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METEOROLOGISCH INSTITUUT**

TECHNISCHE RAPPORTEN

T.R. - 58

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On the relationship between
maximum surface temperature and various parameters;
with reference to objective forecasting.

De Bilt, 1984

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1.

It is well known that upper air temperature and the maximum temperature T_x at screen level are correlated. Especially the 1000-500 mb thickness during the months April-October is strongly correlated with the maximum surface temperature. Nevertheless, for any given thickness there can be temperature fluctuations near the ground depending on the surface transfer of heat as determined by such factors as wind direction and cloud cover (Boyden, 1962). It was found that during the seven months April-October a useful indication of maximum temperature was given by the following parameters:

- 1) the midday 1000-500 mb thickness;
- 2) surface wind direction;
- 3) sunshine total as a substitute for the sunshine up to the time of the maximum temperature;
- 4) the month.

The relationships found were based on the surface wind direction at 1200 GMT, the 1000-500 mb thickness at 1200 GMT and the sunshine total vs T_x of the same day of De Bilt (for the years 1947-1978).

They are based on relatively many observations (about 6400) so about 900 cases for every month. The relationships were tested on independent data for the years 1979-1982 (about 850 observations).

2. Systematic investigations of the parameters

During a preliminary investigation a fairly high correlation was found between the 500 mb height and the maximum temperature. For the period 1947-1978 the mean correlation coefficient was $r = 0.621$. However this parameters was abandoned as the thickness scored $r = 0.747$, given rise to an increase of the reduction of variance by 17%.

The first three parameters mentioned above were selected and a stratification method was used to test which combination of class intervals for each of the parameters was best.

The surface wind gave rise to a splitting into nine groups whereas the sunshine parameter had four class intervals. Furthermore it was evident that separate allowance had to be made for the month of the year. So the data were divided into seven monthly groups corresponding to each of the months from April until October. The thickness during the months November

until March was poorly correlated to the maximum temperature and could not be used. For each of the combinations of wind direction and sunshine a linear relationship was found between maximum temperature and midday 1000-500 mb thickness.

The correlation coefficients between the maximum temperature and the thickness (h) and sunshine (s) and their combinations are given in table 1.

TABLE 1

Correlation coefficient (%) between T_x and parameters d, s, h or combinations

	wind (d)	sunsh (s)	thickn (h)	dh	ds	sh	dsh
april	40.7	34.2	73.6	77.9	57.8	83.9	88.1
may	46.1	51.8	76.5	79.4	66.5	87.0	89.9
june	43.3	49.9	76.2	80.0	65.1	84.3	87.5
july	48.0	55.6	78.8	82.3	70.2	87.2	89.8
august	47.5	51.6	76.5	80.8	66.2	86.0	88.5
september	32.7	41.9	74.7	77.2	53.4	82.0	84.1
october	27.3	33.6	64.7	69.3	50.4	74.8	80.6
mean	40.8	45.5	74.4	78.1	61.4	83.6	86.9

TABLE 2

Monthly mean thickness, maximum temperature, variances and regression coefficients De Bilt 1947-1978.

	mean h	mean T_x	var T_x	var h	regr.coeff.
april	39.2	12.5	15.8	71.0	0.35
may	46.0	17.0	18.3	56.9	0.44
june	54.0	20.0	18.8	56.5	0.44
july	56.9	21.2	16.1	51.6	0.44
August	57.0	21.3	12.7	43.7	0.41
September	54.8	18.8	11.6	59.7	0.33
October	50.1	14.3	11.8	71.8	0.26
mean			15.0		0.38

