

# A New Framework for Correcting and Reconstructing High-Resolution CMIP6 GCM-based Directional Wave Spectra

Gabriel Bellido<sup>1</sup>, Laura Cagigal<sup>1</sup>, Fernando J. Méndez<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Geomatics and Ocean Engineering Group, Universidad de Cantabria, Santander, Spain.

# Motivation

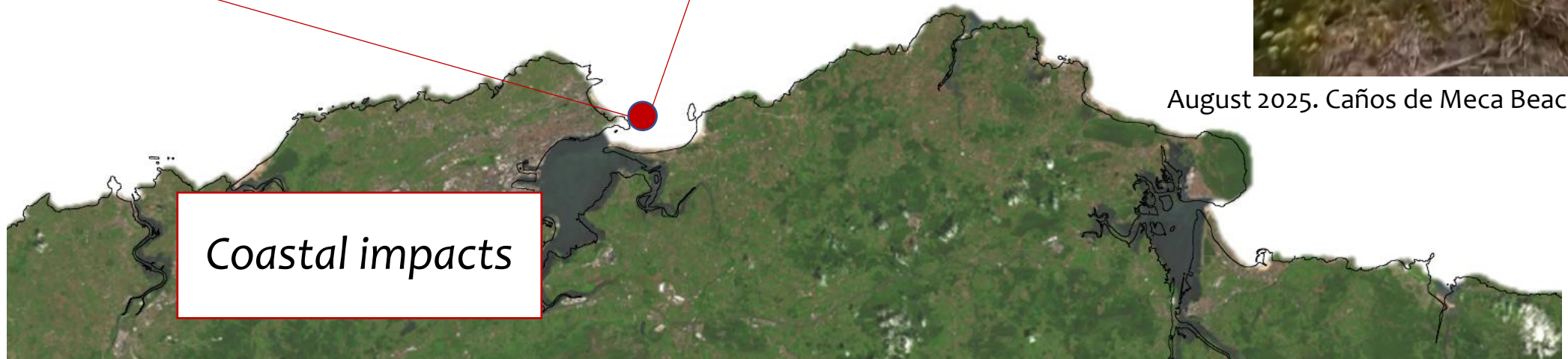
¿How coastal dynamics will change under future climate scenarios?



March 2014. Somo Beach (Cantabria)



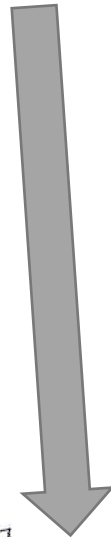
August 2025. Caños de Meca Beach (Cadiz)



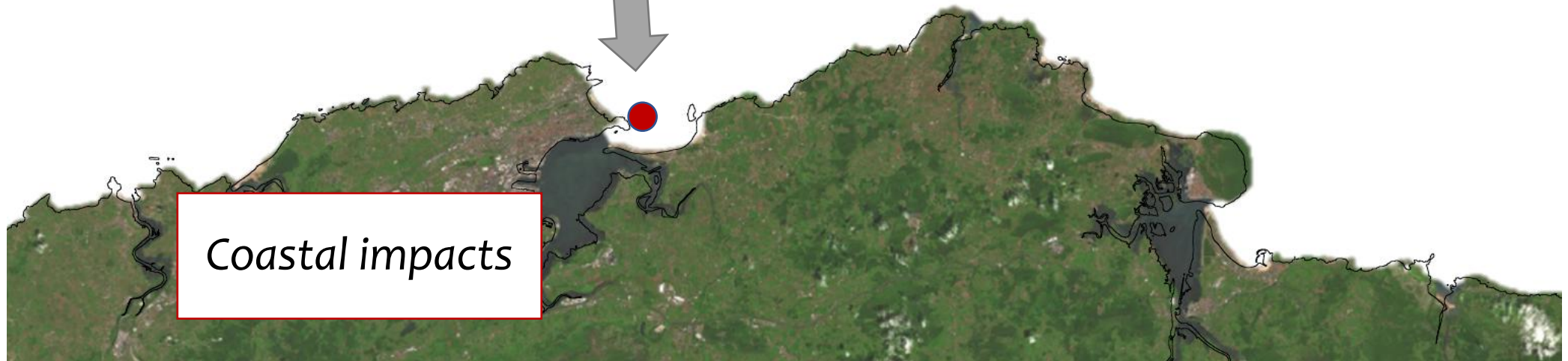
Coastal impacts

# Motivation

*Offshore multimodal  
wave conditions*



*Coastal impacts*





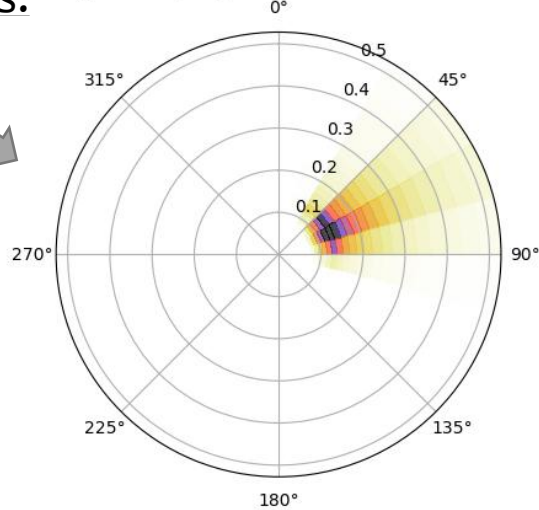
# Motivation

Offshore multimodal  
wave conditions

Bulk parameters:

$H_s = 2.5$  m  
 $T_p = 13$  s  
 $Dir = 75^\circ$

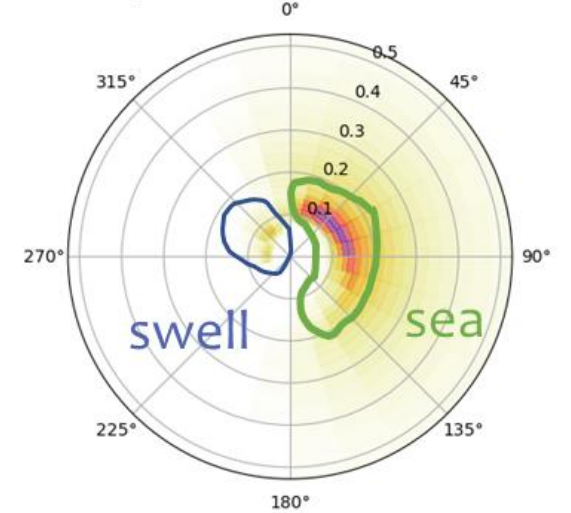
Jonswap Spectrum from Bulk



Wave spectrum:

$S(f, \theta)$

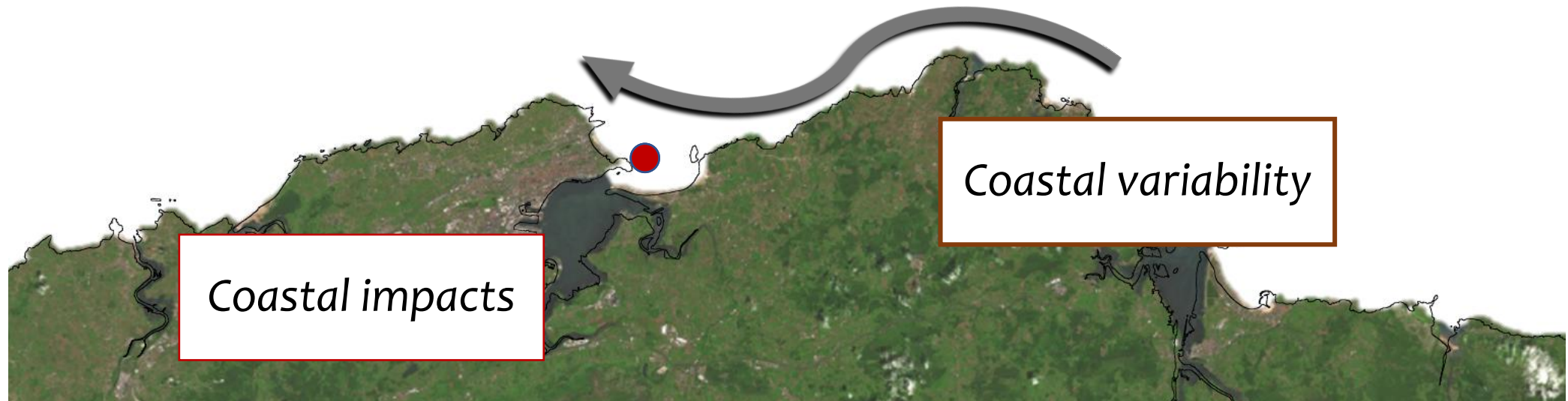
Real Spectrum from ERA5 hindcast



Coastal impacts

# Motivation

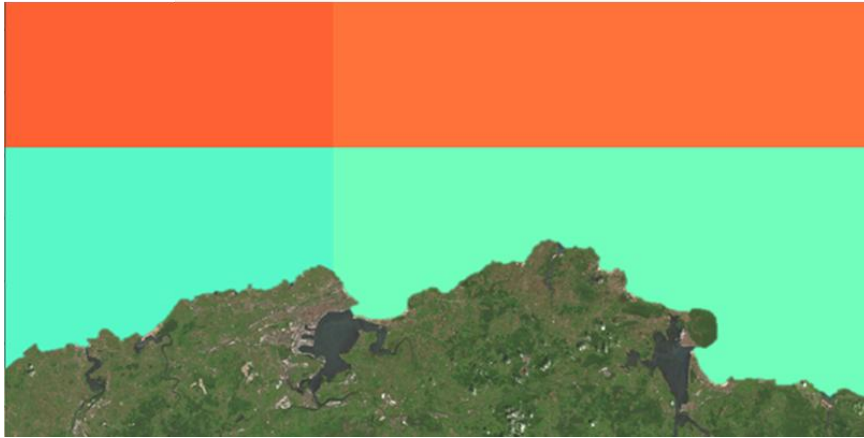
*Offshore multimodal  
wave conditions*



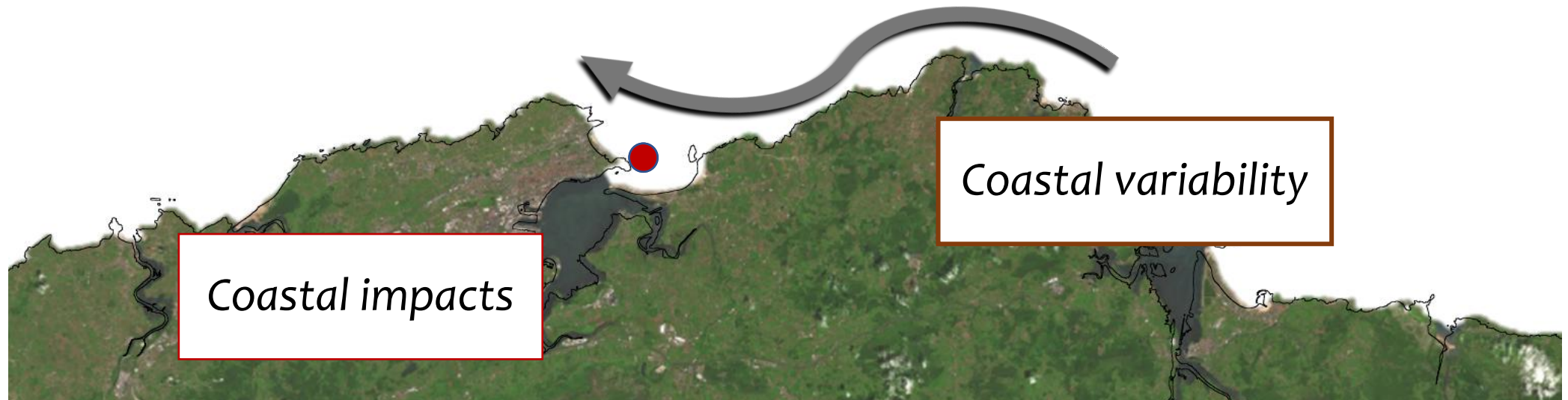
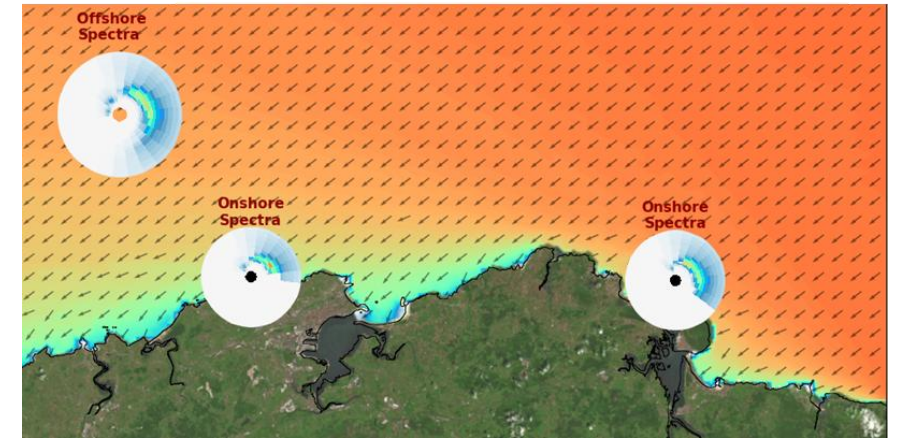
# Motivation

Offshore multimodal  
wave conditions

LOW RESOLUTION (50 km)

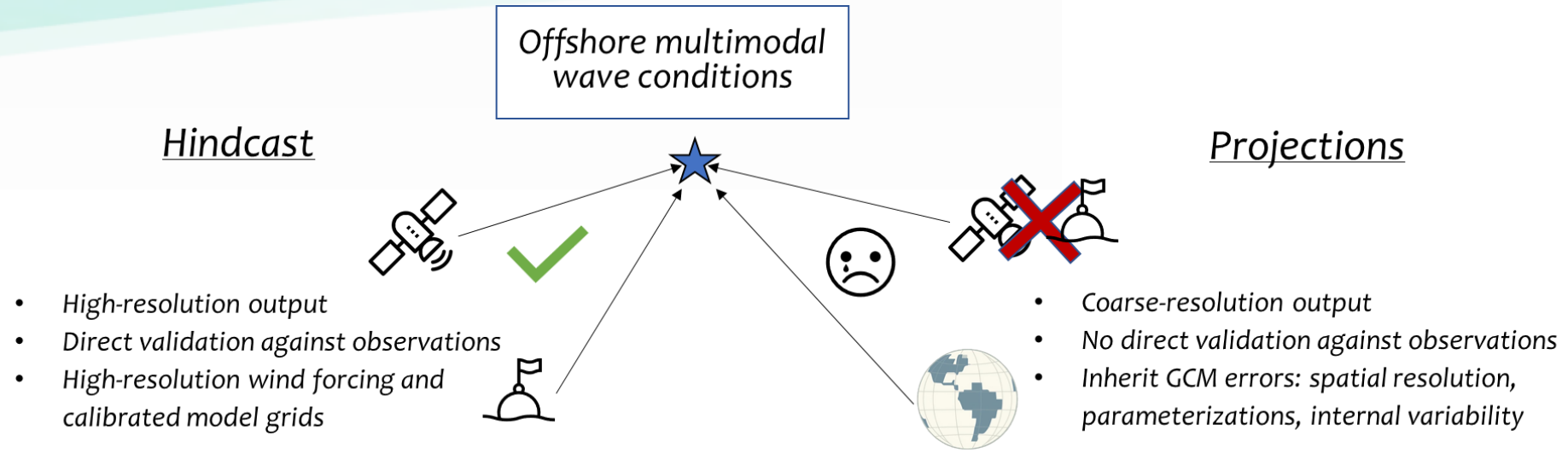


HIGH RESOLUTION (50 m)





# Motivation



	Hindcast	Projections
Bulk parameters	0.25°	0.5°
Wave spectra	0.5°	10°
Forcing resolution	0.25	1 to 2°
Inherit errors	😊	😞

From bulk to spectra

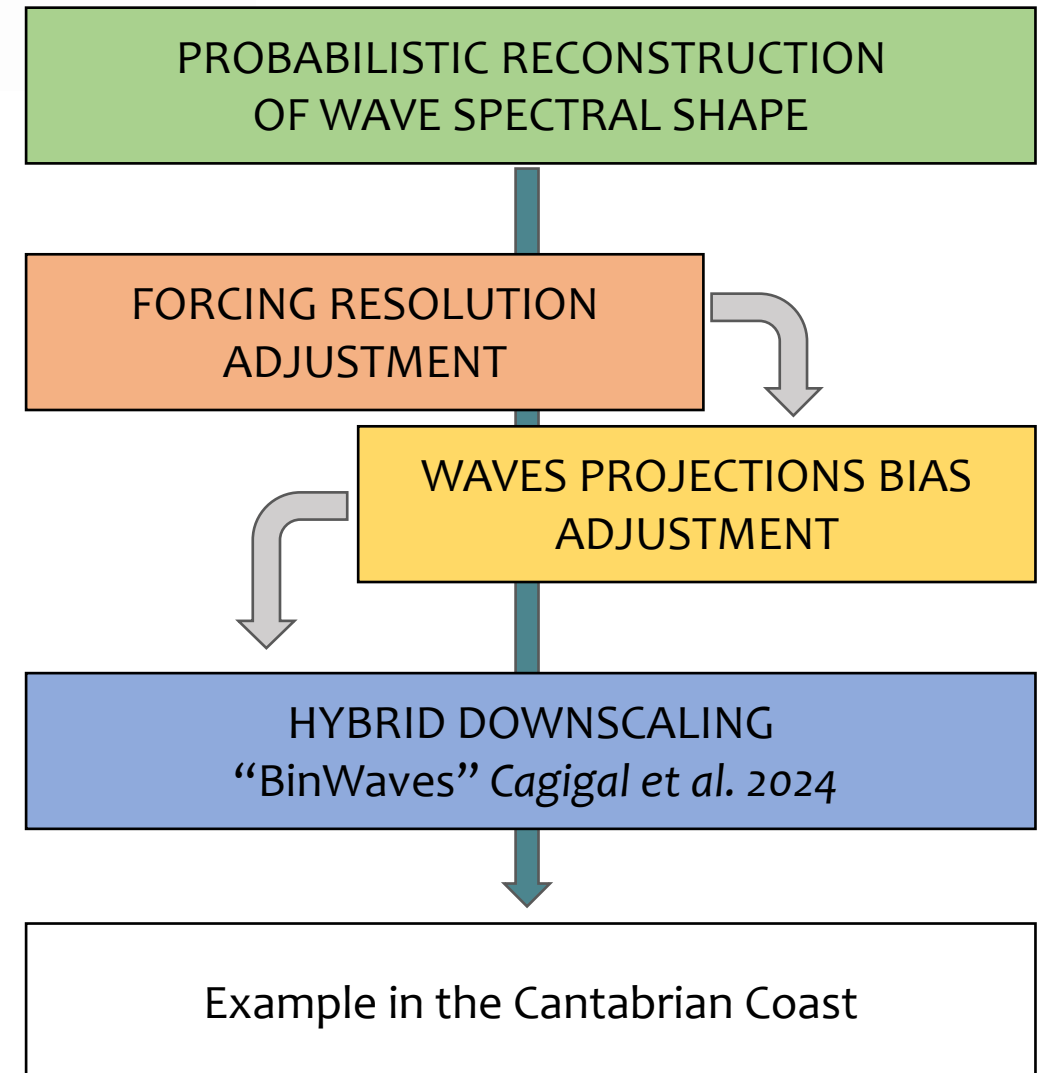
Forcing resolution correction

Bias correction

# Objectives

*“Fast way to bring high-resolution climate projections to the coast”*

1. Reconstruct the spectral shape from bulk parameters
2. Forcing resolution and Bias correction
3. Hybrid downscaling to coast
4. Example in the Cantabrian coast





