



# Overview of The Environmental Modeling Center

Stephen J. Lord  
Director

NCEP Environmental Modeling Center

**NCEP: “where America’s climate, weather, and ocean services begin”**

# Overview

- EMC organization
- Role of models in the forecast process
- Strategic highlights
  - Mesoscale system consolidation (WRF)
  - Next-generation
    - Global forecast model (ESMF)
    - Data assimilation (JCSDA)
  - Daily ocean forecasting (HYCOM)
  - Hurricanes (HWRF)
  - Ensembles (NAEFS, SREF, THORPEX)
  - Land surface modeling and hydrology (GAPP)
- Proposed strategic plan elements
- Summary

# EMC Mission

## In response to operational requirements:

- **Maintain** the scientific correctness and integrity of operational forecast systems
  - Adapt to format changes and other changing operational requirements
  - Adapt to new computing hardware
  - Monitor and ensure the integrity of operational observing systems
- **Enhance** (Test & Improve) Numerical Forecasts Through Advanced
  - Data assimilation techniques
  - Model physics (parameterizations)
  - Numerical methods
  - Computational efficiency
- **Transition and Develop Operational Numerical Forecast Systems** for:
  - Weather prediction (domestic, global, 1-15 days)
  - Ocean prediction (daily to annual, coastal to global)
  - Climate prediction (seasonal to inter-annual)

**Maintain:** Modify current operational system to adapt to ever-present external changes

**Enhance:** Test and improve NCEP's numerical forecast systems via scientific upgrades, tuning, additional observations, in response to user requirements

**Transition and Develop:** transform & integrate code, algorithms, techniques from research status to operational status on NCEP computers

# Mission Requirements & Forecast Suite Elements

Suite Elements	Global NWP	Reg. NWP	Fire Wx Rapid Update Reg. Hurricane	Air Quality	Global Ensembles	Regional Ensembles	Real Time Ocean	S/I Climate
NCEP	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
UKMO	X	X		X		X	X	
ECMWF	X				X			X



# Environmental Modeling Center Service-Science Linkage

## Service

<b>Marine &amp; Coastal Ocean</b> DB Rao	<b>Mesoscale Atmosphere</b> G. DiMego	<b>Global Climate &amp; Weather Atmosphere &amp; Ocean</b> M. Iredell	<u><b>Science</b></u>
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Data Assimilation</b> Leader: J. Derber
	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Climate</b> Leader: H.-L. Pan
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Model</b> Atmosphere/Ocean/Ice Dynamics Physics
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Land Surface/Hydrology</b> Leader: K. Mitchell
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Ensembles &amp; Probabilistic Guidance</b> Leader: Z. Toth
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Hurricanes</b> Leader: N. Surgi
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Products</b> Development Utilization

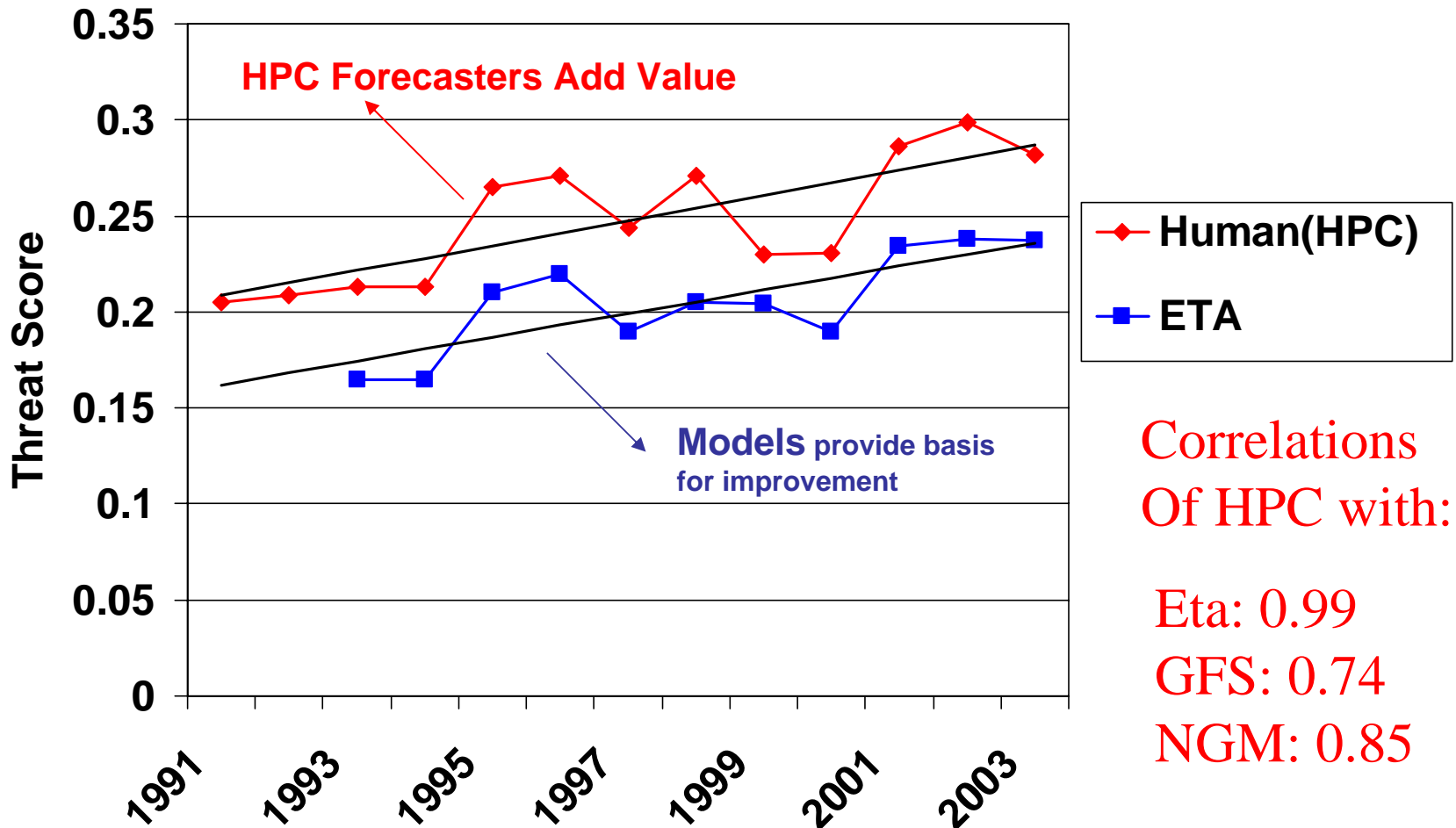
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# Why Models?

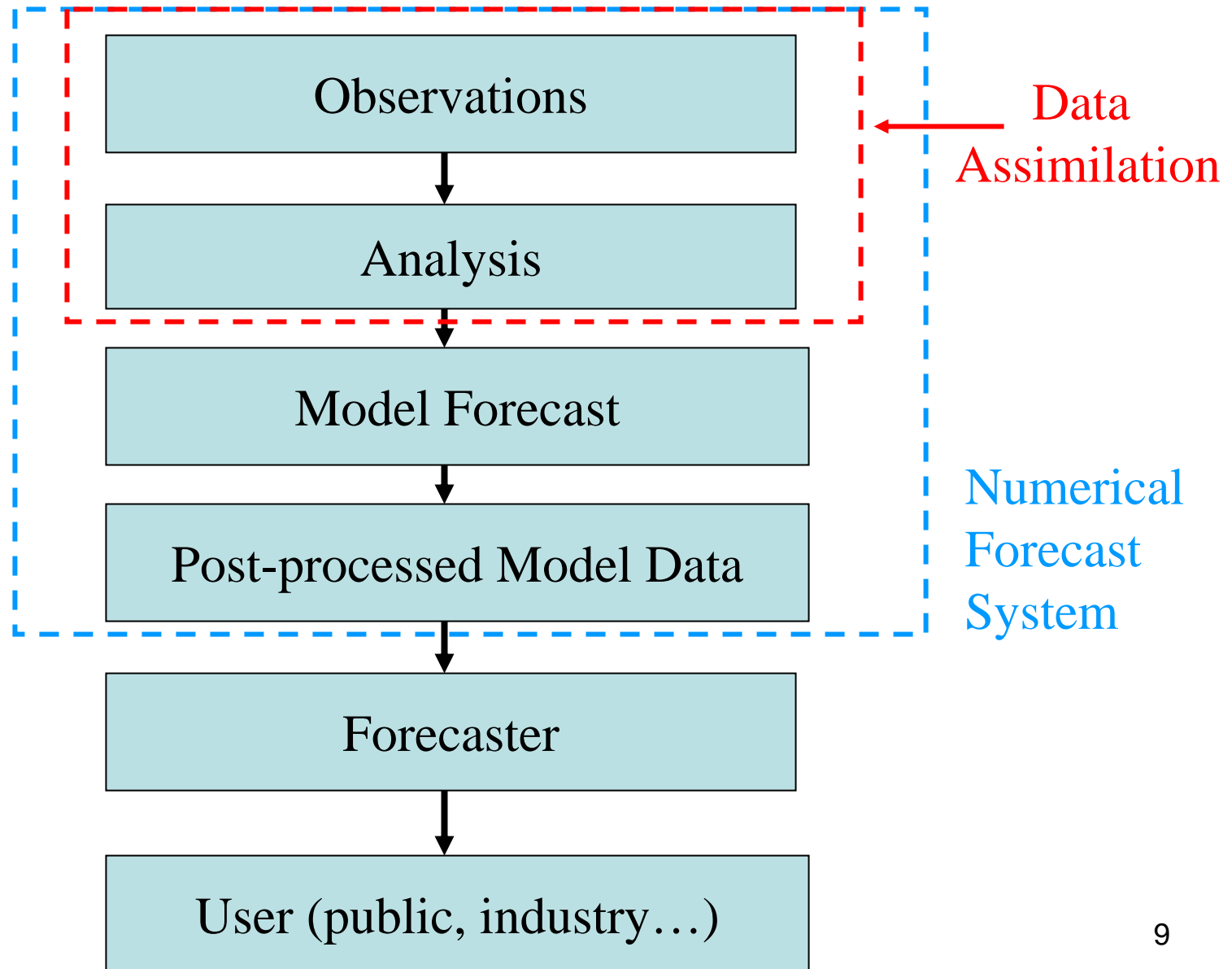
“As go the models, so go the forecasts”

Impact of Models on Day 1 Precipitation Scores  
(DOC GPRA goal)





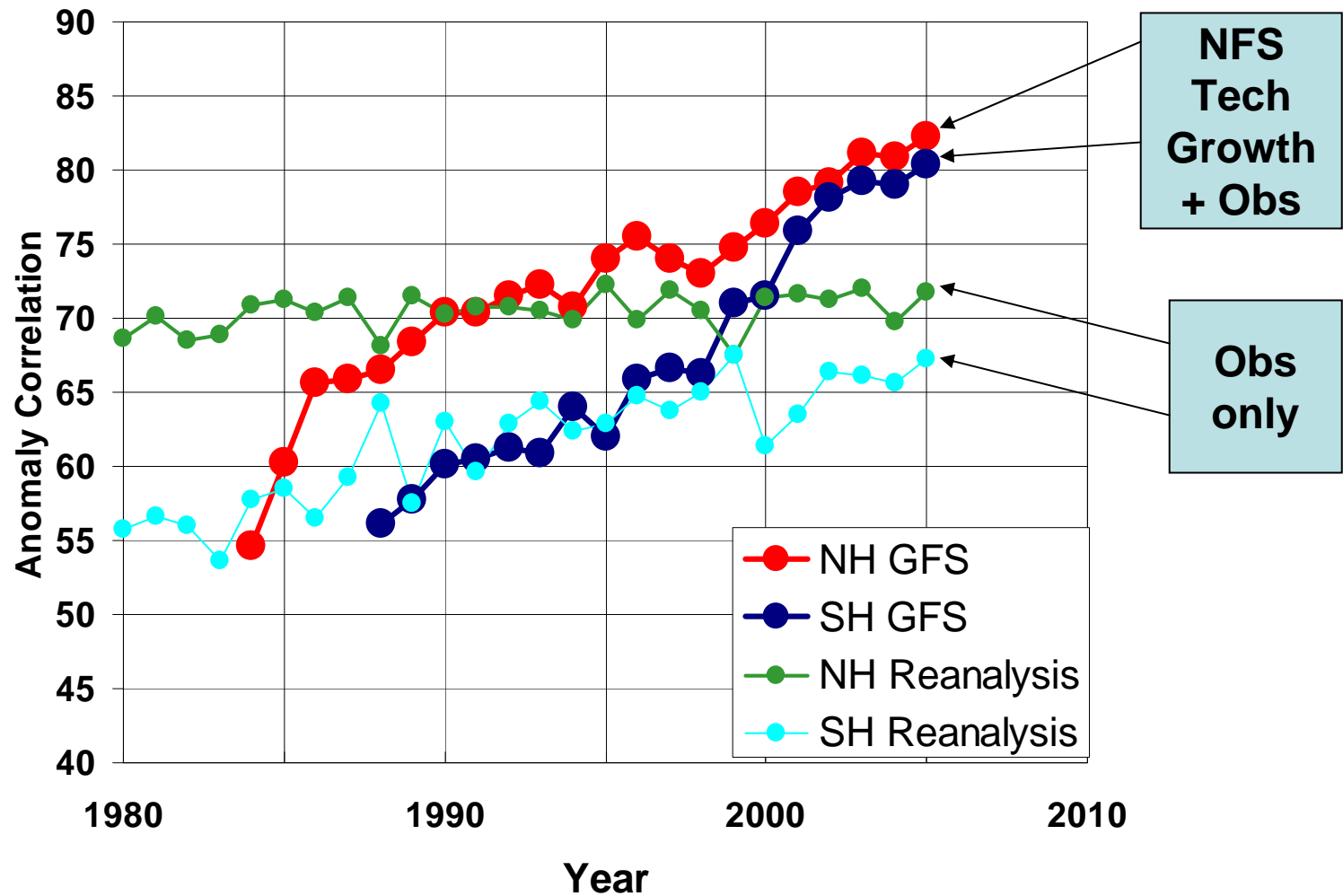
# The Environmental Forecast Process



# Ingredients for Improved Numerical Forecast Systems

- **Primary ingredients**
  - Observations
  - Data Assimilation & Model technology
  - Computing resources
- **Secondary ingredients**
  - Post-processing and dissemination
  - Research to Operations (R2O) process

# Impact of Observations and Numerical Forecast System Technology Growth on Global Forecasts

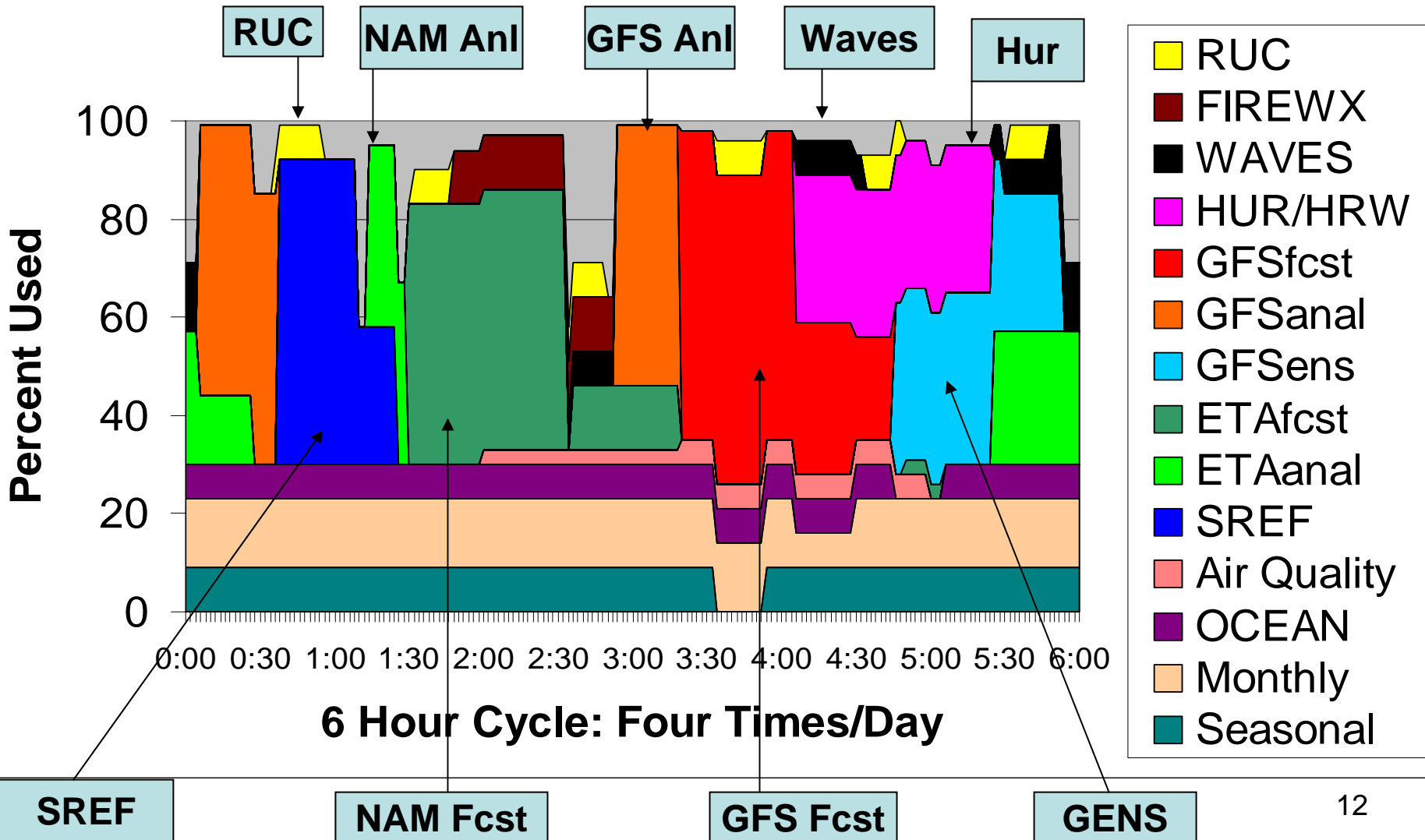


**NFS Tech  
Growth:  
Computing  
Data Assim.  
Models  
Ensembles**

# NCEP Production Suite

## Weather, Ocean & Climate Forecast Systems

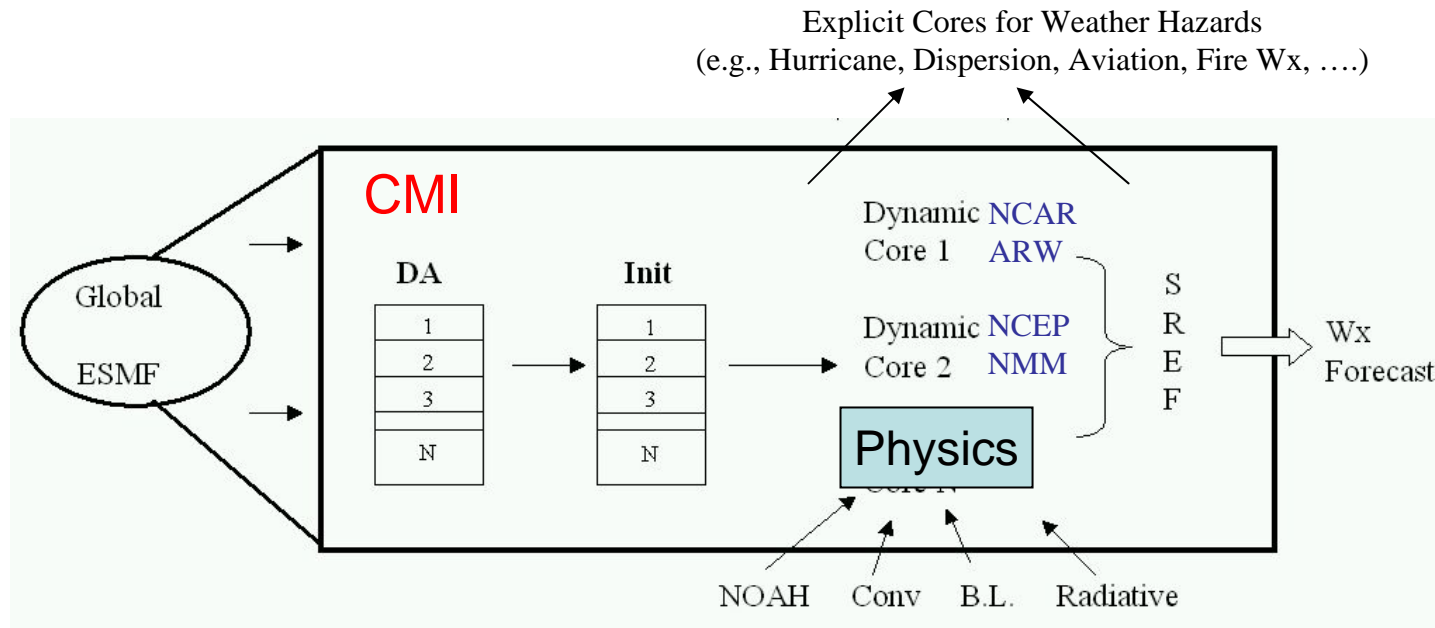
Version 3.0 April 9, 2004



# Strategic Highlights

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# WRF



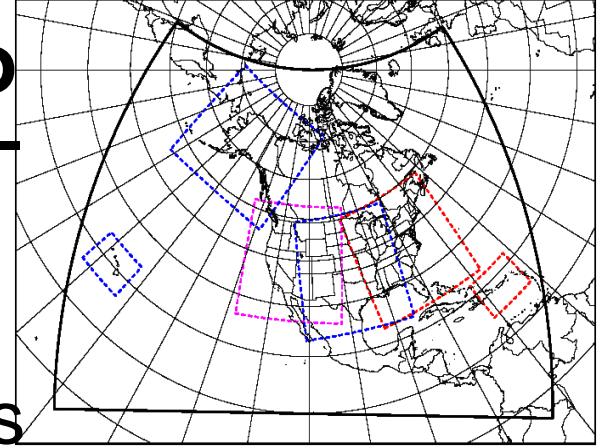
- Mesoscale community model: in development since 1997 – supported through USWRP, NOAA, DOD, FAA, UCAR, NSF
- Supported at Boulder Development Testbed Center (DTC); operational implementation at NCEP and DOD
- Same code run at DTC and NCEP

