

# **CAN WE RELY ON CITIZEN WEATHER MEASUREMENTS FOR OPERATIONAL USE?**

Supervisors: Noel Fitzpatrick, Brandon Creagh

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Matt Nagle

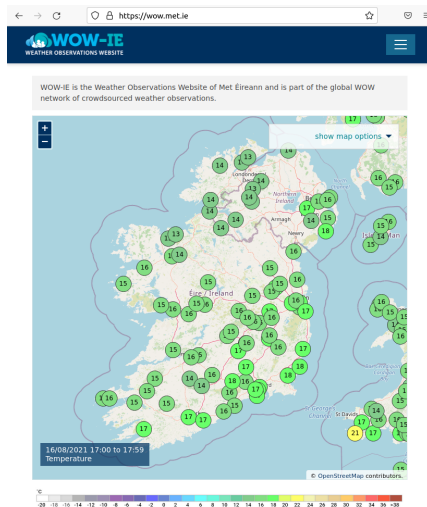
21st of September, 2021

# STRUCTURE OF PRESENTATION

1. What are Citizen Weather Measurements?
2. Can we trust them?
3. Quality control checks.
4. Project Summary.
5. Conclusions

# CITIZEN WEATHER MEASUREMENTS

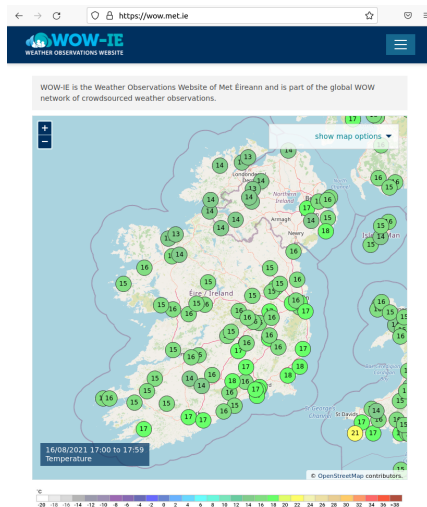
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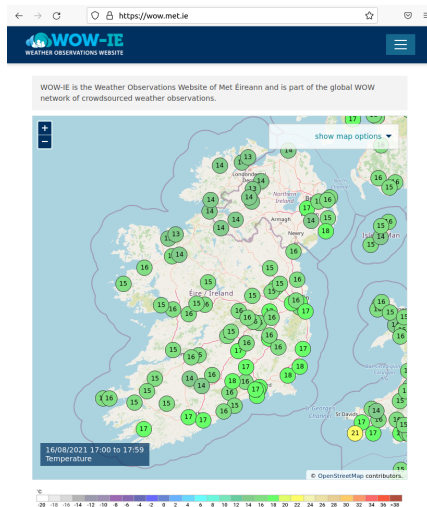


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Since 2011, over 10,000 weather stations have reported over **1 billion weather observations** worldwide.



# OPERATIONAL USE CASE

- 91 Official Met Éireann stations (May 2021).
- 85 WOW stations (May 2021).

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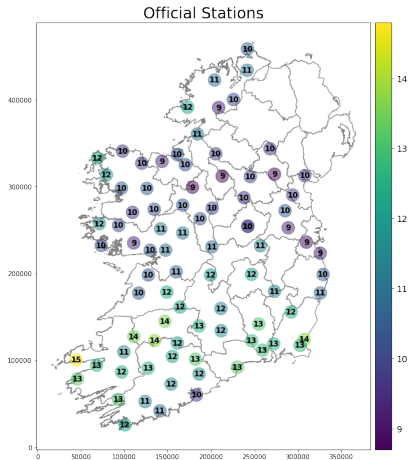
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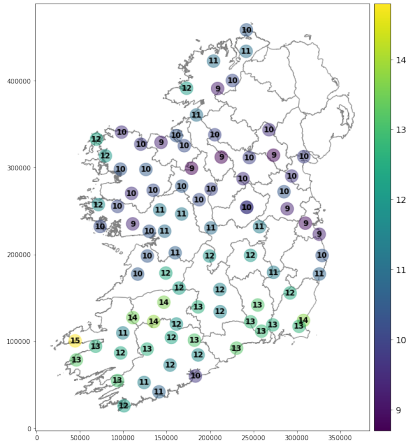
- Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) Model verification.
- NWP Data Assimilation - additional observation points for establishing model initial conditions.
- More dense network for tracking severe weather.

