



Use of Ocean Observations for Operational Hurricane Forecast Systems at NWS/NCEP

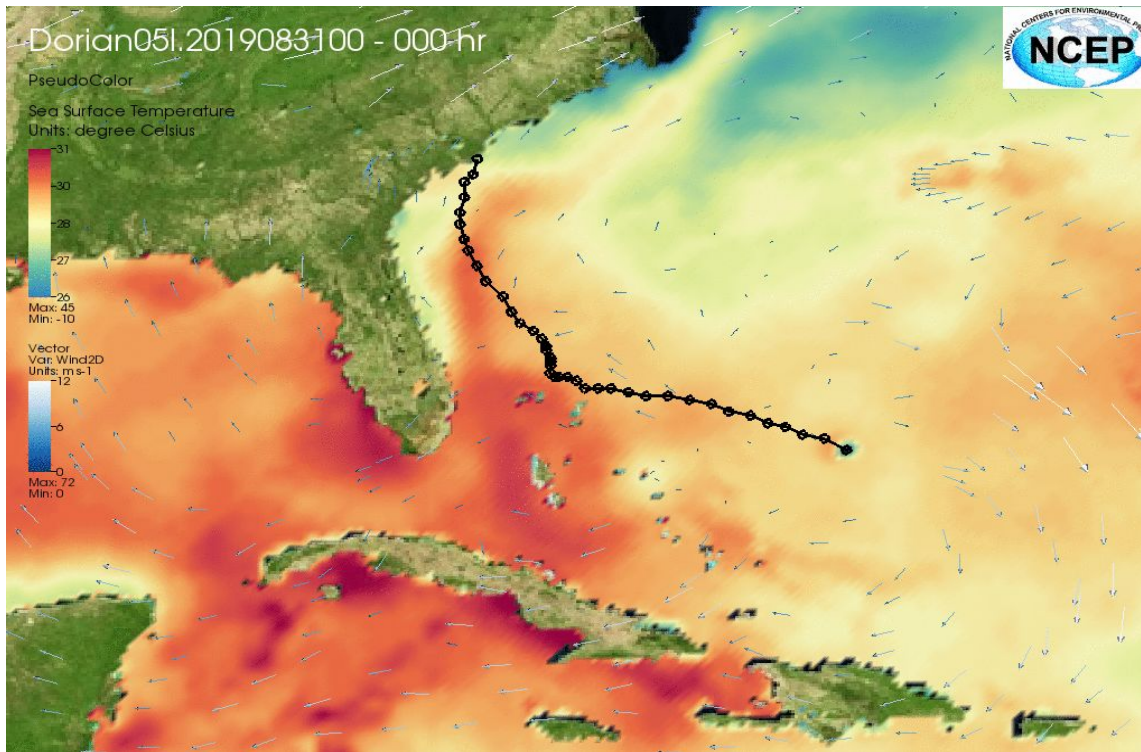
Avichal Mehra¹

Chief, Dynamics and Coupled Modeling
Modeling and Data Assimilation Branch
NCEP/Environmental Modeling Center

¹*NOAA/NWS, MD, USA*

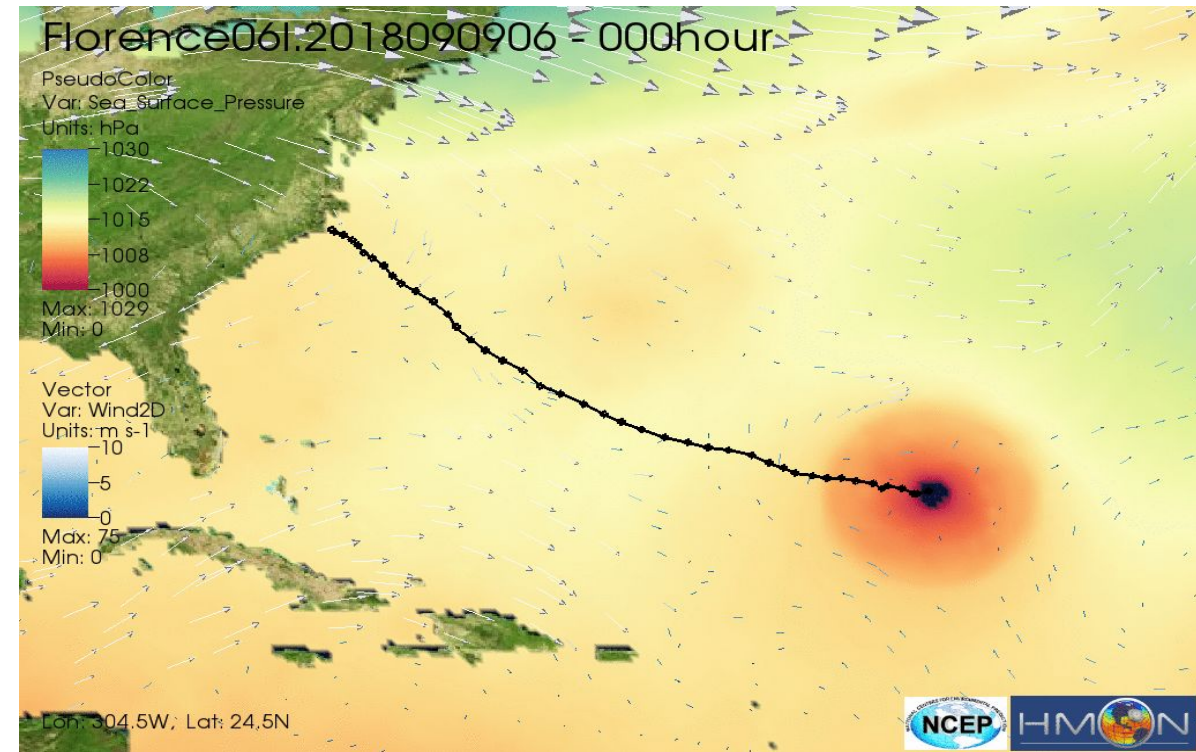
**U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee Virtual Public Meeting
December 6, 2021**

