

# Developing an Integrated Coastal Water Predictive Capability to Promote Resilience to Water Risks

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**Webinar December 15, 2020**

<https://comt.secoora.org/>

**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**



**FATHOM SCIENCE**  
UNDERSTANDING THE DEPTHS



**SECOORA**  
Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing  
Regional Association



**IOOS**  
Integrated Ocean  
Observing System

# Project Goal

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To develop an integrated coastal water predictive capability that will deliver new water intelligence products and information vital for decision making both during high-impact weather events, such as hurricanes, nor'easters, and storm surge, and for routine water management, including marine ecosystem health, transportation, and agriculture.

As coastal ocean prediction science is pushed to the land-sea boundary, a critical need arises for implementation of a robust, efficient, multi-scale coupling methodology to accurately describe the interactions between terrestrial hydrology and the coastal ocean at high resolution and fidelity.

We will address this need by developing a prototype baroclinic prediction system that couples three-dimensional coastal ocean predictions with NOAA's National Water Model (NWM) forecasts.

# Project sites

**Two** river-ocean subsystems representing **distinct end-members** are considered

**1) Pamlico Sound in North Carolina:**  
a classic lagoonal system, where river-ocean exchange is through inlets on the Outer Banks. Especially complex river-ocean interactions happen during high impact events when storms, flooding, shoreline breaching, and/or formation of new inlets occur.



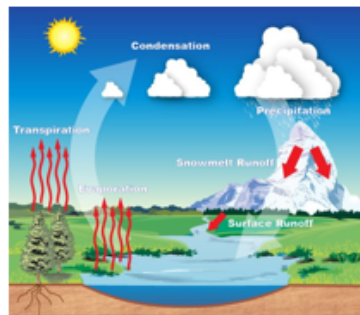
**2) St. Johns in Florida**  
a classic estuarine system, where river-ocean interactions are acting continually and affecting navigation, agriculture, and other important human activities and decisions on a daily basis.





# Project Approach

National Water Model (NWM)  
(WRF-Hydro)



NWM streamflow output  
points



NWM streamflow nowcast and forecast

Analysis & Assimilation	Short-Range	Medium-Range	Long-Range
Cycling Frequency			
Hourly	Hourly	4 x Day at 00Z, 06Z, 12Z, 18Z	Daily Ens (16 mem)
Forecast Duration			
- 3 hrs	0-18 hours	0-10 days	0-30 days
Forecast Latency (latency of external forcing data accounts for most of delay)			
1 hour	1 hour 45 mins	6 hours	19 hours

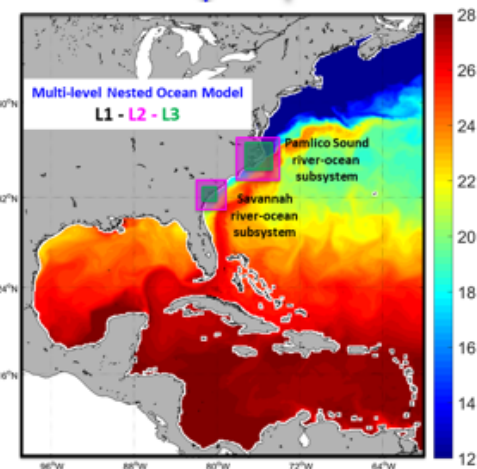
Collaboration with operational  
agencies and R2O:

- NOS CO-OPS
- NWS NWC
- NOS CSDL

End users engagement and product  
development:

- flooding
- water quality management
- marine ecosystem
- navigation ...

Prototype river-ocean coupled  
nowcast/forecast of:  
**total water level (tides & surge),  
& currents  
salinity,  
water temperature,  
residence time**  
for Pamlico Sound and St. Johns  
River and their adjacent shelf  
seas





# CNAPS

Coupled Northwest Atlantic Prediction System

<http://go.ncsu.edu/cnaps>

CNAPS Marine Weather Ocean Waves Ocean Circulation Virtual Oceanographer Model Validation

