

Benchmarking GPS stations: an improved way to identify the GPS sensitivity

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Introduction:

1. Facts.

- Processes occurring at various spatial and temporal resolutions are well-observed by Global Positioning System (GPS).
- Temporal resolutions: weekly up to interannual/secular changes resolved well using **daily-sampled GPS displacements**.
- Spatial resolutions: site-dependent phenomena up to regional- or continental-scale changes resolved from **single GPS stations** or from **distributed networks of stations**.

2. Limitations?

Hardly distinguishable set of contributors in GPS displacements: **plurality of geophysical effects**, systematic errors or system-related signals.

3. Challenges?

Sensitivity of GPS in various temporal resolutions remains unrecognized.

Chasing the GPS sensitivity:

1. Sensitivity:

comparison to geophysical models or other observations:
global versus regional studies.

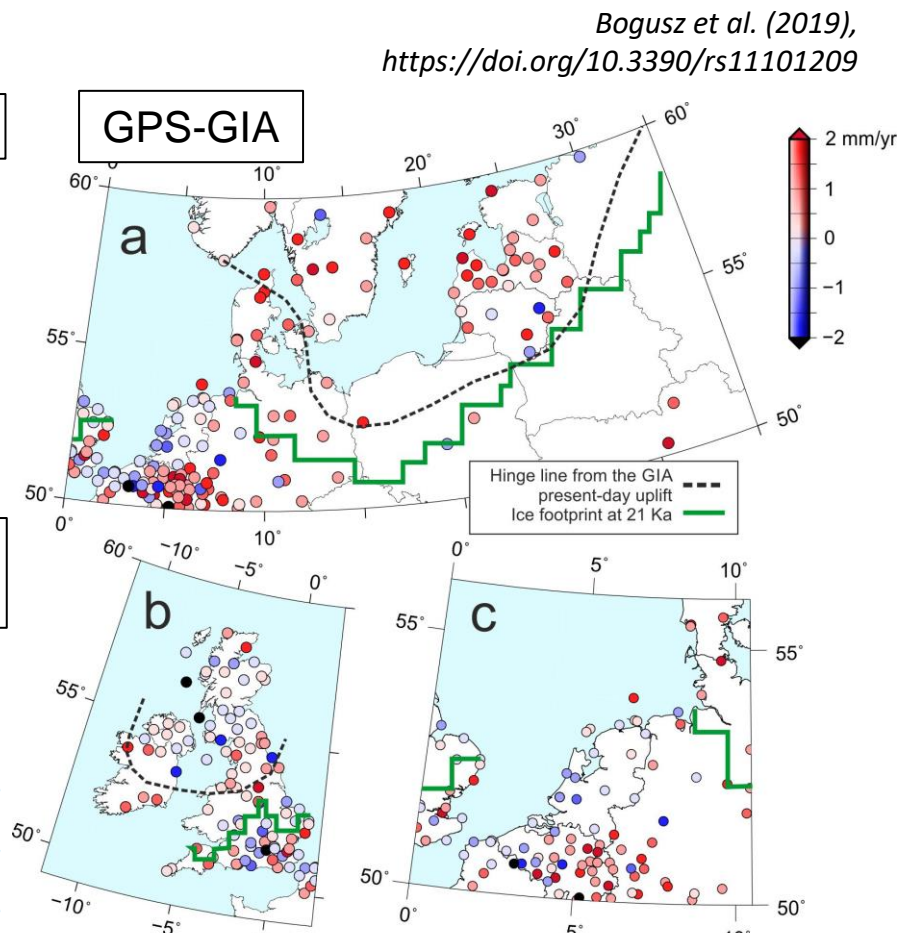
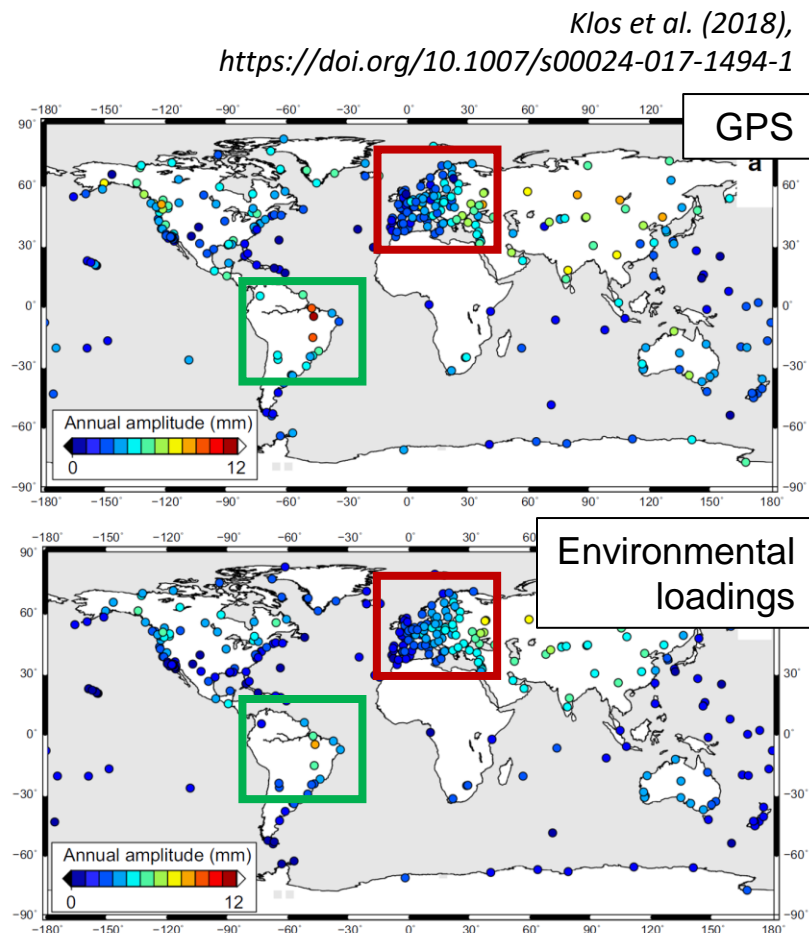
2. Global studies:

