

Incidence des incertitudes de mesure sur l'exploitation scientifique



Eric Goberville
Peggy Rimmelin-Maury
Guillaume Charria

Dans les études scientifiques ...

Fréquemment considéré ...

résolution des appareils

=

précision des mesures (1 ou 2 écarts-type considérés comme incertitude minimale)

... Incertitude aléatoire donc le grand nombre de mesures permet de réduire l'incertitude ...

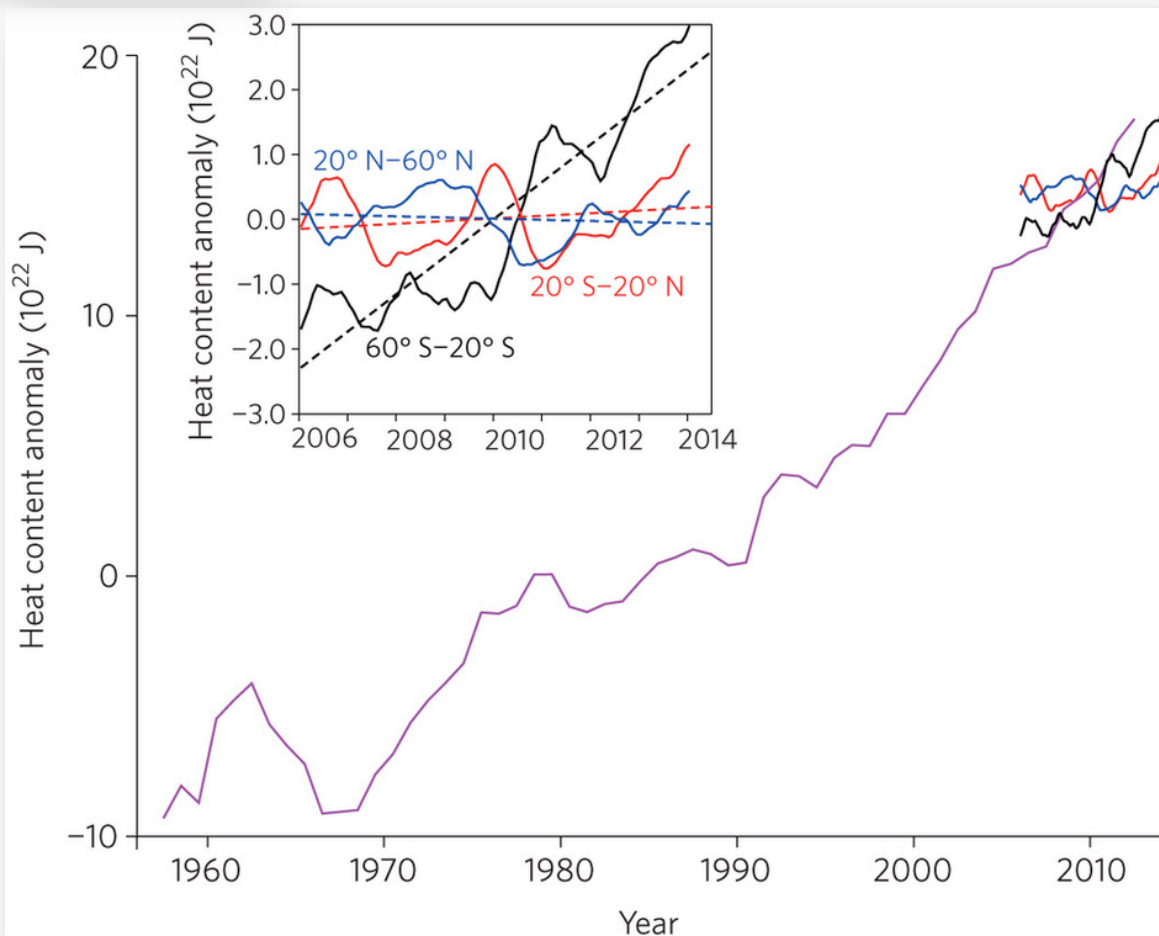
... d'où une incertitude de la mesure (métrologie) non considérée



for example,

Fifteen years of ocean observations with the global Argo array

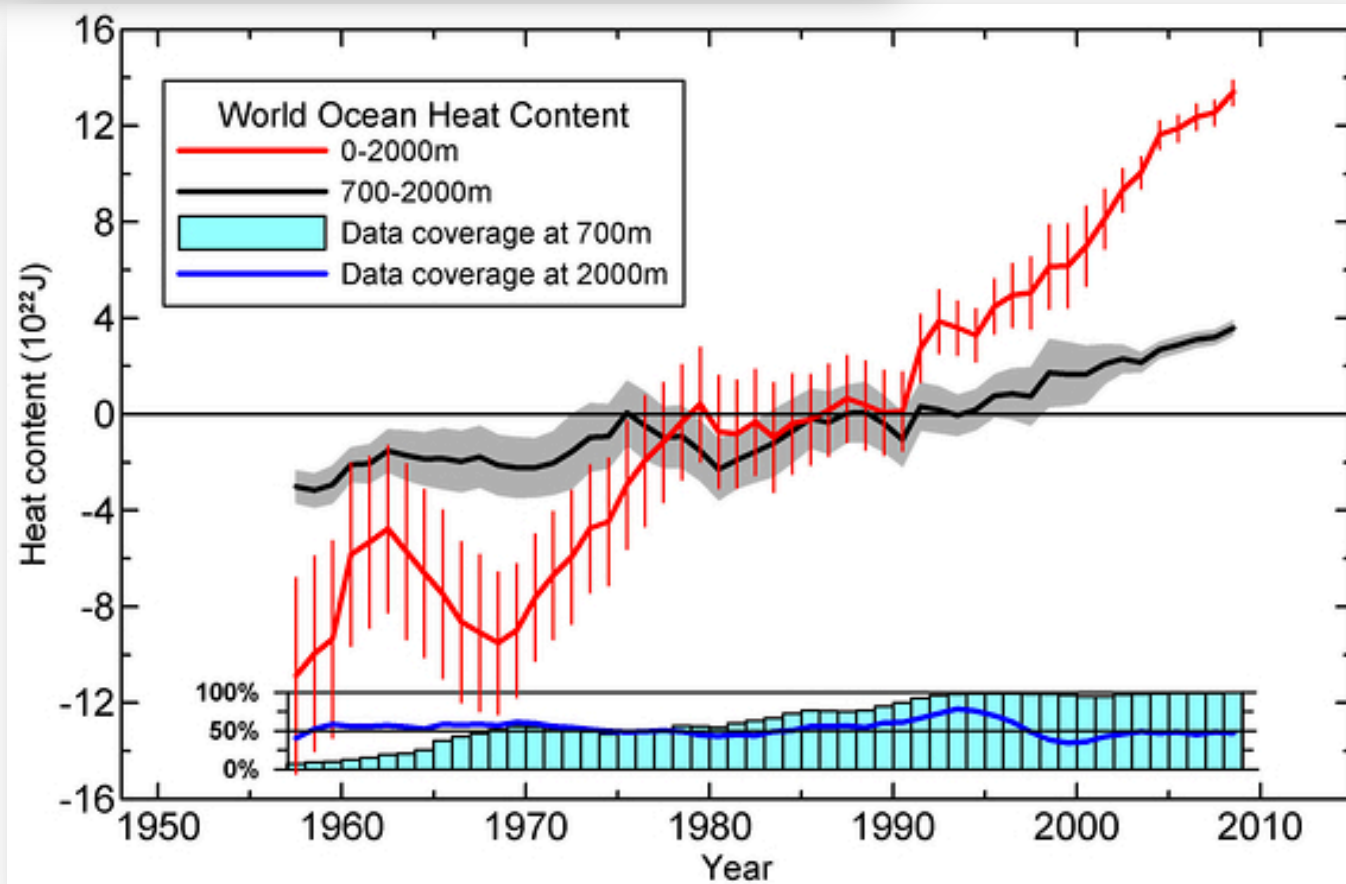
Stephen C. Riser¹, Howard J. Freeland^{2*}, Dean Roemmich³, Susan Wijffels⁴, Ariel Troisi⁵, Mathieu Belbéoch⁶, Denis Gilbert⁷, Jianping Xu⁸, Sylvie Pouliquen⁹, Ann Thresher⁴, Pierre-Yves Le Traon¹⁰, Guillaume Maze⁹, Birgit Klein¹¹, M. Ravichandran¹², Fiona Grant¹³, Pierre-Marie Poulain¹⁴, Toshio Suga¹⁵, Byunghwan Lim¹⁶, Andreas Sterl¹⁷, Philip Sutton¹⁸, Kjell-Arne Mork¹⁹, Pedro Joaquín Vélez-Belchí²⁰, Isabelle Ansorge²¹, Brian King²², Jon Turton²³, Molly Baringer²⁴ and Steven R. Jayne²⁵



“ The original Argo target called for temperature and salinity accuracies of 0.005 °C and 0.01 salinity units, with a pressure accuracy of 2.5 dbars (equivalent to a depth error of about 2.5 m). Experience has shown that about 80% of the raw profile data transmitted from the floats meet these standards, with little or no correction required. “

World ocean heat content and thermosteric sea level change (0–2000 m), 1955–2010

S. Levitus,¹ J. I. Antonov,² T. P. Boyer,¹ O. K. Baranova,¹ H. E. Garcia,¹ R. A. Locarnini,¹
A. V. Mishonov,¹ J. R. Reagan,¹ D. Seidov,¹ E. S. Yarosh,¹ and M. M. Zweng¹



Erreurs issues d'une simple analyse objective,
pas d'erreur instrumentale prise en compte

Dans les études scientifiques ...

