Reproducible workflows – setting the scene

Why are we here?

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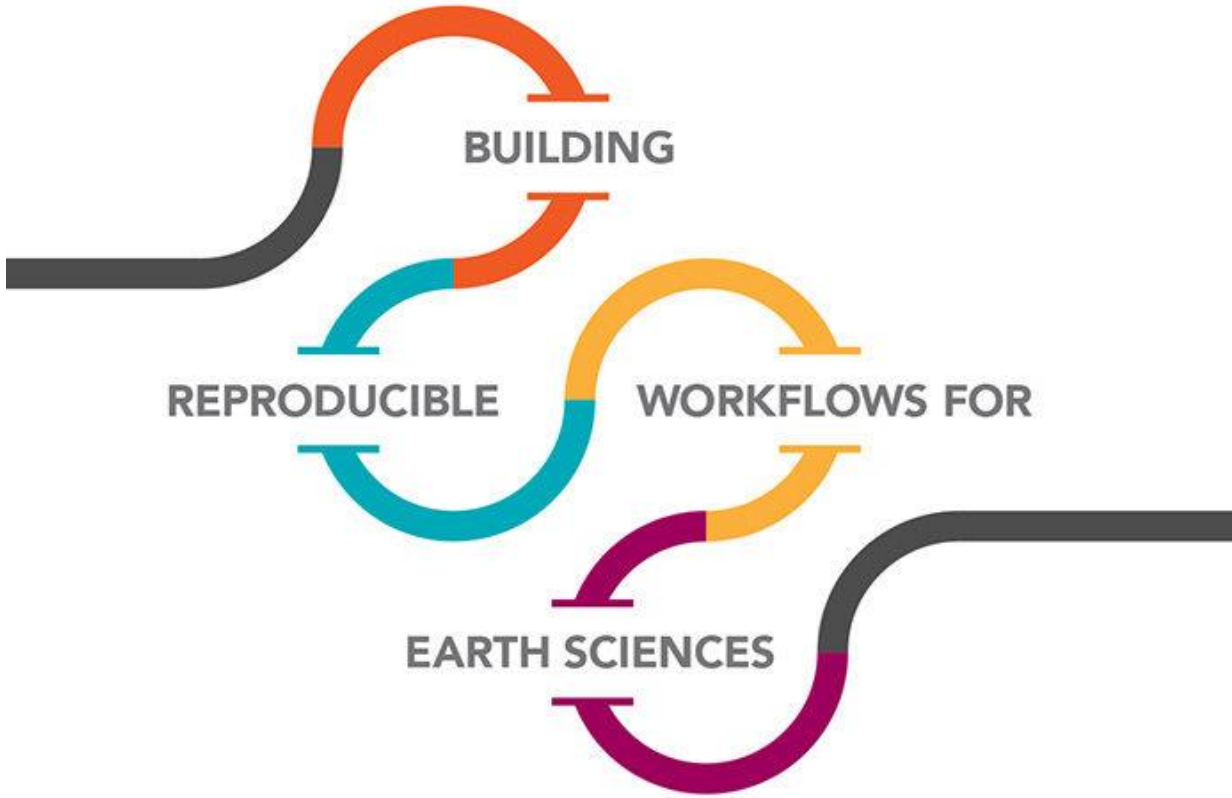
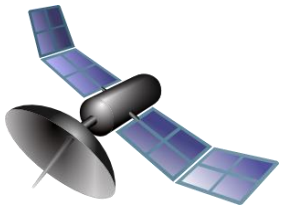
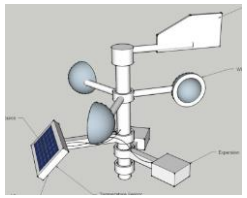


ECMWF

 14 October, 2019

What does ECMWF do?





