

Application of spatial verification methods to ensembles

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assistance from many others)*

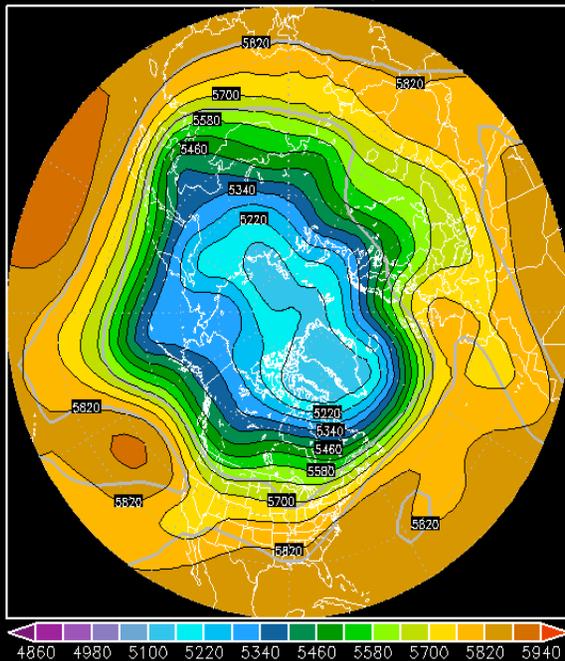
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Group*

August 27, 2009

Ensemble Forecasts - how are these typically used?

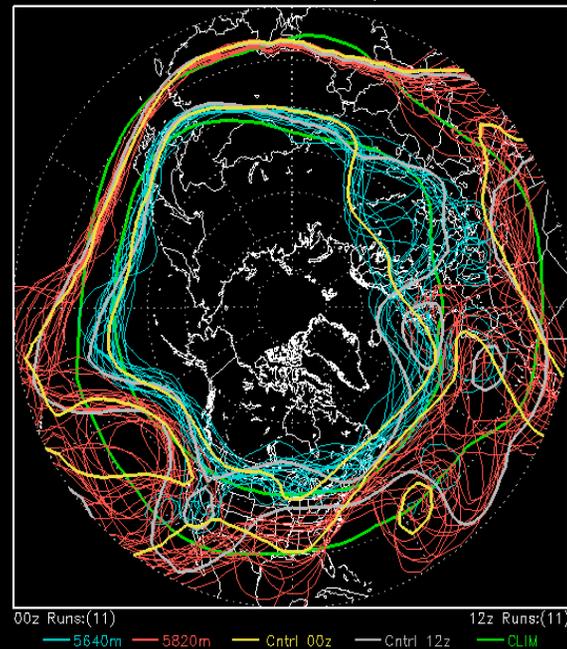
NCEP ENSEMBLE MEAN - 500mb Z
144H Forecast from: 00Z Tue OCT,23 2007
Valid time: 00Z Mon OCT,29 2007



GRADS: OOLA/IGES

Mean

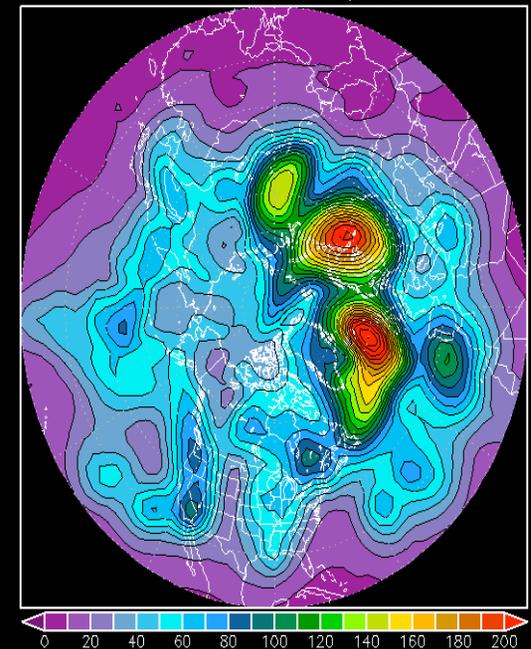
NCEP ENSEMBLE 500mb Z
144H Forecast from: 00Z Tue OCT,23 2007
Valid time: 00Z Mon OCT,29 2007



GRADS: OOLA/IGES

Spaghetti Plots – could be thought of as “objects”
(uncertainty)

NCEP ENS. STD. DEVIATION - 500mb Z
144H Forecast from: 00Z Tue OCT,23 2007
Valid time: 00Z Mon OCT,29 2007

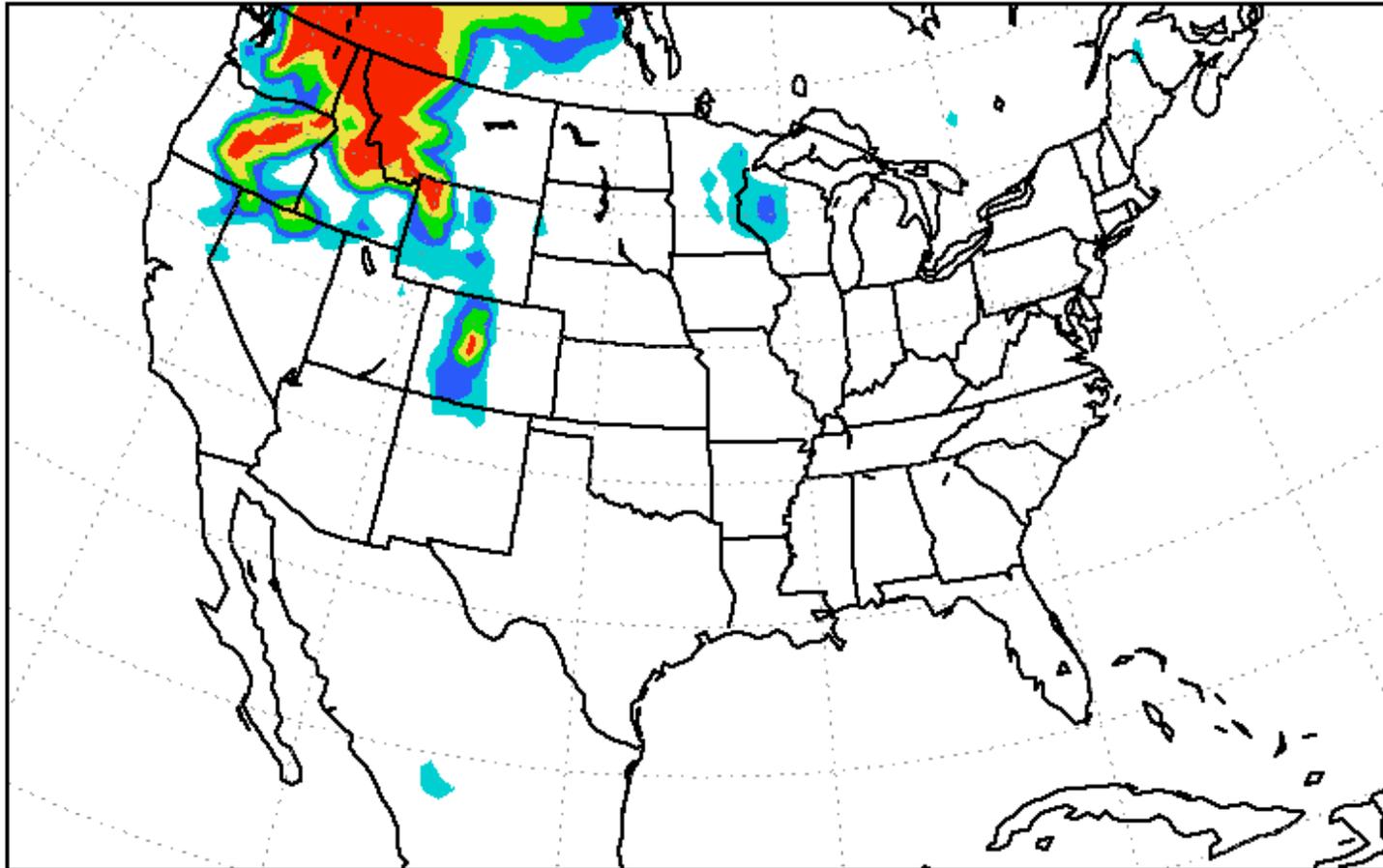


GRADS: OOLA/IGES

Standard Deviation
(uncertainty)

Or.... Probability information

COM_US prob of $T_{2m} \leq 32F(0C)$, 03H fcst from 09Z 26 OCT 2007
verified time: 12z, 10/26/2007



Produced by JUN DU, EMC/NCEP/NOAA

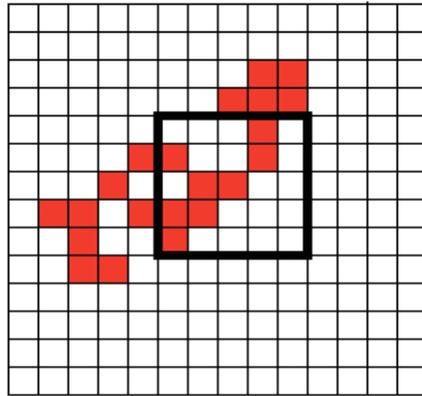
How can/should we apply spatial verification techniques to ensembles?

- Obviously any technique can be applied to the mean (which can be determined in a variety of ways)
- Likewise, probabilities can be used as the forecast field (e.g., a threshold probability can be used to define a system/object)

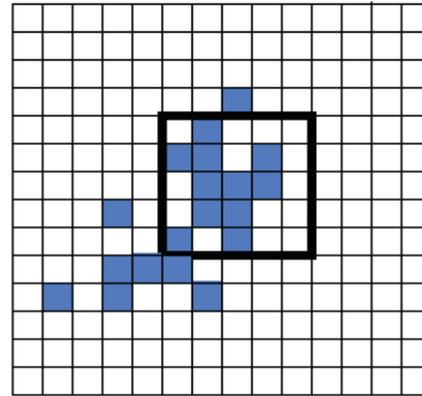
Example already in literature:

Fractions Skill Score

- Compares fractional coverage in forecast with fractional coverage in observations (Roberts and Lean 2005)
- Has been used in examination of time-lagged 4 km ensemble by UKMET (Mittermaier 2007)



observation



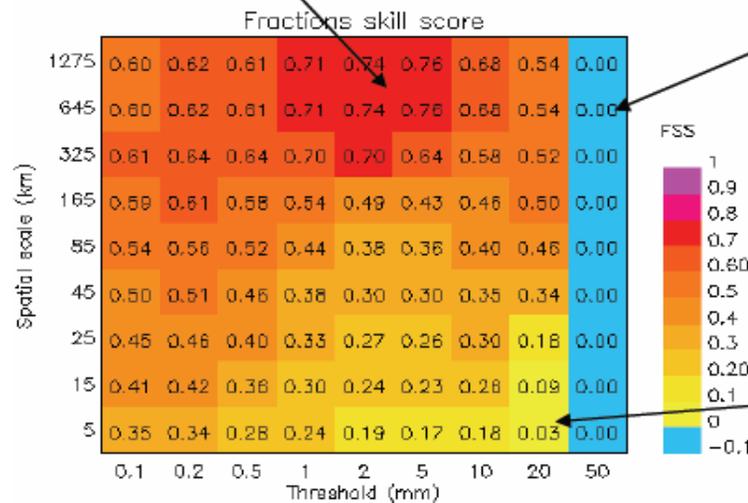
forecast

$$\text{FSS} = 1 - \frac{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (P_{fcst} - P_{obs})^2}{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N P_{fcst}^2 + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N P_{obs}^2}$$

Decision model – Useful forecast has similar frequency of forecast and observed events within a spatial window

Greatest skill for light rain, large scale

No skill at heaviest rain rate (none fcst)



Little skill for heavy rain, small scales

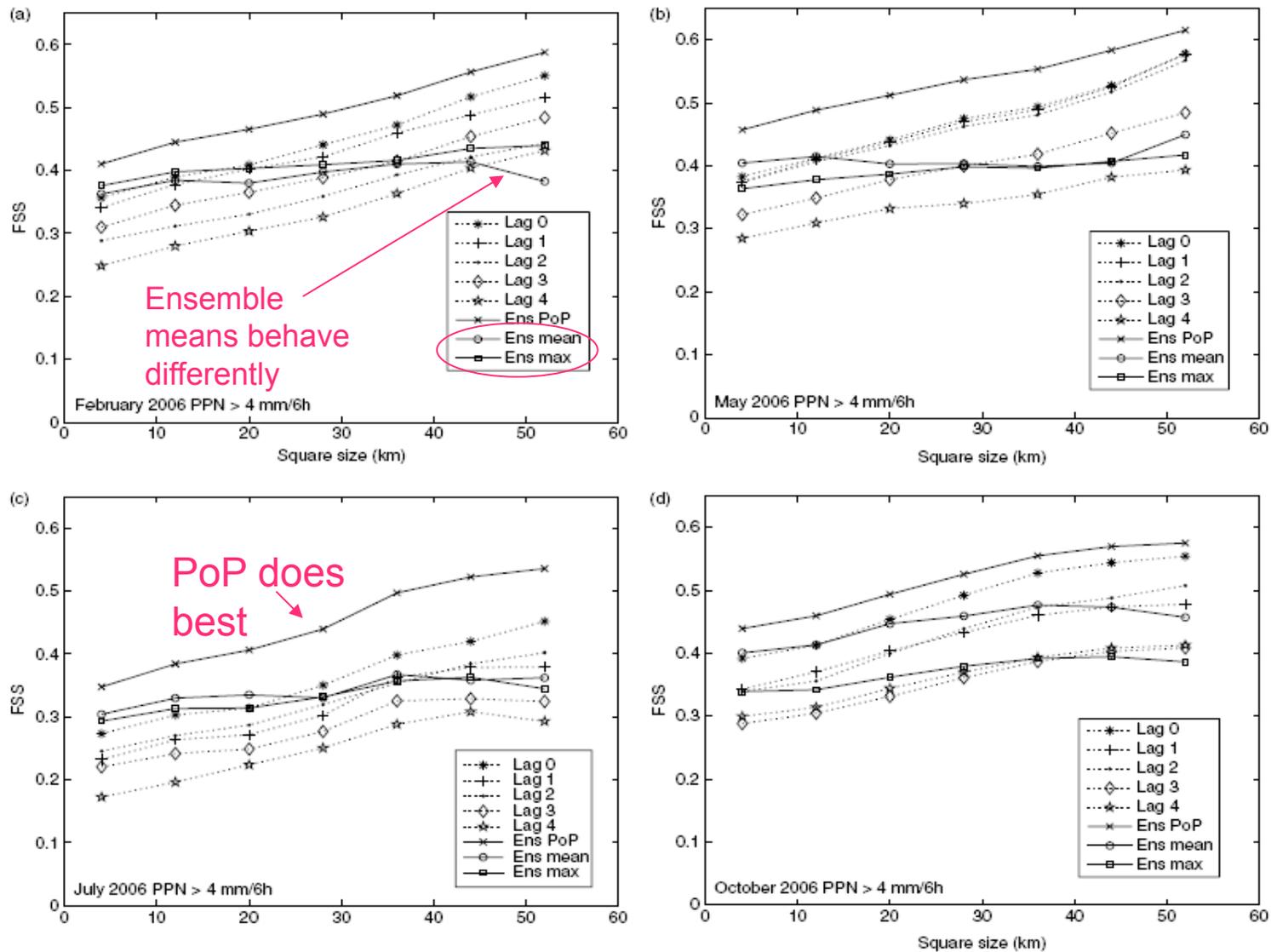
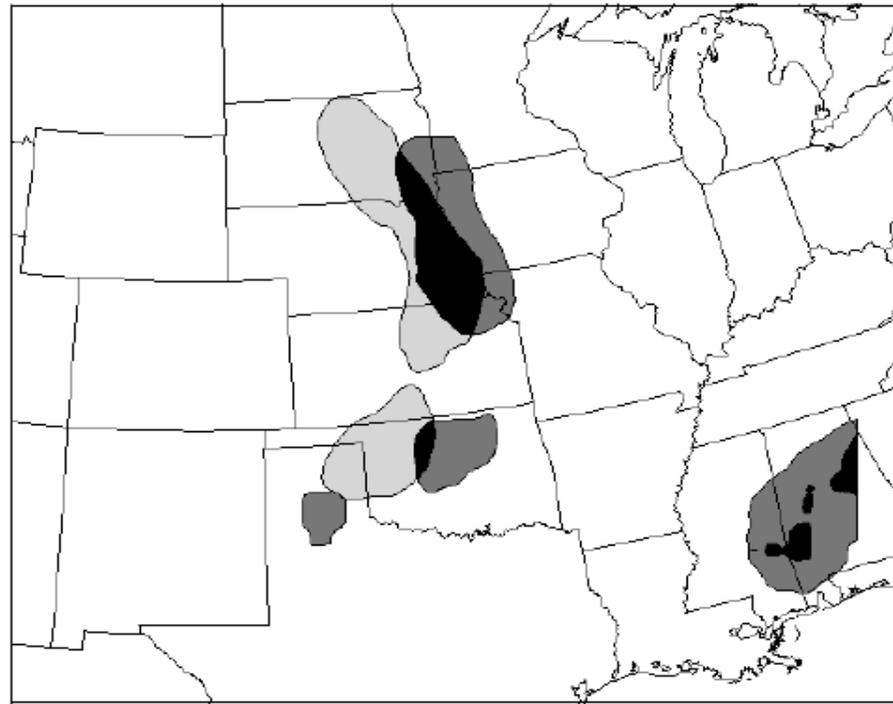


Figure 4. Mean monthly FSS at 4 mm/6 h, as a function of averaging lengths up to 52 km, for: (a) February 2006; (b) May 2006; (c) July 2006; (d) October 2006. Solid lines represent ensemble products; dotted lines represent individual deterministic forecasts (ensemble members).

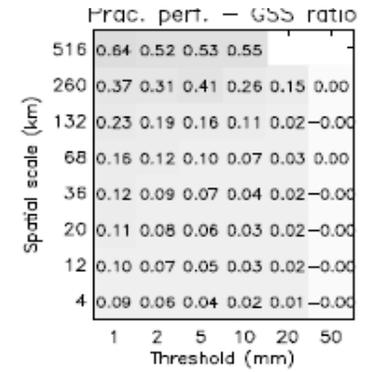
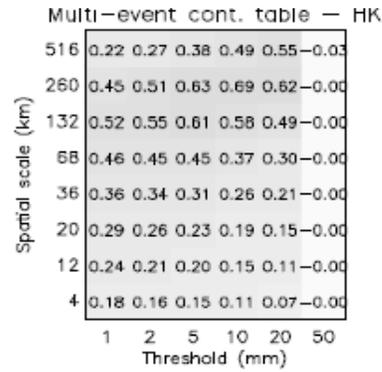
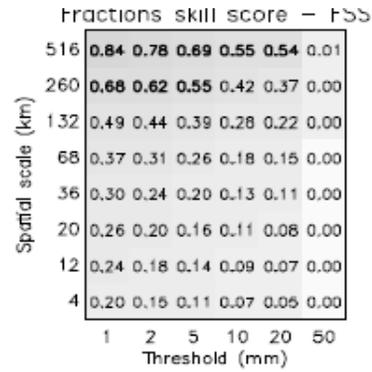
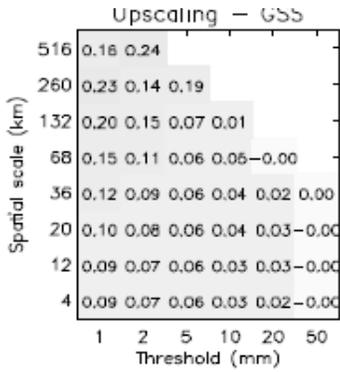
From Mittermaier 2007 QJRMS

What about other new spatial techniques?

