

# Space Weather with Quantified Uncertainty (SWQU) using machine learning and ensembles

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This work is supported by NASA under grants 80NSSC20K1580 (SWQU), 80NSSC20K1275 (HTMS), 80NSSC21K155 (SWO2R)



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# Broader Scientific and Societal context



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## SpaceX will lose up to 40 satellites it just launched due to a solar storm



By [Jackie Wattles](#), CNN Business

Updated 7:44 PM ET, Wed February 9, 2022



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### Solar geomagnetic storms could threaten more satellites after Elon Musk's Starlink

By [Chelsea Gohd](#) published 28 days ago

"That is a drag," NOAA's Bill Murtagh said.

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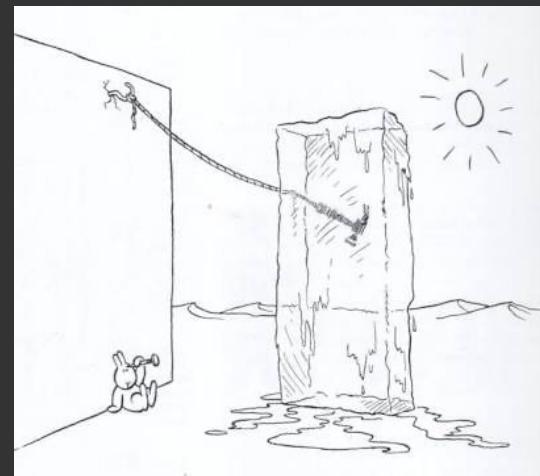
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"That is a drag," NOAA's Bill Murtagh said.



Andy Riley "The book of bunny suicides"

# Scientific Question

- Can we estimate the uncertainty associated to model predictions?
  - Can we leverage machine learning tools to do so?
- Can we use machine learning for science discovery?

The screenshot shows the EOS Science News by AGU website. The header features the EOS logo and the text "Science News by AGU". A blue button for "SIGN UP FOR NEWSLETTER" is visible. The navigation bar includes links for "ABOUT", "SPECIAL REPORTS", "TOPICS", "PROJECTS", "NEWSLETTER", "SUBMIT TO EOS", and a search icon. The main content area displays a large, bold title: "Ten Ways to Apply Machine Learning in Earth and Space Sciences". Below the title is a subtitle: "Machine learning is gaining popularity across scientific and technical fields, but it's often not clear to researchers, especially young scientists, how they can apply these methods in their work." At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with author information ("By J. Bortnik and E. Camporeale") and a date ("29 June 2021"). Social media sharing icons for email, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn are also present.

Ten Ways to Apply Machine Learning in Earth and Space Sciences

Machine learning is gaining popularity across scientific and technical fields, but it's often not clear to researchers, especially young scientists, how they can apply these methods in their work.

By J. Bortnik and E. Camporeale    29 June 2021

# **Next Generation Software for Data-driven Models of Space Weather with Quantified Uncertainties (SWQU)**

- Joint NSF/NASA pilot program, started in 2020
- The program is expected to directly contribute to the long-term goal of **creating space weather models with quantifiable predictive capability.**
- 6 projects awarded so far

# **Next Generation Software for Data-driven Models of Space Weather with Quantified Uncertainties (SWQU)**

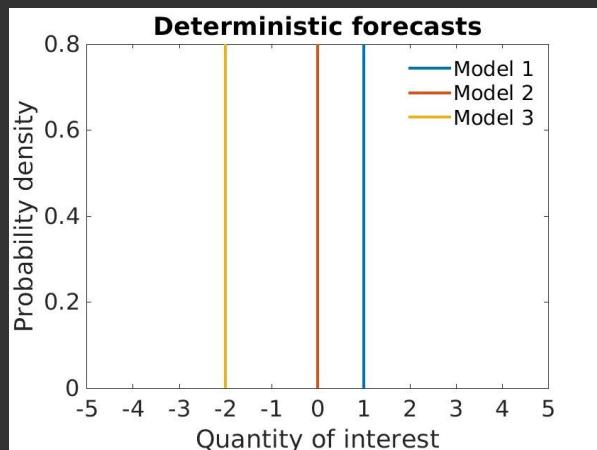
- Forecasting Small-Scale Plasma Structures in the Earth's Ionosphere-Thermosphere System (PI: E. Sutton; CU Boulder [+ Cornell U.])
- Composable Next Generation Software Framework for Space Weather Data Assimilation and Uncertainty Quantification (PI: R. Linares, MIT [+ UCSD, U. Michigan])
- Improving Space Weather Predictions with Data-Driven Models of the Solar Atmosphere and Inner Heliosphere (PI: N. Pogorelov, U. Alabama at Huntsville [+ GSFC, MSFC, LBNL, PSI, SSRC])
- A Flexible Community-based Upper Atmosphere Ensemble Prediction System (PI: A. Ridley, U. Michigan [+ UCAR, GSFC, NRL])
- NextGen Space Weather Modeling Framework Using Data, Physics and Uncertainty Quantification (PI: G. Toth, U. Michigan)

# **Next Generation Software for Data-driven Models of Space Weather with Quantified Uncertainties (SWQU)**

- Ensemble Learning for Accurate and Reliable Uncertainty Quantification (PI: E. Camporeale, CU Boulder [+ UCLA])