# OPERATIONAL USE CASE

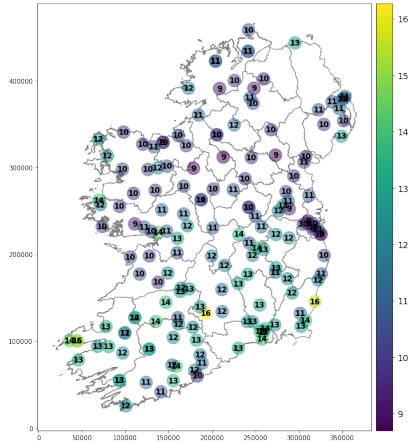


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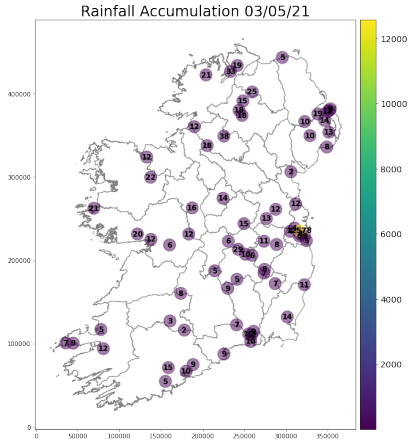
Official Stations



Official + WOW Stations

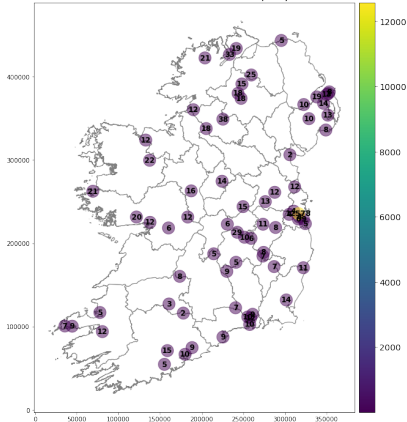


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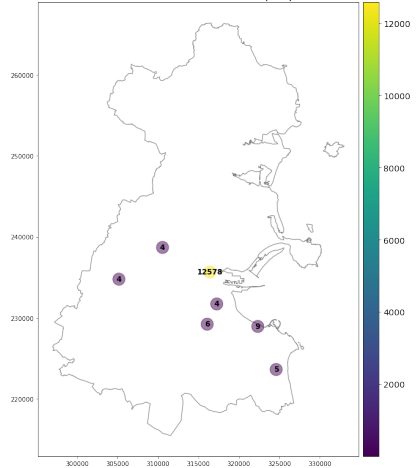


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There are two main types of checks:

1. Range Checks
2. Spatial Consistency Checks

## CHECK TYPE 1: RANGE CHECK

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Example 2: We can use **historical climate values** to perform a range check for a **specific location** and **time**.

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i.e. Stations that are close to each other should have similar observations.

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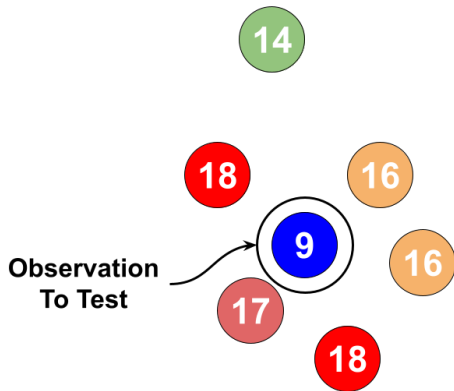
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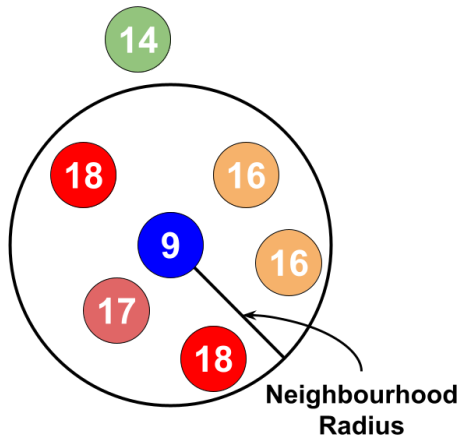
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4. Based on a threshold **decide if the observation should be flagged**.

