

# EXTREME EVENTS DETECTION

December 2022



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# LIST OF ACRONYMS

#### Abbreviations

WP: Work Package ACRE: Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth AI: Artificial Intelligence AMO: Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation **CAP:** Common Agricultural Policy C3S-CDS: Copernicus Climate Change Service – Climate Data Store CIRES: Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Science CMCC: Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici CMIP6: Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 6 ECMWF: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts EDA: Ensemble of Data Assimilations **EE: Extreme Events** EEA: European Environment Agency EEcA: European Economic Area **EFTA: European Free Trade Association ENSO: El Nino Southern Oscillation EOF: Empirical Orthogonal Function** ERA5: ECMWF Reanalysis v5 ET: Extratropical transition HYPE: HYdrological Predictions for the Environment HydroGFD: Hydrological Global Forcing Data FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations GA: Grant Agreement GAINS: Greenhouse Gas - Air Pollution Interaction and Synergies GHG: Greenhouse Gas GLOBIOM: Global Biosphere Management Model GMES: Global Monitoring for Environment and Security **GPI:** Genesis Potential Index HMD: Heat Wave Magnitude HW: Heat Waves HWS: Heat Wave Severity hPa: Hectopascal **IFS: Integrated Forecasting System** IOD: Indian Ocean Dipole MJO: Madden-Julian Oscillation ML: Machine Learning **MPI: Maximum Potential Intensity** NAO: North Atlantic Oscillation NOAA: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



NTUA: National Technical University of Athens NWP: Numerical Weather Prediction OLR: Outgoing Longwave Radiation PDO: Pacific Decadal Oscillation PMIP4: Paleoclimate Modelling Intercomparison Project phase 4 RES: Renewable Energy Sources SMHI: Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute SPEI: Standardised Precipitation and Evapotranspiration Index SPI: Standardised Precipitation Index SRI: Standardised Runoff Index. SSI: Standardised Soil Moisture Index SST: Sea Surface Temperature TC: Tropical Cyclone TN: Tropical Nights



# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In Machine Learning (ML), an essential part of the work is to define the training data set, both in terms of the target variable and the predictors. Once an ML model is constructed, one should benchmark it against an existing prediction model to validate its benefit. Therefore, one must consider the selection of datasets before developing the ML method.

This deliverable aims to describe indices and data to be used to detect the different types of Extreme Events (EE) considered in CLINT. The extreme events are:

- Tropical cyclones, in terms of genesis and activity on different timescales and extratropical transitions.
- Heatwaves and tropical nights
- Extreme droughts
- Compound events and concurrent extremes

For each type of EE, the report gives an overview of the problem, lists relevant indices and datasets, and discusses candidate drivers. The selection is based on a comprehensive review of current literature on each topic.

For tropical cyclones, local drivers for predictability, such as sea surface temperature (SST), moisture and vertical wind shear, will be combined with teleconnections of the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) and the El Nino- Southern Oscillation (ENSO) to predict tropical cyclone activity at the subseasonal scale. On the climate scale, the genesis potential index (GPI) will be improved to detect cyclone activity.

For heatwaves and tropical nights over Europe atmospheric conditions such as flow regimes (NAO and blocking) together with remote oceanic, land and sea ice will be explored to predict the extreme events.

For extreme droughts, a combination of precipitation indices and hydrological models will be used to detect the event. To predict the extreme drought, similar drivers as for the heatwaves will be explored.

For compound events and concurrent extremes, ML will be utilised to detect events based on their impact on the water, food and energy sectors, derived from observations and impact models and appropriate combinations of precipitation and temperature indices.

The insights from this report will be used as input for the ML models that will be developed in the next stage of the CLINT project.



# **1 INTRODUCTION**

In Machine Learning (ML) an essential part of the work is to define the training data set, both in terms of the target variable and the predictors. After constructing an ML model, one should benchmark it against an existing prediction model to validate the benefit. Therefore, one must consider the choices of datasets before building the ML method.

To obtain a good ML model, a sufficiently long training period with consistent data is needed. For this purpose, re-analyses (e.g., ERA5) are often used as they are produced with the same method for a long period. For observational time series, such consistency is harder to obtain as observation practices might have changed over time and space. However, the drawback with reanalysis products is that they partly build upon model approximations and may also suffer from non-stationarity issues in input observations.

Different types of problems require different solutions in terms of the type of predictors to use to train the model. The first distinction is whether an event is to be detected when it happens (e.g., whether there is a drought), or an event is to be predicted ahead of time (e.g., the genesis of a tropical cyclone). While local predictors are crucial for detection, prediction problems may require a combination of local and remote predictors.

This deliverable aims to describe indices and data to be used to detect the different types of Extreme Events (EE) considered in CLINT. The extreme events are:

- Tropical cyclones, in terms of genesis and activity on different timescales and extratropical transitions.
- Heatwaves and tropical nights
- Extreme droughts
- Compound events and concurrent extremes

For each type of EE, the report gives an overview of the problem, lists relevant indices and datasets, and discusses candidate drivers.



# **2 TROPICAL CYCLONES**

Tropical Cyclones (TC) form at a rate of about 80-90 times per year globally in the tropical latitude bands on both sides of the Equator. TCs making landfall is among the costliest and deadliest natural disasters. This is due to the strong winds, heavy precipitation, and the associated risk of storm surges. Therefore, it is of paramount importance to be able to accurately predict their activity on several timescales, ranging from a few days to seasonal and climate projections.

A comprehensive theory of TC formation is lacking so far. Several indicators have been developed, however, relating the spatio-temporal distribution of TC formation to large-scale atmospheric and oceanic variables, such as atmospheric humidity, vorticity, and sea surface temperature. These indices generally have good skill at the climatological/global scales at which they have been trained, but their performance tends to degrade at interannual scales, and varies from basin to basin. Another issue with the genesis potential indices is that often their future trends are not consistent with the estimates of future TC activity.

A useful predictor for TC genesis/activity is one that has a reasonable correlation with the target, and shows predictive skill as well. As the predictive skill is different for different predictors, the choice will differ among the different timescales of interest (i.e., a few days ahead vs the climate change time scale). On sub-seasonal timescales, the Madden-Julian Oscillation is a powerful predictor (Klotzbach, 2014) and also possesses predictive skill on a 3-4 week timescale (Vitart, 2009). The open question for the ML design is whether to train on the gridded data that form the indices or directly on the indices.

Within Task 3.1, Subtask 3.1.1 will focus on the long climatological scales, using ML algorithms to discover improved formulations of genesis potential indices based on large-scale climate variables. Subtask 3.1.2, on the other hand, will focus on short time scales, developing ML predictors of TC activity for weather prediction and sub-seasonal time scales.

### 2.2 Indices for tropical cyclone detection

The Genesis Potential Index (GPI) was developed by Emanuel & Nolan (2004), aiming at describing the climatological distribution and seasonal variations of TCs. Its functional form is given by:

$$GPI = |10^{5}\eta|^{3/2} \left(\frac{H}{50}\right)^{3} \left(\frac{PI}{70}\right)^{3} (1 + 0.1 V)^{-2}$$

where  $\eta$  is the absolute vorticity at 850 hPa, H the relative humidity at 600 hPa, V the wind shear between 200 hPa and 850 hPa and Maximum Potential Intensity (MPI or PI) that is a theoretical estimate of the maximum attainable TC wind speed in a given environment. The calculations behind MPI are described in Emanuel & Bister (2008). MPI values have been computed using the Python package tcpiPY (Gilford 2020)<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://github.com/dgilford/tcpyPI



The Tropical Cyclone Genesis index (TCGI) is an alternative formulation of GPI proposed by Tippett et al. (2011). In the formulation of TCGI, the MPI is replaced by the relative sea surface temperature (SST):

$$TCGI = exp(-4.47 + 0.5 \eta + 0.05 H + 0.63 RSST - 0.17 V + log \cos \varphi)$$

where  $\eta$  is the absolute vorticity at 850 hPa, H the relative humidity at 700 hPa, V the wind shear between 200 hPa and 850 hPa and RSST is the SST anomaly with respect to the mean tropical SST (30 °N – 30 °S), and  $\phi$  is the latitude.

Acronym	Name	Essential climate variables	Description	References
GPI	Genesis Potential Index	vorticity, wind shear, relative humidity, SST	Index describing the spatio- temporal distribution of TC genesis as a function of environmental parameters	Emanuel & Nolan (2004)
TCGI	Tropical Cyclone Genesis Index	vorticity, wind shear, relative humidity, SST	Index describing the spatio- temporal distribution of TC genesis as a function of environmental parameters	Tippett, Camargo & Sobel (2011)
MPI	Maximum Potential Intensity	SST, air temperature, specific humidity, MSLP	Theoretically derived estimate of the maximum intensity attainable by a TC in a given environment	Emanuel (1988), Bister & Emanuel (2008)
ACE	Accumulated Cyclone Energy	wind speed	Lifetime-integral of squared cyclone wind speed	Bell et al (1999)
OIM	Madden-Julian Oscillation	OLR, zonal winds at 850 and 200hPa	2 leading modes of variability in the equatorial region	Hendon and Wheeler, 2004
Nino3.4	Nino3.4	SST	SST anomaly in 5N-5S, 190E-240E,	

Table 1 List of the indices employed in the characterisation and detection of Tropical Cyclones in Task 3.1.

**Acronym =** Abbreviation used for the index, **Name =** full name of the index, **Essential climate variables** = variables required for the computation of the index, **Description =** short definition of the index, **References** = Publications where the index is used or defined.



#### 2.3 Datasets for tropical cyclone detection

Data sets are listed in Deliverable 8.3, 'First update of the Data Management Plan<sup>2</sup>

#### 2.3.1 ERA5

In Subtask 3.1.2, we will use ERA5 as it is a global reanalysis for atmospheric gridded variables. ERA5 is a global ECMWF atmospheric reanalysis available for the period between January 1950 to the present day (Hersbach et al. 2020). It is based on a version of the ECMWF atmospheric model (Integrated Forecasting System, cycle 41r2) that was operational in 2016, and it employs a four-dimensional variational analysis (4D-Var) for data assimilation. ERA5 provides hourly fields with a spatial resolution of approximately 30 km.

As the predictor variables in this task are large scale (see Table 1), we only use the reanalysis data valid 00 UTC for the time-series, and at 2.5-degree resolution, in order to smooth unpredictable noise and to lower the dimensionality for the ML. To generate the training data, ECMWF has created a small software package (CLINT-TS) to create both time series of indices and gridded data for the training. The software and a selection of indices will be available on GitHub.

For the TC genesis indices, ERA5 monthly data from the relevant fields are used, also at a resolution of 2.5 degrees.

In addition to the gridded data from ERA5, we will also use tracking files of TCs from ERA5. This dataset will form an alternative target dataset to IBTrACS. For ERA5, the TCs have been tracked using the tracking algorithm described in Magnusson et al. (2021).

### 2.3.2 IBTRACS

At least four times a day, each of the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs) and Tropical Cyclone Warning Centres (TCWCs) produce estimates of the position and intensity of all present TCs in their basin. These observations are often referred to as *Best Track*.

The Best Track is a subjective human assessment of the TC centre's location, intensity, and structure, using all observations available at the time of the analysis. As aircraft missions are generally only present in the Atlantic, the estimates are often based on different satellite products. A common tool is the Dvorak technique (Dvorak, 1984), where the analyst identifies patterns in cloud features in satellite visible and enhanced IR imagery and associates them with an intensity (T) number. From this, look-up tables are available to determine the minimum central pressure (Pmin) and maximum wind speed (Vmax). As this technique involves a human judgment, uncertainties naturally arise both in terms of intensity and whether the system should be classified as a TC or an extratropical one.

After each season, the TCs are re-evaluated, and the estimates can be modified before the final Best Track is completed. The International Best Track Archive for Climate Stewardship (IBTrACS) combines track and intensity estimates from several RSMCs and other agencies to provide a central repository of both working and final Best Track (Knapp et al. 2010).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Table of the Data Management Plan:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1s4igaxwHKxecsrM2ZoQXCbQ\_k78B9LpN/edit#gid=2127184400



Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
ERA5	C3S-CDS	СМСС	N/A	ECMWF, CMCC	August 31, 2022	CMCC, ECMWF
IBTrACS		СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	CMCC, ECMWF

Table 2 List of observational and reanalysis dataset used in Task 3.1.

