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# Atlantic Hurricane Impacts: Some Ideas and Recommendations

Greg Holland

- TROPICAL DEPR
- TROPICAL STORM
- CATEGORY 1
- CATEGORY 2
- CATEGORY 3
- CATEGORY 4
- CATEGORY 5



MONTAGE OF CHARLEY

GOES-12/INFRARED

UW-CIMSS

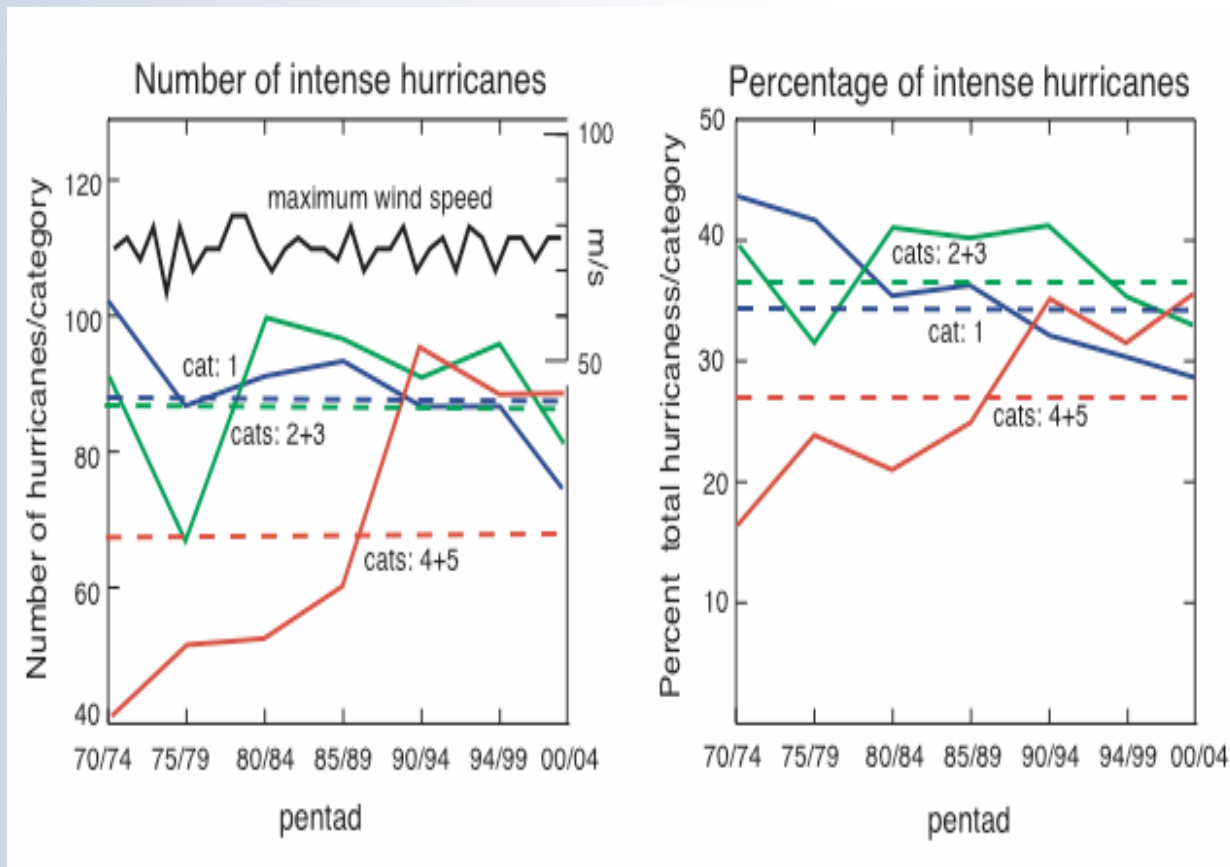
McIDAS

# Summary

- The growing threat to coastal and inland communities;
- Next generation forecasting
  - *Improved Forecast Systems*
  - *Predicting Impacts*
- Recommendations



# Global Change in Hurricane Intensity

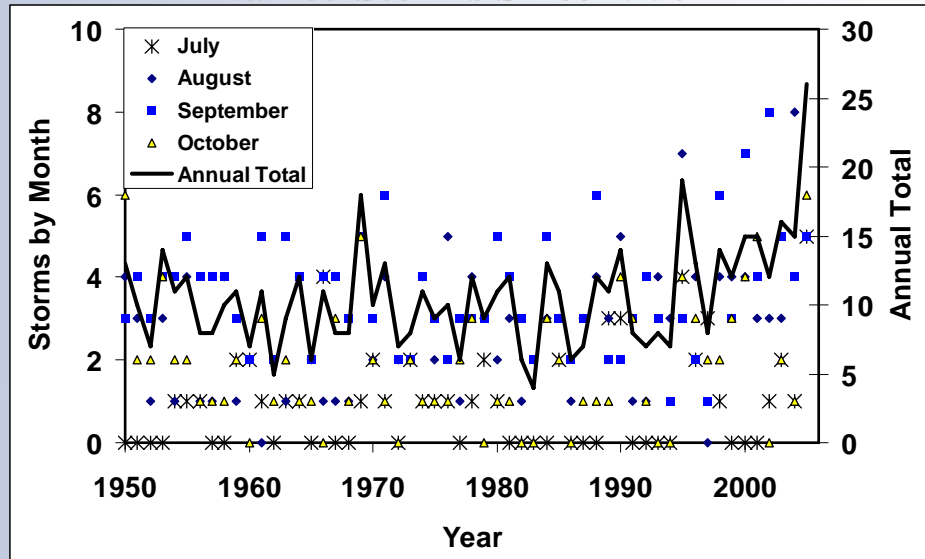


**Between 1970-1985 and 1985-2005, the number and proportion of category 4 and 5 storms has doubled, and they are living longer**

