



Norwegian  
Meteorological  
Institute

# An Ensemble-Based Storm Surge Forecasting System for the Coast of Norway

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# Motivation and background



Foto: Jan Lillebø, Bergens Tidende,  
12.01.2007



Foto: Jan Ivar Rødli, Promo Norge  
25-26.11.2011

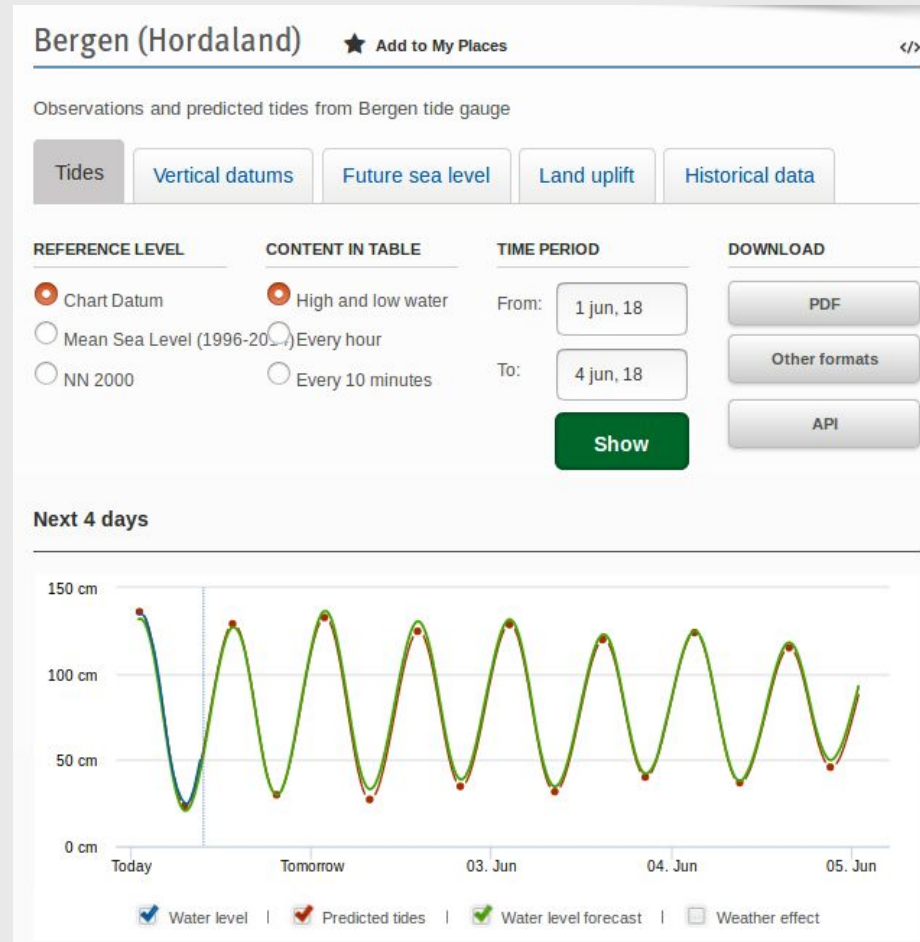
# Observations and data flow

- Observations from 23 sea-level stations operated by the Norwegian Mapping Authority
- Data are transferred in real-time to MET Norway
- Forecasts are corrected for slowly varying mean errors by use of the observations



# Observations and data flow

- The forecasts are monitored by METs marine forecasting centre in Bergen
- Forecasts are published at Norwegian Mapping Authority's web page, [www.sehavniva.no](http://www.sehavniva.no)
- When threshold alert levels are exceeded high water-level warnings are sent to responsible national authorities



