

Flight Safety Event Prediction with Flight Density and Event Complexity in the Airspace

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Outline

- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ Data Processing and Cleaning
- ❖ Proposed Methodology
- ❖ Results
- ❖ Discussion



Background

- ❖ Flight event recordings are post-processed by ATAC using track data, including the spatial-temporal coordinates of each flight event.
- ❖ Both normal events and safety-related events are detected and documented.
- ❖ The prediction of safety-related flight event occurrence could enhance the flight operation safety while providing guidance for daily aviation operations.

Introduction

- ❖ From individual level to systemic level:
 - The previous work study the individual level impact of convective weather on flight trajectories.
 - The current objective is to do systemic level flight event and traffic density prediction.

Table 1. Meaning of different event types

Event Type	Counts	Meaning
EV_MOF	279645	Mode of flight. A flight record in vertical domain such as descending level, climbing level. Also known as vertical trajectory.
EV_XING	250173	Crossing event from one sector to another sector. Indicate which space volume are you in and which one are you crossing to other column.
EV_USER	134956	User event. The definition is flexible includes times you go into a center, different volume definitions. It's a user based concept.
EV_TRNS	75086	Transition from above or below altitude. Not often used.
EV_PXCP	52892	Unknown.
EV_INIT	50934	Detail on the begin of flight tracks. Smaller set on facility recorded by the surveillance system.
EV_STOP	50934	The last track point of the aircraft.
EV_LOOP	41118	Indication of holding pattern. The flight circle around in the trajectory.
EV_TOC	25467	Top of climb. Reach cruise altitude. Overlap with MOF.
EV_TOD	25467	Top of descend. Start to descent from cruise altitude
EV_RRT	20692	Reroute. New flight plan change compared to old flight plan.
EV_LND	19526	Landing event. Recorded when arrival aircraft pass the arrival runway threshold.
EV_TOF	14697	Take off event. It's defined geometrically when the aircraft cross the departure runway threshold (wheels come off the pavement).
EV_STOL	5174	Stop holding. Finish EV_LOOP Event.
EV_GOA	1814	Go around. About to land but pull up and circle back, turn around again. A possible safety concern.

Safety
Concern



Data Preparation

- ❖ Two types of data in Sherlock Data Warehouse.
 - Flight recording: ZTL from Aug 1st, 2019 to Aug 28th, 2019
 - Flight event occurrence recording: ASDEX+ATL from Aug 1st, 2019 to Aug 28th, 2019
- ❖ Data processed:
 - Traffic flow heatmap generator:
 - time_interval = 60s, range_latlon=[[-88, -78], [32, 38]], range_time=[12pm, 4pm]
 - Event occurrence generator for all flight event types and only safety-related event types:
 - time_interval = 60s, range_latlon=[[-88, -78], [32, 38]], range_time=[12pm, 4pm]
 - Smoothing the discrete scatter plot around its nearest neighbors.
- ❖ Large-scale data processing techniques deployed:
 - SparkSQL, SparkRDD for efficient querying of the flight recordings.
 - GeoSpark extensions for efficient geospatial query.
 - Reduce computational complexity with R-tree/KD-tree for accelerated query indexing with amortized cost $O(\log n)$.







```
rectangular_query = "SELECT COUNT(acId) " \
                    "FROM spatialdf " \
                    "WHERE ST_Contains(ST_PolygonFromEnvelope({}, {}, {}, {}), geom)" \
                    .format(lat[index_lat], lon[index_lon], lat[index_lat+1], lon[index_lon+1])
```



Data Preparation

- ❖ Multiple set of data are generated based on the following parameters,
 - Resolution: [32, 64, 128] // The resolution of generated image.
 - Smoothing: [4, 16, 32] // Smoothing around k-nearest neighbors.
 - Horizon: [0, 60, 120, 180, 240] // The time horizon shifting among dataset.

