

EGU General Assembly 2024
Thursday 18/04/2024

Spatial downscaling of CAMS surface pollutants using Machine Learning

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KNMI

Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute
Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management

Motivation

Can we go from global (~40km) to regional (10km) resolution with ML?

Assumption:

Surface concentration of a pollutant correlates with various meteorological, emission and surface characteristics

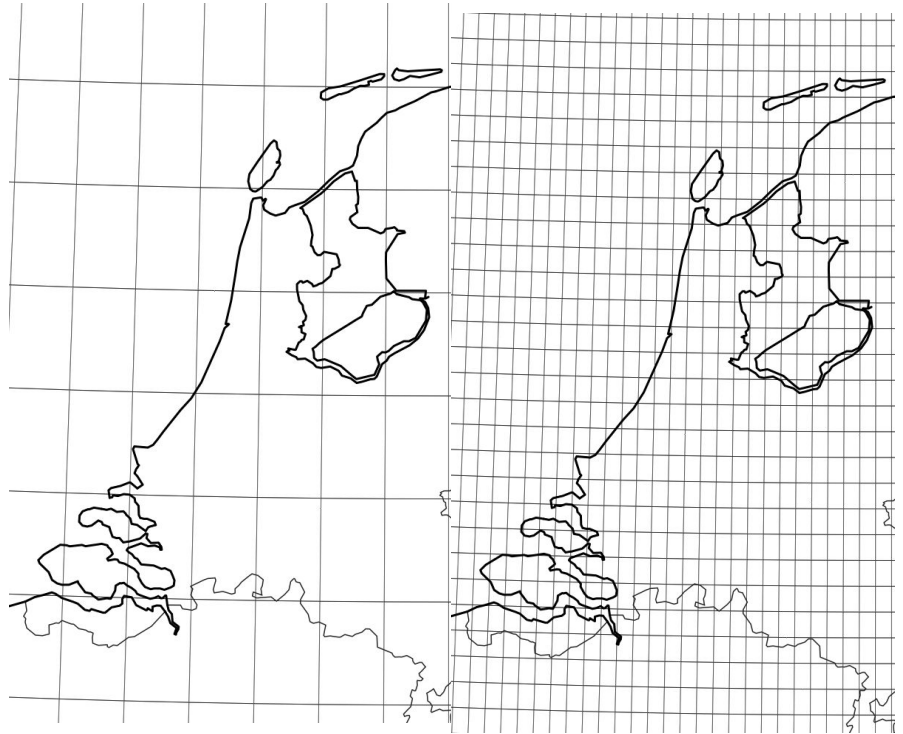
Data availability:

Since the final goal will be to use the algorithm globally for surface pollutants, the inputs need to be:

- Available globally in 10km.
- Operationally created
- Provided as a forecast in NRT

CAMS global (0.4x0.4)

CAMS regional (0.1x0.1)

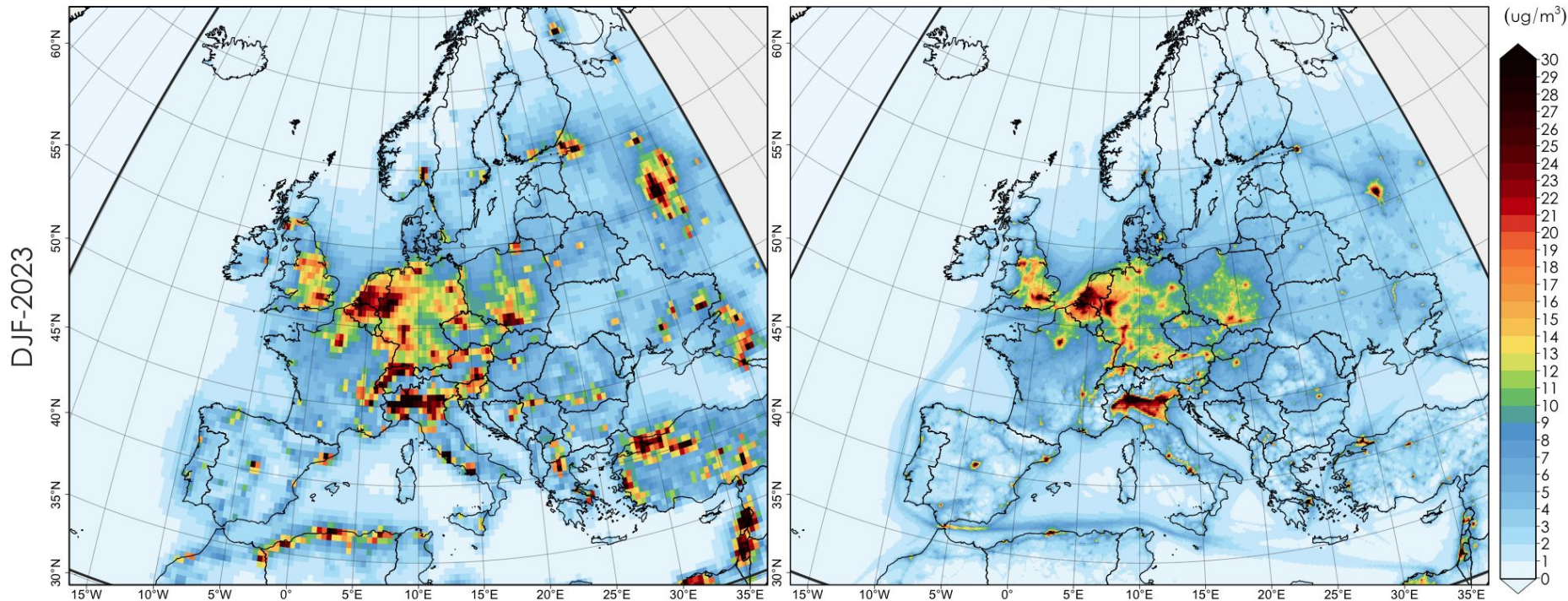


Motivation

Can we go from global (~40km) to regional (10km) resolution globally for “free” (computationally) ?

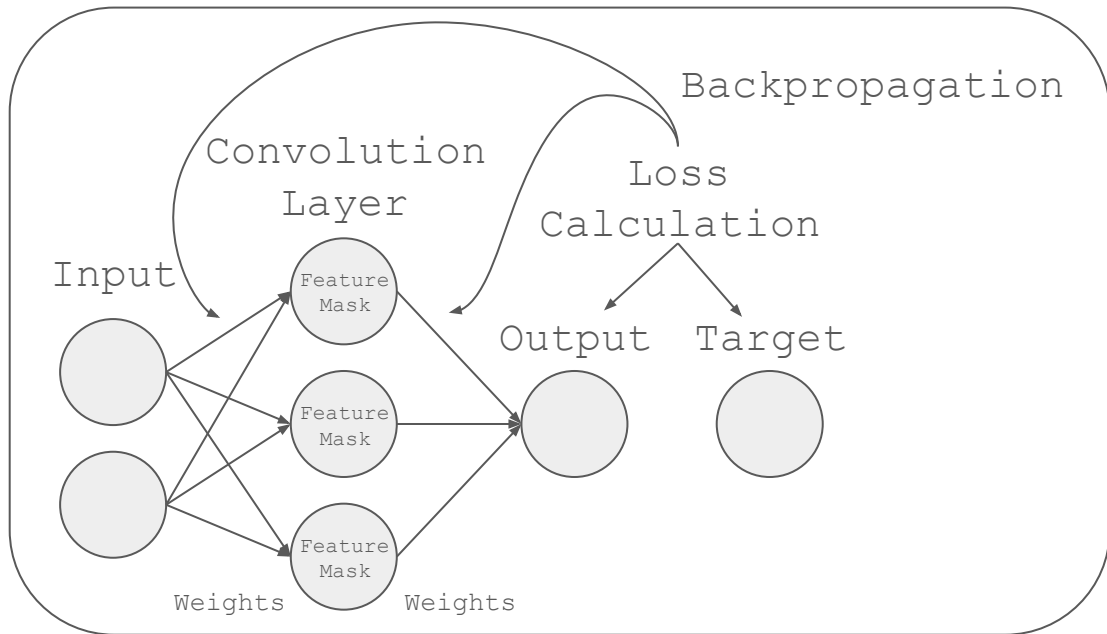
CAMS global (40 km)

CAMS regional (10 km)

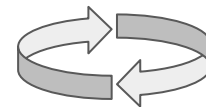


A simplified Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) structure

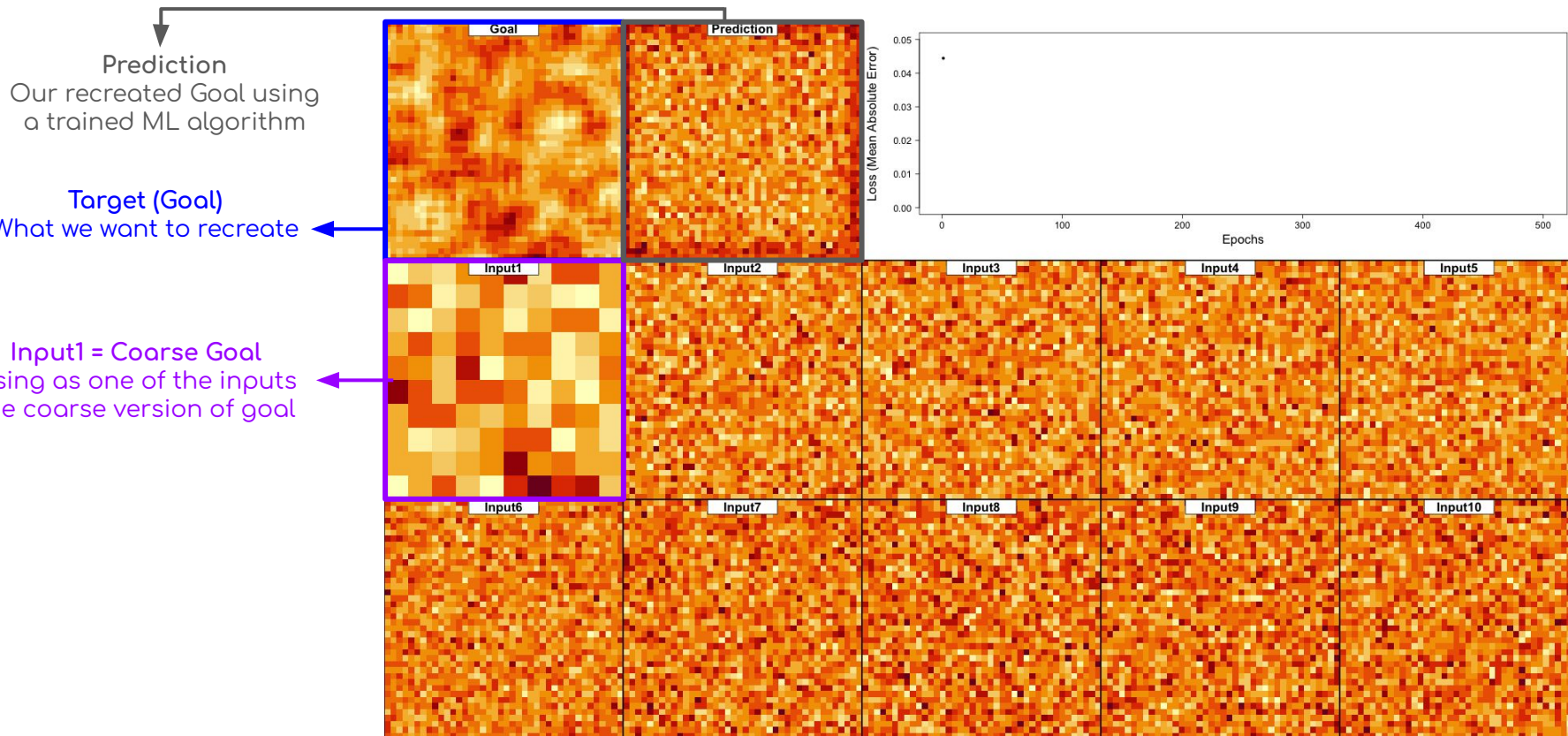
A CNN is a deep learning architecture designed specifically for processing structured grid-like data, such as images or spatial data. It combines several Input in order to predict (Output) a Target. The Input, Output and Target are pictures or model domains of $N \times N$ pixels or grid cells respectively.



