EXTRACTING LIKELY SCENARIOS FROM HIGH RESOLUTION FORECASTS IN REAL-TIME







By Kris Boykin

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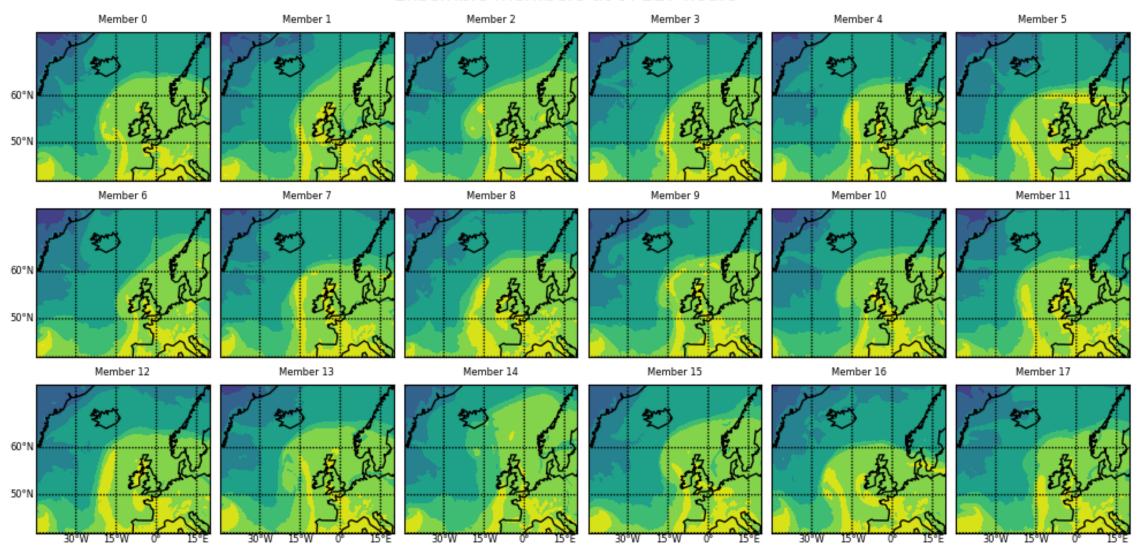








Ensemble members at t+117 hours



Is there a way to reduce the amount of ensemble data forecasters must digest while still retaining all the relevant information?

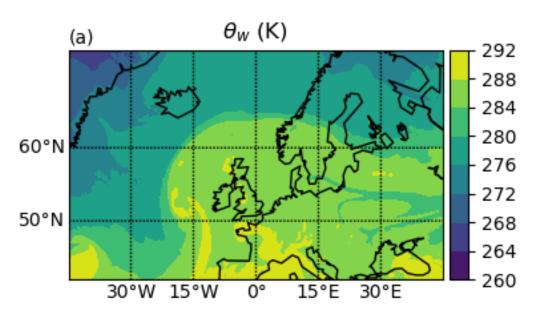
Motivation

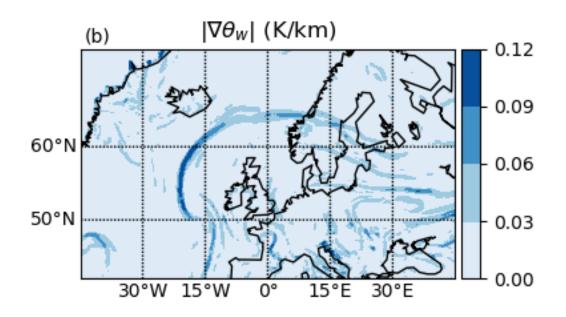
 Ensemble forecasts output large amounts of complex data that is constantly being updated hourly/daily

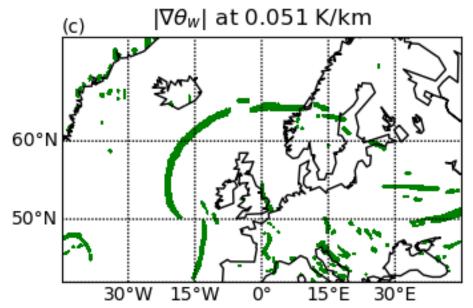
 Forecasters have limited time to digest this data and output a forecast and any related impact warnings

During high-impact events the need for speed and accuracy is great

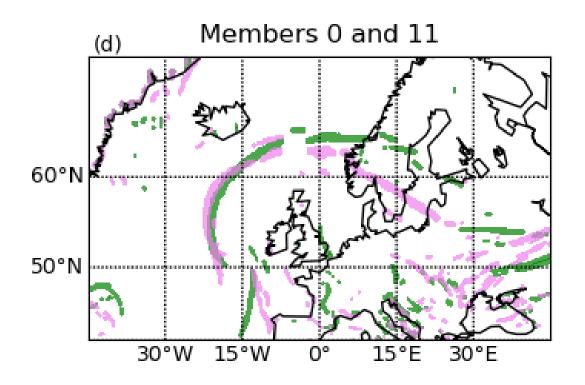
The creation of a novel clustering method is used to reduce the ensemble into a few potential scenarios.

