

# Improving air quality forecast in the Arctic with machine learning

Innovative Data Solutions: Applications of a Digital Twin and AI in the Arctic – Arctic Frontiers

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# PM<sub>10</sub> in North Europe

PM<sub>10</sub> is a complex mixture of solids and aerosols with a diameter of 10 microns or less

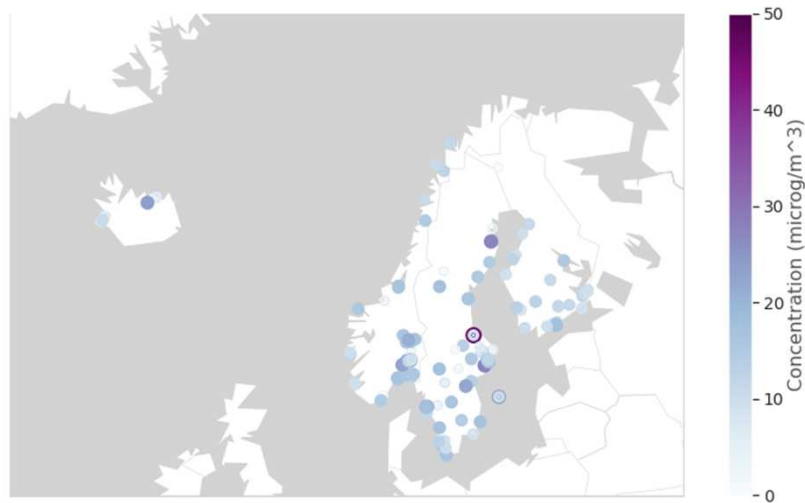
It is inhalable into the lungs and can induce adverse health effects (respiratory, cardiovascular, etc.)

## WHO 2021 recommendations

15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> mean annual concentration

45 µg/m<sup>3</sup> mean daily concentration

### PM10 mean annual concentration in Northern Europe 2022



Data source: EEA



#### Towns and industrial activities in the Arctic

##### Major towns in and around the Arctic

350  
100  
20  
Thousands people

Settlements and Villages  
Areas inhabited by Indigenous Peoples

##### Oil and gas

Extraction fields  
Existing pipelines  
Main offshore extraction regions (actual and potential)

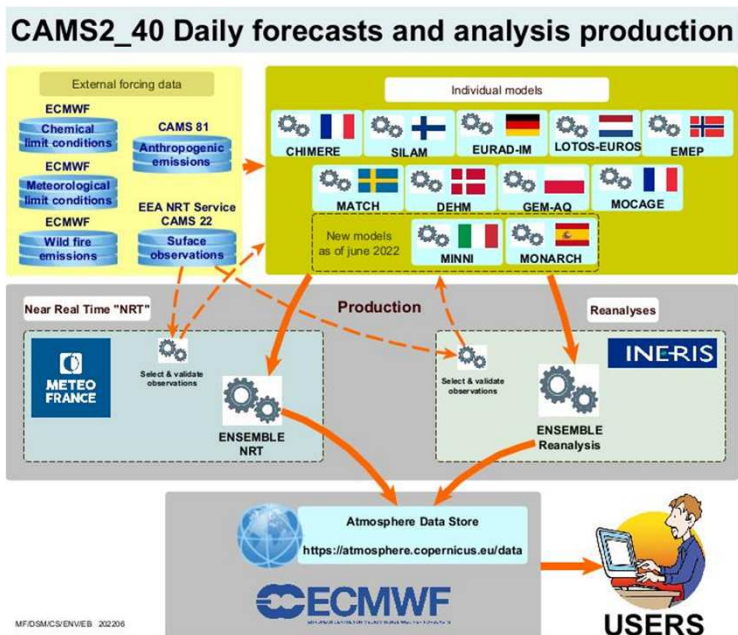
##### Sea activities

Future central Arctic shipping route  
Northwest Passage and Northern Sea Route  
Other actual shipping routes  
Major fishing areas

