



# Climate Change and Hydrological Extreme Events

Risks and Perspectives for Water Resources Management in Bavaria and Québec



Bavarian Environment Agency



**INRS**  
UNIVERSITÉ DE RECHERCHE

Centre d'expertise  
hydrique  
Québec



Leibniz-Rechenzentrum  
der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften

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gefördert durch  
Bayerisches Staatsministerium für  
Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz



# A short history of collaboration



Q-BIC<sup>3</sup> - Québec-Bavaria collaboration on climate change since 2006...

Bavarian Environment Agency



UNIVERSITÉ  
LAVAL

*Développement durable,  
Environnement et Lutte  
contre les changements  
climatiques*

Québec 



McGill



LUDWIG-  
MAXIMILIANS-  
UNIVERSITÄT  
MÜNCHEN

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# A short history of collaboration



## Central Theme:

Research towards adapting to climate change

## Major topics:

- Water balance
- River basin management
- Dam and reservoir management
- Natural hazards (floods/droughts)



## Goals:

Understanding the course and impacts of climate change in Québec and Bavaria

- Develop tools and methods to support decision makers
- Train young researchers in this domain
- Communicate results to scientific community and users



# ClimEx

# Overview & Acknowledgements



Runtime: 05/2015 - 08/2019

Partners: LMU, Ouranos, ETS, INRS, LRZ, MELCC-DEH,  
Bavarian Environmental Agency

Funding: Bavarian State Ministry for the  
Environment and Consumer Protection

Acknowledgements:

ESCER centre at Université du Québec a Montréal ([www.escer.uqam.ca](http://www.escer.uqam.ca))  
and Environment and Climate Change Canada for providing CRCM5

Environment and Climate Change Canada CCCMA for making available the  
CanESM2 Large Ensemble simulations

Gauss Centre for Supercomputing ([www.gauss-centre.eu](http://www.gauss-centre.eu)) for providing  
computing time on the GCS Supercomputer SuperMUC at LRZ ([www.lrz.de](http://www.lrz.de))

Bavarian State Ministry of the  
Environment and Consumer Protection



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada

lrz Leibniz-Rechenzentrum  
der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften

UQAM  
Université du Québec à Montréal

GCS  
Gauss Centre for Supercomputing



Leibniz-Rechenzentrum  
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ClimEx Symposium 2019



# Climate Change and Hydrological Extreme Events

Risks and Perspectives for Water  
Resources Management in  
Bavaria and Québec



Bavarian Environment  
Agency



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Major flood events in Québec  
1996/2011/2017/2019



Major flood events in Bavaria  
1999/2002/2005/2013/2016

« Extreme precipitation events over most of the mid-latitude land masses and over wet tropical regions will *very likely* become more intense and more frequent. » - IPCC AR5 report

## Research objectives

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Provide unprecedented high-resolution climate model datasets to ...

- Confirm knowledge on whether and how climate change contributes to higher magnitudes and frequencies of extreme events
- Distinguish between the effects of internal variability and a 'clear' climate change signal
- Improve methods to analyse hydro-meteorological extreme events and provide robust estimates of HQx floods

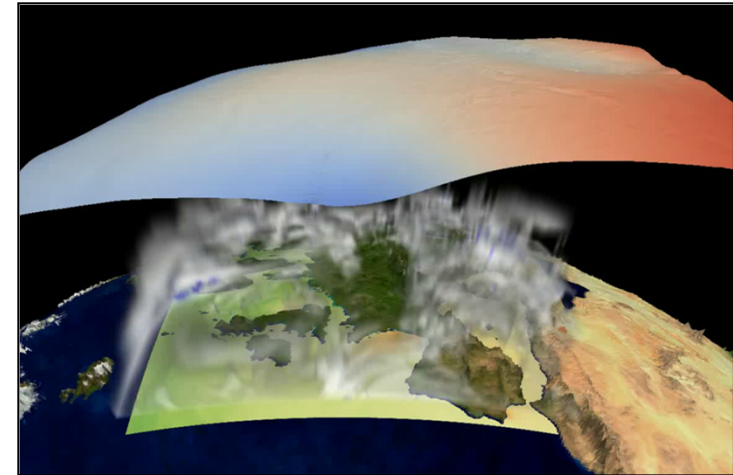
### ClimEx...

- employs High Performance Computing (HPC) to produce a large scale single model ensemble (CanESM2-CRCM5, 50 members), resulting in a high-resolution ( $0.11^\circ$ , up to 1h), transient climate dataset (1951-2100) under RCP8.5 (7500 model years)
- will provide, for the first time, a statistically robust analysis and comparison of extremes under climate variability and climate change

## HPC challenges and implementation

Experiment requires great computing power, storage and IT expertise

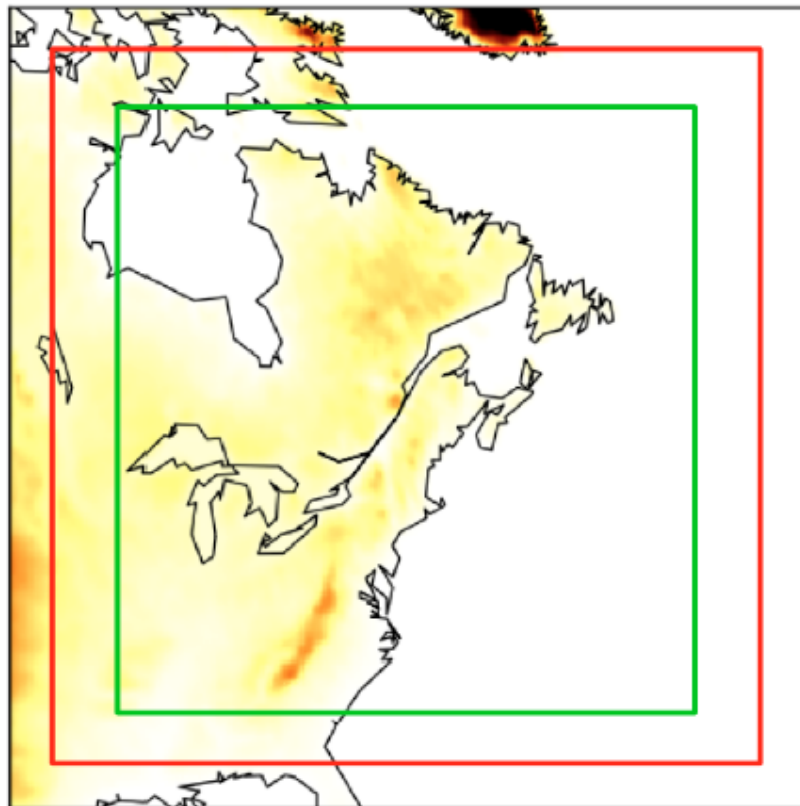
- GCS project granted in 2016 (88 MCPU-h, 500 Tbyte)
- Climate simulations lasted one year!
- Data storage and sharing
- Visualization of model results
- Science communication