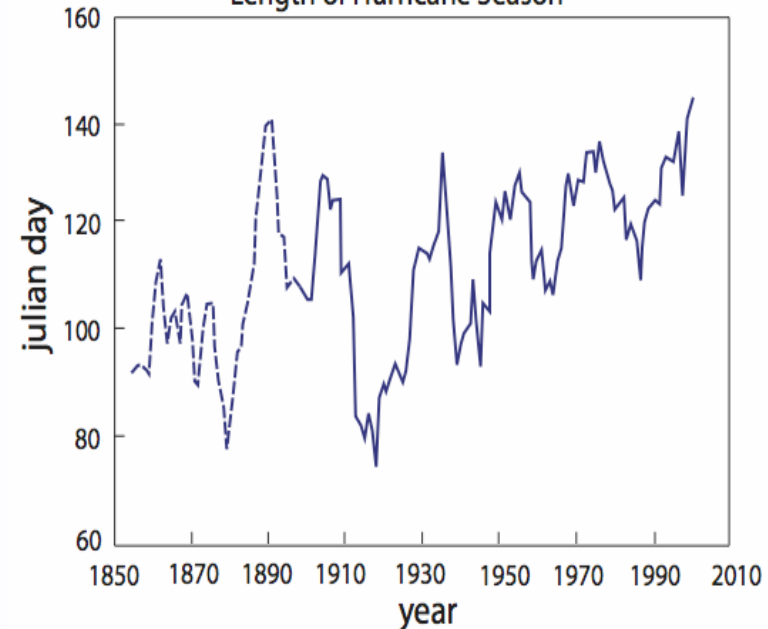


# The Record Breaking 1995-2005 Period

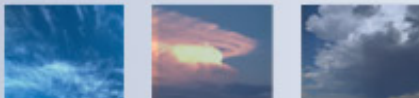
## Named Storms Since 1950



## Length of Hurricane Season



2005 broke every record: 28% more storms than ever before, the largest number of intense hurricanes, the most intense hurricane on record, unprecedented damage, and part of an unprecedented decade of hurricane activity and impacts.

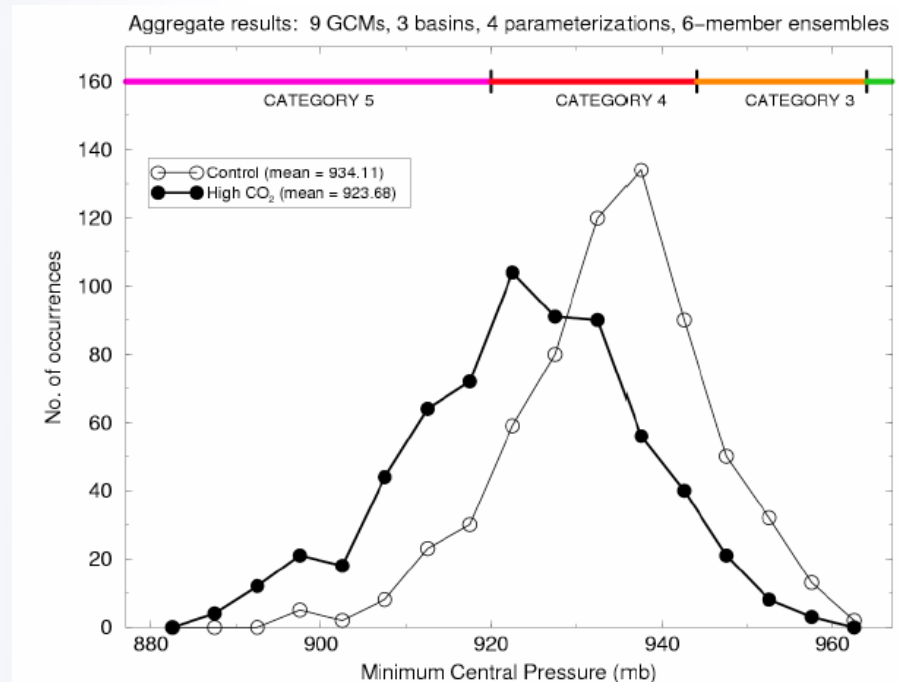


# **Is There a Trend? Global Warming?**



# Climate Signal is Too Small?

- Expect ~10% increase in hurricane intensity from 2K global warming (Henderson-Sellers et al, 1998, Knutson and Tuleya, 2005)
- Therefore any change to date is in the noise level.