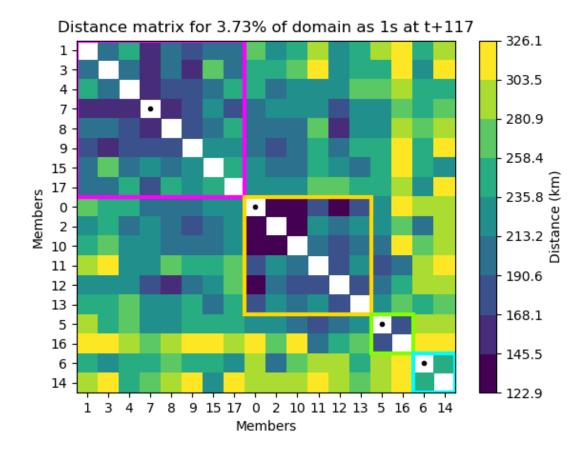






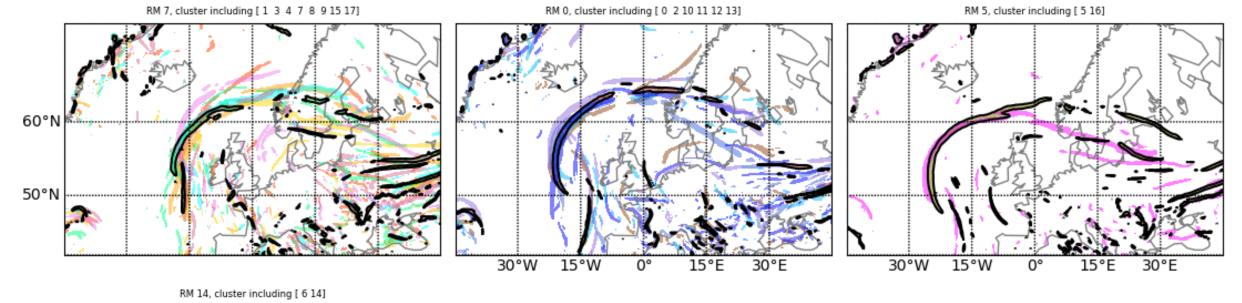
- (a): Wet bulb potential temperature at 850 hPa
- (b): Gradient of field to determine frontal regions
- (c): Threshold applied to create a binary field

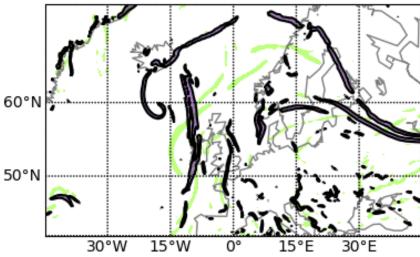




- (d): Members compared by spatial distance found with Fractions Skill Score (FSS), avoiding double penalty problem
- Right: Members are grouped together by distance with K-medoids clustering

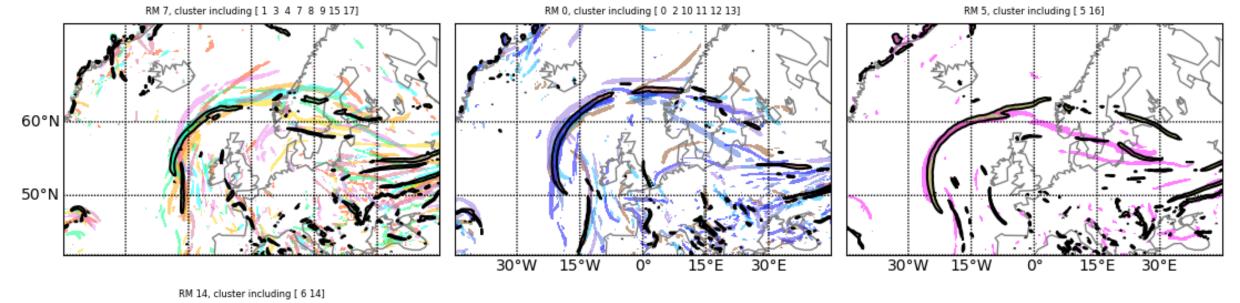
Ensemble members at t+117 hours, colours representing cluster members