Repeat for multiple epochs



Toy model for spatial downscaling



Input Data

Meteorology (10 km)
ECWMF
operational forecast

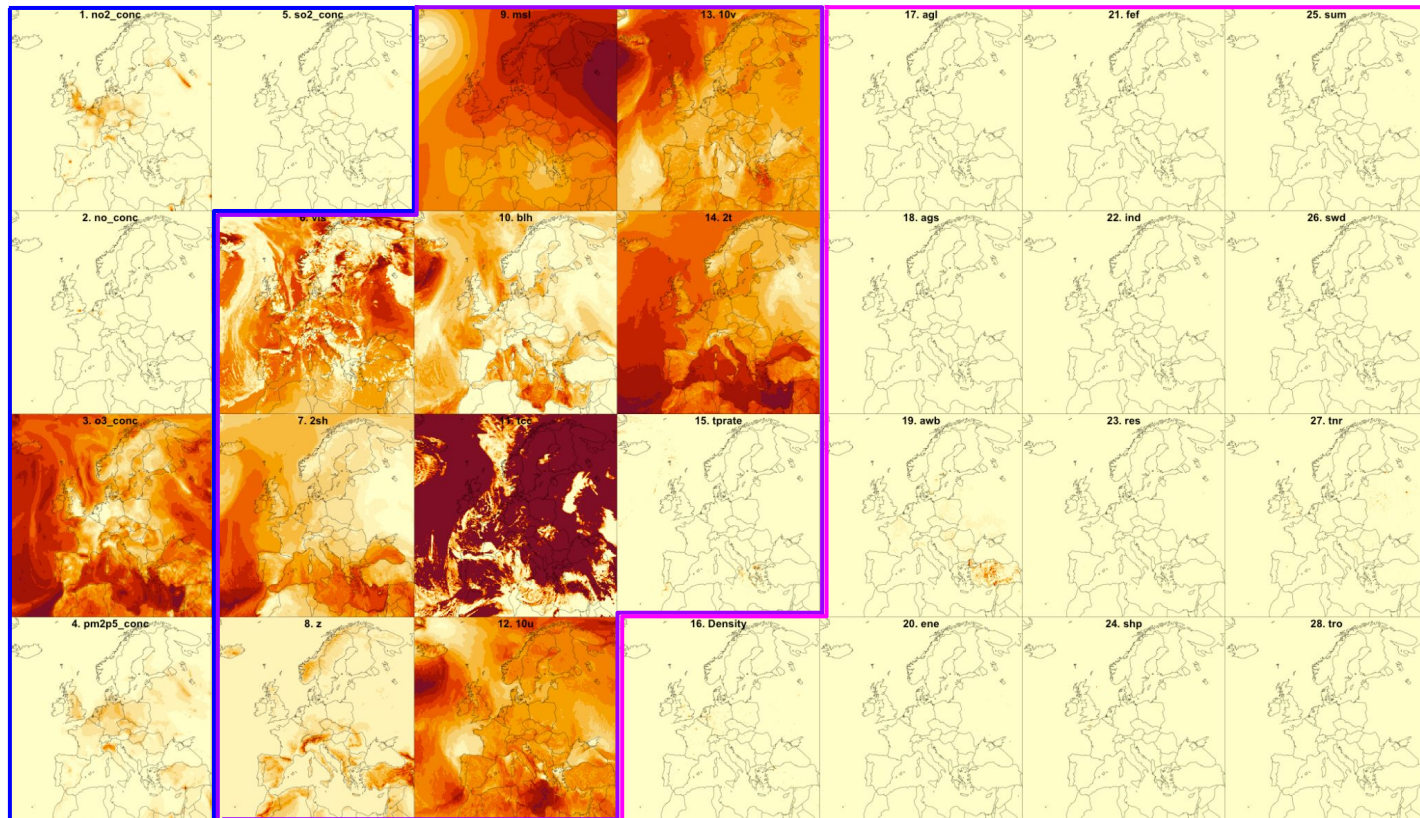
Emissions (10 km)
CAM5 global

Future plans
to use
landuse as
input

Surface
Concentration
(40km)

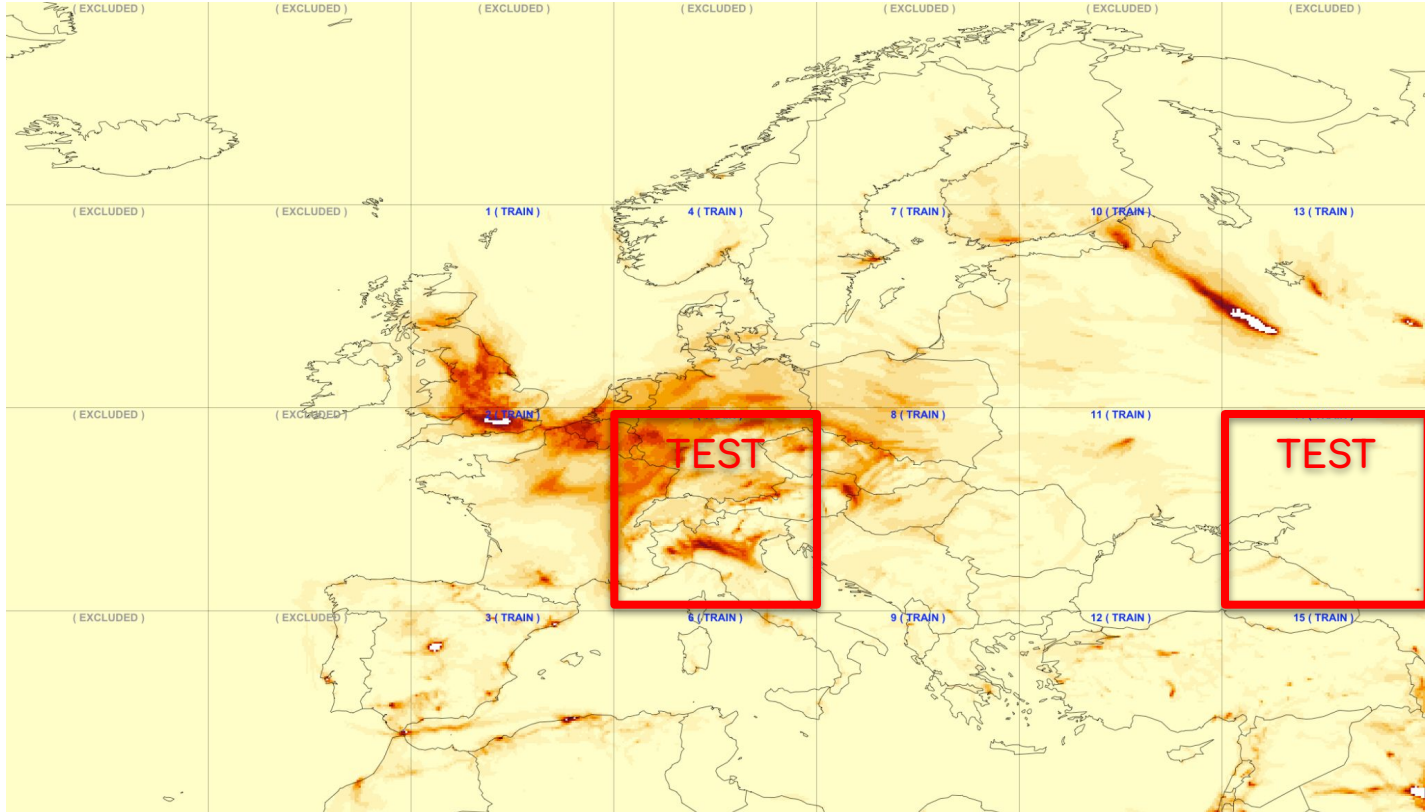
ENSEMBLE
of CAM5 regional

Interpolated from
10km → 40km → 10km
(fine scale details are lost)



Data

Splitting data into training and testing



Results: Prediction for a specific timestep (09:00 UTC)

CNN
S(L64-L128-L256-L128-L64-D0.5-L1)
E(50)
LF(MAE)
LR(1e-04)
D(20221201)
T(11024)
Total Time: 00:53:29, Epoch Time: 00:01:04
Min Train: 0.87, Min Test: 1.24

Testing region!

