P62 Verification of the operational high-resolution WRF forecasts produced by WaveForUs project

Pytharoulis Ioannis, **Ioannis Tegoulias**, Stylianos Kotsopoulos, Dimitrios Bampzelis, Theodore Karacostas, and Eleni Katragkou, *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece*

The nonhydrostatic Weather Research and Forecasting model with the Advanced Research dynamic solver (WRF-ARW) is used in WaveForUs project to produce 4day operational numerical weather predictions. The model domains cover i) Europe and the Mediterranean basin, ii) central and eastern Mediterranean and iii) northern Greece and mainly Thermaikos Gulf, (which is the target region) with horizontal grid spacings of 15km, 5km and 1.667km, respectively. The weather forecasts are disseminated to the public and the partners who employ them in storm surge, wave and coastal circulation models in order to produce high-resolution operational sea-state forecasts for Thermaikos Gulf in northern Greece. This research investigates the performance of the WRF modelling system as a function of the forecast time and the prevailing upper-air synoptic circulation, from March 2014 to February 2015, using surface observations and gridded model analyses.

Acknowledgments: This research work of WaveForUs project (11SYN_9_975) is cofunded by the European Union (European /Regional Development Fund) and Greek national funds, through the action "COOPERATION 2011: Partnerships of Production and Research Institutions in Focused Research and Technology Sectors" in the framework of the Operational Programme "Competitiveness and Entrepreneurship" and Regions in Transition (OPC II, NSRF 2007-2013).