Ensemble Forecasting and Its Application

Yuejian Zhu and Dingchen Hou Environmental Modeling Center, NCEP/NWS/NOAA

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Acknowledgment for: Members of Ensemble & Probabilistic Guidance Team

Outlines

- Ensemble Forecasting
 - Responsibility of ensemble development team
 - Concept of seamless forecast
 - NCEP all ensemble systems
- Data Distribution and Product Generation
 - Data access through all available resource
 - Digital probabilistic products
 - Web-based products
- Applications
 - NCEP service centers
 - NWS WFO
 - Private sectors
- Values and Benefits
 - Probabilistic, not deterministic
- Future Expectation and Plan
 - Improve ensemble system

Ensemble Forecasting

Responsibilities of Ensemble Development

- Assess, model, communicate uncertainty in numerical forecasts

- Present uncertainty in numerical forecasting
 - Tasks
 - Design, implement, maintain, and continuously improve ensemble systems
 - Sciences
 - Initial value related uncertainty
 - Model related forecast uncertainty
 - Ensemble systems
 - Global GEFS / NAEFS / NUOPC
 - Regional SREF / HREF / NARRE-TL / HWAF ensemble
 - Climate Contributions to future coupling CFS configuration
 - NAEFS/GEFS downscaled
 - Ocean wave ensemble (MMA/EMC)
- Statistical correction of ensemble forecasts
 - Current tasks
 - Correct for systematic errors on model grid, correct ensemble spread.
 - Downscale information to fine resolution grid (NDFD)
 - Combine all forecast info into single ensemble/probabilistic guidance
- Probabilistic product generation / user applications
 - Contribute to design of probabilistic products
 - Support use of ensembles by
 - Internal users (NCEP Service Center, WFOs, OHD/RFC forecasters and et al.) $_4$
 - External users (research, development, and applications)

NWS Seamless Suite of Forecast Products Spanning Weather and Climate



Evolution of NCEP GEFS configuration

	Initial uncertainty	TS relocation	Model uncertainty	Resolution	Forecast length	Ensemble members	Daily frequency
1992.12	BV	None	None	T62L18	12	2	00UTC
1994.3				T62L18	16	10(00UTC) 4(12UTC)	00,12UTC
2000.6				T126L28(0-2.5) T62L28(2.5-16)	•	10	
2001.1				T126(0-3.5) T62L28(3.5-16)			
2004.3				T126L28(0-7.5) T62L28(7.5-16)			00,06,12,1 8UTC
2005.8		TSR		T126L28			
2006.5	ETR					14	
2007.3						20	
2010.2			STTP	T190L28			
2012.2				T254L42(0-8) T190L42(8-16)			

Evolution of NCEP SREF configuration

	IC uncertainty	Physics uncertainty	Model resolution	Forecast length	Ensemble members	Daily frequency
2001	BV	Multi-model (MM, Eta and RSM)	48km	63hr	10	09, 21z
2003		Multi-model + Multi- physics (MMMP, add ETA_kf)			15	
2004		MMMP (add more diverse physics schemes to Eta)	40km	87hr		
2005		MMMP (add NMM and ARW)			21	
2006						03,09,15,21z
2009	BV + downscaled ETR	MMMP (less Eta and more WRF, add more physics scheme to RSM)	32km	87hr	21	03,09,15,21Z
2012	BV + Downscaled ETR	NEMS-NMMB WRF-NMM WRF-ARW	22km	87hrs	21	03,09,16,21Z

NAEFS Current Configuration

Updated: February 14th 2012

	NCEP	СМС	NAEFS
Model	GFS	GEM	NCEP+CMC
Initial uncertainty	ETR	EnKF	ETR + EnKF
Model uncertainty/Stochastic	Yes (Stochastic Pert)	Yes (multi-physics)	Yes
Tropical storm	Relocation	None	
Daily frequency	00,06,12 and 18UTC	00 and 12UTC	00 and 12UTC
Resolution	T254L42 (d0-d8)~55km	(d0-d16) ~ 66km	1*1 degree
	T190L42 (d8-16)~70km		
Control	Yes	Yes	Yes (2)
Ensemble members	20 for each cycle	20 for each cycle	40 for each cycle
Forecast length	16 days (384 hours)	16 days (384 hours)	16 days
Post-process	Bias correction	Bias correction	Yes
	(same bias for all members)	for each member	
Last implementation	February 14 th 2012	August 17th 2011	

