

Dear Prof. Mandel,

I have seen the two reviews of your paper, as well as your response.

I understand you have already started writing (if not already written completely) a new version of your paper, taking into account the comments and suggestions of the two referees. Before you submit that new version, I ask you, as Editor, to consider carefully the first comment of Referee 1. What matters here is the frequency of 'observations' in comparison with a typical scale of predictability of the system. I understand there is no scaling factor in front of the quadratic term in the version of the Lorenz'96 model you have used. As a consequence, increasing the state dimension from 40 (the usual value, with which the system was originally defined by Lorenz) to 256 does make a significant change, and may have an impact on the predictability of the system. I think it is necessary to check this point (for instance by evaluating the rate of divergence of two initially close solutions).

Both referees mention a number of minor corrections to be made. I add one. The superscript f on the left-hand side of Eq. (8) should be replaced by a .

I will send your revised version to Referee 2, who has asked to see it. I may send it also to Referee 1, not for a full review, but only to check if he/she considers that you properly responded to his/her comments.

I thank you for having submitted your paper to *Nonlinear Processes in Geophysics*, and look forward to receiving the new version.