

Drought dynamics and variability over South-Asia: A Preliminary Study Over India



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Fourth Workshop on Water Resources in Developing Countries: Hydroclimate Modeling and Analysis Tools, 12-23 June 2017, ICTP Trieste, Italy

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Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Data and Methods**
- **Results**
- **Conclusion**
- **Future Outlook**



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Introduction

- Drought is long term slowly occurring disaster initiated as deficit of precipitation and high evapotranspiration.
- Exponential population growth has led to increased agriculture water demands manifold, especially over developing countries.
- Several studies showed that drought reoccurrence intensity and frequency has increased over India in last decades or so (*Mallaya et al., 2016*).
- The increase in global warming has increased the frequency of drought over South-Asia by increasing temperature and evaporation more sunshine and low relative humidity (IPCC, AR5).

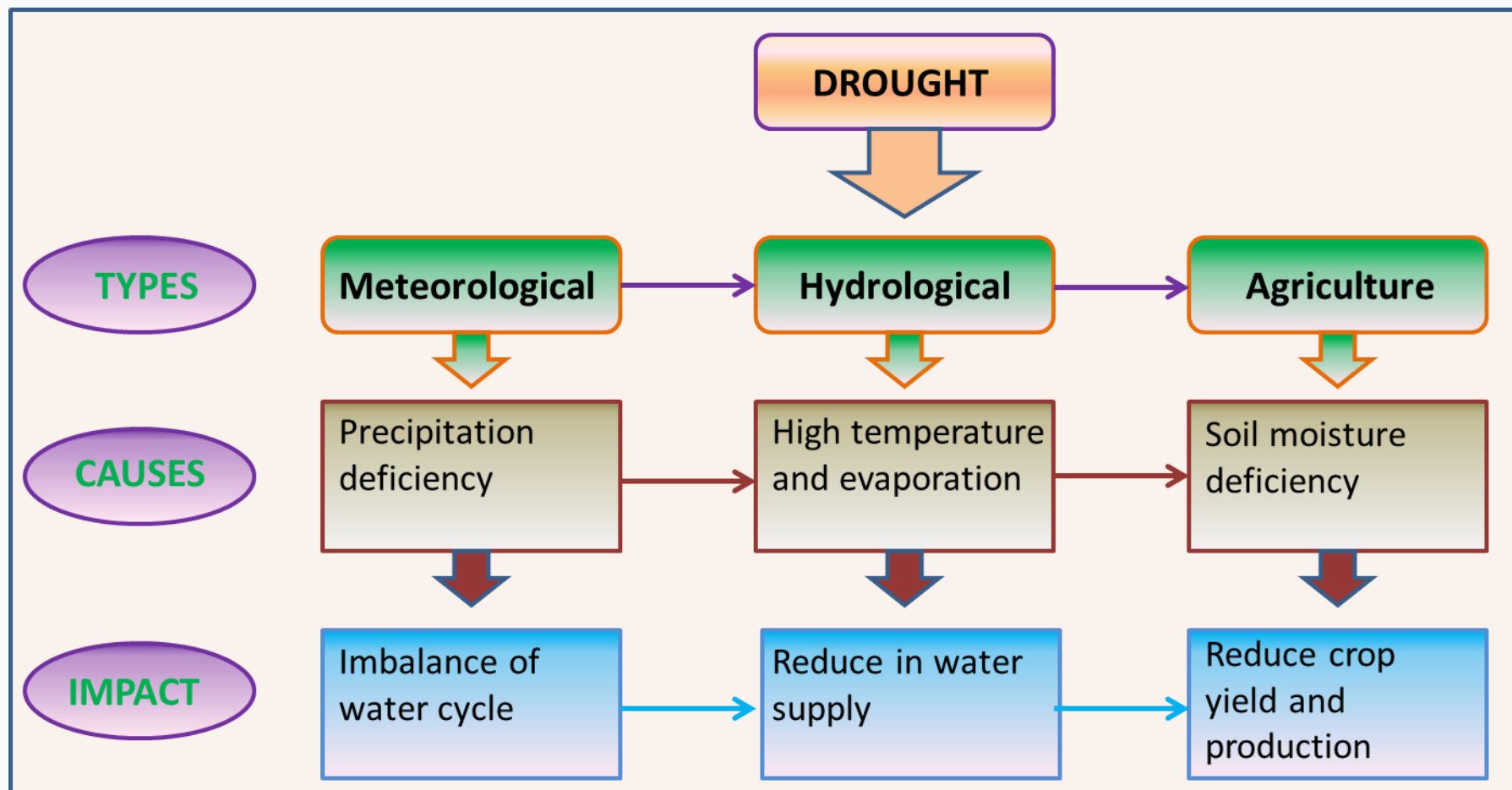


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Drought and its types



Objectives

- **To analyze the extreme precipitation variability over India.**
- **To study the relationship between observation and model simulated precipitation variability focusing drought.**
- **In the present study SPI and SPEI indices has been used to determine drought variability over the region.**



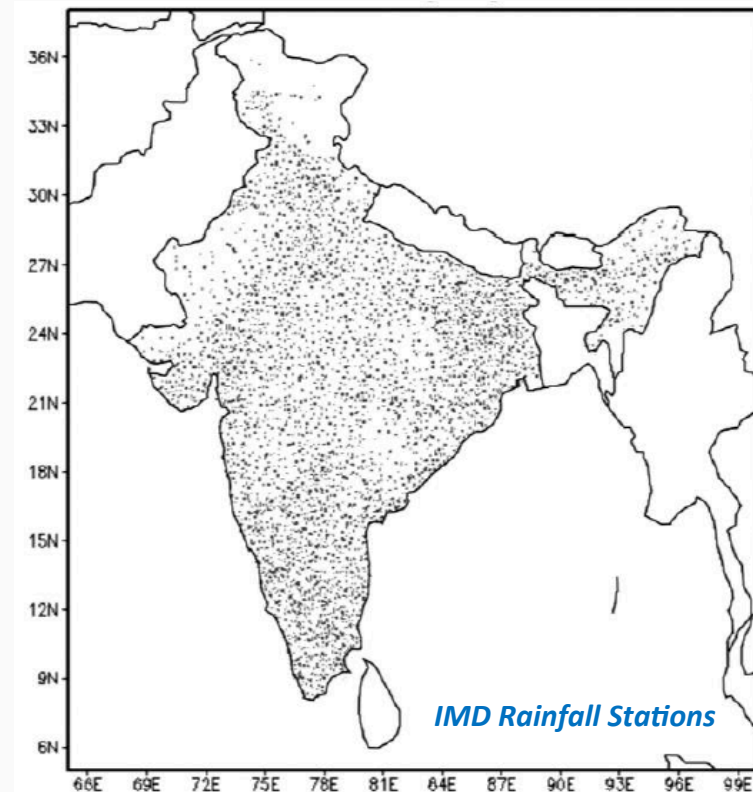
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Data

- We have taken the observational gridded monthly rain fall data at $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$ and Temperature dataset at $1.0^\circ \times 1.0^\circ$ from 1951 to 2005 from Indian Meteorological Department (IMD).
- CRU (Climate Research Unit)- University of East Anglia precipitation data, for the same period.
- High resolution regional coupled model (ROM, *Sein et al., 2015*) data for temperature and Precipitation at $0.44^\circ \times 0.44^\circ$ (CORDEX South-Asia domain) for the same period.