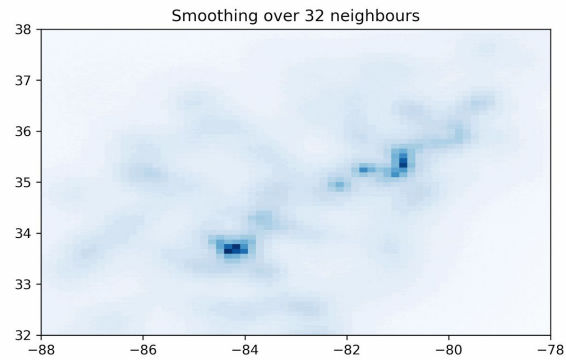
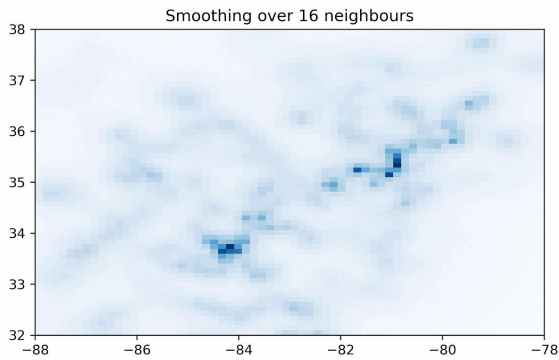
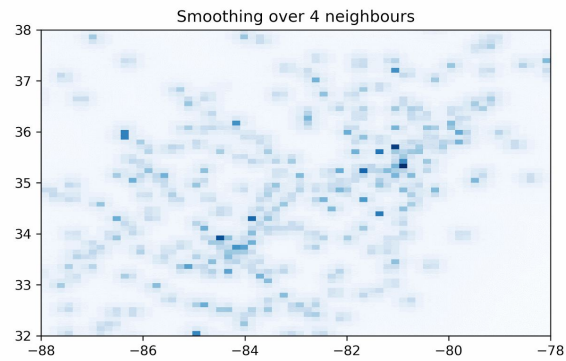
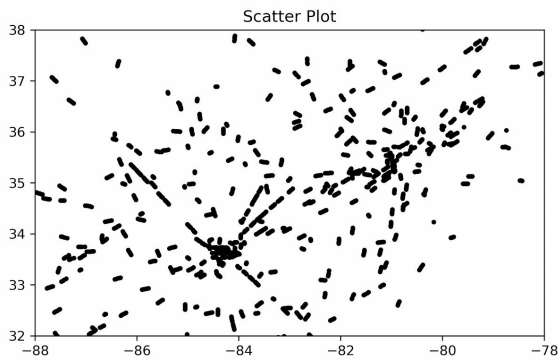
- ❖ The processed data are organized into a data warehouse.

	ac_density_20190801_res_64_tstart_1564660800_tend_1564675200_interval_60_smoothing_4.npy	7.9 MB	Program	Dec 16
	ac_density_20190801_res_64_tstart_1564660800_tend_1564675200_interval_60_smoothing_16.npy	7.9 MB	Program	Dec 16
	ac_density_20190801_res_64_tstart_1564660800_tend_1564675200_interval_60_smoothing_32.npy	7.9 MB	Program	Dec 16
	ev_density_20190801_res_64_tstart_1564660800_tend_1564675200_interval_60_smoothing_4.npy	7.9 MB	Program	Dec 16
	ev_density_20190801_res_64_tstart_1564660800_tend_1564675200_interval_60_smoothing_16.npy	7.9 MB	Program	Dec 16
	ev_density_20190801_res_64_tstart_1564660800_tend_1564675200_interval_60_smoothing_32.npy	7.9 MB	Program	Dec 16