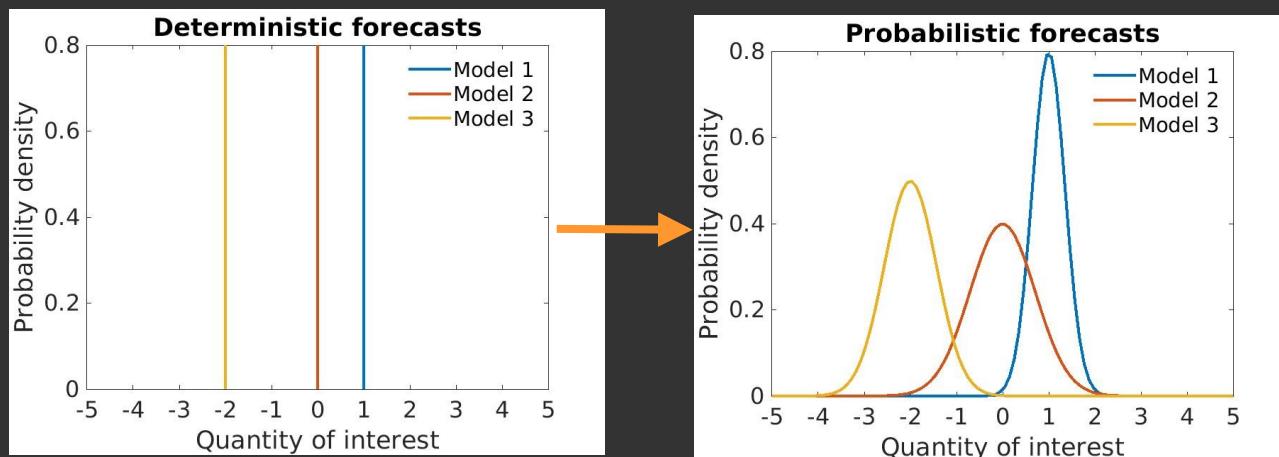
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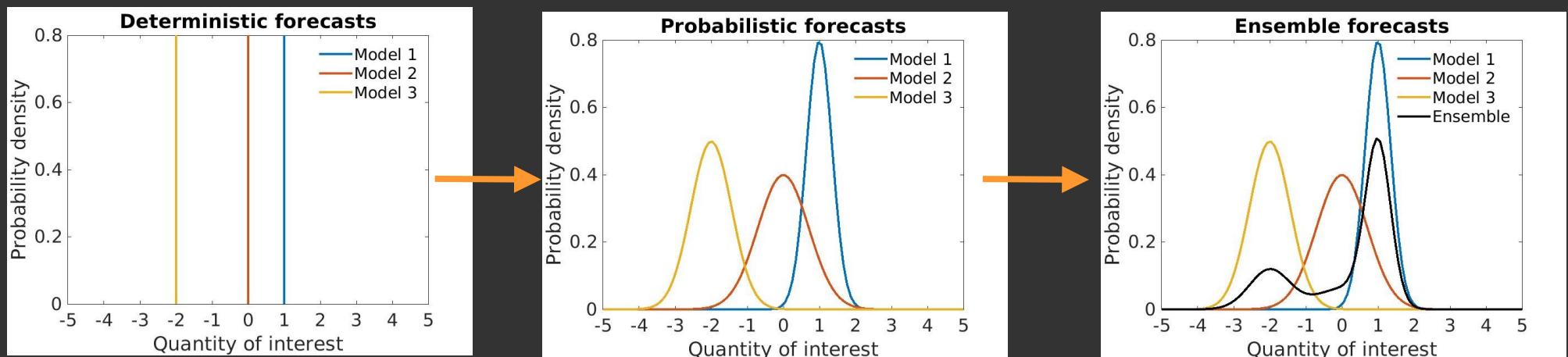
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NON ACTIONABLE → ACTIONABLE

# ACCRUE: Accurate and Reliable Uncertainty Estimate

## Take home message

ACCRUE is a method that:

- Estimates the uncertainties associated with single-point outputs generated by a deterministic model, in terms of Gaussian distributions;
- Ensures the optimal trade-off between accuracy and reliability;
- Does not need to run ensembles. It costs as much as training and executing a neural network
- It is **model agnostic**
- Code available: zenodo.1485608

# What's under the hood?

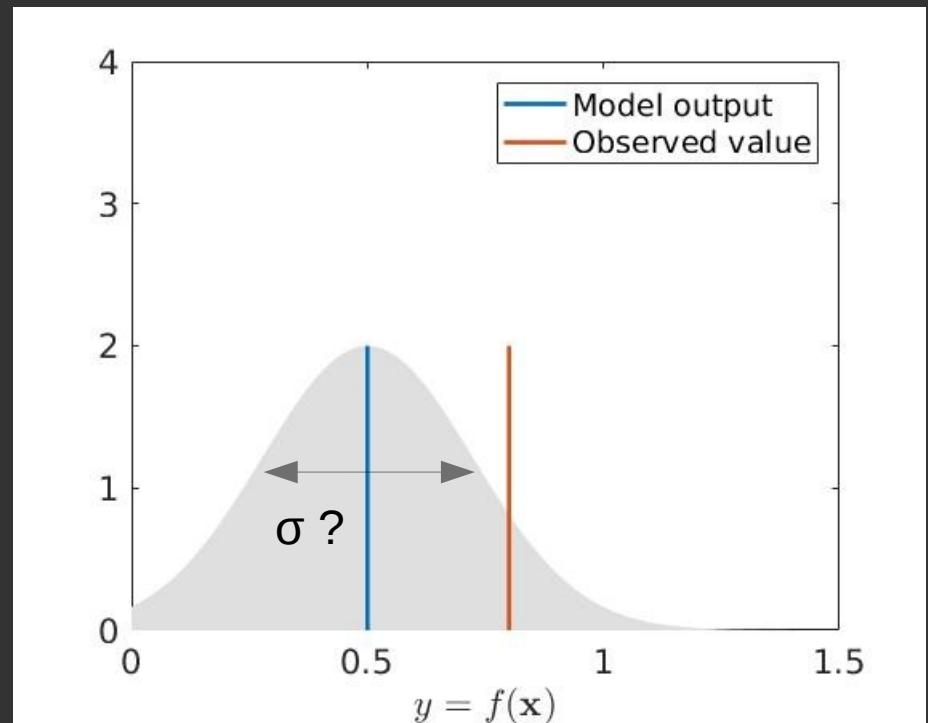
Let us assume that for a single (multidimensional) input  $\mathbf{x}$ , our model predicts an output  $y = f(\mathbf{x})$ .

