

Wave climate projection in the Western European seas under SSP5-8.5 climate change scenario

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Post-doctoral study at Saint-Venant Hydraulics Laboratory (LHSV) from July 2024 to August 2025

25/09/2025



Context and objectives

Context:

- **Climate Change** causes significant changes in several metocean variables (*e.g.* : temperature, mean sea level)
- **How will the wave conditions evolve in Western European Seas?**
 - No clear trends identified yet
 - Ongoing research on this topic
- Need to anticipate possible evolution of marine hazards in order to prepare adaptation plans
- **EDF / LHSV lab expertise in wave modelling**
 - ⇒ *TELEMAC-MASCARET* software (*TOMAWAC* for sea states , *TELEMAC-2D* for storm surges)
 - ⇒ Regional reanalysis database *ANEMOC3* 1979-2024 (46 years)

Objectives of the current study:

- ☐ **Generate** GCM-based datasets using *ANEMOC3* regional model
- ☐ **Validate historical-period** data against *ANEMOC3*
- ☐ Analyze **wave climate evolution**
- ☐ **Compare** with a state-of-the-art database (*Meucci 2024*)

Meucci, A., Young, I. R., Trenham, C., & Hemer, M. (2024). An 8-model ensemble of CMIP6-derived ocean surface wave climate. *Scientific Data*, 11(1), 100

Focus on Western European Seas (North-Eastern Atlantic area)

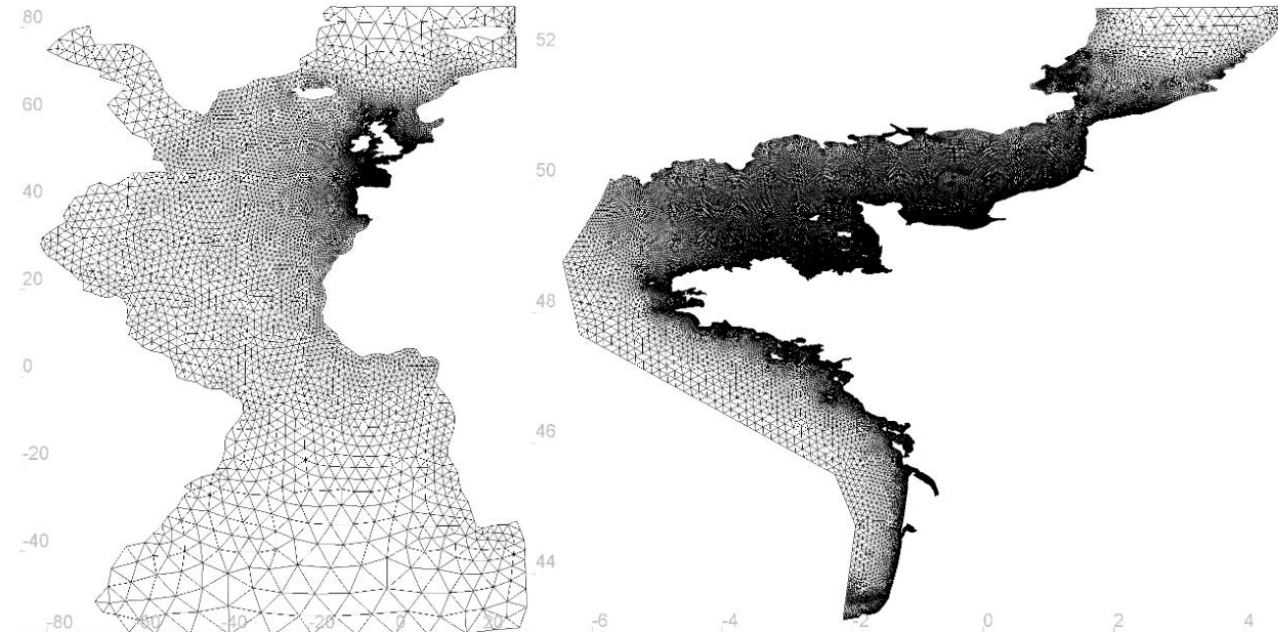


Figure 2. *ANEMOC-3* oceanic (left panel) and coastal (right panel) domains.

Teles M., Weiss M., Benoit M. (2022) Assessment of the ANEMOC-3 sea state hindcast database for modelling a series of energetic winter storms along the French coast, XVIIèmes Journées Nationales Génie Côtier – Génie Civil, Chatou, France, pp 171-182.

Summary

1. Western European Seas wave databases

Meucci et al. (2024) + ANEMOC3 reanalysis + TOMAWAC/GCM simulations

2. Performance of the CMIP6 GCM-based datasets for the historical period

3. Evolution of wave climate under SSP5-8.5 climate change scenarios

4. Conclusion and Perspectives

Summary

1. Western European Seas wave databases

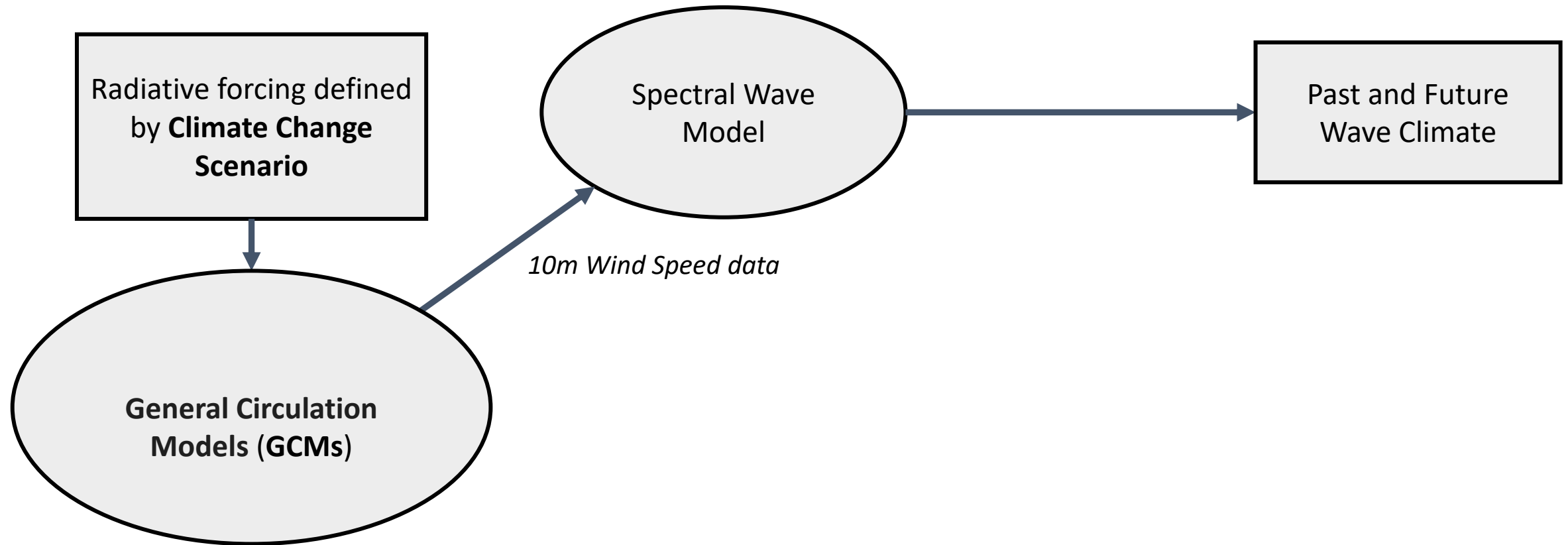
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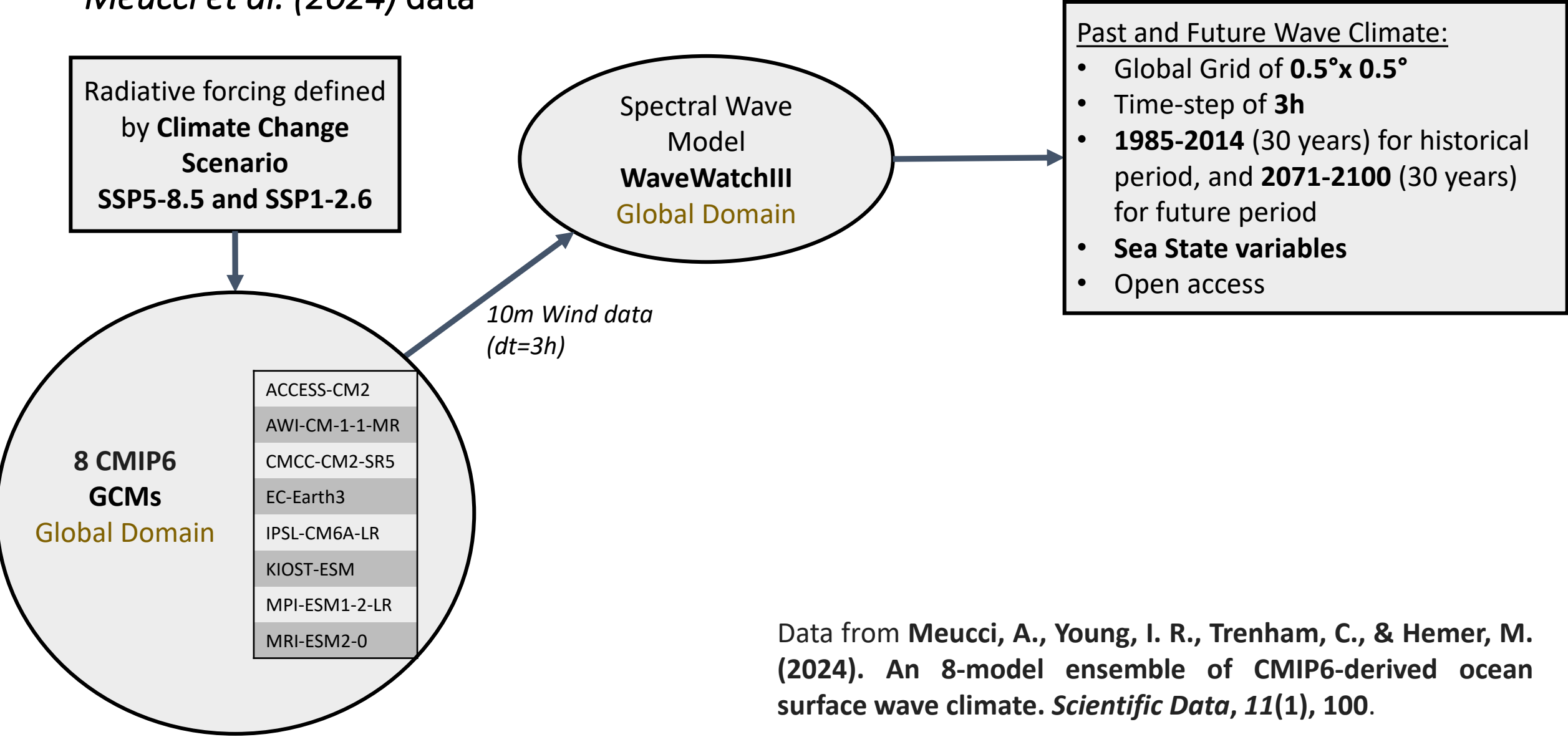
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State-of-the-art methodology for the generation of wave climate dynamical projections

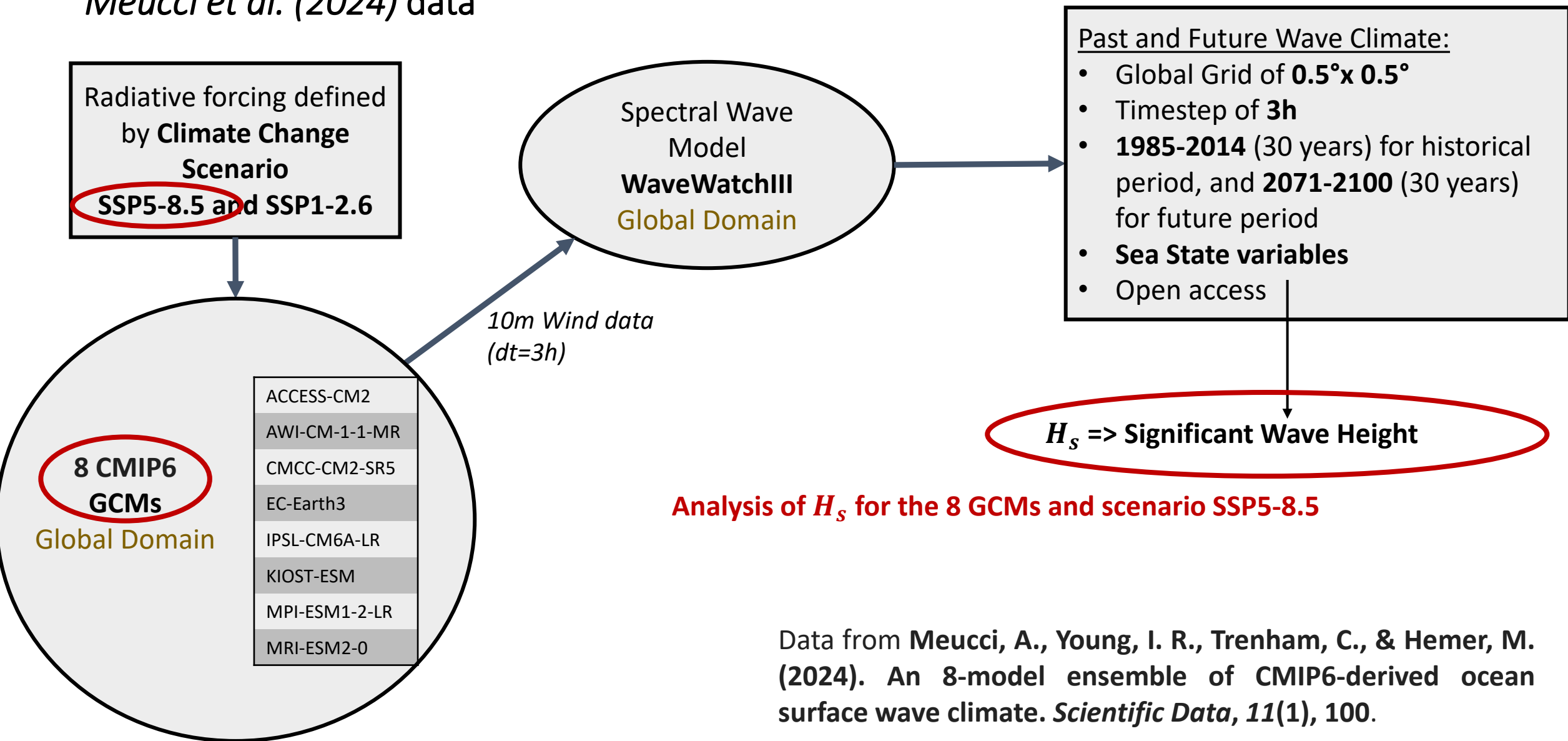


Meucci et al. (2024) data



Data from Meucci, A., Young, I. R., Trenham, C., & Hemer, M. (2024). An 8-model ensemble of CMIP6-derived ocean surface wave climate. *Scientific Data*, 11(1), 100.

Meucci et al. (2024) data



ANEMOC3 reanalysis (from EDF R&D)

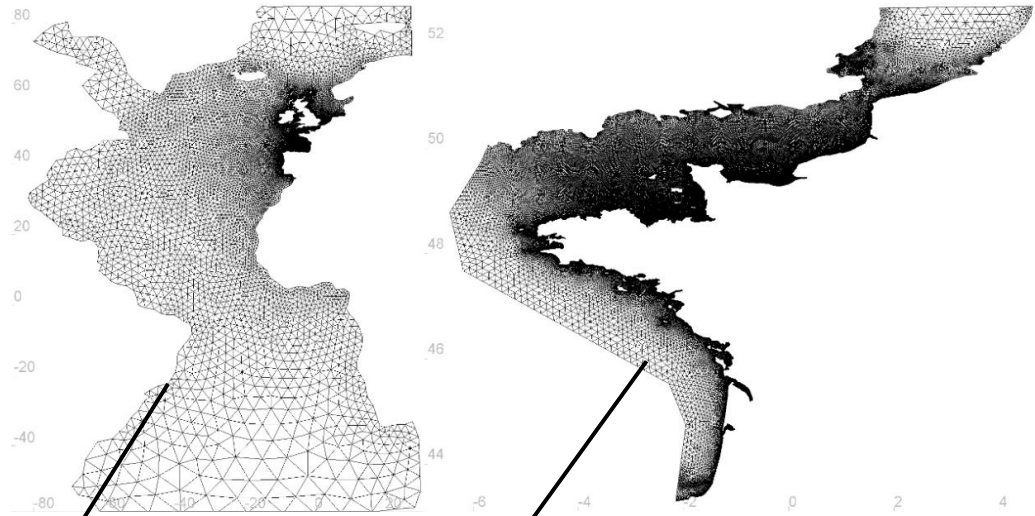
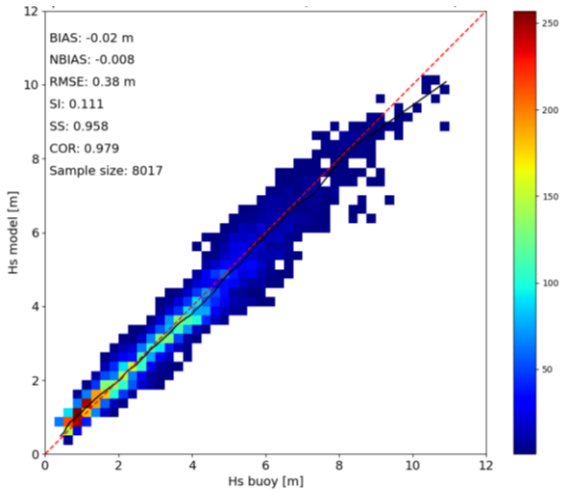


Figure 2. ANEMOC-3 oceanic (left panel) and coastal (right panel) domains.