**Name** = short name of the dataset, **Source** = original producer, **Handled by** = partner doing the download/extraction of the dataset over the region of interest, **Processed by** = partner applying any "model output statistics" if any (downscaling, calibration etc.), **Stored by** = partner distributing the data for the consortium partners (e.g., centralised CLINT repository at DKRZ), if need be, **ETD** = estimated date of availability (from handling/storing partner), **Used by** = partner using the data (case study).

#### 2.3.3 CMIP6 MODEL SIMULATIONS OUTPUT

In order to benchmark the skill of existing genesis potential indices, data at a monthly frequency from a large number of models from the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 6 (CMIP6) are considered. In particular, simulations output from two model ensembles within CMIP6 are used:

- Scenario Model Intercomparison Project (ScenarioMIP) simulations: this is a large set of GCM simulations covering a number of different climate scenarios. Simulations from the SSP585 (business as usual) and SSP126 (emission stabilisation) are used for the historical (1950-2014) and future (2014-2100) periods. Models in this ensemble have an average horizontal resolution of 1 degree, therefore, direct detection of TCs is not possible.
- High Resolution Model Intercomparison Project (HighResMIP) simulations: this is a smaller set of simulations using high-resolution models, allowing for direct TC detection, and tracking. Simulations from the hist-1950 (1950-2014) and highres-future (2015-2050) simulations are used.

The tracks of the TCs detected in HIGHResMIP simulations were obtained by a public repository, as described in Roberts et al. (2020).

Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
ACCESS-CM2	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
ACCESS-ESM1-5	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
AWI-CM-1-1-MR	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
BCC-CSM2-MR	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС

Table 3 List of ScenarioMIP climate projections datasets used in Subtask 3.1.1



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Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
CAMS-CSM1-0	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
CAS-ESM2-0	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
CMCC-CM2-SR5	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
CMCC-ESM2	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
CanESM5	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
EC-Earth3-Veg-LR	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
EC-Earth3-Veg	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
EC-Earth3	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
FGOALS-f3-L	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
FGOALS-g3	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
FIO-ESM-2-0	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
GFDL-ESM4	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
IITM-ESM	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
INM-CM4-8	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
INM-CM5-0	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
IPSL-CM6A-LR	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС



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Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
KIOST-ESM	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
MIROC6	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
MPI-ESM1-2-HR	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
MPI-ESM1-2-LR	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
MRI-ESM2-0	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
NESM3	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
NorESM2-LM	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
NorESM2-MM	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
TaiESM1	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС

**Name** = short name of the dataset, **Source** = original producer, **Handled by** = partner doing the download/extraction of the dataset over the region of interest, **Processed by** = partner applying any "model output statistics" if any (downscaling, calibration etc.), **Stored by** = partner distributing the data for the consortium partners (e.g., centralised CLINT repository at DKRZ), if need be, **ETD** = estimated date of availability (from handling/storing partner), **Used by** = partner using the data (case study).

Table 4 List of HIGHResMIP climate projections datasets used in Task 3.1.

Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
CMCC-CM2-SR5	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
CNRM-CM6-1-HR	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
EC-Earth3P-HR	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС



Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
HadGEM3-GC31- HM	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС
MPI-ESM1-2-XR	ESGF	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	August 31, 2022	СМСС

**Name** = short name of the dataset, **Source** = original producer, **Handled by** = partner doing the download/extraction of the dataset over the region of interest, **Processed by** = partner applying any "model output statistics" if any (downscaling, calibration etc.), **Stored by** = partner distributing the data for the consortium partners (e.g., centralised CLINT repository at DKRZ), if need be, **ETD** = estimated date of availability (from handling/storing partner), **Used by** = partner using the data (case study).

### 2.3.4 ECMWF FORECAST

In order to benchmark the forecasts based on ML, the ECMWF ensemble forecasting system (ENS) is used. The ensemble system consists of 50 perturbed ensemble members and one unperturbed control member, all using a horizontal resolution of 18 km up to 15 days ahead. The forecasts are run twice a day (00UTC and 12UTC) up to 15 days ahead. Twice a week, the ensemble is extended out to 46 days ahead with 36 km resolution. In each ensemble member, the TCs are tracked (see Magnusson et al. [2021] for tracker description), including cases of genesis during the forecast. Based on the TC tracks in each ensemble member, a gridded field of probability of TC activity is calculated over a time window. The calculation assumes an impact radius of 300 km. Operationally at ECMWF, the product is calculated with time windows of 2 and 7 days and for the intensity thresholds 8, 17 and 32 m/s. Figure 1 shows examples of the gridded product for tropical storms

(>17 m/s) for forecasts valid 17-19 September 2020, initialised on 16 September 00 UTC (left) and 7 September 00 UTC (right). The aim of Subtask 3.1.2 is to produce the same kind of products based on ML.



*Figure 1* Examples of tropical 2-day storm activity 17-19 September 2020 from ECMWF ensemble with lead time 24-72 hours (left) and 240-288h (right).



#### 2.4 Candidate drivers for tropical cyclones

The aim of Subtask 3.1.2, namely, to define new key structures for TC genesis, requires a comprehensive pool of candidate drivers. Local atmospheric conditions are certainly foremost in terms of the potential for TC genesis over a tropical ocean, as they provide the necessary environmental ingredients. These fields, however, are modulated by different types of tropical waves that imprint their signals onto the local fields. Oceanic conditions determine whether a potential TC can tap the ocean heat content as the vital source to develop and maintain convection-supporting surface heat and moisture fluxes. In addition, certain extratropical conditions are included because TCs occasionally result from interaction with baroclinic structures – a process referred to as 'tropical transition'. These structures are mostly associated with midlatitude dynamics but may also have a tropical history (e.g., tropical upper-tropospheric troughs). Individual candidate atmospheric and oceanic drivers are discussed and motivated in more detail below.

Atmospheric drivers: A variety of studies analysing TC formation (e.g., Palmen 1948, Gray 1968) led to a commonly accepted list of necessary environmental factors. Accordingly, relevant atmospheric factors (and corresponding fields) are the existence of an initial vortex of sufficient strength (850 hPa absolute vorticity), moist mid-to-low levels to foster convection (600 hPa relative humidity), low wind shear (200-850 vertical shear), nonzero Coriolis force, and others. It, therefore, stands to reason that indices for TC genesis, such as the GPI and TCGI introduced above, are defined in a way to combine several of those factors.

The fields underlying these factors are modulated by different types of tropical waves (Frank and Roundy 2006). A large group of equator-tied waves can be theoretically described by solutions of the shallow water equations (Matsuno 1966), which are referred to as convectively coupled equatorial waves (CCEWs; Kiladis et al. 2009) and include Kelvin, equatorial Rossby, mixed Rossby-gravity and inertio-gravity waves. In contrast, the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) is an empirically discovered wave-like phenomenon that propagates eastward along the Equator. In the North Atlantic, another relevant wave type is the African Easterly wave, which propagates along the off-equatorial African jet, forming 'pouches' frequently conducive to TC formation.

The MJO is found to have a strong impact on TC genesis in several of the basins, as documented in Klotzbach (2014). For example, over the southern Indian Ocean the TC activity (in terms of accumulated cyclone energy) is, on average, increased by 15-20% during phases 2-5. The role of CCEWs in TC activity has also been demonstrated in various studies both for individual basins and globally (Schreck et al. 2012, Frank and Roundy 2006, Maier-Gerber et al. 2021, Lawton et al. 2022, Schreck et al. 2011). Compared to other models, ECMWF's sub-seasonal forecasts show the lowest biases regarding the mean state and activity of CCEWs and the MJO (Janiga et al. 2018). This confirms the suspected potential of wave indices as predictors for probabilistic forecasts of TC genesis beyond medium-range lead times (Frank and Roundy 2006).

Although tropical waves are tied to the Equator, they can influence North Atlantic TC formation well outside the Tropics (Schreck et al. 2012, see their Fig. 7). This remote link,



along with the fact that tropical waves and TCs are typically nonstationary, makes it difficult to design any local predictors. For Subtask 3.1.2, we will hence test to use the components of the MJO as gridded global fields as training and compare it with training directly on the MJO phases. A common index definition of the MJO is based on the EOFs of OLR, u850 and u200 in the tropical band (Wheeler and Handon, 2004). From the projection onto the two leading EOFs, the phase of the MJO can be determined. If time permits, wave-filtered gridded data are used as input parameters for the ML.

More recent studies have investigated the impact of extratropical processes on subtropical TC activity. Rossby wave breaking (RWB) was found to alter environmental fields (e.g., shear and moisture) in the North Atlantic (Zhang et al. 2016, 2017) and the North Pacific (Wang et al. 2020). Dynamically, this occurs through a potential vorticity (PV) streamer forming at the equatorward side of an anticyclonic RWB event (Thorncroft et al. 1993). Because these structures impact TC activity on (sub-)seasonal timescales (Papin et al. 2020), a candidate driver representing such extratropical influence (e.g., upper-level layer-averaged PV) will be included. Going out to and beyond medium-range lead times, however, PV is not expected to be well forecast by NWP models. Nevertheless, to provide an integrated measure of the baroclinic influence of the upper-level trough, the Coupling Index (CI; Bosart and Lackmann 1995) could be used to represent the bulk tropospheric stability and, thus, the Rossby penetration depth. The CI is calculated as the difference in equivalent potential temperatures at the 2-PVU dynamic tropopause and 850-hPa. Because of its useful application for replacing the canonical SST-based 26.5°C-threshold in case of tropical transitions (McTaggart-Cowan et al. 2015), the CI is considered a relevant extratropical driver. Based on two area-averaged metrics, the upper-level Q-vector convergence (Q) and the lower-level thickness asymmetry (Th), McTaggart-Cowan et al. (2008, 2013) classified five types of baroclinically influenced development pathways for TC genesis. The fields on which the two metrics are based could be another option for PV or CI fields, respectively.

The Quasi-Biennial Oscillation (QBO), a stratospheric driver, has been suggested in the literature as another source to impact Atlantic TC activity (Gray 1984). Its use as a predictor, however, has often been rejected in statistical model development due to weak correlation signals (e.g., Leroy and Wheeler 2008, Henderson and Maloney 2013).

**Oceanic drivers**: Oceanic conditions are slowly varying and impact the risk of TC genesis and the life length of the systems. Therefore, a candidate driver could be local SSTs over sub-domains of the basins (e.g., the Main Development Region (MDR) or the Gulf of Mexico). Teleconnections, such as the El Niño-Southern Oscillations (ENSO), are believed to influence the large-scale wind patterns remotely over the subtropical Atlantic (Gray 1984) and also the circulation over the Indian Ocean, and thus to impact the TC formation (e.g., Gray 1979, Song et al., 2022). For Subtask 3.1.2, we will test using SST as a gridded global field for training and will compare it with training directly on the ENSO indices and local SST averages.



# **3 EXTRATROPICAL TRANSITION OF TROPICAL CYCLONES**

#### 3.1 Overview

Tropical cyclones (TC) form in the tropics outside the equatorial region. At the end of the life cycle, some TCs curve towards the extratropics and start to interact with the mid-latitudinal flow. Often referred to as Extra-tropical (ET) transitions, these can cause substantial impact in the mid-latitudes, both if the cyclones that directly (Evans et al., 2017; Baker et al., 2021) make landfall in a sub-tropical stage or soon after an extratropical transition (e.g., TC Sandy 2012, TC Leslie 2018, TC Lorenzo 2019) or indirectly (Keller et al., 2019) as the extratropical transitions can lead to downstream development of strong lows (e.g., after TC Karl, 2016; Schäfler et al., 2018). The increased risk of windstorms over Europe originating from ET was investigated by Sainsbury et al. (2020).

Whether or not a TC will approach the extra-tropics is determined by the steering flow in the tropics and the phasing with the mid-latitude wave guide, where an upstream trough favours a northward propagation into the extratropics. Being able to predict the mid-latitudinal flow is, therefore, crucial to capture the ETs.

The majority of TCs do not undergo ET, as they dissipate and/or hit land before reaching higher latitudes. TCs that undergo ET, however, may create substantial impacts downstream over Europe. As was especially evident in 2020, several TCs can make landfall in the deep tropics or subtropics, spinning down quickly into a remnant low-pressure system that can bring substantial flooding rainfall for several days. Other TCs weaken as they encounter high vertical wind shear or substantial low-humidity air, which may occur in the tropics and especially the extratropics. As a TC moves into the extratropics, it also encounters much colder waters, removing the supply of thermal energy and moisture from the ocean that is necessary to maintain the TC.

