

PERSONAL INFORMATION

George Varlas



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Date of birth 1987 | Nationality Greek

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Interests and Expertise

Numerical weather prediction, hydrometeorological modelling, extreme weather phenomena and floods, modelling of water and energy cycles, coupling of numerical models, Mediterranean and tropical cyclones, air-land-sea interaction, ocean-wave modelling, renewable energy, seasonal weather forecasting, regional climate modelling, data assimilation

10/2018–Present

Research Associate

Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR), Institute of Marine Biological Resources and Inland Waters (IMBRIW)

“YMEPERAA” project

Hydrometeorological Modeling • Coupled Simulations • Model Calibration • Data Sampling and Analysis • Assessment of Simulations • Study of Flash Floods • Bash and NCL Scripting • Topographical Data processing using ArcGIS • Contribution in Numerical Hydrometeorological Simulations with supercomputer ARIS of Greek Research and Technology Network (GRNET)

10/2017–07/2018

Research Assistant during compulsory military service

Hellenic National Meteorological Service (HNMS)

Weather Observations • Numerical Weather Modeling • Regional Climate Modeling

12/2012–10/2018

Research Assistant

Harokopio University of Athens (HUA), Department of Geography, Atmosphere and Climate Dynamics Group (ACDG)

Projects:

- **"Maintenance and update of the meteorological module of Poseidon system"**. ESPA 2014-2020, MIS5002739 (2018).

Software Installation • Bash and NCL Scripting • Data Handling and Analysis.

- **"A study for the dynamic interaction of the atmospheric and hydrologic environment in the drainage basin of Spercheios River"** (2017). Research project of Harokopio University of Athens.

Hydrometeorological Modeling • Topographical Data processing using ArcGIS • Application of ArcGIS Hydrological Tools on DEM Data • Data Analysis • Assessment of Simulations • Investigation of Soil-Water-Air Interactions • Technical Report Editing.

- **"Computing advances in Seasonal Weather Forecasting"**. Operational Project "Digital Convergence" CCI: 2007GR161PO002 (2015).

Atmospheric Modeling • Bash and NCL Scripting • Data Handling and Analysis • Statistical Evaluation • Implementation of Computing Tools used for the production of Seasonal Forecasts provided by <http://meteoclina.gr>. The deliverables are online available at: <https://github.com/ellak-monades-aristeias/Meteoclina-Seasonal-Forecast>.

- **"ARGO: A Greek infrastructure of self-sufficient drift ARGO floats for monitoring of Oceans"**. Operational Project: Attiki. MIS380214 (2013-2014).

Data Analysis • Statistical Evaluation • Data Assimilation in Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) • Investigation of the impact of assimilated ARGO temperatures on NWP forecast skill • Technical Report Editing.

- **"MyWave: A pan-European concerted and integrated approach to operational wave modelling and forecasting - a complement to GMES MyOcean services"**. FP7-SPACE-2011-1/CP-FP, SPA.2011.1.5-03 (2013).

Investigation of Model Coupling Techniques • Study of Air-Sea Interactions • Production of Thematic Maps and Diagrams • Statistical Analysis • Technical Report Editing.

Other Activities

Contribution in:

- Numerical Simulations with supercomputer ARIS of (GRNET)
- Installation and Maintenance of meteorological stations
- Installation and Maintenance of laboratory's personal computers and ACDG's cluster computing system

2013–2017 Teaching Assistant

Harokopio University of Athens (HUA), Department of Geography

- Undergraduate courses and laboratory support in:

- Meteorology
- Computer Science
- Climate Change

- Postgraduate courses in:

- Natural Hazards
- Extreme Weather Phenomena

- Authorial Assistant for the Scholar Course Book: **"An Introduction to Atmospheric Physics and Climate Change"** (2015), ISBN: 978-960-603-053-6, Petros Katsafados and Elias Mavromatides. Project: Kallipos/ESPA 2007-2013.

Contribution in:

- Chapter 2: "Thermodynamics of the atmosphere"
- Chapter 3: "Dynamics of the atmosphere".

2017 Research Assistant

Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR), Institute of Marine Biological Resources and Inland Waters (IMBRIW)

"Observation of water quality in Pikrodafni stream and Vourkari wetland" project.