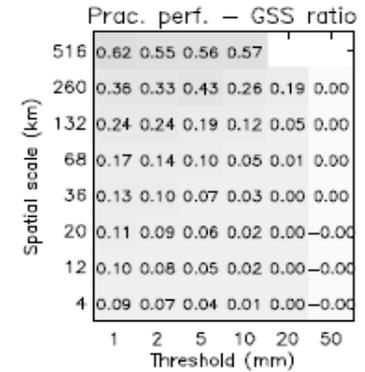
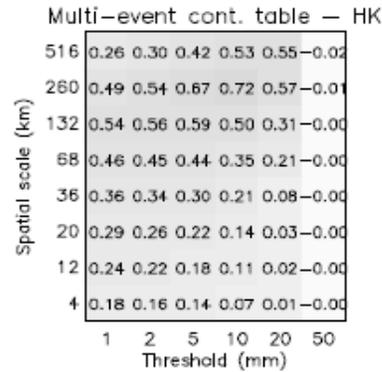
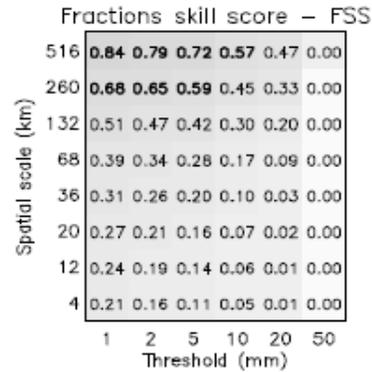
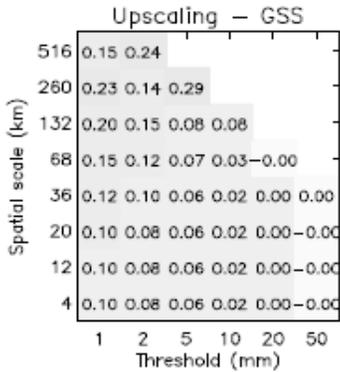
Fuzzy Verification (from Ebert 2009)



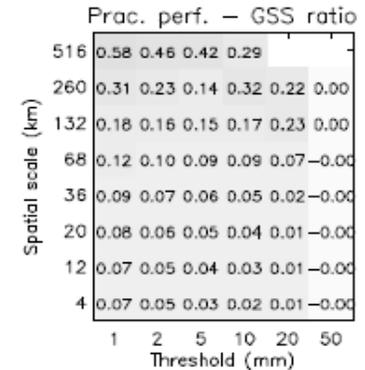
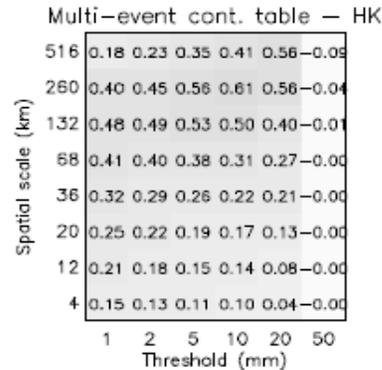
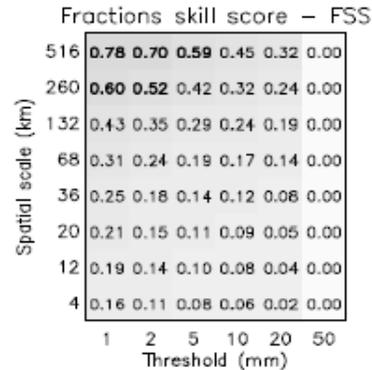
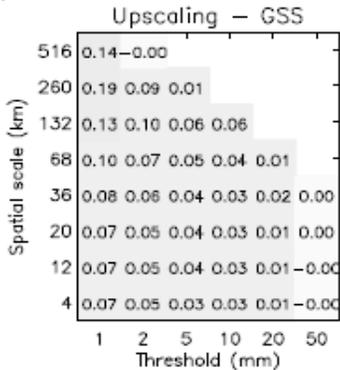
Fuzzified forecast in light gray, hindcast (obs) in dark gray – this could be done to an ensemble of forecasts.



b)



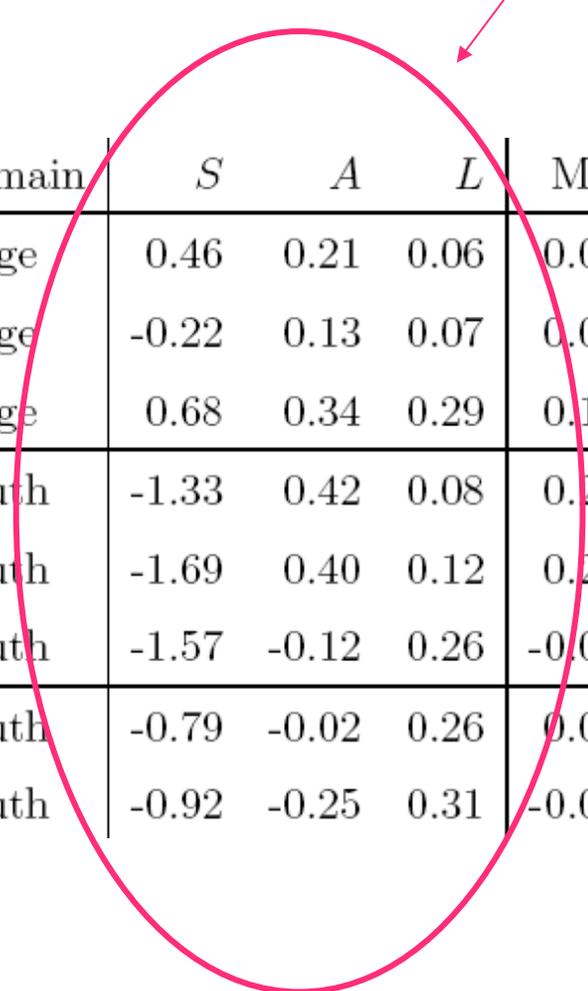
c)



SAL (Structure, Amplitude, Location) – Wernli et al. 2009

- Could be applied to all members, generating cloud of SAL values. If a few were near (0,0,0), this would imply some members captured the event realistically.
- Not much done yet with application of this to ensembles (the case with many of the techniques)

Example from Wernli et al. (2009) paper – could represent an ensemble



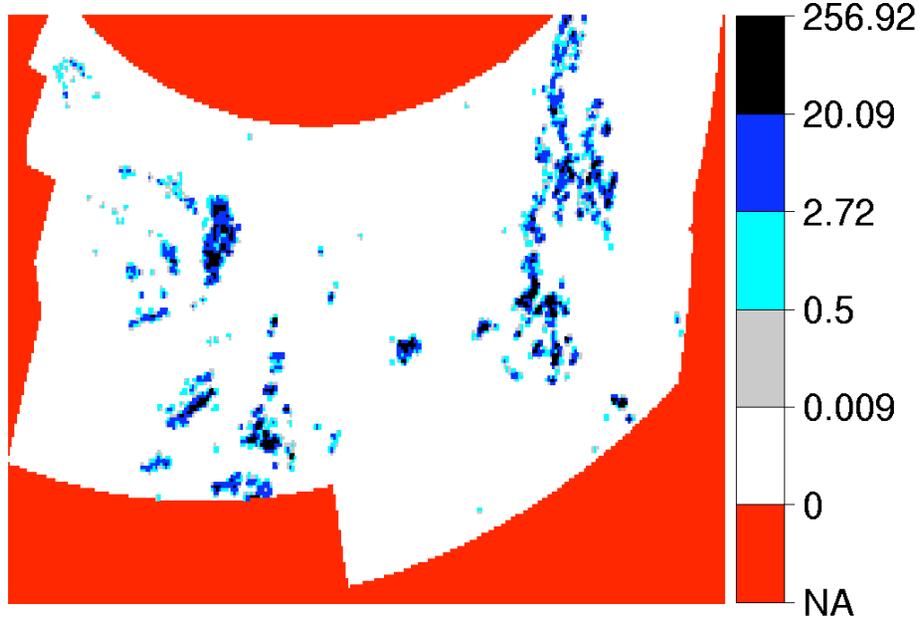
date	model	domain	<i>S</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>L</i>	ME	RMSE	nRMSE	HSS	FBI
0601	2CAPS	large	0.46	0.21	0.06	0.07	2.75	0.03	0.28	0.92
0601	4NCAR	large	-0.22	0.13	0.07	0.04	2.79	0.03	0.30	0.86
0601	4NCEP	large	0.68	0.34	0.29	0.12	2.89	0.03	0.19	1.15
0601	2CAPS	south	-1.33	0.42	0.08	0.21	2.34	0.06	0.34	0.77
0601	4NCAR	south	-1.69	0.40	0.12	0.20	3.01	0.07	0.38	0.67
0601	4NCEP	south	-1.57	-0.12	0.26	-0.05	1.34	0.05	0.24	0.67
0603	2CAPS	south	-0.79	-0.02	0.26	0.00	0.70	0.12	0.19	0.99
0603	4NCAR	south	-0.92	-0.25	0.31	-0.02	0.71	0.12	0.13	0.69

Intensity-scale verification

(Casati 2004)

- Used in Casati and Wilson (2007, MWR) to verify lightning probability forecasts, and thus could be used with any ensemble probability forecast.

lightning OBS (strikes/3h)



Case study

Forecast valid on 20/07/2004 in the 18:00 to 21:00 time window, 21h lead time. Thresholds:

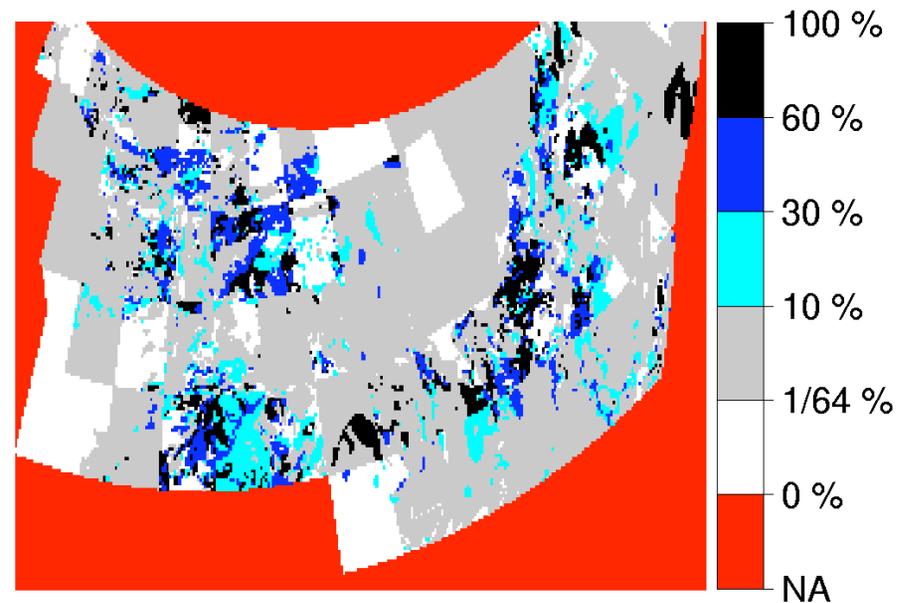
$T = 1/2$ ANY lightning

$T = e^3$ INTENSE lightning

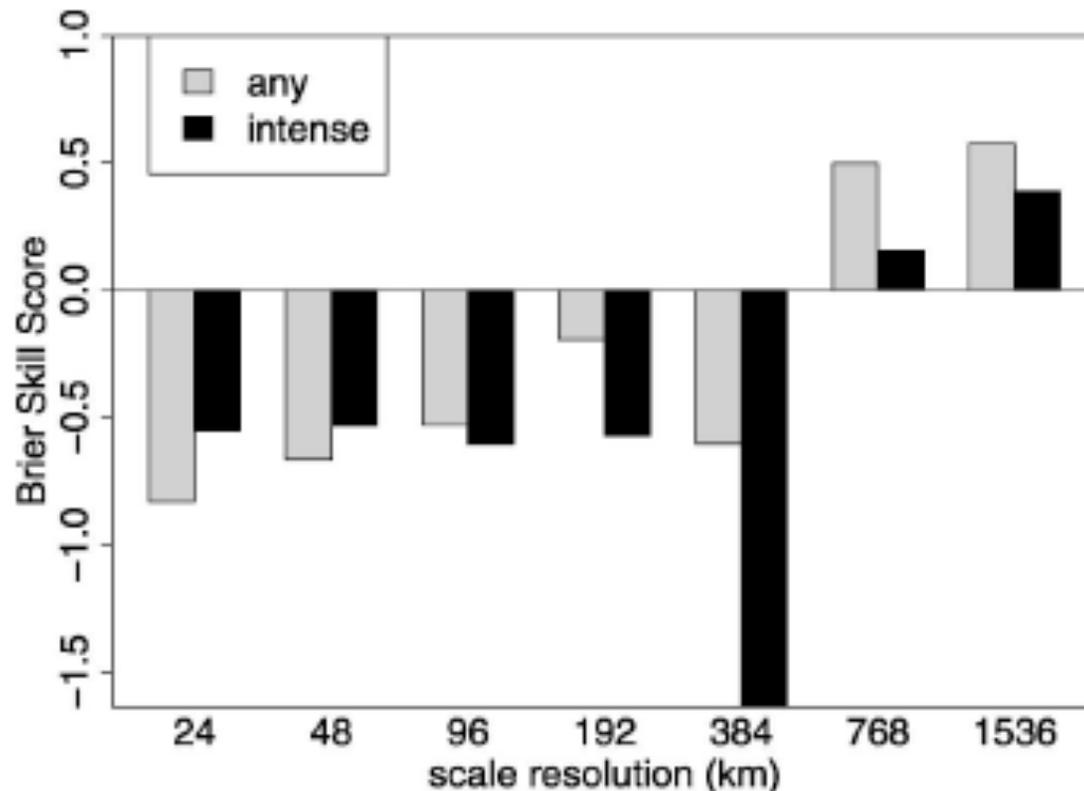
OBS frequency of ANY lightning



FOR prob of ANY lightning



Brier skill score on different scales



- Positive skill on large scales (> 700 km); negative skill on small scales (< 350 km); transition: 5th to 6th scale ~ 500 km (size of $5^\circ \times 5^\circ$ long-lat sectors)
- over-forecast of 400 km features for frequent lightning = poor skill

Other Scale-dependent verification

- Different type of scale-dependent verification was performed on ECMWF EP S by Jung and Leutbecher (2008, QJRMS)

Aims

- Analyse the **scale dependency** of the **spread-skill relationship**
- Evaluate **skill for different scales** (BSS, RPSS)

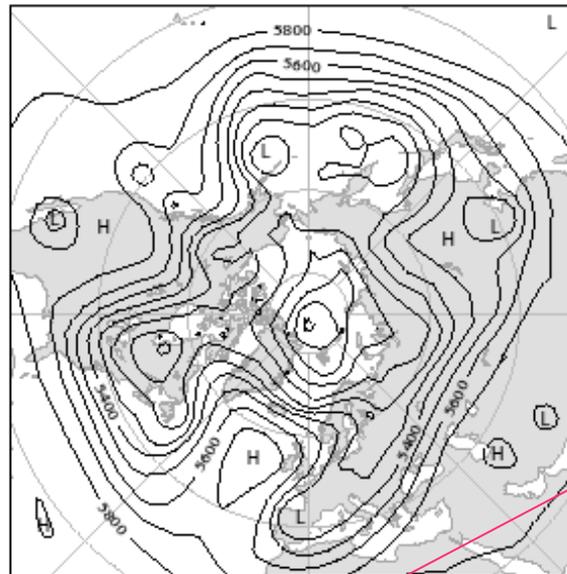
Scale decomposition of Z500 fields

Filter: spherical harmonics

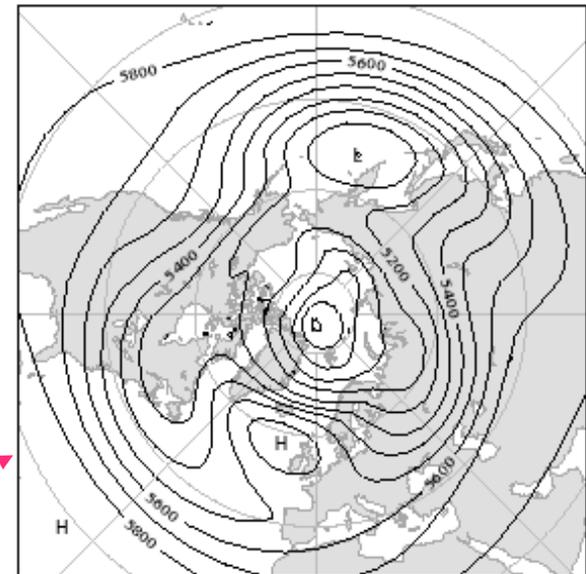
Two filters: total (N) and zonal (M) wavenumber filter

Separate:
planetary (b)
synoptic (c)
sub-synoptic (d)
scales

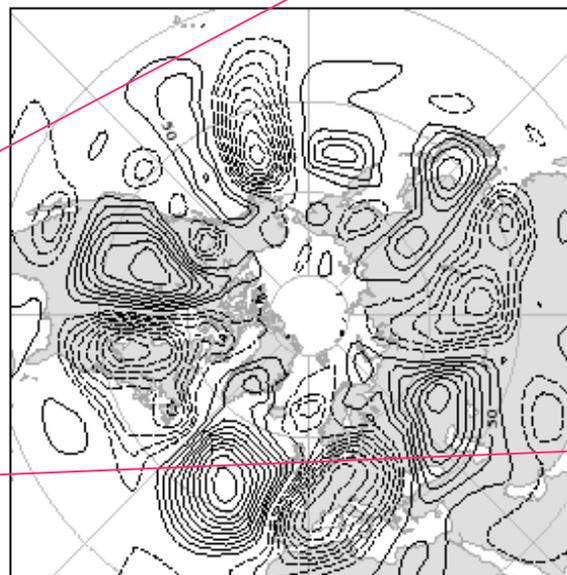
(a) Z500 (20070125 12z): M=0-159



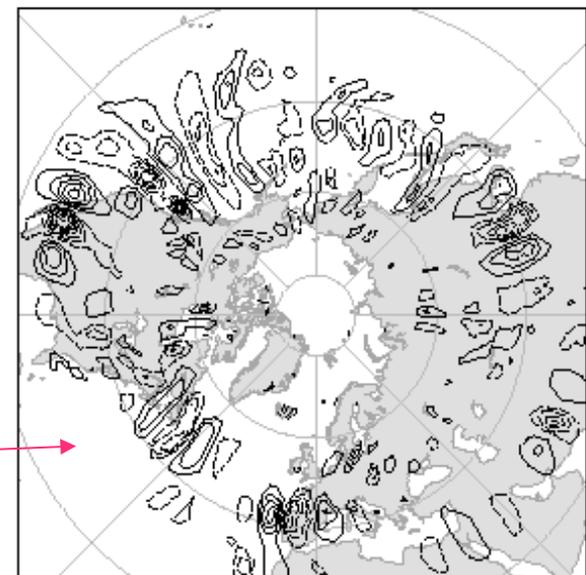
(b) Z500 (20070125 12z): M=0-3



(c) Z500 (20070125 12z): M=4-14

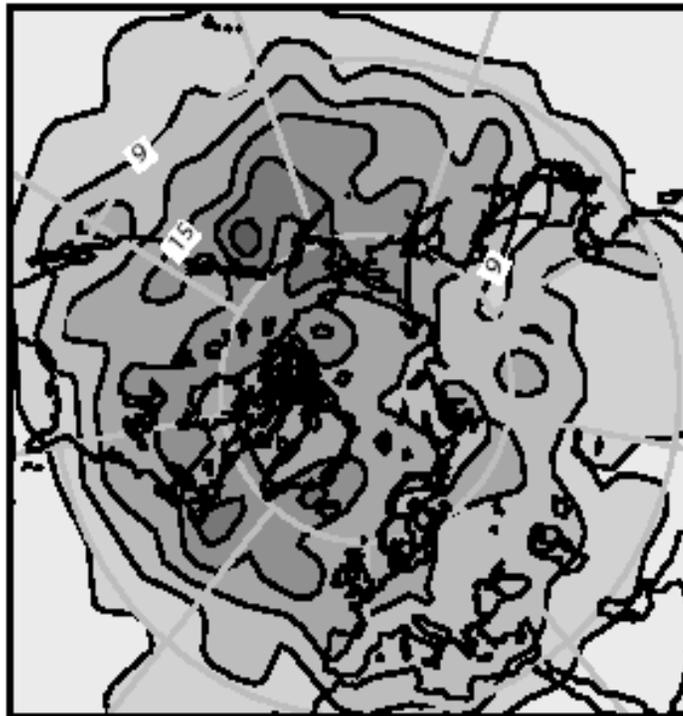


(d) Z500 (20070125 12z): M=15-159

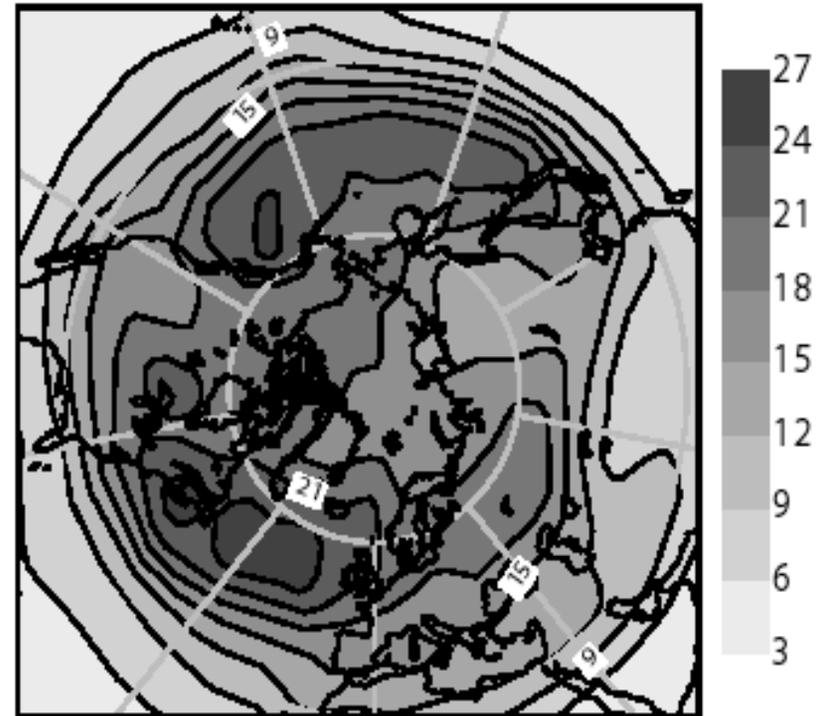


Spread-Skill Maps

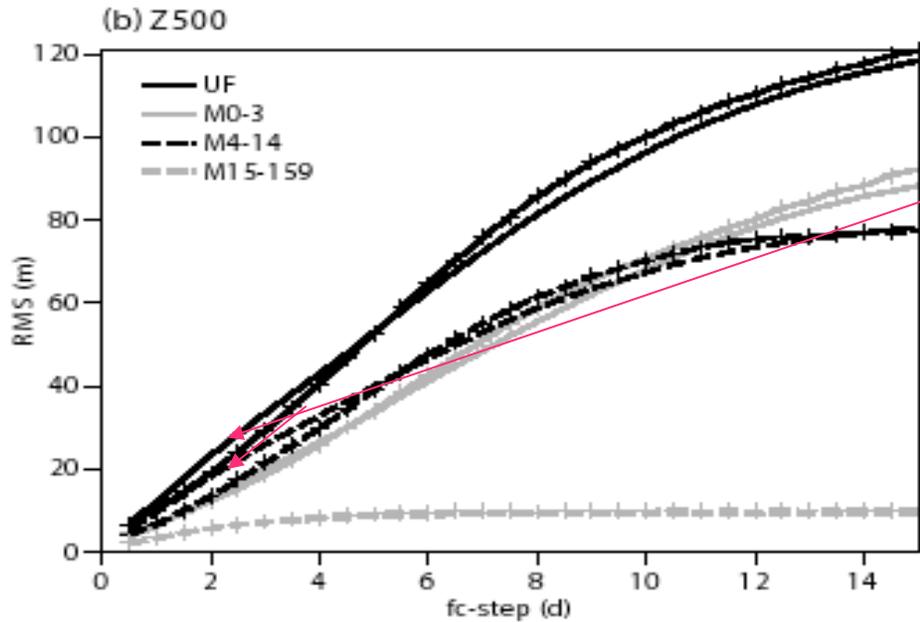
(b) RMSE Z500 N8-21 DJF 2006/07



(e) Spread Z500 N8-21 DJF 2006/07



Synoptic scales, D+2: over-dispersiveness of the ensemble
NOTE: max spread and error correspond the North Atlantic
and North Pacific storm track regions

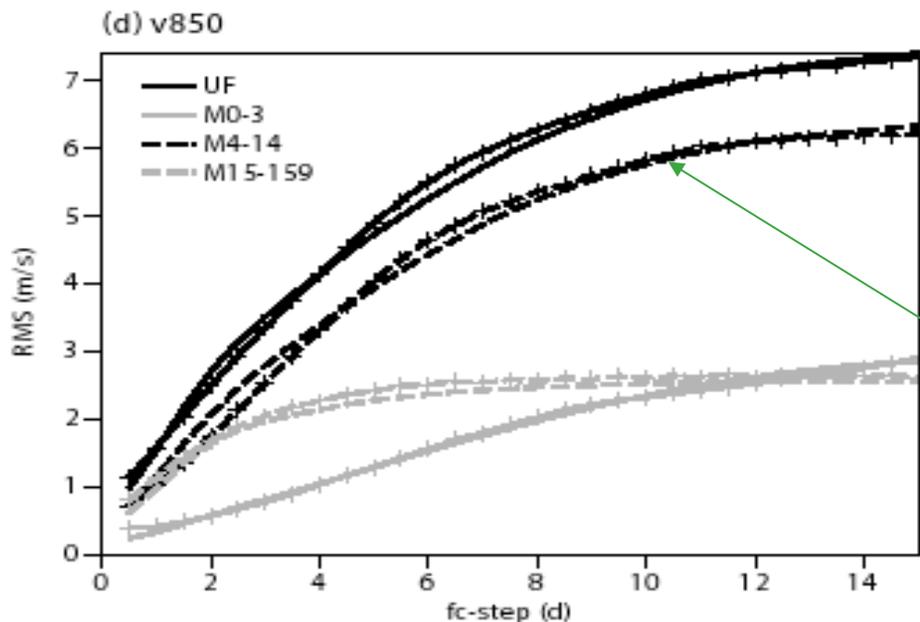


Z500

Up to D+4: over-dispersiveness
Major contribution: synoptic

Beyond D+4: under-dispersiveness
Major contribution: synoptic and planetary

Synoptic and planetary scales
equally contribute total error; sub-
synoptic does not contribute much



v850

Up to D+4: over-dispersiveness
Major contribution: synoptic

Scales contribute in different
proportion to total error, major
contribution is from synoptic

