

Empirical Orthogonal Teleconnection Analysis (?) of Daily Surface Ozone

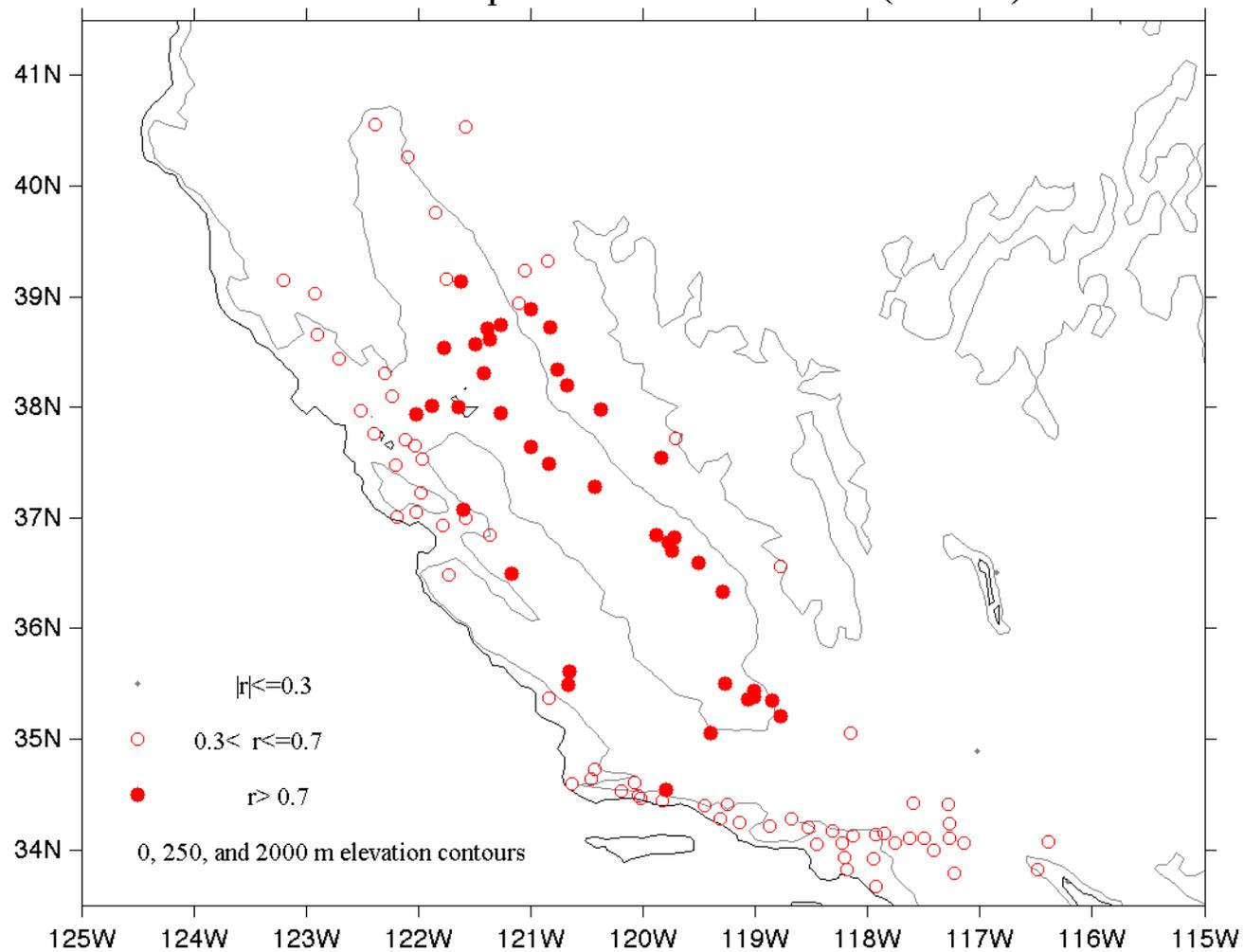
Todd Mitchell, Joel Thornton, and Mike Wallace
University of Washington

A common analysis problem is how to characterize the variability in a dataset.

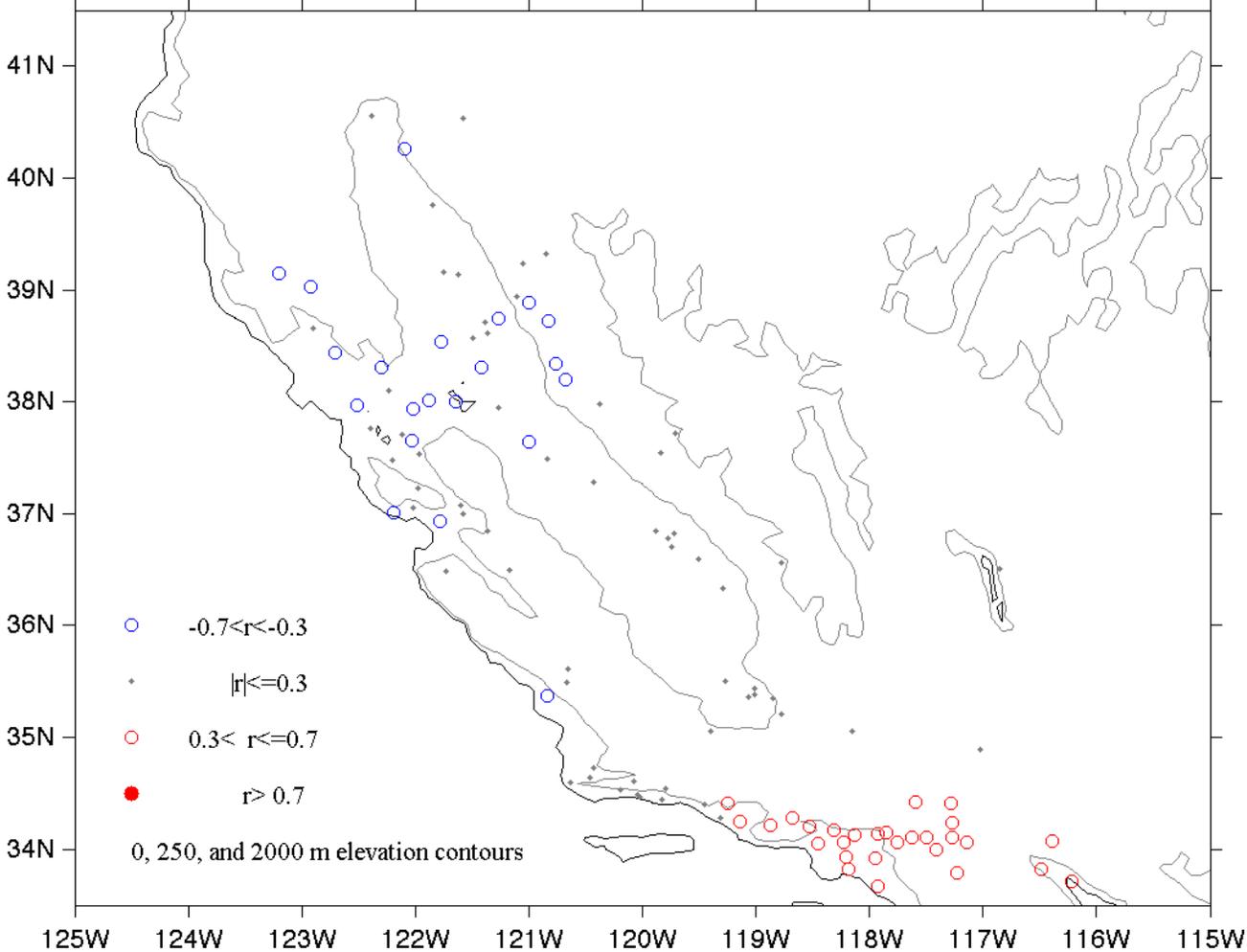
Empirical Orthogonal Functions (EOFs) are very efficient, but the analysis is dominated by the leading EOF and there may be more variability in the data that you would like to explain.

EOFs of California daily surface ozone

EOF 1 ozone plotted as correlations (37.6%)



EOF 2 ozone plotted as correlations (12.0%)



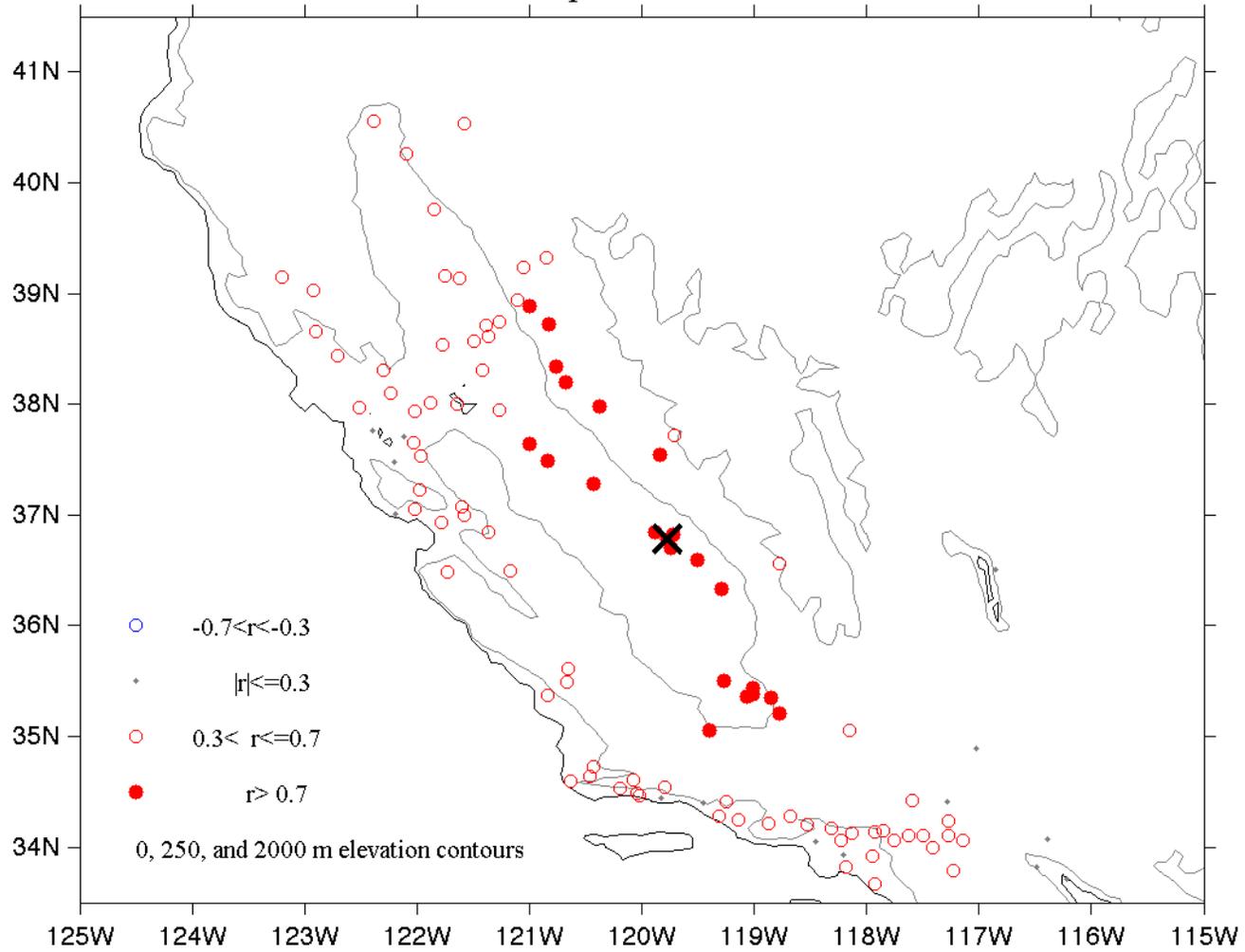
- EOFs 1 and 2 explain 37 and 12% of the variability, and yet EOF 2 is a simple spatial harmonic of EOF 1. It doesn't look particularly physical.
- Empirical Orthogonal Teleconnections will yield more patterns and they will explain a larger percentage of variance in small areas. The patterns also tend to be more regional rather filling the spatial domain of the data.