Observations

Data acquisition

Integrated Forecast System (IFS)

Data assimilation

Earth System Model

Atmosphere

Numerics

Physics

Chemistry

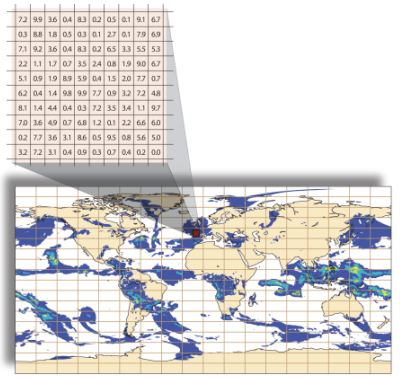
Ocean Waves

Ocean and Ice

Land Surface

Archive MARS

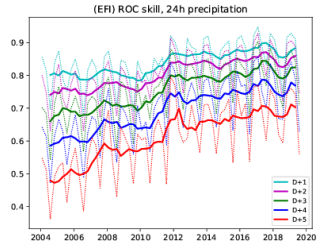
Model output



Product Generation

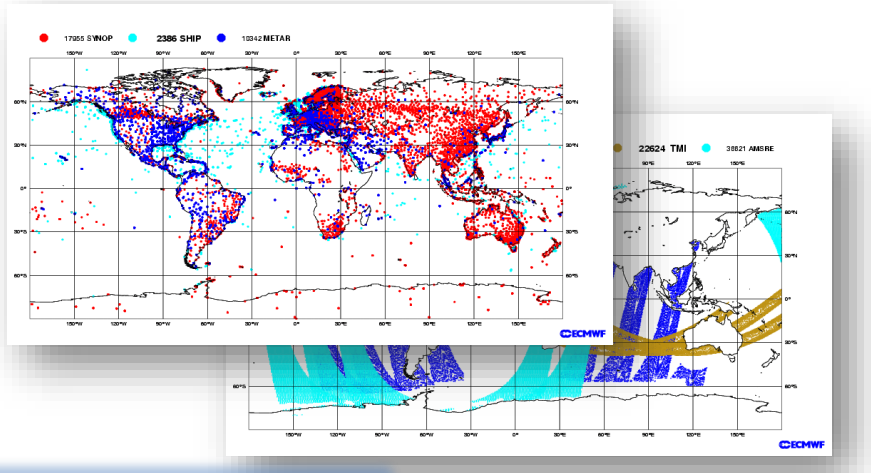
Web Services

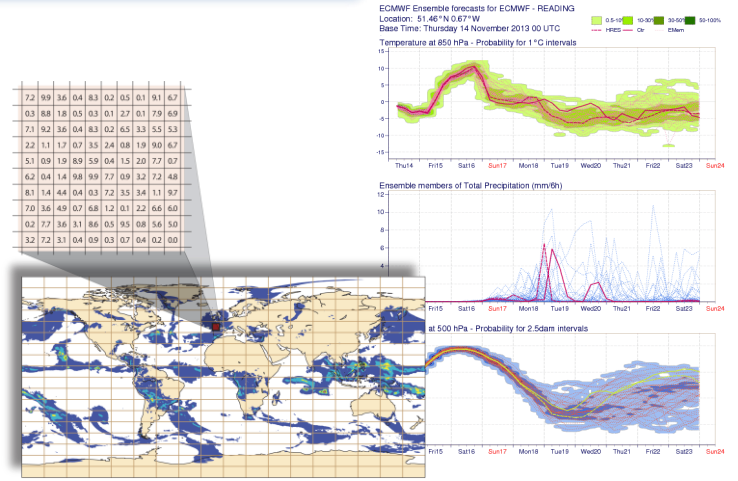
Users



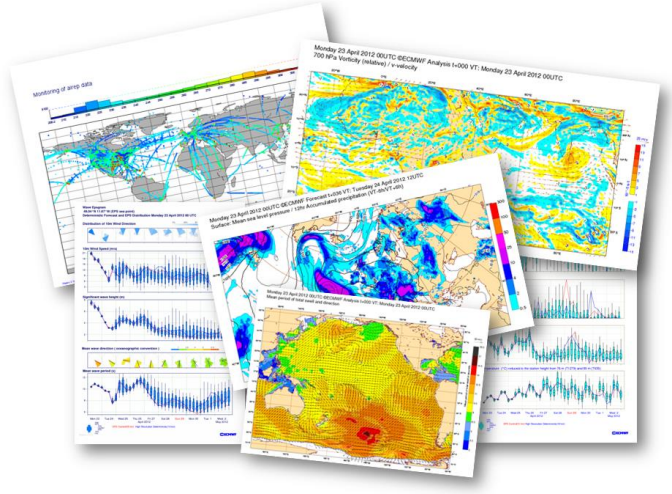
The three stages of a research workflow

1. data acquisition & cleaning & filtering
