

Responses to the Editor

General comments to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your thoughtful feedback and for acknowledging the contributions of both the authors and reviewers. We are grateful for the constructive comments and guidance provided throughout this process. We have carefully considered the reviewer's remarks and have addressed the necessary revisions as outlined in the list of changes below. The manuscript has been revised accordingly, and we are submitting both the track-changes and clean versions for your further consideration.

We appreciate the opportunity to revise our work and look forward to your continued feedback.

Best regards,

The Authors.

List of changes following review comments

- Improved explanation of the pre-processing step in Section 2.2
- Improved Fig. 1 by removing tiny text. Also fixed a typo in the caption (casual is now causal)
- Added a comment about internal variability in section 2.7
- Condensed results section (Section 3) by combining section 3.1 and section 3.2, and by moving text in the appendix.
- Improved Fig. 2 by condensing the two subfigures in one figure with different color bars for each reanalysis dataset)
- Improved discussion of Fig. 3
- Improved Fig. 4 by adding confidence bands for the parabolic fit
- Improved discussion of Fig. 4 by removing an overstatement concerning the parabolic fit.
- Explanations of the appendix figures are now in the appendix

- Improved figure B1 by changing the colors of the nodes and arrows. It is now easier to visually see the difference between the simplified causal networks of ERA5 and NCEP/NCAR.
- New figure C1 which shows the F1-scores across the four meteorological seasons with a explicative text in appendix C.
- Added a paragraph on internal variability in appendix E.