

Recent Results on the Impact of Reconnaissance Data on TC Forecasts in both the Basin-Scale HWRF and GFSv16

Sarah D. Ditchek^{1,2} and Jason Sippel²

Acknowledgements: Ghassan J. Alaka Jr.², Lidia Cucurull², Daryl Kleist⁴,
Stanley B. Goldenberg², Vijay Tallapragada⁴, & Xingren Wu³

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Project Plan Snapshot

This project is the first systematic, large-sample assessment to quantify the overall impact of dropsondes on TC forecasts of track, intensity, and structure.

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EXPERIMENTS		SCOPE OF STUDY			
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NO	dropsondes are not allowed	2017-2020	634	92	41 (45%)

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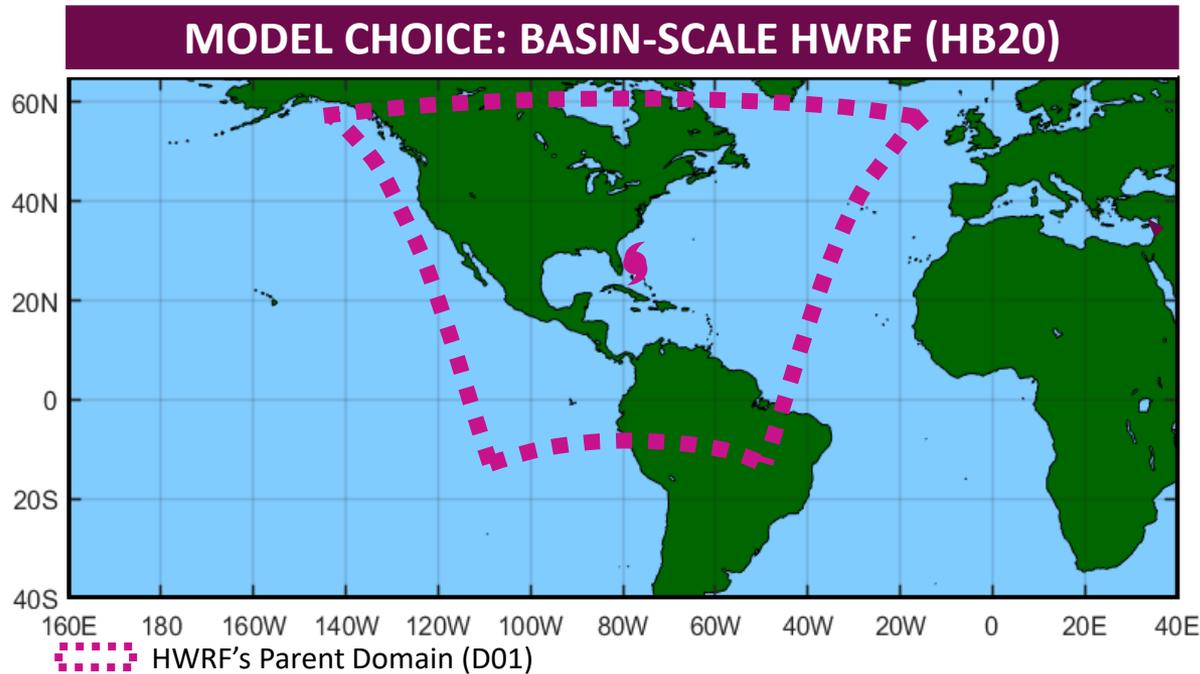
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MODEL CHOICE: BASIN-SCALE HWRF (HB20)

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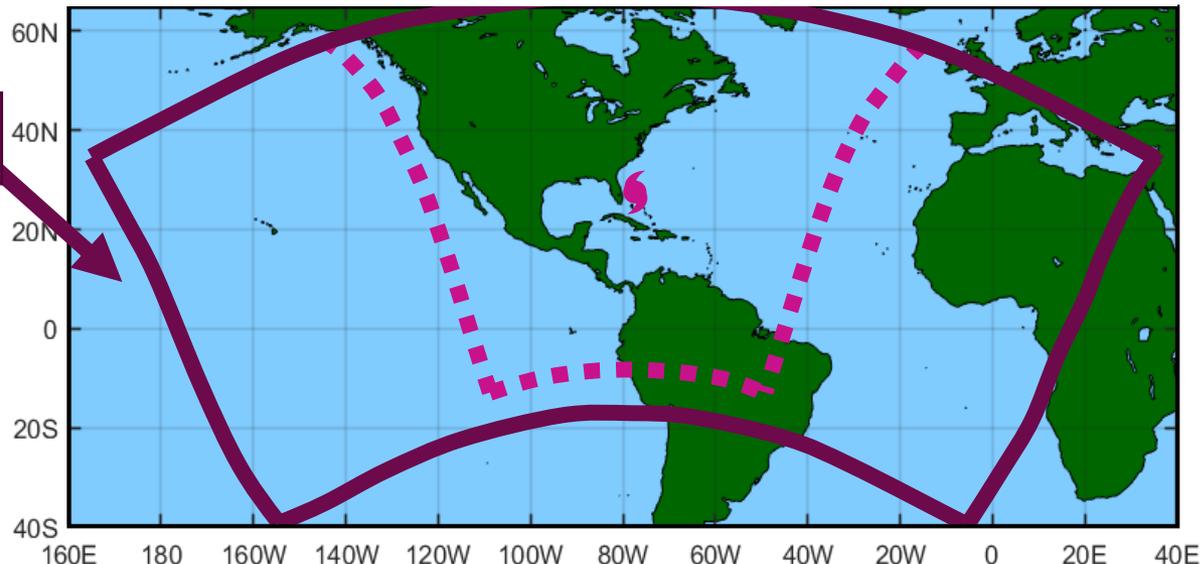
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large, static parent domain

⋯ HWRF's Parent Domain (D01)
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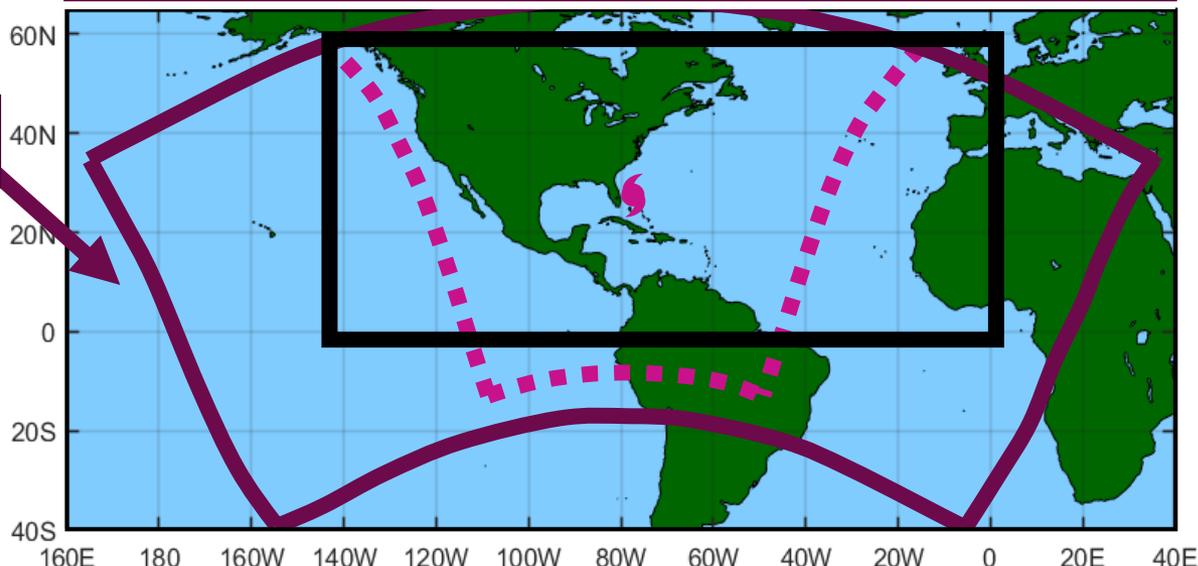
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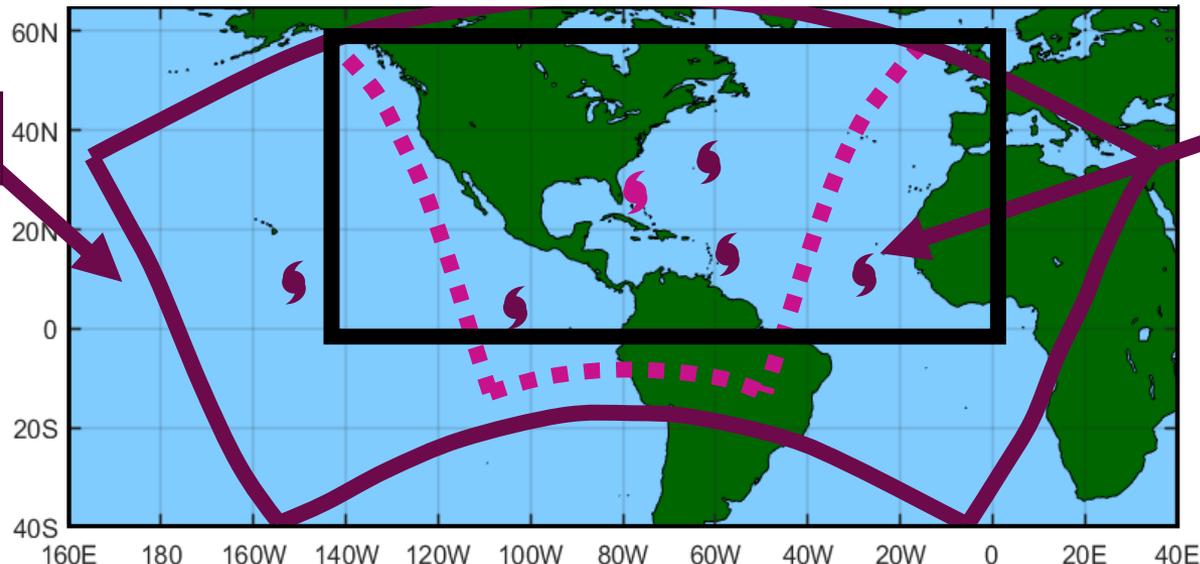
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Project Outcomes

