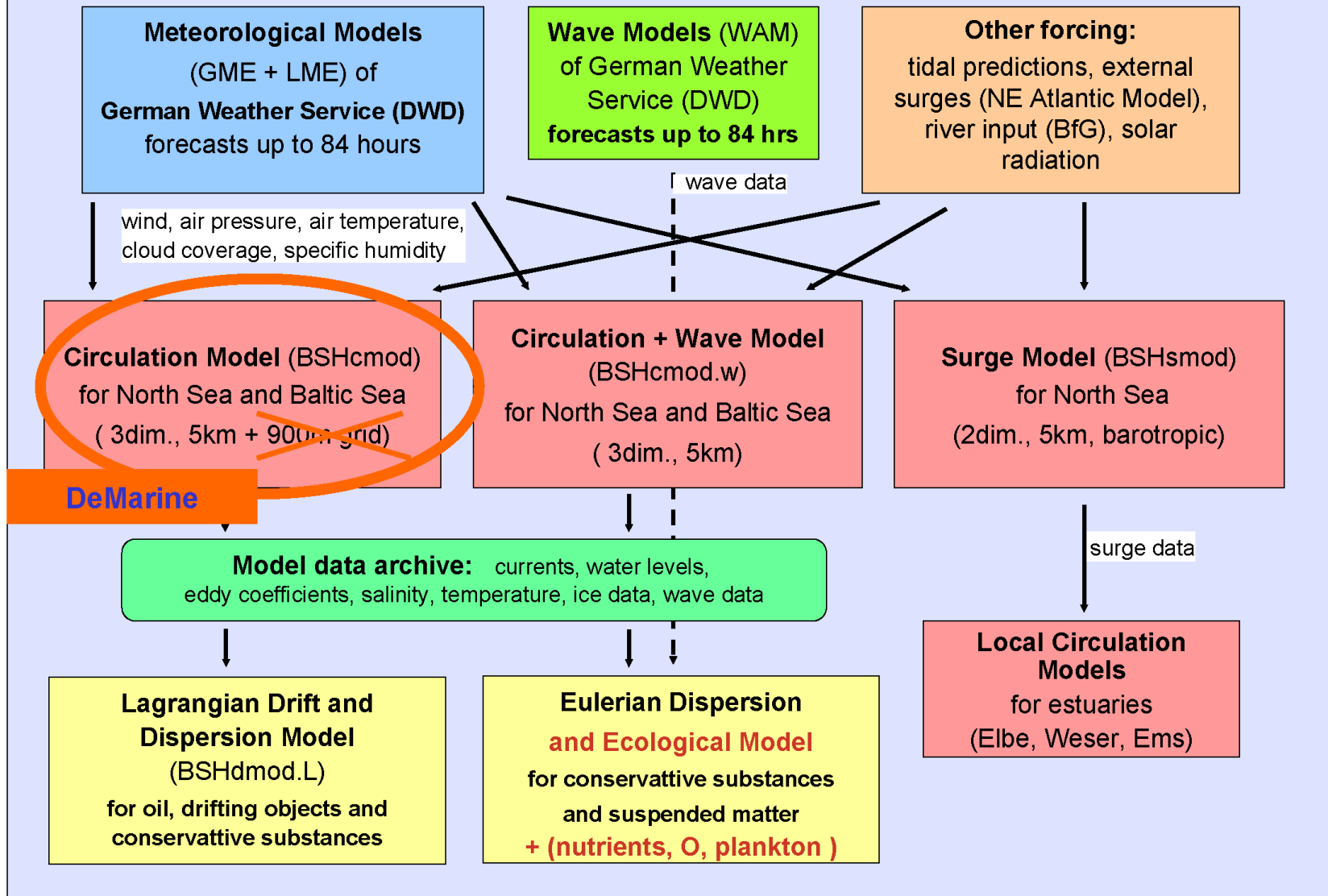


# Assimilating NOAA SST data into BSH operational circulation model for the North and Baltic Seas: Inference about the data

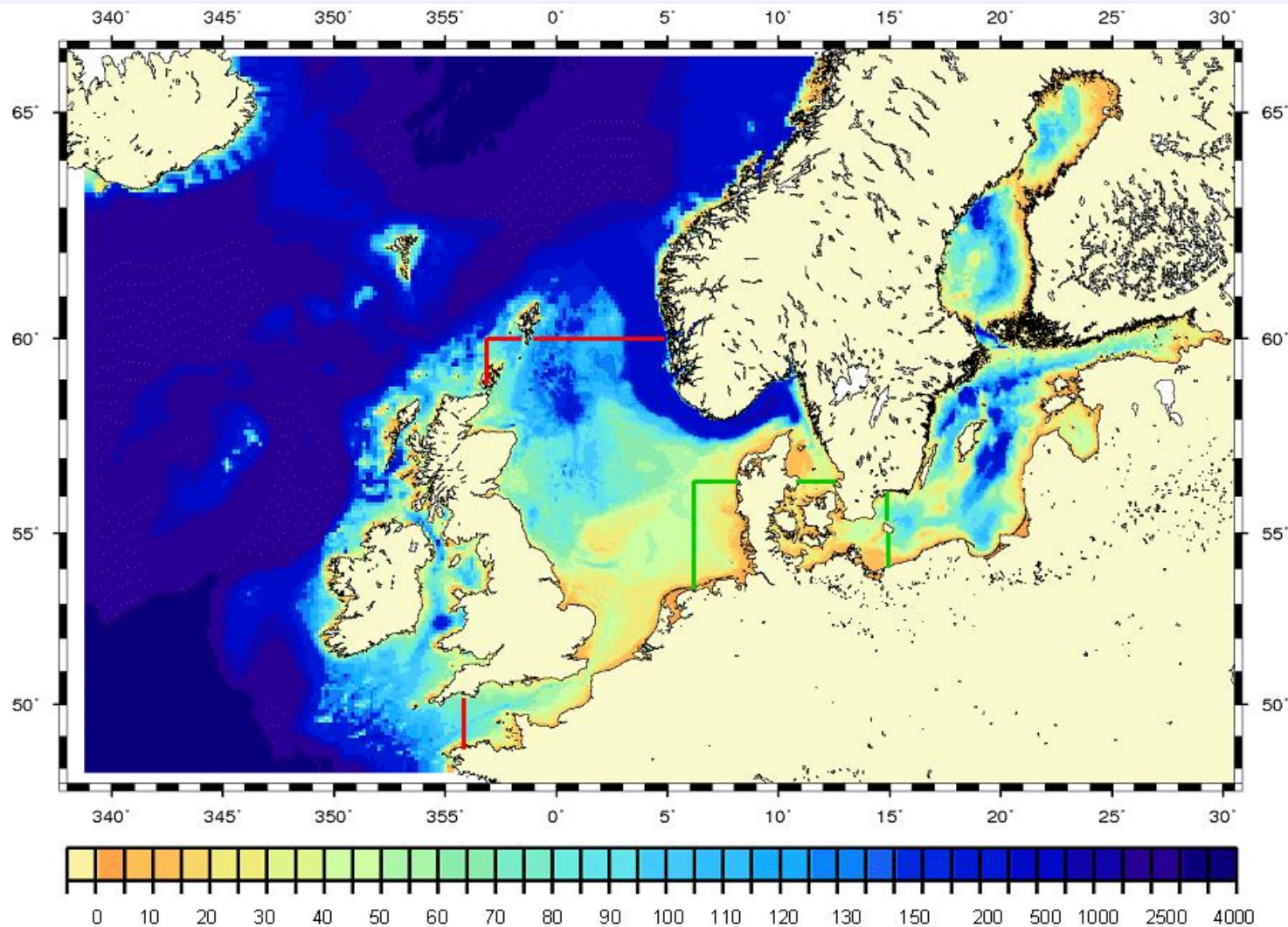
**Svetlana Losa<sup>1</sup>, Jens Schröter<sup>1</sup>, Sergey Danilov<sup>1</sup>,  
Lars Nerger<sup>1</sup>, Tijana Janjić<sup>1</sup>  
Silvia Massmann<sup>2</sup>, Frank Janssen<sup>2</sup>**

*Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI), Bremerhaven, Germany  
German Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH), Hamburg, Germany*

# Operational Models of BSH (and DWD)



# Operational BSH Model, Version 4



BSSC 2007, F. Janssen, S. Dick, E. Kleine

Grid nesting :

- 10 km grid
- 5 km grid
- 900 m grid

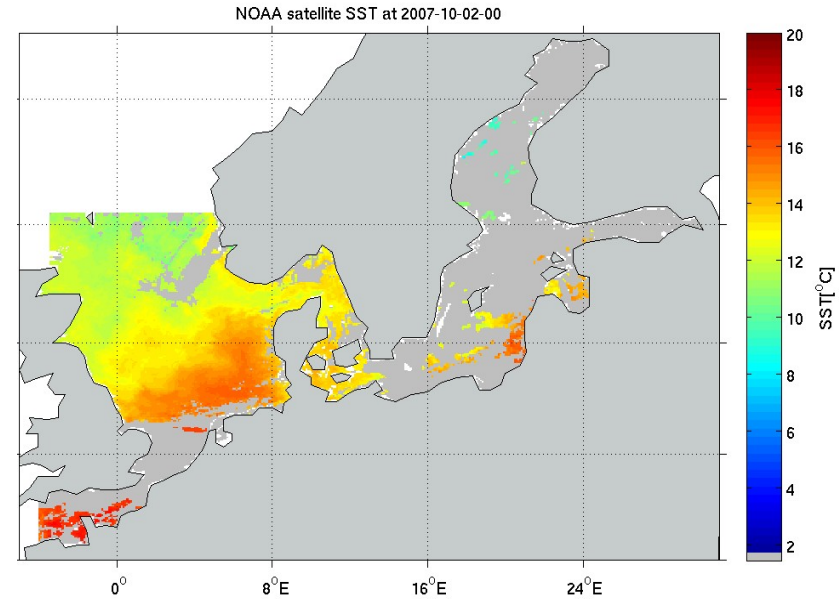
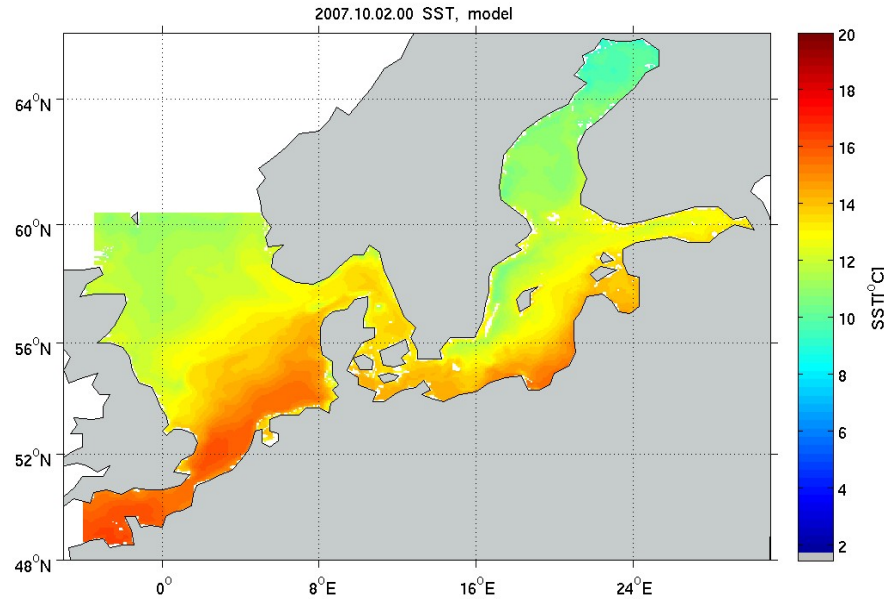
# Data assimilation

$$\rho_t^a(x(t_1|d_1)) = C \rho_d(d_1|x(t_1)) \rho_t^f(x(t_1))$$
$$\rho_t^f(x(t_1)) = C \rho^f(x(t)|x(0)) \rho_0(x(0))$$

## BSHcmod

## NOAA SST

12 hourly-around 00:00 and 12:00, - composites of SST measured by the Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) aboard polar orbiting satellites



Extraction and combination of the information from two different sources - the model and the data - in order to improve our understanding of both sources and, therefore, of reality itself

# Improved SST fields are required for

- Monitoring the climate change
- Specification of oceanic boundary conditions for atmospheric models and initial conditions for ocean/sea circulation models
- Predicting sea-ice variables/conditions
- Primary productivity and water quality are also influenced by temperature either directly, through the dependence of the physiology and gas exchange processes on it, or indirectly via changes in mixing conditions and stratification in the UML, in which phytoplankton grows.