The process to calculate EOTs is as follows:

- Data = $A(x,t)$, where x is space and t time.
- For each spatial point, calculate the correlation with all of the gridpoints. Square and sum the correlation coefficients. Find the gridpoint whose time series explains the largest amount of variance in the dataset. That's EOT 1.
- Regress that timeseries onto all of the gridpoint timeseries, and remove that variability from the dataset.
- Repeat.

- Reference: Van den Dool et al. 2000, *J. Climate*, **13**, 1421-35.
- The results are similar to what you get from rotated principal component analysis, but significantly less work!

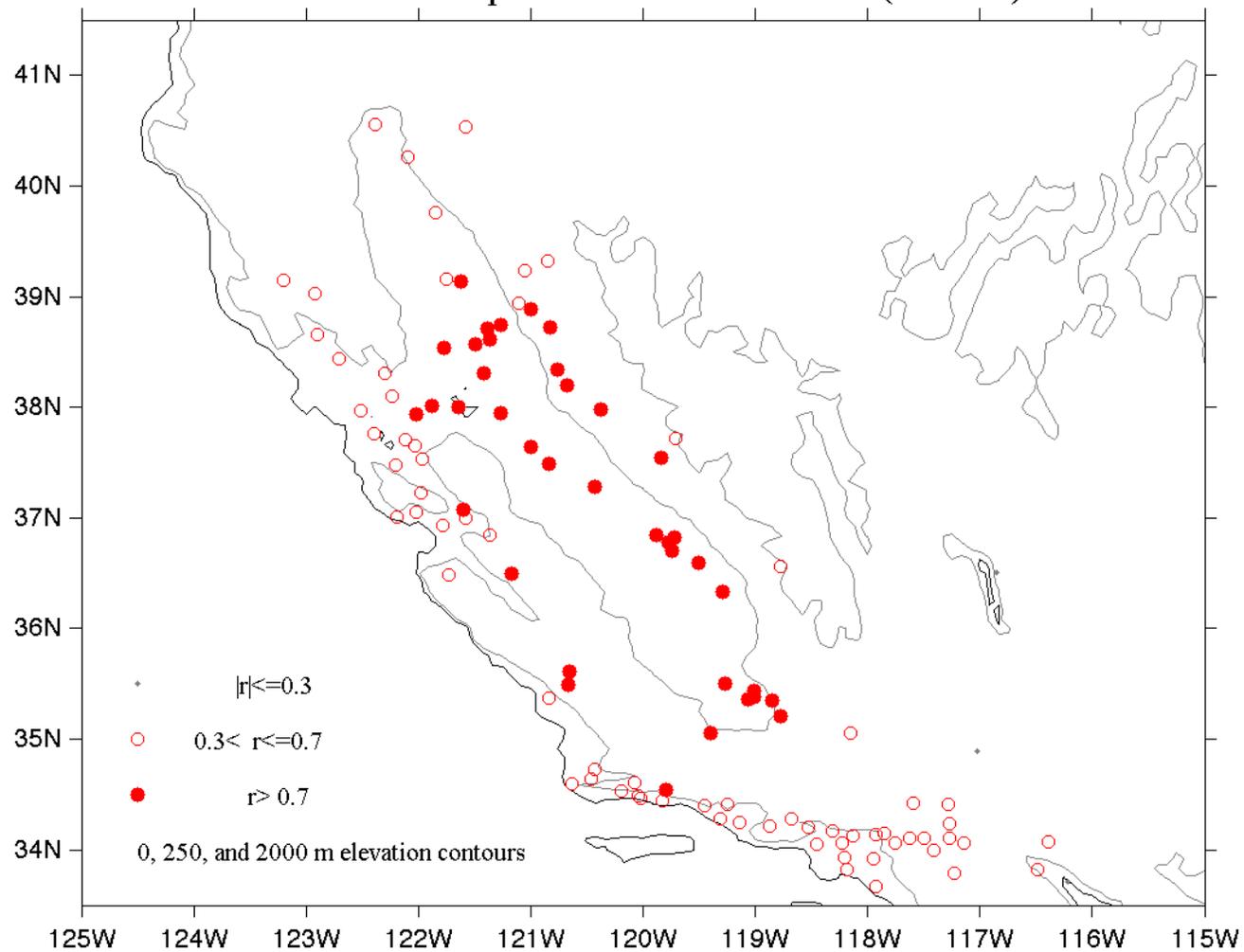
EOT 1 ozone plotted as correlations



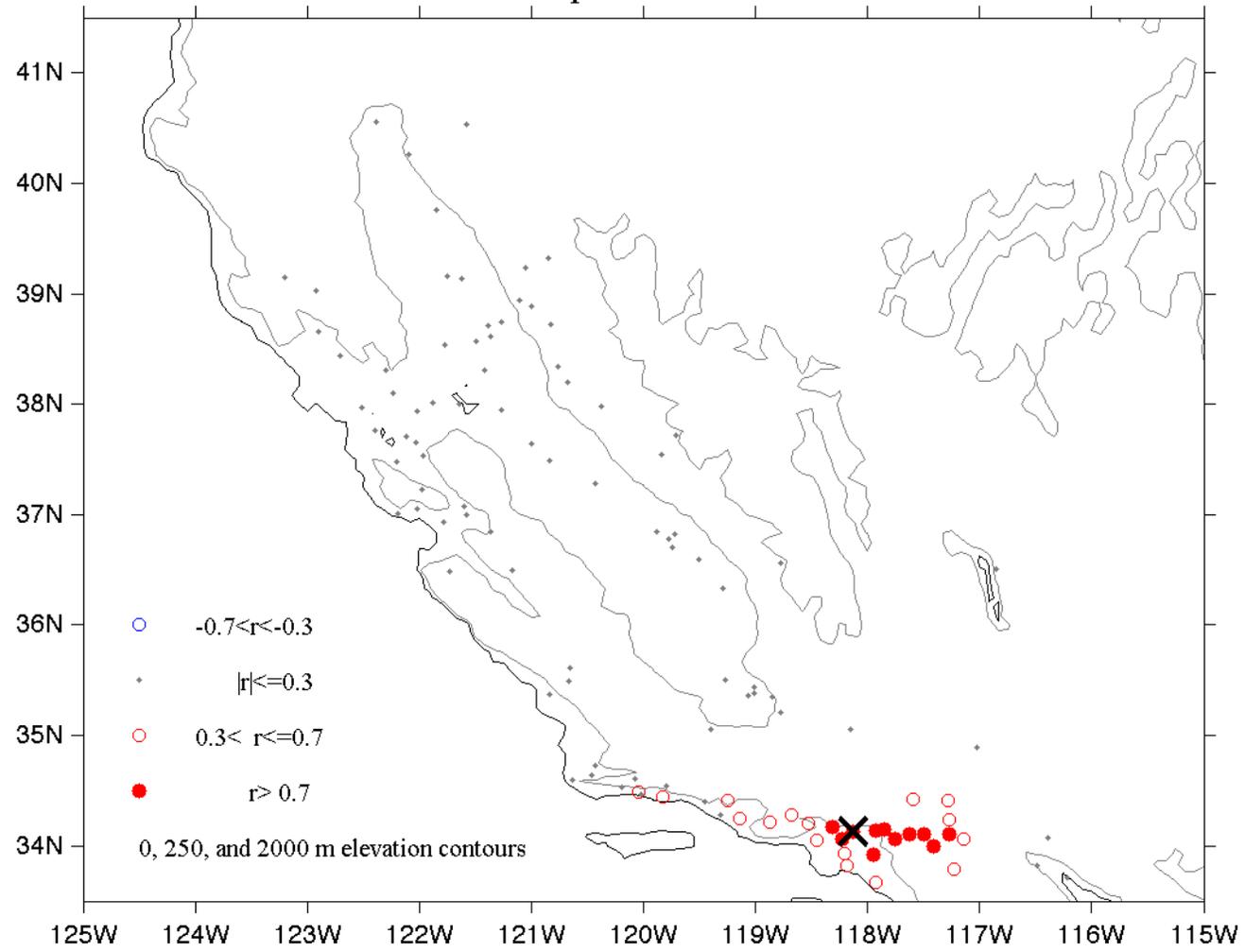
0.82 correlation with the EOF 1 timeseries.

EOFs of California daily surface ozone

EOF 1 ozone plotted as correlations (37.6%)