Map

Satellite



Google

Imagery ©2020 NASA, TerraMetrics Terms of Use

Providing daily nowcast and 3-day forecast of regional marine environment

Sea Level Pressure



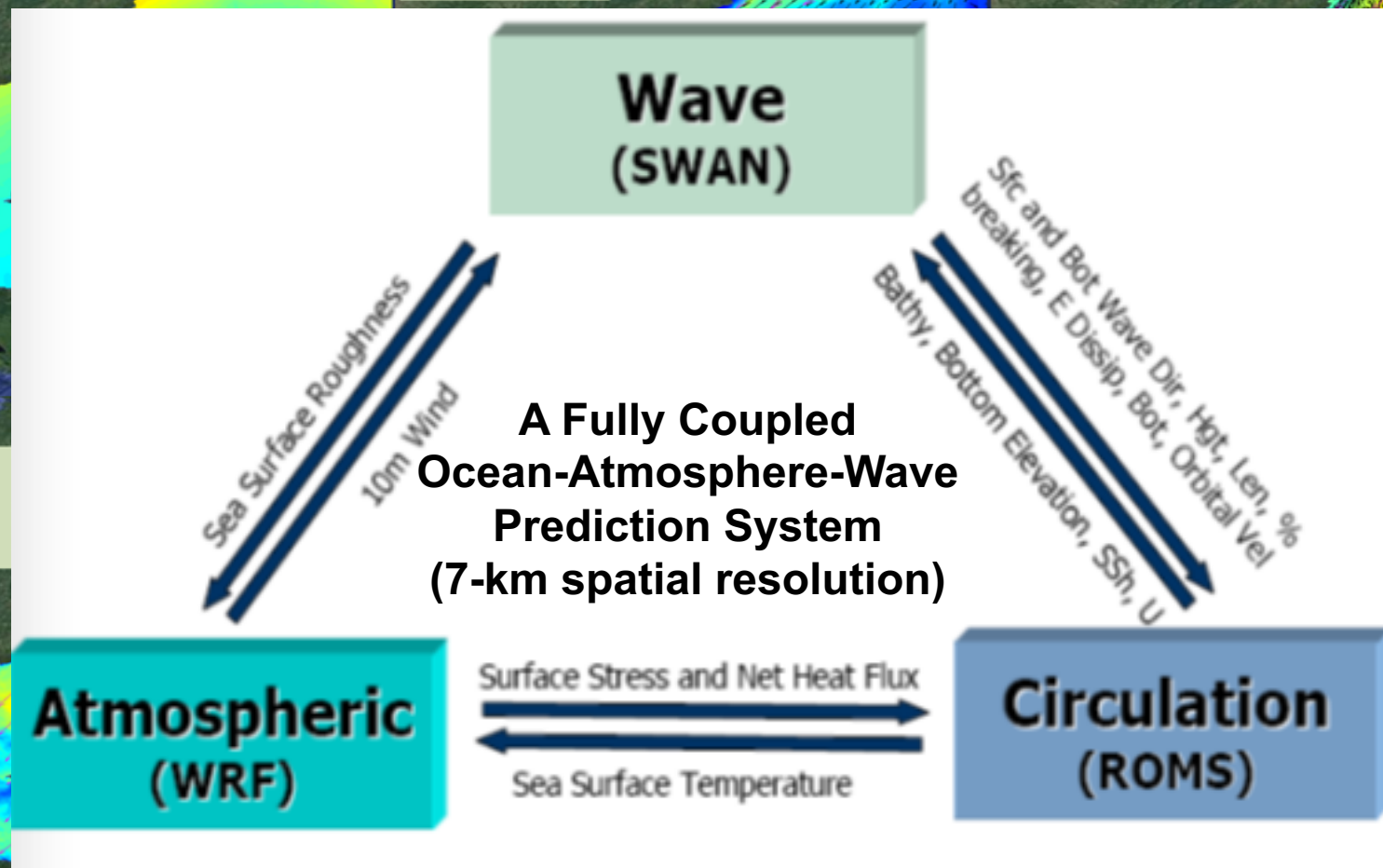
Surface Wave



Surface Current



10-m wind



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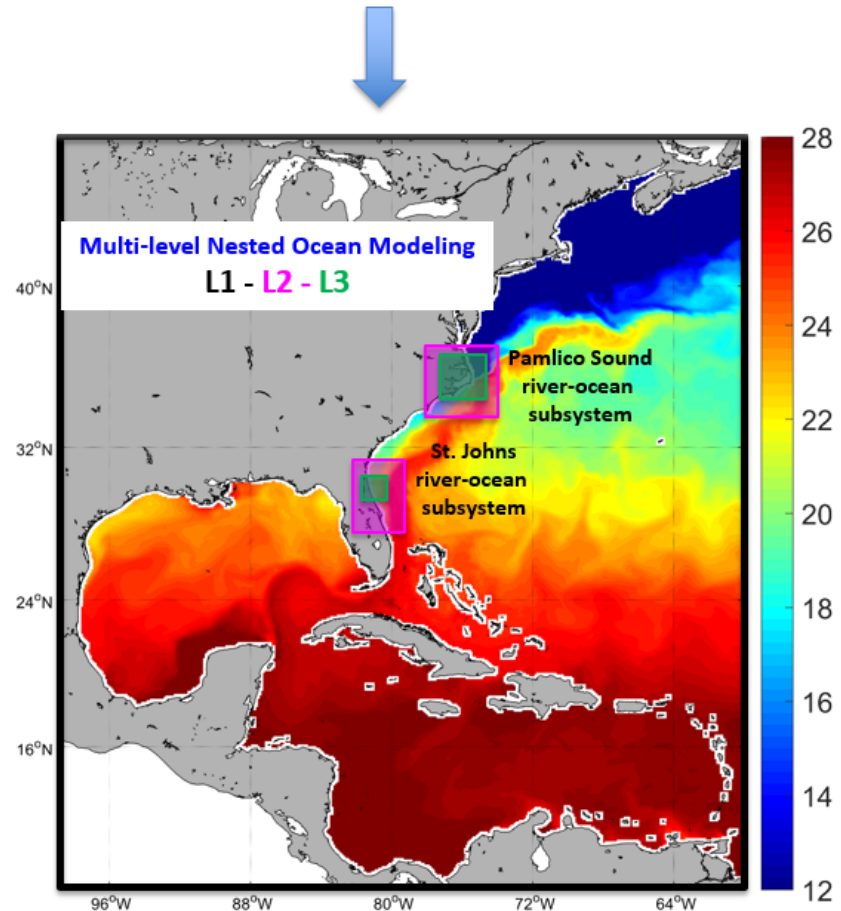
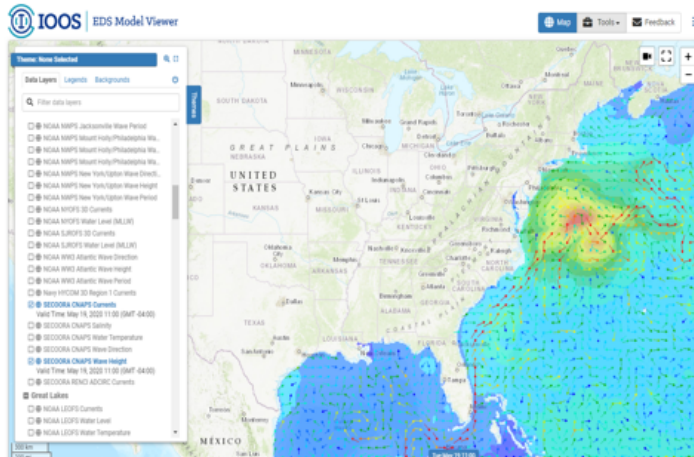
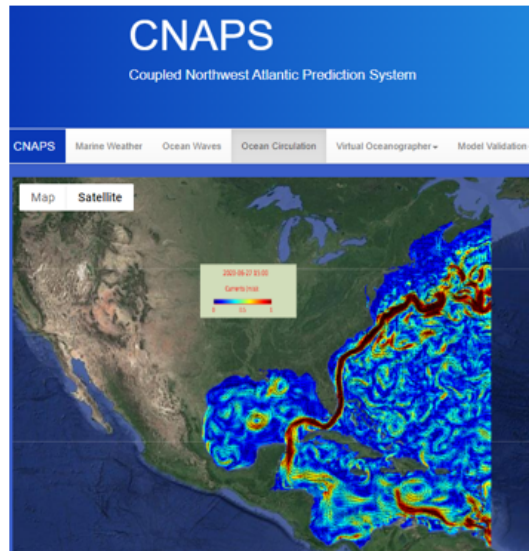
# Project Approach (con't)

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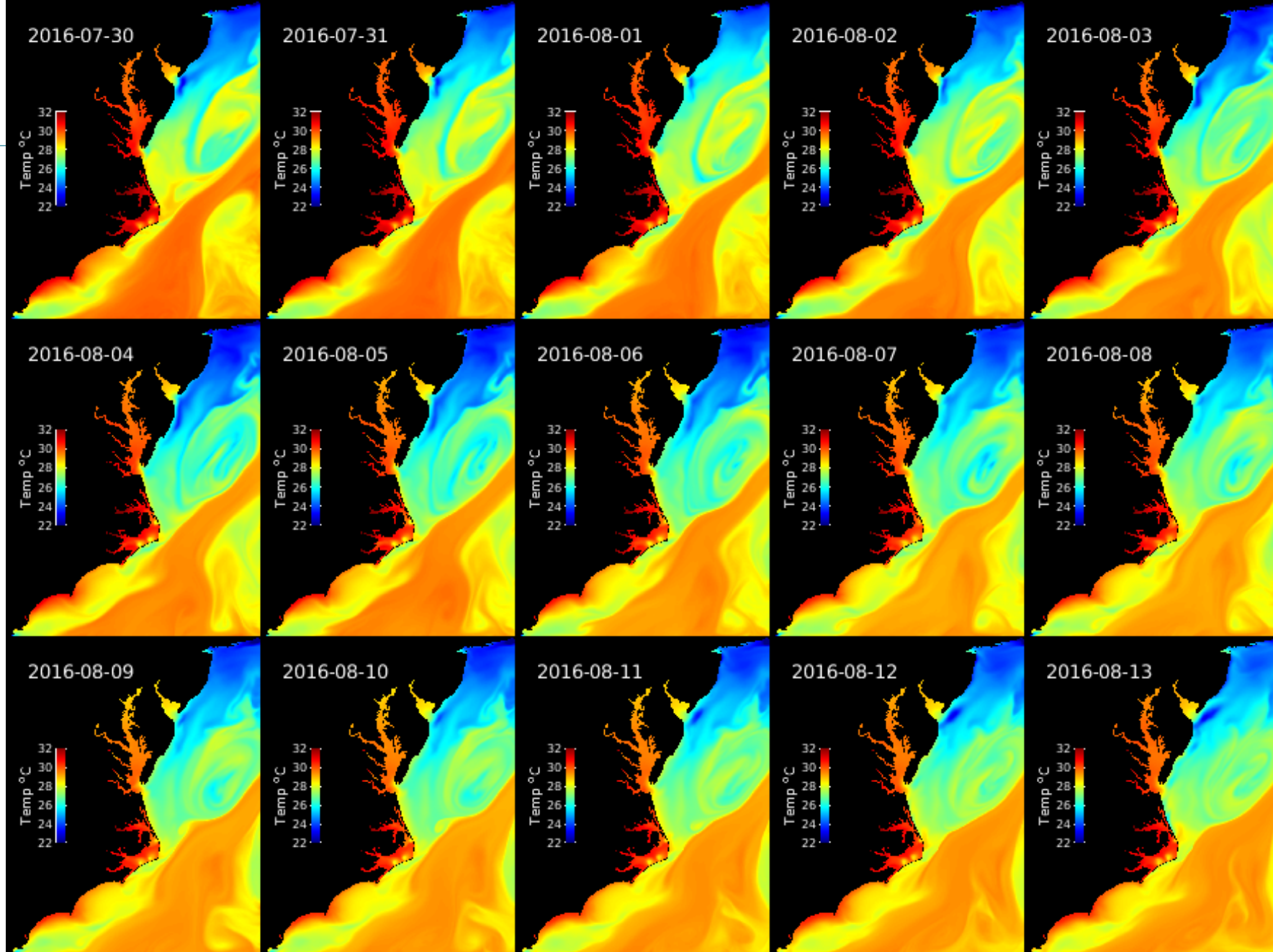
Based on NOAA IOOS funded three-dimensional baroclinic NW Atlantic regional prediction system