	ANEMOC-Ocean	ANEMOC-Coastal
Code	TOMAWAC (wave model)	TOMAWAC (wave model) + TELEMAC2D (Hydrodynamic model)
Time Coverage	1979-2024	1979-2024
Wind	CFSR (1979-2010) + CFSv2 (2011-2024)	CFSR (1979-2010) +CFSv2 (2011-2024)
Output dt	1 h	30 min
Spatial discretization	20 km near the coast (12000 nodes)	1 km near the coast (56000 nodes)
Coupling with hydrodynamic model	No	Yes (includes tide and storm surge data)

Teles M., Weiss M., Benoit M. (2022) Assessment of the ANEMOC-3 sea state hindcast database for modelling a series of energetic winter storms along the French coast, XVIIèmes Journées Nationales Génie Côtier – Génie Civil, Chatou, France, pp 171-182.

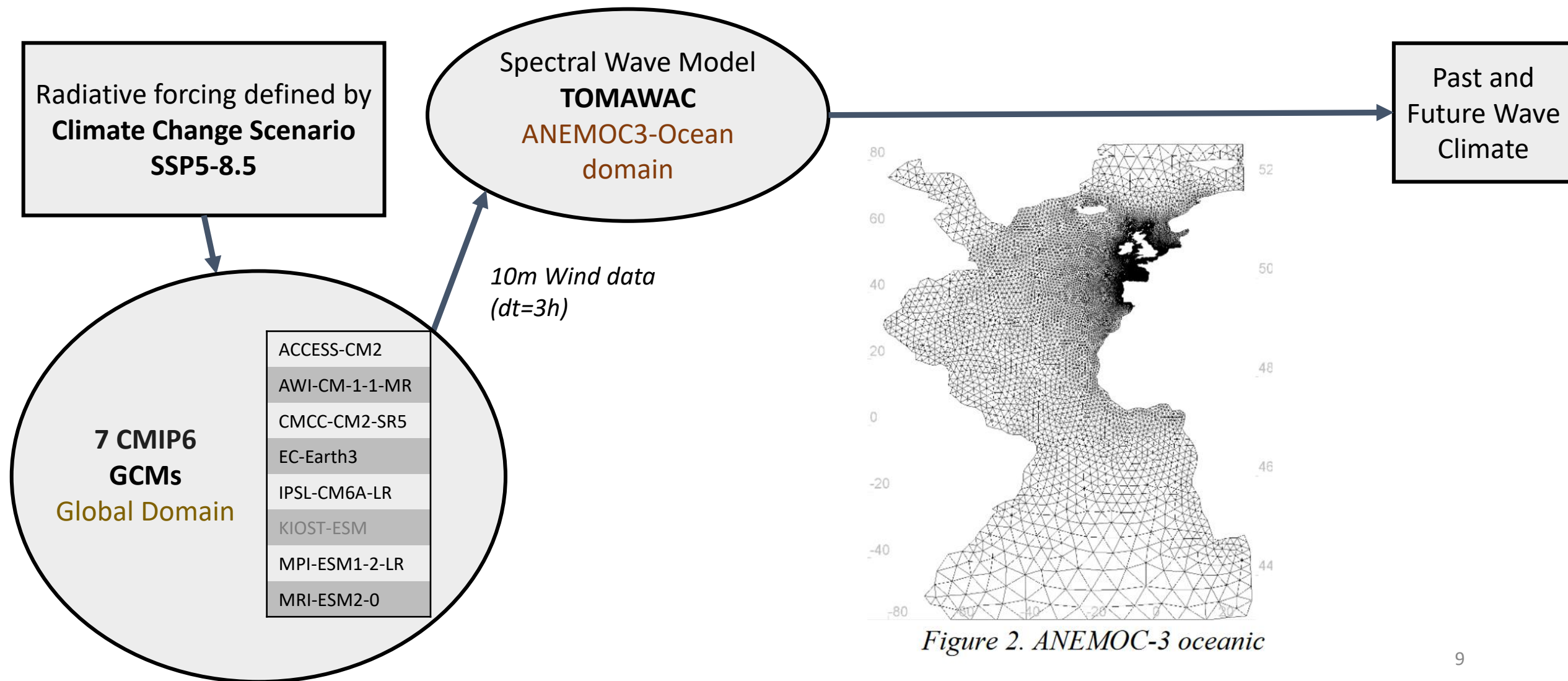
Calibrated/validated against
buoy and satellite data



ANEMOC3-Coastal comparison
with Belle-île buoy data

ANEMOC3 selected as
the reference for the
historical period

New regional wave climate projections using *TOMAWAC* and ANEMOC3-Ocean model



Summary

1. Western European Seas wave databases

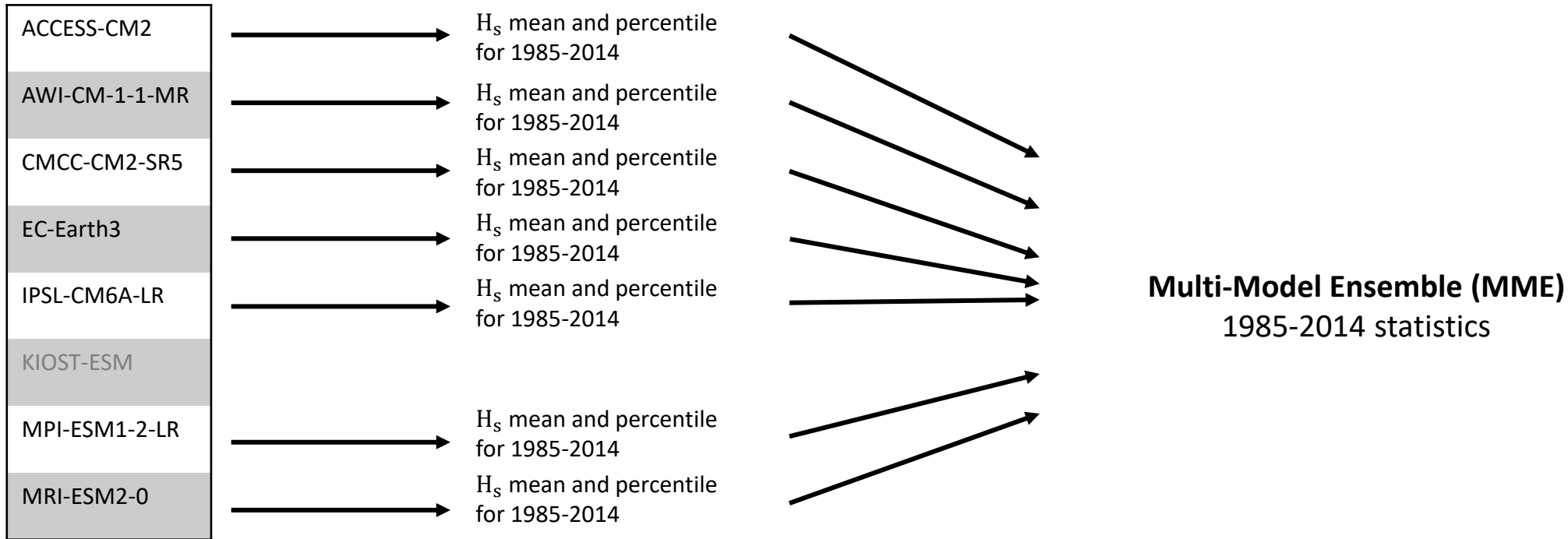
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MME statistics with 7 GCMs for *Meucci et al 2024 (MME-M)* and TOMAWAC/GCM (MME-T)



$H_s(x, t)$ timeseries
 for 7 GCMs
Historical Period
1985-2014

Statistics over time $H_s^{stat}(x)$
 for each dataset for each grid
 point

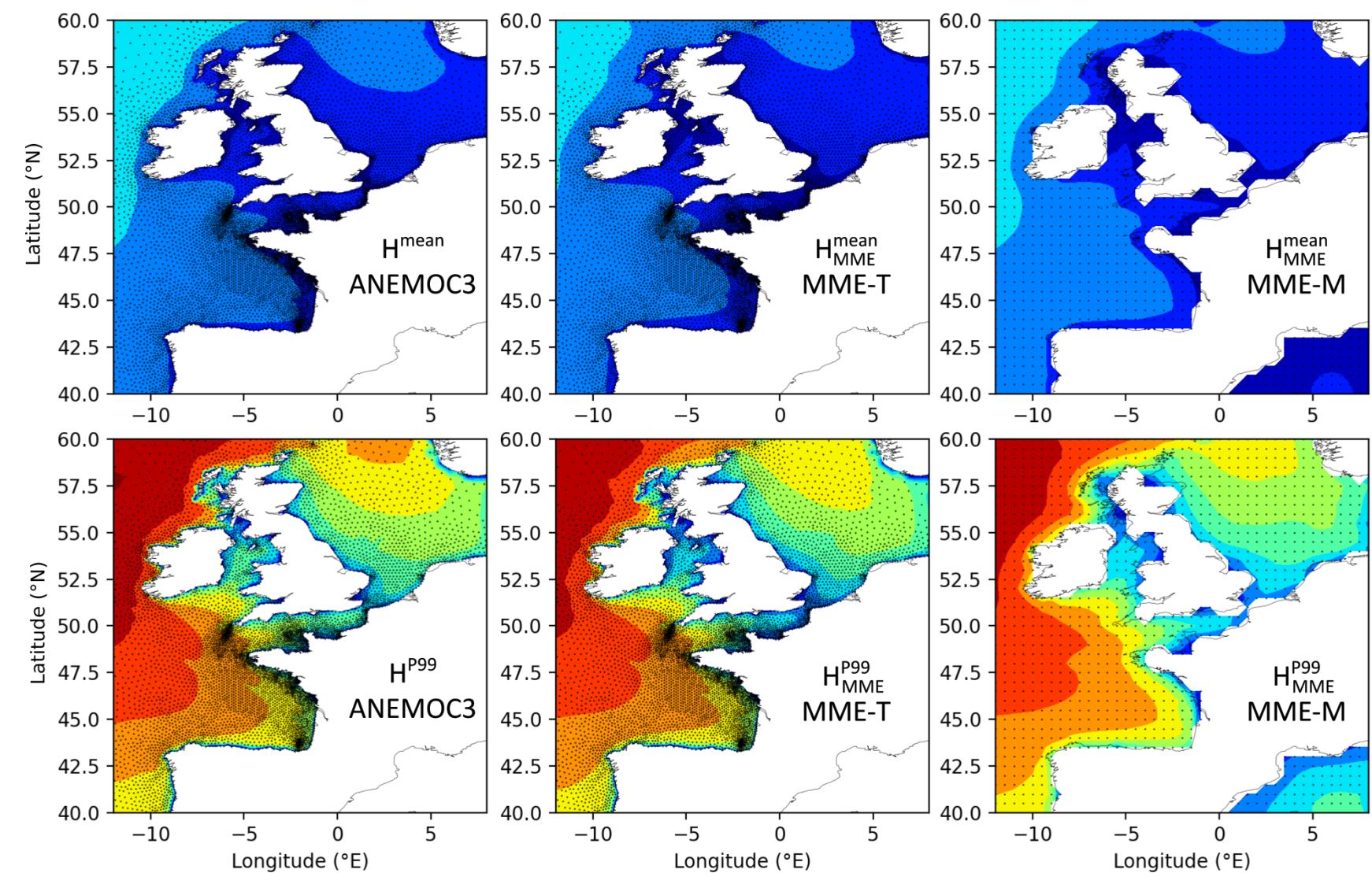
$MME\ mean(H_s^{stat, 1985-2014}(x))$

Comparison of 1985-2014 H_s statistics

ANEMOC3

MME-T

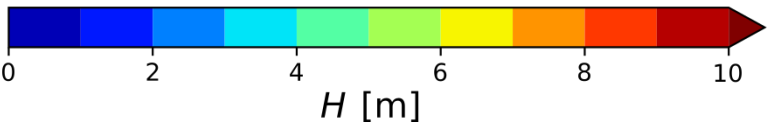
MME-M



H_s Mean

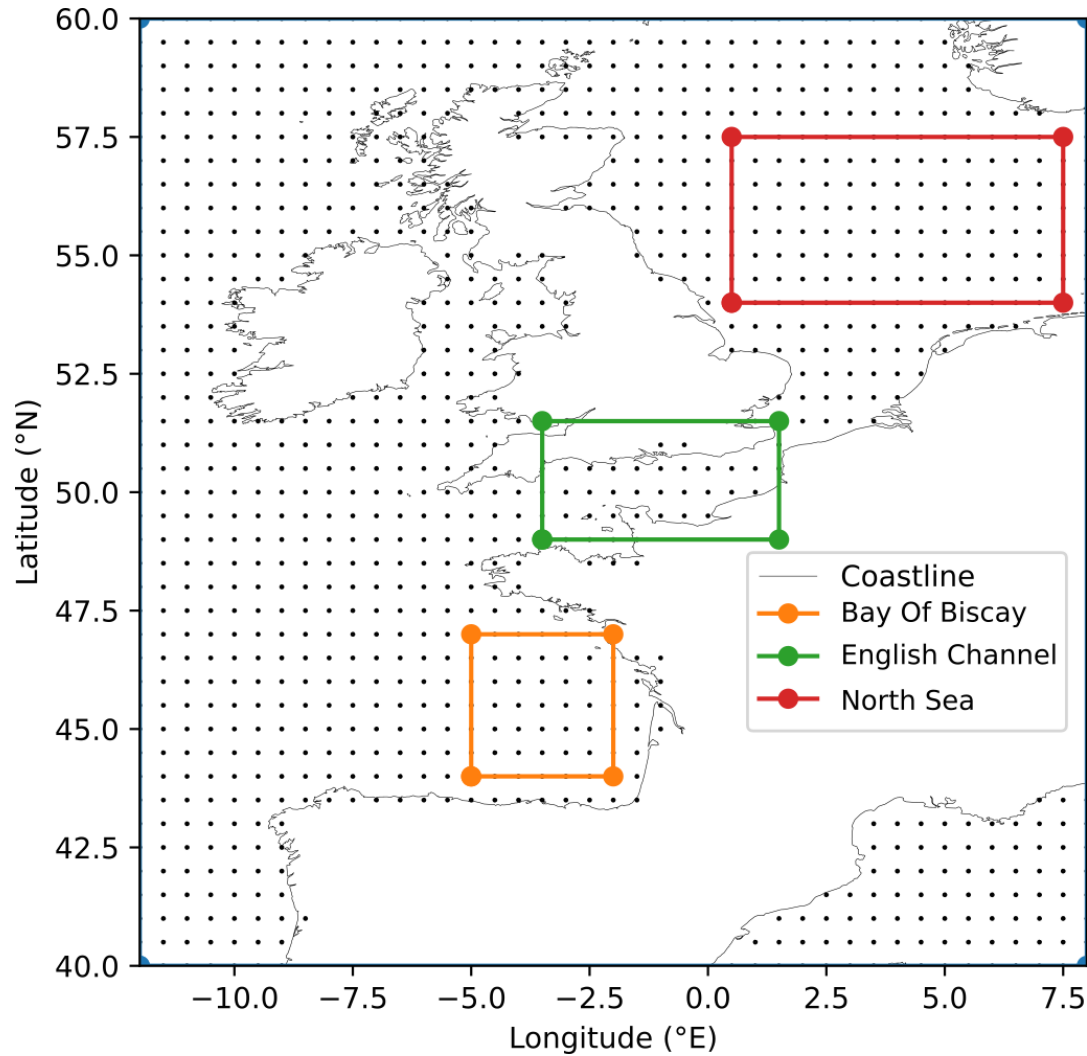
H_s Percentile 99

⇒ Very good agreement



Reproduction of seasonal climate ?