Current Operational Regional Hurricane Models at NWS/NCEP: HWRF & HMON



HWRF:

- WRF-NMM+MPIOM/HYCOM+WWIII Coupled System
- Triply nested 13.5/4.5/1.5 km resolution w/91 levels
- 4D Hybrid EnVar DA System with Vortex Initialization, **RTOFS for Ocean Initialization**
- Advanced Physics
- All Global Basins (NHC and JTWC), max. 7 storms on-demand



HMON:

- NMMB+HYCOM Coupled System
- 18/6/2 km resolution w/71 vertical levels
- Advanced Vortex Initialization, Advanced Physics
- **RTOFS for Ocean Initialization**
- NHC Basins, max. 5 storms on-demand

Coupled Operational Hurricane Models at NCEP

Ocean Model Configurations:

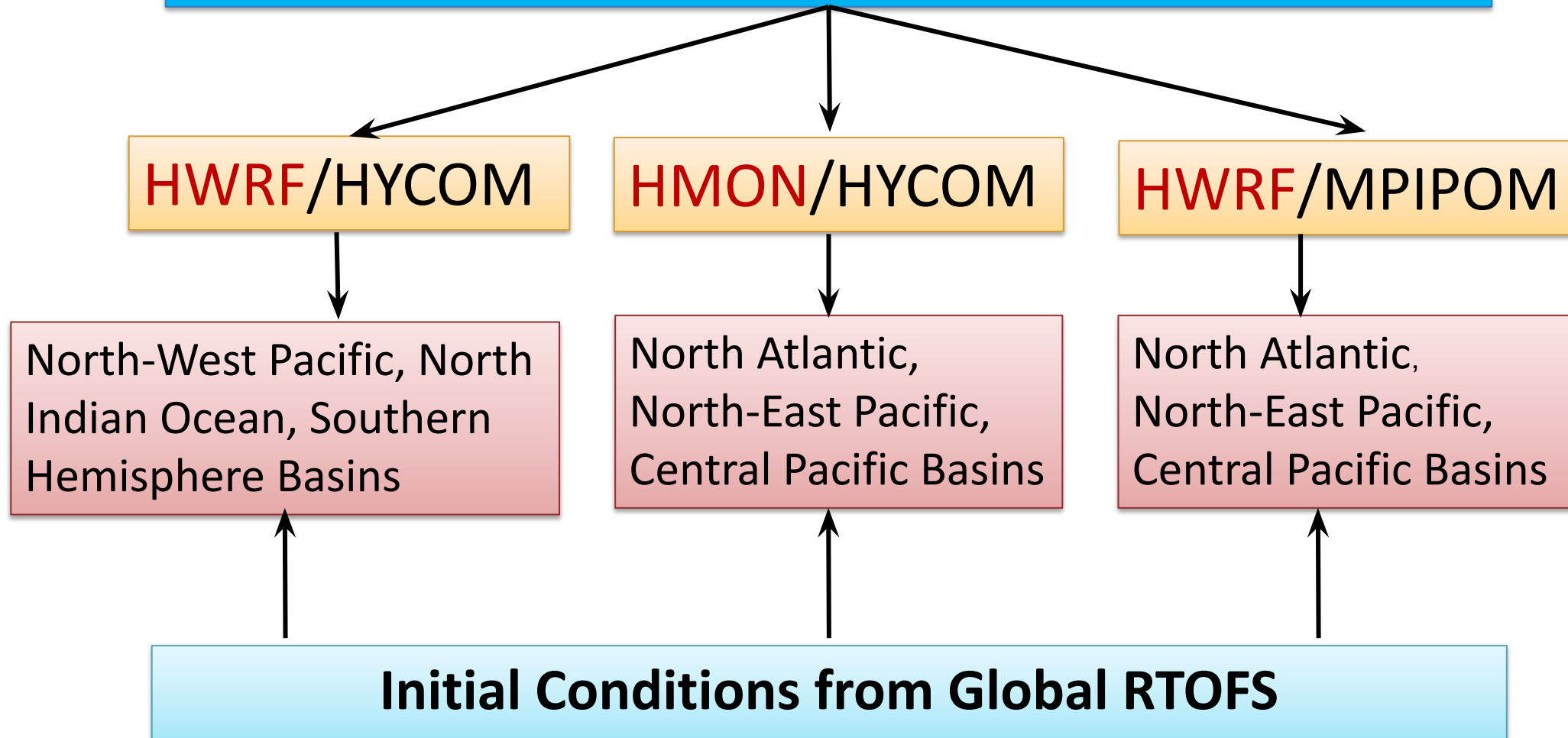
○ HWRF:

- ❖ MIPOM (2-way) at $1/12^\circ$ and WW3 (1-way) at $1/10^\circ$ (NATL, EPAC and CPAC)
- ❖ HYCOM (2-way) at $1/12^\circ$ (WPAC, NIO and SH)

