



Norwegian  
Meteorological  
Institute

# Developing data-driven ocean models for the Norwegian coast and fjords

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# Contents

- Background
  - ◆ Operational Oceanography @ MET Norway
- Motivation
- Data-driven ocean models
  - ◆ Ocean circulation: Havbris
  - ◆ Storm surge



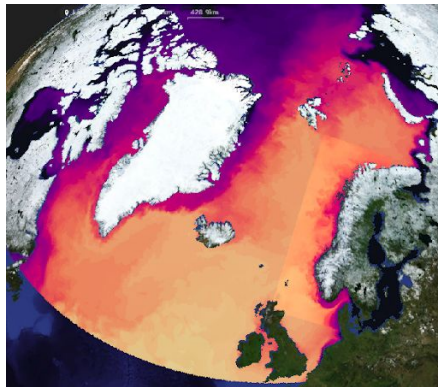
# Operational oceanography @ MET Norway

- Ocean & ice forecasting
  - ◆ Multiple domains
  - ◆ High-resolution
  - ◆ Ensembles
  - ◆ ...
- Observational networks
  - ◆ Data assimilation
- Downstream models & use cases

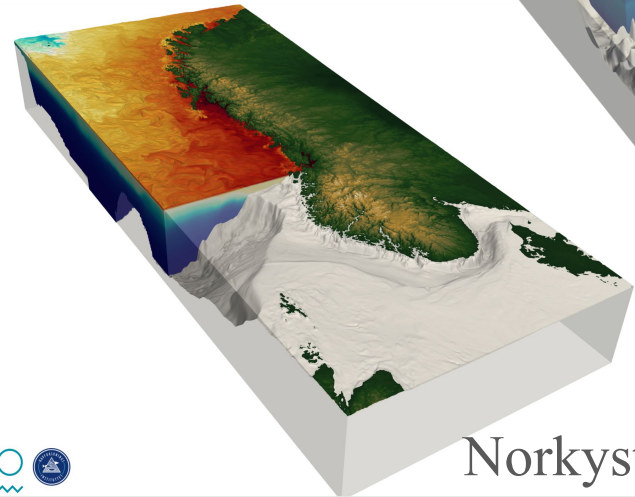


# Operational oceanography @ MET Norway

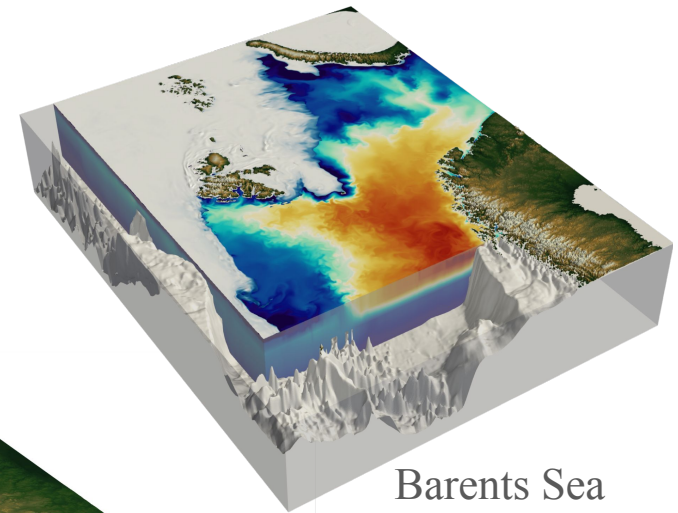
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Pan-Arctic,  
Topaz



Norkyst

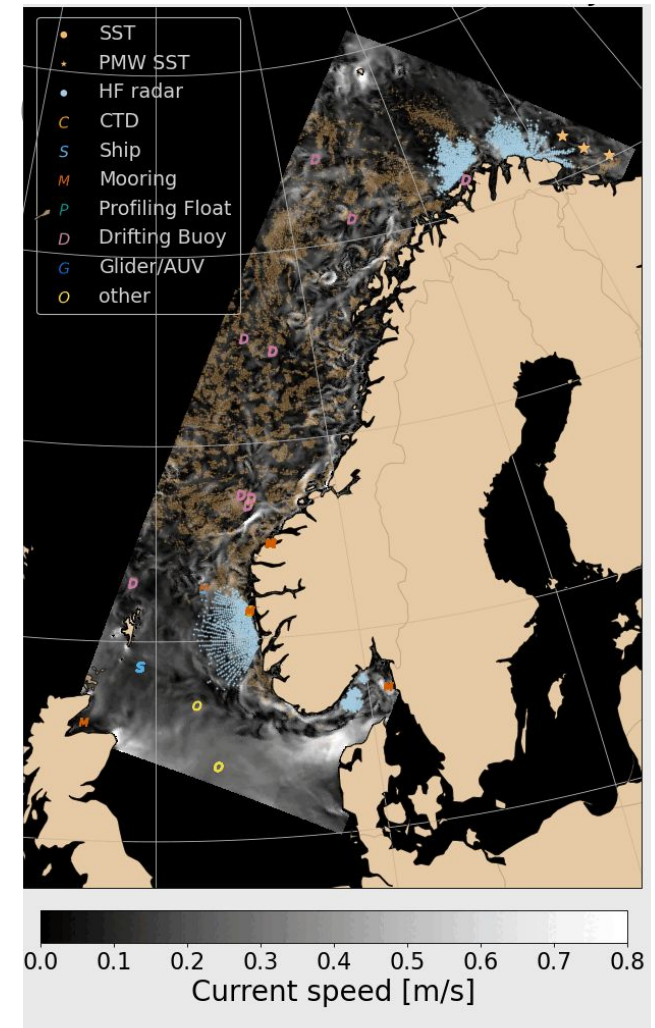


Barents Sea  
(ensembles)



