

Hi all,

“Deep Map” (analogous to “Deep Throat” of Watergate fame) sent me some very interesting screen captures (see below) that show problems with the various automated statistical forecasting routines that go out to the world and to cell phones everywhere (and were essentially “automated nonsense” yesterday). The problem occurred in the public and private sectors.

Bottom line: Statistics-based, post-processed automated forecasting is how most people get weather forecast information. But what happens when statistics-based, post-processing runs amok and dispenses automated forecast nonsense to the world as it did yesterday in the NYC area and nobody is minding the store? As Alfred E. Newman of Mad Magazine famously said: “What, Me Worry?”

If this same line of thinking transitions to “automated everything” in the future then we are all in serious trouble. I’ll take automated cars for \$2K, Alex

The ongoing debate about automation is mostly about job losses. Much less discussed is how to keep humans in the loop to prevent automated whatever from running amok. Not enough humans were in the loop yesterday (translation: paying attention) to exercise due forecast diligence based on a critical analysis of the observations \*and\* a good understanding of overall very good numerical guidance.

Lance

## 1. NWS:

NWS current forecast for zip 10460 (Zip code 10460 is the central Bronx)

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**Thursday** Snow and sleet before 4pm, then freezing rain and sleet. High near 37. Wind chill values between 20 and 25. Northeast wind 7 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 22 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. Little or no ice accumulation expected. New snow and sleet accumulation of 1 to 2 inches possible.

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## 2. The Weather Channel:

Weather Channel current forecast for zip 10460

**NEXT 36 HOURS**

[HOURLY →](#) | [10 DAYS →](#)



Cloudy skies early followed by a mixture of light rain and snow in the afternoon. Some sleet may mix in. High around 35F. Winds ENE at 10 to 20 mph. Chance of precip 100%. Snow accumulations less than one inch.

## 3. AccuWeather:

Accuweather current forecast for zip 10460

Snowfall amount from **Thursday - Friday**



**1 - 2 inches**

Chance for more than 2 inches: **32%**

Chance for less than 1 inches: **37%**

Hide Details

SNOWFALL PROBABILITY

