

CAN WE RELY ON CITIZEN WEATHER MEASUREMENTS FOR OPERATIONAL USE?

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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

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OPERATIONAL USE CASE

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

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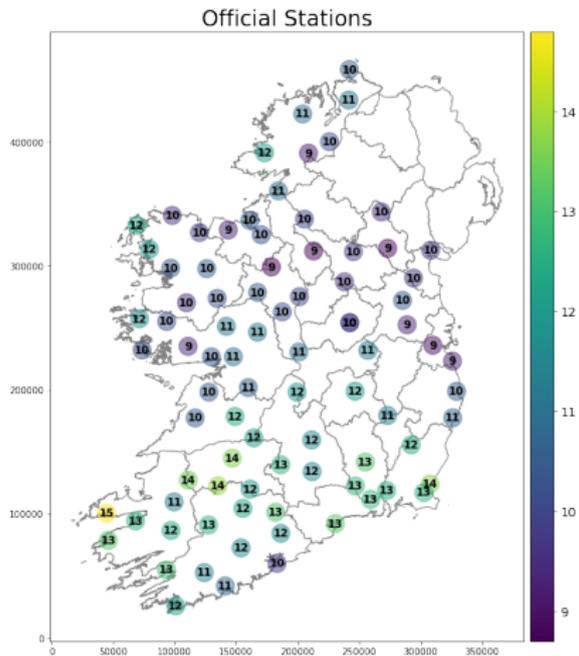
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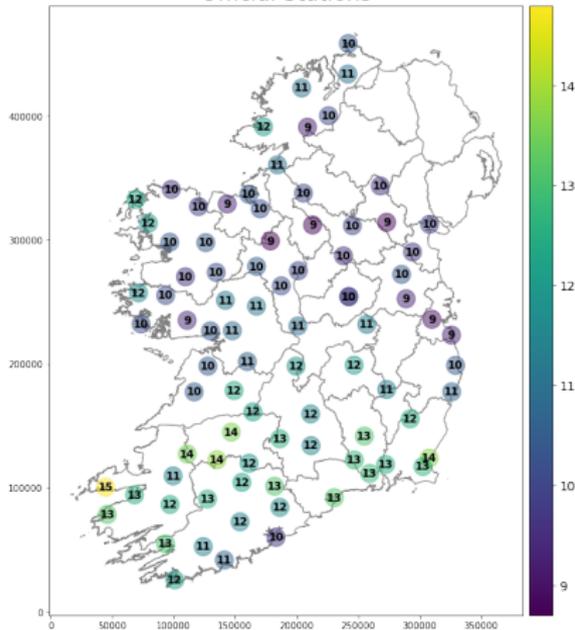
- Numerical Weather Prediction (**NWP**) **Model verification.**
- NWP Data Assimilation - additional observation points for **establishing model initial conditions.**
- More dense network for **tracking severe weather.**

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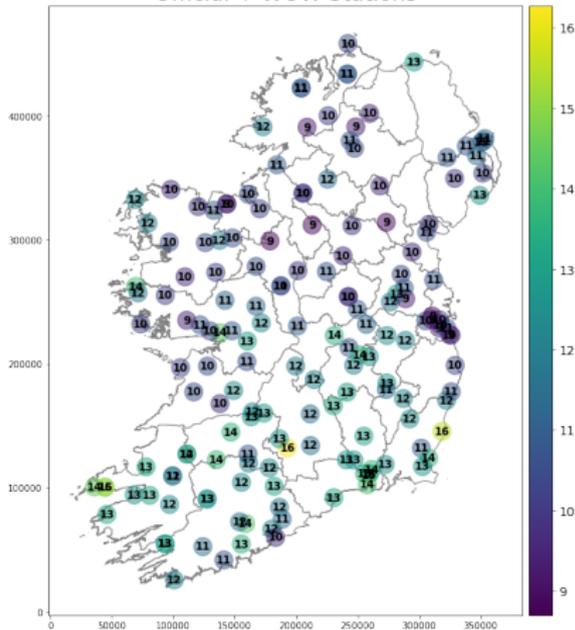


