

# **Multimodel Ensemble Prediction System (MEPS): Ensemble Modeling with Data Assimilation Models for Space Weather Science, Specifications and Forecasts**

**Overview Presented by  
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**NASA-NSF Space Weather Modeling Collaboration  
NASA Ames Research Center, CA  
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# MEPS Team

## Utah State University

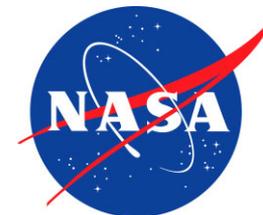
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## Jet Propulsion Laboratory

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C. Wang and G. Rosen



# MEPS Model

The *Multimodel Ensemble Prediction System (MEPS)* covers the Ionosphere-Thermosphere-Electrodynamics (I-T-E) system and incorporates **existing, first-principles-based, data assimilation models** with different physics, numerical techniques, and initial conditions.

**MEPS allows ensemble modeling with different data assimilation models.**

# Why Ensemble Modeling



**National Hurricane Center  
multi-model ensemble  
forecast for hurricane Rita.**

## Models Display Qualitative & Quantitative Differences:

- **Different Background Physics-Based Models**
- **Different Assimilation Techniques**
- **Different Spatial and Temporal Resolutions**
- **Different Deduced Electrodynamics Drifts**
- **Different Deduced Neutral Winds and O/N<sub>2</sub> Ratios**

# Objectives

- Elucidate the fundamental physical, chemical, and coupling processes that operate in the I-T-E system for a range of *actual, global-scale, space weather events*, including storms & substorms.
- Construct a *Multimodel Ensemble Prediction System (MEPS)* for the I-T-E environment that will incorporate our existing data assimilation models.
- Deliver *MEPS* to the Community Coordinated Modeling Center (CCMC)

# MEPS Data Assimilation Models

GAIM-BL → Mid & Low Latitudes

GAIM-GM → Mid & Low Latitudes

GAIM-4DVAR → Mid & Low Latitudes, **with Drivers**

GAIM-FP → Mid & Low Latitudes, **with Drivers**

Mid-Low Electro-DA → Ionosphere **with Drivers**

IDED-DA → High Latitudes, **with Drivers**

GTM-DA → Global Thermosphere

- **Global, Regional & Nested GRID Capabilities**
- **GAIM-GM & GAIM-BL are Operational Models**
- **Science, Specifications & Forecasts**

## MEPS Data Sources

<b>Ionosphere</b>	<b>Electrodynamics</b>	<b>Thermosphere</b>
Ground-Based GPS-TEC	Ground magnetometers	Satellite UV emissions
Satellite-Based GPS Occultation	DMSP cross-track velocities	In situ neutral winds
Ionosonde and Digisonde	SuperDARN line-of-sight velocities	Satellite accelerometer and drag
In situ $N_e$	Iridium magnetometers	FPI winds
911Å, 1356Å, limb, disk (UV)	ACE IMF, Dst	ISR Neutral parameters
Solar UV, EUV	Solar UV, EUV	Solar UV, EUV

Black: Data sources already being assimilated; Red: New data sources to be assimilated

## **MEPS Accomplishments and Status**

- 1. Ensemble Model Averaging**
- 2. Improved Statistical Techniques for MEPS**
- 3. Model Deliveries to CCMC**
- 4. Real-time TWAM**
- 5. Global Data Assimilation Study of Substorms**
- 6. Additional Tasks for IDED-DA**
- 7. Pulsating Geomagnetic Storm**
- 8. From Data Assimilation to Prediction: Assimilative Modeling of Ionospheric Disturbances**

# 1. Ensemble Model Averaging

## Models Used:

- GAIM-BL → Mid & Low Latitudes
- GAIM-GM → Mid & Low Latitudes
- GAIM-4DVAR → Mid & Low Latitudes, **with Drivers**
- GAIM-FP → Mid & Low Latitudes, **with Drivers**
- Mid-Low Electro-DA → Ionosphere **with Drivers**
- IFM Physics-Based Model → **No DA**

