

Nested-EAGLE: A Data Driven, Global Weather Model with High Resolution over the Contiguous US

Timothy A. Smith, NOAA PSL
 Mariah Pope, EPIC
 Sergey Frolov, NOAA PSL
 Brett Basarab, CIRES / NOAA PSL
 Daniel Abdi, CIRES / NOAA GSL
 Isidora Jankov, NOAA GSL

Goal

- Develop a global medium range weather prediction model that:
- captures synoptic scale dynamics
 - represents precipitation at scale useful for decision makers
 - produces forecasts at a low computational expense

Data

- Train on GFS & HRRR “Analysis” (fhr=0) for all variables, except precipitation, which uses 0-6h forecast accumulations
- Implement nested or “stretched” grid approach, following Met Norway [1]: cut out CONUS portion from GFS, stick in HRRR
- Conservatively regrid archived GFS: $1/4^\circ \rightarrow 1^\circ$ and HRRR: $3\text{km} \rightarrow 15\text{km}$
- Use full archives available on NCAR RDA and AWS:
 - Training: Feb 2015-Jan 2023
 - Validation: Feb 2023-Jan 2024
 - Testing Feb 2024-Jan 2025
- Use ufs2arco [2] for all data processing

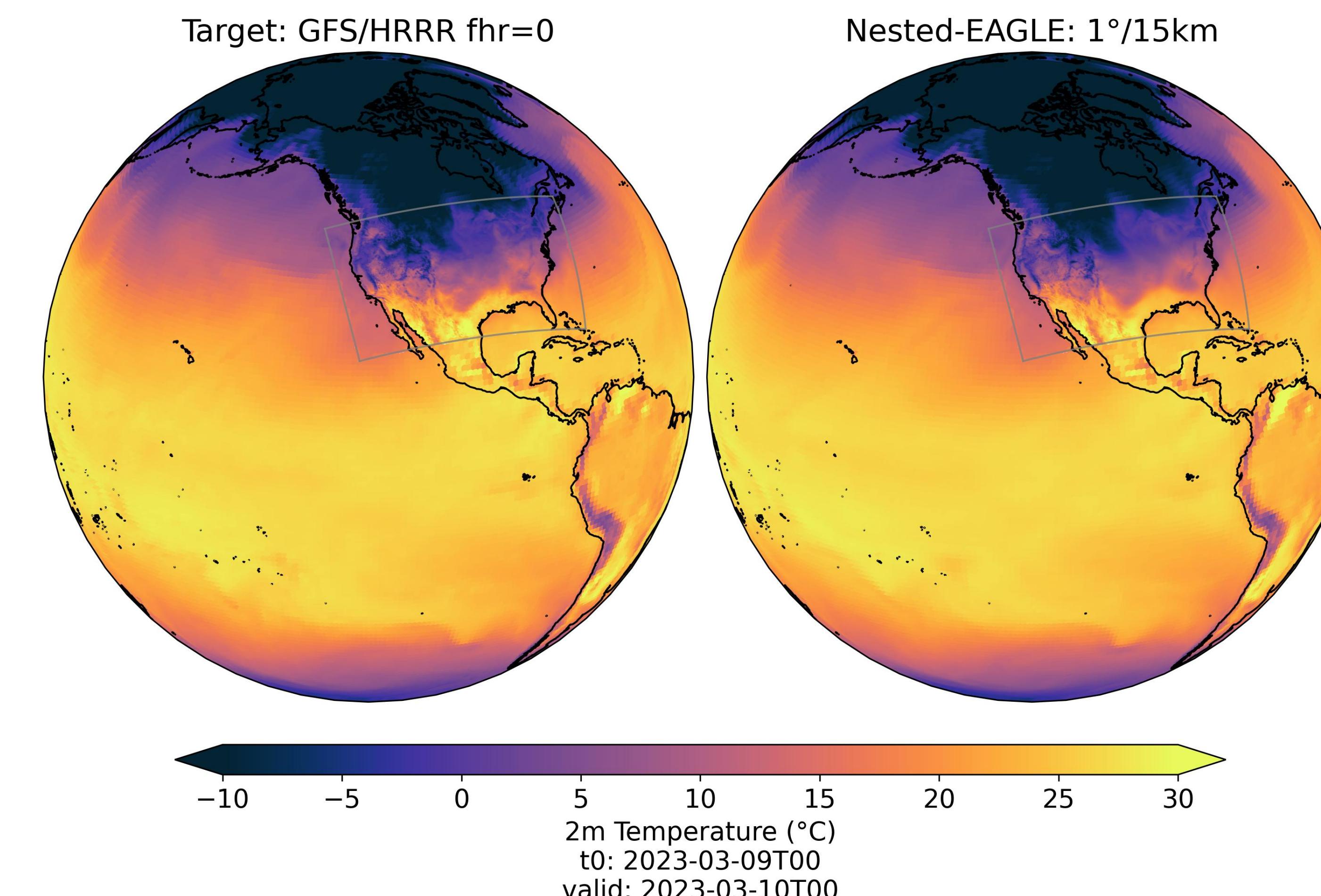
Design Choices that Mattered

- Moving from “GraphCast Style” multimesh [3] to single, high resolution mesh with shifted window processor removed GFS/HRRR boundary artifacts
- Reducing CONUS loss weight $50\% \rightarrow 10\%$ improved skill significantly

