



ILMATIETEEN LAITOS  
METEOROLOGISKA INSTITUTET  
FINNISH METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

# MetCoOp-Nowcasting (MNWC)

## Status and developments

30 March 2023  
Tallinn, Estonia

*Erik Gregow*  
*Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI)*





## Outline of presentation

### Operational status:

Metcoop-NoWCasting (MNWC)

### Developments, on-going and planned:

Own-cycling and NetAtmo

High-resolution

	MEPS_prod	MNWC_prod
<b>Model version</b>	Harmonie-Arome cy43h2.1.1	Harmonie-Arome cy43h2.1.1
<b>Operational status</b>	Prod	Prod (04 Oct 2022)
<b>Resolution (horizontal)</b>	2.5 km	2.5 km
<b>Domain</b>	METCOOP25D	METCOOP25D
<b>Forecast cycles</b>	00, 03, 06,... 21 Every 3'rd hour	<b>00, 01, 02,.... 23</b> <b>Every hour</b>
<b>Use of own-cycling</b>	Yes, first-guess from prev. fc.	<b>No. First-guess from MEPS fc.</b> <b>(Rapid-refresh, +3..+5h old fc.)</b>
<b>Forecast length &amp; frequency</b>	+66h lead-time, hourly output	<b>+12h lead-time, 15 min output</b>
<b>Output format</b>	Grib2 (Grib1 for SFC hourly)	Grib2 (Grib1 for SFC hourly)
<b>Cut-off observations</b>	1 h 15 min	<b>25 min</b>
<b>Available to end-user</b>	~2,5h	<b>~1h</b>
<b>Cloud-ingest method</b>	No	<b>Yes</b>
<b>GNSS usage</b>	Yes, whole domain hourly	<b>Yes, Sweden sub-hourly data</b>
<b>Upper-air assimilation (T2m &amp; RH2m)</b>	No	<b>Yes</b>
<b>SFC analysis</b>	Canari	<b>pySURFEX</b>

## Main differences between MNWC and MEPS

### Shorter cut-off time of observations:

Less observations available as input

Impact on the quality of forecasts

	<b>MEPS</b> (approximate)	<b>MNWC</b> (approximate)	<b>MNWC/MEPS</b> (approximate)
<b>Soundings</b>	20'000	0	<b>0-10%</b>
<b>Surface obs</b>	17'000	6'000	<b>30-50%</b>
<b>Drifting bouys</b>	250	90	<b>30-50%</b>
<b>Aircraft/ModeS</b>	1'600'000	1'100'000	<b>60-80%</b>
<b>Satellite</b>	4'200'000	3'400'000	<b>60-80%</b>
<b>Radar</b>	3'600'000	3'500'000	<b>95-100%</b>

## Main differences between MNWC and MEPS

### Use of pySURFEX (instead of Canari) for the surface analysis and data-assimilation

Use of different Python-tools to process observations and create the surface analysis

- TITAN for quality control
- GridPP to do the optimal interpolation

Verification scores for surface are improved

pySURFEX have the capability to use NetAtmo observations

Expert knowledge within MetCoOp

- pySURFEX developed at the Norwegian Meteorological Institute (Trygve Aspelien)

# Main differences between MNWC and MEPS

## Use of cloud-ingest method

### Motivation:

- Low clouds, fog and precipitation are major problems in forecast models
- Aviation, NMHS's and renewable energy sector benefit from better forecasts
- Development of seamless forecasts (obs, short-range fc, medium-range fc)

### Cloud-ingest method in MNWC model:

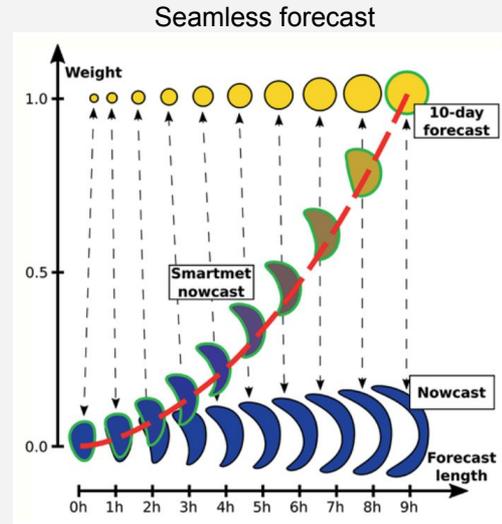
Modification to the 3D-humidity of the analyzed fields:

Affects the cloud and precipitation pattern to become more realistic

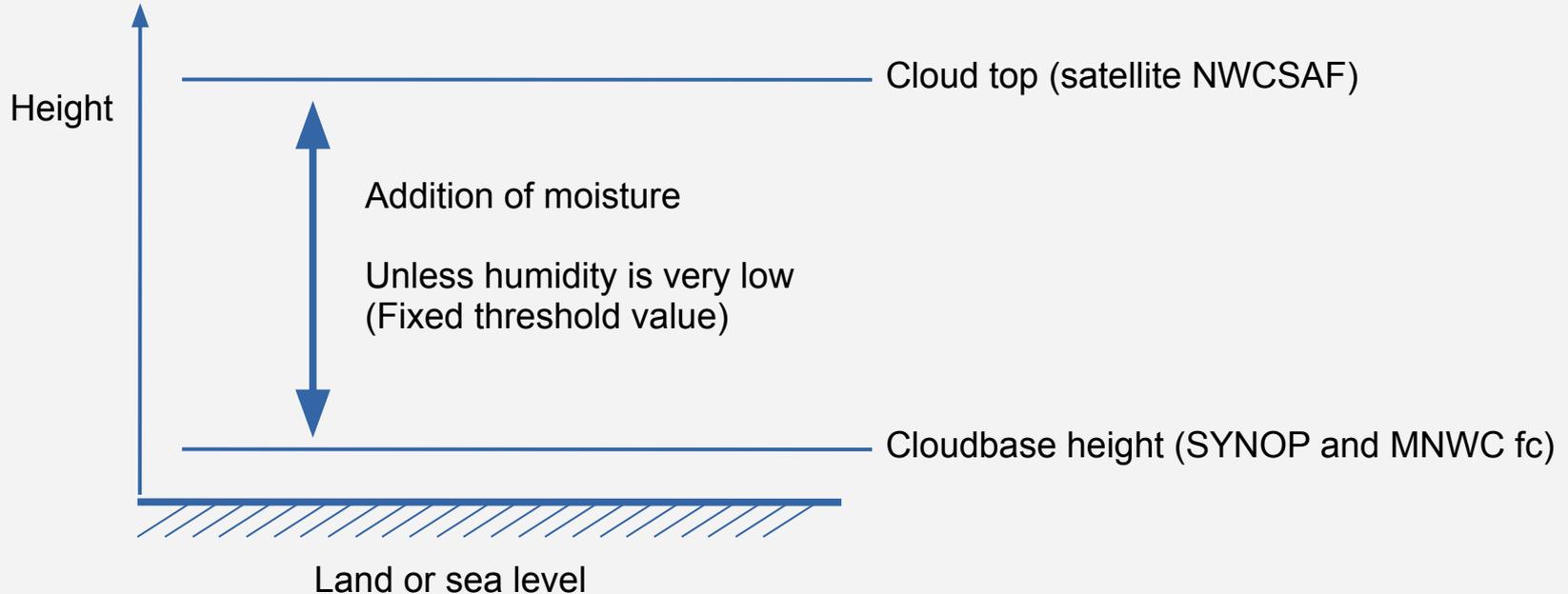
Cloud-ingest process uses:

Satellite products (NWCSAF); cloud-fraction and cloud-top temperature

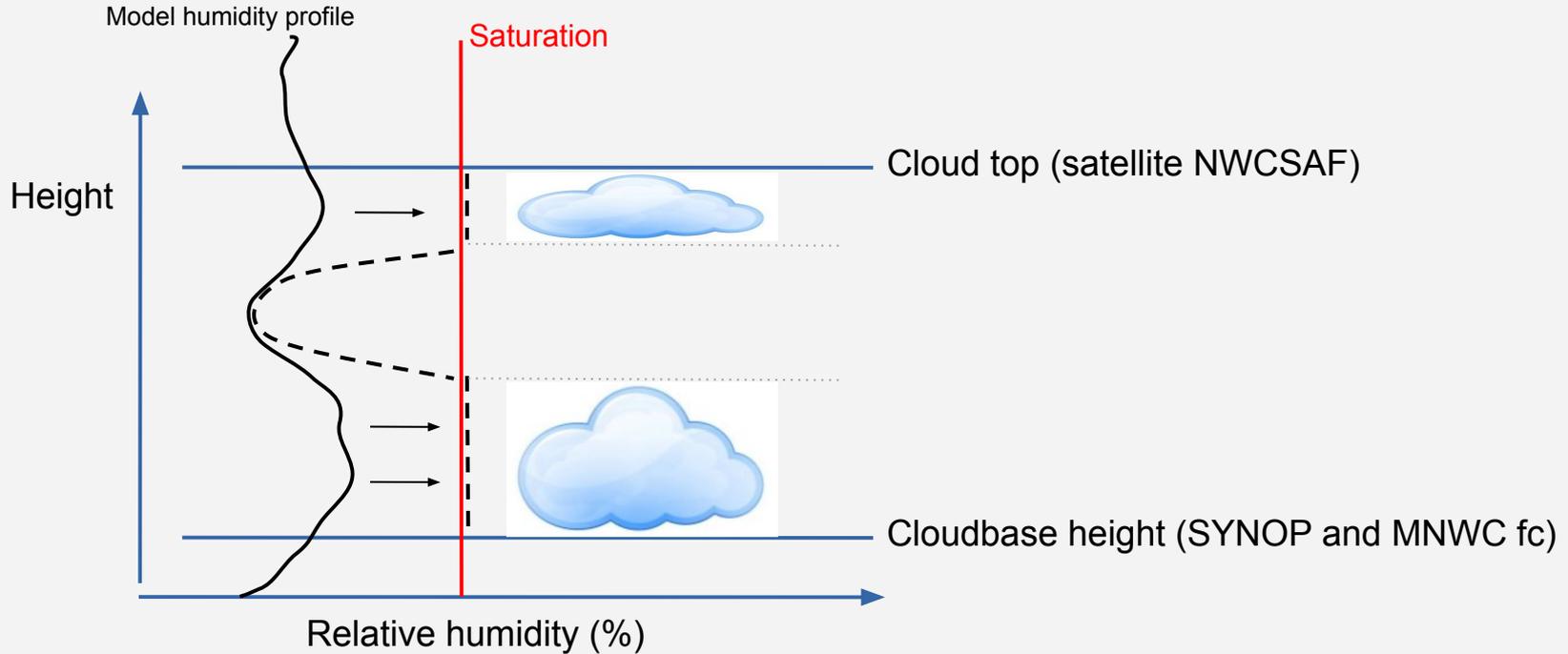
Cloud-base from Synop observations and first-guess field from previous MNWC forecast (GridPP)



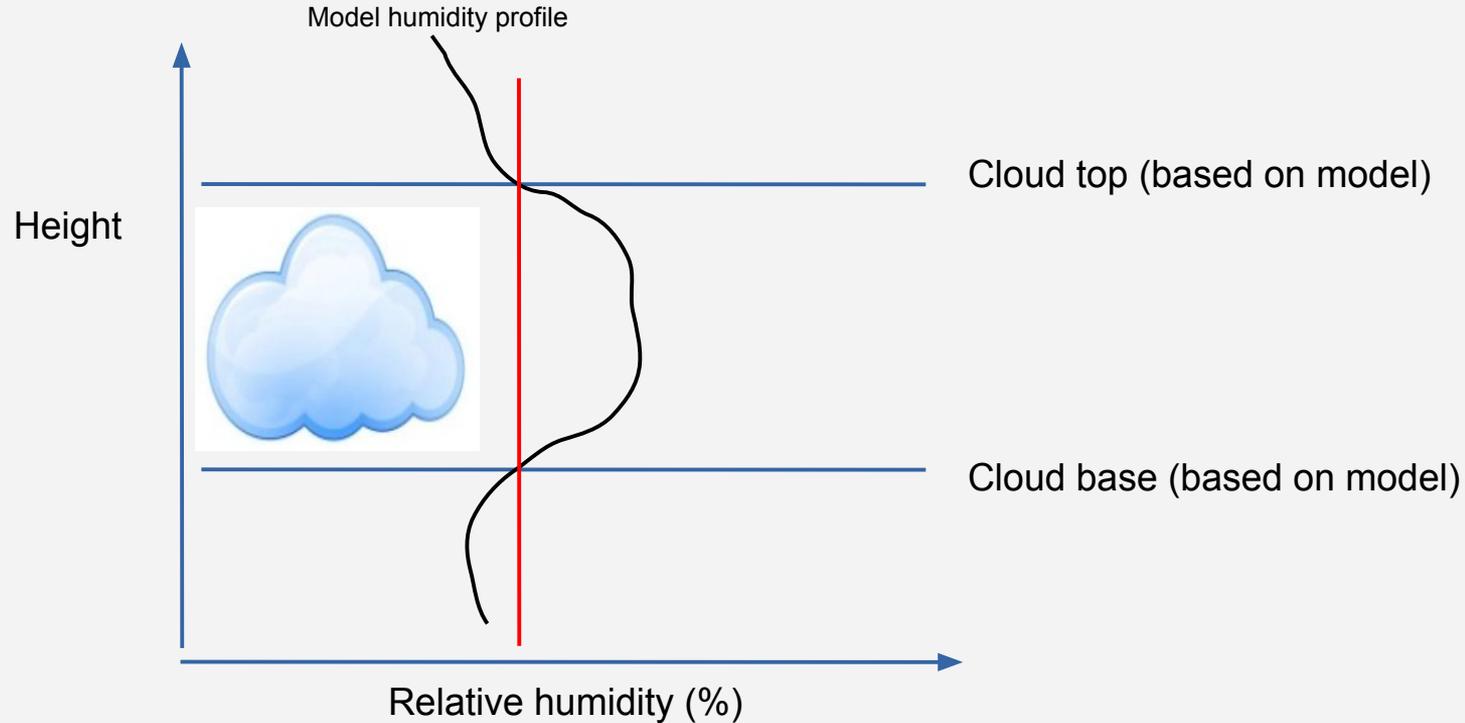
## 1. Satellite observe clouds but the model has no clouds



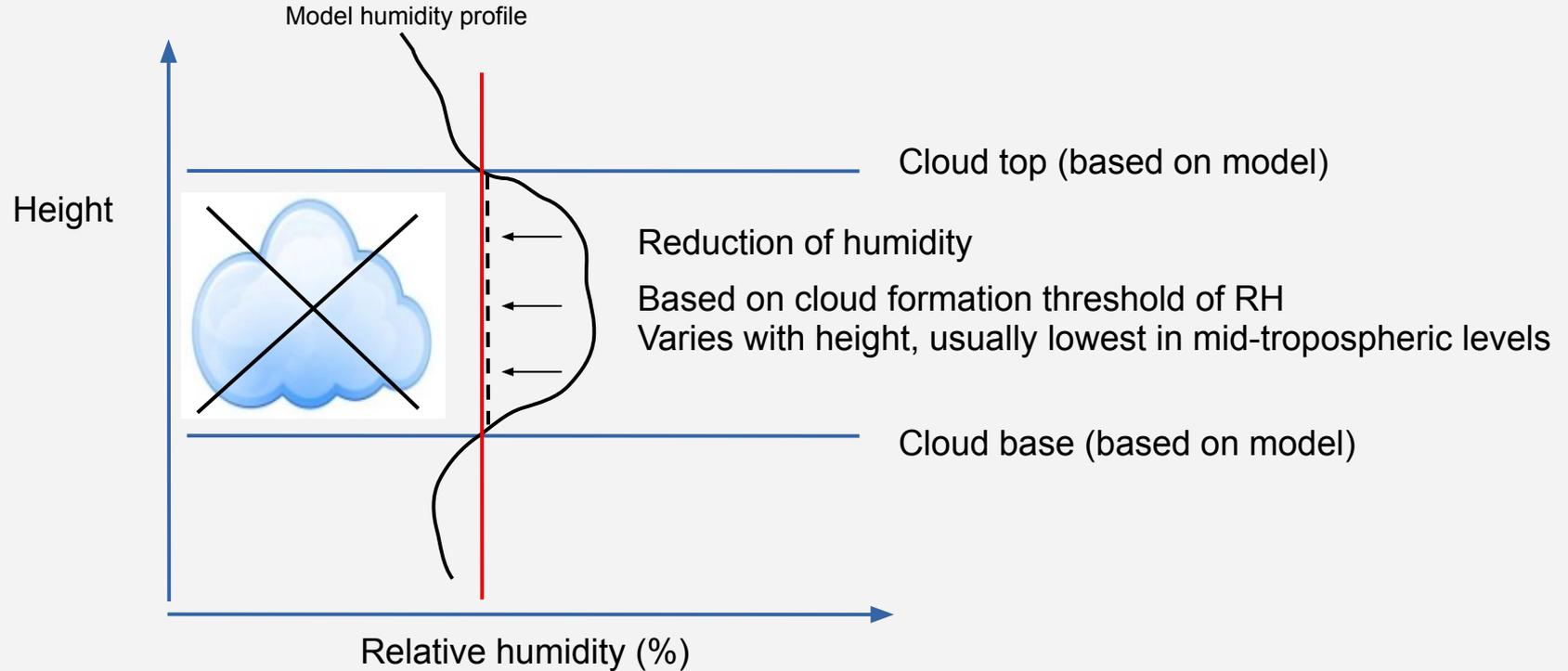
## 1. Satellite observe clouds but the model has no clouds