# Warning levels for high water-level

- **Yellow warning** - ~1 year return period

**Consequences:** Local flooding and risk of minor damage to infrastructure and buildings in the coastal zone.

**Actions:** Pay attention.

- **Orange warning** - ~5 years return period

**Consequences:** Flooding and risk of moderate damage to infrastructure and buildings in the coastal zone.

**Actions:** Be prepared. National authorities receives the warning by email.

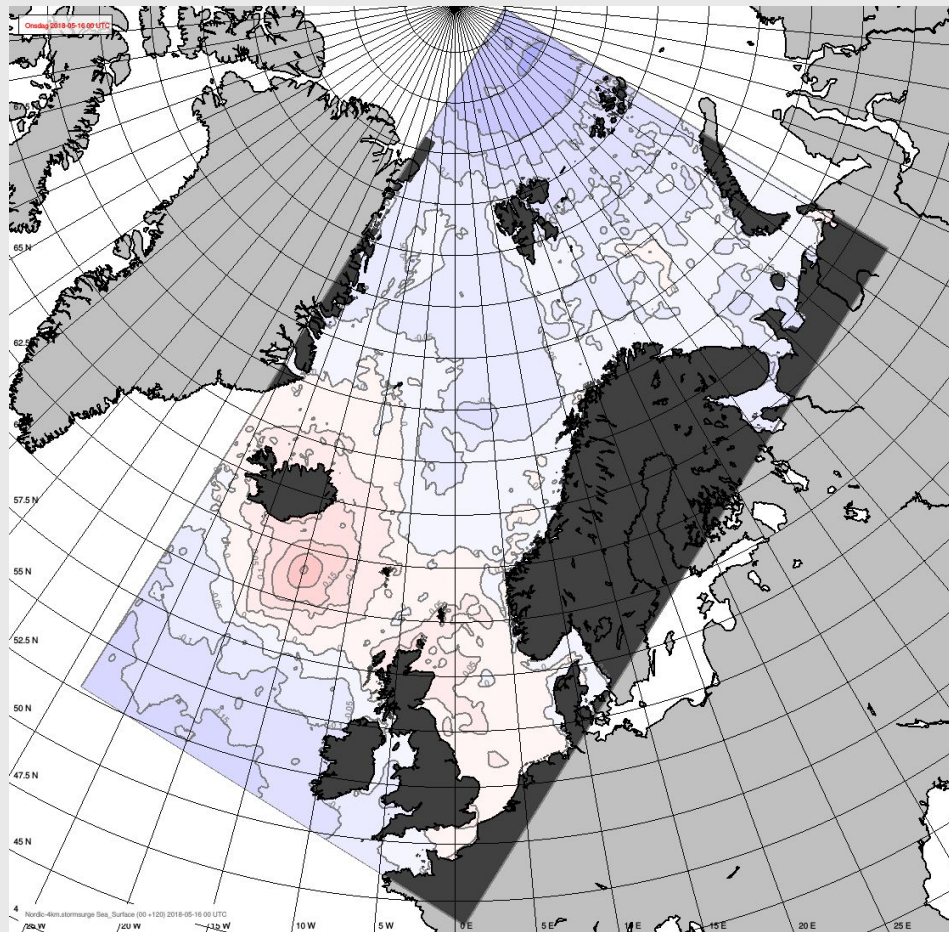
- **Red warning** - ~20 years return period

**Consequences:** Flooding and risk of severe damage to infrastructure and buildings in the coastal zone.

**Actions:** Secure lifes and values. National authorities receives the warning by email and are obliged to confirm reception.



# The deterministic model



- ROMS (Regional Ocean Modeling System) as numerical solver
- 4km horizontal resolution
- Run in barotropic mode (2D)
- Forecast length +120h
- Run twice daily (00 and 12 UTC)
- Forced by ECMWF high resolution deterministic model
- MSLP and windstress
- Inverse barometric effect (IB) on vertical boundaries
- Sponge layer along boundaries to reduce reflections of waves

# Ensemble forecasting system

- Same model setup as deterministic system
- Run twice daily (00 and 12 UTC)
- 50 + 1 members for storm surge model
- Use all 50 + 1 members of ECMWF EPS as atmospheric forcing
- Forecasts are corrected using the latest observations on coastal stations (same for the deterministic storm surge model)

# A graphical support system for issuing forecasts of high water-level

Vannstanden i Norge

Stasjon	Sun 19/11	Mon 20/11	Tue 21/11	Wed 22/11	Thu 23/11
VIKER	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
OSCARSBORG	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
OSLO	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
HELGEROA	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
TREGDE	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
STAVANGER	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
BERGEN	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
MAALOEY	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
AALESUND	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
KRISTIANSUND	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Green
HEIMSJØE	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
TRONDHEIM	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
ROERVIK	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
BODOE	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
NARVIK	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
KABELVAAG	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
ANDENES	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
HARSTAD	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
TROMSOE	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
HAMMERFEST	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
HONNINGSVAAAG	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
VARDOE	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
NY-AALESUND	Grey	Green	Yellow	Orange	Red





# A graphical support system for issuing forecasts of high water-level

### Returverdier for høyvann

Returperiode	Sjøkartnull	Middelvann
1 år	282	152
5 år	297	167
10 år	304	174
20 år	310	180
50 år	317	187
100 år	322	192

### Rekorder for høyvann

Ekstremvær	Sjøkartnull	Middelvann
12. jan 1993	328	198
2. nov 1971	318	188
25. des 2011	315	185
25. nov 2011	313	183
20. jan 1957	309	179
25. jan 2008	307	177
22. des 1988	306	176
27. feb 1990	306	176
20. jan 1976	305	175
12. jan 2005	304	174

### Varslingskriterier for vannstand

Nivå	Sjøkartnull	Middelvann
Gult	270	140
Orange	280	150
Rødt	300	170

## Informasjonsside om Kristiansund

Datagrunnlag 1952-2017



Plasseringen av vannstandsmåleren er angitt med rødt på kartene over.