parameter-based comparison,
neglecting outlying stations,
matching areas.

3. Regional studies:

pinpointing „bad” stations
by retrieving spatial
patterns / comparing
parameters.

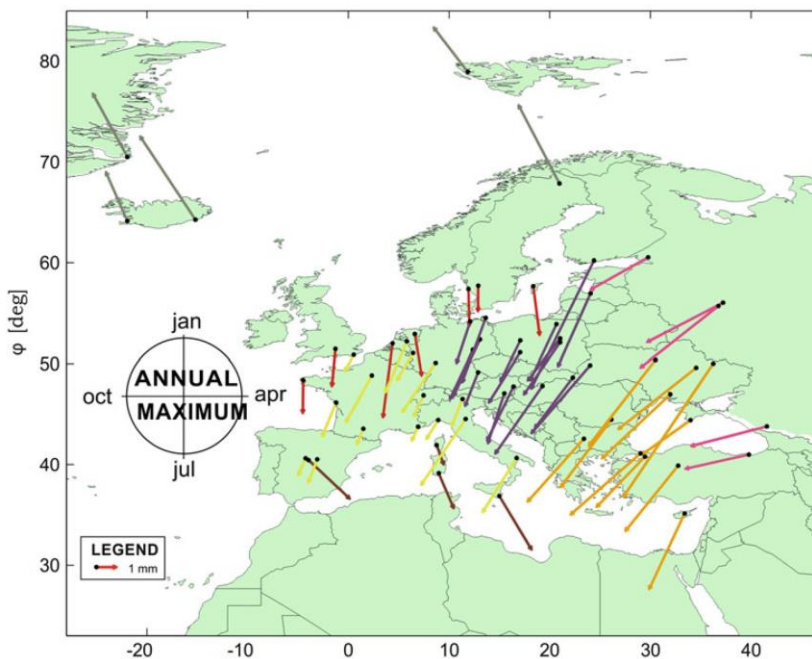
GPS is sensitive to geophysical effects.



