



Advancing Precipitation Estimation and Prediction through Deep Learning at Météo-France

Léa Berthomier
*Artificial Intelligence Laboratory
Météo-France*

lea.berthomier@meteo.fr



Summary

- **Observations**

- Precipitation estimation from satellite observations
- Severe hail detection using convolutional neural networks
- Commercial Microwave Links to estimate rainfall

- **Nowcasting**

- Comparison of multiple AI Nowcasting products

- **Medium range forecasting**

- Emulation of AROME with Deep Neural Networks



Espresso : a Global Deep Learning Model to Estimate Precipitation from Satellite Observations

Météo-France AI Lab

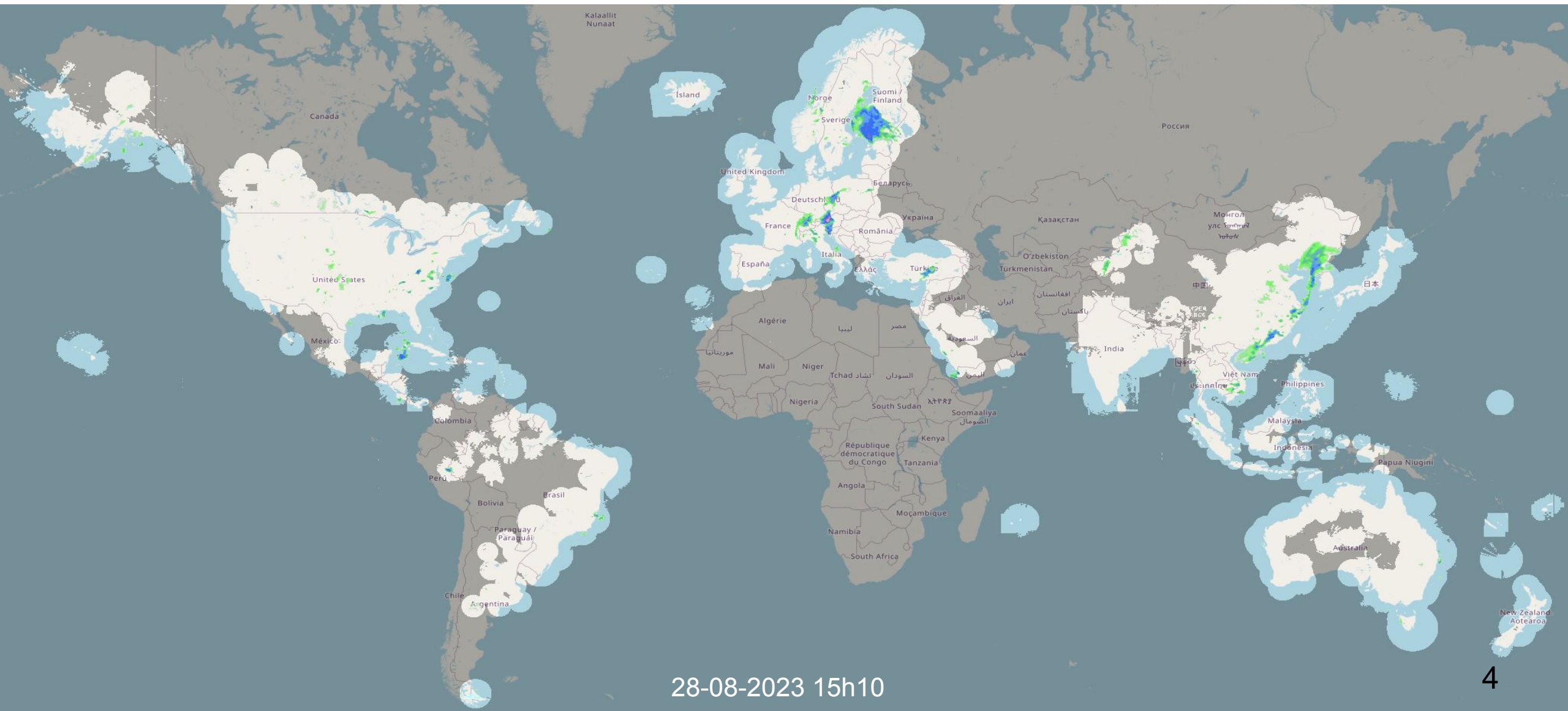
L. Berthomier
M. Feirrer
F. Guibert
B. Pradel
T. Tournier

