

Evaluating the spatial performance of hydrological models using remote sensing data

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New opportunities in satellite and airborne remote sensing
Monday 11 December 2017

Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland
Danish Ministry of Climate, Energy and Building

Outline of the presentation

- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions



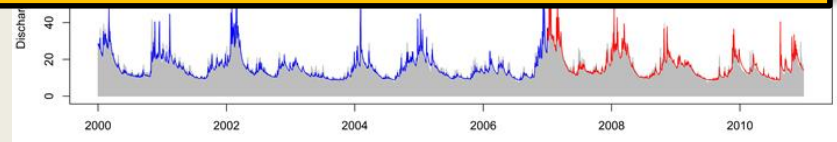
<http://visibleearth.nasa.gov/view.php?id=71880>

Evaluating the spatial performance of hydrological models using remote sensing data

Why is it important?

Hydrological model outputs are used by decision makers.

There is a need to evaluate the spatial patterns to make them reliable



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Our experience

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Our main hypothesis

Evapotranspiration patterns obtained using both methods should be similar.

If not, can we make them more similar?

Methods

ET from
DK-model

ET from
Satellite

ET pattern
evaluation

Modify DK
model
inputs

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ET from
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What is the Dk-
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Is the National water resources model of Denmark and is distributed, coupled Ground Water-Surface Water model. Includes unsaturated zone, ET, river routing modules and runs on MIKE-SHE at 500m.

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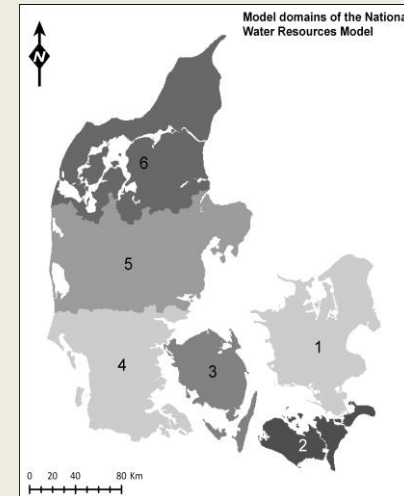
ET from
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How is the model
calibrated

Calibrated and validated against 191 discharge and around 17500 ground water head observations

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(Taken from Stisen et al. 2012)

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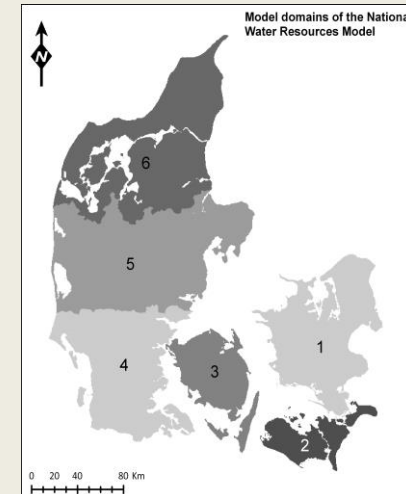
ET pattern
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Why is the model
important?

Different applications:

- Assessment of climatic change
- Water resources management within the EU Water framework directive
- Large scale nitrogen modeling

Modify DK
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inputs



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Why satellite?

Remote sensing provides high spatial and temporal data of the earth surface. There are long time series of data records.

ET models have been developed and been validated

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The Two Source Energy Balance from Norman et al. 1995 was used to calculate the ET.

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analysis

A sensitivity analysis was conducted with PEST to evaluate the most sensitive parameters in the model.

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Results
validations

Data from HOBE from 3 eddy covariance sites was used to ensure quality of the data.

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Map generation

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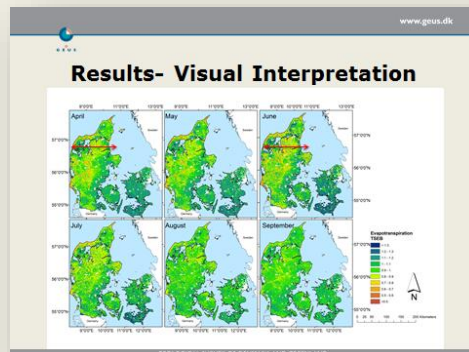
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Visual
interpretation

ET pattern
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Modified
DK model
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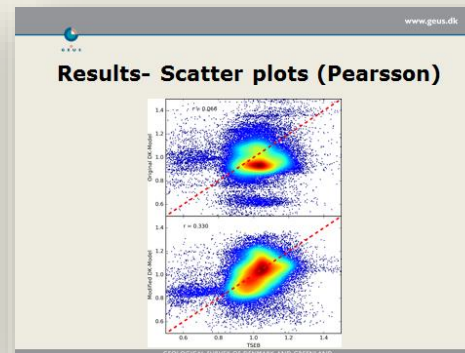
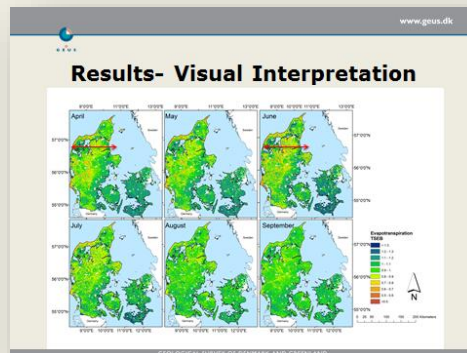
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Scatterplots (r)

