

# DYNAMIC LINE RATING USING THE HIGH RESOLUTION RAPID REFRESH (HRRR) MODEL

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8 November 2017



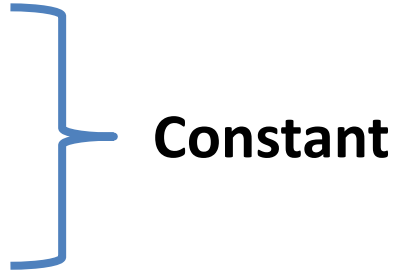
# Agenda

- Line rating background
- The case for additional capacity
- Sensitivity analysis of line ratings
- Using the HRRR in line ratings

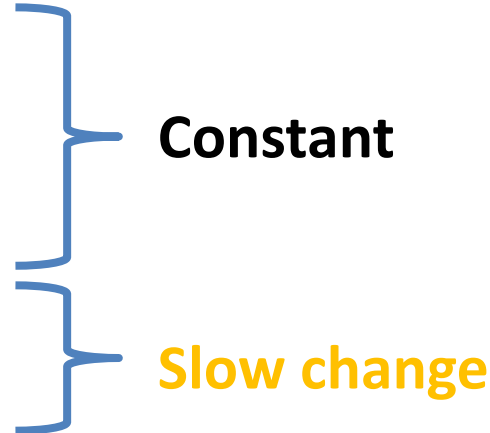
# Line Rating Background

- Conductor temperatures are a function of:
  1. Conductor material properties (primarily electrical conductivity and heat capacity for non-steady state)
  2. Conductor diameter
  3. Conductor surface condition (primarily emissivity and absorptivity)
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- The diagram uses blue curly braces on the right side of the list to group the factors into three categories:
- Constant**: Groups factors 1 and 2.
  - Slow change**: Groups factors 3 and 4.
  - Rapid change**: Groups factors 4 and 5. This category is highlighted with a red border around the list items.

# Line Rating Background

- Three cases for conductor temperatures:
  1. Steady State Case – current, weather, and conductor temperature constant
  2. Transient Case – weather is constant, current undergoes a step change that leads to a new conductor temperature over some time
  3. Dynamic Case – weather and current vary over time affecting the conductor temperature

Steady state heat balance equation

$$I = \sqrt{\frac{q_c + q_r - q_s}{R(T_c)}}$$

Non-steady state heat balance equation

$$\frac{dT_c}{dt} = \frac{1}{m * C_p} [R(T_c) * I^2 + q_s - q_c - q_r]$$

# Using the Line Rating Equations

- At the maximum allowable conductor temperature

$$\frac{dT_c}{dt} = 0$$

- This allows for the maximum current to be passed through the line without raising the temperature
- Solving the non-steady state heat balance equation for this condition

$$\frac{dT_c}{dt} = \frac{1}{m * C_p} [R(T_c) * I^2 + q_s - q_c - q_r]$$

$$0 = \frac{1}{m * C_p} [R(T_c) * I^2 + q_s - q_c - q_r]$$

$$I = \sqrt{\frac{q_c + q_r - q_s}{R(T_c)}} \quad \text{Steady state equation}$$

Adapted from IEEE Standard for Calculating the Current-Temperature Relationship of Bare Overhead Conductors, IEEE Power and Energy Society, 2013



# Equations

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$$q_{c1} = K_{angle} \cdot [1.01 + 1.35 \cdot N_{Re}^{0.52}] \cdot k_f \cdot (T_s - T_a) \quad N_{Re} = \frac{D_0 \cdot \rho_f \cdot V_w}{\mu_f} \quad k_f = 2.424 \cdot 10^{-2} + 7.477 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot T_{film} - 4.407 \cdot 10^{-9} \cdot T_{film}^2$$

$$q_{c2} = K_{angle} \cdot 0.754 \cdot N_{Re}^{0.6} \cdot k_f \cdot (T_s - T_a) \quad K_{angle} = 1.194 - \cos(\phi) + 0.194 \cdot \cos(2\phi) + 0.368 \cdot \sin(2\phi)$$

$$q_{cn} = 3.645 \cdot \rho_f^{0.5} \cdot D_0^{0.75} \cdot (T_s - T_a)^{1.25} \quad \rho_f = \frac{1.293 - 1.525 \cdot 10^{-4} \cdot H_e + 6.379 \cdot 10^{-9} \cdot H_e^2}{1 + 0.00367 \cdot T_{film}} \quad \mu_f = \frac{1.458 \cdot 10^{-6} \cdot (T_{film} + 273)^{1.5}}{T_{film} + 383.4}$$

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$$H_c = \arcsin [\cos(Lat) \cdot \cos(\delta) \cdot \cos(\omega) + \sin(Lat) \cdot \sin(\delta)]$$

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○ Where weather enters the equations

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Values used by Black Hills Corporation

| Parameter                                 | Value                           |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Ambient air temperature (Summer) (°C/°F)  | 40 / 104                        |
| Ambient air temperature (Winter) (°C/°F)  | 10 / 50                         |
| Transmission Line Wind Speed (fps/mps)    | 4.0 / 1.22                      |
| Substation Conductor Wind Speed (fps/mps) | 2.0 / 0.6                       |
| Wind Direction                            | Perpendicular to conductor axis |
| Line Orientation                          | East-West                       |
| Time of Day                               | 12:00 pm                        |
| Atmosphere                                | Clear                           |
| Absorptivity                              | 0.5                             |
| Emissivity                                | 0.5                             |

Values used by Kansas City  
Power & Light Company

| Data Items              | Input Conditions |                        |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|                         | Summer Peak      | Winter Peak Conditions | Spring/Fall Conditions |
| Date                    | June 15          | January 1              | April 1                |
| Time                    | 12:00 Noon       | 12:00 Noon             | 12:00 Noon             |
| Latitude                | 38.5° N          | 38.5° N                | 38.5° N                |
| Longitude               | 94.0° W          | 94.0° W                | 94.0° W                |
| Inclination Angle       | 0°               | 0°                     | 0°                     |
| Ambient Air Temperature | 37.7°C<br>100°F  | 0°C<br>32°F            | 20°C<br>68°F           |
| Line Axis Azimuth       | 90°              | 90°                    | 90°                    |
| Elevation               | 950 feet         | 950 feet               | 950 feet               |
| Absorbtivity            | 1.0              | 1.0                    | 1.0                    |
| Emissivity              | 0.85             | 0.85                   | 0.85                   |
| Wind Direction          | 180°             | 180°                   | 180°                   |
| Wind Speed              | 2 ft/sec         | 2 ft/sec               | 2 ft/sec               |

# A Bunch of Numbers

## Constants used:

### Conductor properties

(e.g. Drake ACSR)

Diameter  $D = 0.0281$  m

Emissivity  $\epsilon = 0.8$

Absorptivity  $\alpha = 0.8$

$R_{\text{high}} = 8.688\text{e-}5$

$R_{\text{low}} = 7.283\text{e-}5$

$T_{\text{high}} = 75^{\circ}\text{C}$

$T_{\text{low}} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$

$T_{\text{c\_max}} = 90^{\circ}\text{C}$

### Line properties

Elevation = 1000 m

Line azimuth =  $90^{\circ}$

Latitude =  $43^{\circ}\text{N}$

## Weather Conditions:

### Seasonal Rating Values

Summer, Winter, Transition

Temperature =  $40^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $18^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $27^{\circ}\text{C}$

Wind Speed = 0.6 m/s

**Wind Direction =  $90^{\circ}$  (parallel to line azimuth)**

Solar Flux =  $1030\text{ W/m}^2$ ,  $850\text{ W/m}^2$ ,  $1000\text{ W/m}^2$

### Weather Stations

45 weather stations located in southern Idaho

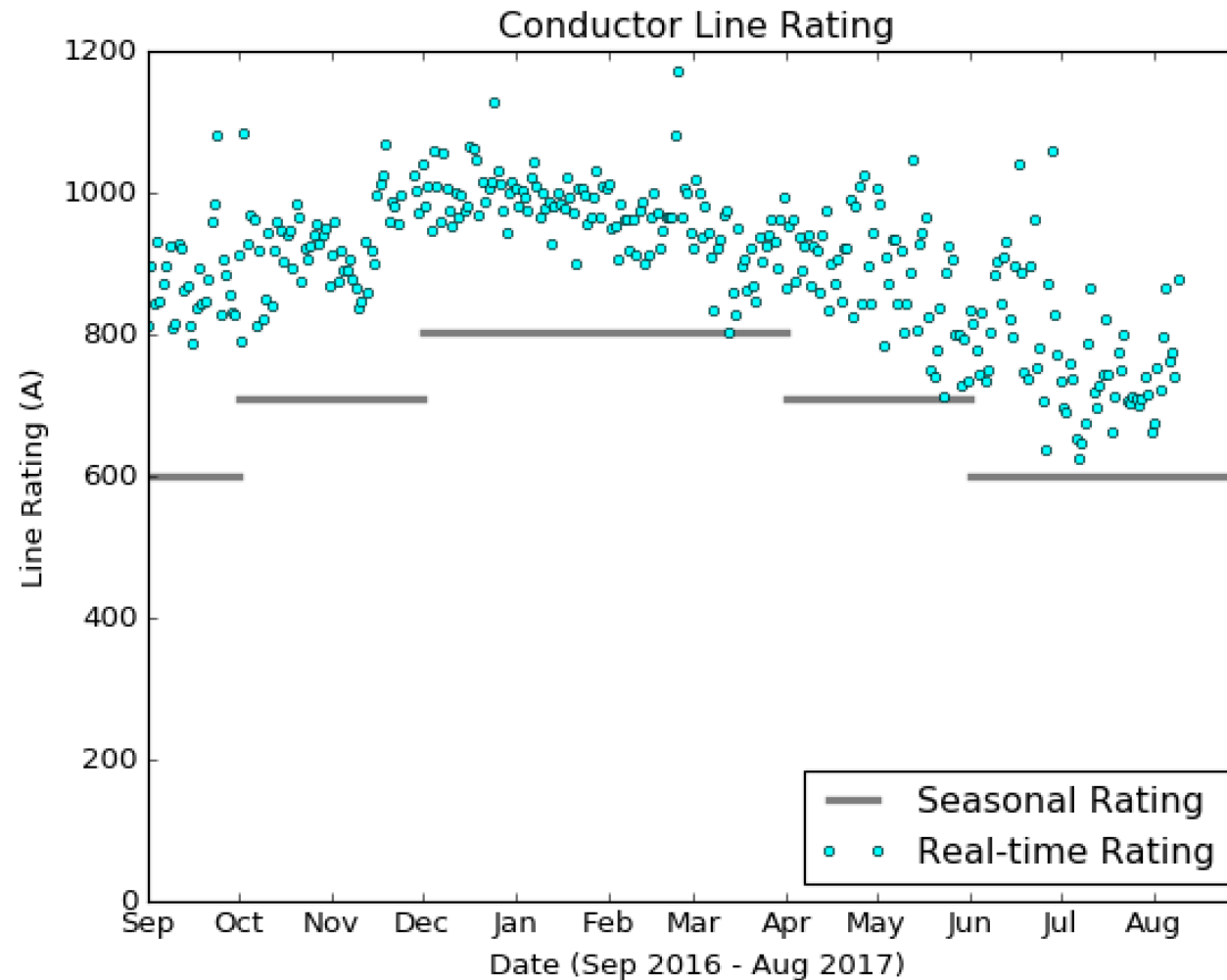
15-minute time step observations of temperature, wind speed, wind direction, and solar flux

**Used the daily minimum ampacity of the 45 weather stations**

# One Year of Line Ratings

Real-time line ratings based on the minimum daily ampacity value calculated using the observations from 45 weather stations in southern Idaho.

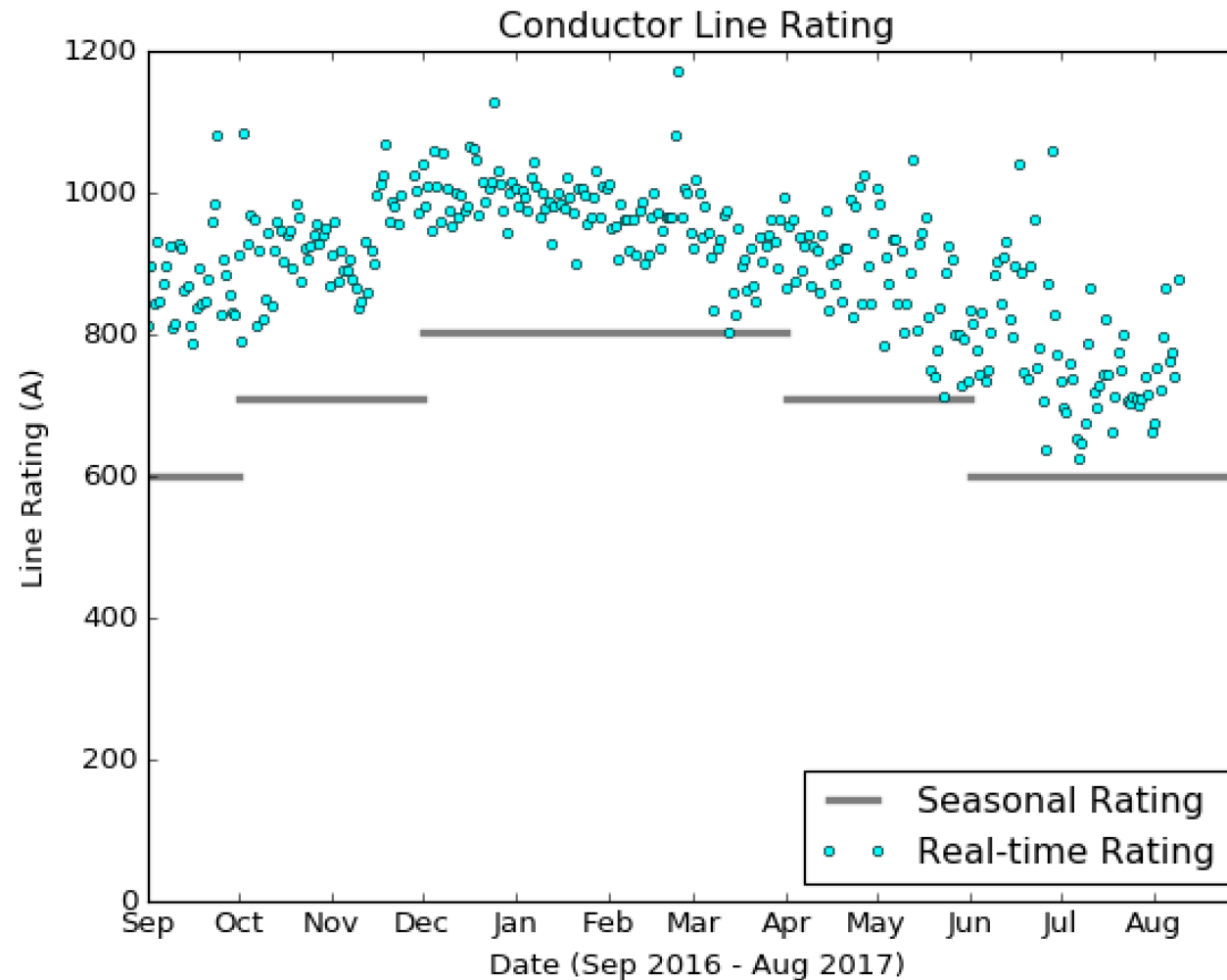
These conservative seasonal values are generally good, the real time ratings do not go lower than the seasonal values.



There is extra capacity between the seasonal rating and the real time rating. Dynamic line ratings could allow this capacity to be used.

