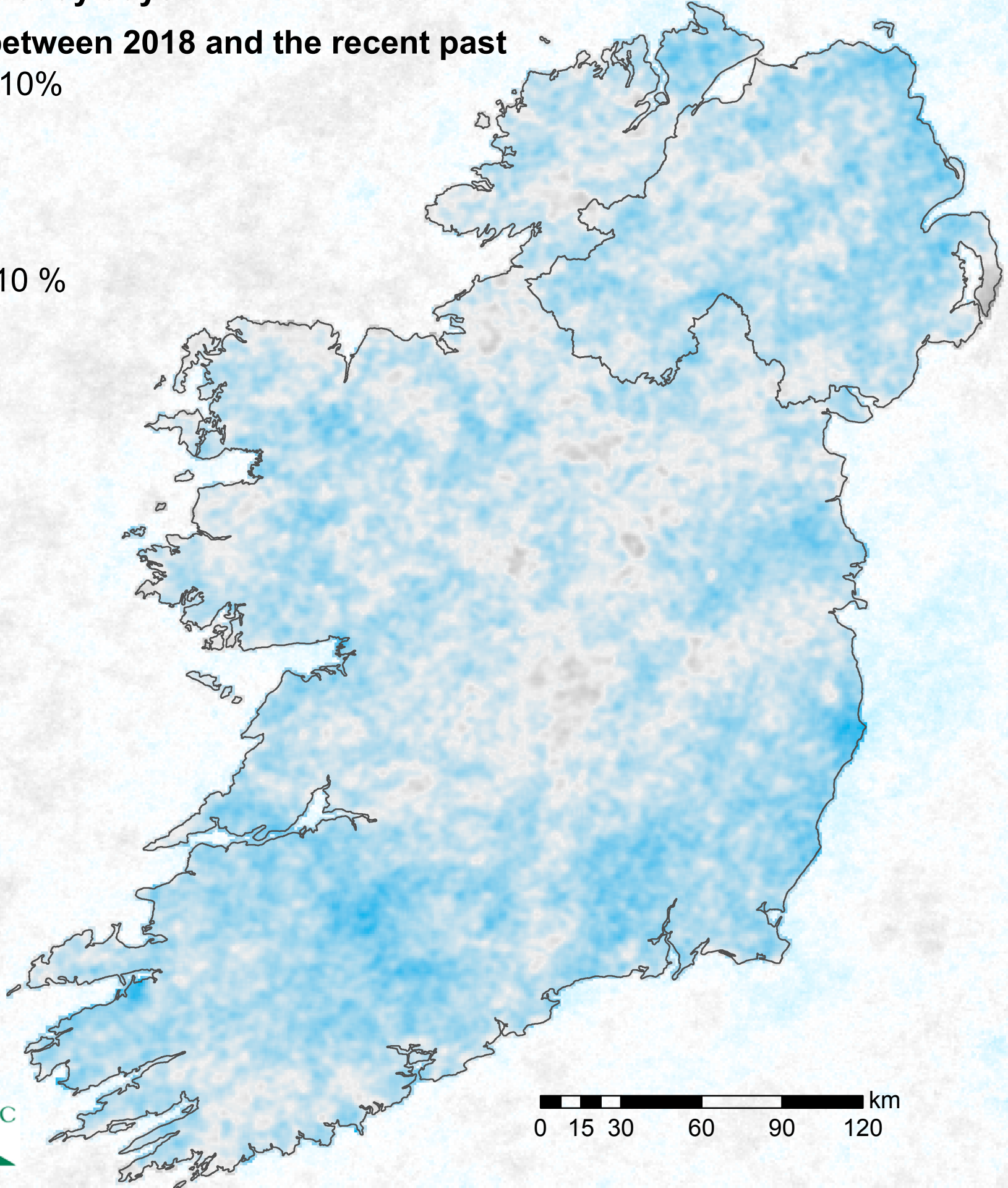
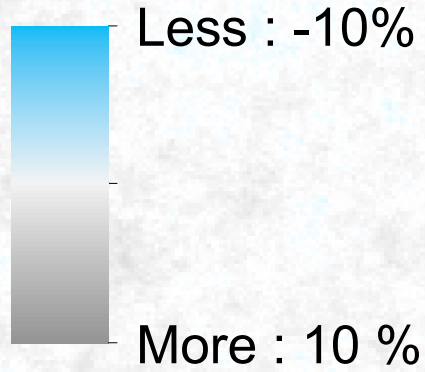


Blue skies over Ireland

Number of cloudy days

Difference between 2018 and the recent past



Ireland is a very cloudy country. From a remote sensing point of view this can be difficult as much of the imagery recorded from optical sensors is useless to those not interested in clouds. Last year was one of the warmest summers on record, preceded by a long and wet spring. This begs the question if 2018 was more or less cloudy than usual.

The map below illustrates the difference in cloudy images as recorded by the NASA MODIS satellite between 2018 and the decade prior (2008 to 2017). Each pixel represents a 1 km² grid cell. The map shows that on average 2018 had fewer cloudy days (285) than the decade prior (292). Although there are some areas that show a higher cloud cover in the midlands.

Projection: MODIS Sinusoidal

Datasets used:
MODIS daily surface reflection products 2008-2018
We acknowledge the use of NASA MOD09GA daily products

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