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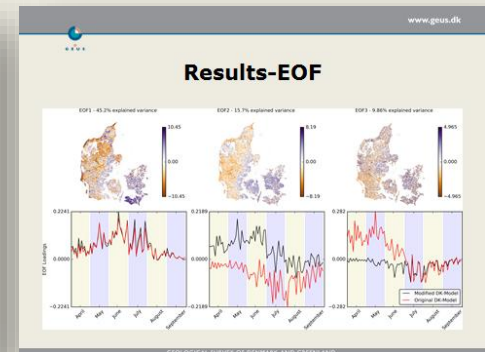
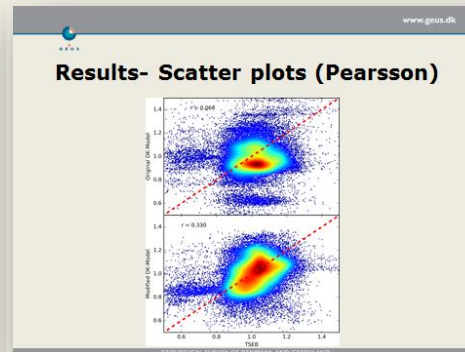
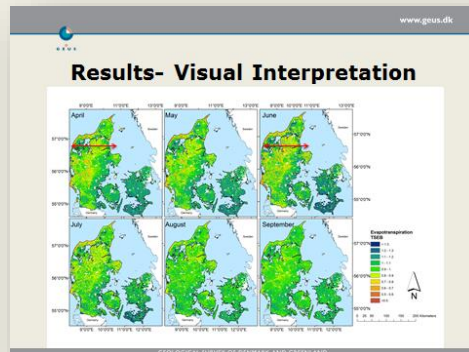
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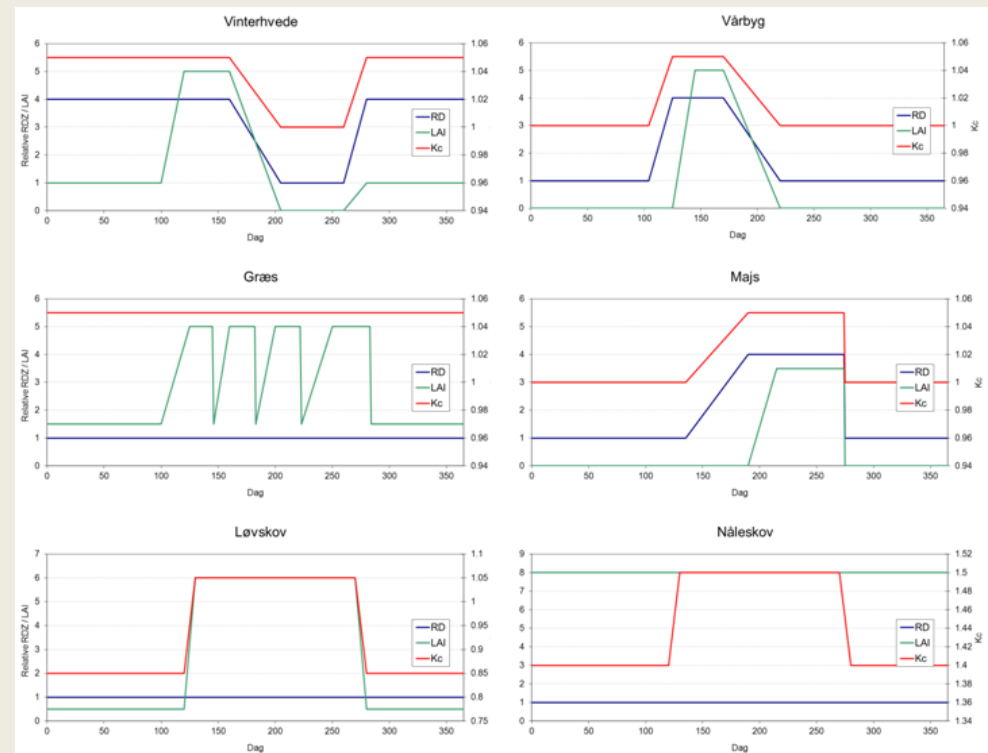
Scatterplots (r)

Empirical
Orthogonal
Functions (EOF)



Methods

Root depth, LAI and Kc changes in time and space based on the land cover type in the Dk-Model



ET from
DK-model

Original DK-
model setup

ET from
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Root depth and Kc changes in time and space based on the land cover type in the Dk-Model

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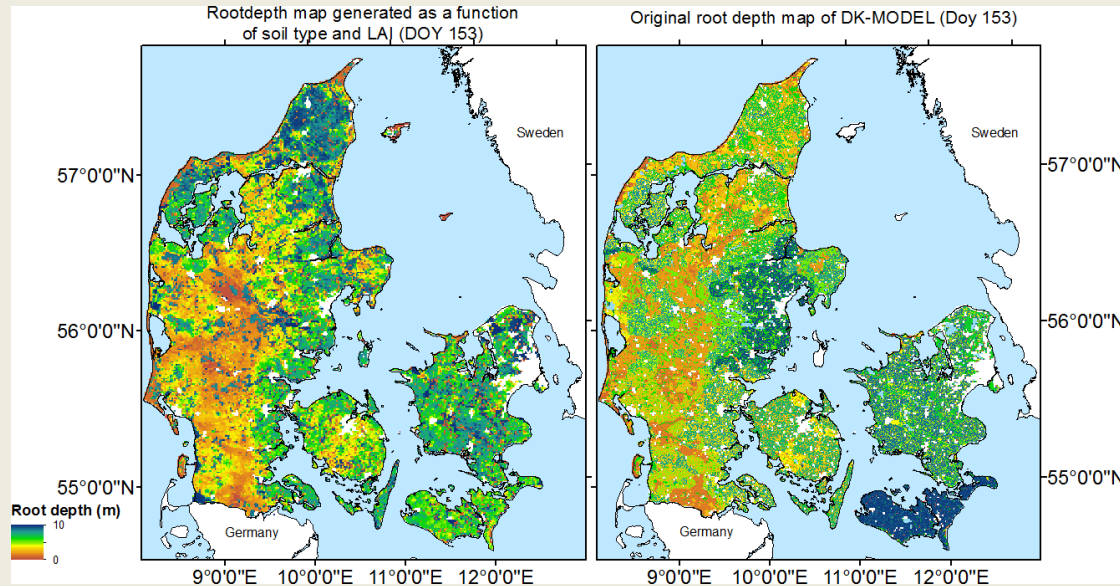
ET from Satellite