Figure 2 (top) shows all North Atlantic TCs in the IBTrACS database spanning 1980 to 2021. In this task, we will consider TCs that at least once appeared north of 40°N to be ET cases. Figure 2 (bottom) shows the genesis points of non-ET cases (pink) and ET cases (black). The genesis region might be the first predictor of the risk of ET later in the life cycle.



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*Figure 2* All North Atlantic tropical cyclone positions (top) and genesis points (bottom; non-ET cases - pink, ET cases - black) in the IBTrACS database spanning 1980 to 2021.

Figure 3 shows the inter-annual variability of the fraction of TC undergoing ET. Here we find a large year-to-year variability, which is promising for being able to predict ET if it is possible to identify the predictors responsible for this variability by applying Machine Learning (ML) algorithms. The results will be benchmarked against ECMWF forecasts.





Figure 3 Fraction of TCs undergoing ET each year in IBTrACS 1980-2021.

The aim of this task is to identify candidates for factors influencing the probability of ET of Atlantic TCs, and to create training datasets based on these parameters. While many studies have targeted the processes around ET, we did not find much in the literature on large-scale factors that can be predicted on the timescale 1-2 weeks ahead. The ML problem will be formulated as the conditional probability for ET conditioned on the genesis of TCs.

### **3.2 Indices for extratropical transition of tropical cyclones**

In section 3.1, the candidate drivers for TC genesis (formation point) and activity (integrated track over the life length) are outlined. While these candidates will be important as well for the ET (having a TC is a necessary condition), we introduce here information on the mid-latitude drivers. In order to create the indices from the ERA5 reanalysis, a software package (CLINT-TS) has been

created (to appear on GitHub<sup>3</sup>). Based on the software, a range of indices has been calculated for the period 1980-2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>https://github.com/climateintelligence</u>



Acronym	Name	Essential climate variables	Description	References
NAO	North Atlantic Oscillation	z500	The leading mode of atmospheric (z500) variability over the North Atlantic	ECMWF SEAS teleconnection patterns
EAT	East Atlantic Ridge	z500	Mode characterised by an anticyclone over the Central Atlantic	ECMWF SEAS teleconnection patterns
PNA	Pacific-North American	z500	a large-scale weather pattern with two modes, denoted positive and negative, and which relates the atmospheric circulation pattern over the North Pacific Ocean with the one over the North American continent.	ECMWF SEAS teleconnection patterns
NPD	North Pacific Dipole	z500	The second EOF of the Pacific/North American. The sign convention, referred to as the North Pacific dipole, is such that positive projections correspond to an amplification of the respective stationary- wave ridge.	ECMWF SEAS teleconnection patterns
Nino3.4	Nino3.4	SST	SST anomaly in 5N-5S, 190E- 240E	
SubAtISST	Sub-tropical Atlantic SST	SST	SST anomaly in the sub-tropical Atlantic 20N-30N, 60W-20W	

*Table 5* List of the indices employed in the characterisation and detection of extratropical transitions in Task 3.1.3.

**Acronym** = Abbreviation used for the index, **Name** = full name of the index, **Essential climate variables** = variables required for the computation of the index, **Description** = short definition of the index, **References** = Publications where the index is used or defined.

**3.3 Datasets for extratropical transition of tropical cyclones** 

- 3.3.1 ERA5
- See 2.3.1.

#### 3.3.2 IBTRACS

See 2.3.2.



Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
ERA5	ECMWF MARS	ECMWF	N/A	ECMWF	June 30, 2022	ECMWF
ERA5 TC tracks	ECMWF ECFS	ECMWF		ECMWF	June 30, 2022	ECMWF
IBTrACS	NCEP https://www. ncdc.noaa.gov /ibtracs/	ECMWF		ECMWF	June 30, 2022	
ECMWF ENS TC tracks	ECMWF ECFS	ECMWF		ECMWF	June 30, 2022	ECMWF

Table 6 List of observational and reanalysis datasets used in Task 3.1.3.

**Name** = short name of the dataset, **Source** = original producer, **Handled by** = partner doing the download/extraction of the dataset over the region of interest, **Processed by** = partner applying any "model output statistics" if any (downscaling, calibration etc.), **Stored by** = partner distributing the data for the consortium partners (e.g., centralised CLINT repository at DKRZ), if need be, **ETD** = estimated date of availability (from handling/storing partner), **Used by** = partner using the data (case study).

### **3.3.3 ECMWF forecasts for benchmark**

To benchmark the forecasts based on ML, the ECMWF ensemble forecasting system (ENS) will be used. In each ensemble member, the TCs are tracked (see Magnusson et al. (2021) for tracker description), including cases of genesis during the forecast. The forecasts could be verified in a similar method as applied by Bergman et al. (2019), see also 2.3.4.

#### 3.4 Candidate drivers for extratropical transition of tropical cyclones

In the literature, an effort has been made to classify and describe the consecutive stages of a typical ET event (Klein et al. 2000, Jones et al. 2003). Despite the validity of such generalised concepts, several case studies showed that the actual pathway of how ET manifests can vary largely from case to case. This variability results from the complexity of the (thermo)dynamic interplay between the transforming TC, the subtropical high, and the trough embedded in the midlatitude flow. Therefore, the set of predictors used in Task 3.1 comprises candidate drivers for ET of tropical and extratropical origin.

Climatologically, the likelihood of a North Atlantic TC successfully undergoing an ET increases over the season (Bieli et al. 2019). This can be explained by the poleward extending zone of favourable oceanic conditions (i.e., high SSTs) and the equatorward penetrating zone of baroclinic growth



associated with the midlatitude dynamics (Hart and Evans 2001). Consequently, a TC would have to cover an increasingly shorter distance through a decay-prone area before reaching the baroclinic influences that induce ET. Different factors contributing to ET cases reaching Europe were investigated by Sainsbury et al. (2022).

With the targeted medium-range lead times, the aim of skilfully forecasting ET requires a combination of the case-specific and the climatological perspectives. While oceanic conditions are slowly varying in general, atmospheric conditions (both tropical and extratropical) range from large-scale patterns to the near-storm environment. Because forecasting ET can be seen as a conditional analysis of TCs, track-related information is considered another major source of predictability. Individual candidate atmospheric, oceanic, and track-related drivers are discussed and motivated in more detail below.



Figure 4 500hPa Teleconnection patterns from ECMWF. (From www.ecmwf.int).

• Atmospheric drivers: On the planetary scale, the mid-latitude atmospheric patterns can be diagnosed using an EOF analysis of the 500-hPa geopotential height. In this task we will make use of the teleconnection patterns derived for ECMWF seasonal forecast products. The patterns are based on EOF analysis over two sectors (we will not use the Siberian sector here). Retaining the two leading EOFs, one obtains the Pacific-North American (PNA) and North Pacific Dipole (NPD) from the Pacific sector and North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) and East Atlantic Ridge (EAT) from the Atlantic sector, respectively. Although NAO and PNA were found to individually explain less than 10% of the year-to-year variability in ET frequency and fraction (Hart and Evans 2001), the indices may be of greater importance for individual ET cases. The Pacific patterns are expected to be relevant for generating the waveguide that later affects the Atlantic, while the Atlantic patterns influence the local conditions for ETs.



On the synoptic scale, idealised simulations have shown that it is not so much the strength of the midlatitude trough (Ritchie and Elsberry 2003) but rather its phasing with the TC that is crucial for ET completion and reintensification (Ritchie and Elsberry 2007). Going out to medium-range lead times, however, the phasing is not expected to be well captured in NWP models. Nevertheless, to provide an integrated measure of the baroclinic influence of the upper-level trough, the coupling index (CI; Bosart and Lackmann 1995) is used for representing the bulk tropospheric stability and, thus, the Rossby penetration depth. The CI is calculated as the difference in equivalent potential temperatures at the 2-PVU dynamic tropopause and 850-hPa. Because of its useful application in an ET case study (McTaggart-Cowan et al. 2003) as well as for replacing the canonical SST-based 26.5 °C-threshold in case of tropical transitions (McTaggart-Cowan et al. 2015), the CI is included as a relevant extratropical driver.

Atmospheric conditions in the near-storm environment are certainly key for the ET process. To first order, most of the variables that enter into the GPI (Emanuel and Nolan 2004) described in MS6-7 should also be relevant to ET, viz. 850-hPa absolute vorticity, 600-hPa relative humidity, and 200-850-hPa vertical wind shear. As those are acting more on a local scale, which is less predictable on the timescale of interest, such quantities could be integrated over regions. The CLINT-TS software is flexible for generating such additional training datasets.

Beyond these conditions of direct physical influence, wave-type tropical drivers, such as the Madden-Julian Oscillation or Convectively Coupled Equatorial Waves, may additionally imprint their signals onto the near-storm environment. As these waves typically are more persistent, they might carry predictive signals from which ET prediction could benefit as well.

- Oceanic drivers: Oceanic conditions are slowly varying but climatologically determine the poleward extent of support for the tropical phase, thus setting the pre-ET scene. Relevant drivers for the Atlantic could be local sea-surface temperatures (SST) over sub-domains (e.g., subtropical Atlantic). In Bieli et al. (2020), the predictor selection for the development of an ET prediction model indeed yielded locally averaged SST as one of two key factors. Furthermore, remote influences from teleconnections, such as the El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO), are known to modulate the large-scale wind patterns over the (sub-)tropical Atlantic (Gray 1984). The Southern Oscillation Index (SOI; Troup 1965), a measure for the ENSO state, correlates significantly with ET frequency (R = +0.228), as does the NAO index, but has no climatological relationship to ET fractions in the North Atlantic (Hart and Evans 2001). However, it may be that in individual cases, there is a more direct connection with ENSO.
- Track-related drivers: In addition to the atmospheric and oceanic drivers, track-related information is deemed to be particularly relevant for ET prediction. Beside the apparent geographical differences in genesis locations (LATgen, LONgen) between ET and non-ET cases discussed in Hart and Evans (2001) and displayed in Figure 2, a recent study by Datt et al. (2022) showed that the degree of baroclinic influence during TC genesis impacts on whether the TC eventually undergoes ET. This suggests that there is some sort of 'memory'



effect that can be exploited for ET prediction. The underlying development pathways were proposed by McTaggart-Cowan et al. (2008, 2013) based on two area-averaged metrics: the upper-level Q-vector convergence (Q) and the lower-level thickness asymmetry (Th). In the North Atlantic, the strong tropical transition and trough induced pathways are significantly more likely to result in ET than the other pathways (Datt et al. 2022). Since this relationship still holds when controlling for genesis latitude, the demonstrated relationship to ET fraction gives rise to consider these metrics in our models, either directly as drivers or by training models separately for individual pathways.

Along with information on track history, predictors representing the TC's current state will be provided to the model. Basic track-related predictors are included for cyclone position (LAT, LON), intensity (central pressure, max. sustained wind), and movement (heading angle, translation speed). Although Bieli et al. (2020) identified latitude as the only relevant track-related predictor for their ET prediction model, we nevertheless include all the aforementioned in our predictor pool to ensure that a comprehensive set is provided.

Cyclone phase space (CPS; Hart 2003) metrics, nowadays widely accepted in the operational and research communities, give insight into a cyclone's thermal symmetry (B metric), upper-level thermal wind (-VTU metric), and lower-level thermal wind (-VTL metric). Analysing a cyclone's trajectory in CPS allows it to identify phase transitions (e.g., ET). During a North Atlantic ET, the TC usually first acquires a cold core before losing its symmetric thermal structure, which is the reverse of the usual global behaviour (Bieli et al 2019). Despite its utility and acceptance, the CPS concept was shown to predict North Atlantic ET worse compared to a simple logistic regression model (Bieli et al. 2020), which motivates its use as for candidate drivers but also to better leave the prediction component to a dedicated (statistical) model.

# **4 HEATWAVES AND TROPICAL NIGHTS**

### 4.1 Overview

Heat waves (HW) and tropical nights (TN) are among the most frequent extreme climate events that cause immense stress on human health and ecosystems, but also socio-economic losses when affecting agriculture or energy systems (Thomas et al. 2020; García-Martínez et al. 2021). The relationship between heat waves and mortality has already been demonstrated for specific episodes (see Perkins et al. 2015 and references therein), however, the impact of above-normal night-time temperatures should not be neglected, as it has significant effects on human health (Trigo et al., 2005). Other reported HW impacts include increased electricity demand and decreased power production (Zuo et al., 2015), heat stress on vegetation activity and terrestrial ecosystems, as well as increasing risk of wildfires, droughts and crop yields (e.g., Lesk et al., 2016).