STDEV = no symbols, RMSE = symbols

RPSS on different scales: The larger the scale, the better the skill

Z500: total skill between planetary and synoptic skill (scales which

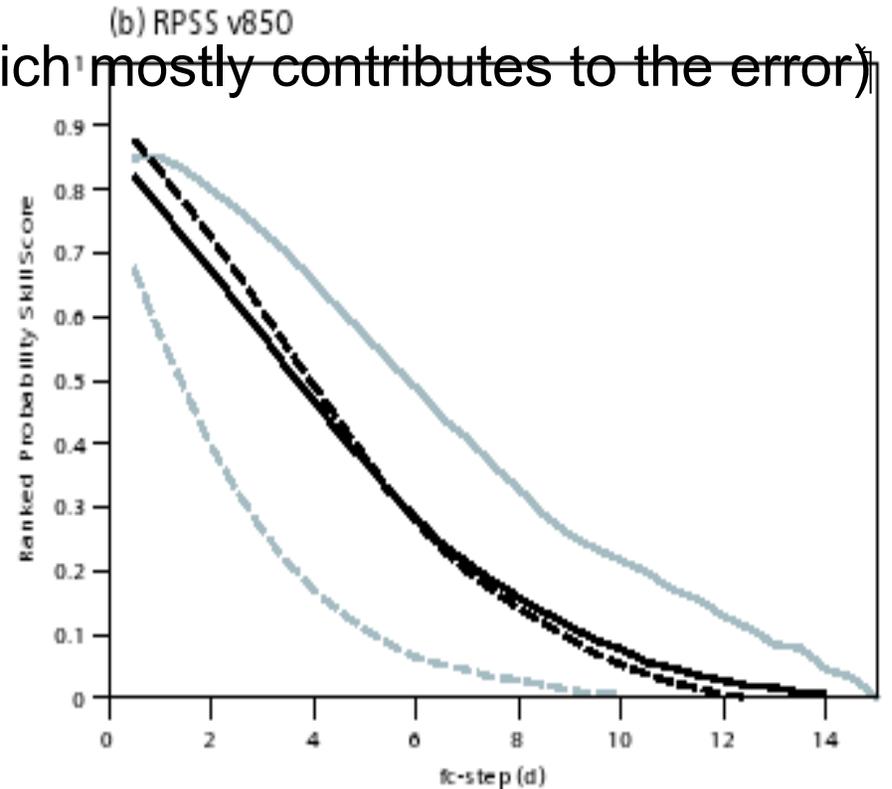
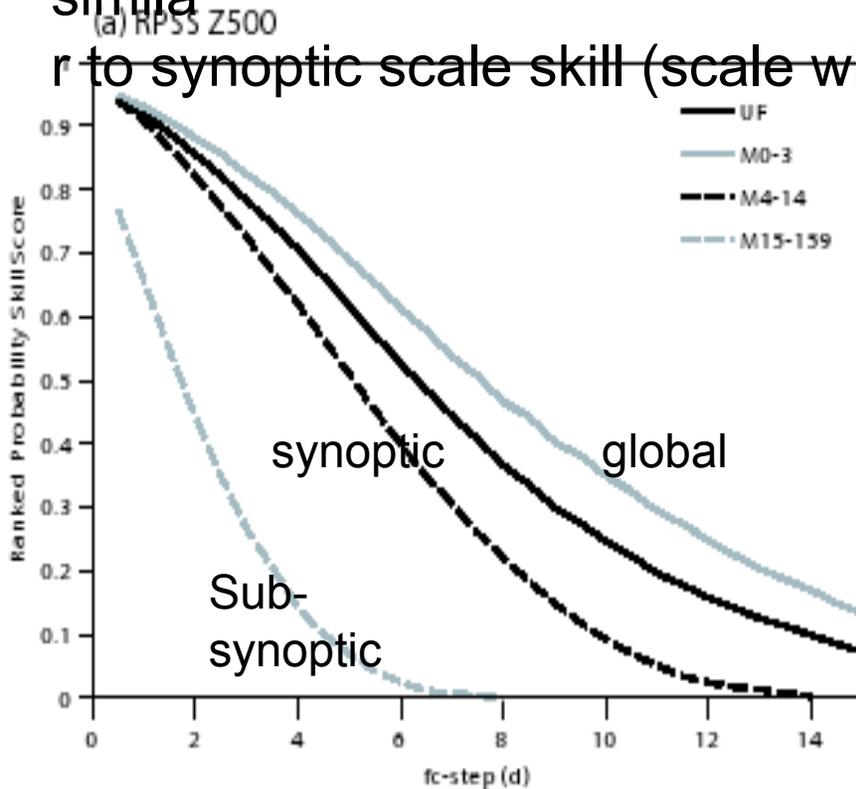
e

usually contributed to the error); sub-synoptic scales have worst skill

V850: total skill

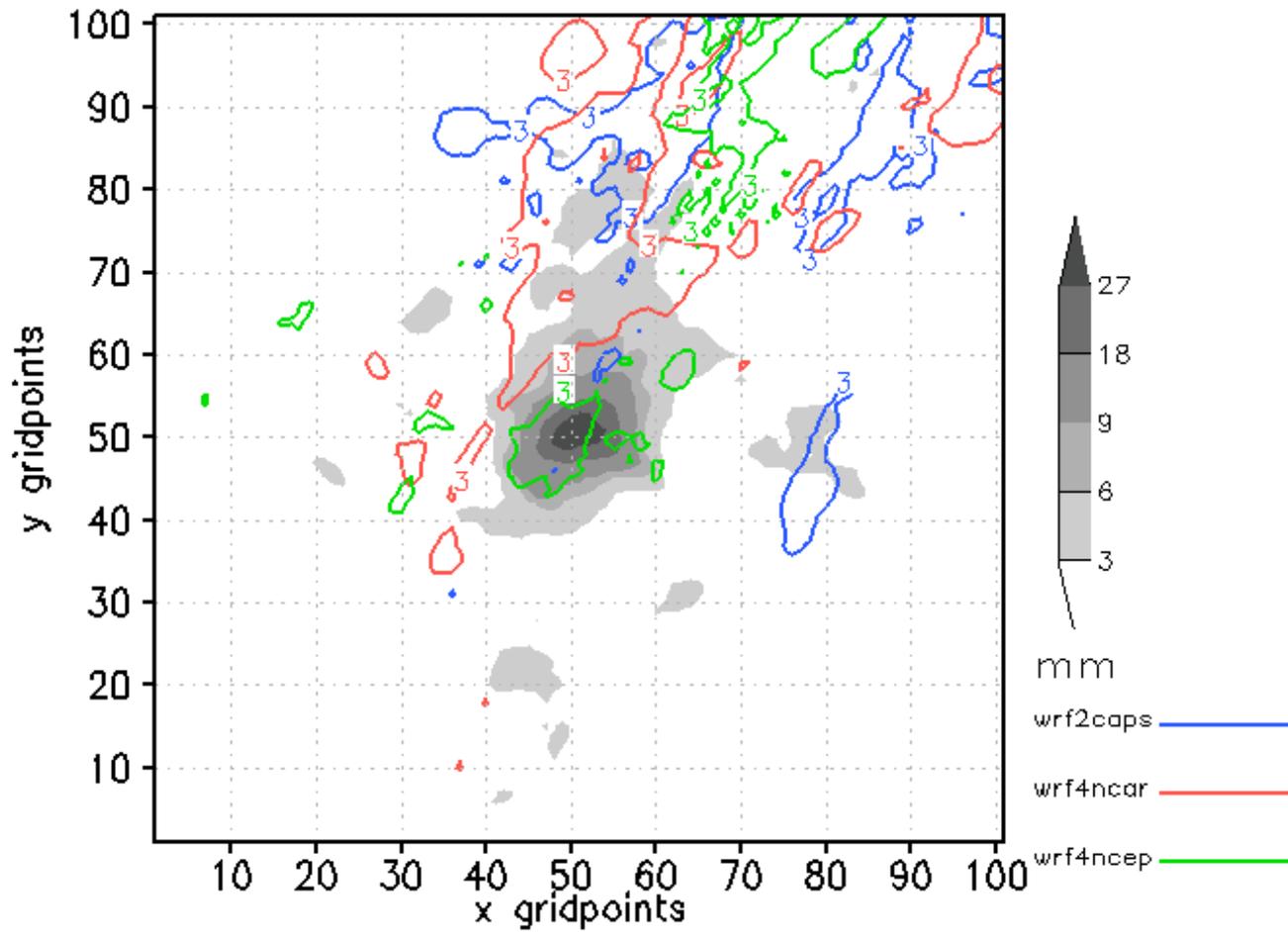
similar

to synoptic scale skill (scale which mostly contributes to the error)



Nachamkin Compositing Technique

- Could be easily applied to ensembles to get a feel for systematic biases among members
- Better used with probability information

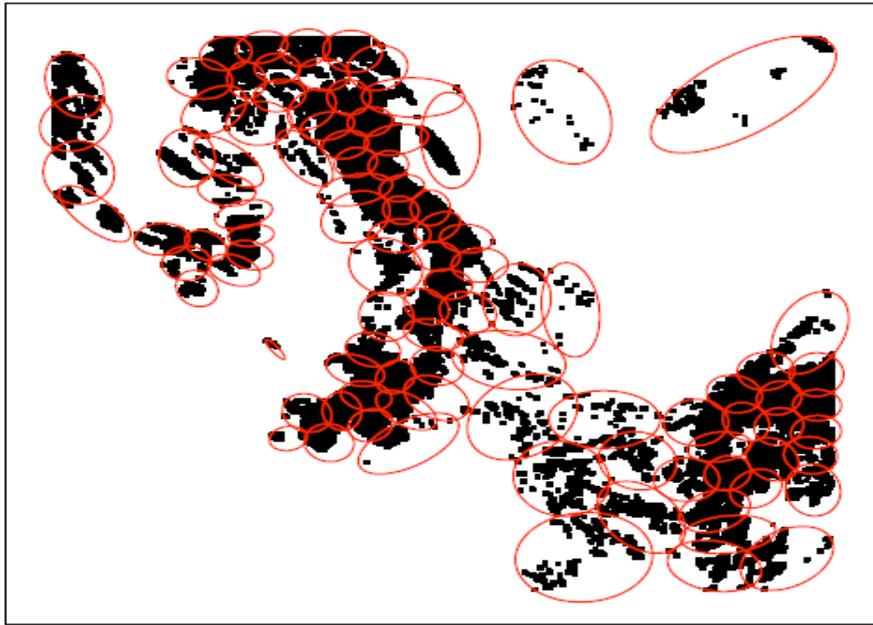
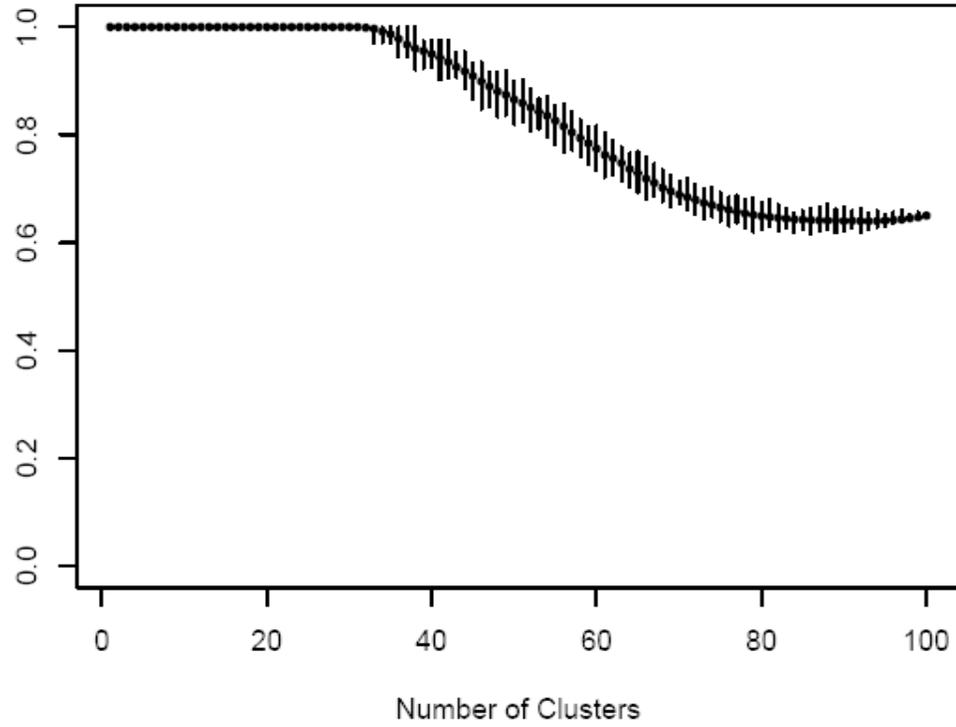


From Nachamkin – can think of this as 3 member ensemble

Cluster Analysis (Marzban et al. 2009)

- Could be applied to ensembles by clustering on field consisting of forecasts and observations from all members. -- This would be like superimposing fields from ensemble members and then identifying the “objects” in the composite fields

CSI



Variogram Analysis (Marzban et al. 2009)

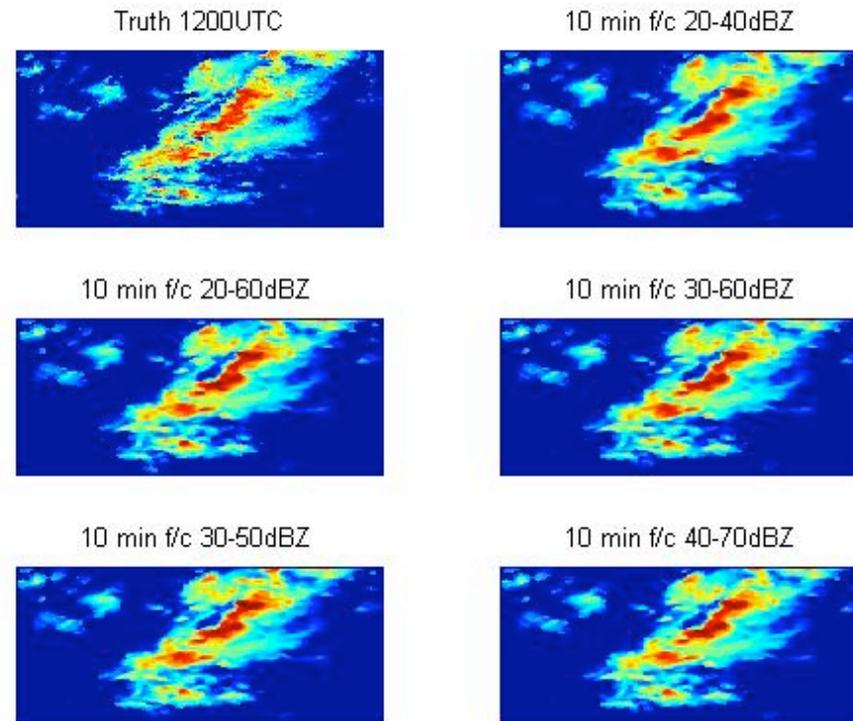
- Not as straightforward to apply since it is comparing textures of forecast field to observed, and if different ensemble members have different textures, combined field would not make much sense. Could do it with each member, though.

Optical flow (Marzban et al. 2009)

- Somewhat like variograms in the problems to face. If verifying all members of ensemble over a set of forecasts, and compositing the OF field, a good measure of reliability may be obtained (composite OF field should go to zero with a perfectly reliable ensemble over long series of forecasts)

Procrustes (Lack et al. 2009)

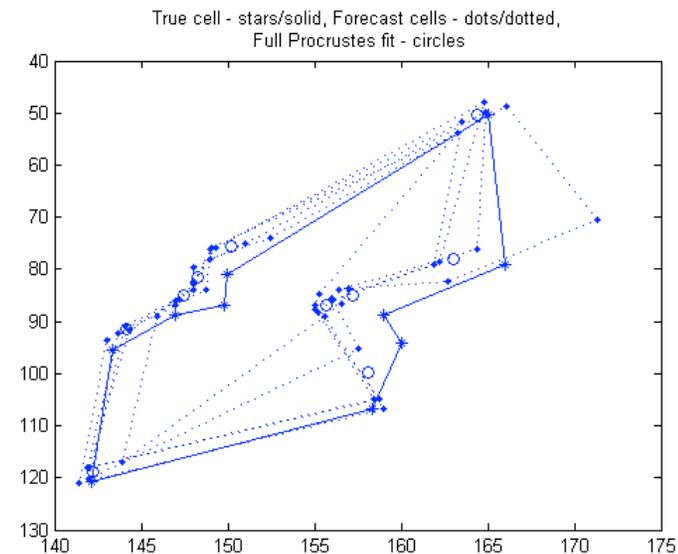
Example Ensemble forecast



Five 10-minute lead-time forecasts compared to the actual radar reflectivity at 1200 UTC on 13 January 2007.

Example fit for one cell in previous forecast

- The solid line shows the actual, the dotted line connecting dotted landmarks show the cells from each forecast realization, and the circles show the common full Procrustes fit.



Ensemble displacement error

	10 minute forecast	
f/c	Cell 1	Cell 2
x translation	0.300	-0.679
95% credible set	[0.092, 0.529]	[-0.923, -0.450]
y translation	0.534	-1.176
95% credible set	[0.349, 0.756]	[-1.423, -0.880]

Individual forecast translation errors

	10 minute forecast – cell 1	
f/c	x translation	y translation
1	-1.336	-2.723
2	0.024	1.098
3	1.895	3.634
4	-0.404	-0.576
5	-0.679	-1.176

	10 minute forecast – cell 2	
f/c	x translation	y translation
1	-0.294	-0.466
2	0.932	0.522
3	-0.698	-0.340
4	-0.197	-0.510
5	0.300	0.534

DAS (Displacement and Amplitude Score) – Keil and Craig 2009

- Can be used to identify best ensemble member

Case	Description of perturbation	DAS	DIS/D_{max}	AMP/I_0	Rank
1	Shift 3 pts right -5 pts up	0.18	0.07	0.12	1
2	Shift 6 pts right -10 pts up	0.24	0.13	0.11	2
3	Shift 12 pts right -20 pts up	0.38	0.26	0.12	3
4	Shift 24 pts right -40 pts up	0.69	0.50	0.19	5
5	Shift 48 pts right -80 pts up	1.20	0.30	0.90	7
6	Shift 12 pts right -20 pts up and intensity times 1.5	0.69	0.25	0.44	5
7	Shift 12 pts right -20 pts up and intensity minus 0.01	0.46	0.27	0.19	4

Object-based techniques...

Operational Forecaster Uncertainty Needs and Future Roles

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(Manuscript received 20 March 2008, in final form 6 June 2008)

ABSTRACT

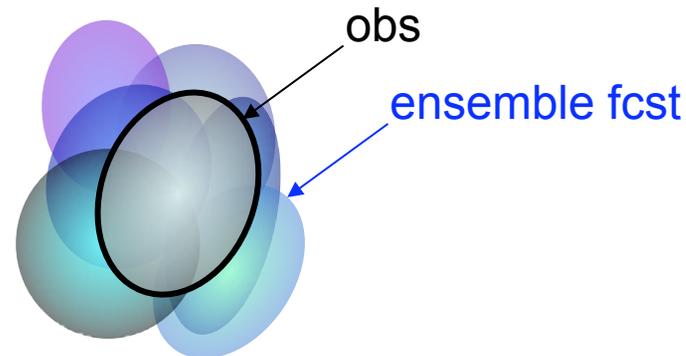
Key results of a comprehensive survey of U.S. National Weather Service operational forecast managers concerning the assessment and communication of forecast uncertainty are presented and discussed. The survey results revealed that forecasters are using uncertainty guidance to assess uncertainty, but that limited data access and ensemble underdispersion and biases are barriers to more effective use. Some respondents expressed skepticism as to the added value of formal ensemble guidance relative to simpler approaches of estimating uncertainty, and related the desire for feature-specific ensemble verification to address this skepticism. Respondents reported receiving requests for uncertainty information primarily from sophisticated users such as emergency managers, and most often during high-impact events. The largest request for additional training material called for simulator-based case studies that demonstrate how uncertainty information should be interpreted and communicated.

Respondents were in consensus that forecasters should be significantly involved in the communication of uncertainty forecasts; however, there was disagreement regarding if and how forecasters should adjust objective ensemble guidance. It is contended that whether forecasters directly modify objective ensemble guidance will ultimately depend on how the weather enterprise views ensemble output (as the final forecast or as a guidance supporting conceptual understanding), the enterprise's commitment to provide the nec-

Forecasters have indicated a desire for **feature-specific verification approaches** (e.g., Ebert and McBride 2000, Davis et al. 2006) to be **applied to ensemble forecasts.**

December 2008 WAF

Verifying "features" in ensembles



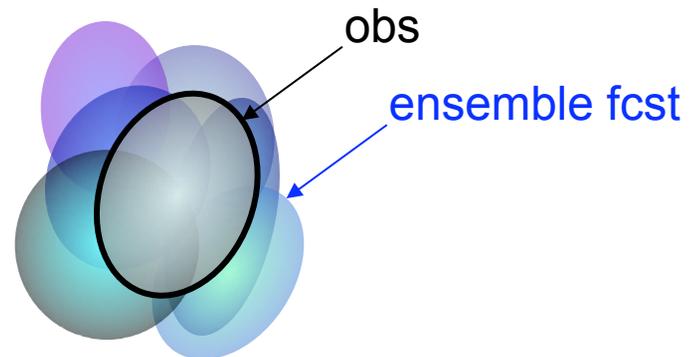
What might the ensemble forecast look like?

- spatial probability contour maps
- ensemble mean
- distributions of object properties (attributes)
 - location, size, intensity, etc.

Verifying "features" in ensembles

Strategies for verifying ensemble predictions of objects

1. Verify objects in probability maps
2. Verify "ensemble mean"
 - spatially averaged forecast objects
 - generated from average object properties
3. Verify distributions of object properties
 - many samples – use probabilistic measures
 - individual cases

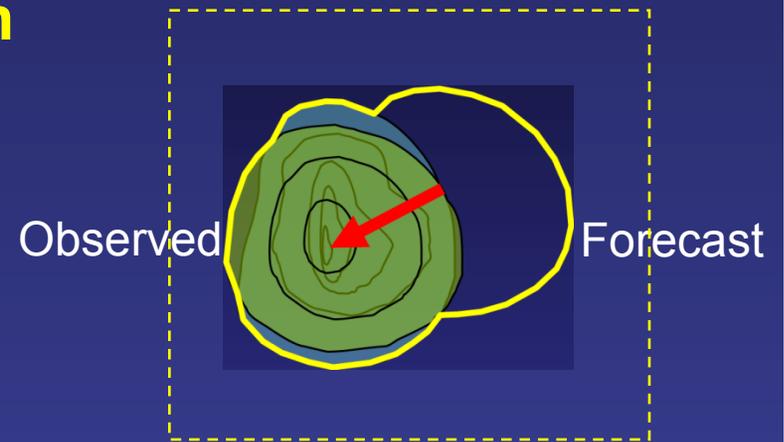


Object-based Methods

- **Contiguous Rain Area (CRA – Ebert and McBride 2000)**
- **Method for Object-based Diagnostic Evaluation (MODE – Davis et al. 2006a,b)**

How does CRA work?

