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Request to WGOS for implementation of global model upgrade at PS39

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Summary

Significant improvement in forecast accuracy through increased resolution in deterministic (10km - N1280) and ensemble (20km - N640), and increased ensemble members from 12 to 18.

Request to WGOS for implementation of global model upgrade at PS39

Summary

Changes from PS38

Package trial results Links to supporting evidence

RECOMMENDATION

Impact on other models or downstream products (including availability, ...

Archiving changes

Results found during PS39

Verification Assimilation

Resilience

Timeliness

Archiving changes

Verification	Deterministic NWP index: +1% (surface fields more realistic)
	Ensemble 1.5 day improvement in CRPS scores for surface fields; $+1-2\%$ CRPS (12 mem); $+3.5\%$ CRPS (18 mem)
Timings/Resource	UM step +10-15mins. Current run-time in the range of 50-55mins. HPC quartet reservations and further UM optimisations removes any need for a shorter data cutoff
Robustness	Options to address UM failures shown in UM#2695 Failure rate is now lower than original package trial and OS38 control
Archiving changes	large increase in archive volume (factor of two to three)

OSAG Minutes showing approval of package trial results presented on 11 April 2017

Powerpoint presentation

Changes from PS38

Full details on Global package trial page

Ticket	Impact of change	Summary
UM: resolution increase to 10km	+1% average over two seasons on NWP Index	Greater accuracy, especially near surface
SA: Minor package (new instruments, improved calibration, bias correction)	+0.25%	
DA: Increased VAR iterations	Neutral	Improved fit to observations, less instances of non-convergence during minimisation
Snow: Proper snow cover initialisation	+0.1%	

Package trial results

See wiki for details of trials, link to output and full failure rate analysis

Package	Number of days	Season	Summary	Cumulative Failures	Failure rate (% cycles)
u-ai226 (orig)	70	JFM 2016	+1.00% [Obs] +1.45% [Anl] +1.20% [EC]	38	15%
u-aj741 (fix1)	48	JFM 2016	+0.51% [Obs] +1.50% [Anl]	11	6%
u-ak307 (fix2)	30	JFM 2016	-0.26% [Obs] +0.49% [Anl]	3	4%
u-ak496 (fix3)	35	JFM 2016	+0.20% [Obs] +0.76% [Anl]	4(12 prevented)	3%
u-aj664 (fix2b)	24	JFM 2016	+1.00% [Obs] +2.16% [Anl]	5	4%
u-ai108 (orig)	70	JAS 2016	+0.55% [Obs] +0.59% [Ani] -1.46% [EC]	27	10%
u-ak915 (fix3)	20	JAS 2016	+0.35% [Obs] +0.27% [Anl]	5 (8 prevented)	6%
u-al184 (fix3b)	18	JAS 2016	+0.49% [Obs] +1.22% [Anl]	1 (4 prevented)	1%

Links to supporting evidence

- Deterministic verification of original Winter package trial: Very good as outlined above;
- Deterministic verification of original Summer package trial: Good as outlined above;
- Winter verification of final proposed stability package (labelled fix2b above): shows that stability improvements above come with no significant impact on verification;
- Tropical cyclone verification: Reasonable improvements in track forecasts; cyclones now more intense which is an improvement for most but means that more cyclones will over-deepen, especially in sub-tropics;
- FSD initial assessment: Summary and supporting figures: summary was little difference in general synoptic evolution, but possible improvements in the over-development of weak troughs.
- Summary of PS39 GM timings: main forecasts now consistently running in under 1 hour using a 750 node reservation.

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Potential further improvements without any impact on forecast evolution could be delivered in next few weeks.

RECOMMENDATION

N1280/N640 GM/EPS to be implemented as per original package trial except using Stability Fix 2 **Double-double sums** with the ensemble ricrit change reverted.

Impact on other models or downstream products (including availability, quality)

Increased resolution and increased ensemble members should have positive impact on quality of forecasts, but more data to process.

Archiving changes

Important: All changes to operational archiving must be notified to the NWP Archive Management Group as early as possible.

Results found during PS39

More detailed progress reports to OSAG are available:

Jan OSAG meeting

Feb OSAG meeting

Mar OSAG meeting Apr OSAG meeting

May OSAG meeting

Jun OSAG meeting

Verification

Main verification bouquet available here. Ensemble CRPS scorecards Obs and Own Anl

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Period: 20170411 to 20170613
v obs: +0.63
v anl: +0.81

UKindex basket for global sub-domains:
NH : +0.68%
Tropics: +3.78%
SH : +0.16%
NAE area: +0.63%
UK stations: +1.09%

Ensemble CRPS scores:
+1.9% [Obs] and +2.9% [Anl] on standard scorecard due in part to increased resolution to 20km, but more from increased number of 7-day ensemble forecast members from 12 to 18.
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These headline scores are close to those expected from the combined summer/winter package trial results.

Assimilation

The PS39 analyses are slightly cooler than OS38. This is also evident globally in the mid-upper troposphere heights. The impact is evident in slightly poorer verification of geopotential height and temperature forecasts at short lead-times. However, the difference in temperature/heights between OS38 and PS39 has been gradually but steadily reducing. We expect this to be related to a long-term VarBC spin-up as nothing else has been found to be different between the package trials (where this difference did not show up) and the PS39 implementation.

There is a slight increase in Observation and Background Penalties in VAR which is expected because of the increase in the UM resolution. The near-surface data assimilation is improved due to more realistic surface features in the 10km model.

Resilience

Following UM dynamics solver improvements we expect PS39 to have about the same or fewer failures than OS38. Full details available at um.x:#2695

Timeliness

About 10 minute longer global deterministic UM runtime.

	OS38	PS39
7-day forecast completes at:	03:52/15:52Z +/- 2:30	04:03/16:03Z +/- 2:30

Archiving changes

Roughly doubling of archive volumes due to increased model resolution.

Model	OS38	PS39
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gl	global rerun	433T b/day	831 Tb/day
er	ensemble rerun	442 Tb/day	1010 Tb/day

Attachments (6)

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