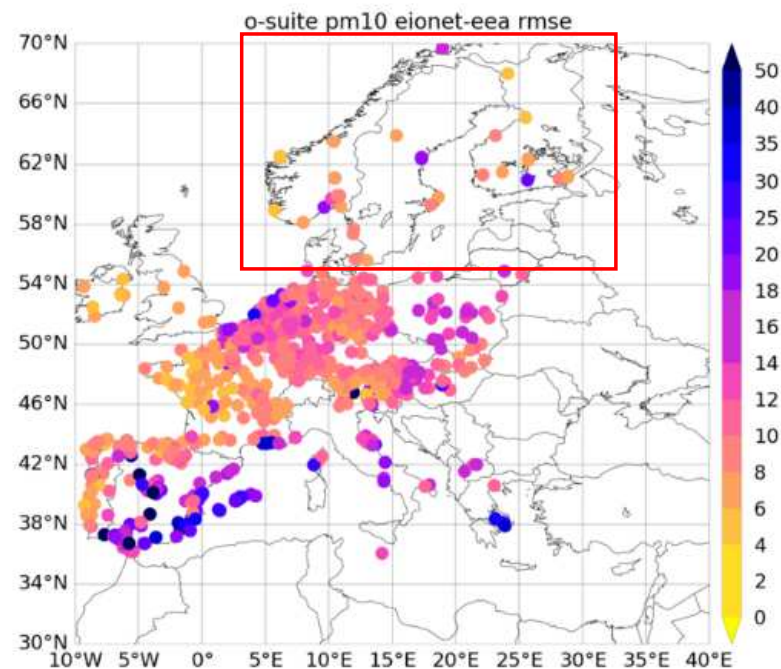
Note:  
The map was adapted by EEA from Nordregio, 2015

Map adapted by EEA from Nordregio, 2015

# CAMS PM<sub>10</sub> forecast performances



CAMS forecast and analysis scheme (<https://confluence.ecmwf.int/>)



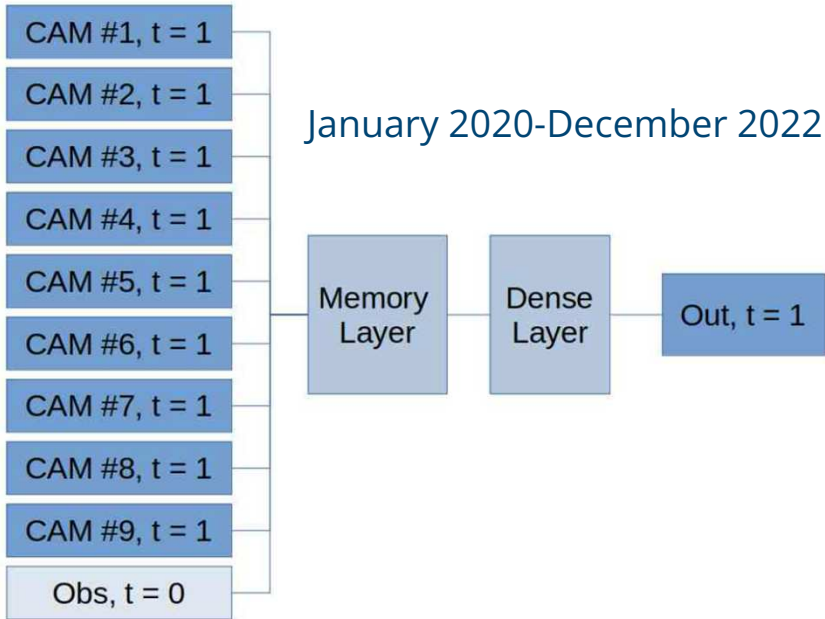
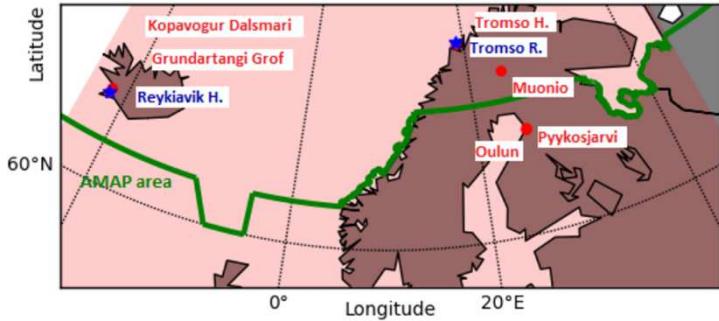
RMSE for 24-hour forecasts (at 3hourly basis) of CAMS for the 1 June – 31 August 2021 and 3 hourly PM<sub>10</sub> from EIONET measurements (Ramonet et al. 2021)

# ML forecasting: a preliminary study

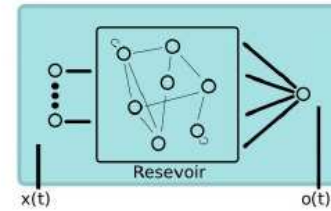
Article

## Forecasting PM<sub>10</sub> Levels Using Machine Learning Models in the Arctic: A Comparative Study

Paolo Fazzini <sup>1,2</sup>, Marco Montuori <sup>1,\*</sup>, Antonello Pasini <sup>2</sup>, Alice Cuzzucoli <sup>2</sup>, Iliaria Crotti <sup>3</sup>, Emilio Fortunato Campana <sup>4</sup>, Francesco Petracchini <sup>2</sup> and Srdjan Dobricic <sup>3</sup>