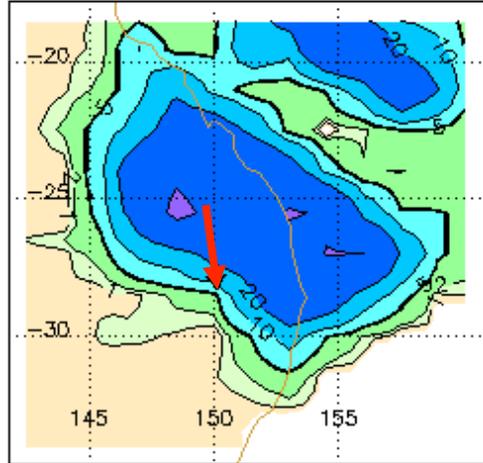
- Find Contiguous Rain Areas in the fields to be verified



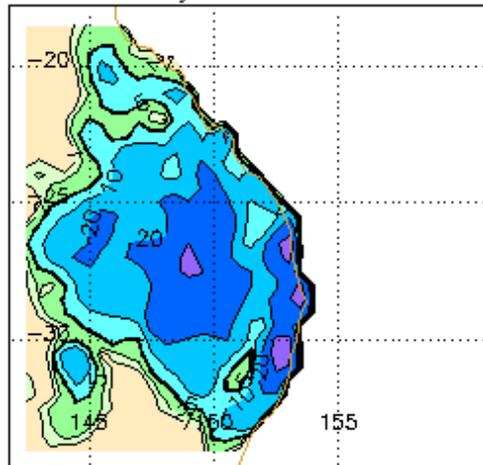
- Define a rectangular search box around CRA to look for best match between forecast and observations
- Displacement determined by shifting forecast within the box until MSE is minimized or correlation coefficient is maximized

CRA verification for an ensemble member

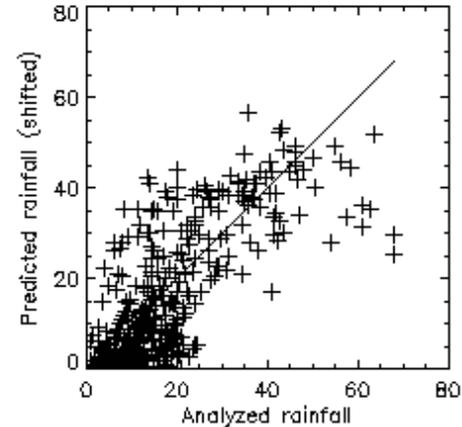
ECMWFEPS0.5p31 108h fcst 20080904



Analysis 20080904



CRA 1 20080904



ECMWFEPS0.5p31 84-** fcst 20080904 n=387
 (-33.50°,143.00°) to (-19.00°,160.00°)
 Verif. grid=0.500° CRA threshold=5.0 mm/d

	Analysed	Forecast
# gridpoints ≥ 5 mm/d	358	233
Average rainrate (mm/d)	17.88	15.46
Maximum rain (mm/d)	68.07	58.86
Rain volume (km ³)	19.12	16.53
Displacement (E,N) = [-0.50°,3.00°]		

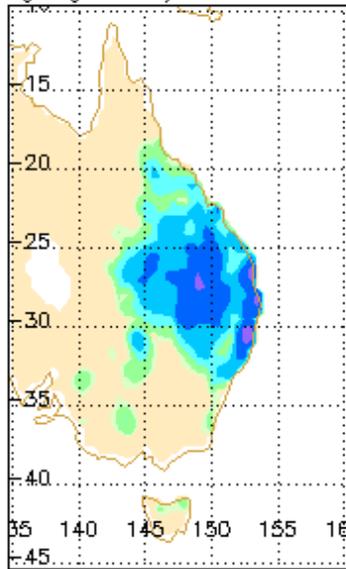
	Original	Shifted
RMS error (mm/d)	17.84	10.29
Correlation coefficient	0.243	0.750

Error Decomposition:

Displacement error	66.7%
Volume error	1.8%
Pattern error	31.4%

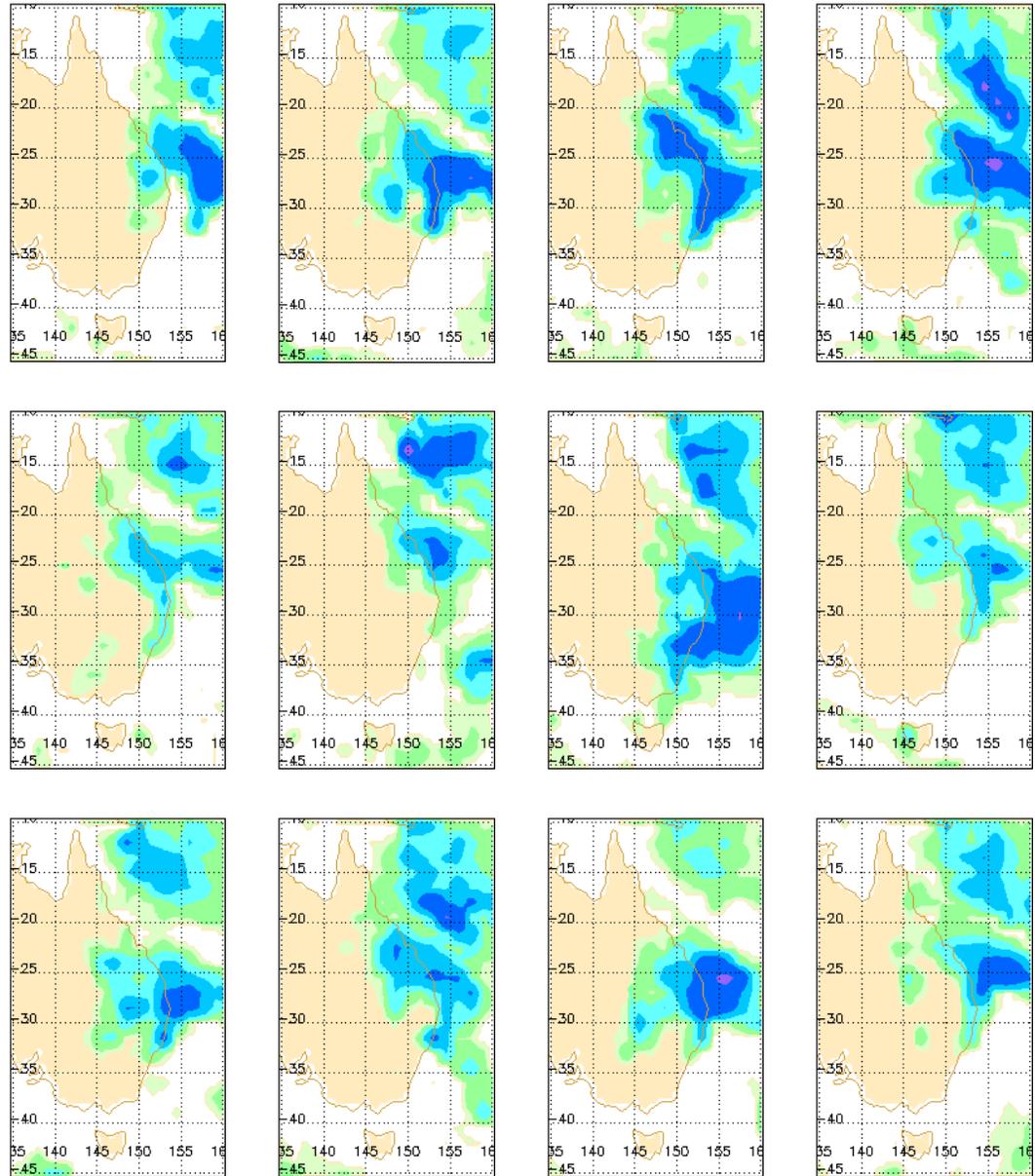
Example: East coast low, September 2008

Daily gauge analysis for 20080904



Observed
00 UTC 5 Sept 2008

ECMWF EPS
4.5 day forecast
(first 12 of 51 members)

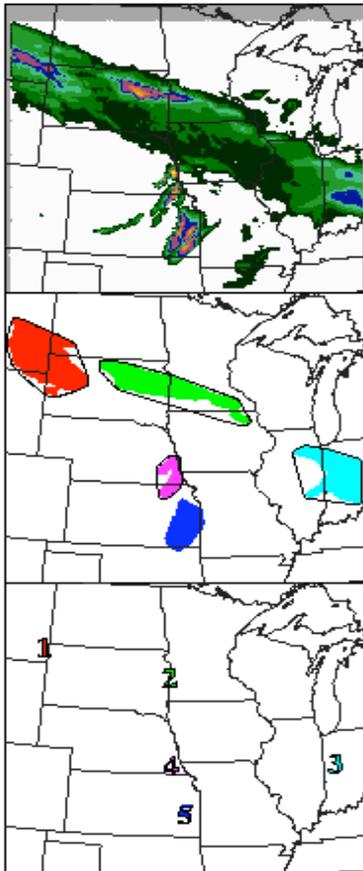


How does MODE work?

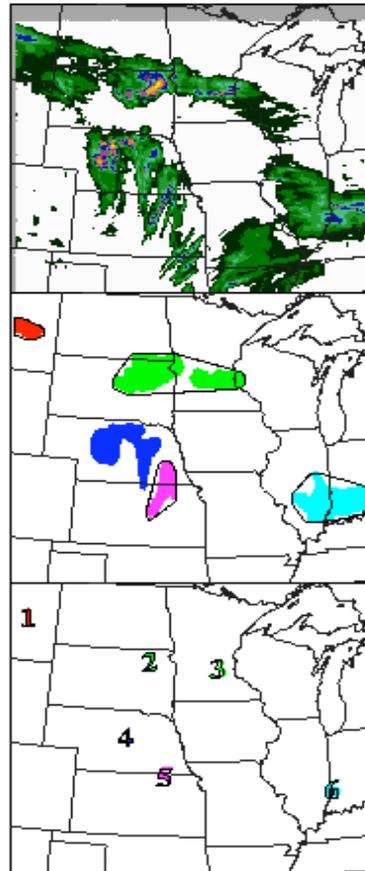
- Identifies objects using convolution-thresholding
- Merging and matching are performed via fuzzy logic approaches (systems don't have to be contiguous)

MODE: APCP_06 at SFC

Forecast



Observation

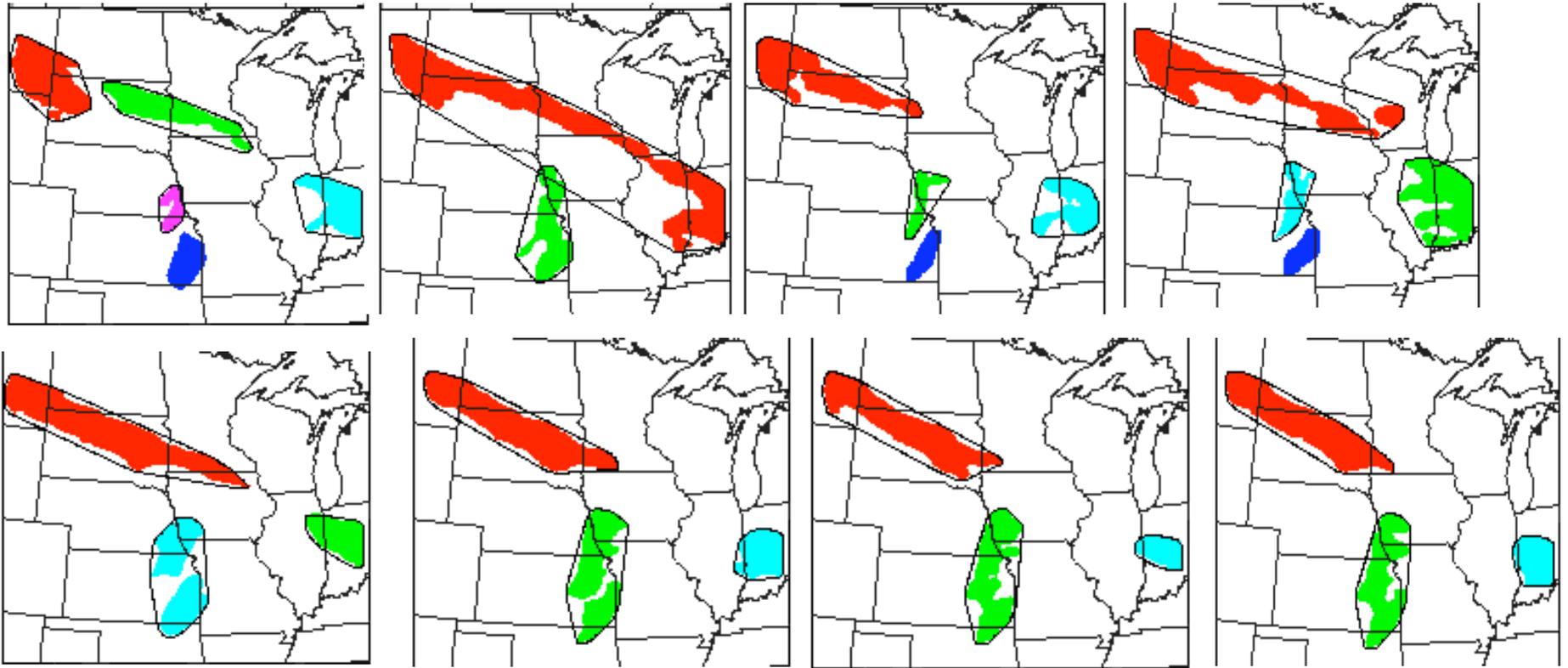


Fcst	Obs	Interest
+	5	0.9736
2	2	0.9254
3	6	0.9233
1	1	0.8798
2	3	0.7256
<hr/>		
5	5	0.6837
+	+	0.6244
2	+	0.6110
5	+	0.5884
1	2	0.5652
1	3	N/A
+	1	N/A
3	3	N/A
+	3	N/A
5	3	N/A
1	+	N/A
5	1	N/A
3	+	N/A
2	1	N/A
3	1	N/A
1	5	N/A
2	5	N/A
3	5	N/A
3	2	N/A
+	2	N/A
1	6	N/A
2	6	N/A
5	2	N/A
+	6	N/A
5	6	N/A

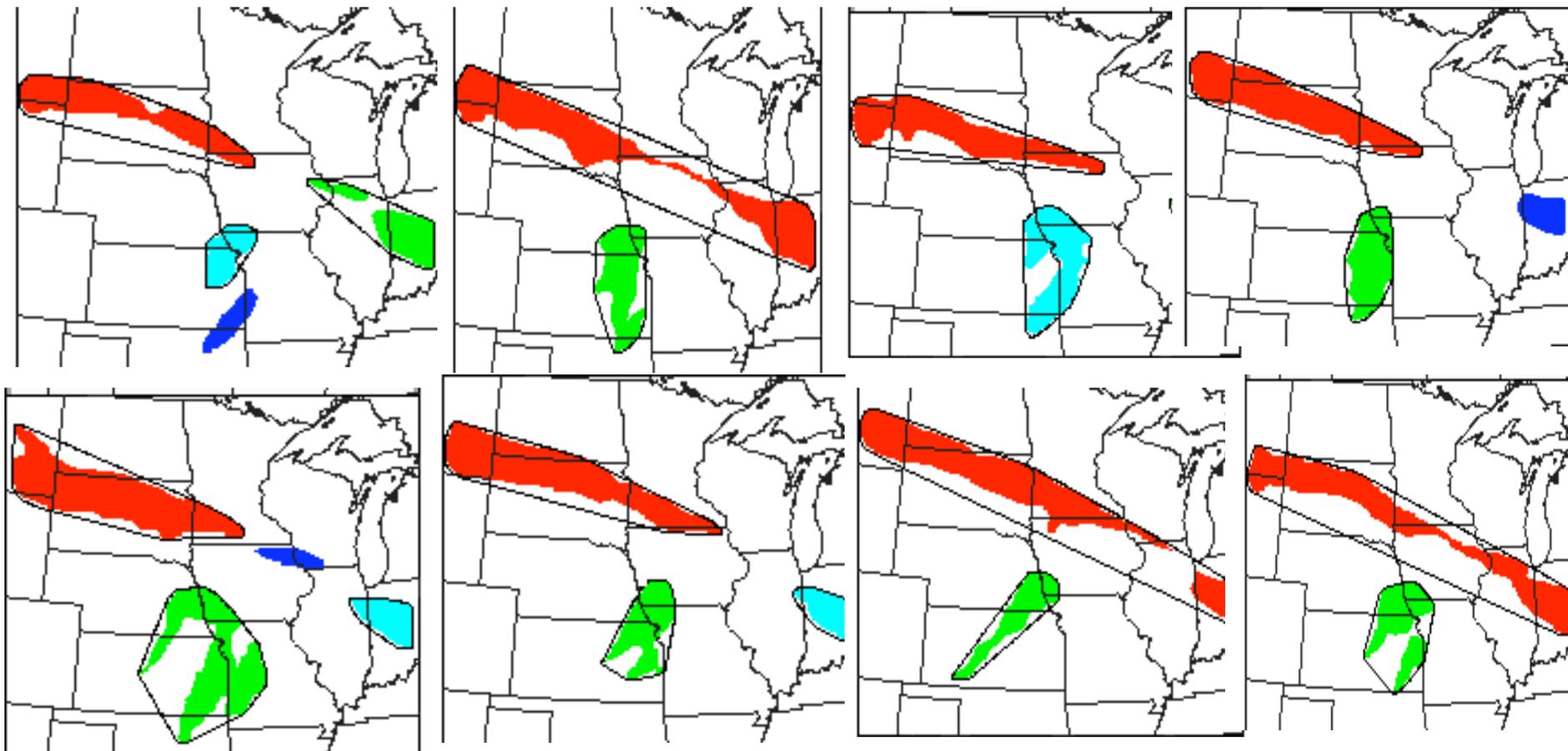
Example of MODE output

Init Time: Apr 6, 2006 00:00:00
 Valid Time: Apr 7, 2006 00:00:00
 Lead Time: 24 hours
 Accum Time: 6 hours
 Fuzzy Engine Weights
 Centroid Distance: 2.00
 Boundary Distance: 4.00
 Convex Hull Distance: 0.00
 Angle Difference: 1.00
 Area Ratio: 1.00
 Intersection/Area: 2.00
 Complexity Ratio: 0.00
 Intensity Ratio: 0.00
 Total Interest Thresh: 0.70

	Forecast	Observation
Mask Missing:	on	on
Mask Gr/Ply:	off/off	off/off
Raw Thresh:	<= 1000.00 mm	= 0.00 mm
Conv Radius:	3 gs	3 gs
Conv Thresh:	>= 6.25 mm	>= 6.25 mm
Area Thresh:	>= 10 gs	>= 10 gs
Inten Perc:	102 th	102 th
Inten Thresh:	>= 1000.00 mm	= 1000.00 mm
Merge Thresh:	>= 5.00 mm	>= 5.00 mm
Merging:	thresh	thresh
Matching:	match/fcst merge	
Simple(M/U):	5 (4/1)	6 (5/1)
Composites:	+	+



April 6 18-24 hour forecast from Mixed Physics/Dynamics ensemble



Same forecast but from mixed initial/boundary condition ensemble

Tests to be discussed...

- Examination of rain area, volume, rate, and displacement forecasts using MODE and CRA for two sets of WRF ensembles in central U.S. (Gallus 2009, WAF) - EMPHASIS ON TRENDS IN SPREAD AND AGREEMENT WITH TRADITIONAL APPROACHES
- Examination of ECMWF EPS forecasts for heavy rain events in Australia – EMPHASIS ON FORECASTING

Methodology for WRF ensembles

- Precipitation forecasts from two sets of ensembles were used as input into MODE and CRA:

- 1) Two 8 member 15 km grid spacing WRF ensembles (Clark et al. 2008), one with mixed physics alone (Phys), the other with perturbed IC/LBCs alone (IC/LBC) -- initialized at 00 UTC

Two 8-member ensembles

- 6h precipitation forecasts from both ensembles over 60 h integration periods for 72 cases were evaluated
- Clark et al. (2008) found that spread & skill initially were better in Phys than in IC/LBC but after roughly 30h, the lack of perturbed LBCs “hurt” the Phys ensemble, and IC/LBC had faster growth of spread, and better skill later
- Also, a diurnal signal was noted in traditional skill/spread measures

Do these same trends show up in the object parameters?

Methodology (cont.)

2) Second set included 5 members of a 10 member 4 km ensemble (ENS4) run by CAPS with mixed LBCs/IC/physics and 5 similar members of a 15 member 20 km ensemble (ENS20), studied in Clark et al. (2009)

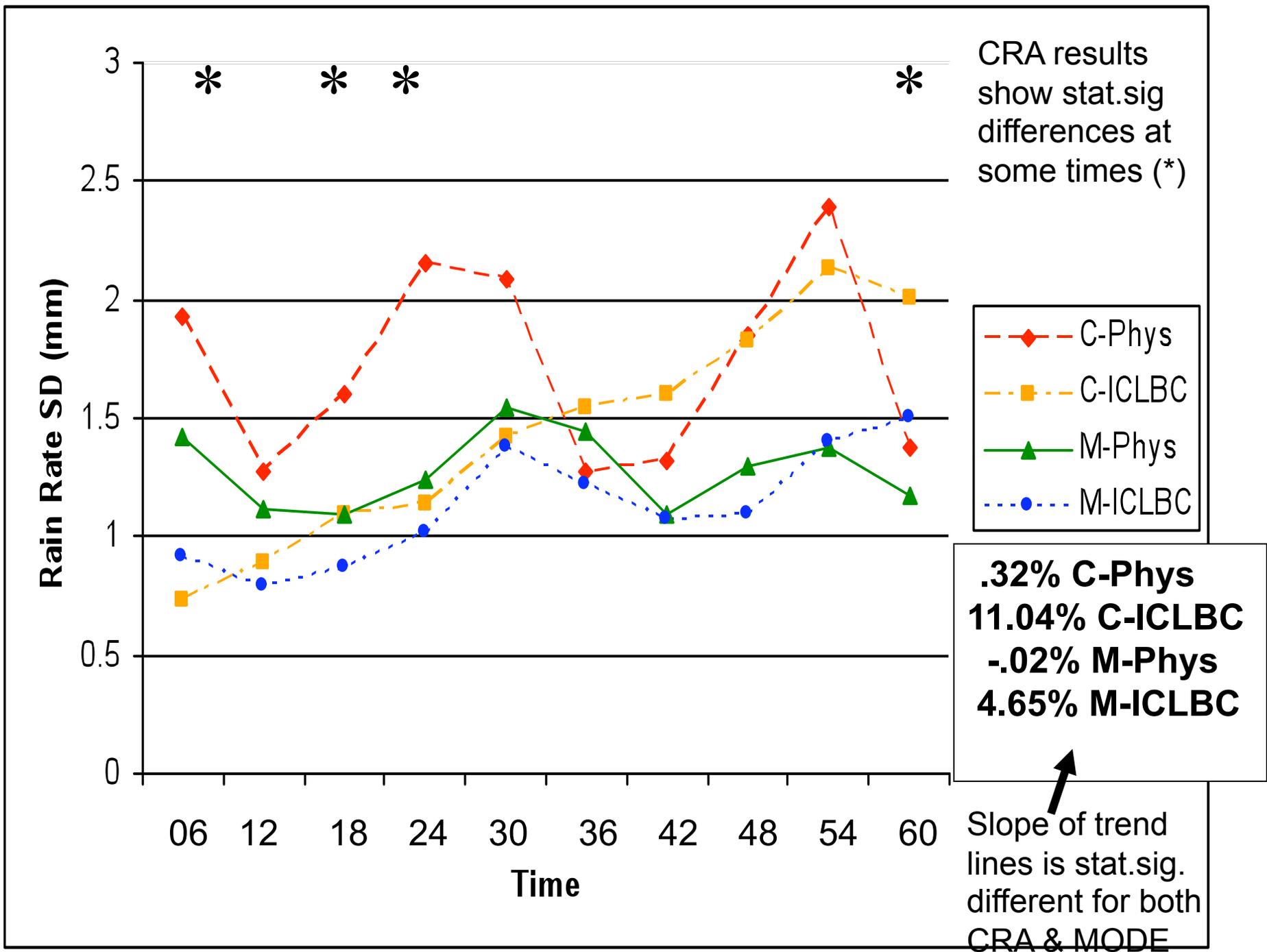
But results skipped in interest of time...