ET pattern evaluation

Modified DK model inputs

Original DK-model setup

Root depth



Methods

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Root depth and Kc changes in time and space based on the land cover type in the Dk-Model

ET from
Satellite

Root depth

New root depth maps based on NDVI and soil maps were created.

$$RD_i[m] = RD_{\max} \frac{NDVI_i}{NDVI_{\max}} \text{ for forested areas,}$$

and

$$RD_{(agri)_i}[m] = [(\alpha_{RD} \cdot CF_i) + \beta_{RD}] \cdot \frac{NDVI_i - NDVI_{\min}}{NDVI_{\max} - NDVI_{\min}}$$

ET pattern
evaluation

Crop
Coefficient (Kc)

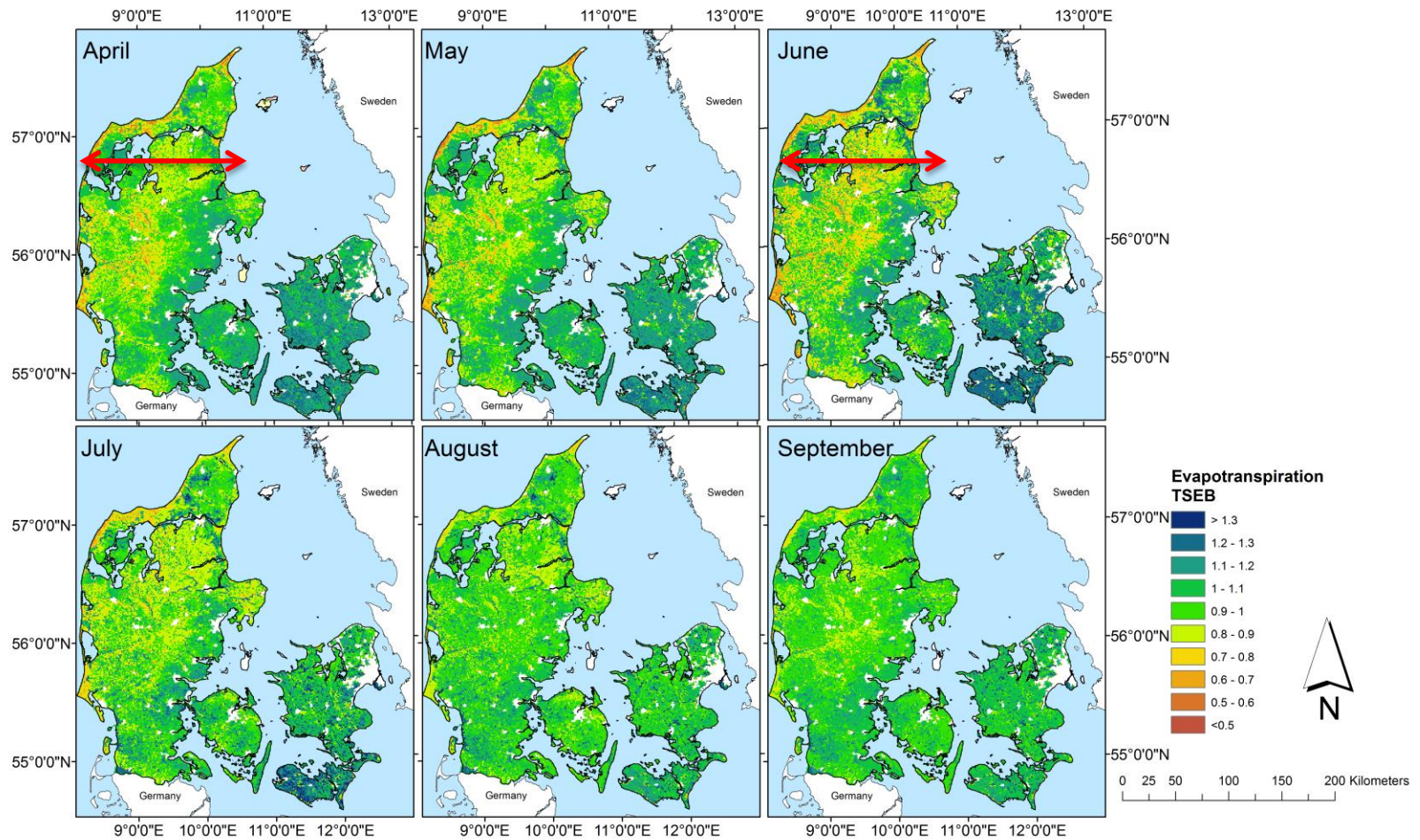
Kc is derived from remotely sensed LAI using:

$$Kc[-] = Kc_{c,\min} + (Kc_{c,\max} - Kc_{c,\min}) \cdot (1 - e^{(-0.7 \cdot LAI)}) = 0.95 + 0.2 * (1 - e^{(-0.7 * LAI)})$$