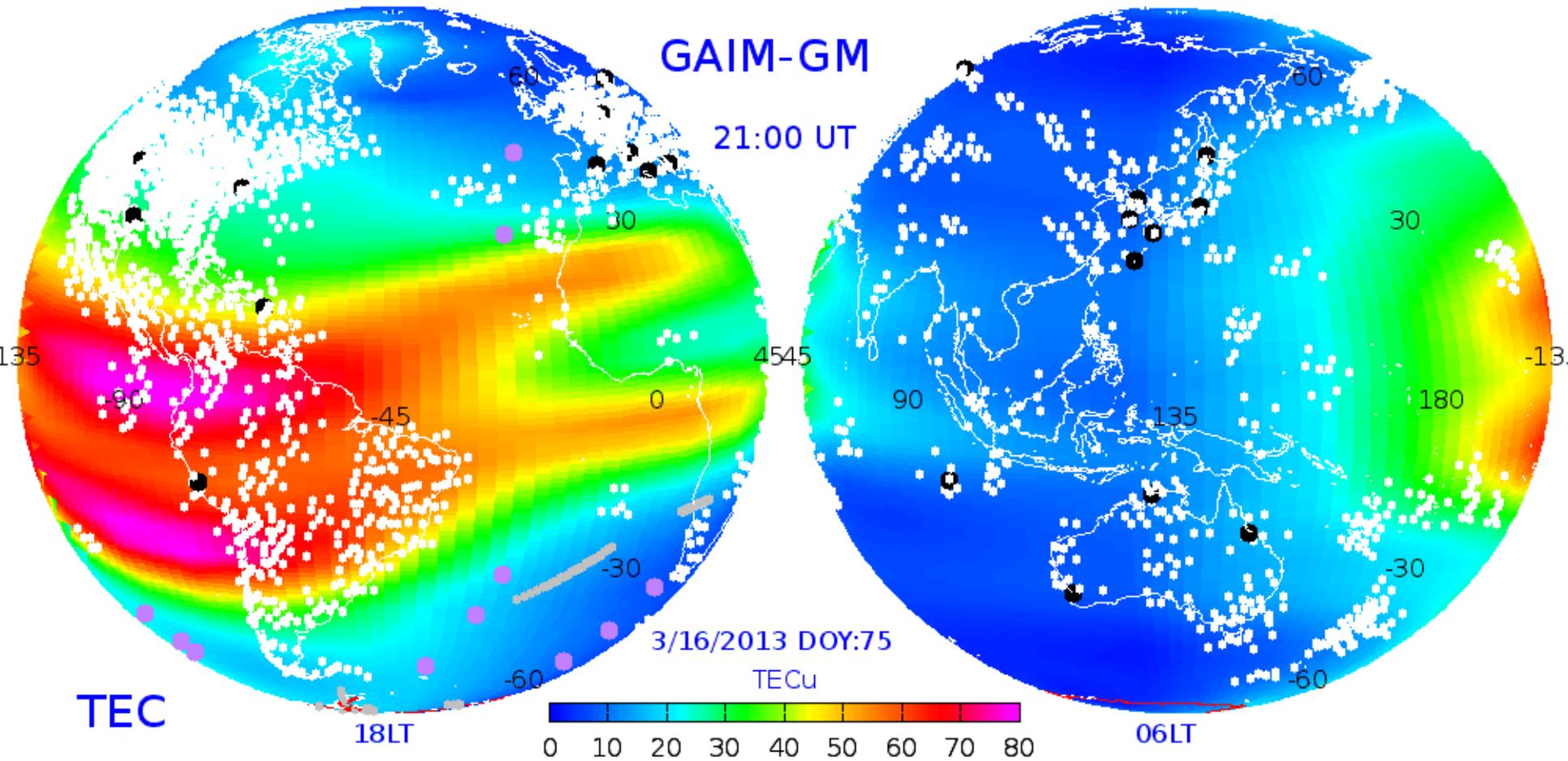
## Data Assimilated:

- Slant TEC from Ground Receivers
- $N_e$  Profiles below F-Region Peak from Digisondes
- COSMIC Occultation Data
- In Situ  $N_e$  (SSIES)

## Validation Data:

- Neutral winds from Fabry-Perot Interferometers (FPI)
- COSMIC Occultation Data
- Jason vertical TEC over the oceans
- Doris slant TEC from radio beacons

# Global Distribution



# Ensemble Model Averaging Approach

- Different Number of Data Assimilation Models
- Different Data Types and Amounts
- Different Seasonal, Solar Cycle, Storm and Substorm Cases
- Different Data Averaging Techniques

SIMULATION DATES

<b>MEPS CALENDAR DATES</b>		
<b>June, 2001 5-14(156-165)</b>	Quiet 5	F10.7 high
<b>Dec, 2001 14-23(348-357)</b>	Quiet 3+	F10.7 high
<b>Dec, 2009 13-22(348-356)</b>	Quiet 2	F10.7 low
<b>March, 2012 2-11(62-71)</b>	Storm 8	F10.7 low
<b>July, 2012 11-20(193-202)</b>	Storm 7	F10.7 low
<b>Sept., 2012 14-23(258-267)</b>	Quiet 3	F10.7 medium
<b>Dec., 2012 16-25(351-360)</b>	Quiet 3	F10.7 medium
<b>Jan., 2013 5-7(5-7)</b>	Quiet 1	F10.7 medium
<b>Feb. 27 – Mar. 1 2013(58-60)</b>	Storm 5	F10.7 medium
<b>Mar., 2013 11-13(70-72)</b>	Quiet 1	F10.7 medium
<b>Mar., 2013 15-17(74-76)</b>	Storm 7-	F10.7 medium
<b>May, 2013 23-25(143-145)</b>	Storm 6-	F10.7 medium
<b>May 30 – June 1 (150-152)</b>	Storm 7	F10.7 medium
<b>March, 2015 12-23(71-82)</b>	Storm 8-	F10.7 medium
<b>May, 2015 6-15(126-135)</b>	Storm 5	F10.7 medium
<b>May, 2016 1-12(122-133)</b>	Storm 6+	F10.7 low

# Ensemble Model Averaging Simulations

## Original Test :

March, 2013 12-19(71-78) – Have all models for 21:00 UT on March 17.

## Average test and pulsating storm test:

May, 2016 1-12(122-133) Storm on May 8(129)

