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# New Insights on the Variability of Ecosystem Functioning Across Time Scales

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<sup>5</sup> Department of Water Resources and Environmental Engineering, School of Civil Engineering, National Technical University of Athens, Greece

> New Insights on the Variability of  
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> New Insights on the **Variability**<sup>2</sup> of  
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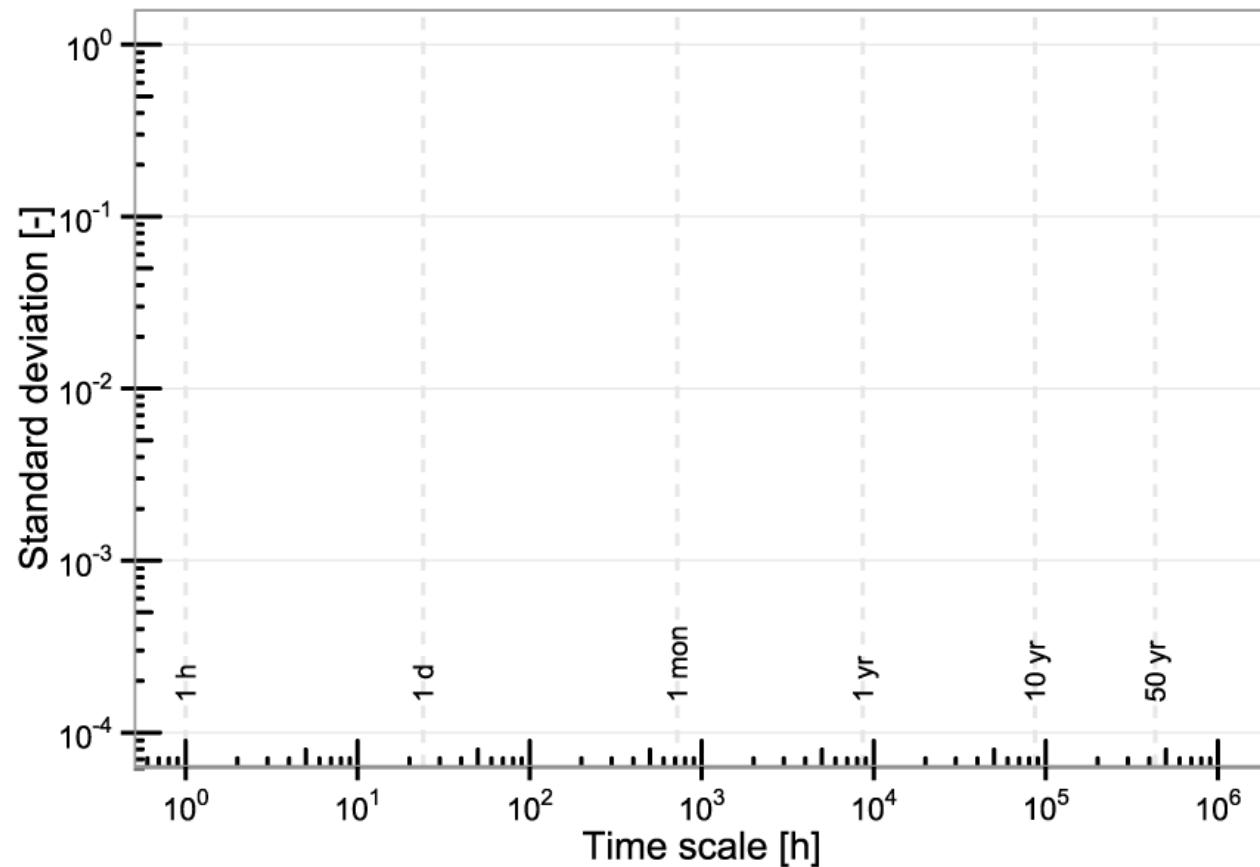
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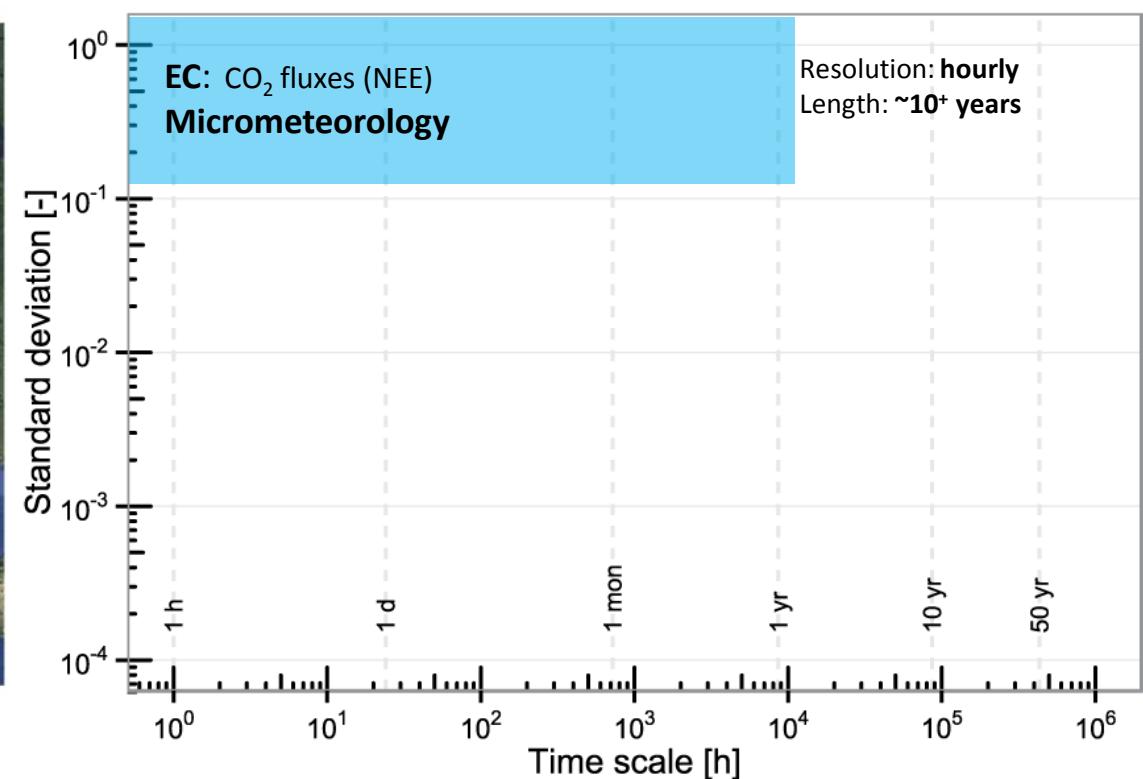
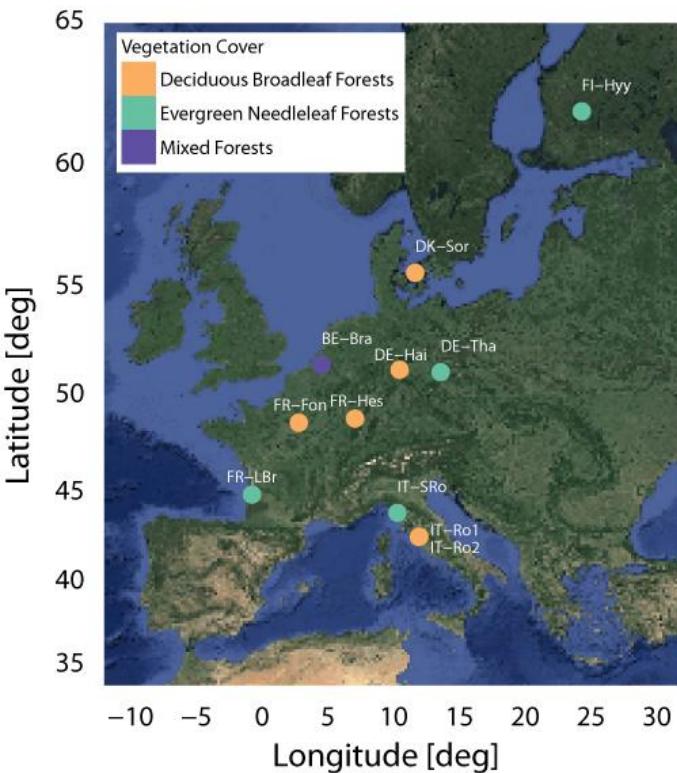
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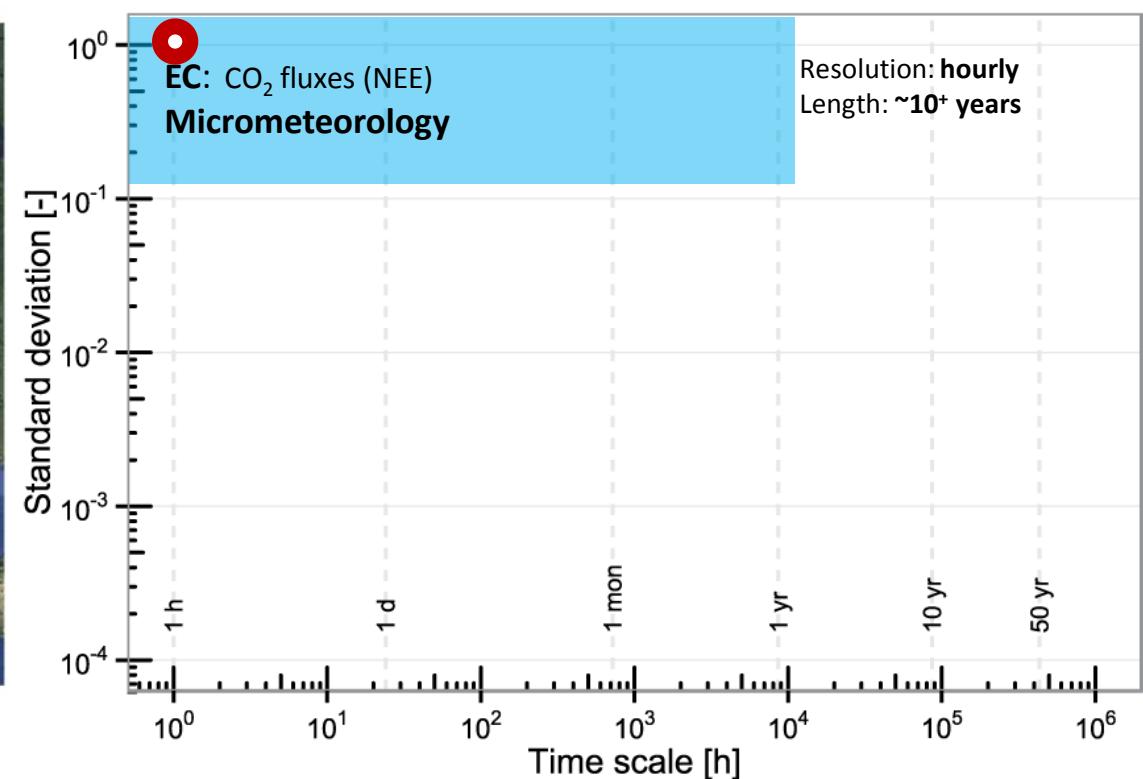
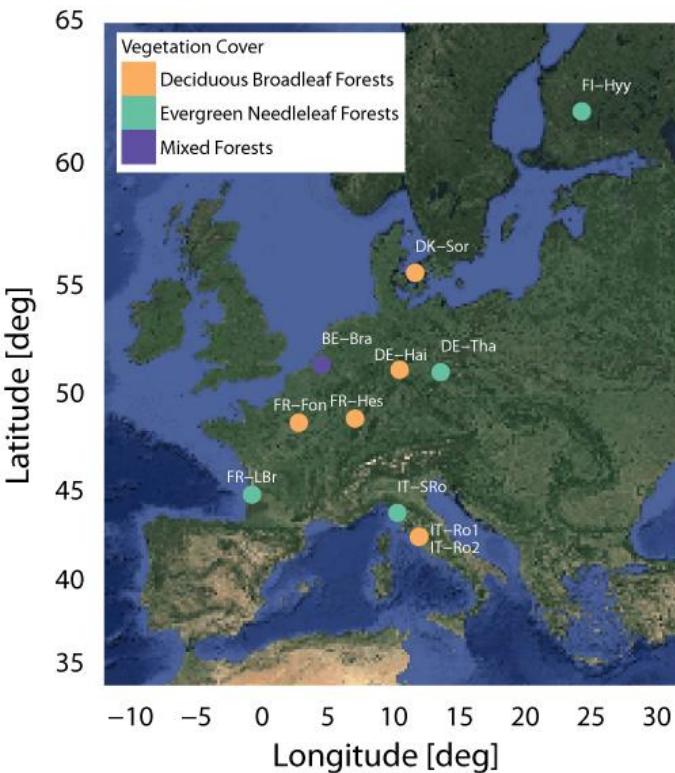
<sup>4</sup> quantify, interpret, and model





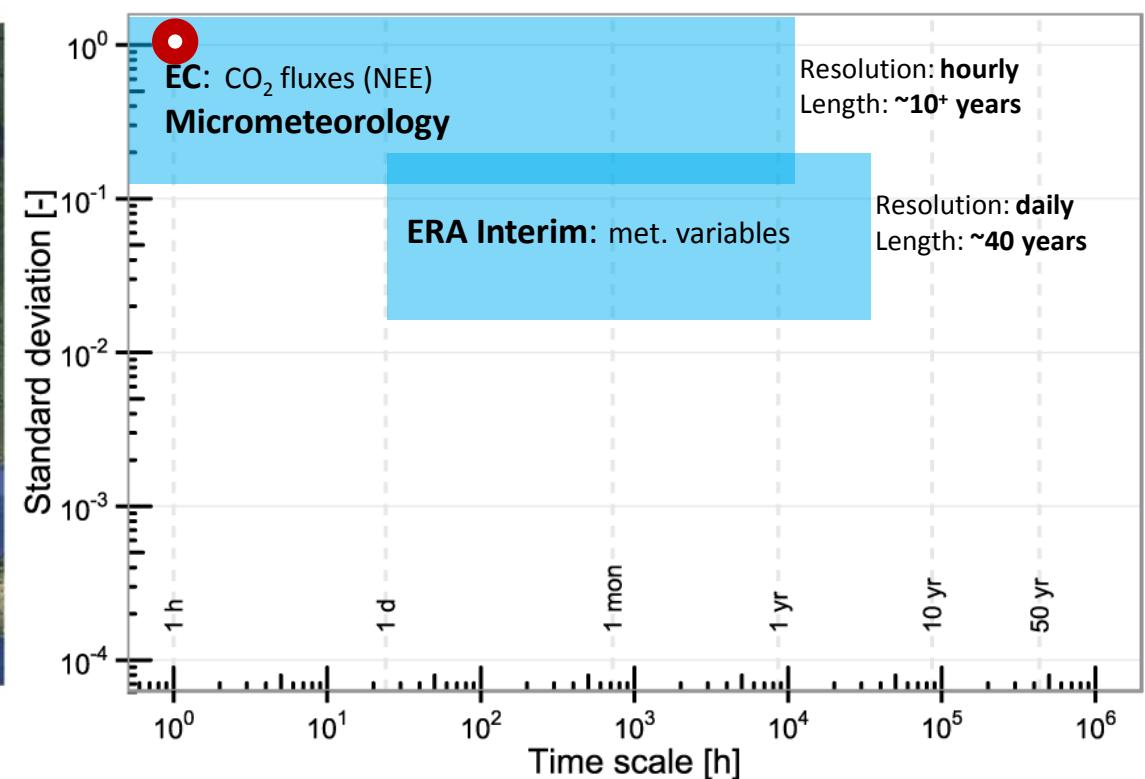
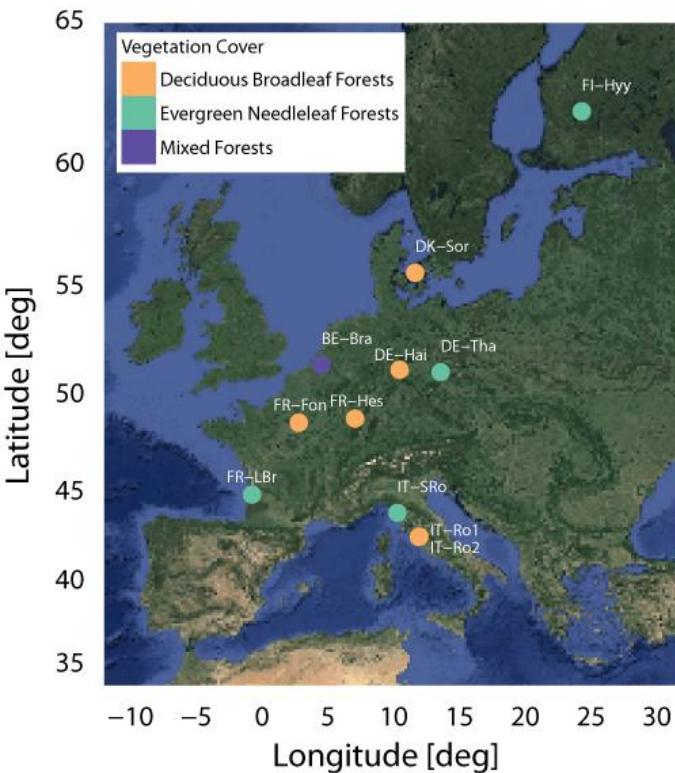
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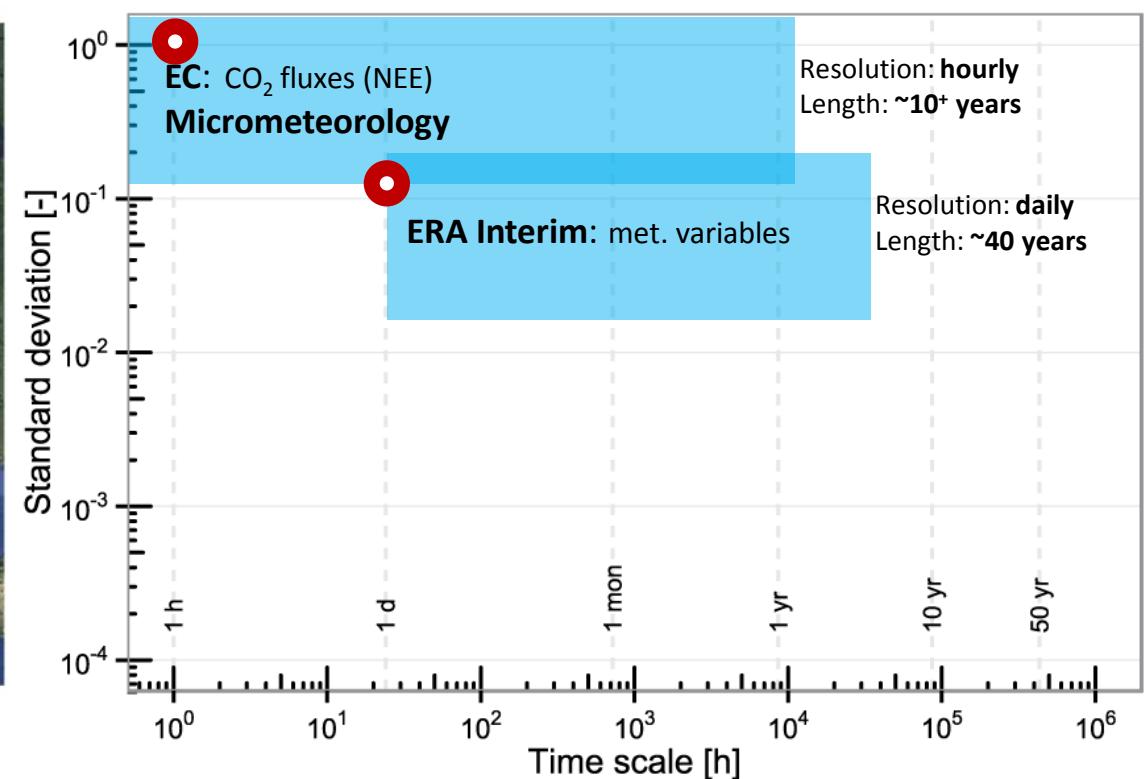
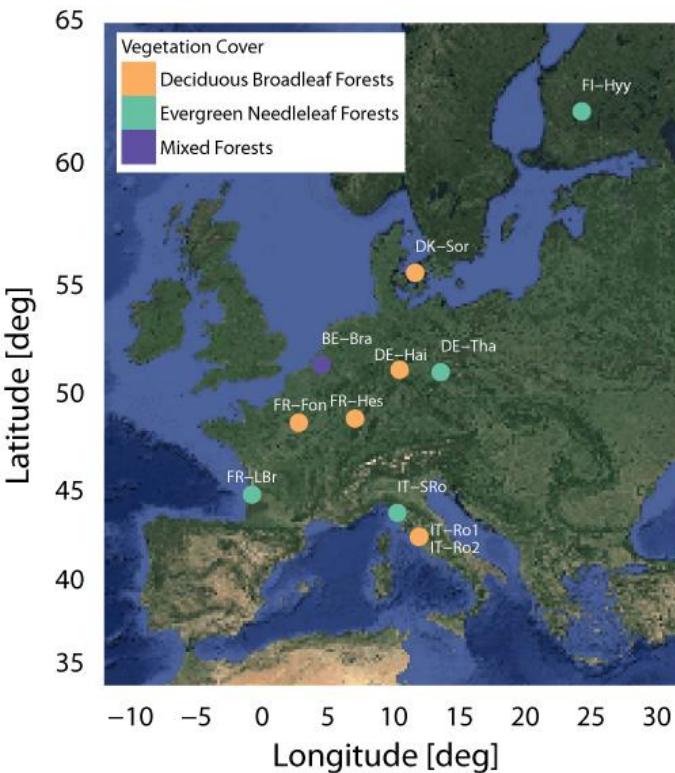