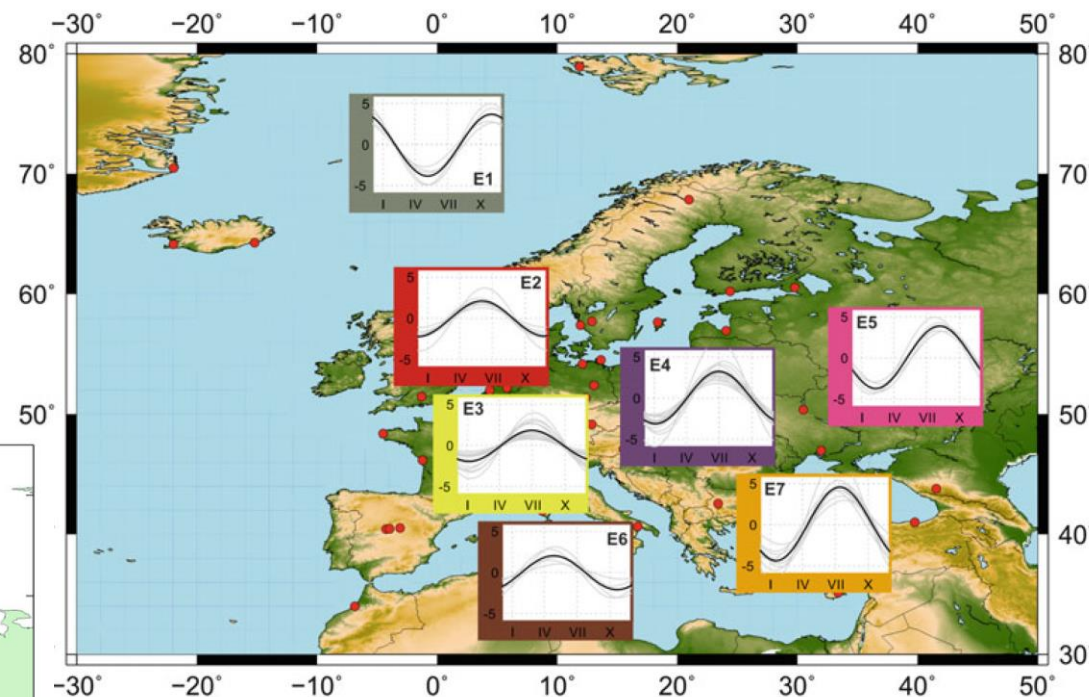
Chasing the GPS sensitivity:

- 4. **Clustering:**
deterministic parameters
+ inter-station distance.
- 5. Long periods resolved.
- 6. **Problems?**
GPS sensitivity in short periods...

Clusters – benchmarks.