## 2. Satellite observe clear sky but model has clouds



## 2. Satellite observe clear sky but model has clouds





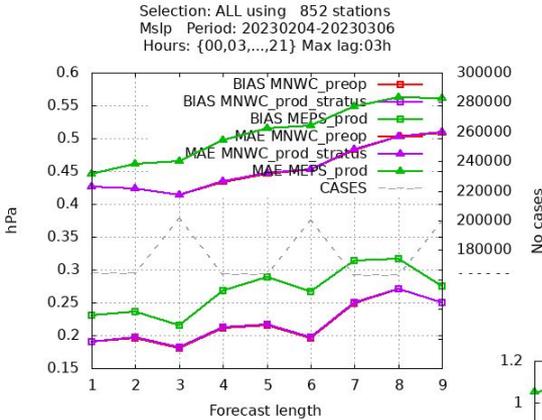
# Verification of MNWC vs MEPS

For “lagged” verification MNWC show even better scores

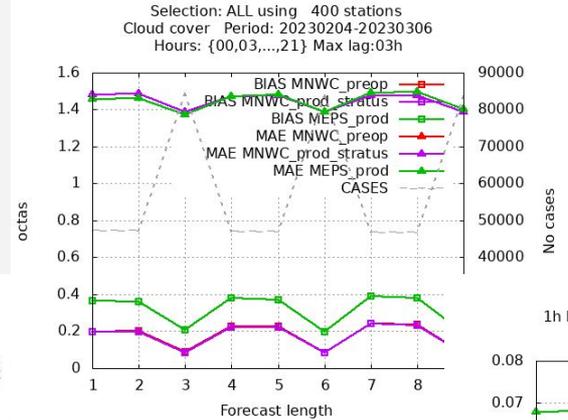
Here **MNWC\_prod** is better than **MEPS\_prod** for all variables

Period: 1 month  
18 Feb - 20 Mar 2023

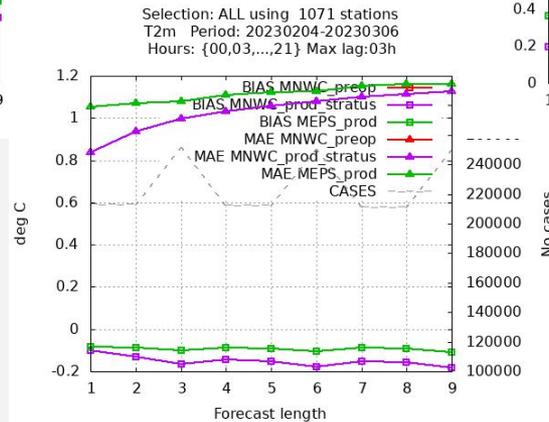
## Mean sea-level pressure



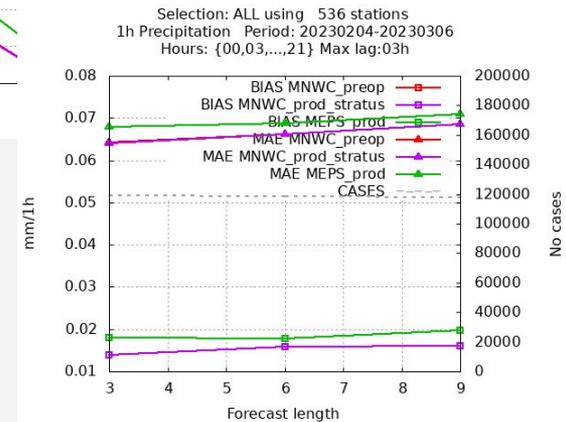
## Cloud cover



## Temperature 2m



## 1h-Precipitation





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Own-cycling and NetAtmo

High-resolution



## MNWC setup with own cycling, both SFC and UA, and use of NetAtmo

Period: 16-31 Aug 2022 (2 weeks)

Ref1 - MNWC\_preop with FG from MEPS

Exp2 - Cycling +1h forecast from previous run. Warm-start

Exp3 - Cycling +3h forecast from previous run. Warm-start

Exp4 - Cycling +3h forecast from previous run. Warm-start. Use NetAtmo: RH2m

Exp5 - Cycling +3h forecast from previous run. Warm-start. Use NetAtmo: RH2m and T2m

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Ref1 - MNWC\_preop with FG from MEPS

Exp2 - Cycling +1h forecast from previous run. Warm-start

} Crash beg of Forecast after 4 days!  
SIGFPE; Floating point exception error \*\*)  
SURFEX soil temperature related input?

Exp3 - Cycling +3h forecast from previous run. Warm-start

Exp4 - Cycling +3h forecast from previous run. Warm-start. Use NetAtmo: RH2m

Exp5 - Cycling +3h forecast from previous run. Warm-start. Use NetAtmo: RH2m and T2m

\*\*) In file: `src/surfex/SURFEX/mode_thermos.F90` #Line: 182

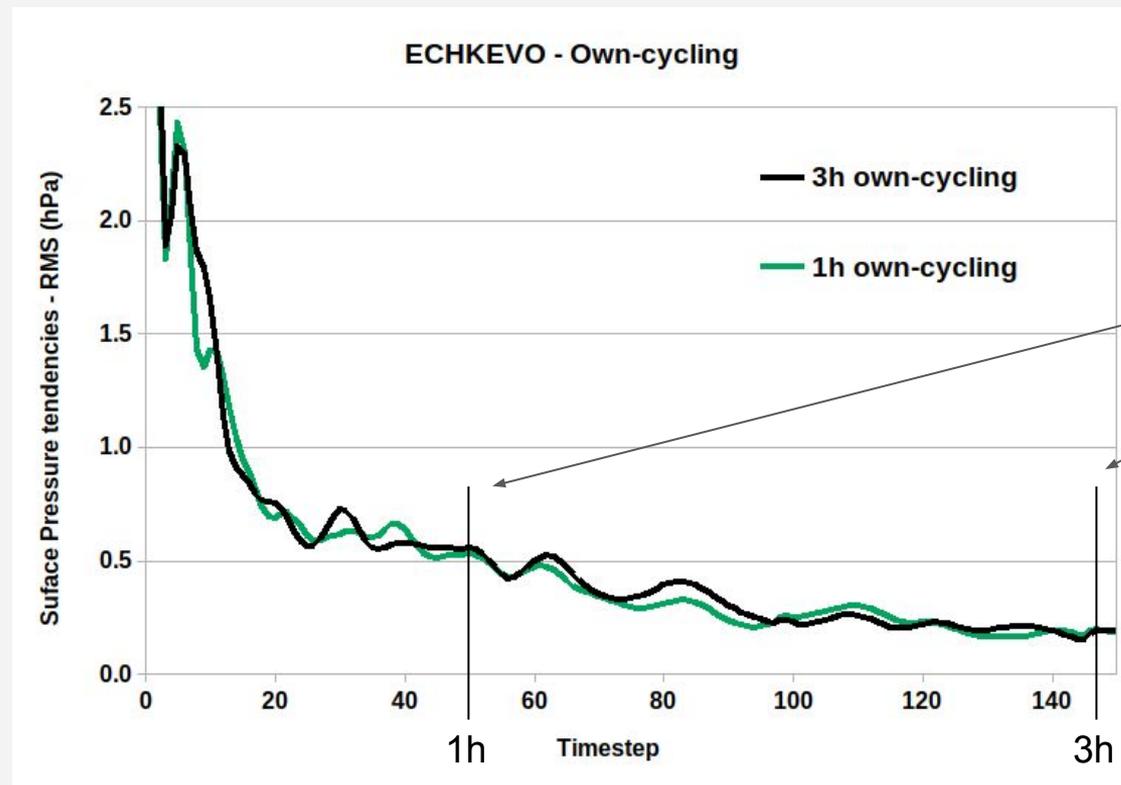
`PPSAT(JJ) = EXP( ZALP(JJ) - ZBETA(JJ)/PT(JJ) - ZGAM(JJ)*LOG(PT(JJ)) )`

## MNWC setup with own cycling, both SFC and UA

Crash in 1h own-cycling setup, after 4 days

Use **ECHKEVO** tool for 1h and 3h cycling

*“ECHKEVO provides diagnostics of the gridpoint evolution during model integration (imbalances in initial state)”*