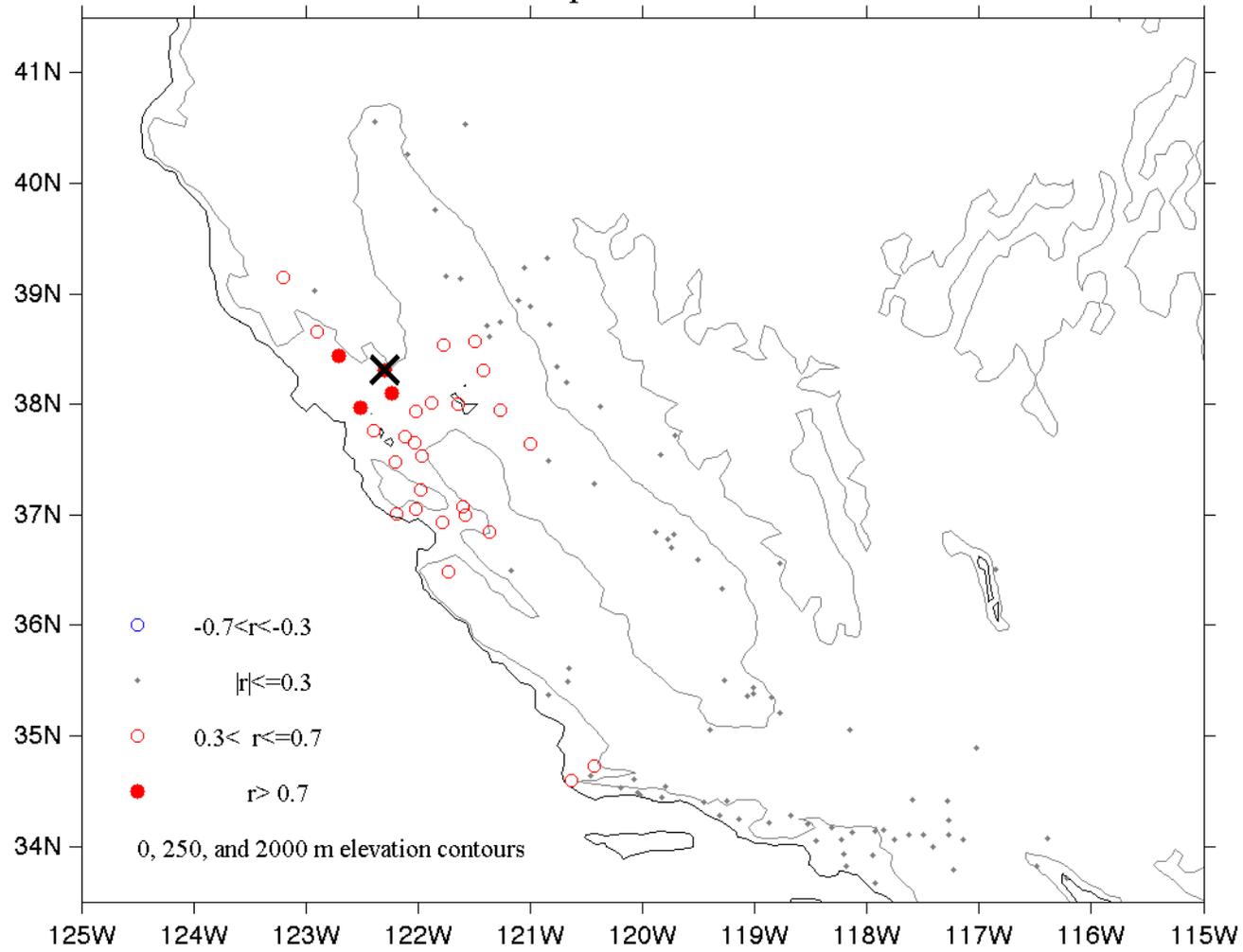


EOT 2 ozone plotted as correlations

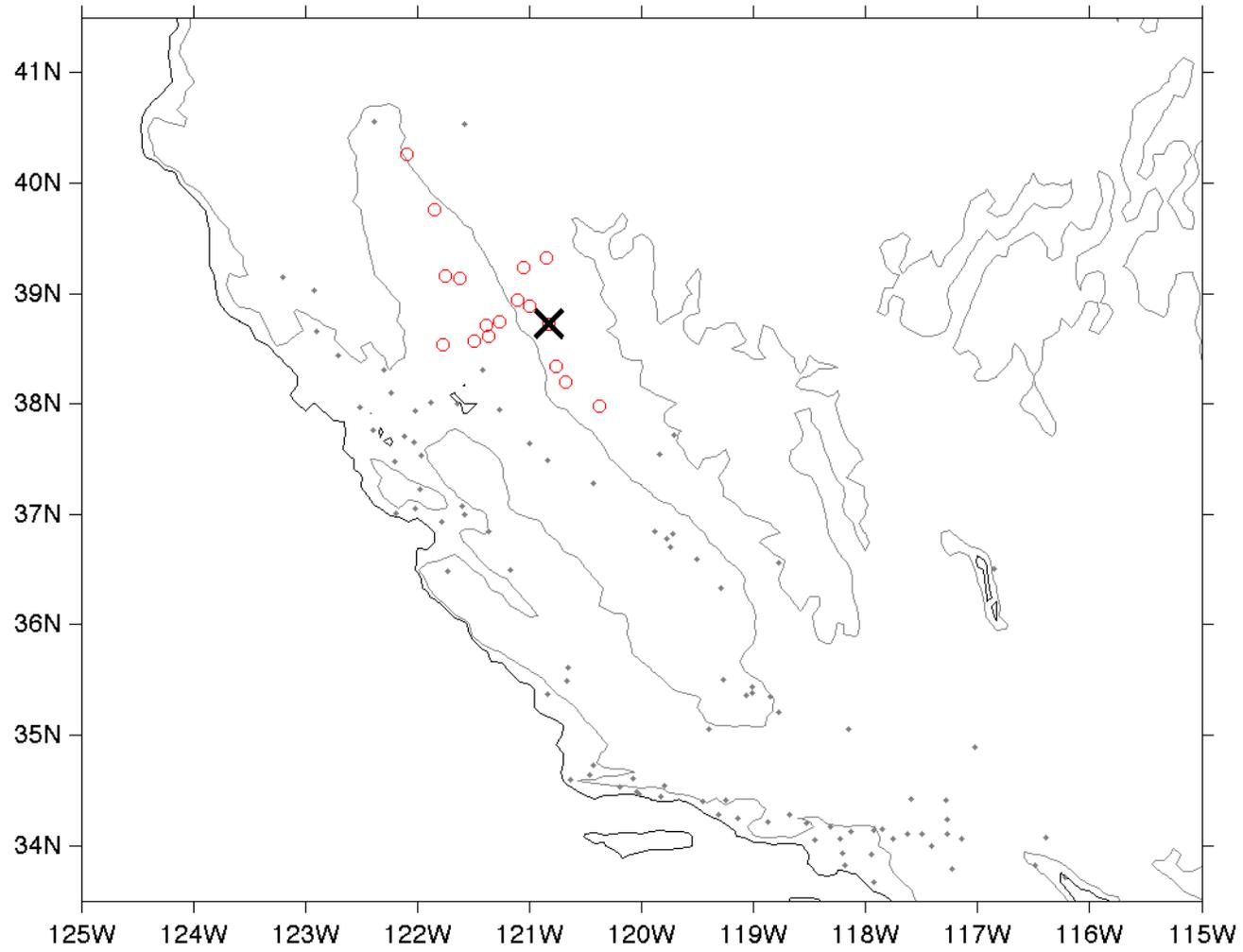


076 correlation with EOF 2 timeseries.