Data Distribution and Product Generation

NAEFS Products Distribution

System	Current available products
Config.	1.deg 0-384h, every 6 hours, 20 members (NCEP) and 20 members (CMC), ens. control (NCEP and CMC)
Format	GRIB1 (and GRIB2, GIF images for web display)
CCS	NCEP: pgrba, pgrbb, pgrba_bc, pgrba_an, pgrba_wt, ensstat, ndgd CMC: pgrba, pgrba_bc, pgrba_an, pgrba_wt, ensstat NAEFS: ndgd, pgrba_an, pgrba_bc
NCEP FTPPRD	ftp://ftpprd.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/gens/prodcd gefs.\${yyyymmdd} for NCEP ensemble1. pgrb2a (00, 06, 12 and 18UTC) (1.0 degree, all lead times, 1(c) + 20 (p))2. pgrb2alr (00, 06, 12 and 18UTC) (2.5 degree, all lead times, 1(c) + 20 (p))2. pgrb2b (00, 06, 12 and 18UTC) (1.0 degree, all lead times, 1(c) + 20 (p))4. pgrb2blr (00 and 12UTC) (2.5 degree, all lead times, 1(c) + 20 (p))5. ensstat (00UTC) (prcp_bc, pqpf and pqpf_bc files)6. wafs (00 and 12UTC)7. ndgd_gb2 (00, 06, 12, 18UTC) (CONUS-5km, all lead times and all probability forecasts)ftp://ftpprd.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/gens/prodcd cd cmce.\${yyyymmdd} for CMC ensemble1. pgrba (00 and 12UTC) (1.0 degree, all lead times, 1 control + 20 members)ftp://ftpprd.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/gens/prodcd naefs.\${yyyymmdd} for NAEFS products1. pgrba_and (00, 12UTC) (1.0 degree, all lead times, nomaly for ensemble mean)2. pgrb2a_bc (00, 12UTC) (1.0 degree, all lead times, probabilistic forecasts)3. ndgd_gb2 (00, 12UTC) (CONUS-5km, all lead times, probabilistic forecasts)
TOC	<pre>ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/ cd MT.ensg_CY.\${cyc}/RD.\${yyyymmdd} for NCEP only 1. PT.grid_DF.gr1_RE.high (00 and 12UTC) (Pgrba: 1.0 and 2.5 degree, 0-384 hrs, c + 10 (p)) 2. PT.grid_DF.gr1_RE.low (00 and 12UTC) (Pgrbb: 1.0 degree, 0-84 hrs, 2.5 d, 90-384 hrs, c + 10 (p)) 3. PT_grid_DF.bb</pre>
NOMADS	NOAA main data service for public: currently, most data are available for three ensembles from NOMADS <u>http://nomad5.ncep.noaa.gov/ncep_data/</u> for ftp: combined pgrba and pgrbb at 1 degree resolution, for all ensemble members (c+20(p)) and all lead time (0-384 hours) <u>http://nomad5.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/gens/archive/</u> for http: combined pgrba and pgrbb at 1 degree resolution

Web-based Probabilistic Products

- NCEP web-site
 - NCO supported all ensemble probabilistic products (main page)
 - EMC (experimental) developed probabilistic products
 - PQPF for various thresholds (include precipitation types)
 - RMOP for 500hPa height
 - Tropical storm track forecast
 - Extra-tropical storm track forecast (global tracking)
- NAEFS web-site
 - CPC developed extended probabilistic forecast
 - <u>Temperature</u>, 500hPa height and precipitation
 - NCO supported NAEFS products
 - Spaghetti,
 - EMC (experimental) NAEFS products
 - PQPF for various thresholds
 - Anomaly forecast
 - CMC supported NAEFS products
 - Metagrams for NA major cities (<u>example</u>)
- NUOPC web-site
 - EMC (experimental) NUOPC products
 - PQPF for various thresholds (include precipitation types)
 - TS track forecast for multi-model ensembles
 - FNMOC's NUE probabilistic products (example)



http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/NCOMAGWEB/appcontroller



Map of PQPF and Precipitation Types: every 6 hours, 4 different thresholds

Ensemble Based Probabilistic Quantitative Precipitation Type Forecast Ini:2012022800 Valid:2012022800-2012022806 Amount>=1.000mm/6hrs



back



Example: The tracker puts out 4 time a day for all cyclones (Northern Hemisphere)

