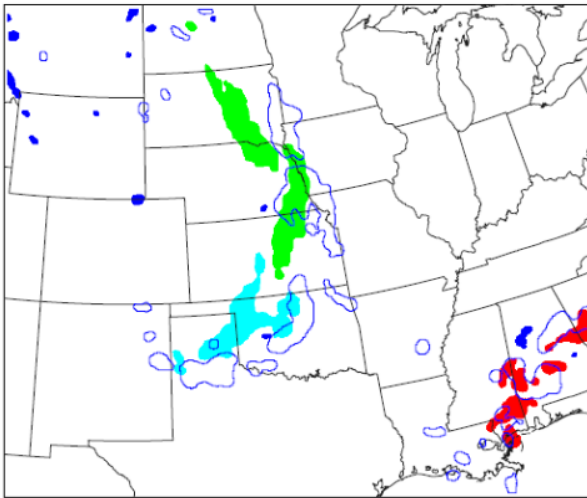


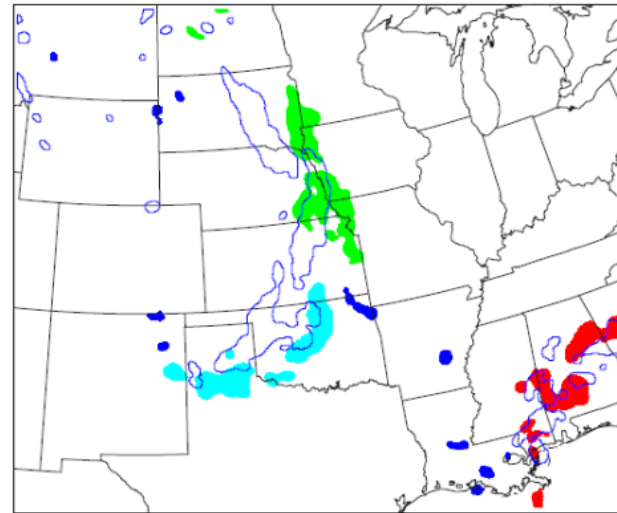
# Introduction to MODE

## Verifying with Objects

WRF Objects with StageII Outlines



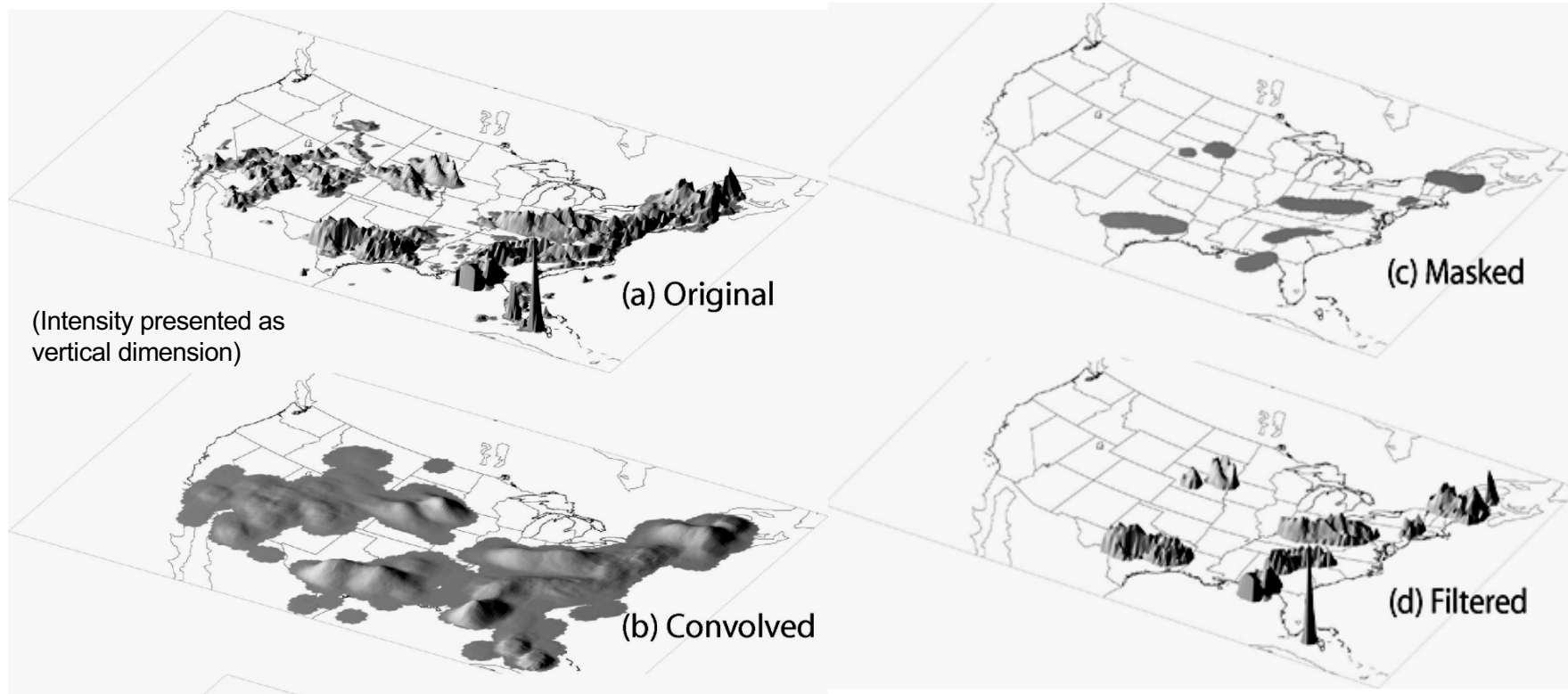
StageII Objects with WRF Outlines



Presenter: Tara Jensen

# MODE Object Identification

Source: Davis 2006

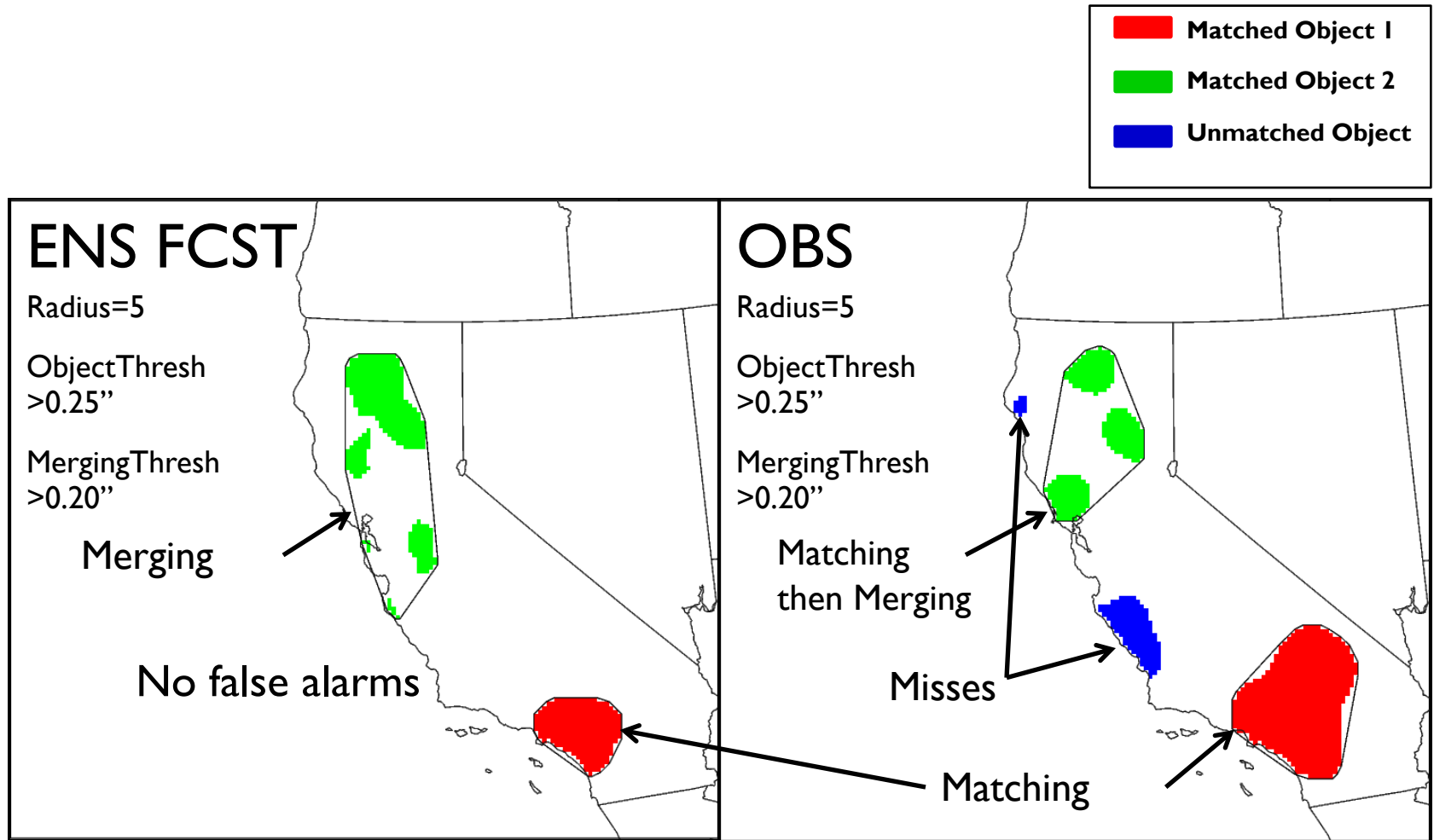


**Smoothing radius**  
(in grid squares)

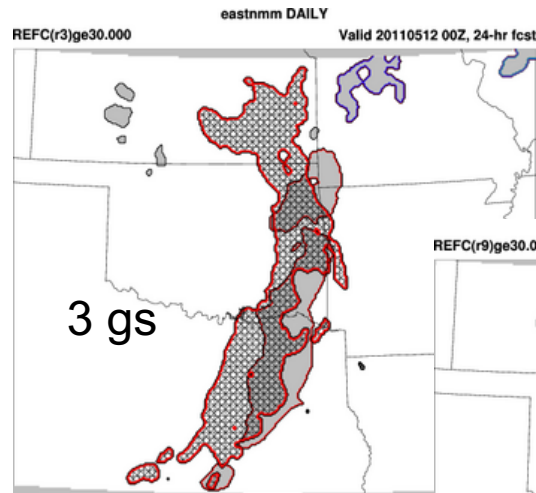
**Accumulation threshold**  
(in mm)

**\* User-defined parameters in configuration file**

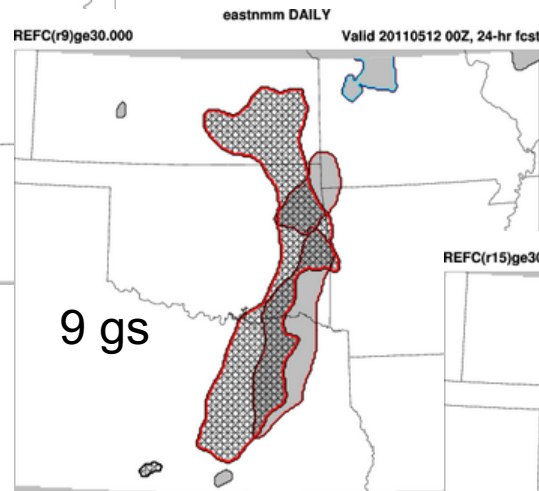
# MODE Example



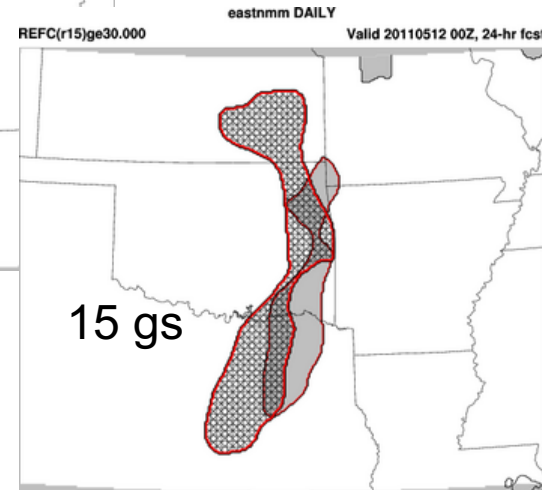
# Example – REFC > 30 dBZ – Impact of smoothing radius



Total Interest: 0.96  
Area Ratio: 0.57  
Centroid Distance: 95km  
P90 Intensity Ratio: 1.00



Total Interest: 0.96  
Area Ratio: 0.57  
Centroid Distance: 94km  
P90 Intensity Ratio: 1.02



Convolution  
Radius Increases

Total Interest: 0.96  
Area Ratio: 0.53  
Centroid Distance: 92km  
P90 Intensity Ratio: 1.04



# MODE Input and Usage

- Input Files
  - Gridded forecast and observation files
    - GRIB1 output of Unified Post-Processor (or other)
    - GRIB2 from NCEP (or other)
    - NetCDF from [PCP-Combine](#), [wrf\\_interp](#), or [CF-compliant](#)
- Usage: mode
  - fcst\_file
  - obs\_file
  - config\_file
  - [-config\_merge merge\_config\_file]
  - [-outdir path]
  - [-log file]
  - [-v level]

# Config File

- [https://dtcenter.org/met/users/support/online\\_tutorial/METv6.0/config/MODE\\_Config\\_default](https://dtcenter.org/met/users/support/online_tutorial/METv6.0/config/MODE_Config_default)

```
//  
// Run all permutations of radius and threshold  
//  
quilt = FALSE;  
  
//  
// Forecast and observation fields to be verified  
//  
fcst = {  
  field = {  
    name = "APCP";  
    level = "A03";  
  }  
  
  raw_thresh = NA;  
  conv_radius = 60.0/grid_res; // in grid  
  conv_thresh = >=5.0;  
  vld_thresh = 0.5;  
  area_thresh = NA;  
  inten_perc_value = 100;  
  inten_perc_thresh = NA;  
  merge_thresh = >=1.25;  
  merge_flag = THRESH;  
}  
obs = fcst;
```

```
//  
// Handle missing data  
//  
mask_missing_flag = NONE;  
  
//  
// Match objects between the forecast and observation fields  
//  
match_flag = MERGE_BOTH;  
  
//  
// Maximum centroid distance for objects to be compared  
//  
max_centroid_dist = 800.0/grid_res;  
  
////////////////////////////////////  
  
//  
// Verification masking regions  
//  
mask = {  
  grid = "";  
  grid_flag = NONE; // Apply to NONE, FCST, OBS, or BOTH  
  poly = "";  
  poly_flag = NONE; // Apply to NONE, FCST, OBS, or BOTH  
}
```