# SPATIAL CONSISTENCY CHECK - AUTOMATIC

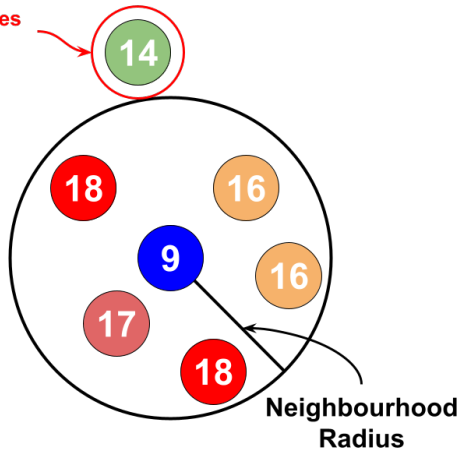


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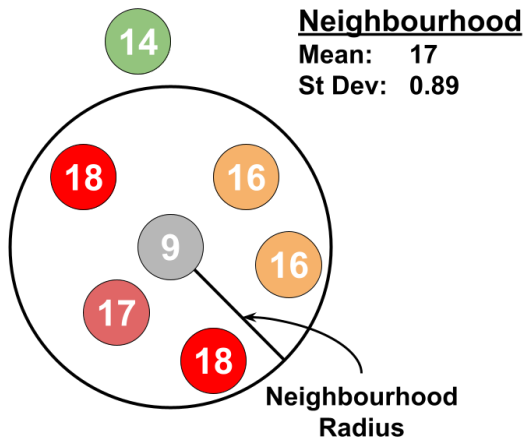


# SPATIAL CONSISTENCY CHECK - AUTOMATIC

Too Far Away - Does  
not affect check



# SPATIAL CONSISTENCY CHECK - AUTOMATIC





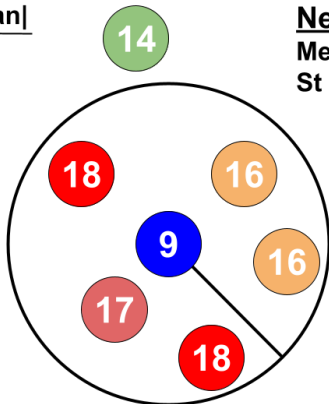
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$$Z = \frac{|\text{Obs} - \text{Mean}|}{\text{St Dev}}$$

Neighbourhood

Mean: 17

St Dev: 0.89



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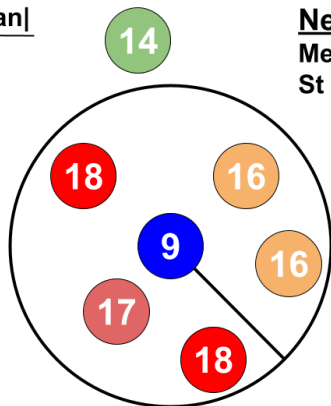
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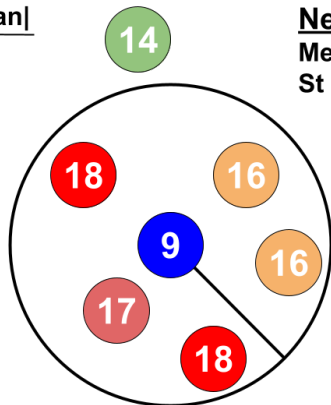


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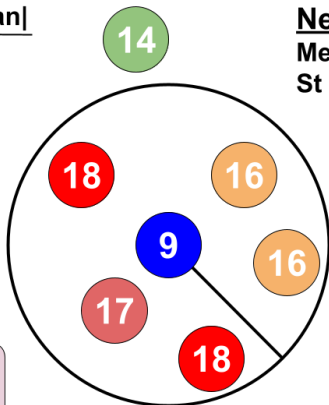
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If  $z > \sigma_{\text{thresh}}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  **Flag**

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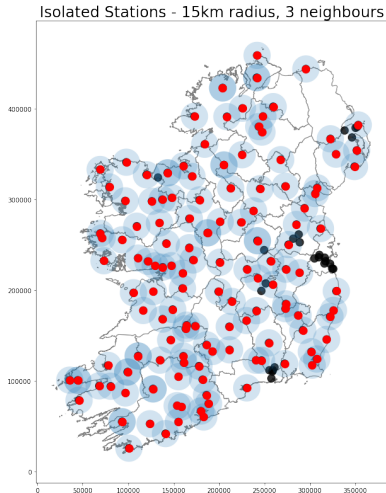
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# MET NORWAY: TITAN SOFTWARE

- Luckily, we do not have to implement these checks from scratch.
- Met Norway have created and shared **TITAN**, software that contains functions to perform various Range & Spatial Consistency Checks.