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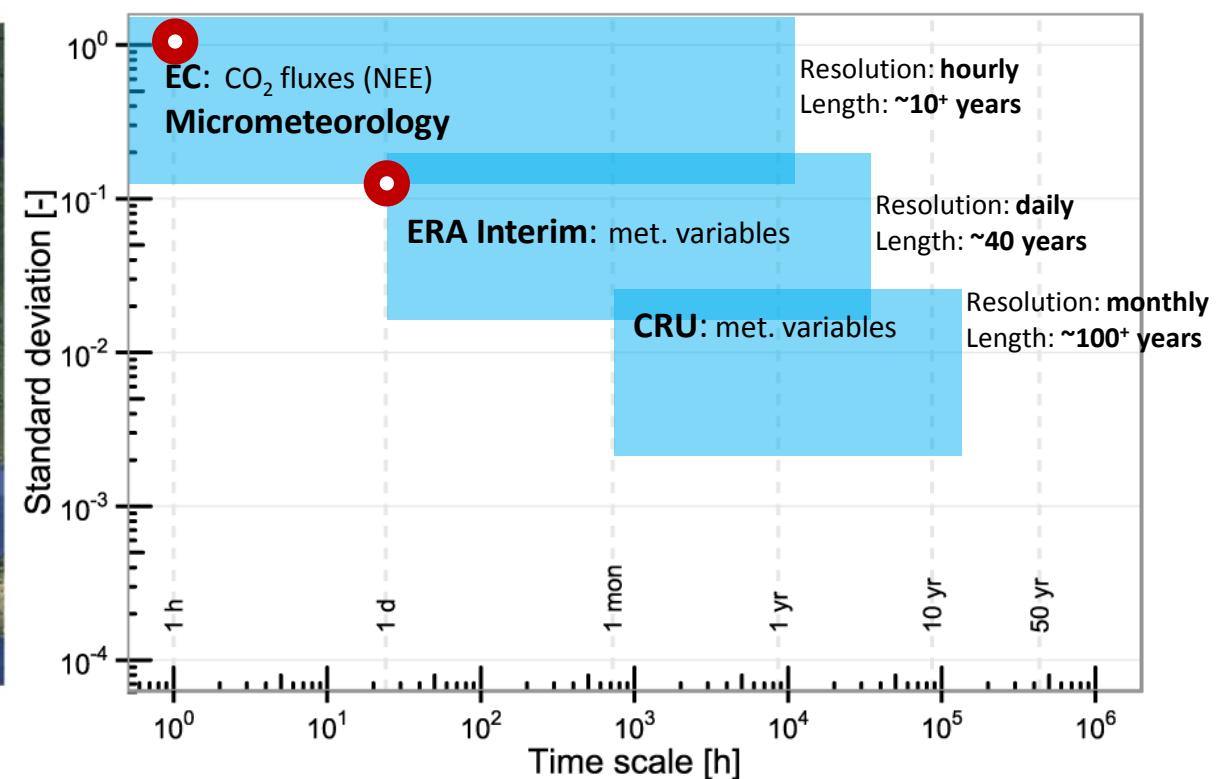
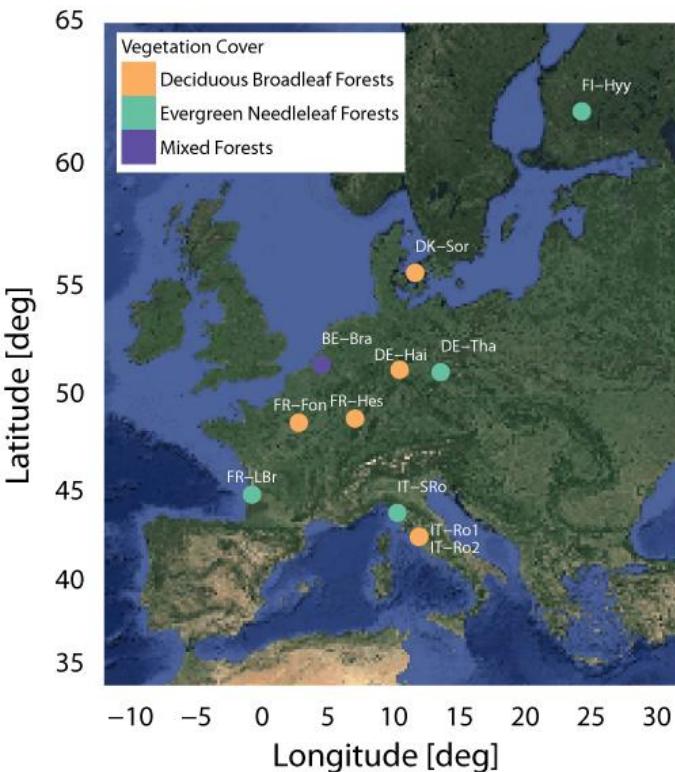
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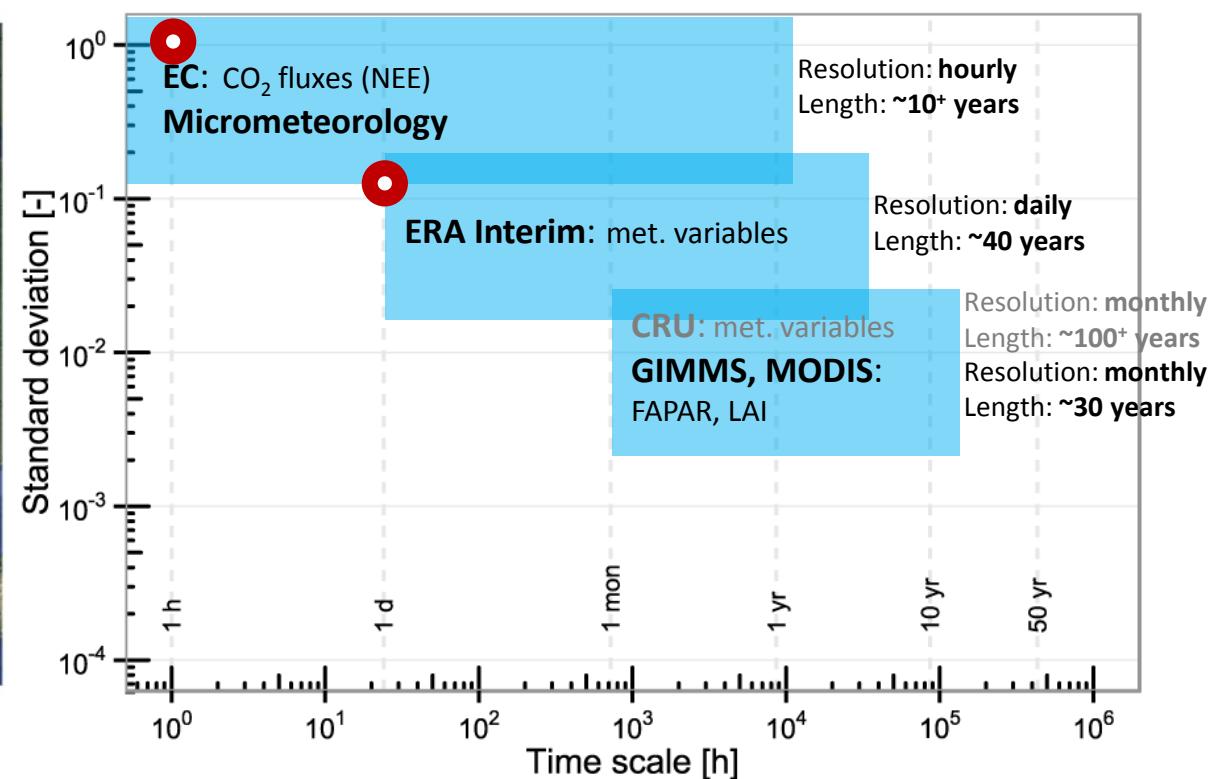
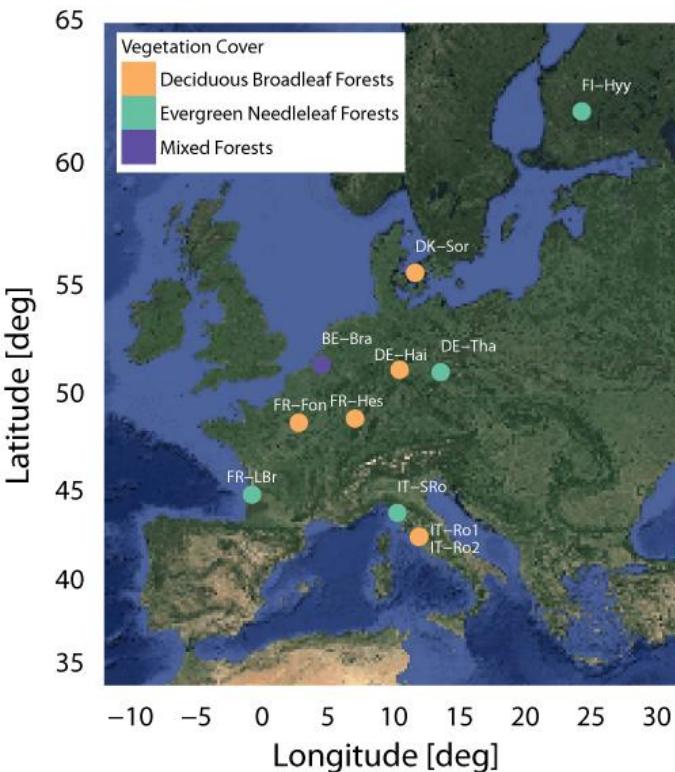


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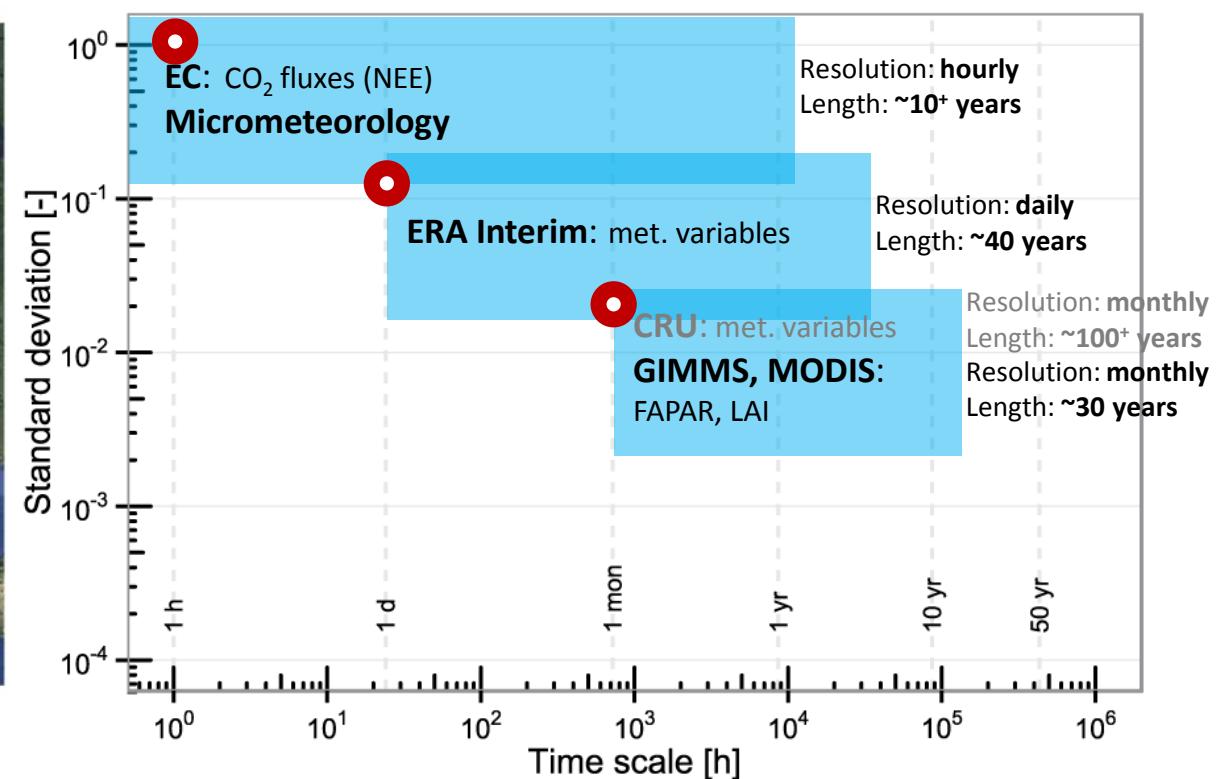
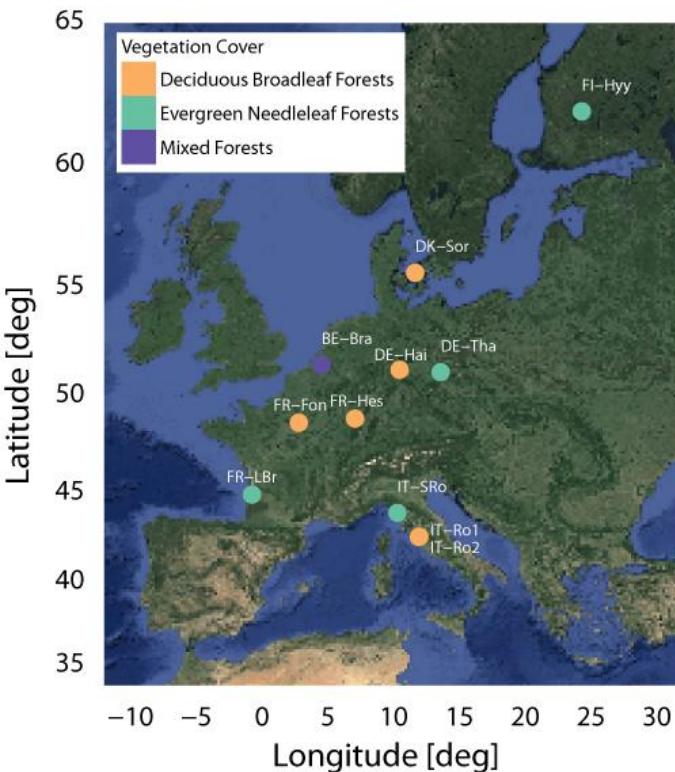
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Mitchell, T.D., Carter, T.R., Jones, P.D., and Hulme, M., 2004: A comprehensive set of high-resolution grids of monthly climate for Europe and the globe: the observed record (1901-2000) and 16 scenarios (2001-2100). *Tyndall Centre Working Papers*.