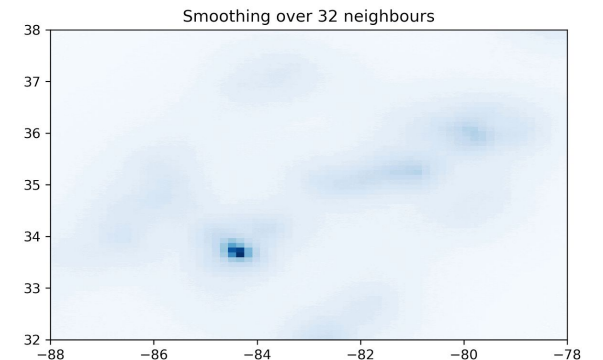
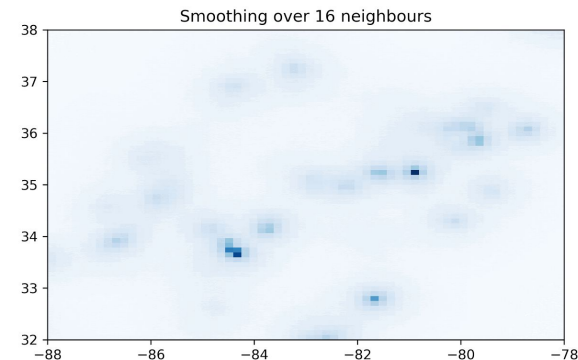
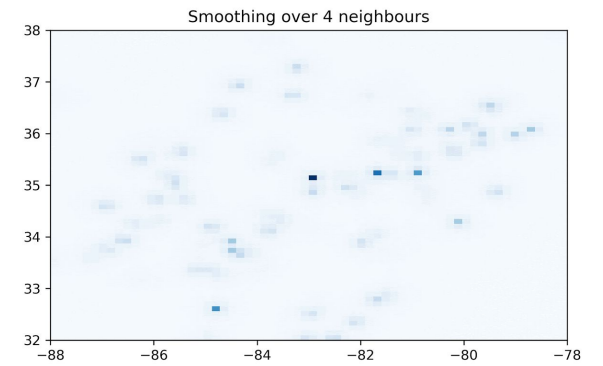
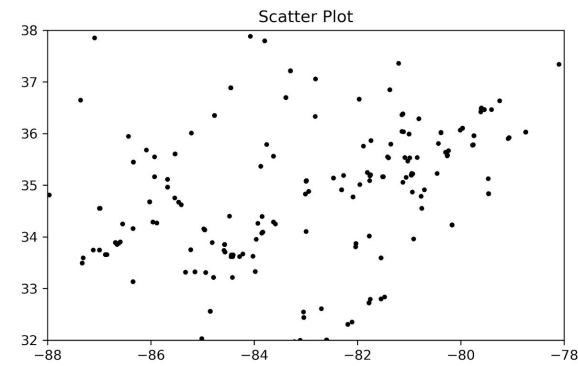
- ❖ Processed 27 days data.