## Implementation Schedule

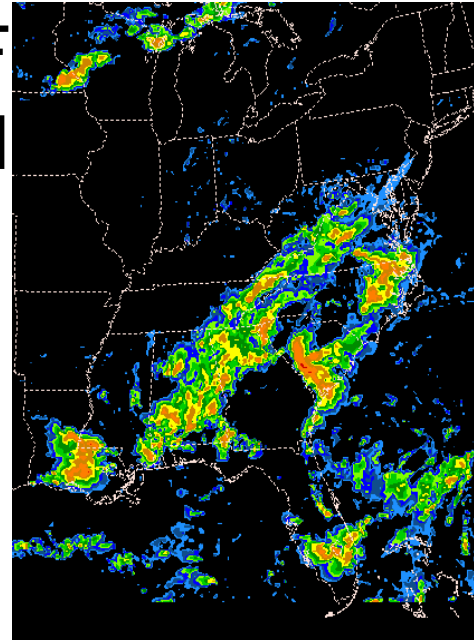
- HiResWindow: WRF Ensemble in FY04 & FY05
- North American WRF: Operational in FY06
- Hurricane WRF: Operational in FY07\*
- Rapid Refresh WRF: Operational in FY08\*
- WRF SREF : Operational in FY07
- FireWeather/IMET Support and Homeland Security\*

\* As resources allow

# WRF at NCEP

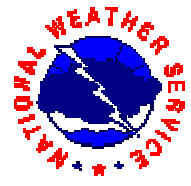


- **21 September 2004:** 8 km WRF ARW & NMM into HiRes Window runs
- **April 2004 to present:** explicit 4.5 km NMM runs for SPC/NSSL Spring Programs
- **28 June 2005:** 5-6 km HiResWindow explicit runs
- **November 2005:** Added 6-member WRF ensemble to SREF (6 = 3 ARW +3 NMM)
- **June 2006:** WRF-NMM and WRF-GSI will replace Eta Model and its 3D-Var in North American Mesoscale (NAM) runs





# 2006 NCEP Production Suite Atmospheric Model Dependencies



GENS

GFDL

GFS

SREF

WRF-NMM  
WRF-ARW  
ETA  
RSM

Dispersion

CFS

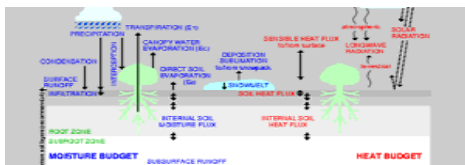
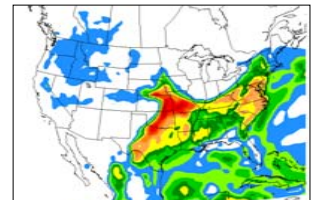
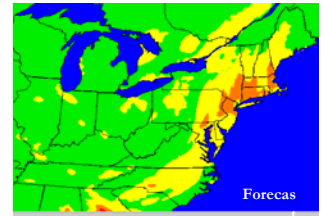
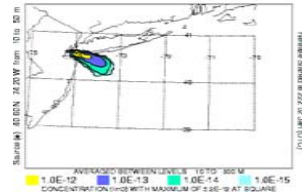
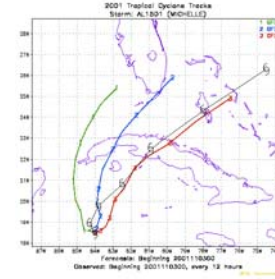
NAM - Eta

Sev Wx  
WRF-NMM  
WRF-ARW

Air Quality

NOAH Land Surface Model

RUC



LDAS

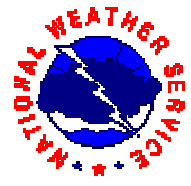
G  
G  
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E  
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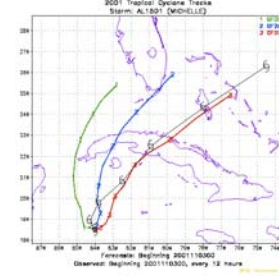


# 2007 NCEP Production Suite Atmospheric Model Dependencies



GENS

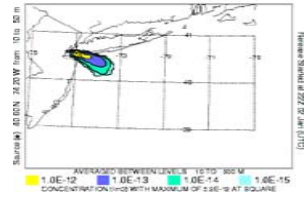
Hurricane  
WRF



G  
G  
S  
I  
GFS

WRF-NMM  
WRF-ARW  
ETA  
RSM  
SREF

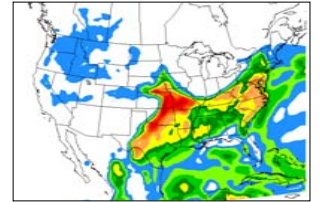
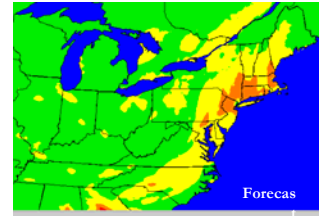
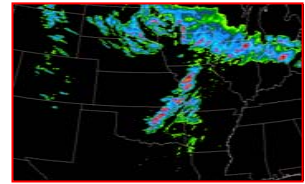
Dispersion



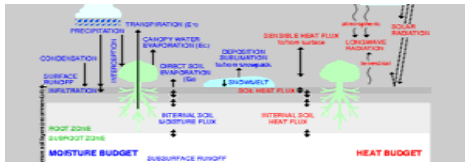
CFS

R  
G  
S  
I  
NAM - WRF

Sev  
Wx  
WRF-NMM  
WRF-ARW



NOAH Land Surface Model



LDAS

\*FY08

# Strategic Highlights

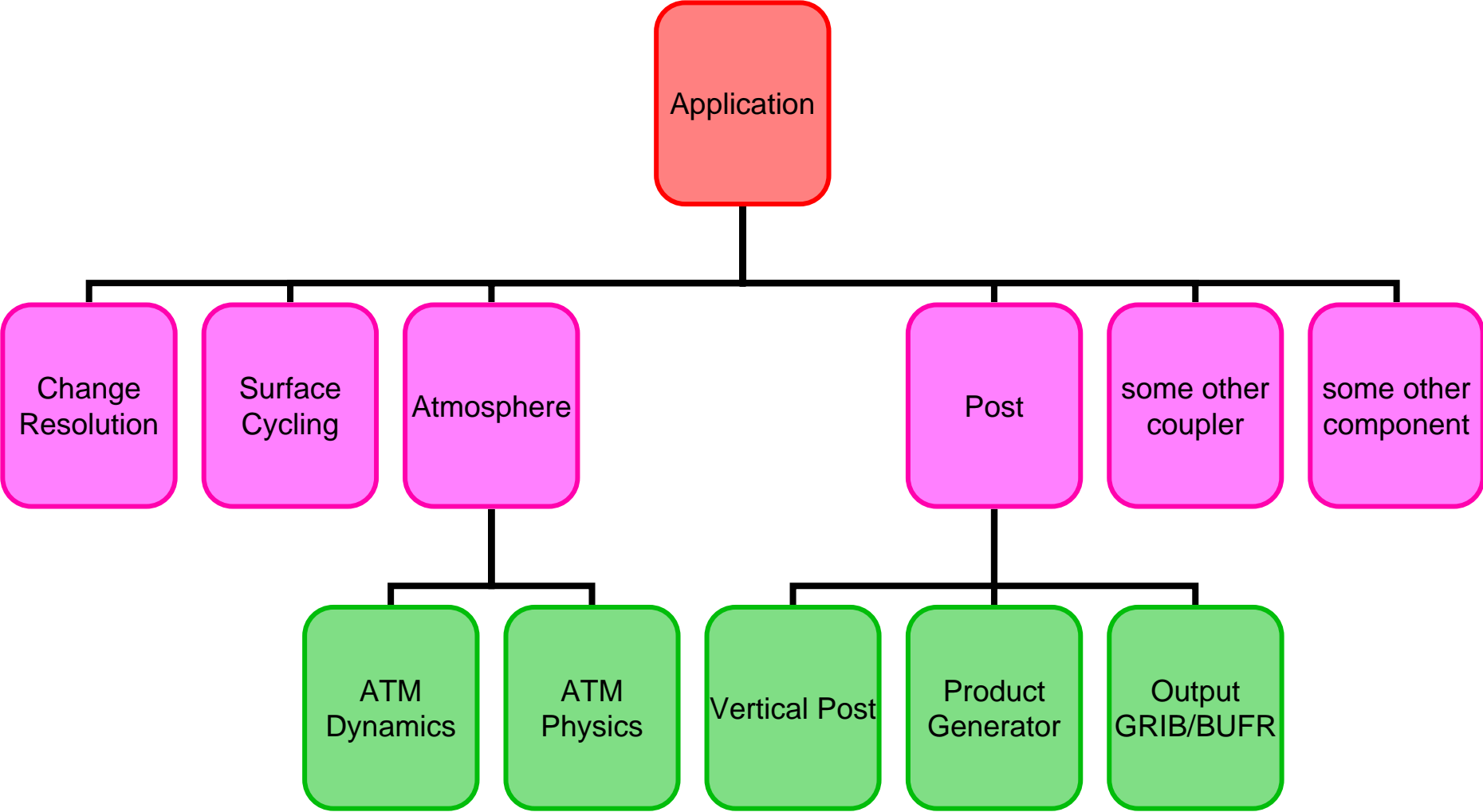
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# ESMF

Earth System Modeling Framework

# ESMF Component Framework



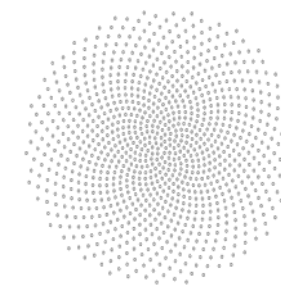
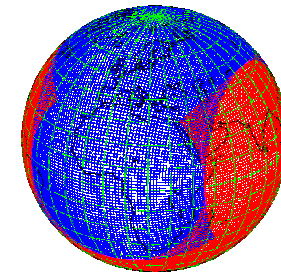
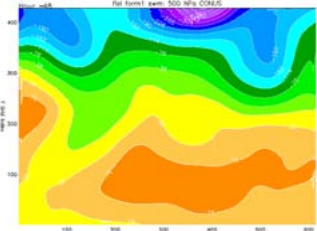
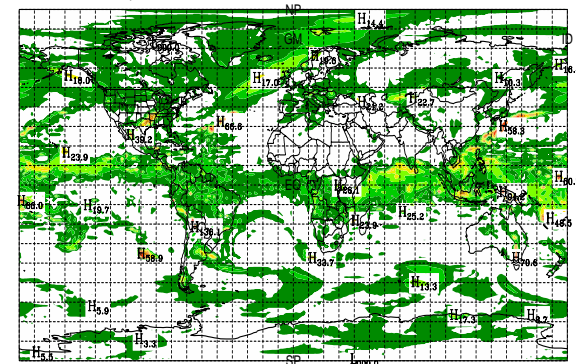
# Next Generation Global Model Development

## EMC, ESRL

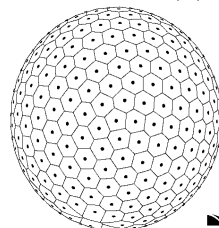
- Upgrades to current GFS
  - Hybrid sigma-theta vertical coordinate (Juang)
  - Semi-lagrangian advection (Sela)
  - Finite-element vertical discretization (Juang, Kar)
- Upscale NMM to global domain with Lat/Lon grid & Fourier filtering and ESMF compliance
  - Janjic
  - Code keeper (Black)
- Develop Fully Implicit SemiLagrangian (FISL) and SISL techniques within the NMM model structure
  - Kar
  - Janjic
- Apply “baseball” grid to NMM
  - Purser
  - Janjic
- Apply icosahedral and Fibonacci grids to Finite Volume dynamics
  - Purser
  - ESRL staff

29.11.2004. 12 UTC + 00168

Accumulated Precipitation



Icosahedral Geodesic Grid (362)



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# Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation

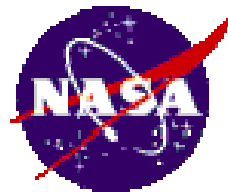
John LeMarshall - Director

Stephen J. Lord (NCEP/EMC)

Jim Yoe (NESDIS/ORA)

L.P. Riishojgaard (NASA/GMAO)

Pat Phoebus (NRL)



# NASA-NOAA-DOD Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation (JCSDA)

– NOAA, NASA, DOD partnership

– **Mission**

- **Accelerate and improve** the quantitative use of **research and operational** satellite data in **weather and climate** prediction models

- Current generation data

- Prepare for next-generation (NPOESS, METOP, research) instruments

– **Supports applied research**

- **Partners**

- **University, Government and Commercial Labs** <sup>24</sup>



# Advanced Data Assimilation Strategy and Design Considerations (NCEP/EMC, NESDIS/STAR, NASA/GMAO)

- Common elements promote collaboration and accelerate progress
- Managed diversity provides more information on system performance
- Inclusive development strategy required due to advanced nature of work and “**THE**” answer is unknown
  - EMC: Evolutionary approach through incremental changes → “Simplified” 4-D Var
  - GMAO: Adjoint based techniques → “Classical” 4-D Var similar to ECMWF
  - THORPEX: Revolutionary technique (Ensemble Data Assimilation) different from variational approach
- Disciplined code management is essential for progress

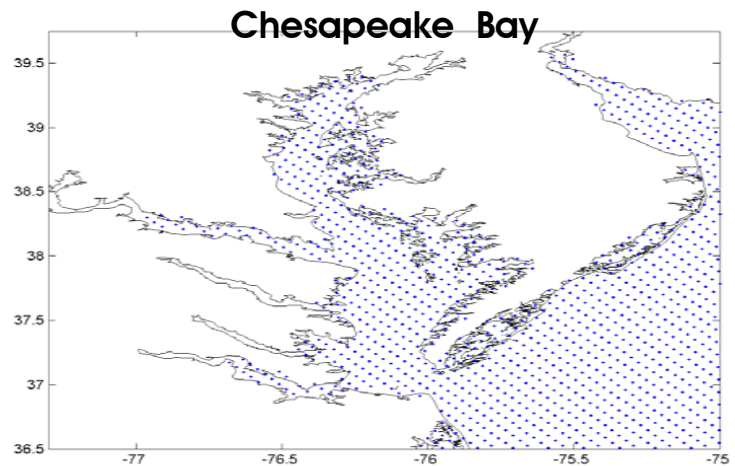
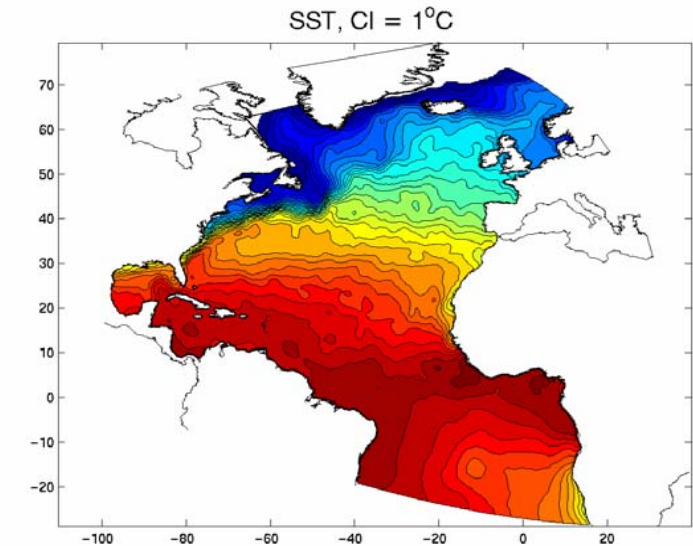
# Strategic Highlights

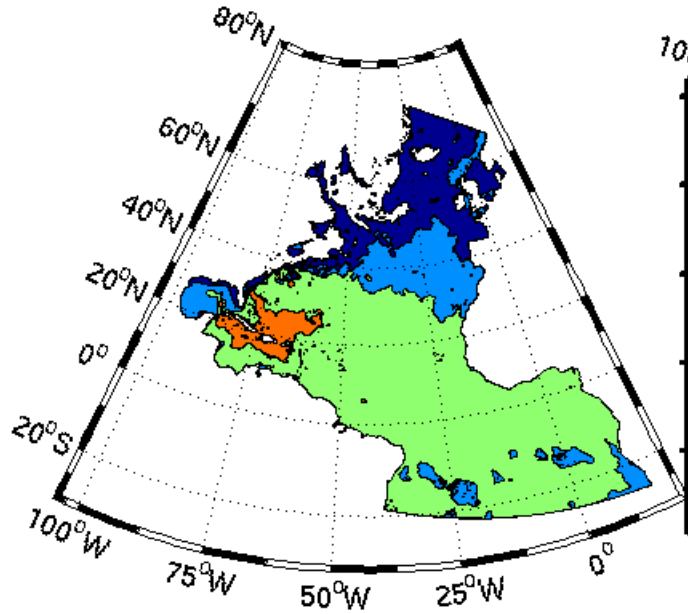
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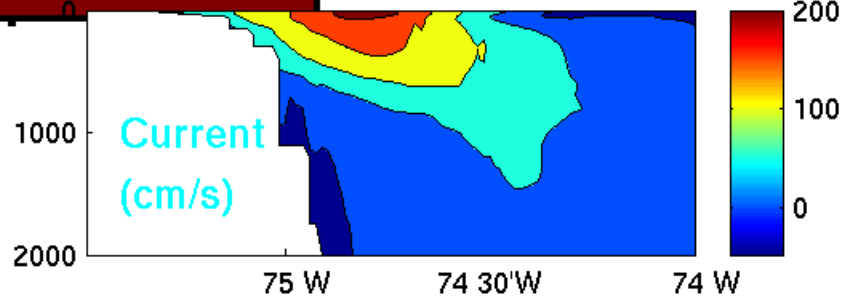
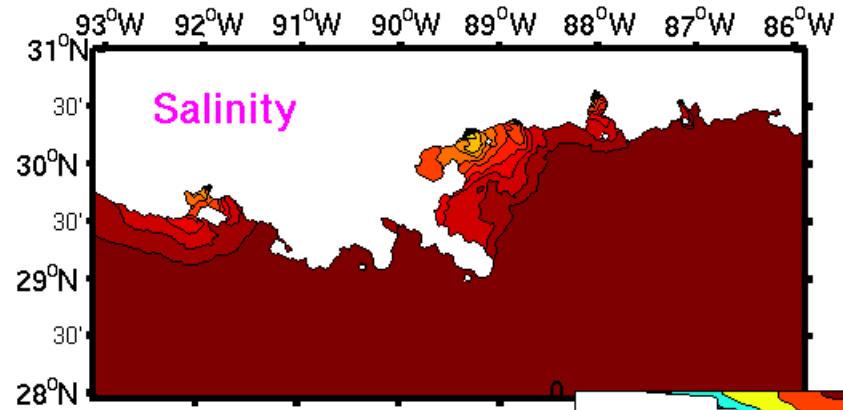
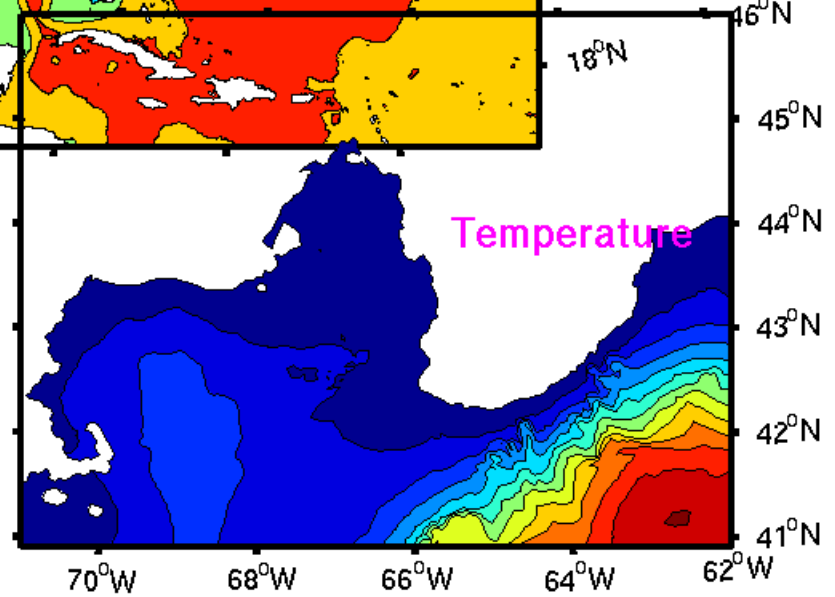
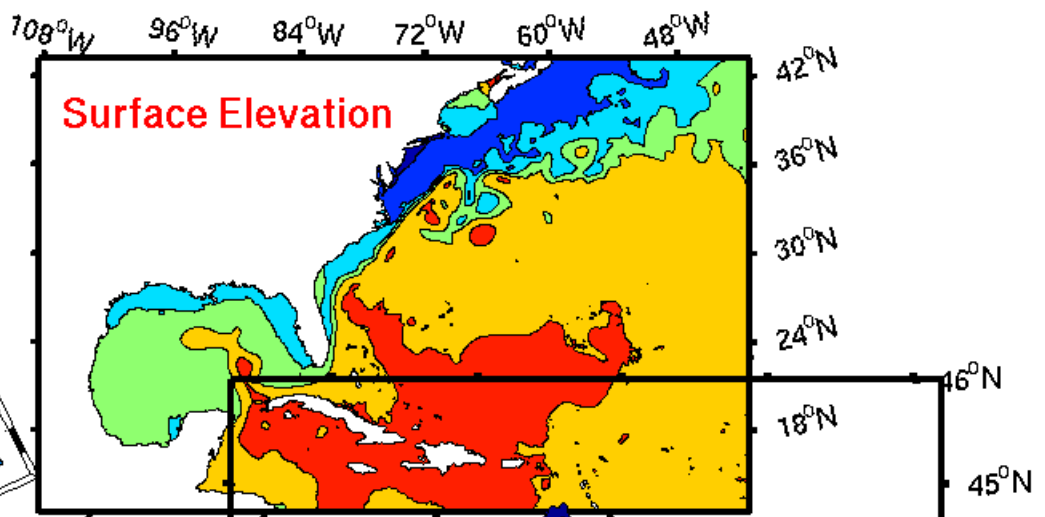
# US GODAE: Global Ocean Prediction with HYCOM Operational December 2005

- Goal: to develop and demonstrate real-time, operational, high resolution ocean prediction systems for the Global Oceans and Basins
- NCEP Partners with
  - University of Miami/RSMAS
  - NRL Stennis, NRL Monterey, FNMOC
  - NOAA PMEL, AOML
  - Los Alamos National Laboratory
  - Others (international, commercial)
- Hybrid isopycnal-sigma-pressure ocean model (called Hybrid Coordinate Ocean Model – **HYCOM**)
- **Funded FY 2003-2007 by NOPP**



