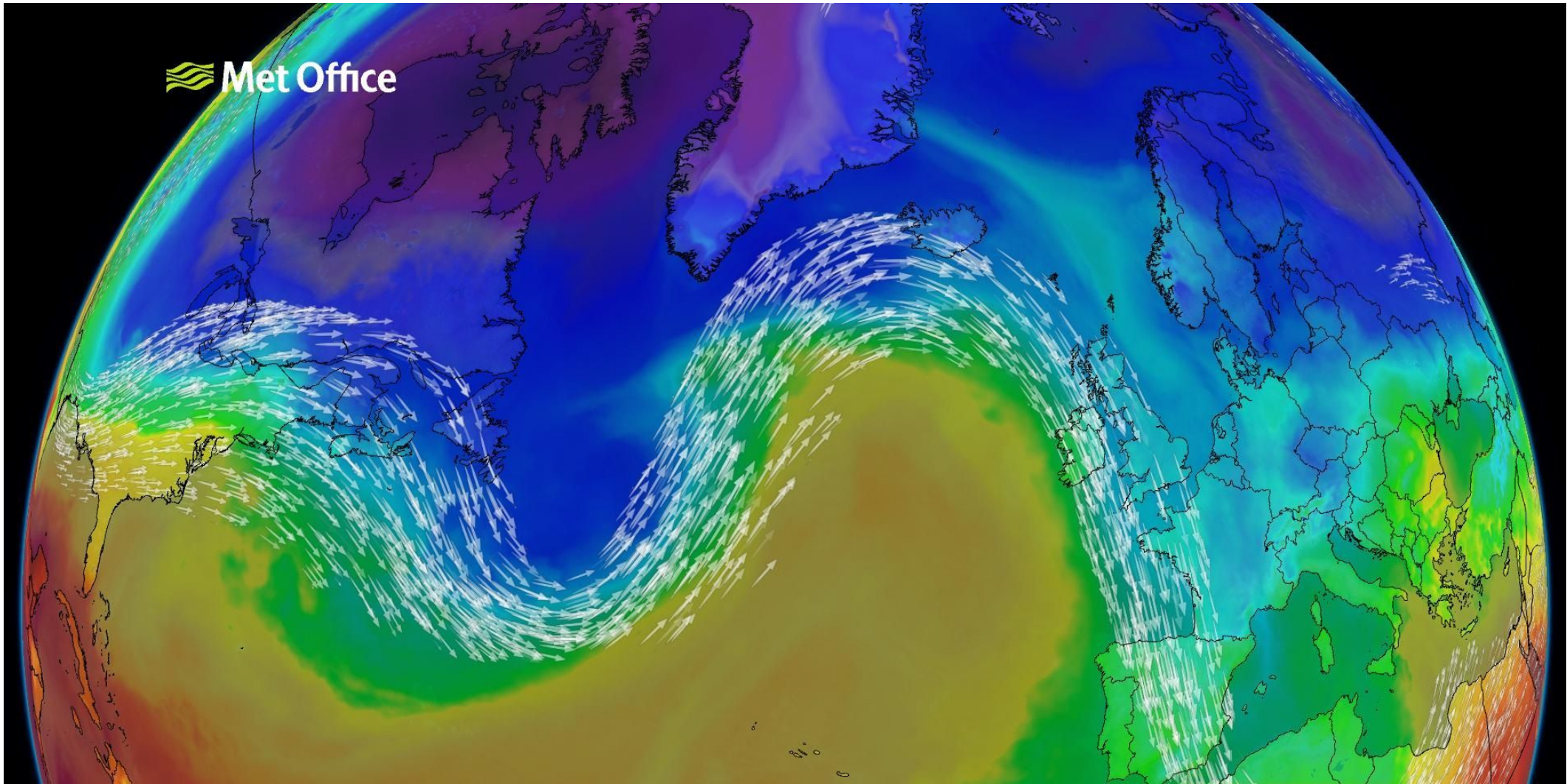


North Atlantic Oscillation Controls on Water Isotope Proxies in the Iso2k Database and iCESM

Andrew Flaim¹, Bronwen Konecky¹, and Sloan Coats²

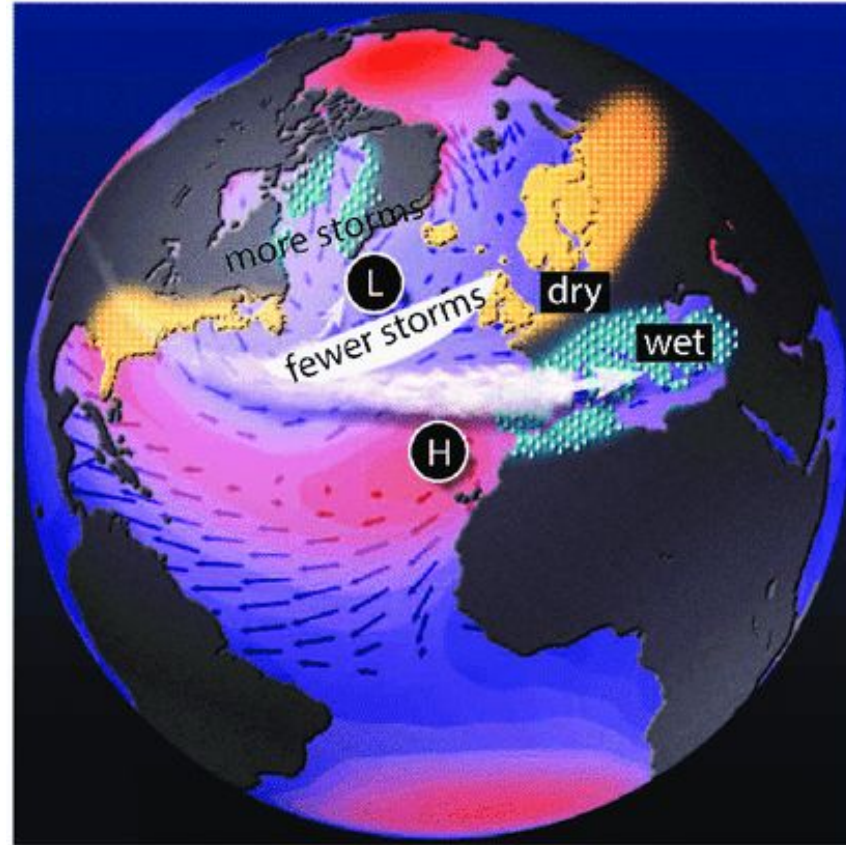
¹Washington University in St. Louis; ²University of Hawai'i at Manoa



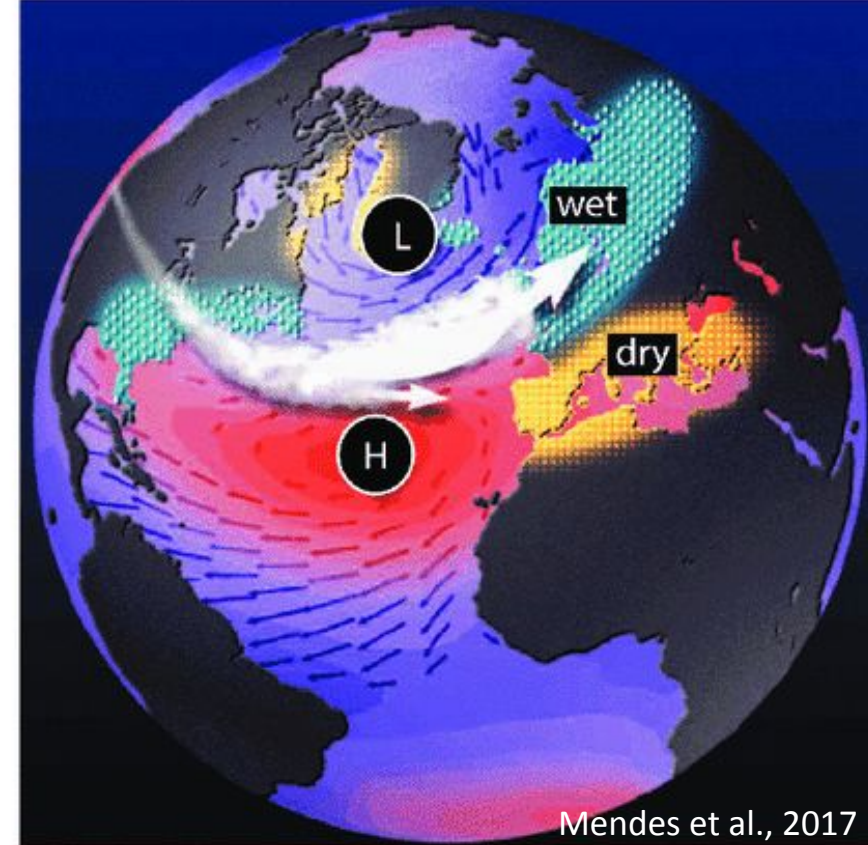
North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO):

- Azores High and Icelandic Low sea level pressure difference.
- Instrumental records extending through 1800's CE.
- Influences temperature and precipitation by deflecting the jet stream.