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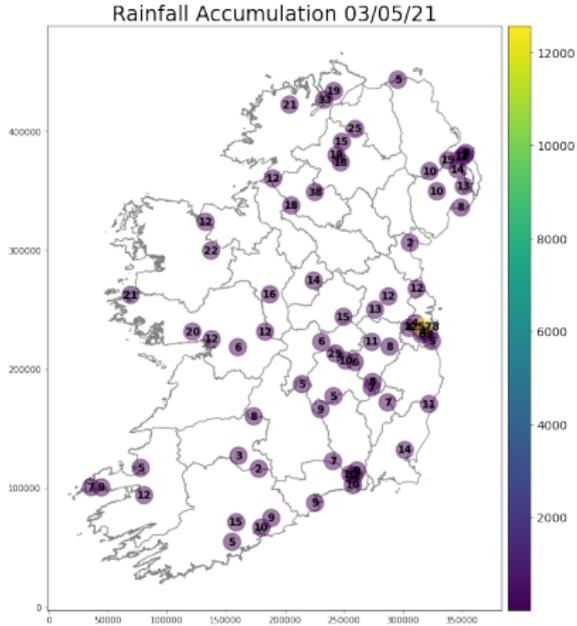
Official Stations



Official + WOW Stations

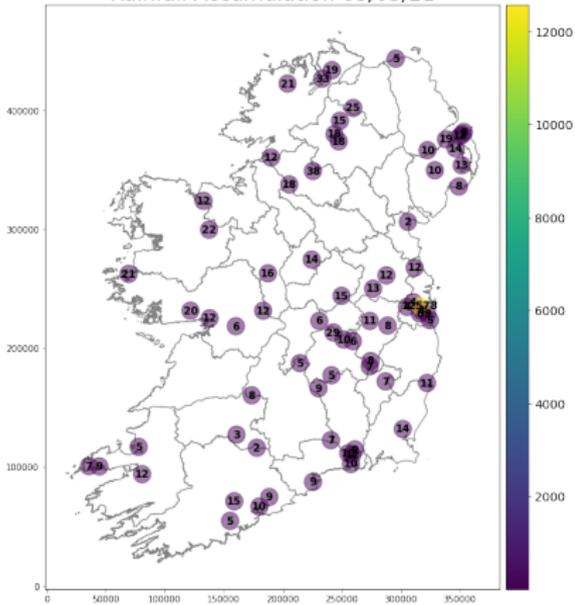


CAN WE TRUST THE MEASUREMENTS?

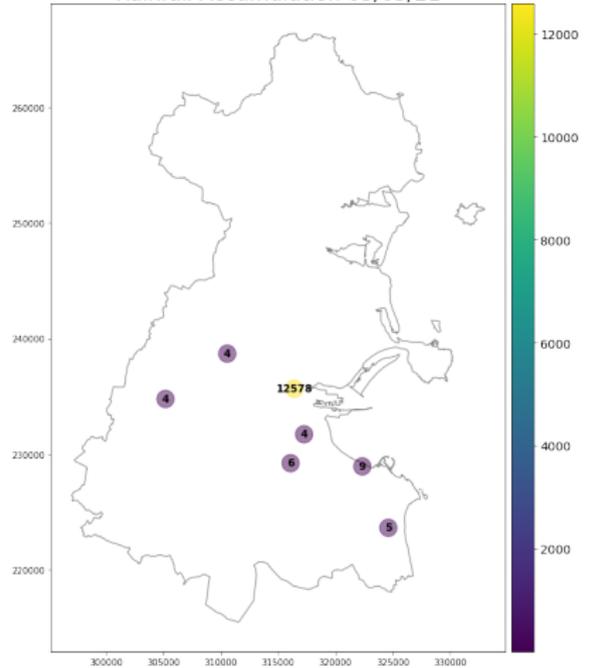


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Rainfall Accumulation 03/05/21



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There are two main types of checks:

1. Range Checks
2. Spatial Consistency Checks

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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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3. **Test how well the station being checked agrees with the neighbours.**

