

CAN WE RELY ON CITIZEN WEATHER MEASUREMENTS FOR OPERATIONAL USE?

Supervisors: Noel Fitzpatrick, Brandon Creagh

Matt Nagle

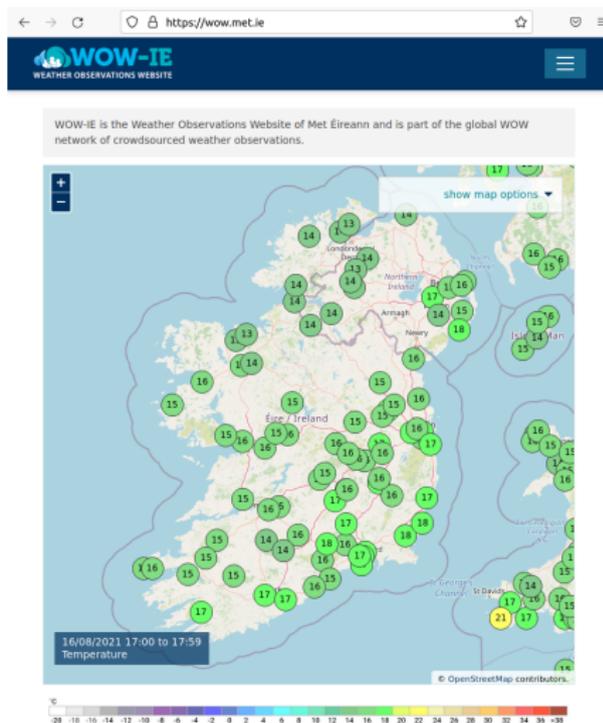
21st of September, 2021

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

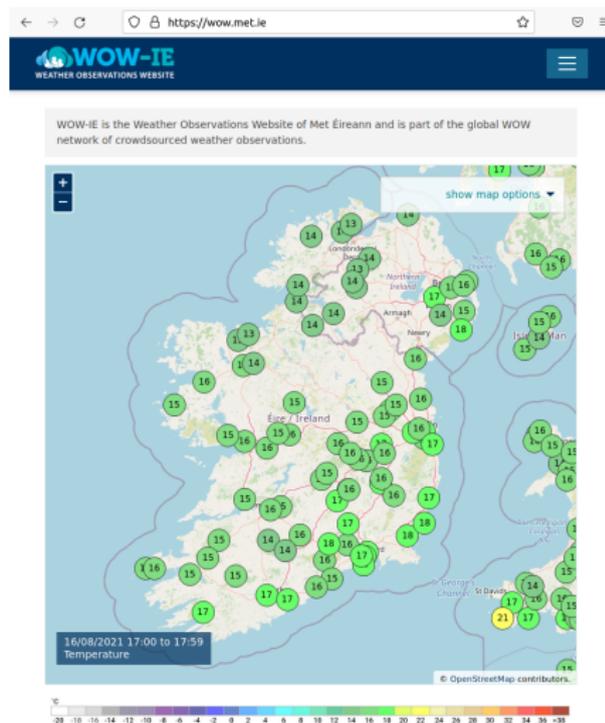
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Since 2011, over 10,000 weather stations have reported over **1 billion weather observations** worldwide.



OPERATIONAL USE CASE

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

Potential Use Cases:

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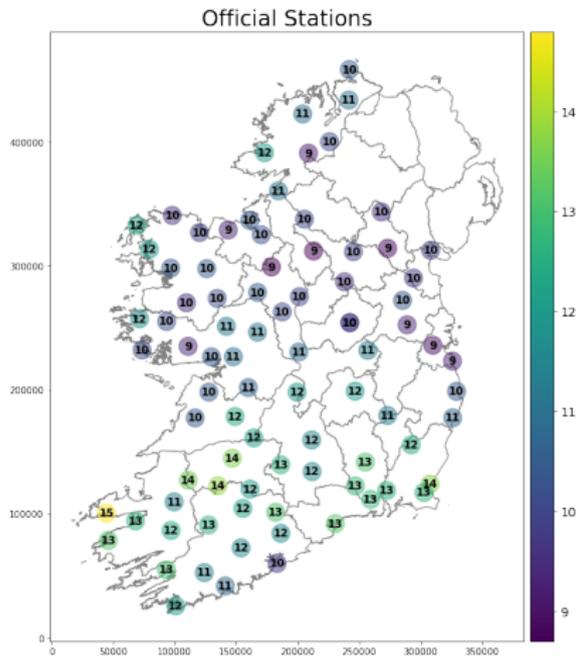
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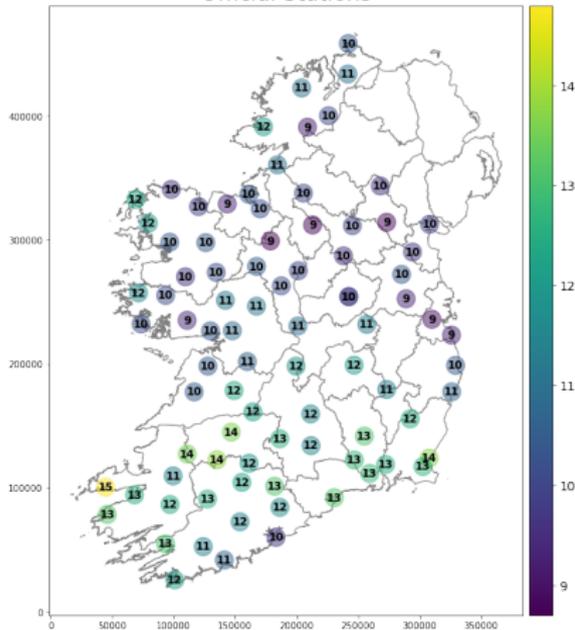
- Numerical Weather Prediction (**NWP**) **Model verification.**
- NWP Data Assimilation - additional observation points for **establishing model initial conditions.**
- More dense network for **tracking severe weather.**