NCEP Ensemble Perturbation Forecast Storm Tracks For forecast with initial time = 2011113000



http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/short_range/NAEFS/Outlook_D264.00.php



NAEFS products – Metagram (examples)

õ

mm/12h

km/h

dibdièmes/tenths

Ensemble and Deterministic Forecasts issued 2 December 2010 00 UTC Ensemble and Deterministic Forecasts issued 2 December 2010 00 UTC Prévision d'ensemble et déterministe émises le 2 Décembre 2010 00 UTC Prévision d'ensemble et déterministe émises le 2 Décembre 2010 00 UTC for/pour for/pour NAEFS / SPENA NAEFS / SPENA SAN FRANCISCO (SFO) 37.62 N 122.38 W/O WASHINGTON (KDCA) 38.86 N 77.03 W/O Surface Air Temperature/Température de l'air à la surface Surface Air Temperature/Température de l'air à la surface 15 15 10 -5 10 ç -10 Precipitation/Précipitations Precipitation/Précipitations 30 50 25 40 20 30 mm/12h 15 20 10 10 Ω Surface Wind Speed/Vitesse du vent à la surface Surface Wind Speed/Vitesse du vent à la surface 50 40 60 30 40 km/h 20 20 10 n ſ Total Cloud Cover/Couvert nuageux total Total Cloud Cover/Couvert nuageux total 104 10 dixièmes/tenths 8 8 6 6 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 04 02 03 02 03 04 05 December/Décembre 2010 December/Décembre 2010 Global Model / Modèle global CMC Global Model / Modèle global CMC max max 75% 75% Control Member / Membre contrôle CMC Control Member / Membre contrôle CMC mediane/médiane mediane/médiane 25% Control Member / Membre contrôle NGEP Control Member / Membre contrôle NCEP 25% min - min back

NUOPC probabilistic products from FNMOC



User Applications

SPC - Day 3-8 Fire Weather Outlook Issued on Mar 3, 2012

This product provides a daily probabilistic forecast of critical fire weather conditions for dry thunderstorms and/or strong winds combined with low relative humidity across the continental U.S. during the Day 3-8 period.



Example of Ensemble Joint Probability

24 hours SREF Forecast Valid 21 UTC 7 April 2006



OPC - Surface Wind Prob. from 90 members



HPC - Subjective Use of Ensembles (1)



- Assess predictability
- Establish forecaster confidence
- Identify outliers and clusters
- Identify preferred solutions

HPC - Subjective Use of Ensembles (2)

Identify preferred solutions

Used as inputs to model blends (weights) selected by forecasters for first-guess forec

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Medr T	d1qMidFin	Alaska AkTemps	Day P3 Day P4 BawxNite	fmax		84 108 132	156 180
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HPC - Subjective Use of Ensembles (3)

Uncertainty information communicated via forecasts, discussions and





USER-interactions PRELIMINARY EXTENDED FORECAST DISCUSSION NWS HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL PREDICTION CENTER 959 AM EDT SUN APR 17 2011

VALID 12Z THU APR 21 2011 - 12Z SUN APR 24 2011

MODELS AND ENSEMBLES SHOW PROGRESSIVE FLOW OVER THE LOWER 48 WITH VARIED TIMING AND AMPLITUDE OF A SERIES OF EMBEDDED SYSTEMS AT SHORT AND MEDIUM RANGE TIME SCALES THIS FT. RN SCREAMS ΔNS. TO SMOOTH LESS P s AR. ELOPE OF 0 SOLUTIONS HOWEVER...MANUAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THIS BLEND WERE LOW/FRONTAL TO MAINTAIN SLIGH FR EMBEDDED SURFACE ORGANIZATION CONSIDERING RECENT HISTORY IN THIS FLOW WITH SOME DYNAMIC SYSTEMS.

HPC - Objective Use of Ensembles (4)

Role of the Forecaster

Combine manual deterministic forecast with ensemble distribution and spread to generate probabilities



HPC - Objective Use of Ensembles (5)

Role of the Forecaster

Combine manual deterministic forecast with ensemble distribution and spread to generate probabilities



Experimental maps to support CSTAR program for winter season







EOF1 pattern for ncp_cmc ensemble

50N

red contours: variance of MSLP at different fcst time; unit(mb²); contour interval: 15mb² blue contours: ensemble mean of MSLP at different fcst time; unit(mb); contour interval: 5mb ncp_cmc ensemble initialized at 2011112400; LON: from 150W to 40W; LAT: from 10N to 70N

rst three EOF space patterns for MSLP; unit(mb); valid time: 2011113



Strike Probability (NHC)



NHC started to calculate strike probability forecast products since 2004. It has been phased out since they introduced wind speed probability.

