



Satellite observations of precipitation Drought management in Armenia: Webinar by Slovak Remote sensing department

**Ján Kaňák, Marian Jurašek
Remote Service Department
Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute
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Content:

1. EUMETSAT HSAF (introduction)
2. HSAF Products (rain, snow, soil moisture)
3. Case studies (rainfall estimation application for meteorology, hydrology and climatology)
4. Accuracy (10-years evaluation statistics)

EUMETSAT HSAF – introduction

HSAF started in September 2005 as last from 8 existing projects on satellite applications. The HSAF objectives are:

- to provide new satellite-derived products from existing and future satellites with sufficient time and space resolution to satisfy the needs of operational hydrology, by mean of the following identified products:
 - precipitation (liquid, solid, rate, accumulated);
 - soil moisture (at large-scale, at local-scale, at surface, in the roots region);
 - snow parameters (detection, cover, melting conditions, water equivalent);
- to perform independent validation of the usefulness of the new products for fighting against floods, landslides, avalanches, and evaluating water resources;

The activity includes:

- downscaling/upscaling modelling from observed/predicted fields to basin level;
- fusion of satellite-derived measurements with data from radar and raingauge networks;
- assimilation of satellite-derived products in hydrological models;
- assessment of the impact of the new satellite-derived products on hydrological applications.
- Other SAFs: AC CM LSA OSI NWP ROM

HSAF Products:

Three main groups of products are

- Precipitation instantaneous and accumulated
- Soil moisture surface and root zone
- Snow detection cover and water equivalent

Associated activities are

- Development of products and operational generation (**start cycle**)
- Quality assessment and preparation of reports
- Hydrological validation and impact studies
- **Training activities** **and workshops**
- **Operational usage** **and user requirements (end cycle)**

Precipitation products:

Instantaneous precipitation from microwave measurements:

current (AMSU- MHS, SSMIS, ATMS, AMSR-2, GMI) and future, (e.g., MWI, MWS) microwave radiometers on board a constellation of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites – mainly EPS and EPS-SG.

Instantaneous precipitation merged MW and GEO/IR:

precipitation estimation by merging higher quality, sparsely sampled precipitation estimates from LEO satellites with highly temporally and spatially sampled data from geostationary satellites – MSG & MTG.

Accumulated precipitation:

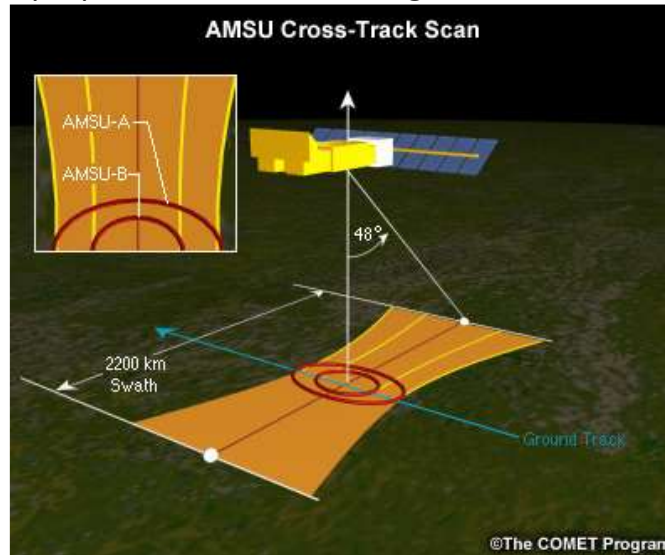
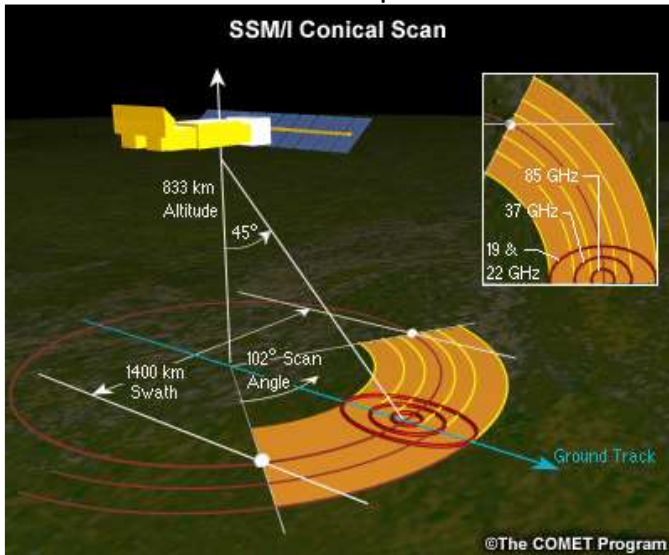
Integrated regular in time instantaneous precipitation fields from merged MW & IR into 1, 3, 6, 12 and 24-hours totals (10 min in near future from MTG satellite).

Quality Assessment activities

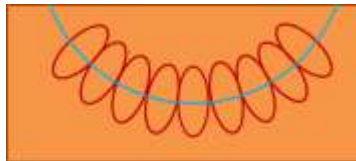
- comparison to ground truth – Step 1: **understand data**

Conical scanner – constant FOV, ellipses oriented to sub satellite point

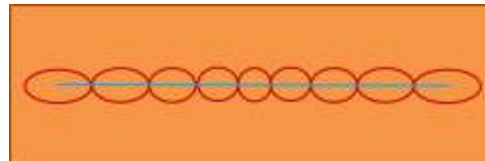
Cross-track scanner – variable FOV, ellipse perpendicular to satellite ground-track



H01

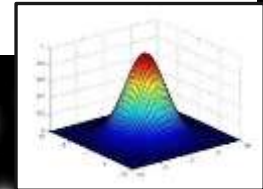


Size of FOV
Depends on
signal frequency



H02

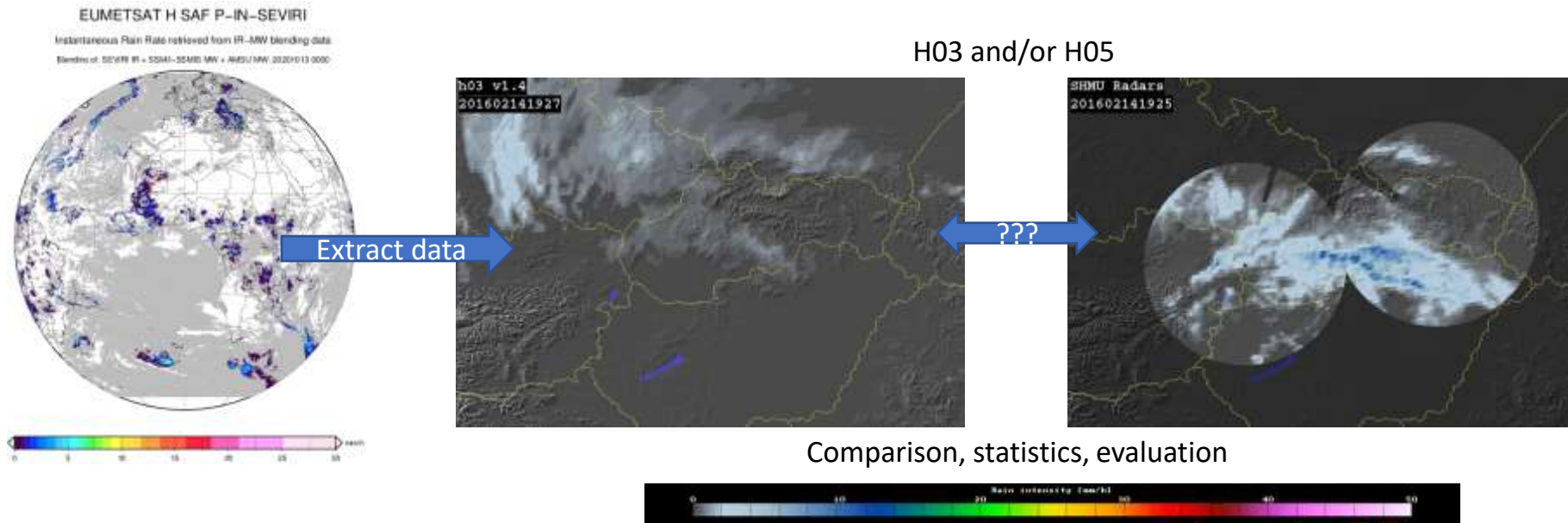
Radar (ground truth) FOV
Must be weighted by
Gaussian distribution of
signal:



Quality Assessment activities

- comparison to ground truth – Step 1: [understand data](#)

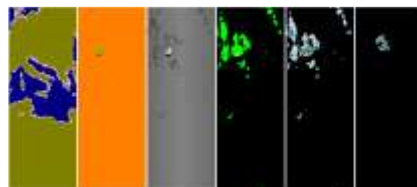
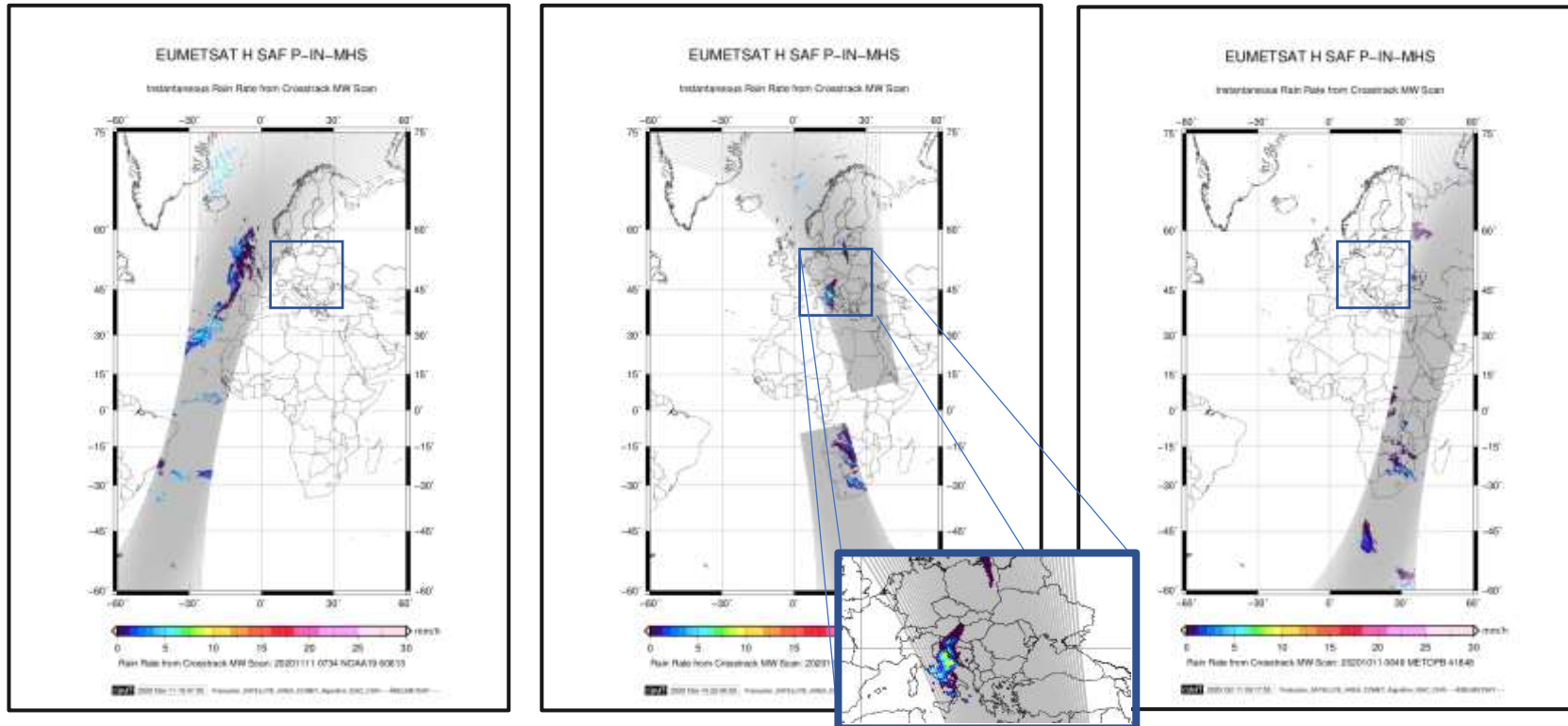
H01, H02 merged with MSG SEVIRI -> H03, H05 in regular or so called Meteosat view projection grid, ground truth data averaged directly over satellite FOV's pixels, or after re-projection to common grid:



Quality Assessment activities

- comparison to ground truth - STEP 2: collect time/space data

Selection of proper satellite overpass and, extract date and time, extract geolocation and product data ...



Satellite
Precipitation
Quality index
Longitude Latitude
Scan time

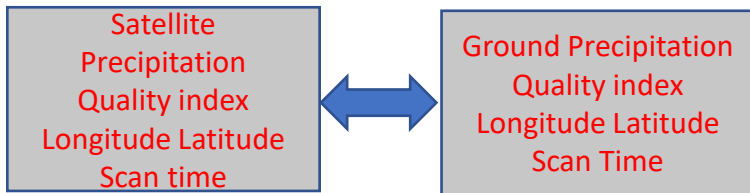
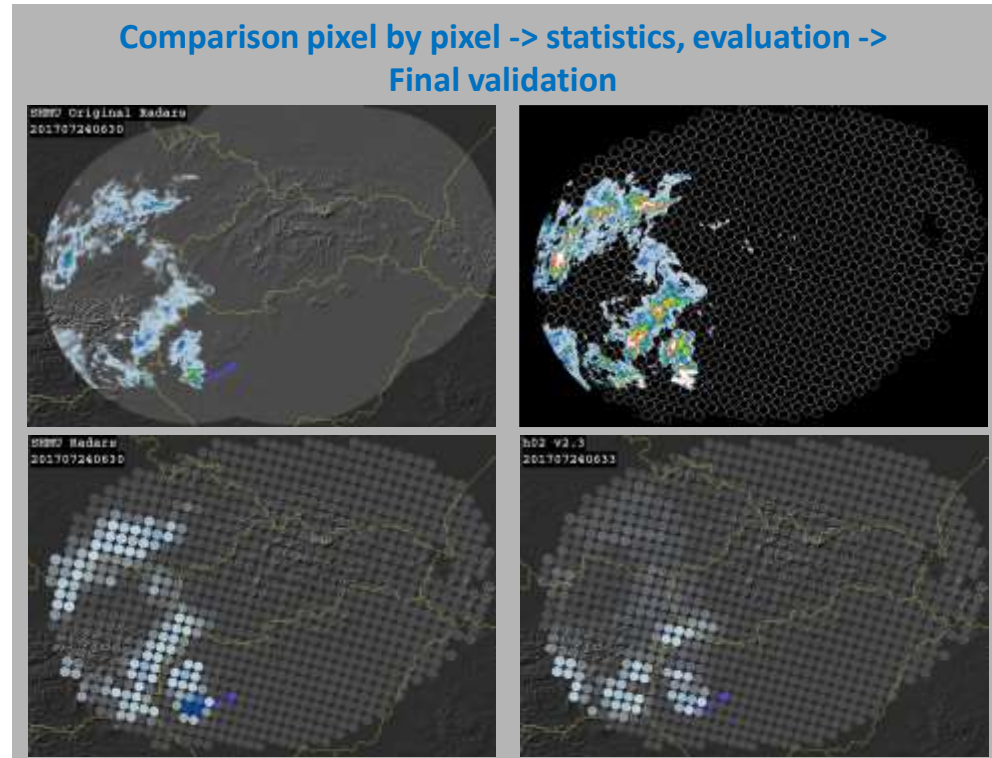
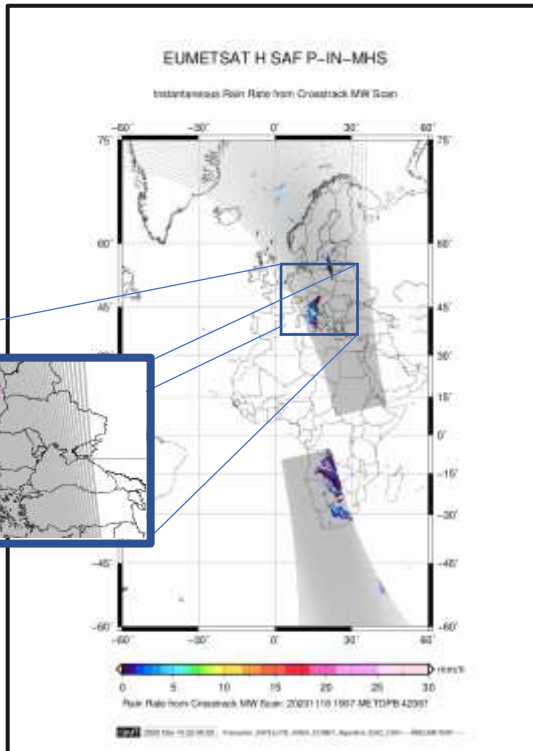
Ground Precipitation
Quality index
Longitude Latitude
Scan Time



Quality Assessment activities

- comparison to ground truth - STEP 2: collect time/space data

Selection of proper satellite overpass and, extract date and time, extract geolocation and product data ...