# One Year of Line Ratings

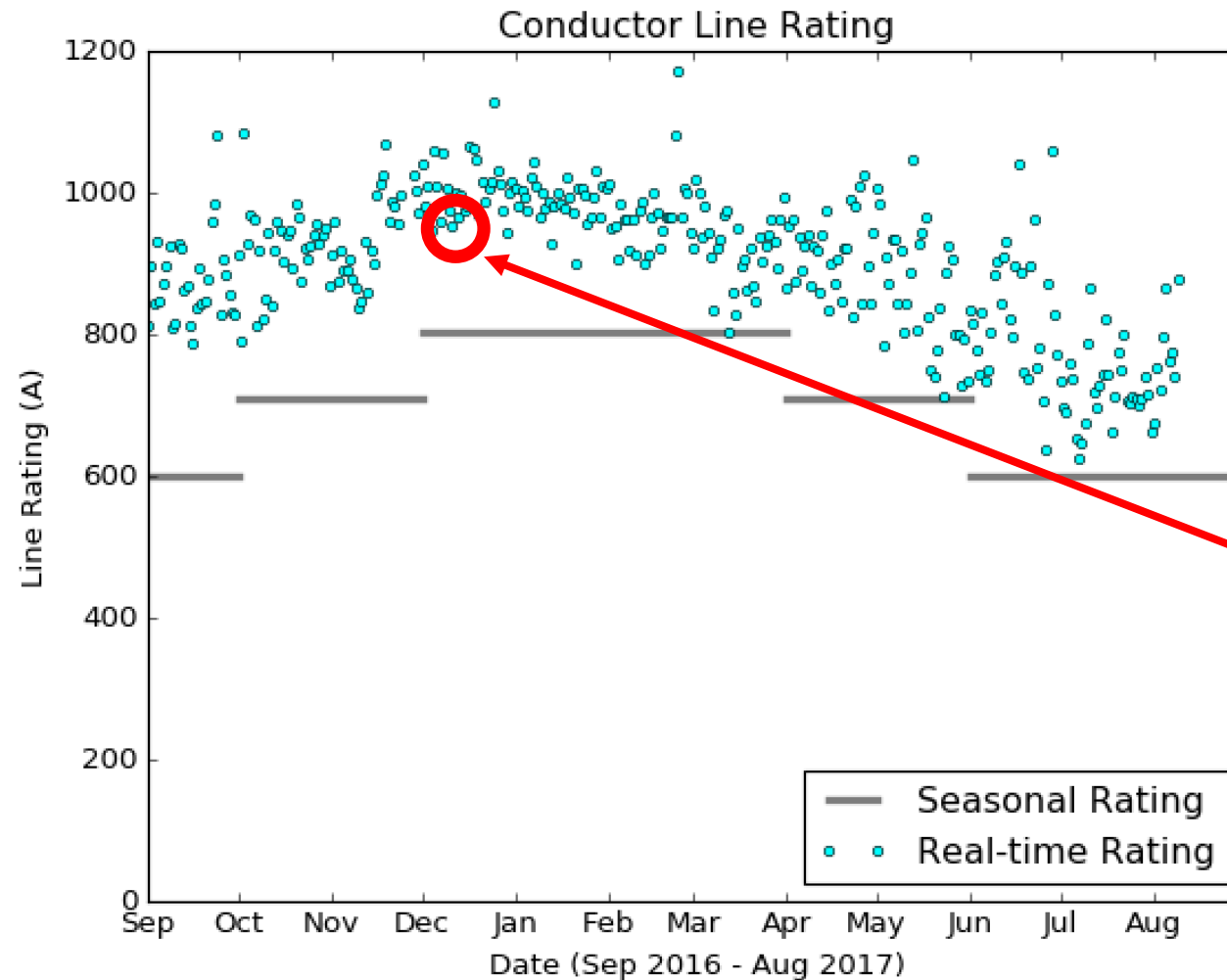
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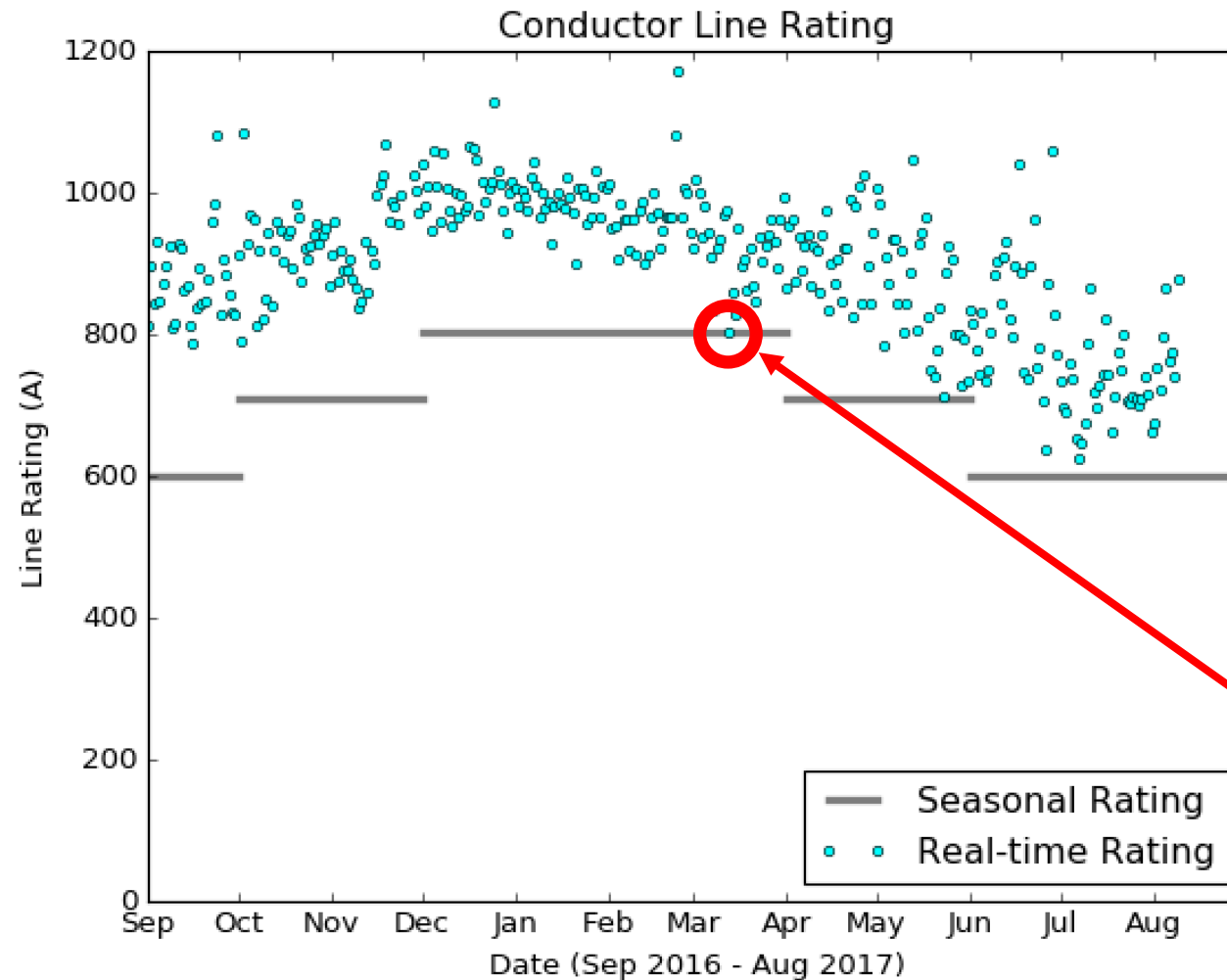


Let's zoom in on two cases and look at the line ratings at 15-minute time steps over one day:

- 1) Minimum daily rating well above the seasonal value

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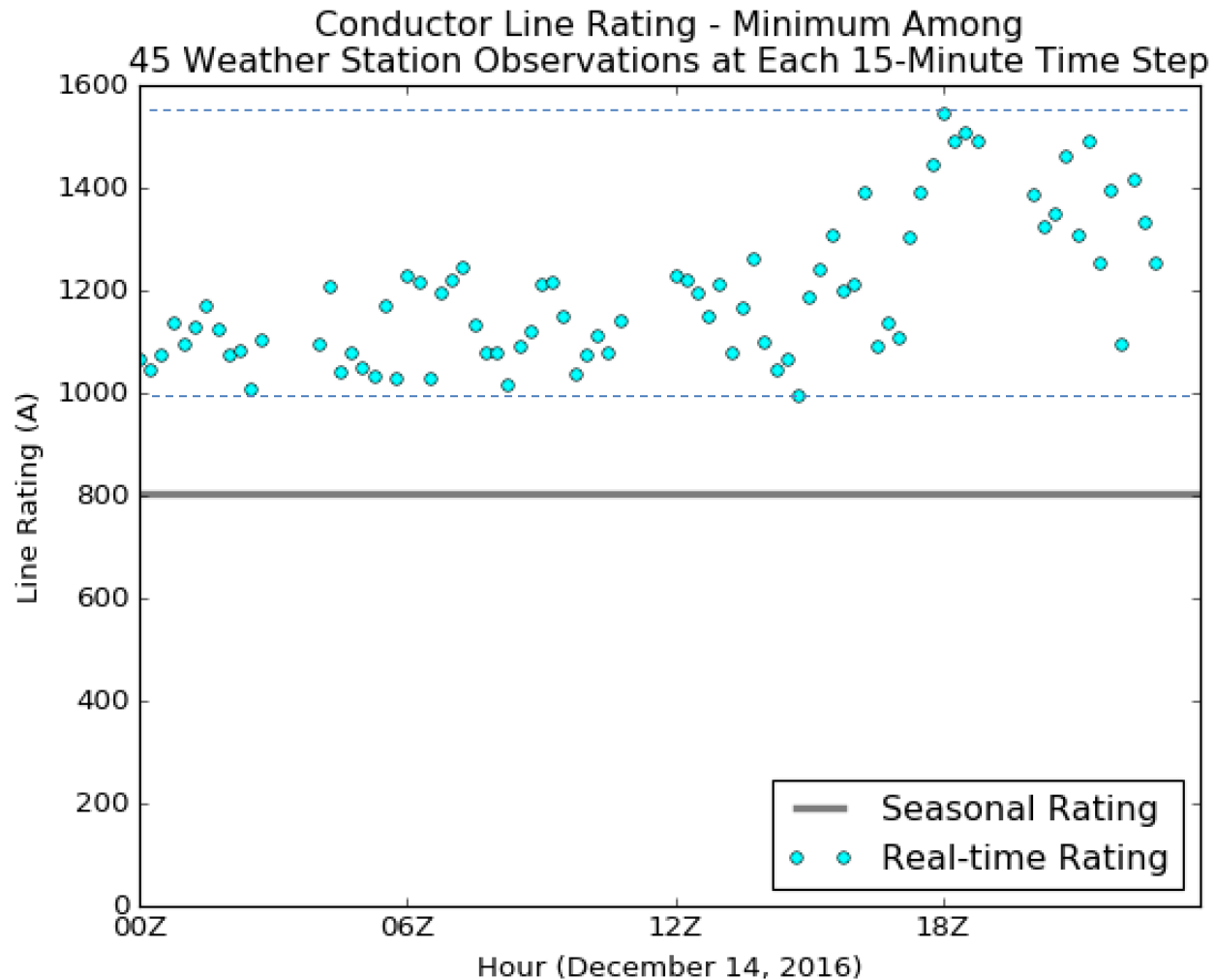
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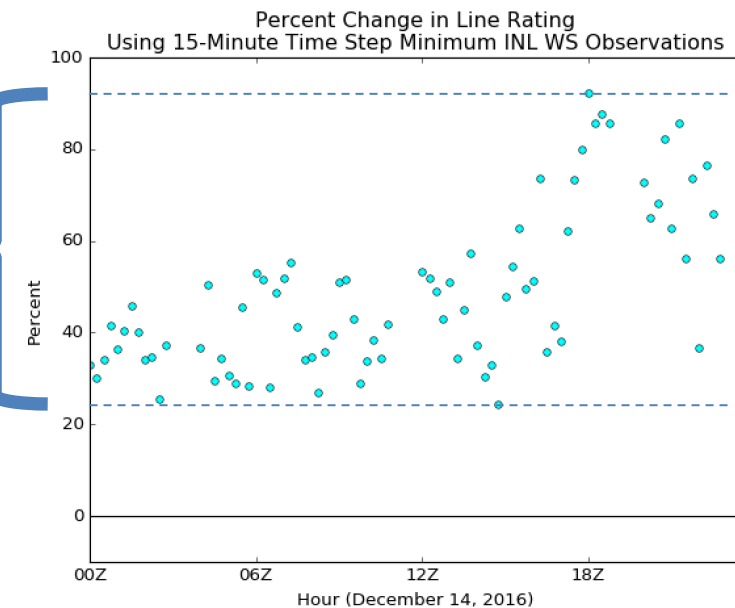
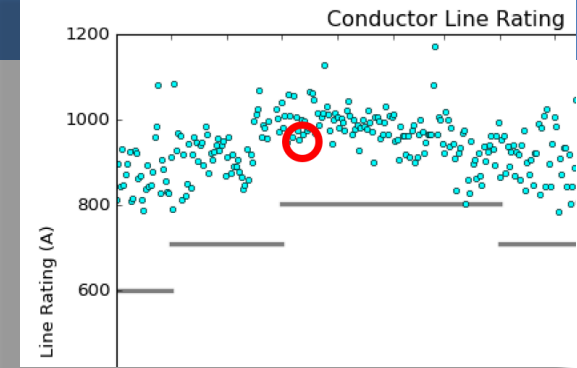
- 1) Minimum daily rating well above the seasonal value
- 2) Minimum daily rating at the seasonal value

# Variability Within a Higher Day

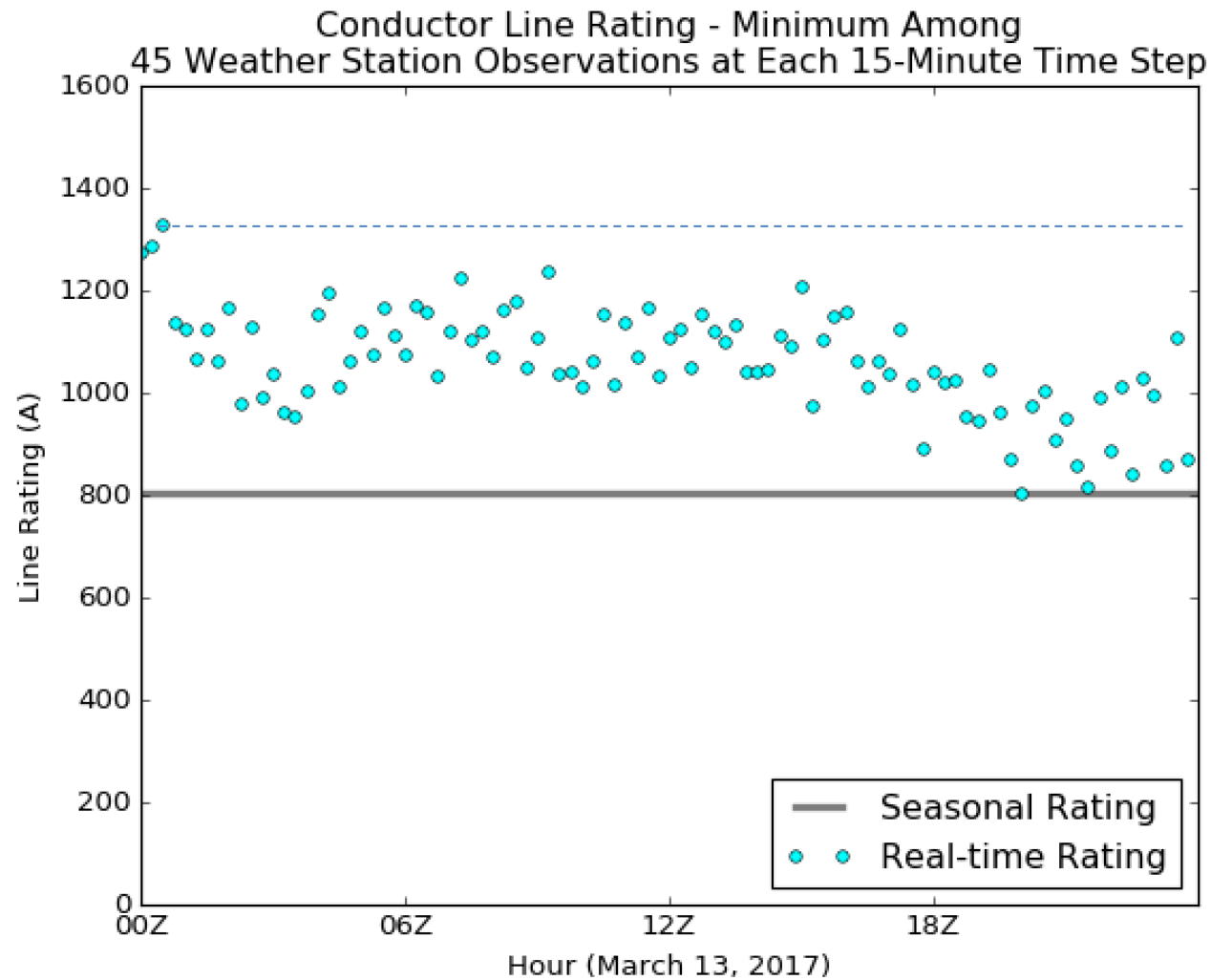


On days where the daily minimum rating remained well above the seasonal rating, there was additional capacity available by adjusting ratings over smaller time scales.

The percent increase available in line rating varied between 22% and 95% throughout the day.

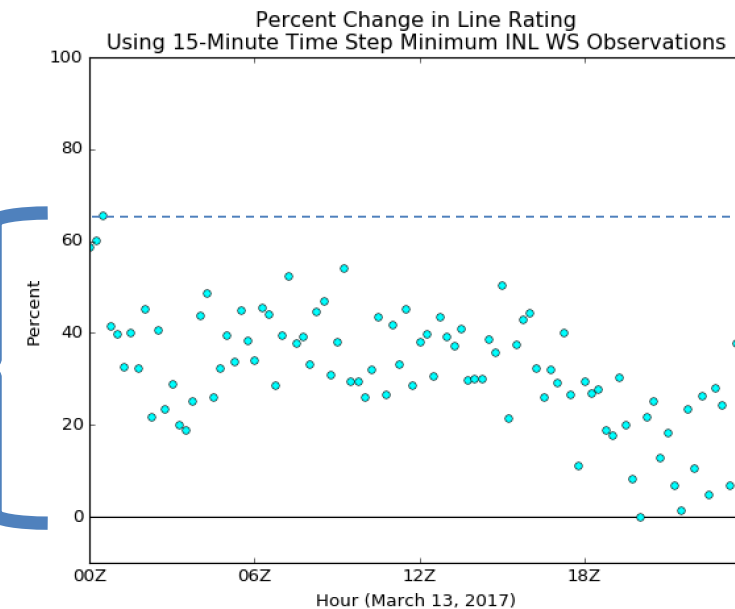
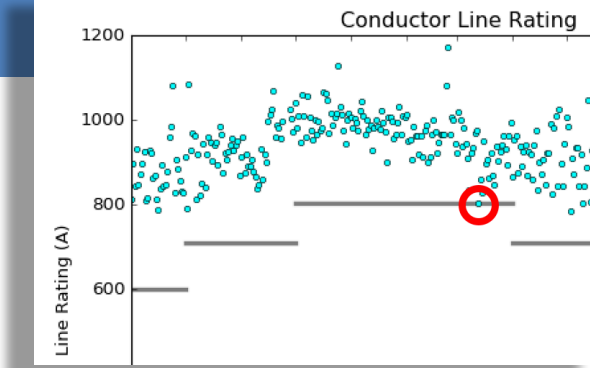


# Variability Within a Minimum Day



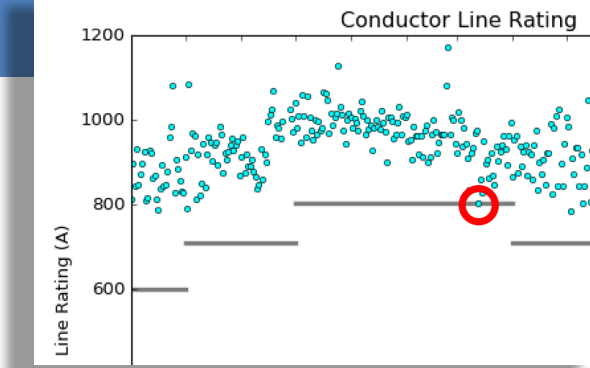
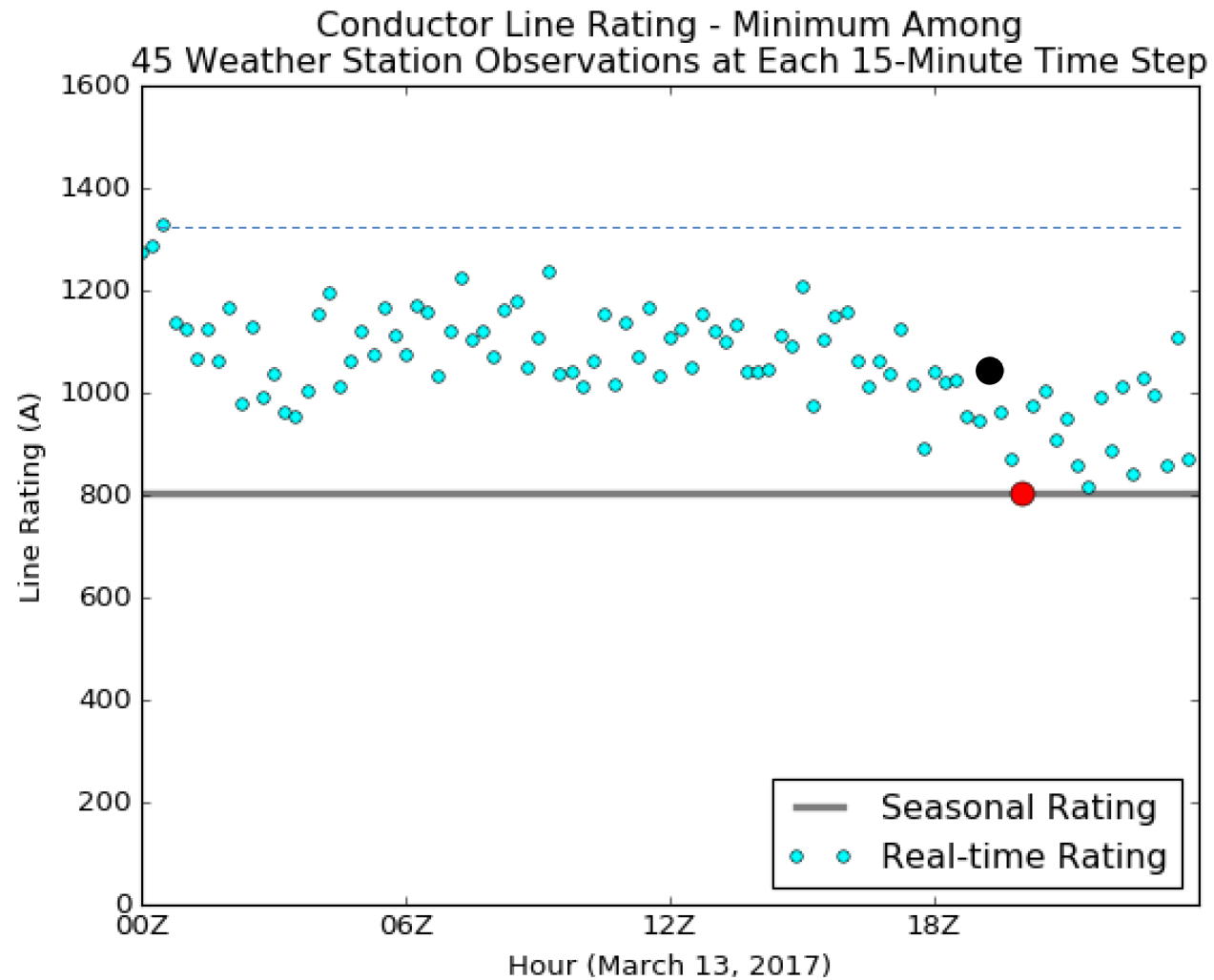
On days where the daily minimum value lowered to the seasonal value, this only occurred for short periods and there was additional capacity during most of the day.