FOUR MAIN TAKEAWAYS

Project Outcomes

FOUR MAIN TAKEAWAYS

1) Dropsondes directly improve TC forecasts

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- 1) Dropsondes directly improve TC forecasts
- 2) Dropsondes indirectly improve TC intensity forecasts at long lead times and R34 forecasts at short lead times

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- 3) Prioritizing sampling H12 would lead to more forecast improvements compared to sampling TS and H345

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- 4) Directly sampling the region of hurricane-force winds improves R64 forecasts

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This section includes results for Takeaway #1 and Takeaway #4.

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This section includes results for Takeaway #1 and Takeaway #4.

Manuscript currently in HRD's Internal Review

Ditchek, S.D., J. Sippel, G. Alaka, S.B. Goldenberg, and L. Cucurull 2022: A Systematic Assessment of the Overall Dropsonde Impact during the 2017-2020 Hurricane Seasons using the Basin-Scale HWRF.

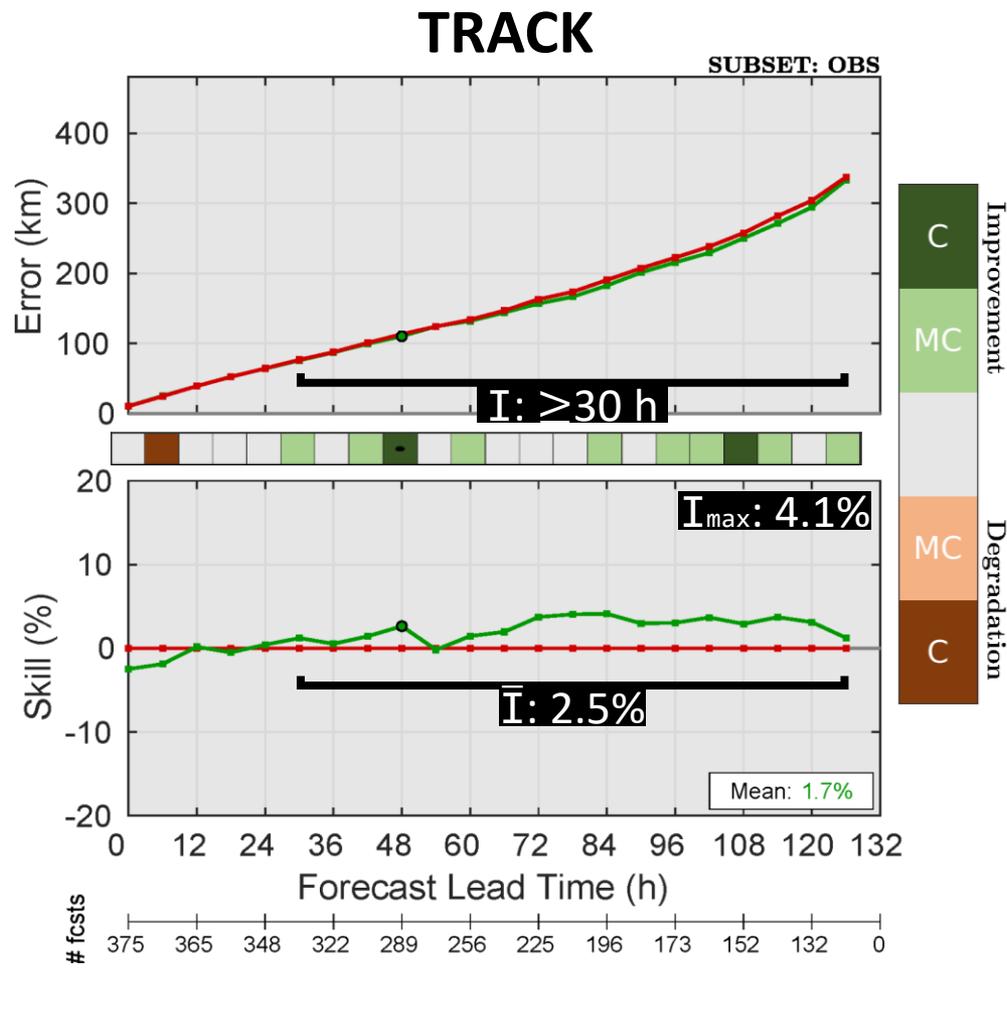
#1: Dropsondes directly improve TC forecasts

OBS: Cycles from Atlantic basin TCs that **did** directly assimilate dropsondes

*OBS: Cycles from Atlantic basin TCs that did directly assimilate dropsondes

■ (●): 95% (90%) sig.