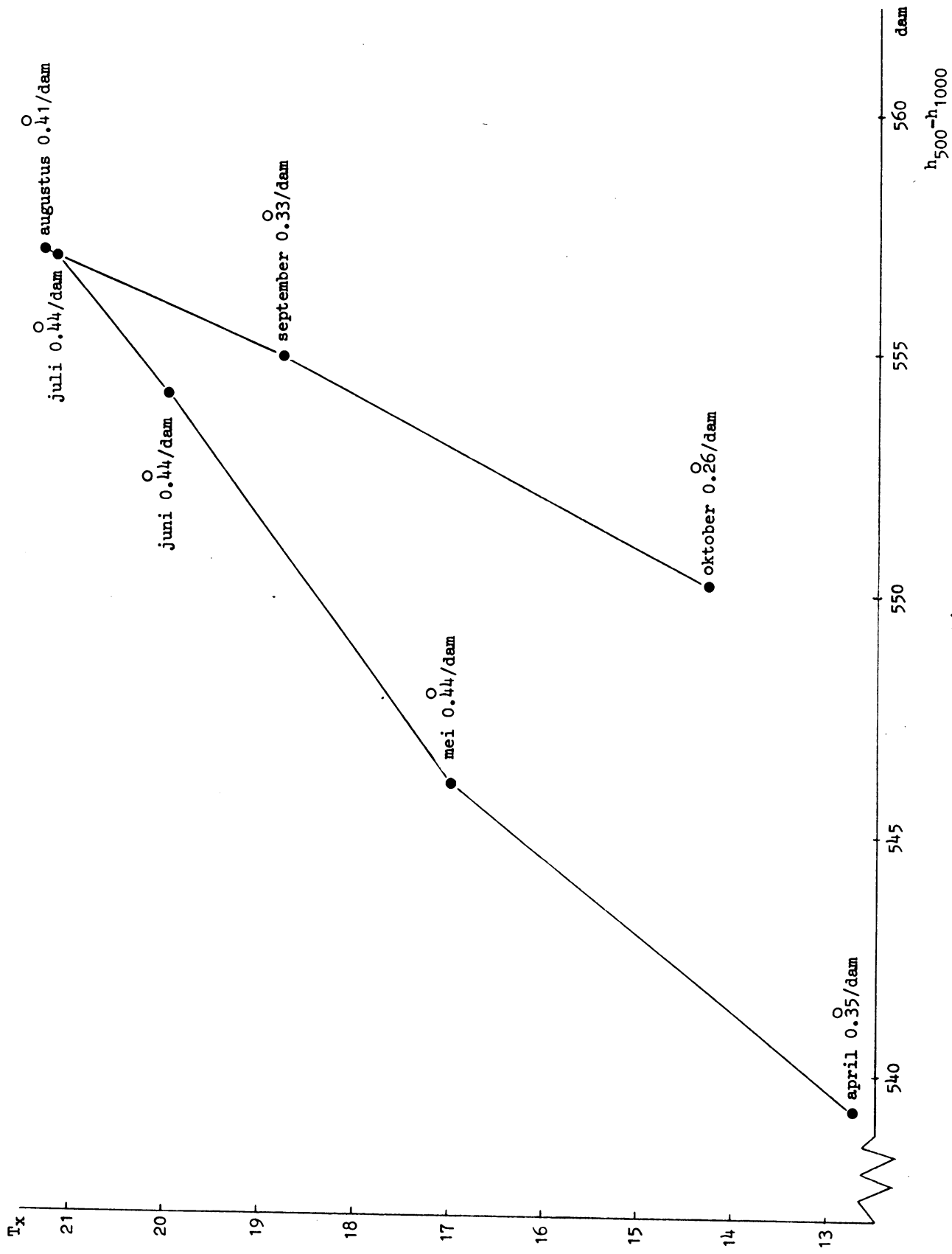


Fig. 1

Monthly mean thickness, maximum temperature, variances and regression coefficients
 De Bilt 1947-1978 (see also table 2)

The mean correlation coefficient between T_x and the three-parameter combinations amounts to 86.9 % in the dependent data (6400 cases) whereas application to a set of independent data (900 cases) resulted in $r = 85.1\%$. The long period of record yields a stable relation as expected.

Table 1 shows that the 1000-500 mb thickness is the best parameter. Wind speed, humidity and often rainfall were found to add little or nothing to the quality of the relations.