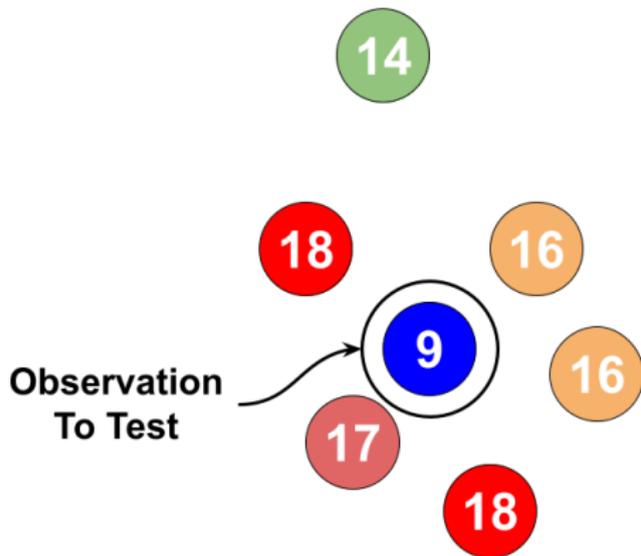
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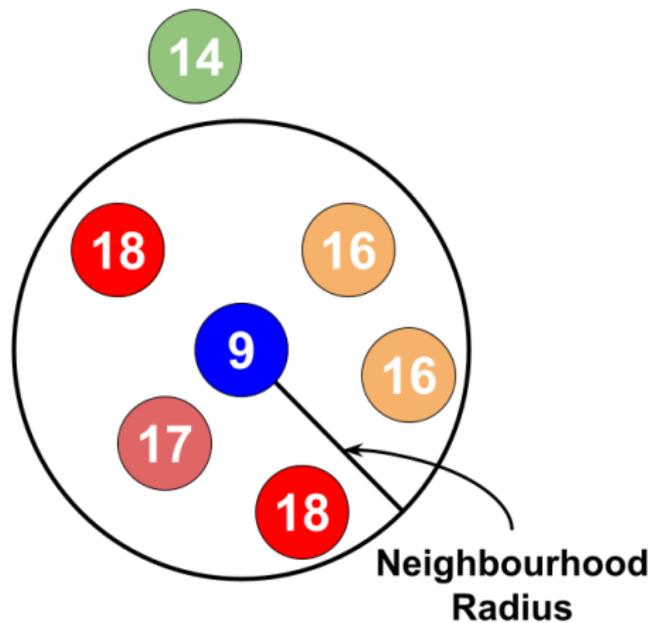
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4. Based on a threshold **decide if the observation should be flagged.**