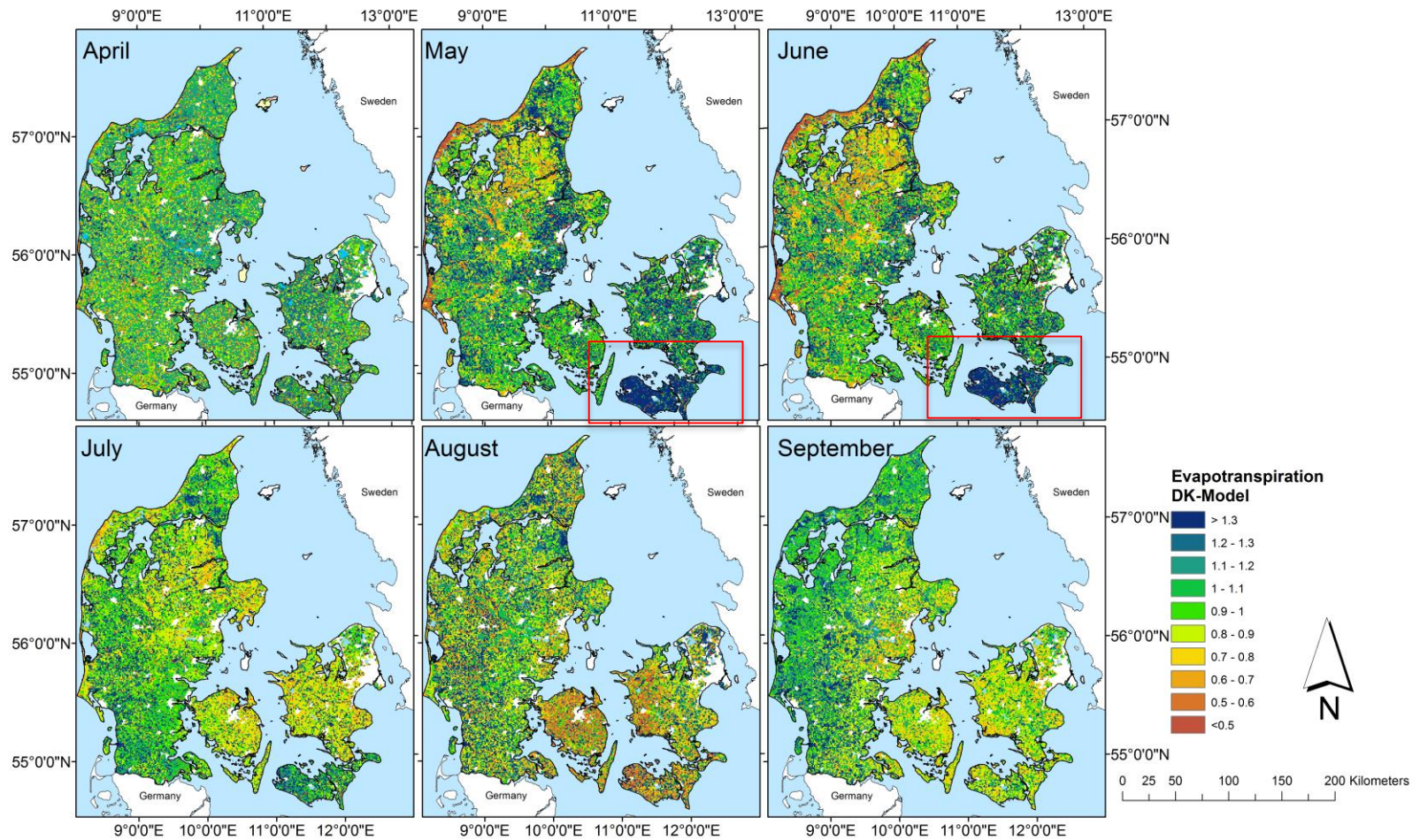
Modified DK
model inputs

Where the Kc_{\min} and Kc_{\max} are set to 0.95 and 1.15 respectively.