Meteorological Satellite Center, Météo-France

L. Perier, S. Le Moal, JB. Hernandez,
O. Membrive, A. Mauss,
G. Gouez, Y. Niort

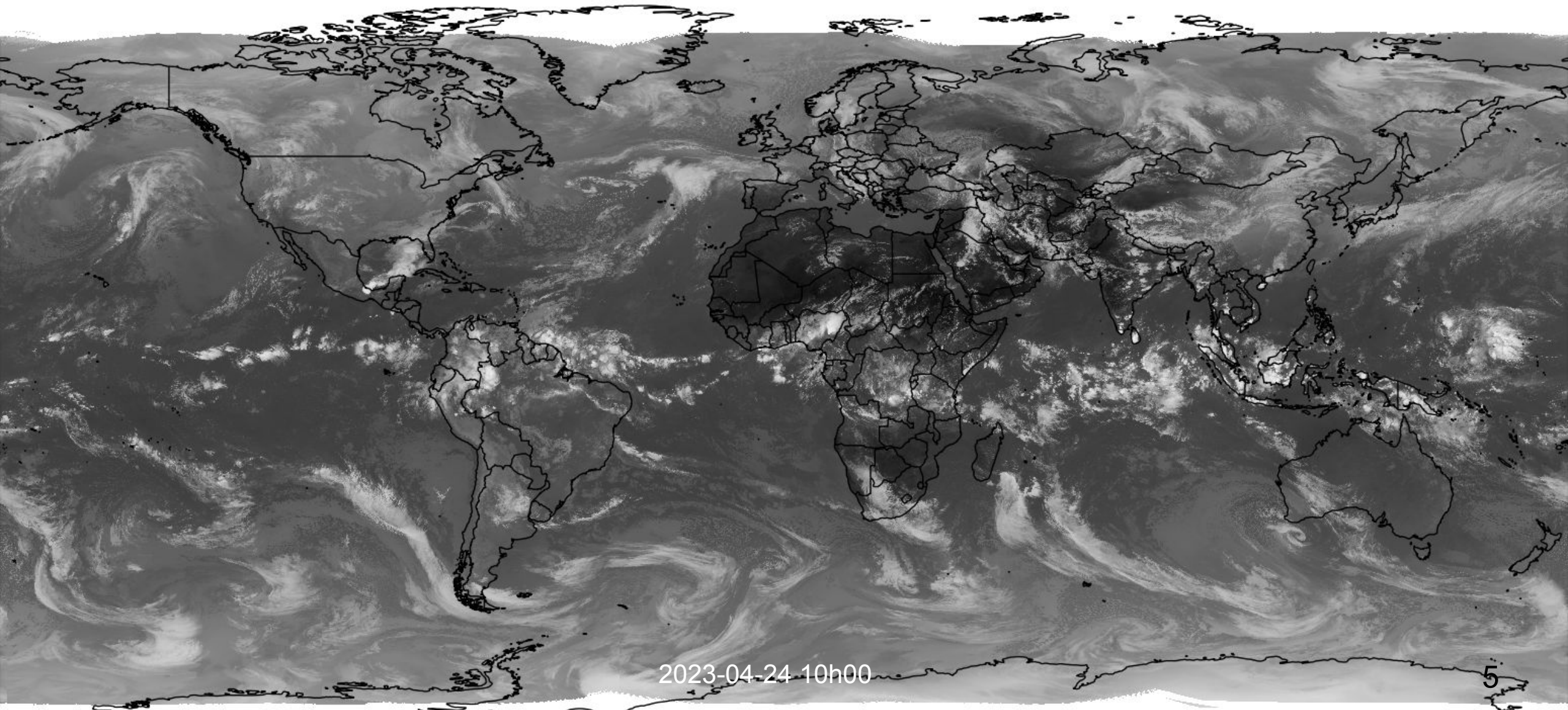
French National School of Meteorology

L. Bouzid, C. Cadoret,
C. Nicolas, L. Soulard-Fisher



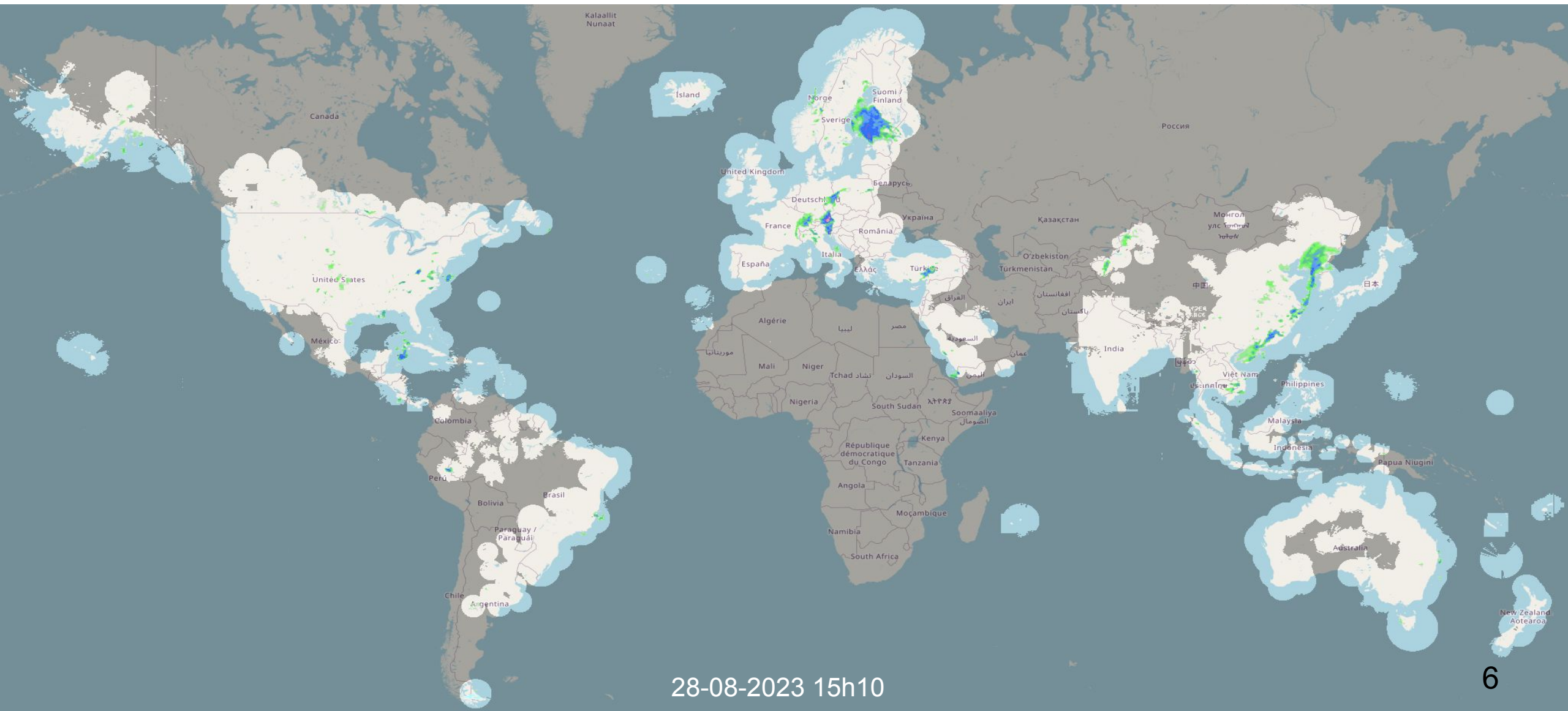
Available data

10.8 μm channel
Mosaic from 5 geostationary satellites



2023-04-24 10h00

Available data

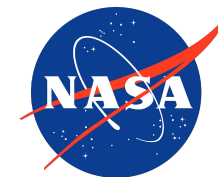


Available data

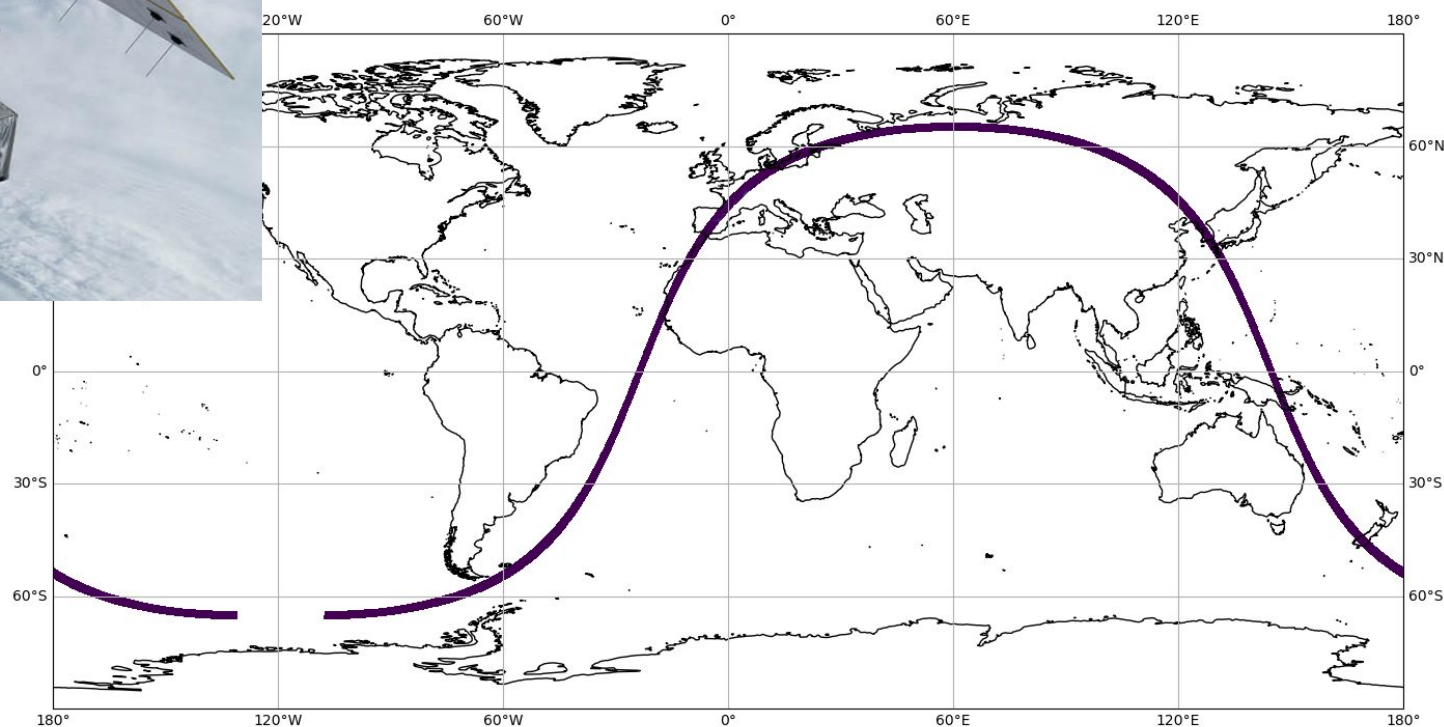


- Orbit duration = 1h30
- 16 daily swaths since 2014
- Rainfall rate measurement in mm/h

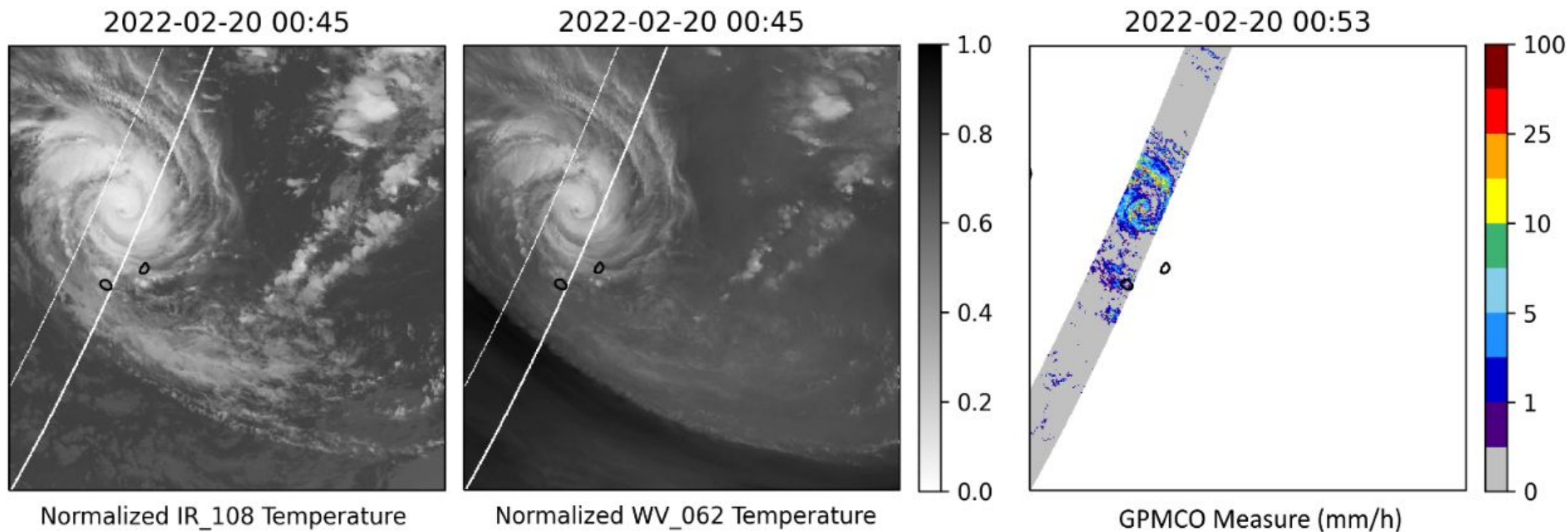
GPM Core Observatory



- GPM Microwave Imager
- Dual-frequency Precipitation Radar :
 - Ka-Band (35.5 GHz)
 - Ku-Band (13.6 GHz)

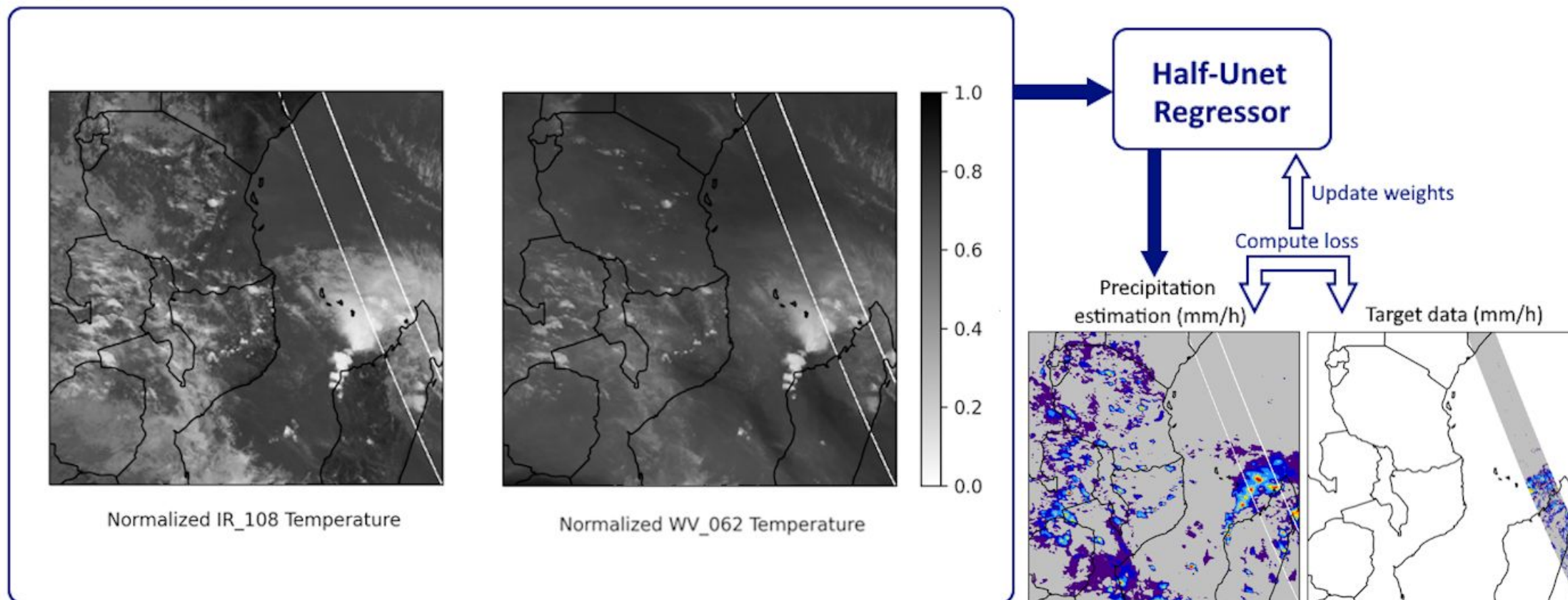


Dataset



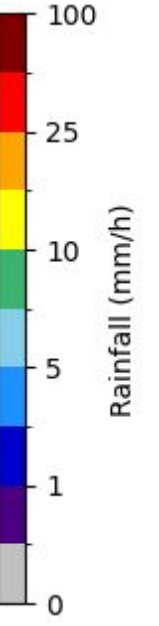
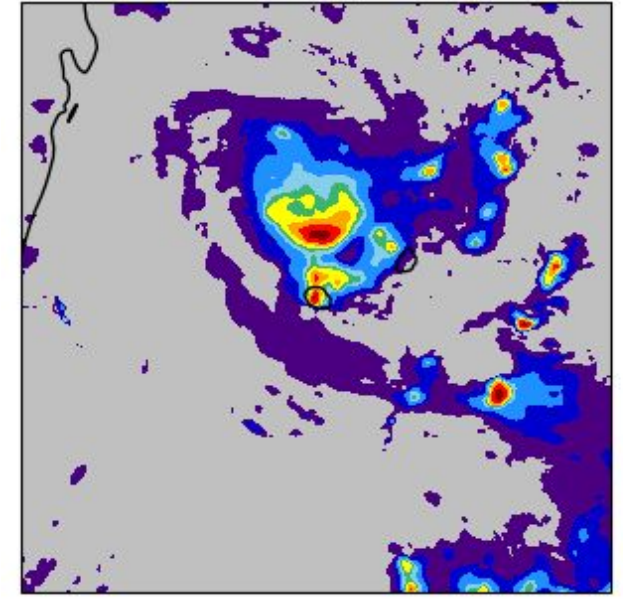
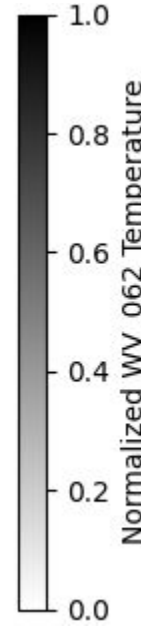
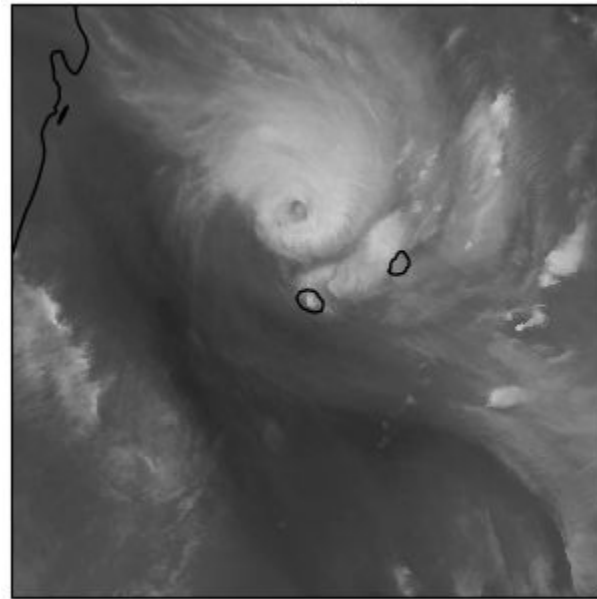
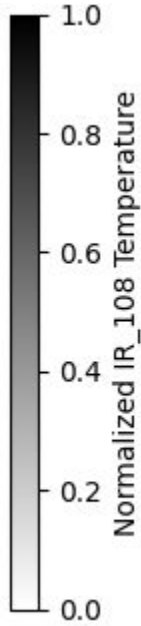
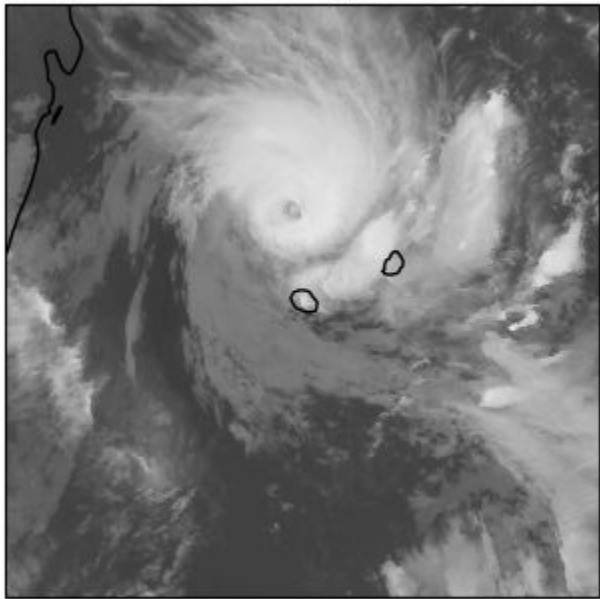
Methodology