# Step by step

1. Reconstruct the spectral shape from bulk parameters

PROBABILISTIC RECONSTRUCTION  
OF WAVE SPECTRAL SHAPE



FORCING RESOLUTION  
ADJUSTMENT



WAVES PROJECTIONS BIAS  
ADJUSTMENT

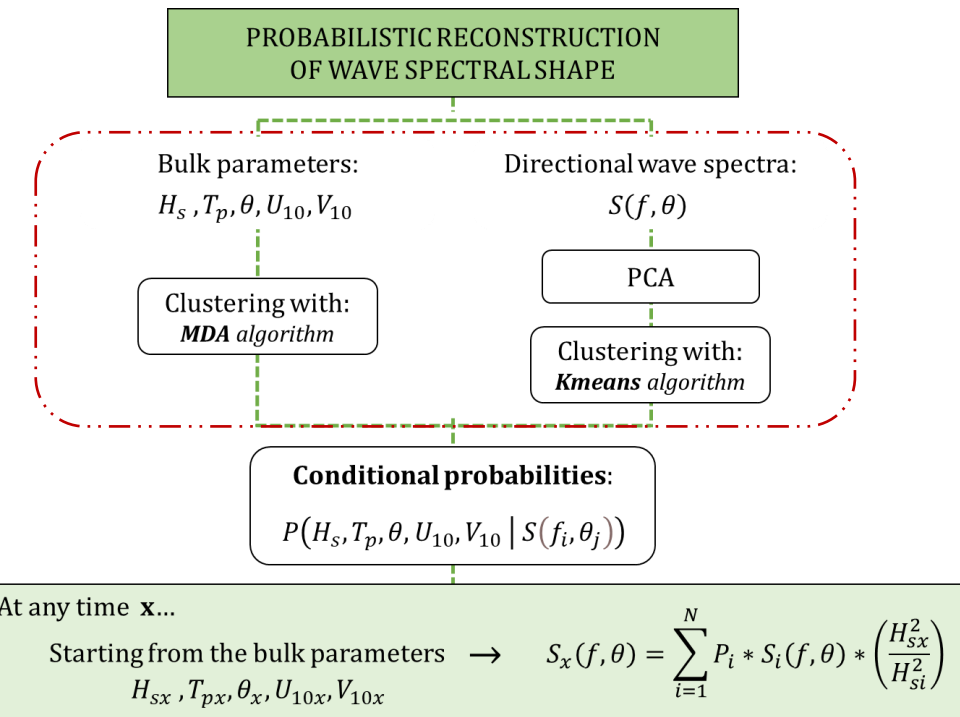
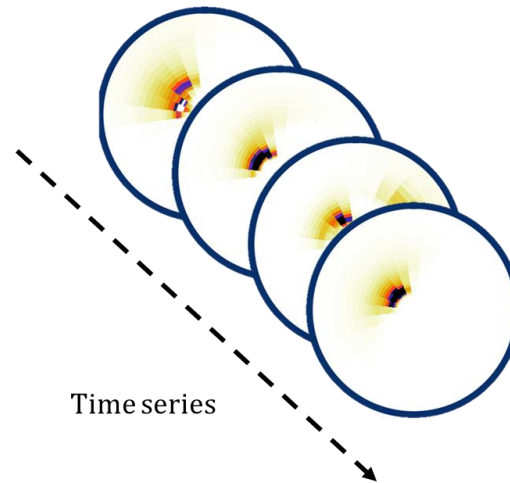
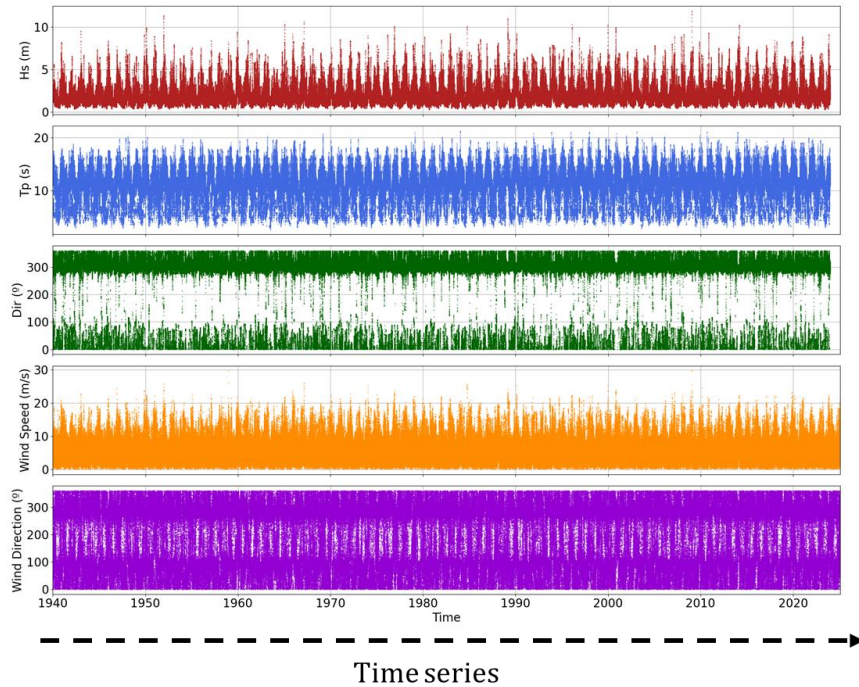


HYBRID DOWNSCALING  
“BinWaves” *Cagigal et al. 2024*

Example in the Cantabrian Coast

# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

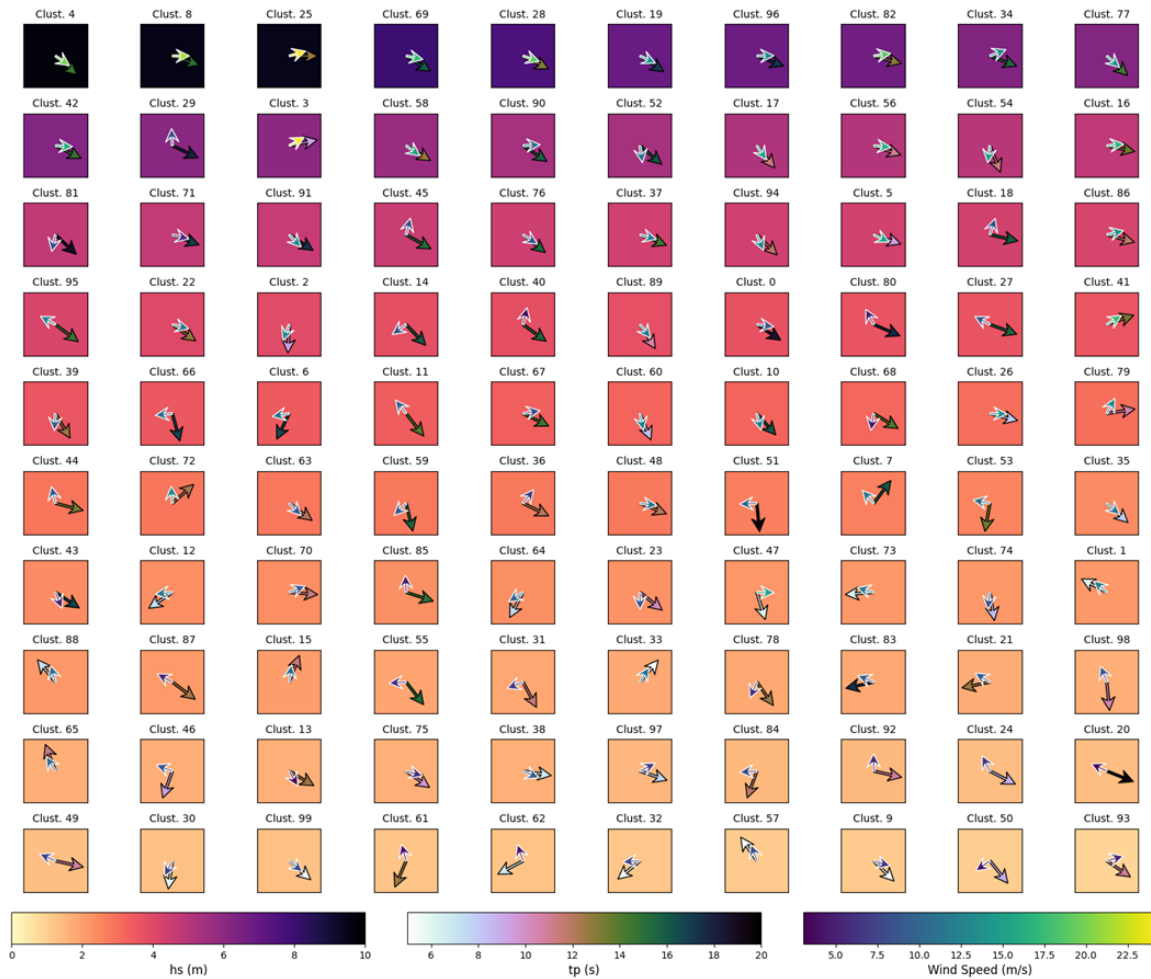
Clustering **ERA5 reanalysis** (*Hersbach et al., 2020*):



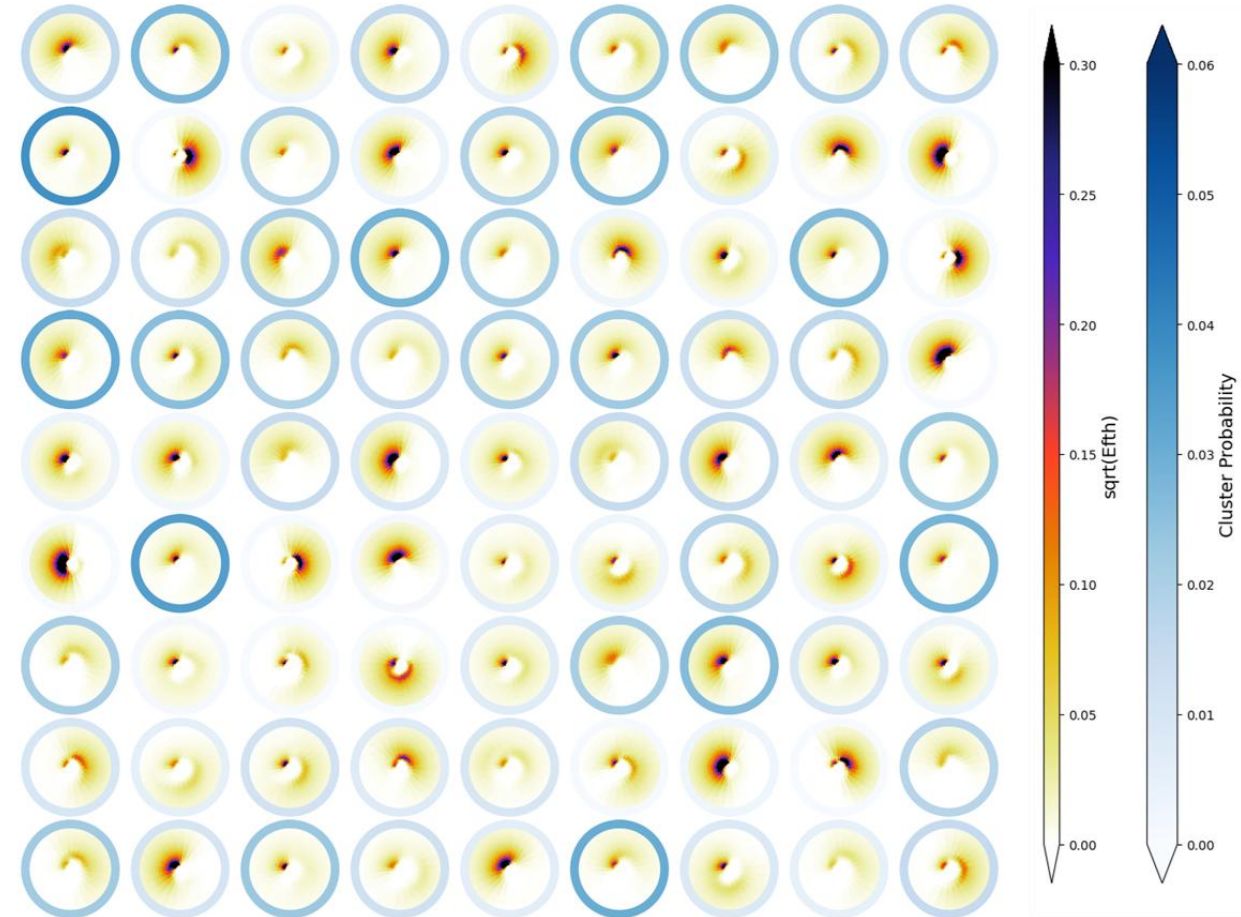
# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

Clustering **Bulk** parameters:

100 MDA selected clusters

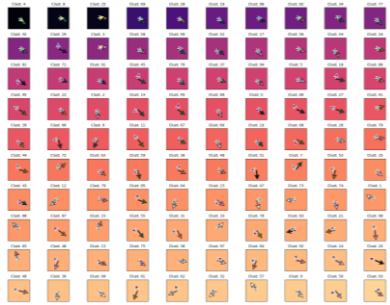


81 PCA + KMA clusters

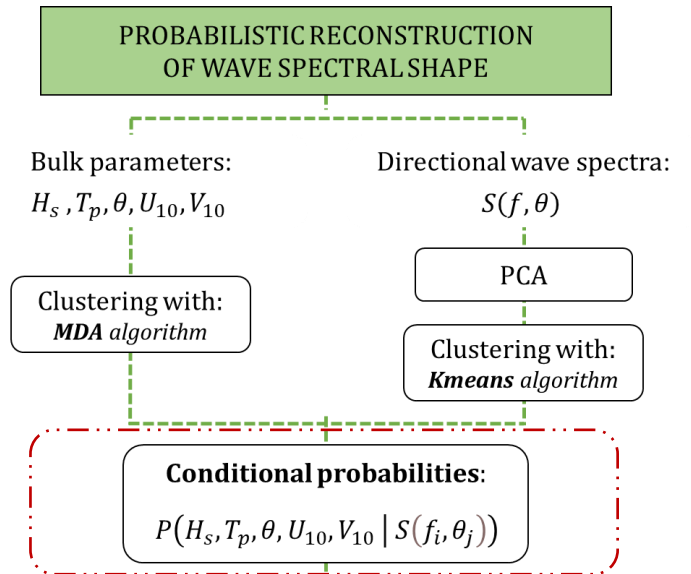
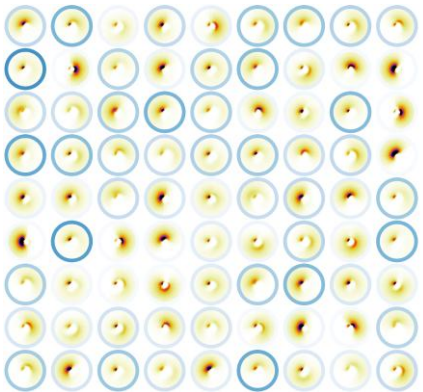


# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

Find **Conditional Probabilities** between bulk and spectra:



- 100 bulk clusters
- 81 spectra clusters



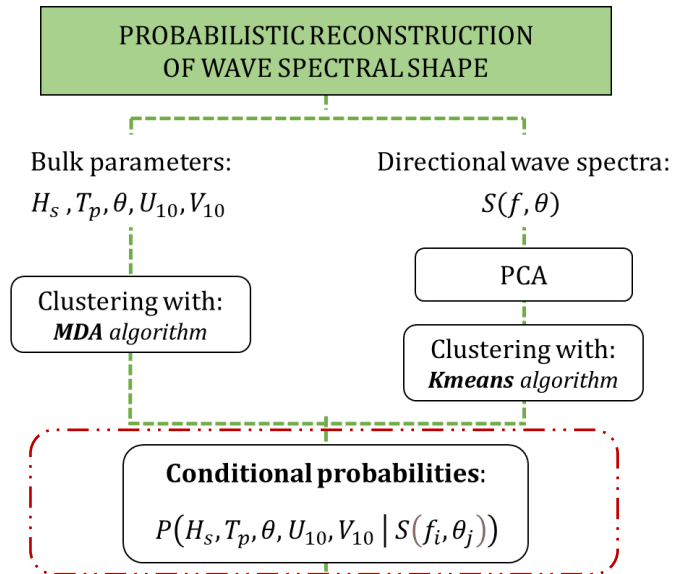
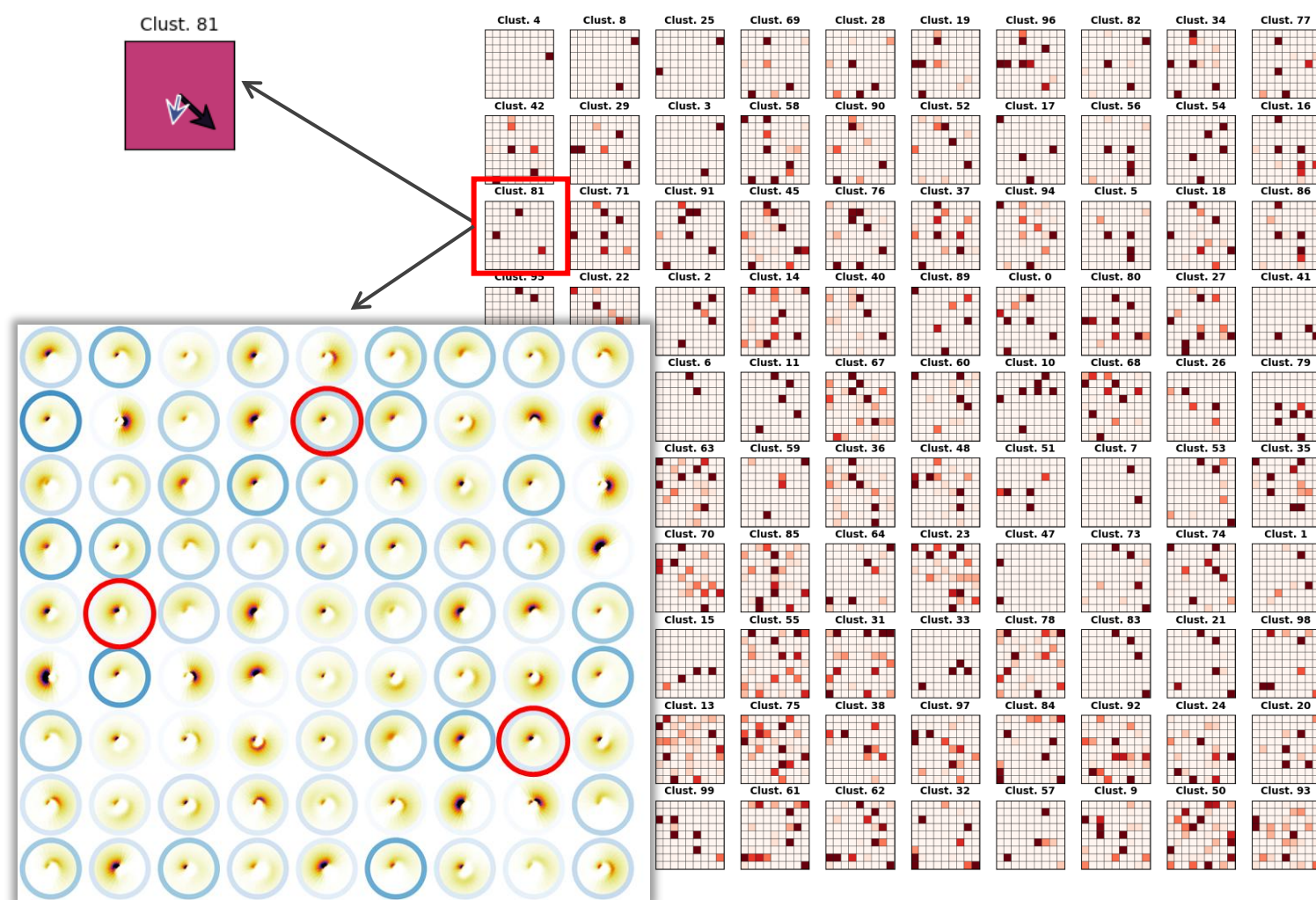
At any time  $x...$

$$\text{Starting from the bulk parameters } H_{sx}, T_{px}, \theta_x, U_{10x}, V_{10x} \rightarrow S_x(f, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i * S_i(f, \theta) * \left( \frac{H_{sx}^2}{H_{si}^2} \right)$$



# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

Find **Conditional Probabilities** between bulk and spectra:



At any time  $x...$

$$\text{Starting from the bulk parameters } H_{sx}, T_{px}, \theta_x, U_{10x}, V_{10x} \rightarrow S_x(f, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i * S_i(f, \theta) * \left( \frac{H_{sx}^2}{H_{si}^2} \right)$$

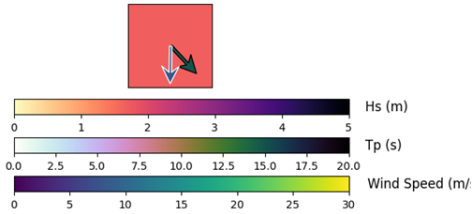
# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

At any time  $\mathbf{x}$ ...

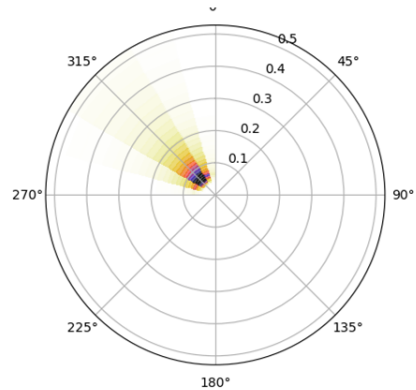
Starting from the bulk parameters  $\rightarrow S_x(f, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i * S_i(f, \theta) * \left( \frac{H_{sx}^2}{H_{si}^2} \right)$   
 $H_{sx}, T_{px}, \theta_x, U_{10x}, V_{10x}$

**Time case: 1995-01-09T08:00**

Hindcast Bulk Parameter



JONSWAP spectrum from bulk



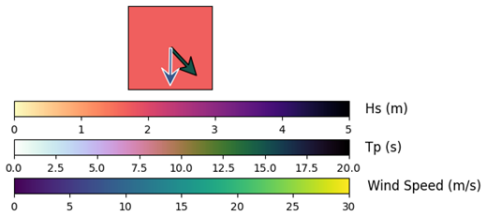
# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

At any time  $\mathbf{x}$ ...

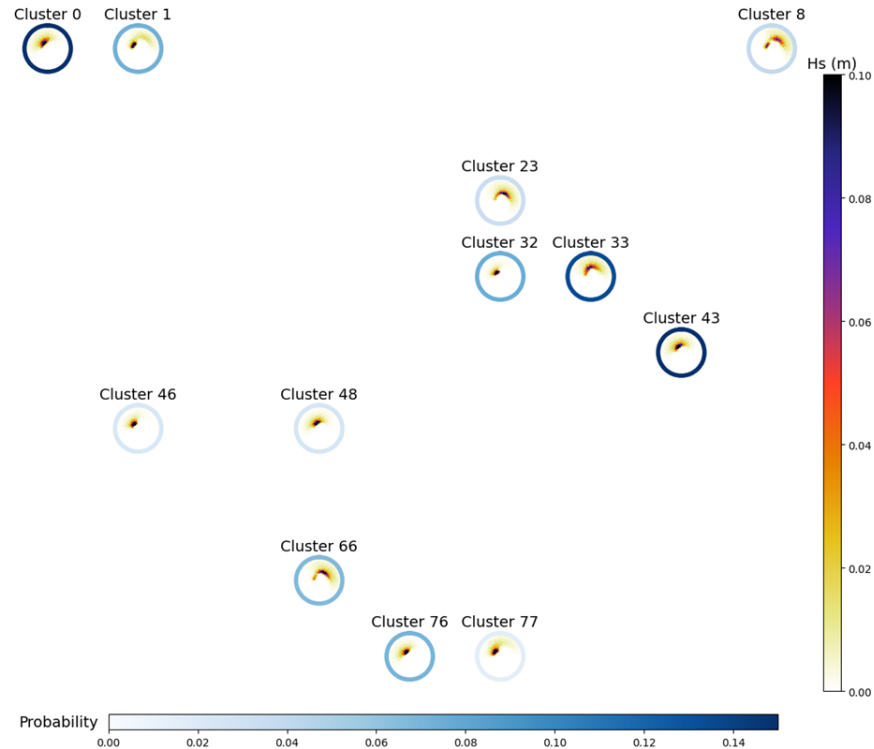
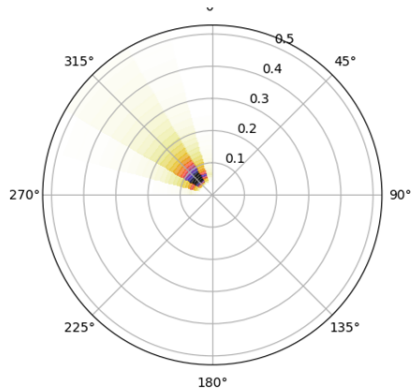
Starting from the bulk parameters  $H_{sx}, T_{px}, \theta_x, U_{10x}, V_{10x}$   $\rightarrow S_x(f, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i * S_i(f, \theta) * \left( \frac{H_{sx}^2}{H_{si}^2} \right)$

Time case: 1995-01-09T08:00

Hindcast Bulk Parameter



JONSWAP spectrum from bulk



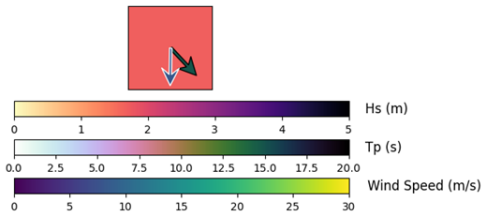
# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

At any time  $\mathbf{x}...$

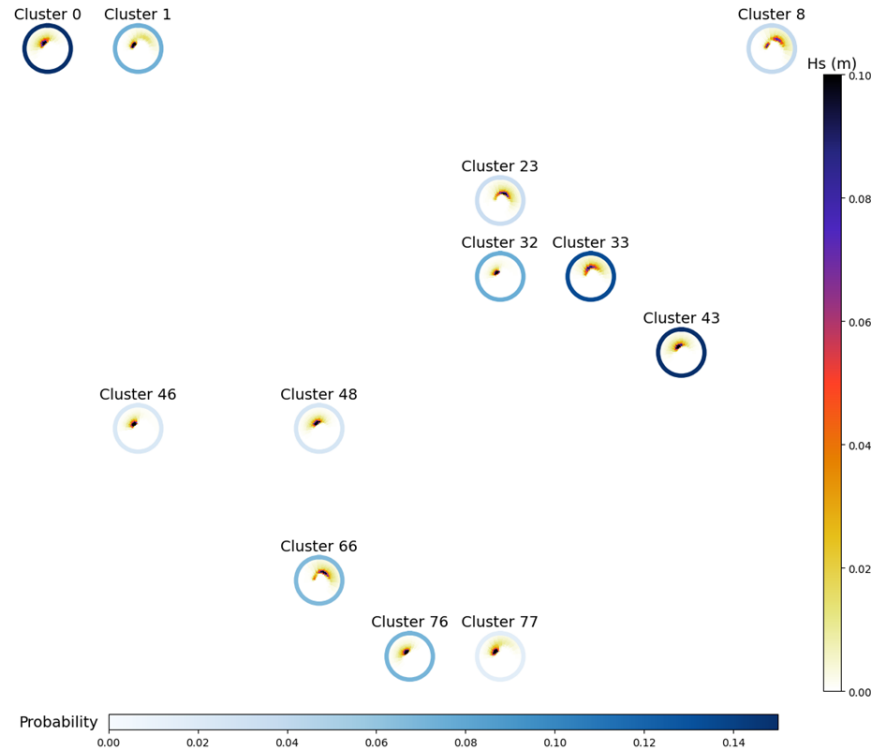
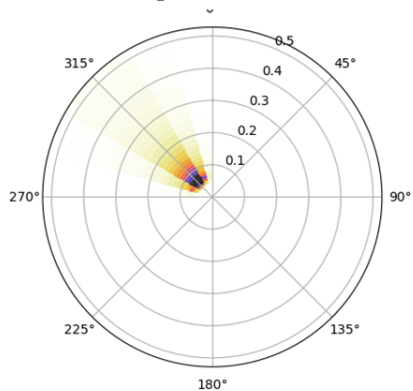
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Time case: 1995-01-09T08:00

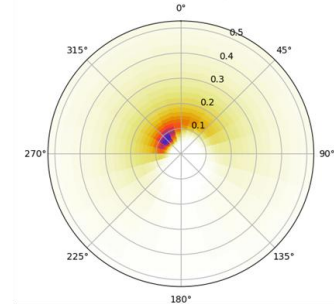
Hindcast Bulk Parameter



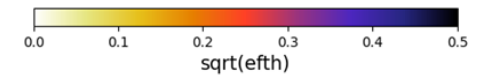
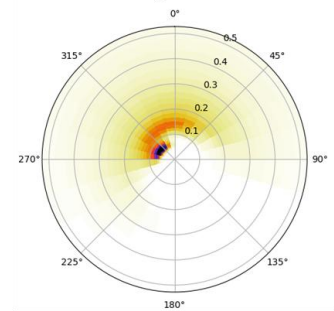
JONSWAP spectrum from bulk



Reconstructed spectrum



Real spectrum





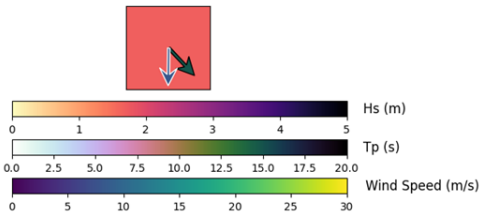
# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

At any time  $x...$

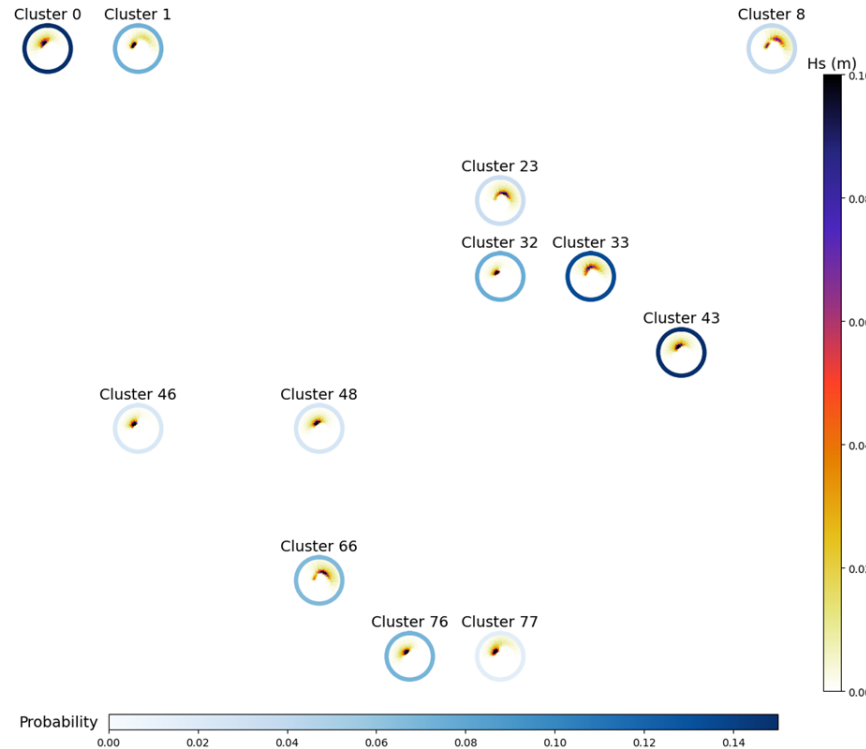
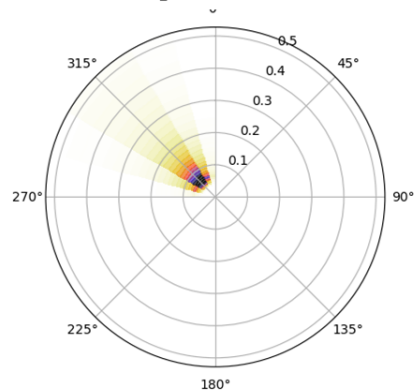
Starting from the bulk parameters  $H_{sx}, T_{px}, \theta_x, U_{10x}, V_{10x}$   $\rightarrow$   $S_x(f, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i * S_i(f, \theta) * \left( \frac{H_{sx}^2}{H_{si}^2} \right)$

Time case: 1995-01-09T08:00

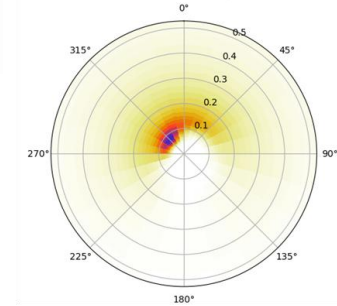
Hindcast Bulk Parameter



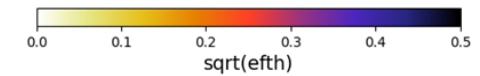
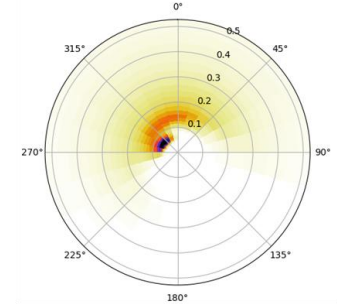
JONSWAP spectrum from bulk



Reconstructed spectrum

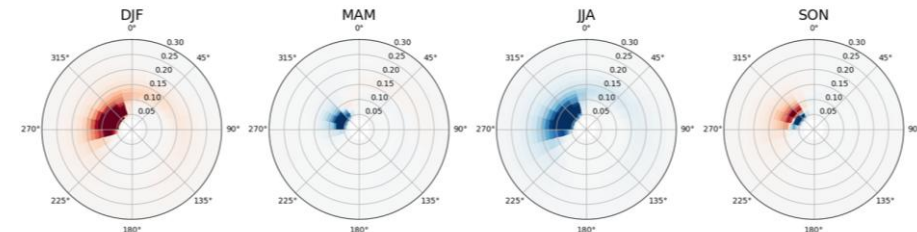


Real spectrum

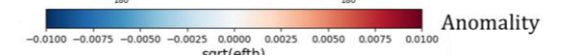
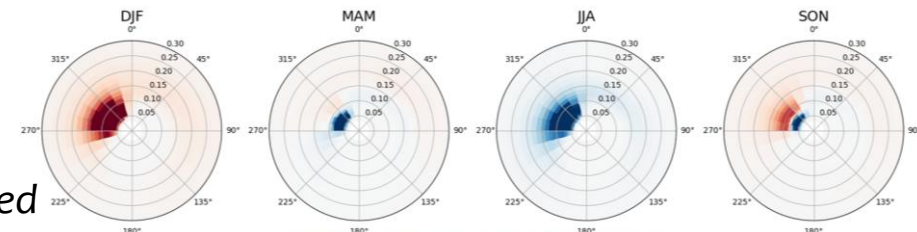