Blue line → Model output  
Red line → Real (observed value)

## Working hypothesis:

We want to use the model output as the mean of a Gaussian distribution that is interpreted as a probabilistic forecast.

**What is the optimal width of a Gaussian forecast?**

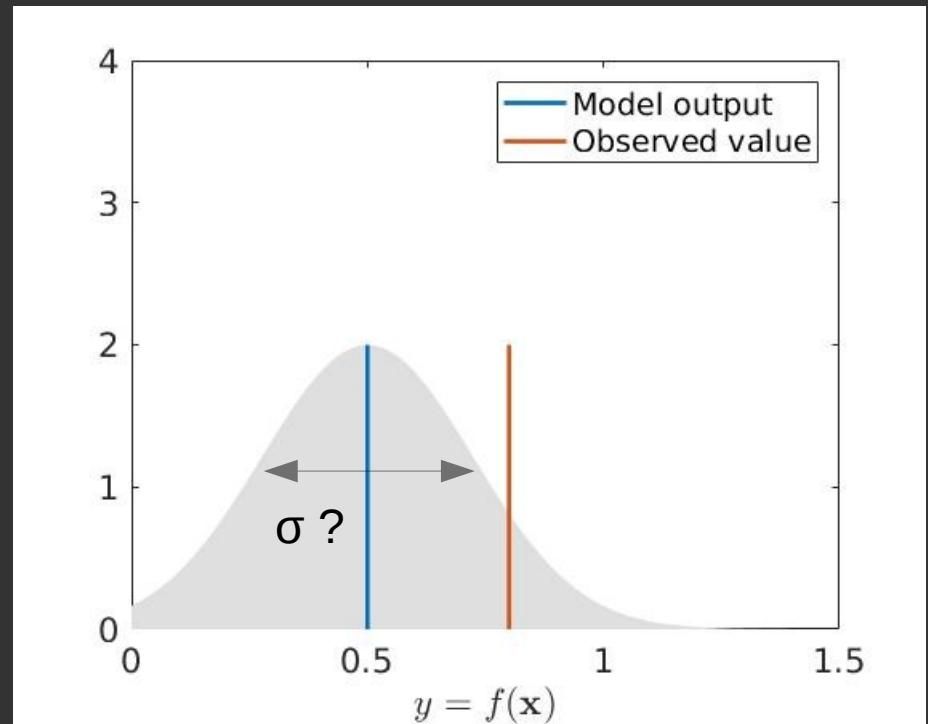


# What's under the hood?

**What is the optimal width of a Gaussian forecast?**

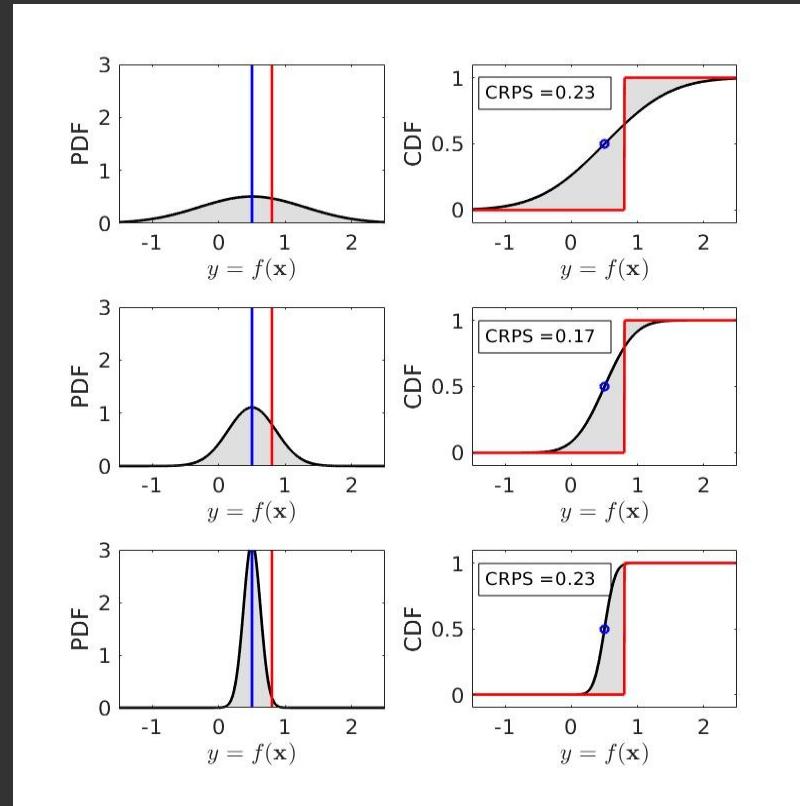
It's the one that gives you the

**best accuracy** (sharpness)  
AND  
**best reliability** (calibration)



# Accuracy (Sharpness)

- Different metrics for measuring accuracy of a probabilistic forecast:
  - Negative Log Likelihood (Ignorance Score)
    - Measures the value of the probability density function (pdf) at the observation
  - Continuous Rank Probability Score (CRPS)
    - Measures the ‘distance’ between the cumulative distribution function (CDF) of the prediction and the CDF of observation
- Bottom line: The optimal width of the Gaussian distribution that represents your uncertainty is the one that **‘fits the data the best’**



Blue line → Prediction  
Red line → Observation

# Reliability (a.k.a. Calibration) What is a probabilistic forecast anyway?

Risk Analysis, Vol. 25, No. 3, 2005

DOI: 10.1111/j.1539-6924.2005.00608.x

## “A 30% Chance of Rain Tomorrow”: How Does the Public Understand Probabilistic Weather Forecasts?

Gerd Gigerenzer,<sup>1\*</sup> Ralph Hertwig,<sup>2</sup> Eva van den Broek,<sup>1</sup> Barbara Fasolo,<sup>1</sup> and Konstantinos V. Katsikopoulos<sup>1</sup>

974

WEATHER AND FORECASTING

TABLE 2. Responses to Q14a, the meaning of the forecast “There is a 60% chance of rain for tomorrow” ( $N = 1330$ ).