Input features

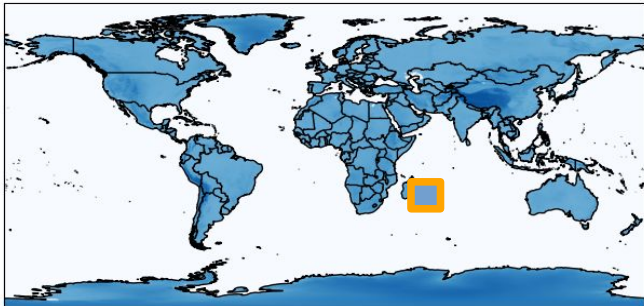


Results : Cyclone Garance

2025-02-27 19h45 UTC

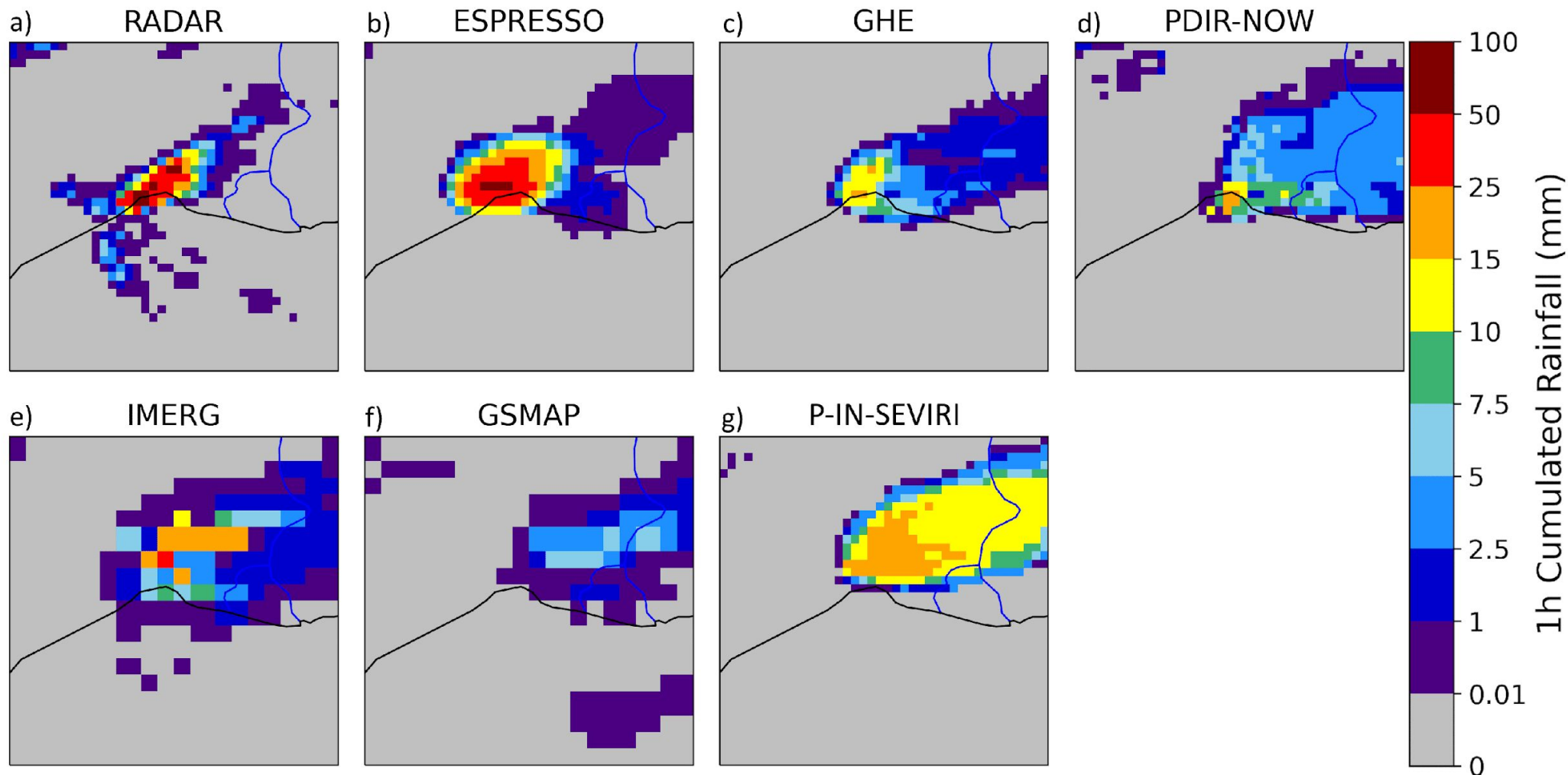


Position on globe

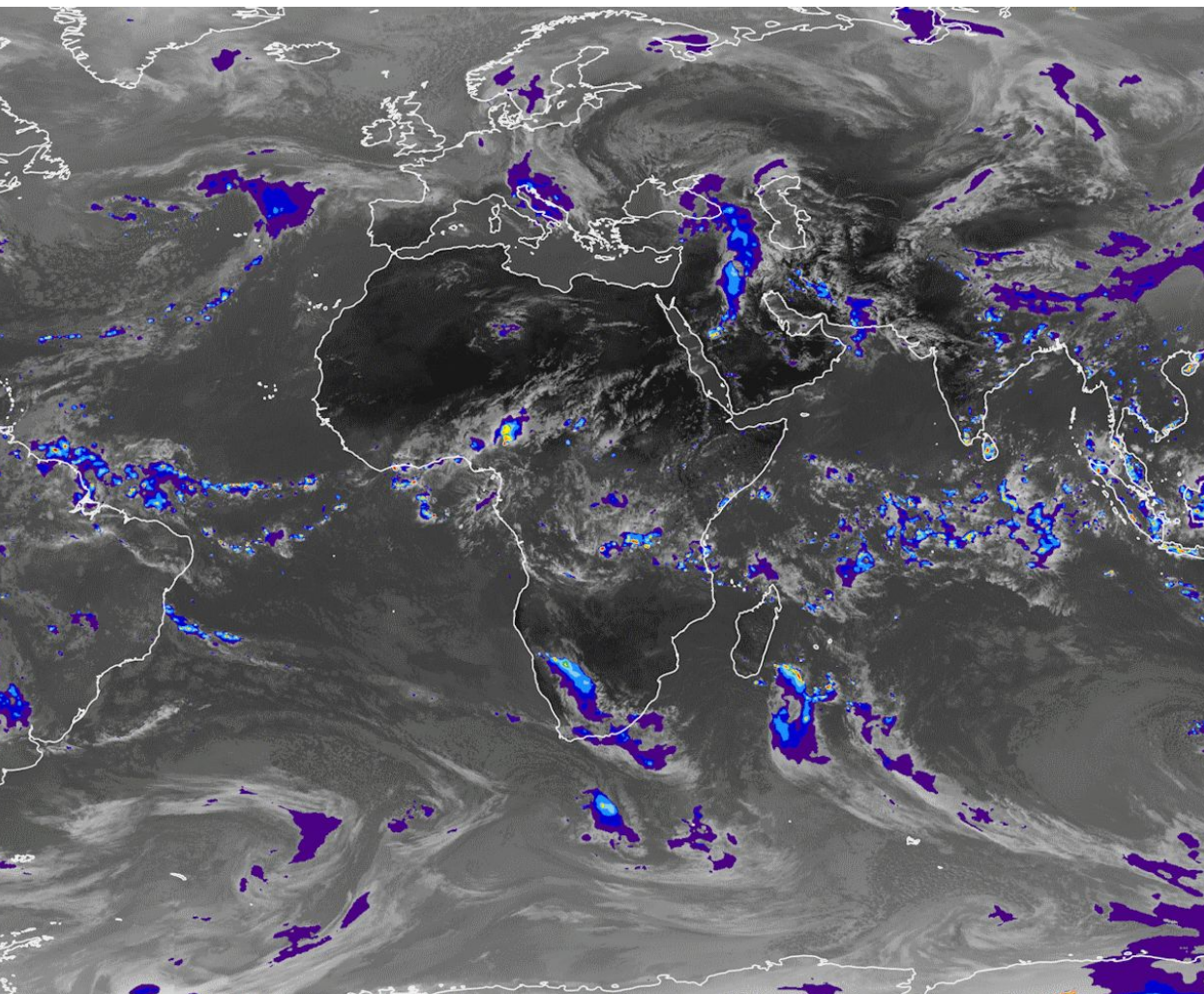


Results: “Cevenol” storm in Montpellier

2022-09-06 14h00



Conclusion on Espresso



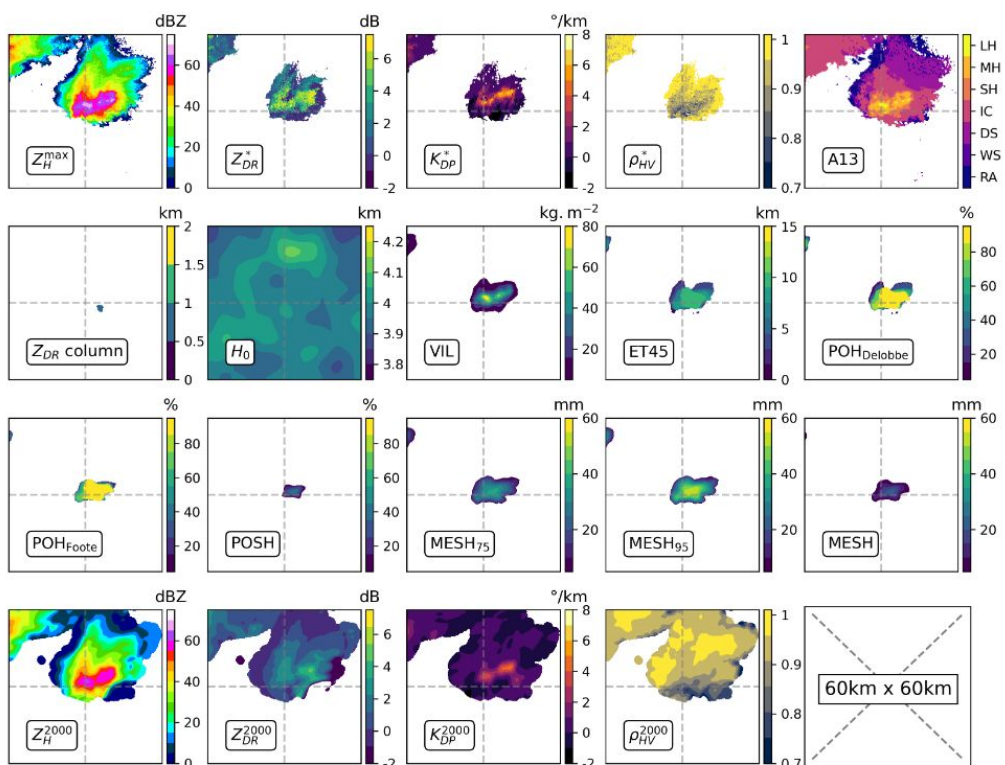
- Model is now **operational** and produces **real time estimations** every **15 minutes**.
- Accessible to French forecasters for French overseas territories without ground radar.

