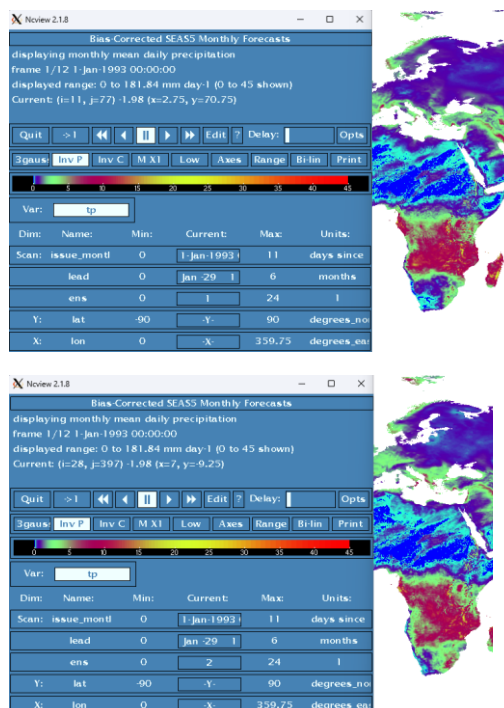


The paper describes a dataset of bias adjusted seasonal forecasts of temperature and precipitation at monthly timescale with lead times up to seven months. The paper is describing the methodology well, besides some minor remarks, and provide relevant analyses to present the forecast skill and remaining deficiencies. I find some sections poorly described and at times confusing and in need of reformulation. I add minor remarks below:

L107: How is the +/- 15 d time window applied at the end points?

L124: Please explain how the extrapolation is performed. How is the linear or additive methods determined? Is it trained on part of the tail?

L125: The data set shows some issues for dry regions. I attach two figures from a single forecast, where it is seen that an area with precipitation is constant over all bias adjusted ensemble members (looking at file SEAS5_BCSD_tp_1993.nc). This is a recurring problem with quantile mapping approaches, and requires special attention. I note this, but for the forecasts of monthly mean conditions, it is likely of little consequence, but for forcing hydrological models it might have impacts. When studying the data, you'll notice that the pattern over Sudan/Tchad, and south Algeria is constant across the members, whereas the patterns elsewhere changes as expected.



L192-202: It is not clear if a particular case is shown, such as the bias in a forecast for a specific month, or if this is presenting the bias assessed from a longer time period of multiple years. L194 mentions “loss of skill”, but the figure shows bias and not skill, which should not be confused. Was temperature first “downscaled” by lapse rate correction, or is that included in the “bias”?

L205: “BCSD outperforms the uncorrected forecasts”, but only the BCSD result is shown. The uncorrected forecasts or the difference between the two should be shown to assess this statement.

Figure5 would better emphasize the deviations if values from 0.04-0.06 are shown, or simply the values minus 0.05 as deviations from the expected value.

L271: I find this sentence confusing, please reformulate. I do not see anything of linear behaviour in Fig 7, nor do I see any results for “share 33%”. The use of “ensemble share” probably refers to the horizontal axis in the figure, but the figure also shown “Share of events”, which I think adds to the confusion.

Data issue:

The figures below identify issues with dry days in the bias adjusted data.