	Percent of respondents
It will rain tomorrow in 60% of the region.	16
It will rain tomorrow for 60% of the time.	10
It will rain on 60% of the days like tomorrow.*	19
60% of weather forecasters believe that it will rain tomorrow.	22
I don't know.	9
Other (please explain).	24

\* Technically correct interpretation, according to how PoP forecasts are verified, as interpreted by Gigerenzer et al. (2005).

## Communicating Uncertainty in Weather Forecasts: A Survey of the U.S. Public

REBECCA E. MORSS, JULIE L. DEMUTH, AND JEFFREY K. LAZO

*National Center for Atmospheric Research,\* Boulder, Colorado*

# **Reliability (a.k.a. Calibration)**

## **What is a probabilistic forecast anyway?**

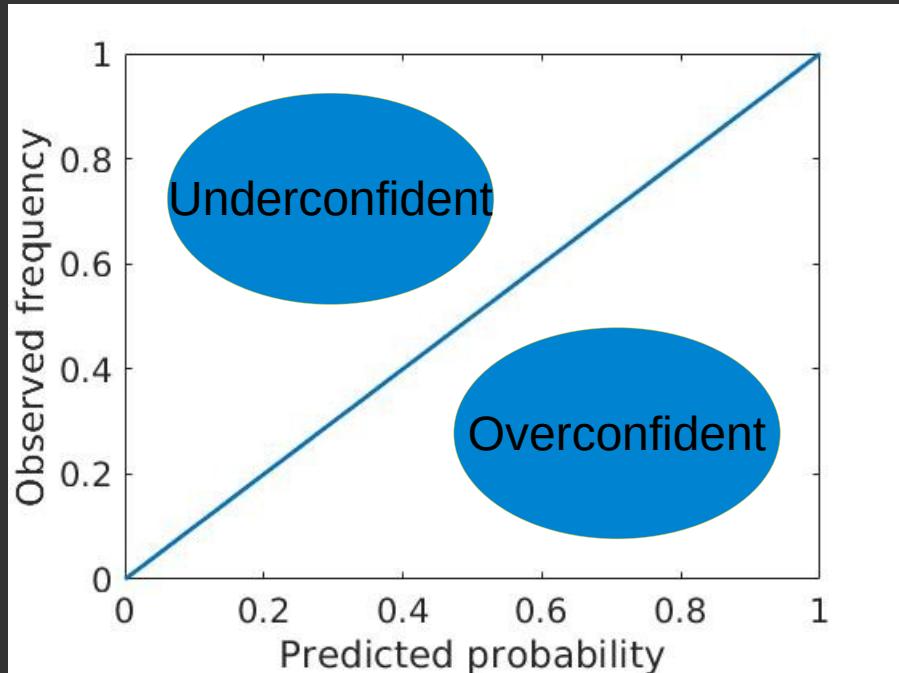
If a model is ‘perfectly calibrated’,  
“X% chance of rain” means:

# Reliability (a.k.a. Calibration)

## What is a probabilistic forecast anyway?

If a model is ‘perfectly calibrated’,  
“X% chance of rain” means:

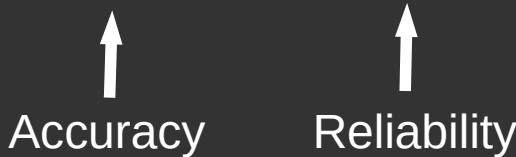
It rained X% of the times the  
model predicted  
“X% chance of rain”  
(for any value of X)



# Two objective optimization problem

- It turns out that reliability and accuracy are competing objectives, that is they cannot be optimized simultaneously!!
- We define the Accuracy-Reliability (AR) cost function:

$$AR = CRPS + \beta * RS$$



$$CRPS(\varepsilon, \sigma) = \sigma \left[ \frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma} \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right) + \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{\varepsilon^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right]. \quad RS = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ \frac{\eta_i}{N} (\operatorname{erf}(\eta_i) + 1) - \frac{\eta_i}{N^2} (2i - 1) + \frac{\exp(-\eta_i^2)}{\sqrt{\pi N}} \right]$$

- We solve this optimization problem with a deep neural network

# ACCRUE: Accurate and Reliable Uncertainty Estimate

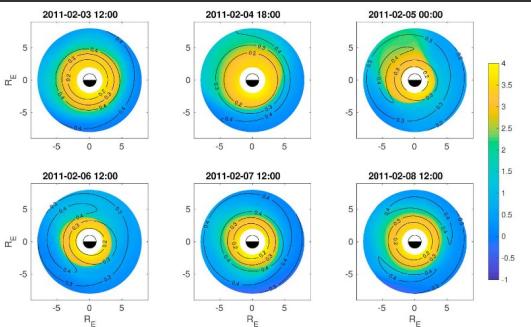
*International Journal for Uncertainty Quantification*, 11(4):81–94 (2021)

## ACCRUE: ACCURATE AND RELIABLE UNCERTAINTY ESTIMATE IN DETERMINISTIC MODELS

Enrico Camporeale<sup>1,\*</sup> & Algo Care<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA

<sup>2</sup>University of Brescia, Brescia, Italy



## Space Weather

### RESEARCH ARTICLE

10.1029/2018SW002026

#### Key Points:

- We introduce a new method to estimate the uncertainties associated with single-point outputs generated by a deterministic model
- The method ensures a trade-off between accuracy and reliability of the generated probabilistic forecasts
- Computationally cheap model:

### On the Generation of Probabilistic Forecasts From Deterministic Models

E. Camporeale<sup>1,2</sup> , X. Chu<sup>3</sup> , O. V. Agapitov<sup>4</sup> , and J. Bortnik<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Center for Mathematics and Computer Science (CWI), Amsterdam, The Netherlands, <sup>2</sup>Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA, <sup>3</sup>Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA, <sup>4</sup>Space Sciences Laboratory, University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, USA, <sup>5</sup>Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, University of California, Los Angeles, CA, USA

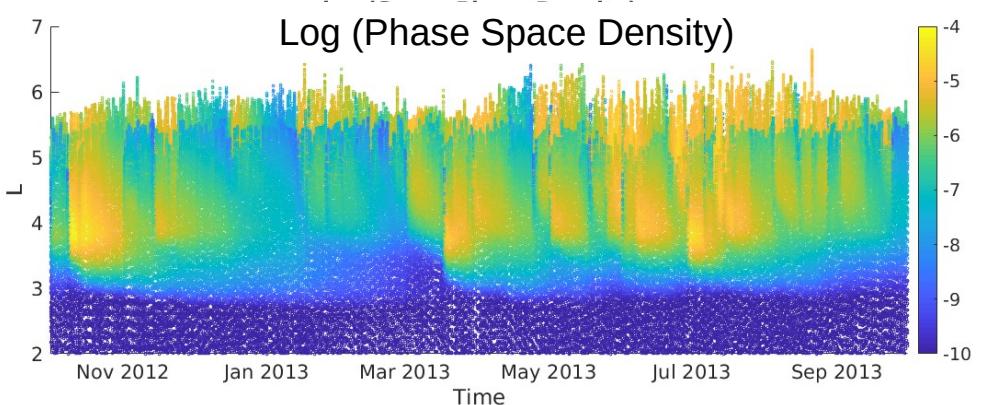
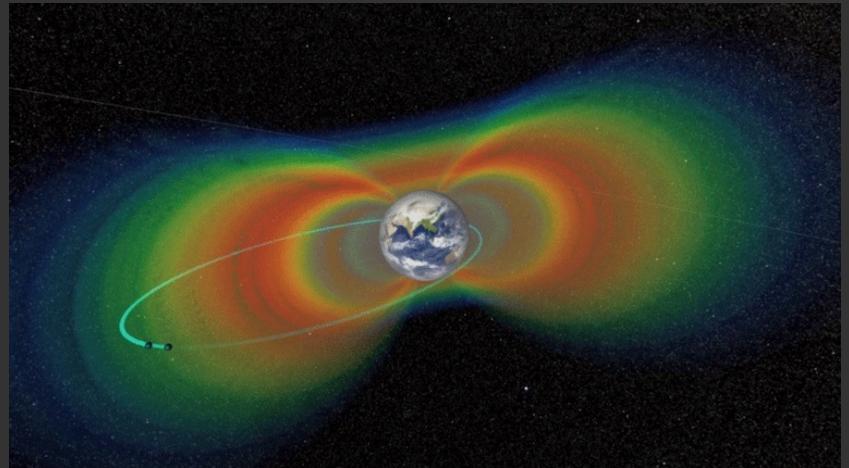
Method Score	CRPS	RECAL	KM	ACCRUE
			CRPS	CRPS
Dataset	Size	Dim.		
Boston Housing	506	13	0.25 ± 0.05	0.25 ± 0.04
Concrete	1030	8	0.22 ± 0.03	0.23 ± 0.13
Energy	768	8	0.059 ± 0.03	0.056 ± 0.03
Kin8nm	8192	8	0.17 ± 0.005	0.16 ± 0.01
Power plant	9568	4	0.13 ± 0.005	0.13 ± 0.05
Protein	45,730	9	0.38 ± 0.02	0.47 ± 0.13
Wine	1599	11	0.48 ± 0.03	0.50 ± 0.29
Yacht	308	6	0.06 ± 0.08	0.06 ± 0.02
Score			Cal. err. (%)	
Dataset	Size	Dim.		
Boston Housing	506	13	26.2 ± 7.9	20.6 ± 5.5
Concrete	1030	8	22.6 ± 5.8	14.4 ± 3.8
Energy	768	8	29.3 ± 8.9	29.2 ± 8.0
Kin8nm	8192	8	15.9 ± 1.28	8.3 ± 1.30
Power plant	9568	4	12.5 ± 1.4	3.4 ± 0.9
Protein	45,730	9	13.1 ± 0.8	5.0 ± 0.9
Wine	1599	11	16.0 ± 3.7	7.9 ± 2.0
Yacht	308	6	26.0 ± 9.4	24.3 ± 13.5
			36.6 ± 3.0	36.6 ± 3.0
			19.5 ± 8.5	

# Scientific Question

- Can we use machine learning for science discovery?
  - Inverse problems

# Radial diffusion in Earth's radiation belt (Quasi-linear theory)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = L^{*2} \frac{\partial}{\partial L^*} \Big|_{\mu J} \left( D_{L^* L^*} L^{*-2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial L^*} \Big|_{\mu J} \right)$$



# Inverse problem statement

$$\frac{\partial f(L,t)}{\partial t} = L^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial L} \left( \frac{D_{LL}}{L^2} \frac{\partial f(L,t)}{\partial L} \right) - \frac{f(L,t)}{\tau}.$$

- What is the optimal choice of parameters ( $D_{LL}$  and  $\tau$ ) that makes the result of the diffusion equation most consistent with data?
- This is an INVERSE PROBLEM (we know the result, and want to infer the inputs), which is much harder than the “forward” model.
- It is completely ill-posed!! (You can find a valid  $\tau$  for any given choice of  $D_{LL}$ )
- Instead of pure-diffusion (QL assumption) we use a more general FP equation:

$$\frac{\partial f(L,t)}{\partial t} = L^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial L} \left( \frac{D_{LL}}{L^2} \frac{\partial f(L,t)}{\partial L} \right) - \frac{\partial C f(L,t)}{\partial L},$$

# The Physics-Informed Neural Network (PINN) approach to parameter estimation

[HTML] **Physics-informed neural networks**: A deep learning framework for solving forward and inverse problems involving nonlinear partial differential equations

M Raissi, P Perdikaris, GE Karniadakis - Journal of Computational physics, 2019 - Elsevier

... We introduce **physics-informed neural networks – neural networks** that are trained to solve supervised learning tasks while respecting any given laws of **physics** described by general ...

