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Multimodel Approach for Short-Range Predictability

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The forecast of severe mesoscale events has a growing interest for the general public. Mesoscale models have already several problems to deal with such events because their predictability is very low even in the short-range. In such environment, probabilistic forecast can help to address the issue. Multi-model ensemble prediction systems are showing to be very useful to add some probabilistic value to the mesoscale deterministic models. A multi-model ensemble prediction system focused on weather forecast up to 72 hours has been developed at the Spanish Weather Service (INM). The presentation will show the current status of the system and results of the operational verification from April to June 2006 using ECMWF analysis, synoptic observations and precipitation from the climate networks of Spain, France, Germany, UK and Northern Italy. A comparison with the ECMWF EPS for 72 hours forecast will be show as well. These results show very good scores even for large precipitation thresholds.