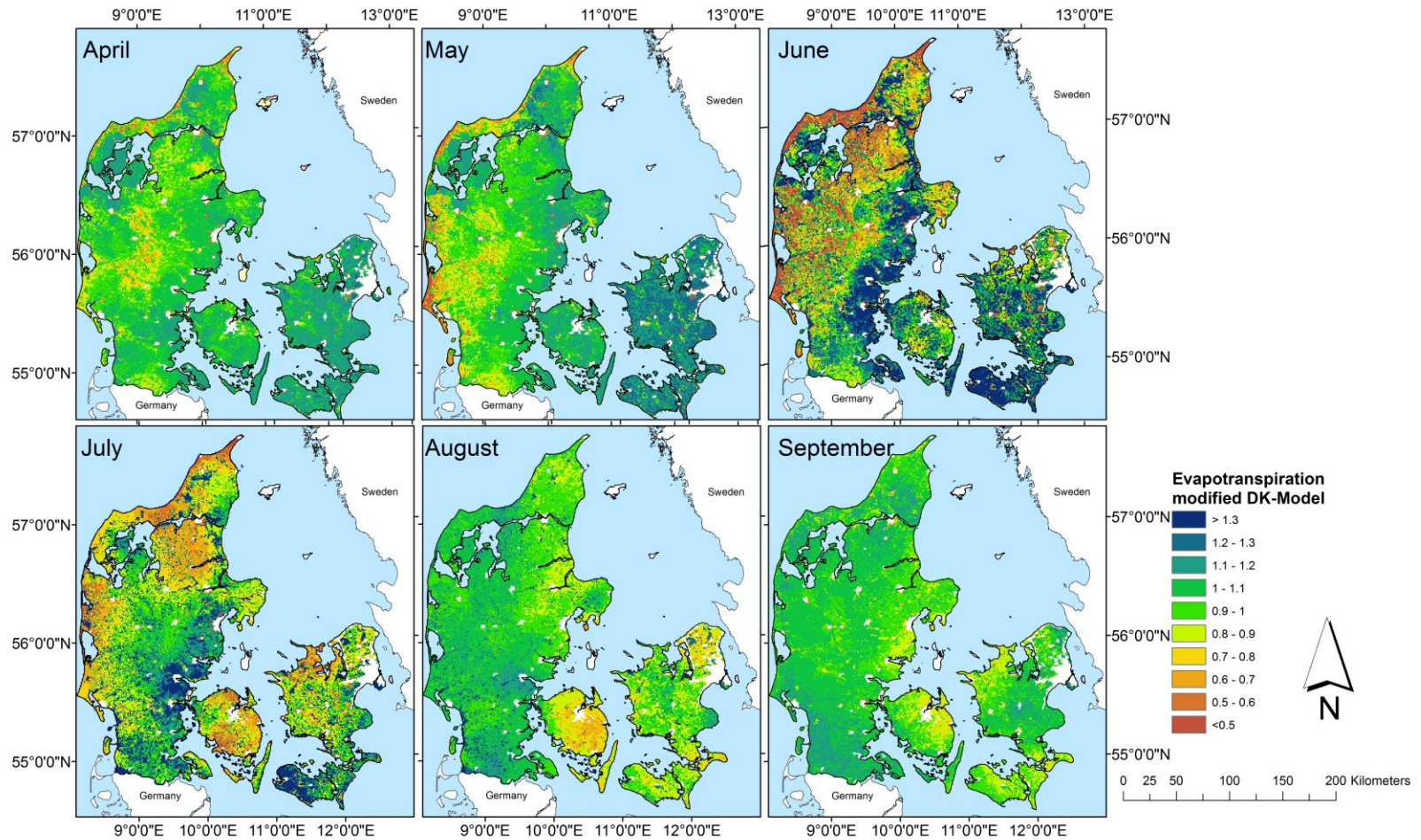
Results- TSEB ET



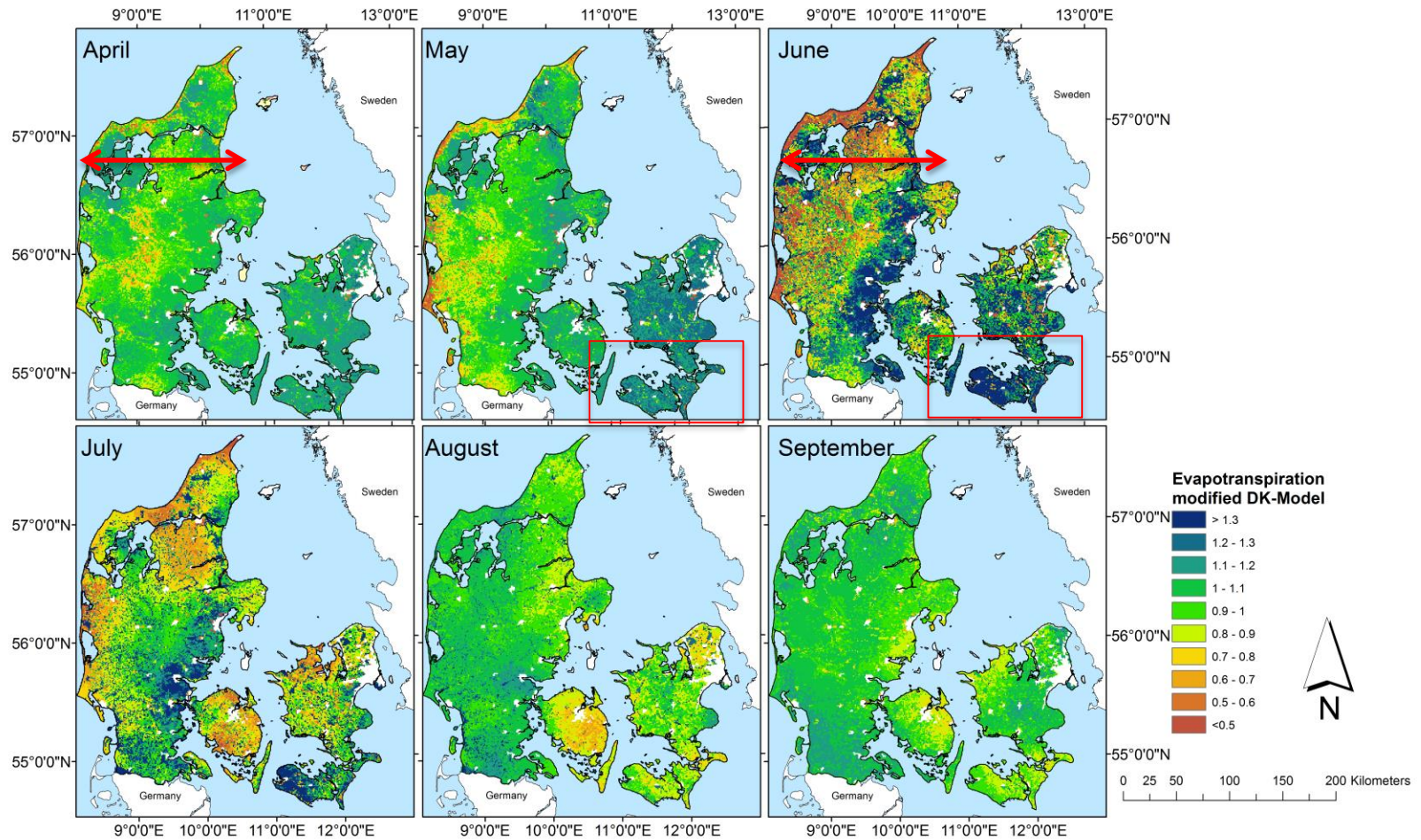
Results- DK model ET



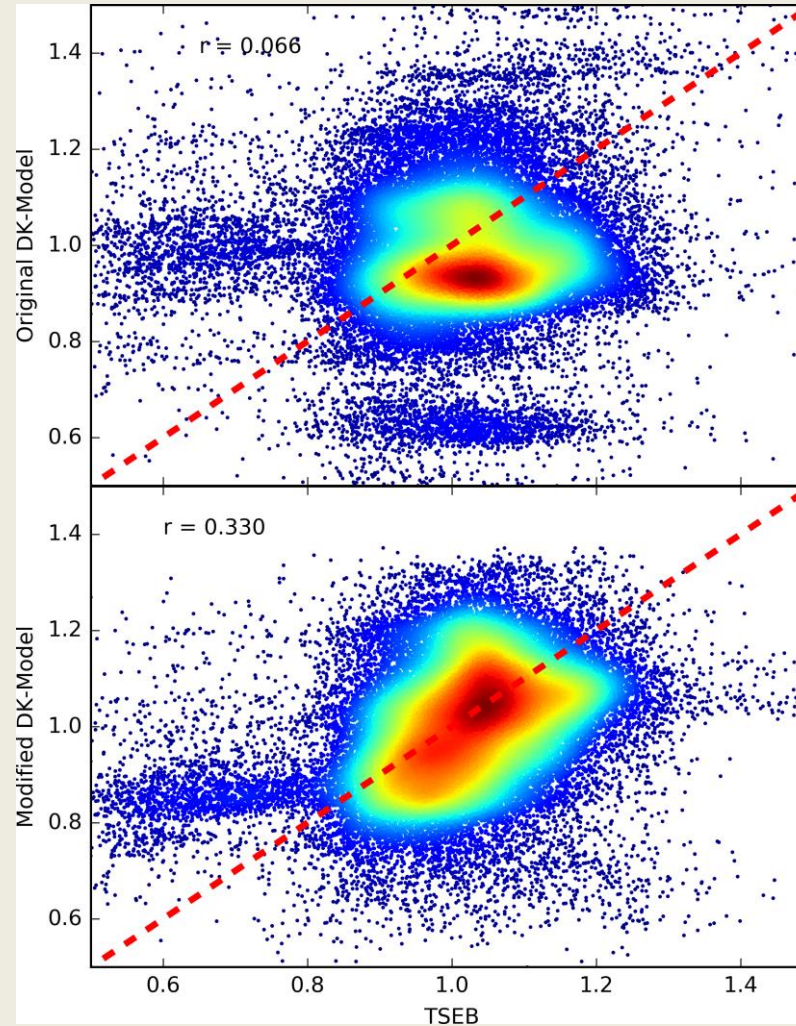
Results- Modified DK model ET



