

# **EUMETNET's E-Al Programme:**

Advancing Weather, Climate, and Environmental Applications through Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML)

Marek Jacob (DWD), Roland Potthast (DWD)

And the E-Al participants

UEF2025 - 2025-09-18



### **EUMETNET E-Al** initiative

"Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Weather, Climate and Environmental Applications" (E-AI)
Optional Programme, est. Jan 2024

#### **High level objectives:**

- To enhance the collaboration of European NMHSs and external partners in the area of AI/ML in weather, climate and environment.
- To share the developments which take place under E-AI using a commonly-used permissive open-source licence.

Coordinating EUMETNET member: DWD (Germany)



# **Revolutionary Technology**

Technology Introduction	Year
Radio	1895
Television	1927
Mobile Phones	1973
Internet	1974
World Wide Web	1989
Social Media	2004
Smartphones	2007
Al Chat Bots	2022





## Al based Weather Forecasting

02/2022 FourCastNet (NVIDIA)

11/2022 Pangu-Weather (Huawei)

12/2022 GraphCast (Google)

FOURCASTNET: A GLOBAL DATA-DRIVEN HIGH-RESOLUTION WEATHER MODEL HOUSE A REPORT FOURTH NEVER A REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR

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# GraphCast: Learning skillful medium-range global weather forecasting

Remi Lam<sup>\*,1</sup>, Alvaro Sanchez-Gonzalez<sup>\*,1</sup>, Matthew Willson<sup>\*,1</sup>, Peter Wirnsberger<sup>\*,1</sup>, Meire Fortunato<sup>\*,1</sup>, Ferran Alet<sup>\*,1</sup>, Suman Ravuri<sup>\*,1</sup>, Timo Ewalds<sup>1</sup>, Zach Eaton-Rosen<sup>1</sup>, Weihua Hu<sup>1</sup>, Alexander Merose<sup>2</sup>, Stephan Hoyer<sup>2</sup>, George Holland<sup>1</sup>, Oriol Vinyals<sup>1</sup>, Jacklynn Stott<sup>1</sup>, Alexander Pritzel<sup>1</sup>, Shakir Mohamed<sup>1</sup> and Peter Battaglia<sup>1</sup>

\*equal contribution, 1Google DeepMind, 2Google Research

Global medium-range weather forecasting is critical to decision-making across many social and economic domains. Traditional numerical weather prediction uses increased compute resources to improve forecast accuracy, but cannot directly use historical weather data to improve the underlying model. We introduce a machine learning-based method called "GraphCast", which can be trained directly from reanalysis data. It predicts hundreds of weather variables, over 10 days at 0.25° resolution globally, in under one minute. We show that GraphCast significantly outperforms the most accurate operational deterministic systems on 90% of 1380 verification targets, and its forecasts support better severe event prediction, including tropical cyclones, atmospheric rivers, and extreme temperatures. GraphCast is a key advance in accurate and efficient weather forecasting, and helps realize the promise of machine learning for modeling complex dynamical systems.

Keywords: Weather forecasting, ECMWF, ERA5, HRES, learning simulation, graph neural networks

#### on System er Forecast

an<sup>™</sup>, Fellow, IEEE

global weather forecast. For ta from the 5th generation of n total. The spatial resolution ntly, for the first time, an curacy (latitude-weighted all time ranges (from one th Specific Transformer ng a hierarchical temporal ws great advantages for pports a wide range of ge-member ensemble conventional NWP methods,



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# GraphCast: Learning skillful medium-range global weather forecasting

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on System or Forecast

an<sup>™</sup>, Fellow, IEEE

#### AIFS Blog



#### ECMWF unveils alpha version of new ML model

13 October 2023

This blog introduces an important companion to the Integrated Forecasting System (IFS), the AIFS, our Artificial Intelligence/Integrated Forecasting System. It is one of three components of our new machine learning project.

