

The USA climate classification school – Hungarian aspects

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Climate classification schools

- In our days, the **German** and the **USA** climate classification schools are most frequently used, though German school is more popular.
- Development of the German school can be seen via works of **Köppen**, **Geiger** and **Rubel**.
- Development of the USA school can be seen via works of **Thornthwaite**, **Mather**, **Willmott** and **Feddema**.

Climate classification schools -- Hungary

- The climate structure on mesoscale in Hungary can be better characterized by the USA than by the German climate classification school!
- So, in Hungary the USA school is MORE POPULAR than the German school, that is there is more student and scientific work related to USA than to German school.

Some chosen student works

- Breuer H, 2007: Climatological modelling of evapotranspiration, soil water content and soil respiration in Hungary (original: A párolgas, a talajviztartalom és a talajlégzés klimatologiai modellezése Magyarországon. *MSc thesis*, ELTE, 93 pp.
- Skarbit N, 2012: Sensitivity of Feddema's climate classification method to the parameterization of potential evapotranspiration (original: Feddema éghajlat-osztályozási módszerének érzékenysége a potenciális evapotranszspiráció parametrizálására), *Scientific student paper*, Eötvös Loránd University, 24 pp.
- Skarbit N, 2012: Climate of Hungary in the twentieth century according to Feddema (original: Magyarország éghajlata a XX. században Feddema módszere alapján). *BSc thesis*, Eötvös Loránd University, 34 pp.

Some chosen student works

- Skarbit N, 2014: The climate of the European region during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries according to Feddema (original: Európa éghajlatának alakulása a XX. és a XXI. században Feddema módszere alapján). *MSc thesis*, Eötvös Loránd University, 61 pp.
- Takács D, 2014: Comparison of Hungarian and Swiss climate using Feddema method (original: Magyarország és Svájc éghajlatának összehasonlítása Feddema alapján), *Scientific student paper*, Eötvös Loránd University, 21 pp.
- Takács D, 2016: Regional alpine climate classification according to Feddema: Central European applications (original: A hegyi éghajlat regionális osztályozása Feddema alapján: közép-európai alkalmazások), *MSc thesis*, Eötvös Loránd University, 74 pp.

Some chosen student works

- Szabó AI, 2017: Investigation of the Carpathian Basin's climate by using different climate classification methods and CarpatClim dataset. MSc thesis, Eötvös Loránd University, 42 pp.

Some chosen papers

- Drucza M, Ács F, 2006: Relationship between soil texture and near surface climate in Hungary, *Időjárás*, 110, 135—153.
- Szász G, Ács F, Breuer H, 2007: Estimation of surface energy and carbon balance components in the vicinity of Debrecen using Thornthwaite's bucket model. *Időjárás*, **111**, 239—250.
- Ács F., Breuer H., Skarbit N., 2015: Climate of Hungary in the twentieth century according to Feddema. *Theor. Appl. Climatol.*, **Vo. 119**, 161--169, DOI 10.1007/s00704-014-1103-5.
- Breuer H., Ács F., Skarbit N., 2017: Climate change in Hungary during the twentieth century according to Feddema. *Theor. Appl. Clim.*, **Vo. 127**, 853--863. DOI 10.1007/s00704-015-1670-0.

Some chosen papers

- Ács F, Takács D, Breuer H, Skarbit N, 2017: Climate and climate change in the Austrian-Swiss region of the European Alps during the twentieth century according to Feddema. *Theor. Appl. Climatol.*, DOI 10.1007/s00704-017-2230-6.
- Skarbit N, Ács F, Breuer H, 2017: The climate of the European region during the 20th and 21st centuries according to Feddema. *Int. J. Climatol.*, DOI: 10.1002/joc.5346.
- Breuer H, Ács F, Skarbit N, 2018: Observed and projected climate change in the European region during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries according to Feddema. *Climatic Change* doi.org/10.1007/s10584-018-2271-6

Books

- Ács F, Breuer H, 2013: Biophysical climate classification methods. (In Hungarian),
http://elte.prompt.hu/sites/default/files/tananyagok/09_AcsFerenc-Biofiz_eghoszt_modszerek/index.html
- Ács F, 2017: On twenty-first century climate classification. European multiregional analyses. Lambert Academic Publishing, 92 pp.

Johannes (Johan) Feddema

- JJ Feddema is **contemporary** USA climate classification school scientist.

He is methodologically present with us since 2012, but now he is is also present in person!

Climate Classification systems as a tool for representing climate change

Johannes Feddema
Department of Geography
University of Victoria

Outline

1. Climate classification history

- Von Humboldt
- Köppen
- Thornthwaite
- Others
- Issues with current use for climate change detection

2. A revised Thornthwaite system

- Revised moisture index
- Use of PET
- Seasonality
- Causes of seasonality
- Updates

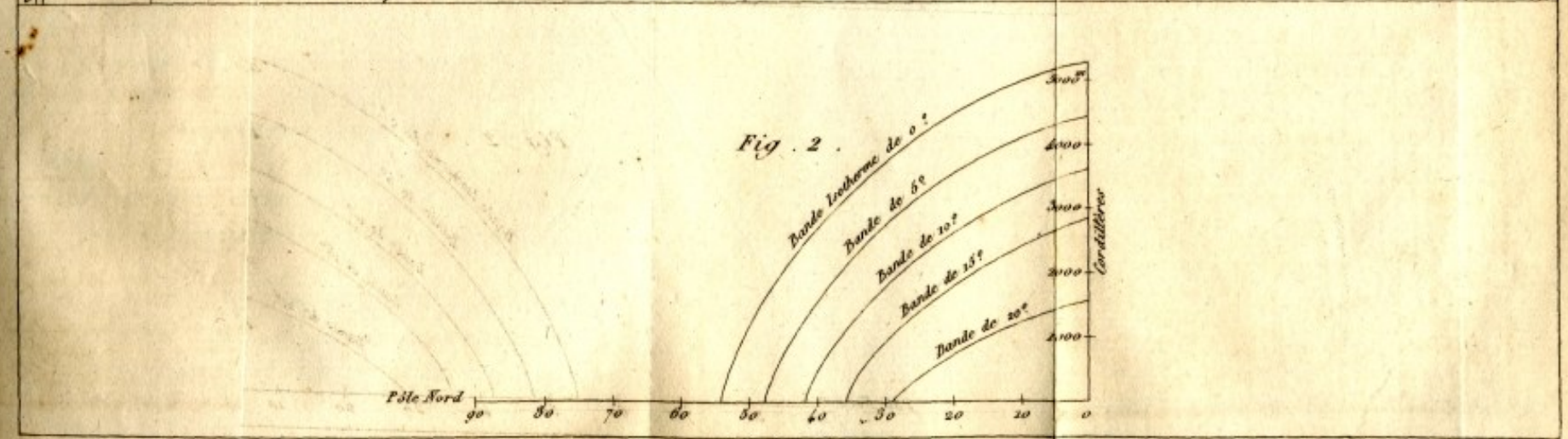
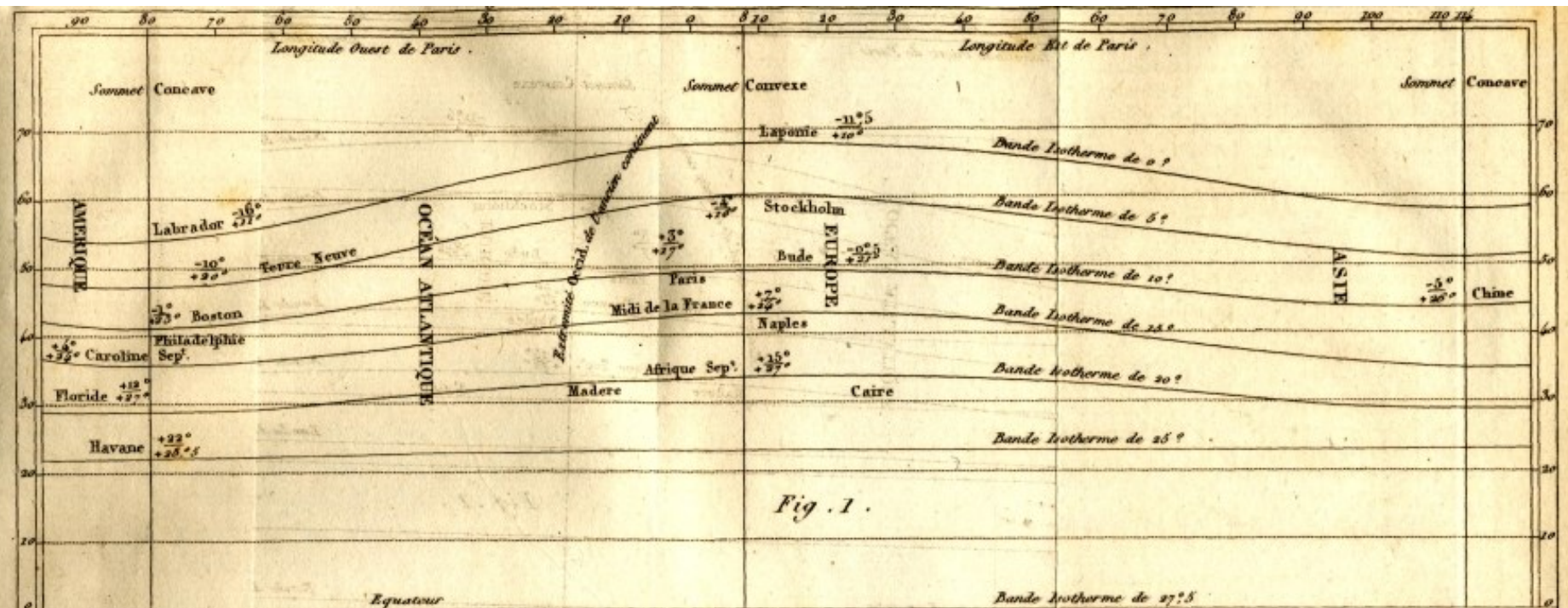
3. Uses in climate change detection and causes

- GHG climate projections
- Urban climate simulation in the CESM
- Case studies of climate change detection for combined GHG and Urban climates on select cities

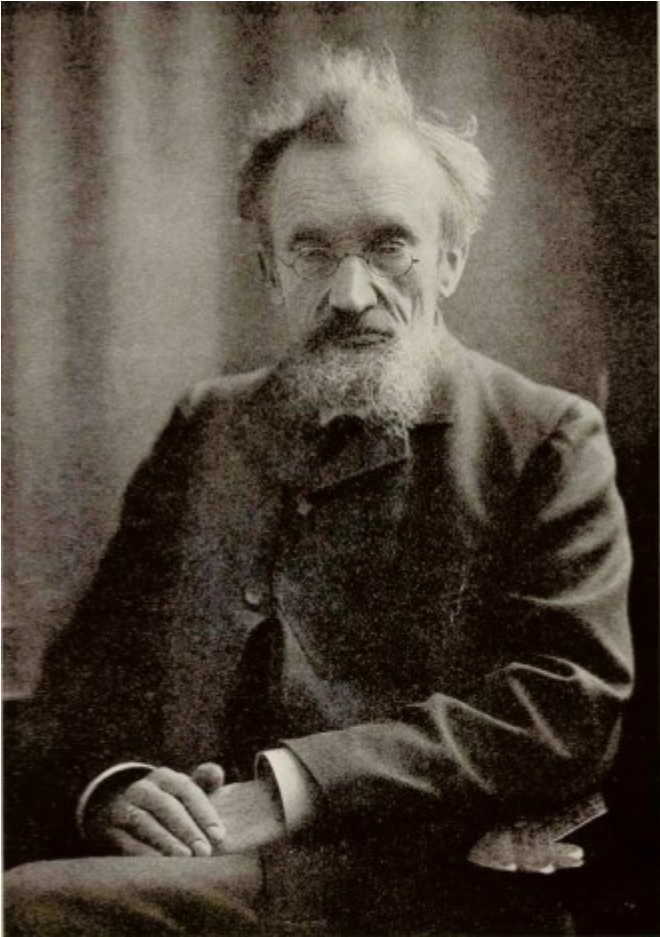
Key historical climate classification systems



Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859), just after his return from the Americas (1799-1804).



Isothermal lines by latitude and altitude (1817): a spatial abstraction of climate



Wladimir Köppen (1846-1940), Wladimir Köppen as an elderly man

Source: Thiede J. Wladimir Köppen, Alfred Wegener, and Milutin Milankovitch: their impact on modern paleoclimate research and the revival of the Milankovitch hypothesis. *Vestnik of Saint Petersburg University. Earth Sciences*, 2018, vol. 63, issue 2, pp. 230–250.
<https://doi.org/10.21638/11701/spbu07.2018.207>

Köppen-Geiger criteria

Classification of major climatic types according to the modified Köppen-Geiger scheme			
letter symbol			criterion
1st	2nd	3rd	
A			temperature of coolest month 18 °C or higher
	f		precipitation in driest month at least 60 mm
	m		precipitation in driest month less than 60 mm but equal to or greater than $100 - (r/25)^1$
	w		precipitation in driest month less than 60 mm and less than $100 - (r/25)$
B²			70% or more of annual precipitation falls in the summer half of the year and r less than $20t + 280$, or 70% or more of annual precipitation falls in the winter half of the year and r less than $20t$, or neither half of the year has 70% or more of annual precipitation and r less than $20t + 140^3$
	W		r is less than one-half of the upper limit for classification as a B type (see above)
	S		r is less than the upper limit for classification as a B type but is more than one-half of that amount
		h	t equal to or greater than 18 °C
		k	t less than 18 °C
C			temperature of warmest month greater than or equal to 10 °C, and temperature of coldest month less than 18 °C but greater than -3 °C
	s		precipitation in driest month of summer half of the year is less than 30 mm and less than one-third of the wettest month of the winter half
	w		precipitation in driest month of the winter half of the year less than one-tenth of the amount in the wettest month of the summer half
	f		precipitation more evenly distributed throughout year; criteria for neither s nor w satisfied
		a	temperature of warmest month 22 °C or above
		b	temperature of each of four warmest months 10 °C or above but warmest month less than 22 °C
		c	temperature of one to three months 10 °C or above but warmest month less than 22 °C

Köppen-Geiger criteria

D		temperature of warmest month greater than or equal to 10 °C, and temperature of coldest month –3 °C or lower
	s	same as for type C
	w	same as for type C
	f	same as for type C
	a	same as for type C
	b	same as for type C
	c	same as for type C
	d	temperature of coldest month less than –38 °C (d designation then used instead of a, b, or c)
E		temperature of warmest month less than 10 °C
	T	temperature of warmest month greater than 0 °C but less than 10 °C
	F	temperature of warmest month 0 °C or below
H⁴		temperature and precipitation characteristics highly dependent on traits of adjacent zones and overall elevation—highland climates may occur at any latitude

¹In the formulas above, r is average annual precipitation total (mm), and t is average annual temperature (°C). All other temperatures are monthly means (°C), and all other precipitation amounts are mean monthly totals (mm).

²Any climate that satisfies the criteria for designation as a B type is classified as such, irrespective of its other characteristics.

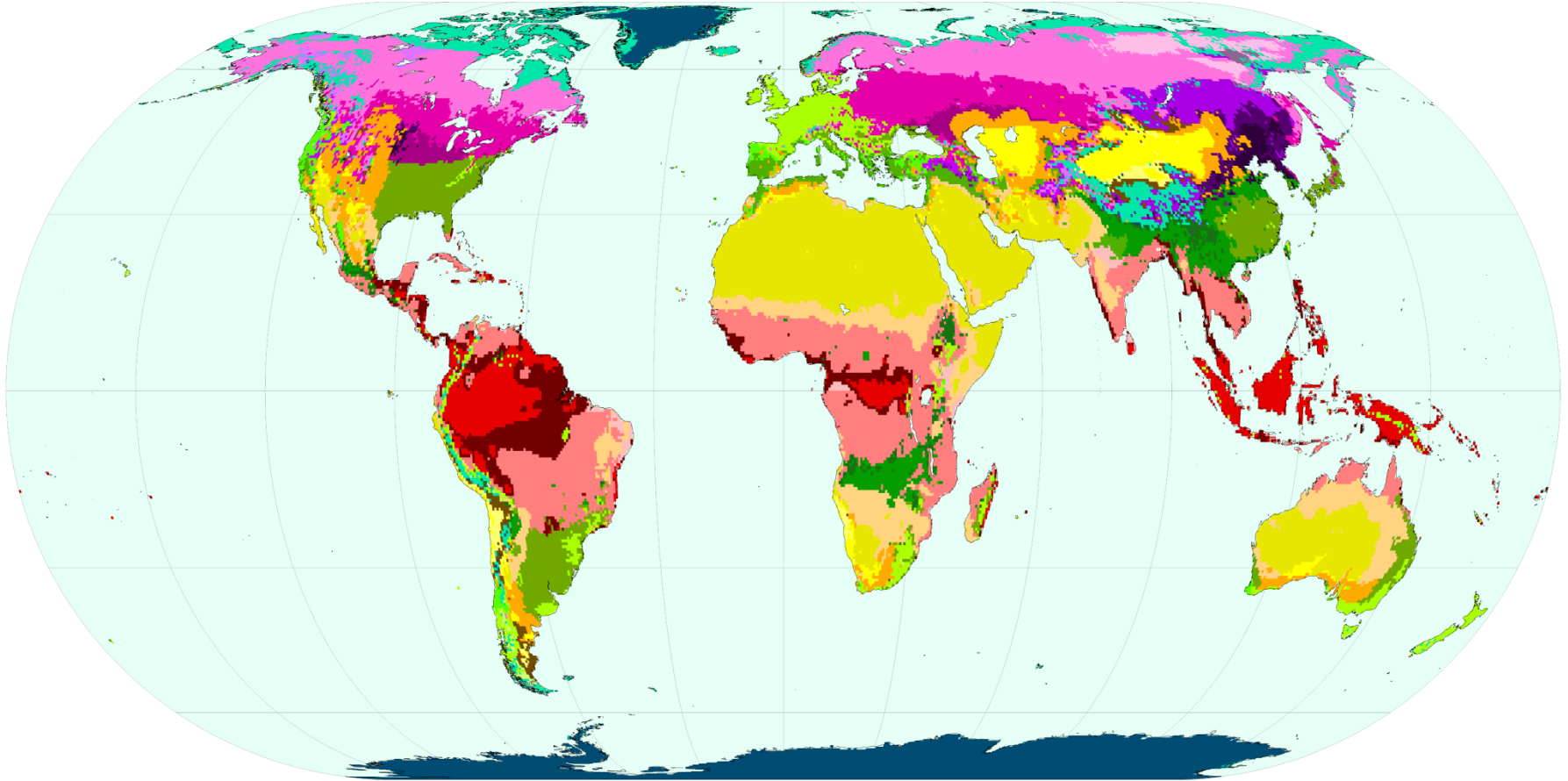
³The summer half of the year is defined as the months April–September for the Northern Hemisphere and October–March for the Southern Hemisphere.

⁴Most modern climate schemes consider the role of altitude. The highland zone has been taken from G.T. Trewartha, *An Introduction to Climate*, 4th ed. (1968).

Data Sources: Adapted from Howard J. Critchfield, *General Climatology*, 4th ed. (1983), and M.C. Peel, B.L. Finlayson, and T.A. McMahon, "Updated World Map of the Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification," *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences*, 11:1633–44 (2007).

