



Observation based gridded climate data in Norway – motivations, experiences, challenges, considerations.....

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Precipitation



Days with precipitation



Number of days > p(0.99)



Trends in 1-day precipitation exceeding 10 mm



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Dyrrdal, A.V., Isaksen, K., Hygen, H.O., and Meyer, N.K., 2012: Changes in meteorological variables that can trigger natural hazards in Norway. Climate Research, 55: 153–165









Gridding of observation - aims to

- Provide *climate information* at any location or area of interest
- Provide data at *relevant scales* for various applications and purposes:
 - Hydrology
 - Agriculture and forestry

← Design values

eorological

- Infrastructure (roads, railways, electricity grids, municipalities)
- Dam safety
- Energy
- Tourism
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- Provide a observation basis for *understanding* and *adapting* to *climate change*
- "Truth" for calibrating post-processing (bias adjustment) of RCM / Dyn.Downscaling of climate projection data.

Gridded observation data sets at Met Norway.

- Monthly, seasonal and annual data
 - Period: 1900-present
 - Variables: Temperature, Precipitation
 - Methods: Spline interpolation of monthly anomalies.
 - Derived products: Degree day grids.
- Daily values (two parallel datasets)
 - Period: 1957 present
 - Variables: Temperature, Precipitation, Wind (in development)
 - Methods:
 - Ver.1: Residual Kriging (temperature), Triangulation with terrain dependence (precipitation)
 - Ver. 2: Bayesian spatial optimum interpolation (under operationalization)
 - Wind: Downcaling/post-processing of Hindcast data applying analogues from high res NWPmodel and smart neighbour weighting

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- Datasets covering Fennoscandia based on both ver.1 and 2 are in progress as a part of the FP7 UERRA project.
- Hourly values
 - Period: 2010-present
 - Variables: Temperature and precipitation
 - Bayesian spatial optimum interpolation (under operationalization)
- Spatial resolution: 1x1 km
- Access: Open data

What makes observation gridding challenging?

- Resolution
 - Spatial sampling problem.
 - Temporal signal to noise ratio.
- Observation density and representativity
 - Networks are
 - Sparse
 - Biased
 - Elevation zones
 - Environment/Land Use: Are the environments of the observation stations representative for all types of environments? (Open field vs. forests or cities?)
- Statistical assumption vs physical processes
 - Assume stationarity (2.order spatial ...)
 - Assume isotropy



Elevation

Standard deviation of terrain

~10 km influence area



The distribution of elevation



Elevation

The distribution of elevation



Elevation

The distribution of elevation & temperature stations



Elevation

The distribution of elevation & temperature stations



Elevation



Gridding challenges (i)

- Observation gridding is basically based on statistical relations
 - Quality depends on station density and representativity of the station network.



• The choice of external predictor should be based on a good understanding of the physical processes of the predictand (on a local scale).

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Spatial covariance!

$$\hat{\gamma}(h) = \frac{1}{2N(h)} \sum_{(j,i)h_{ij} \in N(h)}^{n} \left| x_i - x_j \right|^2$$

Spatial covariance Long term monthly mean (normal)



Spatial covariance Monthly mean



Spatial covariance Daily mean





Distances – Euclidean?





Concept

□Include e.g. elevation in the distance function \rightarrow 3D distance.

 \square \rightarrow Put stations at same (elevation) level closer to each other.

 \Box Include a elevation coefficient; k_z

U Weight the impact of elevation differences

□ May vary in time and space

$$h = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (k_z \cdot z)^2}$$

□ Different k's are applied (λ 's in examples from Switzerland) based on a priori first guess choices and a c-v selection of the best fit. (OI approach).

Could be further extended to include anisotropy and more location dependent parameters:

$$h = \sqrt{ax^2 + by^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n (\kappa_i \mathbf{Z}_i)^2}$$



Non-Eucledian Spatial Representativity

Distance from Visp in km (valley-floor)



Distance from Pilatus in km (mountain peak)



Courtesy of Christoph Frei (Frei 2014 (Int. J. Climatol.))

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Operational observation gridding in Norway

Daily mean temperature 16.March 2015



Klimagrid 1.1

0 - 0.5 0.6 - 1 1.1 - 5 5.1 - 10 10.1 - 20 20.1 - 50 50.1 - 75 75.1 - 100 100.1 - 125 125.1 - 150 150.1 - 200 Temperature and precipitation

- Period: 01.01.1957 present
- Resolution: 1x1 km
- Cover mainland Norway.



Klimagrid v1.1 Temperature

 $\hat{t}(u_0) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i t(u_i) + \{\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \beta_1(u_0) + \alpha_2 \beta_2(u_0) + \dots + \alpha_m \beta_m(u_0)\}$

Residual interpolation:

Kriging (or any spatial interpolation method)

External trend/drift (linear regression)

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Predictor fields:











NGCD.RK @ MET Norway – TEMP1d - Evaluation



Klimagrid v 2.0

- **Replace** the current Klimagrid1.1 (SeNorge1.1)
- **seNorge:** gridded datasets; Norwegian mainland +parts of Sweden and Finland; 1Km resolution
- *source:* Observations from MET Norway Climate database (manual + automatic weather station data)
- Precipitation 1h (RR_1)
- Precipitation 3h (based on hourly observations)
- Temperature hourly (TA)
- Precipitation daily (RR)
- Temperature daily mean (TAM)

Periods:

Hourly datasets 2010.01.01 onwards (hourly updated) Daily datasets 1957.01.01 onwards (updated daily)





Klimagrid 2.0 TEMP1d: OI

Large(coarser) scale trend estimation



Spatial Interpolation: Small Scale. Correlation functions are defined a priori in the Optimal Interpolation scheme 10380 - RØROS LUFTHAVN (625 mMSL). Dhor= 50 Km Dvert= 250 m Station-gridpoint correlations (spatial representation) JTM North [m 0.8-0.9 0.9-1.0 250000 200000 300000 350000 400000 Different weights for vertical and horizontal distances.