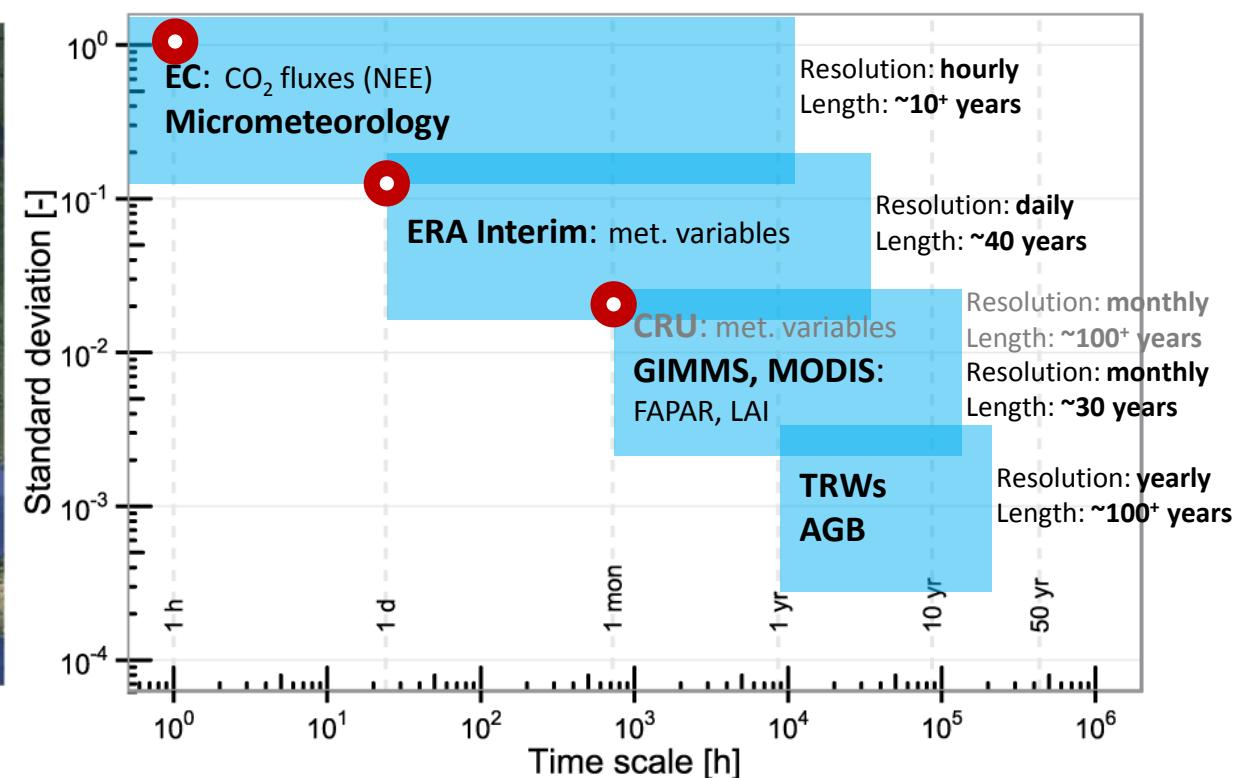
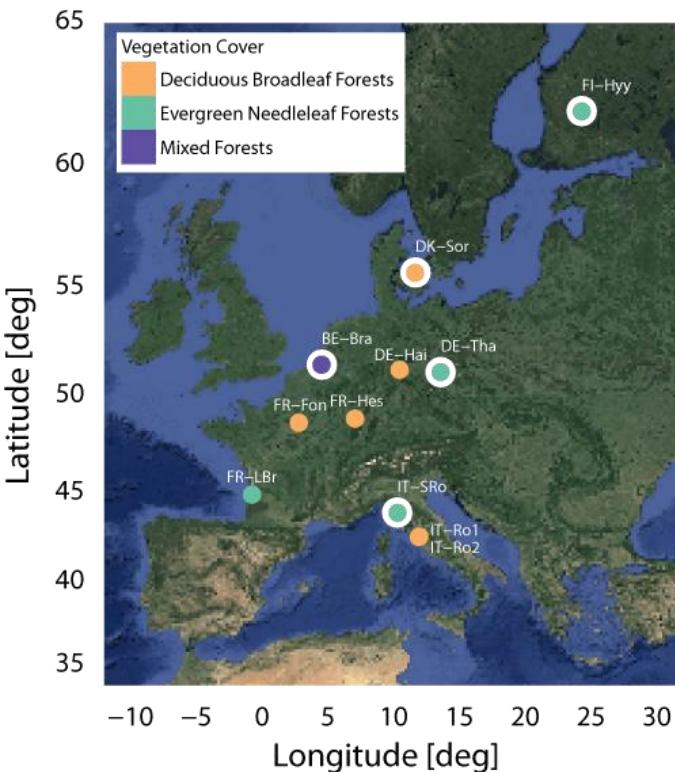
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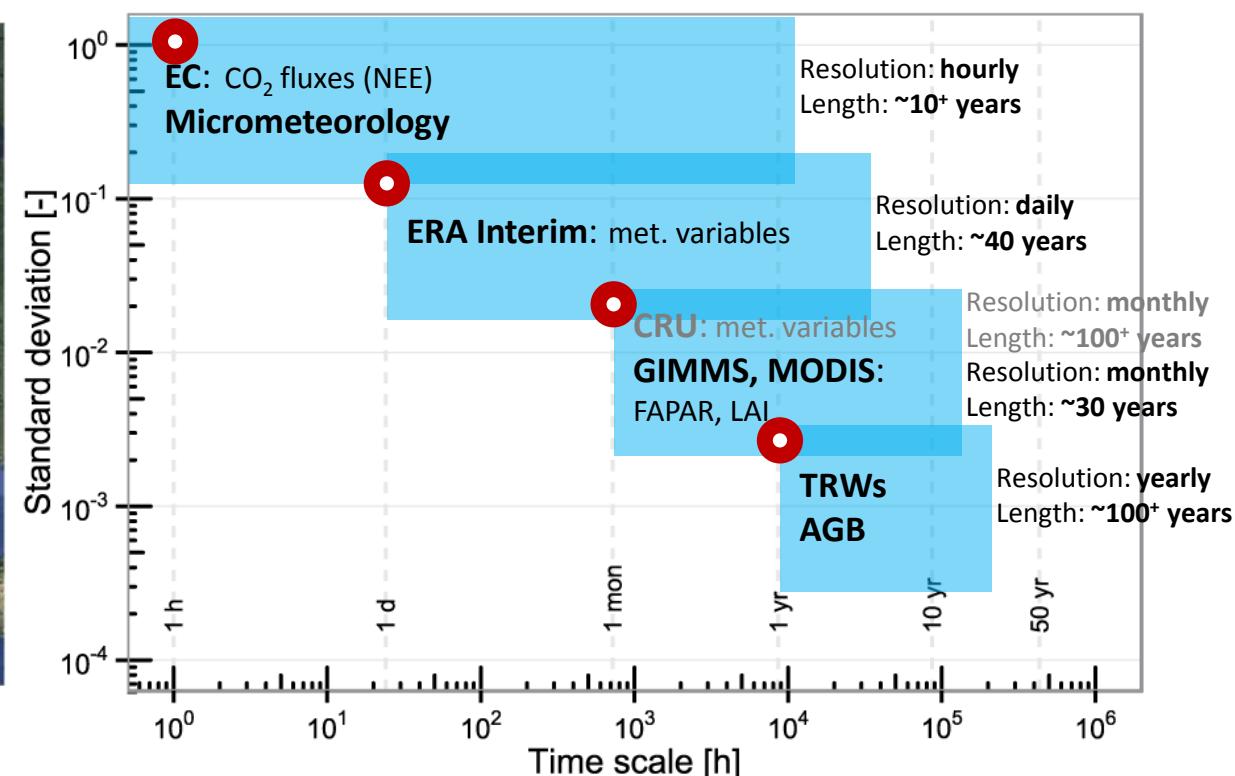
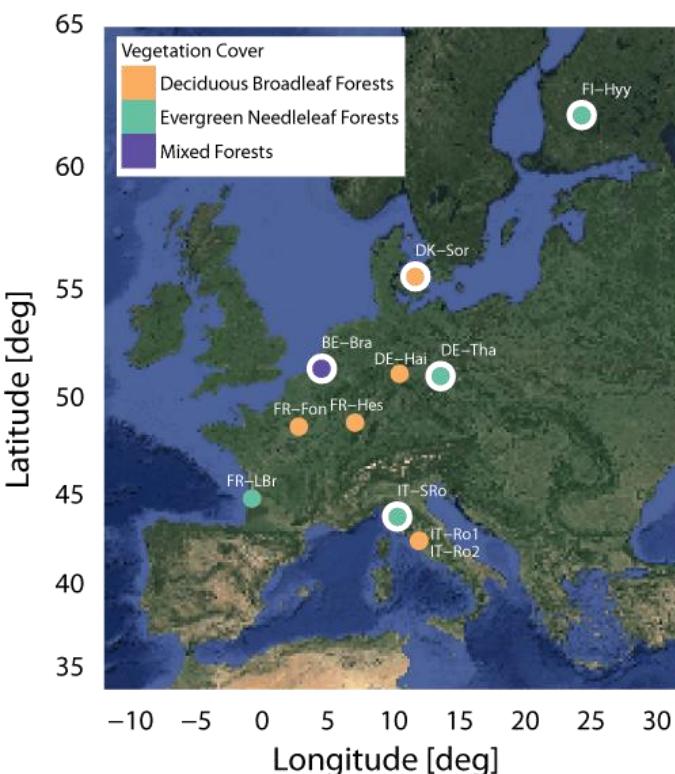
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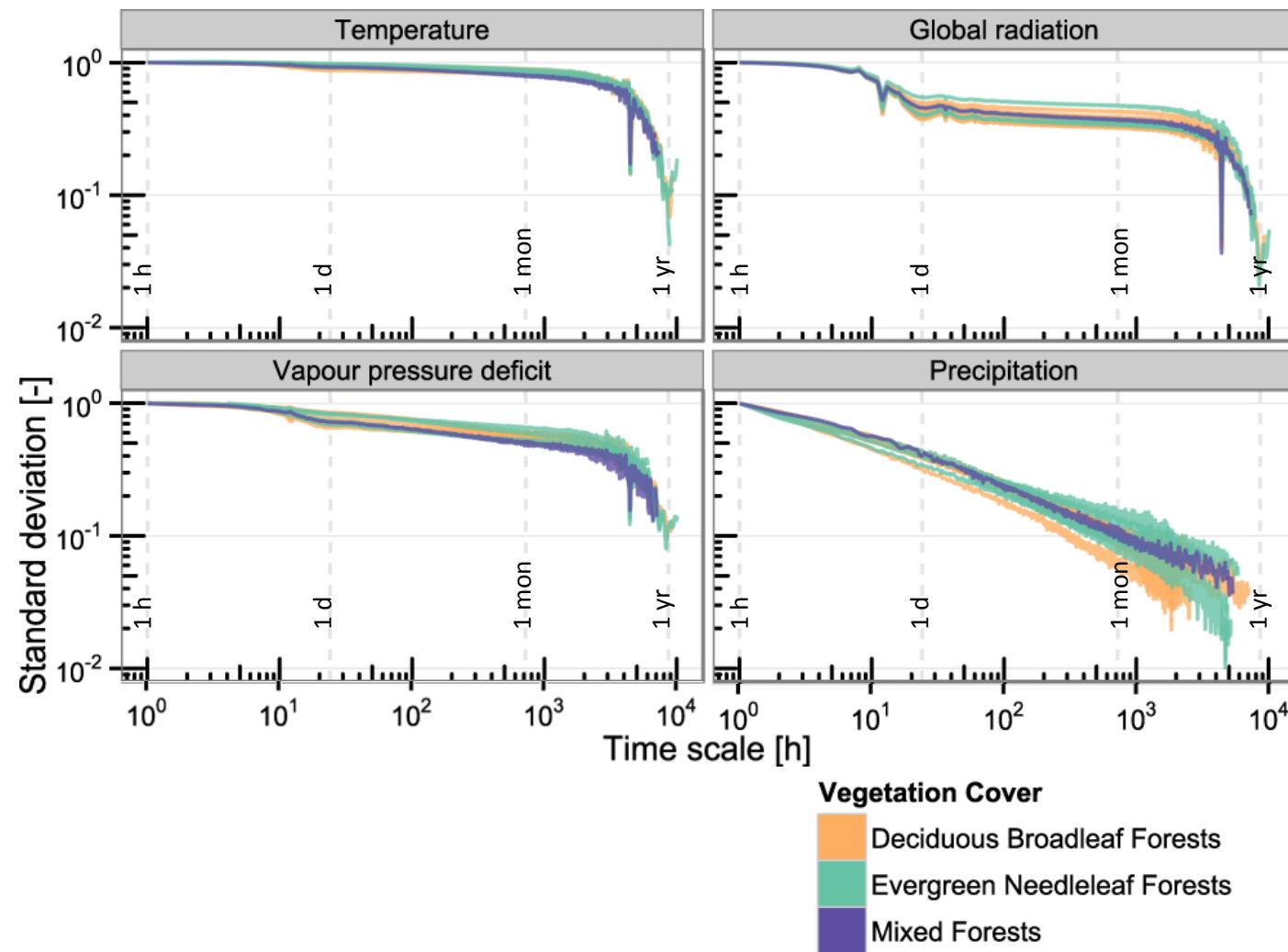
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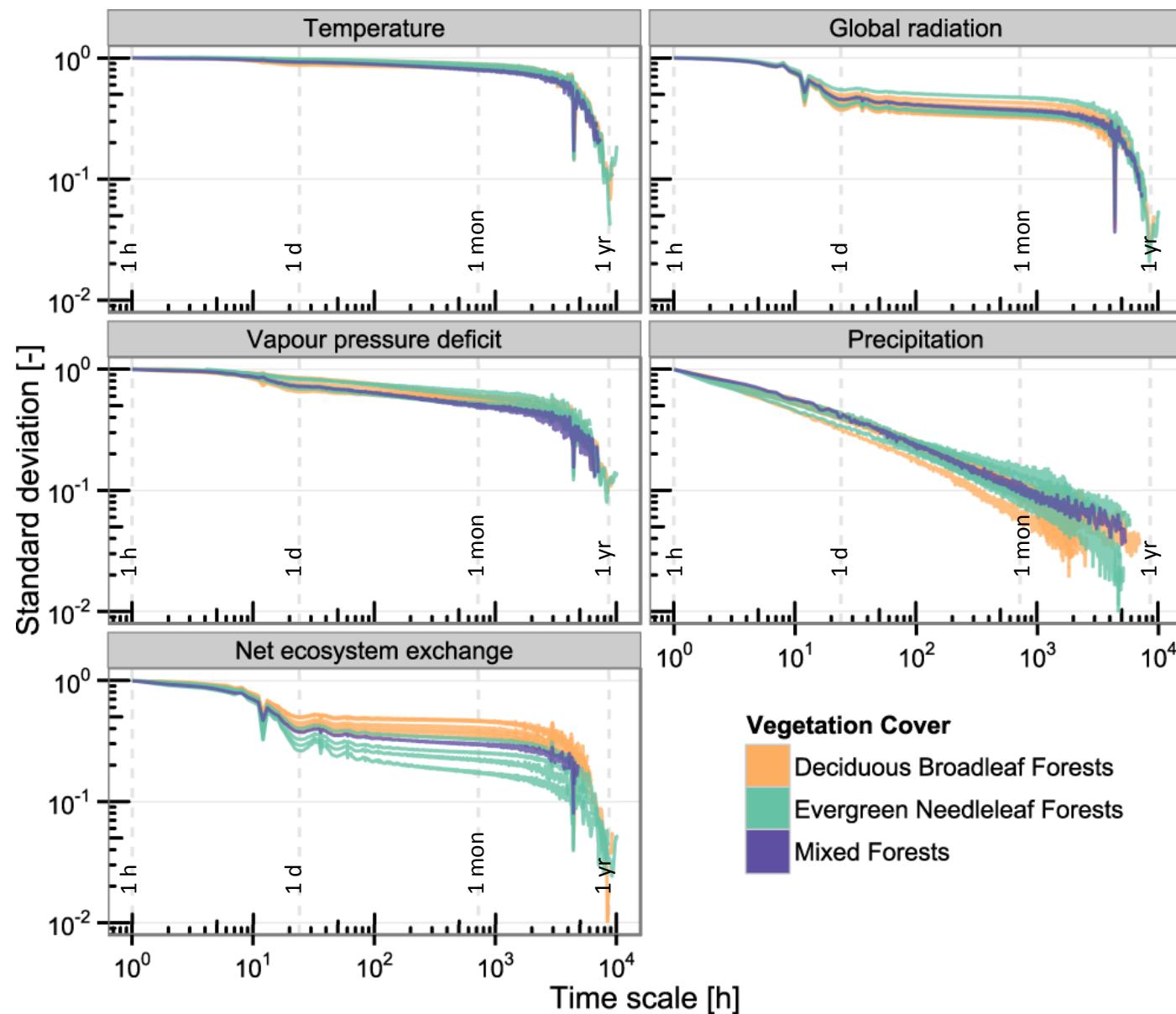
# Data

