

Interactive comment on “The observed clustering of damaging extra-tropical cyclones in Europe” by S. Cusack

Anonymous Referee #2

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The paper “The observed clustering of damaging extra-tropical cyclones in Europe” by S. Cusack investigates the clustering of severe extra-tropical cyclones in European area from the perspective of the reinsurance companies. Eight cyclone datasets (six of them longer than 100 years) were gathered and quality controlled to reduce the large uncertainties usually related to such long-term analysis. The paper is fairly well written, and reaches conclusion of some use for insurance companies. I think it should be published on NHESS.

However, I suggest to improve some part of the manuscript, increasing the clarity of the presentation.

First, I suggest spending few lines to explain what is the meaning of “clustering” (i.e. to state in which space the clustering is made).

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At the beginning of page 9 it is said that “Beta” has different meanings in science and it is replaced with “Clustering Coefficient”, but I think the use of CC is even more confusing, because it is widely used as Correlation Coefficient. Please, consider to use the original Beta.

On page 12, how are defined southern and northern Countries? Which Countries are considered? Please, explain the legend in figures 6: what are BE, SE and NO? Probably it could be more precise to separate the dataset EU-RMS-42 on latitude basis and not on Country basis. Would also be interesting to see where are distributed the stations of EU-RMS-42, as is done for DE-DWD-60 dataset in figure 2.

Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 3, 7457, 2015.