2. data processing – running models
3. data analysis – presenting outcomes



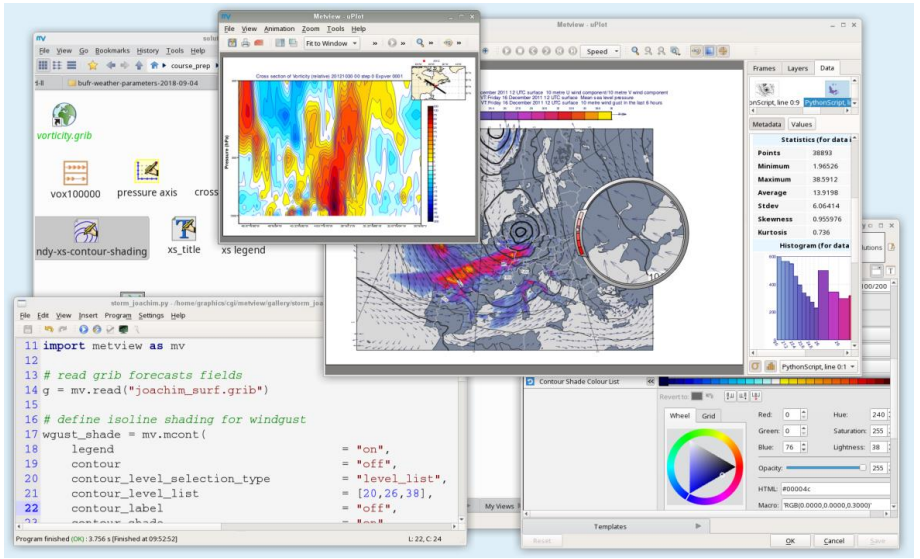


What is reproducibility anyway?



- Not only getting the same result
  - Hard to achieve anyway with different architectures and environments
- Having a recipe / procedure to follow to get to the same result
  - Allow to evaluate changes to input data and algorithm on output → do science
- Having workflow documented allows sharing and scrutiny

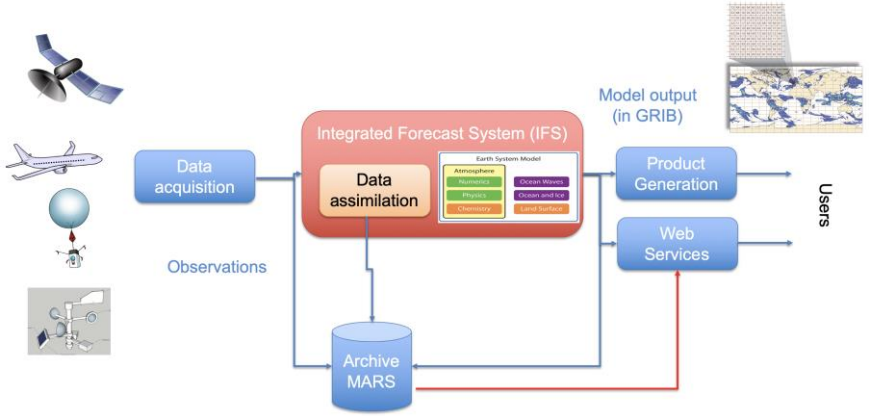
Why is it important?