Fréquemment considéré ...

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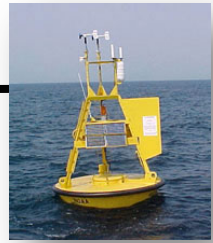


Qu'en est-il des incertitudes systématiques (biais) de chaque dispositif ?



A journey through time ...

1 σ instrumental resolution: a journey through time



18th Century Min-Max:
 $\pm 0.25^{\circ}\text{C}$

19th Century Land & SST:
 $\pm 0.25^{\circ}\text{C}$

20th Century (Early-Mid)
Land and SST LiG thermometers
Smallest division: 1°C
Resolution limit: **$\pm 0.25^{\circ}\text{C}$**



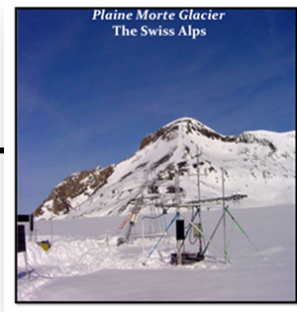
20th Century (Mid-Late)
Land and SST LiG thermometers
Smallest division: 0.5°C
Resolution limit: **$\pm 0.125^{\circ}\text{C}$**

20th Century (Late)
MMTS PRT: **$\pm 0.1^{\circ}\text{C}$**
Buoy Thermister: **$\pm 0.002^{\circ}\text{C}$**

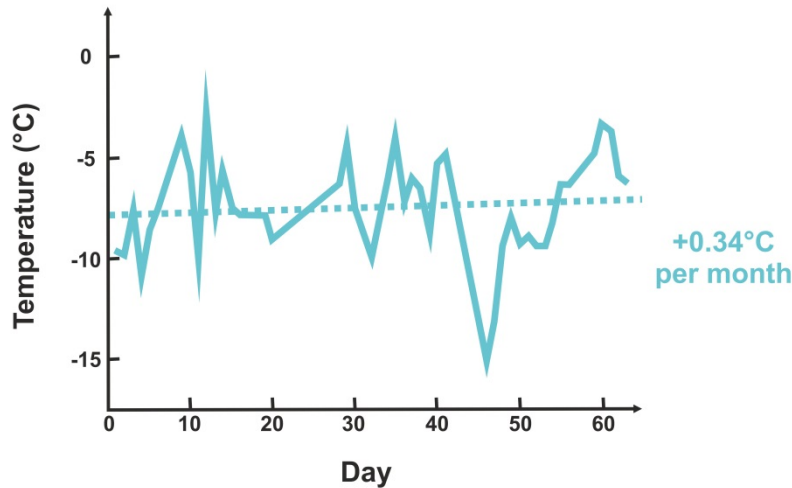


Entire 20th Century
Ship Engine Intake Thermometers
Smallest division: 1°C
Resolution limit: **$\pm 0.25^{\circ}\text{C}$**

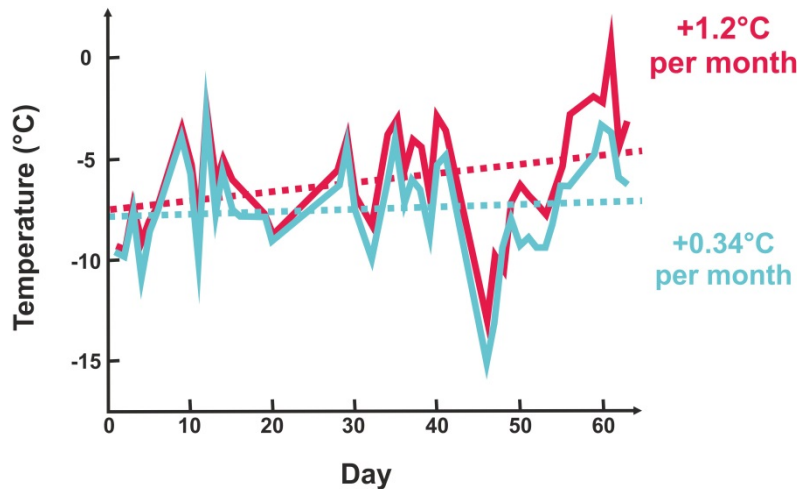
Instrumental error in land surface temperature measurements in the Alpine Plaine Morte Glacier (Switzerland)



Sonic anemometer



RM Young PRT probe



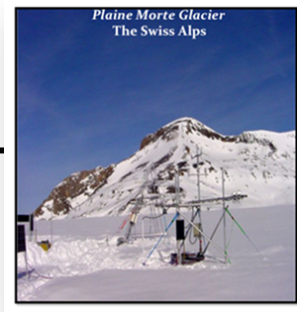
Same environmental conditions but

(1) warmer winter air temperatures

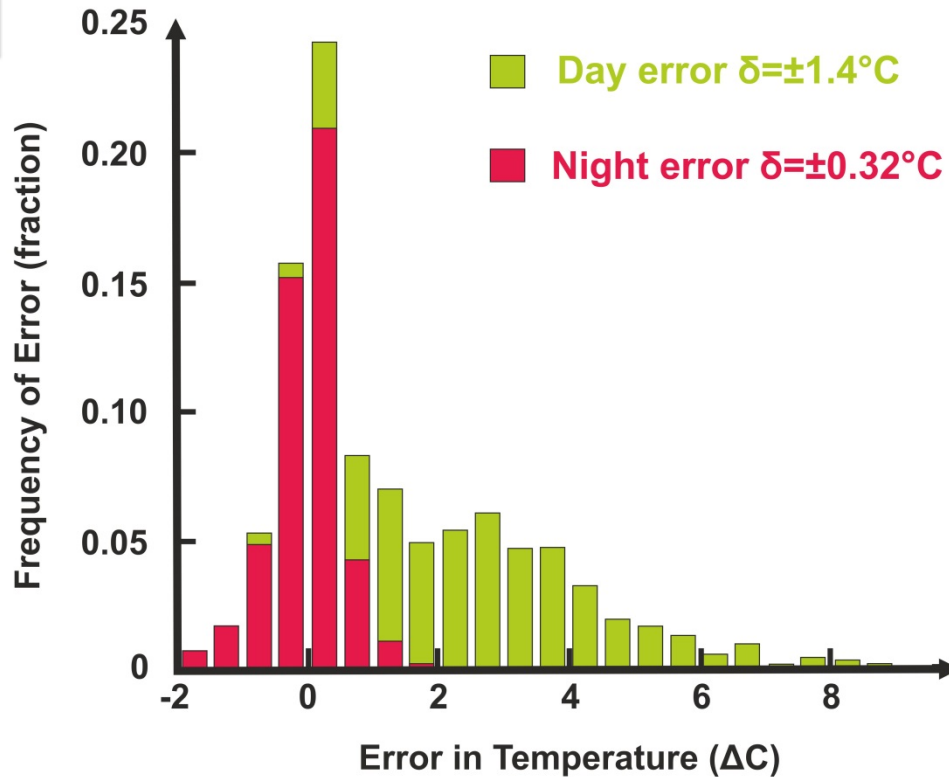
(2) trend is more than 3 times greater

=> spurious warming trend into a global temperature average

Instrumental error in land surface temperature measurements in the Alpine Plaine Morte Glacier (Switzerland)



