Second Announcement: Seventh International Verification Methods Workshop (7IVMW)

Theme: "Forecast verification methods across time and space scales"

The Seventh International Verification Methods Workshop (7IVMW) is being organized by the WMO Joint Working Group on Forecast Verification Research (JWGFVR) and will be held in Berlin from May 3-11, 2017. The goal of the workshop is to discuss and promote all aspects of verification methodology research and practice, as applied to all types of forecasts on all spatial and temporal scales, and weather warnings. Special sessions are planned on verification methods for sub-seasonal and longer range forecasts. Participants are welcome from operational, research and forecast user communities.

The workshop will be in two parts: a tutorial session from May 3 - 6 and a science conference from May 8 - 11.

The tutorial will include lectures and hands-on laboratory sessions which will focus on both the data handling aspects and the interpretation of verification results. Topics will include basics of verification, verification of continuous variables, verification of categorical variables, probability and ensemble forecast verification, assessing confidence in verification results, spatial verification methods, and warning verification. Software packages that are most useful for verification will also be presented and some hands-on exercises will be included with the lectures. Participants will have the opportunity to bring their own datasets for analysis during the tutorial. No registration fee will be charged for the tutorial; limited financial assistance from WMO will be available to support travel for selected participants from developing countries.

The science conference will include keynote talks along with contributed presentations and posters. Abstracts are solicited on all aspects of verification methodology. Note that the focus of abstracts and presentations should be on the _methodology_ rather than application of the methods to specific datasets. Subjects of interest include but are not limited to: verification of high impact weather and extremes, properties of verification methods, use of alternative observations, observation uncertainty, user-orientation and estimation of value of forecasts, methods for verification of probability and ensemble forecasts, spatial verification methods, and verification approaches, software and measures used to evaluate operational predictions, including verification methods used to justify upgrades to operational models. In keeping with the main theme, papers focused on the adaptation of established methods to different space and time scales, for example seasonal and longer-term forecasts and projections, are particularly welcome.

The science conference will also feature the results of the "Forecast Verification Challenge" for development of a user-oriented verification method, including a keynote presentation by the winning entrant.

Further information on 7 IVMW is available at http://www.7thverificationworkshop.de/Conference/index.html .

Application to the tutorial is now open from this web site; the application deadline is 31 January 2017.

The workshop web site will also soon include the ability to submit abstracts for the workshop. The deadline for submitting an abstract for the workshop is **27 February 2017**