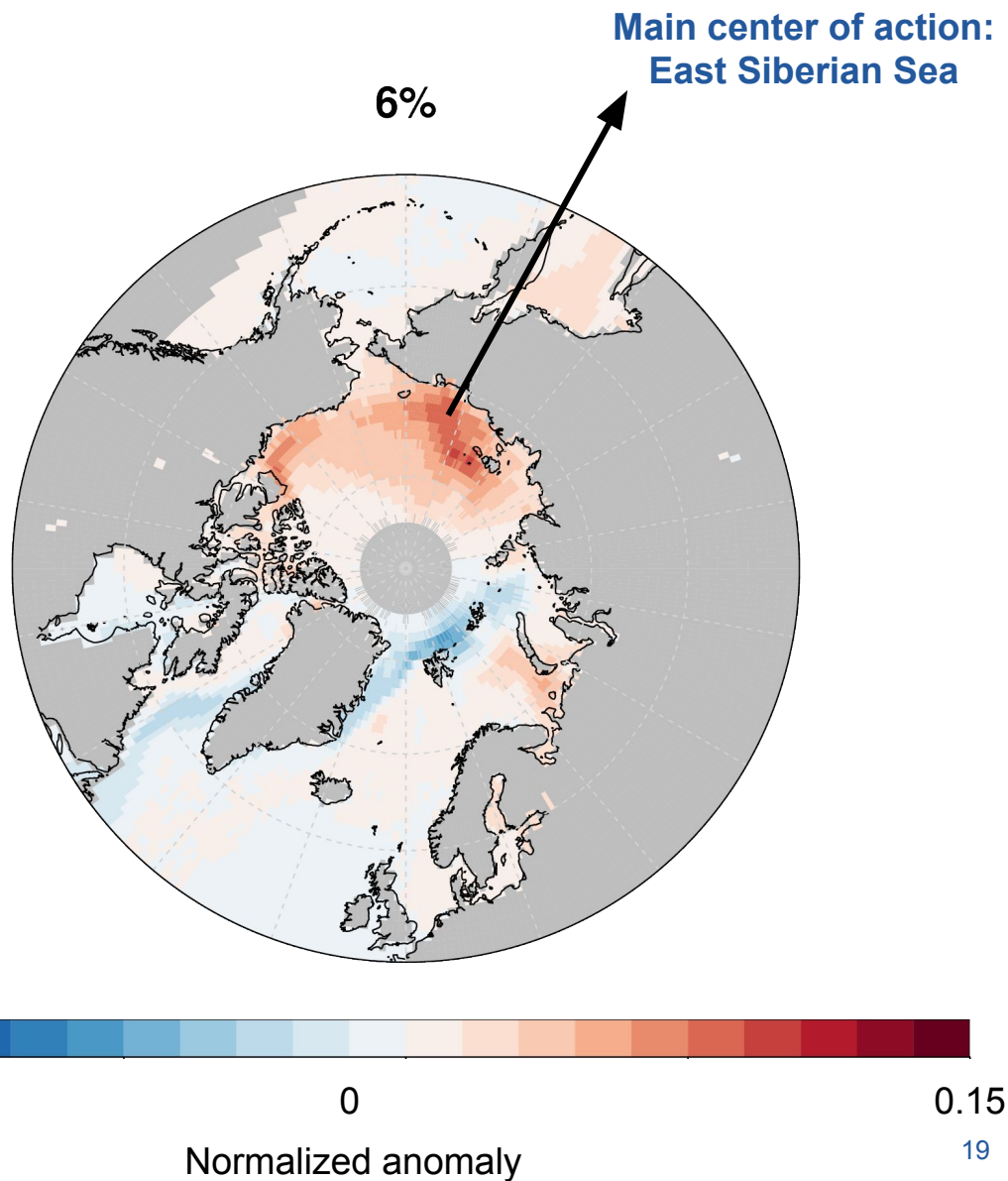
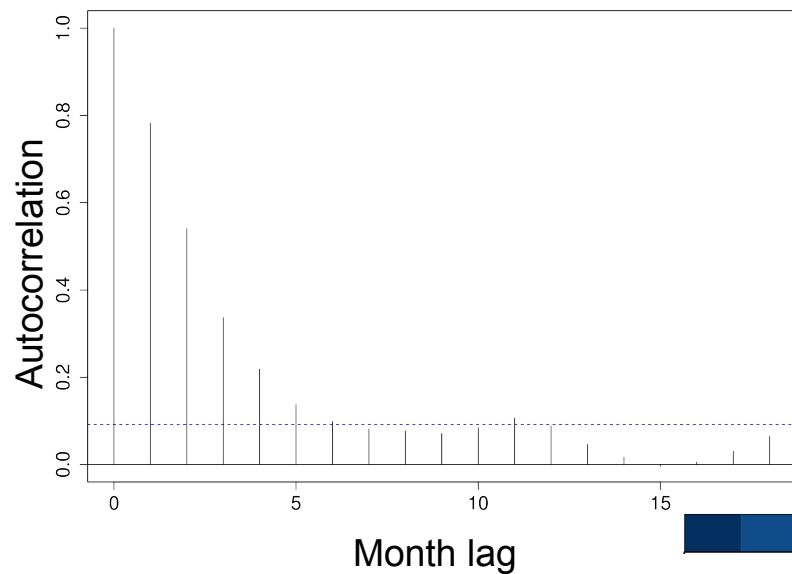
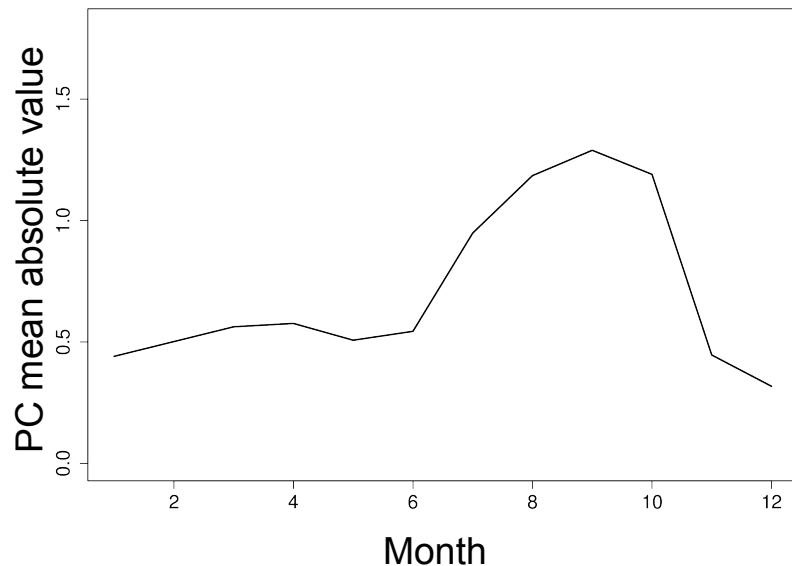
# Summary of modes



Mode (variance expla.)	PC  max value
<u>1 (9%)</u>	<u>Feb</u>
<u>2 (6%)</u>	<u>Sep</u>
<u>3 (5%)</u>	<u>Oct</u>
4 (4%)	Sep
5 (4%)	Feb & Sep
6 (4%)	Feb
7 (3%)	Sep
8 (3%)	Feb
9 (3%)	Sep
10 (2%)	Dec
11 (2%)	Dec
<u>12 (2%)</u>	<u>Jun</u>