H_s multi-year monthly statistics averaged in space for 3 regions



Step1: computation of multi-year monthly statistics for each point x

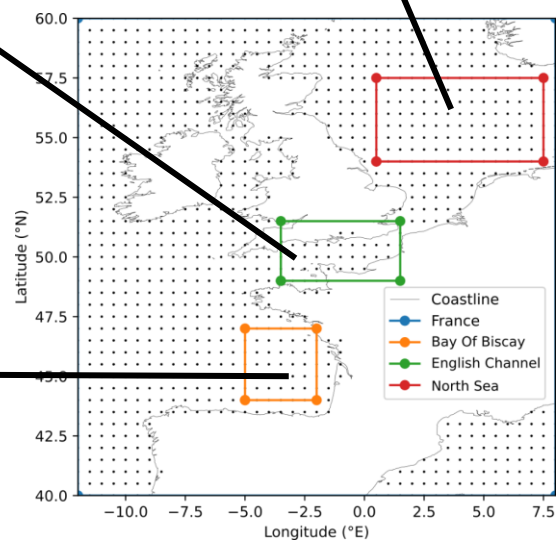
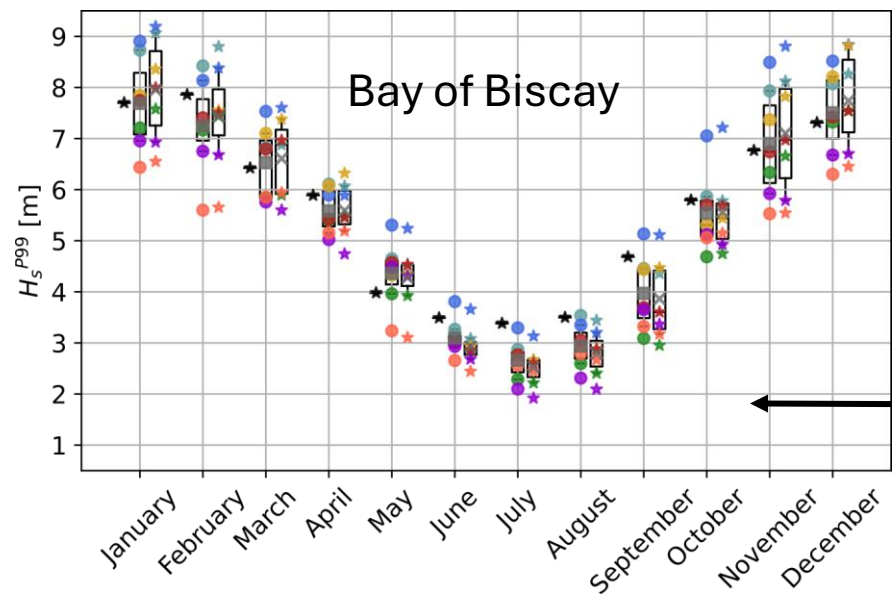
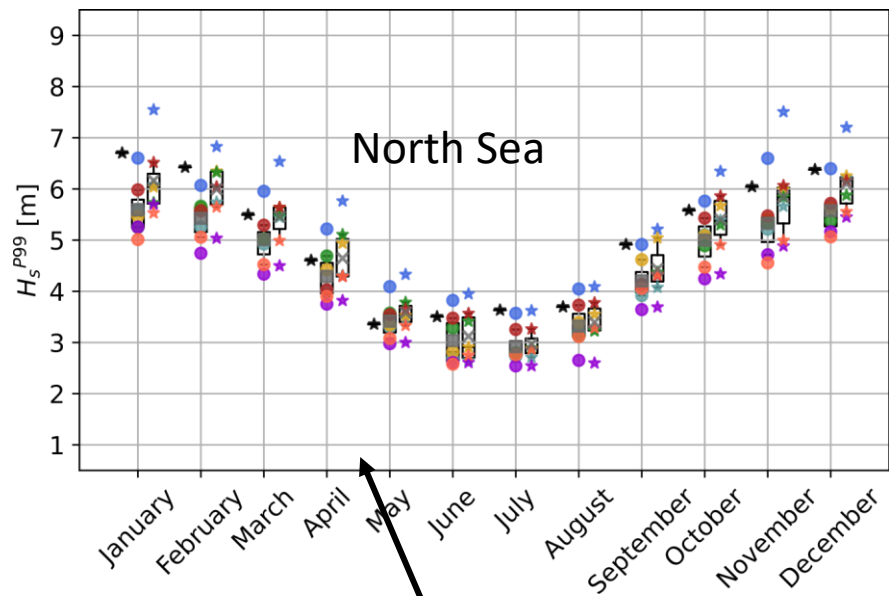
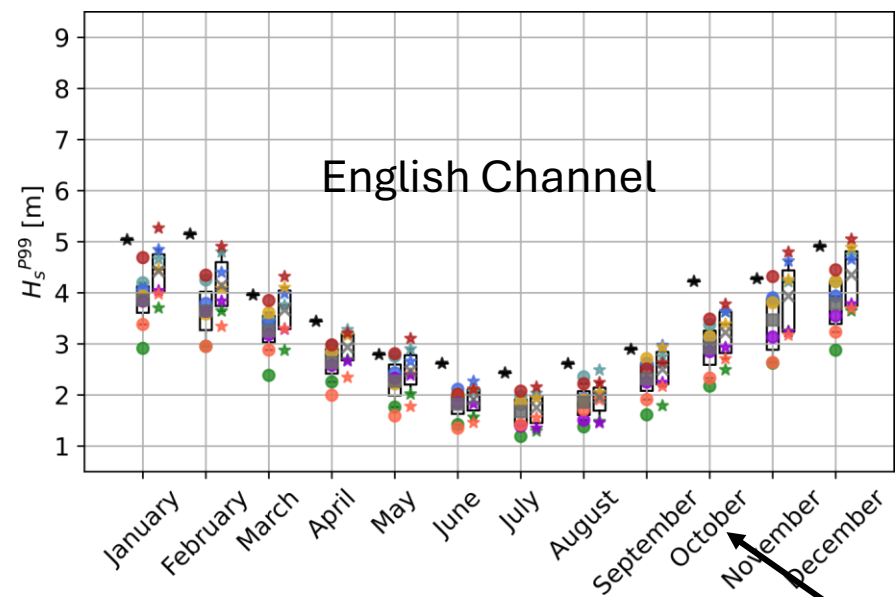
$$H_s^{P99}_{January}(x) = P99_{1985_2014} \left(H_s(x, t \in \textit{January}) \right)$$

Step2: Spatial mean over regions

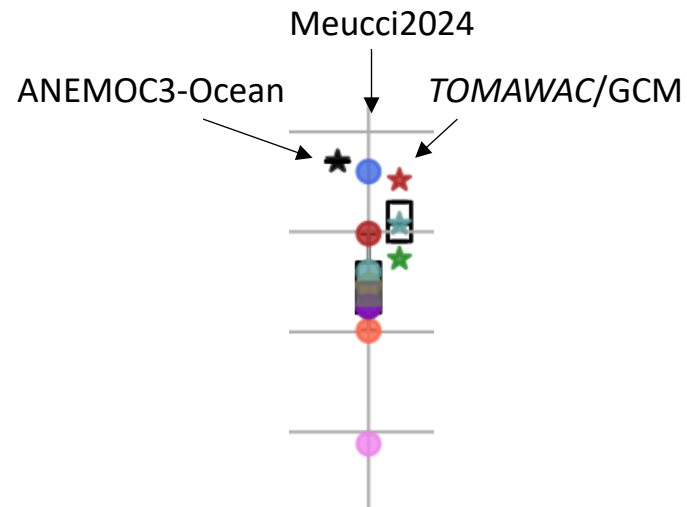
$$H_s^{P99}_{January}(\textit{region}) = \text{Spatial Mean} \left(H_s^{P99}_{January}(x \in \textit{region}) \right)$$

→ 12 points (1 for each month) per region, for each GCM

Multi-year monthly statistics averaged for 3 regions : H_s P99



- ★ ANEMOC3
- MME
- MPI-ESM1-2-LR
- MRI-ESM2-0
- AWI-CM-1-1-MR
- CMCC-CM2-SR5
- EC-Earth3
- IPSL-CM6A-LR
- ACCESS-CM2



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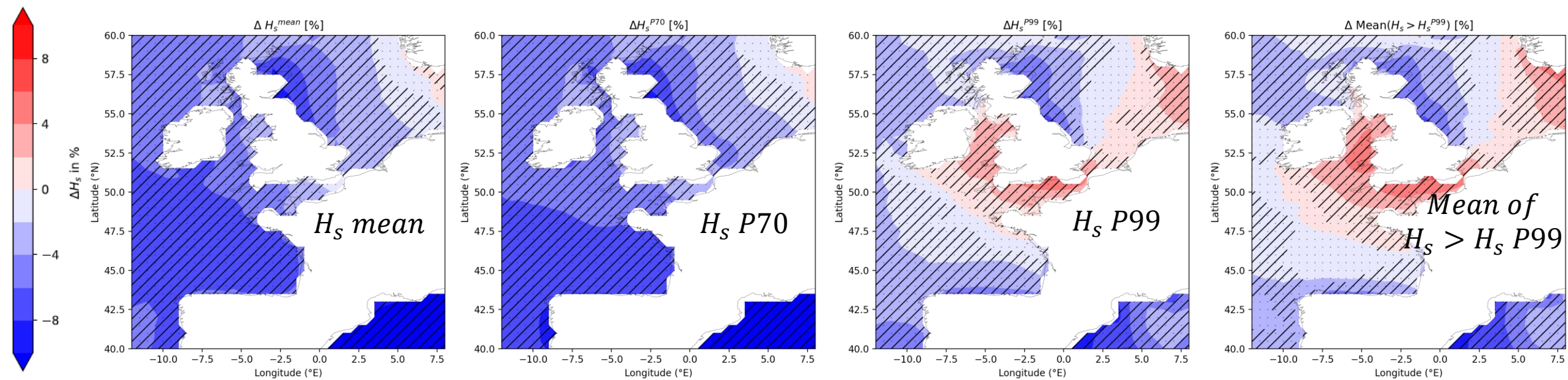
Relative difference of MME statistics

$$\frac{MME \left(H_s^{stat, 2071-2100}(\mathbf{x}) \right) - MME \left(H_s^{stat, 1985-2014}(\mathbf{x}) \right)}{MME \left(H_s^{stat, 1985-2014}(\mathbf{x}) \right)}$$

×2 for MME-M and MME-T

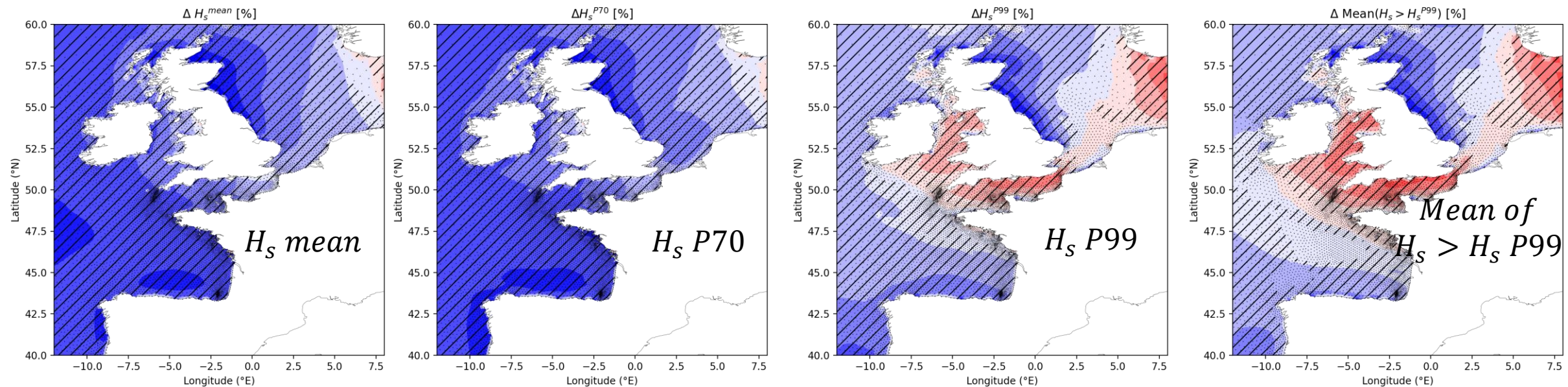
Agreement Level (AG): Number of models whose sign of change is consistent with the evolution of MME statistics.

Hatching if $AG \geq 5$



MME-M (Meucci 2024) Relative evolution of 4 characteristic H_s between 1985-2014 and 2071-2100 (**SSP5-8.5**)

MME-T (TOMAWAC/GCM) Relative evolution of 4 characteristic H_s between 1985-2014 and 2071-2100 (**SSP5-8.5**)



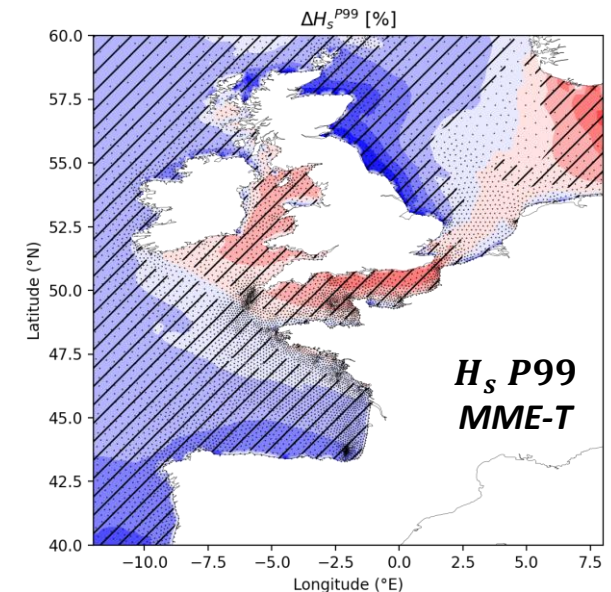
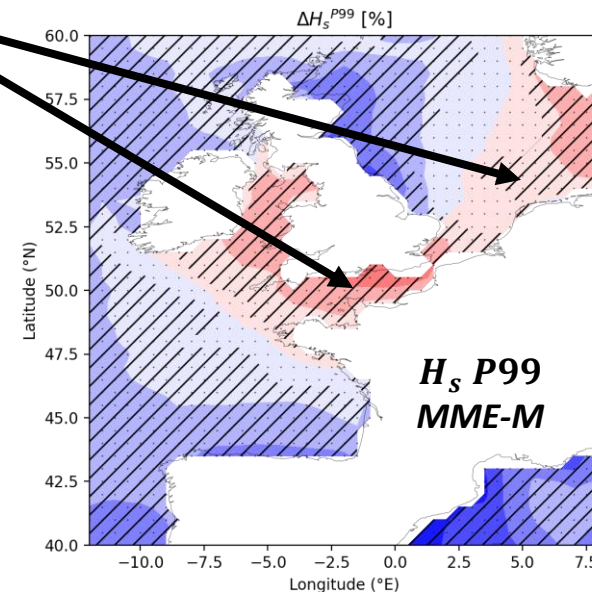
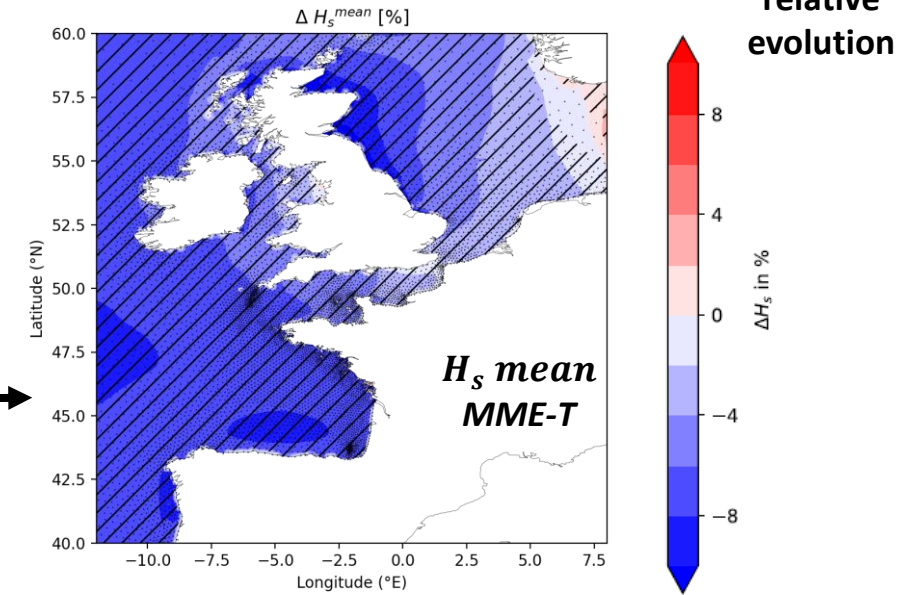
Evolution trends from two 7-GCMs ensembles (SSP5-8.5 scenario):

- **Decrease** in the **mean and low-percentile H_s** accross the entire domain

- **Increase** in the **high-percentile H_s** in the **English Channel** and the **North Sea**