### May, 2016 1-12 (122-133):

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		
Run 3	x	x	x	X	

### Jan, 2013 5-7 (5-7):

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

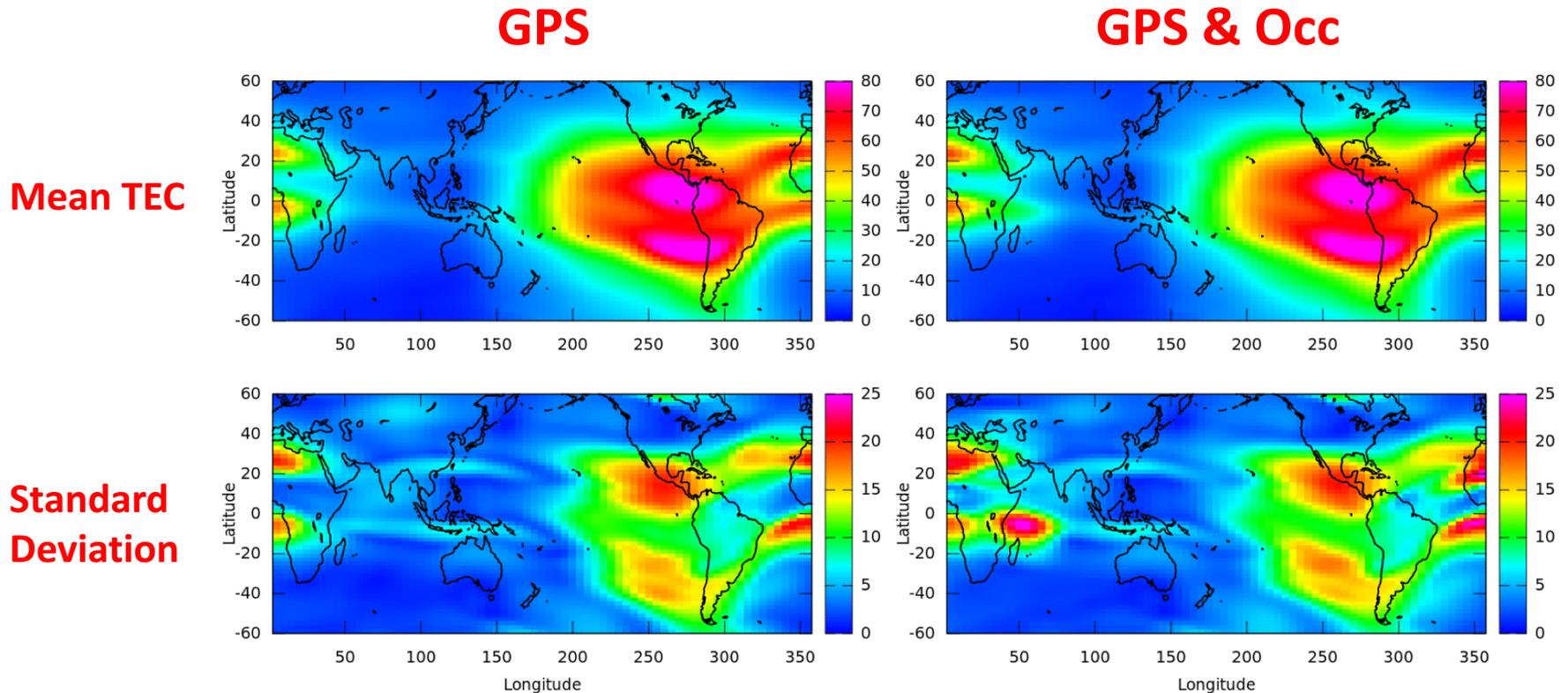
# Ensemble Model Averaging Example

March 12-19, 2013

- 5 Data Assimilation & 1 Physics Model
- Mid and Low Latitudes
- GPS and Occultation Data
- Solar Medium, Equinox, Storm
- **Simple Average**

AGU Eos Research Spotlight: Schunk, R. W., et al., Space weather Forecasting with a Multimodel Ensemble Prediction System (MEPS), Radio Sci., 51, doi:10.1002/2015RS005888, 2016.

# Ensemble Averaging (6 models)

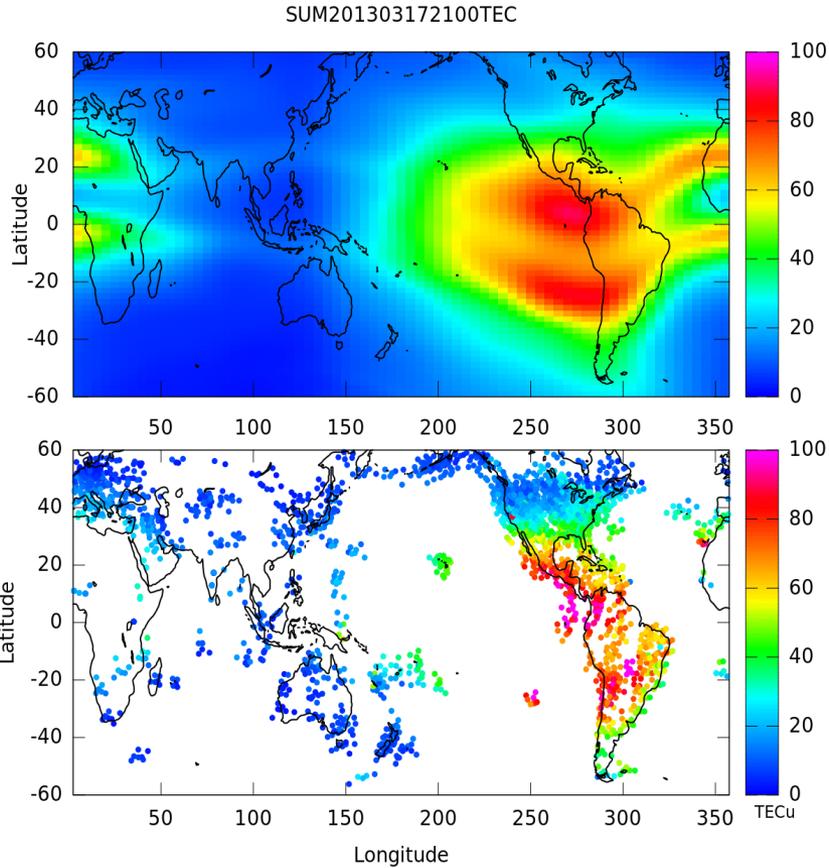
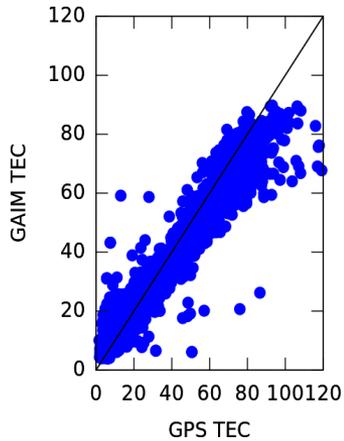


Left panels are for **GPS** only run and right panels are for the **GPS and occultation data** run. The top panels show the **mean** and the bottom panels show the **standard deviation**.

Snapshot for the storm day at 2100 UT.