Sonic anemometer

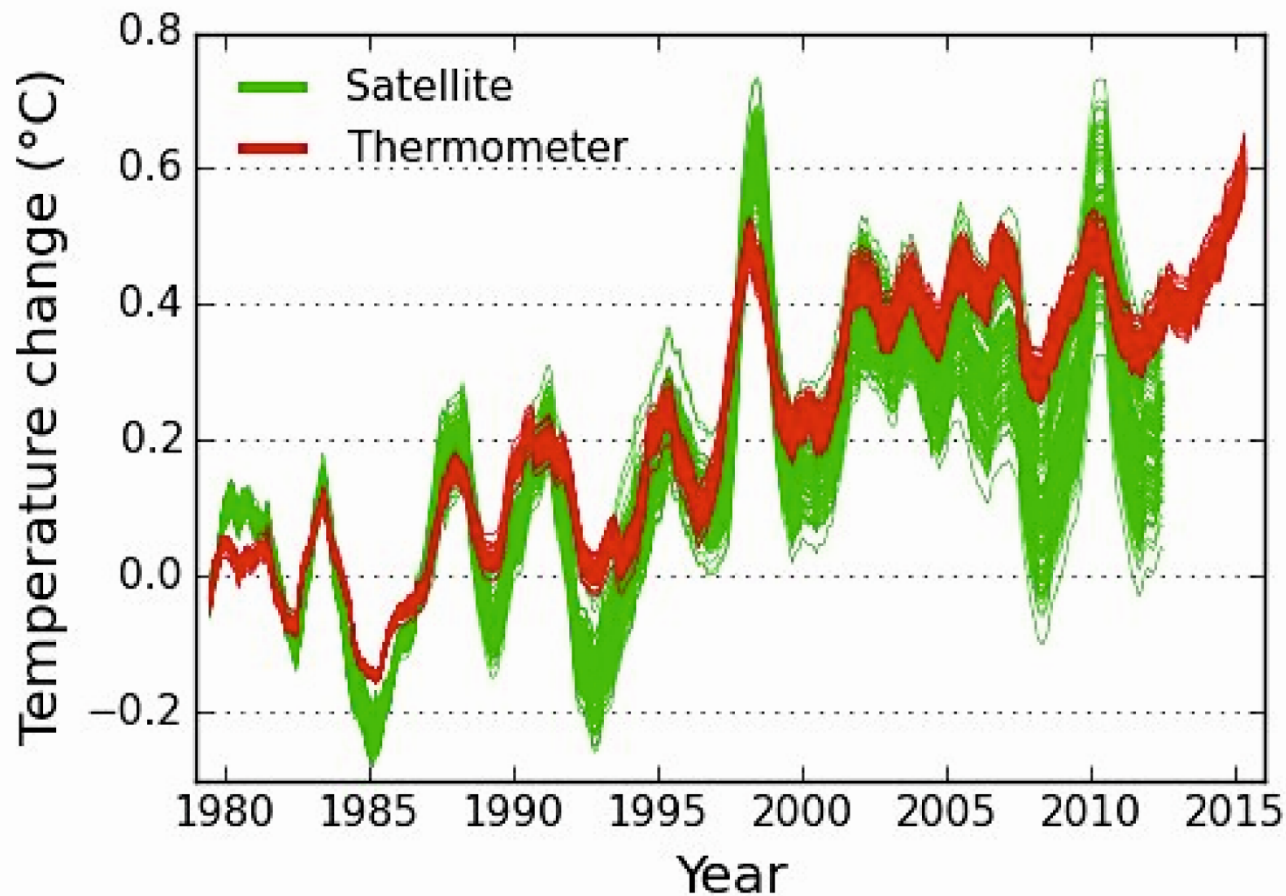


Uncertainty is neither randomly distributed nor constant



Cannot be removed by averaging individual measurements or by taking anomalies

Satellite data vs surface temperature data

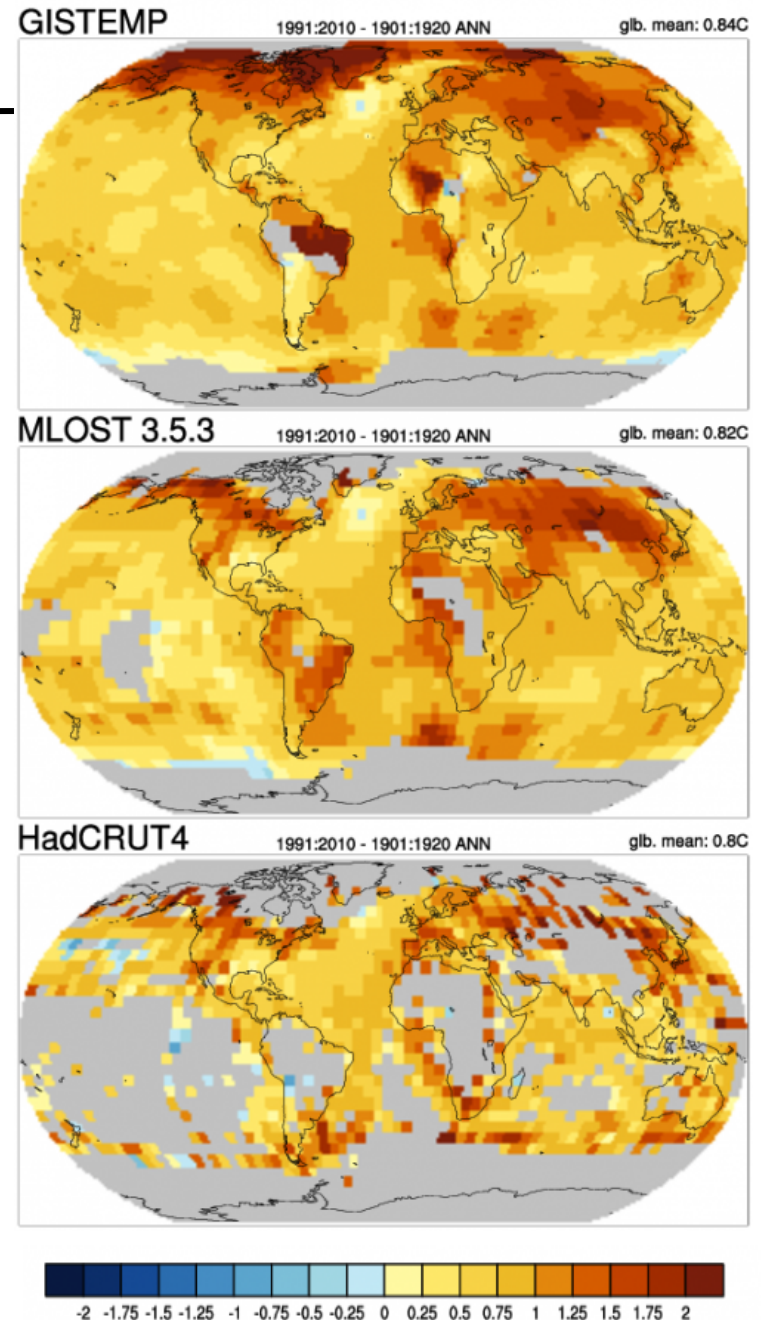


=> The known uncertainties in the satellite trend are five times the uncertainties in the thermometer record trend

Different Global Temperature Data Sets

Global surface temperature data sets, which combine **historical observations from different sources**, are an essential for monitoring and understanding climate variability and climate change

Their construction is challenging, however due to **difficulties in obtaining data, documenting and accounting for changes in instrumentation and observing practices**



Processing raw data to “build” Global Temperature Data Sets

Improvements to NOAA’s Historical Merged Land–Ocean Surface Temperature Analysis (1880–2006)

THOMAS M. SMITH

NOAA/NESDIS/STAR/SCSD, and CICS/ESSIC, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland

RICHARD W. REYNOLDS, THOMAS C. PETERSON, AND JAY LAWRIMORE

NOAA/National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, North Carolina

Extended Reconstructed Sea Surface Temperature Version 4 (ERSST.v4). Part I: Upgrades and Intercomparisons

BOYIN HUANG,* VIVA F. BANZON,* ERIC FREEMAN,[†] JAY LAWRIMORE,* WEI LIU,[‡] THOMAS C. PETERSON,*
THOMAS M. SMITH,[§] PETER W. THORNE,[¶] SCOTT D. WOODRUFF,** AND HUAI-MIN ZHANG*