5 years seasonal validation

Real spectra

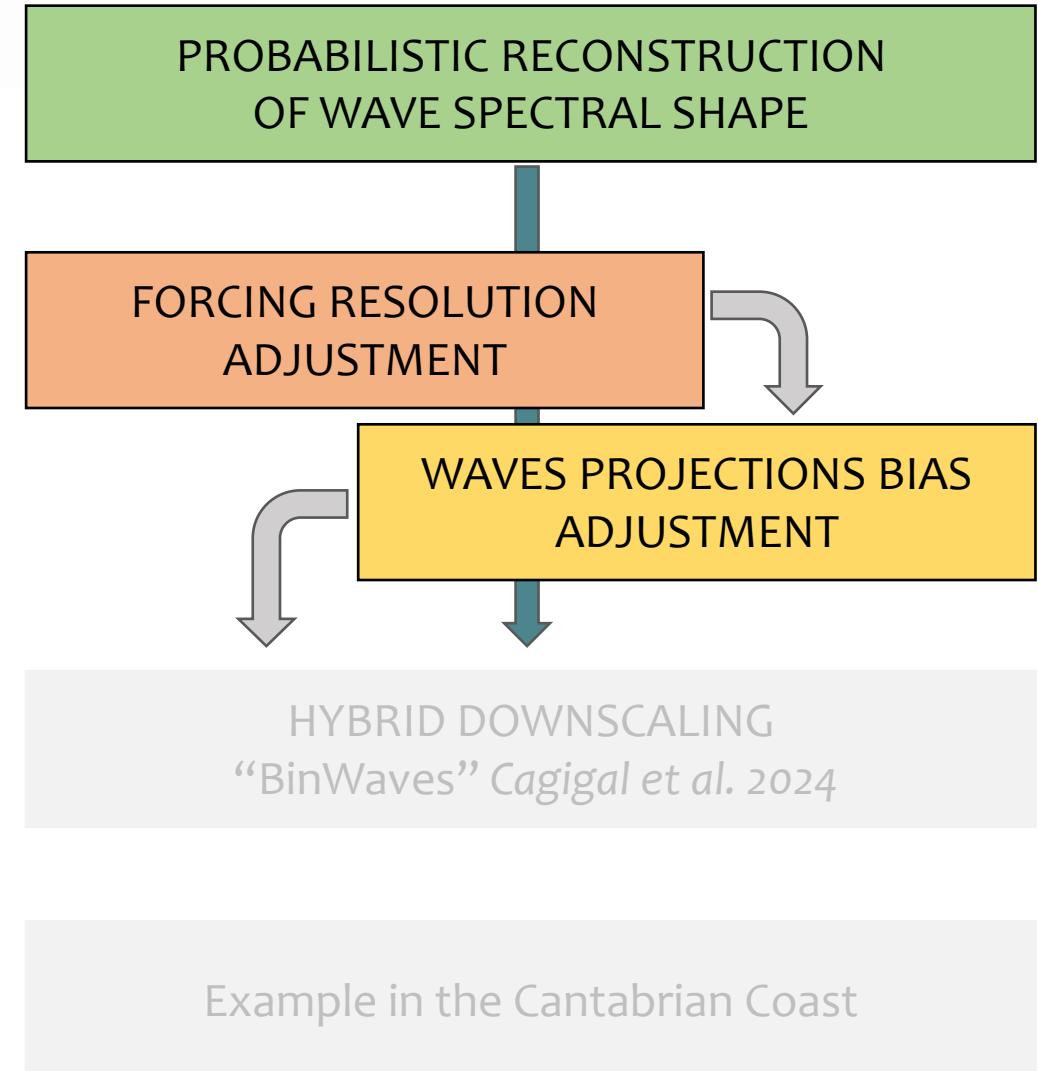


Reconstructed spectra



# Step by step

1. ~~Reconstruct the spectral shape from bulk parameters~~
2. Forcing resolution and Bias correction



## 2. Forcing resolution and Bias correction

### BIAS origin:

- Wind forcing regridded to regular WW3 grid
- Simplified physics and parameterizations in GCMs)

### BIAS effects:

- Interpolation smooths wind fields
- Results in systematic bias in wave heights

### 140 Years of Global Ocean Wind-Wave Climate Derived from CMIP6 ACCESS-CM2 and EC-Earth3 GCMs: Global Trends, Regional Changes, and Future Projections

ALBERTO MEUCCI<sup>a</sup>, IAN R. YOUNG<sup>a</sup>, MARK HEMER<sup>b</sup>, CLAIRE TRENHAM<sup>c</sup> AND IAN G. WATTERSON<sup>d</sup>

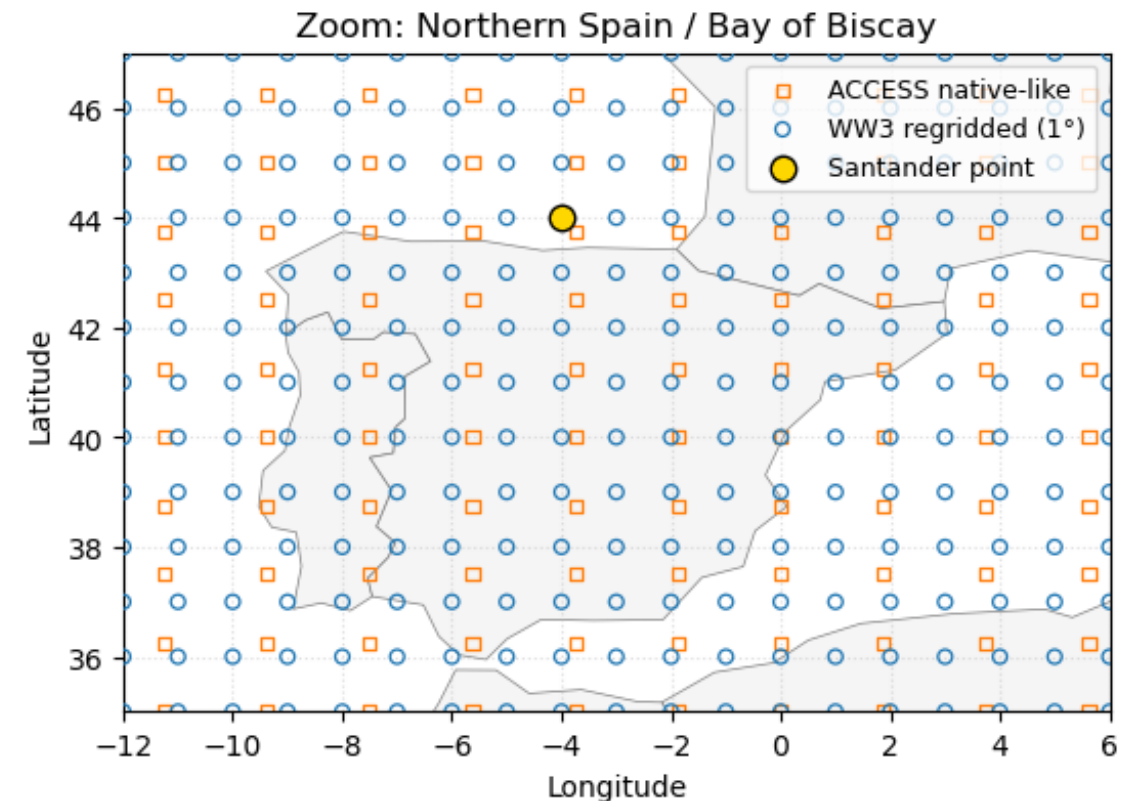
<sup>a</sup> Department of Infrastructure Engineering, The University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria, Australia

<sup>b</sup> CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia

<sup>c</sup> CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia

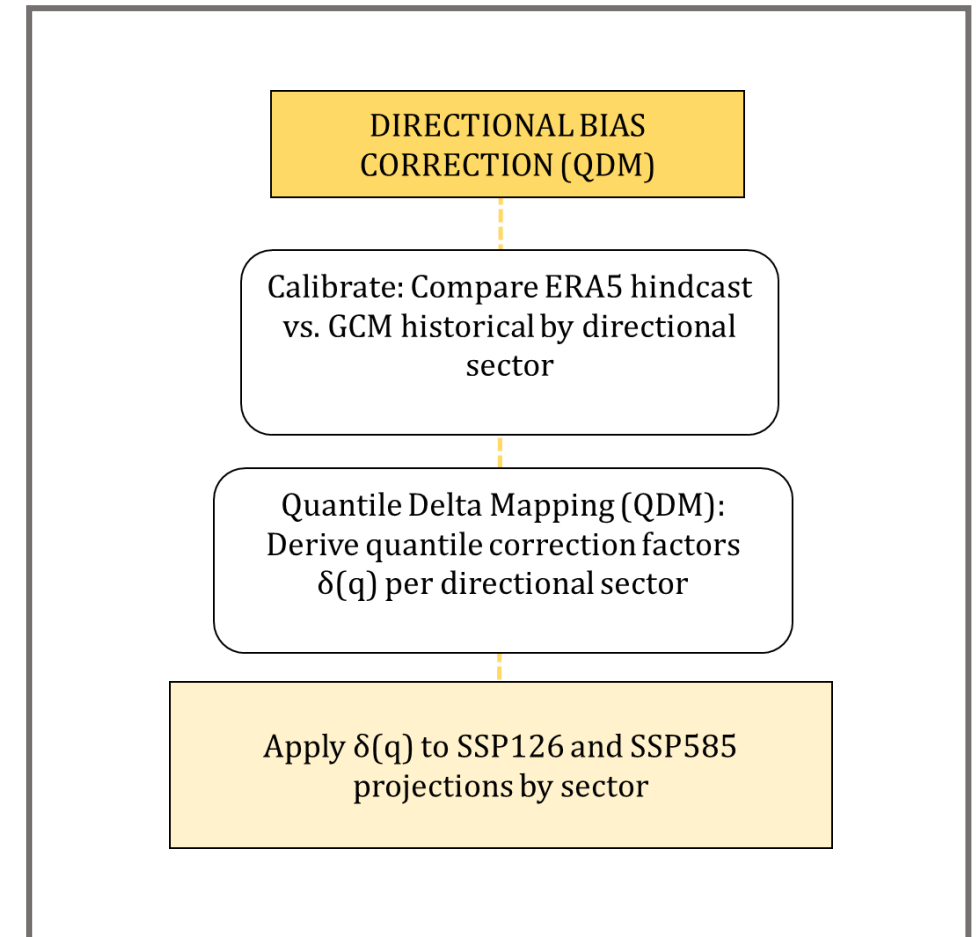
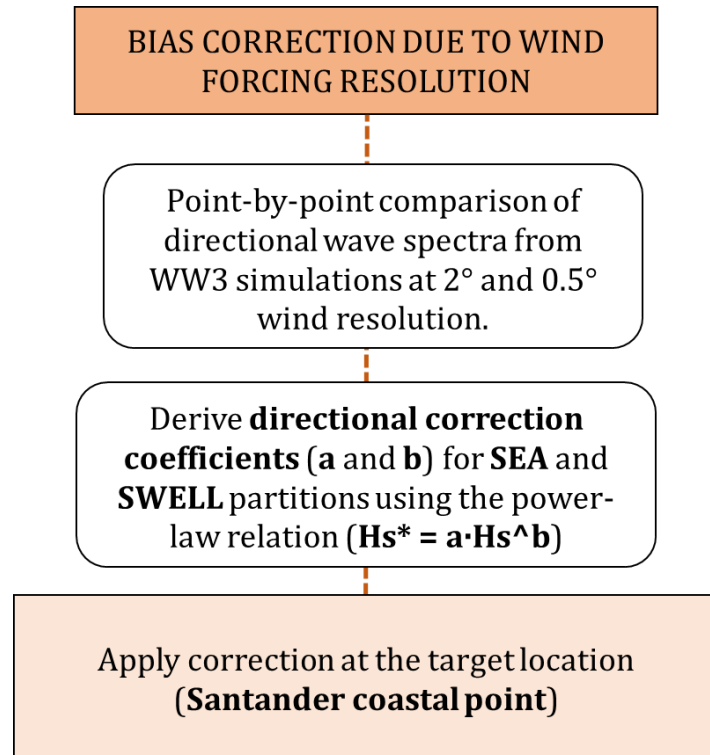
<sup>d</sup> CSIRO Climate Science Centre, Aspendale, Victoria, Australia

(Manuscript received 2 December 2021, in final form 8 November 2022)



## 2. Forcing resolution and Bias correction

### WORKING ON IT

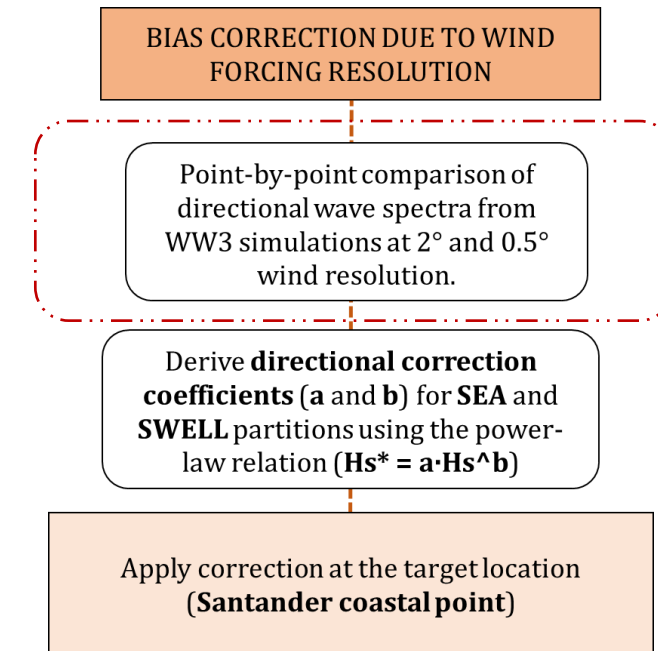
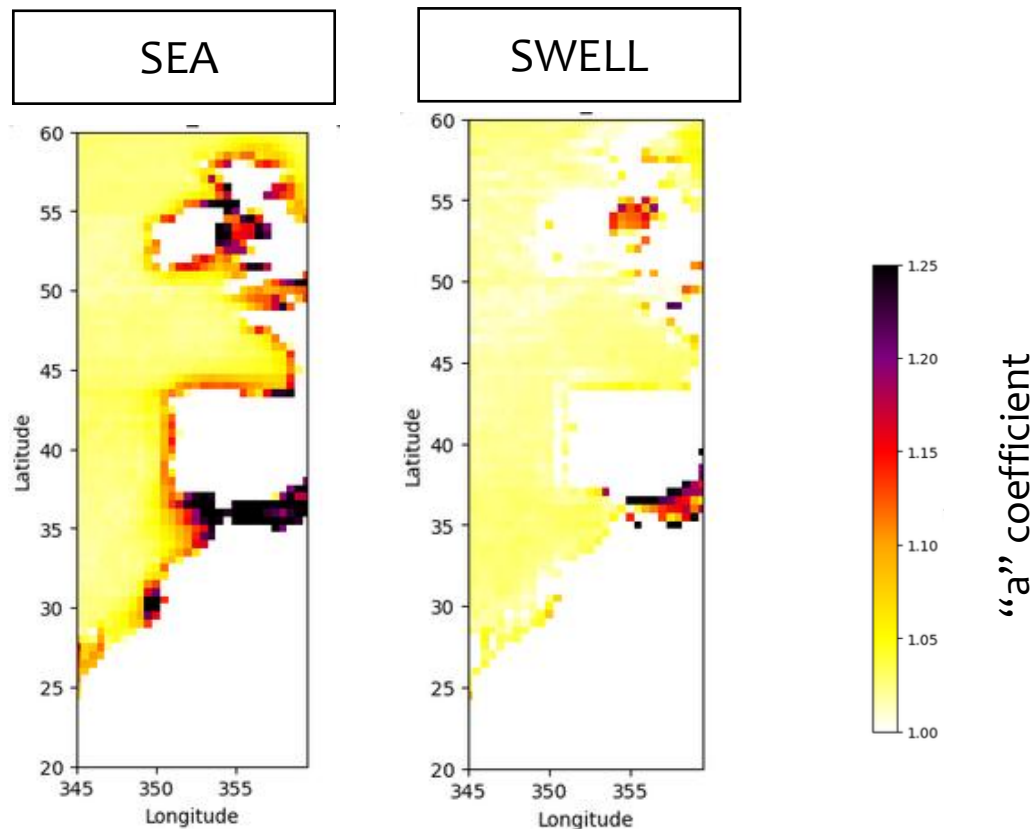




## 2. Forcing resolution and Bias correction

Comparison: **WW3 hindcast forced with winds at 2° vs. 0.5°** (year 2017):  $H'_S = aH_S^b$

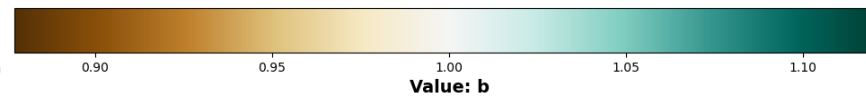
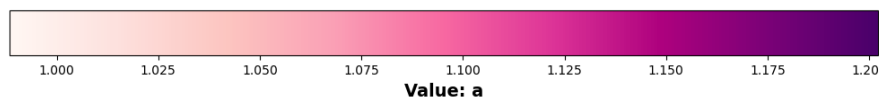
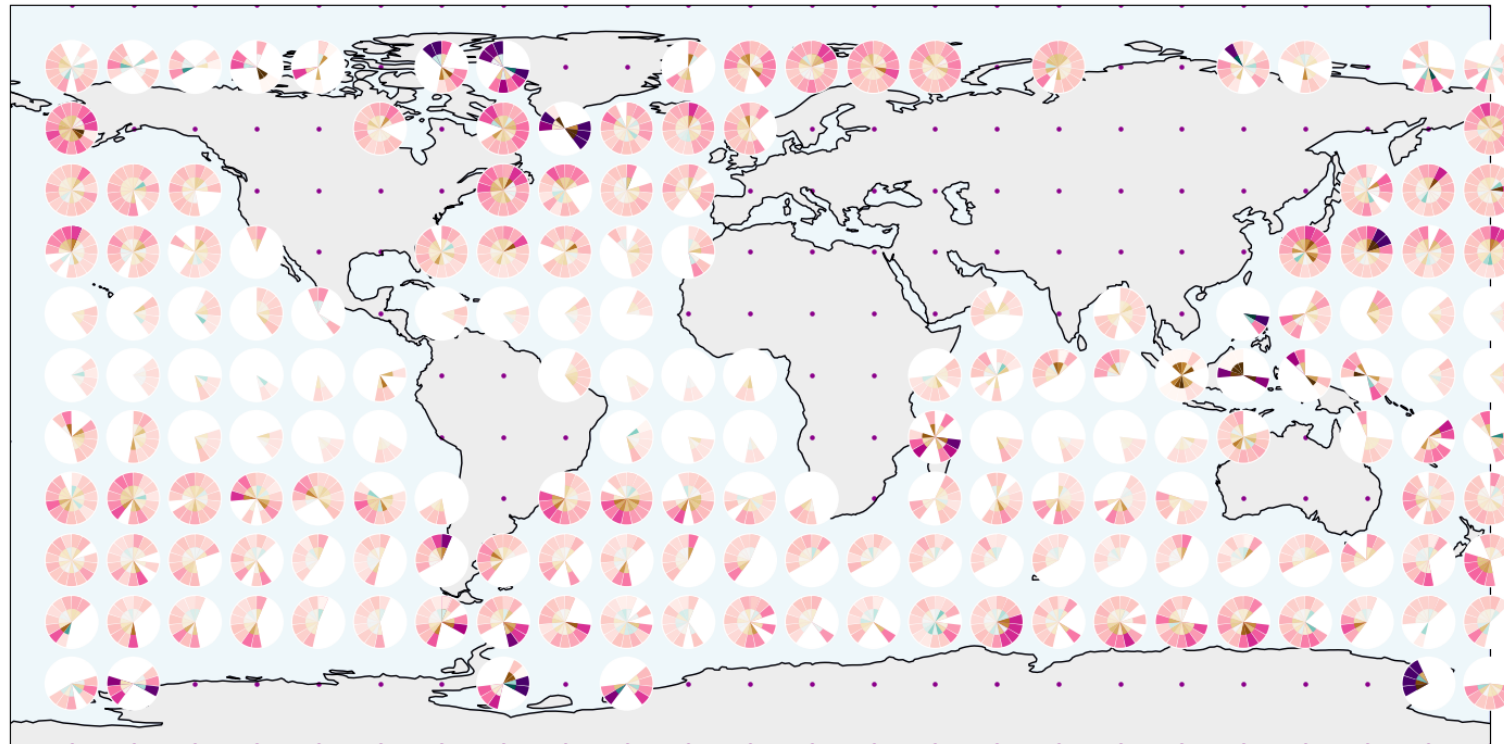
- Stronger bias in sea partition than in swell in coastal zones
- Regrided wind forcing mainly impacts locally generated waves (sea)



## 2. Forcing resolution and Bias correction

Comparison: **WW3 hindcast forced with winds at 2° vs. 0.5°** (year 2017):  $H'_S = aH_S^b$

- Apply correction separately to SEA and SWELL Hs
- Correction performed for each directional sector (16 sectors)



BIAS CORRECTION DUE TO WIND  
FORCING RESOLUTION

Point-by-point comparison of  
directional wave spectra from  
WW3 simulations at 2° and 0.5°  
wind resolution.