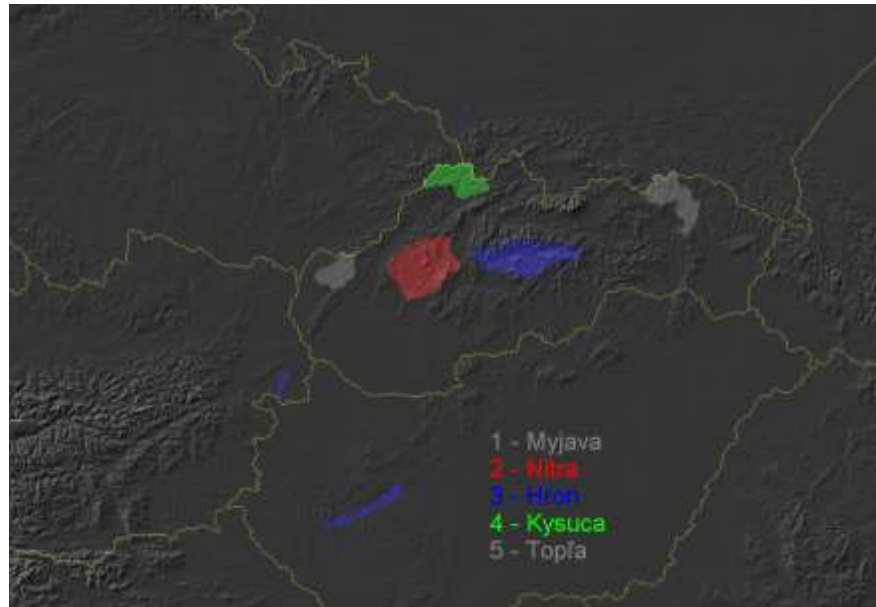
10/06/2023

Quality Assessment activities

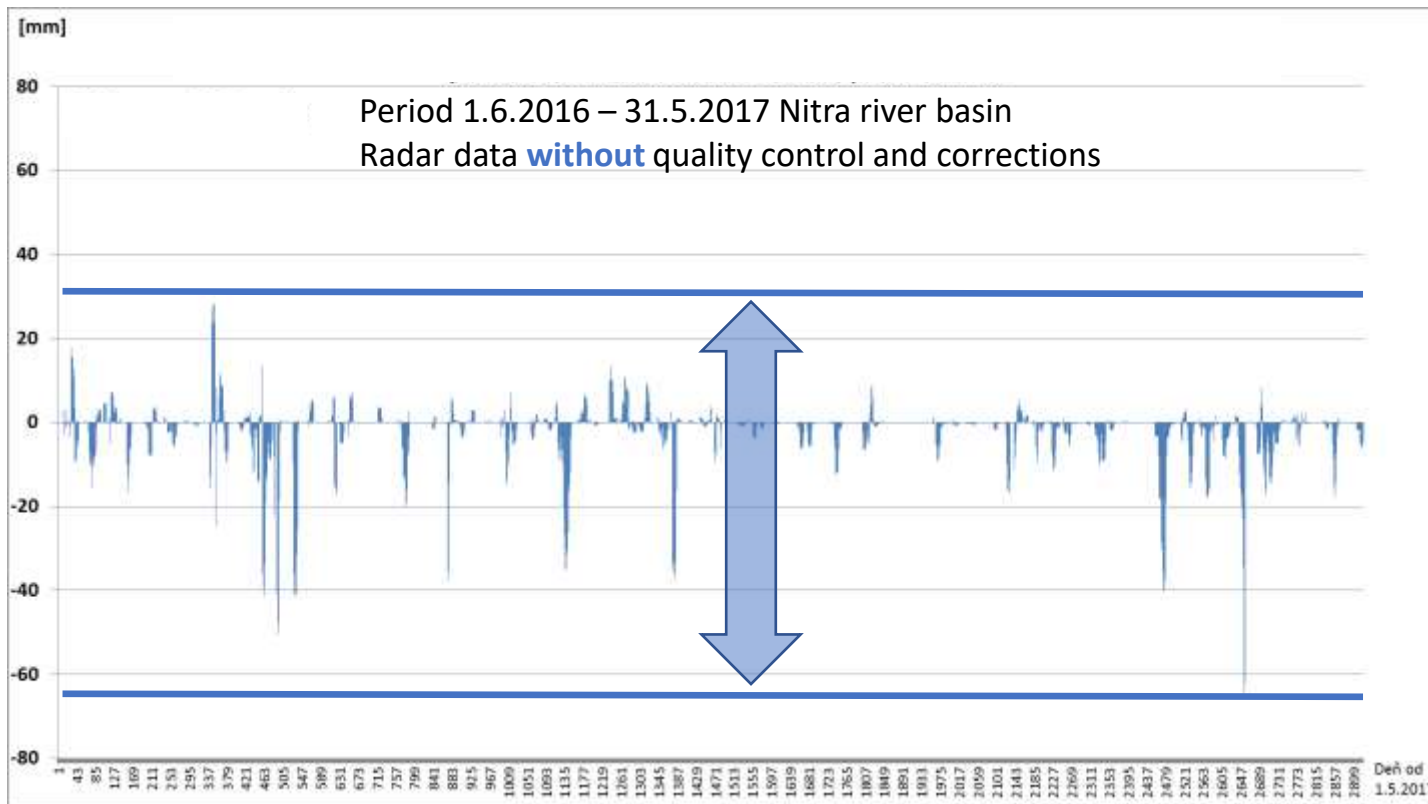
- comparison to ground truth - STEP 2: [collect time/space data](#)

More than areal comparison pixel by pixel for hydrologically useful products is:

Instantaneous precipitation summed into accumulated values and used as
«Long time series» processing and fitting satellite versus radar/gauge integrated data:

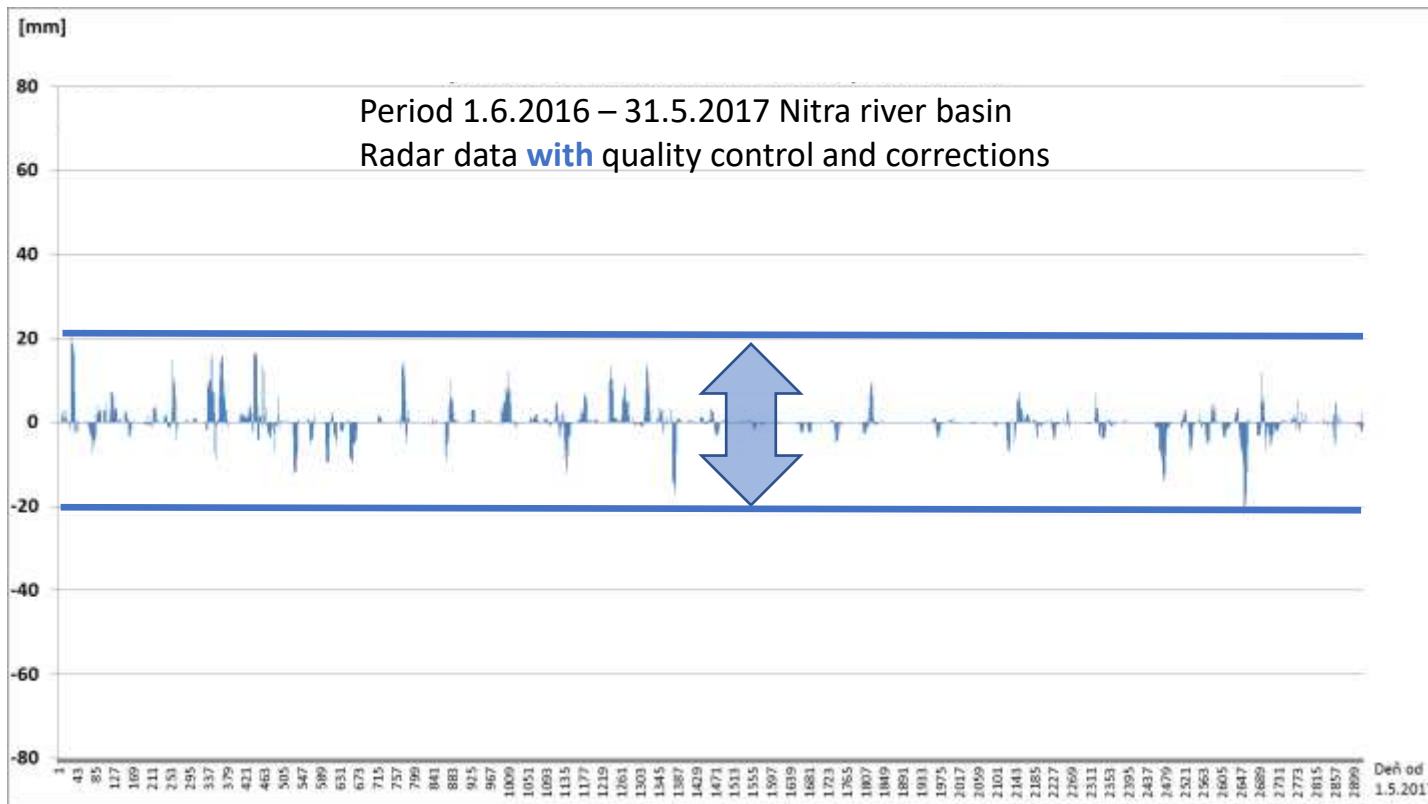


**Work with accumulated precipitation from satellite:
How to see the difference between satellite and ground data?**



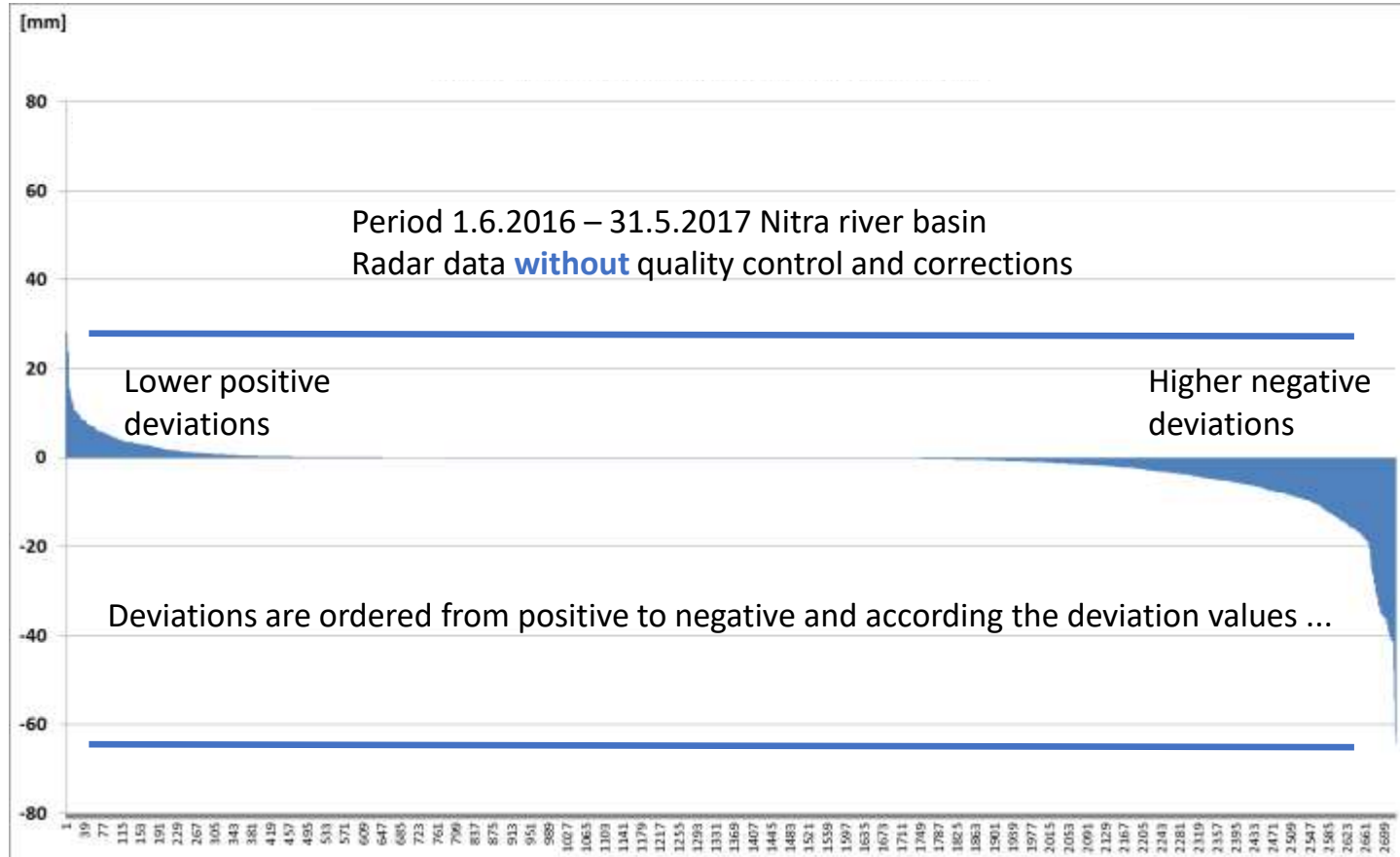
Over versus under – estimation of precipitation by satellite product is shown in this plot for H05 24-hours accumulated precipitation: We observe high under estimation up to -40 to -60 mm per day in few days in 2017 summer season.

Work with accumulated precipitation from satellite:
How to see the difference between satellite and ground data?

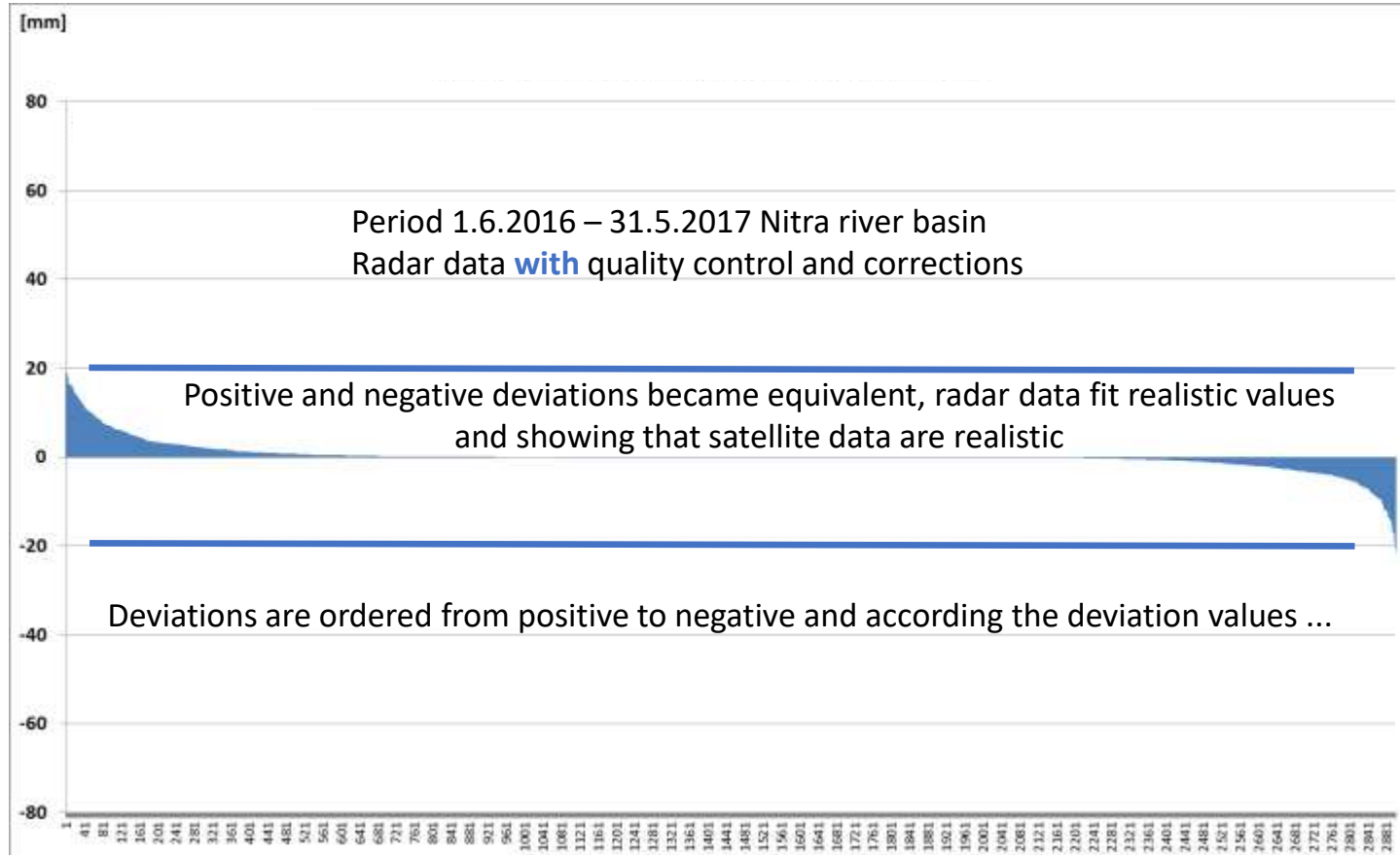


Over versus under – good agreement between over and under estimation deviations
 After the quality control and correction of radar data.