Köppen Climate Classification

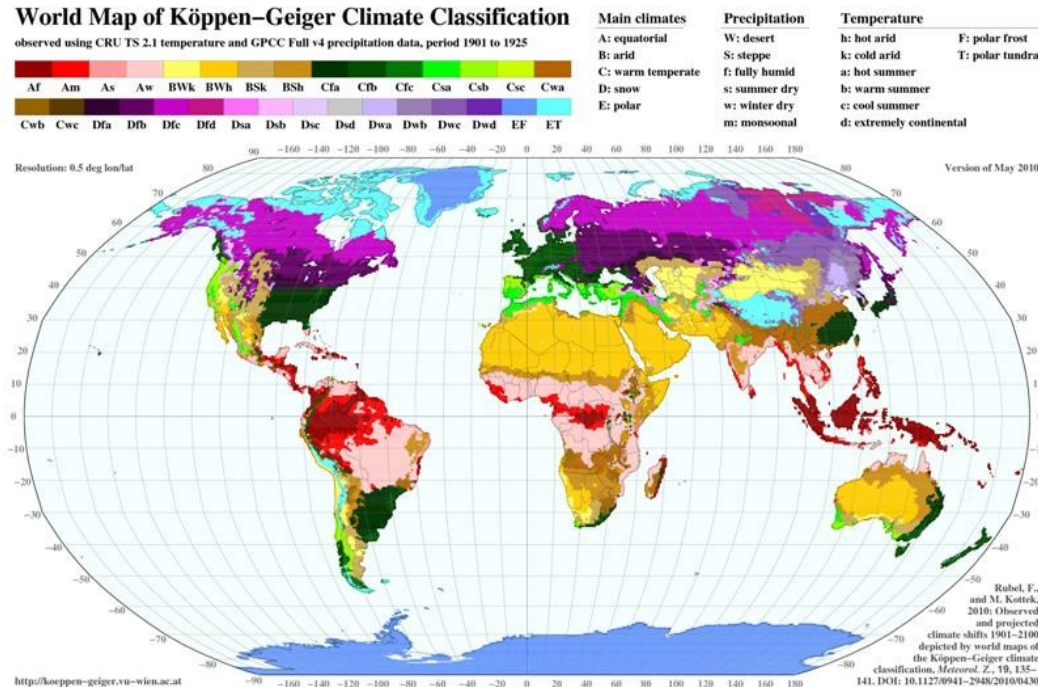
Climate Types



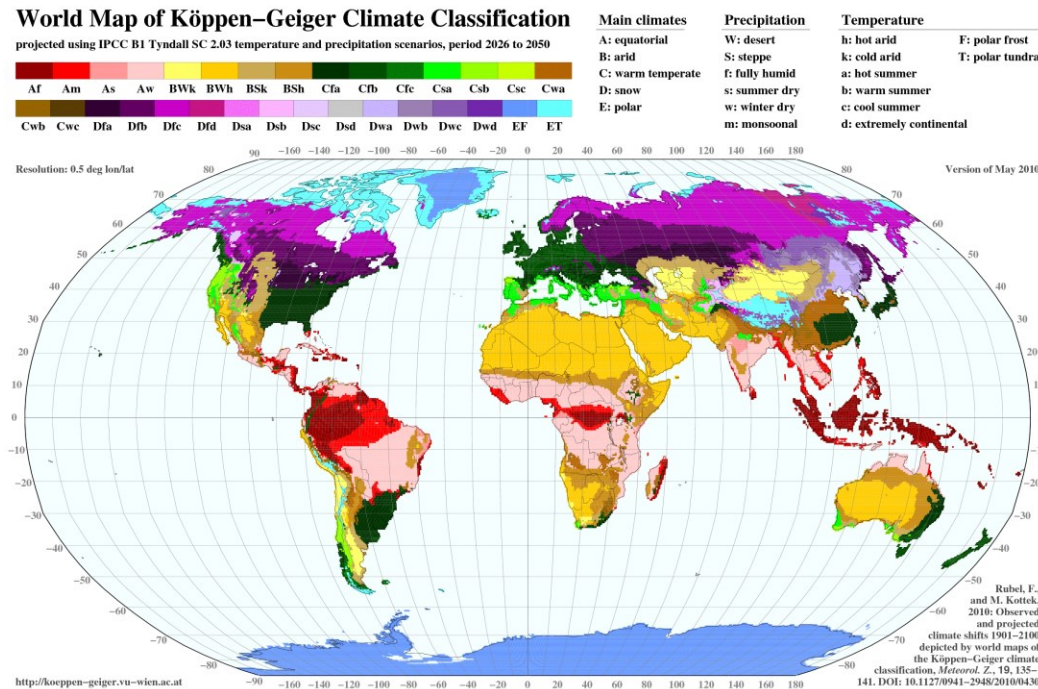
Köppen climate classes by major types

 Af	 BSh	 BWh	 Csa	 Cwa	 Cfa	 Dsa	 Dwa	 Dfa	 ET
 Am	 BSk	 BWk	 Csb	 Cwb	 Cfb	 Dsb	 Dwb	 Dfb	 EF
 Aw	 BSk'	 BWk'	 Csc	 Cwc	 Cfc	 Dsc	 Dwc	 Dfc	
 As						 Dsd	 Dwd	 Dfd	

Current CRU Climatology



IPCC SRES B1 2026-2050 Climatology



Source: Rubel, F., and M. Kottek, 2010: Observed and projected climate shifts 1901–2100 depicted by world maps of the Köppen–Geiger climate classification. *Meteorol. Z.*, 19, 135–141.

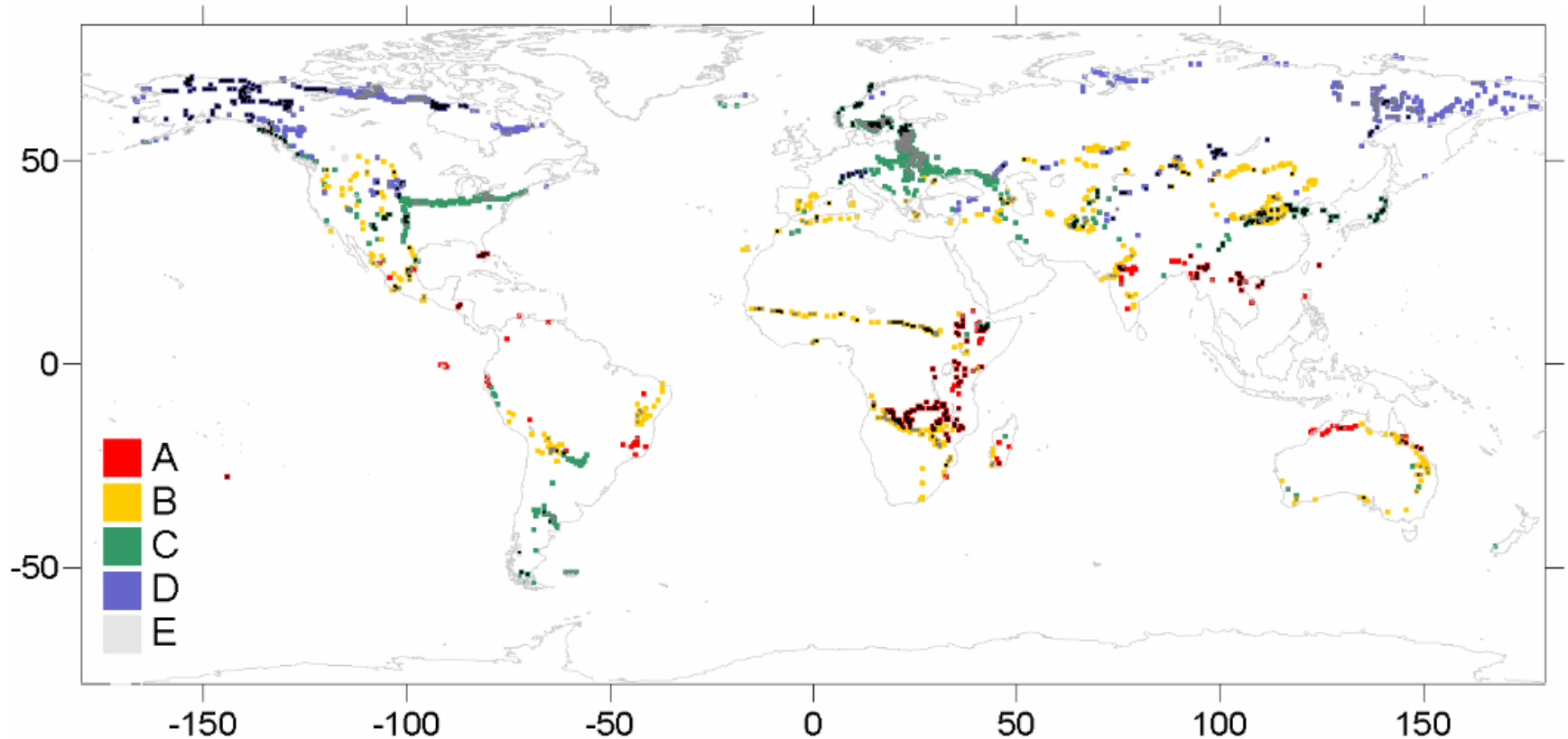


Figure 6: Köppen climate types for the period 1986 - 2000 for gridcells with different Köppen climates within the periods 1951 – 2000 and 1986 – 2000, respectively. Grey and black dots indicate gridcells for which a difference concerning the respective relevant climate parameter between the two periods can be determined on the 90% or 95% level of significance, respectively.

Source: Rubel, F., and M. Kottek, 2010: Observed and projected climate shifts 1901-2100 depicted by world maps of the Köppen-Geiger climate classification. *Meteorol. Z.*, **19**, 135-141.

C. Warren Thornthwaite
(1899- 1963), with staff
outside the “Laboratory of
Climatology”.



American and Soviet geographers join forces for a better world. From left are (standing) Dr. John Mather, Dr. Aleksandr Krenke, Dr. Tatiana Bocharova and Dr. Cort Willmott, and (seated) Dr. Galina Sdasyuk and Dr. Gilbert White.

J. “Russ” Mather (1923-
2003), and Cort Willmott
(1946-) at the University of
Delaware

More rational divisions!

Thornthwaite
1931:

Useful stuff

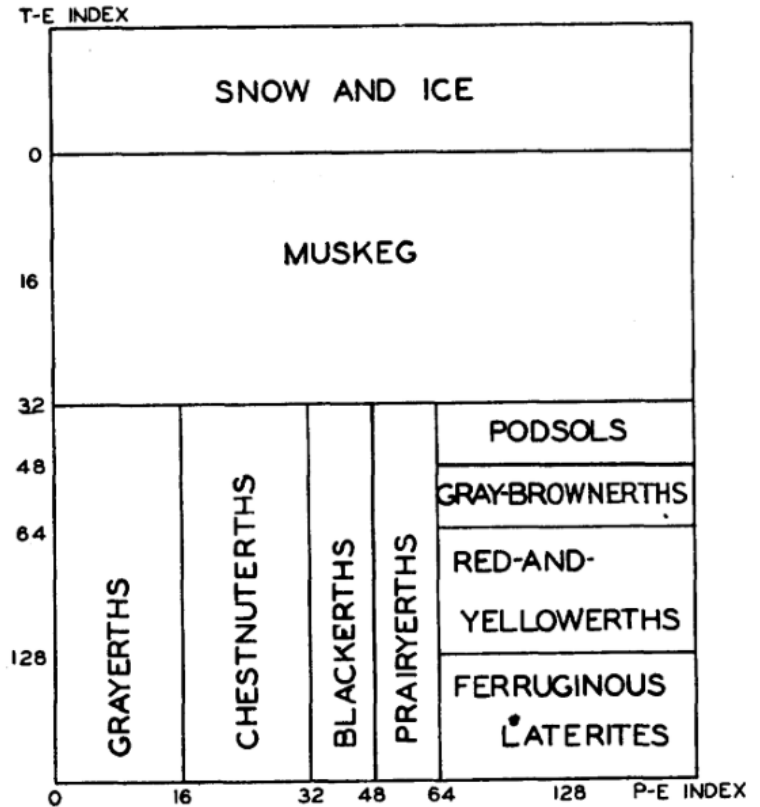
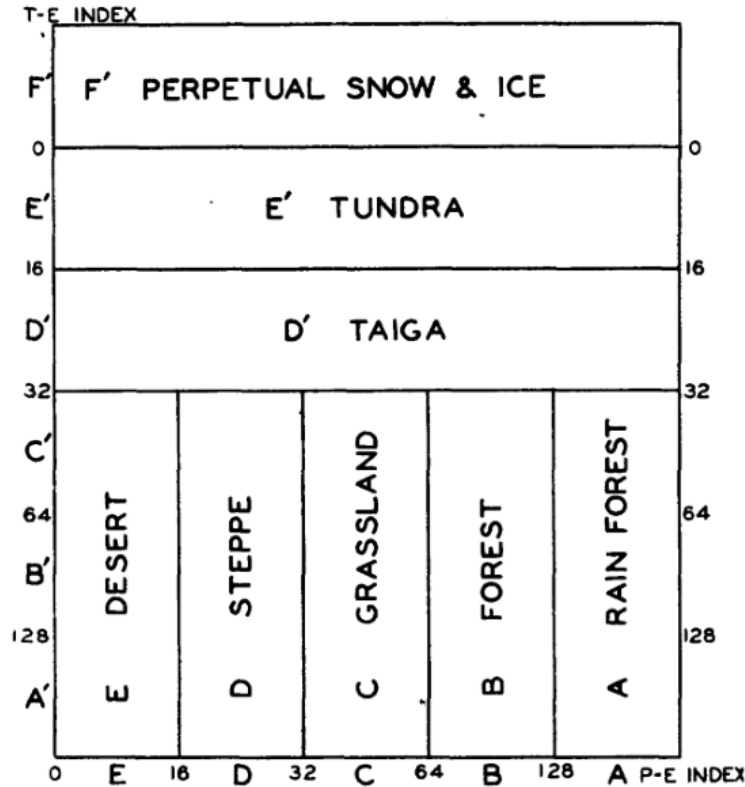


FIG. 9—Graphical representation of the eight major climatic regions.

FIG. 10—Graphical representation of the climatic basis of soil development.

Some geographers in this country have shown a desire to adopt the Köppen system as an “official” climatic classification. Kesseli, for example, asserts that a certain innovation proposed by Russell and Ackerman “should be made part of the standard Köppen classification.”⁵⁵ It would be a calamity if any current climatic classification were adopted as a standard. Climate is an extremely complex phenomenon, and any classification of it necessitates great oversimplification and involves the risk of serious error. Not

Water balance

$$\Delta S = P - RO - ET - \Delta G$$

Where:

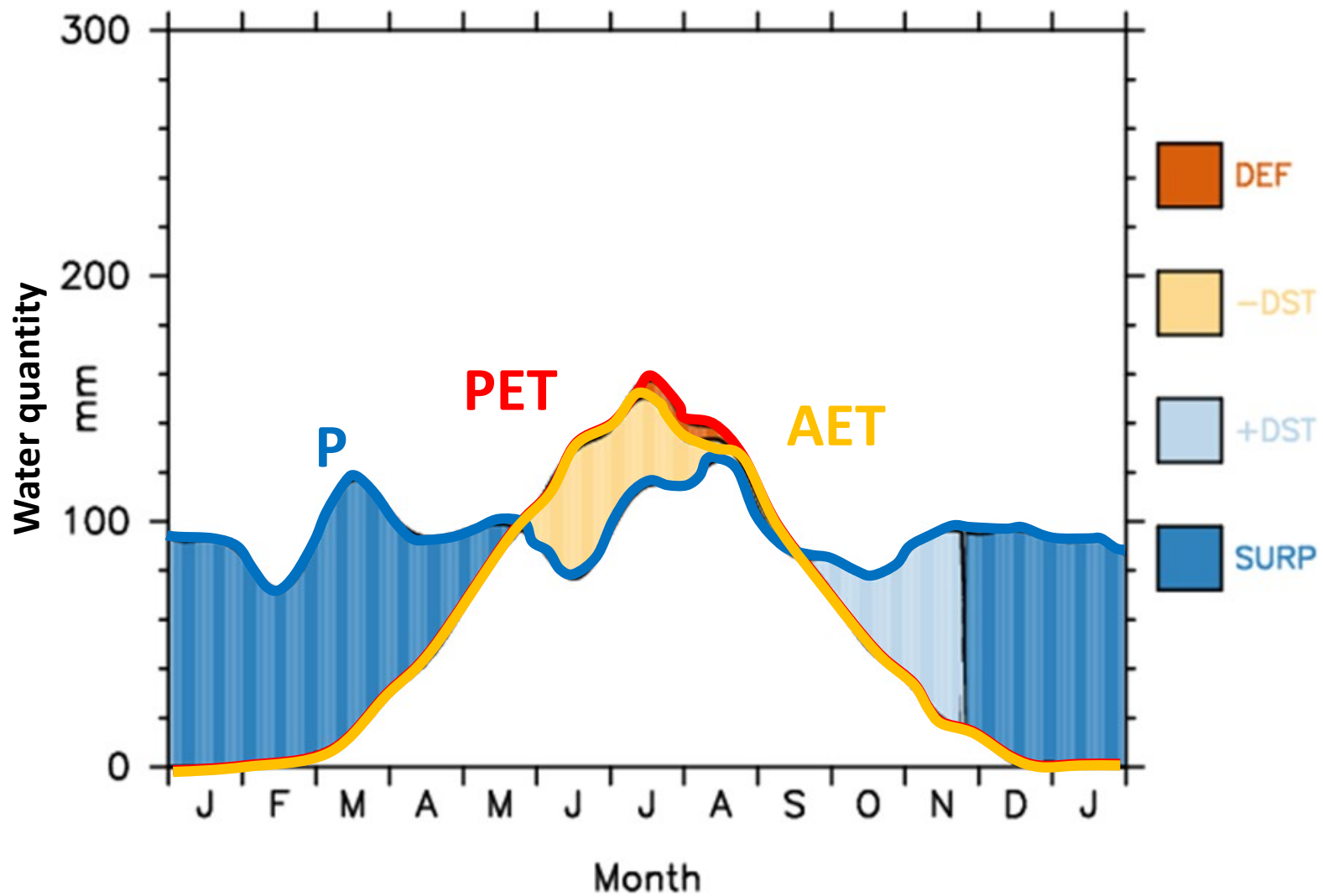
ΔS = Change in soil moisture

P = Precipitation (input)

RO = Runoff

ET = Evapotranspiration (transpiration + evaporation)

ΔG = Change in ground water storage



Thornthwaite
1948

AN APPROACH TOWARD A RATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF CLIMATE

C. W. THORNTHWAITE

[With separate map, Pl. I, facing p. 94]

THE direction that the modern study of climate has taken has been dictated largely by the development of meteorological instruments, the establishment of meteorological observatories, and the collection of weather data. The catalogue of climatic elements consists of those that are customarily measured and usually includes temperature, precipitation, atmospheric humidity and pressure, and wind velocity. Increasingly, climatic studies have tended to become statistical analyses of the observations of individual elements. Because of this, climatology has been regarded in some quarters as nothing more than statistical meteorology.

Thornthwaite
1948

Thornthwaite's initial formulation

A moisture ratio that expresses the relative humidity or aridity of a month may be obtained by dividing the difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration by potential evapotranspiration,

$$\frac{p - e}{e} \text{ or } \frac{p}{e} - 1. \quad (3)$$

Positive values of the ratio mean that the precipitation is excessive, negative values that it is deficient. A ratio of zero means that water supply is equal to water need.

Thornthwaite
1948

Developing the index further (percentage basis)

Where there is a water surplus and no water deficiency, the relation between water surplus and water need constitutes an index of humidity. Similarly, where there is a water deficiency and no surplus, the ratio between water deficiency and water need constitutes an index of aridity. Expressed as percentages these two indices are:

$$I_h = \frac{100s}{n} \quad \text{and} \quad I_a = \frac{100d}{n}, \quad (4)$$

where I_h and I_a are indices of humidity and aridity respectively, s is water surplus, d is water deficiency, and n is water need. The ultimate in the scale

Thornthwaite 1948

For this reason, a surplus of only 6 inches in one season will counteract a deficiency of 10 inches in another. Thus in an over-all moisture index the humidity index has more weight than the aridity index: the latter has only six-tenths the value of the former. The moisture index is:

$$I_m = I_h - .6I_a \text{ or } I_m = \frac{100s - 60d}{n} \quad (5)$$

Moist climates have positive values of I_m ; dry climates have negative values. Figure 7 shows how climatic types are separated in terms of the moisture index, I_m , and makes clear how they are related to water surplus and water deficiency. The various climatic types together with their limits are as follows:

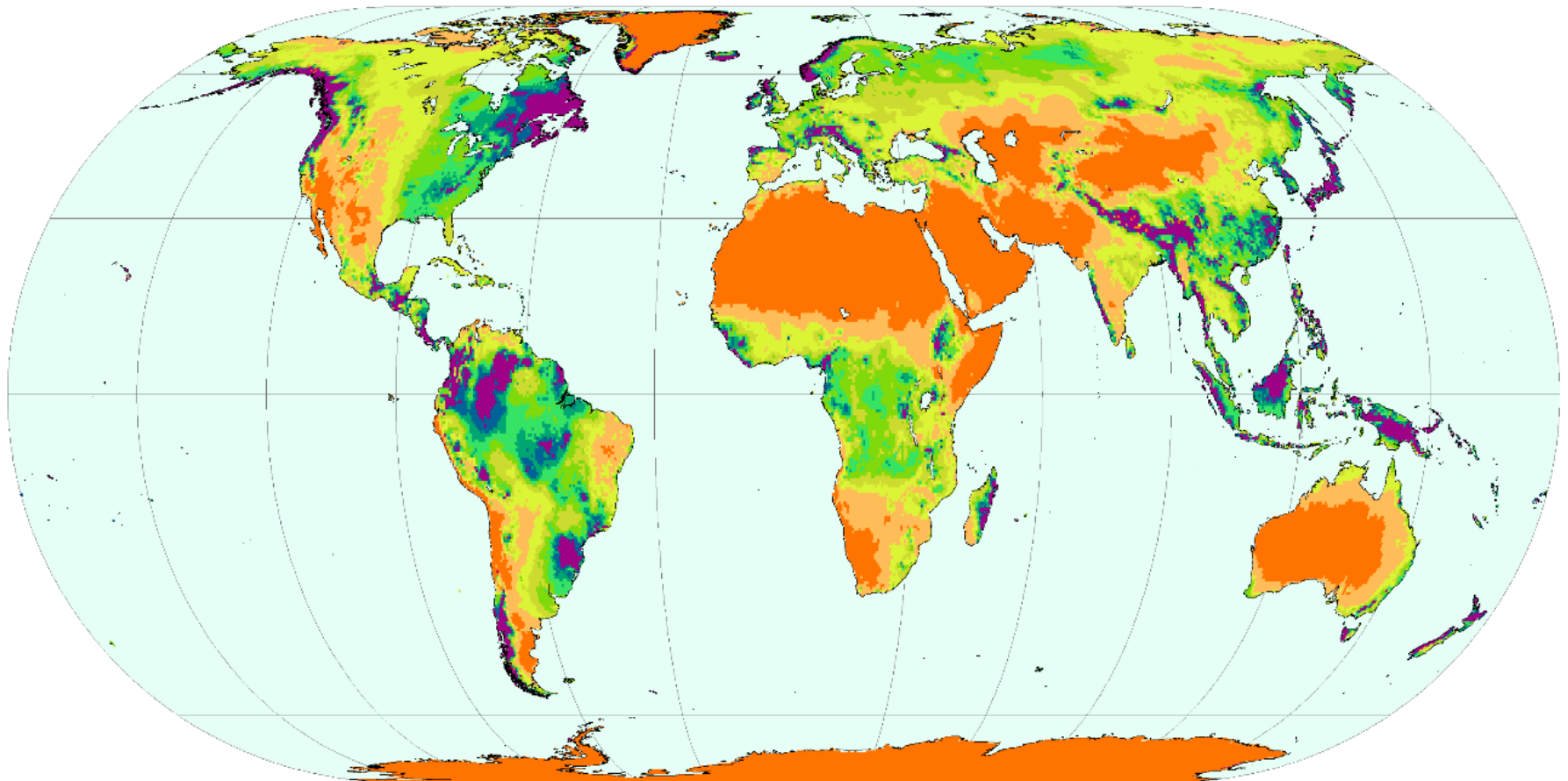
CLIMATIC TYPE	MOISTURE INDEX
A Perhumid	100 and above
B ₄ Humid	80 to 100
B ₃ Humid	60 to 80
B ₂ Humid	40 to 60
B ₁ Humid	20 to 40
C ₂ Moist subhumid	0 to 20
C ₁ Dry subhumid	-20 to 0
D Semiarid	-40 to -20
E Arid	-60 to -40

The index values -60, 0, and 100 are entirely rational limits of moisture regions. That the others are also may be seen in the nomograms of Figure

Thornthwaite's
folly?