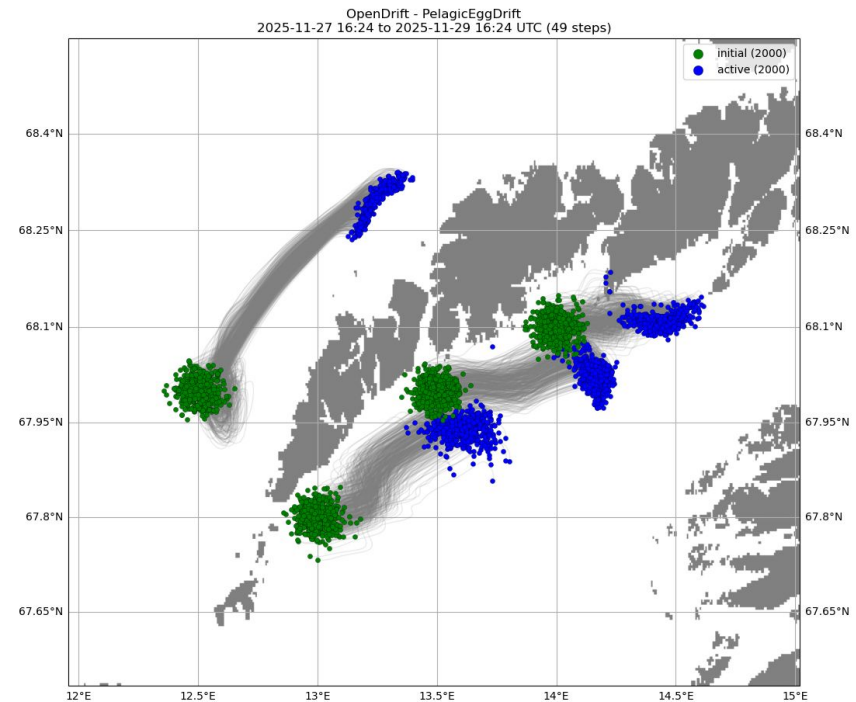
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- Downstream models: object drift
  - ◆ Search & Rescue
  - ◆ Oil spill preparedness
  - ◆ Biological material



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Motivation:

**How can we provide better and cheaper  
ocean forecasts along the Norwegian coast  
and fjords?**



# Norway has a complex & long coastline

Which models do we  
already have?  
Which resolution?