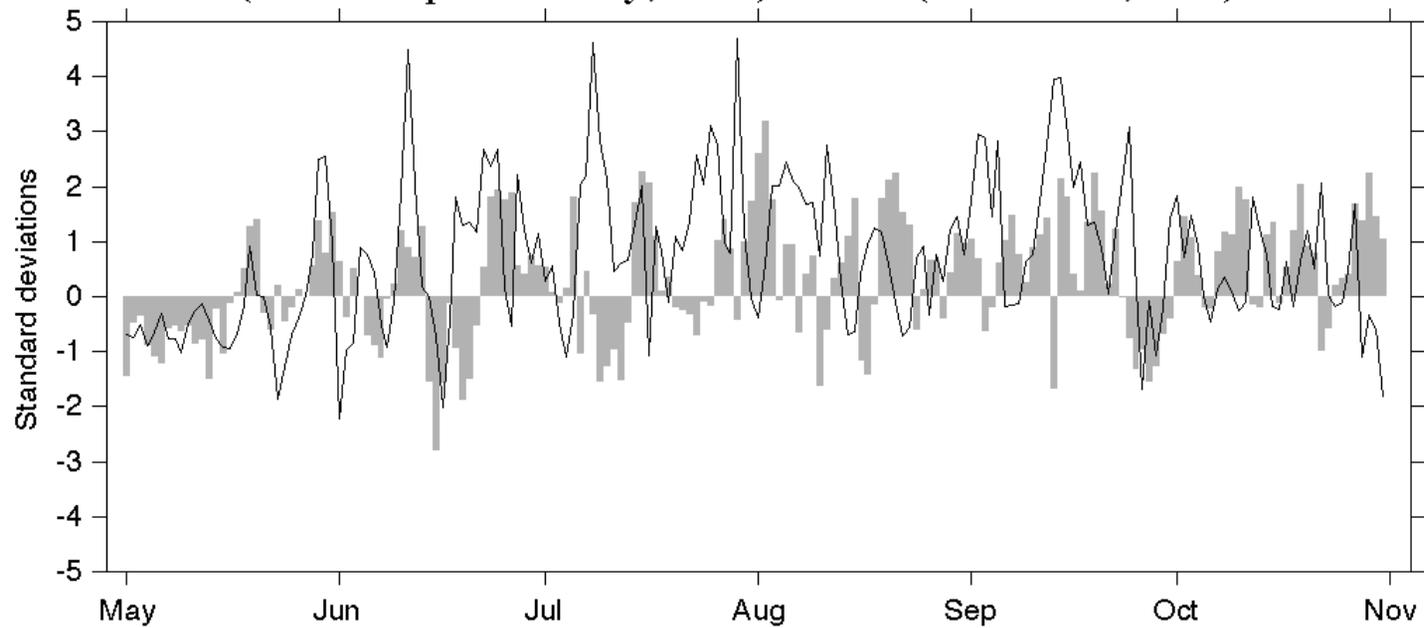
EOT 3 ozone plotted as correlations



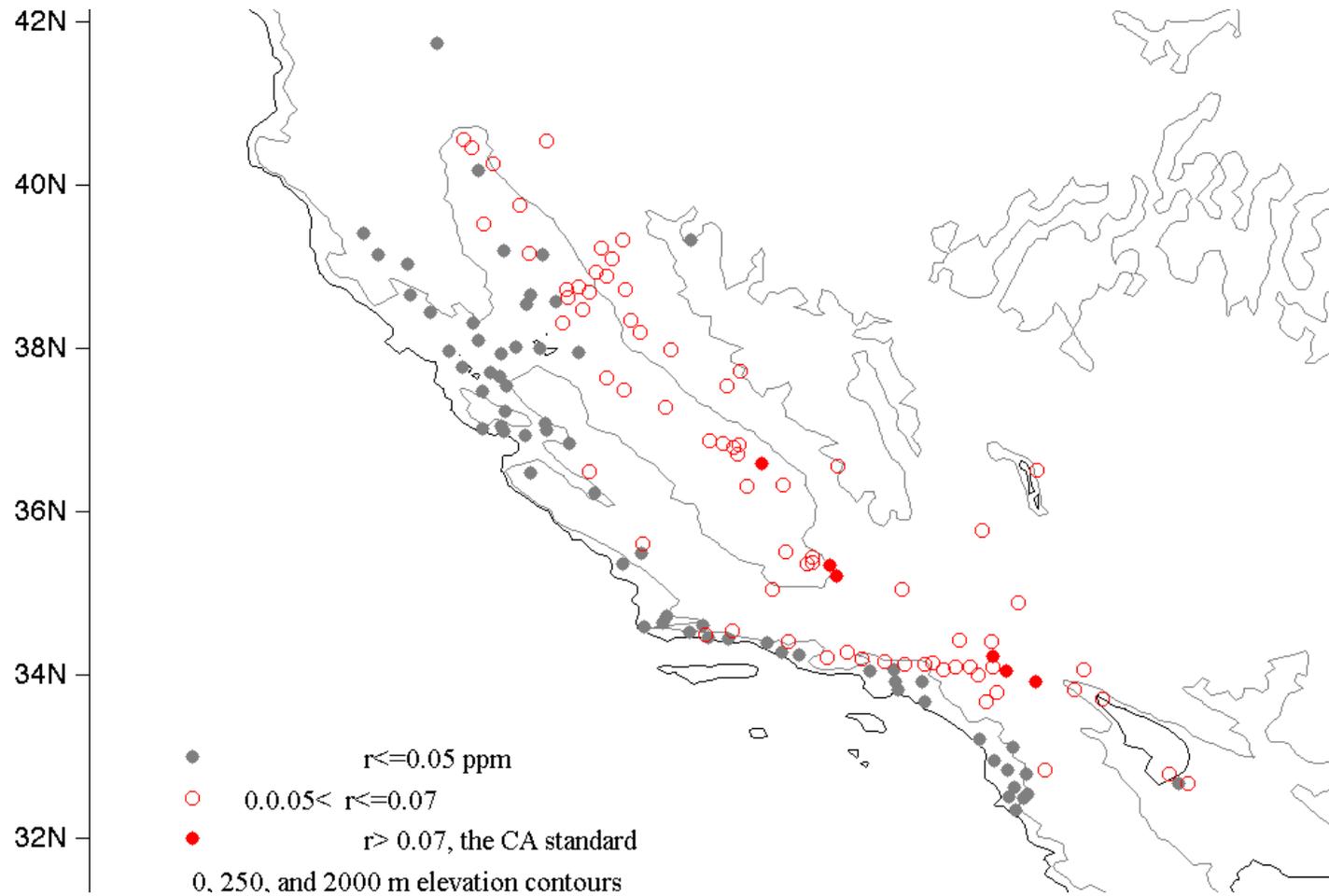
EOT 4



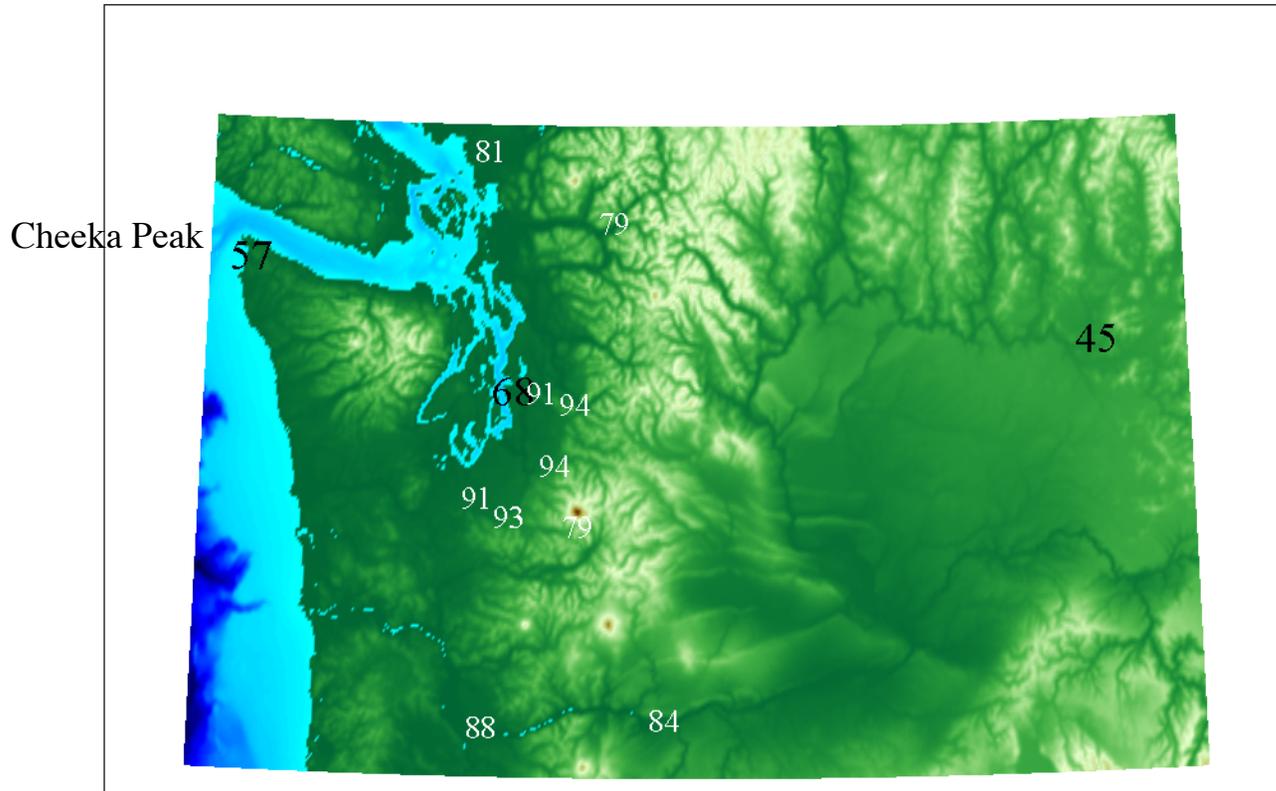
EOTs 1 (San Joaquin Valley, bars) and 2 (LA Basin, line) for 1995



California daily 8-hour maximum surface ozone



Correlation of daily summertime ozone with state average ozone, 1995-2009

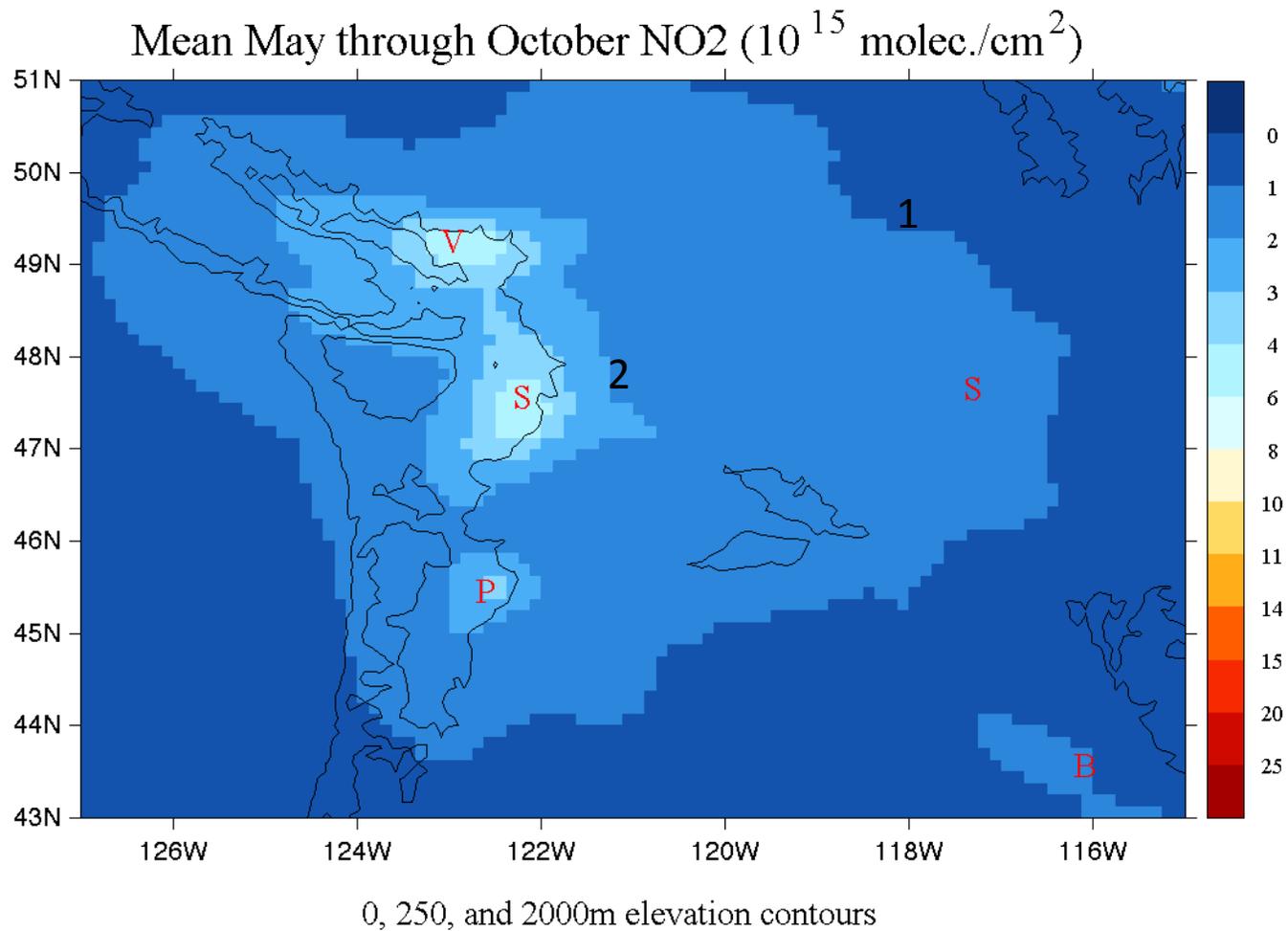


Mostly Washington State Department of Ecology measurements served by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

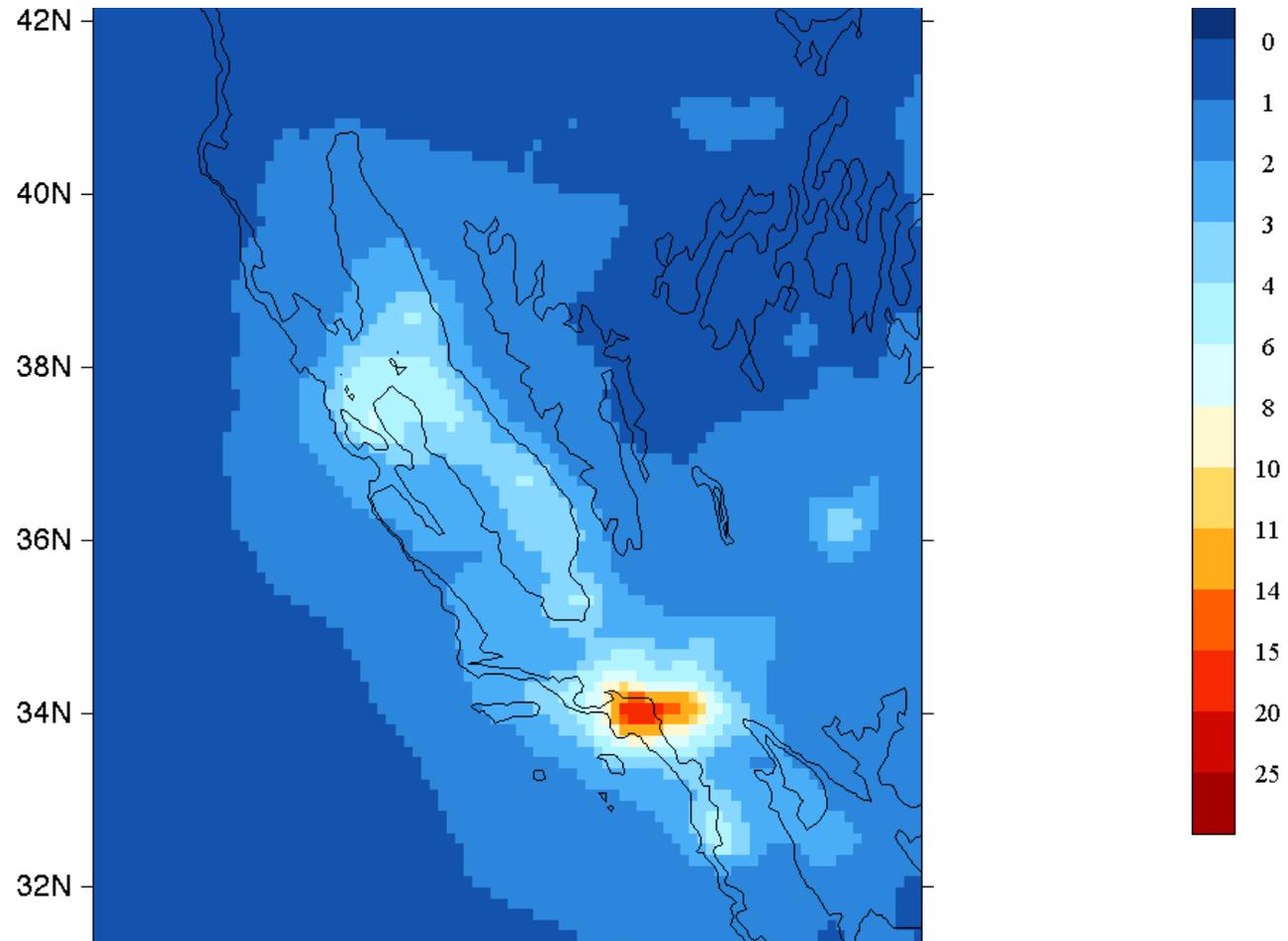
Now look at the daily variability of ozone, NO₂, and the atmospheric circulation.