# Config File

- [https://dtcenter.org/met/users/support/online\\_tutorial/METv6.0/config/MODE\\_Config\\_default](https://dtcenter.org/met/users/support/online_tutorial/METv6.0/config/MODE_Config_default)

```
//  
// Fuzzy engine weights  
//  
weight = {  
    centroid_dist      = 2.0;  
    boundary_dist     = 4.0;  
    convex_hull_dist  = 0.0;  
    angle_diff        = 1.0;  
    aspect_diff       = 0.0;  
    area_ratio        = 1.0;  
    int_area_ratio    = 2.0;  
    curvature_ratio   = 0.0;  
    complexity_ratio  = 0.0;  
    inten_perc_ratio  = 0.0;  
    inten_perc_value  = 50;  
}
```

```
//  
// Fuzzy engine interest functions  
//  
interest_function = {  
  
    centroid_dist = (  
        ( 0.0, 1.0 )  
        ( 60.0/grid_res, 1.0 )  
        ( 600.0/grid_res, 0.0 )  
    );  
  
    boundary_dist = (  
        ( 0.0, 1.0 )  
        ( 400.0/grid_res, 0.0 )  
    );  
  
    convex_hull_dist = (  
        ( 0.0, 1.0 )  
        ( 400.0/grid_res, 0.0 )  
    );  
};
```

# MODE Output

- **PostScript**

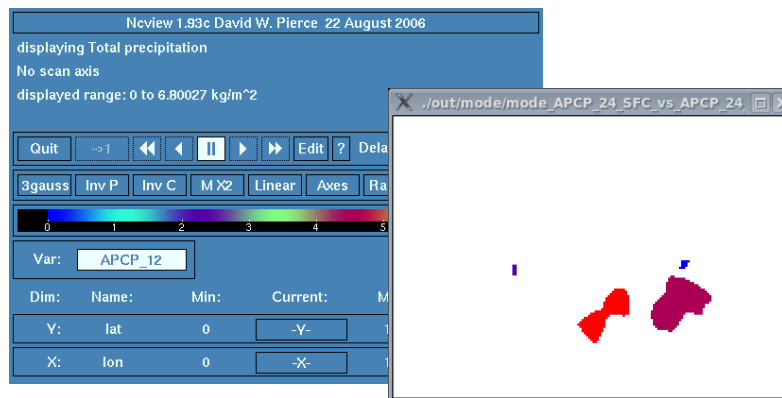
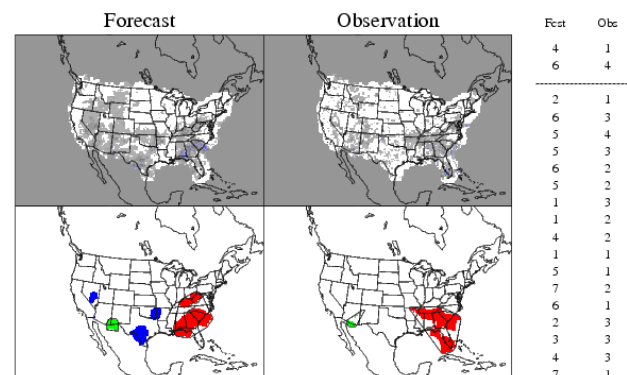
- object pictures, definitions
- matching/merging strategy
- total interest for each object pair

- **ASCII Text**

- attributes of simple, paired objects and clusters
  - size, shape, position, separation, total interest
- verification scores (CSI, bias, etc.) for “objectified” fields

- **netCDF**

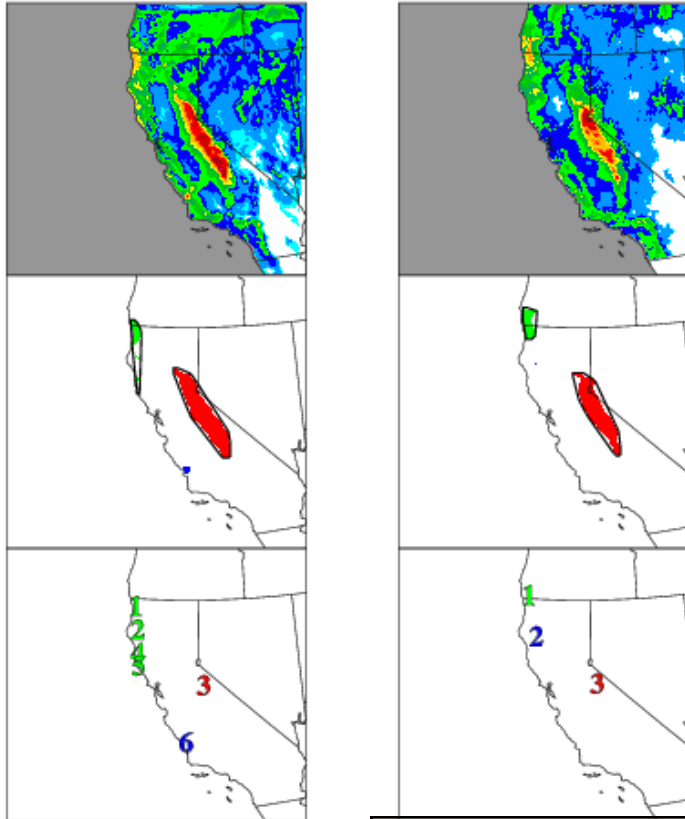
- gridded object fields
- view with ncvview



# IODE: APCP\_24\_A24\_ENS\_MEAN at A24 vs APCP\_24 at A2

Forecast

Observation



Fcst	Obs	Interest
3	3	1.0000
1	1	0.9360
-----		
2	2	0.6436
5	2	0.6372
4	2	0.5085
2	1	0.4060
1	2	0.3871
4	1	0.3545
3	1	0.3422
6	3	0.3265
1	3	0.3141
4	3	0.2813
3	2	0.2719
2	3	0.2704
5	1	0.2406
5	3	0.2266
6	1	0.2203
6	2	0.1936

Total Interest of object pairs

Pairs above dashed line have high enough Interest to be processed further

object pictures

Field names  
model description

	Forecast	Observation
Model:	hmt-ens-d01	
Field:	APCP_24_A24_ENS_MEAN	APCP_24_A24
Level:	A24	A24
Units:	kg/m^2	kg/m^2
Initial:	20110216 12:00:00	20110216 12:00:00
Valid:	20110217 12:00:00	20110217 12:00:00
Accum:	24:00:00	24:00:00

Centroid/Boundary:	2.00	4.00
Convex Hull/Angle:	0.00	1.00
Area/Intersection Area:	4.00	4.00
Complexity/Intensity:	0.00	2.00
Total Interest Thresh:		0.70

	Forecast	Observation
Mask M/G/P:	on/off/off	on/off/off
Raw Thresh:	$\geq 0.00$	$\geq 0.00$
Conv Radius:	2 gs	2 gs
Conv Thresh:	$\geq 25.40$	$\geq 25.40$
Area Thresh:	$\geq 0$ gs	$\geq 0$ gs
Inten Thresh:	p100 $\geq 0.00$	p100 $\geq 0.00$
Merge Thresh:	$\geq 20.00$	$\geq 20.00$
Merging:	thresh	thresh
Matching:		match/merge
Simple/M/U:	6/5/1	3/2/1
Area:	696 gs	589 gs
Area M/U:	674/22	585/4
Cluster:	2	2
MMI:	0.6404	0.9360
MMI (F+O):		0.6436

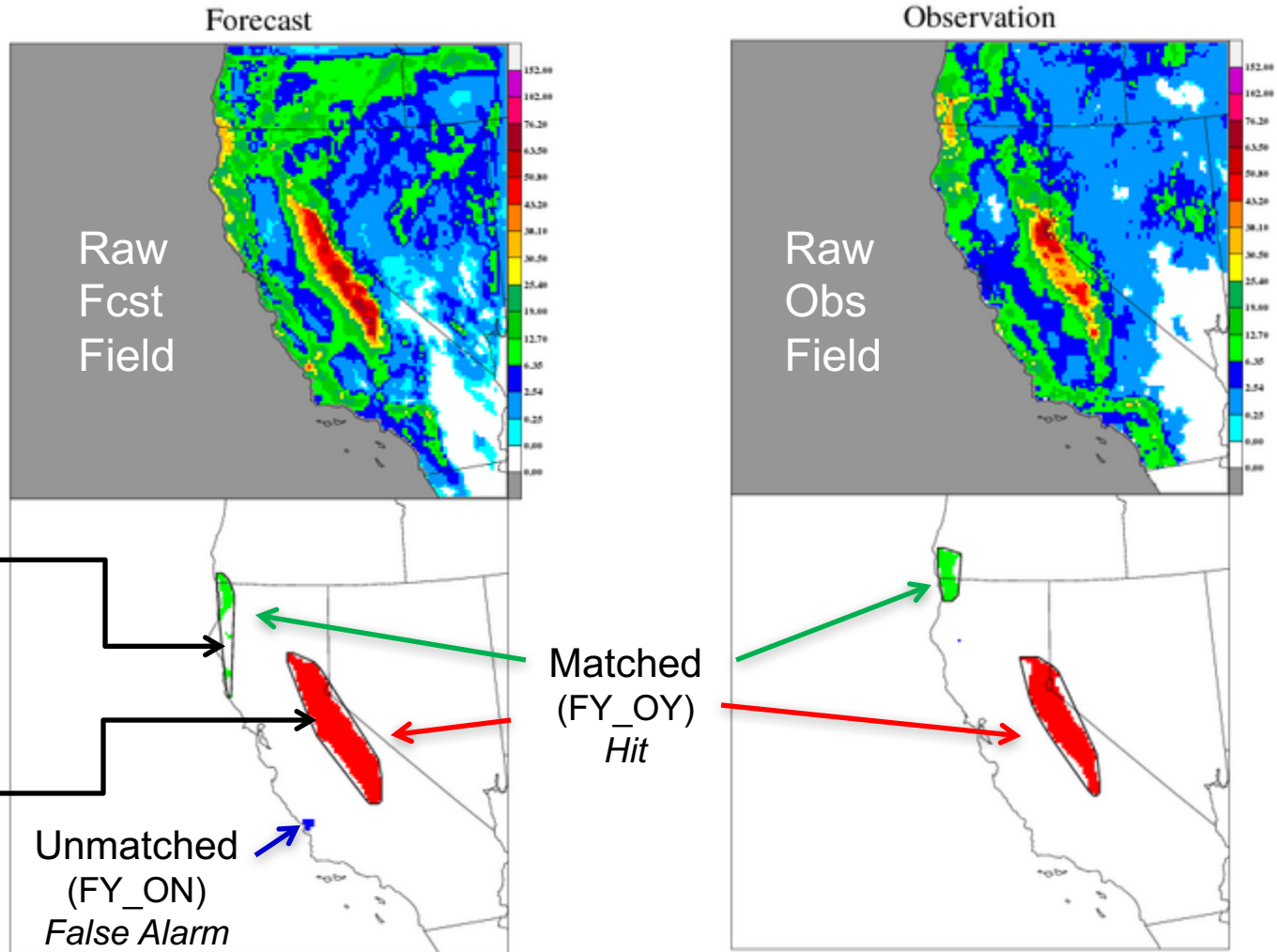
## Definition of objects

- smoothing radius
- intensity threshold
- area threshold
- matching and/or merging
- # and area of objects
- Median Max. Interest (MMI)

Weight of object attributes

# Page 2 and 3 of PostScript:

- Band shows which Simple Objects are merged (aka Cluster)
- Colors show matching between Fcst and Obs.

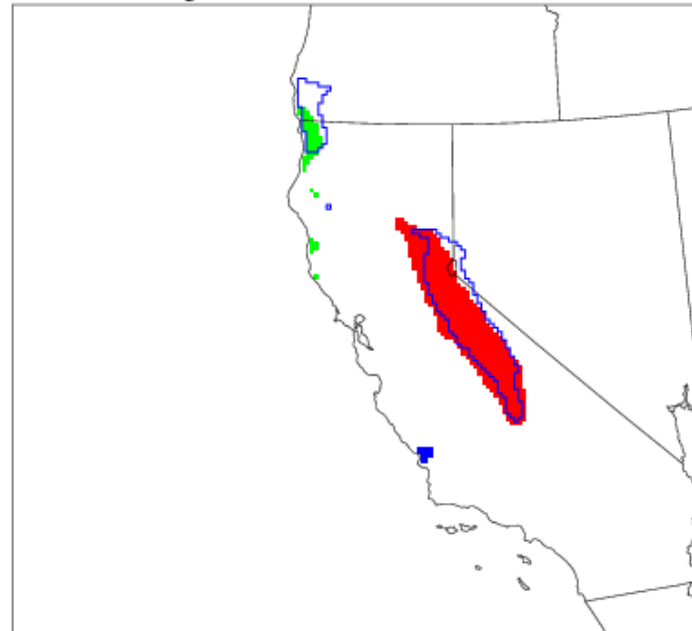


# Page 4 of PostScript

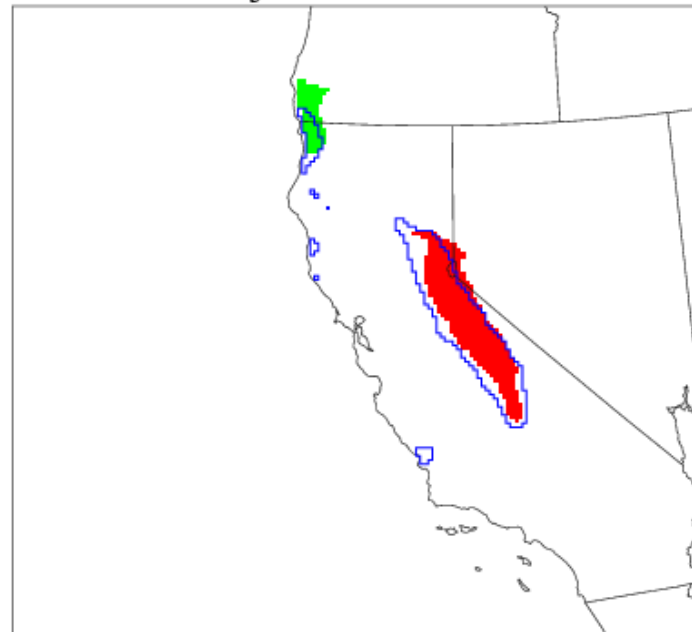
Objects overlapped  
In two different views...

Which do you prefer?