# Ensemble Averaging (6 models)

**Ensemble Mean  
Vertical TEC  
Versus  
TEC Data**

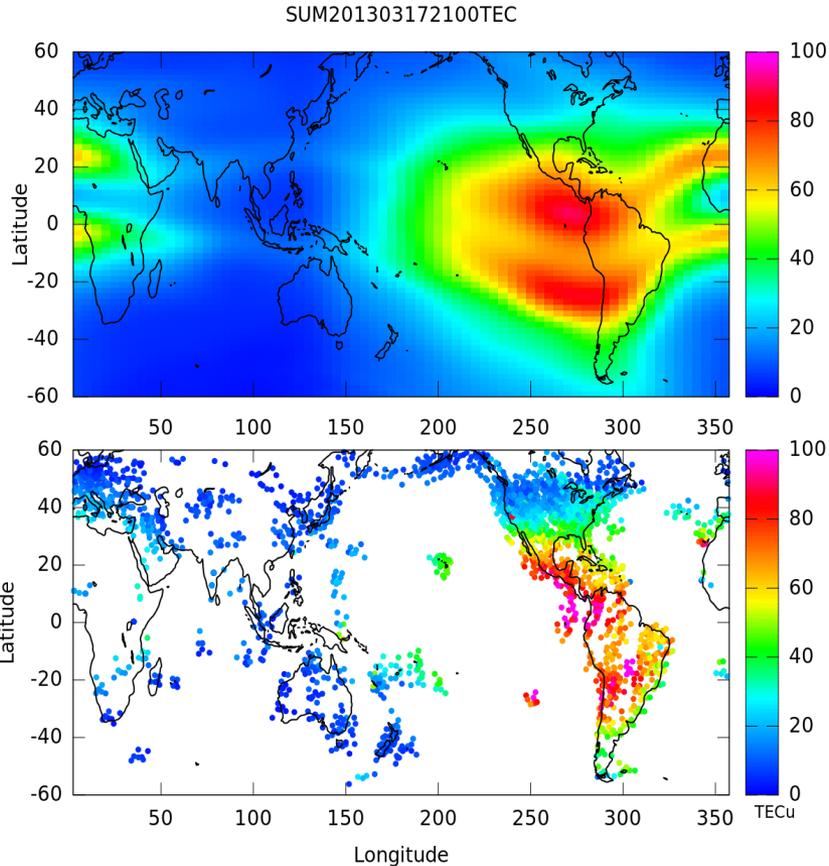
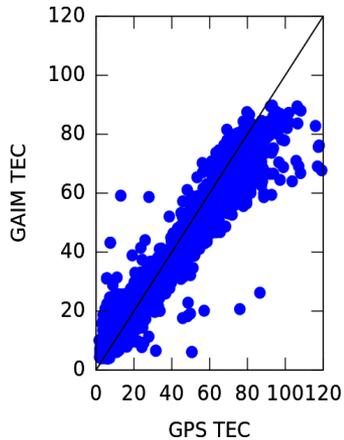


**Ensemble Mean  
Vertical TEC  
From  
GPS & Occultation  
Run**

**Vertical TEC  
Data**

# Ensemble Averaging (6 models)

**Ensemble Mean  
Vertical TEC  
Versus  
TEC Data**



**Ensemble Mean  
Vertical TEC  
From  
GPS & Occultation  
Run**

**Vertical TEC  
Data**

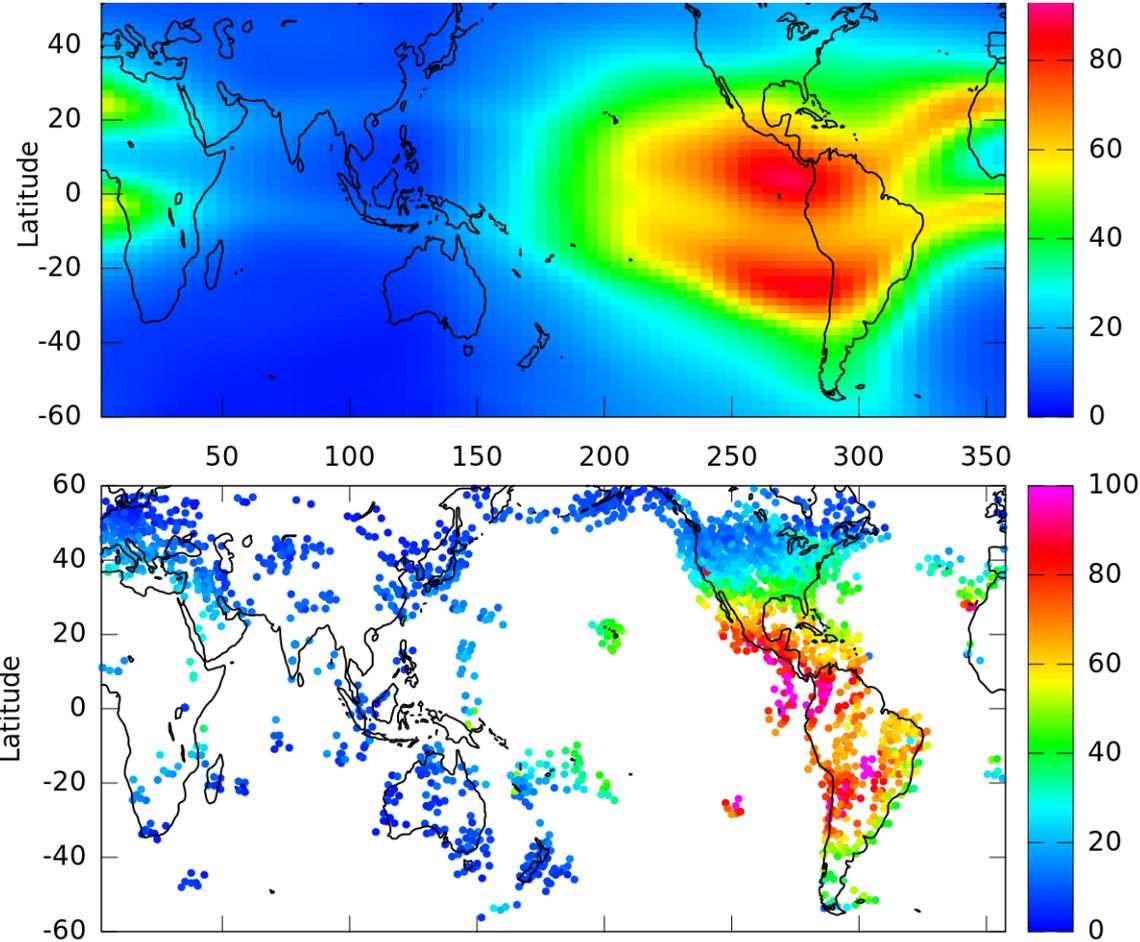
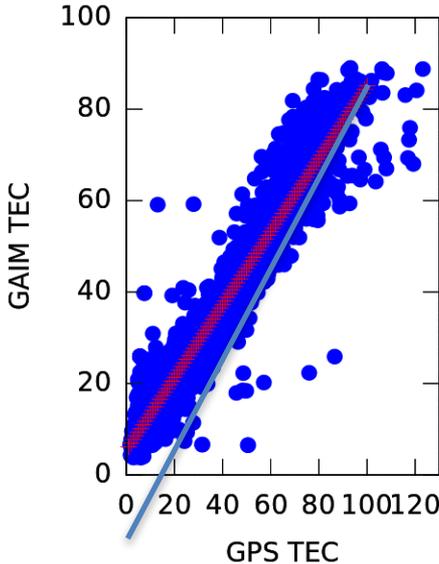
**The mean of the Ensemble in each case  
Performed Better than the Individual Data Assimilation Models**