#1: Dropsondes directly improve TC forecasts

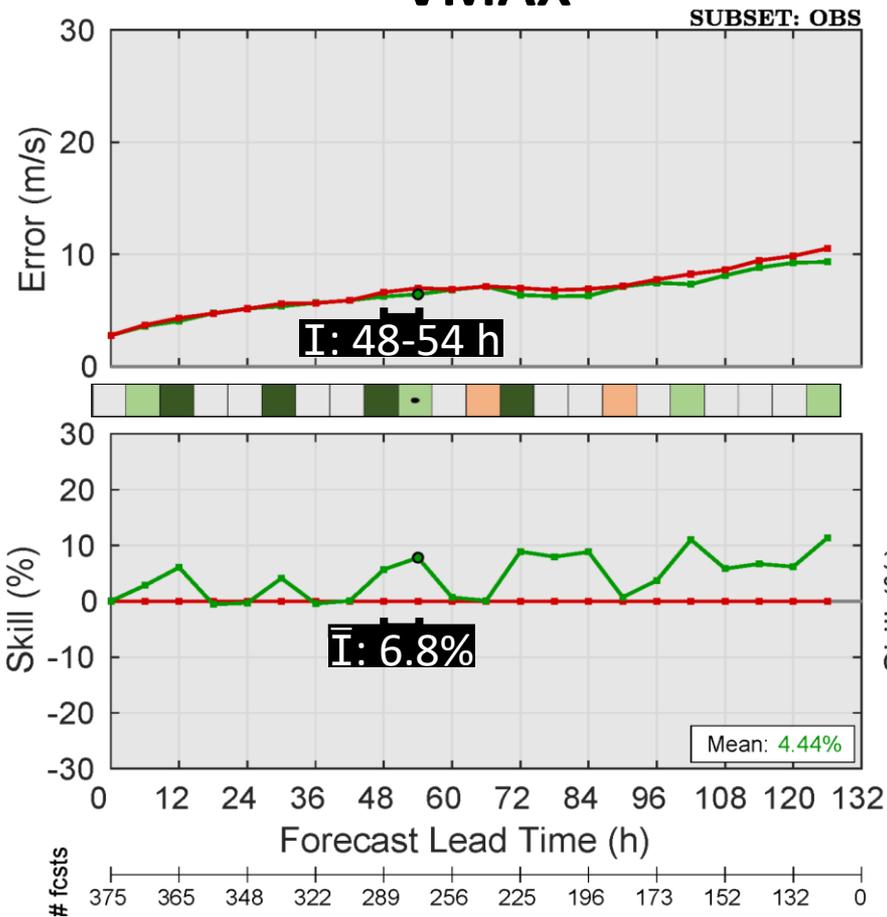


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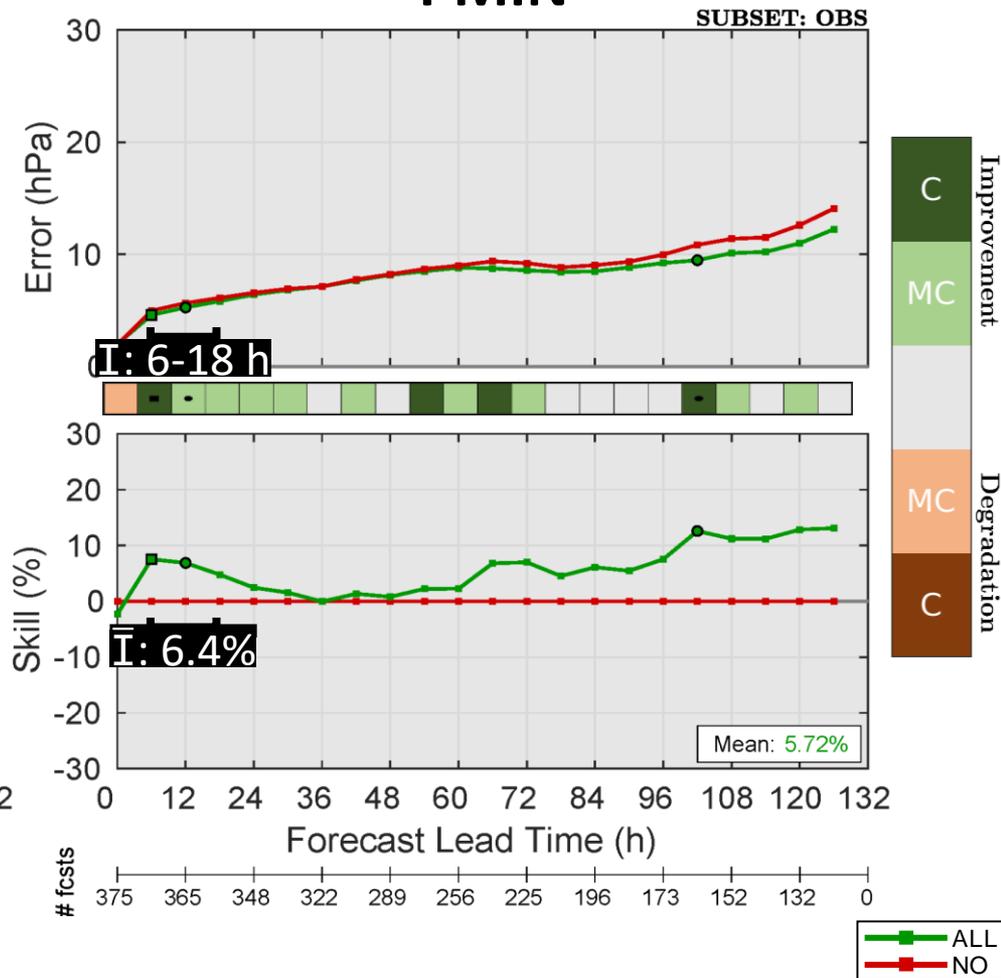
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#1: Dropsondes directly improve TC forecasts

VMAX



PMIN

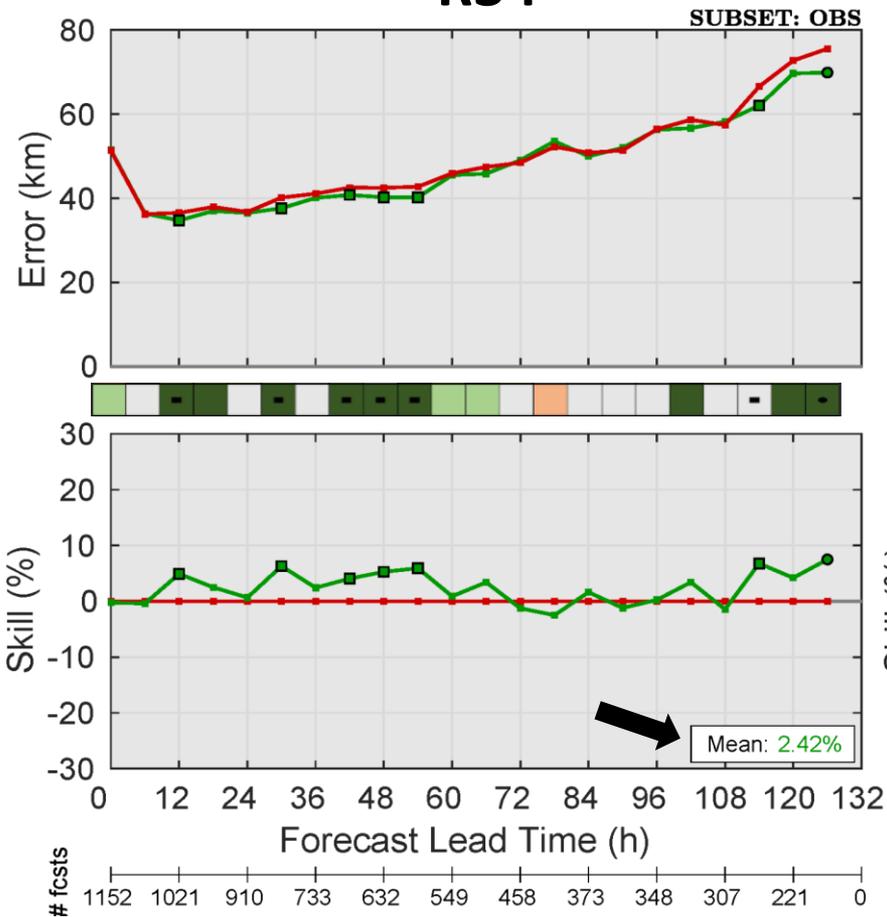


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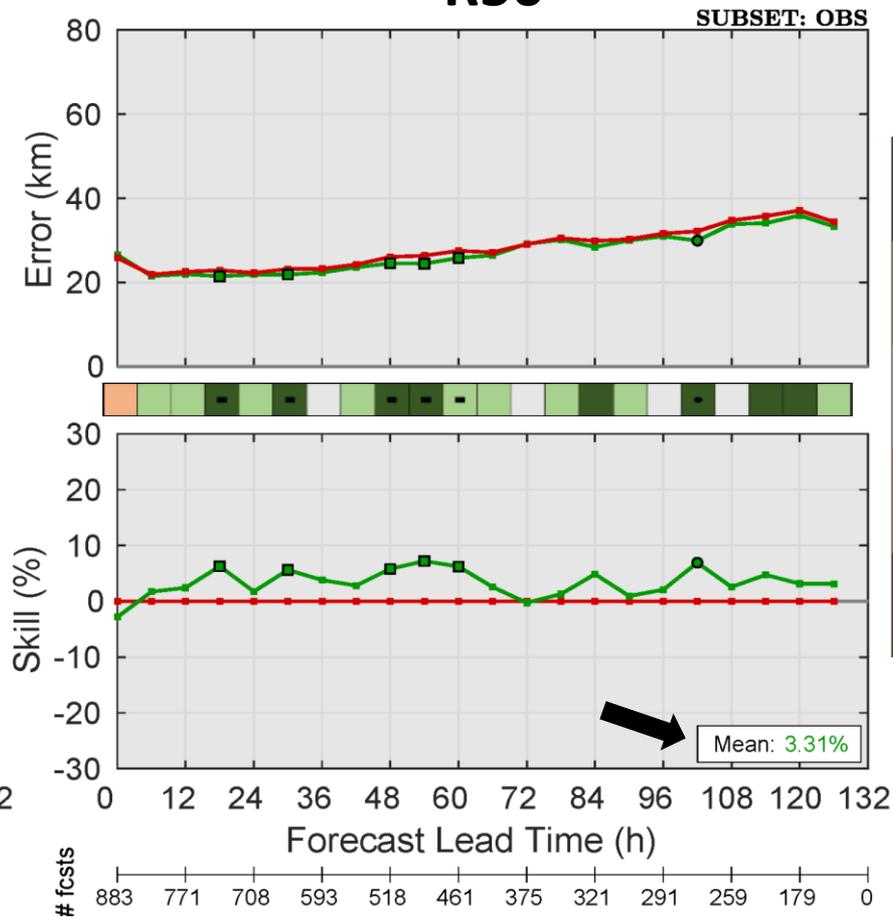
■ (●): 95% (90%) sig.

#1: Dropsondes directly improve TC forecasts

R34



R50



Improvement
C
MC
Degradation
MC
C

■ (●): 95% (90%) sig.

