

# PBRF Forum: Issues and Options for the Future

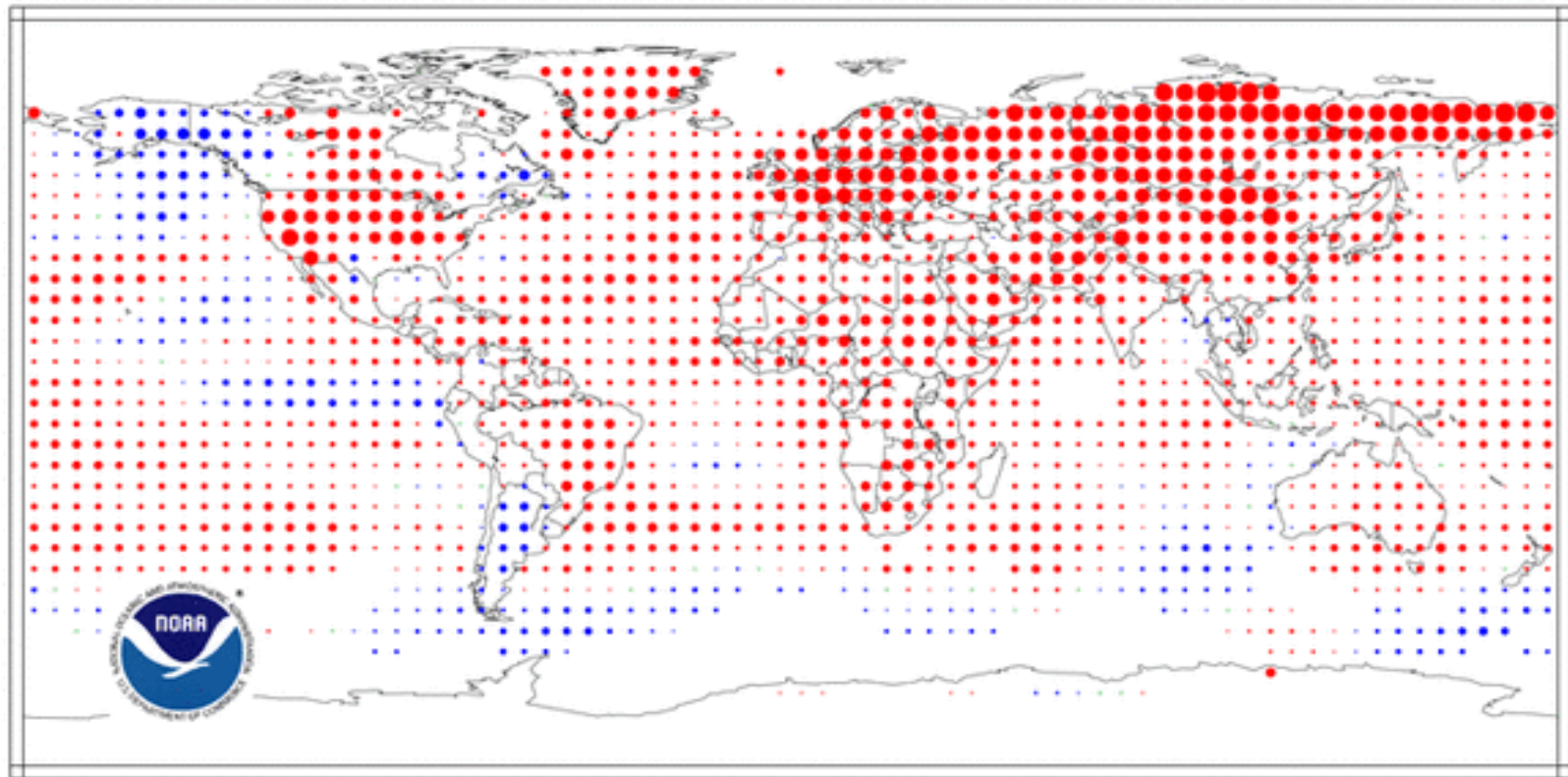
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# Temperature Anomalies Mar-May 2007

(with respect to a 1961-1990 base period)

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



Degrees Celsius

# Outline

1. Broad policy options for changes to the PBRF (see Table 1)
2. Modest revisions to the PBRF (see Table 2)
3. More fundamental revisions to the PBRF (see Table 3)
4. Conclusions