- *TOMAWAC/GCM* and *Meucci2024* provide similar evolution trends

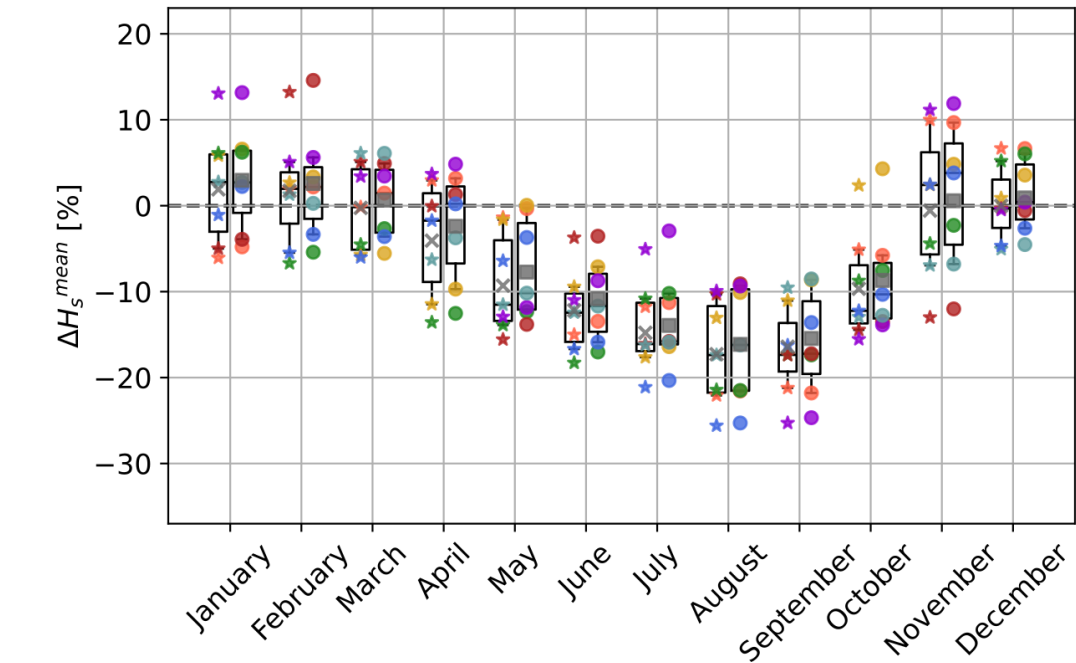
→ **Moderate wave model uncertainty**



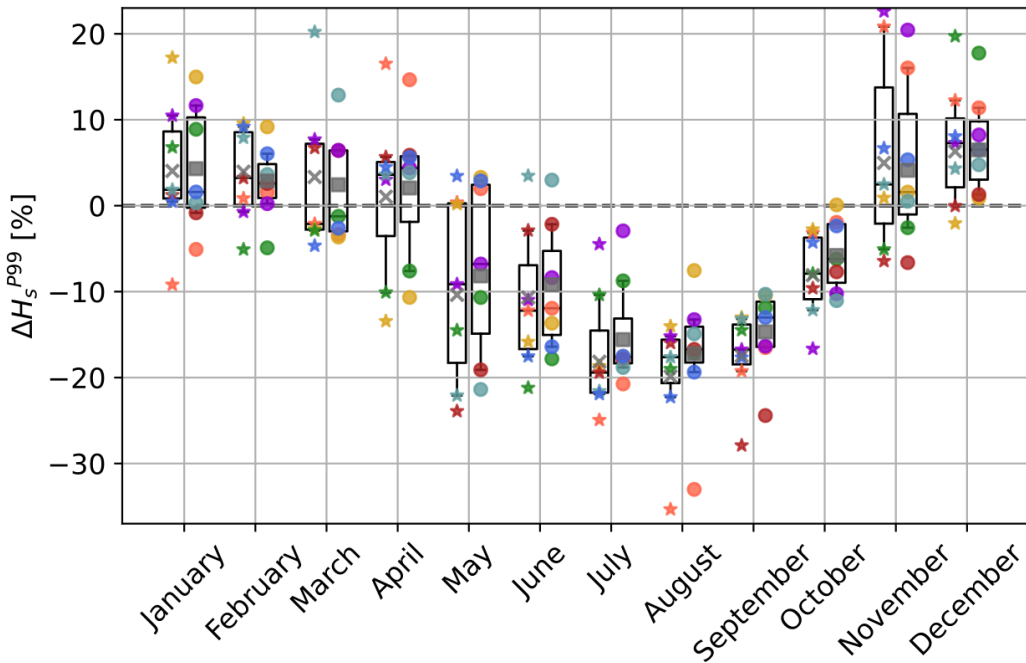
Evolution patterns for each month ?

Relative evolution of monthly statistics English Channel (2071-2100 Vs 1985-2014)

SSP5-8.5



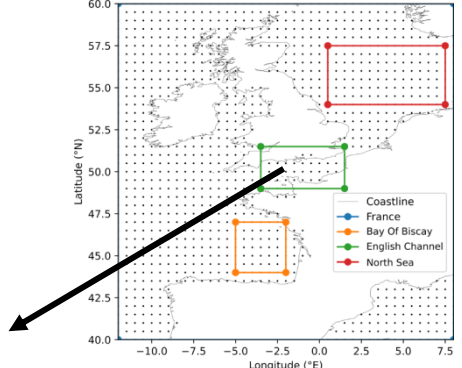
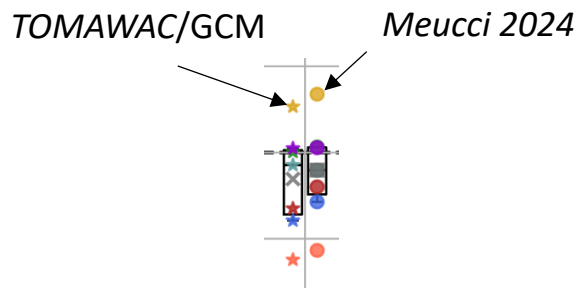
H_s mean



H_s P99

- MME
- MPI-ESM1-2-LR
- MRI-ESM2-0
- AWI-CM-1-1-MR
- CMCC-CM2-SR5
- EC-Earth3
- IPSL-CM6A-LR
- ACCESS-CM2

⇒ Strong **decrease** in the H_s mean and P99 from **May to October**
⇒ Clear **increase** in the H_s P99 from **November to March**



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Meucci et al. (2024) + *ANEMOC3* reanalysis + *TOMAWAC/GCM* simulations

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Conclusions

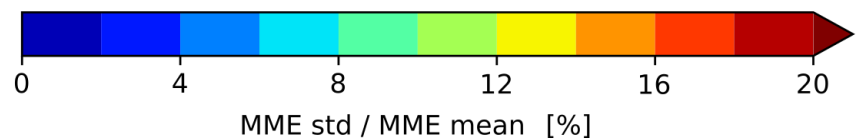
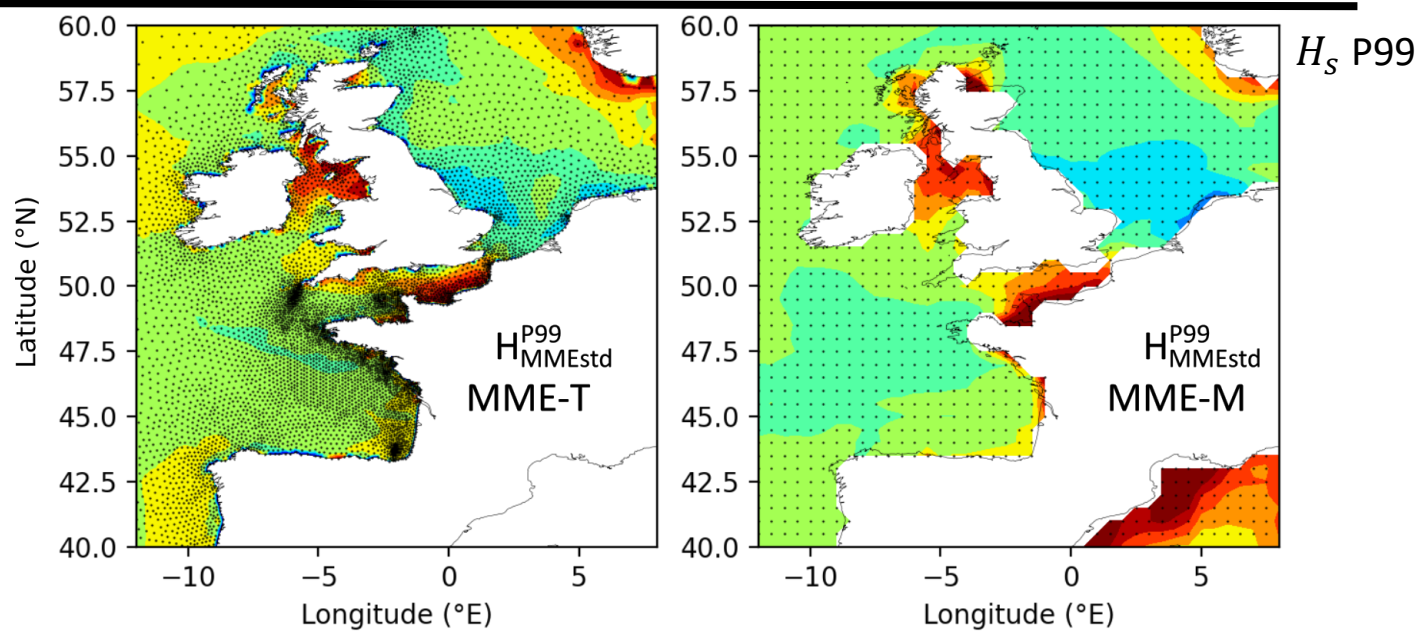
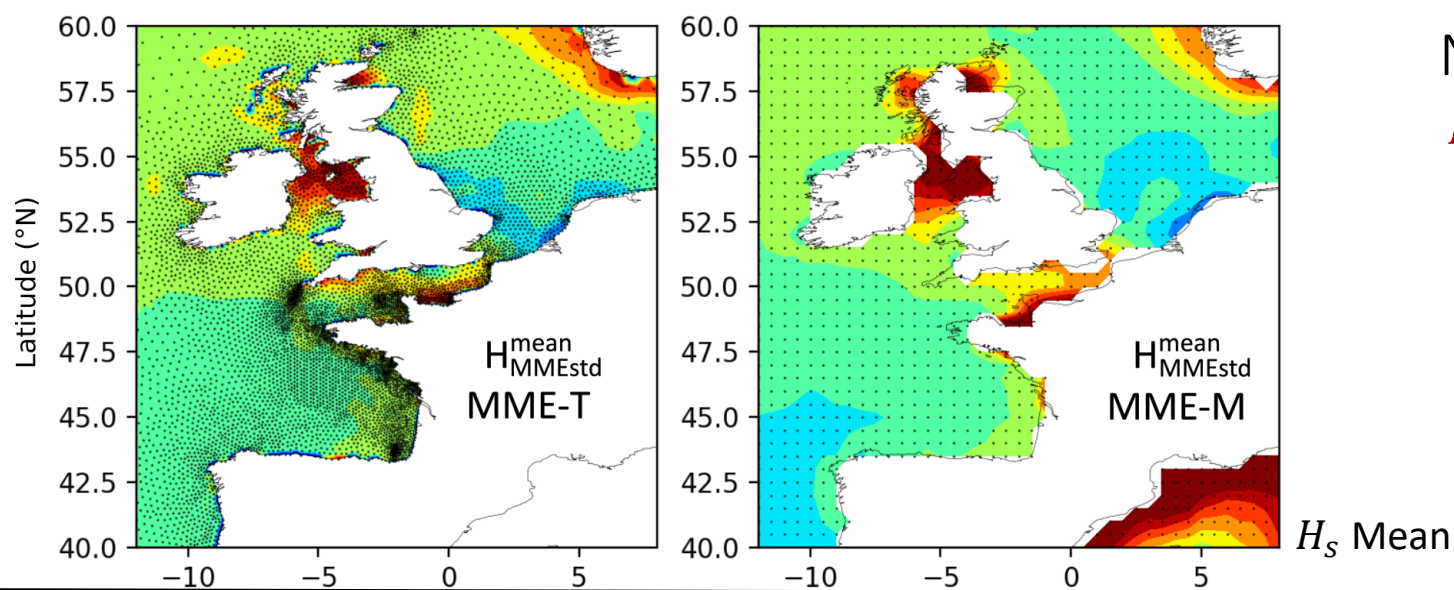
- ❑ Performance evaluation of the two ensembles relative to the historical reference *ANEMOC3-Ocean* database
- ❑ A **global** ensemble and a **regional** ensemble, based on two different wave models and configurations but using the same GCMs wind data, yielded very **similar results and evolution trends**
 - ⇒ Performance in enclosed areas is limited by the GCMs wind quality
- ❑ **Meucci et al 2024 + TOMAWAC/GCM projections** under **SSP5-8.5** scenario indicate:
 - Decrease in the mean H_s across the entire domain France/Europe (occurring in Summer)
 - Increase in the extreme H_s in the regions English Channel /North Sea (occurring in Winter)
- ❑ Similar study carried out for **SSP3-7.0** climate change scenario (not shown here)

Perspectives

- ❑ Comparison of the evolution trends with internal climate variability
- ❑ Include additional GCMs
- ❑ Coupling with a storm surge model (based on ANEMOC3-Coastal model)

Appendices

Variability from one GCM to another in the historical period ?



Normalized MME standard deviation:
 H_s Mean et Percentile 99 1985-2014
 MME-T Vs MME-M

For each point of the domain :

