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Steps towards a classification scheme of European windstorm events

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European windstorms exhibit highly variable characteristics in terms of their intensity, spatial extension or duration. Each of these characteristics can be associated with the distribution of wind extremes within the wind field. This project aims to quantify these windstorm characteristics based on observed and simulated wind storms and thus to further improve the identification and understanding of key parameters behind severe windstorms events in Europe. For this purpose, an objective classification scheme of potential windstorm in time and space is developed based on high-resolution reanalysis and ensemble forecasts. Here, we present the concept and initial ideas for a classification scheme that combines large-scale weather conditions and small-scale disturbances associated with the intensification and duration of windstorm events. Furthermore, considerations a made regarding a transferability of results to the Pacific region.