### Returverdier for lavvann

Returperiode	Sjøkartnull	Middelvann
1 år	-8	-138
5 år	-20	-150
10 år	-25	-155
20 år	-29	-159
50 år	-34	-164
100 år	-38	-168

### Rekorder for lavvann

Dato	Sjøkartnull	Middelvann
18. mar 1980	-34	-164
20. feb 1996	-33	-163
20. mar 2007	-30	-160
21. mar 2015	-25	-155
28. feb 1994	-23	-153
1. mar 2006	-23	-153

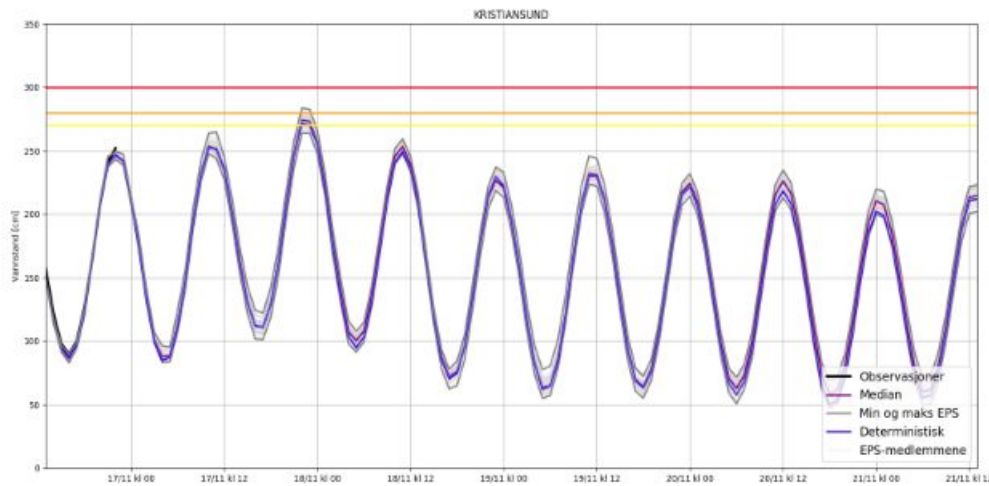
  

### Diverse vannstandparametre

Tooltip	Sjøkartnull	Middelvann
Høyeste obs...	328	198
Høyeste astr...	265	135
Middel høyvann	198	68
Middelvann	130	0
Middel lavvann	62	-68
Laveste astr...	0	-130
Laveste obs...	-34	-164

Klikk [her](#) for å få forklart hva de ulike parameterene er.

# A graphical support system for issuing forecasts of high water-level



Forrige stasjon

Om stasjonen

Stasjonsliste

Neste stasjon

- Sjøkartnull
- Middelvann

- Deterministisk vannstand
- EPS for totalvannstand
- EPS for værrets virkning
- Sannsynligheter

- Dag 0
- Dag 1
- Dag 2
- Dag 3
- Dag 4

Tid (NNT)	Min. EPS	Max. EPS	Deterministisk	Observert
17/11 kl 00	208	214	211	-
17/11 kl 01	172	183	174	-
17/11 kl 02	130	140	132	-
17/11 kl 03	99	107	99	-
17/11 kl 04	83	96	85	-
17/11 kl 05	84	95	87	-
17/11 kl 06	108	124	111	-
17/11 kl 07	141	157	147	-
17/11 kl 08	189	205	193	-
17/11 kl 09	225	242	231	-
17/11 kl 10	248	264	252	-
17/11 kl 11	244	265	252	-
17/11 kl 12	227	245	236	-
17/11 kl 13	193	213	201	-
17/11 kl 14	154	174	162	-
17/11 kl 15	122	143	130	-
17/11 kl 16	102	124	112	-
17/11 kl 17	101	122	111	-
17/11 kl 18	119	142	129	-
17/11 kl 19	152	175	163	-
17/11 kl 20	197	219	207	-
17/11 kl 21	237	258	247	-
17/11 kl 22	264	284	272	-
17/11 kl 23	264	283	270	-

