# ANNA DEL MORAL MÉNDEZ Boulder, CO 80301 • annadelmoral1@gmail.com ORCID ID:0000-0002-5015-840X

## **ACADEMIC EDUCATION**

2020 - Applied Physics - Meteorology, PhD. Cum Laude, UB (Spain)

Thesis: Radar-based nowcasting of severe thunderstorms: A better understanding of the dynamical influence of complex topography and the sea

2015 - Meteorology, M.S., UB (Spain)

Thesis: Identification of anomalous motion of thunderstorms using radar and satellite data

**2014 - Physics, B.S.**, *UB (Spain)* 

#### **AWARDS RECEIVED**

2020 - Early Career Scientists Assembly (ECSA) Steering Committee Travel Award, NSF NCAR

2019 - Advanced Study Program-Graduate Visitor Program, NSF NCAR

**2018 - ERAD Travel Support,** 10th European Conference on Radar in Meteorology and Hydrology

2017 - Young Scientist Travel Award (YSTA), EMS

**2016 - EGU Support Award for Early Career Scientist**, EGU Secretary Office, and 15th Plinius Scientific Committee

**2016** and **2017** - Travel Award, *UB* 

#### INVITED TALKS AND TRAINING

**2023 - CREWS/SWFP (WMO) - Eastern Africa- Training Workshop on Severe Weather and Impact-based Forecast and Warning Services** (invited lecturer by WMO) 13-23 June 2023, Kigali, Rwanda.

**2023 - Training on TITAN and storm analysis** (invited by Advanced Radar Company) MeteoRwanda (online)

**2022 - Radar and Severe Weather Nowcasting** (invited talk within FINKERAT-FMI project) MeteoRwanda (online)

2020, 2021 - ESSL Testbed, Expert Week (invited), European Severe Storm Laboratory

**2018** – Keynote presentation: Performance of a new algorithm for nowcasting anomalous trajectories, 10th European Conference on Radar in Meteorology and Hydrology (ERAD), Ede (The Netherlands)

#### AWARDED PROPOSALS AND PROJECTS

2023 - NCAR President's Strategic Initiative Fund (PSIF) research award- Accelerating environmental sustainability solutions in Africa: a UCAR initiative National Center for Atmospheric Research

2021 - Advanced Study Program-Postdoctoral Fellow Program, National Center for Atmospheric Research

**2021 - Scientific Research Award to Urban Challenges in the City of Barcelona 2020,** *Barcelona Townhall (Not performed due to incompatibility)* 

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE/ APPOINTMENTS

**05/2024 - Project Scientist I,** Earth Observing Laboratory (EOL), NSF National Center for Atmospheric Research, NCAR (Boulder, CO, USA)

**10/2021 - 04/2024 - Advance Study Program- Postdoctoral Fellow**, NSF National Center for Atmospheric Research, NCAR (Boulder, CO, USA)

- Led a proposal of convective modes, time slots, and zones for possible operational severe weather warnings
- Initiated a proposal of thermodynamic, moisture, and wind indexes for pre-convective environment description for operational forecasting
- Conducted statistical analysis of the ERA5 reanalysis performance over the lake: comparison with Kenya sounding data and hydrometeorological automatic weather stations

- Have initiated an analysis of the potential of dual-polarimetric radar data for automatic severe storm intensification and warnings using the S-band Tanzania radar, and the TITAN identification and tracking algorithm (NCAR)
- **04/2021 08/2021 Postdoctoral Fellow,** Centro Internazionale di Ricerca in Monitoraggio Ambientale -CIMA Research Foundation (Savona, Italy)
- Collaborated in an aerosol load sensitivity test study in the Caribbean using the Aerosol-Aware Thompson Microphysics Scheme in WRF model, initialized with an ERA5-forced ensemble with stochastic perturbations
- 03/2019 08/2019 Advance Study Program- Graduate Visitor, National Center for Atmospheric Research, NCAR (Boulder, CO, USA)
  - Led the implementation of the dual-Doppler technique for the first time in a southern European country with an operational C-band weather radar network
  - Led a study of the influence of topography storm propagation and 3D wind fields of severe storms in Catalonia using observational and modeling (WRF) datasets
- **02/2019 03/2019 Research and Applied Counseling contract in Meteorology and Hydrology**, Fundació Bosch i Gimpera (Barcelona, Spain)
  - Led a temporal and spatial climate study in the Salou basin for a temporary period of 5 years, and report writing for final stakeholders, using the radar-based storm identification, and tracking algorithm developed in the Ph.D.
- **09/2017 08/2018 Weekend weather forecaster in the radio program, "Hour L"**, *Radio Cadena SER Catalunya Central (Spain)*
- 11/2015 10/2018 Research and Teaching Assistant Contract, University of Barcelona, Faculty of Physics (Barcelona, Spain)
  - Led the current improvements of the radar-based identification and tracking algorithm at the Meteorological Service of Catalonia: (i) implemented a new dual six-threshold technique to identify individual convective cores in clusters; (ii) implemented a volumetric overlapping technique to identify in advance possible split/merge processes in storms; (iii) implemented a dynamic thresholding technique to track storms to obtain more realistic life cycle features.
  - Led the development of algorithms for processing radar data and derived products
  - Led and collaborated in statistical analysis and treatment of remote sensing and station data: lightning, satellite, radar, sounding, and rainfall gauges
- **09/2014 09/2015 Internship at the Meteorological Service of Catalonia**, Servei Meteorològic de Catalunya (Barcelona, Spain)
  - Daily monitoring of the correct operation of the Remote Sensing and Radio Sounding team products and instrumentation networks
  - Translation of the operational satellite-based fog detection product algorithm from IDL to R-Cran
  - R-based script development to obtain, process, georeferenced, and visualize operational EUMETSAT MSG-2 satellite products
- 07/2012 08/2012 Internship at the Ebro Observatory, Observatori de l'Ebre (Roquetes, Spain)
  - Collaborated in an analysis of the thermal variability of the operational magnetometers at the Ebro observatory