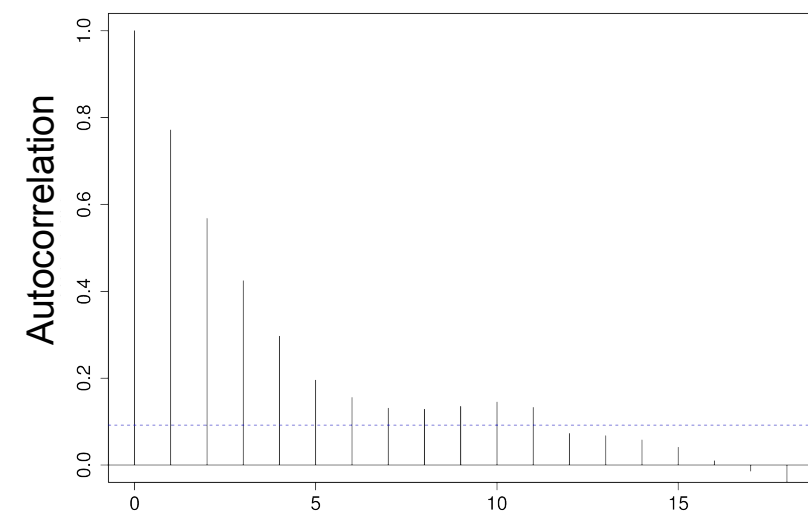
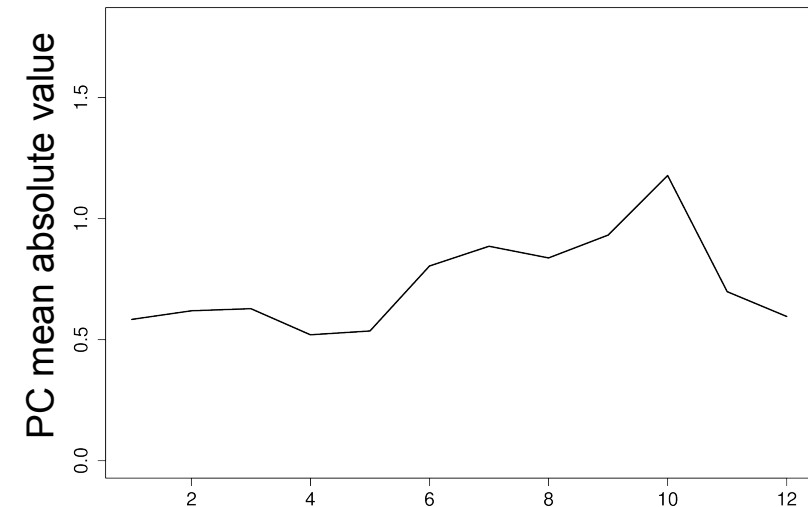


# Results: Second mode



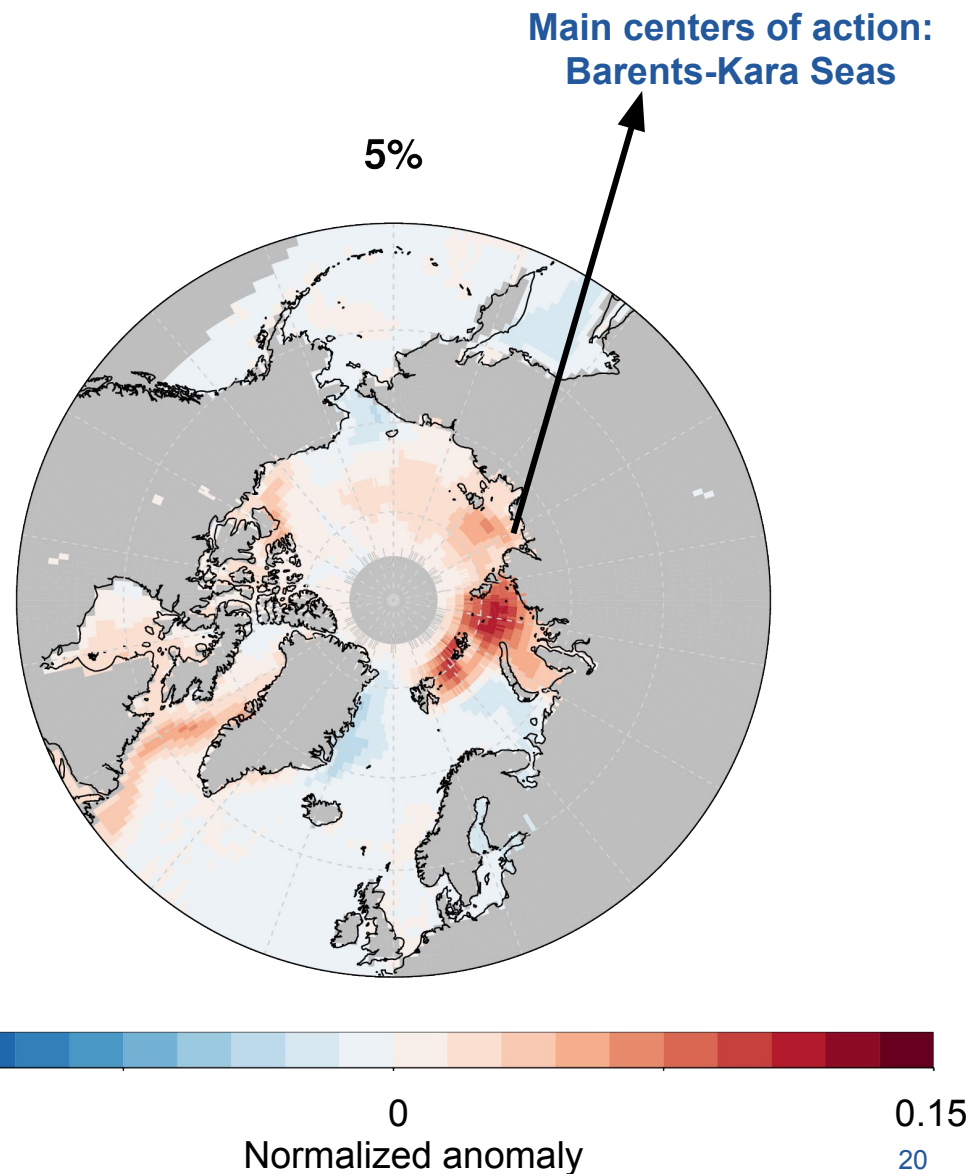


# Results: Third mode



Month lag

See e.g.: Yang and Yuan, 2014



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- **Third EOF (mode)** explains **5%** of Arctic SIC **variability**, typical of late **summer early autumn**, persistence of **~6 months**, remergence in following summer(?).

- **Normalizing** adequately the monthly **variance** to have **fair** EOF comparison.

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- Better estimates of **persistence** (e.g. simple anomaly persistence, e-folding decay time, refine significance levels).

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- Better estimates of **persistence** (e.g. simple anomaly persistence, e-folding decay time, refine significance levels).
- Take into account the **autocorrelation** in time series.

- Compare against other large scale climatic **indices**
  - Study other potential sources of predictability
  - Study physical mechanisms.



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- Cross-correlations between different PCs and extended EOF analysis ---> To evaluate **progression** of modes.
- Evaluate **models** performing similar analysis.
- Any other ideas?



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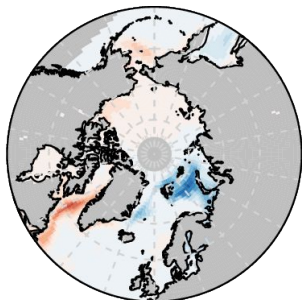
# Thank you!