SPATIAL CONSISTENCY CHECK - AUTOMATIC

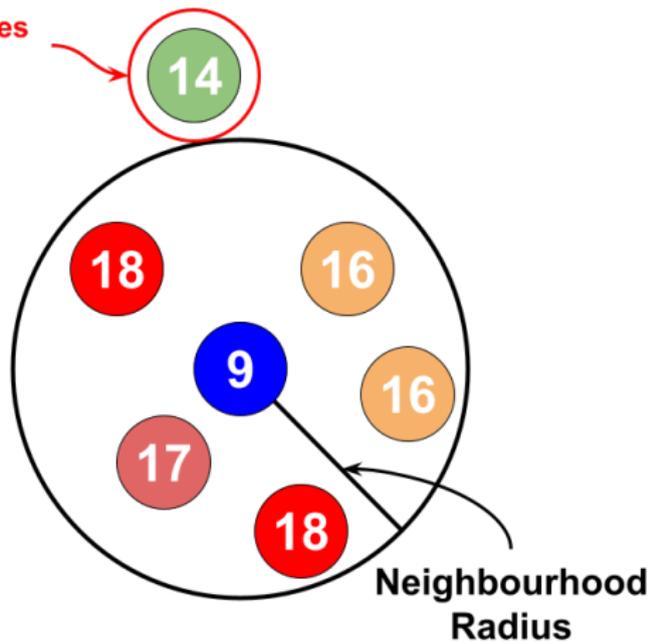


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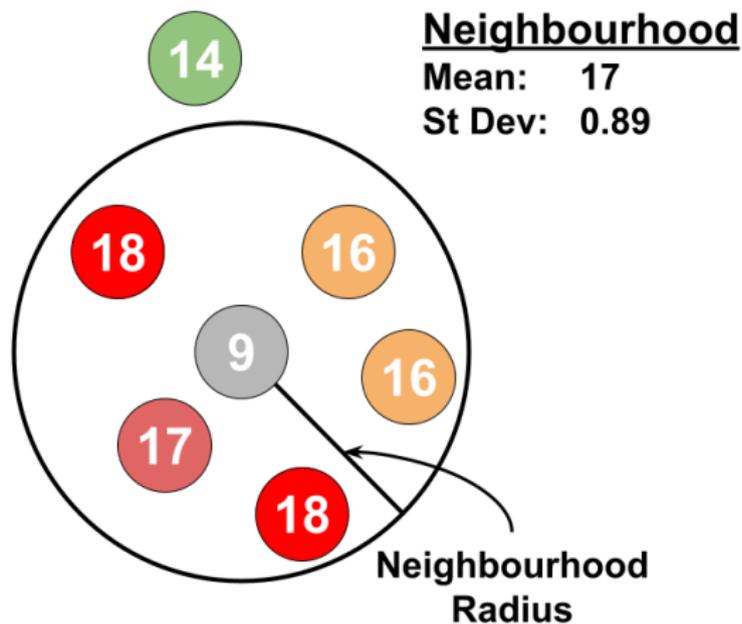


SPATIAL CONSISTENCY CHECK - AUTOMATIC

Too Far Away - Does not affect check

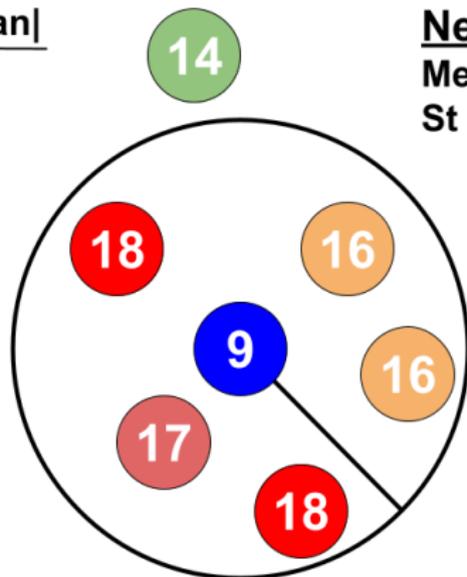


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Neighbourhood

Mean: 17

St Dev: 0.89

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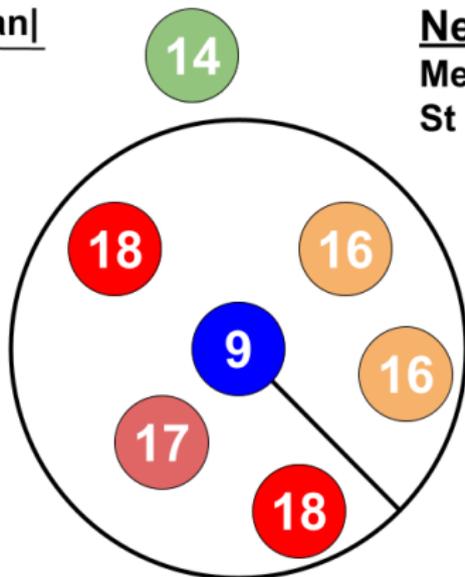
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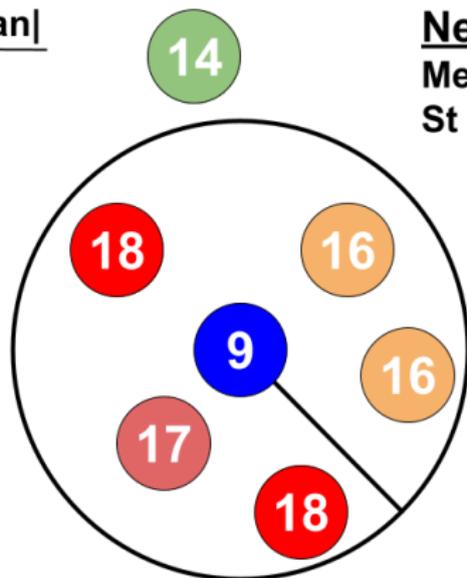


