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Basic climatology of fog at Croatian airports based on METAR reports

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The occurrence of fog represents a major problem in traffic, which is especially emphasized in air traffic due to safety concerns. Long-lasting fog events at airports can cause significant flight delays due to poor visibility and low cloud ceiling. These delays always bring considerable costs, as flights often have to be diverted to nearby airports. It is therefore that study of fog is important for aviation meteorology, as improved forecasts of visibility and ceiling can lead to considerable savings.

The poster is an example of an analysis of big datasets, which provides the operational forecaster with useful information on fog climatology at airports of interest. This can help improve the decision-making process in fog forecasting.

The data used consists of METAR reports collected in the 15-year period from 2001 to 2015. A METAR report (issued every 30 minutes) contains data on present weather and associated meteorological parameters at the airport. The poster presents information on basic fog climatology (number of days with fog/dense fog, annual variations, fog types etc.) at major Croatian airports.