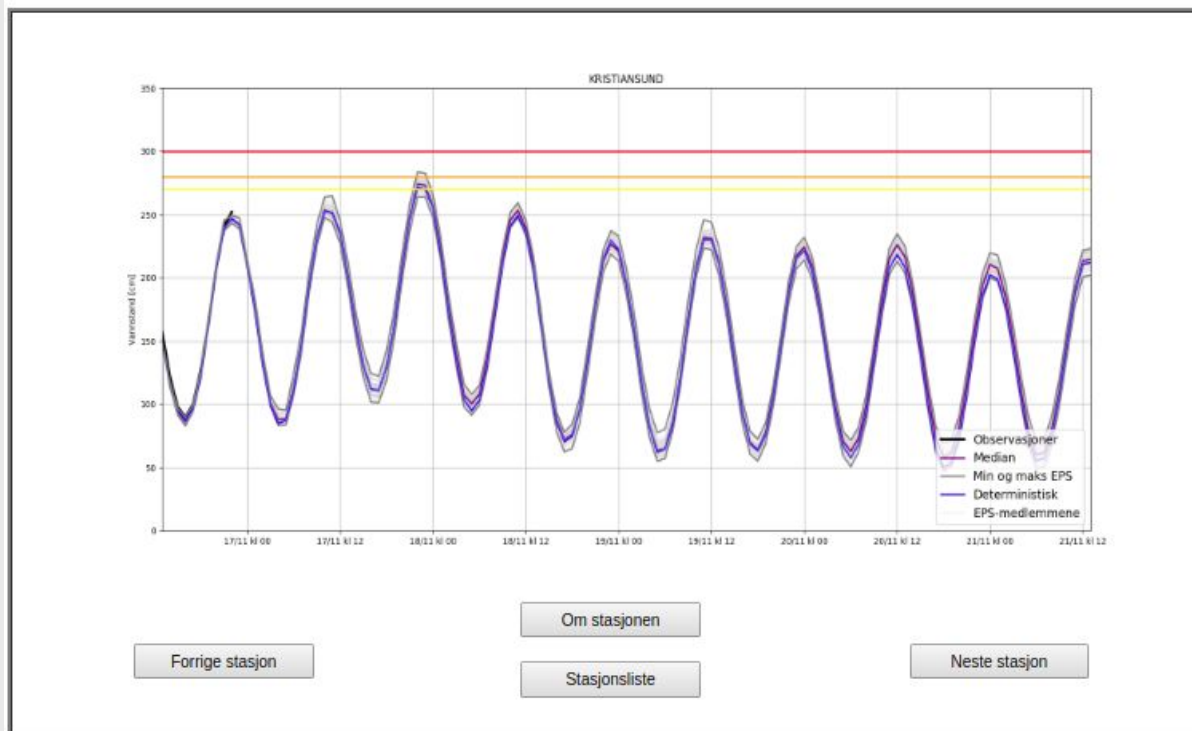
Tidene er oppgitt i norsk normaltid. Ved sommertid må det legges til 1 time.

	Dag0	Dag1	Dag2	Dag3	Dag4
Høyeste vannstand	249	284	259	246	235
Laveste vannstand	83	83	62	55	47
Avvik gult nivå	-21	14	-11	-24	-35
Avvik orange nivå	-31	4	-21	-34	-45
Avvik rødt nivå	-51	-16	-41	-54	-65

Korreksjon av vannstandsdataene: +12 cm

Gjennomsnittlig avvik obs - mod: +3 cm

# A graphical support system for issuing forecasts of high water-level



Tid (NNT)	Sannsn. > gult	Sannsn. > orange	Sannsn. > rødt	Max. EPS
17/11 kl 00	0%	0%	0%	214
17/11 kl 01	0%	0%	0%	183
17/11 kl 02	0%	0%	0%	140
17/11 kl 03	0%	0%	0%	107
17/11 kl 04	0%	0%	0%	96
17/11 kl 05	0%	0%	0%	95
17/11 kl 06	0%	0%	0%	124
17/11 kl 07	0%	0%	0%	157
17/11 kl 08	0%	0%	0%	205
17/11 kl 09	0%	0%	0%	242
17/11 kl 10	0%	0%	0%	264
17/11 kl 11	0%	0%	0%	265
17/11 kl 12	0%	0%	0%	245
17/11 kl 13	0%	0%	0%	213
17/11 kl 14	0%	0%	0%	174
17/11 kl 15	0%	0%	0%	143
17/11 kl 16	0%	0%	0%	124
17/11 kl 17	0%	0%	0%	122
17/11 kl 18	0%	0%	0%	142
17/11 kl 19	0%	0%	0%	175
17/11 kl 20	0%	0%	0%	219
17/11 kl 21	0%	0%	0%	258
17/11 kl 22	76%	12%	0%	284
17/11 kl 23	76%	4%	0%	283

