

UEF 2024  
6<sup>th</sup> June 2024

# Machine Learning Activities at ECMWF: an overview

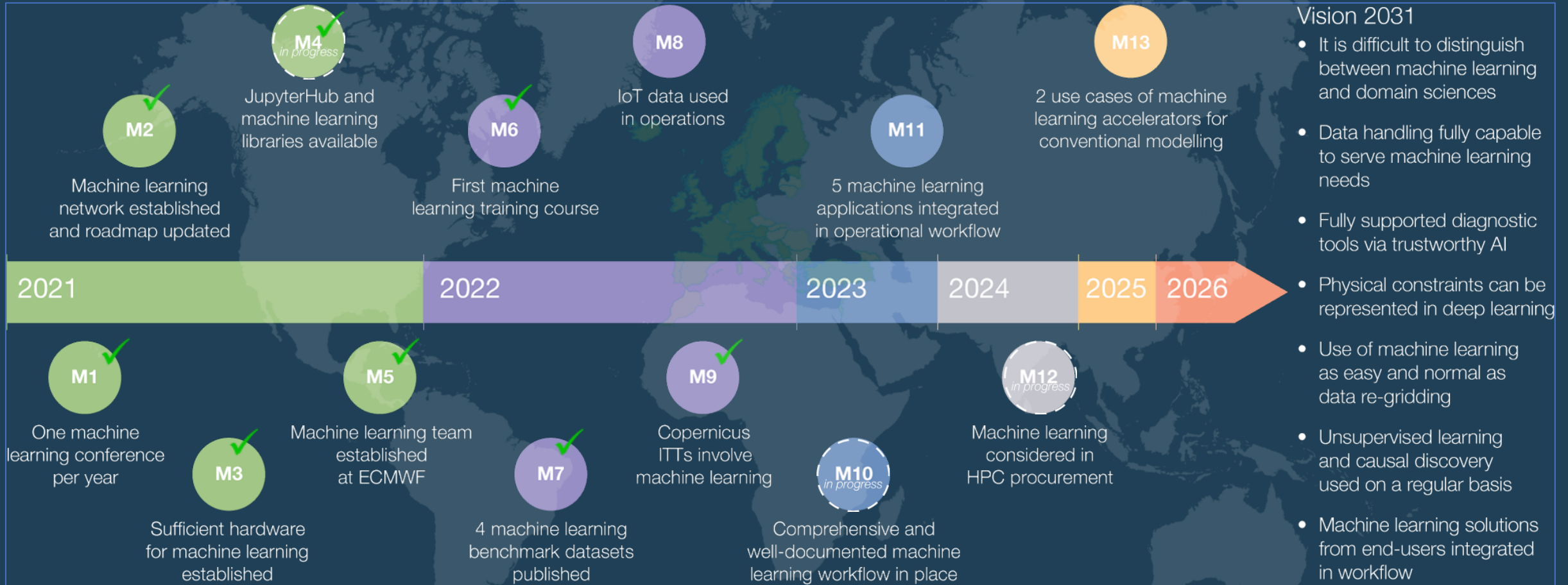


Mariana Clare

*with thanks to all involved in Machine Learning activities at ECMWF*

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# What the ML Roadmap has achieved so far



# a very busy and FAST evolving landscape

**Huawei – PanguWeather**  
0.25° hourly product

“More accurate tracks” than the IFS.

**Nov 2022**  
Tropical cyclones

**Microsoft – ClimaX**

Forecasting various lead-times at various resolutions, both globally and regionally

**Jan 2023**  
Global & Limited Area

**NVIDIA – SFNO**  
0.25° 6-hour product

Extension of FourCastNet to Spherical harmonics, improved stability

Spherical harmonics

**Jun 2023**

2018 ECMWF's ML scientific publication

**ECMWF's**  
Peter Dueben and Peter Bauer publish a paper on using ERA5 at ~500km resolution to predict future z500.

**Feb 2022**  
Full medium-range NWP

**Keisler - GraphNN**  
1°, competitive with GFS  
**NVIDIA – FourCastNet**  
Fourier+, 0.25°  
**O(10<sup>4</sup>) faster & more energy efficient than IFS**

**Dec 2022**  
Extensive predictions

**Deepmind – GraphCast**  
0.25° 6-hour  
Many variables and pressure levels with comparable skill to IFS.

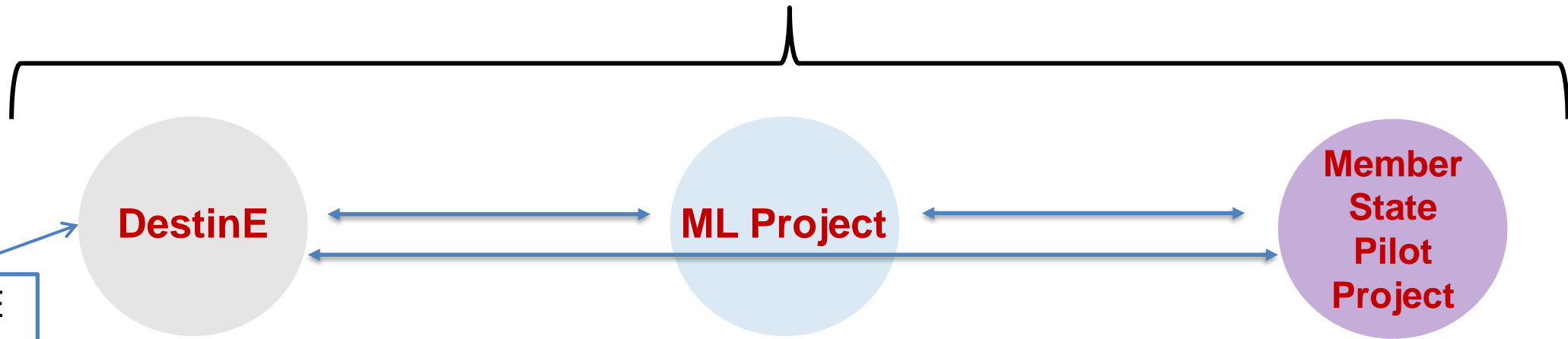
**Apr 2023**  
7-day+ scores improve

**FengWu – China academia + Shanghai Met Bureau**  
0.25° 6-hour product  
Improves on GraphCast for longer leadtimes (still deterministic)

