From: George Athanasopoulos Department of Econometrics and Business Statistics Monash University Melbourne, VIC, 3800, Australia

To: Pierre Pinson Editor, International Journal of Forecasting DTU Elektro 348, Ørsteds Pl., 2800 Kongens Lyngby, Denmark

March 12, 2018

Dear Professor Pinson,

Please find attached a revised manuscript for "Forecast reconciliation: a geometric view with new insights on bias correction" by Anastasios Panagiotelis, Puwasala Gamakumara, George Athanasopoulos and Rob Hyndman for your consideration for publication in International Journal of Forecasting. We are very excited to have been given the opportunity to revise and resubmit. We carefully considered the comments offered by the two reviewers. Herein, we briefly summarize the major changes in the revision:

- 1. We introduce a modification of MinT that should be implemented in contexts where some user defined loss function is sensible. Using the empirical example, we demonstrate that this generalised version of MinT takes both the nature of the loss function and dependence between forecast errors into account and outperforms a standard implementation of MinT and WLS.
- 2. We have greatly expanded the empirical study including more measures of forecast accuracy (including those specifically measuring bias). This has led to the insight that reconciliation alone can in fact reduce the bias of an estimator. Where differences in forecast accuracy are significant.
- 3. We now reflect on some issues that were not discussed in the previous version of the manuscript including the role of non-negativity,

The comments made by the referees warrant a detailed response which is appended to this letter. Overall, we believe we have now addressed all the concerns raised. We thank the referees for their comments as addressing these has significantly improved our manuscript. We look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards and best wishes,

George Athanasopoulos