

Responses to anonymous referee 2 of “Hailstones across the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Area” by Rasuly, Cheung and McBurney (NHESS-2014-170)

General comments

Thank you for the general comment that our study is a good addition to the literature, and is valuable for emergency management in the New South Wales. We have revised the manuscript according to the minor revisions suggested by the reviewer.

Specific comments

Abstract

- 1) Page 1: The comma has been deleted and the associated sentence grammar has been corrected.
- 2) Page 1: The 3rd paragraph has been improved for clarity.

Introduction

- 1) Page 3: The 1st paragraph has been improved for clarity.
- 2) Page 4: The Tornado and Storm Research Organization is abbreviated as "TORRO".
- 3) Page 4: In the 1st paragraph “Hannay and Wilson, 1954” has been corrected to “1994”.

Climatic characteristics

- 1) Figures 1 and 2 have been combined as Figure 1.
- 2) Page 5: In 1st paragraph the 1st sentence has been rewritten as: "The GMSTWA is located on the southeastern coast of NSW in the vicinity of the Tasman Sea. It includes the Sydney metropolitan area, which is expanding rapidly inland and contains highly industrialized pockets".
- 3) Page 5: The last two sentences in 1st paragraph, with overlap information, have been shortened.
- 4) Page 6: In the 1st paragraph the last sentence has been combined to the next paragraph.
- 5) Page 6: In the 2nd paragraph the last sentence has been deleted.

Data and methodology

- 1) Page 8: In the 2nd paragraph the last sentence with literal concept has been revised.
- 2) Page 8: In the 3rd paragraph the first sentence with a grammar error has been corrected.

Results

- 1) The result section some overlapped information have been improved as follow:
- 2) Table 3 has been removed from the manuscript.
- 3) The expression of time has been changed to be consistent throughout the text.
- 4) In Figure 4(d) caption has been changed to 18-24 h.
- 5) Page 11: It has been corrected to “Fig. 5”.
- 6) Page 11: Figures 6 and 8 have been combined and the last two paragraphs rewritten.
- 7) Page 12: The 2nd paragraph has been edited.
- 8) Page 12: In the 2nd paragraph the last sentence has been rewritten.
- 9) Figure 8 has been removed.
- 10) Table 4 has been removed.
- 11) Page 13: The first paragraph has been reviewed and edited.
- 12) Page 13: The 2nd paragraph has been rewritten to make the text clear.
- 13) The definition of hail events and associated (hail) days have been clarified in the related text.

14) Page 13: It was usually considered that thunderstorms seem to occur in an independent manner in time and space. As the results of this study and other researchers indicated, thunderstorm events are typically strongly skewed in space occasionally with extremely intense localized events.

15) Page 14: The referral to wet and dry years has been removed.

16) In Figure 11(b) (now Fig 10b): the definition of “area-average” has been made explicit.

17) Page 14: The 2nd paragraph has been rewritten to indicate which parts of the study area comparably received more or less hail events during time.

Discussion

1) Page 17: In 1st paragraph, this is a plausible suggestion based on the spatial distribution of hail events in the study area rather than a conclusion. This has been made clear in the text.