!One has to consider the performance in simulating sea surface elevation, current velocities and salinity

# Data assimilation algorithm

Ensemble based Singular Evolutive Interpolated Kalman filter (SEIK, Pham, 2001)

SEIK Filter is implemented locally (PDAF, Nerger et al., 2006) but with different formulations of data error correlation.

- Apply explicit low-rank approximation to model errors covariance matrix and generate ensemble model states
- Ensemble formulation:
  - improves ability to handle nonlinearity
  - leads to numerically very efficient algorithm
  - results in high parallel scalability
- Localization improves filter performance by increasing degrees of freedom for analysis

Localization introduces radius of data influence  $r_l$ , the degree of the influence can be weighted within the radius.

Tuning is needed with respect to the  $r_l$  and data weights.

Nerger, L., S. Danilov, W. Hiller, and J. Schröter. Using sea level data to constrain a finite-element primitive-equation model with a local SEIK filter. *Ocean Dynamics* 56 (2006) 634

# Assimilation algorithm

$$x(t_n)^a = x(t_n)^f + K_n(d_n - H_n x(t_n)^f),$$

$x(t_n)^f$ ,  $x(t_n)^a$  denote forecast and analysis of state vector consisting of temperature, salinity, SSH velocity components at time  $t_n$  at all grid points

$d_n$  - temperature satellite observation available at  $t_n$

$P_n^f$  - forecast error covariance matrix

$R_n$  - observational error covariance matrix

$$K_n = P_n^f H_n^T (H_n P_n^f H_n^T + R_n)^{-1}$$

# Implementation (model and data error statistics)

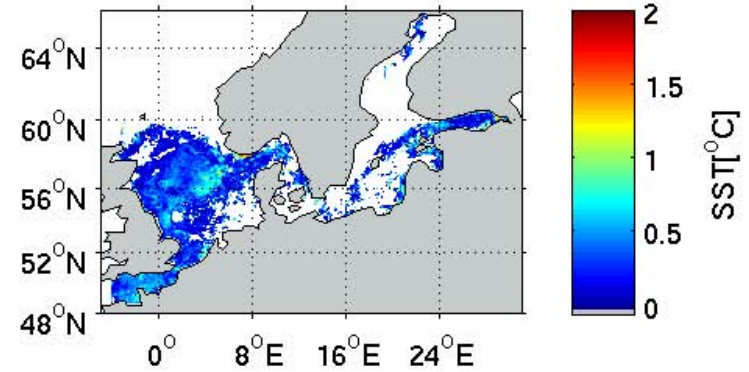
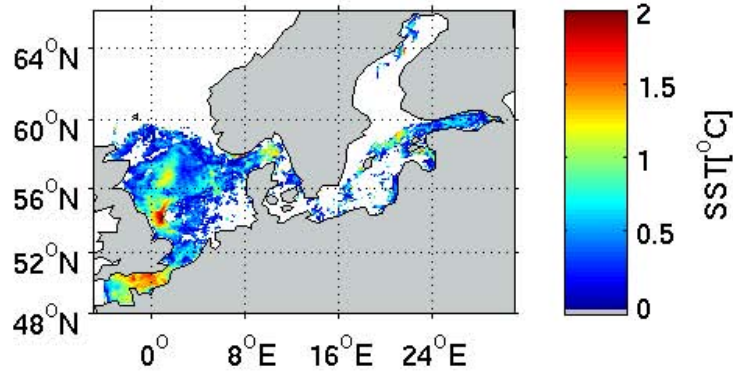
- We integrate the BSHcmod forced by atmospheric and river run-off data and assimilating NOAA SST over the period 1.10.2007 -- 30.09.2008. Real-time pre-operational results obtained for March 2011 are also presented.
- Initial model error covariance matrix is computed using three months (10-12.2007) output [T, S, SSH, u, v] from the BSH model run (12-hourly snapshots).
- First 8(16) EOFs are used to generate an ensemble of model states (temperature, salinity, current velocities, sea surface elevation).
- Assumptions on data errors  
 $\sigma_{sst} = \{1.8^{\circ}\text{C}, 0.8^{\circ}\text{C}, 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}\}$ ; data weighting implemented within  $r_l$  of 150 km, 100 km or 50 km assuming exponential, quasi Gaussian or uniform dependence of the weights on the distance from the analysed grid point.
- NOAA SST data are assimilated every 12(24) hours.

$r_l$ – radius of assimilated data influence.

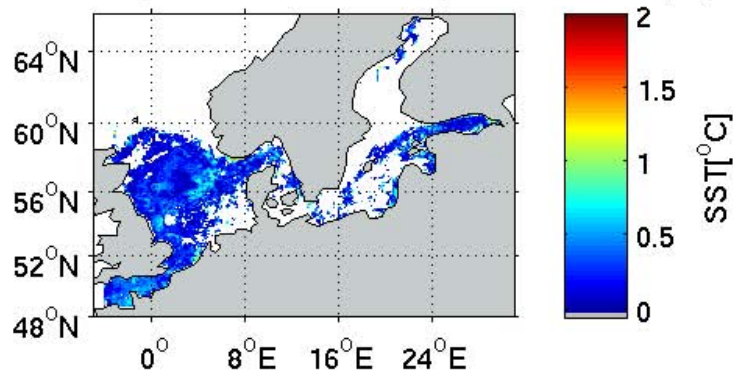


# Improvement of SST analysis and forecast

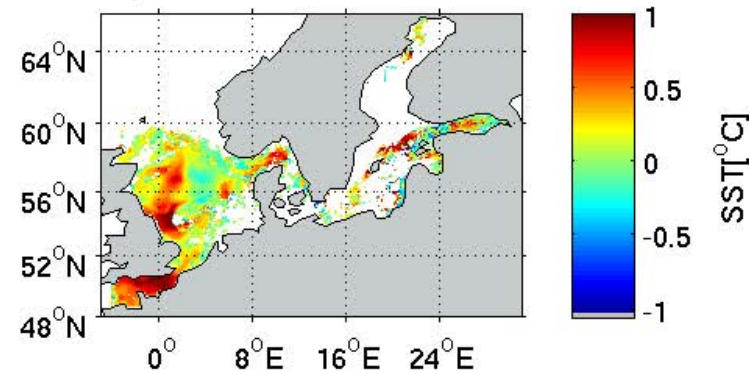
2007.10.21 00:00 |BSHcmod - Obs SST|, RMS:0.6821 ( $^{\circ}$ C) 2007.10.21 00:00 |LSEIK for - Obs SST|, RMS:0.42656 ( $^{\circ}$ C)



2007.10.21 00:00 |LSEIK ana - Obs SST|, RMS:0.38399 ( $^{\circ}$ C)

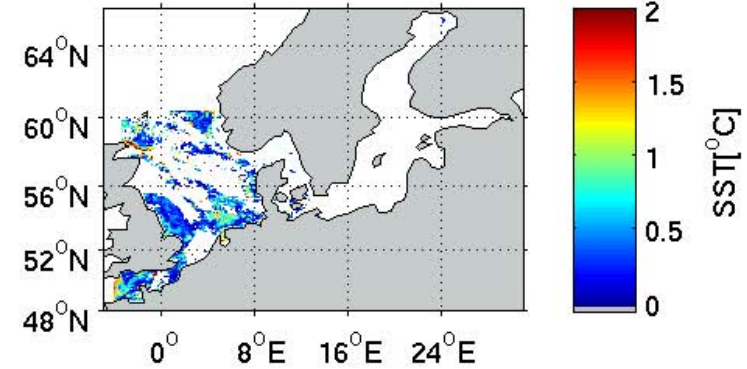
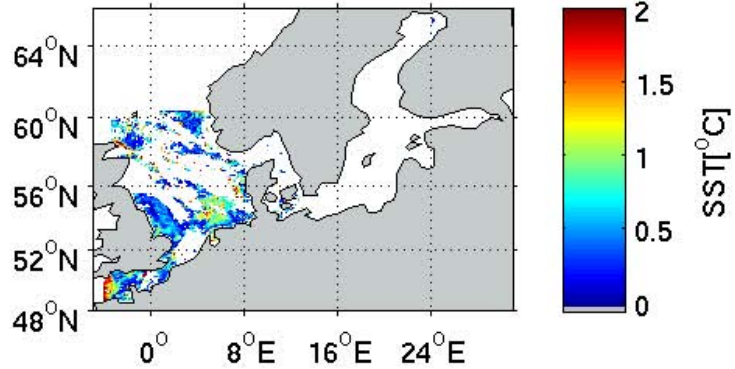


