From indicators to impacts: early findings from the DrIVER project

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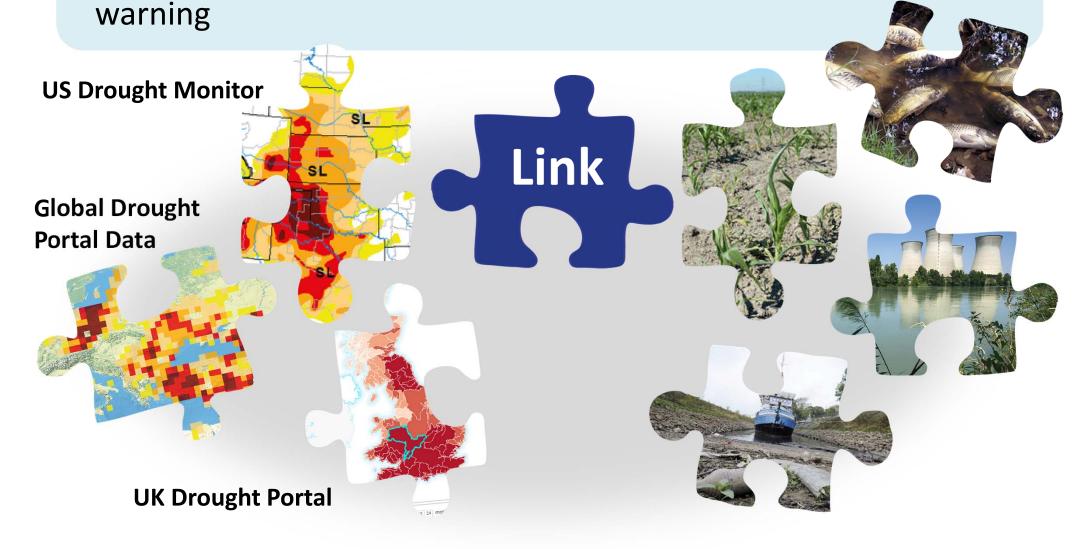




Drought Impacts and **V**ulnerability thresholds in monitoring and **E**arly warning **R**esearch



Need for ground truthing drought indicators with impact data to identify meaningful indicators for monitoring and early





Questions we aim to answer



- Which drought indicators best represent occurrence of drought impacts on
 - ✓ water supply
 - √ agriculture
 - ✓ ecosystems
 - ✓ other sectors and/or systems...
- What are critical indicator thresholds for drought impacts to occur?





Retrieving information on drought impacts



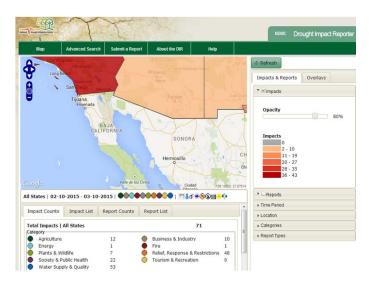
Information on drought impacts is sparse and fragmented



Textual evidence of drought impacts

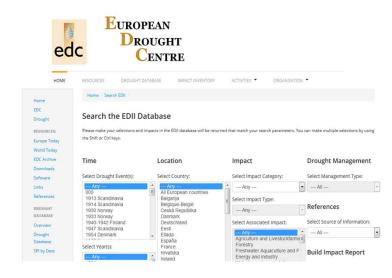
US Drought Impact Reporter (DIR)

http://droughtreporter.unl.edu/



European Drought Impact report Inventory (EDII)

http://www.geo.uio.no/edc/droughtdb/





European Drought Impact report Inventory



Impact information from the European Drought Impact report Inventory (EDII)



Report source Location Timing Impacts Archive



Impact categories

Recreation and tourism

Conflicts

Human health and public safety

Energy and industry

Waterborne transportation

Public water supply

Water quality

Freshwater ecosystems

Air quality

Forestry

Wildfires

Agriculture and livestockfarming



ID		Locatio	n					
		Country		NUTS 1		NUTS 2		
bf_1		Switzerland		Switzerland		Espace Mittellan		
ik_	1	1 Switzerland		Switzerland Nord		Nordwes		
	NUTS 3			Location				
bf_	Bern			nuclear power plant Mühleberg in Mühleberg				
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www.geo.uio.no/edc/droughtdb



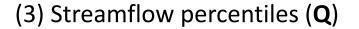
Indicator-impact-linkage: correlation analysis

