Calibration of Multimodel-Multianalysis Limited Area Ensemble

M. Marrocu (1), P.A. Chessa (2)

(1) CRS4: Center for Advanced Studies, Research and Development in Sardinia - Pula (CA) Italy (marino@crs4.it), (2) Servizio Agrometeorologico Regionale della Sardegna Sassari - Italy (chessa@sar.sardegna.it)

Ensemble prediction systems aimed at short range and high resolution weather forecasts based on limited area models are nowdays becoming common. This is mainly due to the availability of powerful and affordable computer systems often based on Cluster of PCs. In this talk a pre-operational Multimodel and Multianalysis Ensemble prediction system of limited area models is shortly described. In particular, the calibration issue is considered and a few methods are compared. Among them the ensemble dressing and the Baysian Model Averaging. It is argued that, despite the sophistication of both methods they (in the "easy case" of 2m temperature) score worse or similarly to the simplest methods where the different models are considered equiprobable. In our view the results are far from being satisfactory and this seems to point to the use of a longer and better training period, especially for less tractable variable as precipitation.