*You can anticipate the affect on the
Washington – Oregon ocean climate.*

Dutch Ozone Monitoring Instrument NO₂ (DOMINO) tropospheric vertical column NO₂, began in 2005



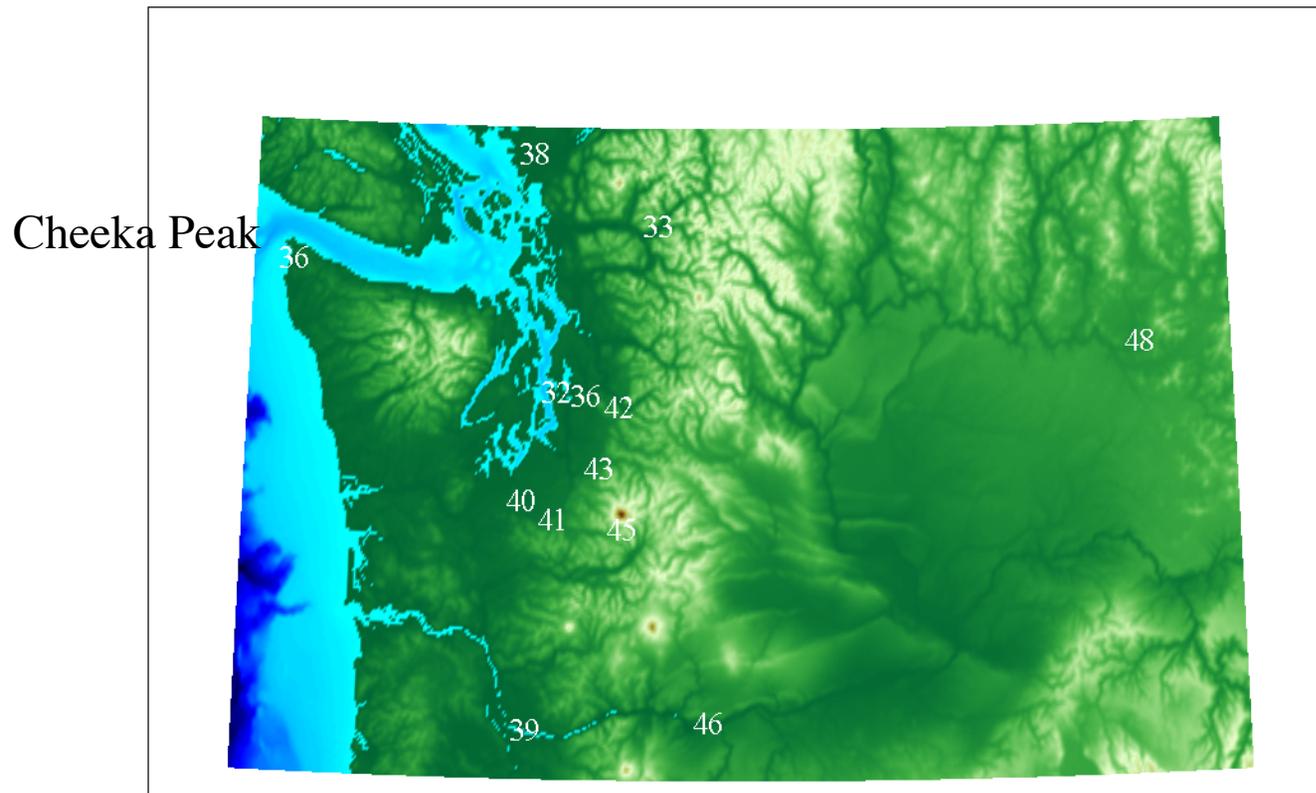
Dutch Ozone Monitoring Instrument NO₂ (DOMINO) Tropospheric vertical column NO₂, began in 2005



Thank you!

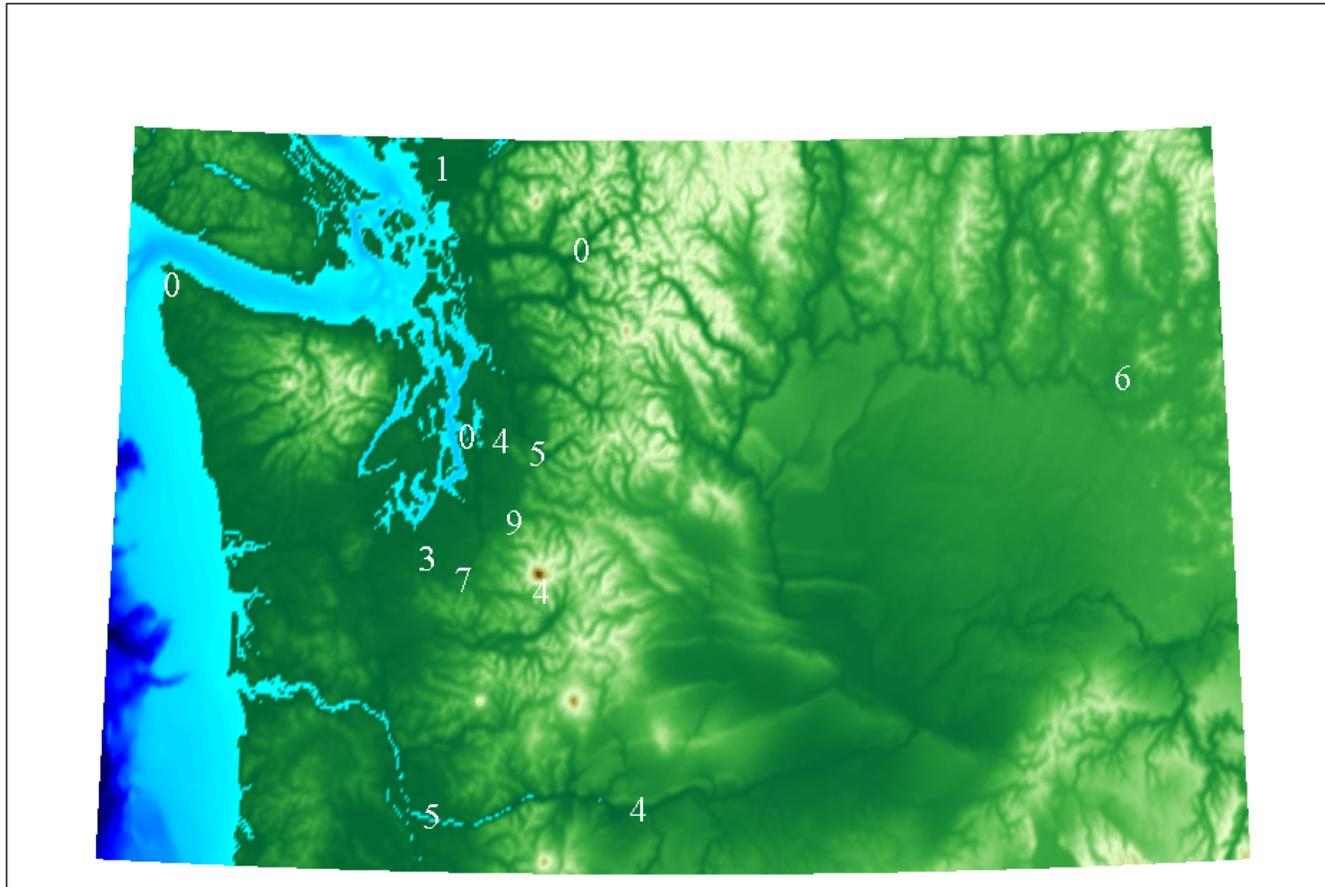
Daily 8-hour maximum surface ozone

Mean May through October ozone (ppb) 1995-2009



Mostly Washington State Department of Ecology measurements served by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

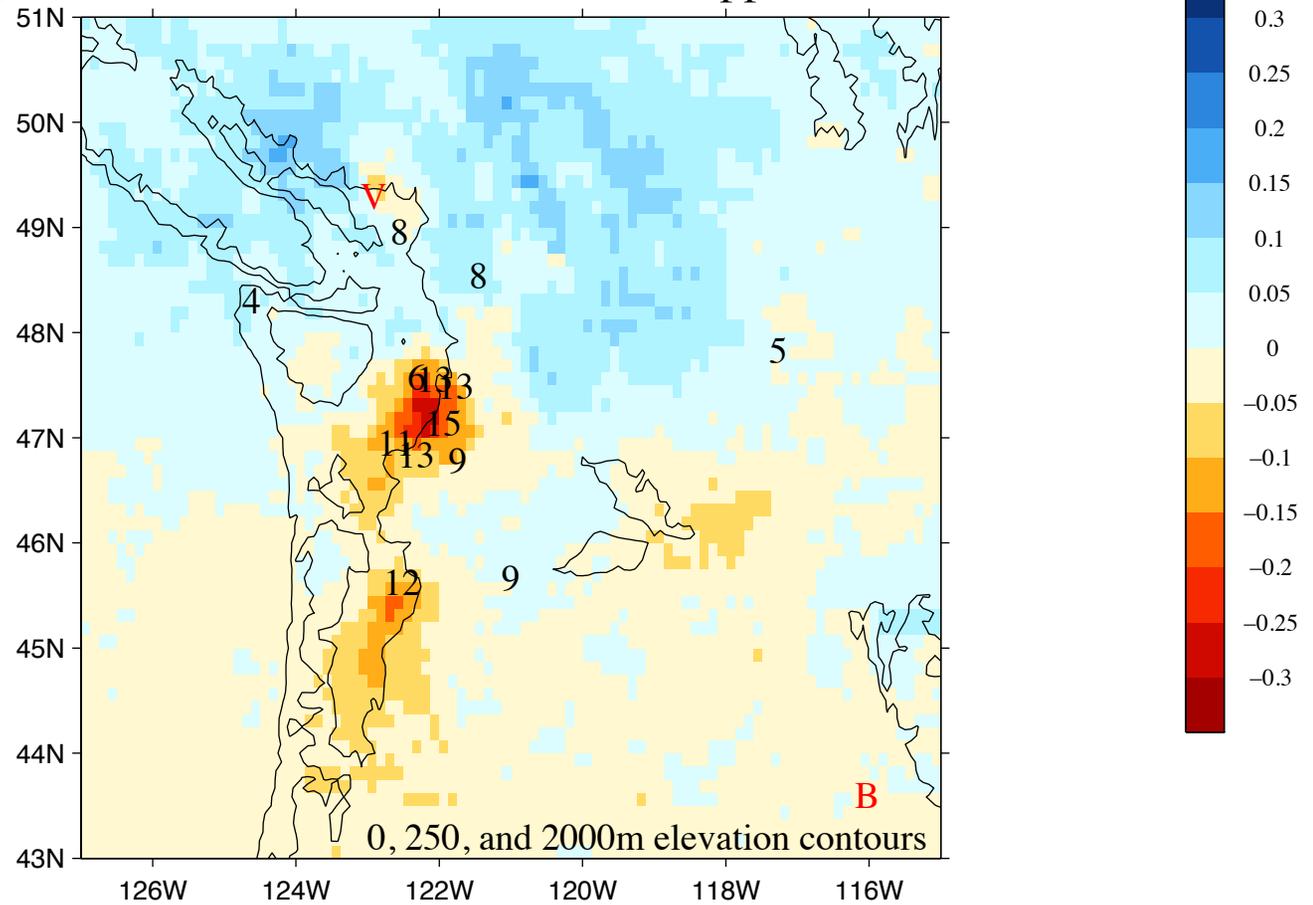
Percent May through October days when ozone > 70 ppb



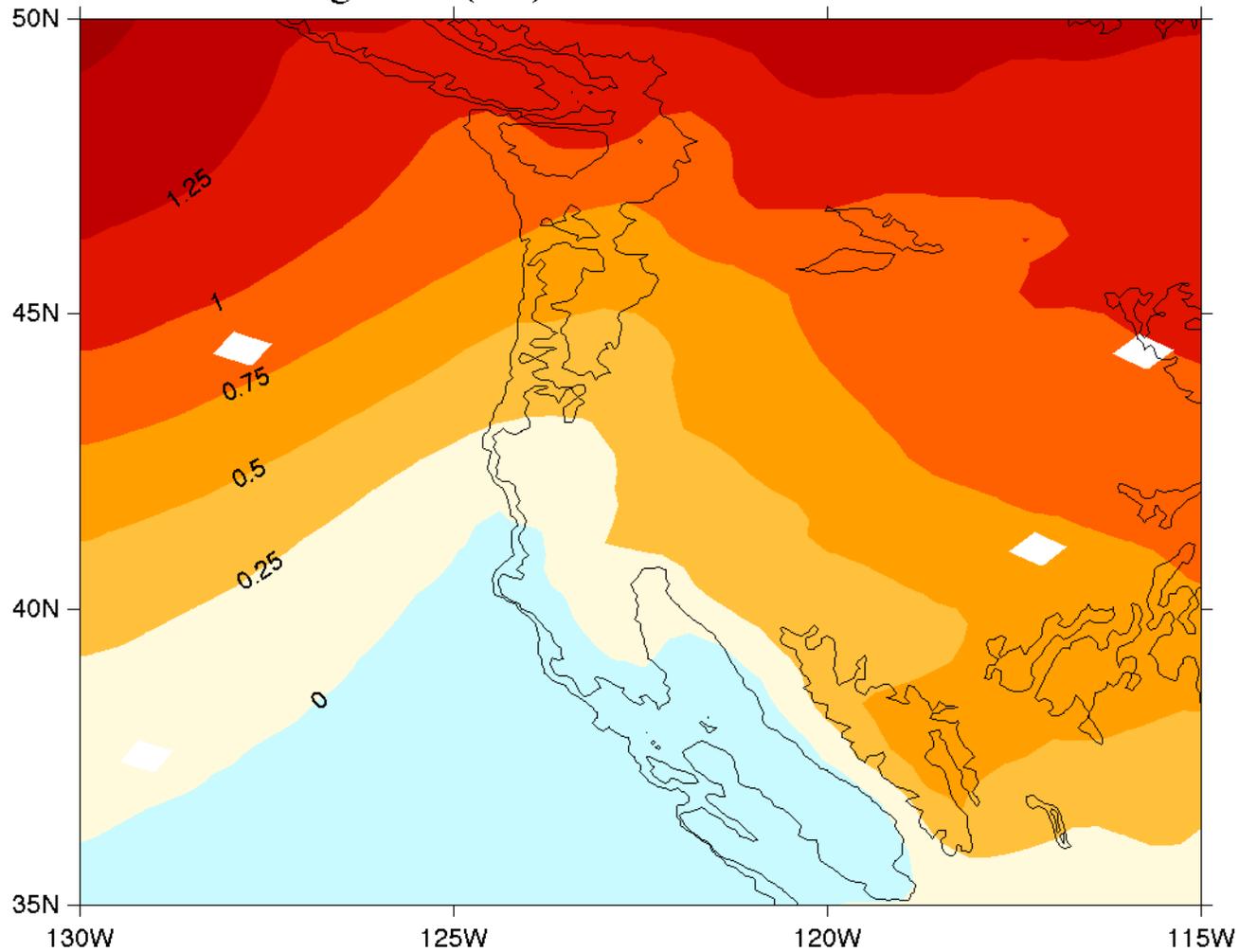
The health consequences of surface ozone