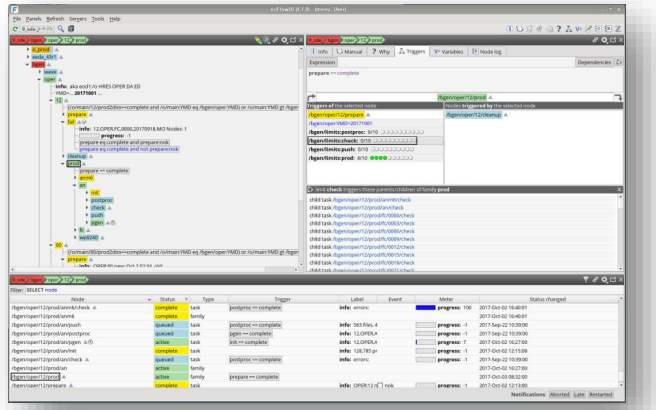


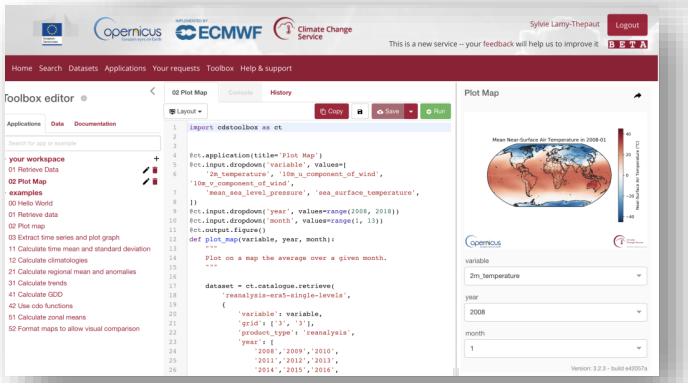
- Important proof that science is solid
  - No one believes a result if it constantly changes
  - With changing input a hypothesis can be confirmed/corrected
- Allows easy sharing of scientific work and allows others to follow and reflect on work
- Big Data workflows need to carefully designed because of their high costs
  - Data amounts are challenging to handle and prone to change
  - Manual work does not scale and needs automation
  - This is especially true for AI / Machine Learning applications

Why is it important to ECMWF?

- Reproducibility has always been important to drive innovation on model developments
- As an operational centre users rely on ECMWF to provide robust results in a controlled and stable environment
- With data amounts continuing to grow complex processing jobs need to be moved to the data
  - Require flexible and high-level workflows
- Being a central part of a large scientific community, ECMWF is keen to share workflows and offer training







EU Copernicus programme

- Large programme to make earth observations and monitoring data (freely) available
- Data is validated and from verified sources
- Sponsored by the European Commission
- ECMWF is operating two services on behalf of the EC

- Copernicus Atmospheric Monitoring Service (CAMS)
  - Air pollution, chemicals, sand & dust
  - https://atmosphere.copernicus.eu

- Copernicus Climate Change Services (C3S)
  - Reanalysis data, seasonal forecasts, climate scenarios
  - https://climate.copernicus.eu

opernicus
Europe's eyes on Earth

European Commission

In collaboration with:

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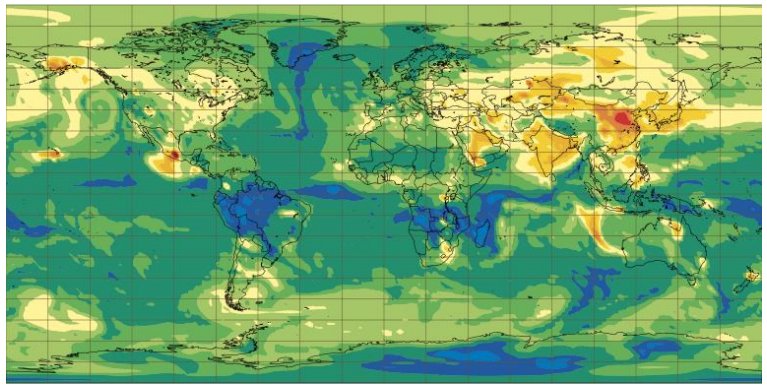
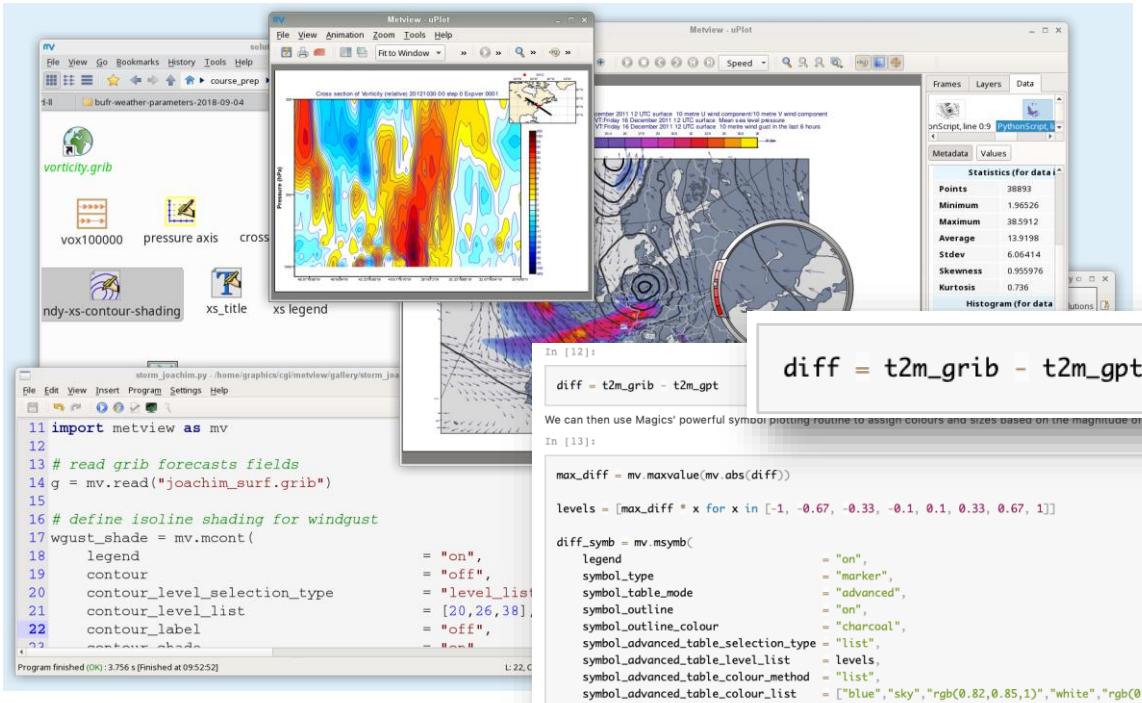


Total column of sulphur dioxide
(provided by the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service)

So what have we done?



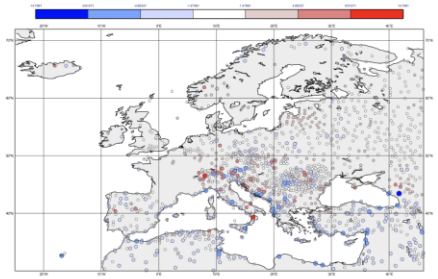

```
11 import metview as mv
12
13 # read grib forecasts fields
14 g = mv.read("joachim_surf.grib")
15
16 # define isoline shading for windgust
17 wgust_shade = mv.mcont(
18     legend                              = "on",
19     contour                             = "off",
20     contour_level_selection_type        = "level_list
21     contour_level_list                  = [20,26,38],
22     contour_label                       = "off",
```