## 2. Improved Statistical Techniques for MEPS

- 5 Data Assimilation Models & 1 Physics model used in Average
- GPS and Occultation Data
- **Simple Average** – Sum models, divide by number of models
- **Weighted Average** – Sum models weighted by fit to GPS data, divide by number of models

# MEPS Ensemble Average - Simple

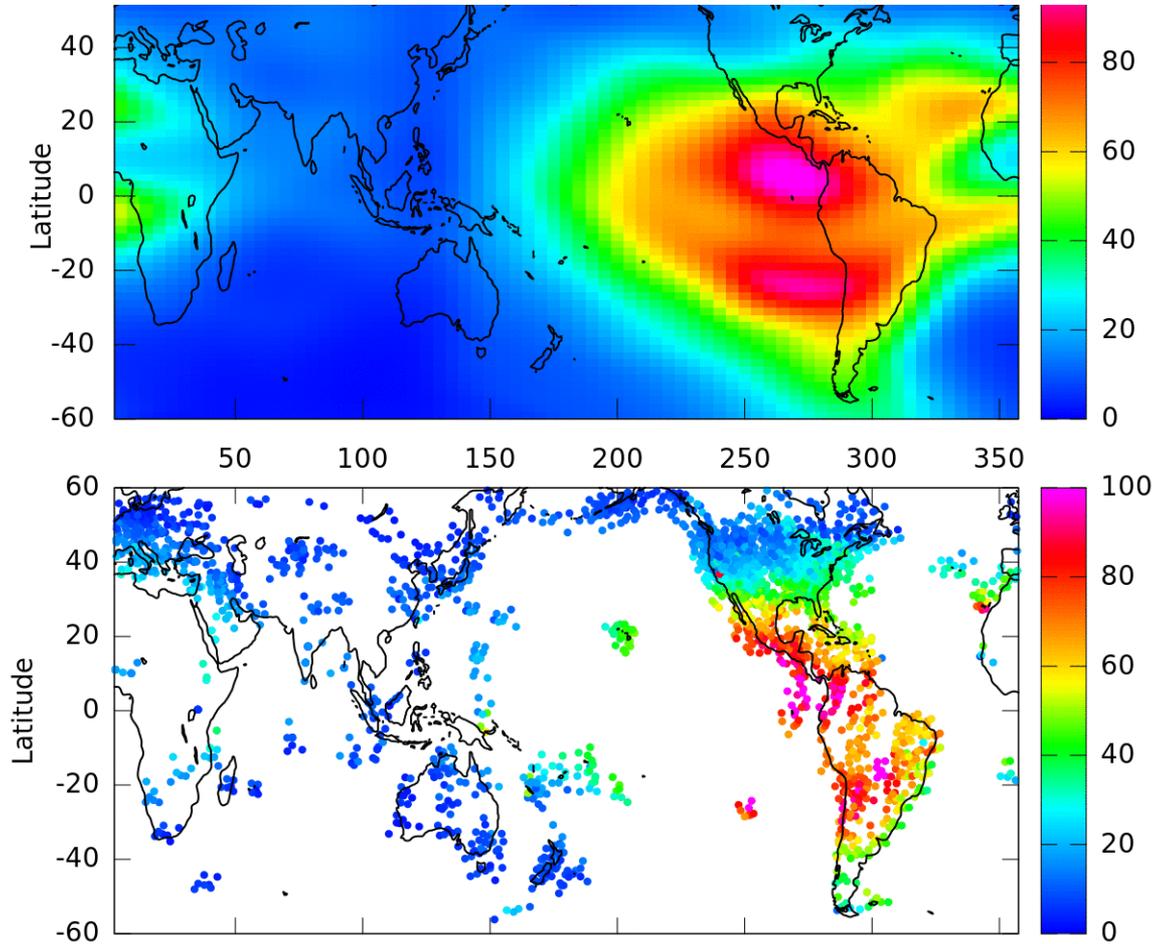
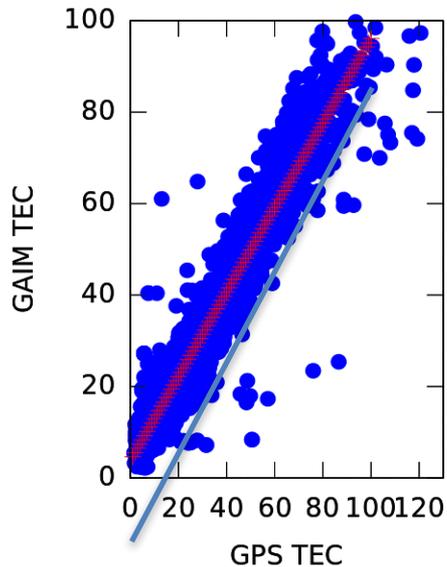
Ensemble Mean  
Vertical TEC  
Versus  
TEC Data