The percent increase available in line rating varied between 0% and 65% throughout the day.

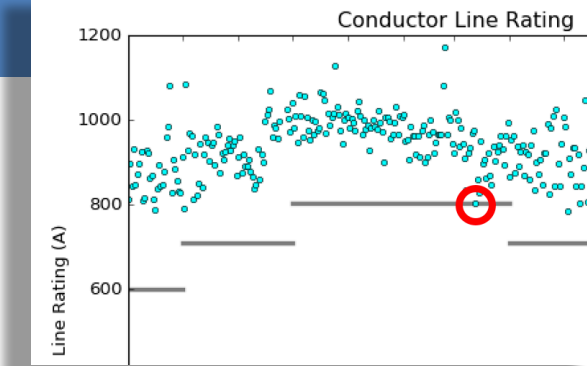
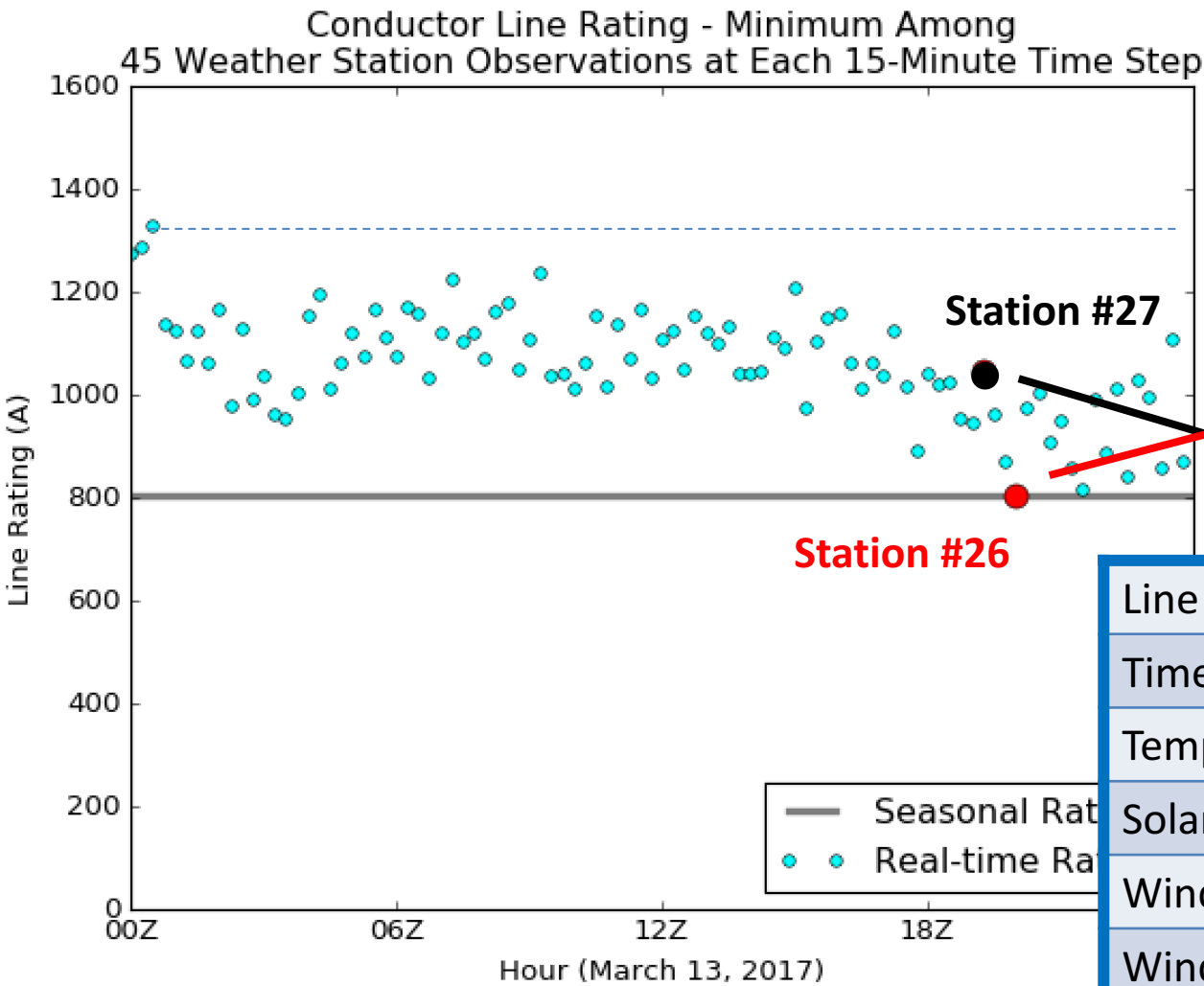




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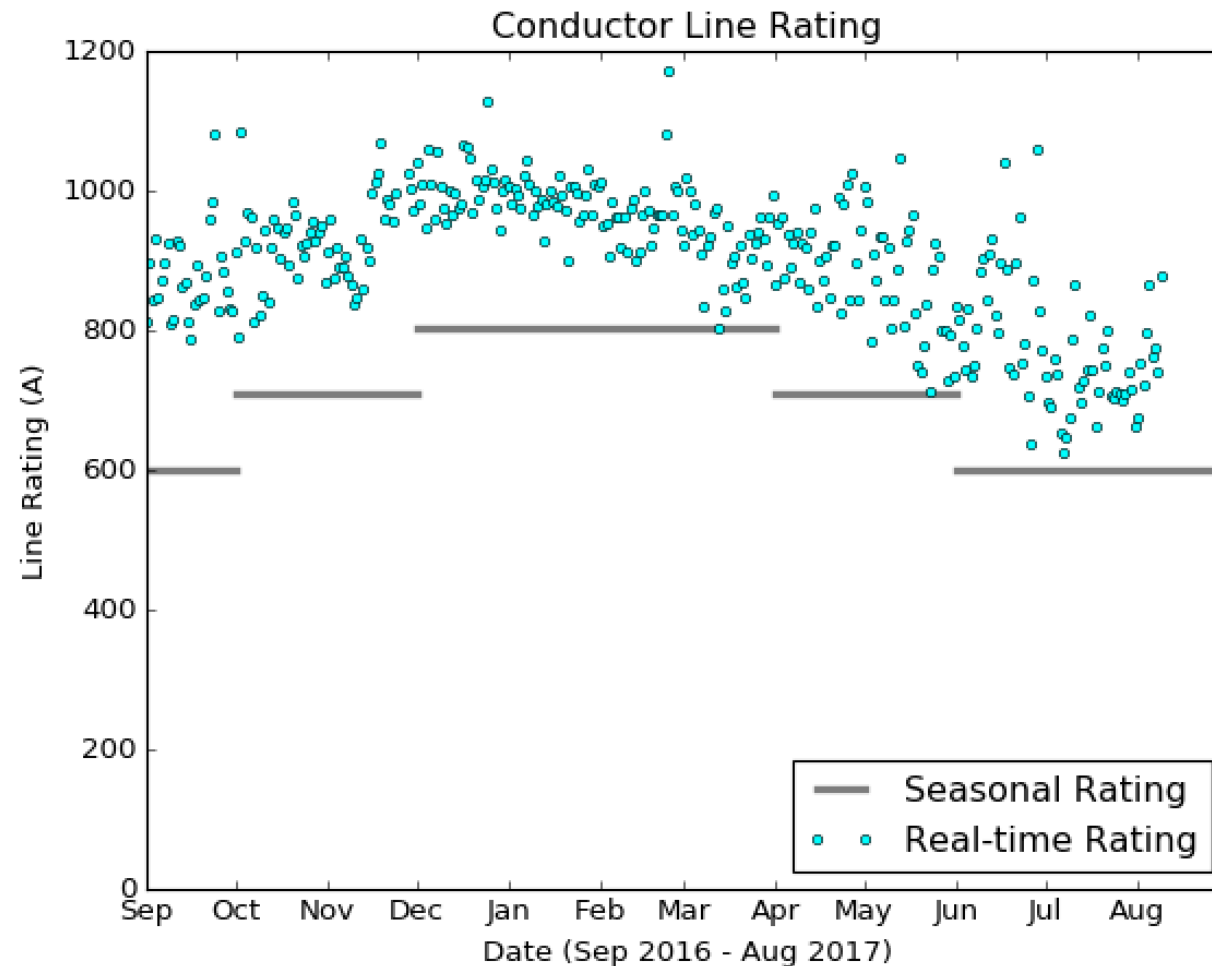


# Variability Within a Minimum Day



|                    |                      |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Line Rating        | 1047 A               | 804 A                |
| Time               | 1330L                | 1415L                |
| Temperature        | 61.15°F              | 62.91°F              |
| Solar Flux         | 716 W/m <sup>2</sup> | 740 W/m <sup>2</sup> |
| Wind Speed         | 1.12 mph             | 1.04 mph             |
| Wind Direction     | 137°                 | 92°                  |
| Perpendicular Wind | 0.82 mph             | 0.04 mph             |

# Question: Which environmental factor can we improve upon in the seasonal values?

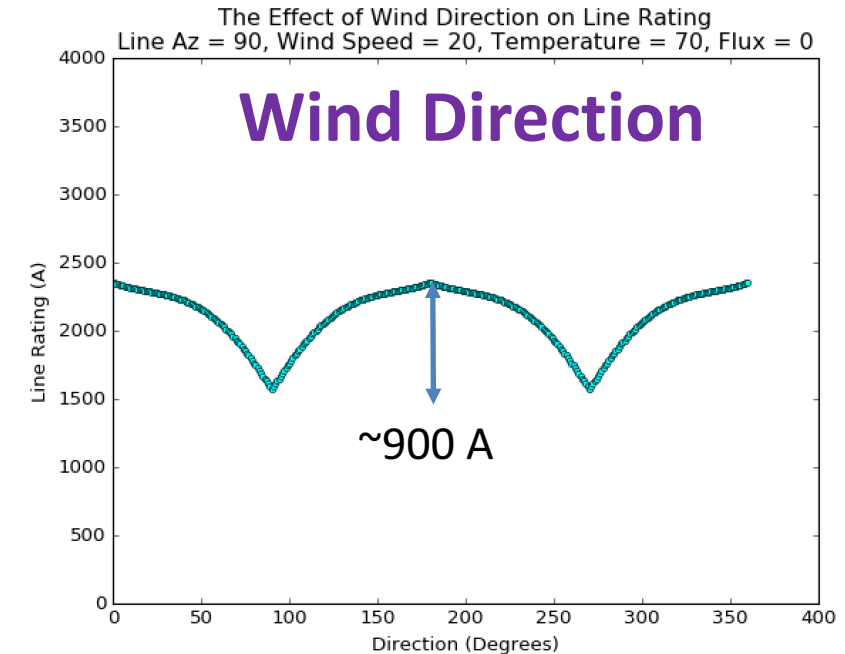
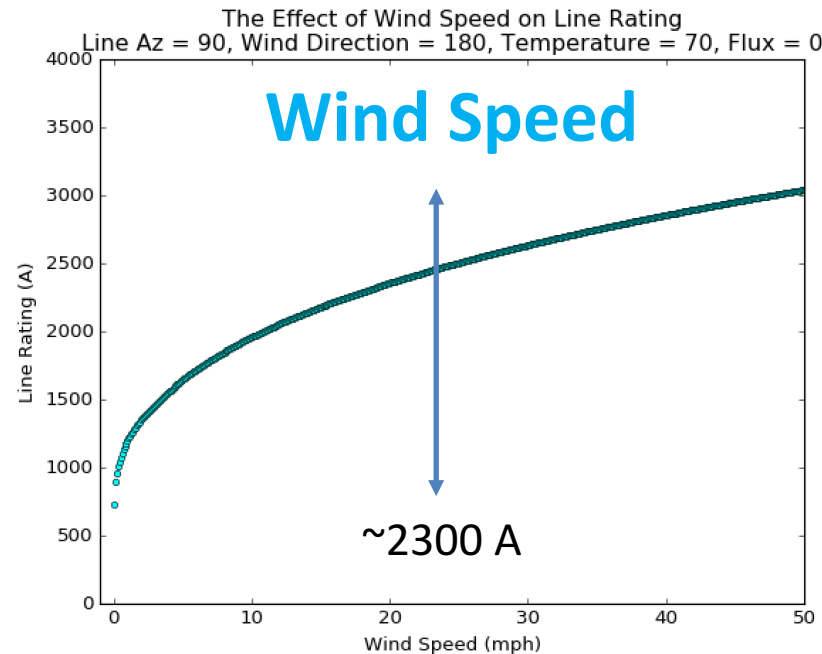
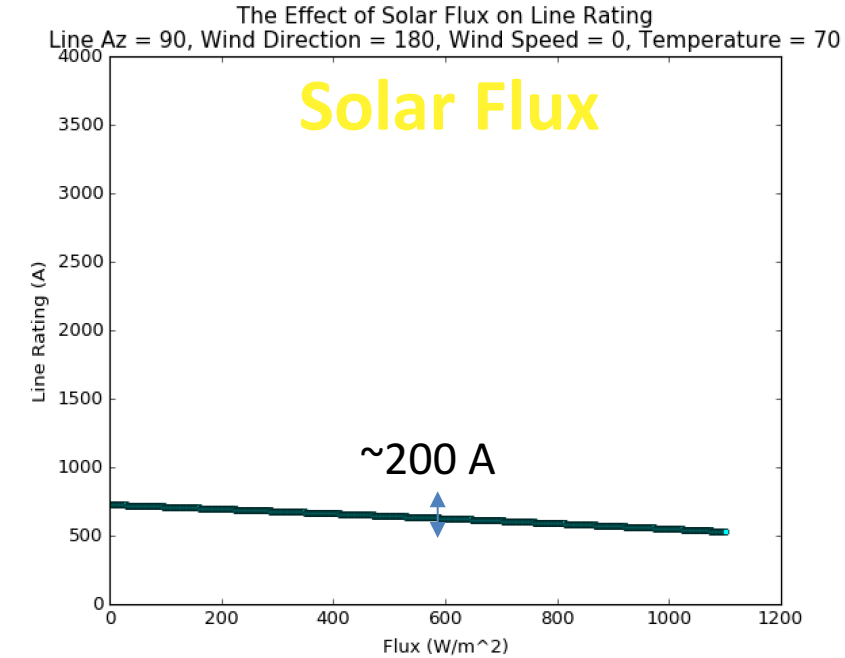
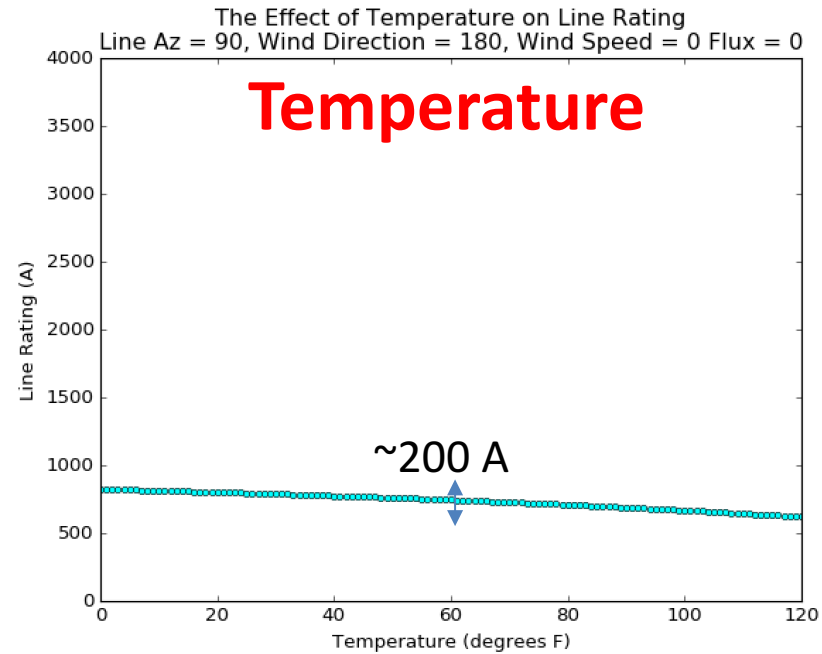


Is this difference due to:

- Temperature?
- Winds?
- Solar flux?