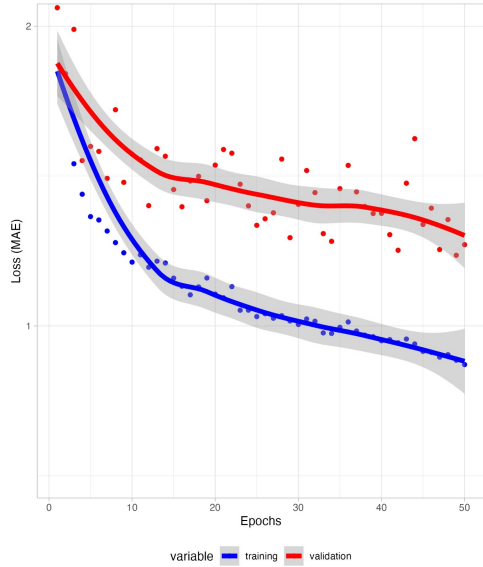
This is used as input

ML result

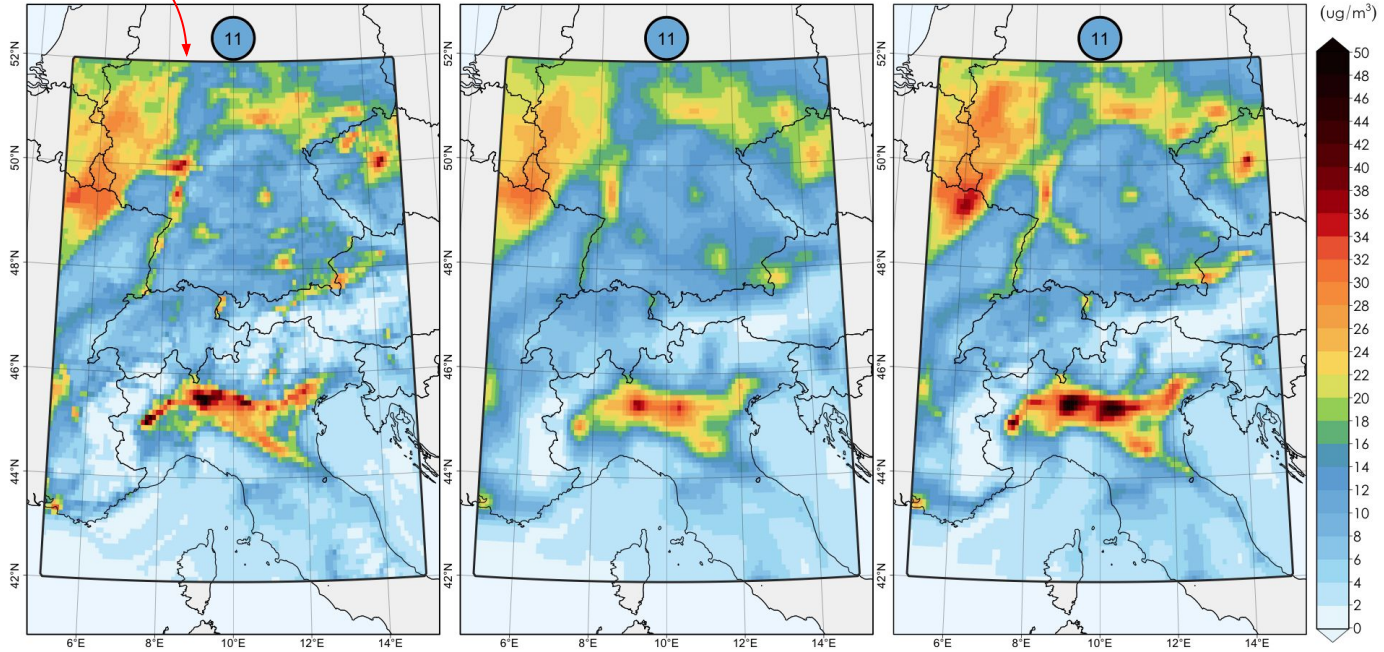
Target

Target coarse

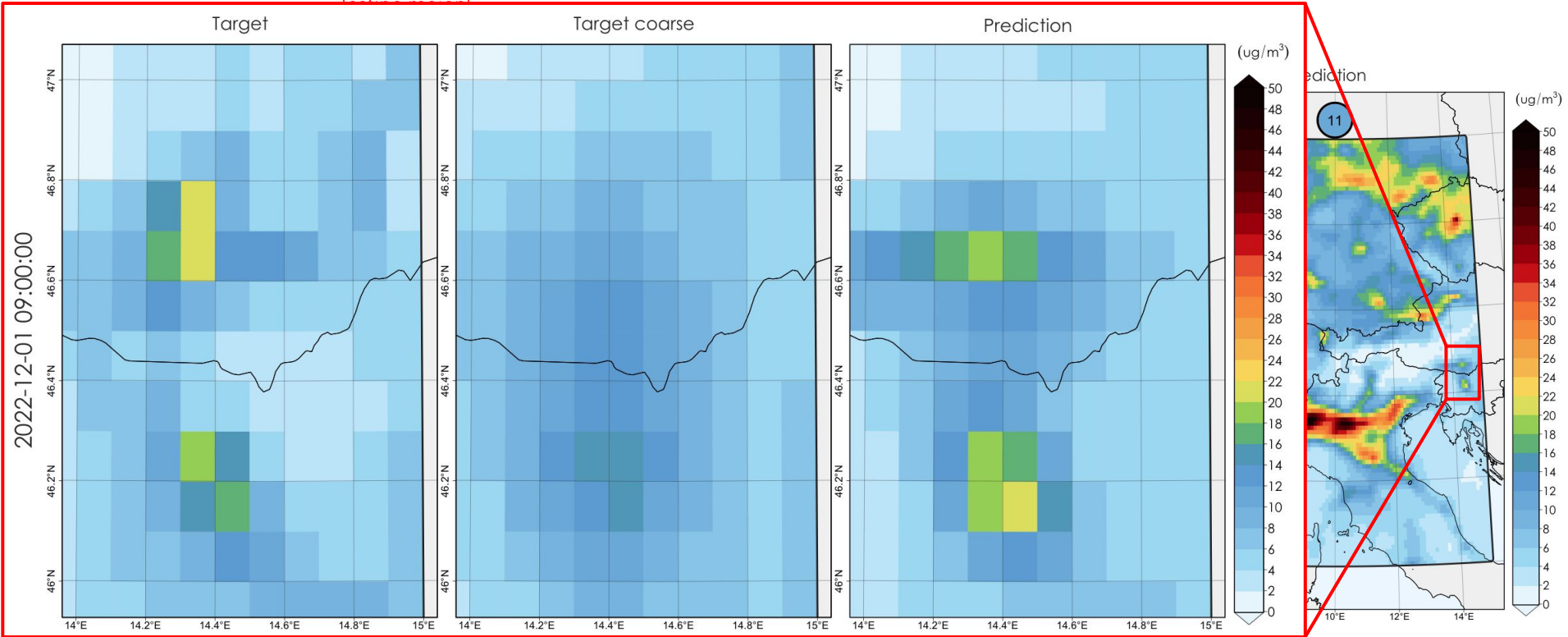
Prediction



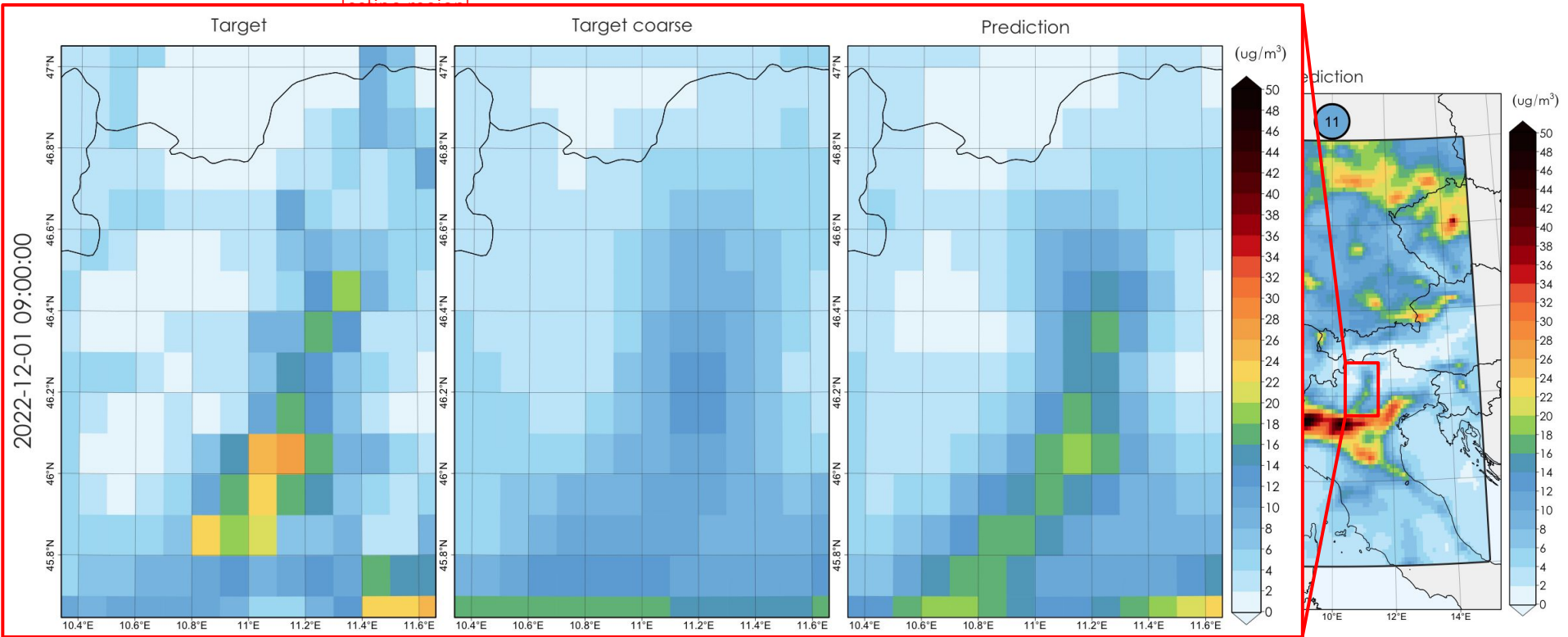
2022-12-01 09:00:00



Results: Prediction for a specific timestep (09:00 UTC)



Results: Prediction for a specific timestep (09:00 UTC)

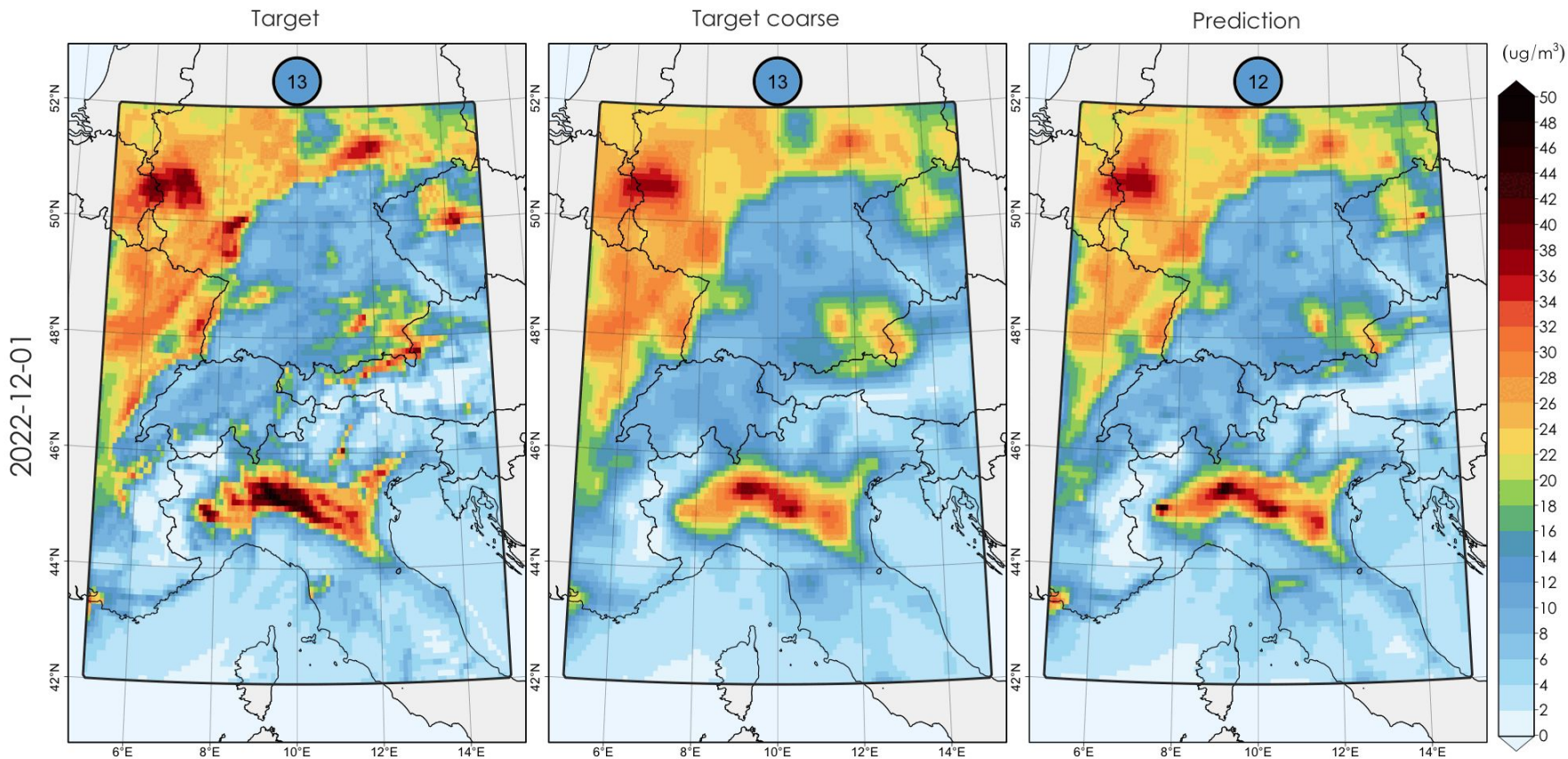


Results: Daily cycle is preserved

Spatial Similarity Index Structure (Wang et al. 2014)

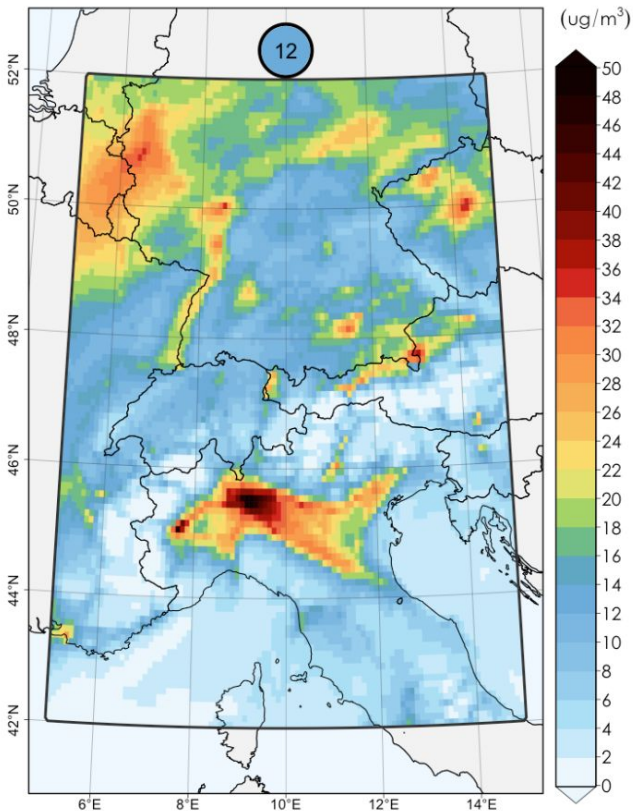
Target Coarse = 0.966

Prediction = 0.968

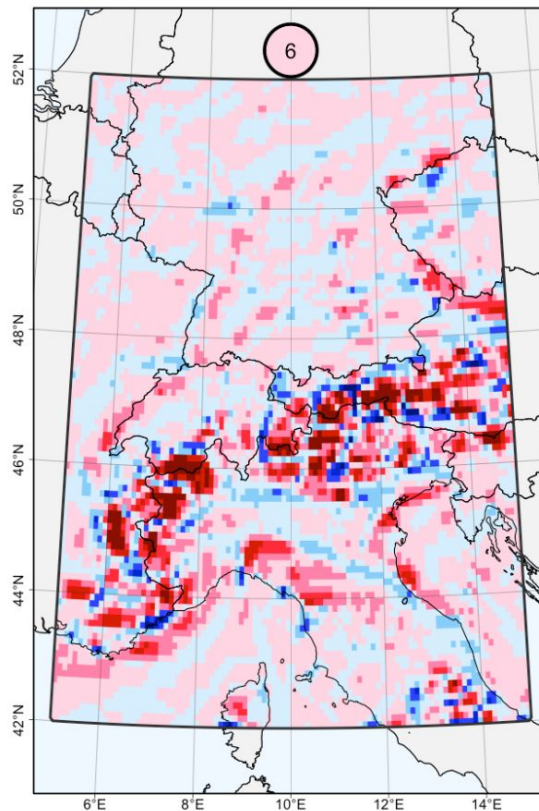


Results: Evaluation statistics (MNMB) $\rightarrow \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{M_i - O_i}{O_i + M_i}$

