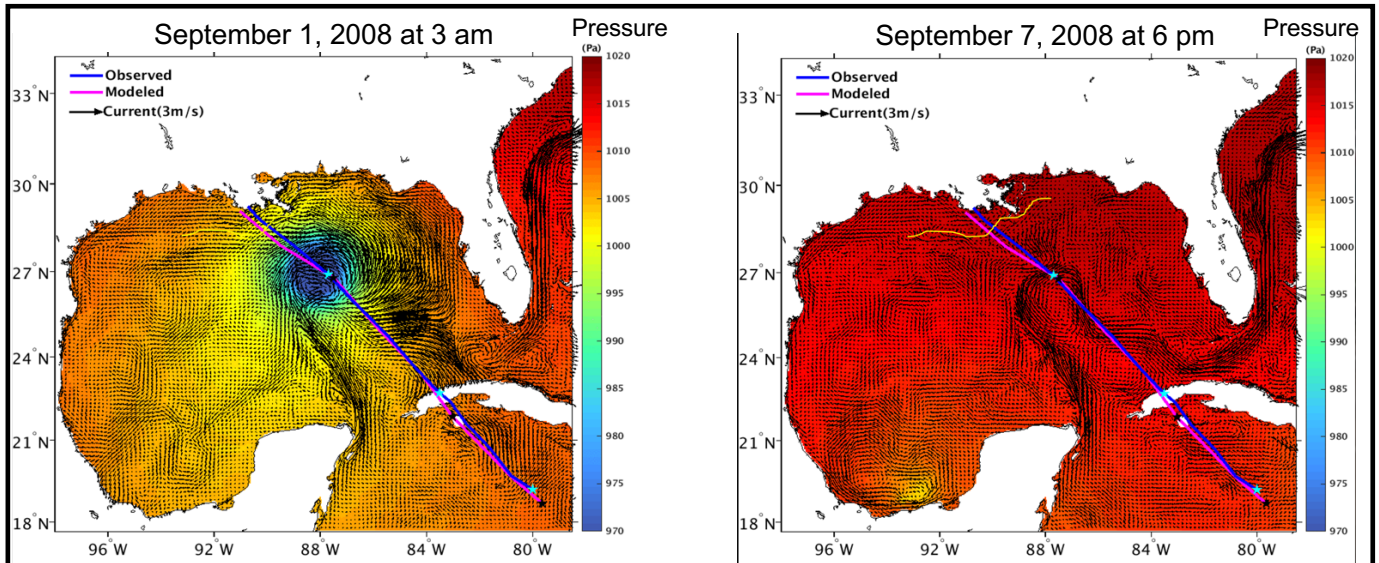# Using Super Computers to Study Natural Disasters

1. Why are computers (and super computers) able to better study natural disasters than in previous decades?

The following images show computer models for the Gulf of Mexico around the time of Hurricane Gustav. Use these images to answer the following questions.

2. What do the cooler colors (the blues) represent?

3. What do the warmer colors (the reds) represent?

4. On which day can you see Hurricane Gustav in the computer model? How do you know?

The following image shows computer models for the transportation of oil from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. Use this image to answer the following questions.

5. According to the computer models, in which body of water did most of the oil end up?
   a. The East Coast

   b. The Gulf of Mexico

   c. The Caribbean Sea

   d. The Pacific Ocean

6. How do you think some of the oil got transported to the East Coast?