Environmental Data Analysis • Data Assessment using Bash and NCL Scripting

- 01/2013–06/2017 **Weather Forecast Editor**
Ethnos Weekly Newspaper, Athens (Greece)

- 03/2013–03/2016 **PhD Research Fellow**
Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR), Institute of Marine Biological Resources and Inland Waters (IMBRIW)

Weather Forecasting • Hydrometeorological Modeling • Simulation and Analysis of Air-Sea Interaction • Data Assimilation • Data Analysis • Statistical Evaluation • Bash and NCL scripting • Topographical Data processing using ArcGIS • Application of ArcGIS Hydrological Tools on DEM Data • Contribution in the Development of the Website: <http://meteo.hcmr.gr>

- 2015 **Contractor**
ADENS S.A. company, Athens (Greece)

"Current assessment and future projection of the meteorological conditions contributing to the development of extreme weather events in Cyprus" project.
Analysis of Climatic Theories and Future Projections • Investigation of Climatic Interactions • Assessment of Climatic Trends and Future Sustainability • Technical Report Editing.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 2005–2010 **B.Sc. in Physics**
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of Physics
Thesis: "Bioclimatic study of regional Greece"

- 2010–2012 **M.Sc. in Environmental Physics**
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of Physics
Master Thesis: "Study of four extreme storm events at Sparta of Greece"

- 2012–2017 **Ph.D. in Numerical Weather and Ocean Wave Modeling**
Harokopio University of Athens, Department of Geography
Ph.D. Thesis: "Development of an integrated modeling system for simulating the air-ocean wave interactions"

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) Greek

Foreign language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C1	C2	C1	C1	C1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

- Job-related skills
- Efficiency
 - Team working

- Problem solving
- Organizing
- Presenting
- Socializing

Digital skills

SELF-ASSESSMENT				
Information processing	Communication	Content creation	Safety	Problem solving
Proficient user	Proficient user	Proficient user	Proficient user	Proficient user

Digital skills - Self-assessment grid

Programming languages: Fortran, Message Passage Interface (MPI), OASIS3-MCT coupler, Unix Shells scripting, Matlab, NCAR language (NCL), Python, GNU Octave, HTML, Pascal

Computer platforms: IBM, HP, CRAY, DELL, SUN, GRNET's ARIS supercomputer

Operating systems: Linux (Red Hat, Debian, CentOS, Fedora, Ubuntu, Raspbian), Windows, Android

Numerical models: Chemical Hydrological Atmospheric Ocean wave System (CHAOS), Advanced Weather Research and Forecasting model (WRF-ARW), hydrological model WRF-Hydro, ocean Wave Model (WAM), oceanic-hydrodynamic model NEMO, chemical model WRF-Chem, WRF Data Assimilation system (WRFDA), Global WRF (GWRF), Nonhydrostatic Mesoscale WRF Model (WRF-NMM)

Applications: ArcGIS, Office, VAPOR, IDV

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Honours and awards

- **Young Scientist Award 2018, European Meteorological Society (EMS)**, Journal Publication: "[Varlas, G.](#), Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A., and Korres, G. (2017). Implementation of a two-way coupled atmosphere-ocean wave modeling system for assessing air-sea interaction over the Mediterranean Sea, *Atmospheric Research Journal*, 208, 201-217 (doi: 10.1016/j.atmosres.2017.08.019).
- **Young Scientist Award, International Conference COMECAP 2016**, Poster Presentation: "Cheliotis, I., [Varlas, G.](#), and Christakos, K. (2016). The Impact of Cyclone Xaver on Hydropower Potential in Norway".
- **Award for the Project: "Computing advances in Seasonal Weather Forecasting (2015)"** of Operational Project "Digital Convergence" CCI: 2007GR161PO002. Electronic Services for the Development and Dissemination of Open Source, Harokopio University collaborators.