Diffusion modelling

**Alibaba – SwinRDM**  
0.25° 6-hour product  
Sharp spatial features

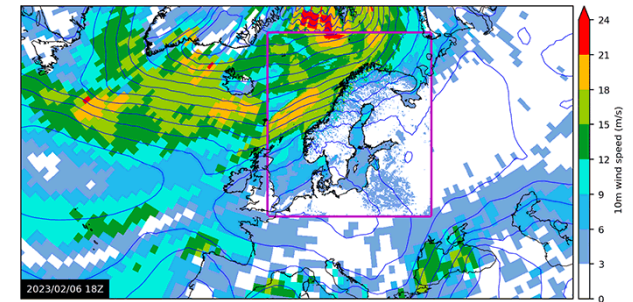
# An overview of machine learning at ECMWF



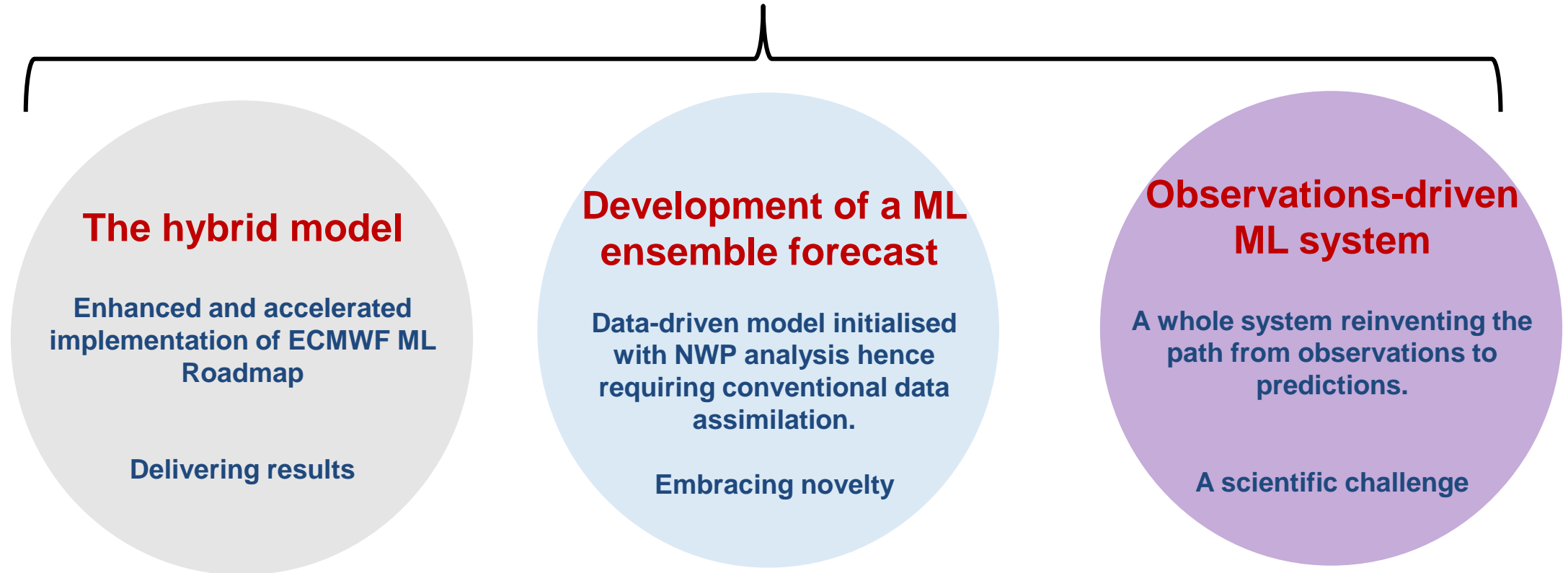
DestinE partners



Led by MET Norway & MeteoSwiss



# ML Project overview: different paths towards an ML ensemble prediction system at ECMWF

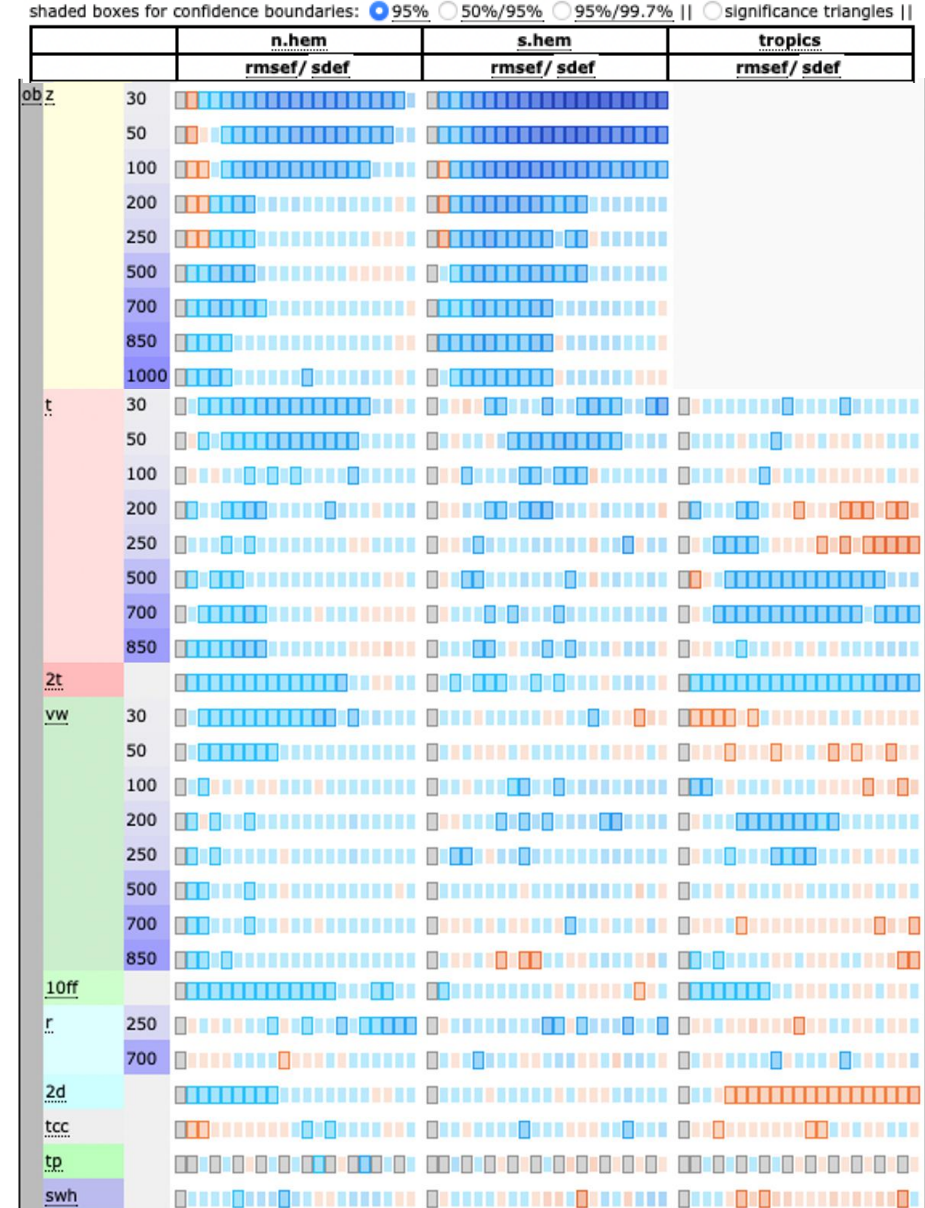