Thornthwaite Climate Classification

Moisture Regions

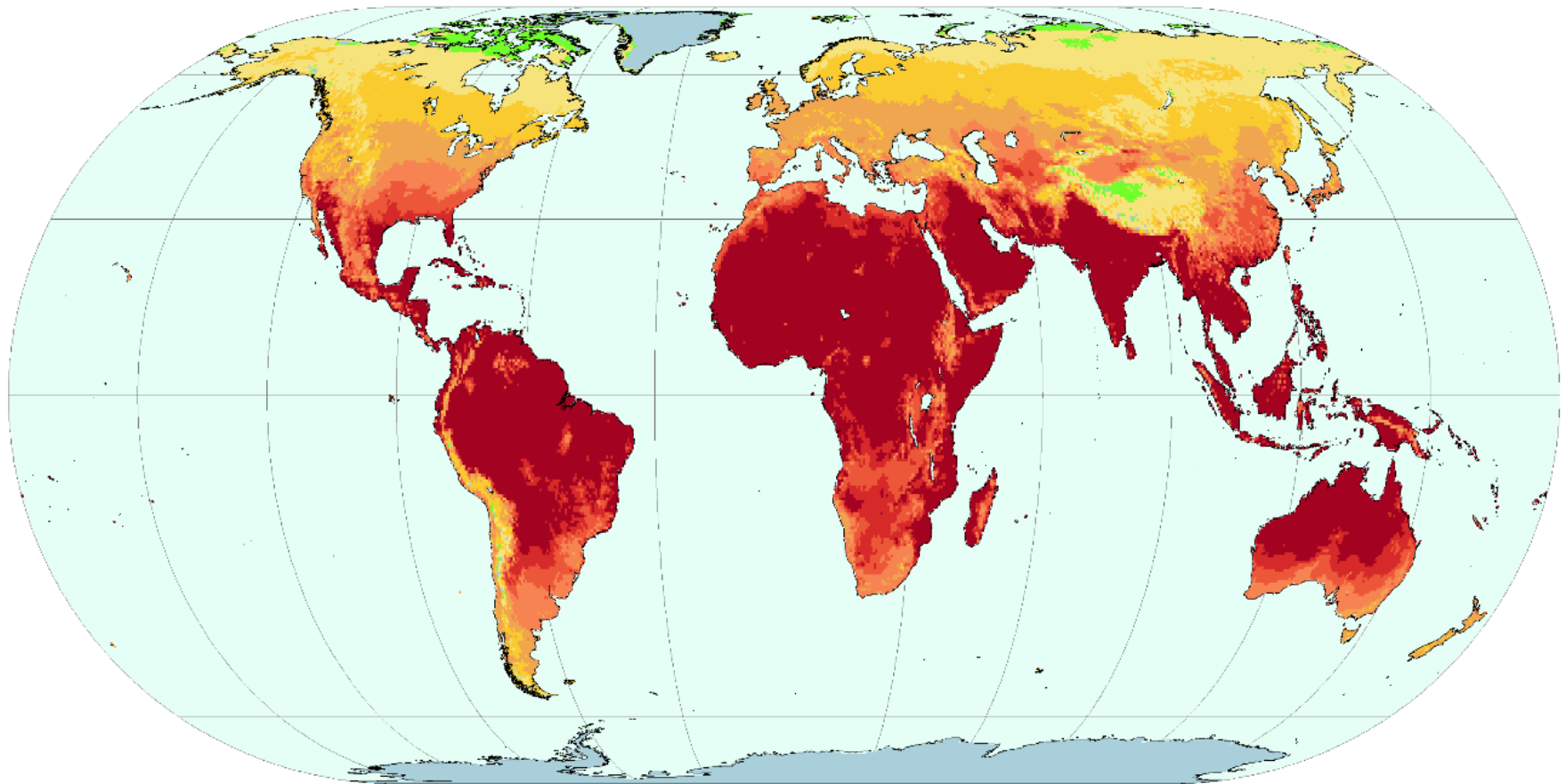


Climatic types based on the 1948 Thornthwaite moisture index

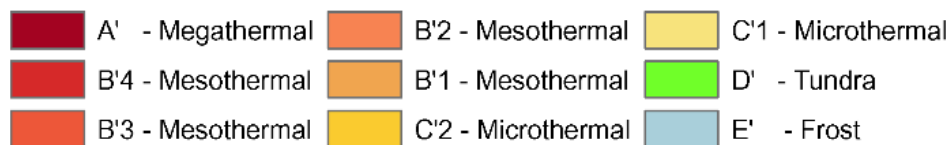
 A - Perhumid	 B2 - Humid	 C1 - Dry subhumid
 B4 - Humid	 B1 - Humid	 D - Semiarid
 B3 - Humid	 C2 - Moist subhumid	 E - Arid

Thornthwaite Climate Classification

Index of Thermal Efficiency

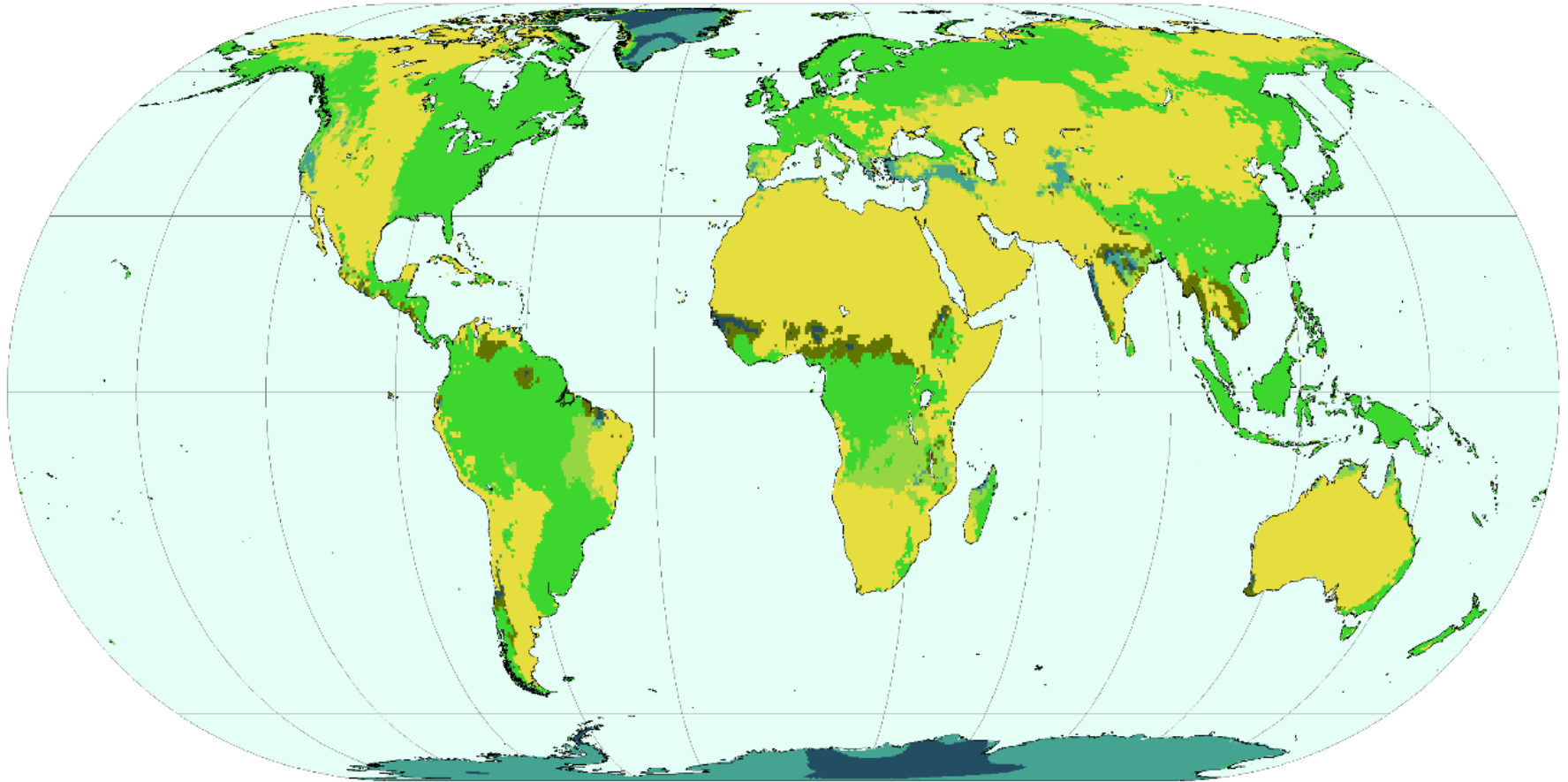


Thermal efficiency based on annual PE



Thornthwaite Climate Classification

Seasonal Variation of Effective Moisture

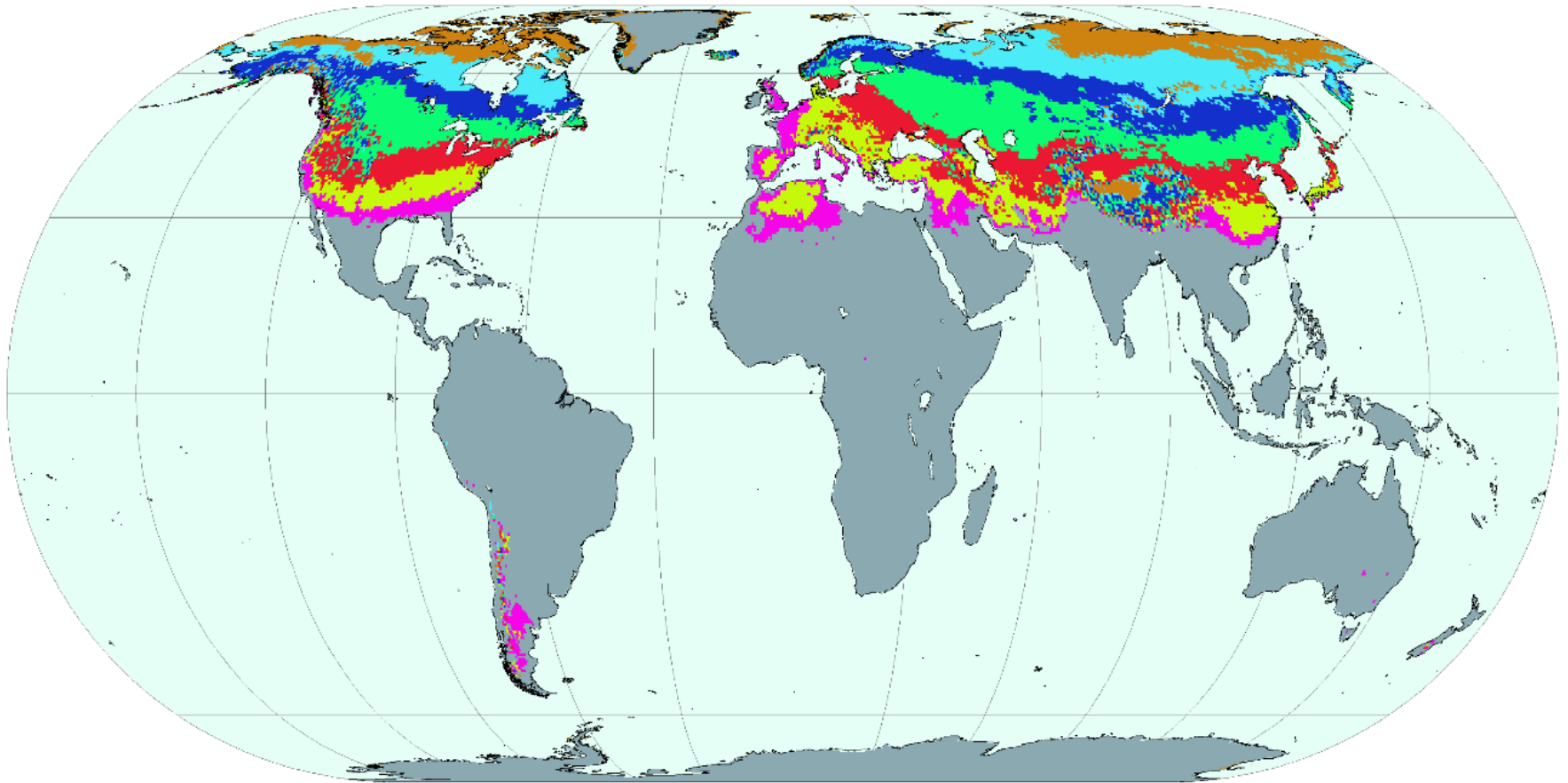


Seasonal Variation of effective moisture

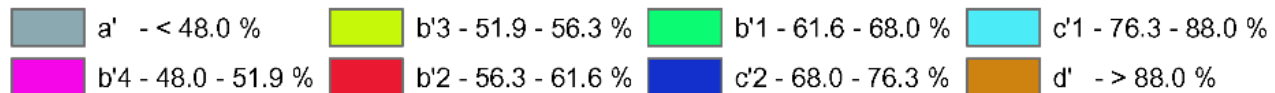
 r	- Little or no moisture deficiency in any season (moist climates only)	 w	- Moderate seasonal moisture variation with winter the driest season
 d	- Little or no water surplus in any season (dry climate only)	 s2	- Large seasonal moisture variation with summer the driest season
 s	- Moderate seasonal moisture variation with summer the driest season	 w2	- Large seasonal moisture variation with winter the driest season

Thornthwaite Climate Classification

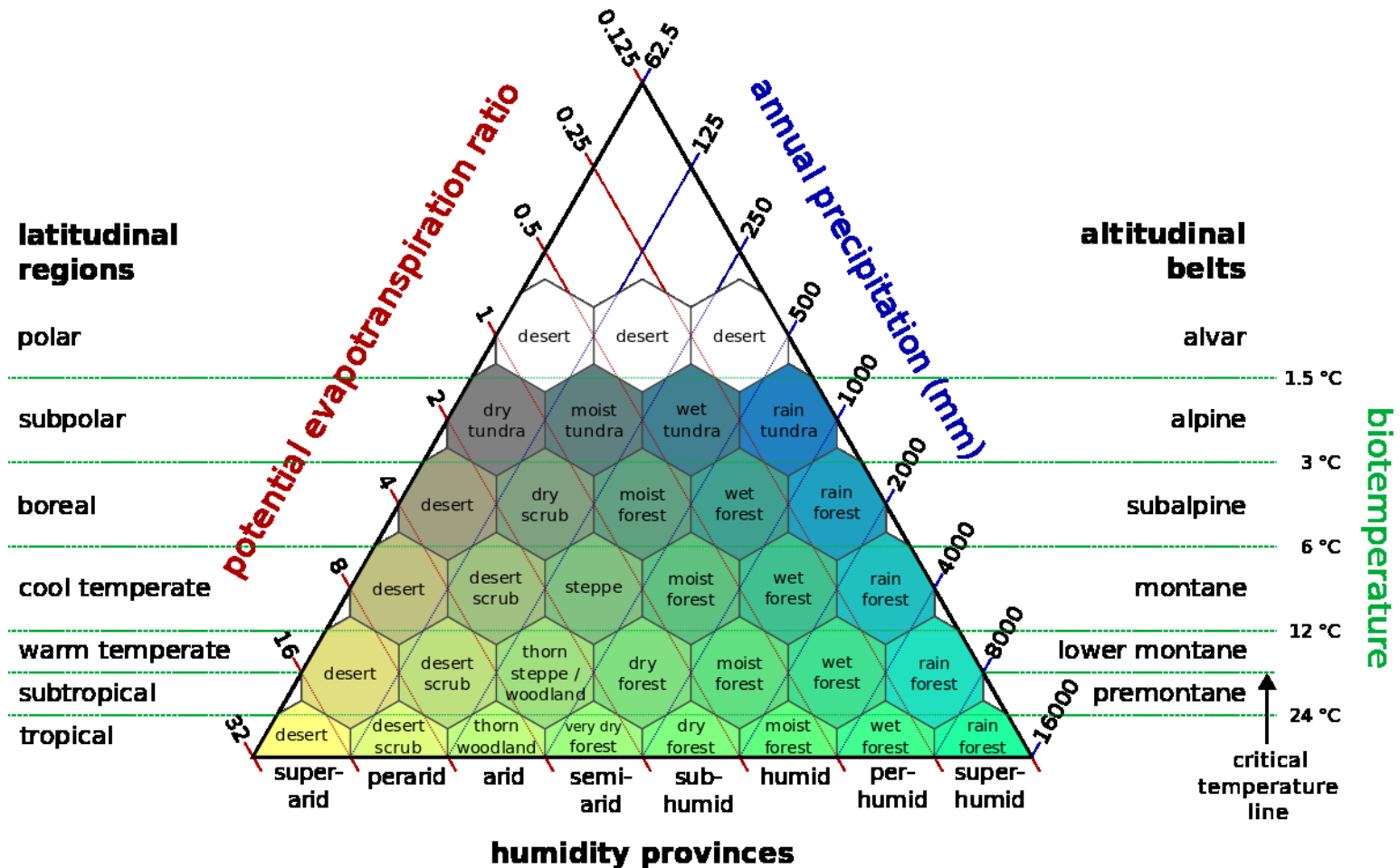
Summer Concentration of Thermal Efficiency



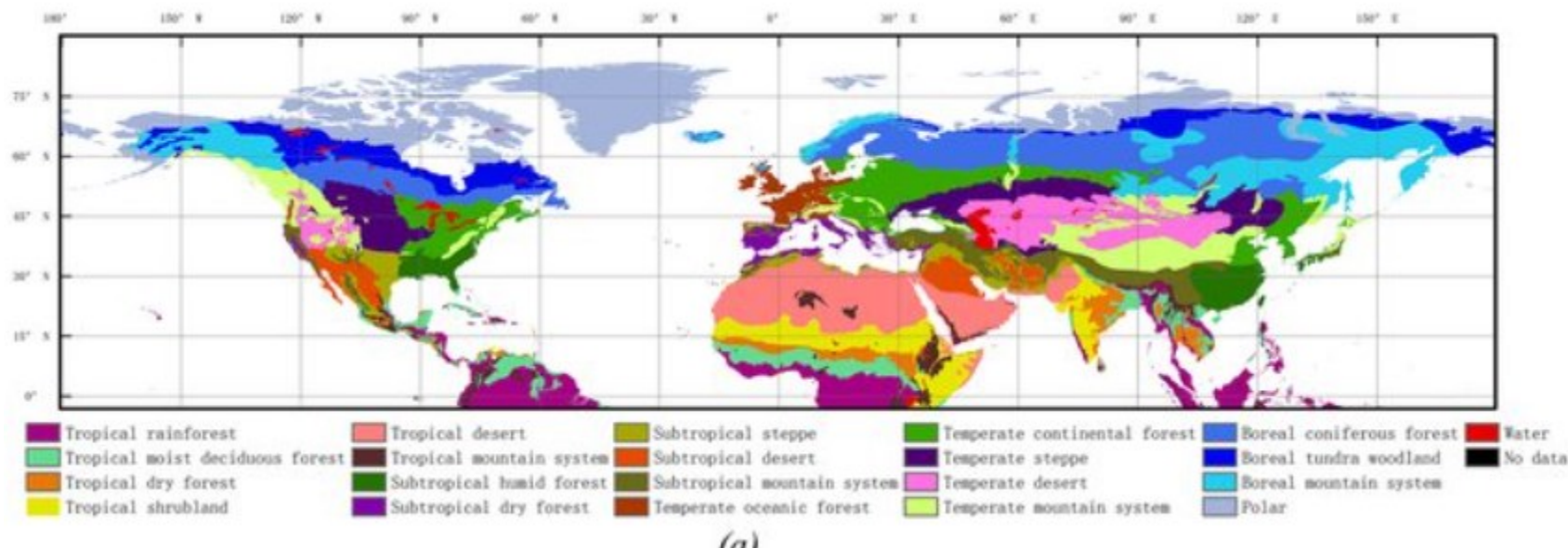
Percent of annual PE occurring in the summer months



Follow up: Holdridge Life Zones



Holdridge Life Zones



Source: Wang, Siyuan & Yang, Bojuan & Yang, Qichun & Lu, Linlin & Wang, Xiaoyue & Peng, Yaoyao. (2016). Temporal Trends and Spatial Variability of Vegetation Phenology over the Northern Hemisphere during 1982-2012. PLOS ONE. 11. e0157134. 10.1371/journal.pone.0157134.