## Graph-based Neural Weather Prediction for Limited Area Modeling

Joel Oskarsson Linköping University Linköping, Sweden Tomas Landelius SMHI Norrköping, Sweden Fredrik Lindsten
Linköping University
Linköping, Sweden
fredrik.lindsten@liu.se



## Al based Weather Forecasting

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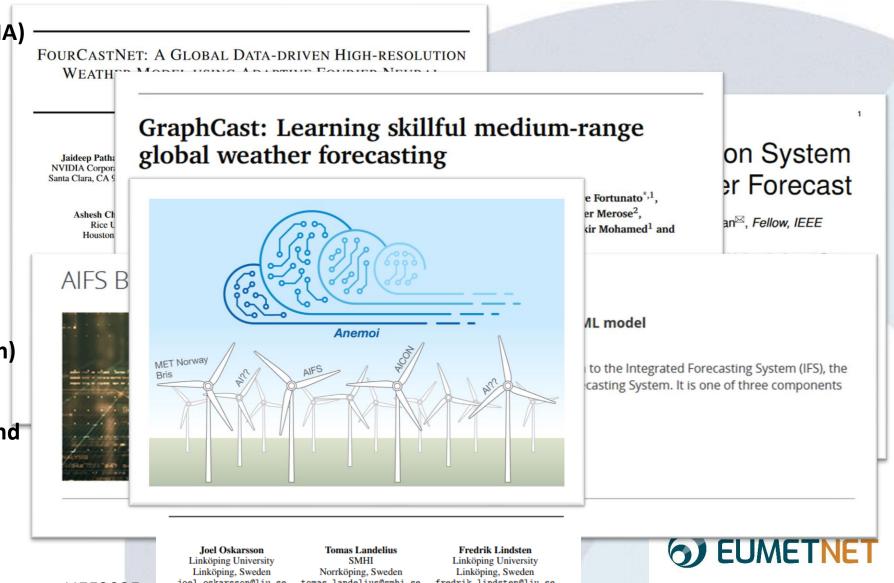
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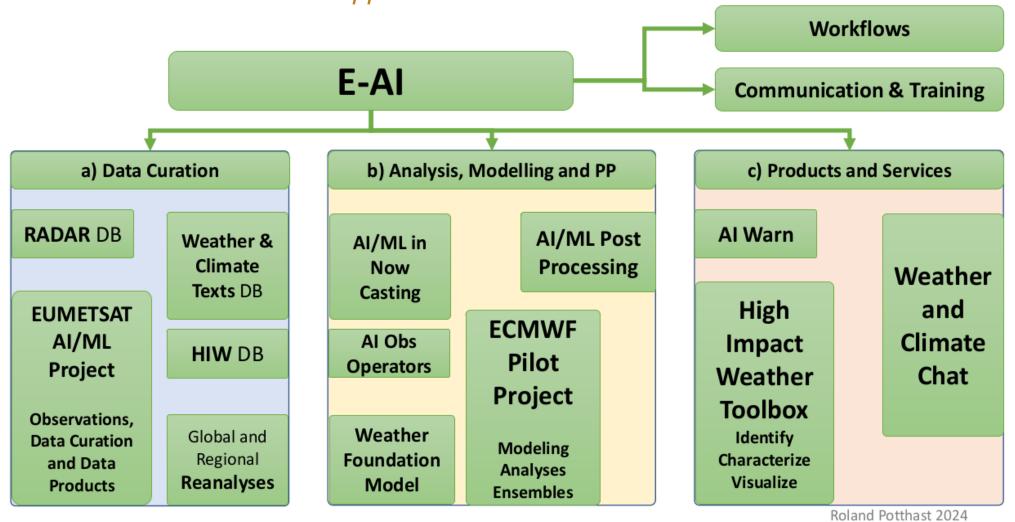
11/2023 NeuralLAM (Sweden)

**Decision for E-AI 12/2023** 

06/2024 Anemoi (ECMWF and European Meteorological Services)