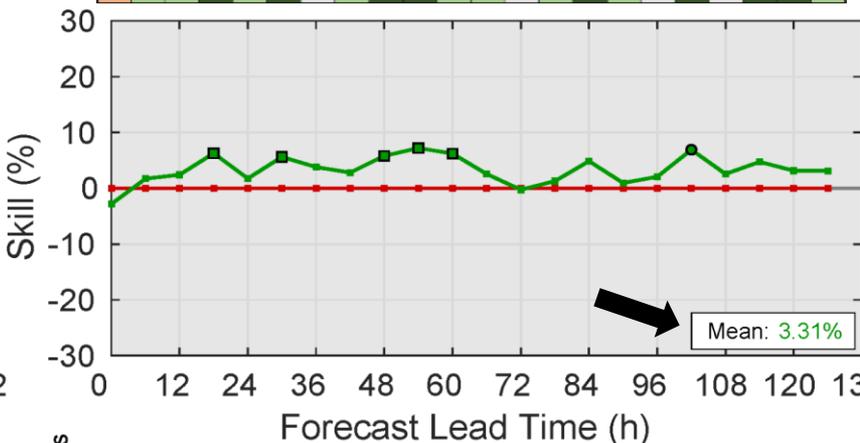
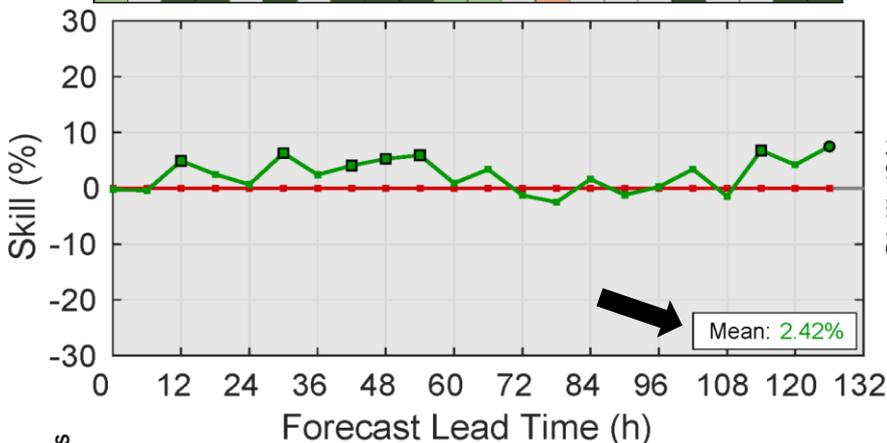
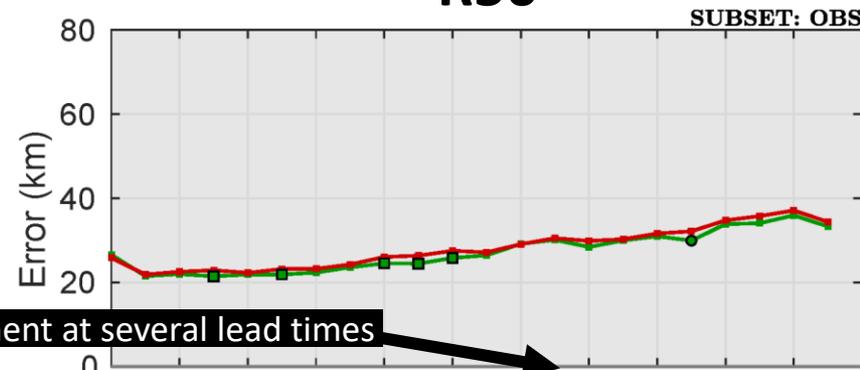
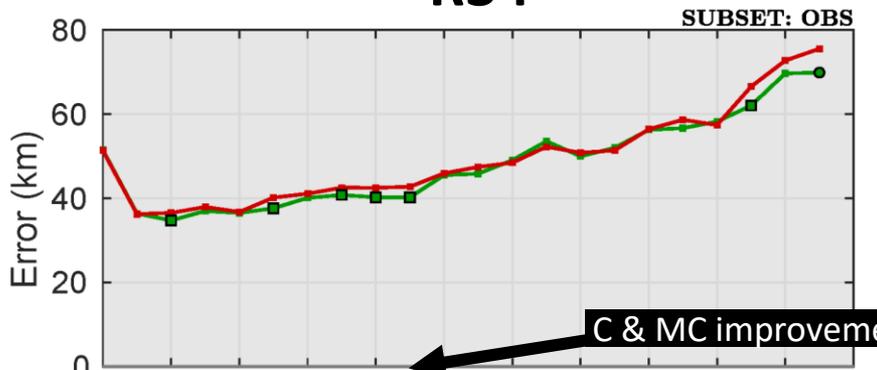
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R34

R50



Improvement
C
MC
Degradation
MC
C

fcsts 1152 1021 910 733 632 549 458 373 348 307 221 0

fcsts 883 771 708 593 518 461 375 321 291 259 179 0

■ (●) ALL NO

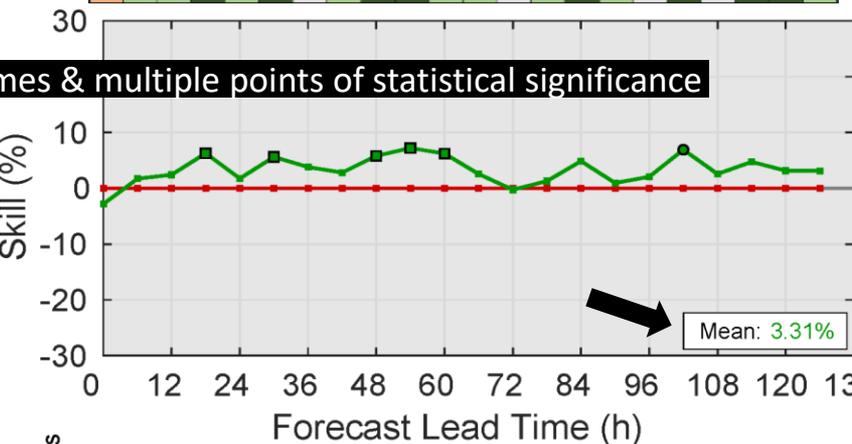
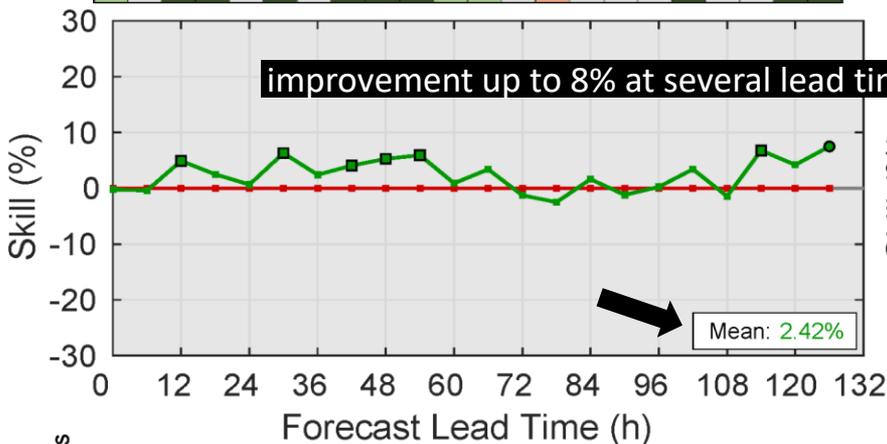
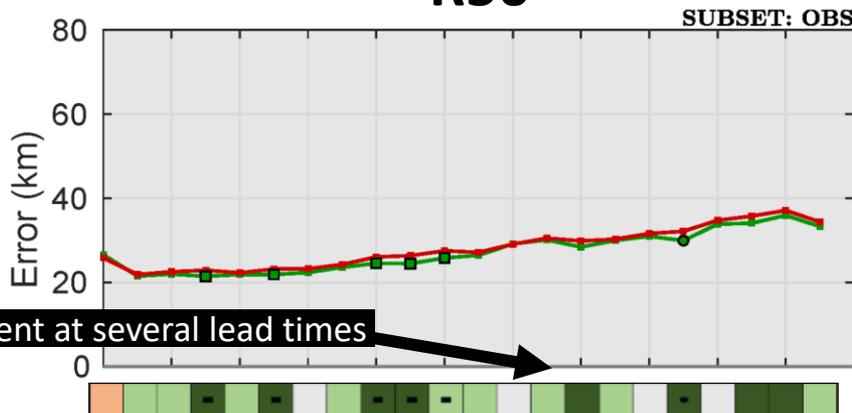
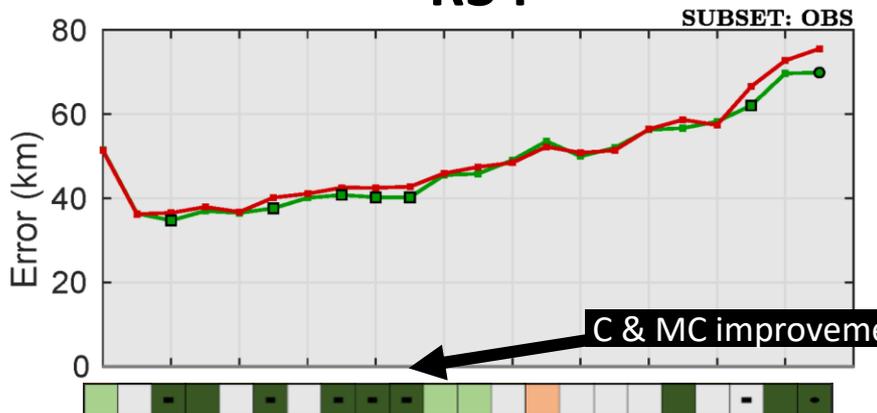
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#1: Dropsondes directly improve TC forecasts

R34

R50



Improvement
C
MC
Degradation
MC
C

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#4: Directly sampling the region of hurricane-force winds improves R64 forecasts

