



Nonlinear Wave Ensemble Averaging using Neural Networks

Ricardo Campos, AOSC/UMD

ricardo.campos@noaa.gov

"Improving Global Wind-Wave Probabilistic Forecasts and Products Beyond Week 2"

Award Number: NA16NWS4680011

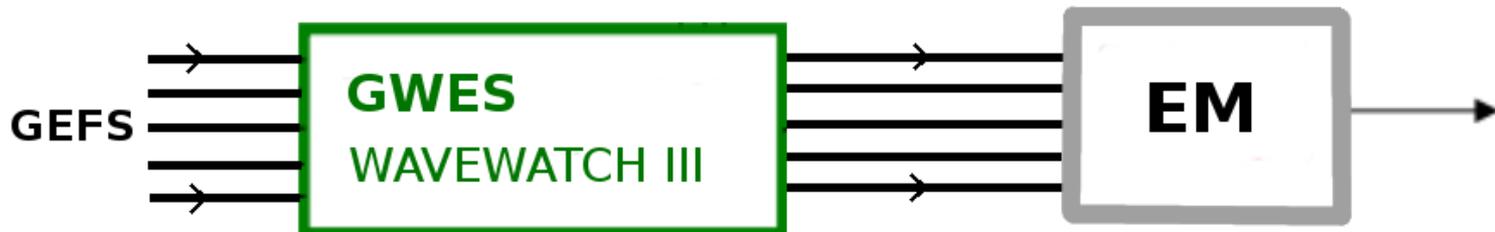
Steve Penny, Jose-Henrique Alves, Vladimir Krasnopolsky, Ricardo Martins Campos.

Outline

- Introduction to GWES
- MLP Neural Networks applied to non-linear ensemble averaging
- First tests at single locations
 - NN Architectures
 - Tests with number of neurons, normalization etc
 - Error in function of Forecast time
 - Error in function of Severity (Percentiles)
- **NN spatial approach**
 - **NN Training Strategy**
 - **Spatial Distribution of Wind and Wave Climates**
 - **Assessment of GWES using NDBC buoys and Altimeters**
 - **Large sensitivity test (105,600 NNs): number of neurons, initialization, filtering**
 - **GOM and Global**

Global Wave Ensemble System (GWES)

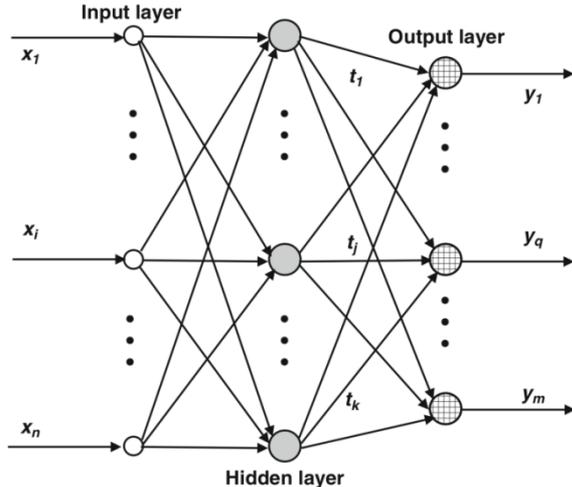
- The GWES was implemented in 2005 (Chen, 2006);
- 4 cycles per day;
- Resolution of 0.5 degree and 3 hours;
- Forecast range of 10 days;
- Total of 20 ensemble members plus a control member
- Forced by Global Ensemble Forecast System (GEFS) winds on WAVEWATCH III model (Tolman, 2016)
- Last major upgrade: 12/2015
- Arithmetic Ensemble Mean: $EM = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$



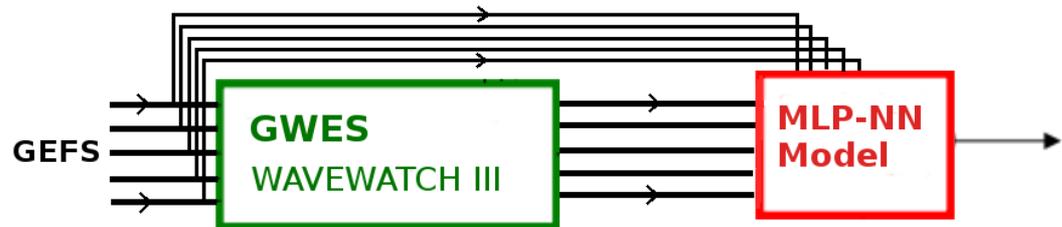
MLP Neural Networks

Multilayer perceptron model (MLP-NN) with hyperbolic tangent at the activation function. x_i is the input and y_q the output, a and b are the NN weights, n and m are the numbers of inputs and outputs respectively, and k is the number of nonlinear basis functions (hyperbolic tangents, or "neurons")

$$NN(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; a, b) = y_q = a_{q0} + \sum_{j=1}^k a_{qj} \cdot \tanh \left(b_{j0} + \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ji} \cdot x_i \right); \quad q = 1, 2, \dots, m$$



AI techniques provide a number of advantages, including easily generalizing spatially and temporally, handling large numbers of predictor variables, integrating physical understanding into the models, and discovering additional knowledge from the data (McGovern et al., 2017).

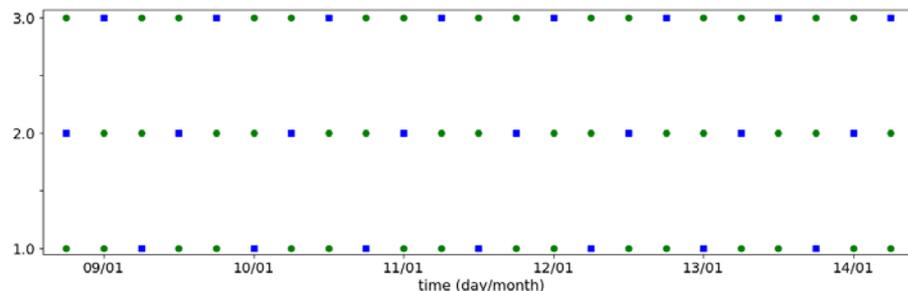


- Constructed based on Haykin (1999), Krasnopolsky (2013), and Krasnopolsky and Lin (2012)
- NNs have been used in a wide variety of meteorology applications since the late 1980s (Key et al. 1989), from cloud classification (Bankert 1994), tornado prediction and detection (Marzban and Stumpf 1996; Lakshmanan et al. 2005), damaging winds (Marzban and Stumpf 1998), hail size, precipitation classification, tracking storms (Lakshmanan et al. 2000), and radar quality control (Lakshmanan et al. 2007; Newman et al. 2013).