Work with accumulated precipitation from satellite:
 How to see the difference between satellite and ground data?



**Work with accumulated precipitation from satellite:
How to see the difference between satellite and ground data?**



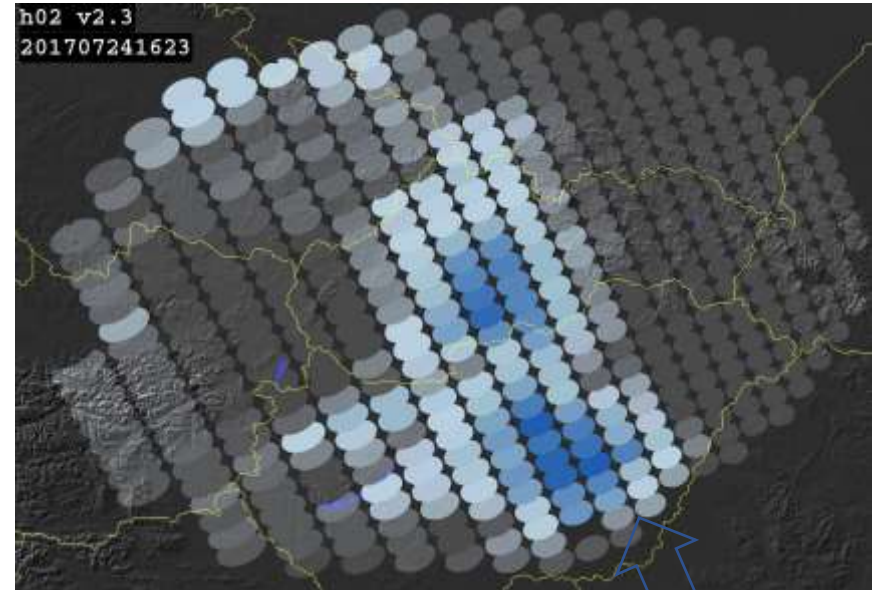
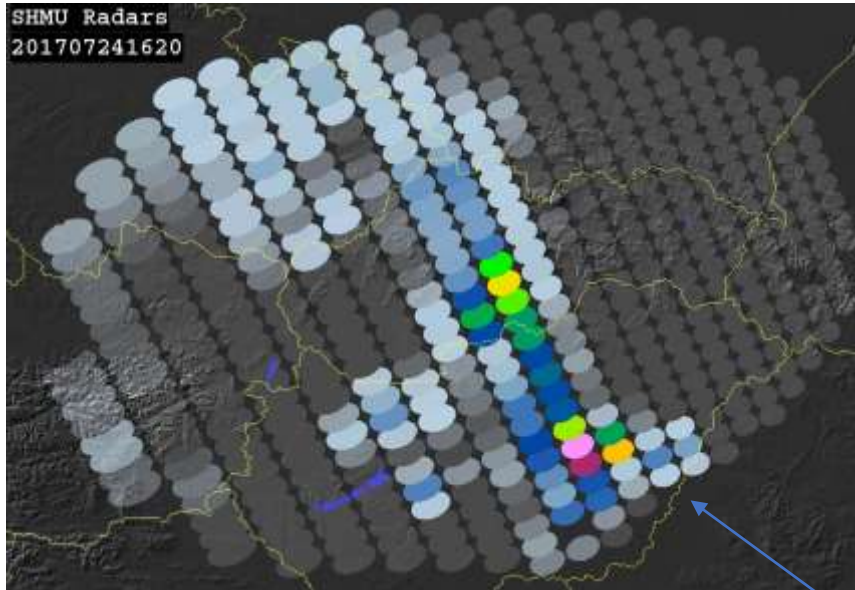
Quality Assessment activities

- comparison to ground truth - STEP 2: [collect time/space data](#)

Using data from the **QRAD Software Package (SHMÚ, created by Ladislav Méri)** for validation we should get more reliable results on the quality of H05 than in the past, when we used radar data from simple merging software that essentially maximized precipitation values at each point where data from more than one radar was available.

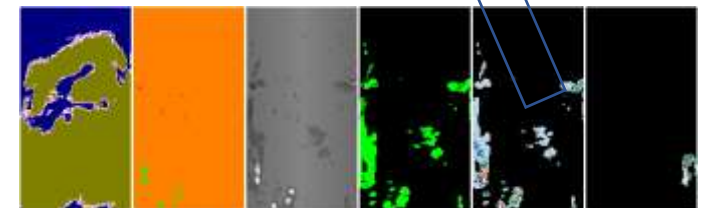
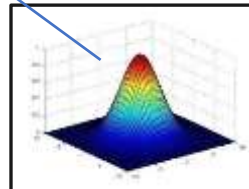
How to properly overlay satellite and radar data?

- different resolution, different coverage, different sensitivity of rain signal in FOV



Weighted values of radar pixels

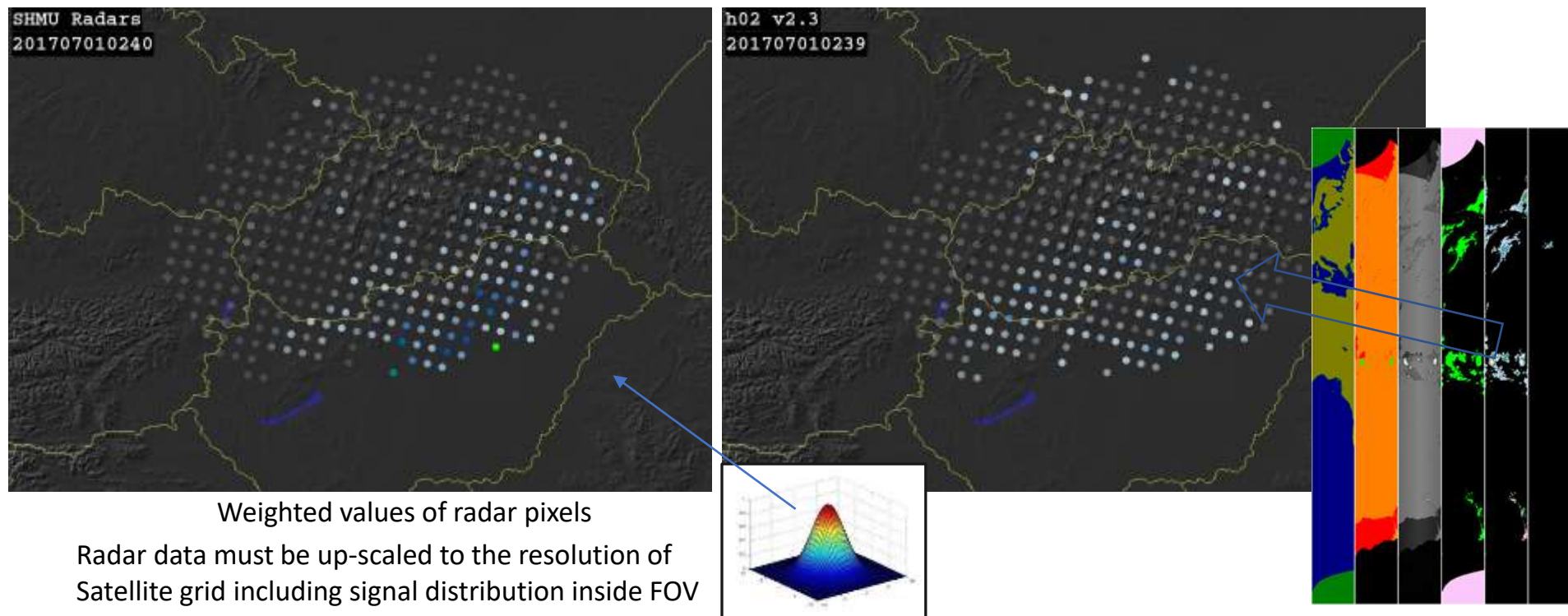
Radar data must be up-scaled to the resolution of satellite grid including signal distribution inside FOV:



Mask/QI/Conf/Phase/PCP/radar data and QI

How to properly overlay satellite and radar data?

- different resolution, different coverage, different sensitivity of rain signal in FOV

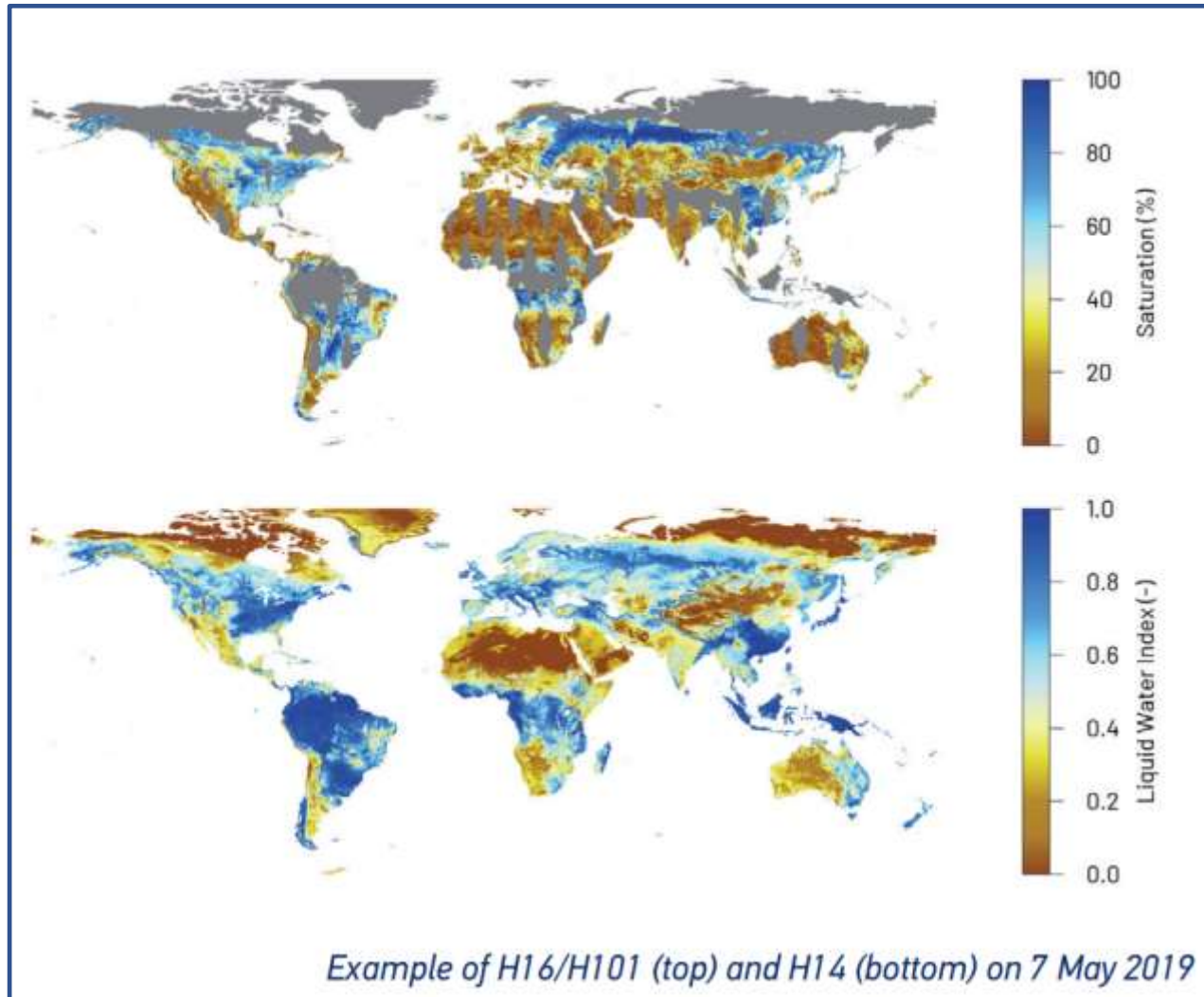


Weighted values of radar pixels

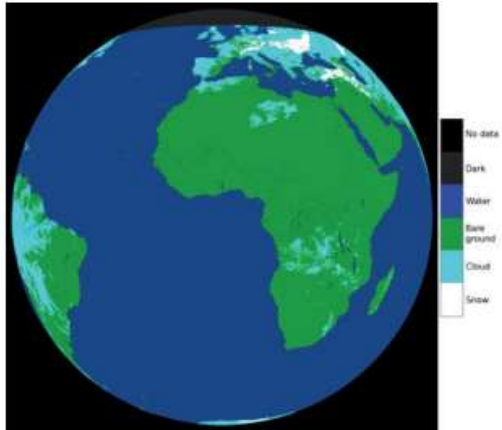
Radar data must be up-scaled to the resolution of Satellite grid including signal distribution inside FOV

Mask/QI/Conf/Phase/PCP/radar data and QI

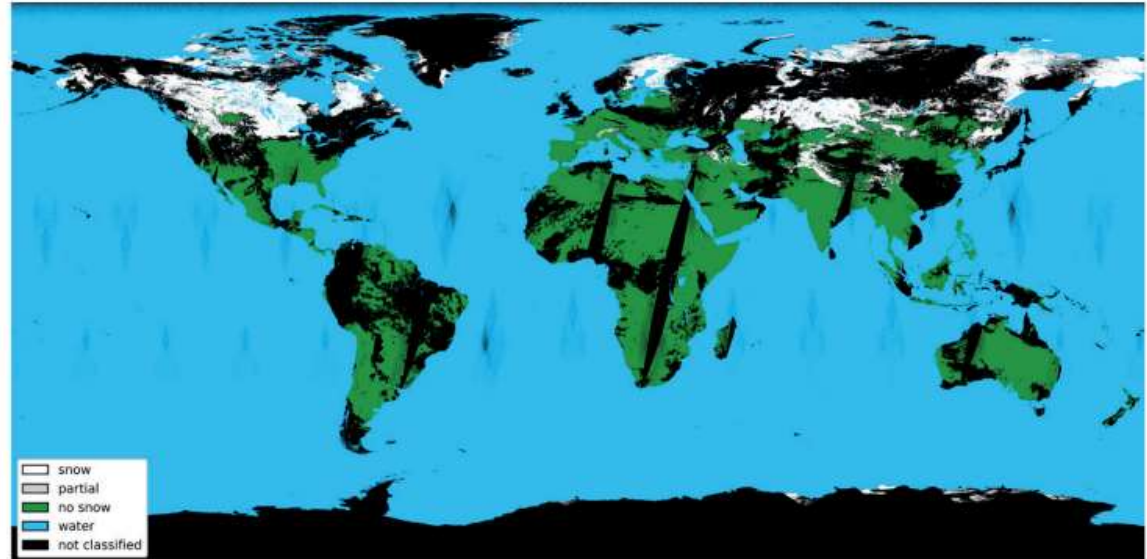
Soil moisture products: saturation (upper) and water index (lower)



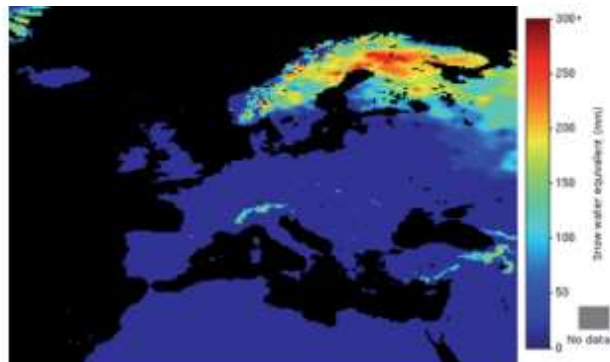
Snow products: Snow masks (cover) or water content



*H34 product
for January 19, 2019*



*H32 product
for March 22, 2019*



*H13 product
for March 26, 2019*

- Snow mask – visible imagery from GEO satellites
- Water content – microwave signal from land surface

Case study:

H05-RG 10 years of data for estimation dry/wet periods over Slovakia and central Europe (July 2012 - June 2022)

Definition of monthly rain characteristics

Processing and preparation of H05A/B (full disk) data

Processing and preparation of SHMÚ/other region raingauge data

Monthly precipitation totals in [mm/month] from H05

Monthly precipitation totals in [mm/month] from Raingauge network

Monthly precipitation 10-years normals in [mm/month] for H05

Monthly precipitation 10-years normals in [mm/month] for RAINGAUGES

Monthly precipitation anomalies according H05: Absolute differences

Monthly precipitation anomalies according RG: Absolute differences

Monthly precipitation anomalies according H05: Relative differences

Monthly precipitation anomalies according RG: Relative differences

Comparison of H05 vs RG: March 2021 Example of dry month

Comparison of H05 vs RG: July 2019 Example of dry month

Comparison of H05 vs RG: June 2022 Example of normal month at west

Comparison of H05 vs RG: April 2022 Example of normal month

Comparison of H05 vs RG: October 2016 Example of wet month

Comparison of H05 vs RG: February 2016 Example of wet month

Evaluation of dry/normal/wet months in 2012-2022 period from H05

Evaluation of dry/normal/wet months in 2012-2022 period from RG

Evaluation of differences between H05 and RG for each month in 2012-2022 period

Case study background

In the frame of HSAF validation cluster the evaluation of precipitation products is very important task. Validation is based on comparison of satellite data against ground truth (raingauge or radar measurements).

