

Enhancing Visualization of Storm Surge Guidance

N Tull^{*1}, **JC Dietrich**¹, TE Langan², H Mitasova³, CA Rucker^{*1}, BO Blanton⁴, JG Fleming⁵, RA Luettich⁶

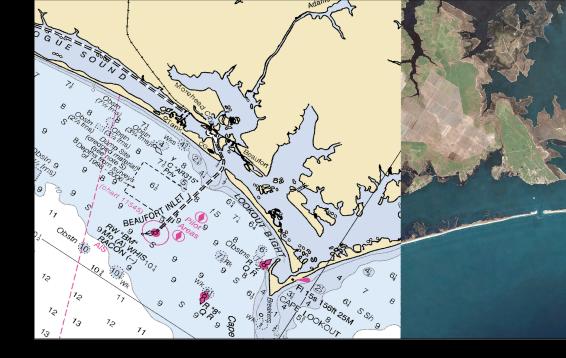
¹Dep't of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering, NC State Univ
 ²North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program, NC Emergency Management
 ³Dep't of Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences, NC State Univ
 ⁴Renaissance Computing Institute
 ⁵Seahorse Coastal Consulting
 ⁶Institute for Marine Sciences, UNC Chapel Hill

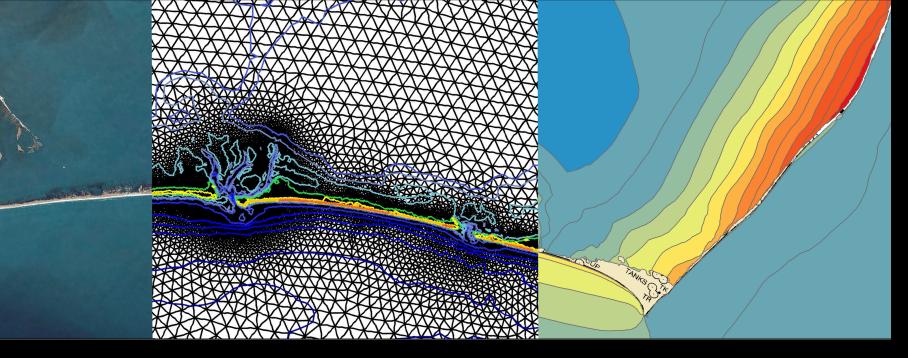
Coffee & Viz Seminar Series Hunt Library, NCSU, 19 October 2018











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COASTAL RESILIENCE CENTER A U.S. Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence



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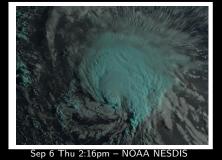
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Sep 12 Wed 6:35am – Alex Gerst







Sep 14 Fri 6:39am – NOAA Satellites

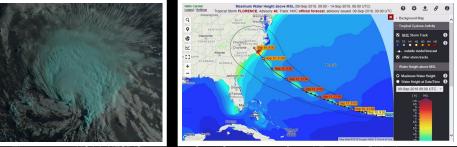


Sep 16 Sun 8:04am – NOAA Satellites

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Sep 8 Sat 7:52pm – National Hurricane Center

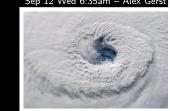




Sep 6 Thu 2:16pm – NOAA NESDIS Sep 9 Sun 8:31am – Coastal Emergency Risks Assessment

Sep 12 Wed 2:06pm – National Hurricane Center

Sep 12 Wed 6:35am – Alex Ge







Sep 11 Tue 1:52pm – National Hurricane Center



Sep 14 Fri 6:39am – NOAA Satellites

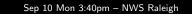


Sep 16 Sun 8:04am – NOAA Satellites

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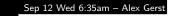
Sep 8 Sat 7:52pm – National Hurricane Center









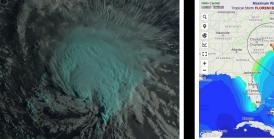






Sep 11 Tue 1:52pm – National Hurricane Center





 Water Height at Date/Time
 Water Height 09:00 UTC
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o o Thu 2:10pm – NOAA NESDIS

Sep 9 Sun 8:31am – Coastal Emergency Risks Assessmer

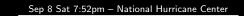
9am – Eric Webb



Sep 14 Fri 6:39am – NOAA Satellites



Sep 16 Sun 8:04am – NOAA Satellites









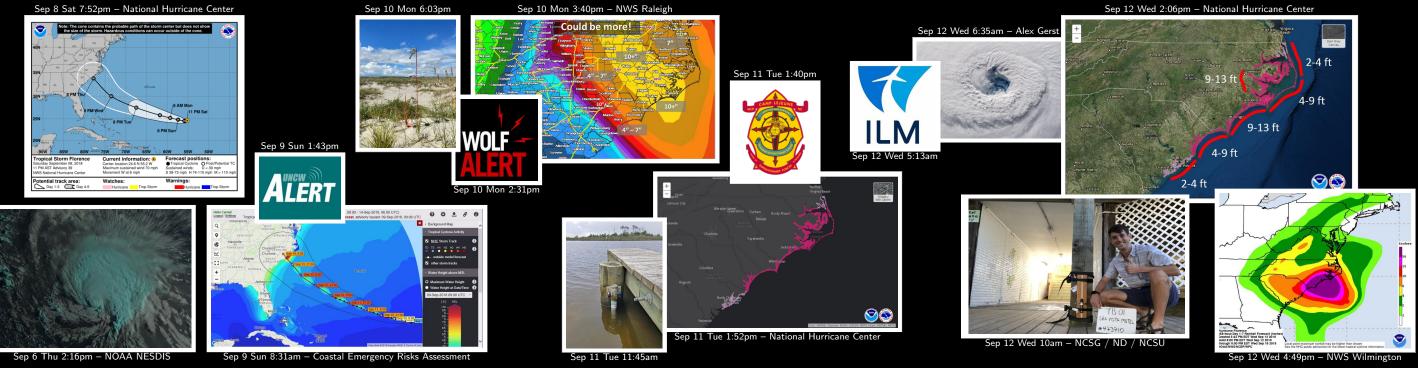


Sep 14 Fri 6:39am – NOAA Satellites



Sep 16 Sun 8:04am – NOAA Satellites

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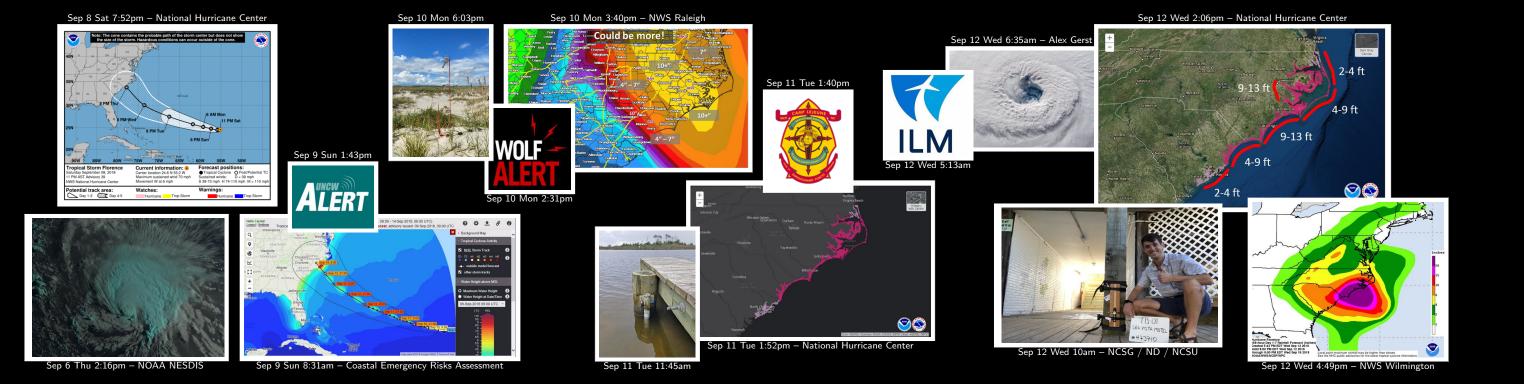


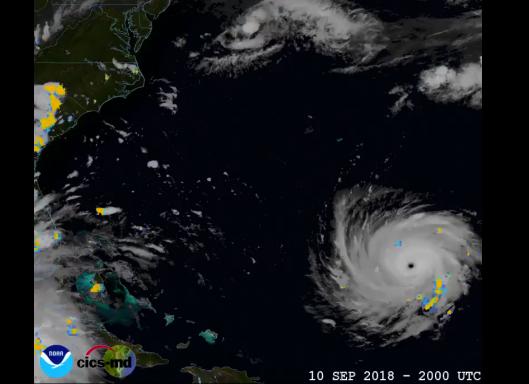
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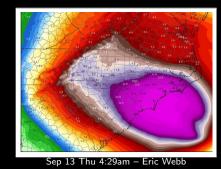


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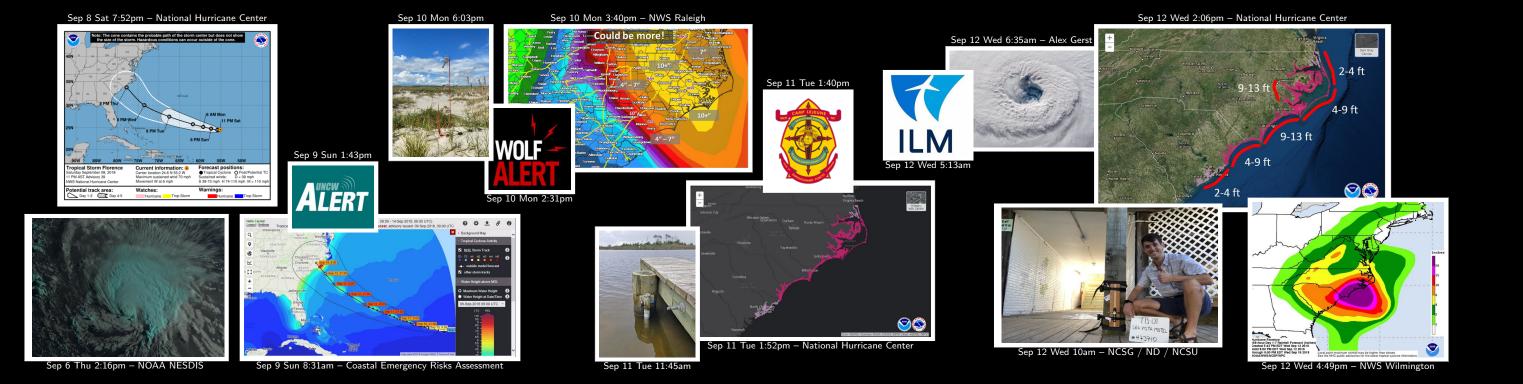


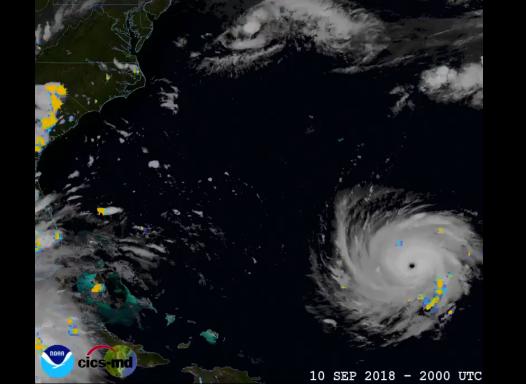
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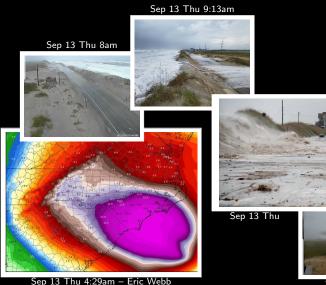


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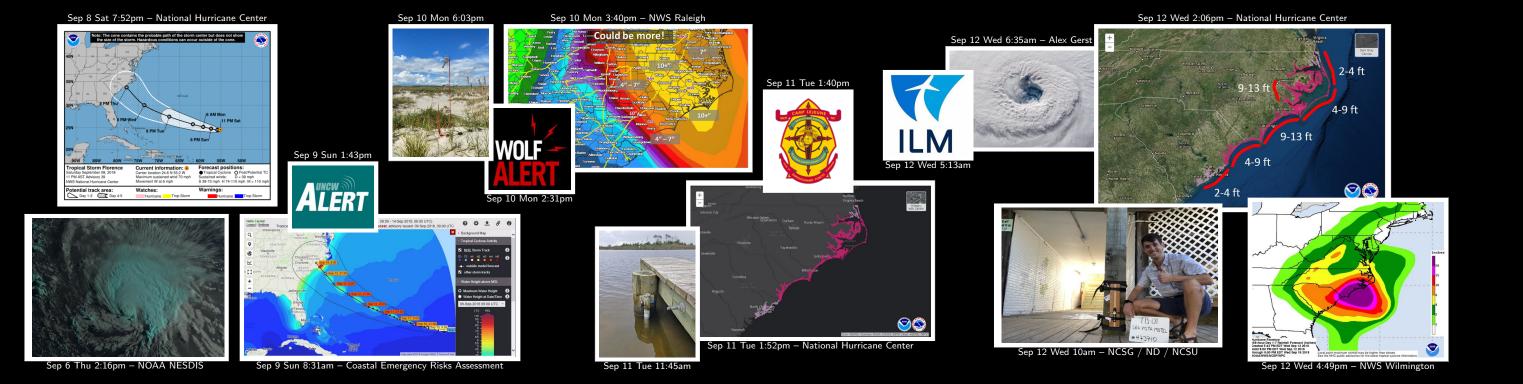
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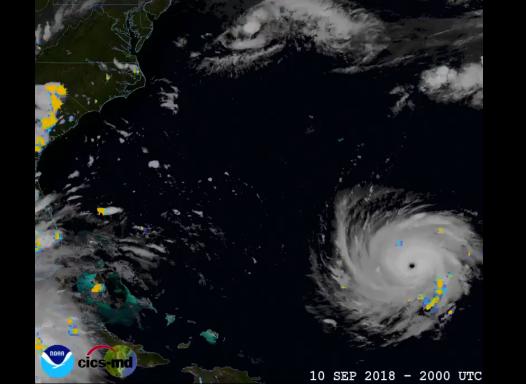
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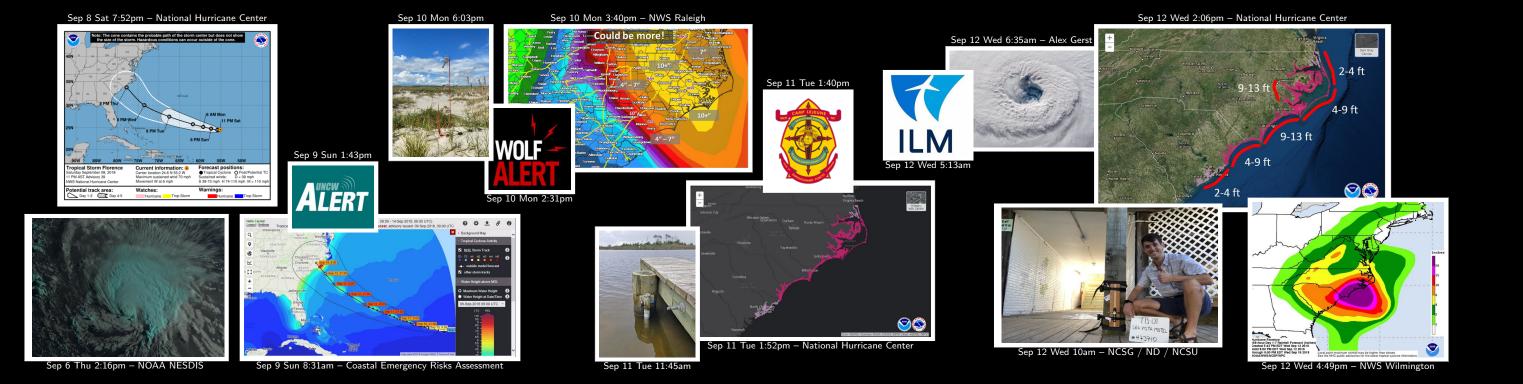
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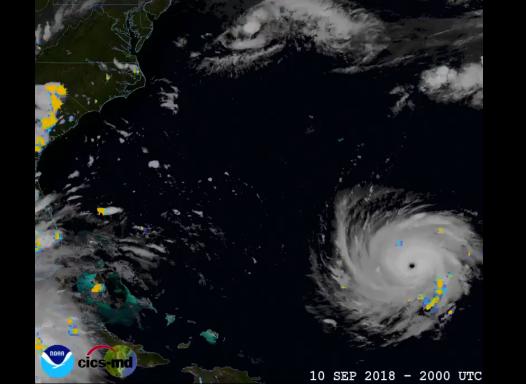
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Sep 13 Thu 7:31pn







