250 years of daily weather

a reconstruction of temperature and precipitation in Switzerland since the late 18th century

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¹Oeschger Center for Climate Change Research, University of Bern

²Institute of Geography, University of Bern



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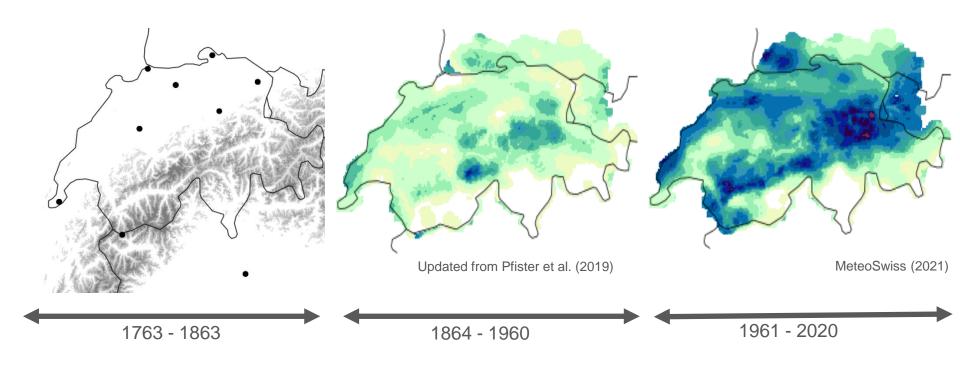


250 years of daily weather

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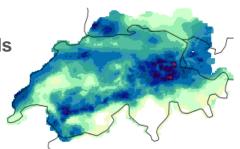
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a reconstruction of temperature and precipitation in Switzerland since the late 18th century



1. Daily temperature and precipitation fields

Covering the reference period 1961 - 2020 1km x 1km, Meteoswiss



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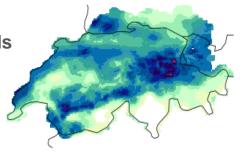
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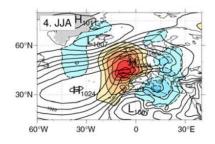
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Covering the reference period 1961 - 2020 1km x 1km, Meteoswiss

2. Daily weather types

1763 – 2009, Schwander et al. 2017







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1. Daily temperature and precipitation fields

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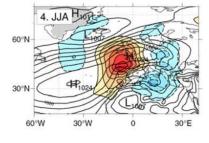
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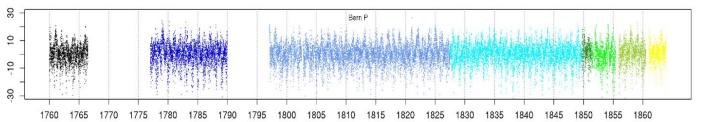
1763 – 2009, Schwander et al. 2017

3. Station data

Reference: 1961 – 2020 ECAD, Meteoswiss

Historical: 1763 – 1863 CHIMES, PALAEO-RA, Improve





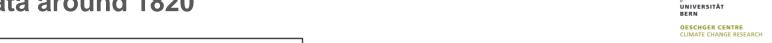
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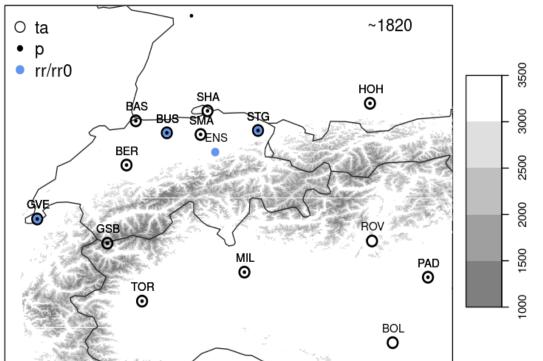
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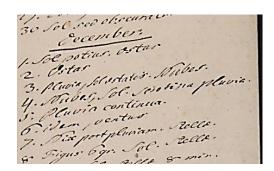
Station data around 1820





METE OROLOGISCHE BEOBACHTUNGEN de durch die naturwessenschaftliche Gesellschuft in Hallen (Höhe über der Meere				
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Measurements and weather notes, St. Gallen



Weather notes, Einsiedeln



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Method Data

Evaluation

Case Study

1. Date preparation

2. Analog Resampling

3. Improvement

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Reference station data

- Gap filling
- Homogenization
- Detrending
- Climate offset

. . .