- Even relatively low levels of ozone can cause health effects.
- People with lung disease, children, older adults, and people who are active outdoors may be particularly sensitive to ozone.
- Children are at greatest risk from exposure to ozone because their lungs are still developing and they are more likely to be active outdoors when ozone levels are high, which increases their exposure. Children are also more likely than adults to have asthma.
- It can worsen bronchitis, emphysema, and asthma. Ground level ozone also can reduce lung function and inflame the linings of the lungs. Repeated exposure may permanently scar lung tissue.

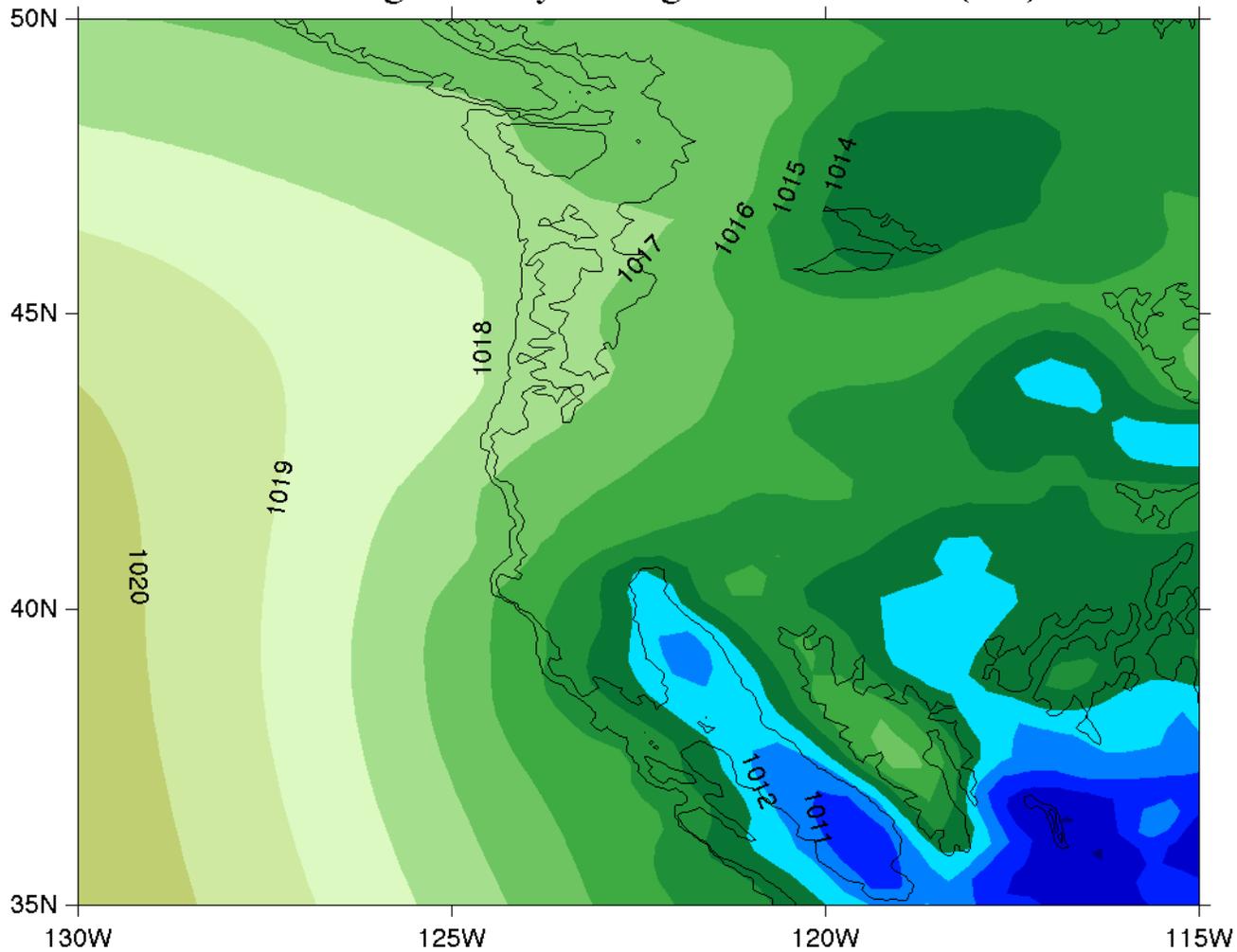
Reg. NO₂ and ozone onto western Washington ozone index
(10^{15} molec. cm⁻²/std.dev., 2005–09; ppb, 1995–2009)



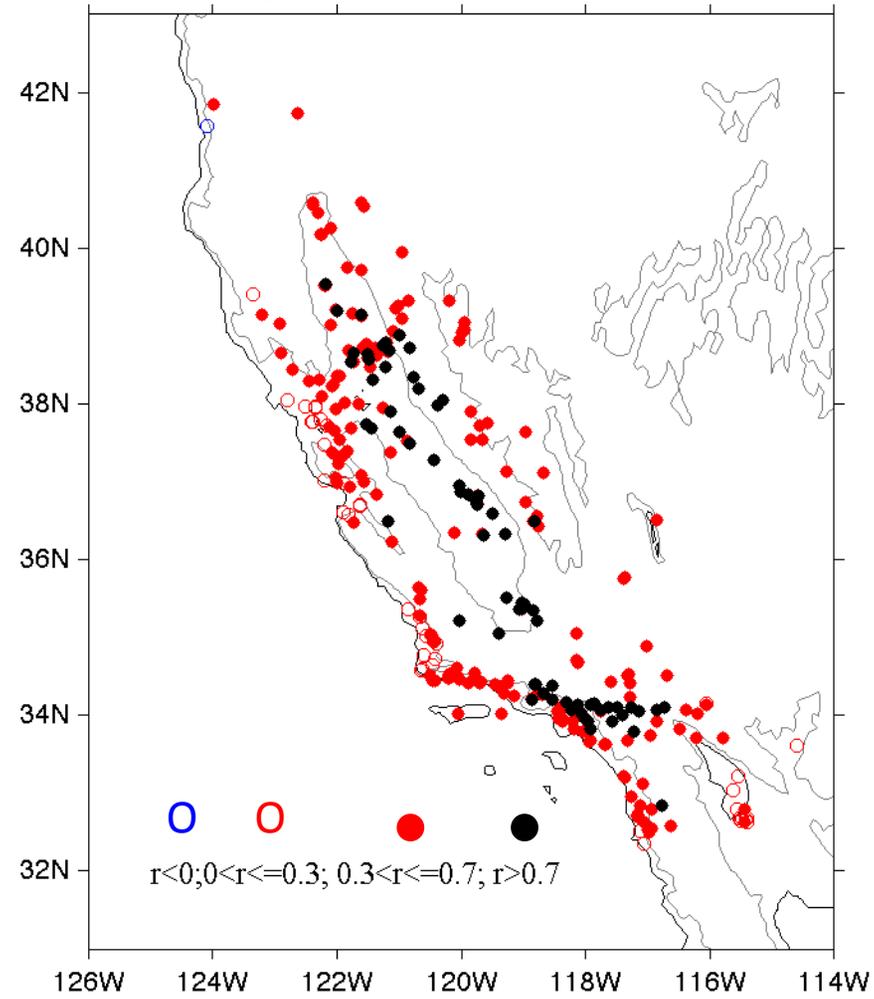
Reg. SLP (mb) onto western WA ozone



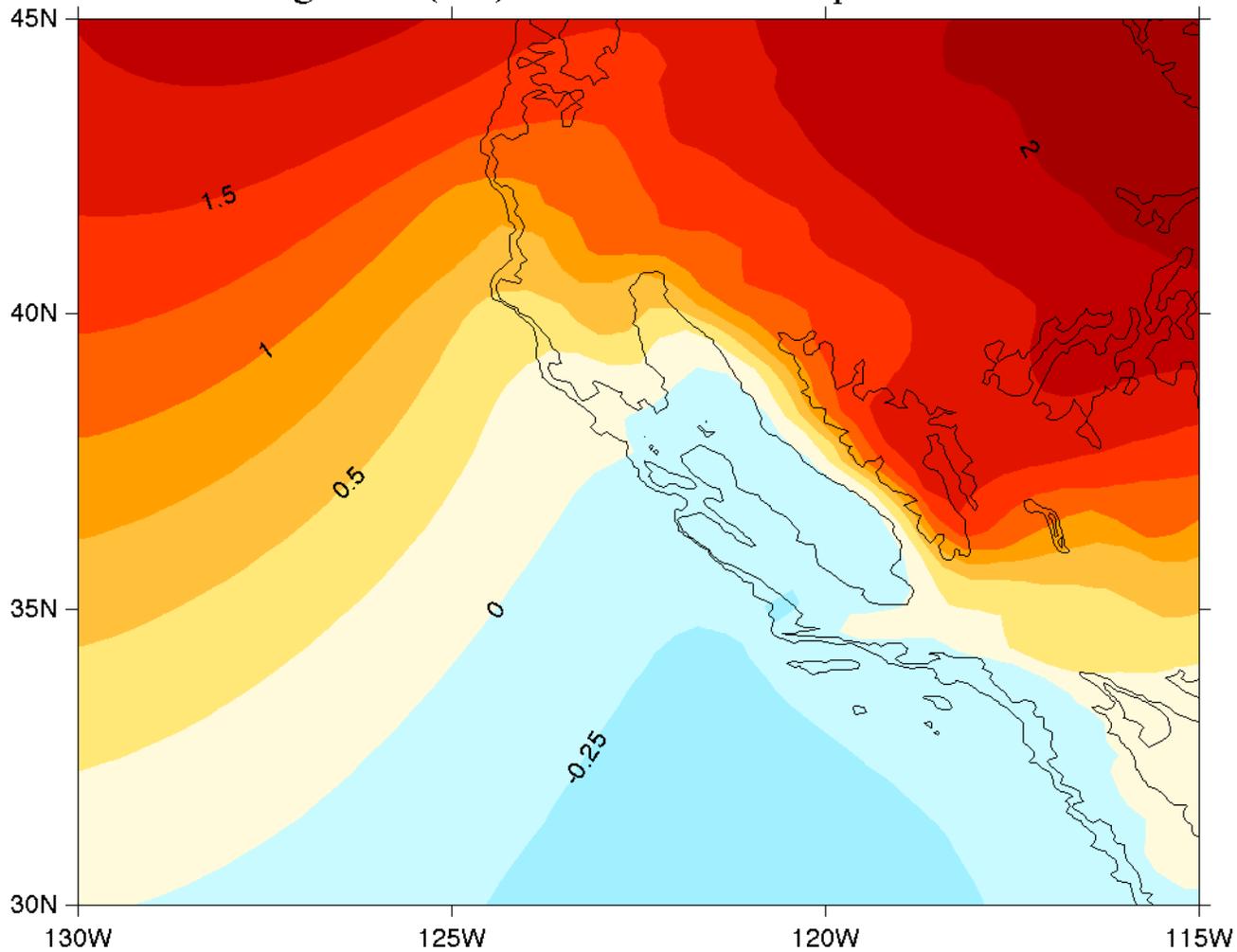
Climatological May through October SLP (mb)