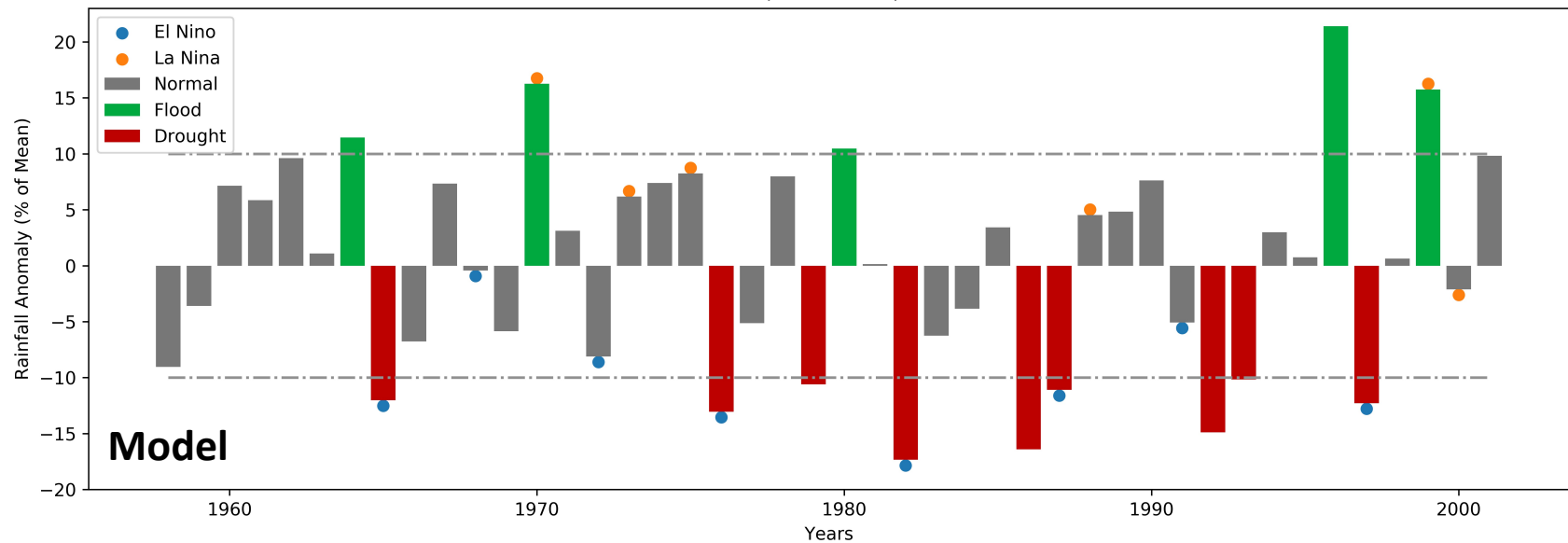
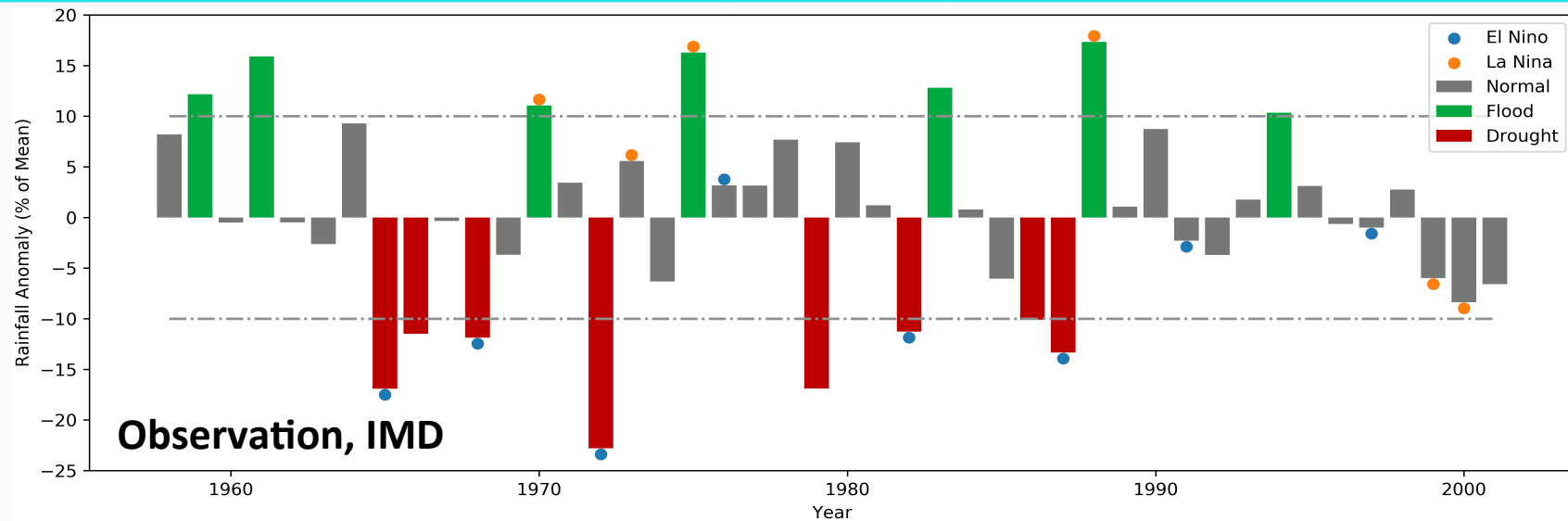
Methods