Improvement 2007.10.21 00:00

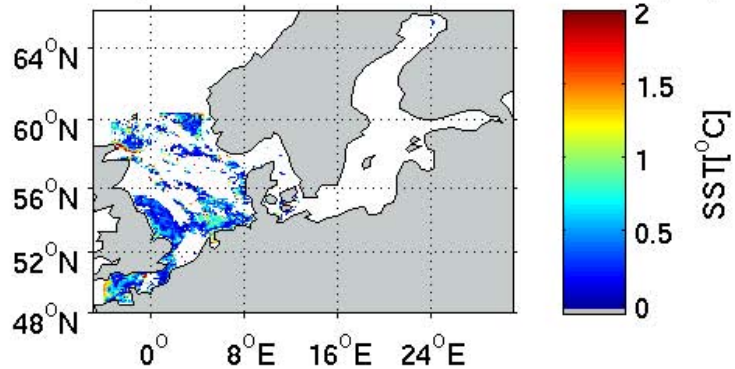


# Improvement of SST analysis and forecast

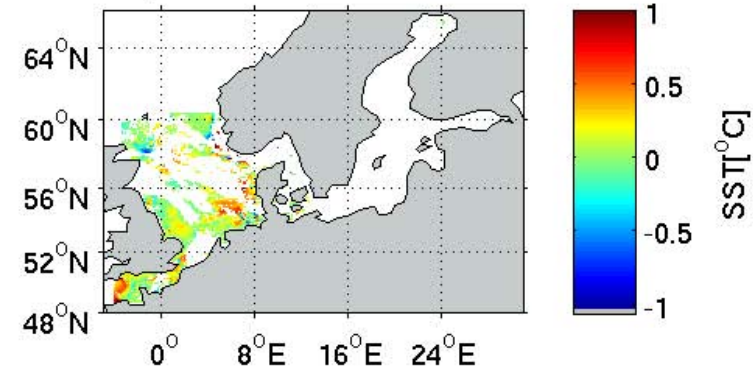
2008.01.07 00:00 |BSHcmod - Obs SST|, RMS:0.80083 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) 2008.01.07 00:00 |LSEIK for - Obs SST|, RMS:0.69784 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )



2008.01.07 00:00 |LSEIK ana - Obs SST|, RMS:0.66232 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

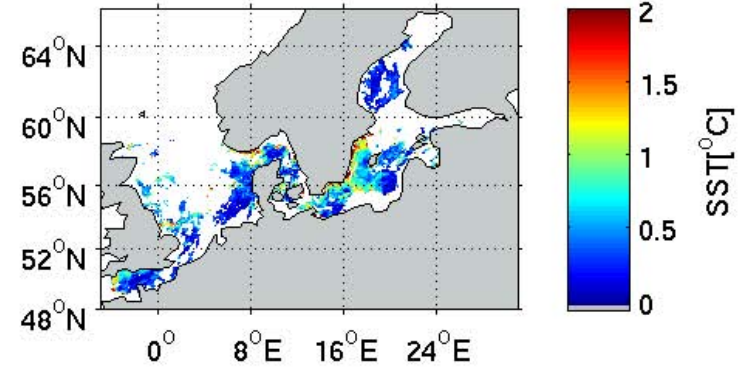
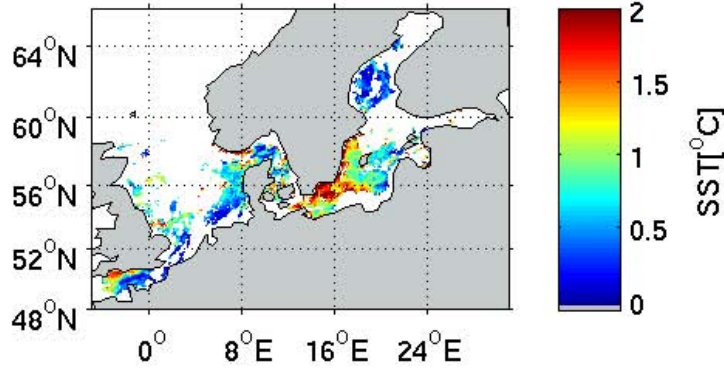


Improvement 2008.01.07 00:00

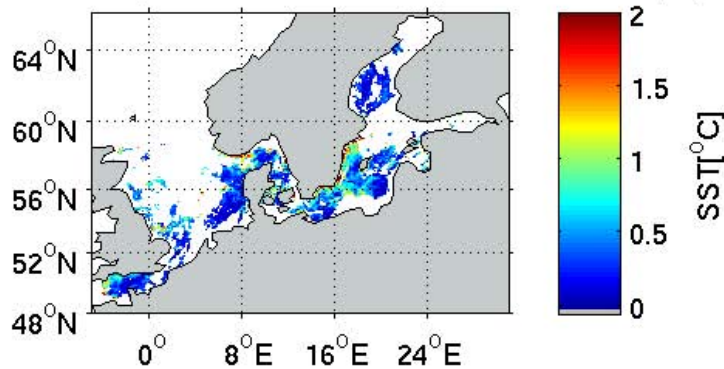


# Improvement of SST analysis and forecast

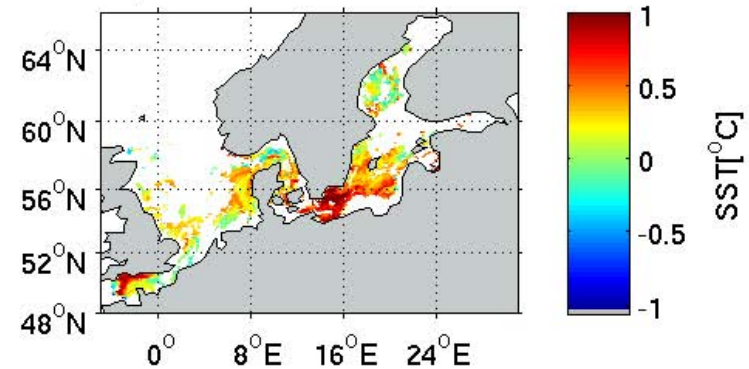
2008.04.04 00:00 |BSHcmod - Obs SST|, RMS:1.0188 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) 2008.04.04 00:00 |LSEIK for - Obs SST|, RMS:0.70448 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )



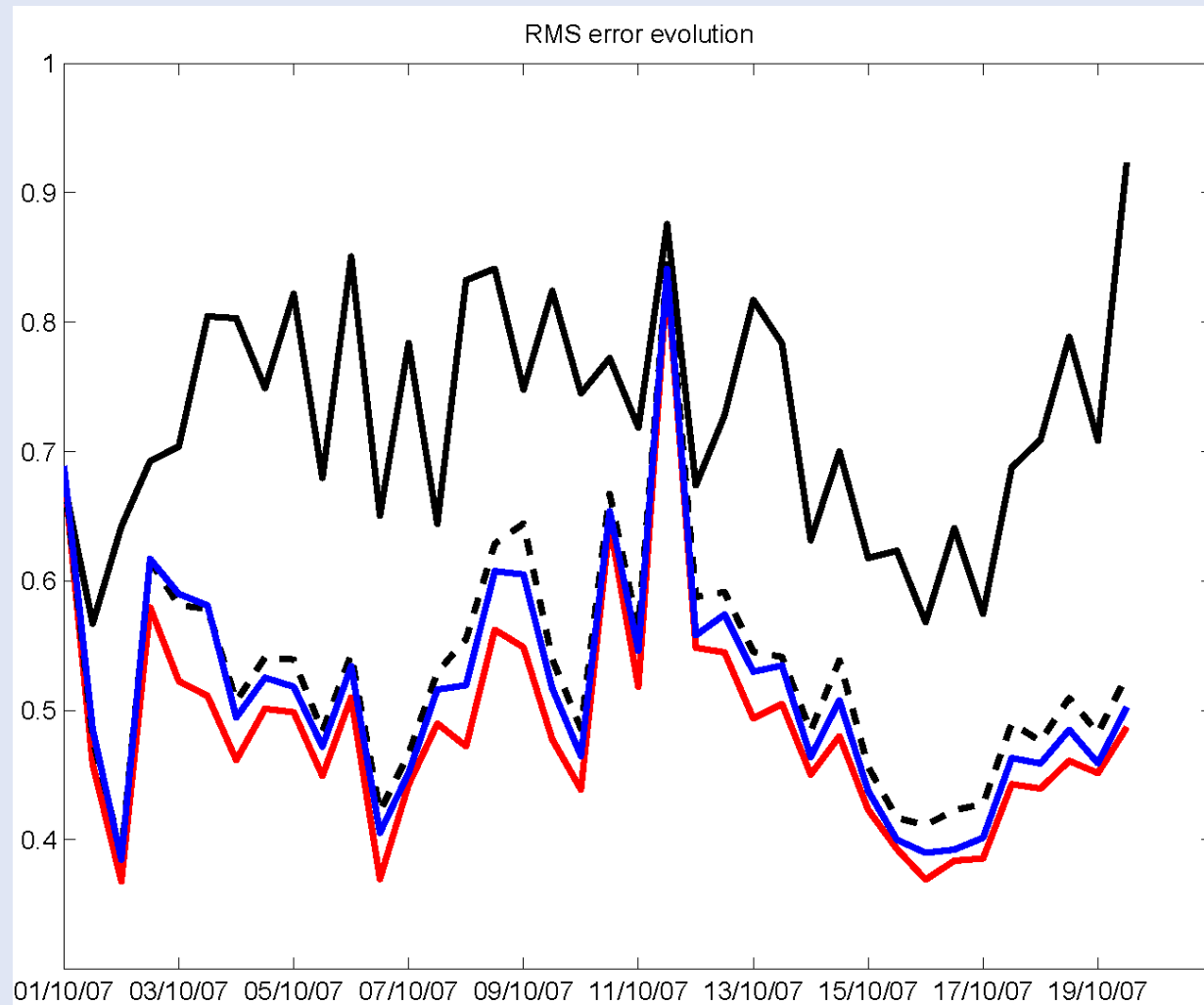
2008.04.04 00:00 |LSEIK ana - Obs SST|, RMS:0.64814 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )



Improvement 2008.04.04 00:00



# Sensitivity of the forecast quality to assumptions on data errors



— forecast without DA;

-- LSEIK filter forecast with  $\sigma_{sst}=1.8^\circ\text{C}$ , data are uniformly weighted within  $r_l=50$  km;

