**The ECMWF ensemble prediction system: Looking back (more than) 25 years and projecting forward 25 years**

Tim Palmer

Atmospheric, Oceanic and Planetary Physics

University of Oxford

The origins of the ECMWF Ensemble Prediction System are outlined,

including the development of the precursor real-time Met Office monthly ensemble forecast system. In particular, the reasons for the development of singular vectors and stochastic physics – particular features of the ECMWF Ensemble Prediction System - are discussed. The author speculates about the development and use of ensemble prediction in the next 25 years.