- SPI (Standardized Precipitation Index) and SPEI (Standardized precipitation Evapotranspiration Index) indices has been used as the Indicator for drought studies.
- SPI is the Probability density function of cumulative precipitation climatology and calculated by method proposed by *Mckee* et al., 1993.
- SPEI is the monthly difference between precipitation and PET and is calculated by method proposed *Vicente-Serrano* et al., 2010.
- These both are multi-scale indices and better to represent the intra-seasonal and inter-annual variation of drought over the region.

$$D_n^k = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (P_{n-i} - PET_{n-i}), n \geq k$$



All India Summer Monsoon Rainfall, 1958-2001

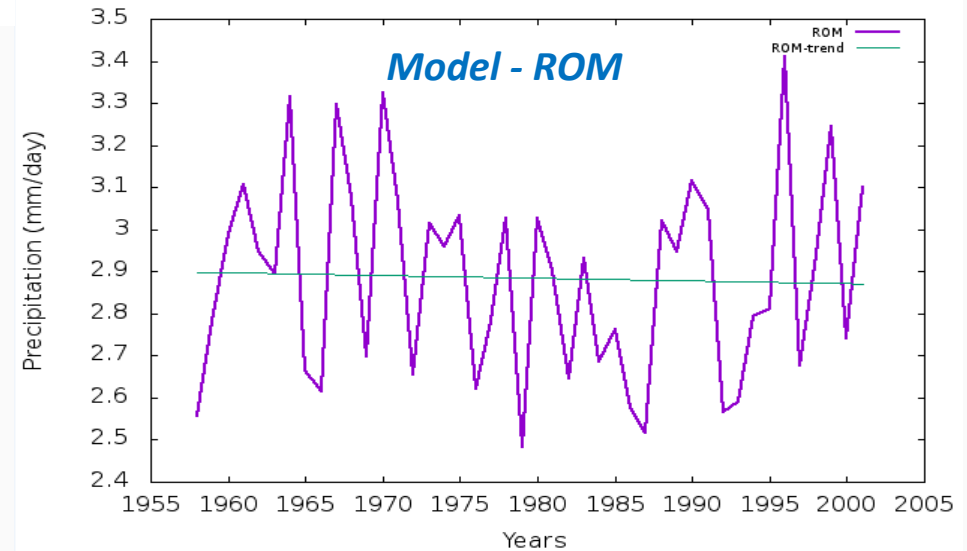
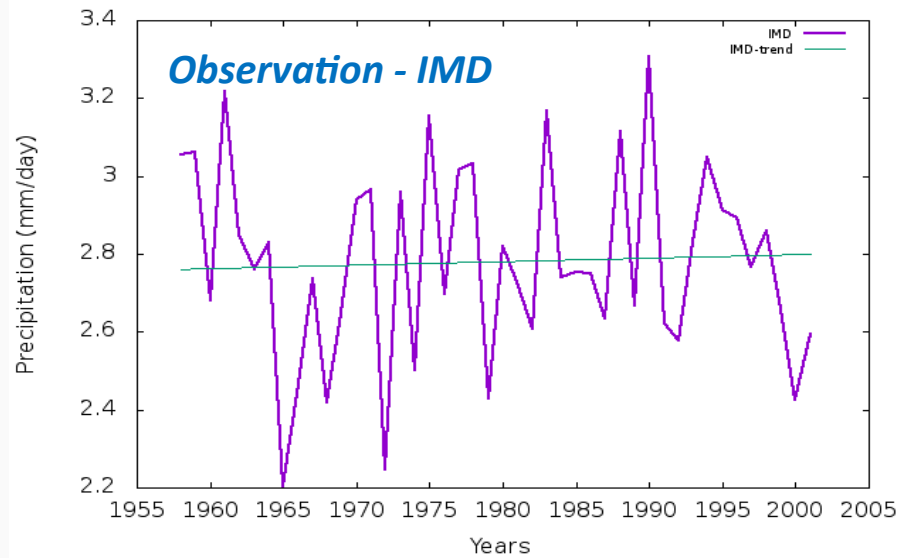