Figure 1 shows the relationship between monthly mean maximum temperature and monthly mean thickness for the period 1947-1978. The years show two distinct "seasons", a "warm season" from April to August when the mean maximum temperature is relatively high and a "cold season" for the remaining months. For each of the months of the period April to October a diagram is constructed showing the linear relationship between maximum temperature and the combinations of wind direction, sunshine and midday 1000-500 mb thickness (diagrams 1-7).

3. Evaluation and discussion

These diagrams can be used to forecast the maximum temperature if the parameters are forecast. Thus we are left with predictive parameters which, apart from sunshine, are given by routine forecast charts of the surface pressure pattern and the 1000-500 mb thickness, and call for no knowledge of current or past temperatures. It can be concluded from table 1 that 75% of the temperature variance is explained by the three-predictor combination. It is mainly brought about by the thickness so the quality of the temperature forecast depends strongly on the accuracy of the prognostic upper air charts. Therefore the thickness forecasts over De Bilt of ECMWF were verified (period April 1 - November 1 1983). The results of this verification can be found in table 3.

TABLE 3

RMS error of 1000-500 mb thickness forecasts (dam).

lead time in days →						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
2.1	3.2	4.3	5.4	6.7	7.2	

From table 1 and table 2 it may be concluded that the mean temperature variance i.e. 15.0 (corresponding to a rms error of 3.9°) can be reduced to $(1 - 0.869^2)15.0 = 3.67$ (corresponding to a rms error of 1.9°). This is the minimum error using a perfect prog. This error will increase mainly as a result of the increasing error of the thickness forecasts corresponding to increasing lead time (table 3). The effect of the thickness error has not been assessed explicitly. However estimations have been made and the results can be found in table 4. They are made by using the relation $\text{var}(a+b) = \text{var} a + \text{var} b$. In the same table the results of persistency forecasts are given as a measure of comparison.

TABLE 4

RMS error of T_x -forecasts (F) and persistency forecasts (P). (°C)

lead time in days →					
1	2	3	4	5	6
2.1	2.3	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.5
3.1	4.0	-	4.7	-	5.1

4. Abstract

It was found that a useful indication of maximum temperature may be obtained from the midday 1000-500 mb thickness, the surface wind direction, the sunshine total and the month. The relationship represents a mean reduction of variance of about 75% (during April-October). This gives rise to a rms error of 1.9°C. The quality of temperature forecasts made on the basis of the relationship are mainly determined by the quality of the thickness (1000-500 mb) forecasts.

Acknowledgement

Mr. A. Grendel was very helpful with the preparation of this paper.

References

Boyden, C.J., 1962: Forecasting of maximum surface temperatures from 1000-500 mb thickness lines. Met. Magazine, Vol. 91.

diagram 1

MAXIMUMTEMPERATUUR DE BILT VOOR MIDDEN-APRIL,

In afhankelijkheid van de dikte $H_{500} \sim H_{1000} = \Delta h$ en de windrichting aan de grond, beide van 12 GMT, bovendien opgesplitst naar de zonneshijnklassen 0, 1, 2 en 3, met zonneshijnpercentages 0, 1-29, 30-59 en 60% of meer. DE PARAMETERKlassen WAARVOOR GEEN TEMPERATUREN ZIJN INGEVULD ZIJN TOT NU TOE NIET VOORGEKOMEN. Materiaal 1947-1978 (810 gevallen). De onderstreepte temperaturen geven de kolongemiddelden aan.

Δh	S			SW			W			NW			N			NE			E			SE			LV					
	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2
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diagram 2

MAXIMUMTEMPERATUREN MIDDEN-MEI in afhankelijkheid van $\Delta H = H_{500-H_{1000}}$ en windrichting aan de grond, beide van 12 GMT, bovendien opgesplitst naar de zonneshijfnklassen 0,1,2 en 3 met resp. zonneshijfnpercentages 0, 1-29, 30-59 en 60% of meer. De parametercombinaties waarvoor geen temperaturen zijn ingevuld zijn tot nu toe niet voorgekomen.