$$H_s^{\text{P99}} \text{ GCM1}$$

$$H_s^{\text{P99}} \text{ GCM2}$$

$$\dots$$

$$H_s^{\text{P99}} \text{ GCM7}$$

↓

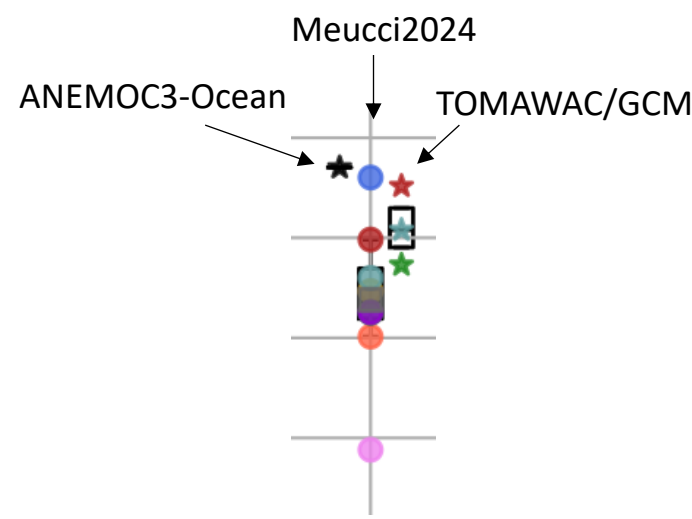
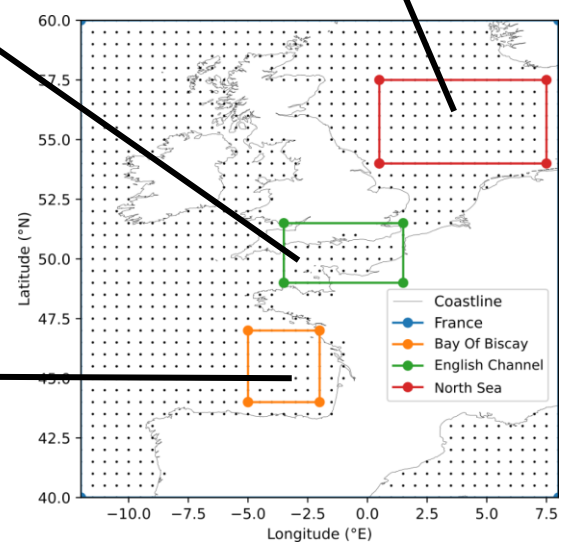
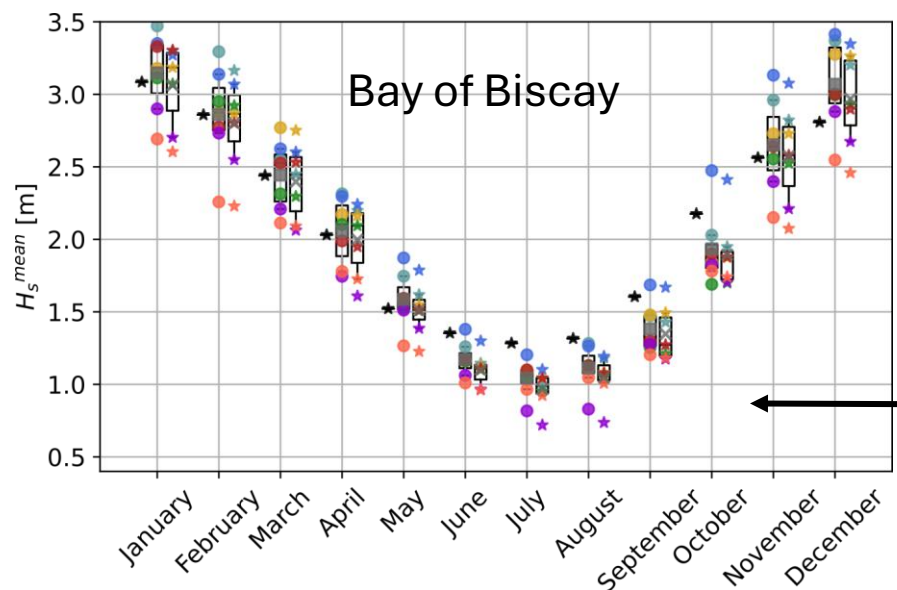
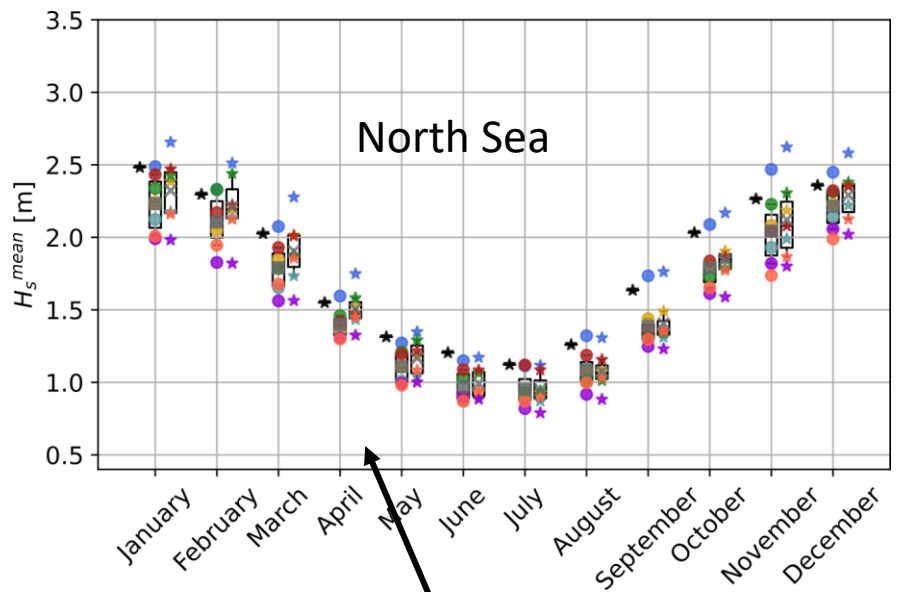
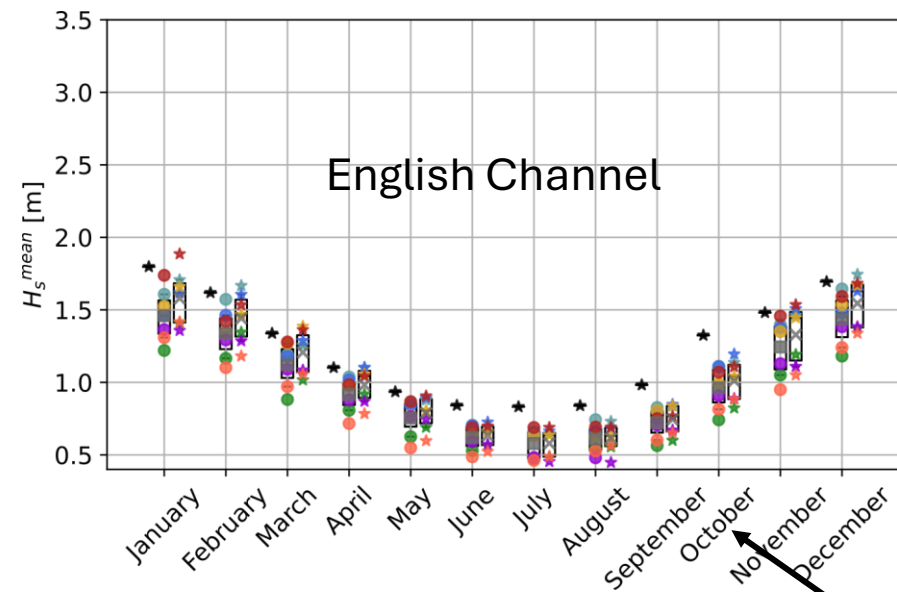
mean MME
 AND
 std MME

$$\text{Normalized std MME} = \frac{\text{std MME}}{\text{mean MME}}$$

Multi-year monthly H_s Mean (1985-2014)

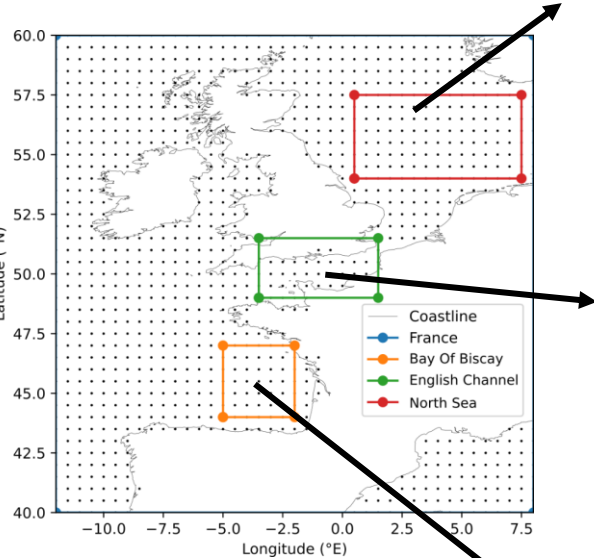
Multi-year monthly statistics averaged for 3 regions : H_s mean

- ★ ANEMOC3
- MME
- MPI-ESM1-2-LR
- MRI-ESM2-0
- AWI-CM-1-1-MR
- CMCC-CM2-SR5
- EC-Earth3
- IPSL-CM6A-LR
- ACCESS-CM2



Taylor Diagrams using ANEMOC3-Ocean as Ref (1985-2014)

Taylor diagrams of monthly H_s Mean and P99 averaged for 3 regions (ref: ANEMOC3-Océan)

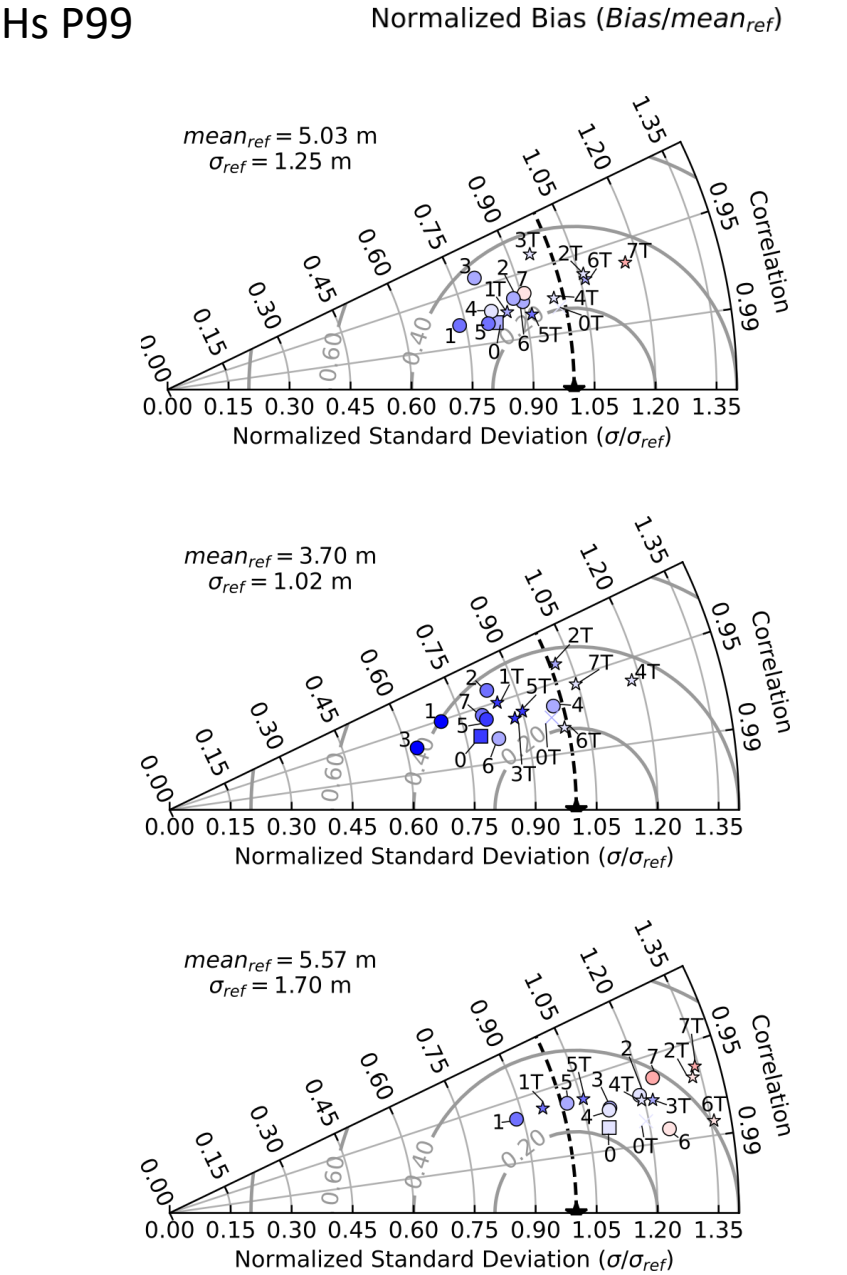
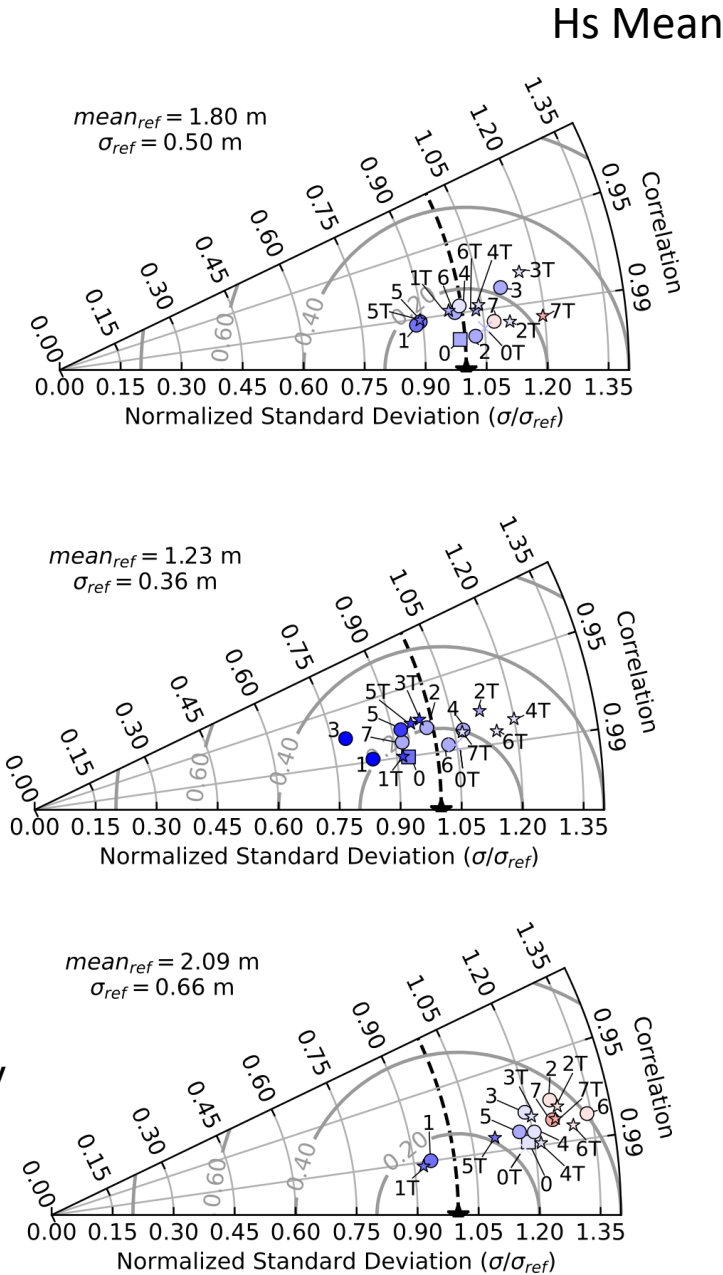


- HistoricalRef CFSR ANEMOC3p0-ocRef (ref)
- historical MME7mean Meucci2024 (0)
- historical MPI-ESM1-2-LR Meucci2024 (6)
- historical MRI-ESM2-0 Meucci2024 (7)
- historical AWI-CM-1-1-MR Meucci2024 (2)
- historical CMCC-CM2-SR5 Meucci2024 (3)
- historical EC-Earth3 Meucci2024 (4)
- historical IPSL-CM6A-LR Meucci2024 (5)
- historical ACCESS-CM2 Meucci2024 (1)
- historical MME7mean ANEMOC3p0-oc (0T)
- historical MPI-ESM1-2-LR ANEMOC3p0-oc (6T)
- historical MRI-ESM2-0 ANEMOC3p0-oc (7T)
- historical AWI-CM-1-1-MR ANEMOC3p0-oc (2T)
- historical CMCC-CM2-SR5 ANEMOC3p0-oc (3T)
- historical EC-Earth3 ANEMOC3p0-oc (4T)
- historical IPSL-CM6A-LR ANEMOC3p0-oc (5T)
- historical ACCESS-CM2 ANEMOC3p0-oc (1T)

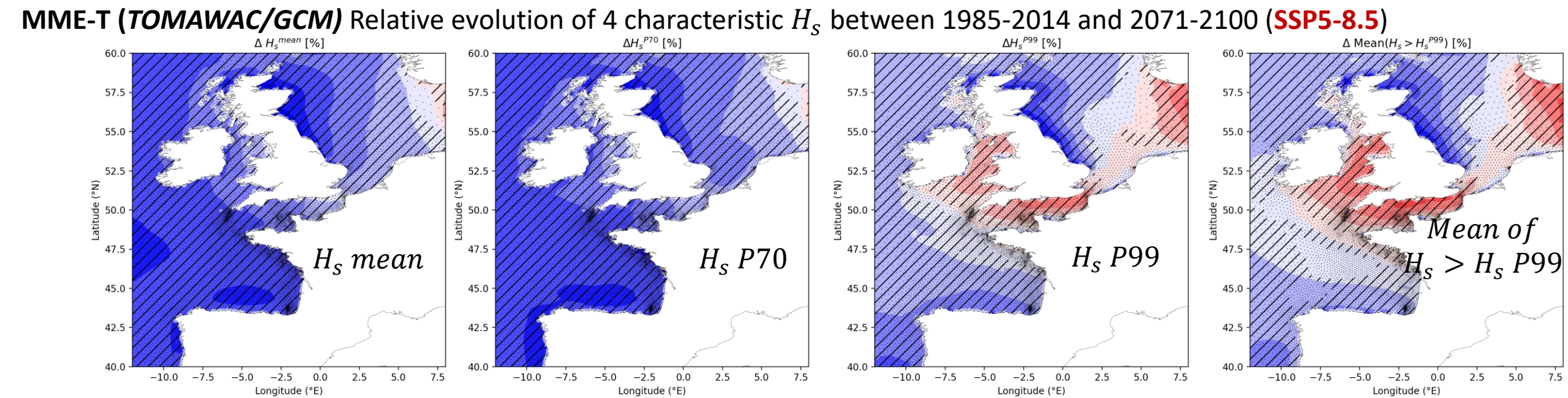
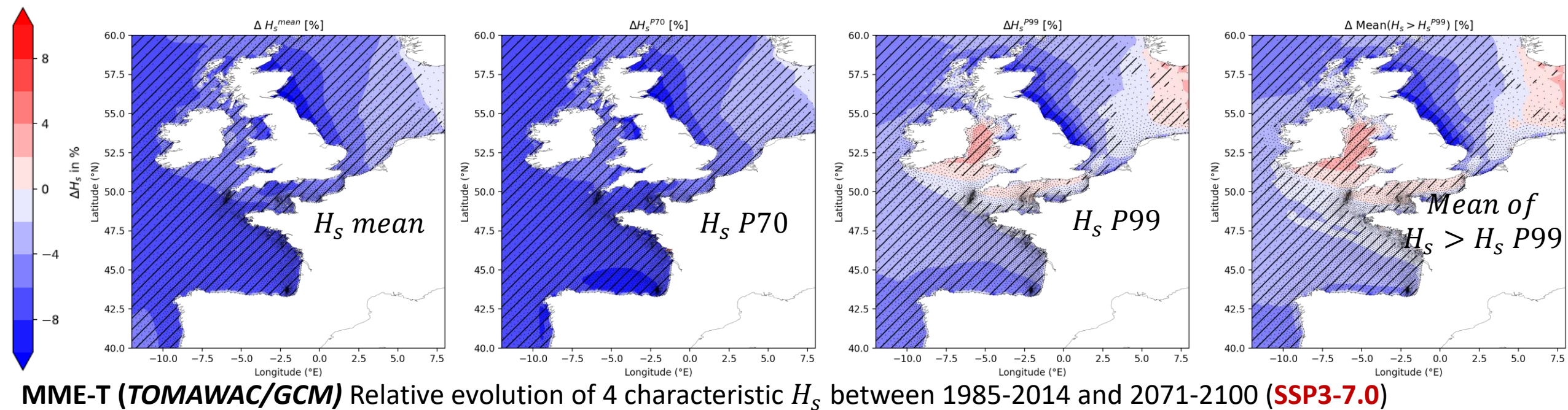
North Sea