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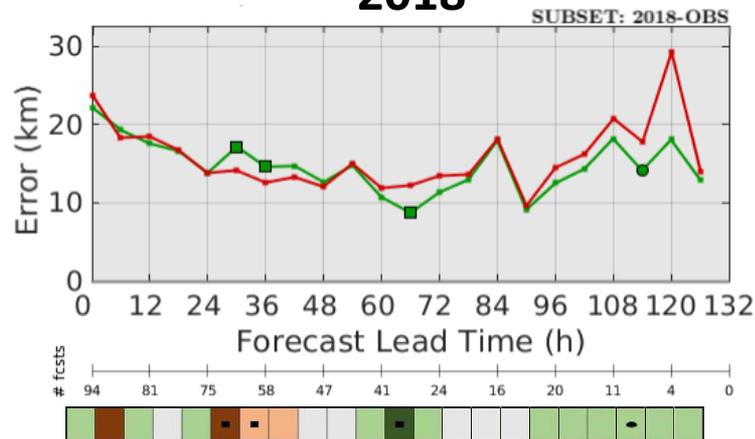
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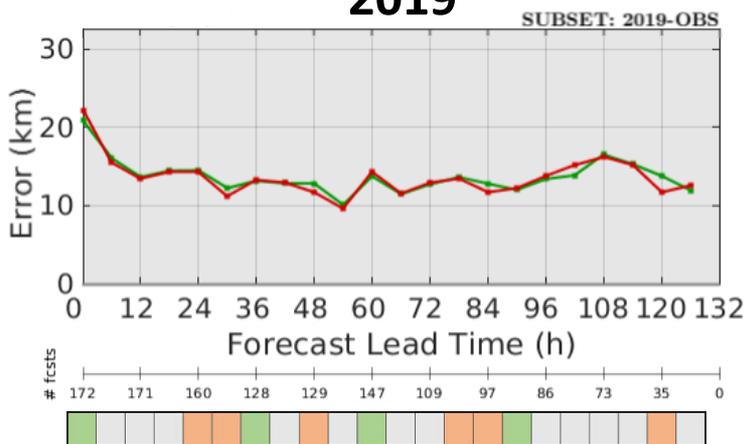
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R64

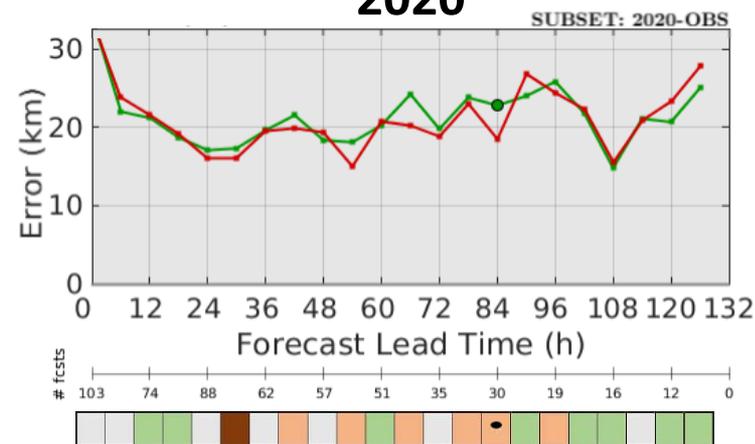
2018



2019



2020



■ (●): 95% (90%) sig.

Legend: ■ (●): 95% (90%) sig. (Green line with squares for ALL, Red line with squares for NO)

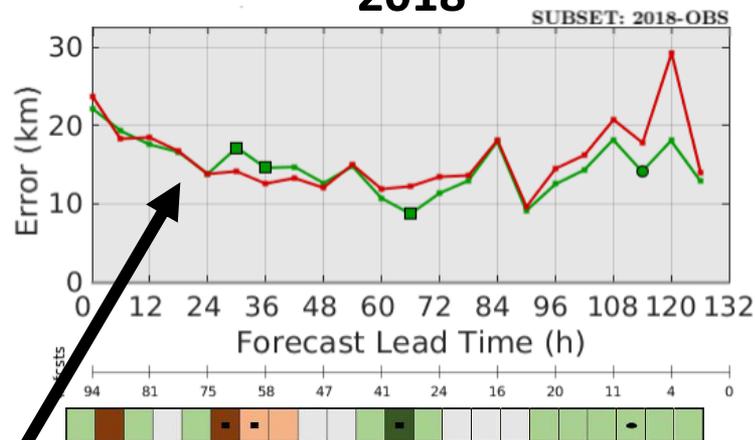
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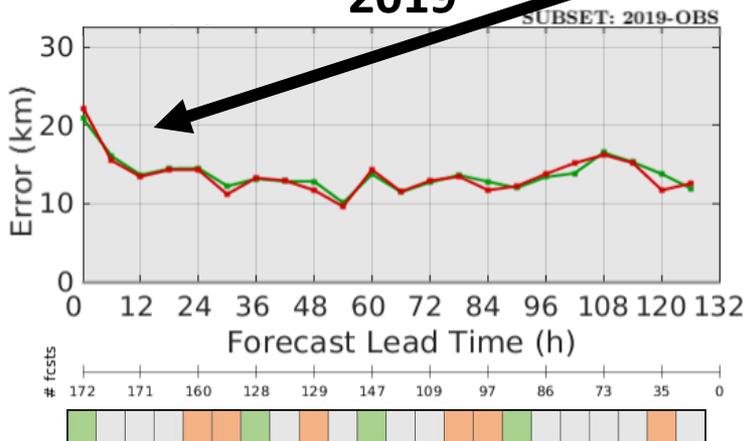
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R64