For further information please contact [\*\*jacosta@bsc.es\*\*](mailto:jacosta@bsc.es)

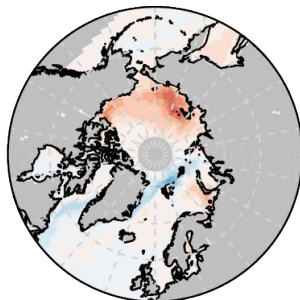
The work described in this presentation is (partly) funded by the European Union H2020 Research and Innovation programme under Grant Agreement n. 727862



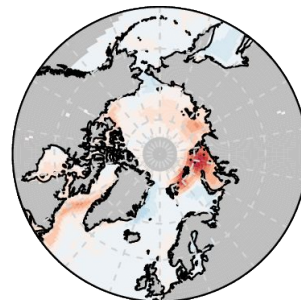
19% (9%)



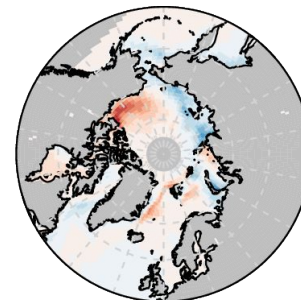
13% (6%)



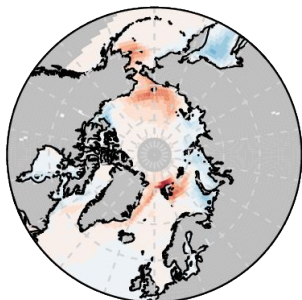
11% (5%)



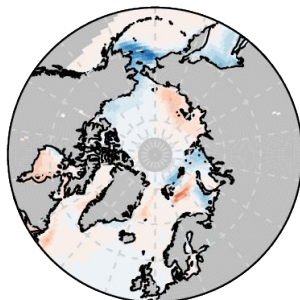
9% (4%)



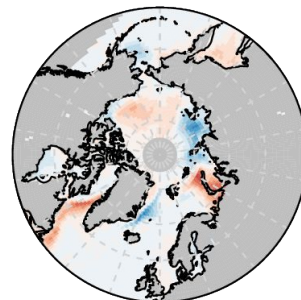
8% (4%)



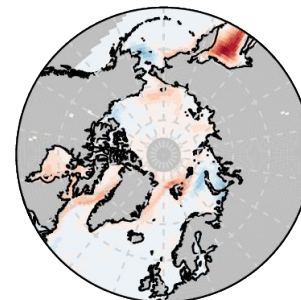
8% (4%)



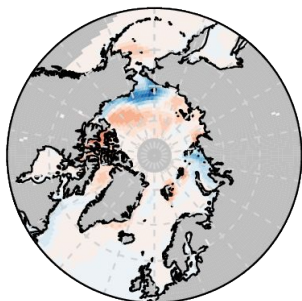
7% (3%)



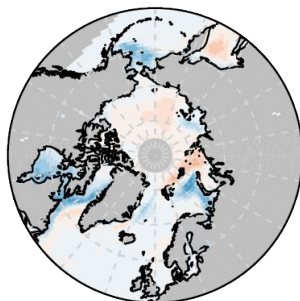
6% (3%)



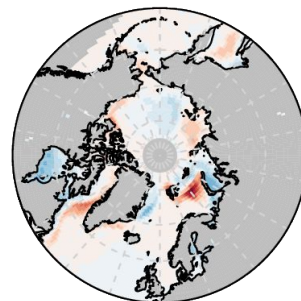
6% (3%)



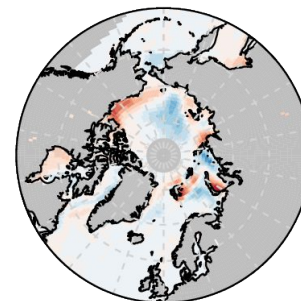
5% (2%)



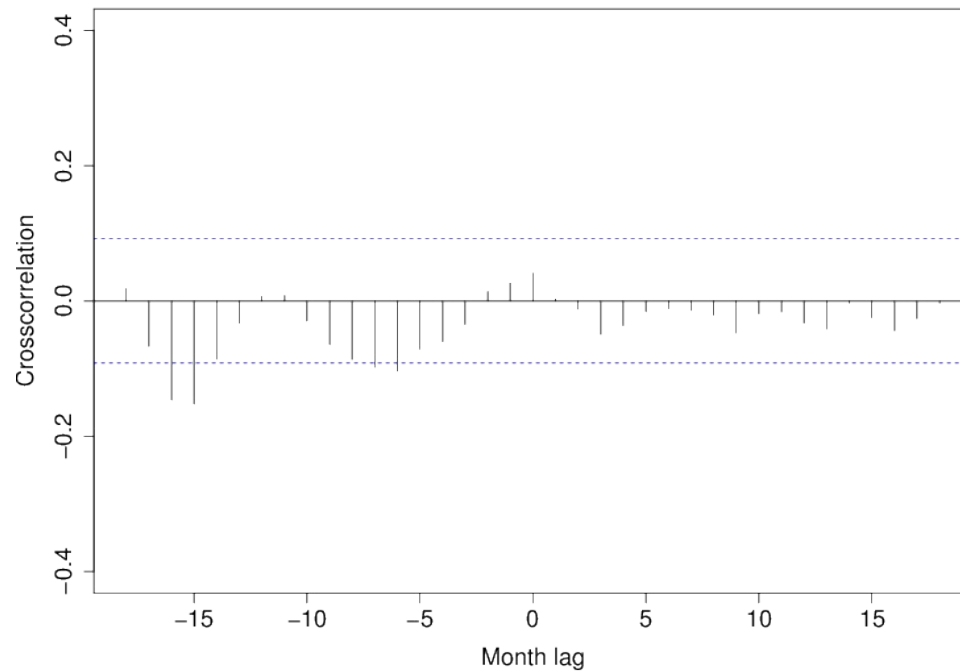
4% (2%)



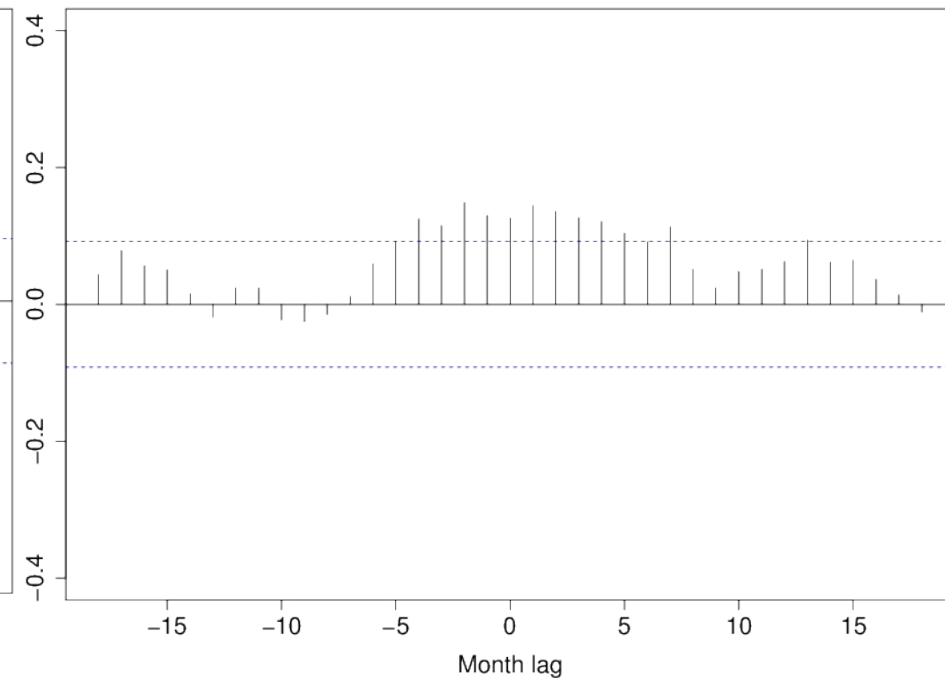
4% (2%)