2:19pm – Mark Sudduth



ep 14 Fri 6:39am – NOAA Satellite



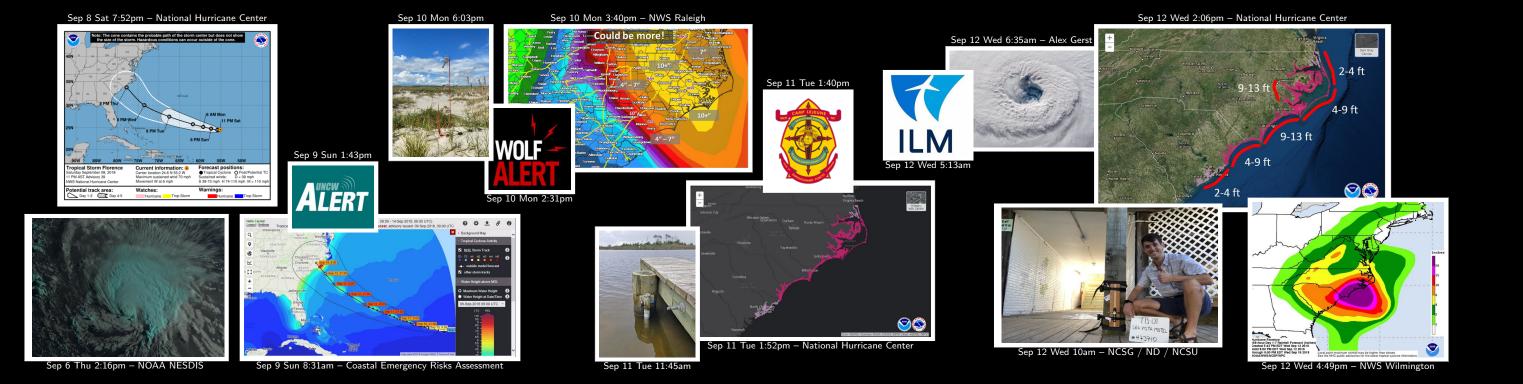
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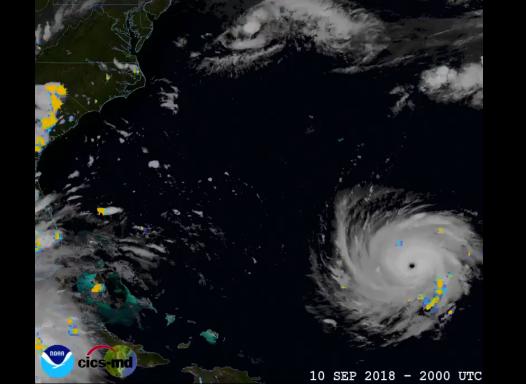
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Sep 13 Thu 7:31pm





Sep 14 Fri – Getty Image

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1 2:19pm – Mark Sudduth





Sep 14 Fri 7:06pm – Andrew Carter



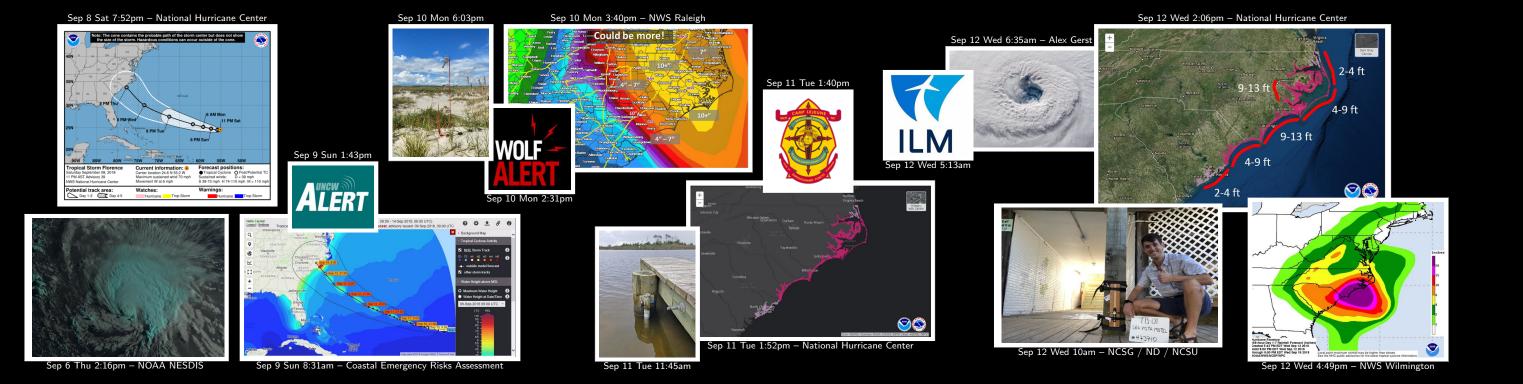
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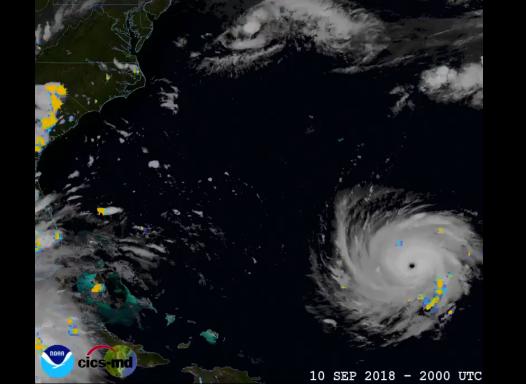
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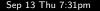
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Sep 14 Fri 7:18am – News & Observer







Sep 14 Fri – Getty Images











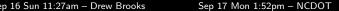


Sep 14 Fri 7:06pm – Andrew Carter

ep 15 Sat 9:05pm – Allen Nos











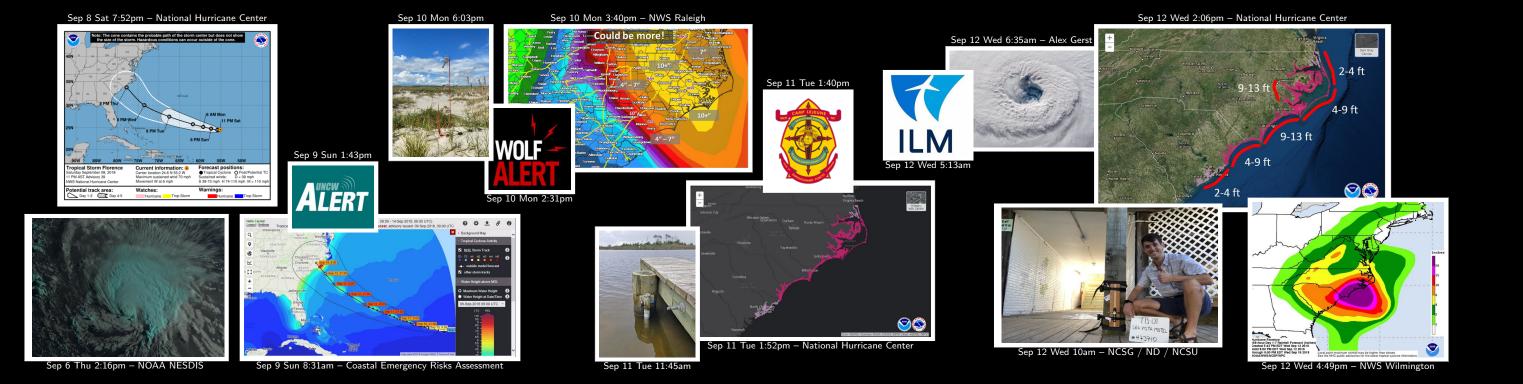
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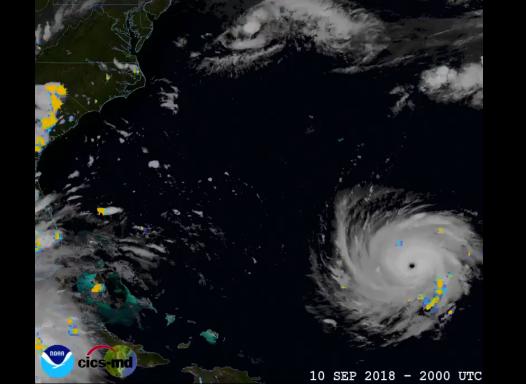






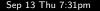








Sep 14 Fri 7:18am - News











Service and Long and Service

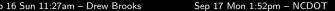


Sep 14 Fri 7:06pm – Andrew Carter













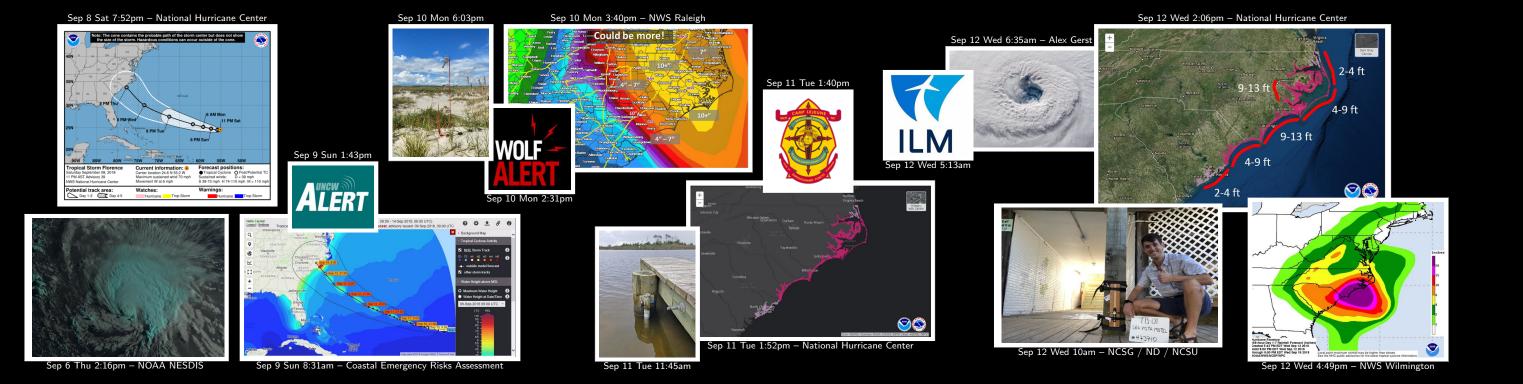
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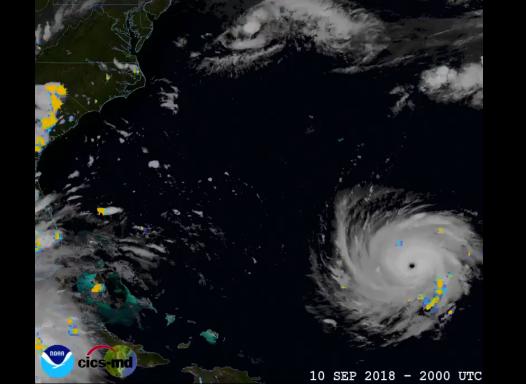