HWs can occur in combination with other hazards, therefore conforming compound events. Examples of HW-compounded hazards include high humidity (humid HWs; e.g., Russo et al., 2017) or droughts (e.g., Miralles et al., 2014). For example, the combination of abnormally high night-time temperatures with increased humidity can lead to reduced body regeneration, attenuated thermoregulation, exhaustion, and other physiological effects favouring increased morbidity and



premature deaths (Scoccimarro et al. 2017, Kendrovski et al. 2017). Hence, the detection of those EE in advance might be crucial for the development of prevention plans, and mitigation strategies that can minimise the risks associated with both HW and TN events.

For the detection of HW and TN, it is important to understand the mechanisms that trigger and maintain the events. HWs result from large- and smaller-scale processes, including the atmospheric circulation and anomalous regional conditions in slowly varying components, such as land-surface, SST or sea ice (e.g., Sillmann et al., 2017; Coumou et al., 2018 and references therein). These regional conditions can be modulated by internal modes of variability and changes in external forcings (Perkins, 2015). In particular, several studies have shown that heat waves are mainly related to persistent high-pressure systems (Matsueda et al. 2011, White et al. 2021), and they are linked to specific soil moisture conditions (Seneviratne et al. 2006; Alexander et al. 2010). The mechanisms behind the tropical nights have been less discussed, but the atmospheric conditions, together with air humidity and cloud cover, have been suggested as the main drivers of these EE (Thomas et al. 2020; Luo et al. 2022).

This section describes the indices used for HW and TN detection and the datasets and drivers that will be employed in Task 3.2 on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) techniques to detect HW and TN. The ML algorithms will be used to select the candidate drivers of both HW and TN and to link these drivers with the EE over Europe.

### 4.2 Indices for heatwaves and tropical nights detection

The characterisation of extreme events is usually performed by employing specific indices. These indices are particularly useful to quantify the severity, magnitude and duration of the EE compared to other episodes. In task 3.2, several indices (Table 7) have been employed to ensure that the detection of heat waves and warm nights is performed in a comprehensive way.

One of the indices used for the evaluation of the heat waves and the corresponding index for the tropical nights (HWMI and TNMI, respectively) are illustrated in Figure 5 for the summer (2022). These indices provide similar information, but they allow us to investigate different aspects of extreme temperature conditions.

The applicability to specific agriculture or water sectors has been considered (<u>https://climpact-sci.org/</u>), and these indices have been assessed by the Expert Team on Sector-specific Climate Indices (ETSCI, <u>https://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/wcp/ccl/opace/opace4/ET-SCI-4-1.php</u>). Technical details involved in their computation follow the recommendations of Crespi et al. (2020).

*Table 7* List of the indices employed in the characterisation and detection of the heat waves and warm nights in Task 3.2.

Acronym	Name	Name Essential climate Description variables		References
HWMI	Heat Wave	Tmax (daily	The maximum heat wave	Russo et al. (2014);
	Magnitude	maximum	magnitude represents the	Prodhomme et al.
	Index	temperature)	strongest heatwave for a given	(2021)



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Acronym	Name	Essential climate variables	Description	References
			season in terms of both duration and intensity.	
TNMI	Tropical Night Magnitude Index	T2M (2-meter temperature, Sea level pressure, dewpoint	The maximum tropical night magnitude that represents the strongest tropical night period (i.e., consecutive days with warm night conditions) for a given season in terms of both duration and intensity.	Russo et al. (2017); Torralba et al. (in preparation)
Tmax_ NBDAYSQ9 0	Number of days with Tmax above the 90th percentile	Tmax	The number of daily maximum temperatures exceeding the smoothed 90th percentile within the considered season (15MJJA).	Prodhomme et al. (2021)
Tnight_ NBDAYSQ9 0	Number of days with Tnight above the 90th percentile	T2M, Sea level pressure, dewpoint	The number of days with the average temperature at night (between 23-06 local time) exceeding the smoothed 90th percentile within the considered season (15MJJA).	Torralba et al. (in preparation)
HMD	Heat Magnitude Day	Tmax (daily maximum 2- meters temperature)	Accumulates heat wave magnitude (as in Russo et al. 2015) for the 3-month period before the harvesting season, representing heat stress within this period.	Zampieri et al. (2017), Toreti et al. (2019a)
HWS	Heat Wave Severity	Tmax or Tmin (daily maximum/minimu m 2-meters temperature)	Accumulated temperature exceedance (above the local 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile) for all heat wave days (temperature exceeding the 90th percentile) over a user-defined interval (monthly, seasonal, etc.)	Perkins-Kirkpatrick & Lewis (2020)
ECATR	Tropical nights index per time period	Tmin (daily minimum temperature)	The number of tropical nights when the daily minimum temperature exceeds a temperature threshold	ECATR
ECAHWDI	Heat wave	Tmax (daily	The	http://etccdi.pacificcli



Acronym	Name	Essential climate variables	Description	References
	duration index	maximum temperature), TXnorm (the mean of Tmax of a given climate reference period)	number of days with heat waves with respect to mean reference period	mate.org/indices.sht ml

**Acronym =** Abbreviation used for the index, **Name =** full name of the index, **Essential climate variables** = variables required for the computation of the index, **Description =** short definition of the index, **References** = Publications where the index is used or defined.



*Figure 5* Heat Wave Magnitude index (HWMI, left panel) and Tropical Night Magnitude index (TNMI, right panel) for the extended summer of 2022. These indices have been computed with the ERA5 daily data (from the 15<sup>th</sup> of May to the 31<sup>st</sup> of August).

### 4.3 Datasets for heatwaves and tropical nights detection

#### 4.3.1 ERA5

In task 3.2, we will use ERA5 as it is a global reanalysis for the HW and TN detection. See 2.3.1.

#### 4.3.2 ERA 20C

ERA 20C is ECMWF's first atmospheric reanalysis of the 20th century, from 1900 to 2010. It assimilates observations of surface pressure and surface marine winds only (Poli et al 2016). ERA-20C was produced with IFS version Cy38r1. A coupled Atmosphere/Land-surface/Ocean-waves model is used to reanalyse the weather by assimilating surface observations, utilising a 4D-Var data assimilation scheme that is comparable to numerical weather prediction, assimilating surface winds over the ocean in addition to surface pressure over ocean and land, with variational bias correction of surface pressure observations. The ERA-20C products describe the spatio-temporal evolution of the atmosphere (on 91 levels in the vertical, between the surface and 0.01 hPa), the land surface (on 4 soil layers), and the ocean waves (on 25 frequencies and 12 directions). The assimilation



methodology is a 24-hour 4D-Var analysis, with variational bias correction of surface pressure observations. The temporal resolution of the daily products is 3 hours. The horizontal resolution is approximately 125 km (spectral truncation T159).

#### 4.3.3 20CRv3

The NOAA-CIRES-DOE Twentieth Century Reanalysis version 3 (20CRV3) is a reanalysis dataset providing data for the period 1836/01/01 to 2015/12/31 at 3-hourly frequency (Silvinski et al 2019). 20CRv3 is run at a resolution of T254 (approximately 75 km at the Equator) with 64 vertical levels up to .3mb and 80 individual ensemble members. The surface pressure observations have been made available through international cooperation facilitated by the Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth (ACRE) initiative and working groups of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) and World Climate Research Programme (WCRP).

Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
ERA5	C3S-CDS	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	June 30, 2022	CMCC, JLU
ERA20C	C3S-CDS	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	June 30, 2022	CMCC, JLU
20CRv3	NOAA	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	June 30, 2022	CMCC, JLU

Table 8 List of observational and reanalysis dataset used in Task 3.2.

**Name** = short name of the dataset, **Source** = original producer, **Handled by** = partner doing the download/extraction of the dataset over the region of interest, **Processed by** = partner applying any "model output statistics" if any (downscaling, calibration etc.), **Stored by** = partner distributing the data for the consortium partners (e.g., centralised CLINT repository at DKRZ), if need be, **ETD** = estimated date of availability (from handling/storing partner), **Used by** = partner using the data (case study).

#### 4.3.4 CMIP6 model simulations

The sample of extreme events available for the training of ML algorithms will be augmented by training the algorithms also on climate model data in addition to the reanalysis products. While GCMs simulations are affected by biases, their use provides the advantage of being able to rely on several hundred or even thousands of years of simulated climate data. Appropriate techniques will be put in place to ensure the use of modelled data does not degrade the accuracy of the trained ML algorithms. As an example, the algorithms could be trained at first on the model data and then retrained on observations/ reanalysis data via transfer learning techniques (Asch et al. 2022, Jacques-Dumas et al. 2021).

In this context, CMIP6 climate model simulations will be used to enlarge the input data for the training of the ML methods (pre-industrial control runs and/or ensembles of historical simulations). Among all the models contributing to the CMIP6 ensemble, two models have been initially selected



for testing and evaluation of ML algorithms: CMCC-CM-SR5 and MPI-ESM-MR. Those models are based on two different dynamical cores and are therefore expected not to share similar biases among them. This list can be expanded during the project by including other standard CMIP6 model simulations available at CDS if, during the development of Machine Learning algorithms, it is found that a larger training set is needed.

Table 9 List of climate projections datasets used in Task 3.2.

Name	Source	Handled by	Processe d by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
CMCC-CM2-SR5	СМСС	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	June 30, 2022	CMCC, Hereon
MPI-ESM-MR	Hereon	Hereon	Hereon	DKRZ	June 30, 2022	CMCC, Hereon

**Name** = short name of the dataset, Source = original producer, **Handled by** = partner doing the download/extraction of the dataset over the region of interest, **Processed by** = partner applying any "model output statistics" if any (downscaling, calibration etc.), **Stored by** = partner distributing the data for the consortium partners (e.g., centralised CLINT repository at DKRZ), if need be, **ETD** = estimated date of availability (from handling/storing partner), **Used by**= partner using the data (case study).

### 4.3.5 C3S seasonal forecasts

The current capabilities of the seasonal prediction systems to predict HW and TN have been explored in the multi-system framework provided by the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) initiative. The ability of the C3S seasonal forecast systems to detect those EE at seasonal timescales will be used as a benchmark to quantify the potential added value of the ML methods developed in Task 3.2. Particularly the C3S seasonal forecasts produced by different institutions will be employed: ECMWF (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts), DWD, Météo-France and CMCC (Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici). The main specifications of these prediction systems are listed in Table 10, but all the systems provide 6-hourly fields spanning six months into the future, with a spatial resolution of 1° and global coverage. The number of ensemble members (i.e., the different realisations used to sample the seasonal forecast uncertainty) varies among the different seasonal forecast systems (See Table 10).

Table 10 List of	<sup>-</sup> seasonal t	forecast d	latasets use	d in Task	: 3.2.

Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
Meteo France System 7	C3S-CDS	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	June 30, 2022	СМСС
DWD System 2.1	C3S-CDS	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	June 30, 2022	СМСС



Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
CMCC SPS3.5	C3S-CDS	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	June 30, 2022	СМСС
ECMWF SEAS5	C3S-CDS	СМСС	N/A	СМСС	June 30, 2022	СМСС

An example of the current level of forecast quality in the seasonal predictions of the HW and TN indices is shown in Figure 6. The CMCC SPS3.5 has high correlation values for both the HWMI and the TNMI in southern Europe for the extended summer season. However, low correlation values are obtained in northern Europe.



*Figure 6* Ensemble mean correlation of the CMCC SPS3.5 seasonal prediction system for Heat Wave Magnitude index (HWMI, left panel) and Tropical Night Magnitude index (TNMI, right panel) in the 1993-2016 period and in the 15MJJA season. The seasonal forecasts were issued on the 1st of May and the observational reference is ERA5.

#### 4.4 Candidate drivers for heatwaves and tropical nights

The mechanisms leading to daytime HW are usually associated with high-pressure atmospheric systems (e.g., blocking, circum-global teleconnection patterns), which favour warm horizontal advection, subsidence and diabatic heating (e.g., enhanced shortwave radiation and sensible heating (Sousa et al. 2018). However, TNs are most likely linked to increased cloud cover, humidity, downward longwave radiation and/or low-level temperature advection (Thomas et al. 2020; Luo et al. 2022). These differences in the processes involved in the occurrence of the two types of EE might suggest that different drivers might be required for the ML methods to effectively detect both HW and TN.



