

Interactive comment on “Spatial distribution of the daily precipitation concentration index in Algeria” by B. Boucherf et al.

B. Boucherf et al.

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We agree and have made corrections you asked. Thank you for your help.

Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 2, 2709, 2014.

C2509

Interactive comment on “Spatial distribution of the daily precipitation concentration index in Algeria” by B. Boucherf et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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The entitled paper “Spatial distribution of the daily precipitation concentration index in Algeria” presents a spatial analysis of precipitation based on the daily precipitation concentration index over western Mediterranean. The topic is very interesting, the methodology is coherent but the manuscript requires substantial revisions towards paper improvement and clarifications before publication. I suggest the publication of the manuscript after a Major Revision.

GENERAL COMMENTS Suggested modifications:

The manuscript should be restructured as follows: 1) Introduction, 2) Area of Interest (or Study Area), 3) Data and methodology, 4) Results and discussion and finally the section of Conclusions.

C2194

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2, C2194–C2197, 2014

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Discussion Paper



Fig. 1.

C2510

SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE DAILY PRECIPITATION
CONCENTRATION INDEX IN ALGERIA

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Abstract. In this paper, the spatial and temporal distribution of the daily precipitation Concentration Index (CI) in Algeria (South Mediterranean Sea) has been assessed. CI is an index related to the rainfall intensity and erosive capacity; therefore, this index has great interest for studies on torrential rainfall and floods. Forty-two daily rainfall series based on high quality and fairly regular rainfall records for the period from 1970 to 2008 were used. The daily precipitation concentration index results allowed identifying three climatic zones: the northern country, characterized by coastal regions with CI values between 0.59 and 0.63, the highlands, with values between 0.57 and 0.62, except for the region of Biskra (CI= 0.70), and the southern region of the country, with high rainfall concentrations, with values between 0.62 and 0.69.

Keywords: Concentration Index, daily precipitation, Mediterranean Sea, Algeria.

1. Introduction

The rainfall analysis with daily resolution in Algeria is a subject of great interest. This type of analysis is justified by the existence of severe environmental hazards, such as floods and soil instability, in the Mediterranean, resulting from the high percentages of annual total precipitation falling in a limited number of very rainy days. Thus, the area presents long periods of drought (Martin-Vide, 1994) and irregular temporal rainfall distribution in large areas of the western Mediterranean (Cortesi et al. 2012).

The interest is not only focused on climate, but also on the effect of heavy rainfalls on other areas of the environment and society. However, the importance of daily precipitation has not been sufficiently studied. Only a few papers on the statistical structure of precipitation with daily resolution have been published. For example, the study of the Mediterranean basin (De Luis et al. 1996, 1997, Martin-Vide, 2004; Sánchez Lorenzo and Martin-Vide, 2006; Benhamrouche and Martin-Vide, 2011, 2012;

Fig. 2.

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