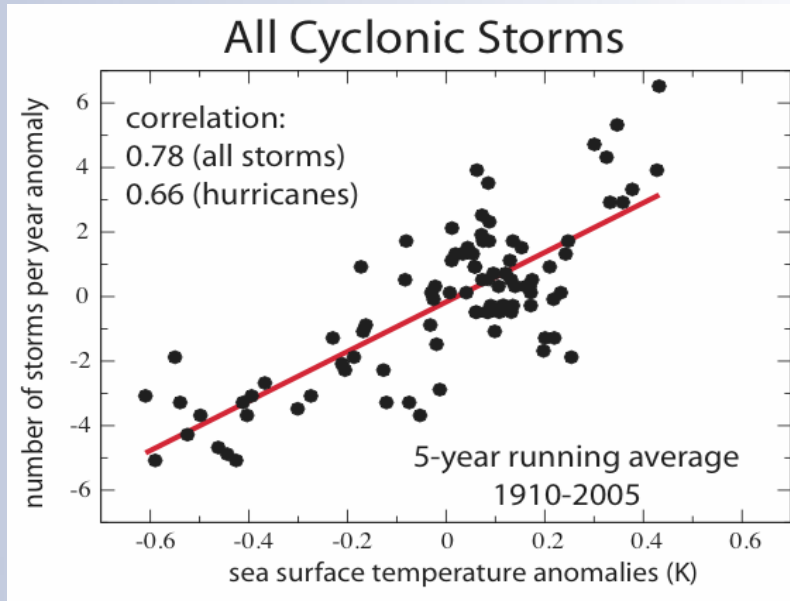


Knutson and Tuleya (2005)

