



## **The importance of standardised verification procedures for inter-comparison of global NWP model forecasts: revised WMO guidelines**

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Global NWP centres regularly compare the performance of their models by exchanging an agreed standard set of verification scores. It is important for such comparisons that the verification procedures used to compute these scores are consistent between the centres. These procedures have been established by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) Commission for Basic Systems (CBS). The CBS Co-ordination Group on Forecast Verification (CG-FV) has reviewed the current procedures and the way they have been implemented in different centres. The CG-FV proposed to update to these procedures that will make the results more consistent between centres and more relevant for current NWP. The recommendations include:

- an increase in resolution of the grid used for verification from  $2.5^\circ$  to  $1.5^\circ$
- use of a defined interpolation method to retain features at the scale of the verifying grid but not introduce additional smoothing
- use of a common climatology for anomaly correlation (based on the ECMWF ERA-Interim re-analysis data set)
- introduction of additional scores to measure forecast activity

In addition CG-FV proposed the establishment of a Lead Centre for Deterministic NWP Verification (LC-DNV) that will collect, process and publish the scores and will be responsible for maintaining the consistent implementation of the procedures amongst the centres.

These recommendations were endorsed by CBS in November 2010. ECMWF will take on the role of LC-DNV.

The presentation will give an overview of the plans for transition to the new verification procedures. Differences between the results using the old and new systems will be presented. The importance of the use of standardised procedures for comparison between centres will be illustrated.