

Function:

As for [?Phyton](#), a *Matlab* function ([?loadSystem4.m](#)) has been created in order to access the *SPECS-EUPORIAS Data Portal* in a user-friendly way. The *loadSystem4* function is called this way:

```
[data,run,ens,frc,lat,lon] = loadSystem4(dataset,var,season,leadMonth,'members',members,'xlim',xlim,'ylim',ylim,'user',user,'password',password);
```

The input arguments are next described:

- **dataset:** A character string indicating the full URL path to the OPeNDAP dataset. Currently, the accepted values correspond to the System4 datasets described in Section [?Available Datasets](#).
- **var:** Variable code. Argument values currently accepted are *tas*, *tasmin*, *tasmax*, *pr* or *mslp*, as internally defined in the vocabulary for System4 following the nomenclature displayed in the table below. However, note that new variables and datasets will be progressively included.
- **season:** A cell of two strings indicating the first and final months of analysis. A single month can be specified (as in the above example) or a standard season (e.g. *season* = [12,1,2] for standard Boreal winter, DJF).
- **leadMonth:** Lead time (in months) to consider. For instance, *leadMonth* = 1 for January forecasts means considering the initialization of the first of December.
- **members:** Vector with the list of members to select.
- **xlim:** Vector of length = 2, with minimum and maximum longitude coordinates, in decimal degrees, of the bounding box selected.
- **ylim:** Vector of length = 2, with minimum and maximum latitude coordinates, in decimal degrees, of the bounding box selected.
- **user:** Username for accessing the OPeNPAD dataset.
- **password:** Password for accessing the OPeNPAD dataset.

These are the arguments returned by the function:

- **data:** Cell with *n* elements (one for each year), in which each element (a 2-D matrix) is the data for a particular year. A 2-D matrix of *i* rows and *j* columns, *i* represents the forecast times and *j* the grid-points selected.
- **run:** Cell with *n* elements (one for each year) corresponding to the initialization times selected. Note that there is an initialization time associated to each forecast time.
- **ens:** List of length *n*, where *n* is the number of members of the ensemble selected by the *members* argument.
- **frc:** Cell with *n* elements (one for each year) corresponding to the forecasts times.
- **lat:** Vector with the latitudes of the selected domain.
- **lon:** Vector with the longitudes of the selected domain.

Example:

In this example, the **loadSystem4** function is used to read the maximum temperature for the Iberian Peninsula in August for the whole hindcast period (1981-2010), considering the initialization of the first of June (two-month lead time thus) for a single member (member5, for instance).

```
dataset = 'http://www.meteo.unican.es/tds5/dodsC/system4/System4_Seasonal_15Members.ncml';
var = 'Maximum_temperature_at_2_metres_since_last_24_hours_surface';
[data,run,ens,frc,lat,lon] = loadSystem4(dataset,var,{'Aug';'Aug'},2,'members',5,'xlim',[-10 5],'ylim',[35 45]);
```

The data can be plotted by using the functions from [?MeteoLab](#), the open-source *Matlab* toolbox for statistical analysis and data mining in Meteorology created by the [?Santander Meteorology Group](#).