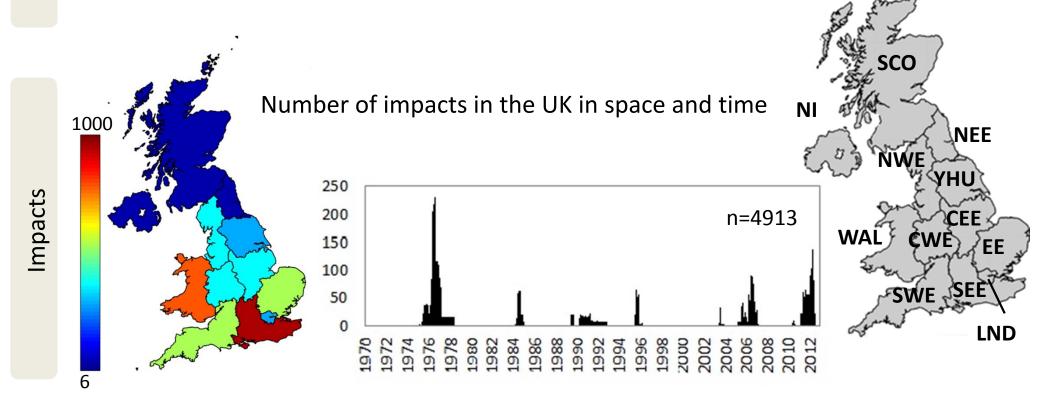


Correlation between monthly timeseries of mean indicator values and number of impact occurrences per major socio-economic region (1970-2012)

Indicators

- (1) Standardized Precipitation Index of different timescales (SPI-n)
- (2) Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index of different timescales (SPEI-n)

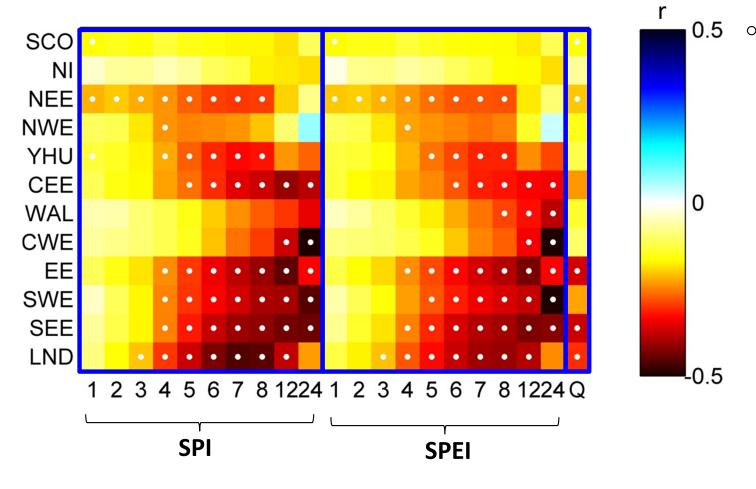






Correlation analysis: UK





Long SPI and SPEI timescales are best explanatory variables in the southern regions, while in the central/northern regions intermediate SPI and SPEI timescales show highest correlation



Significant correlation

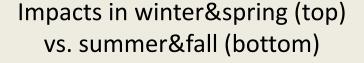
(p<0.05)

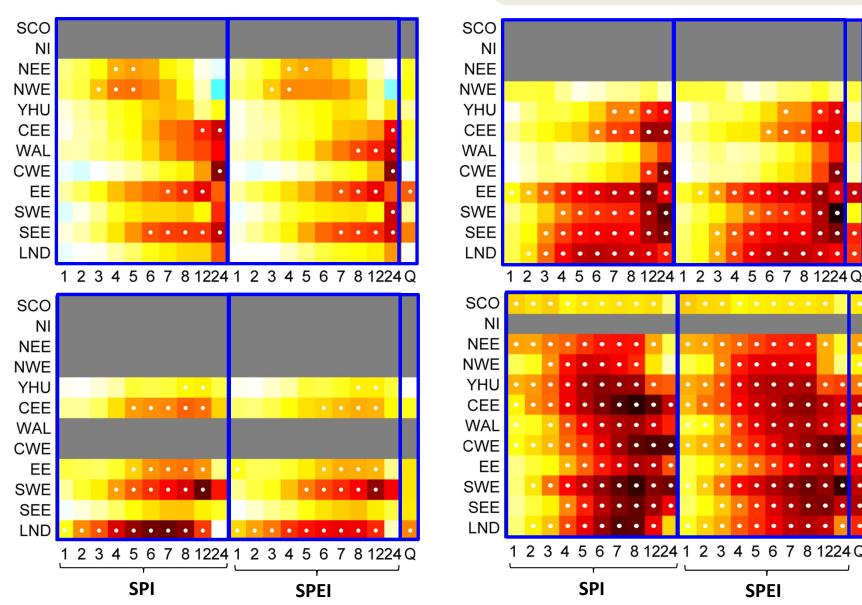


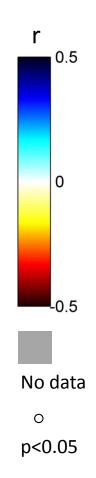
Correlation analysis: UK



Impacts on water supply (top) vs. water quality (bottom)