MLP Neural Networks

$$NN(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; a, b) = y_q = a_{q0} + \sum_{j=1}^k a_{qj} \cdot \tanh\left(b_{j0} + \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ji} \cdot x_i\right); \quad q = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

- Input variables: 10-meter wind speed (U10m), significant wave height (Hs), peak wave period (Tp), mean period, wave height of wind-sea, wave period of wind-sea;
- Target variables: U10m, Hs, Tp from measurements;
- Evaluated against buoy/altimeter observations during the training process;
- 21 ensemble members (20 plus the control member) per variable, plus the sin and cosine of time;
- Latitude and Longitude (sin,cos) are included as inputs during the regional analyses;
- One NN per forecast time / forecast time as new degree of freedom;
- Training (2/3) and test set (1/3);
- Cross-validation with 3 cycles.

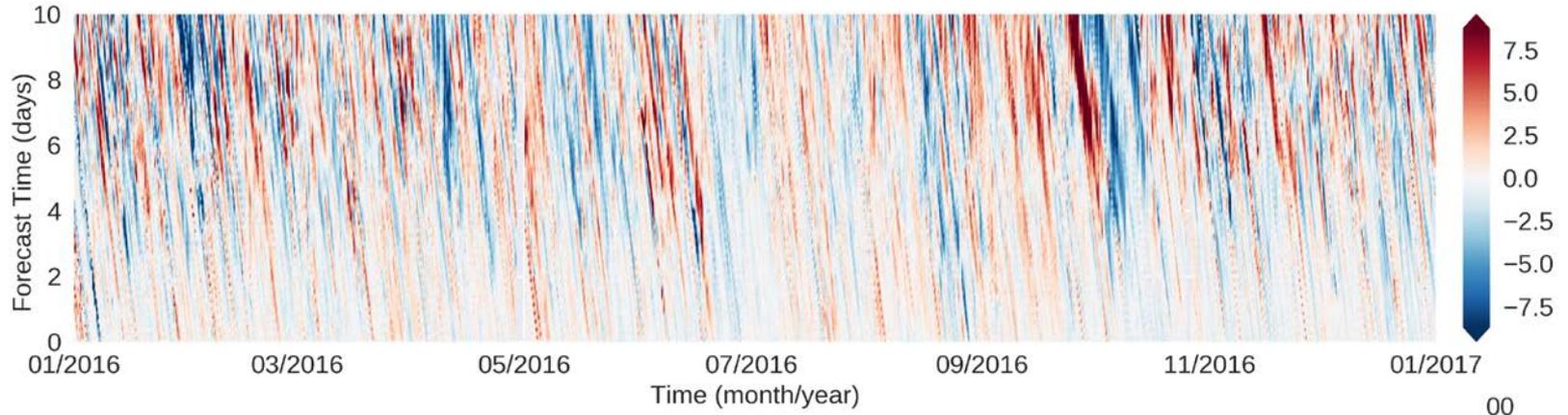


First tests at single locations

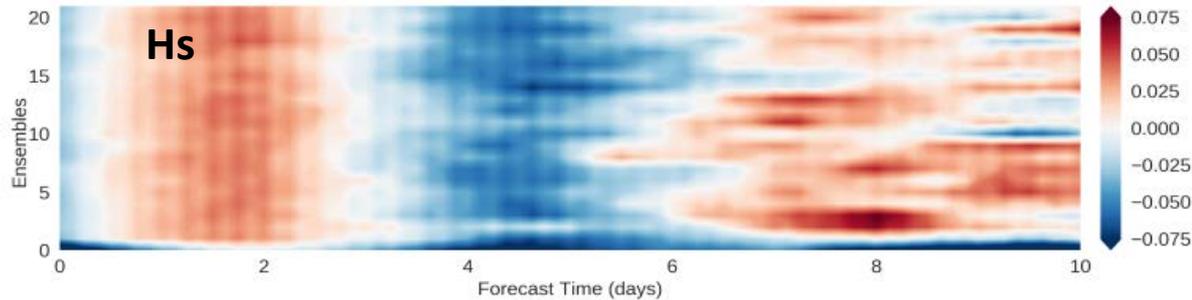
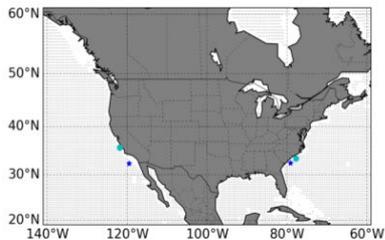
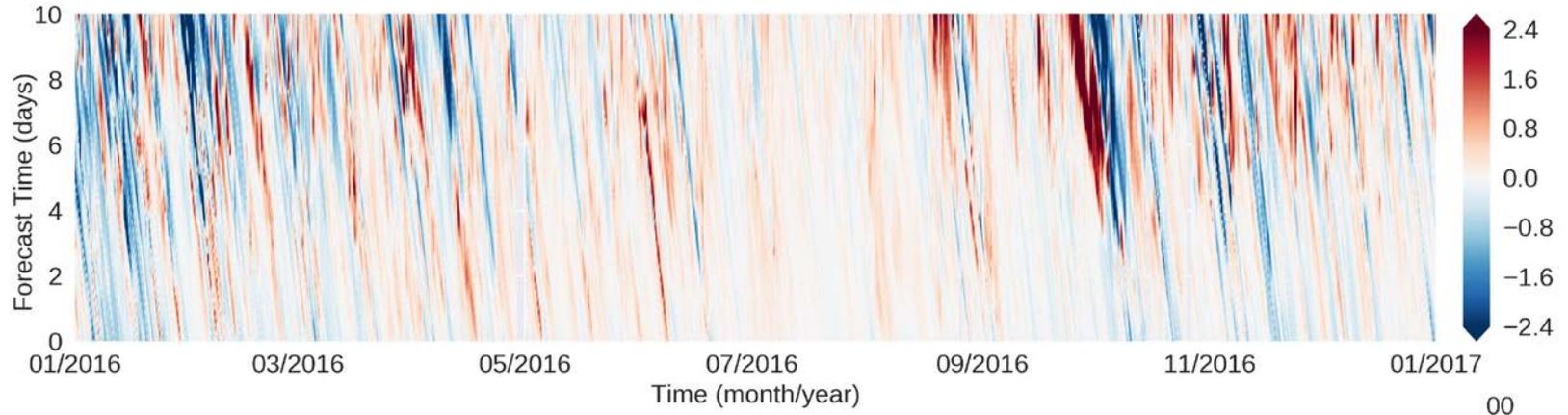
Evolution of the GWES error with forecast time (up to 10 days)