Mainly statistical comparisons of instantaneous precipitation or 24 hour accumulations were performed until nowadays to evaluate HSAF precipitation products quality and performance.

Aim of this case study is to use long-term accumulated data on monthly basis.

Maximum 10 years of H05A/B HSAF products is available for this kind of work – operationally generated and archived data are covering the period from July 2012 until nowadays.

What we need to estimate is DRY/NORMAL/WET period in following way:

- Monthly accumulated precipitation (monthly totals) in mm per month (120 months)
- Monthly long-term normals, e.g. 10-years averaged accumulated precipitation for each month of the year
- Calculation of monthly anomalies (difference between monthly accumulated precipitation and monthly long-term normal)
- Evaluation of monthly anomalies according DRY/NORMAL/WET classification table

Definition of monthly rain characteristics

We re-used the table routinely used by the Climatological Service of SHMÚ. This table defines 7 classes of rain characteristics:

Definition:	<i>for month</i>	<i>for the season</i>
EXTREMELY DRY	below 10 %	below 60 %
VERY DRY	10 - 49 %	60 - 79 %
DRY	50 - 79 %	80 - 89 %
NORMAL	80 - 120 %	90 - 110 %
WET	121 - 150 %	111 - 120 %
VERY MOIST	151 - 190 %	121 - 140 %
EXTREMELY MOIST	above 190 %	above 140 %

For our purposes in final evaluation we reduced number of classes to simplify our results:

- DRY (includes EXTREMELY DRY and VERY DRY classes)
- NORMAL (includes DRY, NORMAL and WET classes)
- WET (includes VERY MOIST and EXTREMELY MOIST classes)

NOTE: In this case study we evaluate rain characteristics only on monthly basis. For evaluation of the seasons we need to prepare more general processing software and we plan to do it in near future.

H05A/B data we downloaded from HSAF FTP-server, where all precipitation products are archived:

- H05A is covering the period from July 2012 to May 2015
- H05B is covering the period from June 2015 to July 2022

In overlapping period after May 2015 we used merging principle of H05A/B with priority set to B product.

In this way we reached availability of data 100% for 102 months from overall 120 months and averaged availability 96.75% for this 2012-2022 10-years period.

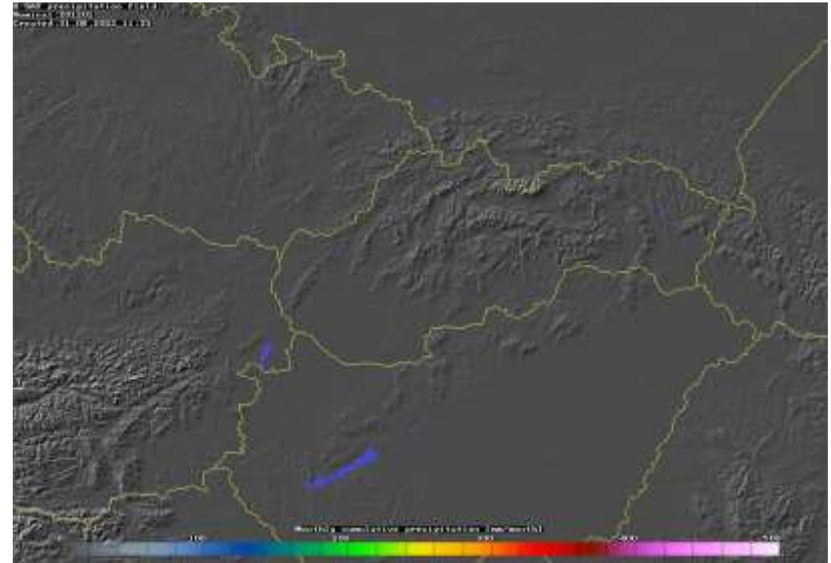
This availability is in compliance with EUMETSAT standards of overall satellite data availability.

Processing and preparation of SHMÚ raingauge data

Raingauge data are collected at SHMÚ and controlled by our Climatological department on monthly basis. We received and worked with quality checked and interpolated raingauge data over Slovak territory as monthly totals in mm/month.

Interpolation method includes the influence of 500m orography to rain distribution.

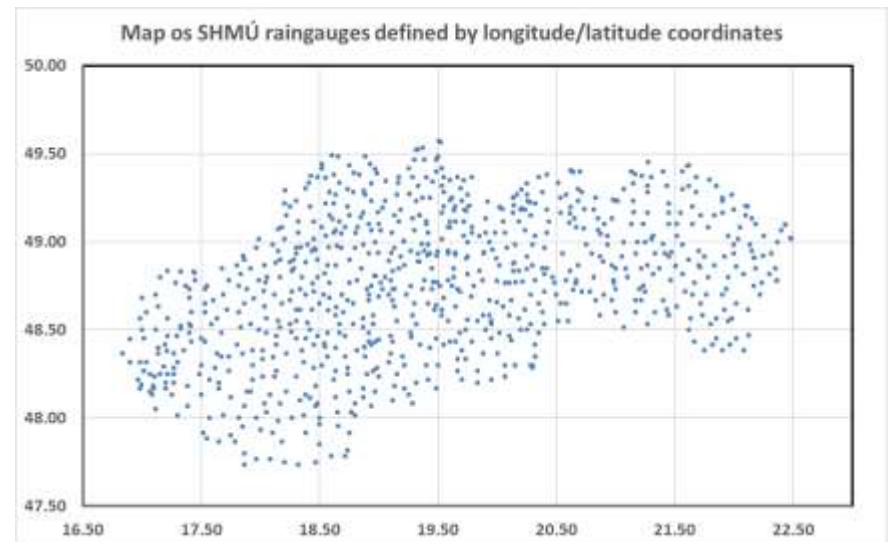
NOTE: H05 product does not contain such kind of correction.



Orography of Slovakia: lowlands and mountains

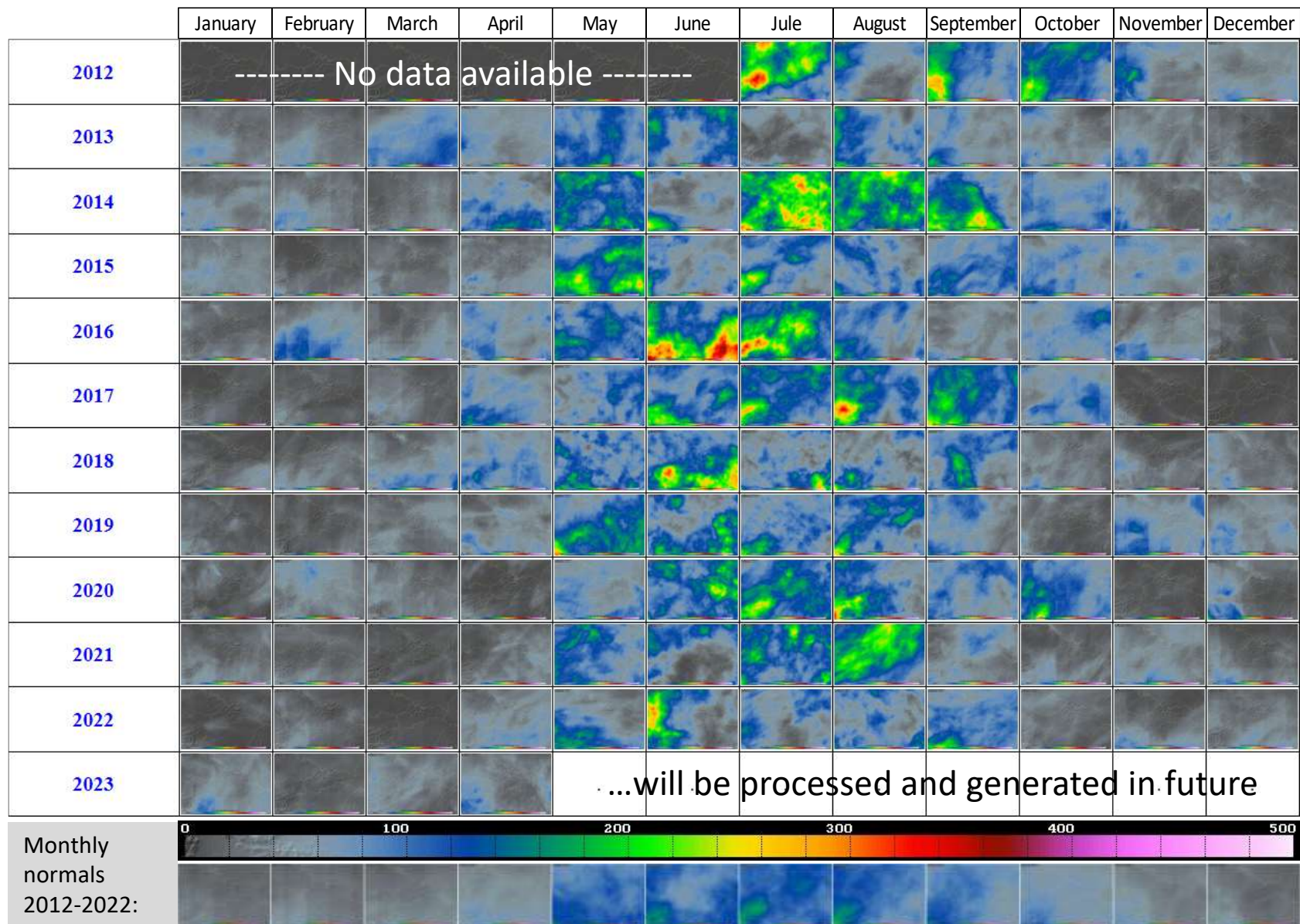
Raingauge data stored in GIS system were extracted together with lat/lon coordinates and re-projected/upscaled to common grid (Mercator projection) with satellite and raingauge data in resolution of 1x1km².

Database of SHMÚ raingauge data contains 830 single measurement points.

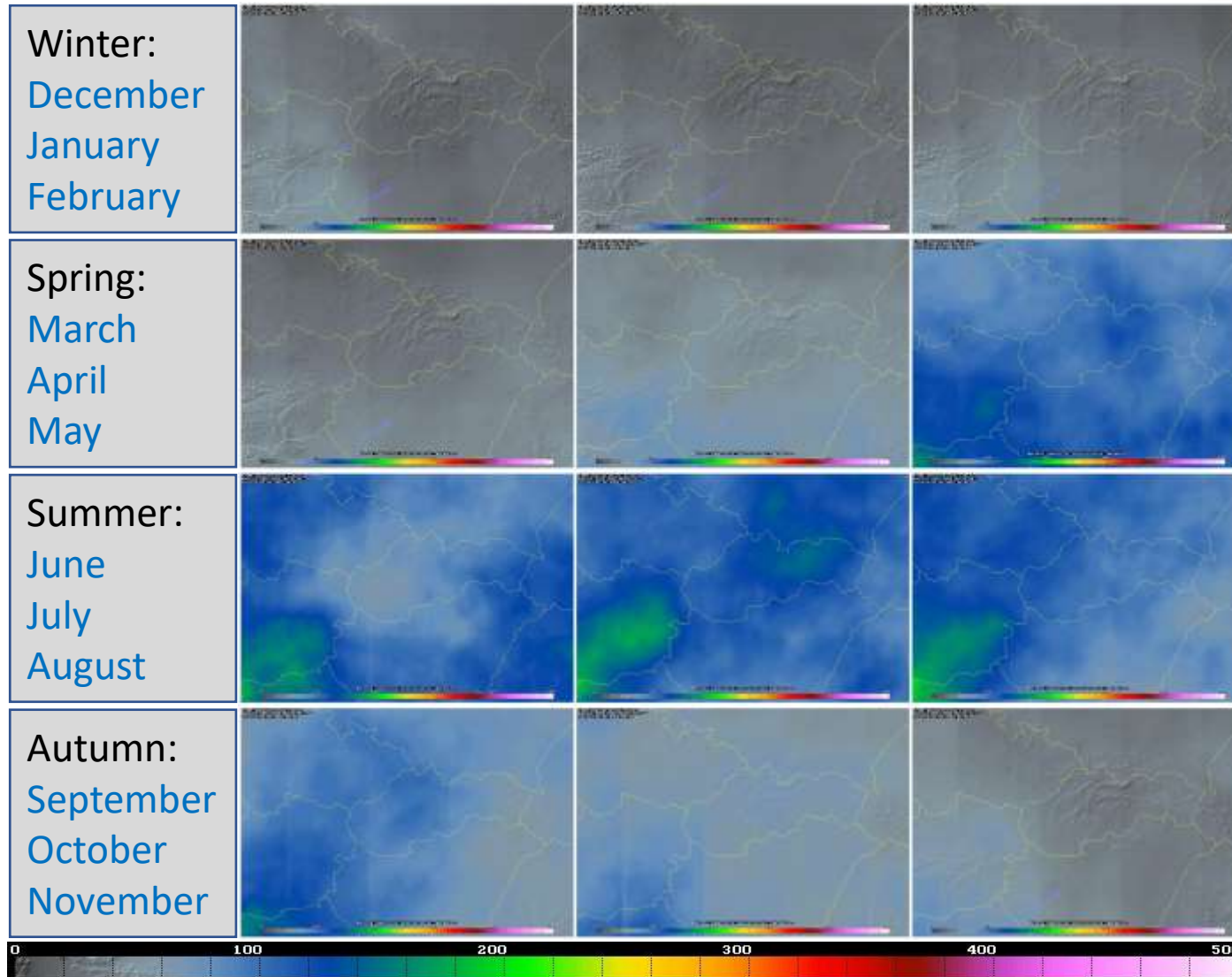


Monthly precipitation totals in [mm/month] H05:

Summing 24h H05 accumulations to obtain monthly sums; summing single months 2012+...+2022 and calculating the average we received monthly normals (last line):



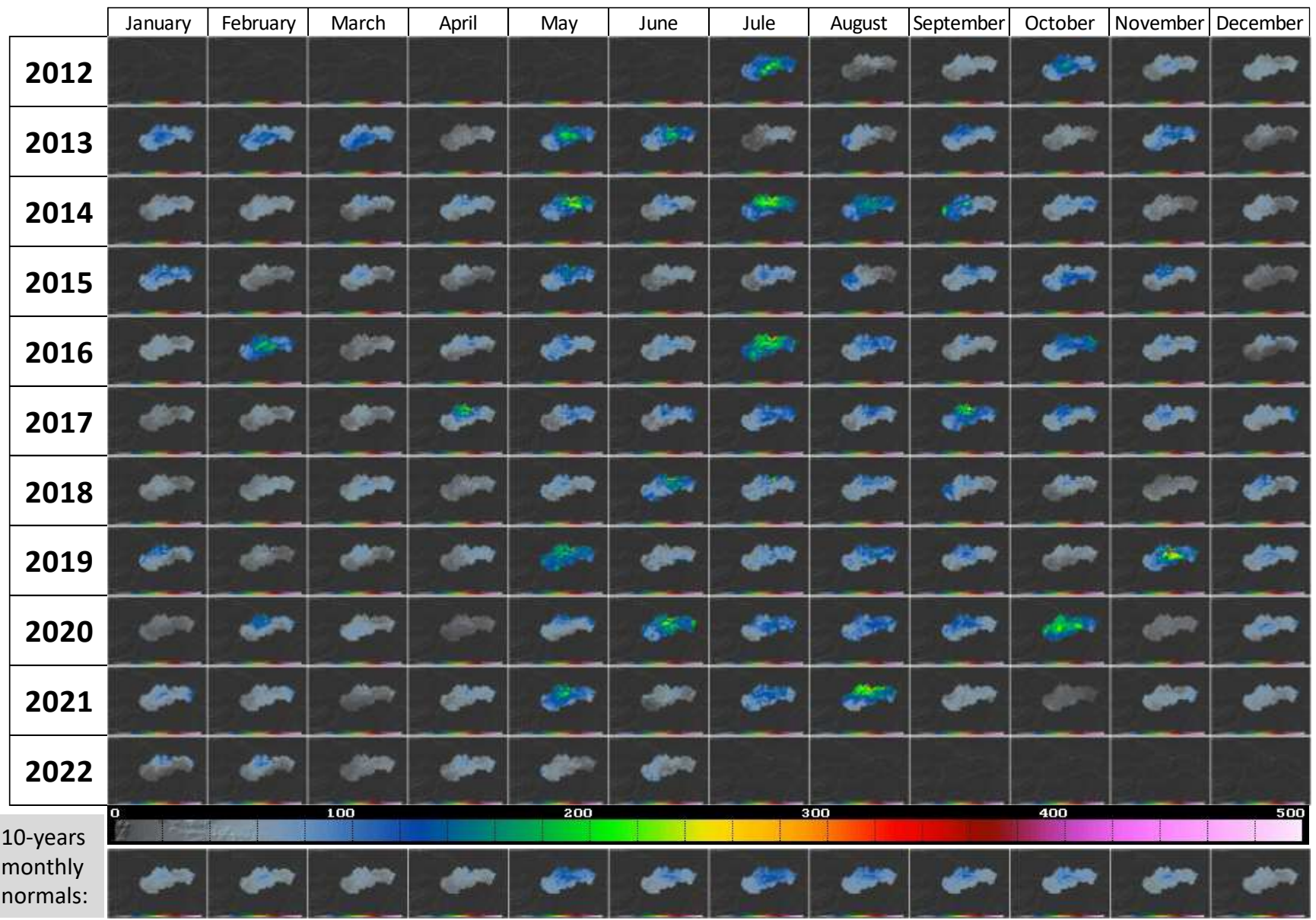
Monthly precipitation 10-years normals in [mm/month] for H05:



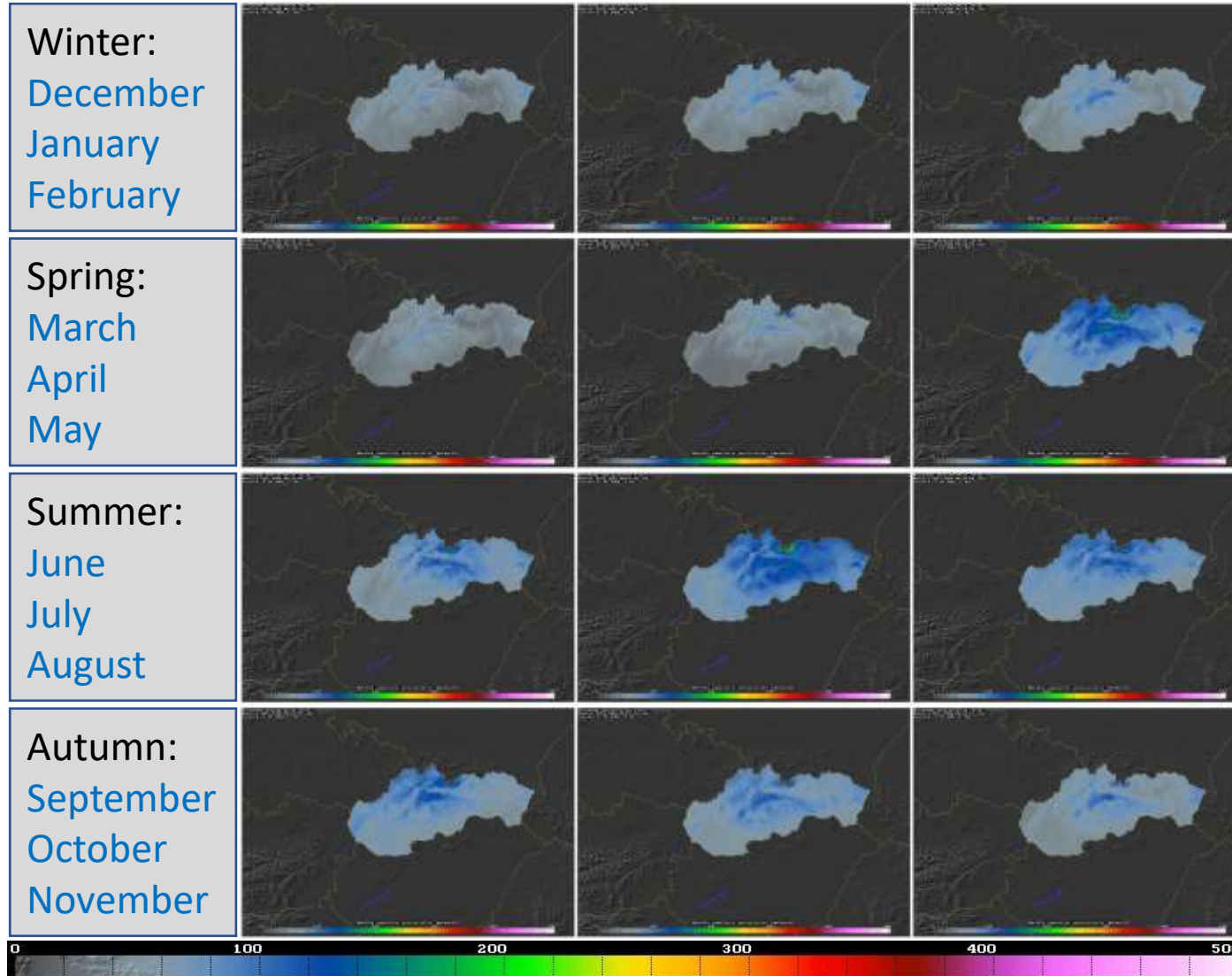
Summing single months 2012+...+2022 and calculating the average we received 10-years monthly normals. **NOTE: All area is covered by satellite data.**

Monthly precipitation totals in [mm/month] RG:

Summing 24h RG accumulations to obtain monthly sums; summing single months 2012+...+2022 and calculating the average we received similar monthly normals:

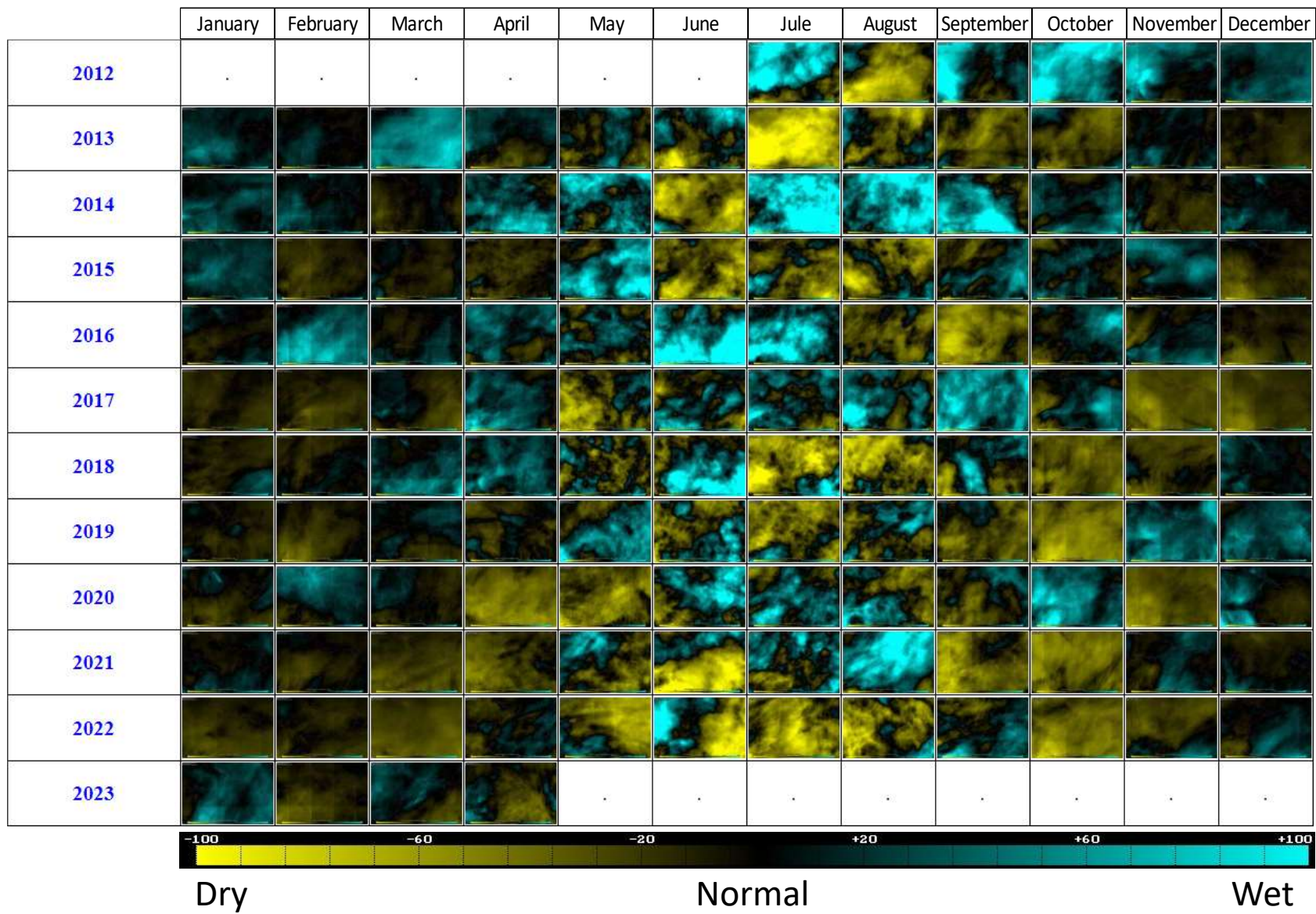


Monthly precipitation 10-years normals in [mm/month] for RAINGAUGES:

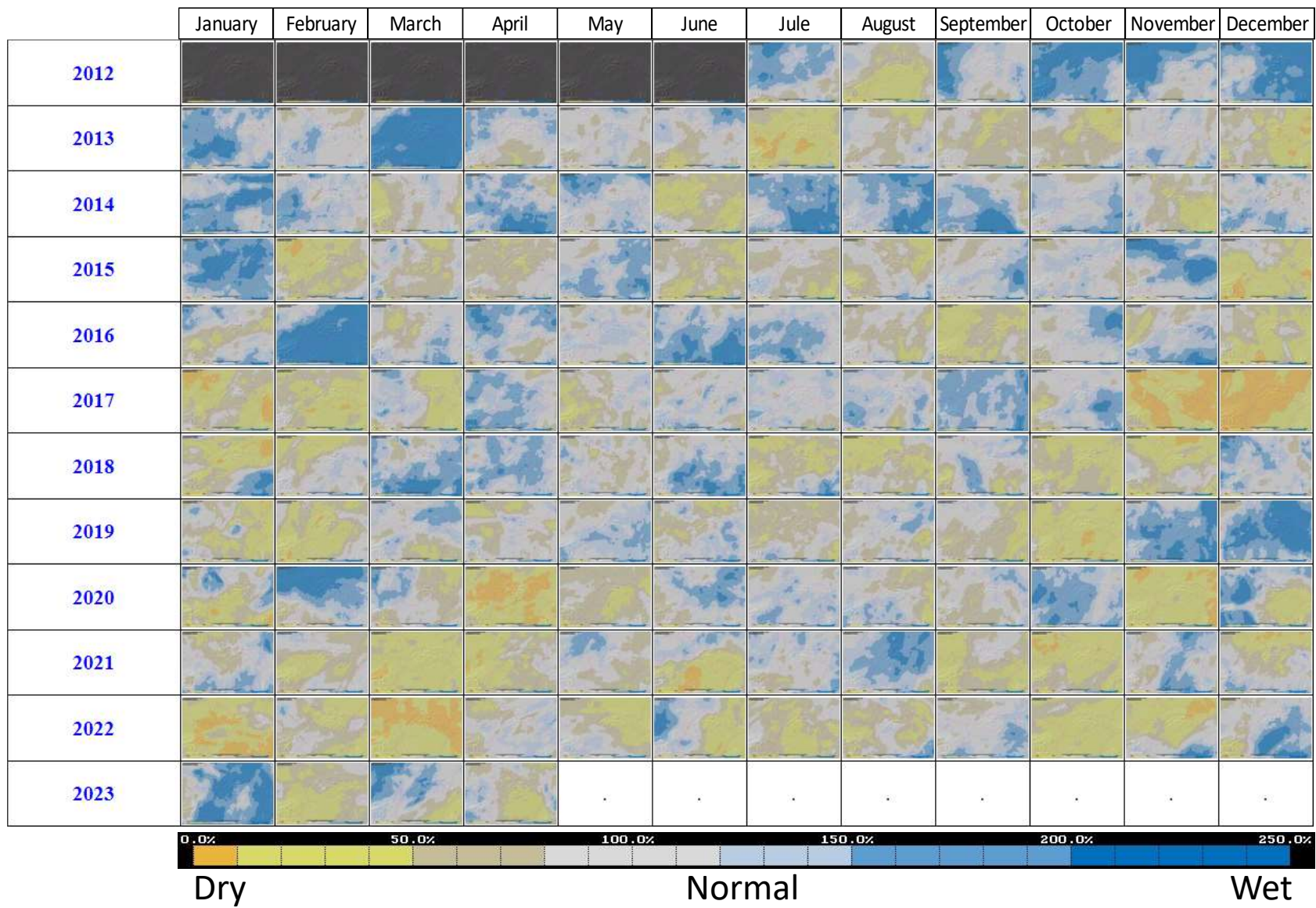


Summing single months 2012+...+2022 and calculating the average we received 10-years monthly normals. **NOTE: Only area of Slovakia is covered by RG data.**

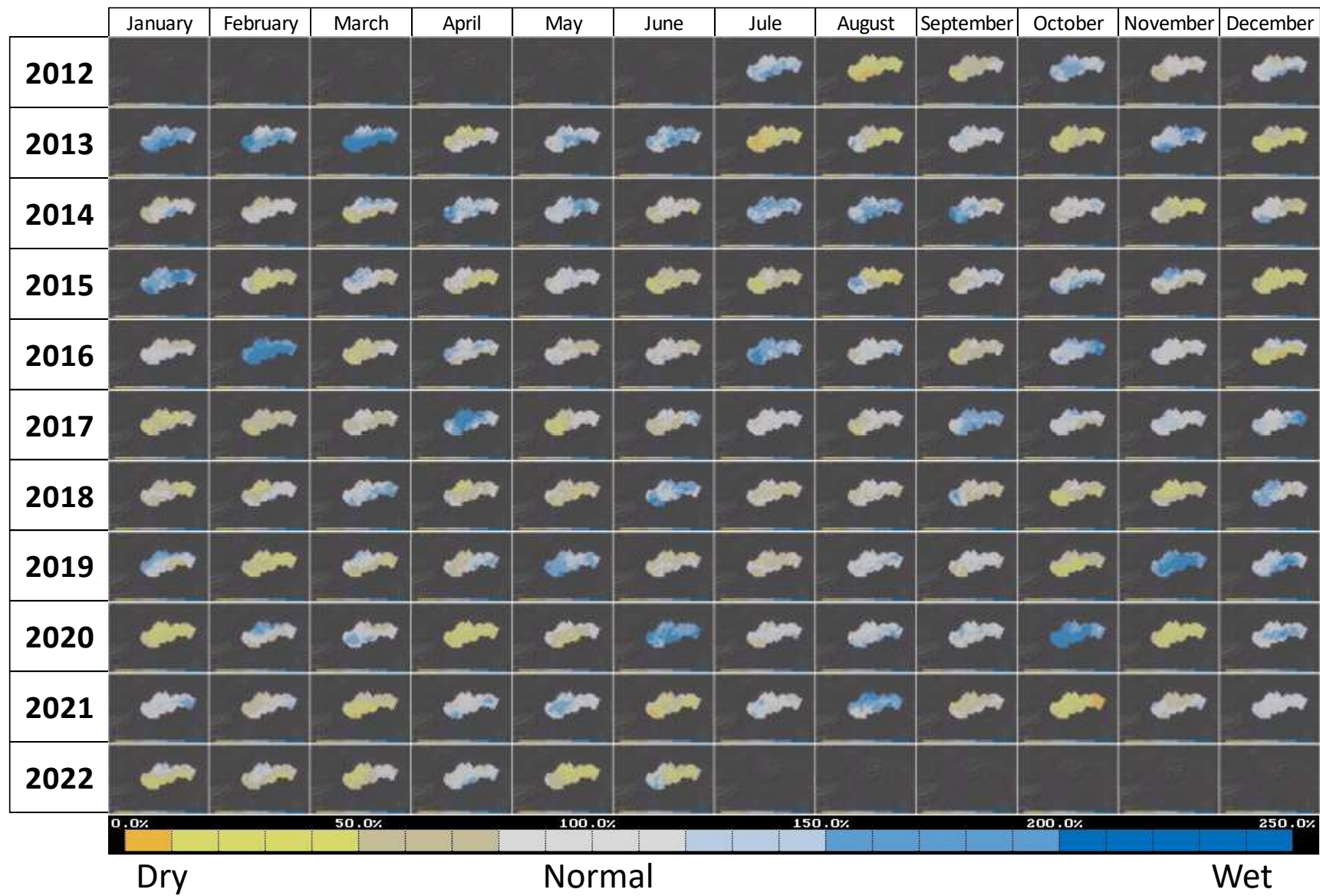
Monthly precipitation anomalies according H05: Absolute differences in [mm/month] of monthly sums



