

# **INTENSE: INTElligent use of climate models for adaptation to non-Stationary hydrological Extremes**

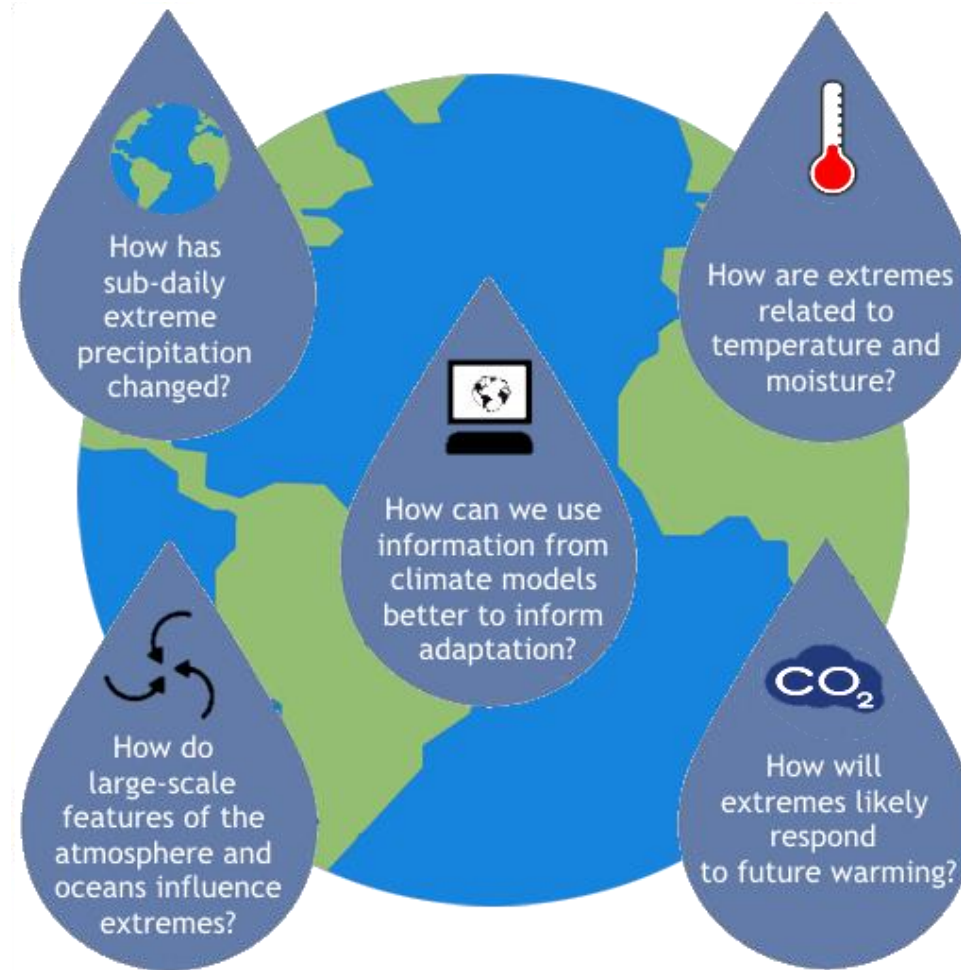
**Dr Elizabeth Lewis**  
**(Elizabeth.lewis2@ncl.ac.uk)**

Prof Hayley Fowler, Dr Stephen Blenkinsop, Dr Renaud Barbero, Dr Selma Guerreiro, Dr Xiaofeng Li  
For more details visit: <http://research.ncl.ac.uk/intense/>