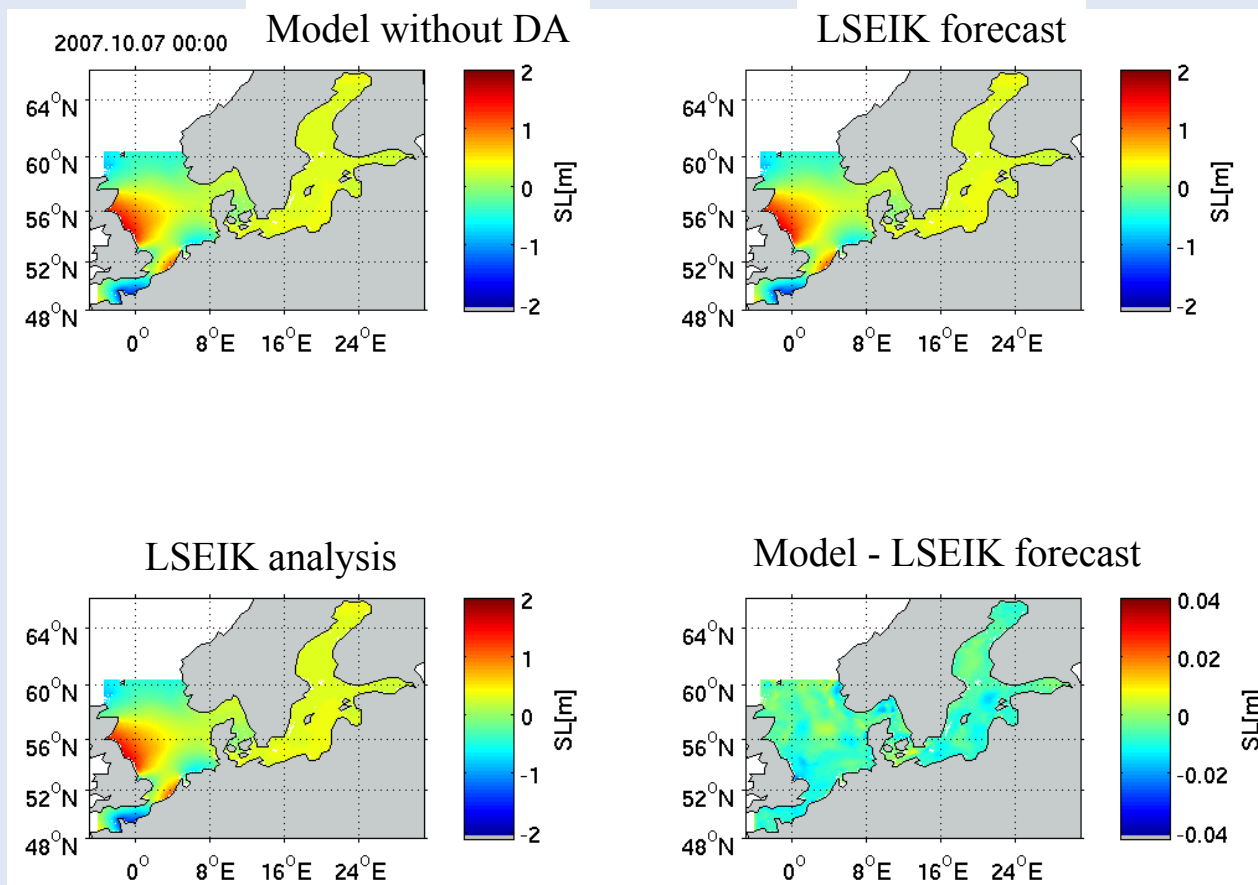
LSEIK forecast with  $\sigma_{sst}=0.8^\circ\text{C}$ , uniform data weighting within  $r_l=50$  km;

LSEIK forecast with  $\sigma_{sst}=0.8^\circ\text{C}$  LR=100km, and exponential data weighting within  $r_l=100$  km.

Temporal evolution of RMS estimates of the forecast deviation from observations in the North and Baltic Seas over the period 1.10.2007 - 21.10.2007.