# **E-Al:** Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Weather, Climate and Environmental Applications





#### **EUMETNET E-AI Modules**

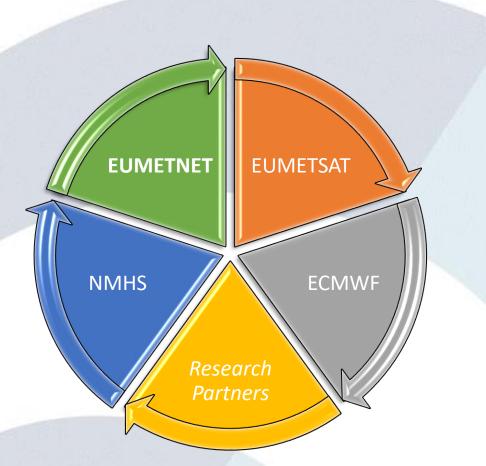
#### **Modules**

- **1. Data Curation**. Objective: Enhance the value of observations, gridded observational datasets, model fields and further datasets by making them AI ready.
  - This module is expected to receive substantial contributions from EUMETSAT project that is currently under development and aims for activities in data curation, management and exploitation as well as in training and capacity building and infrastructure support. EUMETSAT organizes annual workshops to advance this activity.
- 2. Analysis, Modelling and Postprocessing, including retrieval and estimation products, nowcasting, data assimilation and modelling, uncertainty estimation and postprocessing. Objective: Enhance our capabilities to use AI/ML approaches in modelling.
  - This module is includes the ECMWF Machine Learning Pilot Projec (MLPP) with Member States.
- **Products and Services.** Objective: Enhance the use of AI/ML in the development of products and services

# **Shaping the Al/ML Revolution** in Weather, Climate and Environment

#### **Activity of Key Players**

- **EUMETNET**: provide an active and agile collaboration framework
- NMHS: contribute and raise resources for AI/ML developments
- **EUMETSAT**: organise and contribute to joint AI/ML data curation
- ECMWF: organise and contribute to joint AI/ML model developments
- Research Partners: innovation and research contributions





## **Participating Weather Services**

#### **20 NMHS, EUMETSAT, ECMWF**:

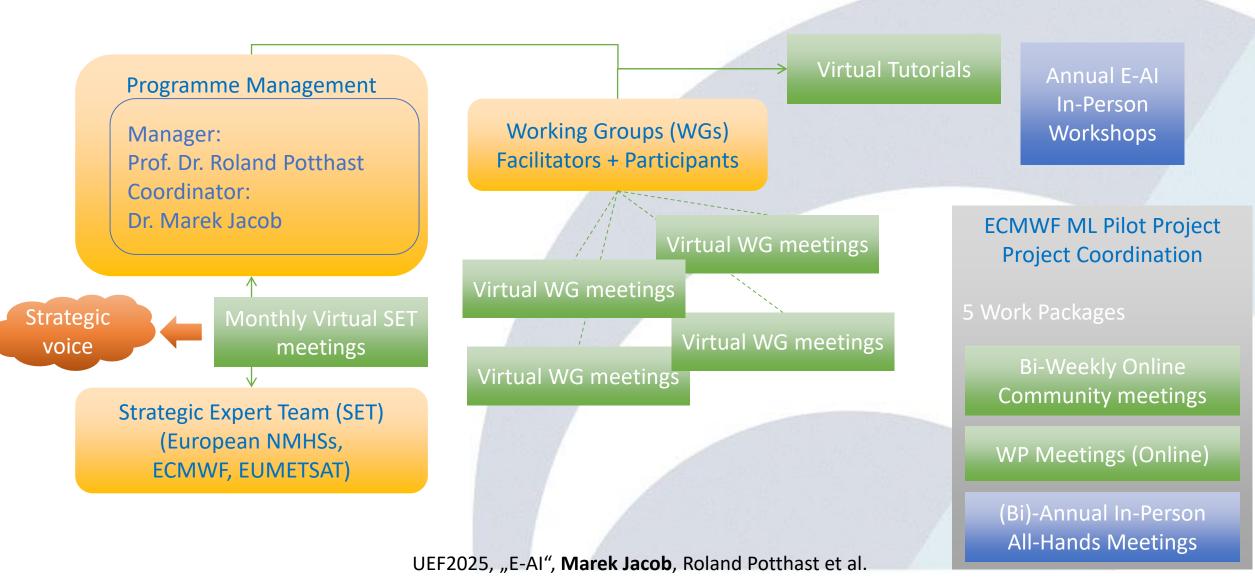
- Austria (GeoSphere)
- Belgium (RMI)
- Czech Republic (CHMI)
- Denmark (DMI)
- Finland (FMI)
- France (Météo France)
- Germany (DWD)
- Hungary (HungaroMet)
- Ireland (Met Éireann)
- Italy (ItAF-AVIAMM)

- Netherlands (KNMI)
- Norway (MET Norway)
- Poland (IMGW-BIP)
- Slovak Republic (SHMU)
- Slovenia (ARSO)
- Spain (AEMet)
- Sweden (SMHI)
- Switzerland (MeteoSwiss)
- United Kingdom (Met Office)
- Canada (CCCE)