Modeled maximum TEC (red) lower than measured TEC (pink)

# MEPS Ensemble Average - **Weighted**

**Ensemble Mean  
Vertical TEC  
Versus  
TEC Data**



**The Weighted mean of the Ensemble of DA Models  
Is better than the Simple mean.**

### 3. Model Deliveries to CCMC

GAIM-GM (Latest upgraded version)	➔	delivered Spring 2016
IDED-DA (High Latitude GAIM)	➔	delivered Spring 2017
GAIM-FP	➔	Fall 2017
Mid-Low Electro-DA	➔	Winter 2017

#### All Deliveries Include:

- Background ionosphere models
- Connections to relevant data sources
- USU installation on CCMC computers
- User's Manual

# **GAIM-GM and GAIM-FP model deliveries to CCMC include**

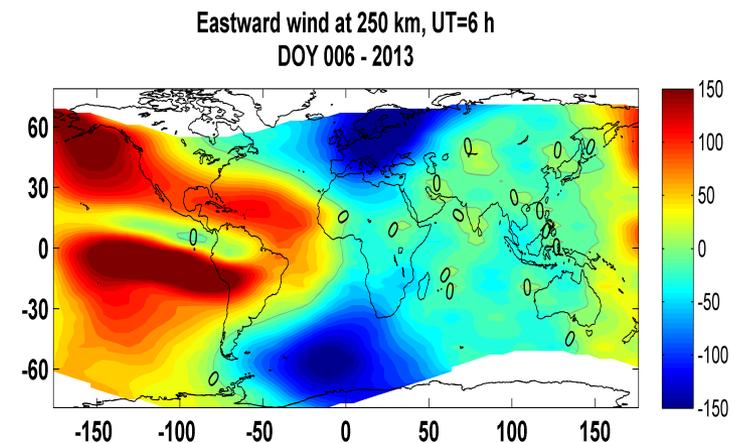
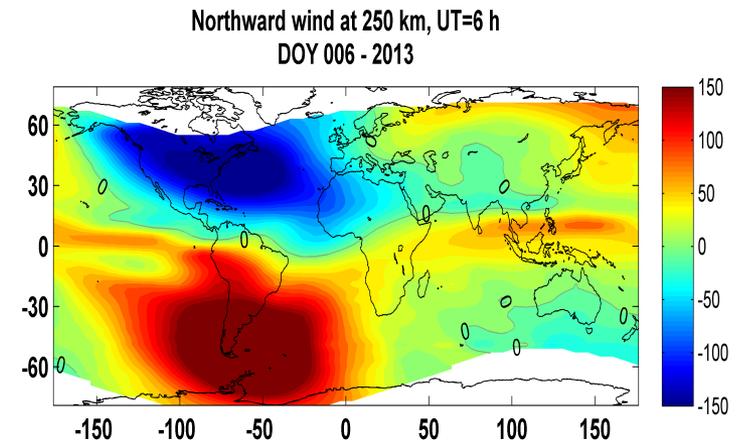
- **Variable Number of Ground GPS/TEC Sites**
- **Variable Number of DISS Stations**
- **DMSP in situ  $N_e$  (SSIES F13, F14, F15, F16, ...)**
- **UV Radiances (SSUSI, SSULI)**
- **COSMIC Occultation Data**
- **Quality Control Algorithms**
- **Data Latency (up to 3 hours)**
- **Hot Start Capability**
- **24-Hour Forecast Algorithm**
- **User's Manual and Training**

# CCMC IDED-DA Model Delivery

- **Delivered Spring 2017**
  - **Physics-based models**
  - **Data reduction utilities for SuperMAG and SuperDARN data**
  - **Kalman-filter data assimilation**
- **Issues during Winter 2016**
  - **Computer size required smaller IDED-DA Version**
    - **Worked to minimize IDED footprint**
    - **Only one month of SuperMag and SuperDARN data provided (March 2013) for testing**
- **2018 Upgrades**
  - **Include AMPERE satellite measurements**
  - **Help CCMC with Website interface**

## 4. Thermospheric Wind Assimilation Model (TWAM)

- TWAM is based on a first-principles model for the thermospheric wind.
- Data are assimilated using an implicit Kalman filter technique.
- Previously TWAM has been used to determine wind climatology.
- Initial results using TWAM on a day-to-day basis have been obtained.

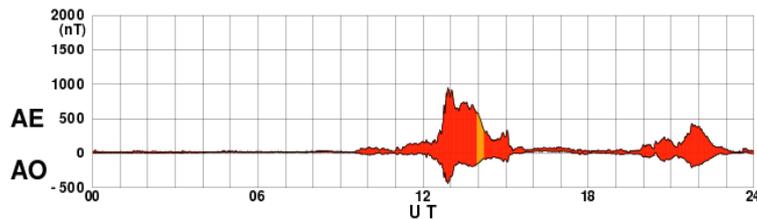
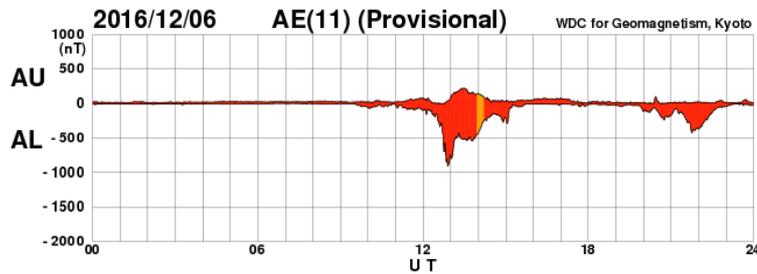


