



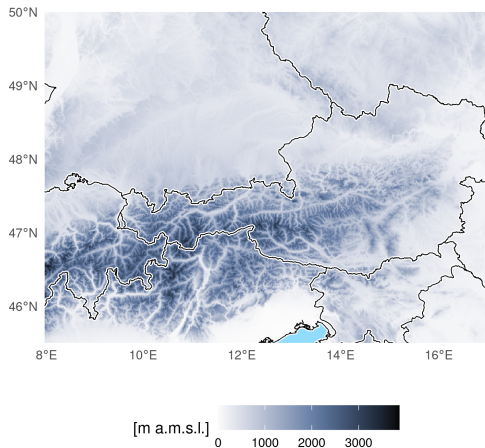
Amplification of annual and diurnal cycles of Alpine lightning

Reconstruction of lightning in the Eastern Alps for the past four decades

T. Simon, G.J. Mayr, D. Morgenstern, N. Umlauf, A. Zeileis

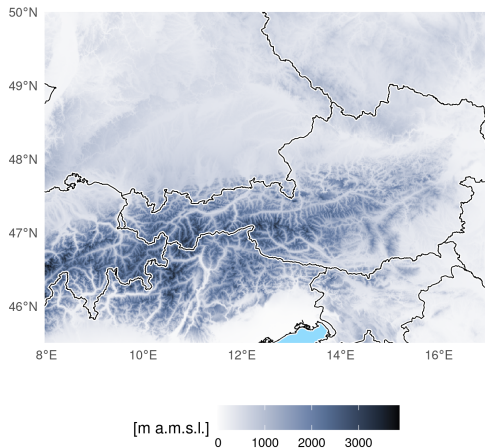
Thorsten.Simon@uibk.ac.at

Historic evolution of lightning in the Eastern Alps?



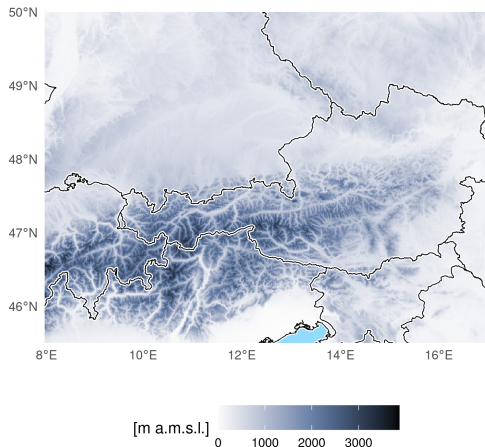
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Historic evolution of lightning in the Eastern Alps?



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Historic evolution of lightning in the Eastern Alps?



- Homogeneously detected lightning does not span multiple decades.
- Reanalyses do not resolve lightning, but proxies give guidance.
- Lightning is affected at various temporal and spatial scales from **micro physics to synoptics**, including **interactions with complex terrain**.

Reconstruction method

1979

2010

2019



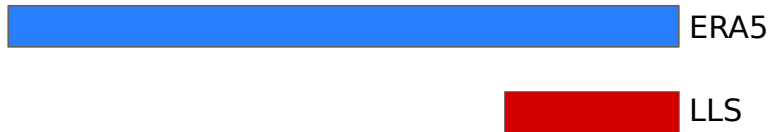
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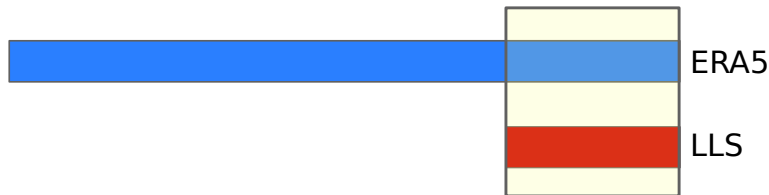
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ML Training



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- Atmospheric reanalysis (ERA5)
- Machine learning (ML), here a generalized additive model

