

Interactive comment on “CFSv2-based sub-seasonal precipitation and temperature forecast skill over the contiguous United States” by Di Tian et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 26 August 2016

Summary & Referee Comment:

General Comment: This paper is interesting and provides information about the CFSv2 model that will be useful to the scientific community. The paper presents intriguing findings, but some are hard to decipher due to grammatical and syntax errors. I found the paper to be hard to follow in places due to the unclear description of different models and time steps. The "Data and Methodology" section which describes the models/time steps analyzed was particularly difficult to follow; some of the paragraphs could be split and the writing could be more concise. Overall, the scientific approach and methods seem adequate, though I am new to this subject. The paper also presents clear conclusions that are a substantial contribution to scientific progress.

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Below are other specific comments and suggestions:

Pg 1, line 13: Missing a word - "and generally are more skillful"

Pg 1, line 16: Remove "the" before "number of consecutive dry days..."

Pg 1, line 26: Add a comma after the reference.

Pg 2, lines 13-19: To make the aims of this study more clear, it would be good to list or number them. There are 3 in the results section. It would be nice to see the same differentiation here.

Pg 3, lines 25-27: You refer to 0Z cycle (and different numbers of cycles). I am not familiar with this terminology, and am therefore confused when reading these sentences.

Pg 3-4, lines 22-33, 1-11: This paragraph is confusing due to the large amount of information presented. The paragraph could be split into multiple paragraphs and reworded to clarify which time steps and models are being referred to.

Pg 4, line 26: This could be the start of a new paragraph to separate the two different ideas.

Pg 5, line 11: Replace comma with a semicolon or separate into two different sentences.

Pg 8, line 23: Bold the title.

Pg 9, lines 26-28: This sentence is confusing and could be reworded to improve clarity.

Pg 9, line 31: It is unclear which precipitation and temperature indices are being referred to with the word "these."

Pg 10, lines 6-12: These sentences could be rewritten to be more concise.

Pg 10, line 22: Figure 13 isn't used in the paper.

Pg 11, line 9: "Subseasonal" is spelled wrong and is also written differently than the

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other instances where the spelling was "sub-seasonal." This may be an issue throughout the paper and should be checked.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., doi:10.5194/hess-2016-376, 2016.

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