# Sensitivity Analysis

Wind speed has the greatest effect on line rating



# Sensitivity Analysis

Seasonal values  
are conservative

## Seasonal Rating Values

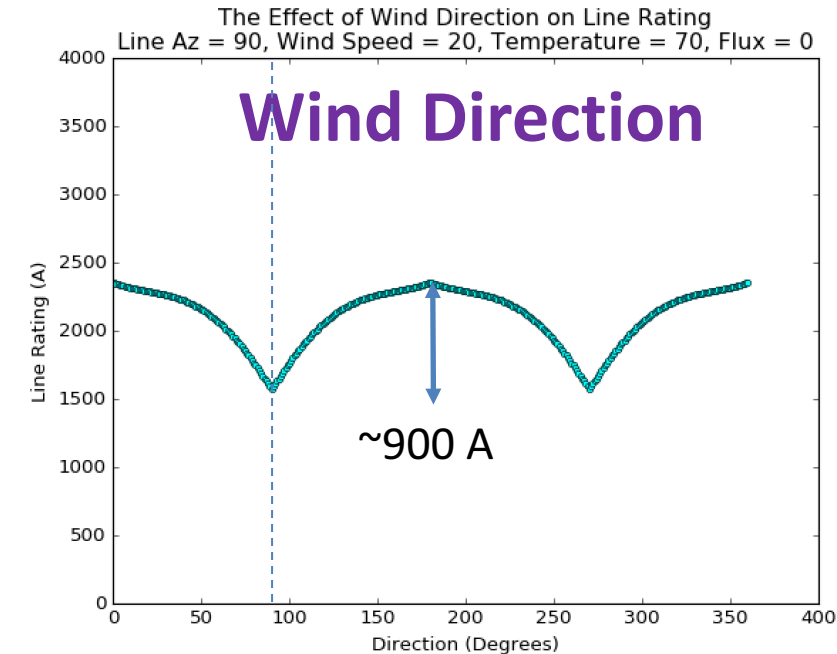
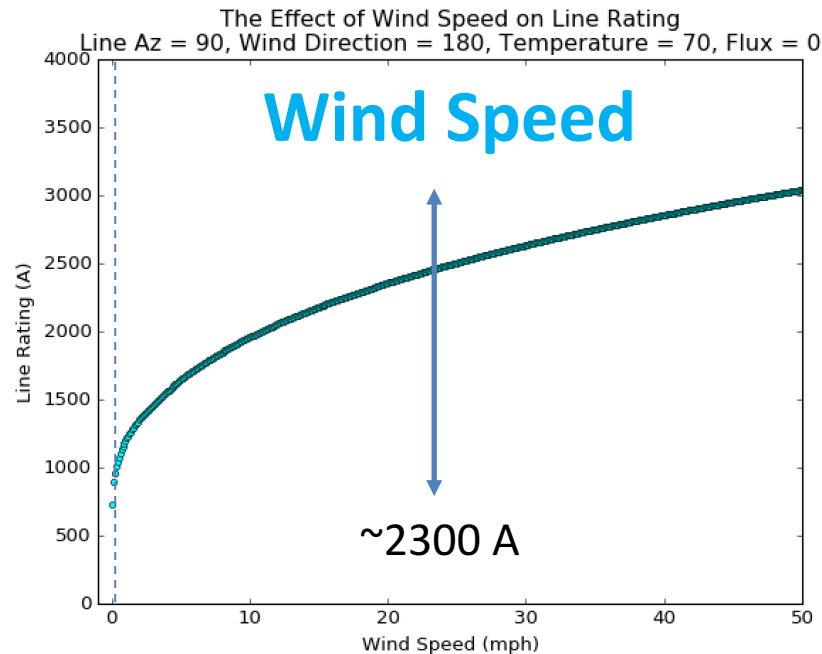
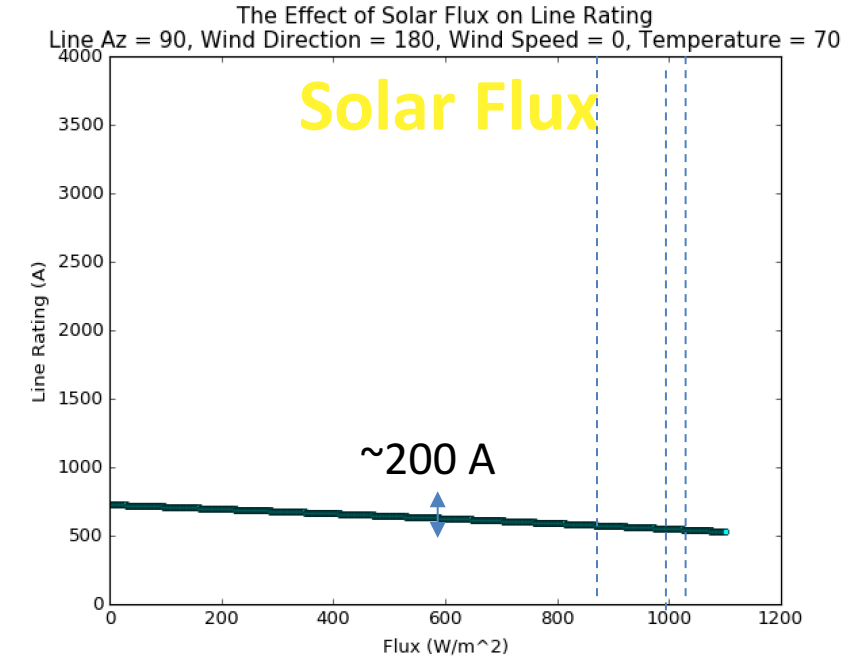
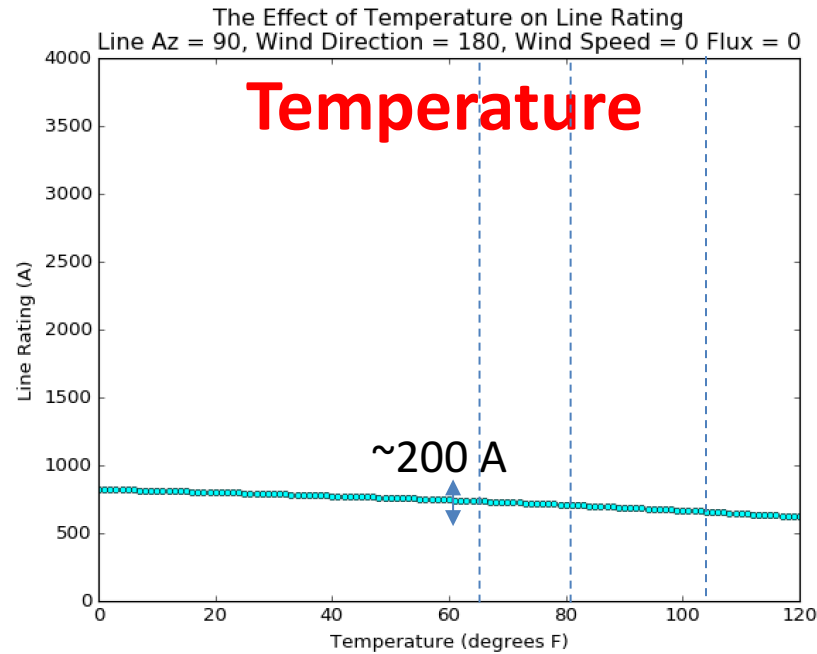
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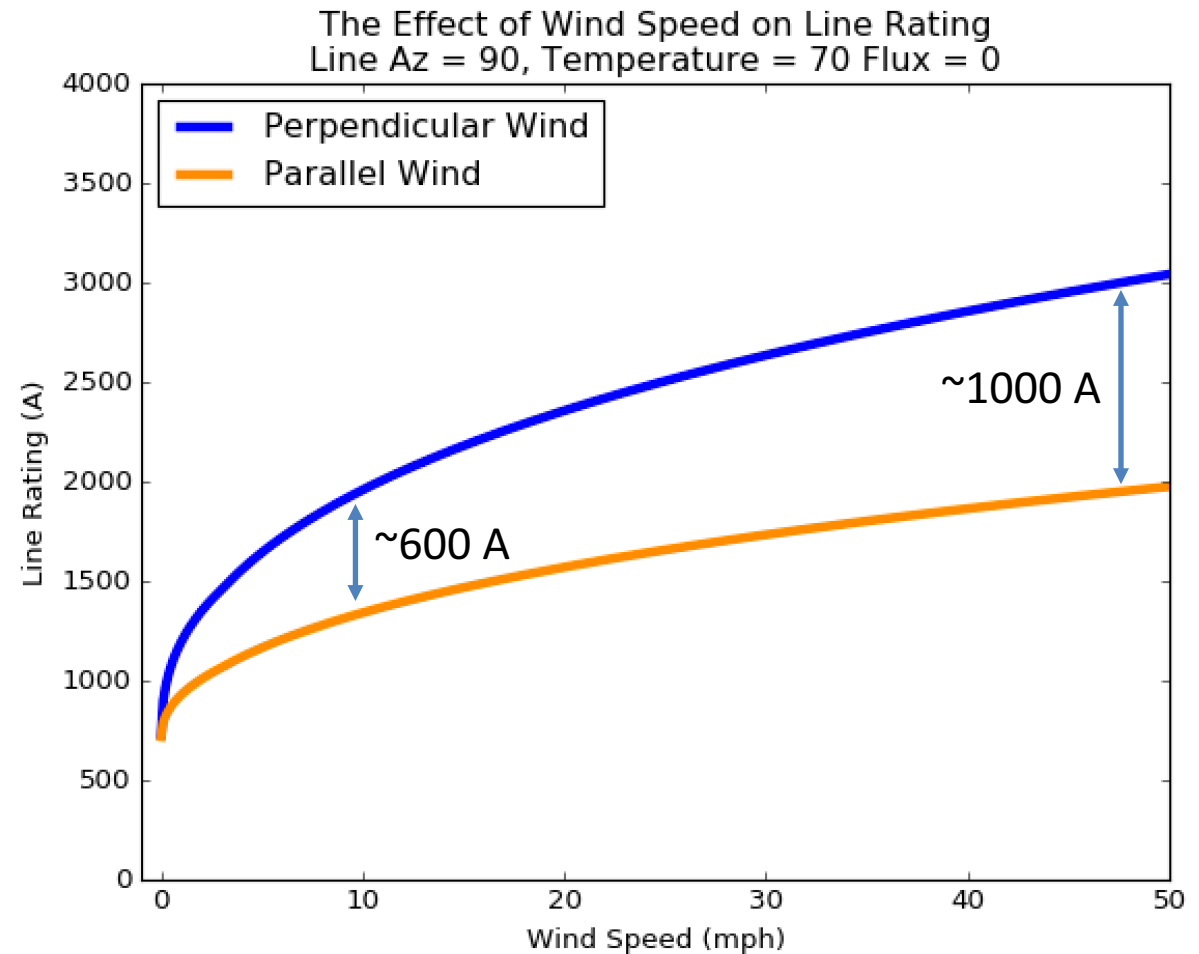
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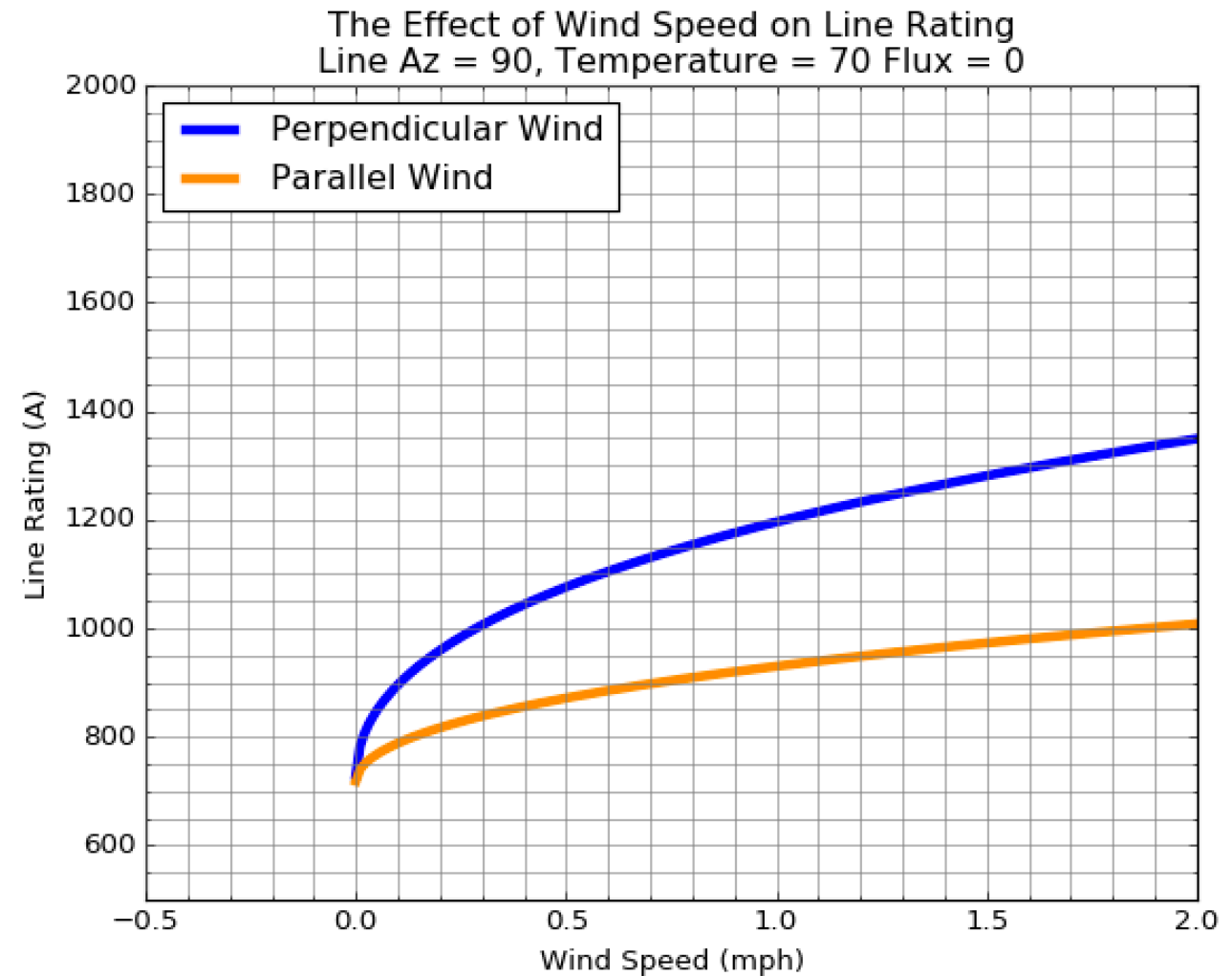
# Parallel vs Perpendicular Wind

A parallel wind generates 60% less convective heat loss than a perpendicular wind



# Sensitivity Analysis

The line rating changes more rapidly at lower wind speeds



# How can we better account for future weather?

- Forecast!
- Persistence



## 2 types of persistence

1. General persistence - forecast the last known observed value to continue into the future

Current Time

1200Z

1300Z

1400Z

1500Z



Current  
temperature  
73°F

1-hour  
persistence  
forecast = 73°F

2-hour  
persistence  
forecast = 73°F

3-hour  
persistence  
forecast = 73°F



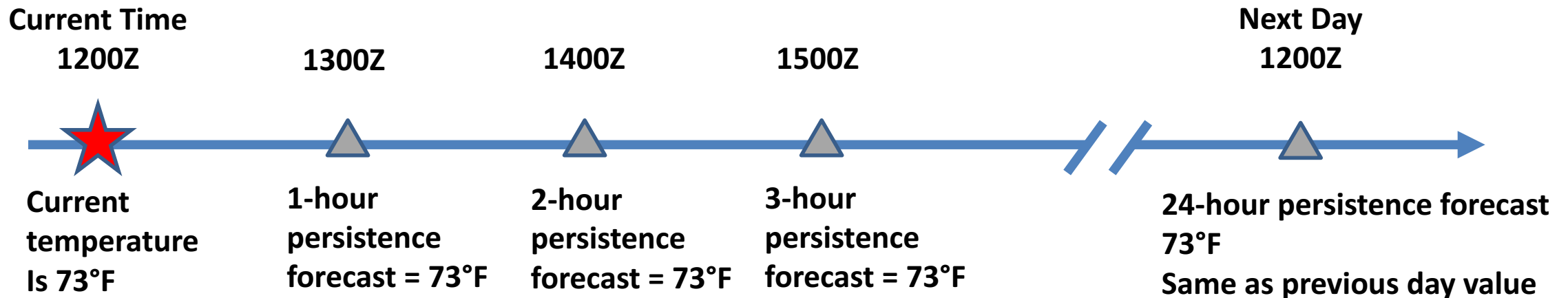
# How can we better account for weather?

- Forecast!
- Persistence



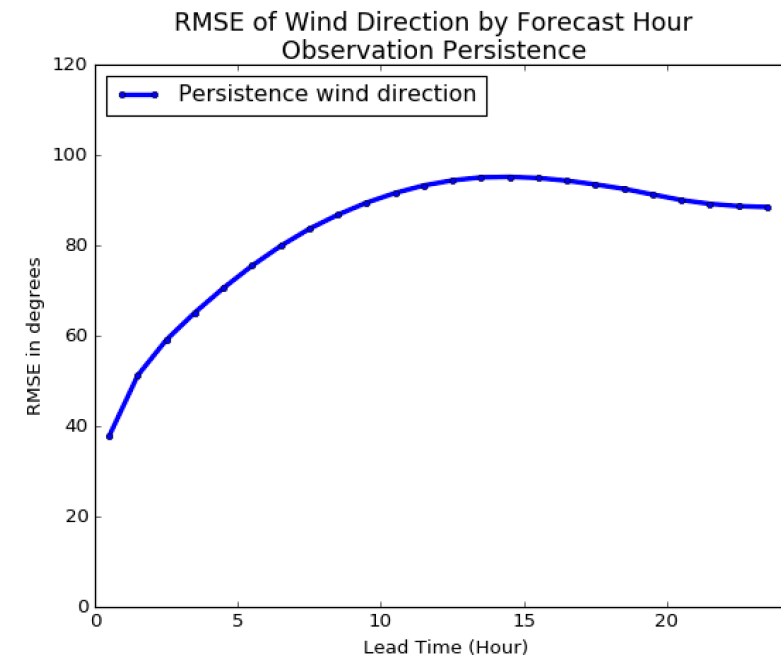
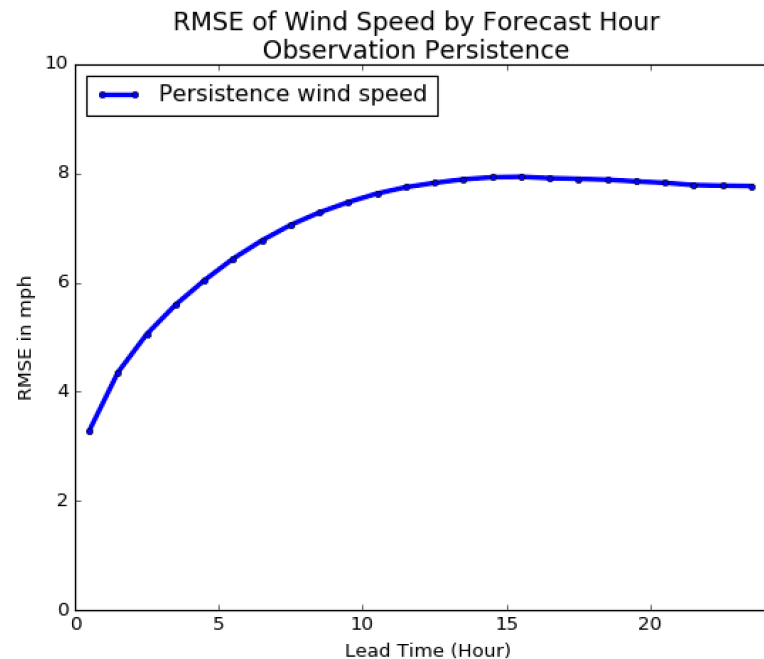
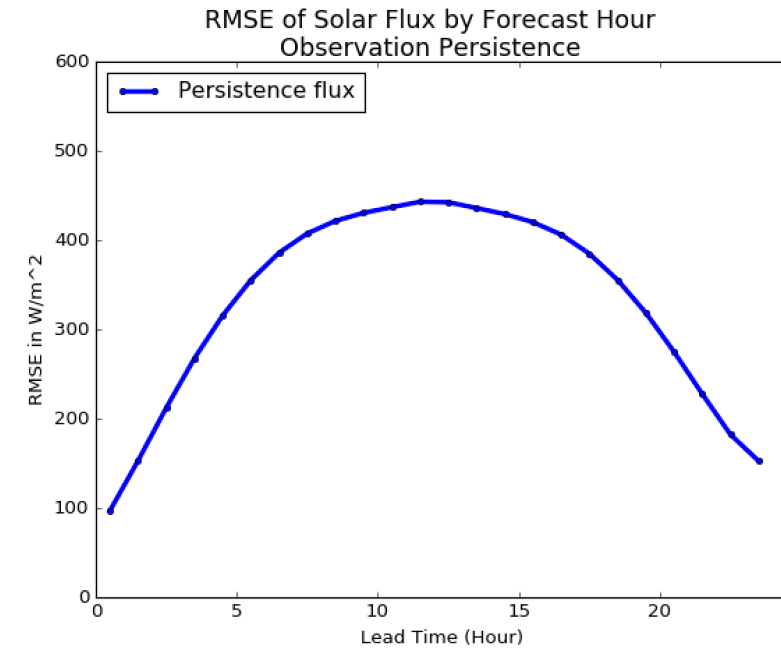
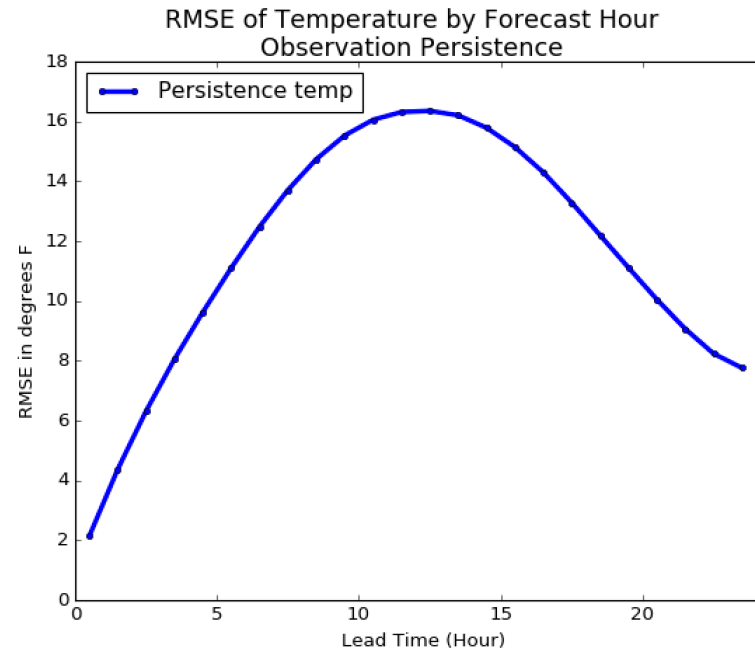
## 2 types of persistence

