

# Identifying coherent homogeneous regions for extreme rainfall.

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LABORATOIRE  
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MATHÉMATIQUES APPLIQUÉES - INFORMATIQUE

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# (Flash) flood

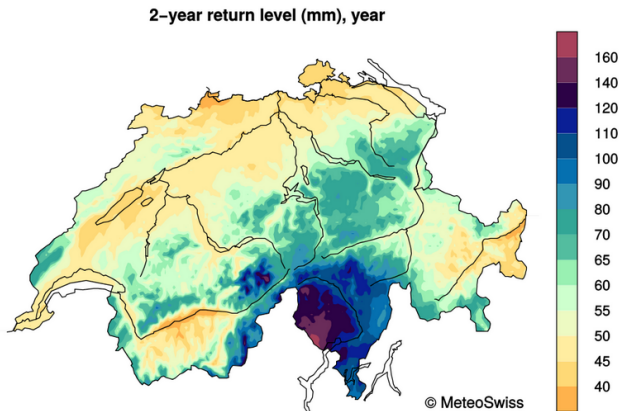
- More common natural disaster
- Caused by heavy precipitation (extreme rainfall)



Flood in SW of France

Ex : Maximum observed 412mm/day vs 900mm/year in Grenoble

# Defining coherent regions for extreme rainfall

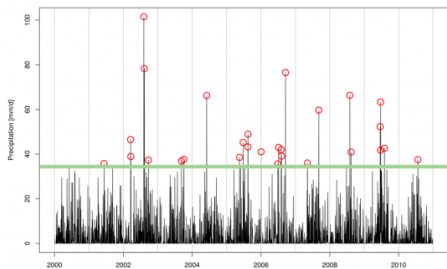
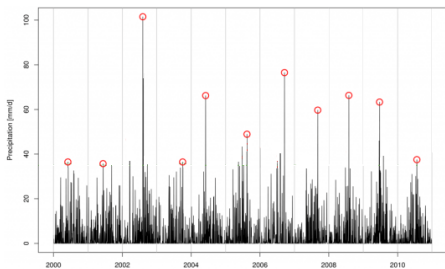


What about longer return period ?

# Regional Frequency Analysis Hosking et al. [1985]

**Goal:** Estimating **return levels** of unobserved events.

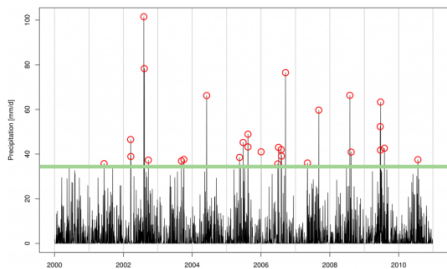
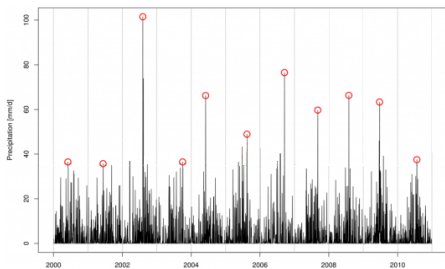
Two approaches: **GEV**( $\mu, \sigma, \xi$ ) (maxima) or **GPD**( $\sigma, \xi$ ) (threshold)



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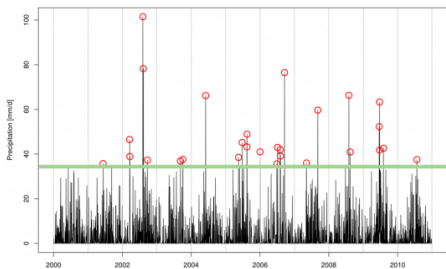
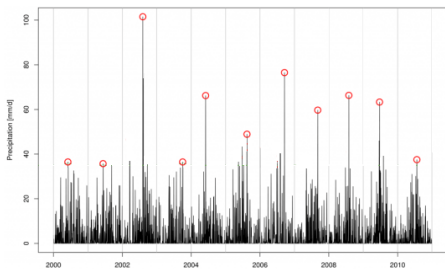


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**Problems:** Asymptotic distributions + lack of information

**Solution:** Regional Frequency Analysis (**RFA**)

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- 4 Application to Switzerland



# RFA: What's that ?

**Hypothesis:** Region is **homogeneous** iff

$$Y_i = \sigma_i Y, \quad \sigma_i \geq 0$$

e.g  $Y \sim GEV, GPD, \dots$

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**Methods available:** Region of Influence (**RoI**) vs partitioning.

# Regions of influence (**RoI**) Evin et al. [2016]

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## Remark

*A same station can belong to several Roi.*



# Partitionning into subregions Carreau et al. [2017]

**Principle:** Gathering stations by measured precipitation.

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## Remark

*One region per station with this method.*

# Limits of these approaches

- **RoI**: Choice of the characteristics
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## What's new ?

A threshold-free clustering algorithm.

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  - Threshold-free model
  - Clustering methods
- 4 Application to Switzerland

# Objective

Identifying homogeneous regions for extreme rainfall.