# SSH simulation

- is not destroyed by SST data assimilation

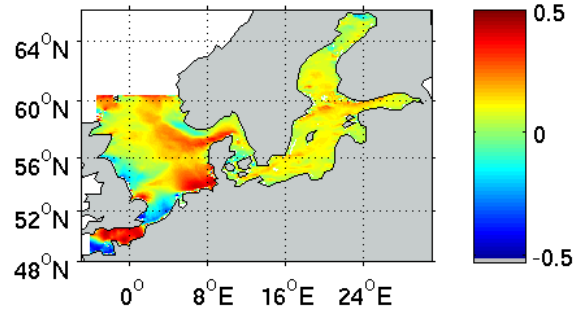


# Current velocity simulation

➤ U und V components

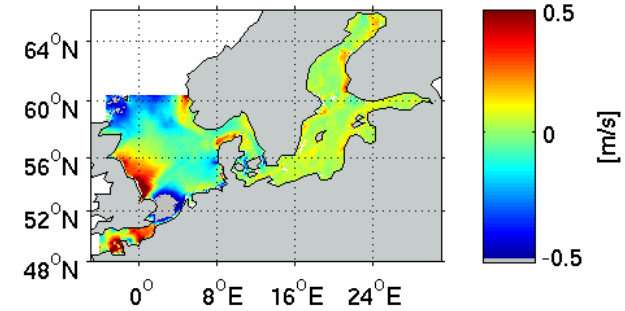
Model without DA

2007.10.17 00:00

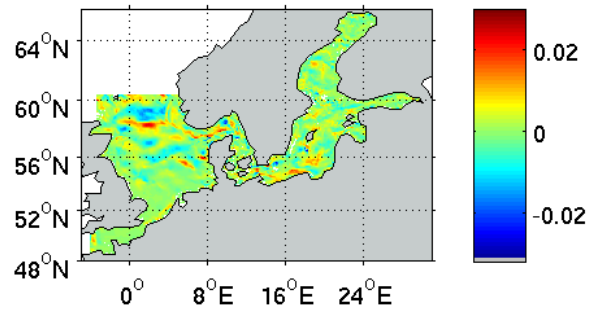


Model without DA

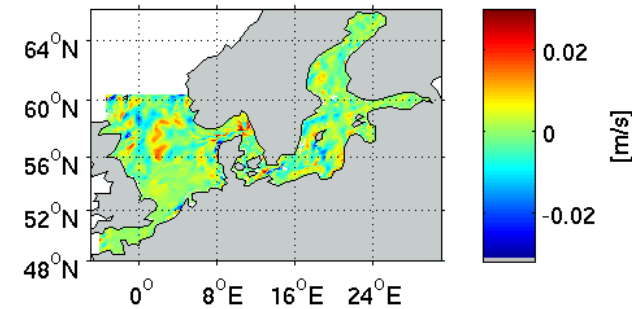
2007.10.17 00:00



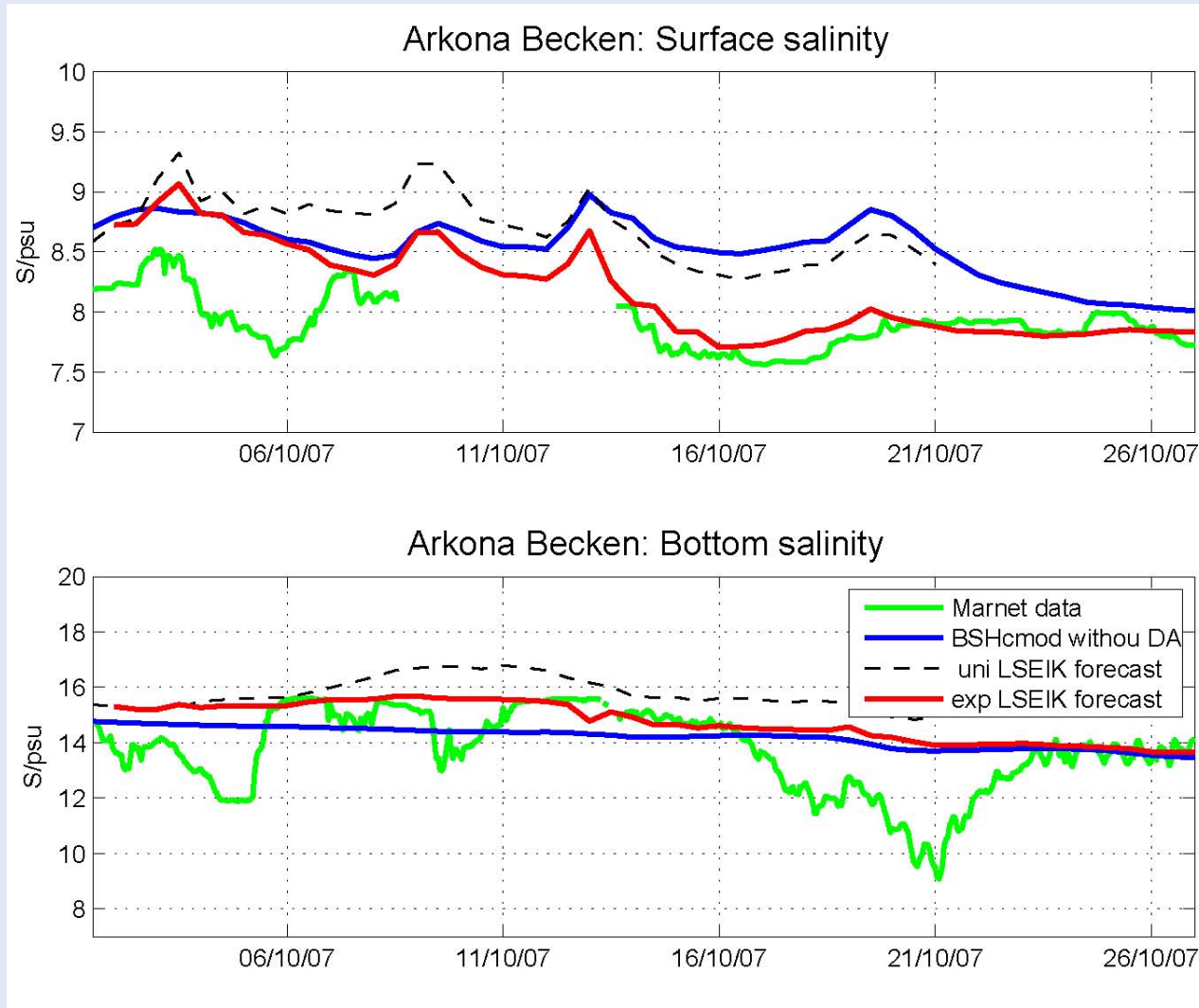
U, Model without DA - LSEIK forecast



V, Model without DA - LSEIK forecast

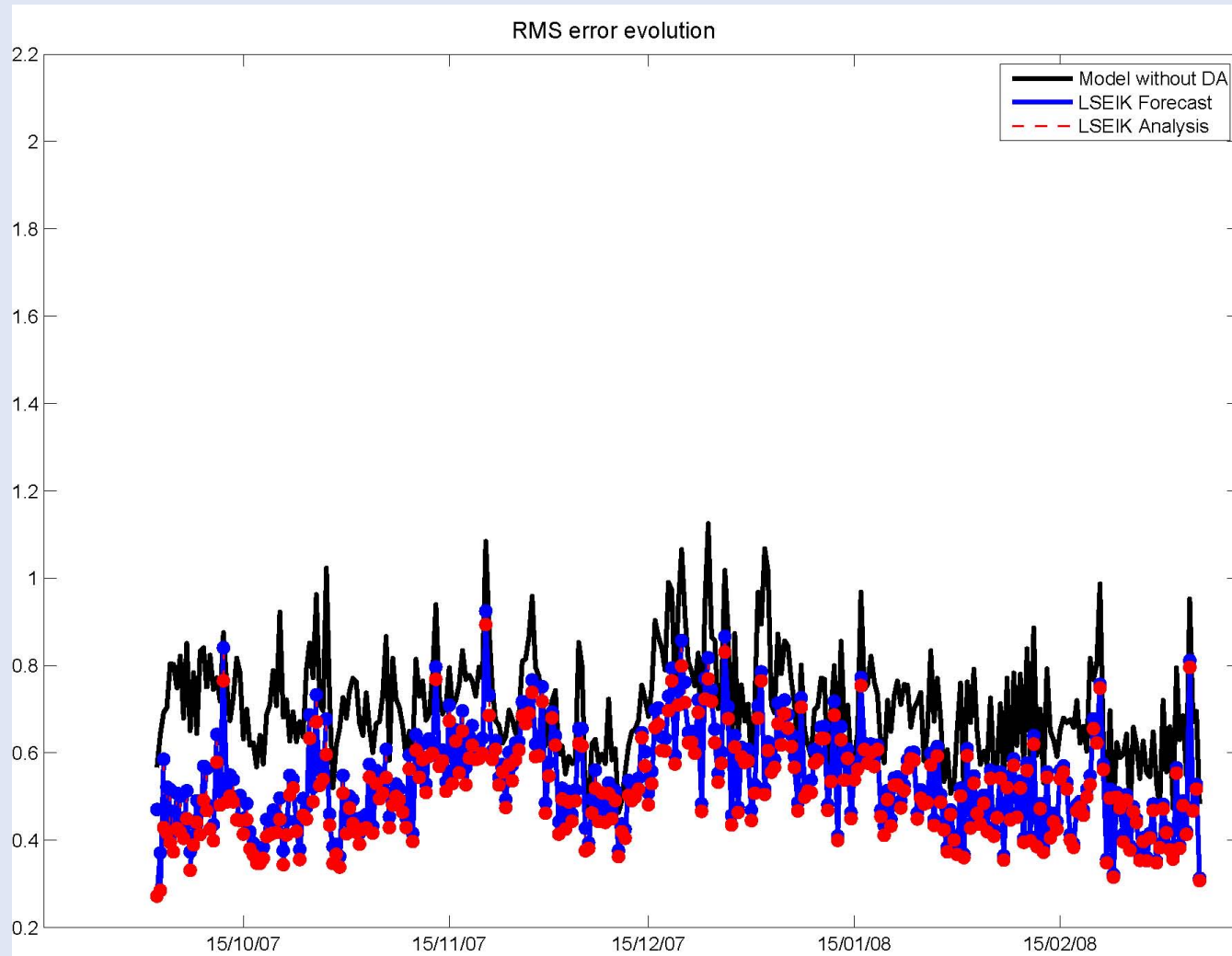


# Comparison against independent salinity data



# Assessing SST forecast

Temporal evolution of SST RMS error for BSHcmod forecast

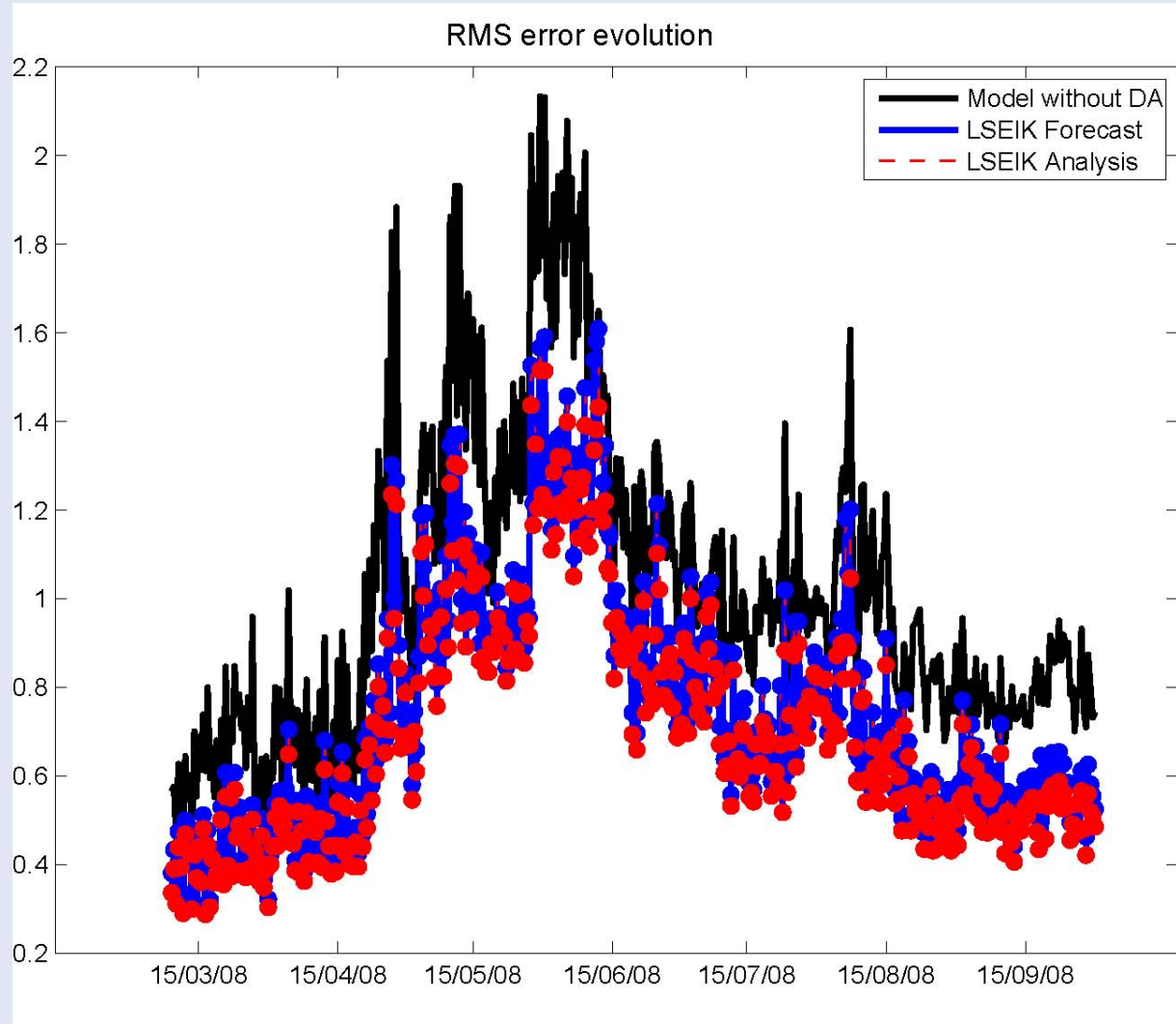


from 1.10.2007 to 9.03.2008



# Assessing SST forecast

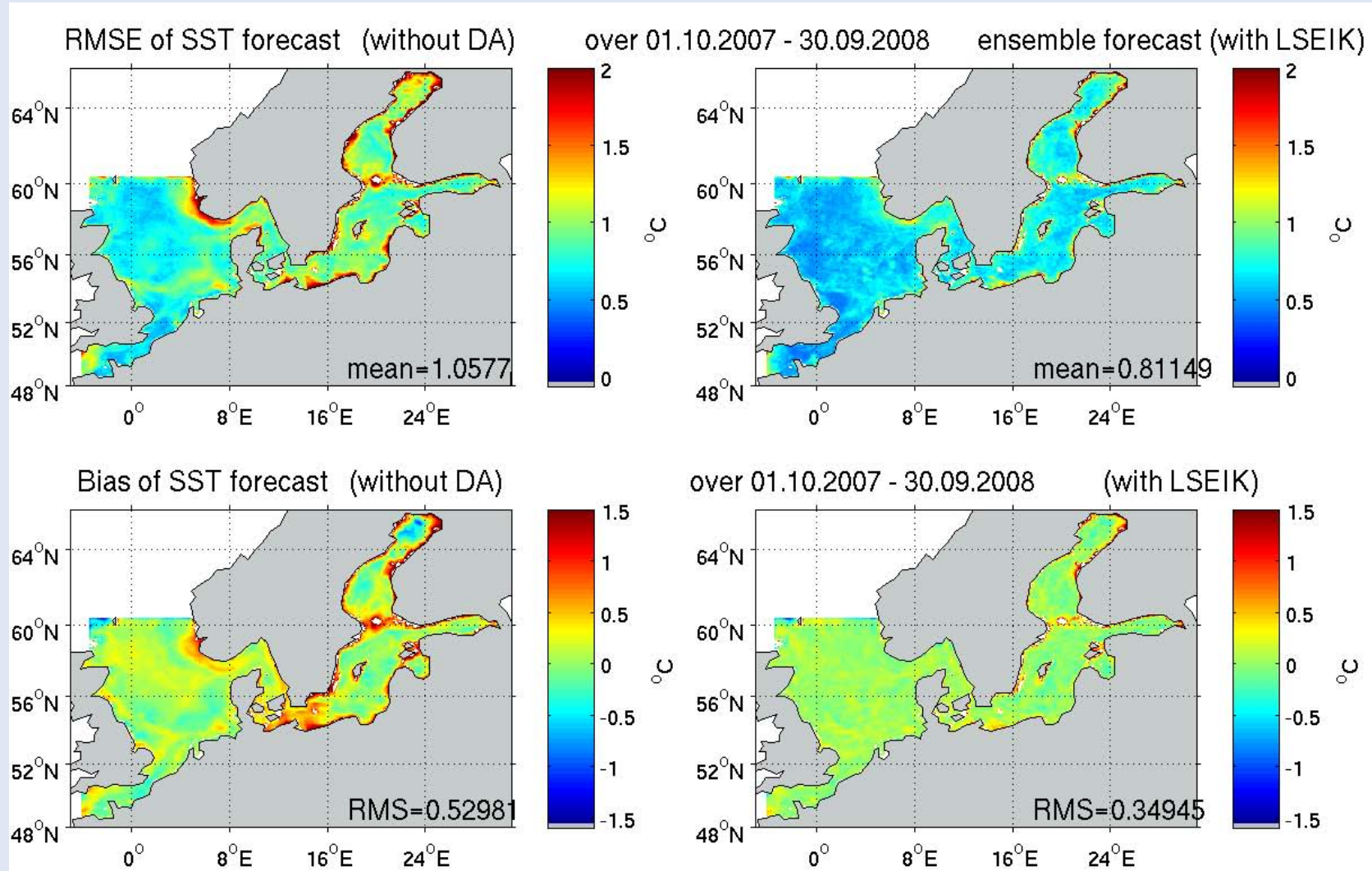
Temporal evolution of SST RMS error for BSHcmod forecast