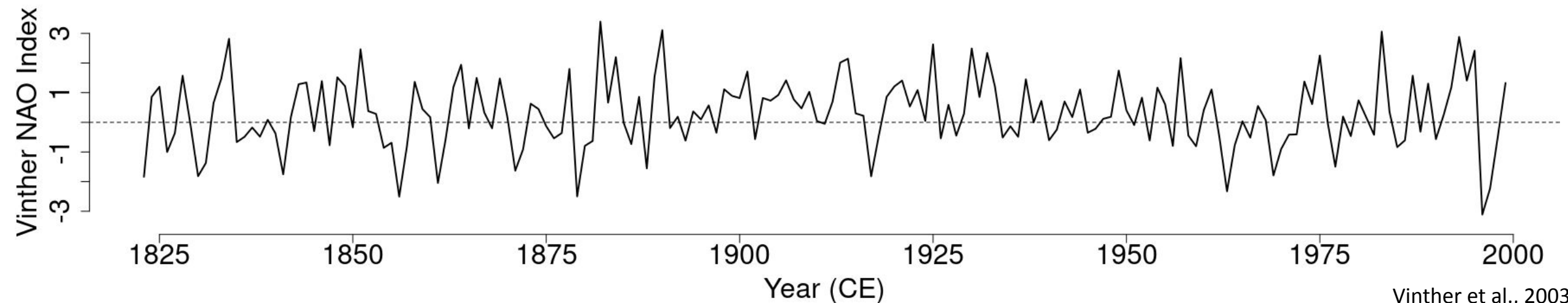
a) NAO negative-mode



b) NAO positive-mode



Mendes et al., 2017



Vinther et al., 2003

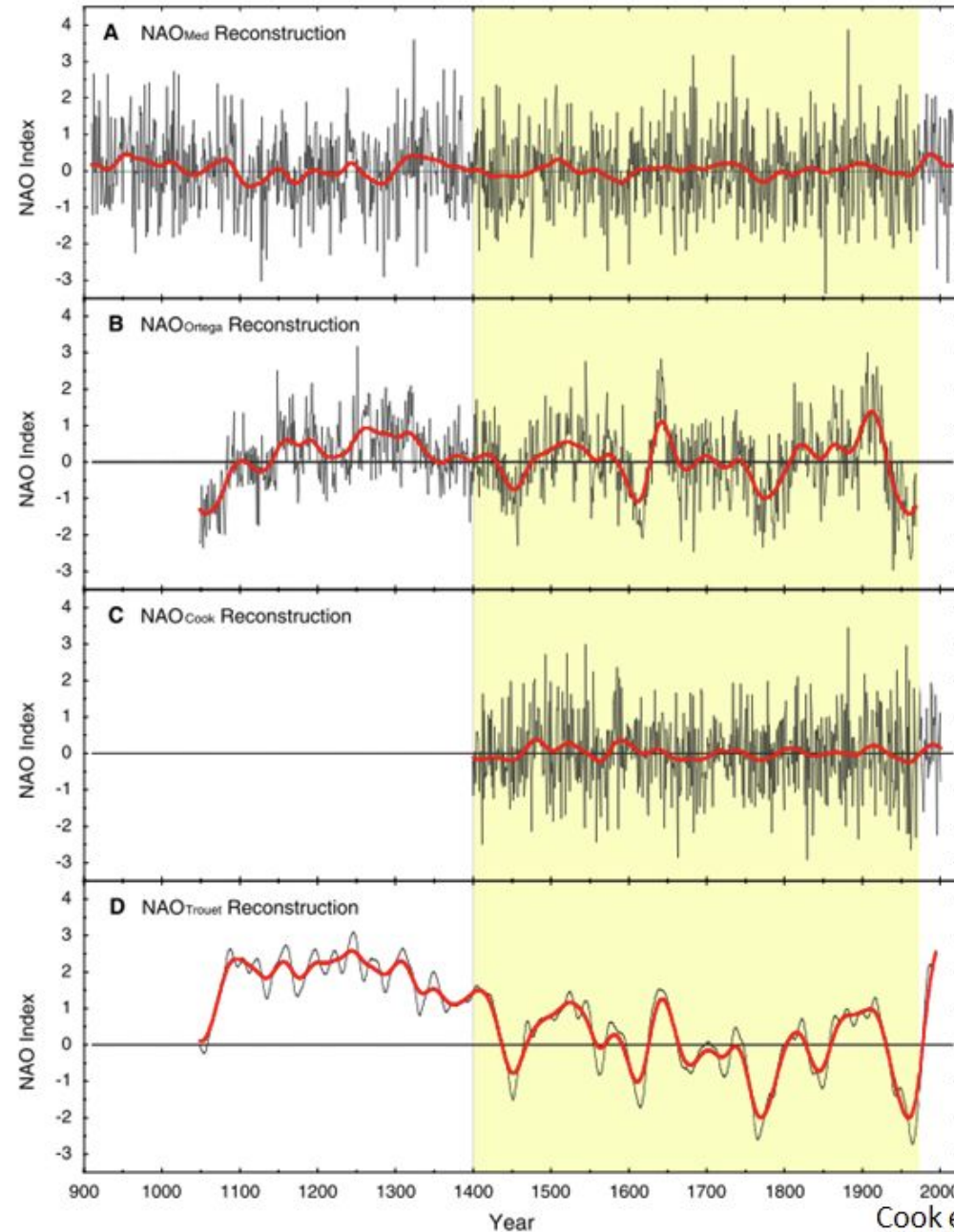
Existing reconstructions disagree on low-frequency variability

Cook et al., 2019:
96 tree-ring records

Ortega et al., 2015:
7 ice cores, 2 speleothems,
4 lake sediments, 36 tree
rings

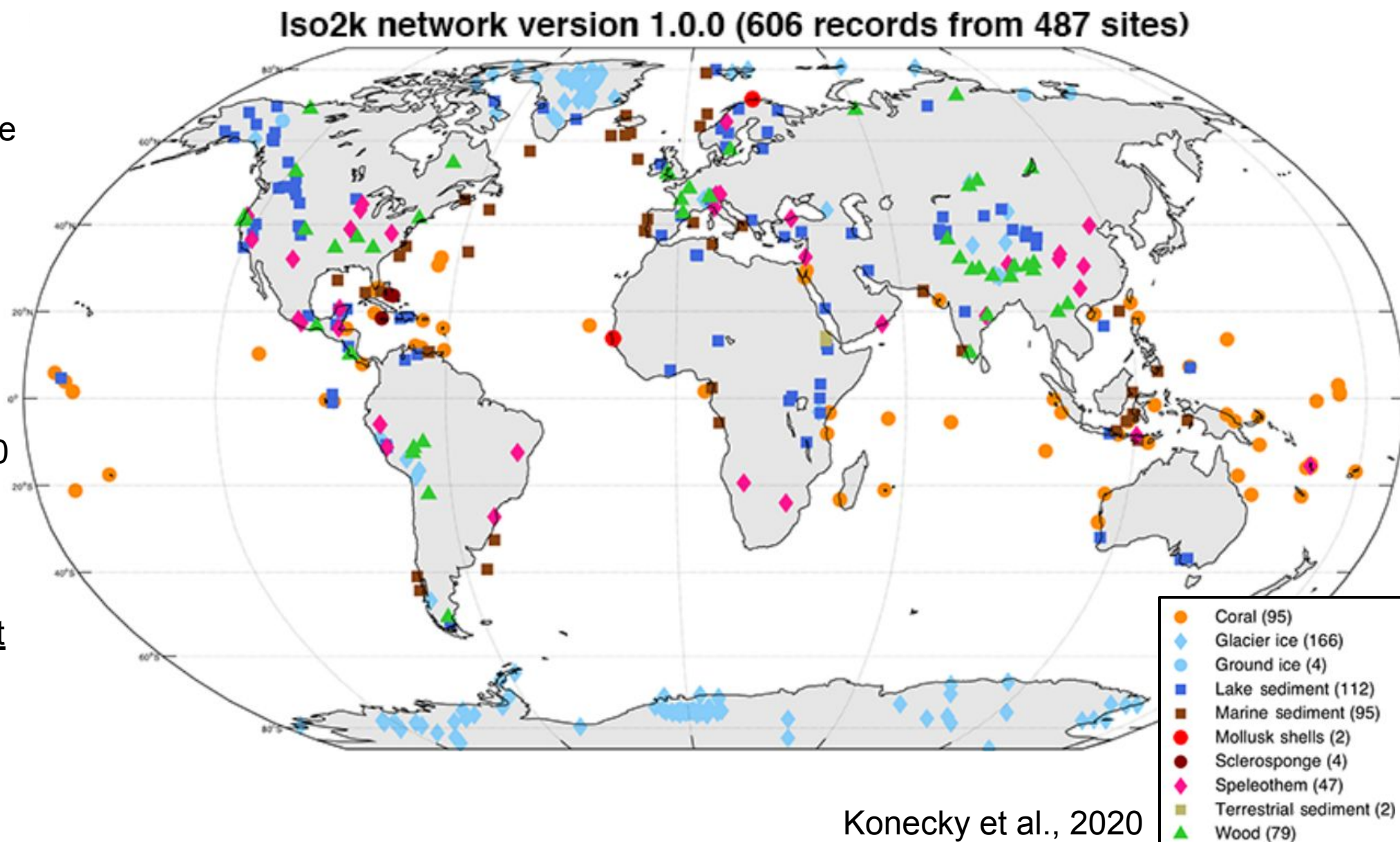
Cook et al., 2002
365 tree rings, 2 ice cores