About 400 participants, dedicated experts or points of contact



# **EUMETNET E-Al Working Structure**



### **E-Al Working Groups**

	<u> </u>	
WG 1	AI Data Readiness and Curation	active
	(e.g. Data Sets Preparation and Management, Standards, IPR, Labeling)	
WG 2	Large Language Model (LLM) Implementation and Services	
	LLMs for AI-based Information Condensation and Communication, AI-based High Impact Weather (HIW) Warnings, Personalisation (formerly WG5)	
WG 3	Al Operationalisation, Maintenance and QC, MLOps	active
	With AI Frameworks and Libraries (formerly WG 9)	
WG 4	AI Sensing and Novel Observations (e.g., Phenomena and Identification, Webcams and Co.)	Being started
WG 6	MLCast Nowcasting – jointly with NWC of EUMETNET	active
WG 7	User Optimised Products and Impact (e.g. Cross Border Aviation Products)	Starting with
	AI in the EUMETNET Aviation Support Programme	ASP
WG 8	Ethics Questions	
WG10	Data Rescue – jointly with EUMETNET Climate Programme	
WG11	Regional Downscaling for Climate Impact Analysis – jointly with EUMETNET Climate Programme	active
WG12	Quality Control – jointly with EUMETNET Climate Programme	active
WG13	Data Fusion and PostProcessing (PP)	Being started
	Activities under discussion with postprocessing programme	
ATS	Anemoi Technical Subgroup (formerly ATG) – Within ECMWF MLPP	active

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#### **Communication and Training**

# Communication & Training

#### **E-Al Basic Tutorials**

https://github.com/eumetnet-e-ai/tutorials/

- 1. Intro, Environment, First Example
- 2. Dynamics, Downscaling, Data Assimilation Examples
- 3. LLM Use, Transformer Example, RAG
- 4. "MLOps" Machine Learning Operations
- 5. MLflow an open-source platform for managing the machine learning lifecycle
- CI/CD Continuous Integration and Continuous Deployment of ML codes

#### **In-Person Training**

 Tutorial day at E-AI Products and Services Workshop at DWD July 7-11, 2025

# ECMWF AI/ML Training Courses and Webinars

https://events.ecmwf.int/category/1/

- ML for weather prediction
- ML for operational forecasters
- Anemoi
- ....

#### 6-Day Python and ML Tutorial

https://github.com/eumetnet-e-ai/e-ai\_python\_ml\_tutorial

- Python as Workhorse
- AI/ML Basic Introduction
- LLM RAG, Python Packages, Multi-Modality
- Diffusion Networks, Al Agents, Feature Detection
- Towards Operations with MLFlow, MLOps, CI/CD
- Anemoi, AlCON and Al Data Assimilation



# E-Al Example Activities



Example activity 1: Workflows & Module C



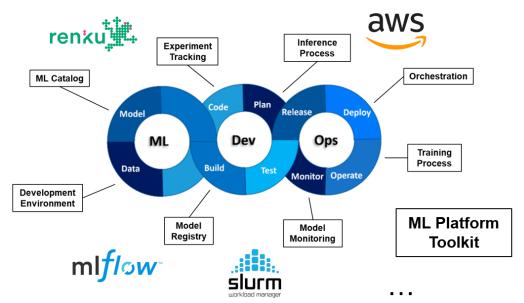
# MLOps: From Research to Operations (WG3)

Out-of-the-box ML Platform: Is it the right fit?

Out-of-the-box ML Platform: Is it the right fi

**ONL** Platform Toolkit

The ML Platform Toolkit provides glue code, conventions, and scaffolding to integrate and standardize the platform's ML tools.



