

9th European Conference on Severe Storms - ECSS 2017

18-22 September 2017, Pula (Croatia)

I would like to start this report being extremely grateful to the Award Committee of the European Meteorological Society (EMS) for awarding me with the Young Scientist Travel Award (YSTA) for attending the 9th European Conference on Severe Storms this September. It is an honour to receive this award, considering the high number and high level of the applicants. I am very thankful and it is undoubtedly a milestone to highlight in my starting career as a researcher. The YSTA has allowed me to attend the 9th ECSS to achieve new skills in the field of science that encloses my doctoral thesis: severe weather, anomalous motion of thunderstorms, radar studies of convective precipitation, societal impacts and early warning systems. I have had the opportunity to go into the studies of severe weather from all perspectives, and to know the latest advances that the scientific community has developed in recent years. These advances are of vital importance when it comes to understanding and monitoring severe weather phenomena that are becoming more and more often in this changing climate, to educate the population in the way it faces them and to help prevent its consequences.

My thesis focuses on improving the knowledge of the life cycle of storms with anomalous movement, which often causes severe weather in Catalonia (NE of Spain) producing high economic and human damages. During the 9th ECSS I have presented the advances in the 3D identification method and tracking of this type of storms in Catalonia, which allows in advance the prediction of this type of movements (splitting and merging, for instance) and their related phenomena.

During my poster presentation, I had the opportunity to speak with scientists from different international weather centres who showed me their techniques and personal experiences in facing this challenging field, expanding the circle of contacts and possible future collaborations. It had also allowed me to meet up with scientists with whom I had just mailed so far to discuss ideas, techniques and challenges that I will undertake during my last year of thesis.

Finally, the prize allowed me to attend a seminar taught by the ESSL and Dr. Charles Doswell III, world-renowned for his career in severe weather research and especially Supercells," the mother of all of the storms!". The seminar was followed by a forecasting practical exercise, with real data and maps, which allowed me to understand more in deep the basic ingredients producing deep moist convection environments, and therefore severe weather. We tried to forecast the historical tornado outbreak of April 27th 2011, and we did it quite well!

I have no doubt that the 9th ECSS has helped me to return home with loaded batteries and the bag full of ideas and contacts that will surely proliferate. I look forward for the 10th ECSS in Krakow.

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