## Weather radar and heavy rainfall - how to estimate the real amount of precipitation?

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## Overview

#### Motivation

- "Cooking" good quality data
  - Radar data quality control
  - Rain gauge data quality control
  - Transformation reflectivity → intensity
- Further analyses: statistics
- Discussion and outlook

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### Motivation: extreme event







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## **Original radar data** ++ +÷ +÷ 8.016.024.032.040.048 <mark>56.064.0</mark>72.0<mark>80.0</mark>88.096.0<mark>104.</mark>112.<mark>120.</mark> 0. mm: Rainsum by SCOUTView: 28 08 2002 06:36 - 29 08 2002 06:30 Elevation [°]: 0.0

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#### **Adjusted radar data**



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## Motivation

- Rain gauges: peak missed
- Radar: too low
- We need:
  o correct level of values
  o At the right location



### How to get there?

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## "cooking" good precipitation data

#### Radar data quality

- Clutter
- Beam blockage
- Bright band
- Attenuation
- Many correction algorithms, many recipes!
- Rain gauge quality
  - Wrong zero values
  - Wrong timing
  - Mainly manual
  - Taking 50% of work time to produce high quality data!



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## Data quality control of gauge data



## Transformation reflectivity to intensity

\* ZR



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# Radar originalstandard ZR





# Radar original ZR = 256R<sup>1.42</sup>



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## Z-R relationship

#### Here the results show

	Rain at	Rac	lar	absolute		mean pe	rcentage	absolute percentage			
	gauge	mod.	conv.	difference		differ	ence	difference			
Gauge	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	mod.	conv.	mod.	conv.	mod.	conv.		
Eitorf	70.3	57.42	61.99	12.88	8.31	-18.32	-11.82	18.32	11.82		
Lascheid	50.4	54.65	56.74	4.25	6.34	8.43	12.57	8.43	12.57		
Hanfmühle	31.3	31.77	30.21	0.47	1.09	1.52	-3.50	1.52	3.50		
Kuchenbach	36.5	41.23	38.42	4.73	1.92	12.96	5.27	12.96	5.27		
Parameter Sum				22.33	17.66	4.58	2.53	41.22	33.16		

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- The second Z-R relationship is better: event sum 103 mm instead of 95 mm
- Automated procedure for test ?
- → Good rain gauge values are more important ...

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## Further Analyses

- Comparison of highest pixels to areal rainfall: measure of homogeneity
- Extreme Value Statistics



## Areal rainfall vs. peak values



## Statistics for precipitation function of duration and return period

KOSTRA-DWD 2000

Deutscher Wetterdienst - Hydrometeorologie -



#### Niederschlagshöhen und -spenden nach KOSTRA-DWD 2000

#### Niederschlagshöhen und -spenden für Eitorf

Zeitspanne : Januar - Dezember Rasterfeld : Spalte: 14 Zeile: 58

Т	0,5		1,0		2,0		5,0		10,0		20,0		50,0		100,0	
D	hN	rN	hN	rN	hN	rN										
5,0 min	3,4	113,3	5,1	170,0	6,8	226,7	9,1	301,7	10,8	358,4	12,5	415,1	14,7	490,1	16,4	546,8
10,0 min	5,8	97,4	8,2	136,4	10,5	175,4	13,6	227,0	16,0	266,0	18,3	305,1	21,4	356,7	23,7	395,7
15,0 min	7,4	82,5	10,3	113,9	13,1	145,2	16,8	186,7	19,6	218,1	22,4	249,4	26,2	290,9	29,0	322,2
20,0 min	8,5	70,9	11,7	97,8	15,0	124,6	19,2	160,1	22,4	187,0	25,7	213,8	29,9	249,3	33,1	276,1
30,0 min	9,8	54,6	13,7	76,2	17,6	97,8	22,7	126,3	26,6	147,9	30,5	169,4	35,6	197,9	39,5	219,5
45,0 min	10,8	39,9	15,5	57,2	20,1	74,6	26,3	97,5	31,0	114,8	35,7	132,2	41,9	155,1	46,5	172,4
60,0 min	11,2	31,0	16,5	45,8	21,8	60,7	28,9	80,3	34,3	95,1	39,6	110,0	46,7	129,6	52,0	144,4
90,0 min	13,1	24,3	18,4	34,0	23,7	43,8	30,6	56,7	35,9	66,5	41,2	76,3	48,2	89,2	53,5	99,0
2,0 h	14,6	20,3	19,8	27,6	25,1	34,8	32,0	44,5	37,2	51,7	42,5	59,0	49,4	68,6	54,6	75,9
3,0 h	16,9	15,7	22,1	20,5	27,3	25,3	34,1	31,6	39,3	36,4	44,5	41,2	51,3	47,5	56,5	52,3
4,0 h	18,7	13,0	23,9	16,6	29,0	20,1	35,8	24,9	40,9	28,4	46,0	32,0	52,8	36,7	58,0	40,3
6,0 h	21,5	10,0	26,6	12,3	31,7	14,7	38,4	17,8	43,4	20,1	48,5	22,5	55,2	25,6	60,3	27,9
9,0 h	24,6	7,6	29,6	9,1	34,6	10,7	41,3	12,7	46,3	14,3	51,3	15,8	57,9	17,9	62,9	19,4
12,0 h	27,0	6,3	32,0	7,4	37,0	8,6	43,5	10,1	48,5	11,2	53,5	12,4	60,0	13,9	65,0	15,0
18,0 h	28,3	4,4	34,8	5,4	41,2	6,4	49,7	7,7	56,1	8,7	62,6	9,7	71,1	11,0	77,5	12,0
24,0 h	29,6	3,4	37,5	4,3	45,4	5,3	55,8	6,5	63,8	7,4	71,7	8,3	82,1	9,5	90,0	10,4
48,0 h	36,7	2,1	45,0	2,6	53,3	3,1	64,2	3,7	72,5	4,2	80,8	4,7	91,7	5,3	100,0	5,8
72,0 h	46,7	1,8	55,0	2,1	63,3	2,4	74,2	2,9	82,5	3,2	90,8	3,5	101,7	3,9	110,0	4,2

- Wiederkehrzeit (in [a]): mittlere Zeitspanne, in der ein Ereignis einen Wert einmal erreicht oder überschreitet

Niederschlagsdauer einschließlich Unterbrechungen (in [min, h])

hN - Niederschlagshoehe (in [mm])

rN - Niederschlagsspende (in [l/(s\*ha)])

## Statistics - why?



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## Statistics - why?



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## Statistics - how ? Event characteristics



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## Discussion and Outlook (1)

- Extreme events are difficult to analyse
- All available data should be used
- Rain gauge data are not sufficient
- Radar data alone are not sufficient either
- Only a combination of both, with a thorough data quality control permits analyses
- Methods to verify radar data quality and Z-Rassumptions have to be employed

## Discussion and Outlook (2)

- A detailed image is produced on the precipitation distribution in time and space
- Statistics can be obtained
- data can be cross-compared to damage data
- The future are
  - → these informations on the web in near real-time:
  - > www.hydrocity.com

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## Thank you for your attention

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