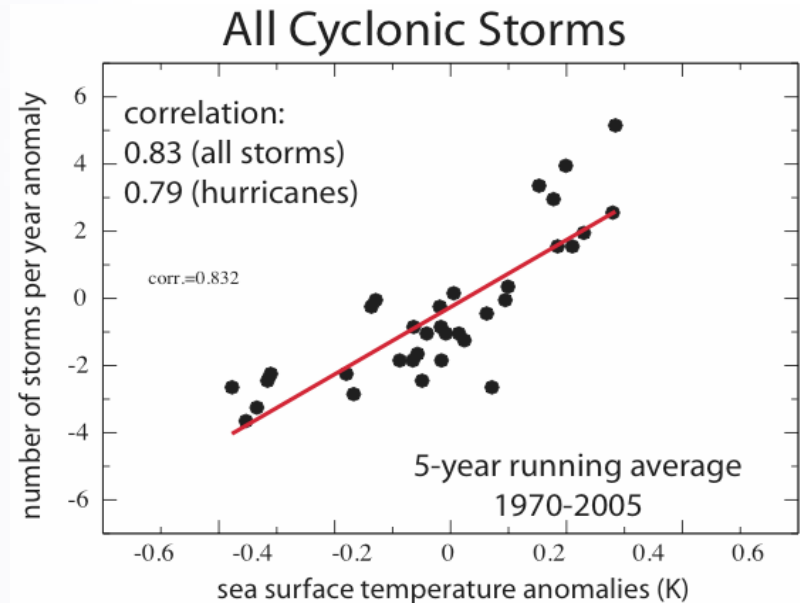


# Hurricane Frequency and SST

1910-2005



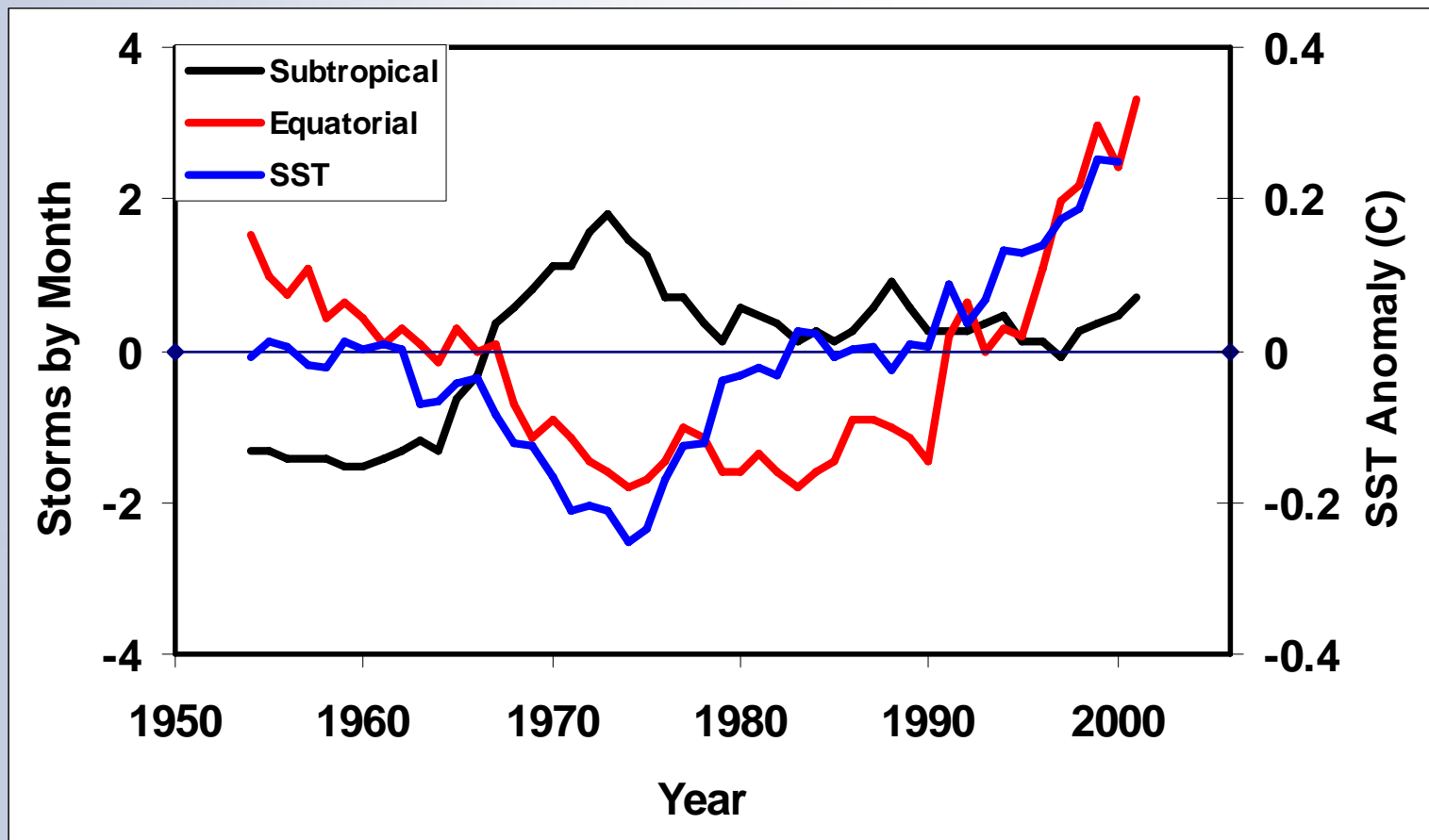
1970-2005



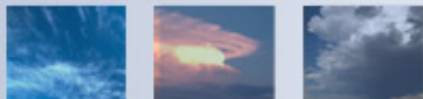
Note that the relationship is not direct, but arises from the atmospheric response to the SST changes (Shapiro and Goldenberg, 1998)



# Breakdown into Subtropical and Equatorial Development



Subtropical  $>25^{\circ}\text{N}$ , Equatorial  $<25^{\circ}\text{N}$ , Only July-October  
With 9-y running mean

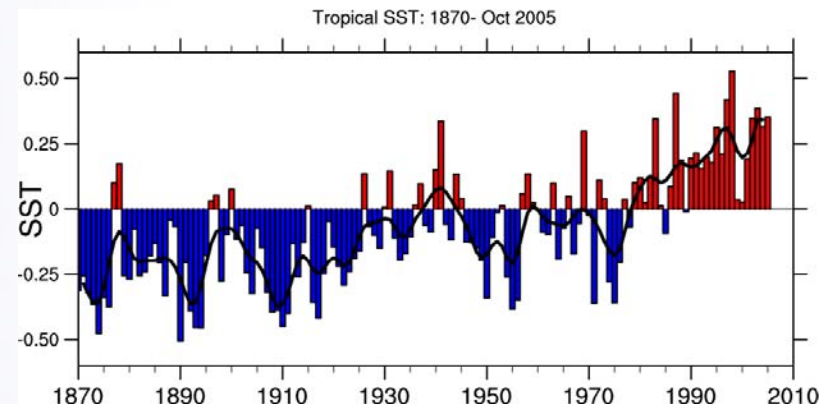
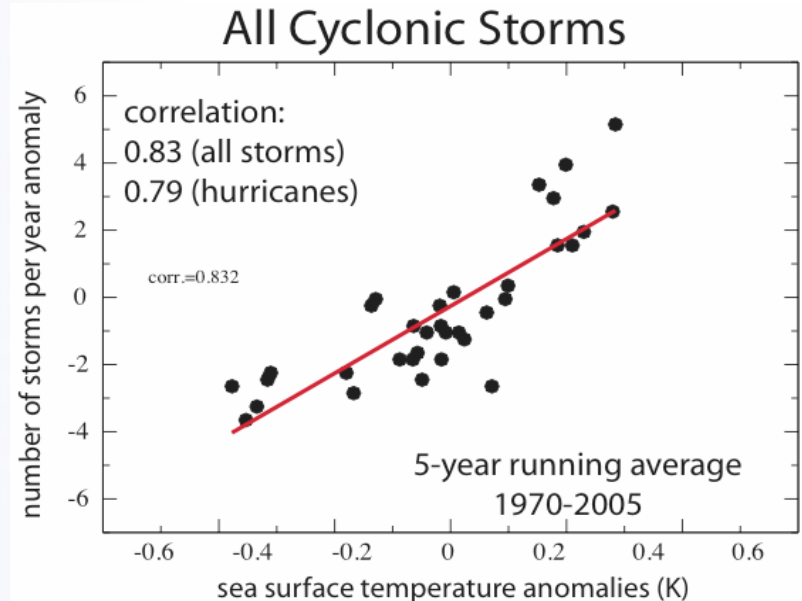




# Conclusions: Trend or Variability?

- Atlantic cyclone occurrence and intensity is strongly related to SST
- The recent increases in SST cannot be attributed entirely to natural variability
- The increases in hurricane frequency and intensity may be directly attributed to an increase of wave genesis resulting from this SST increase

**You can make your own conclusions**



# Next Generation Prediction Approaches:

The NCAR Advanced Research WRF;  
Predicting Impacts.