# Improvement of SST forecast in the North and Baltic Seas

without DA

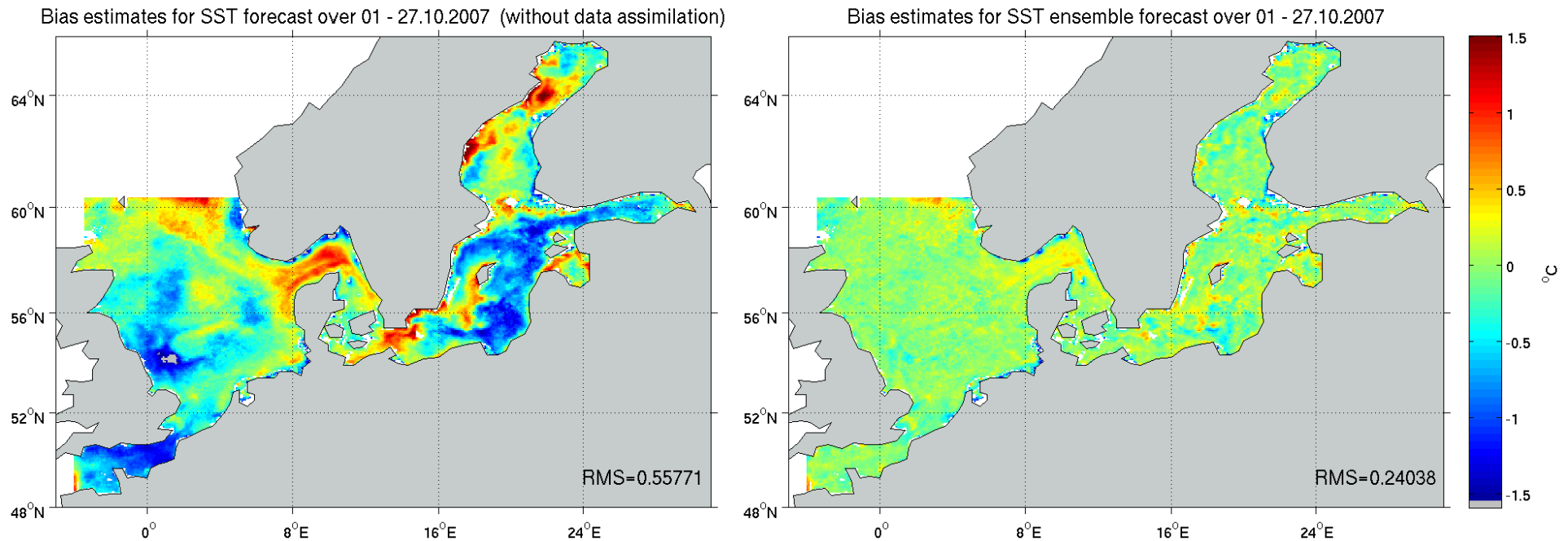
with LSEIK filter



# Improvement of SST forecast in the North and the Baltic Seas when sequentially assimilating satellite data

➤ Bias without DA

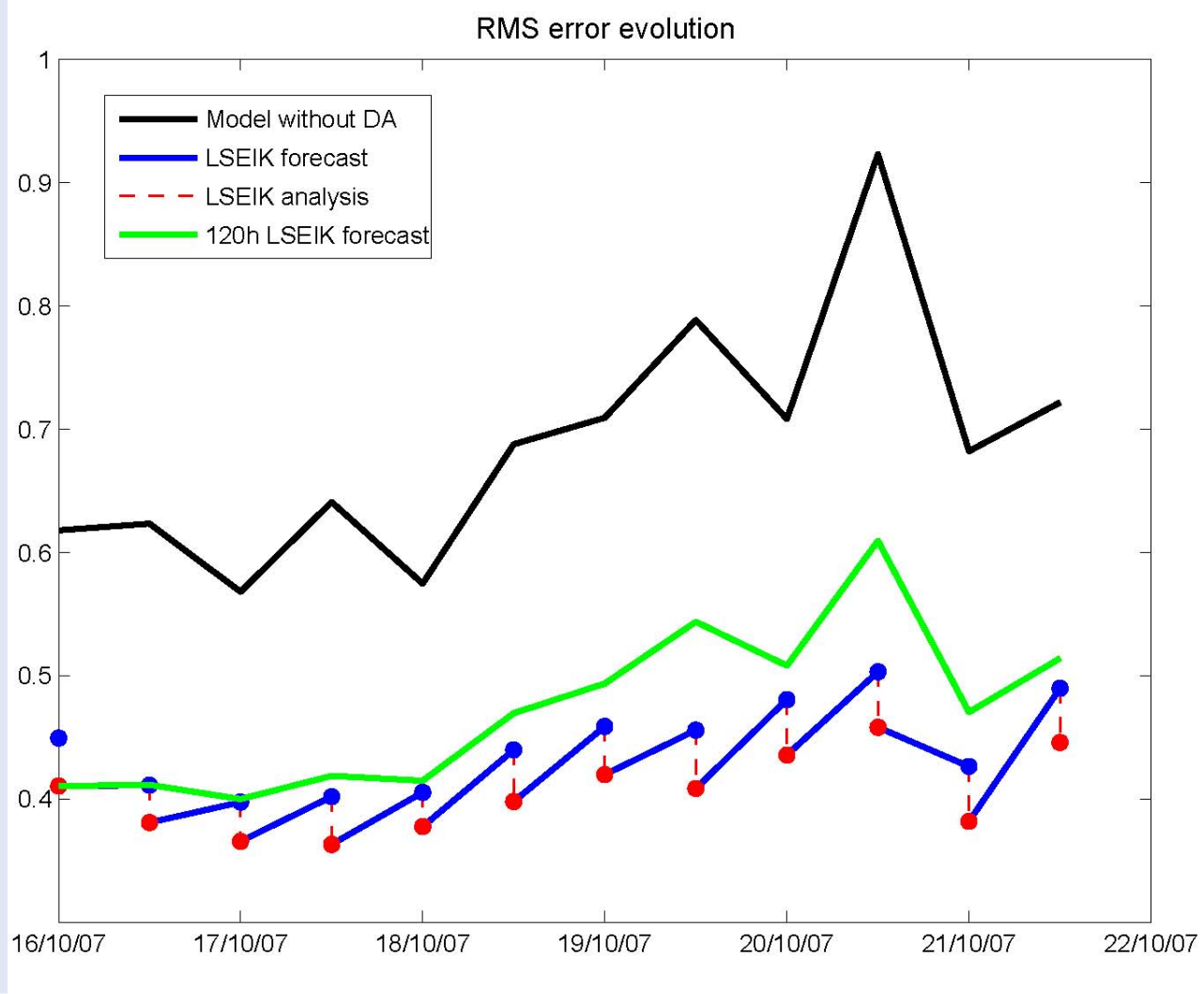
with LSEIK filter



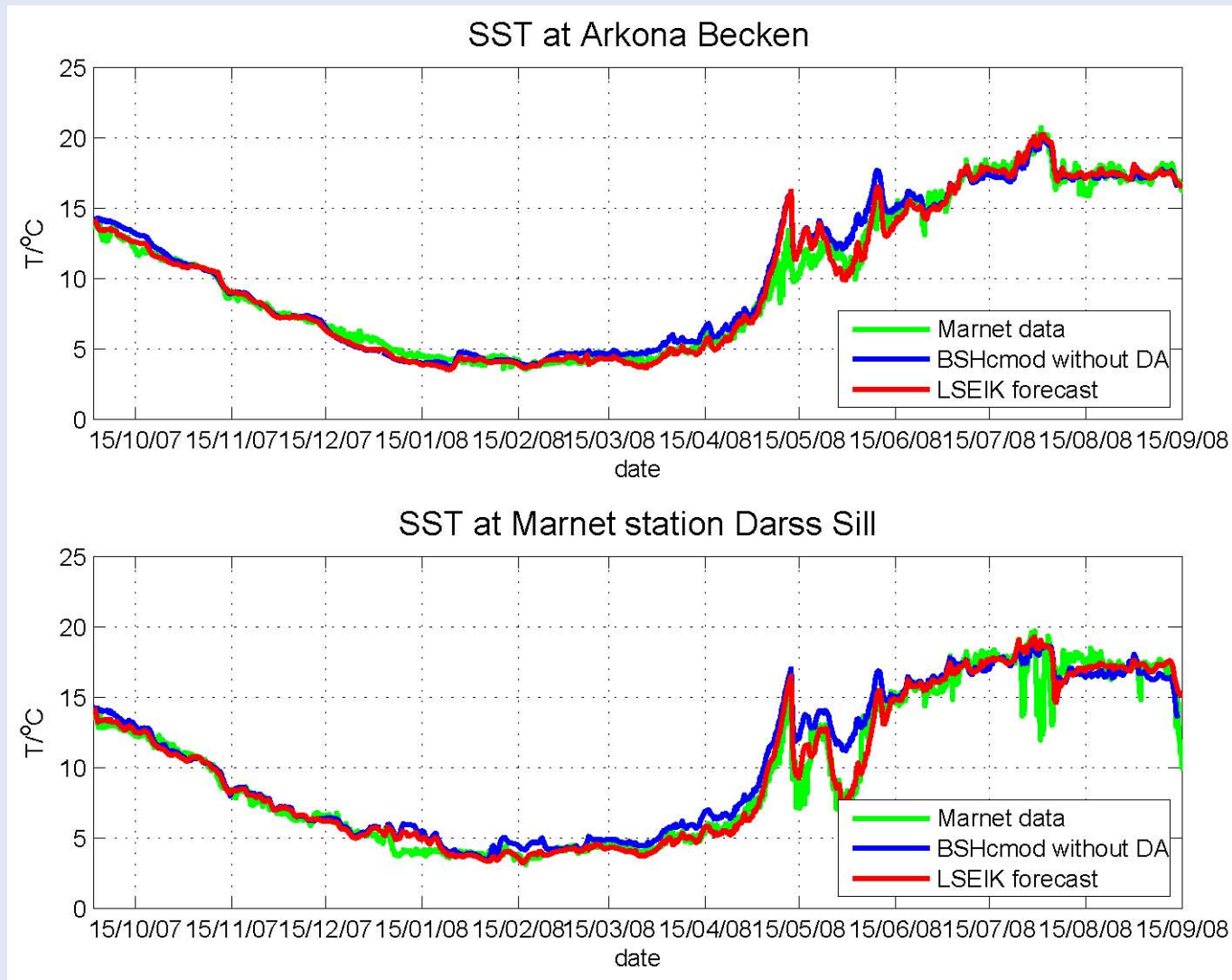
**Bias reduction**

# Long forecast (~ 120 hours )

## Temporal evolution of SST RMS error for BSHcmod forecast



# Comparison with independent MARNET data

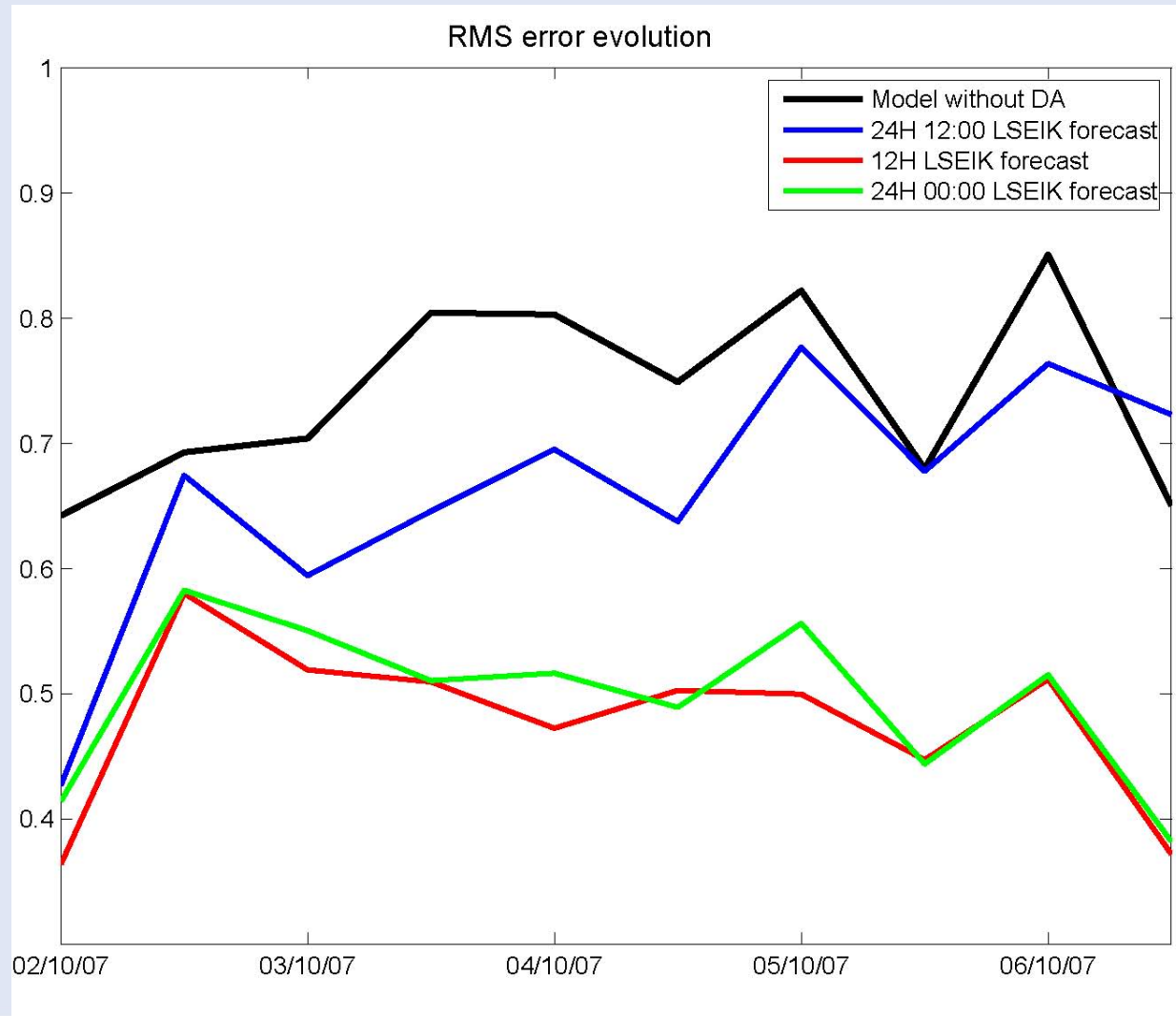


