

Interactive comment on “Orbital control on late Miocene climate and the North African monsoon: insight from an ensemble of sub-precessional simulations” by A. Marzocchi et al.

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First of all, we would like to thank the anonymous reviewer for all the very useful comments provided. We will address these in a detailed response in due course. The suggested changes will certainly improve the quality of our manuscript.

However, we feel that this manuscript should not be split in two separate studies. Listed here are some of the reasons for our wish to keep them together:

- We can add some of the suggested additional analysis (e.g. evolution of global/hemispheric precipitation throughout the full precession cycle) without significantly increasing the length of the manuscript.

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- A paper focussing purely on model-data comparison would, in our opinion, be of limited interest - the case study of the North African monsoon adds significant interest and was the original motivation for the study.

- We feel that a separate paper focussing purely on the North African monsoon would not stand up on its own without a model-data comparison.

- We are currently working on a separate study analysing the influence of sub-precessional changes in the Mediterranean Sea hydrologic budget (via changes in the runoff), and applications for the interpretation of the geological record. This work will be submitted in the near future and it will complement the present study with a more specific (but self-standing) application.

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