Sep 13 Thu 7:31pm







2:19pm – Mark Sudduth





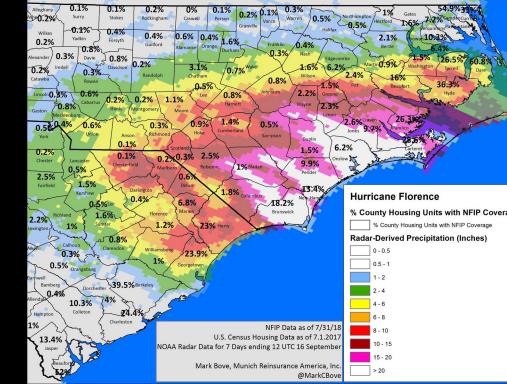
Sep 14 Fri 7:06pm – Andrew Carter



Sep 15 Sat 5:12pm



Sep 16 Sun 8:04am – NOAA Satellites



Sep 16 Sun 11:27am – Drew Brooks

Sep 17 Mon 1:52pm – NCDO



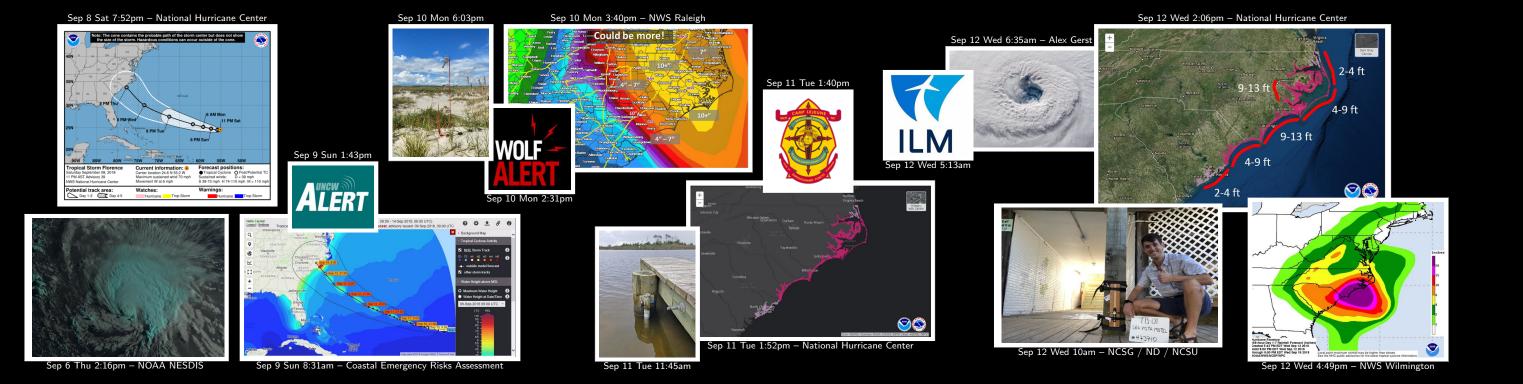
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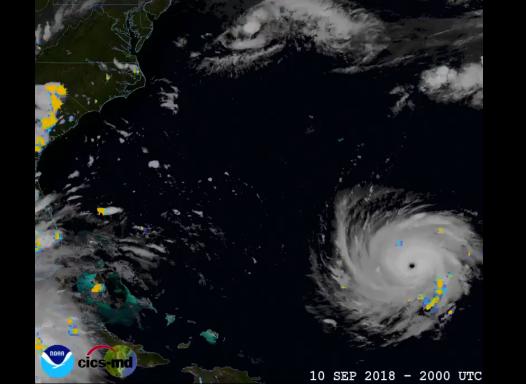




Sun 1:01pm – NC DA ∢□▶∢母▶∢≣▶∢≣▶















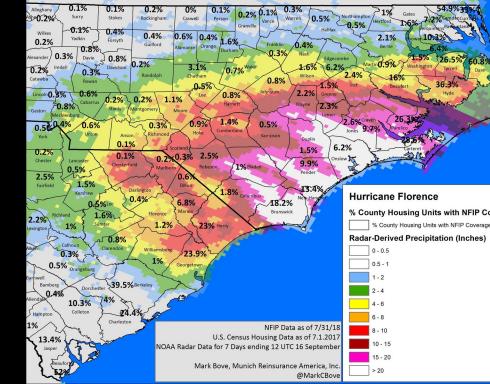




Sep 14 Fri 7:06pm – Andrew Carter

















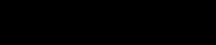


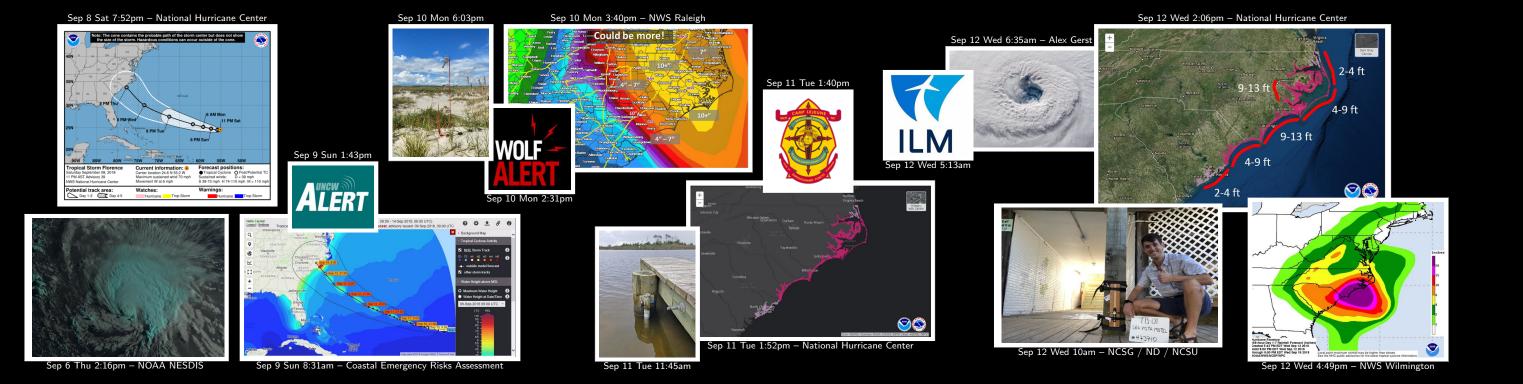


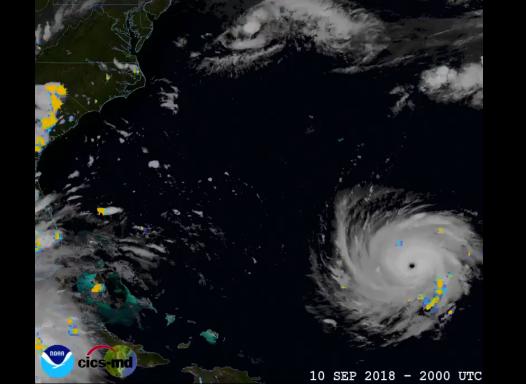














Sep 13 Thu 7:31pm







2:19pm – Mark Sudduth





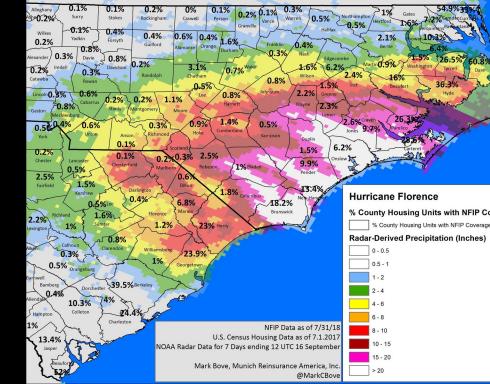
Sep 14 Fri 7:06pm – Andrew Carter



Sep 15 Sat 5:12pm



Sep 16 Sun 8:04am – NOAA Satellites







Sep 17 Mon 5:12pm – NCEM

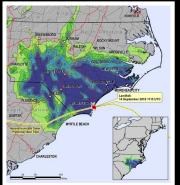
Sep 18 Tue 4:17am – Fayetteville PD







Sep 20 Thu 10:13am – NWS



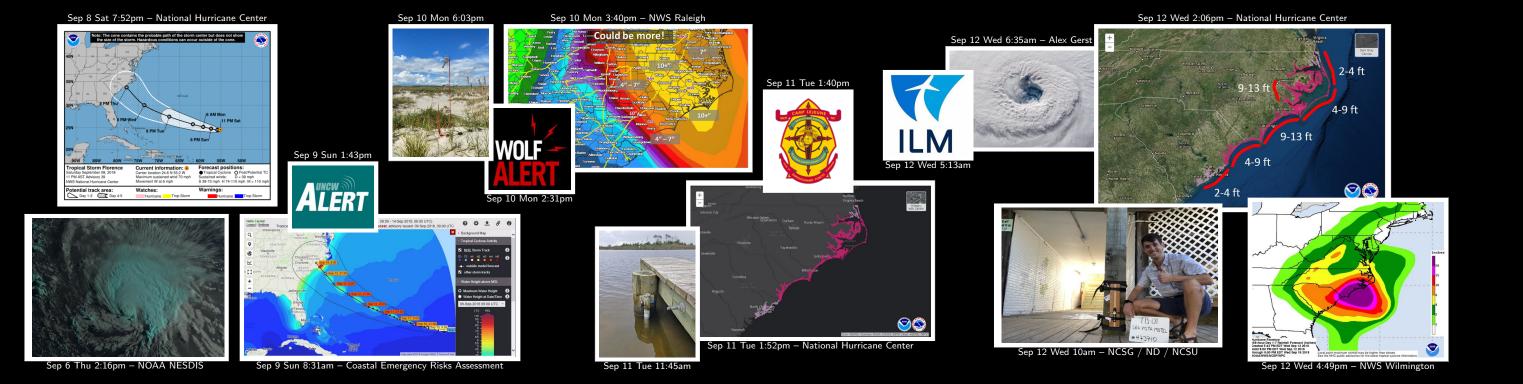
Sep 18 Tue 7:57pm – Dakota Smith

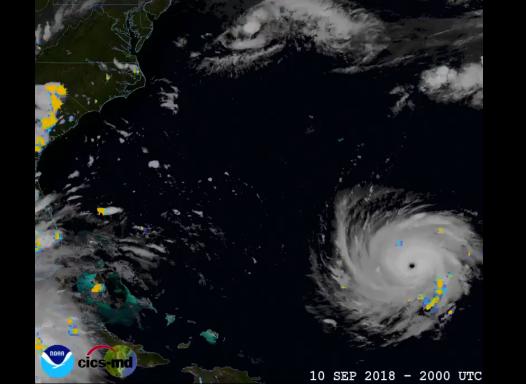




Sep 26 Wed – NCSU

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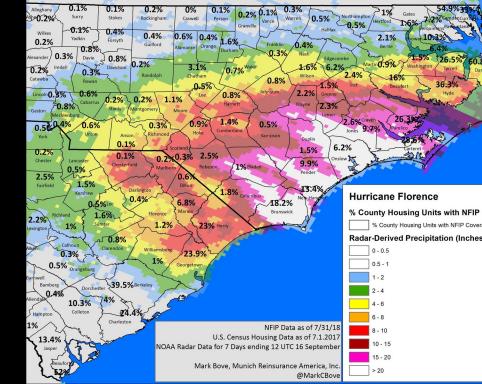


















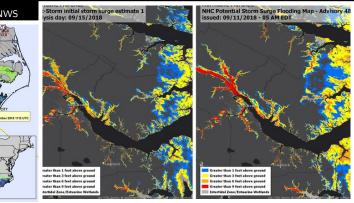






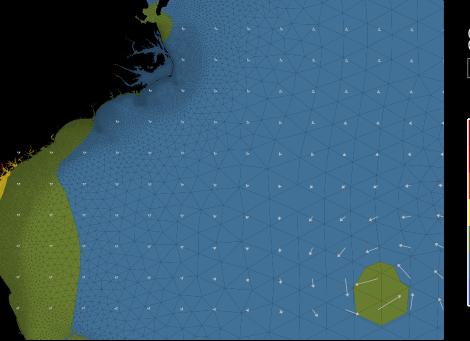


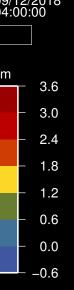




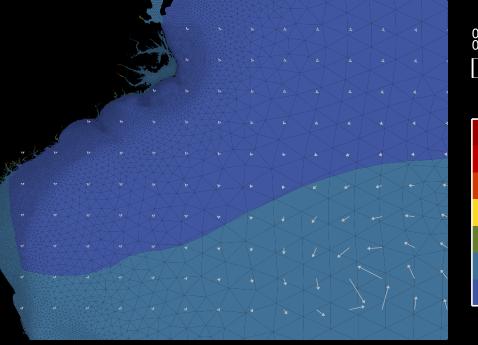






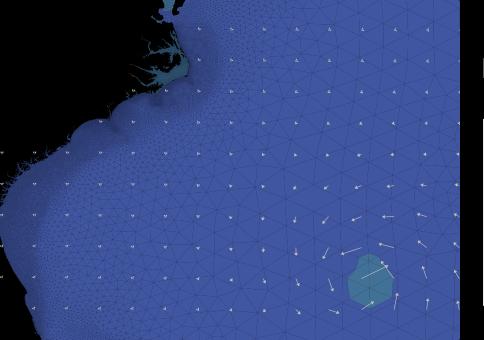


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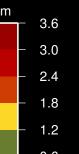




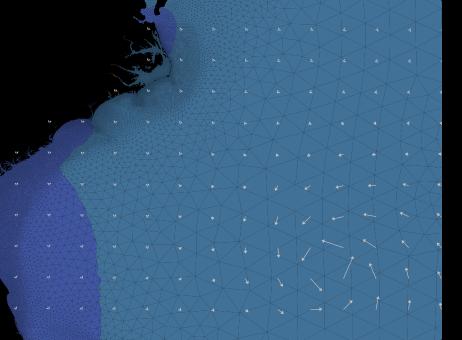
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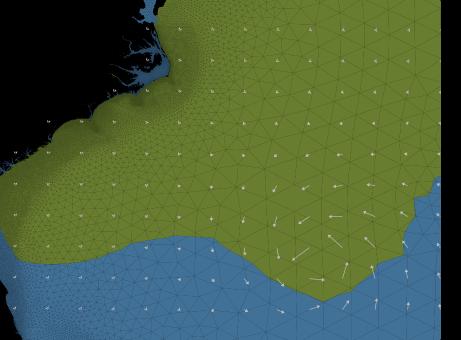
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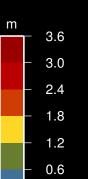


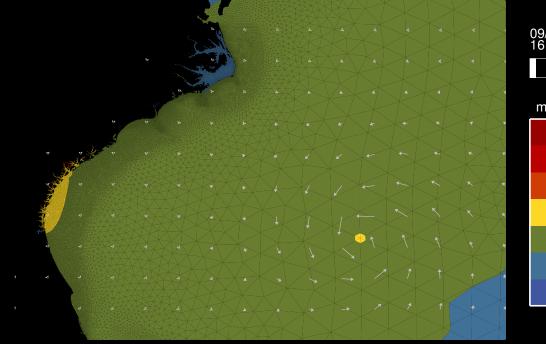


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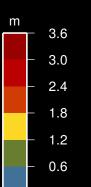


