The Freezing Rain Accumulation Model (FRAM): Operational Utility, Application, Tips, and Ongoing Research

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Ice storm impacts can be crippling across relatively large spatial extents, and advance preparations by National Weather Service core partners are of utmost importance. Accurate freezing rain prediction has proven to be a very difficult task, but accuracy in predictions can make or break the effectiveness of those emergency preparations. A statistical method known as the Freezing Rain Accumulation Model (FRAM) has been developed in an effort to improve the accuracy of freezing rain accumulation predictions. This research has been transitioned into operations at numerous National Weather Service offices while research continues in an effort to further improve the FRAM. This talk will provide an overview of the FRAM, its utility in an operational forecast environment, tips for optimal use of the FRAM, as well as discussion of ongoing research and potential FRAM enhancements.