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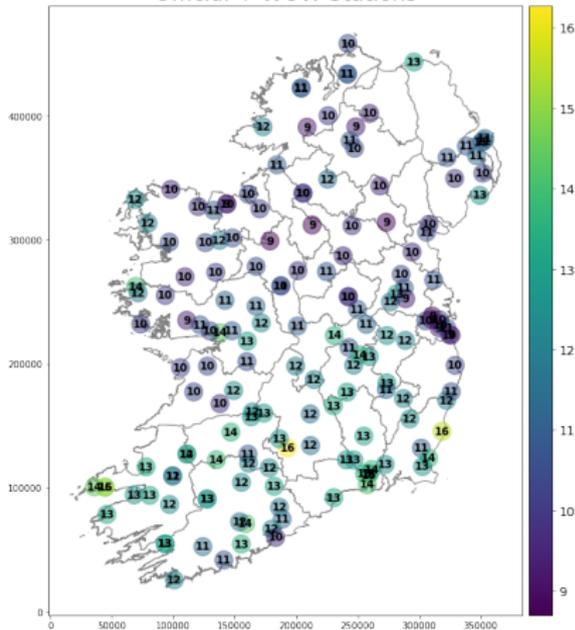


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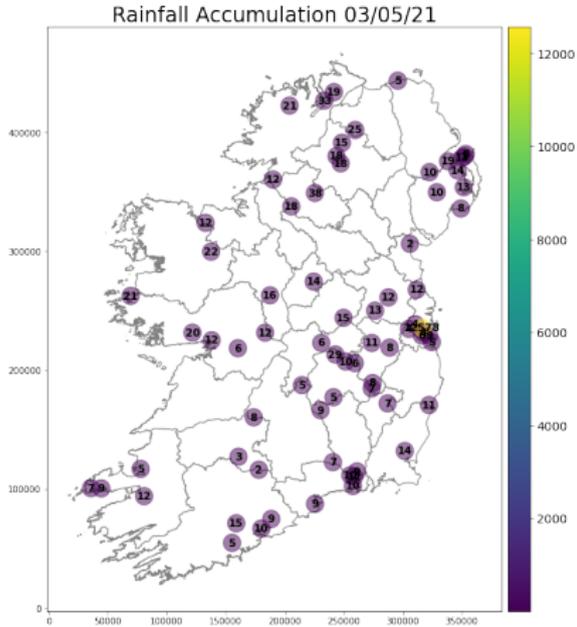
Official Stations



Official + WOW Stations

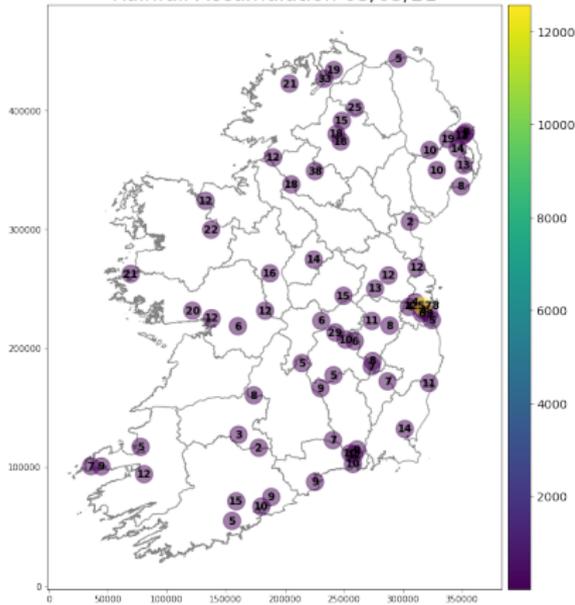


CAN WE TRUST THE MEASUREMENTS?