Courtesy of Gabriela Aznar Siguan (Meteo Swiss)



# BUMETNET E-AI Communication & Training a) Data Curation RADAR DB Weather & Climate Tests DB AVML in Now Project AVML Project AVML Project AVML Project Coherenvisions, Data Curation Coherenvisions, Data Curation Report Report Remailpres Remailpres Remailpres Remailpres Remailpres Workflows Communication & Training AVML in Now Project AVML Project High Impact Weather AVML Project Chat Toolbox Generity Available Remailpres Remail

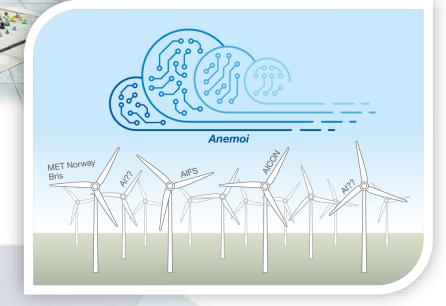
# **ECMWF Machine Learning Pilot Project**

- ECMWF + 14 Member States
  - Forecasting
  - Ensembles
  - Data assimilation
  - Infrastructure and MLOps

EMS Technology Achievement
Award 2025

Main code: Anemoi

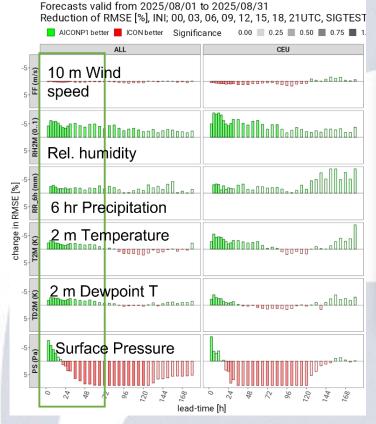
- A European open-source software framework
  - To develop data-driven weather forecasting
- Flexible configuration
  - Deterministic & ensemble forecasting, nowcasting, global & LAM, temporal interpolation, post processing products, ...
  - Multiple data sources

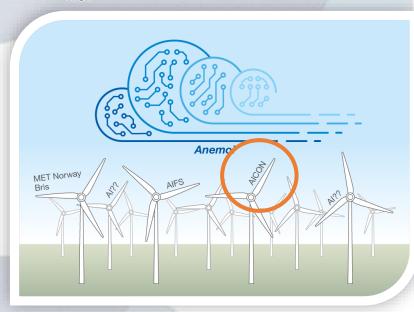




Global Data-Driven forecasts at DWD: AICON Model

- Leverages Anemoi
- Extended Anemoi
  - to support 13 km icosahedral grid
  - Testing
- Trained on ICON-DREAM reanalysis data (15 years)
- In operational NWP production since September 3<sup>rd</sup>







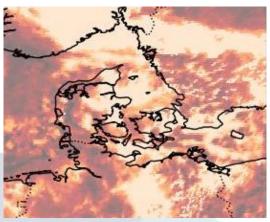
Example activity 3: Module B

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# AI/ML for Now Casting: MLCast (WG6)

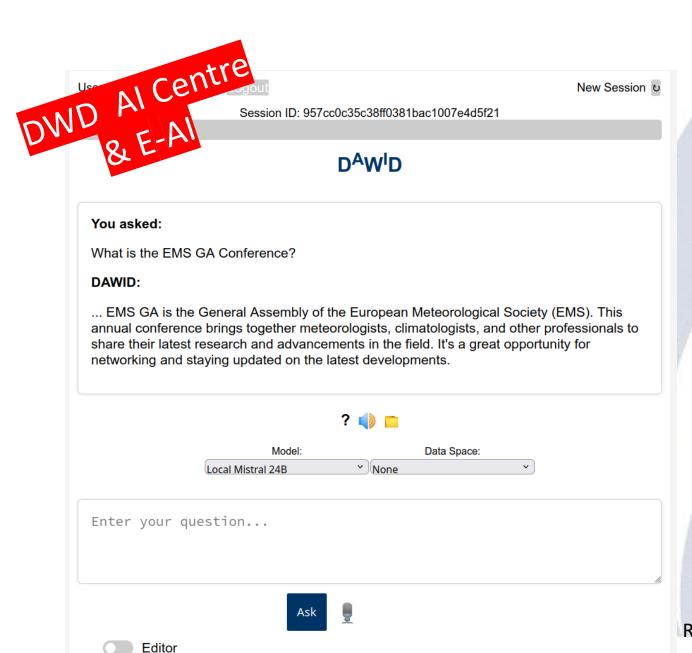
- Al-based nowcasting of precipitation and solar radiation
- Joint development of the MLCast Python Package
- Collect, prepare and provide ML ready datasets
  - Zarr format with metadata
  - Radar climatology over Germany, Netherlands, Italy, UK
- V 1.0 release end of 2025 (BSD 3 & Apache 2)
  - Precipitation
- Trained checkpoints will be available