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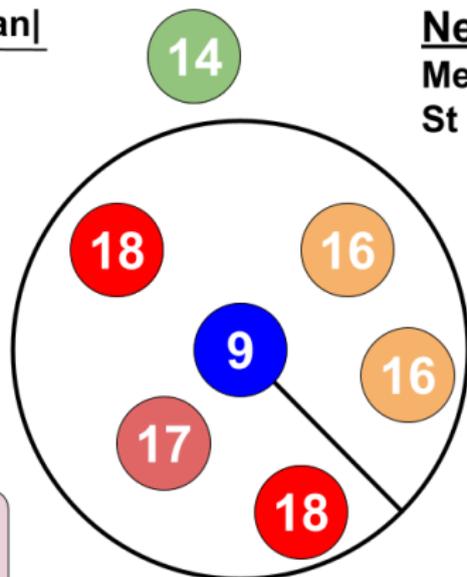
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If $z > \sigma_{\text{thresh}}$
 \Rightarrow **Flag**

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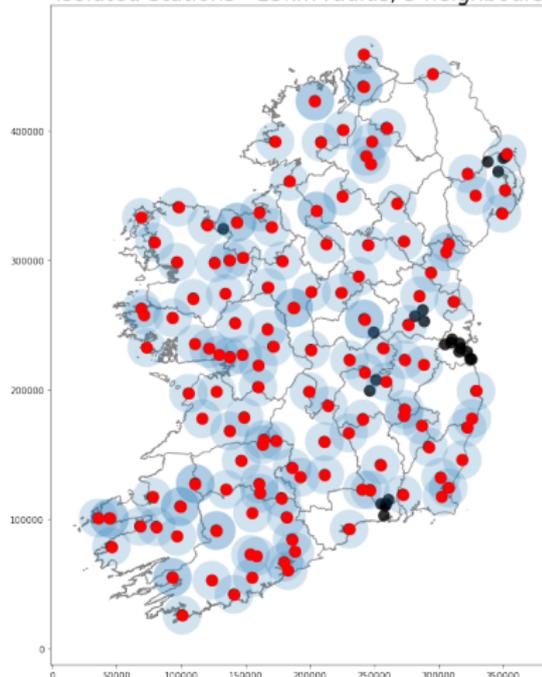
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Isolated Stations - 15km radius, 3 neighbours



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



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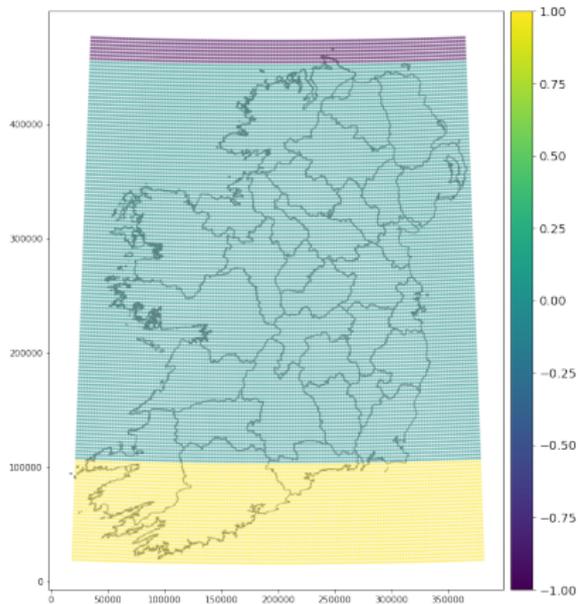
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4. Custom scripts to **apply the chosen checks sequentially and visualise the results** for easier interpretation.

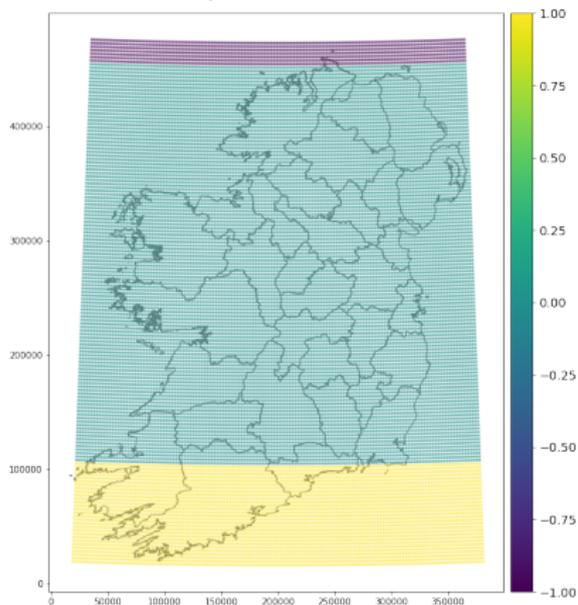
IMPROVEMENTS - CLIMATOLOGY RANGE CHECK

TITAN calculates a **guess** for the mean temp based on Latitude.