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climate classification



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Climate Classification Map

Climate Classification Chart

Globe Climate Classification

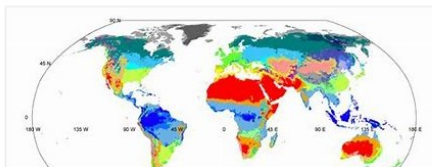
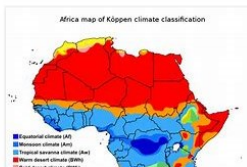
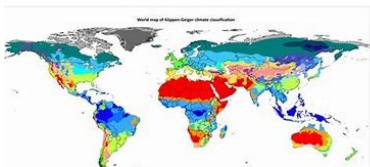
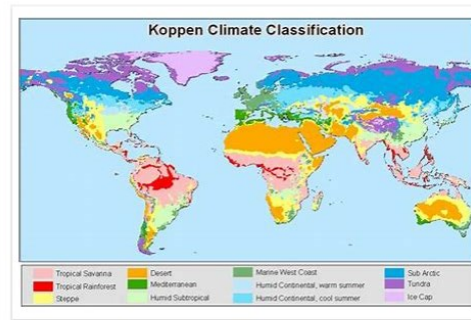
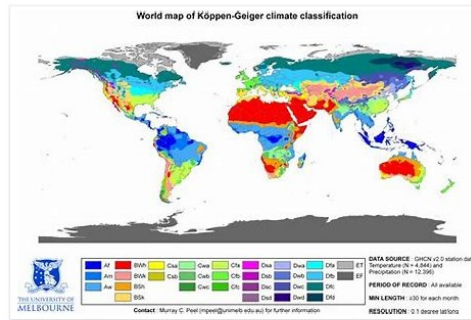
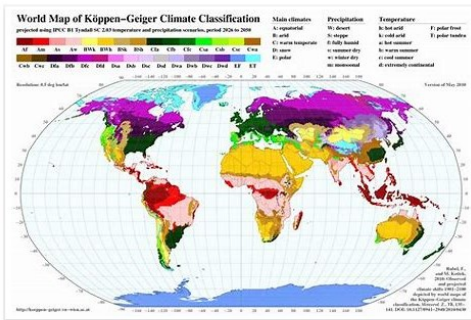
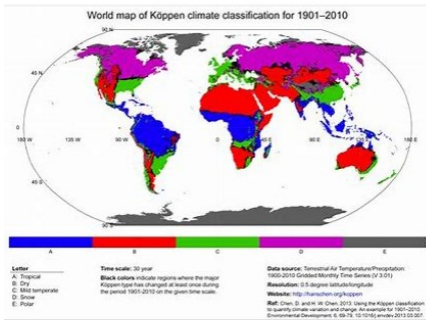
Koppen Climate Classification Map

Climate Regions

Climate Zones

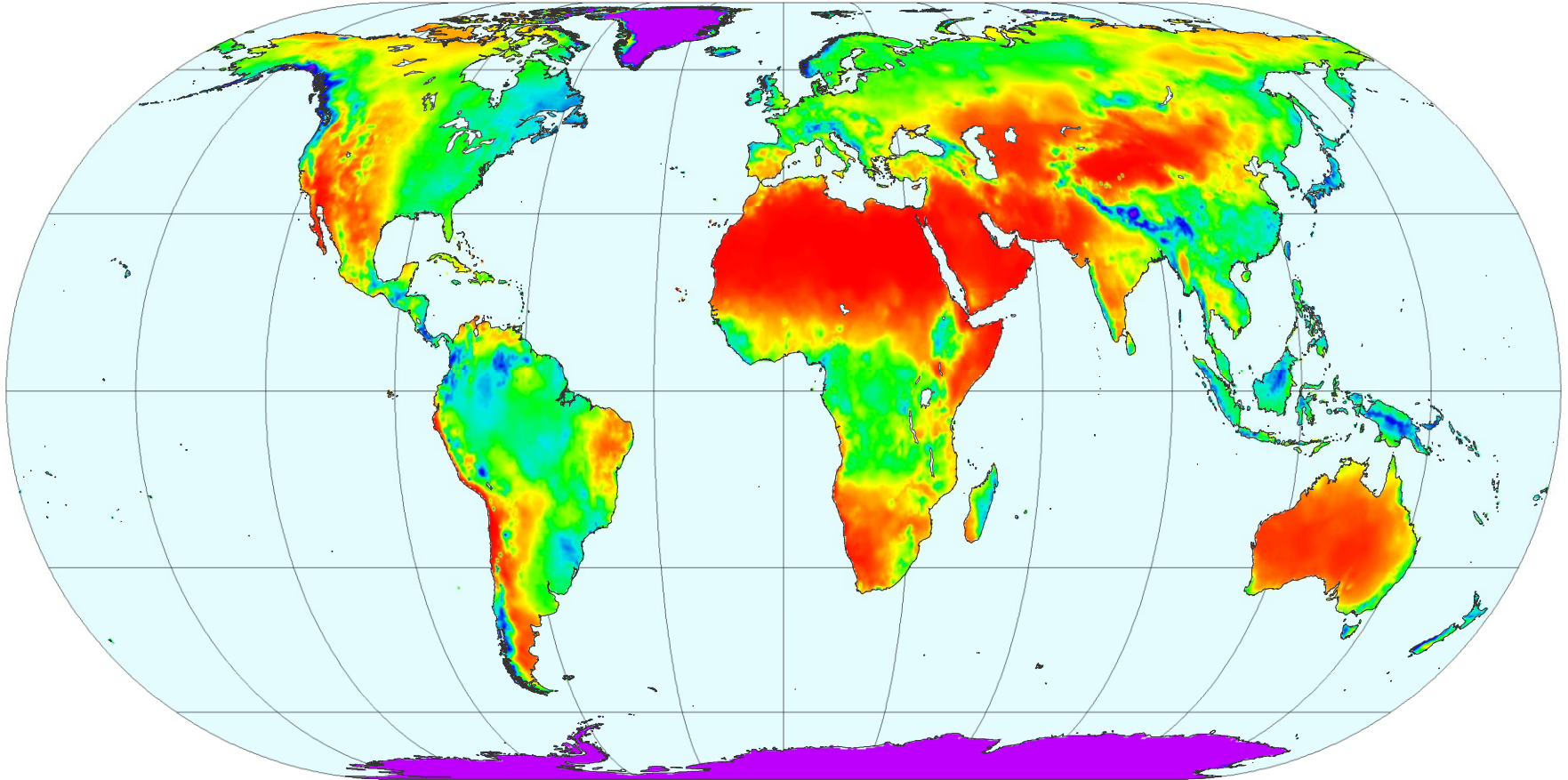
Koppen Climate Map

Koppen Climate Classification Chart

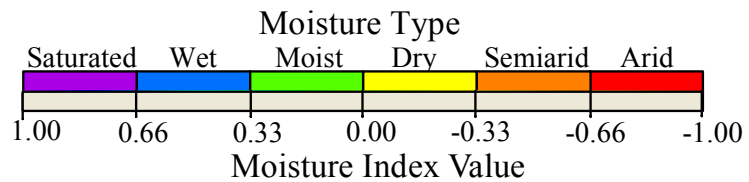


A revised Thornthwaite type climate classification

New Classification: Climatic Moisture Types



Climate Type



Replace with Mean Annual Temperature?

Moisture Index (I_m) formulation

$$I_m = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{PET}{P}\right) - 1, & P < PET \\ 0, & P = PET \\ 1 - \left(\frac{PET}{P}\right), & P \geq PET \end{cases}$$

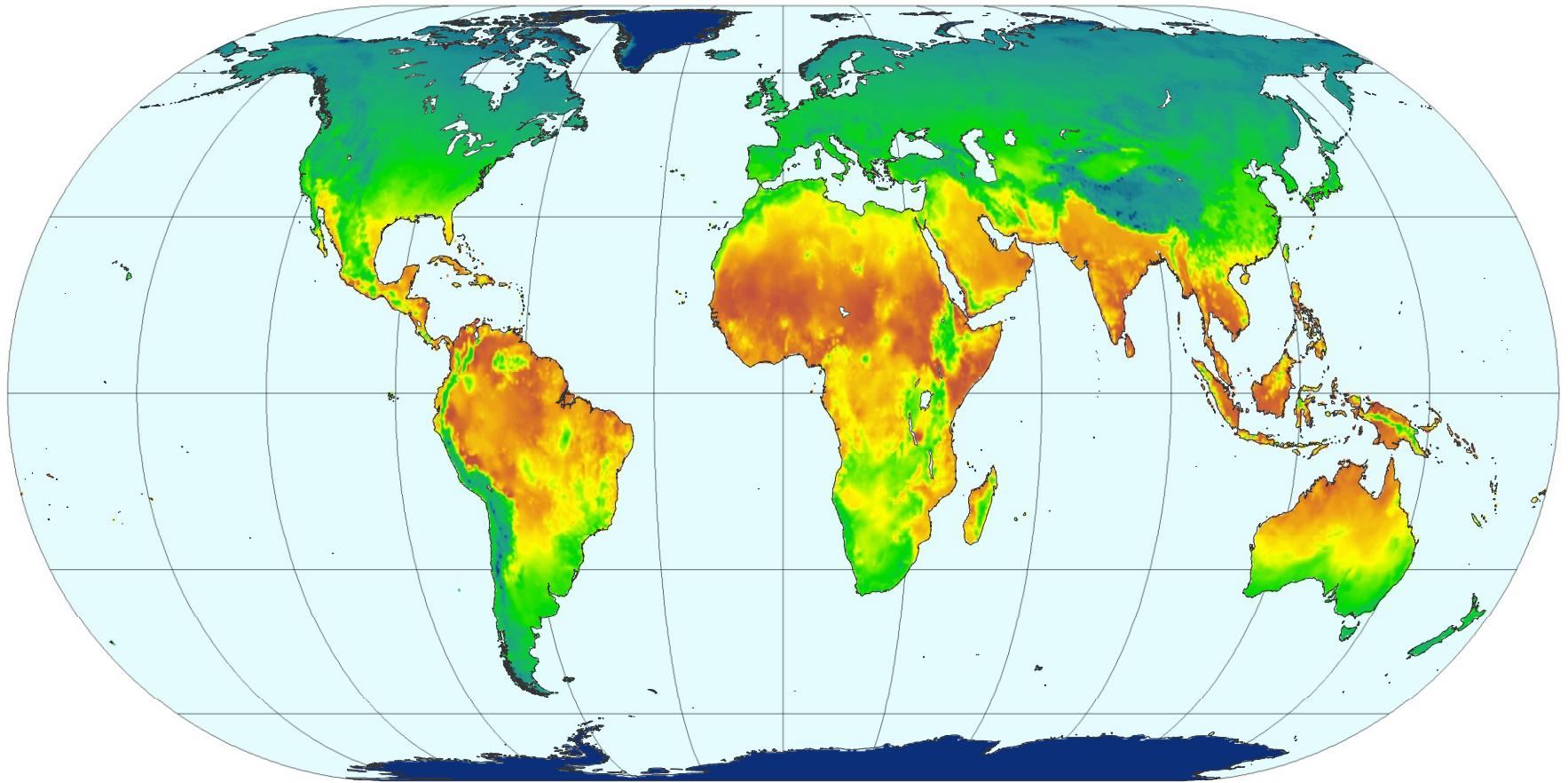
Where

I_m = Moisture Index

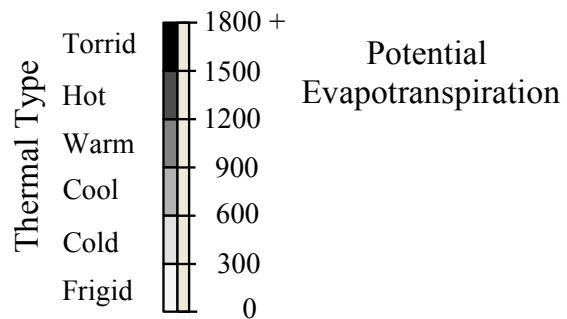
E_p = Potential Evapotranspiration

P_r = Precipitation

New Classification: Climatic Thermal Types



Climate Type



Seasonality (S) formulation

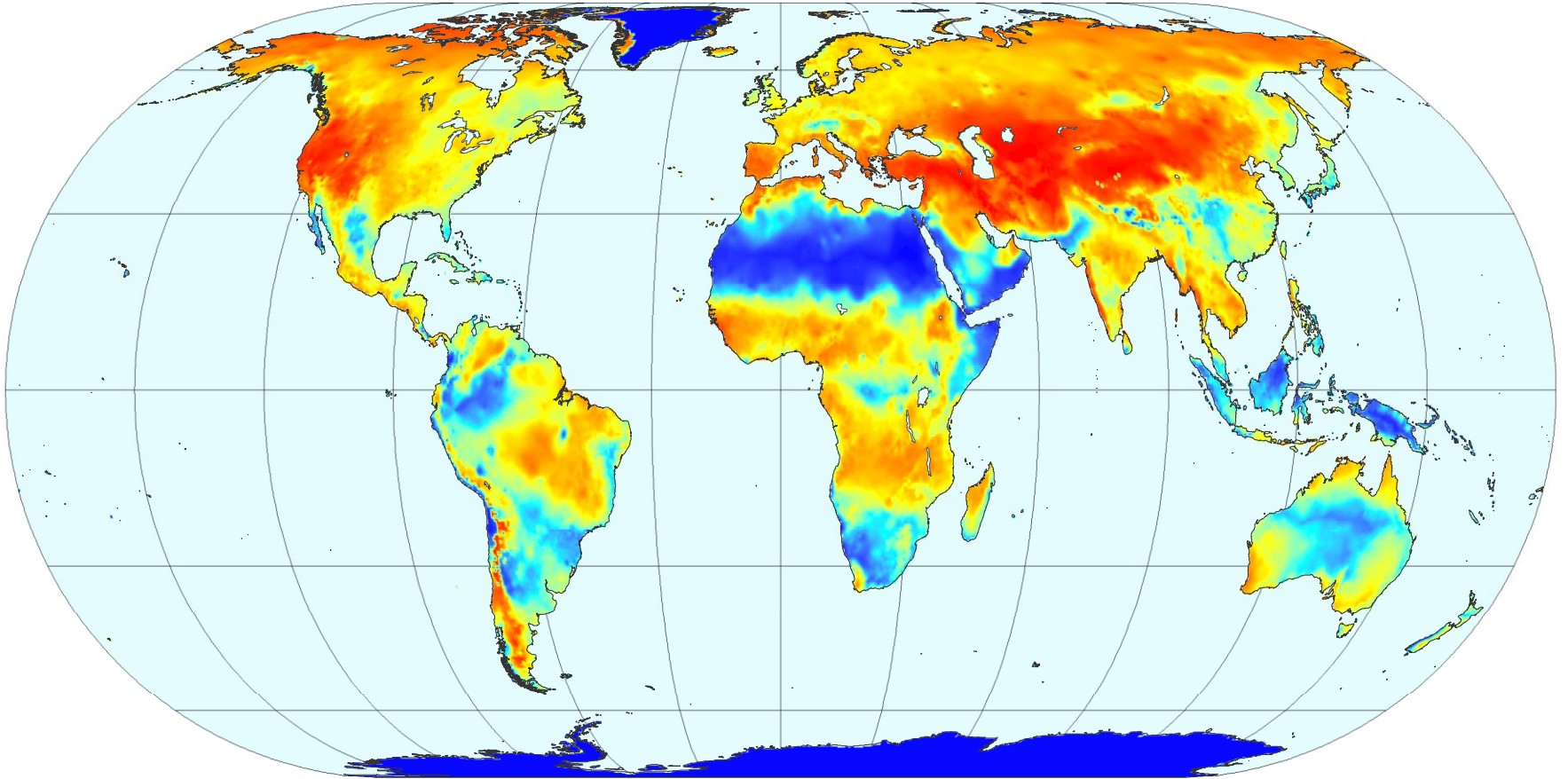
$$S = I_{m_{MAX}} - I_{m_{MIN}}$$

Where

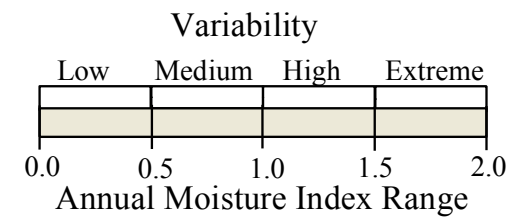
$I_{m_{MAX}}$ = Annual maximum monthly Moisture Index

$I_{m_{MIN}}$ = Annual minimum monthly Moisture Index

New Classification: Climate Variability



Climate Variability



New seasonality (S_{Cause}) formulation

$$S_{Cause} = \left(\frac{P_{Range}}{PET_{Range}} \right) \begin{cases} < 0.5 = \textit{Temperature} \\ -0.5 < \textit{Combined} < 2 \\ > 2.0 = \textit{Precipitation} \end{cases}$$

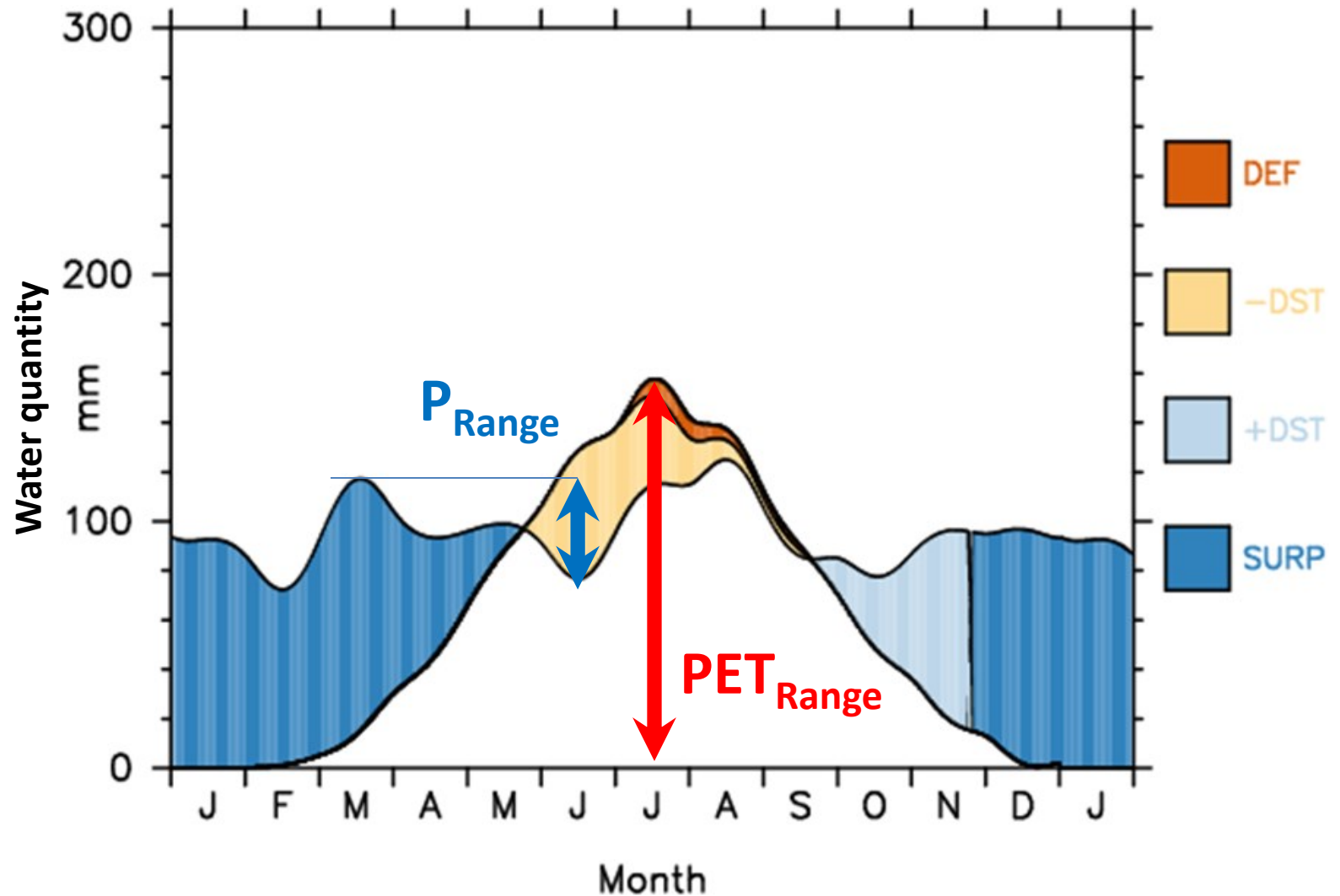
Where

S_{Cause} = Indication of proportion of seasonality caused by P, PET

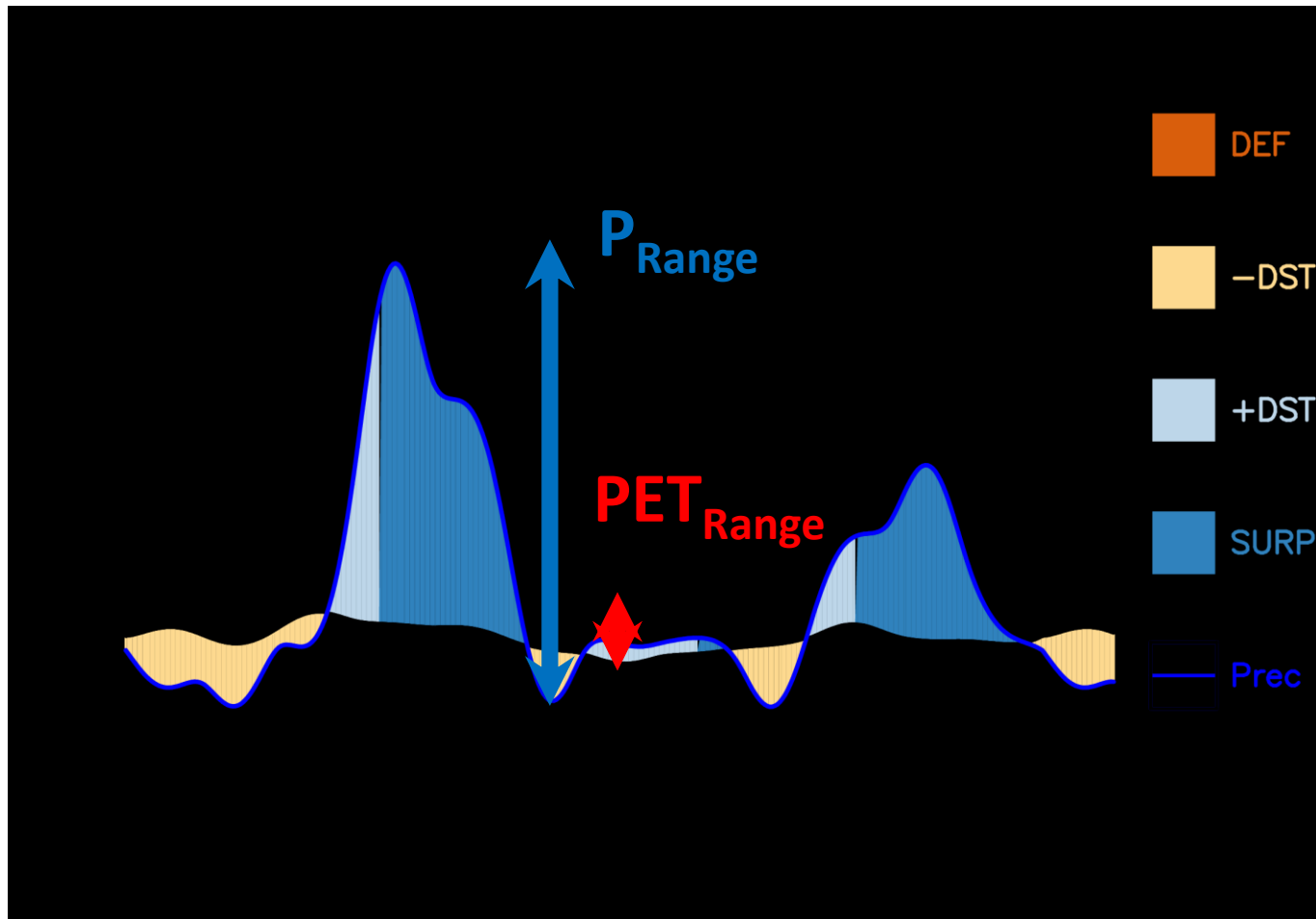
PET_{Range} = Annual Monthly Potential Evapotranspiration Range