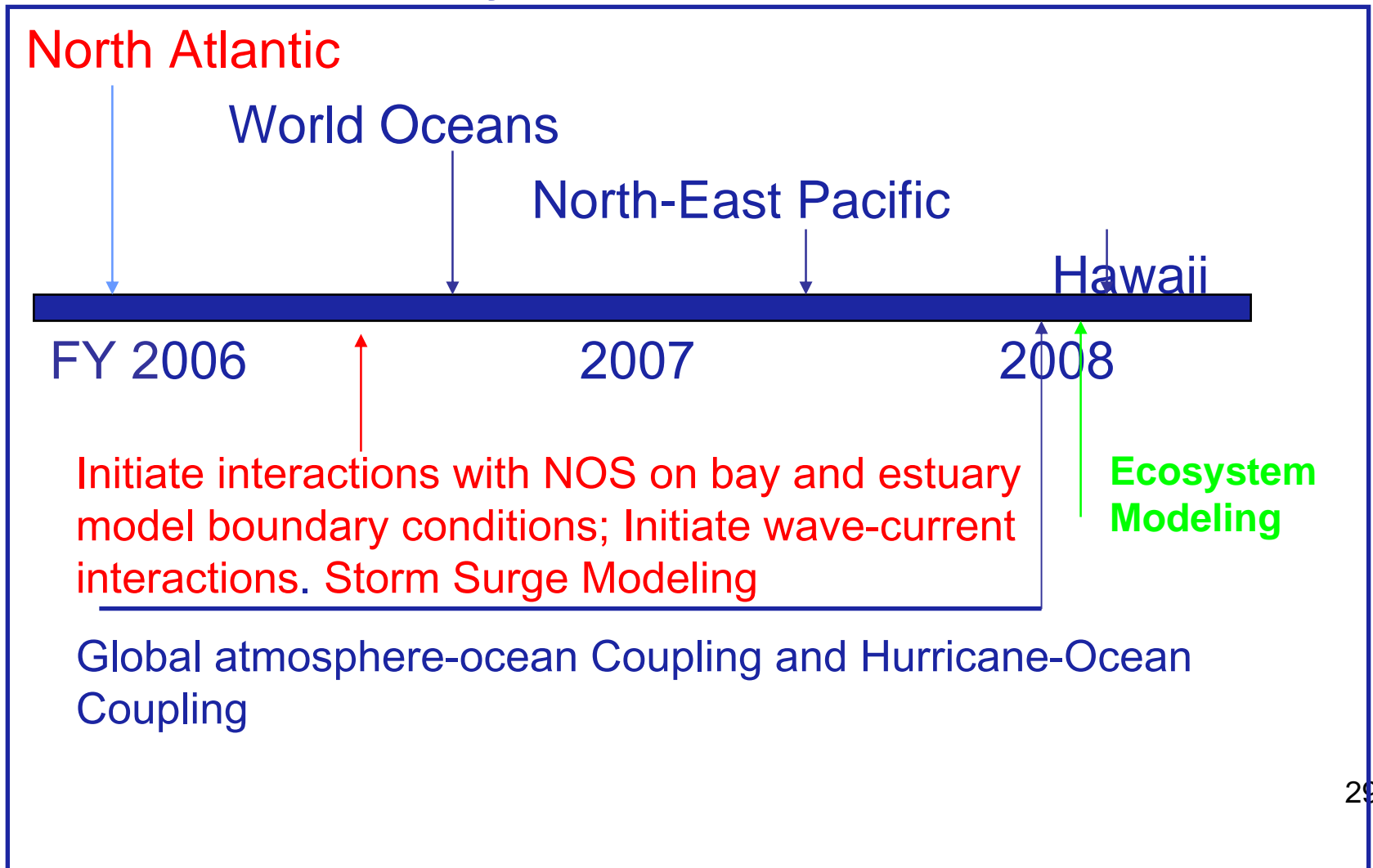


Atlantic Ocean Model Domain





# Deployment Schedule



NASA-NOAA-DOD

JCSDA

AMSR, GOES,

AIRS, JASON, WindSat,

MODIS

Advanced

ODA Techniques

\$1451 K (total)

\$341 K (direct)

# Observations

**Satellite**

(AVHRR, JASON, QuikSCAT)

**In situ**

(ARGO, Buoys, Ships)

**Data Cutoff**

CFS: 2 week data cutoff

RTOFS: 24 hour data cutoff

## OCEAN DATA ASSIMILATION

**CFS-GODAS**

NCO/ODA - \$446 K

EMC - \$170 K

NOPP-JPL (ECCO) - \$34 K

**RT-OFS-GODAE**

NOPP - \$285 K

EMC - \$350 K

Shared history,  
coding, and data  
processing

**CLIMATE FORECAST**

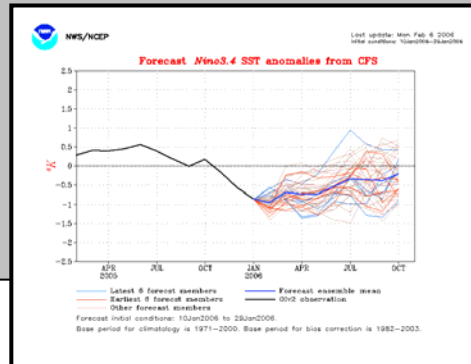
**OCEAN FORECAST**

MOM-3 → MOM-4 → HOME

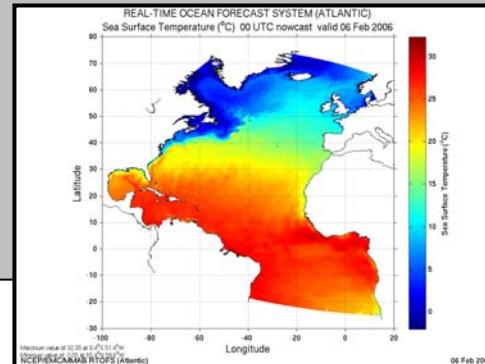
**OPNL OCEAN FORECASTS**

HYCOM → HOME

### Climate Forecast System



### Real-Time Ocean Forecast System



<http://cfs.ncep.noaa.gov/>

<http://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/ofs/>

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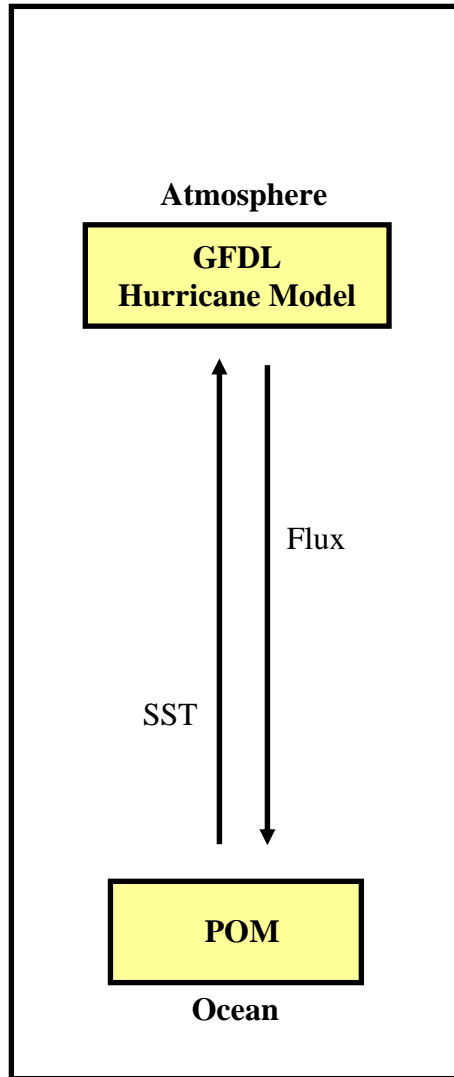


# The Hurricane Program

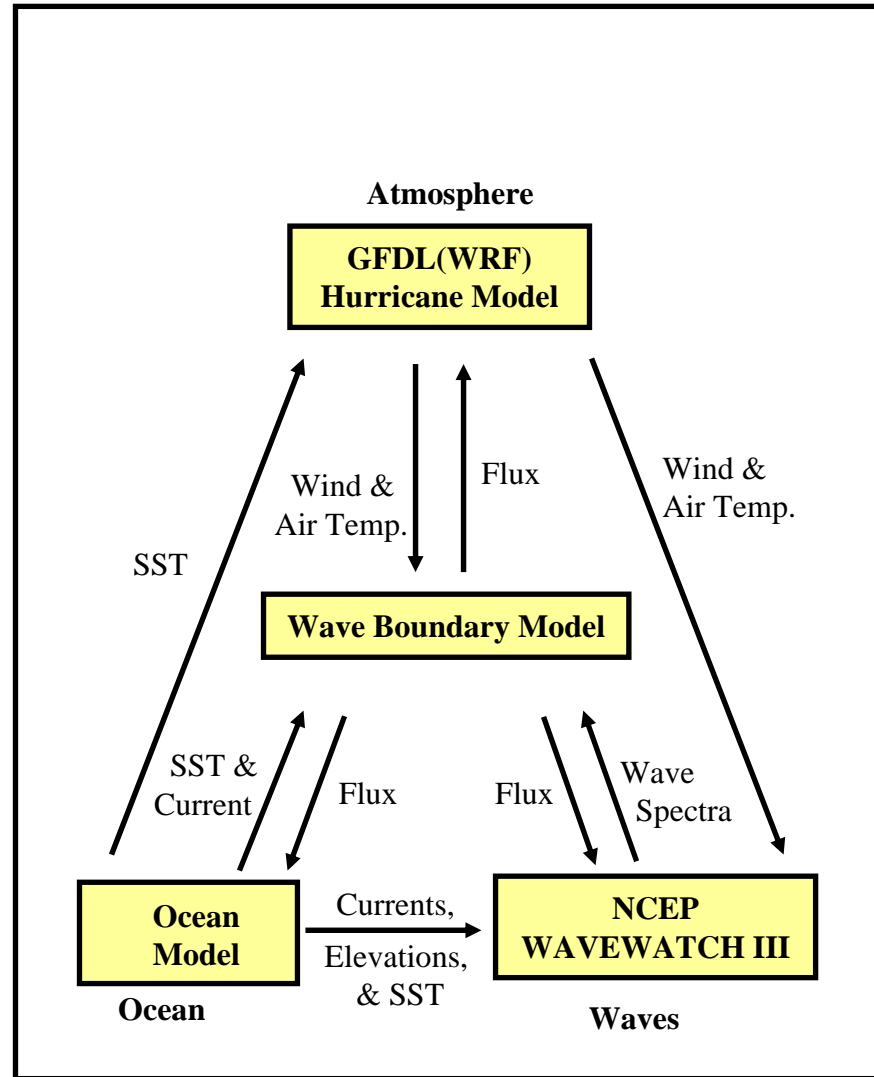
- Highly visible forecasts
  - Protection of life & property
  - Numerical products provide “guidance” for forecasters
  - Extremely competitive
    - Met Office
    - Navy
    - ....
- Global system (GFS) & regional model (GFDL)
  - Annual upgrades
  - Implementation before 1 June of each year
- USWRP support critical for operational system
- Recent beneficiary of supplemental \$1 M



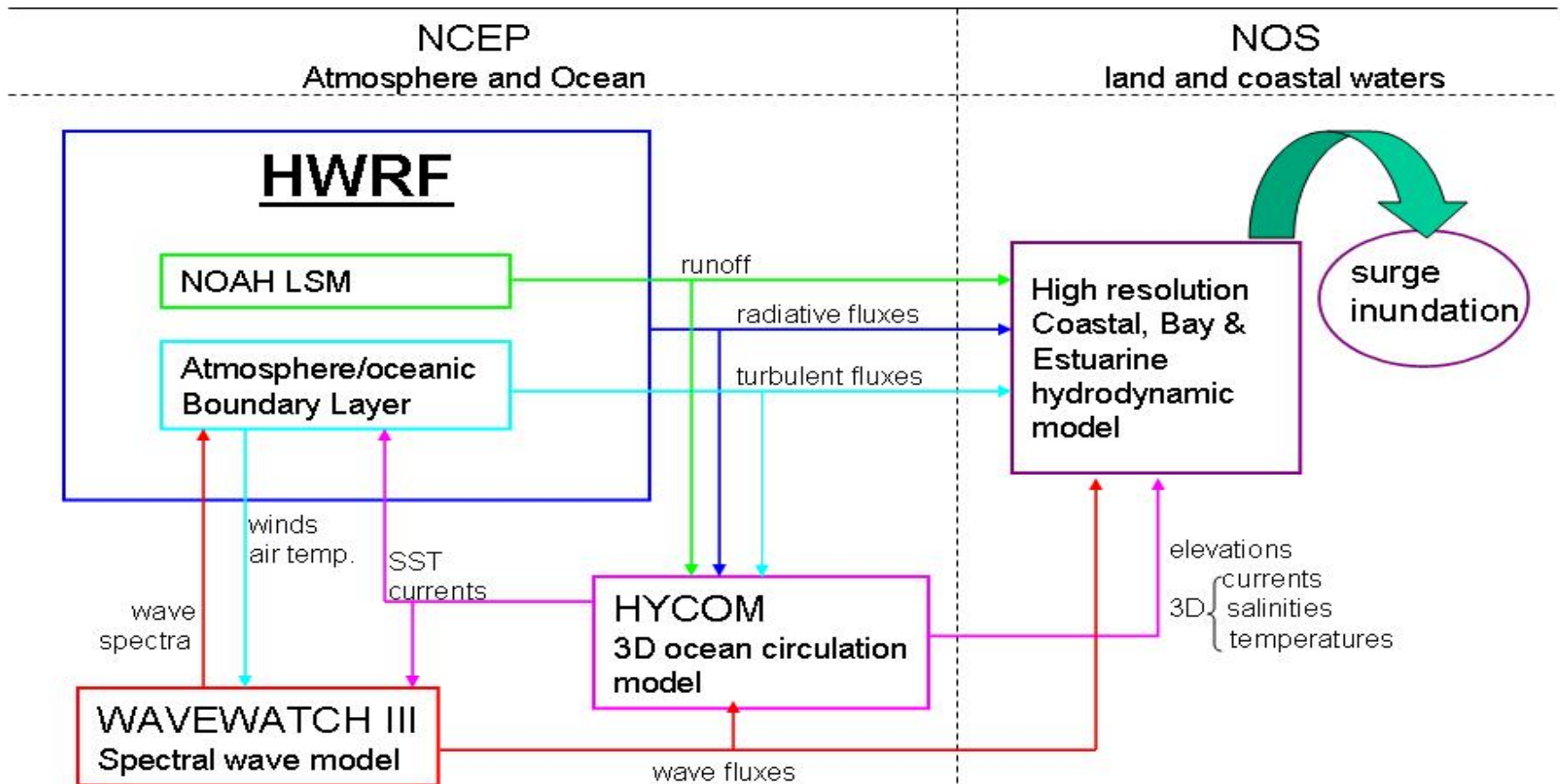
## Operational GFDL Model



## Future Coupled Hurricane-Wave-Ocean Model



# Hurricane-Wave-Ocean-Surge-Inundation Coupled Models



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# NORTH AMERICAN ENSEMBLE FORECAST SYSTEM (NAEFS)

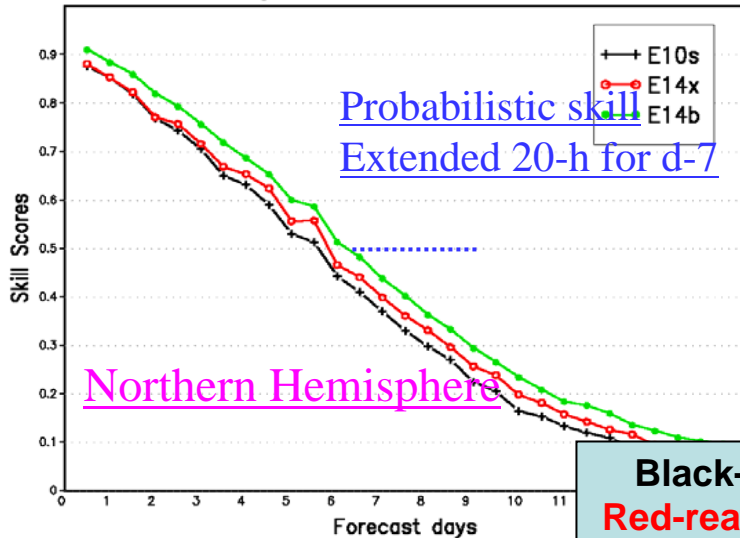
## *International project to produce operational multi-center ensemble products*

- Combines global ensemble forecasts from Canada & USA
  - 40+ members per cycle, 2 cycles per day from MSC & NWS
    - 6-hourly output frequency (instead of current 12-hourly)
    - Replaces current 26 members once a day setup
- Generates products for
  - Intermediate users
    - Weather forecasters at NCEP Service Centers (NWS)
  - Specialized users
    - E.g., hydrologic applications in all three countries
  - End users
    - E.g., forecasts for public distribution in Canada (MSC) and Mexico (NMSM)
- Prototype ensemble component of THORPEX Global Interactive Forecast System (GIFS)
  - Operational outlet for THORPEX research using THORPEX Interactive Grand Global Ensemble (TIGGE) archive

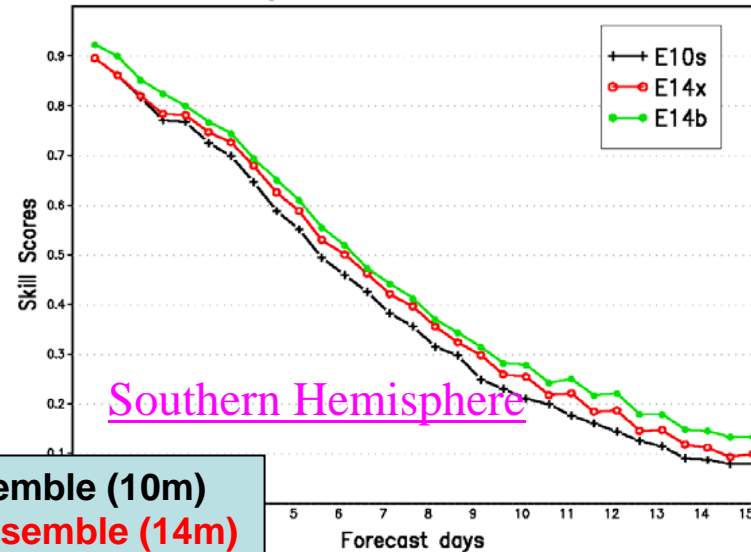


# NAEFS Ensemble: Improved Probabilistic Skill

Northern Hemisphere 500 mb Height (ROC area)  
Average For 20060425 – 20060510

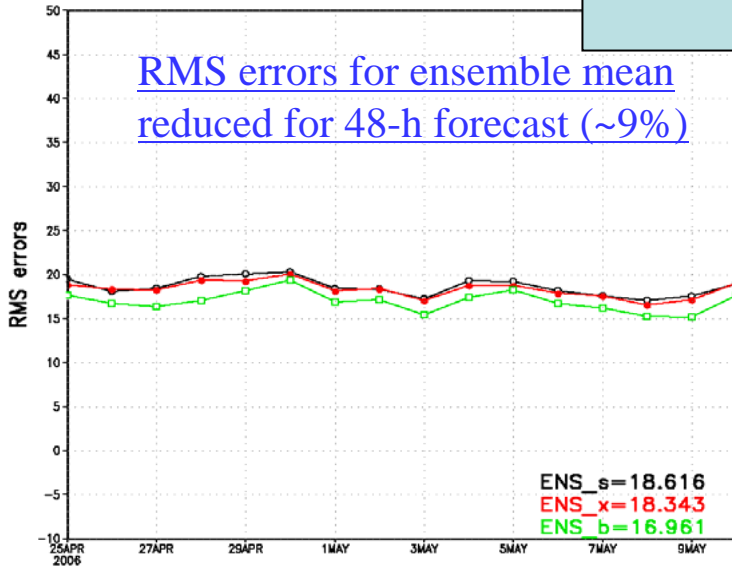


Southern Hemisphere 500 mb Height (ROC area)  
Average For 20060425 – 20060510

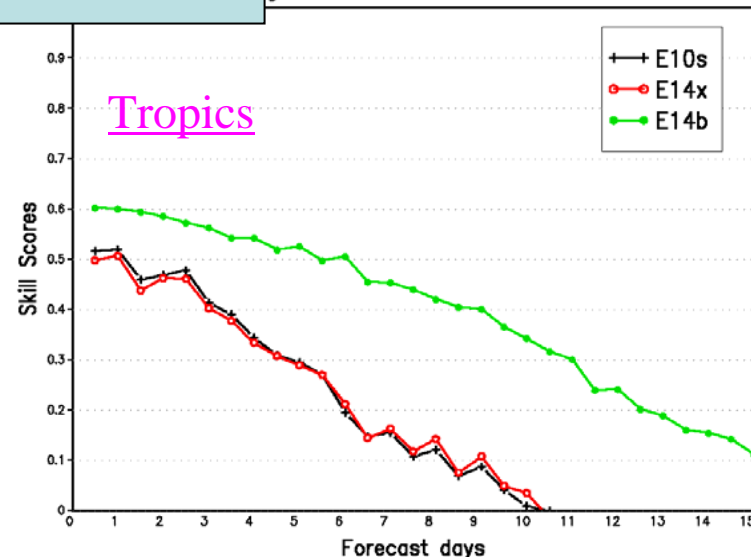


**Black-operational ensemble (10m)**  
**Red-real time parallel ensemble (14m)**  
**Green-real time parallel ensemble after bias correction (14m)**  
**16 Cases**