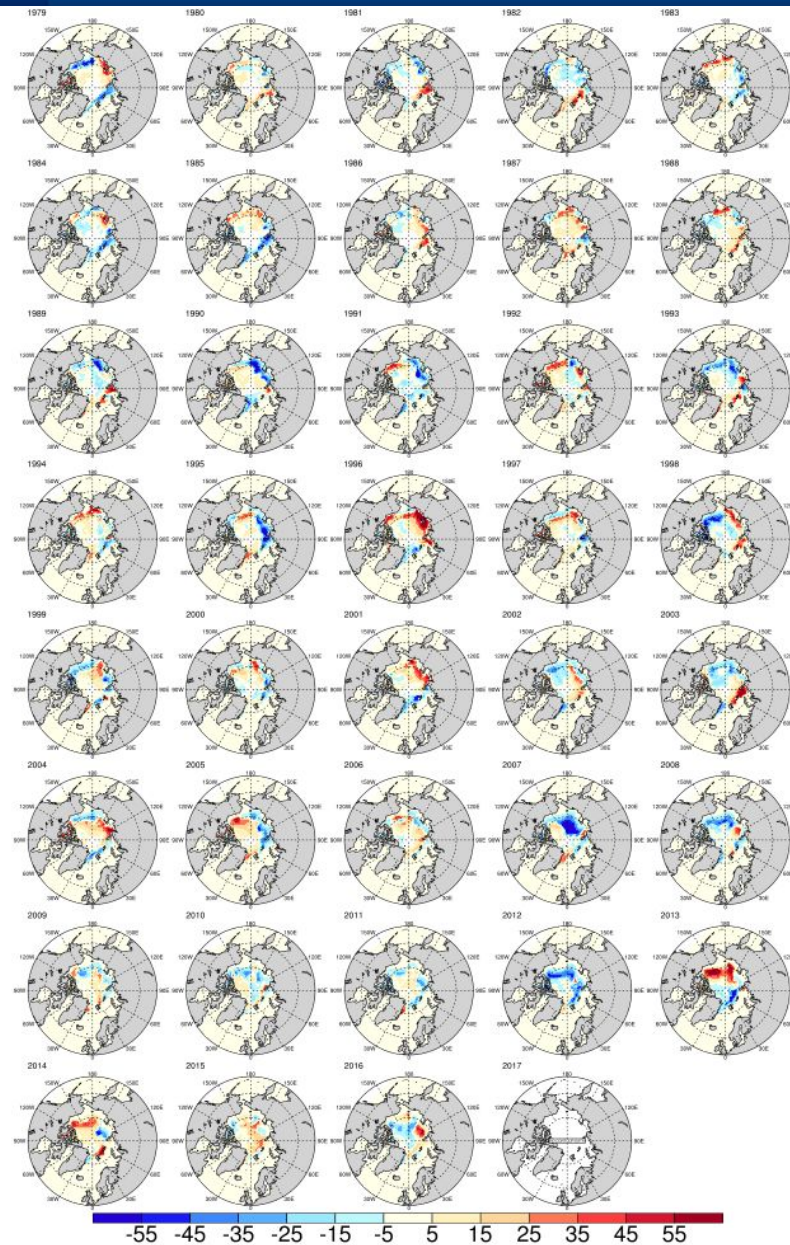
## NAOI vs. PC2

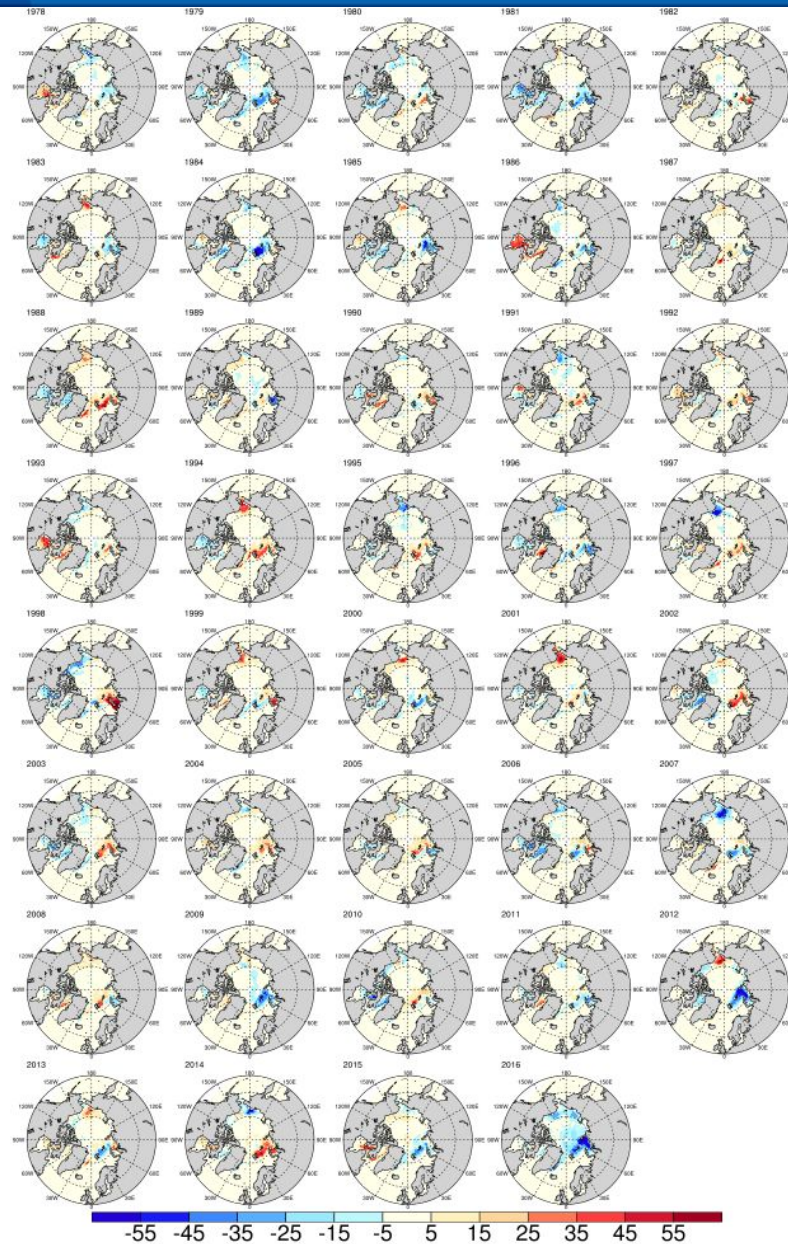


## NAOI vs. PC3