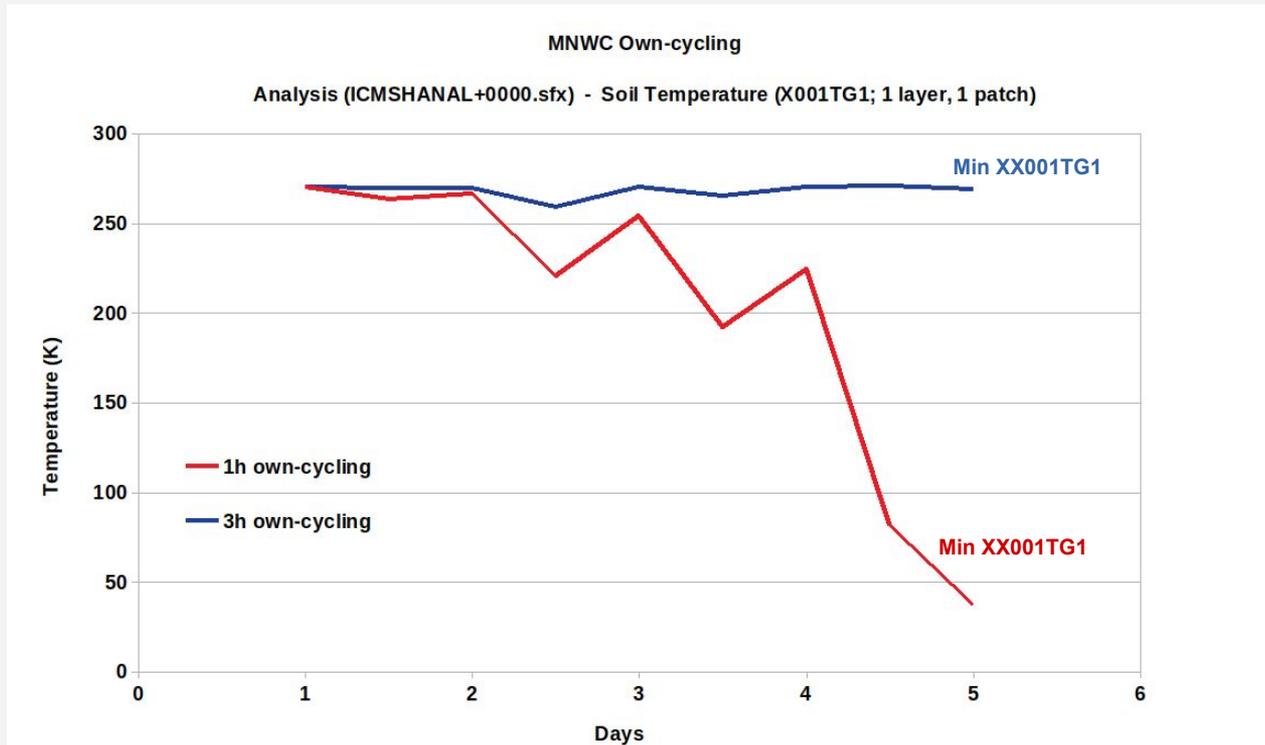


## MNWC setup with own cycling, both SFC and UA

Crash in 1h own-cycling setup

Drift in the soil temperature, shown here from analysis file and time-serie

Period: 16 Aug 2022 - 20 Aug 2022 (2 weeks)



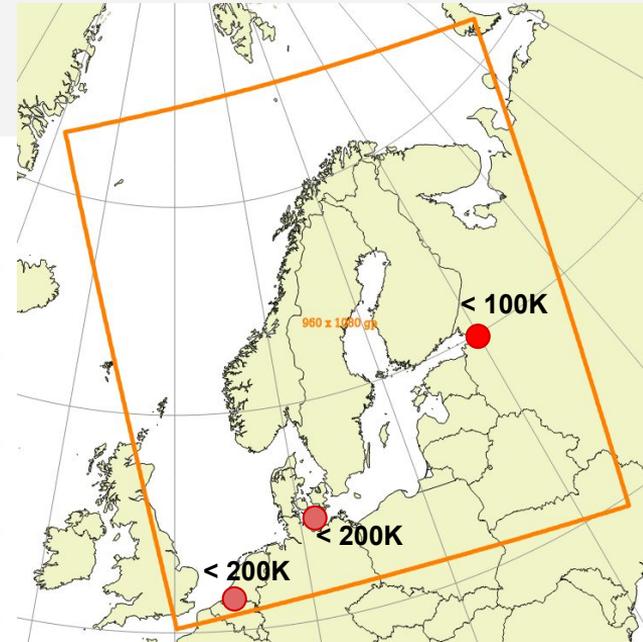
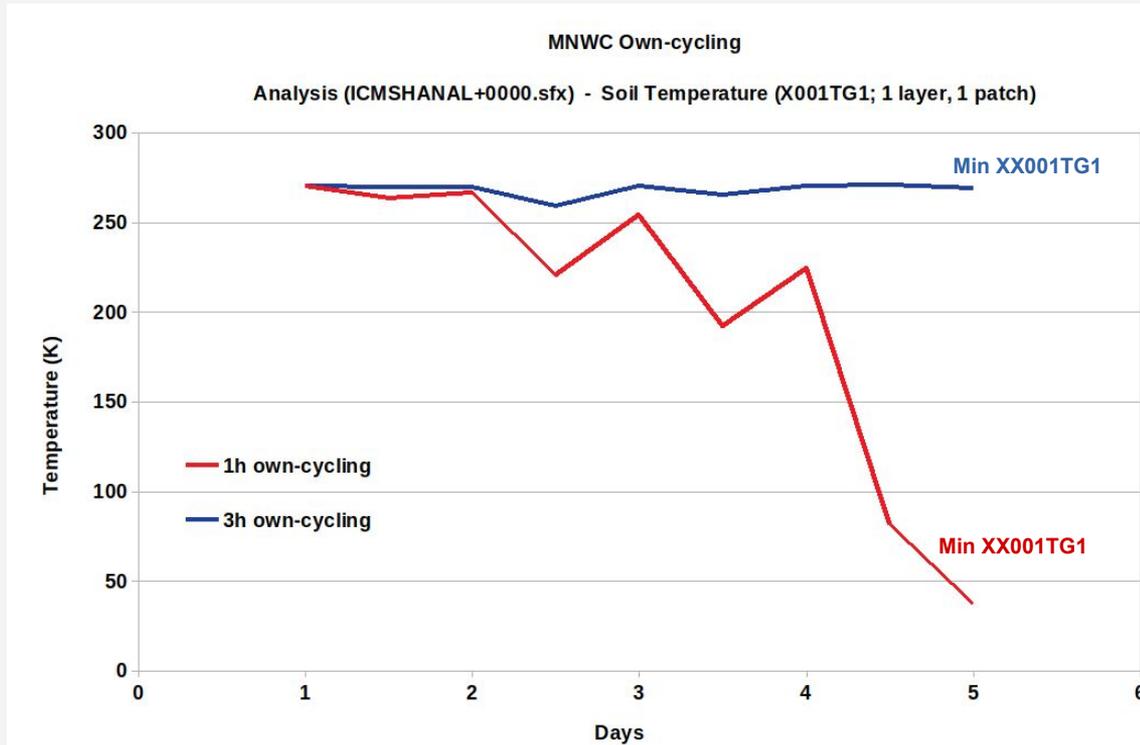
Courtesy:  
Ekaterina Kurzeneva  
David Schönach

## MNWC setup with own cycling, both SFC and UA

Crash in 1h own-cycling setup

Drift in the soil temperature, shown here from analysis file and time-series

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Courtesy:  
Ekaterina Kurzeneva  
David Schönach



## MNWC setup with own cycling, both SFC and UA, and use of NetAtmo

Period: 16-31 Aug 2022 (2 weeks)

Ref1 - MNWC\_preop with FG from MEPS

Exp2 - Cycling +1h forecast from previous run.

