



MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, ALIMENTACIÓN Y MEDIO AMBIENTE



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION EXTREMES OVER SPAIN FOR THE 21st CENTURY: RETURN PERIODS

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Outline





EVAN2015



- Introduction
- Data and method
- Results
- Conclusions.

INTRODUCTION



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Disasters related to weather, climate and water hazards cause significant loss of life and set back economic and social development by year, if not decades.

From 1970 to 2012:

- 8 835 disasters
- 1,94 million deaths
- US\$ 2,4 trillion of economic losses

- Droughts
- Floods
- Windstorms
- Tropical cyclones
- Storm surges
- Extremes temperatures
- Landslides
- Wildfires
- Health epidemics and insect infestation.

WMO, 2014

INTRODUCTION





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- Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and since the 1950s, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia. (IPCC, 2014)
- There is evidence from observations gathered since 1950 of change in some extremes. (IPCC 2012)
- Observed changes in climate extremes reflect the influence of anthropogen change in addition to natural climate variability. (IPCC 2012)
- An changing climate leads to changes in the frequency, intensity, spatial extent, duration and timing of extreme weather and climate events. (IPCC 2012)
- Changes in extremes can be linked to changes in the mean, variance or shape of probability of distributions, or all of these. (IPCC 2012)

INTRODUCTION



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Climate indices:

- Number of warm days
- Warm spell duration
- Maximum length of dry spell

Climate Extremes

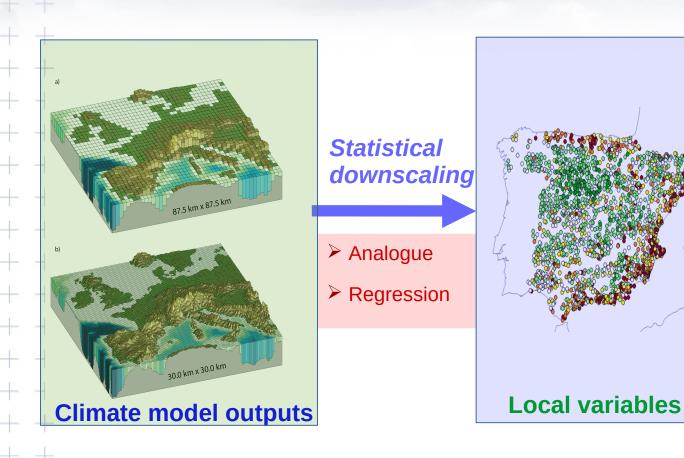
Frequency analysis

- **Return period**: number of time units necessary to obtain a value equal to or greater than an certain value one time.





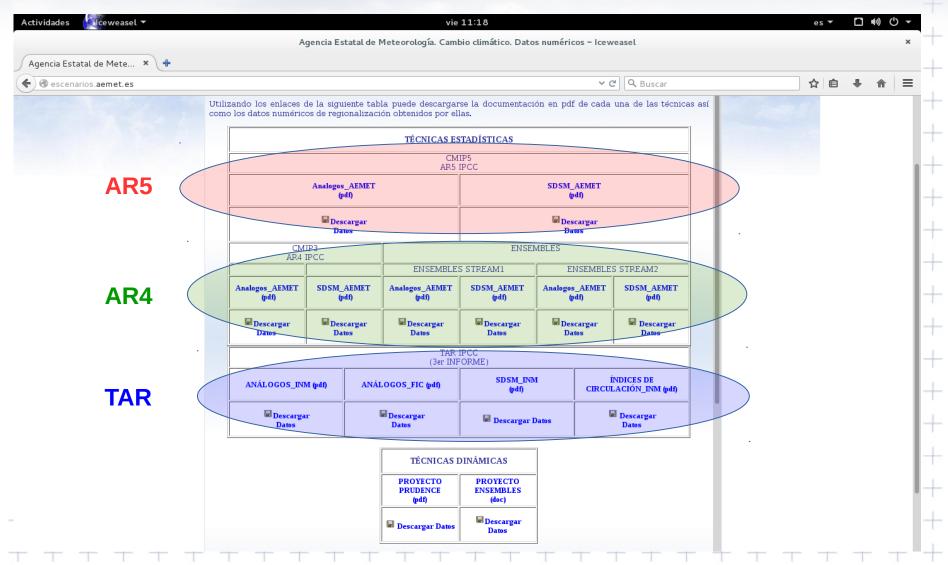




EXTREMES

Source: Cap. 1. IPCC 2014





DATA



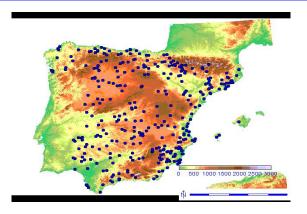


- Temperature and precipitation projected over the 21st century from climate models (24) under 3 RCP plus the historical.
- Number of projections: 78
- Number of data by station and variable: 365 * 95 * 78 + 365 * 40 = 2 690 780.