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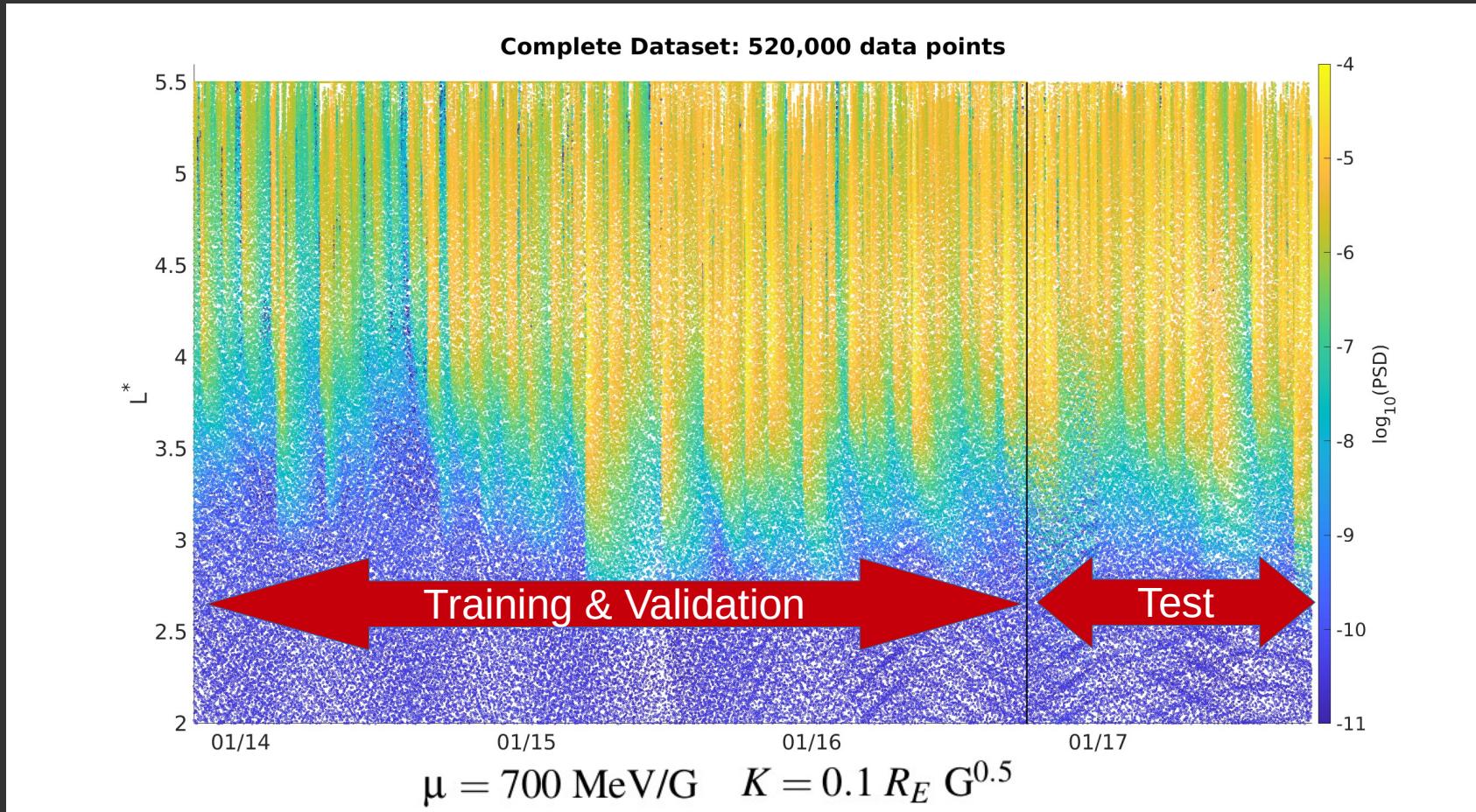
## PINN (Physics-Informed Neural Network) in a nutshell