Forecast Objects with Observation Outlines



Observation Objects with Forecast Outlines

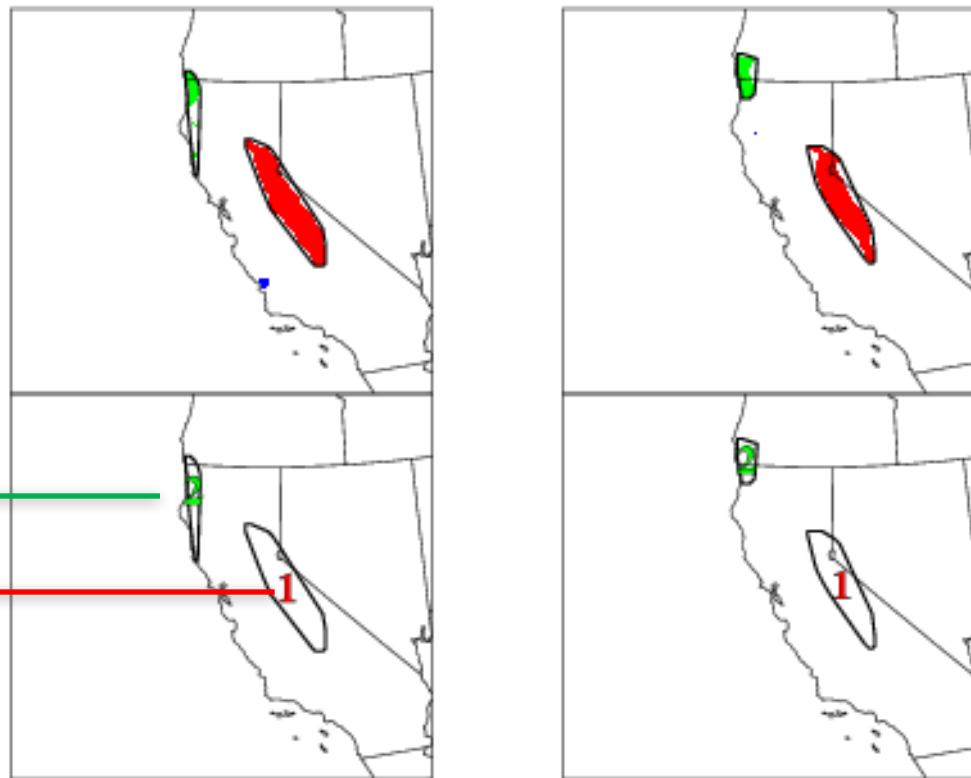


# Page 5 of PostScript - Summary information for clusters in the domain

## Cluster Object Information

Forecast

Observation

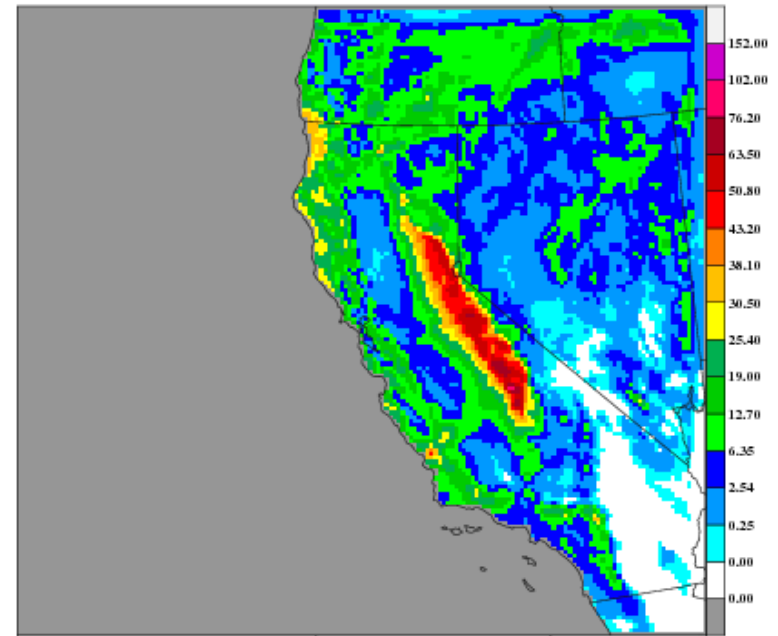


CLUS PAIR	CEN DIST	ANG DIFF	FCST AREA	OBS AREA	INTER AREA	UNION AREA	SYM DIFF	FCST INT50	OBS INT50	FCST INT90	OBS INT90	TOT INTR
1	1.51	3.65	579	466	418	627	209	39.89	34.95	56.20	49.70	1.0000
2	11.94	2.59	95	119	53	161	108	27.56	27.40	34.28	36.42	0.9909



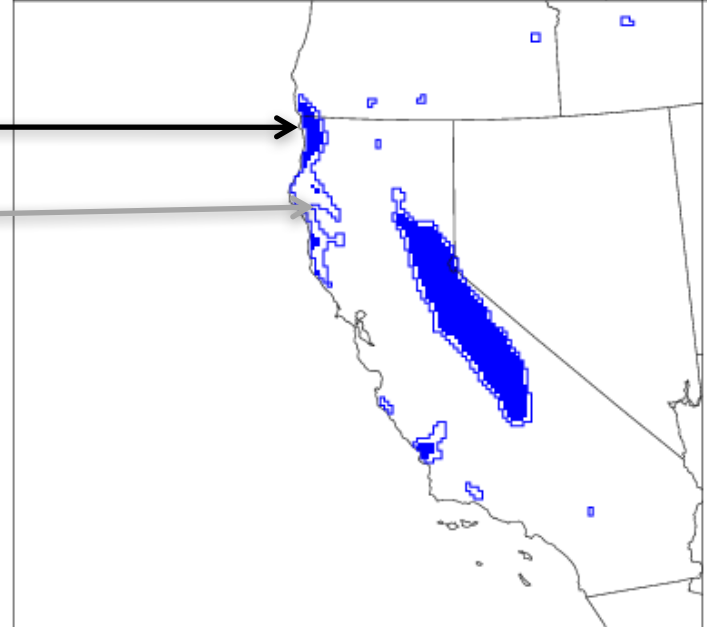
# Page 6 & 7 of PostScript

## Raw Field and Double Thresholding For Merging Process

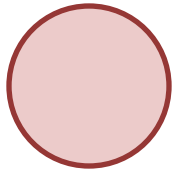


Convolution Threshold ( $\geq 25.4\text{mm}$ )

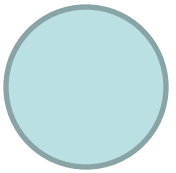
Double Thresholding Value ( $\geq 22.5\text{mm}$ )



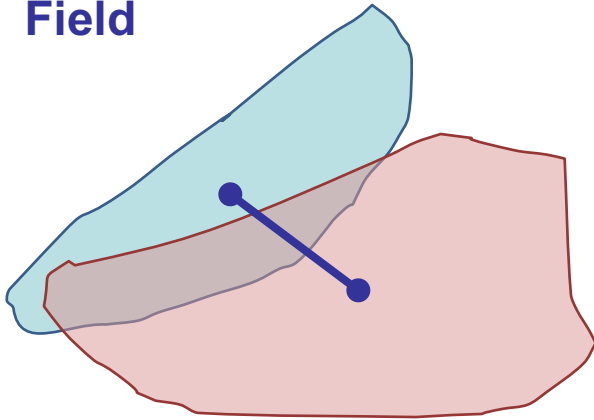
# Use of Pair Attributes defined by MODE



Forecast  
Field

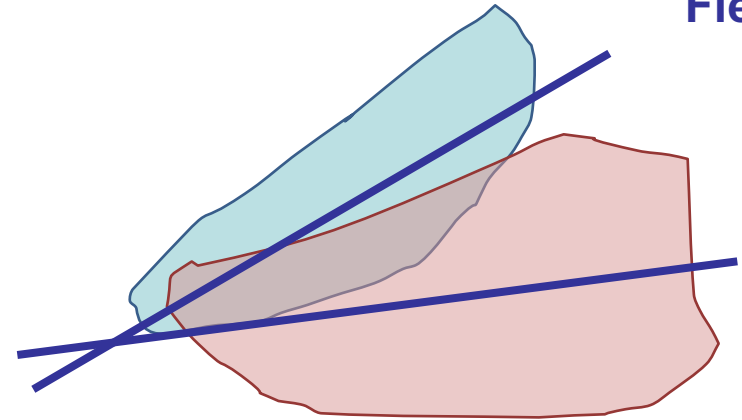


Observed  
Field



**Centroid Distance:** Provides a quantitative sense of spatial displacement of forecast.

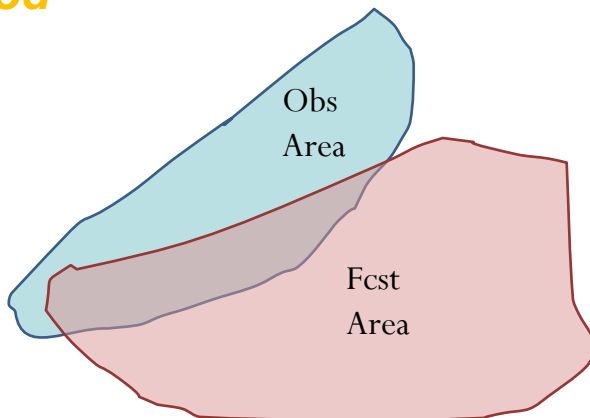
*Small is good*



**Axis Angle:** For non-circular objects – gives measure of orientation errors.

*Small is good*

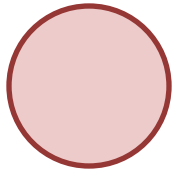
**Area Ratio** =  
$$\frac{\text{Fcst Area}}{\text{Obs Area}}$$



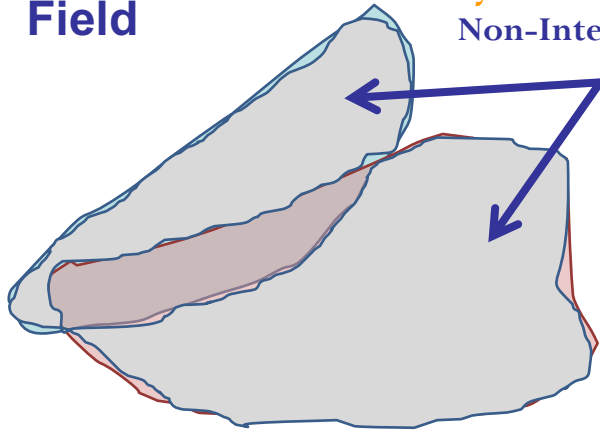
**Area Ratio:** Provides an objective measure of whether there is an over- or under-prediction of areal extent of forecast.

*Close to 1 is good*

# Use of Pair Attributes defined by MODE

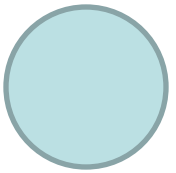


**Forecast  
Field**

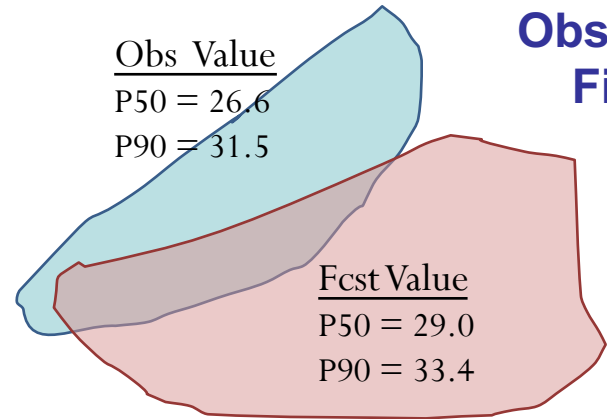


**Symmetric Difference:**  
Non-Intersecting Area

**Symmetric Diff:** May be a good summary statistic for how well Forecast and Observed objects match. **Small is good**

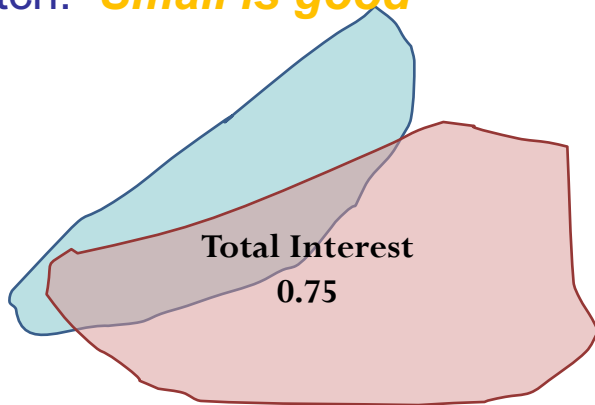


**Observed  
Field**



**P50 | P90 Int:** Provides objective measures of Median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) and near-Peak (90<sup>th</sup> percentile) intensities found in objects.

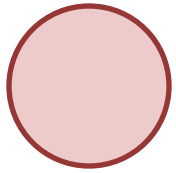
**Ratio close To 1 is good**



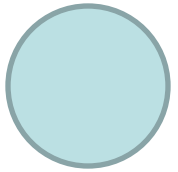
**Total Interest:** Summary statistic derived from fuzzy logic engine with user-defined Interest Maps for all these attributes plus some others.

**Close to 1 is good**

# Use of Pair Attributes defined by MODE

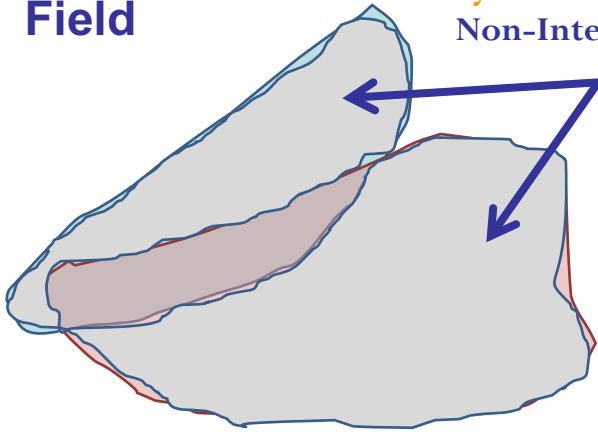


**Forecast  
Field**



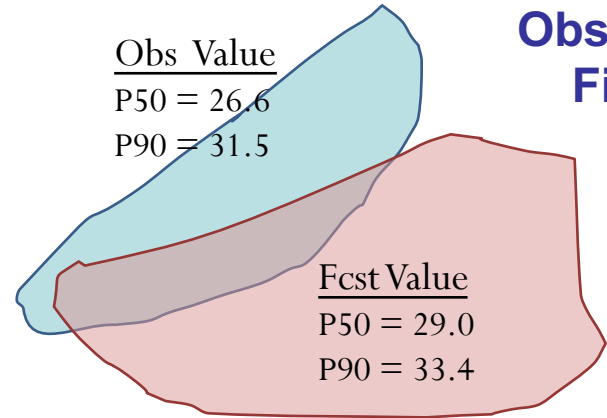
**Observed  
Field**

**Symmetric Difference:  
Non-Intersecting Area**



**Symmetric Diff:** May be a good summary statistic for how well Forecast and Observed objects match. **Small is good**

Obs Value  
P50 = 26.6  
P90 = 31.5



Fcst Value  
P50 = 29.0  
P90 = 33.4

**P50 | P90 Int:** Provides objective measures of Median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) and near-Peak (90<sup>th</sup> percentile) intensities found in objects.