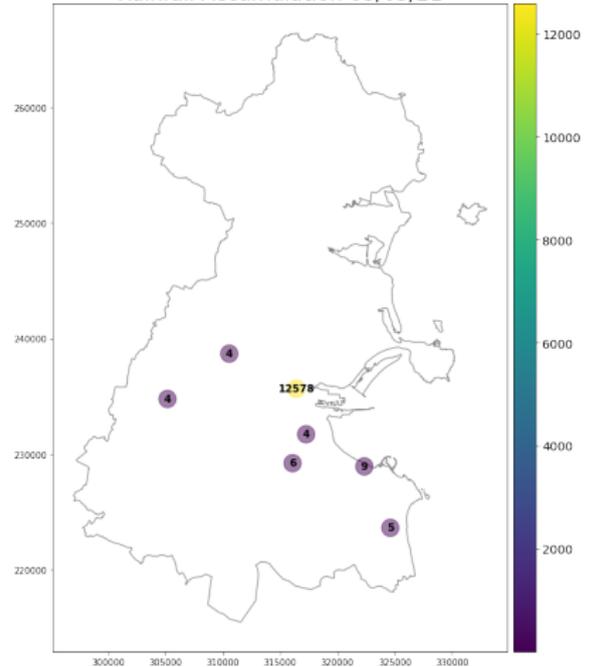


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Rainfall Accumulation 03/05/21



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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.**

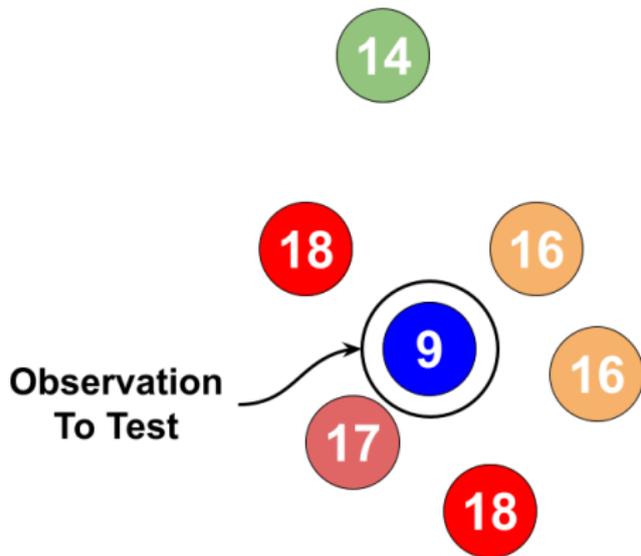
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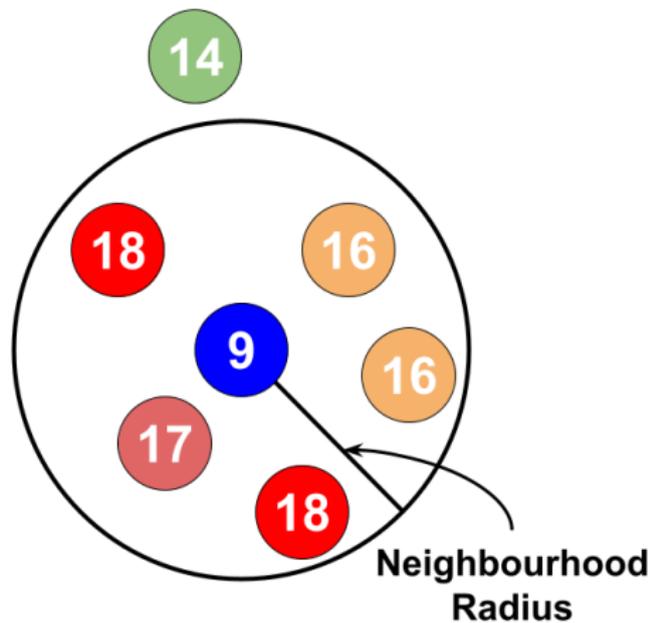
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4. Based on a threshold **decide if the observation should be flagged.**

