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EARTH SCIENCE SERVICES

Seasonal and Sub-seasonal climate predictions

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Towards modeling the Earth System

air quality, meteorology, climate and health studies

Earth system modelling



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Spatial scales



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How can we predict climate for the coming season if we cannot predict the weather next week?

Weather forecasts

The forecasts are based in the initial conditions of the **atmosphere**, which is highly variable and develops a chaotic behaviour after a few days

Climate predictions

The predictions are based in the initial conditions of the **sea surface temperature**, **snow cover** or **sea ice**, which have a slow evolution that can range from few months to years.

Climate predictions and predictability



time

Source: S.Gualdi readapted from Trzaska (http://portal.iri.columbia.edu)

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Example: wind power predictions

Seasonal average wind

mples of seasonal wind power predictions Wind Farm in North Sea 3.0 Seasonal average wind power density (kW/m²) power density (kwn 86.3% 2.5 13.7% 0% 2.0 Dec 1st 2013 -Feb 28th 2014 Wind Farm in China 2.0 Seasonal average wind Seasonal average wind power density (kW/m²) power density (kW/m²) Normal% Above normal% 31.3% 70 85 40 55 100 55 70 85 100 40 55 70 85 100 31.4% 39.2% 1.5 1.5 Wind power prediction for December 1st 2013 - February 28th 2014, issued on November 1st 2013. The most likely wind power category (below normal, normal or above normal), and its percentage 52.9% 29.5% probability to occur is shown. "Normal" represents the average of the past 30 years. White areas demonstrate where the probability is <40% and approximately equal for all three categories. Grey areas show where the climate prediction model does not improve upon the standard and current 1.0 1.0 approach, which projects past climate data into the future. Dec 1st 2013 -Dec 1st 2013 -Feb 28th 2014 Feb 28th2014

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Example: wind power predictions

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Seasonal climate predictions





The same methodology can be applied to many other climatic variables:

Evaporation, Precipitation-Evaporation balance, relative and specific Humidity, Humidity fluxes, Precipitation, Precipitable water, min. and max. Temperature, Heat fluxes,

Water management and seasonal predictions

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Water management and seasonal predictions

MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURES:

 Sub-seasonal predictions (one month ahead) of stormy periods

- Planning of transportation of special goods
- Early warning systems for harbors (days ahead)
- Operational planning / maintenance

Collaboration with LIM-UPC (Laboratori d'Enginyeria Marítima) in different projects



Water management and seasonal predictions



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Water management and seasonal predictions





FLOOD RISK - WATER SUPPLY

- Sub-seasonal predictions (one month ahead)
- Seasonal predictions (the season ahead)
 - General trends for precipitation, Temperature, etc.
- Downscaling of climate variables.

- Informing Hydroelectric power management
- Early warning systems for extreme events
- Information on drought periods or flood risk

Partners in the H2020 project **IMPREX** (Improving predictions and management of hydrological extremes)

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Thank you!

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