Heatwaves

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Data

Using data provided by the US Climate Reference Network (Diamond et al. 2013), I identify heatwaves. There are different ways to define heatwaves. Following the National Climate Data Center (NCDC), I use this definition: A heatwave consists of two or more consecutive days in which the average, minimum or maximum temperature exceeds the 85th percentile of July and August temperatures (Habeeb, Vargo, and Stone 2015).

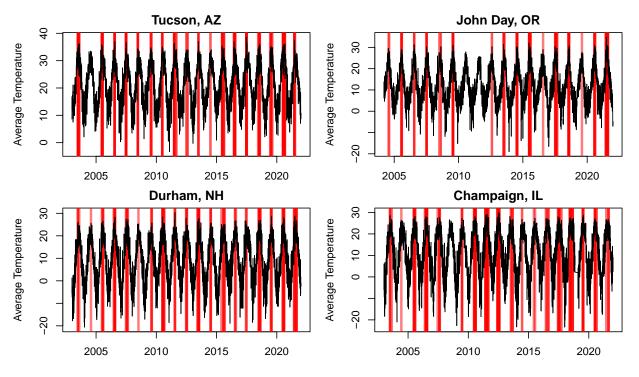


Figure 1: Daily average temperatures with extreme heat events shaded in red

References

Diamond, Howard J., Thomas R. Karl, Michael A. Palecki, C. Bruce Baker, Jesse E. Bell, Ronald D. Leeper, David R. Easterling, et al. 2013. "U.S. Climate Reference Network After One Decade of Operations: Status and Assessment." *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* 94 (4): 485–98. https://doi.org/10.1175/bams-d-12-00170.1.

Habeeb, Dana, Jason Vargo, and Brian Stone. 2015. "Rising Heat Wave Trends in Large US Cities." Natural Hazards 76 (3): 1651–65. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11069-014-1563-z.