<http://omgsrv1.meas.ncsu.edu:8080/CNAPS/>

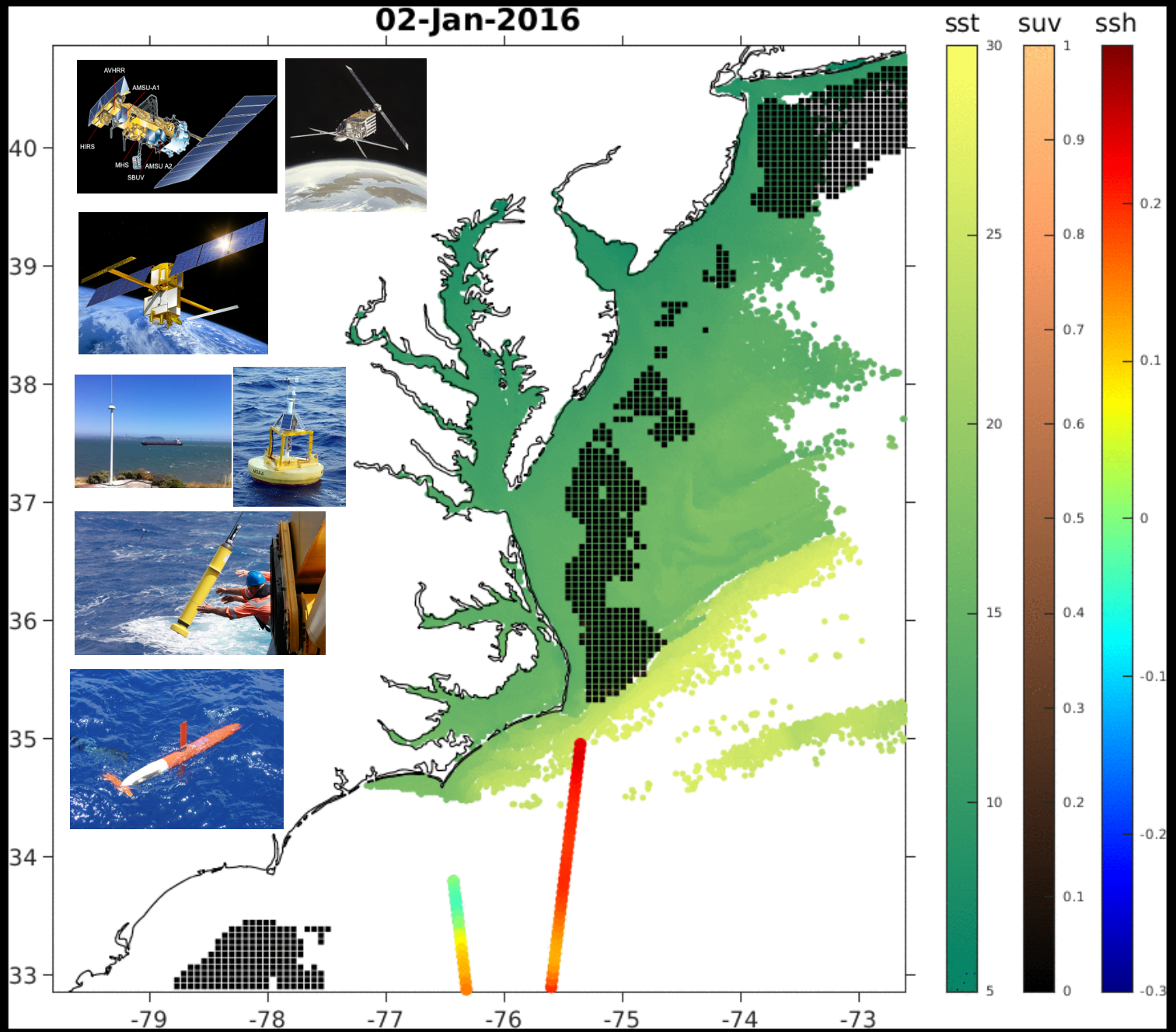
<https://eds.ioos.us/>







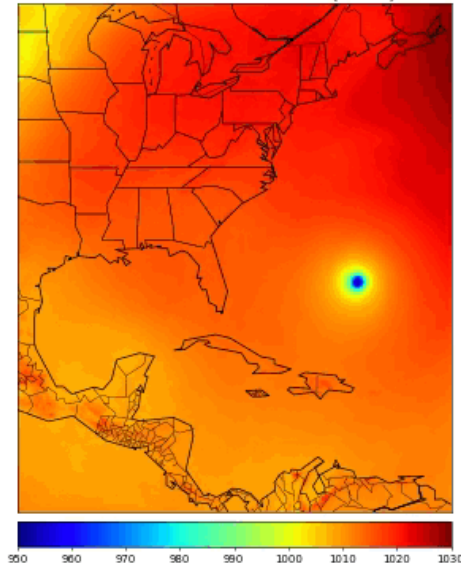
**02-Jan-2016**



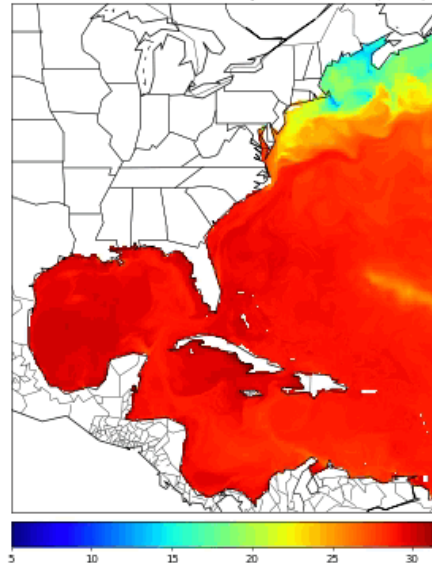
Forecast Valid: 12 Sep 2018 00Z UTC

# Hurricane Florence

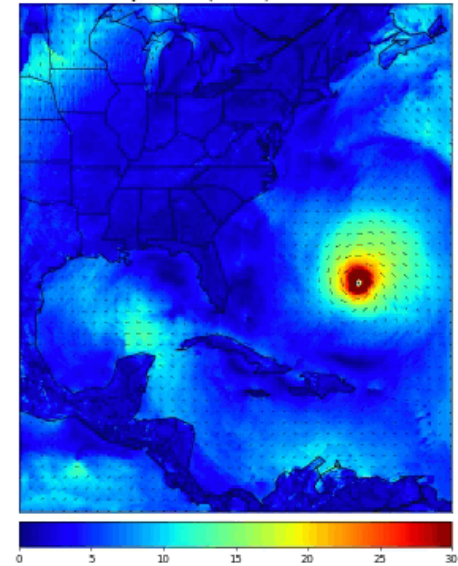
Sea Level Pressure (hPa)