Warm-start

Crash beg of Forecast after 4 days!

SIGFPE; Floating point exception error \*\*)

SURFEX soil temperature related input?

**Exp3 - Cycling +3h forecast from previous run. Warm-start**

**Exp4 - Cycling +3h forecast from previous run. Warm-start. Use NetAtmo: RH2m**

**Exp5 - Cycling +3h forecast from previous run. Warm-start. Use NetAtmo: RH2m and T2m**

**OK!**

\*\*) In file: src/surfex/SURFEX/mode\_thermos.F90 #Line: 182

*PPSAT(JJ) = EXP( ZALP(JJ) - ZBETA(JJ)/PT(JJ) - ZGAM(JJ)\*LOG(PT(JJ)) )*

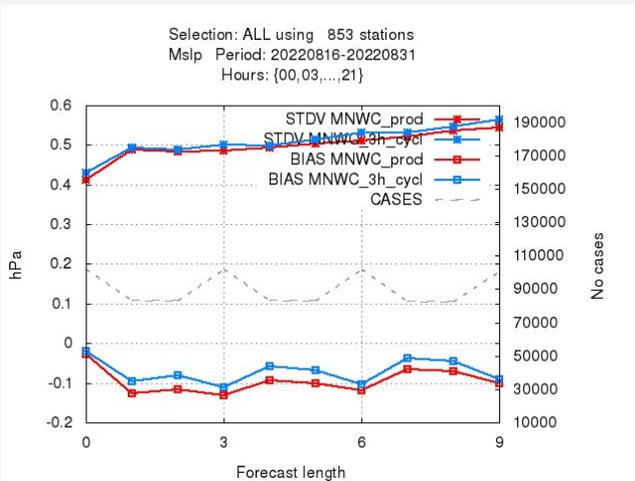
# MNWC setup with own cycling, both SFC and UA

Period: 16-31 Aug 2022 (2 weeks)

MONITOR verification results

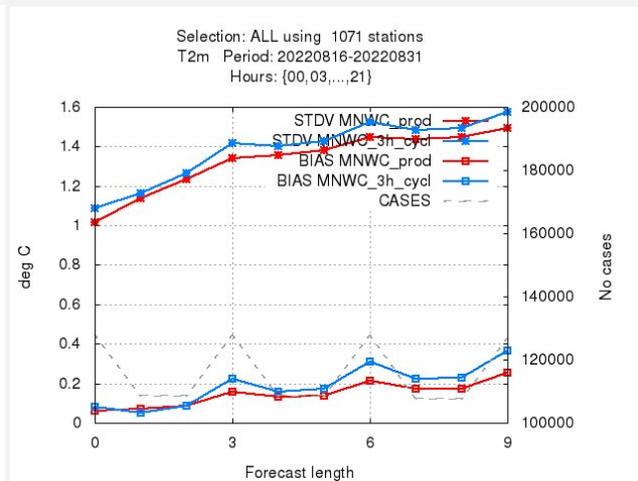
Use of own **3h-cycling** gives slightly worse results compared to use of **MEPS FirstGuess**

## Mean sea-level pressure



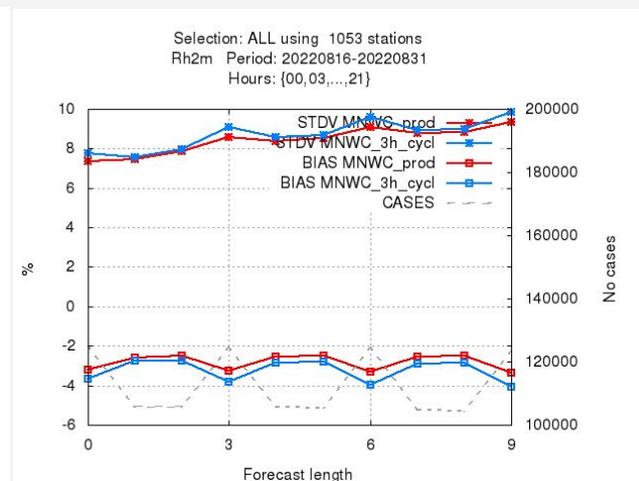
**3h-cycling** little worse STDV  
But slightly better BIAS

## Temperature 2m



**3h-cycling** worse BIAS and STDV

## Relative humidity 2m



**3h-cycling** worse BIAS and STDV

## MNWC setup with own cycling, both SFC and UA, and use of NetAtmo



### Conclusions:

- Own-cycling, both UA and SFC:
  - 1h cycling crashes after ~4 days due to spinup (?) in soil temperature
  - ECHKEVO, model dynamics: Less instabilities with 3h own-cycling
  - DDH, model physics: No conclusions yet, TBD
  - Verification scores not improved using 3h own-cycling
- Use of NetAtmo does not improve the scores

### Further tests are needed:

- Investigate 1h own-cycling crash
- Impact of cycling SFC and UA fields, individually
- How to improve using NetAtmo



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### Operational status:

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### Developments, on-going and planned:

Own-cycling and NetAtmo

High-resolution - Related to Destination Earth On-Demand Extremes Digital Twin

## Mesoscale Convective System (MCS) thunderstorm passing over south of Finland: 12 August 2017



1 000 weather-related tasks for civil protection



50 000 households suffering from electricity disruptions



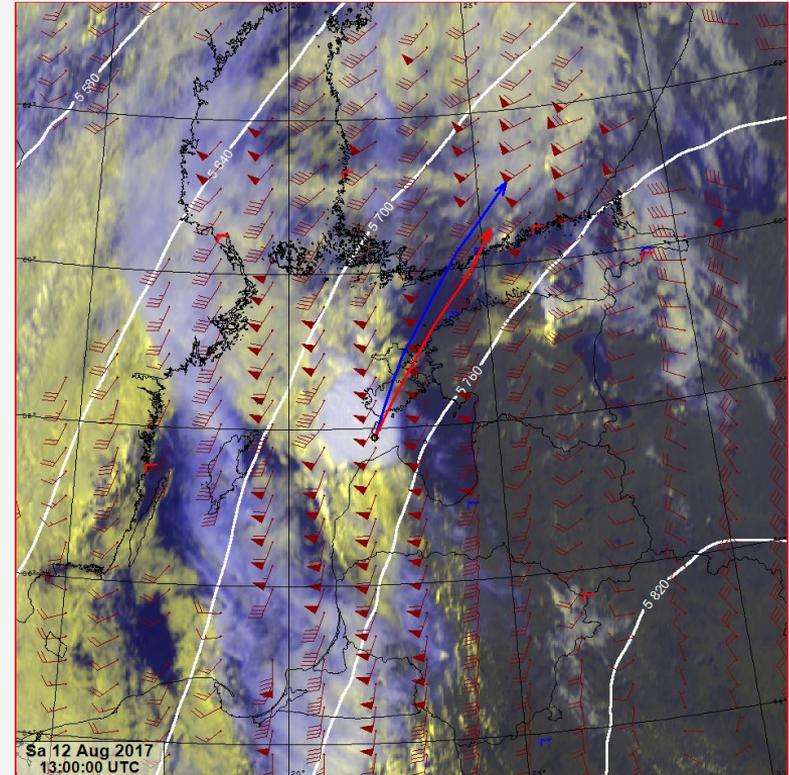
3 M€ forest damage



33 m/s highest measured wind speed



Several outdoor events interrupted



Storm “Kiira”