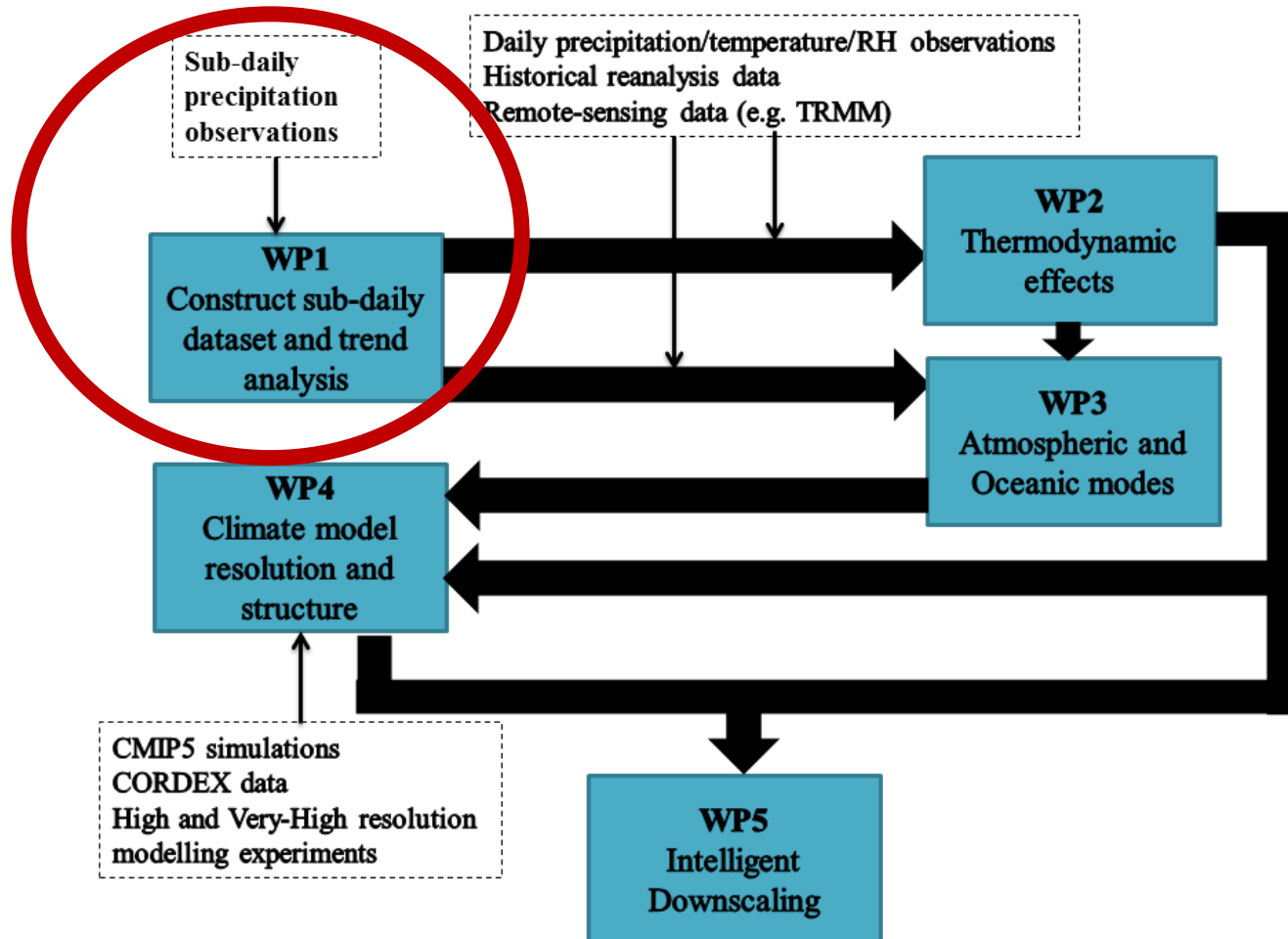
Our main aim...