English Channel

Bay of Biscay



Comparison of MME-T evolutions for SSP585 and SSP370 scenarios

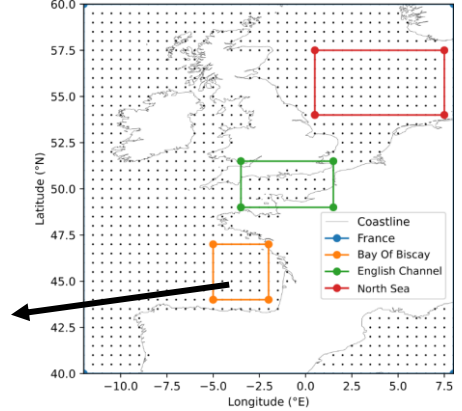
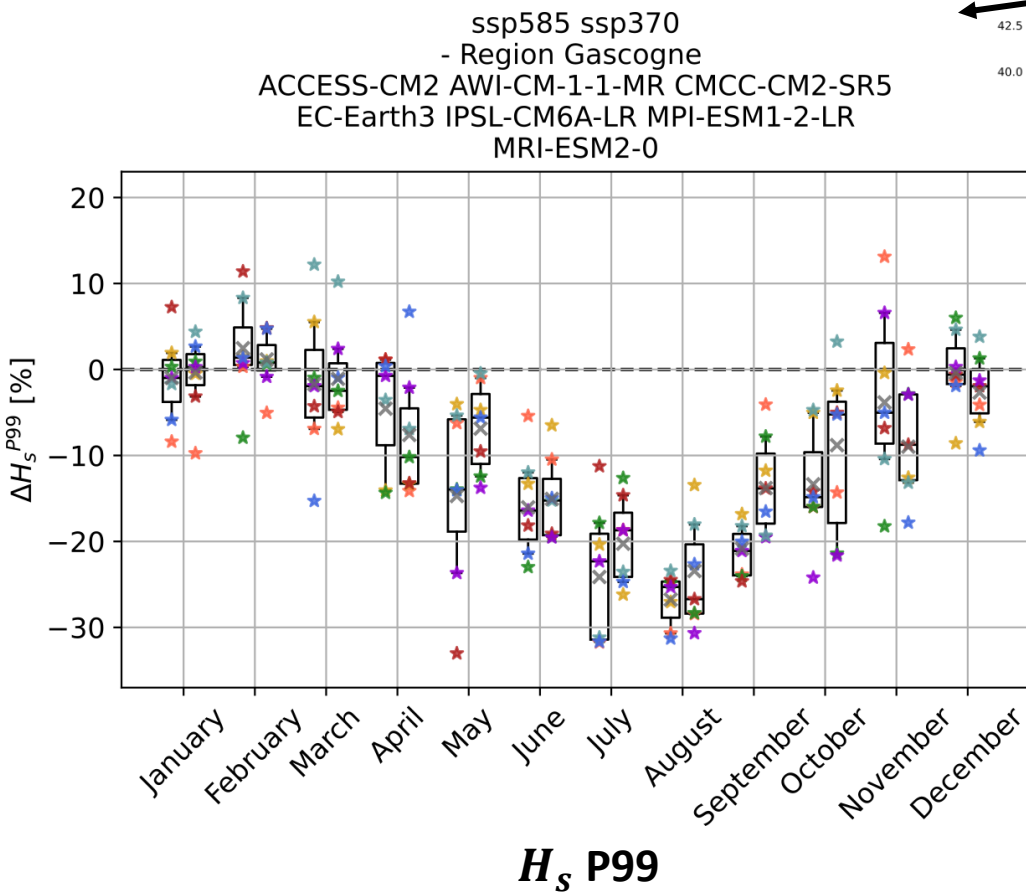
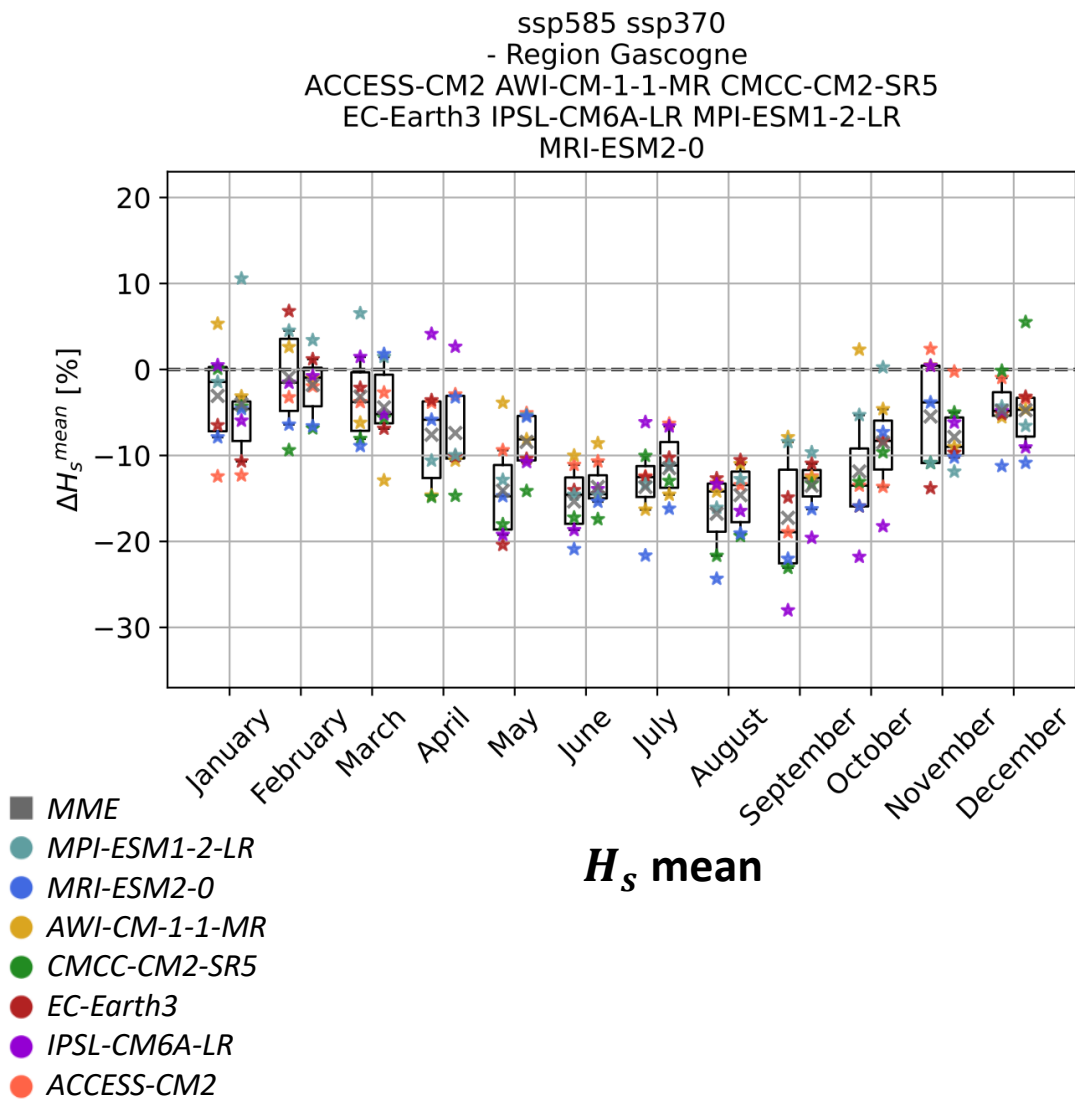


→ Mitigation of the SSP5-8.5 positive trends in SSP3-7.0 scenario

Evolution patterns for each month : SSP3-7.0 scenario

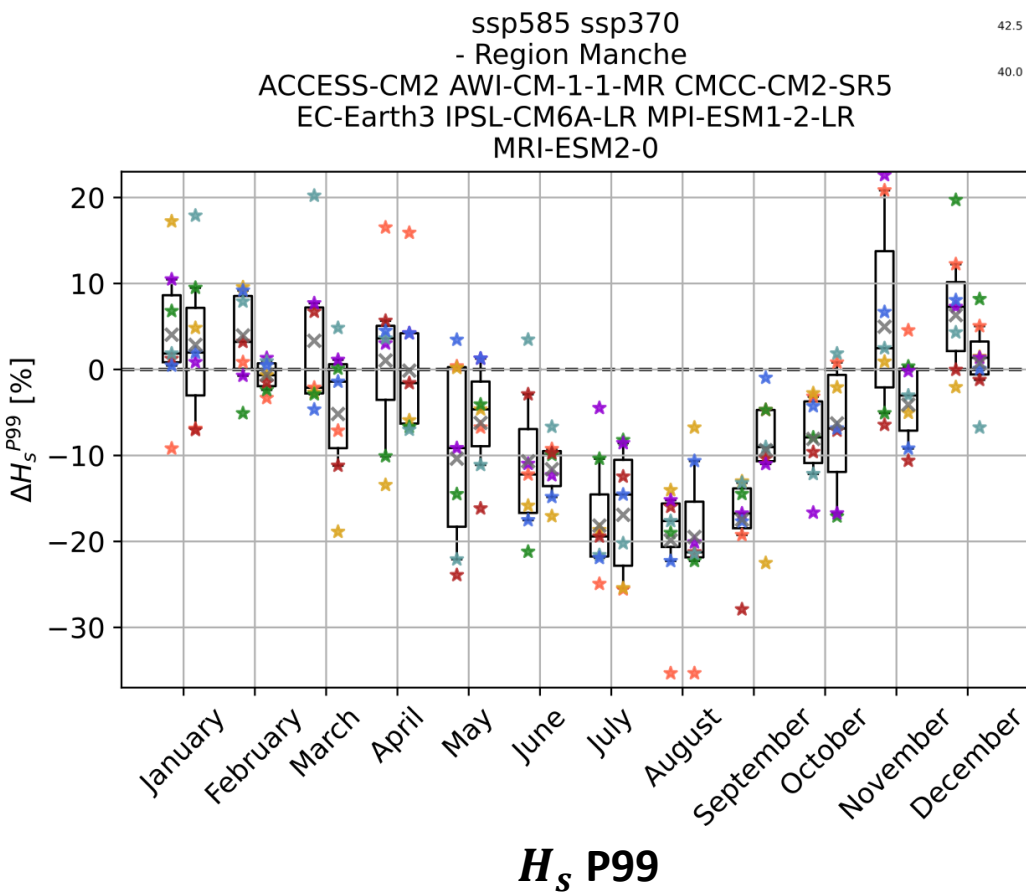
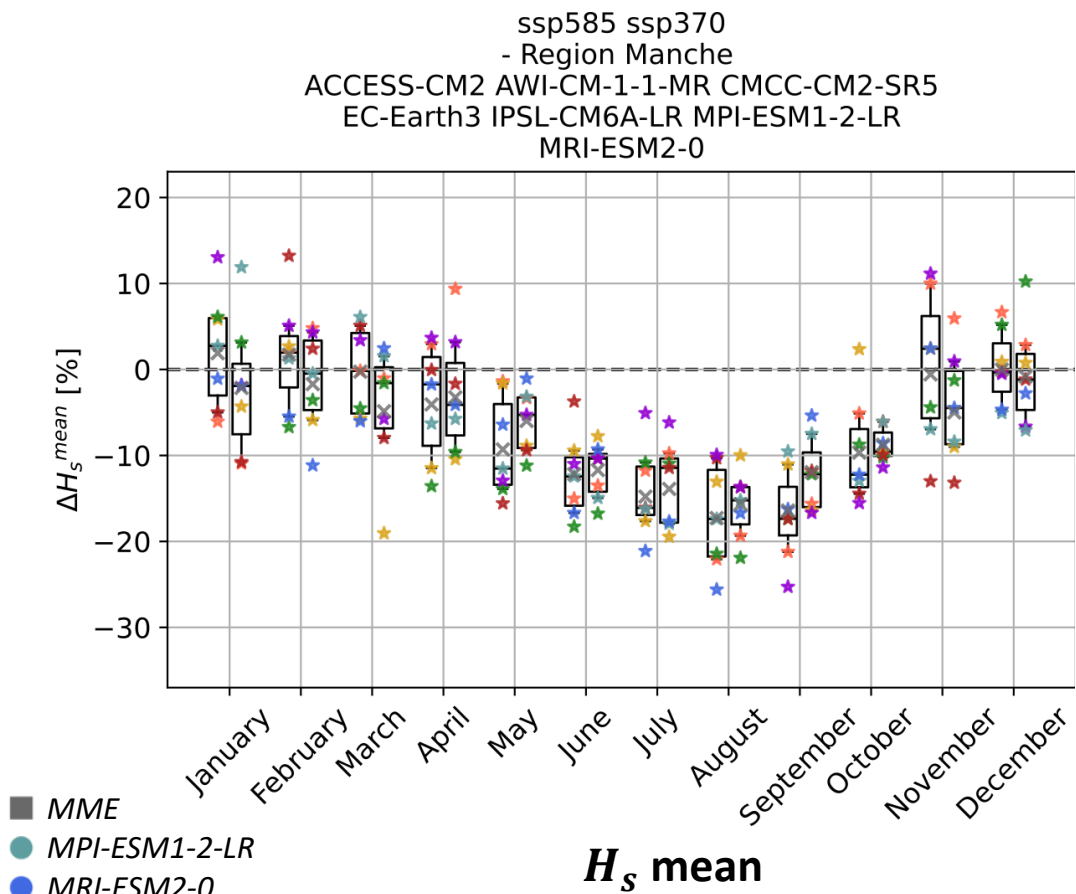
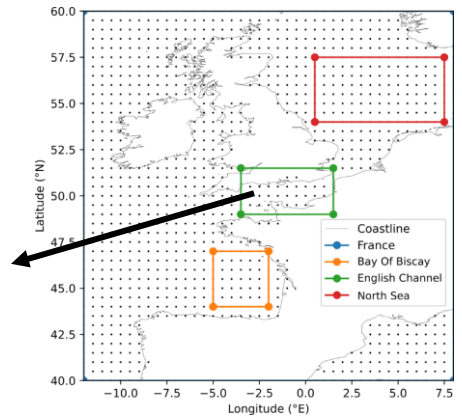
Relative evolution of monthly statistics for the 3 regions
(2071-2100 Vs 1985-2014)

TOMAWAC/GCM SSP5-8.5 + SSP3-7.0



Relative evolution of monthly statistics for the 3 regions (2071-2100 Vs 1985-2014)

