National Workshop on Mesoscale Probabilistic Prediction

DRAFT 7/20/09

NCAR Mesa Laboratory, Main Seminar Room

1850 Table Mesa Drive, Boulder, CO 80305

Wednesday, 23 September

8:00 – 8:30   Registration, continental breakfast

8:30 – 9:00   Opening remarks and lectures:

  Why are the goals of this workshop, and what do we want to get out of this?

9:00 – 12:00

Session I: What is the current status of mesoscale probabilistic prediction in the U.S. and around the world?

A series of short presentations from various U.S. operational and research organizations, and a few selected groups from the international community.

12:00 – 1:30   Lunch Break

1:30 – 3:00

Session II: What are the future national requirements for mesoscale probabilistic prediction?

This session will begin with two to three presentations by representatives of major groups from government and private sectors. These presentations will be followed by a panel discussion of 2-4 others with shorter presentations, which will be followed by general discussion.

Coffee break 3:00 – 3:30

3:30 – 5:00

Session III: Communicating and applying mesoscale probabilistic Prediction

Creating probabilistic output is only half the battle. How do we communicate probabilistic information so people can understand and use it? What is the best way to provide this information to both informed and uninformed users?

This session should be patterned following Session II. Again chair can select a few people to give short presentations, followed by panel discussions.

5:00 – 7:00   Reception (tree plaza)

It the weather is good, we should have a reception at the tree plaza. This allows people to interact in a relaxing atmosphere.

Thursday, 24th September

8:30 – 12:00

Session IV: The scientific and technical challenges of building a national mesoscale probabilistic prediction system

Building a mesoscale probabilistic prediction system for the US: what are the best approaches. How to create an effective mesoscale ensemble system?

Post-processing of mesoscale ensembles: discussion of various approaches (e.g., BMA, reanalysis, MOS, combinations of these, etc.

Creating probabilistic information for poorly observed and modeled quantities (e.g., ceiling, visibility, fog, snow).

How to evaluate such a system?

Discussion may include the "political" issues of dependencies on other centers.

A series of invited presentations will review different approaches, and identify the key issues that require work.

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break

10:30 – 12:00 Working group discussions.

We separate the meeting participants into four working groups. We would like the working group to identify key scientific/technical challenges on the development of a mesoscale probabilistic prediction system, and provide suggestions on how we proceed in getting them resolved.

12:00 – 1:15   Lunch break

1:15 – 2:30   Working group reports and discussions

2:30 – 5:30

Session V: The Way Forward

How can the various elements of the U.S. meteorological community work together to enable the nation to produce an effective mesoscale probabilistic prediction capacity? Can we create a concrete plan for action?

We will invite a few representatives from the community to present strawman ideas for presentation and debate. We will also discuss how to pull the white-paper together to summary the discussion of this workshop.

2:30 – 2:45   Coffee break

2:45 – 5:00   Presentation and discussions of strawman ideas

5:00 – 5:30   Discuss assignment of the writing of "white-paper" to summarize the results of this workshop.

5:30   Meeting adjourn