		Regression	Analogues	Total
	RCP4.5	18	13	31
	RCP6.0	7	7	14
	RCP8.5	20	13	33
-	+Total+	+ + + + + + 78 + + + + +		

Number of climate stations:

- Temperature: 360
- Precipitation: 2092





METHOD

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- Extract the annual extremes from daily data (maximum and minimum temperature and 24 h accumulated precipitation)
- GEV (Generalized Extreme Value) distribution is fitted to a sample of annual extremes by the method of L-moments (Historical and RCP)
 - The 20-yr return value is obtained using quantiles method (Historical and RCP)
 - The return period for the 20-yr return value in the current climate is obtained from the fitted GEV distribution (RCP).

Tools: lmom library of R project code

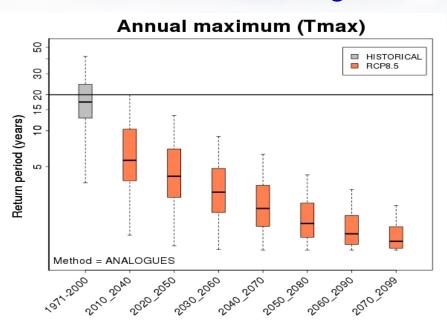
RESULTS: MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

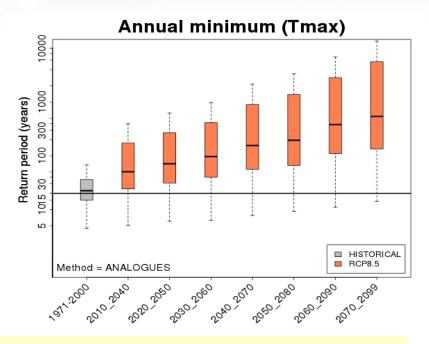






Change in return periods





- Higher maximum temperatures will be more frequent in the future climate, decreasing its return period over the century in all climatological stations.
- Lower maximum temperatures will be less frequent.
- These consequence of a change of the probability is a distribution of the maximum daily temperatures toward higher values. Santander

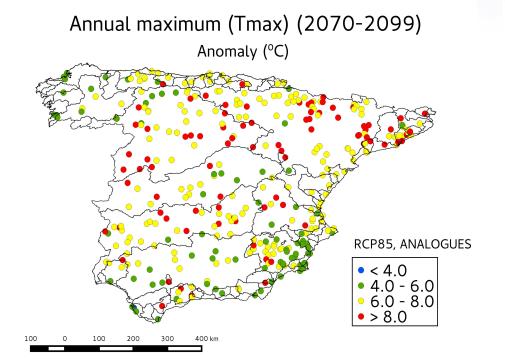
RESULTS: MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

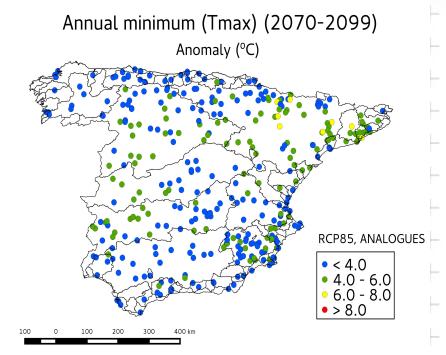






Change in 20-yr return values





The extreme values increase, specially higher values (6°C - 8°C), and also lower values (< 4°C).

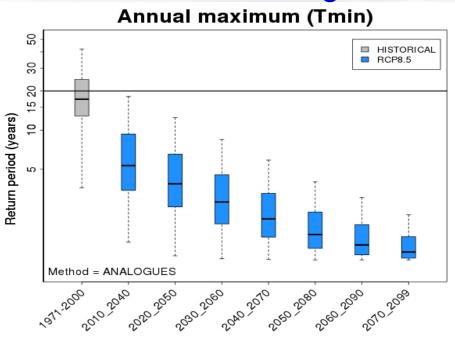
RESULTS: MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

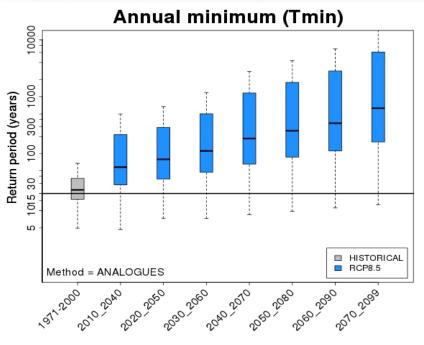






Change in return periods





- Higher minimum temperatures will be more frequent in the future climate, decreasing its return period over the century in all climatological stations.
- Lower minimum temperatures will be less frequent.
- These is a consequence of a change of the probability distribution of the minimum daily temperatures toward higher values.