- Tang, W., Kumar R., **del Moral Méndez, A.,** et al., (2025) Unlocking the Potential of Collaborative Research on Africa's Environmental Challenges: Air quality and Health, Climate and Weather, and land and water (accepted for subission to BAMS)
- **del Moral Méndez,** A., R.D. Roberts, T.M. Weckwerth, and J.W. Wilson. (2024) Towards improved short-term forecasting for Lake Vitoria Basin: Part II Pre-convective environment analysis with ERA5, *submitted to Mon. Wea. Rev. (under review)*
- **del Moral Méndez,** A., T.M. Weckwerth, R.D. Roberts, and J.W. Wilson. (2023). Toward Improved Short-Term Forecasting for Lake Victoria Basin. Part I: A Radar-Based Convective Mode Analysis. Wea. Forecasting, 38, 3509-2526, https://doi.org/10.1175/WAF-D-23-0039.1
- Tartaglione, N., Desbiolles, F., **del Moral-Méndez**, A., Meroni, A. N., Napoli, A., Borgnino, M., Parodi, A., and Pasquero, C. (2024). Low cloud response to aerosol-radiation-cloud interactions: Idealized WRF numerical experiments for EUREC<sup>4</sup>A project. Atmos. Sci. Lett., e1208. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/asl.1208">https://doi.org/10.1002/asl.1208</a>
- Llasat, M. C., **del Moral**, A., Cortès, M., and Rigo, T. (2021). Convective precipitation trends in the Spanish Mediterranean region. Atmos. Res., 257, 105581. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosres.2021.105581
- **del Moral, A.**, Weckwerth, T.M., Rigo, T., Bell, M.M., Llasat, M.C (2020). C-Band Dual-Doppler Retrievals in Complex Terrain: Improving the Knowledge of Severe Storm Dynamics in Catalonia. Remote Sensing, 12(18), 2930, https://doi.org/10.3390/rs12182930
- **del Moral, A.**, Llasat, M.C and Rigo, T. (2020). Connecting flash flood events with radar-derived convective storm characteristics on the northwestern Mediterranean coast: knowing the present for better future scenarios adaptation. Atmos. Res, 238, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosres.2020.104863
- Rehbein, A., M, Rugna, M., Hobouchian, M. P., **del Moral, A.,** Goodman, S. J., Lindsey, D. T., Thomas, J. (2020). A Workshop on the Next Generation Environmental Satellite Constellations. Bull. Amer. Meteorol. Soc., 101, E763–E770, https://doi.org/10.1175/BAMS-D-19-0349.1.
- **del Moral, A**., Rigo, T. and Llasat, M.C. (2018). A radar-based centroid tracking algorithm for severe weather surveillance: identifying split/merge processes in convective systems. Atmos. Res., 213, 110-120, ISSN 0169-8095, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosres.2018.05.030">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosres.2018.05.030</a>.
- **del Moral, A.,** Llasat, M.C and Rigo, T. (2016) Identification of anomalous motion of thunderstorms using daily rainfall fields. Atmos.Res., 185, 92-100, ISSN 0169-8095,https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosres.2016.11.001