**Ratio close To 1 is good**

**Total Interest:** Summary statistic derived from fuzzy logic engine with user-defined Interest Maps for all these attributes plus some others.

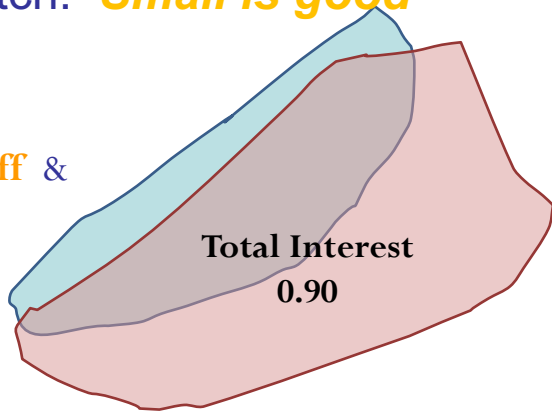
**Close to 1 is good**

**Angle\_diff &  
Sym\_diff**

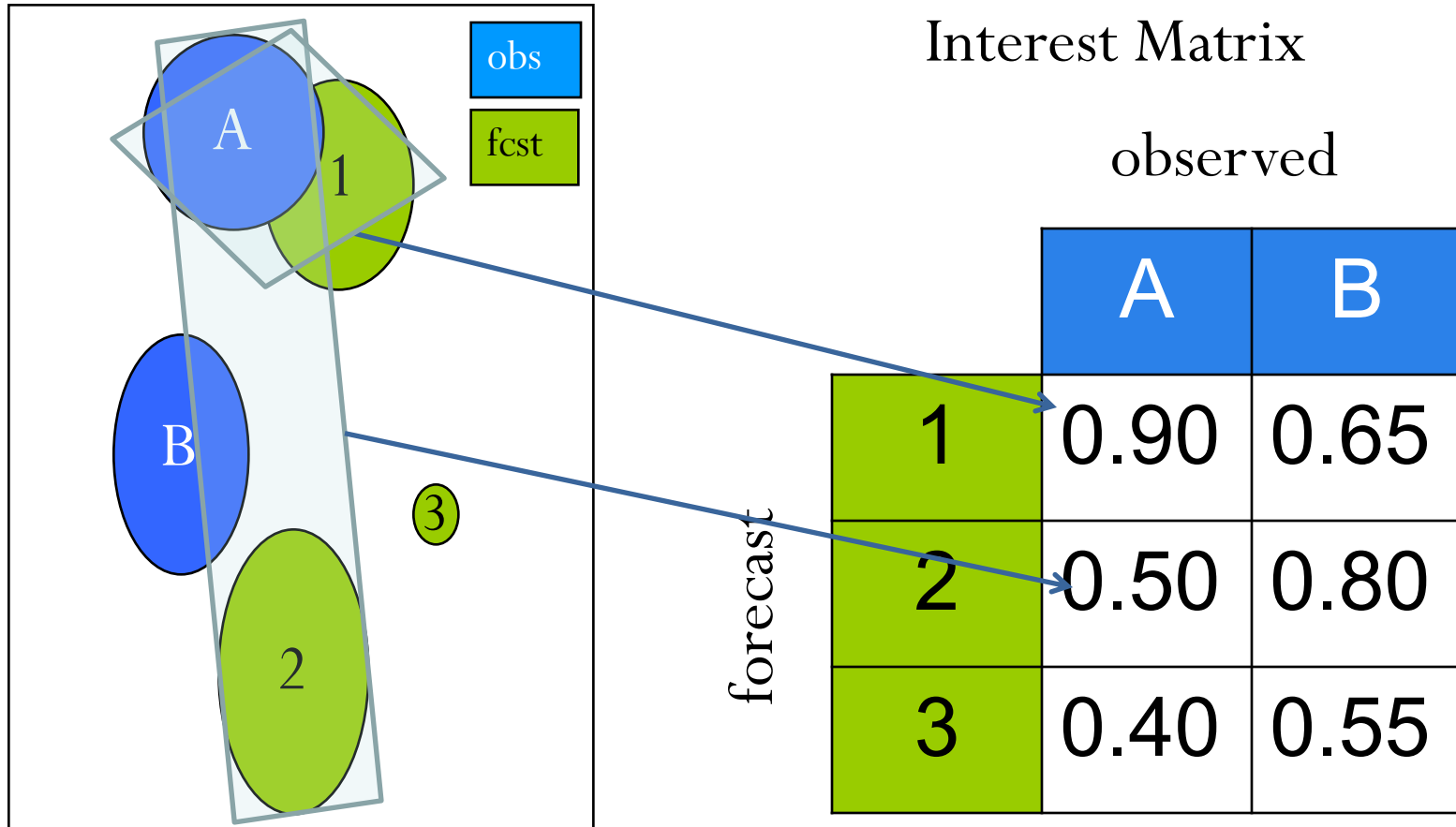
less so

**Total Int.**

higher



# Summary Score for Forecast Median of the Max. Interest (MMI\*)

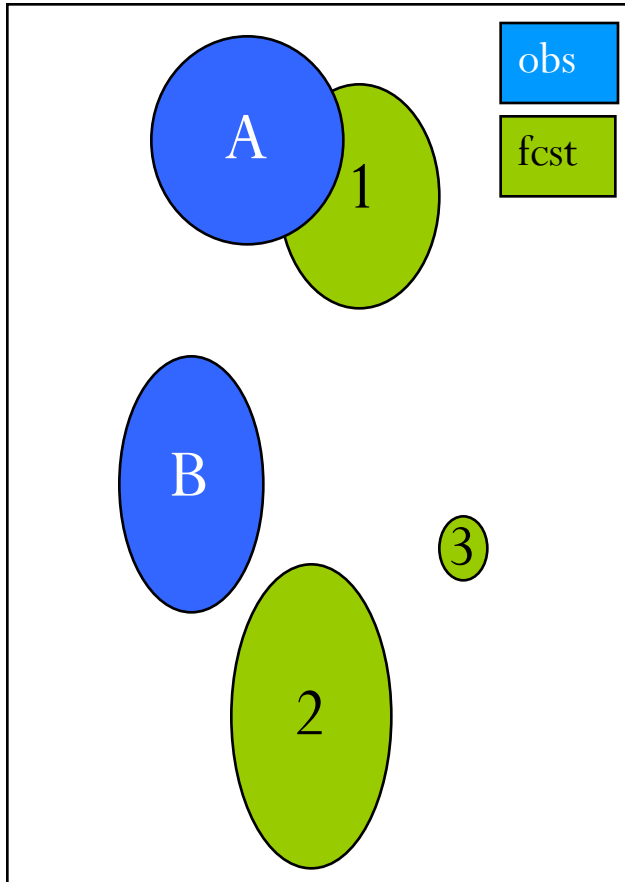


\* Davis et al., 2009: The Method for Object-based Diagnostic Evaluation (MODE) Applied to WRF Forecasts from the 2005 SPC Spring Program. Weather and Forecasting

$$\text{MMI} = \text{median} \{ 0.90, 0.80, 0.90, 0.80, 0.55 \} = 0.80$$

maximum interest

# Summary Score for Forecast Median of the Max. Interest (MMI\*)



Interest Matrix

observed

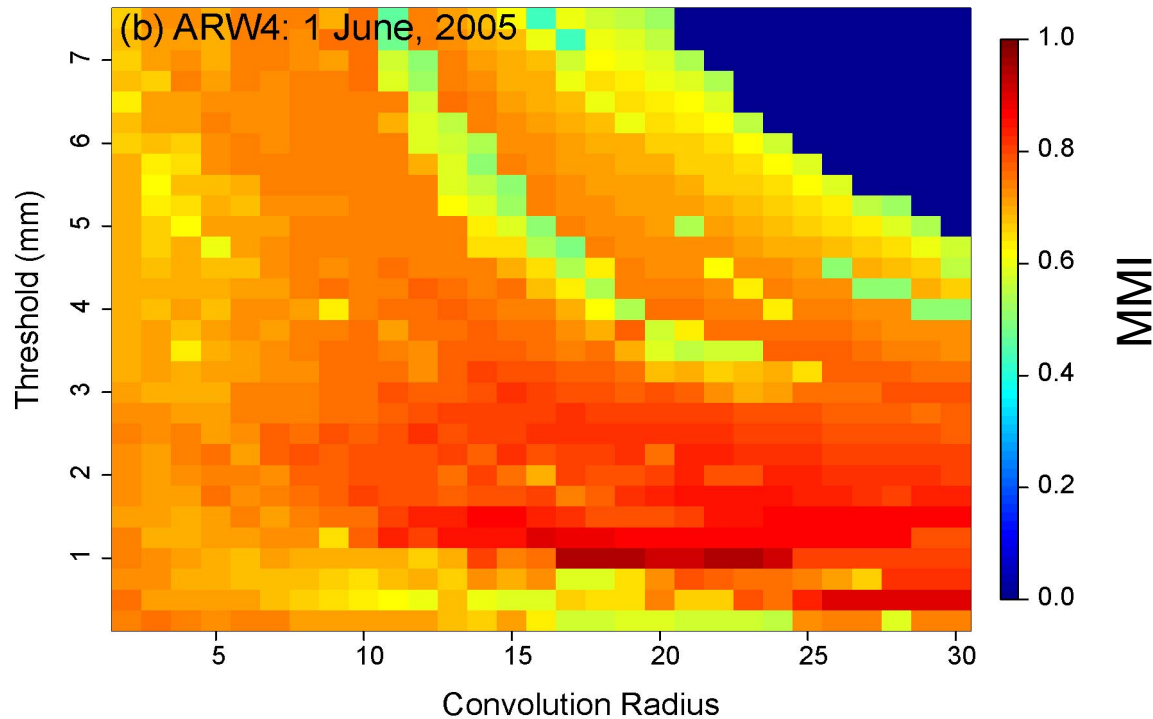
		observed	
		A	B
forecast	1	0.90	0.65
	2	0.50	0.80
	3	0.40	0.55

MMI = median { 0.90, 0.80, 0.90, 0.80, 0.55 } = 0.80

*Note: The values in the set are the maximum interest values for each forecast object (0.90 for 1, 0.80 for 2, 0.55 for 3) and their corresponding observed object (0.90 for A, 0.80 for B).*

\* Davis et al., 2009: The Method for Object-based Diagnostic Evaluation (MODE) Applied to WRF Forecasts from the 2005 SPC Spring Program. Weather and Forecasting

# Median of the Max. Interest (MMI) Quilt Plot



MMI as a function of convolution radius (grid squares) and threshold (mm) for 24-h forecast of 1-h rainfall

- Each pixel is a MODE run.
- This graphic is not in MET, but R code on MET website.

# Scoring MODE Object Forecasts

use total interest threshold to separate matched objects,  
or “hits” from false alarms and misses

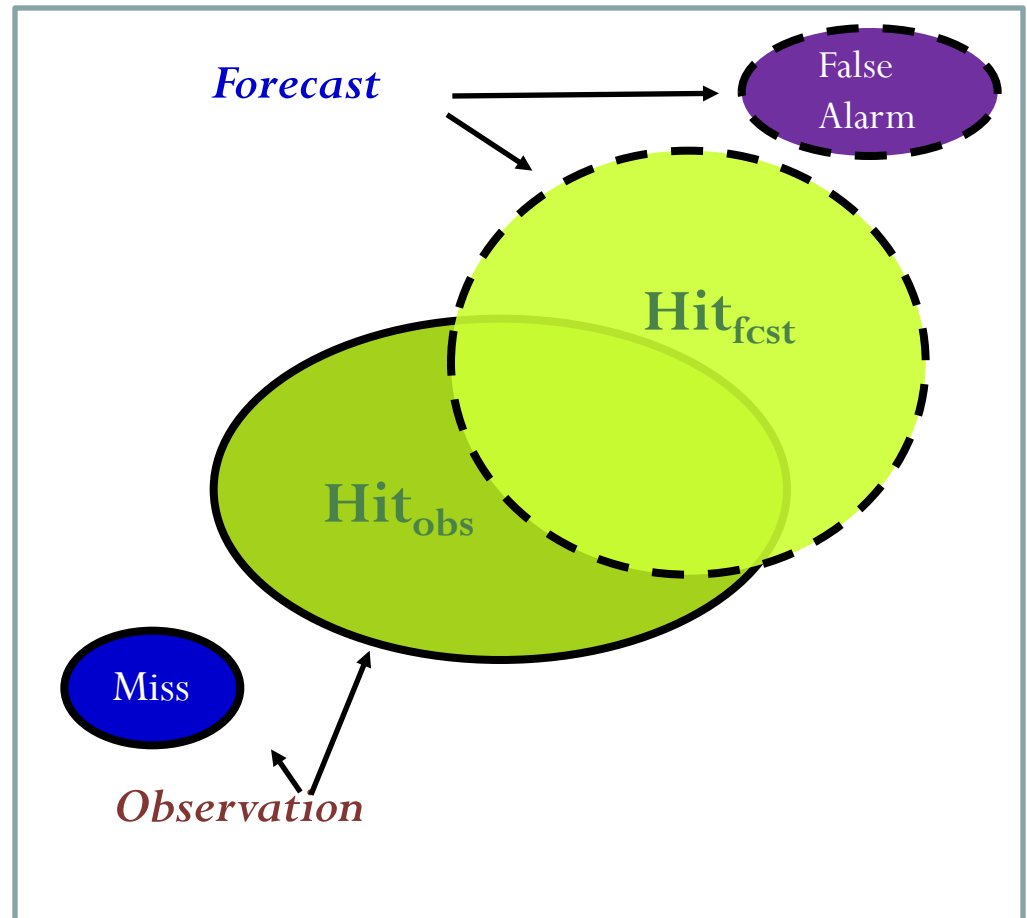
Traditional Categorical  
Statistics

critical success index (CSI) =

$$\frac{\text{Hit}}{\text{Hit} + \text{Miss} + \text{False Alarm}}$$

$$\text{bias} = \frac{\text{Hit} + \text{False Alarm}}{\text{Hit} + \text{Miss}}$$

sometimes *area-weighted*





# MODE Output

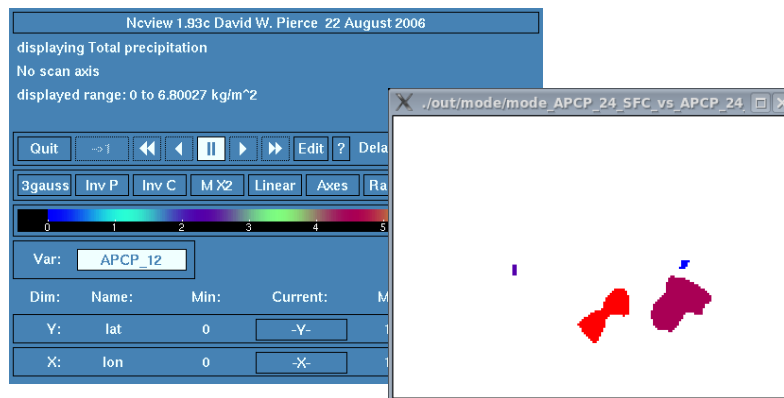
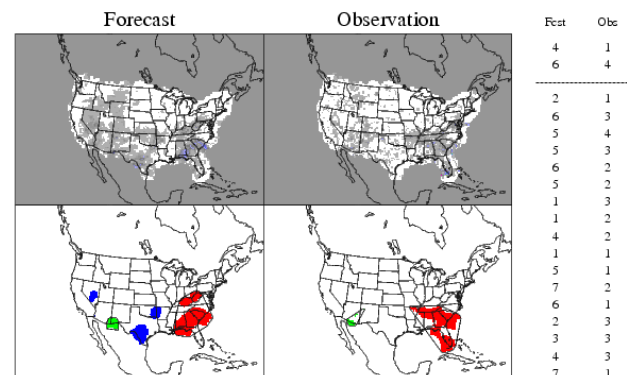
- PostScript
  - object pictures, definitions
  - matching/merging strategy
  - total interest for each object pair