P_{range} = Annual Monthly Precipitation Range

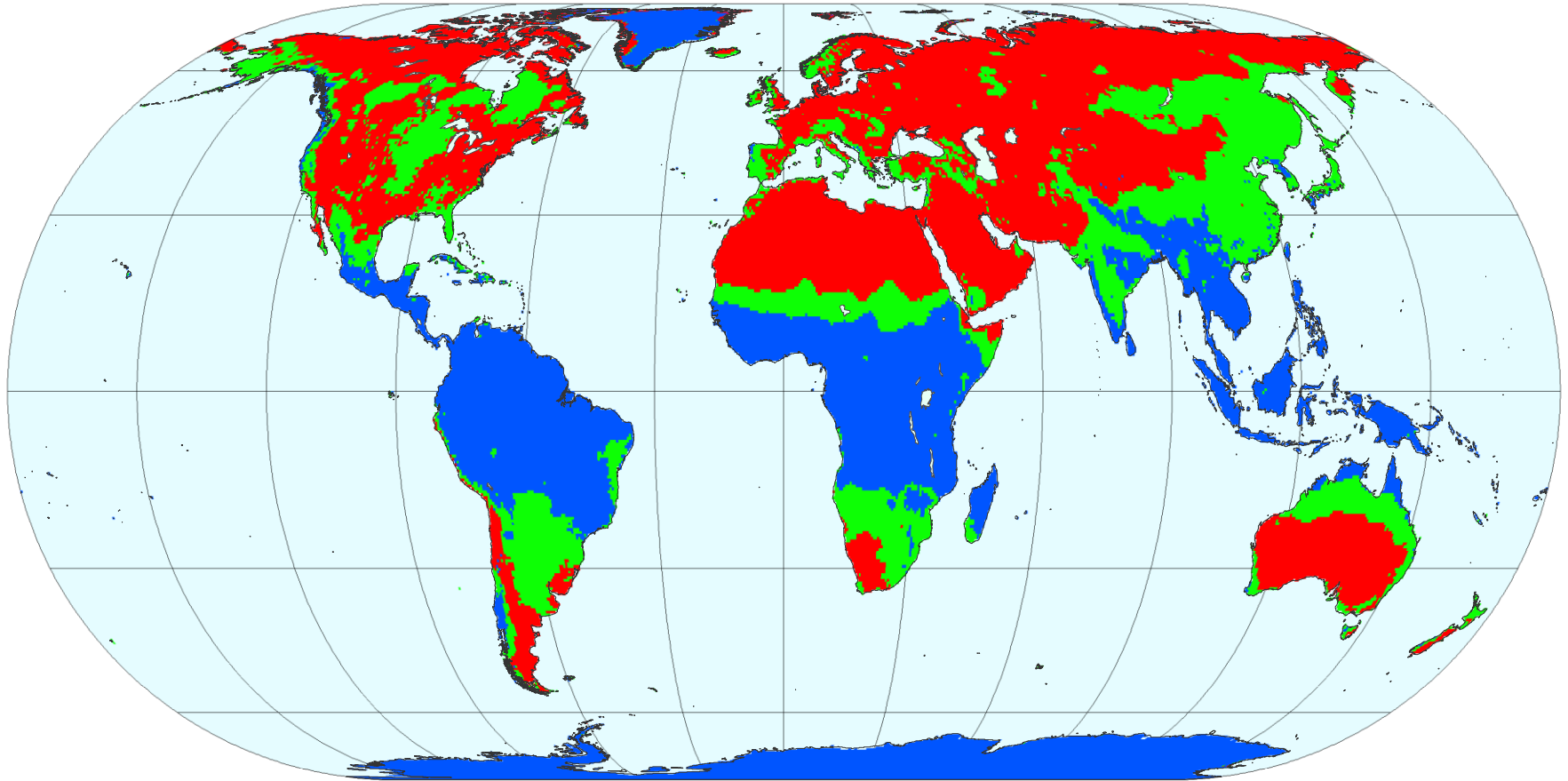
Newark, Delaware



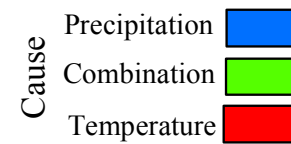
Nakuru, Kenya



New Classification: Cause of Seasonality



Climate Variability



New seasonality (S_{Cause}) formulation

$$S_{Cause} = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{P_{Range}}{PET_{Range}} \right) - 1, & P_{Range} < PET_{Range} \\ 0, & P_{Range} = PET_{Range} = 0 \\ 1 - \left(\frac{PET_{Range}}{P_{Range}} \right), & P_{Range} \geq PET_{Range} \end{cases}$$

$$S_{Cause} = \begin{cases} > -0.5 = \textit{Temperature} \\ -0.5 < \textit{Combined} < 0.5 \\ < 0.5 = \textit{Precipitation} \end{cases}$$

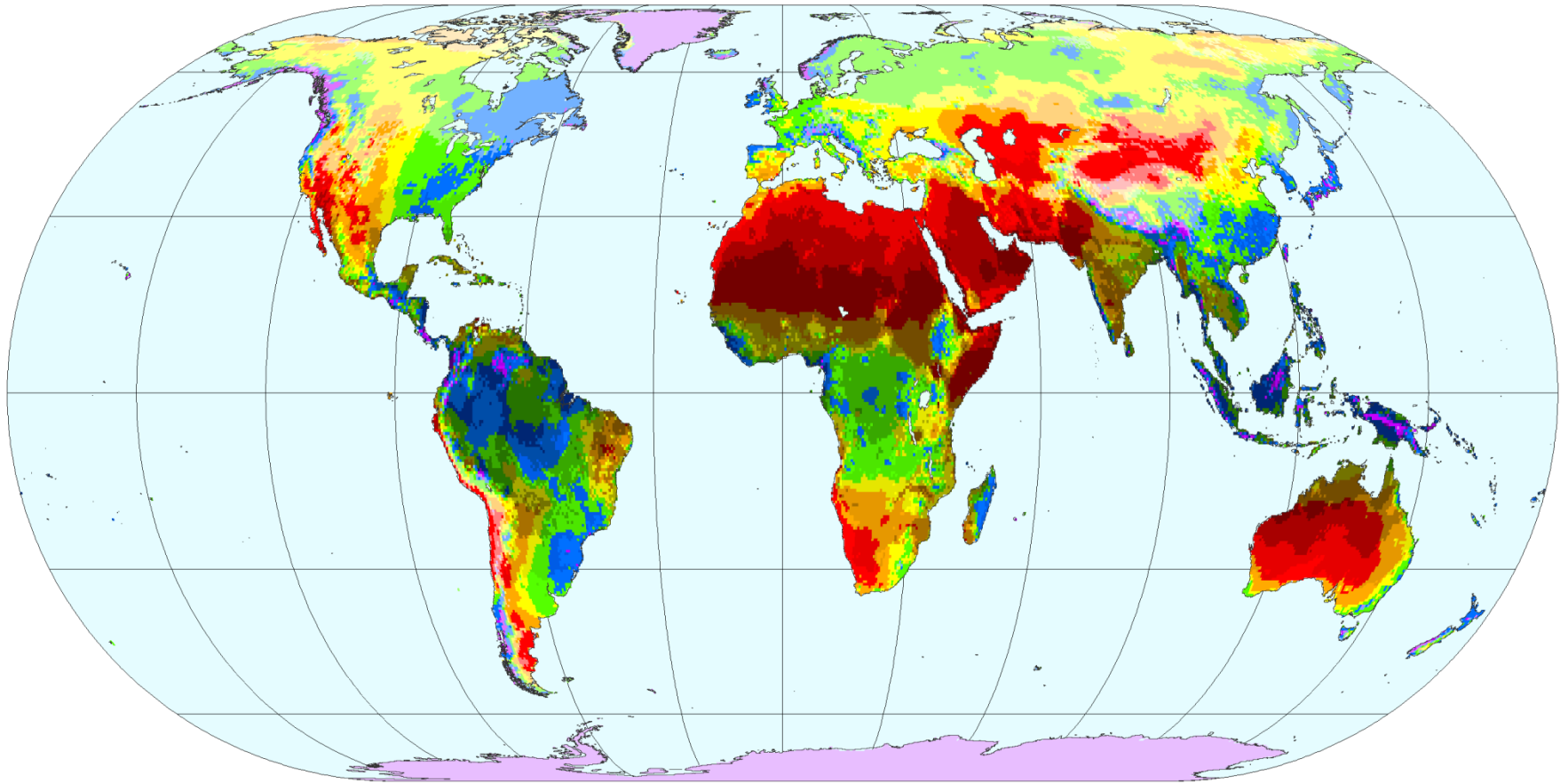
Where

S_{Cause} = Indication of proportion of seasonality caused by P, PET

PET_{Range} = Annual Monthly Potential Evapotranspiration Range

P_{range} = Annual Monthly Precipitation Range

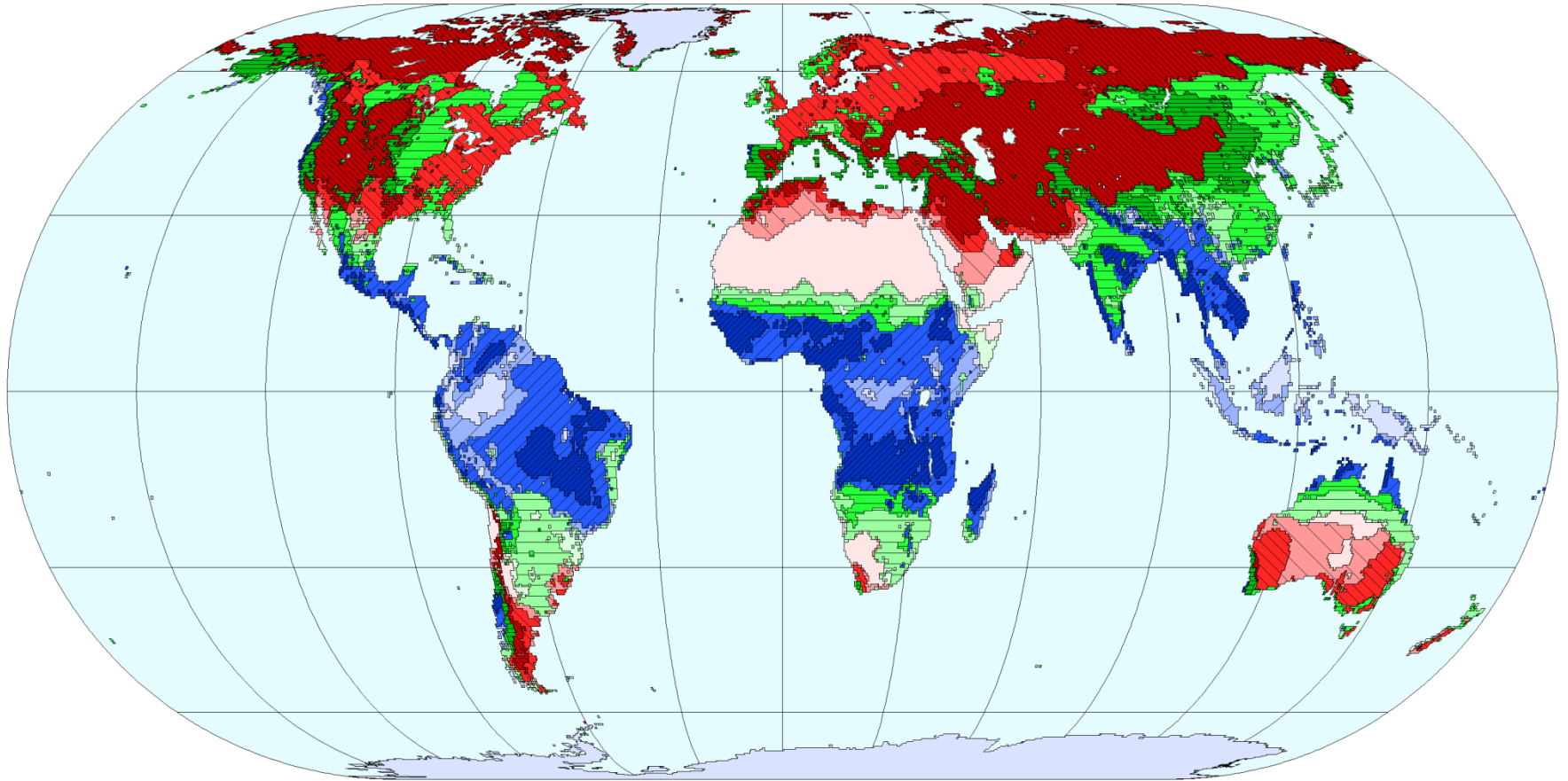
New Classification: Climatic Types



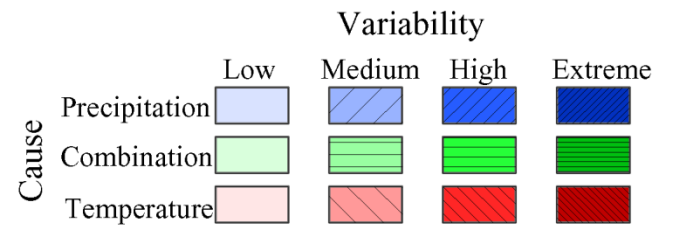
Climate Type

	Moisture Type					
	Saturated	Wet	Moist	Dry	Semiarid	Arid
Thermal Type	Torrid					
	Hot					
	Warm					
	Cool					
	Cold					
	Frigid					

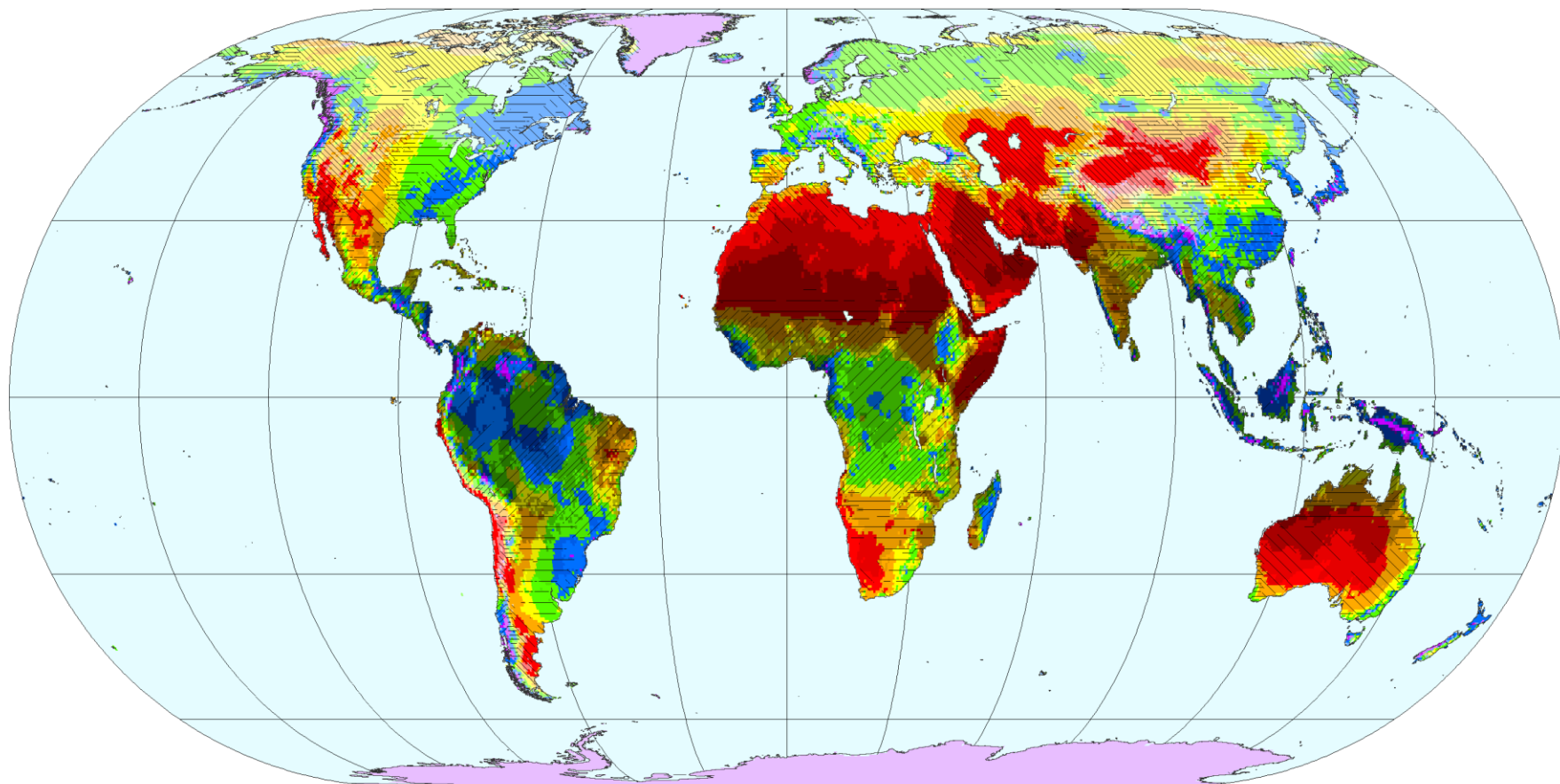
New Classification: Climate Seasonality by Cause



Climate Variability



A revised Thornthwaite type climate classification



Climate Type

Thermal Type	Moisture Type					
	Saturated	Wet	Moist	Dry	Semiarid	Arid
	Torrid					
	Hot					
	Warm					
	Cool					
	Cold					
	Frigid					

Climate Variability

Cause	Variability			
	Low	Medium	High	Extreme
	Precipitation			
	Combination			
	Temperature			

Search for "Climate Change"

Climate Change Graphs
2018

NASA
Climate Change Graph

Global Warming
Graph

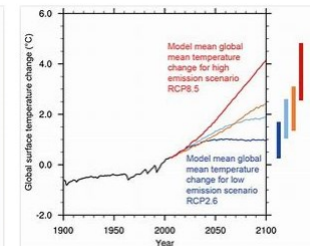
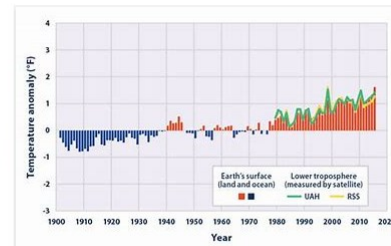
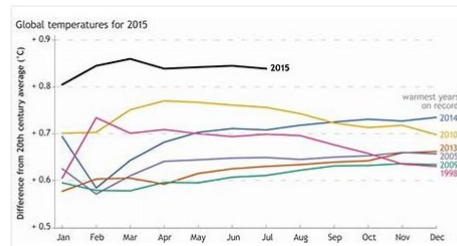
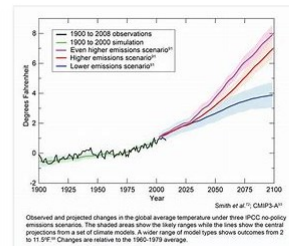
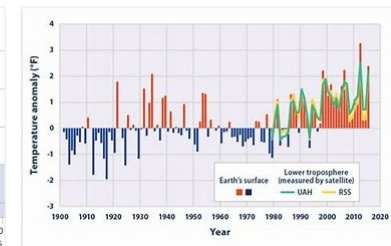
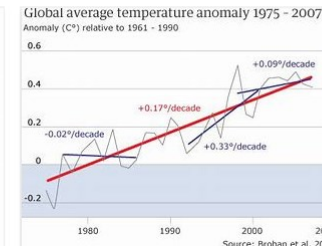
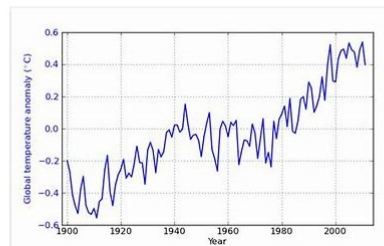
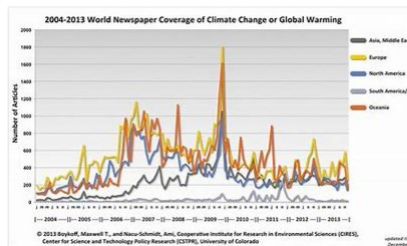
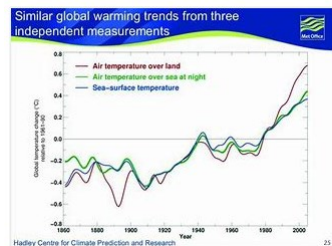
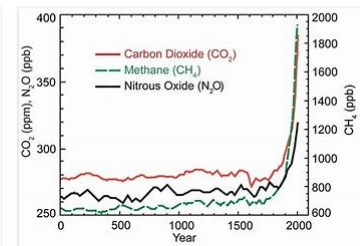
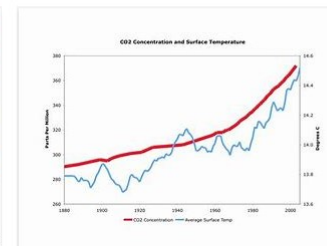
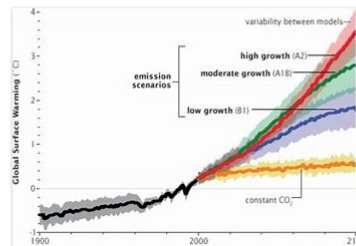
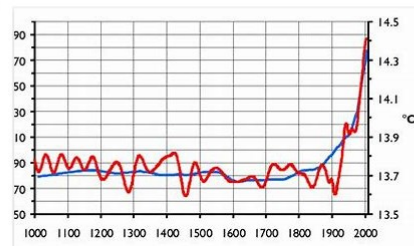
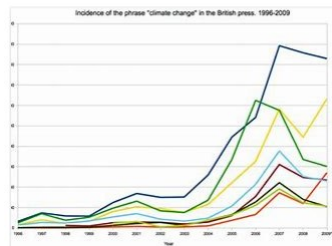
Climate Change Graph
2017