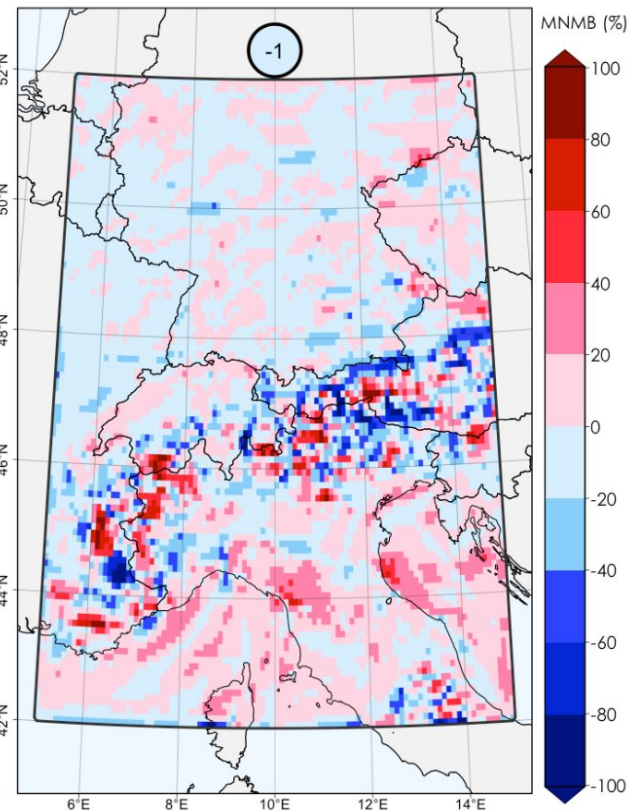
Target NO₂ surface concentration



Target coarse

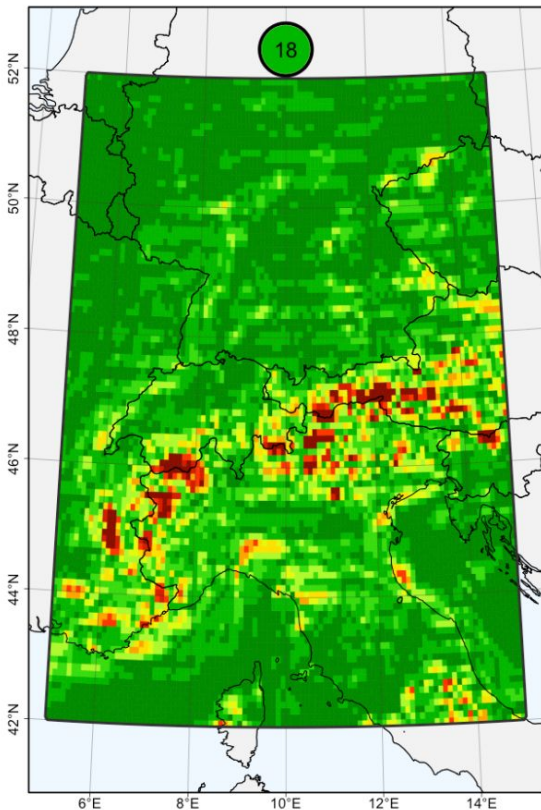


Prediction

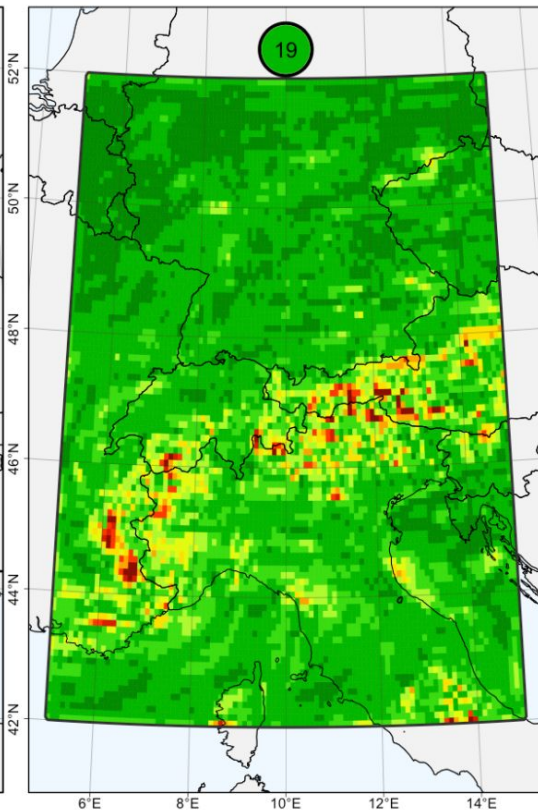


Results: Evaluation statistics (FGE) → $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{|M_i - O_i|}{O_i + M_i}$

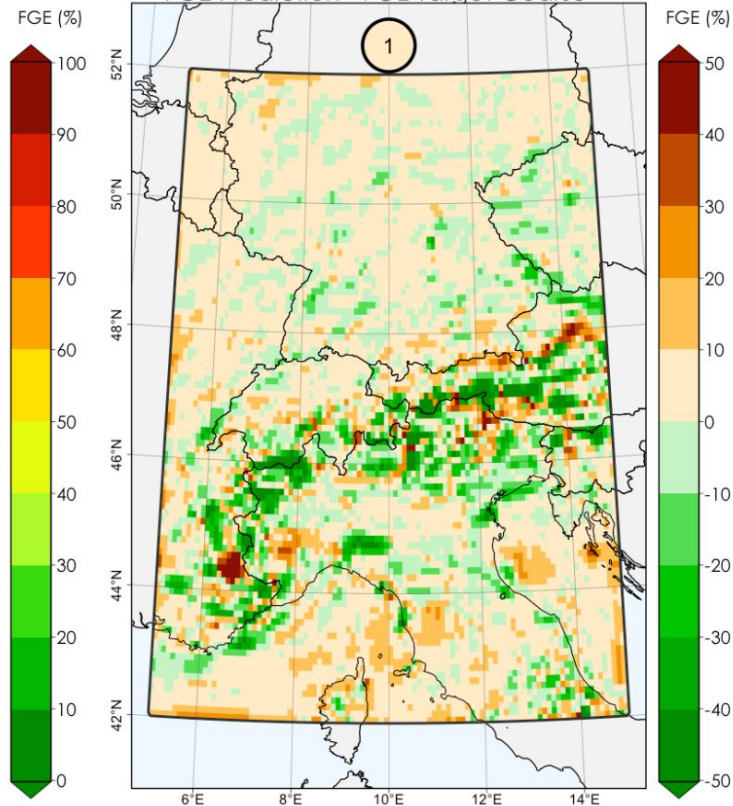
Target coarse



Prediction



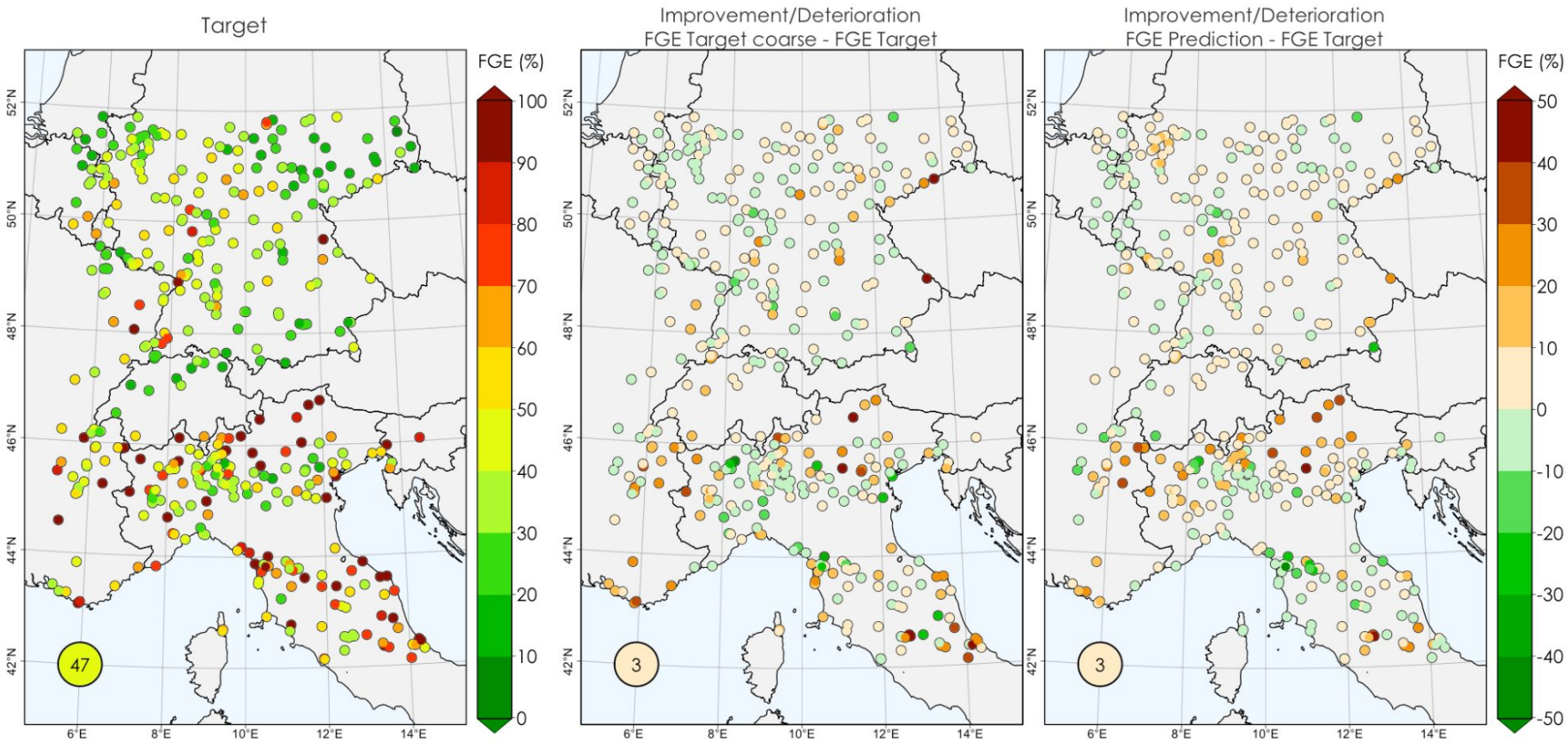
FGE Improvement/Deterioration
FGE Prediction - FGE Target Coarse



2022-12-01

Results: Evaluation using EEA observations (FGE)

2022-12-01



Conclusions & Future plans

Trained a CNN to spatially downscale CAMS NO₂ surface concentration from 40 km to 10 km.

Lessons Learned

- Successfully gained some high resolution features, through not everywhere.
- No improvement compared to EEA stations. Alternative set up to consider surface observations (?)

Future plans

- Transition to a GPU framework (train on more days, on other CAMS model, cross-validation).
- Input importance analysis (e.g. Shapley Additive exPlanations).
- Use surface (EEA) or satellite observations (e.g. TROPOMI NO₂ tropospheric column).
- Test the prediction of other species (e.g. PM_{2.5}).
- Explore other scoring options that prioritize more the gain of fine scale details.
- Apply the trained model using CAMS global to a region outside of Europe.