Espresso: A Global Deep Learning Model to Estimate Precipitation from Satellite Observations
L. Berthomier and L. Perier, 2023, *Meteorology*

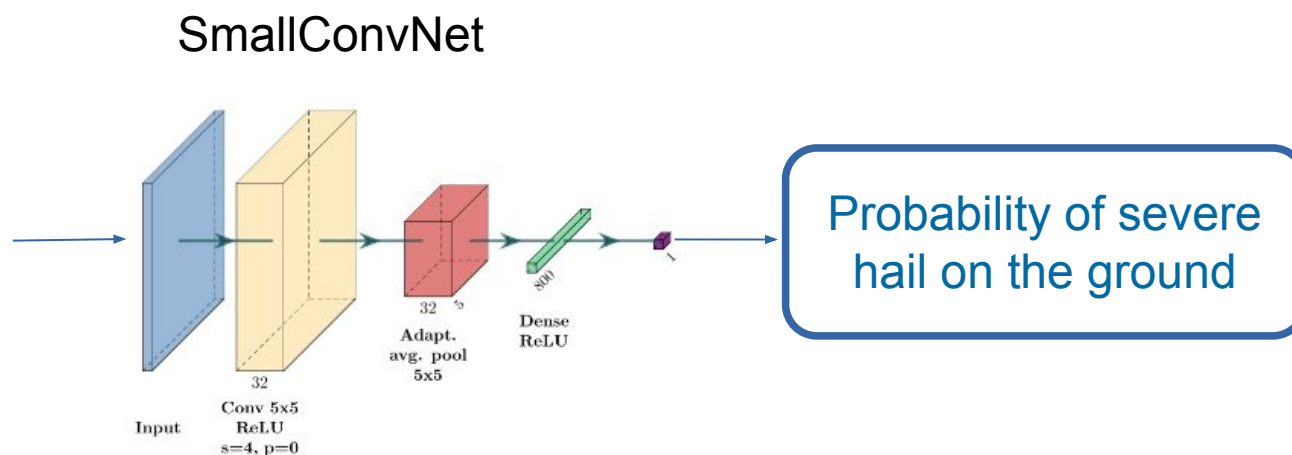
Other AI Products for Precipitation Observation

Severe hail detection with C-band dual-polarisation radars using convolutional neural networks

Vincent Forcadell et al., 2024



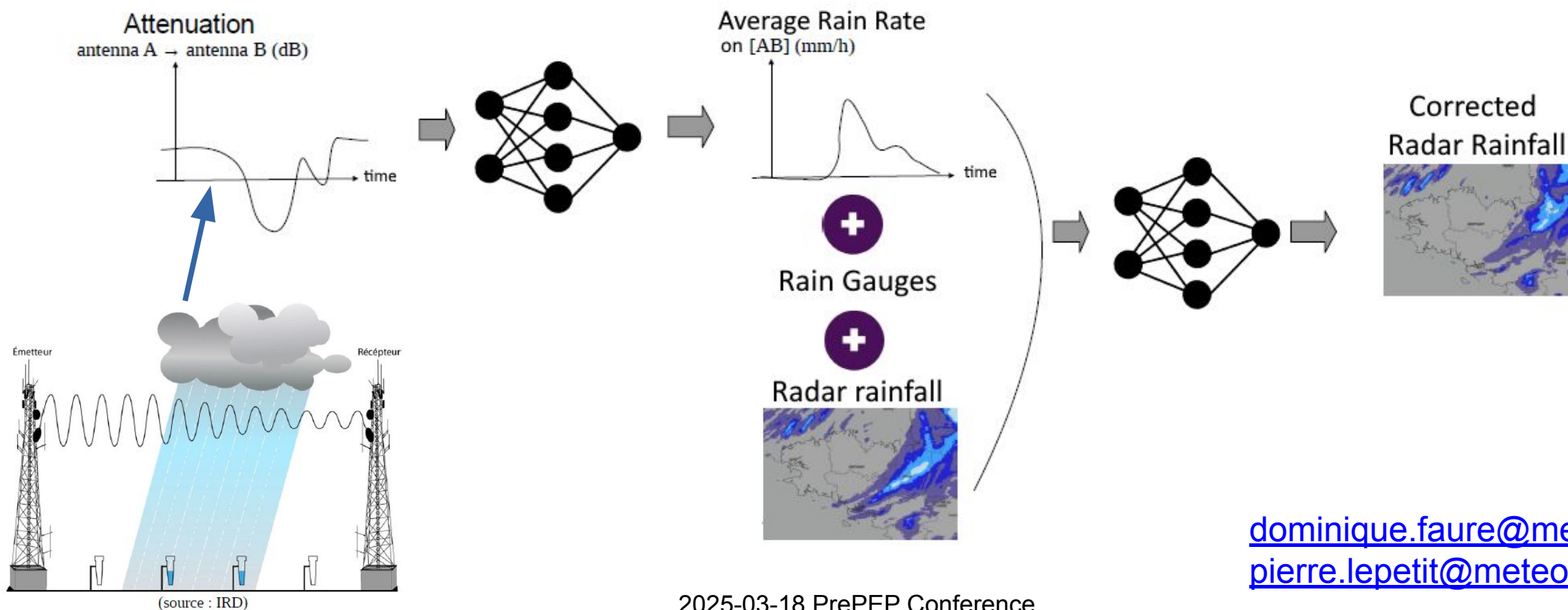
19 inputs : Polarimetric, Storm proxy and Hail proxy data



clotilde.augros@meteo.fr
vincent.forcadell@gmail.com

Other AI Products for Precipitation Observation

Raincell project: Commercial Microwave Links to estimate rainfall at Météo-France Dominique Faure et al., ERAD, 2024



dominique.faure@meteo.fr
pierre.lepetit@meteo.fr



Precipitation Nowcasting with Deep Learning

Météo-France AI Lab

L. Berthomier
F. Guibert
B. Pradel
T. Tournier

Nowcasting Department, Météo-France

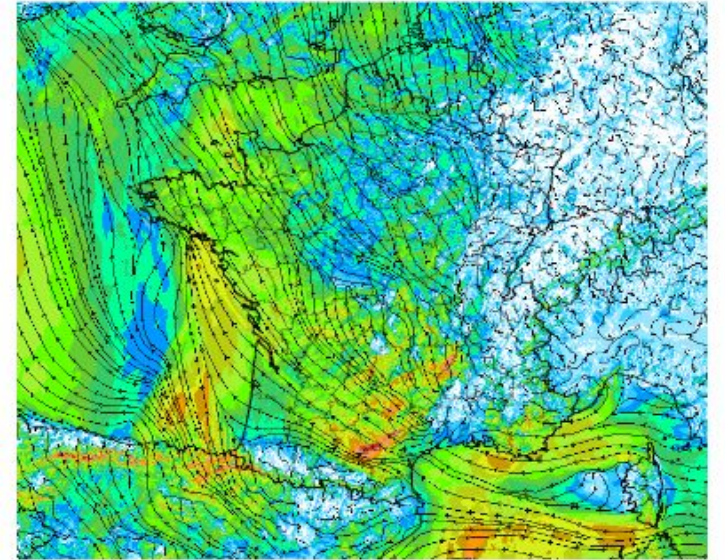
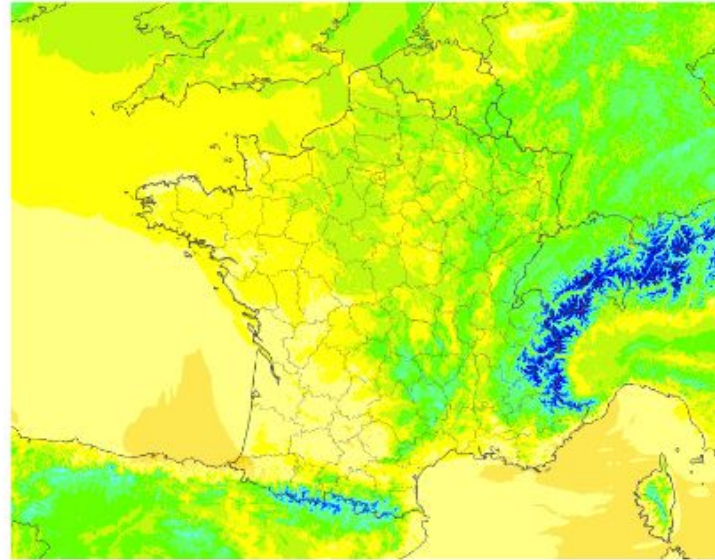
N. Merlet
T. Montmerle

Model Evaluation Department, Météo-France

V. Lion

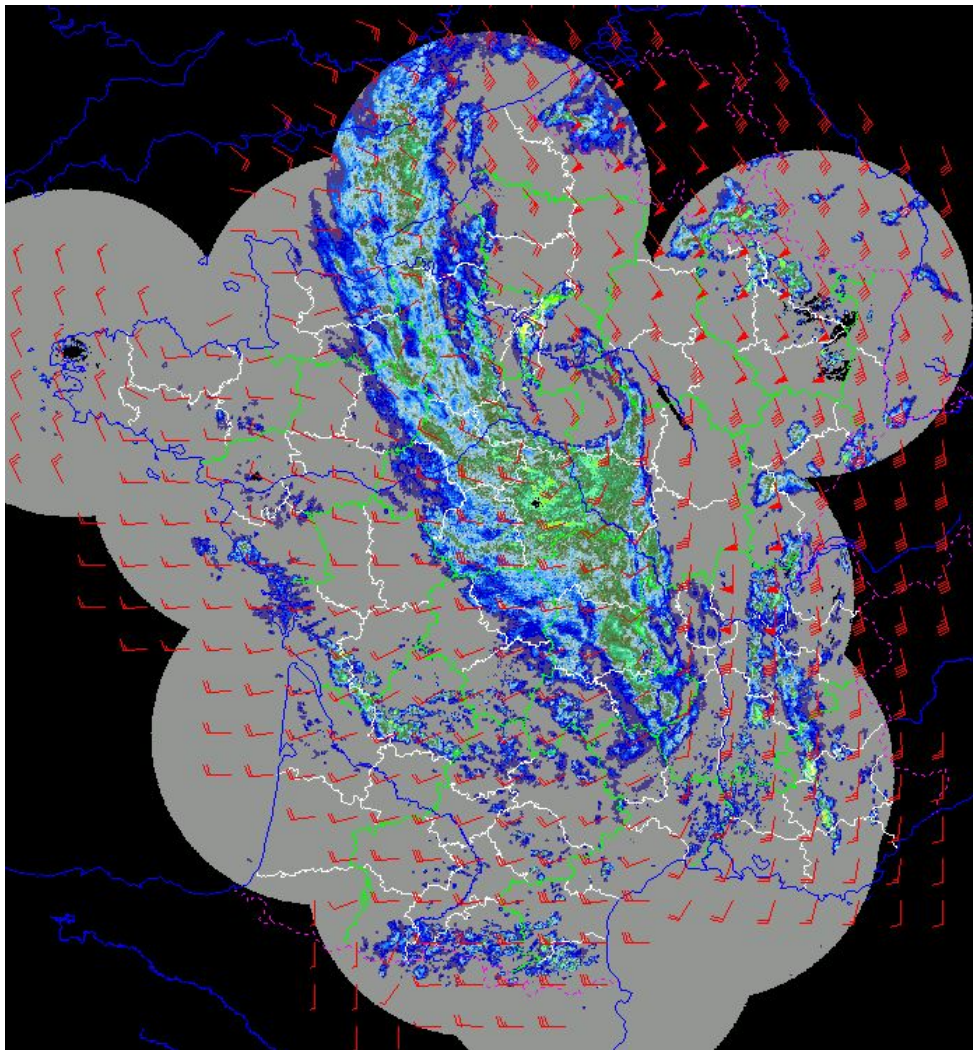
Nowcasting currently in production at Météo France