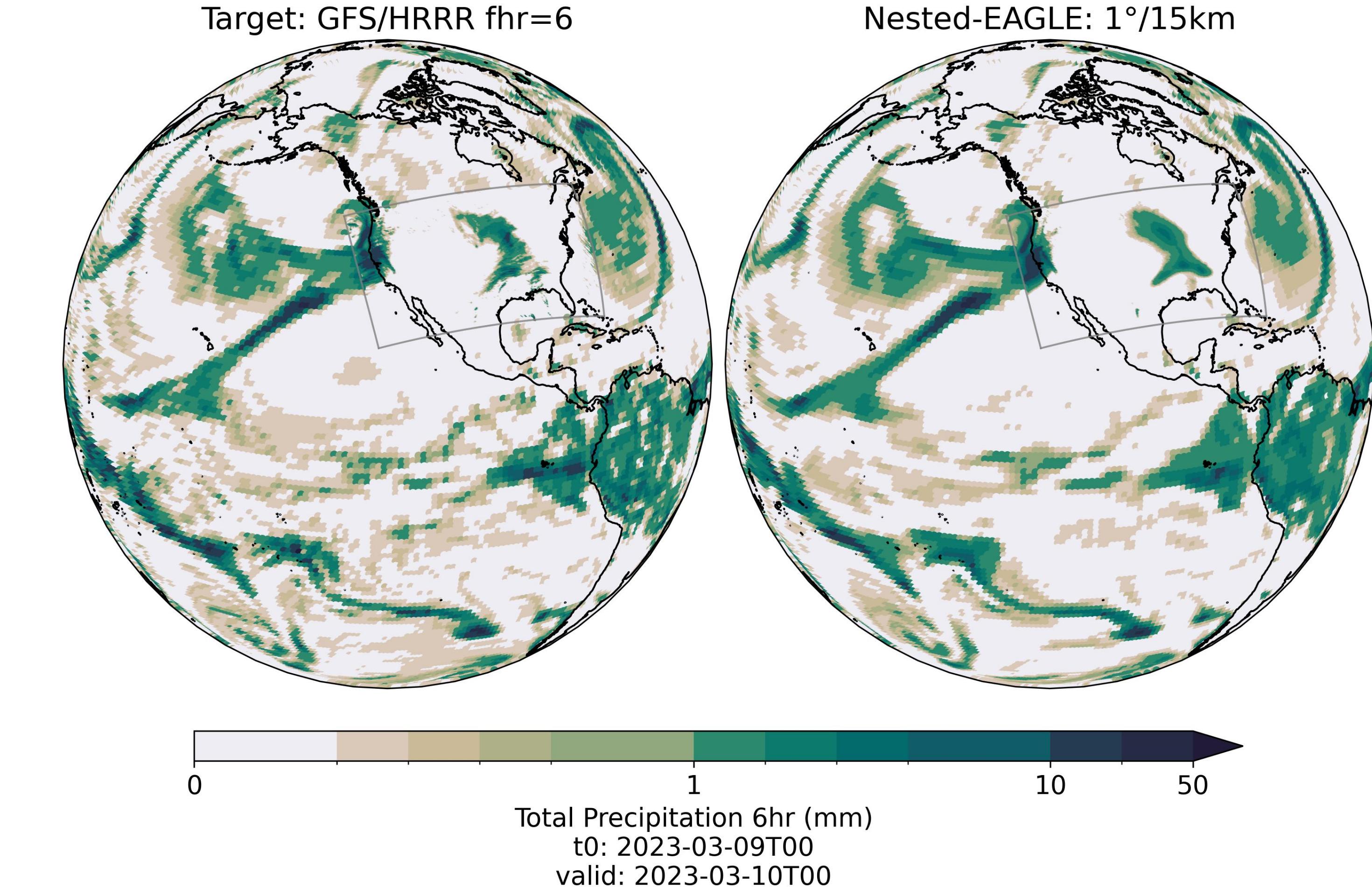
References

- [1] Nipen et al., (2024). doi: 10.48550/arXiv.2409.02891
- [2] ufs2arco Documentation. ufs2arco.readthedocs.io
- [3] Lam et al., (2023). doi: 10.1126/science.adl2336
- [4] AORC Dataset. opendata.aws/noaa-nws-aorc