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Trend of Precipitation over India

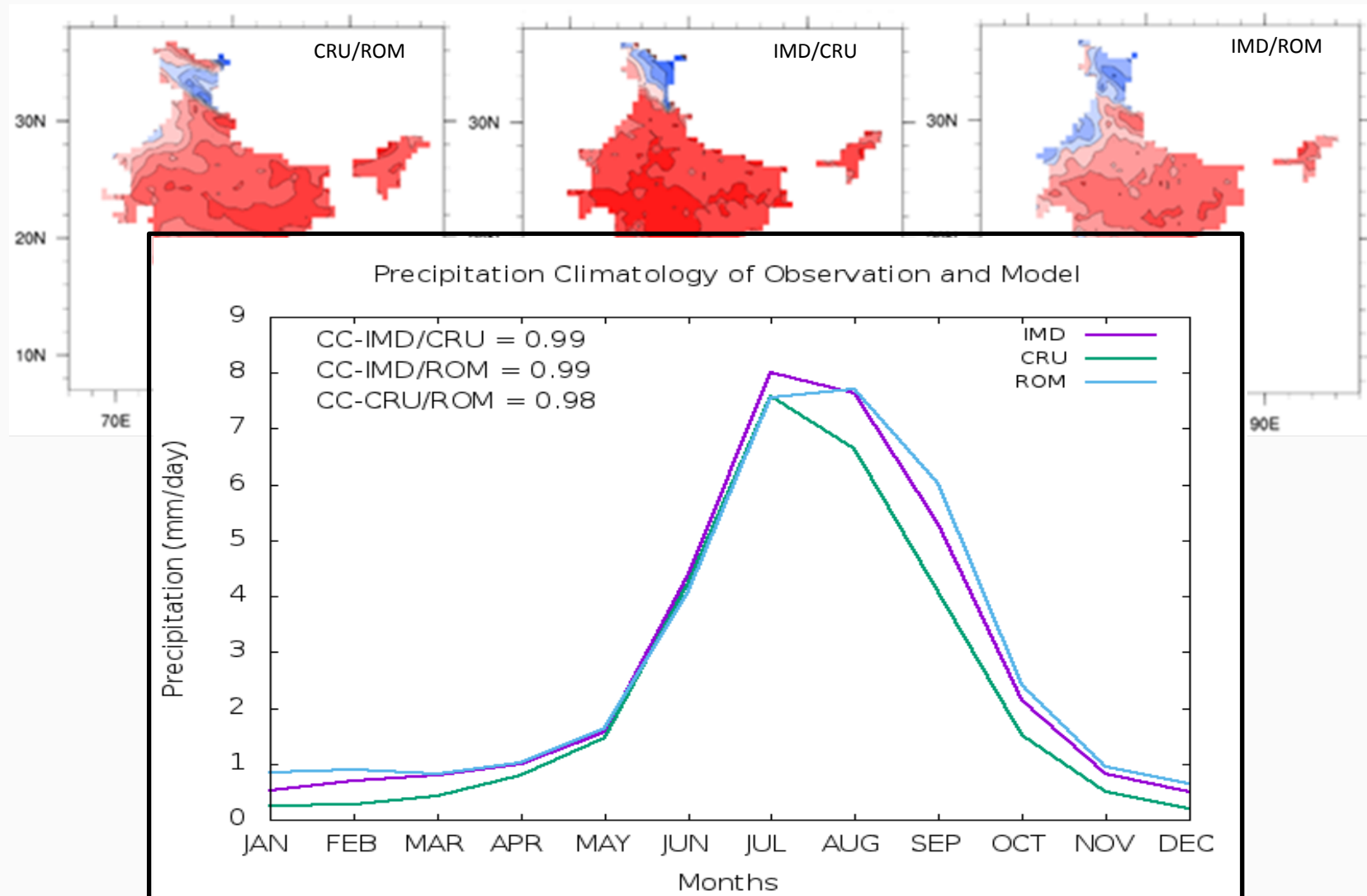


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Correlation between Observation and Model