Materiaal 1947-1978 (983 gevallen). De onderstreepte temperaturen geven de kolongemiddelden aan.

ΔH	S			SW			W			NW			N			NE			E			SE			LV		
	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2
>570																											
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983																											

MAXIMUMTEMPERATUREN DE BILT VOOR MIDDEN-JUNI

In afhankelijkheid van $\Delta H = h_{500} - h_{1000}$ windrichting aan de grond (LV - < 4 kts) beide van 12 GMT, bovendien opgesplitst naar de zonneshijnklassen 0, 1, 2 en 3 met resp. 0, 1-29, 30-59 en 60% of meer. De parametercombinaties waarvoor geen temperaturen zijn ingevuld zijn tot nu toe nog niet voorgekomen. Materiaal 1947-1978 met 879 gevallen.

ΔH	S			SW			W			NW			N			NE			E			SE			LV					
	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2			
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MAXIMUMTEMPERATUREN DE BILT VOOR JULI

In afhankelijkheid van $\Delta H = h_{500} - h_{1000}$ windrichting aan de grond (LV < 4kts) beide van 12 GMT, bovendien opgesplitst naar de zonneshijnclassen 0, 1, 2 en 3 met resp. 0, 1-29, 30-59 en 60% of meer. De parameterklassen waarvoor geen temperaturen zijn ingevuld zijn tot nu toe nog niet voorgekomen. Materiaal 1947-1978 met 910 gevallen. De onderstreepte temperaturen geven de kolongemiddelden aan.

ΔH	S			SW			W			NW			N			NE			E			SE			LV			ΔH		
	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2		3	
>580																														
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diagram 5

MAXIMUMTEMPERATUREN DE BILT VOOR AUGUSTUS

in afhankelijkheid van $\Delta h = h_{500} - h_{1000}$, windrichting aan de grond (LV < 4kts) beiden van 12 GMT, bovendien opgesplitst naar de zonneshijnklassen 0, 1, 2 en 3 met resp. 0, 1-29, 30-59 en 60% of meer. De parametercombinaties waarvoor geen temperaturen zijn ingevuld zijn tot nu toe nog niet voorgekomen. De onderstreepte temperaturen stellen kolomgemiddelden voor. Materiaal 1947-1978 met 911 gevallen.

Δh	S			SW			W			NW			N			NE			E			SE			LV				
	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	
>575																													
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MAXIMUMTEMPERATUREN DE BILT VOOR SEPTEMBER

in afhankelijkheid van $\Delta H = h_{500} - h_{1000}$, windrichting aan de grond (LV < Akts) beide kan 12 GMT, bovendien opgesplitst naar de zonneshijnclassen 0, 1, 2 en 3 met resp. 0, 1-29, 30-59 en 60% of meer. De parameterklassen waarvoor geen temperaturen zijn ingevuld zijn tot nu toe nog niet voortgekomen.
Materiaal 194,7-1978 met 947 gevallen. De onderstreepte temperaturen geven de kolomgemiddelden aan.

	S			SW			W			NW			N			NE			E			SE			LV											
	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2		3							
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diagram 7

MAXIMUMTEMPERATUREN DE BILT VOOR OKTOBER

in afhankelijkheid van $\Delta H = h_{500} - h_{1000}$, windrichting aan de grond (LV < 4 kts), beide van 12 GMT en bovendien opgesplitst naar de zonneshijnklassen 0, 1, 2 en 3 met resp. 0, 1-29, 30-59 en 60% of meer. De parametercombinaties waarvoor geen temperaturen zijn ingevuld zijn tot nu toe nog niet voorgekomen. Materiaal 1947-1978 met 910 gevallen. De onderstreepte temperaturen stellen de kolomgemiddelden voor.

ΔH	S			SW			W			NW			N			NE			E			SE			LV												
	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3									
>571																																					
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910	40	48	38	33	67	72	54	13	14	61	34	13	5	18	23	4	7	15	18	1	15	12	12	24	7	13	6	41	13	21	11	36	33	36	25	27	910