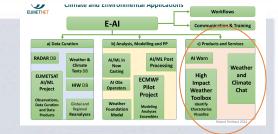






#### Example activity 4: Module C





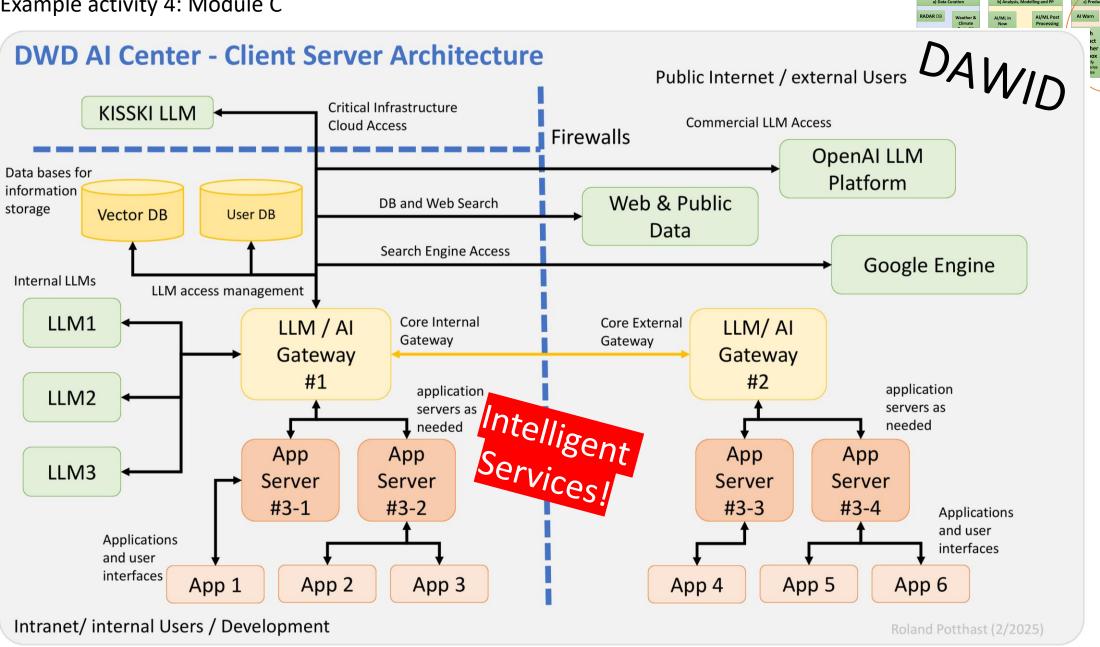
## DAWID

- Framework for natural language services
- Large Language Models
- Agent based Framework
- Client Server Architecture
- Full control over privacy
- Full functionality available on premises



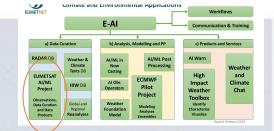
Roland Potthast et al.

#### Example activity 4: Module C



Example activity 5: Module A

**E-Al WG Data Curation**'s primary intention is to lower barriers in E-Al activities data usage by analysing available and missing data holdings, obstacles in using them, and creating examples of using and converting the data into a suitable form for Machine Learning. The considered applications cover weather forecasting (from nowcasting to seasonal), climate applications, and downstream products and services



#### **Key activities**

- Gap analysis of used and missing data in AI/ML applications relevant to E-AI content
- Zarr usage best practices
- Feature detection

#### **Considered / future ideas**

- Catalogue of datasets used for E-AI applications, with link to use cases and associated tools
- Usage and conversion examples
- Create a mechanism for sharing data inside the community

#### Your contribution is needed!

- Tell us about your (or your colleagues') use case and datasets
- Contribute to the activities
- Participate meetings



https://github.com/eumetn
et-e-ai/wg1 data curation



#### E-Al in a Nut Shell

- Joins forces of NMHSs, ECMWF, and EUMETSAT
- Connects people and fosters exchange
- Explore AI/ML
- Develop AI/ML capabilities and application
- Under open-source licence
- Advance weather, climate and environment services











#### **CONTACT DETAILS**



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