* National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, North Carolina

[†] National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, North Carolina, and STG, Inc., Reston, Virginia

[‡] National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, and Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites, Raleigh, North Carolina

[§] NOAA/STAR/SCSB, and CICS/ESSIC, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland

[¶] Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center, Bergen, Norway

** National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, North Carolina, and Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, Boulder, Colorado

Quantifying uncertainties in global and regional temperature change using an ensemble of observational estimates: The HadCRUT4 data set

Colin P. Morice,¹ John J. Kennedy,¹ Nick A. Rayner,¹ and Phil D. Jones^{2,3}

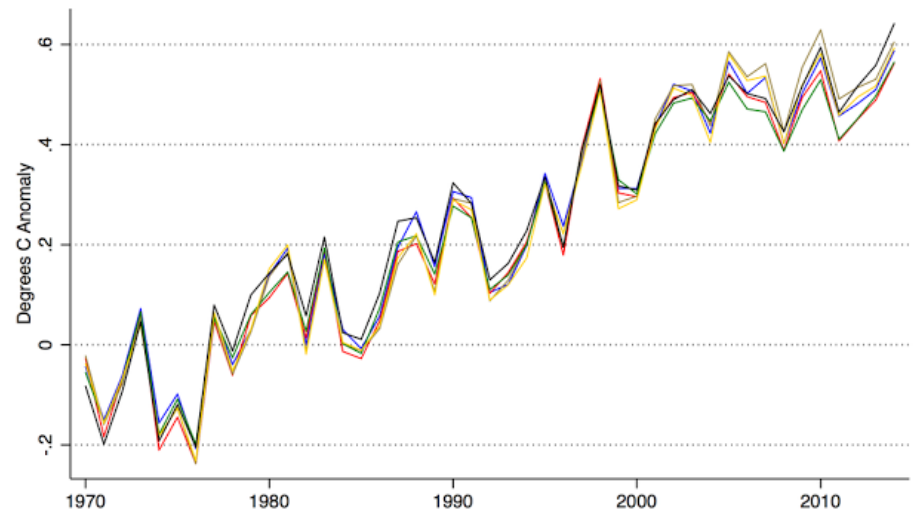
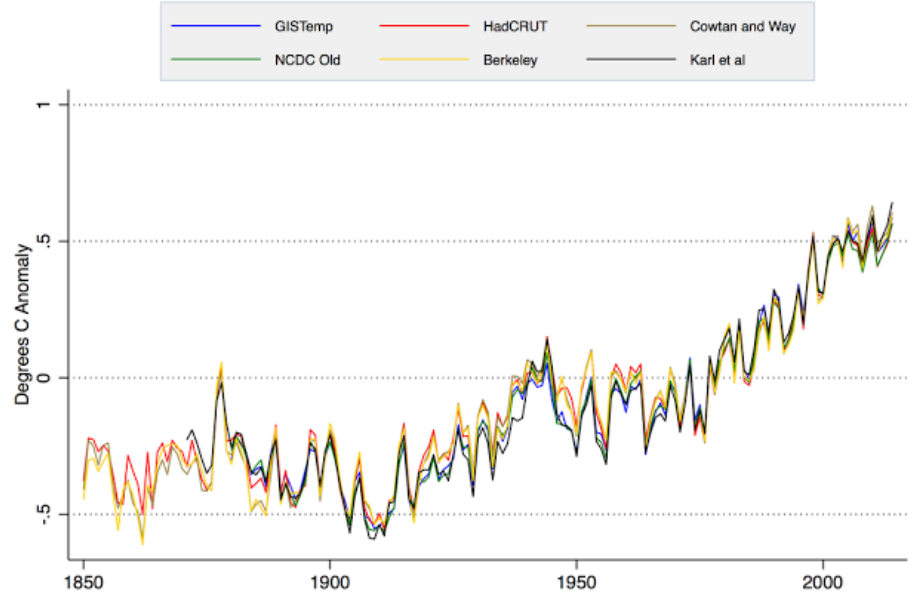


NASA, NOAA, Met Office, Japan Meteorological Agency... process the same raw data with different methodology

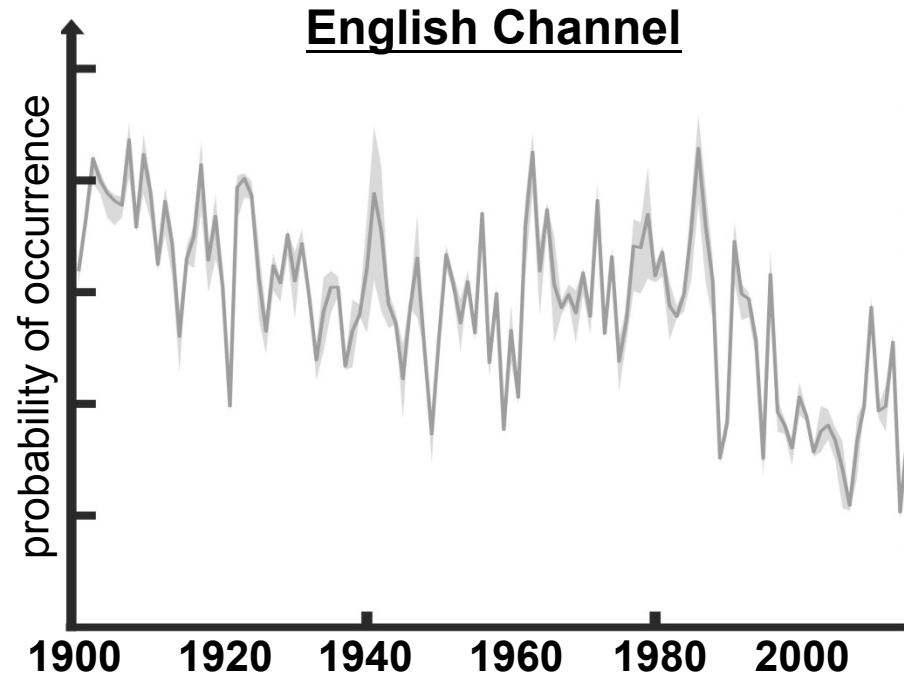
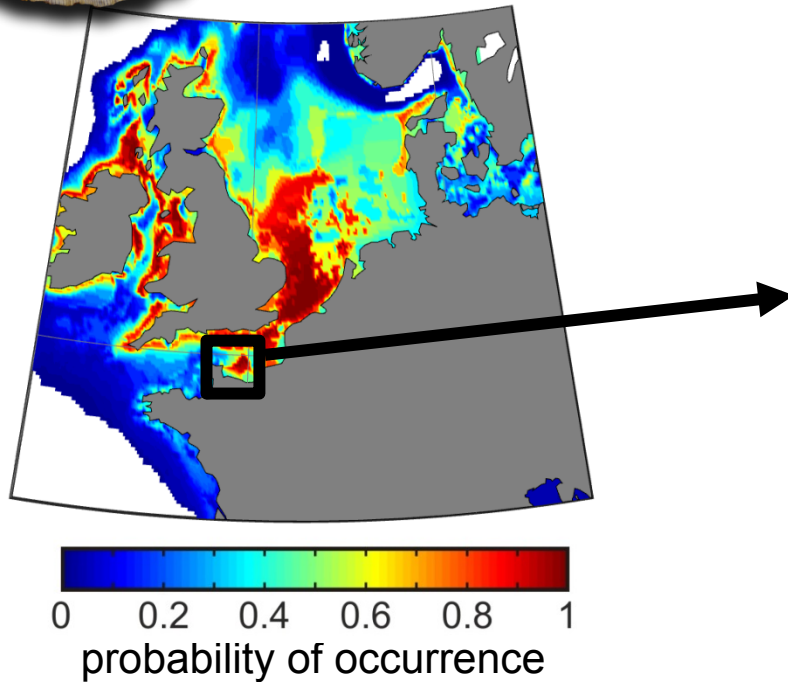
but

Consistent temperature estimates

Global Average Temperature by Year



Influence of these different datasets on ecological niche modeling ex: the great scallop



**=> Main patterns of historical changes in the occurrence of species
are equivalent among the different global temperature datasets
(NOAA, ICOADS, Cobe)**