Backup slides

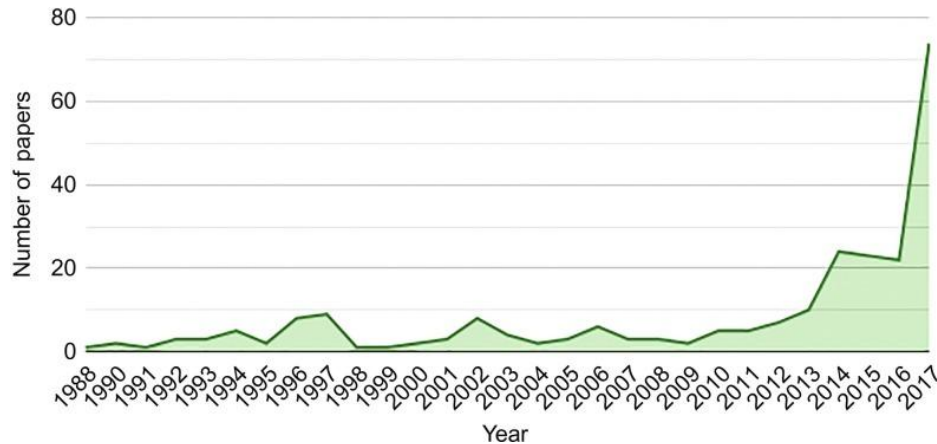


Machine Learning in Geoscience

An exponential increasing trend

Machine learning papers in geoscience

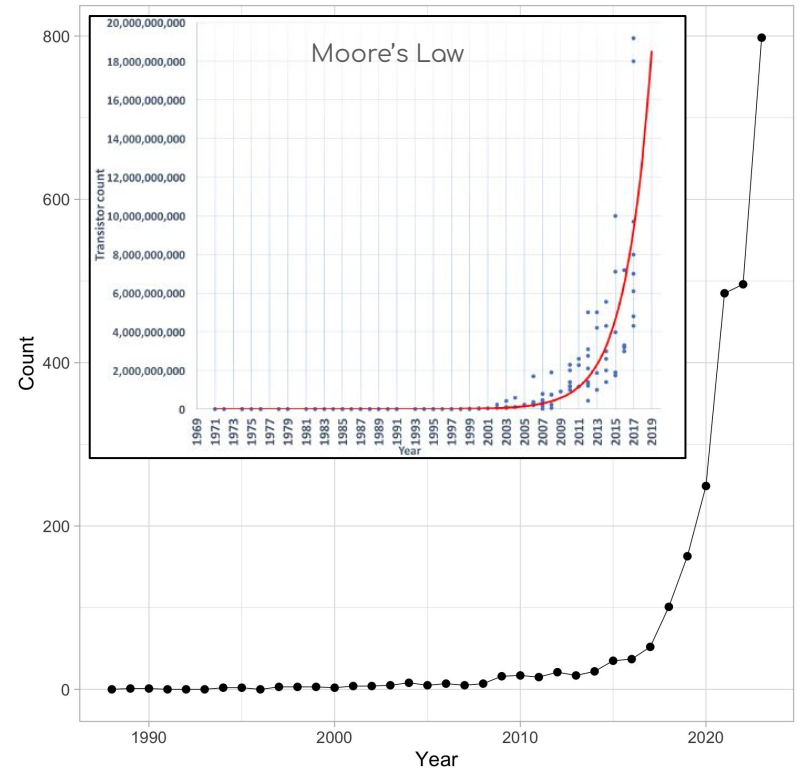
A sample of 242 papers published before 2018



Jesper Sören Dramsch 2020, Advances in Geophysics
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7500415/>

ML/AI publication on our field

Keywords: 'machine learning', 'artificial intelligence', 'meteorology', 'climate', 'geoscience'



Source: Google Scholar
thanos.tsikerdekis@knmi.nl



Data

Input, output and pre-processing of data

- **TARGET:** NO₂ Surface concentration in 10km
- **OUTPUT:** Predicting NO₂ Surface concentration in 10km
- **INPUT :**

- ECMWF HRES Forecast ○ Meteorology (**10km**): Visibility, Specific Humidity at 2m, Temperature at 2m, Mean Sea Pressure, Boundary Layer Height, Total Cloud Cover, U and V components of the wind at 10m, Total Precipitation Rate
- CAMS global ○ Emissions (**10km**): For NO₂ from 12 different sectors
- CAMS regional Interpolated ○ Land (**10km**): Topography and Road Density
- Concentration(**40km**): NO₂, NO, O₃, PM2.5, PM10 and SO₂

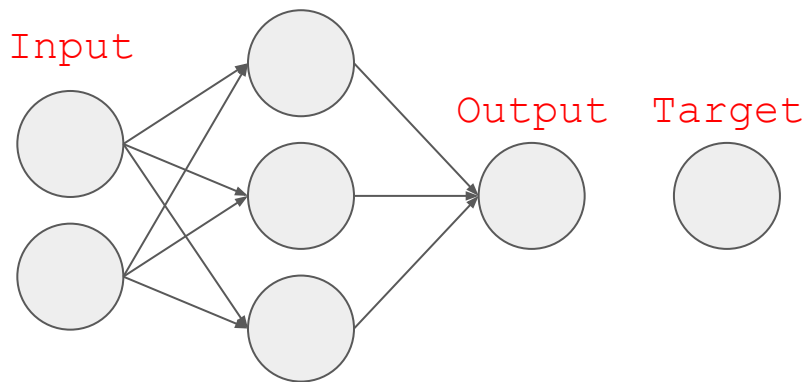
*** Temporal frequency of each variable differs from hourly to constant in time.

*** Normalize input before training

A simplified CNN structure

CNN (Convolutional Neural Network)

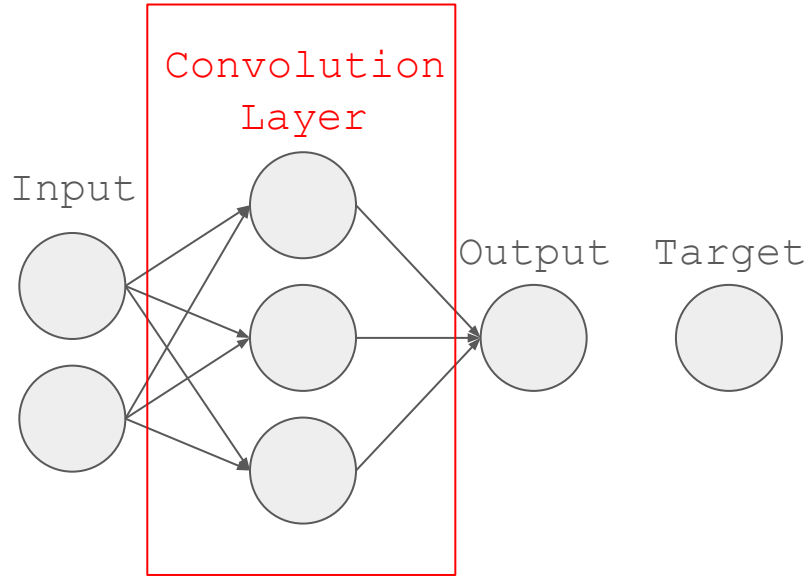
A CNN is a deep learning architecture designed specifically for processing structured grid-like data, such as images or spatial data. It combines several Input in order to predict (Output) a Target. The Input, Output and Target are pictures or model domains of $N \times N$ pixels or grid cells respectively.



A simplified CNN structure

Convolution Layer

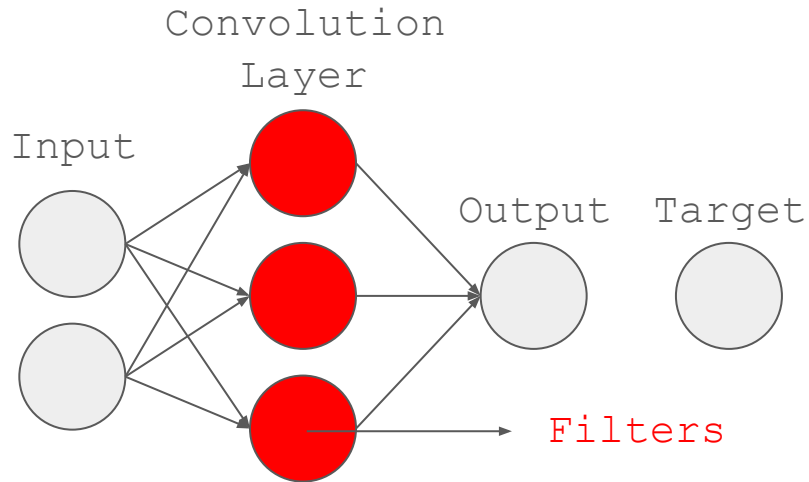
Convolutions extract features from the input data, each using filters to detect patterns.



A simplified CNN structure

Filter

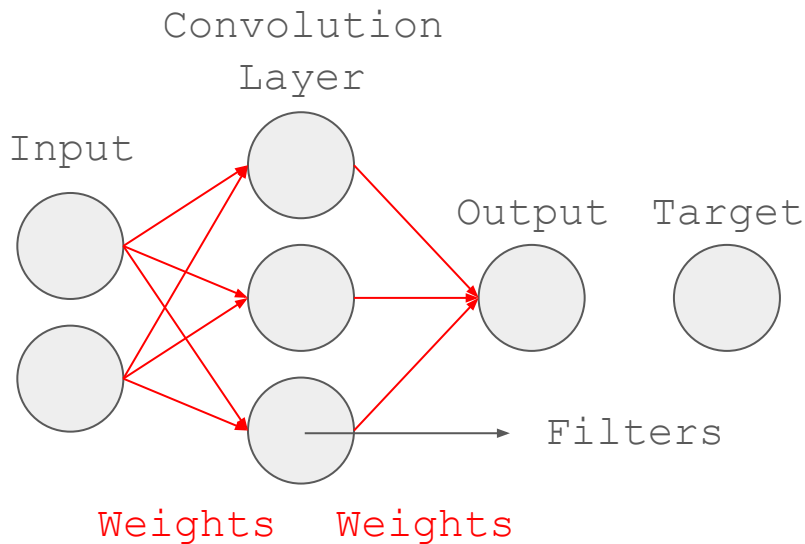
Each filter is a small-sized matrix of composed by combining different inputs and learnable weights.



A simplified CNN structure

Weights

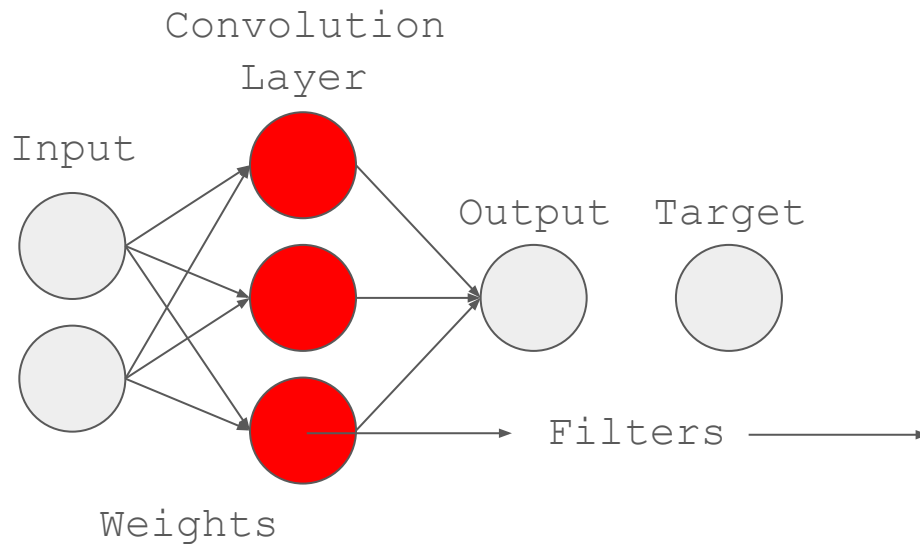
Parameters that are adjusted during training to minimize the difference between predicted and actual values, typically through techniques like backpropagation or gradient descent.



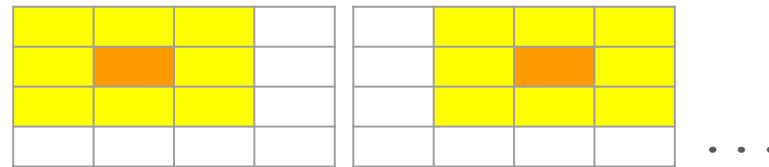
A simplified CNN structure

Kernel size

Determines the spatial extent of the features to be detected. Larger kernel sizes (e.g. 9x9) capture broader features, while smaller ones (3x3) capture finer details, influencing the scale of patterns the model can detect.