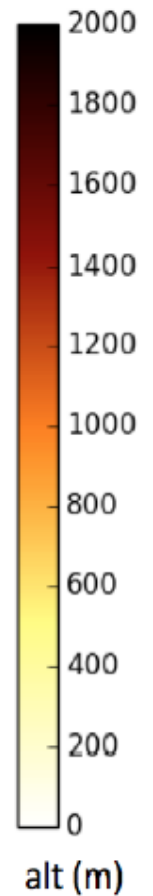
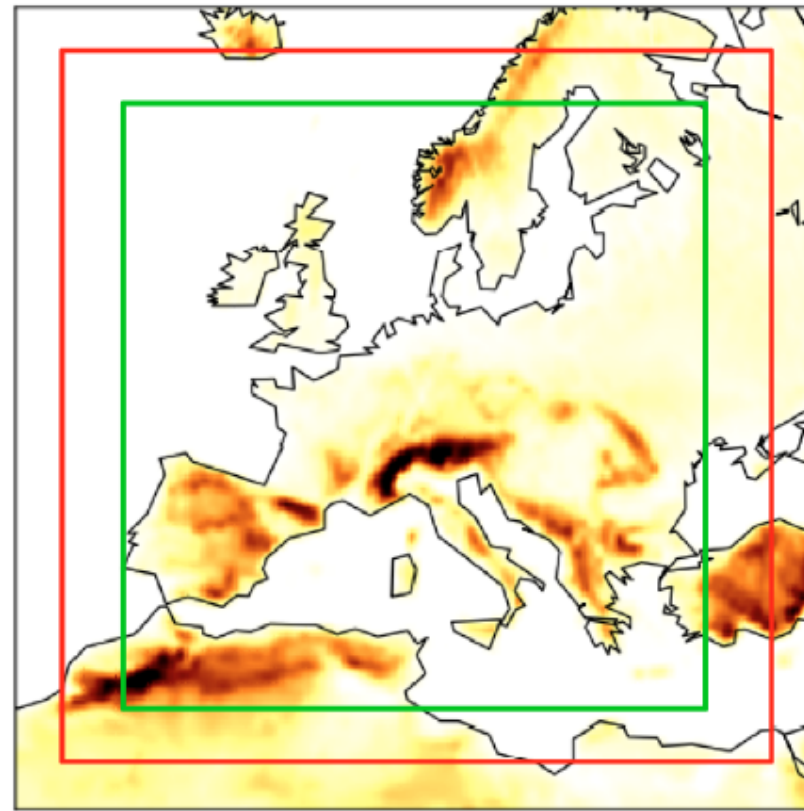
[www.lrz.de/services/datenhaltung/bigdata/](http://www.lrz.de/services/datenhaltung/bigdata/)

# Case studies - Climate model domains

## North American Domain



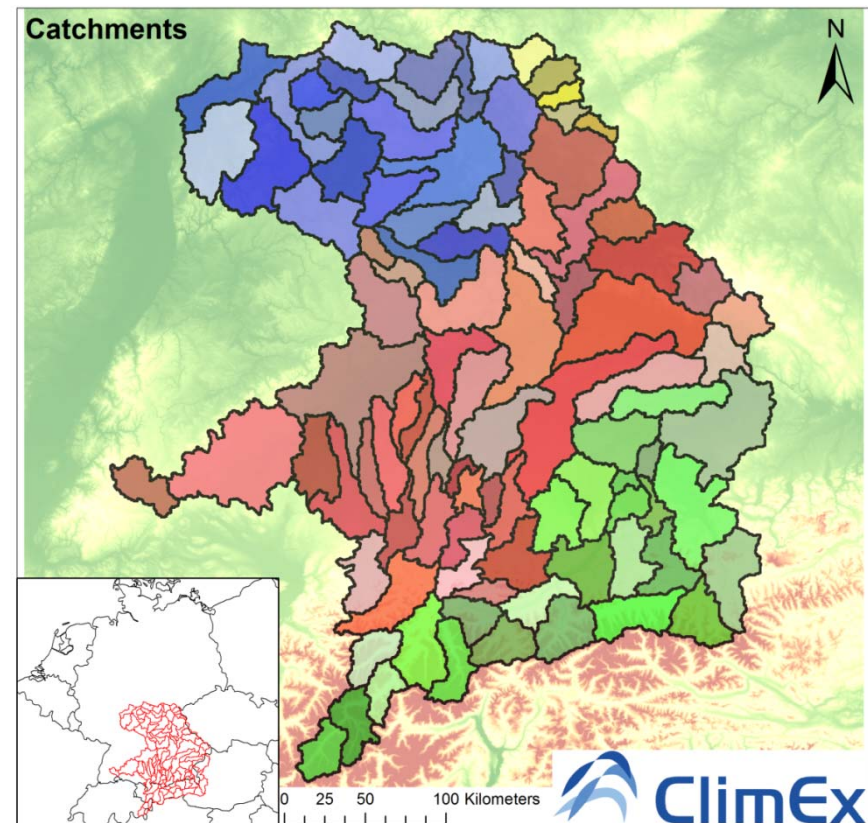
## European Domain



"free domain" (340x340)  
"analysis domain" (280x280)