Time series, trend and noise: a case study

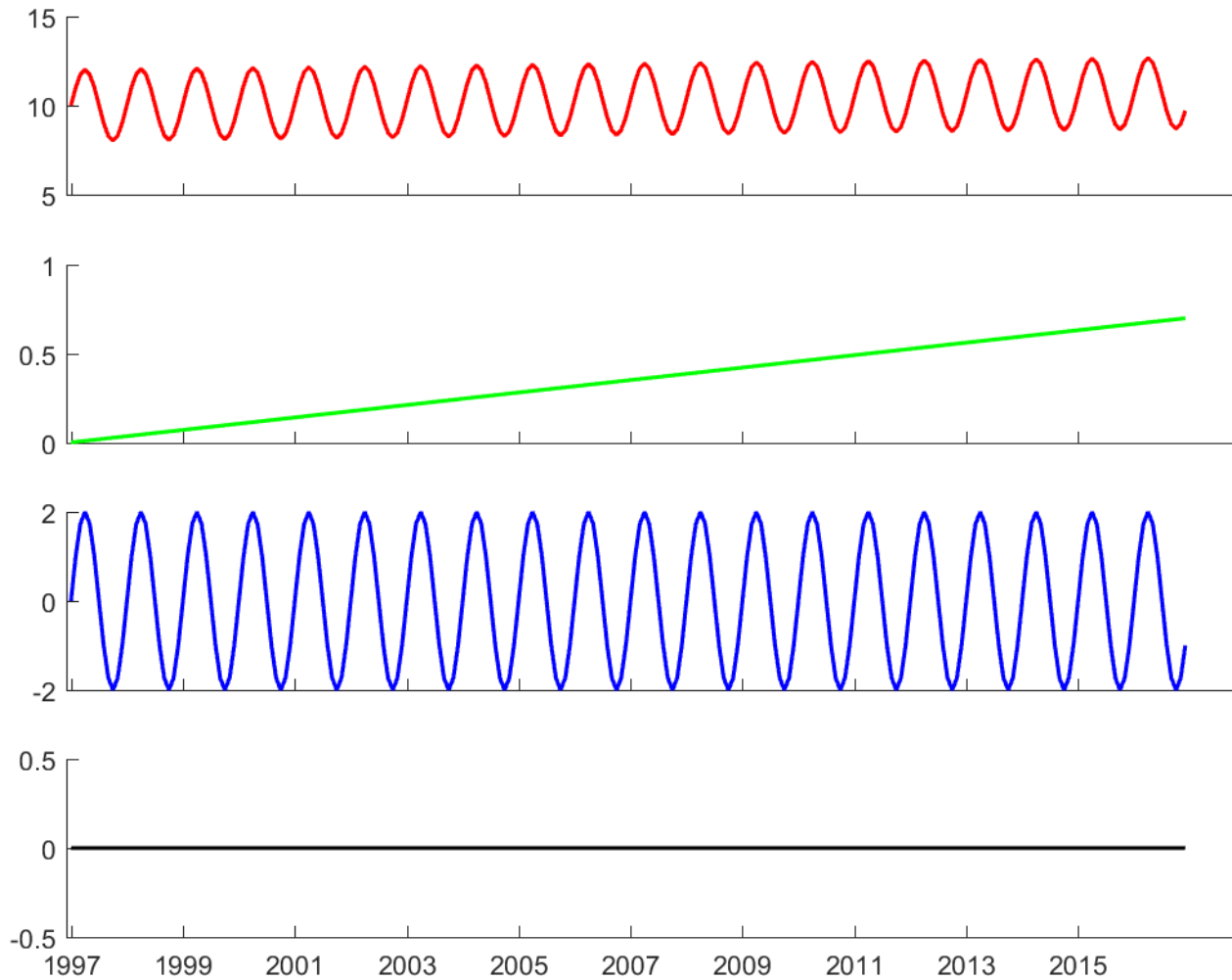
A simple case study of a theoretical time series using classical seasonal decomposition approaches (e.g. decompose package with R)

- (1) without uncertainty (no error measurement, no stochasticity)
- (2) with error measurement (no stochasticity)
- (3) with both error measurement and stochasticity



Consequences on trend estimation?

A simple case study: Additive model $x_t = \text{Trend} + \text{Seasonal} + \text{Random}$



**My time series:
temperature**

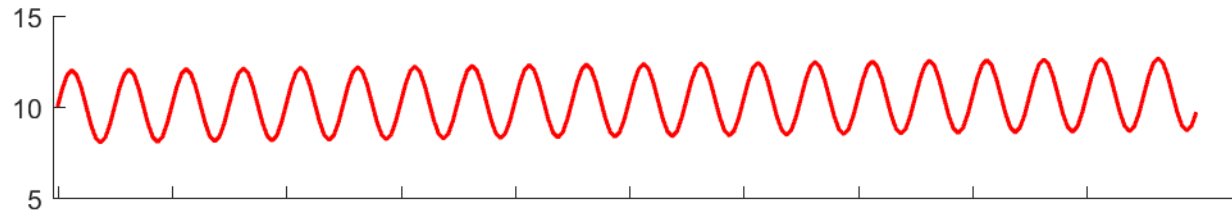
**Trend =
+0.700°C over the period**

Seasonal component

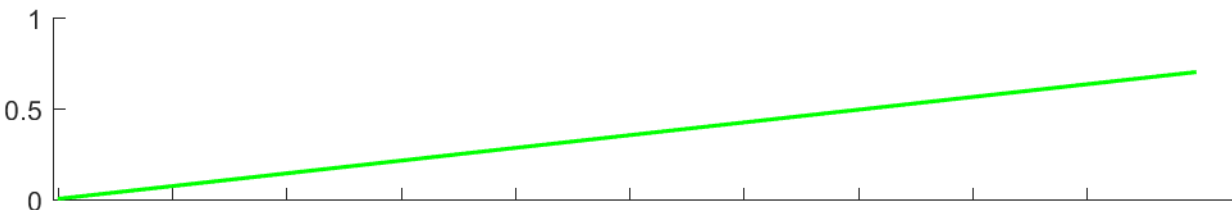
Noise
no error measurement
no stochasticity

A simple case study: I add error measurement: $\pm 0.0025^{\circ}\text{C}$

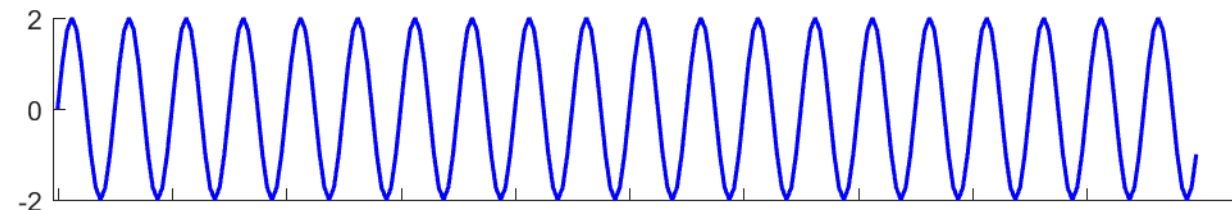
Expectation: trend = $+0.700^{\circ}\text{C}$