Trouet et al., 2009
10 Tree rings, 1
speleothem



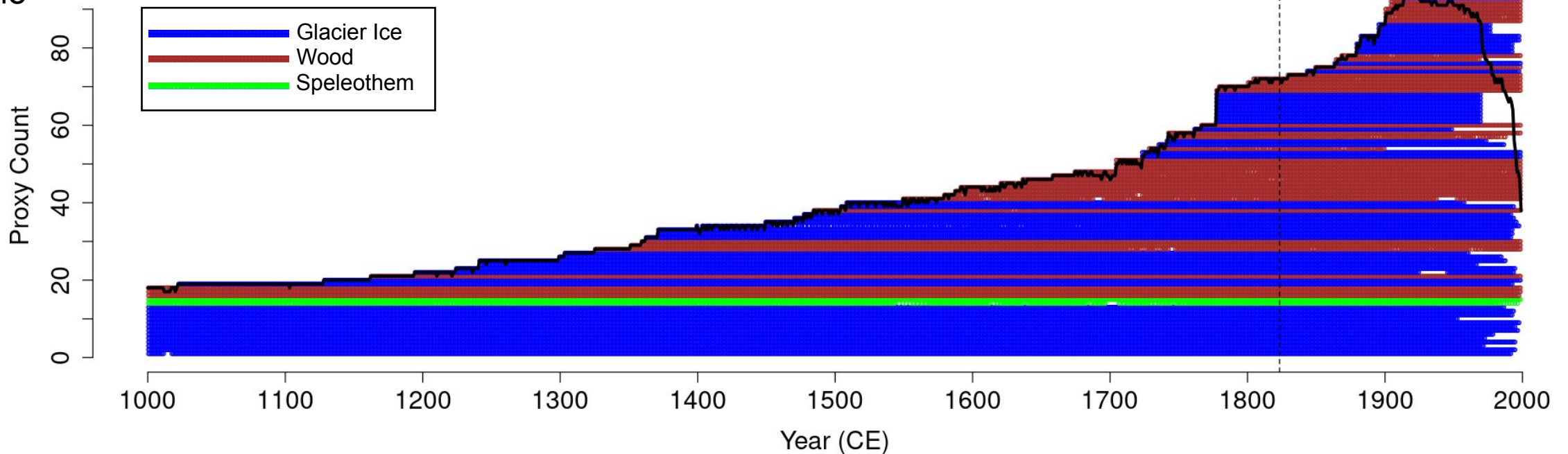
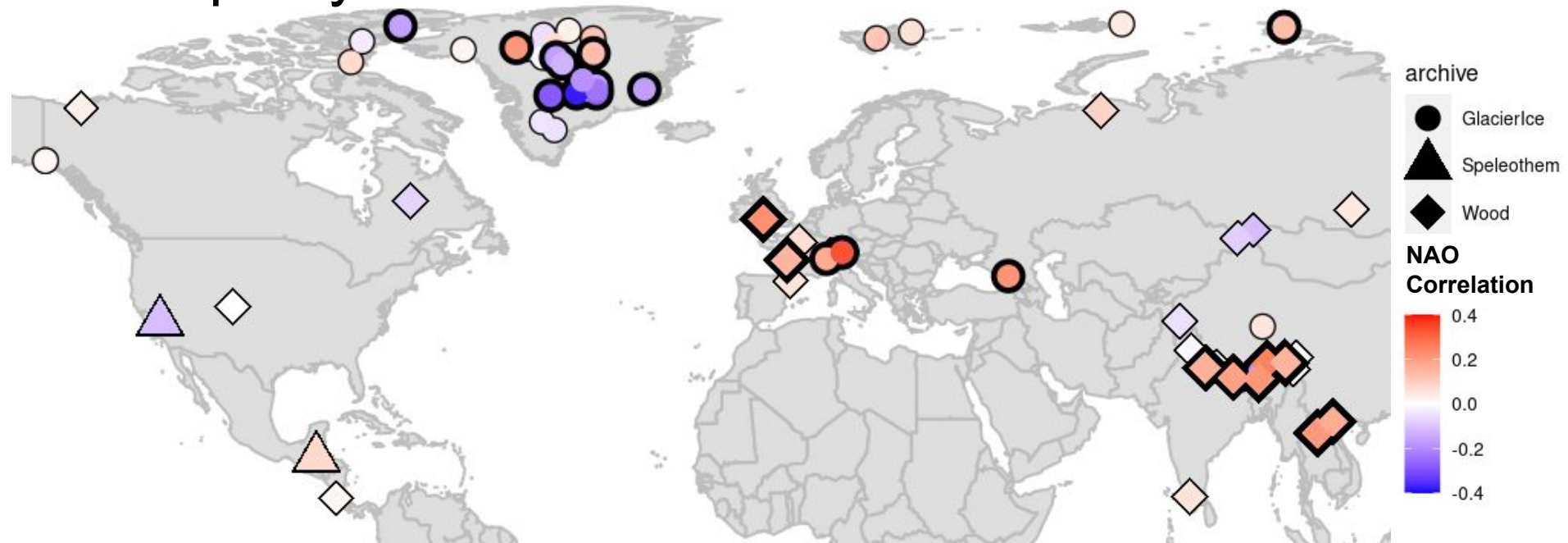
Iso2k water isotope proxy database offers a new perspective on the NAO

- Precipitation $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ is regionally more hydroclimate sensitive than precipitation amount.
- Paleoclimate records of δD and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$.
- Over 600 records spanning part of the Common Era (0-2000 CE).
- First global collection of water isotope records from different archives.



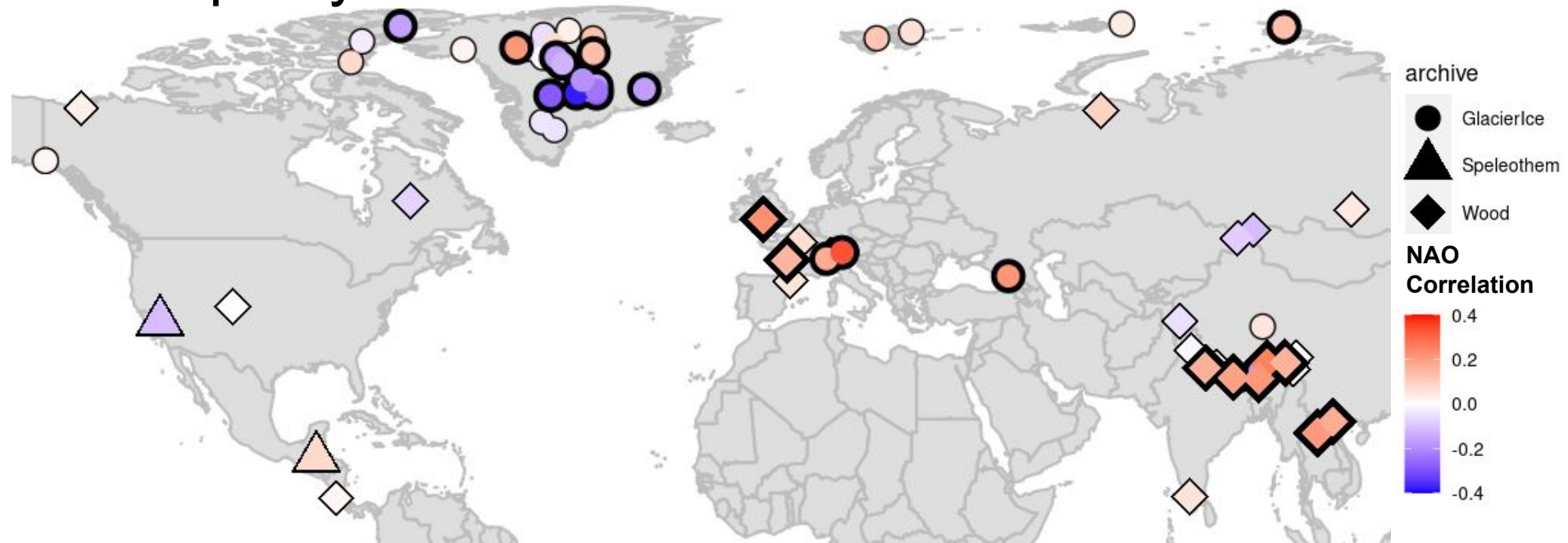
NAO reconstruction uses proxy correlations with NAO index

- Annually resolved northern hemisphere terrestrial records.
- 66% data coverage between 1820-2000 CE.
- Significant (**bold**) correlations have $p < 0.1$.
- Composite-plus-scale (CPS) reconstruction ensemble