Prognostic Skill Over CONUS

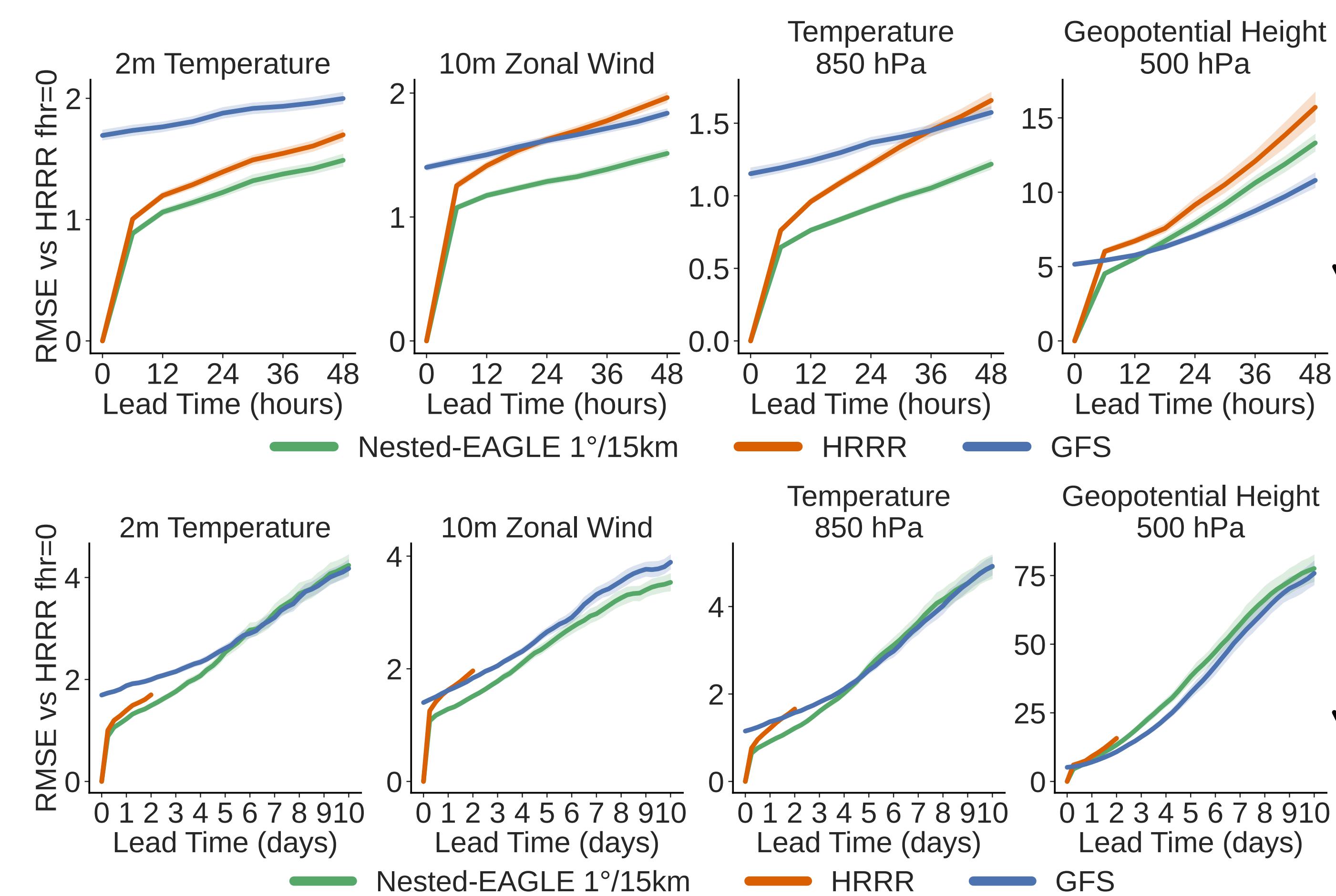


Precipitation Skill Over CONUS



Evaluation against HRRR Forecast Hour 0 (fhr=0):

- 158 forecasts initialized throughout validation period
- all datasets conservatively regridded to 15km
- plots show median Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE), shading indicates 95% confidence interval



Main Results

- Lower RMSE than HRRR vs HRRR fhr=0 for all prognostic variables analyzed
- At 10 days, RMSE is competitive with GFS
- At 6h lead, monthly mean precipitation matches HRRR, but longer lead times have larger bias
- Lower FSS values at higher thresholds highlights blurring in the model, owing to MSE loss in deterministic model training

Next Steps

- Scale to 0.25° global and 6km CONUS resolution
- Train with CRPS loss for ensemble uncertainty estimation and better feature representation
- Incorporate observations into evaluation and training