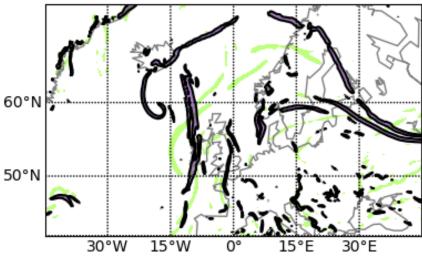




- When clustering is strong, a representative member is extracted from the clusters
- These representative members are then provided to forecasters as potential scenarios

Ensemble members at t+117 hours, colours representing cluster members

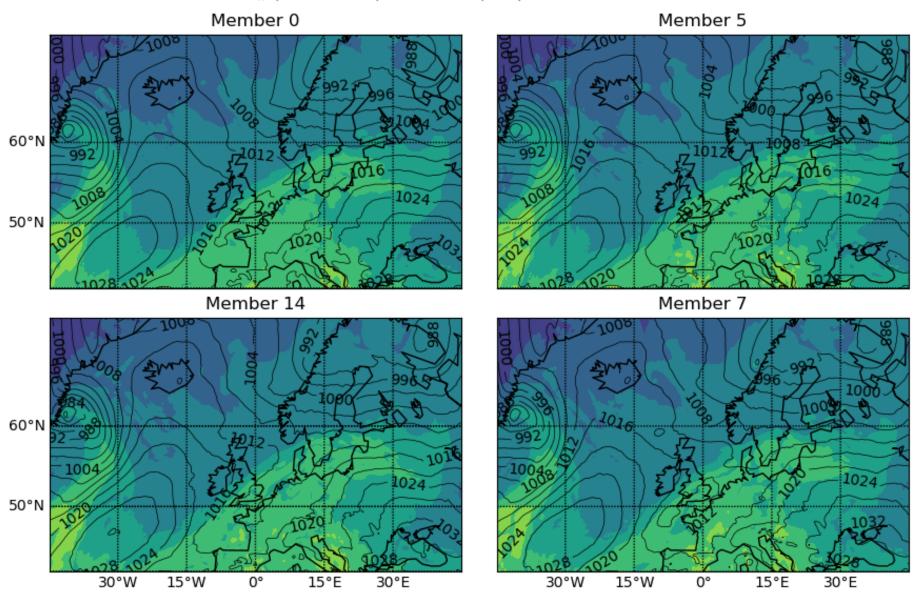




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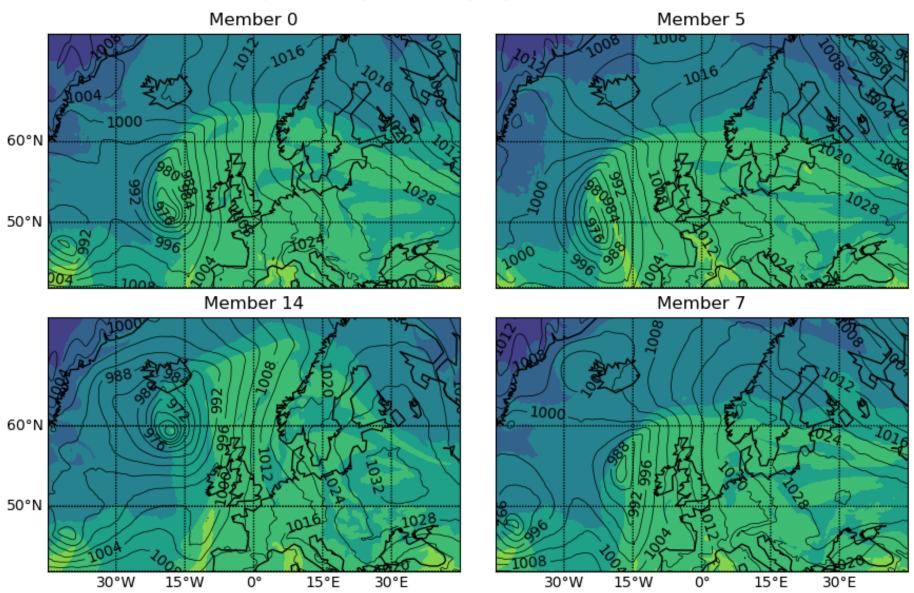
Representative members for each of 4 clusters

MOGREPS-G θ_W (at 850 hPa) and MSLP (hPa) 00:00 06 Oct 2018 t+0 hours



Representative members for each of 4 clusters

MOGREPS-G θ_W (at 850 hPa) and MSLP (hPa) 00:00 06 Oct 2018 t+117 hours



Summary and conclusion

- The gradient of the wet bulb potential temperature is used to define frontal regions
- The distance between ensemble members is calculated with the FSS
- Members are grouped together using K-medoids clustering
- Representative members are extracted and provided to forecasters as potential scenarios
- The method has been evaluated by scientists and operational meteorologists during the Met Office Winter Testbed
- Future implementation of method at Met Office