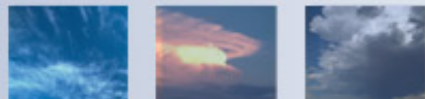


# The NCAR Advanced Research WRF Community Model

	1/9/06 Registered Users	June 2005 Workshop Participants
<b>Principal Partners</b>		
NCAR	108	38
NCEP	22	4
FSL	26	10
AFWA	19	4
Navy	17	4
<b>U.S. Universities</b>	702	59
<b>U.S. Government Labs</b>	274	25
<b>Private Sector</b>	378	22
<b>Foreign</b>	1947	53
	-----	-----
<b>Total</b>	<b>3510</b>	<b>219</b>
<b>Institutions represented</b>		117
<b>Foreign countries</b>	72	18

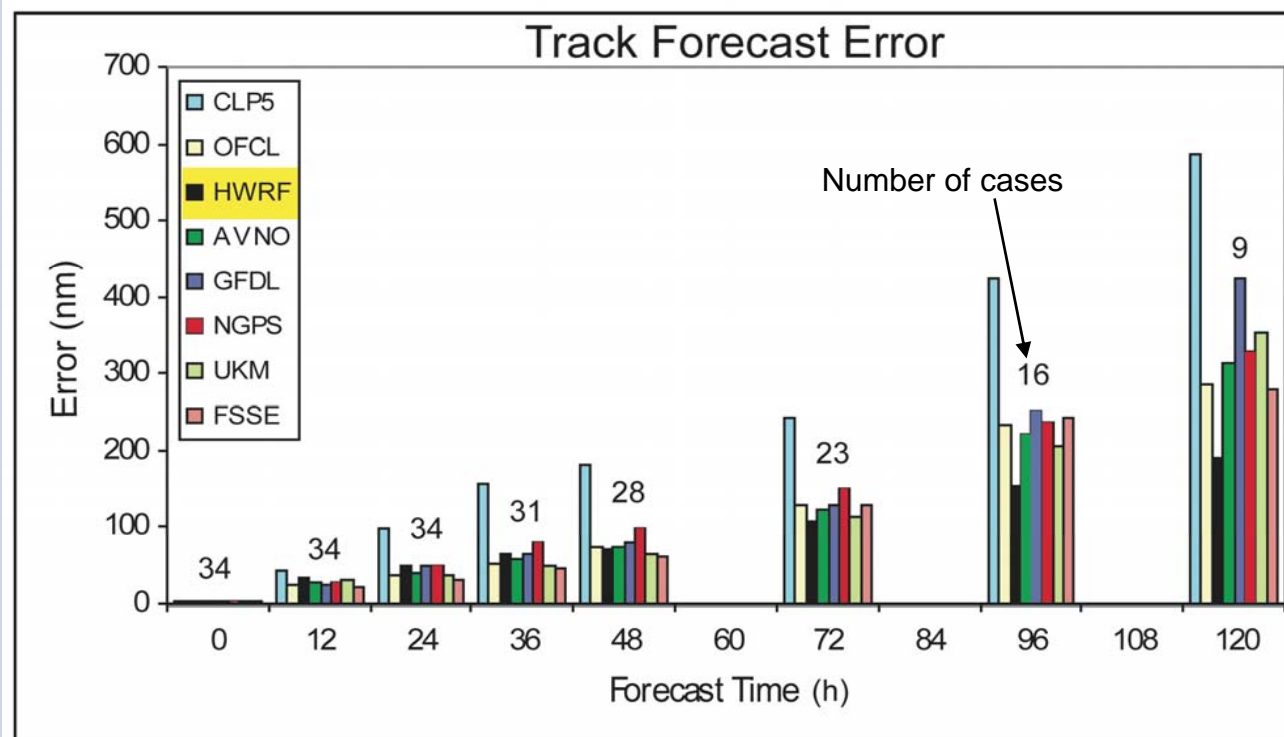
**Operational Use:**

**US Air Force,  
Korea, Taiwan,  
Beijing, China,  
India, Antarctic,  
NCAR.**



# 2005 Season Track Forecasts

Same-Forecast Statistics for Comparison with 12 km WRF-ARW



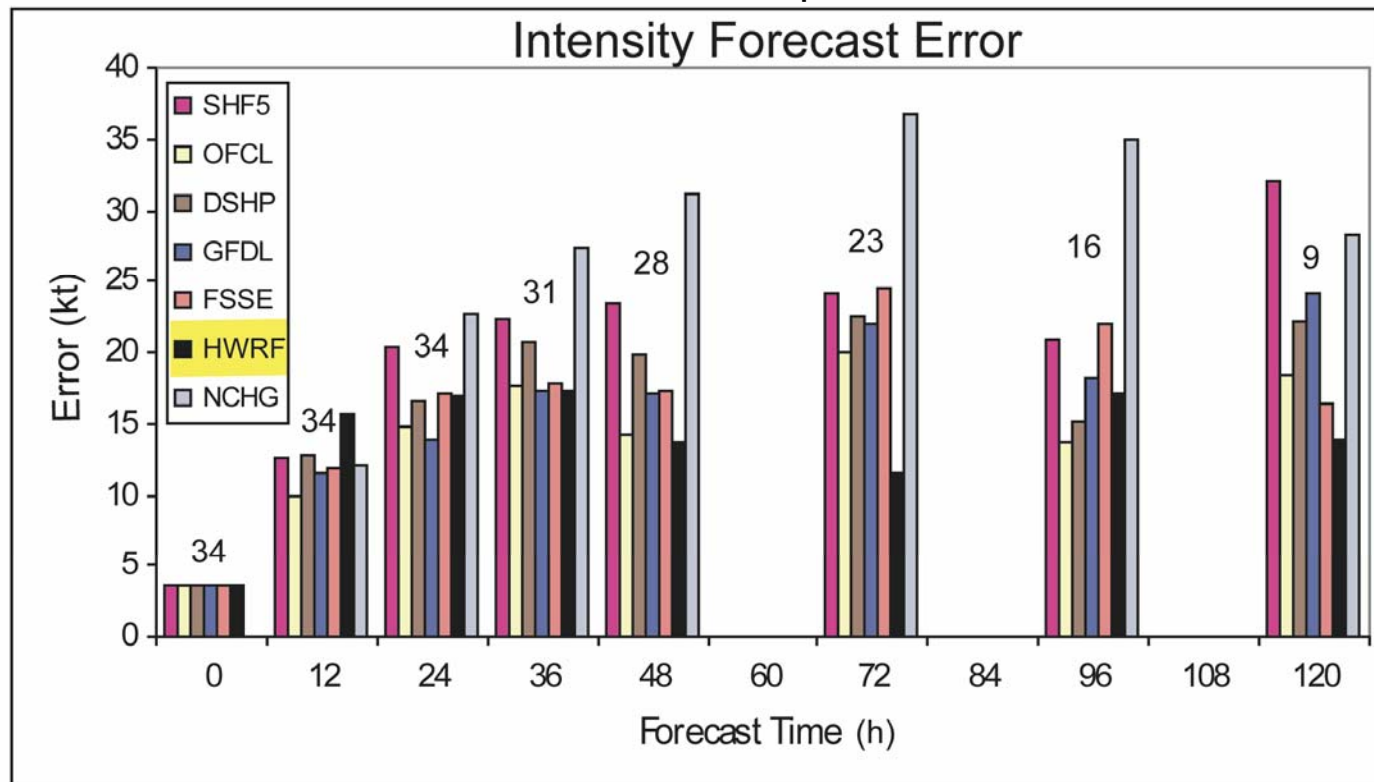
- CLPR is a climatology and persistence forecast
