Sebastian BERGHALD

PhD Researcher in (Polar) Climate Variability

Earth and Environmental Sciences – KU Leuven

Earth and Life Institute – UCLouvain

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EXPERIENCE

Since 10/2024 **KU Leuven & UCLouvain** *Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium*
PhD Researcher – Joint PhD
Project title: "Antarctic Climate Causality: Unravelling links between the components of the system and their variability (ACCU)"
Under supervision of Profs. Nicole van Lipzig, Stef Lhermitte and Hugues Goosse

08/2024 **Sonnblick Observatory (3106 m.a.s.l.)** *Rauris, Austria*
2-week research internship at a high-altitude atmospheric research station

03-07/2024 **French National Forest Office & Institute for Geosciences of the Environment** *Grenoble, France*
Master thesis on analysing recent trends precipitation extremes in the French Alps

05-07/2023 **NORCE Norwegian Research Centre | Climate Dynamics Department** *Bergen, Norway*
Internship on return periods of extreme heatwaves in Northern Europe

07-09/2021 **Stranddalen turisthytte (mountain lodge, 1000 m.a.s.l.)** *Suldal/Stavanger, Norway*
Summer service employee

EDUCATION

Master **Climate System Science and Alpine Geography**
Université Grenoble Alpes (UGA) *Grenoble, France*

2023-2024 *Master 2 in alpine geography and climate (programme M2 GAED GEOSPHERES)*
Joint programme by four institutions in SE-France (UGA, USMB, MINES St-Étienne, IMT Alès)
Geomorphology, human-environment interactions, and field observation techniques

2022-2023 *Master 1 in climate system science (programme M1 STPE SCAHC)*
Hydrology, glaciology, and atmospheric chemistry

Bachelor **Meteorology**

2018-2022 **Leipzig University | Faculty of Physics and Earth Sciences** *Leipzig, Germany*
Meteorology, Bachelor of Science
Experimental physics, atmospheric dynamics and thermodynamics, and weather forecasting

2020-2021 **University of Bergen | Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences** *Bergen, Norway*
Erasmus+ exchange studies (one year)
Physical and social geography, climatology, Norwegian language

Short courses Arctic Science (Kiruna, 2024), Natural Resources Management (MOOC, 2023), Environmental Change in the High Arctic Landscape of Svalbard (Longyearbyen, 2022), Hydrology (Halle, 2022)

OTHER

Conferences
- BE-Polar Conference 2025, Brussels: *Oral presentation*
- EGU General Assembly 2025, Vienna: *Poster presentation*
- 2nd (2023), 3rd (2024) & 4th (2025) MeteoXchange ECS conference:
Member of the organisation committee, session chair

Methods Extreme value theory, causal inference techniques, numerical modelling, transdisciplinary thinking

Languages German (native), English (C2 CEFR), French (C1 CEFR), Norwegian (C1 CEFR)