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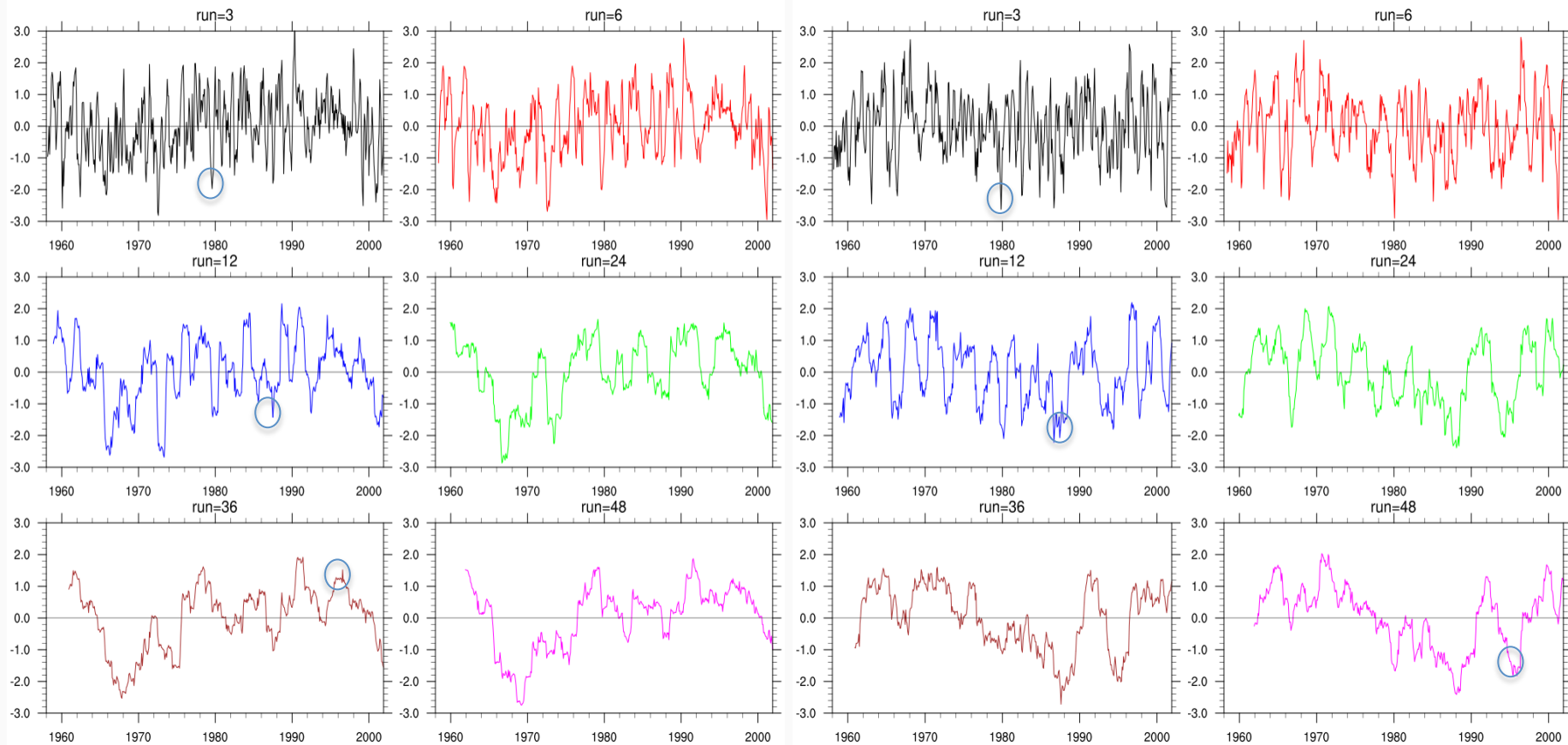
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Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)