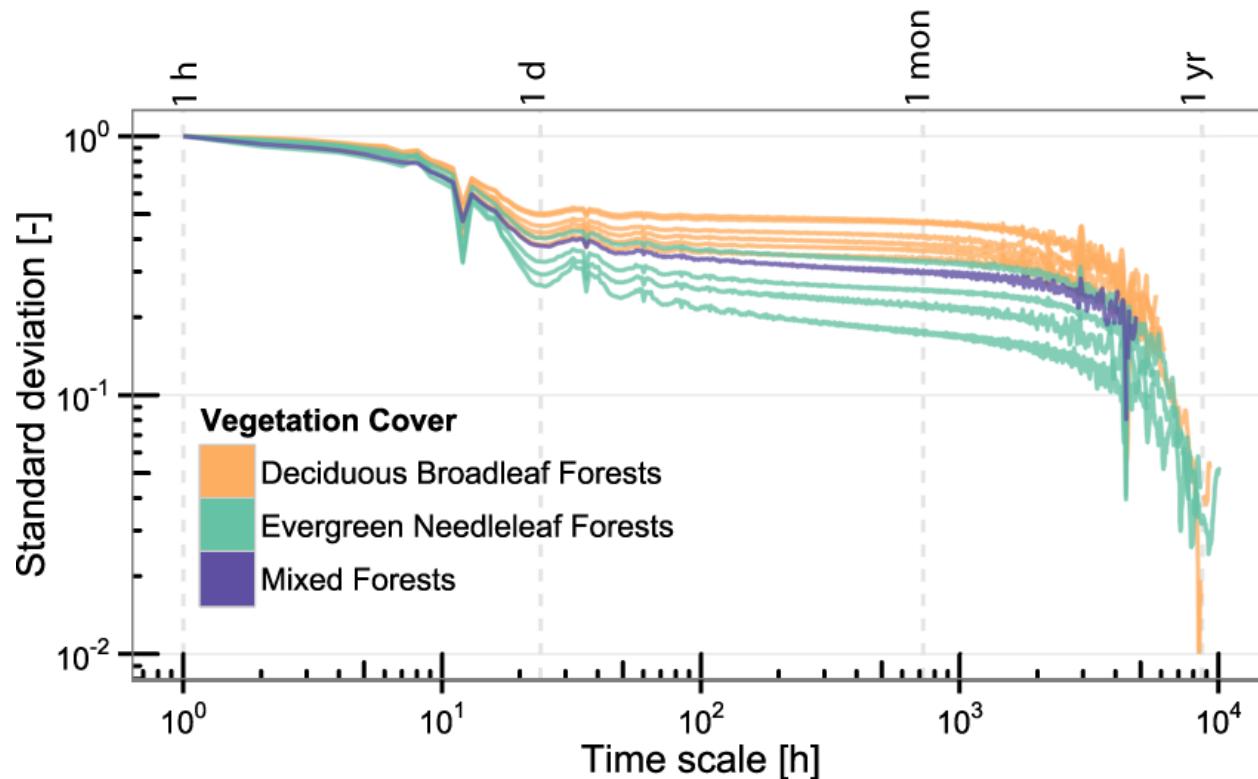


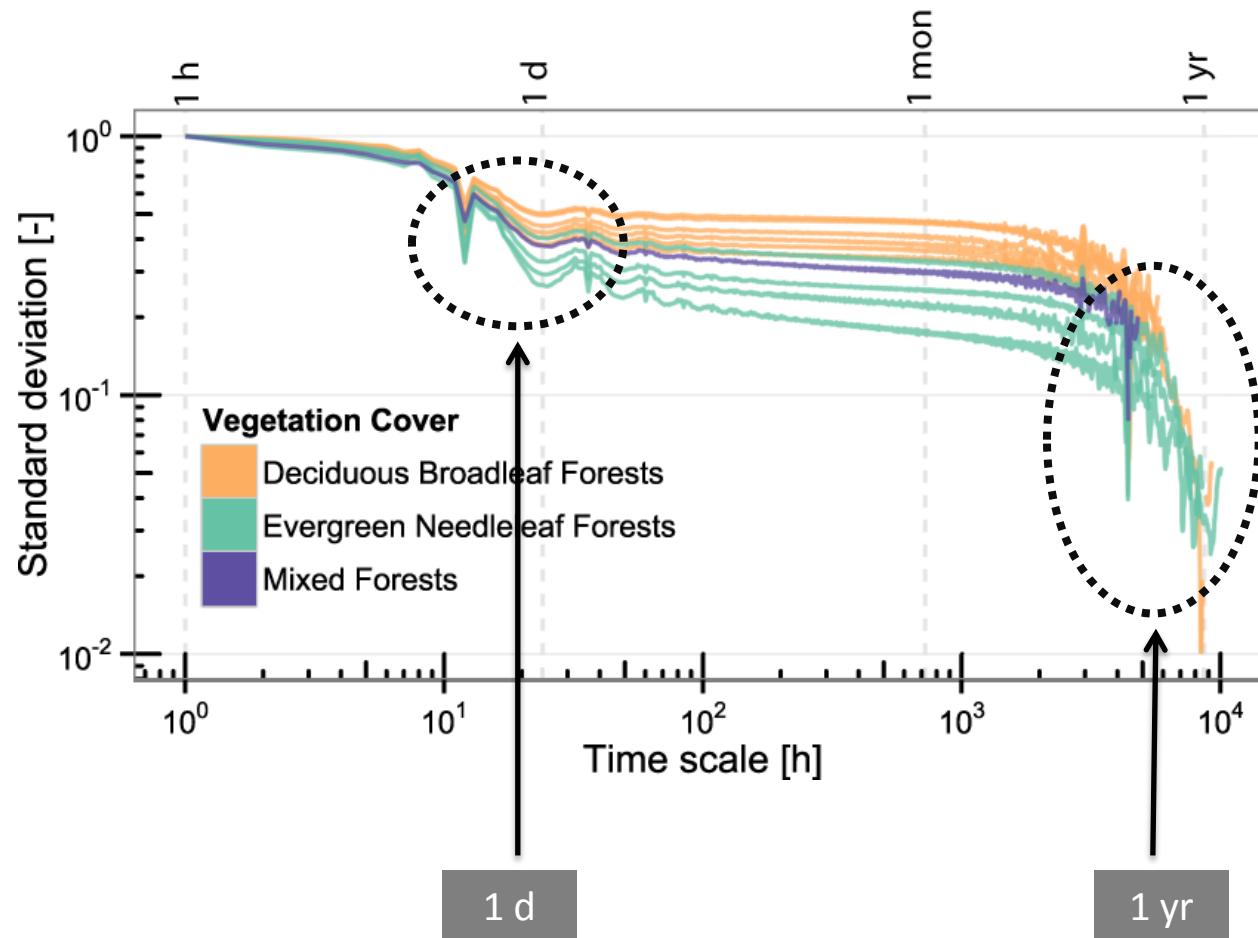
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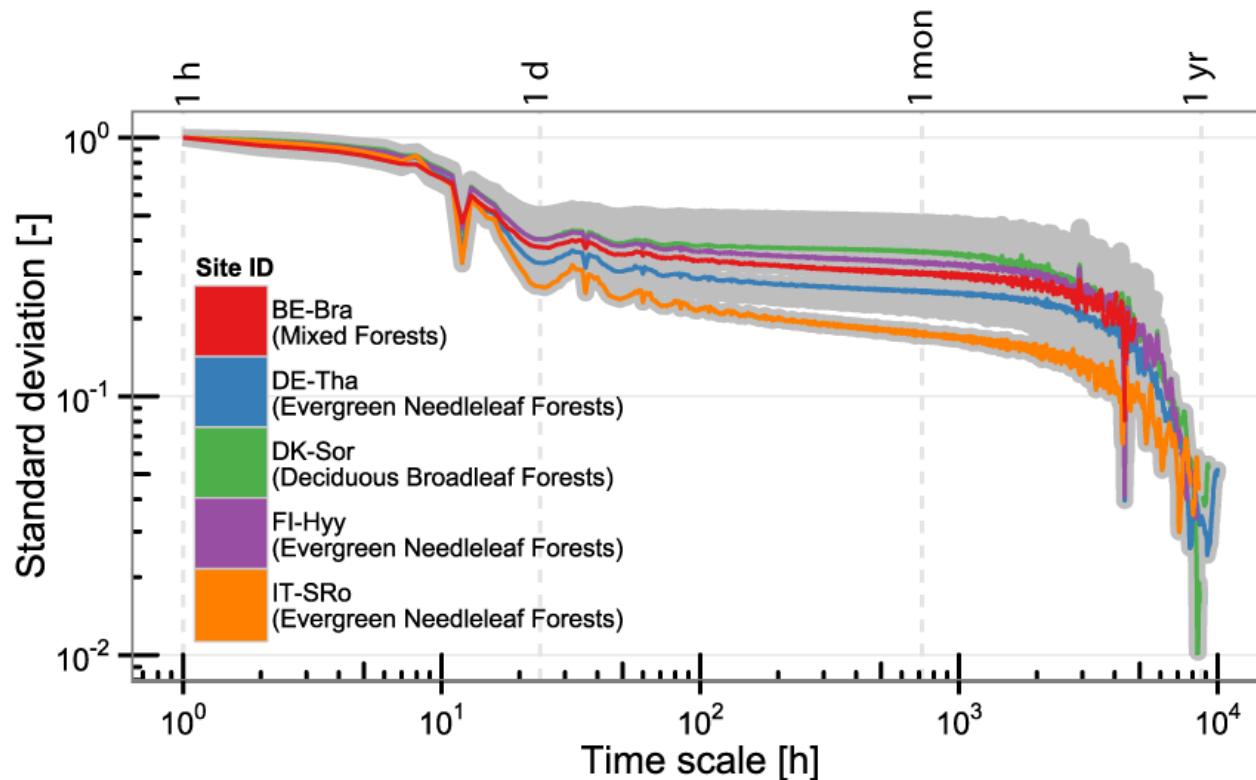
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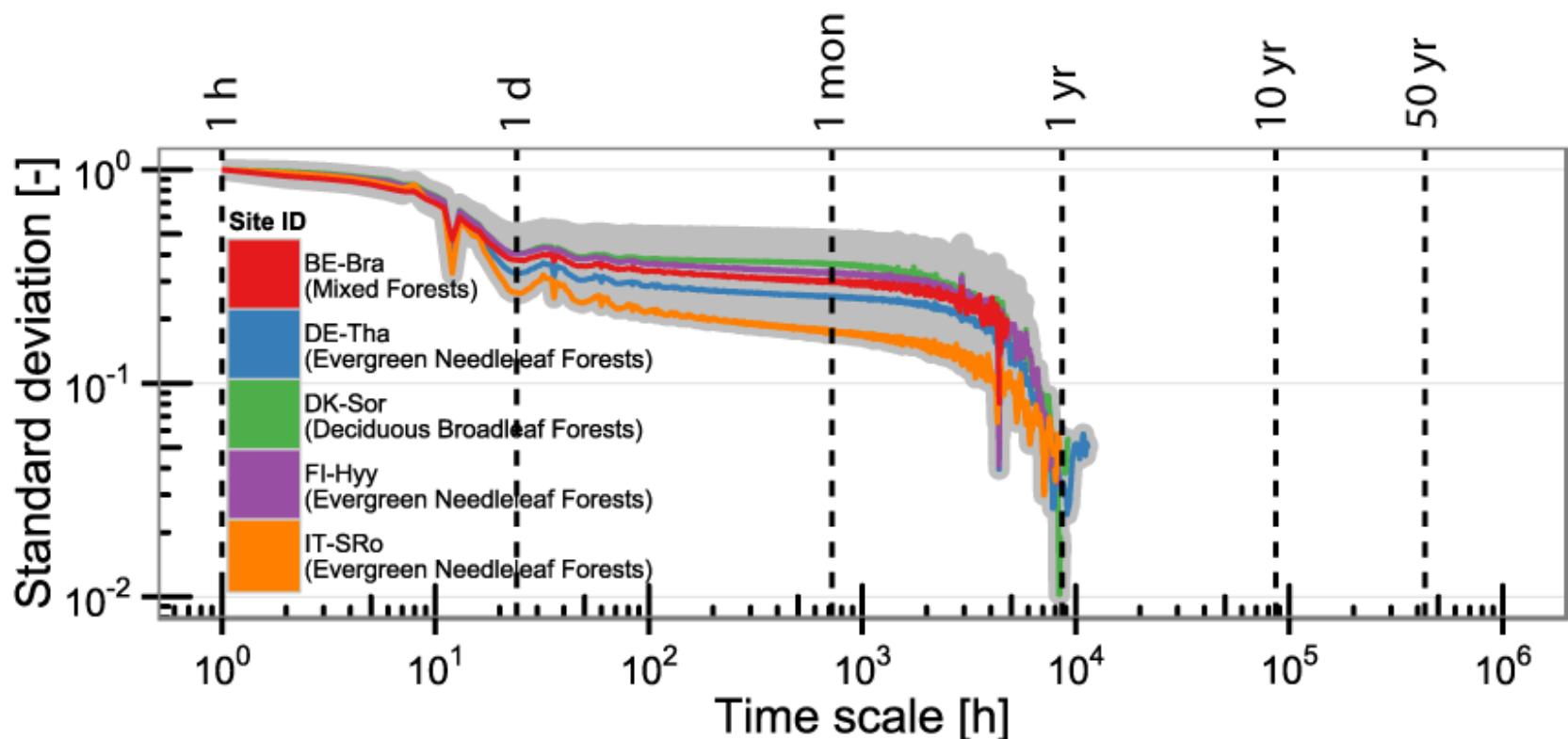