AROME-Ncst : nowcasting version of the French NWP model AROME



Nowcasting currently in production at Météo France

Radar image extrapolation



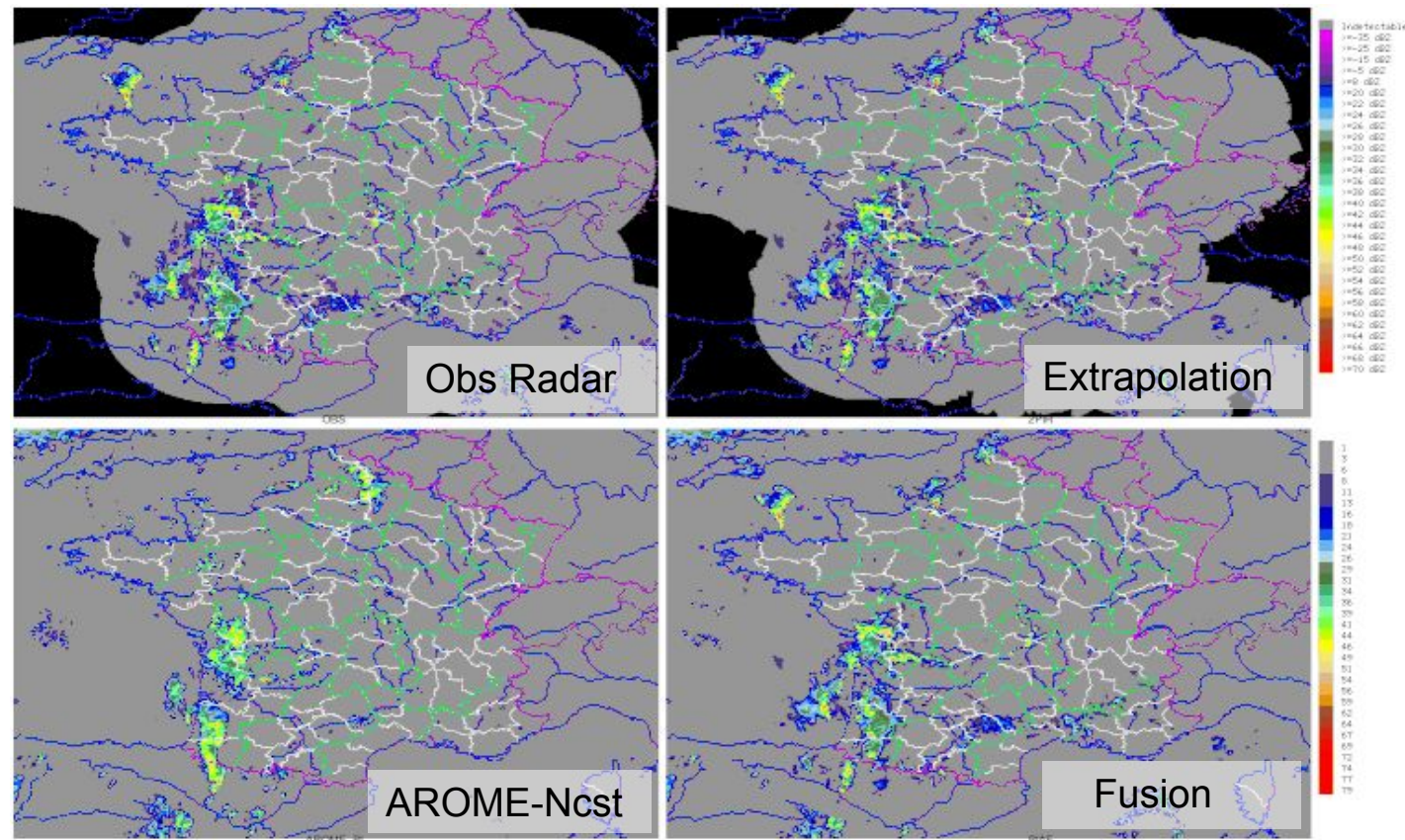
Nowcasting currently in production at Météo France

Fusion between AROME Nowcasting and Radar Extrapolation

$$\text{Fusion} = \alpha \text{ Extrapolation} + (1 - \alpha) \text{ AROME-Ncst}$$

α is computed from a statistical training on recent data from the previous 6h

Goal : replace Extrapolation by
Deep Learning in fusion product

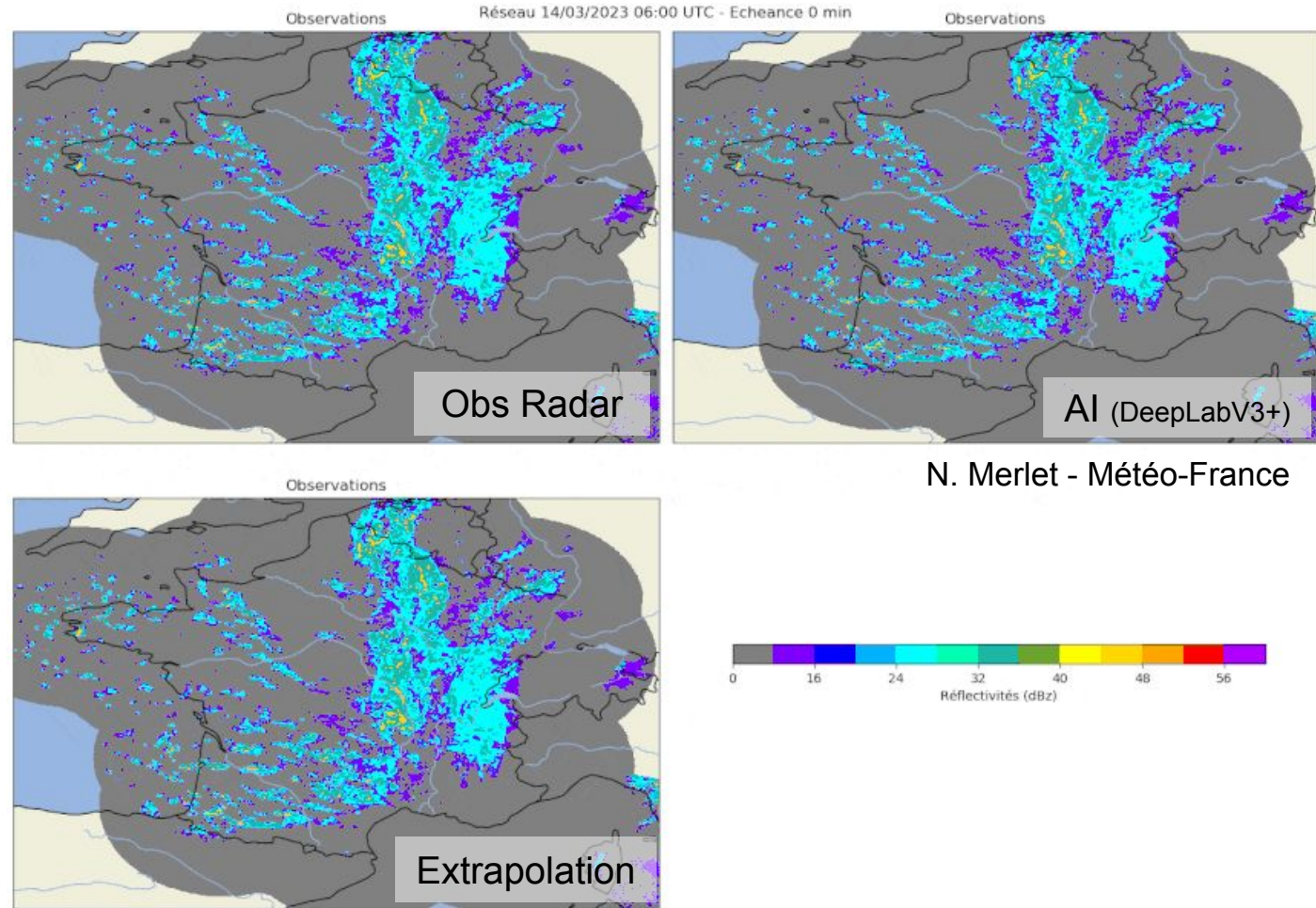


T. Montmerle - Météo-France

AI Nowcasting with supervised learning

Supervised training on several neural networks (U-Net, DeepLabV3+, ...)

- **Inputs** = 4 last radar images
- **Target** = 24 next radar images
- **Loss function** = **MSE** or derivatives



N. Merlet - Météo-France

AI Nowcasting with GANs and diffusion models

Work In Progress :

Comparing our methods with state-of-the-art GANs and Diffusion models

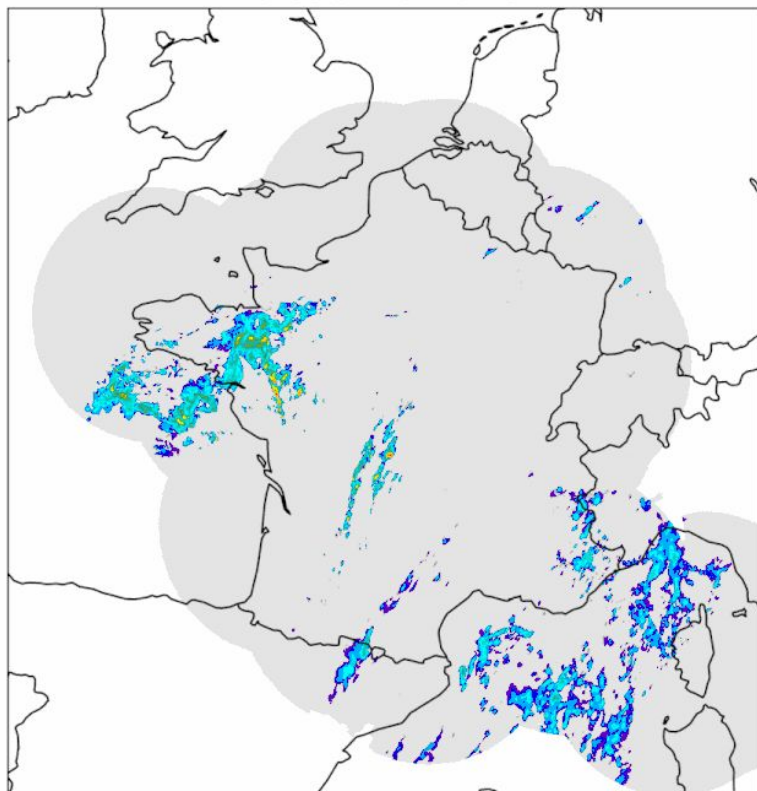
Model	Team	Paper	Radar Training Data	Notes
DGMR	Google Deepmind	<i>Skilful precipitation nowcasting using deep generative models of radar</i> Ravuri et al., Nature, 2021	United Kingdom	
LDCast	MeteoSwiss	<i>Latent diffusion models for generative precipitation nowcasting with accurate uncertainty quantification</i> Leinonen et al., 2023	Swiss	20 min inference time on GPU
NowCastNet	Tsinghua University	<i>Skilful nowcasting of extreme precipitation with NowcastNet</i> Zhang et al., Nature, 2023	USA & China	Forecast time step = 10 minutes