**INTENSE aims to understand the nature  
and drivers of extreme sub-daily rainfall**

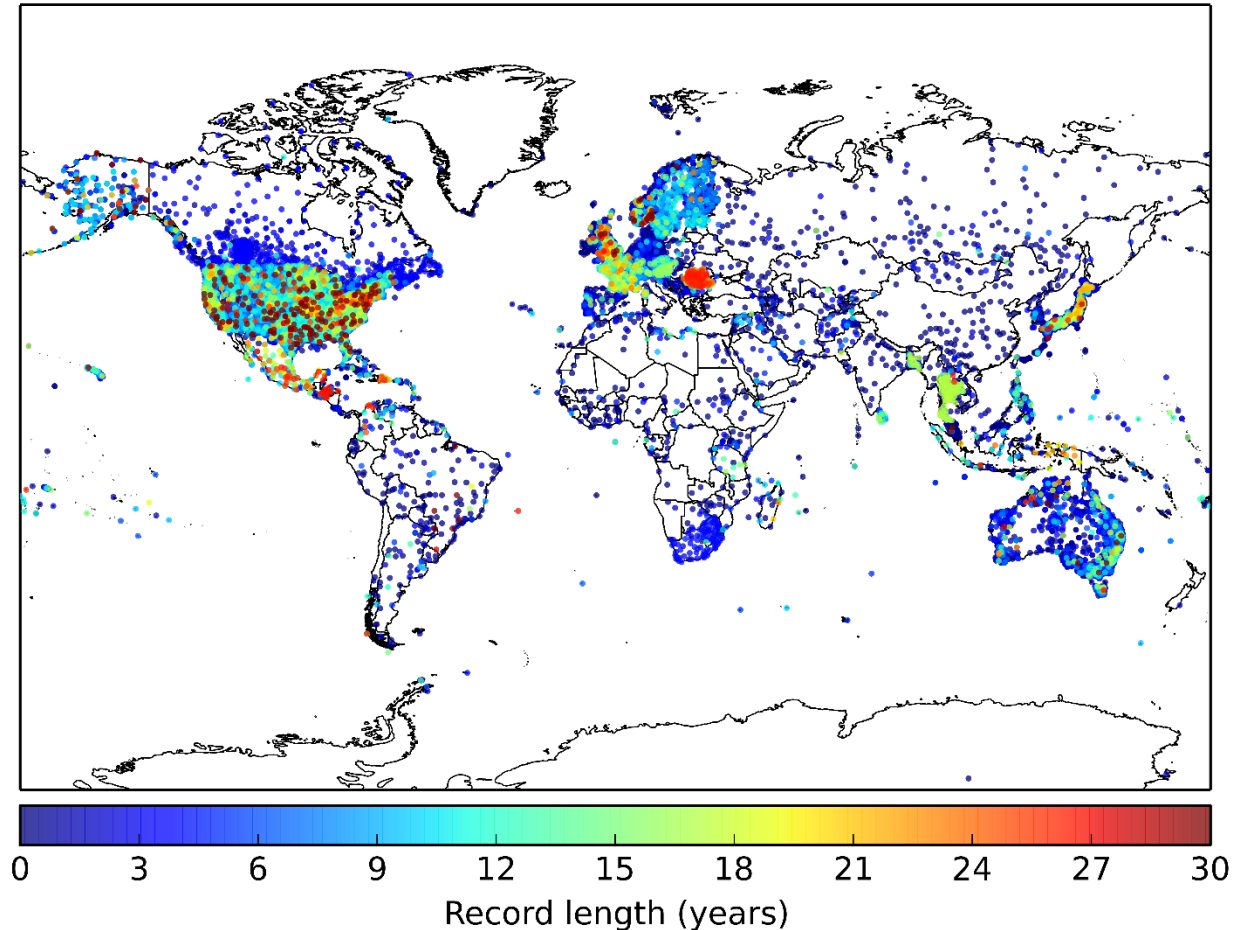
# INTENSE aims to answer these questions...



## ...by following this work plan...



So far, have collected data from ~25,000 stations...



- UK, US, Canada, Brazil, France, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Philippines, India, Norway, Sweden, The Netherlands, Finland, Australia, Kenya, Indonesia, Slovenia, Costa Rica, Argentina, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Panama, Ireland, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore,
- Global datasets: ISD

# Which we will quality control...

## Site specific tests

- rain gauge metadata,
- implausible large values (1h & 24h records)
  - Monthly maximum 1-day precipitation
- long dry periods due to gauge malfunction
  - accumulated totals (often at 9am)
    - repeated values
  - Change in resolution
  - Duplicate records

## Nearby gauge comparisons

- Statistical test of consistency with nearby gauges but problematical for extremes in summer/autumn therefore only partially applied