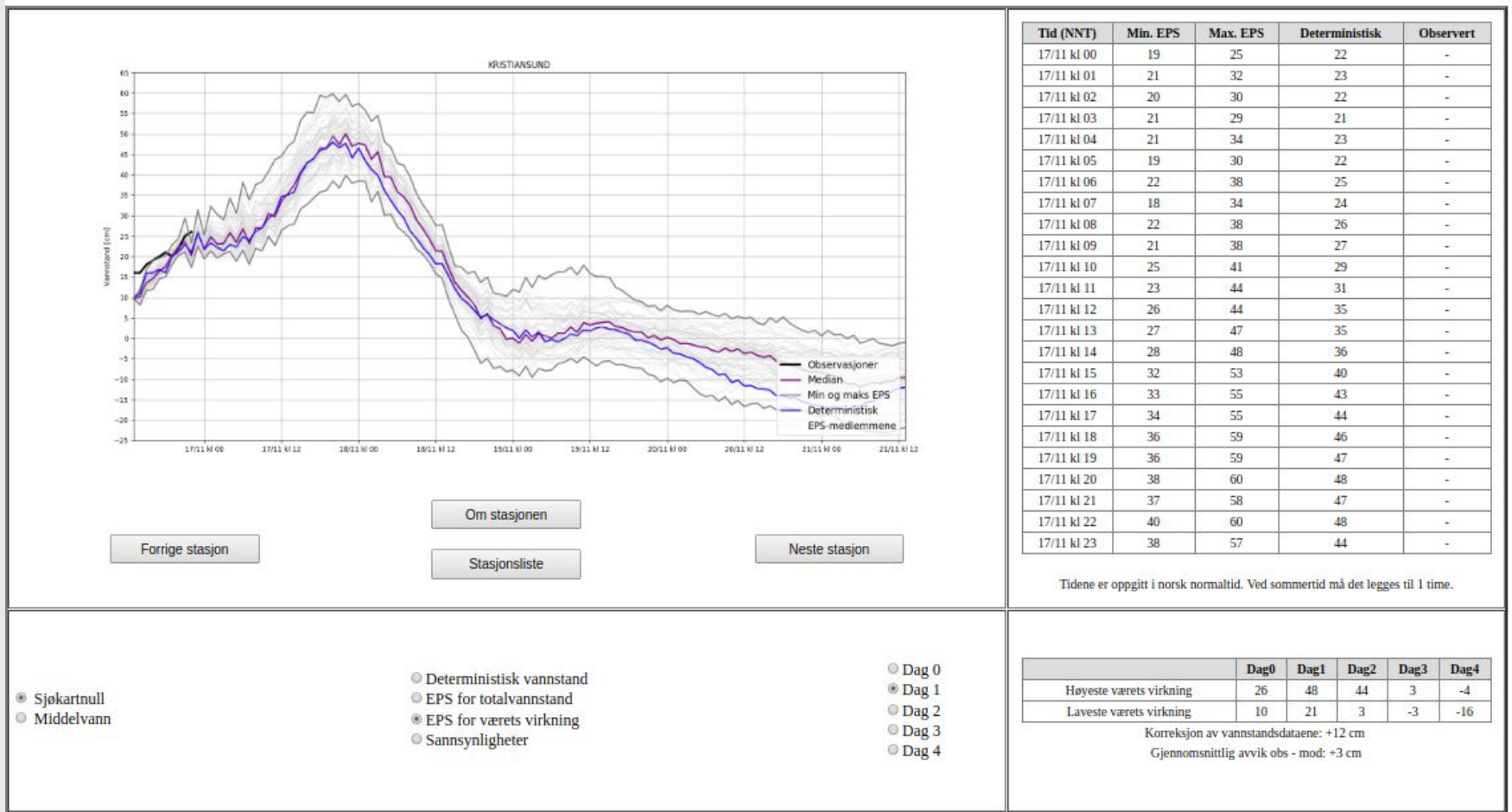
Tidene er oppgitt i norsk normaltid. Ved sommertid må det legges til 1 time.

- Sjøkartnull
- Middelvann
- Deterministisk vannstand
- EPS for totalvannstand
- EPS for værets virkning
- Sannsynligheter
- Dag 0
- Dag 1
- Dag 2
- Dag 3
- Dag 4

	Dag0	Dag1	Dag2	Dag3	Dag4
Sannsn. > gult nivå	0%	76%	0%	0%	0%
Sannsn. > orange nivå	0%	12%	0%	0%	0%
Sannsn. > rødt nivå	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Korreksjon av vannstandsdataene: +12 cm  
Gjennomsnittlig avvik obs - mod: +3 cm