Memberships

2012-ongoing: Member of the Hellenic Meteorological Society (HMS)

Reviews

Reviewer of International Scientific Journals:

- Remote Sensing (MDPI)
- Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association (Taylor & Francis)

Publications

Number of publications in International Scientific peer-reviewed Journals: **10**

Number of papers in Scientific peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings: **10**

Number of chapters in a Scientific peer-reviewed Book: **3**

List of publications in International Scientific peer-reviewed Journals:

- **Varlas, G.**, Anagnostou, M., Spyrou, C., Papadopoulos, A., Kalogiros, J., Mentzafou, A., Michaelides, S., Baltas, E., Karymbalis, E., and Katsafados, P. (2019). A Multi-Platform Hydrometeorological Analysis of the Flash Flood Event of 15 November 2017 in Attica, Greece. *Remote Sensing*, 11(1), 45 (doi: 10.3390/rs11010045).
- **Varlas, G.**, Katsafados, P., Korres, G. and Papadopoulos, A. (2019). Assessing the impact of Argo floats temperature measurements on the numerical weather prediction forecast skill. *Mediterranean Marine Science*, 20(2), 331-341 (doi: 10.12681/mms.15423).
- **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulos, A., and Katsafados, P. (2019). An analysis of the synoptic and dynamical characteristics of hurricane Sandy (2012). *Meteorology and Atmospheric Physics*, 131(3), 443-453 (doi: 10.1007/s00703-017-0577-y).
- **Varlas, G.**, Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A., and Korres, G. (2018). Implementation of a two-way coupled atmosphere-ocean wave modeling system for assessing air-sea interaction over the Mediterranean Sea. *Atmospheric Research*, 208, 201-217 (doi: 10.1016/j.atmosres.2017.08.019).
- Katsafados, P., **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulos, A., Spyrou, C., and Korres, G. (2018). Assessing the implicit rain impact on sea state during hurricane Sandy (2012). *Geophysical Research Letters*, 45, 12015-12022 (doi: 10.1029/2018GL078673).
- **Varlas, G.**, Christakos, K., Cheliotis, I., Papadopoulos, A., and Steeneveld, G.-J. (2017). Spatiotemporal variability of marine renewable energy resources in Norway. *Energy Procedia*, 125, 180-189 (doi: 10.1016/j.egypro.2017.08.171).
- Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A., Korres, G., and **Varlas, G.** (2016). A fully coupled atmosphere-ocean wave modeling system for the Mediterranean Sea: interactions and sensitivity to the resolved scales and mechanisms. *Geoscientific Model Development*, 9(1), 161-173 (doi: 10.5194/gmd-9-161-2016).
- Christakos, K., Cheliotis, I., **Varlas, G.**, and Steeneveld, G. J. (2016). Offshore wind energy analysis of cyclone Xaver over North Europe. *Energy Procedia*, 94, 37-44 (doi: 10.1016/j.egypro.2016.09.187).
- Christakos, K., **Varlas, G.**, Reuder, J., Katsafados, P., and Papadopoulos, A.: Analysis of a Low-level Coastal Jet off the Western Coast of Norway. *Energy Procedia*, 53, 162-172, 2014 (doi: 10.1016/j.egypro.2014.07.225).
- Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A., **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulou, E., and Mavromatidis, E. (2014). Seasonal predictability of the 2010 Russian heat wave. *Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences*, 14, 1531-1542 (doi: 10.5194/nhess-14-1531-2014).

List of papers in Scientific peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings:

- **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulos, A., Nomikou, V.-M., Karymbalis, E., Anagnostou, M., and Katsafados P.: Assessing the interaction between the atmospheric and hydrological environments in the drainage basin of Spercheios River. 14th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics (COMECAP 2018), Alexandroupolis, Greece, 15-17 October 2018. In Proceedings (pp. 106-111).
- Katsafados, P., Spyrou, C., **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulos, A., Korres, G., Papadopoulou, E., and Vervatis, V.: Towards the incorporation of an ocean circulation model as an additional component in CHAOS modeling system. 14th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics (COMECAP 2018), Alexandroupolis, Greece, 15-17 October 2018. In Proceedings (pp. 196-201).
- Avgoustoglou, E., Bucchignani, E., Voudouri, A., **Varlas, G.**, Mercogliano, P., Katsafados, P., and Skrimizeas, P.: Installation and Testing of the Regional Climatic Model COSMO-CLM (CCLM) at the Hellenic National Meteorological Service. 14th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics (COMECAP 2018), Alexandroupolis, Greece, 15-17 October 2018. In Proceedings (pp. 579-584).
- Anagnostou, M., **Varlas, G.**, Kalogiros, J., Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A., Baltas, E., and Anagnostou, E.: A hydrometeorological analysis of an extreme flash flood event in the urban area of west Attica, Greece. 10th European Conference on Radar in Meteorology and Hydrology

(ERAD), Netherlands, 1-6 July 2018. In Proceedings (pp. 830-836).

