

Interactive comment on “Extreme winds over Europe in the ENSEMBLES regional climate models” by S. D. Outten and I. Esau

S. D. Outten and I. Esau

stephen.outten@nersc.no

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Let me start by thanking you for your comments and by saying I'm pleased you found the work interesting.

- 1) I agree and will include it in the final version.
- 2) This is an excellent point. We do, of course, assume the climate is stationary in the thirty year periods and it should be discussed in the paper. I will add a few sentences regarding this. I think this is a really interesting question that studies of extremes will have to address in the future, especially as the results of the studies are applied by decision makers to real-world situations. Construction of infrastructure for example is based on long-term records at sites close to the location of the construction (e.g.

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records from an airport or light house). Engineers have therefore always assumed that the climate is stationary and they derive their statistics from 50-100 year records. Previously, this may have been a very good assumption, if for example the natural variations were small and there was no other forcing of change. In the future, and even with construction occurring now, there may be a need for the engineers to change the way they work since records of past climate may not provide suitable statistics for future constructions. This raises interesting questions regarding what statistical approaches will be used in the future and, less interestingly but perhaps more importantly, who will take responsibility for ensuring the validity of these methods.

- 3) I agree that discussing the results of the study with respect to these papers would be quite useful and I will include a discussion in the final version. I have already included one of these papers in a newer draft of the paper, but it will be rewritten again for the final draft.

- 4) Figure 2 is supposed to be a full page in size as it was when it was uploaded. I'll discuss this with the copy editor and if necessary re-plot the image as required to ensure that it is the correct size in the final version.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 13, 1179, 2013.

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