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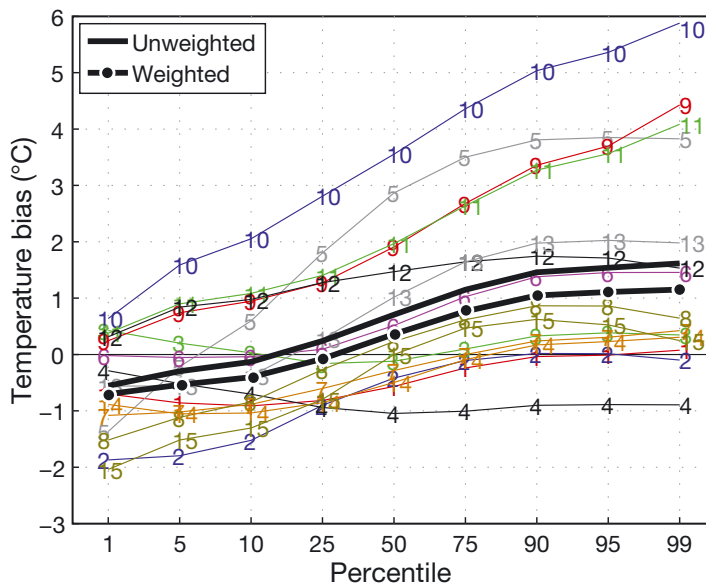
Regional Climate Model evaluation and weighting

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Daily maximum temperatures in 15 regional climate models and their ensemble mean, in the Iberian Peninsula. The weighted ensemble mean has been calculated with weights from Christensen et al. (2010), in this Special



Ensembles-based predictions of climate changes and their impacts

SPECIALS of Climate Research (CR) present important new information on climate phenomena, measured and assessed by closely coordinated group efforts. They concentrate on specific research themes or geographic areas.

CR SPECIAL 23 presents results of the European ENSEMBLES project, which designed and tested a weighting system for aggregated Regional Climate Models (RCMs). Contributions to this SPECIAL focus on the prediction of mean and extreme temperature and precipitation, as well as storm occurrences.

In the ENSEMBLES project, 15 experiments were conducted on the basis of reanalysis data for

1960–2000, to evaluate the performance of RCMs in simulating European climate. A number of working groups was formed, each assessing one of a variety of performance metrics operating at different horizontal and temporal scales, for the purpose of developing a comprehensive weighting system.

CR SPECIAL 23 discusses advantages and limitations of performance-based weighting, and provides a basis for further improvement of weighting techniques.

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