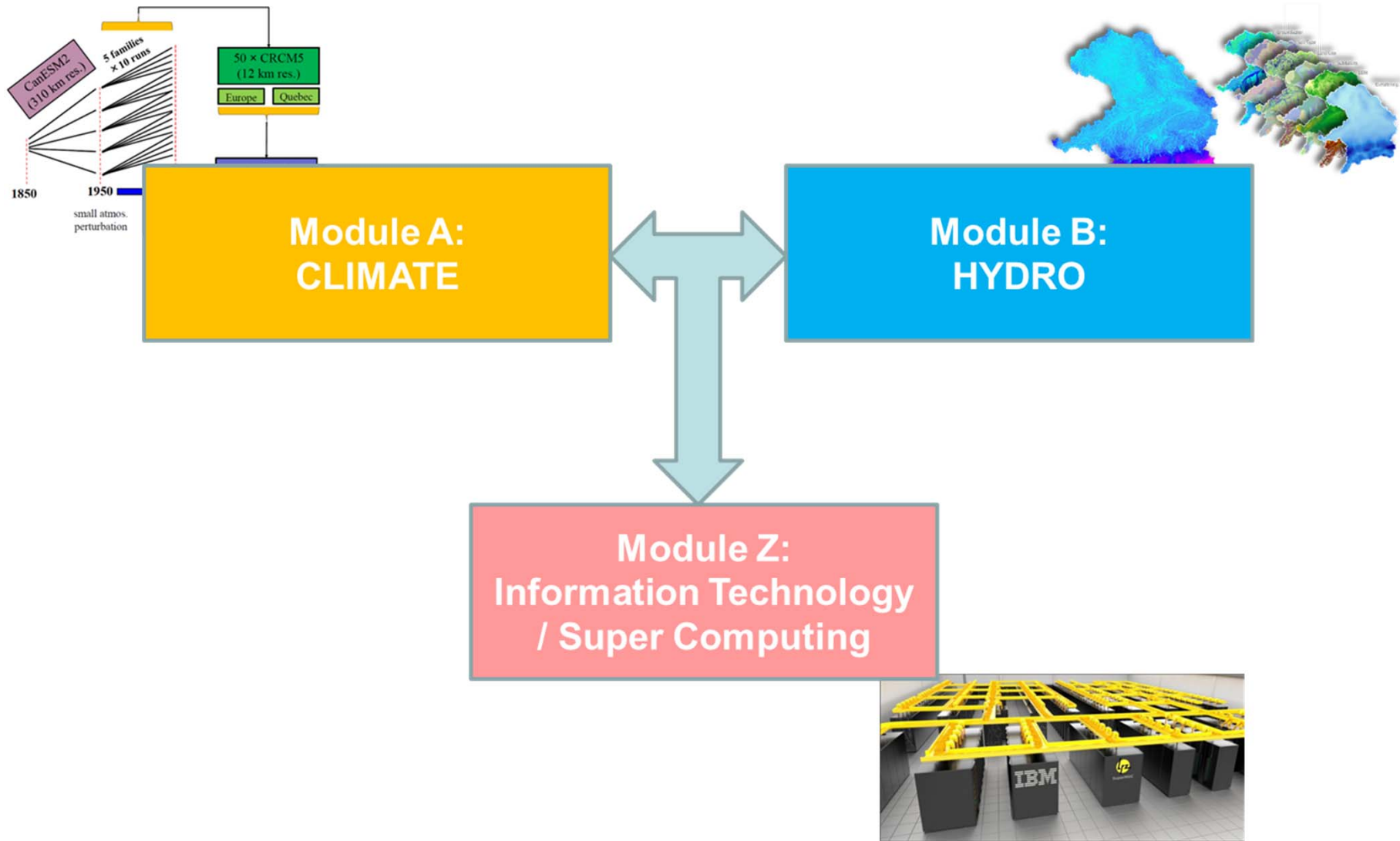
On which spatial and temporal scales do we need to investigate hydrometeorological extreme events?

- Challenge:  
Investigate the variability and climate change dependency of extreme events in 98 Bavarian river basins (~100.000 km<sup>2</sup>)
- Goal:  
Improved process understanding and provisioning of measures for water resources management and river authorities to reduce extreme risks
- Conduct:  
Hydrological simulations using WaSiM, 500m and 3h resolution (driven by 50 members CRCM5, 1950-2100)