- ASCII Text

- attributes of simple, paired objects and clusters
  - size, shape, position, separation, total interest
- verification scores on smoothed and thresholded fields (objects)

- netCDF

- gridded object fields
- view with ncvview



# ASCII Output

## Object Attribute file

(\***.obj**)

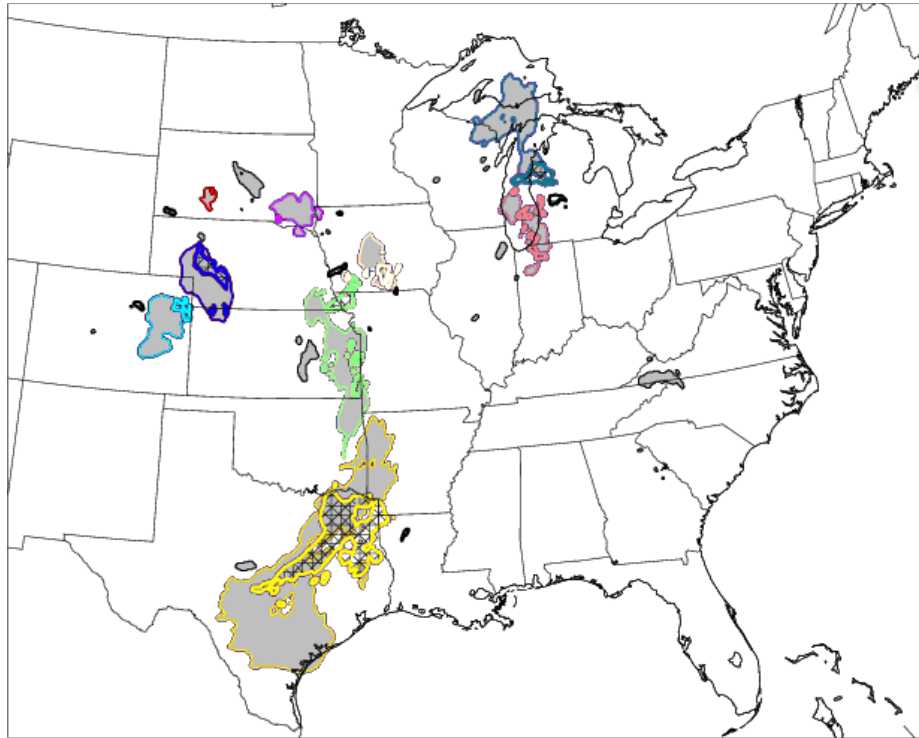
- Header with fields names and object definition info
- Object ID and Category
- Simple Object Attributes such as Simple Obj. Centroid info, Length, Width, Area, etc...
- Matched Pair/Composite information including Centroid Distance, Angle Difference, Symmetric Difference, etc...

## Contingency Table Stat file

(\***.cts**)

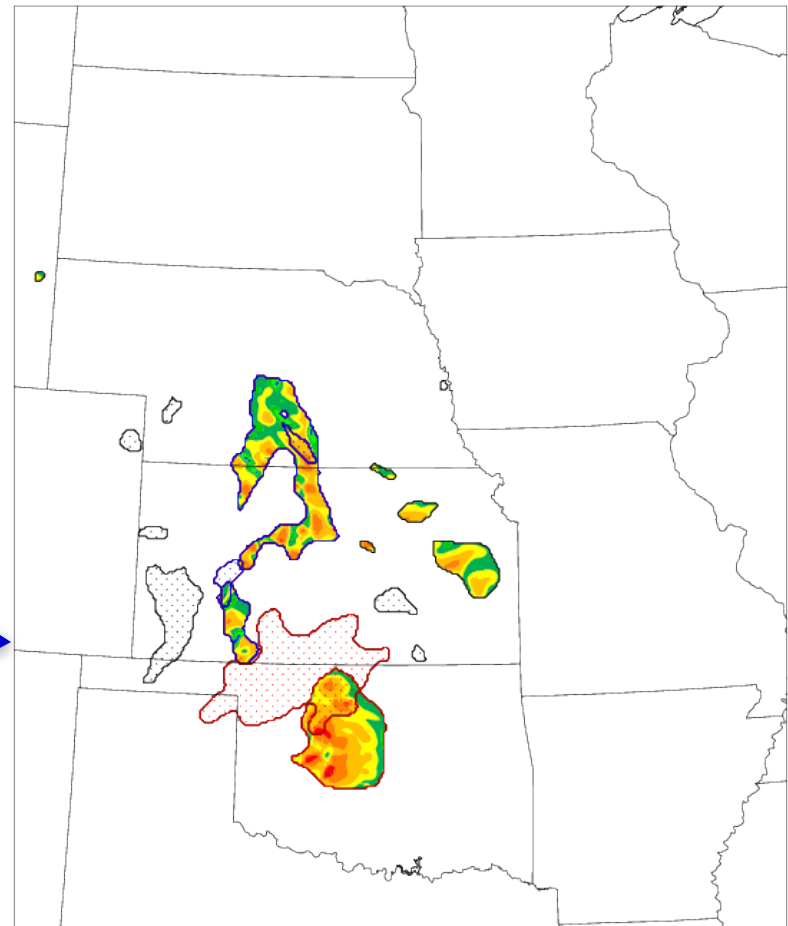
- Header with fields names and object definition info
- Contingency Table counts such as number of hits, false alarms, misses and correct negs (in FY|FN\_OY|ON notation)
- Contingency Table statistics such as BASER, FBIAS, GSS, CSI, PODY, FAR etc...

# How netCDF could be used



Employ a different plotting approach to show matched clusters

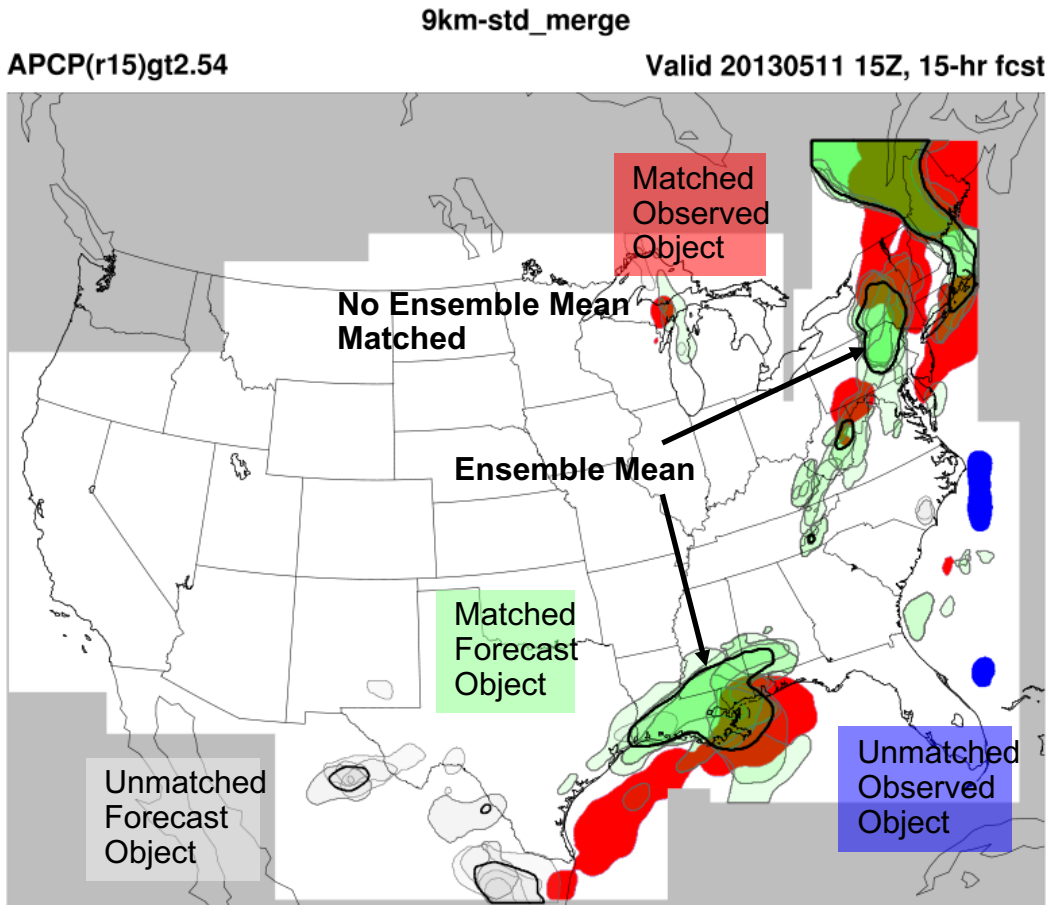
Display actual intensities inside objects  
(in this case Reflectivity)