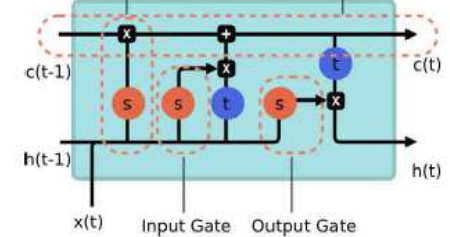


### Echo State Networks

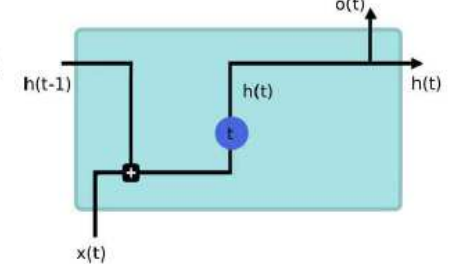


(a)

### Long Short Term Memory

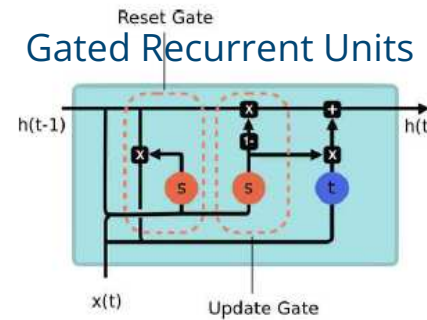


### Recurrent Neural Networks



(d)

### Gated Recurrent Units

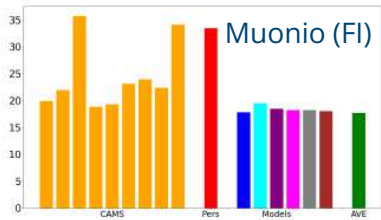


(b)

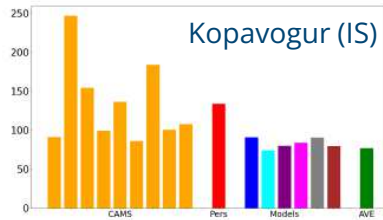
Figure 3. Various alternatives for the memory layer: (a) ESN. (b) GRU. (c) LSTM. (d) RNN.

# MSE ML forecasting: a preliminary study

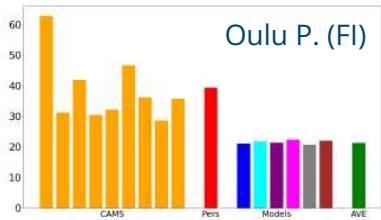
MSE for 6 stations in the Arctic



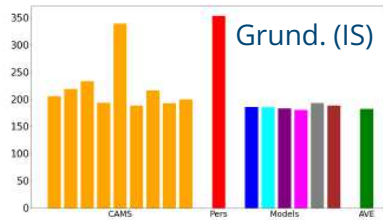
(a)



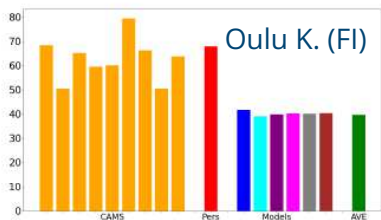
(d)



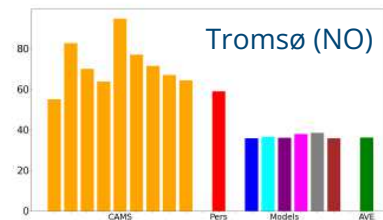
(b)



(e)