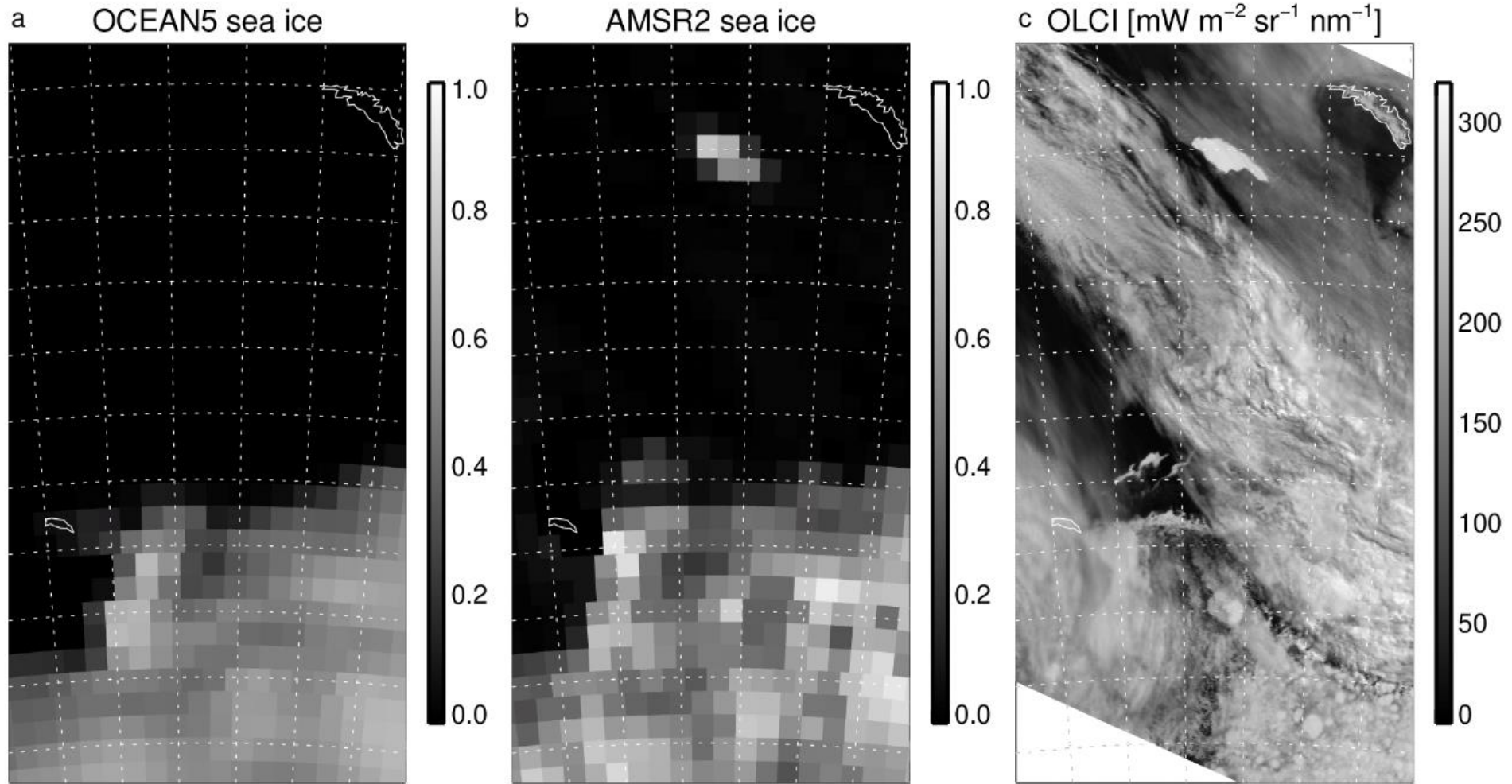
# Exploiting Neural Networks (NN) to correct model error (hybrid modelling)

NN is trained **offline** to learn analysis **increments**, then **applied online** state dependent corrections within the DA, but also online in the medium (extended) range forecast.