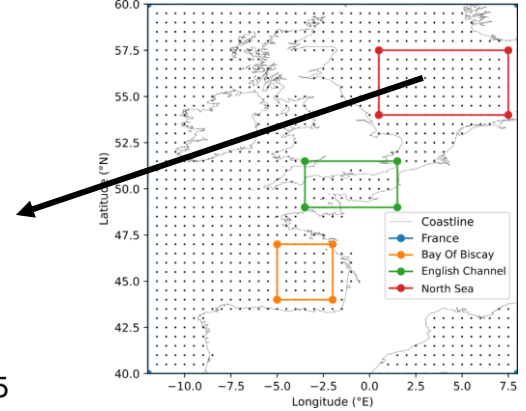
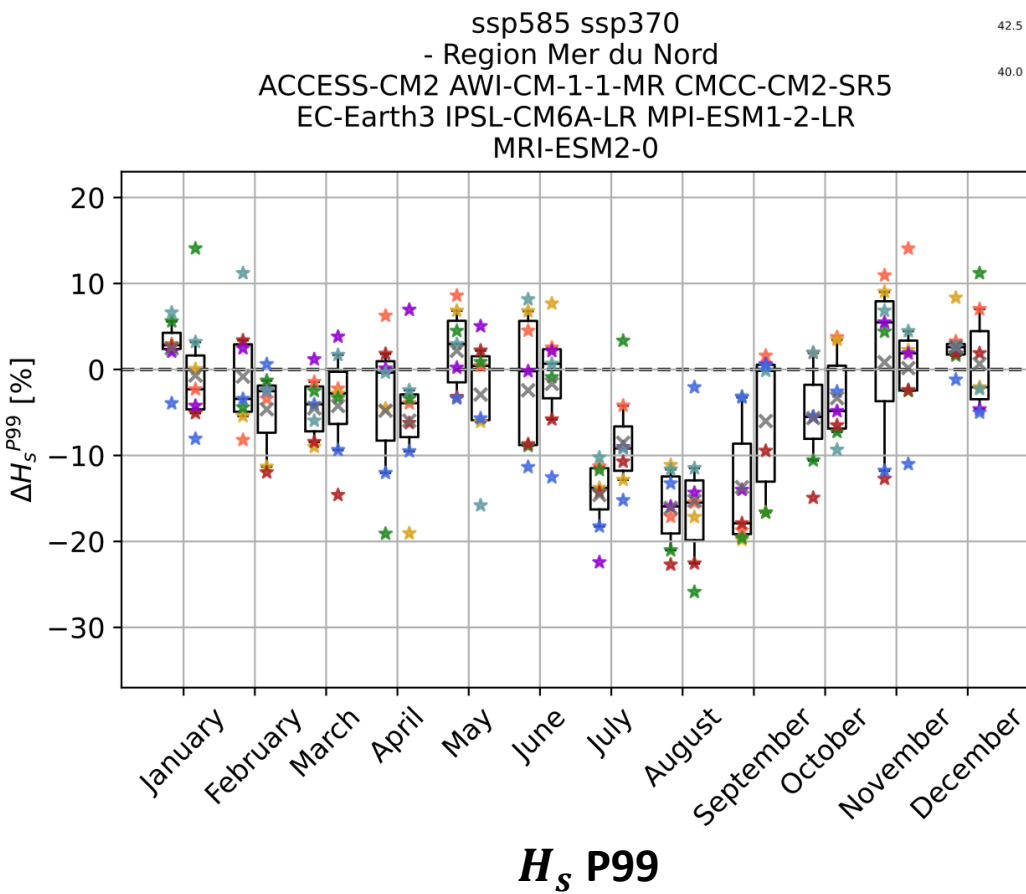
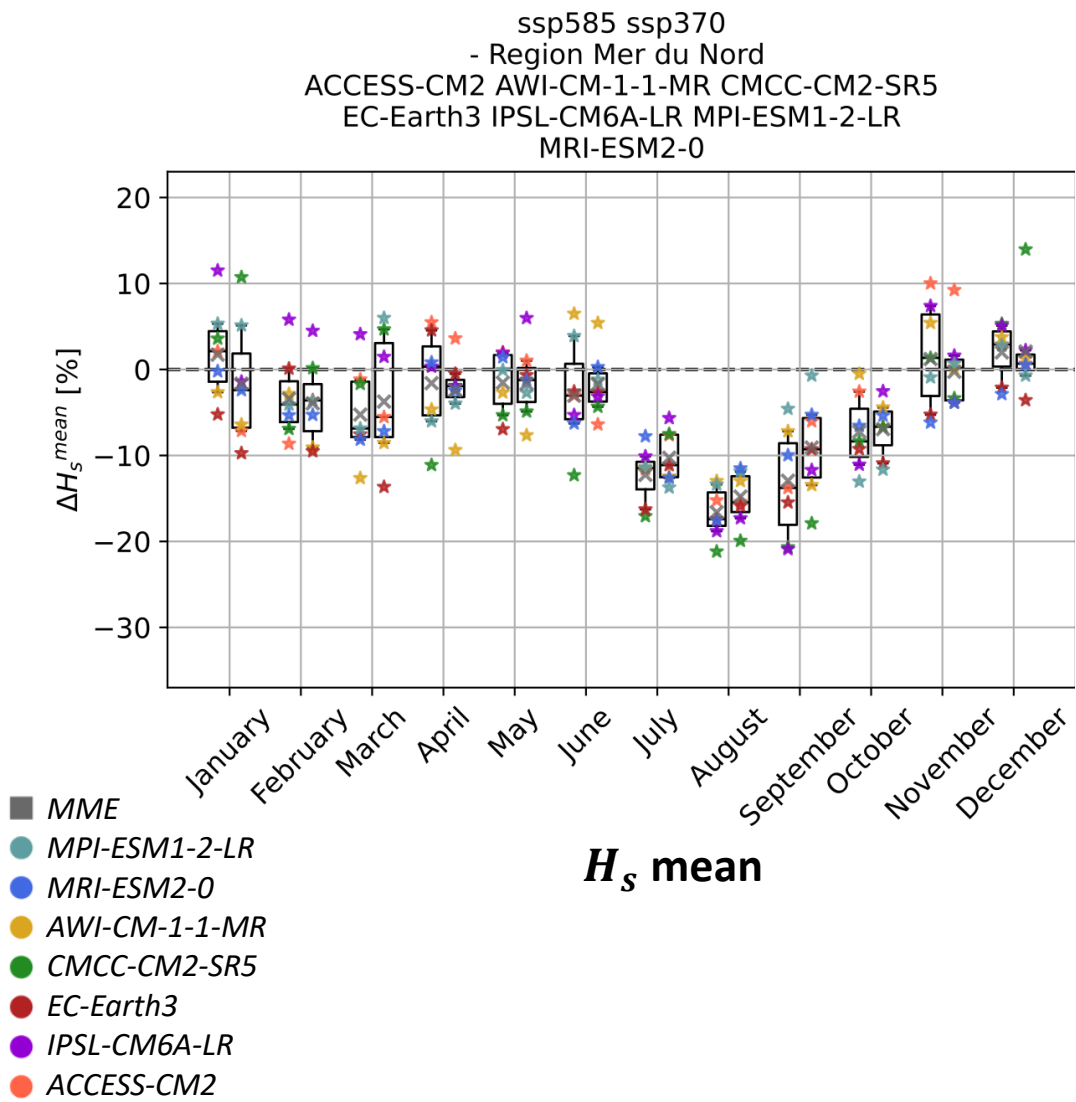
TOMAWAC/GCM SSP5-8.5 + SSP3-7.0



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- AWI-CM-1-1-MR
- CMCC-CM2-SR5
- EC-Earth3
- IPSL-CM6A-LR
- ACCESS-CM2

Relative evolution of monthly statistics for the 3 regions (2071-2100 Vs 1985-2014)

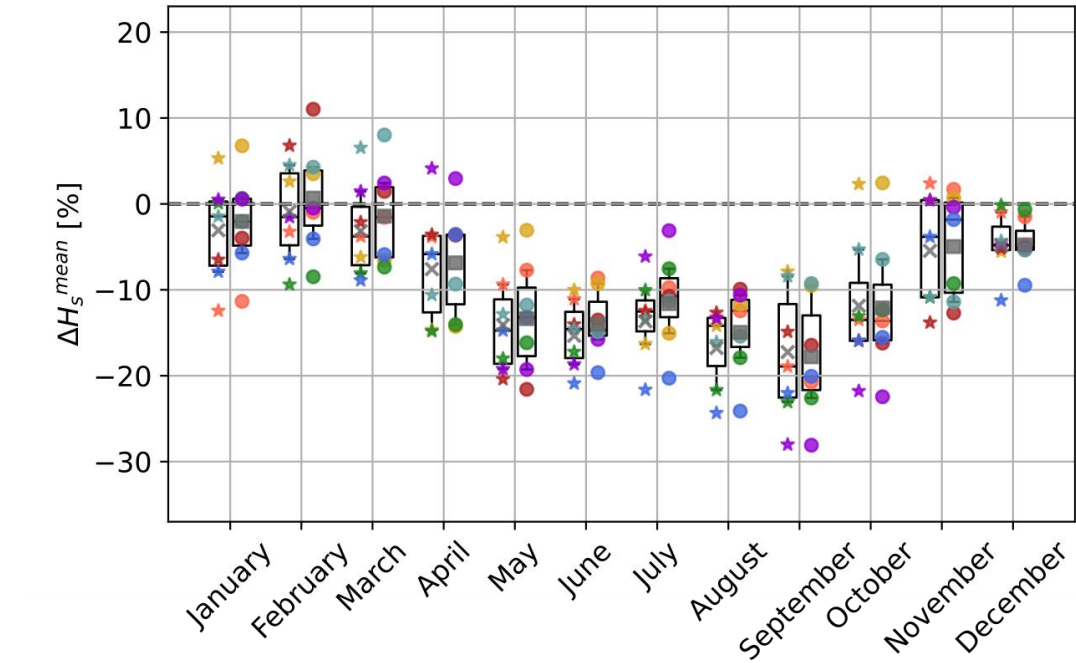
TOMAWAC/GCM SSP5-8.5 + SSP3-7.0



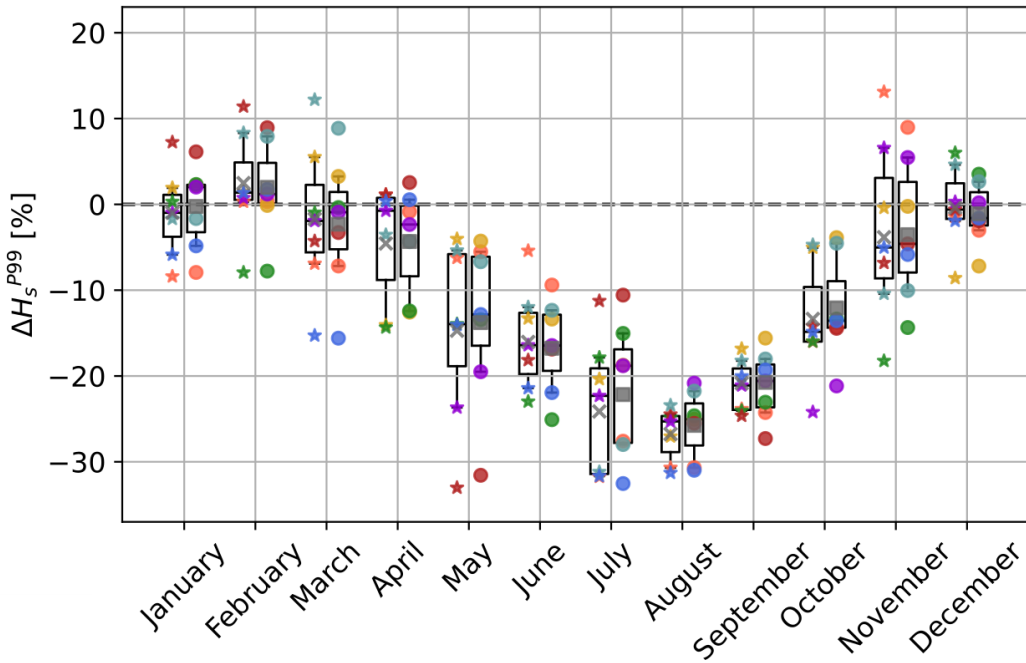
Evolution patterns for each month : SSP5-8.5 scenario

Relative evolution of monthly statistics H_s Mean and H_s P99 Bay Of Biscay (2071-2100 Vs 1985-2014)

SSP5-8.5



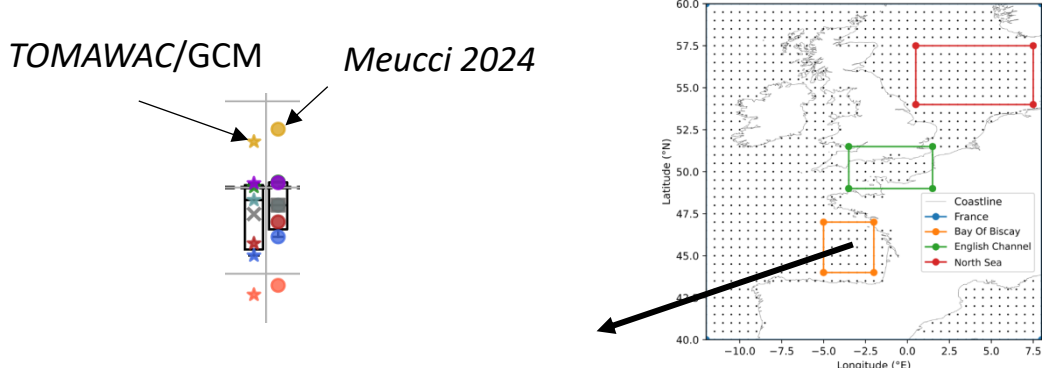
H_s mean



H_s P99

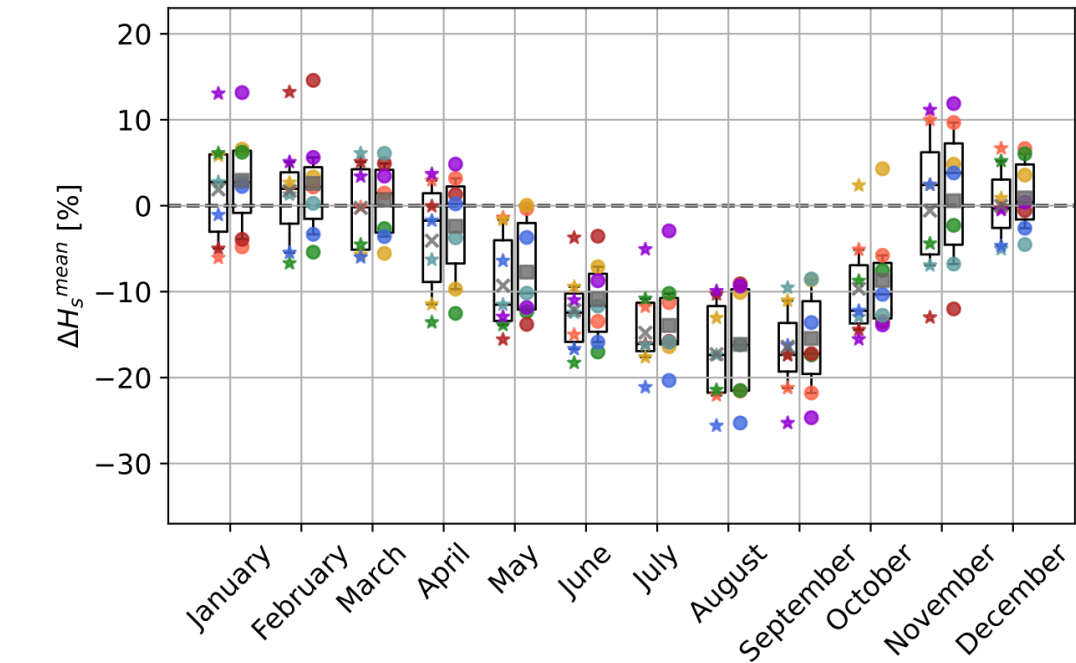
- MME
- MPI-ESM1-2-LR
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- CMCC-CM2-SR5
- EC-Earth3
- IPSL-CM6A-LR
- ACCESS-CM2

⇒ Strong **decrease** in the H_s mean and P99 from **May to October**
⇒ No clear trend in Winter

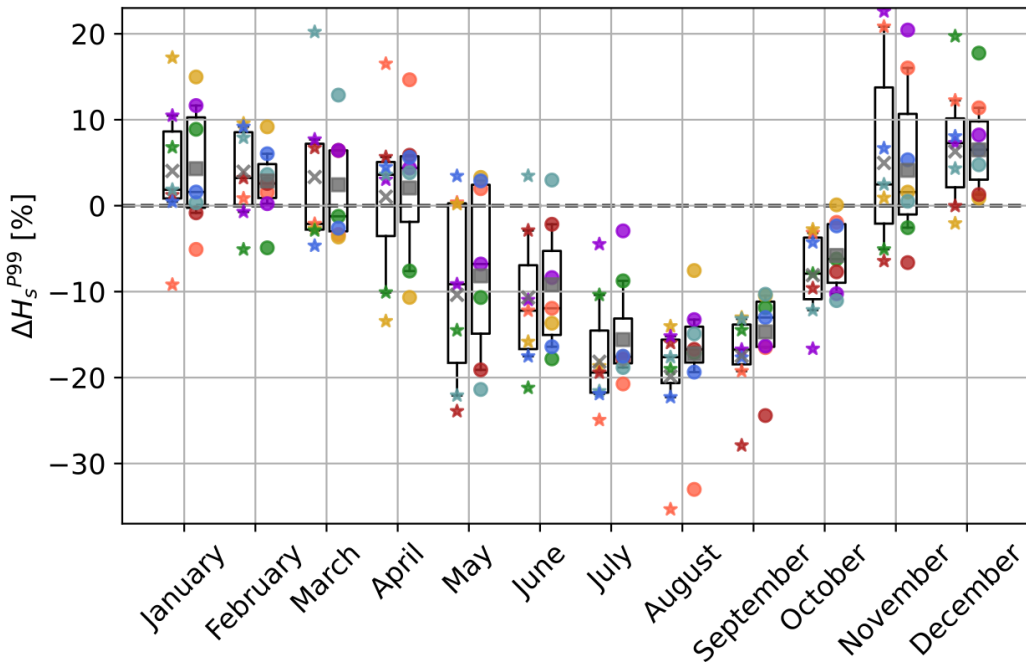


Relative evolution of monthly statistics H_s Mean and H_s P99 English Channel (2071-2100 Vs 1985-2014)

SSP5-8.5



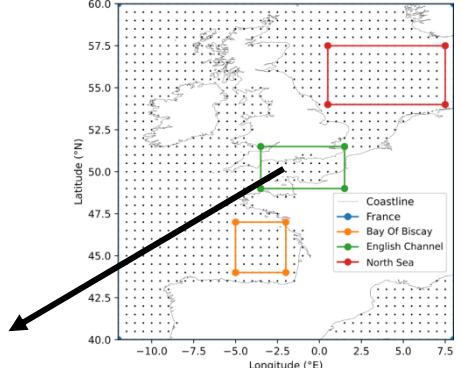
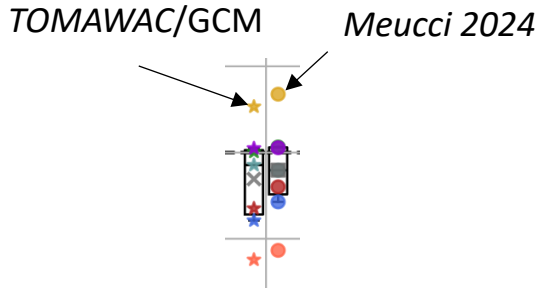
H_s mean