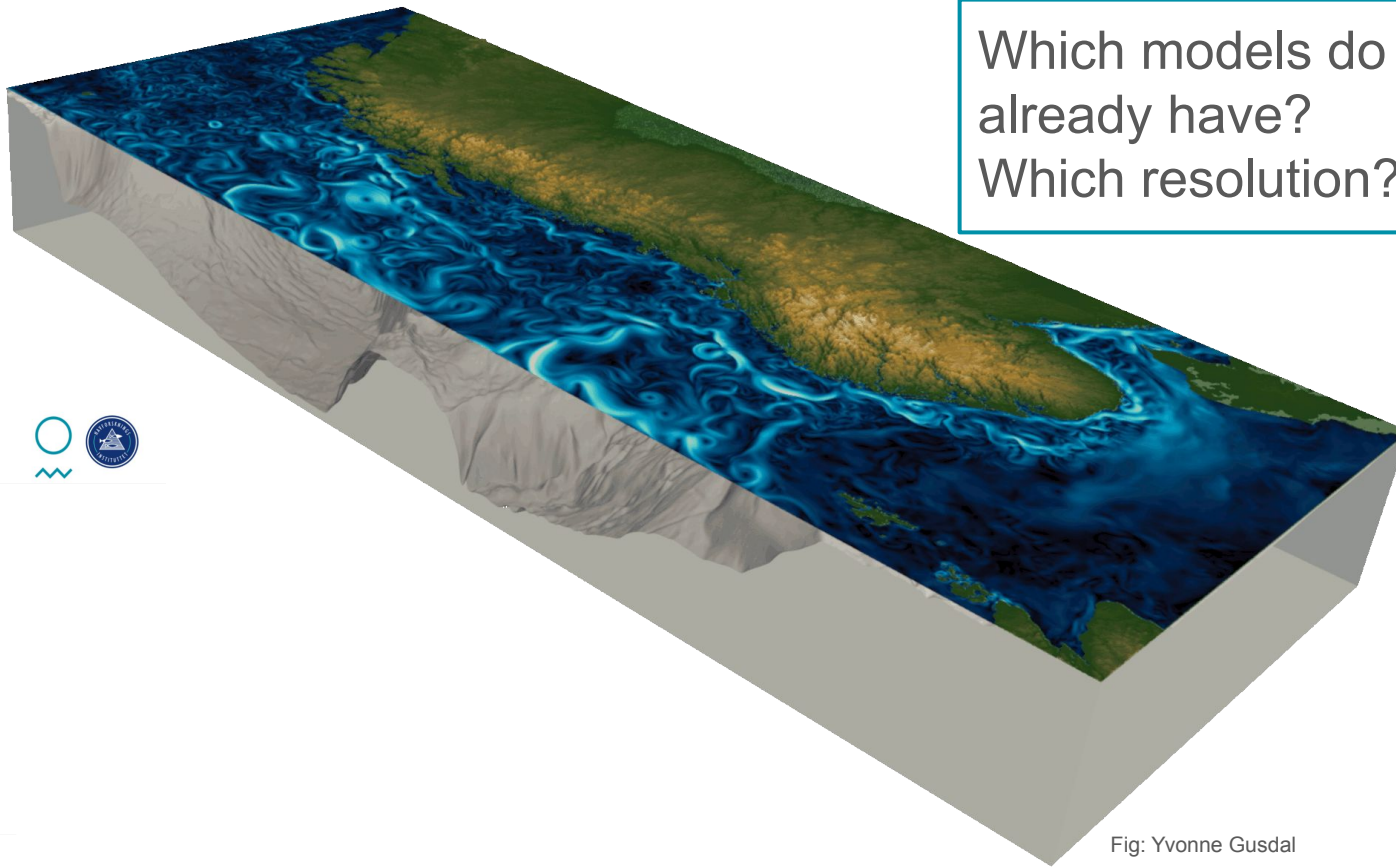
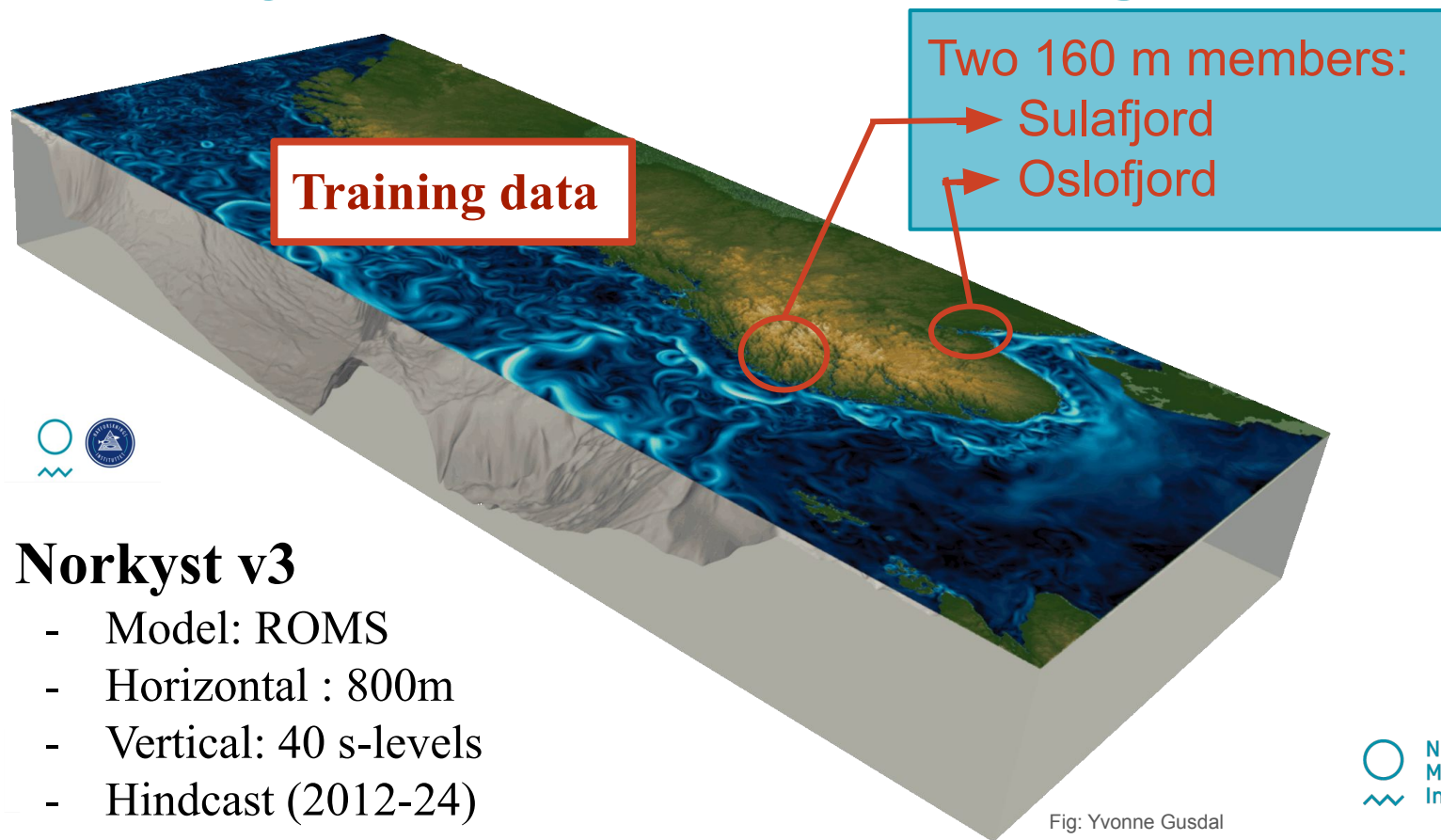