Data Visualization

Flight Density

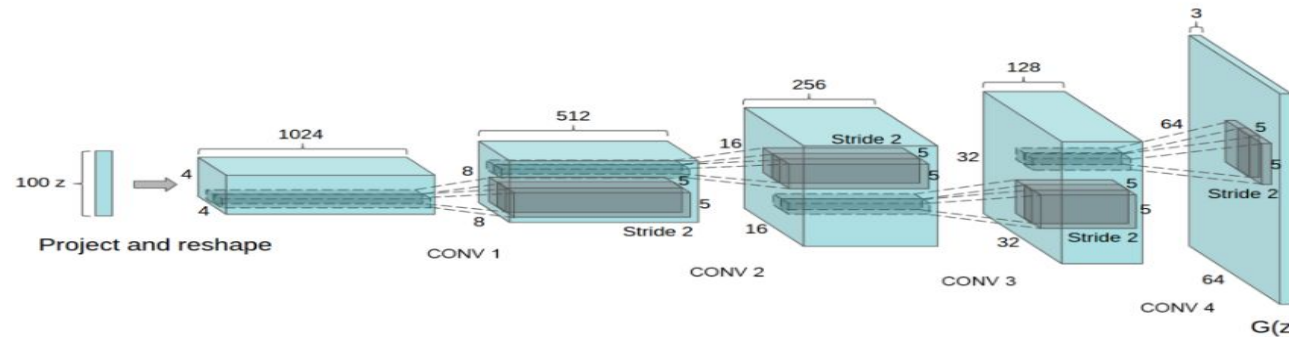


Event Complexity



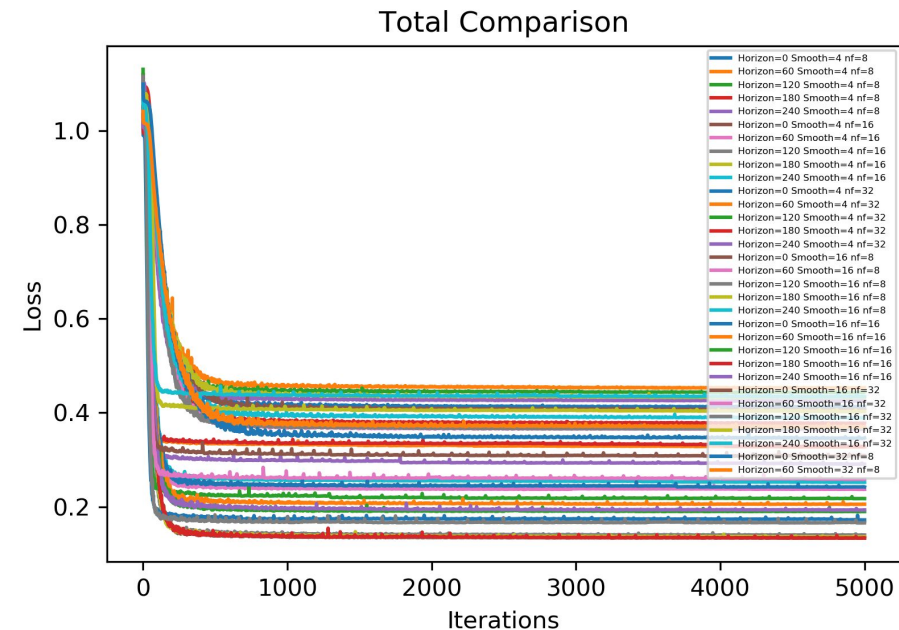
Proposed Methodology

- ❖ We want to predict safety-related events:
 - Predict the occurrence of EV_LOOP and EV_GOA based on the traffic flow density and flight event density
- ❖ We tried to use two models,
 - Deep-convolutional Autoencoder (DCAE)
 - Synthetic data generation
 - Deep-convolutional general adversarial networks (DCGAN)[1]
 - capture the training data's distribution and generate new data from that distribution