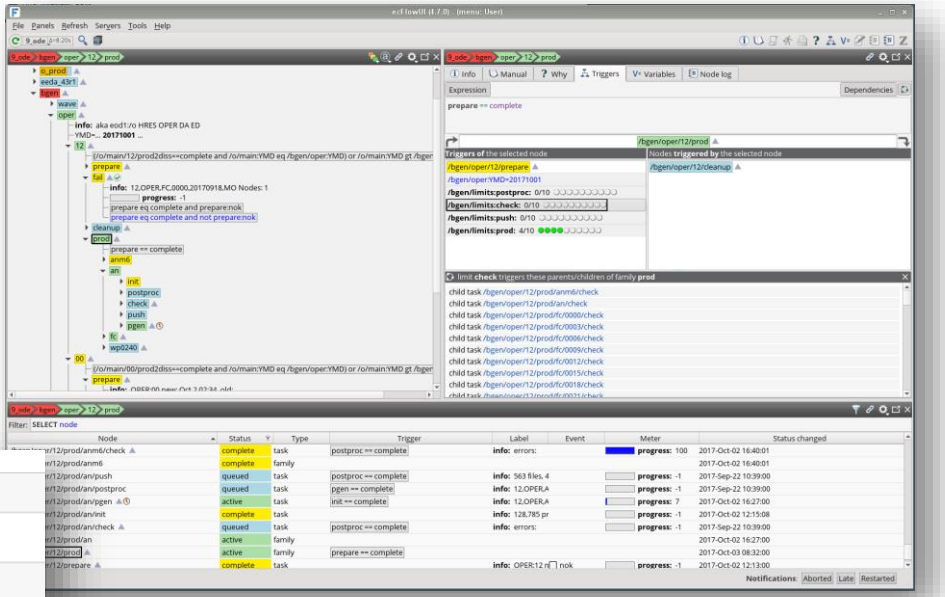
```
diff = t2m_grib - t2m_gpt
```

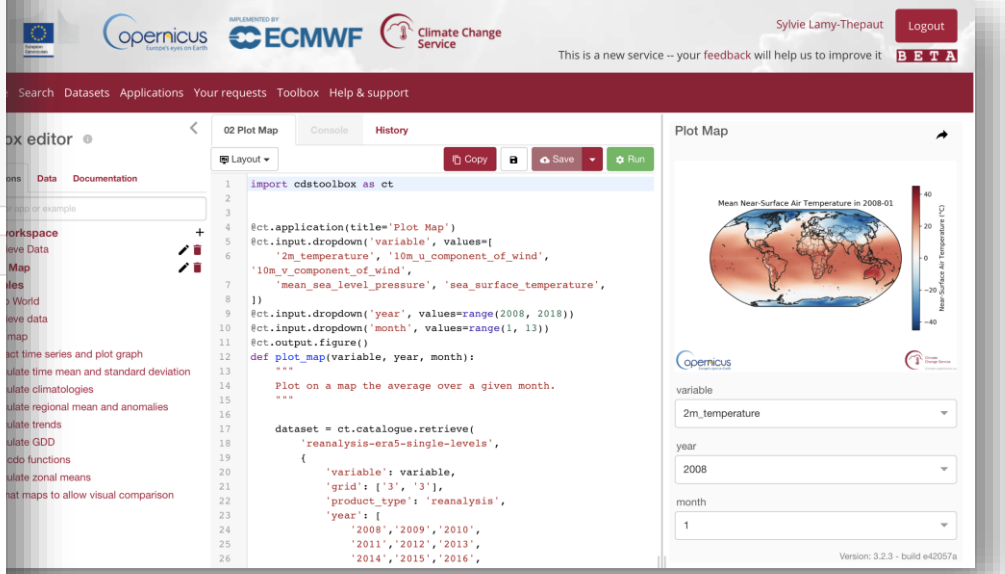
We can then use Magics' powerful symbol plotting routine to assign colours and sizes based on the magnitude of the differences.

```
max_diff = mv.maxvalue(mv.abs(diff))

levels = [max_diff * x for x in [-1, -0.67, -0.33, -0.1, 0.1, 0.33, 0.67, 1]]

diff_symb = mv.msymb(
    legend                              = "on",
    symbol_type                         = "marker",
    symbol_table_mode                   = "advanced",
    symbol_outline                      = "on",
    symbol_outline_colour               = "charcoal",
    symbol_advanced_table_selection_type = "list",
    symbol_advanced_table_level_list    = levels,
    symbol_advanced_table_colour_method = "list",
    symbol_advanced_table_colour_list   = ["blue","sky","rgb(0.82,0.85,1)","white","rgb(0.9,0.8,0.8)","rgb(0.9,0.5,0.5)","red"],
    symbol_advanced_table_height_list   = [0.6,0.5,0.4,0.3,0.3,0.4,0.5,0.6]
)
```