- OFCL is the official forecast
- HWRF is the 12 km WRF-ARW model
- AVNO is the global NCEP Aviation Model
- GFDL is the 9 km GFDL hurricane model
- NGPS is the Navy Global Prediction System
- UKM is the UK Met office Global Model
- FSSE is the Florida State Super Ensemble



Statistics prepared by Mark DeMaria (NOAA/NESDIS)

# 2005 Season Intensity Forecasts

Same-Forecast Statistics for Comparison with 12 km NCAR ARW

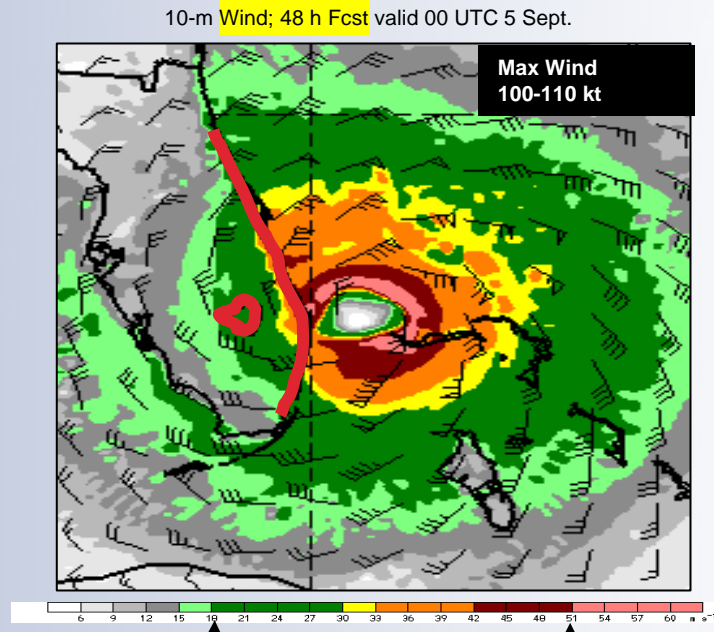


- SHF5 is a statistical forecast scheme
- OFCL is the official forecast
- DSHP is a statistical forecast scheme
- GFDL is the 9 km GFDL hurricane model
- FSSE is the Florida State Super Ensemble
- HWRF is the 12 km NCAR ARW model
- NCHG is straight persistence

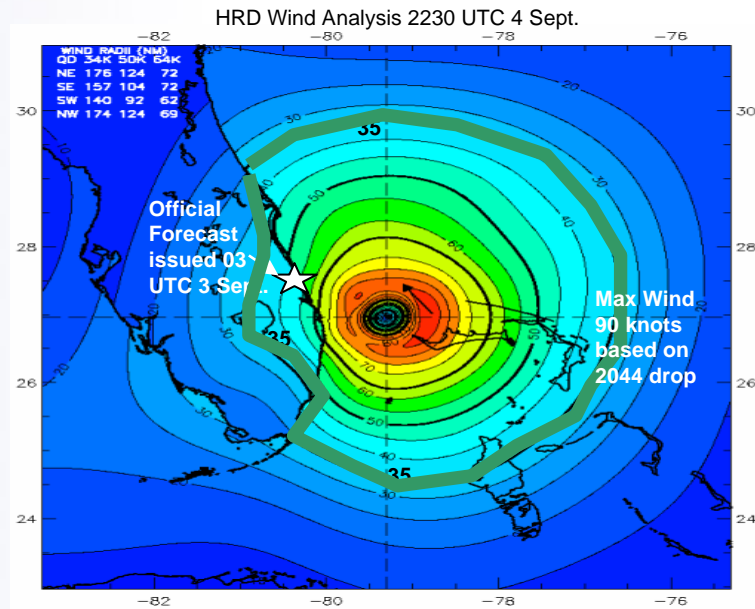


Statistics prepared by Mark DeMaria (NOAA/NESDIS)