SPATIAL CONSISTENCY CHECK - AUTOMATIC

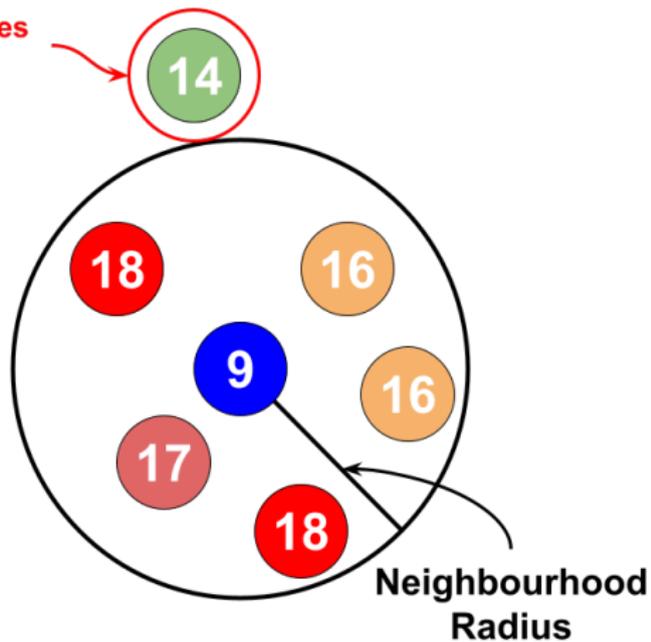


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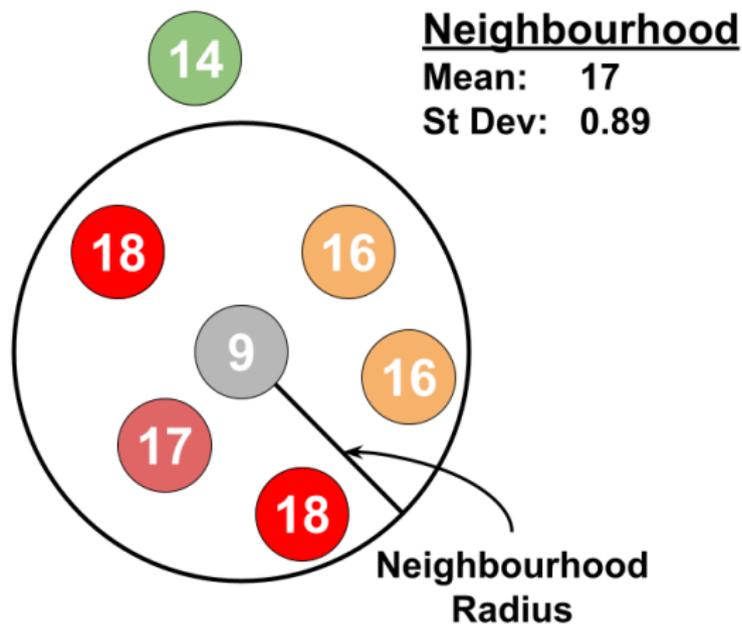