- **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulos, A., Korres G., Katsafados, P.: Evaluation of a fully coupled atmosphere-ocean waves system (WEW) under high impact wind-wave conditions. 11th Panhellenic Symposium of Oceanography and Fisheries, University of the Aegean, Mytilini, Lesvos, Greece, 13-17 May 2015. In Proceedings (pp. 949-952).
- **Varlas, G.**, Katsafados, P.: Statistical approaches and evaluation of seasonal weather forecasting. 28th Panhellenic Conference on Statistics, Harokopio University of Athens, Athens, Greece, 15-18 April 2015. In Proceedings (pp. 32-46).
- **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulos A., Korres G., Katsafados P.: Modeling the air-sea wave interaction processes in an explosive cyclone over the Mediterranean Sea. 12th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics (COMECAP 2014), University of Crete, Heraklion, Crete, Greece, 28-31 May 2014. In Proceedings Vol. 3 (pp. 289-294), ISBN-978-960-524-430-9.
- Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A., **Varlas, G.**, Korres, G.: The coupled atmosphere-ocean wave modeling system WEW. 12th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics (COMECAP 2014), University of Crete, Heraklion, Crete, Greece, 28-31 May 2014. In Proceedings Vol. 1 (pp. 519-523), ISBN-978-960-524-430-9.
- **Varlas, G.**, Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A.: The synoptic and dynamical characteristics of the hurricane Sandy. In Proceedings of the 13th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology (CEST 2013), Divani Caravel Hotel, Athens, Greece, 5-7 September 2013.
- **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulos, A., Katsafados, P.: A long-term spatio-temporal illustration of precipitation in Greece. 1st Conference of Spatial Analysis, Harokopio University of Athens, Athens, Greece, 17-18 May 2013. In Proceedings (ISBN: 978-960-86818-6-6).

List of chapters in a Scientific peer-reviewed Book:

- **Varlas, G.**, Katsafados, P., and Papadopoulos, A.: Temperature Seasonal Predictability of the WRF Model. 13th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics (COMECAP 2016), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece, 19-21 September 2016. In *Perspectives on Atmospheric Sciences* (pp. 75-80), Springer, 2017.
- Katsafados, P., **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulos, A., and Korres, G.: Implementation of a Hybrid Surface Layer Parameterization Scheme for the Coupled Atmosphere-Ocean Wave System WEW. 13th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics (COMECAP 2016), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece, 19-21 September 2016. In *Perspectives on Atmospheric Sciences* (pp. 159-165), Springer, 2017.
- Cheliotis, I., **Varlas, G.**, and Christakos, K.: The Impact of Cyclone Xaver on Hydropower Potential in Norway. 13th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics (COMECAP 2016), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece, 19-21 September 2016. In *Perspectives on Atmospheric Sciences* (pp. 175-181), Springer, 2017.

Citations Google Scholar: **72, h-index 5**

Scopus: **43, h-index 5**

Researchgate: **70**

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7929-9452>

Presentations List of **18** studies presented (oral or poster) in Conferences, Workshops etc:

- Katsafados, P., Spyrou, C., **Varlas, G.**, Anagnostou, M., Kalogiros, J., and Papadopoulos, A.: Assimilating remote sensing data and its impact in LAPS predictability. 3rd European Nowcasting Conference (ENC), Madrid, Spain, 24-26 April 2019.
- Papadopoulou, L., **Varlas, G.**, Katsafados, P., Mavromatides, E., and Papadopoulos, A.: Assessing the predictability of seasonal weather forecast. 14th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics (COMECAP 2018), Alexandroupolis, Greece, 15-17 October 2018.
- **Varlas, G.**: Implementation of a two-way coupled atmosphere-ocean wave modeling system for

assessing air-sea interaction (**Solicited: Young Scientist Award Lecture**). EMS Annual Meeting: European Conference for Applied Meteorology and Climatology 2018, Budapest, Hungary, 3–7 September 2018.