Monthly precipitation anomalies according H05: Relative differences in [%] of monthly sums

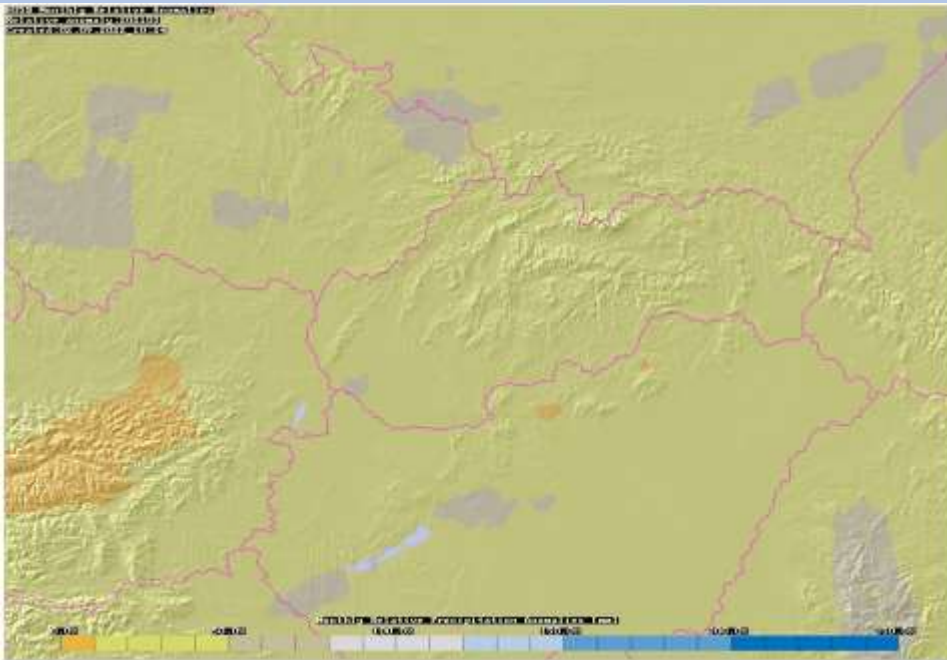


Monthly precipitation anomalies according RG: Relative differences in [%] of monthly sums

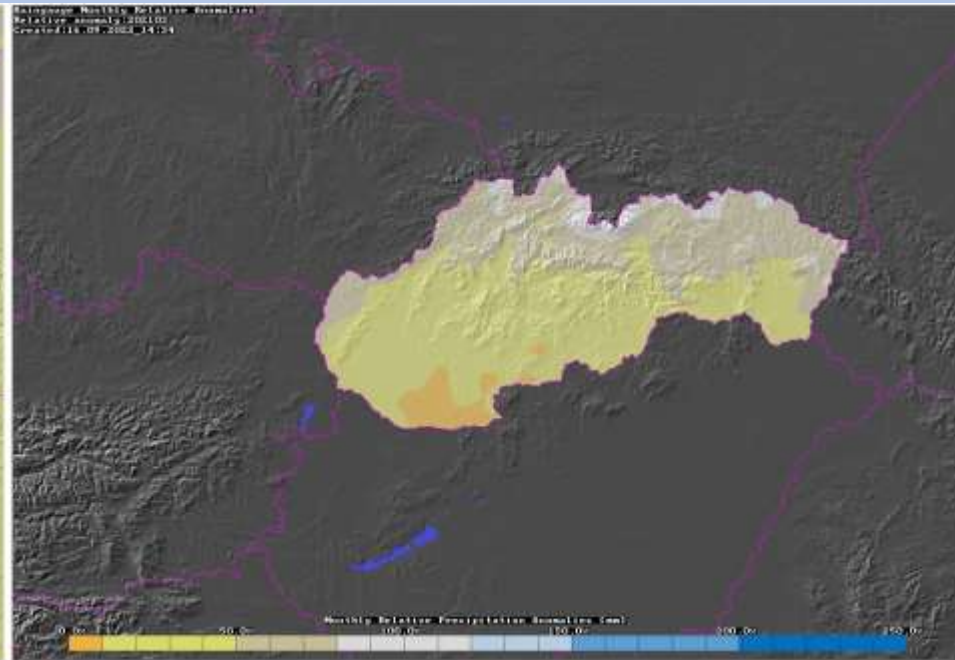


Comparison of H05 vs RG: March 2021 Example of dry month

Anomalies derived from H05 product:



Anomalies derived from Raingauge network:



Results of comparison:

Month	Source	DRY	NORMAL	WET
202103	H05	99.4%	0.6%	0.0%
	RG	60.5%	39.5%	0.0%

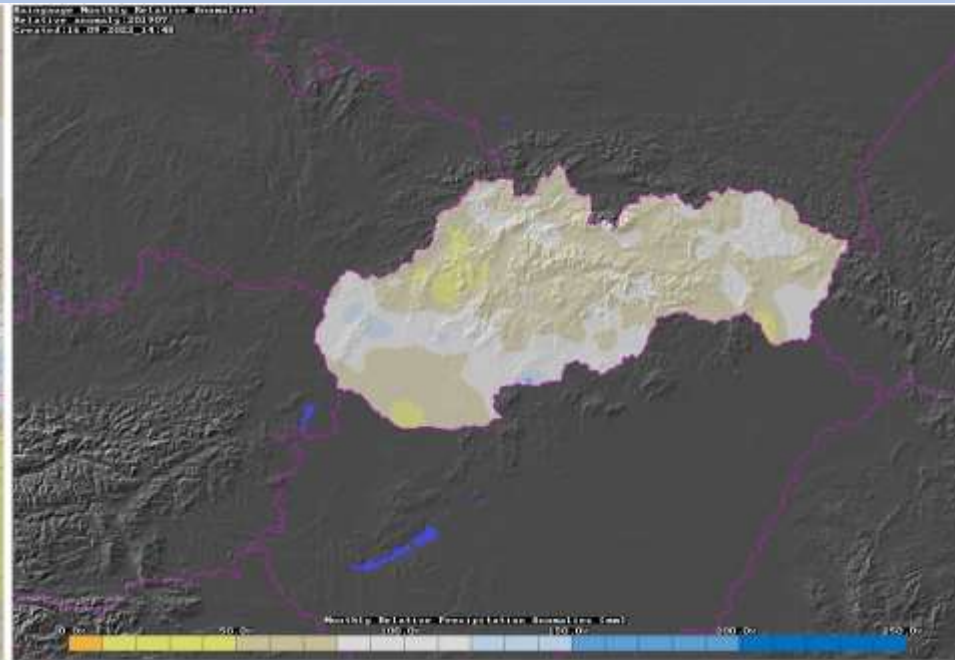
Table shows the percentage of DRY, NORMAL and WET pixels over Slovak territory

Comparison of H05 vs RG: July 2019 Example of normal month

Anomalies derived from H05 product:



Anomalies derived from Raingauge network:



Results of comparison:

Month	Source	DRY	NORMAL	WET
201907	H05	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
	RG	4.4%	95.5%	0.0%

Table shows the percentage of DRY, NORMAL and WET pixels over Slovak territory

Comparison of H05 vs RG:

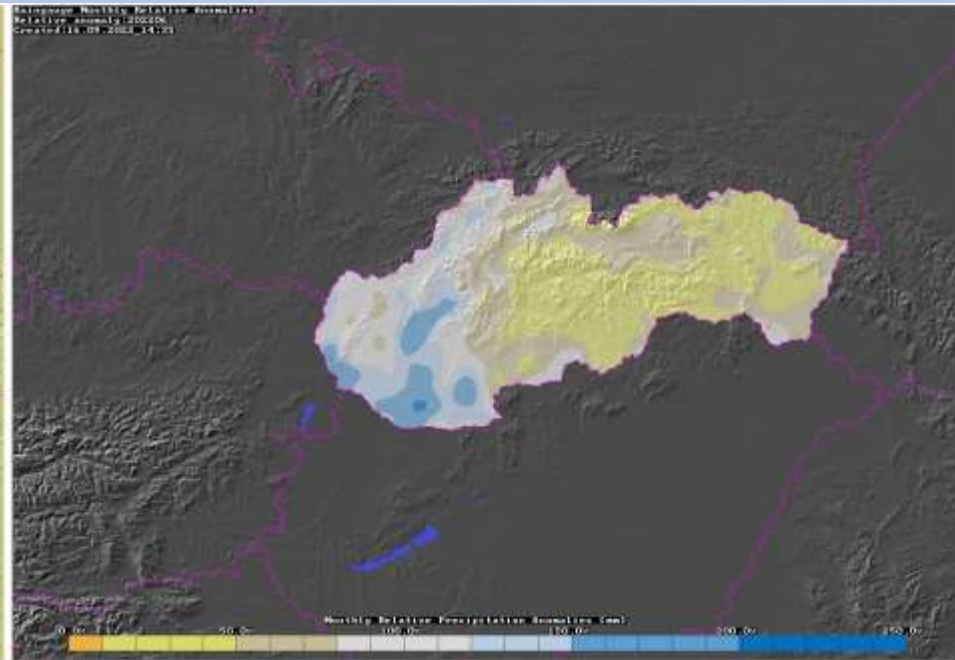
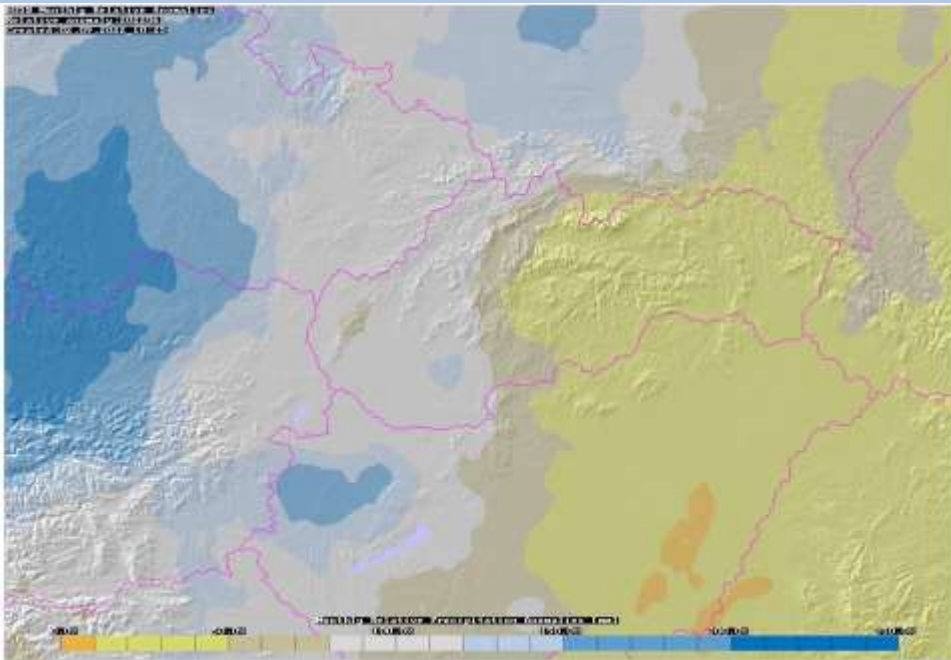
June 2022

Example of dry month

(normal in west, dry in east Slovakia)

Anomalies derived from H05 product:

Anomalies derived from Raingauge network:



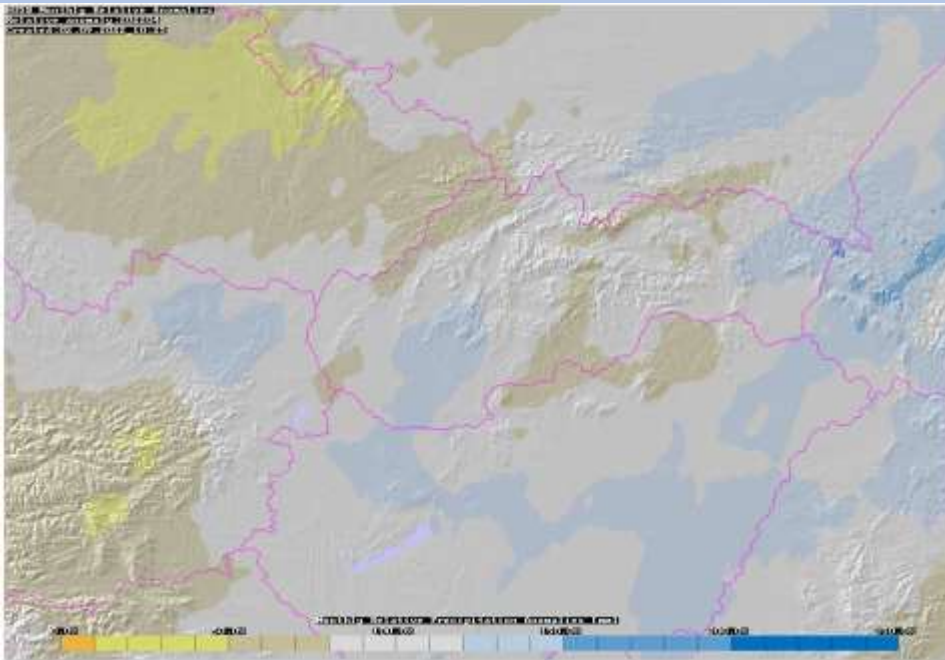
Results of comparison:

Month	Source	DRY	NORMAL	WET
202206	H05	50.2%	49.8%	0.0%
	RG	74.9%	25.1%	0.0%

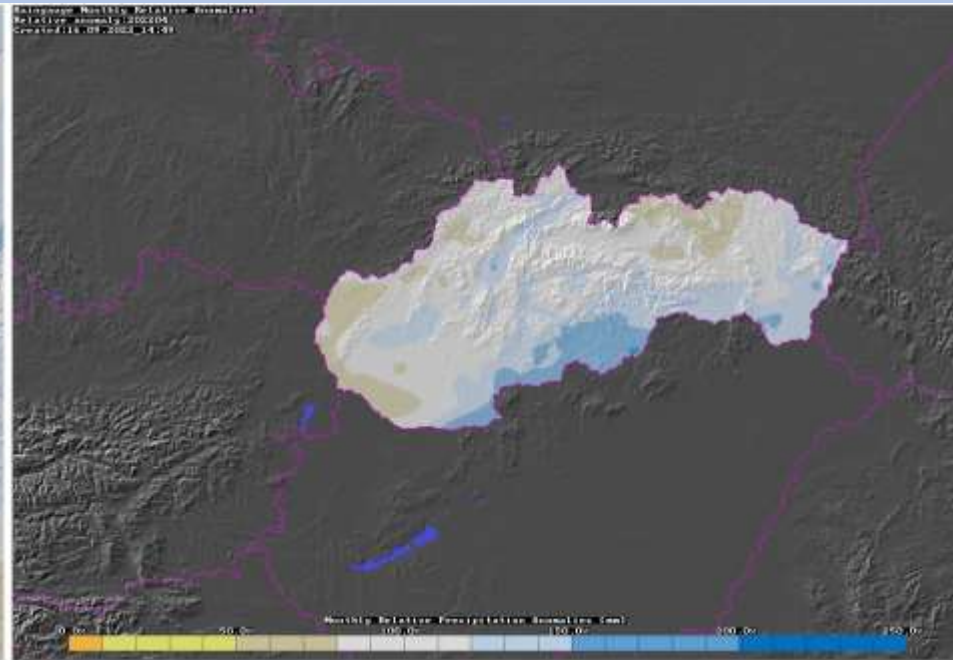
Table shows the percentage of DRY, NORMAL and WET pixels over Slovak territory

Comparison of H05 vs RG: April 2022 Example of normal month

Anomalies derived from H05 product:



Anomalies derived from Raingauge network:



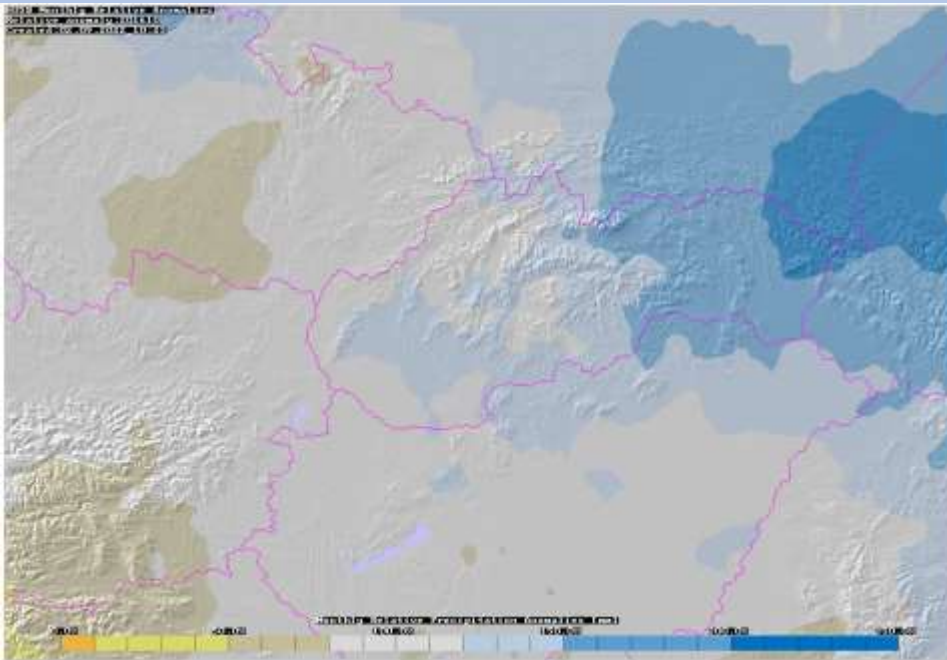
Results of comparison:

Month	Source	DRY	NORMAL	WET
202204	H05	0.0%	99.9%	0.1%
	RG	0.0%	92.1%	7.9%

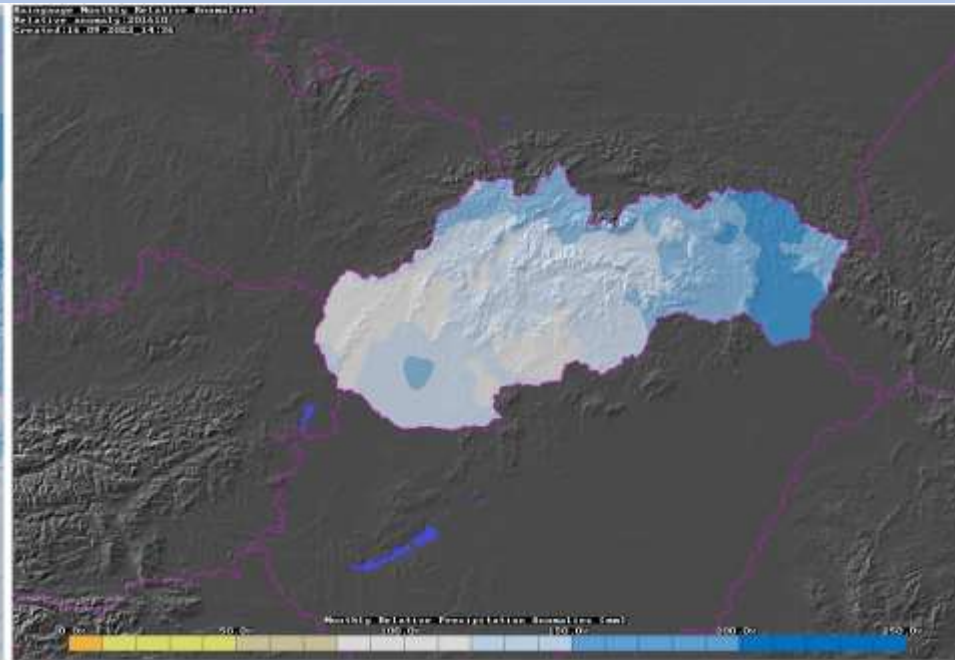
Table shows the percentage of DRY, NORMAL and WET pixels over Slovak territory

Comparison of H05 vs RG: October 2016 Example of wet month

Anomalies derived from H05 product:



Anomalies derived from Raingauge network:



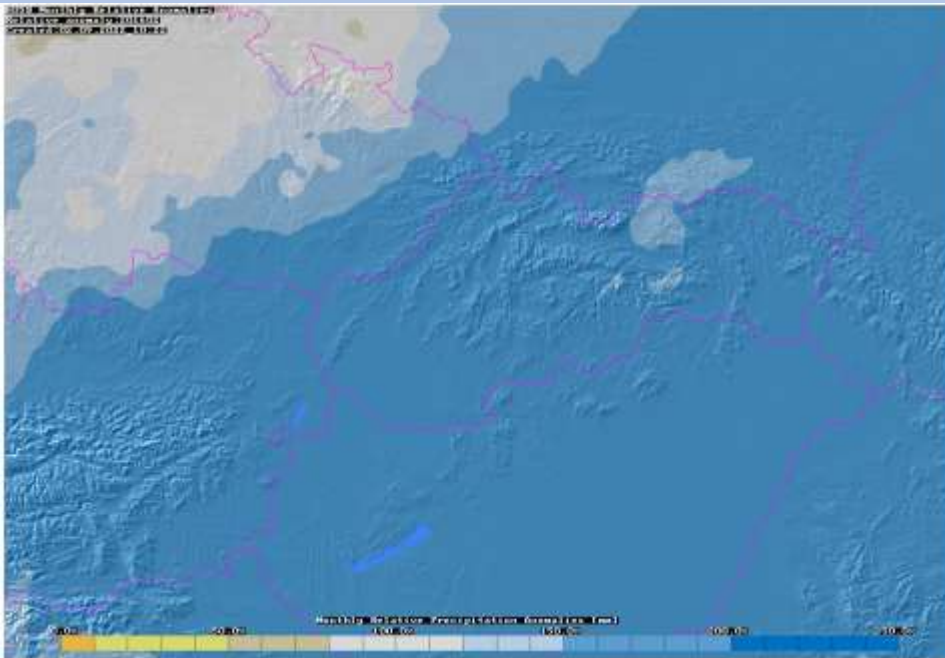
Results of comparison:

Month	Source	DRY	NORMAL	WET
201610	H05	0.0%	68.9%	31.1%
	RG	0.0%	63.8%	36.2%

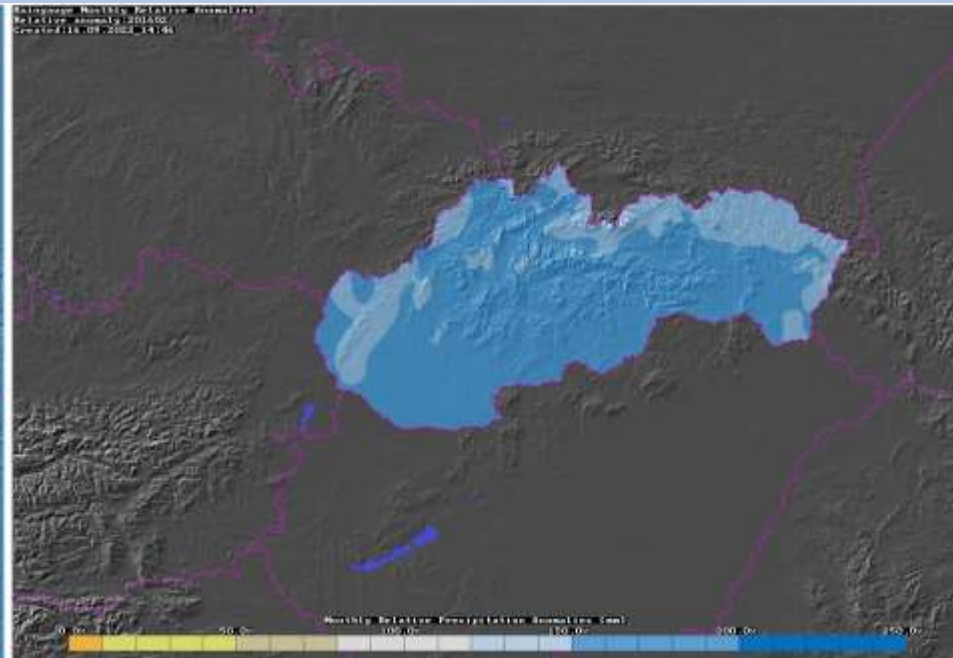
Table shows the percentage of DRY, NORMAL and WET pixels over Slovak territory

Comparison of H05 vs RG: February 2016 Example of wet month

Anomalies derived from H05 product:



Anomalies derived from Raingauge network:



Results of comparison:

Month	Source	DRY	NORMAL	WET
201602	H05	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	RG	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%

Table shows the percentage of DRY, NORMAL and WET pixels over Slovak territory

Evaluation of dry/normal/wet months in 2012-2022 period

Evaluation according H05 processed data:

Month/Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	nodata	3	3	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	1
February	nodata	2	2	2	3	1	2	1	3	2	1
March	nodata	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1
April	nodata	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	2	2
May	nodata	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
June		2	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	1	1
July	3	1	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2
August	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	nodata
September	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	nodata
October	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	3	1	nodata
November	2	2	2	3	2	1	1	3	1	2	nodata
December	3	1	2	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	nodata

Legend:

DRY	1	0 to 50%
NORMAL	2	50 to 150%
WET	3	Above 150%

Table shows DRY, NORMAL or WET rain character according H05 data for each month in 2012-2022 period.

Evaluation of dry/normal/wet months in 2012-2022 period

Evaluation according RAINGAUGE processed data:

Month/Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	nodata	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	1
February	nodata	3	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2
March	nodata	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2
April	nodata	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2
May	nodata	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	1
June	nodata	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	1	2
July	2	1	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	nodata
August	1	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	nodata
September	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	nodata
October	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	nodata
November	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	2	nodata
December	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	nodata

Legend:

DRY	1	0 to 50%
NORMAL	2	50 to 150%
WET	3	Above 150%

Table shows DRY, NORMAL or WET rain character according RG data for each month in 2012-2022 period.

Evaluation of differences between H05 and RG for each month in 2012-2022 period

Comparison table for H05 versus RG estimation of rain characteristics:

Month/Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	nodata	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	1	0	0
February	nodata	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-1
March	nodata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1
April	nodata	0	0	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0
May	nodata	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
June	nodata	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1
July	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	nodata
August	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	nodata
September	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	nodata
October	1	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	nodata
November	0	0	0	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	nodata
December	1	0	0	1	1	-1	0	1	0	0	nodata

Legend:

Under estimation	-1
Agreement	0
Overestimation	1

Table shows underestimation (yellow) and overestimation (light red) of rain for H05 against RG measurements for each month in 2012-2022 period.

Case study summary

From 120 evaluated months we found out:

- 13 months with underestimated precipitation monthly totals by H05 against RG
- 93 months with agreement of precipitation monthly totals by H05 against RG
- 14 months with overestimated precipitation monthly totals by H05 against RG

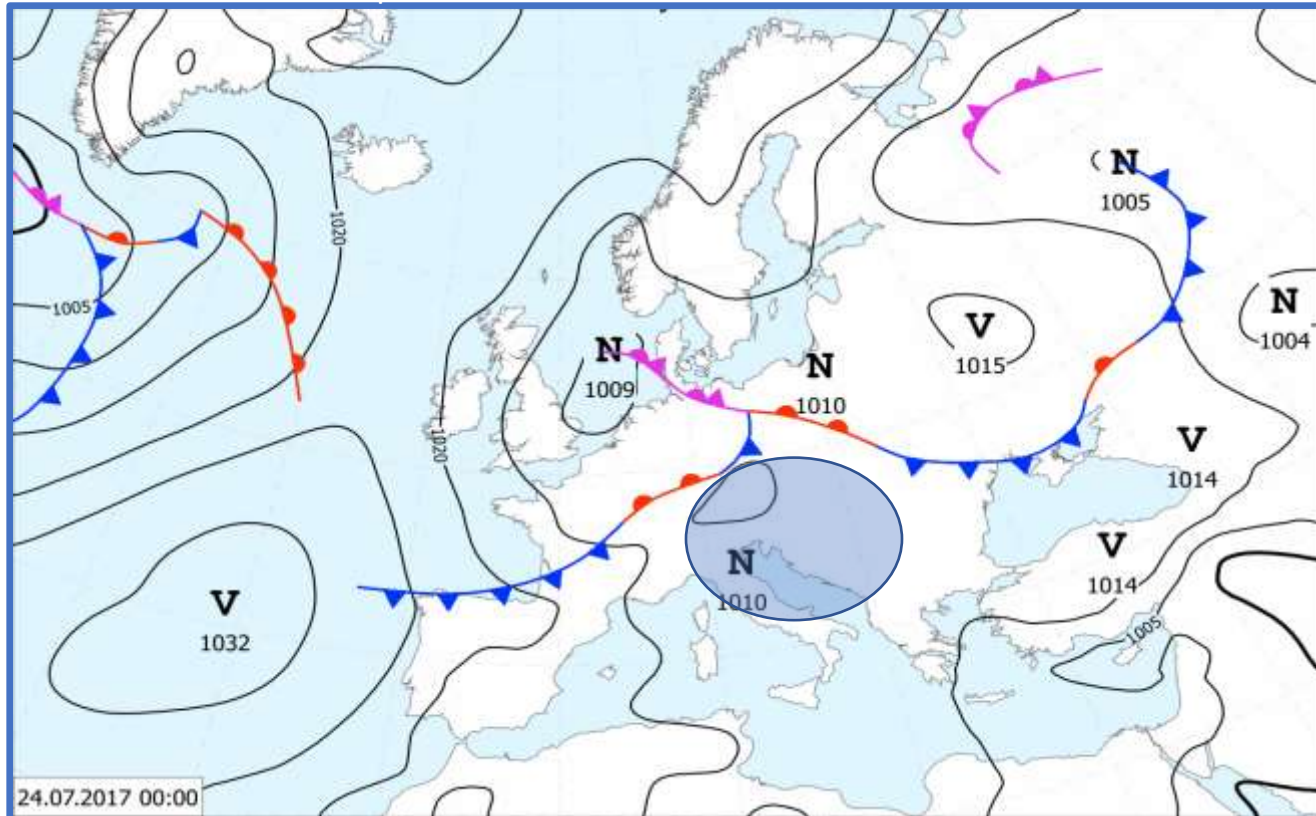
While coverage of raingauge data is limited only to the territory of Slovakia, HSAF H05 products cover much bigger areas.

HSAF H05 product can be therefore used to evaluate long-term rain characteristics over non-limited regions in Europe and Africa, if we consider not only European H05A domain, but also H05B (full disk) product coverage.

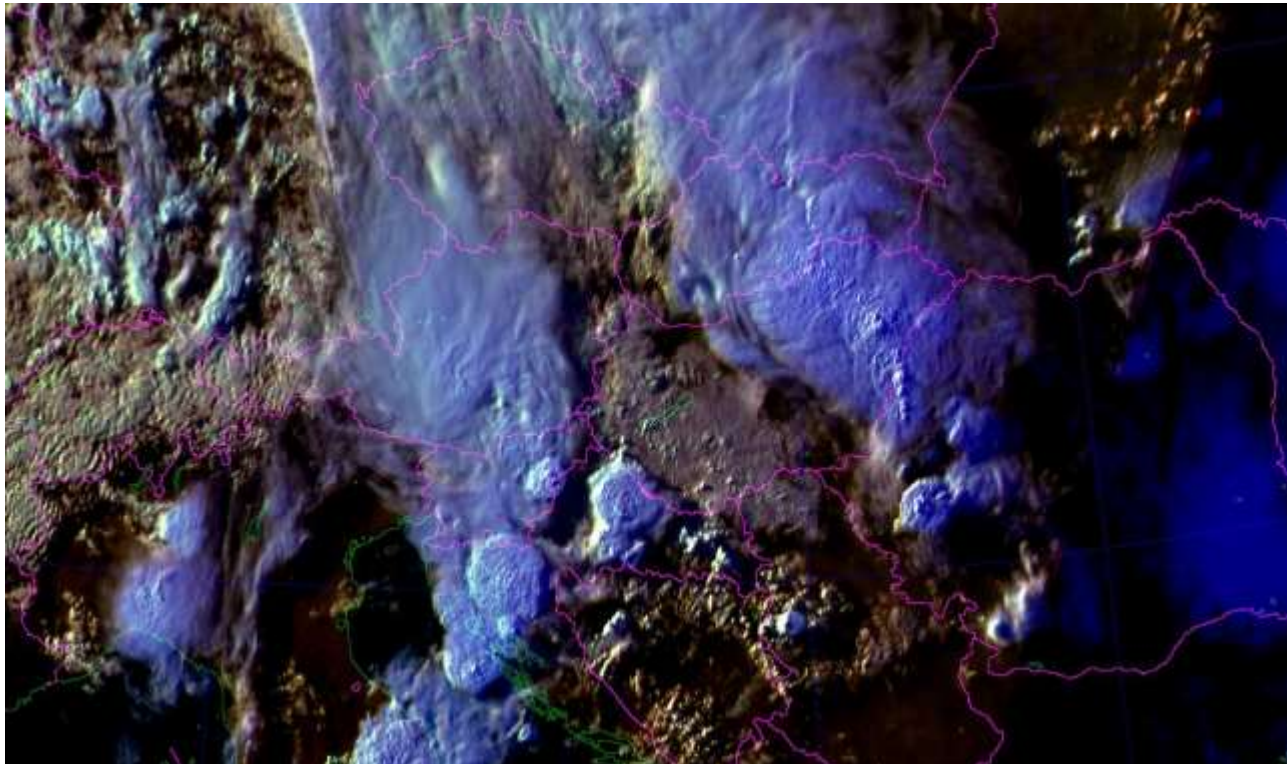
For regions outside H05A domain we have not data available for 10 years , as production of the product H05B started only from June 2015. Therefore in such case we can calculate maximum 8-years long-term normals until now.