AI Nowcasting with GANs and diffusion models

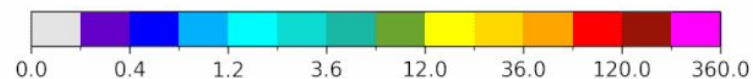
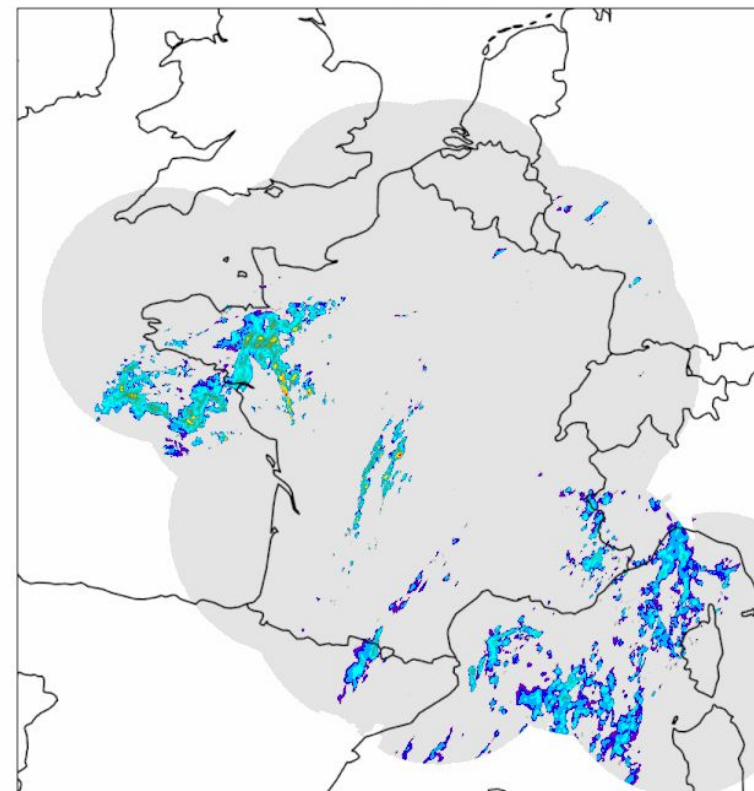
Forecast example from DGMR

Run: 2024-06-19 12:45 | + -15 min

Observations



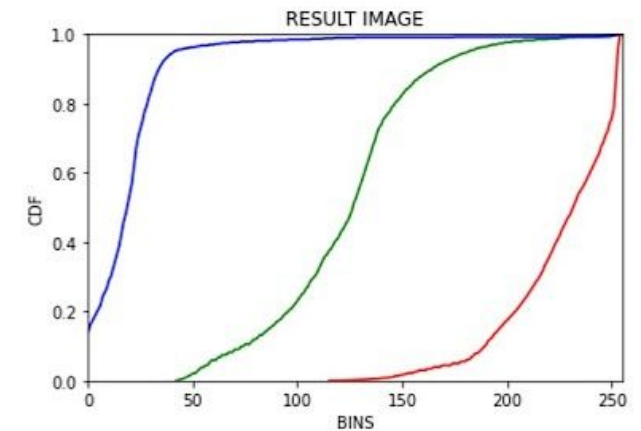
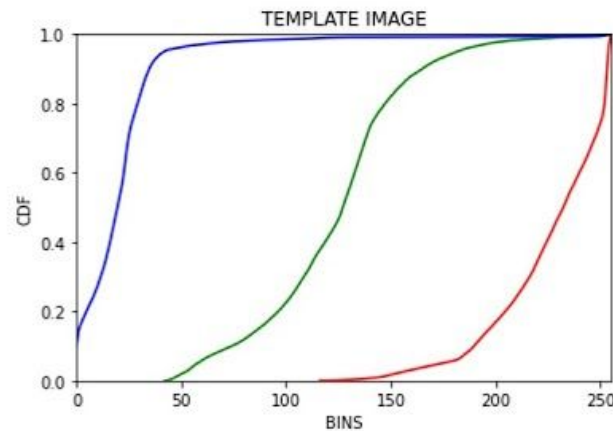
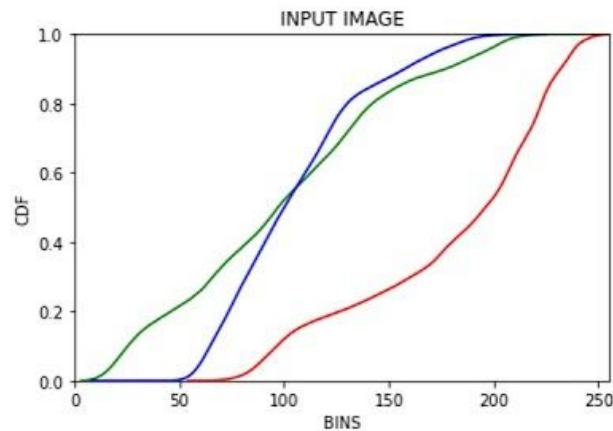
DGMR Forecast



Rainfall Rate (mm/h)

AI Nowcasting with GANs and diffusion models

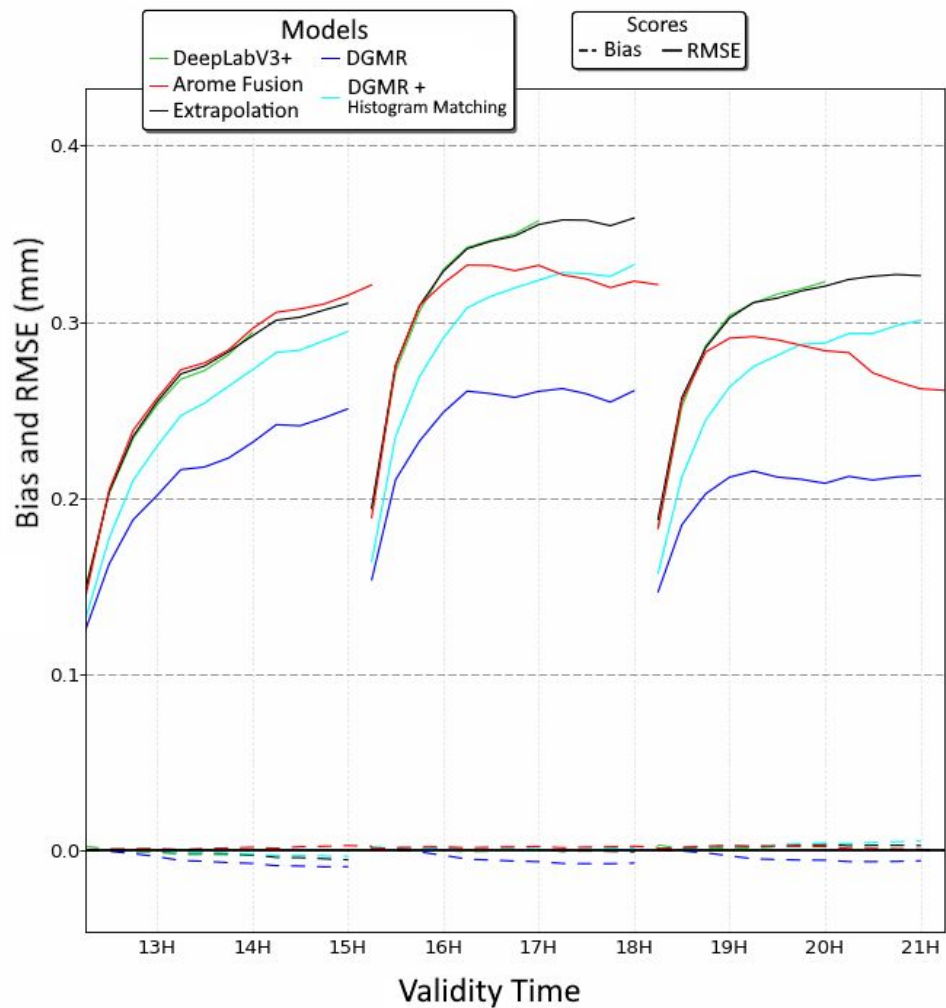
Maintaining high intensity precipitation : DGMR post-processing with Histogram Matching