*Bogusz et al. (2015),
https://doi.org/10.1007/1345_2015_191*



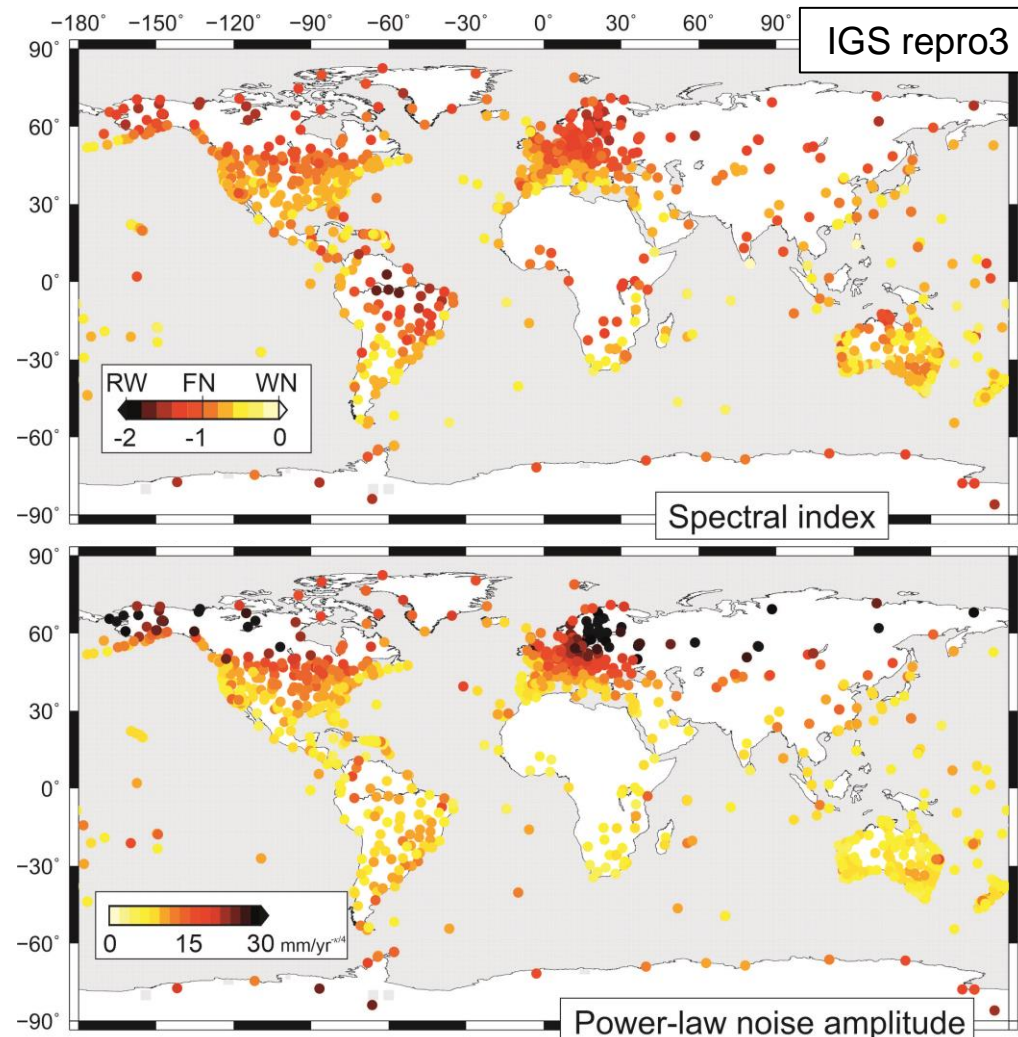
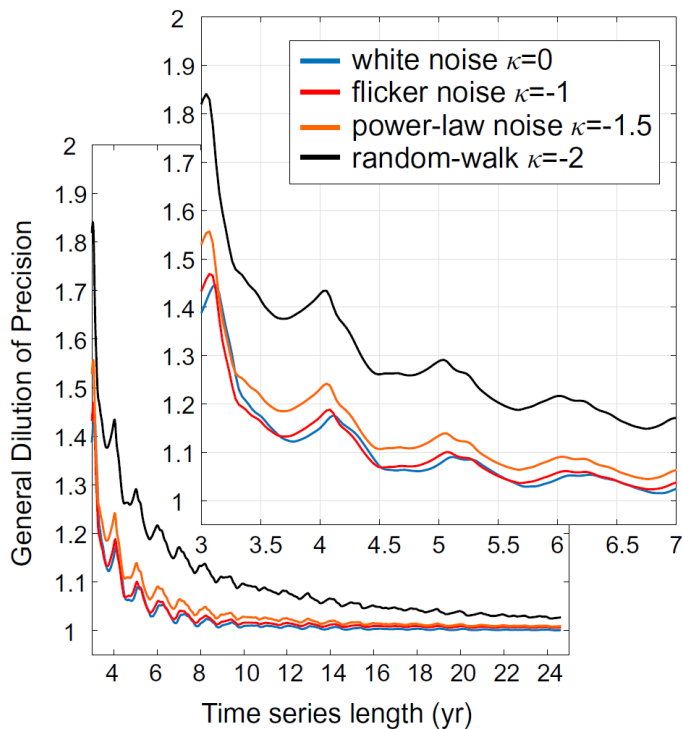
Clusters: an insight on regional phenomena.

Chasing the GPS sensitivity:

- 6. The short-term part of the spectra of the GPS displacements remains regularly **unexplained**; often explored under the term “**noise**”.
- 7. Estimates applying **simple** time series model.

Precision of velocity is noise-dependent.

Chameleonic noise.
(Santamaría-Gómez and Ray, 2021)