NH 500 mb Geopotential Height at d  
for 00Z25APR2006 – 00Z10MAY2006



Tropical 500 mb Height (ROC area)  
Average For 20060425 – 20060510

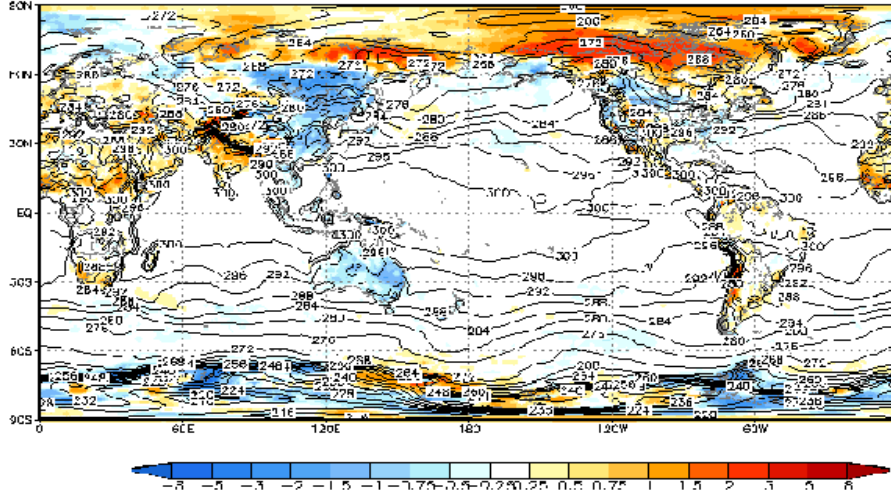


# 2 meter temperature: 120 hours forecast (ini: 2006043000)

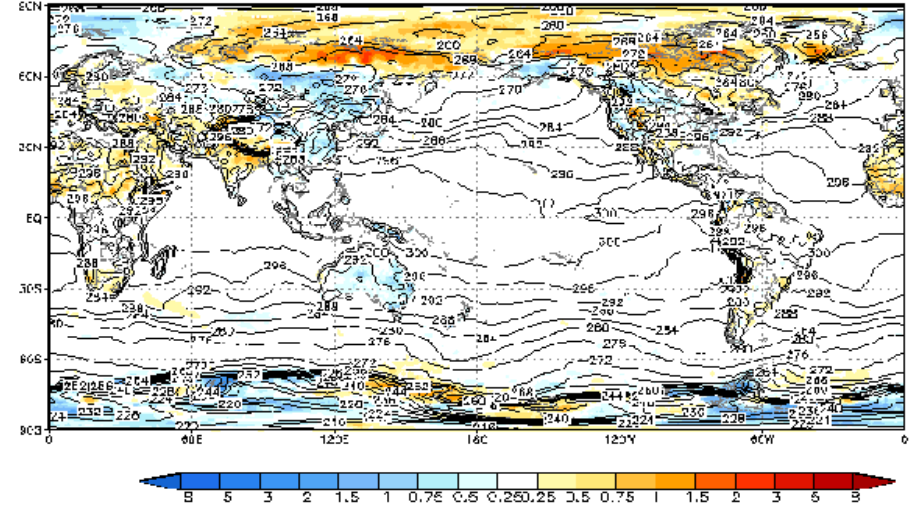
Shaded: left – uncorrected

right – after bias correction

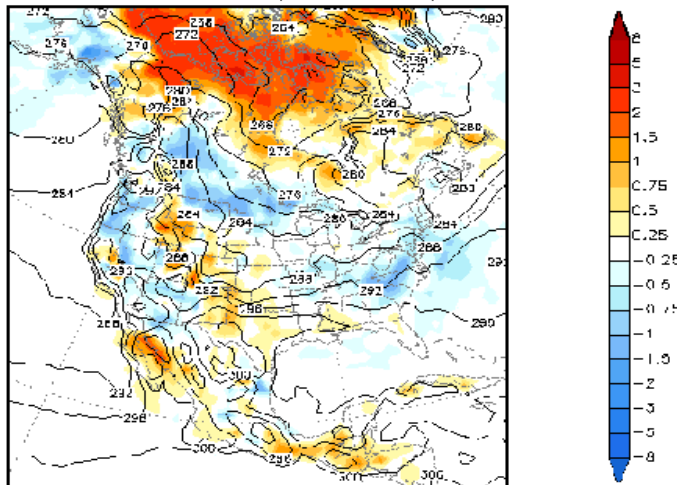
Ensemble Mean Fcst. ( contour, K )  
Bias Estimation ( shaded, K )



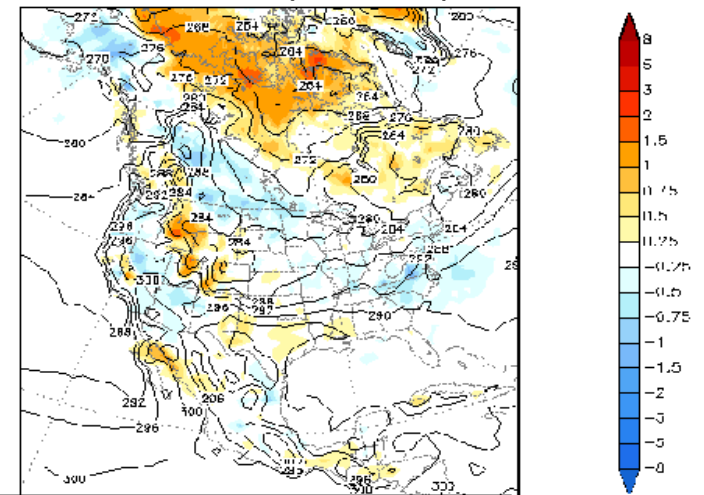
Bias Corrected Ensemble Mean Fcst. ( contour, K )  
Bias Estimation ( shaded, K )



NAEFS Region Ensemble Mean Fcst. ( contour, K )  
Bias Estimation ( shaded, K )



NAEFS Region Bias Corrected Ensemble Mean Fcst. ( contour, K )  
Bias Estimation ( shaded, K )



**Bias reduced approximately 50%  
at early lead time**

**RMS errors improved by  
9% for d0-d3**

# NAEFS Performance Review

## Appendix 6

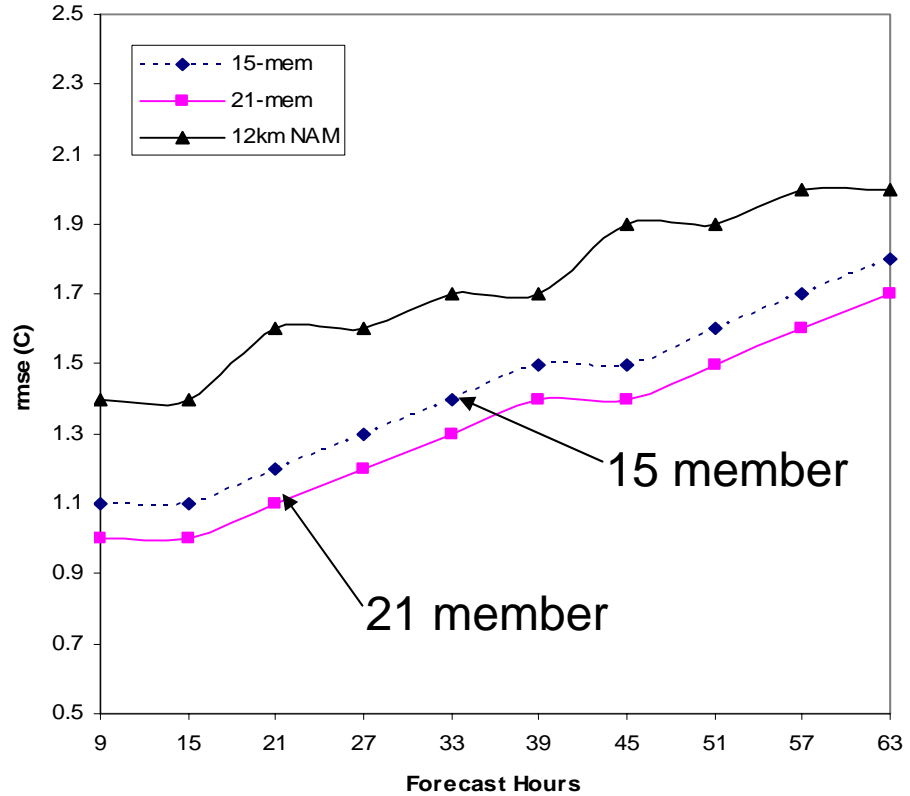
### KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Improvement in Ensemble Forecasts				
Requirement		Threshold	Actual 25Apr- 10May06	Variance
Ensemble Mean 3-14 Day Lead Time	Bias Reduction (%)	50%	30-70%	Met or exceeded in Tropics & up to D3 elsewhere; slightly below otherwise
	RMS Error Reduction (%)	10%	Up to 10%	Met up to D3, below expected D4 and beyond
Improvement in Ensemble-based Probabilistic Forecasts	3 Day	6 Hours	12 hrs	Exceeded
	7 Day	12 Hours	16 hrs	Exceeded
	10 – 14 Days	24 Hours	48 hrs	Exceeded

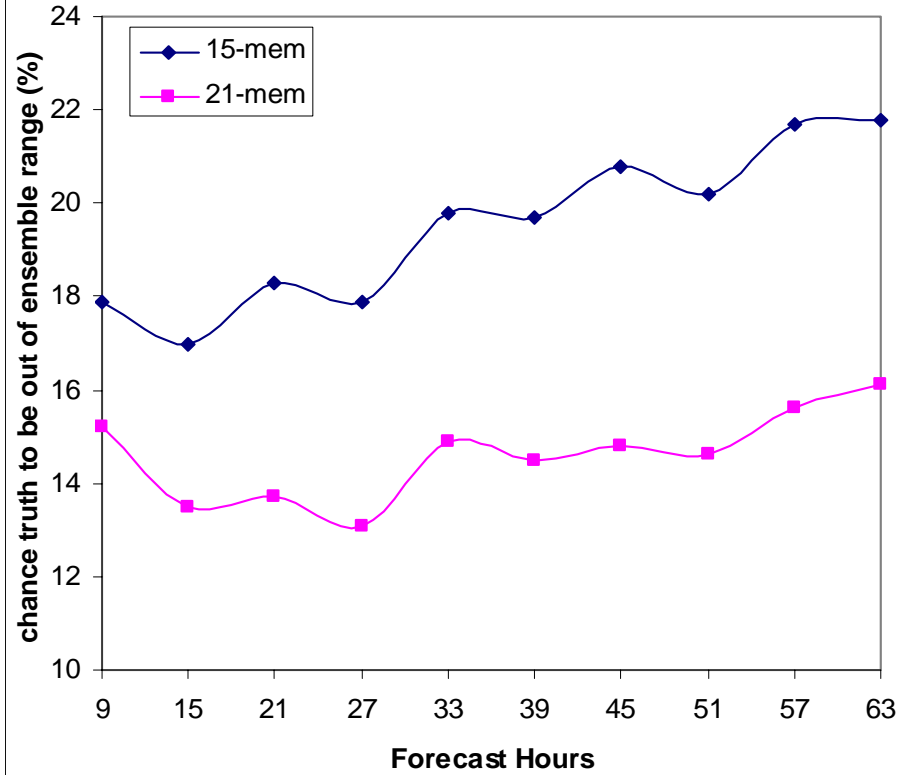


# SREF Enhancement with 6 WRF-based Members

## RMS Error



## Chance that truth is outside ensemble range





# Strategic Highlights

- Mesoscale system consolidation (WRF)
- Next-generation
  - Global forecast model (ESMF)
  - Data assimilation (JCSDA)
- Daily ocean forecasting (HYCOM)
- Hurricanes (HWRF)
- Ensembles (NAEFS, SREF, THORPEX)
- Land surface modeling and hydrology (GAPP)

ATMOSPHERIC FORCING (near surface)

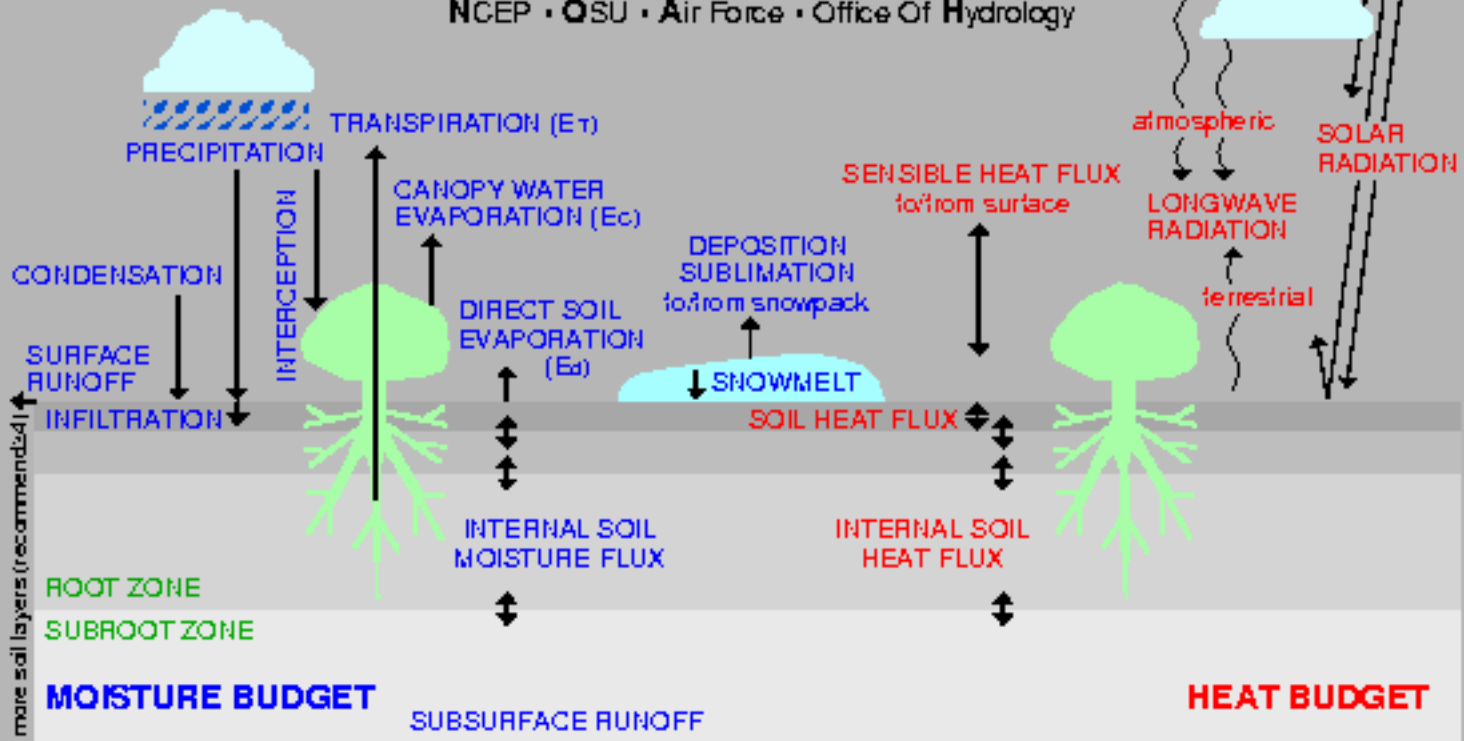
- PRECIPITATION
- TEMPERATURE
- HUMIDITY
- SURFACE PRESSURE
- WIND

# NOAH LAND-SURFACE MODEL

NCEP • OSU • Air Force • Office Of Hydrology

RADIATION FORCING (at surface)

- DOWNWARD SOLAR
- DOWNWARD LONGWAVE



National Center for Environmental Prediction (NCEP)  
Environmental Modeling Center (EMC)

Oregon State University  
College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences

National Weather Service  
Office of Hydrology

Air Force Research Lab (AFRL)  
Air Force Weather Agency (AFWA D11XM)

## STATE VARIABLES

- SKIN TEMPERATURE
- SOIL TEMPERATURE
- SOIL WATER
- SOIL ICE
- CANOPY WATER
- SNOW WATER
- SNOW DENSITY

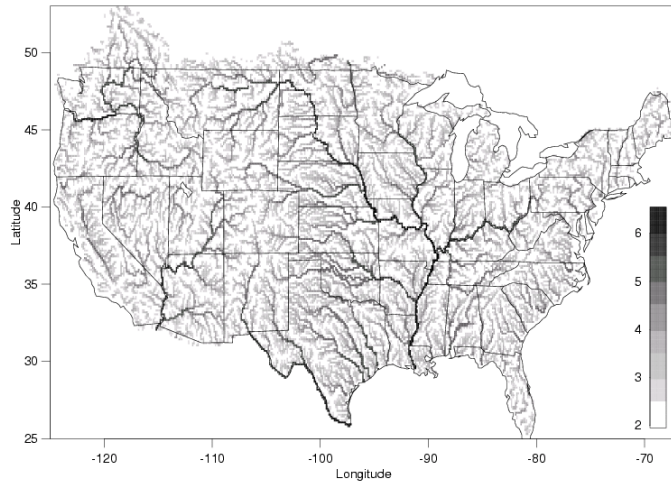
## SURFACE PARAMETERS

- VEGETATION TYPE
- GREEN VEGETATION FRACTION
- SOIL TEXTURE

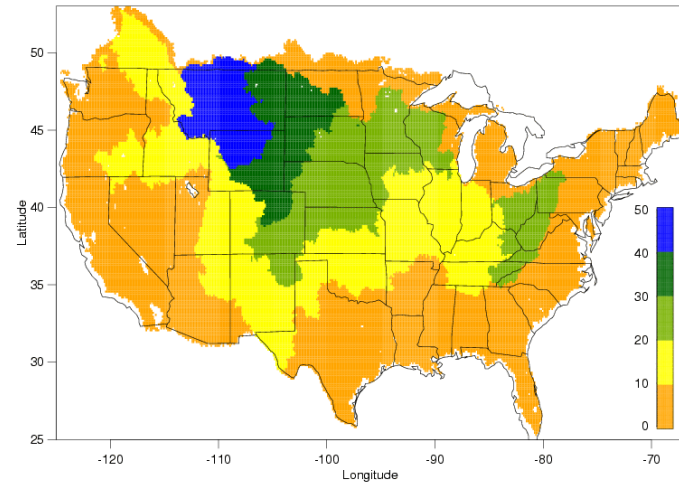
- ROUGHNESS
- ALBEDO
- SLOPE FACTOR

# NLDAS Simulated River System

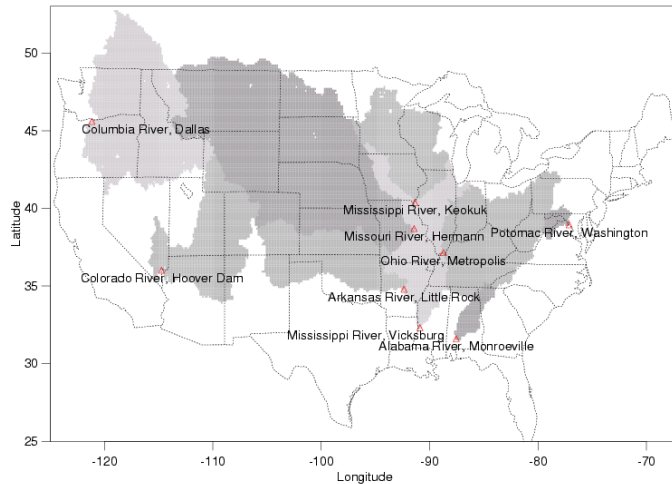
*Upstream area [log10(km<sup>2</sup>)]*



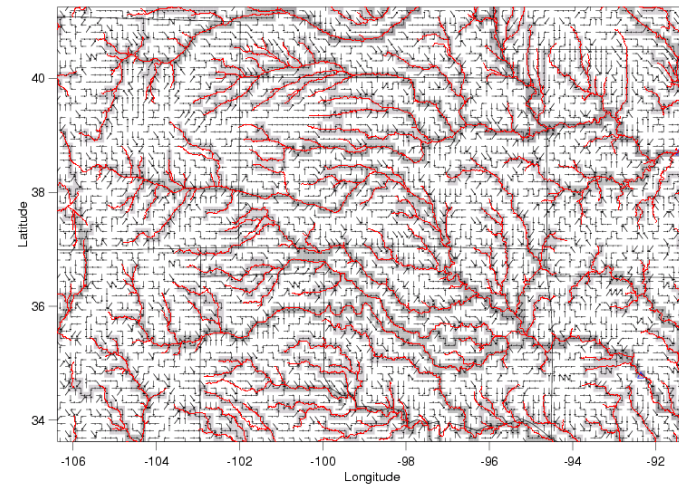
*Travel time to outlet [days]*



*Large River basins*



*River flow direction mask*



# LIS: The Land Information System

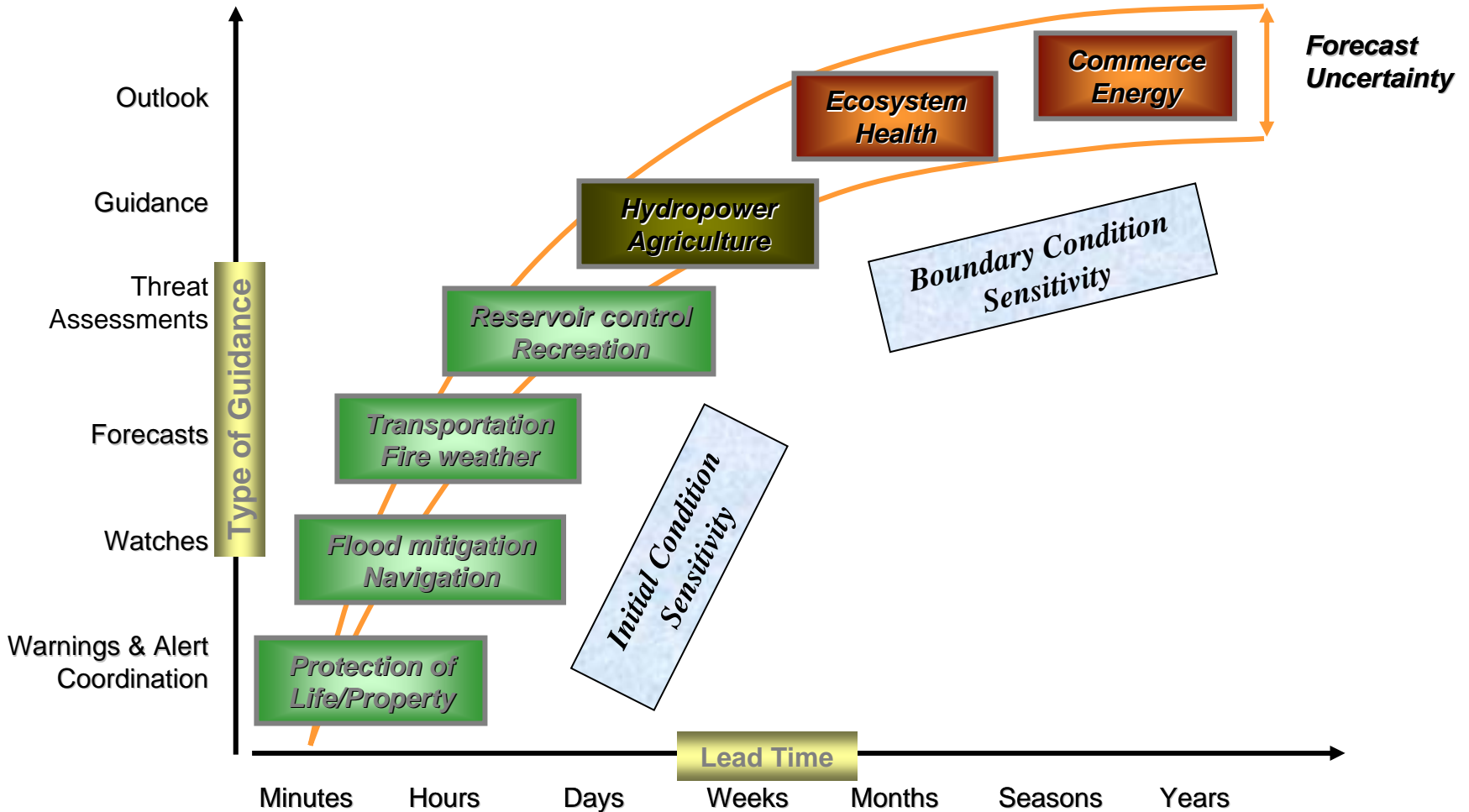
## A joint NASA-NCEP Partnership

- A robust and flexible land/hydrology model infrastructure and testbed to support multiple needs:
  - **Leverages the pilot projects of NLDAS and GLDAS**
  - **Multiple space and time scales**
    - 1-km to 2-deg resolution globally
    - Integrations of a few days to multiple years
    - Multiple land models: Mosaic, Noah, VIC, CLM, Catchment
    - Fast multi-processing computation design
  - **Support multiple programs:**
    - ESMF: Earth System Modeling Framework
    - JCSDA: Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation
    - WRF: Weather Research and Forecast Model
  - **Examples:**
    - LIS coupled to WRF model via ESMF for execution of Noah LSM in WRF
  - **Needs/Opportunities**
    - Add JCSDA Community Radiative Transfer Model (CRTM)
    - Add community Kalman Filter data assimilation component
    - **Add stable “core” funding of NASA-NOAA Research & Operations Transition**

