Xiaoyan Zhang  P6 The Performance of NCEP NMM-B Model for Storms Forecasting over Lake Victoria (Preliminary Result)  Jacob Carley and Geoff DiMego

This study is moving the NCEP regional operational forecast model NMM-B and the data assimilation system NDAS to Europe and Africa, specifically centered over Lake Victoria. Lake Victoria in East Africa is one of the world’s largest freshwater lakes and used on a daily basis by thousands of fishermen. Each year, severe storms on the lake cause multiple boating accidents which often result in fatalities. Here the NCEP regional model is evaluated along with a 12km parent domain and a 4km nested domain focusing on the high-impact weather. Both parent and nested domain use the hourly-updated cycle data assimilation procedure. The storm case of 0600 UTC, 4 March 2012 was selected for this initial study. During this storm, a fishing boat was lost in the Bukoba region of Tanzania in the western part of the lake. Two fishermen were killed in the event. The result of NMM-B model forecast for this storm case will be presented.