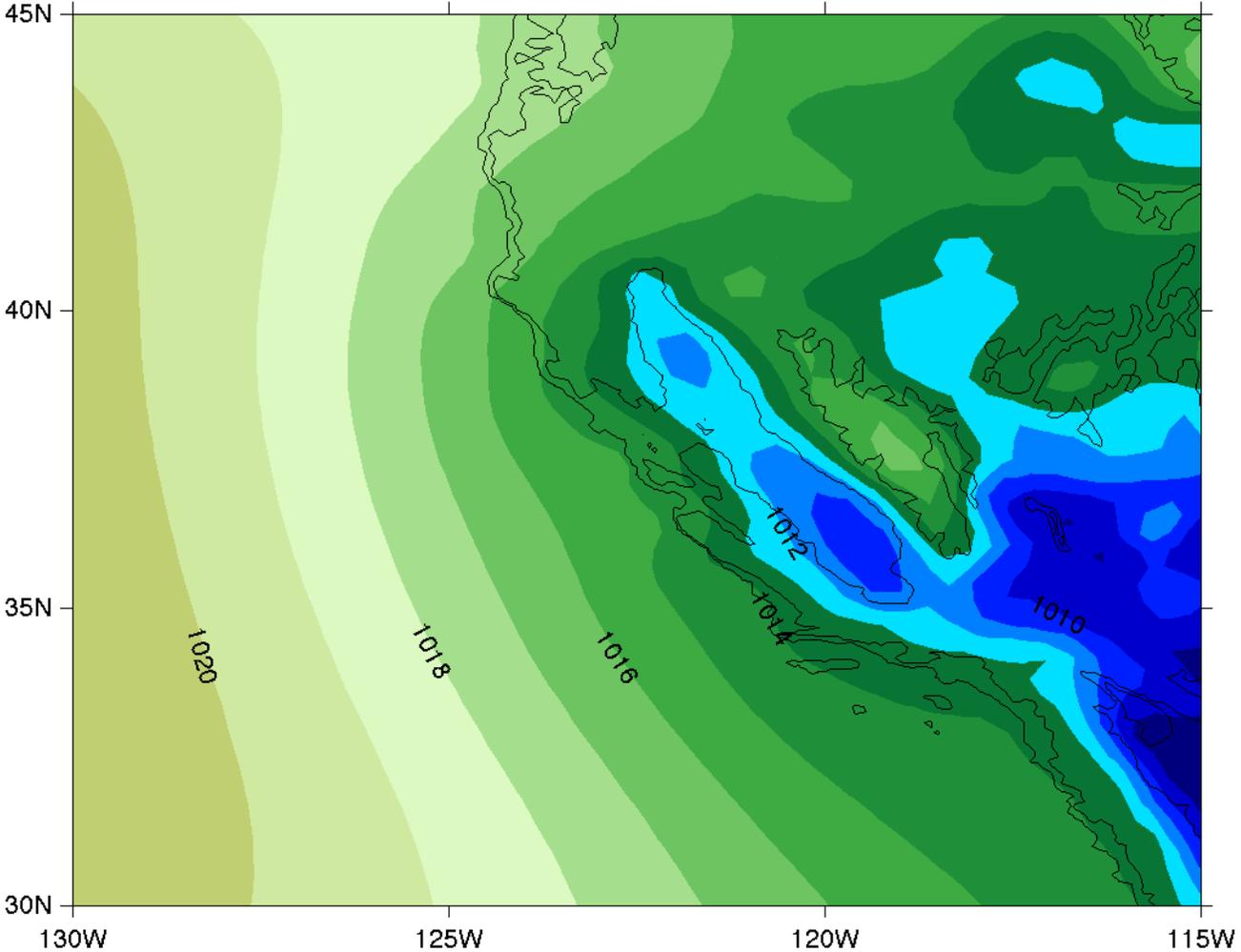
Cor. May through October ozone with state average



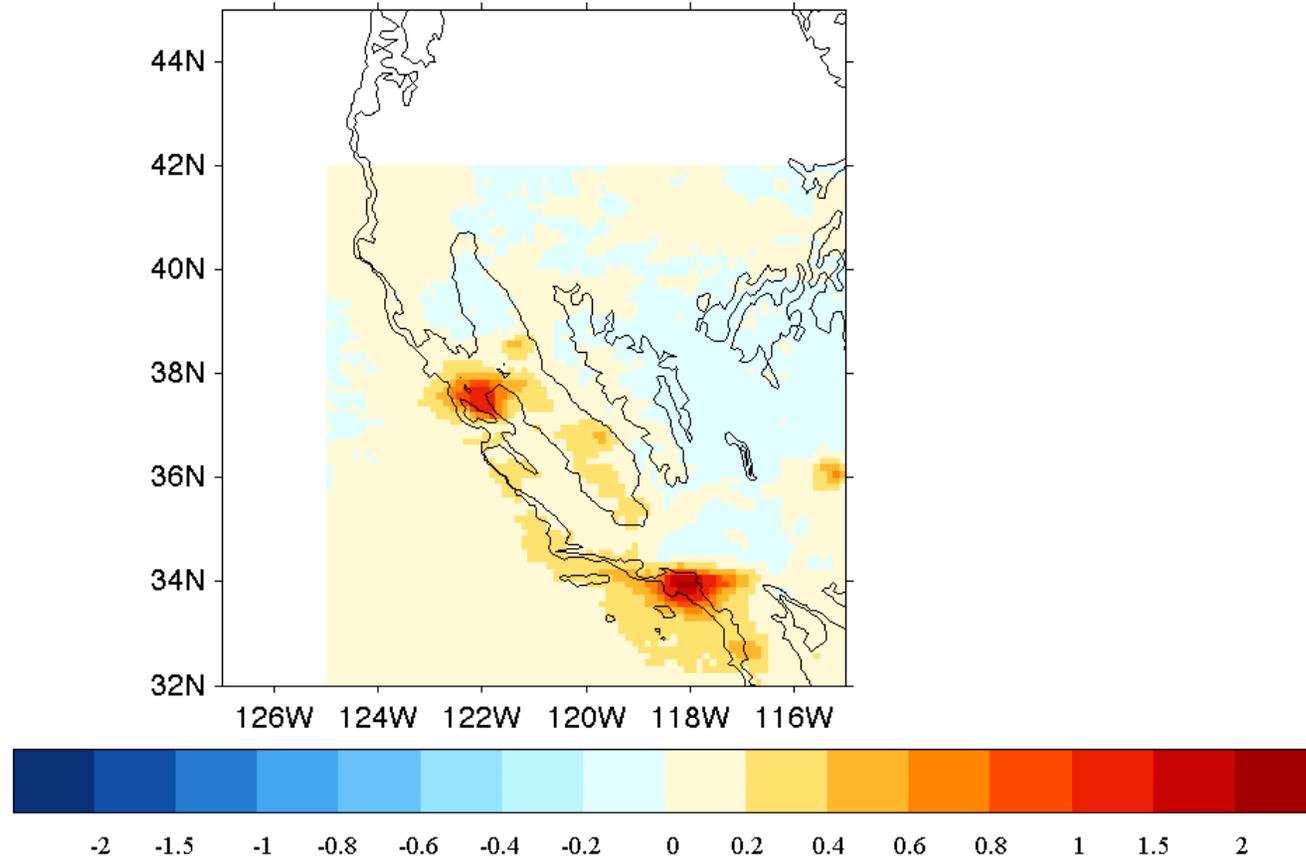
Reg. SLP (mb) onto Sac/San Joaquin ozone



Climatological May through October SLP (mb)



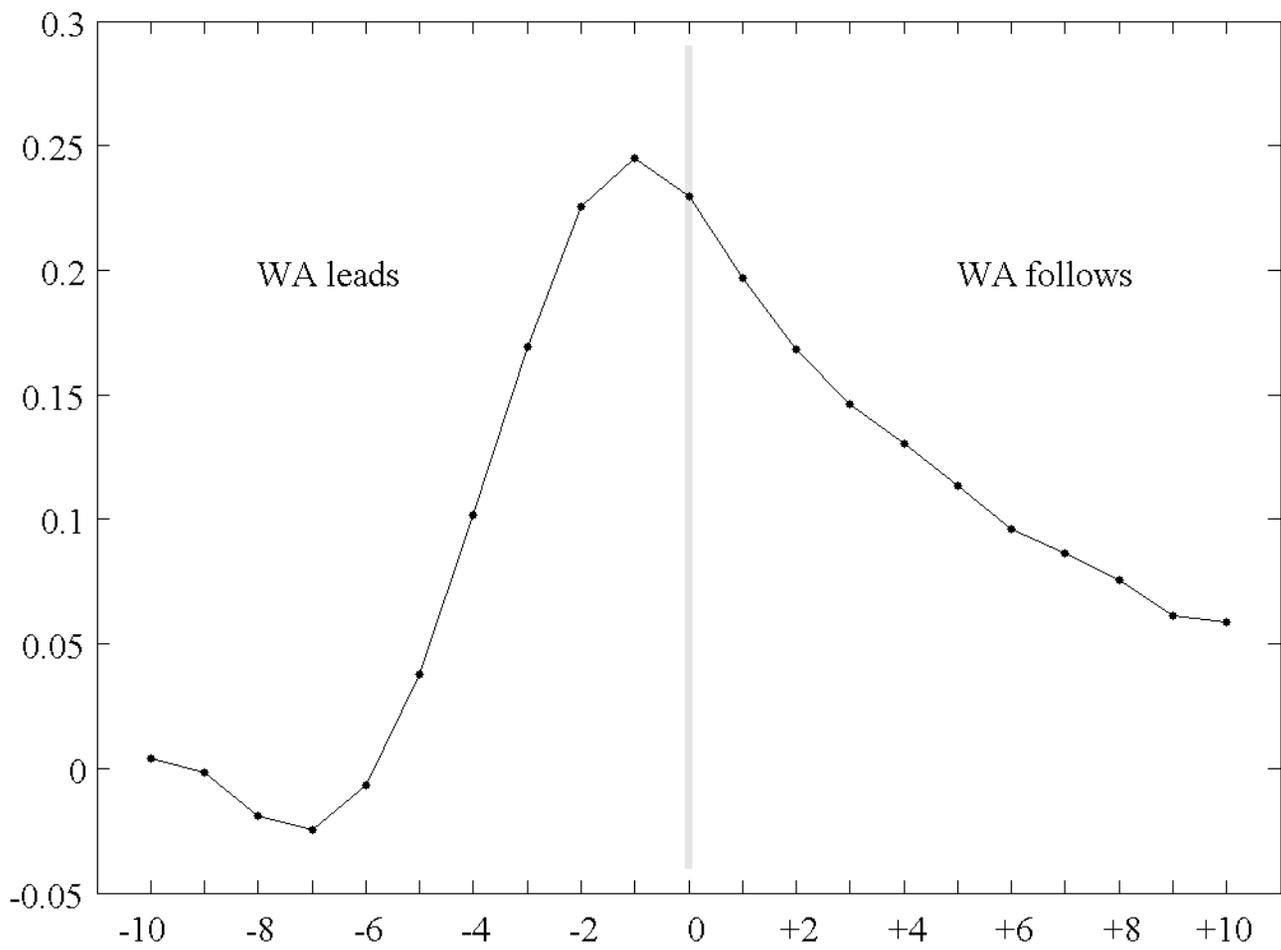
Reg weekday NO2 onto Sac/San Joaquin average Ozone
(10^{15} molec.cm⁻²/std.dev.) 2005-09