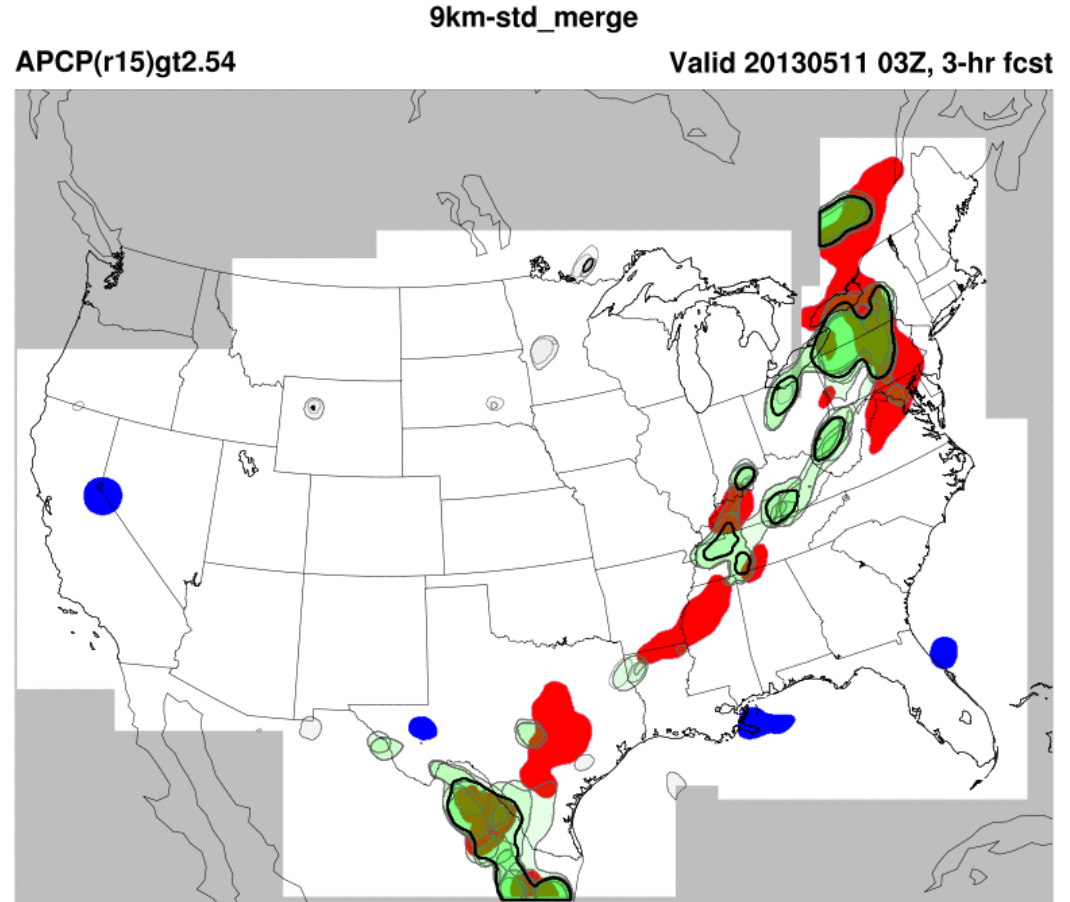
*Plots generated using NCL*

# Example May 11, 2013

## DTC SREF Tests – ARW Members

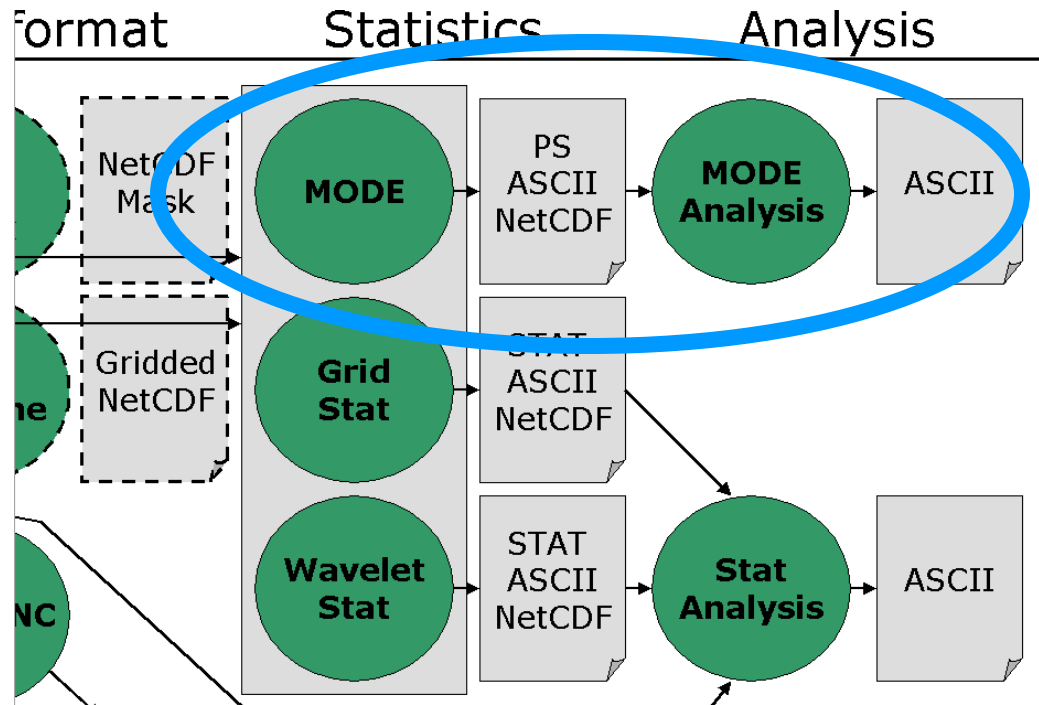


Spread  
increases  
With  
Time



# MODE Analysis Tool

- mode\_analysis



# MODE\_Analysis Usage

**Usage:** *mode\_analysis*  
*-lookin path*  
*-summary or -bycase*  
*[-column name]*  
*[-dump\_row filename]*  
*[-out filename]*  
*[-log filename]*  
*[-v level]*  
*[-help]*  
*[MODE FILE LIST]*  
*[-config config\_file]*  
or **[MODE LINE OPTIONS]**

## MODE LINE OPTIONS

### Object Toggles

#### **-fcst** versus **-obs**

Selects lines pertaining to forecast objects or observation objects

#### **-single** versus **-pair**

Selects single object lines or pair lines

#### **-simple** versus **-cluster**

Selects simple object lines or cluster

#### **-matched** versus **-unmatched**

Selects matched simple object lines or unmatched simple object lines.

### Other Options (each option followed by value)

-model, -fcst|obs\_thr , -fcst\_var , etc...

-area\_min|max, -intersection\_area\_min|max , etc...

-centroid\_x\_min|max , -centroid\_y\_min|max,  
-axis\_ang\_min|max, -int10\_min|max,  
-centroid\_dist\_min|max, -angle\_diff\_min|max,  
etc...

# MODE Analysis Tool

## *-summary* Example

### Command Line

```
mode_analysis -summary \  
  -lookin mode_output/wrf4ncep/40km/ge03.\  
  -fcst -cluster \  
  -area_min 100 \  
  -column centroid_lat -column centroid_lon \  
  -column area \  
  -column axis_ang \  
  -column length
```

Provides summary statistics for Forecast Clusters with minimum area of 100 grid-sq for the specified MODE output columns

### Output

```
Total mode lines read = 393  
Total mode lines kept = 17
```

Field	N	Min	Max	Mean	StdDev	P10	P25	P50	P75	P90	Sum
centroid_lat	17	31.97	46.24	38.65	3.81	33.89	36.13	38.54	40.12	43.99	657.00
centroid_lon	17	-103.89	-85.20	-96.32	5.91	-103.15	-102.65	-96.26	-93.95	-86.78	-1637.49
area	17	180.00	8393.00	2955.06	2246.49	624.80	1206.00	2662.00	3958.00	5732.20	50236.00
axis_ang	17	-88.63	85.66	12.62	64.35	-70.77	-63.86	35.04	74.37	79.24	214.60
length	17	25.25	234.76	124.41	60.99	48.85	65.37	116.67	169.37	204.57	2114.90



# MODE Analysis Tool

## -bycase Example

### Command Line

```
mode_analysis -bycase -lookin mode_output/wrf4ncep/40km/ge03. -single -simple
```

### Output

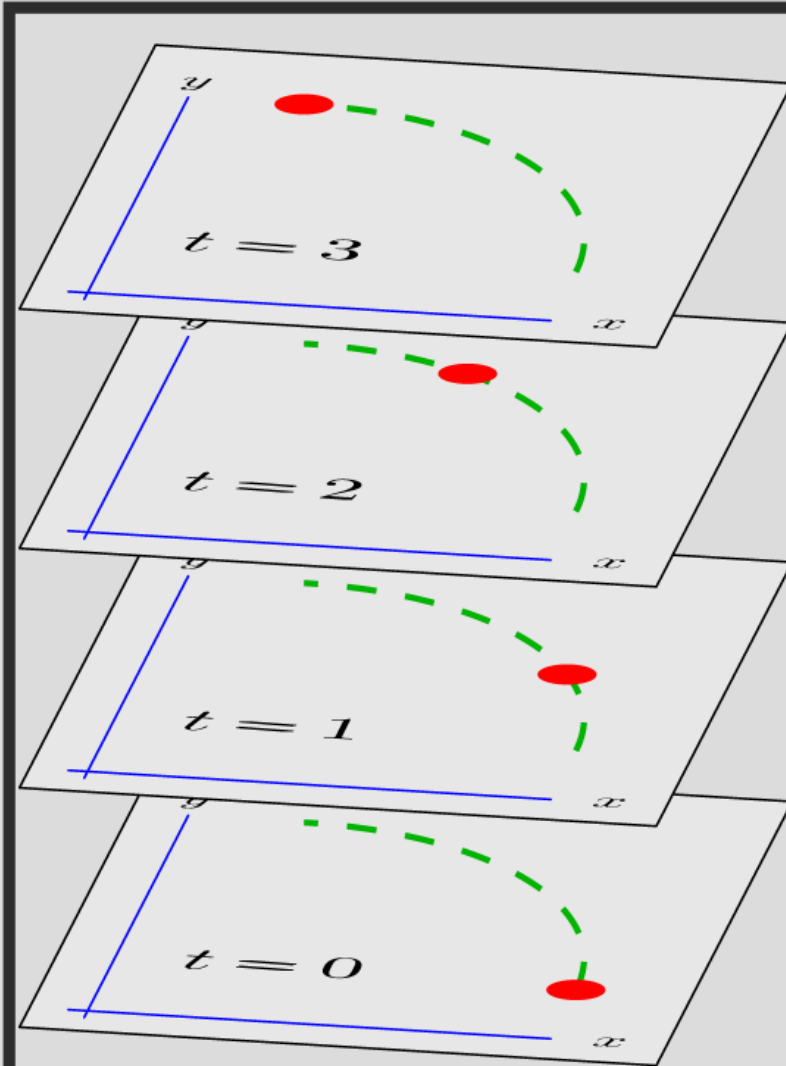
Total mode lines read = 393

Total mode lines kept = 141

Fcst Valid Time	Area Matched	Area Unmatched	# Fcst Matched	# Fcst Unmatched	# Obs Matched	# Obs Unmatched
Apr 26, 2005 00:00:00	3210	1046	2	4	1	1
May 13, 2005 00:00:00	8892	9320	2	19	1	2
May 14, 2005 00:00:00	16994	4534	7	4	5	3
May 18, 2005 00:00:00	6057	852	3	2	2	1
May 19, 2005 00:00:00	1777	1624	1	5	2	1
May 25, 2005 00:00:00	8583	928	4	2	4	2
Jun 1, 2005 00:00:00	12456	2657	5	6	6	2
Jun 3, 2005 00:00:00	7561	102	11	1	5	0
Jun 4, 2005 00:00:00	11464	5715	6	12	4	3

Provides tallied information for all Simple Objects for each case in directory

# Introduction to MODE-TD



Time Slices  
Stacked Vertically

Moving 2D Object  
Sweeps Out  
3D Spacetime Object

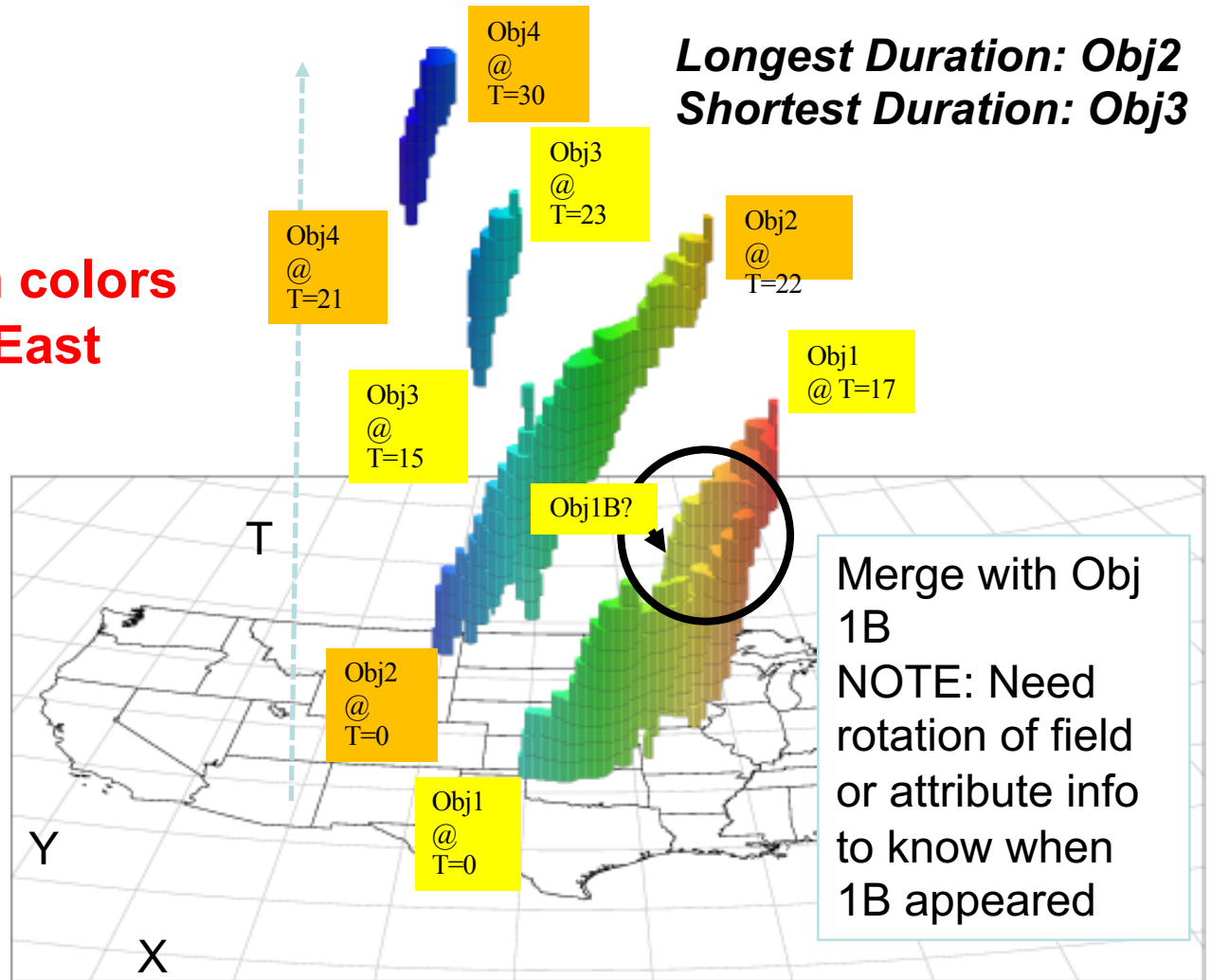
# Interpretation

Cool colors – Warm colors  
West – East

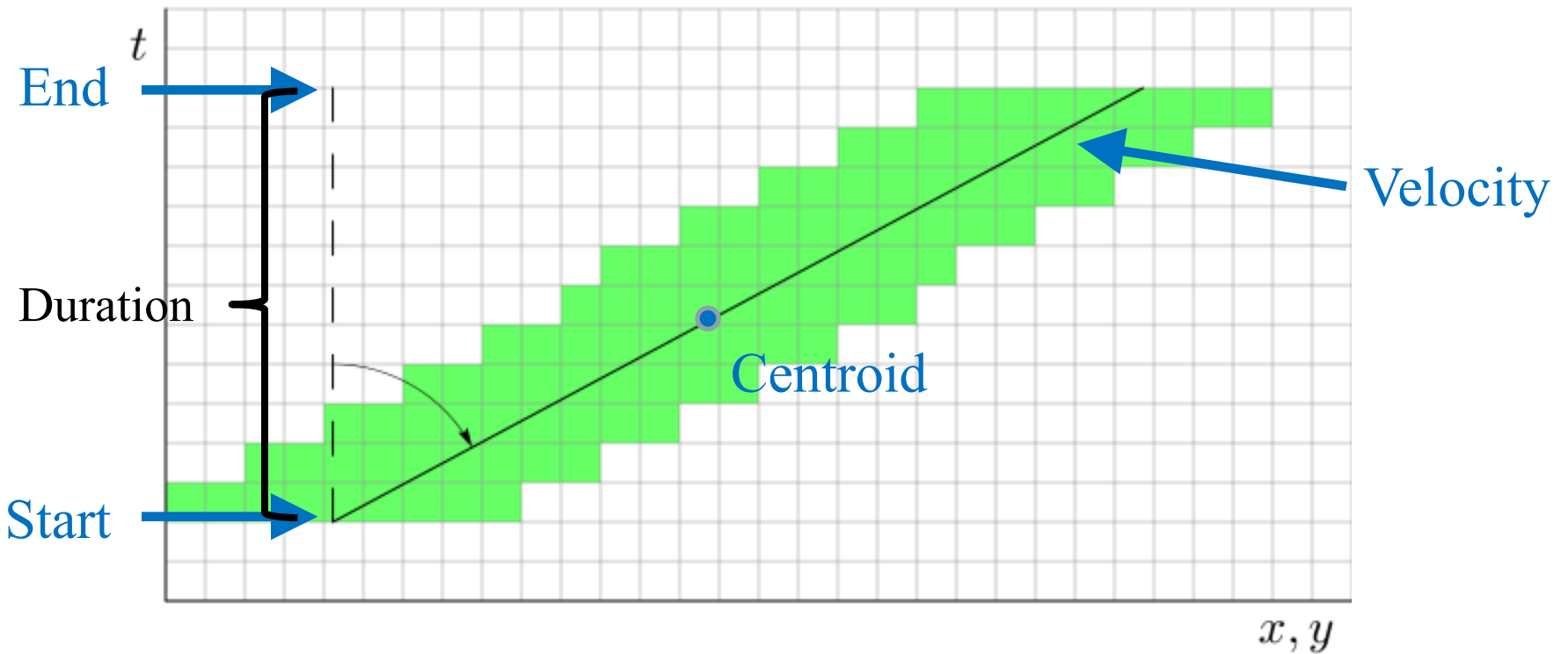
X-Y shows  
geographical location  
of objects