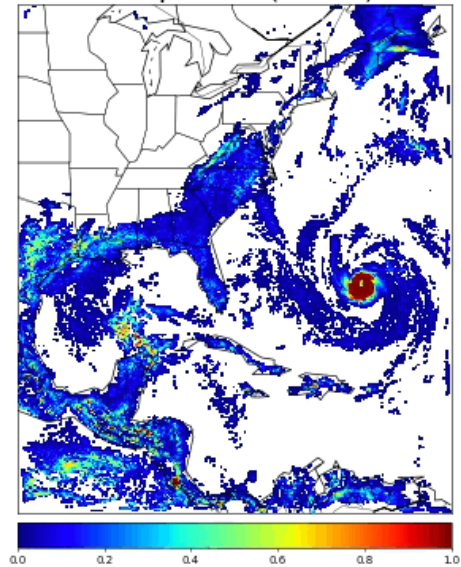
Sea Surface Temperature ( $^{\circ}$  C)



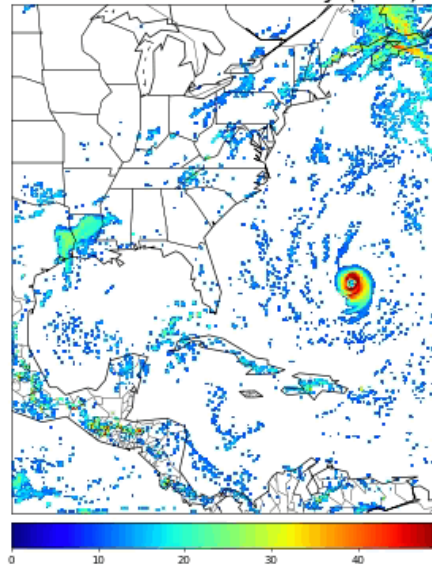
Wind Speed (m/s) + Direction



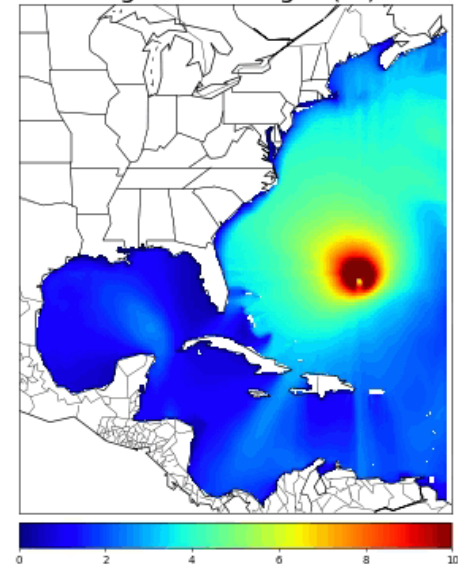
Precipitation (inches)



Sim. Radar Reflectivity (dBZ)



Sig. Wave Height (m)



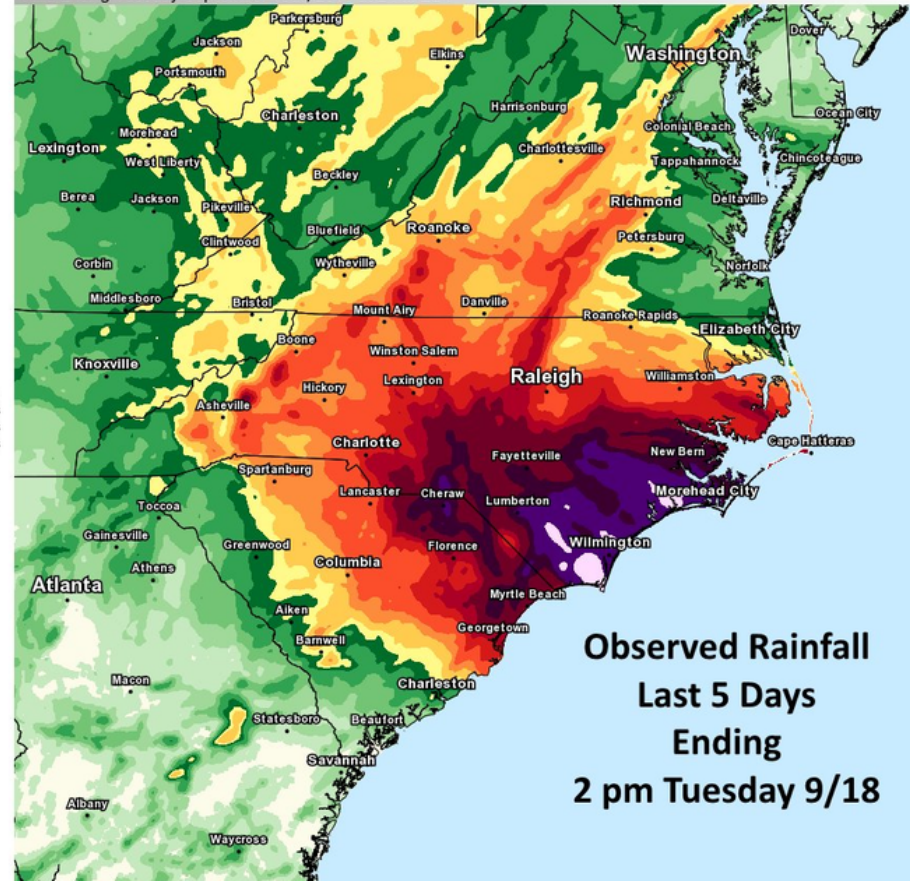
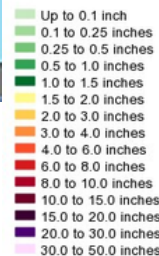




Florence dropped 35.93 in. (913 mm) of rain in Elizabethtown, NC, the wettest tropical cyclone in the Carolinas.