1. General persistence - forecast the last known observed value to continue into the future
2. 24-hour persistence - use the observed value from the previous day at the same time



# Accuracy of Persistence Forecasts

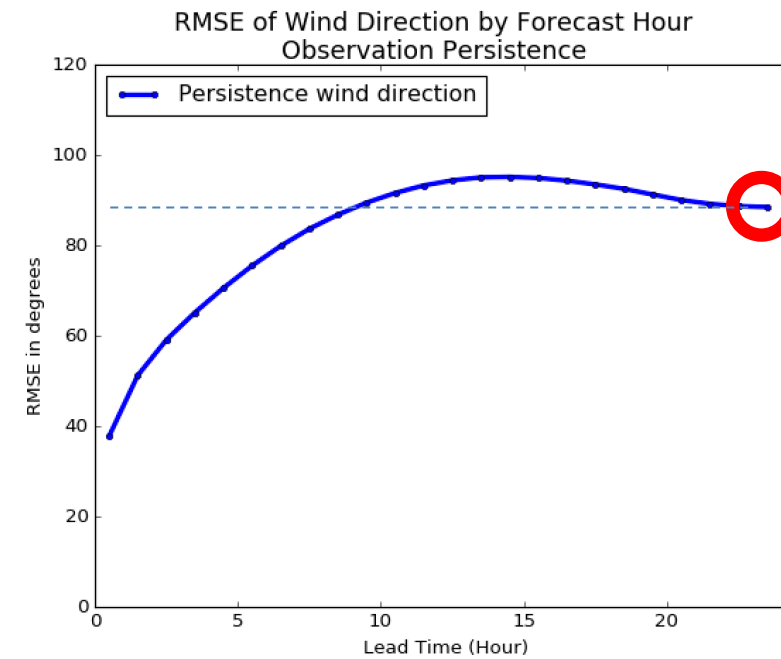
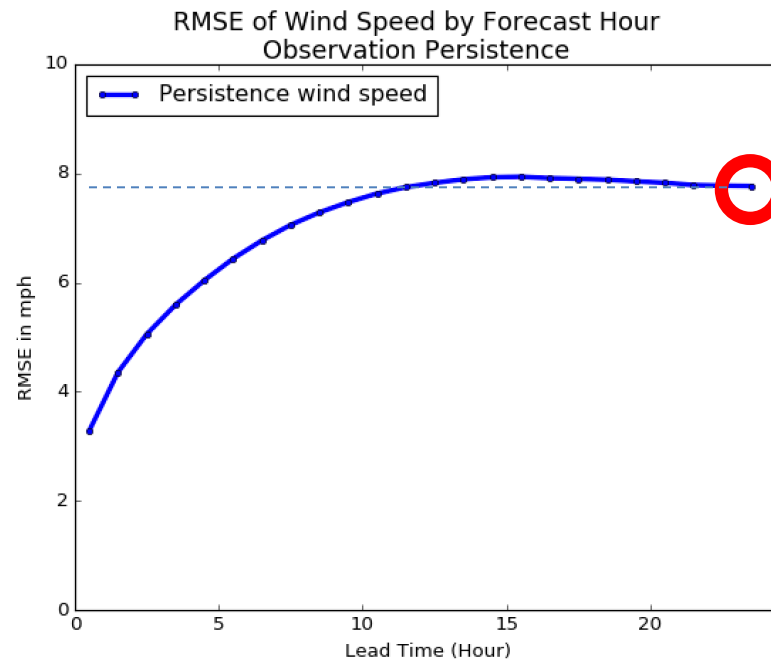
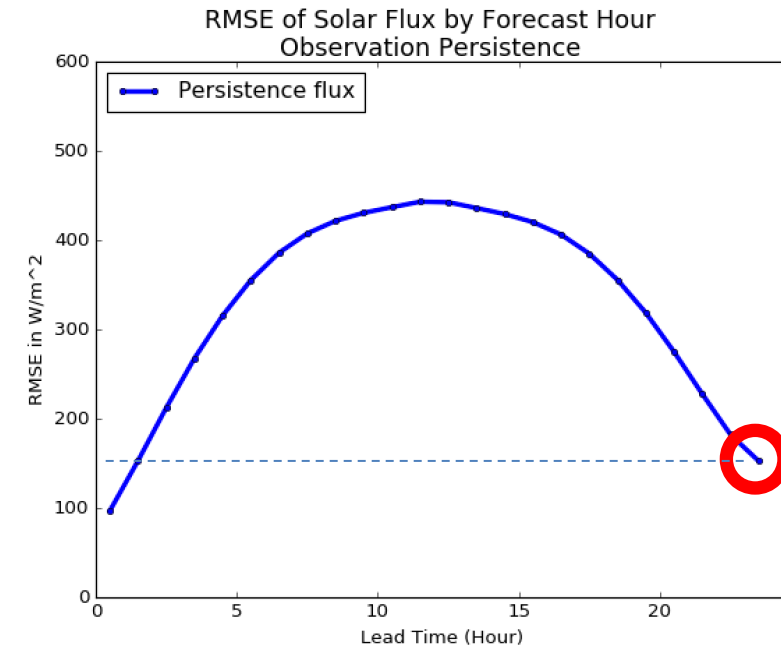
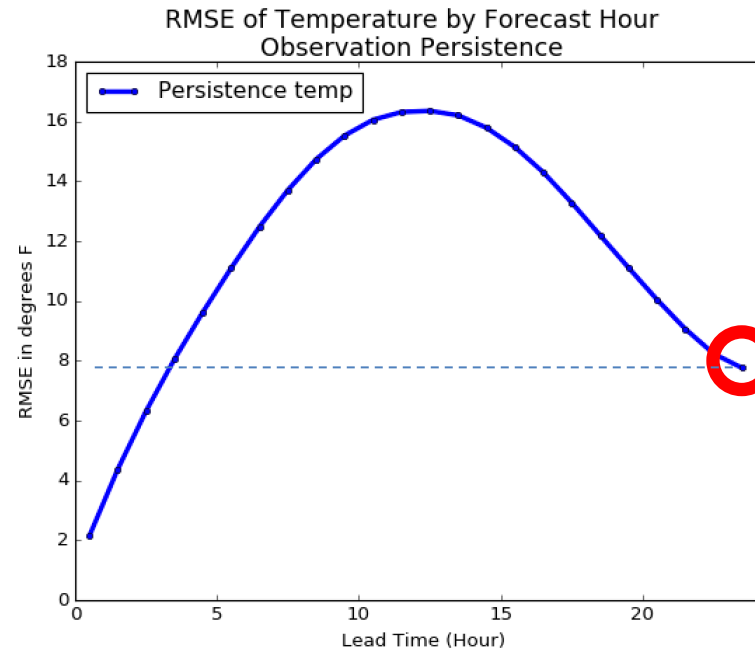
Persistence forecasts are accurate in the short-term, but the errors quickly grow with time.



# Accuracy of Persistence Forecasts

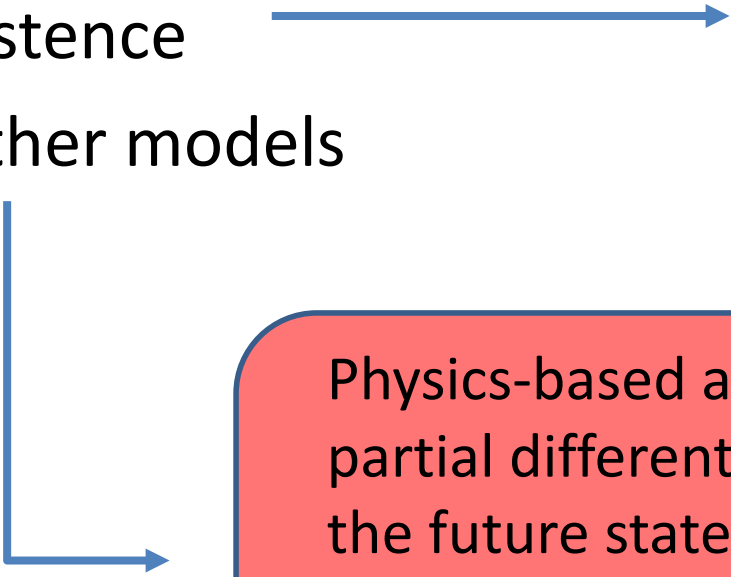
Persistence forecasts are accurate in the short-term, but the errors quickly grow with time.

Short-term persistence is better than 24-hour persistence (using value from previous day).



# Can We Do Better Than Persistence?

- Forecast!
  - Persistence
  - Weather models



Forecast the last known  
observed value to persist  
into the future

Physics-based algorithms that use  
partial differential equations to predict  
the future state of the atmosphere.

High Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR)

# What is the HRRR?

## Inputs

Weather observations  
(temperature, wind,  
humidity, pressure)

Radar  
Satellite



## **HRRR**

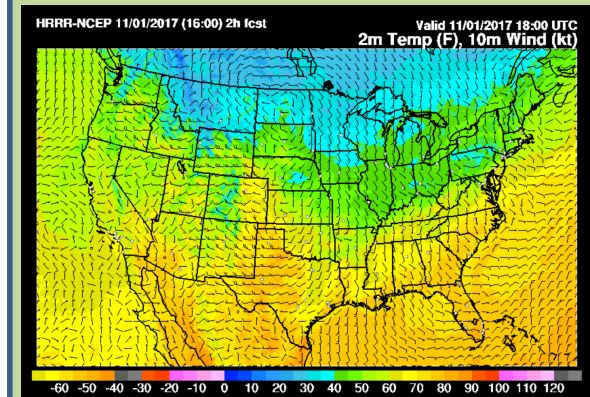


## Processing:

Partial differential equations  
Parameterizations  
Numerical approximations

## Outputs – Forecasts of:

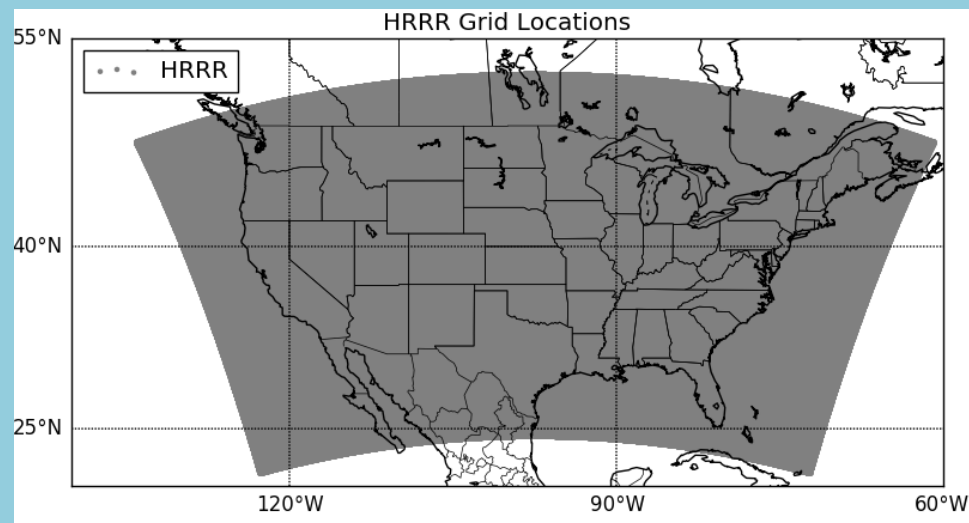
Temperature  
Wind  
Humidity  
Rain  
Clouds



# Output of the HRRR

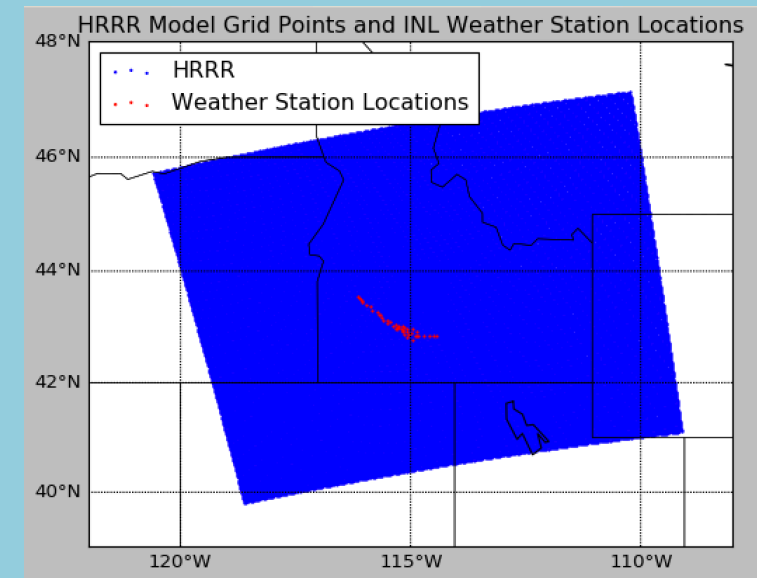
## General Information

- Created by NOAA, publicly available for free at: <http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/products/hrrr/>
- Covers CONUS at 3 km horizontal grid spacing
- Forecasts produced every hour with output from 0-18 hours into the future at 15-minute intervals



## Used in this study

- Cut-out over Idaho with 3-km horizontal grid spacing
- Forecasts at 15-minute intervals from 2-18 hours
- Output variables of temperature, wind speed, wind direction, and solar flux



# Applying HRRR Forecast Times to Operations



At 1230Z, you want to make a forecast for 1400Z

What is available?

- 1) 1100Z run of the HRRR, 3-Hour Forecast valid at 1400Z
- 2) Persistence from the most recent observation at 1230Z

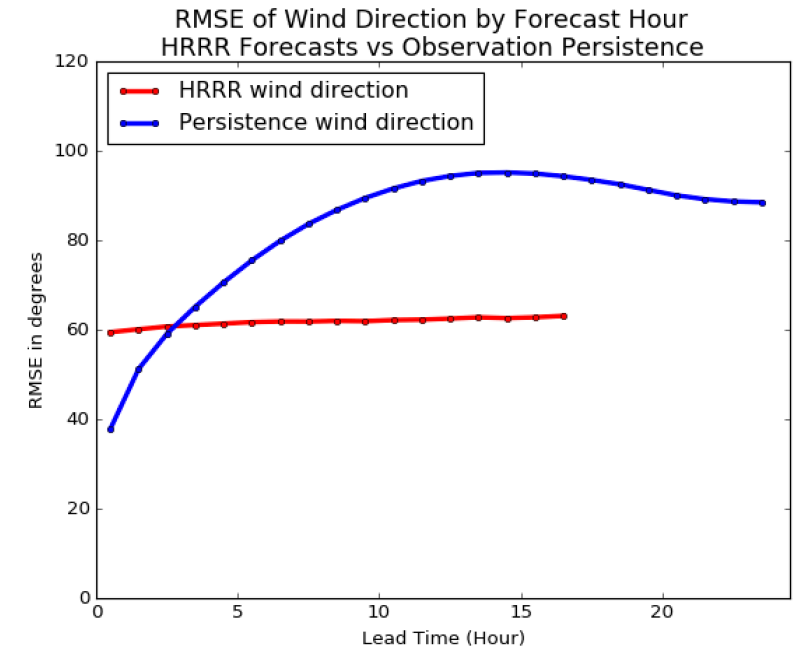
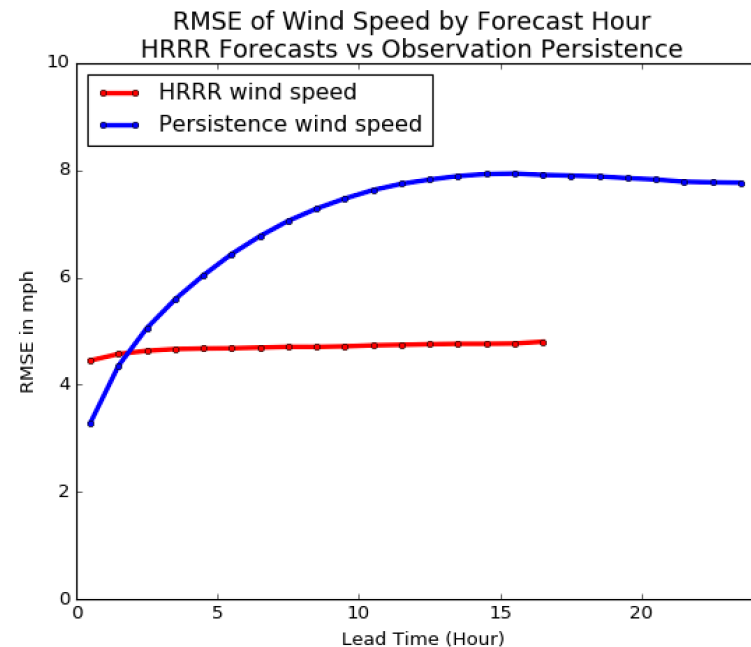
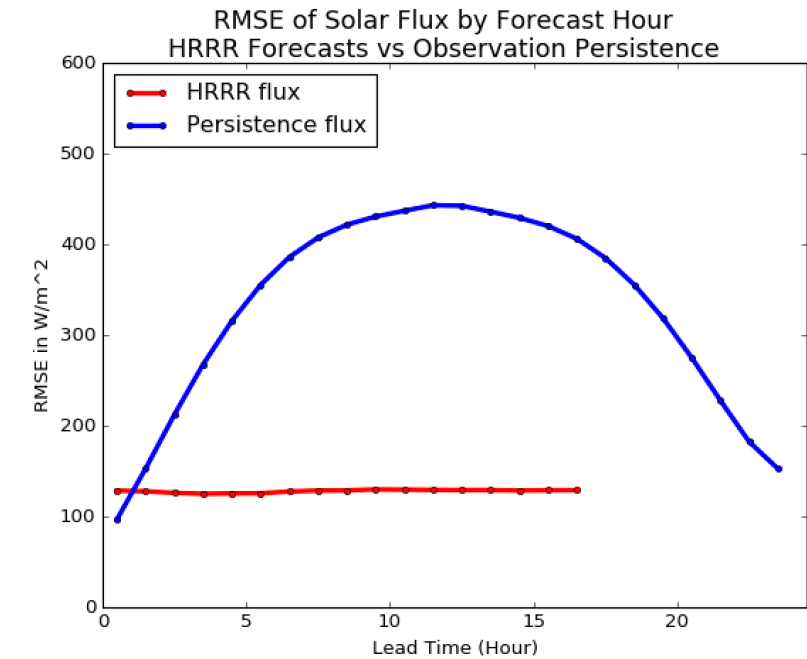
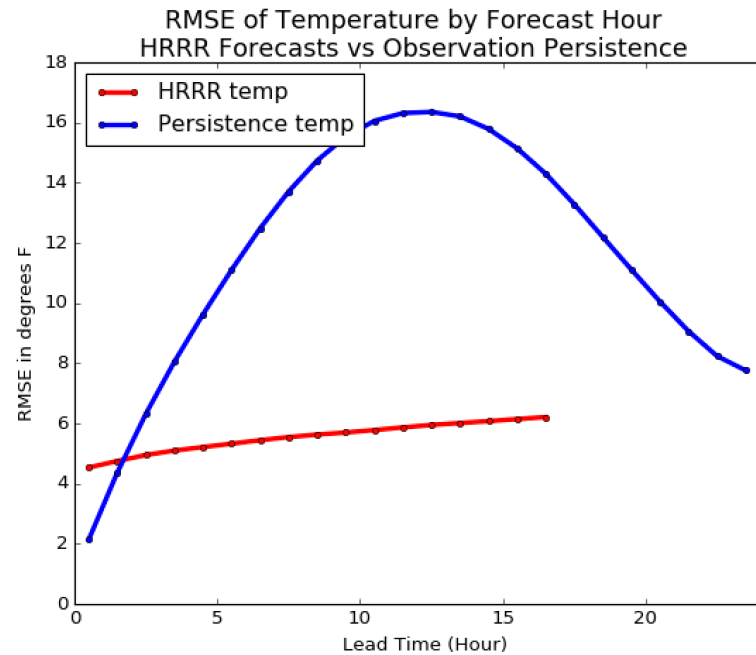