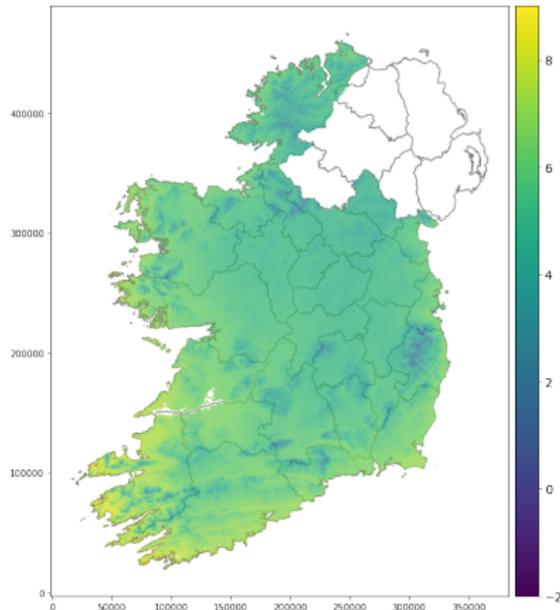


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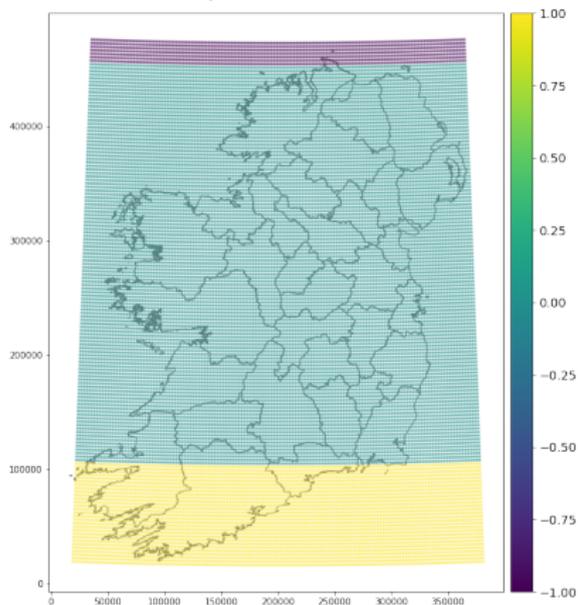
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- TITAN is powerful software written to perform Quality Control checks on citizen weather measurements.
- After performing the improved TITAN range checks, **the WOW data can be used as a fairly reliable reference data set.**
- In the future **if more 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?

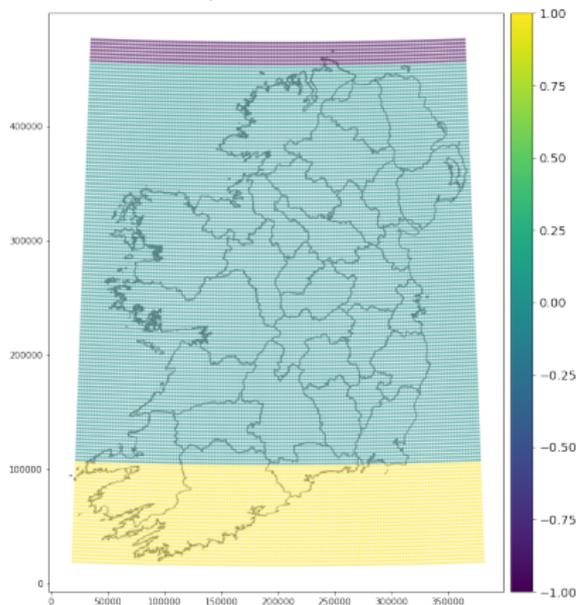
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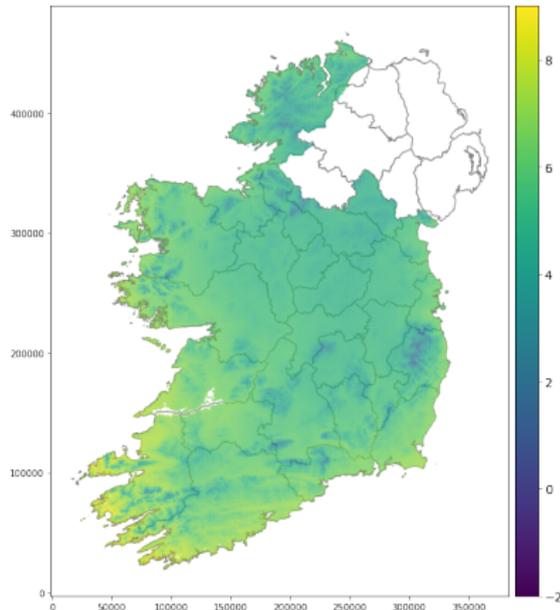