Based on the literature, the following regional and large-scale phenomena are considered as potential drivers of European heatwaves and warm nights:

- Atmospheric conditions: The involved atmospheric patterns can be diagnosed using 500-hPa geopotential height and/or sea level pressure fields (Lau and Nath 2012; Loikith and Broccoli 2012). The most relevant teleconnection patterns linked to heat waves have been the North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO, Kenyon and Hegerl 2008) or the atmospheric Blocking (e.g., Matsueda 2011; Schaller et al., 2018, Kornhuber et al., 2019). Favourable heat wave conditions can be triggered by tropical-extratropical teleconnections forced by intraseasonal variations in tropical convection (e.g., the Madden-Julian Oscillation, MJO; Cassou et al. 2005). Although atmospheric circulation largely determines the key physical processes (e.g., temperature advection, radiative fluxes), other atmospheric fields can help constraining regional conditions and the severity of the event (e.g., humidity; Thomas et al. 2020; Luo et al. 2022).
- **Slowly varying factors**: They account for boundary conditions in other components of the climate system that promote interactions and/or feedbacks with the atmosphere, potentially amplifying the severity of the event. In particular, the HN and TN links have been suggested with the following:
  - Ocean: North Atlantic sea surface temperatures (SSTs) (Cassou et al. 2005; Duchez et al. 2016), The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) (Zhu et al. 2015; Wulff et al. 2017), Atlantic Multi-decadal Oscillation (AMO) (Della-Marta et al. 2007), Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) (Kenyon and Hegerl 2008).
  - <u>Land:</u> Regional and/or remote soil moisture deficit, surface heat fluxes, warm horizontal advection (Quesada et al. 2012, Miralles et al. 2019; Ardilouze et al. 2019; Materia et al. 2021).
  - o Sea-ice: Arctic sea-ice extent (Coumou et al. 2018)

# **5 EXTREME DROUGHTS**

### 5.1 Overview

Drought is a natural phenomenon mostly related to the reduction in the amount of precipitation received over an extended period, such as a season or a year (Mishra and Singh, 2010). In contrast to aridity, drought is not permanent, although prolonged droughts may propagate through the full hydrological cycle, resulting in significant long-term economic, social, and environmental costs (Spinoni et al., 2016). In the context of current global climate change, characterised by rising temperatures and more extreme precipitation regimes, drought is considered one of the most relevant natural disasters, and there is a consensus that the situation will get worse in the coming decades (Spinoni et al., 2018).

Despite drought being a hot topic extensively studied in the literature, there is still no unanimity on its definition. Some common definitions of the concept, adapted to the discipline or the sector they


refer to, are given by (i) The World Meteorological Organization (WMO, 1986), which states "drought means a sustained, extended deficiency in precipitation"; (ii) The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO, 1983) of the United Nations that defines a drought hazard as "the percentage of years when crops fail from the lack of moisture"; (iii) Palmer (1965) who described a "drought as a significant deviation from the normal hydrological conditions of an area". These definitions clearly differ for the variables used to define it, namely precipitation, crop yield, and streamflow, and they refer to different stages of the development of drought. As a matter of fact, drought is a phenomenon that evolves at multiple scales (Vicente-Serrano et al., 2010). The period from the arrival of water inputs (as rainfall, snow, river discharges, etc.) to the availability of a given usable resource may vary considerably. As a consequence, the time horizon over which the water deficit is considered becomes of key importance.

Depending on the time horizon considered and the hydro-climatic variable used in drought characterisation, droughts are generally classified into three categories (Pedro-Monzonís et al., 2015):

- 1. A meteorological drought is defined as a lack of precipitation over a region for a period of time. Since a meteorological drought is the primary cause of a drought, while the other types describe secondary effects on specific economic compartments, it is often regarded as the key type of drought (Spinoni et al., 2016).
- 2. An agricultural drought may be defined as a moisture deficit in the root zone affecting crop development and declining crop yields. This type of drought, triggered by a meteorological one, usually develops in the medium term (3-6 months).
- 3. A hydrological drought refers to a lack of water in the hydrological system, manifesting itself in abnormally low streamflow in rivers and abnormally low levels in lakes, reservoirs, and groundwater. Hydrological droughts, which occur after several months of low precipitation and deficient soil moisture, can cover extensive areas and last for months to years.

There is also another approach to drought analysis, namely through the concept of operational drought, which refers to a period with supply anomalies. A dry period may, in fact, be caused by a lack of water resources or, especially in highly regulated contexts, an exceedance of demand due to inadequate management of the water exploitation system (Pedro-Monzonís et al., 2015). An operational (or socio-economic) drought is associated with the condition of Water Scarcity, defined as a situation where insufficient water resources are available to satisfy long-term average requirements and, similarly, impacts that can manifest months or years after the event ends.

This chapter report describes the traditional indices used for drought detection, along with the datasets that will be used in Task 3.3 for the computation of such indices at the European scale as well as in the CLINT Climate Change Hotspots. Lastly, the report includes a preliminary set of candidate drivers for drought detection and prediction that will be processed by the Machine Learning algorithms developed in WP2 to design Artificial Intelligence-enhanced drought indices.

# 5.2 Indices for drought detection

Drought indices are quantitative measures that characterise drought in terms of intensity, onset, termination, duration, and severity by assimilating data from one or several variables into a single numerical value. Operationally, drought indices can be applied for drought detection and real-time monitoring, drought evaluation, correlation of drought severity with drought impacts, drought



forecasting, and, finally, allowing the declaration of drought levels which instigate drought risk management measures (Zargar et al., 2011).

Just as there is no single definition of drought, no single index can account for and be applied to all types of droughts, climate regimes, and sectors affected (Svoboda et al., 2016). More than 150 drought indices have been developed by several generations of researchers during the 20th century (Zargar et al., 2011). The selection of an appropriate drought index must be driven by the suitability of the index for the considered drought type; data availability; temporal and spatial scale of the analysis; statistical consistency (Steinemann et al., 2005). Therefore, we distinguish the indices that will be used for detecting droughts at the European scale (Table 11) from those locally adopted in the CLINT Climate Change Hotspots (Table 12). The latter have been identified from the direct interactions with the local end-users (for details, see Deliverable D6.1 - Local Climate Services).

CLINT aims at advancing traditional drought detection by defining AI-enhanced, impact-based drought indices that link the observed impacts of extreme droughts (e.g., reduction of electricity production or crop failures) with the candidate drivers of the event, including climatic, meteorological and hydrological variables over different spatial and temporal scales.

Acronym	Name	Essential climate variables	Description	References
SPI	Standardised Precipitation Index	Precipitation	SPI represents the number of standard deviations the cumulative precipitation deviates from the average of a standardised normal distribution.	Hayes et al. (1999); McKee et al. (1993)
SPEI	Standardised Precipitation and Evapotranspi ration Index	Precipitation and Potential Evapotranspirati on (Temperature)	Similar to SPI, SPEI represents the deviations from the average of a standardised distribution but replaces the precipitation data with the difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration. SPEI tends to be more effective than SPI in arid climates, where evapotranspiration has a key role in depleting soil moisture.	Beguería et al. (2010); Vicente- Serrano et al. (2010)
SRI	Standardised Runoff Index	Streamflow	Similar to SPI, SRI represents the deviations from the average of a standardised distribution but replaces the precipitation data with the streamflow ones. SRI aims to capture the hydrologic processes	Shukla and Wood (2008); Vicente-Serrano et al. (2011)

Table 11 List of the indices for drought detection at the European scale.



Acronym	Name	Essential climate variables	Description	References
			that determine seasonal lags in the influence of climate on streamflow.	
SSI	Standardised Soil moisture Index	Soil moisture	Similar to SPI, SSI represents the deviations from the average of a standardised distribution but replaces the precipitation data with the soil moisture ones. Compared to SPI, SSI generally indicates a more reliable drought persistence, while it is less effective in capturing drought onset	Hao and Aghakouchak (2013),

*Table 12* List of the indices for drought detection in the CLINT Climate Change Hotspots.

Hotspot	Name	Essential climate variables	Description
Zambezi Watercourse	Low streamflow	Streamflow	The Zambezi Watercourse Commission detects extreme droughts by looking at low-water levels in rivers and lakes impacting irrigated agriculture and hydropower generation.
Douro River Basin	Prolonged drought index; scarcity index	Streamflow and Precipitation; reservoir levels and supply deficits in socioeconomic demands	The Douro River Basin Authority detects prolonged droughts by looking at precipitation deficits and low-water levels in rivers and scarcity situations by estimating the different levels of supply deficits in irrigated agriculture based on the near-real-time reservoir levels.
Rijnland	Standardize d Precipitatio n Index, Precipitatio n deficit, Low streamflow	Precipitation, Evapotranspiration, Streamflow	Rijnland water board detects drought events by looking at precipitation deficit in the catchment and at Rhine discharges at Lobith, where the Rhine enters the Netherlands.
Aa en Maas	Low groundwate	Groundwater level and discharge	Aa and Maas water board detects drought events by looking at precipitation deficit in the



Hotspot	Name	Essential climate variables	Description
	r levels and discharge		catchment, groundwater tables and Muese discharges.
Lake Como Basin	Low lake inflow	Streamflow	Consorzio dell'Adda (i.e., the institutional operator of Lake Como) detects extreme droughts when the monthly net inflows to the lake are lower than the tenth percentile of historical values.

# 5.2.1 European droughts

Droughts at the European scale are detected by using standardised indices (see Table 11). The Standardised Precipitation Index at a 1-month accumulation period (SPI-1, see top row of Figure 7) is often used for the detection of meteorological droughts, the Standardised Precipitation and Evapotranspiration Index at 3-month accumulation period (SPEI-3, see the middle row of Figure 7) for agricultural droughts, and the Standardised Runoff Index at 6-month accumulation period (SRI-6, see the bottom row in Figure 7) for hydrological droughts. These indices are computed using data from HydroGFD2.0 and E-HYPE model simulations (see next section) over the time period 1993-2018.

The analysis of drought occurrence (left column of Figure 7) shows that the regions that experienced the highest number of drought events are Southern England, Northern France, and Northern Italy, along with Southern Spain and Ukraine but only in terms of SPEI-3. In terms of drought duration (right column of Figure 7), the areas that experienced the longest droughts of any accumulation period are instead the Baltic Sea region, Normandy, and Southern Italy.





*Figure 7* Occurrence (left column) and mean duration (right column) of drought events at the European scale. The top row shows the SPI-1 (1-month accumulation period), the middle row the SPEI-3 (3-month accumulation period), and the bottom row the SRI-6 (6-month accumulation period).

#### 5.2.2 Zambezi watercourse

The Zambezi Watercourse Commission monitors drought events by looking at low-water levels in rivers and lakes. Given the availability of streamflow observations for the main four sub-basins of the watercourse, namely Upper Zambezi (Victoria Falls station), Kafue River (Kafue Hook Bridge station), Luangwa River (Great East Road Bridge station), and Shire River (Mangochi station) that were collected during the DAFNE research project (<u>http://dafne-project.eu/</u>), and the lack of observed levels in water reservoirs considered sensitive data collected by hydropower companies, we detect historical droughts when the monthly streamflow data are below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile of the historical observations in that month.



The top panel of Figure 8 illustrates the trajectory of monthly streamflow for the Upper Zambezi over the period 1986-2005. The middle panel shows the anomaly of the flow with respect to the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile thresholds, with the negative values (red) identifying drought events. The lower the value, the more intense the drought event. Lastly, the bottom panel shows the occurrence of drought events that are represented by vertical lines, where thick lines mark long events. The results in Figure 8 show the summers of 1992-1994-1995-1996 as the most intense drought events, with the period 1994-1996 representing a prolonged, multi-annual drought event. These

findings confirm the data reported in ZAMCON (2015).



*Figure 8* Drought events in Upper Zambezi River (Victoria Falls station) according to the definition adopted by the Zambezi Watercourse Commission. Top: monthly historical observations; Middle: anomaly of monthly flow with respect to the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile (Q25) of the historical values in the same month; Bottom: occurrence of drought events.

Figure 9 compares the streamflow data in the four sub-basins (top panel) and the corresponding occurrence of drought events (bottom panel). Results show that the Upper Zambezi and Kafue Rivers tend to have registered similar drought events, likely because of their spatial proximity. The droughts detected on the Shire River exhibit some differences but confirmed the multi-annual event between 1992 and 1996. Conversely, the droughts detected on the Luangwa River have a more diverse pattern, with shorter and more frequent events.





*Figure 9* Drought events in the four sub-basins of the Zambezi Watercourse according to the definition adopted by the Zambezi Watercourse Commission. Top: monthly historical observations; Bottom: occurrence of drought events.