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## **TITAN automatic spatial quality control of meteorological in-situ observations**

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- **Note:** Software is currently in an alpha stage.



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## Testing:

1. Background research & Troubleshooting TITAN installation.
2. Extensive QC testing on **May 2021 Official & WOW station data.**

## Outputs:

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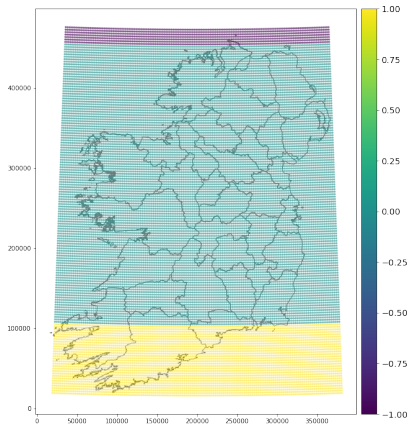
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3. **Improvements to the existing TITAN range checks** to make them more applicable to Irish Data.
4. Custom scripts to **apply the chosen checks sequentially and visualise the results** for easier interpretation.

# IMPROVEMENTS - CLIMATOLOGY RANGE CHECK

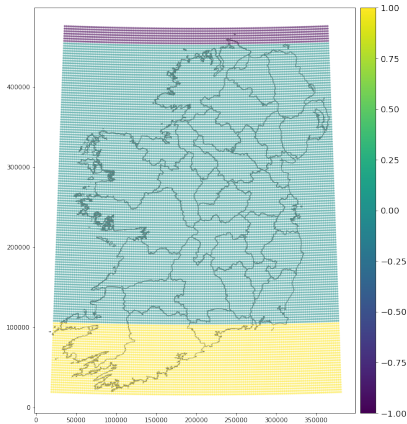
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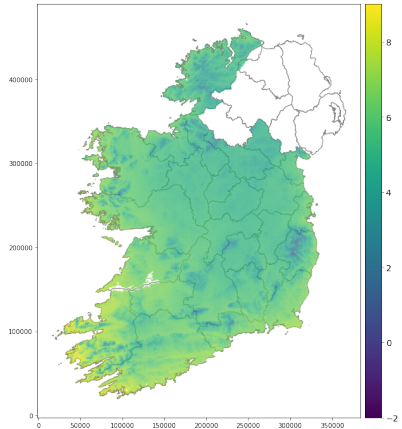


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We can use the **30 year normal climate values from observations**.



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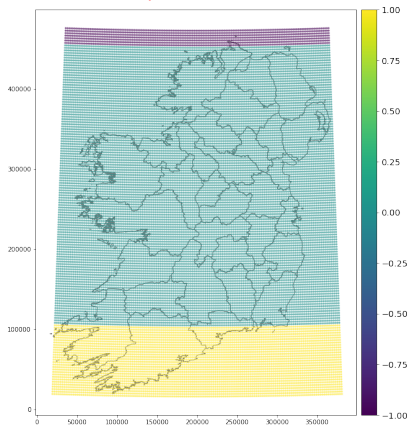
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- **TITAN is powerful software written to perform Quality Control checks** on citizen weather measurements.
- After performing the improved TITAN range checks, **the WOW data can be used as a fairly reliable reference data set.**
- In the future **if more stations are added we would be able to reliably perform the more complex checks** and have even more confidence in the resulting data set.

QUESTIONS?

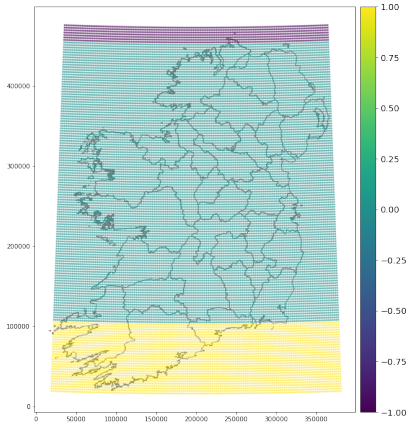
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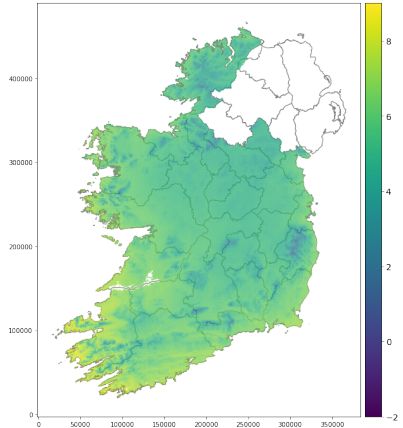