NHC's method of calculation is based on single deterministic and uncertainties (cone) from historic analysis and forecast

The map above is a hurricane strike probability map for Hurricane Charley from August, 2004. It maps the probability, in percent, that the center of the storm will pass within 75 statute miles of a location during a 72 hour time interval. Contour levels shown are 10% (yellow), 20% (green), 50% (orange) and 100% (red).

Example of Hurricane Katrina





Courtesy of Jiayi Peng

An experimental multi-model product

Dot area is proportional to the weighting applied to that member

•= ens. mean position* = observed position

Courtesy of Tom Hamill



60W

Values and Benefits

NH Anomaly Correlation for 500hPa Height

Period: January 1st – December 31st 2010

🛛 GFS 🔳 GEFS 🔲 NAEFS



Day at which forecast loses useful skill (AC=0.6) N. Hemisphere 500hPa height calendar year means

GFS GEFS NAEFS



Atlantic, AL01~19 (06/01~11/30/2011)

GEFSo GEFSx GFS

GEFSx runs once per day before Oct.



RTMA Region 2m Temperature Averaged From 2007090100 to 2007093000 3.3 **NCEP/GEFS** raw forecast 3 2.7 4+ days gain from NAEFS <u>ی</u> 2.4 Error 2.1 Absolute 1.8 1.5 NAEFS final products Mean 1.2 0.9 Bias correction (NCEP, CMC) From Dual-resolution (NCEP only) NAEFS 0.6 Down-scaling (NCEP, CMC) NCEP_row NCEP drbcds Combination of NCEP and CMC 0.3 CMC bcds Ð °õ 11 12 13 14 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 15 Lead Time (Days)

BO CUI, GCWMB/ENC/NCEP/NOAA

NAEFS NDGD Probabilistic 2m Temperature Forecast Verification For 2007090100 - 2007093000



BO CUI, GCWMB/EMC/NCEP/NOAA

Overall temperature forecasts: Average over past 30 days: (20080929-20081028)

		MAE	Bias	>10 err	<3 err	off. rank	Bes	t G.	2nd G) .	Worst	G.
1	12-hr	2.44	0.7	0.1%	67.3%	1 out of 7	NAM40	65.4%	NAM12	60.1%	NGM80	44.4%
2	24-hr	2.84	1.0	0.3%	59.1%	2 out of 7	NAM40	60.3%	NAM12	56.9%	SREF	47.0%
3	36-hr	2.94	0.8	0.3%	57.8%	1 out of 7	NAM40	55.9%	NAM12	52.6%	NGM80	44.0%
4	48-hr	3.36	1.6	2.1%	52.8%	1 out of 7	MOSGd	48.9%	NAM40	48.3%	NGM80	12.9%
5	60-hr	3.26	1.0	1.7%	54.8%	1 out of 6	MOSGd	50.1%	NAM12	48.8%	NAM40	6.2%
6	72-hr	3.35	1.3	2.1%	53.1%	1 out of 5	MOSGd	49.9%	NAM12	49.5%	SREF	44.0%
7	84-hr	3.80	0.6	4.7%	49.0%	1 out of 5	NAEFS	48.6%	SREF	44.5%	NAM12	2.6%
8	96-hr	3.96	0.7	4.0%	44.4%	2 out of 4	NAEFS	46.2%	HPCGd	42.6%	MOSGd	40.6%
9	108-hr	4.43	0.9	5.5%	38.5%	2 out of 3	NAEFS	41.7%	MOSGd	37.7%	MOSGd	37.7%
10	120-hr	4.57	1.0	5.9%	36.6%	2 out of 4	NAEFS	40.9%	HPCGd	36.5%	MOSGd	36.3%
11	132-hr	4.83	0.7	7.8%	34.7%	1 out of 3	NAEFS	34.5%	MOSGd	34.4%	MOSGd	34.4%
12	144-hr	4.83	0.5	7.4%	34.7%	3 out of 4	HPCGd	36.4%	NAEFS	35.5%	MOSGd	33.3%
13	156-hr	5.43	0.1	11 .9%	30.3%	3 out of 3	NAEFS	32.1%	MOSGd	30.8%	MOSGd	30.8%
14	168-hr	5.74	0.3	14.4%	27.7%	2 out of 4	HPCGd	27.7%	MOSGd	26.9%	NAEFS	26.1