# 5.2.3 Douro River Basin

The prolonged drought index (Figure 10) aims at monitoring hydrometeorological droughts, and it combines the following variables: (i) 6-month cumulative inflows in Barrios de Luna and the inflow to Villameca; (ii) 6-month cumulative discharge in selected gauge stations in natural flow regime; (iii) 9-month cumulative rainfall in selected rain meters. The index is calculated with historical datasets of rainfall and streamflow, using the periods 1980-2012 and 2012-2017 for the computation and validation of the index, respectively. While the rainfall datasets are observations provided by the Spanish National Meteorological Agency, the streamflows are simulated using an impact rainfall-runoff model and, when available, corrected with observations. All data series are normalised and aggregated in a weighted way to produce the prolonged drought index. Rainfall variables are assigned less weight (40%) than streamflow variables (60%). A single threshold value of 0.3 is defined to determine the occurrence of prolonged drought. As seen in Figure 10, the index detects well the dry spells in the system, going under 0.3 for the driest years. The longest, but not the most intense drought, is recorded for the period 1990-1993. The most intense droughts are registered during the last decade, during the periods 2007-2009, 2012 and 2017-2018.





Figure 10 Prolonged drought index evolution in Orbigo system (1980-2017).

The scarcity index (Figure 11) aims at reflecting a temporary problem in meeting water demands, not necessarily caused by hydrometeorological droughts. For this reason, it takes into consideration the levels in Barrios de Luna and Villameca Reservoirs, as well as the monthly existing water demands in the Orbigo system. The levels in the reservoirs are observations for the period 1980-2017. The main water demands are domestic (including industrial), environmental and agricultural. For each reservoir, a supply-demand balance is computed at the monthly scale for the considered period (1980-2017). Then, based on these historical balances, and for every month of the year (e.g., January), three reservoir levels are defined as thresholds to distinguish three different water scarcity states, namely moderate, severe and grave scarcity. These water scarcity states correspond to three different levels of drought risk, namely pre-alert, alert, and emergency. These thresholds are normalised and aggregated in a weighted way to conform to the scarcity index. Barrios de Luna Reservoir is assigned a weight of 0.9 due to its highest regulatory capacity. The scarcity index is very dynamic (see Figure 11), transiting different states within a single year. The years with the most intense water scarcity (emergency level) are 1985-1987, 1992, 1995, 2002, and 2017.





Figure 11 Scarcity index evolution in Orbigo system (1980-2017).

# 5.2.4 Rijnland

The water board of Rijnland monitors the occurrence of drought events based on a specific userbased definition, which accounts for both precipitation and surface water shortage. More specifically, the water board defines a drought to be onset when the surface water observed at Lobith station (where the Rhine enters the country) is below 1300 m<sup>3</sup>/s and when, at the same time, the cumulative precipitation deficit is above 150 mm. The precipitation deficit is defined as the difference between the potential Makkink evapotranspiration and the precipitation, hence an increase in the precipitation deficit is a sign of (meteorological) water scarcity. As meteorological droughts occur most likely in the summer season, the cumulative precipitation deficit is computed every year only from 1st April to 30th September.





*Figure 12* Drought events occurred in Rijnland according to the definition adopted by the water board. Top: daily discharge observations recorded at Lobith station, where the Rhine enters the Netherlands. Areas in red indicate days with flow below the threshold of 1300 m<sup>3</sup>/s. Centre: cumulative precipitation deficit computed from ERA5 reanalysis data, each year from the beginning of April to the end of September. Areas in red indicate days with precipitation deficit above the threshold of 150 mm. Bottom: occurrence of drought events in Rijnland. An event starts when the cumulative precipitation deficit is above 150 mm, and at the same time, observed flows in the Rhine are below 1300 m<sup>3</sup>/s.

Figure 12 shows the occurrence of drought events from January 1910 to August 2022, based on historical records and according to the definition adopted by the water board. The upper box shows the historical flows recorded at Lobith station, distinguishing the values between those above the minimum threshold (blue) and those below the threshold (red). The graph has been realised using the daily flow time series provided by KNMI for the period 1910-2022, and for the period 2021-2022 by averaging the hourly observations recorded at the same station and provided by the Rijnland water board.

The middle box shows the cumulative precipitation deficit (PDef), as computed each year from the beginning of April to the end of September. In the figure, following the same convention adopted by the water board, when the ongoing deficit reaches negative values, the graph is automatically set to zero and starts showing again data when the ongoing deficit reaches positive values. The analysis is realised by using the daily time series of cumulative precipitation deficit provided by KNMI for the period January 1910- August 2022. This time series has been built by using the daily average precipitation and daily average Makkink evapotranspiration data coming from a set of 13 well-defined stations, and it is representative of the whole country.



The bottom box shows the occurrence of drought events, as defined by the water authority. Vertical red lines indicating that a drought is in place are issued when both the conditions on surface water and precipitation shortage are met. The thicker the lines, the longer the duration of drought. It is worth noting that the box provides information only related to the duration of an event, while it does not give information regarding its severity. By observing this last box, it can be noted that drought events in the last 30 years occurred with a higher frequency with respect to any other similar period in the past, with two of the longest droughts occurring in 2018 and 2020. Other long-lasting events were those of 1921, 1949 and 1976, which are also considered the longest events at the national level. Finally, it should be noted that data from the summer of 2022 were not completely available, hence no conclusion regarding its duration could be made.

Since 2020 KNMI, the meteorological institute of the Netherlands started computing the Standardised Precipitation Index for 1 month (SPI-1) for the whole country for monitoring purposes. However, this indicator has not been adopted yet by Rijnland to define drought events. Figure 13 presents an overview of the SPI-1 index computed from January 1980 to December 2021, by using the reanalysis data of ERA5. The reanalysis data have been spatially averaged within the region of Rijnland. To be consistent with Figure 12, only SPI-1 values from April to September of each year are reported. In Figure 13, values in red mean that a drought is an onset, while values in blue state that the considered month was wetter than normal. As it can be noticed by comparing Figure 12 and Figure 13, using SPI-1 to detect drought results in detecting more events than by using the userbased definition.



*Figure 13* Drought events occurred in Rijnland according to the SPI-1 values computed using ERA5 reanalysis data. Values obtained in the period October-March are omitted to facilitate the comparison with the user-based definition.

#### 5.2.5 Aa en Maas

A complex multi-year drought occurred in the management area of regional water authority Aa en Maas in recent years. The complexity is reflected by drought indices expressing both meteorological and hydrological drought. Figure 14 shows the drought indices for the climatological mean and the



years based on local observations. The indices are shown for the growing season in the Netherlands, which is the period between April and October. The precipitation deficit reflects the development of the meteorological drought and is defined as the cumulative sum of the daily precipitation sum minus the daily reference evapotranspiration measured at the Volkel station of the Royal Dutch Meteorological Institute (KNMI). The groundwater levels are visualised relative to the Dutch datum (NAP). The figure shows the groundwater level measures at location ANNA007. The discharge of the Maas river is measured at measurement location Lith. The discharge series are only available up to the year 2019.

All indices show that the years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2022 were much drier than the climatological mean. Secondly, it is remarkable that the drought develops each year differently. For example, the peak of the 2018 drought is in August, while the peak of the 2022 drought is observed in September. Thirdly, the effect of a drought in a previous year is clearly visible for the groundwater level drought and discharge indices, while not in the meteorological drought (which is reset on April 1st by definition).





*Figure 14* Historical trajectories of drought indices (precipitation deficit, groundwater levels and Maas river discharges) for the management area of regional water authority Aa en Maas in the Netherlands.

#### 5.2.6 Lake Como basin

The authority operating Lake Como (i.e., Consorzio dell'Adda) detects drought events when the monthly net inflows to the lake are below the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile of the historical observations in that month. The daily net inflows are reconstructed by Consorzio dell'Adda from measures of lake levels and releases from January 1946 to December 2019. The top panel of Figure 15 illustrates the trajectory of monthly inflows obtained by aggregating the daily data provided by Consorzio dell'Adda. The middle panel shows the anomaly of the net inflows with respect to the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile thresholds, with the negative values (red) identifying drought events. The lower the value, the more



intense the drought event. Lastly, the bottom panel shows the occurrence of drought events that are represented by vertical lines where thick lines mark long events.

The results in Figure 15 show the summers of 1976-2005-2006 as the most intense drought events. Moreover, the bottom panel of the figure illustrates how the period 2003-2007 was characterised by frequent drought events, as discussed in several studies (e.g., Anghileri et al., 2013; Giuliani et al., 2020).



Figure 15 Drought events occurred in Lake Como according to the definition adopted by the lake operator. Top: monthly historical observations; Middle: anomaly of monthly inflow with respect to the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile (Q10) of the historical values in the same month; Bottom: occurrence of drought events.

#### **5.3 Datasets for drought detection**

The computation of drought indices in the CLINT Climate Change Hotspots will be mostly based on local observations. Besides, a number of global/continental datasets will be used in Task T3.3 for the analysis of extreme droughts over the European domain.

### 5.3.1 HydroGFD2.0

In Task T3.3, we will use the Hydrological Global Forcing Data (HydroGFD2.0; Berg et al., 2018) as a dataset of precipitation and temperature for the detection of extreme droughts over the European domain. HydroGFD is a merged data set of historical precipitation and temperature from meteorological reanalysis and global observations. The reanalysis system from ECMWF uses



atmospheric and surface observations to reproduce the observed weather and climate as closely as possible on a global scale. However, the reanalysis product has a bias that prevents its direct use in hydrological models, and consequently, HydroGFD is carrying out bias adjustments to remedy such issues.

With HydroGFD2.0, the baseline climatology is first calculated for the period 1981-2009, combining satellite and station-based observations. GPCCv7 (Schneider et al., 2014), CPC-Unified (Chen et al., 2008) and CRUts4.0 data set from the Climate Research Unit (CRU; Harris and Jones, 2017) are used for adjusting precipitation amount and number of wet days, whilst CRUts4.0 and CPC-Temp (CPCtemp, 2017) products are used for temperature adjustments. Absolute monthly mean data are then calculated by adding anomalies from different data sets to the climatology. Common for all variables are the resolution of 0.5 degrees (about 50 km) on a regular global grid and the time period 1961 until present using reanalysis systems ERA40 (1961-1978) and ERA-Interim (1979 until present). Bias adjustments are only performed over land areas included in the observational data, and oceans default to the original reanalysis data.

Bias adjustment is performed separately for every single month with monthly mean precipitation, number of wet days, and temperature. This leads to a data set of daily values of precipitation and daily mean, minimum and maximum temperature.

# **5.3.2 Historical Simulations of E-HYPE**

HYPE (HYdrological Predictions for the Environment) is a continuous semi-distributed process-based model, which simulates components of the water cycle (i.e., snow accumulation and melting, evapotranspiration, soil moisture, streamflow generation, groundwater recharge, and routing through rivers and lakes) at a daily time step (Lindström et al., 2010). Meteorological variables of daily mean precipitation and temperature derived from the HydroGFD product v2.0 were used to drive the hydrological model for the period 1993–2018.

E-HYPE reproduces streamflow and water balance over the Pan-European region with ~35,400 catchments. Its parameters were calibrated based on a set of 115 catchments representing the diversity of land use and soil characteristics, as well as human impacts. The model was validated in about 550 catchments for which streamflow observations are available. The performance of E-HYPE in validation in terms of streamflow reaches a median Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency of 0.53 over Europe. Details about the model performance can be found in Hundecha et al. (2016).

The streamflow and soil moisture outputs from historical simulation of the E-HYPE will be used for the computation of SRI and SSI indices over the European domain during the time period 1993-2018. Importantly, this dataset is consistent with the HydroGFD2.0 climatic forcing used for computing SPI and SPEI indices.

#### 5.3.3 E-HYPE seasonal hydrometeorological service

The ability of the E-HYPE seasonal hydrometeorological service in detecting and predicting extreme droughts will be used as a benchmark to quantify the potential added value of the AI-enhanced methods developed in Task T3.3 in collaboration with Tasks T2.1 and T2.4. Notably, the ECMWF SEAS5 and CMCC seasonal precipitation and mean temperature forecasts are bias adjusted using the Distribution-Based Scaling (parametric quantile mapping) method (Yang et al., 2010) prior to



being introduced as forcing input in the E-HYPE hydrological model, using HydroGFD2.0 data (see Section 3.1) as a reference for the bias adjustment.