#### FIELD WORK

## 09/2023-09/2025 – Idaho Department of Water Resource Cloud Seeding Experiment(US)

- In charge of the NSF NCAR X-pol siting, and operations. Design of scanning the radar strategies for the experiment, radar monitoring, data quality control, and analysis.
- Designed operations plan for the Liquid Propane Experiment field crew
- 03/2022 04/2022 PERiLS (Propagation, Evolution, and Rotation in Linear Storms) (US)
- 09/2019 HaL (Hurricanes at Landfall) (US)
- 05/2019 TWIRL (Tornadic Winds: In-situ and Radar observation at Low levels), Oklahoma/Texas, USA
- **10/2018 12/2018 RELAMPAGO** (Remote sensing of Electrification, Lightning, And Mesoscale/microscale Processes with Adaptive Ground Observations) (*Argentina*)
  - Co-principal operator of the mobile C-band radar: software and hardware manipulation, scanning strategy changes, and manipulation of the transmitter and receiver
  - Recording of radar and meteorological data in real-time with C-band, and deploying PODs in severe weather environments
  - Manual synchronized sounding launching and data recording

#### LEADERSHIP/ SERVICE/MENTORSHIP/PANELS

09/2024 - Trainer at the Open Radar – Open Source Software Tools for Radar Data Processing, ERAD 2024

**07/2024** -Panelist at the NSF NCAR NCAR Professional Development Workshop Series Schedule workshop on proposal writing

07/2024 - Seminar at the UIUC Summer Radar School

05/2024 - present - Doppler On Wheels (DOW, UIUC) radar facility external advisory committee

04/2024 - present - NSF NCAR Convergence Science Program Ambassador

06/2024 - present - XRAD (Meteorological Service of Catalonia) radar network external advisory committee

03/2024 - UCAR Africa Initative workshop organization and seminar series lead

2023 -present - NSF NCAR Early Career Scientists Assembly Steering Committee (ECSA-SC) member

2021-2024 - NSF NCAR Postdoctoral Professional Development Committee member

2021-2023 - Ambassador co-lead for the Committee for Hispanic and Latinx Advancement (AMS)

02/2022 - Science Talk/mentorship, Meteorological Experimentation Course, Sophomore level – SUNY-Oswego

**06/2022** - Ph.D. Student Co-Advisor, NCAR's Advanced Study Program's Bridge Graduate Visitor Program (GVP) Fellowship

11/2021 - Ph.D. Defense Committee member- Dr. Albert Salvador Yuste, UPC (Spain)

07/2017 - Conference local organization committee, 10th HyMeX Workshop Barcelona

02/2018 - 06/2018 - Bachelor of Physics Student Co-Advisor: degree final project, UB (Spain)

#### **TEACHING**

#### 2017-2021 - La Universitat de l'Experiència, UB (Spain)

Remote exploration of the atmosphere: Weather radar

History of Meteorology and Instrumentation

Microphysics of clouds and precipitation I and II

Advanced instrumentation and experimental campaigns

Fieldwork: Fabra Observatory and Barcelona rainwater tanks

#### **2016 -2020 - Gaudir UB**, *UB* (Spain)

Weather and Basic Concepts of Meteorology

Observing Weather and Climate

## 2015 - 2018 - Official Physics B.S., UB (Spain)

Fundamentals of Laboratory

Differential Equations and Vectorial Calculus

Meteorology and Climatology

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHER SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS

**2021 - EUREC4A-OA:** Improving the representation of small-scale nonlinear ocean-atmosphere interactions in climate models by innovative joint observing and modeling approaches, *EU* 

**2007 - 2020 – HYMEX** (HYdrological cycle in the Mediterranean EXperiment), EU

**2018 - 2020 - PIRAGUA:** Evaluation and prospective of the water resources of the Pyrenees in a context of Climate Change, and adaptation measures with impact on the territory (*in Spanish*), *EU* 

2018 - A journey through droughts and floods in our city. from witnesses to leaders (in Catalan), Spain

2018 - 2020 - M-CostAdapt: Adaptation routes to Climate Change in the Mediterranean coastal zone. Overcoming the limits of adaptability

(in Spanish), Spain

- **2017 Weather explorers:** Discovering natural risks in Barcelona and the role of citizens in their knowledge (*in Catalan*), *Spain*
- **2015 2017 HOPE:** Holistic analysis of the impact of extreme rainfall and flooding and their introduction in future scenarios. Application to adaptation and resilience strategies (*in Spanish*), *Spain*
- 2014 2015 FLOOD-UP. Exploring our resilience in flash floods (in Spanish), Spain