$$\text{Bias} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - B_i)}{n}$$

U10m

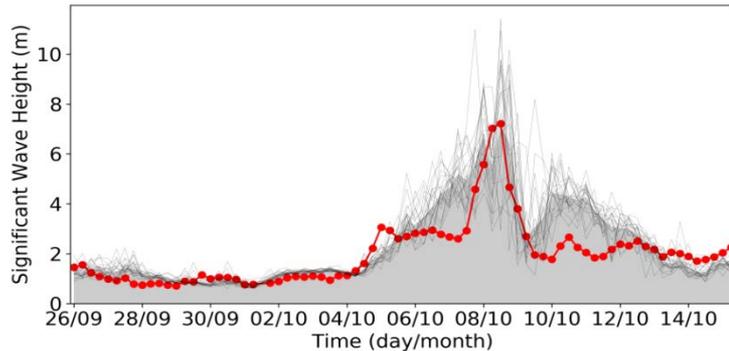


Hs



First tests at single locations

“NNs are never used (or should never be used) for problems that can be solved using linear models” (Krasnopolsky, 2014) .



1. NN models are indicated primarily to nonlinear problems;
2. NN cannot deteriorate the EM!

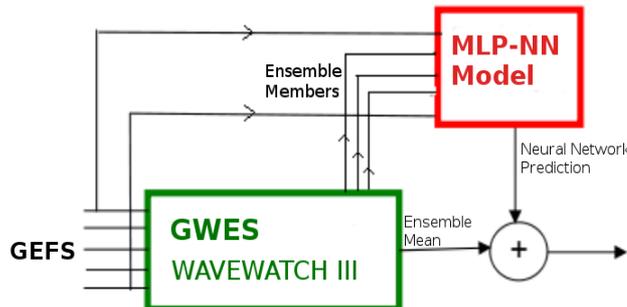
Residue (measurements - model) as the target variable



$$EM = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \quad (1)$$



$$NEM = NN(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) \quad (2)$$



$$NEM = EM + NN_r(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) \quad (3)$$

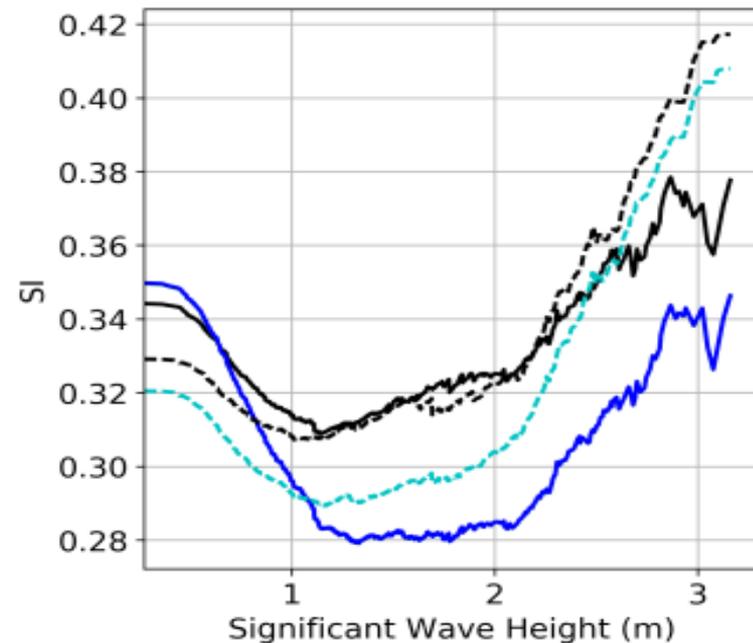
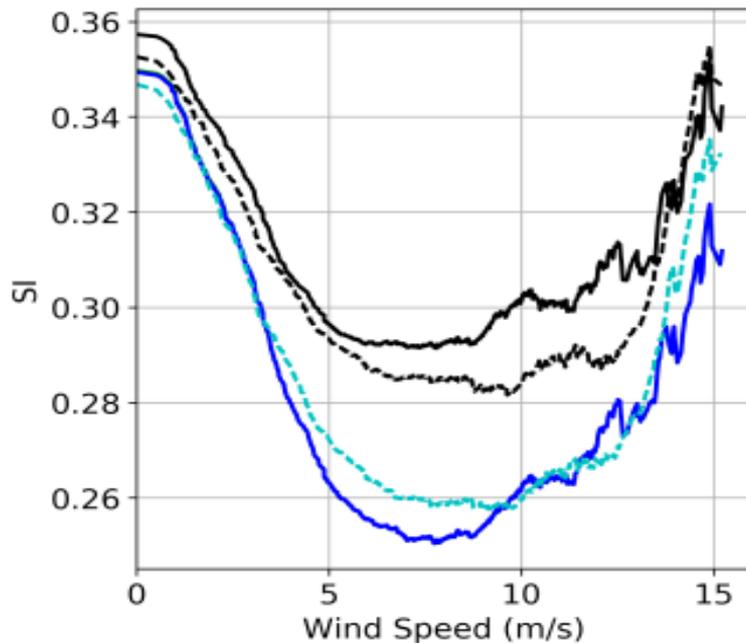
First tests at single locations

The best NN model: 11 neurons at the intermediate layer

| 41004 | bias | RMSE | SI | CC |
|-------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Best Member GWES | -0.101 | 0.526 | 0.427 | 0.724 |
| EM GWES | -0.115 | 0.457 | 0.371 | 0.755 |
| Linear Regression model | 0.094 | 0.433 | 0.352 | 0.739 |
| NN ensemble (5 members) | 0.041 | 0.373 | 0.303 | 0.807 |

Reduction of the error with increasing quantiles.

Results of the NN simulation at the two Atlantic Ocean buoys. Curves of scatter indexes in function of quantiles; black: arithmetic mean of ensembles (EM); blue: NN-training set (buoy 41004), cyan: NN-validation set (buoy 41013). Solid lines indicate buoy 41004, and dashed lines buoy 41013.