# Overview

- EMC organization
- Role of models in the forecast process
- Strategic highlights
  - Mesoscale system consolidation (WRF)
  - Next-generation
    - Global forecast model (ESMF)
    - Data assimilation (JCSDA)
  - Daily ocean forecasting (HYCOM)
  - Hurricanes (HWRF)
  - Ensembles (NAEFS, SREF, THORPEX)
  - Land surface modeling and hydrology (GAPP)
- **Proposed strategic plan elements**
- Summary

# Socio-Economic Benefits of Seamless Weather/Climate Forecast Suite



## TRADITIONAL NWP PROCESS

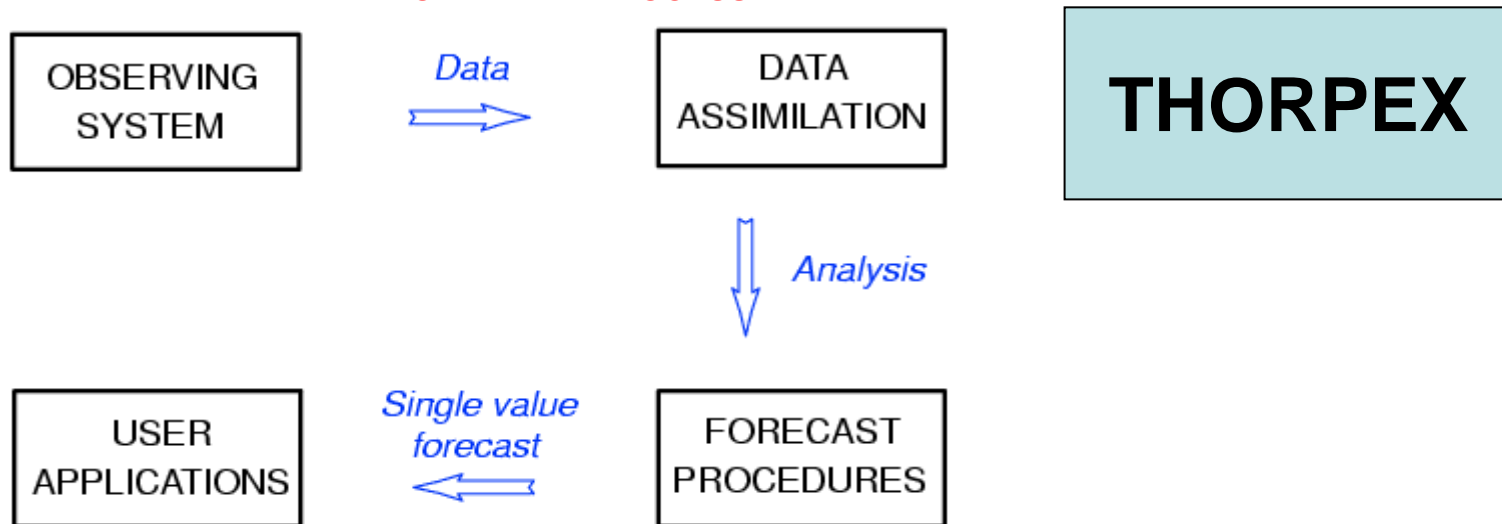


Fig. 2. Schematic diagram illustrating the one-way flow of initial value related information in a traditional NWP forecast process.

## INTEGRATED NWP PROCESS

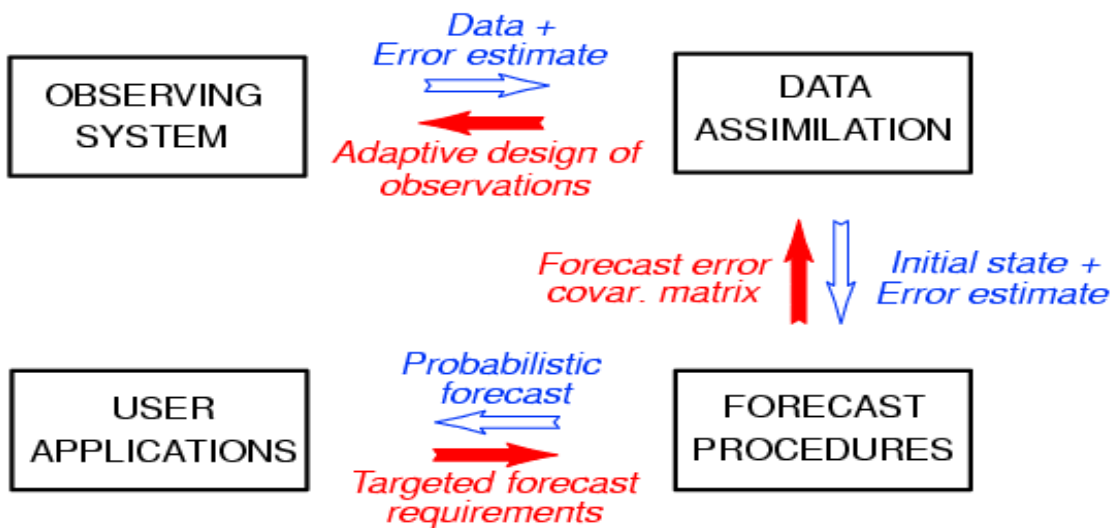


Fig. 4. Schematic diagram illustrating the two-way flow of initial condition related information in the proposed new, integrated NWP forecast process.

# Proposed Strategic Plan Elements

- Improved Services
- Verification and Product Feedback
- Projection Prioritized Seamless Suite
- Information and Dissemination
- Spectrum of Provided Services



# Improved Services

- Increased Numerical Forecast System (NFS) capabilities - examples are:
  - AOR for sensible weather
    - Dew Point
    - Maximum Temperature
    - Minimum Temperature
    - Precipitation Amount
    - Probability of Precipitation (POP 12)
    - Significant Wave Height
    - Sky Cover
    - Snow Amount
    - Temperature
    - Weather
    - Wind Direction and Speed
  - Surface transportation
  - Environmental monitoring (AQ + Atmos. Constituents)
  - Ocean (SAR, water levels)
  - Hydrology (water quality)
- Improved forecast accuracy with advanced
  - Observations processing (e.g. quality control)
  - Data assimilation (e.g. advanced techniques)
  - Model accuracy (e.g. dynamics and physics)
  - Post-processing (e.g. bias correction)
- Products characterizing all sources of forecast uncertainty
- More user-relevant products (e.g. radar and satellite view formats)
- Increased use of available observations
- Contributing to observing system design and evaluation for future systems

# Verification and Product Feedback

- Verify all products
  - Maintain long term historical data base
    - Demonstrate product improvement
    - Comparison with international and domestic service providers
    - Common methodology across weather, climate, water, ocean, land applications
  - Conduct annual product review
    - Key users participate actively
    - Sets requirements and subsequent actions
    - Provides strategic direction for users (where we are going)

# Projection-Prioritized Seamless Suite

- Seamless Suite of Forecast Products
  - Focus depends on forecast projection (e.g. Weather → Climate)
  - Examples are:
    - 0-24 h
      - Severe weather (precipitation, winds, temperature)
      - Sensible weather focus
      - Aviation
      - Surface transportation
      - Hazards
    - 1-3 days
      - Synoptic systems
      - Jet streams
      - Define amplitude of extreme events
      - Oceans (waves, ocean state)
    - 1-5 days
      - Hurricane track & intensity
    - 4-15 days
      - Likelihood of extreme events
      - Regional scale impacts
    - 16-60 days
      - Changes in continental-scale regimes (AO, PNA)
      - MJO and tropical forcing
    - 2-12 months
      - ENSO events
- All applications have a probabilistic component

# Information and Dissemination

- “Model of the day” is not a future, scientifically supportable, solution.
- Instead, consider the following maxims:
  - Model output bias-corrected and in terms of climate anomaly
  - Information from all available sources
    - Domestic and international models
  - **Provide maximum usable information from operational NFS with three levels of information**
    - **Most likely forecast**
    - **Description of forecast uncertainty through probability density function (pdf)**
    - **Ensemble-based products for all suites**
  - Disseminate maximum user-relevant information
    - Deliver
      - Both 3-dimensional (horizontal and vertical) fields
      - Pointwise information with time series and vertical sounding capability as appropriate
      - Most likely forecast
      - Description of pdf
    - Make available for user access (“NWS Digital Services”)
      - All NFS output including individual ensemble members
      - Ability for user to capture arbitrary collection of 5 dimensional information space (x, y, z, t, variable)
      - Publicly served
        - » User pays for transmission capability
        - » NOAA pays for load-balanced servers and disk farm

# Spectrum of Provided Services

- Provide new products and services
  - In response to societal needs
    - Annual review
  - **Commensurate with available resources**
    - **Computing**
    - **Data assimilation and model personnel and technology**
    - **Observations**
  - Annual strategic presentation to upper NOAA Management
    - Environmental Modeling Program
- **Provide training services to enhance product use**
  - **Annual workshops**
  - **User guides to products**
    - E.g.: use of pdf information
    - E.g.: how “most likely” product is constructed
  - **Routinely available verification statistics**
  - **Product improvements**
- Outreach to scientific community
  - Unified Test Bed concept
    - Covers all aspects of NCEP and NOAA product suites
    - Supports transition to operations
    - Sets national guidelines for supporting research
  - NOAA NFS software fully supported to scientific community for all applications (hourly to decadal; atmosphere, ocean, land, hydrology, sea ice)
    - ESMI
- International outreach
  - Support NCEP’s NFSs for international use
  - Fully documented systems with training
  - Robust retrieval of boundary condition and initial condition files for local, foreign users
  - Regular user workshops to provide information and discuss problems

# Summary

- **WRF**
  - First major foray into community modeling
  - Enables consolidation of mesoscale systems
- **Next-generation global system**
  - Planned to be multi-component system with ESMF glue
  - Data assimilation techniques in collaboration with NASA/GMAO and JCSDA
- **Daily ocean forecasting (HYCOM)**
  - Provides basis for full atmosphere-ocean coupling for weather, including hurricanes
  - Opens door to marine ecosystem forecasting
- **Hurricane WRF**
  - Coupled ocean and waves
  - Already progress on hurricane intensity
- **NCEP systems**
  - Are ensemble based
  - THORPEX is providing ground-breaking studies
- **Land surface modeling and hydrology**
  - Global and domestic hydrological forecasts (drives river runoff for coastal models)
  - Terrestrial ecosystem (e.g. dynamic vegetation) impacts
- **Proposed strategic plan is aligned with NWS CONOPS**

# Backup

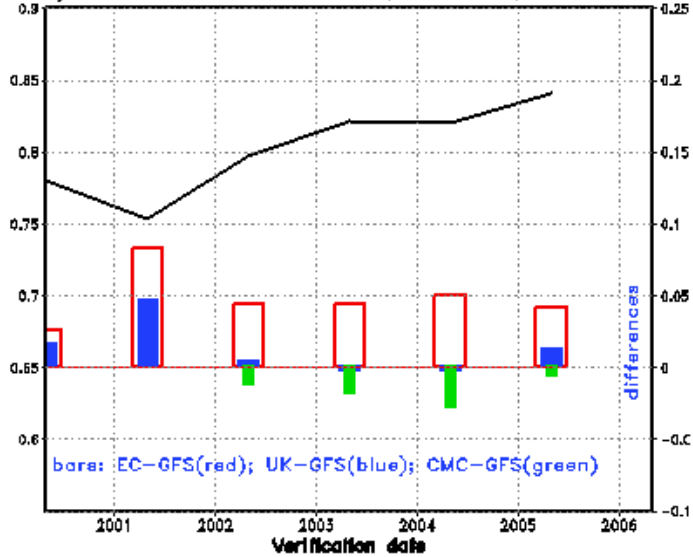
# Overview

- EMC Organization
- Performance of Global System for Weather & Climate
- Strategic highlights
  - Mesoscale system consolidation (WRF)
  - Next-generation
    - Global forecast model (ESMF)
    - Data assimilation (JCSDA)
  - Daily Ocean Forecasting (HYCOM)
  - Hurricane Forecasting (HWRF)
  - Ensembles (NAEFS, SREF, THORPEX)
  - Land Surface Modeling & Data Assimilation (GAPP)
- Strategic plan elements
- Summary

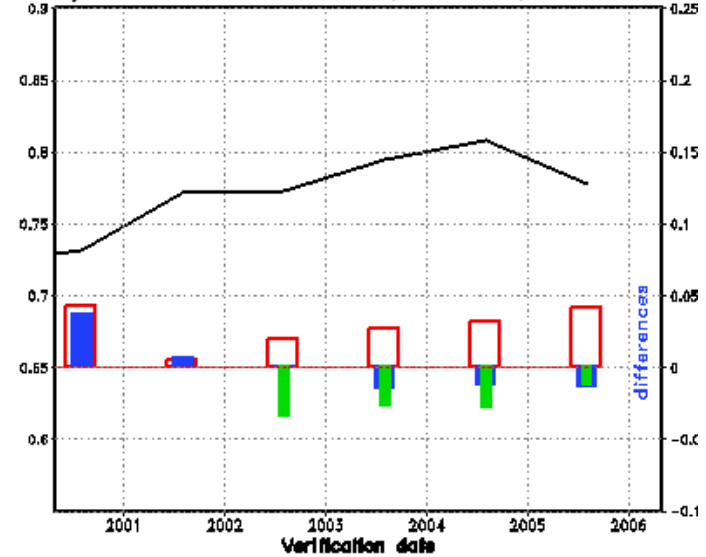


# Performance Comparison

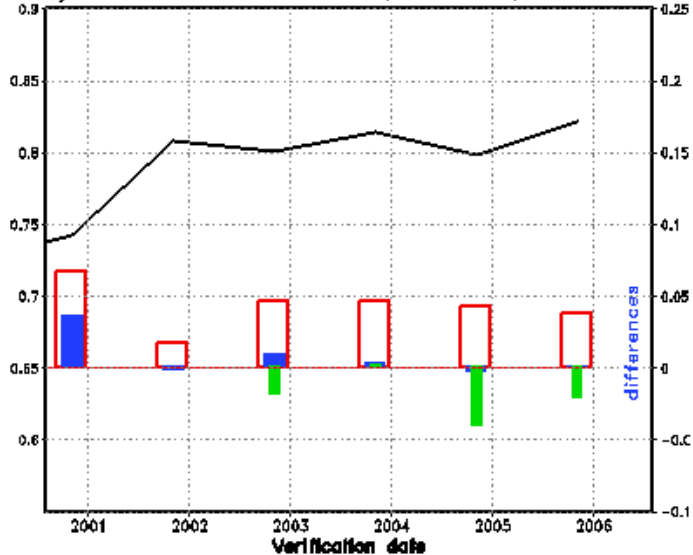
Day 5 GFS Anom Cor for MAM, Z 500mb, Lat 20-80N



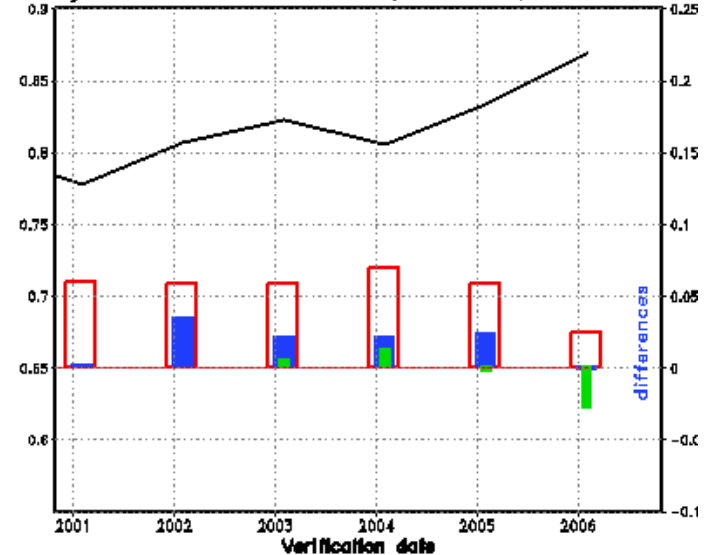
Day 5 GFS Anom Cor for JJA, Z 500mb, Lat 20-80N



Day 5 GFS Anom Cor for SON, Z 500mb, Lat 20-80N



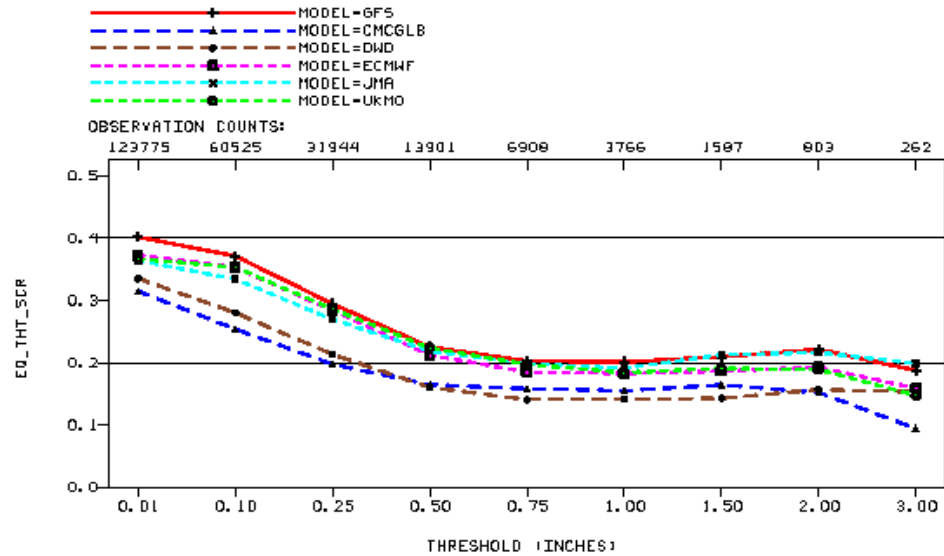
Day 5 GFS Anom Cor for DJF, Z 500mb, Lat 20-80N