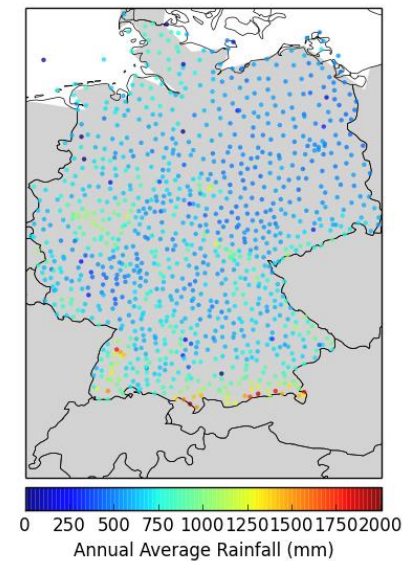
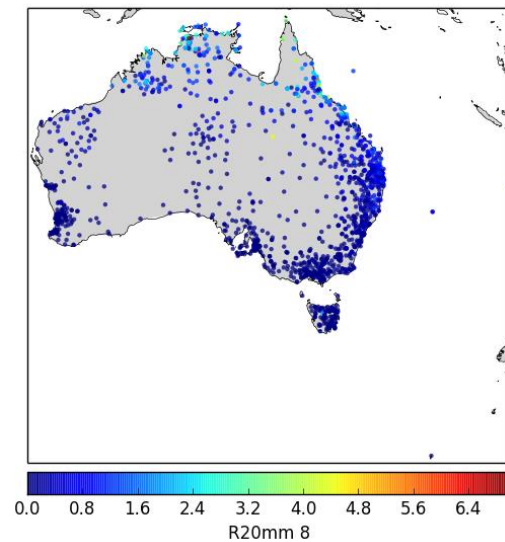
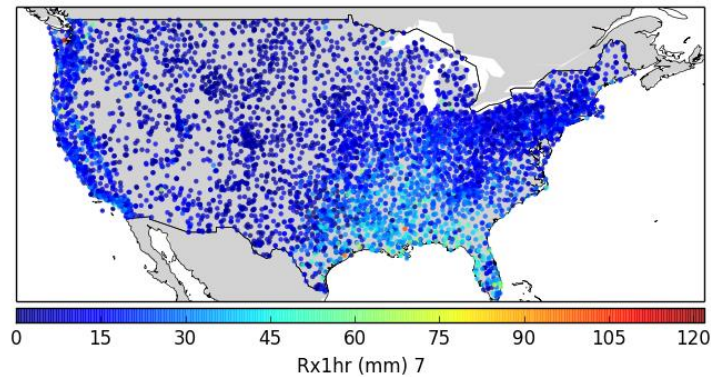
**Multiple QC flags applied to each hour for each test**

## Automated rule base to define exclusions

For example:

- all implausible hourly totals
- “large” hourly totals if in winter at 9am after  $\geq 23$  dry hours
- “large” hourly totals if after gauge non-operation (long dry spell)

We want to use this data to calculate useful indices...