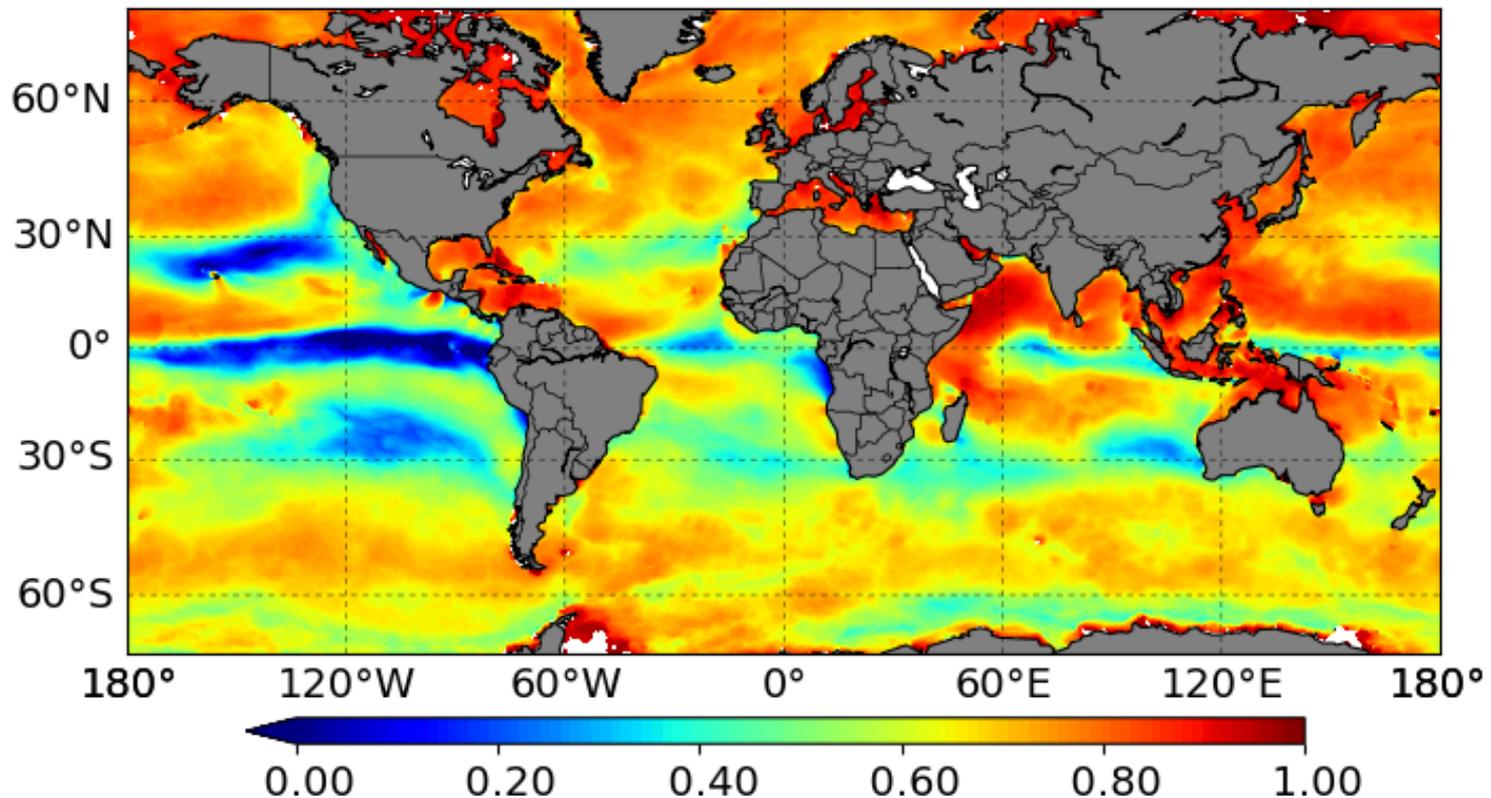


NN spatial approach

- Introduction of Lat/Lon as input variables instead of building one NN per grid point;
- Increase of NN complexity, Krasnopolsky (2013):

$$N_c = k \cdot (n + m + 1) + m$$

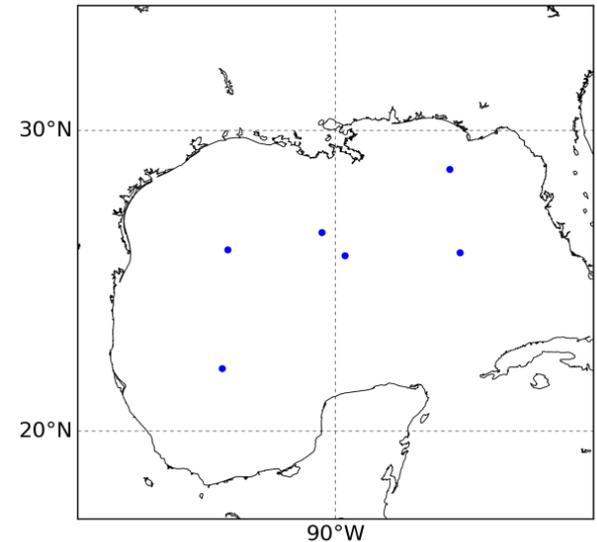
Different wind and wave climates. Correlation Coefficient Map of U10m and Hs



NN spatial approach - GOM

Simulation at the Gulf of Mexico. Sensitivity test:

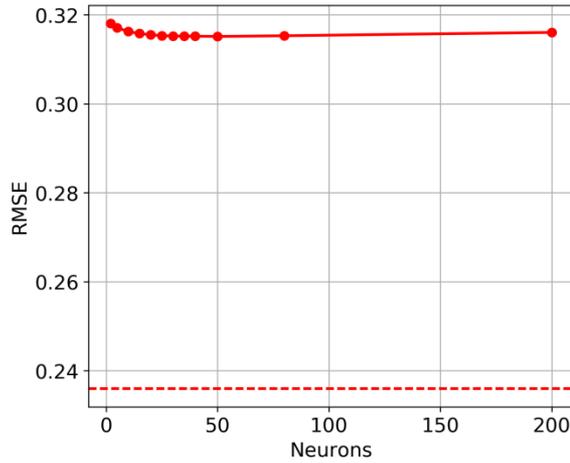
- Total of 12 different numbers of neurons
N [2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 80, 200]
- 8 different filtering windows
FiltW [0, 24, 48, 96, 144, 192, 288, 480] hours
- 100 seeds for the random initialization
- Separated NNs for specific forecast days, from Day 0 to Day 10
- Total of **105,600** NNs
- NN training, 2/3 of inputs were selected for training and 1/3 for the test set, using a cross-validation scheme with 3 cycles
- *scikit-learn* (python) to reduce computational cost
- Six buoys appended to build the array with size 7913. NN is using sequential training