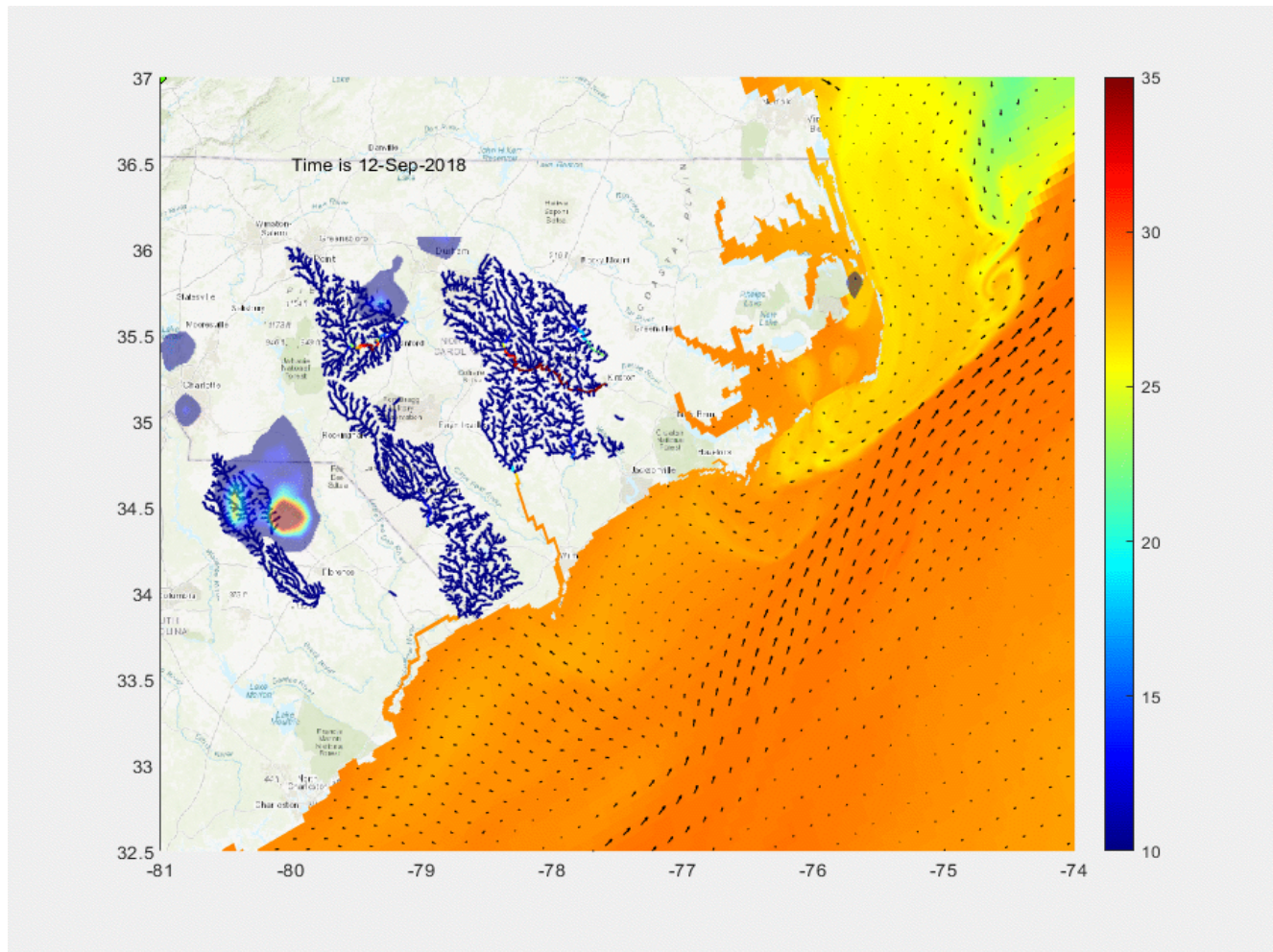
## Observed Precipitation

Valid Ending Tuesday September 18th, 2018 at 2 PM EDT





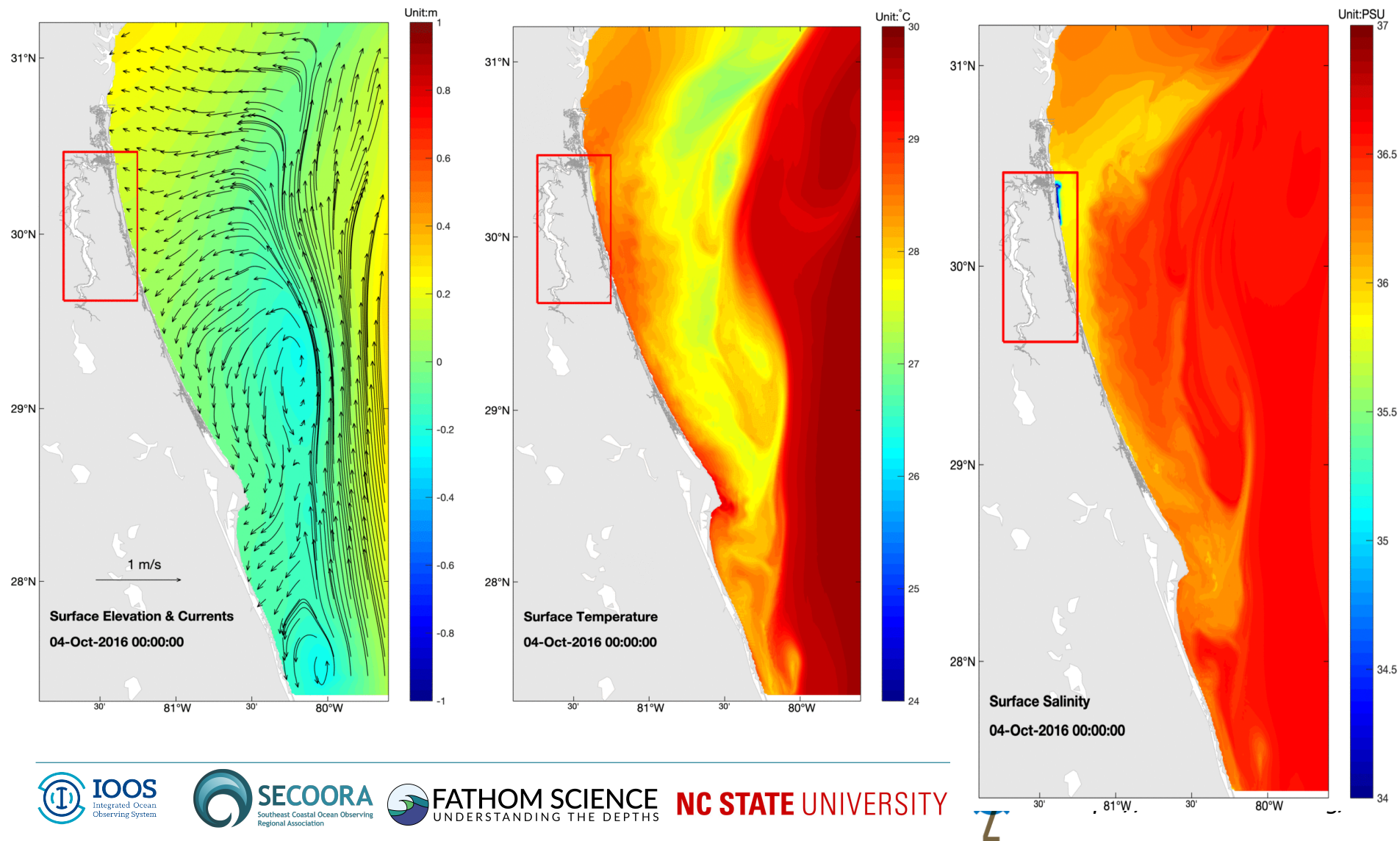
# Model coupling of ocean-atmosphere-river



In collaboration with John Warner (USGS) and George Xue (LSU)

# St. Johns system (800 m resolution) : L2 model simulated

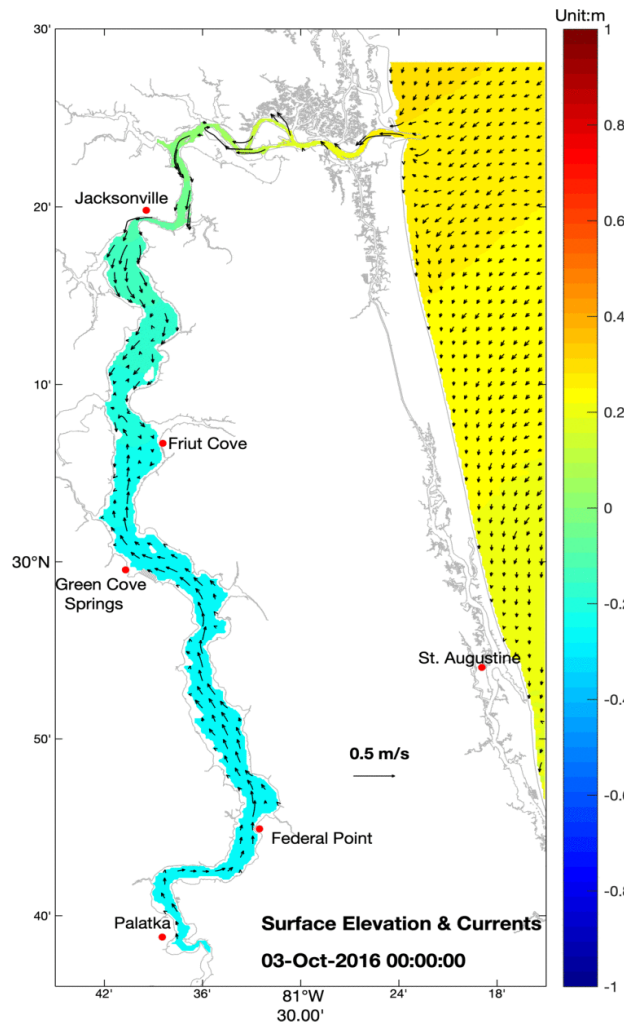
L2 model simulated SSH, SST, SSS on Oct 4- Oct 13. 2016