NN online bias correction will be included as part of ERA6



# Using microwave radiances to improve the ocean and sea-ice

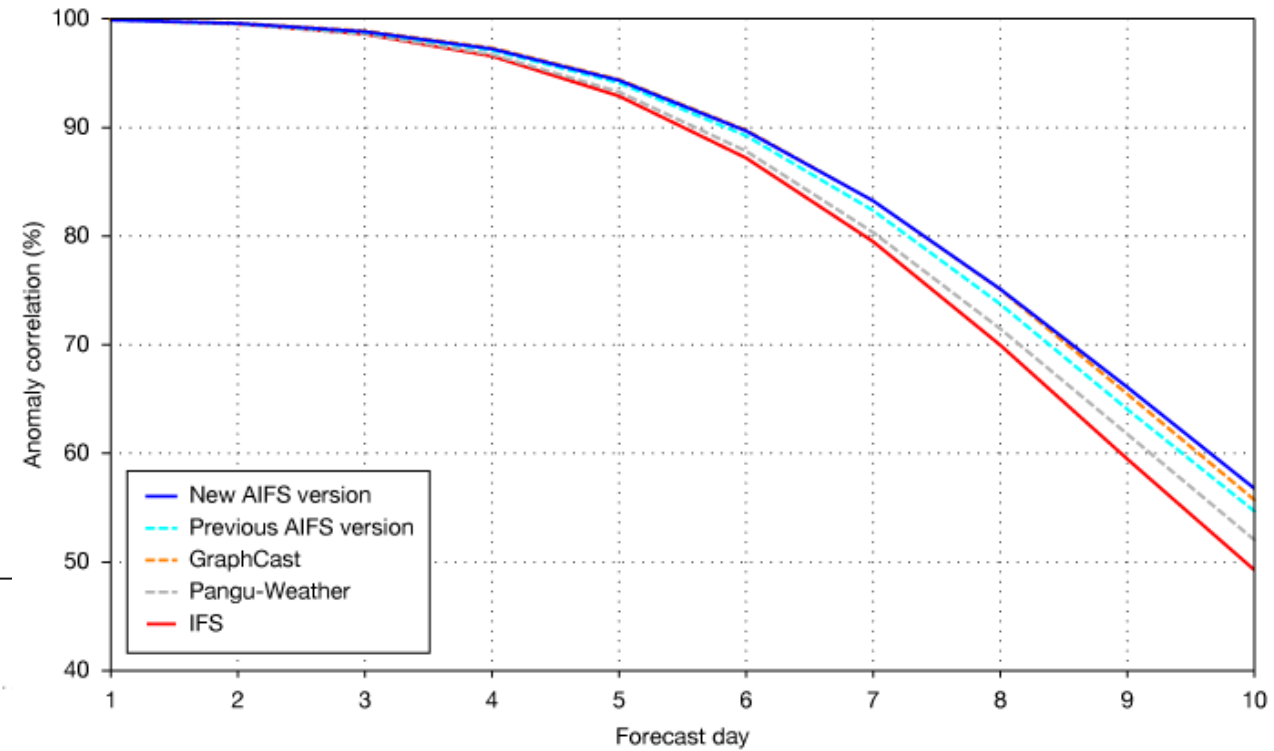
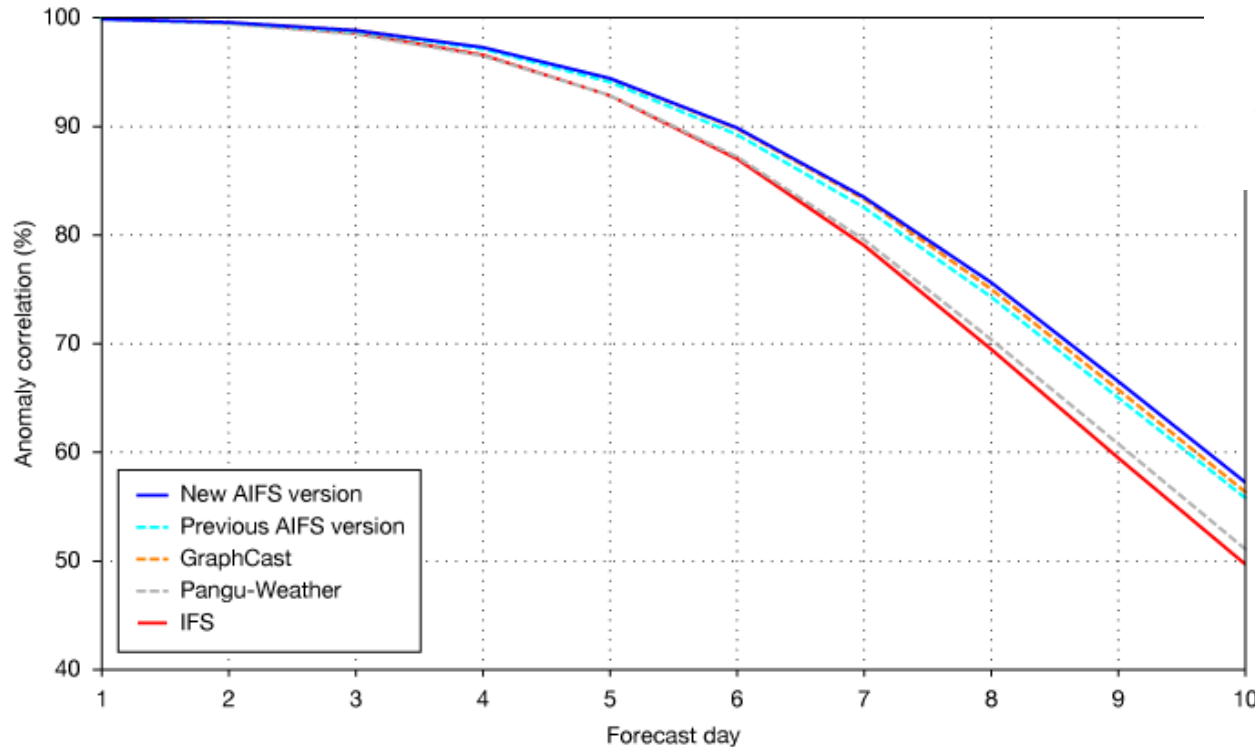


12 UTC 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020 – A68A (100 km by 60 km)  
Iceberg approaching island of South Georgia. Copernicus sentinel data 2020

# Data driven models

## AIFS v0.2 – atmospheric skill

### Northern hemisphere z500 ACC



### Southern hemisphere z500 ACC

Higher = better

see Simon Lang and Linus Magnusson's talks  
and Lang et al. (2024)



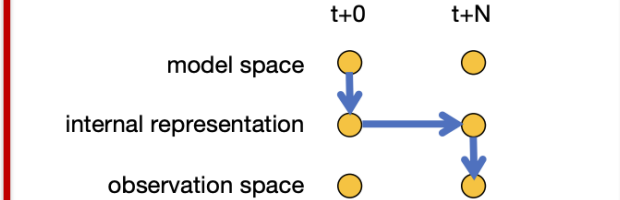
# Learning from observations

Can we “augment” AIFS using observation data?

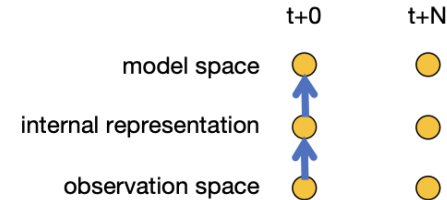
**1 Predictions from analysis**  
e.g. current AIFS



**2 Predict observation targets from analysis input**  
e.g. fine tune AIFS to predict SYNOPS



**3 Learn the analysis**  
emulate 4D-Var



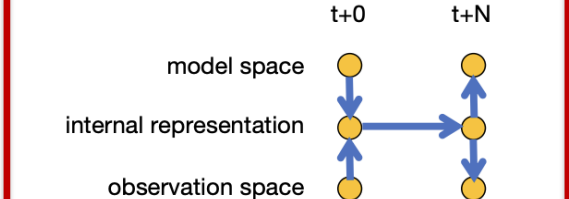
**4 Predictions from observations**  
make predictions in model space, use reanalysis as truth