Climate Change
Effects

Climate Change Graphs
and Charts

Climate Change
Temperature Graph

Climate Change
Cartoons



Feedback

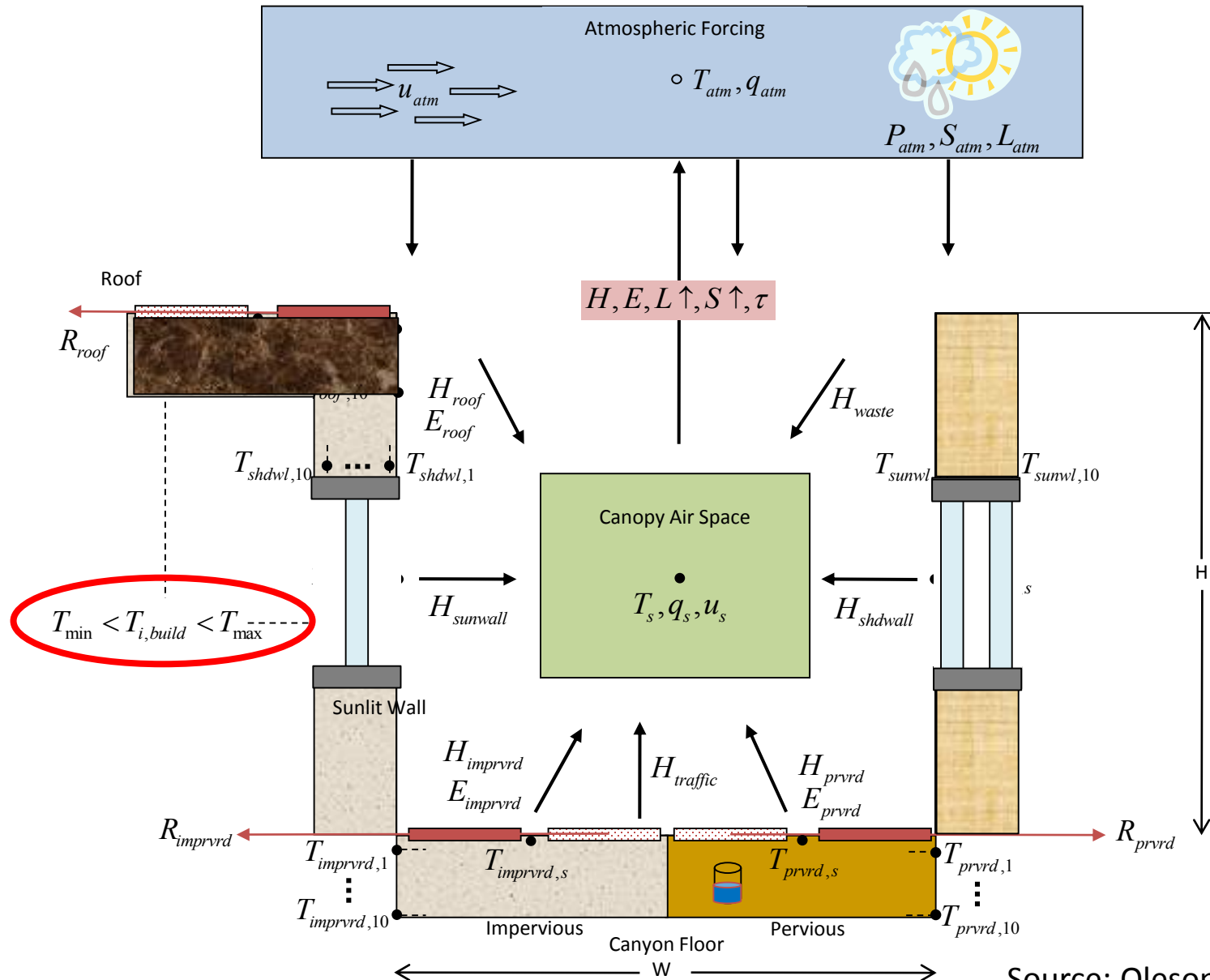
Using the revised classification to detect climate change

Simulate 2 climate change forcings:

1. GHG forcing based on RCP 8.5 average simulations in AR 5 (T and P)
2. Urban climate forcings at the local scale as simulated CESM (T only)

Urban climate simulations in the Community Earth System Model

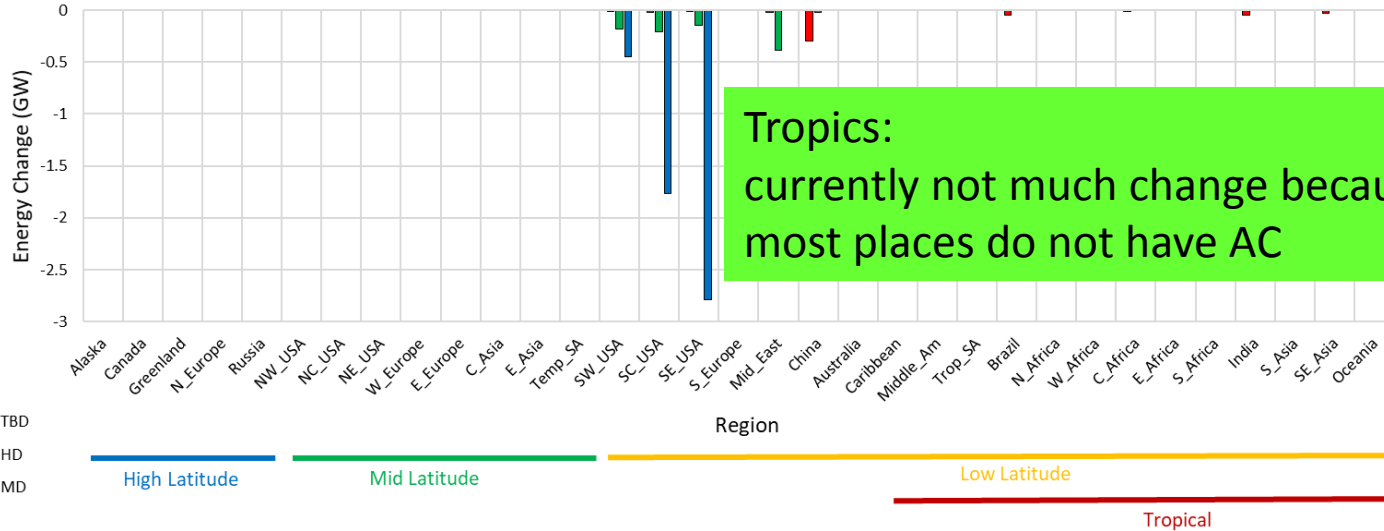
CLMU



Source: Oleson et al. 2008a,b

Roof Albedo: annual energy change

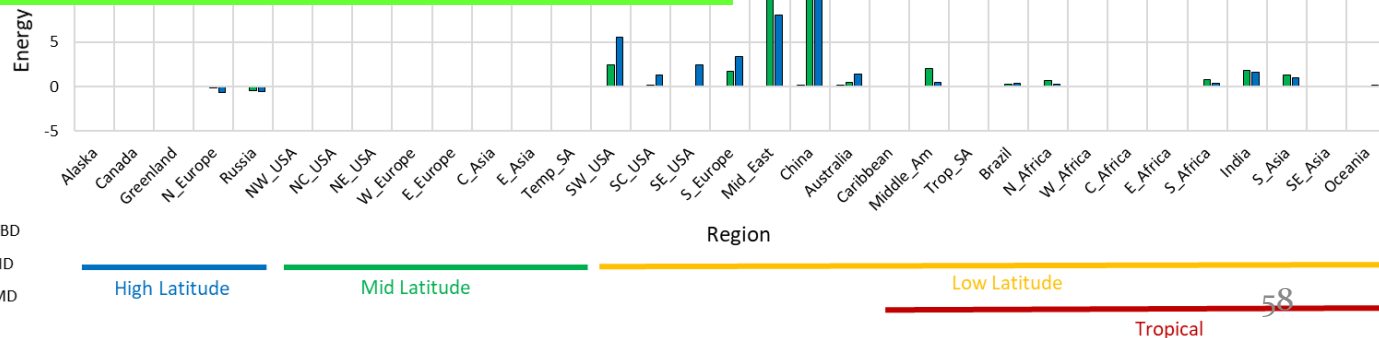
ANN changes in AC (GW) for scenario CLM50_RoofAlbedo



AC related energy use

ANN changes in HEAT (GW) for scenario CLM50_RoofAlbedo

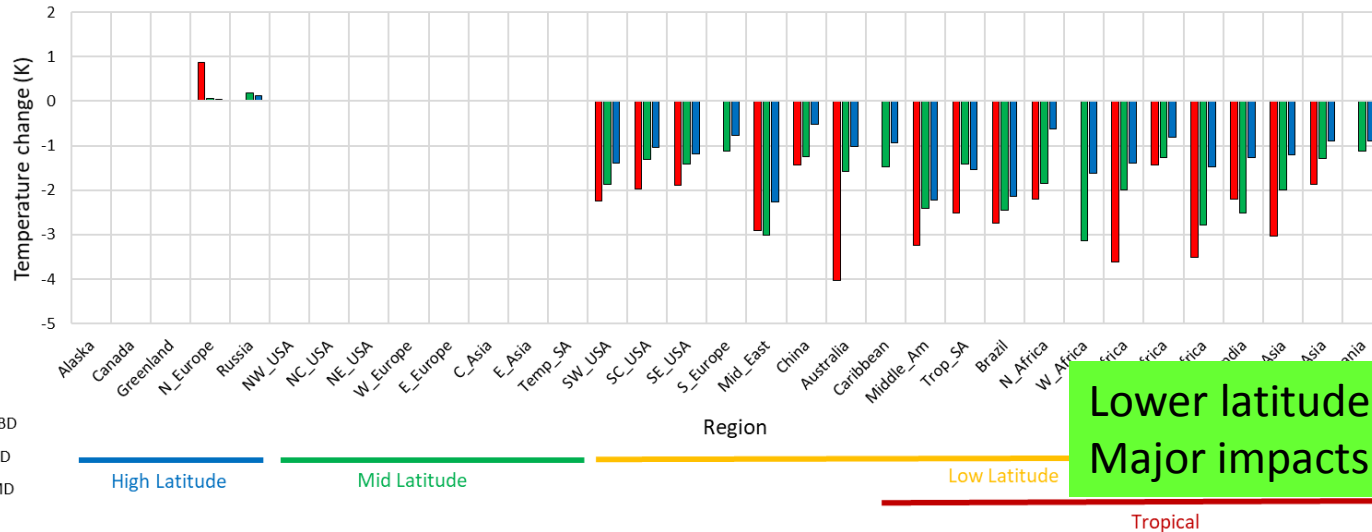
High mid-lat:
AC gains are offset by heat losses in winter (China especially)



Heating related energy use

Roof Albedo: annual temperature change

ANN changes in TMAXU (K) for scenario CLM50_RoofAlbedo

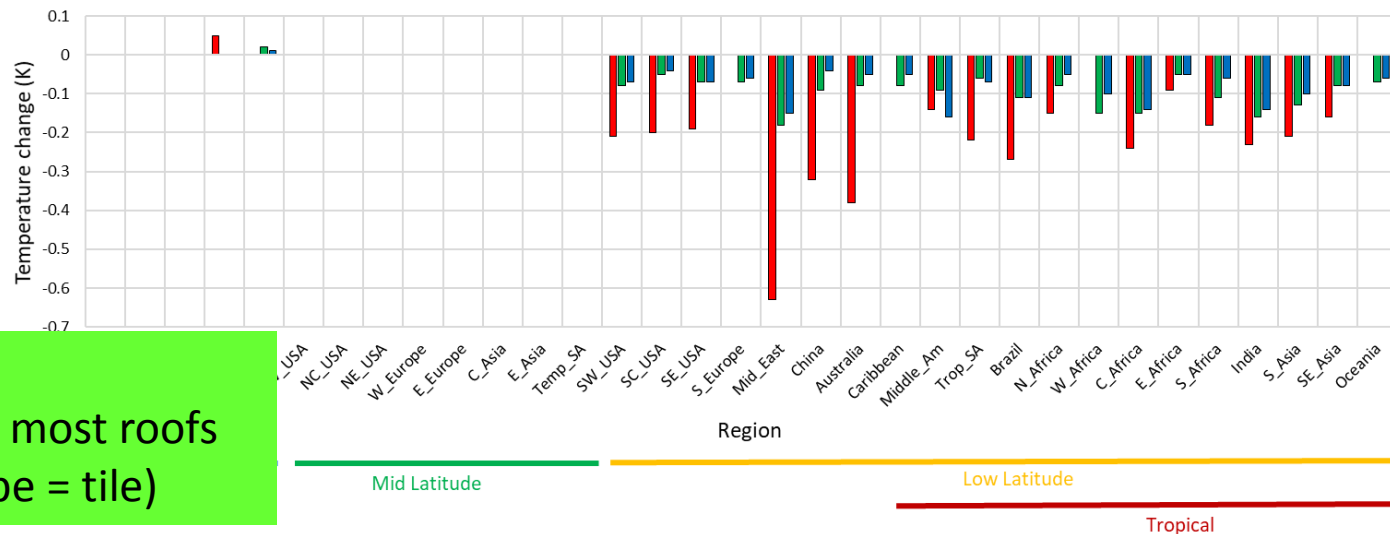


**T-max
change**

Lower latitudes:
Major impacts on UHI

T-min change

ANN changes in TMINU (K) for scenario CLM50_RoofAlbedo

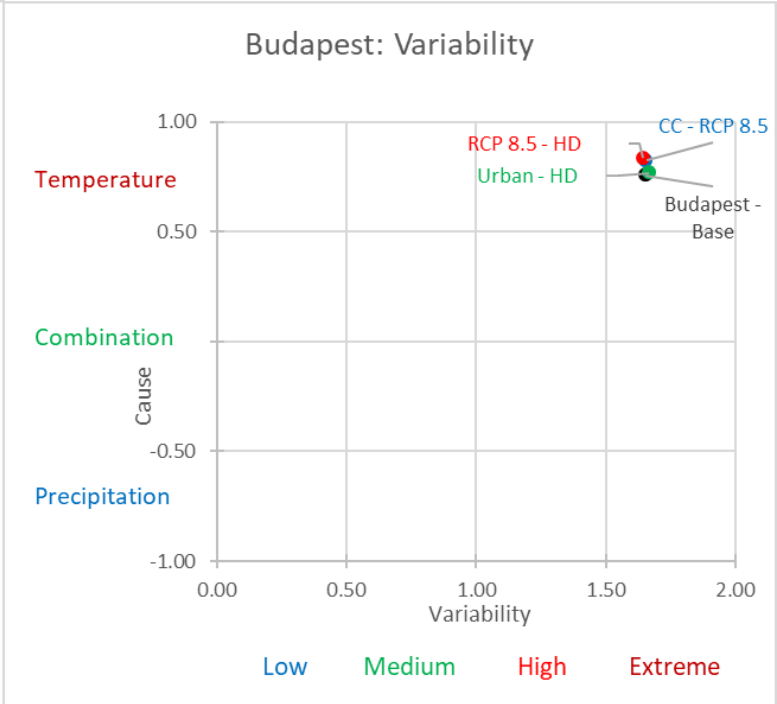
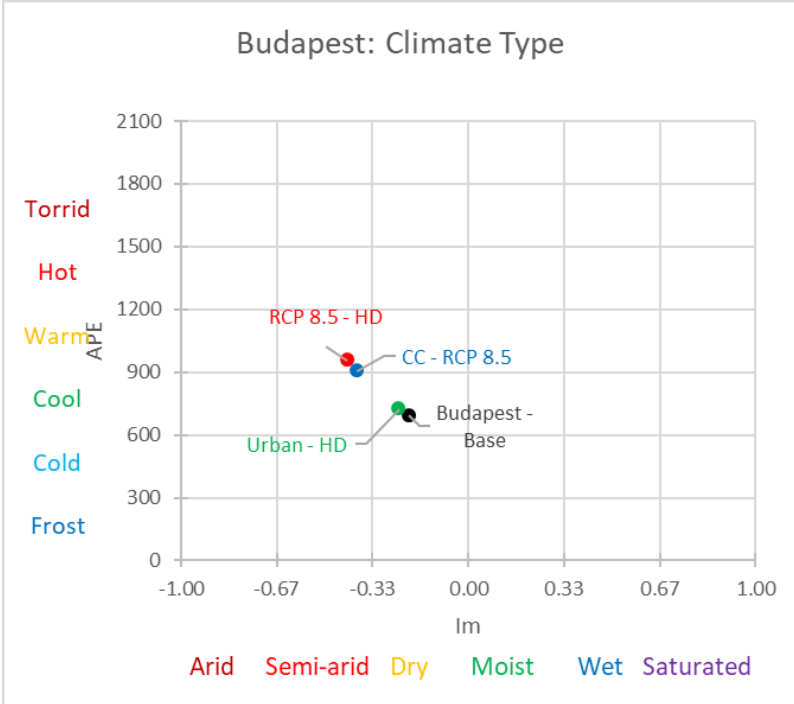


High lat:
Minor change because most roofs
are dark asphalt (Europe = tile)

Outcomes for select cities

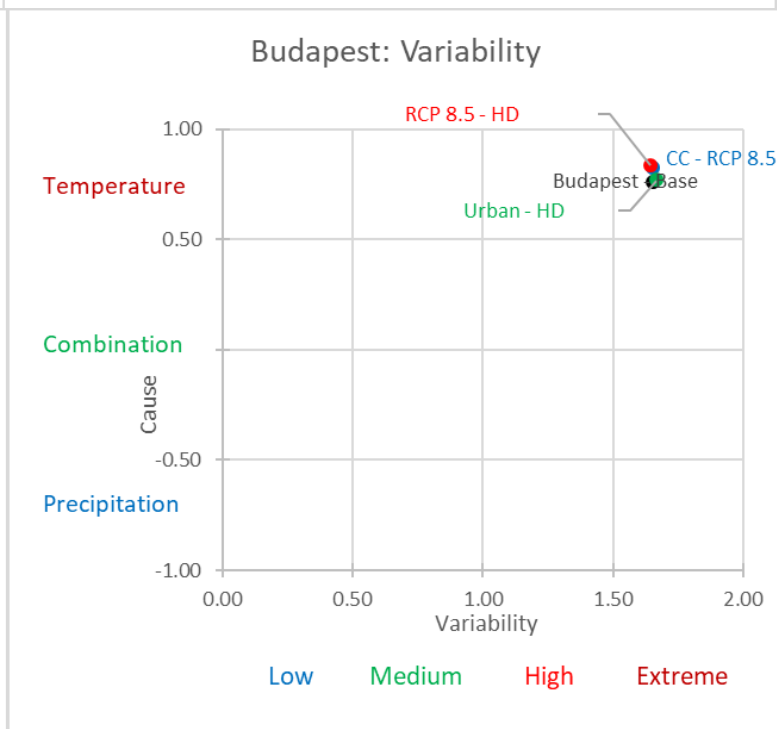
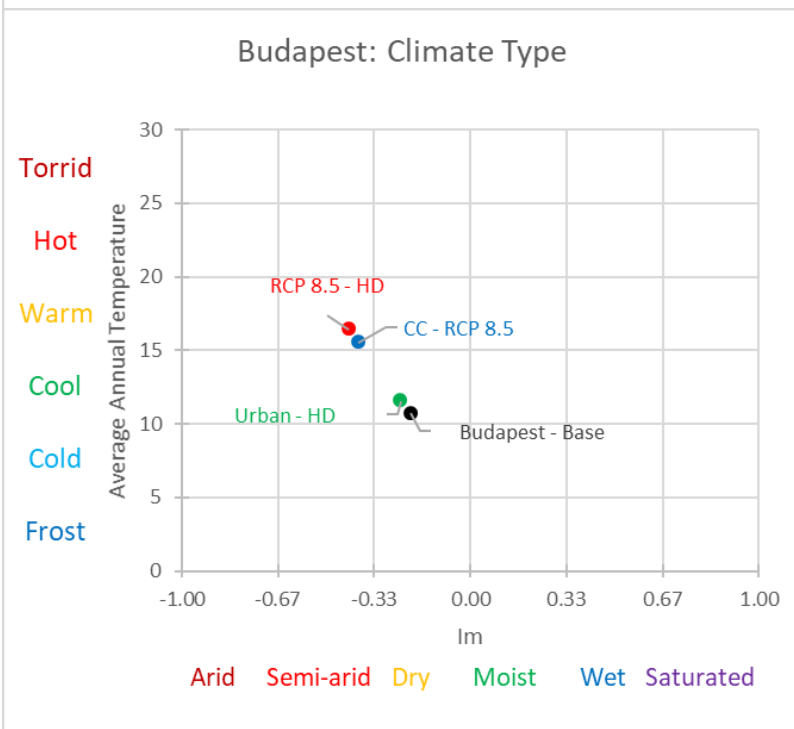
A potential
modification