Minimum temperature forecast: Average over past 30 days: (20080929-20081028)

1	12-hr	3.17	-1.2	1.0%	53.4%	3 out of 7	NAEFS	59.7%	SREF	57.1%	NGM80	21.8%
2	24-hr	3.03	-0.9	0.6%	55.5%	2 out of 7	SREF	57.2%	NAEFS	54.2%	NGM80	24.9%
3	36-hr	3.25	-0.8	0.9%	51.6%	3 out of 7	NAEFS	54.2%	SREF	53.9%	NGM80	23.2%
4	48-hr	3.94	-1.1	2.9%	43.2%	3 out of 7	NAEFS	51.9%	SREF	45.8%	NGM80	6.2%
5	60-hr	4.30	-0.4	4.4%	39.1%	4 out of 6	NAEFS	49.2%	SREF	43.0%	NAM40	8.9%
6	72-hr	4.76	0.1	6.4%	33.7%	5 out of 5	NAEFS	42.9%	SREF	40.1%	NAM12	35.2%
7	84-hr	4.85	0.3	7.5%	34.7%	2 out of 6	NAEFS	40.0%	MOSGd	33.4%	NAM12	8.9%
8	96-hr	5.24	0.4	13.0%	33.1%	1 out of 3	NAEFS	32.7%	MOSGd	29.9%	MOSGd	29.9%
9	108-hr	5.11	0.8	12.8%	35.4%	1 out of 4	HPCGd	34.5%	NAEFS	32.1%	MOSGd	30.5%
10	120-hr	5.31	0.7	12.0%	31.9%	1 out of 3	MOSGd	31.6%	NAEFS	24.8%	NAEFS	24.8%
11	132-hr	4.97	0.7	9.9%	35.1%	2 out of 4	HPCGd	38.0%	MOSGd	30.9%	NAEFS	27.2%
12	144-hr	5.42	0.6	15.0%	35.0%	1 out of 3	MOSGd	31.3%	NAEFS	29.0%	NAEFS	29.0%
13	156-hr	5.40	0.5	14.9%	35.7%	1 out of 4	HPCGd	32.9%	MOSGd	32.7%	NAEFS	23.4%
14	168-hr	5.46	1.1	17.7%	38.1%	1 out of 3	MOSGd	35.6%	NAEFS	28.4%	NAEFS	28.4%

Official Guidance: NGM80, NAM40, SREF, NAM12, MOSGd, HPCGd, NAEFS

Contributed by Richard Grumm (WFO)

Decision Theory Example

Critical Event: sfc winds > 50kt

Cost (of protecting): \$150K Loss (if damage): \$1M



10

Optimal Threshold = 15%

	Deterministic	Observation		Probabilistic	Cost (\$K) by Threshold			d for Protective Action		
Case	Forecast (kt)	(kt)	Cost (\$K)	Forecast	0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	65	54	150	42%	150	150	150	1000	1000	1000
2	58	63	150	71%	150	150	150	150	1000	1000
3	73	57	150	95%	150	150	150	150	150	1000
4	55	37	150	13%	150	0	0	0	0	0
5	39	31	0	3%	150	0	0	0	0	0
6	31	55	1000	36%	150	150	1000	1000	1000	1000
7	62	71	150	85%	150	150	150	150	150	1000
8	53	42	150	22%	150	150	0	0	0	0
9	21	27	0	51%	150	150	150	0	0	0
10	52	39	150	77%	150	150	150	150	0	0
		Total Cost:	\$ 2,050		\$1,500	\$1,200	\$1,900	\$2,600	\$3,300	\$5,000

Future plans

- Ensemble systems
 - Increasing model resolutions
 - Improving DA and forecast model
 - Multi-model, multi-physics advance of NAEFS (and/or NUOPC)
 - NAEFS LAM
 - Extend ensemble forecast (beyond week-2 to 45 days, for coupling A-O models)
- Ensemble productions
 - Enhance post process
 - Optimum using joint samples and reforecasts
 - 2nd moment adjustment
 - Enhance collaborations
- Ensemble applications
 - Considering user requests
 - Expand anomaly forecast
 - Maximum using probabilistic information???

BACKGROUND