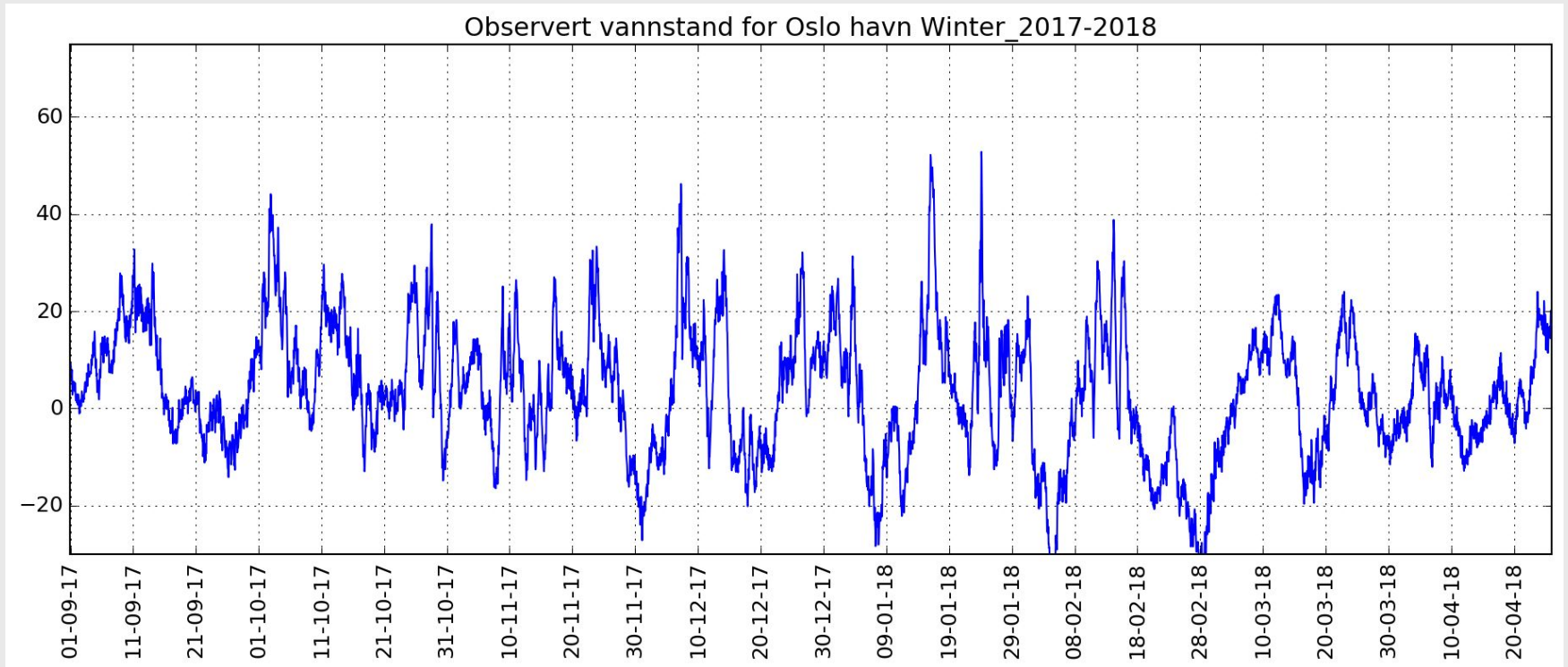
# A graphical support system for issuing forecasts of high water-level



Example of warning: Thursday around noon high water level is expected, with 35-40 cm above the values in the tide table. For more information, see [havniva.no](http://havniva.no)



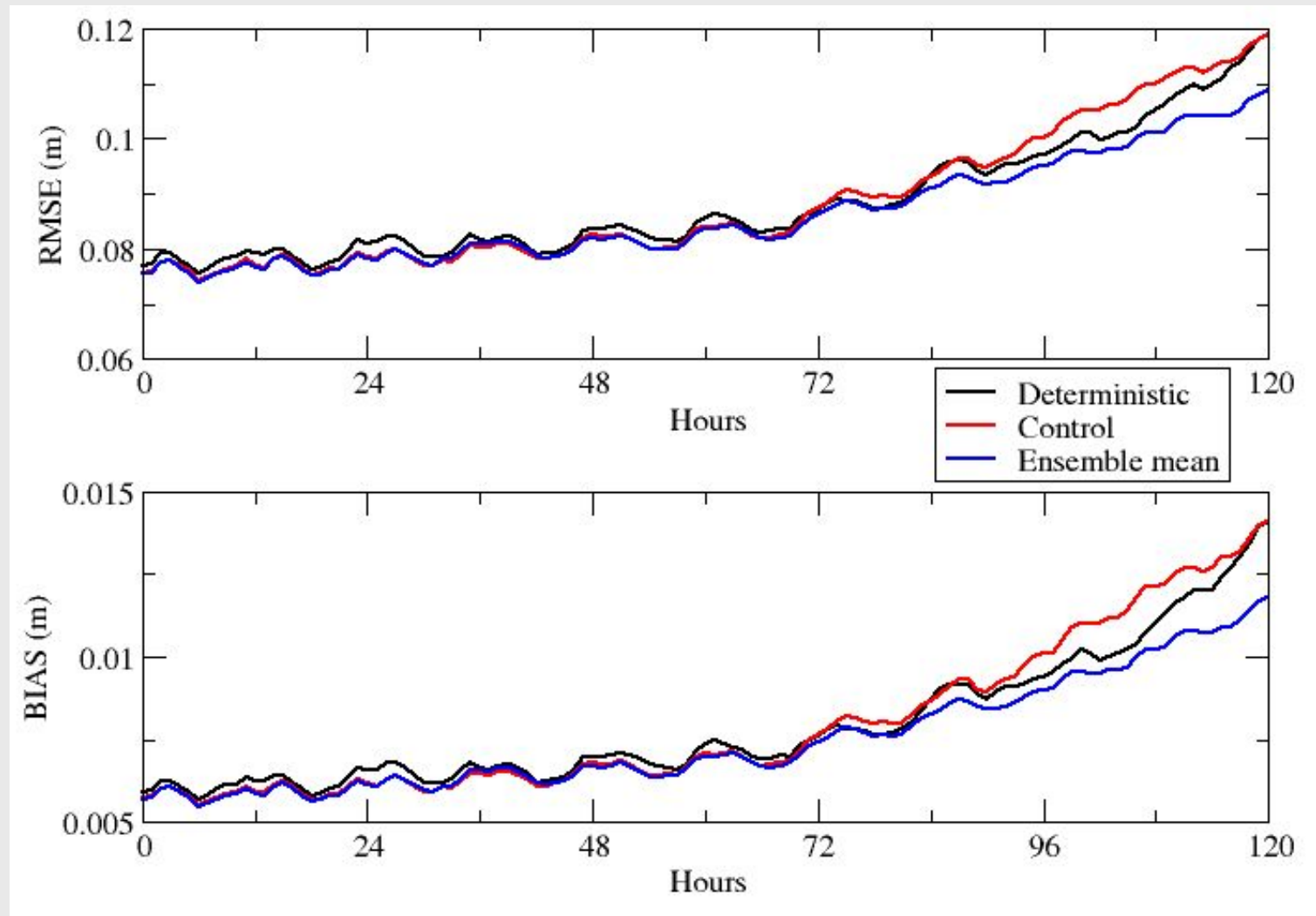
# Forecast verification based on data for 1 October 2017 - 30 April 2018