#### WORKSHOPS/ SUMMER SCHOOLS

- 2024 NSF NCAR Early Career Leadership Program (ECLP), Boulder, CO, USA
- **2024 New Lenses for Engagement virtual workshop** (relationship-building with historically marginalized and at-risk communities with the Earth system science), *Boulder, CO, USA*
- **2019 NOAA/NASA Satellite Meteorology Summer Workshop**, Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere, Fort Collins, CO, USA
- 2019 Joint WRF and MPAS Users' Workshop, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, CO, USA
- **2018 7th CNR/ISAC Summer School on Precipitation: Remote Sensing and Modeling**, *Italian National Research Council*, *Lecce*, *Italy*
- **2017 Forecasting of Severe Convective Storms**, 9th European Conference on Severe Storms Pula, Croatia

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (LAST, MORE RELEVANT)

- 2025 A Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Approach to Addressing Societal Needs Related to Severe Weather Forecasting in East Africa, accepted oral presentation at 105th AMS Annual Meeting
- **2024 High-Impact weather over Lake Victoria: Aligning research with societal needs,** *Alliance for Education, Science, Engineering and Design with Africa (AESEDA), Pennsylvania State University*
- **2024 Radar polarimetric signatures of severe convective storms: towards an Early Warning system for Lake Victoria basin,** 12th European Conference on Radar in Meteorology and Hydrology, Roma (Italy)
- **2023 Towards improved near-term forecasting for Lake Victoria Basin: convective diurnal cycle over the lake,** WCRP Open Science Conference, Kigali (Rwanda)
- 2023 Pre-convective environments for Lake Victoria using ERA5 reanalysis: identifying severe weather indexes for enhanced forecasts, WCRP Open Science Conference, Kigali (Rwanda)
- 2023 Radar polarimetric signatures of severe convective storms: towards an Early Warning System for Lake Victoria Basin, WCRP Open Science Conference, Kigali (Rwanda)
- 2022 Joint EOL/CyPRESS Seminar: Towards Improved Short-Term Forecasting for Lake Victoria Basin: Exploring HIGHWAY field campaign data, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder (US)
- 2022 ASP Research Review Seminars: Studying severe convection over Lake Victoria: Towards an improved near-term forecasting, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder (US)
- **2022 Exploring the polarimetric capabilities of the S-band Mwanza radar in Tanzania, Africa: Towards an Early Warning System in Lake Victoria Basin**, 11th European Conference on Radar in Meteorology and Hydrology, Locarno (Switzerland)
- **2022 Towards a better understanding of the convective diurnal cycle on Lake Victoria**, 4th European Nowcasting Conference (virtual)
- **2022 A first glimpse of severe storms over Lake Victoria basin: A radar-based convective mode analysis,** 100th American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting (virtual)
- **2020 Assessing Anomalous Propagation of Convective Storms in Complex Terran: Using a Combined Dual-Doppler and Modeling Approach**, 100th American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting, Boston, (USA)
- 2019 Towards a better understanding of the role of topography in the motion of severe storms in Catalonia:
- First results with C-band dual-Doppler analysis, 10th European Conference on Severe Storms, Krakow (Poland)
- 2019 A radar-based climatological study of the Salou region thunderstorms: knowing the present for better future scenarios adaptation, 12th HyMex workshop, Split (Croatia)

**2018 - Can we predict changes in the trajectories of thunderstorms bearing severe weather?** *16th Plinius Conference on Mediterranean Risks, Montpellier (France)* 

#### SCIENCE OUTREACH

- **2024 Conference: NCAR Explorer Series: Thunderstorms around the world: how observations can help save lives** *Boulder, CO (US)*
- **2020 Conference: We have scientific talent**, Sant Joan de Vilatorrada townhall (Spain)
- **2018 Workshop: Get into the world of floods**, *The Youth Mobile Festival: YoMo Barcelona (Spain)*
- **2018 Workshop: Exploring the natural risks in the city**, *IV Science Festival, University of Barcelona (Spain)*
- **2018 Workshop: Weather explorers**, MAGNET program (Spain)
- 2016 Exposition: Let's talk about weather: History of meteorological fondness, Olot Volcanology Museum
- **2018 2019 Exposition: Weather Explorers,** *University of Barcelona, and Civic Centers*

## COMPUTATIONAL/PROGRAMMING SKILLS

R-Cran; Python; Bash scripting (basic level); Q-GIS; Radar data programs (i.e., SOLO3, SAMURAI, LROSE); Weather and Research Forecasting model (WRF)

#### SPANISH TRANSLATION SERVICE AND LANGUAGES

2022 - Handbook: Climate Myth Debunking for TV Meteorologists,

https://www.climatechangecommunication.org/wpcontent/uploads/2022/01/Climate-Myth-Debunking-for-Broadcast-Meteorologists.pdf

Fluent in English, Catalan, and Spanish