T shows timeline

Objects anchored to  
map are at time T=0



# Attributes (Think of object as 2D slice)



# MODE-TD Input/Output

- Input Files
  - Gridded forecast and observation files
    - GRIB1 output of Unified Post-Processor (or other)
    - GRIB2 from NCEP (or other)
    - NetCDF from PCP-Combine, wrf\_interp, or CF-compliant
- Output:
  - Single attributes for 2D simple objects (\_2d.txt)
  - Single attributes for 3D composite objects (\_3d\_sc.txt)
  - Pair attributes for 3D simple objects (\_3d\_ss.txt)
  - Pair attributes for 3D composite objects (\_3d\_pc.txt)
  - Pair attributes for 3D simple objects (\_3d\_ps.txt)
  - Object NetCDF file (\_obj.nc)

# MODE-TD Usage

- Usage: mtd
  - fcst file\_1 ... file\_n | file\_list
  - obs file\_1 ... file\_n | file\_list
  - config config\_file
  - [-outdir path]
  - [-log file]
  - [-v level]

```
mtd -fcst fcst_files/*.grb \  
-obs obs_files/*.grb \  
-config MTDConfig_default \  
-outdir out_dir/mtd \  

```

```
bin/mtd \  
-fcst data/sample_fcst/2005080700/wrfprs_ruc13_03.tm00_G212 \  
data/sample_fcst/2005080700/wrfprs_ruc13_06.tm00_G212 \  
data/sample_fcst/2005080700/wrfprs_ruc13_09.tm00_G212 \  
data/sample_fcst/2005080700/wrfprs_ruc13_12.tm00_G212 \  
data/sample_fcst/2005080700/wrfprs_ruc13_15.tm00_G212 \  
data/sample_fcst/2005080700/wrfprs_ruc13_18.tm00_G212 \  
data/sample_fcst/2005080700/wrfprs_ruc13_21.tm00_G212 \  
data/sample_fcst/2005080700/wrfprs_ruc13_24.tm00_G212 \  
-obs data/tutorial/sample_obs/ST2ml_3h/sample_obs_2005080703V_03A.nc \  
data/tutorial/sample_obs/ST2ml_3h/sample_obs_2005080706V_03A.nc \  
data/tutorial/sample_obs/ST2ml_3h/sample_obs_2005080709V_03A.nc \  
data/tutorial/sample_obs/ST2ml_3h/sample_obs_2005080712V_03A.nc \  
data/tutorial/sample_obs/ST2ml_3h/sample_obs_2005080715V_03A.nc \  
data/tutorial/sample_obs/ST2ml_3h/sample_obs_2005080718V_03A.nc \  
data/tutorial/sample_obs/ST2ml_3h/sample_obs_2005080721V_03A.nc \  
data/tutorial/sample_obs/ST2ml_3h/sample_obs_2005080724V_03A.nc \  
-outdir tutorial/out/mtd \  
-config tutorial/config/MTDConfig_tutorial \  
-v 2
```

# Examples

# MODE – Time

## Represented by Animation

### GFS vs Analysis

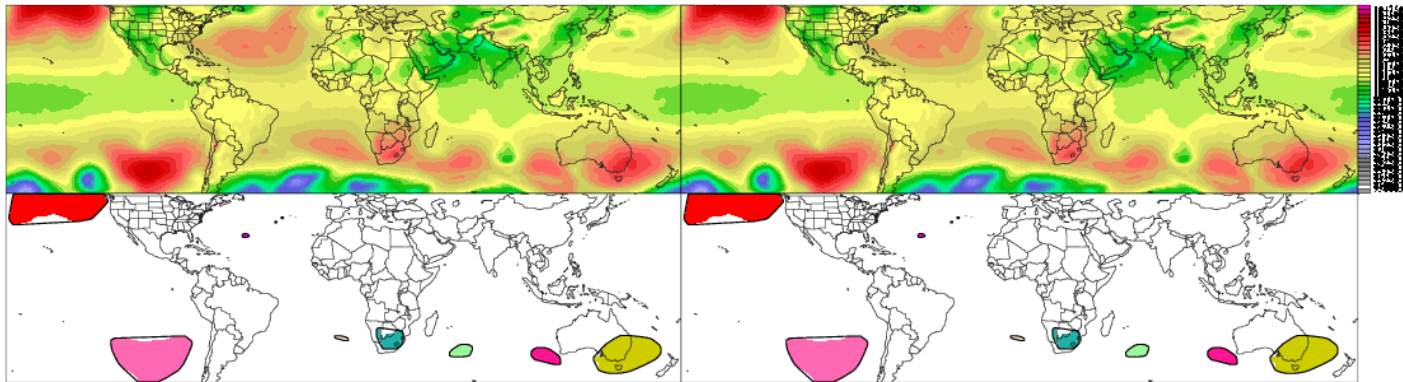
f000 to f240 every 6 hours

High Pressure  
Regions

Objects  $\geq 1025\text{mb}$

Forecast

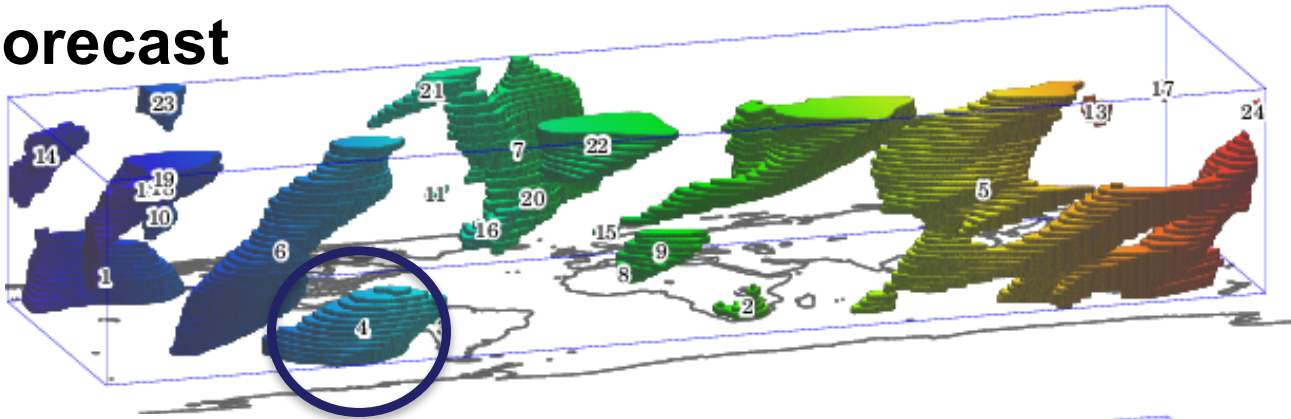
Analysis



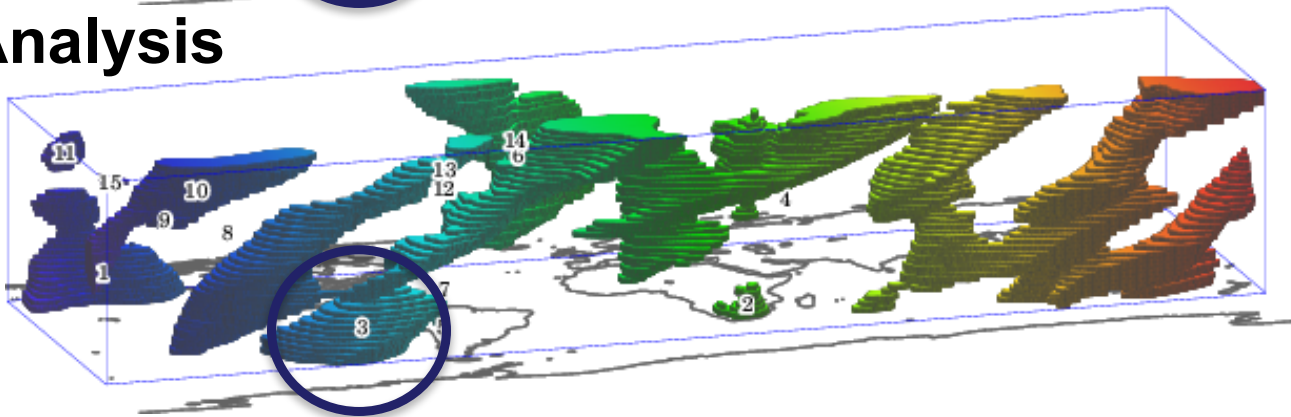


# MODE Time-Domain

Forecast

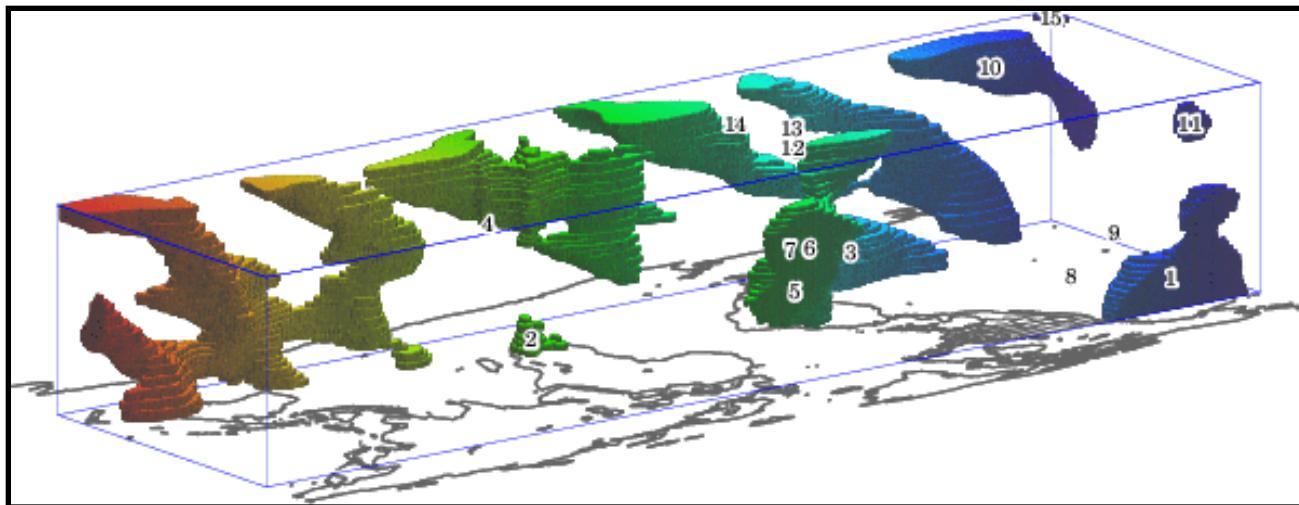


Analysis



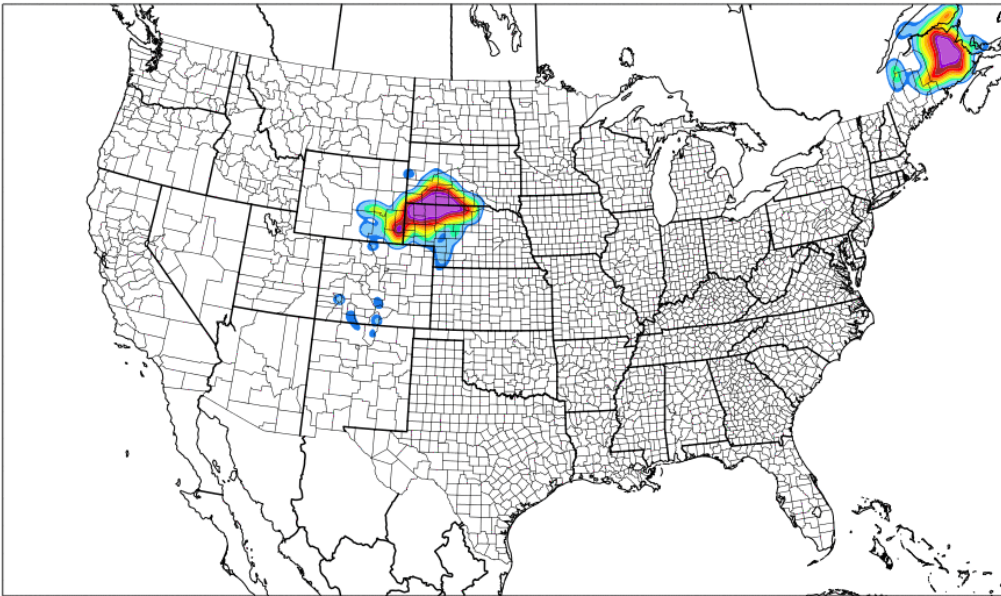
# MODE Time-Domain

f000 – f240	Max Inten	Volume	Centroid(x,y,t)	Velocity
Fcst Object 4	103927	111493	336, 57, 4.19	2.85
Analysis Object 3	103914	113692	335, 59, 4.27	2.79

