Group 2: Checking/Verification & Time Series

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Group 2: Scientific questions

 Can we nowcast severe storms using non-parametric adaptive methods?

 How can we improve the forecasting of droughts and their impact in the Paraíba do Sul basin?

Group 2: Scientific question I -- Storms

Forecasting severe storms using non-parametric adaptive methods

- The frequency of extreme-precipitation events has increased in the last few decades
- Climate change models predict worsening conditions in coming years, leading to an increase in natural disasters (landslides and floods)
- Current methods for nowcasting storms combine parametric nonadaptive techniques
- Short range weather predictions ~ 6 hours ahead of storm

Group 2: Storm Nowcasting -- Data

Satellites

- Useful visual information about the cloud top -- their height, temperature, total precipitable water, and so on.
- Spatial resolution: 1km x 1km and 4km x 4km (further reduced by new tech.).
 Temporal resolution: 30 minutes (new tech. ~ 15 minutes).

• RADAR

- 3D data, offering hydrometer classification estimates and severe signature.
- Spatial resolution: 2km x 2km. Temporal resolution: 10 minutes.

• Numerical Weather Models

- Offer a wide data range for input into nowcast.
- Spatial resolution: 5km x 5km. Temporal resolution: 1-6 hour.



DATABASE: Weather RADAR Data: 3D (lat,lon,level) 2x2km, 10 minutes temporal resolution



DATABASE: Weather Satellite Data: 2D (lat,lon) 1x1 to 4-4km resolution, every 15 (New GOES and MSG) or 30 minutes



DATABASE:

Numerical Weather Models: 3D (lat,lon,level) – 6 hour or 1 hour temporal resolution of analises data and every 1 hour for forecasting Ground station: up to 1 hour





Group 2: Storm Nowcasting -- Methods

• Which variables are important?

- Huge amount of data available, but most may be irrelevant for our purposes or have strong interdependencies.
- Machine learning use allows to isolate the most relevant variables -nowcasts need to be very computationally efficient to be effective.
- After sufficiently reducing the problem-size (relevant variable identification), we proceed to produce the forecasts.

Group 2: Storm Nowcasting -- Methods

- "Lagrangian" nowcasting: storm-chasing
 - Follow the developing storm along its trajectory.
 - Derive dynamical model using Compressive Sensing; fitting previous data recordings and extrapolating to the future.
 - Predict system's development and perform parameter changes in the dynamical model to assess possible tipping points.







Group 2: Storm Nowcasting -- Methods

- "Eulerian" nowcasting: risk areas focus
 - High risk areas ~ landslides or flooding
 - Develop early-warning indicators for these areas
 - Diagnose pre-convective states: apply compressive sensing to weather variable time-series and local information (e.g., rain gauge and soil humidity)
- Overarching Goal:
 - Two parameter-free algorithms -- one for predicting severe storm characteristics and the other for early warning of potentially catastrophic natural hazards

Group 2: Scientific questions II -- Droughts

 Forecasting droughts and their impact in the Paraíba do Sul Basin

- The Paraíba do Sul Basin is a water-supply for one of the most populous and wealthy Brazilian cities, Rio de Janeiro
- Seasonal drought forecasting is still a challenge
- Areas in need of further work include assessing the impact of droughts on socio-economic sectors, such as energy production and water supply
- Drought representation in climate system forecasts (CMIP5) on future climate scenarios can support decision makers to reduce the potentially devastating impacts of drought

Group 2: Motivation -- Droughts









Group 2: Drought Forecasting -- Data

- Observation
- Variables: precipitation, temperature, evapotranspiration, stream flow
- GPCP, INMET, ANA, INPE, CEMADEN, ONS
- Numerical climate models
- North America Multimodel Ensemble
- CMIP5
- Regional Climate Models (RegCM, ETA)
- Streamflow: basin committee (AGEVAP, ANA)

Group 2: Drought Forecasting -- Methods

- Index Calculations: SPI, PDSI, SPEI on different time scales (McKee et al., 1993; Palmer, 1965; Vicente-Serrano et al., 2010)
- Quantification of drought: duration, frequency, severity (Spinoni, et al. 2014; Spinoni, et al. 2015)
- Forecast quality assessment using several verification measures, such as Pearson and Spearman correlation coefficient, Brier skill score, continuous ranked probability skill score, and ROC curves (Hersbach, 2000; Stephenson et al., 2008; Wilks, 2006; Jolliffe and Stephenson, 2012)
- Quantify the sampling uncertainty using non-parametric bootstrap method (Mason, 2008; Jolliffe and Stephenson, 2012)
- Assessment of models projections: CMIP5 and Regional Climate Models drought representation in historical period and quantification of changes for future periods in different RCPs

Group 2: Thanks!

BRITISH COUNCIL