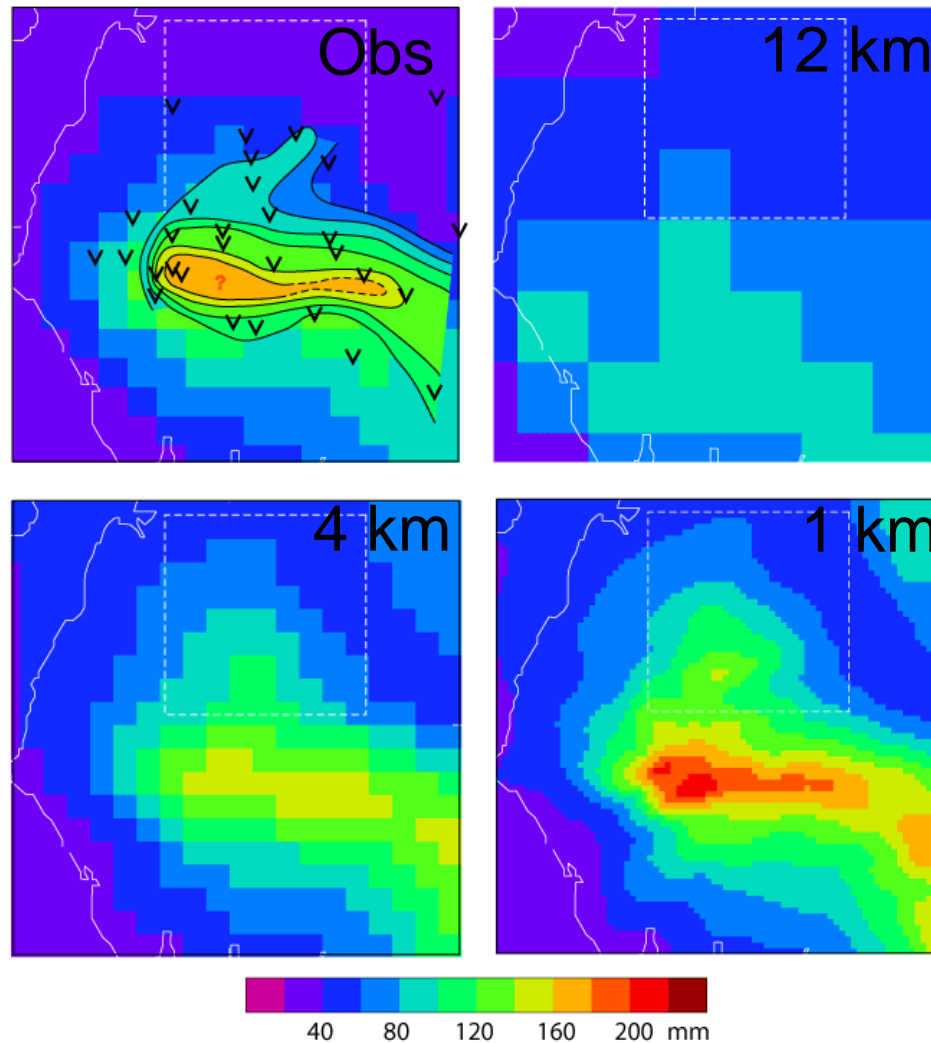


## The indices we have decided to calculate are...

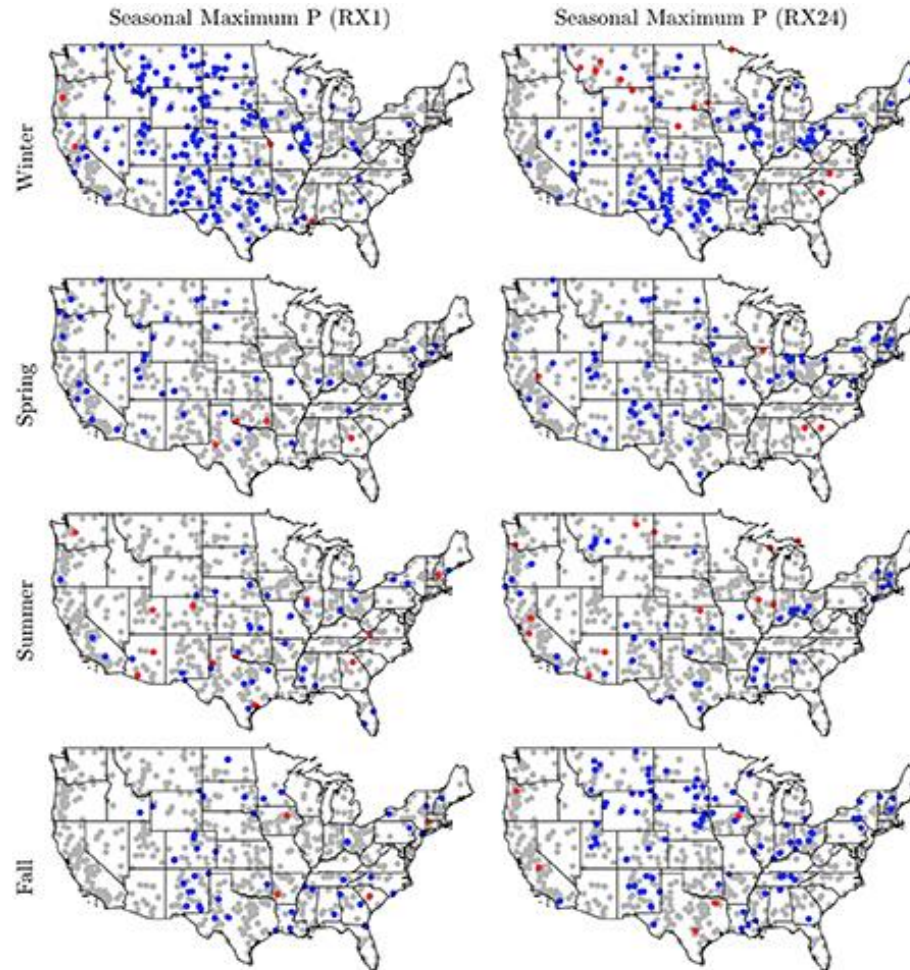
- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monthly maximum 1-hour precipitation</li><li>• Monthly maximum 3-hour precipitation</li><li>• Monthly maximum 6-hour precipitation</li><li>• Percent of daily total that fell in the Monthly maximum 1-hour precipitation</li></ul>   | <b>Monthly maximum indices</b>     |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monthly likely wettest hour within a day</li><li>• Monthly likely driest hour within a day</li><li>• Dispersion around Monthly likely wettest hour within a day</li><li>• Simple hourly precipitation intensity index</li><li>• Maximum length of wet spell, maximum number of consecutive hours with <math>RR \geq 1\text{mm}</math></li></ul> | <b>Diurnal cycle indices</b>       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monthly count of hours when hourly <math>PRCP \geq 10\text{mm}</math></li><li>• Monthly count of hours when hourly <math>PRCP \geq 20\text{mm}</math></li><li>• Annual count of hours when hourly <math>PRCP \geq n\text{mm}</math>, <math>n</math> is a user defined threshold</li></ul>   | <b>Frequency/threshold indices</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annual total precipitation in wet hours</li></ul>   | <b>General indices</b>             |



We will use the indices to improve/validate high res climate models...