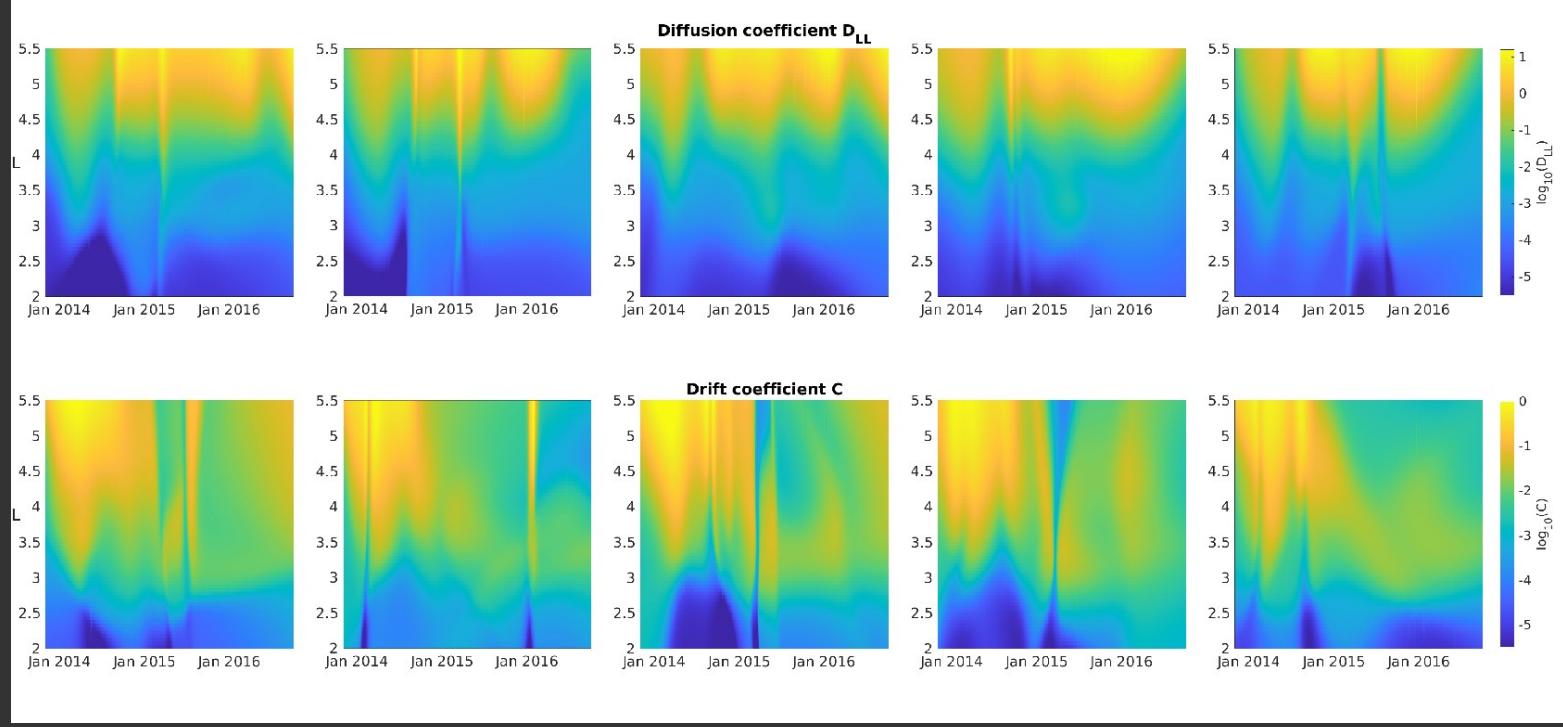
- PINN idea: to include the Partial Differential Equation (PDE) we want to solve in the cost function!

$$\mathcal{C}[f, D_{LL}, \tau] = \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} - L^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial L} \left( \frac{D_{LL}}{L^2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial L} \right) + \frac{f}{\tau} \right]^2 + (f - f_{obs})^2$$

- A Neural Net outputs an analytical and differentiable solution.
- The trick under the hood: autodiff (automatic differentiation). All derivatives are computed exactly (using chain rule) !
- This is both:
  - a grid-less method to solve a PDE on a set of points (forward)
  - a way of estimating the coefficients of a PDE (inverse problem)

