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Tropical Atlantic Variability and extratropical climate teleconnections

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The Atlantic variability has different components that could interact at different timescales. The Tropical Atlantic Variability (TAV) has been connected to the West African Monsoon (WAM) and to the NAO through the SST patterns. We have investigated, with statistical tools, the Atlantic SST patterns associated with the WAM modes, which could have extratropical influence in winter. From these SST patterns, we investigate the anomaly propagation in to the extratropical atmosphere, and the WAM impacts on the European climate. We use two different interpretations: through the divergent circulation (atmospheric bridge), and through the rotational circulation (Rossby waves). In particular, we propose the analysis of the summer of 1995 and the following 1995/96 winter, which were characterized by a rainy summer over WA, and of high negative NAO index.