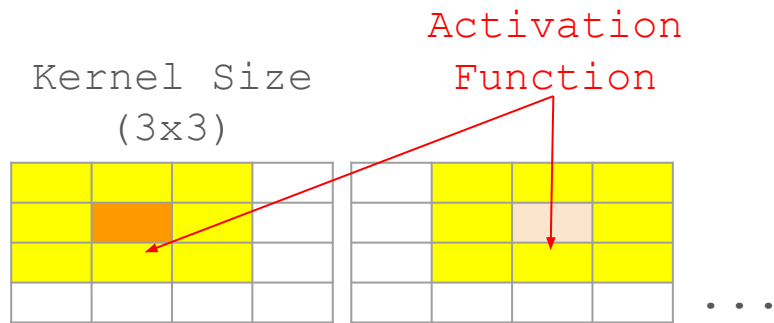
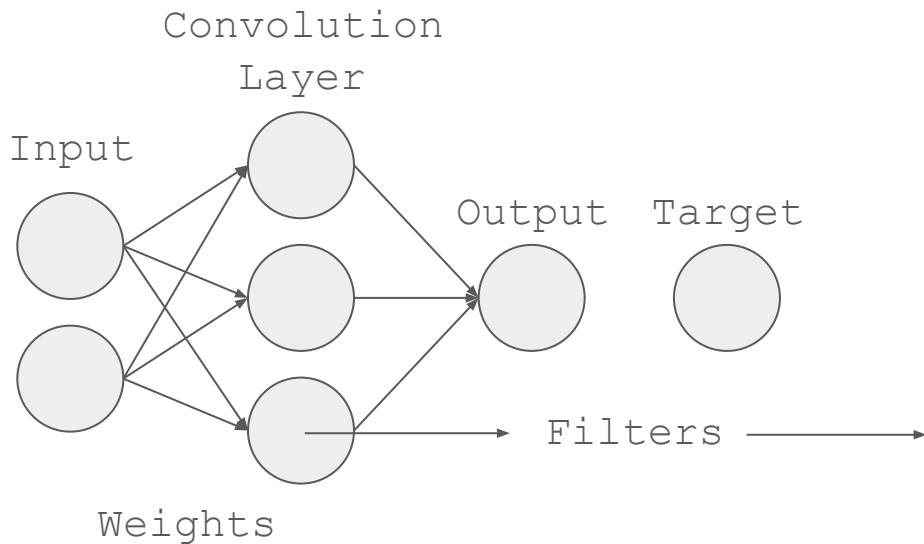
Kernel Size
(3x3)



A simplified CNN structure

Activation function

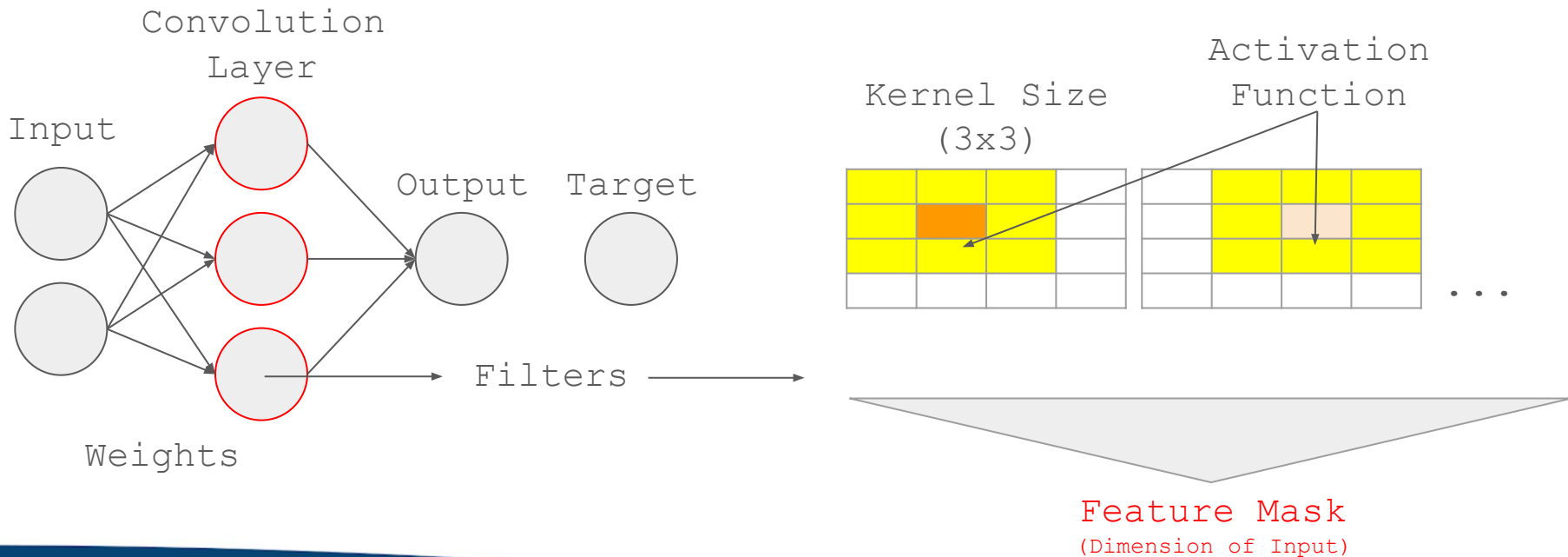
Apply in each filter (element-wise) a ReLU function that sets negative values to zero and leaves positive values unchanged. This introduces non-linearity into the network.



A simplified CNN structure

Feature Mask

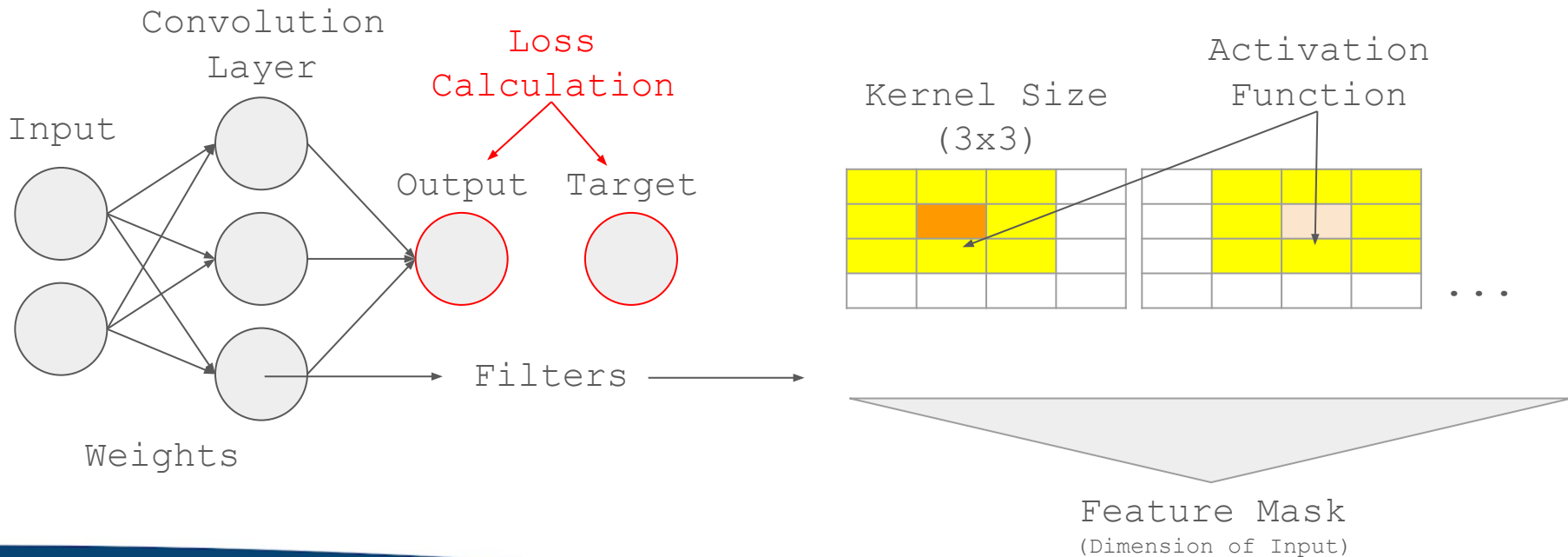
The values in the feature map represent the outputs of the filter across the entire input data



A simplified CNN structure

Loss Calculation

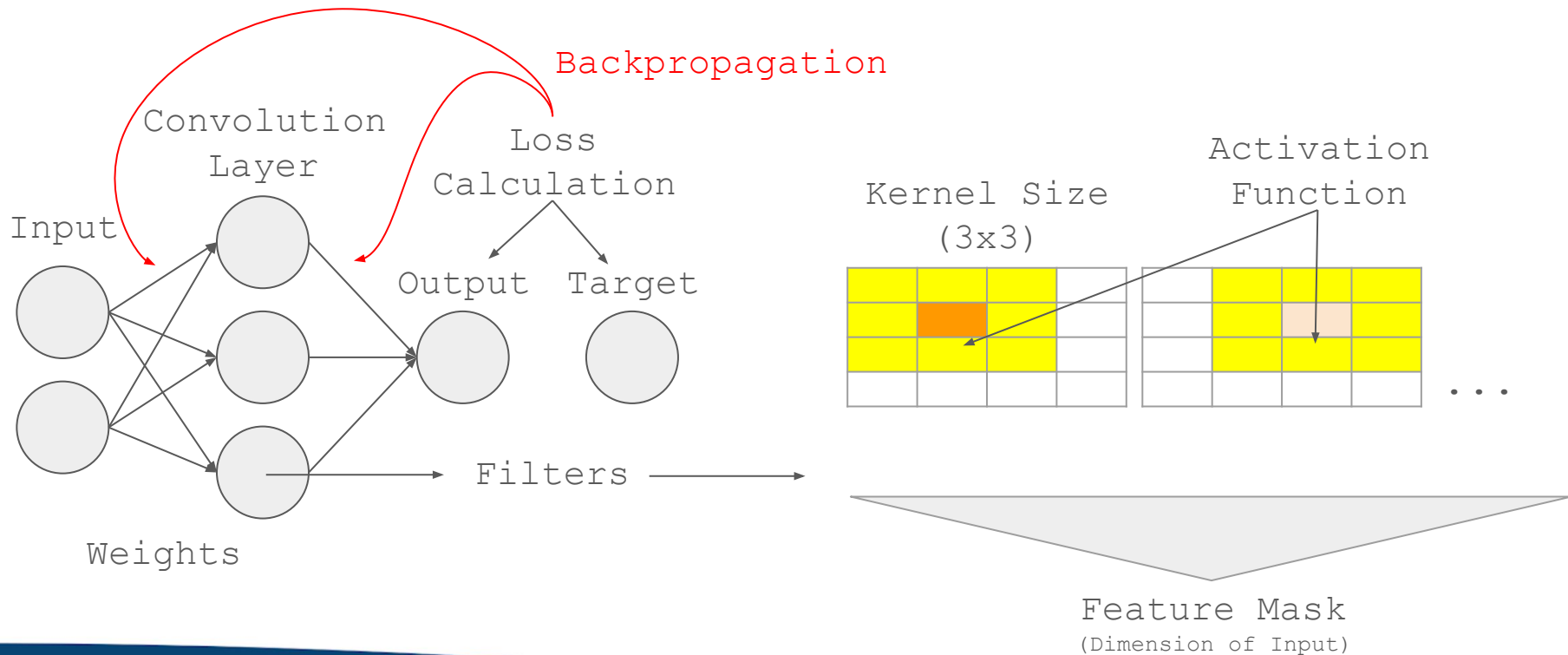
Loss between the Output (Prediction) and the Target based on a Loss Function (e.g. MSE, MAE etc).



A simplified CNN structure

Backpropagation

Computes the gradient of the loss with respect to the model's parameters backwards layer by layer.



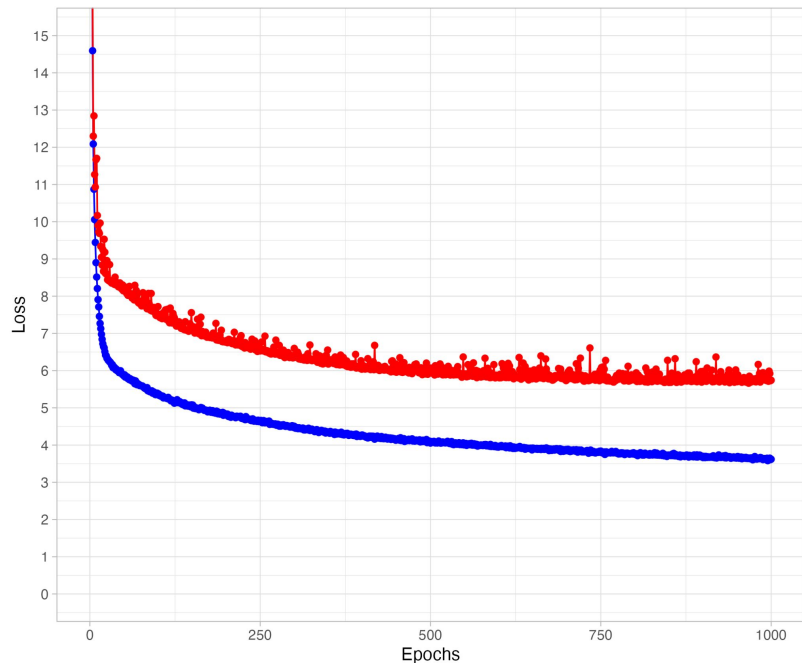
Experiments

Exp	CNN Structure	Epochs	Learning Rate	Train/Test Size	Loss Function	Train Min Loss	Test Min Loss
1	L64-L1	1000 + 1000	0.001	312 / 48	MSE	3.22	5.67
2	L64-L1	30	0.001	312 / 48	MSE	6.23	8.39
3	L64-L128-L64-L1	30	0.001	312 / 48	MSE	4.64	6.64
4	L64-L128-L256-L128-L64-L1	30	0.001	312 / 48	MSE	3.78	6.06
5	L64-L128-L256-L128-L64-D0.5-L1	30	0.001	312 / 48	MSE	4.08	5.97
6	L64-L128-L256-L128-L64-D0.5-L1	30	0.001	312 / 48	HL	0.68	0.96
7	L64-L128-L256-L128-L64-D0.5-L1	30	0.001	312 / 48	MAE	1.00	1.30
8	L256K5-L32K1-L32K3-L256K1-L1K9	30	0.001	312 / 48	MAE	1.04	1.36
9	L64-L128-L256-L128-L64-D0.5-L1	100	0.001	312 / 48	MAE	0.70	1.25
10	L64-L128-L256-L128-L64-D0.5-L1	100	0.001	936 / 144	MAE	0.56	1.29
11	L64-L128-L256-L128-L64-D0.5-L1_OBS	30	0.001	312 / 48	MAE	1.01	1.33

Should I train a CNN forever = many many epochs?