H_s P99

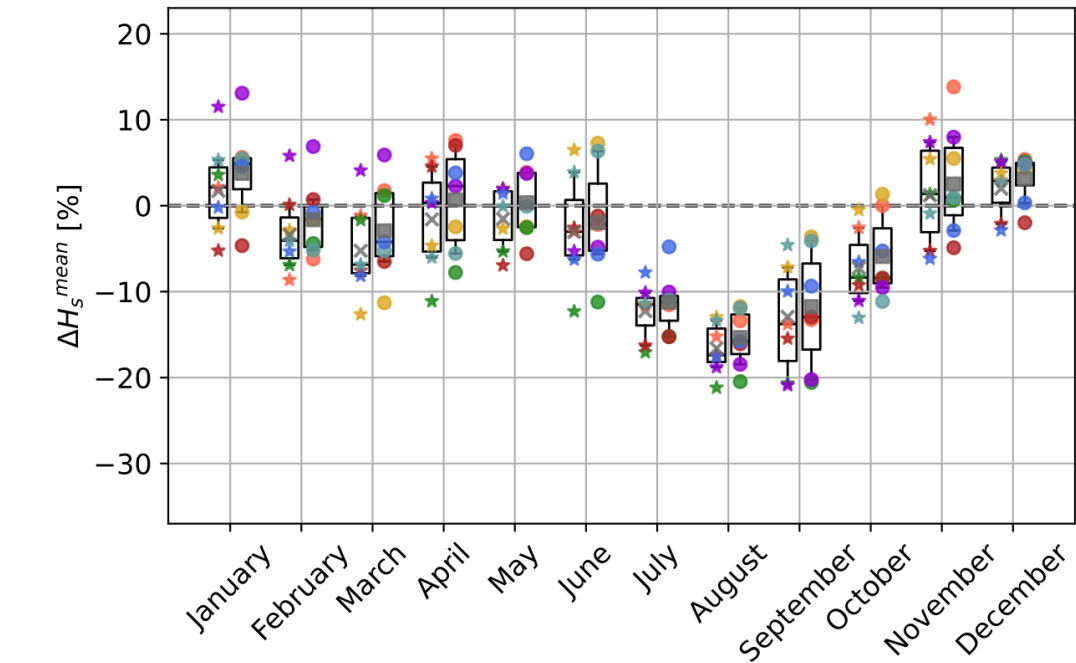
- MME
- MPI-ESM1-2-LR
- MRI-ESM2-0
- AWI-CM-1-1-MR
- CMCC-CM2-SR5
- EC-Earth3
- IPSL-CM6A-LR
- ACCESS-CM2

⇒ Strong **decrease** in the H_s mean and P99 from **May to October**
⇒ Clear **increase** in the H_s P99 from **November to March**

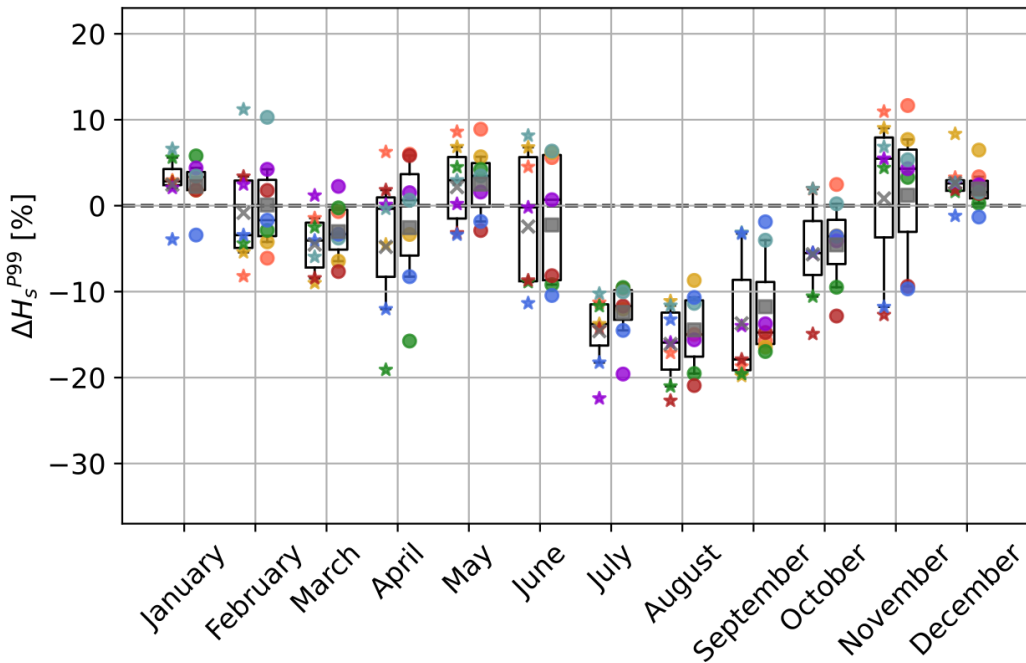


Relative evolution of monthly statistics Hs Mean and Hs P99 North Sea (2071-2100 Vs 1985-2014)

SSP5-8.5



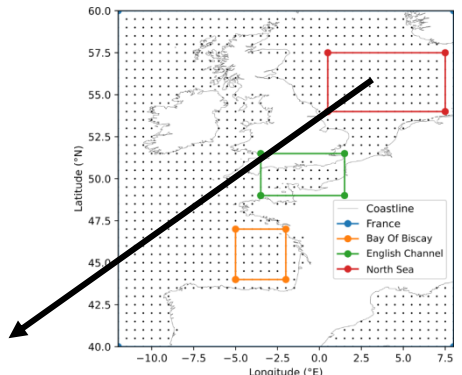
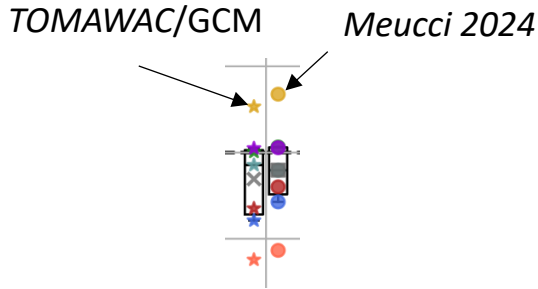
H_s mean



H_s P99

- MME
- MPI-ESM1-2-LR
- MRI-ESM2-0
- AWI-CM-1-1-MR
- CMCC-CM2-SR5
- EC-Earth3
- IPSL-CM6A-LR
- ACCESS-CM2

⇒ Strong **decrease** in the H_s mean and P99 from **May to October**
⇒ **Increase** in the H_s P99 from **November to January**



Data analysis details

H_S multi-year monthly statistics averaged in space for 3 regions

Step1: computation of monthly statistics

For each GCM_k , for each point x in the grid:

$$H_S^{P99}_{January, GCM_k}(x) = P99_{1985_2014} \left(H_{S, GCM_k}(x, t \in January) \right)$$

...

$$H_S^{P99}_{December, GCM_k}(x) = P99_{1985_2014} \left(H_{S, GCM_k}(x, t \in December) \right)$$

Step2: Spatial mean over regions

For each region,

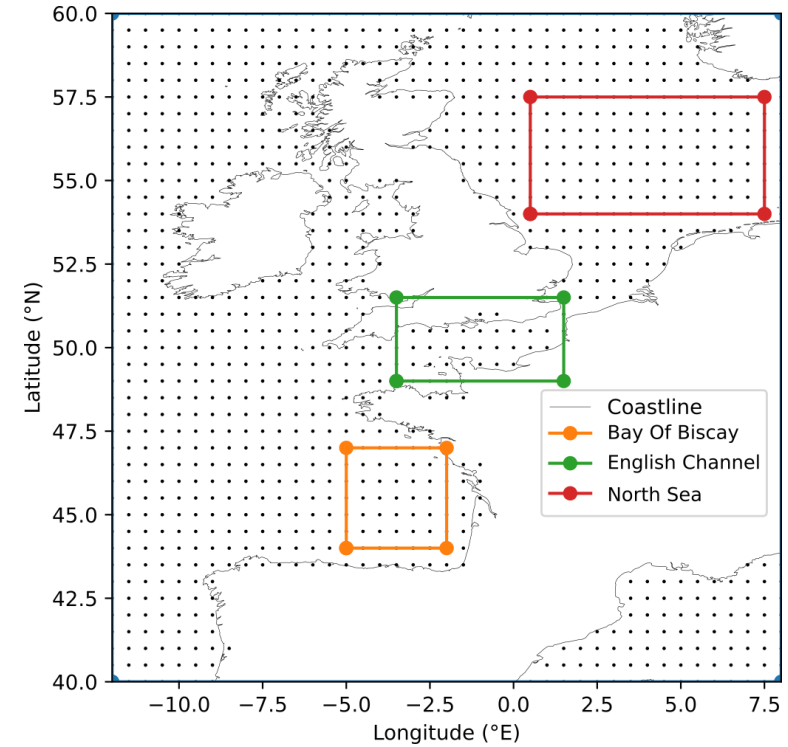
$$H_S^{P99}_{January, GCM_k}(region) = Spatial\ Mean \left(H_S^{P99}_{January, GCM_k}(x \in region) \right)$$

...

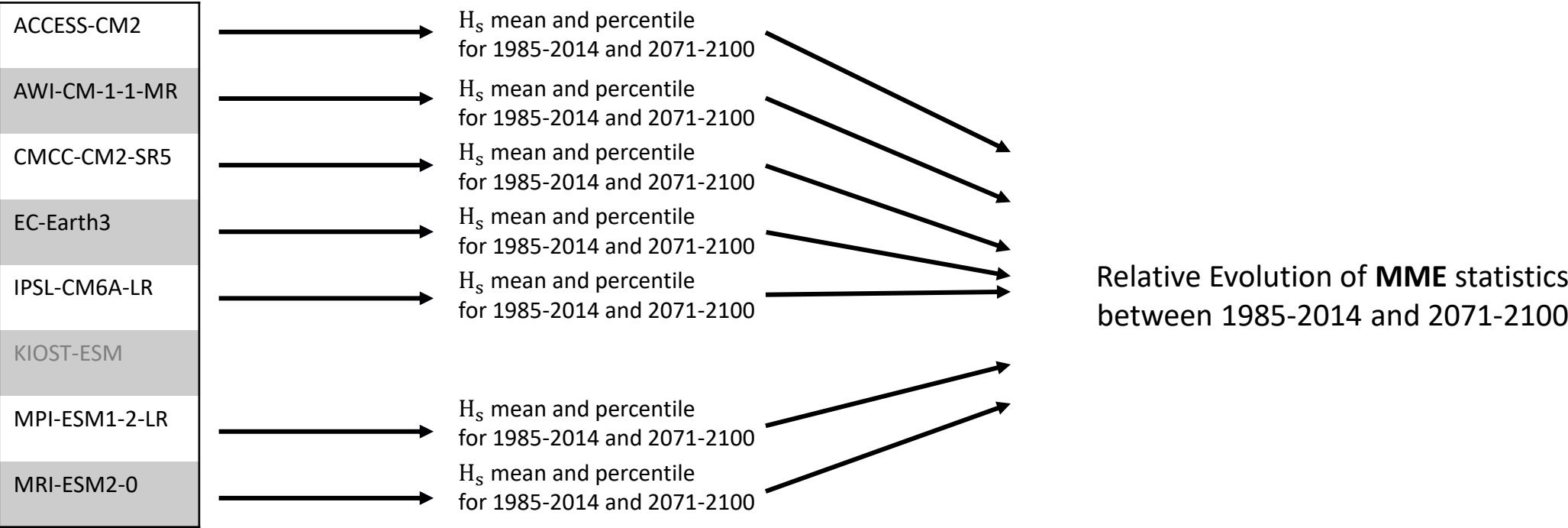
$$H_S^{P99}_{December, GCM_k}(region) = Spatial\ Mean \left(H_S^{P99}_{December, GCM_k}(x \in region) \right)$$

→ **12 points (1 for each month) per region, for each GCM**

Analysed Regions



Relative difference (**SSP585**-historical)/historical of *Meucci et al 2024 (MME-M)* and TOMAWAC/GCM (MME-T) MME statistics



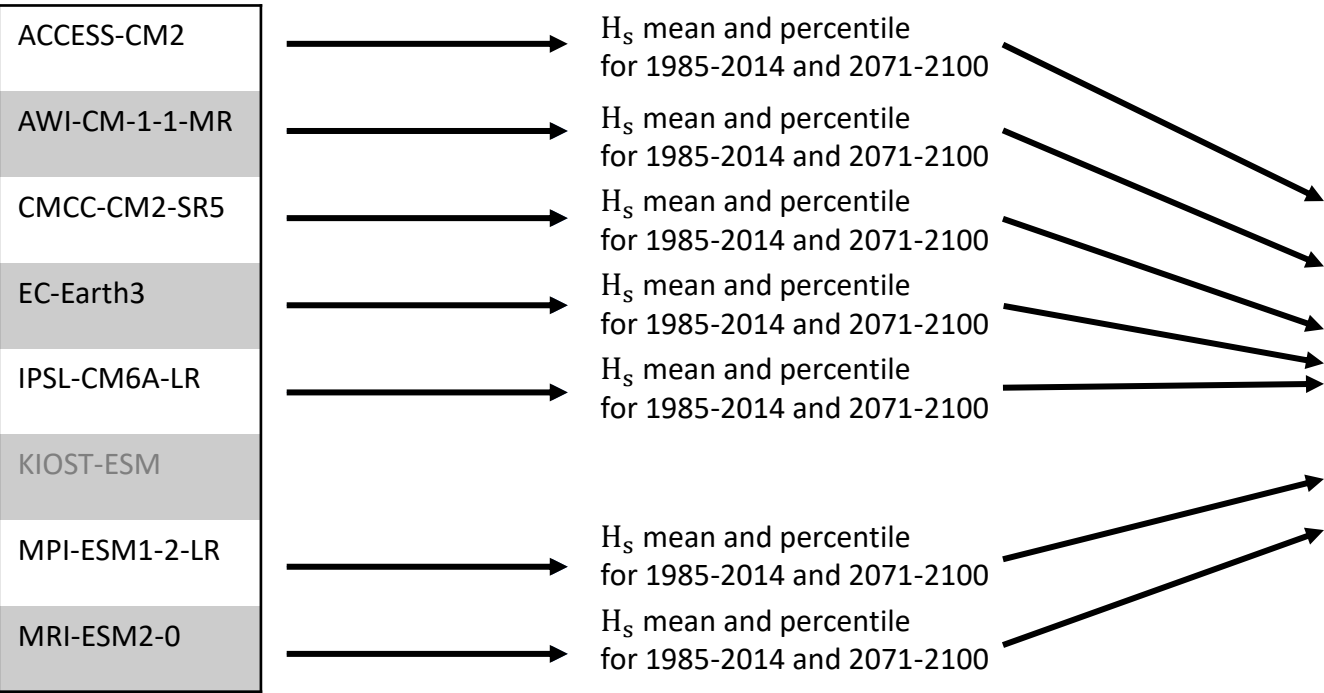
$H_s(\mathbf{x}, t)$ timeseries for 7 GCMs
Historical Period 1985-2014
+
SSP5-8.5 Future Period 2071-2100

Statistics over time
 $H_s^{stat,1985-2014}(\mathbf{x})$
 $H_s^{stat,2071-2100}(\mathbf{x})$
for each GCM, for each
grid point

$$\frac{MME \left(H_s^{stat,2071-2100}(\mathbf{x}) \right) - MME \left(H_s^{stat,1985-2014}(\mathbf{x}) \right)}{MME \left(H_s^{stat,1985-2014}(\mathbf{x}) \right)}$$

×2 for MME-M and MME-T

Relative difference (SSP585-historical)/historical of Meucci et al 2024 (MME-M) and TOMAWAC/GCM (MME-T) MME statistics



Agreement Level (AG): Number of models whose sign of change is consistent with the evolution of MME statistics.

Hatching if $AG \geq 5$

Relative Evolution of **MME** statistics between 1985-2014 and 2071-2100

$H_s(\mathbf{x}, t)$ timeseries for 7 GCMs
Historical Period 1985-2014
+
SSP5-8.5 Future Period 2071-2100

Statistics over time
 $H_s^{stat,1985-2014}(\mathbf{x})$
 $H_s^{stat,2071-2100}(\mathbf{x})$
for each GCM, for each grid point

$$\frac{MME \left(H_s^{stat,2071-2100}(\mathbf{x}) \right) - MME \left(H_s^{stat,1985-2014}(\mathbf{x}) \right)}{MME \left(H_s^{stat,1985-2014}(\mathbf{x}) \right)}$$

×2 for MME-M and MME-T