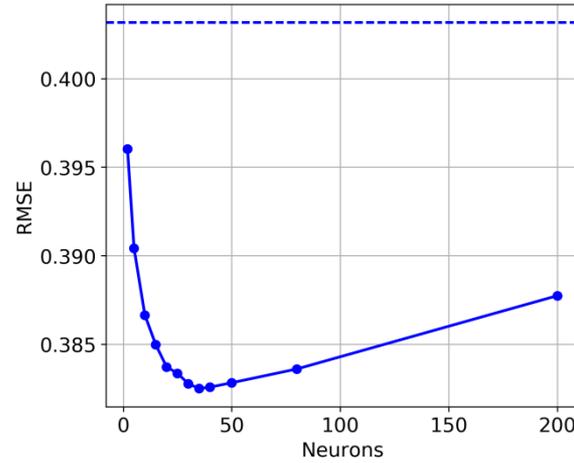
NN spatial approach - GOM

Hs

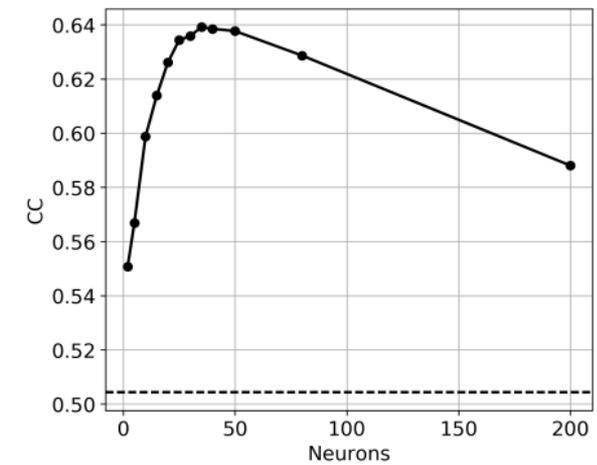
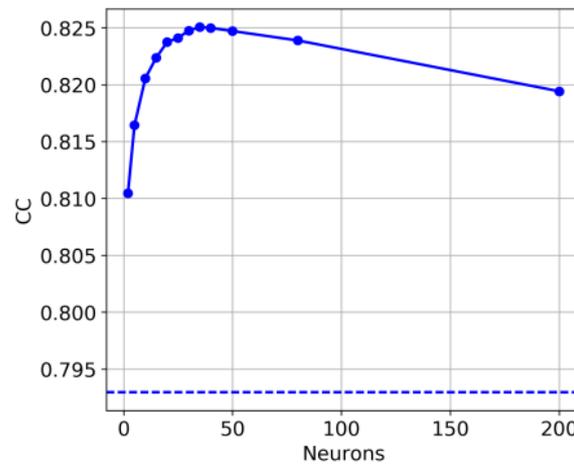
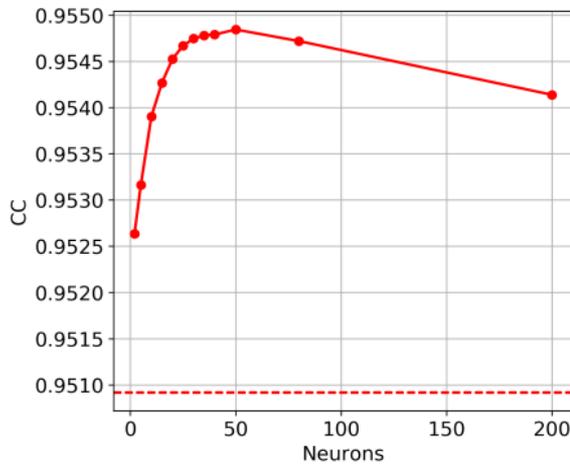
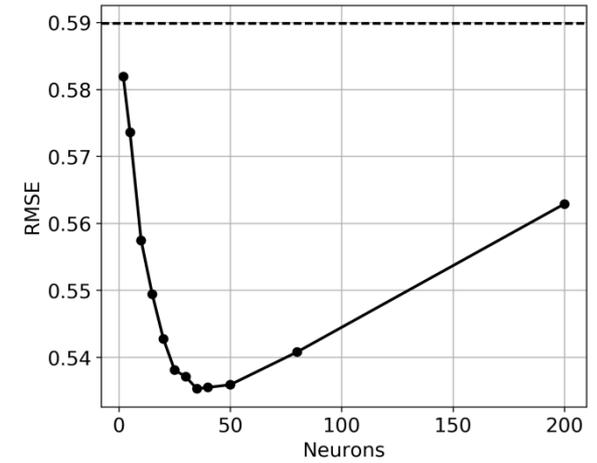
Day 0