Compare 3-Hour HRRR Forecast to 90-minute persistence forecast

Assumptions:

- 1) HRRR is available 80 minutes after its 0-Hour time
- 2) Observations from weather stations are available in real-time

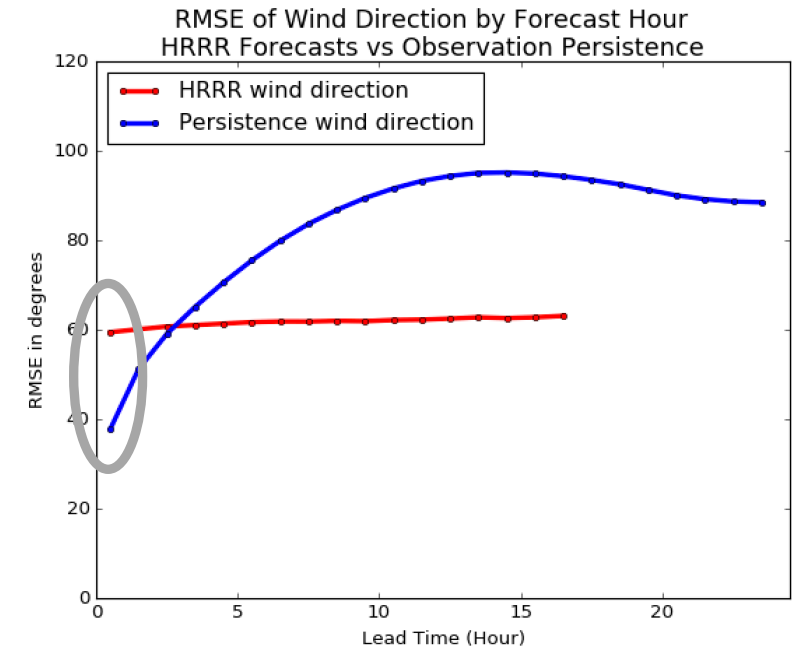
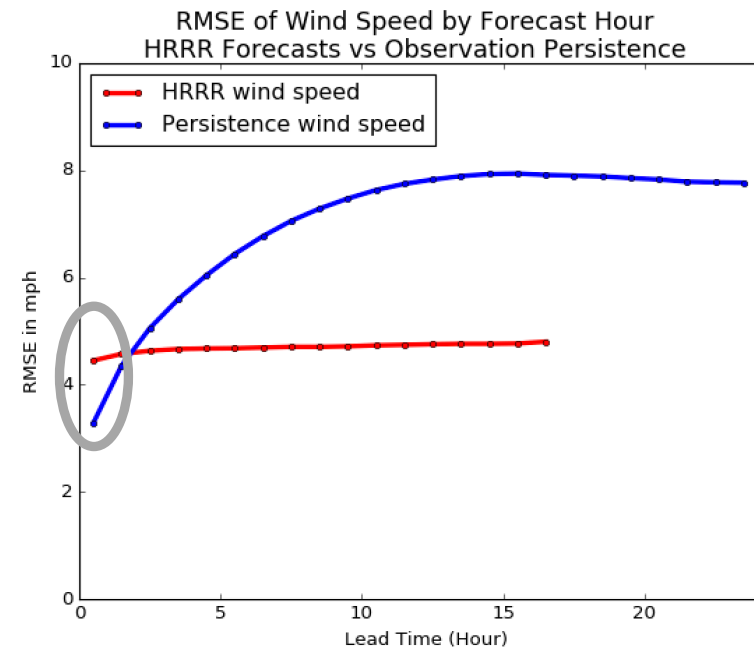
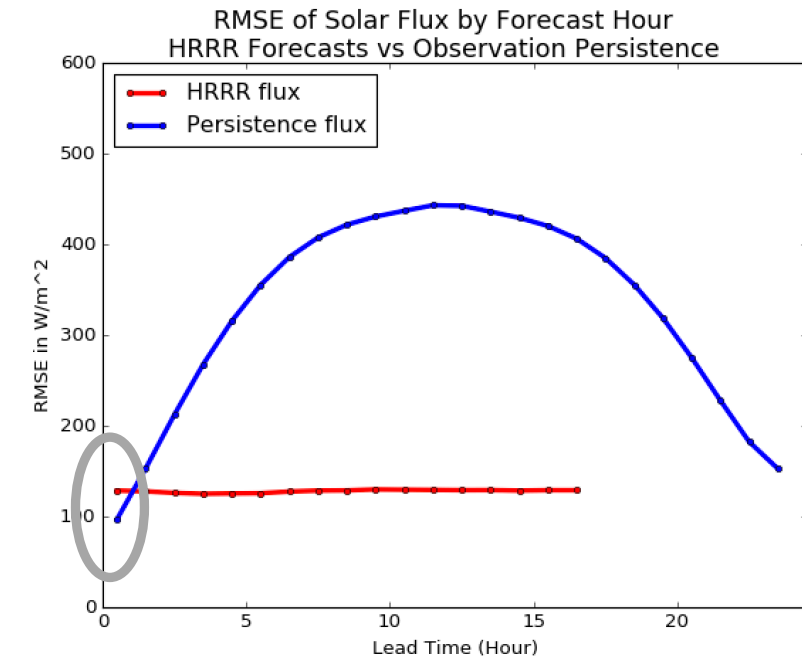
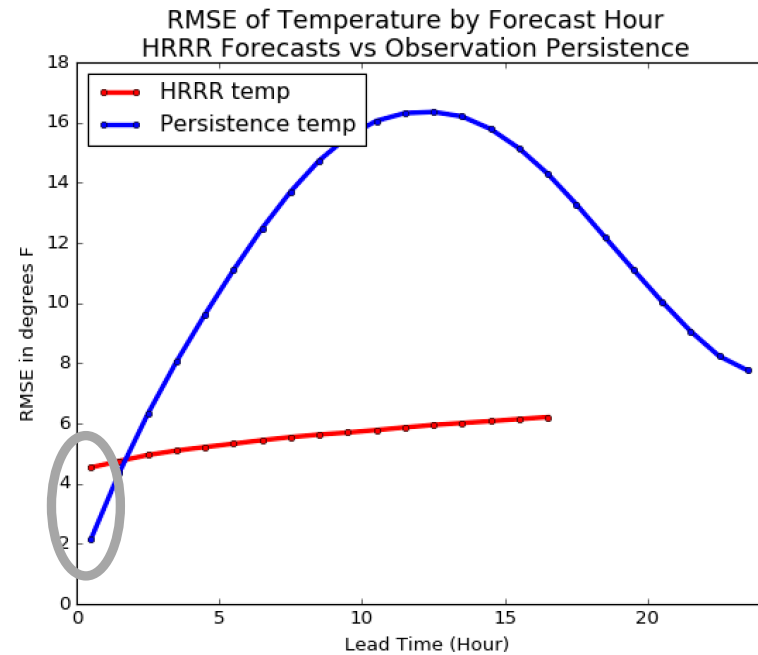
# Accuracy of HRRR Forecasts





# Accuracy of HRRR Forecasts

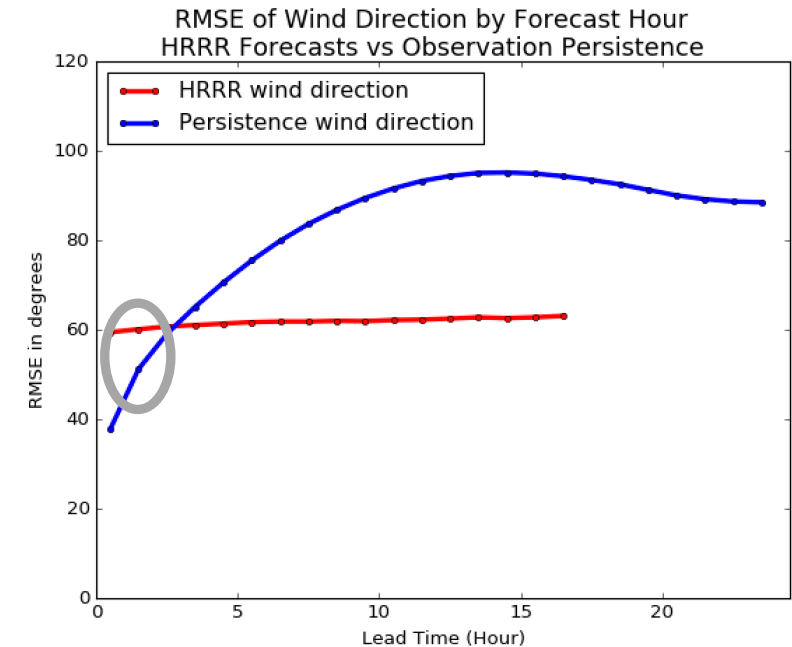
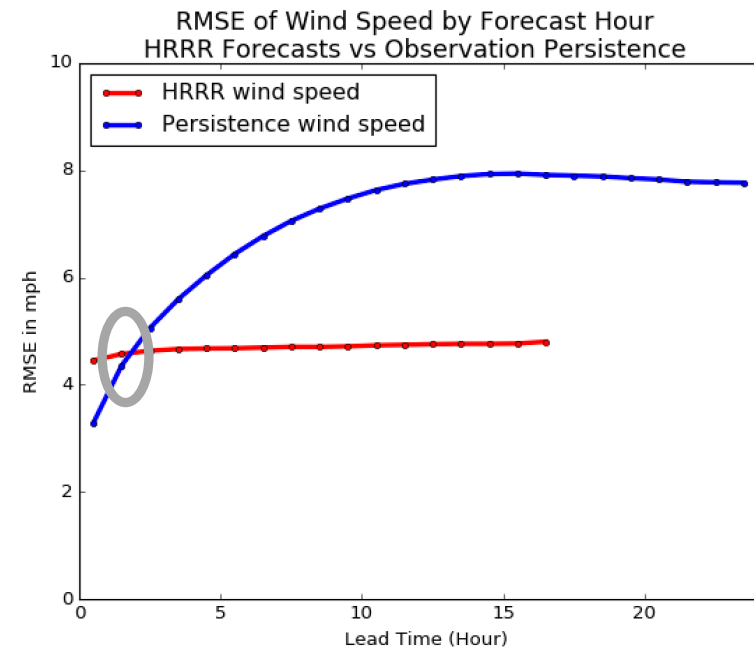
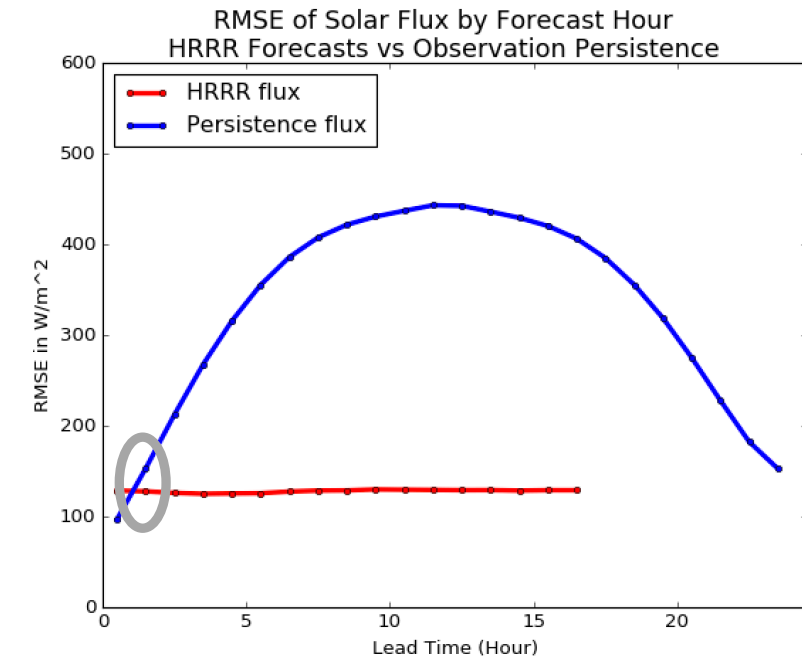
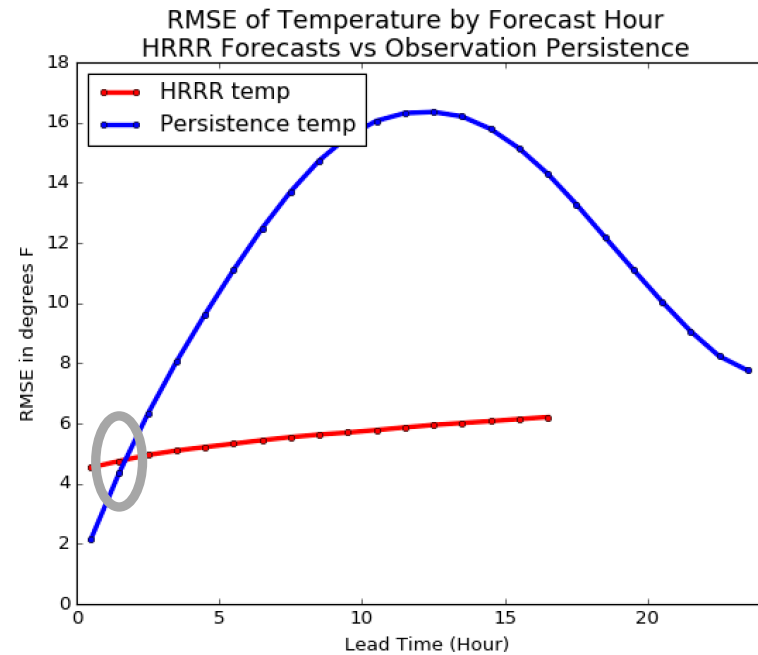
Persistence is better than the HRRR at the 30-minute lead time



# Accuracy of HRRR Forecasts

Persistence is better than the HRRR at the 30-minute lead time

Similar errors at 1.5 hour lead time (except wind direction)

