

## ***Interactive comment on “A precipitation-based regionalization for Western Iran and regional drought variability” by T. Raziei et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #2**

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THIS IS A VERY INTERESTING WORK AS THE AUTHORS EXAMINE THE RAIN-FALL REGIME OF WESTERN IRAN IN DETAIL.

THE AUTHORS HAVE APPLIED THE STATISTICAL METHODOLOGY (R-MODE PCA AND THEN CA) CORRECTLY; VERY FEW PAPERS HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN CLIMATOLOGY WITH R-MODE PCA. THE METHODOLOGY IS EXPLAINED WELL AND THE RESULTS ARE CLEAR AND USEFUL. THEREFORE I RECOMMEND THE MANUSCRIPT FOR PUBLICATION IN HESS AFTER SOME MINOR MODIFICATIONS.

I WOULD SUGGEST TO THE AUTHORS TO ADD 4 SEASONAL MEAN SYNOPTIC

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MAPS (SEA LEVEL PRESSURE) FOR THE AREA OF W ASIA IN ORDER TO HELP THE READER TO UNDERSTAND THE SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS CAUSING RAINFALL IN IRAN AND ITS SEASONAL DIFFERENCES.

IN PARAGRAPH 3.1: THE EXPRESSION "...THE CO-VARIABILITY OF STATIONS..." IS NOT CORRECT. STATIONS DO NOT CO-VARIATE. PRECIPITATION CO-VARIATES!

THE EIGENVALUES OF THE CORRELATION MATRIX GIVEN IN FIGURE 6 ARE DIFFERENT THAN THE EIGENVALUES GIVEN IN TABLE 1. WHY? I SUSPECT THAT THE VALUES OF FIGURE 6 ARE THE CORRECT ONES.

IN THE INTRODUCTION THE NAMES OF SOME RIVERS ARE GIVEN BUT THEY ARE NOT PRESENTED ON THE MAP. SO, THE READER DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER THEY FLOW TO THE CASPIAN SEA OR TO THE PERSIAN GULF. THIS INFORMATION MUST BE ADDED ON THE MAP.

IN THE TEXT "ELBURZ" BUT ON THE MAP "ALBORZ"!

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Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 5, 2133, 2008.

## HESSD

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