**+ error measure
= 0.0025°C**

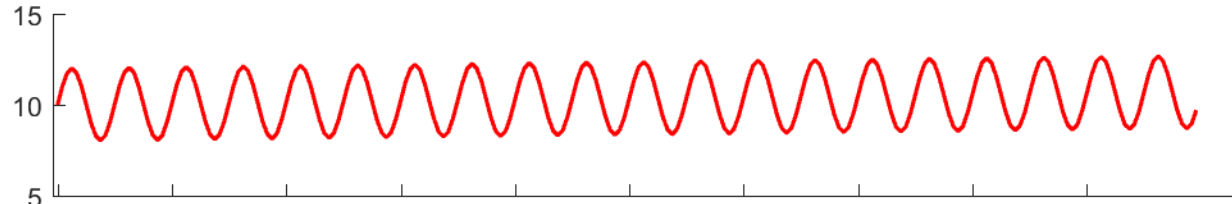


**Trend =
 $+0.700^{\circ}\text{C}$ over the period**

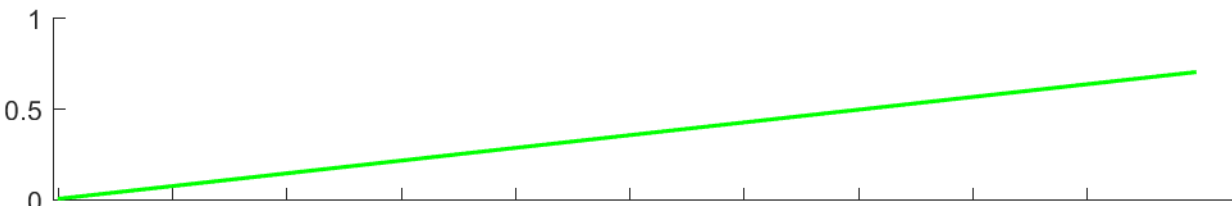


A simple case study: I add error measurement: $\pm 0.01^\circ\text{C}$

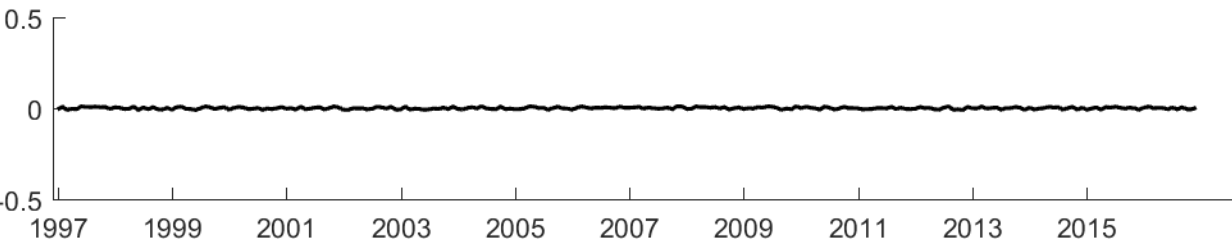
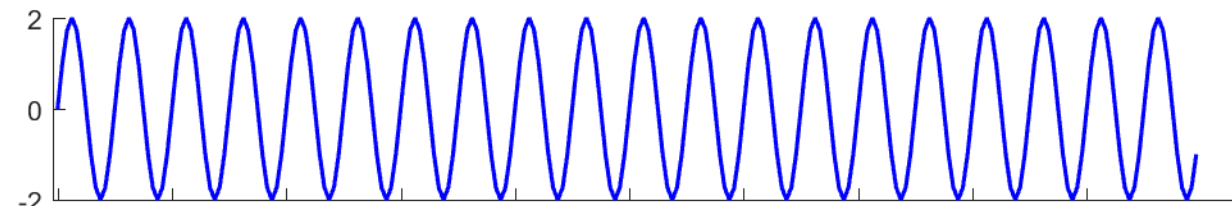
Expectation: trend = $+0.700^\circ\text{C}$



**+ error measure
= 0.01°C**

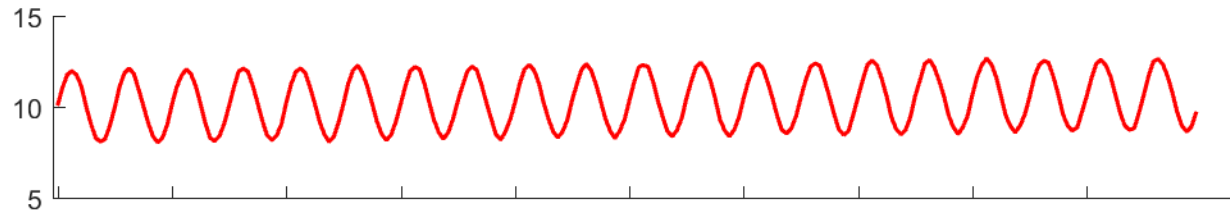


**Trend =
 $+0.705^\circ\text{C}$ over the period**

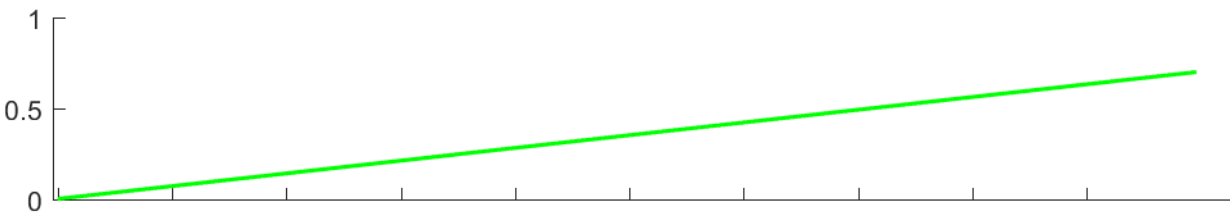


A simple case study: I add error measurement: $\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$

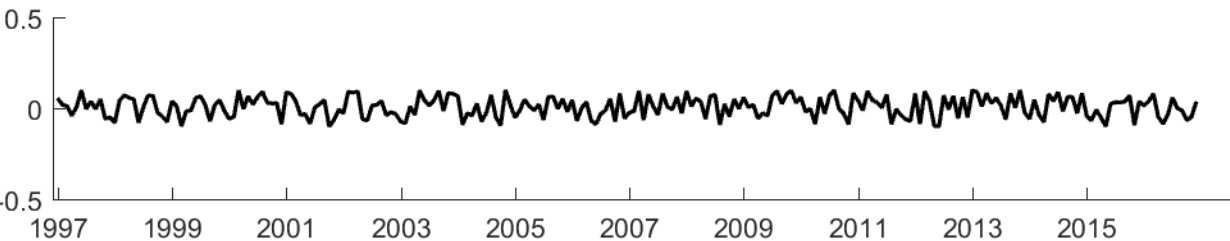
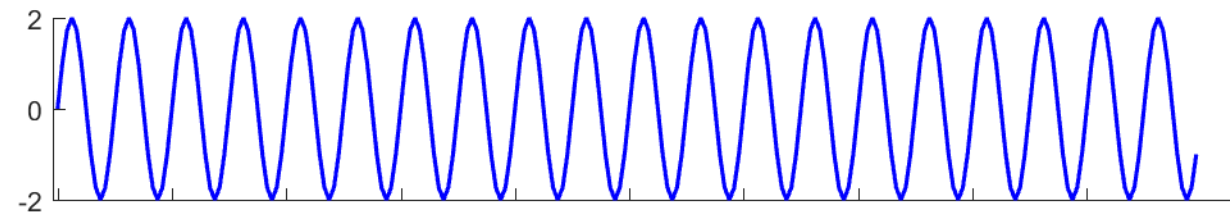
Expectation: trend = $+0.700^\circ\text{C}$



