Climate Forecast Applications Network (CFAN)

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CFAN at the forefront with AI: awarded NOAA grant for innovative approach in predicting extreme weather events

Increased accuracy and longer lead times are what create true value in weather forecasts. Two areas where this has been particularly challenging are extreme and compound weather events. The recent developments in Artificial Intelligence (AI) techniques present an opportunity to make significant progress in addressing these challenges.

CFAN, long recognized as an innovator in enhancing weather forecast quality, is excited to announce a grant award from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to apply Artificial Intelligence (AI) in improving extreme and compound weather event forecasting. Our project focuses on specific needs of electric utilities for increased resilience in the face of events, including hurricanes, severe convective weather, fire weather, and heat/cold extremes. The project also addresses compound weather risks associated with the increasing penetration of wind and solar power. The tools developed by CFAN will be widely applicable in other sectors such as insurance, agriculture, logistics, emergency management, transportation and infrastructure.

> "CFAN's proposed technology for enabling earlier forecasting of extreme weather events aligns with NOAA's goal of protecting lives and property," said Dr. Genevieve Lind, NOAA SBIR Program Manager.

CFAN is one of only 30 companies that were selected for Phase I funding from NOAA's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program which is known to be a highly competitive process that has historically funded less than 20% of proposals. While NOAA's weather, water, and climate mission areas serve as the basis of development concept areas, projects that are selected demonstrate unique innovation and strong commercial potential.

CFAN was launched from Georgia Tech's globally recognized VentureLab in 2006. CFAN's innovations have provided the most accurate probabilistic weather forecasts of extreme weather events out to four weeks for our clients in the insurance, energy and agricultural sectors. Our client focused solutions have supported optimal and timely decisions for our clients and even other weather service providers. More information related to weather and climate risk is included in CFAN President Judith Curry's recent book, "Climate Uncertainty and Risk: Rethinking Our Response."

CFAN is actively looking for interested users to contribute in the development cycle and potentially become beta participants. For more information, please contact our team.

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