

Discussion on future of the CHFP

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WGSIP 25/WGNE 39

4-8 November 2024

Toulouse, France



ESMO
Earth System Modelling
and Observations



WCRP
World Climate
Research Programme

Origin of the Climate-System Historical Forecast Project (CHFP)

ca. 2007:

- Mandate of WCRP Task Force on Seasonal Prediction transferred to WGSIP (then under CLIVAR)
- CHFP proposed in conjunction with WCRP position paper on seasonal prediction →
- CHFP launched at the 2007 WCRP Workshop on Seasonal Prediction in Barcelona
- <https://www.wcrp-climate.org/images/modelling/WGSIP/CHFP/CHFP.pdf>
- Early days for application of coupled climate models to seasonal prediction

B. Kirtman and A. Pirani, 2009: The State of the Art of Seasonal Prediction Outcomes and Recommendations from the First World Climate Research Program (WCRP) Workshop on Seasonal Prediction, BAMS, DOI: 10.1175/2008BAMS2707.1

- CHFP archive established at CIMA, merged with DEMETER and ENSEMBLES archives
- Seasonal hindcasts from >20 systems



<http://chfps.cima.fcen.uba.ar>

Publications using CHFP data

- Hindcast data continues to be used, despite getting “old”:

Jain S., and A. A Scaife, 2022: How extreme could the near term evolution of the Indian Summer Monsoon rainfall be? *Environ. Res. Lett.*, **17** 034009. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ac4655>

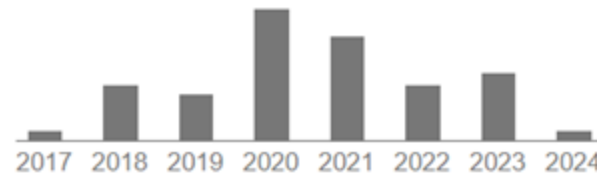
Pillai, P. A., S. A. Rao, A. Srivastava, D. A. Ramu, M. Pradhan, and R. S. Das, 2021: Impact of the tropical Pacific SST biases on the simulation and prediction of Indian summer monsoon rainfall in CFSv2, ECMWF-System4, and NMME models. *Climate Dyn.*, **56**, 1699–1715, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00382-020-05555-1>.

Saurral RI, Merryfield WJ, Tolstykh MA, Lee W-S, Doblas-Reyes FJ, García-Serrano J, Massonnet F, Meehl GA, Teng H (2021) A dataset for intercomparing the transient behavior of dynamical model-based subseasonal to decadal climate predictions. *J Adv Model Earth Syst.* <https://doi.org/10.1029/2021MS002570>

Nikolaev, A.; Richter, I.; and Sadowski, P. 2020. Deep learning for climate models of the Atlantic ocean. In Proceedings of the AAAI Spring Symposium - Combining Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning with Physical Sciences: Palo Alto, CA, USA: MLPS <https://par.nsf.gov/servlets/purl/10273992>

+ 13 earlier publications

- 51 citations of Tompkins et al. (2017) →



- However, there are multiple **barriers to keeping CHFP relevant**:
 - Difficult to persuade centres to provide tailored data with every system update
 - Emergence of other hindcast data sources (e.g. NMME, C3S)
 - Systems in database getting old
 - Sustainability at CIMA

→ is there a way forward for CHFP?

A possible way forward

Background

Recognizing the need to reduce model biases, a TPOS 2020 recommendation was for development of a community effort to document model biases and to quantify how S2IP prediction systems may be improving with time - TPOS 2020 Final Report