SPATIAL CONSISTENCY CHECK - AUTOMATIC

Too Far Away - Does not affect check

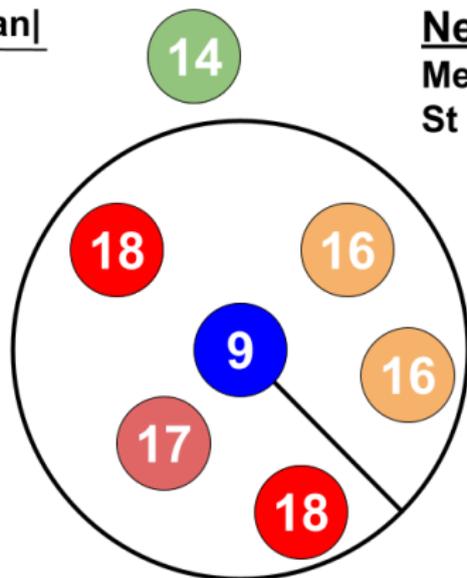


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Neighbourhood

Mean: 17

St Dev: 0.89

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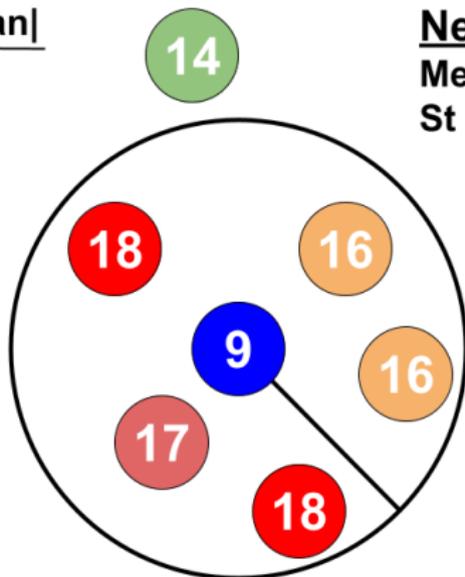
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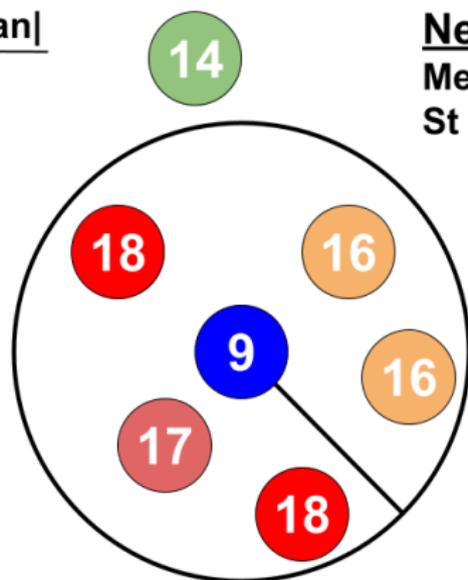


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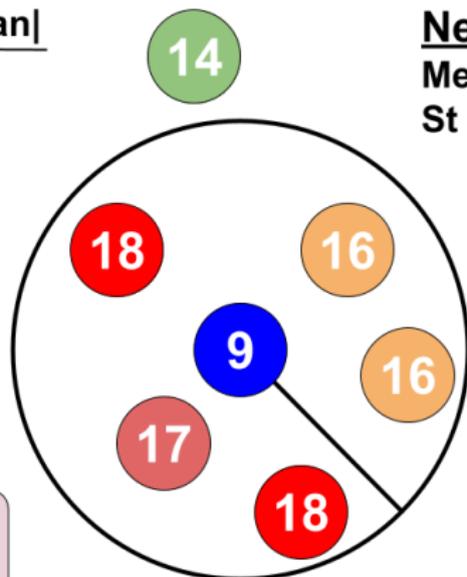
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If $z > \sigma_{\text{thresh}}$
 \Rightarrow **Flag**

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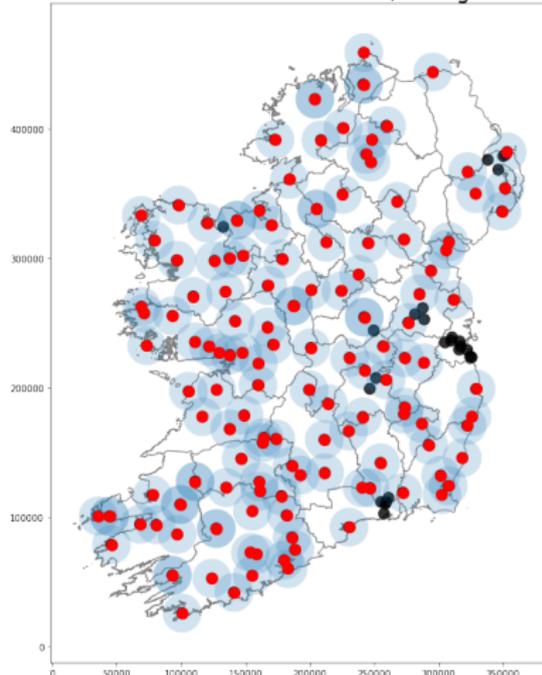
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Isolated Stations - 15km radius, 3 neighbours



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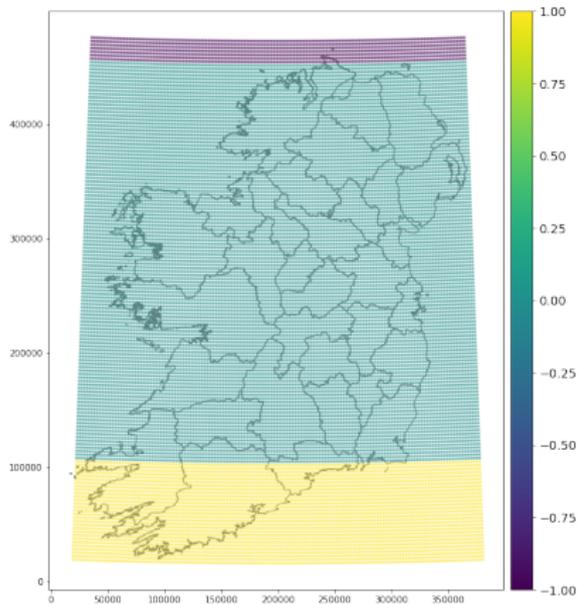
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4. Custom scripts to **apply the chosen checks sequentially and visualise the results** for easier interpretation.

