Datasheet for an Earth Science Dataset

Released: July 31 2023 Last updated: July 31 2023

Marybeth C. Arcodia
Department of Atmospheric Science
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO
marcodia@colostate.edu

1. Purpose

A. For what purpose was the dataset created?

This datasheet describes the data used in the following publication: Arcodia, M. C., Elizabeth A. Barnes, Kirsten Mayer, Jiwoo Lee, Ana Ordonez, and Min-Seop Ahn. 2023. "Assessing Decadal Variability of Subseasonal Forecasts of Opportunity using Explainable AI." EarthArXiv, June. Preprint available: https://doi.org/10.31223/X5GQ1C. In review at Environmental Research: Climate.

B. Who created the dataset (e.g., which individual or research group), on behalf of which entity (e.g., institution or company), and under what funding (e.g., grantor[s] and grant number[s])?

Two datasets were used in this study. 1) The Community Earth System Model version 2 Large Ensemble (CESM2-LENS). The data are available freely to the public at https://www.cesm.ucar.edu/community-projects/lens2. 2) ECMWF Reanalysis version5 (ERA5) data are available freely at https://cds.climate.copernicus.eu/.

C. Was the author of the datasheet involved in creating the dataset? If so, how?

All data was downloaded from the above websites.

D. Any other comments?

n/a

2. Composition

This section concerns technical aspects of the dataset. If this information is documented elsewhere you may simply provide a brief description and stable link (e.g., digital object identifier [DOI]) in the relevant question(s).

A. What type of data is contained in this dataset? (e.g., is it model output, observational data, reanalysis, etc.?)

The CESM2 data contain model ouput from 10 ensemble members from the large ensemble dataset. The ERA5 data are reanalysis data.

B. What is the data? (e.g., file format, dimensionality, variables and metadata, spatiotemporal coverage)

The data have been post-processed by the author after downloading from the websites mentioned above. We use a neural network setup in which the inputs (predictors) to the neural network are maps of the daily tropical precipitation anomalies from 26°S to 26°N where each grid point represents an individual node in the input layer. The outputs (predictands) are the sign of precipitation averaged over days 22-35 (Week 4-5) after the input day. For example, the input map for November 1, 1850 is used to predict the sign of the averaged November 23-December 6, 1850 precipitation anomaly in the three predicted regions. Next, the input map for November 2, 1850 is used to predict the sign of the November 24-December 7, 1850 anomaly, and so on. The output data is area-averaged over coastal Alaska (58.75-63.75°N; 202.5-220°E), the Pacific Northwest (41.25-48.75°N; 235-242.5°E), and California (33.75-41.25°N; 235-242.5°E).

C. What processing has been applied to this data?

For both datasets, daily precipitation data are interpolated to 2.5 by 2.5 degree resolution via bilinear interpolation and selected from November-March from 1850-1949 for CESM2 and 1959-2021 for ERA5. For the CESM2 data, daily precipitation anomalies are calculated by subtracting the linear trend of the ensemble mean for each day of year from each grid point independently. For the ERA5 data, we take the 00:00 time step at each grid point and the trend is calculated by fitting a 3rd order polynomial to each day of year.

D. Is the unprocessed data available in addition to the processed data? If so, please provide a stable link to the unprocessed data.

The unprocessed data is available via the links above. The processed data can be computed via the Python scripts found at https://github.com/mbarcodia/ERC_paper_code/.

E. Is the code used to process the data available? If so, please provide a stable link or other access point.

The code to process the data can be found via the Python scripts found at https://github.com/mbarcodia/ERC_paper_code/.

F. Is this dataset derived from another dataset? If so, how?

G. Is any relevant information known to be missing from the dataset? If so, please provide an explanation.

We use climate model and reanalysis data so there are no known missing data points.

H. Are there any sources of noise, redundancies, or errors in the dataset? If so, please provide a description.

There are no known sources of errors within the data used. However, any data-specific noise, redundances, or errors can be found within the dataset documentation (links provided above).

I. Is the dataset self-contained, or does it rely on external resources? Please describe external resources and any associated restrictions, as well as relevant links or other access points.

No external resources are needed for this data.

J. Any other comments?

n/a

3. Uses

A. What tasks has the dataset been used for?

We train a set of artificial neural networks to ingest a map of daily tropical precipitation anomalies and classify the sign (i.e. positive or negative) of the midlatitude subseasonal precipitation anomaly.

B. Is there anything about the construction of the dataset that might impact future uses?

After the time this research was conducted, the ERA5 reanalysis data has been extended to begin at 1940. While this will not affect the results of this study, there is now more historical ERA5 data available.

C. Are there specific tasks for which the dataset should not be used? If so, please provide a description.

n/a

D. What are the potential impacts of this dataset on humans? Please provide a description as well as a stable link to any supporting documentation.

The datasets used are representations of the climate system, but do not represent the true climate system perfectly. Therefore, conclusions for human systems should be taken within that light.

E. Any other comments?

n/a

4. DISTRIBUTION AND MAINTENANCE

A. How will the dataset be distributed (e.g., FTP server, Earth System Grid, Amazon Web Services, etc.)? Is there a DOI or other stable link?

Two datasets were used in this study. 1) The Community Earth System Model version 2 Large Ensemble (CESM2-LENS). The data are available freely to the public at https://www.cesm.ucar.edu/community-projects/lens2. 2) ECMWF Reanalysis version5 (ERA5) data are available freely at https://cds.climate.copernicus.eu/.