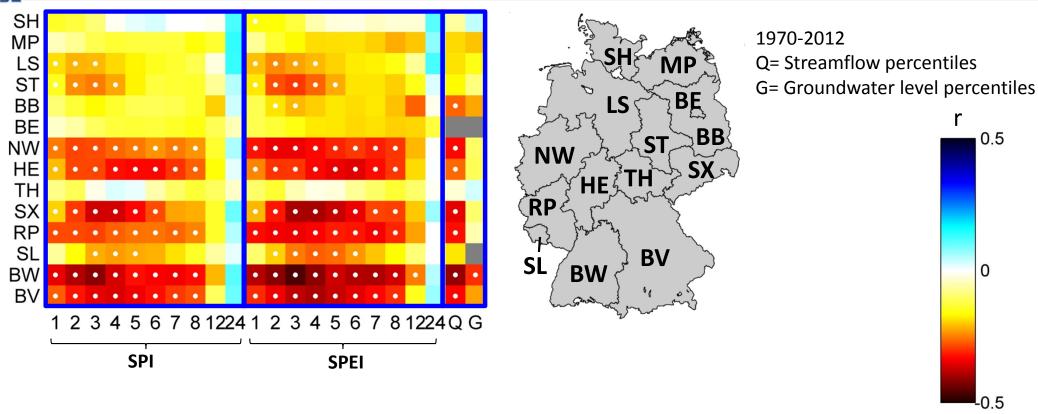




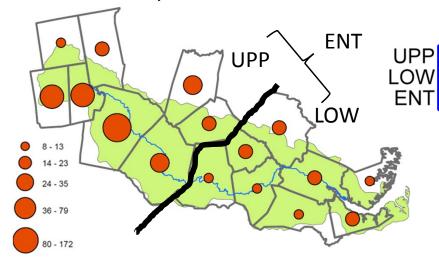
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Correlation analysis: Germany and a US basin

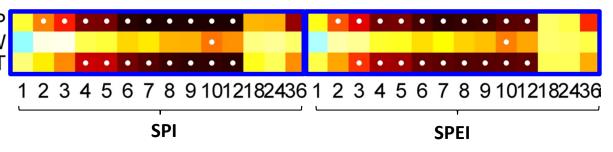








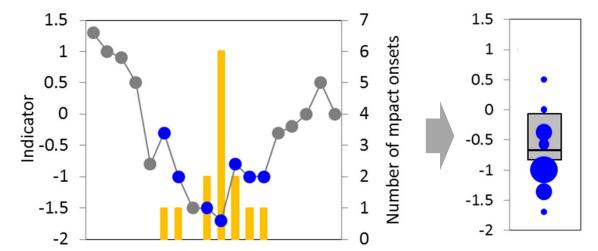
Neuse basin in North Carolina (USA)





Indicator-impact-linkage: thresholds (UK)



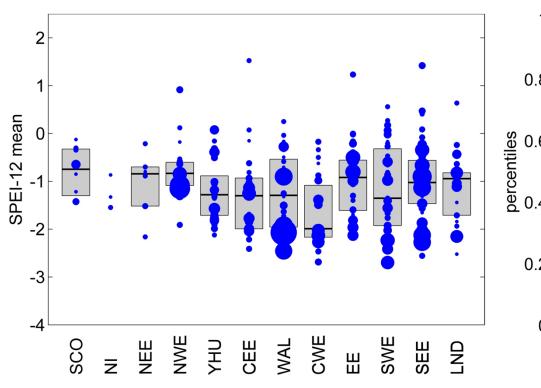


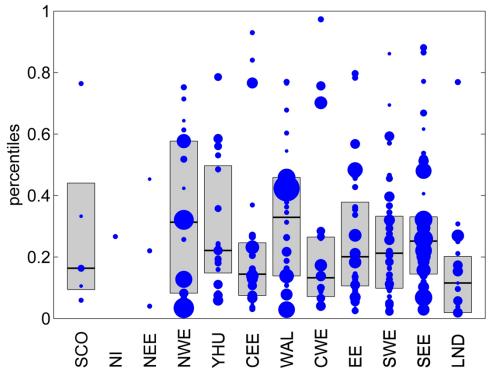
Impact onset

Extraction of indicator values associated with impact onset \rightarrow "threshold"

Bottom left: SPEI-12

Bottom right: Streamflow percentiles







Conclusion and outlook



- Linking text-based impact data with drought indicators shows strong potential for ground truthing drought indicators
- Different regions and sectors/drought affected systems show different "best" indicators and thresholds
- Need for further developing drought impact inventories and exploiting other sources of impact information

Pictures from:
www.bbc.com
www.bbc.com
www.dailymail.co.uk
www.theguardian.com