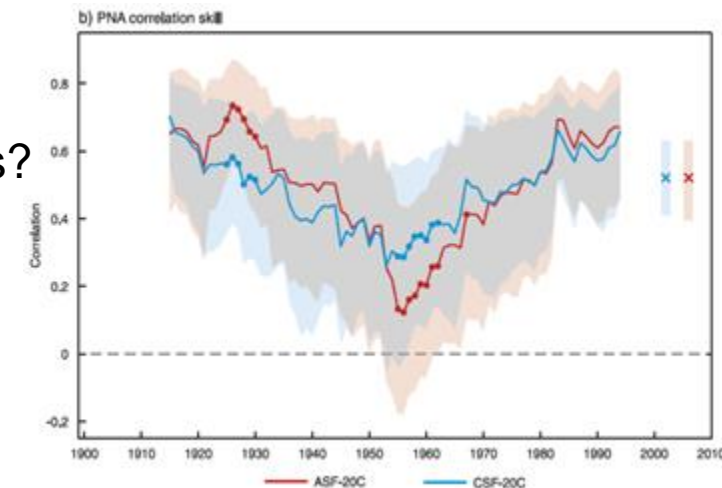


Proposal

- **Archive WMO LC-LRFMME hindcast data from retired (and current?) systems** in the CHFP database
- New systems from consenting GPCs could continuously be added

Analysis

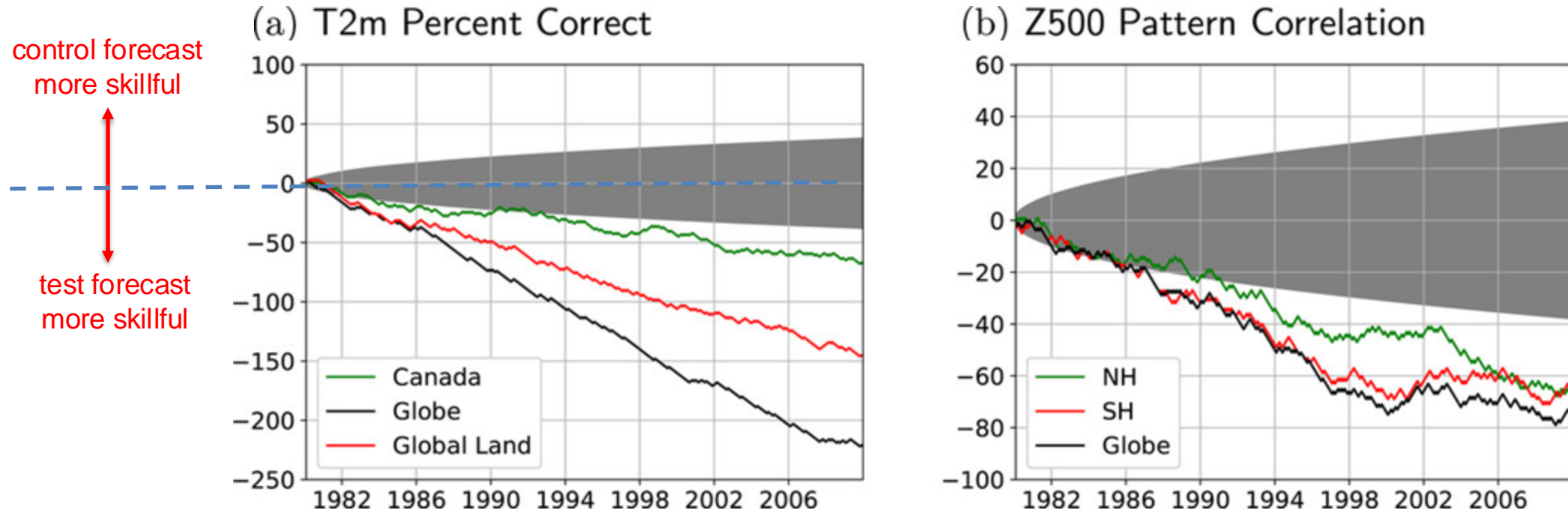
- How to compare skill for systems having different hindcast epochs and lengths?
- Need to control for variations in predictability, different hindcast lengths, etc.
- Possible benchmark: ECMWF CSF-20C*, verification against ERA-20C →