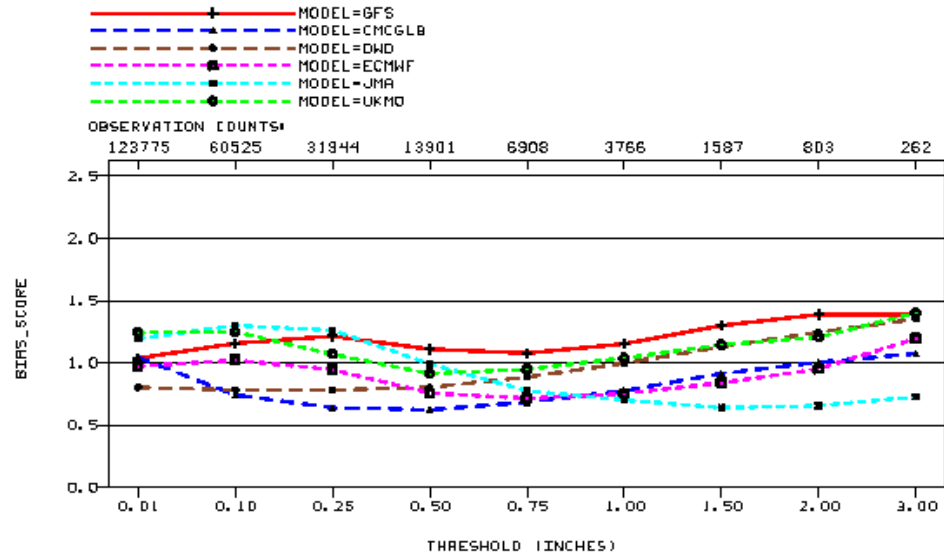
# Global Models

## 1 July 2005 – 30 September 2005

### 24 – 72 h Forecasts



STAT=FHD PARAM=APCP/24 FHOUR=24+48+72 V\_ANL=MC\_PCP V\_RGN=6211/RFC  
 VYMDH=200507010000-200509302300

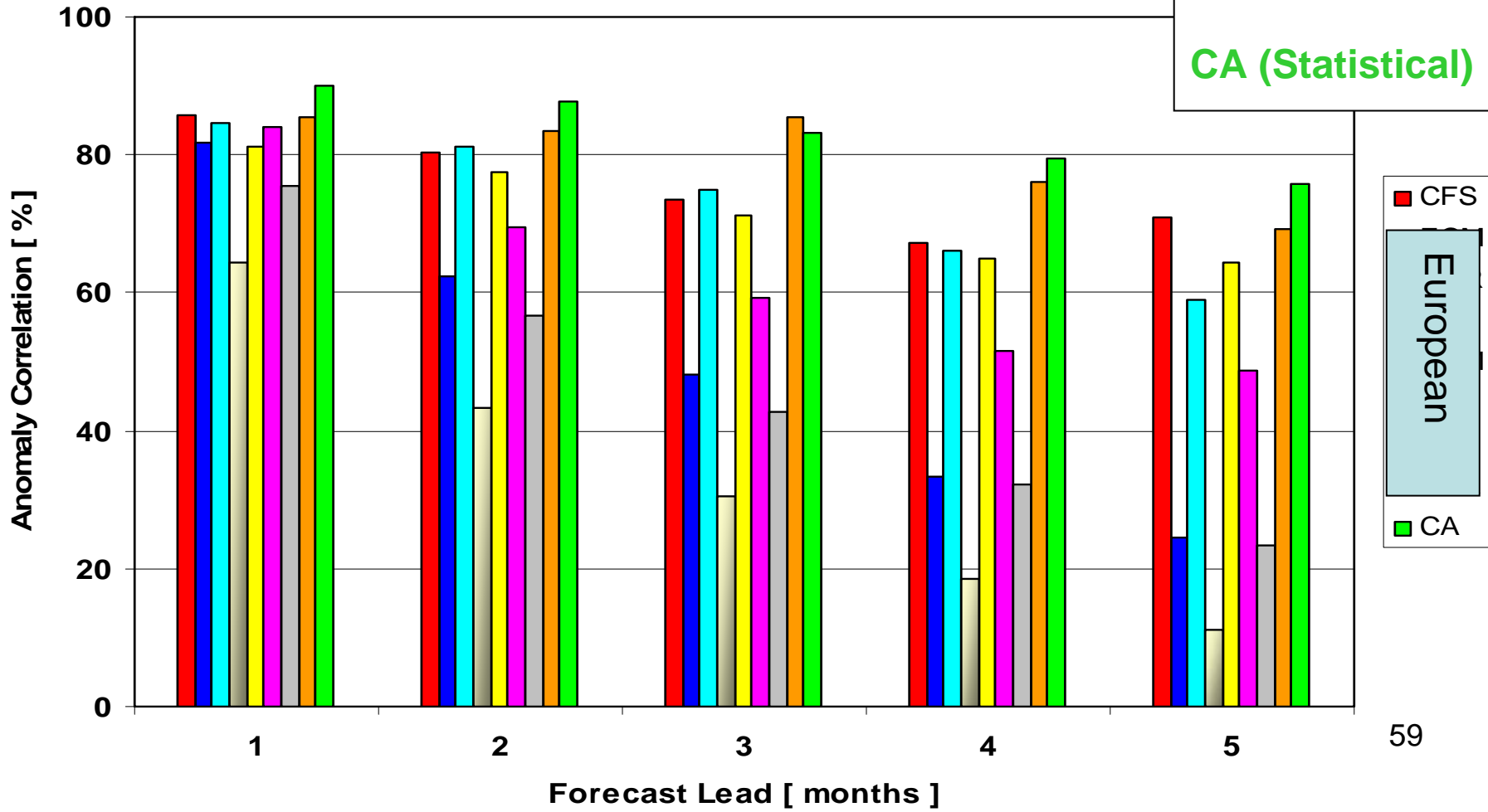


# NCEP Performance Comparison

## Seasonal Forecasts

Raw Nino3.4 SST Correlation Skill  
Annual Mean 1981-2001

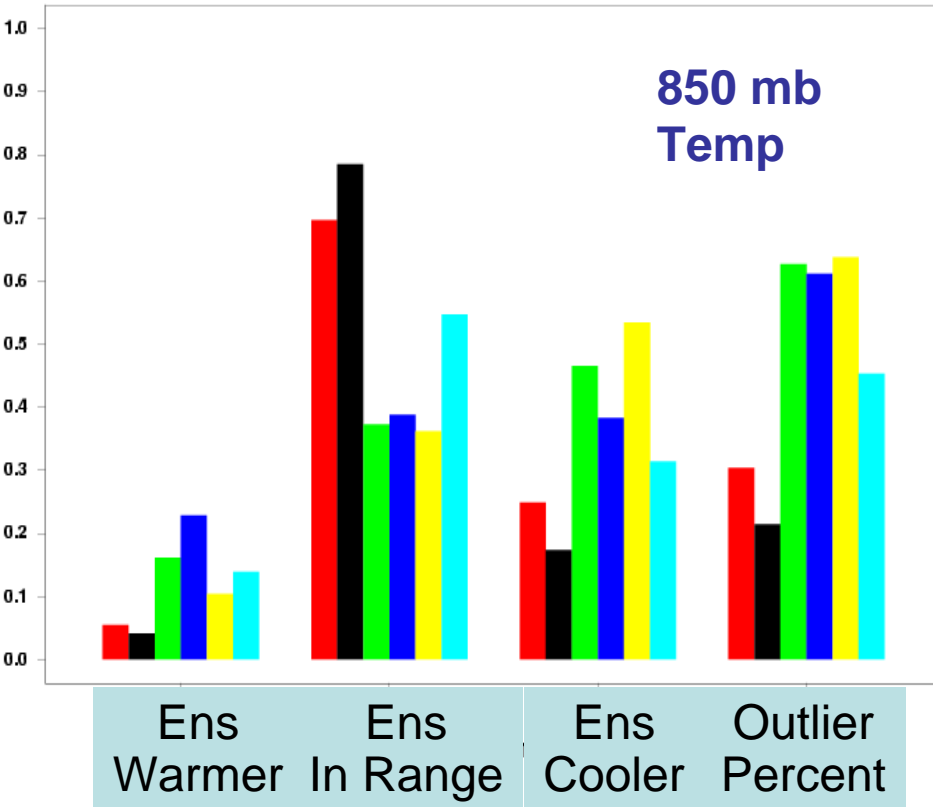
wrt Olv2 1971-2000 climatology



# SREF Operational Performance

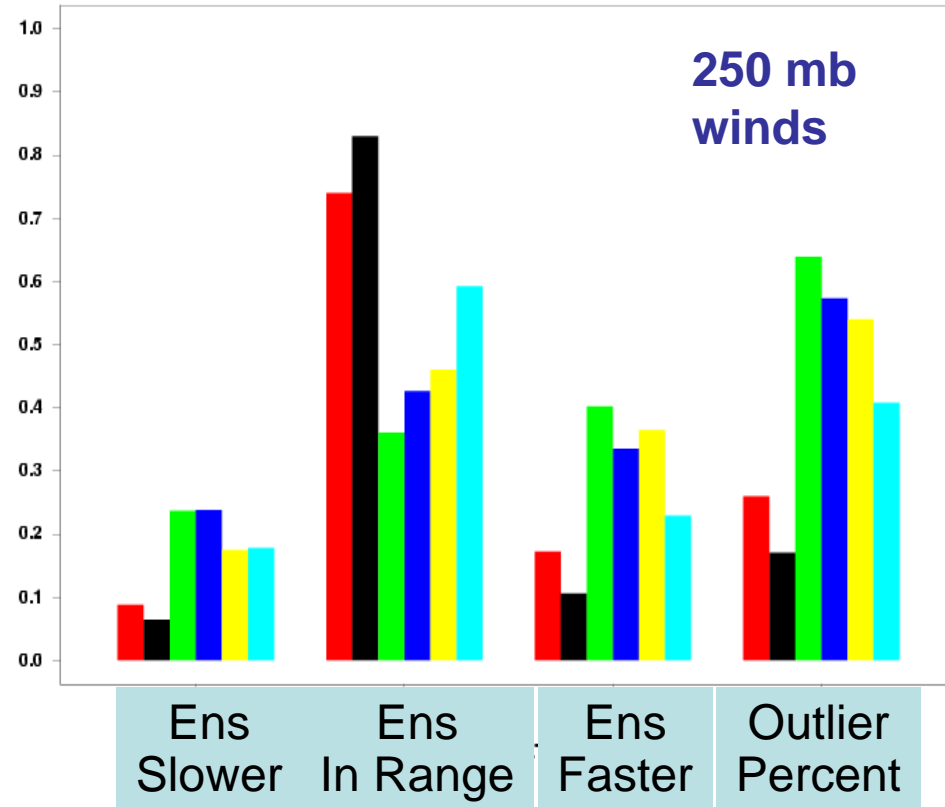
STAT=RHET PARAM=T FHOURL=51 V\_ANL=ADPUPA V\_RGN=G236 LEVEL=P850 VHHMM=1200

■ MODEL=SREF/ALL  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/21  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/CTL  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/ETA  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/RSM  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/WRF



STAT=RHET PARAM=VWND FHOURL=51 V\_ANL=ADPUPA V\_RGN=G236 LEVEL=P250 VHHMM=1200

■ MODEL=SREF/ALL  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/21  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/CTL  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/ETA  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/RSM  
 ■ MODEL=SREF/WRF

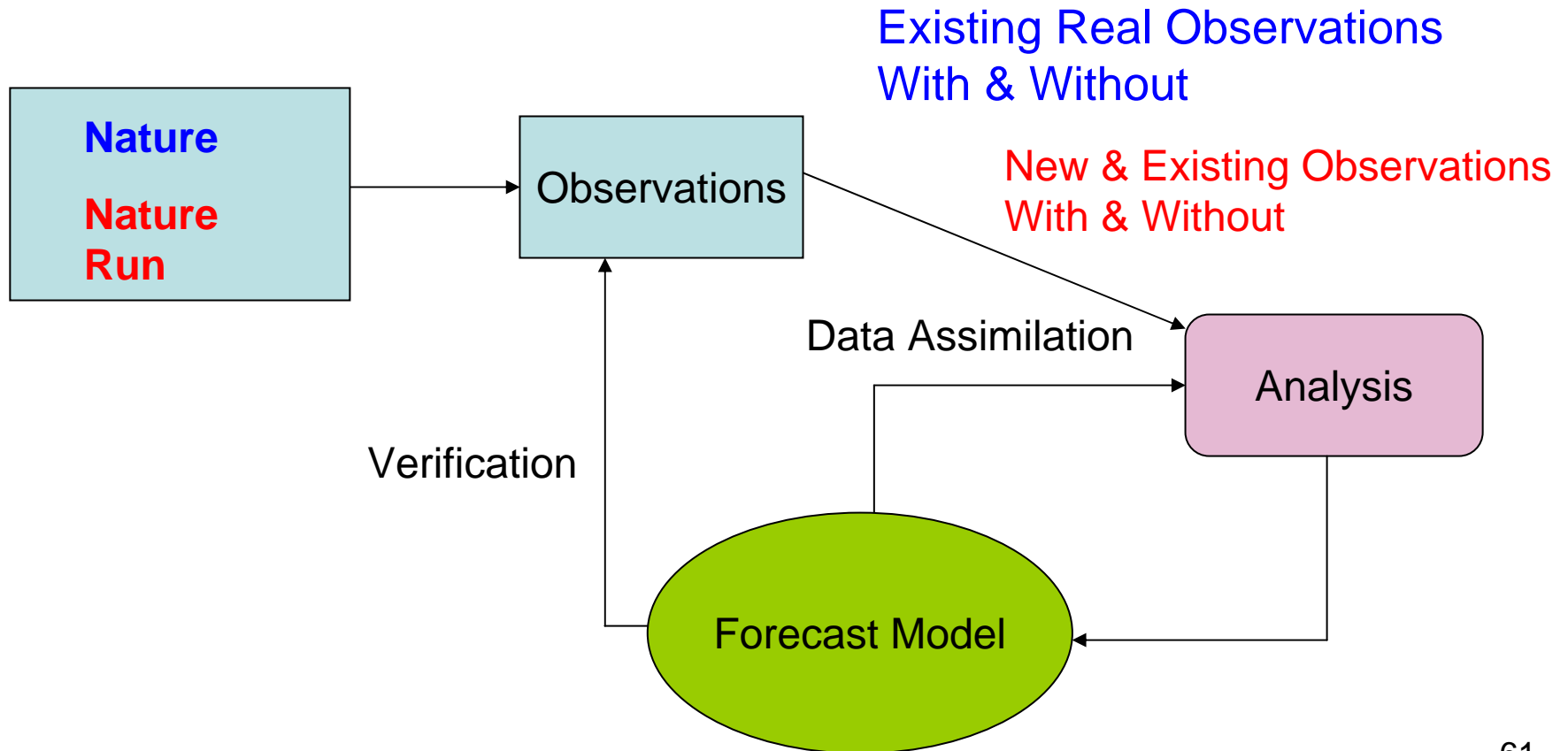


- **Outlier percentage reduced for SREF/21 system**
- **WRF sub-members agree best w/ obs as compared to Eta and RSM sub-members**

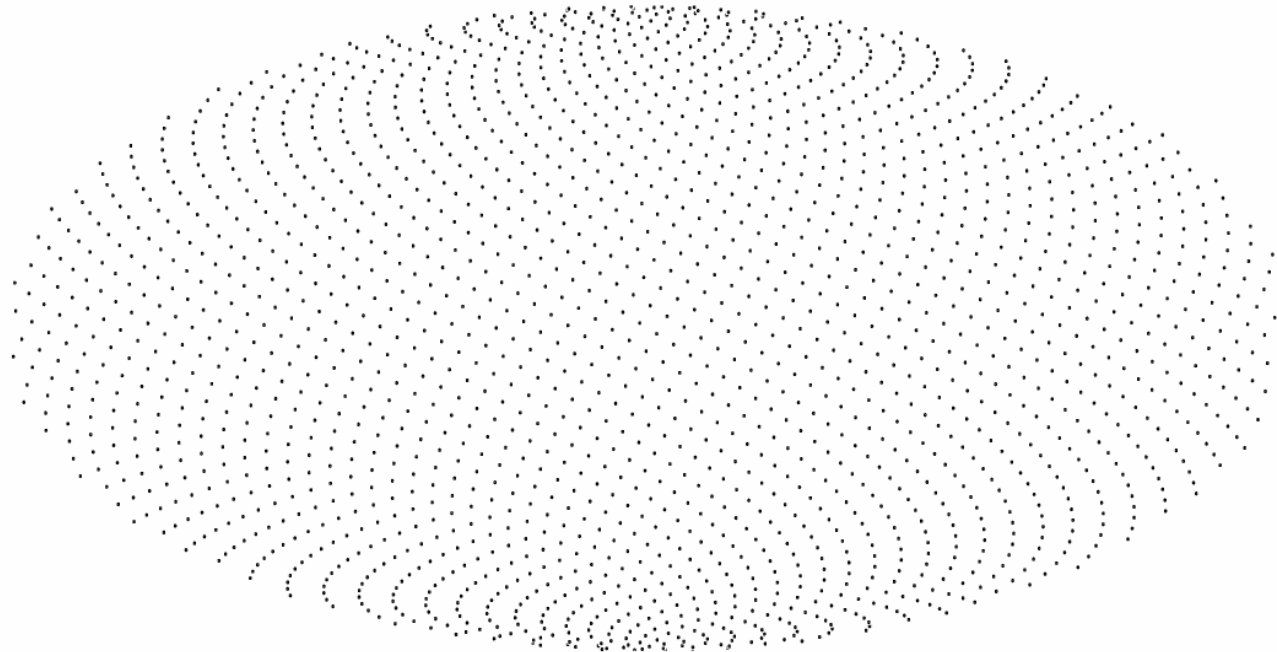
# Introduction to OSSEs

## Basic Concepts

- Real/OSSE Data Assimilation System

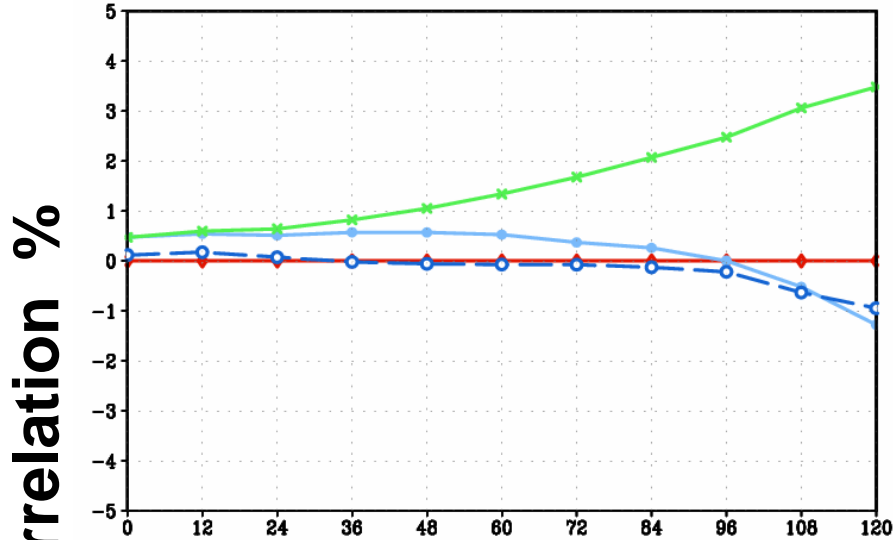


**Global 500 km Grid  
2033 points**



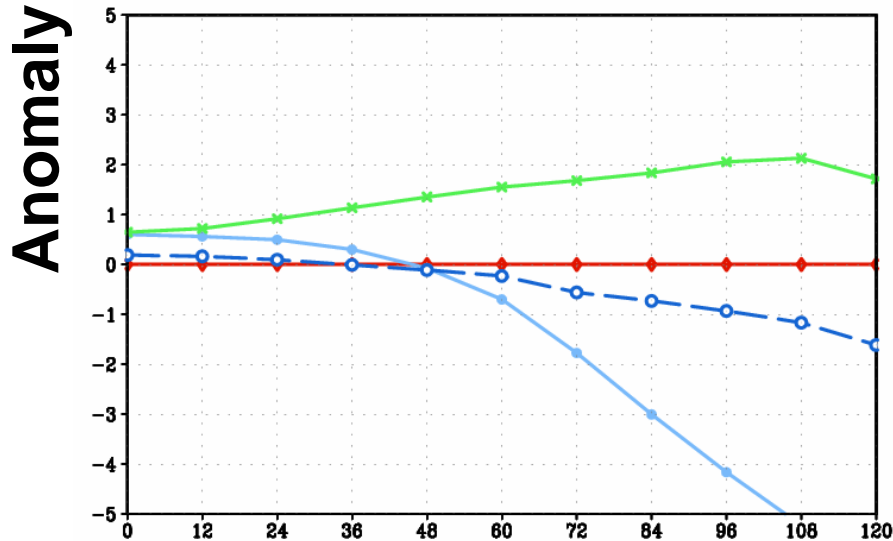
**Fibonacci Grid used in the uniform data coverage OSSE**

## U 200 hPa



**N. Hem. Forecast Skill  
Upper Tropospheric Wind & Temp.  
Global Rawinsondes  
Compared to Today's Obs.**

## T 200 hPa



- Control  
Conv + TOVS  
(today's obs.)
- 500 km raobs  
T62 model
- - - 1000 km raobs  
T62 model
- 500 km raobs  
T170 model

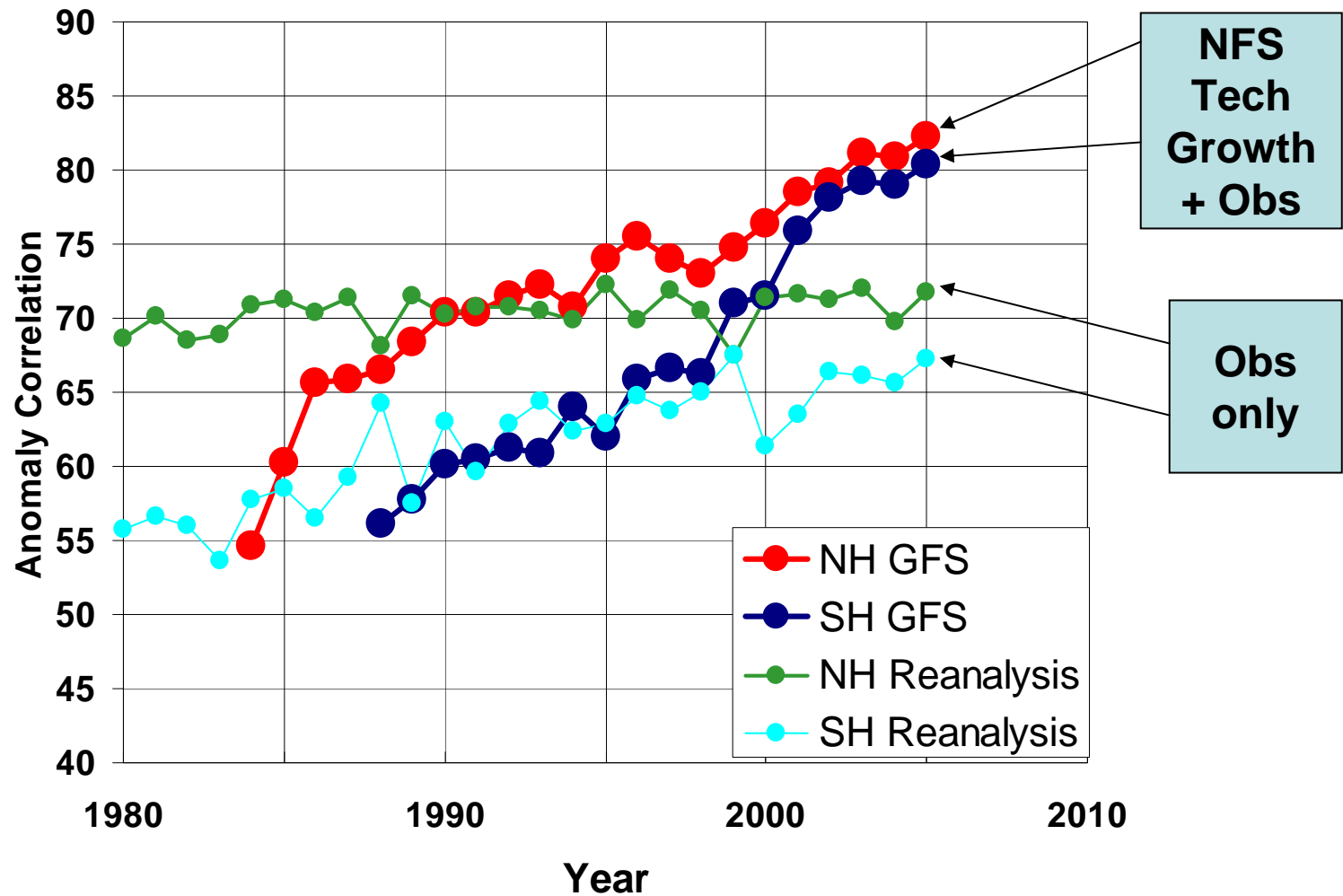
# Computing Comparisons

## International Operational Weather & Climate Forecast Centers 2006-2007

Center MP=Massively Parallel	Peak Power (TF)	Throughput (TF)
NCEP (IBM, MP)	16	1.0
UKMET (NEC, vector)	4	1.5
ECMWF (IBM, MP)	36.5	2.2
China (IBM, MP)	21	1.3
Korea (Cray, vector)	18	5.4
Japan (Hitachi, vector)	21.5	7.2

