



Building a Climate indices dataset for climate change impacts assessment

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Climate data distribution



 Climate data is distributed using the Earth System Grid Federation (ESGF)



ESGF represents a multinational effort to securely access, monitor, catalog, transport, and distribute reference data for climate research experiments and observations.

14/11/2022

- Data Nodes interface is not straightforward to use for non-expert users
- Available variables are "raw" output from climate models: temperature, humidity, precipitation, ...
- Daily, monthly, ... frequencies



Gap between Users needs and available data





- Often significant gaps between distributed datasets and users' needs:
 - Assessing climate change anomalies
 - Evaluating climate extremes
 - Understanding climate change impacts

• Users' Stories examples

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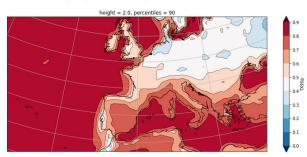
- In the future climate compared to now - Will there be more droughts in northeast Spain?
- How likely landslides will occur in this mountainous valley?
- Which region in my Europe will see the greatest change in heatwave intensity and occurrence?

What is a climate index



- A Climate Index is derived from basic climate variables such as temperature, humidity, precipitation, wind, ...
 - Warm days (days with mean temperature > 90th percentile of daily mean temperature) - TG90p
 - Summer days (days with max temperature $\geq 25 \text{ °C}$) SU

 Most of Climate Indices are standardized within the international community
 – ETCCDI, ECA&D, ET–SCI, ...



Percentage of days when Tmax > 90th percentil Period 2081-2100 Reference 1981-2000 TX90P

What is a climate index



Mediterranean summer extremes 2021

Many parts of the Mediterranean were hit by an **intense and long-lasting heatwave** in July and August 2021.

A provisional temperature record for Europe, of **48.8°C**, was set in **Sicily**. A provisional national record was set in **Southern Spain**.

In parts of Italy, Greece and Turkey, the **heatwave** lasted for as long as **two to three weeks**.

Italy, Greece and the Balkans experienced significant droughts throughout the summer.

Parts of Italy, Spain, Greece and the Balkans experienced '**very strong heat stress**' during the summer months.

The hot and dry conditions were conducive to **numerous large wildfires,** particularly in Italy, Greece and Turkey.

The total area burnt during July and August exceeded **800,000** hectares.



s-enes











PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION







icclim: a flexible tool, but still

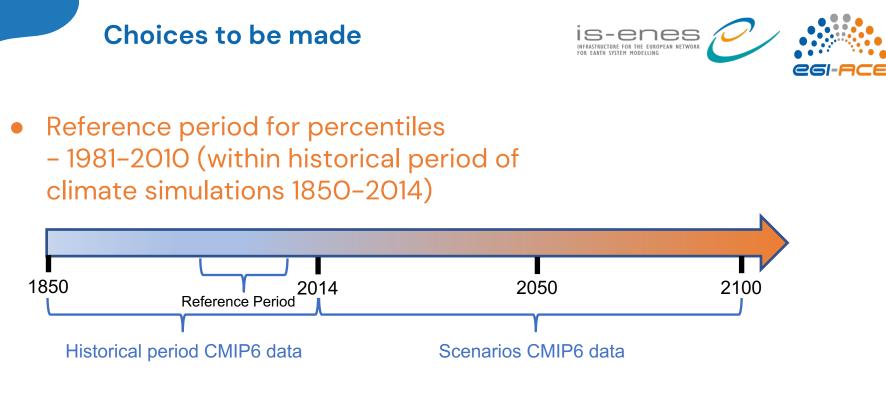


- Tool: **icclim**, an open source python software package to calculate climate indices
- Simple and flexible API and interface, fast processing
- Difficult for users to process a sufficient numbers of climate projections to calculate those climate indices
 - Assess Uncertainties
 - Explore several Greenhouse Gas Emission Scenarios
 - Impossibility to download all required input data
 - Even with all data available, very time consuming and complex to calculate all what's needed



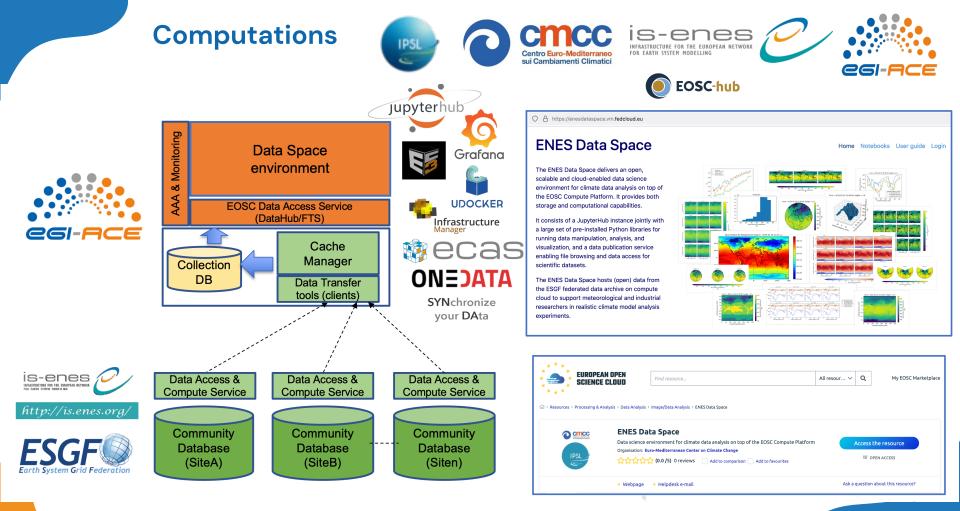


- Pre-generate 50 standard climate indices
 CMIP6 (most common experiments used)
 - +ERA5
 - +CORDEX
 - +CMIP5...
- Core set of simulations
 - All: climate models, greenhouse gas scenarios (aka SSPs...), ensemble members, versions
 - Daily time frequency



Standard thresholds of standard indices

 Example: Summer day is a day with
 maximum temperature ≥ 25°C



Running on EGI-ACE resources



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- Delays in initial planning
 - Delay in starting the action
 - Several Technical adjustments and Support actions in August (thanks CMCC!)
 - Complex processing script (parsing proper datafiles)
 - September extremely busy (project on hold)
- Current actions
 - Small adjustments to script
 - Not optimized: significant time to aggregate input files as xarray datasets and some pre-processing
 - Calculations in progress

Timeline





- Future actions
 - Validate calculations (end of 2022 beginning of 2023)
 - Decide on where to store database permanently
 - NetCDF, zarr, Commercial and Public Clouds, ...
 - Make it accessible within the IS-ENES C4I platform
 - Use database to support Horizon Europe interTwin project
 - Disseminate information about this climate indices database
- Possible extensions
 - ERA5, and other re-analyses
 - CORDEX
 - CMIP5
 - CMIP7, Future CORDEX...