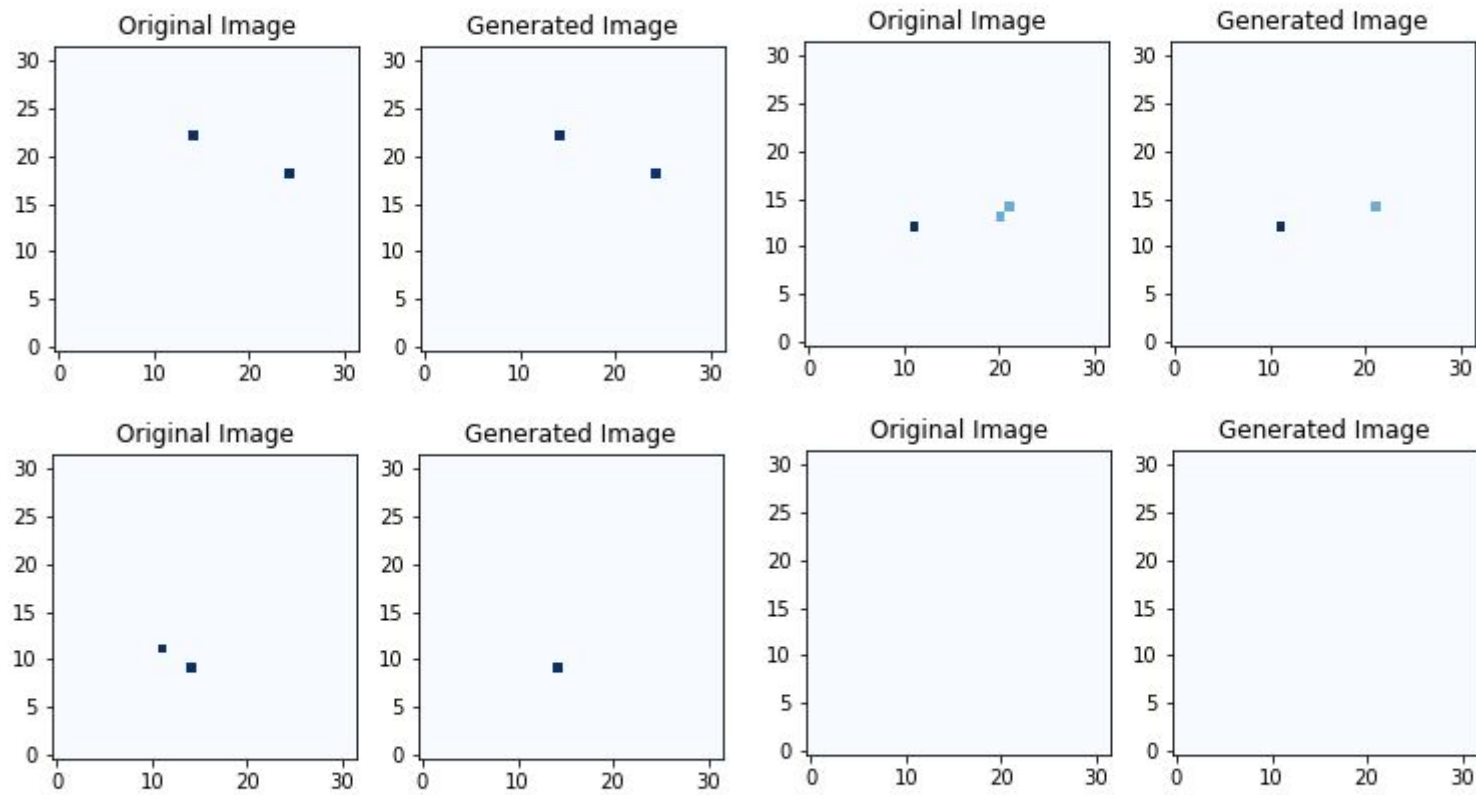


Results

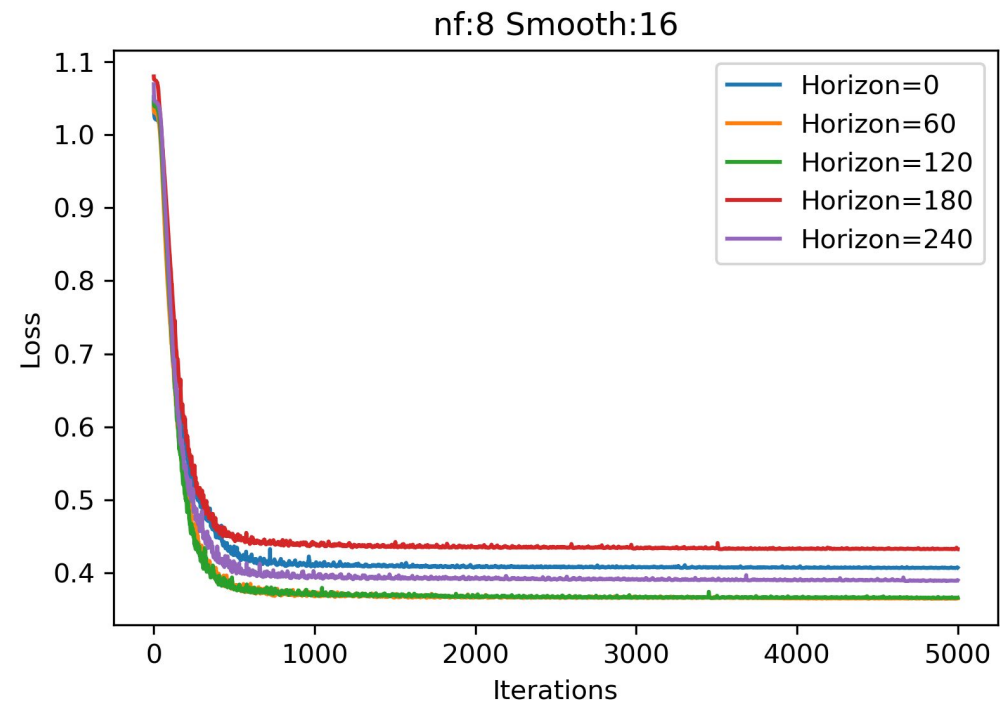
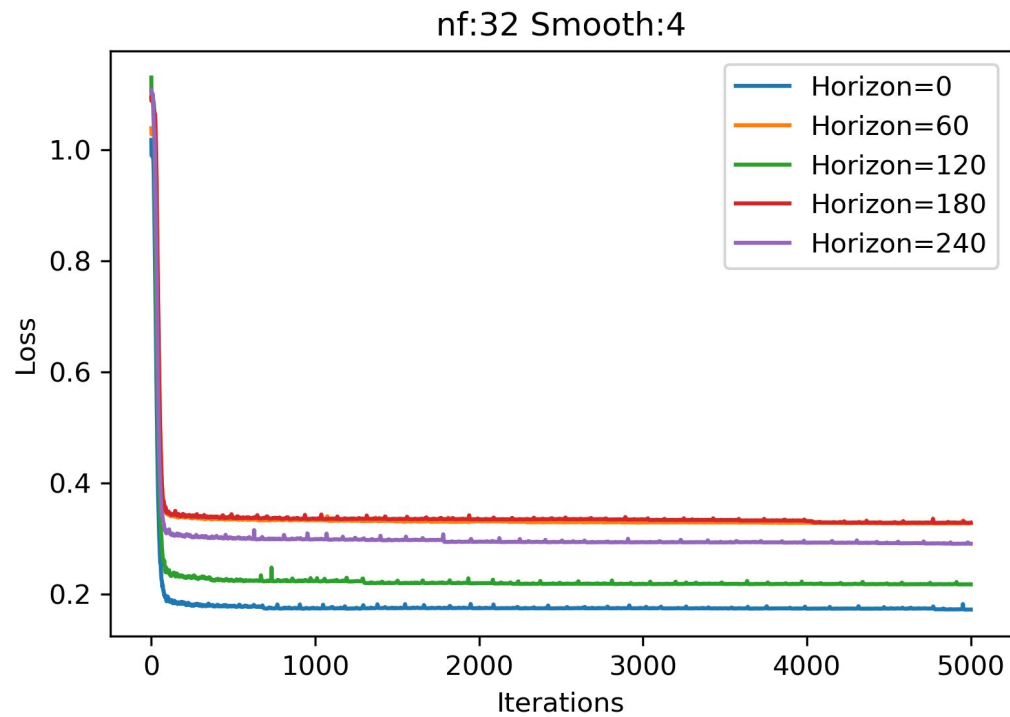
- ❖ Result are shown with,
 - input dimension: 32x32x2
 - output dimension: 32x32x1
- ❖ We will also try different input-output resolution combinations,



