

Report of the 10th EMS Annual Meeting and 8th European Conference on Applied Climatology (ECAC)

First and foremost, I would like to thank the European Meteorological Society and the Swiss Meteorological Society for granting me a « Young Scientist Travel Award ».

I attended the EMS annual meeting/8th European conference on applied climatology in September 2010 in Zürich. I gave an oral presentation during UC2 session (« climate modelling, climate prediction and scenarios from seasons to century »). This presentation dealt with « Seasonal potential predictability of the Arctic sea-ice in the ENSEMBLES simulations ». As I am working on polar climate and climate/sea-ice interactions, the scope of my work seemed to be slightly distant from the conference's main topics. However, I significantly benefit from the EMS conference. Global climate is a complex system, and such a conference is a good opportunity to get a broader view, and then go back with new ideas.

I attended several « UC » sessions. Presentations on seasonal predictions (UC2) are going to be very useful to me, even if sea-ice and polar regions were not much addressed during the conference. Techniques that were presented gave me ideas, especially on the way to quantify and qualify predictability. Sessions on climate change assessments of trends, variability and extremes were also interesting, especially dealing with impacts of observed changes on human activities (tourism, transport, housing...). I was glad to attend keynote lectures and panel discussion on « communication on Climate change ». As I am working on climate variability, I am increasingly solicited on climate change issues, and I will bear in mind some points from these exciting presentations.

I also discovered the ongoing discussion on climate services, starting with Dr Jarraud's (WMO General Secretary) lecture during the opening ceremony. As I am working for Météo-France, which is the French weather and climate service, I really felt concerned by issues on climate services. Thus, attending session « Climate services : user tailored custom made applications » was exciting. I especially liked unusual presentations like « Crossing the river » (EMS2010-222). This participative exercise gives an interesting insight into the various ways people (e.g. policymakers) may understand uncertainties based on probabilistic information (e.g. climate projections).

Finally, I also attended sessions on hydrology, synoptic climatology, and energy meteorology. I was interested in the work done by energy companies on seasonal predictions to optimize their power supply, also on how they care in adapting design criteria of their facilities using climate projections. I used to work as a metocean specialist for an energy company, and was aware of such issues. This is a typical example of the crucial need for a tailored climate information, that must be provided by climate services. I wish I could attend more sessions, especially on agrometeorology, but I often had to make a choice.

Attending the EMS/ECAC conference gave me the opportunity to present some highlights of my work, to meet people from various fields of research, to exchange on various climate issues, to broaden my knowledge on climate science, to learn more on the global framework on climate services and to get more aware of the issues of communication on climate change.

Matthieu CHEVALLIER

EMS2010-79 : *Seasonal potential predictability of the Arctic sea-ice in ENSEMBLES simulations.*

Météo France - CNRM

42, avenue Gaspard Coriolis, 31057 TOULOUSE Cedex, FRANCE

Tel: +33 (0)5 61 07 98 61

Mail: matthieu.chevallier@meteo.fr