Credits: Made Python

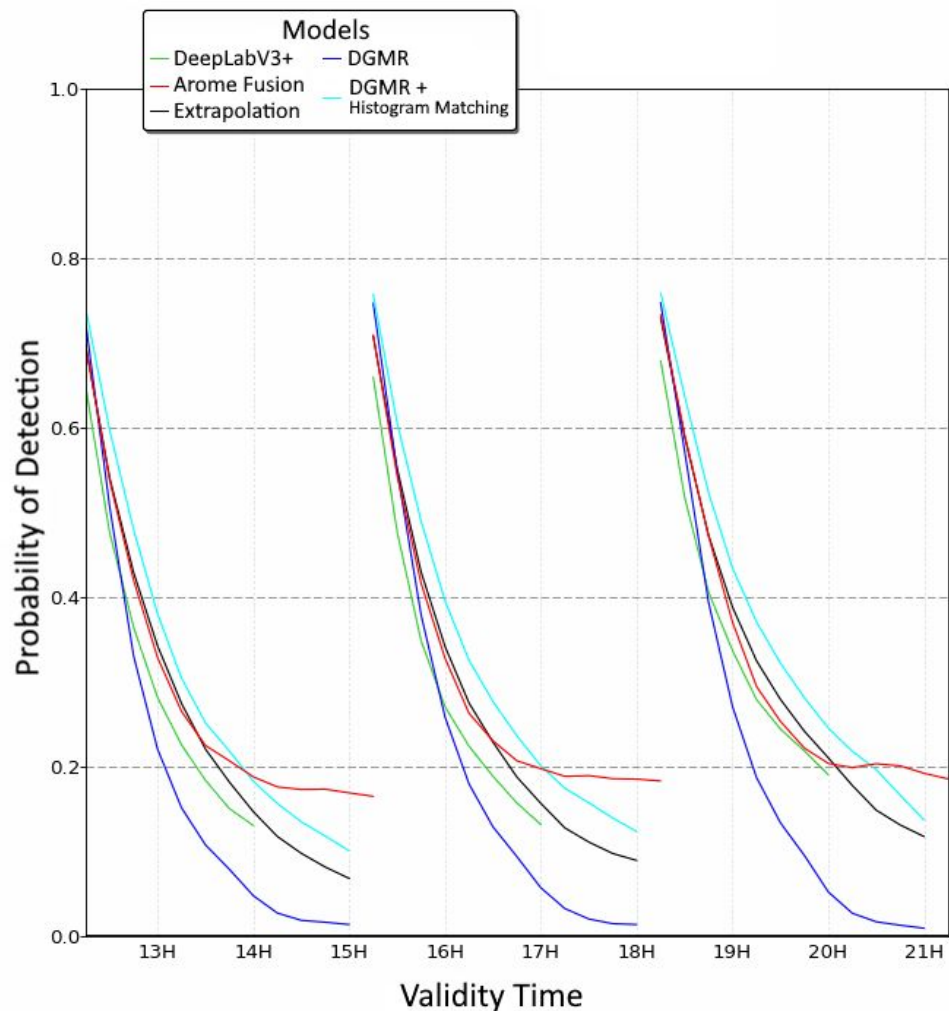
Benchmarking RMSE & bias

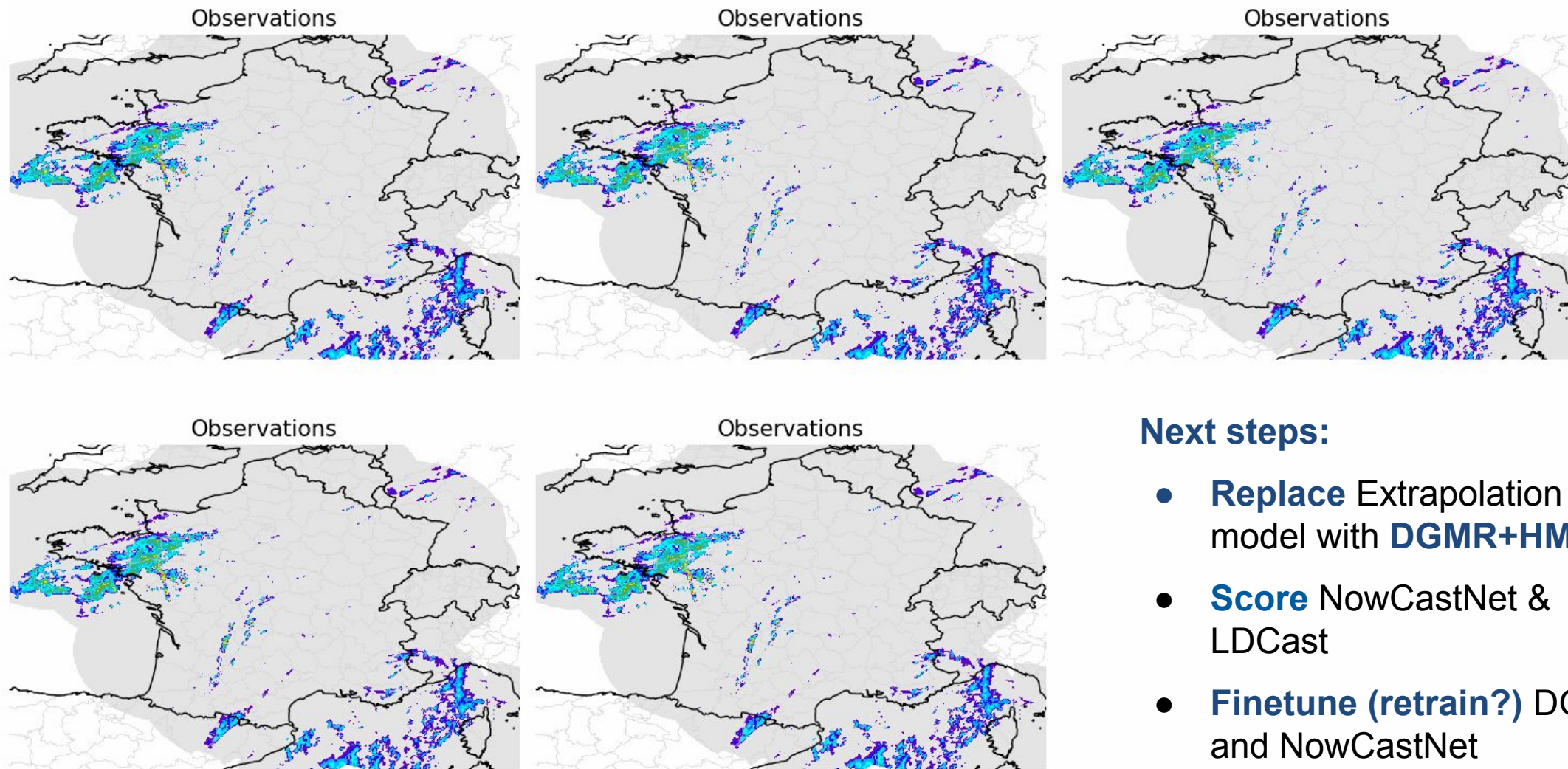
Bias and RMSE for RR 15min
02/2024 - 12/2024



Benchmarking rain detection

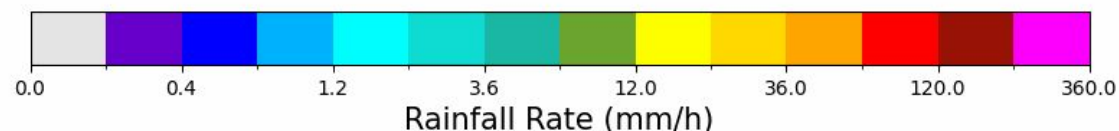
Probability of Detection for RR 15min ≥ 2.0 mm
02/2024 - 12/2024





Next steps:

- **Replace** Extrapolation model with **DGMR+HM**
- **Score** NowCastNet & LDCast
- **Finetune (retrain?)** DGMR and NowCastNet





Emulation of AROME with Deep Neural Networks

Météo-France AI Lab

L. Berthomier
F. Guibert
B. Pradel
T. Tournier

CNRM

S. Akodad, C. Brochet
V. Chabot, L. Raynaud
C. Seznec

EVIDEN

C. Bovalo
L. Vincent

Deep learning Emulator of AROME

- Work started in January 2024
- Started with **building datasets** on **France Limited Area**
- **Py4cast project**: train a variety of **Neural Networks** on various **weather forecasting datasets**
- **open-source MFAI library**: **neural networks, losses, metrics for meteorology**



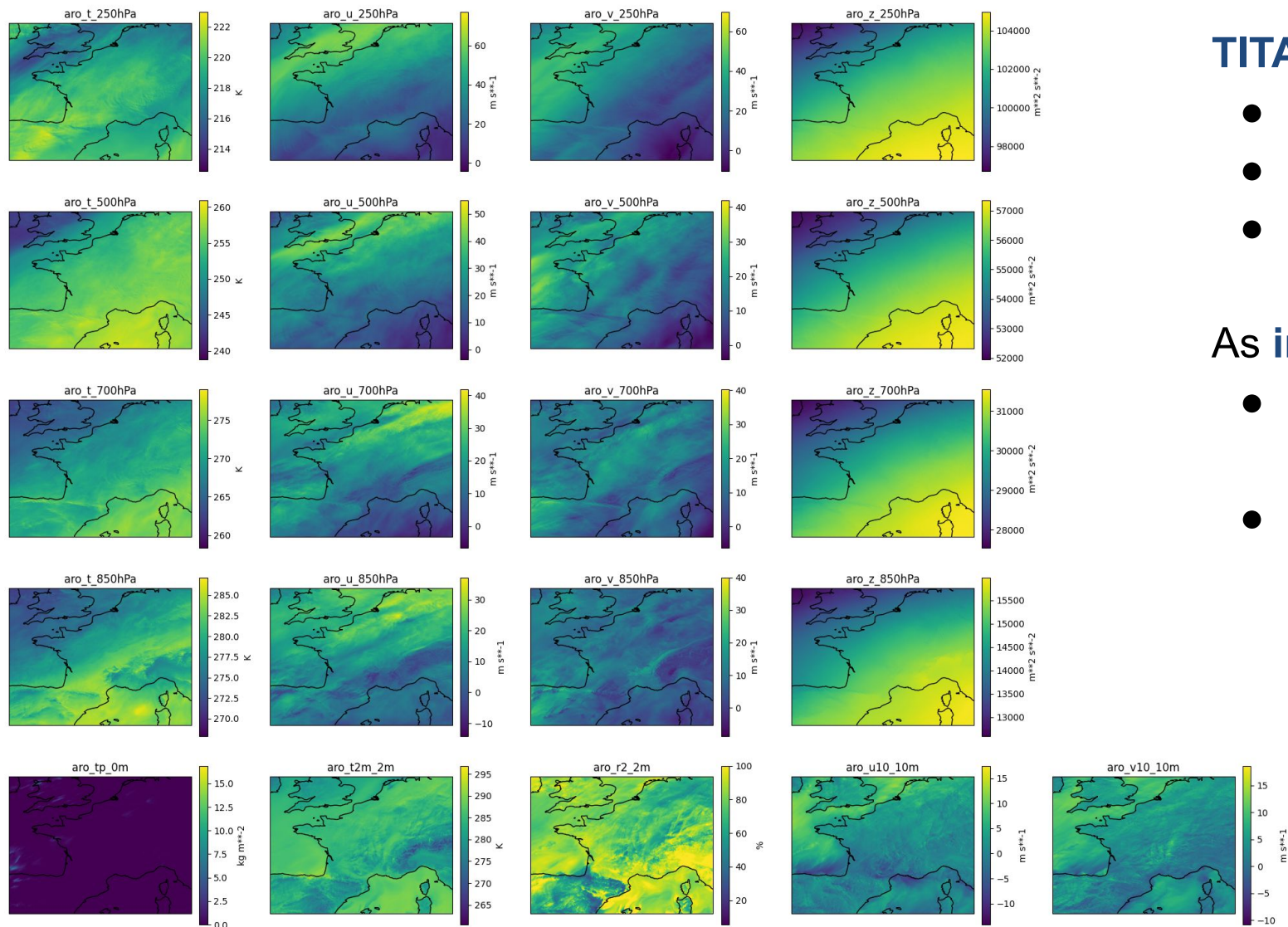
meteofrance
py4cast & mfai

Contributions are welcome!



TITAN Dataset

Run: 2023-01-01 06:00:00 - Valid time: 2023-01-01 06:00:00



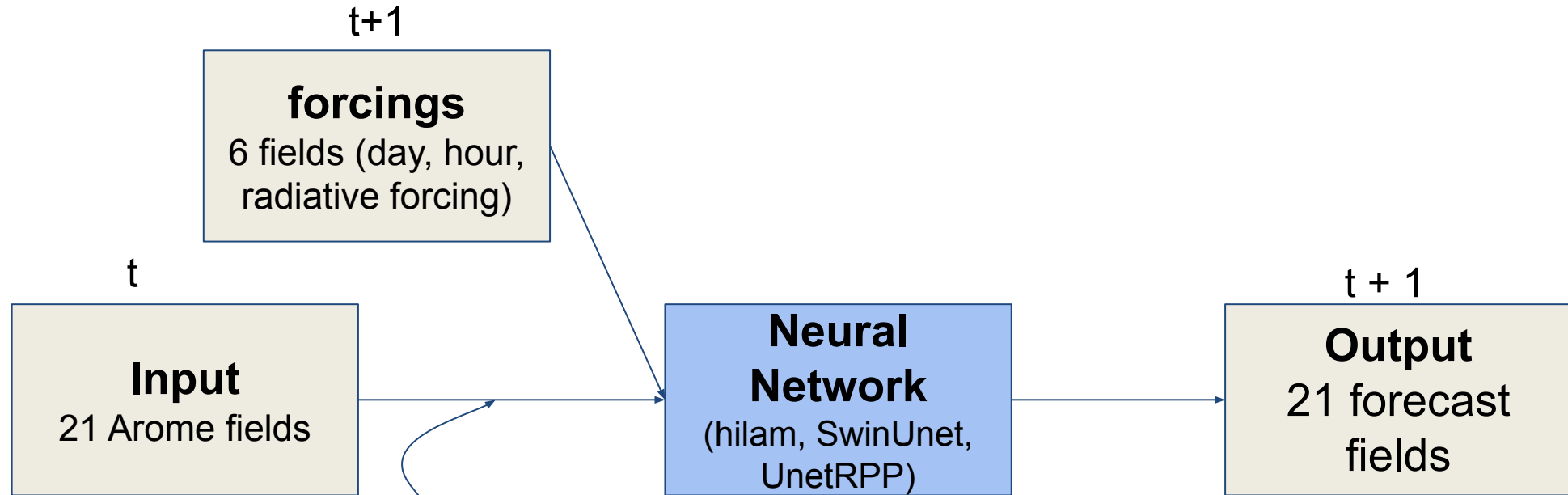
TITAN Dataset:

- AROME analysis
- 2.5km resolution
- Period 2021-2023

As **input** and **output** of the model :