*Weisheimer et al. BAMS 2020

A possible way forward (2)

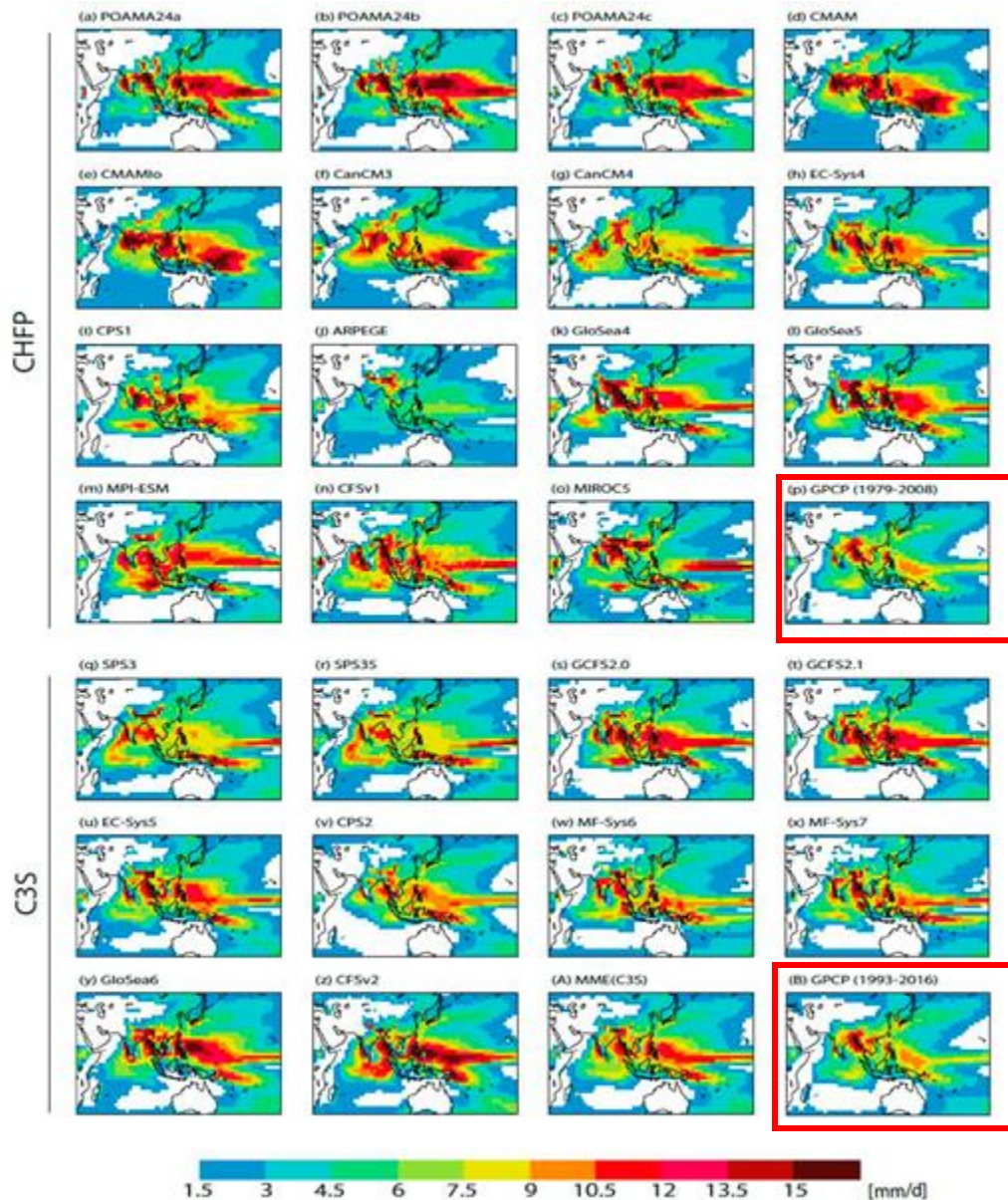
- Possible approach for assessing relative skill of two systems: method of DeSole and Tippett, “Forecast Comparison Based on Random Walks”, *MWR* 2016, <https://doi.org/10.1175/MWR-D-15-0218.1>



