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Interactive comment on "A new multi-variable benchmark for Last Glacial Maximum climate simulations" by Sean F. Cleator et al.

Sean F. Cleator et al.

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Dear Masa, We apologise for the delay in responding to the second review. This was occasioned by the fact that we submitted the paper describing the basic methodology, which we cited as a pre-print (Cleator, S.F., Harrison, S.P., Nichols, N.K., Prentice, I.C., and Roustone, I.: A method for generating coherent spatially explicit maps of seasonal palaeoclimates from site-based reconstructions, arXiv:1902.04973 [math.NA], 2019a), for publication in JAMES. During the review process, a reviewer pointed out that the Gaussian correlation function that we used did not yield a full rank matrix; we therefore moved to using a modified Bessel function that closely matches the behaviour of the original Gaussian function and yields a correlation matrix that is full rank and positive. We have checked that this change does not make a substantial difference to the global

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reconstructions presented here and does not change the conclusions of our paper. It has, however, necessitated updating the figures and the text. We needed to do this before responding to the additional reviews. The current version of the revised method paper is available from arXiv (arXiv:1902.04973v2, https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.04973v2). We will upload detailed responses to the two additional reviews shortly.

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