Forecasts are provided at sub-basin resolution (polygon with an average size of 215 km2) and grid resolution (5 km x 5 km grid) over the time period 1993-2015, with the model initialised at the beginning of each month. The hydrological forecasts forced by ECMWF SEAS5 (~ 7-month lead time) and CMCC (~ 6 -month lead time) consist of 25 and 40 ensemble members, respectively (see Table 13).

Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	Used by
ECMWF SEAS5	C3S-CDS	ѕмні	SMHI	SMHI	SMHI, POLIMI
CMCC SPS3.5	C3S-CDS	СМСС, ЅМНІ	SMHI	SMHI	SMHI, POLIMI
E-HYPE simulations	SMHI	SMHI	SMHI	SMHI	SMHI, POLIMI

Table 13 List of seasonal forecast datasets used in Task 3.3.

# 5.4 Candidate drivers for extreme drought detection

Based on the literature, the following local and large-scale phenomena are considered as potential drivers for extreme drought detection (and potentially prediction):

- Hydrologic conditions: They represent local conditions' influence on local water availability. Depending on the characteristics of the region under investigation, it could be useful to consider snow-related variables (e.g., Staudinger et al., 2014), such as snow cover, snow height, snow water equivalent, as well as high temperatures that increase the fraction of precipitation falling as rain instead of snow and advance the timing of spring snowmelt (Douvielle et al., 2021); water volume stored in lakes and artificial reservoirs (e.g., Haro et al., 2014); groundwater level (e.g., Bloomfield and Marchant, 2013); atmospheric evaporative demand that affects evapotranspiration and soil moisture (Vicente-Serrano et al., 2020).
- Atmospheric conditions: The state of the Northern Hemisphere polar vortex can influence the position of the jet streams, the position of the storm tracks, and the atmospheric circulation at the surface. Persistent anomalies of the polar vortex can lead to anomalous precipitation patterns over several months, in particular during wintertime (Ayarzagüena et al., 2018; Domeisen and Butler, 2020). Blocking conditions can represent key atmospheric factors in the development of large-scale heat waves and droughts, which trigger soil-moisture temperature feedbacks (Toreti et al., 2019a)
- **Teleconnection and climatic patterns**: They generate interactions and/or feedbacks with other components of the climate system, potentially amplifying the severity of the event. In particular, the literature suggests extreme droughts could be linked with:



- El Nino Southern Oscillation (e.g., Vicente-Serrano et al., 2011)
- North Atlantic Oscillation (e.g., Tsanis and Tapoglou, 2019)
- Sea Surface Temperature (e.g., Forootan et al., 2020; Garrido-Perez et al., 2022)

# **6 COMPOUND EVENTS AND CONCURRENT EXTREMES**

#### 6.1 Overview

Quantifying the probability of future extreme events is important for adaptation planning, for instance, in the agricultural sector, for fisheries, river transport as well as for energy supply (Zscheischler and Fischer 2020). Given that future predictions indicate a rise in the frequency of many types of extreme events (IPCC 2022), the latter becomes increasingly important. While human and natural systems have a certain resilience against single extreme events, they might be unable to sustain multiple extreme events as their impacts tend to amplify in a non-linear relationship (Zscheischler et al. 2018; Zscheichler et al. 2020). Furthermore, it is crucial to accurately examine the association or connections between these types of events because the risk and return periods of extreme events might be considerably underestimated when one assumes independence of these occurrences or simply investigates a single extreme event (Wahl et al. 2015; Zscheischler and Seneviratne 2017).

Compound events are frequently referred to in the literature as a combination of extreme events and the concomitant (possibly non-extreme) phenomena of these types of events that contribute to the socio-economic damage of this event. To be more precise, Zscheischler et al. 2018 define a compound event as:

"The combination of multiple drivers and/or hazards that contributes to societal or environmental risk."

Typologies have been developed to further categorize the dependence structure of compound events (Zscheischler et al. 2020; Bevacqua et al. 2021). The definition above highlights the multivariate nature of these types of events, but it should be recognized that the involved events do not necessarily have to be extreme events.

Toreti et al. 2019b described a subset of compound events named concurrent extreme events, where the emphasis is on the dependencies of extreme events. They define a concurrent extreme event as

"Extremes of different types occurring within a specific temporal lag, either in different locations or at the same one, as well as by extremes of the same type occurring in two different locations within a specific time period."

To ensure a coherent risk assessment of high-risk events such as compound events, multiple drivers should be considered that play a synergistic and reinforcing role. The increasing frequency, severity and extent of these impacts have also increased scientific interest in the events that lead to these



impacts, compound events and concurrent extremes (for a review, see, for instance, Leonard et al. 2014; Hao et al. 2018; Zscheischler et al. 2018; Raymond et al. 2020; Zscheischler et al. 2020; Zhang et al. 2021). To our knowledge, however, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and ML has been yet relatively underrepresented in the analysis of compound events, and CLINT aims at filling this gap by developing AI- and ML-based techniques together with hybrid approaches (a combination of the former with well-known statistical methods) for the detection, causality, and attribution study of compound events and concurrent extremes.

This chapter introduces the detection methods for the analysis of compound events and concurrent extremes, as well as the datasets and drivers that will be utilized for that purpose in Task 3.4.

# 6.2 Detection of compound events and concurrent extremes

#### 6.2.1 Compound events

Within Task 3.4.1, the following types of compound events related to important impacts in the water, energy and food sectors will be analyzed:

- a) Warm and relatively wet late winters followed by dry and warm springs with severe impacts on agriculture.
- b) Dry winters followed by hot summers, which accumulate pressure on the agricultural and the energy sectors with direct impacts on the hydropower capacities during the increased demand period.
- c) Wet and warm springs with impacts on water management, increased flood risk due to precipitation excess and early melting season.

Compound events, without necessarily being extreme, have significant socioeconomic impacts, and hence their study should combine their impacts and the climatological phenomenon (Zscheischler et al. 2018). The analysis of compound events under the CLINT framework concentrates on impact indicators on the three sectors, water, energy and food, considered within work package 6, with the goal of identifying the relevant drivers of those impacts using AI/ML methodologies. The assumption is that since compound events are, by definition, associated with the most severe impacts, the AI method will discover their pattern through the impacts used as the basis for defining the compound events above.

The dependencies among these drivers will then be examined using traditional multivariate statistics, such as Markov and Bayesian networks (e.g., Hastie et al. 2017; Sperotto et al. 2017), vine-copulas (e.g., Hao et al. 2018; Czado and Nagler 2022) or "synergies" of the two techniques (e.g., Elidan 2013; Couasnon et al. 2018). In order to further emphasize the significance of evaluating the connectivity among the drivers, return periods will be constructed under the assumptions of independence and dependence, as it is frequently found that return periods can significantly decrease when an extreme multivariate framework (with dependent drivers) is employed (e.g., Zscheischler and Seneviratne 2017).



### **6.2.2 Concurrent extremes**

The analysis within CLINT will focus on the connectivity of large-scale droughts and heatwave events at the global scale. The large-scale extreme events are defined following Toreti et al. (2019b): Firstly, for given regions of interest, heatwaves and droughts will be identified on the grid scale using statistical extreme event detection approaches (e.g., through threshold exceedances of indices). Subsequently, the time points are collected at which a certain number of grid points (e.g., 20 %) within a considered region fulfil the given criterion that classifies the time points as occurrences of large-scale extreme events. Hence, for heatwave and drought events, a set of time points is obtained for specific regions, which are then modelled as a marked point process (see, e.g., Daley 2003; Daley and Vere-Jones 2008). The interdependencies of these events can then be evaluated using the marked inhomogeneous J-Function (Cronie and van Lieshout 2016), which can determine whether the obtained time points exhibit clustering, inhibition, or independence. The latter also allows for a non-constant occurrence of these events over the considered time interval and is, therefore, able to take the non-stationarity of the climate into account. By analysing the above time occurrences depending on the phase of a teleconnection state under consideration (e.g., El Nino and La Nina for ENSO), links to teleconnections (such as ENSO, NAO) can also be employed As previously stated, the detection of the drought and heatwave events at the grid scale will be accomplished following Tasks 3.2 and 3.3 by using heatwave and drought indices such as the HMD and the HWS, the SPI and the SPEI (see Tables 7 and 11) or AI-enhanced versions of the later developed within Tasks 3.2 and 3.3. By applying a cluster analysis like k-means (e.g., Hastie et al. 2017) or extreme values theory-based approaches (Bernard et al. 2013; Bador et al. 2015) to the indices, it will be possible to pinpoint the areas with similar drought and heatwave patterns, which will then serve as the regions of interest.



*Table 14* List of the indices for heatwaves and droughts detection at European & global scale for concurrent extremes in Task 3.4.

Acronym	Name	Essential climate variables	Description	References
SPI	Standardized Precipitation Index	Precipitation	SPI represents the number of standard deviations the cumulative precipitation deviates from the average of a standardized normal distribution.	McKee et al. (1993); Hayes et al. (1999)
SPEI	Standardized Precipitation and Evapotranspirati on Index	Precipitation and Potential Evapotranspira tion	SPEI represents the deviations from the average of a standardized distribution but replaces the precipitation data with the difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration. SPEI is also appropriate for arid climates, where evapotranspiration has a key role in depleting soil moisture.	Beguería et al. (2010); Vicente- Serrano et al. (2010); Beguería et al. 2014
HMD	Heat Magnitude Day	Tmax (daily maximum 2- meters temperature)	Accumulates heat wave magnitude (as in Russo et al. 2015) for the 3-month period before the harvesting season, representing heat stress within this period.	Zampieri et al. (2017); Toreti et al. (2019b)
HWS	Heat Wave Severity	Tmax or Tmin (daily maximum/mini mum 2-meters temperature)	Accumulated temperature exceedance (above the local 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile) for all heat wave days (temperature exceeding the 90th percentile) over a user- defined interval (monthly, seasonal, etc.	Perkins-Kirkpatrick and Lewis (2020)

**Acronym** = Abbreviation used for the index, **Name** = full name of the index, **Essential climate variables** = variables required for the computation of the index, **Description** = short definition of the index, **References** = Publications where the index is used and/or defined.



#### 6.3 Datasets for compound events and concurrent extremes

The datasets used for the study of compound events and concurrent extremes in CLINT comprise reanalysis data with high spatial and temporal resolution and the longest possible temporal coverage, climate model outputs, surrogate data required for the concurrent extremes, as well as impact data for the water, energy and food security nexus sectors.

6.3.1 Climate data for compound events and concurrent extremes

**6.3.1.1 ERA5** See 2.3.1.

**6.3.1.2 ERA-20C** See 4.3.2.

**6.3.1.3 20CRv3** See 4.3.3.

#### 6.3.1.4 CMIP6 and PMIP4

The training of the AI algorithms can be further augmented by using global bias-corrected for the concurrent extremes and European bias-corrected and downscaled for the compound events and climate model simulations from CMIP6. CMIP's objective is to better understand past, present and future climate change arising from natural (unforced) variability or in response to changes in radiative forcing (Eyring et al. 2016). Within Task 3.4, the analysis is going to focus on historical simulations for the models listed in Table 15.

Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
CESM2	ESGF	JLU	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU
CNRM-CM6-1-HR	ESGF	JLU	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU
EC-Earth3	ESGF	JLU	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU
GFDL-ESM4	ESGF	JLU	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU
HadGEM3-GC31- MM	ESGF	JLU	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU
MPI-ESM1-2-HR	ESGF	JLU	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU

Table 15 List of CMIP6 model simulations used in Task 3.4.



Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
NorESM2-MM	ESGF	JLU	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU

**Name** = short name of the dataset, **Source** = original producer, **Handled by** = partner doing the download/extraction of the dataset over the region of interest, **Processed by** = partner applying any "model output statistics" if any (downscaling, calibration etc.), **Stored by** = partner distributing the data for the consortium partners (e.g., centralised CLINT repository at DKRZ), if need be, **ETD** = estimated date of availability (from handling/storing partner), **Used by** = partner using the data (case study).

Task 3.4 will also use longer model simulations from CMIP6 and the Paleoclimate Modelling Intercomparison Project phase 4 (PMIP4). The model simulations (Table 16) are externally forced following the protocol by Jungclaus et al. (2017). The forcings between 500 BC and 1 AD are according to the Bader et al. (2020) simulation (i.e. the Holocene simulation).

Table 16 List of PMIP4/CMIP6 simulations used in Task 3.4.

Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
MPI-ESM-LR-P	Hereon	Hereon	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU
MPI-ESM-LR Mythos (500 BCE - 1850 CE)	Hereon/JLU	JLU	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU
MPI-ESM-LR 2k	ESGF	MPI-M	JLU	JLU	August 31, 2022	JLU

**Name** = short name of the dataset, **Source** = original producer, **Handled by** = partner doing the download/extraction of the dataset over the region of interest, **Processed by** = partner applying any "model output statistics" if any (downscaling, calibration etc.), **Stored by** = partner distributing the data for the consortium partners (e.g., centralised CLINT repository at DKRZ), if need be, **ETD** = estimated date of availability (from handling/storing partner), **Used by** = partner using the data (case study).

#### 6.3.2 Concurrent extremes data

#### 6.3.2.1 Surrogate data

The inhomogeneous J-Function will be utilized to examine the connectivities of large-scale drought and heatwave events for the analysis of concurrent extremes. The J-Function, as previously stated, can categorize these connectivities into three types of dependence structures: clustering, inhibition, and independence (see, e.g., Baddeley et al. 2016). However, the decision as to which class a specific J-function belongs to is still determined by the user and is thus exposed to subjectivity. The main objective for Task 3.4.2 within CLINT is thus to develop an AI-based automated interpretation tool for the J-Function that can classify a given J-Function to a dependency structure from above and estimate the change point in dependence. For this, Monte Carlo simulations will be used to simulate



data sets which mimic these three types of dependence structures. Then for each simulated data set, the dependence structure can be labelled such that the problem becomes a classification problem and an AI model can be trained.

Point process models for which the J-Function has the desired features are going to be used, and the simulation setup of van Lieshout (2011) and Cronie and van Lieshout (2015) is going to be adopted. They show that the J-Function has the desired properties by using a log-gaussian cox process model for clustering, an inhomogeneous point process for independence, and a thinned hardcore process for inhibition (for a description of the processes, see, for instance, González et al. 2016 and the references within). Furthermore, non-stationary intensity functions (see, for instance, Diggle 2014) will be employed, as they are more likely to occur in climatic data sets (Toreti et al. 2019a; Toreti et al. 2019b). For each simulated data set, the J-Functions are then estimated following van Lieshout 2011, Cronie and van Lieshout 2016 and Moradi et al. 2019 together with a perturbation method developed in Toreti et al. 2019b.

#### 6.3.3 Compound events data

As previously stated, data sets identifying the impact of compound events on the food, energy, and water sectors will be used for Task 3.4.1 and will be adopted from MS15. The data sets will be described in the following sections.

### 6.3.3.1 Food - ECroPS, FAOSTAT, Eurostat

#### **ECroPs**

Crop yield simulations using the ECroPS dynamical process-based crop model (Toreti et al. 2019c) will be utilized to assess the impact on the food sector. The ECroPS modelling framework was created to address the high computational demand of high-resolution regional climate model simulations and is tailored to run in MPI environments. The ECroPS crop simulation model is based on the WOFOST crop simulation model (Wit et al. 2019), but with new important parameterization methods, which are the response to elevated CO2 concentrations and the impact of heat stress on flowering.

The core of ECroPS consists of a mechanistic crop growth model that explains crop growth in terms of underlying processes like photosynthesis and respiration, as well as how these processes are influenced by environmental variables. Furthermore, the impact of highly relevant climate extremes is simulated, including heat stress and droughts. Modules in ECroPS include phenological development, light interception, gross CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation, growth and maintenance respiration, dry matter partitioning, source and sink limited leaf area development, soil water balance and soil nutrition balance. The crop model is parameterized to allow for regional heterogeneity in the crop model parameters across Europe, thus taking into account differing spatial variety distributions for the major crops (Ceglar et al. 2019). The latter is based on a pan-European spatial calibration of several crop model parameters related to variety prevalence in various European growing regions. Finally, ECroPS distinguishes three levels of crop production: potential production (determined by crop variety, radiation and temperature), water-restricted production (water availability limits potential production) and nutrient-limited production (in which nutrient availability limits water-limited production).



#### FAOSTAT

The United Nations established the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO; https://www.fao.org/) as a specialized organization with the aim of attaining global food security and ensuring access to sufficient and quality food. FAO is active in 130 countries around the world and has 195 members. FAOSTAT provides free access to food and agricultural data for 245 countries - including the European domain - from 1961 to the present. The data is mainly obtained through questionnaires submitted to members on a regular basis. The data includes statistics on agricultural production, food security and nutrition, food value chain, as well as climate change, among other domains.

#### Eurostat

Eurostat (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat) is the statistical office of the European Union, with the aim of providing high-quality statistics and data on Europe. The statistics are produced in cooperation with the national statistical institutes and other national authorities in the EU Member States, known as the European Statistical System (ESS). The statistical authorities of the European Economic Area (EEcA) and Switzerland are also part of the ESS. In recent decades, new indicators and statistics that reflect changes in EU policies have been introduced, enhancing the initial aim of monitoring the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) main objectives (e.g., Hill 2012). Agricultural statistics in Eurostat provide information on the topics of farms' structure, the economic accounts for agriculture, prices and prices' indices, agricultural production and organic farming, as well as agriculture and the environment.

CLINT will use the above-described data sources to study the impacts of compound events on the food sector, and adequate impact indicators will be adapted from MS15. The analysis will further follow MS4 and support WP6 objectives and will focus on climate impacts of the three main crops grown in Europe: winter soft wheat, grain maize and winter barley. Additionally, AGRI4CAS's data portal (https://agri4cast.jrc.ec.europa.eu/DataPortal/Index.aspx) will be used to acquire the agrometeorological variety zones for the main crops in Europe (Ceglar et al. 2019).

### 6.3.3.2 Water – E-Hype

The high-resolution pan-European water model E-HYPE (Donnelly et al. 2016; Hundecha et al. 2016) calculates hydrological variables on a daily time-step and calculates water balance, hydrological variable dynamics, and daily discharge for continental Europe. It is maintained and operated by SMHI, a governmental organization under the Ministry of Environment. It can be used for a variety of purposes, including hydrological forecasting, environmental flow management, infrastructure development planning, and assessing the impact of climate change (Wallman et al. 2011). Input data includes Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) satellite products, global data sets (e.g., topographic, land use, soil type, precipitation and temperature data), meteorological data, climate projections, policy scenarios, and local data. Many hydrological variables, such as water balance, flow rates and depths (when rating curves or hydrographic data are available) in all major streams and rivers in Europe, soil moisture level, lake/reservoir depths and levels, snow depths, snow water equivalent and regional snow coverage are produced at high resolution by the model. Furthermore, statistics for the predicted and observed data can be provided as regional statistics and individual sites.



# 6.3.3.3 Energy - PRIMES

The Price-induced market equilibrium system PRIMES model, developed by E3Modelling, a spin-off of the E3MLab at the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), can simulate medium- and long-term (up to 2070) projections in five-year steps (MIDAS @JRC website 2021). It is applicable to all European Union member states, European Free Trade Association (EFTA) nations (except Lichtenstein), and candidate countries.

The essential feature of the model is its combination of behavioural modelling (based on a microeconomic foundation) and engineering aspects, which covers all energy sectors and markets and can handle numerous policy objectives (e.g., Greenhouse Gas, GHG emission reductions, energy efficiency, renewable energy targets) (PRIMES 2018). Furthermore, it provides a pan-European simulation of internal markets for electricity and gas. It has been used to conduct impact assessments for the European Commission, including the EU Long-Term Strategy, as well as to develop the "Reference outlook for EU energy, transport, and GHG emission trends to 2050." The input of the model consists of Eurostat and European Environment Agency (EEA) data (e.g., energy balance sheets, energy processes, macroeconomic and sectoral activity data), technological databases, power plant inventory, Renewable energy sources (RES) capacities, potential and availability, network infrastructure and other databases; see MIDAS @ JRC website 2021 for further information. The output of the PRIMES model contains detailed energy balances of the energy system, as well as accompanying CO2 emissions for each country or the EU as a whole. Together with the Greenhouse Gas - Air Pollution Interaction and Synergies (GAINS) and Global Biosphere Management Model (GLOBIOM) models, it is also able to provide comprehensive GHG balances for each country and the EU as a whole (MIDAS @JRC website 2021).

Name	Source	Handled by	Processed by	Stored by	ETD	Used by
Surrogate Data	JLU	JLU	N/A	JLU	August 31 2022	JLU, UAH
E-HYPE	SMHI	SMHI	N/A	SMHI	August 31 2022	JLU, POLIMI
ECroPS	JRC	JRC	N/A	JLU	August 31 2022	JLU, POLIMI
PRIMES	E3M	E3M	N/A	E3M	August 31 2022	JLU, POLIMI

Table 17 List of surrogate and sectoral data used in Task 3.4.

**Name** = short name of the dataset, **Source** = original producer, **Handled by** = partner doing the download/extraction of the dataset over the region of interest, **Processed by** = partner applying any "model output statistics" if any (downscaling, calibration etc.), **Stored by** = partner distributing the data for the consortium partners (e.g., centralised CLINT repository at DKRZ), if need be, **ETD** = estimated date of availability (from handling/storing partner), **Used by** = partner using the data (case study).



#### 6.4 Candidate drivers for compound events and concurrent extremes

Compound weather and climate events describe combinations of multiple climate drivers and/or hazards that contribute to societal or environmental risk. These events arise from complex interactions between various physical processes across multiple spatial and temporal scales. This work aims at revealing the drivers of the hazards and the physical processes by which weather- and climate-related hazards combine to improve their detection, predictability, causality and attribution through the assessment of the impacts in the sectors of water, energy and food. The climate phenomena are characterised by deviations from mean conditions without being extreme in the statistical sense.

Warm and dry conditions are often linked through land-atmospheric feedbacks (Miralles et al. 2019). In a recent review, Zhang et al. (2021) identified persistent blocking highs, subtropical highs, atmospheric stagnation events, and patterns of planetary heat waves as drivers of warm and dry conditions. For example, stagnation events cause a lack of convection and movement of air masses (Horton et al. 2014; Zou et al. 2020) and blocking highs increase temperature and evapotranspiration while suppressing precipitation (Dong et al. 2018; Schumacher et al. 2019). These conditions can be further intensified by preconditions such as low soil moisture through soil moisture-atmosphere interaction (Berg et al. 2015), dry soil and plants, which reduce evapotranspiration (Seneviratne et al. 2006), and downwind drought conditions, whereby advection of air masses can cause abrupt increases in air temperature and soil desiccation (Schumacher et al. 2019). Other studies have found that concurrent heatwaves in the Northern Hemisphere can be linked to amplified Rossby wave patterns (Kornhuber et al. 2020), whereas warm and dry events in Europe can be related to a Rossby wave train propagating from the United States to Russia (Ionita et al. 2021). Warm and dry events can also be related to slow varying factors, as teleconnection patterns like ENSO, which was for instance shown in South Africa (Hao et al. 2019), South America (Cai et al. 2020) and the USA (Hoerling et al. 2013). ENSO and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) have also been shown to have an effect on these types of events in Australia (Reddy et al. 2022). Over western North America during the boreal summer, these types of events have been shown to be positively influenced by the PDO, whereas associations of these types of events with the NAO were relatively weak (Mukherjee et al. 2020). Additionally, it has been demonstrated that strongly negative PDO phases and positive Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO) phases favour warm and dry events in the southwest of the United States (Chylek et al. 2014). Concerning future projections, it is found that, with global warming, the frequency of warm and dry events is expected to rise (Zscheischler and Seneviratne 2017; Alizadeh et al. 2020; Vogel et al. 2020; Meng et al. 2022). For instance, it was shown that record-breaking summers like the one that occurred in Central Europe in 2018 can become the norm until the middle of the twenty-first century (Toreti et al. 2019a) and could not have occurred without human influence (Vogel et al. 2019).

Warm and wet events are often modulated when temperature rises over open water bodies, increasing surface humidity (Zhang et al. 2021). On land, however, this effect may be limited by the lack of soil moisture (Fischer and Knutti 2013). A recent review of Zhang et al. 2021 identifies the following drivers of warm and humid events: Irrigation, external forcing such as greenhouse gases and volcanic eruptions and urbanization. Other studies have linked warm, humid conditions to



persisting blocking patterns, reduced cloud cover, and the advection of warm air, which can originate in tropical areas (Katsafados et al. 2014; Freychet et al. 2017; Russo et al. 2017). Although there appears to be fewer studies on these types of occurrences than on warm and dry ones, the frequency of warm and humid events is expected to rise (Russo et al. 2017; Wang et al. 2021; Meng et al. 2022) highlighting the need of studying these types of events.



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