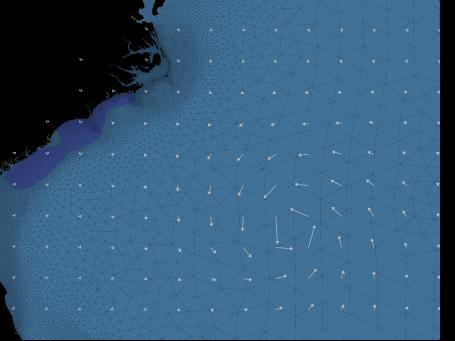




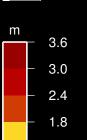


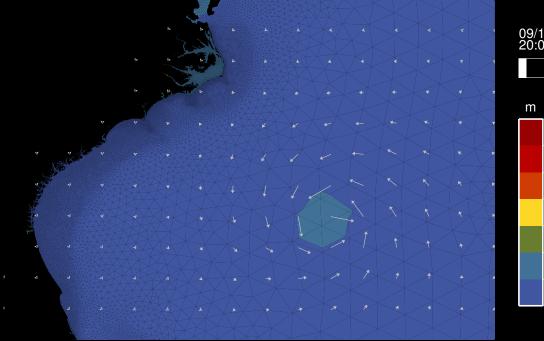




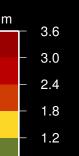




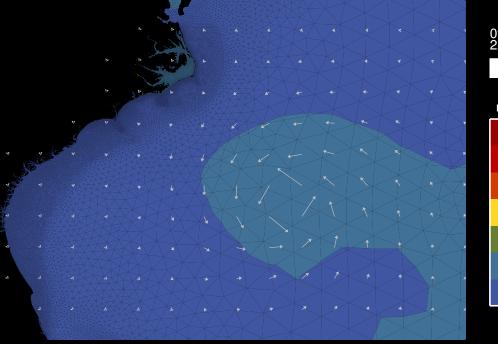








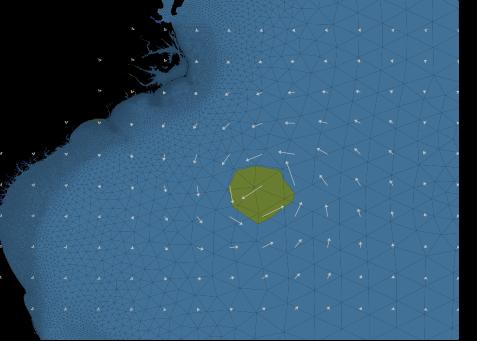
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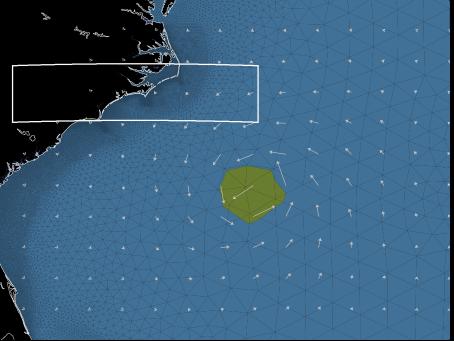




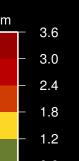




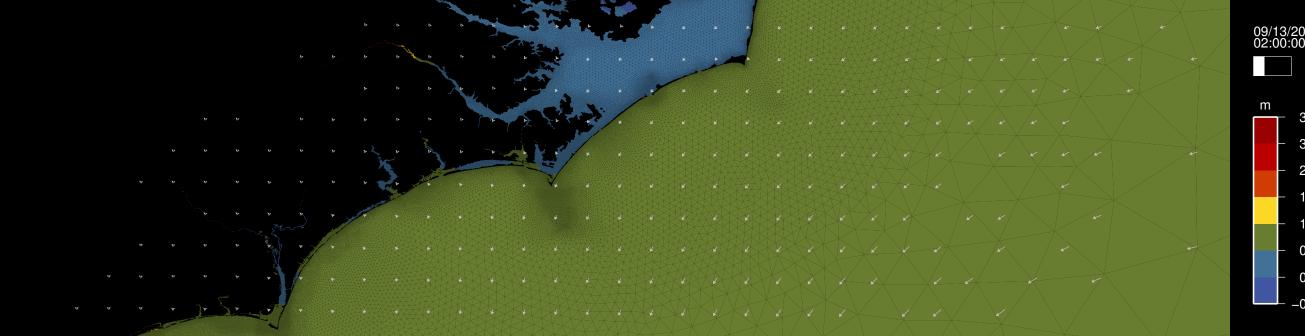
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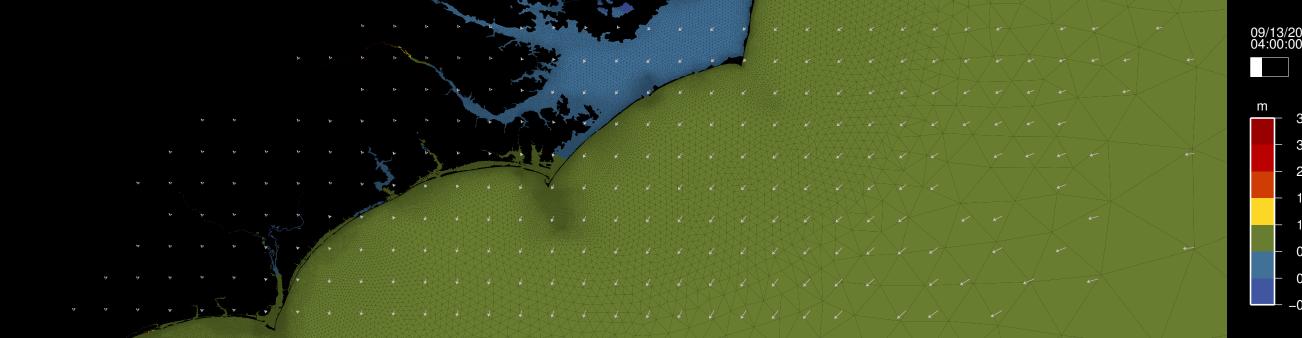


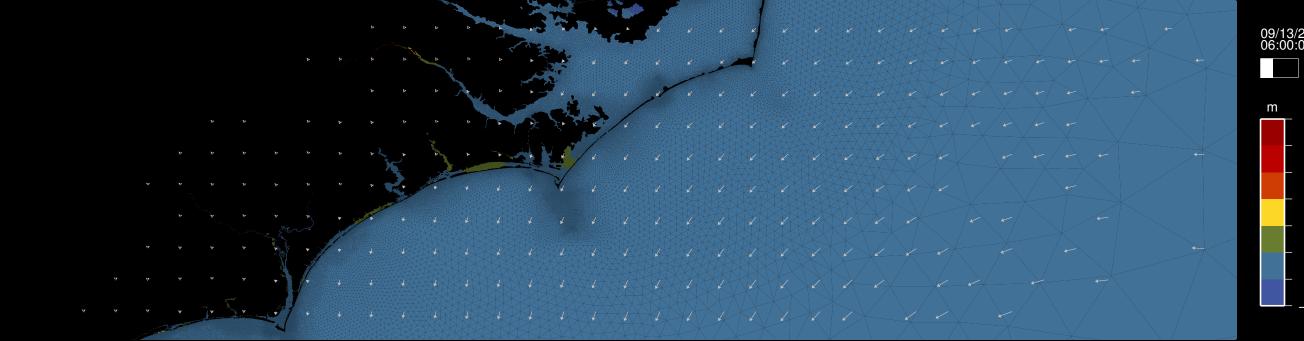




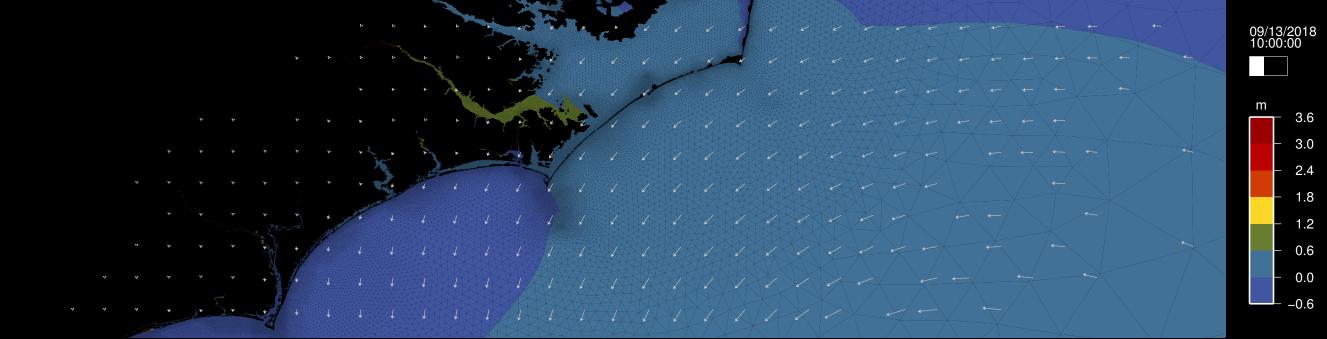
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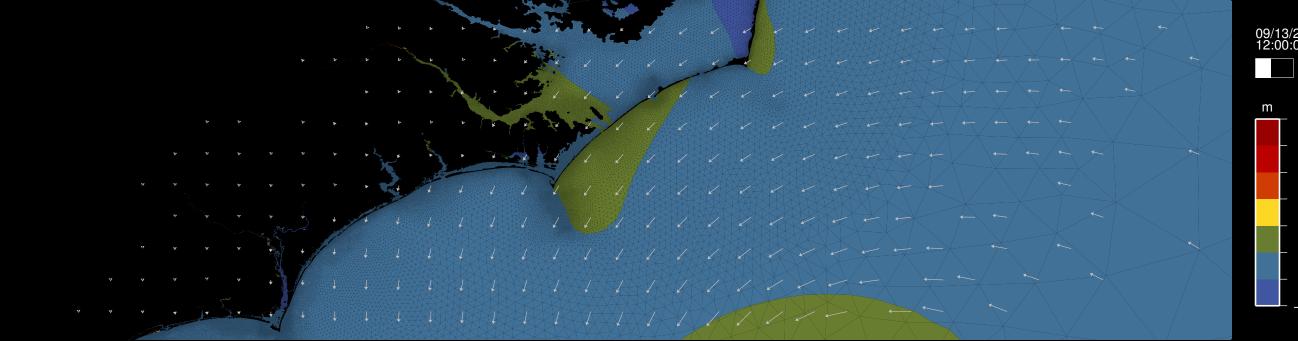


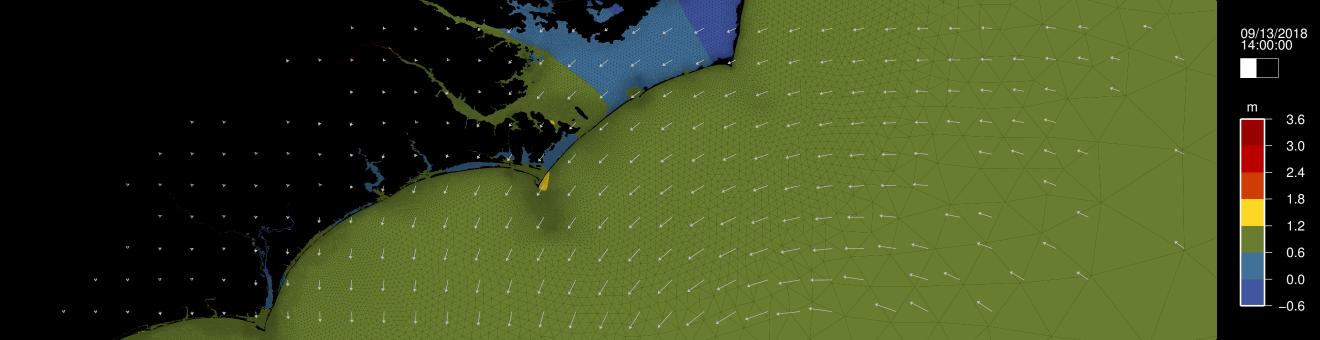


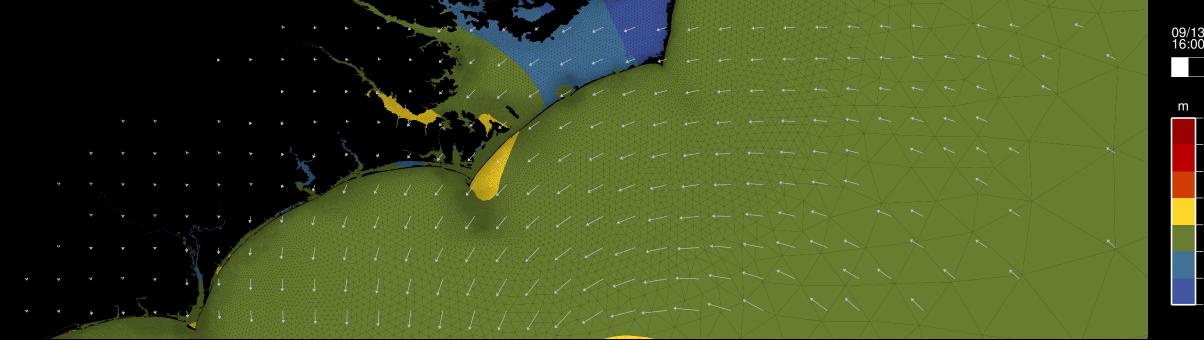




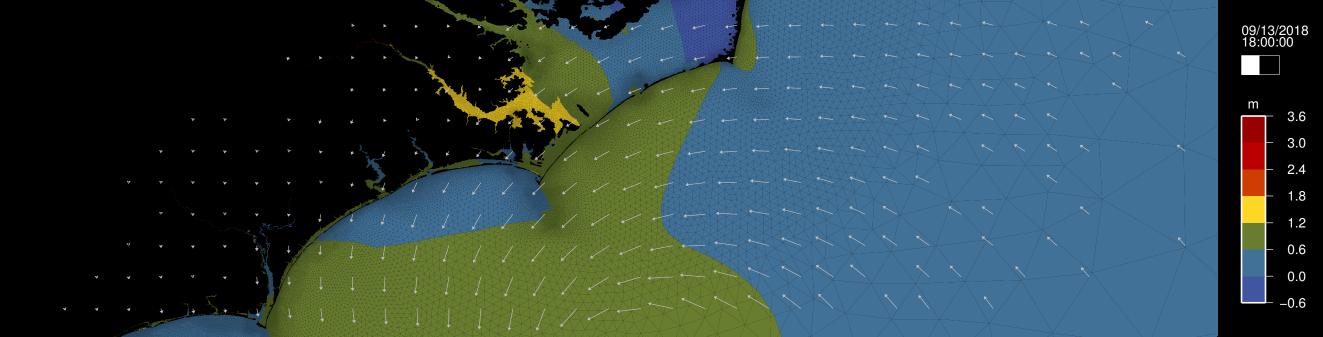
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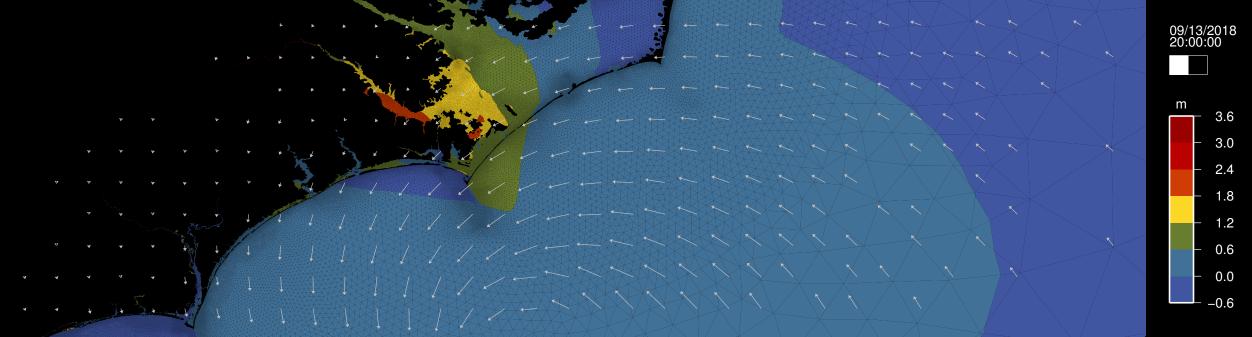