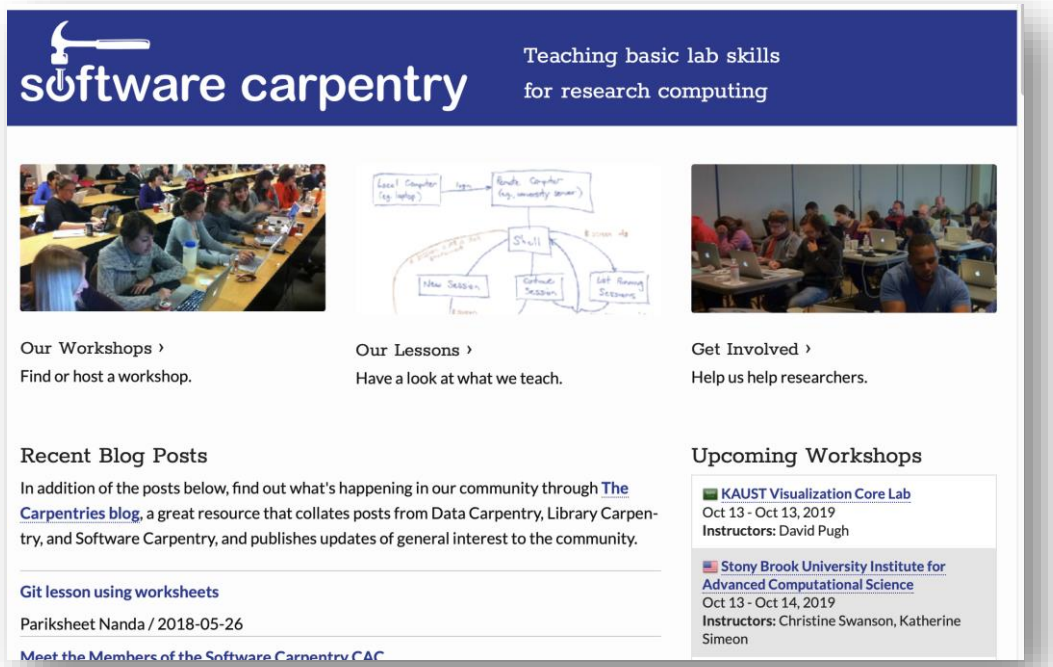
```
mv.plot(europe, diff, diff_symb)
```