PET

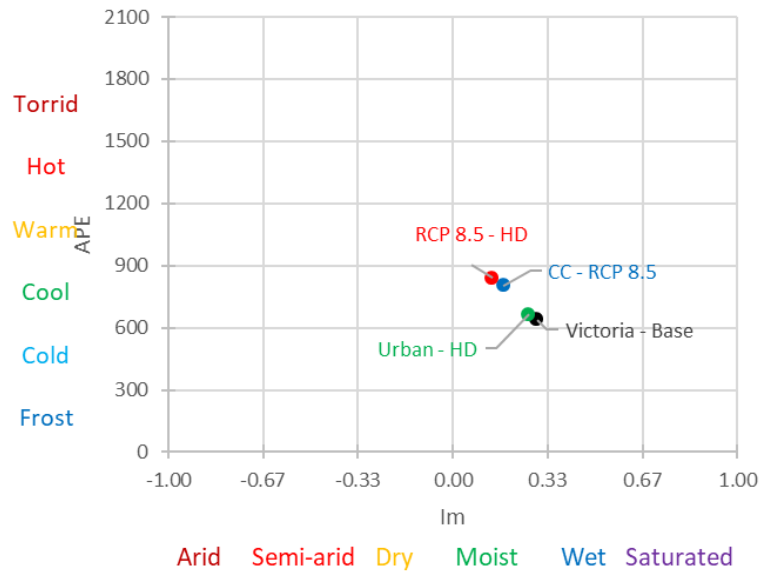


Vs

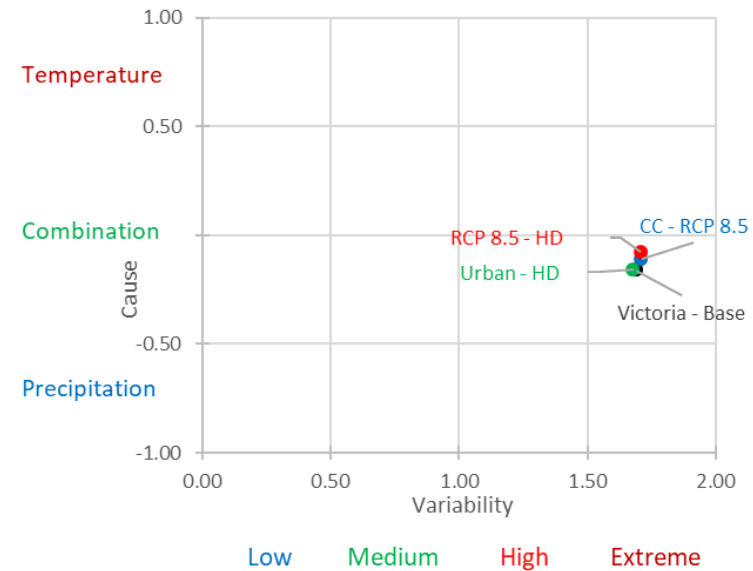
Mean annual
Temperature



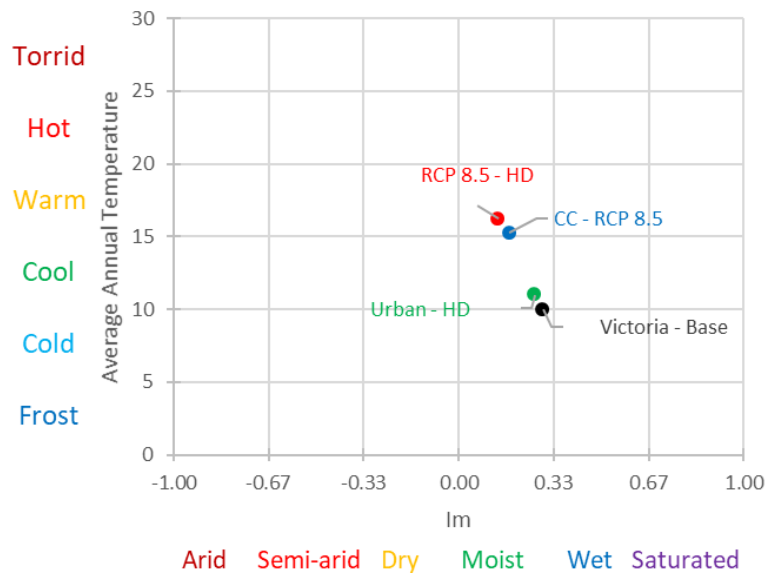
Victoria: Climate Type



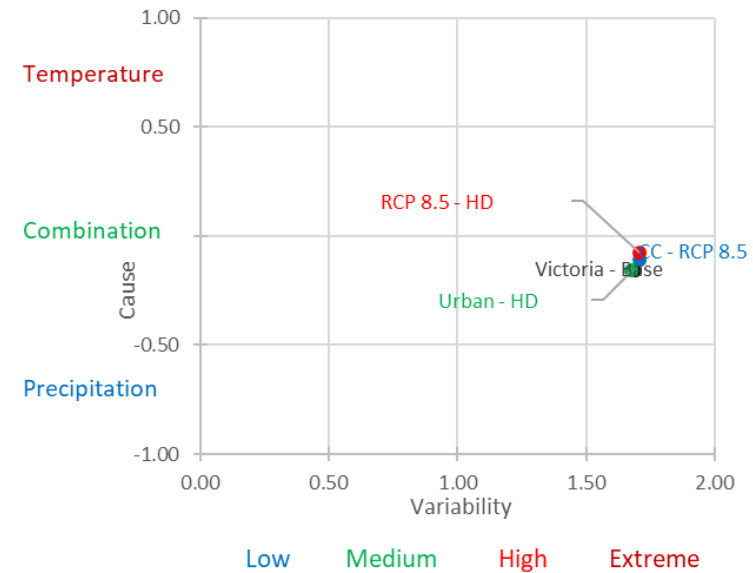
Victoria: Variability



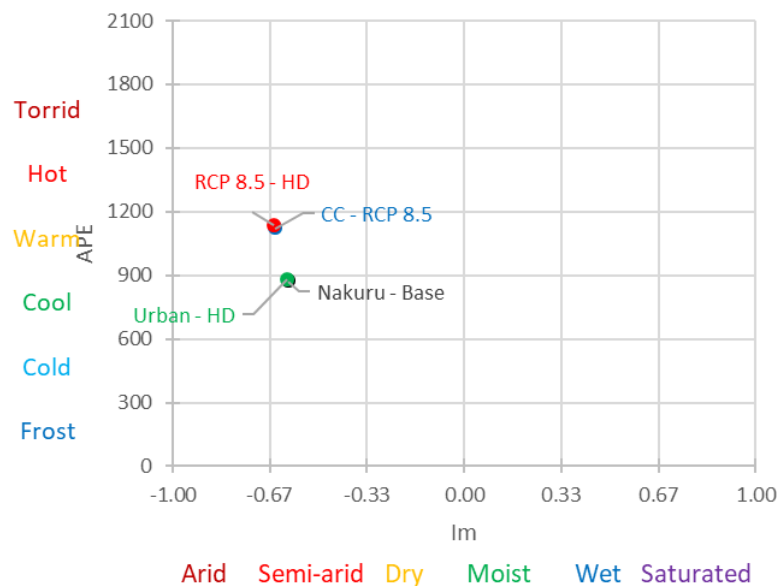
Victoria: Climate Type



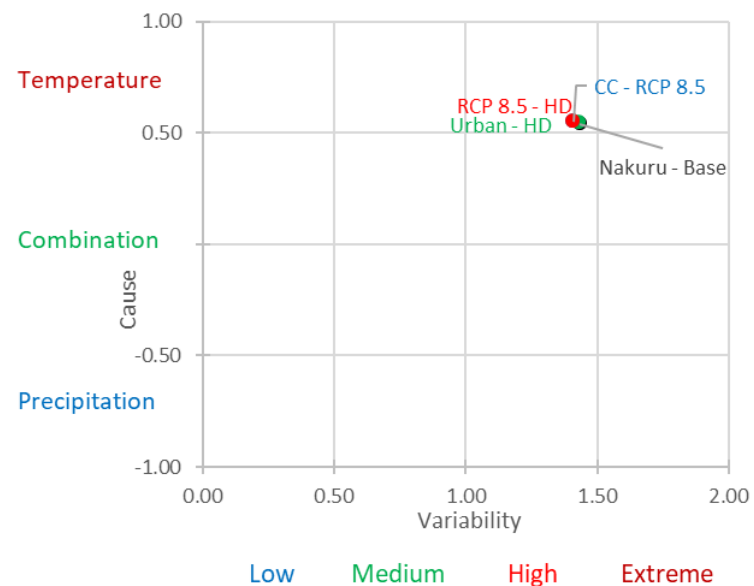
Victoria: Variability



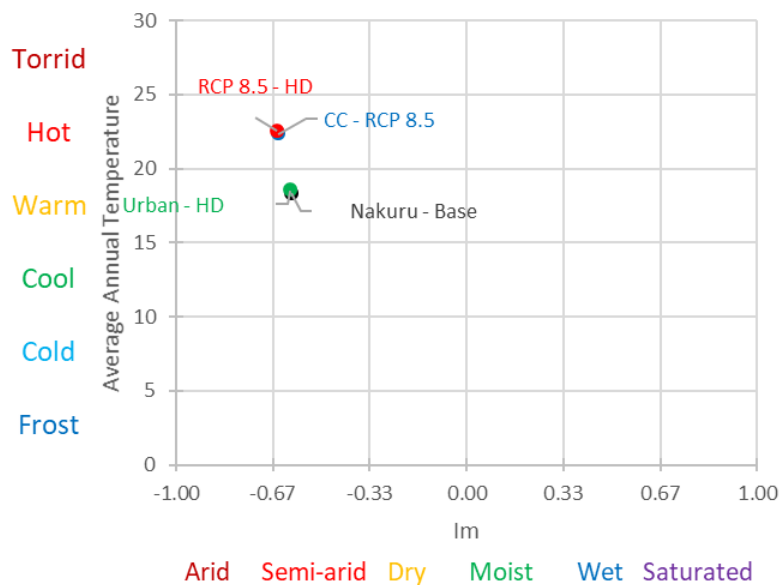
Nakuru: Climate Type



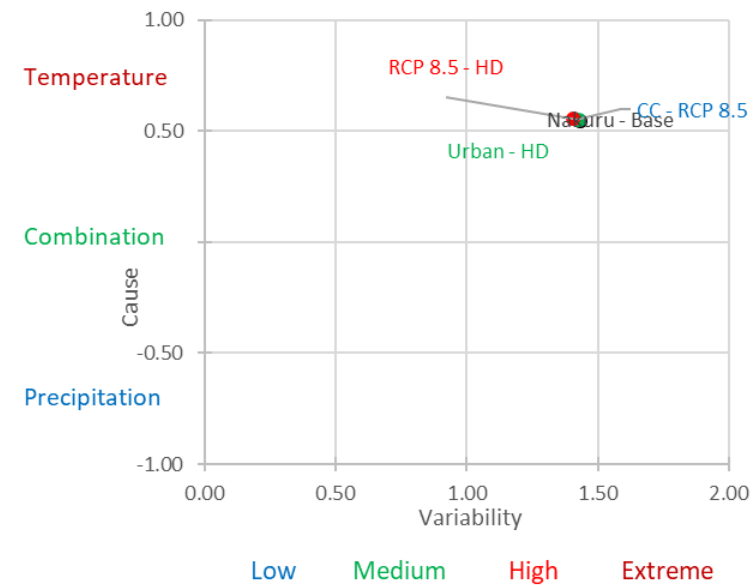
Nakuru: Variability



Nakuru: Climate Type



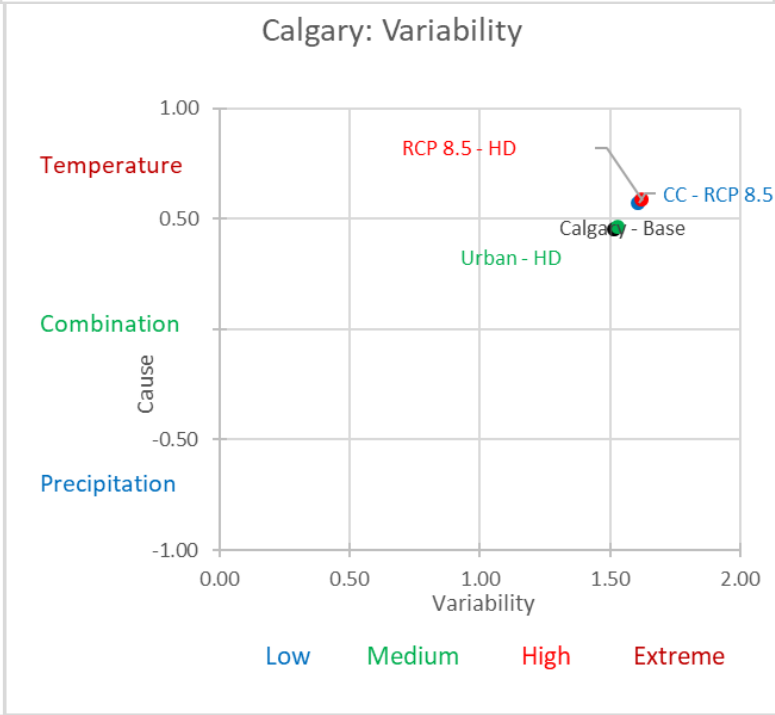
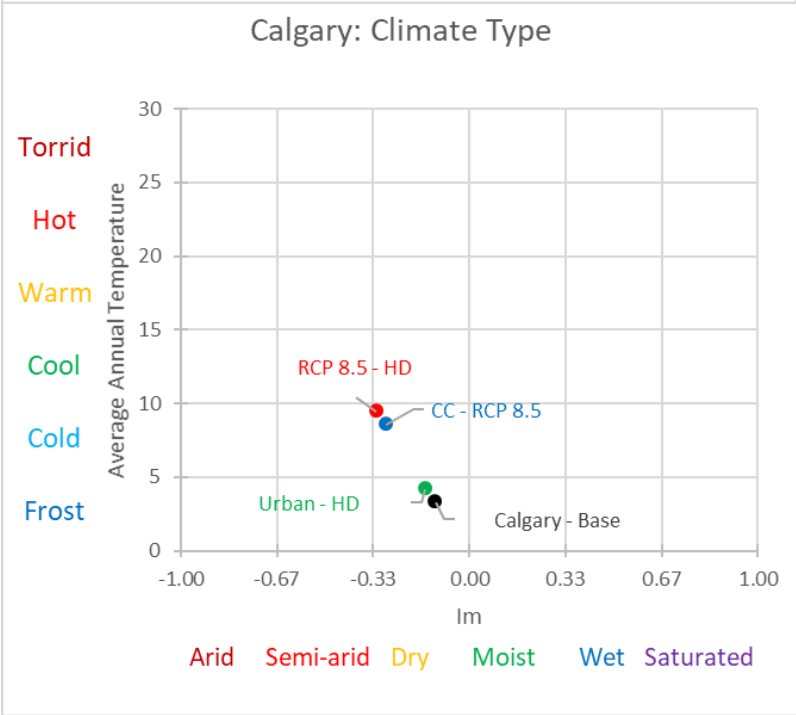
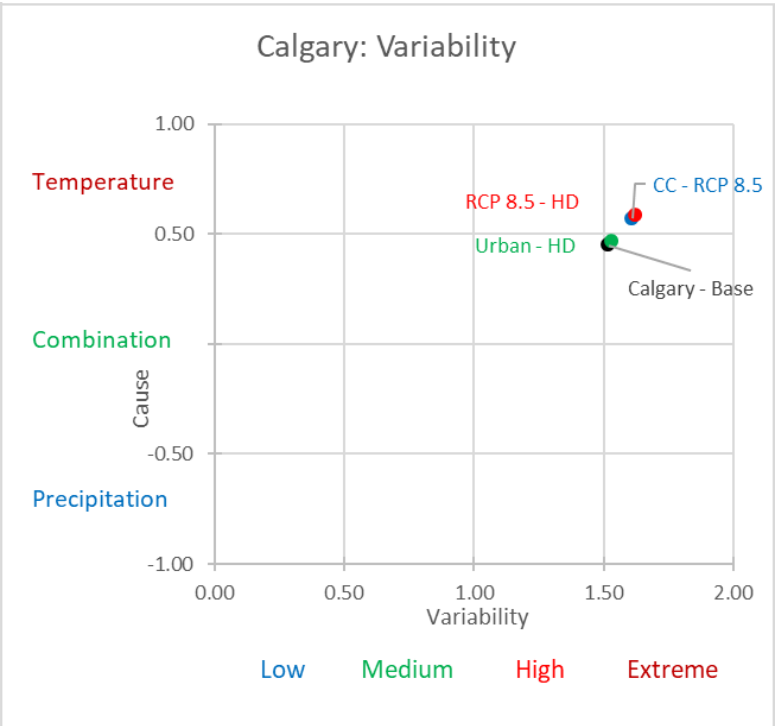
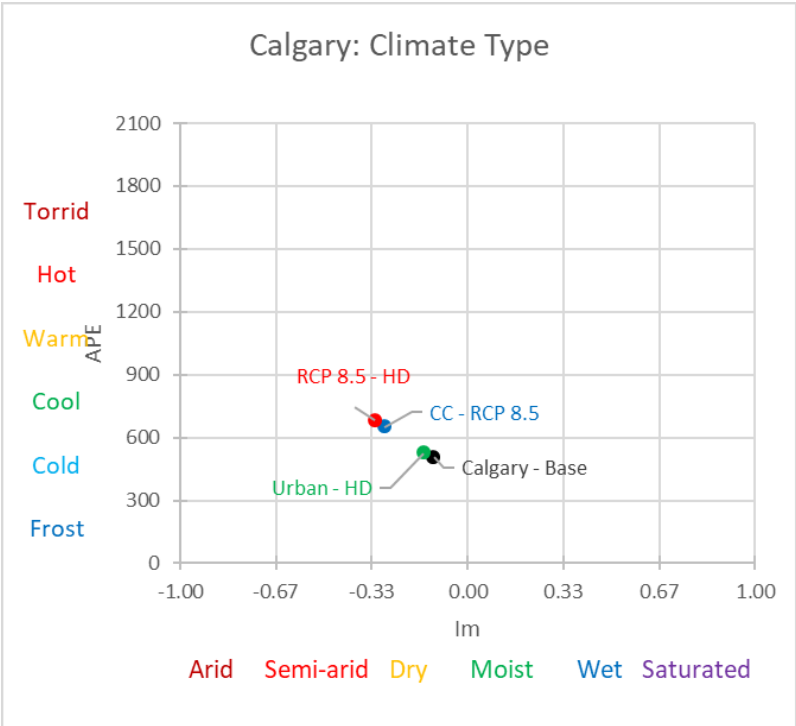
Nakuru: Variability



Will need to
draw new
thermal
efficiency
boundaries

--

if boundaries
are essential

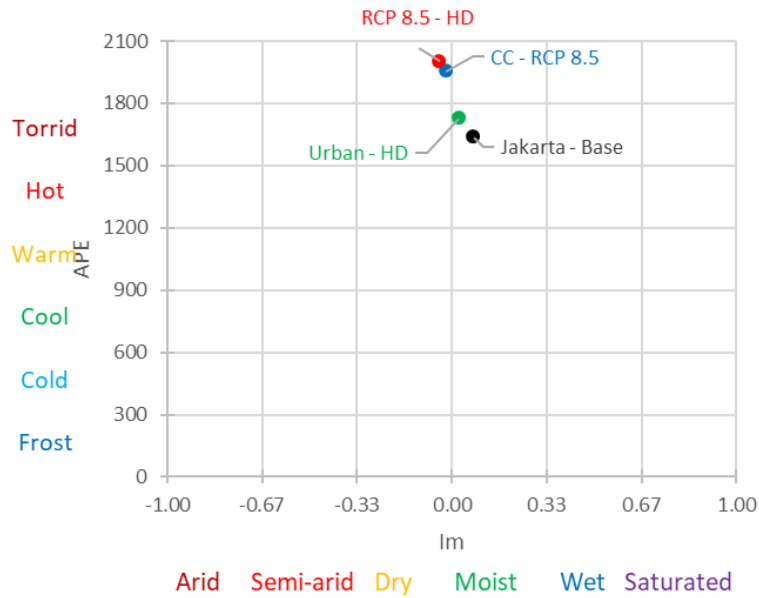


Next steps: Calculating Integrated Climate Change and Map

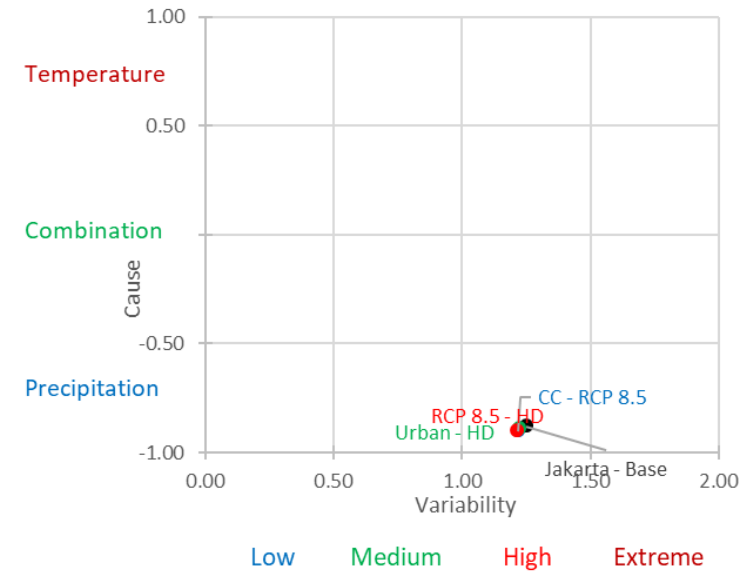
Proposed methodology:

1. For each variable calculate:
 - Long-term or base period mean
 - Mean absolute deviation (MAD)
 - Create a z-score equivalent from these
2. Map z scores for period of interest show relative magnitude of change in each location
3. Calculate a Euclidian distance for all 4 variables to represent integrated climate impact

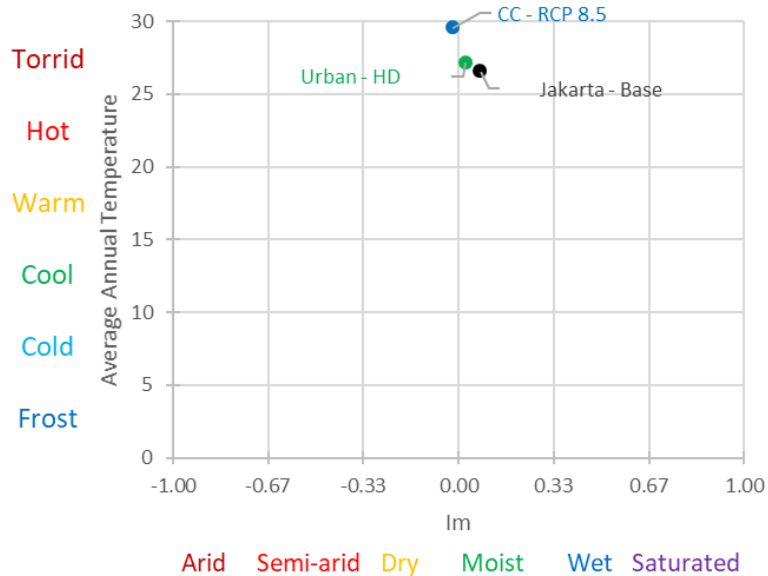
Jakarta: Climate Type



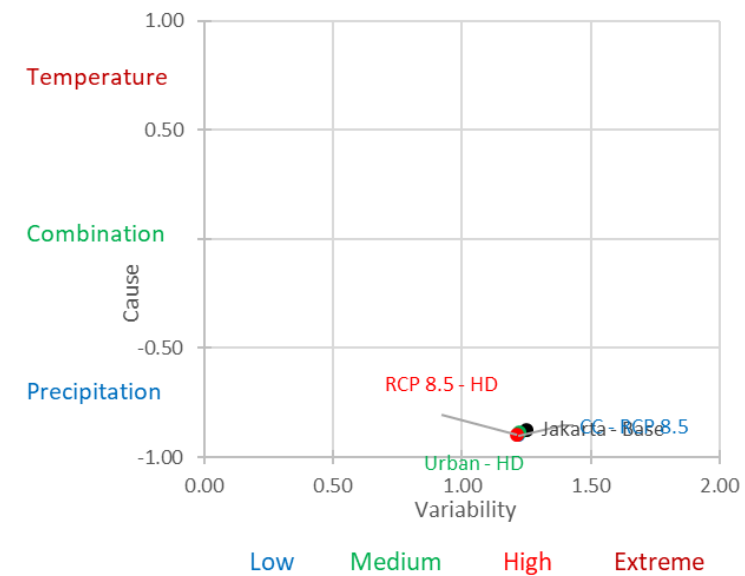
Jakarta: Variability



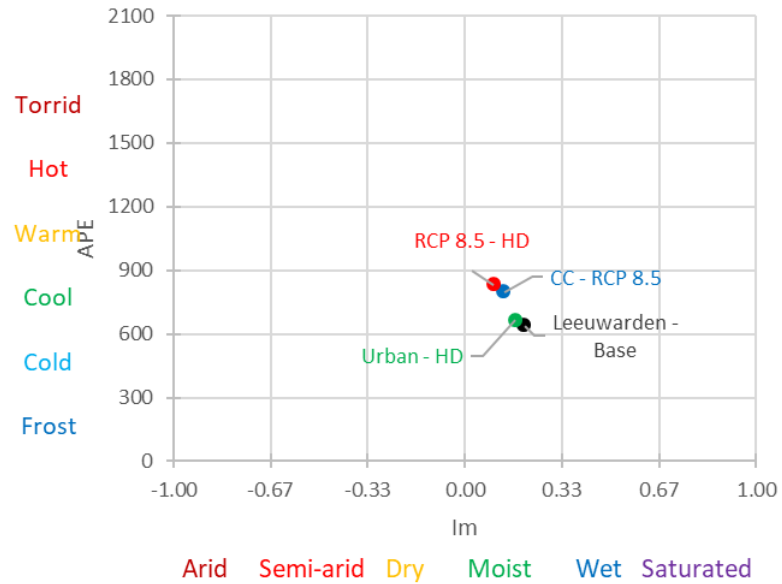
Jakarta: Climate Type



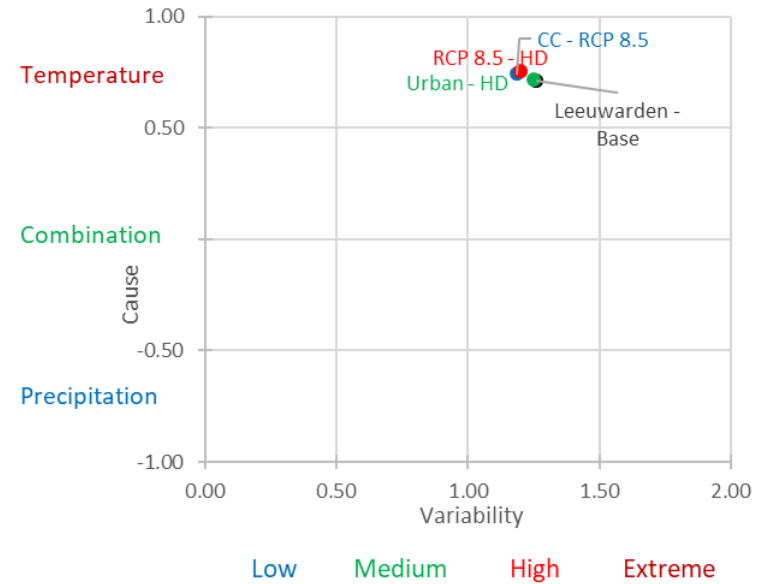
Jakarta: Variability



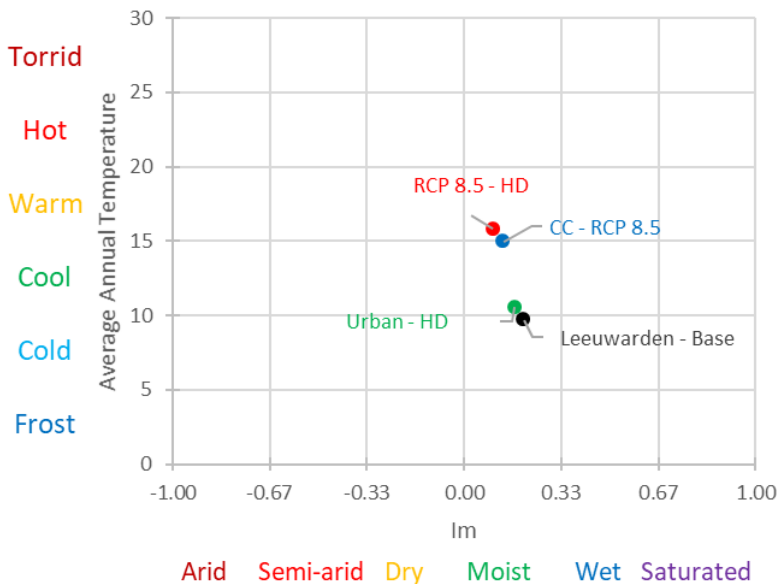
Leeuwarden: Climate Type



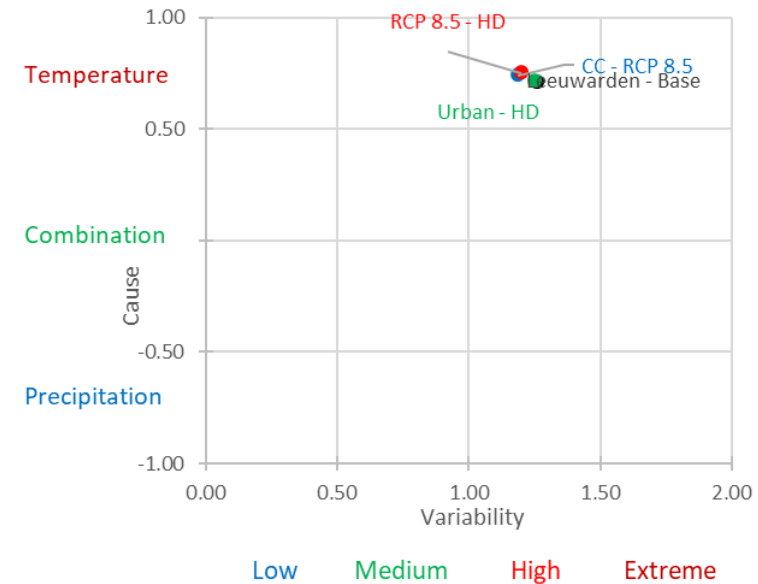
Leeuwarden: Variability



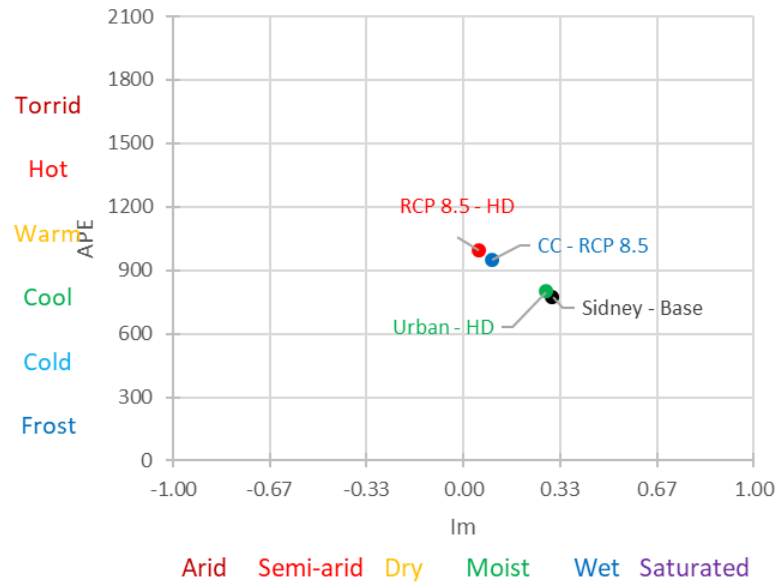
Leeuwarden: Climate Type



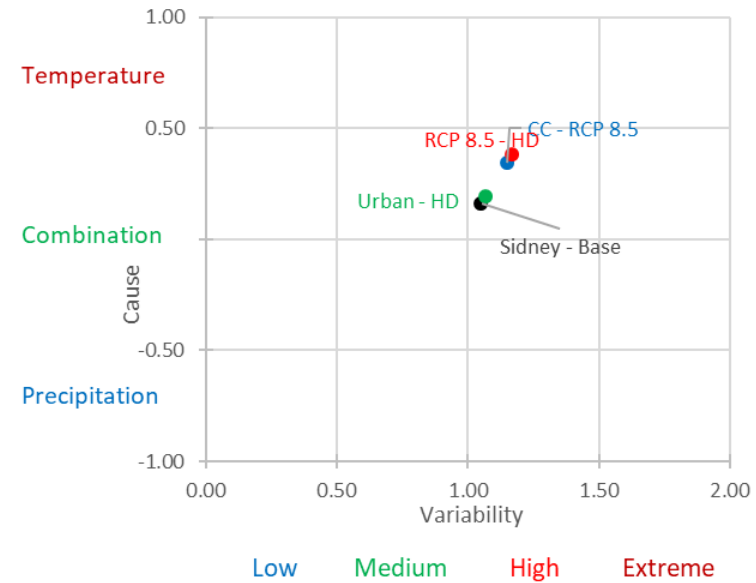
Leeuwarden: Variability



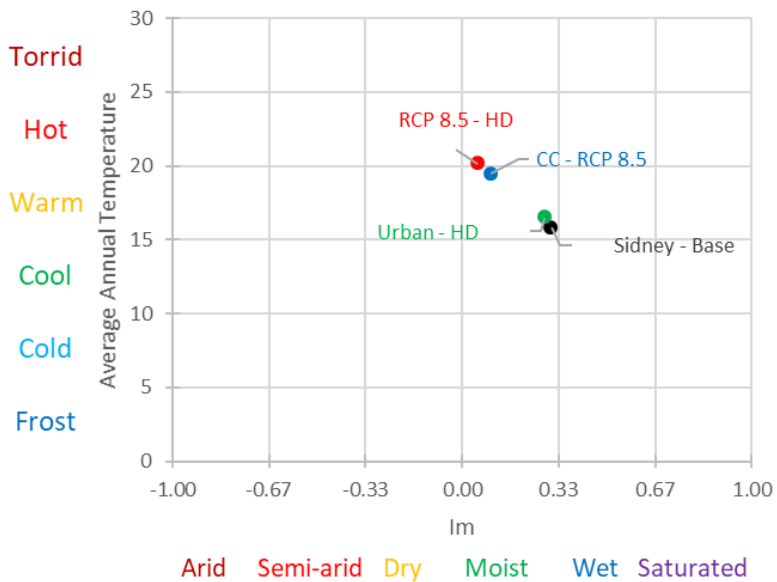
Sidney: Climate Type



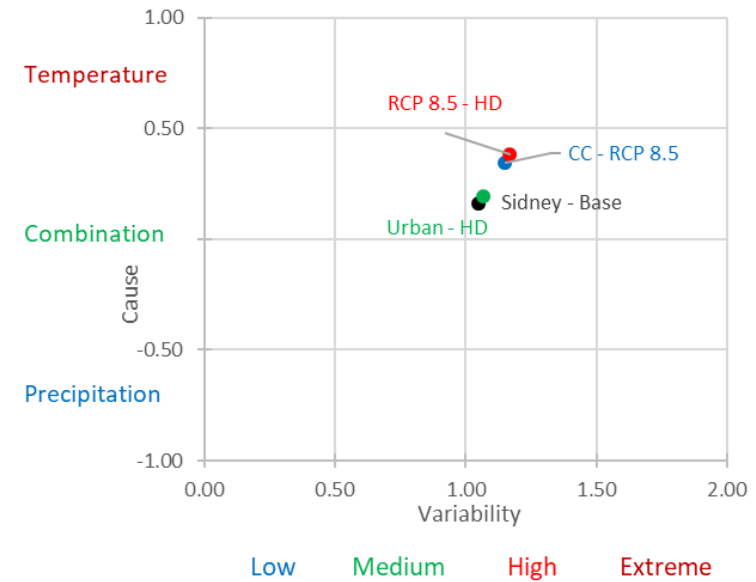
Sidney: Variability



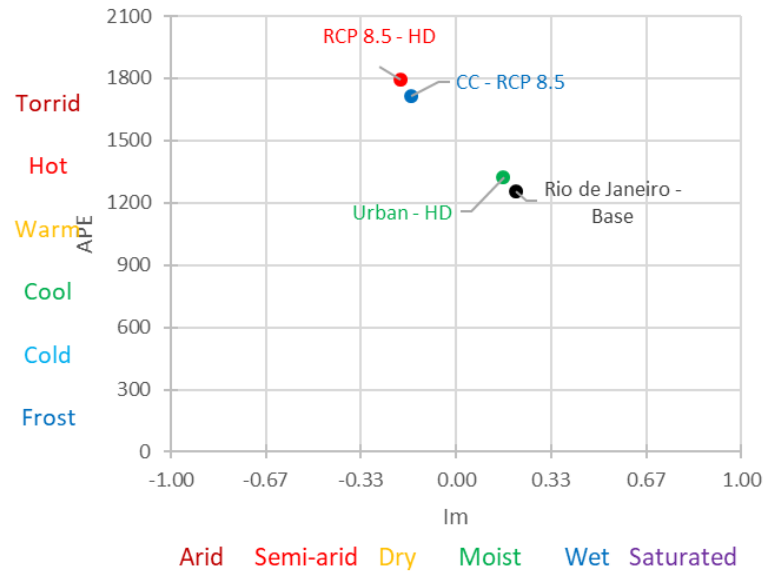
Sidney: Climate Type



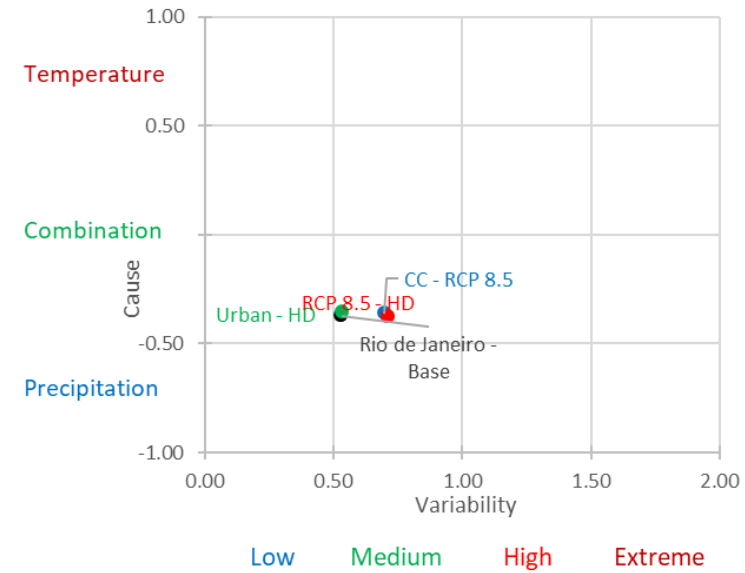
Sidney: Variability



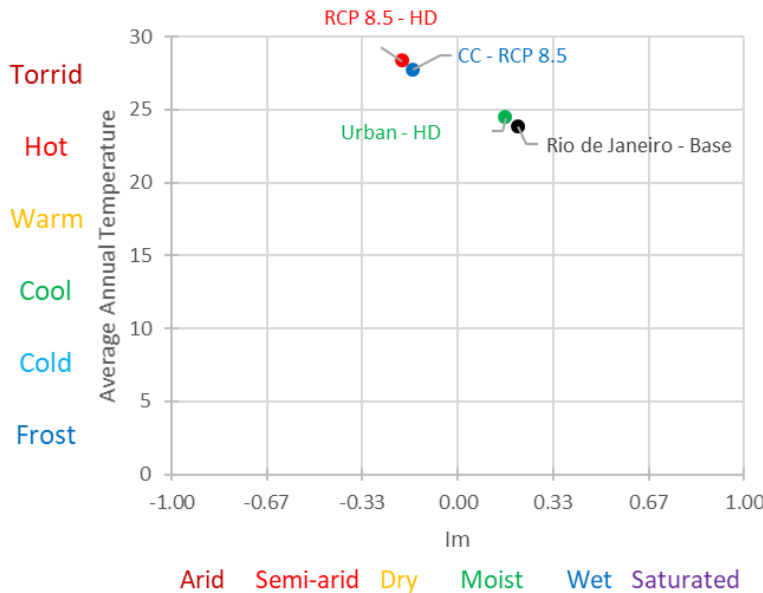
Rio de Janeiro: Climate Type



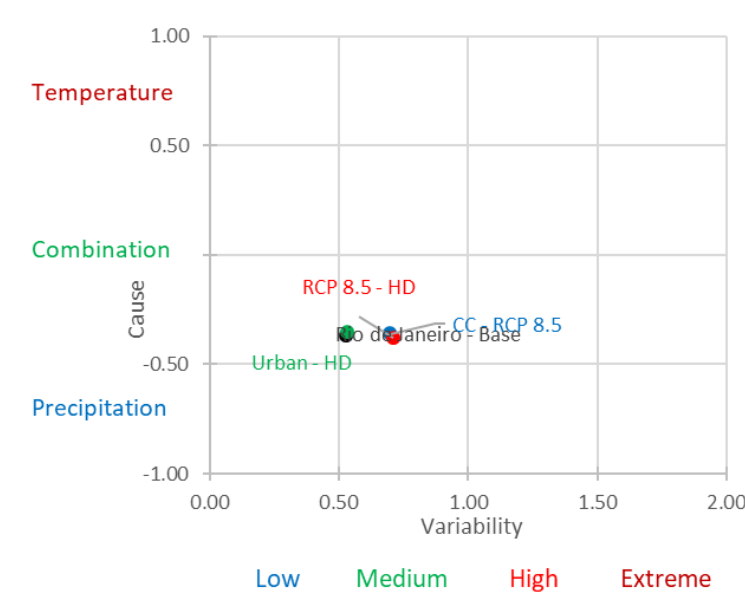
Rio de Janeiro: Variability



Rio de Janeiro: Climate Type



Rio de Janeiro: Variability



VOTE: **PET** or **MAT**?

Questions