**5 Predict future observations from observations**  
make predictions in observation space, use observations as truth



**6 Other combinations**



# Learning from observations

## 1 Predictions from analysis

e.g. current AIFS



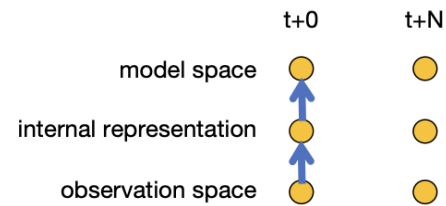
## 2 Predict observation targets from analysis input

e.g. fine tune AIFS to predict SYNOPS



## 3 Learn the analysis

emulate 4D-Var



## 4 Predictions from observations

make predictions in model space,  
use reanalysis as truth



Can (re)analysis be bypassed altogether

## 5 Predict future observations from observations

make predictions in observation space,  
use observations as truth

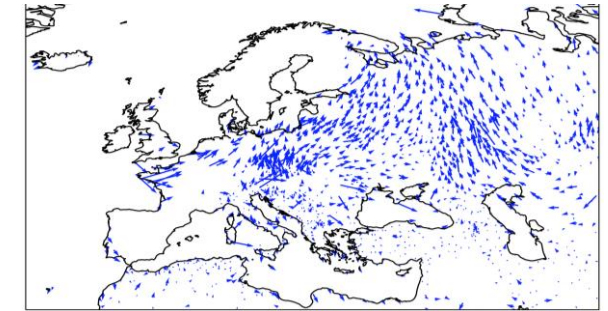


## 6 Other combinations



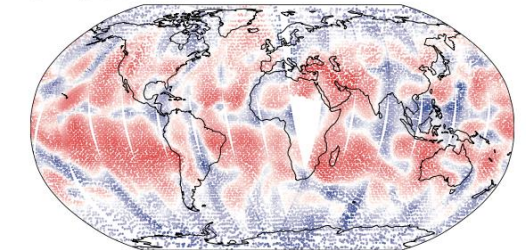
# Data Driven Machine Learning Forecast trained / initialised from observations

- Using historical measurements (10yrs ++ ) the network learns correlations between observations from different sources, at different locations and (crucially) at different times.
- Then from an input set of real-time observations the network can predict an observation of any type at any required future location and time.

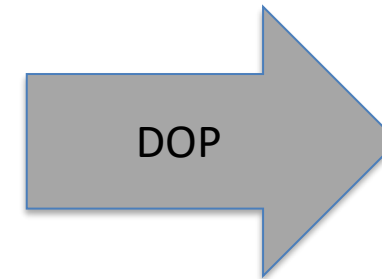
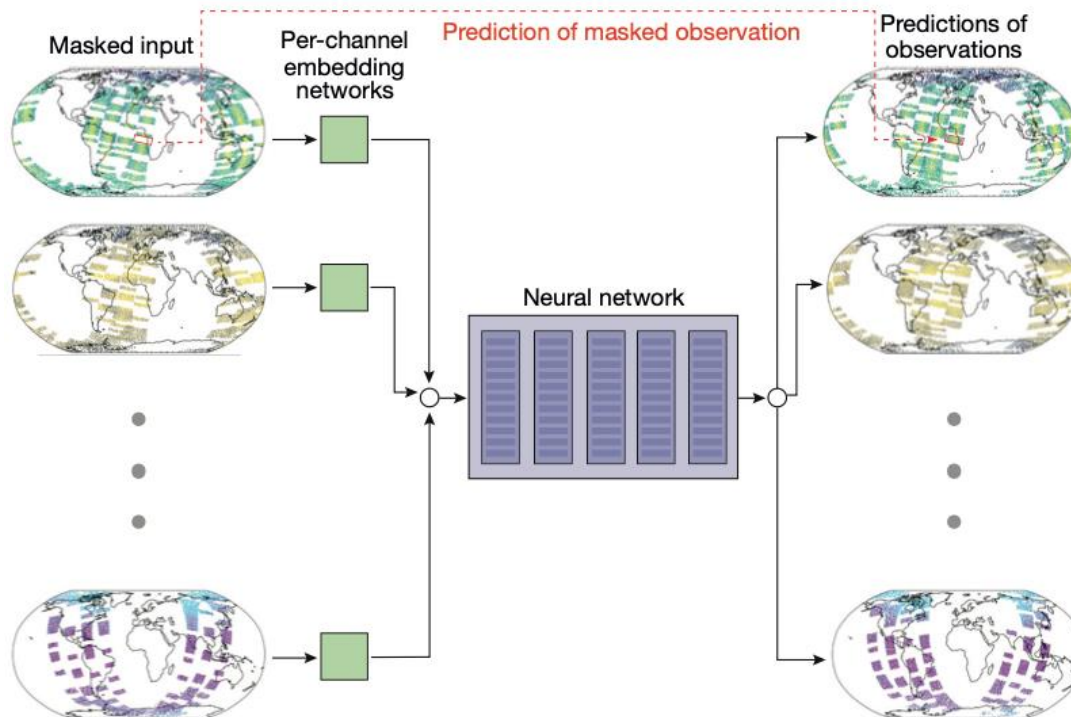


Future SYNOP (T2m / wind)

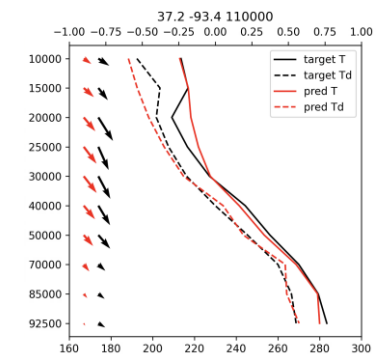
c ML predicted values



Future radiances (MW/IR/VIS)