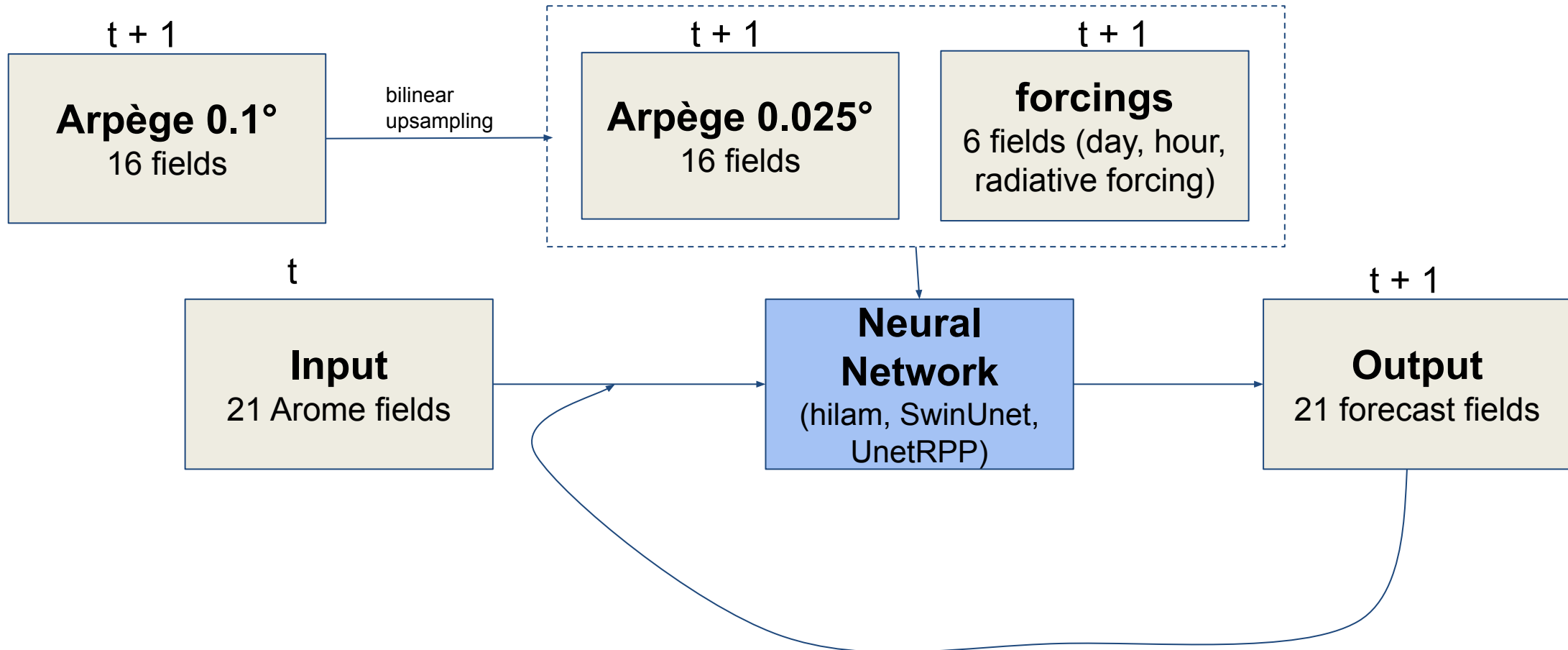
- 5 surface parameters including precipitation
- 4 parameters on 4 vertical levels

First Experiment



Forecast of the next lead times
through **auto-regression**

Second Experiment



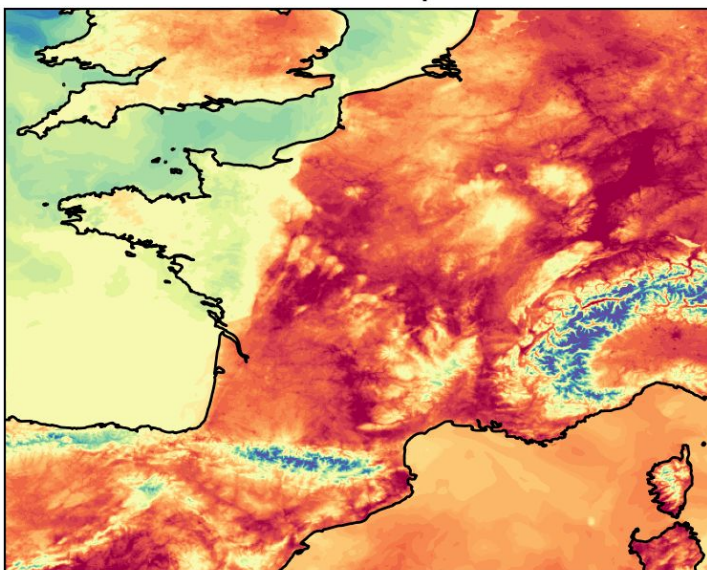
Computation time between 48h
and 6 days on 4 Nvidia V100

Forecast of the next lead times
through **auto-regression**

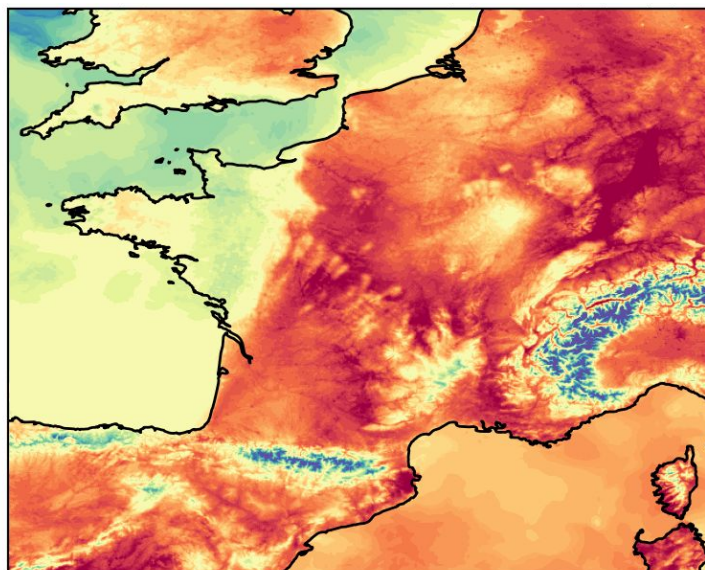
Example of forecast +48h

2023-06-18 12h UTC +1h

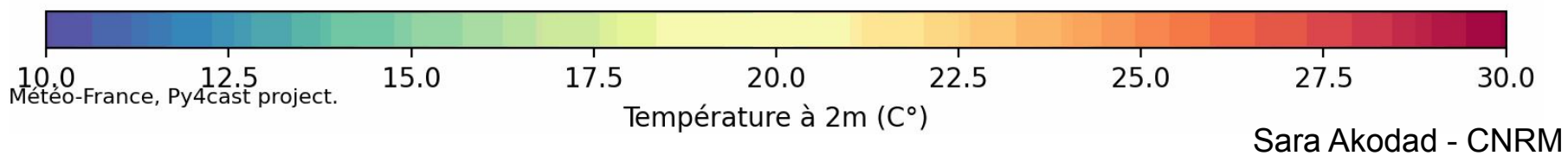
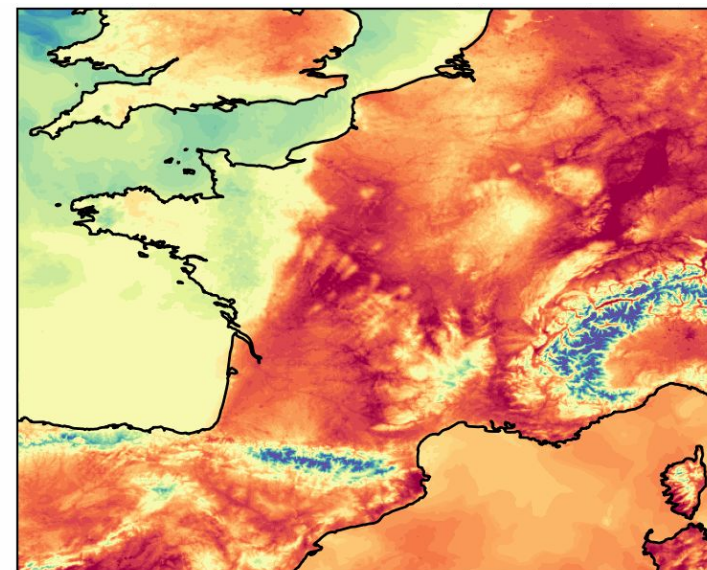
AROME Oper



AI model **with** Arpège forcing



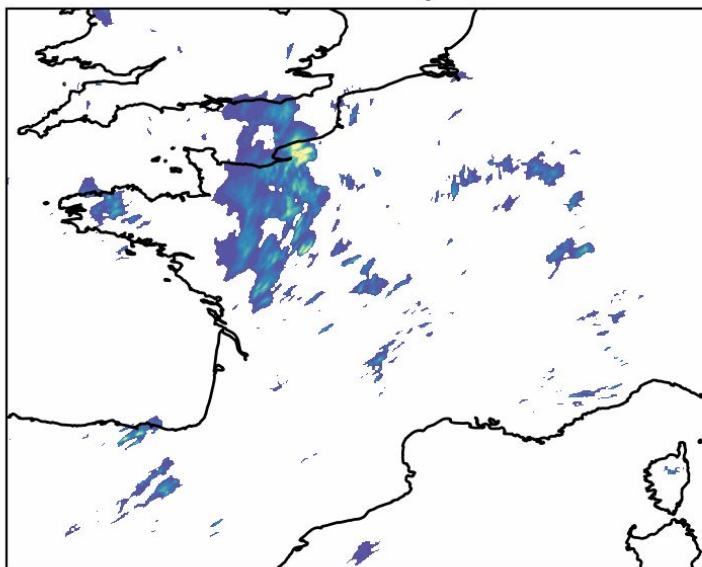
AI model **without** Arpège forcing



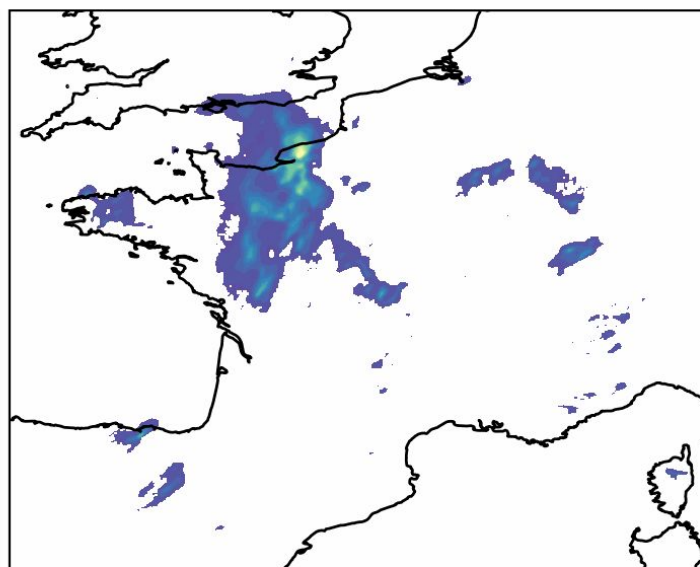
Example of forecast +48h

2023-06-18 12h UTC +1h

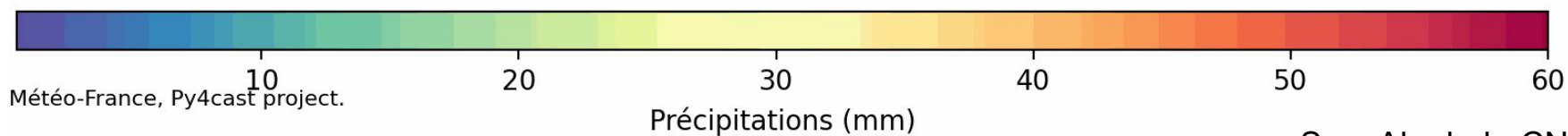
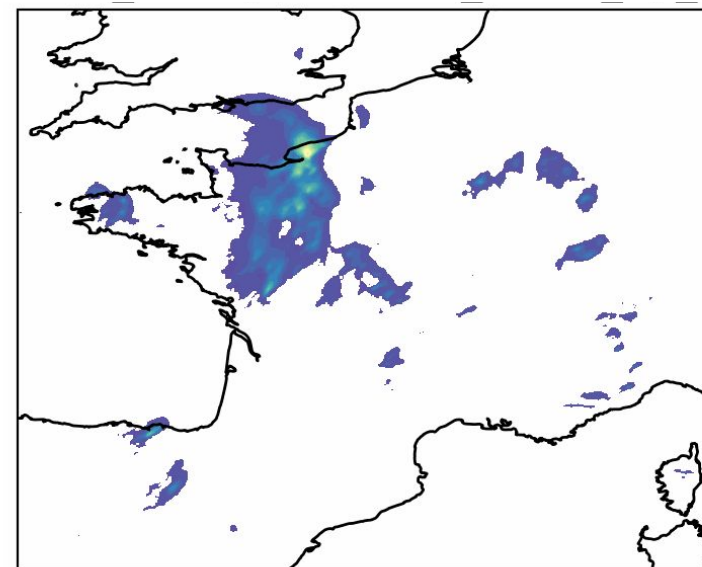
AROME Oper



AI model **with** Arpège forcing



AI model **without** Arpège forcing



Sara Akodad - CNRM

Next step: Use **ANEMOI** framework from ECMWF to test the “**stretched grid approach**” (Nipen et al. 2024)

Thank you for your attention !