# Validation with independent data

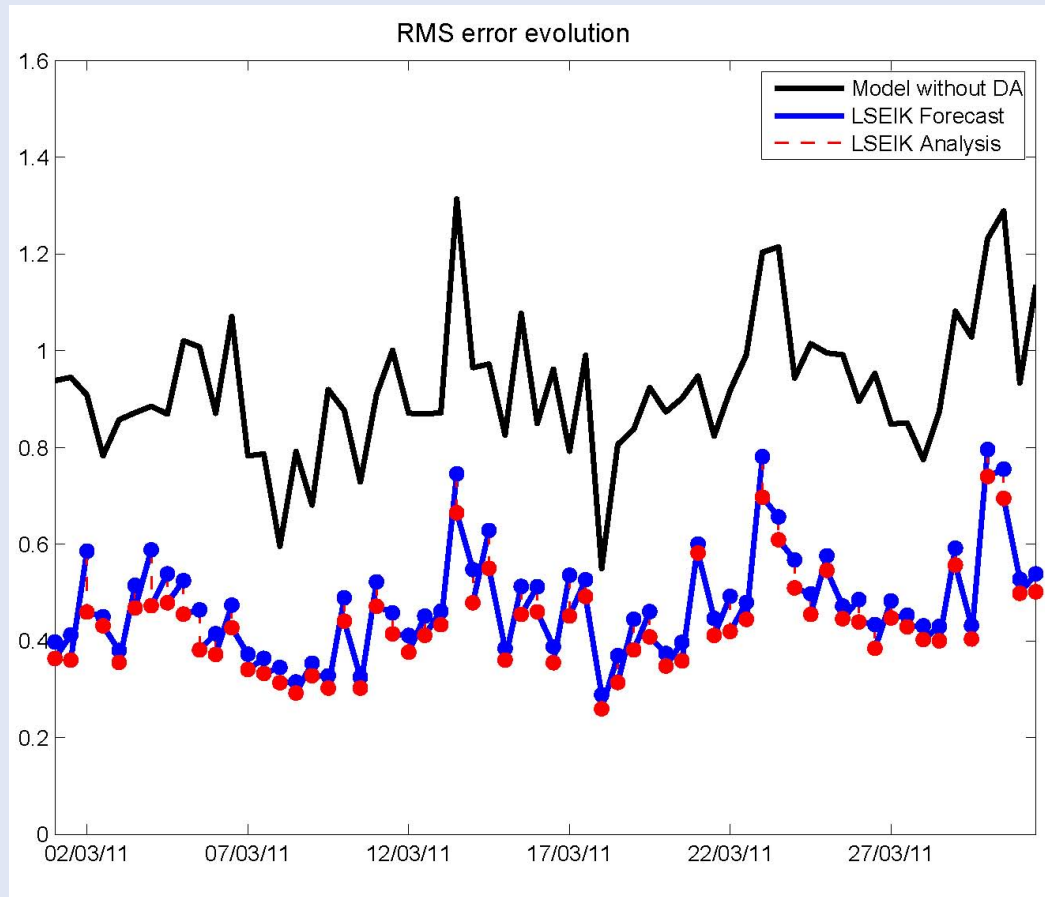
➤ Deviation from MARNET SST Daten

Station	RMS (°C)			Bias (°C)		
	Model	LSEIK	NOAA	Model	LSEIK	NOAA
Arkona	0.88	0.58	0.61	-0.29	0.	0.04
Darß	1.27	0.81	0.69	-0.55	-0.17	0.01
Kiel	0.79	0.49	0.61	-0.13	0.07	0.08
Fehm	0.63	0.43	0.56	-0.16	0.03	0.16
Ems	0.67	0.45	0.49	0.33	0.2	0.17
Dbucht	0.97	0.53	0.57	-0.34	-0.03	0.27
nsb			0.73			

# Different timing and period of LSEIK analysis/forecast



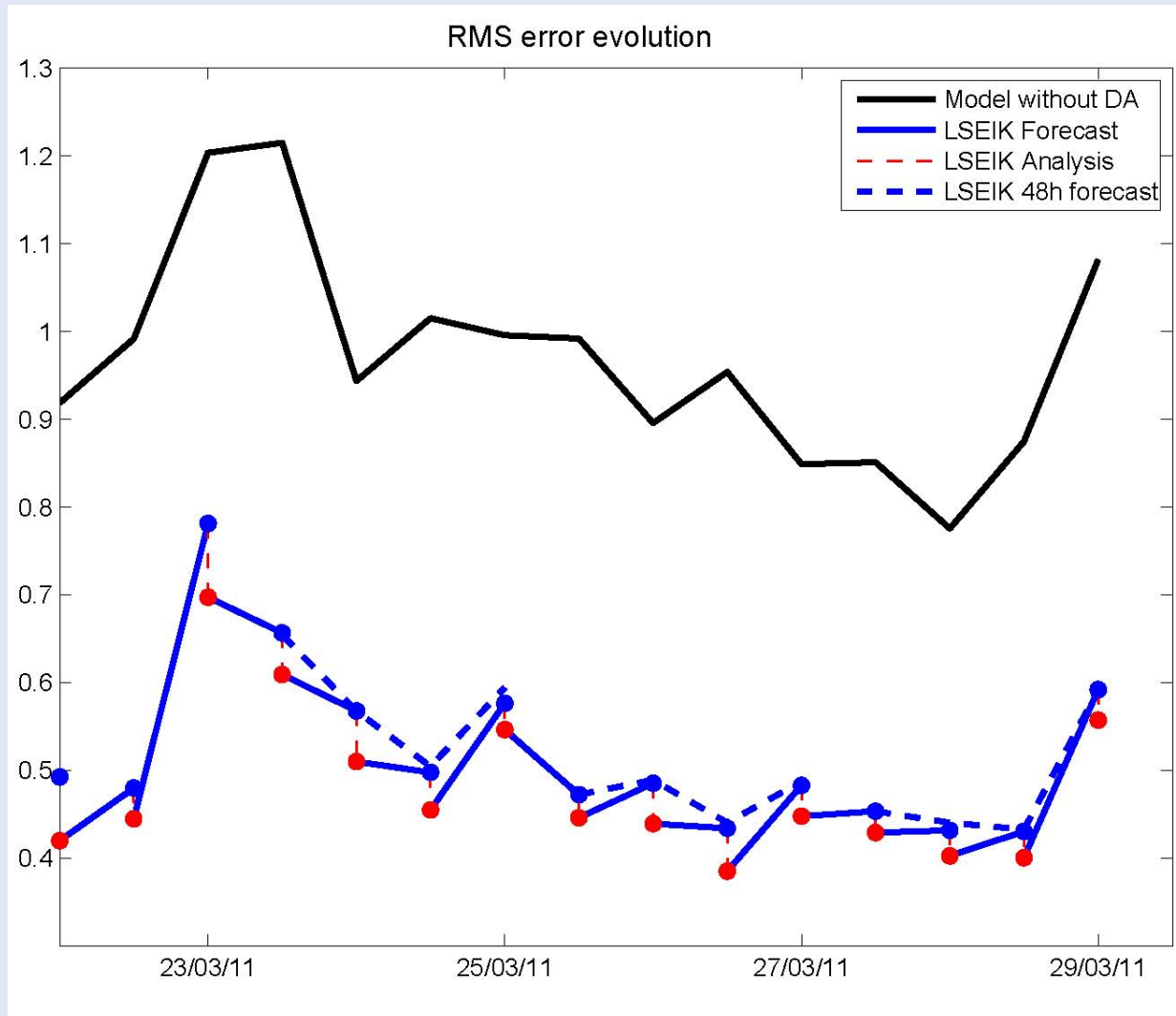
# Assessing real-time SST forecast (March 2011)