B. Who is/are the point(s) of contact for this dataset?

Information on the current point(s) of contact for both datasets are included in the links above.

C. Is the dataset complete or will it be updated in the future?

The data processed for this study is final. However, there will be continued updates to both raw datasets in the future.

D. Is the dataset receiving ongoing maintenance? If so, please provide one or more point(s) of contact and describe the method (if any) by which updates would be communicated to users.

The data processed for this study is final. However, there will be continued updates to both raw datasets in the future. E. What license or other terms of use is the dataset distributed under? Please link to any relevant licensing terms or terms of use (if in the public domain, simply state this).

The data and code provided on the Github link operate under a MIT license.

F. Is there an erratum? If so, please provide a link or other access point.

Any errata for the data can be found in the links to the raw datasets provided above.

G. Will older versions of the dataset continue to be available? If so, please describe where.

All data used in this study are final.

H. Who is hosting the datasheet? Is the datasheet receiving ongoing maintenance?

This datasheet can be found at https://github.com/mbarcodia/ERC_paper_code/. The only updates to this datasheet will be an update to the DOI for the final accepted version of the manuscript.

I. Any other comments?

n/a

5. Data-dependent questions

Responses in this section will be dependent on the type(s) of data contained in the dataset. Questions that do not apply can be left blank.

A. How was the data generated or collected? (e.g., a model used to produce output, reanalysis estimation of conditions, observations using remote sensing methods or in situ sensors) Please provide relevant citation(s); if none exist, describe why.

Two datasets were used in this study. 1) The Community Earth System Model version 2 Large Ensemble (CESM2-LENS). The data are available freely to the public at https://www.cesm.ucar.edu/community-projects/lens2. This climate model uses a large ensemble approach to produce the model output. More information can be found at the documentation link: https://www.cesm.ucar.edu/community-projects/lens2.
2) ECMWF Reanalysis version5 (ERA5) data are available freely at https://cds.climate.copernicus.eu/. The reanalysis uses data assimilation and is produced on the ECMWF high-performance computing facility. Additional information can be found at https://rmets.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/qj.3803.

B. If the data has been evaluated against some baseline(s) (e.g., an observational product or fundamental physical laws), please describe its evaluation against that baseline(s). If available, simply provide the relevant citation.

The citation for the article on CESM2 can be found at https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2019MS001916 [1]. The citation for the article on ERA5 can be found at https://rmets.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/qj.3803 [2].

C. Please provide relevant known biases in the generation or collection method of this data and citations as available. This list does not need to be exhaustive, but should include any known biases relevant to the scope of the project the data was created for.

Any known biases can be found in the articles cited in the answer to question 5B.

D. Please note configurations or modifications made to any model used to complete runs in this dataset (e.g. changes to seasonality, changes to coupling, nudging), or provide relevant startup files.

Any known configurations or modifications can be found in the articles cited in the answer to question 5B.

E. If this data is restricted to a single point or region, why was this location or region chosen? What are some potential implications of this choice of location on the interpretation of the data?

n/a

F. Describe relevant uncertainties associated with this data or provide relevant citation(s). If no formal analysis of uncertainties has been completed, then please state this here.

Any known uncertainties and their quantifications can be found in the articles cited in the answer to question 5B.

G. Did the method of generation or collection of the data change within the extent of the dataset?

No.

H. Are there any relevant unexplained but important numerical values ("magic numbers") that go into the generation, collection, or processing of this data? (e.g., model tuning values, calibration constants, machine learning hyperparameters)

Any known unexplained values can be found in the articles cited in the answer to question 5B.

I. Is this dataset an ensemble? If so, how many members are there? Describe how the ensemble is perturbed, and whether there are relevant forms of variability that are not dispersed. Are there differences in coverage between the ensemble members?

The CESM2 Large Ensemble (LENS2) consists of 100 members at 1-degree spatial resolution covering the period 1850-2100 under CMIP6 historical and SSP370 future radiative forcing scenarios. Only 10 ensemble members are used in this study (more information on the ensemble members chosen for the study can be found in the manuscript). Additional documentation on the perturbations to the ensemble members can be found at https://www.cesm.ucar.edu/community-projects/lens2.

J. Are there relevant categories, groupings, or labels within the data? If so, how are these determined?

Documentation on the categories and groupings of ensemble members can be found at https://www.cesm.ucar.edu/community-projects/lens2.

K. Can users contribute to this dataset? If so, please describe the process. Will these contributions be evaluated or verified? If so, please describe how. If not, why not?

Contributions by users to the datasets described would need to be coordinated with the individual data providers.

L. Any other comments? Are there any other citations necessary to document some important aspect of the data? If so, provide the citation(s) and describe their purpose.

n/a

REFERENCES

- [1] Gokhan Danabasoglu, J-F Lamarque, J Bacmeister, DA Bailey, AK Du-Vivier, Jim Edwards, LK Emmons, John Fasullo, R Garcia, Andrew Gettelman, et al. The community earth system model version 2 (cesm2). Journal of Advances in Modeling Earth Systems, 12(2):e2019MS001916, 2020
- [2] Hans Hersbach, Bill Bell, Paul Berrisford, Shoji Hirahara, András Horányi, Joaquín Muñoz-Sabater, Julien Nicolas, Carole Peubey, Raluca Radu, Dinand Schepers, et al. The era5 global reanalysis. *Quarterly Journal* of the Royal Meteorological Society, 146(730):1999–2049, 2020.