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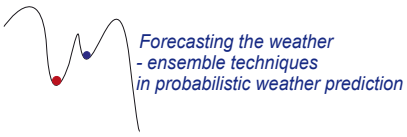

DRIAS Project: providing Regional Climate Informations over France

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DRIAS project, coordinated by Météo-France and supported by the French Ministery of Ecology and Sustainable Development, aims at the provision of regionalized climate simulations performed in French laboratories of climate modeling (CNRM , CERFACS , and IPSL). Through a web portal, a wide range of climate informations is available in order to meet the diverse needs of multidisciplinary users. In proposing simulations based on several assumptions emission, several regional climate models and several methods of regionalization, an initial assessment of uncertainties in climate simulations is proposed.

In addition to the native numerical data, corrected data from the observation will be available by following common specifications for all producers. The latter will allow the computation of climatic indicators (type STARDEX) providing an immediate analysis capability. To complete this offer, graphics products (maps, temporal plots) representing these indices will be proposed. Beyond the simple provision of climate informations, the DRIAS project aims to complete its service by an appropriate accompaniment. The objective is the providing of general information and advice on best practices to follow. Thus, DRIAS participates in the development of French climate services.

Based on a review of existing climate services, and a survey on the needs and users behavior, three spaces for the web portal have been identified: The Support Space, the Discovery Space and the Order Space. The first space contains a set of documentation supporting the use of different available climate informations (glossary of project, description of methods and climate models used, FAQ ...). In the second space, developed interactive climate products (maps, graphs) are viewable. Finally, the order part allows the user to download numerical data selected.

In this paper, the latest developments and achievements of project will be presented.

Sharing the experience gained during the first phase of the DRIAS project, and having the opportunity to hear from European groups that currently all seek for the same building of so-called “climate services” would be a real benefit to all.