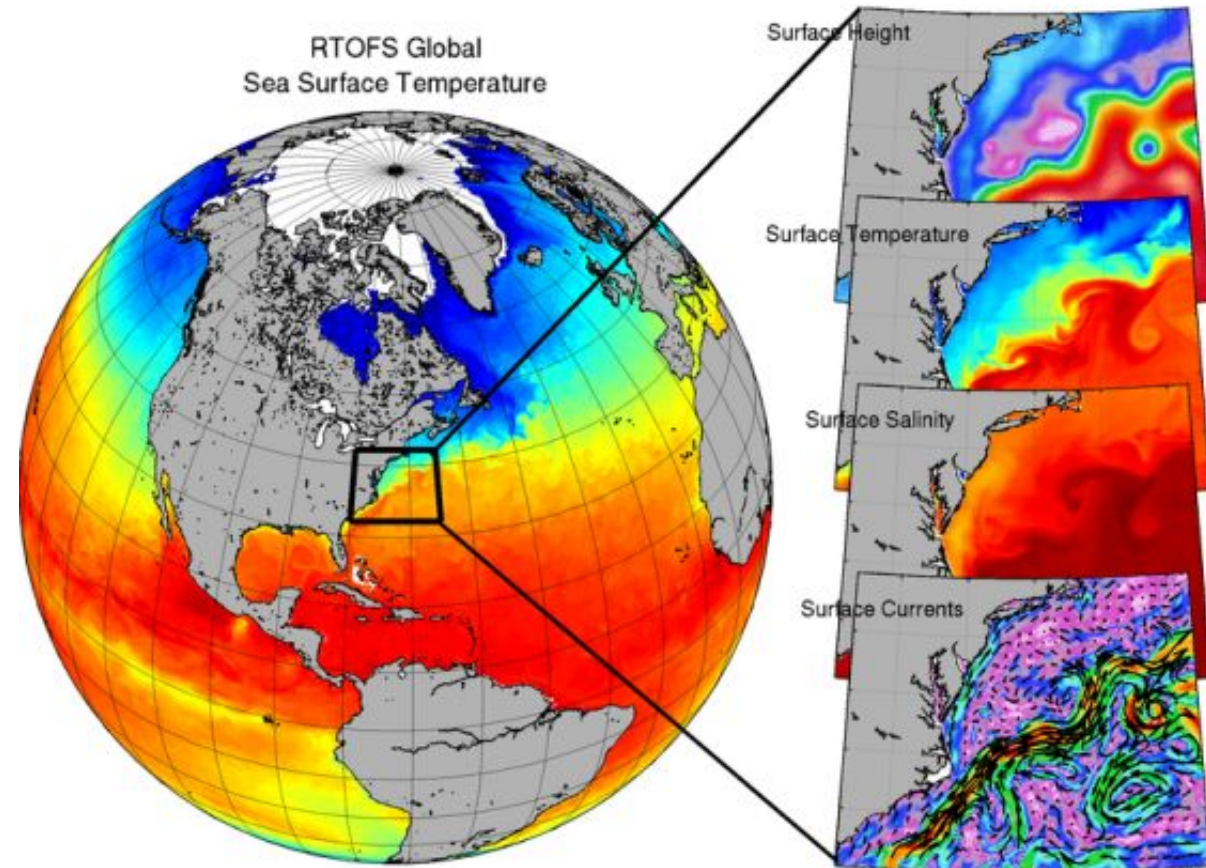
○ HMON:

- ❖ HYCOM (2-way) at $1/12^\circ$ (NATL, EPAC and CPAC)

Current: Operational Hurricane Forecasting Models



Real Time Ocean Forecast System (RTOFS) at NWS/NCEP



- Eddy Resolving Ocean Modeling and Initialization
- Coupled Modeling for Hurricanes (Air- Sea- Wave flux interactions, mixing)
- Inputs to operational Global (GFS v16) and Coastal (NWPS) wave models to allow for wave-current interactions.
- **RTOFS-DA: First operational Mesoscale Global Data Assimilation System at NWS/NCEP**
- RTOFS presently based on HYCOM

Collaboration with US Navy, leveraging core HYCOM and ocean data assimilation developments at NRL

Data Flow through RTOFS-DA*

Ocean Data QC:

- Fully automated, executed in real-time

2DVAR:

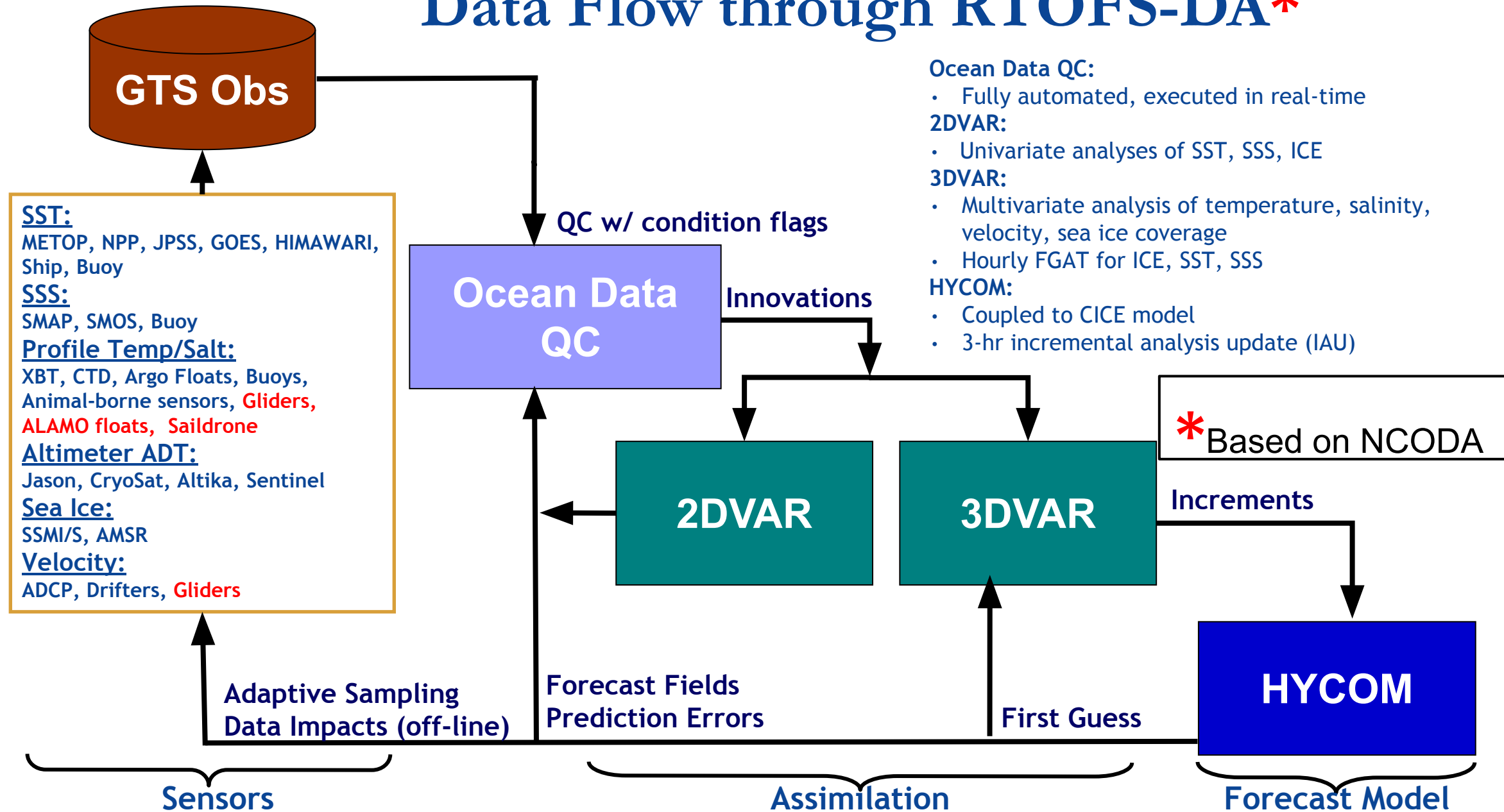
- Univariate analyses of SST, SSS, ICE

3DVAR:

- Multivariate analysis of temperature, salinity, velocity, sea ice coverage
- Hourly FGAT for ICE, SST, SSS

HYCOM:

- Coupled to CICE model
- 3-hr incremental analysis update (IAU)



Future UFS-based Operational Ocean Forecasts at NCEP

Global Models:

- ❖ Unified Forecast System (UFS) with MOM6 coupled to FV3 and CICE6, initially for sub-seasonal to seasonal applications.
- ❖ Replace HYCOM with MOM6 for RTOFS.

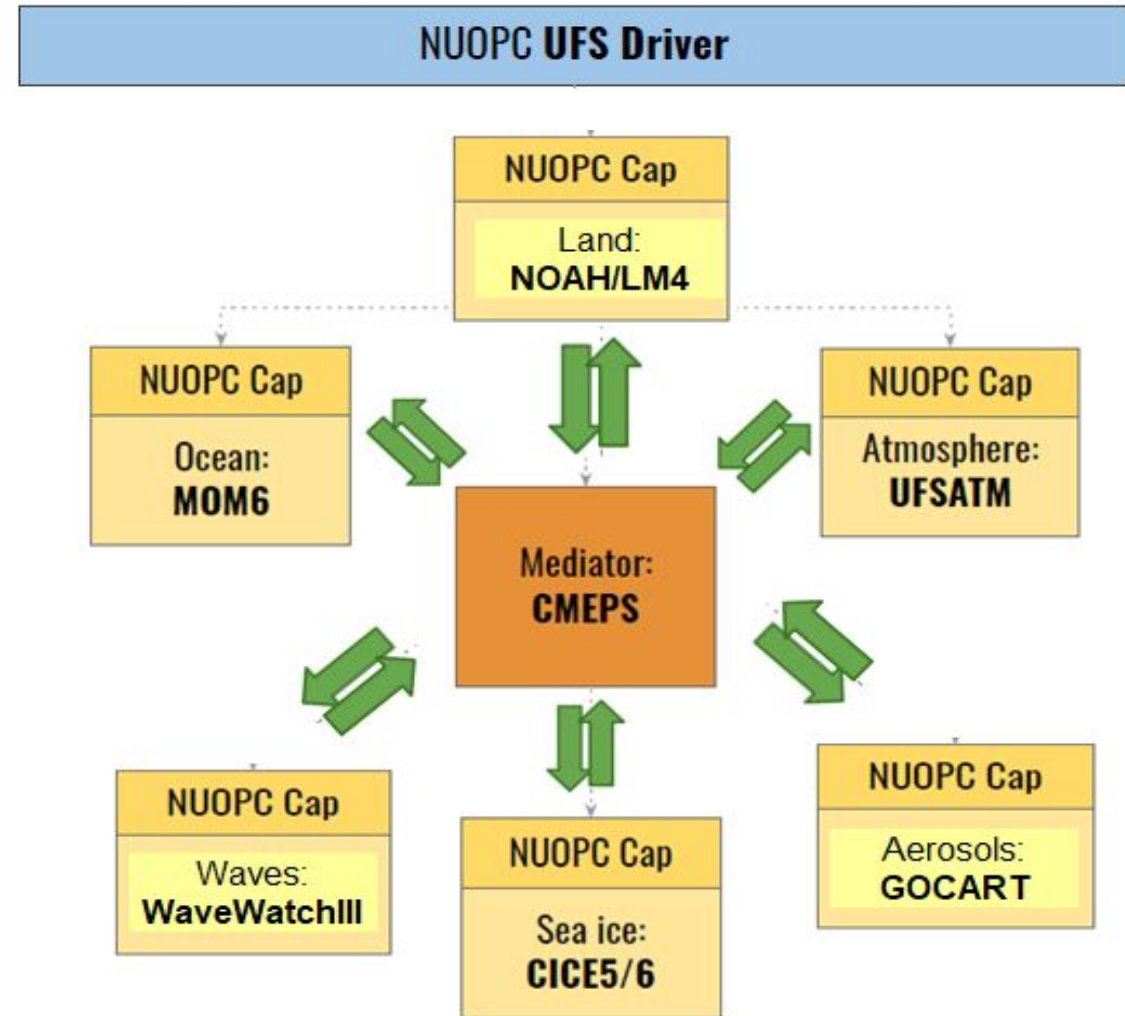
Regional (Hurricane) Models:

- ❖ Hurricane Analysis and Forecast System (HAFS) with FV3 based Hurricane model coupled to HYCOM (initially) and MOM6 when available.
- ❖ HAFS operational in all global ocean basins (NATL, EPAC, CPAC, WPAC, NIO, SH).

Unified Forecast System

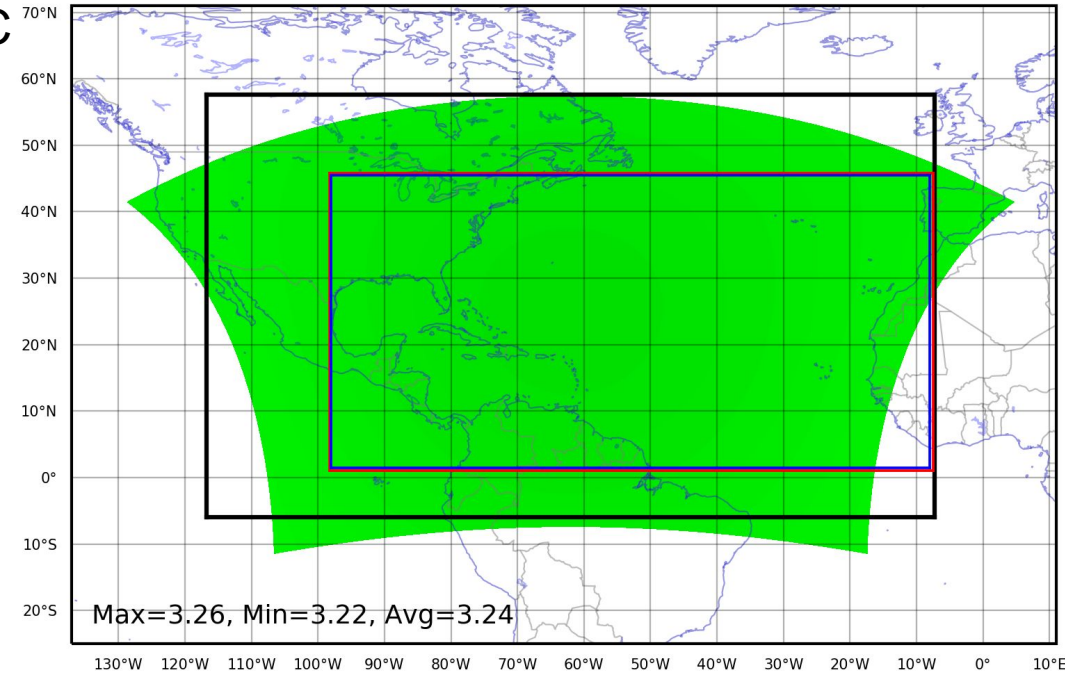


- NWS UFS system consists of the following **community** components
 - **NUOPC** for infrastructure
 - **CMEPS** mediator
 - **FV3 dycore** for atmosphere
 - **MOM6** ocean model (S2S scales)
 - **HYCOM** ocean model (weather scales)
 - **WW3** wave model
 - **CICE6** ice model
 - **GOCART** aerosol model
 - **NOAH-MP** land surface model
- Each component has its own authoritative repository. ESMF/NUOPC infrastructure allows flexibility to connect instantiations of the repositories together to create a coupled model.
- <https://ufscommunity.org>