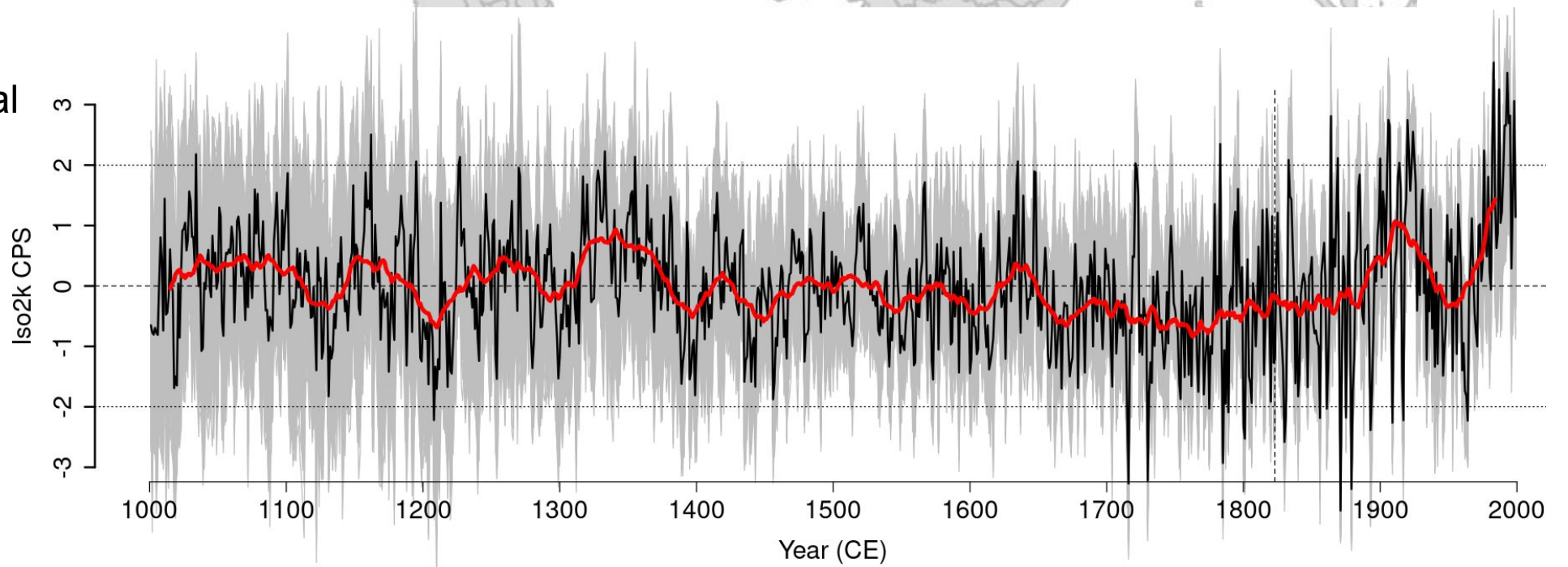


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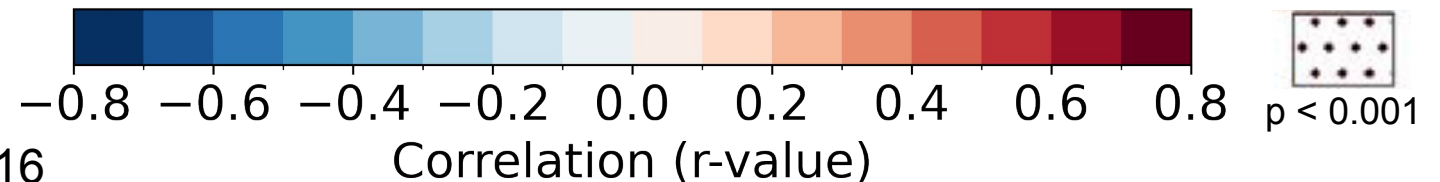
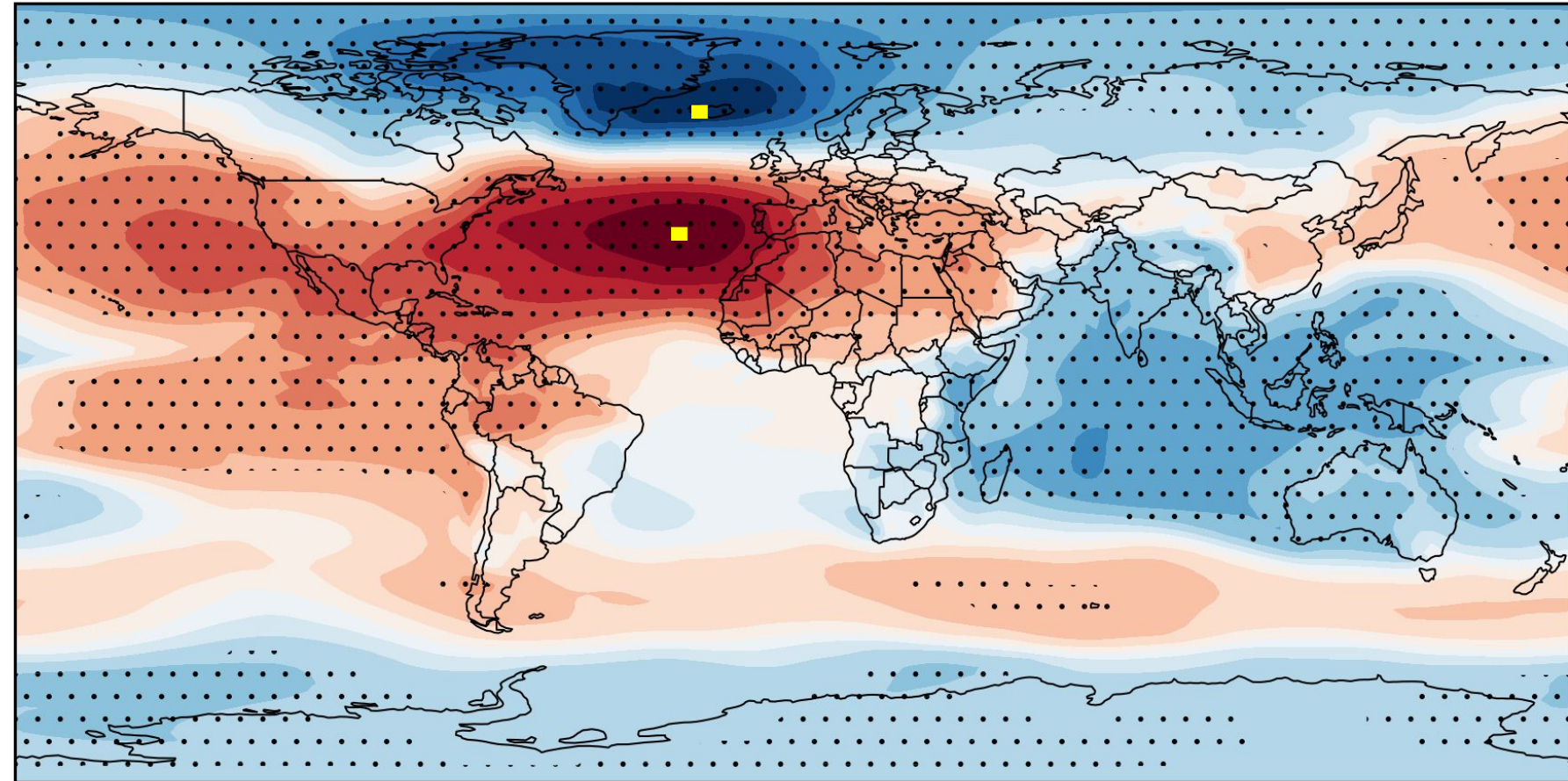
- 50% record removal per ensemble member
- 30-year moving average (red line)



NAO index in the isotope-enabled Last Millennium Ensemble (iLME)

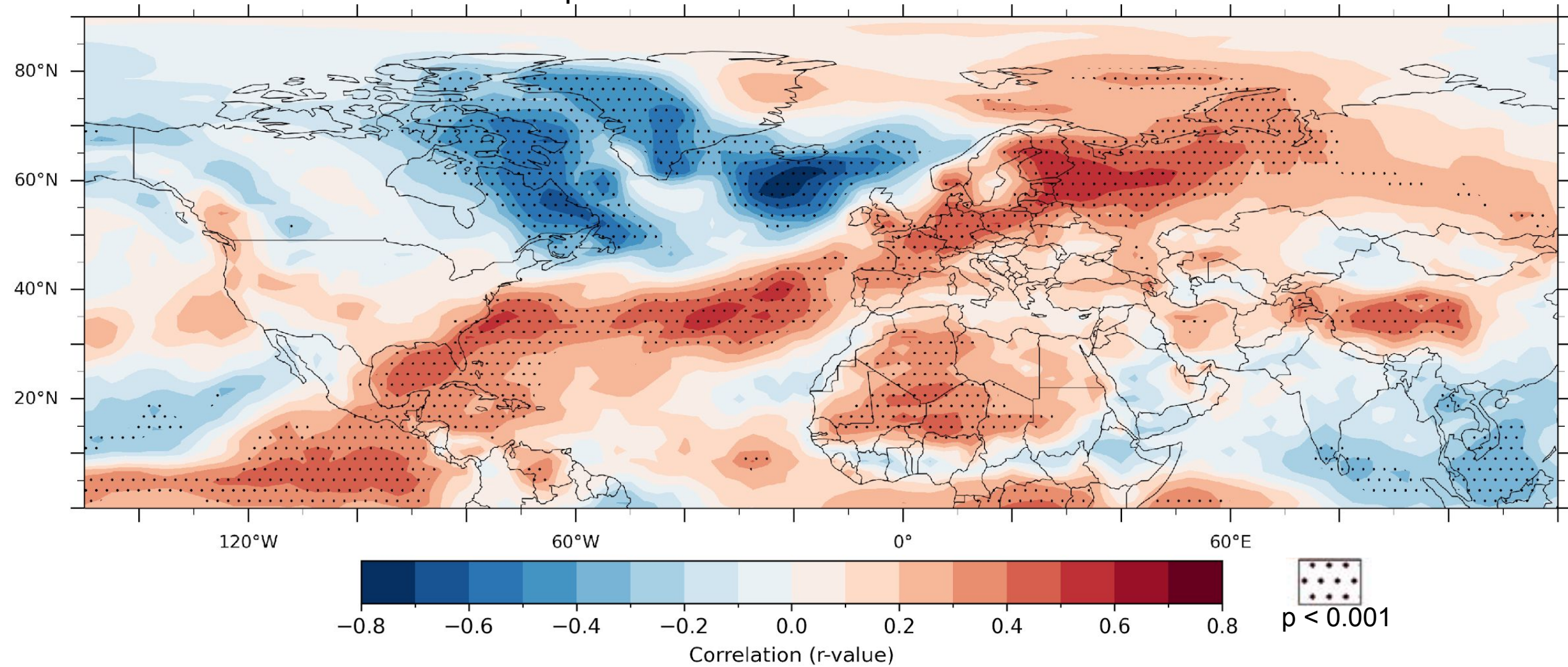
iLME Winter NAO vs. Winter Sea Level Pressure

- Individual fully-forced members of iLME
- 1000-2005 model years
- Winter NAO: Difference between grid cells containing Reykjavik and Azores in DJF.
- Gridded correlation of model NAO index with DJF sea level pressure.
 - Significant SLP correlations extend far beyond the NAO centers of action.