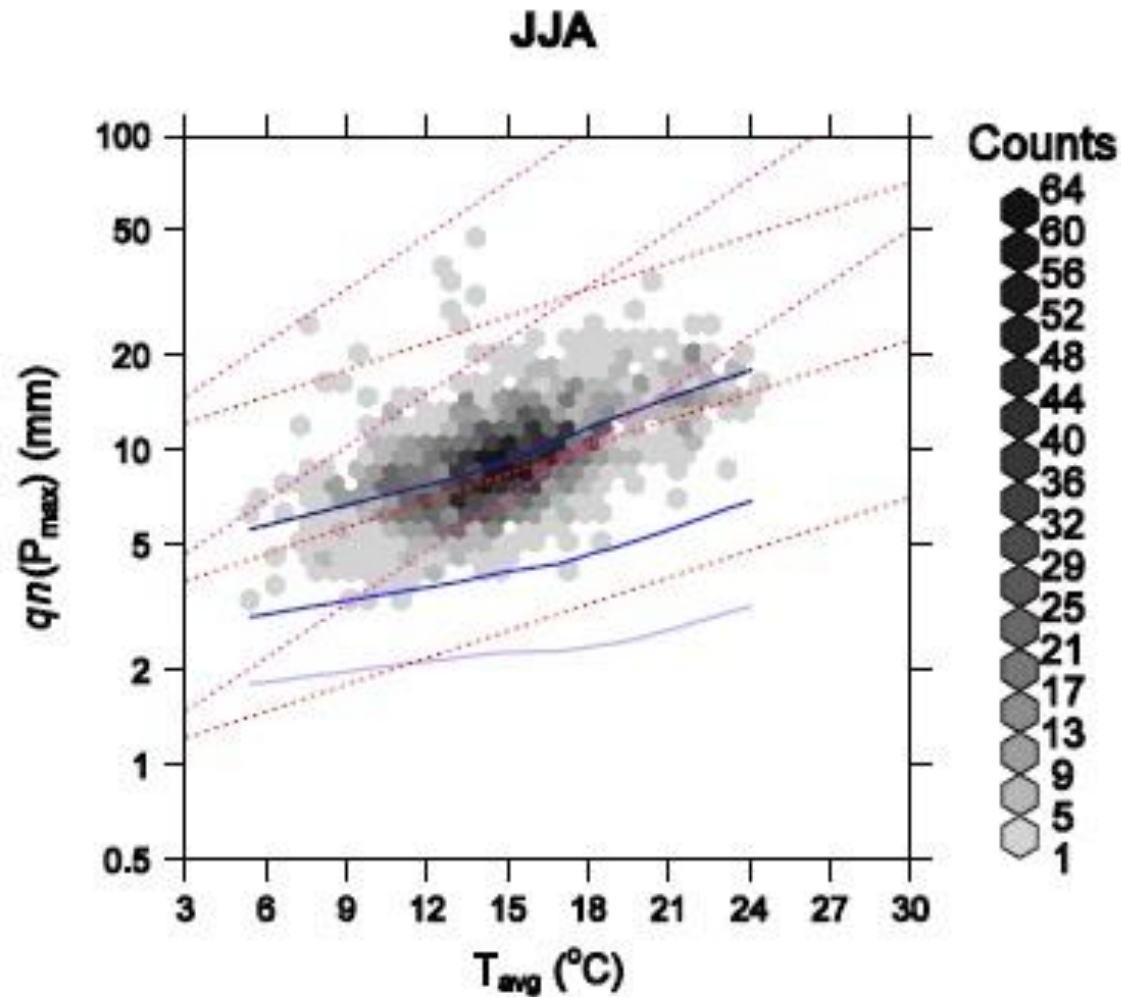


## We are also looking at trends in extreme rainfall...



*The blue (red) dots indicate stations with statistically significant increasing (decreasing) trends at the 5% level according to the Mann-Kendall test. The grey circles refer to the location of the stations that did not experience statistically significant changes at the 5% level.*