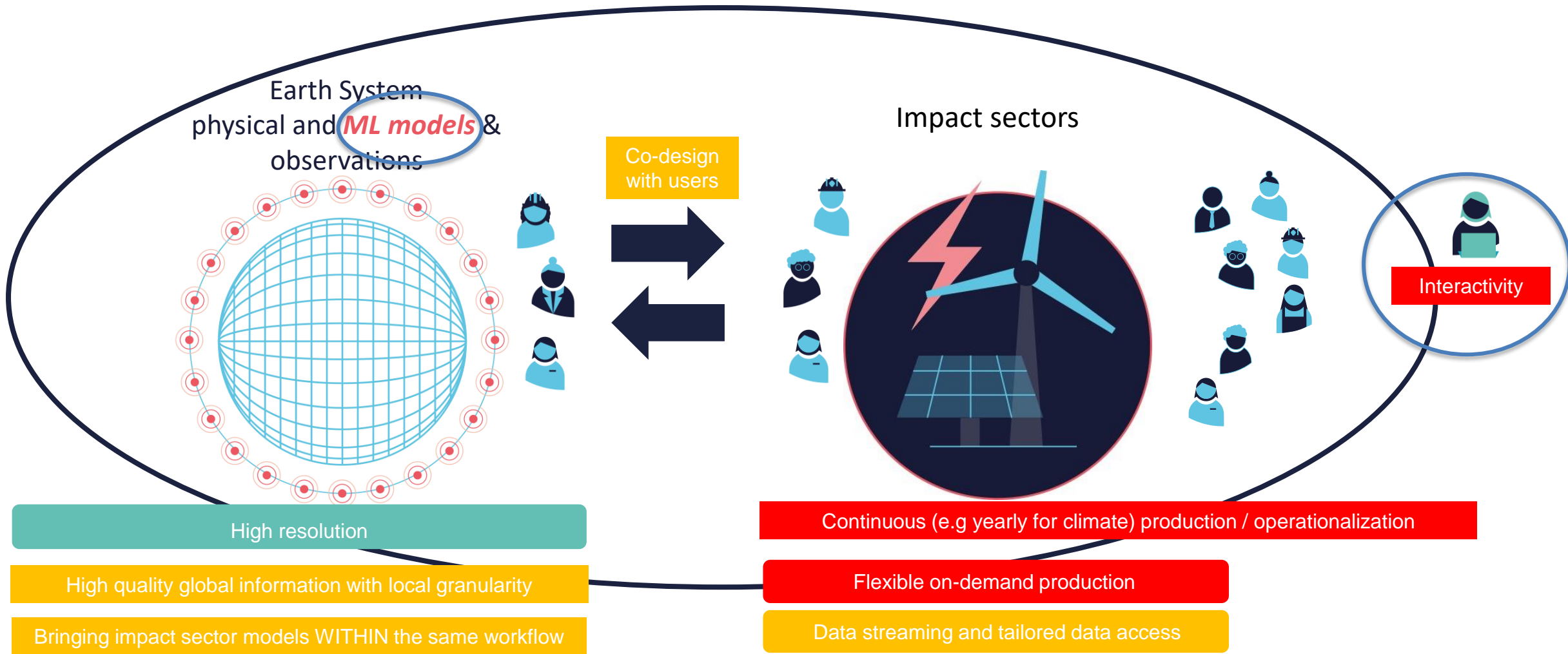


McNally et al. (2024)

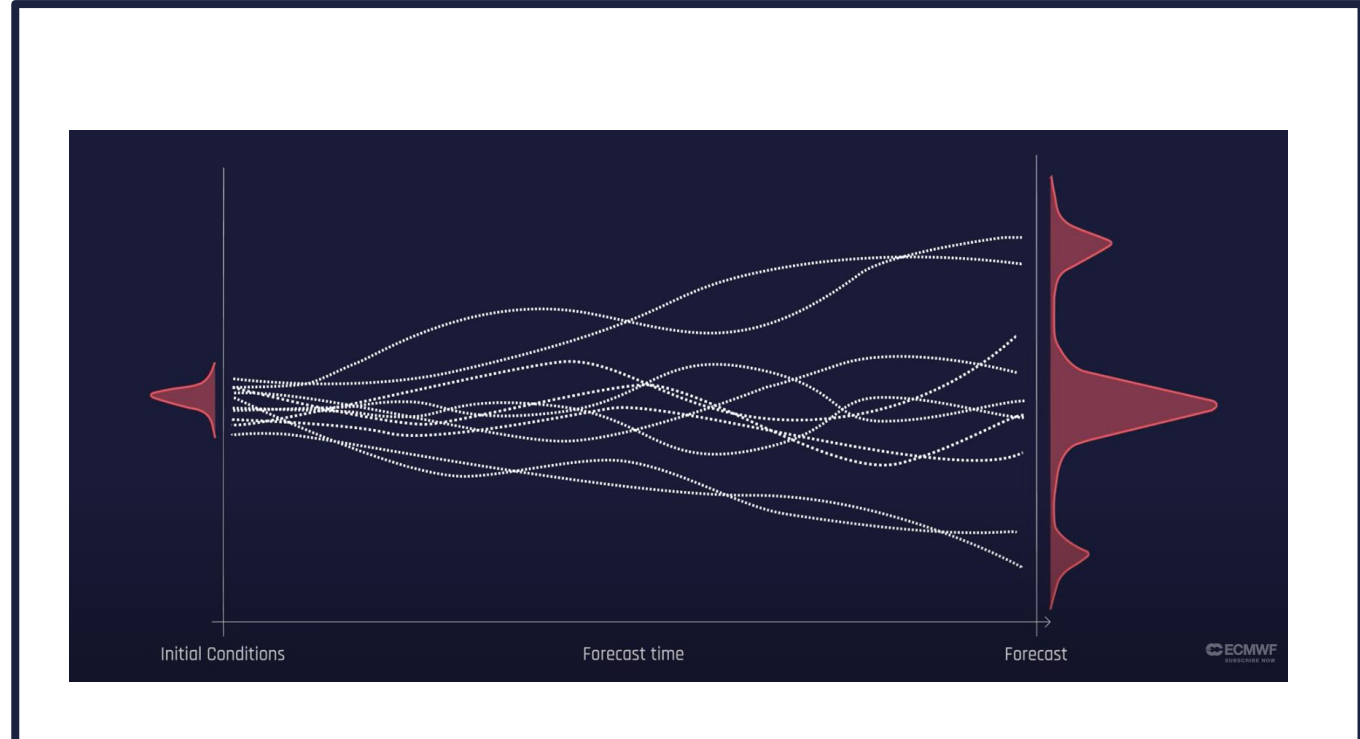
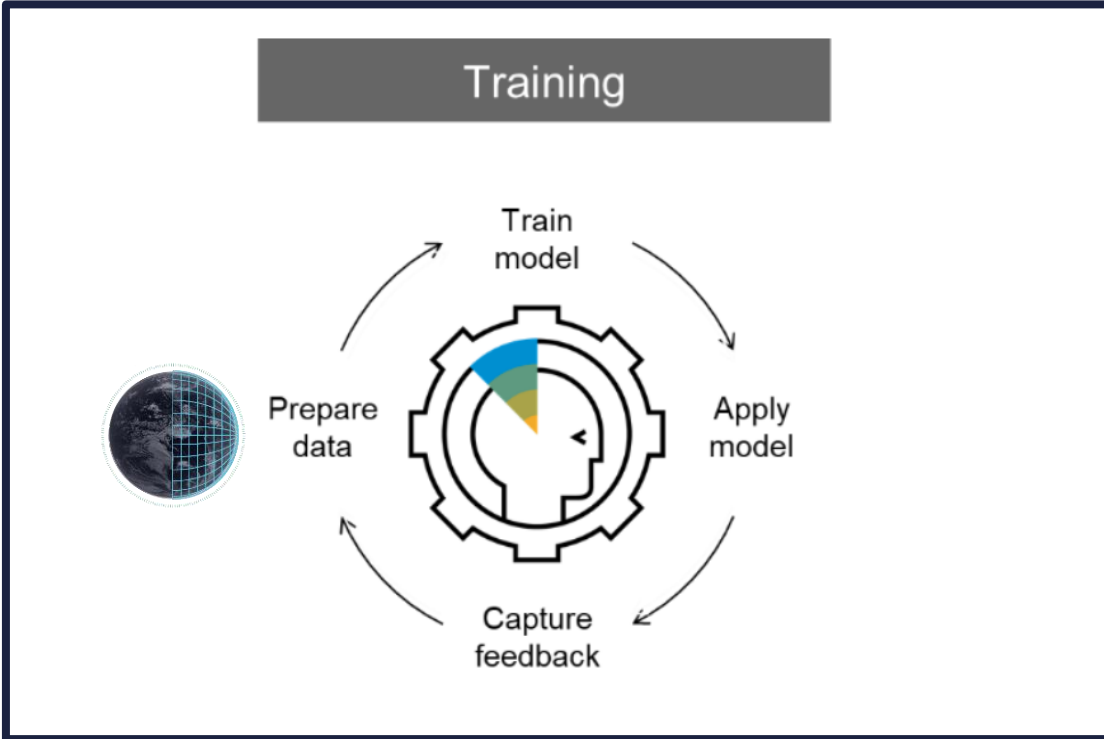