2018

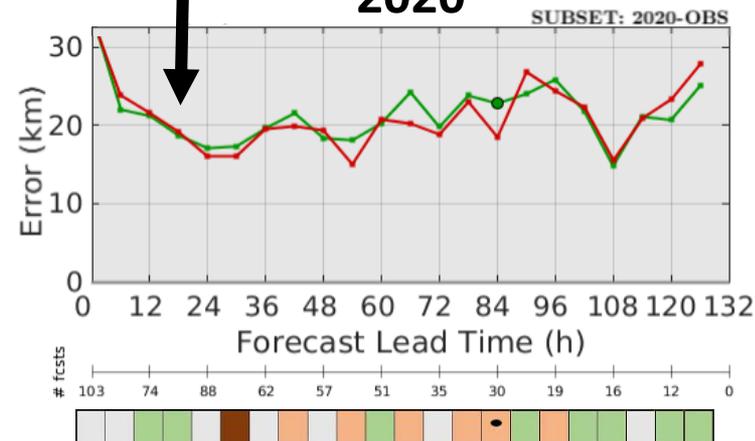


2019



minimal error differences

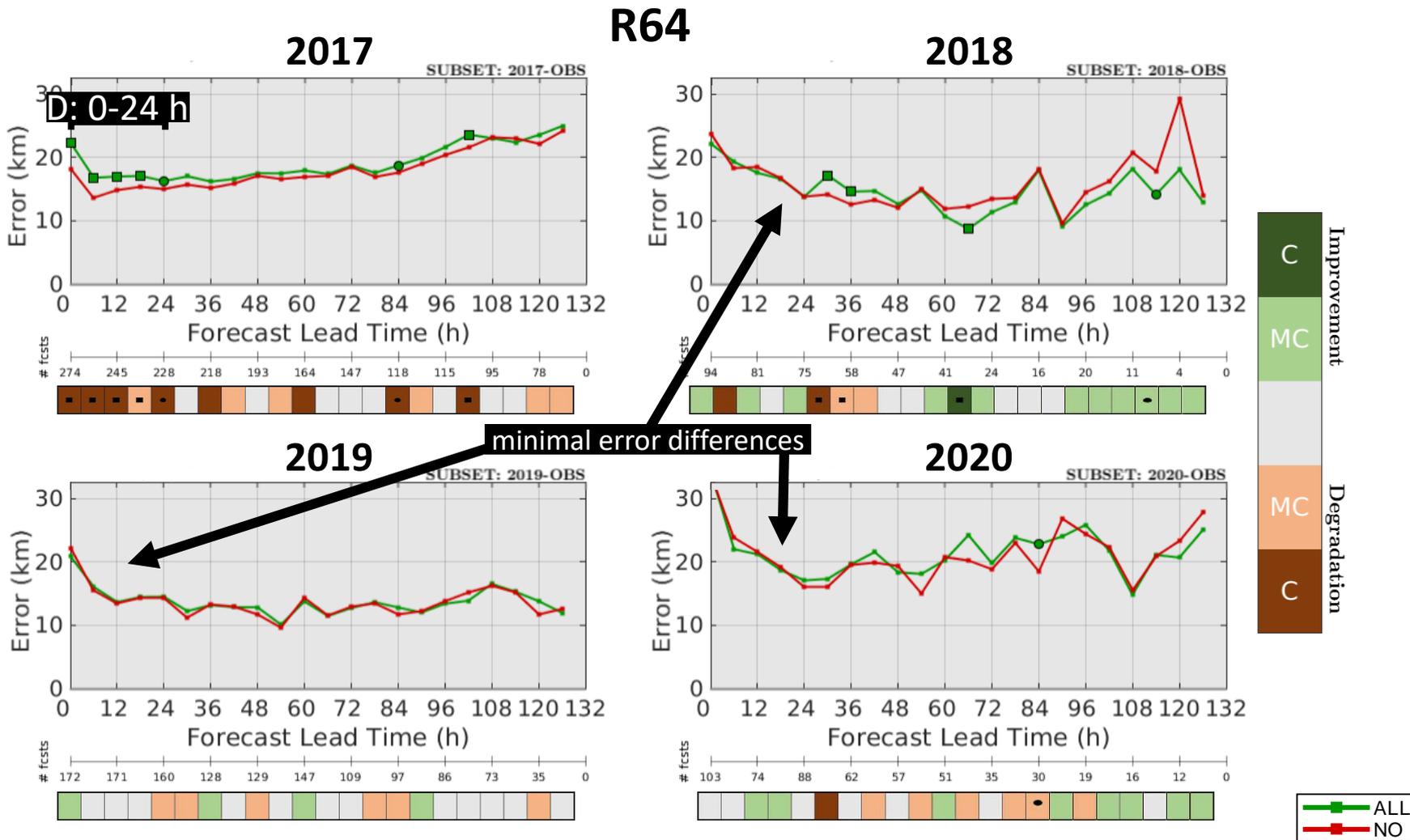
2020



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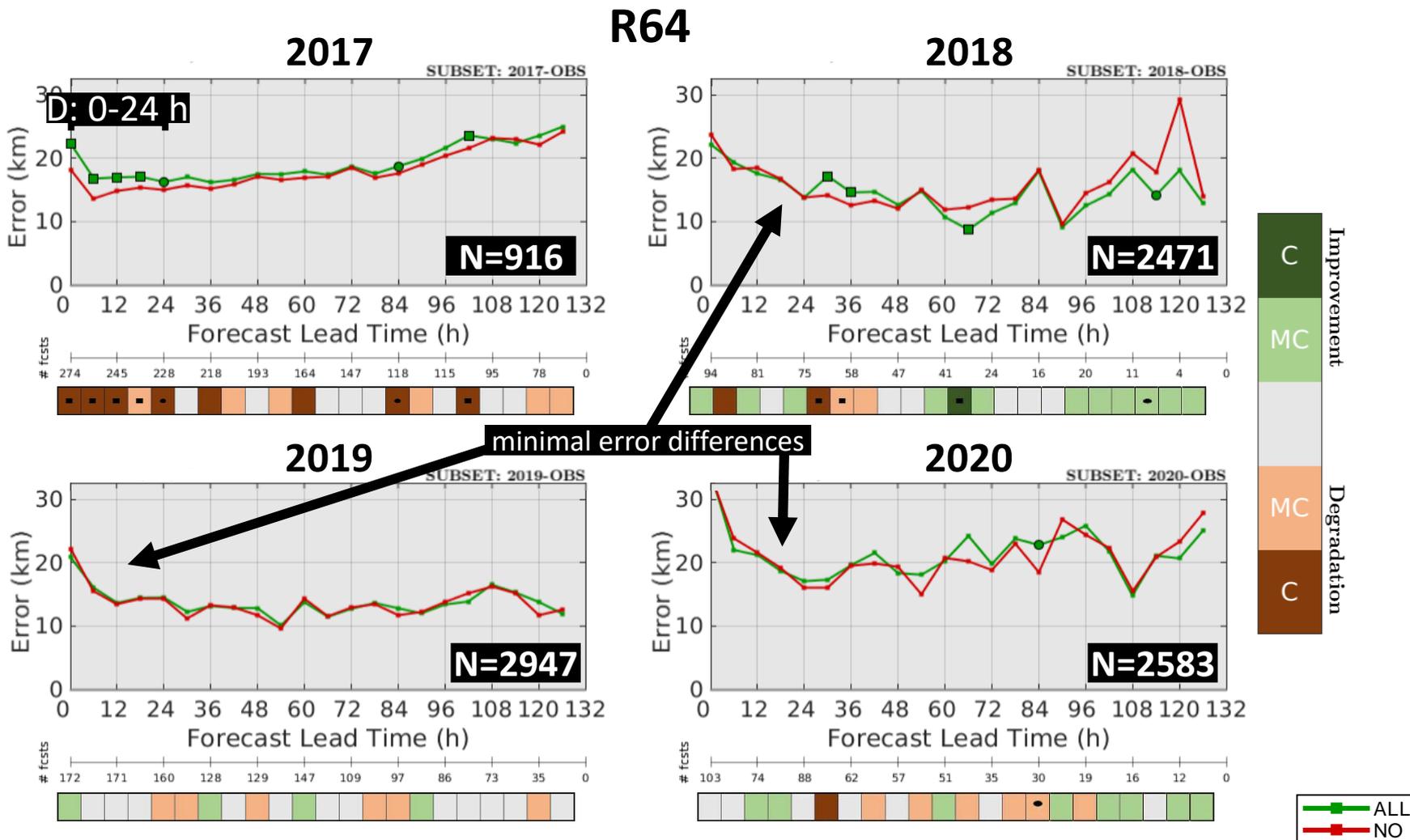
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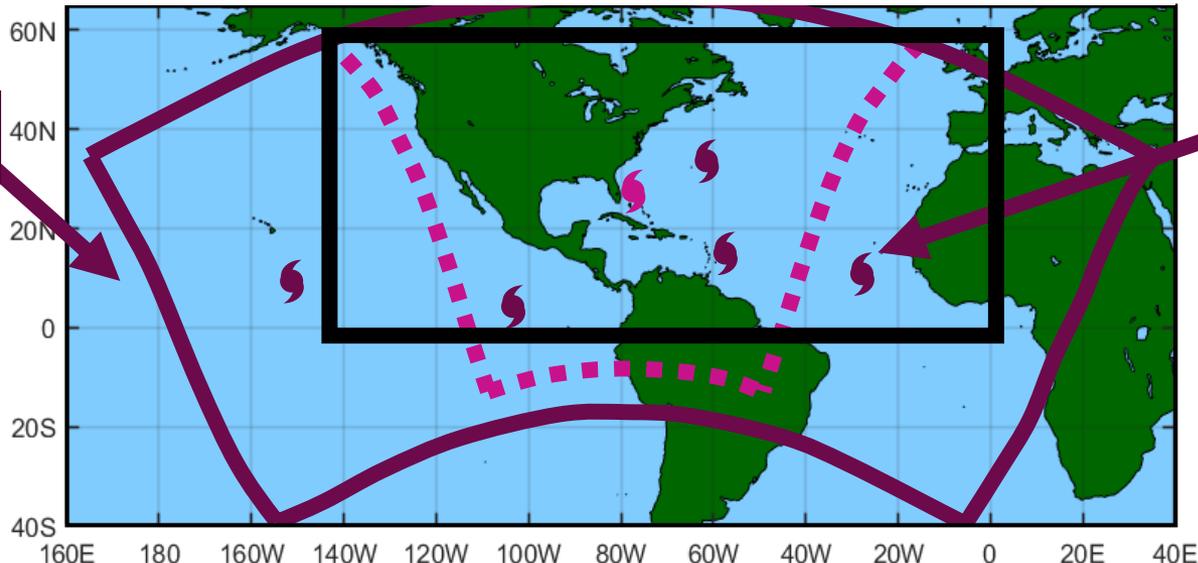
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1) G4IC dropsondes directly improve TC track forecasts

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- 1) G4IC dropsondes directly improve TC track forecasts
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- 1) G4IC dropsondes directly improve TC track forecasts
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This section includes results for Takeaway #1.

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Manuscript In Prep

Sippel, J., S.D. Ditchek, K. Ryan, C.W. Landsea 2022: The R2O2R2O Life Cycle of the Recently Implemented G-IV Inner-Ring Circumnavigation.