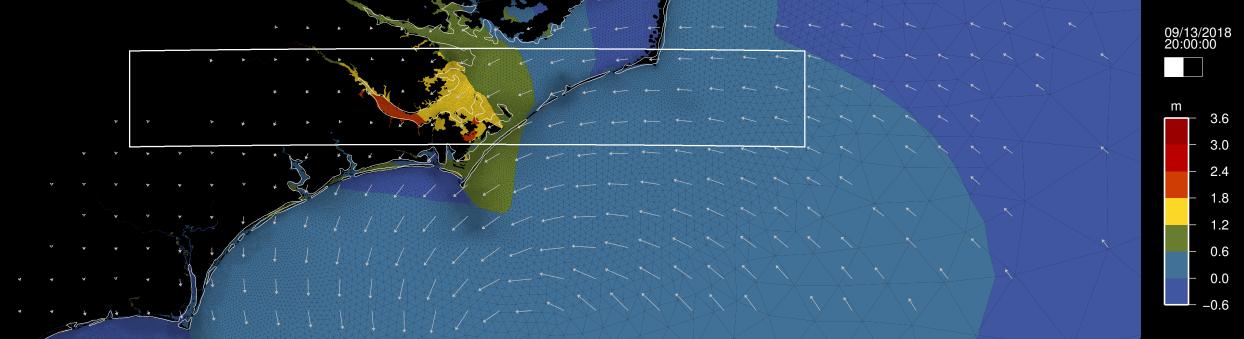
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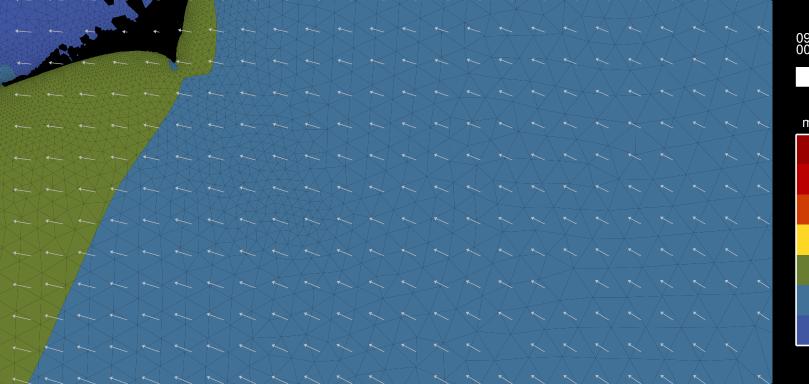
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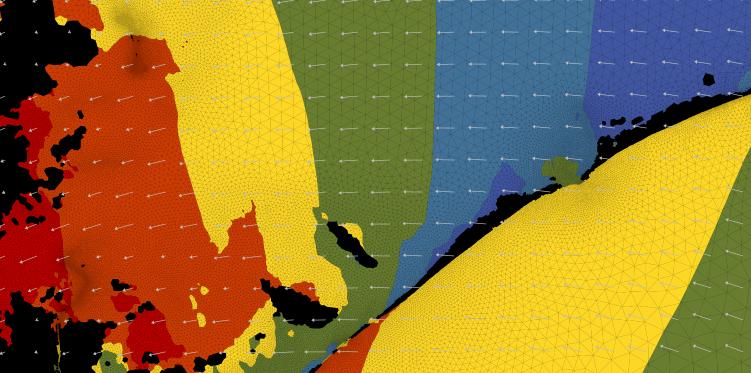
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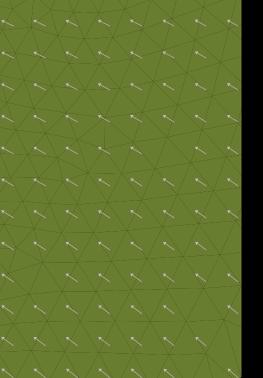


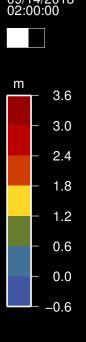
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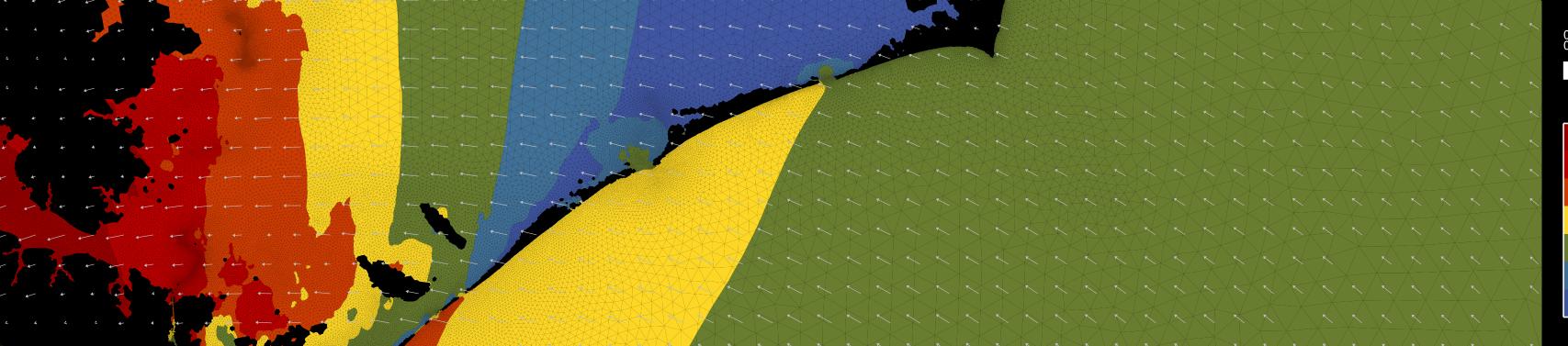
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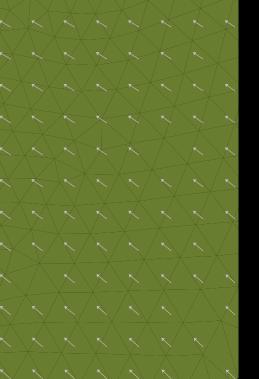




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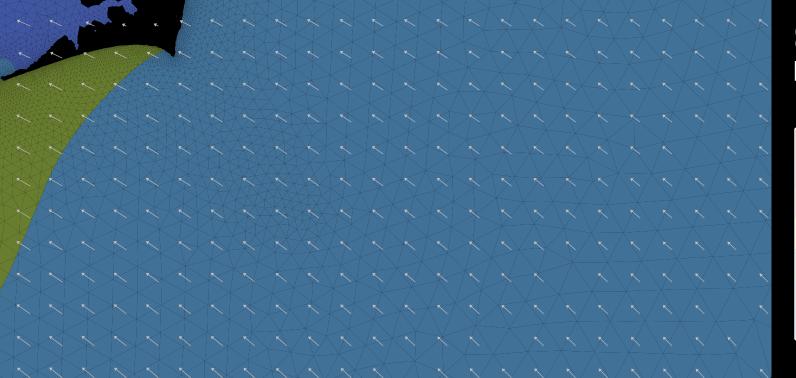




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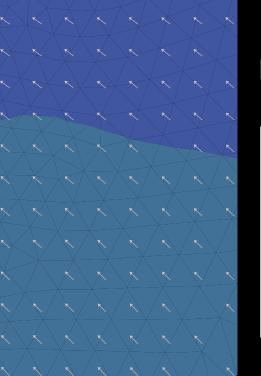
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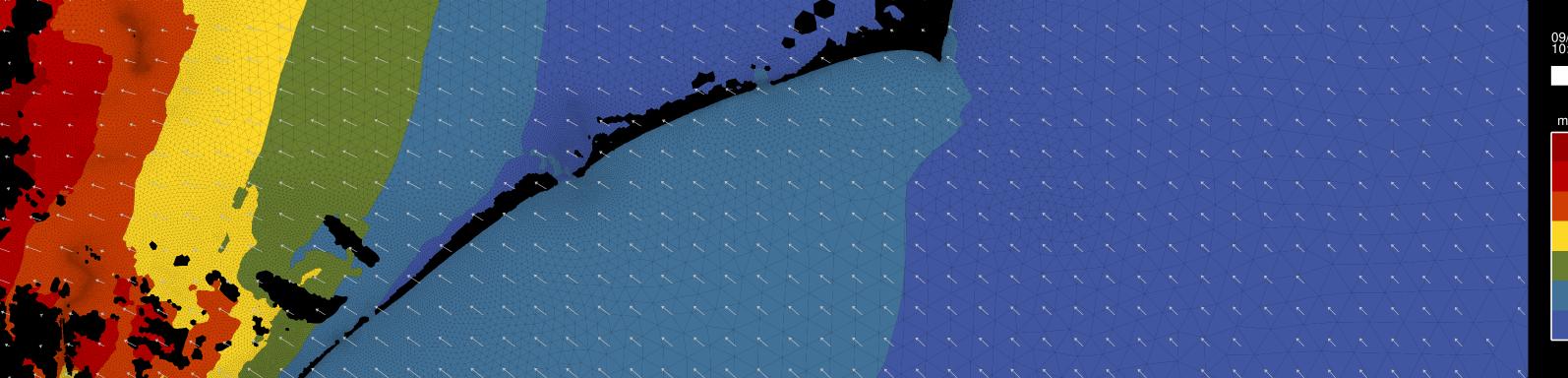


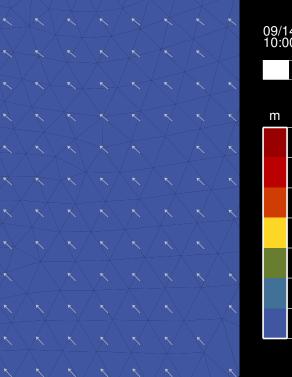


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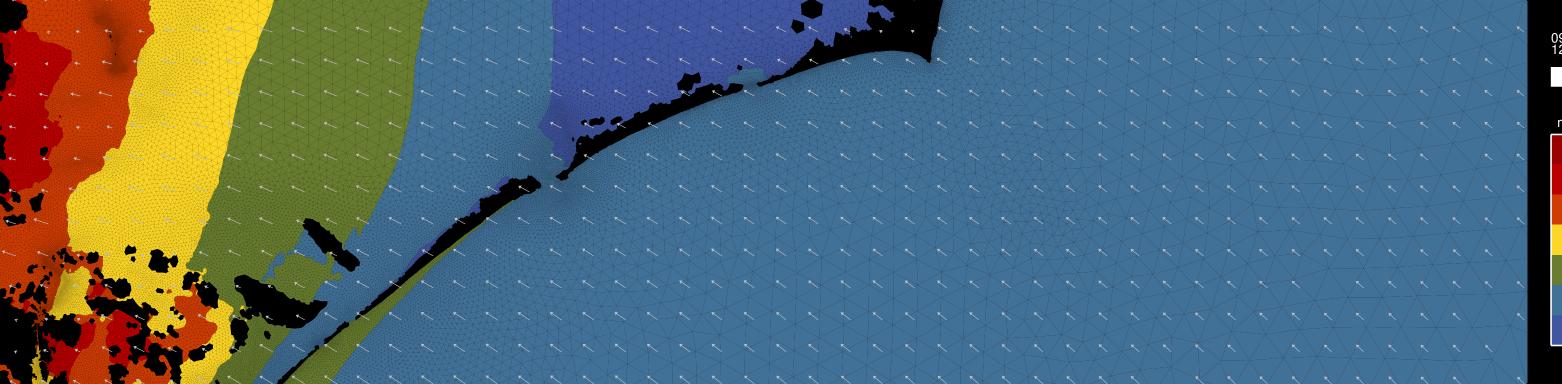


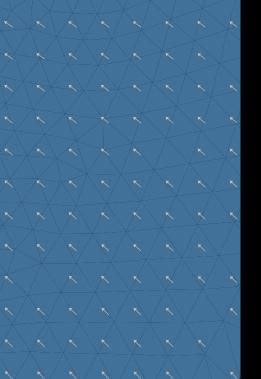


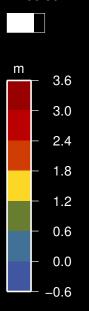
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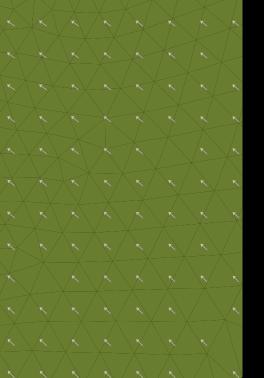


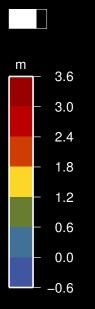




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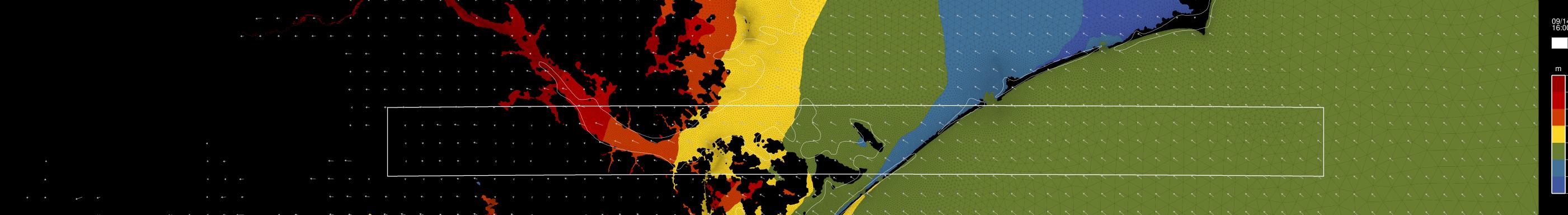