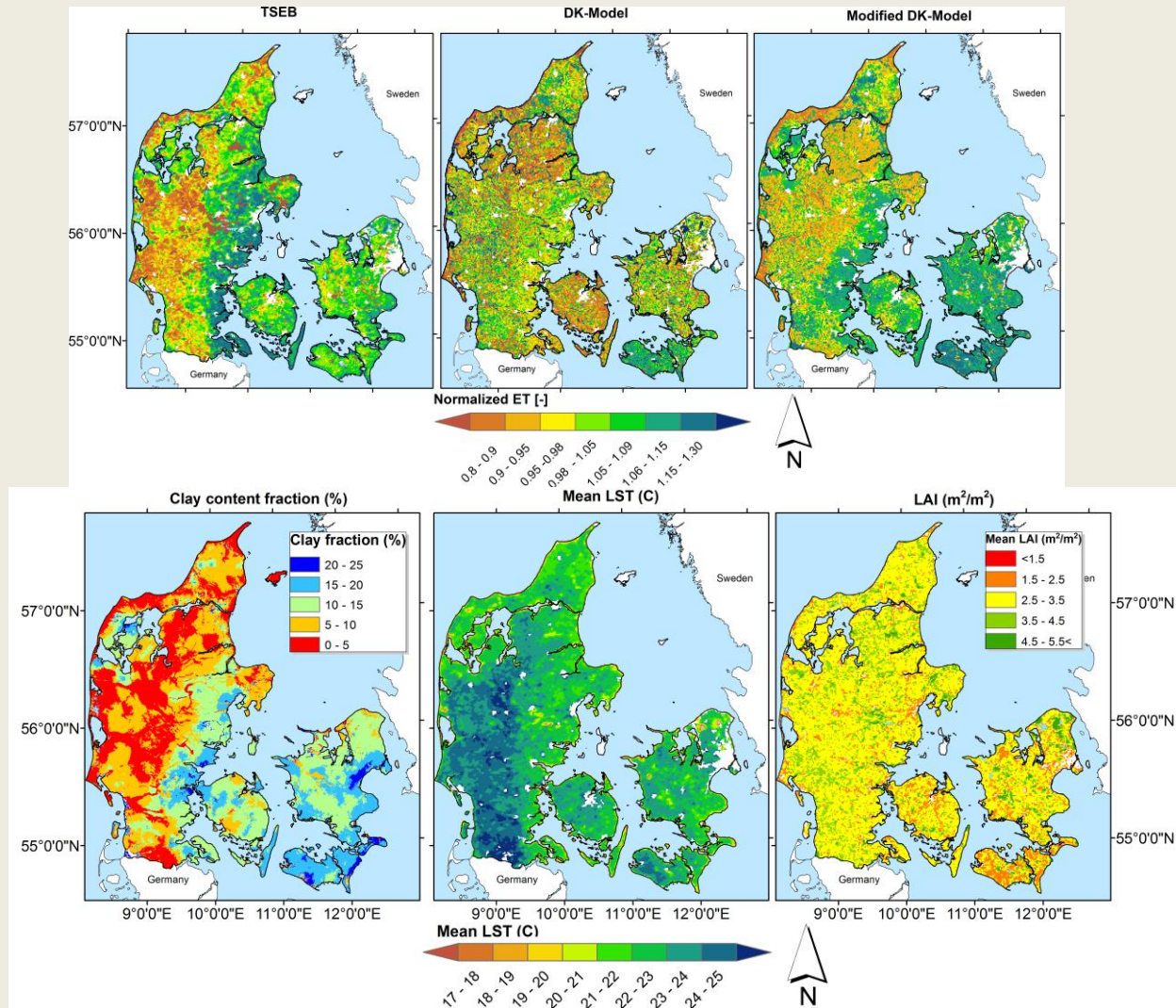
Results- Modified DK model ET



Results

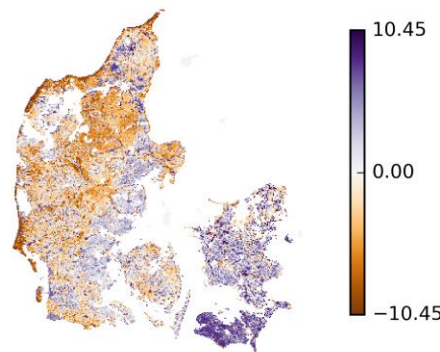


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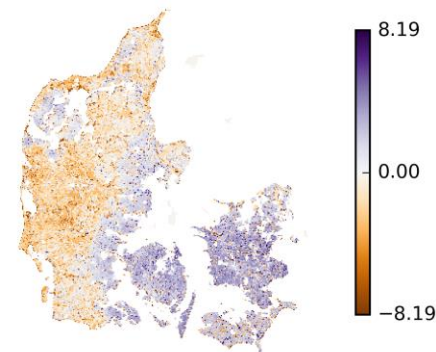