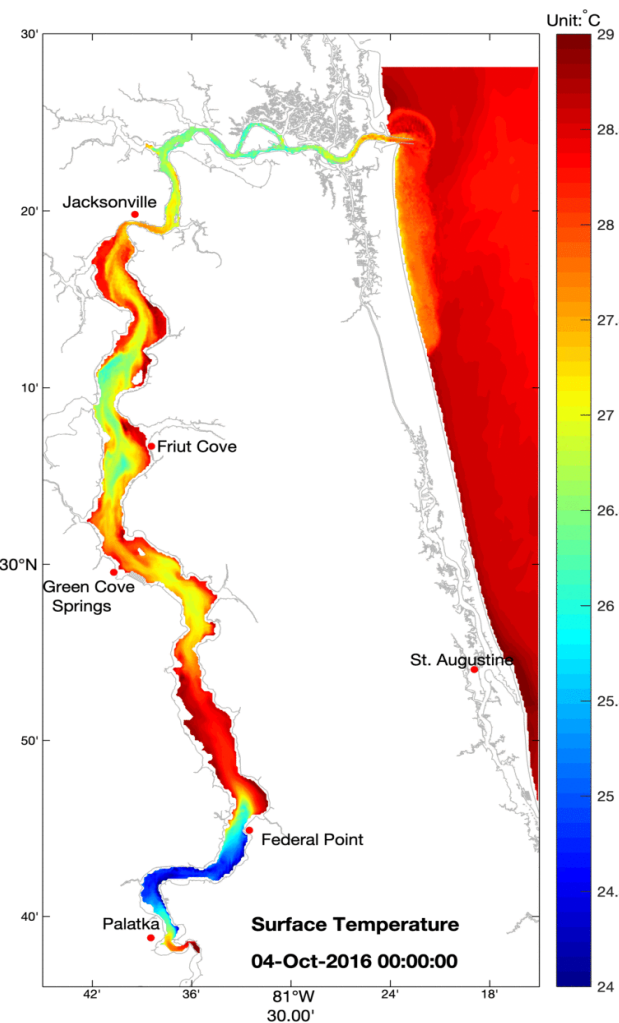


# St. Johns system (160 m resolution) : L3 model simulated

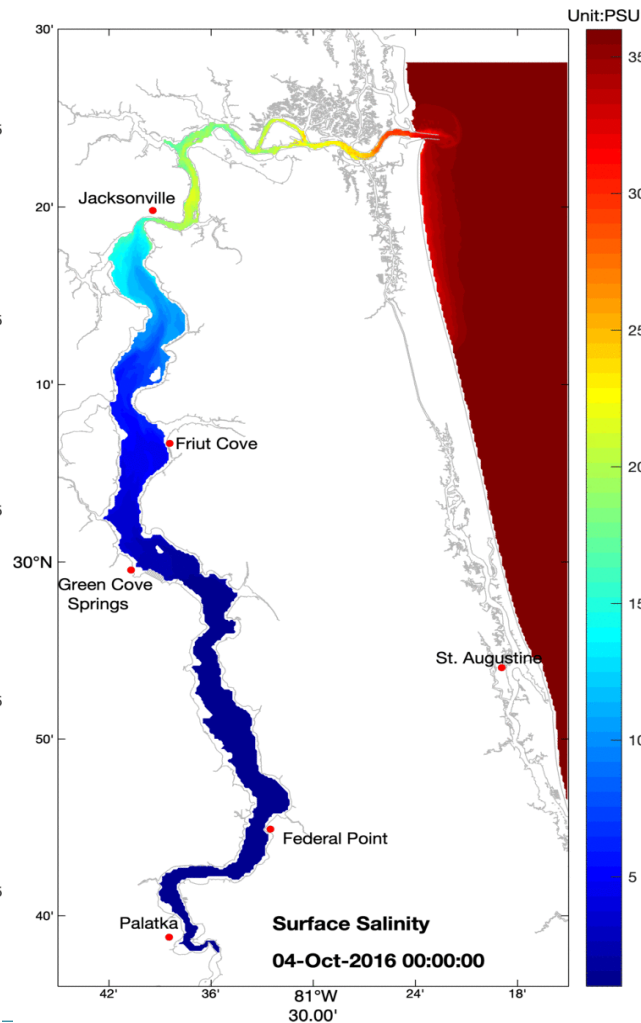
## SSH



## SST

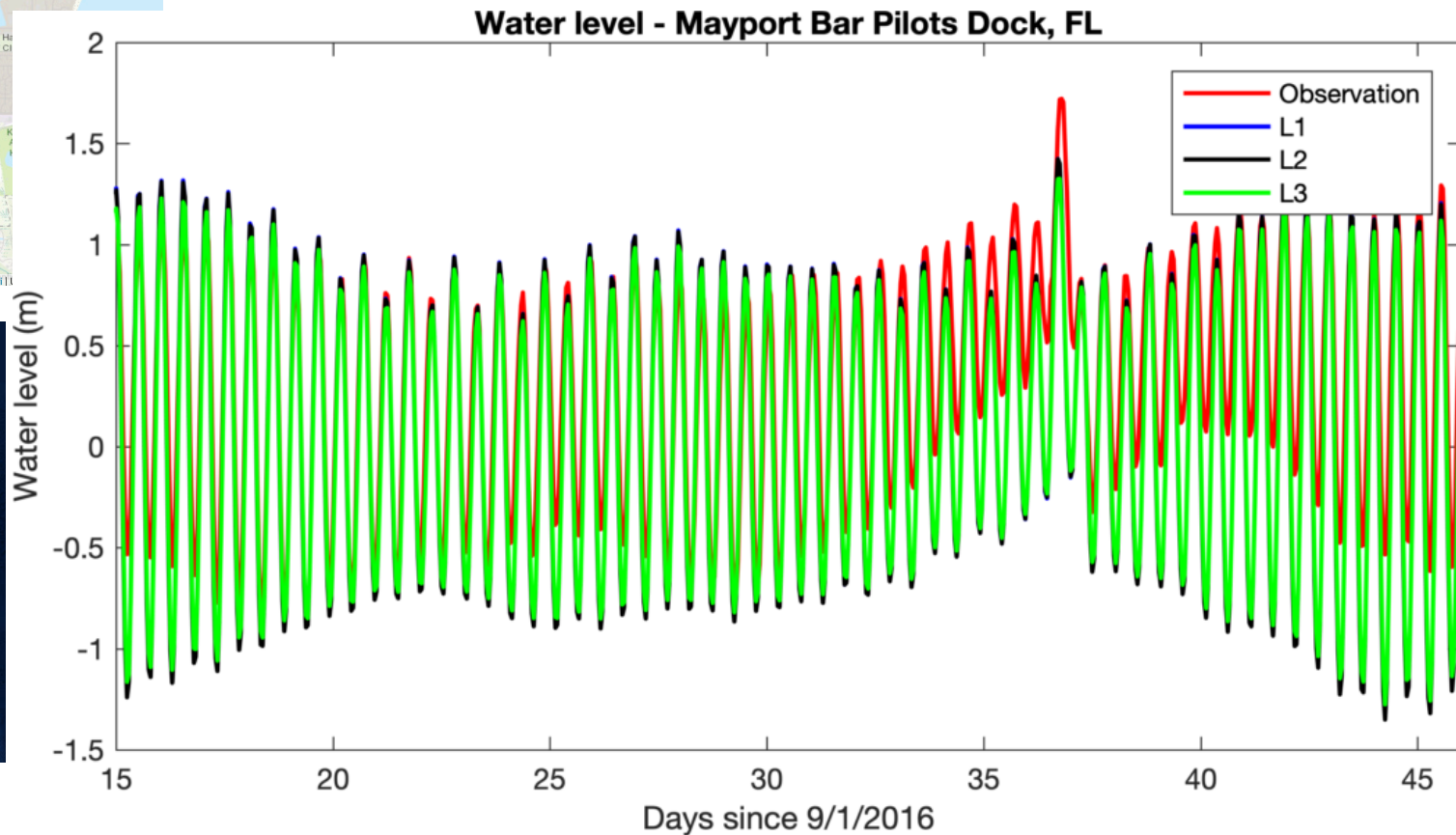
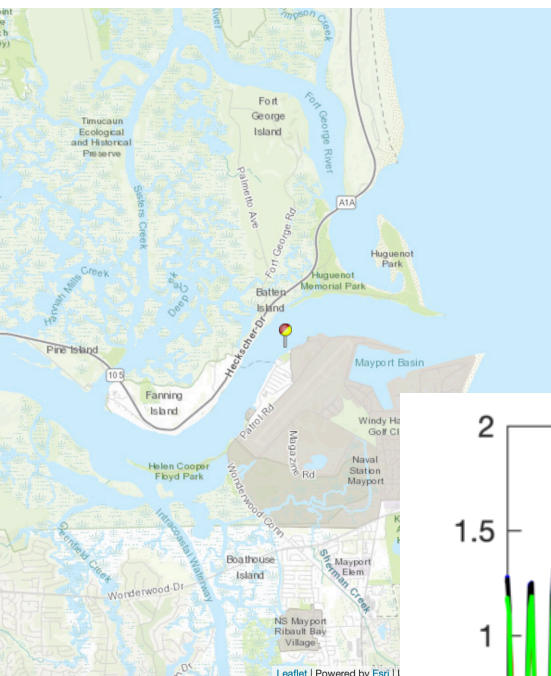