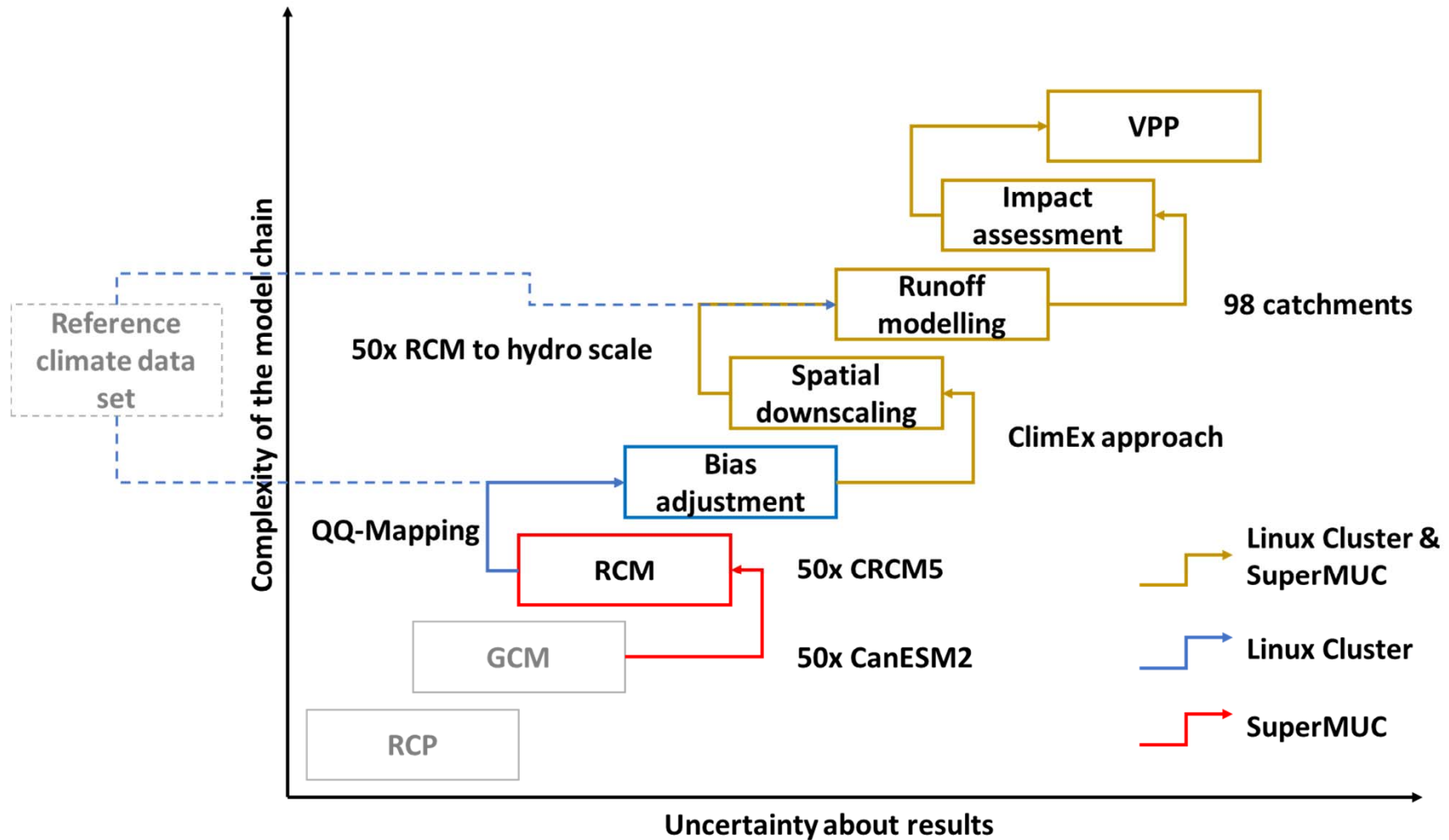


Hydrological Bavaria

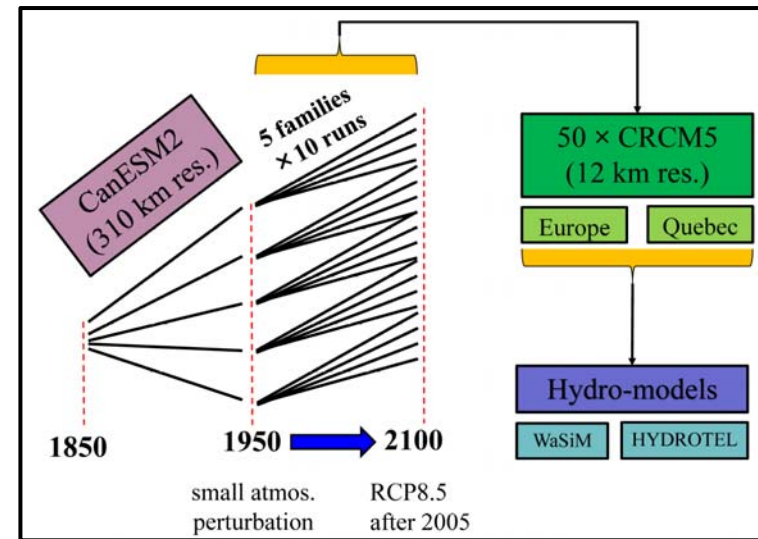
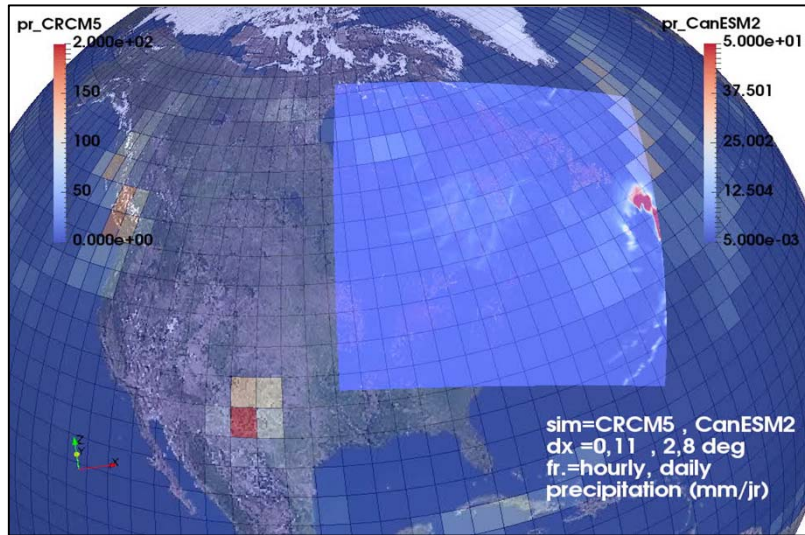
# Project structure