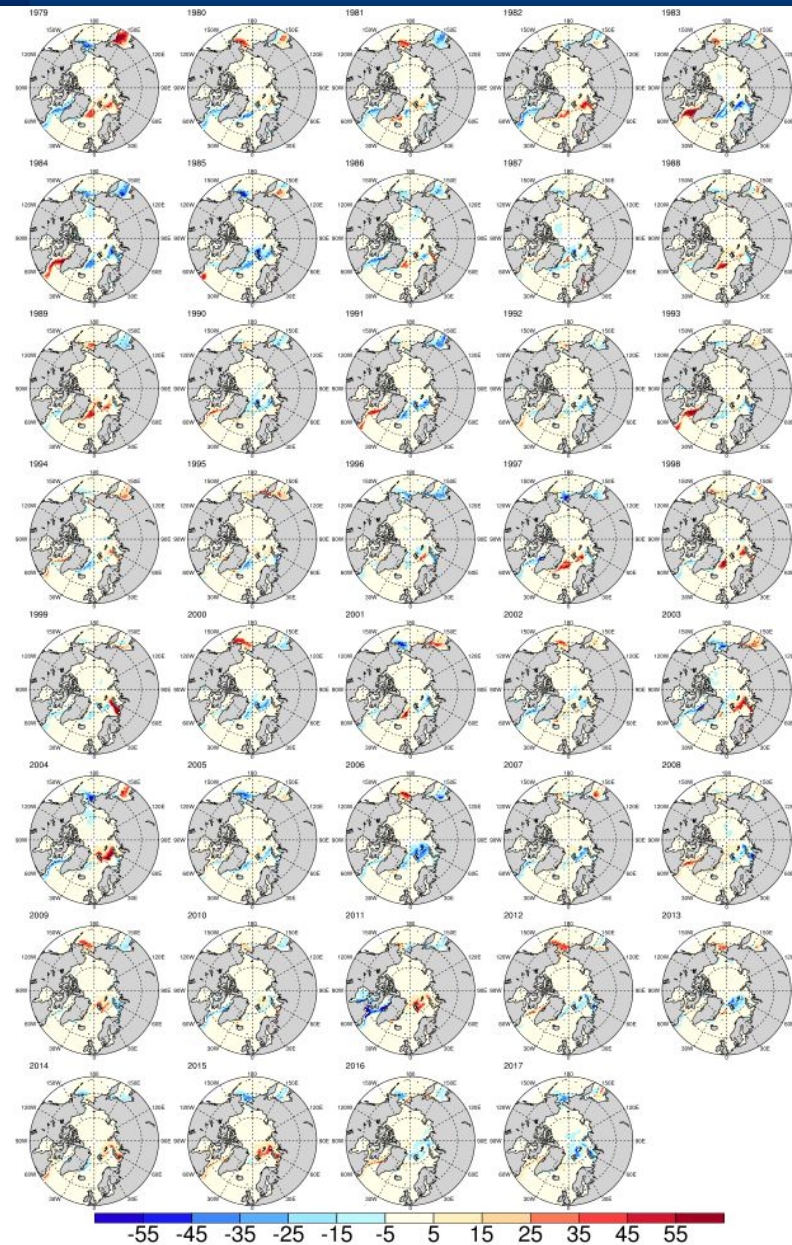












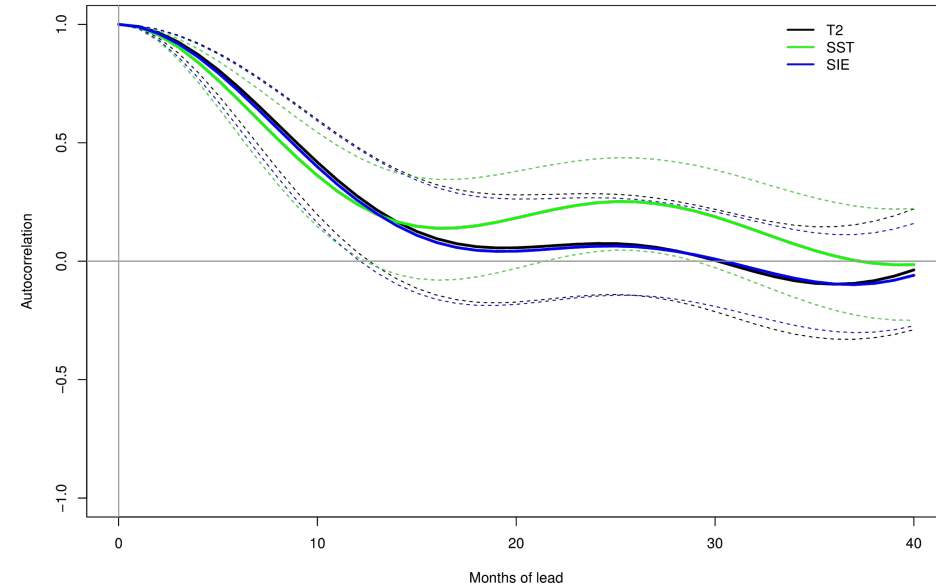
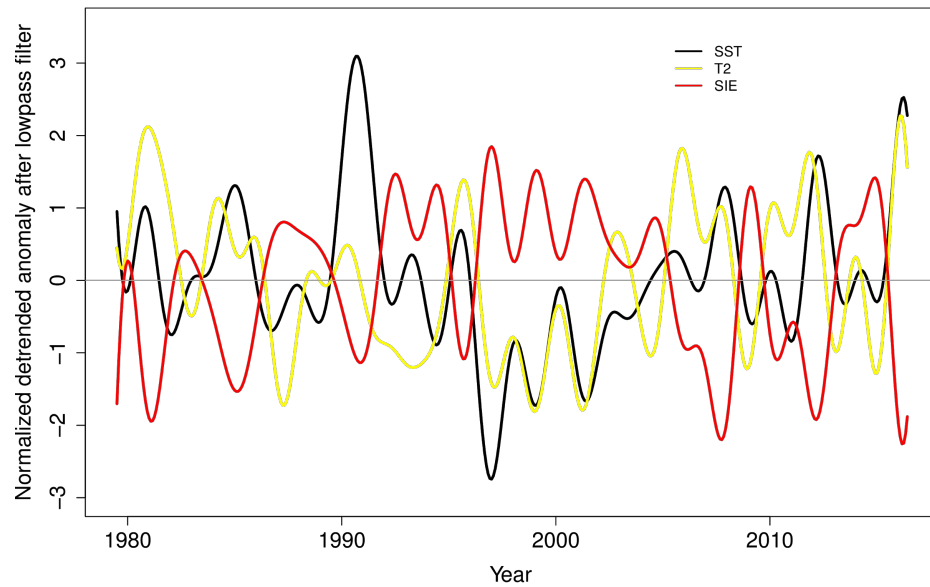
## Advantages:

- Broad and general
- No a-priori assumptions made
- 

## Limitations:

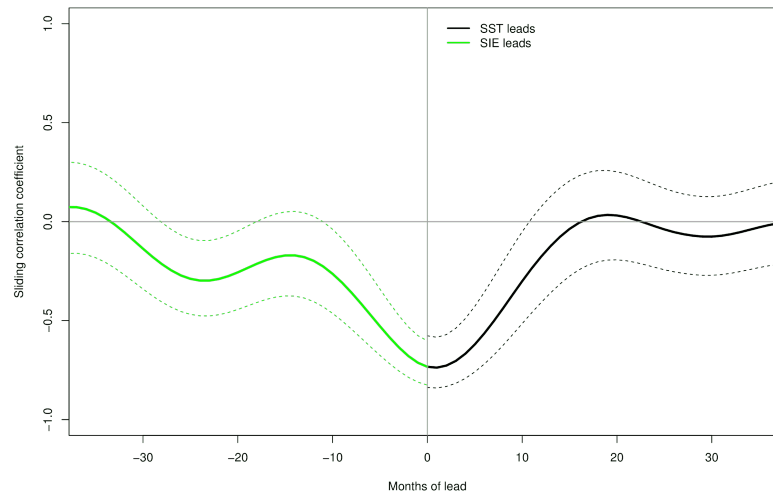
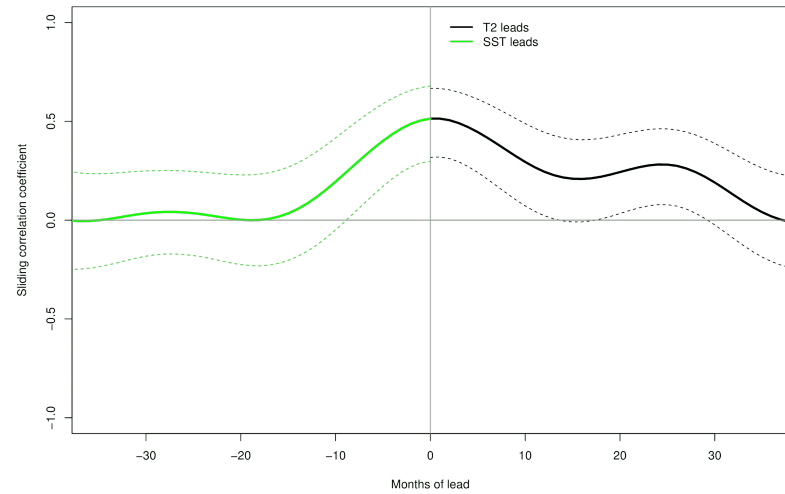
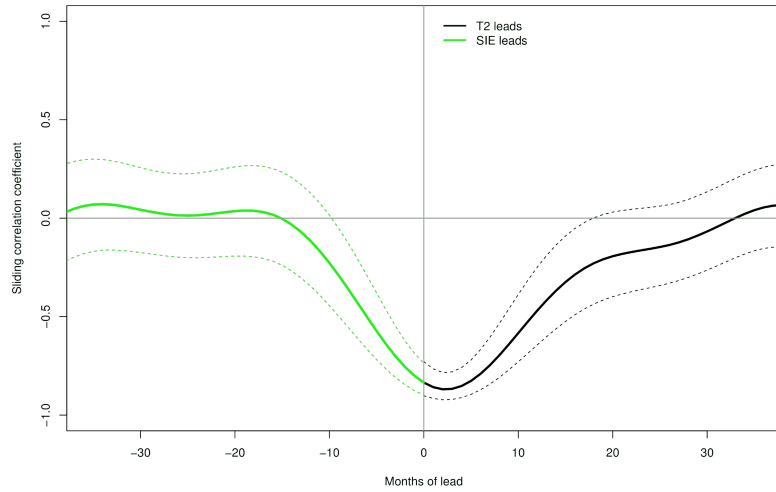
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# Pan-Arctic SST (HadSST), T2m (ERA-Int) and SIE (NSIDC)

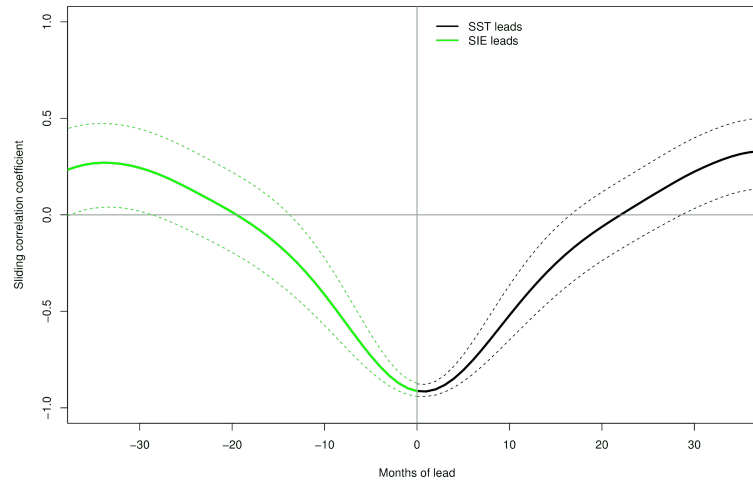
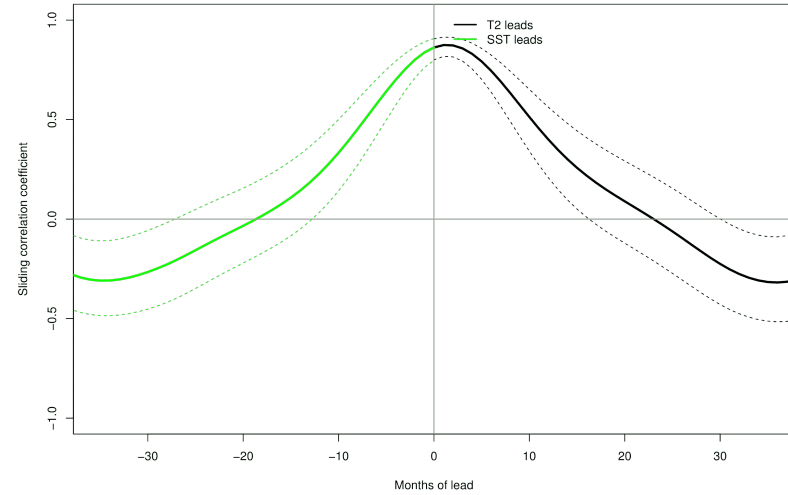
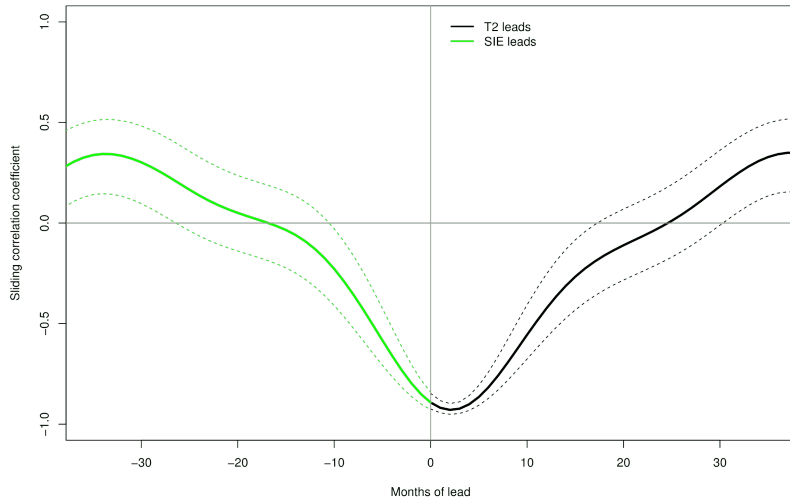


- Fast Fourier Transform low-pass filter allows only temporal variability of oscillations with period longer than 2 years.
- Linearly detrended after low-pass filter.