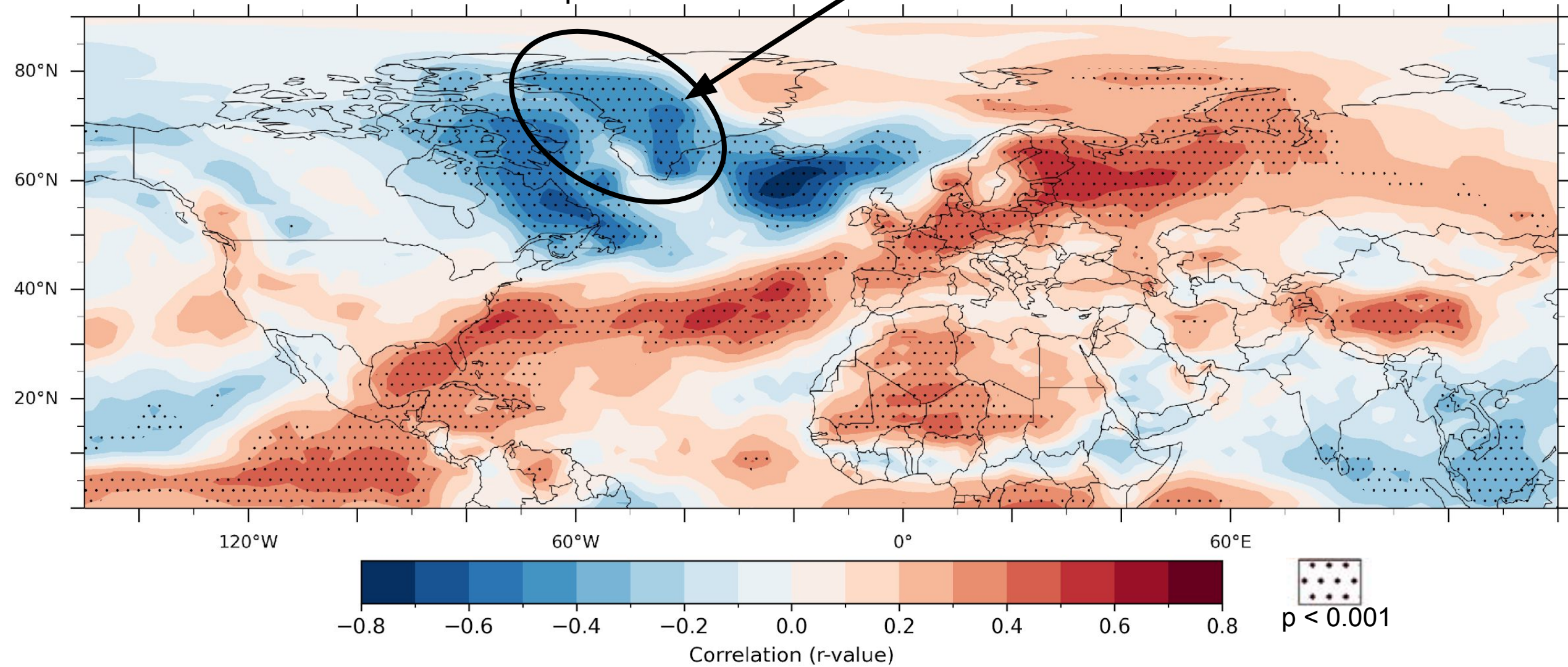
NAO correlates with $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of precipitation over Greenland and Europe

iLME Winter NAO vs. Winter $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$



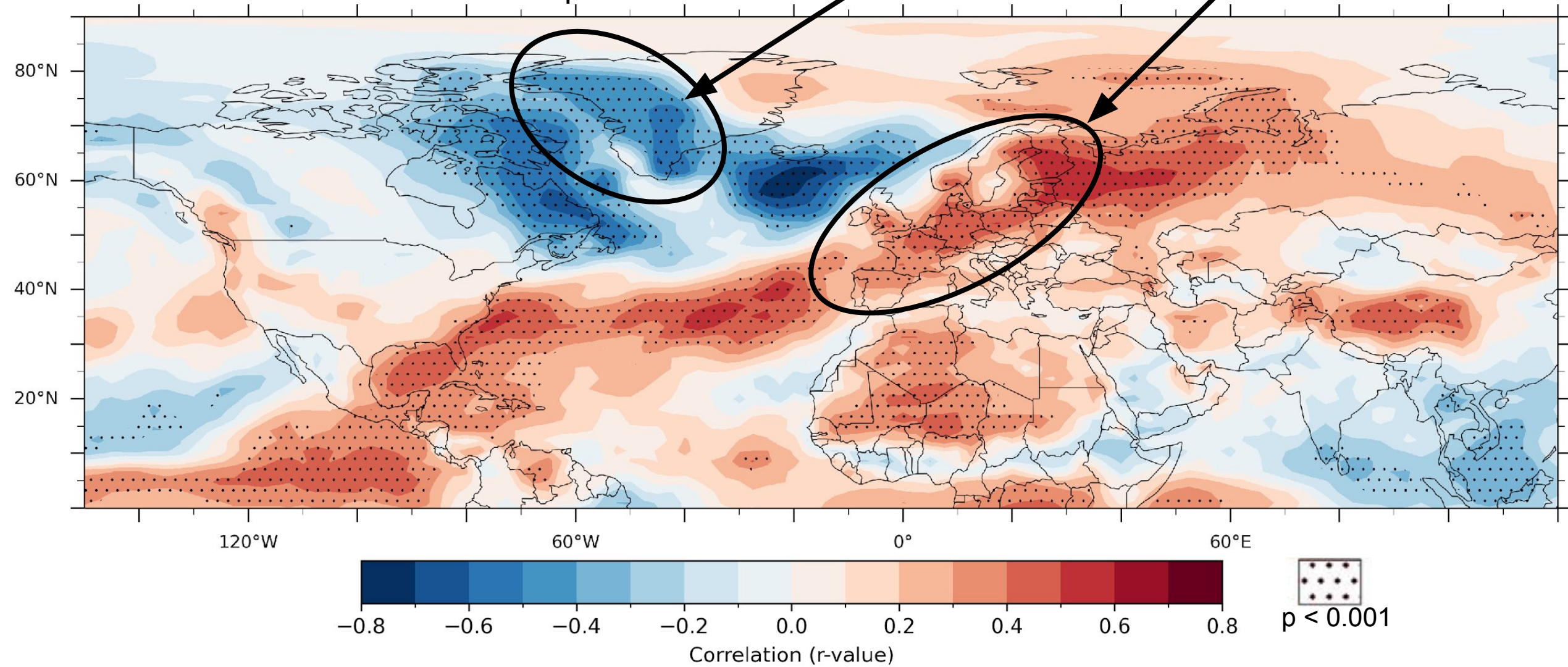
NAO correlates with $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of precipitation over Greenland and Europe

iLME Winter NAO vs. Winter $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$



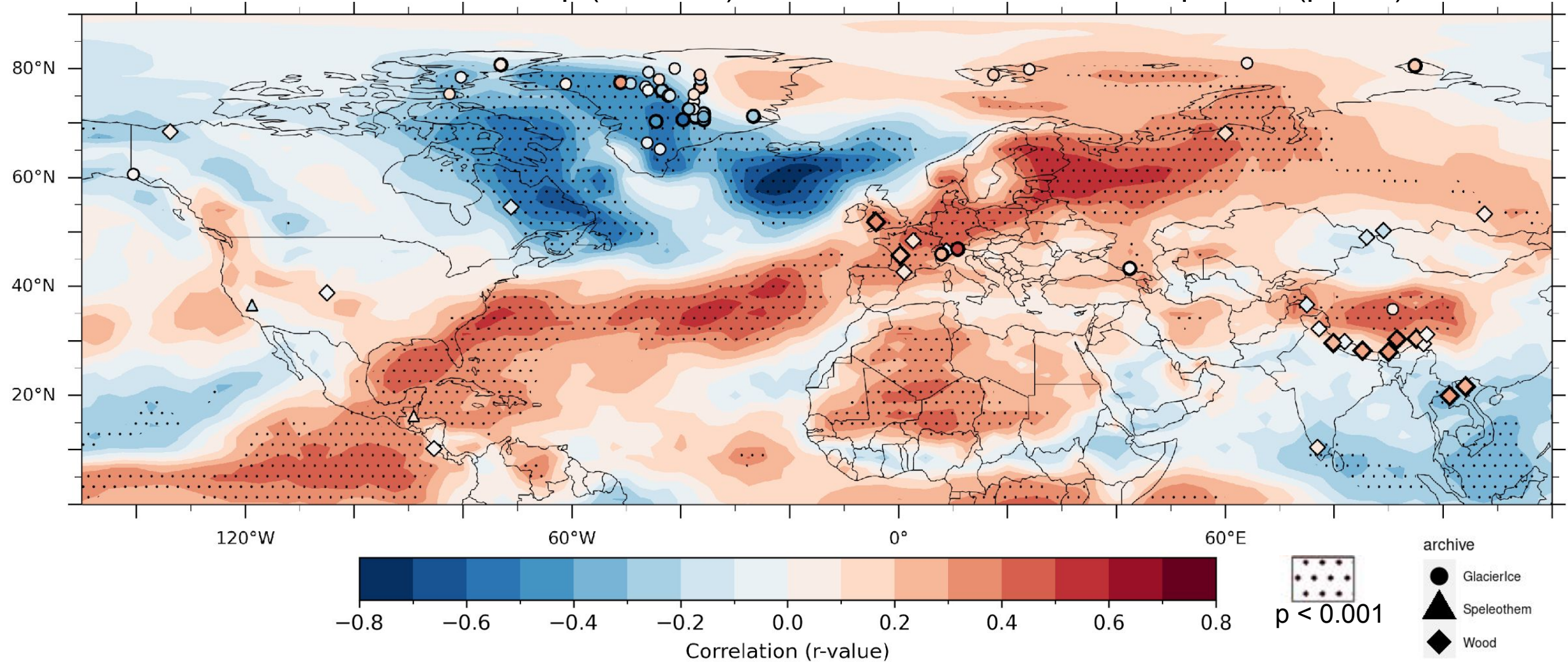
NAO correlates with $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of precipitation over Greenland and Europe