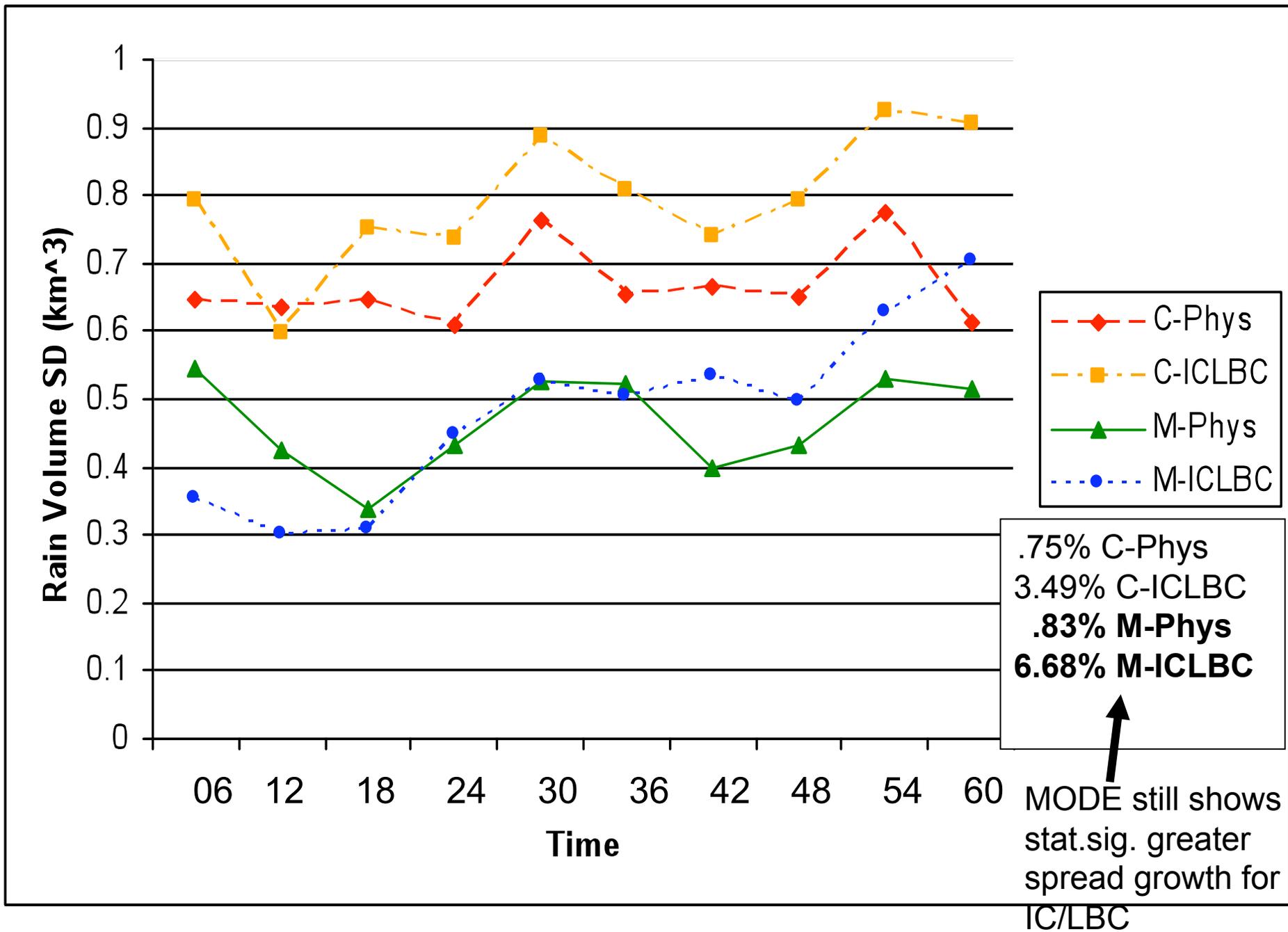
Other forecasting questions:

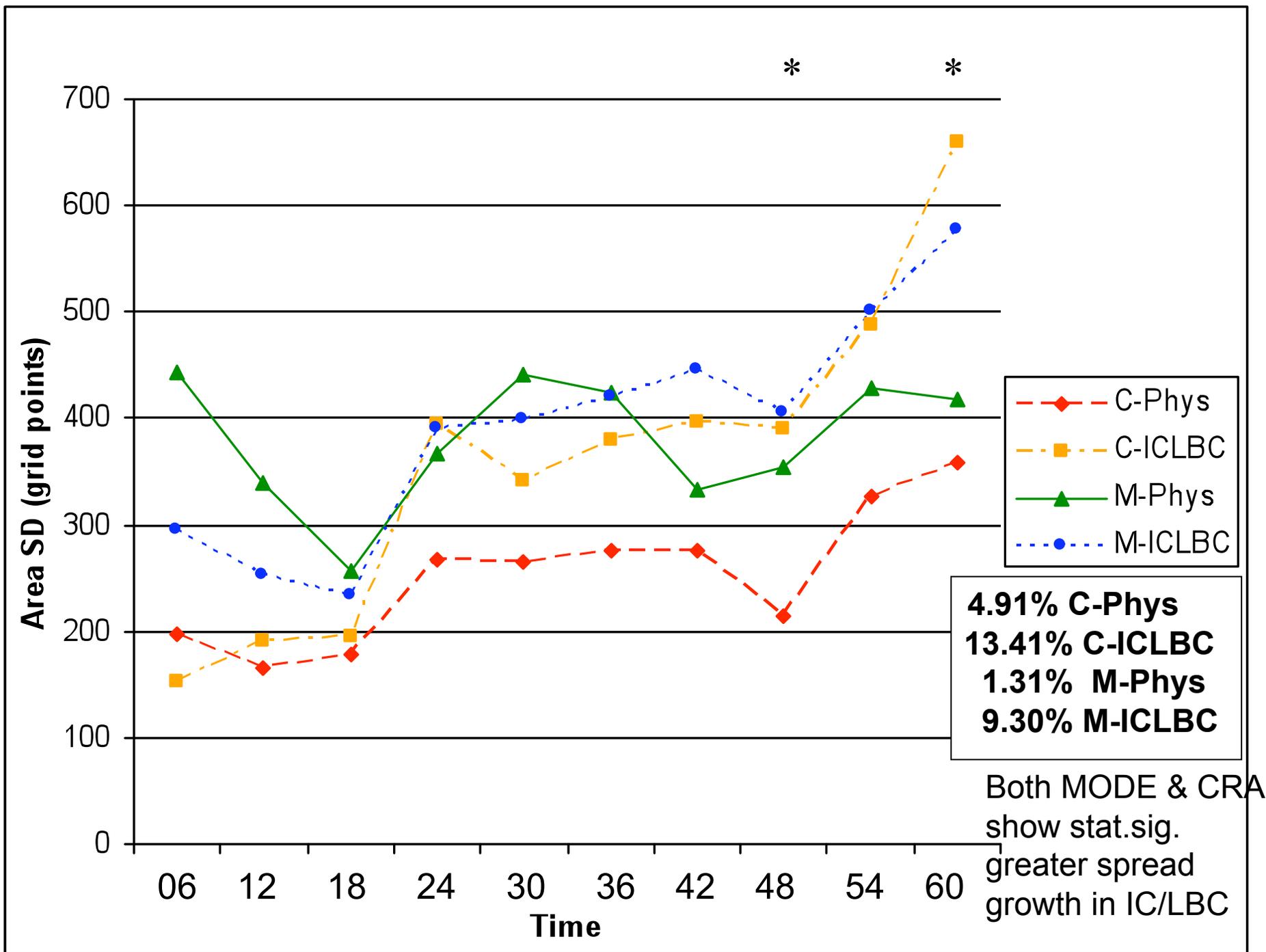
- Is the mean of the ensemble's distribution of object-based parameters (run MODE/CRA on each member) a better forecast than one from an ensemble mean (run MODE/CRA once)?
- Does an increase in spread imply less predictability?

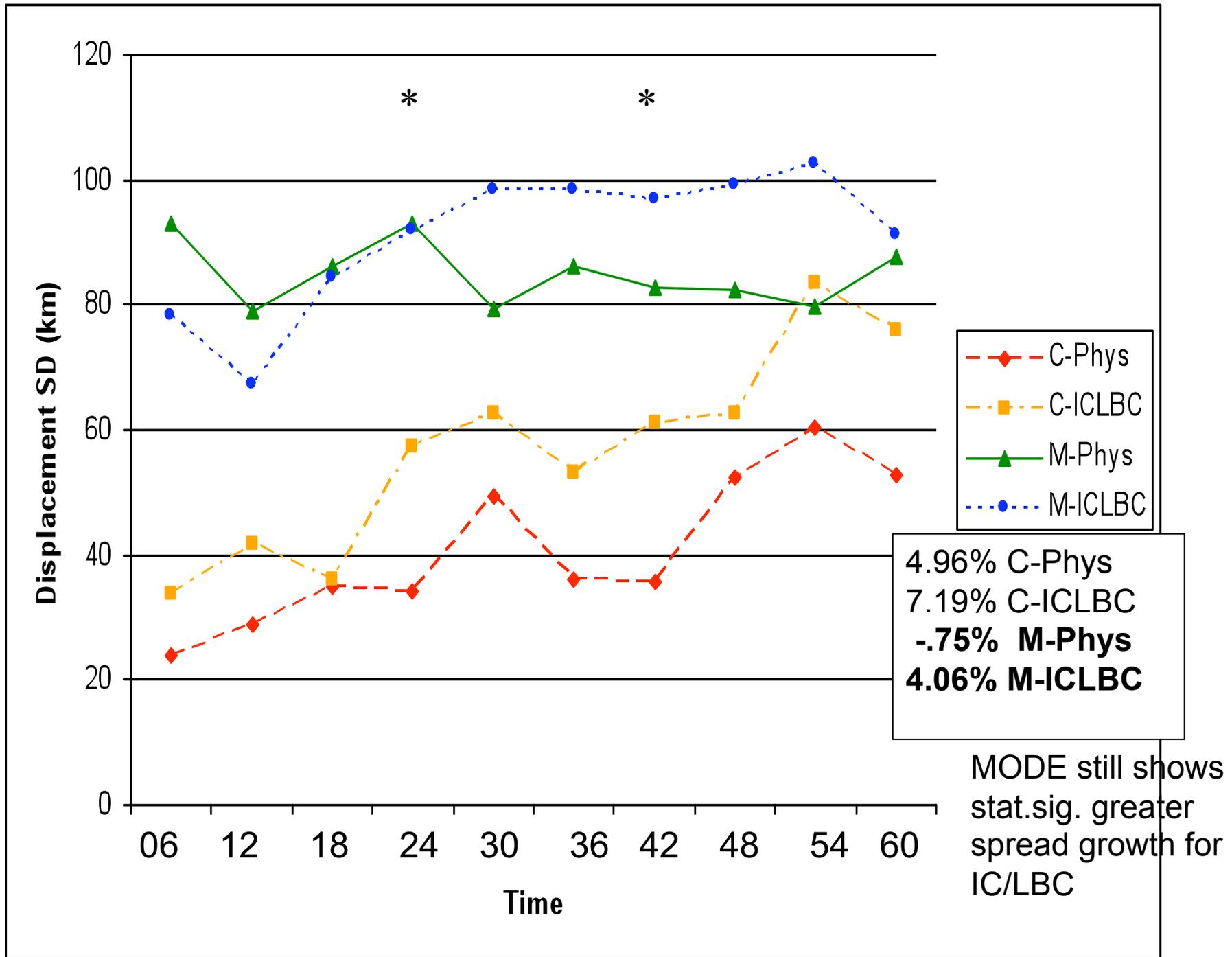
Object-based technique parameters examined:

- **Areal coverage**
- **Mean Rain Rate**
- **Rain Volume of system**
- **Displacement error**



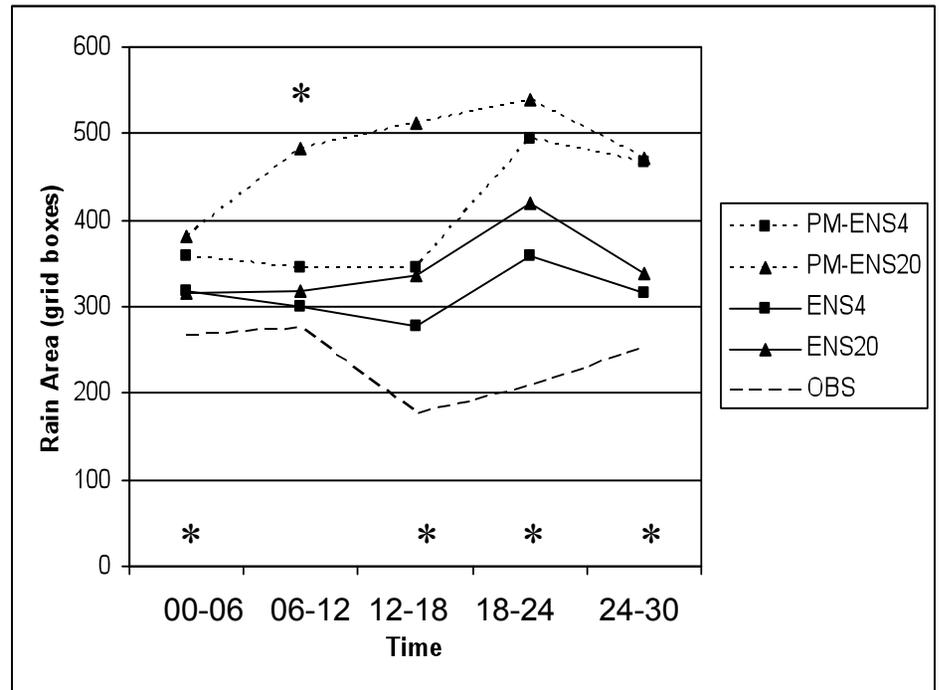
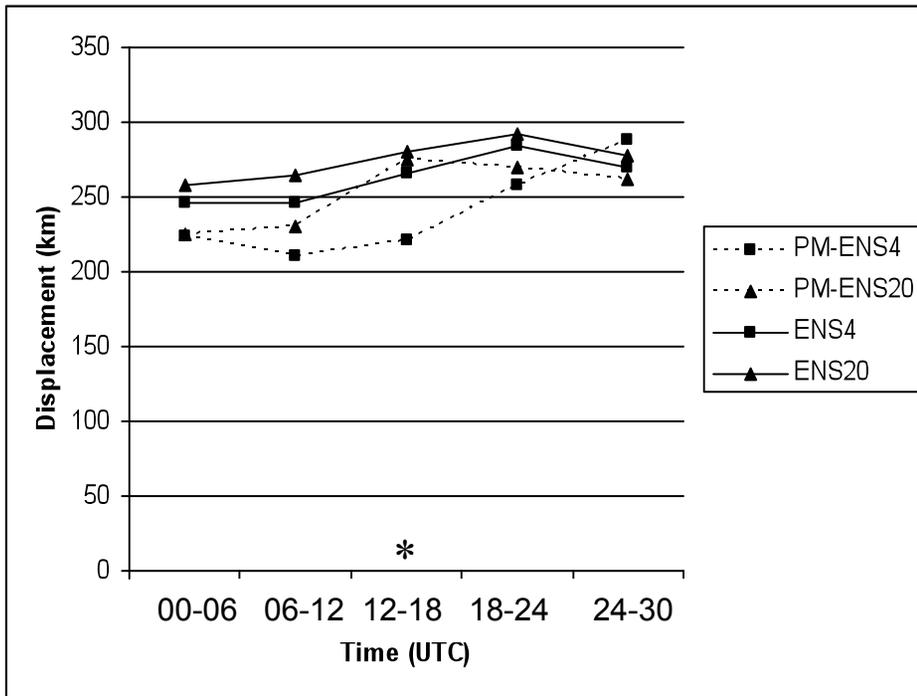






Conclusions (8 members)

- **Increased spread growth in IC/LBC compared to Phys does show up in the 4 object parameters, especially for Areal Coverage, and moreso in MODE results than CRA**
- **Diurnal signal (more precip at night) does show up some in Rate, Volume, and Areal coverage parameters**

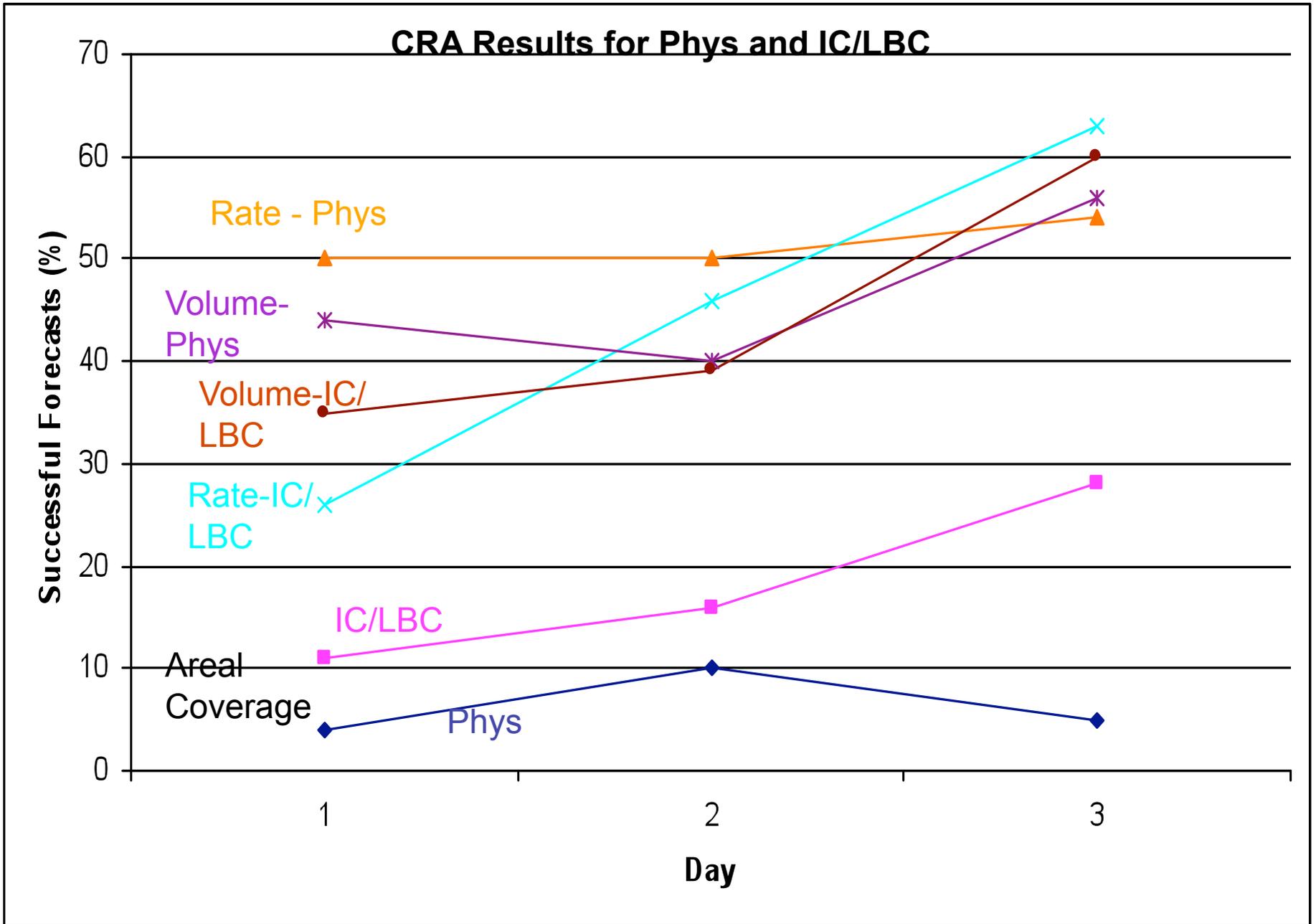


Asterisks at top (bottom) indicate stat.sig. difference for ENS20 (ENS4)

Comparison of Probability Matched Ensemble Mean (Ebert 2001) values to an average of the MODE output from each ensemble member