## 5. Global Data Assimilation Study of Substorms

- Focus is on small-scale substorm structures
- Looking for new undiscovered features (like terminator field-aligned current)
- Selected 23 substorm cases
- Different solar, seasonal and substorm conditions
- Strong, moderate and weak intensities
- Single and multiple substorms
- Completed all IDED-DA runs for single substorms

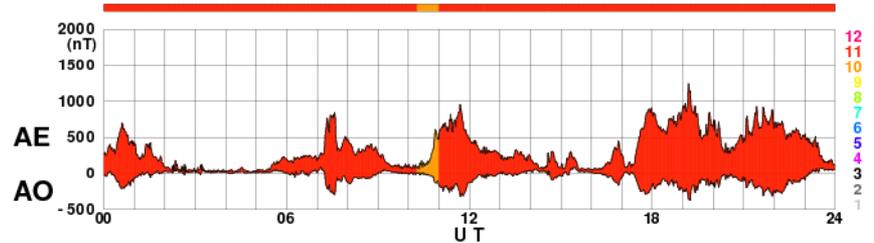
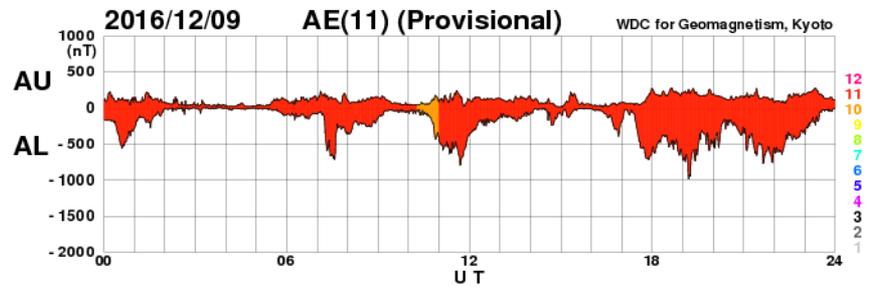
# Selected Substorm Cases

- A very quiet high-latitude ionosphere (used as a baseline) (1)
- Single substorms with strong, medium, weak intensities (3)
- Substorms with multiple onsets/brightenings (1)
- Multiple substorms with various characteristics (4)
- Substorms with classical features (3)
- Substorms with multiple precursors (1)
- Directly driven electrojet enhancement event (1)
- Substorm with no growth phase and a very disturbed recovery phase (1)
- Long disturbing periods with irregular multiple substorms (2)
- Long stable periods with enhanced westward electrojet, but no substorms (1)
- Long lasting substorms with huge disturbances in growth phase and recovery phase (1)
- Multiple substorms with very short growth phase (1)
- Long lasting enhanced westward and eastward electrojets with no substorms (1)
- Substorms with multiple surges in recovery phase (1)
- Long lasting disturbing period with multiple auroral brightening, but no substorms (1)



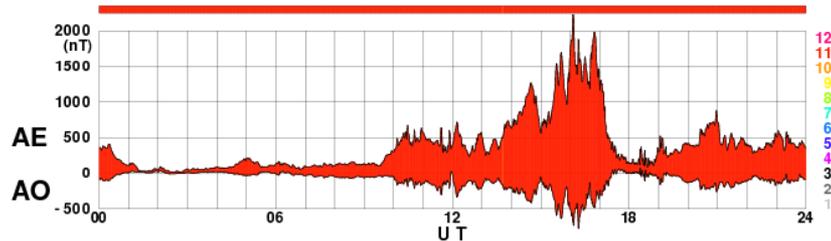
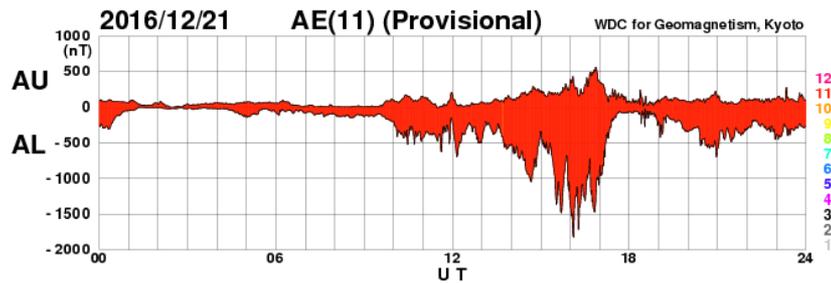
[Created at 2017-01-31 09:37UT]

Isolated Substorm



[Created at 2017-01-31 09:37UT]

Multiple Substorms

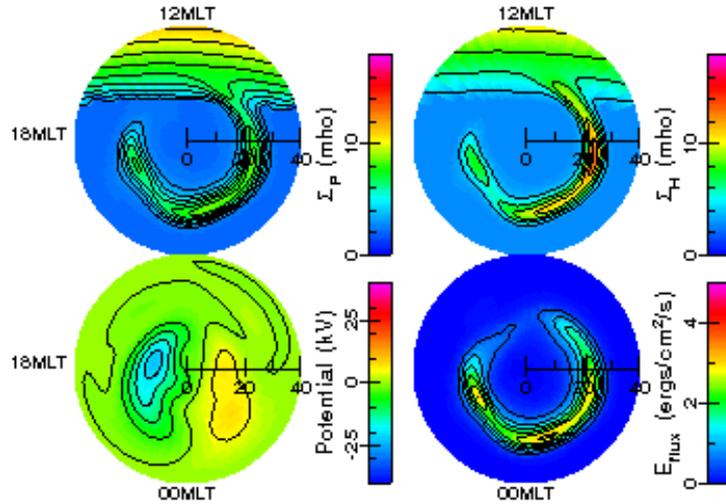


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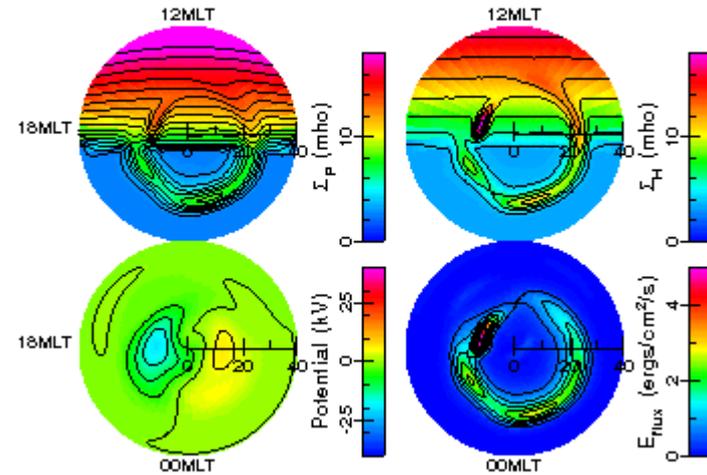
Substorm with Multiple Onsets