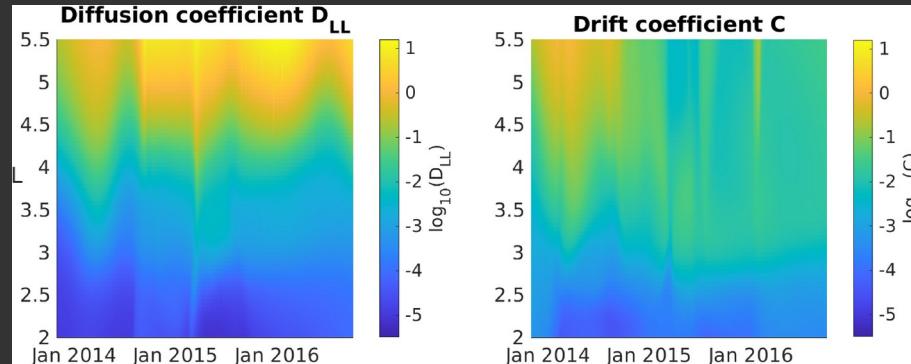
# Van Allen Probes data





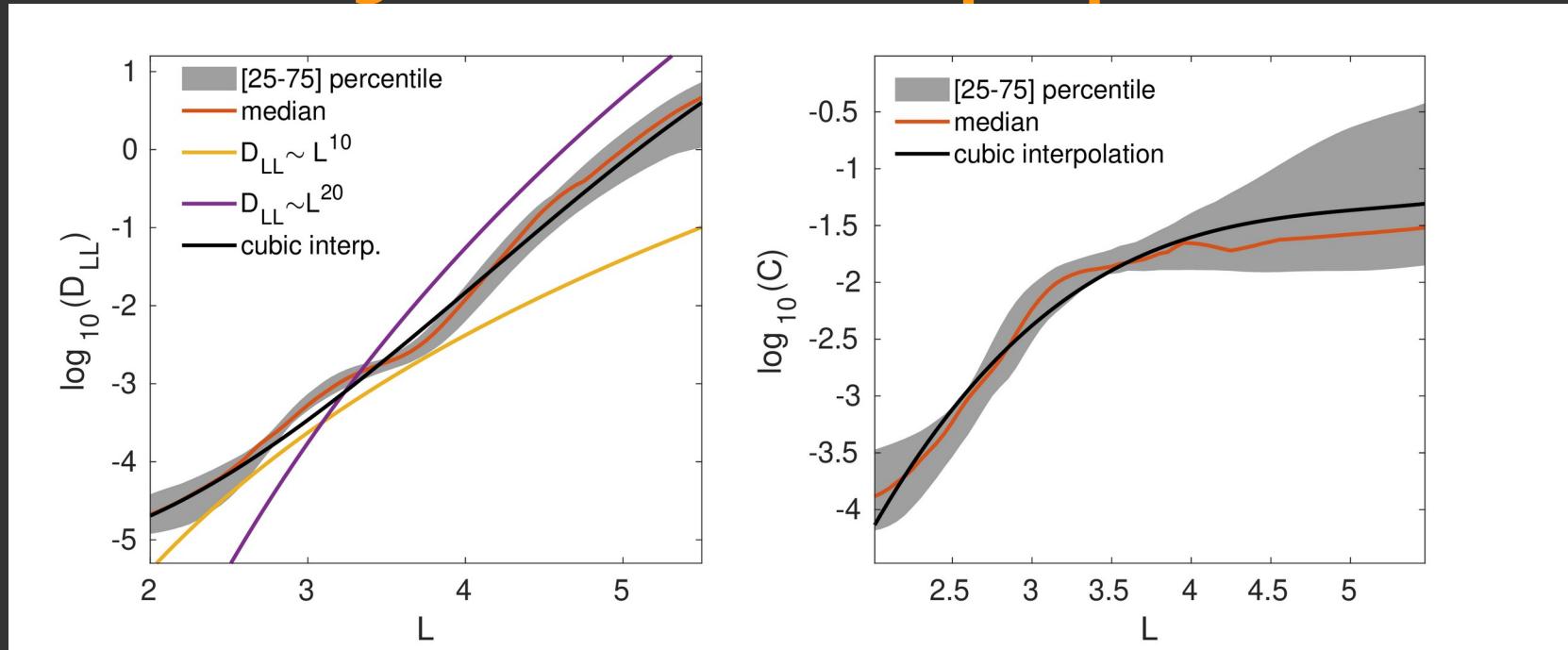
**“Best” 5  
solutions in  
an ensemble  
of 20**

This is something you do not  
get with any other method:  
A spatio-temporal  
characterization of your drift  
and diffusion coefficients



**Average of  
the best 5  
solutions**

# Statistical analysis of coefficients (and closing the circle: a simple parameterization)

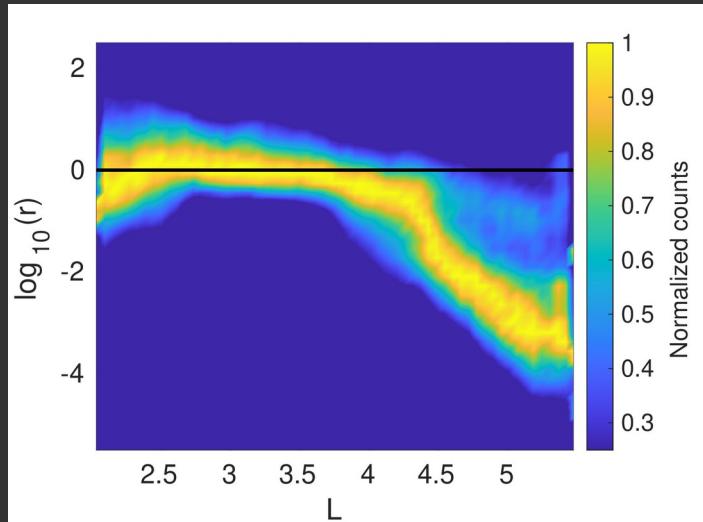


$$\log_{10} D_{LL} = -0.0593L^3 + 0.7368L^2 - 1.33L - 4.505$$

$$\log_{10} C = 0.0777L^3 - 1.2022L^2 + 6.3177L - 12.6115$$

This parameterization outperforms (on a test set) everything that has been done in the literature in the past 20 years!

# Discovering new physics: Relative importance between drift and diffusion



$$r = \left| \frac{1}{L^2} \left( \frac{\partial C_f}{\partial L} \right) / \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial L} \left( \frac{D_{LL}}{L^2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial L} \right) \right] \right|$$

$r$  = Drift term over diffusion term

Drift and diffusion  
are comparable for  $L < 4$

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## Data-driven discovery of Fokker-Planck equation for the Earth's radiation belts electrons using Physics-Informed Neural Networks

### Authors

Enrico Camporeale , George J Wilkie, Alexander Yurievich Drozdov , Jacob Bortnik

Published Online: Fri, 25 Feb 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/essoar.10510599.1>

# ML-Helio 2022

## Machine Learning in Heliophysics

21 - 25 March 2022  
Boulder, CO



### Topics

- Space weather forecasting
- Inverse problems
- Automatic event identification
- Feature detection and tracking
- Surrogate models
- Uncertainty Quantification

### Methods

- Machine and Deep Learning
- System identification and information theory
- Combination of physics-based and data-driven modeling
- Bayesian analysis

<https://ml-helio.github.io/>



<https://ml-helio.github.io/>

Contact: [Enrico.camporeale@noaa.gov](mailto:Enrico.camporeale@noaa.gov)

Currently: 180 participants (120 virtual + 60 in person)  
**NSF funding still available for early-careers!**

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# The PRAISE initiative: Promoting Research in AI for the Space Economy

- Space Economy:
  - Space Weather
  - Space Traffic Management
- Realization that AI will become integrated in the decision making process
- AI challenges:
  - Adversarial attacks
  - Out-of-distribution generalization
  - Uncertainty-aware ML
- Bottom-up and inclusive approach to form a strong team and organize ideas around this topic
- Considering proposing a NSF AI Institute for the Space Economy

Reach out if interested: [enrico.camporeale@noaa.gov](mailto:enrico.camporeale@noaa.gov)



University of Colorado  
Boulder



# Back-up slides

# Results on test set when using PINN-learned coefficients (cubic interpolation)