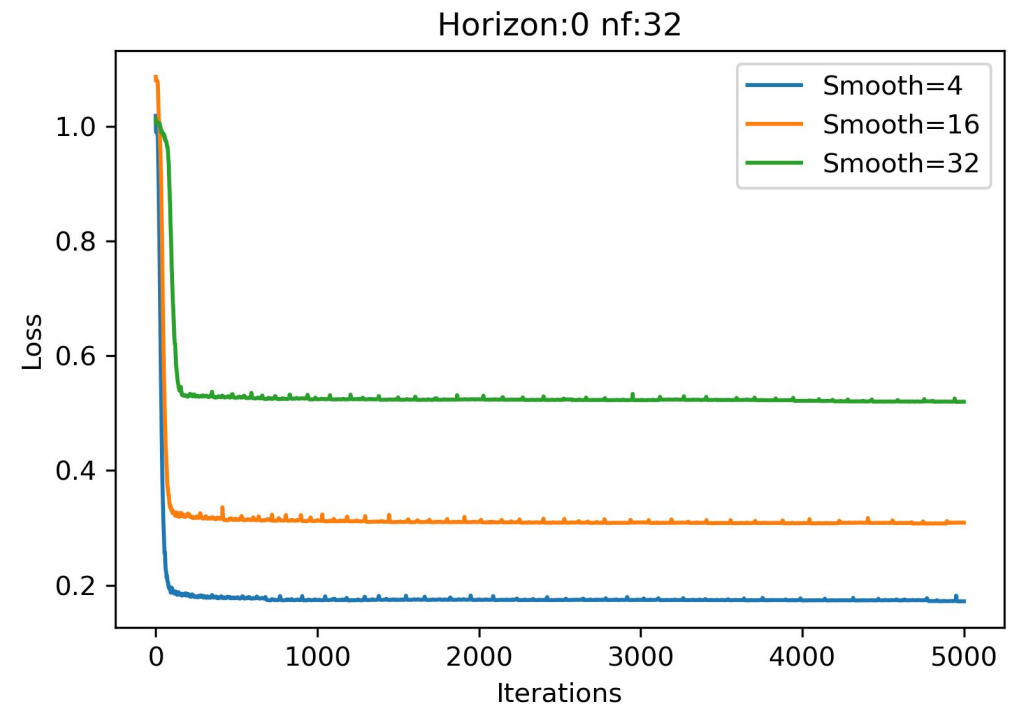
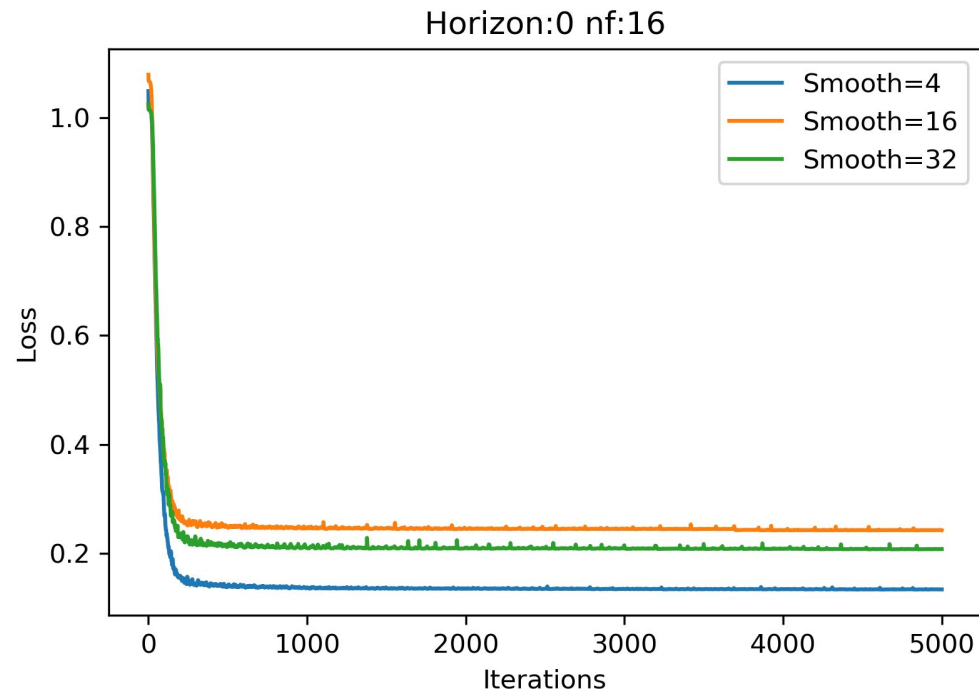
Results Visualization