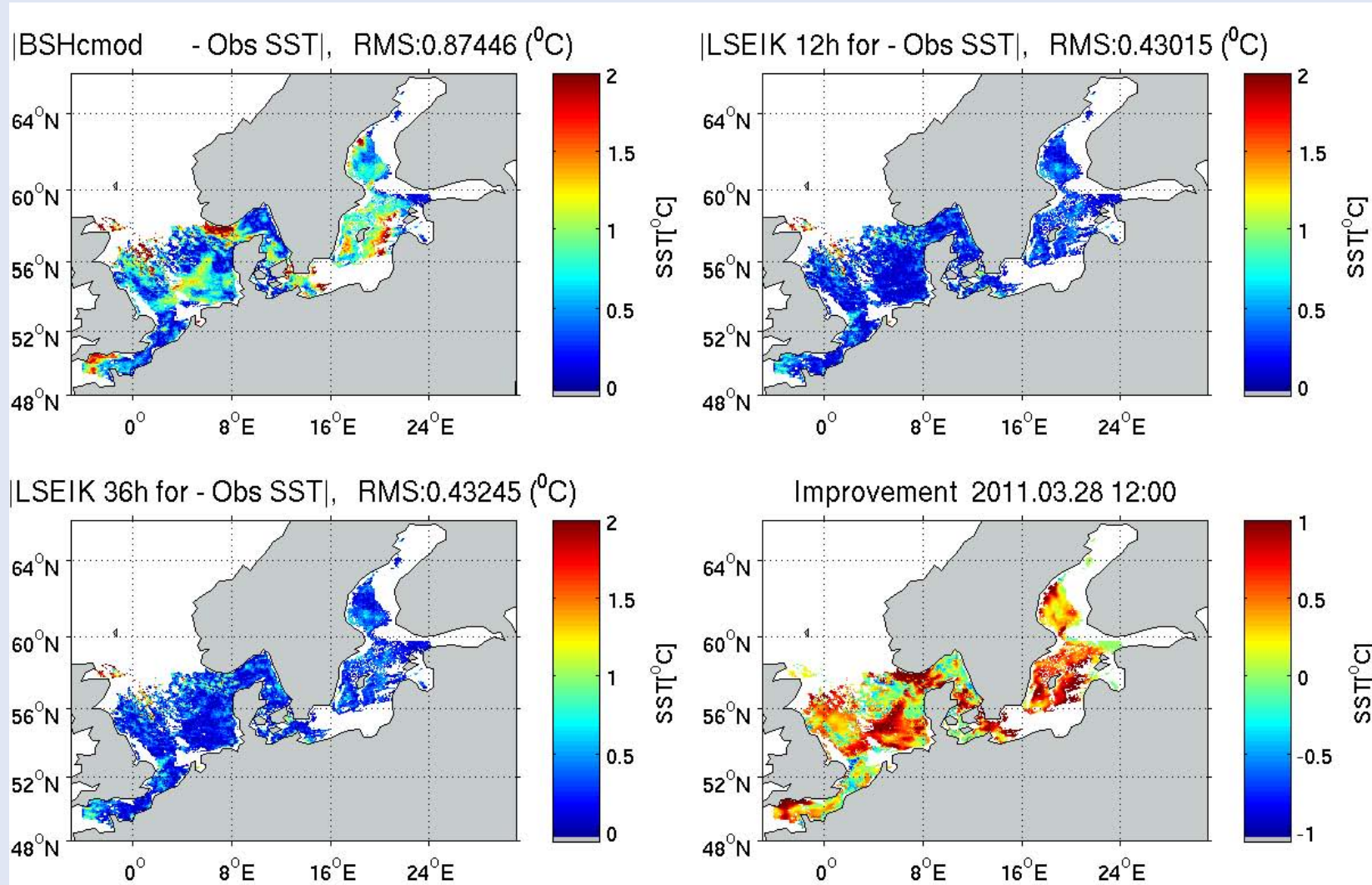
37% of  
the error  
reduction



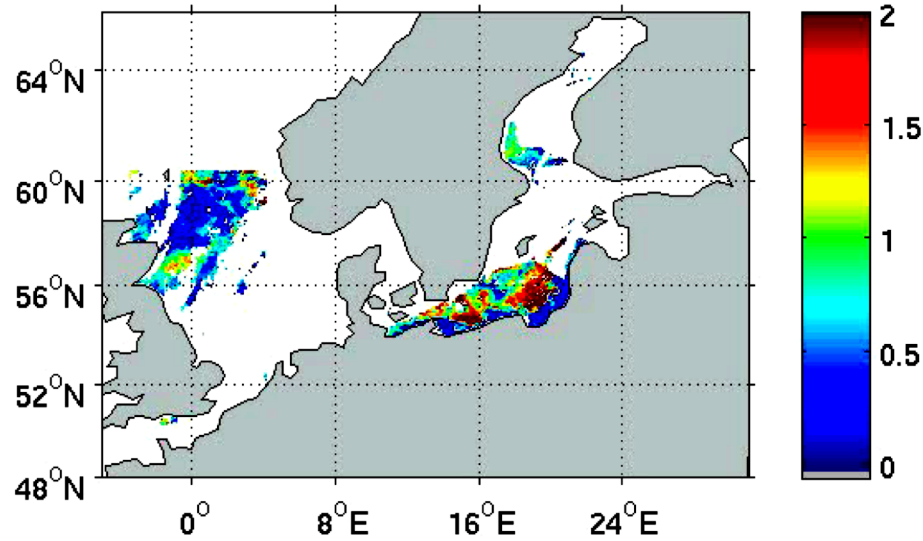
# Long forecast



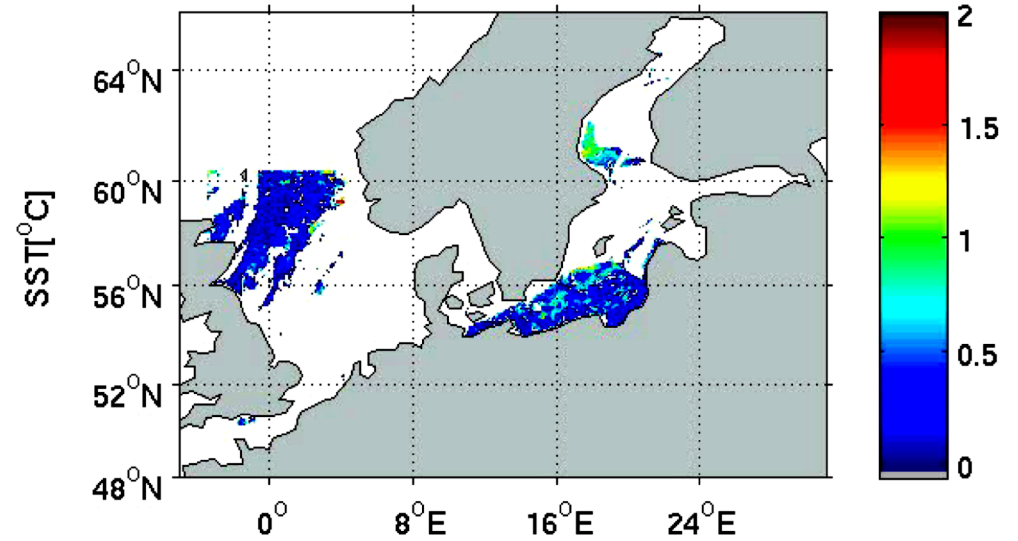
# Assimilating NOAA SST data into BSHcmod: pre-operational



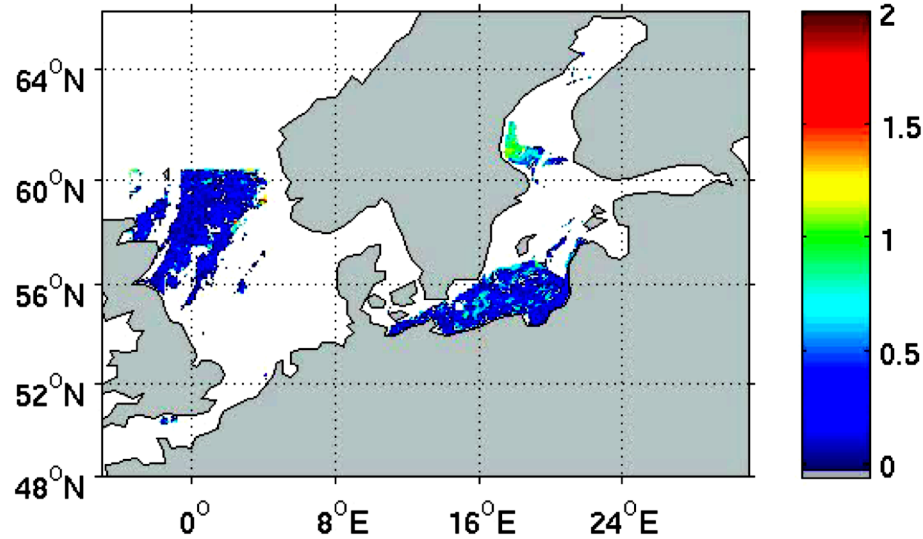
|BSHcmod - Obs SST|, RMS:0.9385 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )



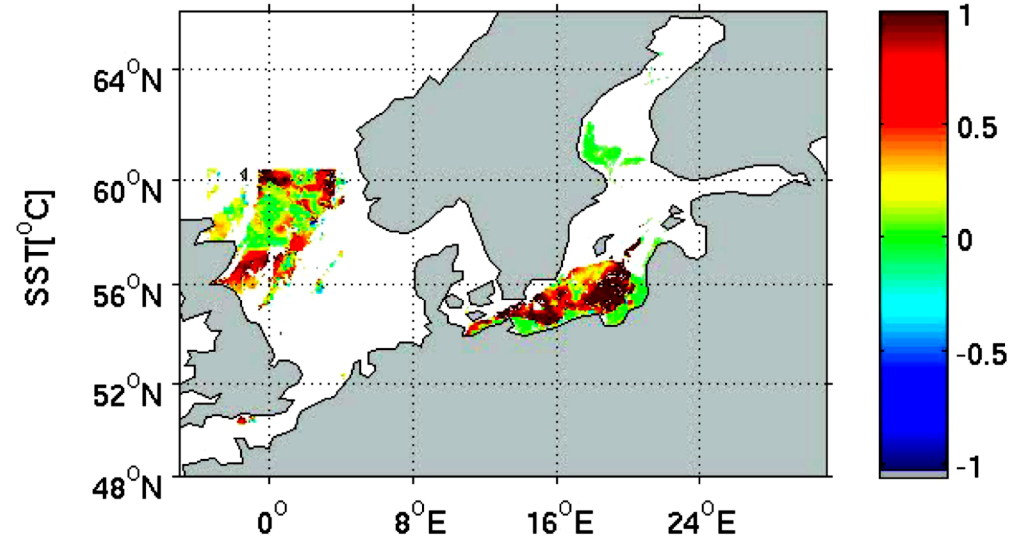
|LSEIK for - Obs SST|, RMS:0.39737 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )



|LSEIK ana - Obs SST|, RMS:0.36336 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )



Improvement 2011.03.01 00:00



# Conclusions

- LSEIK Filter has been implemented for NOAA SST data assimilation into operational BSHcmod. **27%** of SST forecast error reduction has been achieved over the period of 01.10.2007-30.09.2008.
- Pilot real-time data assimilative pre-operational runs manifest much higher quality of the SST forecast in March 2011 in comparison with the regular BSH forecast without DA. On average, over that period, RMS error has been decreased from 0.8°C to 0.5°C.
- The experiments conducted with different timing and frequency of data assimilation and variable forecasting periods show that the data assimilation system enables one to correct the systematic model uncertainties and,
  - due to memory on the corrections, better predict over periods of up to 5 days;
  - Our results also apparently illustrate the bias in AVHRR daytime product, but, however, reveal low informative influence of the data on the forecasting system when daytime SSTs are assimilated additionally to 'midnight' observations.
- Extending the DA system by including other types of observations  
ICES, sea ice, MARNET  
**DA in ecosystem modelling**