Ben Burford

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Definitions and characteristics of extreme precipitation

The WISE section of the CEOP Implementation Plan presents objectives to better understand and model the occurrence, characteristics, evolution, inter-connections and role of extremes within the climate system and to contribute to their better prediction.   The present study is on teleconnections of extreme precipitation.   The first step in this work is the identification of occurrences of extreme precipitation events, resulting from a definition/model of extreme precipitation being applied to daily precipitation data.   The next step is to group the resulting extreme precipitation events according to various characteristics.

Various definitions/models of extreme precipitation, which can be applied to datasets of daily precipitation, will be described, with some comments on strengths and weaknesses of the definitions.   Next, various quantifiable characteristics will be presented, which can be used to group the extreme precipitation events according to the various characteristics.   The grouping of extreme precipitation events is expected to play a useful role in identifying teleconnections of extreme precipitation events with different origins and characteristics.   In conclusion, brief comments will be presented on how research on teleconnections of extremes can contribute to meeting the major objectives given in the WISE section of the CEOP Implementation Plan.