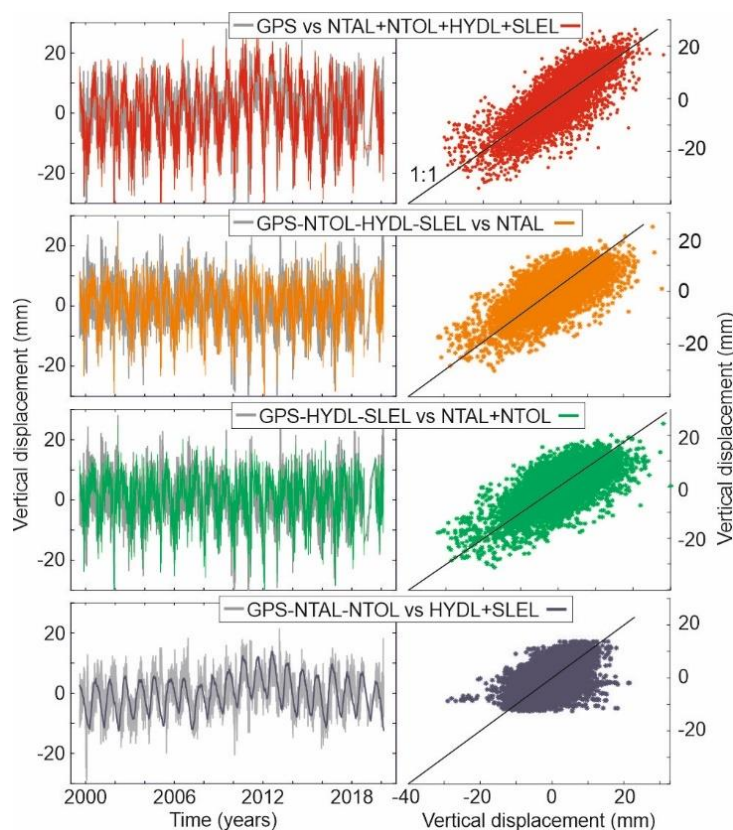
Klos et al. (2018),

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10291-017-0674-x>

Chasing the GPS sensitivity:

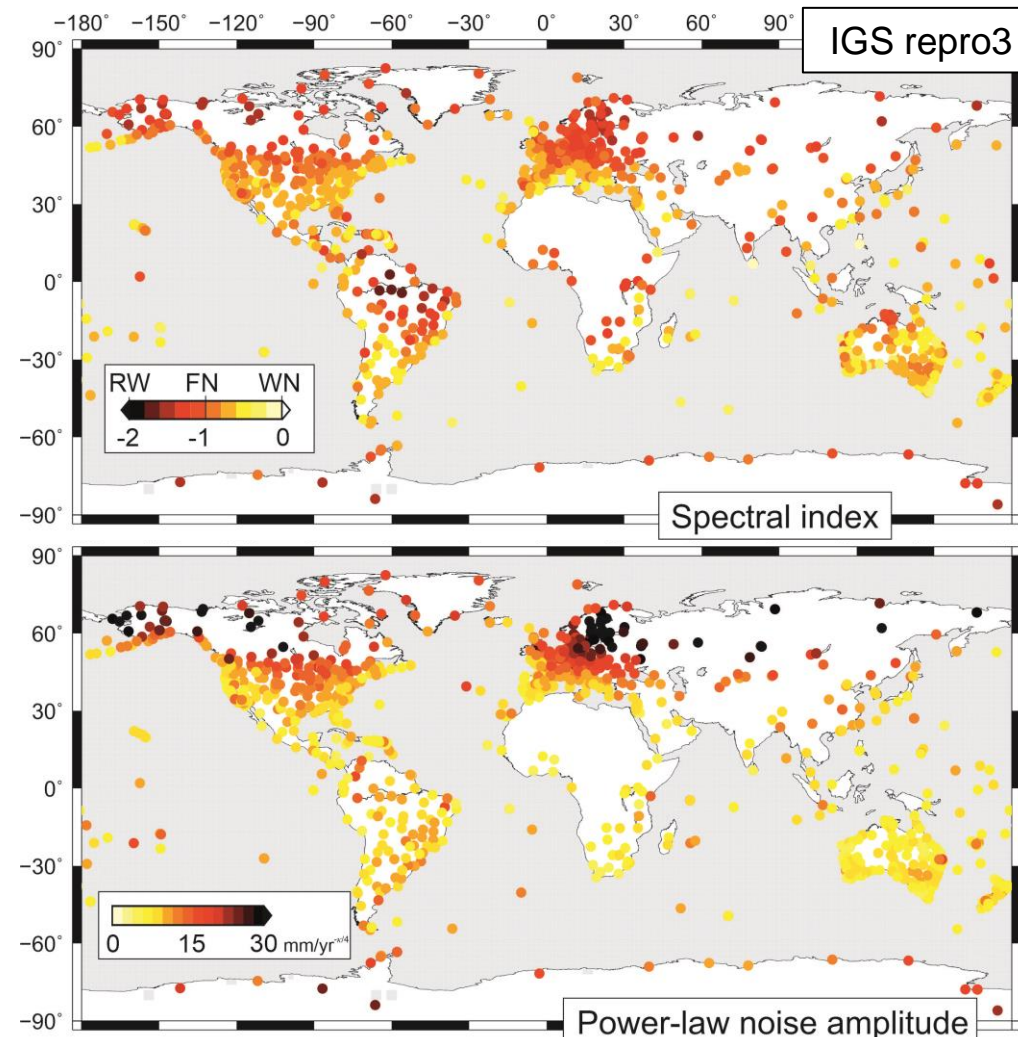
- 6. The short-term part of the spectra of the GPS displacements remains regularly **unexplained**; often explored under the term “**noise**”.
- 7. Estimates applying **simple** time series model.