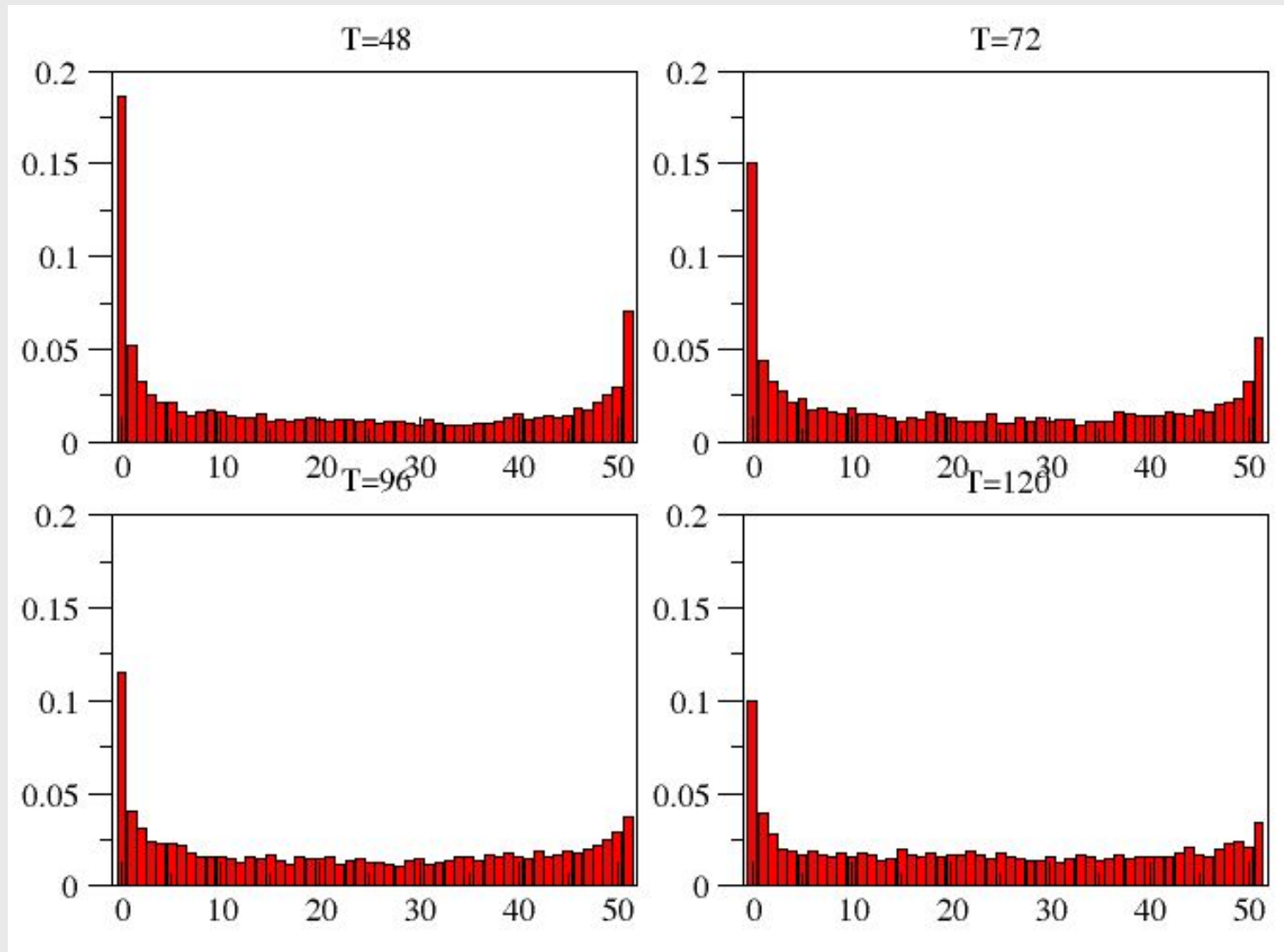
Storm surge only (no tides in observations)