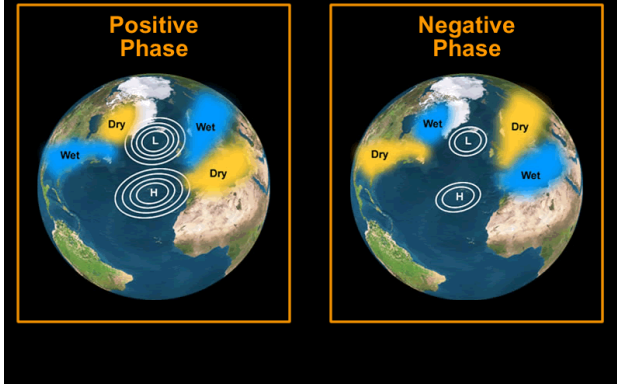
# Temperature scaling of extreme precipitation...



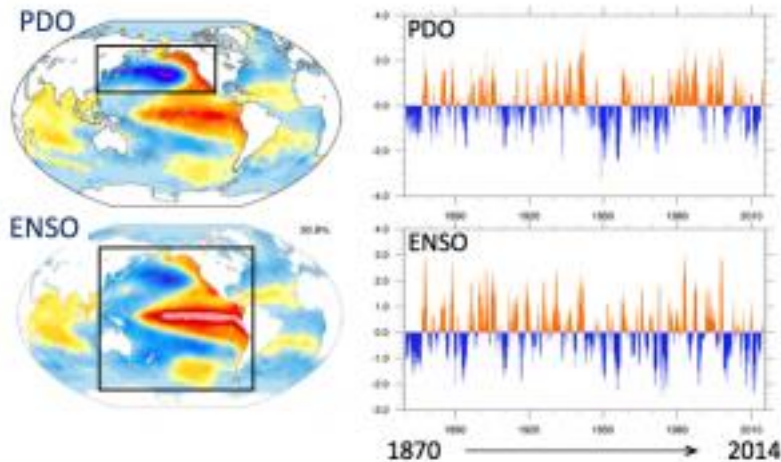
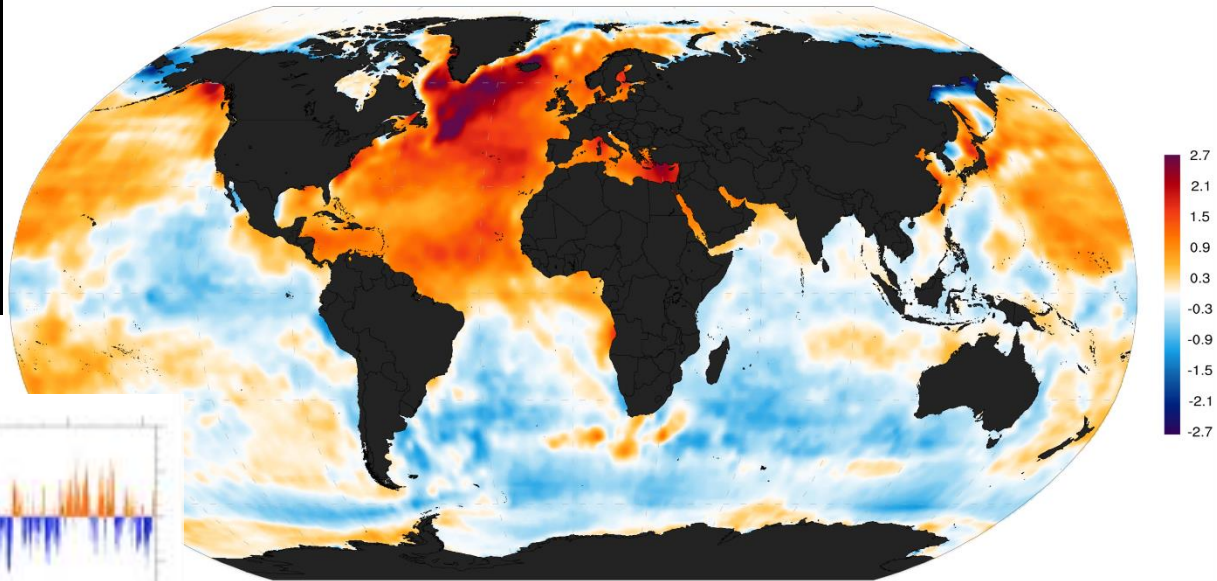
The density plot shows the relationship between mean daily temperature -  $T_{avg}$  and the nth quantile of maximum hourly rainfall for events binned by temperature -  $qn(P_{max})$  for UK gauges (JJA). Blue lines indicate relationships for  $n=99$ , 75 and 50.