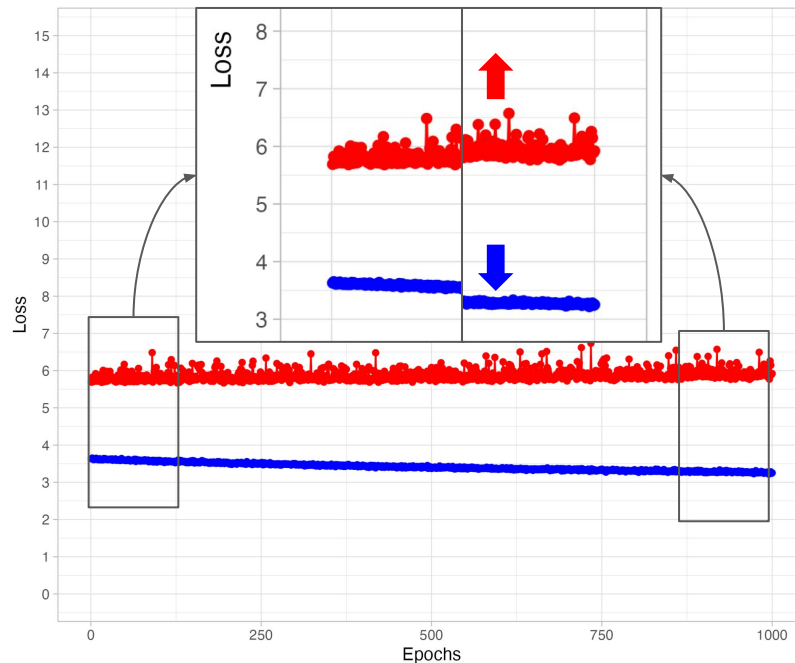
Does not make a difference after a point, especially for the testing data + you are overfitting...

CNN_L(64-1)_E(1000)_LR(1e-04)_M(3)_T(1to24)
Total Time: 00:58:39, Epoch Time: 00:00:04
Min Train: 3.58, Min Test: 5.66



fill training validation variable — training — validation

CNN_L(64-1)_E(1000)_LR(1e-04)_M(3)_T(1to24)_WarmStart
Total Time: 00:59:39, Epoch Time: 00:00:04
Min Train: 3.22, Min Test: 5.67

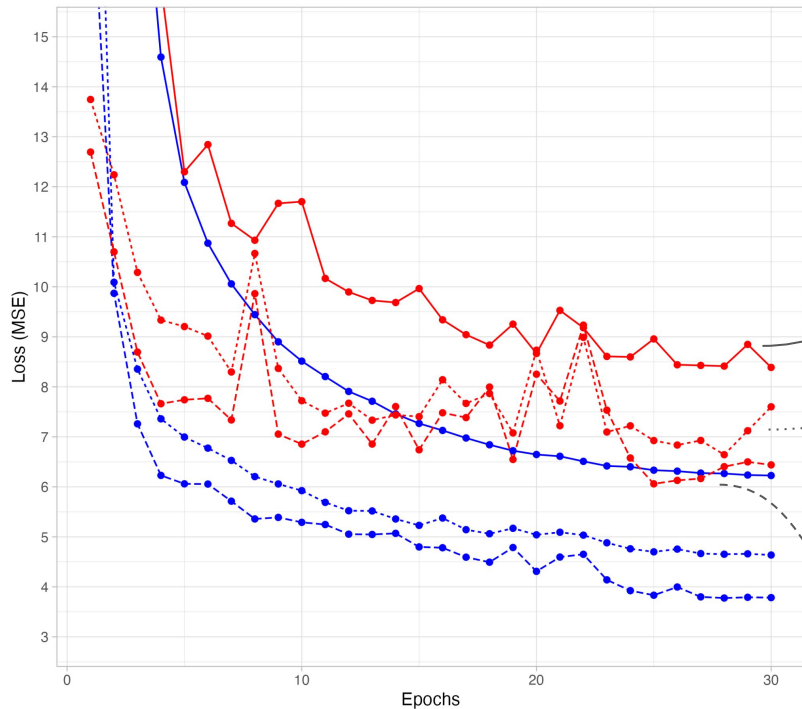


fill training validation variable — training — validation

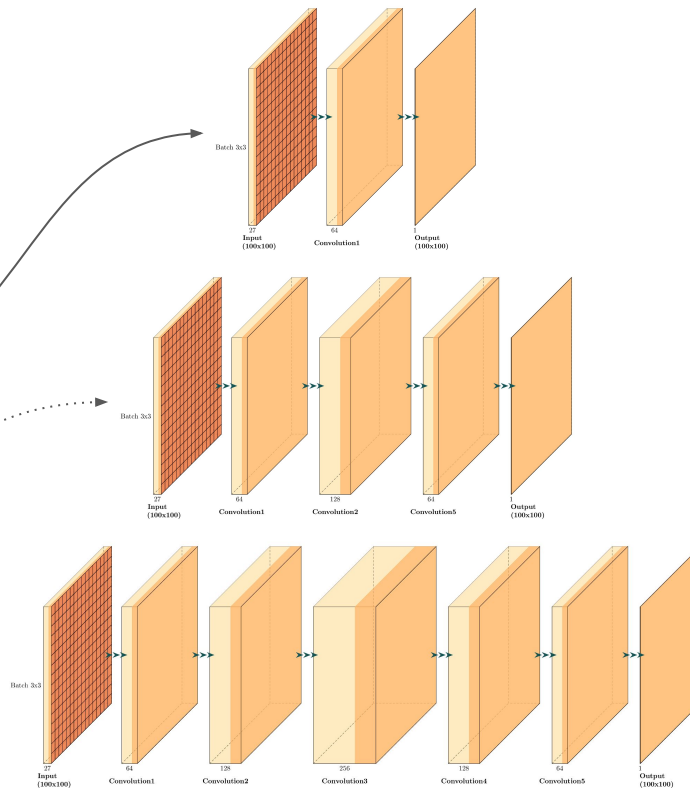
Should I use a more complex CNN?

Yes, since it can learn more complex connection between the input

Comparing different CNN complexity

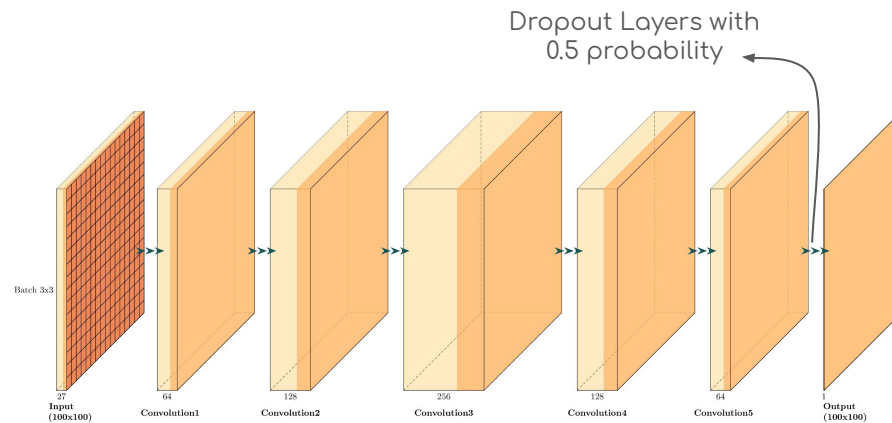
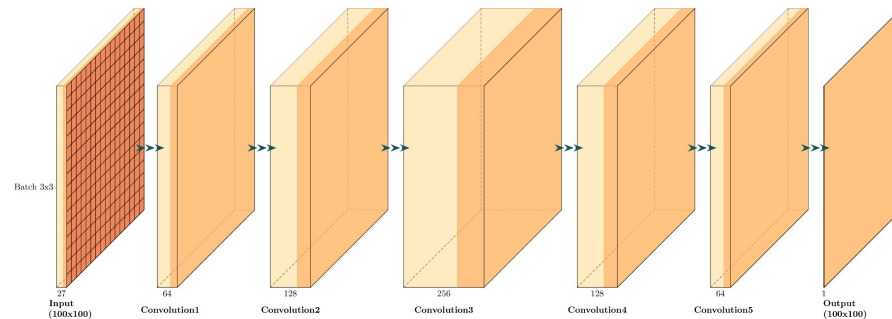
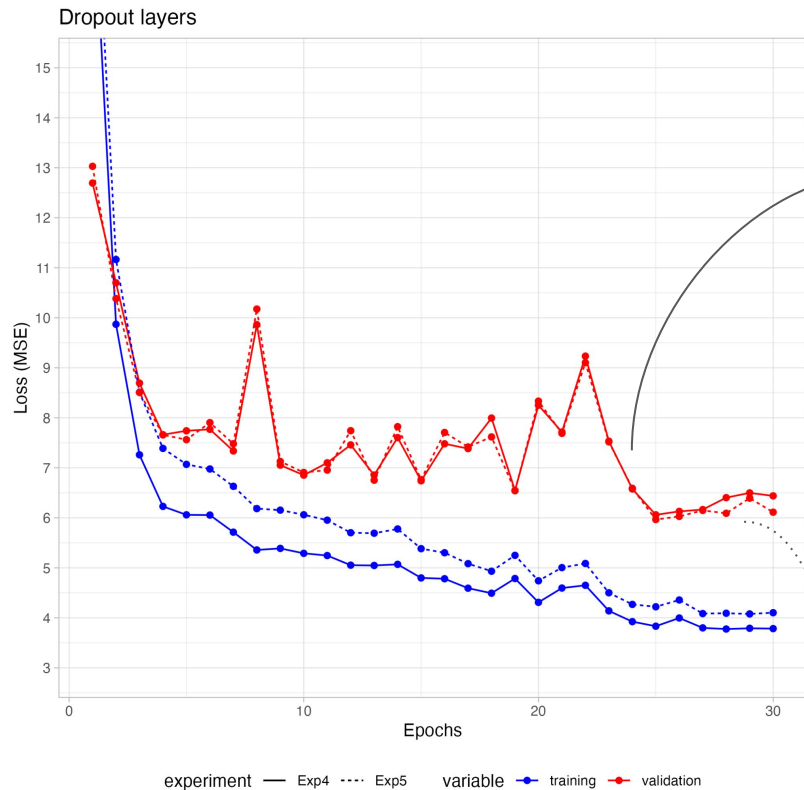


variable — training — validation experiment — Exp2 ···· Exp3 - - - Exp4



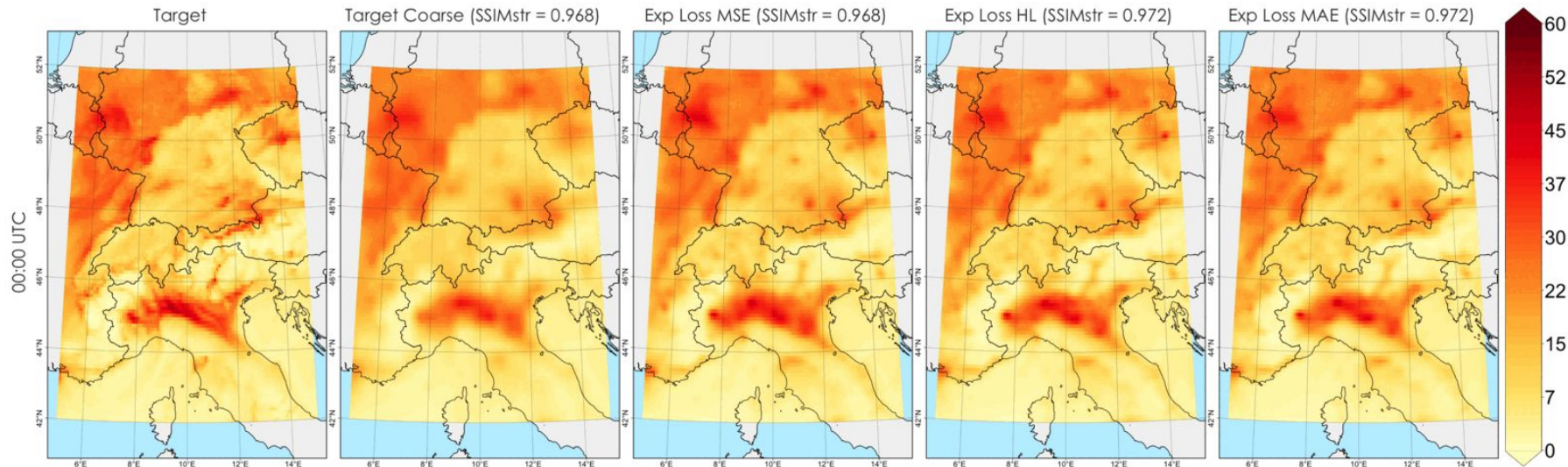
Can I somehow restrain overfitting?