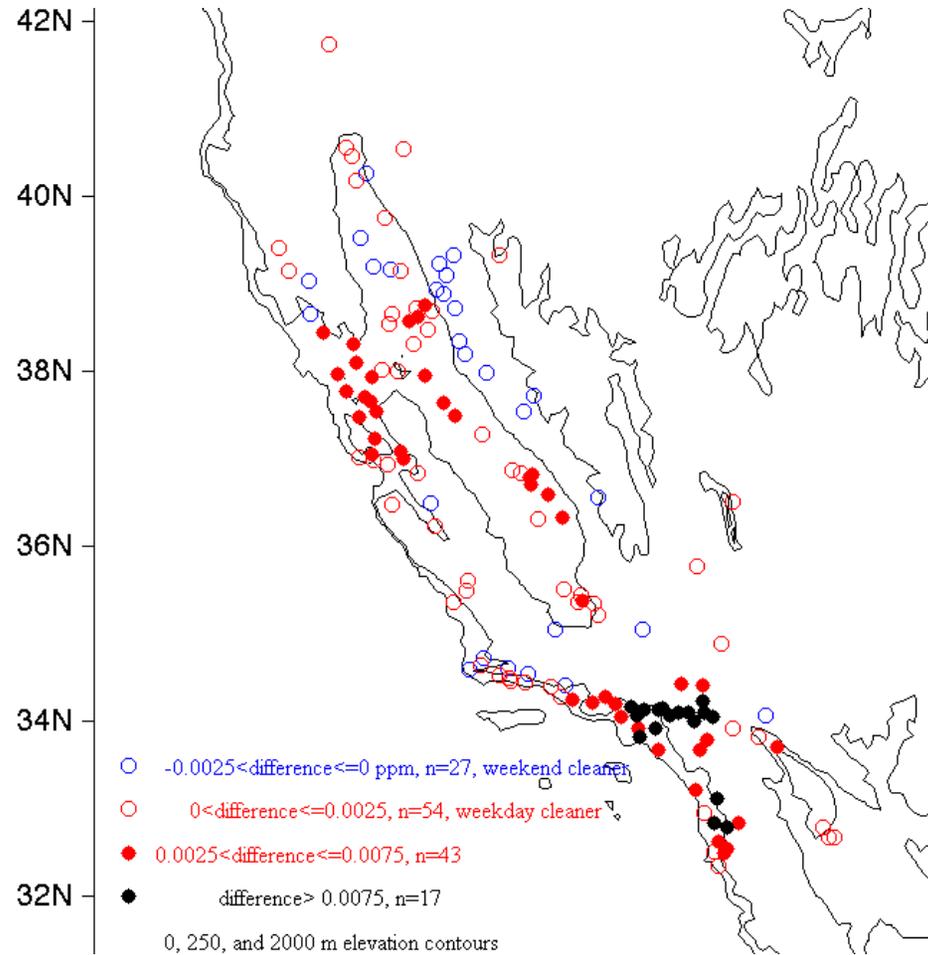
Similarity of the California and western Washington pressure anomaly patterns suggests that they are one in the same.

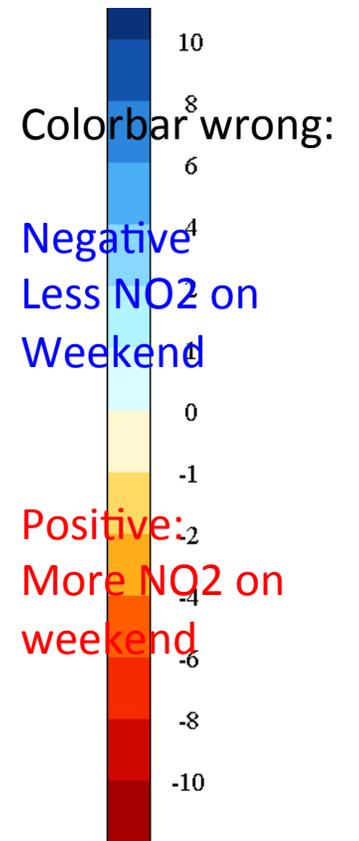
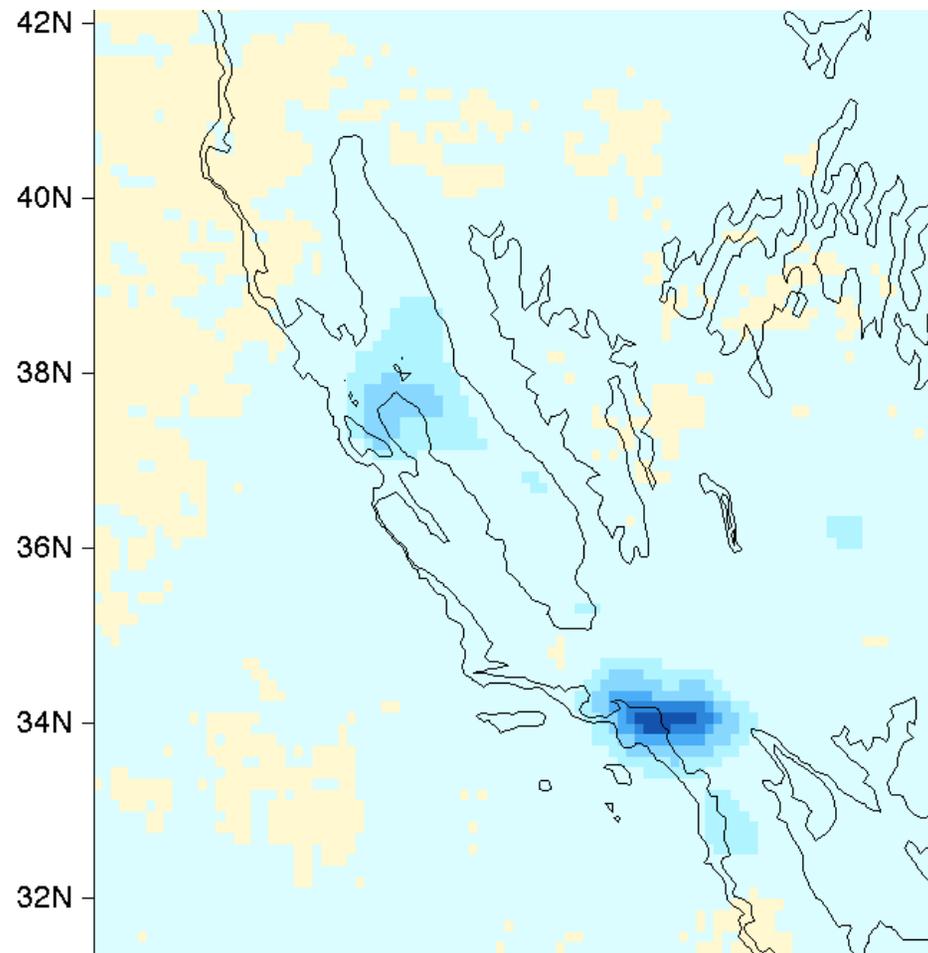
The California and western Washington daily mean ozone time series are correlated at 0.23 over 15 years. This correlation suggests that there is some year to year coherence of ozone variations in the two regions.

Lag correlation: WA and CA mean ozone time series
March through October days, 1995-2009

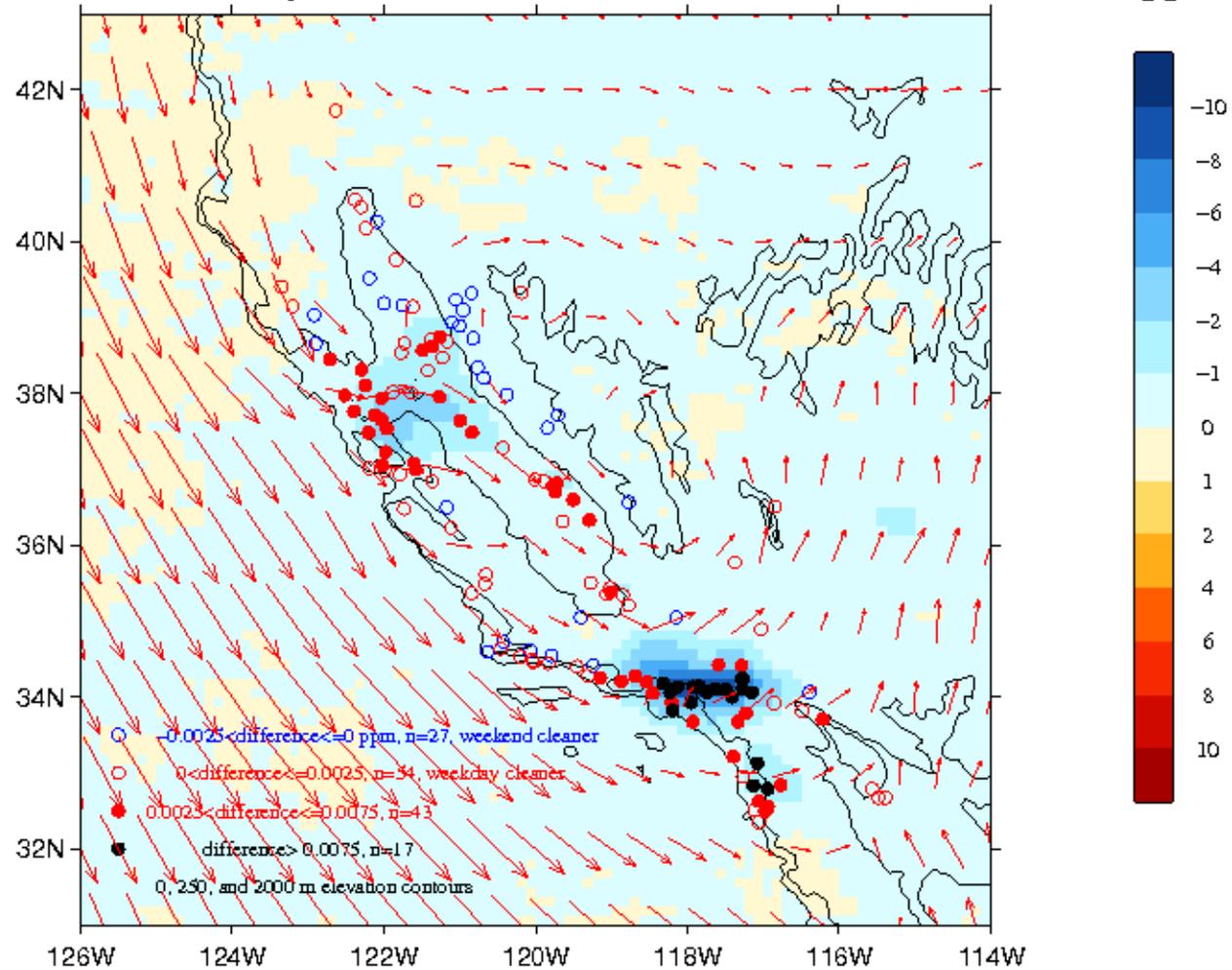


There is a significant weekday versus weekend signal in both ozone and NO₂





Weekend minus weekday NO₂ (shading, 10¹⁵ molec./cm²) and ozone (ppm)



Mean ozone versus Log10 NO2, stratified by weekend - weekday O3 difference