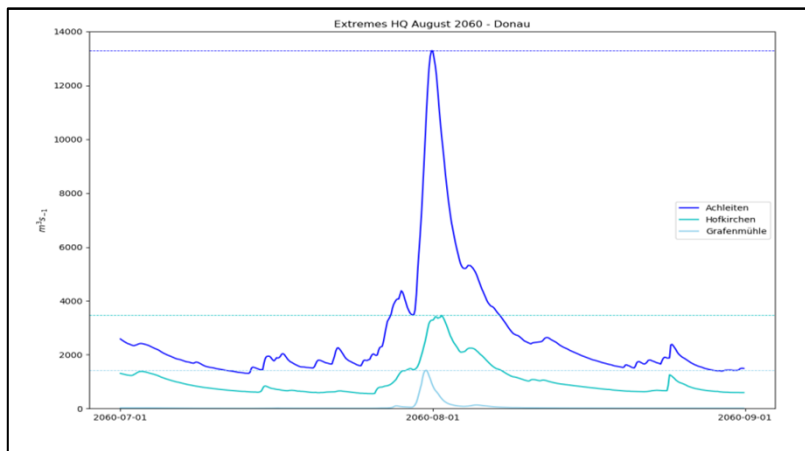
# Project structure - workflow



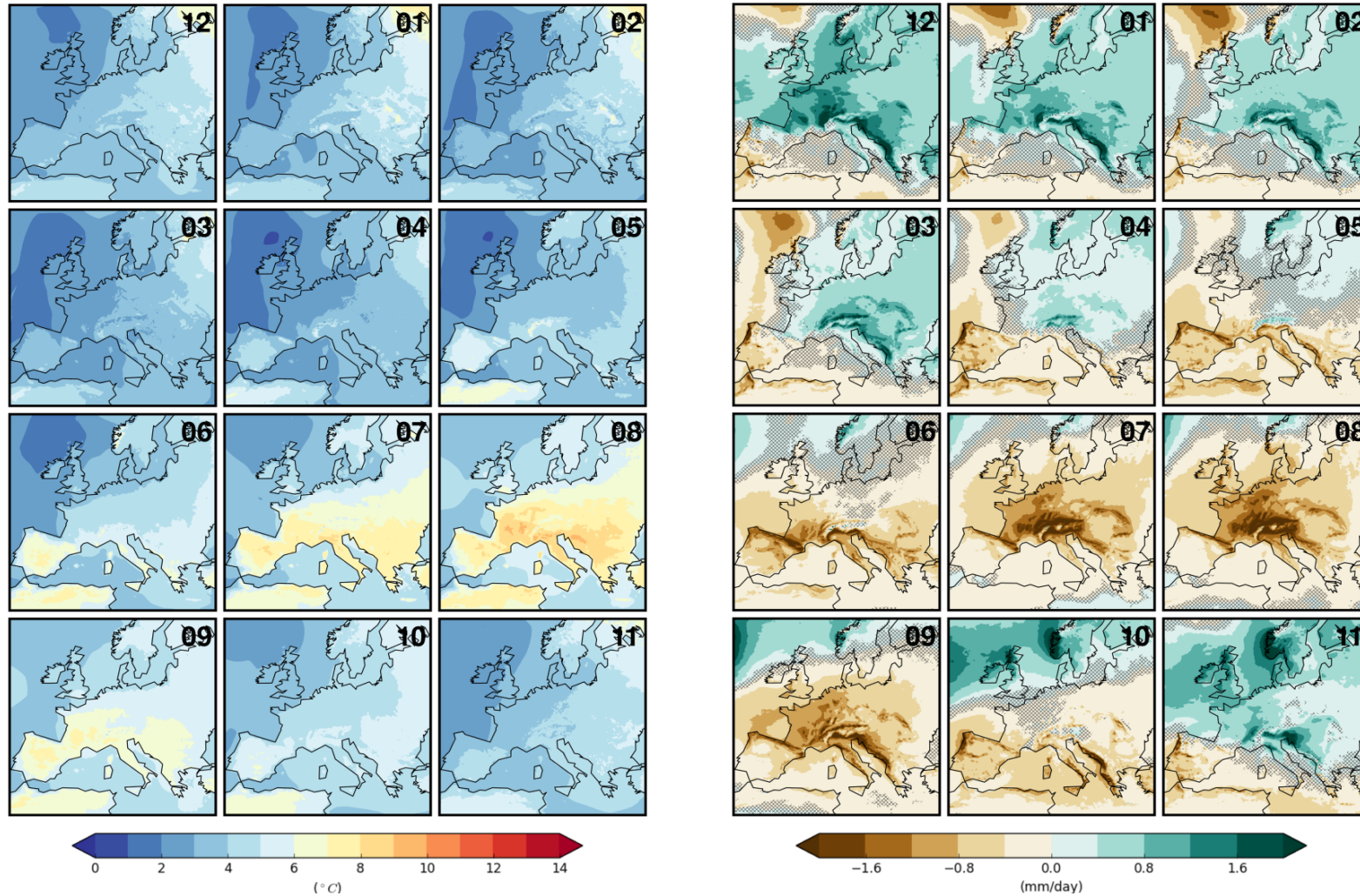
...in a model chain using a Large Scale Single Model Ensemble?



50 model members → 50 time series  
 [i.e. to estimate the robustness of natural variability in the time frame of 1981-2010, we possess not 30 but 1500 (model) years]  
 Estimation of rare extreme events in a given time period becomes much more robust...