Dropout layer: Small changes but clearly worse training and better testing loss



What about other timesteps? Is the diurnal cycle correct?

Since target coarse is used as input, the diurnal cycle is retained.

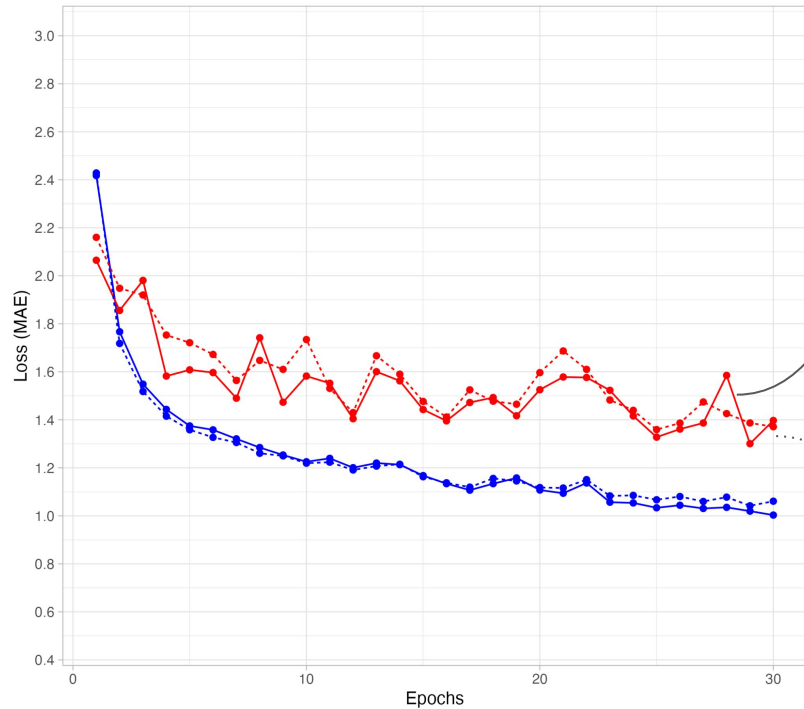


Testing other CNN structures: FSRCNN structure

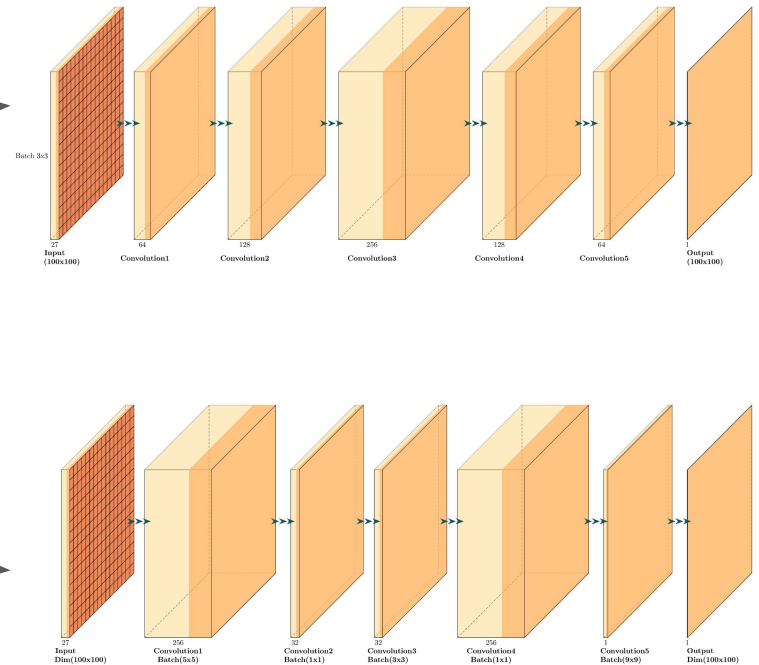
At the moment does not provide much better results

Fast Super-Resolution Convolutional Neural Network

Testing a known CNN structure (FSRCNN)

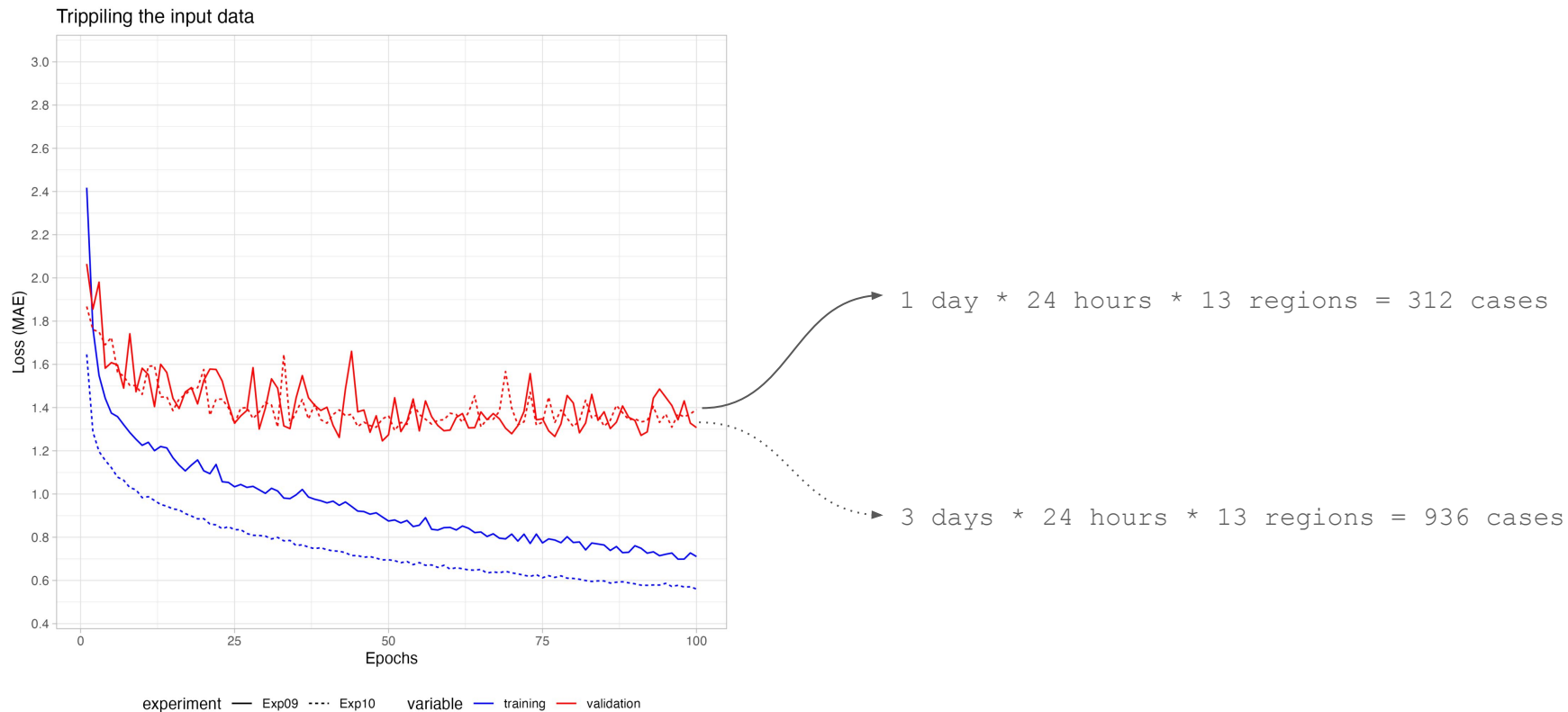


experiment — Exp7 ···· Exp8 variable — training — validation



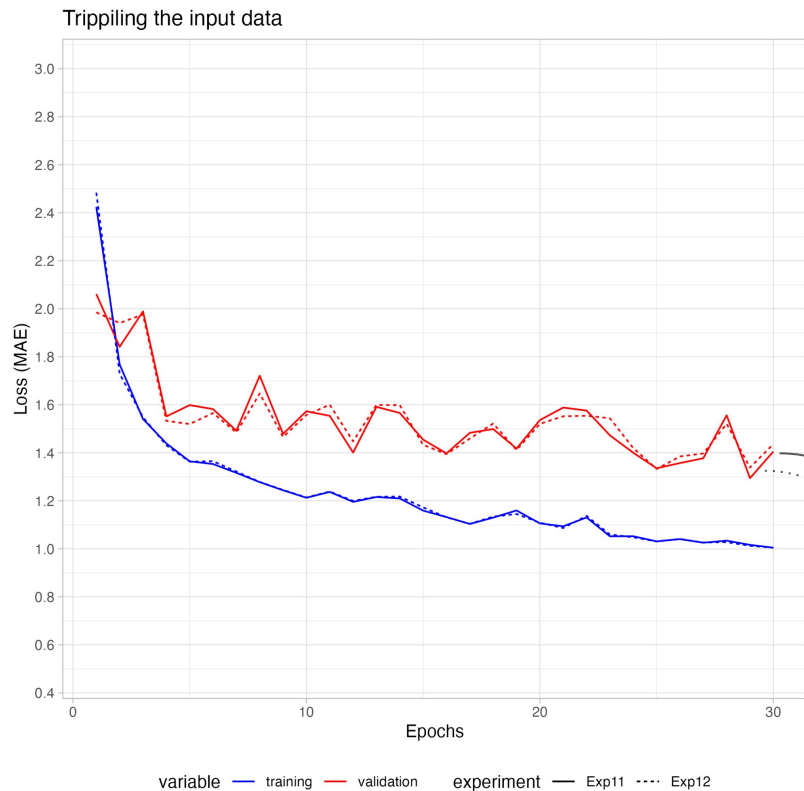
Should I use more data for training?

At this state (current inputs), tripling inputs provide the same testing loss and lower training loss

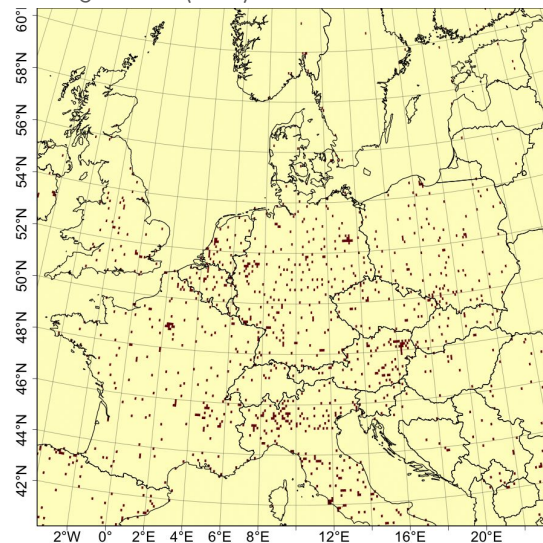


Adding “observations” as input?

Using the dense EEA network of stations over Europe as input is not improving results



Model grid cells (10km) that contain an EEA station



Not using “station” observations as input

Using “station” observations as input

variable — training — validation experiment — Exp11 - - - - Exp12

Results: Evaluation using EEA observations (MNMB)

