



Multi-model skill of ENSO forecasts in ENSEMBLES stream 2

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A new set of multi-model seasonal and annual ensemble forecasts from five state-of-the-art coupled GCMs has recently been generated within the EU ENSEMBLES project. This contribution will present a summary of the systematic model biases and probabilistic forecast skill in the tropical Pacific for the individual model ensembles as well as for combinations of them. The so-called ENSEMBLES stream 2 simulations comprise re-forecasts over the period 1960 - 2005 for lead times of 7 to 14 months with four start times per year and are, for each model, ensembles of 9 members created by initial perturbations to the surface wind, SSTs and atmospheric fields. The relatively long re-forecast period allows us to estimate decadal variations in forecast skill. Progress beyond a previous multi-model ensemble (DEMETER) will be assessed.