iLME Winter NAO vs. Winter $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$



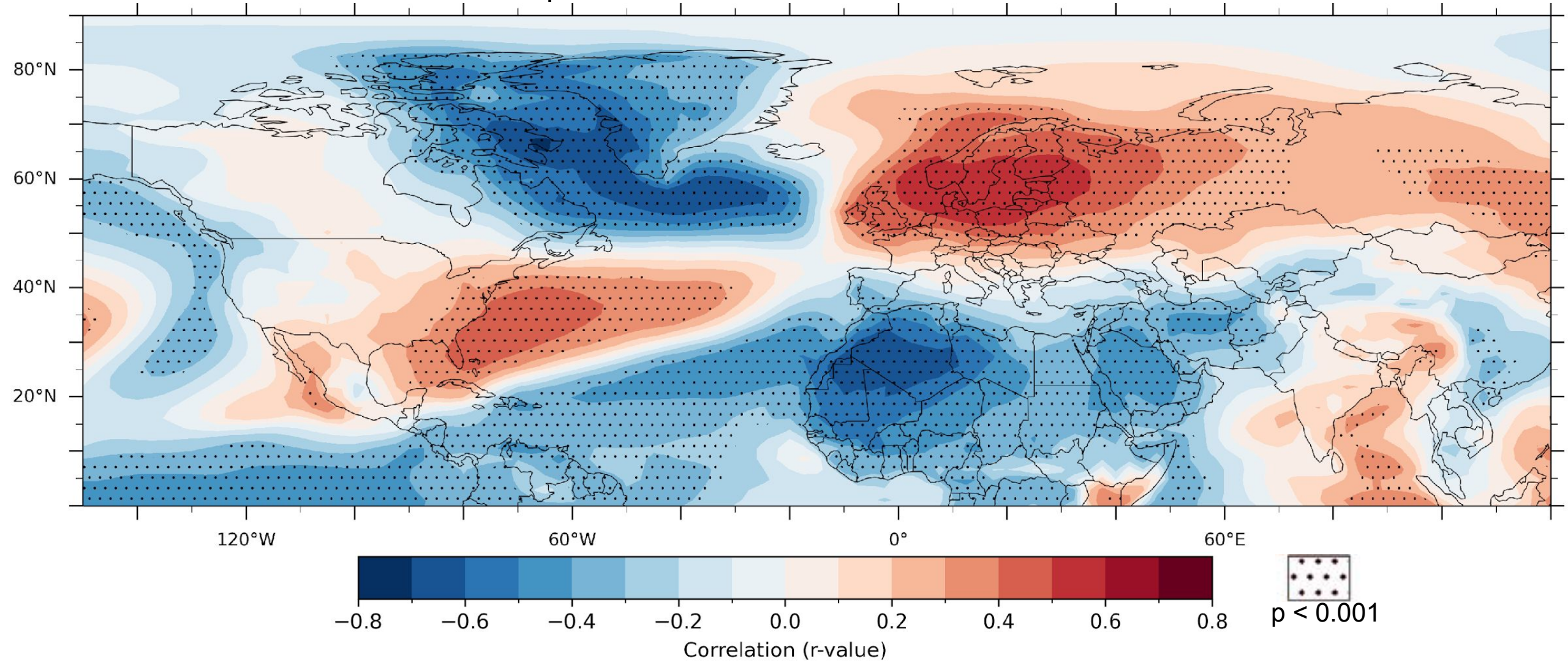
iLME $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ agrees with Iso2k proxy correlations

iLME Winter NAO vs. Winter $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$ (contours) + Instrumental NAO vs. Iso2k proxies (points)



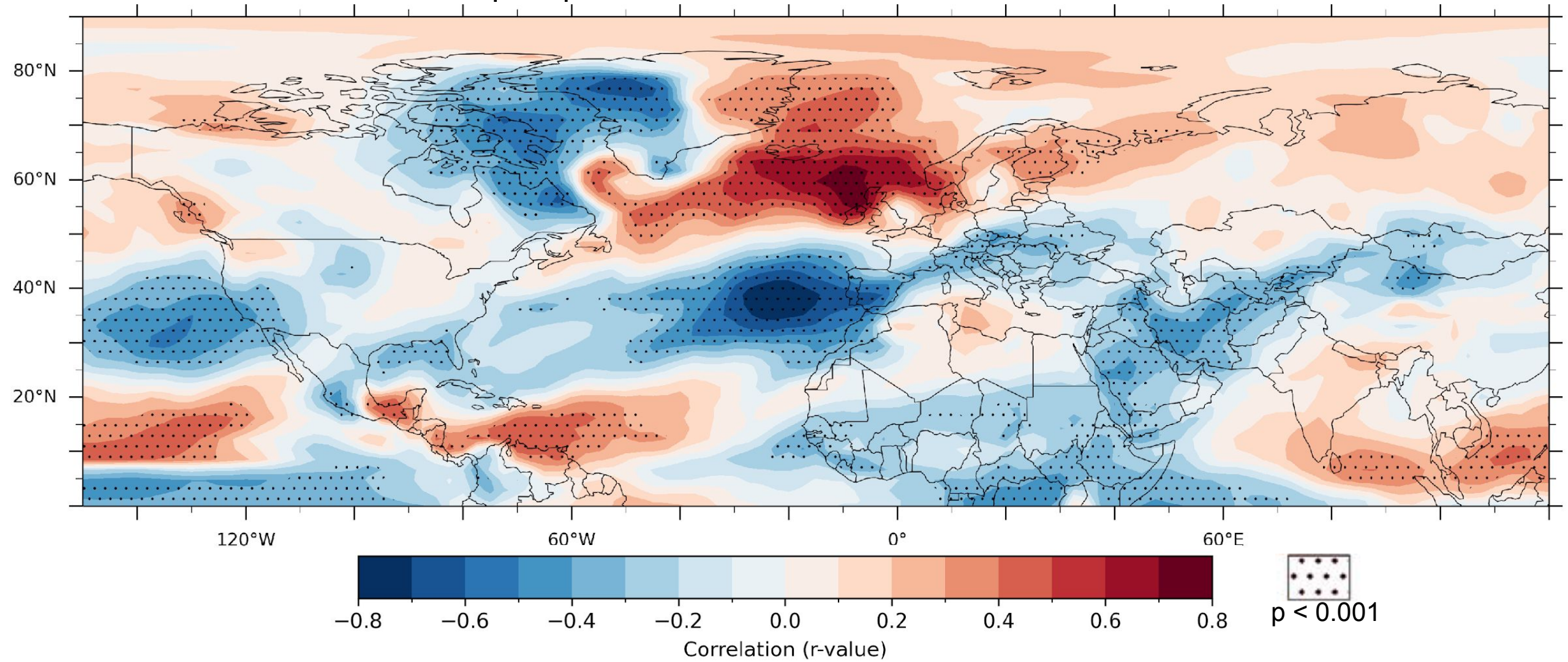
Temperature drives $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$ in Greenland and N. Europe