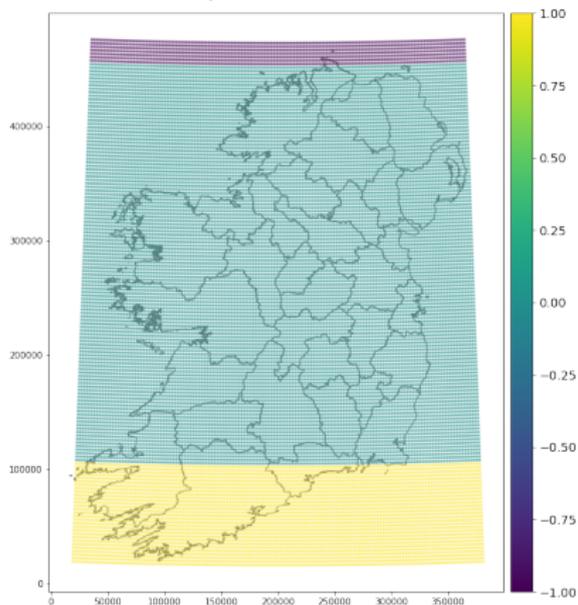
IMPROVEMENTS - CLIMATOLOGY RANGE CHECK

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

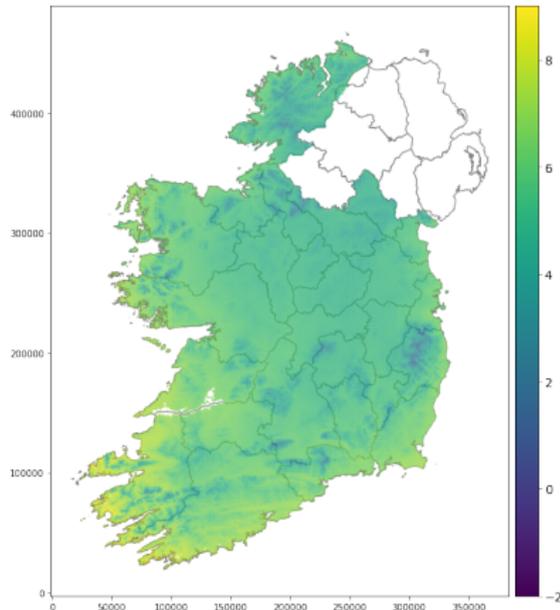


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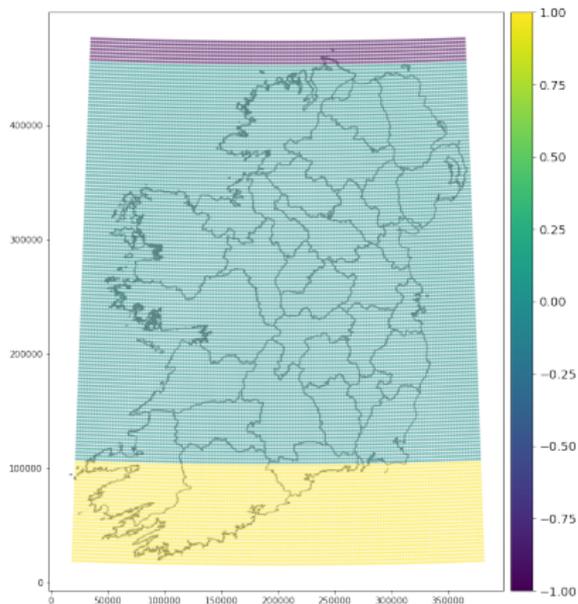
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- **TITAN is powerful software written to perform Quality Control checks** on citizen weather measurements.
- After performing the improved TITAN range checks, **the WOW data can be used as a fairly reliable reference data set.**
- In the future **if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