# Mesoscale Convective System (MCS) thunderstorm passing over south of Fin

- Radar images, reflectivity (dBz)
- Main event, severe weather, took place **between 15-21Z** on the 12't of Aug 2017
- Some time-steps of radar imagery are missing in this section



12 Aug 2017, **12Z**



12 Aug 2017, **15Z**



12 Aug 2017, **18Z**



12 Aug 2017, **20Z**



12 Aug 2017, **23Z**

12h Precipitation accumulation period

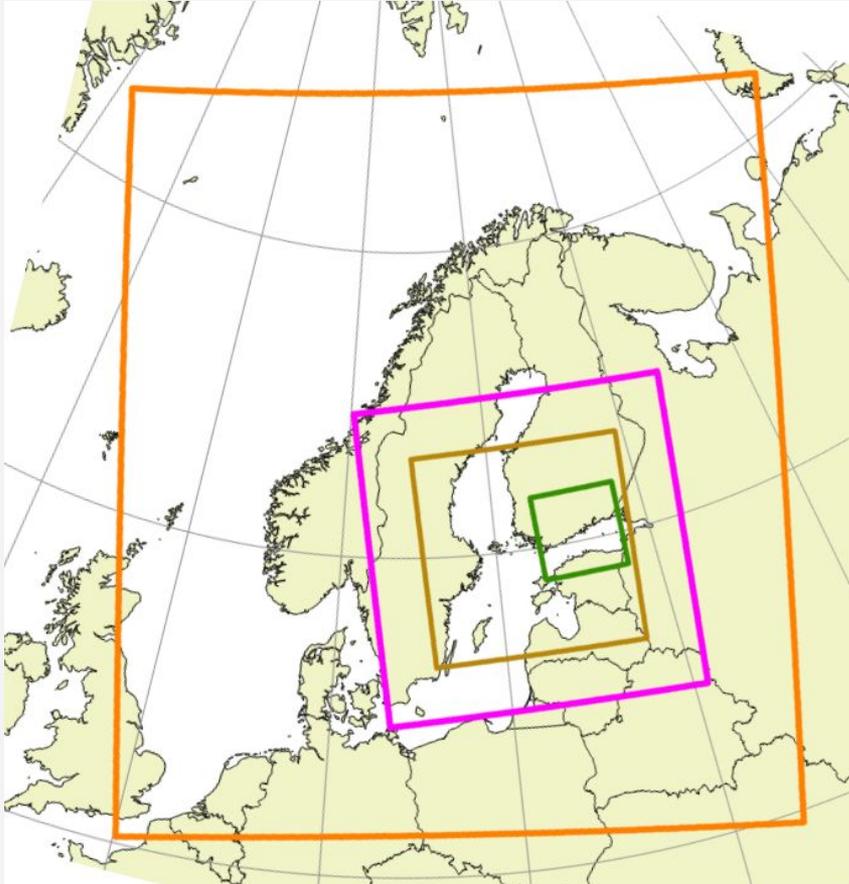
# Model configurations

HAR\* - HARMONIE MetCoOp domain  
 HAR\*\* - HARMONIE High-resolution domain



Config	Coupling	Model version	Grid points (Inner nest)	Resolution	TSTEP	BDINT	UA DA	GRID_TYPE	Spinup	Levels
<b>1 Nest</b>	IFS-HAR*	cy43	960x1080	2.5 km	75	1	3DVAR	LINEAR	1 month	65
<b>1 Nest</b>	IFS-HAR*	cy46	960x1080	2.5 km	75	1	3DVAR	LINEAR	1 month	65
<b>1 Nest</b>	IFS-HAR**	cy46	800x720	750 m	30	6	None	CUBIC	10-0 days	90
<b>2 Nest</b>	IFS-HAR* HAR*-HAR**	cy46	500x500, 1500x1500	750 m	20, 30, 40	1, 3, 6	None	CUBIC	5-0 days	90
<b>2 Nest</b>	IFS-HAR* HAR*-HAR**	cy46	500x500, 1500x1500	500 m	30	1, 6	None	CUBIC	0 days	90
<b>3 Nest</b>	IFS-HAR* HAR*-HAR** HAR*-HAR**		1500x1500	200 m	15	1	None	CUBIC	0 days	90

# High-resolution: Domains and resolutions



MetCoOp-MEPS domain:  
2'500 m, 960x1080 gp



High-res domain 1:  
750 m, 1500x1500 gp



High-res domain 2:  
500 m, 1500x1500 gp

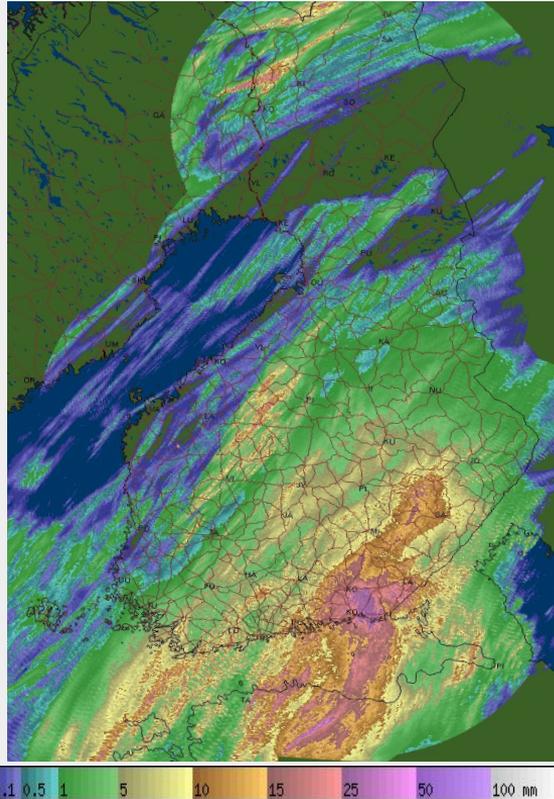


High-res domain 3:  
200 m, 1500x1500 gp

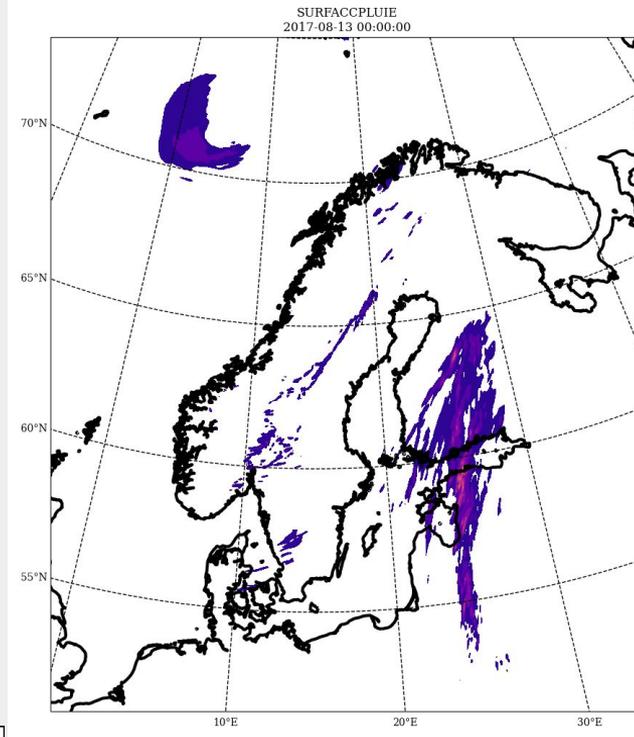
# High-resolution: Resolution: 2'500m vs 750m