# 48 h Forecast, Hurricane Frances



ARW 48-h Forecast 10 m  
wind

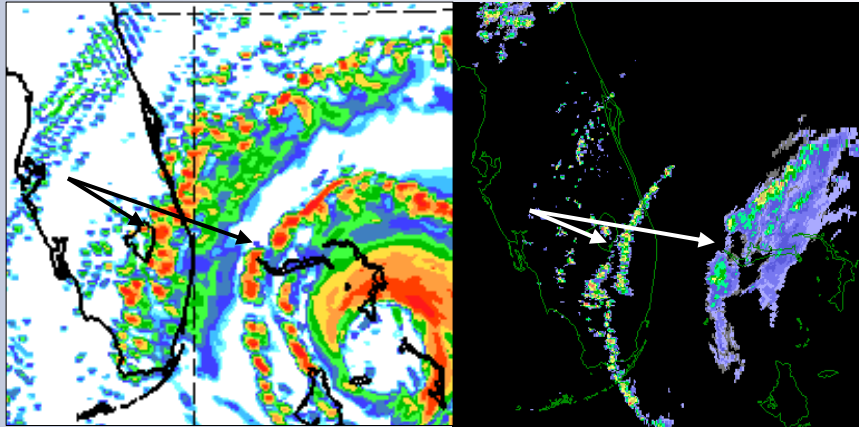


NOAA/HRD 10-m HWind  
Analysis

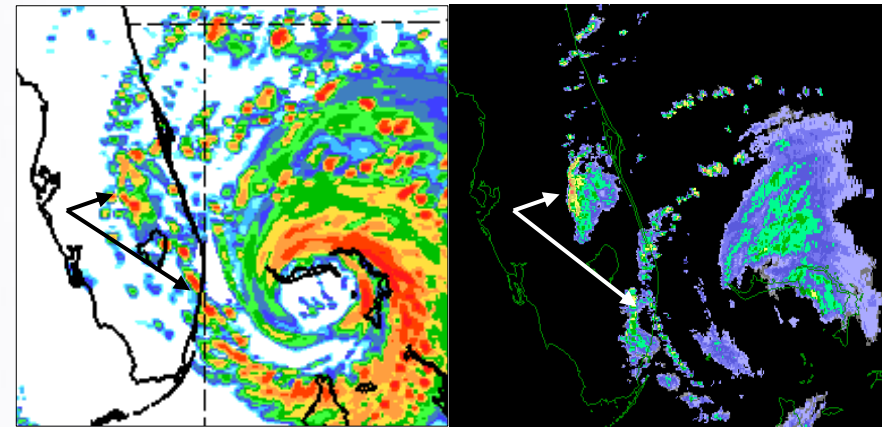




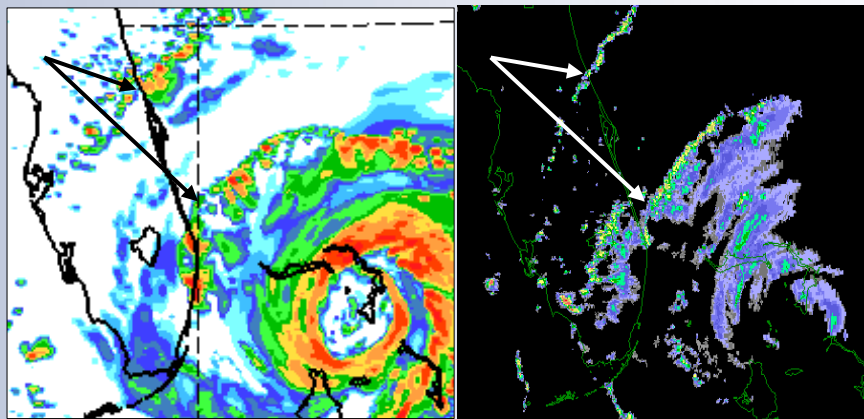
# Precipitation Features in Frances



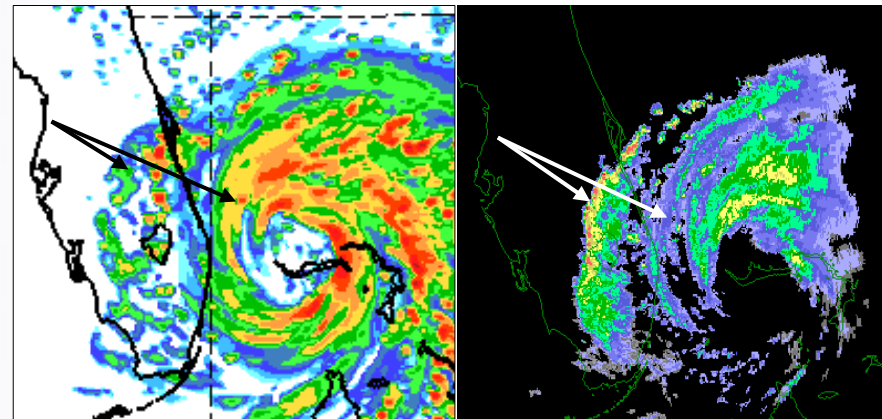
17 UTC 3 Sept (17 h fcst)