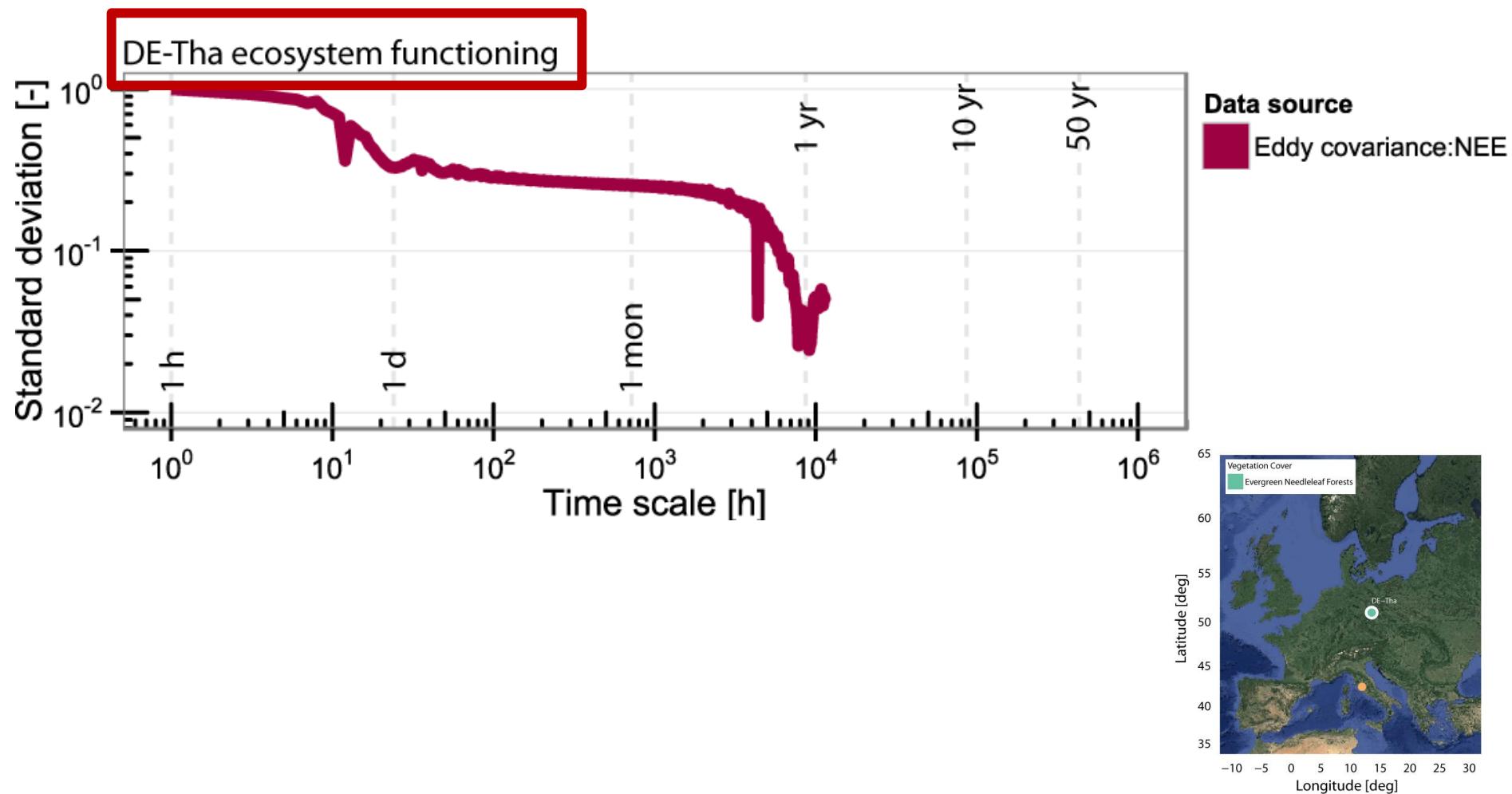


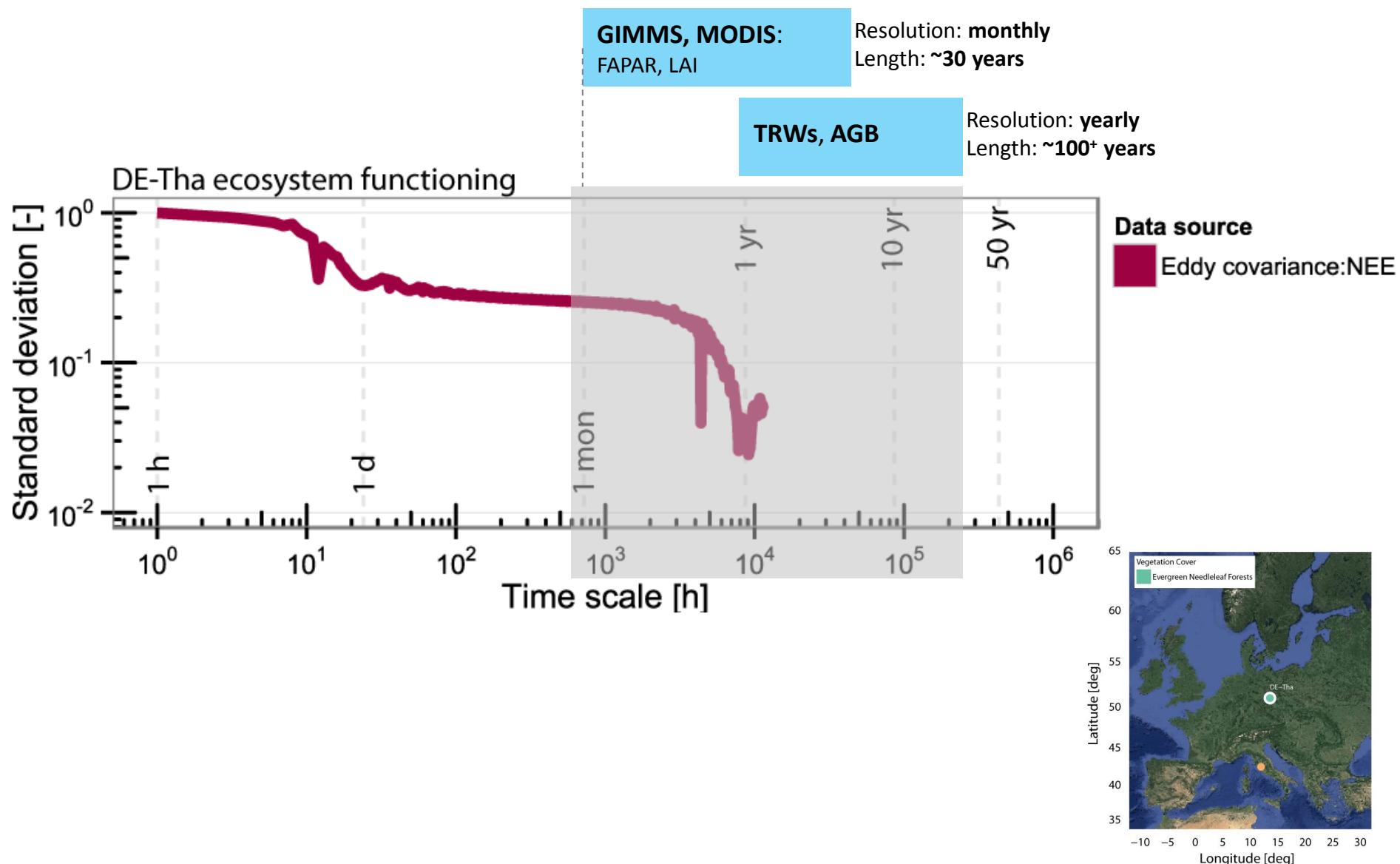


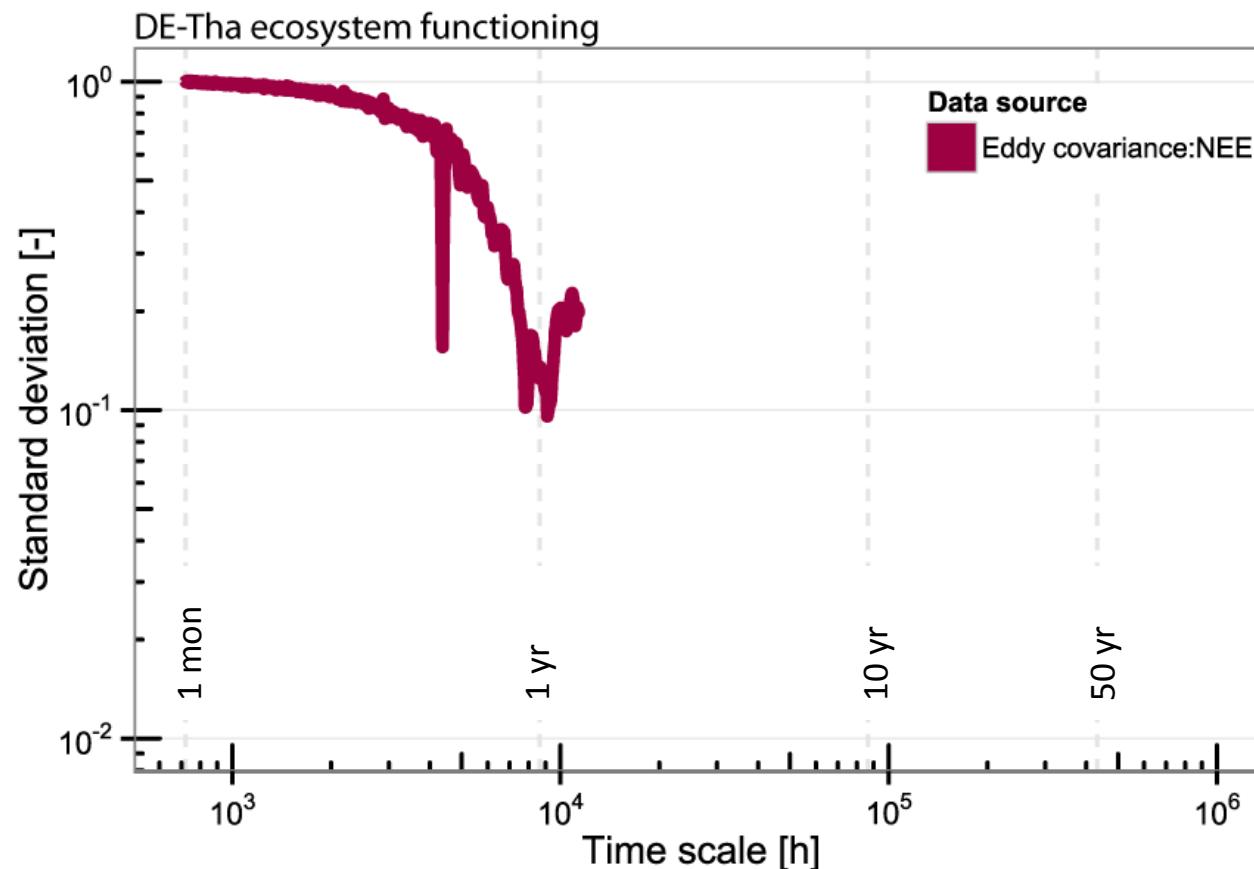


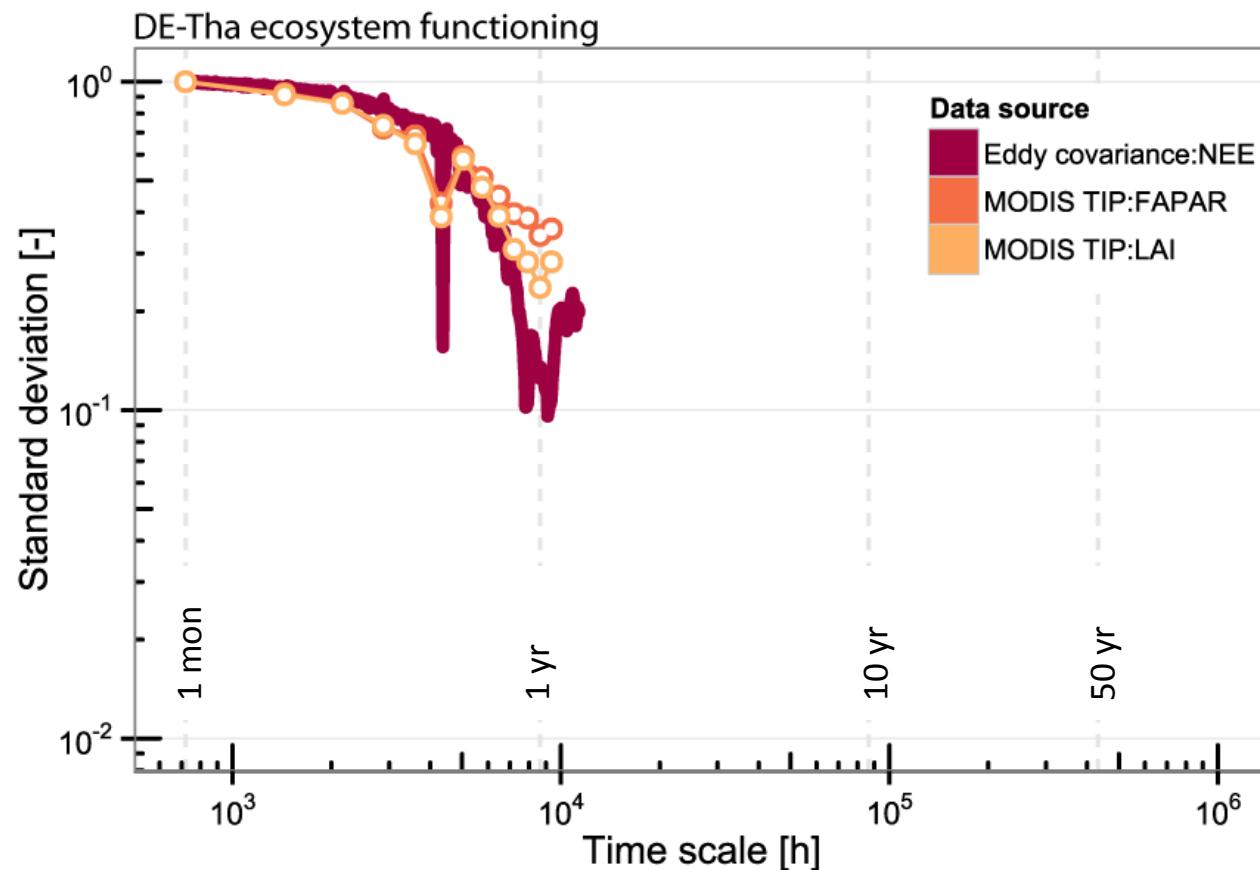


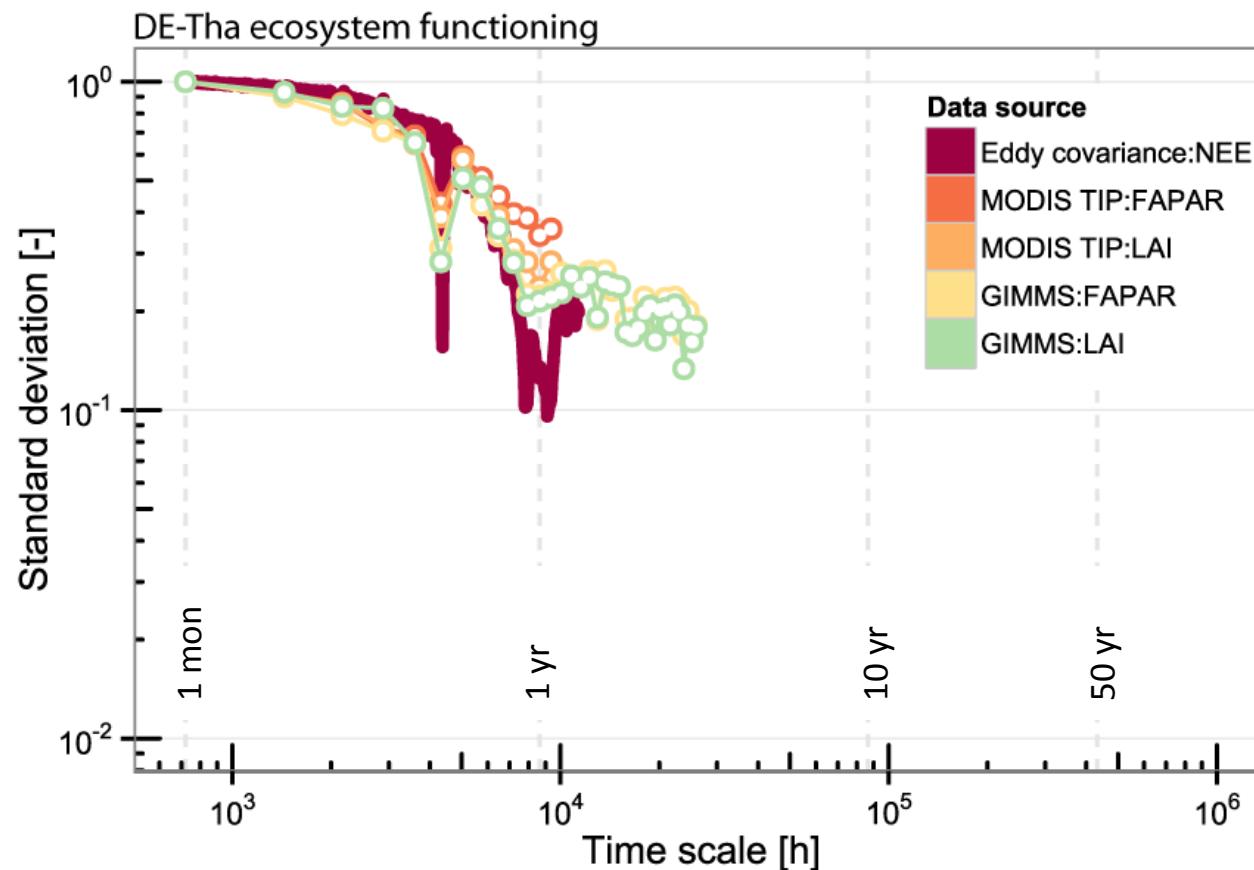


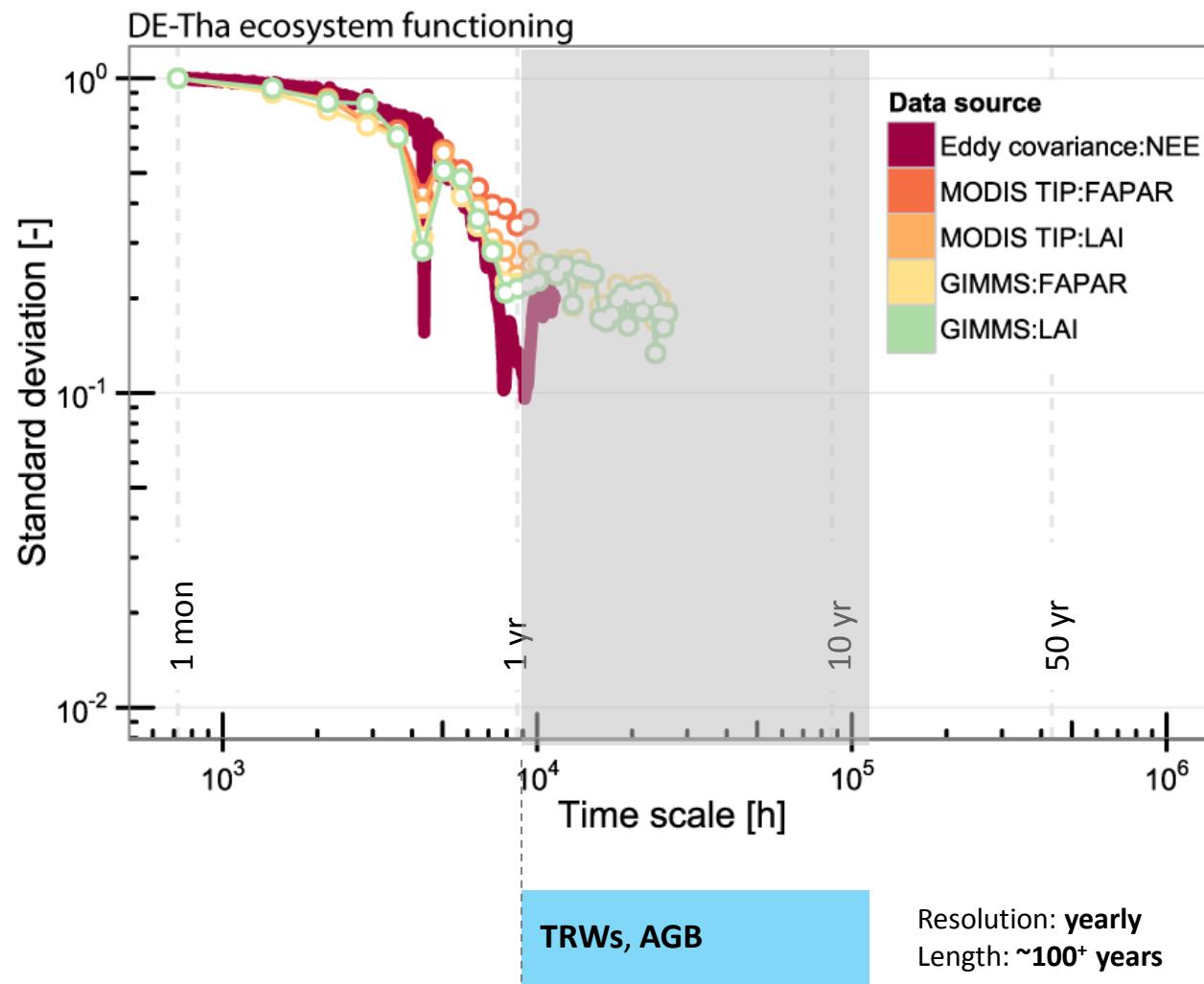


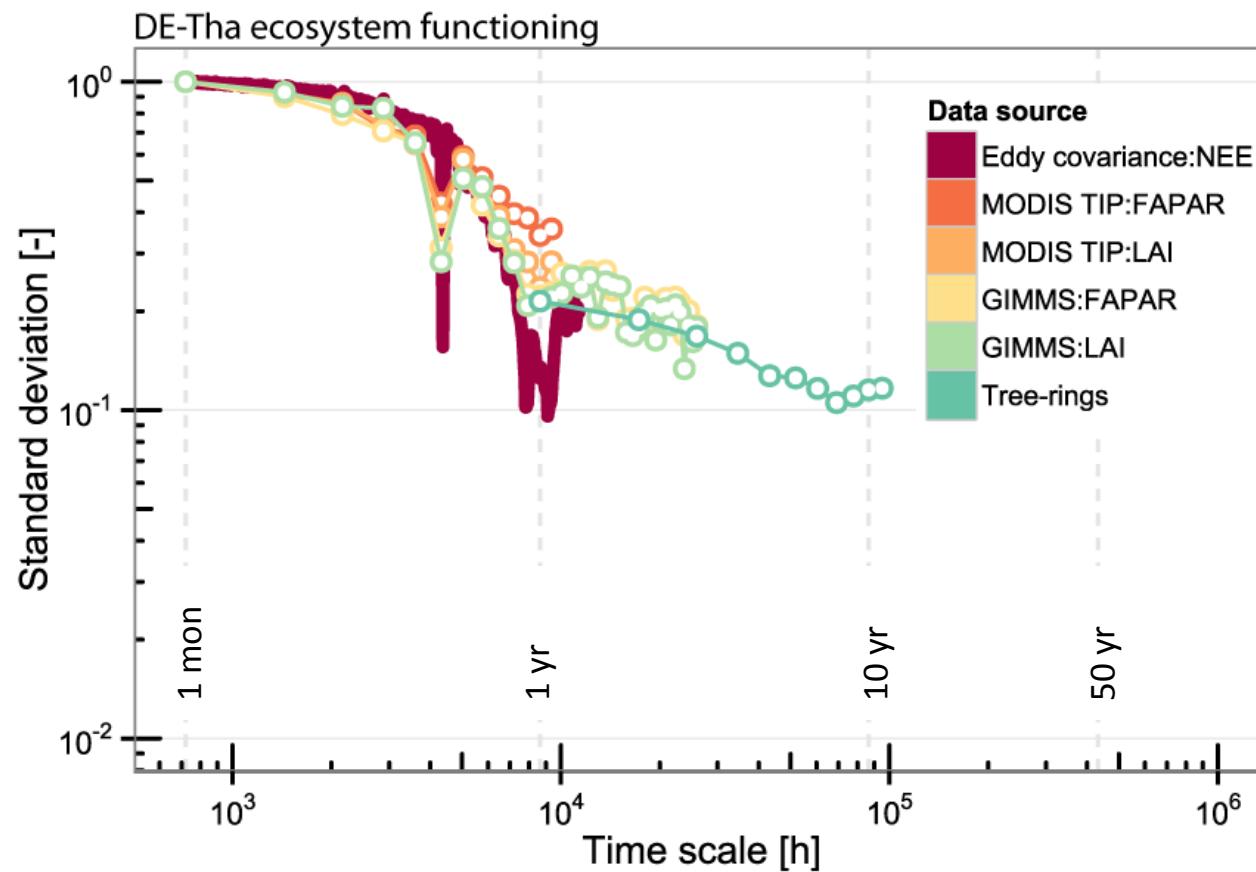


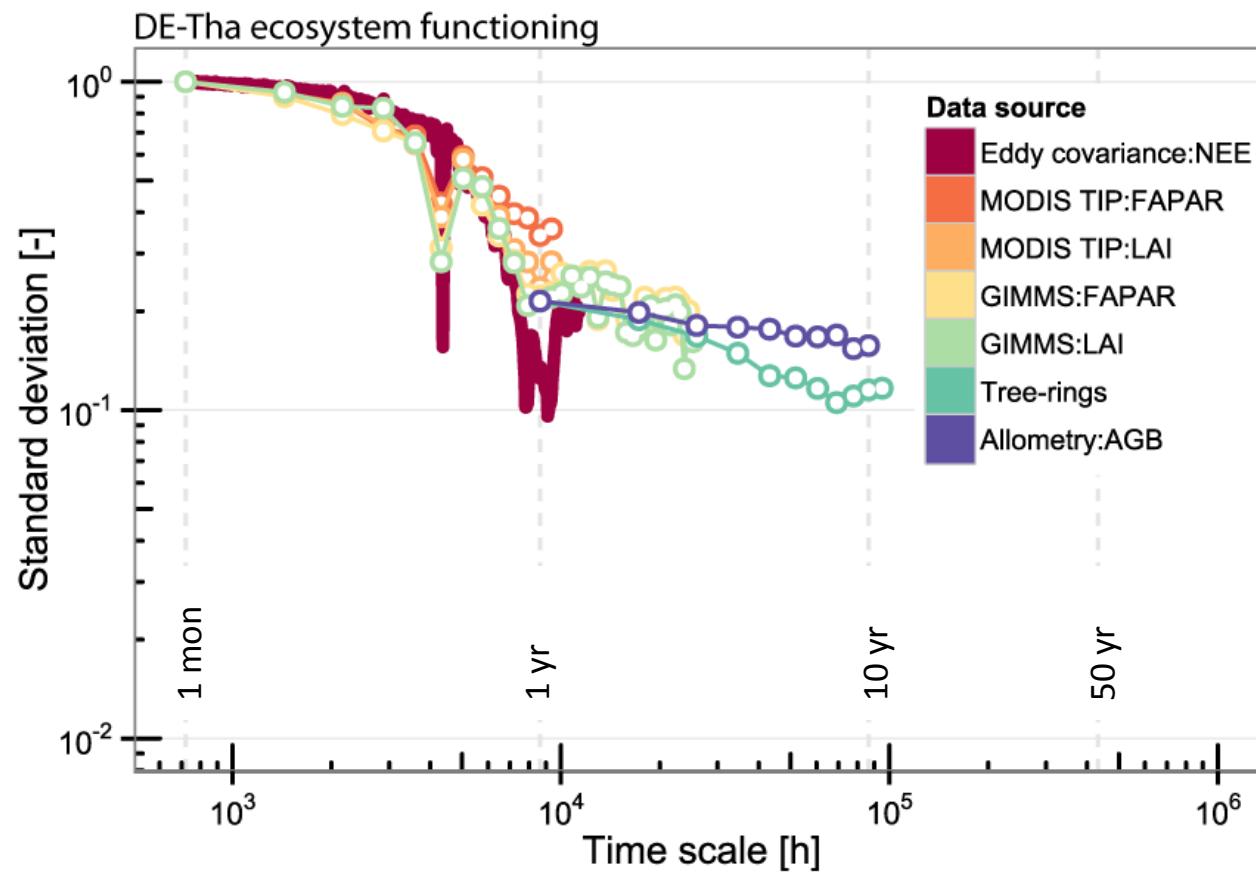


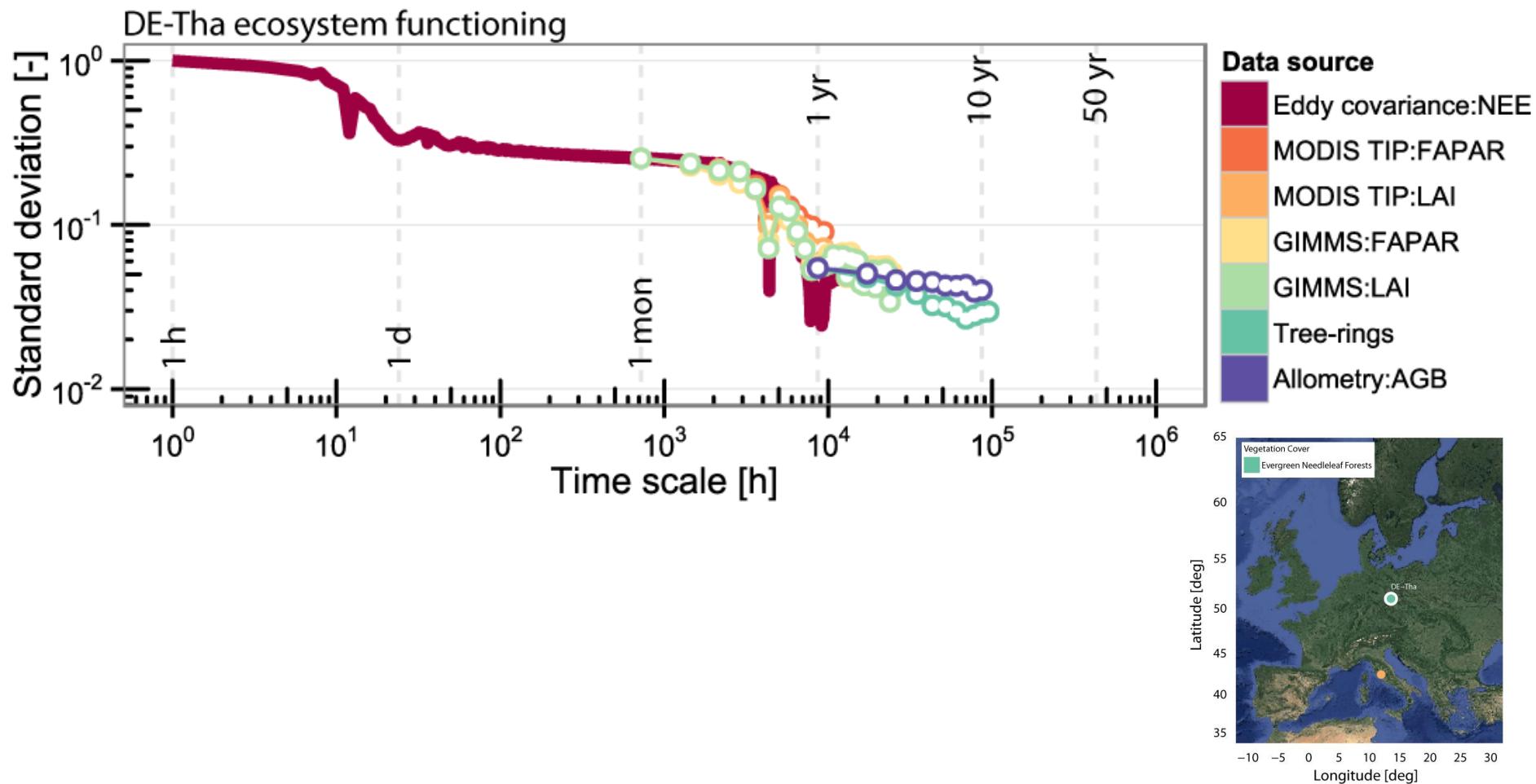








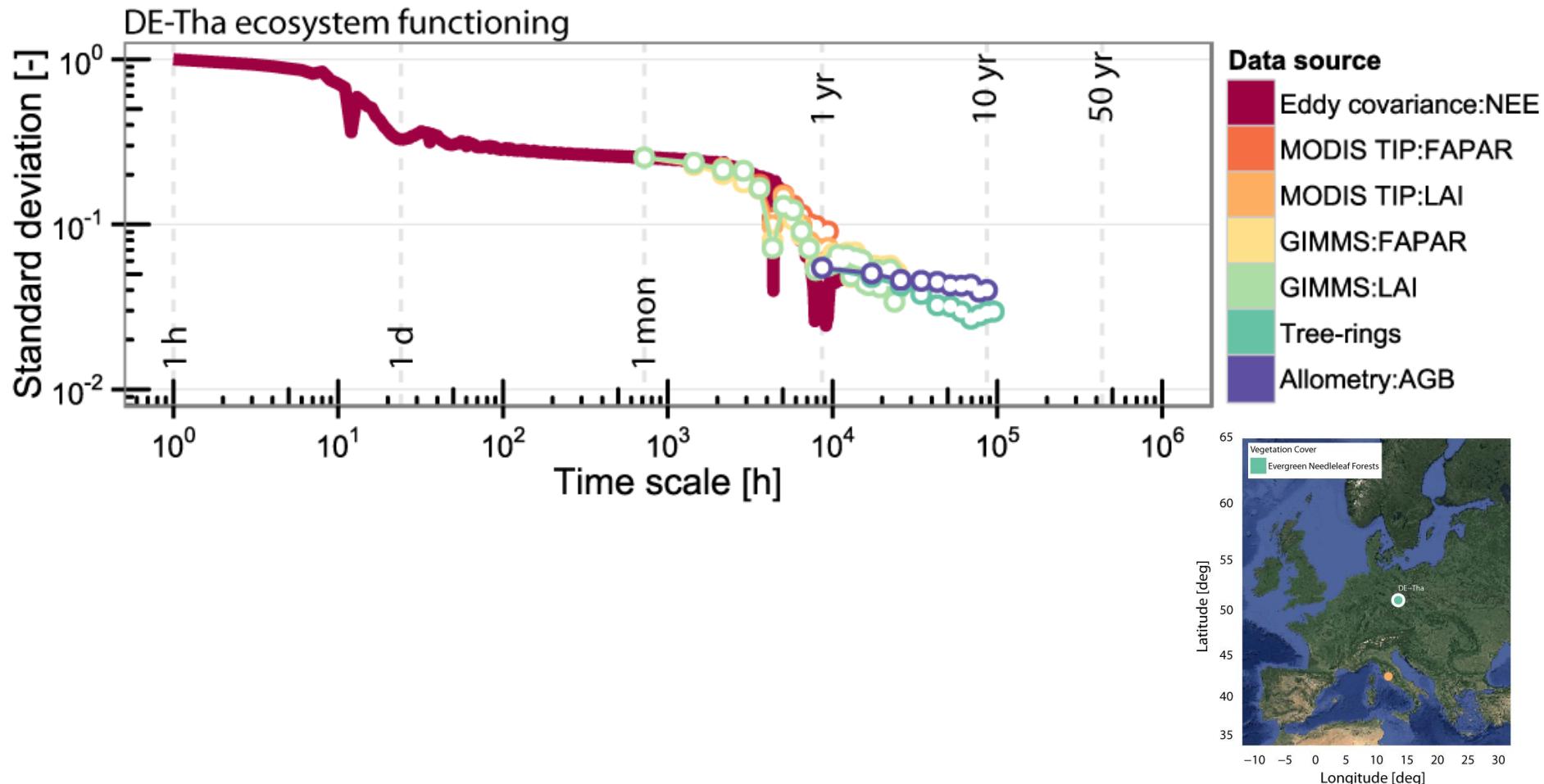


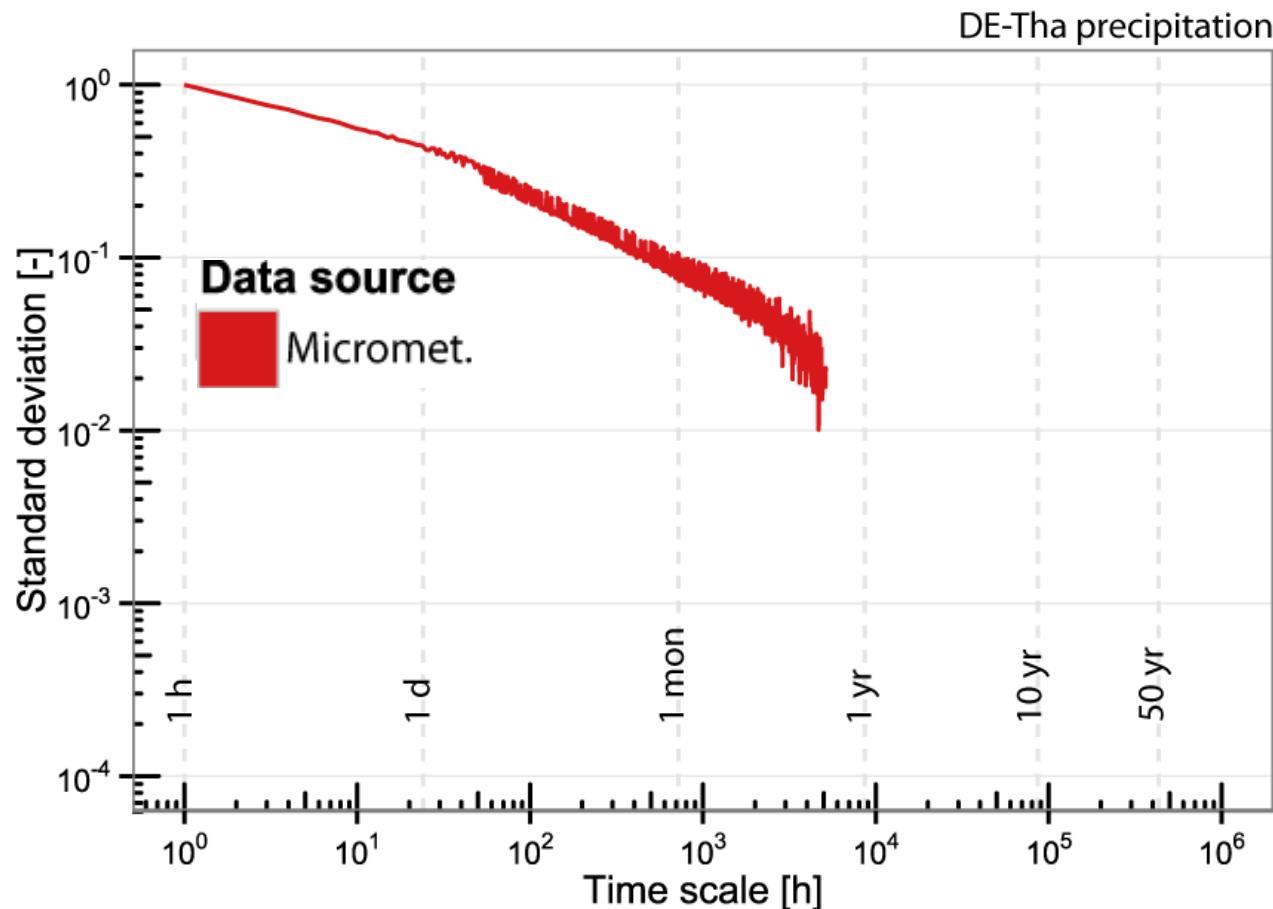