Day 5

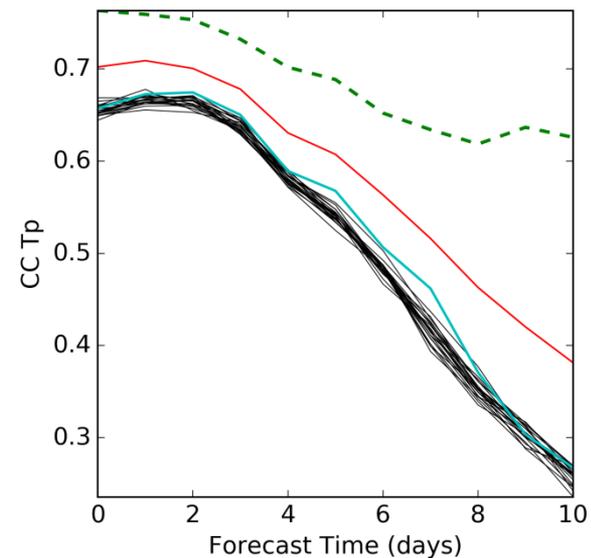
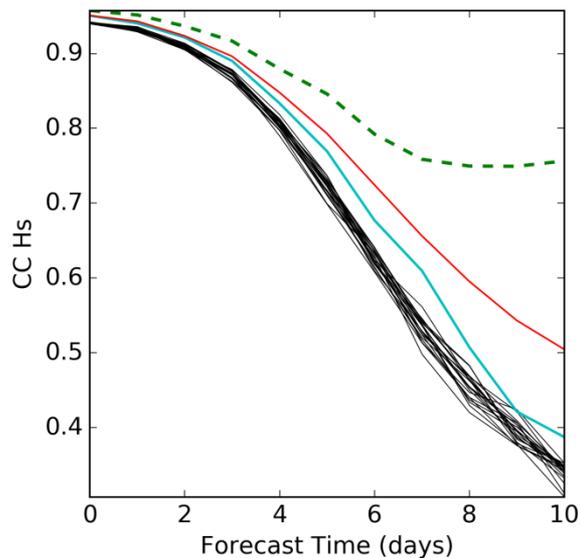
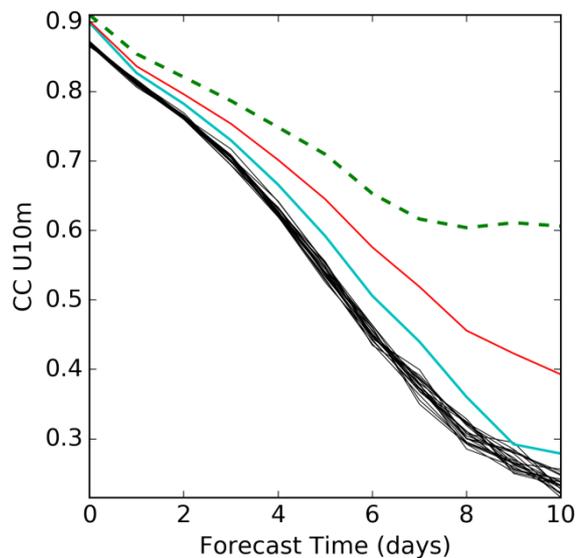
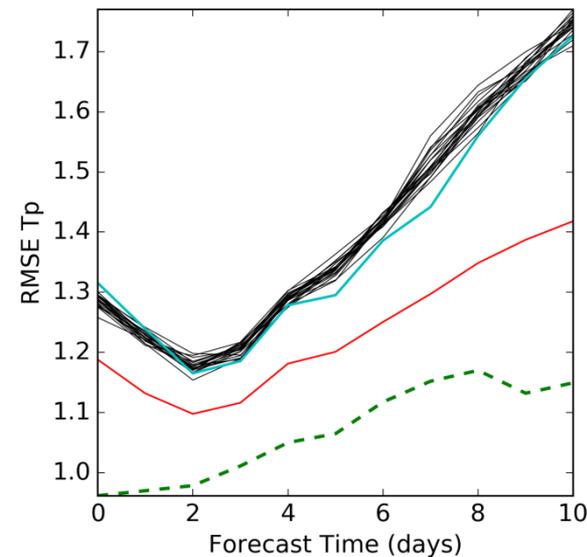
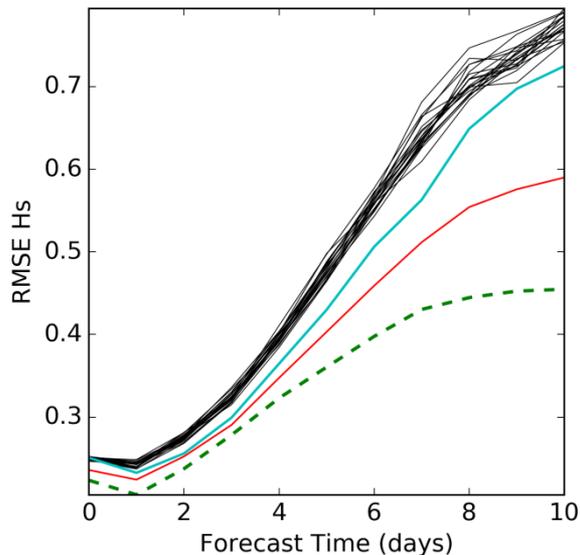
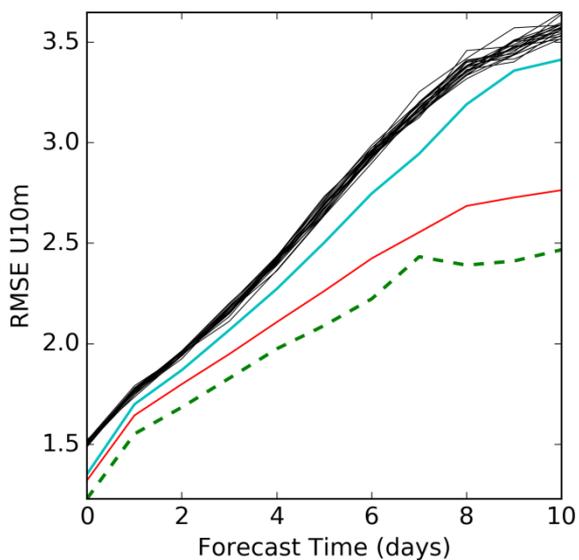


Day 10



Results: NN spatial approach - GOM

-Black: ensemble members
-Red: ensemble mean
-Cyan: control run
--Green: NN



NN spatial approach - GOM

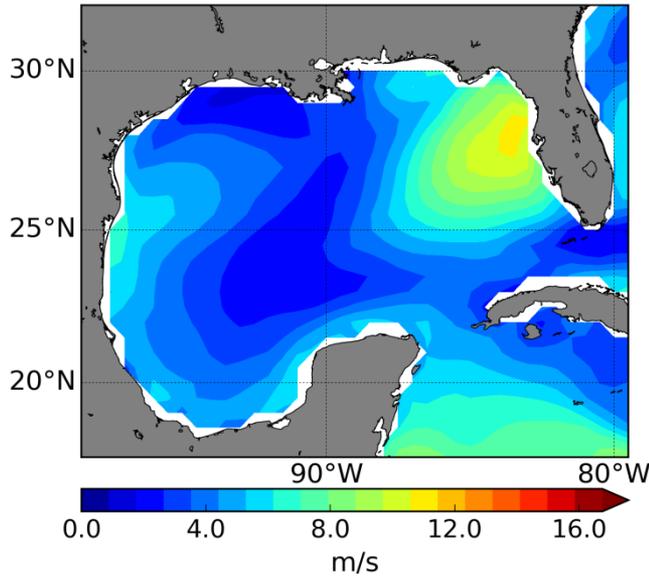
Hurricane Hermine

(September 02, 2016 – 00Z)