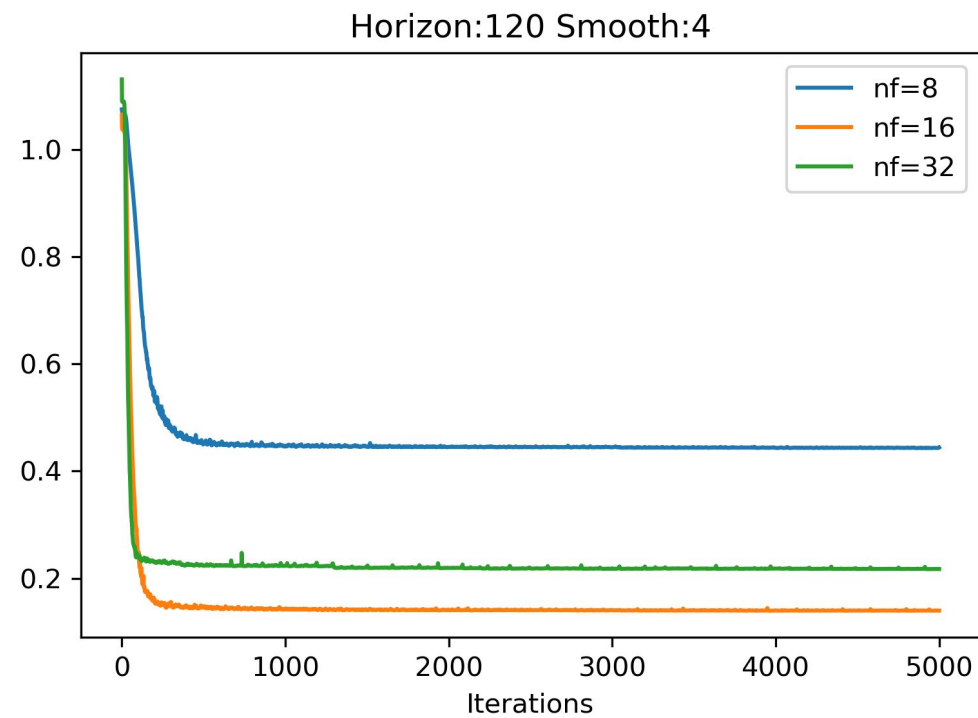
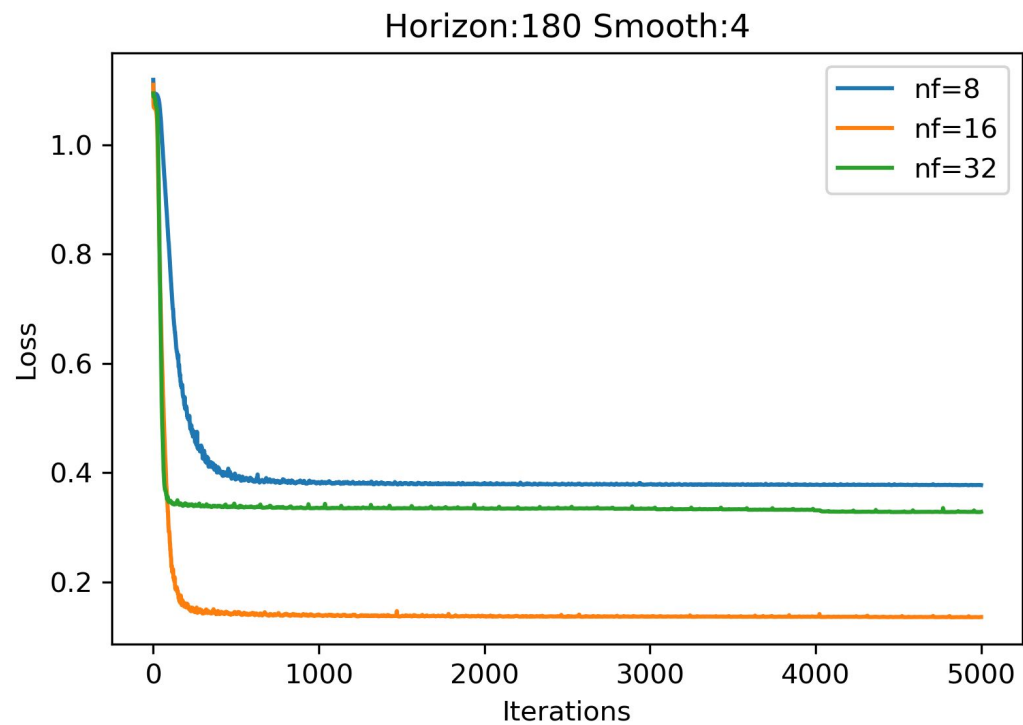
Impact on time horizon



Impact on Smoothing



Impact on feature dimension





Discussion

- ❖ The feature dimensions 16 and smoothing around 4 nearest neighbors seems the best.
- ❖ The model has overfitting on the test images.