- **Varlas, G.**, Papadopoulos, A., Vardakas, L., and Katsafados, P.: How ocean waves and river width change can modulate a Mediterranean river flooding? 12th Panhellenic Symposium of Oceanography and Fisheries, Ionian University, Corfu, Greece, 30 May-3 June 2018.
- **Varlas, G.**, Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A., and Korres, G.: One-year assessment of the two-way atmosphere-ocean wave coupled system CHAOS over the Mediterranean and Black Seas. 12th Panhellenic Symposium of Oceanography and Fisheries, Ionian University, Corfu, Greece, 30 May-3 June 2018.
- Christakos, K., **Varlas, G.**, Cheliotis, I.: Seasonal Assessment of Wave Energy Potential along the Norwegian coastline. European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2018, Vienna, Austria, 8-13 April 2018.
- Katsafados, P., **Varlas, G.**, Spyrou, C., Nomikou, V.-M., Papadopoulos, A. and Korres, G.: The impact of rain on ocean wave evolution and its feedback to the atmosphere. Workshop: "Coastal Hydrology and Surface Processes linked to Air/Sea Modeling", Madeira Island, Portugal, 26-27 September 2017.
- **Varlas, G.**, Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A., Korres, G.: The impact of rain on wave evolution and its feedback to the atmosphere. European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2017, Vienna, Austria, 23-28 April 2017.
- Nomikou, V.-M., **Varlas, G.**, Theofanidi, S., Karymbalis, E., Papadopoulos, A., Katsafados, P.: A study on the dynamic interaction of the atmospheric and hydrologic environment in the drainage basin of Sperchios River, Greece. European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2017, Vienna, Austria, 23-28 April 2017.
- Christakos, K., **Varlas, G.**, Cheliotis, I., Aalstad, K., Papadopoulos, A., Katsafados, P., Steeneveld, G.-J.: Quantitative variability of renewable energy resources in Norway. European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2017, Vienna, Austria, 23-28 April 2017.
- **Varlas, G.**: Presentation of Atmosphere and Climate Dynamics Group activities. Researcher's Night, Central Building of University of Athens, 30 September 2016.
- Christakos, K., Cheliotis, I., **Varlas, G.**, Steeneveld, G.J.: Analysis of cyclone Xaver (2013) for offshore wind energy. 13th Deep Sea Offshore Wind R&D Conference, Trondheim, Norway, 20-22 January 2016.
- **Varlas, G.**, Katsafados, P.: Computational improvements in seasonal weather forecasting. FOSSCOMM 2015, Technological Educational Institute of Athens, Athens, Greece, 7-8 November 2015.
- Katsafados, P., **Varlas, G.**: The integration of ARGO floats data in numerical weather prediction (NWP). Greek Argo project Workshop, Athens, 2 December 2015.
- Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A., **Varlas, G.**, Korres, G.: A hybrid surface layer parameterization scheme for the two-way fully coupled ocean-wave system WEW. European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2015, Vienna, Austria, 12-17 April 2015.
- **Varlas, G.**: Presentation of Atmosphere and Climate Dynamics Group activities. 2nd Athens Science Festival, Technopolis of Athens, Greece, 17-22 March 2015.
- Christakos, K., **Varlas, G.**, Reuder, J., Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A.: WRF simulation of a Low-level Coastal Jet (LLCJ). Summer School: "Online integrated modeling of meteorological and chemical transport processes", University of Aveiro, Aveiro, Portugal, 6-11 July 2014.
- Christakos, K., **Varlas, G.**, Reuder, J., Katsafados, P., Papadopoulos, A.: Metocean analysis of a low-level coastal jet off the Norwegian coast. 11th Deep Sea Offshore Wind R&D Conference, Trondheim, Norway, 22-24 January 2014.