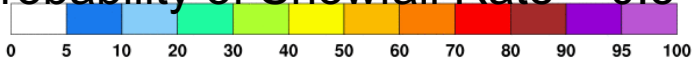


# MTD on probability fields

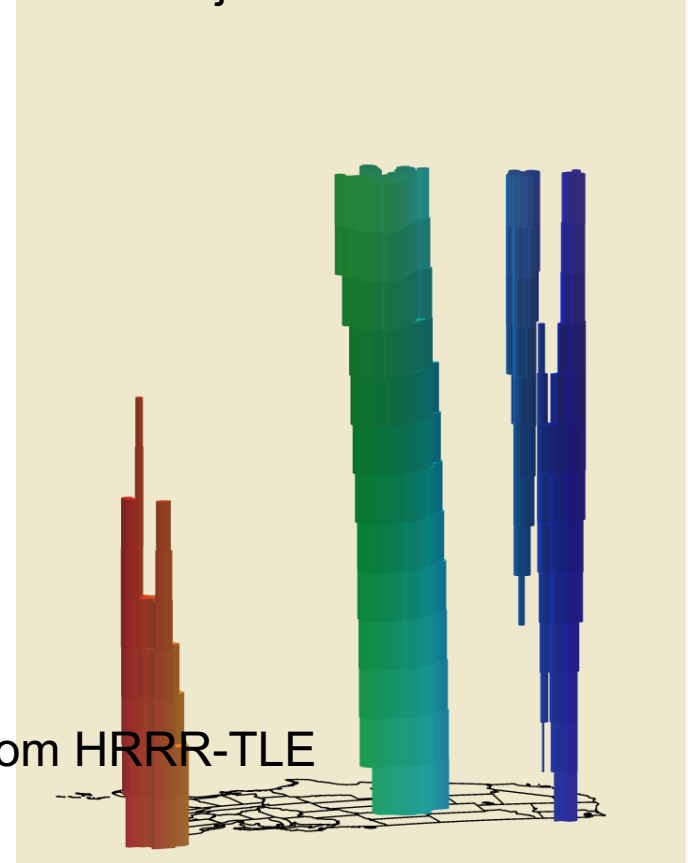
12/15/2015 21 UTC HRRRX Probability of Snowfall Rate > 0.5 in/hr (%) 00-hr forecast valid 12/15/2015 21:00 UTC



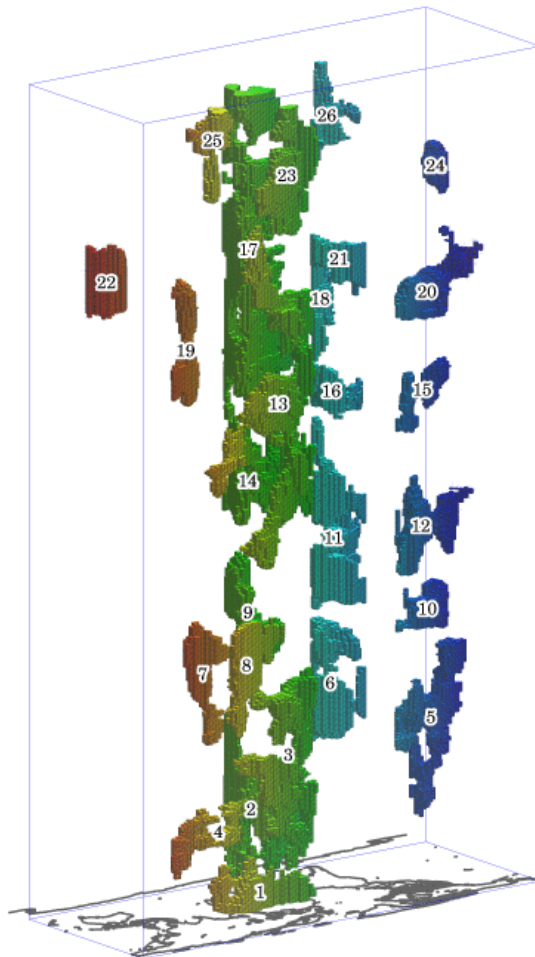
Probability of Snowfall Rate > 0.5" per hour from HRRR-TLE



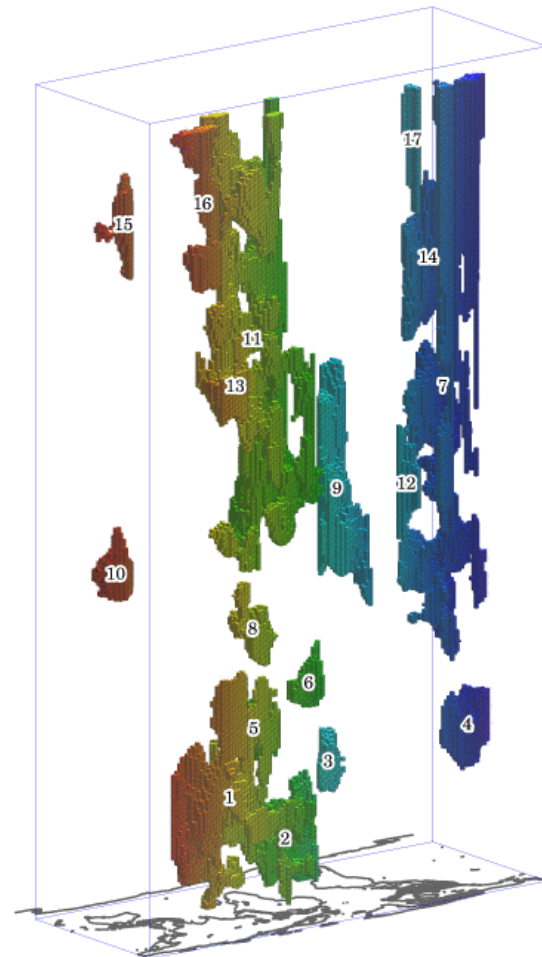
Objects formed on Prob > 0%



# MODE-TD applied to drought index for NSF EaSM project



## Simulation



## Analysis

# Comparison Between Methods

## **2D MODE ERRORS**

- Location
- Intensity
- Shape
- Size
- Orientation

## **2D MODE Output**

- NetCDF with 2D objects
- Text with 2D object attributes
- Postscript file with Objects

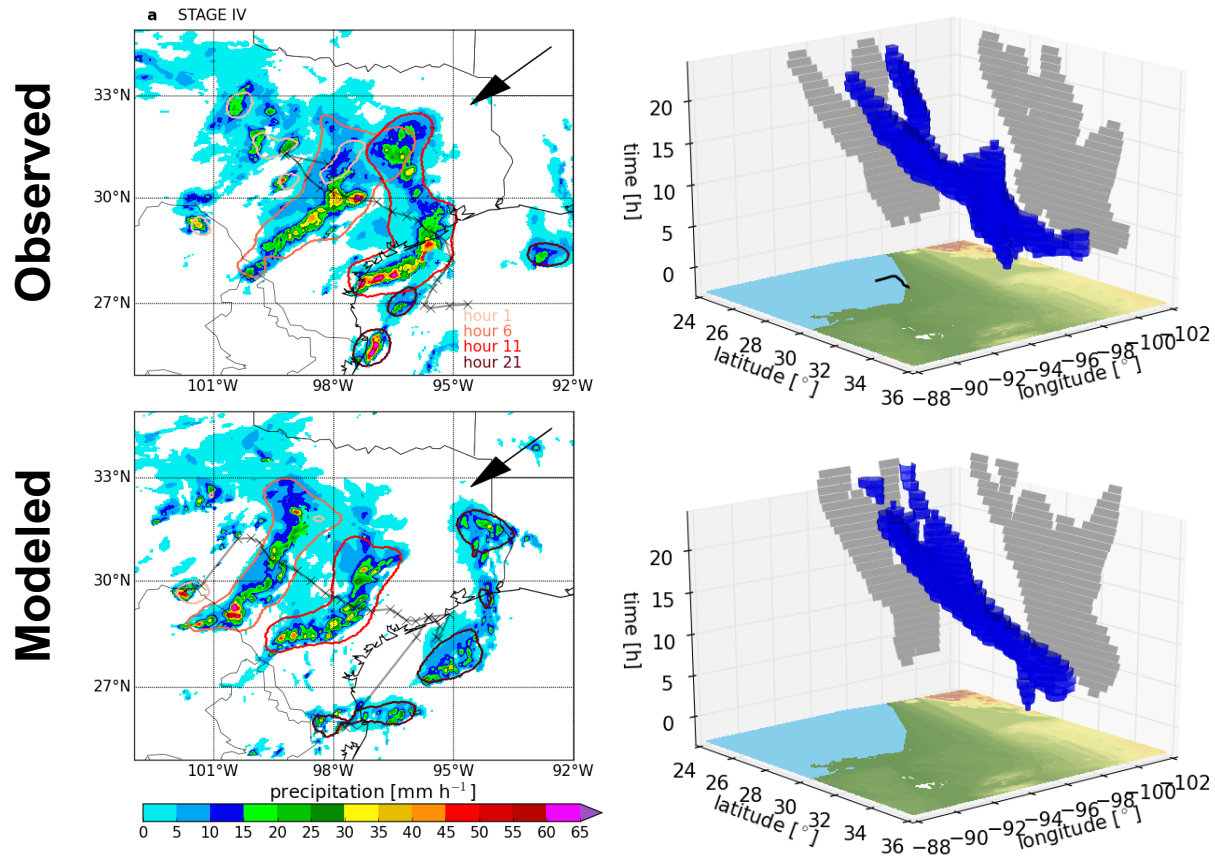
## **MTD ERRORS**

- Timing
- Velocity
- Duration
- Buildup and Decay

## **3D MODE Output**

- NetCDF with 2D and 3D objects
- Text with 3D object attributes
- Text with 2D object attributes

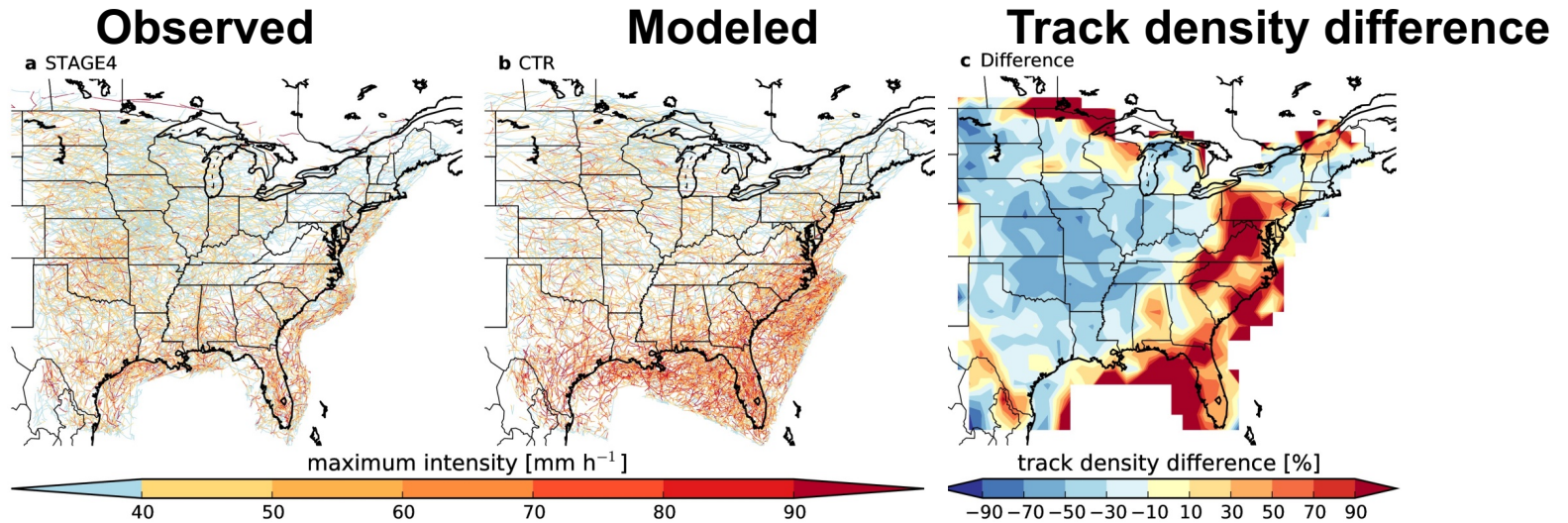
# MCS in Texas during March 2007



Slide Courtesy of Andreas Prein, NCAR/MMM



# JJA Storm tracks



- Realistic representation of storm tracks
- Underestimation of storms in Central U.S. by up to -70 %

Slide Courtesy of Andreas Prein, NCAR/MMM

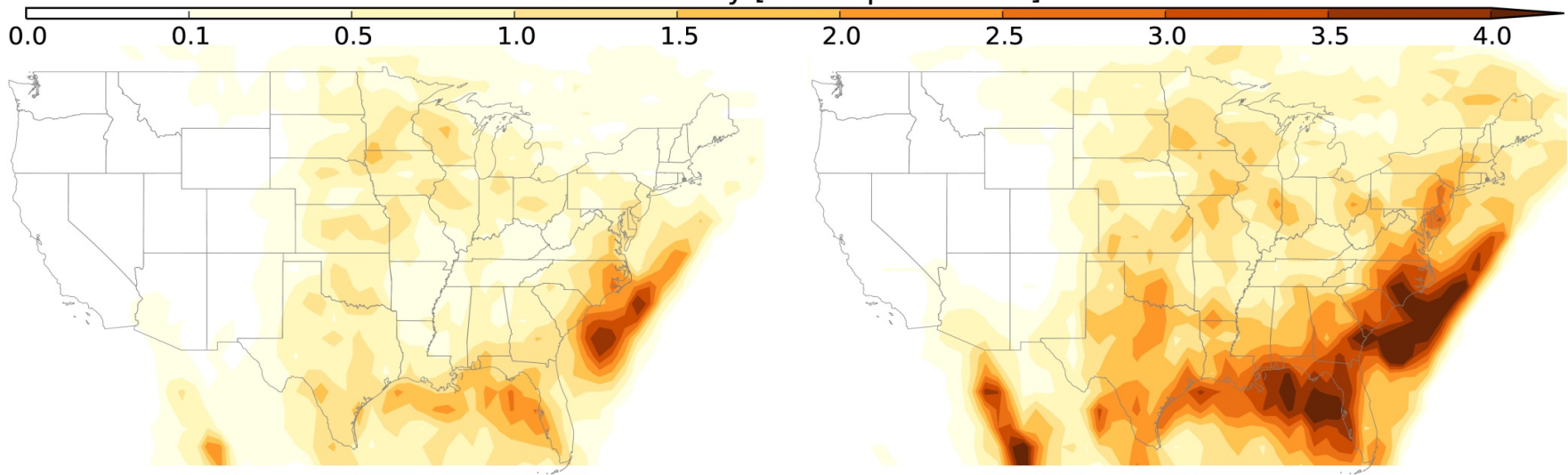
## Storm Tracks

Present Climate

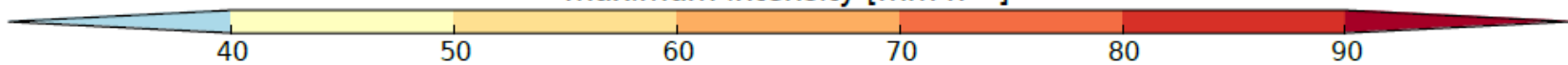
Future Climate

Observation

track density [tracks per season]



maximum intensity [ $\text{mm h}^{-1}$ ]



- Storms systems increase in intensity and frequency