06 UTC 4 Sept (30 h fcst)



22 UTC 3 Sept (22 h fcst)



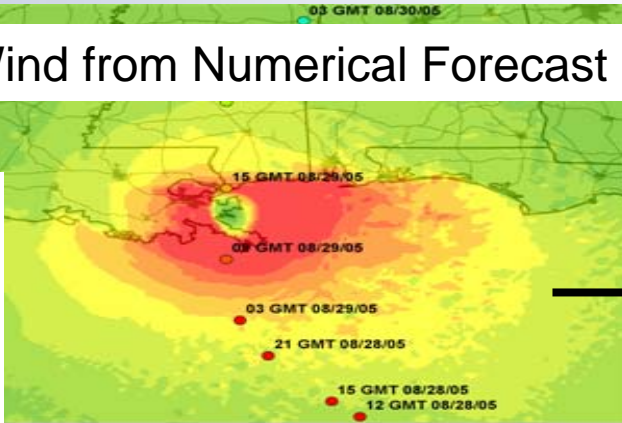
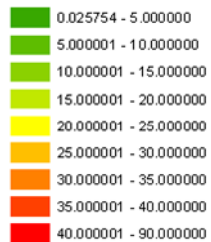
11 UTC 4 Sept (35 h fcst)



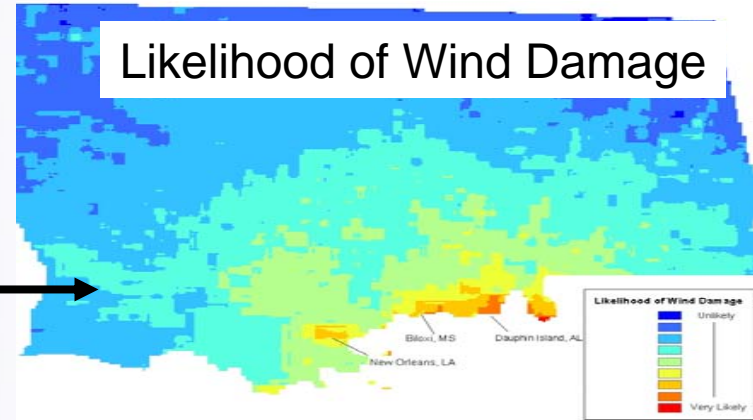
# Experimental Hurricane Impact Prediction

Wind from Numerical Forecast

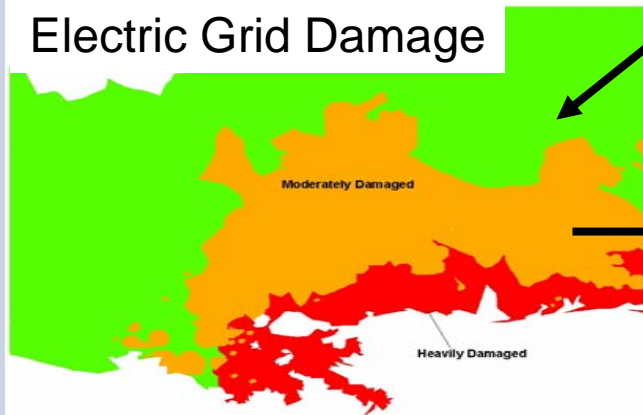
10m Wind (m/s)



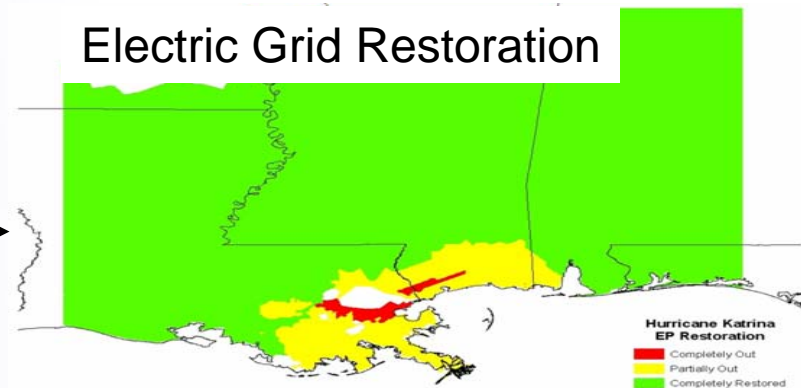
Likelihood of Wind Damage



Electric Grid Damage



Electric Grid Restoration



Brian Bush pc 2005



# Summary: 1. Needs

- **Careful and unbiased assessment of the hurricane threat and whether it is growing:**
  - *Research into environmental impacts on hurricane characteristics*
  - *Couple Weather and Climate models*
- **Improved Data Assimilation**
  - *Radar, Satellite, ad-hoc data*
- **Capacity to run a coupled ocean/atmosphere hurricane forecast system at high resolution**
  - *Computing facilities*
  - *Supporting research (RAINEX, Predictability, Vortex Core Processes)*
- **Move away from traditional forecast approaches**
  - *Bring together atmospheric, oceanic, societal and engineering groups*
  - *Explicit forecasts of Impacts*



# Recommendation for a Hurricane Demonstration Project

- **Phase 1: Research and System Development:**
  - *Focus on hurricane impacts*
  - *Bring together atmospheric, oceanic, societal and engineering expertise*
  - *Define the requirements and needs*
- **Phase 2: Forecast Demonstration:**
  - *Multiple modeling approaches*
  - *Demonstrate effectiveness of use of leading edge computing facilities*
  - *Demonstrate new approaches such as impacts forecasting and communicating risk and vulnerability*

Much of the groundwork has already been done by the US Weather Research Program, but never properly implemented!