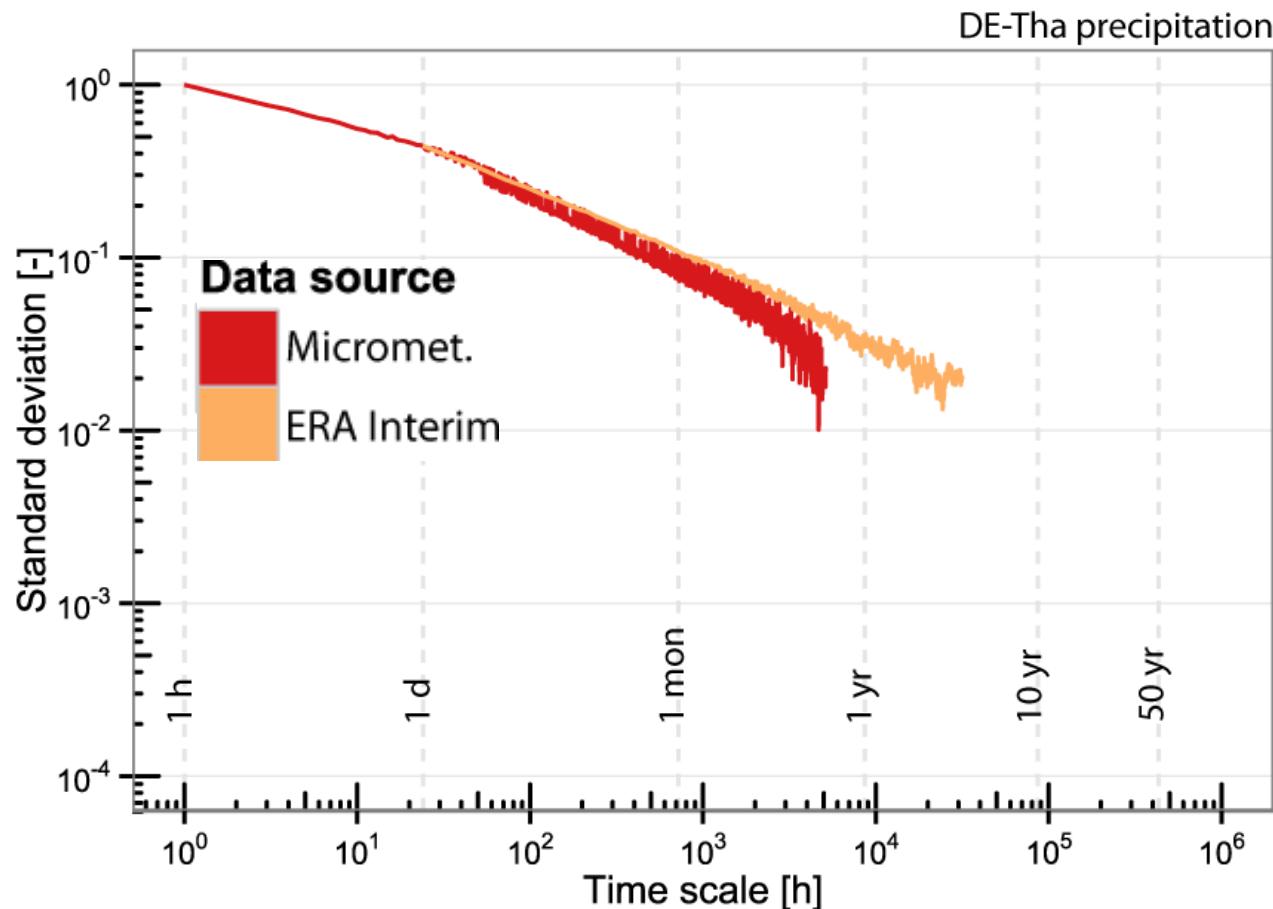
sub-daily

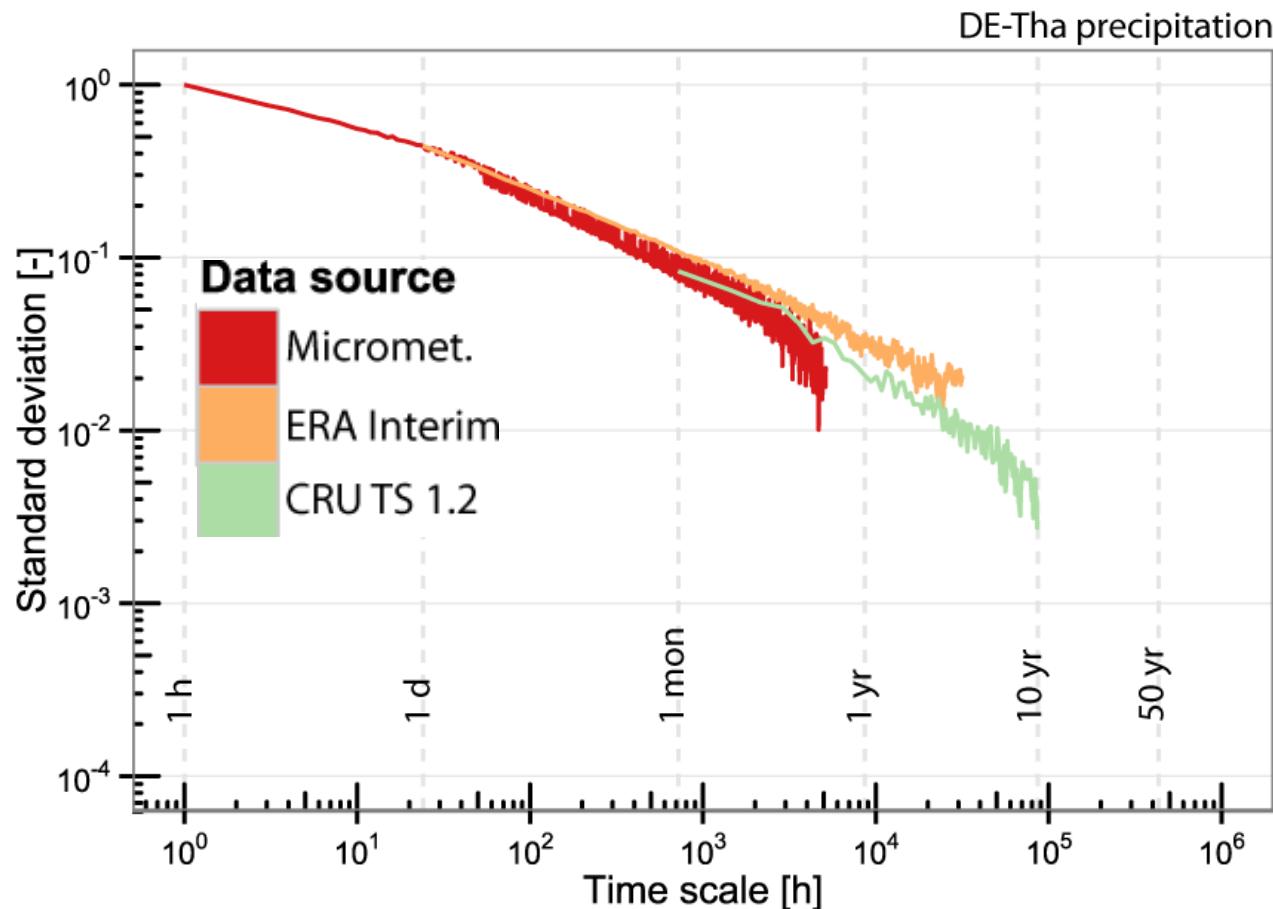
daily – seasonal

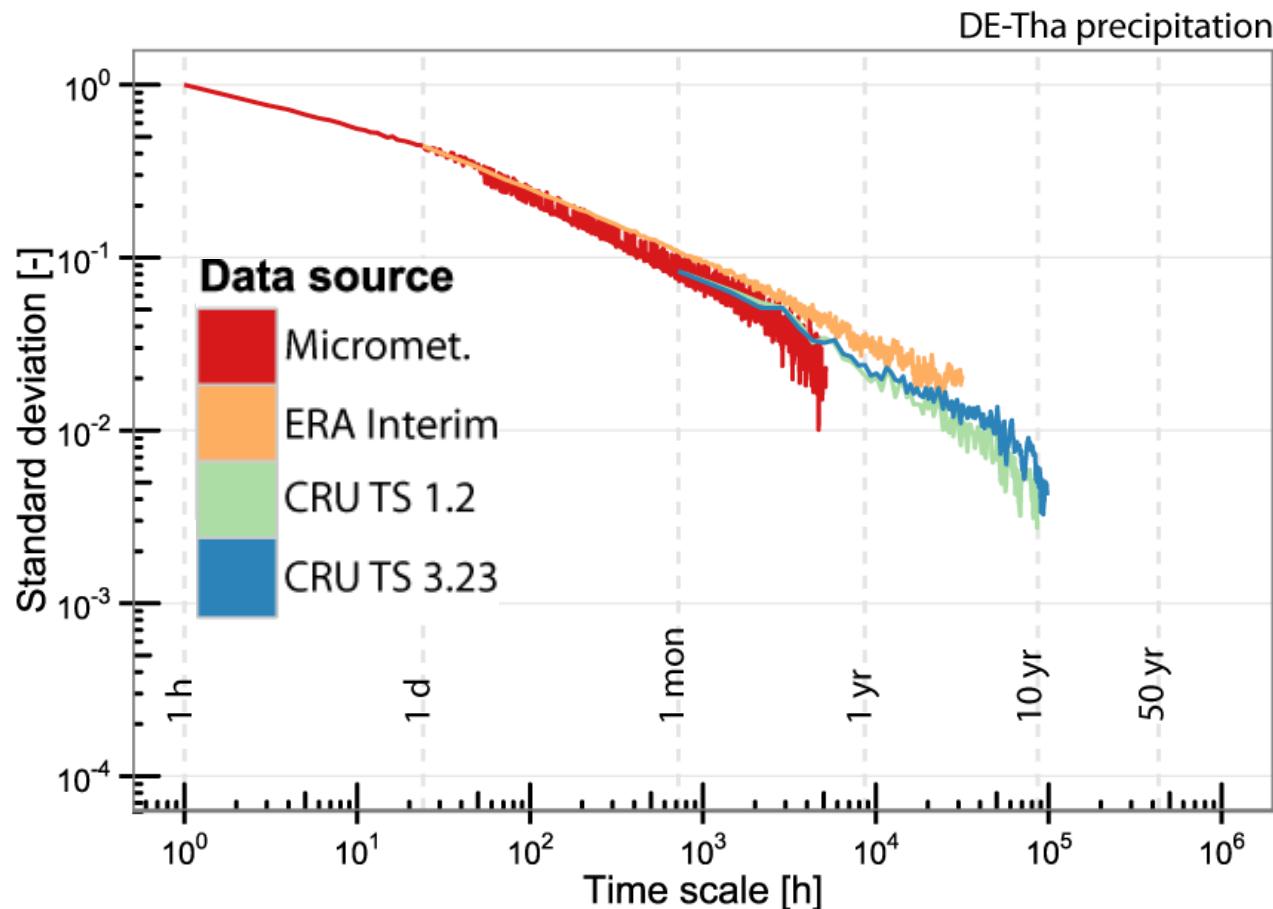
seasonal – inter-annual

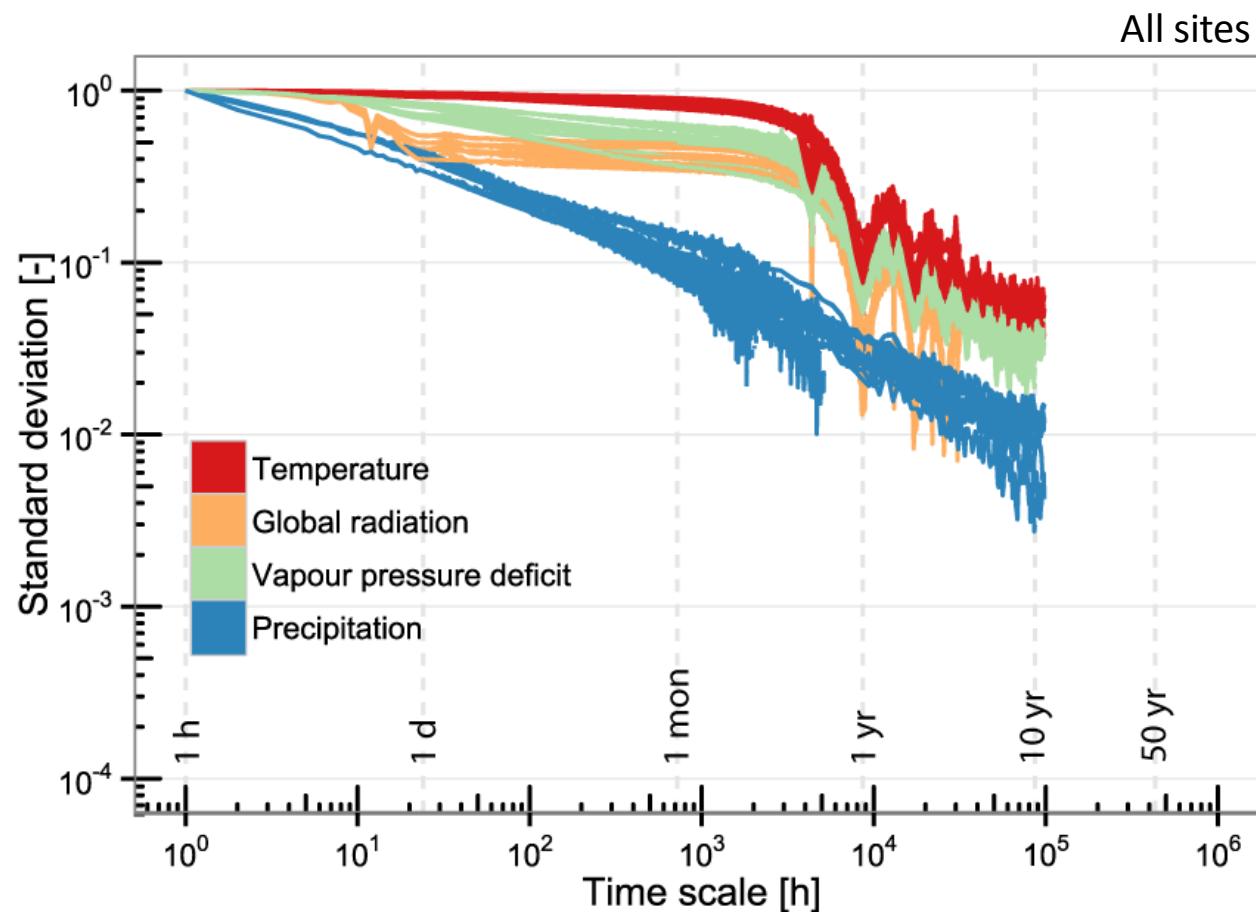


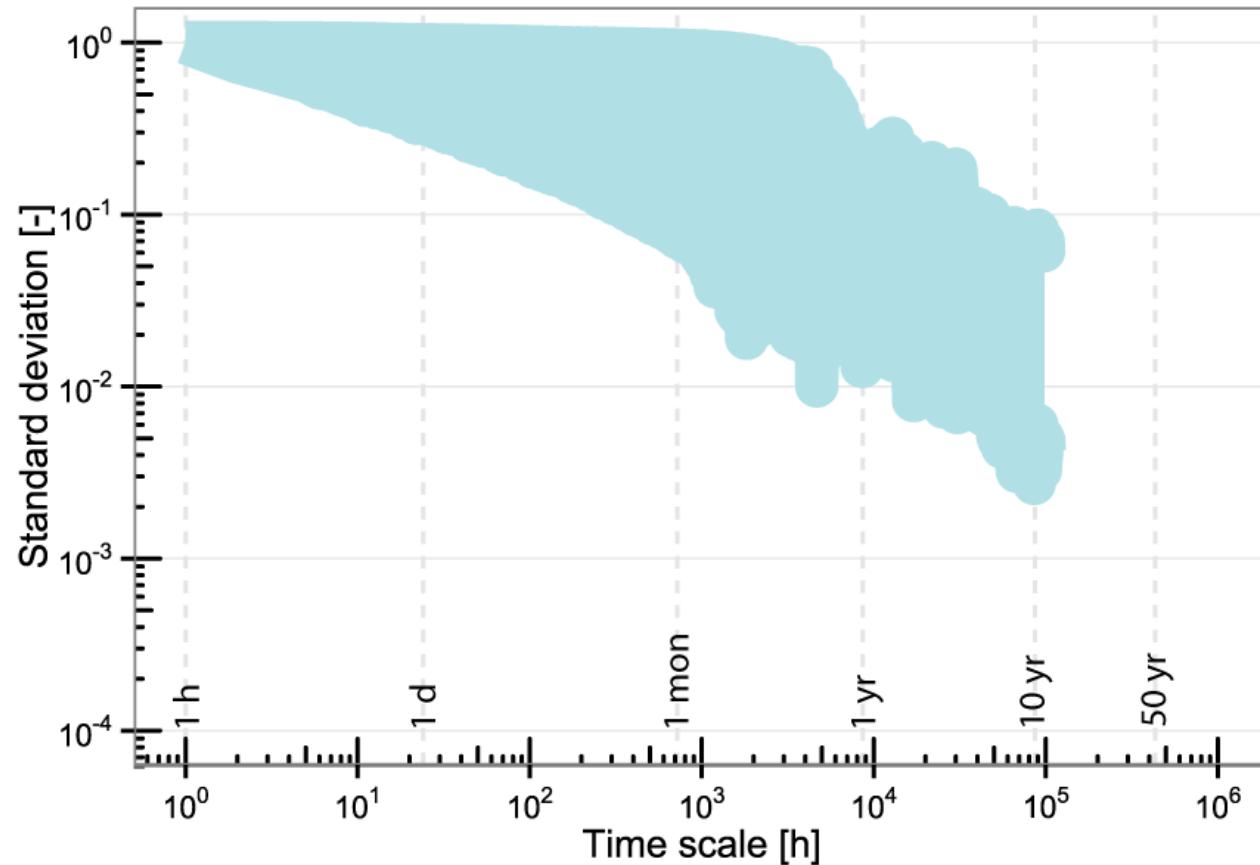


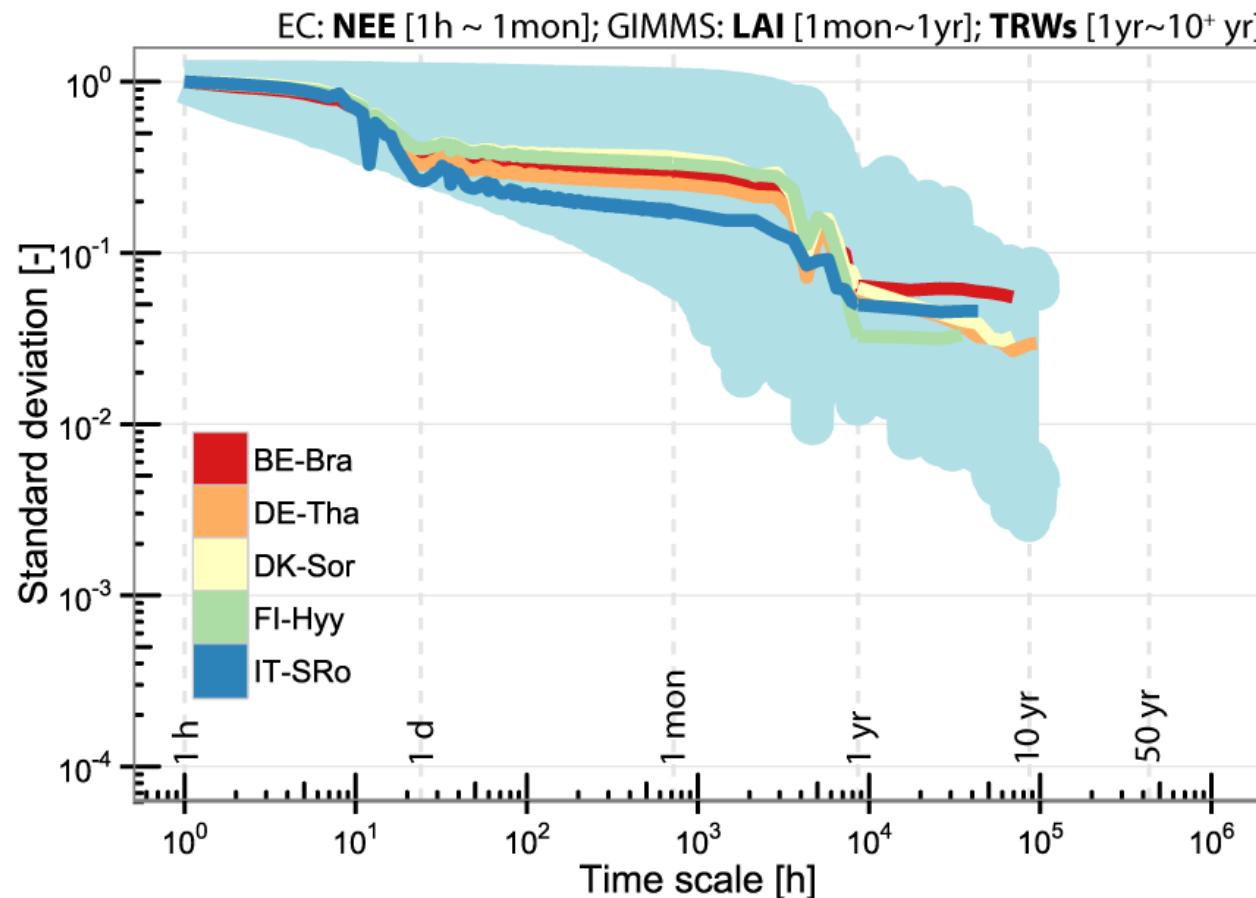






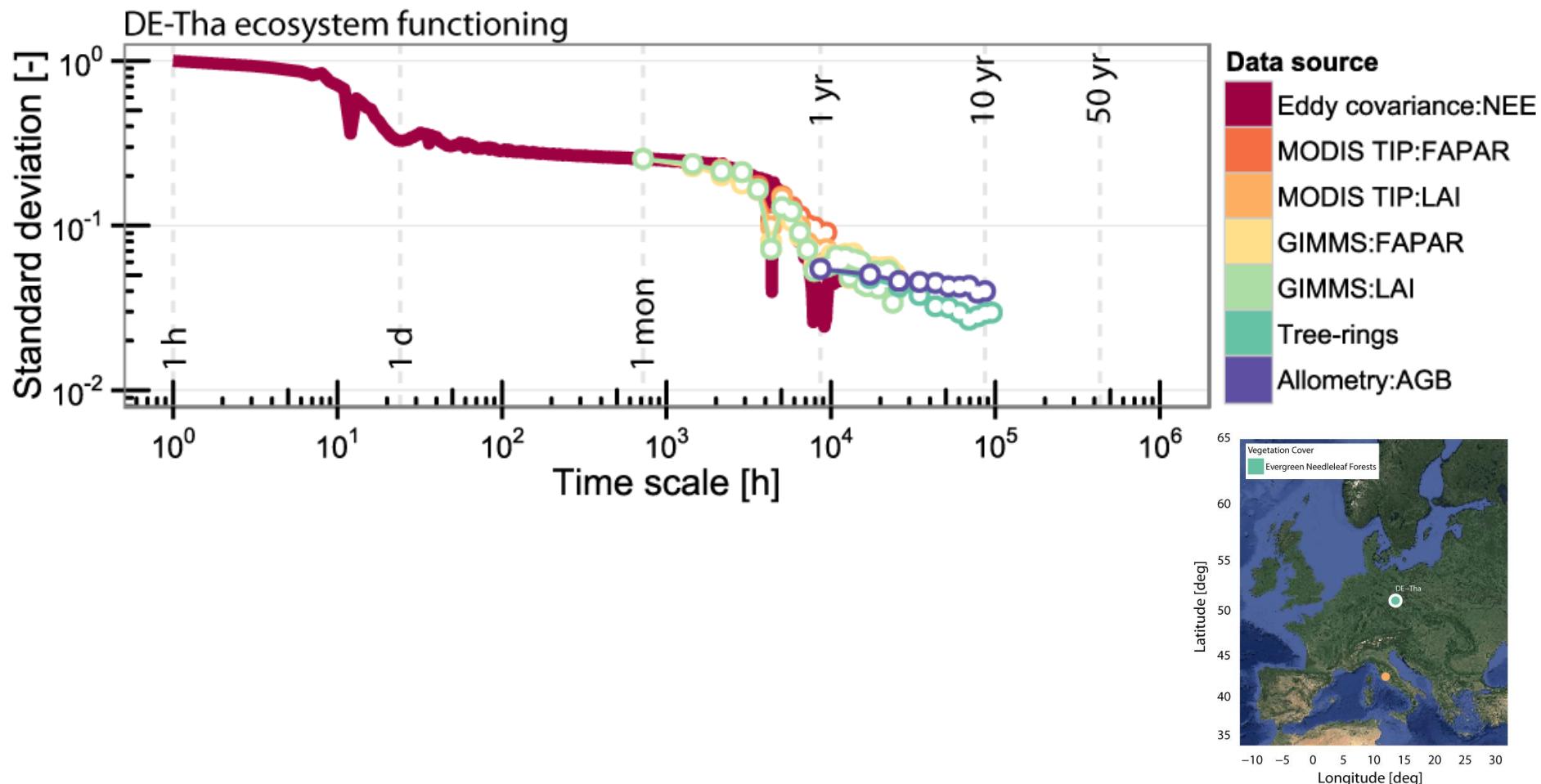






The **variability of ecosystem functioning** is **confined** within the range of **variability of the available resources** (water and energy) from **hourly** to **>decadal** time scales.