12h accumulation output

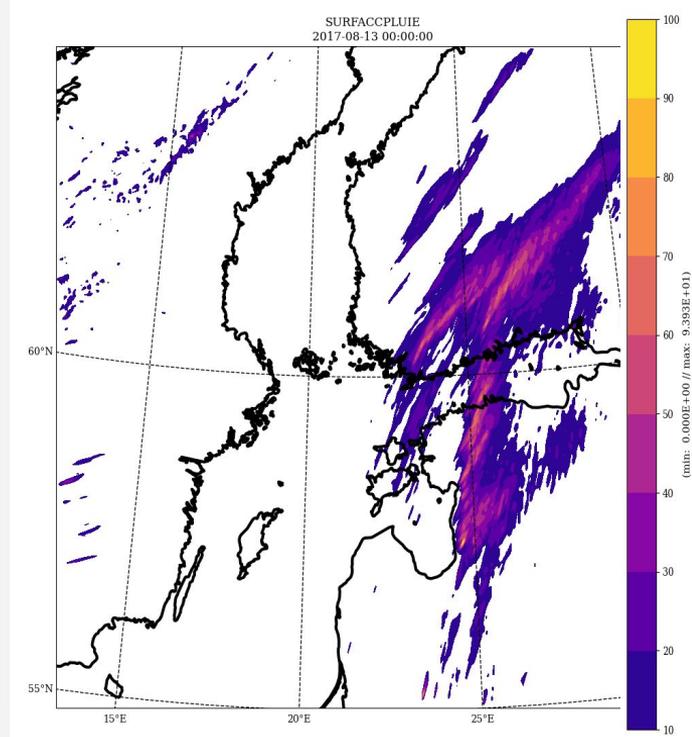
High-resolution improves the precipitation  
Though, placement is not optimal



Radar 12h precip accum



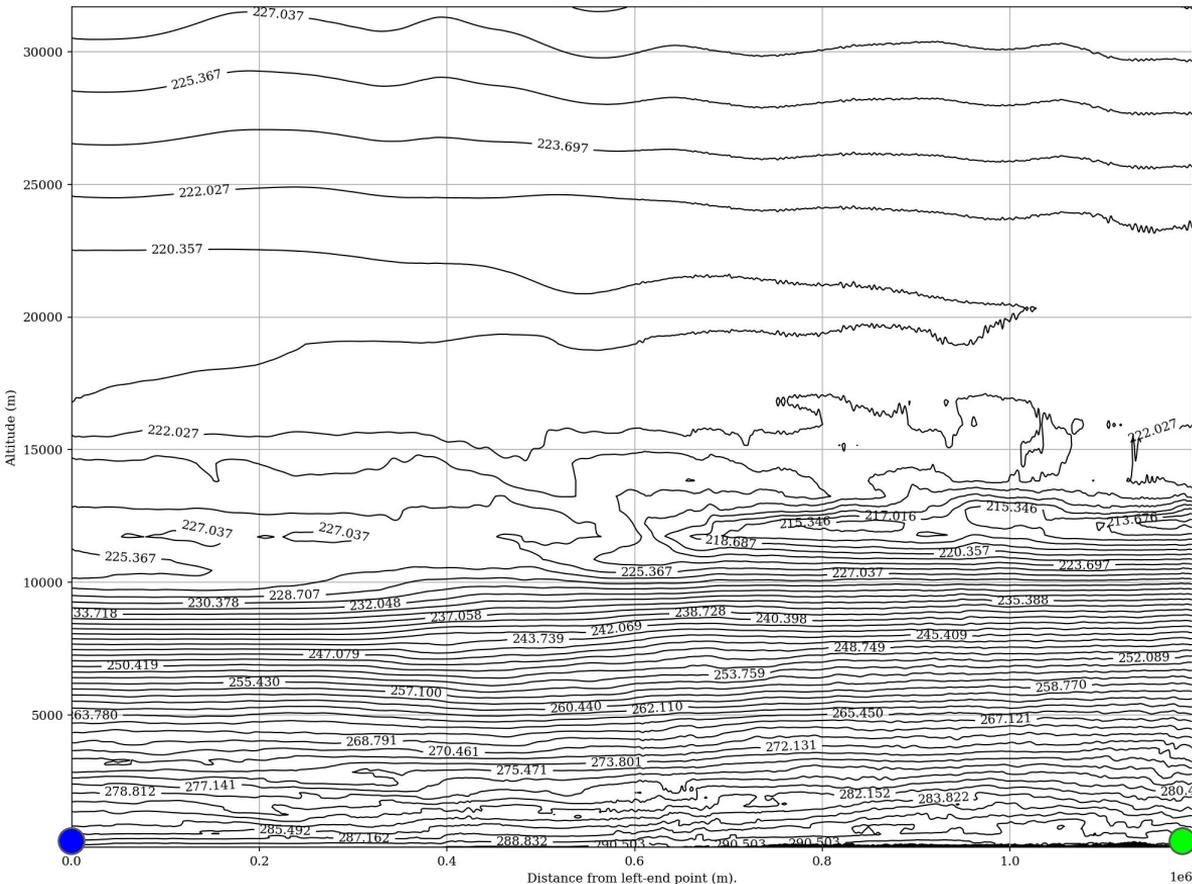
2'500 m, 960x1080 gp



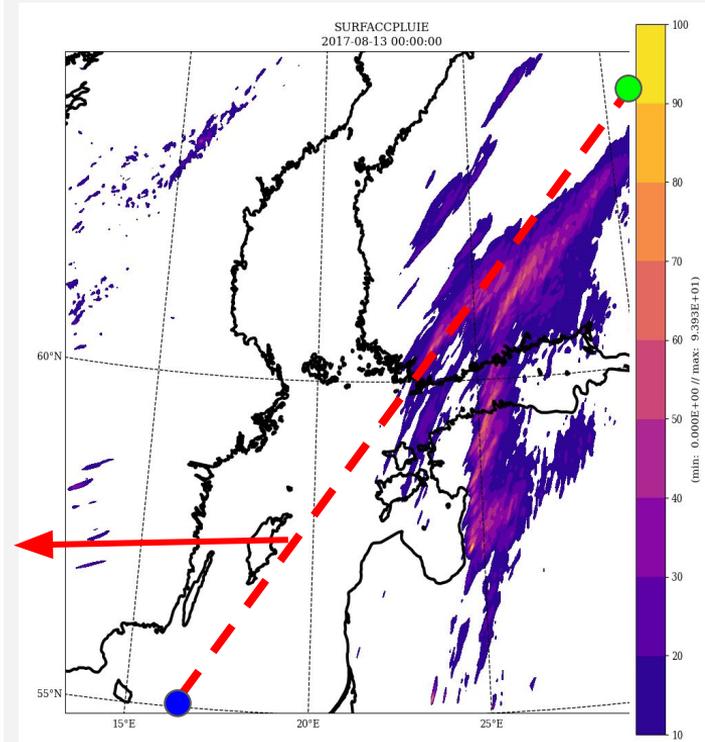
750 m, 1500x1500 gp

# High-resolution: Cross-section of Temperature with height (m)

Section of {'FA': 'S\*TEMPERATURE'} between  
 <- (17.0, 55.000000000000014) and (30.000000000000004, 63.50000000000007) ->  
 2017-08-13 00:00:00