# Substorm Types

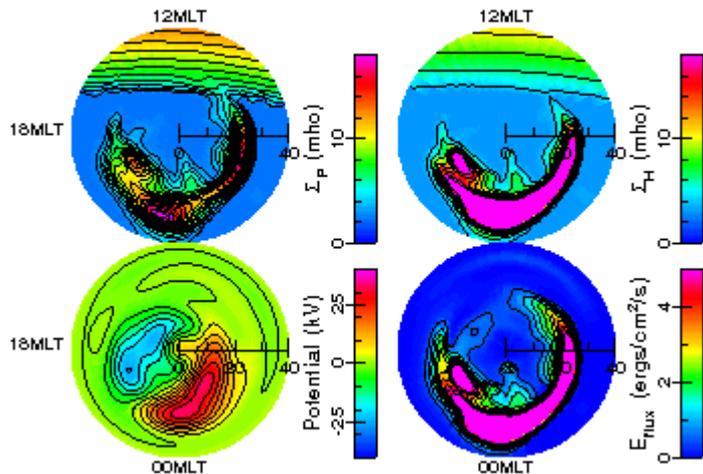
Winter 2000/342 14:00 UT



Equinox 2000/275 16:00 UT



Storm Period 2000/043 10:00 UT



## Isolated Substorms

### Expansion Phase

Upper Left: Weak, Winter

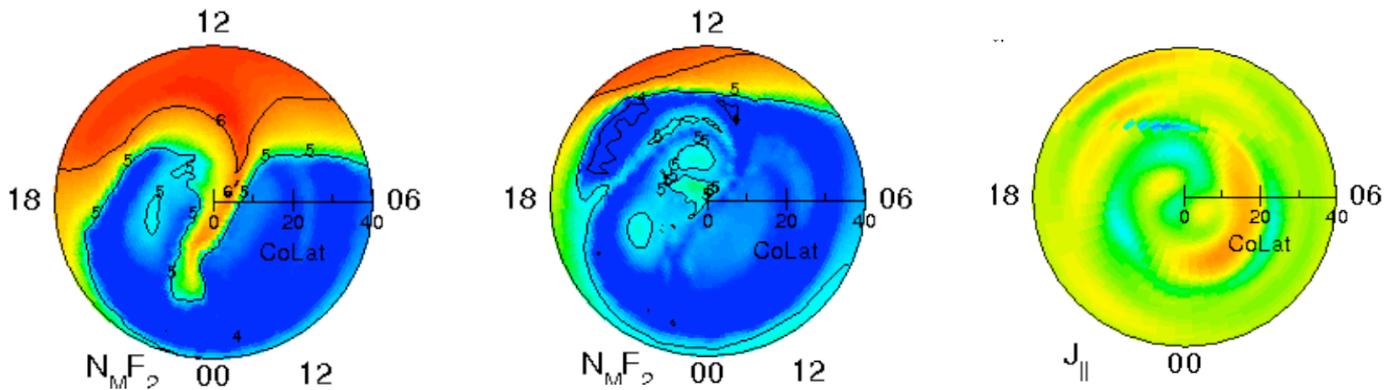
Upper Right: Moderate, Equinox

Lower Left: Strong Single Substorm

During Storm

## 6. Additional IDED-DA Tasks

- Add density parameters to IDED-DA data-assimilation scheme (GPS-TEC)
  - Tends to smooth arcs, patches, blobs, etc.



## 7. Pulsating Geomagnetic Storm

- Identified Recent Pulsating Storms with Data Available
- Run with MEPS DA Models
- Track TAD Dynamics
- Apply Ensemble Averaging

# Summary

- **MEPS → ensemble modeling with different data assimilation models**
- **Data assimilation on multiple spatial & temporal scales**
- **Wide range of ground and space data**
- **An important tool for studying basic physics**
- **Can combine different data sets into a coherent picture**
- **Fills in regions where there are no data**
- **New approach to specifications and forecasts**

# Additional MEPS Slides

# Ensemble Model Averaging Simulations

## Original Test :

March, 2013 12-19(71-78) – Have all models for 21:00 UT on March 17.

## Average test and pulsating storm test:

May, 2016 1-12(122-133) Storm on May 8(129)

### May, 2016 1-12 (122-133):

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		
Run 3	x	x	x	X	

### Jan, 2013 5-7 (5-7):

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**Feb 27 - Mar 1, 2013 (58-60):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2					

**Mar, 2013 11-13 (70-72):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**Mar, 2013 15-17 (74-76):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**May, 2013 23-25 (143-145):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**May 30 - June 1, 2013 (150-152):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**June 5-14, 2001 (156-165):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**Dec 14-23, 2001 (348-357):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**Dec 13-22, 2009 (348-356):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**March 2-11, 2012 (62-71):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**July 11-20, 2012 (193-202):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**Sept. 14-23, 2012 (258-267):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**Dec 16-25, 2012 (351-360):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**March 12-23, 2015 (71-82):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		

**May 6-15, 2015 (126-135):**

	GPS	SAO	SSIES	OCC	
Number	500(2500)	40(40)	4(5)	6(6)	
Run 1	x	x			
Run 2	x	x	x		