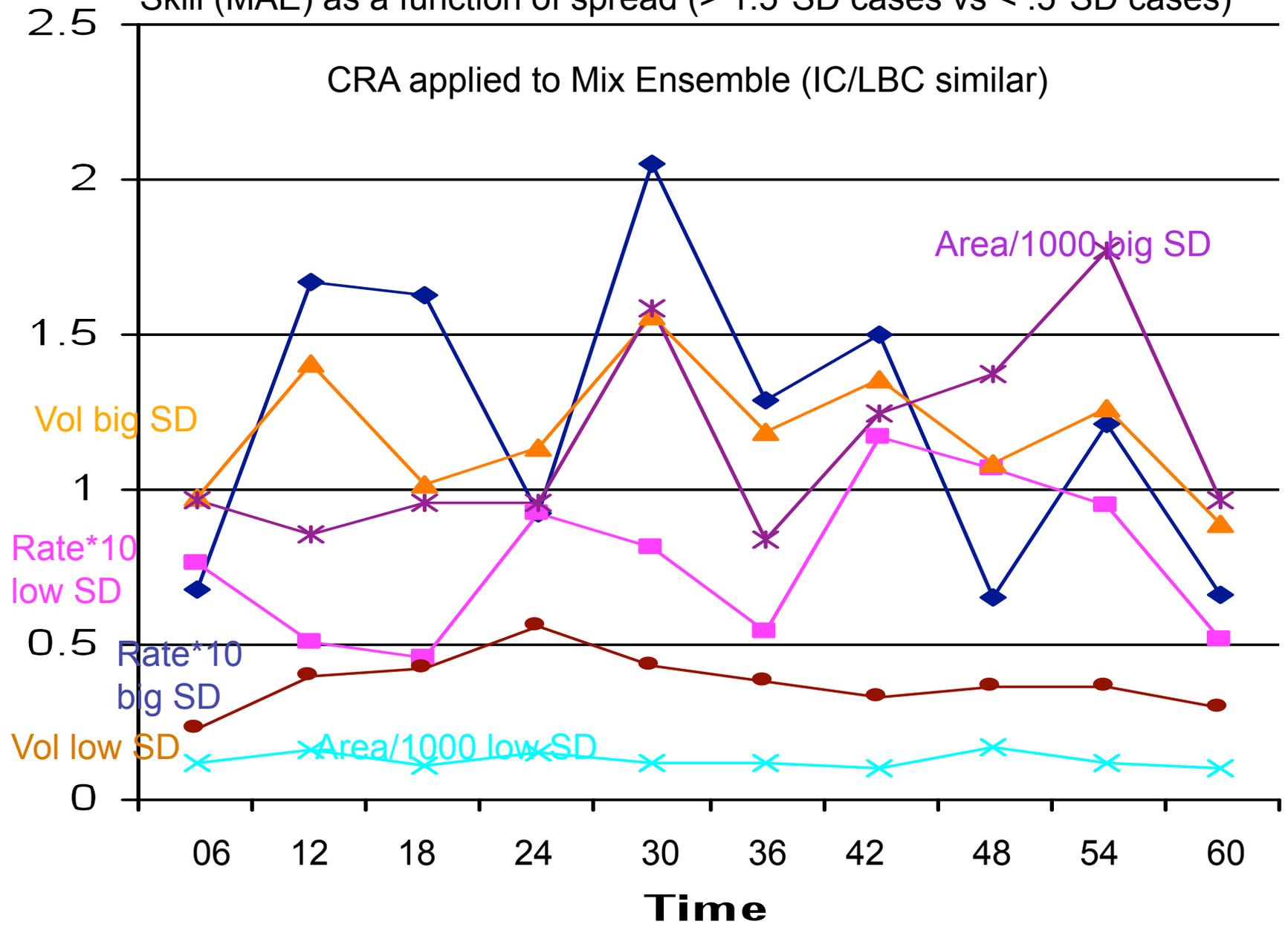
Note: PM may result in better forecast for location (smaller displacements) but a much worse forecast for area (also not as good for volume and rate – not shown)

Percentage of times the observed value fell within the min/max of the ensemble



Skill (MAE) as a function of spread ($> 1.5 \cdot SD$ cases vs $< .5 \cdot SD$ cases)

CRA applied to Mix Ensemble (IC/LBC similar)



Conclusions (forecasting approaches)

- For some parameters, application of MODE or CRA to PM-mean might be fine; for others it is better to use MODE/CRA on each member
- System rain volume and areal coverage show a clear signal for better skill when spread is smaller, not so true for rate
- *Average rain rate for systems is not as big a problem in the forecasts as areal coverage (and thus volume), which might explain lack of spread-skill relationship*
- **AREAL COVERAGE IS ESPECIALLY POORLY FORECASTED**

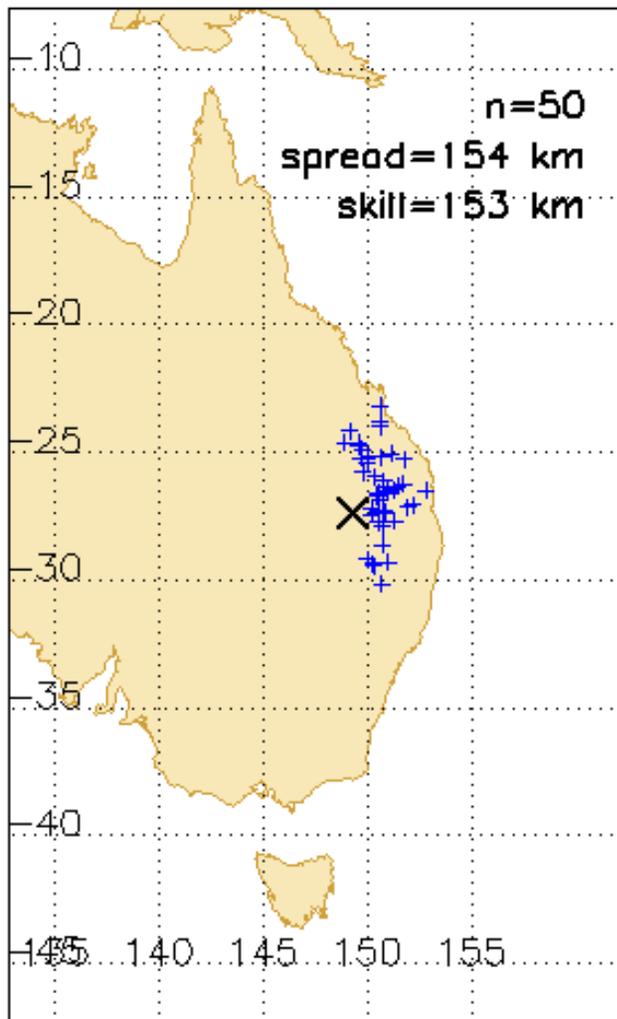
Difference in behavior of MSE and SD/Variance

- **Clark et al. (2008) found both MSE and Variances had maxima at time of diurnal max in precipitation (with MSE having higher amplitude signal), but ETS was best at these times – reflecting bias or small displacements**
- **Object parameters did not have MSE or SDs (or Variances) cleanly reflecting the diurnal precipitation signal.**

Some other questions to address using object approach

- **What does the number of members predicting an event say about its likelihood?**
- **Was the location of the center of the observed system found within an envelope (convex hull) of ensemble members' centers?**

Distribution of object locations



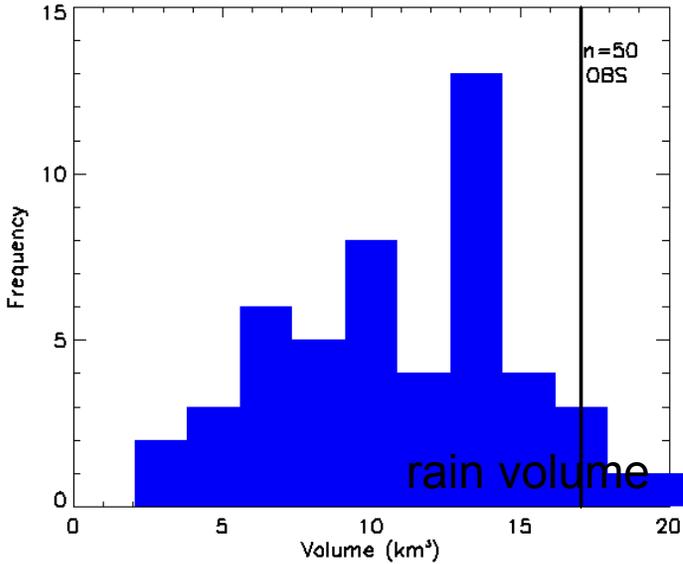
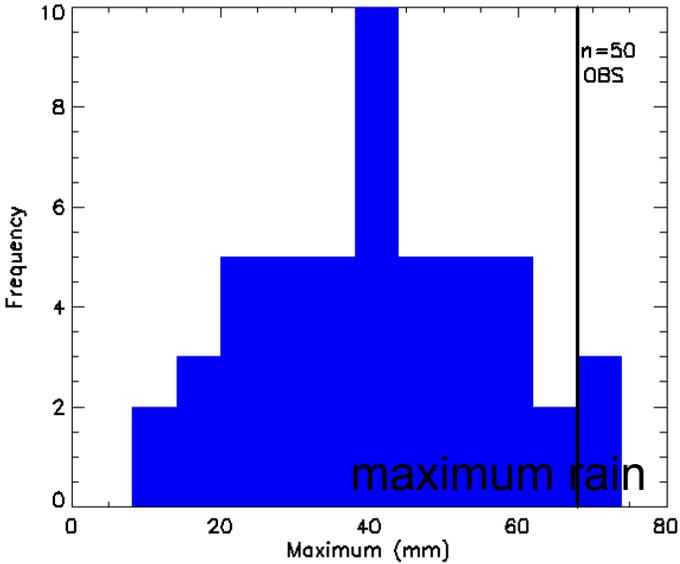
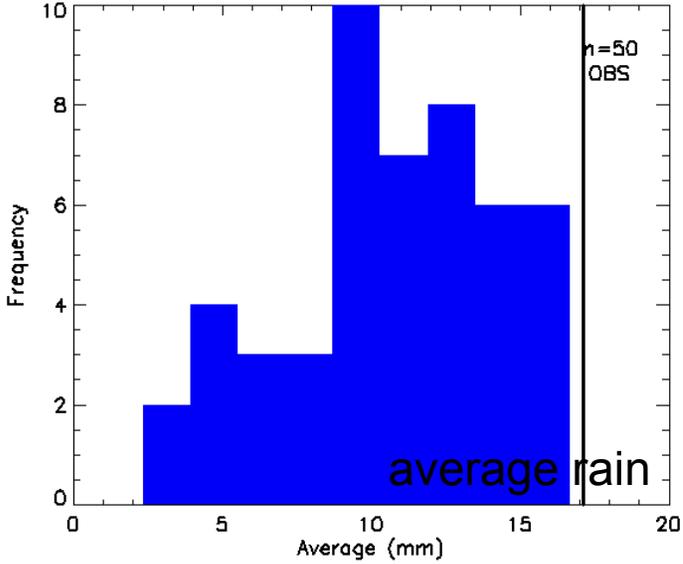
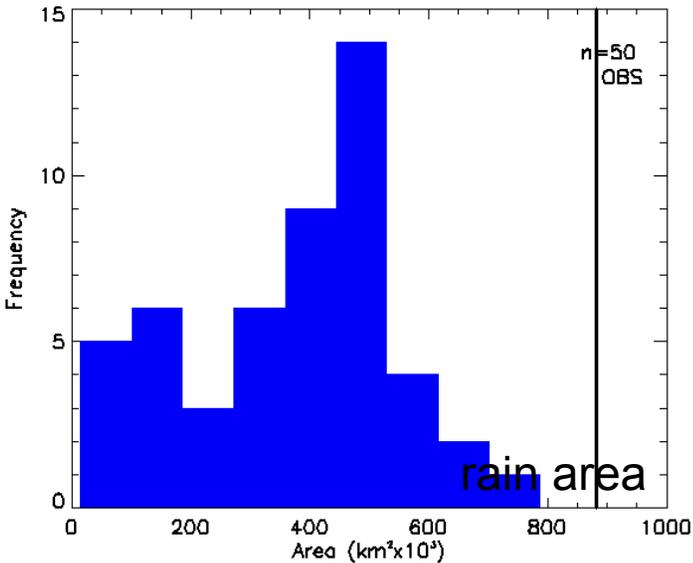
ECMWF EPS 4.5 day forecast
valid 00 UTC 5 Sept 08

location = mass weighted center of
event

spread = average distance to
ensemble median location

skill = distance between ensemble
median and observed location

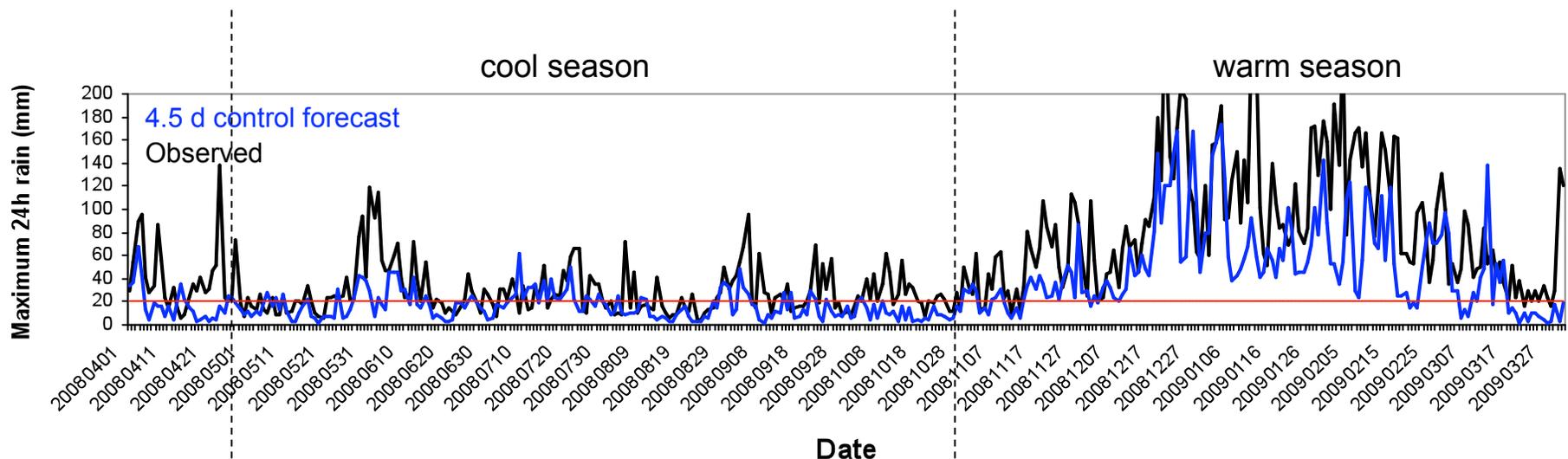
Distributions of object attributes



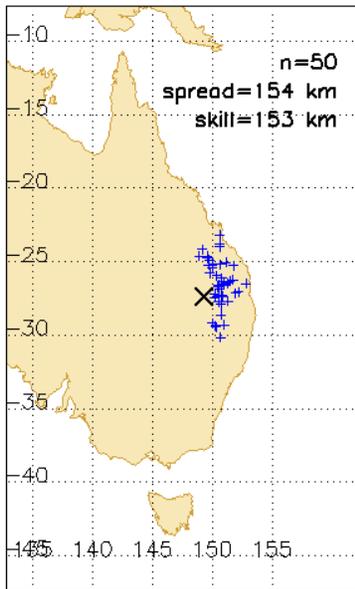
ECMWF EPS heavy rain verification

1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009

- ECMWF EPS @ T_L399L91 resolution (~0.5°)
- Forecasts of 24h rain accumulation to 228 h
- Verified against BOM operational daily rain gauge analysis (0.25°)
- 0.5° verification grid
- Verify individual ensemble members' CRAs defined by 5 mm d⁻¹ threshold
- Focus on events with observed or forecast maxima of ≥ 20 mm d⁻¹
- Stratify results by season and region



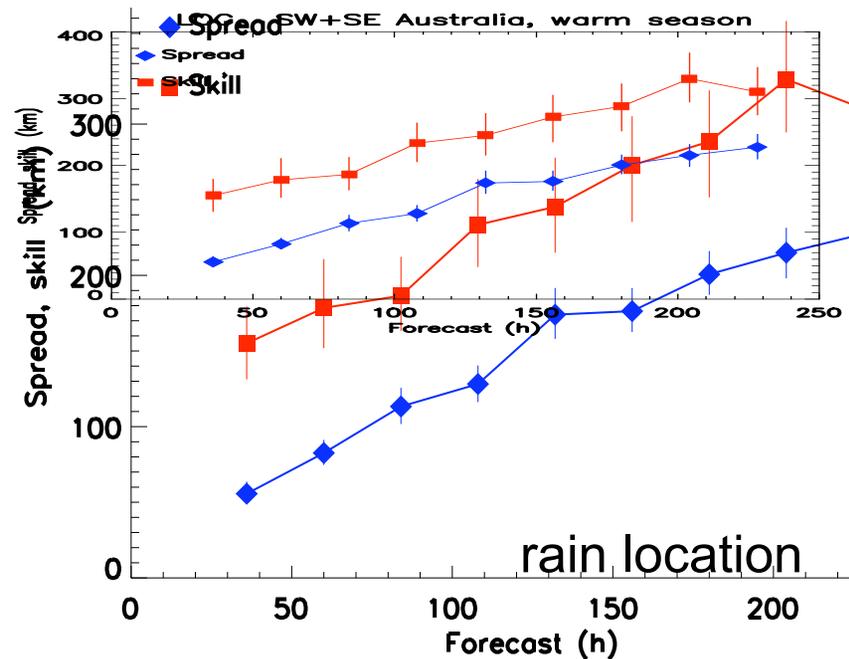
Spread and skill for location forecasts



Spread = average distance
to ensemble median
location

Skill = distance between
ensemble median and
observed location

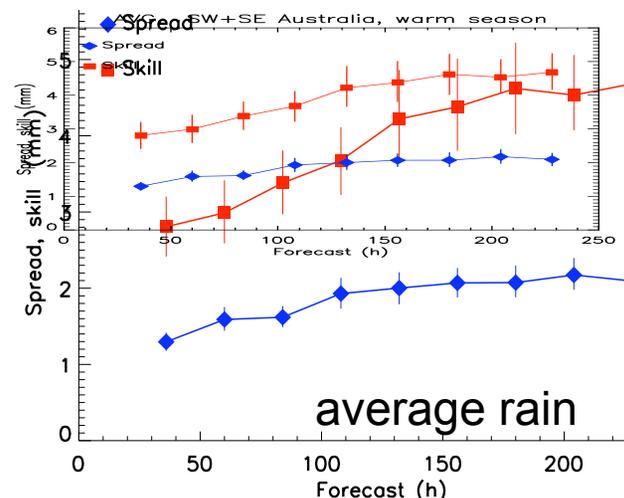
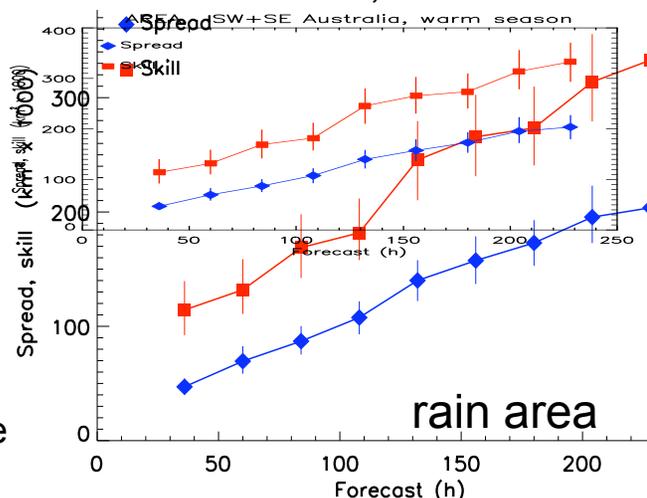
CRAs with max rain ≥ 20 mm d⁻¹
April 2008 – March 2009
Warm season, southern Australia
368 observed events
(plus 37 false alarms)



Spread and skill

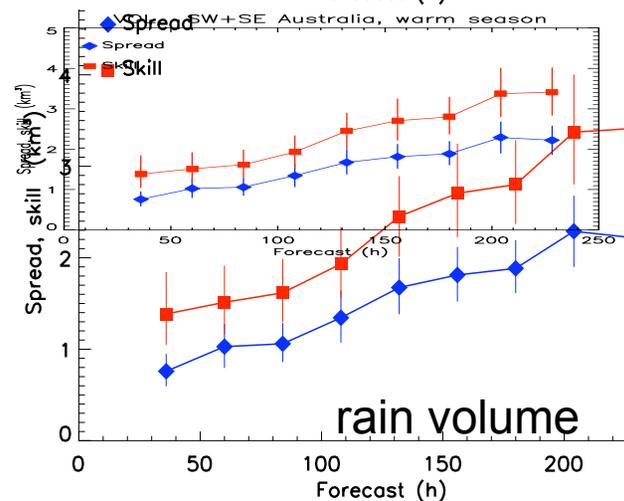
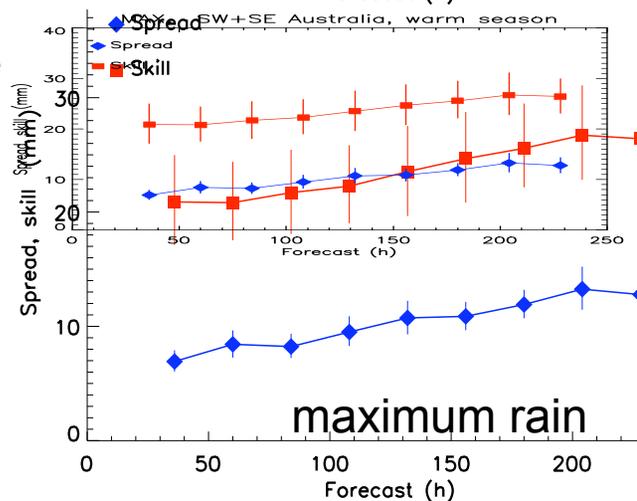
CRA with max rain ≥ 20 mm d⁻¹ April 2008 – March 2009