## SSS



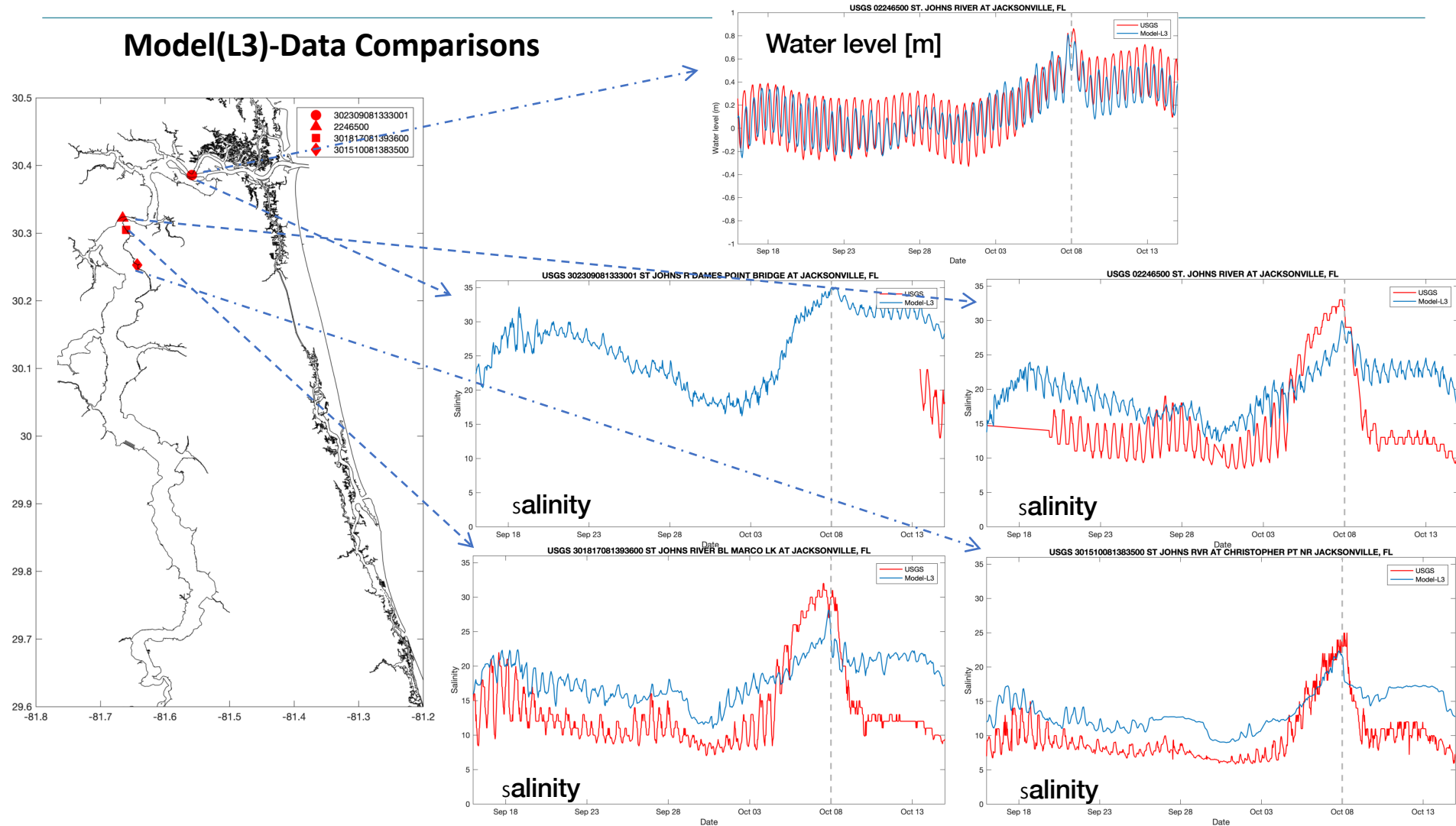
# SJR model validation

## Storm Surge verification



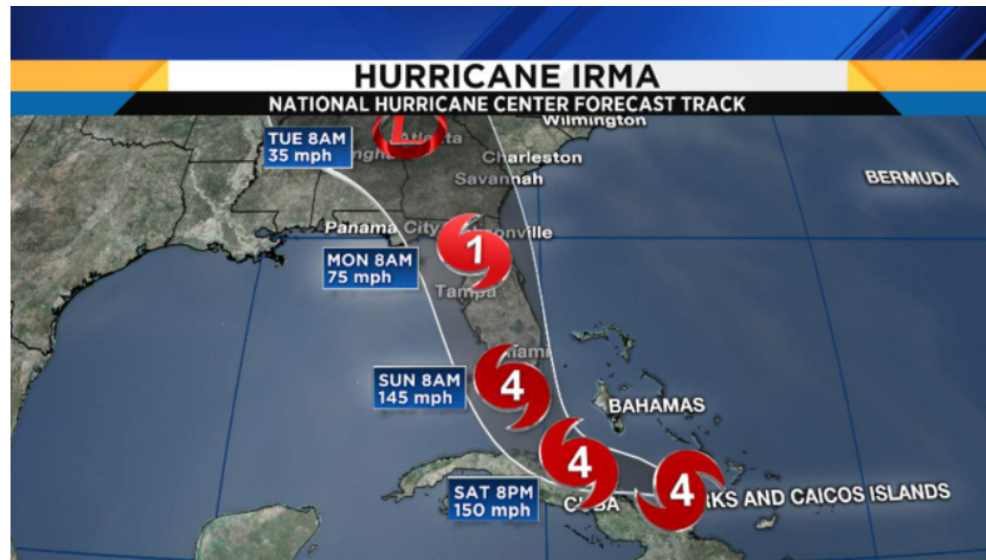
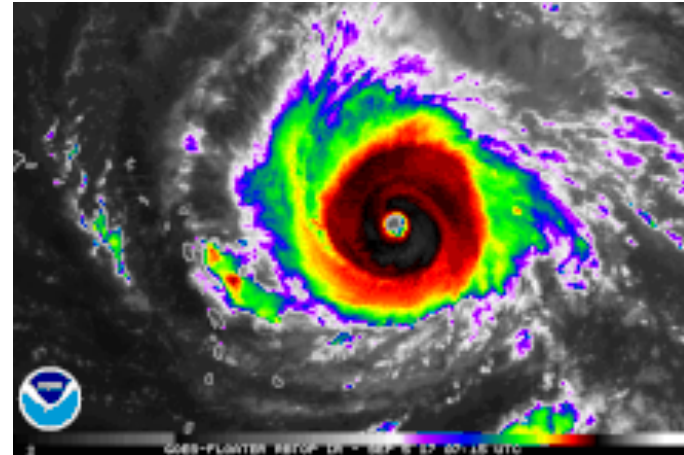
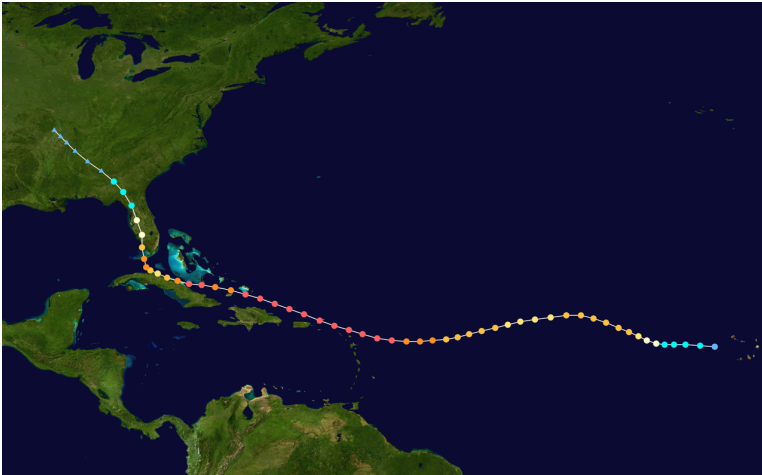
# SJR model validation (con't)