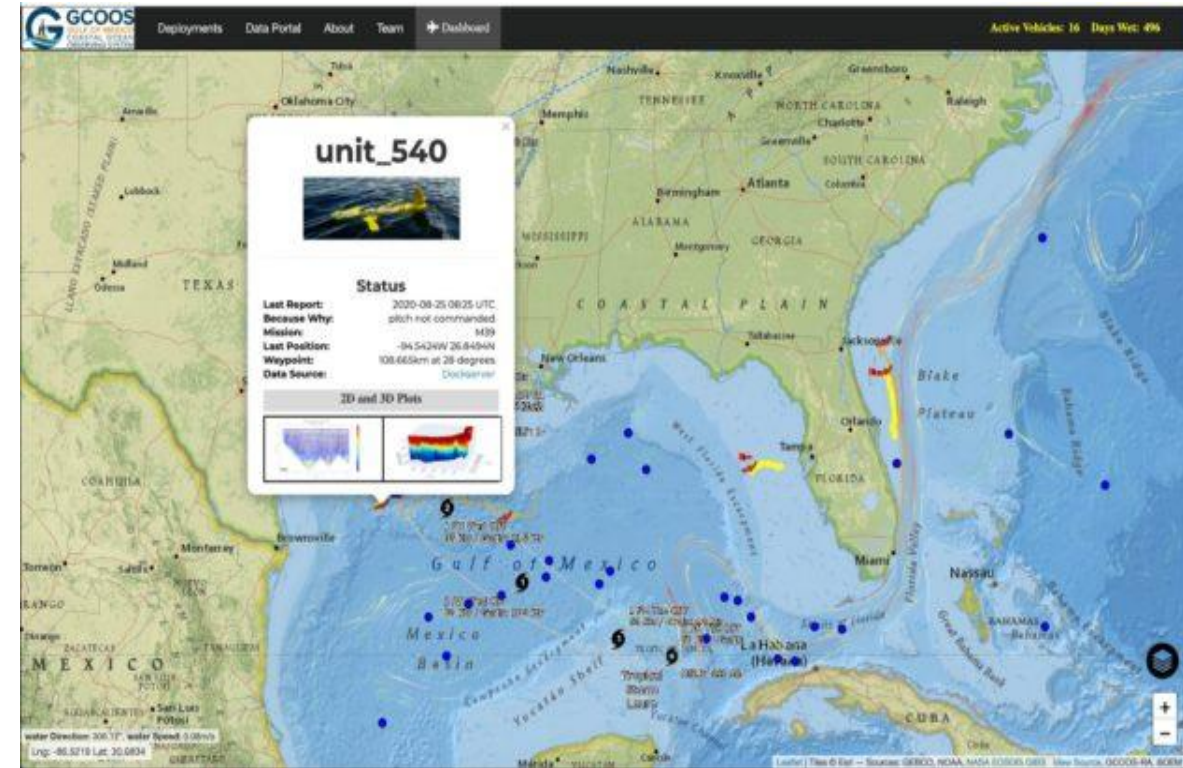
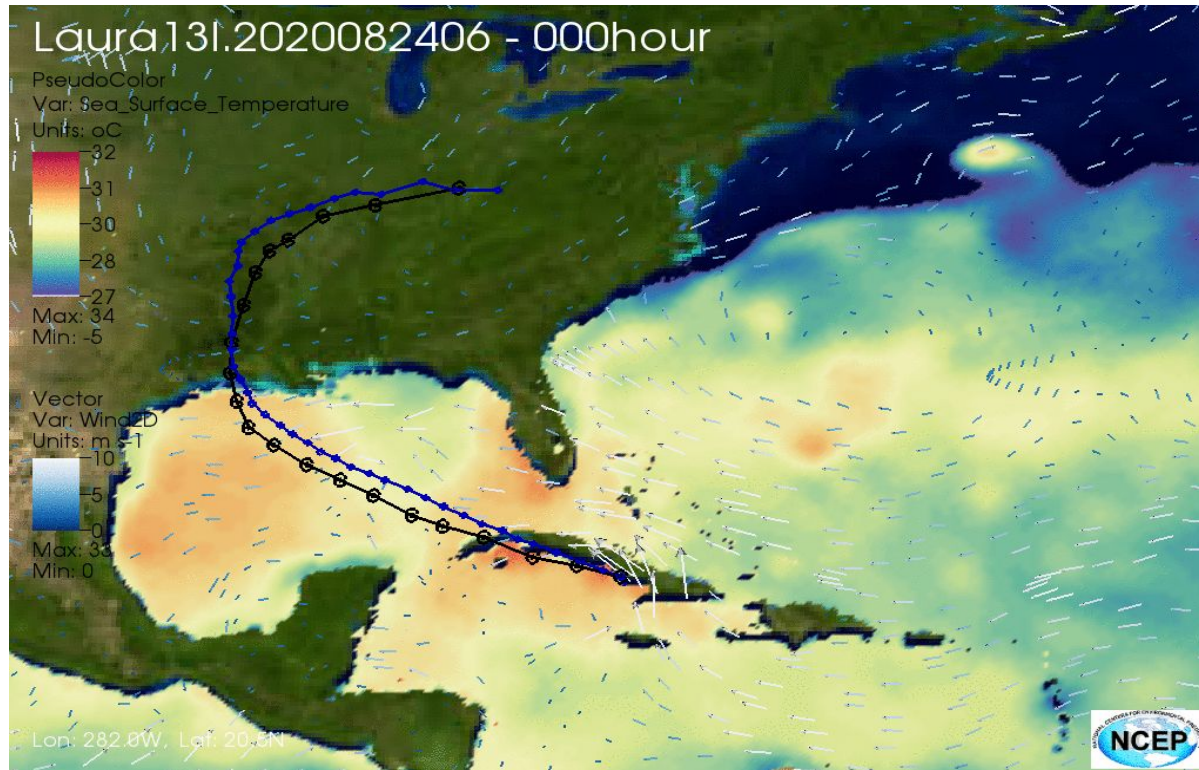
The HAFS v0.2A Configuration

- The FV3ATM component
 - Regional ESG C3089 grid (~3-km) with L91 levels
 - GFSv16 netcdf files for IC; 3-hrly GFSv16 grib2 files for LBC
 - dt_atmos=90s; k_split=3; n_split=5; radiation time step: 1800s; LBC blending with nrows_blend=10
 - GFDL microphysic; RRTMG radiation; Scale-aware SAS convection; Noah LSM; GFS surface layer with HWRF exchange coefficients; Modified GFSv16 scale-aware TKE-EDMF PBL scheme (with sfc_rlm=1); Turn on orographic GWD but keep convective GWD off
- The HYCOM component
 - CMEPS based ocean coupling 1/12-degree NATL domain (1-45.78N, 261.8-352.5E) L41
 - Ocean IC from RTOFSv2 and persistent oceanic LBC
 - Atmospheric forcing from GFSv16 grib2 files for non-overlap area