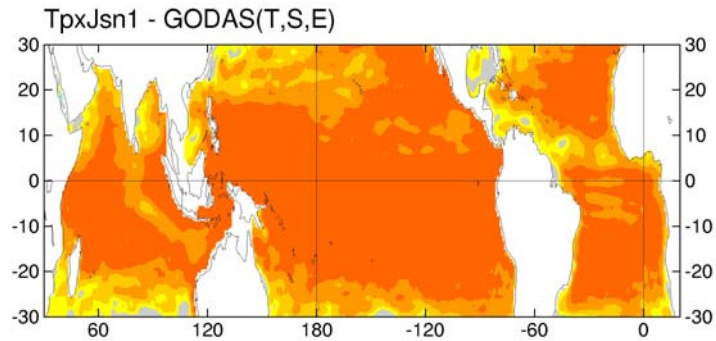
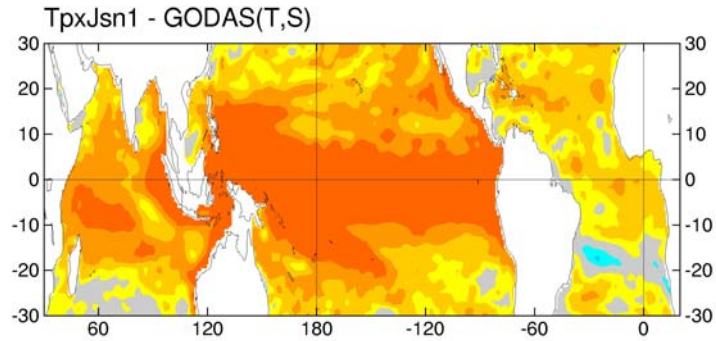
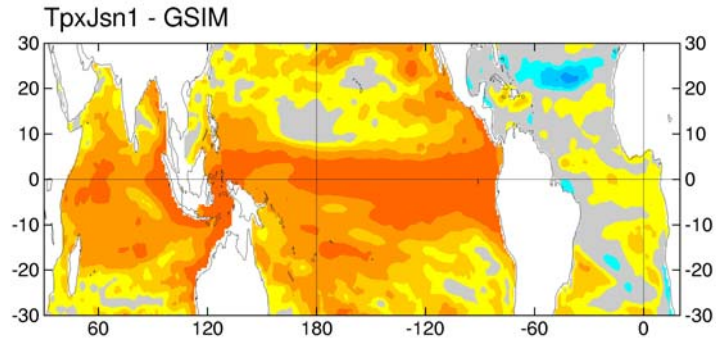


# Impact of Observations and Numerical Forecast System Technology Growth on Global Forecasts

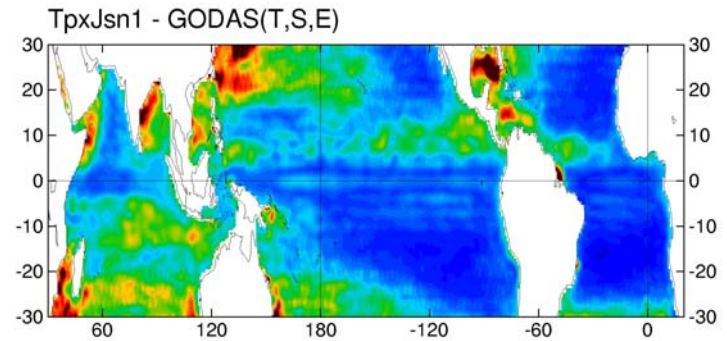
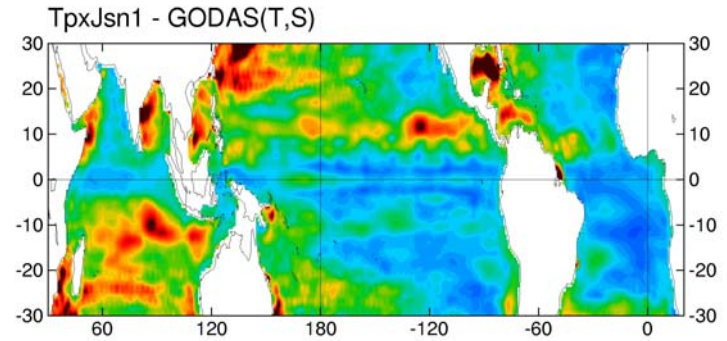
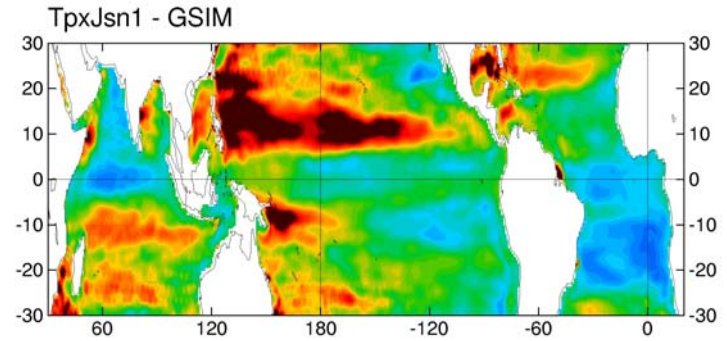


**NFS Tech  
Growth:  
Computing  
Data Assim.  
Models  
Ensembles**

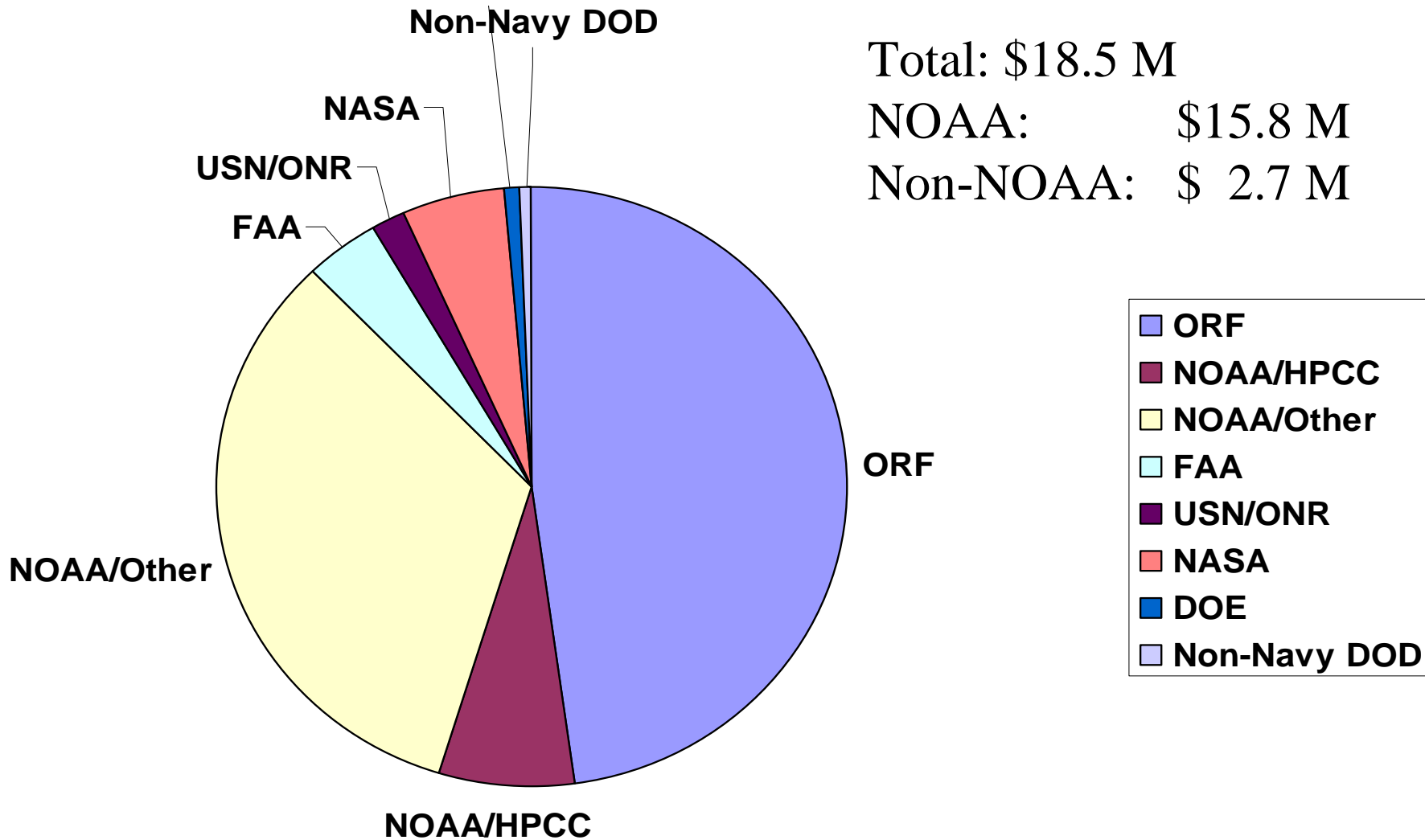
### Correlation (annual removed) 1993-2003



### RMS Differences (annual removed) 1993-2003

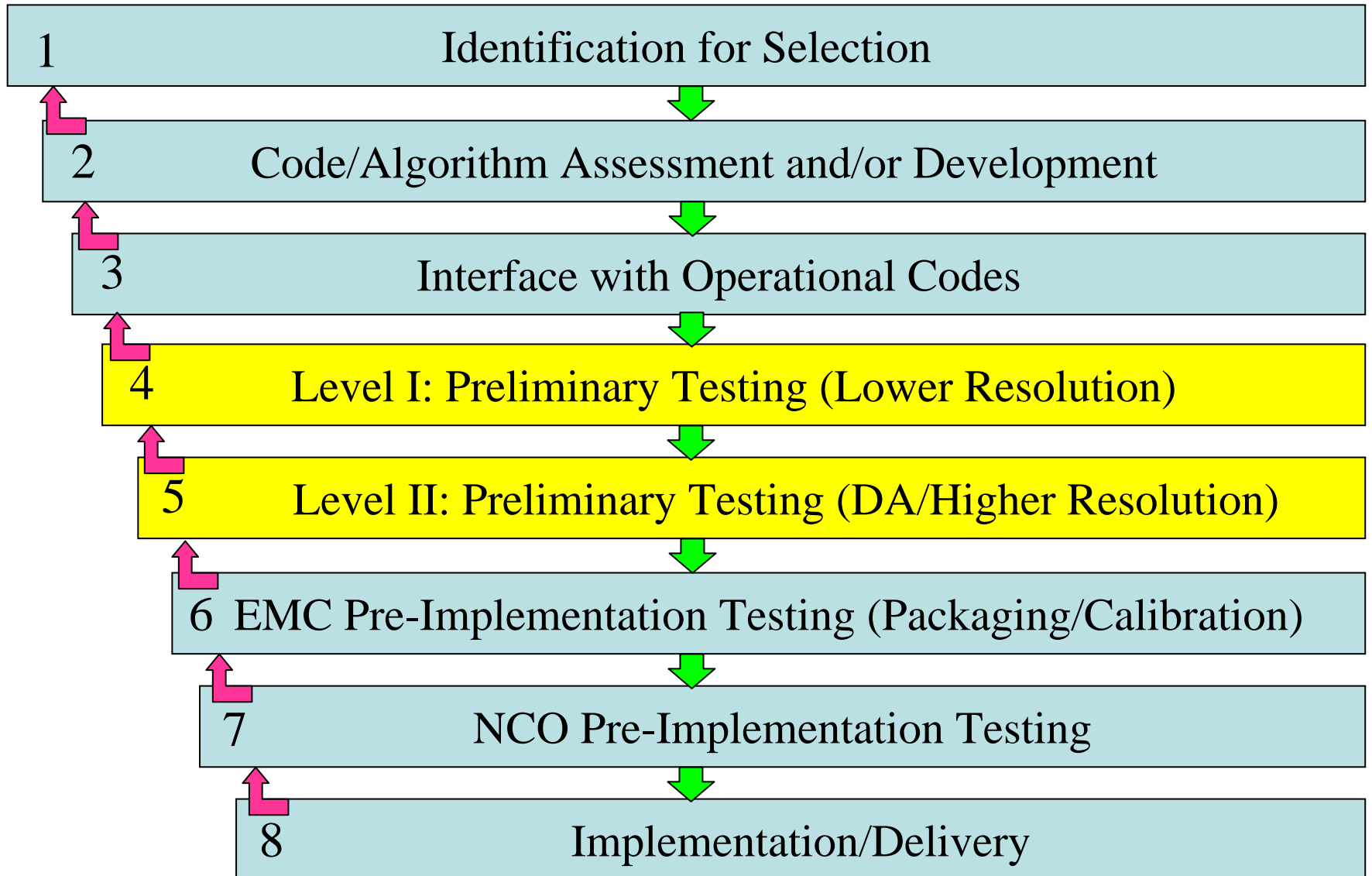


# FY06 EMC Budget



**Kelly report (2000) recommendation: 75% ORF, 25% “soft”**  
**2002 budget supplement and adjustment: \$2.8 M; 2006 DA: \$1.0 M**

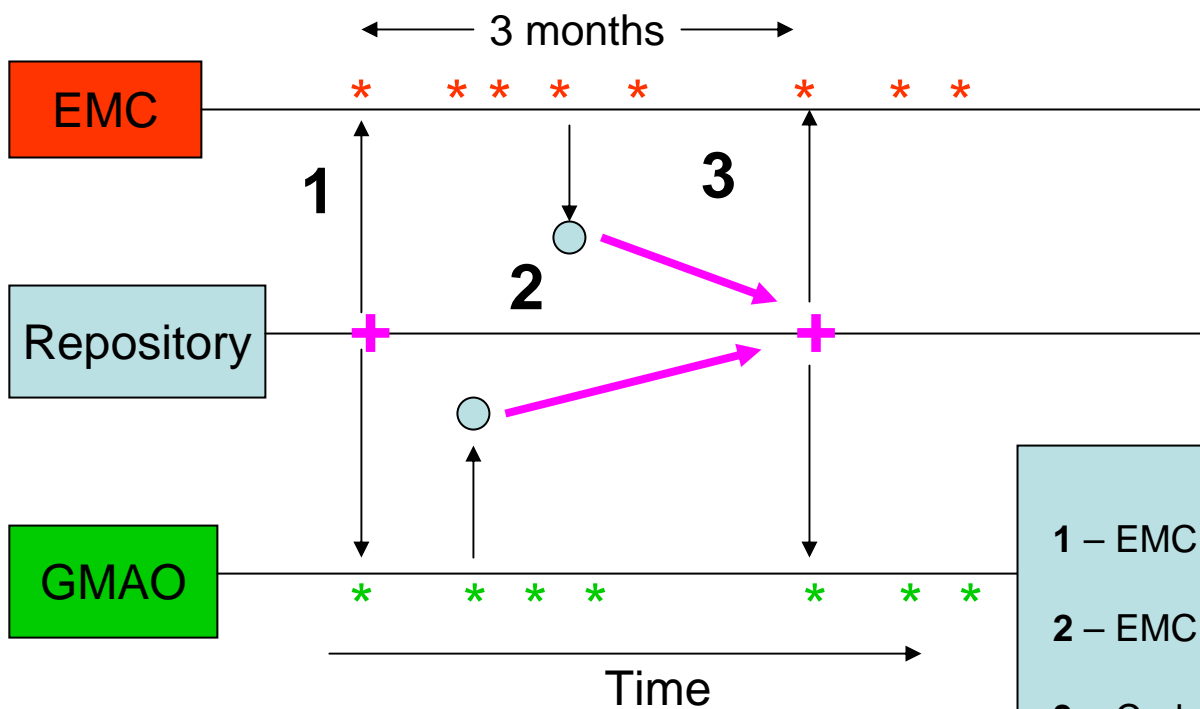
# Transition Steps (Modeling)



# EMC-GMAO-STAR Code Management for Atmospheric Data Assimilation

**Process:** similar to ECMWF & Météo-France who have annual code mergers  
**But, to promote collaboration, EMC and GMAO use same repository** and mergers are more frequent (**3 months**)

**GSI & CRTM supported**



- Accepted changes**
- EMC, GMAO System change
- Repository change
- Repository Merger (new tag)

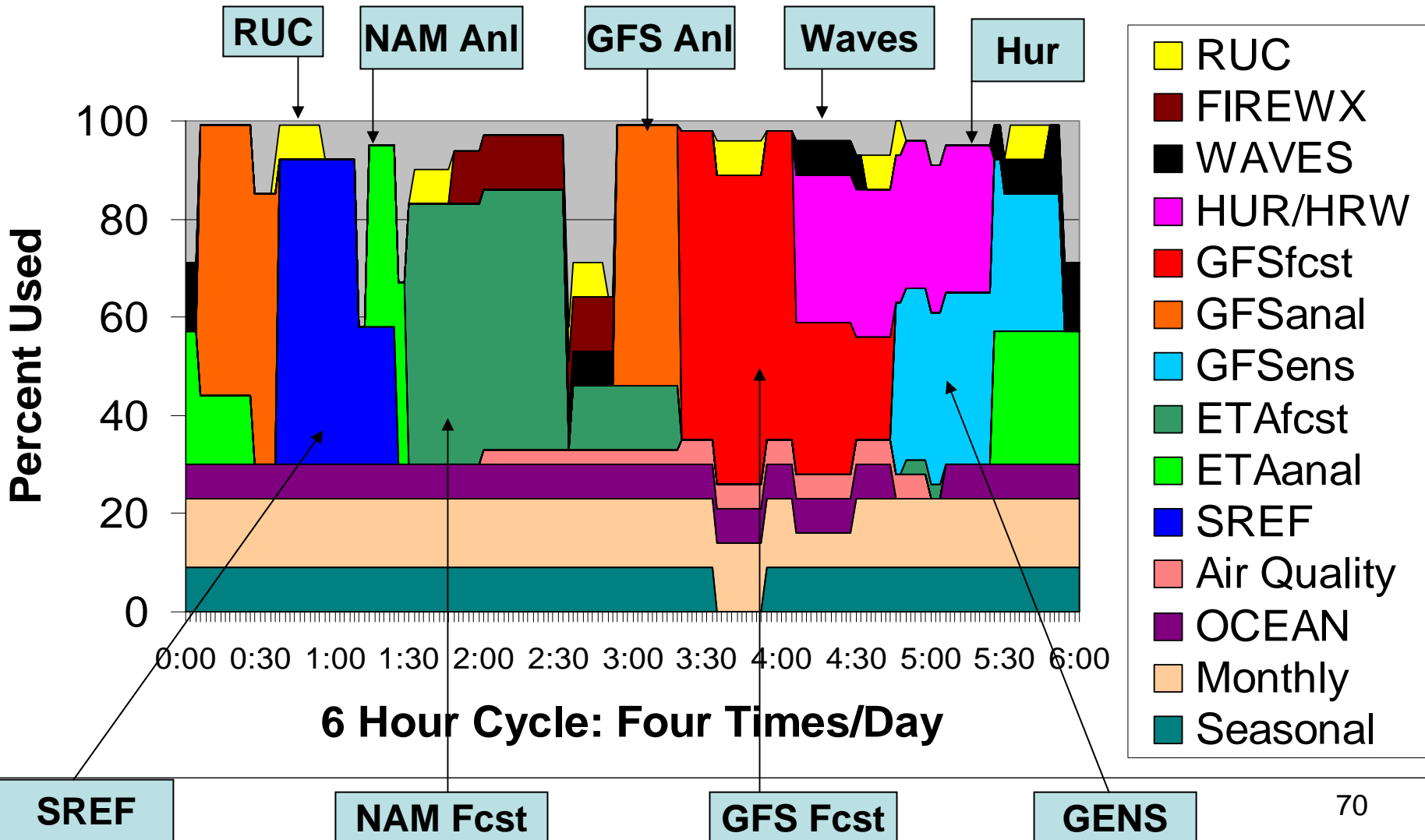
## Protocols

- 1** – EMC, GMAO take (agreed-upon) merged code from repository to begin work
- 2** – EMC, GMAO incorporate developments into repository
- 3** – Code mergers, repository changes and timing are NCEP's decision

# NCEP Production Suite

## Weather, Ocean & Climate Forecast Systems

Version 3.0 April 9, 2004



# Data Assimilation Status (cont)

- Gridpoint Statistical Analysis (GSI)
  - NCEP's next generation system
    - Evolutionary combination of the global SSI analysis system and the regional ETA 3DVAR
    - Application to both global and regional analysis
    - Strong heritage to satellite, radar, profiler, surface data
  - Background error defined in grid space instead of spectral space
    - Allows use of situation dependent background errors
    - Will accept ensemble information
  - Improved balance condition
    - Adiabatic dynamics model
    - Capable of simplified 4-D Var
  - Improved and modernized code
    - F90/95 structures and utilities
    - Increased scalability of code
    - Efficiency
      - Redesigned data distribution
      - Some OpenMP
    - Better documentation
    - Less dependency on IBM
  - Community support intended but not resourced
    - Currently 15 registered groups (46 users) using GSI code
    - NASA/GMAO major group using code and to date they have provided the most updates from external users

# EMC Plan for Moving Forward

- Complete NCEP ESMF Prototype Framework (PF); apply to GFS
- Generalize PF for other models

- Release to EMC personnel for testing
- Prepare for 1<sup>st</sup> implementation
- Ensemble application

Success?

Yes

No

- Implement ESMF version of GFS
- Install NMM into ESMF framework
- “October 2005”

- Roll back to Non-ESMF framework (NF)
- Install NMM in NF
- “October 2005”



# EMC Plan for Moving Forward (cont)

- Implement ESMF version of GFS
- Install NMM into ESMF framework
- “October 2005”

Success?

Yes

No

- Adopt ESMF
- Add more models (e.g. **COAMPS, FV**)

- Decide whether to retain WRF

- Roll back to Non-ESMF framework (NF)
- Install NMM in NF
- “October 2005”

Success?

