Reply to Reviewer 2   10th March 2016

I thank Reviewer number 2 for supplying comments that improve the content of this manuscript. More specific replies to all comments are now given.

1. 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).

The revised manuscript has five lines inserted at the start of the Introduction to introduce temporal clustering of windstorms.

2. 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 is used as Correlation Coefficient. Please, consider to use the original Beta.

The revised manuscript uses Beta throughout.

3. On page 12, how are defined southern and northern Countries? Which Countries are considered?

The revised text explains how northern and southern are defined relative to the European area shown in the new Figure 5. Also, the considered countries are now named more clearly in the figures referred to in the text (see point 4 below).

4. Please, explain the legend in figures 6: what are BE, SE and NO?

The figures in the revised manuscript have legends containing the full names of countries.

5. 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, at is one for DE-DWD-60 dataset in figure 2.

The seven long datasets contain information on national scales only. The EU-RMS-42 is plotted on a national basis to enable comparison of different datasets, and to provide some measure of observational error from independent datasets. A new Figure 5 has been inserted into the revised manuscript and shows the locations of weather stations in EU-RMS-42 dataset.