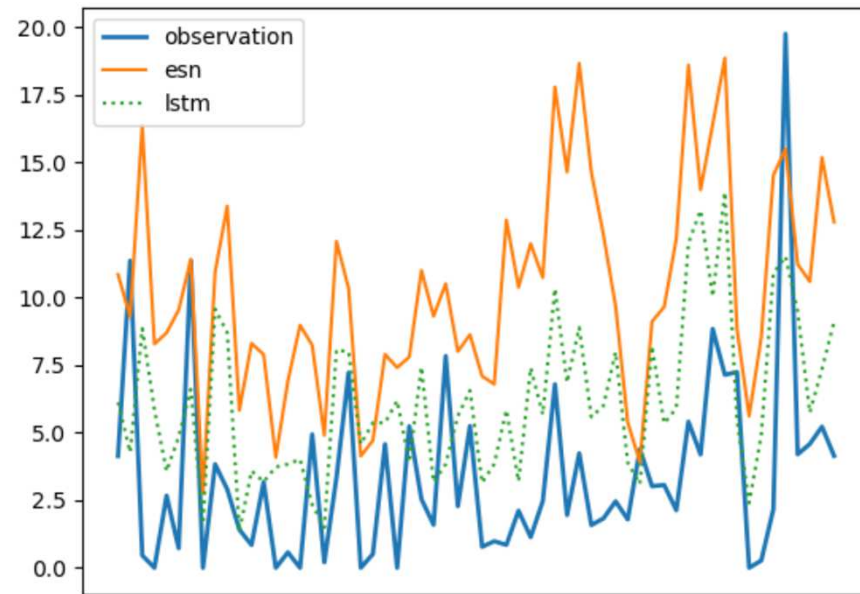


(c)



(f)

- ML forecasts outperforms the CAMS
- MSE improvements: 20-40%
- LSTM perform better



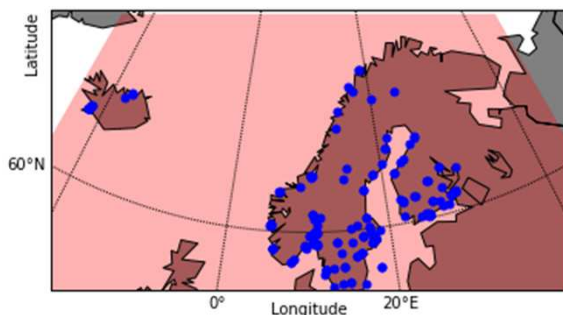
Comparison between measurements from Kopavogur D. (IS) station data with ESN and LSTM forecast (Fazzini et al. 2023)

Simulation Results MSE: CAMS 1 to 9 (orange), persistence (bar), Models ESN (blue), LSTM (light blue), GRU (purple), RNN (pink), WMP4 (gray), and WMP (dark red), models average (green) (Fazzini et al. 2023)

# Future developments

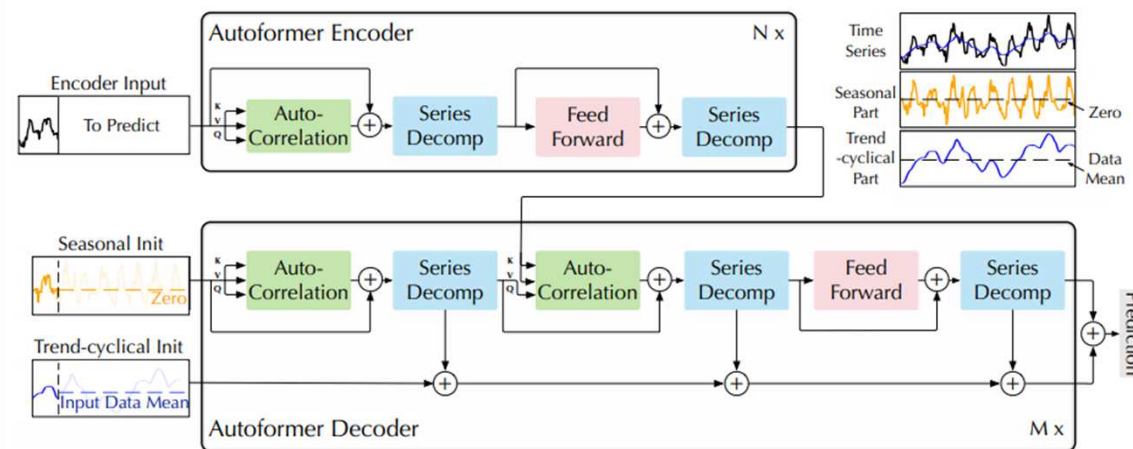
## Input data

- PM<sub>10</sub> data at hourly frequency from ~ 100 monitoring stations (June 2020-June 2023)
- CAMS PM<sub>10</sub> forecast (48 hours) at each station
- Meteorological variables (T, pbl, wind components, precipitation, humidity) at each station (ECMWF)



## Deep learning models

- LSTM-networks used as baseline for long series forecasting
- Transformer architectures better tackle long-term dependencies exploiting time series decompositions and correlations