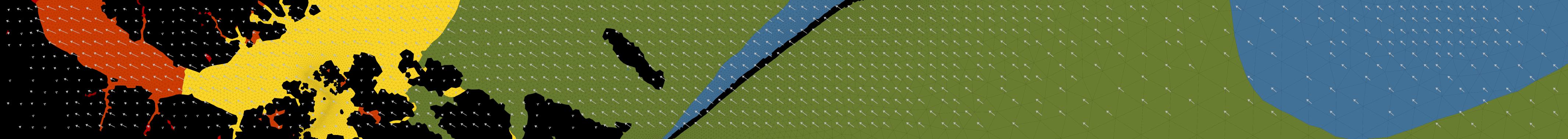
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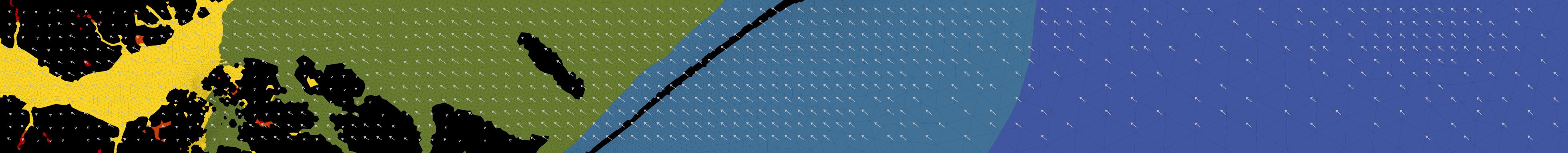




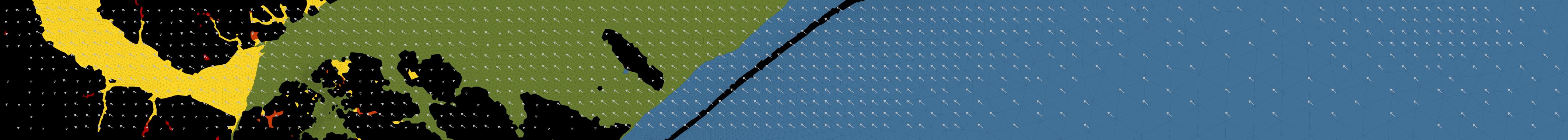
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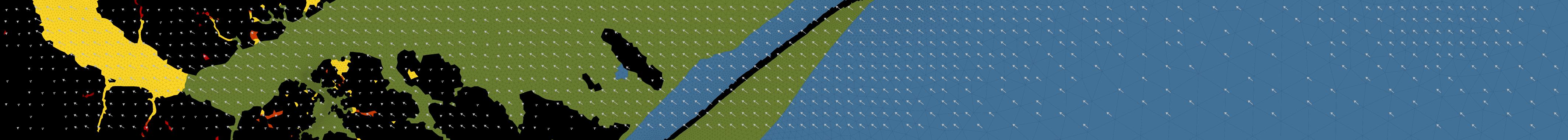




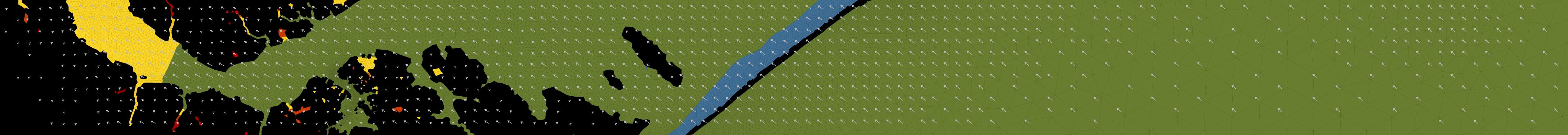
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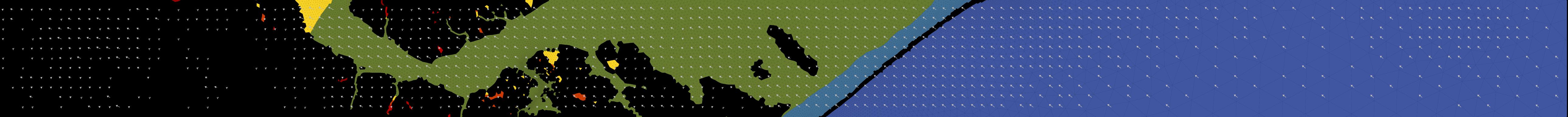
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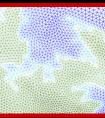
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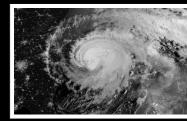


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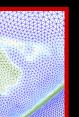


- Timeline of the Storm
- Predictions of Coastal Flooding





What Happened During Florence?

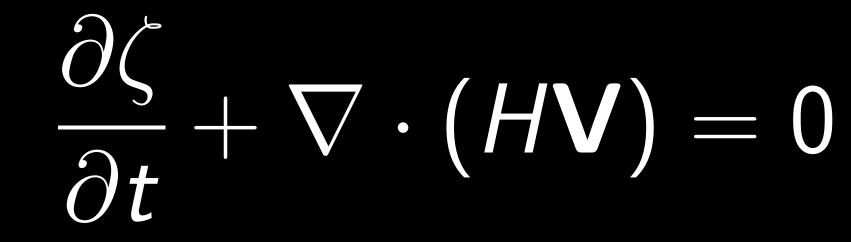


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ADCIRC solves the shallow water equations

- These equations govern the conservation of fluid properties
- We must conserve MASS
- Water cannot be created or destroyed
- We must conserve **MOMENTUM**
- Forces and accelerations are linked
- This is a form of Newton's second law of motion

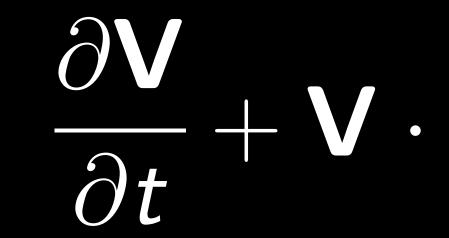
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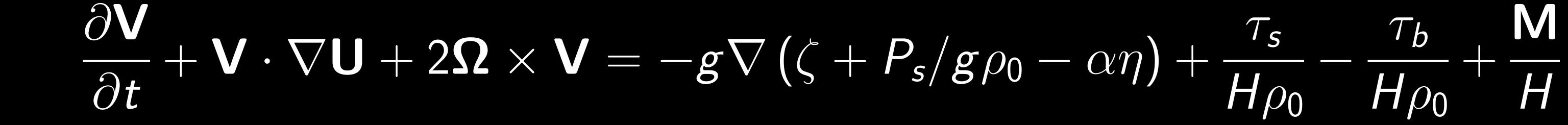


Note: We rewrite this equation to improve its numerical properties before solving in ADCIRC.

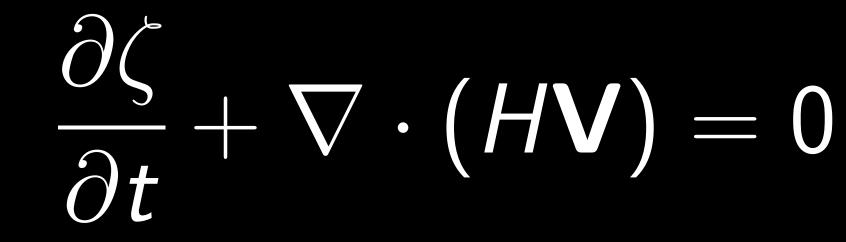
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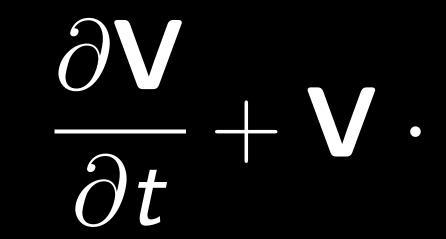
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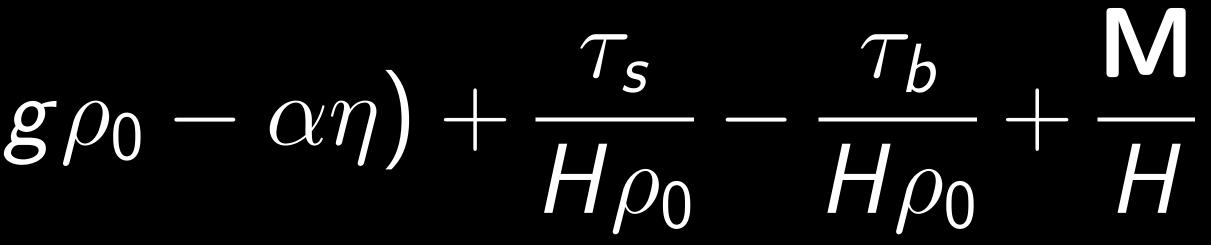
There are only three unknowns in these equations

- Water surface elevation, ζ
- Horizontal water velocities, $\mathbf{V}=(U,V)$

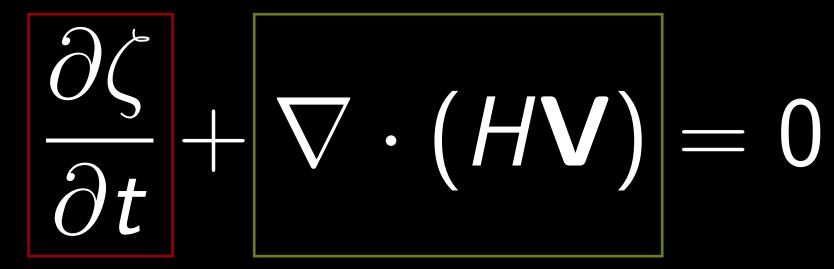
These equations aren't so scary!



$+\mathbf{V}\cdot\nabla\mathbf{U}+2\mathbf{\Omega}\times\mathbf{V}=-g\nabla\left(\zeta+P_{s}/g\rho_{0}-\alpha\eta\right)$



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Local accumulation of water must be balanced by incoming and outgo

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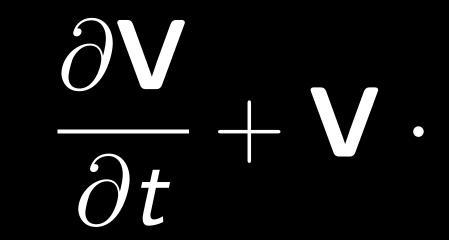
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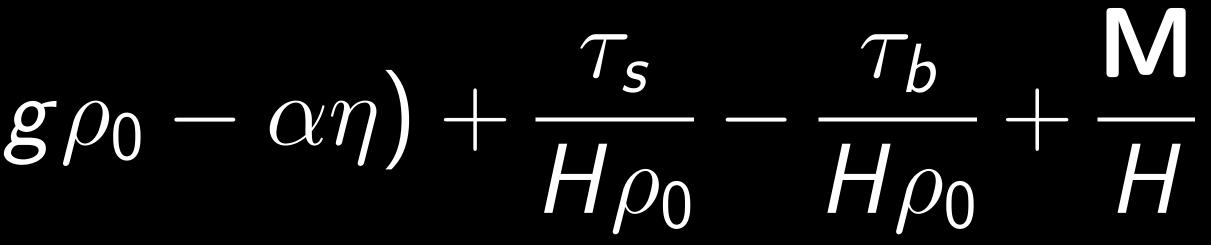
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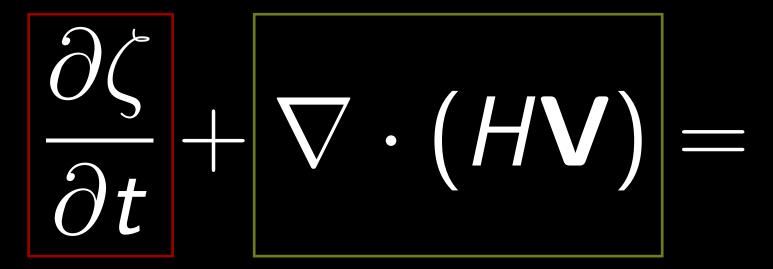
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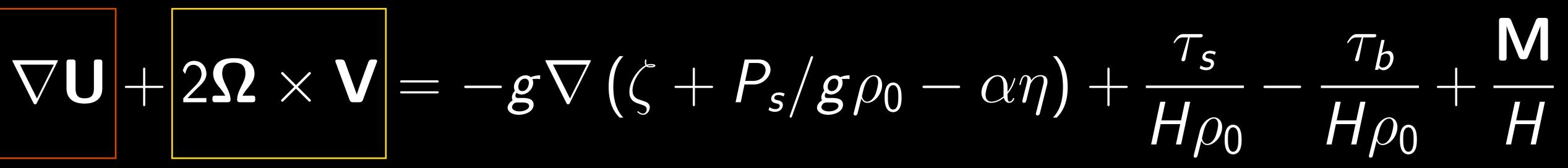
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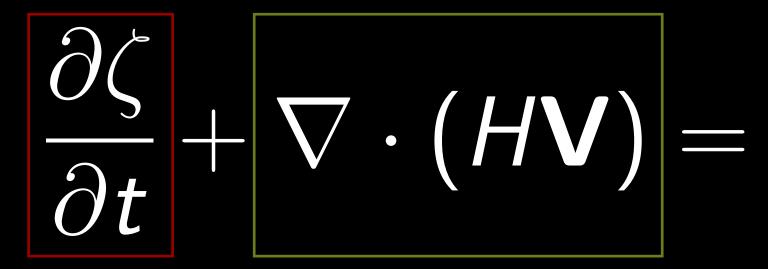
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| dV | 1 | |
|-----------|---|--|
| dt | | |



Water is accelerated (locally, horizontally, and rotationally)

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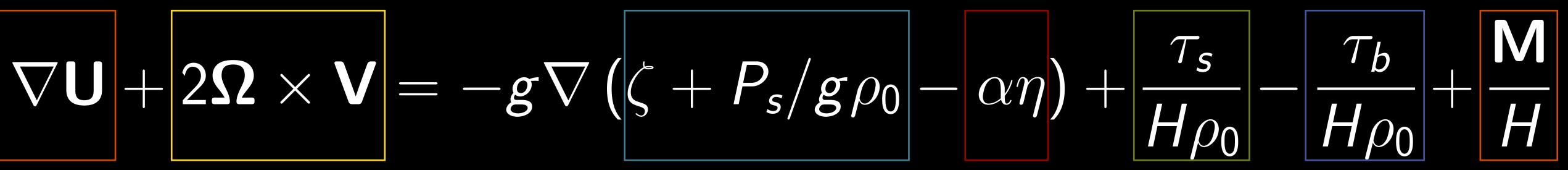
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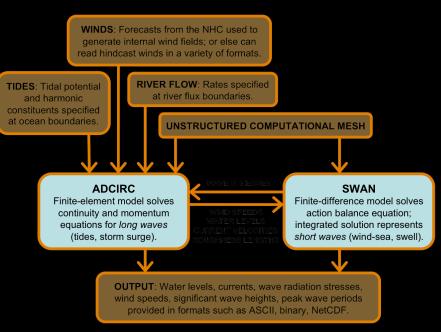
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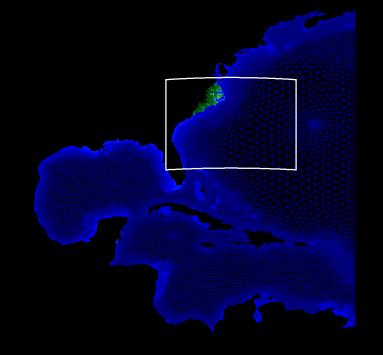
| dV | 1 | |
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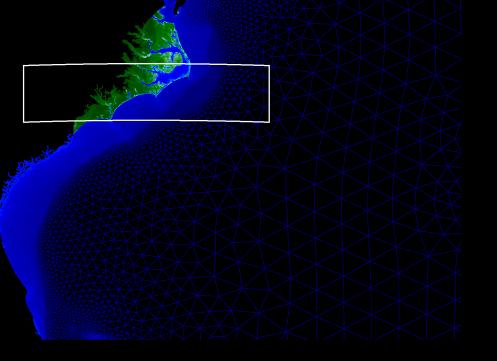
Water is accelerated (locally, horizontally, and rotationally) due to external forces (pressures, tides, winds, bottom friction, and internal dissipation)



