A brief description of the El Niño time series

This dataset is a part of the original one which is available on line at http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/data/indices/ and regularly updated. This dataset is not included in the NPFDA book. This time series concerns the monthly Sea surface Temperature from June, 1950 up to May, 2004 (648 months). This time series $\{z_i\}_{i=1,\dots,648}$ is loaded into a 54 × 12 matrix, the *i*th corresponding to the *i*th year. The file "npfda-elnino.dat" is organized as follows:

	Col 1	• • •	$\operatorname{Col} j$	• • •	Col 12
Row 1	z_1	•	z_{j}	•	z_{12}
:	:	•••	•••	•••	•••
Row i	$z_{1+12(i-1)}$	• • •	$z_{j+12(i-1)}$	• • •	z_{12i}
÷	:	:	:	:	:
Row 54	z_{633}	• • •	z_{632+j}	• • •	z_{648}

This time series can be viewed as dependent functional data (i.e population of 54 curves, 1 year = 1 curve).