Fig: Yvonne Gusdal



# Norway has a complex & long coastline

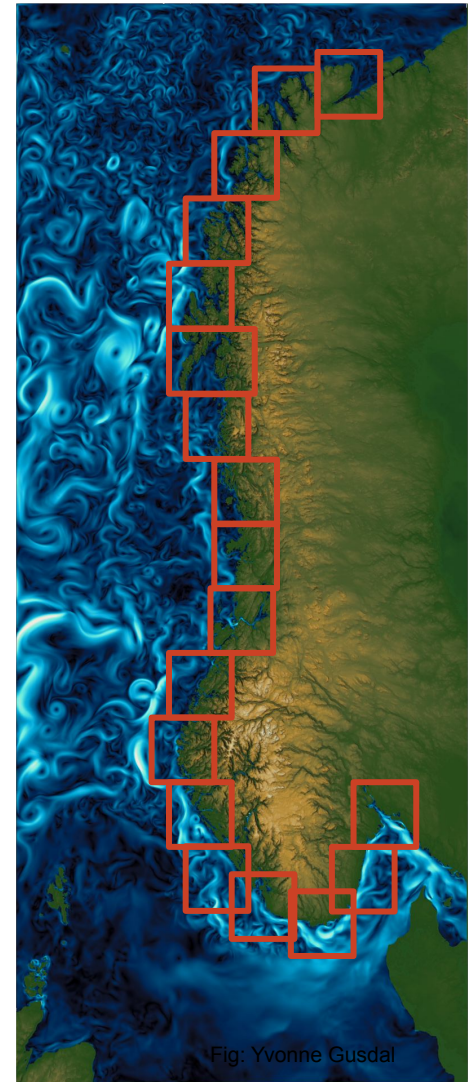


# Main Goal:

**Havbris:**  
**ML model with 160m resolution**  
**for the entire Norwegian coast**



Data-driven models



# Training Data

**Phase 1.** Norkyst 800m hindcast ~12 years → Havbris 800m

**Phase 2.** Norkyst 160m operational ~2 year → Havbris 160m



# Havbris 160m

## Assumption:

- Coastline and bathymetry is a strong constraint to circulation at 160 m scale. The ML model will learn this constraint from examples in the training data, and be able to produce high-quality forecast for geographical regions never seen in training (at 160 m scale).

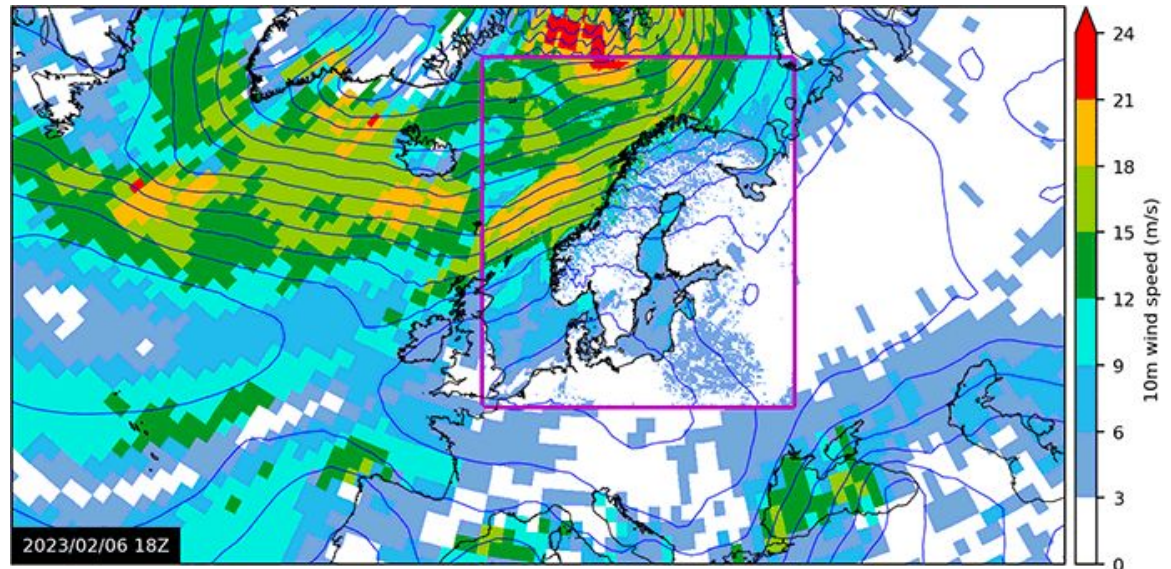
# How?

## Use the same setup as newest ML weather models!



**anemoi**

The ML framework  
developed by ECMWF  
and others.  
Used to create the AIFS  
and