OBSERVATIO

MODEL



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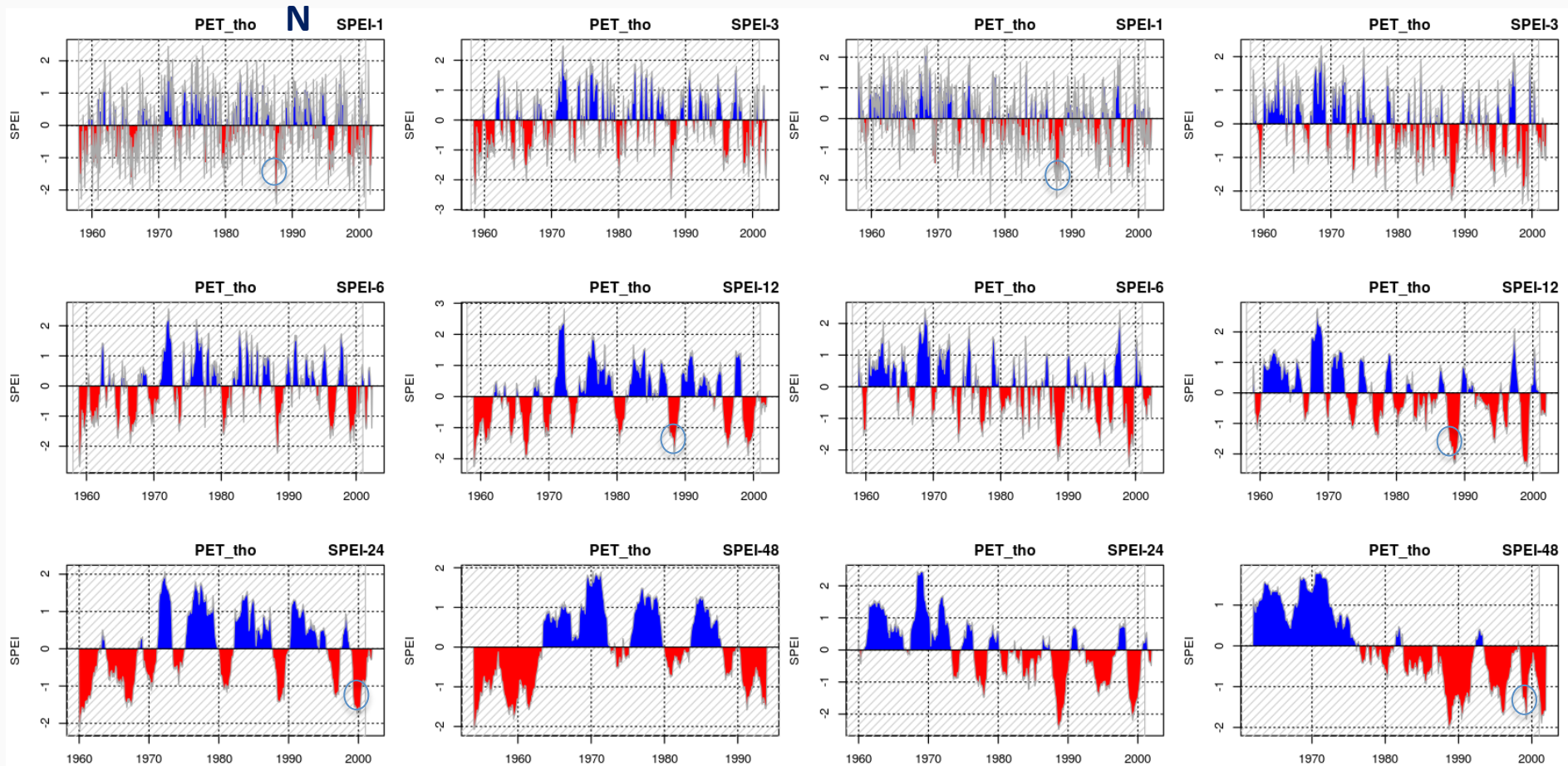
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Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI)

OBSERVATIO

MODEL



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Conclusion

- **There is no significance increase in precipitation since more than 50 years.**
- **It is noticed that during monsoon season the dry spells are prolonged though the amount of rainfall is more or less close to long period average.**
- **Model is able to represent the annual cycle interestingly very well. The spatial correlation is also reasonably well represented.**
- **At longer time scale SPEI is showing a better drought inter-annual variability than SPI.**
- **The short-term drought, SPEI (3, 6) is characterized by strong periodicity at quasi-biennial and decadal timescales.**



Future Outlook

- ROM simulations results will be used to further understand the overall drought dynamics over South-Asia.
- High-resolution (ROM) regional coupled model (CORDEX domain) simulations, using several RCP's for the period 1950-2100 will be performed, to understand the future drought dynamics over South-Asia.
- To develop drought factsheets with uncertainty assessment.