Source: Wu et al. 2021

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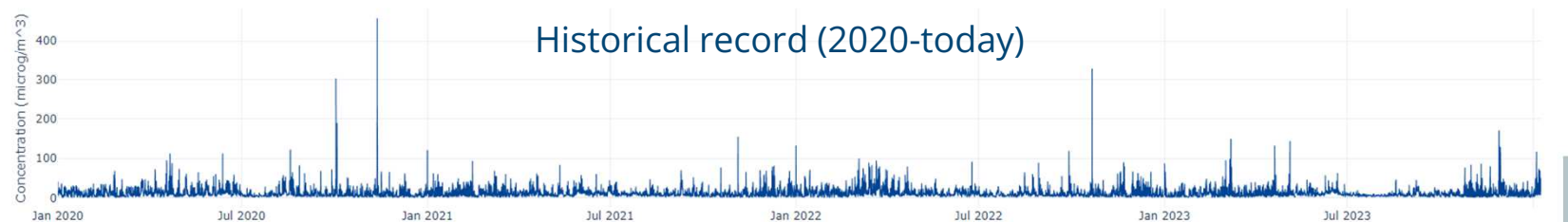
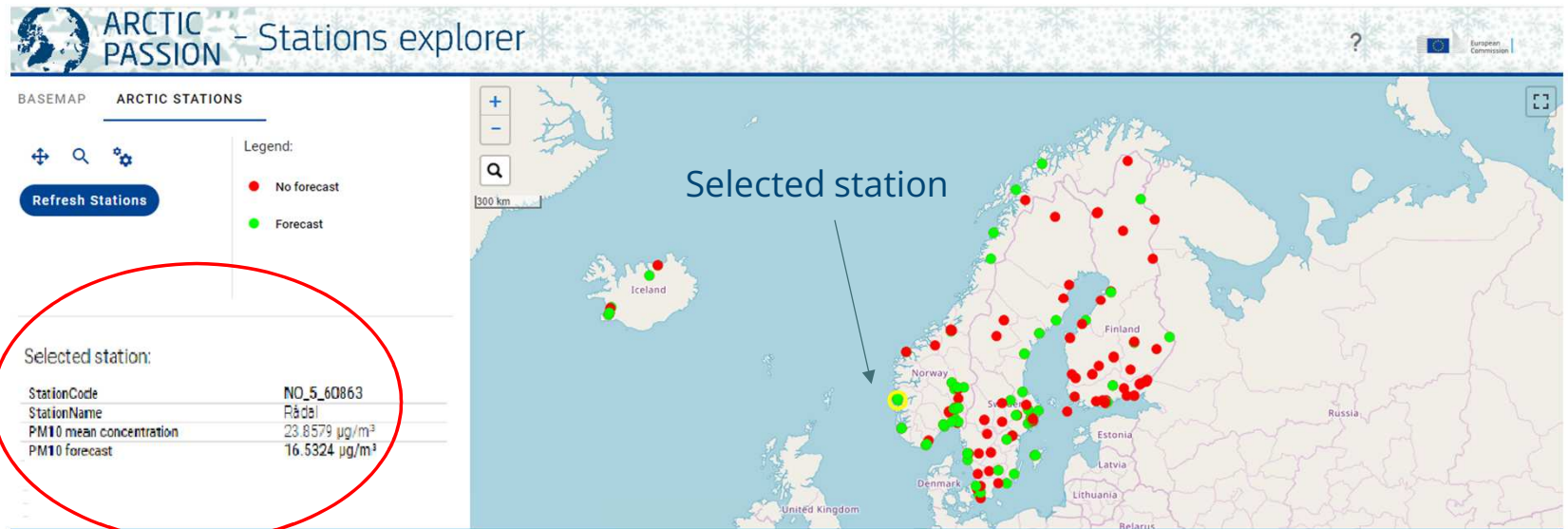
# Dashboard for local air pollution forecast service

PRELIMINARY VERSION!

Interactive dashboard

- 200 stations (EEA and FMI networks)
- Daily PM<sub>10</sub>
- 24h PM<sub>10</sub> forecast

PM<sub>10</sub>  
concentration +  
forecast +  
information on the  
station





# THANK YOU!

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# References

- Fazzini, P., Montuori, M., Pasini, A., Cuzzucoli, A., Crotti, I., Campana, E. F., Petracchini, F., & Dobricic, S. (2023). Forecasting PM10 Levels Using Machine Learning Models in the Arctic: A Comparative Study. *Remote Sensing*, 15(13), 3348. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs15133348>
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- Wu H., Xu J., Wang J., Long M. (2021). Autoformer: Decomposition Transformers with Auto-Correlation for Long-Term Series Forecasting, <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2106.13008>