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1 Preface

Using meteoland package is easy, but some ideas and concepts must be addressed to make the experience easy for new users. This manual is intended as a working example to explain all the steps needed to get comfortable with meteoland workflow.

2 Installation and load

First of all, before starting to work with the package, we must install and load the library. meteoland stable version can be found at CRAN (https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/meteoland/index.html), and it can be installed and loaded as any other R package:

```
install.packages("meteoland")
library(meteoland)
```

2.1 Development version

You can install the development version located at github using the devtools package

```
library(devtools)
install_github('miquelcaceres/meteoland')
library(meteoland)
```

3 Shaping the data

Before starting with interpolations/downscaling/corrections, we need to get the stations data in shape. But be warned, depending on the format stations data come, you will have to perform different steps than the ones we will describe here, as there is no universal format for metereological stations data.

3.1 Required data format

3.1.1 Stations data format

In order to create an interpolation object to work with, we need a matrix for each variable with the days as columns and the weather stations as rows, as we can see in these minimum temperature recordings:

```
head(tmin[,1:6])
```

```
##
         1976-01-01 1976-01-02 1976-01-03 1976-01-04 1976-01-05 1976-01-06
## ST 01 -3.0320040
                     -3.586816
                                -2.295752 -2.1678246 -2.1865915 -2.2797344
## ST_02 -3.8826743
                     -4.162509
                                -1.104466 0.3146304 -0.9274811 -1.0097591
## ST 03 -2.7094458
                     -2.992890
                                -1.407178 -0.6581457 -0.9338085 -0.8136145
## ST_04 -2.0967963
                     -3.073414
                                           0.8583836 -1.1333813 -2.1484118
                                -1.169255
## ST 05 -1.5024432
                     -2.226421
                                -1.476496 -0.1027094 -0.8091650 -1.0908050
## ST 06 -0.9151786
                    -1.949163
                                -1.370876 0.5939252 -1.0959637 -2.1859451
```

3.1.2 Stations coordinates

Also we need a data frame with the stations coordinates:

```
head(stations_info)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
      Code
                Name Latitude Longitude
##
     <chr>
                <chr>>
                         <dbl>
                                    <dbl>
## 1 ST_01 Station 1
                         42.04
                                     1.37
## 2 ST 02 Station 2
                         42.04
                                     1.57
## 3 ST_03 Station 3
                         41.92
                                     1.45
## 4 ST_04 Station 4
                         41.91
                                     1.60
## 5 ST_05 Station 5
                         41.85
                                     1.50
## 6 ST_06 Station 6
                         41.98
                                     1.32
```

3.1.3 Stations topography

Finally, we are gonna need the stations topography info (elevation, aspect and slope):

head(stations_topo)

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
##
      Code Elevation Slope Aspect
##
     <chr>>
               <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 ST_01
                 635 6.60 149.74
## 2 ST_02
                 690 15.18 259.38
## 3 ST_03
                 796
                      4.69 293.96
## 4 ST 04
                 677
                      5.01 244.65
## 5 ST_05
                      2.64 275.19
                 687
## 6 ST_06
                 503
                      8.54 273.18
```

Both stations coordinates and stations topography can be in the same data frame, but usually you will obtain the topography from different sources than the meteorological data, so in this example they will be separate.

3.2 Getting the meteorological data in shape

Now that we know how the data must be formatted, here we will describe an user case on how to transform the data to the preferred format.

Usually, data from weather stations comes in one file for each station, containing all the variables measured by that station, for example:

```
##
              MaxTemperature MinTemperature Radiation Precipitation
## 1976-01-01
                    6.368068
                                  -3.032004
                                            7.575003
## 1976-01-02
                    8.199486
                                  -3.586816
                                             8.491354
                                                                   0
                                                                   0
## 1976-01-03
                                  -2.295752 8.341635
                    8.868364
## 1976-01-04
                    7.715426
                                  -2.167825
                                             7.916156
                                                                   0
## 1976-01-05
                   11.066443
                                  -2.186591
                                             8.917625
                                                                   0
                                                                   0
## 1976-01-06
                    8.051418
                                  -2.279734 8.187080
##
              RelativeHumidity WindSpeed
                     100.00000 2.037037
## 1976-01-01
                      86.40331 1.944444
## 1976-01-02
## 1976-01-03
                      82.72656
                                3.333333
## 1976-01-04
                      92.80110 4.351852
## 1976-01-05
                      82.73723
                                2.685185
                      96.49268
## 1976-01-06
                                4.074074
```

Here we found variables as columns and dates as rows. So, based in the format required to work with meteoland, we need to read all the stations files and create an object for each variable, but with dates as columns and stations as rows. Lets do that for 10 different stations.

First we put the stations and the dates we want to retrieve in two vectors and create the empty objects where we are going to store the data:

```
# stations and dates
stations <- c('ST_01', 'ST_02', 'ST_03', 'ST_04', 'ST_05',
               'ST_06', 'ST_07', 'ST_08', 'ST_09', 'ST_10')
dates <- as.character(</pre>
  seq(as.Date('1976-01-01'), as.Date('2016-12-31'), by = 'day')
# empty variable objects
tmin <- data.frame(</pre>
  matrix(
    NA,
    ncol = length(dates),
    nrow = length(stations)
  )
)
row.names(tmin) <- stations</pre>
names(tmin) <- dates</pre>
tmax <- tmin
rh <- tmin
prec <- tmin
```

```
sr <- tmin
ws <- tmin
wd <- tmin</pre>
```

Now we have all the variables, with stations as rows and dates as columns, as we want, but they are empty, so we need to fill them with the data. To do that we are gonna use a loop, which will read each station file and retrieve the weather variables data:

```
for (station in stations) {
  file_name <- pasteO(station, '.txt')</pre>
  # check if file exists to avoid errors
  if (file.exists(file_name)) {
    station data <- read.table(file name, header = TRUE, sep = '\t',
                                dec = '.', row.names = 1)
    station_dates <- row.names(station_data)</pre>
    # check for variables
    if ('MinTemperature' %in% names(station_data)) {
      tmin[station, dates] <- station_data$MinTemperature</pre>
    }
    if ('MaxTemperature' %in% names(station_data)) {
      tmax[station, dates] <- station_data$MaxTemperature</pre>
    }
    if ('Precipitation' %in% names(station_data)) {
      prec[station, dates] <- station_data$Precipitation</pre>
    }
    if ('RelativeHumidity' %in% names(station_data)) {
      rh[station, dates] <- station_data$RelativeHumidity</pre>
    }
    if ('Radiation' %in% names(station_data)) {
      sr[station, dates] <- station_data$Radiation</pre>
    if ('WindSpeed' %in% names(station_data)) {
      ws[station, dates] <- station_data$WindSpeed
    }
    if ('WindDirection' %in% names(station_data)) {
      wd[station, dates] <- station_data$WindDirection
    }
 }
}
```

Sometimes, we may also need to check the quality of the data retrieved from stations. For example, being this example data from a mediterranean area, we suspect that temperature values below -30 or above 50 Celsius degrees can be due to measure errors in the weather stations. So we can make a custom function to remove these dubious values:

```
checkTemperature <- function(temp) {
  temp[(!is.na(temp)) & (temp < (-30))] = NA</pre>
```

```
temp[(!is.na(temp)) & (temp > 50)] = NA
return(temp)
}
tmin <- checkTemperature(tmin)
tmax <- checkTemperature(tmax)</pre>
```

Also, we can do this for any other variable, we only need to write the custom function we want and clean the data.

3.3 Building the interpolation object

Now that we have the variables data in format, as well as the topographical info and the coordinates of the stations we are ready to build the interpolation object we are gonna use with meteoland package. If we look at the MeteorologyInterpolationData function help (?MeteorologyInterpolationData) we can see that we need the coordinates in a SpatialPoints (from the sp package) class object. This will allow to establish the projection of the coordinates¹:

```
# sp library
library(sp)
# spatial points object
coords_example <- SpatialPoints(
   cbind(stations_info$Longitude, stations_info$Latitude),
   proj4string = CRS('+init=epsg:4326')
)</pre>
```

And finally, we can build the interpolation object:

```
interpolator <- MeteorologyInterpolationData(
    coords_example,
    elevation = stations_topo$Elevation,
    slope = stations_topo$Slope,
    aspect = stations_topo$Aspect,
    MinTemperature = as.matrix(tmin),
    MaxTemperature = as.matrix(tmax),
    Precipitation = as.matrix(prec),
    RelativeHumidity = as.matrix(rh),
    Radiation = as.matrix(sr),
    WindSpeed = as.matrix(ws),
    WindDirection = as.matrix(wd),
    params = defaultInterpolationParams()
)</pre>
```

4 Calibration and Validation

Once we already have the meteorlogical stations data in shape, we can start calibrating the model in order to obtain the optimal parameters for the meteorological variables we want to interpolate.

 $^{^{1}\}mathrm{In}$ this case is standard longitude/latitude coordinates in the mercator projection

4.1 Stations data coverage

Sometimes can be useful to summarise the temporal and spatial coverage of our data:

```
spatial_coverage <- interpolation.coverage(interpolator, type = 'spatial')
head(spatial_coverage)

## coordinates MinTemperature MaxTemperature Precipitation</pre>
```

```
coordinates MinTemperature MaxTemperature Precipitation
## ST_01 (1.37, 42.04)
                                  14976
                                                  14976
## ST_02 (1.57, 42.04)
                                  14976
                                                  14976
                                                                 14976
## ST_03 (1.45, 41.92)
                                  14976
                                                  14976
                                                                 14976
## ST_04 (1.6, 41.91)
                                  14976
                                                  14976
                                                                 14976
## ST_05 (1.5, 41.85)
                                  14976
                                                  14976
                                                                 14976
## ST_06 (1.32, 41.98)
                                  14976
                                                  14976
                                                                 14976
##
         RelativeHumidity Radiation WindSpeed WindDirection
## ST 01
                     14976
                                14976
                                           14180
                                                              0
## ST 02
                     14976
                                14976
                                           13908
                                                              0
## ST_03
                     14976
                                14976
                                           13898
                                                              0
## ST_04
                     14976
                                14976
                                           11096
                                                              0
## ST_05
                                                              0
                     14976
                                14976
                                           12571
## ST 06
                     14976
                                14976
                                          11304
                                                              0
```

temporal_coverage <- interpolation.coverage(interpolator, type = 'temporal')
head(temporal_coverage)</pre>

```
##
               MinTemperature MaxTemperature Precipitation RelativeHumidity
## 1976-01-01
                            10
                                             10
                                                            10
                                             10
## 1976-01-02
                            10
                                                            10
                                                                               10
## 1976-01-03
                            10
                                             10
                                                            10
                                                                               10
                            10
                                             10
                                                                               10
## 1976-01-04
                                                            10
## 1976-01-05
                            10
                                             10
                                                            10
                                                                               10
## 1976-01-06
                            10
                                             10
                                                            10
                                                                               10
##
               Radiation WindSpeed WindDirection
## 1976-01-01
                       10
                                   5
## 1976-01-02
                       10
                                   5
                                                  0
## 1976-01-03
                       10
                                   6
                                                  0
                                   6
## 1976-01-04
                       10
                                                  0
## 1976-01-05
                       10
                                   6
                                                  0
## 1976-01-06
                       10
                                   6
                                                  0
```

As you can see, interpolation.coverage function is used to summarise the coverage of our data. Specifing type = 'spatial' returns an SpatialPointsDataFrame class object with the number of dates with data per station and metereological variable, whereas type = 'temporal' returns a data frame with the number of stations with data per day (rows) and meterological variable (columns).

It seems like the data is ok, so we can go further to the next step.

4.2 Calibration

Calibration must be done for each desired variable, being the process the same for each variable. We will use interpolation.calibration function, which need to be supplied with the stations data (a MetereologyInterpolationData class object), the variable name as a string and finally, N and α values to be tested:

This function returns an interpolation calibration class object which contains several items:

- Numeric matrix with the mean absolute error (MAE) values for each combination of parameters N and α .
- Miminum value found for MAE.
- Value for the N parameter corresponding to the minumun MAE.
- Value for the α parameter corresponding to the minimum MAE.
- Matrix with the observed values.
- Matrix with the predicted values for the optimum parameter combination.

We can see the MAE and parameter values found in the calibration:

```
tmin_cal$minMAE
## [1] 2.028257
tmin_cal$N
## [1] 5
tmin_cal$alpha
## [1] 0.5
```

We can also see the results visually, with lattice:

(ref:tmin_cal_plot) Contour plot for minimum temperature calibration.

(ref:tmax_cal_plot) Contour plot for maximum temperature calibration.

Minimum Temperature

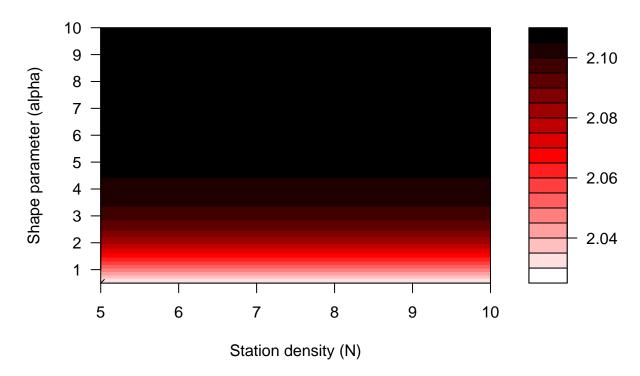


Figure 1: (#fig:tmin_cal_plot)(ref:tmin_cal_plot)

(ref:tdew_cal_plot) Contour plot for dew temperature calibration.

Maximum Temperature

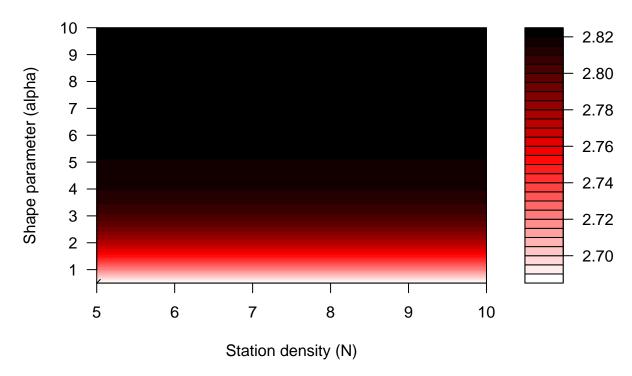


Figure 2: (#fig:tmax_cal_plot)(ref:tmax_cal_plot)

```
color.palette = colorRampPalette(c("white","red","black")))
```

(ref:prec_cal_plot) Contour plot for precipitation calibration.

Seems ok, so we need to store the parameter values for each variable in the interpolator data:

```
interpolator@params = defaultInterpolationParams()
interpolator@params$N_MinTemperature = tmin_cal$N
interpolator@params$alpha_MinTemperature = tmin_cal$alpha
interpolator@params$N_MaxTemperature = tmax_cal$N
interpolator@params$alpha_MaxTemperature = tmax_cal$alpha
interpolator@params$N_DewTemperature = tdew_cal$N
interpolator@params$alpha_DewTemperature = tdew_cal$alpha
interpolator@params$N_PrecipitationEvent = prec_cal$N
```

Dew Temperature

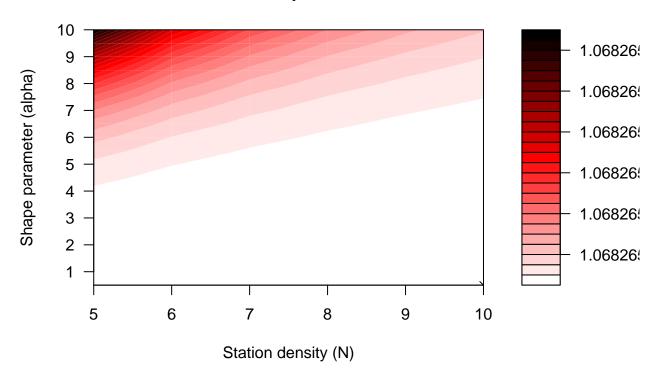


Figure 3: (#fig:tdew_cal_plot)(ref:tdew_cal_plot)

Precipitation

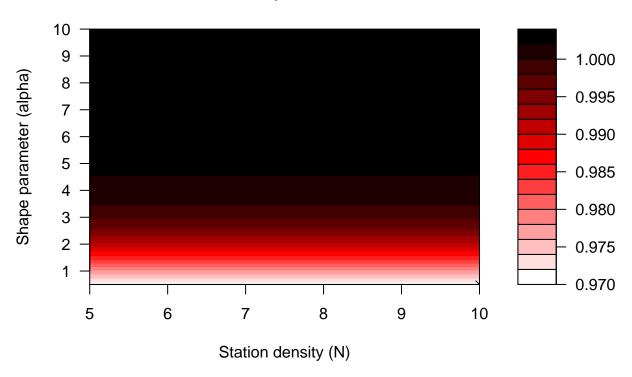


Figure 4: (#fig:prec_cal_plot)(ref:prec_cal_plot)

```
interpolator@params$alpha_PrecipitationEvent = prec_cal$alpha
interpolator@params$N_PrecipitationAmount = prec_cal$N
interpolator@params$alpha_PrecipitationAmount = prec_cal$alpha
interpolator@params$St_Precipitation = 5
interpolator@params$pop_crit = 0.50
interpolator@params$f_max = 0.95
```

4.3 Cross Validation

In order to perfom the interpolation validation we will use the interpolation.cv function:

```
cv <- interpolation.cv(interpolator)</pre>
```

And now we can inspect the results obtained and plot them:

summary(cv)

```
##
                                                          MAE sd.station.MAE
## MinTemperature
                              149756
                                      0.8609969
                                                     2.025623
                                                                     2.227480
## MaxTemperature
                              149759 0.8697528
                                                     2.685616
                                                                     2.983204
## TemperatureRange
                              149755
                                      0.5709987
                                                     2.172816
                                                                     2.172069
## RelativeHumidity
                              149760
                                      0.7584507
                                                     7.492475
                                                                     7.004435
## Radiation
                              149760
                                       0.9038170
                                                     2.234068
                                                                     1.503315
## Station.rainfall
                                   10 -0.1413738 14439.443937
                                                                 26491.247481
## Station.rainfall.relative
                                                                  109.267906
                                   10
                                              NA
                                                    56.982108
## Station.precdays
                                   10 -0.8143509
                                                   718.600000
                                                                   311.306280
## Station.precdays.relative
                                   10
                                                    18.488228
                                                                     5.998209
                                              NΑ
## Date.rainfall
                                 3704
                                      0.7059248
                                                    33.032421
                                                                           NA
## Date.rainfall.relative
                                 3704
                                              NΑ
                                                    61.751332
                                                                           NΑ
## Date.precstations
                                 3704 0.6944854
                                                     1.325864
                                                                           NA
                                 3704
## Date.precstations.relative
                                              NA
                                                    19.197500
                                                                           NΔ
##
                              sd.dates.MAE
                                                     Bias sd.station.Bias
## MinTemperature
                                                             2.739458e+00
                                  1.3043778
                                               0.64210780
## MaxTemperature
                                  1.3970109
                                               0.58622621
                                                             2.883250e+00
## TemperatureRange
                                  1.5113458
                                              -0.05616653
                                                             8.093868e-01
## RelativeHumidity
                                  2.8770380
                                              -2.06174052
                                                             8.054737e+00
                                  0.9779347
## Radiation
                                               0.13584510
                                                             1.838516e+00
## Station.rainfall
                                         NA 9047.40275770
                                                             2.902584e+04
## Station.rainfall.relative
                                         NA
                                              43.20875582
                                                             1.160723e+02
## Station.precdays
                                         NA -420.20000000
                                                              6.888302e+02
## Station.precdays.relative
                                              -8.47868389
                                                              1.832749e+01
## Date.rainfall
                                107.7160297
                                              30.93055965
                                                                        NA
## Date.rainfall.relative
                                127.7105706
                                              59.00386004
                                                                        NA
                                 1.4694368
## Date.precstations
                                               1.32586393
                                                                        NA
## Date.precstations.relative
                                 23.3185520
                                              19.19749991
                                                                        NA
##
                              sd.dates.Bias
## MinTemperature
                                   0.5727662
## MaxTemperature
                                   0.8394303
## TemperatureRange
                                   0.8941010
## RelativeHumidity
                                   1.5756846
## Radiation
                                   0.9565330
## Station.rainfall
                                          NΑ
## Station.rainfall.relative
                                          NA
                                          NA
## Station.precdays
```