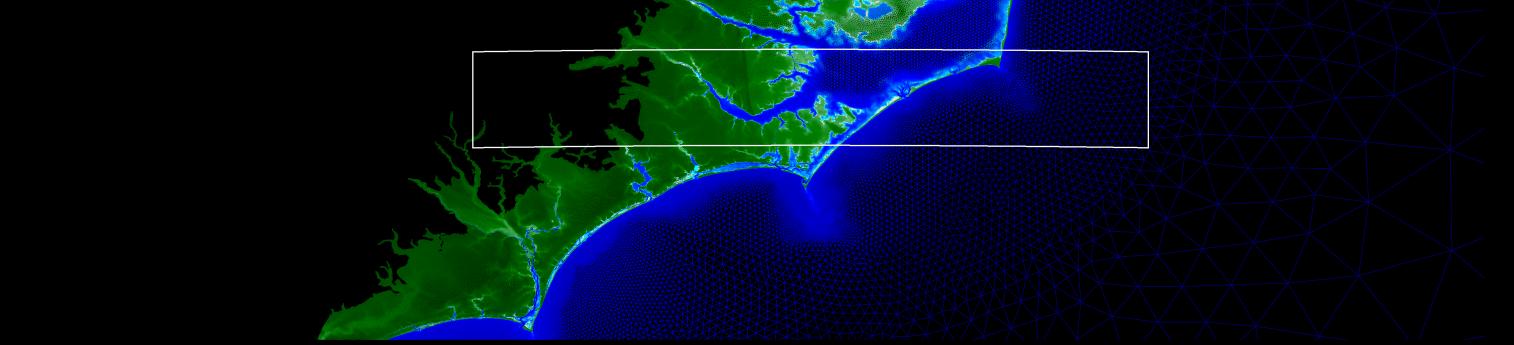




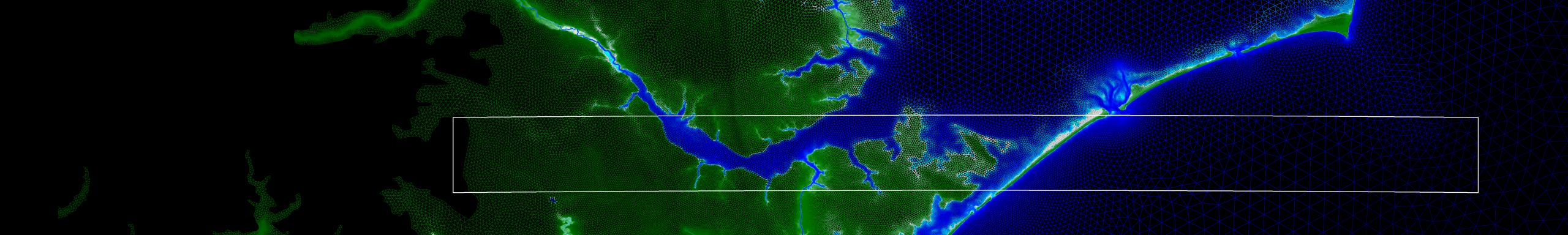
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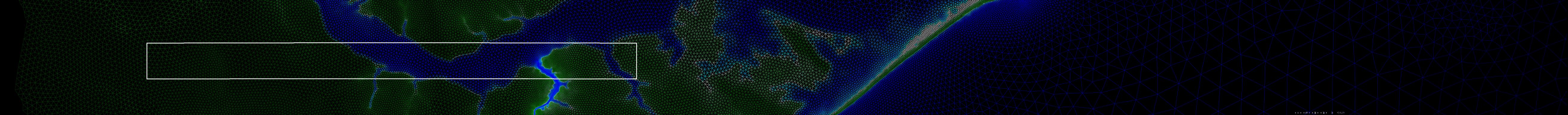


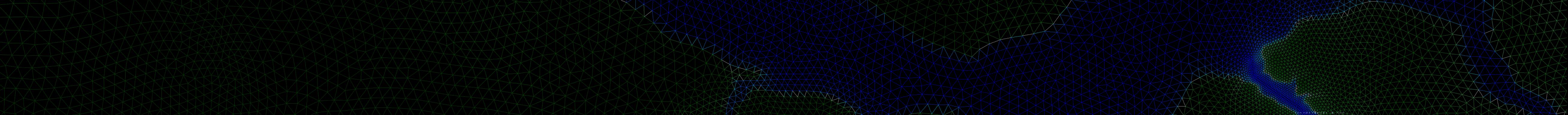
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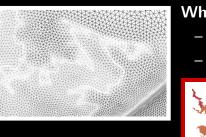
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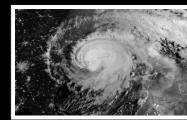




What Happened During Florence?

- Timeline of the Storm





Predictions of Coastal Flooding

What are the Components of Our Models?

- Equations for Ocean Circulation
- Unstructured Mesh for North Carolina



SWAN+ADCIRC can be employed in real-time

- Everything happens automatically

- Models are initialized, run, and processed by Perl scripts Wind fields from two sources:

- Under normal conditions:
- Downloaded from NAM model output by NOAA/NCEP
 Converted into format compatible with SWAN+ADCIRC
- Under storm conditions:
- Download advisories from NOAA/NHC
- Generate wind fields using parametric model (Holland, 1980)

Guidance can be shared in multiple formats:

- Send directly to stakeholders (NC Emergency Management)
- Share publicly via web service (http://www.adcirc.org)



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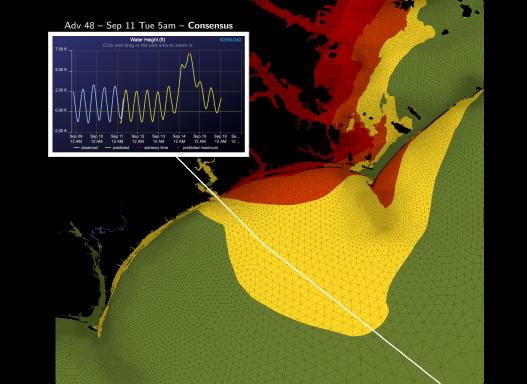
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The larger ADCIRC team was forecasting Florence in real-time

- For 21 advisories (every 6 hr)
- For 3 ensemble members (consensus and track perturbations)
- On 3 high-performance computing systems

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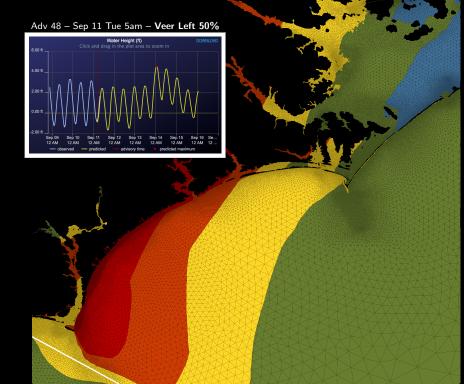
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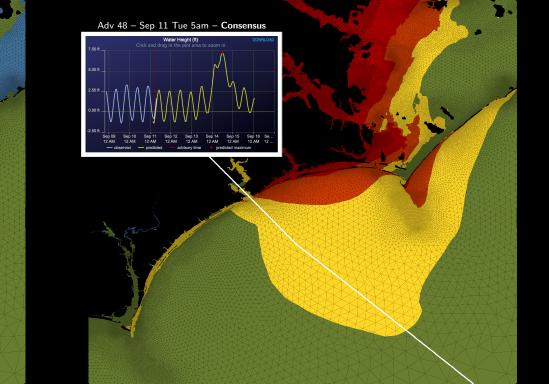
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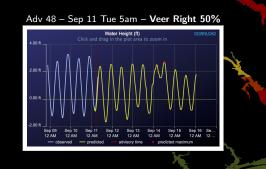
What were the uncertainties within each advisory?

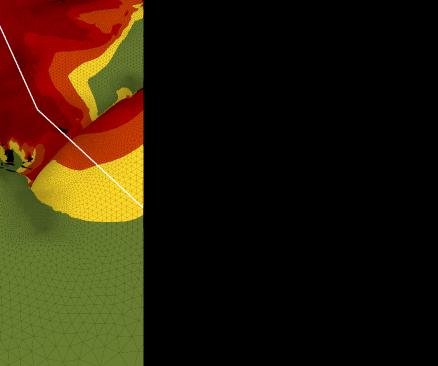
– Consider the forecast for advisory 48

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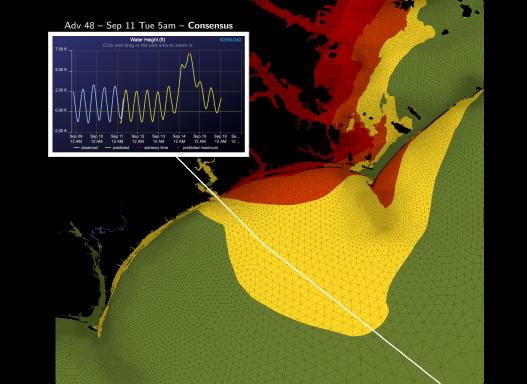
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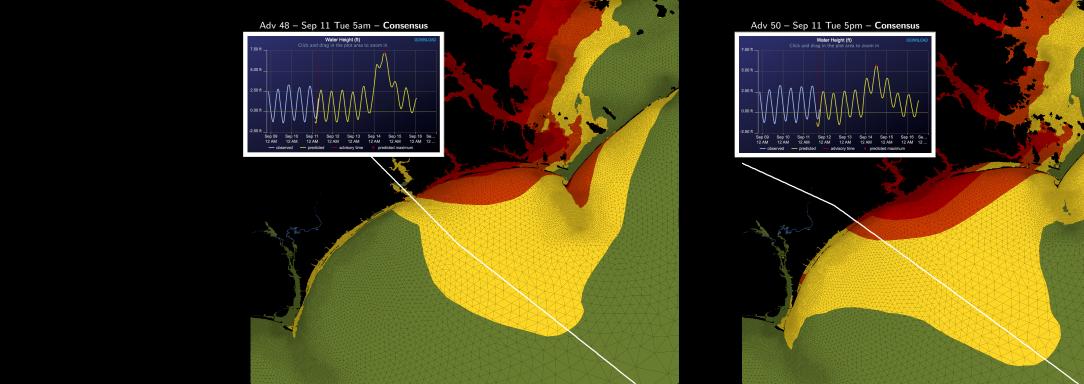
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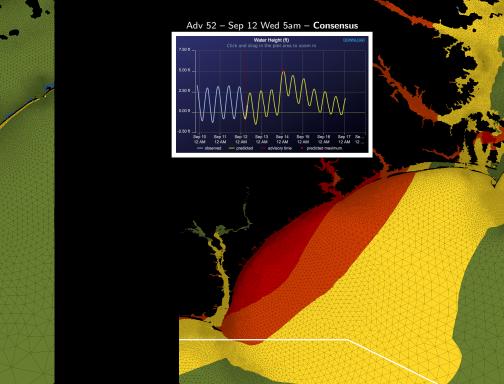
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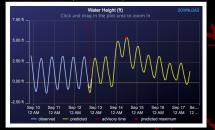
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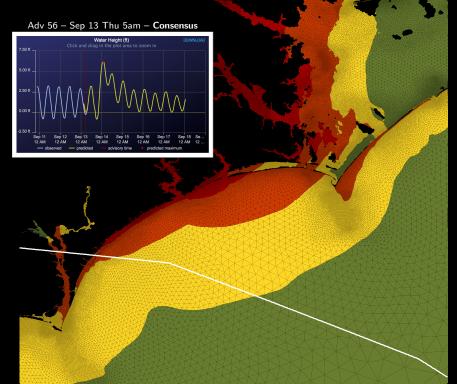
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Adv 54 – Sep 12 Wed 5pm – Consensus





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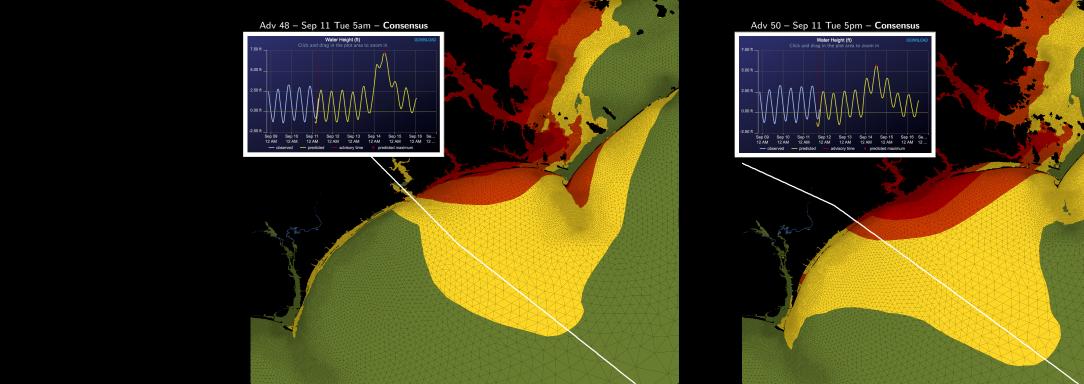
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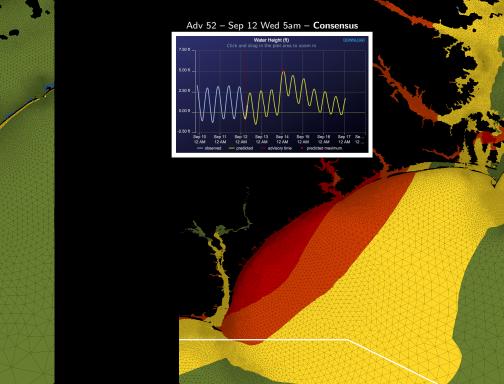
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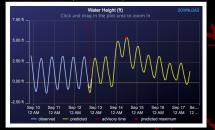
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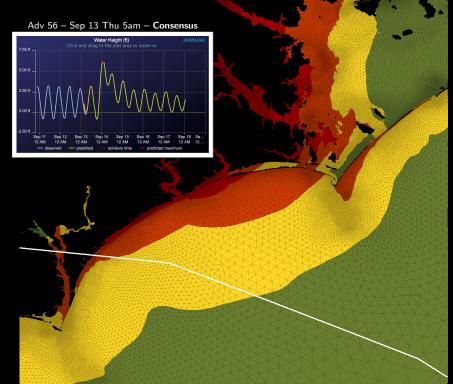
- Storm moved southward
- Storm slowed down
- At Beaufort gauge, very close to magnitude and timing of peak





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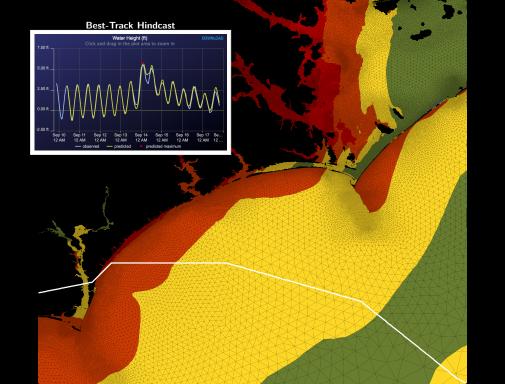


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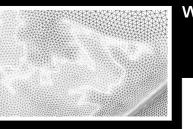
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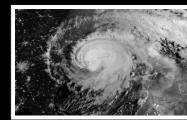


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Predictions of Coastal Flooding

What are the Components of Our Models?

