

First Announcement and Call for Papers

The Fourth International Verification Methods Workshop will take place at the Finnish Meteorological Institute, Helsinki, Finland, from June 4 to 10, 2009. The workshop will be in two parts, a tutorial on verification methods (June 4 to 6) and a science meeting (June 8 to 10). An international organizing committee has been formed, including Pertti Nurmi (FMI, Finland), Barbara Brown (NCAR, USA), Laurence Wilson (Meteorological Service of Canada), Barbara Casati (Ouranos, Canada), Marion Mittermaier (Met Office, UK), David Stephenson (University of Exeter, UK) and Ian Jolliffe (University of Exeter, UK).

The tutorial will include lectures and exercises on the following topics: Verification methods for continuous variables, categorical forecasts, probability and ensemble forecasts, verification of weather warnings, spatial verification, and estimation of uncertainty in verification results. In addition, the participants will be offered the opportunity to submit datasets for use in projects to be carried out during the week of the workshop. Space for the tutorial is limited. Deadline for application to the tutorial is February 28, 2009.

The scientific workshop will include both invited presentations and contributed oral and poster papers. Papers are solicited on all aspects of verification methodology, including verification of extremes and high impact weather, uncertainty and inference in verification, properties of verification measures, ensemble and probability forecast verification, spatial verification, communication of verification information, user-oriented verification, verification methods for seasonal and climate projections, and verification tools. Note that papers which are limited to the application of well-known verification methods to specific datasets will be accommodated only if space permits; the intent of the workshop is to discuss research and development of verification methods. A website will be set up in January to accommodate electronic submission of abstracts. Deadline for submission of abstracts is March 31, 2009.

Further information on any aspects of the tutorial and workshop can be obtained at Helsinki.verification@fmi.fi.