Historical station data

- Daily means estimation
- Homogenization

. . . .

Temperature grids

Climate offset

Data

- Detrending

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^b Universität Bern

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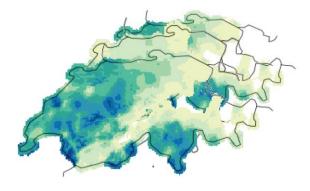
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Temperature grids

- Climate offset
- Detrending

Best 50 analog days for a day in the past based on the smallest Gower distance

$$D_{Gower}(x_1, x_2) = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{p} \sum_{j=1}^{p} s_j(x_1, x_2)\right)$$



Preconditions: same weather type | same season

1. Date preparation

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3. Improvement

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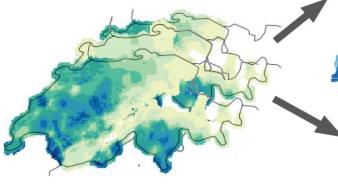
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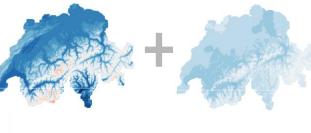


Preconditions: same weather type | same season

Temperature

Ensemble Kalman Fitting

$$\overline{x}^a = \overline{x}^b + \mathbf{K} (y - H\overline{x}^b)$$



Precipitation

Quantile mapping
> fitted in reference period and applied to historical period

$$\boldsymbol{P}_{\mathrm{o}} = h(\boldsymbol{P}_{\mathrm{m}})$$

Data

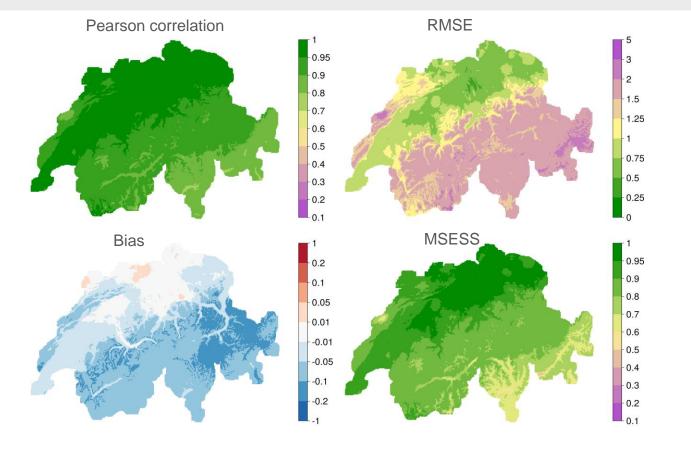
Method

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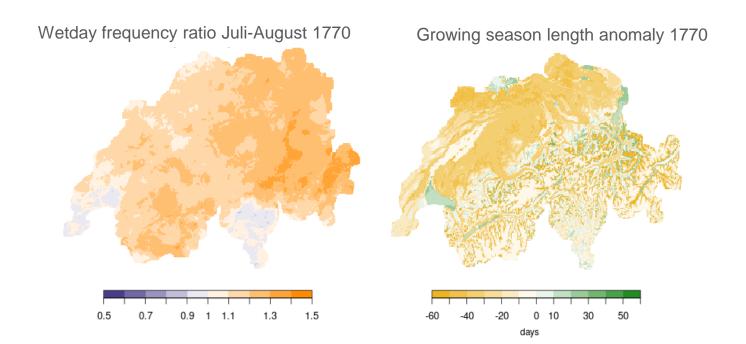




The double catastrophy 1769 - 1772

»dass sich hie und da Gletscher ansezen möchten«

...Lake Zurich reached a catastrophic level... (Collet, 2019)



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