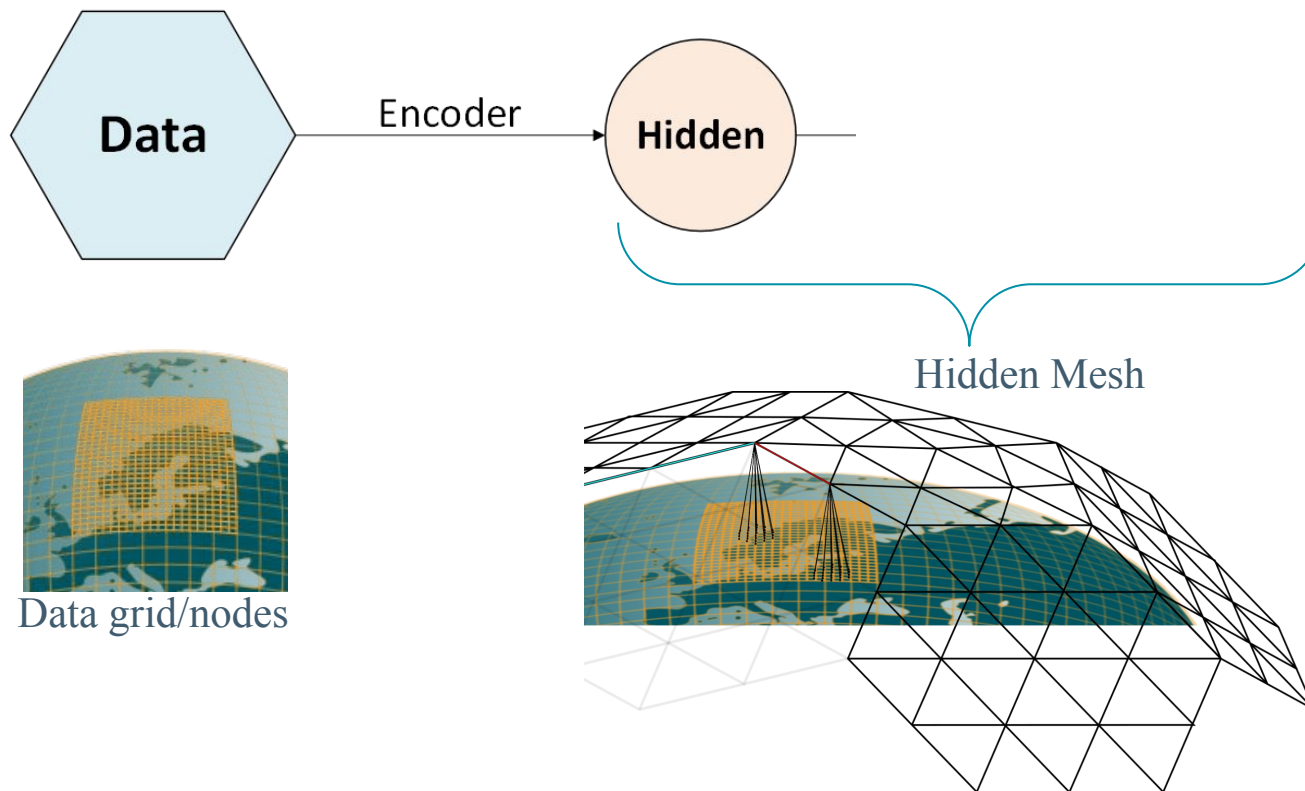
**MET Norway's "Bris" weather model**

Nipen et al. 2024 arXiv:2409.02891v1

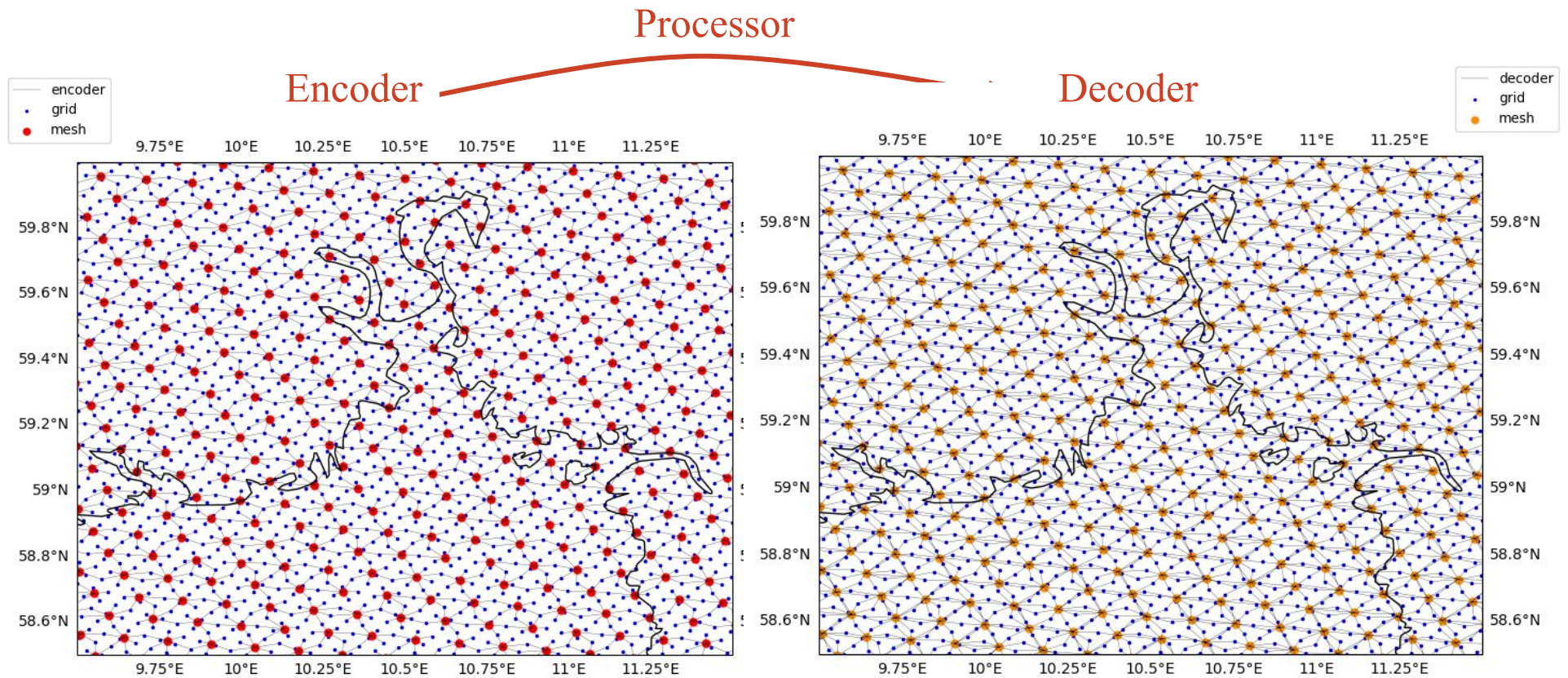
**Note:** Bris uses "stretched grid" while we use LAM