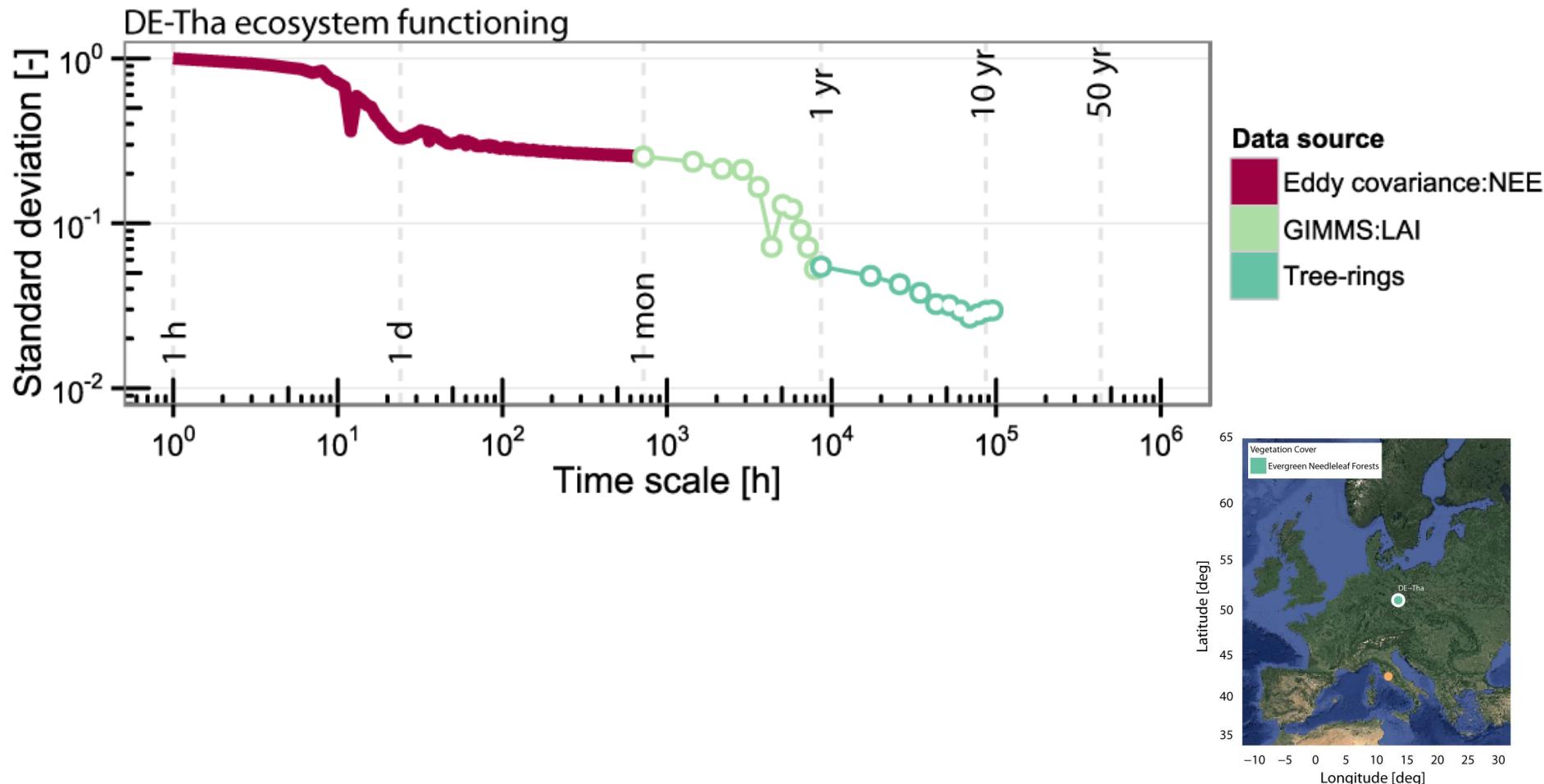
sub-daily      daily – seasonal      seasonal – inter-annual

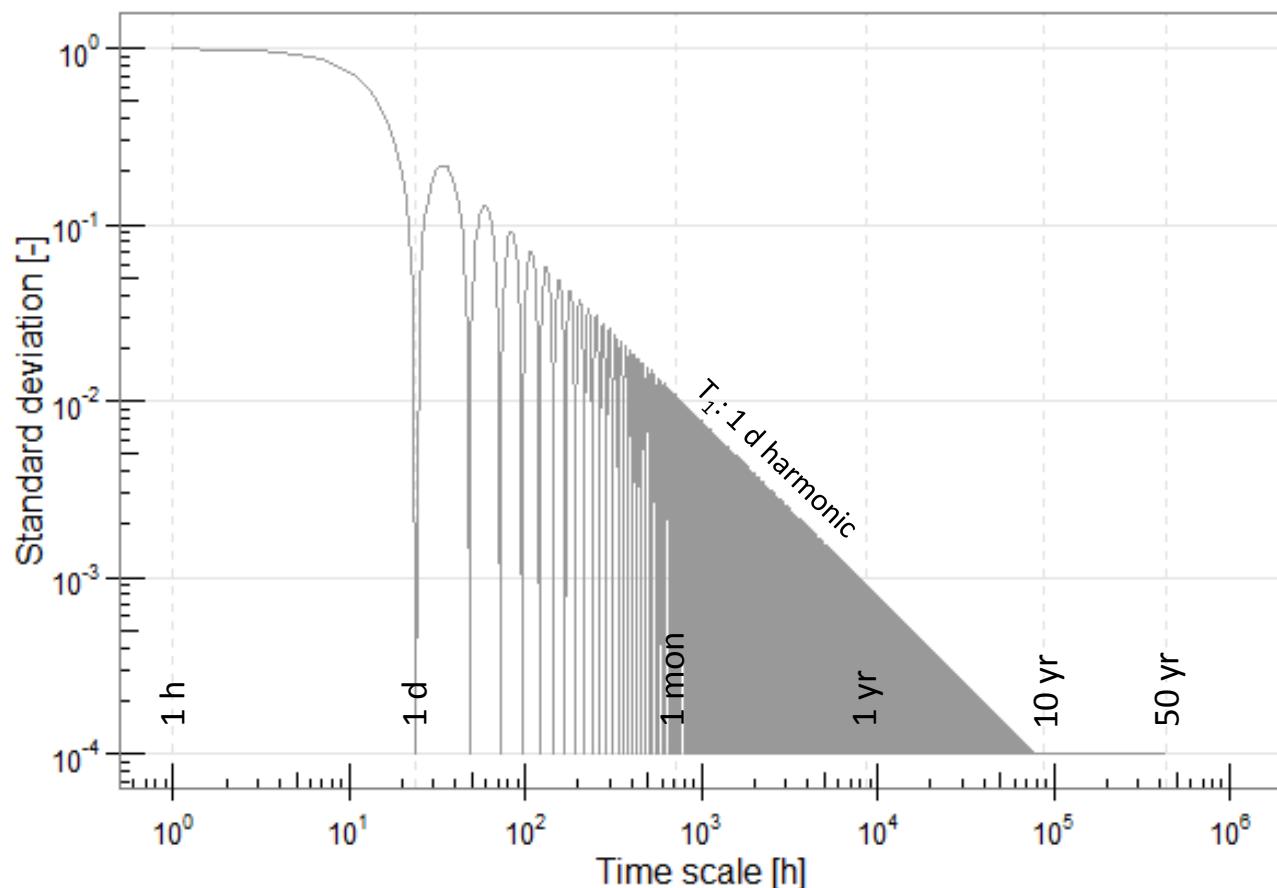


sub-daily

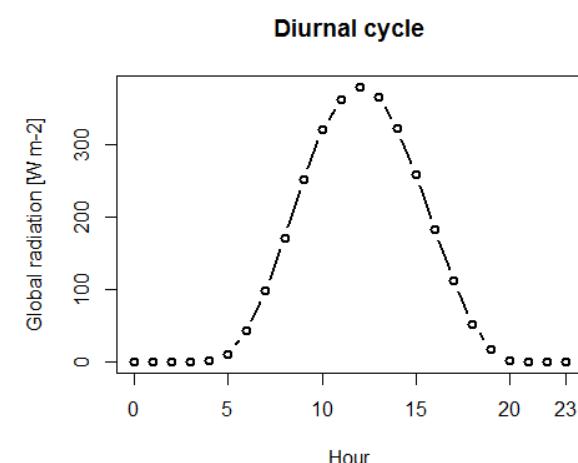
daily – seasonal

seasonal – inter-annual

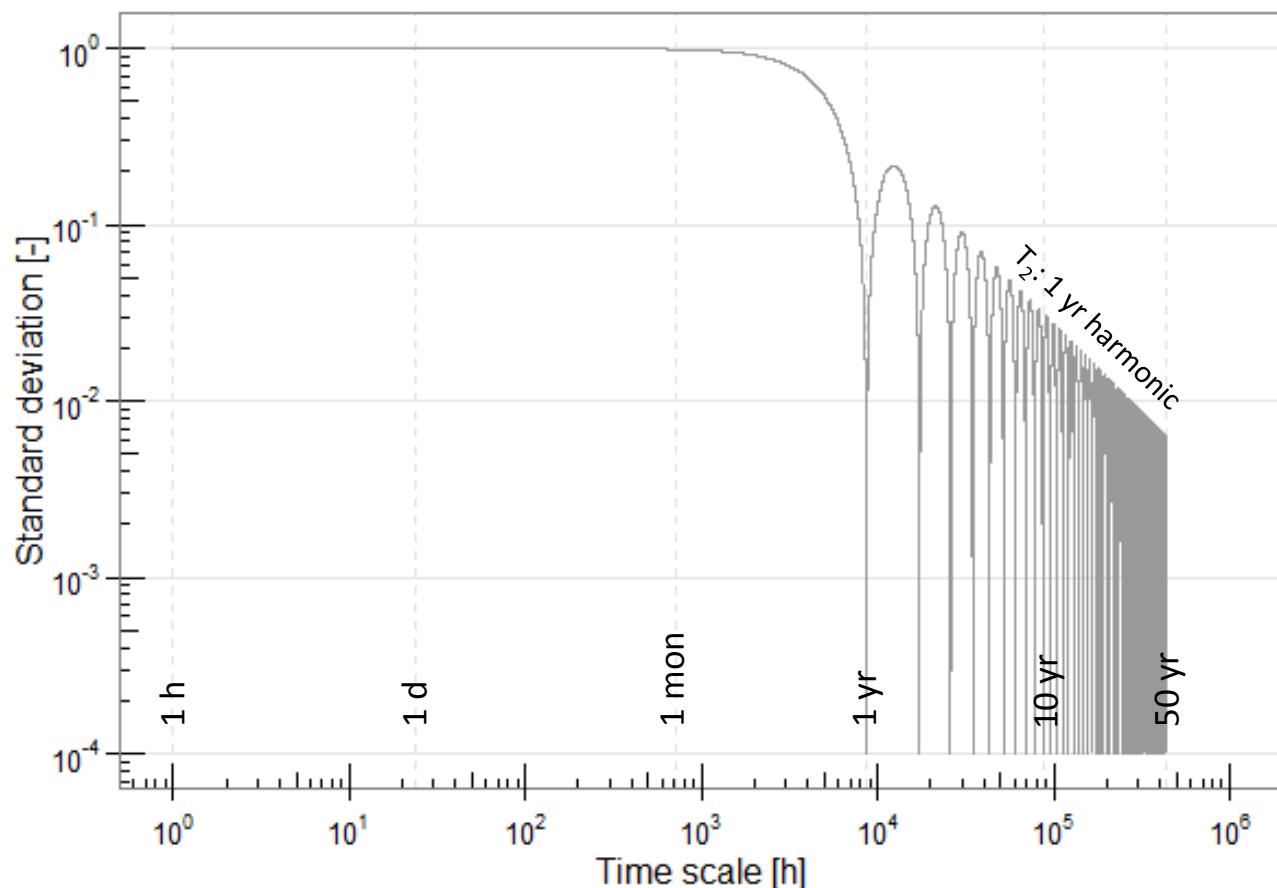




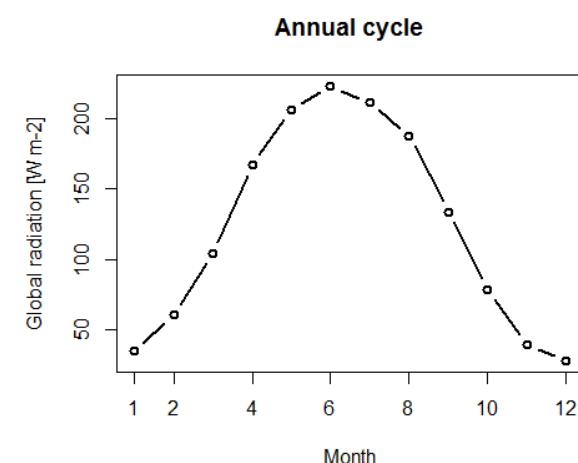
$$\sigma_{T_1}^{(k)} = \frac{T_1}{\pi k} \left| \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{T_1}\right) \right|$$