# Forecast verification based on data for 1 October 2017 - 30 April 2018

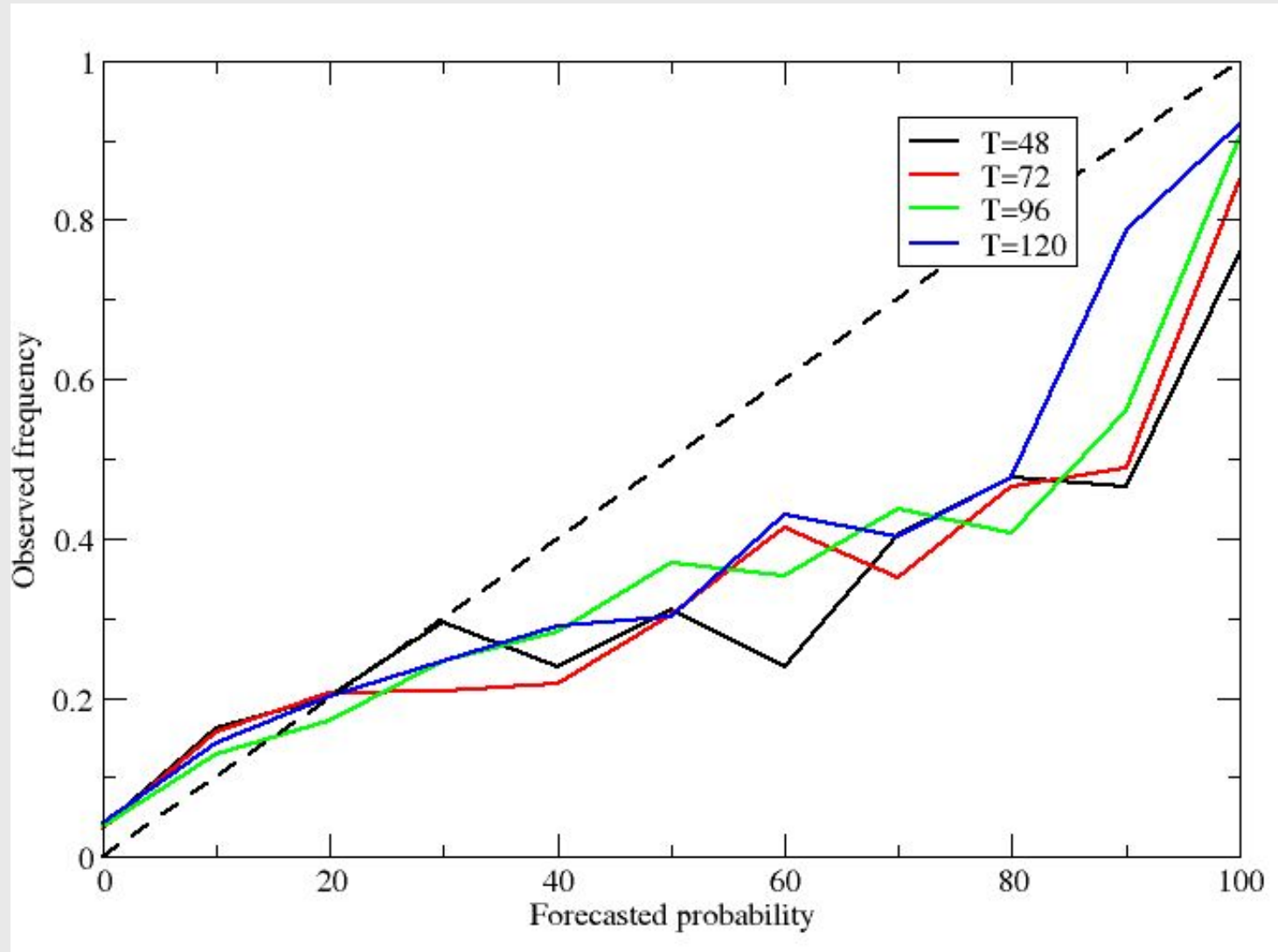


# Rank histograms



Noise with 3 cm std added to ensemble members to account for observation errors.

# Reliability diagram ( $|\eta| > 0.25$ m)



# Summary and concluding remarks

- The system is very useful for the forecasters
- First season shows promising results
- Need to validate the system for several seasons
- Plan to make results from the ensemble system available for the public at the Norwegian Mapping Authority web page