## Model(L3)-Data Comparisons





# Hurricane Irma (Aug 3 – Sept 14, 2017)



17

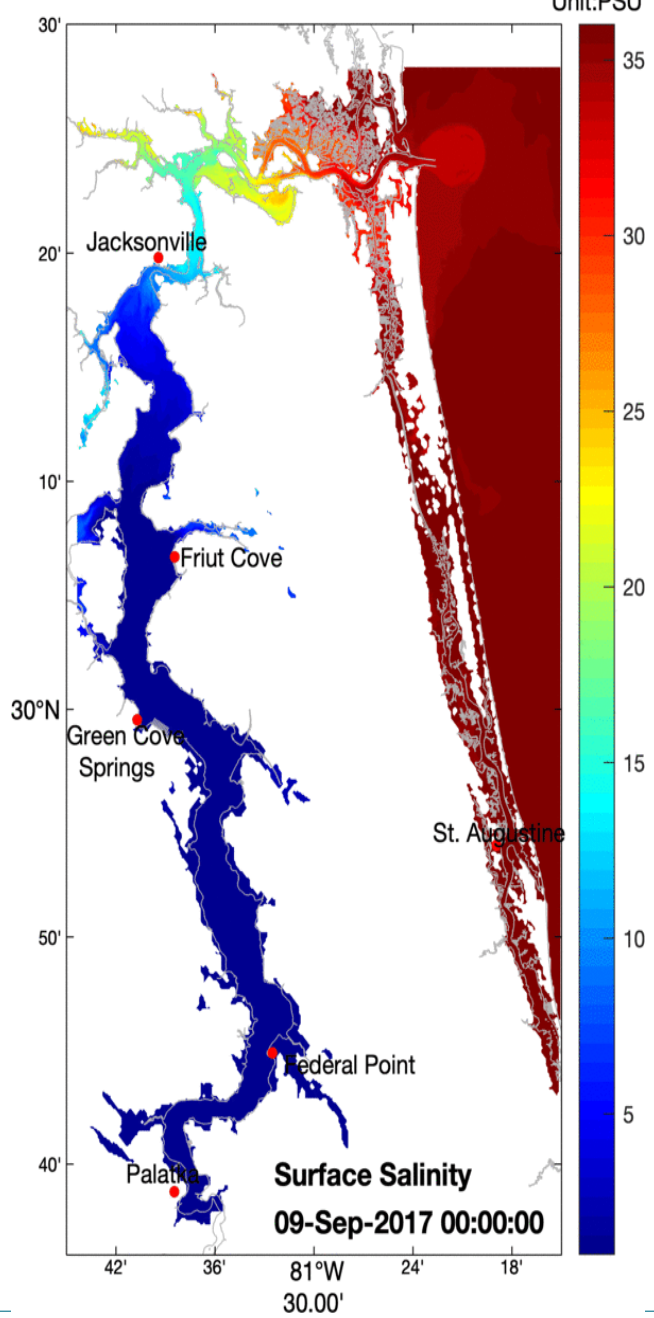
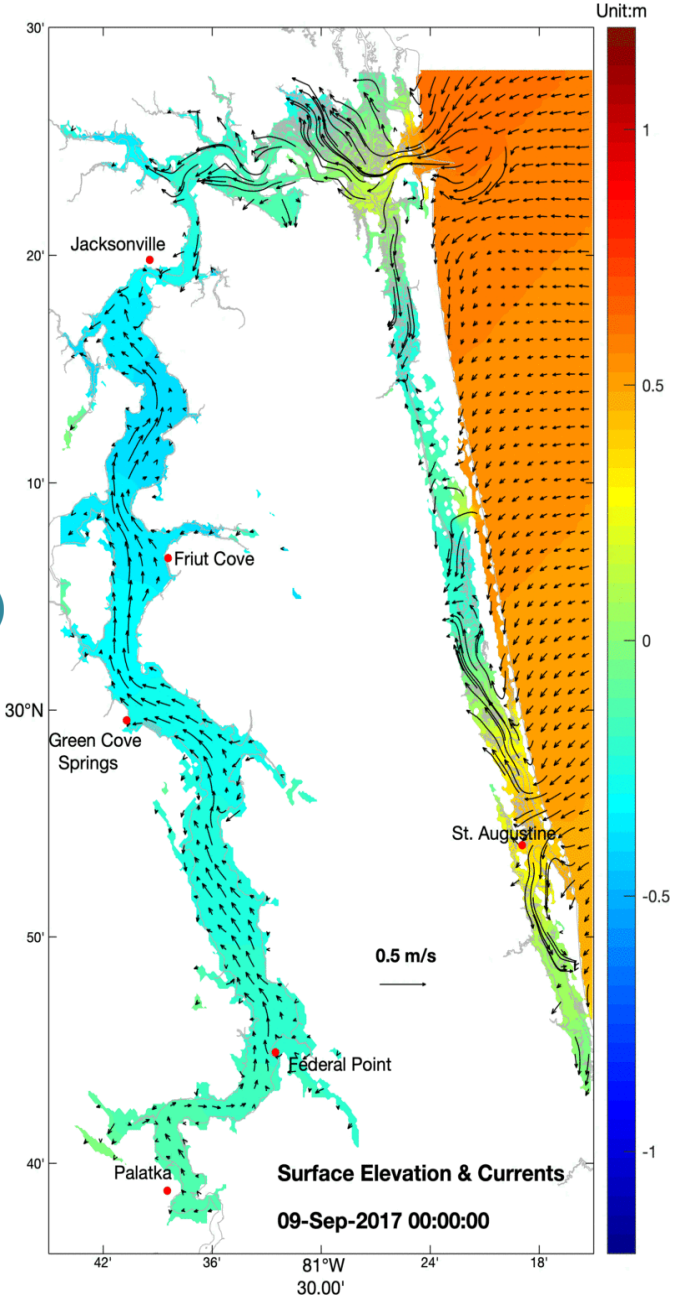
L3 (160 m res)

Hourly prediction:

LEFT:  
SSH + Surface (u,v)

RIGHT:  
Surface Salinity

With wetting/drying





## Goal

- Develop an integrated coastal water predictive capability that will deliver new water intelligence products and information vital for decision making
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## Approach

- A prototype baroclinic prediction system that couples three-dimensional coastal ocean predictions with NOAA's National Water Model (NWM) forecasts

## Progress

- developed functional multi-level nested baroclinic ocean models for two sub regional study sites.
- continue working on extensive validation against observations from regional networks
- continue working on ocean-river coupling

## Stakeholder engagement

- Flooding and coastal inundation
- Water resource and water supply management
- Water quality risks to marine ecosystem and coastal communities
- Marine transportation and navigation