Results-EOF

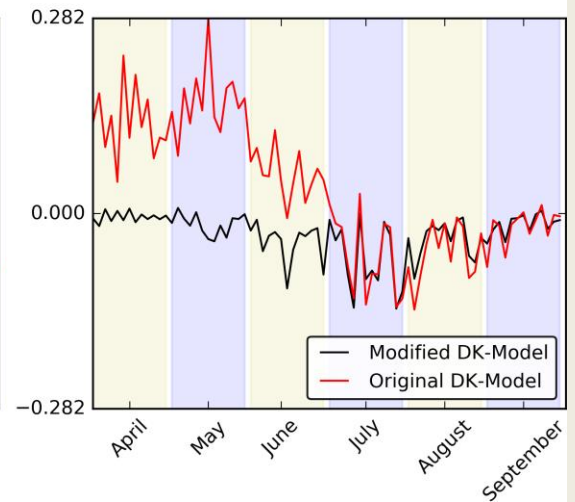
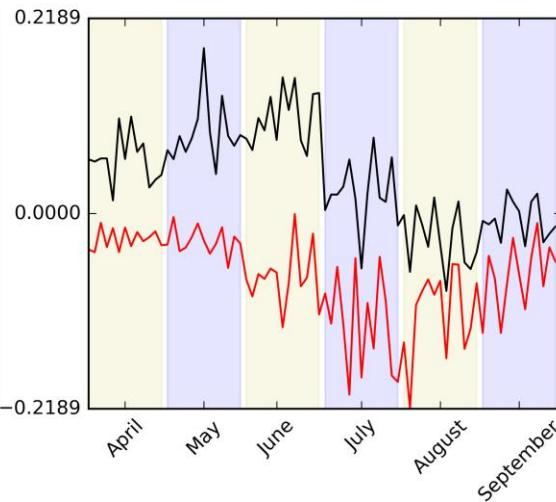
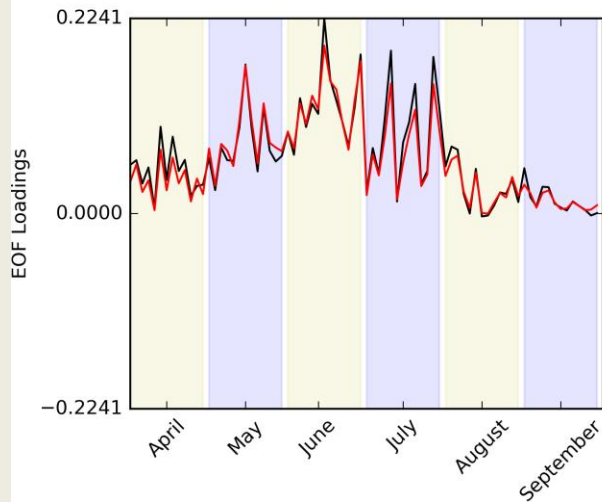
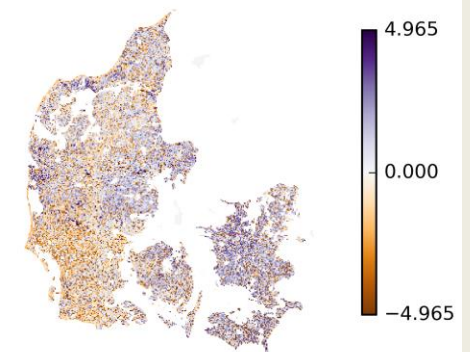
EOF1 - 45.2% explained variance



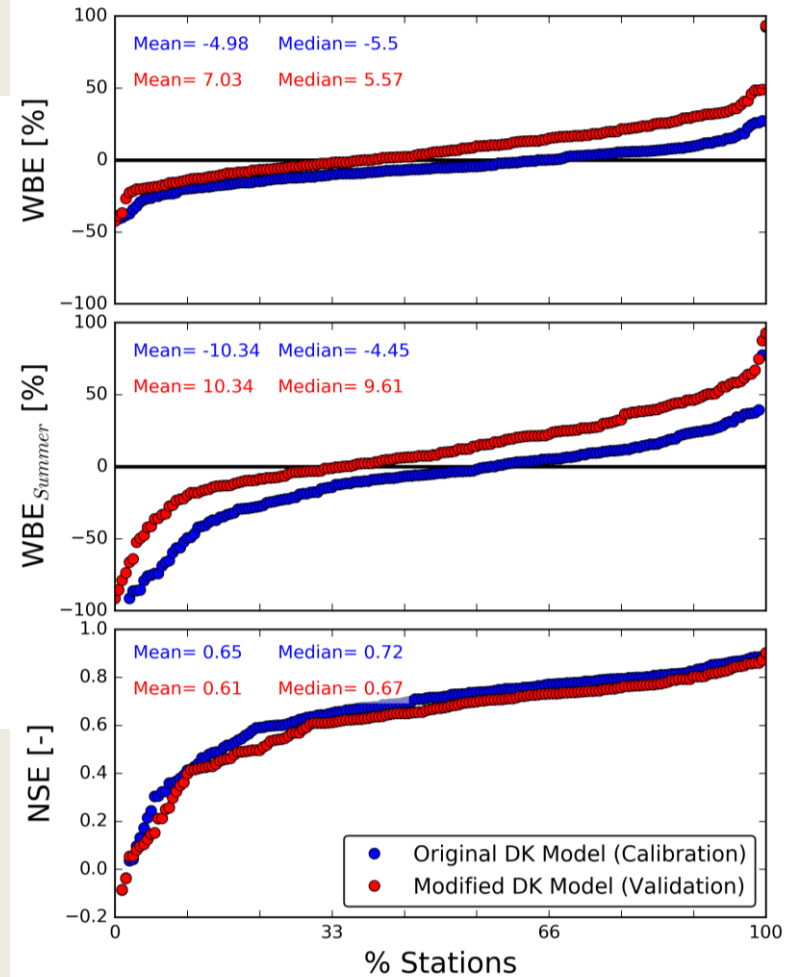
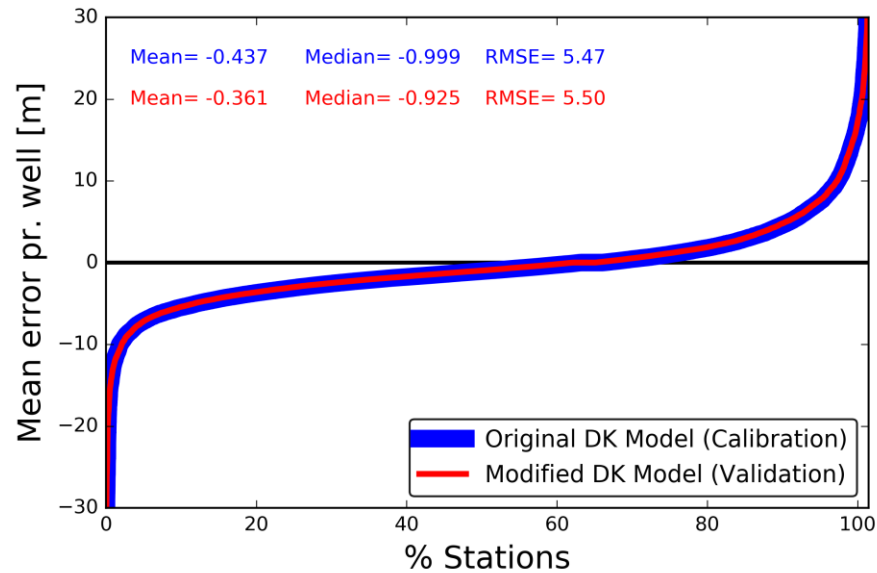
EOF2 - 15.7% explained variance