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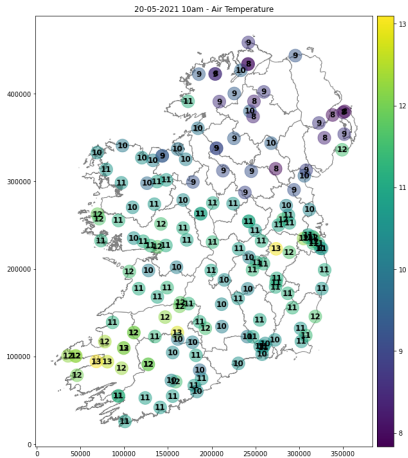
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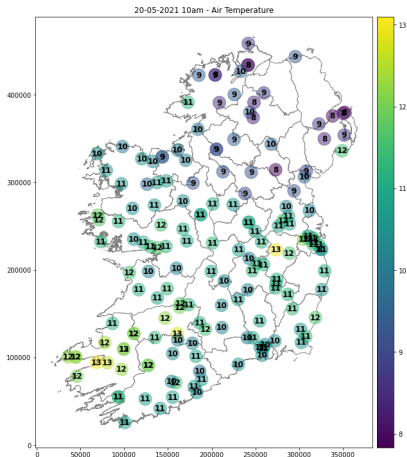
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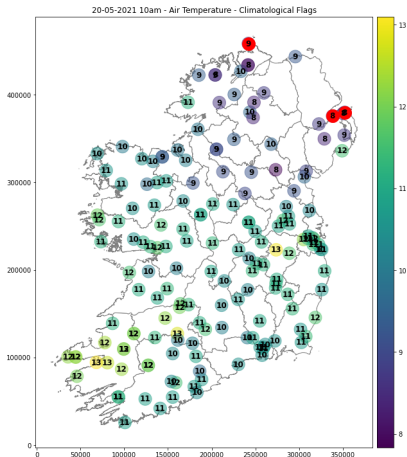


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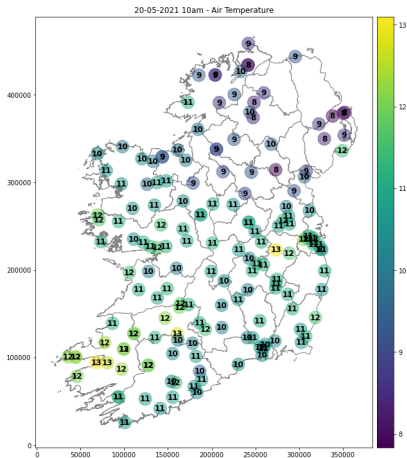


## Custom Climate Range Check.

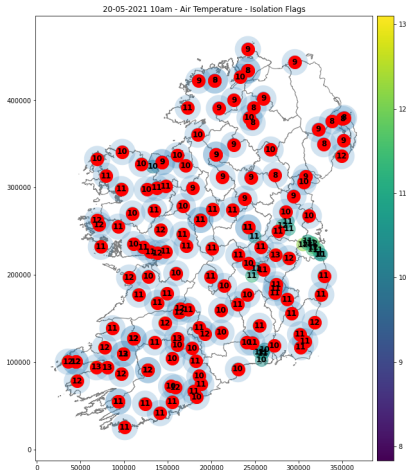


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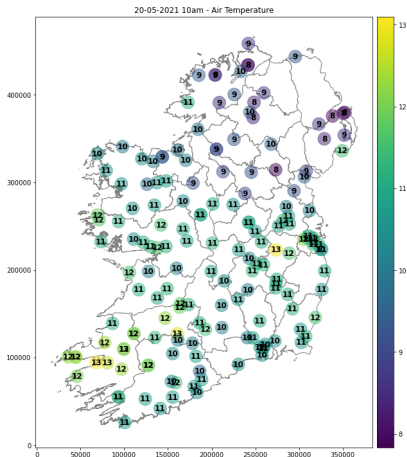


## Isolation Check.



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## Spatial Consistency Test.