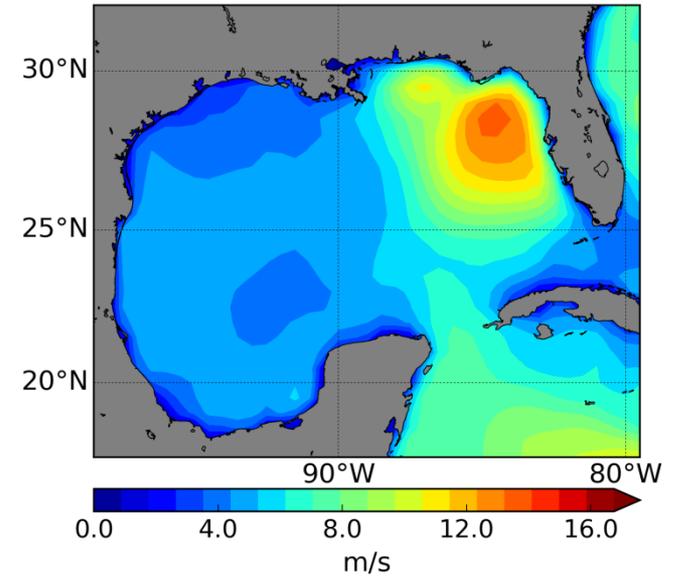
Highest winds (1-minute sustained): 80 mph (36 m/s)
Lowest pressure: 981 hPa



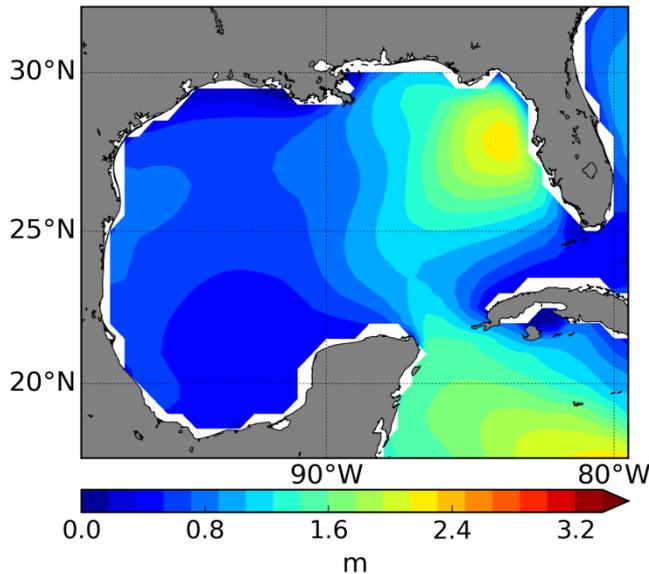
EM: U10m 20160828 + 120 h



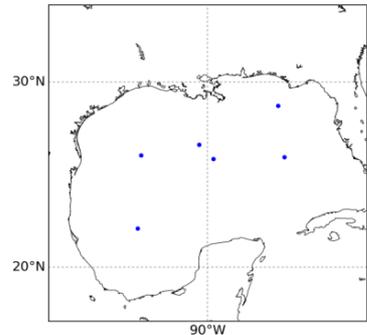
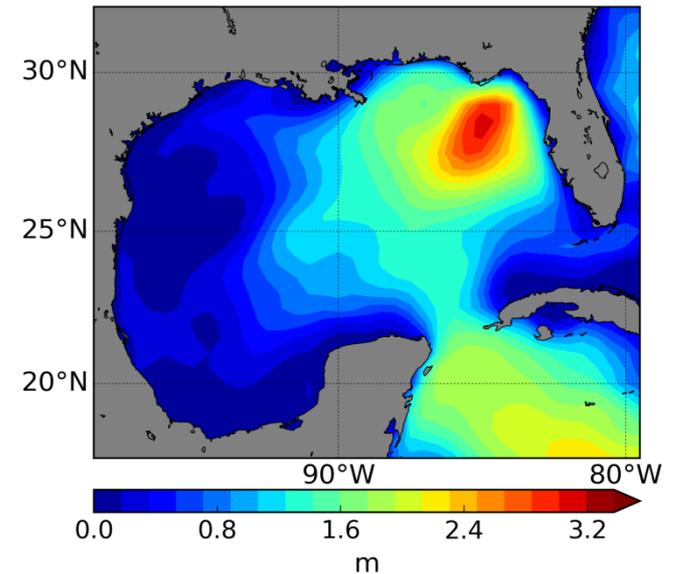
NN: U10m 20160828 + 120 h



EM: Hs 20160828 + 120 h

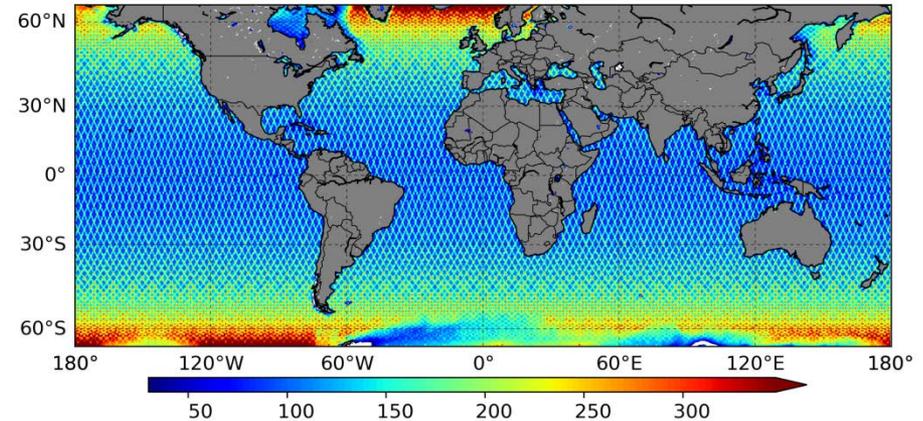
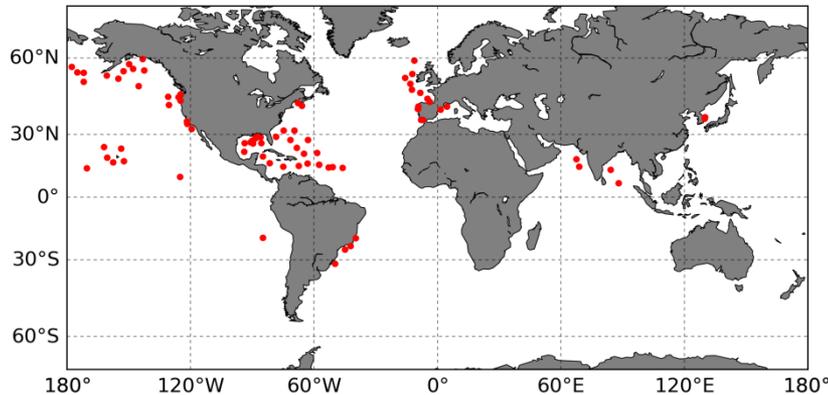