RESULTS: MINIMUM TEMPERATURE







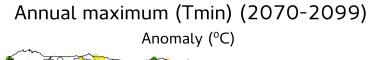
RCP85, ANALOGUES

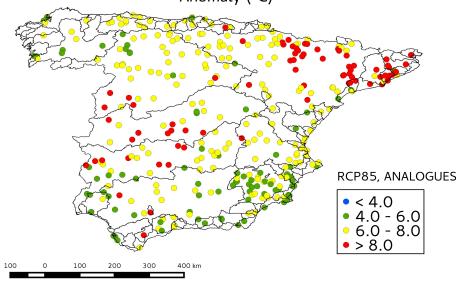
• < 4.0

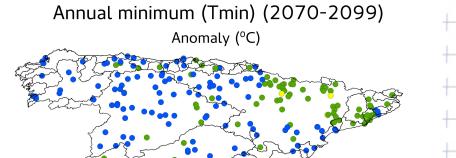
• 4.0 - 6.0

• 6.0 - 8.0

Change in 20-yr return values









- The extreme values increase, specially higher values (6°C 8°C), and also lower values (< 4°C).
- > The maximum changes occur northeast area.

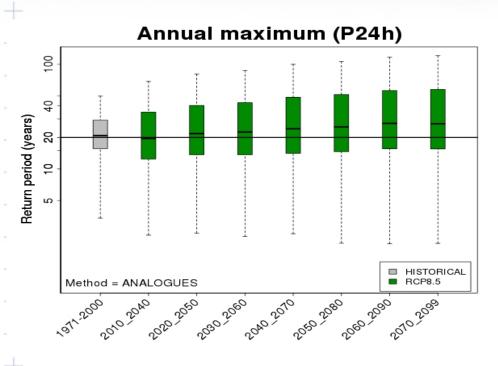
RESULTS: MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

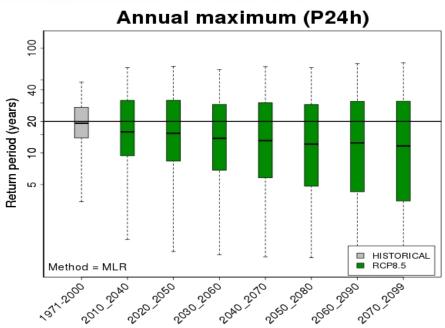






Change in return periods





- The behaviour of extreme precipitations depends on the downscaling method.
- There are not a clear tendency.

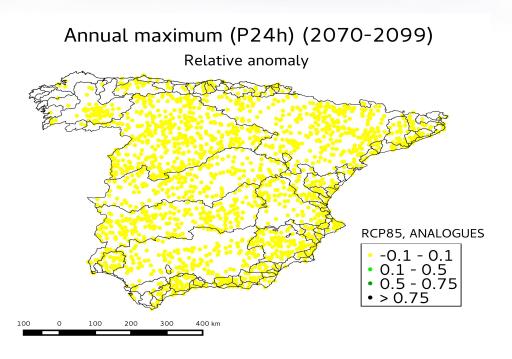
RESULTS: MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

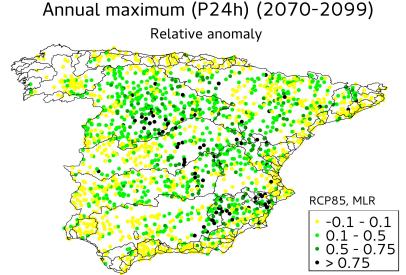






Change in 20-yr return values





- The change in extreme precipitation depends on the downscaling method.
- The analogues method doesn't predict changes.
- The MLR method displays a significant dispersion with higher values in the castilian plateau and the Segura basin.

CONCLUSIONS

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- We have analyzed projected temperatures and precipitation for the 21st century.
- The frequency of highest values of maximum and minimum temperatures will increase over $21^{\rm st}$ century.
- On the contrary, the lowest values of maximum and minimum temperatures will be less frequent.
- Changes in the return values of maximum and minimum temperature are in agreement with the idea of a global warming, with a desplacement of the probability distributions toward higher values.
- For the precipitation, the dispersion in the projection is higher. The trend depends of the downscaling method.







THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION