EMS7/ECAM8 Abstracts, Vol. 4, EMS2007-A-00580, 2007 7th EMS Annual Meeting / 8th ECAM © Author(s) 2007



Drawing monthly temperature maps in complex orography: preparation, challenges and results

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Digital mapping of climatological variables can be quite challenging in the presence of the complex orography like in Croatia. Especially demanding has been choosing the right predictors and the model for the kriging of the residuals for the average January temperature. Almost two independent data sets with distinct statistical properties have been recognized: one for the continental part of the country and the other for the maritime one. High and relatively narrow Dinaric ridge that separates the two, where the data are not very numerous, also has been difficult to model. Different approaches have been tested in order to produce as precise map as possible.