```
## Station.precdays.relative
                                                          NA
## Date.rainfall
                                             108.3384542
## Date.rainfall.relative
                                             129.0032983
## Date.precstations
                                                1.4694368
## Date.precstations.relative
                                               23.3185520
(ref:cv_plot) Cross validation plots.
plot(cv)
Frequency
                                                                                               Frequency
                                                               Frequency
                                Frequency
     N
                                                                                                    N
                      6
                                             2
                                                     6
                                                        8
                                                                              0
                                                                                        8
                                                                                                                     8
          -2
                2
                                                 4
                                                                                    4
                                                                                                         0
                                                                                                               4
                                    Min. temp. MAE (degrees C)
                                                                                                    Max. temp. MAE (degrees C
     Min. temp. bias (degrees C)
                                                                    Max. temp. bias (degrees C)
                                                               Frequency
Frequency
                                                                                               Frequency
                                Frequency
                                                                     0
                                                                                                    0
     N
                  60000
                                                  0.00
                                                                        -25
                                                                              -10 0
                                                                                                              10
                                                                                                                  20
       -20000
                                        -0.10
   Error in total precipitation (mn Error in proportion of rainy days
                                                                     RelativeHumidity Bias (%)
                                                                                                     RelativeHumidity MAE (%)
                                Frequency
Frequency
```

Figure 5: (#fig:plot_cv)(ref:cv_plot)

As we can see, the cross-validation process reassure the calibration parameters obtained, with low Bias and MAE values for each variable.

Now we are ready to start the interpolation process, what we will see in the next chapter.

2

Radiation MAE (MJ/m2)

4

0

5 Interpolation

In this chapter we will see how to interpolate historical data to the landscape scale using the meteorological stations data we build in the previous chapters.

5.1 Points interpolation

2

0

Radiation Bias (MJ/m2)

If we take a look to the interpolationpoints function help (?interpolationpoints) we can see what we need to perform the interpolation:

- A MetereologyInterpolationData class object, which we obtained from the previous chapters.
- A vector of Date class with the dates when we want the interpolation.
- A SpatialPointsTopography object with the coordinates and the topographic information of the points we want to interpolate.

We have the first item in the list, and the second one is as easy as seq(as.Date(first_day), as.Date(last_day), by = 'day') where first_day and last_day are the first and last day of the period we want, respectively. In our case we want to interpolate all 2010 period, so we build the dates object:

```
dates_interpolation <- seq(as.Date('2010-01-01'), as.Date('2010-12-31'), by = 'day')
```

Regarding to the third element, the SpatialPointsTopography object, we need to build it from the information about the points we want to interpolate. In this case we want to interpolate data for two experimental plots:

```
# plots coordinates
points_lat <- c(41.79, 42.5)
points_long <- c(1.46, 1.52)
plots_sp <- SpatialPoints(cbind(points_lat, points_long),</pre>
                            proj4string = CRS('+init=epsg:4326'))
# plots topography
plots_elevation <- c(1200, 320)
plots_aspect <- c(253, 45)
plots_slope <- c(12, 30)
# Spatial topography object
plots_topo <- SpatialPointsTopography(plots_sp, plots_elevation, plots_slope, plots_aspect)</pre>
Now we are ready to perform the interpolation:
plots weather 2010 <- interpolationpoints(</pre>
  interpolator, plots_topo, dates_interpolation
## Processing point '1' (1/2) -
## Warning in interpolationpoints(interpolator, plots_topo,
## dates_interpolation): Point '1' outside the boundary box of interpolation
## data object.
## done.
## Processing point '2' (2/2) -
## Warning in interpolationpoints(interpolator, plots_topo,
## dates_interpolation): Point '2' outside the boundary box of interpolation
## data object.
##
   done.
```

In this case, the process is very fast, but things cab become slower as you interpolate longer periods or more points. Anyway, meteoland routines are inplemented in C++, which make them faster than base R.

We can plot the results with the meteoplot function:

```
par(mfrow = c(3,2))
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 1, 'MeanTemperature',
```

```
ylab = 'Temp plot 1', main = 'MeanTemperature')
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 2, 'MeanTemperature',
           ylab = 'Temp plot 2', main = 'MeanTemperature')
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 1, 'MinTemperature',
           ylab = 'Temp plot 1', main = 'MinTemperature')
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 2, 'MinTemperature',
           ylab = 'Temp plot 2', main = 'MinTemperature')
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 1, 'MaxTemperature',
           ylab = 'Temp plot 1', main = 'MaxTemperature')
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 2, 'MaxTemperature',
           ylab = 'Temp plot 2', main = 'MaxTemperature')
                                                                   MeanTemperature
                 MeanTemperature
                                                 Temp plot 2
Femp plot 1
    25
                                                     25
       ene
             mar
                   may
                               sep
                                    nov
                                                              mar
                                                                    may
                                                                           jul
                                                                                sep
                                                                                            ene
                        dates
                                                                          dates
                  MinTemperature
                                                                    MinTemperature
                                                 Temp plot 2
Femp plot
    20
       ene
             mar
                   may
                                                         ene
                                                              mar
                                                                    may
                        dates
                                                                          dates
                  MaxTemperature
                                                                   MaxTemperature
                                                 Temp plot 2
Femp plot 1
       ene
             mar
                   may
                         jul
                                    nov
                                                         ene
                                                               mar
                                                                    may
                                                                           jul
                                                                          dates
                        dates
par(mfrow = c(1,1))
par(mfrow = c(3,2))
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 1, 'MeanRelativeHumidity',
           ylab = 'RH plot 1', main = 'MeanRelativeHumidity')
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 2, 'MeanRelativeHumidity',
           ylab = 'RH plot 2', main = 'MeanRelativeHumidity')
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 1, 'MinRelativeHumidity',
```

ylab = 'RH plot 1', main = 'MinRelativeHumidity')

ylab = 'RH plot 2', main = 'MinRelativeHumidity')

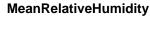
ylab = 'RH plot 1', main = 'MaxRelativeHumidity')

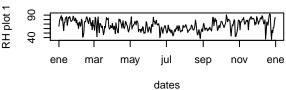
ylab = 'RH plot 2', main = 'MaxRelativeHumidity')

meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 2, 'MinRelativeHumidity',

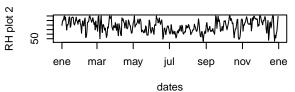
meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 1, 'MaxRelativeHumidity',

meteoplot(plots_weather_2010, 2, 'MaxRelativeHumidity',

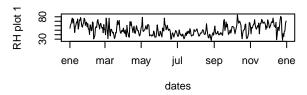




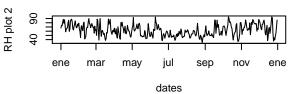
MeanRelativeHumidity



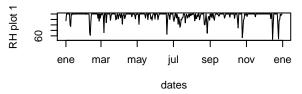
MinRelativeHumidity



MinRelativeHumidity



MaxRelativeHumidity



MaxRelativeHumidity