**+ error measure
= 0.1°C**

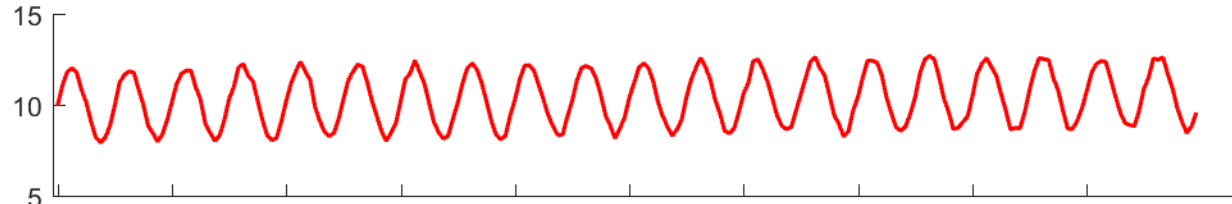


**Trend =
 $+0.696^\circ\text{C}$ over the period**

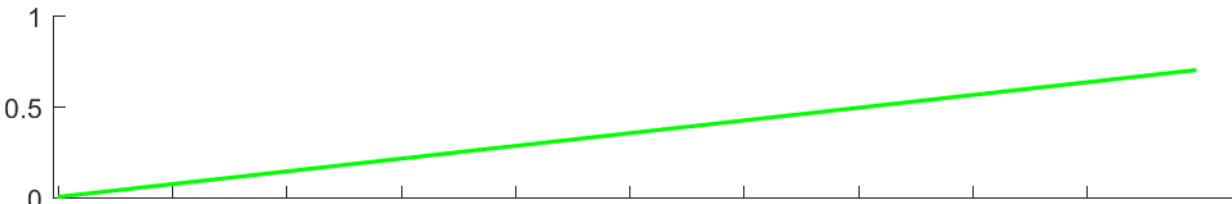


A simple case study: I add error measurement: $\pm 0.25^\circ\text{C}$

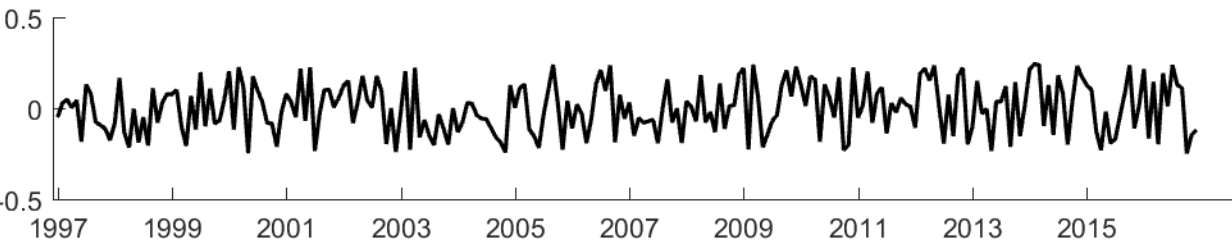
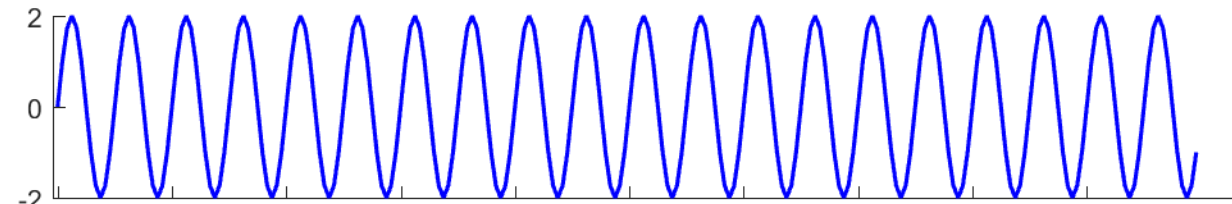
Expectation: trend = $+0.700^\circ\text{C}$



**+ error measure
= 0.25°C**

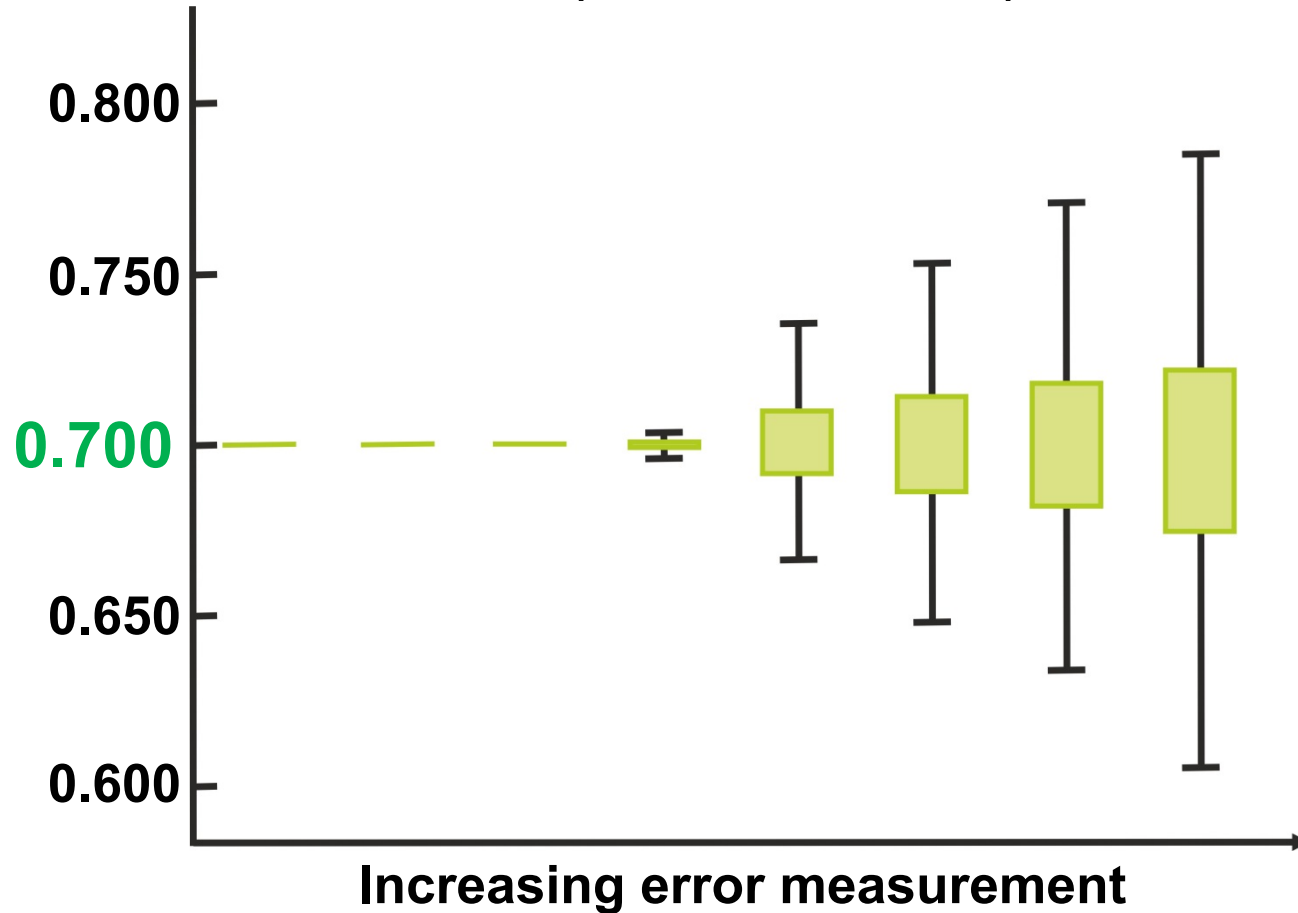


**Trend =
 $+0.763^\circ\text{C}$ over the period**



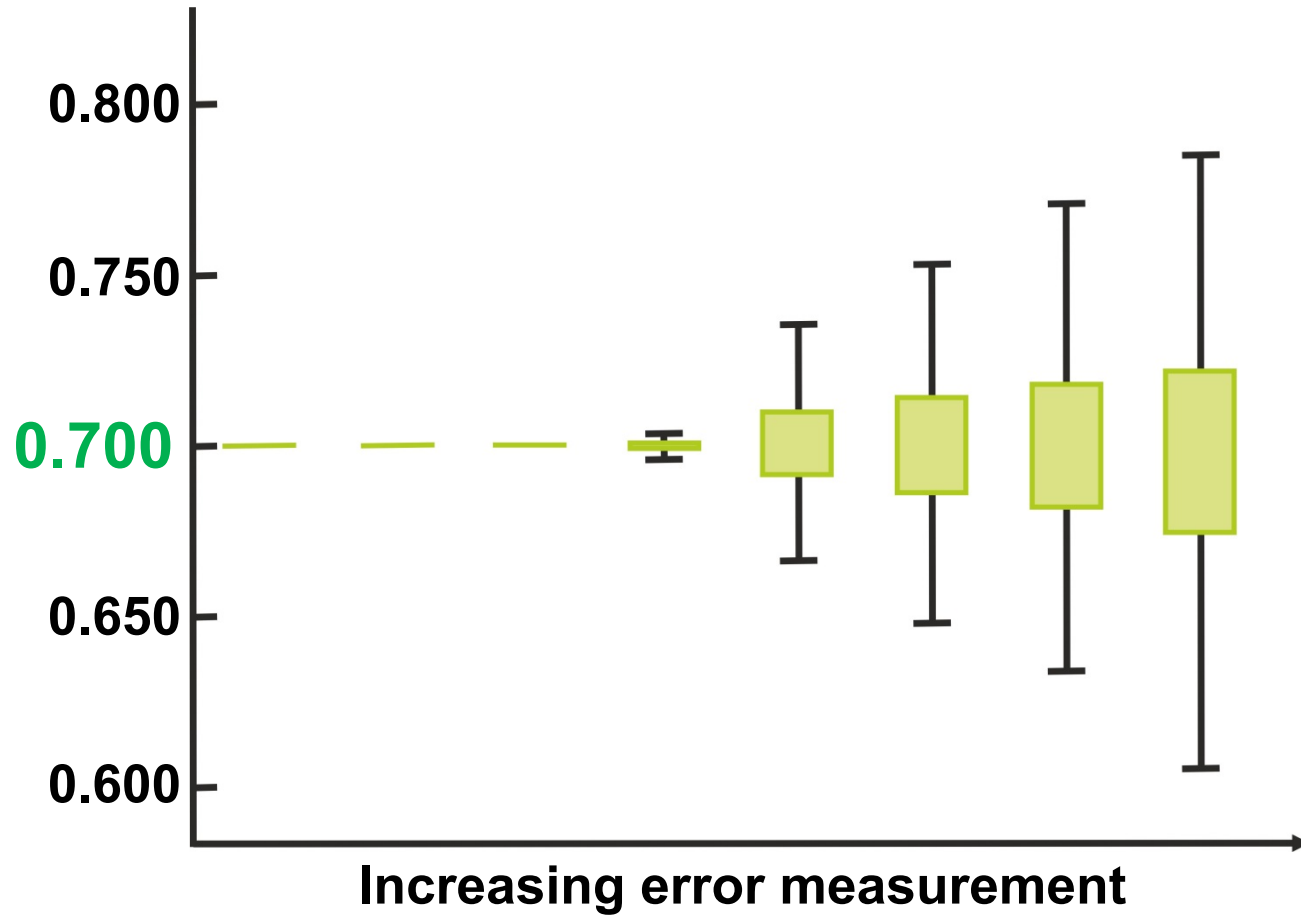
A simple case study: adding only error measurement