NN: Hs 20160828 + 120 h



NN spatial approach - Global

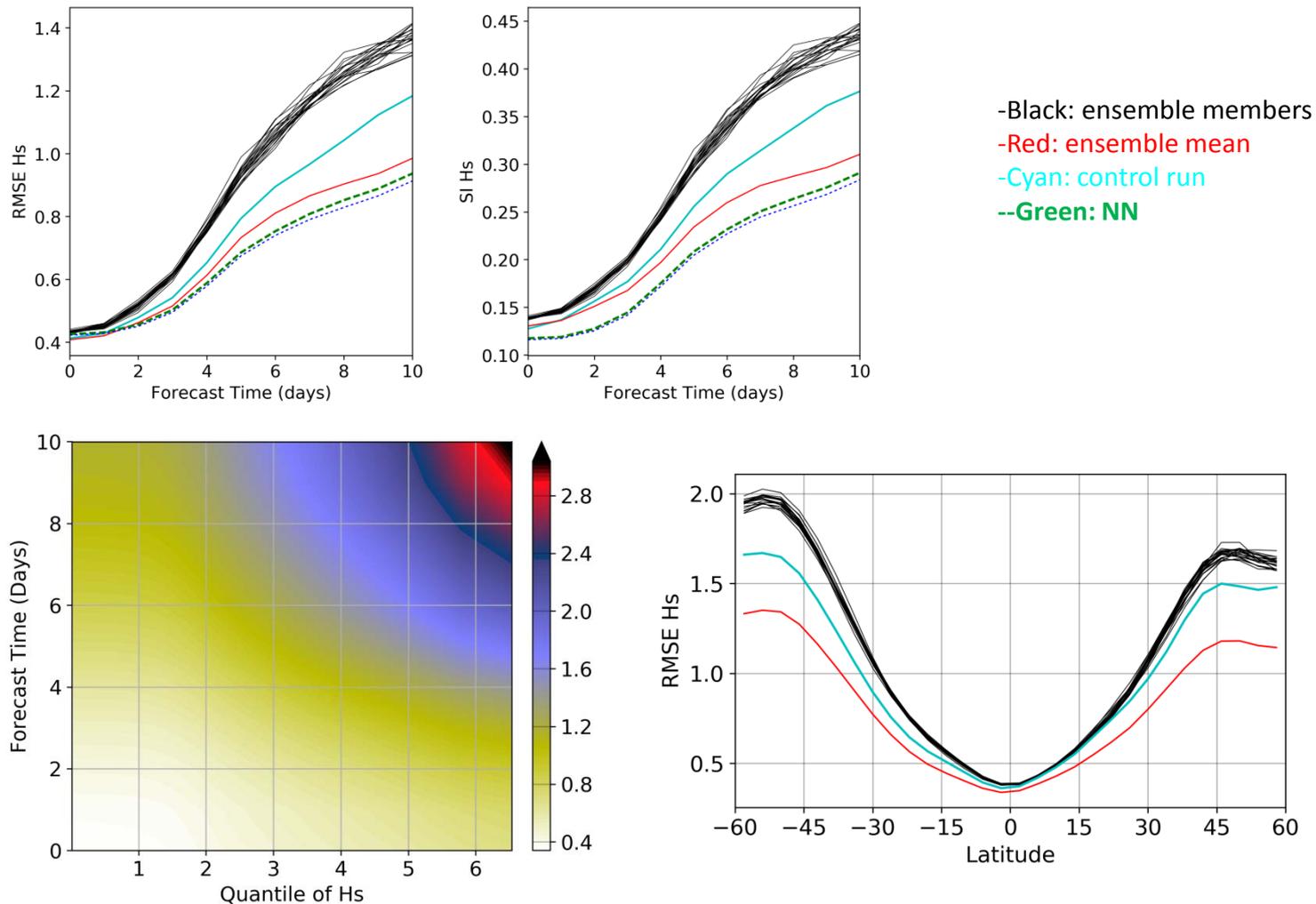
- Currently expanding the NN modeling to the whole globe, using altimeter data, and joining all forecast times into the training (new degree-of-freedom);



- 07/2016 – 07/2017 (expanding to recent months)
- 84 buoys: 687,119 measurements of Hs, Tp and U10 (converted to 10-meter high)
- 4 satellite missions: 15,993,200 measurements between 60°S and 60°N
- Test different NN architectures and run more sensitivity tests;
- Analyze the error in function of location, forecast time, and percentiles;

NN spatial approach - Global

- Challenges: computational resources (>128GB; >1000 cores) and data transference (*GWES historical database*)
- Results not optimized yet (*still running several tests*)



Conclusions

- The largest errors in GWES, beyond forecast day 3, are found to be associated with winds above 14 m/s and waves above 5 m;
- Extreme percentiles after the 8th-day forecast reach 30% of underestimation for both U10 and Hs;
- Ensemble Approach: Critical systematic and scatter errors are identified beyond the 6th- and 3rd- day forecasts, respectively;
- **The main advantage of the methodology using NNs at longer forecast ranges beyond four days. NNs (GoM) was able to improve the correlation coefficient on forecast day 10 from 0.39 to 0.61 for U10, from 0.50 to 0.76 for Hs, and from 0.38 to 0.63 for Tp.**
- **Small number of neurons are sufficient to reduce the bias, while 35 to 50 neurons produce the greatest reduction in both the scatter and systematic errors.**