# Climate change - Temp & Precip in Europe



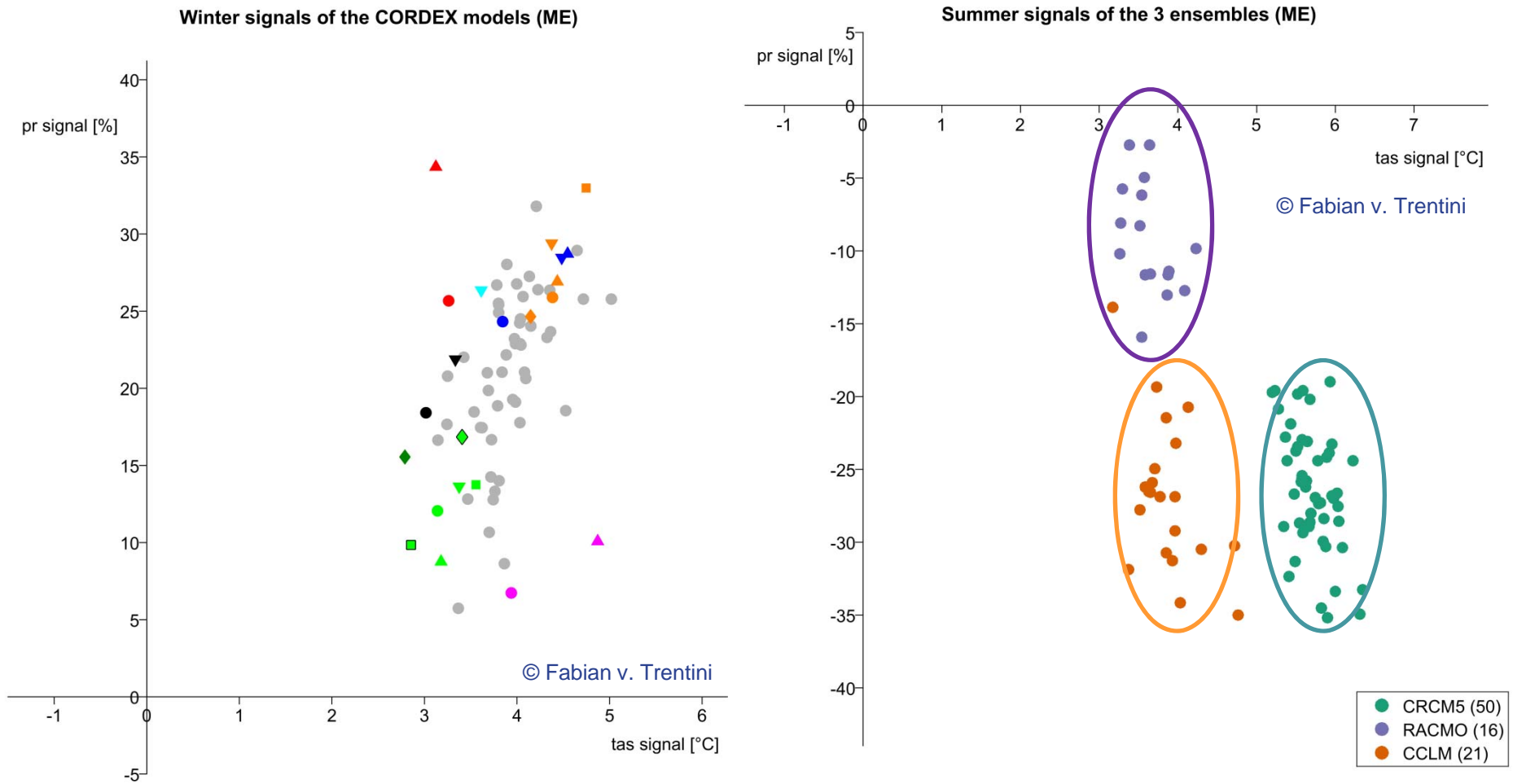
Monthly change of temperature and precipitation (2080-2099 vs. 2000-2019)  
(50 member mean)

Leduc et al. (2019)

# Does the data make sense? Is it valid?

## How are CRCM5 signals comparing to other climate model experiments?

Relative signals of precipitation and temperature in 2070-99 compared to 1980-2009 (CEUR)



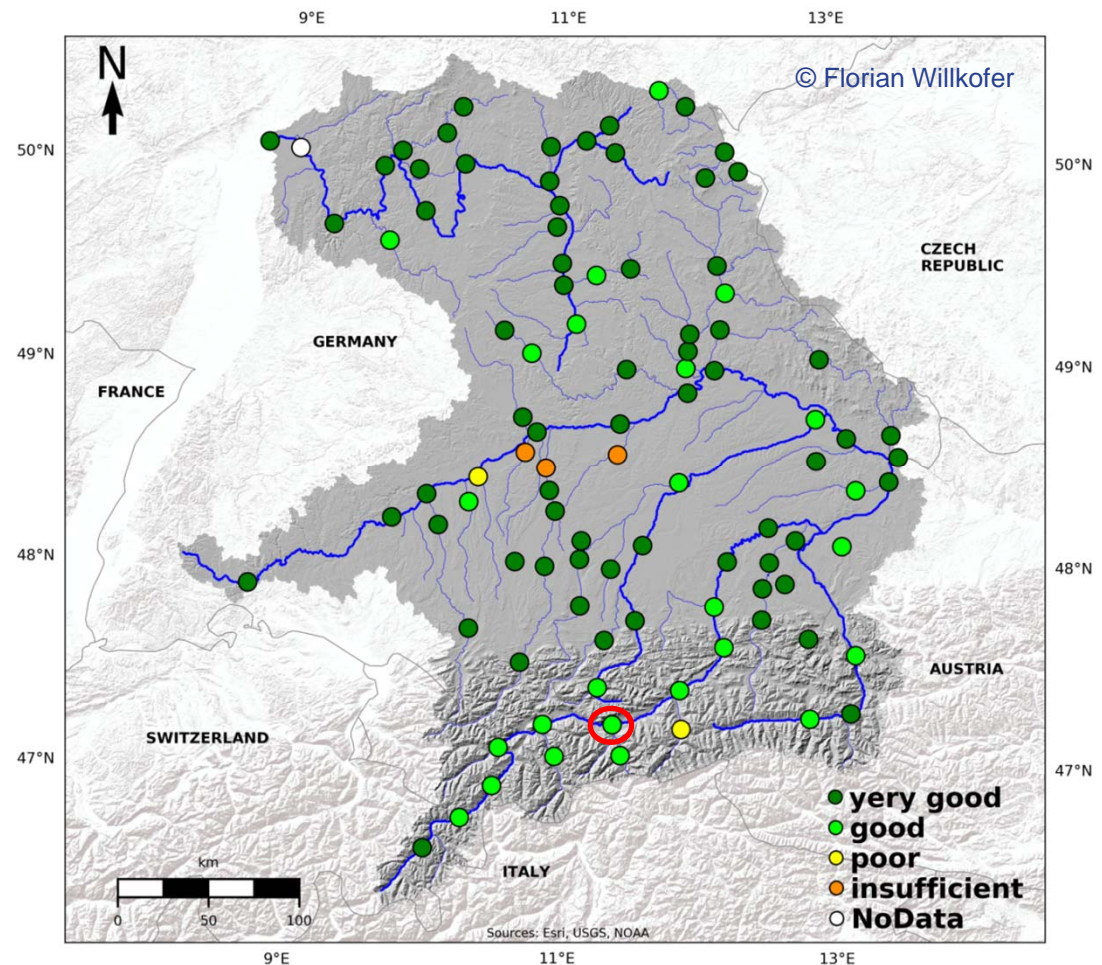
# Does the data make sense? Is it valid?

