Localized Aviation MOS Program (LAMP): New Approaches and Techniques for Improved Guidance

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The Future of Statistical Post-Processing in NOAA and The Weather Enterprise

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The Localized Aviation MOS Program (LAMP)

 Objective -- Improve on MOS forecasts and persistence out to at least 25 hours through rapid infusion of current observational data and the most recent forecast inputs.

Project Goals:

- Develop improved LAMP guidance for use in aviation forecasting.
 - Provide station-based LAMP guidance valid at NWS TAF stations.
 - Provide gridded LAMP guidance for inclusion in NWS Enhanced Digital Services.
- Focus on weather elements that are critical to the aviation community, such as: ceiling height, visibility, convection, and winds.



• Background:

- LAMP combines METAR, radar, satellite cloud product, and lightning observations with forecasts from MOS and direct model output to create station-based and gridded guidance
- LAMP runs hourly and includes the most recent observations to produce valuable guidance in the short-range period for the aviation community
- Development is done both at stations and on a grid
- Technique is multiple linear regression
- Challenges:
 - Gridding of discontinuous fields
 - Quality of observational data
 - Rapidly-changing models problematic for LAMP since hourly cycles very time-intensive to re-develop (24 cycles, 2 seasons, backup & primary eqns)
 - Short-range rapidly-updating guidance requires a different approach than long-range guidance requires

- Methodology traditional MOS technique:
 - 1. Station-based development and application:
 - Suitable when predictand & predictors are at stations
 - The multiple linear regression equations are developed at stations
 - The guidance is produced at stations and analyzed to a grid



Applies to most elements, including ceiling height and visibility

LAMP Statistical Postprocessing: Ceiling and Visibility

- Challenge: It is challenging to post-process model output for non-normally distributed elements like ceiling and visibility because:
 - typical bias-correction techniques assume quasi-normally distributed data.
 - until recently, model forecasts did not exist for these fields. Even now, the model algorithms to forecast these elements are still evolving and improving.
 - need for good-quality gridded "truth."
- New technique: MDL is testing a "second-order regression development"
 - Development:
 - Statistically post-processed current LAMP with HRRR ceiling & visibility direct model output at stations → new LAMP+HRRR Meld equations
 - Generalized Operator Approach \rightarrow many cases
 - Persisted the longest HRRR projection to provide continuity in forecasts beyond HRRR period
 - Thresholds developed to convert from probabilities \rightarrow single value forecast
 - Implementation:
 - \circ Evaluate Meld equations and thresholds at stations \rightarrow updated LAMP guidance at stations
 - Evaluate Meld equations at gridpoints → gridded LAMP probability guidance
 - Apply thresholds to gridded probabilities at gridpoints → updated LAMP gridded deterministic guidance

LAMP + HRRR Cool Season CIG

Threat Score: Ceiling Height < 1,000 FT, 1200 UTC cycle 4 months independent data



LAMP + HRRR Cool Season CIG

Threat Score: Ceiling Height < 1,000 FT, 1200 UTC cycle 4 months independent data







LAMP Statistical Postprocessing: Ceiling and Visibility

- Benefits of new ceiling and visibility development approach:
 - Incorporation of high-resolution detail into the grids.
 - Simpler development \rightarrow quicker redevelopment in response to changing models.
 - Probabilities created via the Meld are consistent with the deterministic guidance grids.
 - Inclusion of HRRR model output provides a mesoscale forecast component currently lacking in LAMP.



Probabilistic Guidance

Deterministic Guidance

Methodology – traditional MOS technique:

2. Gridded development and application:

- Suitable when predictand & predictors are gridded
- The multiple linear regression equations are developed at grid points via a multiscale blend of observation and model predictors
- The guidance is produced at gridpoints and also interpolated to stations



Applies to Convection and Lightning

LAMP Statistical Postprocessing: Upgraded Convection

• Challenge:

- Users need higher temporal and spatial resolution of convection products while at least maintaining current skill level.
- New technique:
 - 1-h valid periods instead of 2-h periods
 - Probabilities produced on 10-km grid instead of 20-km grid
- Predicted convection event is probability of occurrence of:
 - MRMS reflectivity 40 dBZ or higher and/or
 - One or more ENI total lighting (TL) flashes
- Predictors derived from:
 - Observed and advected QC'd MRMS grids
 - Observed and advected TL grids
 - HRRR model forecasts
 - GFS-based MOS convection probabilities
 - NAM-based MOS convection probabilities



LAMP Statistical Postprocessing: Upgraded Convection

Benefits of new convection approach:

- Incorporation of high-resolution data provides improved spatial resolution
- Improved quality of predictors and predictands provides ability to improve temporal resolution
- Inclusion of HRRR model output provides a mesoscale development and dissipation component currently lacking in LAMP

18z LAMP Convection Probability: 23 Dec 2015, 12-h forecast



1-h: (A) has better spatial focus for convection line from northwest AL to western PA, (B) as for (A) in southeast AL; (C) forecasts convection observed over Lake Superior while 2-h does not show this feature.

• Still needed!!

- Re-forecasts of model data when models are upgraded.
- Re-analyses of URMA when URMA is upgraded. We need the "truth!"
- AMS extended manuscripts detailing this work will be updated to the LAMP website shortly

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Thank You!

Backup Slides

LAMP + HRRR Cool Season VIS

Threat Score: Visibility < 3.0 mi, 1200 UTC cycle 4 months independent data



LAMP + HRRR Cool Season VIS

Threat Score: Visibility < 3.0 mi, 1200 UTC cycle 4 months independent data



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