Warm season, southern Australia



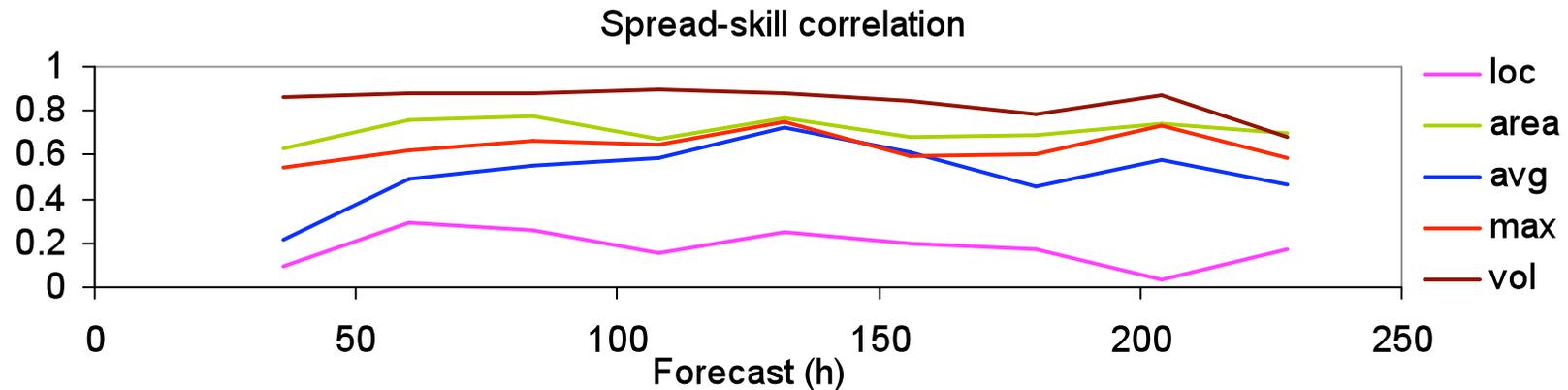
Spread = SD of ensemble attributes

Skill = RMSE of ensemble mean attribute



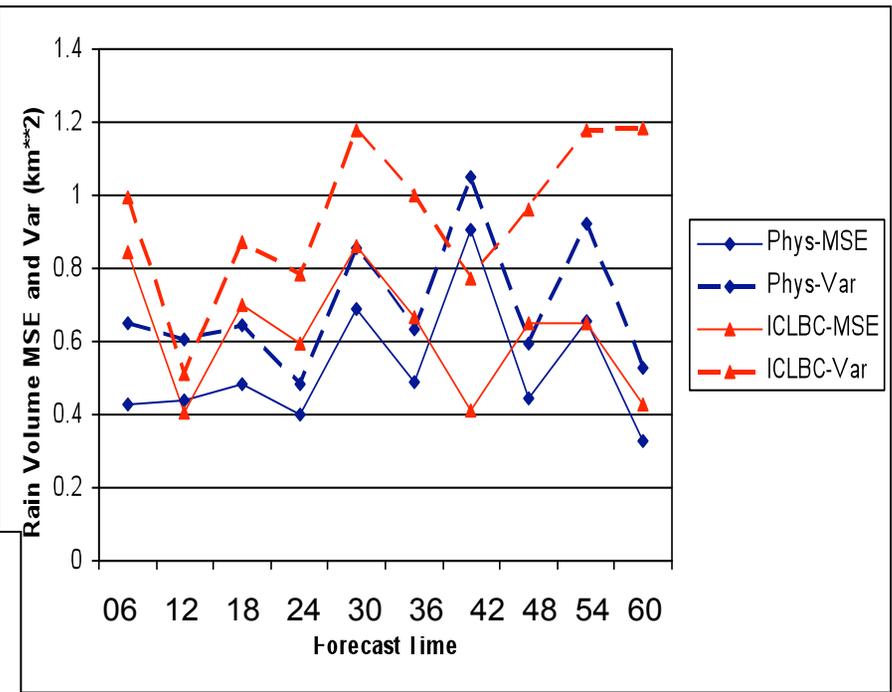
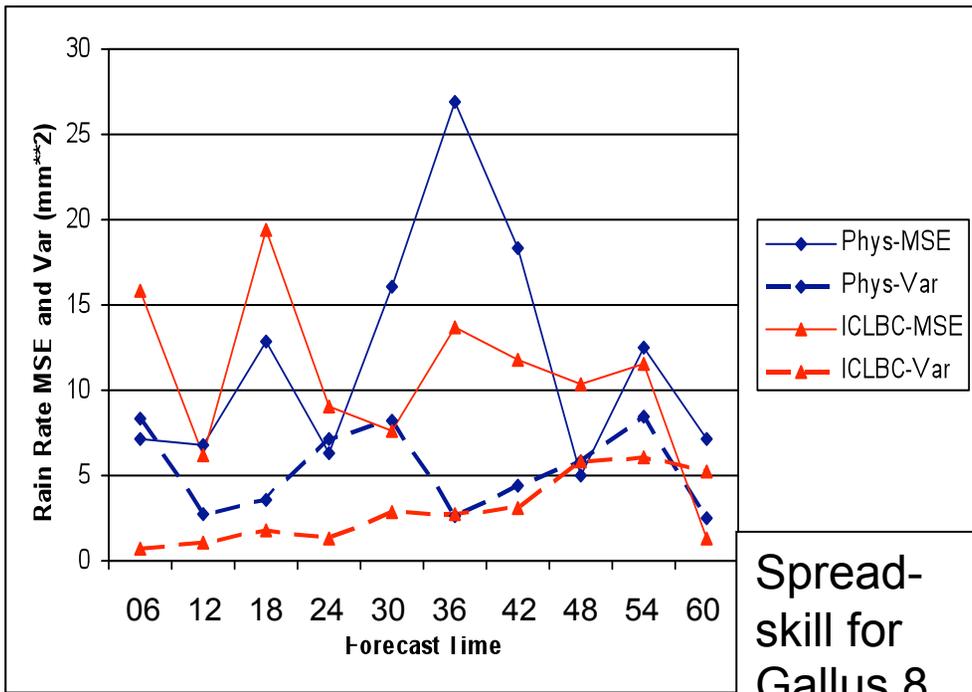
Object spread-skill correlations

CRA with max rain $\geq 20 \text{ mm d}^{-1}$ April 2008 – March 2009
 Warm season, southern Australia

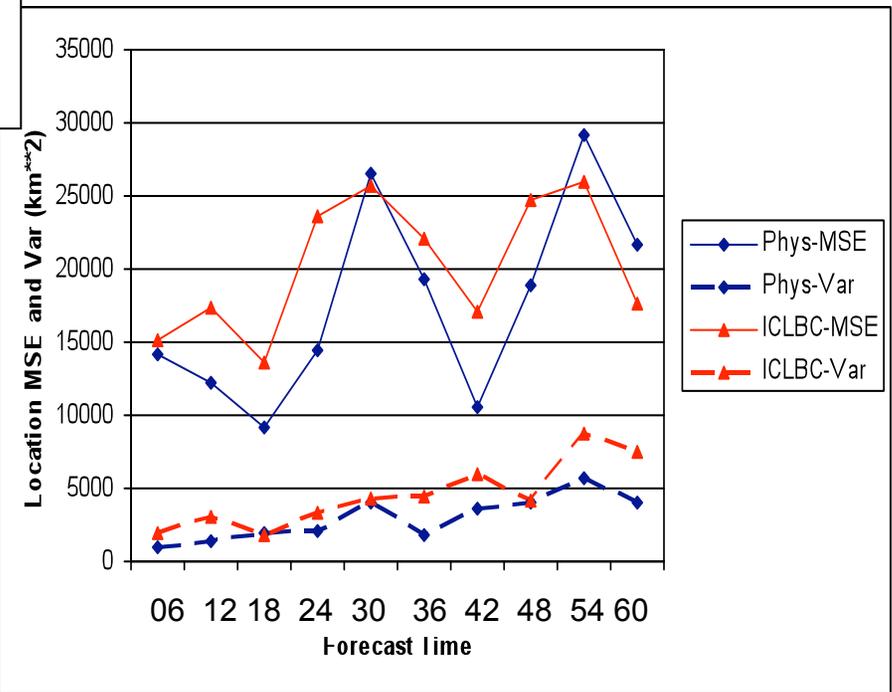
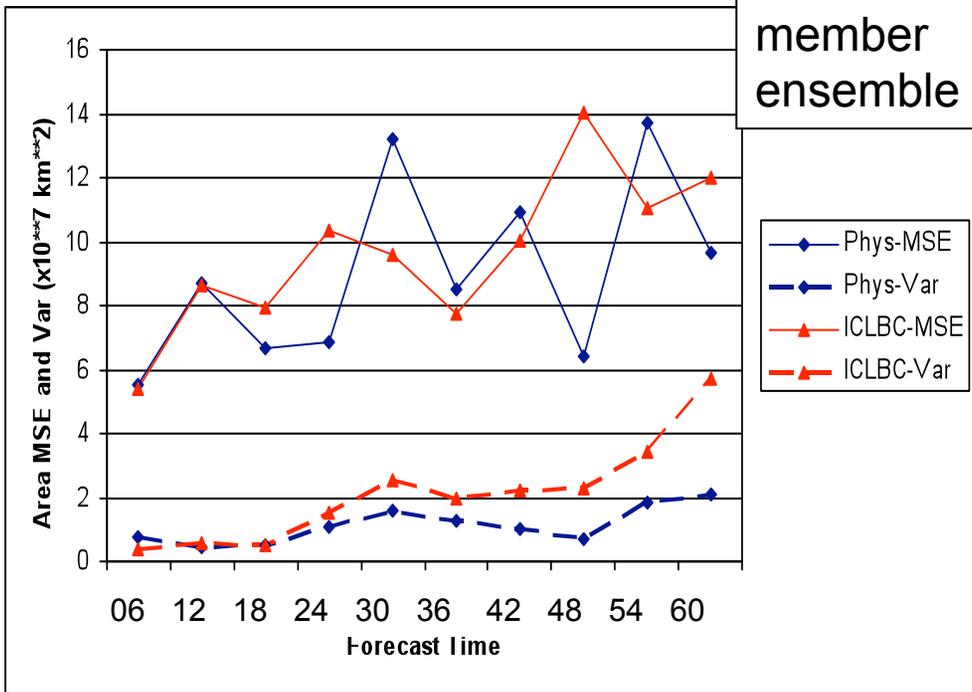


Attribute	object location	object area	object mean rainfall	object maximum rainfall	object rain volume
Mean spread-skill correlation	0.18	0.71	0.52	0.64	0.84

→ Uncertainty in heavy rain system properties can be predicted reasonably well except for location

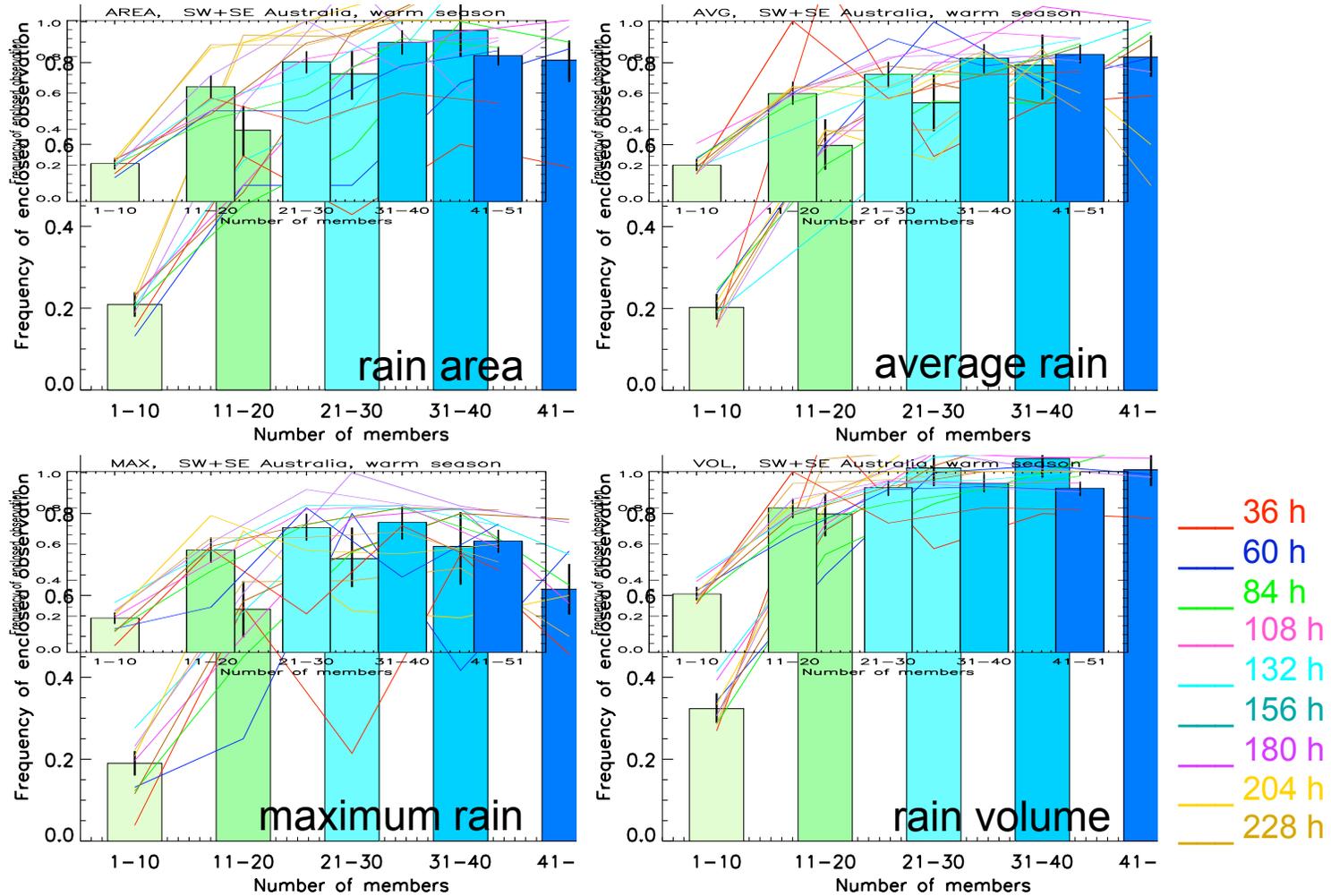


Spread-skill for Gallus 8 member ensemble



How often is the observed value within the ensemble distribution?

CRA with max rain ≥ 20 mm d⁻¹ Warm season, southern Australia



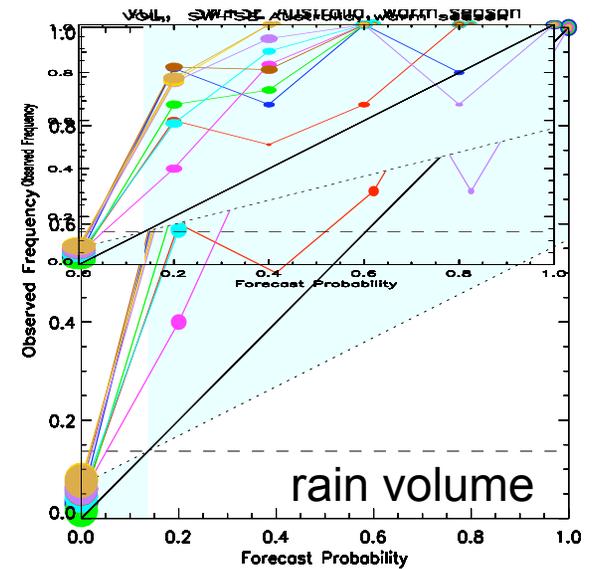
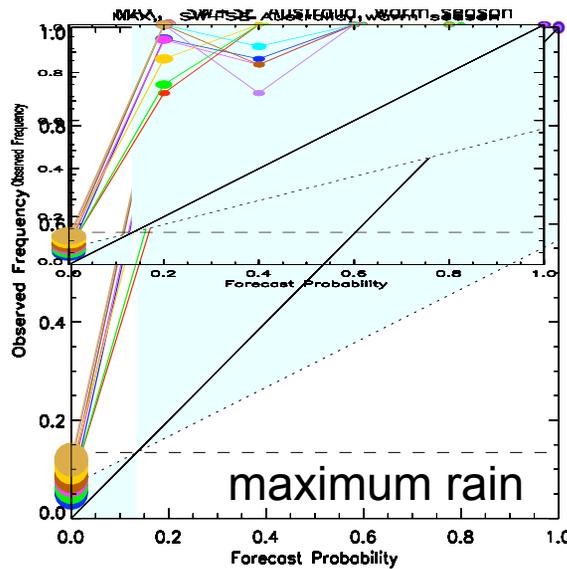
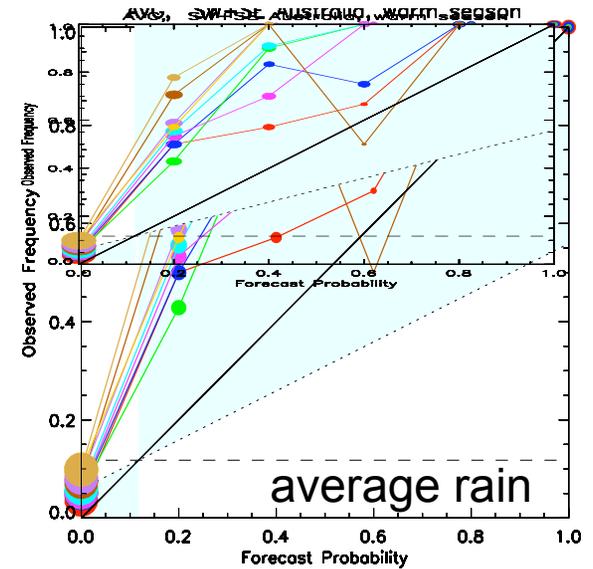
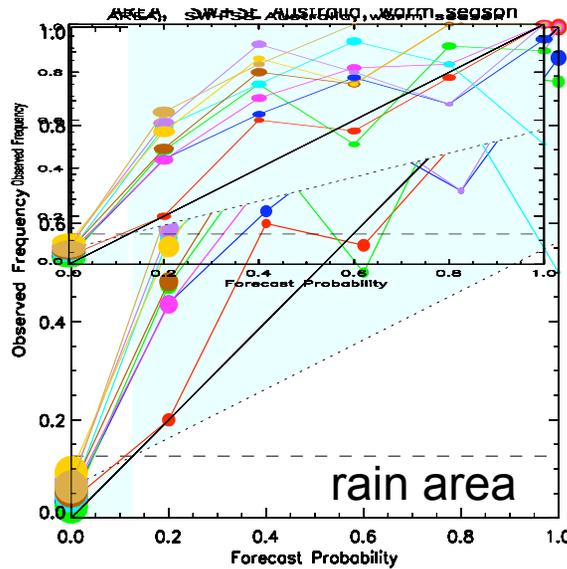
Probabilistic verification

- How accurate is the **distribution of features attributes** for the ensemble members?
- What thresholds to use? (these are for heavy rain)

Attribute	Median value
object area	$2 \times 10^5 \text{ km}^2$
object mean rainfall	10 mm d^{-1}
object maximum rainfall	40 mm d^{-1}
object rain volume	2.5 km^3

Does the number of ensemble members predicting an event have meaning?

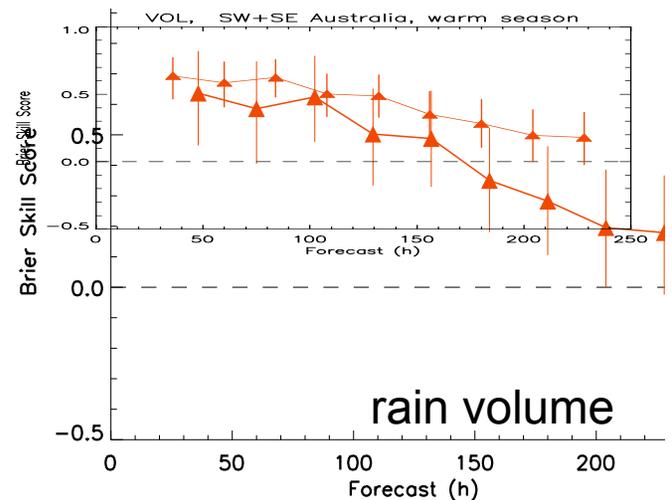
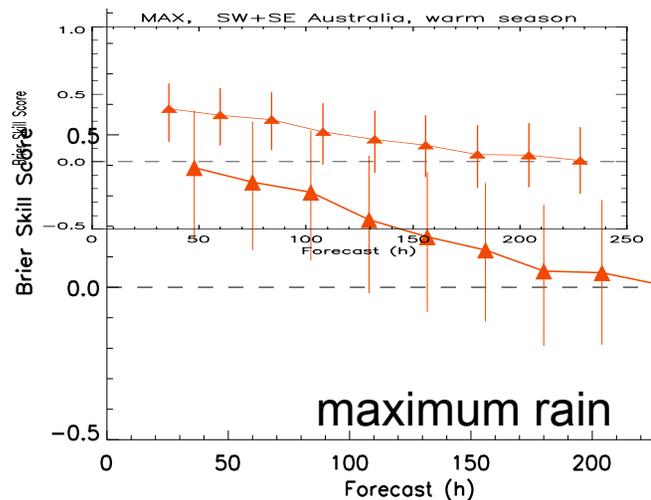
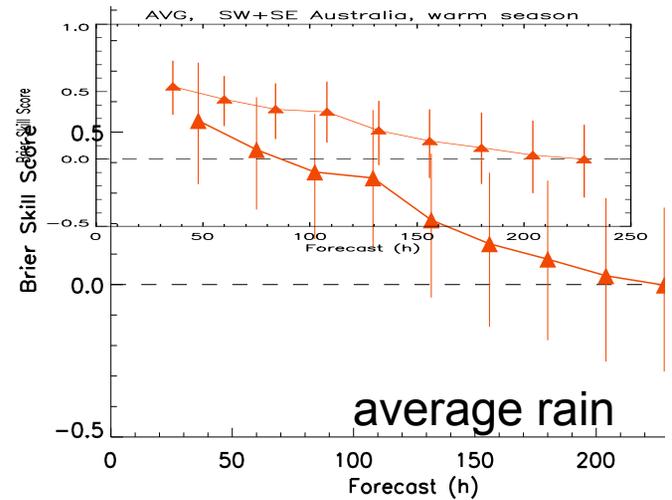
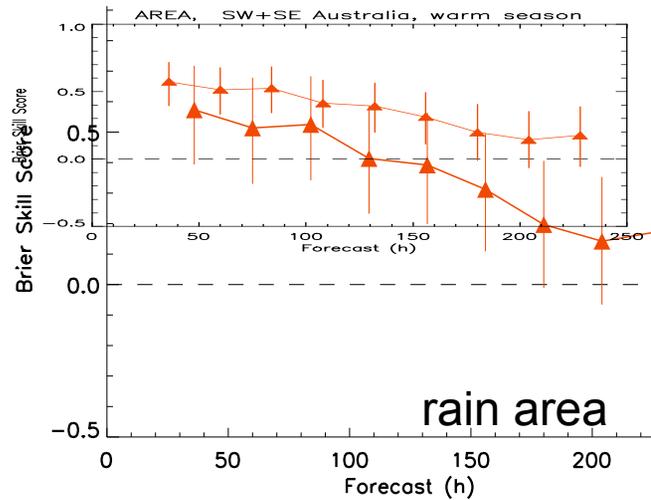
Forecast probability = fraction of ensemble members \geq threshold



- 36 h
- 60 h
- 84 h
- 108 h
- 132 h
- 156 h
- 180 h
- 204 h
- 228 h

Does the number of ensemble members predicting an event have meaning?