Yes

No

- Adopt NF
- Reconsider ESMF and WRF concepts

- Abandon CMI concept



**Most favorable**

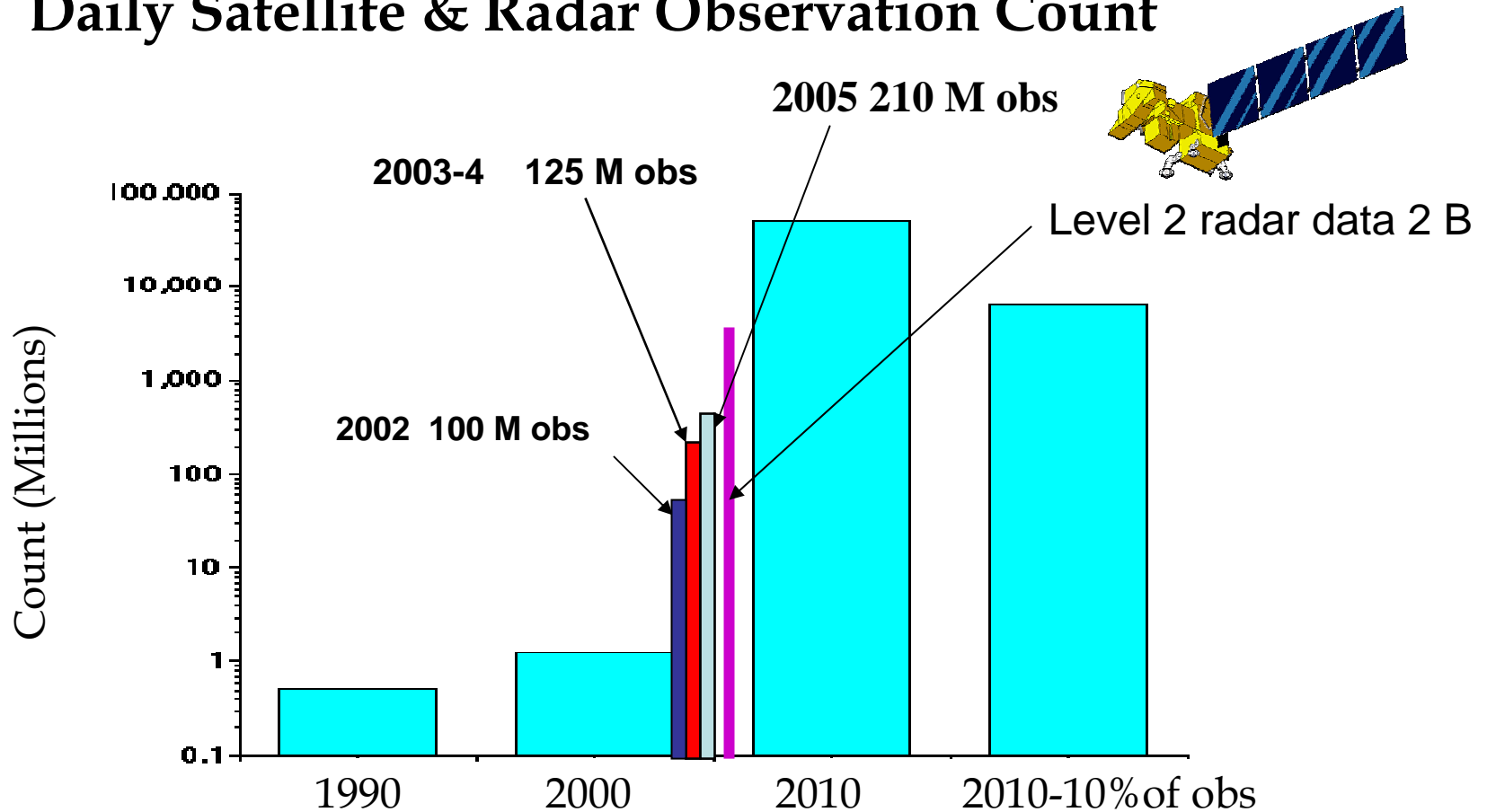
**Least favorable**

# Proposed NOAA Earth Modeling System Infrastructure

- Provide NOAA and external users access and support for operational and research ESM software components
  - Support NOAA Test Beds
  - Contributions from model groups
- Establish NOAA standards
  - ESMF compliant components
  - Data formats (GRIB, BUFS, NetCFS, converters)
- Supported categories
  - Observations
  - Model-enabling databases (e.g. topography, land-sea mask)
  - Forecast models
    - Atmosphere
    - Ocean
    - Wave
    - Storm surge
    - Sea ice
    - Land surface
    - Ecosystem
    - Stream flow
    - Air chemistry
    - Space weather
  - Data assimilation
  - Post processing and product generation
  - Verification
  - Utilities
    - Format converters
    - Basic scripts
  - Limited diagnostic packages
  - Case archive

# NPOESS Era Data Volume

## Daily Satellite & Radar Observation Count



Five Order of Magnitude Increase in Satellite Data Over Next Ten Years

# Strategy and Design Considerations (cont)

- Common elements
  - Analysis code
    - Gridpoint Statistical Interpolation (GSI)
    - Observations treatment
      - Formats
      - Available information from each obs. Source
    - Diagnostics, including Analysis Adjoint system
  - ESMF compliant components
    - Analysis
    - Model Dynamics
    - Model Physics
  - Testing protocols and case loads
- Managed diversity through different model components
  - Provides additional diagnostic information
  - NCEP uses Global Forecast System (GFS) Spectral Model
  - GMAO uses Finite Volume (FV) dynamics with physics components different from NCEP

# Current Satellite Data Assimilation Development

- **JCSDA partnership for Community Radiative Transfer Model (CRTM)**
  - **NESDIS/ORA** leads scientific development
  - **EMC** transitions development to operations & maintains operational codes
  - **GMAO** focuses on applications to NASA instruments used in research DA systems
  - Examples of CRTM applications
    - **AIRS**
    - **MODIS**
    - **WindSat**
    - **SSM/IS**
    - **AMSR**
    - **OMI**
    - **ATMS**
    - **IASI**
    - **CrIS**
    - **OMPS**
- **JCSDA partnership for COSMIC** (results next slide)
  - Project management (**NESDIS**)
  - Data delivery, formatting (**UCAR, NCEP** Central Ops)
  - Scientific algorithms and QC (**JCSDA, NESDIS, UCAR**)
  - Testing with CHAMP data prior to launch with DA system (**JCSDA, EMC, UCAR**)

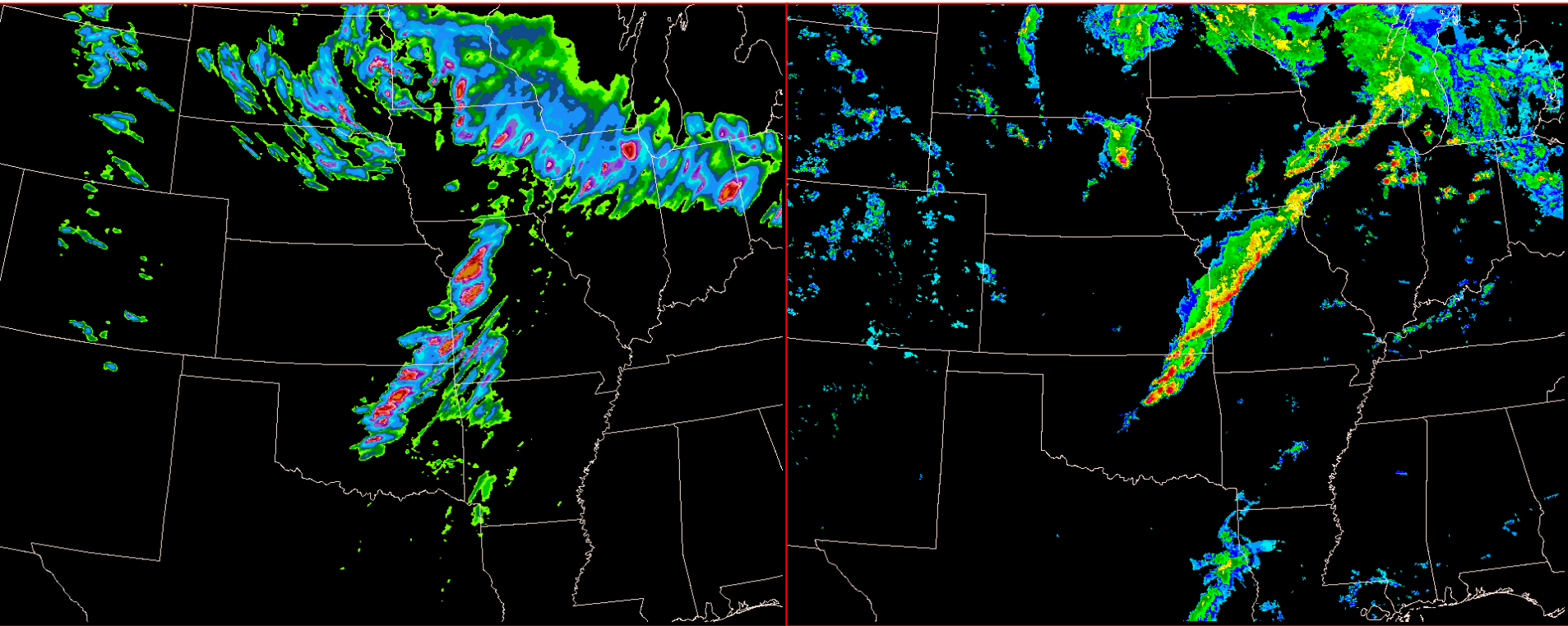
# Current Satellite Data Assimilation Development (cont)

- **Improved use of satellite data for SST analysis**
  - Improved AVHRR QC and bias correction (Xu Li, A. Harris)
  - Addition of simplified ocean mixed-layer model (EMC-MMAB, GMAO)
  - Use of microwave instruments (e.g. AMSR-E)
- **Upgrades to ozone assimilation**
  - GOME and current NASA, NOAA instruments (CPC, JSDI; Stajner, GMAO, AO)
- **Land surface data assimilation**
  - Use of GMAO Catchment model as multi-Land Surface Model (LSM) system (together with Noah, VIC and Sacramento LSMs)
  - Collaboration on advanced Ensemble Kalman Filter (EKF) techniques
- **Ocean data assimilation**
  - Use of altimeter data (EMC, Behringer)
  - Impacts on S/I forecasting (EMC, Behringer)
  - GMAO uses Poseidon isopycnal model but will test developments in MOM-4
- **Observing system design and impacts**
  - Analysis adjoint diagnostic tools
  - Observing System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs) for
    - Understanding interaction between observing system and DA system
    - Defining potential impact of and preparing for future instruments

# Example of Explicit 4.5 km WRF-NMM

courtesy of Jack Kain

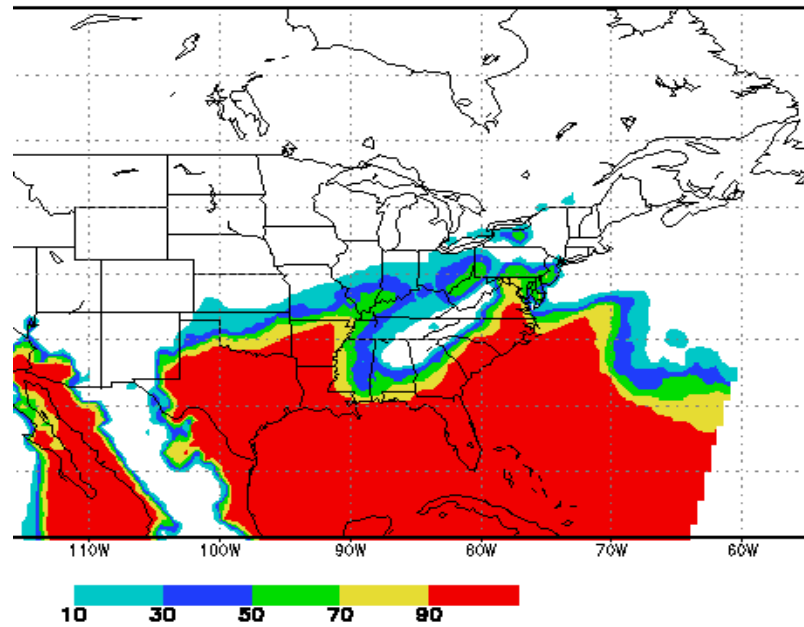
WRF 24 hour 4.5 km forecast of 1 hour accumulated precipitation valid at 00Z April 21, 2004 (better than 12 hour forecasts by operational models)



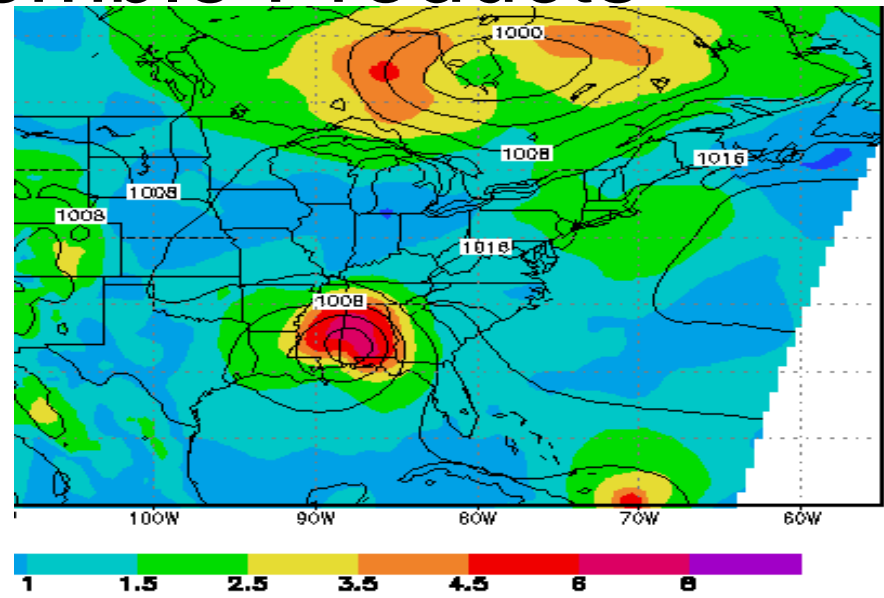
4.5 km WRF-NMM

Verifying 2 km radar reflectivity<sub>79</sub>

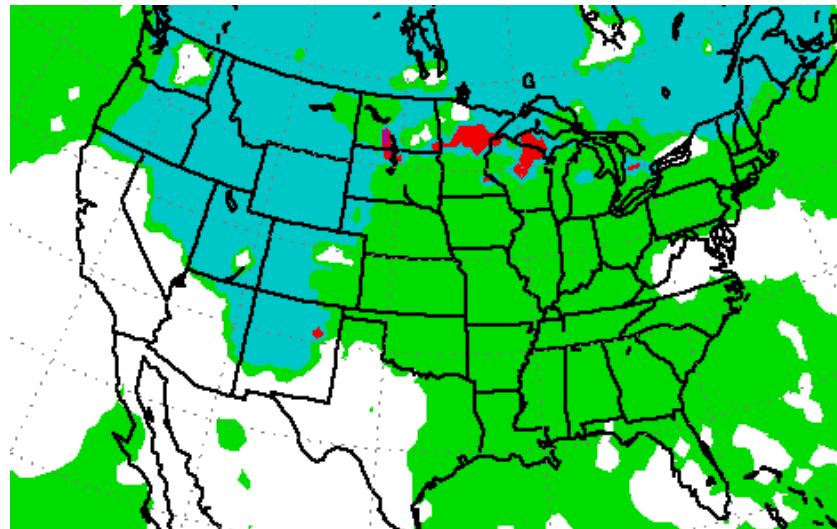
# Ensemble Products



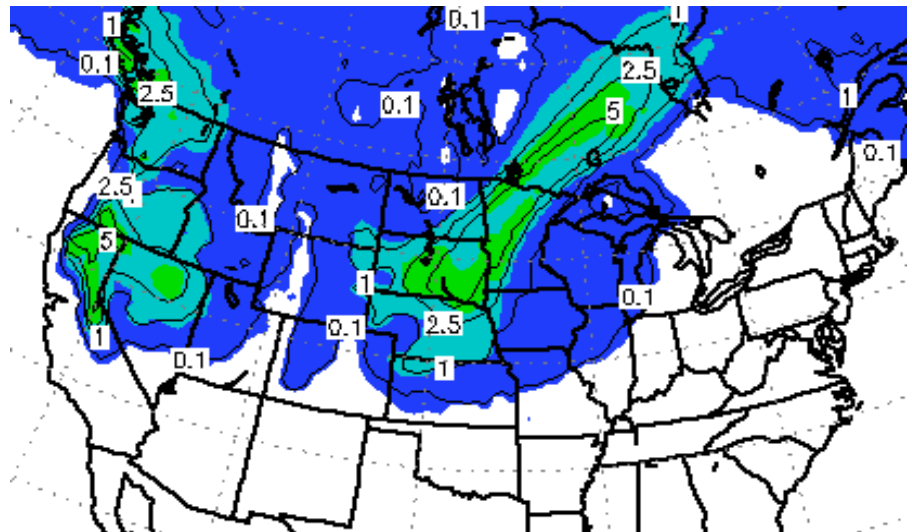
Prob. THI>75



Mean/Spread Surface Pressure



Dominant Precip Type



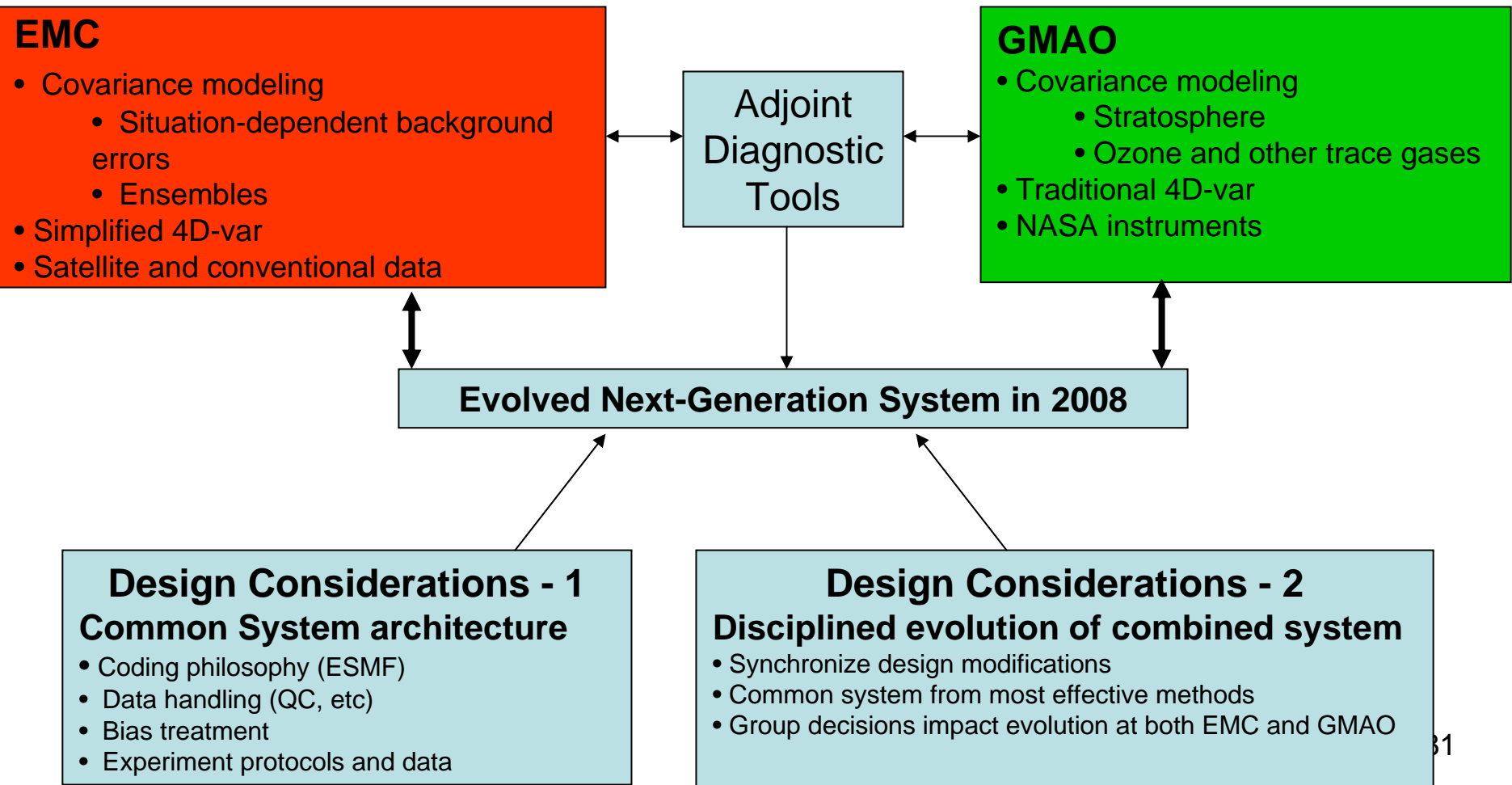
Mean/Spread 24 h snowfall



# EMC-GMAO

## Advanced DA Development (Var)

### Complementary Development Focus and Common Architecture



# Advanced DA Techniques - Plans

- **Short Term Plan (0-3 years)**
  - Converge EMC and GMAO development to common analysis code (DONE)
  - Harness NESDIS/STAR(ORA) expertise for Community Radiative Transfer Model (CRTM) (DONE)
  - ESMF compliant system for major components (analysis, CRTM, model)
  - Fully coordinated software evolution with **managed system diversity**
  - Applications to **both** global and regional systems (NCEP requirement)
- **Long-Term Plan (>3 years)**
  - Implement next generation operational DA system at
    - NCEP for operations
    - NASA for research
  - Prepare for assimilation of
    - NPP instruments (ATMS, CrIS, OMPS, VIIRS)
    - Full NPOESS era suite
  - Continue focus on advanced NASA instruments for R-2-O transition
  - Expand applications beyond atmosphere to
    - Ocean
    - Land surface
    - Global environmental monitoring and Air Quality
      - Ozone
      - Aerosols
      - Trace gases

# Summary of CFS Forecasts for 2005-2006 La Nina

- Monthly CFS forecasts
- Consistent forecast of cold event (-1 K) since June-July 2005
- Other models converging on cold event beginning in January

CFS