By performing the procedure iteratively (i.e. 999 simulations) with different error values, we detect that the noise induced by error measurement might also have consequences on trend quantification

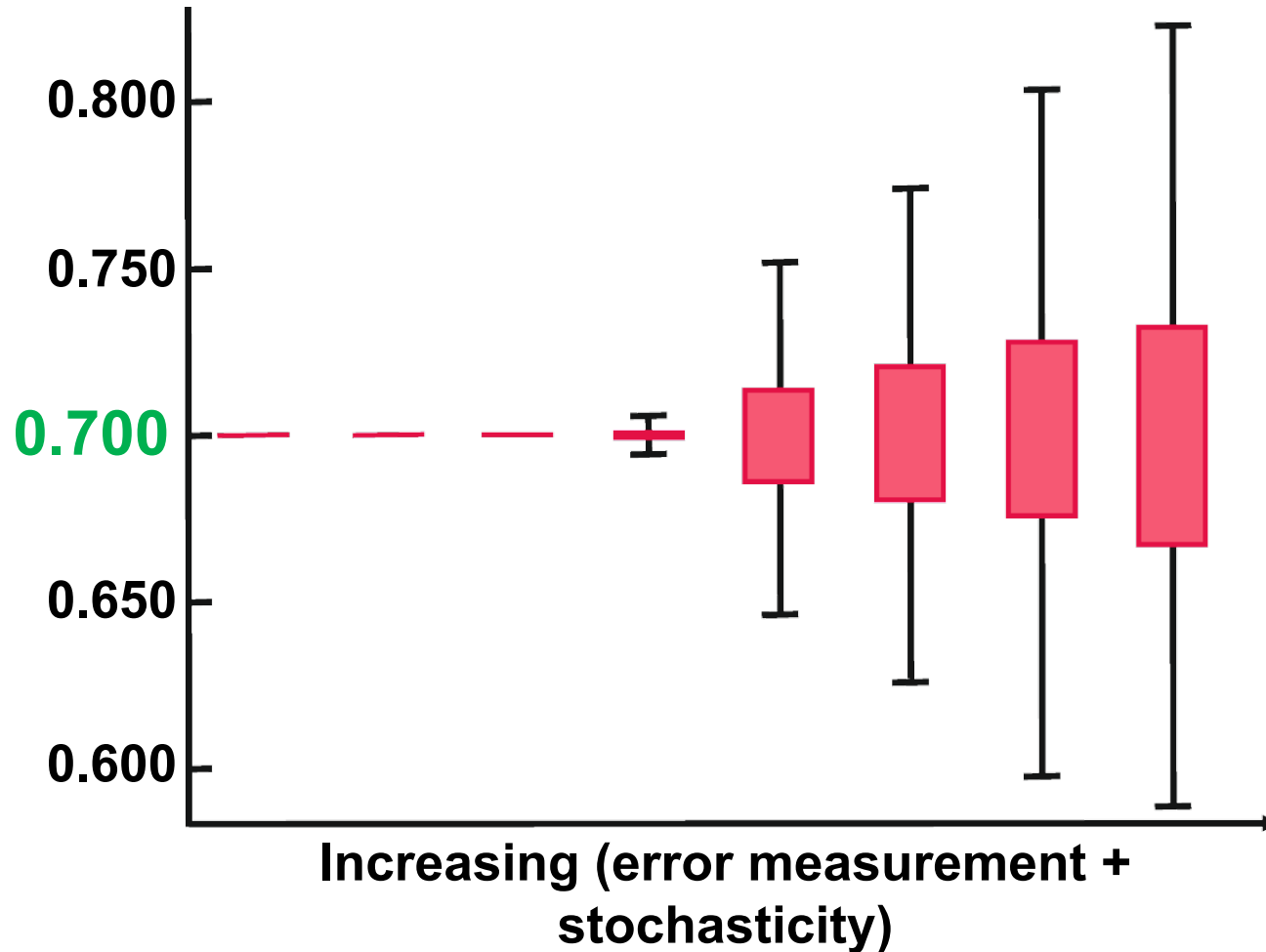


=> Although the random noise is supposed to be removed!

And now, with a part of environmental stochasticity...



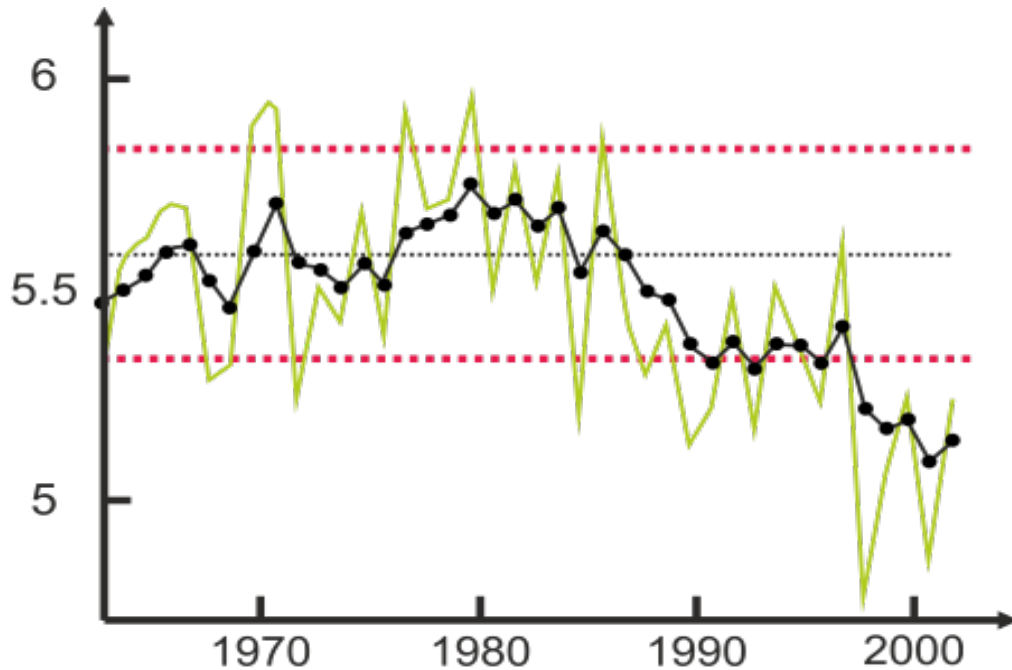
And now, with a part of environmental stochasticity...



**=> It is essential to be cautious when a trend is quantified...
Although they are able to remove noise, decomposition approaches
do not guarantee a precise estimation of the trend**

Considering the range of uncertainty to « better » detect changes

Control charts procedures:
Shewhart-style charts, EWMA chart, Cusum
chart...



Depending on the
method, algorithms
are more or less
sensitive to small and
large changes in the
state of a system

But several methods
can also be
combined

=> Only if the range of uncertainty is known and constant over time

Conclusions & perspectives

Considération des incertitudes dans exploration scientifique:

Variable et sujet à discussion

(car incertitudes encore mal cernées notamment sur la composante systématique)

**Importance d'une concertation
analyse scientifique et métrologie**

Conclusions & perspectives

Considération des incertitudes dans exploration scientifique:

Variable et sujet à discussion

(car incertitudes encore mal cernées notamment sur la composante systématique)

Importance d'une concertation
analyse scientifique et métrologie

De possibles recommandations:

- Avoir une approche « **en pleine conscience** » des incertitudes
- Améliorer les **meta-données** incluant des informations sur les incertitudes
 - Proposer des **méthodes d'intercomparaison**
- Explorer les observations en relation avec les experts en **métrologie**