OI introduces the Local(finer) scale

Old method





New method reduce estimation error.

(RMSE, independent cross-validation)



Precipitation gridding

- Non-continuous, in time and space
- Skew distribution, with lower boundary.
- A two-step procedure normally applied:



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- Define areas with precipitation (above a certain threshold) → indicator interpolation.
- Define precipitation amounts in those grid cells.

Precipitation v1.1

- Triangulation.
- Includes elevation dependence.
- Correction for wind-loss.







Precip v.2.0 - procedure

- Identification of Events
 - Precipitation yes/no distinction (gridpoints)
 - Contiguous Precipitation Areas (CPAs) identification and labeling
- Iterative loop over Events
 - Multiscale Optimal Interpolation
 - Event coarser scale



Event finer scale

At coarser spatial scales. precipitation events have a less complex (*smoother*) representation. information Prec Intensity strong At finer spatial scales, the measured precipitation shows a greater variability. weak

Multiscale modified Ol







2014.7.7 6 UTC (+24h) TOTAL PRECIPITATION AMOUNT





Final result



Multiscale modified Ol



Spatial Interpolation Method based on Multi-scale Optimal Interpolation (Prec)

Step 0: Identification of Precipitation Events (Observed Areas of Precipitation) (given the Station distribution)











The importance of Station density

150 stations, 1h precipitation, (Figure shows 24h Prec) 525 stations, daily precipitation



Meteorological

Convective rainstorm in Norway (7.July 2014)

(No rain)
[60, >mm
[50, 60> mm

[40, 50> mm
[30, 40> mm
[20, 30> mm
[15, 20> mm
[10, 15> mm
[7, 10> mm
[3, 7> mm
[0, 5, 3> mm

10.05, 0.5> mm

Radar





Gridding challenges

- Daily
- Hourly
 - Sub-hourly needed for city planning
- Combine datasources
 - In-situ observations
 - Radar
 - Satellite data
 - Model fields (NWP, RA)
- Ensemble gridding/Uncertainty assessment
 - Conditional stochastic simulations
 - Bayesian statistical analysis (OI) in «an ensemble» mode
 - Analogue techniques
 - Atm. circulation as conditional input?'
 - Observations itself set the conditions?



Atmospheric circulation & precipitation





Precipitation distribution depends on the circulation, and small changes in the atm. circulation will have large impact on the precipitation patterns.

Weather types/circulation indices can therefore be used to give conditional parameterisation of spatial interpolation algorithms of precipitation as well as temperature and other climatic elements.





Gridded climate indicators



Gridded climate indicators

- Climate indicators are condensed climate information to meet specific user demands.
- Degree days and degree day sums
 - Growing
 - Heating

Nr of days or aggregated sums above/under given thresholds.

- Seasons
- Presented as maps, or as point or area averaged time series.







Growing season, length



Growing degreedays in Oslo-Blindern 1961-2012



Change of the growing season, HadA21961-1990 $GDD = \sum (TAM - 5) | TAM > 5^{\circ}C$ 2071-2100













Days > 20°C, Western Norway







2071-2100



Shorter winters!

• Norwegian less dominant in cross-country skiing?

- We will still have areas with winter conditions though.....



Gridding challenges/conclusions

High resolution timeseries are more «noisy» than long-term data series \rightarrow spatial covariance is lower (estimates are more uncertain) and the «signal» is weaker.

Physical consistency between elements (precip, temperature) will not be retained. That's also an issue with atmospheric models that include parametrizations

For long-term data with «low» (daily, monthly....) resolution observation gridding provide useful and precise information. For historical dataseries (> 50 years) it is probably the best (only) reference.

Future?

- NWP, RCM and RRA models are «chasing» the spatial resolution of observation gridding.
 - Provide more physical consistent data
 - Wind, humidity, ... in complex terrain
 - Spatial scale is an issue. 4-5 x the resolution.
- The gap between observation gridding and atmospheric model approaches for providing climatological data are ready be closed.
 - Apply gridding concepts in post processing of NWP/RA
 - Apply NWP/RA fields as first guess
 - Gridded observations needed for independent validation and bias adjustments of physical atmospheric models
- Apply radar and satellite data.
- (How to) Apply soft information (and "citizen" data)?
 - Lower quality, higher density,
 - complementary data, in addition (and not instead of) regular observations.
 - How to utilize "less reliable" (fuzzy) information



Access to data & algorithms

Openess!!!

- Open source software and algorithms
 - R
 - GitHub
- Open access data
 - MET Norway have a open data policy since 2007.
 - Europe is opening up...
- Stimulate partnerships & cooperations



Thank you

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Meteorologisk institutt *150 år*