iLME Winter NAO vs. Winter temperature



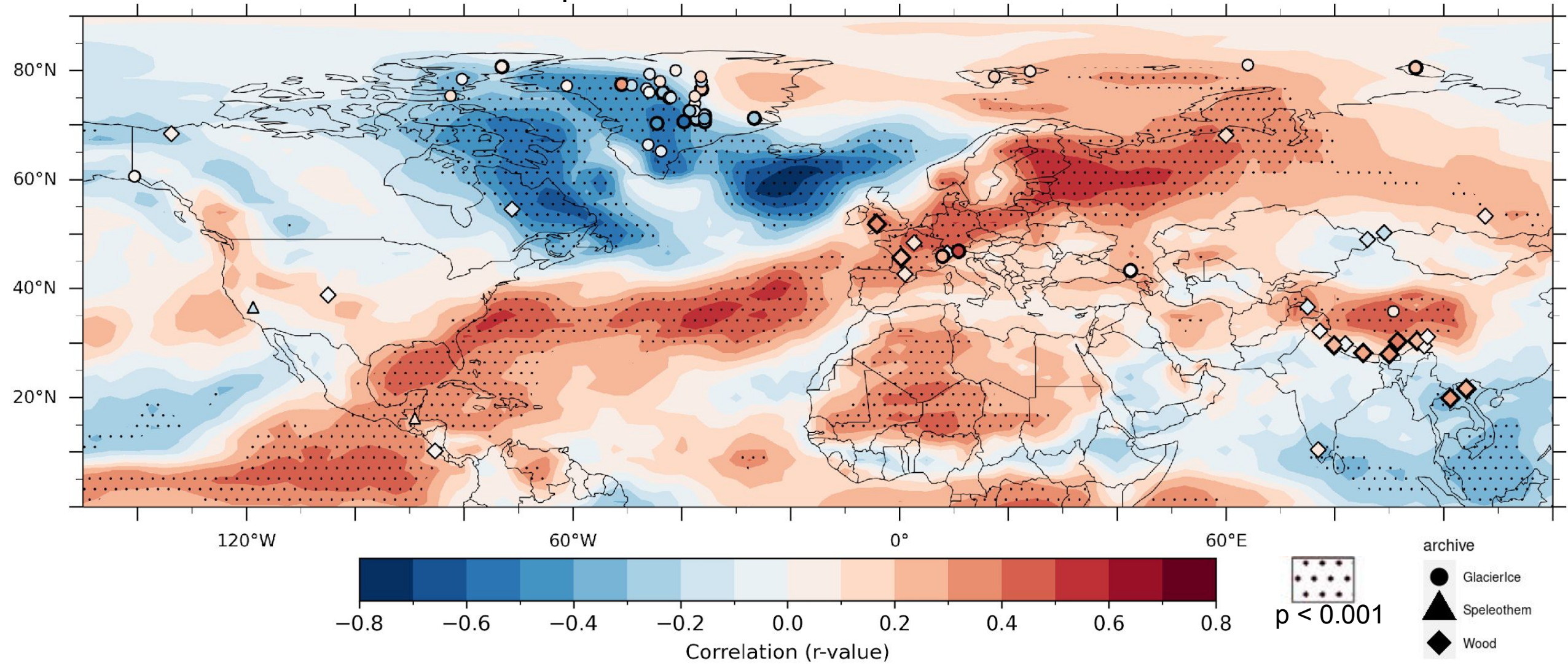
Precipitation drives $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$ over Iberian Peninsula and S. Europe

iLME Winter NAO vs. Winter precipitation

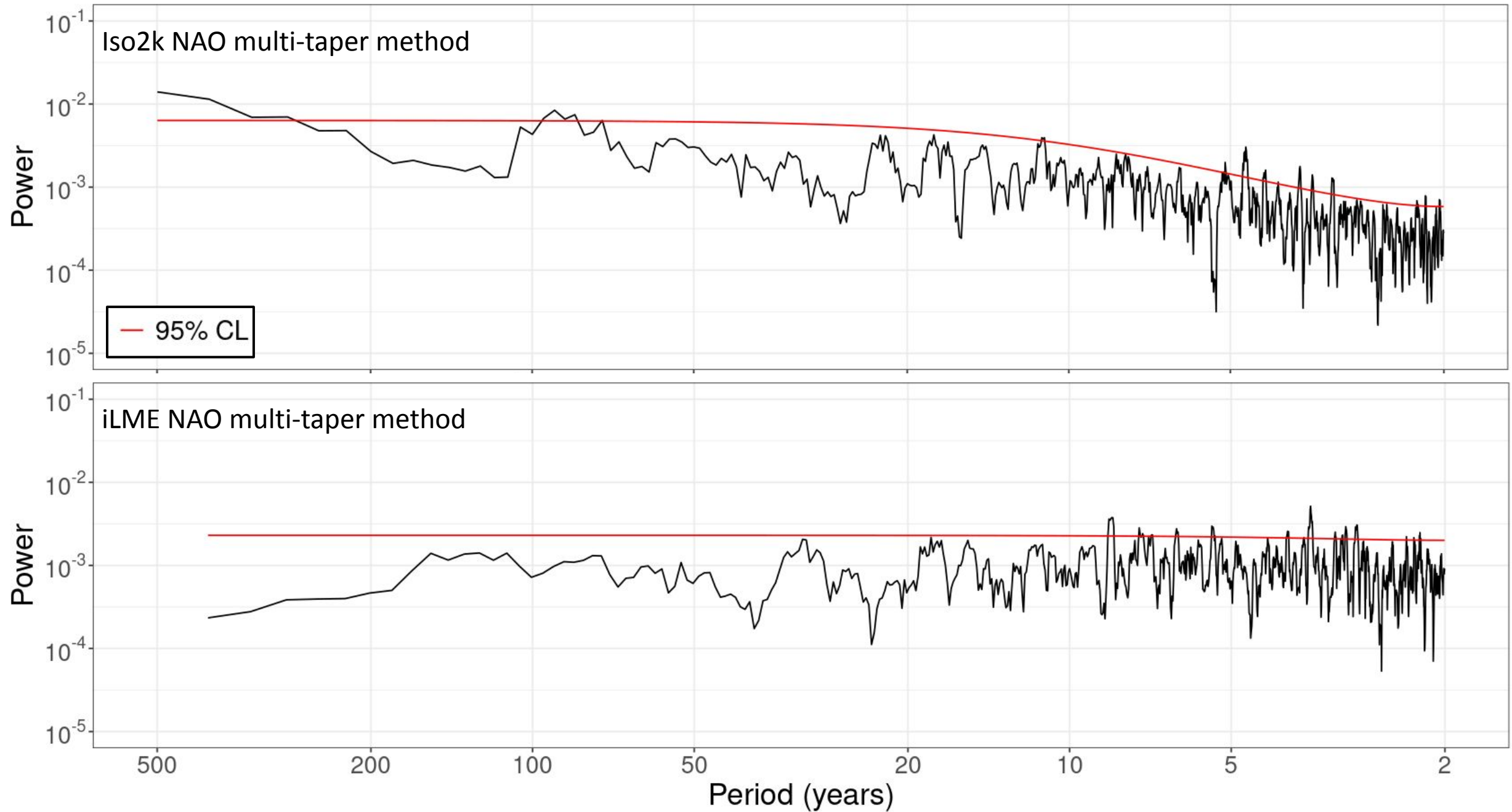


iLME $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ agrees with Iso2k proxy correlations

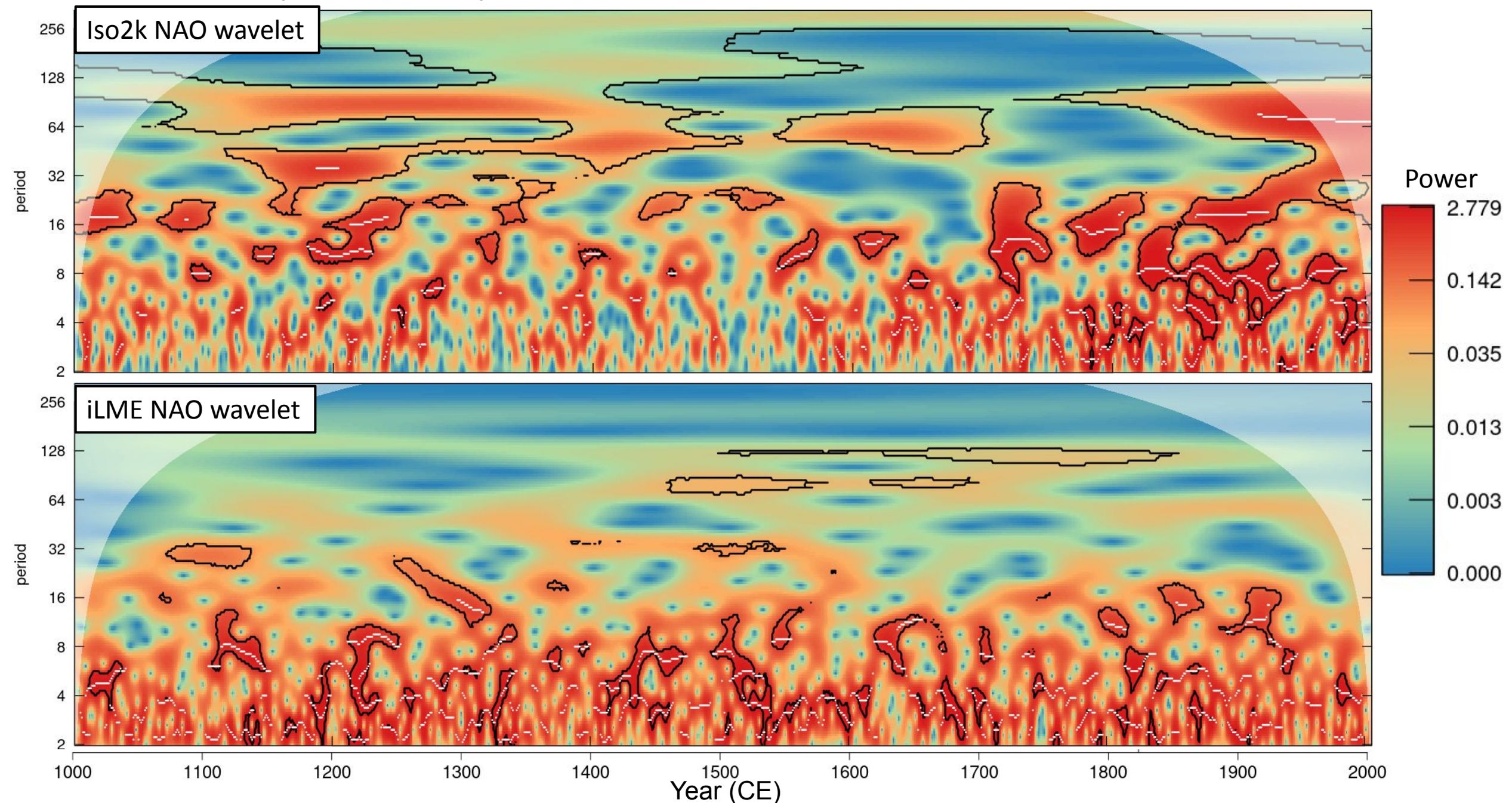
iLME Winter NAO vs. Winter $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$ + Iso2k



Low frequency variability in the Iso2k NAO is absent from the iLME



Low frequency variability in the Iso2k NAO is absent from the iLME



- Iso2k proxy records produce a new reconstruction of the NAO over the last millennium.
- $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ correlations with the NAO in the iLME resemble the Iso2k proxy correlations.
- NAO-correlated $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ drivers change from temperature to precipitation between Northern and Southern Europe.
- Evidence for multi-decadal to centennial variability in the proxy NAO reconstruction but absent from the iLME.

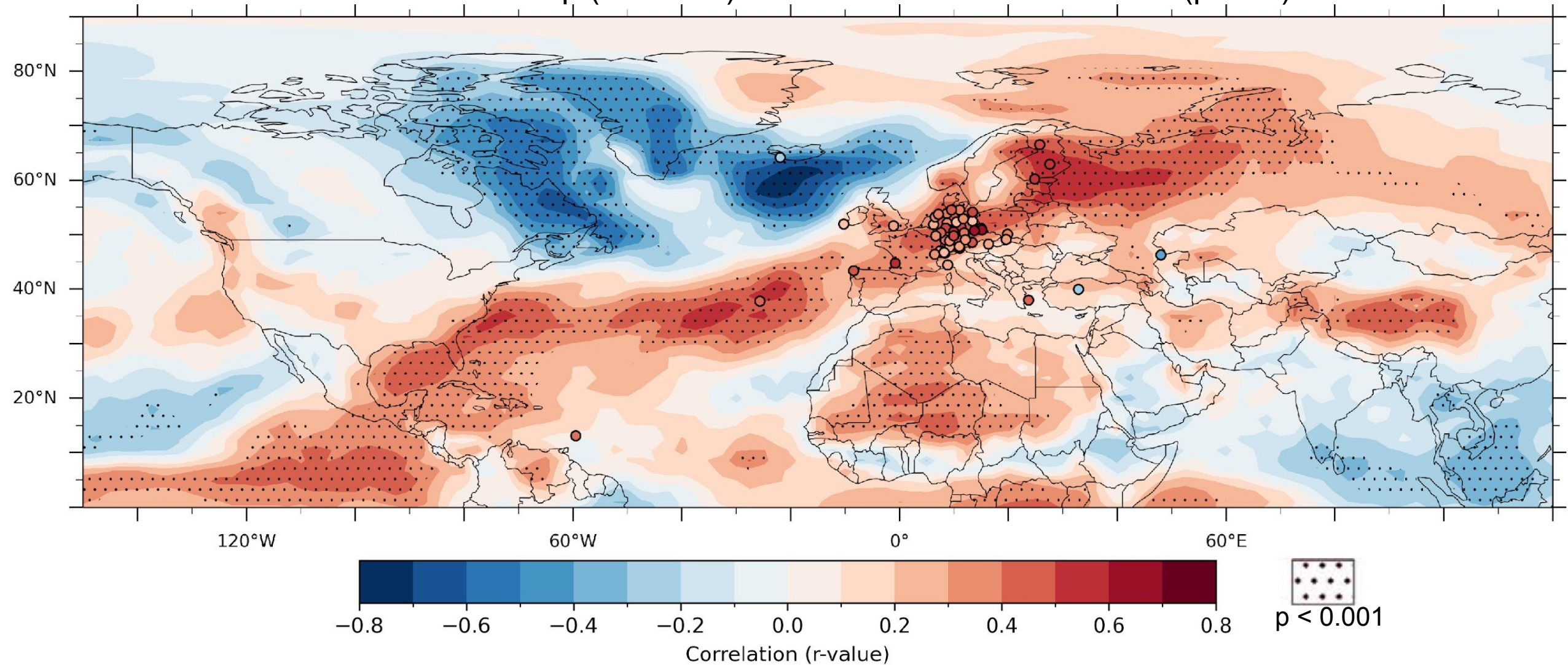
Questions?
Andrew Flaim –
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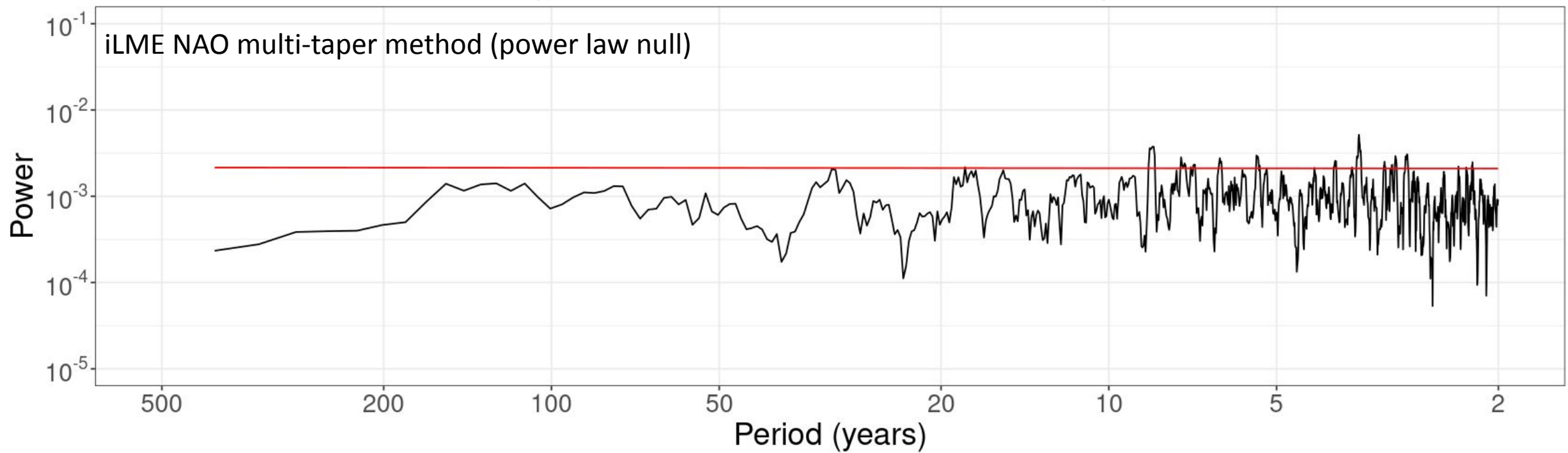
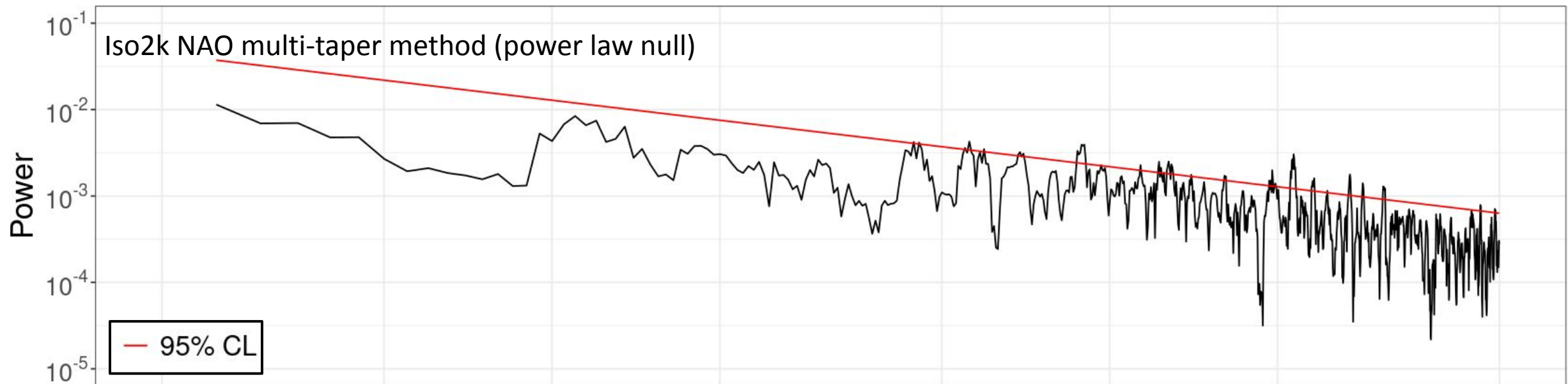


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iLME $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ agrees with Global Network of Isotopes of Precipitation (GNIP)

iLME Winter NAO vs. Winter $\delta^{18}\text{O}_p$ (contours) + Instrumental NAO vs. GNIP (points)





Regional NAO Correlations:

Greenland and Europe subset underperforms relative to the full Northern Hemisphere CPS.

Greenland, Europe, and Asia together reproduce the full Northern Hemisphere distribution.

Using only tree-ring cellulose records from Asia outperforms the Greenland and Europe subset.