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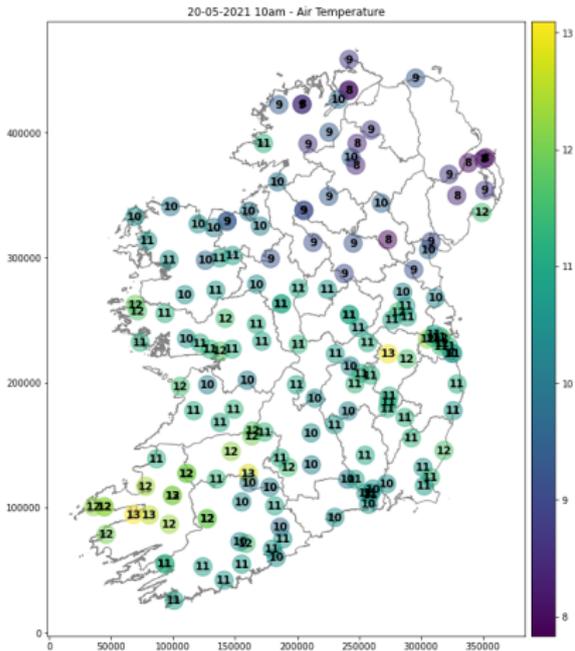


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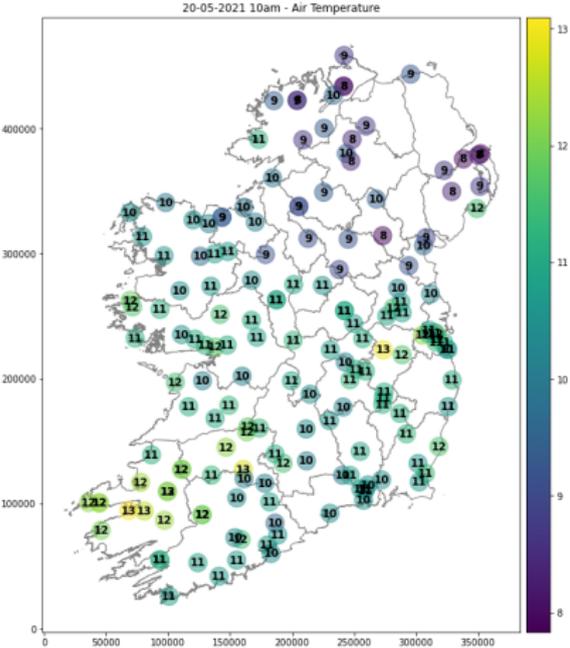
FINAL PRODUCT - EXAMPLES

Base Air Temp Measurements.