FV3ATM model domain
FV3ATM output domain
HYCOM ocean domain

Hurricane Analysis and Forecast System (HAFS): Hurricane Laura in August 2020



Marine JEDI: Future Operational Ocean Data Assimilation Systems

Global Applications:

- ❖ Next Generation -Global Ocean data Assimilation System (NG-GODAS; 1deg; ¼ deg; 1/12 deg)

Regional (Hurricane) Applications:

- ❖ Coupled Hurricane Analysis and Forecast System (HAFS; 1/12 deg)

* from daily analysis run at NAVOCEANO

Future: Unified DA Effort - JEDI

- The Joint Effort for Data assimilation Integration (JEDI) is a collaborative development spearheaded by the JCSDA:
 - ❖ Next generation unified data assimilation system
 - For research and operations (including R2O/O2R)
 - For various components of the earth system, including coupled
 - Mutualize as much as possible without imposing single approach
 - Open-development software –model: in addition to supported releases, community, developers can obtain and collaborate on latest development branches
 - ❖ Collaborative teams – NOAA, NASA, US NAVY,

Courtesy of JCSDA

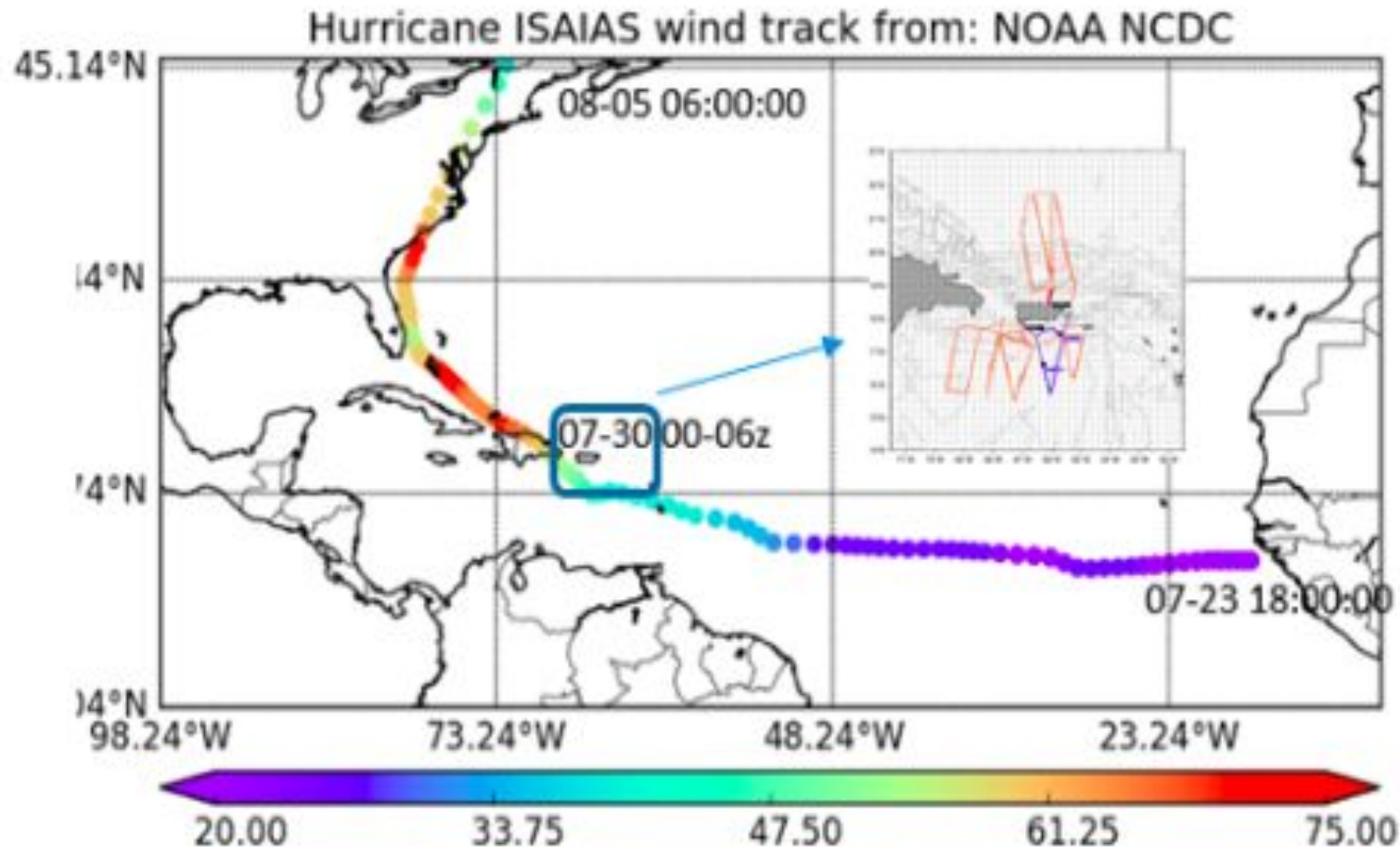
Project HSUP-2/DRA-2: FL-4

Title: Advance ocean data assimilation and coupling of air-sea models in the NOAA UFS in support of improved flood and inundation forecasting through coordination with NWS and NOS.