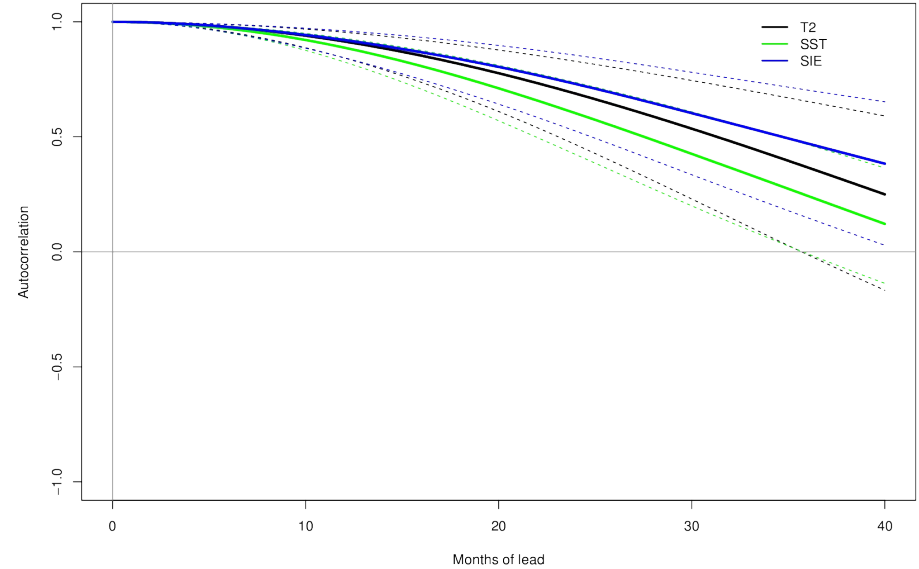
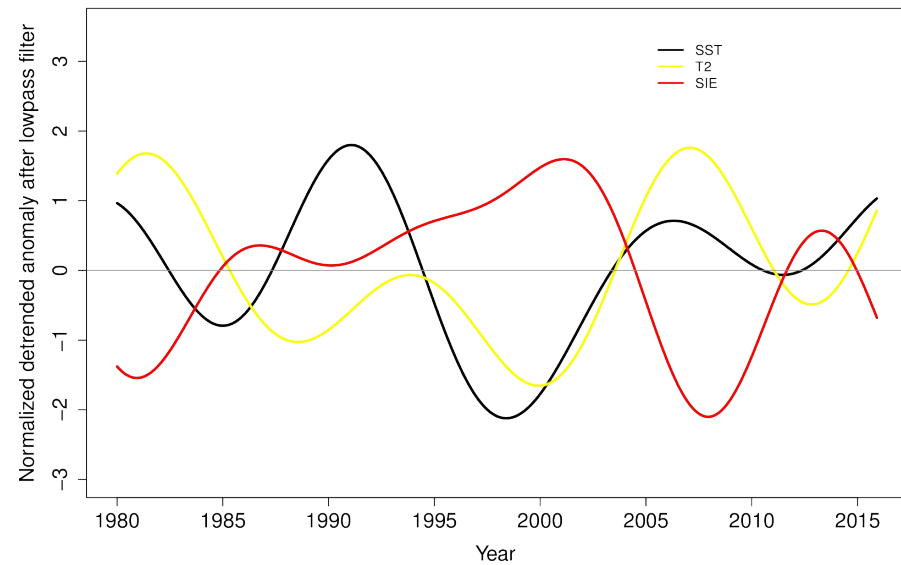
# Lag-lead series (NH)



# Lag-lead series (Barents & Kara seas)

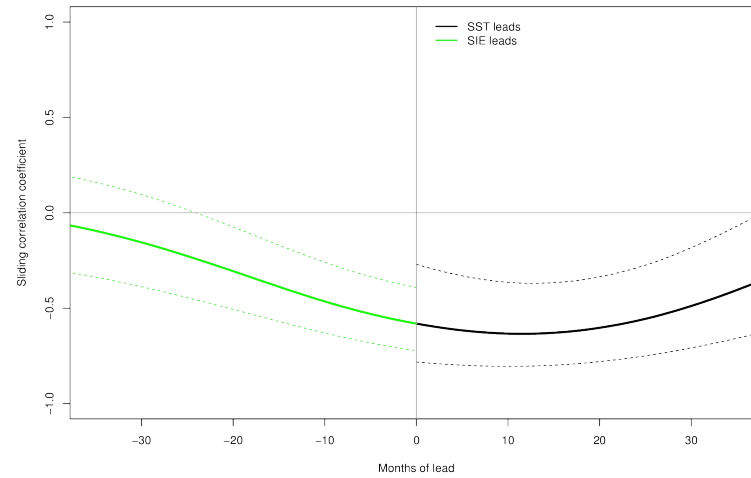
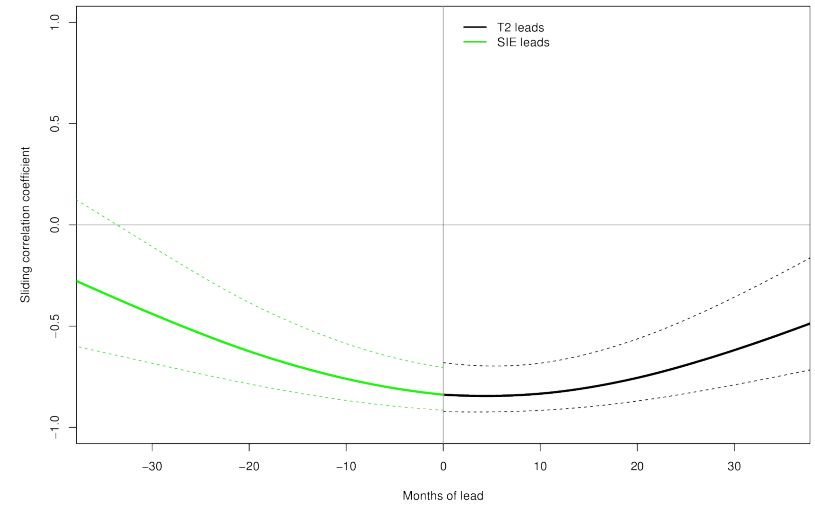
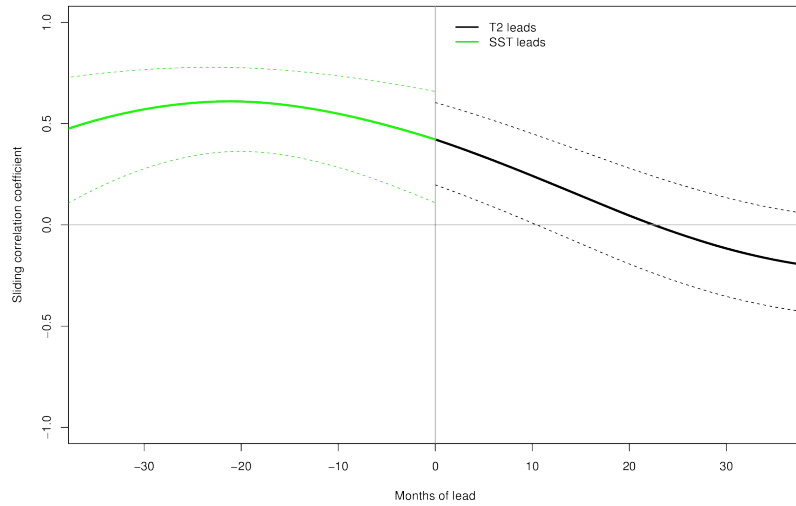


# Pan-Arctic SST (HadSST), T2m (ERA-Int) and SIE (NSIDC)



- Fast Fourier Transform low-pass filter allows only temporal variability of oscillations with period longer than 10 years.
- Linearly detrended after low-pass filter.

# Lag-lead series (NH)



47% – 1.6 years

37% – 1.6 years

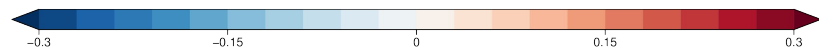
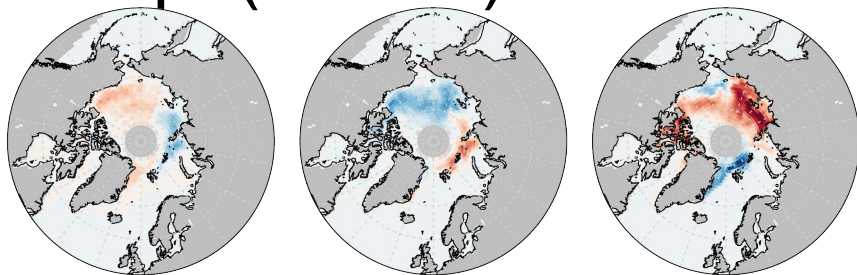
16% – 1 years

43% (17%)