Derive **directional correction  
coefficients (a and b)** for SEA and  
SWELL partitions using the power-  
law relation ( $H_S^* = a \cdot H_S^b$ )

Apply correction at the target location  
(**Santander coastal point**)

## 2. Forcing resolution and Bias correction

As in Lemos et al 2020:

On the need of bias correction methods for wave climate projections

Gil Lemos<sup>a,\*</sup>, Melisa Menendez<sup>b</sup>, Alvaro Semedo<sup>c,a</sup>, Paula Camus<sup>b</sup>, Mark Hemer<sup>d</sup>,  
Mikhail Dobrynin<sup>e</sup>, Pedro M.A. Miranda<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Instituto Dom Luis, Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal

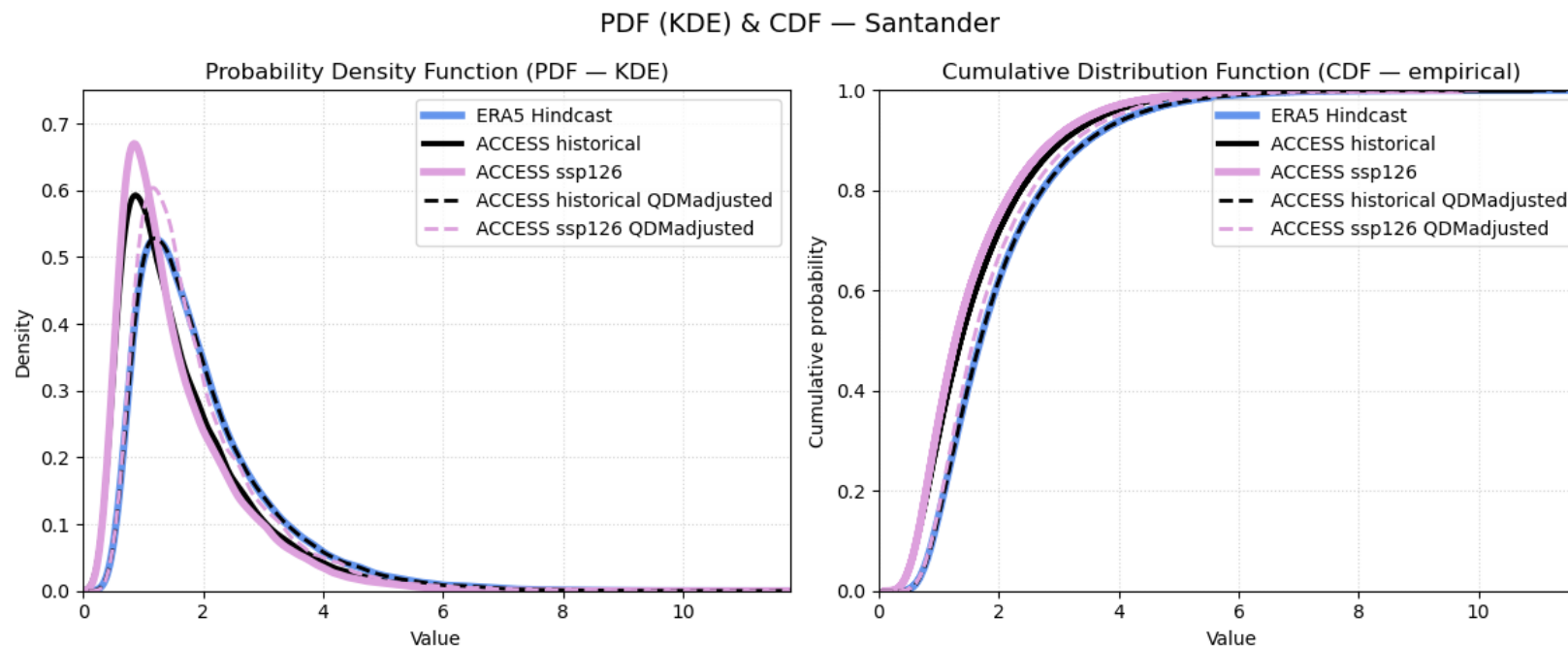
<sup>b</sup> Environmental Hydraulics Institute "IH Cantabria", Universidad de Cantabria, Santander, Spain

<sup>c</sup> IHE Delft, Department of Water Science and Engineering, Westvest 7, 2611 Delft, the Netherlands

<sup>d</sup> CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere, Hobart, TAS, Australia

<sup>e</sup> Institute of Oceanography, Center for Earth System Research and Sustainability (CEN), Hamburg, Germany

- QDM has been tried
- DAGQM is the goal, in order to keep quantiles and directional relation



DIRECTIONAL BIAS  
CORRECTION (QDM)

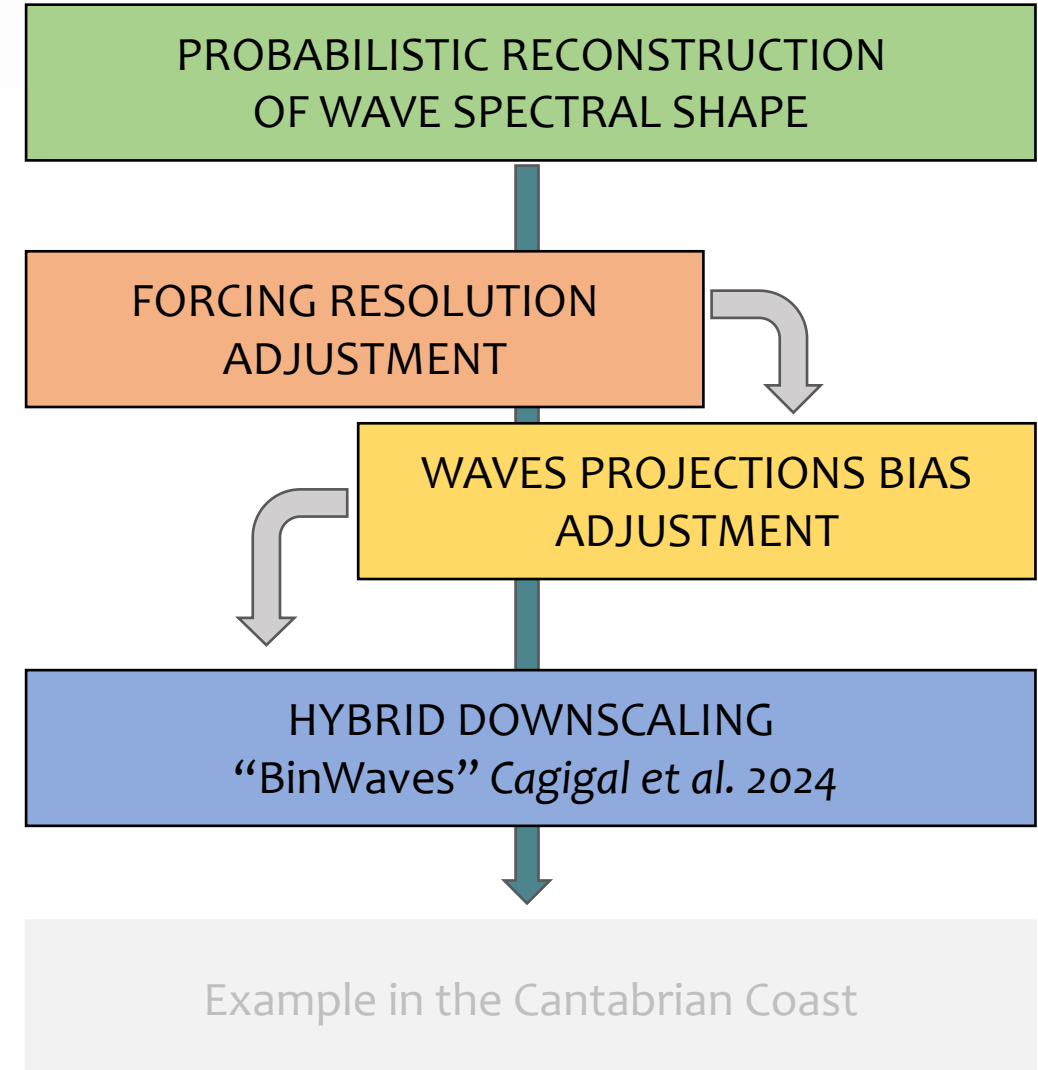
Calibrate: Compare ERA5 hindcast  
vs. GCM historical by directional  
sector

Quantile Delta Mapping (QDM):  
Derive quantile correction factors  
 $\delta(q)$  per directional sector

Apply  $\delta(q)$  to SSP126 and SSP585  
projections by sector

# Step by step

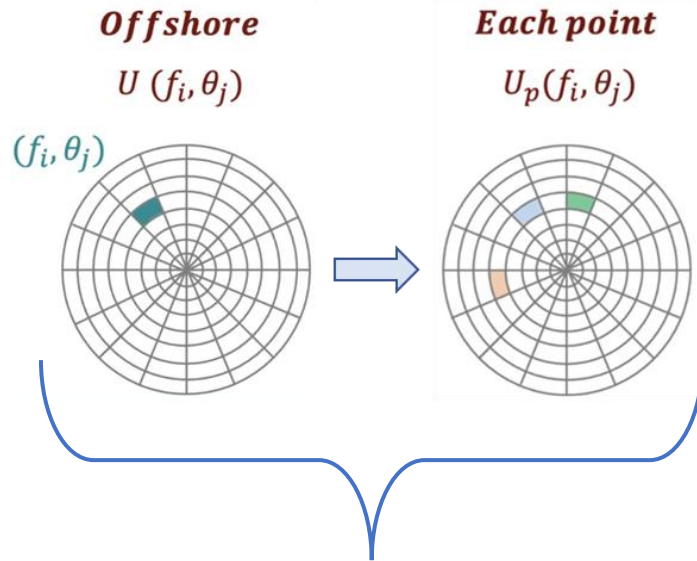
1. ~~Reconstruct the spectral shape from bulk parameters~~
2. ~~Forcing resolution and Bias correction~~
3. Hybrid downscaling to coast



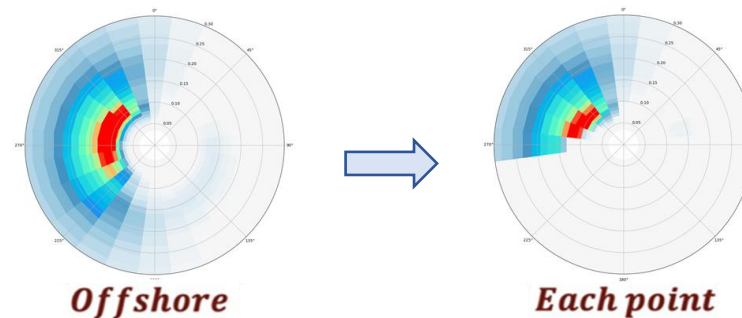
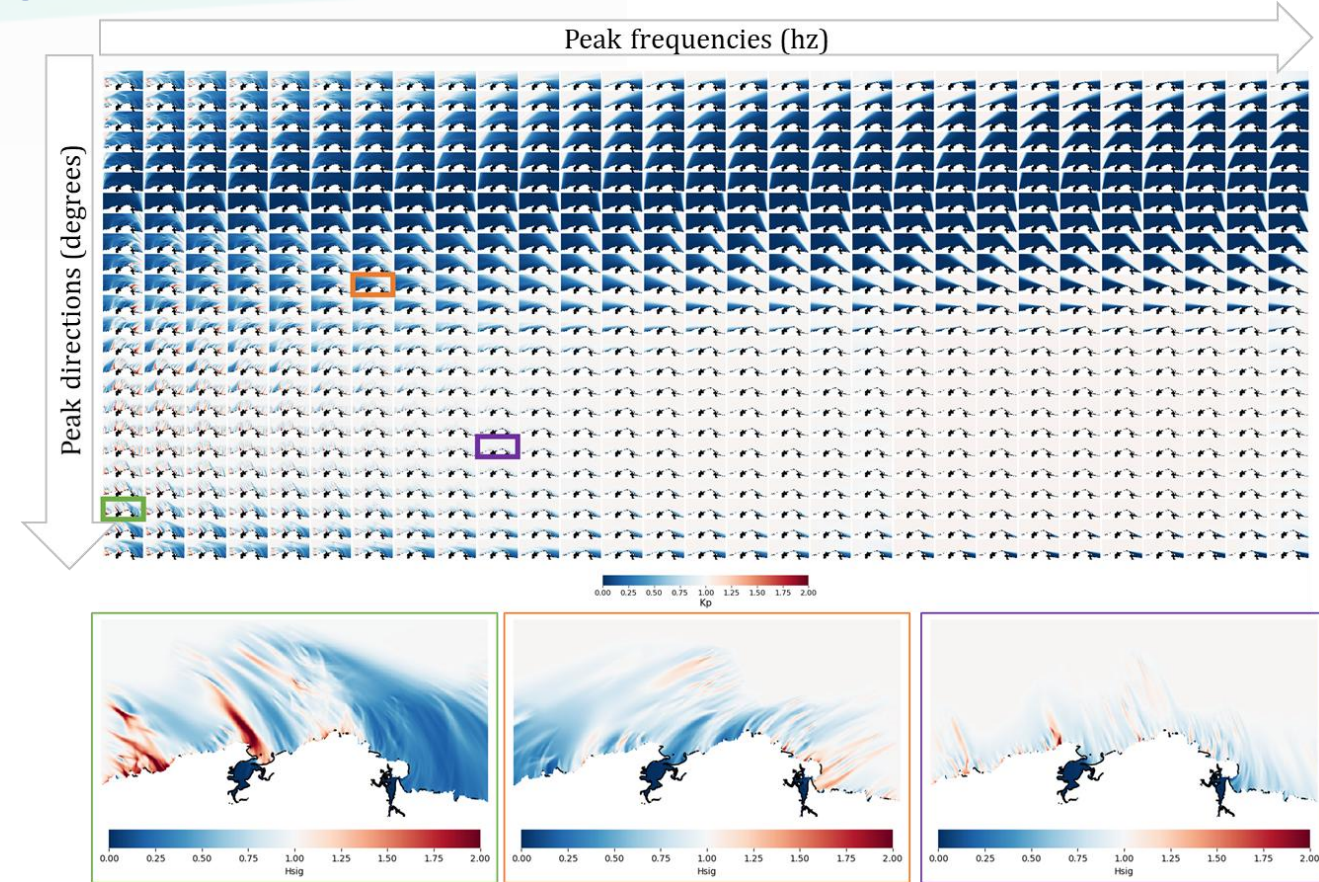


### 3. Hybrid downscaling to coast

#### BinWaves (*Cagigal et al. 2024*)



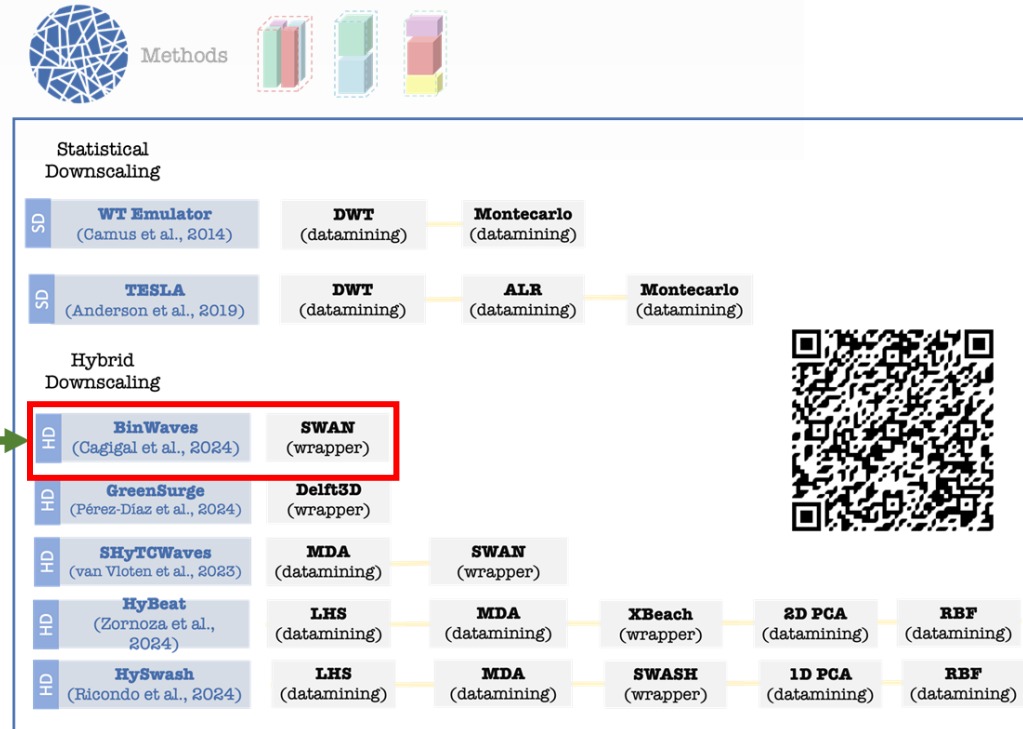
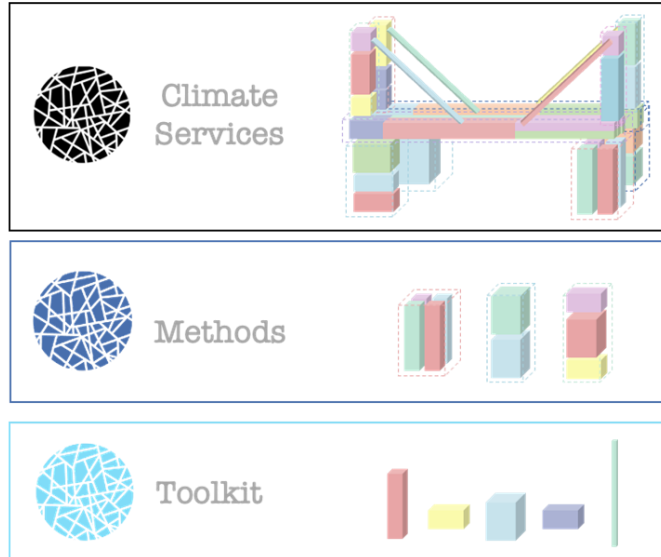
$$K_p(f_i, \theta_j) = \frac{U_p(f_i, \theta_j)}{\iint U(f_i, \theta_j) d_f d_\theta}$$



Spectral reconstruction at any point of the domain:

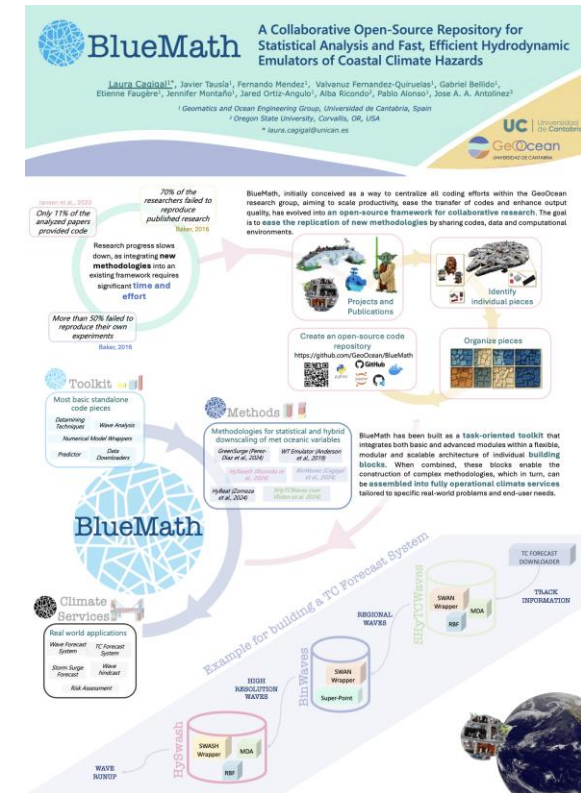
$$S_p(f_i, \theta_j) = \sum_i \sum_j S(f_i, \theta_j) * K_p^2(f_i, \theta_j)$$

# 3. Hybrid downscaling to coast



ROOM 2 Thursday between 15:05 and 15:10 : BlueMath, A Collaborative Open-Source Repository for Statistical Analysis and Fast, Efficient Hydrodynamic Emulators of Coastal Climate Hazards

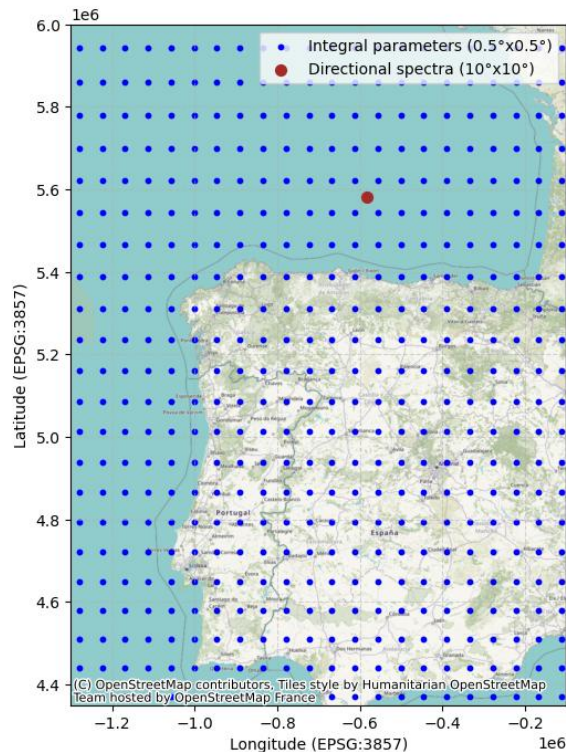
POSTER PRESENTER: Laura Cagigal





# Step by step

1. ~~Reconstruct the spectral shape from bulk parameters~~
2. ~~Bias correction~~
3. ~~Hybrid downscaling to coast~~
4. Example in the Cantabrian coast



## 140 Years of Global Ocean Wind-Wave Climate Derived from CMIP6 ACCESS-CM2 and EC-Earth3 GCMs: Global Trends, Regional Changes, and Future Projections

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<sup>a</sup> Department of Infrastructure Engineering, The University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria, Australia

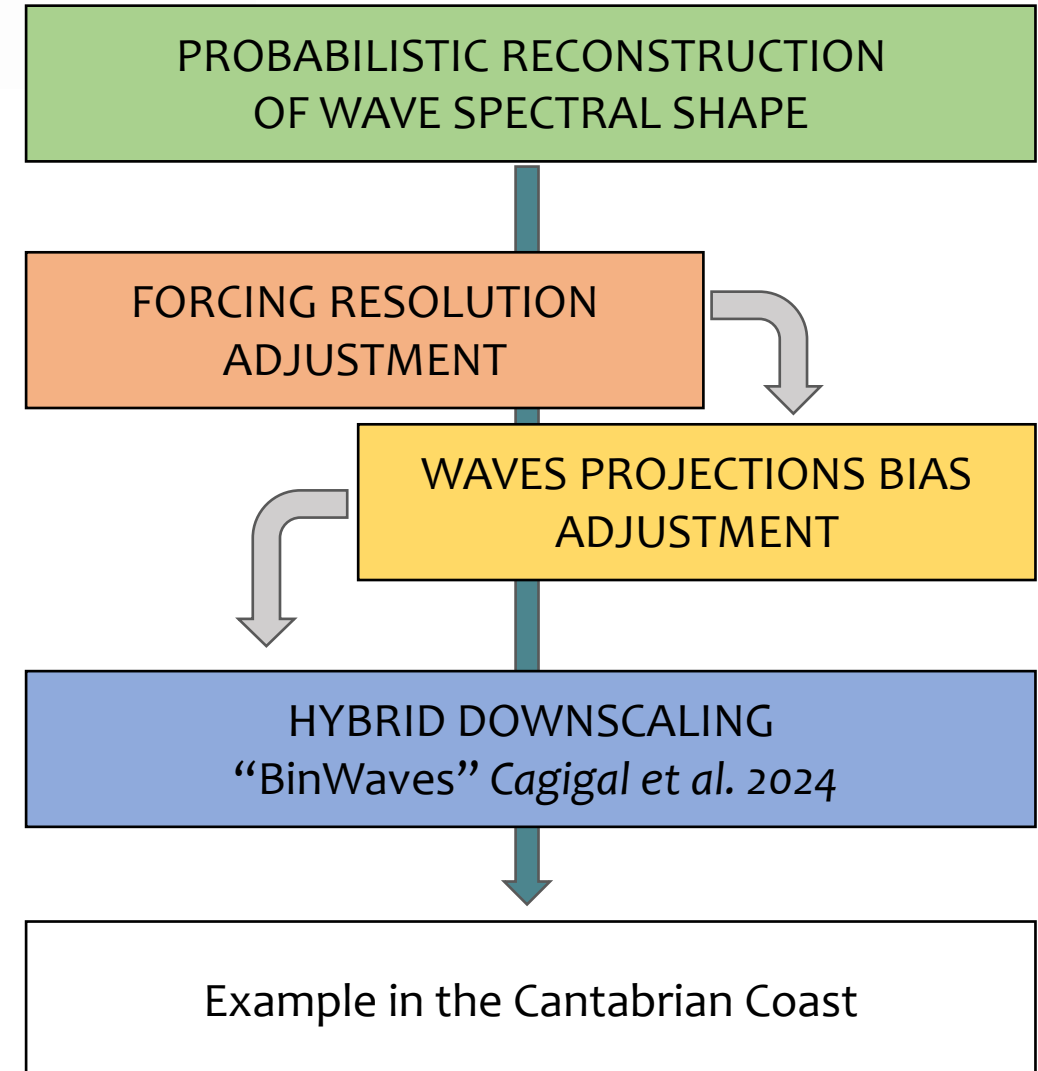
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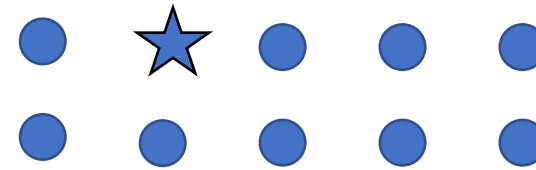
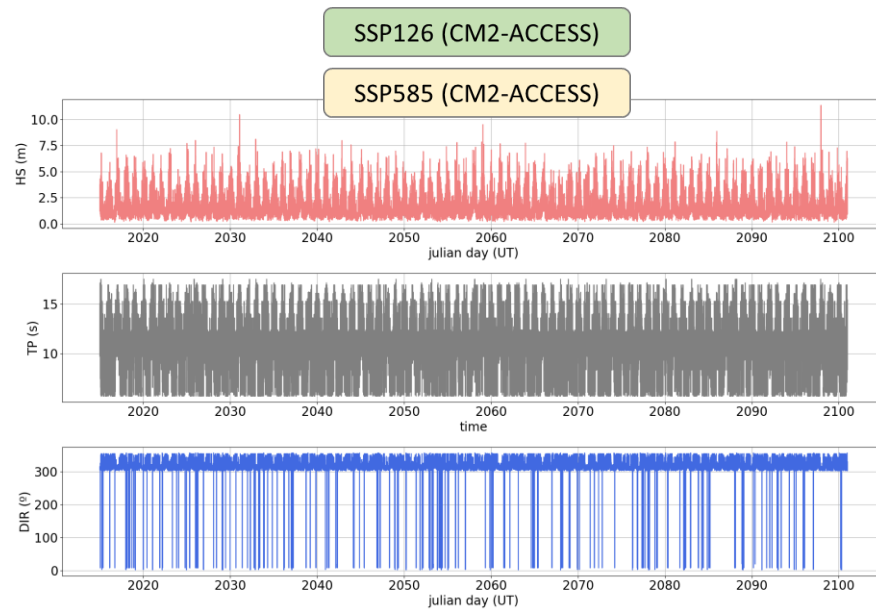
<sup>d</sup> CSIRO Climate Science Centre, Aspendale, Victoria, Australia

(Manuscript received 2 December 2021, in final form 8 November 2022)

Integral parameters	$H_s$	$\theta_p$
	$U_{10}$	$T_{m,02}$
	$f_p$	$pH_{s,0}, pH_{s,1}, pH_{s,2}$
	$\theta$	cge
Directional spectra	10° × 10° global grid	
	Australian climate ring	
	Victorian (AU) climate ring	

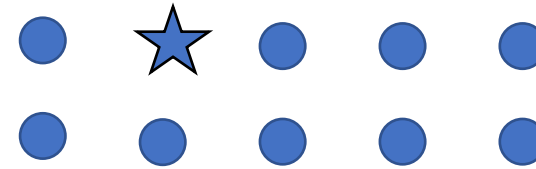
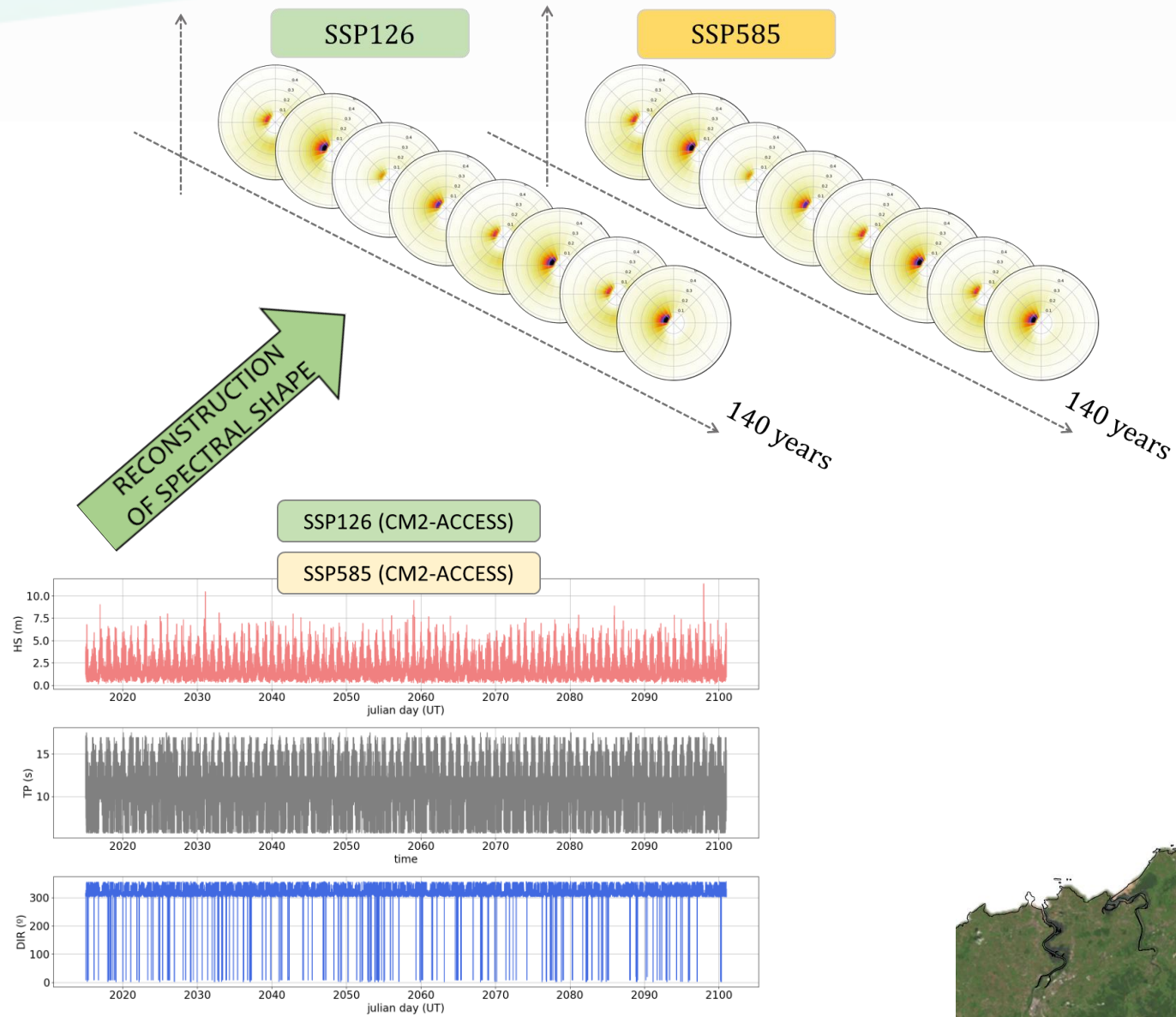


### 3. Example in the Cantabrian coast

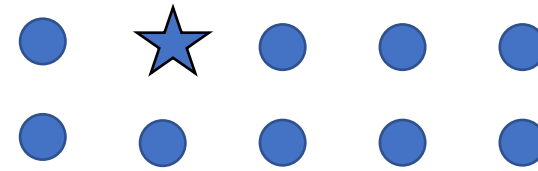
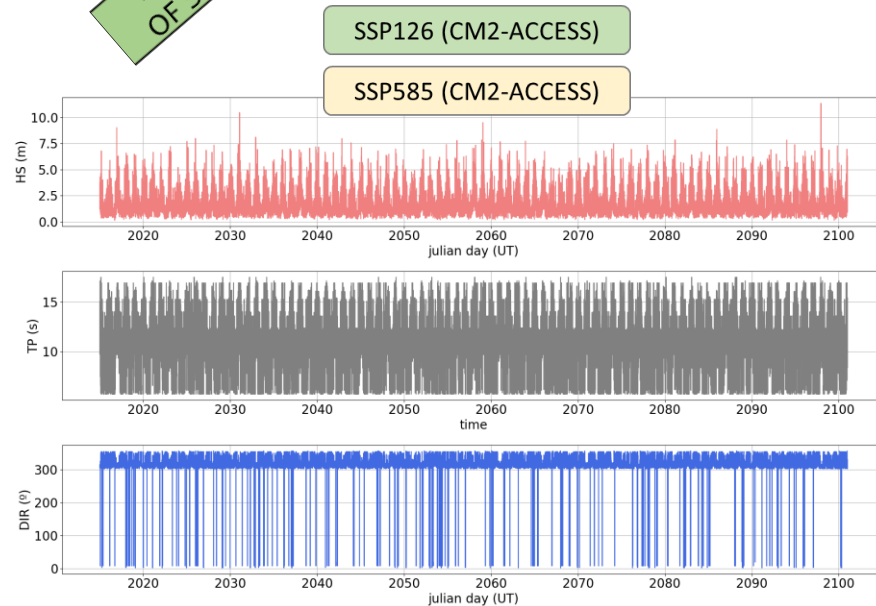
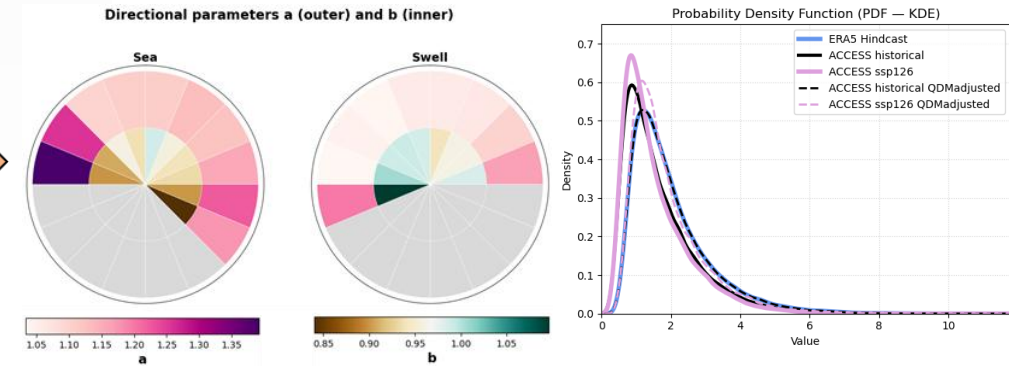
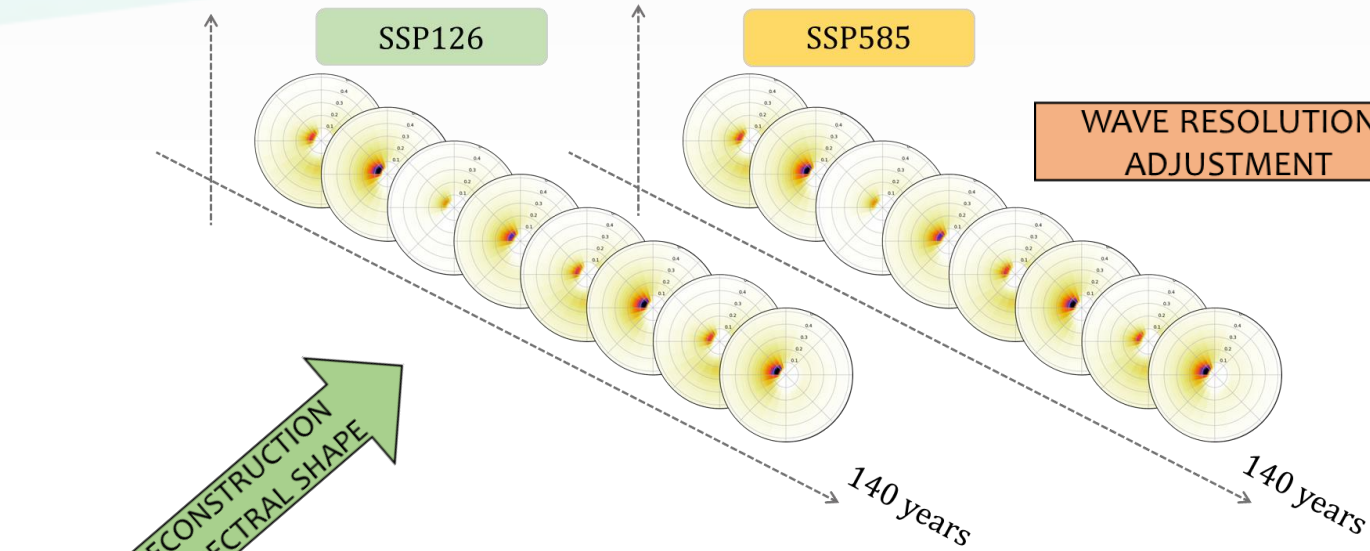