Future SONDES (T / Q / wind)

# DestinE



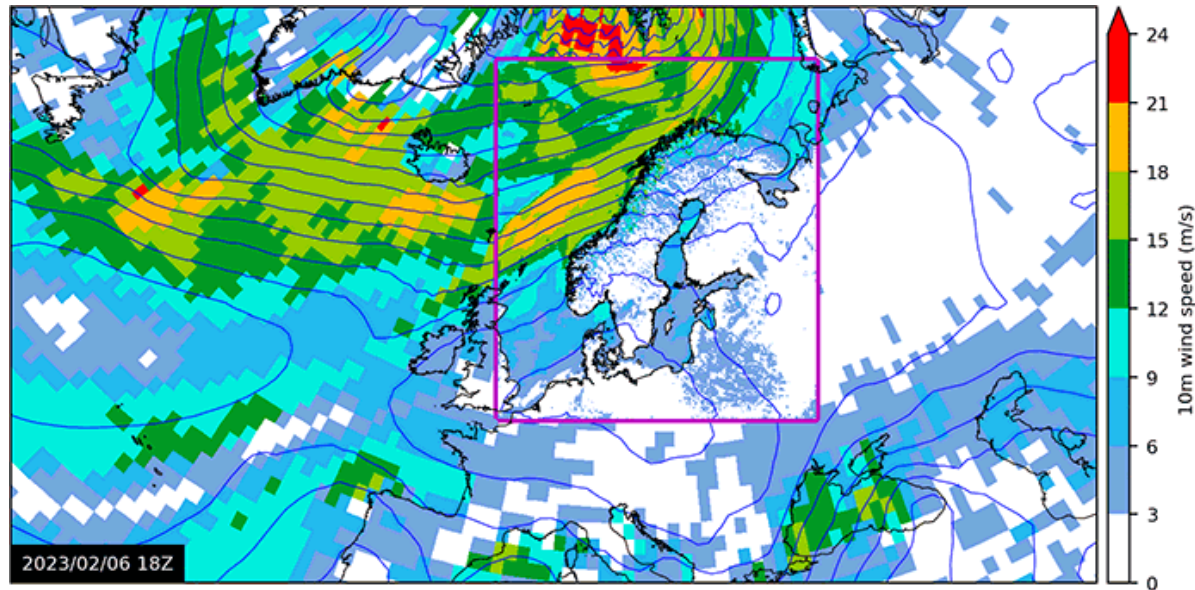
# Data driven forecasts for uncertainty quantification



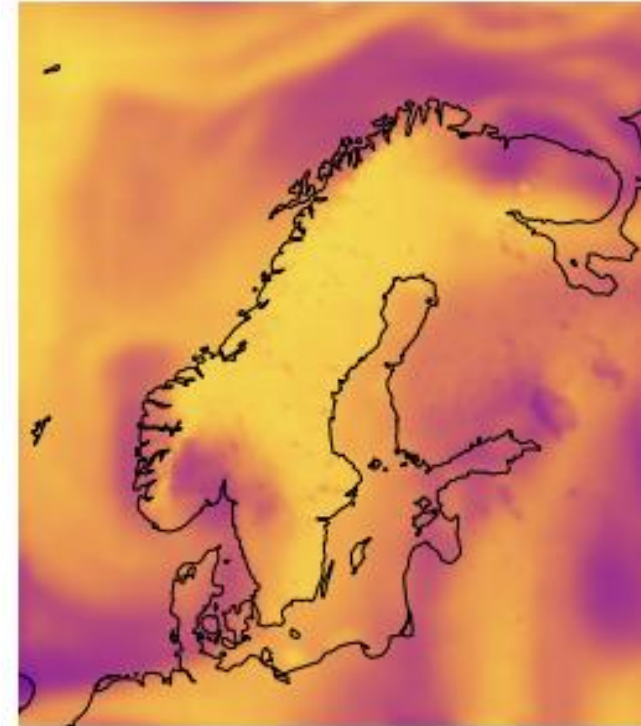
Developing & running both global & local data-driven models to create ensembles that complement DestinE simulations



# Limited area models



Stretched grid model (Met Norway,  
Nipen et al. 2024)

