## The periglacial environment – Ice Caves

Cryo cave climatology → (A) mainly concentrated where MAAT < 5°C ; MAAT < 2°C for ice caves (B) P increase with altitude (R=0.96 (cryo) & 0.97 (ice)) (C) not present where MWAT>0°C; significant increase MWAT<-2°C (D) MSAT not significant → abrupt decrease with MSAT > 13°C



(Colucci et al., 2016 - Geomorphology)

NORTH

20

10

40

# The Canin massif – Julian Alps





The Julian Alps 1853 km<sup>2</sup> west to east across the Ita–Slo border

Carbonate massifs

**Highest elevations** 

- Mt.Triglav slo (2864m)
- Mount Montasio ita (2754 m)
- Mount Škrlatica slo (2740 m)









Canin AWS - late April 2013

Automatic weather station (AWS) Canin (since 2012) 2203 m asl - h 9 m Air temperature Relative humidity Precipitation (liquid) Snow height Wind speed and direction Soil temperature (7 depths) Solar radiation (total and reflected)

Canin AWS - late April 2014





### C3 Cave's Cryosphere and Climate

### www.c3project.net





#### Based on 5 valley weather station around Mt. Canin

Colucci & Guglielmin, (2015) Int. Journal Clim.









B  $\rightarrow$  temperature reconstruction at the elevation of 2200 m 1851-2012

Based on 2 mountain station (f) Villacher Alpe (2120 m) – Austria (e) Triglav (2514 m) – Slovenia

Colucci & Guglielmin, (2015) Int. Journal Clim.



*Colucci (2016). Geomorphic influence on small glacier response to post Little Ice Age climate warming: Julian Alps, Europe. Earth Surface Processes and Landforms* 



*Colucci (2016). Geomorphic influence on small glacier response to post Little Ice Age climate warming: Julian Alps, Europe. Earth Surface Processes and Landforms* 

![](_page_9_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Picture_0.jpeg)

## www.c3project.net

![](_page_10_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_3.jpeg)

# The Canin massif – Julian Alps

# Dackstein limestones The highest karst-cave-density in the Alps

![](_page_14_Picture_2.jpeg)

Caves

#### Cryo caves distribution → 3068 caves > 1000 m asl

1111 CRYO caves of which 123 (11%) ICE caves mainly between 1500-2200 m mean el. 1838 m, median el. 1888 m

#### **Canin massif**

Highest cryo cave percentage

- 751 cryo caves
- 79 ice caves

Median elevation 1928 m asl  $\rightarrow$  991 cryo caves considering

![](_page_14_Figure_10.jpeg)

			km	
0	5	10	20	30