

Interactive comment on “Hydrometeorological extremes and their impacts, as derived from taxation records for south-eastern Moravia, Czech Republic, AD 1751–1900” by R. Brázdil et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 6 January 2012

This paper presents a detailed example of how taxation records can be used in reconstructing hydrometeorological extremes. The paper provides a detailed methodology of how past taxation data and taxation relief can be used to reconstruct not just the presence, but also potential impacts of extreme events on the local populace. The paper details previous work using such approaches in Central Europe, but also further afield. The paper provides a good overview of the benefits of the use of such documents, but also discusses the limitations and potential bias that such records may contain. The records used within the study are extensive and clearly considerable time has been given to going through the archives in considerable detail to extract such a wealth of information; the subsequent analysis and discussion of the results is of a high

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quality. A detailed section on changes in taxation systems and approaches to taxation collection illustrates the potential challenges faced in comparing data over long durations, but also identifies that the value of such analysis is clearly evident, even with the limitations present. The focus on four specific case studies provides a high level of detailed analysis and comparison of metrological conditions and impacts, with appropriate and considered conclusions drawn from it. The paper is supported with good quality figures and detailed tables, which help the reader review the detailed information presented with greater ease. The topic and field can be furthered in the future with more detailed comparison to other historical data sources for the area, by including alternative sources, as described in other papers by the author (Brázdil et al., 2005). This will augment the specific examples provided within this work, with additional data to provide a more complete picture of the historical climate in this part of Europe.

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 7, 4261, 2011.

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