



International Conference on Alpine Meteorology and MAP Meeting 23–27 May 2005, Zadar, Croatia

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The special issue presented here deals with the latest, 28th International Conference on Alpine Meteorology, ICAM, which took place at the Eastern Adriatic coast, in Zadar, Croatia, from Monday 23rd through Friday 27th of May 2005. In front of you is the first glance of the peer-review harvest after ICAM2005.

With a strong emphasis on younger scientists and PhD students, ICAM2005 was a successful mixture of two occasions. After the 1st meeting held in Northern Italy, 20–23 September 1950, this 28th conference returns to Croatia after 21 years (18th meeting in Opatija, 25–29 September 1984). Moreover, this was the 2nd joint meeting with the Mesoscale Alpine Program community which displayed its final results. Therefore, this 28th ICAM is also called ICAM/MAP2005 or ICAMAP2005. The extended abstracts were published in the *Croatian Meteorological Journal*, 2005, vol. 40, 718 pp, dealing with 15 solicited presentations, 47 contributed talks and 130 posters. Subsequently, this *Meteorologische Zeitschrift* presents the freshest ICAM distillates.

The papers presented here were urged for submission and reviewing already by the end of the summer of 2005. Having the tentatively accepted manuscripts revised and back for the second view by early December, the goal was to produce as timely as possible a special issue which would concisely indicate the current status and trends in modern mountain meteorology and climatology. The reader may notice a moderate shift in interests with respect to some former ICAM patterns. For instance, applications of basic research in NWP techniques become as obvious as links between investigations of dry flows and those containing moisture processes (rain, snow, even flooding), or the close relation of weather regimes and climate observations. The oceanographic side of alpine processes is also present thus emphasizing interactions between mountain and coastal meteorology and climatology. For a rapid production of this special issue, *Meteorologische Zeitschrift* acquired, besides a regular editor, two guest editors; we all three thank to the several tens of reviewers who devoted their time and adjusted their priorities to produce this issue more swiftly than a usual procedure would inquire.

As you shall see here, certain traditional topics of the mountain meteorology remain intact to this ICAM as well. Mesoscale cyclogenesis, bora and foehn winds (more or less related to orographic waves), boundary-layers over complex terrain, precipitation, advanced numerical modeling strategies and techniques, bioclimatology and climate change as such belong traditionally here. Simultaneously, ever newer techniques arrive, as well as certain role problems but now posed differently: For example, lee-side sea regulating-effects on three-dimensional mountain waves, super-ensemble modeling approach, refined vorticity budget estimations, to mention a few. With all this in mind, we hope that pioneering mountainous research spirit shall long live and will be continuously passed onto students and younger scientists.

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