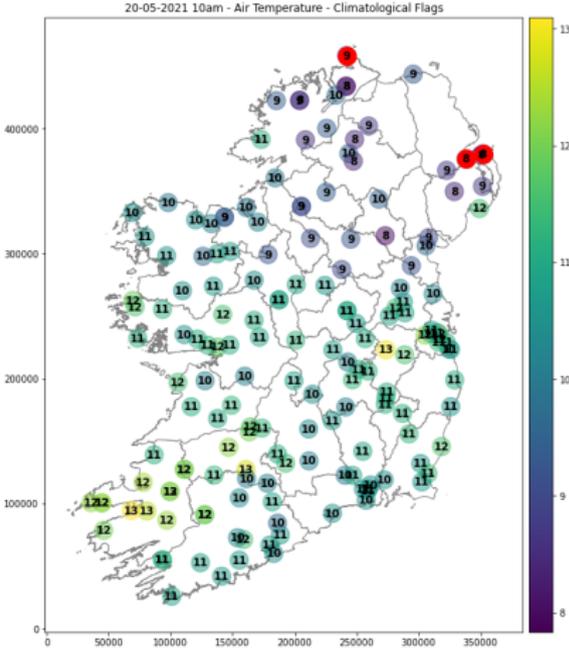


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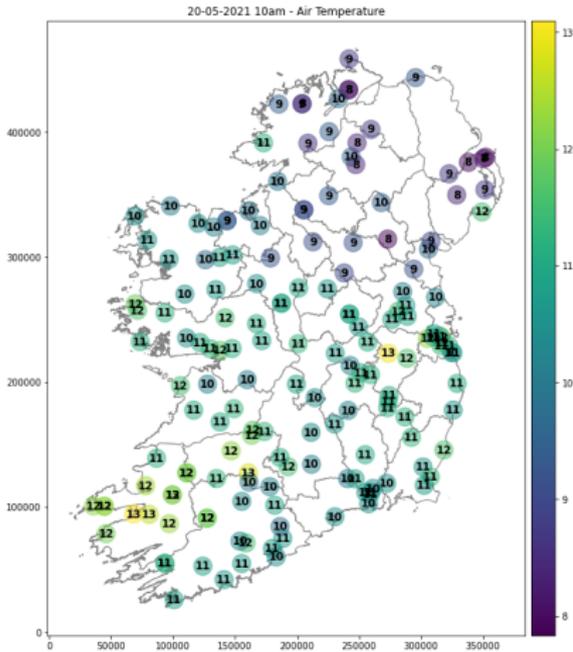


Custom Climate Range Check.

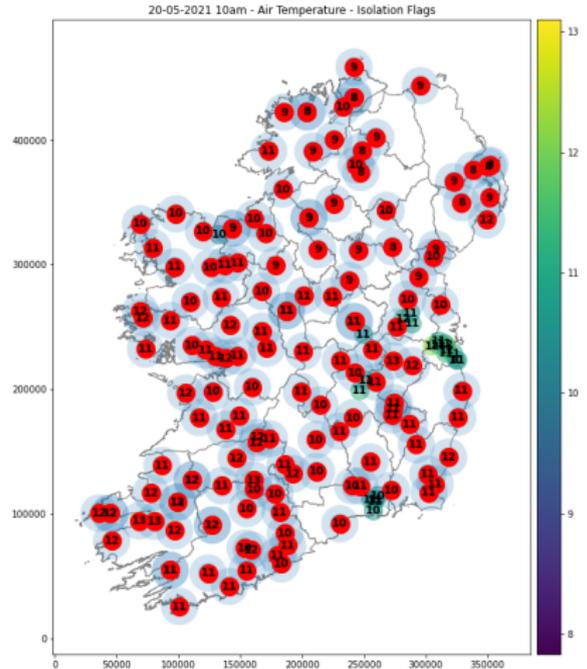


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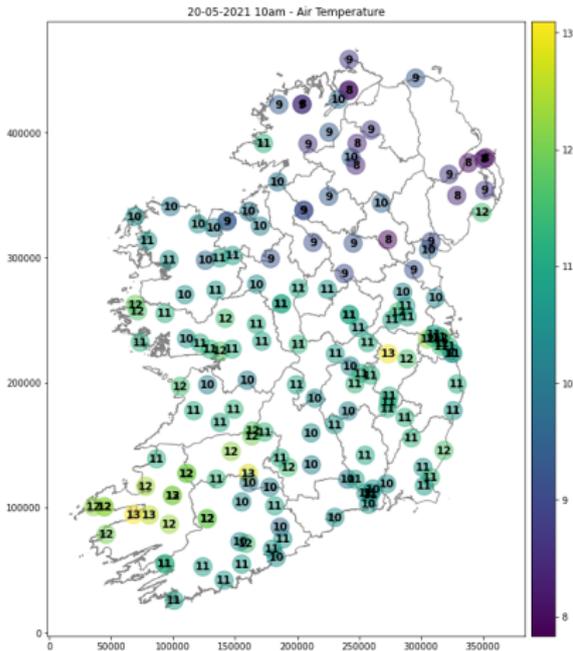


Isolation Check.



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Spatial Consistency Test.