# And the impact of large scale circulation patterns on extreme rainfall...

## The North Atlantic Oscillation



## Atlantic Multi-decadal Oscillation (AMO)



## Pacific decadal Oscillation (PDO)

- **Rx1hr, Monthly maximum 1-hour precipitation :**  
Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on hour  $i$  in period  $j$ . The maximum 1-hour value for period  $j$  is:  
$$Rx1hr_j = \max ( RR_{ij} )$$
- **Rx3hr, Monthly maximum 3-hour precipitation :**  
Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the 3 hour precipitation amount on 3 hour period  $i$  in period  $j$ . The maximum 3-hour value for period  $j$  is:  
$$Rx3hr_j = \max ( RR_{ij} )$$
- **Rx6hr, Monthly maximum 6-hour precipitation :**  
Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the 6 hour precipitation amount on 6 hour period  $i$  in period  $j$ . The maximum 6-hour value for period  $j$  is:  
$$Rx6hr_j = \max ( RR_{ij} )$$



- **Rx1hrP**, *Percent of daily total that fell in the Monthly maximum 1-hour precipitation:*

Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on hour  $i$  in period  $j$ . Let  $RD$  be the total rainfall for the day containing  $RR_{ij}$ :

$$Rx1hr_jP = \frac{Rx1hr_j}{RD}$$

- **LWH**, *Monthly likely wettest hour within a day:*

Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on hour  $i$  in period  $j$ . Let  $MWHI_h$  be the mean monthly wet hour intensity for hour  $h$  where  $RR_{ij} \geq 0.2\text{mm}$

$$LWH = h \text{ where } \max (MWHI_h)$$

- **LDH**, *Monthly likely driest hour within a day :*

Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on hour  $i$  in period  $j$ . Let  $MWHI_h$  be the mean monthly wet hour intensity for hour  $h$  where  $RR_{ij} \geq 0.2\text{mm}$

$$LDH = h \text{ where } \min (MWHI_h)$$

- **DLWH**, *Dispersion around Monthly likely wettest hour within a day:*

Let  $DT$  be the dispersion threshold. Let  $MWHI_h$  be the mean monthly wet hour intensity for hour  $h$  where  $RR_{ij} \geq 0.2\text{mm}$

$$DT = \frac{\max(MWHI_h) - \min(MWHI_h)}{2}$$

Count the number of hours where  $MWHI_h > DT$

- **SHII**, *Simple hourly precipitation intensity index* :

Let  $RR_{wj}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on wet hours,  $w$  ( $RR \geq 0.2mm$ ) in period  $j$ . If  $W$  represents number of wet hours in  $j$ , then:

$$SHII_j = \frac{\sum_{w=1}^W RR_{wj}}{W}$$

- **CWH**, *Maximum length of wet spell, maximum number of consecutive hours with  $RR \geq 0.2mm$ :*

Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on hour  $i$  in period  $j$ . Count the largest number of consecutive hours where  $RR_{ij} \geq 0.2mm$



- **R10mm**, *Monthly count of hours when hourly PRCP  $\geq 10\text{mm}$ :*  
Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on hour  $i$  in period  $j$ . Count the number of hours where:  
 $RR_{ij} \geq 10\text{mm}$
- **R20mm**, *Monthly count of hours when hourly PRCP  $\geq 20\text{mm}$ :*  
Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on hour  $i$  in period  $j$ . Count the number of hours where:  
 $RR_{ij} \geq 20\text{mm}$
- **Rnnmm**, *Annual count of hours when hourly PRCP  $\geq \text{nnmm}$ , nn is a user defined threshold:*  
Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on hour  $i$  in period  $j$ . Count the number of hours where:  
 $RR_{ij} \geq \text{nnmm}$

- **PRCPTOT**, *Annual total precipitation in wet hours* :  
Let  $RR_{ij}$  be the hourly precipitation amount on hour  $i$  in period  $j$ . If  $i$  represents the number of hours in  $j$ , then:

$$PRCPTOT_j = \sum_{i=1}^I RR_{ij}$$

## Ideas?

- We copied the naming convention of the ETCCDI climate change indices, but recognise that they need to be different!
- Any advice on standards for calculating indices (e.g. % missing data, length of record)
- Any thoughts on other useful indices to calculate?
- Any questions?