GPS noise is also environmentally-driven.



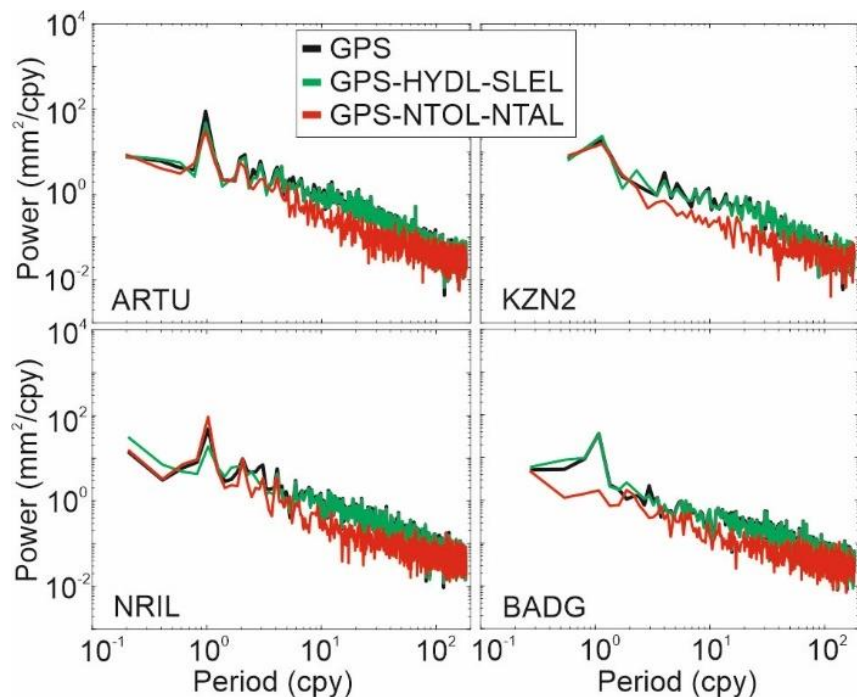
Klos et al. (2021),

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10291-021-01135-w>



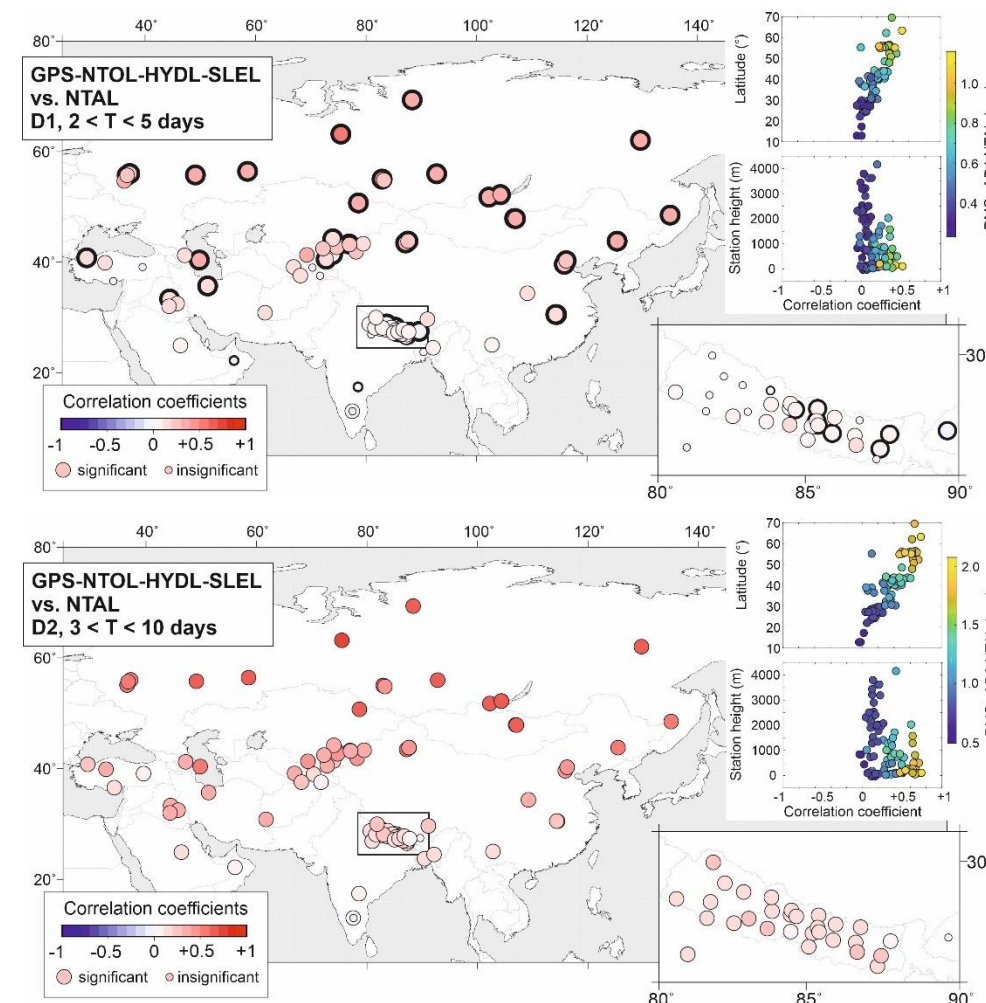
Chasing the GPS sensitivity:

- Atmospheric loading as a main contributor to noise: **high sensitivity** of GPS to short-term atmosphere changes.