## Can we use the hydrological model WaSiM for climate change impact analyses?

### Evaluation of model performance

- WaSiM is spatially explicit and “physically based”
- global calibration applied, i.e. one setup for 98 gauges
- model performance “good” to “very good” for most gauges
- weaker results related to management practices (gauges are marked for further analysis)
- Analysis of extreme events and its causes in future periods

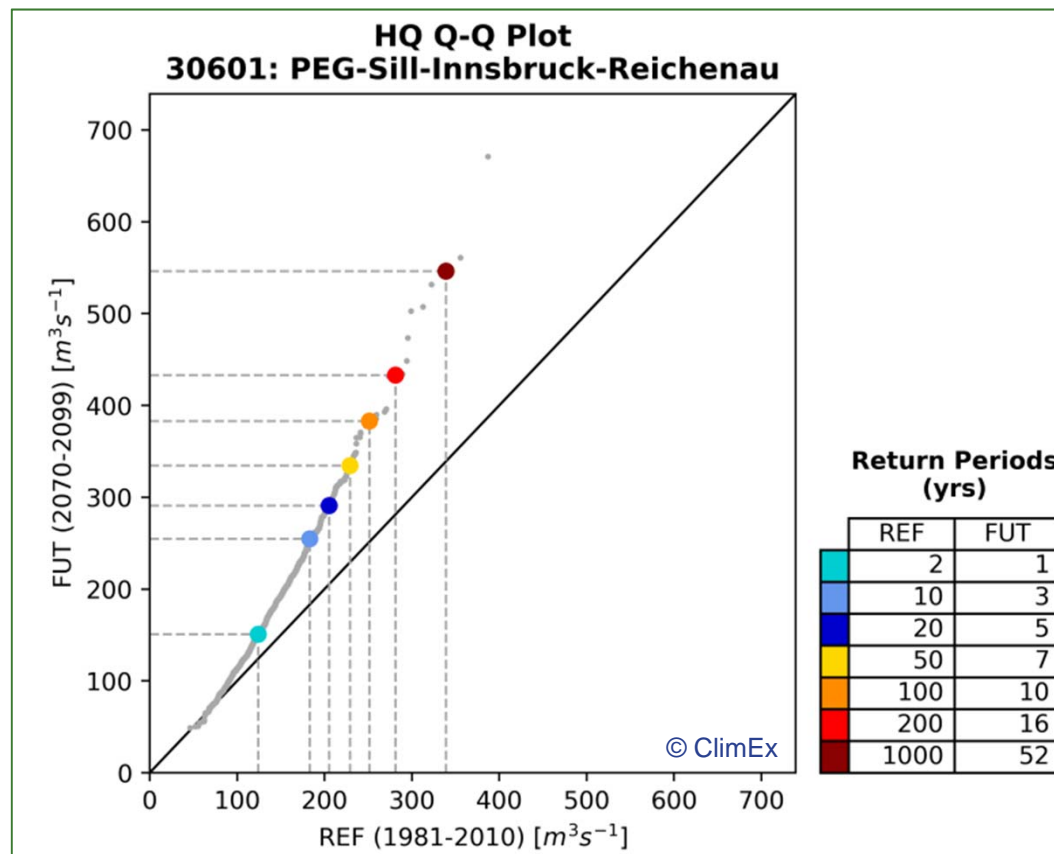
**Model performance for the reference period (1981-2010)**