Common Strategies:

- **Marine Coupling:** use common (UFS-based) infrastructure/tools for coupling models
 - NEMS (Driver, Model Caps, Connectors)
 - NUOPC (ESMF based layer)
 - CMEPS (Community Mediator for Earth Prediction Systems)
 - CDEPS (Community Data models for Earth Prediction Systems)
- **Marine Data Assimilation:** use common (JEDI-based) tools/algorithms for use with common observations
 - Inputs -- IODA (Interface for Observational Data Access)
 - Compute innovations/residuals -- UFO (Unified Forward Operator)
 - Algorithms -- OOPS (Object Oriented Prediction System)
 - Workflows -- SOCA Science

Regional ODA Experiment: Isaias (2020)



- Marine JEDI DA experiment with North Atlantic Basin
 - Hurricane Isaias (July 23 ~ August 05, 2020)
 - Analysis window and hurricane track with a view of glider data location
 - Gliders encountered Isaias approx. July 30

Challenges related to Ocean Observations for Hurricane Forecasting

- ❖ Dearth of subsurface ocean observations (< 1000 profiles/day for assimilation globally)
- ❖ Multiple steps from collection of observations to availability for real-time operations (models, products)
- ❖ Research challenges for coupled modeling systems (flux representation, coupling strategy)
- ❖ Research challenges for coupled data assimilation (observing system design)

Thank You!

Hurricane Analysis and Forecast System (HAFS): A collaborative Project in **UFS Framework**

07 NCAR/DTC

NCEP/EMC 01

06 OFCM/AOC

AOML/HRD 02

05 ESRL/NESII

04 ESRL/GSD

GFDL 03



Future: Benefits of Using JEDI

Reduce duplication of effort between JCSDA partners

- ✓ Adding new observations (UFO and IODA)
- ✓ Implementation of new DA algorithms (OOPS)

Bring all components of Earth-system in one DA system

- ✓ Develop DA once for all components (OOPS)
- ✓ Enable future coupled DA developments (OOPS)

Modern DA systems are too complex for one person to grasp

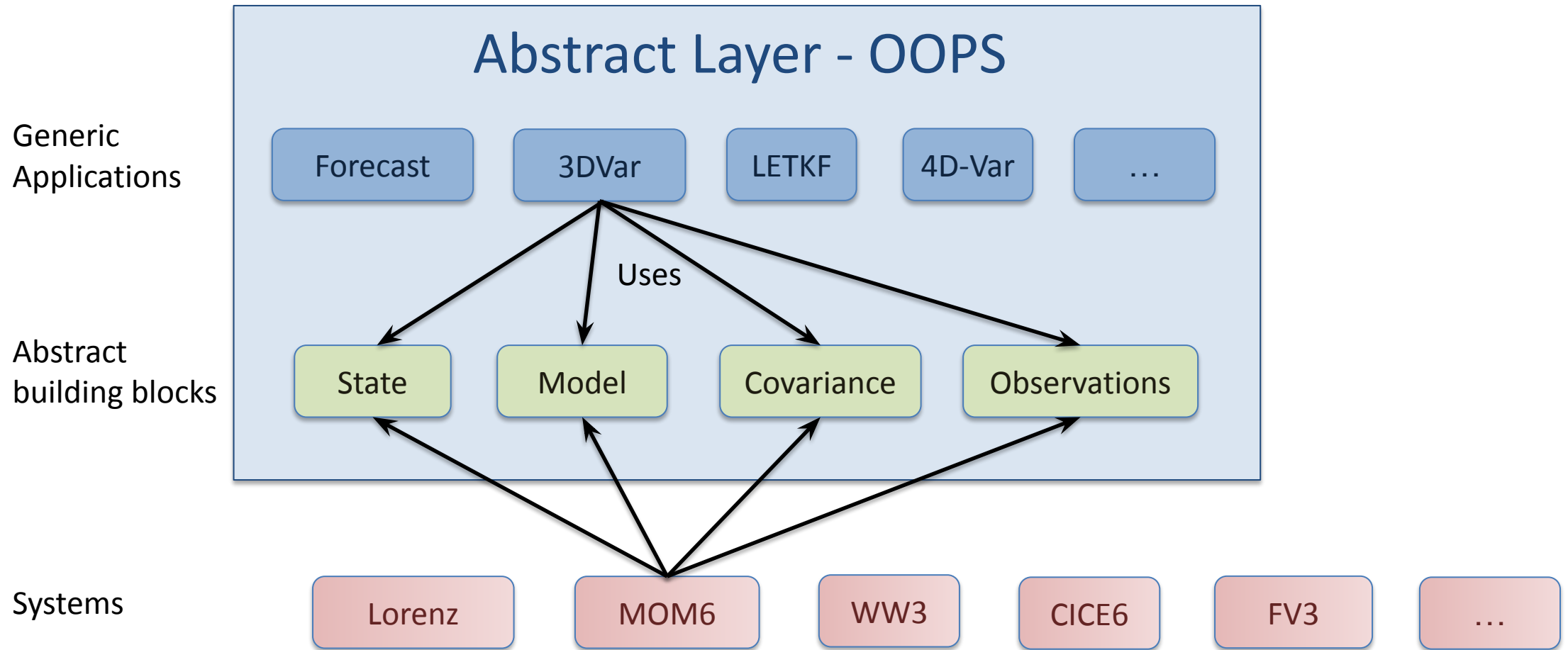
- ✓ Collaborative developments
- ✓ Separation of concerns

Modernize software

- ✓ Speed-up future developments
- ✓ Ease maintenance
- ✓ Increase portability and efficiency

Courtesy of JCSDA

Future: Unified DA Effort - JEDI



Abstract interfaces are the most important aspect of the design

Courtesy of JCSDA