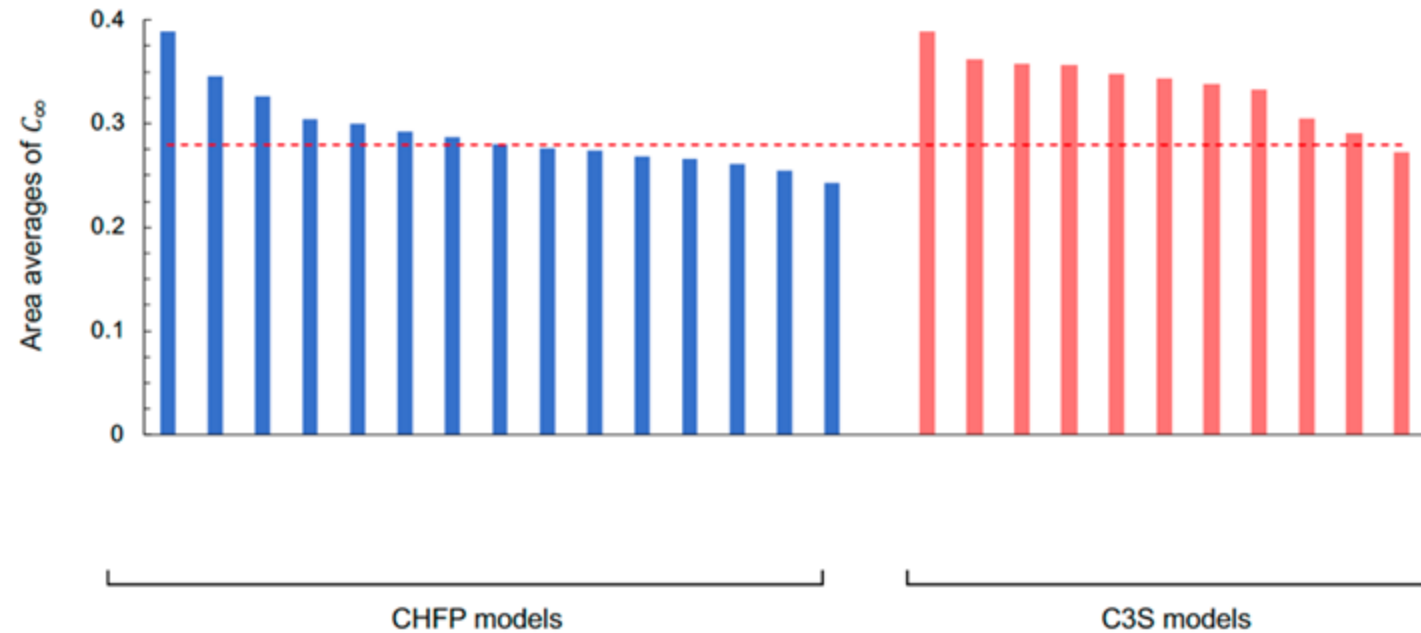
Lin et al., WAF (2020): control=CanSIPsv1, test=CanSIPsv2

- TPOS-type assessment would have control=CSF-20C, test=GPC hindcast
- Could compare Random Walk Skill Scores of Risby et al. *Nature Comm.* (2021) against common benchmark
- (However, CSF-20C ends in 2010, no prospect for updating)

Example: Skill assessment of seasonal prediction systems (Looking back the progress in the last decade)



Area average of temporal correlation scores for Jun.-Aug. precipitation over ASM region



Progress of a decade

Yuhei Takaya slide

Takaya et al. (2023) Mausam, IWM-7 special issue
DOI: 10.54302/mausam.v74i2.5925

