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The challenge of visualizing ensemble forecast products for non-expert users

Météo-France has launched a significant project to modernize its base-line production using ensemble forecast as input data.

This project called 3P includes three parts that address the constitution of the reference database (that will be used in all the production line), the use of ensemble forecast by the forecasters in operation and the constitution of new products with a good overview of uncertainties.

The presentation will focus on new products and more exactly on the issue of visualisation and comprehension of non-expert end users.

Based on user meetings and a very detailed user survey, Météo-France has a better knowledge of their comprehension of probabilistic products.

It appears that there is a huge gap between non-expert's understanding of these products and the wealth of information contained in a probabilistic product.

Visualisation of uncertainties is the main issue and a major concern that weather providers need to resolve.

Results of the survey and propositions of new ways of presenting uncertainties from ensemble forecast will be shown and discussed.

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