Methode based on :

- **Partitionning** in homogeneous regions
- **Probability Weighted Moments (PWM)**
- Extended model (no block, no threshold) : **EGPD**

# Probability Weighted Moments

## Definition

Let  $X \underset{c.d.f}{\sim} F$ , a random variable. PWM of order  $k$  of  $X$  is defined as

$$\alpha_k := \mathbb{E} [XF(X)^k]$$

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## Theorem (Guillou et al. [2009])

For  $k = 0, 1, 2$ ,

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\alpha}_k - \alpha_k) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \sigma_k^2)$$

where

$$\hat{\alpha}_k := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{i}{n}\right)^k X_{(i)}$$

# A threshold-free model Naveau et al. [2016]

**Goal** : Modeling low, moderate and heavy rainfall intensities (EVT).

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## Theorem

*The precipitation variable  $Y$  can be modeled as*

$$Y = \sigma H_{\xi}^{-1} [G^{-1}(U)], \quad \sigma \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{*}$$

*where  $U \sim \mathcal{U} [0, 1]$ ,  $H_{\xi}^{-1}$  inverse c.d.f of  $GPD(1, \xi)$  and  $G$  a skewed c.d.f.*

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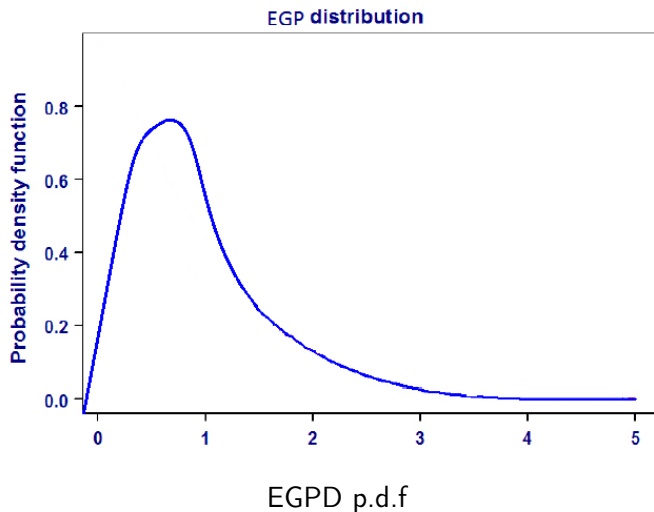
*where  $U \sim \mathcal{U}[0, 1]$ ,  $H_{\xi}^{-1}$  inverse c.d.f of  $GPD(1, \xi)$  and  $G$  a skewed c.d.f.*

## Remark

*For instance,  $G : u \mapsto u^{\kappa}$  suits.*



# EGPD density function



# Describing the tail distribution

Definition (Diebolt et al. [2008])

$$R(X) = \frac{3\alpha_2 - \alpha_0}{2\alpha_1 - \alpha_0}$$

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Theorem (Naveau et al. [2016])

*R(EGPD) only depends on  $\kappa$  and  $\xi$ ,*

$$R(EGPD) = \frac{3B(3\kappa, 1 - \xi) - B(\kappa, 1 - \xi)}{2B(2\kappa, 1 - \xi) - B(\kappa, 1 - \xi)}$$

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- 1 Sampling (all positive precipitation)
- 2 Estimating the at-site PWM  $\rightarrow \alpha_k$

- 3 Estimating the at-site ratio  $R$  of PWM  $\rightarrow \hat{R} = \frac{3\hat{\alpha}_2 - \hat{\alpha}_0}{2\hat{\alpha}_1 - \hat{\alpha}_0}$

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- 1 Sampling (all positive precipitation)
- 2 Estimating the at-site PWM  $\rightarrow \alpha_k$
- 3 Estimating the at-site ratio  $R$  of PWM  $\rightarrow \hat{R} = \frac{3\hat{\alpha}_2 - \hat{\alpha}_0}{2\hat{\alpha}_1 - \hat{\alpha}_0}$
- 4 Clustering the at-site ratio estimations: Hierarchical clustering, K-means or K-medoids



# K-means Du et al. [2006]

# Hierarchical clustering

# Battle of clustering methods

	K-means/medoids	HCA
Drawbacks	Initialisation dependent	Costly
Advantages	Cheap	Initialisation independent

## Remark

*K-medoids ~ with centers belonging to the dataset.*

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  - Clustering on marginal distributions
  - Clustering on pair-dependence

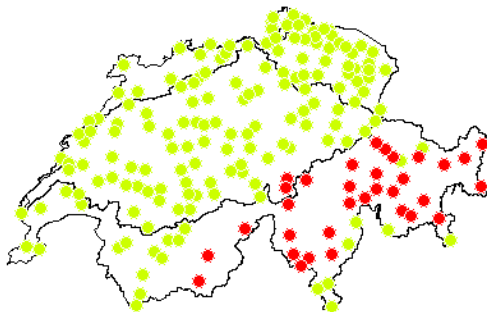
# Application to Switzerland

**Dataset:** Daily rainfall, 85 years.



Weather stations in Switzerland

# Application to Switzerland



Clustered stations by marginal distributions

# Limitations

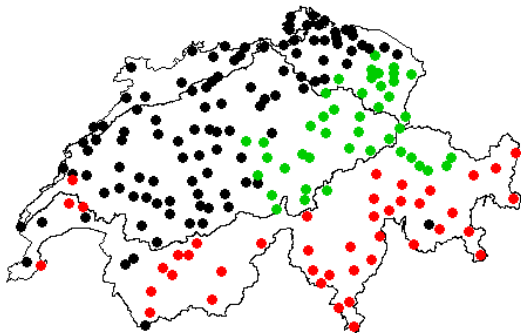
This approach does not take into account:

- Spatial dependence
- Temporal dependence
- Non-stationarity

Measure of pair-synchronicity with the **F-madogram**.



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Clustered stations by spatial dependence

How to combine clustering based on  
marginal distributions and  
pair-dependence ?

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Thank you for your attention !

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