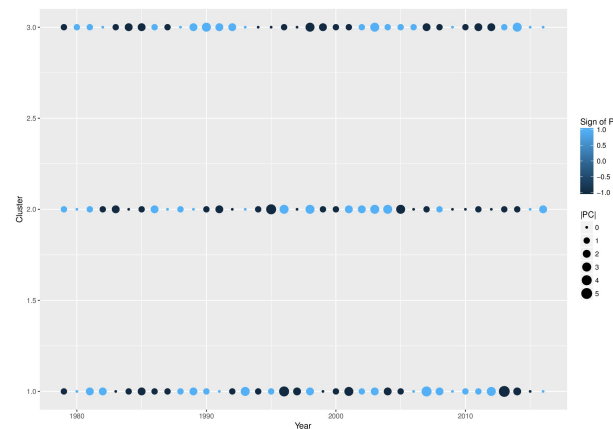
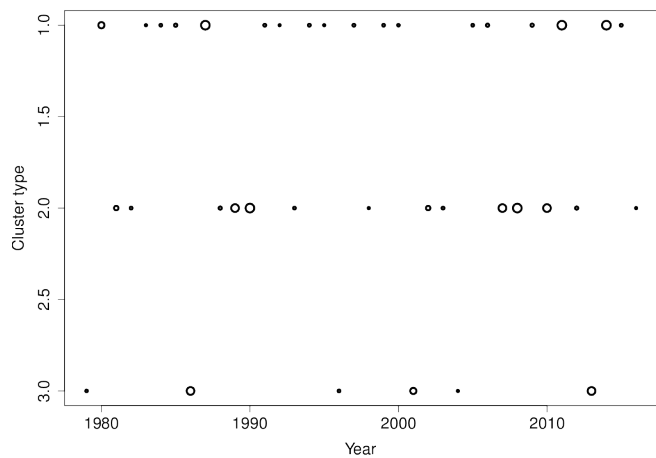
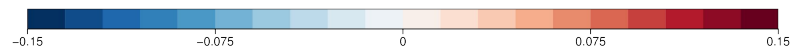
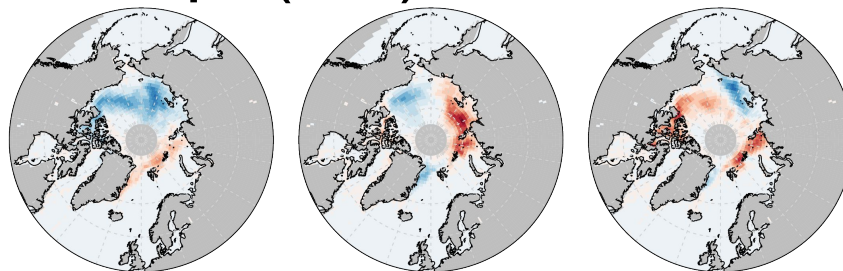
32% (13%)

25% (10%)

# Sept (cluster)



# Sept (PC)





47% – 1.6 years

37% – 1.6 years

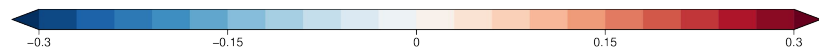
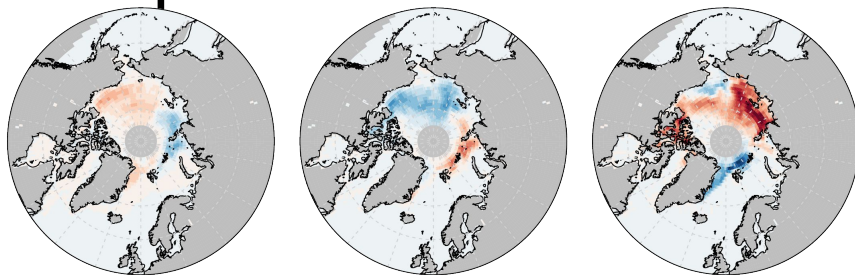
16% – 1 years

39% – 1.5 years

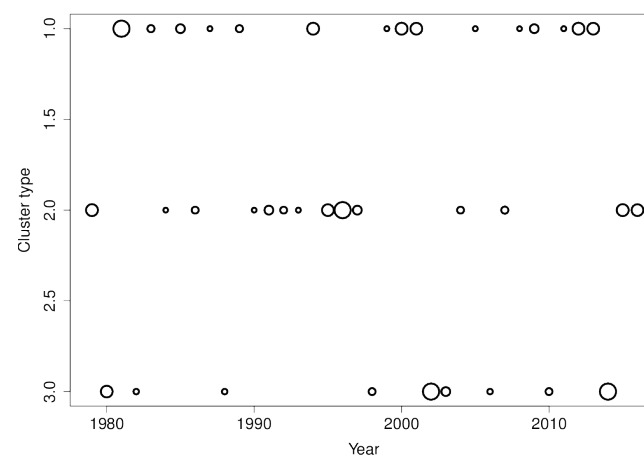
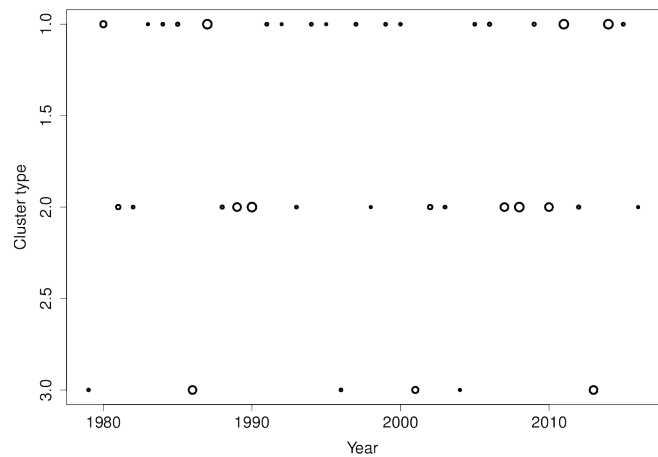
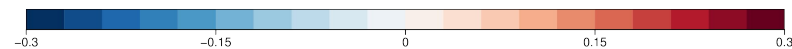
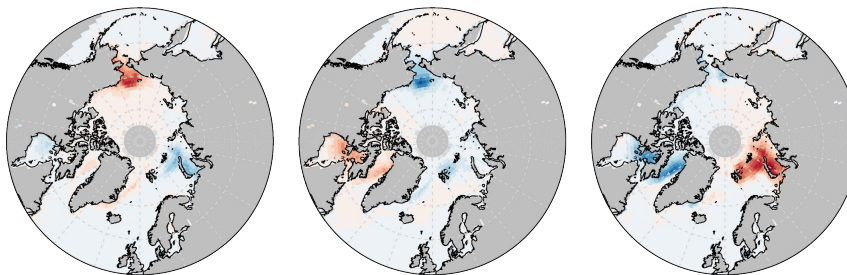
37% – 1.8 years

24% – 1.1 years

# Sept



# Nov



39% – 1.5 years

37% – 1.8 years

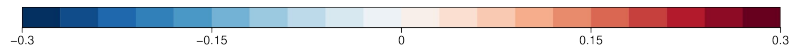
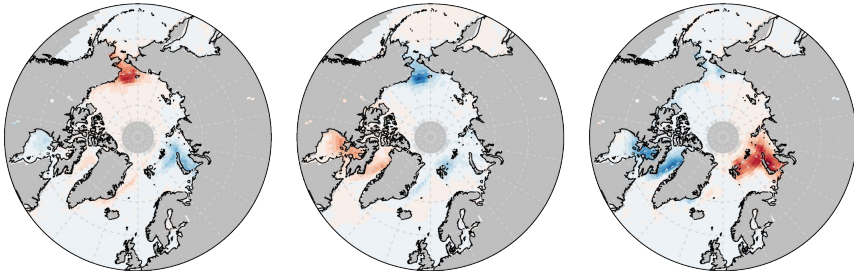
24% – 1.1 years

39% – 1.9 years

37% – 1.6 years

24% – 1.5 years

# Nov



# Jan