# Graph Neural Network

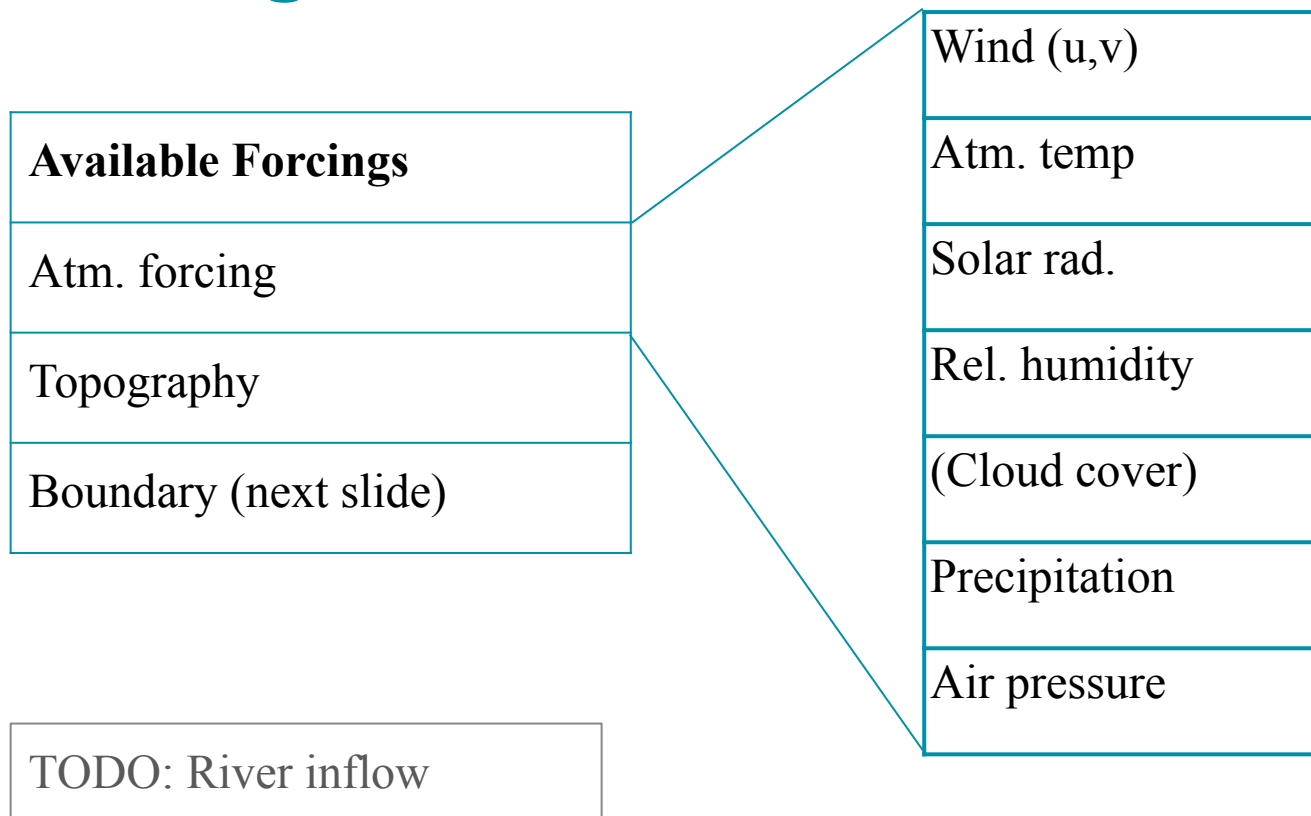


# Graph node positions (Oslo region)





# Forcing variables

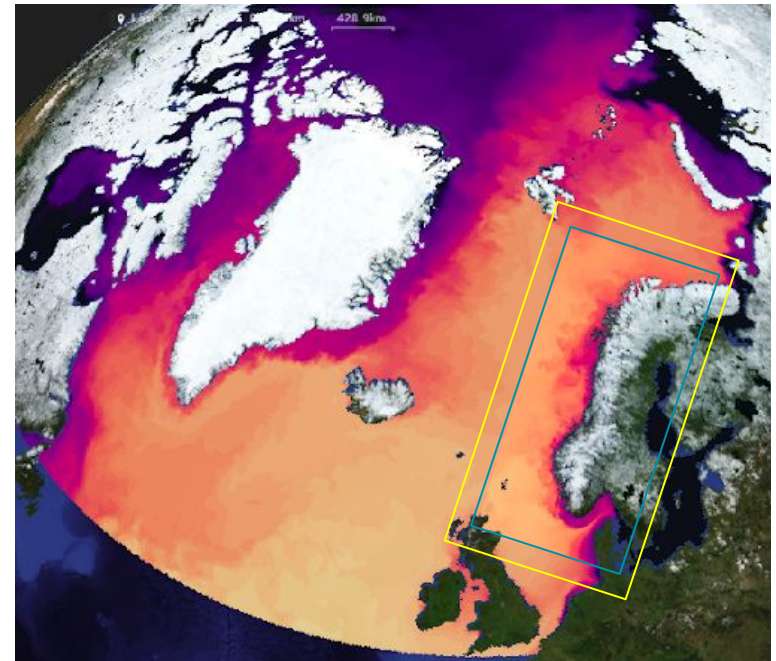


# Boundary conditions

1. First setup:  
Shrink Norkyst domain and use the outermost grid cells as boundary conditions for the ML model.
2. Operational:  
Take values from Topaz (6km) and add them around the Norkyst (800m) domain.