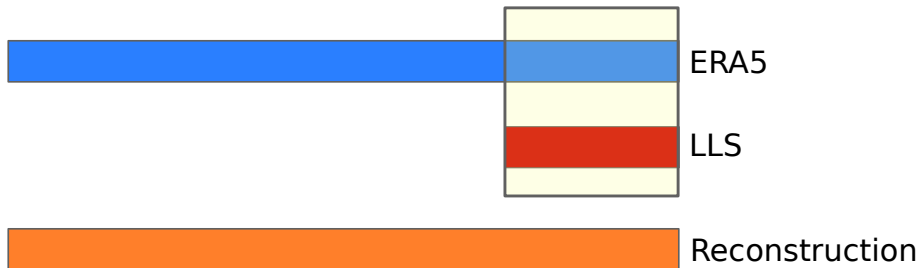
Reconstruction method

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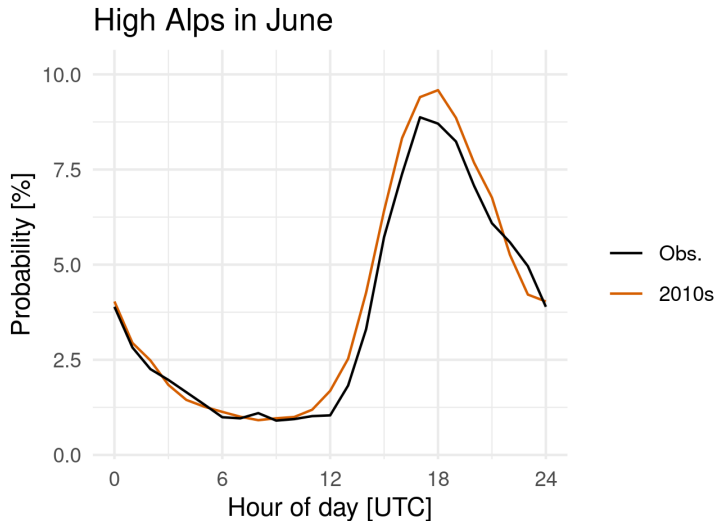
2019

ML Training

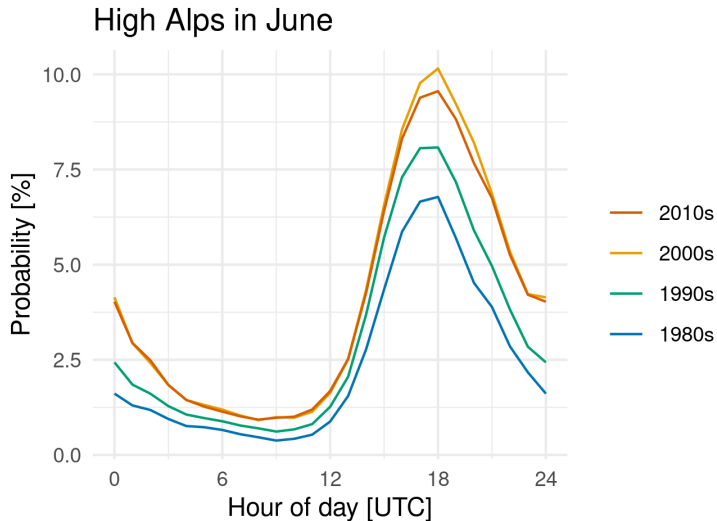


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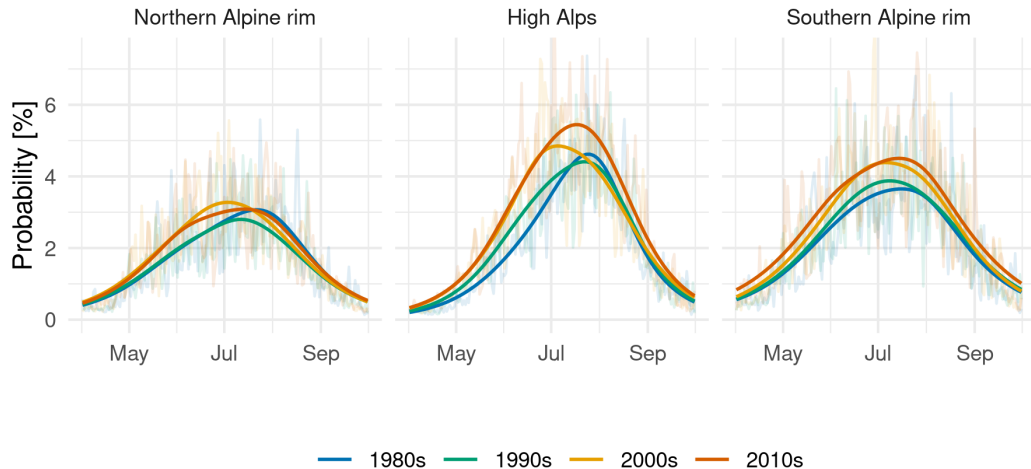
Validation of diurnal cycles



Reconstructed diurnal cycles




Reconstructed annual cycles



Conclusions


- Using homogeneously detected lightning, hourly reanalyses and machine learning it is possible to reconstruct lightning in the Alps down to its seasonal and diurnal variations.

 Simon, T., et al. (2022) *Amplification of Annual and Diurnal Cycles of Alpine Lightning*.
PREPRINT: doi:10.21203/rs.3.rs-965951/v1.

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- Over the southern Alpine rim we see an increase throughout the season.

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Conclusions

- Using homogeneously detected lightning, hourly reanalyses and machine learning it is possible to reconstruct lightning in the Alps down to its seasonal and diurnal variations.
- Over the southern Alpine rim we see an increase throughout the season.
- In spring in the high Alps lightning activity has doubled.

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