For future developments during CDOP-4 phase this is promising vision.

Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

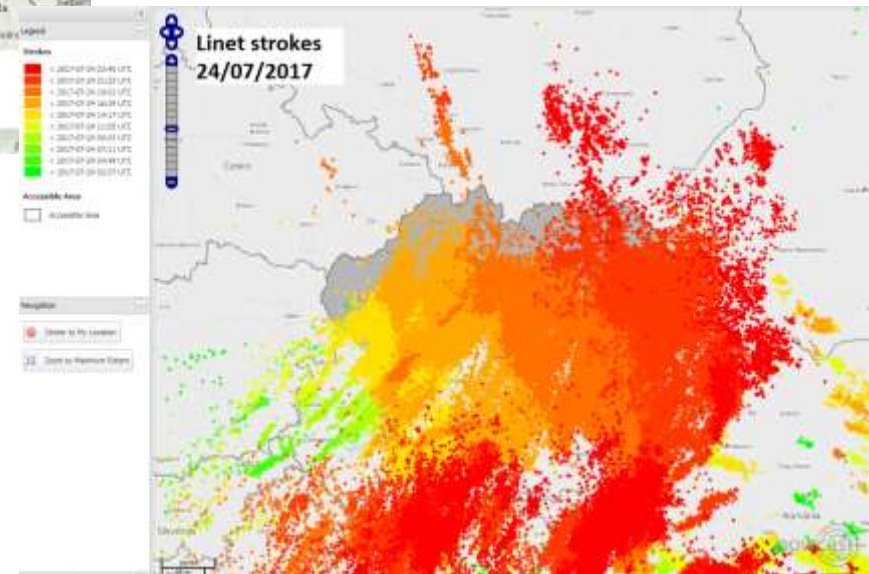
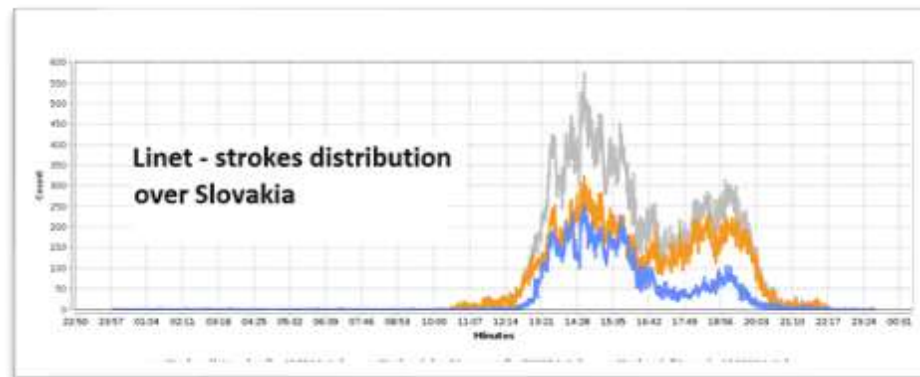


Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

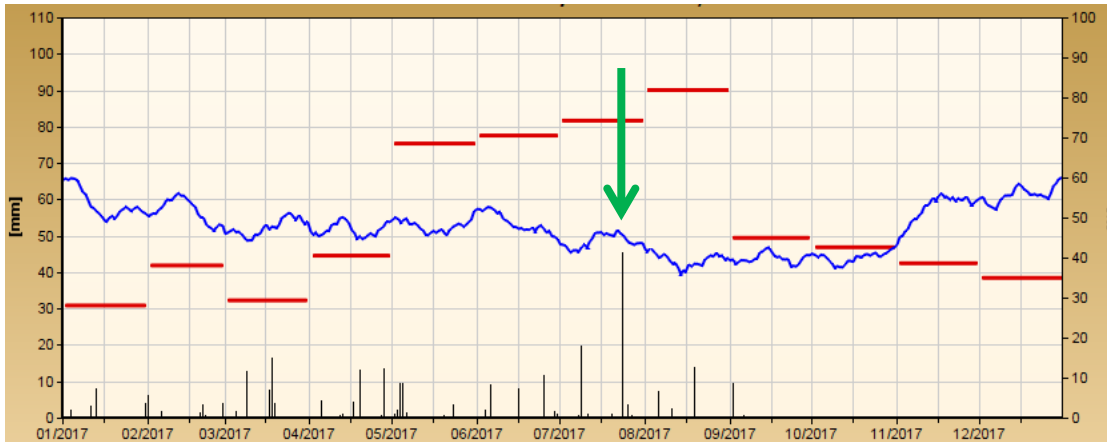


Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

Data from raingauge & lightning detection network:

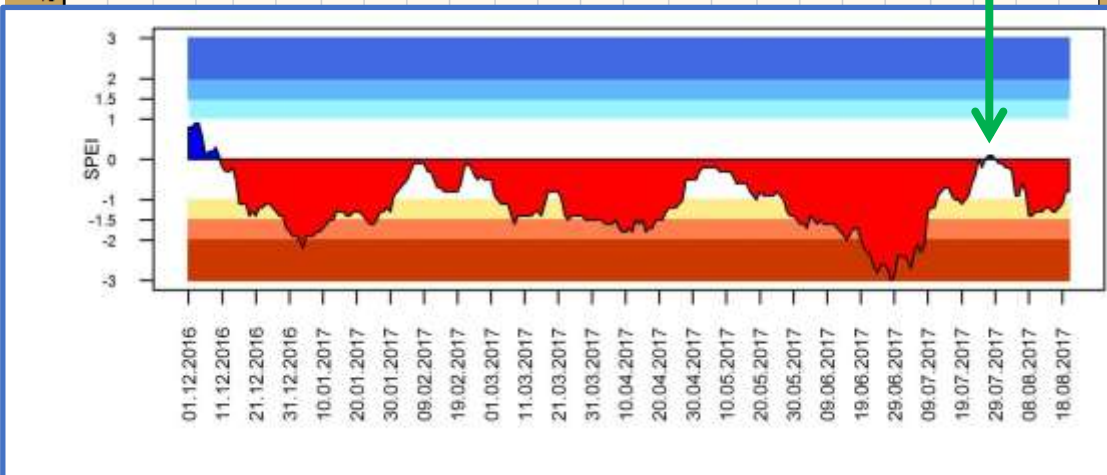


Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017



Hurbanovo

Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index



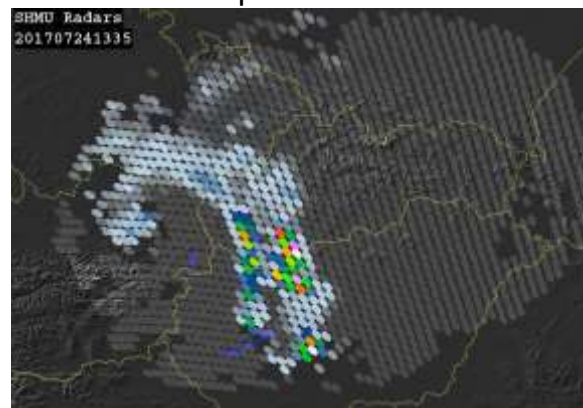
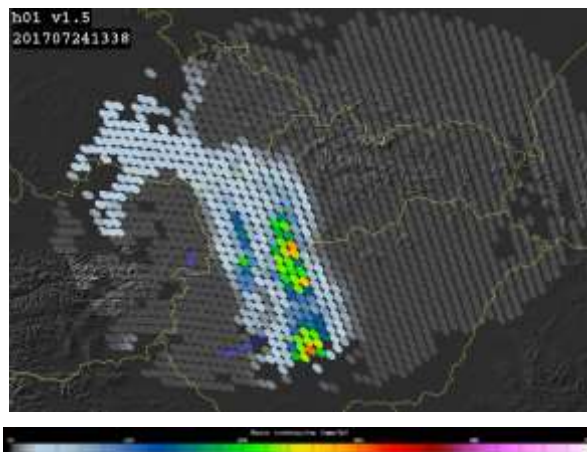
Similar even stronger event October 2020!

Green arrow shows the same event which reduced long duration drought in Southern Slovakia. Deficit of precipitation was decreased from -80 mm to -40 mm.

Total duration of drought in this region is just more than 230 days.

Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

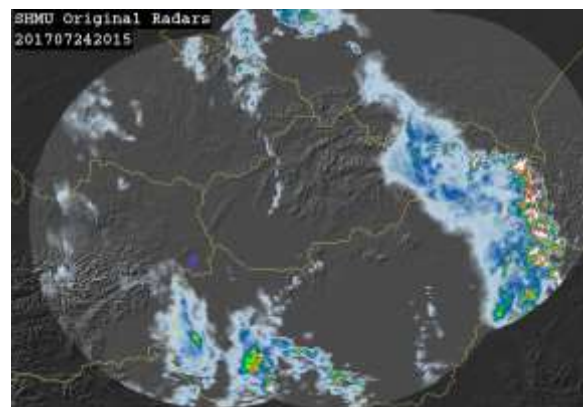
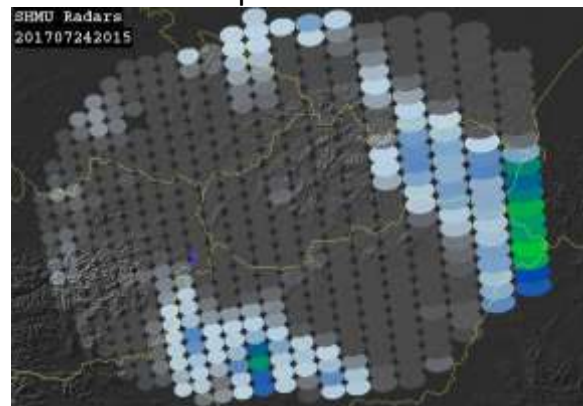
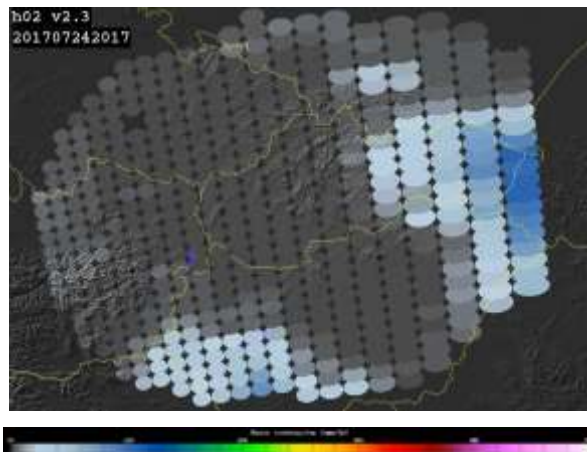
Product **H01A** and SK-radar network rain intensities comparison: 13:35 UTC



	≥ 0.25 mm/h	≥ 1 mm/h
POD	1.000	0.995
FAR	0.341	0.322
CSI	0.659	0.676

Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

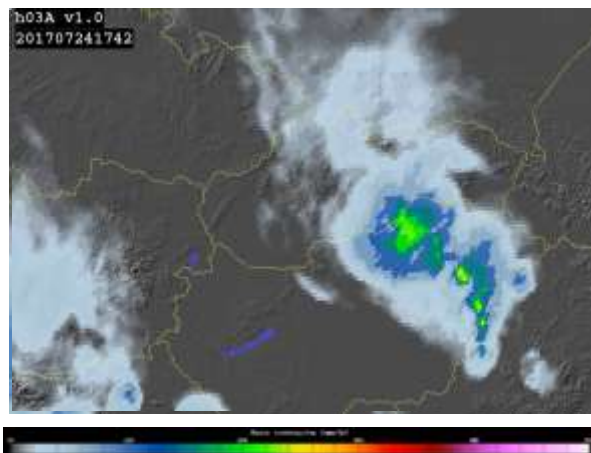
Product **H02A** and SK-radar network rain intensities comparison: **18:25 UTC**



	≥ 0.25 mm/h	≥ 1 mm/h
POD	1.000	0.647
FAR	0.339	0.326
CSI	0.661	0.493

Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

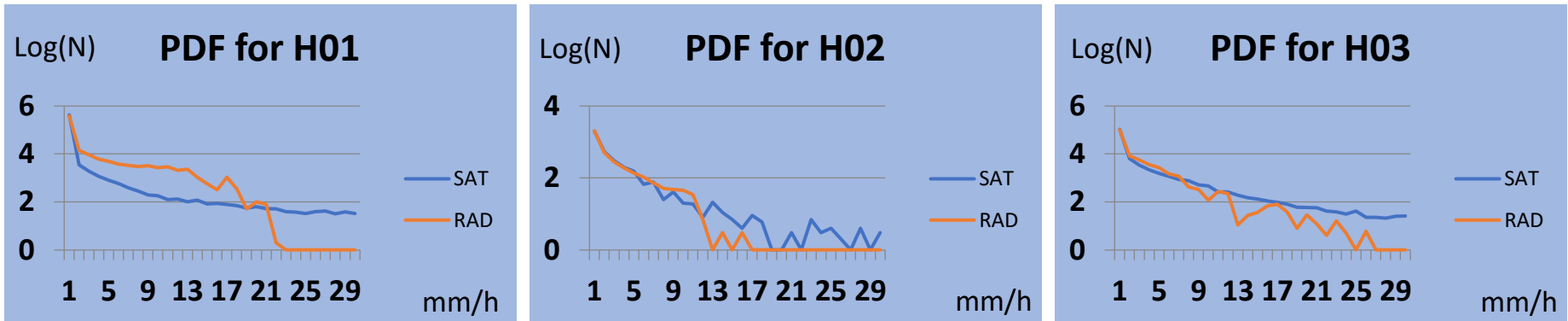
Product **H03A** and SK-radar network rain intensities comparison: **17:45 UTC**



	≥ 0.25 mm/h	≥ 1 mm/h
POD	0.795	0.705
FAR	0.838	0.875
CSI	0.156	0.119

Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

Probability Density Functions for H01, H02 and H03:



Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

Results of continuous statistics for **H01**:

Precipitation (mm/h)	0.25 – 1	1 – 10	≥ 10	≥ 0.25
No. of satellite obs.	179	559	62	800
No. of radar obs.	104	378	45	527
Mean Error (mm/h)	1.769	1.320	-5.141	0.857
Multiplicative bias	3.781	1.391	0.753	1.198
Correlation coefficient	0.144	0.456	0.587	0.739
URD-RMSE (%)	665.8	125.8	48.1	314.7
Fract. Stand. Error (%)	410.4	102.2	50.9	102.0
Nash-Sutcliffe Coeff.	-149.15	-1.50	0.12	0.524

Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

Results of continuous statistics for **H02**:

Precipitation (mm/h)	0.25 – 1	1 – 10	≥ 10	≥ 0.25
No. of satellite obs.	2030	1424	47	3501
No. of radar obs.	784	1410	121	2315
Mean Error (mm/h)	0.680	-0.671	-10.056	-0.704
Multiplicative bias	2.237	0.787	0.425	0.767
Correlation coefficient	0.055	0.402	0.447	0.580
URD-RMSE (%)	402.1	113.3	57.8	250.5
Fract. Stand. Error (%)	317.2	81.5	70.1	118.9
Nash-Sutcliffe Coeff.	-66.67	-0.632	-1.477	0.309

Case study: Slovakia 24th of July 2017

Results of continuous statistics for **H03**:

Precipitation (mm/h)	0.25 – 1	1 – 10	≥ 10	≥ 0.25
No. of satellite obs.	13039	23514	833	37386
No. of radar obs.	10129	17236	2138	29503
Mean Error (mm/h)	0.430	-1.426	-19.450	-2.095
Multiplicative bias	1.749	0.578	0.182	0.462
Correlation coefficient	0.053	0.196	0.215	0.290
URD-RMSE (%)	406.2	125.0	80.0	257.4
Fract. Stand. Error (%)	323.2	101.9	123.6	215.9
Nash-Sutcliffe Coeff.	-73.03	-1.352	-0.70	0.023

Because of convective event MW products better reflect PCP than IR SEVIRI, which are too smooth over the region catching cloud tops only!