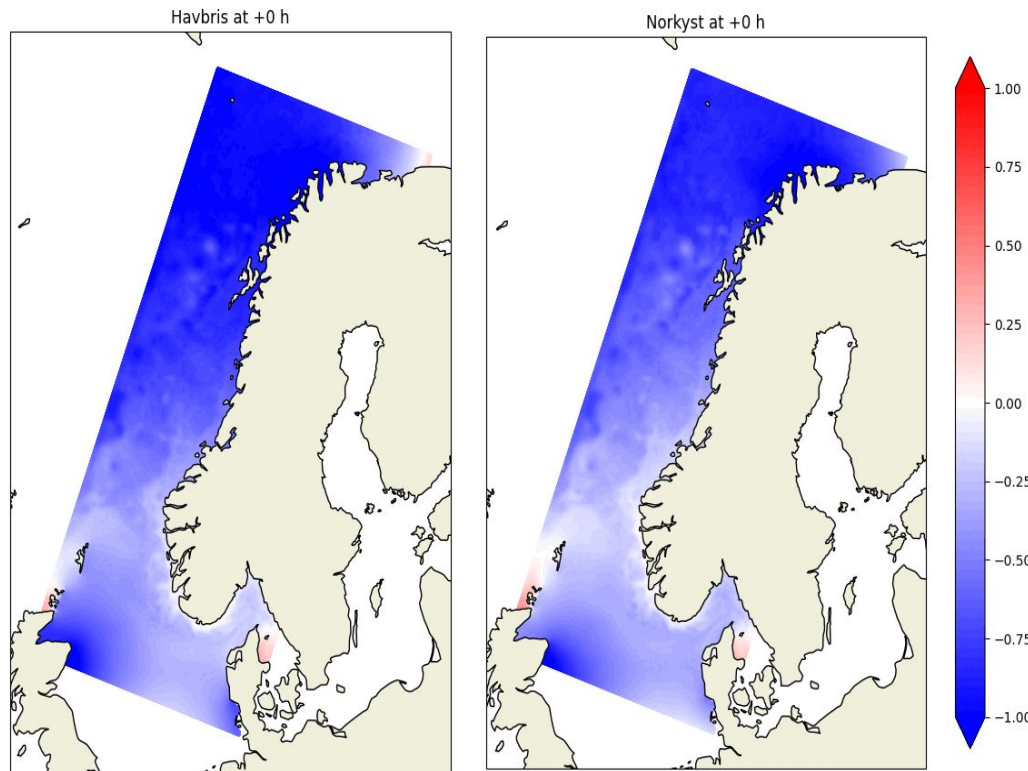
How many km around model domain?

→To be tested further...



# Preliminary Havbris results

Sea surface height

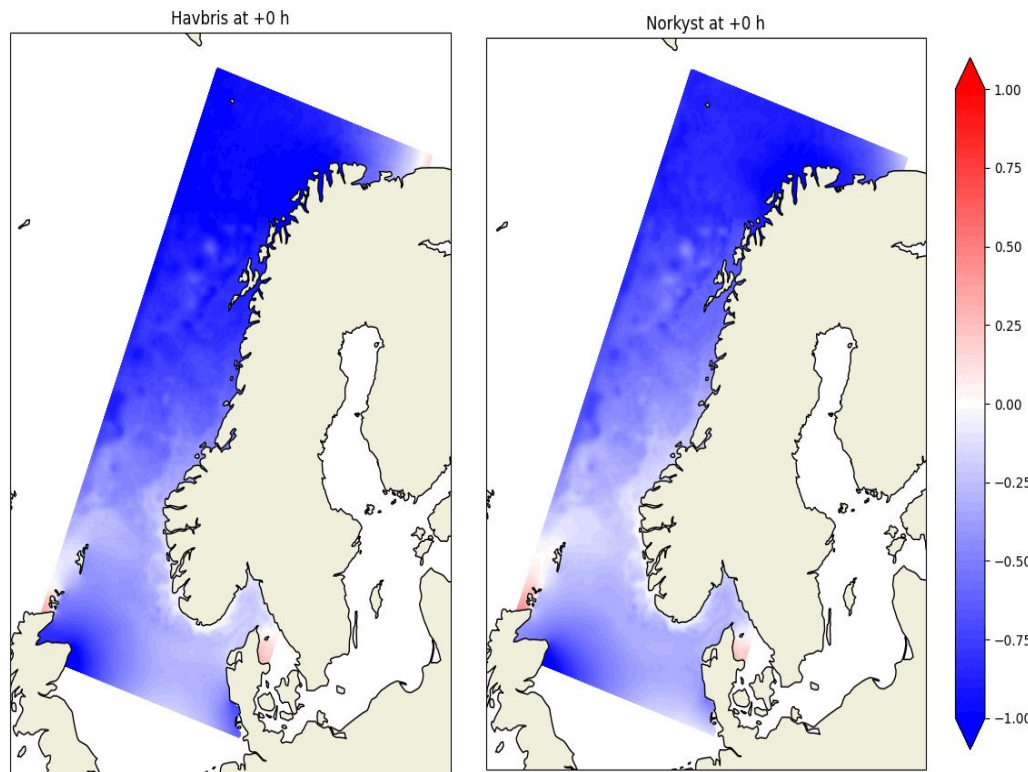


Simplifications (for now)

- a. only surface layer
- b. predict 5 variables:  
u,v, temp, salt, (ssh)
- c. 3h time steps

# Preliminary Havbris results

Sea surface height



Challenging time scales:  
slow v.s. fast processes

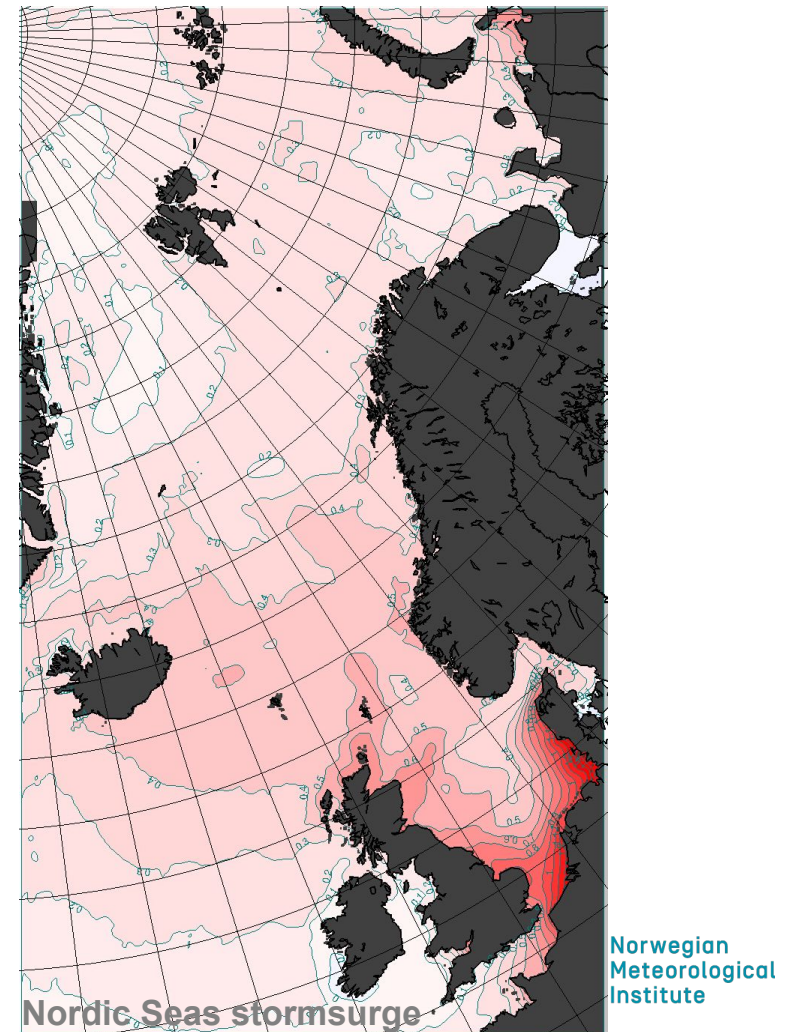
→ large gap between advection  
processes and tidal and  
atmospheric forcings

# TODO's & Future plans

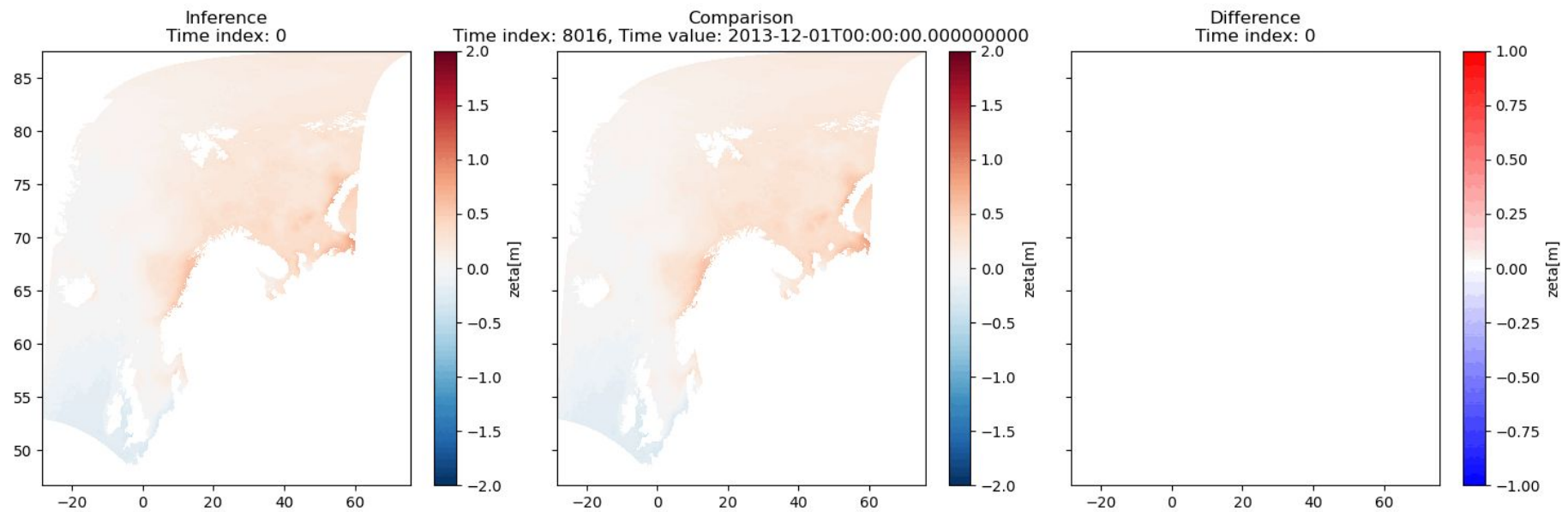
- Hyperparameter tuning
- Try 6h time steps
- Try loss function scaling of SSH
- Size of boundary forcing domain
- Adding depth layers
- Fine-tune on 160m domains & test performance
- ...
- Multi-encoder setup for including satellite observations (project funded)

# Storm Surge

- Train on 1 GPU for 7 days



# Preliminary Storm Surge results



Storm Xaver, December 2013. Among the top 5 highest recordings of storm surge in the German Bight last 100 years.



# Collaborators & Acknowledgements

Thanks to the **Bris-team** for helpful discussions, brainstorming and tips, and all **colleagues at Department of Ocean and Ice @ MET Norway** who continue to contribute their time and help, and the extended **Anemoui community**, in particular at **ECMWF**.

Thank you for your time!



