High Resolution Ensemble Development

Curtis Alexander (NOAA/OAR/GSL) Jacob Carley (NOAA/NWS/EMC)

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Current Production Layout

FY23



Future Production Layout

FY2?



High Resolution (CAM) Ensemble Design Characteristics

How important are theoretical design principles in ensemble construction? Priorities of forecast length/updates? Existing (baseline) HREF ensemble is highly irregular in design but highly effective ensemble prediction system

- Comprised entirely of control members (multi-model, multi-physics, multi-IC/BC, time-lagged)
- Often provides sufficient spread but is uncontrolled sampling the forecast PDF
- Spread derived, in part, from disparate, but known, control member biases
- Drives considerable complexity to the regional operational production suite that is not sustainable
- Retirement of existing HREF ensemble components becoming increasingly urgent given legacy codes
- HREF has reached its performance ceiling and additional development not tenable

RRFS ensemble design will be considerably different from HREF but needs competitive spread-skill

- Comprised of at least some perturbed-IC/BC/physics members
- Initial configuration may still contain multi-model (HREF members), multi-physics, multi-IC and/or time-lags
- Gradual progression towards a more formal ensemble design of a control plus perturbed members
- Ensemble would eventually sample forecast PDF in a more systematically controlled manner
- Establish equal likelihood of all (perturbed) members that would speak to the (un)certainty of control solution
- Ensemble product generation needs to carefully consider inclusion/exclusion of control member

Regardless of underlying member construction there is stakeholder tension of forecast lengths/update frequency

- Current HREF ensemble coverage to 48 hrs with requests to 84 hrs (day 3)...when should GEFS step in?
- Significant resource trade-space between update freq (down to hourly), forecast lengths and ensemble size
- Initial RRFS with O(5) concurrent members, update freq and lengths varied by member

High Resolution (CAM) Ensemble Visualization & Al/ML/Calibration

CAM ensembles are expensive in compute, storage and dissemination – how can we improve efficiency in use?

- Need to retain ability to interrogate individual (all?) members
- Recent study from WoFS team showed that among forecasters examining WoFS output, the individual member product viewer was used most often (WoFS has 18 forecast members)
- Value-added products are nice (bias corrected) but raw outputs are preferred

How useful is ensemble mean (probability matched or otherwise) for high-resolution ensembles? Do we need a central state that looks like a member?

- Ensemble mean for <u>continuous</u> fields will almost always beat individual members but not really meaningful for non-continuous fields like hydrometeor and other cloud related outputs (PMM is useful)
- Traditional mean is helpful for quick look at the environment and pattern but not if forecast is bimodal
- Contour band depth can help to identify the central state

Given the overall expense of CAM ensembles - how can we produce enough (fixed?) ensemble forecast data for effective AI/ML/post-processing applications? Decades of retros from CAMs are untenable due to expense.

- Some work on applying transfer learning to carry forward past training results to new model/versions reduces some demand for very large initial data sets
- A CAM ensemble w/ same dycore & physics may allow for fewer retro runs as all members have the same climatology (GEFS does this). Multi- model or -physics will require more runs and thus is more expensive.
- Run reforecast once per day to cover retro period this may not fit on the production machine (cloud?)

High Resolution (CAM) Ensemble Verification and Product Generation

CAM ensembles have an extremely diverse set of stakeholders – how best to evaluate their performance?

- DTC metrics workshop (2021) established a priority list of forecast fields and measures leveraged in construction of EMC Verification System
- Statistical comparisons of ensemble performance (e.g. reliability, ROC, etc...) need significance testing
- METplus etc...need to deploy bootstrapped or related significance information with sample size estimation
- Documented ensemble biases need to be shared/communicated with stakeholders
- Product consistency of uncertainty estimation between various predictive scales will need focus by whom?