- Reducing the impact of atmosphere: **reliability** of GPS velocity.



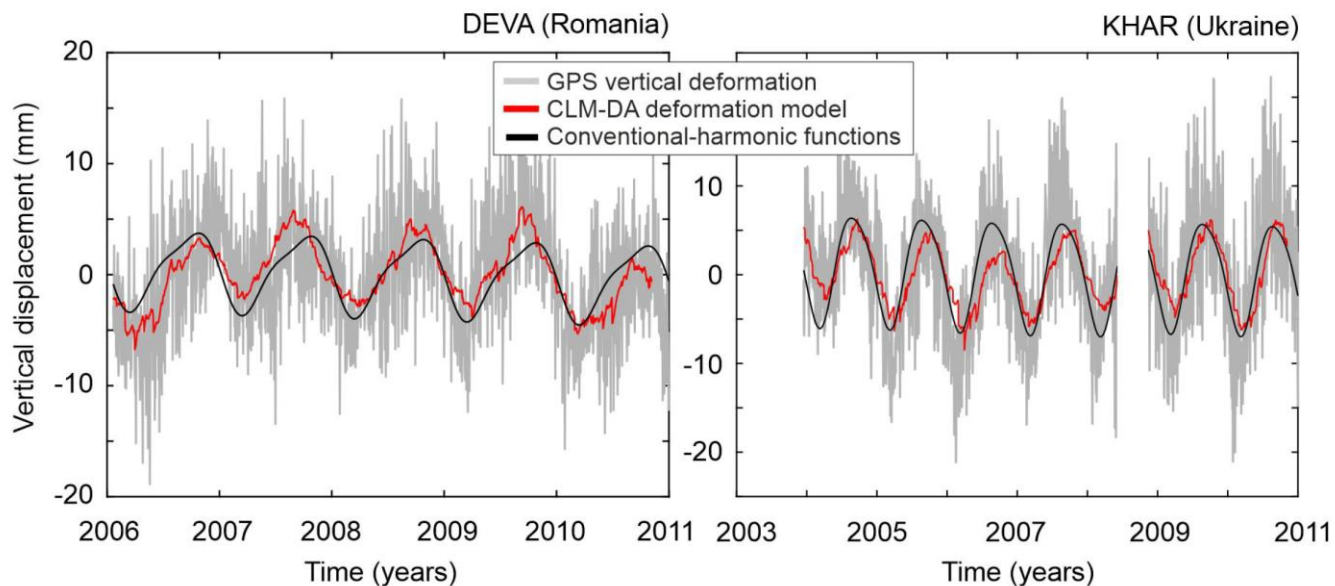
Klos et al. (2021),
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10291-021-01135-w>

Asian stations may serve as a benchmark for atmospheric analyses.