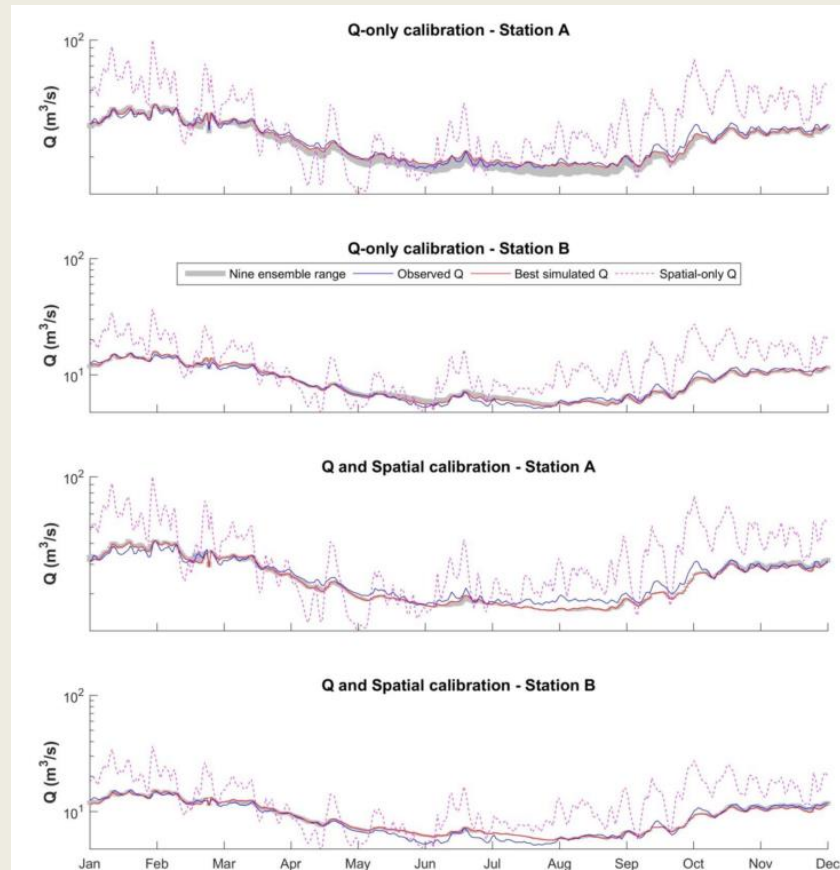
EOF3 - 9.86% explained variance



Results- Ground water heads and discharge



Can a hydrological model be calibrated spatially?

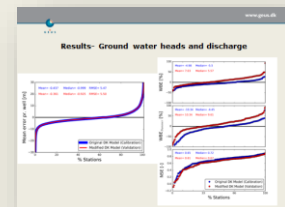
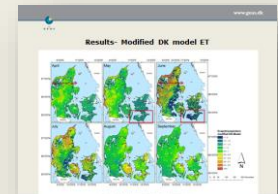
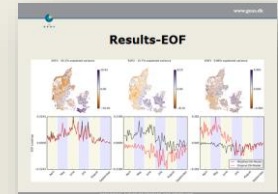


5 **Figure 3.** Average hydrograph of all years in the calibration period (2001-2008) to illustrate the ensemble of nine model calibrations with different seed numbers.

Demirel, M. C., Mai, J., Mendiguren, G., Koch, J., Samaniego, L., & Stisen, S. (2017). Combining satellite data and appropriate objective functions for improved spatial pattern performance of a distributed hydrologic model. *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences Discussions*, (October), 1–22. <http://doi.org/10.5194/hess-2017-570>

Conclusions and future perspectives

- The potential of remote sensing to evaluate the spatial patterns of hydrological models has been shown.
- Remote sensing derived variables added spatial information to the model and made the spatial patterns of both models more similar.
- The Dk-model was not recalibrated. We expect the validation with the discharge stations and ground water heads to improve when done.





Thank you for your attention!

Questions?



Results