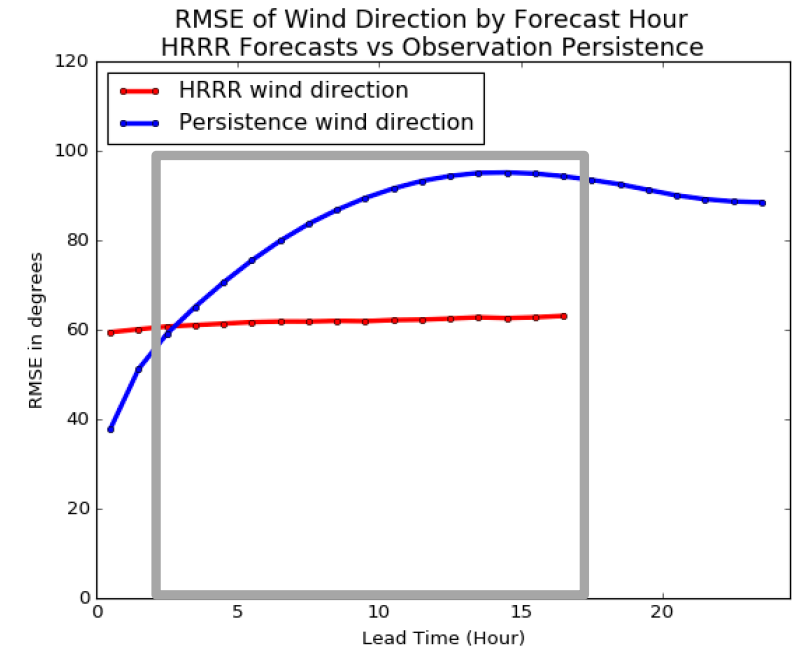
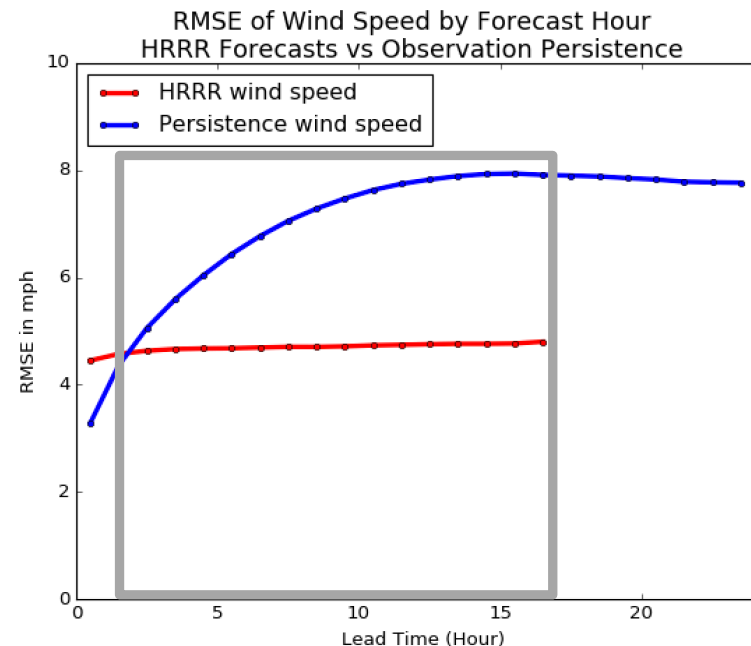
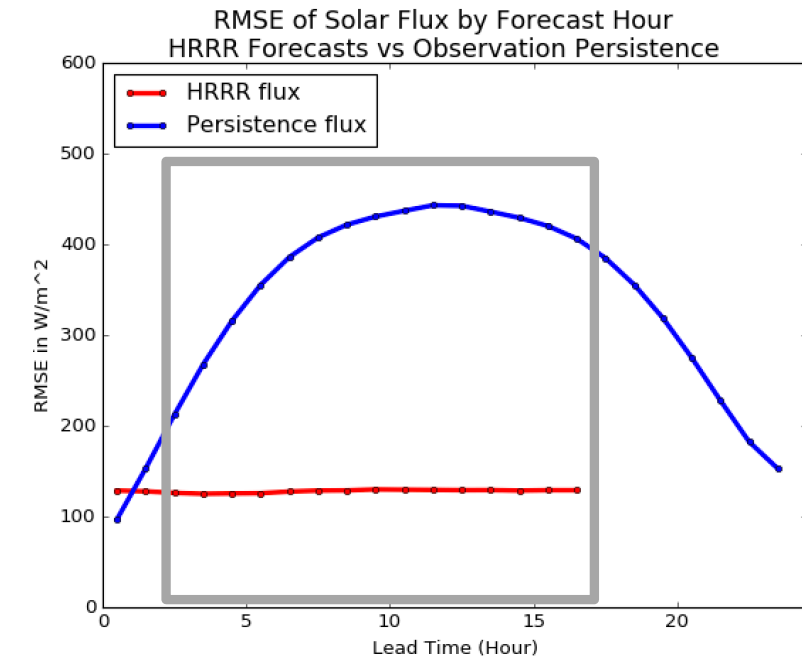
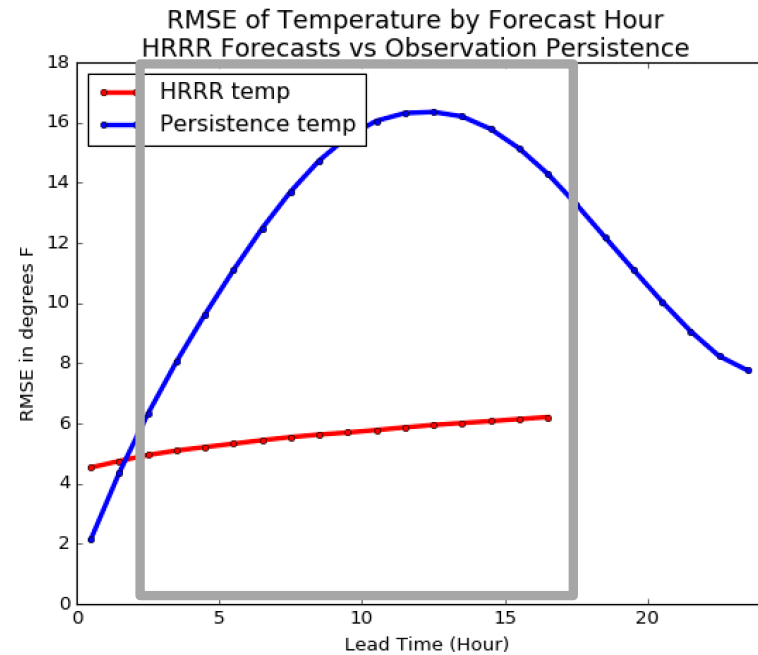


# Accuracy of HRRR Forecasts

Persistence is better than the HRRR at the 30-minute lead time

Similar errors at 1.5 hour lead time (except wind direction)

**HRRR forecasts are more accurate than persistence for lead times 2.5 – 16.5 hours**



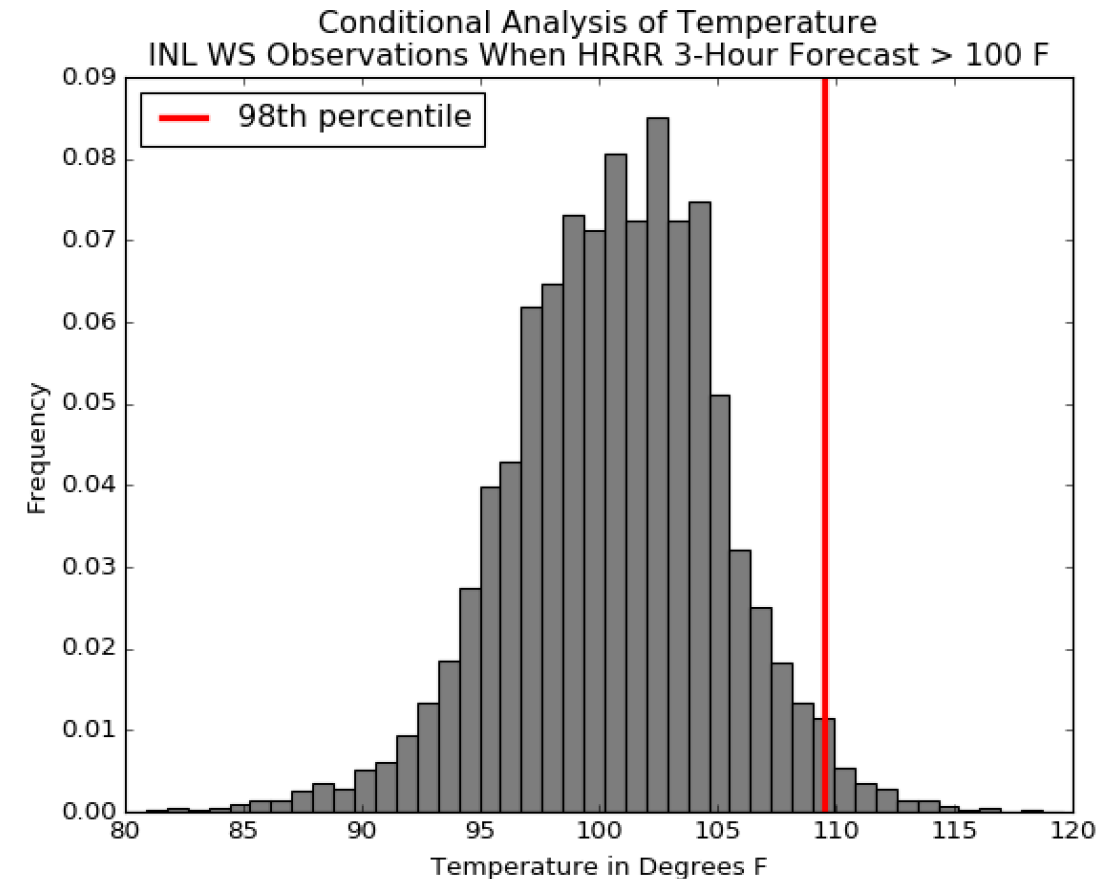
# How to Use HRRR Forecasts?

We know that there is some error in the HRRR forecast and we want to account for it to make our line ratings conservative.

*How do we do this?*

Threshold analysis of errors

- Given a HRRR forecast in a certain range, 98% of the weather station observations were found to be below (above) the threshold for temperature and flux (wind speed)



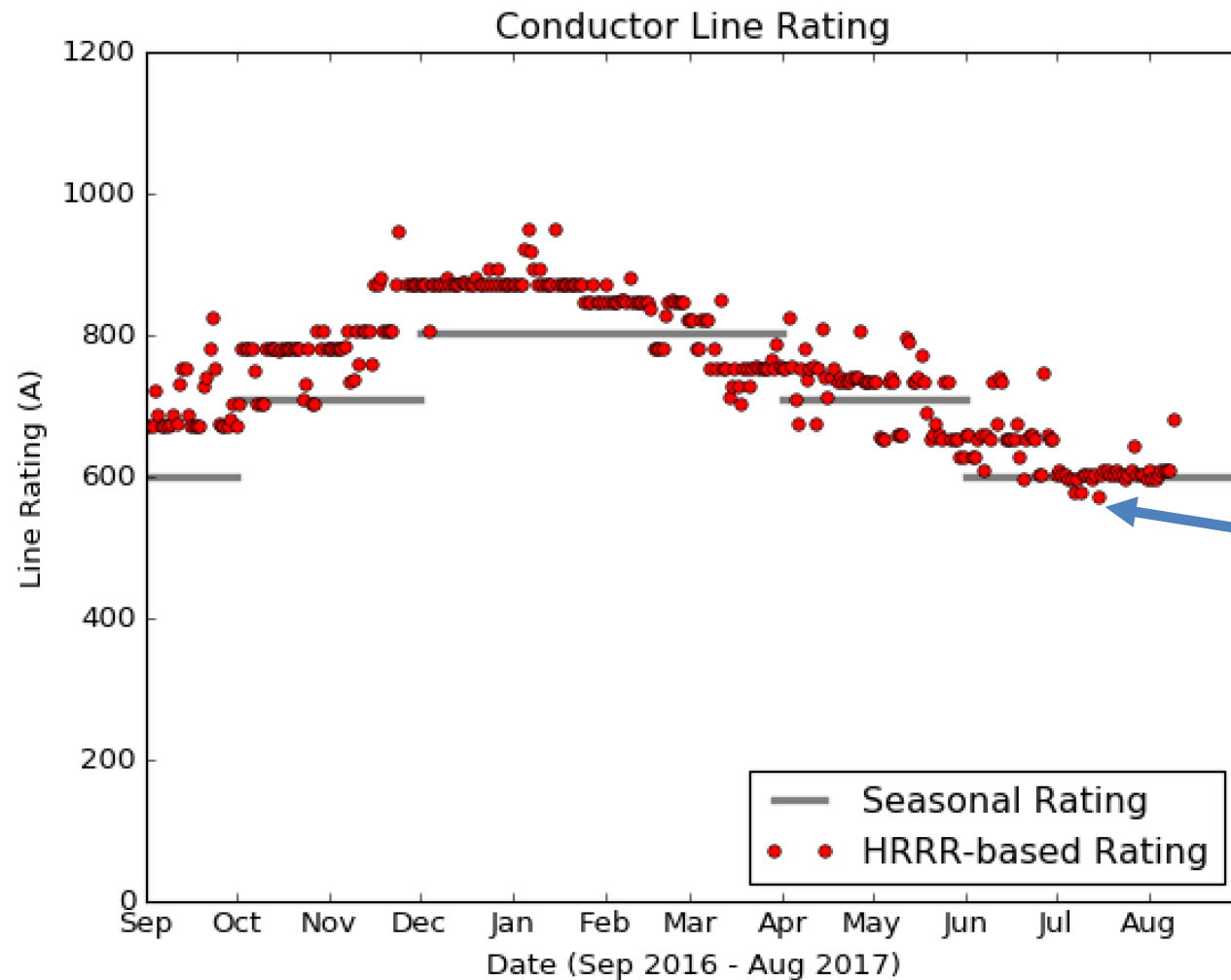
# Error of HRRR Forecasts

- Conditional analysis at various thresholds for temperature, wind speed, and solar flux
- Used these values to modify the HRRR forecast and account for the potential error
  - For example, if the HRRR forecasted 103°F, then a value of 109.54°F was input into the line rating equation

|             | Given HRRR forecast of:  | 98% threshold of observations: |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Temperature | <20F                     | 25.08F                         |
|             | 20-49.9F                 | 52.35F                         |
|             | 50-69.9F                 | 72.59F                         |
|             | 70-89.9F                 | 92.82F                         |
|             | 90-99.9F                 | 103.38F                        |
|             | >100F                    | 109.54F                        |
| Wind Speed  | 15-19.9 mph              | 2.56 mph                       |
|             | >20 mph                  | 2.83 mph                       |
| Solar Flux  | 5-19.9 W/m <sup>2</sup>  | 35 W/m <sup>2</sup>            |
|             | 20-99 W/m <sup>2</sup>   | 280 W/m <sup>2</sup>           |
|             | 100-299 W/m <sup>2</sup> | 438 W/m <sup>2</sup>           |
|             | 300-499 W/m <sup>2</sup> | 580 W/m <sup>2</sup>           |
|             | 500-699 W/m <sup>2</sup> | 752 W/m <sup>2</sup>           |
|             | 700-899 W/m <sup>2</sup> | 923 W/m <sup>2</sup>           |
|             | >900 W/m <sup>2</sup>    | 988 W/m <sup>2</sup>           |

# Line Rating with HRRR Forecasts

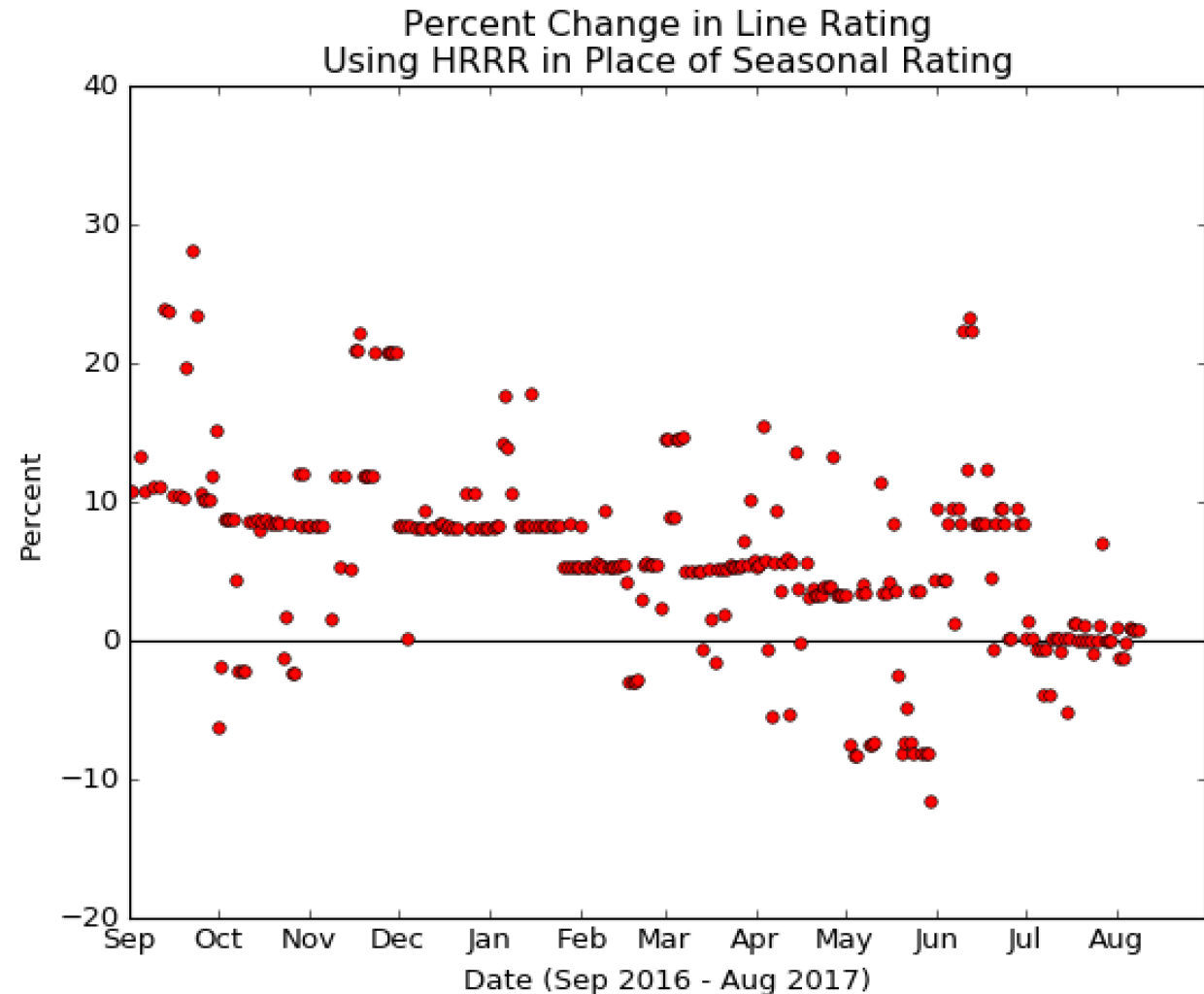
This is the additional capacity in the lines that could have been gained over the last year by using HRRR 90-minute forecasts.



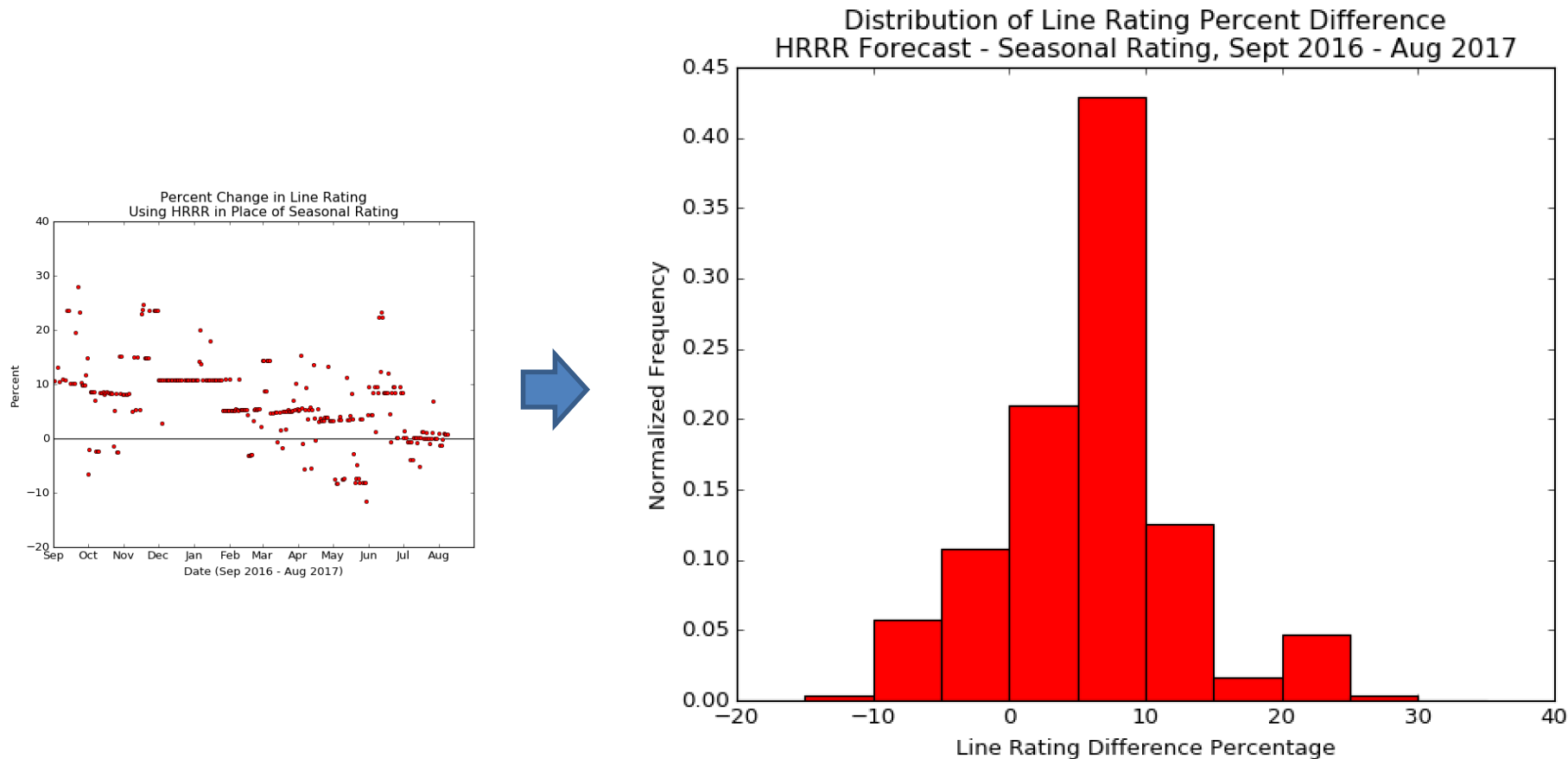
There are some times, particularly during the spring and summer, where using the HRRR forecast would have led to a lower line rating, which includes the safety factor.