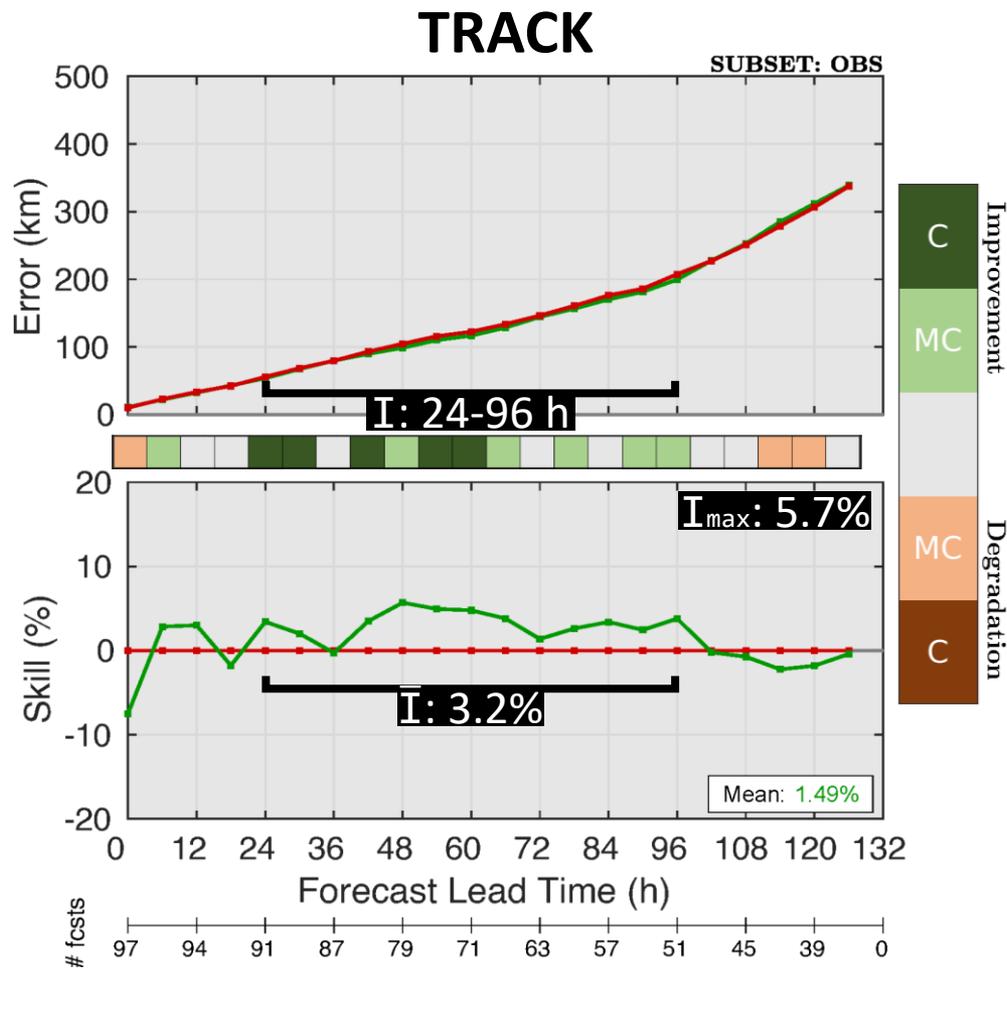
#1: G4IC dropsondes directly improve TC track forecasts

OBS: Cycles from Atlantic basin TCs that **did** directly assimilate dropsondes

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#1: G4IC dropsondes directly improve TC track forecasts



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—■— NOG4IC-D

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This project quantifies the overall combined impact of 1) additional dropsonde wind data near the TC center and 2) the first-time addition of high-density, flight-level reconnaissance observations (HDOBs) on TC forecasts using GFS version 16 (GFSv16)

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Representative Example of Add'l Data Assimilated

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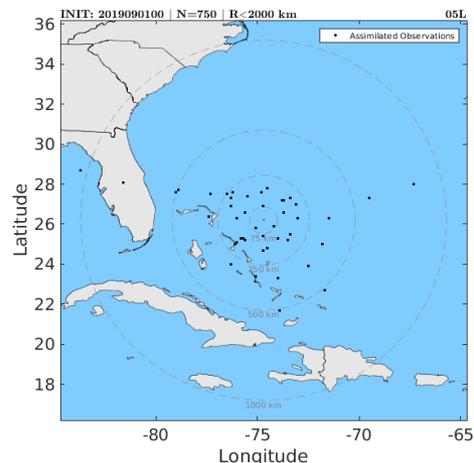
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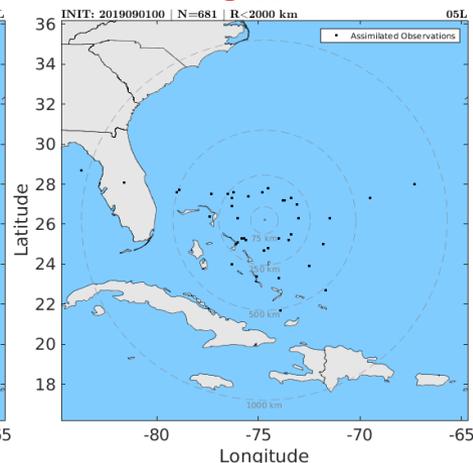
1) Add'l Dropsonde Wind Data

NEW

OLD



N=750



N=681

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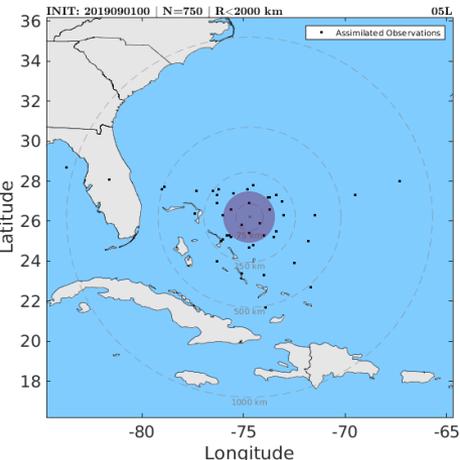
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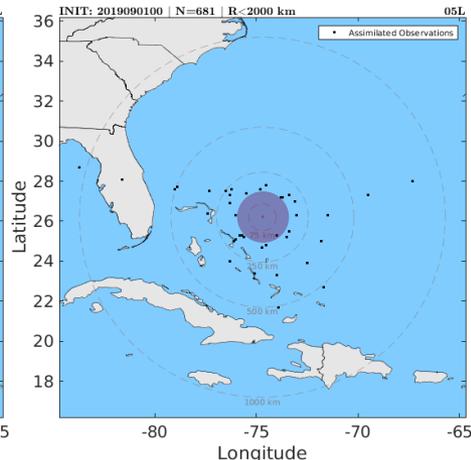
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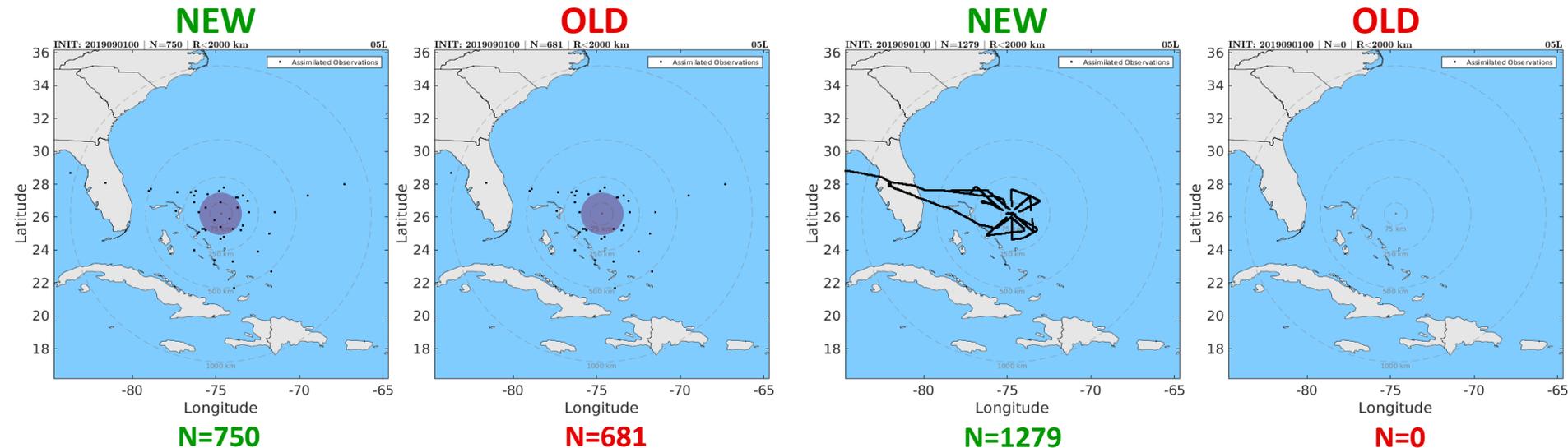
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Representative Example of Add'l Data Assimilated

1) Add'l Dropsonde Wind Data

2) First-Time Addition of HDOBs



Project Outcomes

TWO MAIN TAKEAWAYS

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1) The add'l data has profound impacts on TC track forecasts

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TWO MAIN TAKEAWAYS

- 1) The add'l data has profound impacts on TC track forecasts
- 2) The add'l data improves VMAX forecasts, though not as much as TC track forecasts

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This section includes results for Takeaway #1.

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- 1) The add'l data has profound impacts on TC track forecasts
- 2) The add'l data improves VMAX forecasts, though not as much as TC track forecasts

This section includes results for Takeaway #1.

Manuscript In Review @ AMS's WAF

Sippel, J., X. Wu, S.D. Ditchek, V. Tallapragada, and D. Kleist 2022: Impacts of assimilating additional reconnaissance data on operational GFS tropical cyclone forecasts.