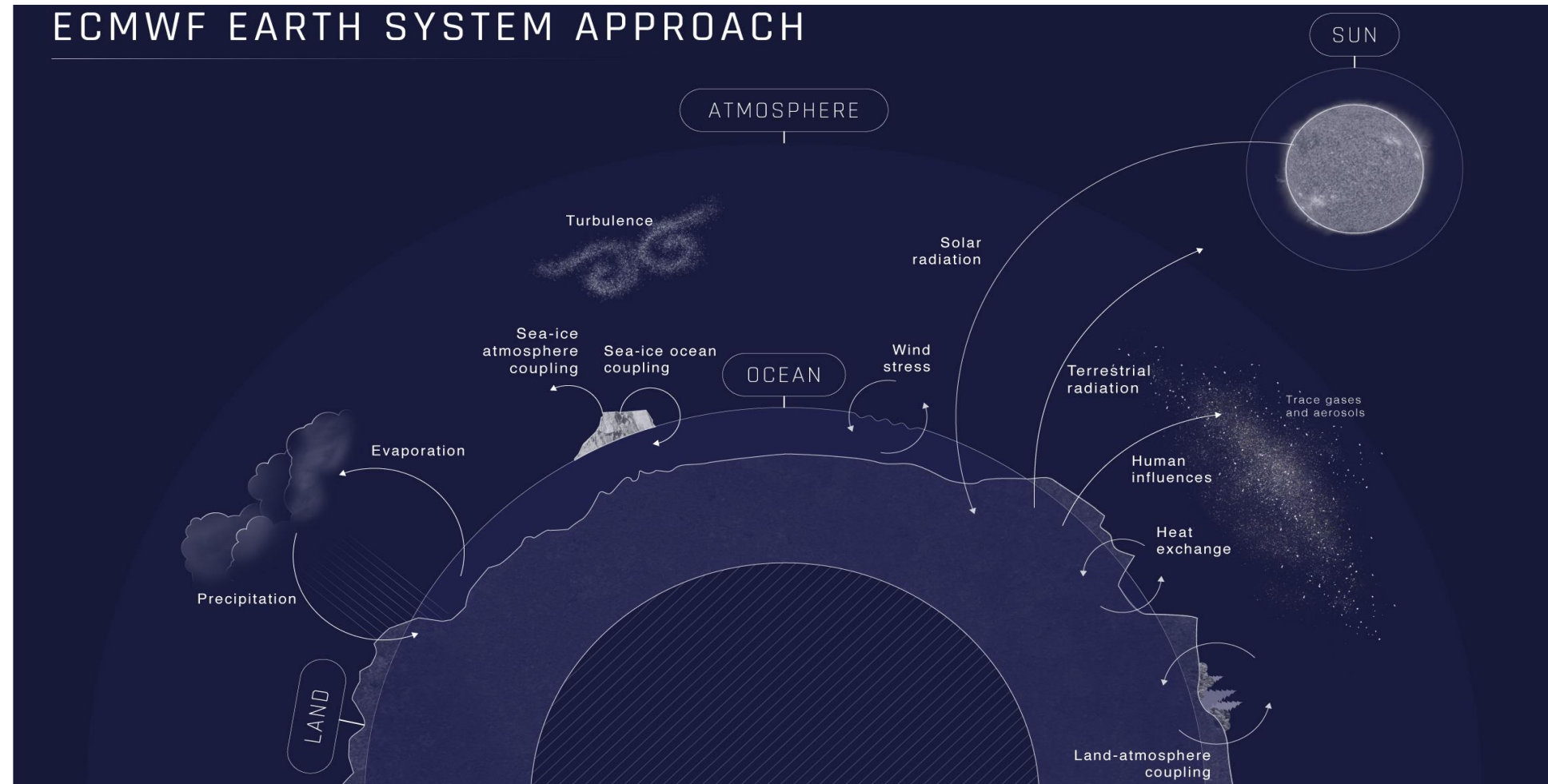


Limited Area Model (Oskarsson et al., 2023)

# AI Earth System Model

*Build full Earth System model with land, ocean, sea-ice and hydrology components*

*Leverage developments made in the ML project especially ensemble developments and learning from observations*







# Forecast-in-a-box


Providing a packaged system with data-retrieval, forecasting & postprocessing.

This system runs on local hardware or cloud and is delivered in a matter of minutes

It is configurable for Earth-System components and user-defined outputs.

**ai-models web**  **Destination Earth** implemented by   

Model:    
Date:    
Time:    
Lead time:    
Token:

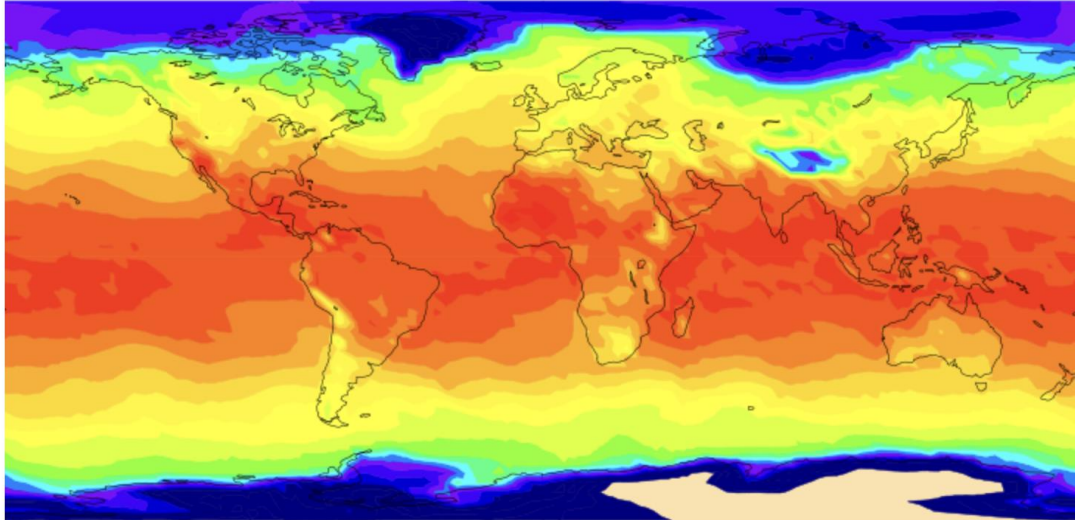


New job id: 3ad48ead-a7a4-41a5-9170-54b8a2a4fd56

Job status: queued  
Job status: active  
Job status: ready

Forecast is ready! 🥳  
[Click here to download](#)

Wednesday 10 April 2024 12 UTC ecmf t+12 VT:Thursday 11 April 2024 00 UTC 2 m 2 metre temperature





# An overview of machine learning at ECMWF

**DestinE**

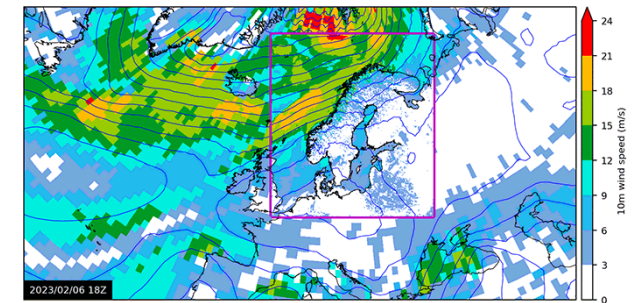


**ML Project**



**Member  
State  
Pilot  
Project**

**Led by MET Norway &  
MeteoSwiss**



# Key References

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- Wang, X., Wang, R., Hu, N., Wang, P., Huo, P., Wang, G., ... & Song, J. (2024). XiHe: A Data-Driven Model for Global Ocean Eddy-Resolving Forecasting. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2402.02995*.