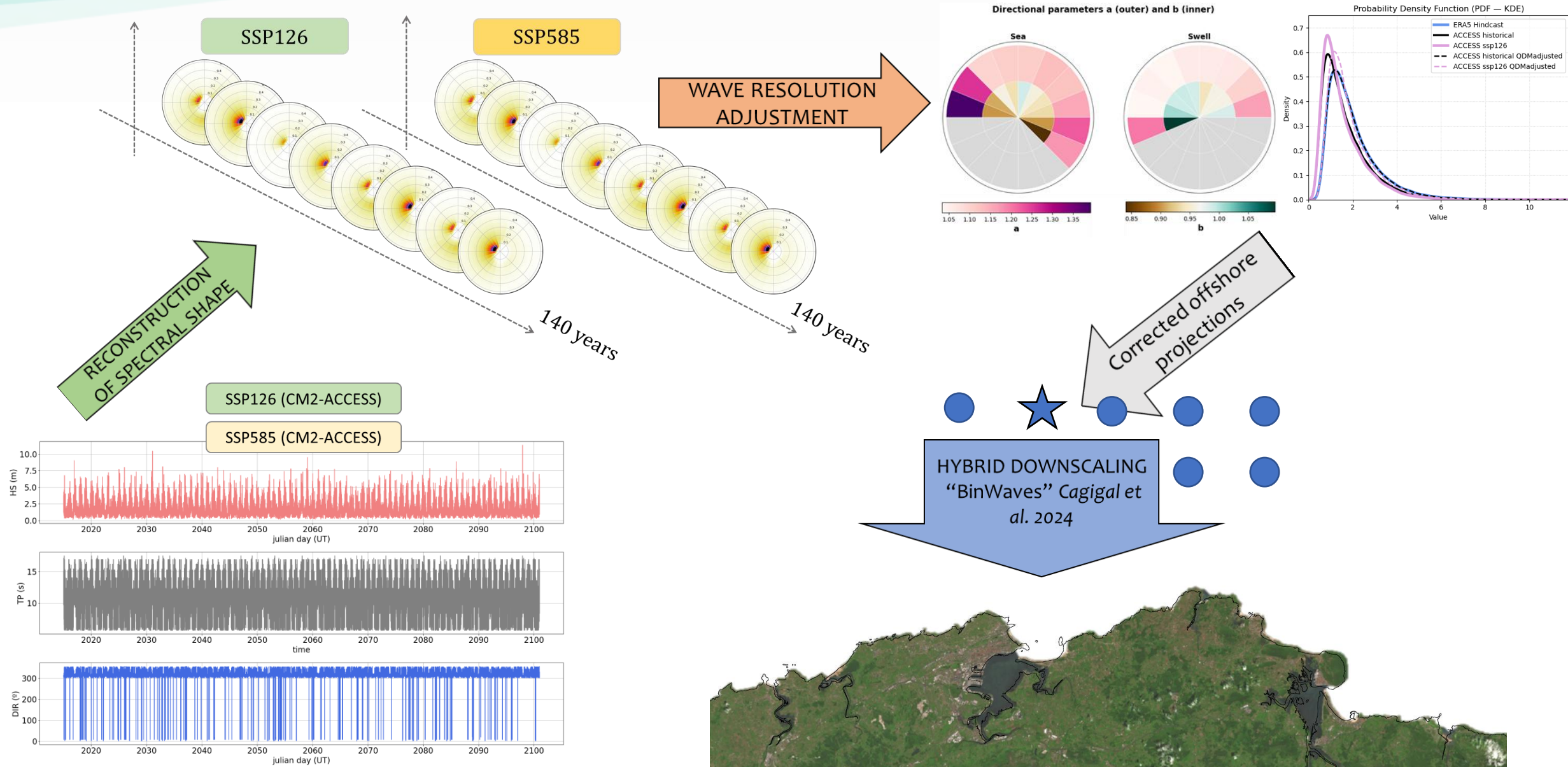
### 3. Example in the Cantabrian coast



### 3. Example in the Cantabrian coast



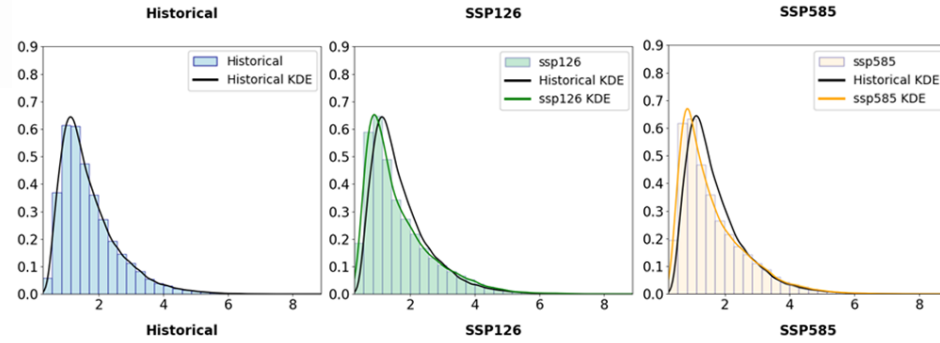
### 3. Example in the Cantabrian coast



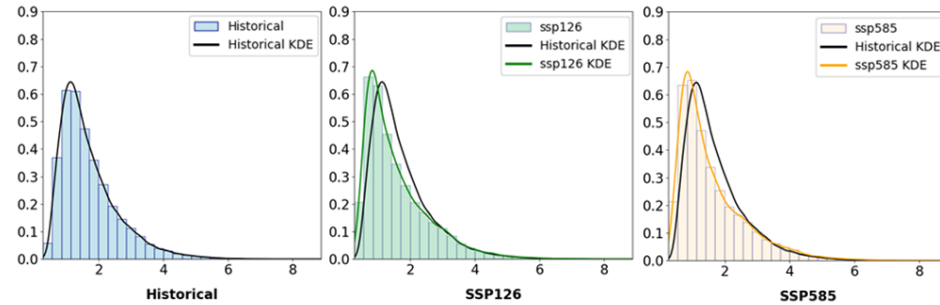


### 3. Example in the Cantabrian coast

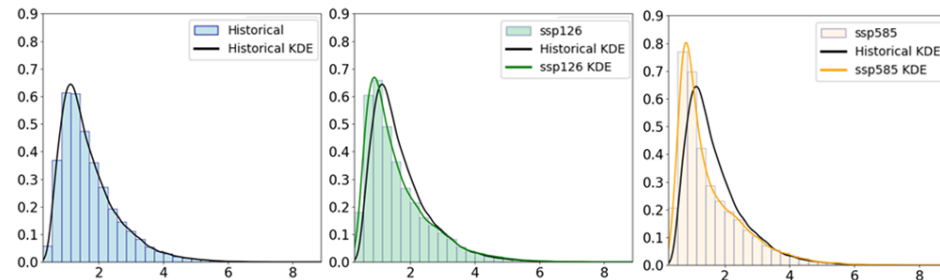
*Near term*  
2021-2040



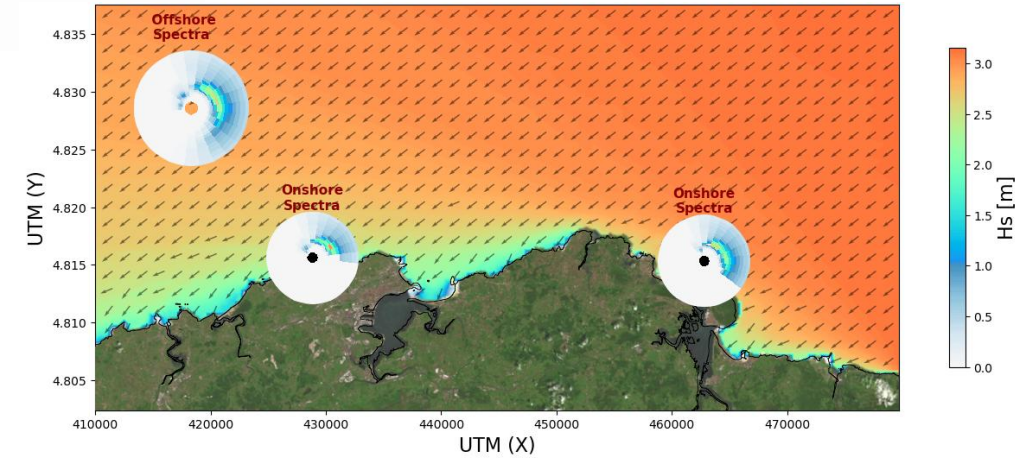
*Mid term*  
2041-2060



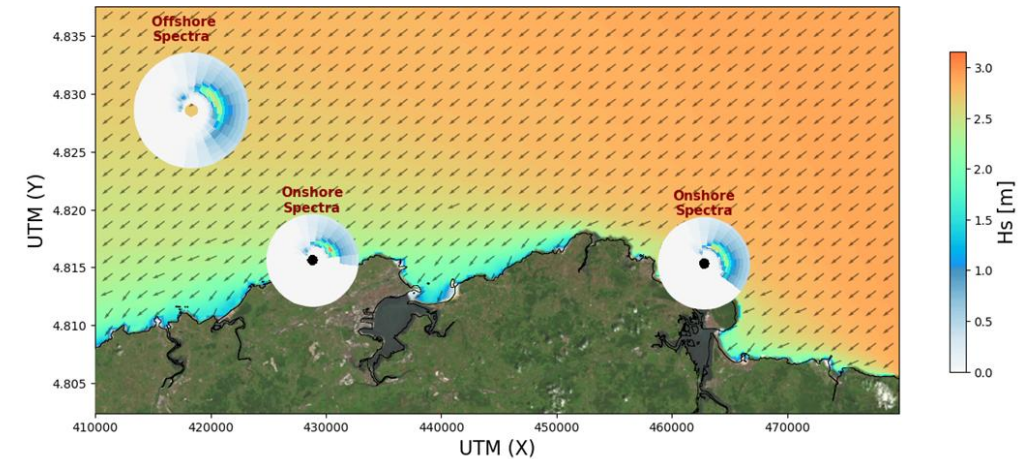
*Long term*  
2081-2100



SSP126 (CM2-ACCESS)



SSP585 (CM2-ACCESS)





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**MyFlood** (PLEC2022-009362 - MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033 and European Union Next GenerationEU/PRTR)

**HyBay** (PID2022-141181OB-I00, MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033/FEDER, EU)

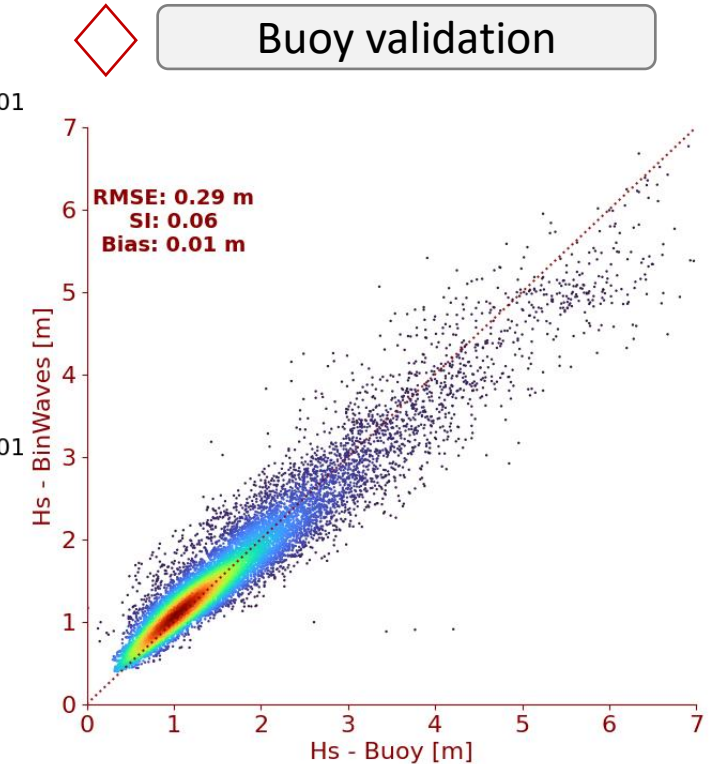
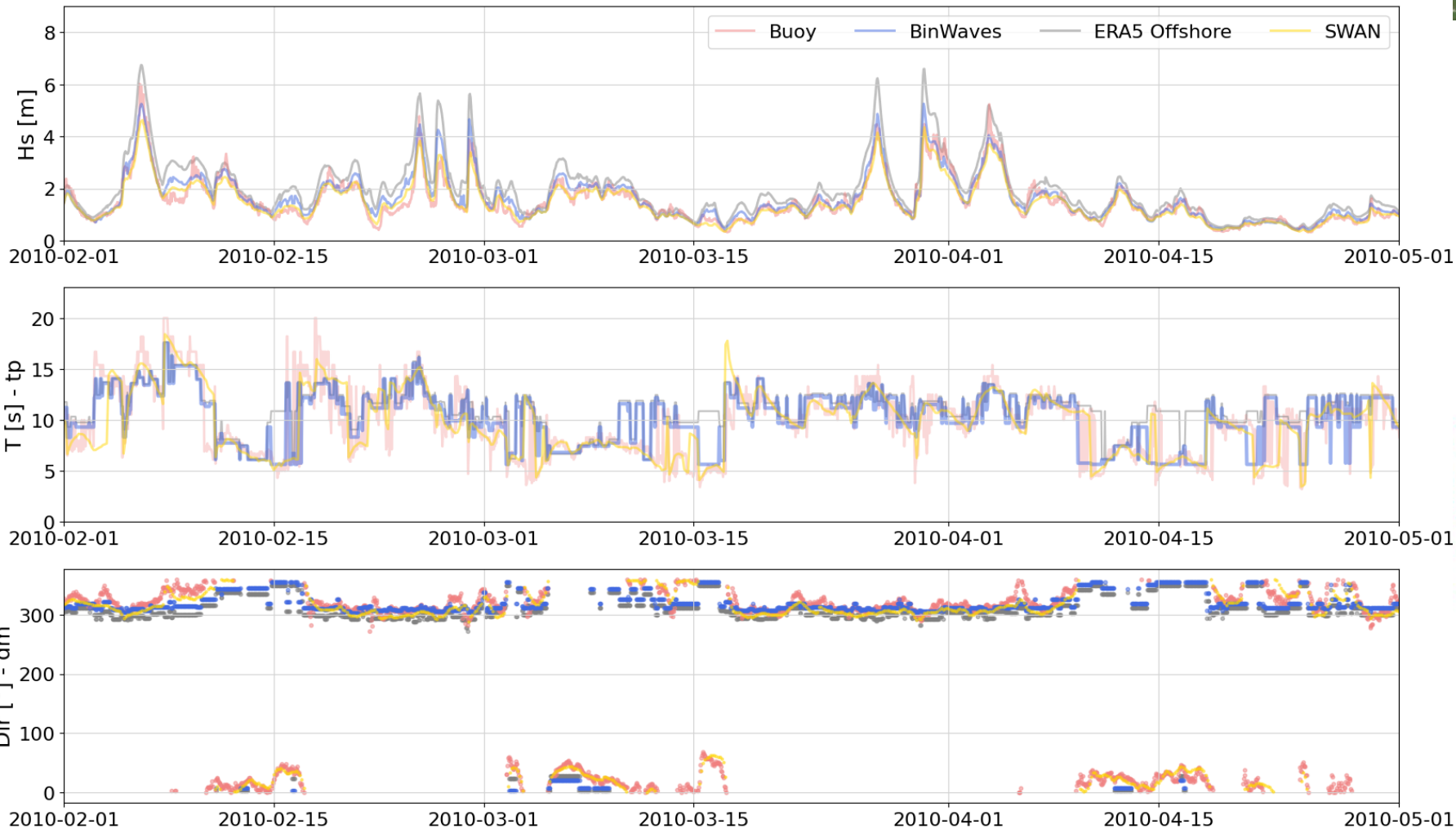
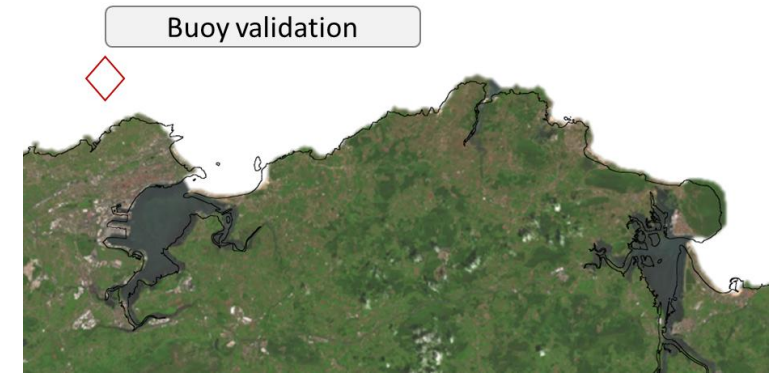
**PerfectStorm** (2023/TCN/003 - Government of Cantabria/FEDER, EU).