- Equations for Ocean Circulation
- Unstructured Mesh for North Carolina



How Good are the Forecasts?

- Uncertainties Within and Across Advisories



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- Now we provide water levels at our model resolution
- More than 600K points
- Minimum spacing of about 50 to 100 m
- NCEM wants to combine with other datasets
- More than 400M cells
- High-resolution topography with equal spacings of 50 ft

Need to do two things:

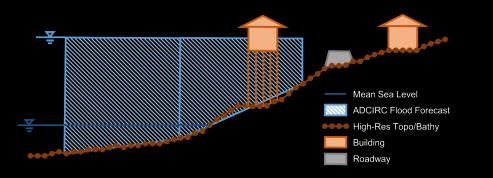
- 1. Downscale our resolution to high-resolution topography
- 2. Extrapolate our flooding into small-scale coastal regions



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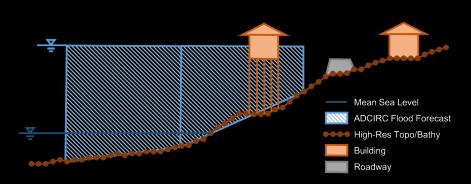




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Goal:

 Enable data-driven decision-making for coastal communities during storm events

Objectives:

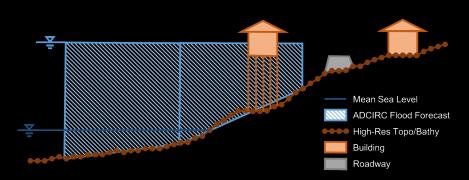
- Extrapolate ADCIRC results to intersect high-resolution DEM
- Create fully-automated process to be run during real-time
- Enable process to run in 10-20 minutes for each forecast
- Use open-source software for transferability
- Share enhanced guidance with NCEM



- Now we provide water levels at our model resolution
- More than 600K points
- Minimum spacing of about 50 to 100 m
- NCEM wants to combine with other datasets
- More than 400M cells
- High-resolution topography with equal spacings of 50 ft

Need to do two things:

Downscale our resolution to high-resolution topography
 Extrapolate our flooding into small-scale coastal regions

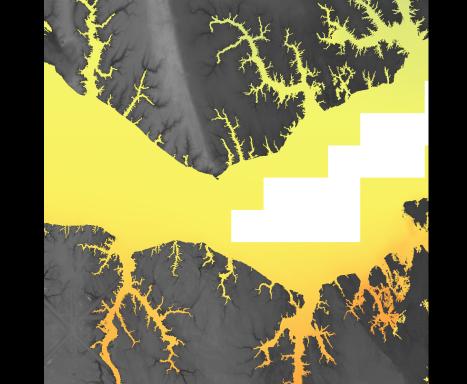


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- Developed by Prof. Mitasova and researchers
- Center for Geospatial Analytics
- Extremely fast for raster processing

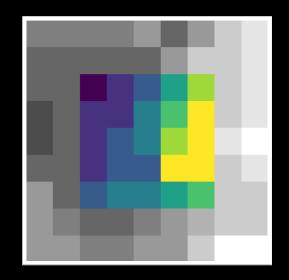
Then the general steps were:

- 1. Interpolate ADCIRC points to raster at resolution of DEM
- 2. Extrapolate water levels into small-scale features
- a. Expand the raster outward only where the water levels are higher than the ground surface
- b. Remove isolated (not hydraulically-connected) cells
- 3. Convert the new "grown" raster to polygon format

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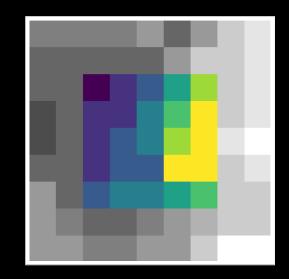
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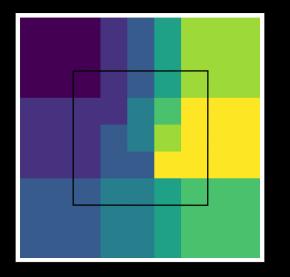


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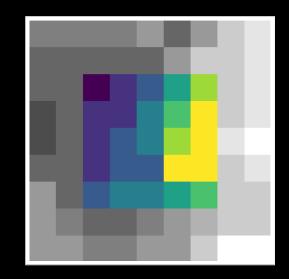


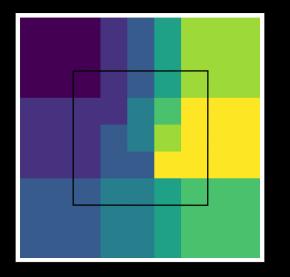


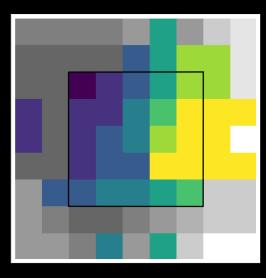
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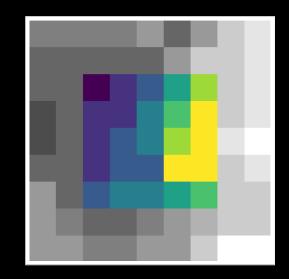


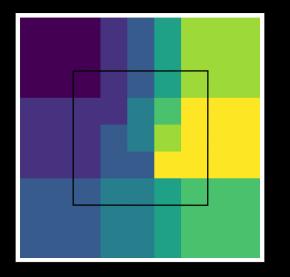


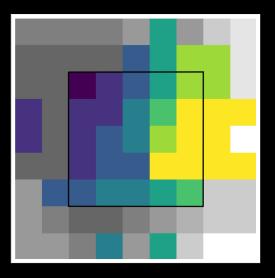
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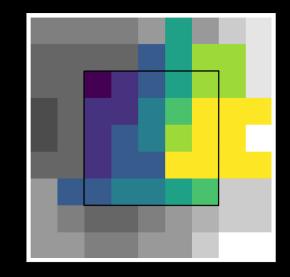
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- Need to take water levels from the ADCIRC mesh vertices
- About 600,000 vertices for NC
- And interpolate water levels onto 50-ft raster DEM
- About 28 million cells for Carteret County
- About 434 million cells for NC
- This process is slow
- We use a file with pre-computed, inverse-distance weights
- It still takes 5 min for each forecast

The new raster is imported into GRASS:

- Raster is extrapolated using a modified version of the module "r.grow"
- Only hydraulically-connected, flooded cells are retained

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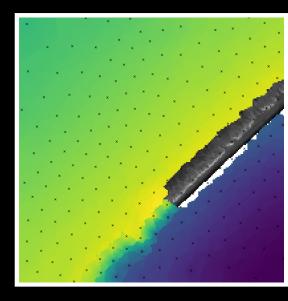
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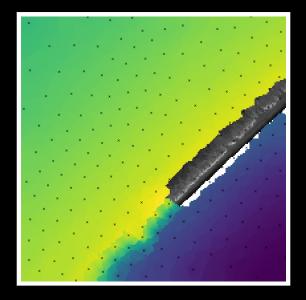


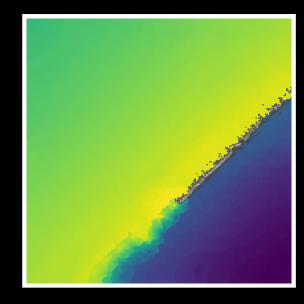
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- Normally, the r.grow function expands a raster outward
- Fills surrounding cells with values taken from the outermost cells of the original raster
- Our modified version allows for expanding into null cells only if the ADCIRC cell value is greater than the value of the DEM
- Water level must be higher than ground surface
- After "growing" by a sufficiently large radius, isolated cells are removed if they do not overlap with the original raster
- Enforce a hydraulic connectivity

Then we convert back to polygons

Expanded water surface is binned into 0.5-ft intervals

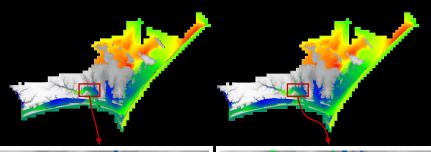
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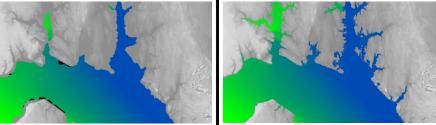
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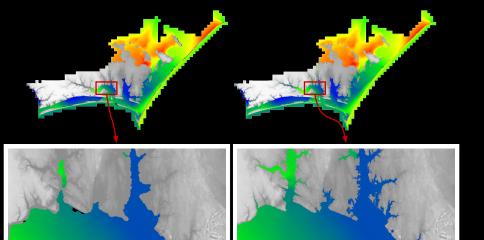


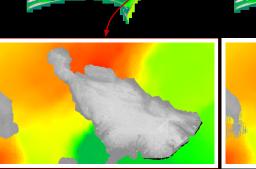
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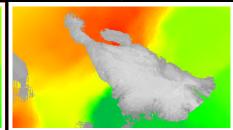
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- We can intersect the flooding guidance with known buildings
- NCEM has compiled a database of infrastructure
- Building footprint, first floor elevation, etc.
- Used for their planning during and after storm events
- We can analyze the number of buildings covered by our flooding prediction for a Hurricane Matthew hindcast
- Before enhancement: 2,435 buildings
- After enhancement: 3,886 buildings
- This is an increase of 60 percent

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- Interpolation of ADCIRC points to raster format is most time-consuming part, even with precomputed weights
- Entire process was taking 30-40 minutes at first, and clearly needed to be parallelized:
- Allow for parallel processing on up to 16 CPUs
- DEM was divided into horizontal strips
- Some aspects cannot be parallelized
- Final conversion into 0.5-ft polygons
- With parallelization, the entire process now takes 12-15 minutes to run on the NCSU computing cluster

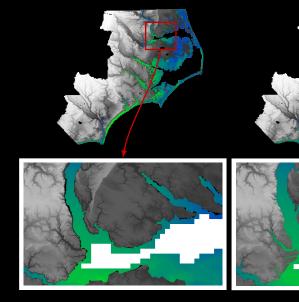
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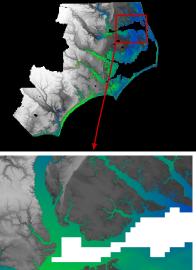
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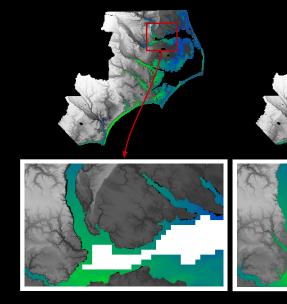
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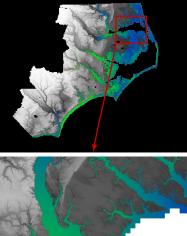
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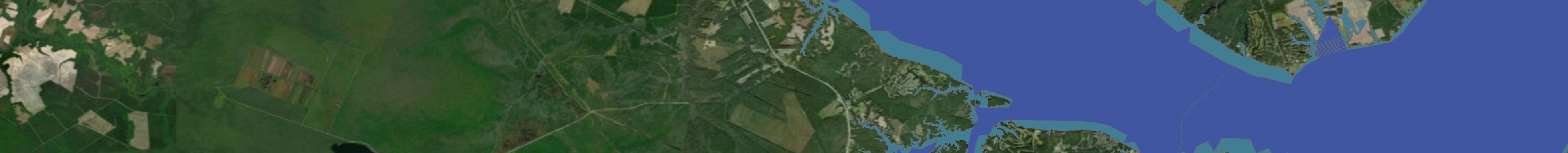


We are now providing the enhanced guidance to NCEM

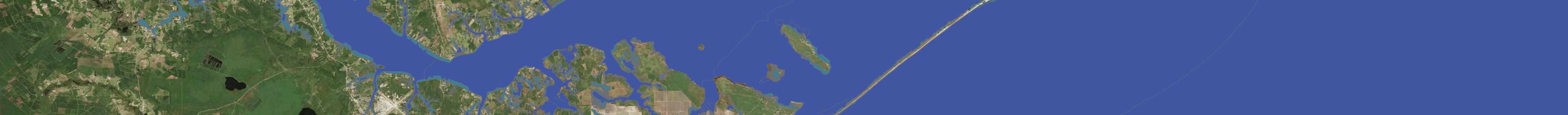
- During hurricane season, we use an automated script on our cluster at NCSU:
- Detects when ADCIRC results are posted to the archive
- Downloads the maximum water levels
- Runs the enhanced-resolution process
- Recent storms:
- 2017 Harvey & Irma
- 2018 Florence & Michael

Future work – Integrate this script into the forecasting system



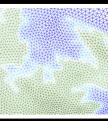






What Happened During Florence?

- Timeline of the Storm





Predictions of Coastal Flooding



- Equations for Ocean Circulation
- Unstructured Mesh for North Carolina



How Good are the Forecasts?

Uncertainties Within and Across Advisories



How Can We Improve Our Guidance?

- So … What is the Problem?
- Downscaling and Extrapolation

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