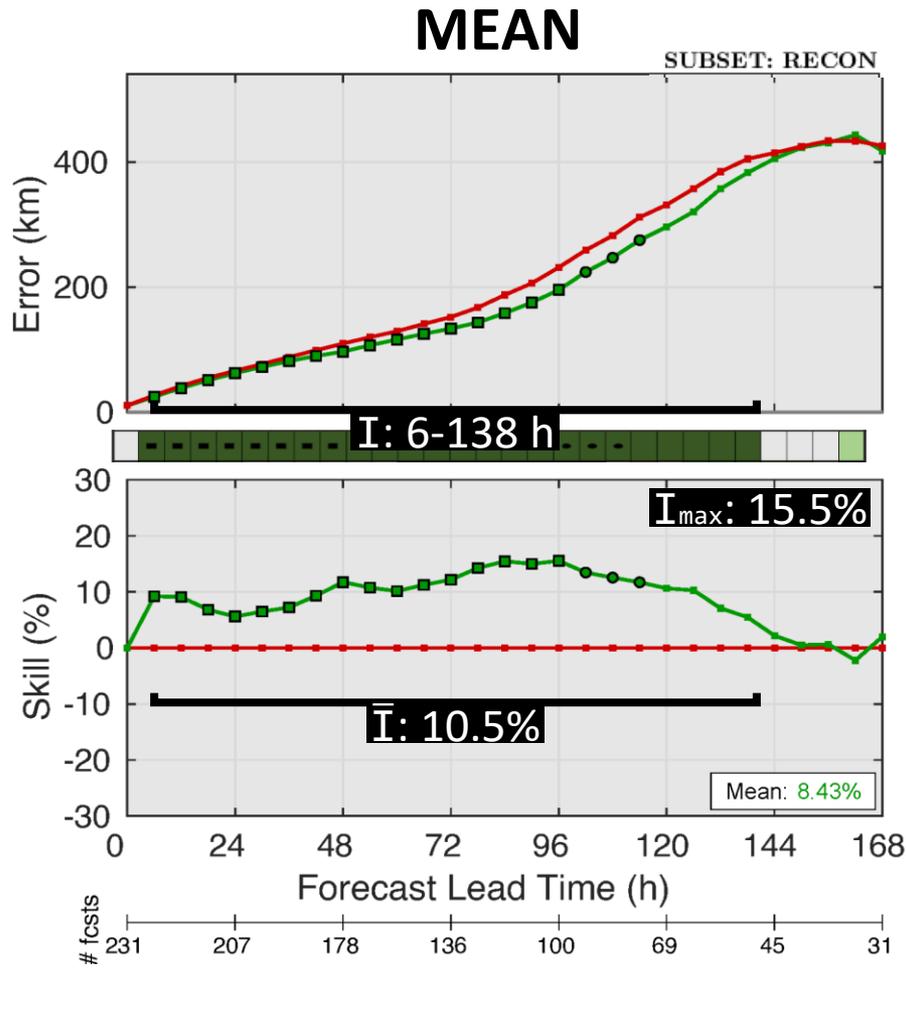
#1: The add'l data has profound impacts on TC track forecasts

RECON: Cycles from Atlantic basin TCs from the first cycle
with assimilated reconnaissance data through the last cycle of the TC

*RECON: Cycles from Atlantic basin TCs from the first cycle with assimilated reconnaissance data through the last cycle of the TC

■ (●): 95% (90%) sig.

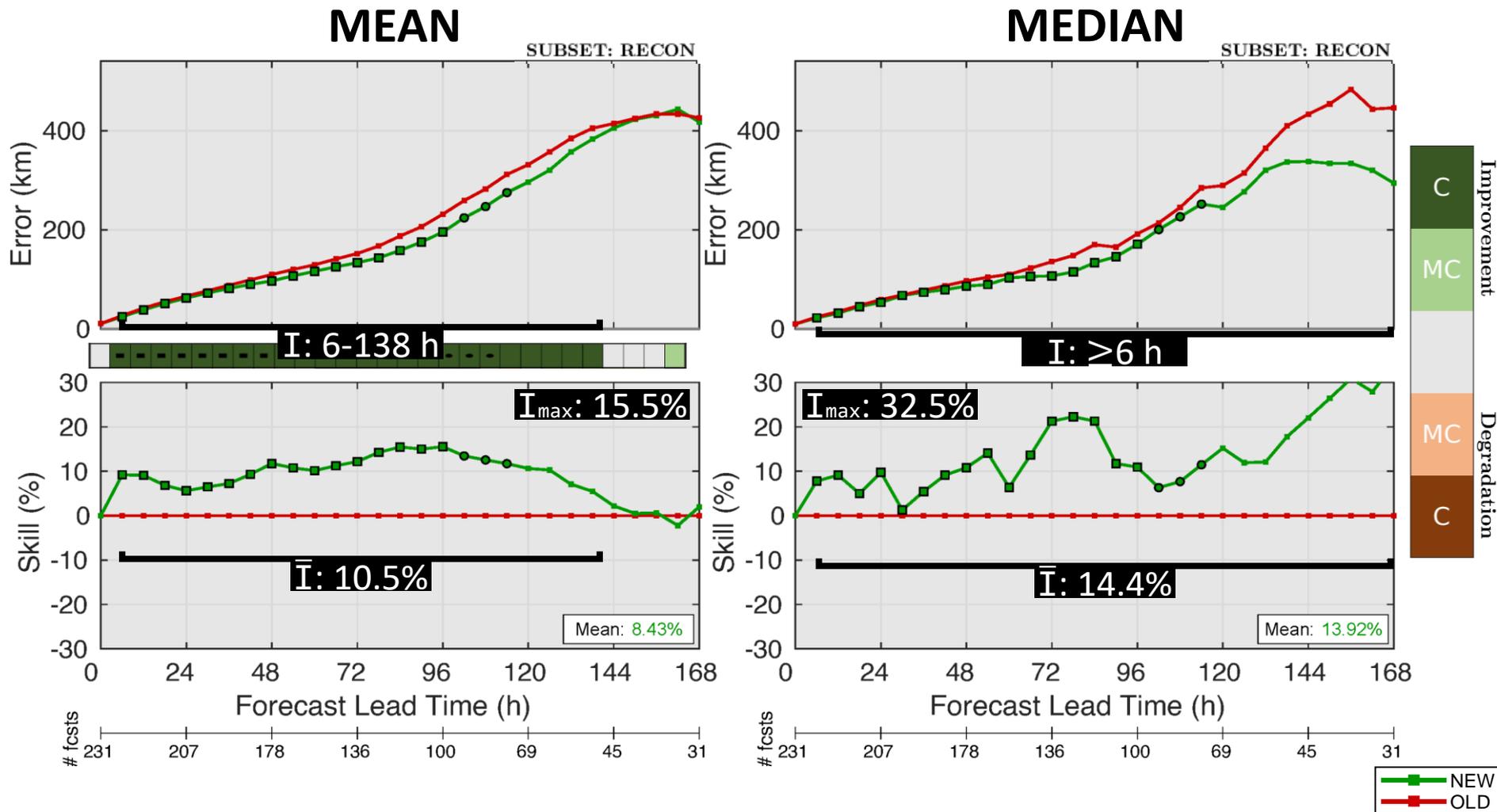
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*RECON: Cycles from Atlantic basin TCs from the first cycle with assimilated reconnaissance data through the last cycle of the TC

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#1: The add'l data has profound impacts on TC track forecasts



The Takeaways

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HB20 Overall Dropsonde Impact

- 1) Dropsondes directly improve TC forecasts
- 2) Dropsondes indirectly improve TC intensity forecasts at long lead times and R34 forecasts at short lead times
- 3) Prioritizing sampling H12 would lead to the most forecast improvements
- 4) Directly sampling the hurricane-force wind region improves R64 forecasts

HB20 G4IC Dropsonde Impact

- 1) G4IC dropsondes directly improve TC track forecasts
- 2) G4IC dropsondes have minimal direct impacts on TC intensity and structure forecasts
- 3) G4IC dropsondes indirectly improve TC intensity forecasts at long lead times and R50 & R64 forecasts at short lead times

GFSv16 Dropsonde/HDOB Impact

- 1) The add'l data has profound impacts on TC track forecasts
- 2) The add'l data improves VMAX forecasts, thought not as much as TC track forecasts

The Takeaways

HB20 Overall Dropsonde Impact

1) Dropsondes directly improve TC forecasts

2) Dropsondes indirectly improve TC intensity forecasts at long lead times and R34 forecasts at short lead times

3) Prioritizing sampling H12 would lead to the most forecast improvements

4) Directly sampling the hurricane-force wind region improves R64 forecasts

HB20 G4IC Dropsonde Impact

1) G4IC dropsondes directly improve TC track forecasts

2) G4IC dropsondes have minimal direct impacts on TC intensity and structure forecasts

3) G4IC dropsondes indirectly improve TC intensity forecasts at long lead times and R50 & R64 forecasts at short lead times

GFSv16 Dropsonde/HDOB Impact

1) The add'l data has profound impacts on TC track forecasts

2) The add'l data improves VMAX forecasts, though not as much as TC track forecasts

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!

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