# Thanks for your attention...

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[bellidog@unican.es](mailto:bellidog@unican.es)

# Hybrid downscaling to the Cantabrian coast

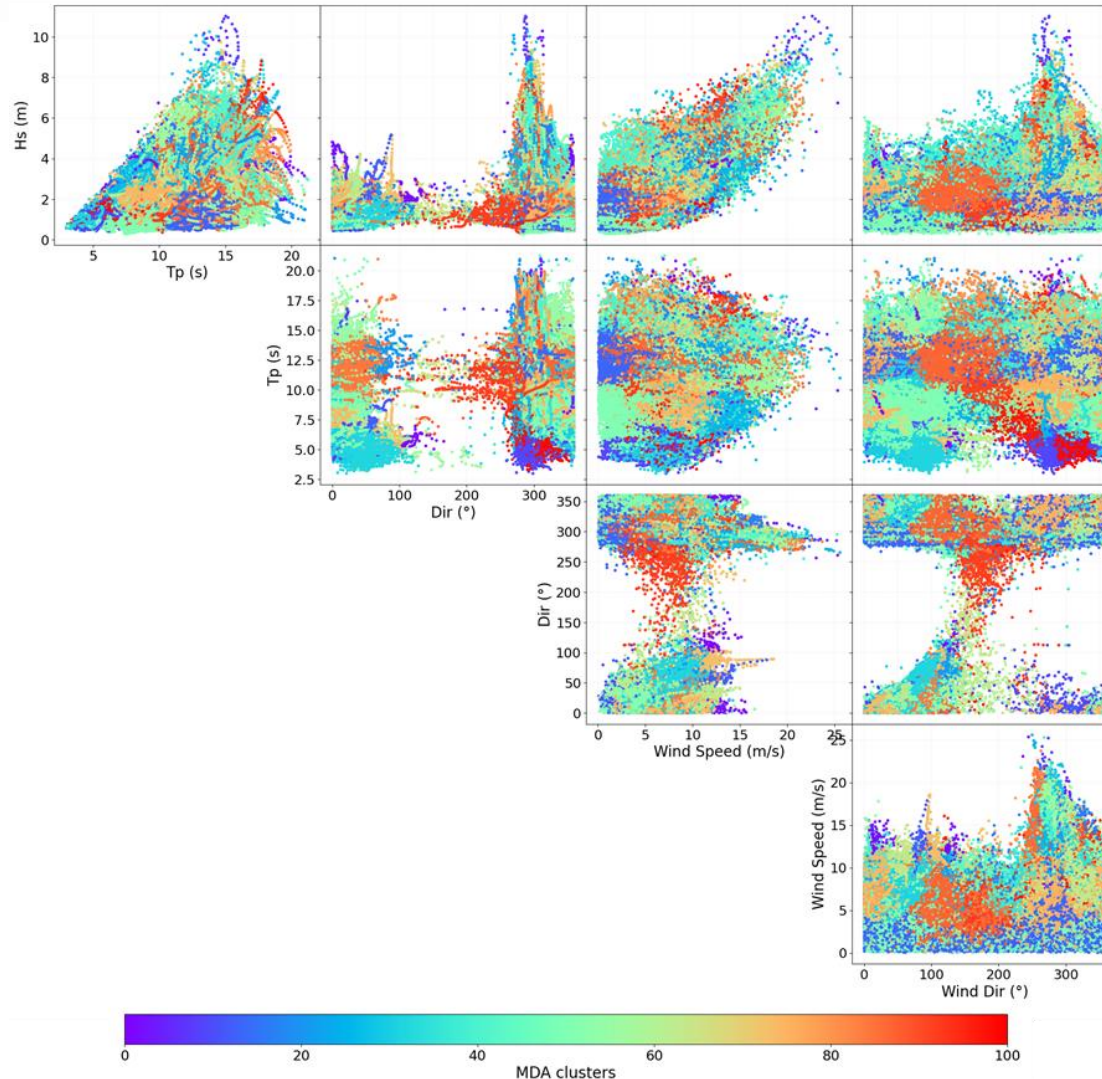
## Buoy validation



# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

Clustering **Bulk parameters**:

100 clusters



PROBABILISTIC RECONSTRUCTION  
OF WAVE SPECTRAL SHAPE

Bulk parameters:  
 $H_s, T_p, \theta, U_{10}, V_{10}$

Clustering with:  
**MDA** algorithm

Directional wave spectra:  
 $S(f, \theta)$

PCA

Clustering with:  
**Kmeans** algorithm

Conditional probabilities:

$$P(H_s, T_p, \theta, U_{10}, V_{10} | S(f_i, \theta_j))$$

At any time  $x...$

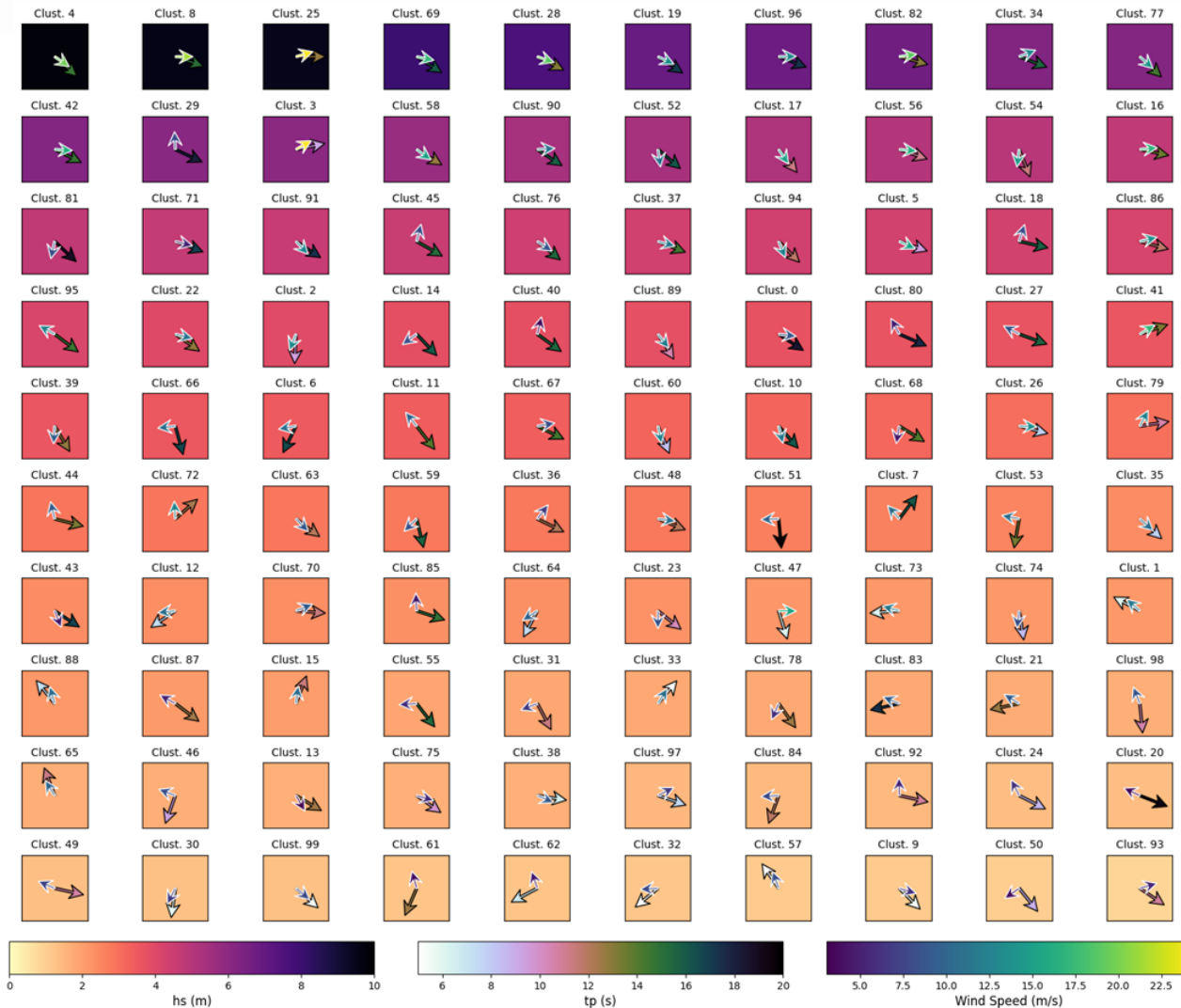
$$\text{Starting from the bulk parameters } H_{sx}, T_{px}, \theta_x, U_{10x}, V_{10x} \rightarrow S_x(f, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i * S_i(f, \theta) * \left( \frac{H_{sx}^2}{H_{si}^2} \right)$$



# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

## Clustering Bulk parameters:

100 clusters



### PROBABILISTIC RECONSTRUCTION OF WAVE SPECTRAL SHAPE

Bulk parameters:  
 $H_s, T_p, \theta, U_{10}, V_{10}$

Clustering with:  
**MDA** algorithm

Directional wave spectra:  
 $S(f, \theta)$

PCA

Clustering with:  
**Kmeans** algorithm

Conditional probabilities:

$$P(H_s, T_p, \theta, U_{10}, V_{10} \mid S(f_i, \theta_j))$$

At any time  $\mathbf{x} \dots$

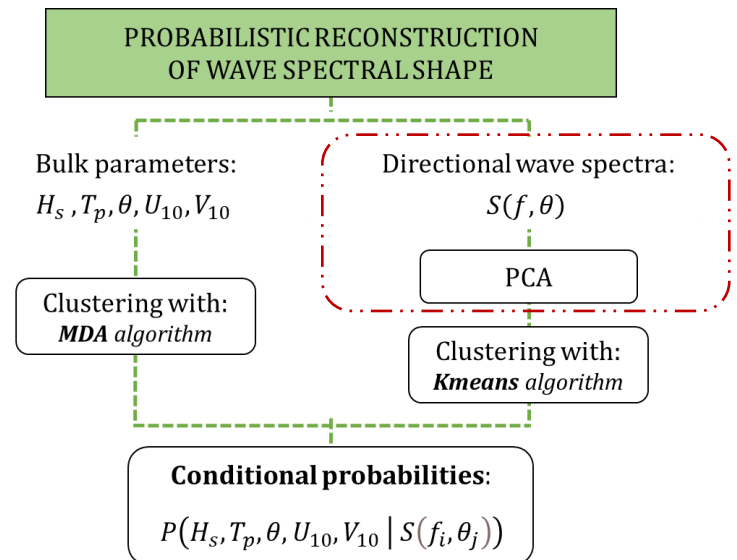
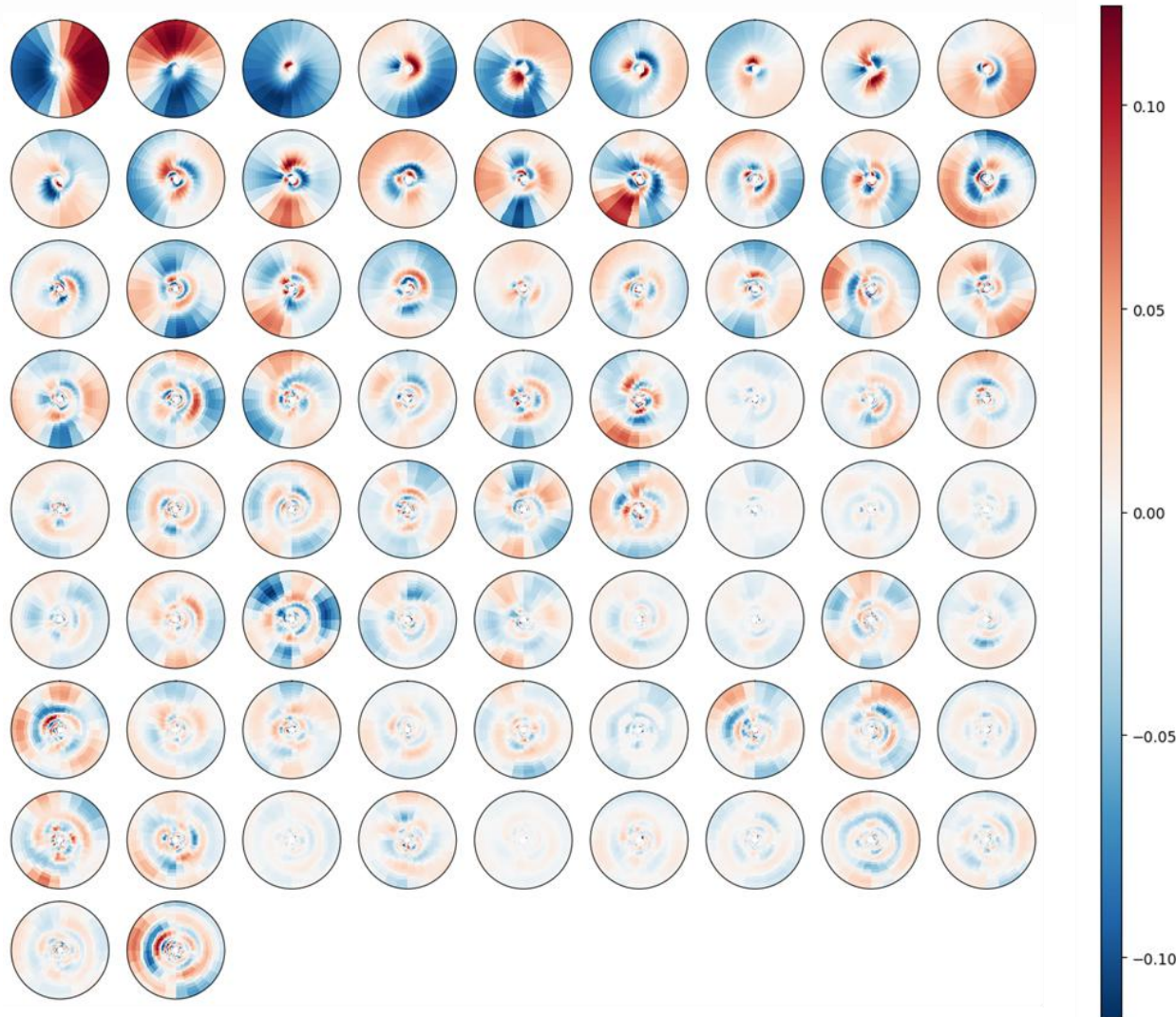
Starting from the bulk parameters  $\rightarrow$

$$S_x(f, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i * S_i(f, \theta) * \left( \frac{H_{sx}^2}{H_{si}^2} \right)$$

# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

## Clustering Directional Wave Spectra:

- 74 PCs
- 95% variance explained



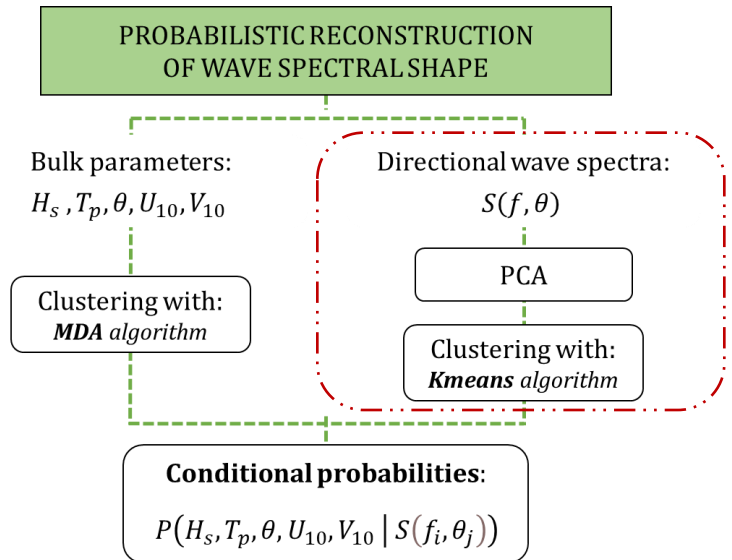
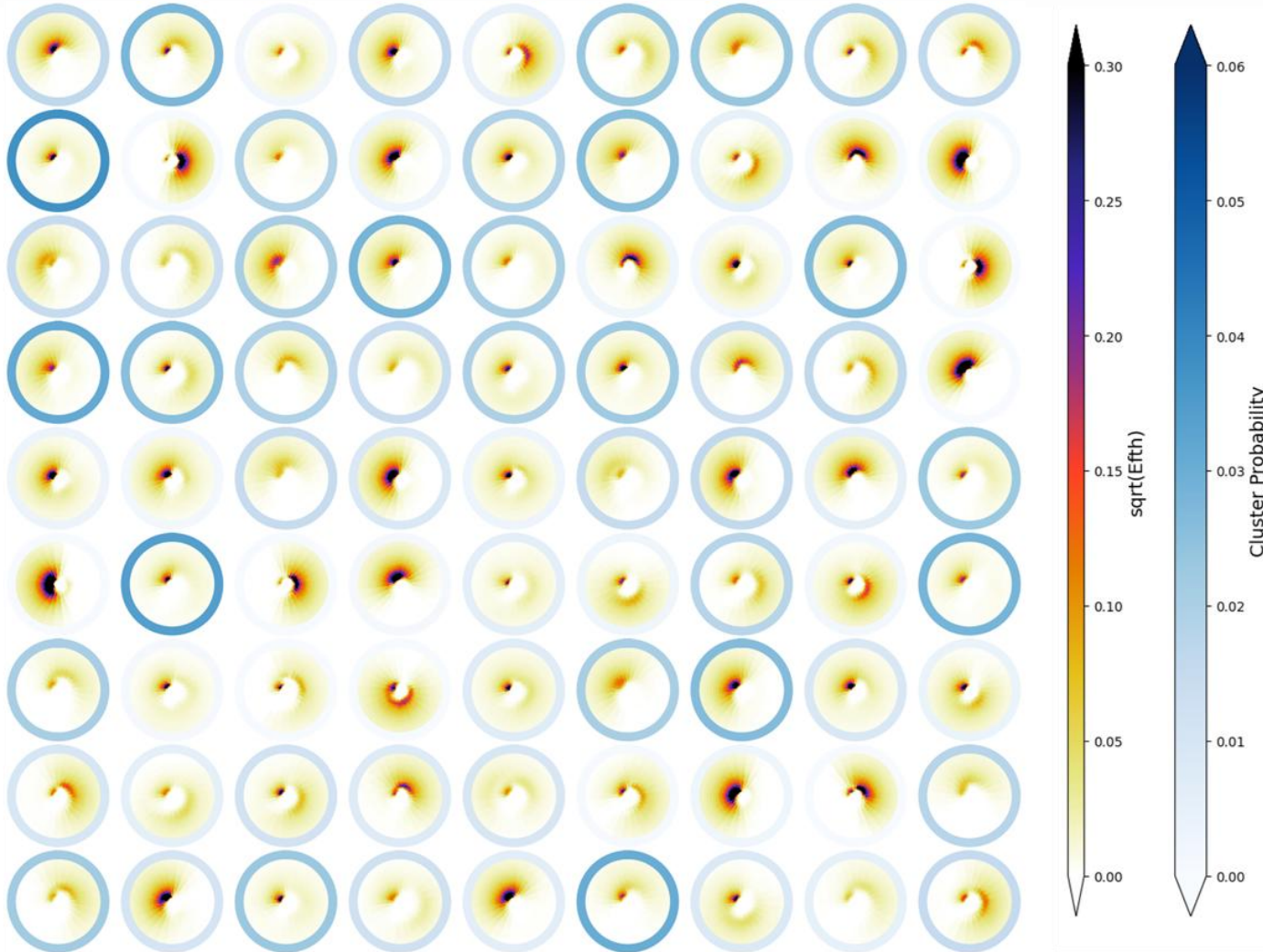
At any time  $x$ ...

$$\text{Starting from the bulk parameters } H_{sx}, T_{px}, \theta_x, U_{10x}, V_{10x} \rightarrow S_x(f, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i * S_i(f, \theta) * \left( \frac{H_{sx}^2}{H_{si}^2} \right)$$

# 1. From Bulk Parameters to Spectra

Clustering **Directional Wave Spectra**:

81 clusters



At any time  $x \dots$

$$\text{Starting from the bulk parameters } H_{sx}, T_{px}, \theta_x, U_{10x}, V_{10x} \rightarrow S_x(f, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N P_i * S_i(f, \theta) * \left( \frac{H_{sx}^2}{H_{si}^2} \right)$$