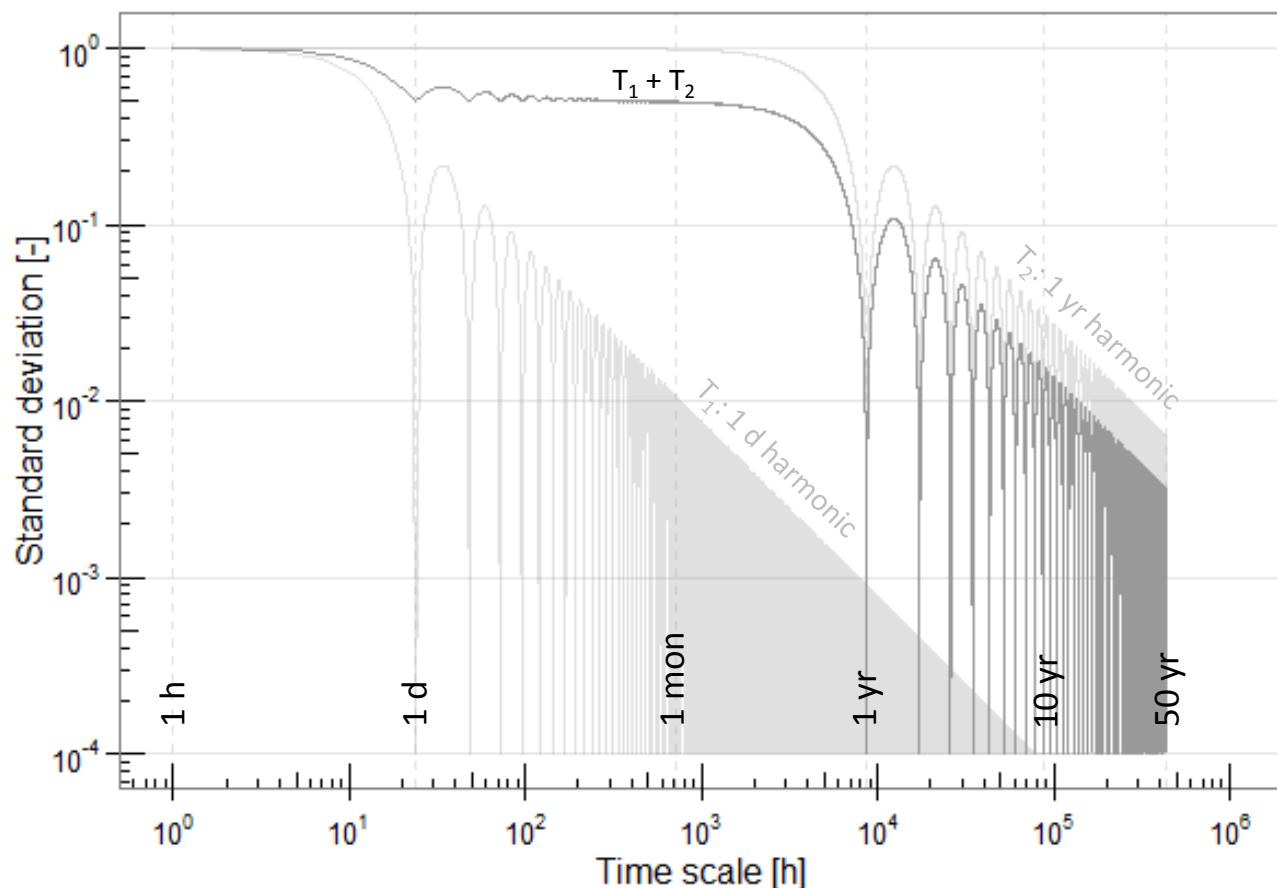
**Markonis, Y. & Koutsoyiannis, D.** Climatic Variability Over Time Scales Spanning Nine Orders of Magnitude: Connecting Milankovitch Cycles with Hurst-Kolmogorov Dynamics. *Surv. Geophys.* (2012). doi:10.1007/s10712-012-9208-9



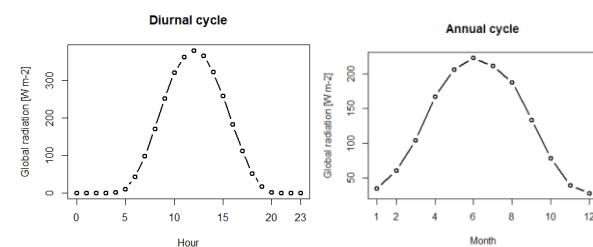
$$\sigma_{T_2}^{(k)} = \frac{T_2}{\pi k} \left| \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{T_2}\right) \right|$$



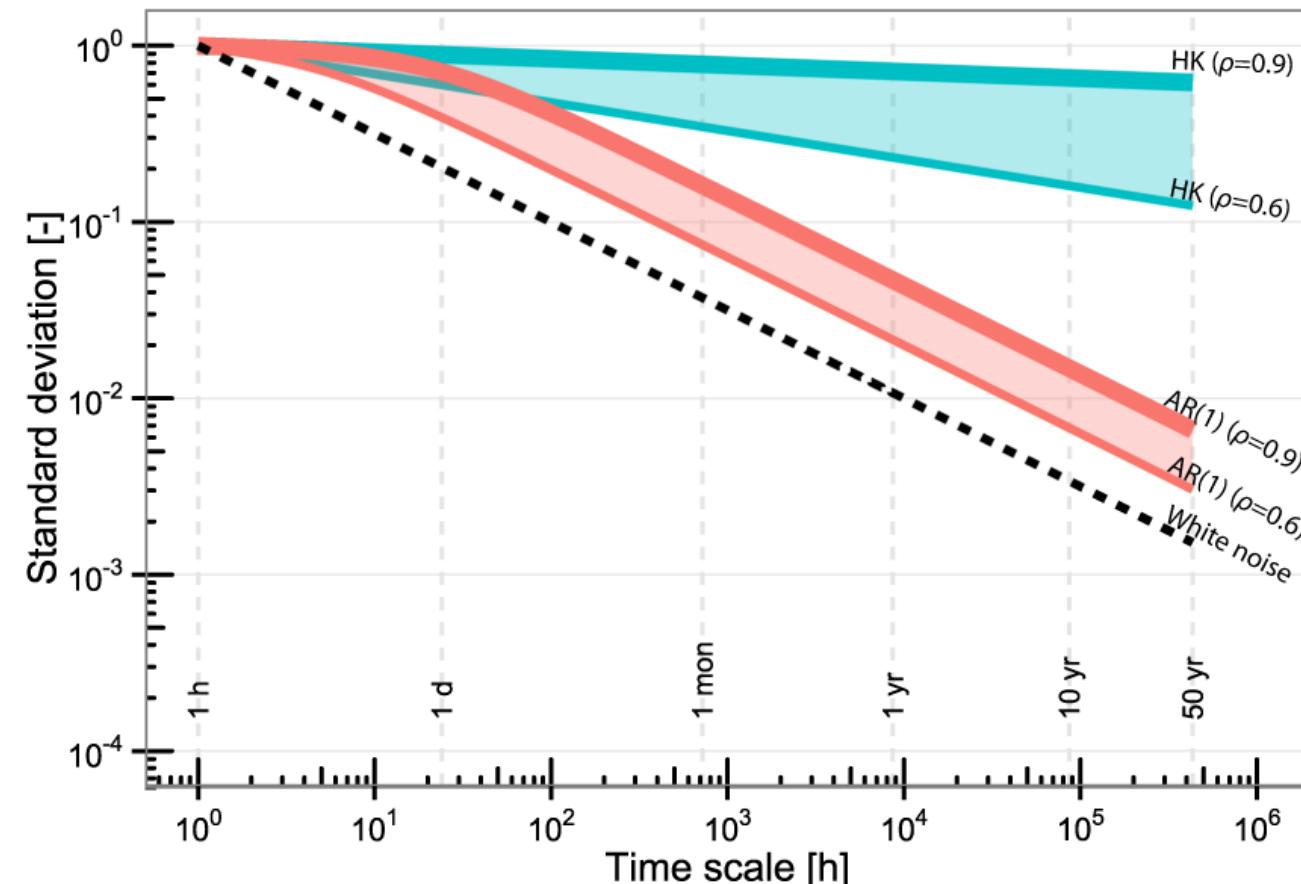
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$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{T_1+T_2}^{(k)} &= 0.5\sigma_{T_1}^{(k)} + 0.5\sigma_{T_2}^{(k)} = \\ &= 0.5 \left( \frac{T_1}{\pi k} \left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi k}{T_1} \right) \right| \right) + \\ &\quad 0.5 \left( \frac{T_2}{\pi k} \left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi k}{T_2} \right) \right| \right)\end{aligned}$$



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$$\text{HK: } \sigma^{(k)} = k^{H-1} \sigma^{(1)} = k^{H-1} \sigma$$

$$\text{AR}(1):\sigma^{(k)} = \frac{\sigma}{k^{0.5}} \sqrt{\frac{(1-\rho^2)-2\rho\frac{(1-\rho^k)}{k}}{(1-\rho)^2}}$$

$$\text{WN: } \sigma^{(k)} = \frac{\sigma}{k^{0.5}}$$

$k$  : time scale

$H$  : Hurst coefficient

$\rho$  : lag-1 autocorrelation coefficient

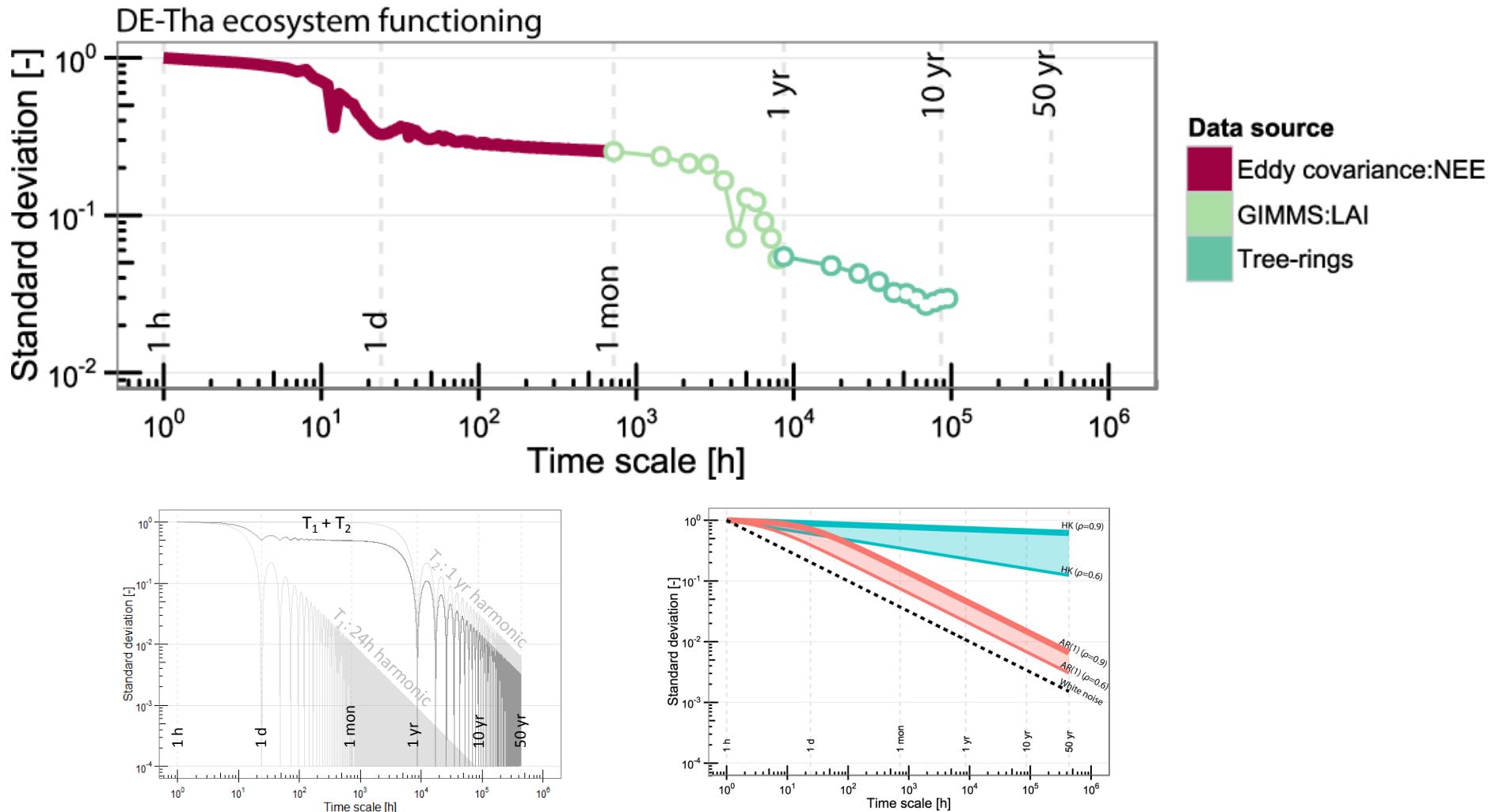
Koutsoyiannis, D. HESS Opinions 'A random walk on water'. *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci.* **14**, 585–601 (2010).

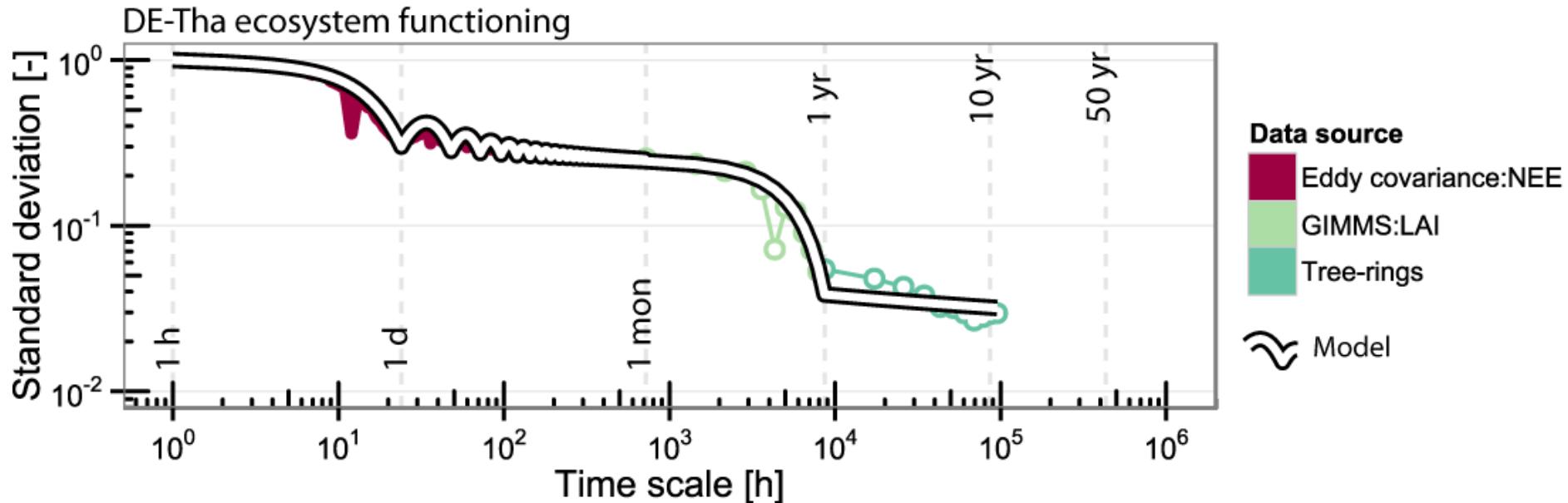
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sub-daily

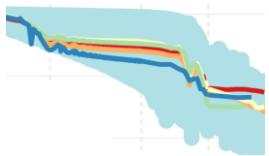
daily – seasonal

seasonal – inter-annual

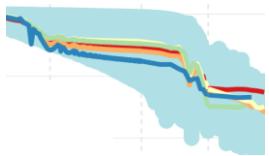




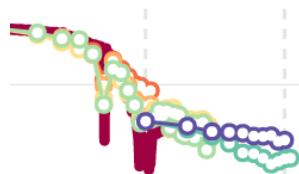
$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\text{EcoFun}}^{(k)} &= f(w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, \rho, H, k) = w_1 \sigma_{\text{AR}(1)}^{(k)} + w_2 \sigma_{\text{HK}}^{(k)} + w_3 \sigma_{T_1:1d}^{(k)} + w_4 \sigma_{T_2:1yr}^{(k)} = \\ &= w_1 \left( \frac{\sigma}{k^{0.5}} \sqrt{\frac{(1-\rho^2) - 2\rho \frac{(1-\rho^k)}{k}}{(1-\rho)^2}} \right) + w_2 \left( k^{H-1} \sigma \right) + w_3 \frac{T_1}{\pi k} \left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi k}{T_1} \right) \right| + w_4 \frac{T_2}{\pi k} \left| \sin \left( \frac{\pi k}{T_2} \right) \right| \end{aligned}$$



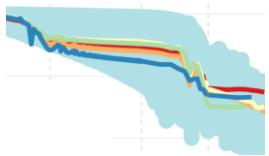
The **variability of ecosystem functioning** across time scales is **confined** within the range of variability of the **environmental drivers**.



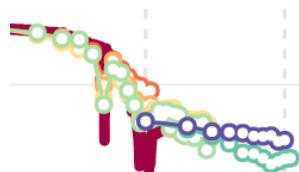
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An **overview** of the **variability of ecosystem functioning** across time scales spanning **five orders of magnitude** is presented combining **multivariate datasets**.



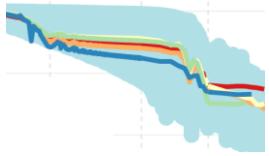
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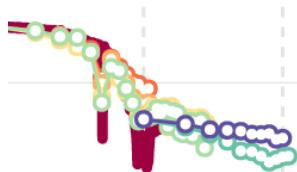
An **overview** of the **variability of ecosystem functioning** across time scales spanning **five orders of magnitude** is presented combining **multivariate datasets**.



The **variability of ecosystem functioning** across **time scales** can be adequately represented with surprisingly **simple models**.



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The **variability of ecosystem functioning** across **time scales** can be adequately represented with surprisingly **simple models**.

#### *Implications:*

- Long-term terrestrial **carbon source-sink** dynamics and the related CO<sub>2</sub> variability
- **Benchmarking** of process-based terrestrial ecosystem models

# Thank you!

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## *Acknowledgements*

- EC site PIs
- CRU and ERA Interim
- GIMMS FPAR3g & LAI3g (Ranga B. Myneni) and MODIS TIP (JRC)
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