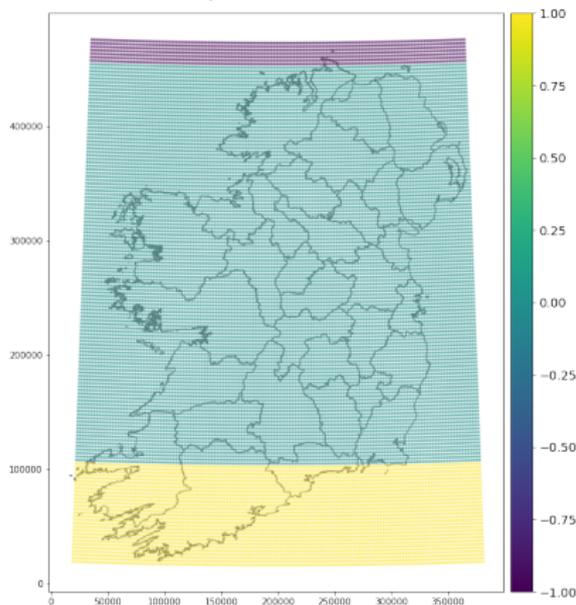
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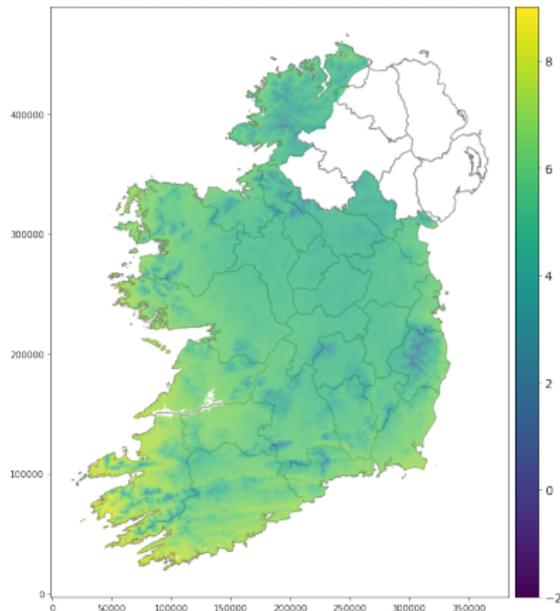


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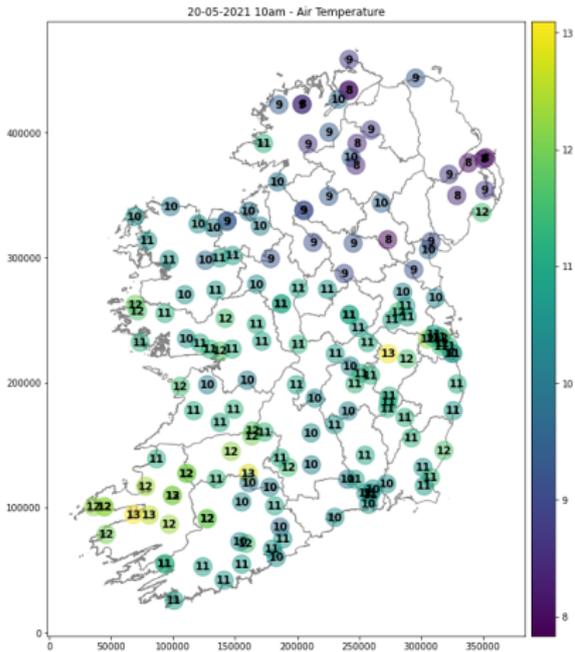


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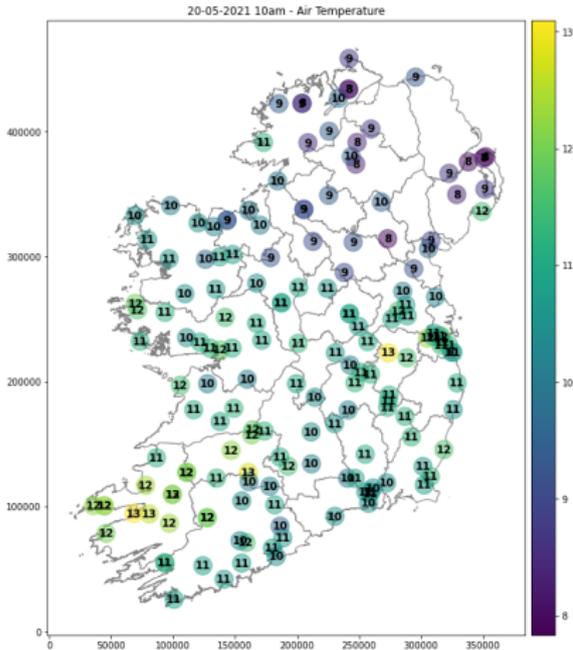
FINAL PRODUCT - EXAMPLES

Base Air Temp Measurements.