Figure 2

Dimensional Profile of New Zealand Panel Ratings

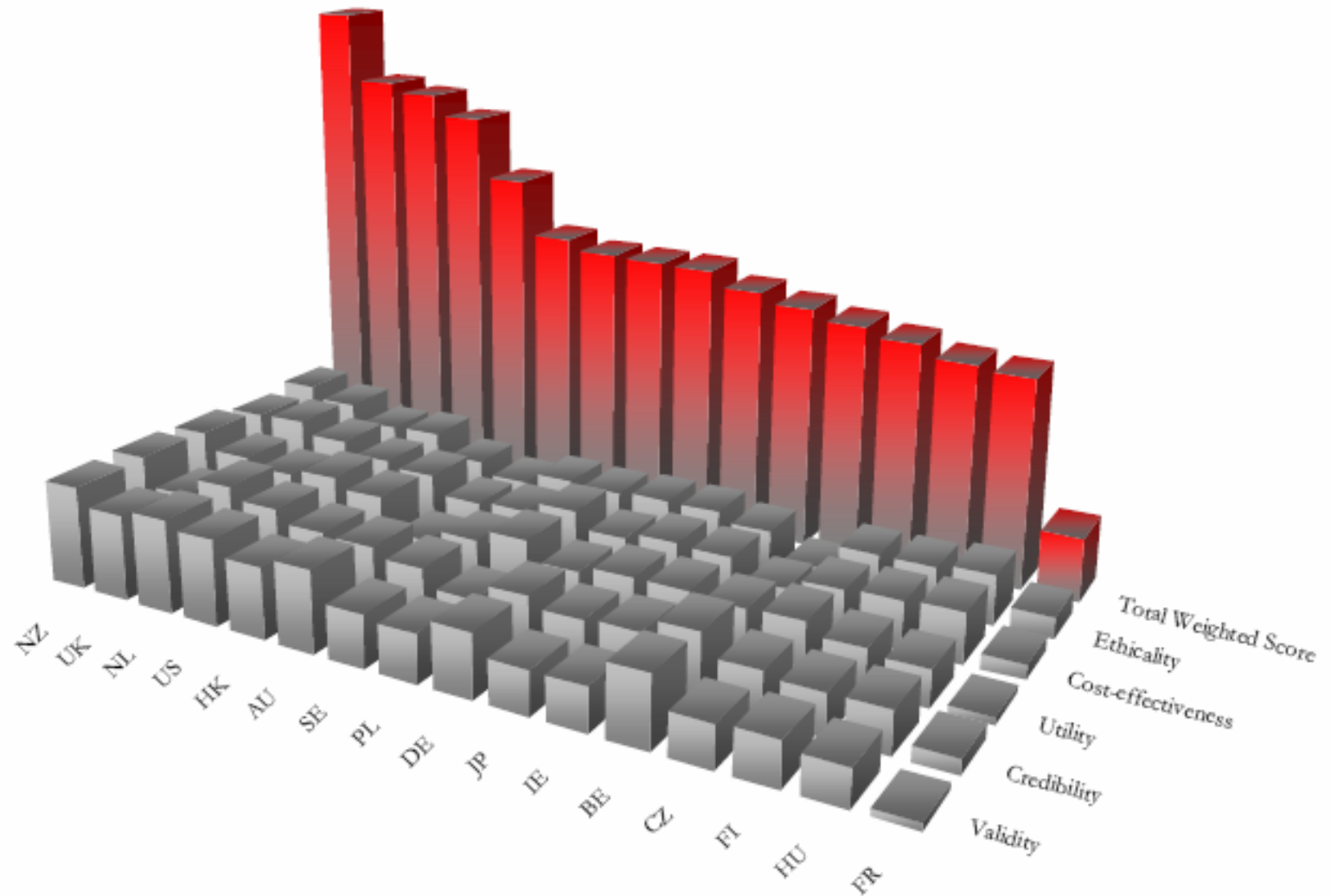
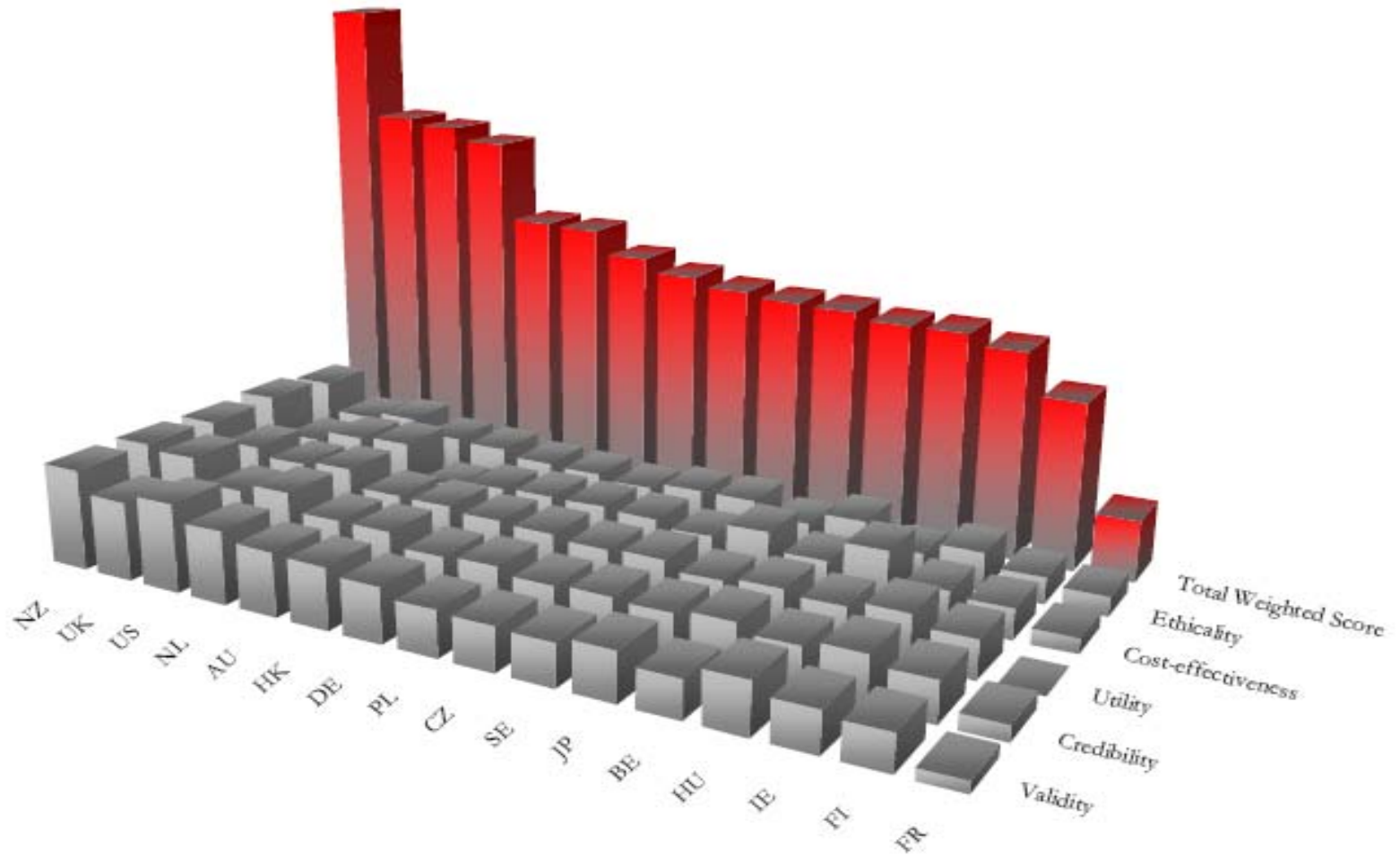


Figure 3

Dimensional Profile of United States Panel Ratings



Retaining the PBRF would, I fear, be the equivalent of Dante remaining permanently in Hell or perhaps Purgatory, and never reaching Paradise, unlike his progression in *The Divine Comedy*. As a pilgrim like Dante, I would much prefer to journey, even if rather slowly, from Hell to Paradise. But the way ahead appears to be irrevocably blocked – by institutional gaming, disciplinary boundaries, incentive issues, funding constraints and human imperfections.

Troublingly, the vision of the divine remains decidedly opaque; indeed, it seems to be getting dimmer and more distorted. Maybe it is time for some utterly lateral thinking.