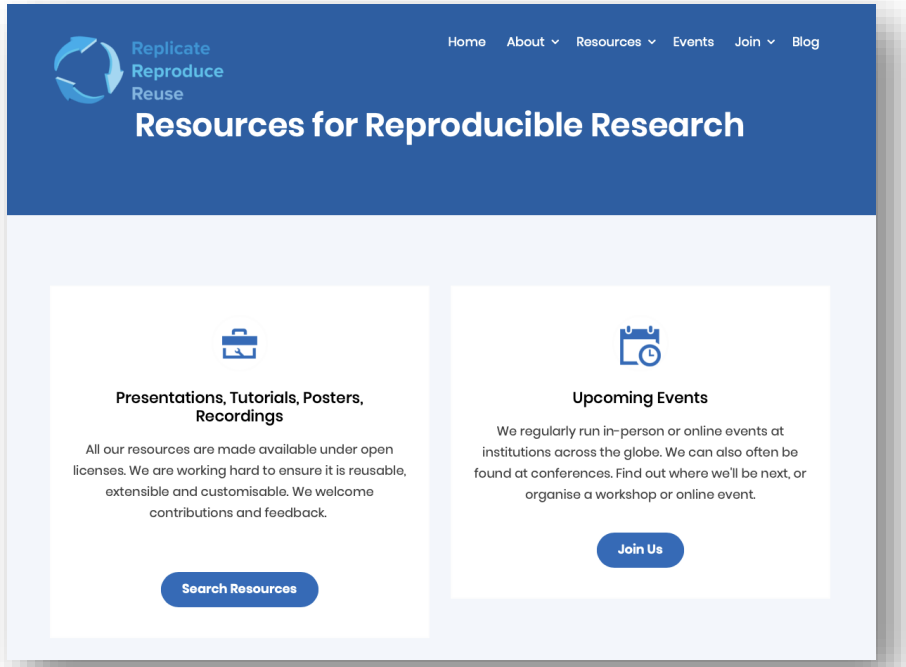






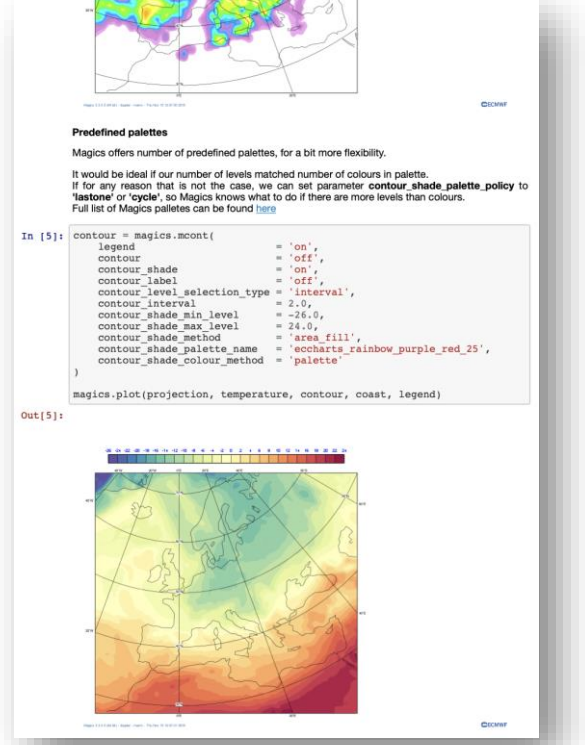
What makes a workflow reproducible?





General advice

- Document all data, files, and operations that occur on data and files. Keep meta data of all components and operations
- Create the workflow as a sequence of small steps that are connected. Use intermediate outputs from a step input for the next step
- Automate all work as much as possible, and avoiding manual intervention in the workflow – let the automation (scripts) be the documentation
- Key are clear interfaces between components - APIs



Technical developments of recent years help

- Git made version control main stream
  - Big ecosystem of tools → GitHub enables community for developers
- Python and its large eco system of packages
- Conda & pip help to define environments
  - Let's user easily recreate environments
- Jupyter notebooks made it popular to document codes
  - Easy to share interactive environments
- Containers make it easier to "freeze" environments
  - Next steps up are Kubernetes and service meshes to define whole services

We have an interesting workshop in front of us

- Three days of great talks and demonstrations
- Discussions to exchange experiences