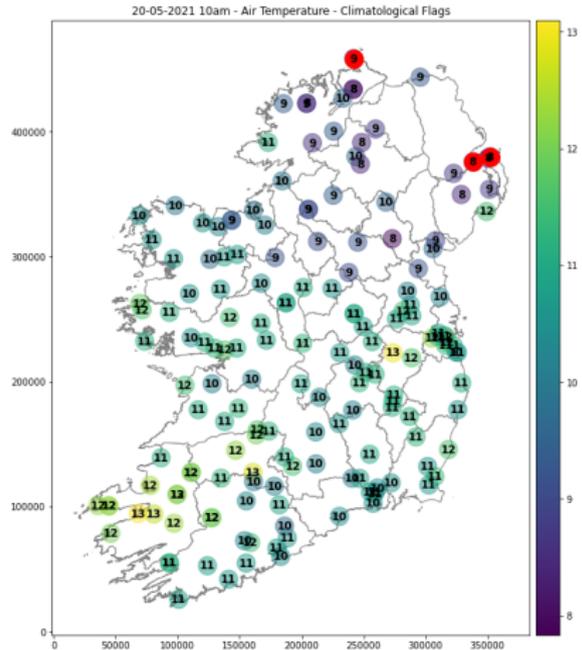


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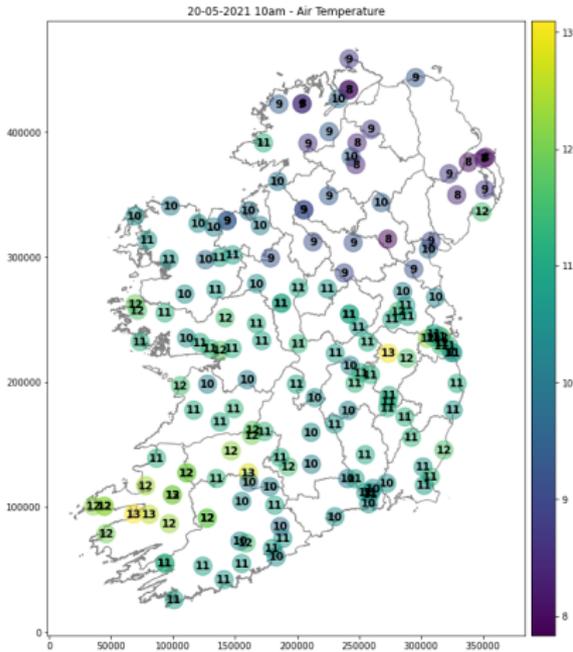


Custom Climate Range Check.

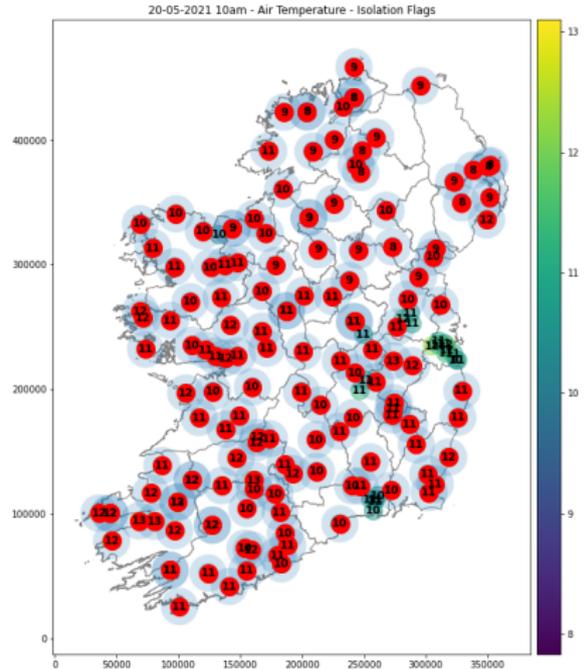


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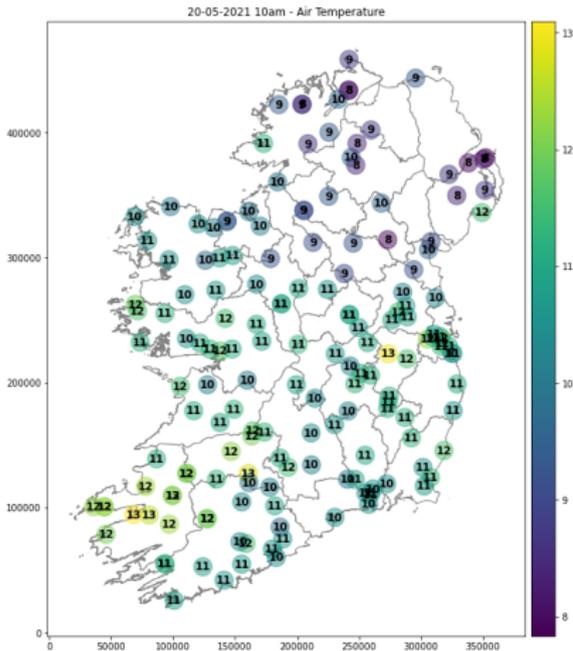


Isolation Check.



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