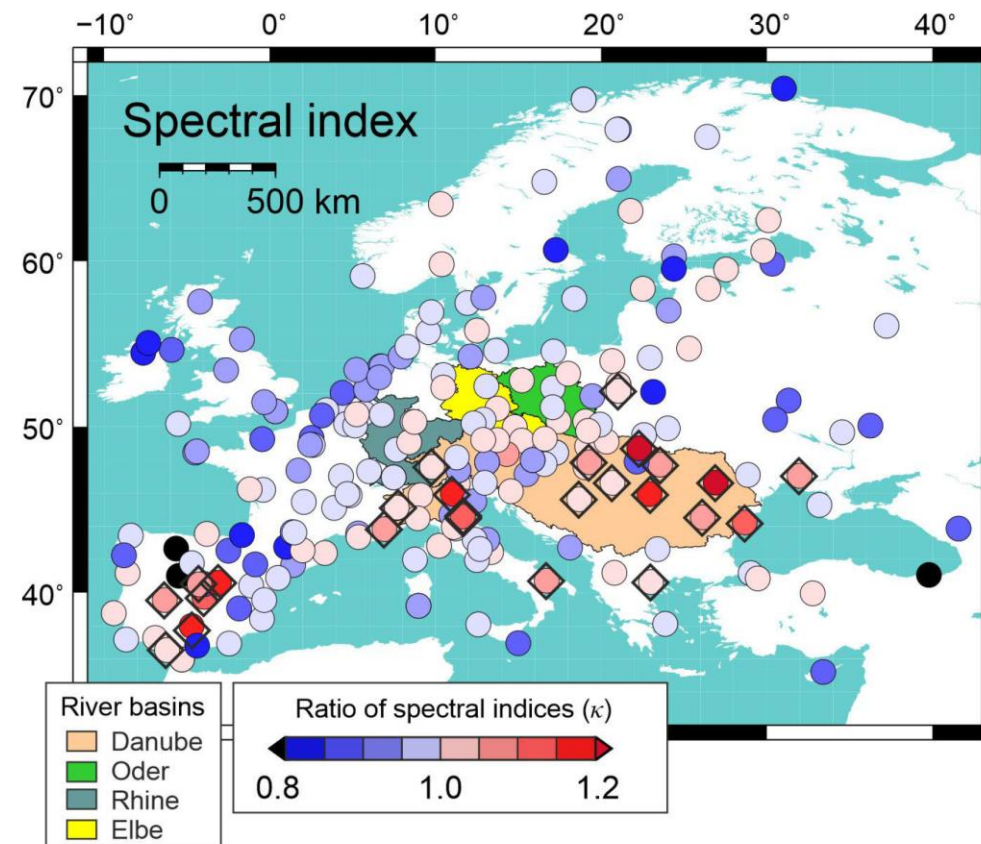
Chasing the GPS sensitivity:

- 10. Impact of hydrosphere?
- 11. Mainly seasonal band, but prominent also in short-terms for some individual stations.
- 12. Reducing the impact of hydrosphere: **reliability** of GPS velocity.



European GPS benchmark for hydrospheric analyses.

*Klos et al. (2021),
<https://doi.org/10.1109/LGRS.2020.2983045>*



Conclusions:

1. **GPS sensitivity** needs to be examined in various time resolutions.
2. Recognition of **entire spectra** of GPS displacements.
3. Contributors to both long-term and short-term bands.
4. Many other contributors to GPS displacements: systematic errors: common mode error, draconitic frequencies; local effects: real (monumentation, anthropogenic impact) or artificial (multipath).
5. **Benchmarks** of GPS stations are recommended to properly indicate contribution of individual effects.

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**