

Interactive comment on “Coupled decadal variability of the North Atlantic Oscillation, regional rainfall and spring discharges in the Campania region (Southern Italy)” by P. De Vita et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 5 January 2012

The manuscript presents an observational study of the relationship between the NAO, precipitation, temperature, the effective precipitation and the (spring) discharge for the Campania region of Southern Italy. The strong relationship between the NAO and temperature and precipitation across Europe and the Mediterranean is well known. In regards to these two variables I think little new ground is covered. As the authors argue, they are studying a new region and for longer time scales so I would agree there is some value in this analysis. The more noteworthy results are the analysis of the

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relationship between the NAO and the effective precipitation and the discharge. There are lots of statistics provided in the manuscript and I would suggest to the authors to focus less on the first two variables and more on the latter two variables. The paper is cumbersome and the language is not of high enough quality to recommend publication, therefore shortening the paper and focusing on the most novel results will, in my opinion help elevate the manuscript to publication worthiness. I did not include many grammatical corrections but the authors need to make much effort to improve the English of the manuscript. I thought that there were too many grammatical errors and awkward sentence structures. Also presentation of the material was not always clear. The reader is inundated with many statistics and it is easy to lose sight of the relevance or importance of all the statistical facts. Shortening the paper, reducing the number of figures and making the figures clearer will improve the manuscript. Therefore I am recommending that the manuscript be accepted pending major revisions.

Some additional comments

Abstract– is too wordy, please shorten and focus on the main conclusions.

Page 11238 line 2 – change “instead” to “while”?

Page 11239 lines 2-4 – The sentence beginning with “Differently...” does not make sense.

Page 11240 line 7 – change “resulted” to “are.”

Page 11240 line 16 – the NAOI was already defined.

Page 11240 line 18 – remove “the” before “Iceland.”

Page 11241 line 16 – the NAO is a proxy for what?

Page 11244 line 14 – change “withouth of” to “without.”

Page 11248 line 15 – remove “the” before “1930.” Page 11248 line 17 – remove “the” before “1987” and “1994.”

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In the lead-lag figures (4,6,7,10) – is the NAO index leading or lagging in the positive or negative years?

Reference Cohen et al 2005 – I could not find a citation in the text.

Figure 8 – Some of the time series figures are quite busy but especially Figure 8. I would suggest to the authors to make the figures easier to read and not to overload the reader with too much information.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 8, 11233, 2011.