# Percent Difference in Line Ratings with HRRR

Generally, 8% additional capacity September through February, then 5% additional capacity March through June. High temperatures during July and August prevented additional capacity during the summer.



# Distribution of Percent Differences with HRRR



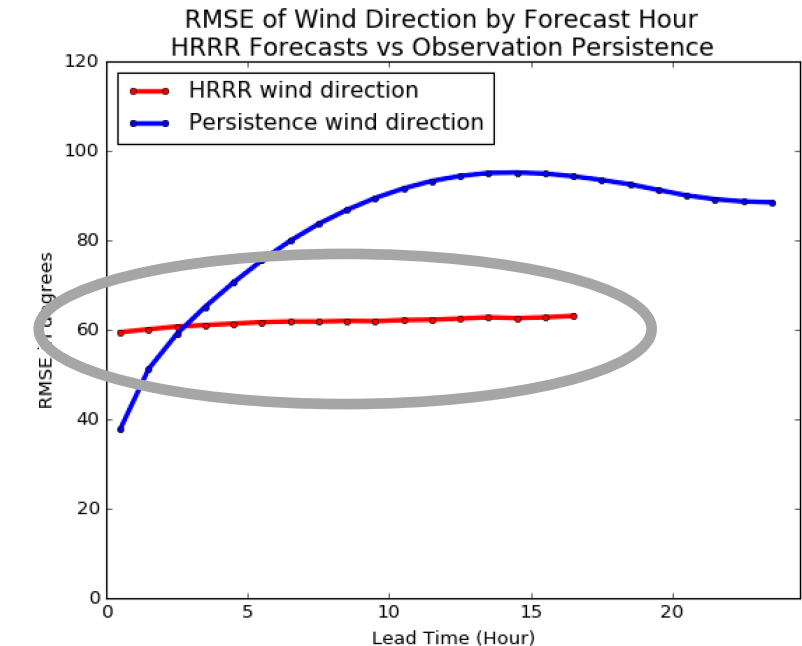
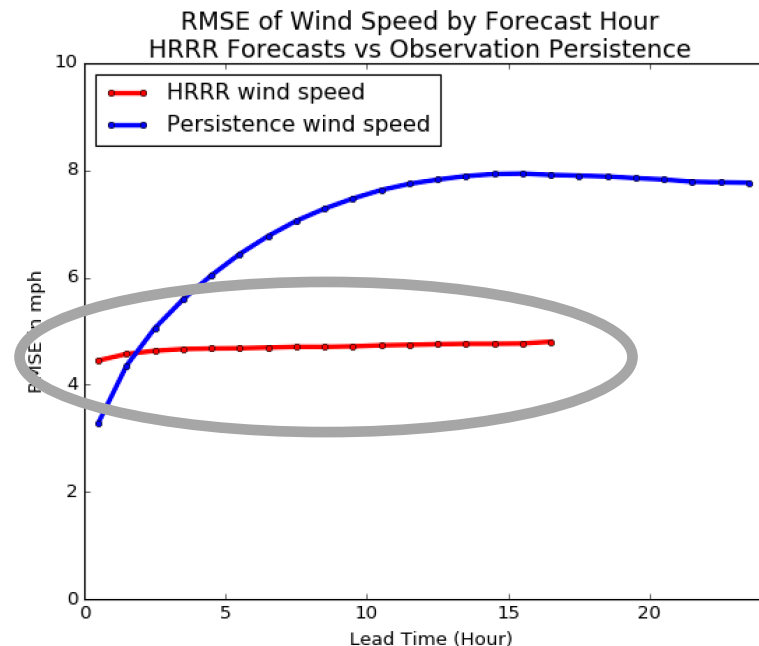
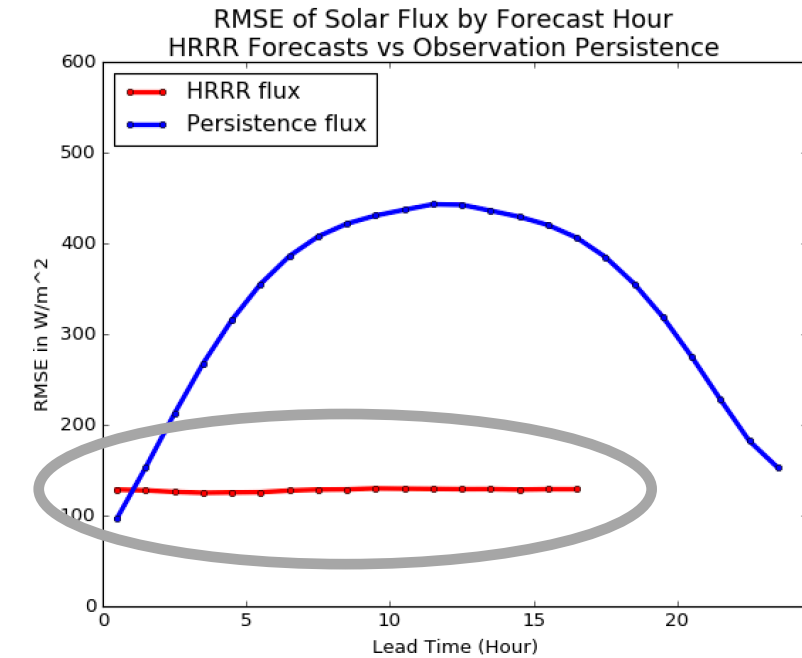
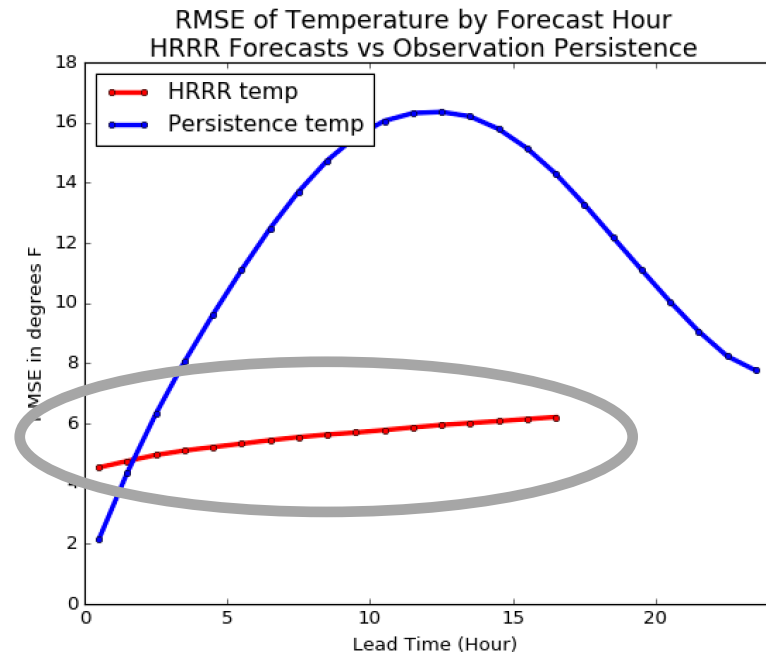
The most frequent differences between HRRR forecast ratings and seasonal ratings were line rating increases of 0-15%.

~20% of days the minimum rating using the HRRR was below the seasonal rating (usually due to calm winds and seasonally high temperatures)



# Can We Achieve Similar Results at Longer Lead Times?

Yes. The error of HRRR forecasts is similar across all lead times. This means that longer range forecasts can be used for line rating with similar results.



# Thresholds at Various Lead Times

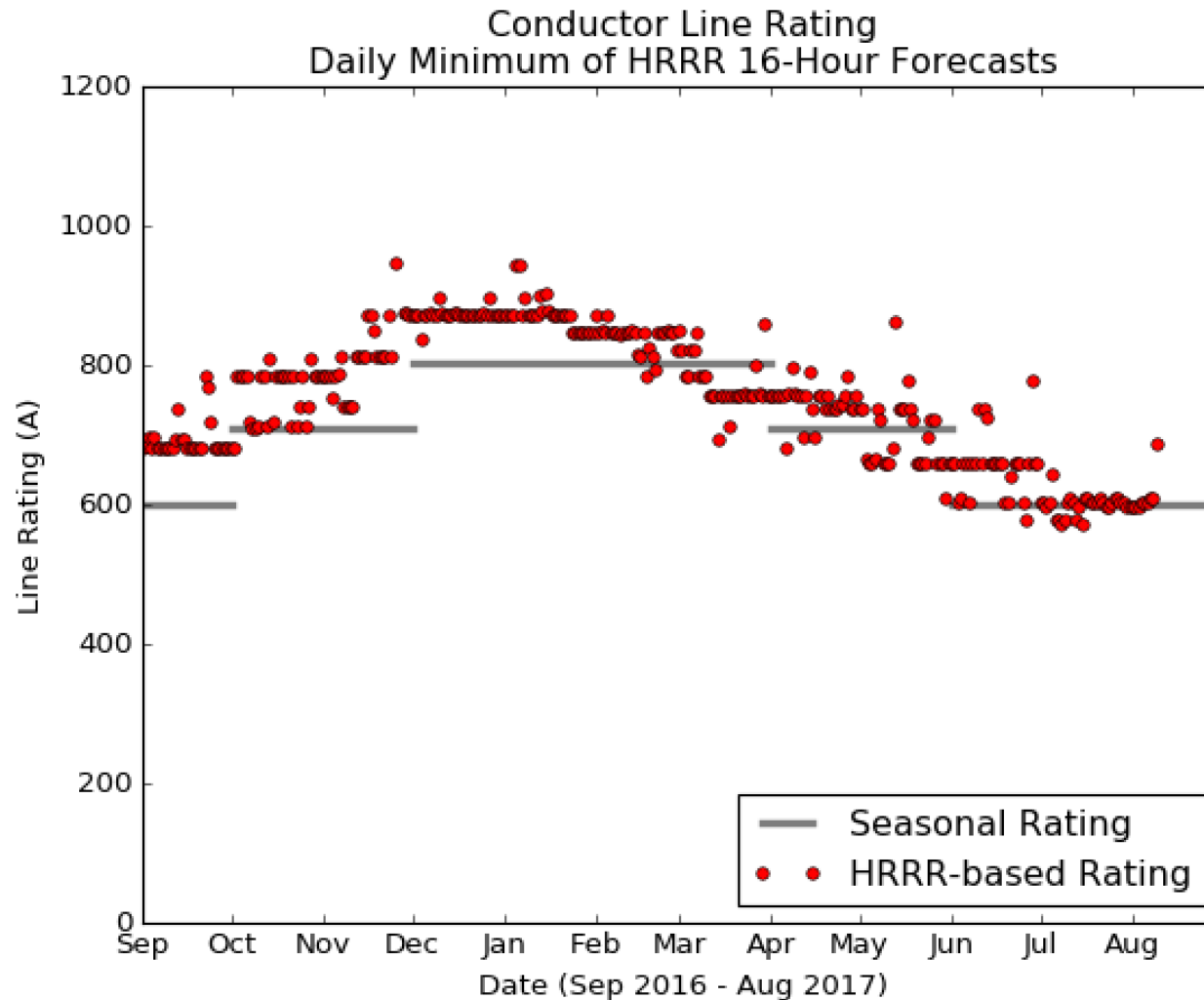
| Given HRRR forecast of: |                          | HRRR Forecast: 98% threshold of observations |           |        |         |         |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------|--------|---------|---------|
|                         |                          | 30-minute                                    | 90-minute | 6-hour | 12-hour | 16-hour |
| Temperature             | <20F                     | 25.08  | 25.08     | 25.96  | 26.84   | 26.84   |
|                         | 20-49.9F                 | 52.35  | 52.35     | 52.35  | 52.35   | 52.35   |
|                         | 50-69.9F                 | 72.59  | 72.59     | 72.59  | 71.71   | 71.71   |
|                         | 70-89.9F                 | 92.82  | 92.82     | 91.94  | 91.94   | 91.06   |
|                         | 90-99.9F                 | 103.38                                       | 103.38    | 103.38 | 103.38  | 103.38  |
|                         | >100F                    | 109.54                                       | 109.54    | 109.54 | 109.54  | 109.54  |
| Wind Speed              | 15-19.9 mph              | 2.95   | 2.56      | 2.1    | 2.01    | 1.82    |
|                         | >20 mph                  | 4.93   | 2.83      | 4.65   | 3.88    | 3.14    |
| Solar Flux              | 5-19.9 W/m <sup>2</sup>  | 35   | 35        | 34     | 35      | 35      |
|                         | 20-99 W/m <sup>2</sup>   | 289  | 280       | 255    | 242     | 243     |
|                         | 100-299 W/m <sup>2</sup> | 433  | 438       | 432    | 422     | 408     |
|                         | 300-499 W/m <sup>2</sup> | 580  | 580       | 578    | 574     | 574     |
|                         | 500-699 W/m <sup>2</sup> | 758  | 752       | 757    | 751     | 751     |
|                         | 700-899 W/m <sup>2</sup> | 933  | 923       | 922    | 924     | 922     |
|                         | >900 W/m <sup>2</sup>    | 988  | 988       | 984    | 989     | 992     |



The 98% thresholds change very little as forecast lead time increases.

# Line Rating with HRRR 16-Hour Forecasts

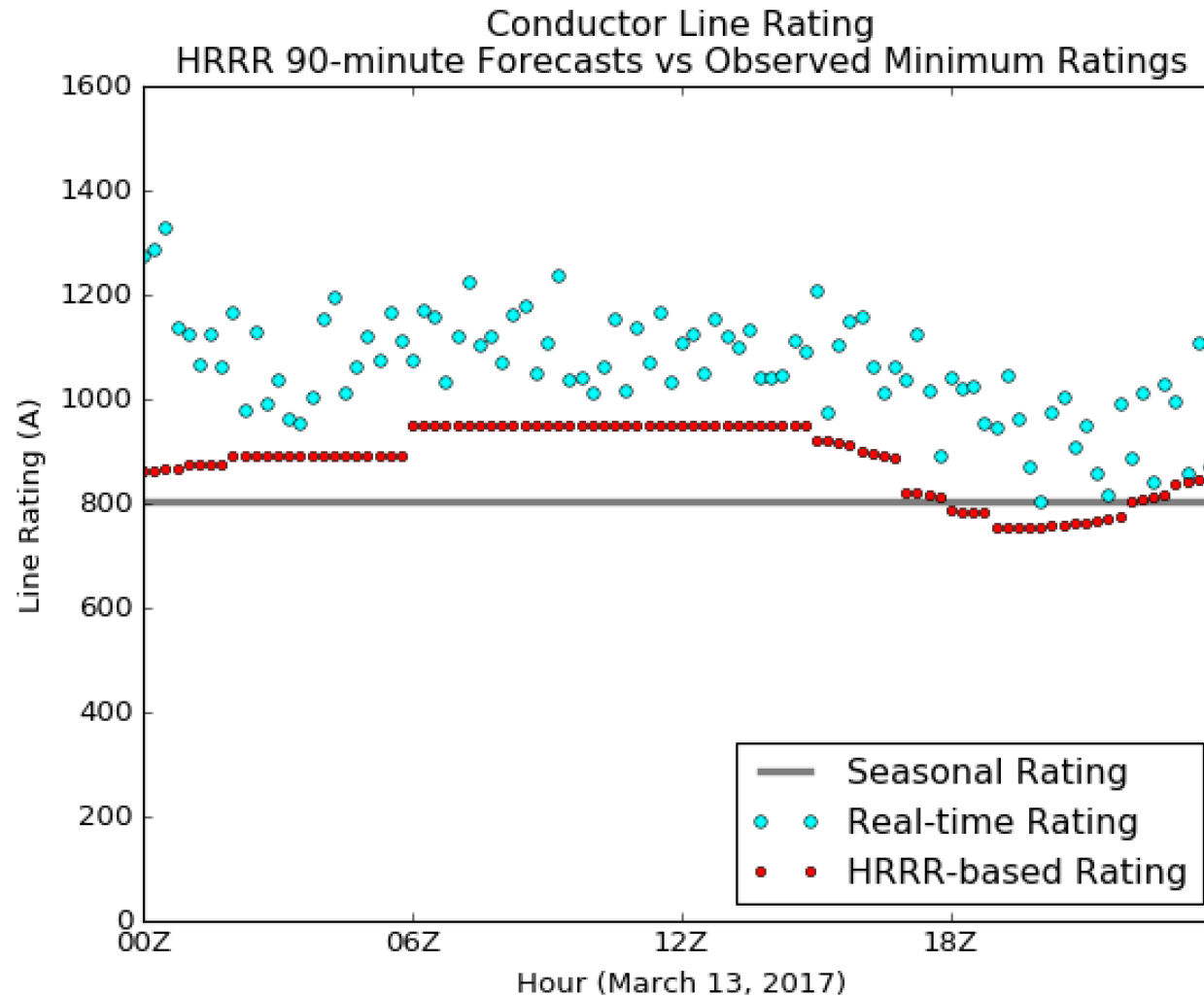
Similar ratings to  
other HRRR  
forecast times.



In April 2018, the next  
version of the HRRR  
will produce  
operational forecasts  
out to 36 hours.

# What's possible ...

HRRR 90-minute forecasts would have increased the line rating from the seasonal value during the early part of the day (00-18Z) while decreasing the rating during a period (18-21Z) when the real-time rating approached the seasonal value



HRRR 90-minute forecasts remain below the real-time rating from observations

**Result = increased line rating and better safety margins**

# Conclusions

- Seasonal line ratings are conservative and line ratings could be raised by using forecasts from the HRRR
  - Weather forecasts add flexibility in operating and planning; additional time to decide how to operate efficiently
- Wind speed is the primary meteorological variable driving line ratings
- Additional work can be done to improve the thresholds and better account for specific line orientations and use cases

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