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THANK YOU
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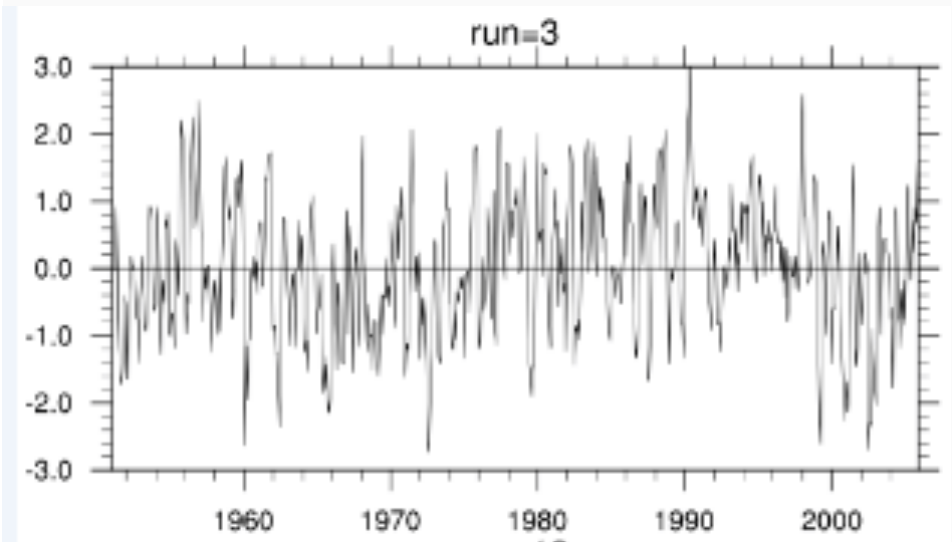
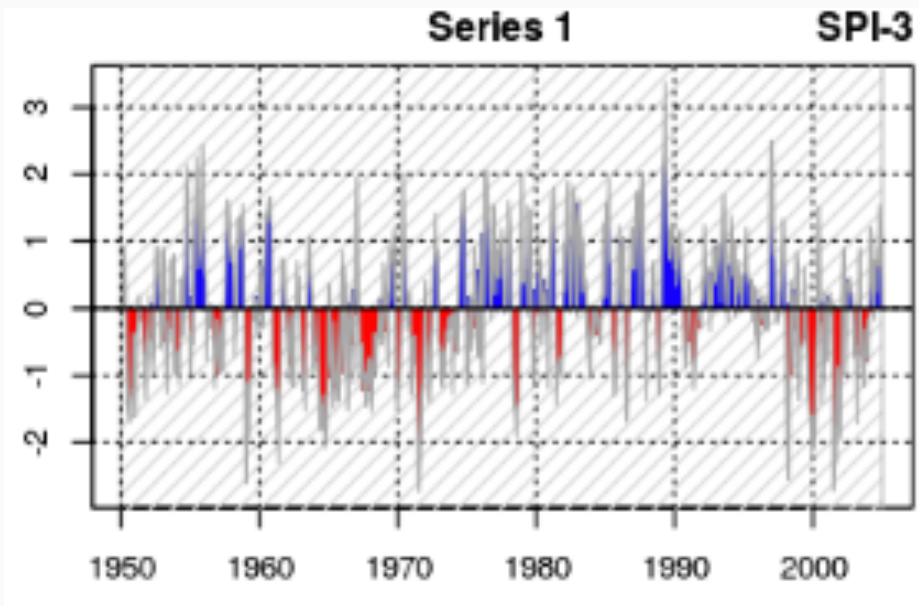




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