# Changes of extremes - compound events under climate change

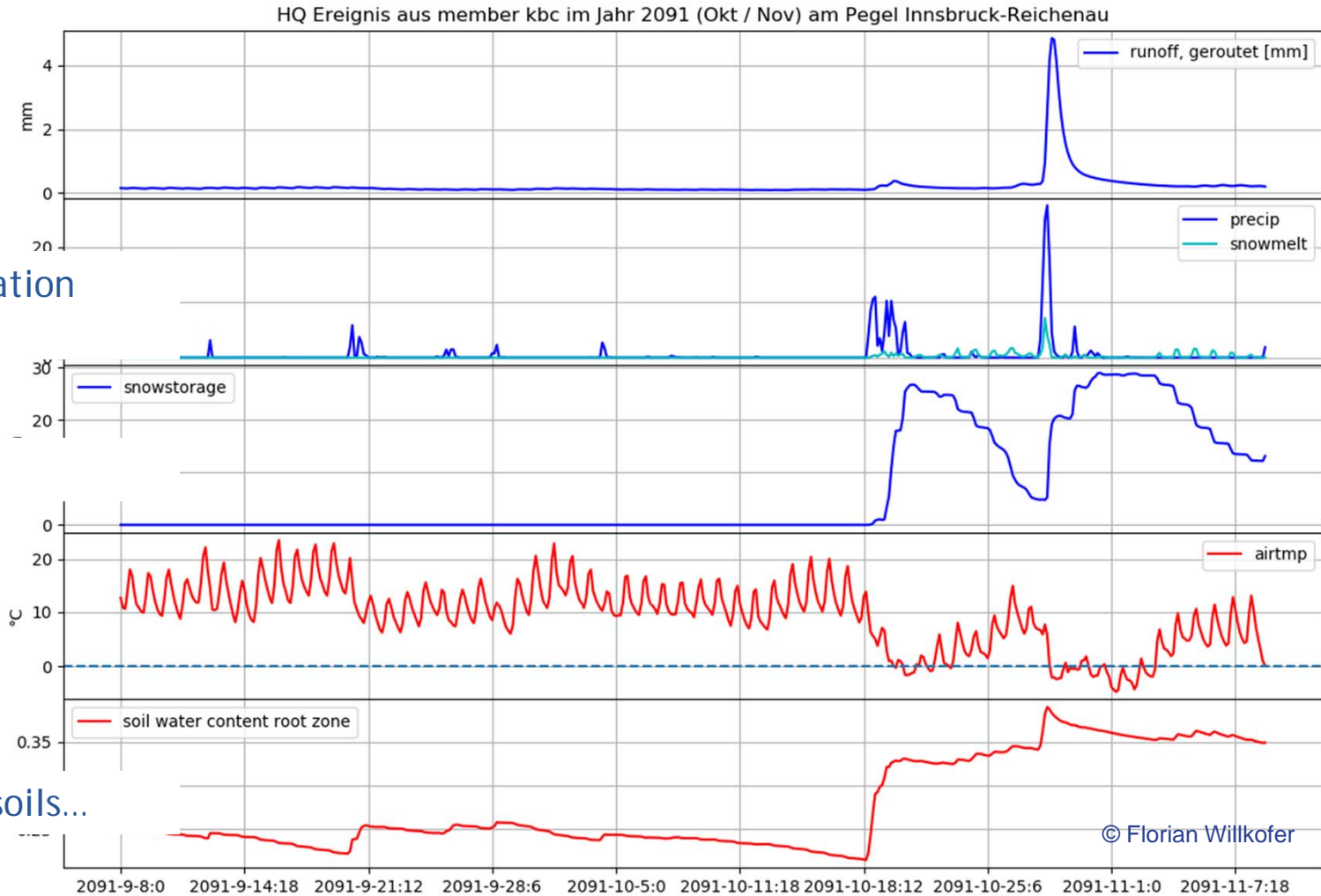
An example of a gauge at the Inn river - long term perspective

Under future climatic and hydrological conditions, there is a severe increase in intensity and frequency of extreme flood events!



# Changes of extremes - compound events under climate change

An example of a gauge at the Inn river - single extreme event triggered by...



Heavy precipitation  
falling on...

melting snow...

and saturated soils...

# Key messages

## ClimEx ...

- employs HPC to analyze *climate variability* and *climate change* over Eastern North America and Europe
- provides robust estimates for the dynamics of hydrometeorological extremes in Québec and Bavaria
- delivers simulation and visualization tools to support water resources management and civil security
- makes data and results available to the scientific community and stakeholders
- uses data from a sensitive climate model under an extreme climate change scenario



Bavaria 2013



Québec 2017



Québec 2019



Bavaria 2016

# Program and Logistical Information

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# Program of the Symposium

06 May 2019 – ClimEx Policy Day Bavarian Academy of Sciences	
13.00 – 13.45	Welcome and Introduction
13.45 – 14.30	Keynote by Prof. Friederike Otto
14.30 – 15.00	Coffee Break
15.00 – 17.00	ClimEx – Results
17.00 – 18.00	Tea Time & Poster Session & Visualization
18.00 – 19.00	Panel Discussion (Dr. M. Altmayer) Friederike Otto, Felix Finkbeiner, Martin Grambow, Peter Höpfe, Ralf Ludwig
19.00 –	Reception

➔ “Angry weather? How to find out to what extent climate change is affecting extreme weather.”

➔ Eight short talks to highlight some of the ClimEx findings

➔ Visit the posters & sign-up for parallel workshops on Tuesday!

➔ “Ist der Zug schon abgefahren? – Klimawandel, Extremereignisse und was wir (noch) dagegen tun können.”

# Program of the Symposium

An in-depth view on ClimEx results



Four parallel workshops to discuss scientific advance and novel applications of ClimEx and related data



Sign-up for guided tours to SuperMUC-NG (identification required)



07 May 2019 – ClimEx Science Day Leibniz Rechenzentrum						
08.30 – 08.40	Welcome					
08.40 – 10.30	A scientific view on ClimEx data and applications					
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee Break					
11.00 – 12.45	<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Parallel Workshops</td> <td>A – Large Model Ensembles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B – Climate Services and Science Communication</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C – Hydrologische Extreme und Anpassung in der Wasserwirtschaft</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D – Klimawandel und erneuerbare Energien</td> </tr> </table>	Parallel Workshops	A – Large Model Ensembles	B – Climate Services and Science Communication	C – Hydrologische Extreme und Anpassung in der Wasserwirtschaft	D – Klimawandel und erneuerbare Energien
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	D – Klimawandel und erneuerbare Energien					
12.45 – 13.45	Lunch Break					
13.45 – 14.15	Parallel Workshops - Summary					
14.15 – 15.15	Synthesis and Outlook					
15.15 – 16.00	Network Café and Farewell					
16.00 – 17.00	Guided Tours to SuperMUC-NG (on demand)					

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