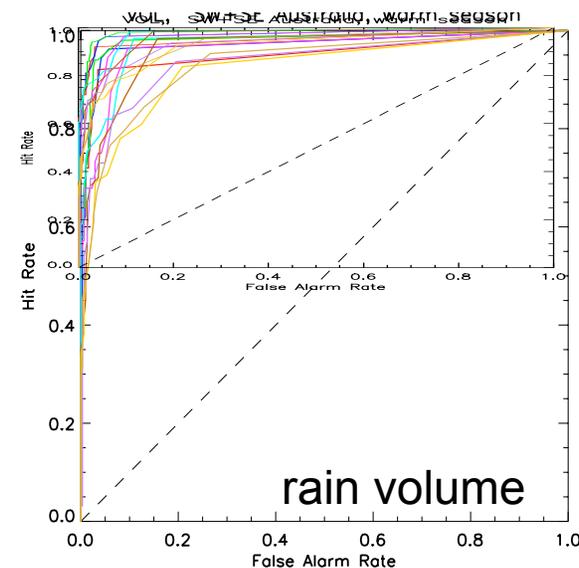
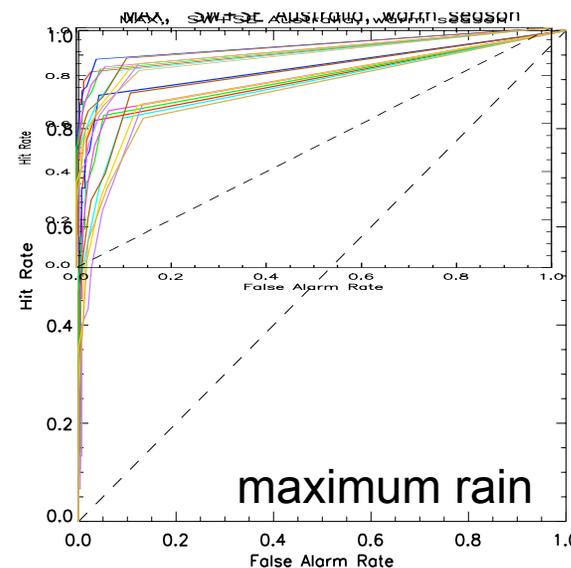
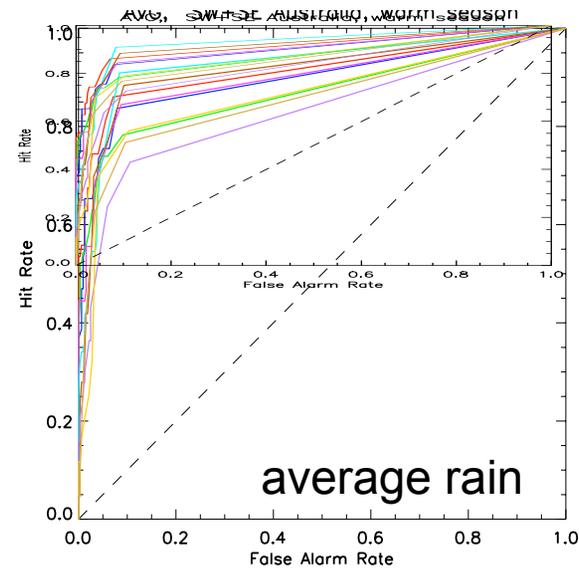
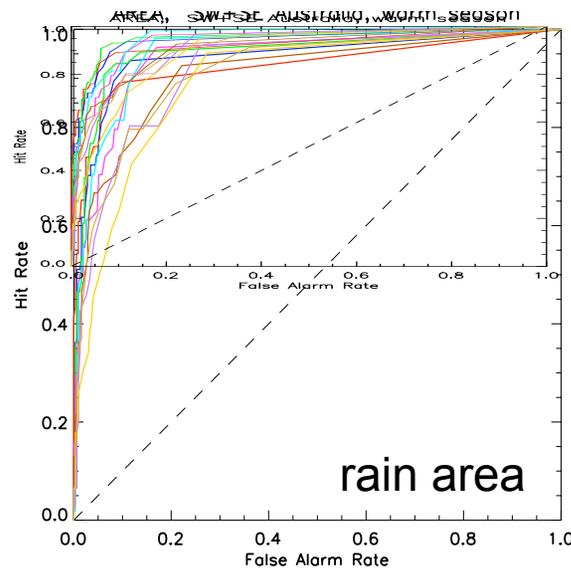
Brier skill score with respect to sample climatology of observed events



Does the number of ensemble members predicting an event have meaning?

ROC varies the number of ensemble members exceeding the threshold required for a "yes event" forecast

- 36 h
- 60 h
- 84 h
- 108 h
- 132 h
- 156 h
- 180 h
- 204 h
- 228 h



Early results

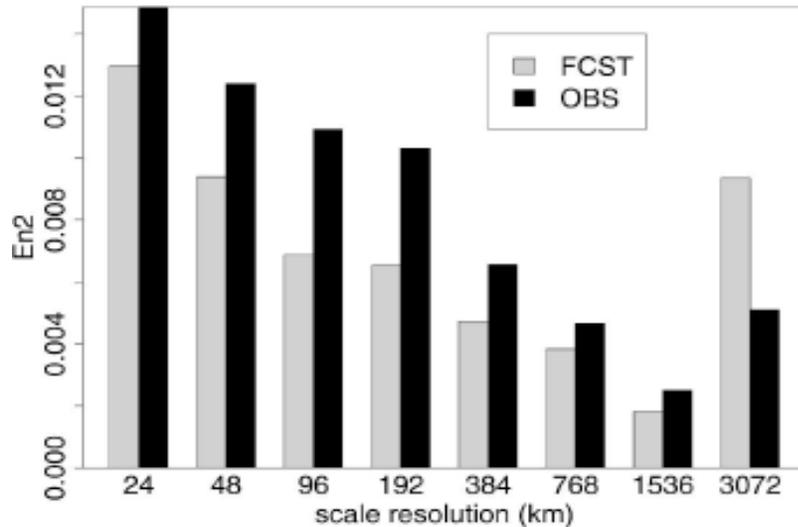
- **Object-based verification looks promising for evaluation of heavy rain events and other weather features**
- The ensemble spread is less than the RMSE of the ensemble mean for all object attributes (location, rain area, mean & max rain, rain volume)
- Spread-skill correlation is high (except for location)
→ **spread can be used to predict uncertainty**
- The more members predicting an event, the greater the chance of its observed properties being enveloped by the ensemble
- Probability forecasts for events were biased low
- Brier skill score consistently positive
- ROC shows high discrimination ability → calibration should help!

Acknowledgments

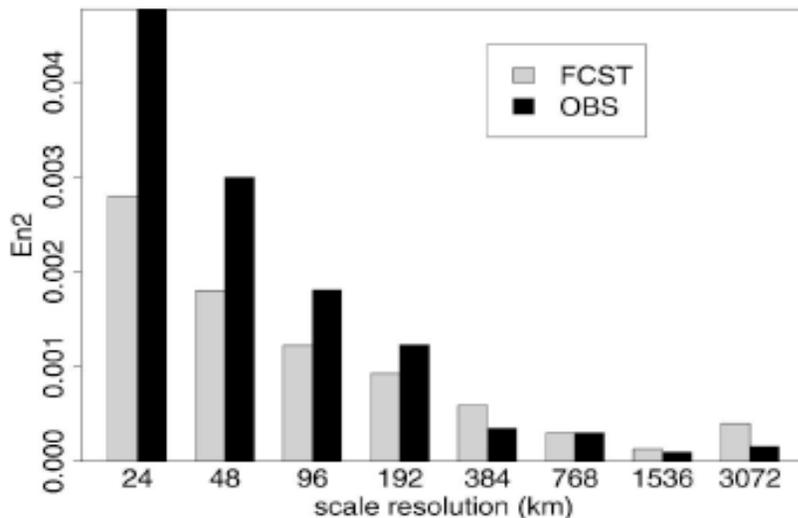
- Thanks are given to the many researchers who contributed information about their spatial techniques, including Steven Lack, Neil Fox, Caren Marzban, Barb Casati, Jason Nachamkin, Marion Mittermaier, and Heini Wernli
- Thanks to the DTC for funding the workshops and my own DTC visit
- Partial support for my own work comes from NSF grants ATM-0537043 and ATM-0848200

Energy on different scales

a) squared energy, any lightning



b) squared energy, intense lightning

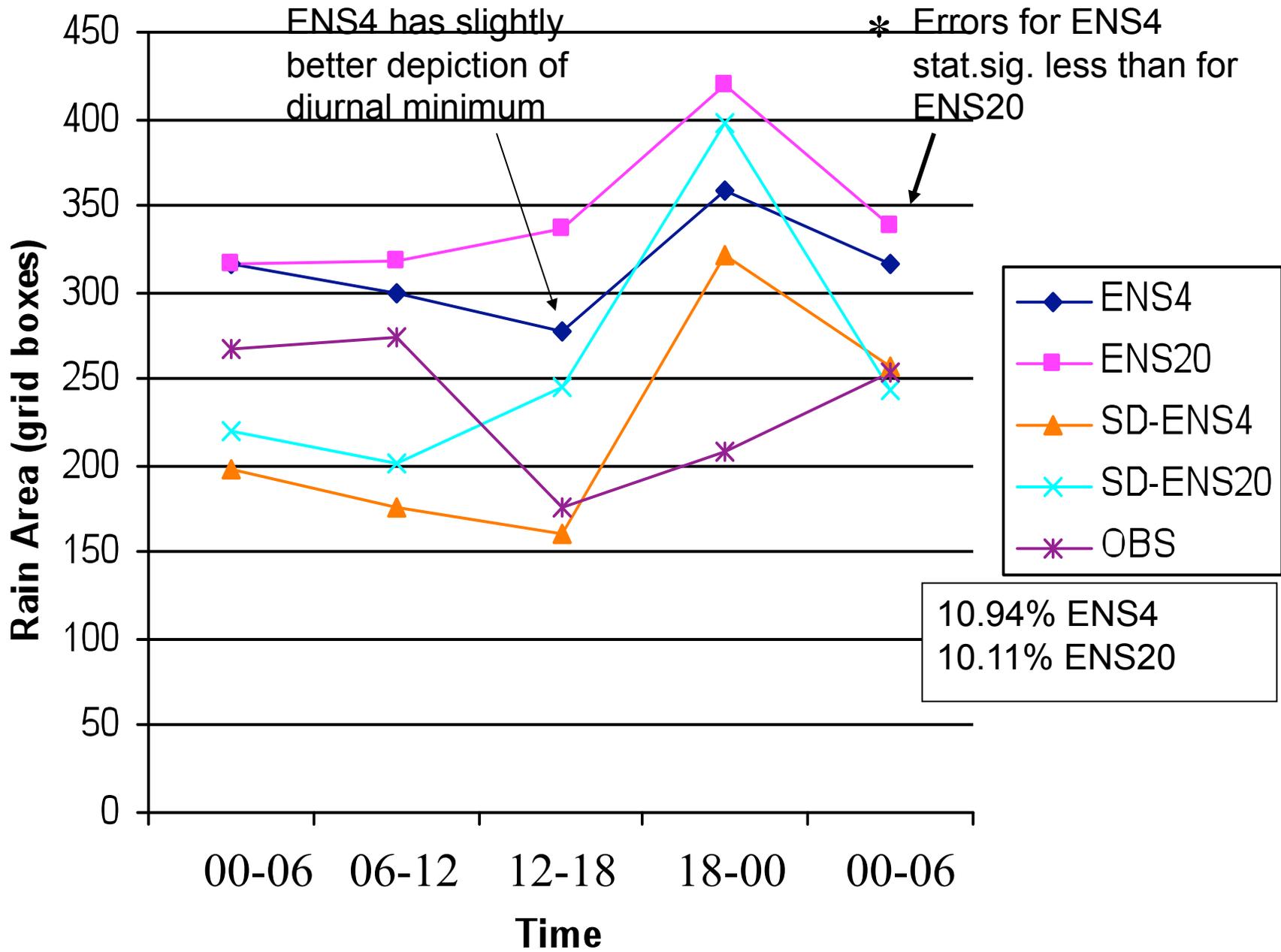


- Squared energy (En2) = average of squared values
- **En2 provides feedback on the number of events on each scales (& magnitude): more events for low thresholds and less for intense lightning**
- **Small scales have the largest number of events, the events decrease as the scale increases**
- **Comparison of forecast and obs En2 provide a measure of the bias on different scales: under-forecast on small scales, over-forecast on largest scale and large scales for intense events**

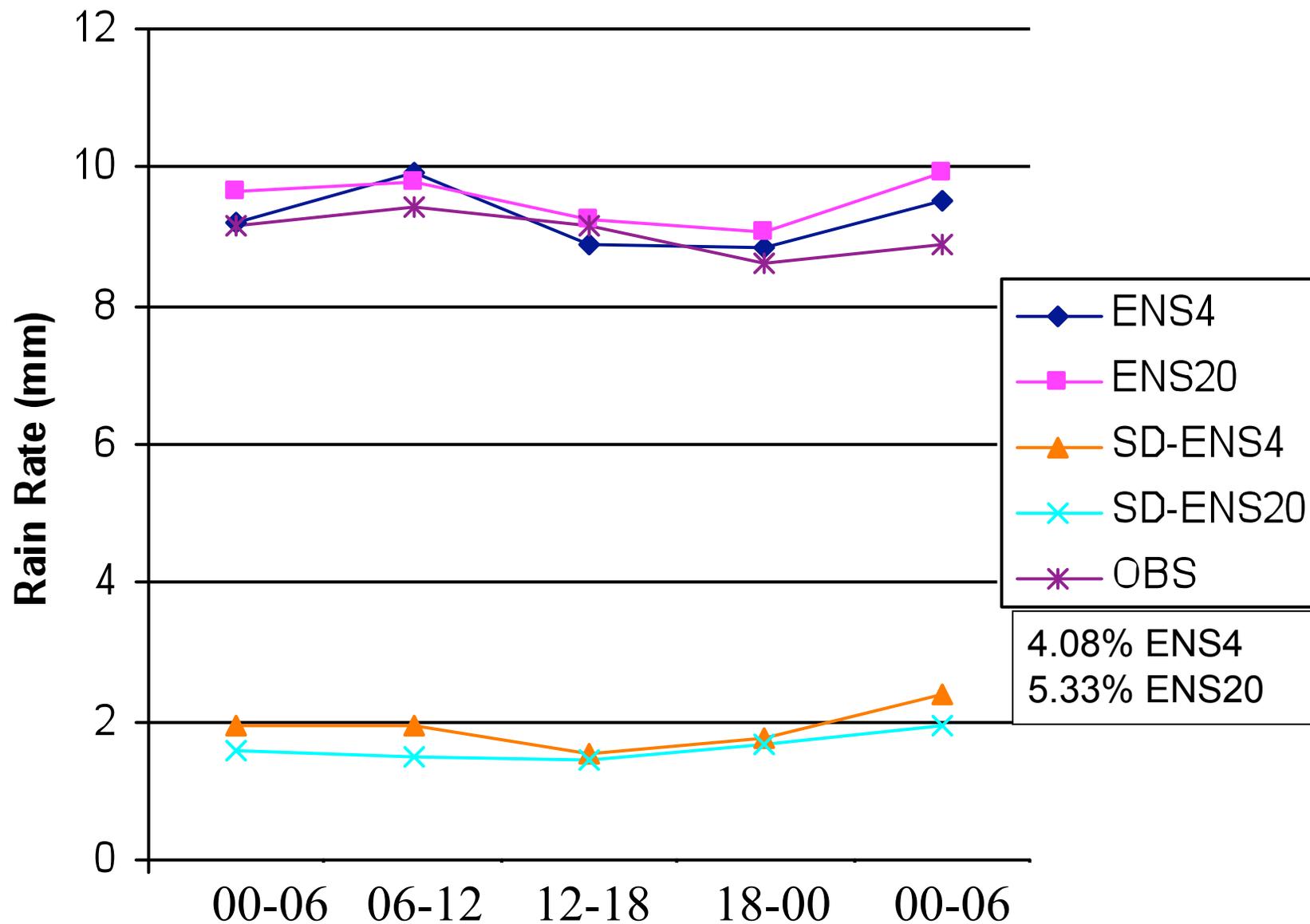
ENS4 vs ENS20

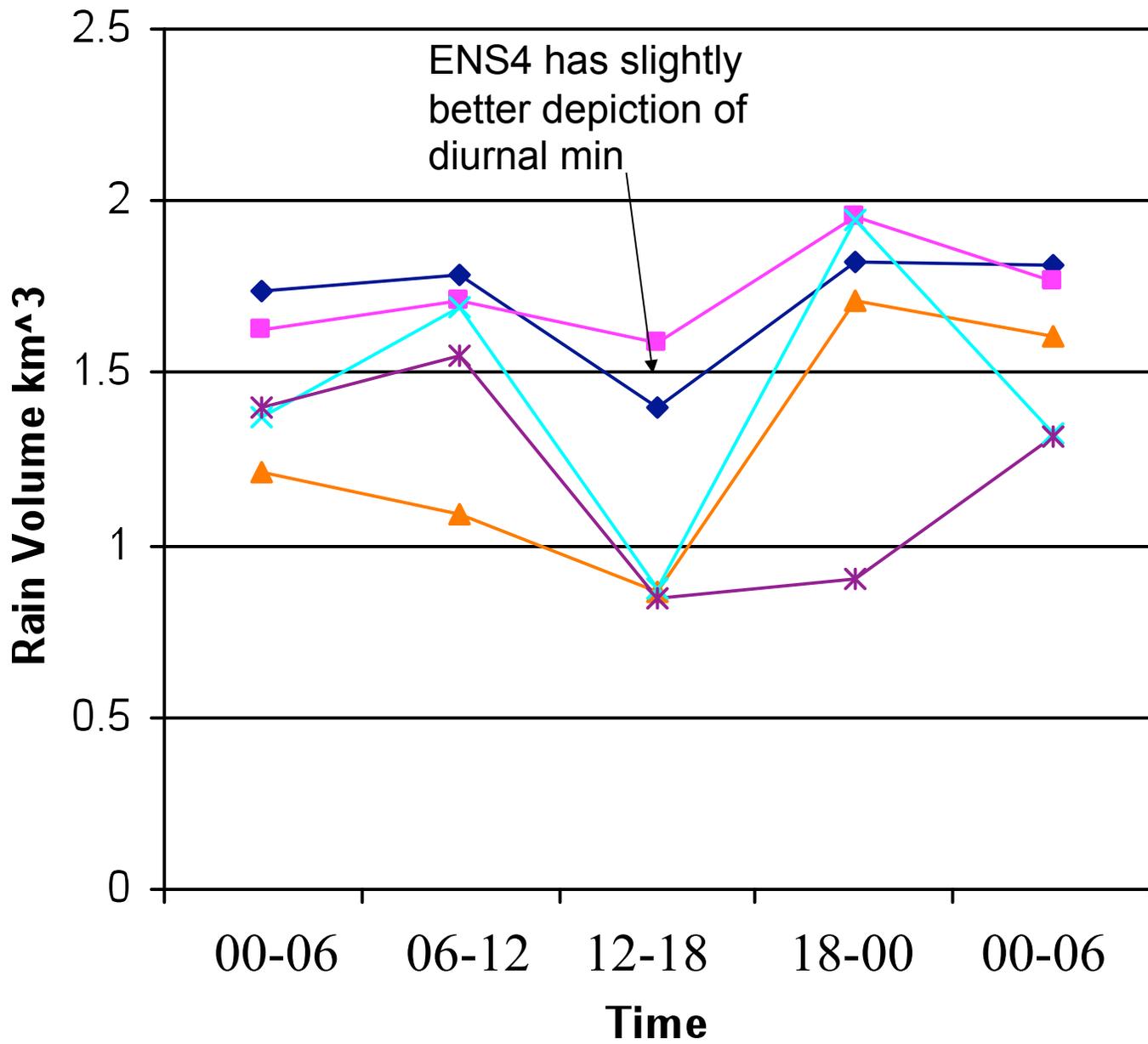
- 6 hour precipitation evaluated over 30 h integrations from 23 cases, with all precipitation remapped to a 20 km grid
- Clark et al. (2009) found spread growth was faster in ENS4 than in ENS20
- ENS4 had a much better depiction of the diurnal cycle in precipitation

Question: Do these two results also show up in the object parameters



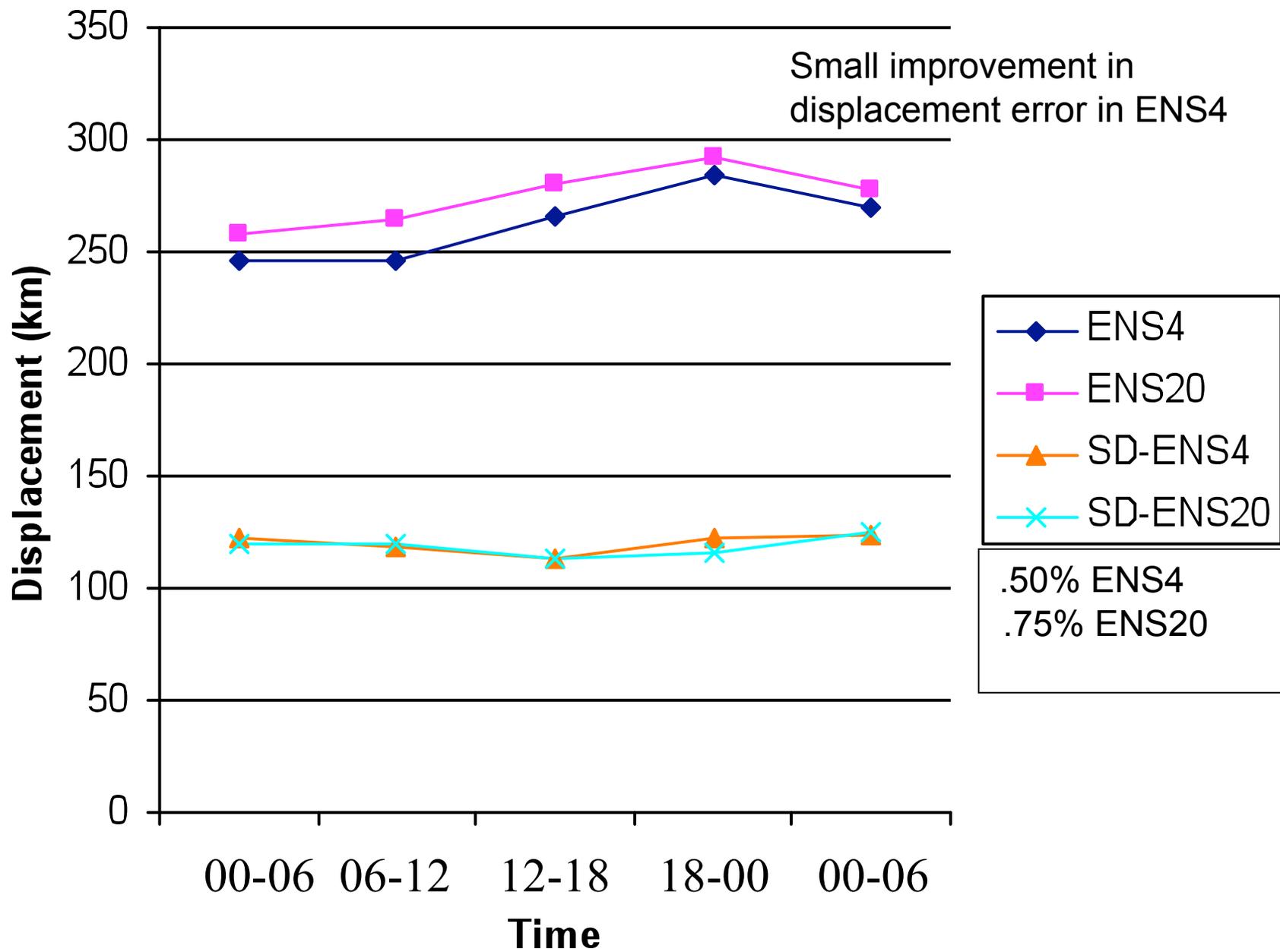
Notice SDs are a much smaller portion of average values than for other parameters





- ENS4
- ENS20
- SD-ENS4
- SD-ENS20
- OBS

10.29% ENS4
1.08% ENS20



Conclusions (ENS4 VS ENS20)

- Hint of better diurnal signal in ENS4 (Area and Volume)
- ENS4 seems more skillful (but not usually statistically significant)
- Volume best shows faster spread growth in ENS4 compared to ENS20, but results not as significant as in 8 member ensembles
- Rain rate has less variability among members, and is better forecasted