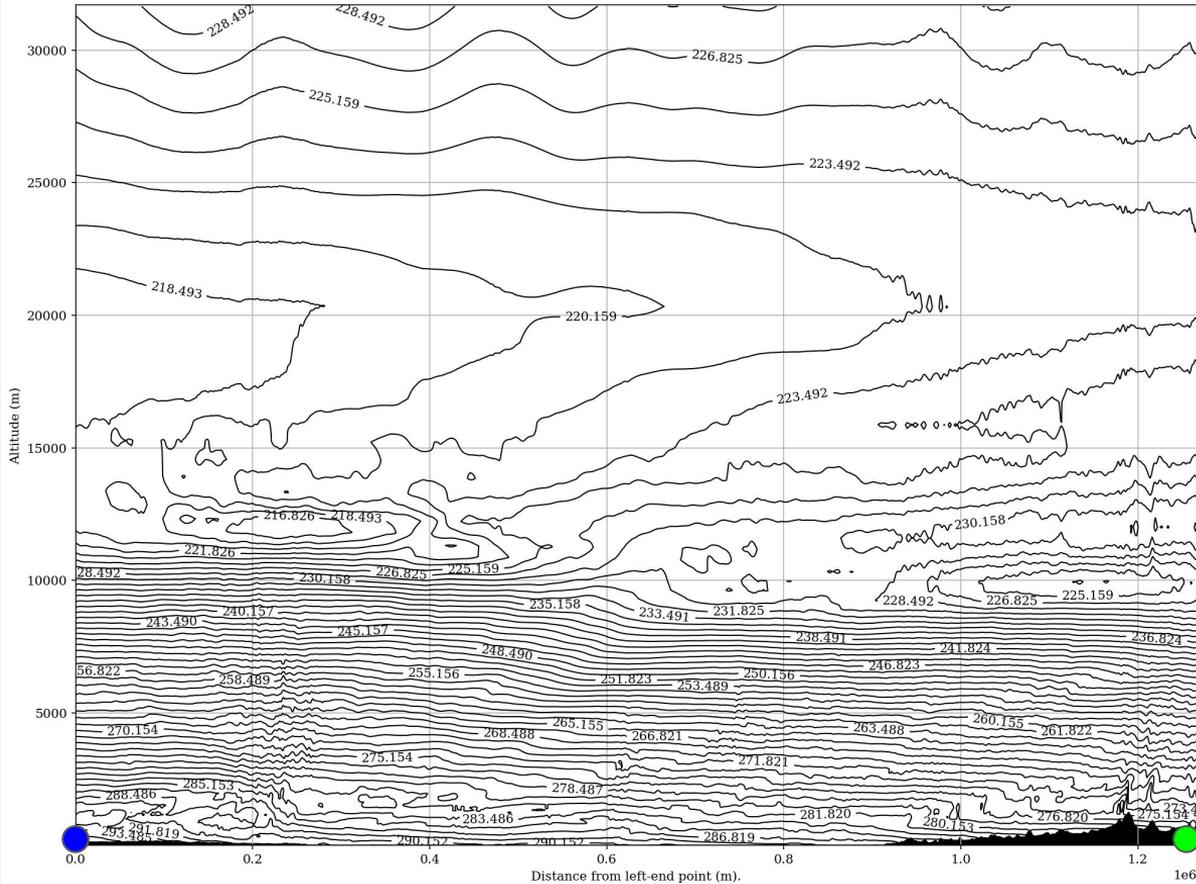
## Cross-section along red line



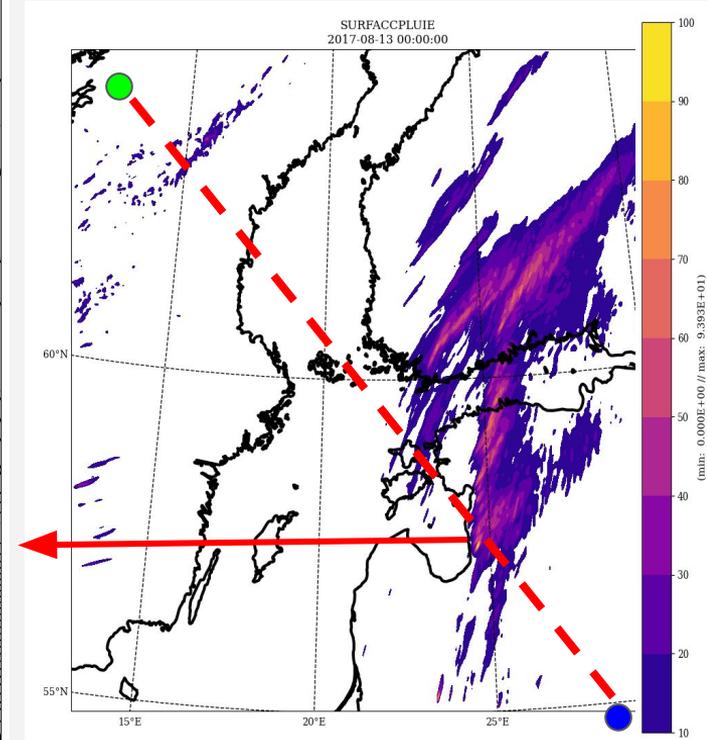
750 m, 1500x1500 gp

# High-resolution: Cross-section of Temperature with height (m)

Section of {'FA': 'S\*TEMPERATURE'} between  
<- (27.000000000000007, 55.000000000000014) and (11.999999999999991, 63.50000000000007) ->  
2017-08-13 00:00:00



## Cross-section along red line

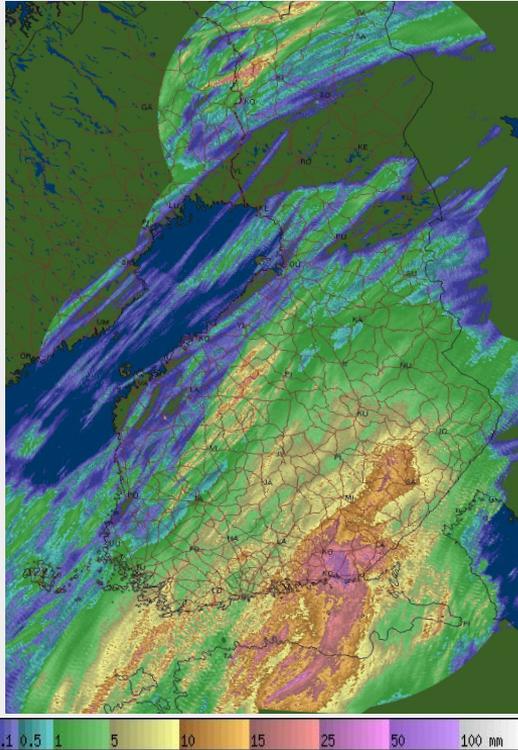


750 m, 1500x1500 gp

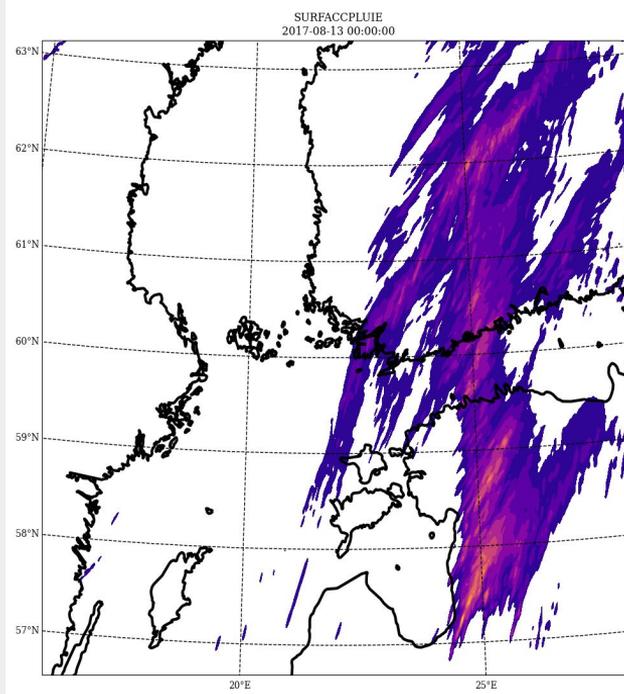
# High-resolution: Resolution: 500m vs 200m

12h accumulation output

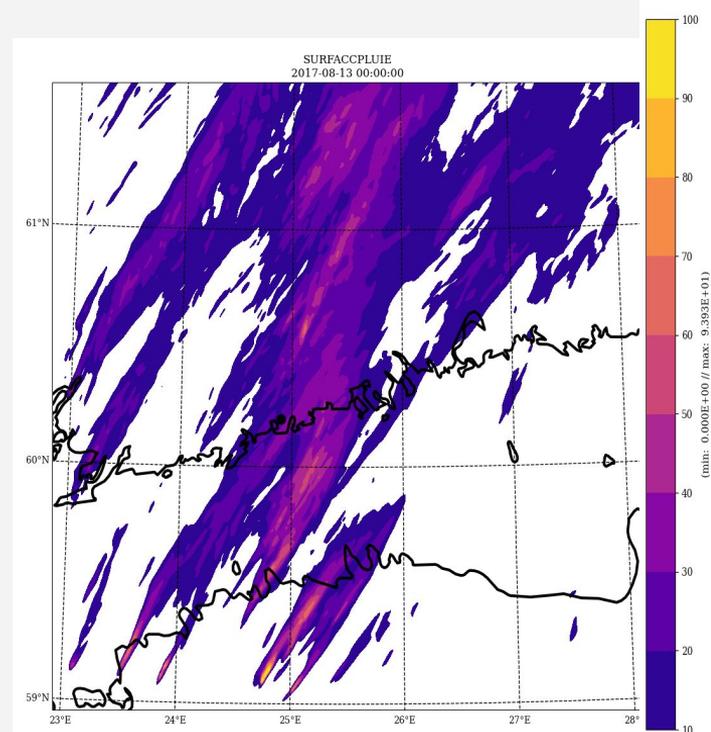
Important to have large enough domain, number of grid-points  
Several nested domains better to reach high resolution



Radar 12h precip accum



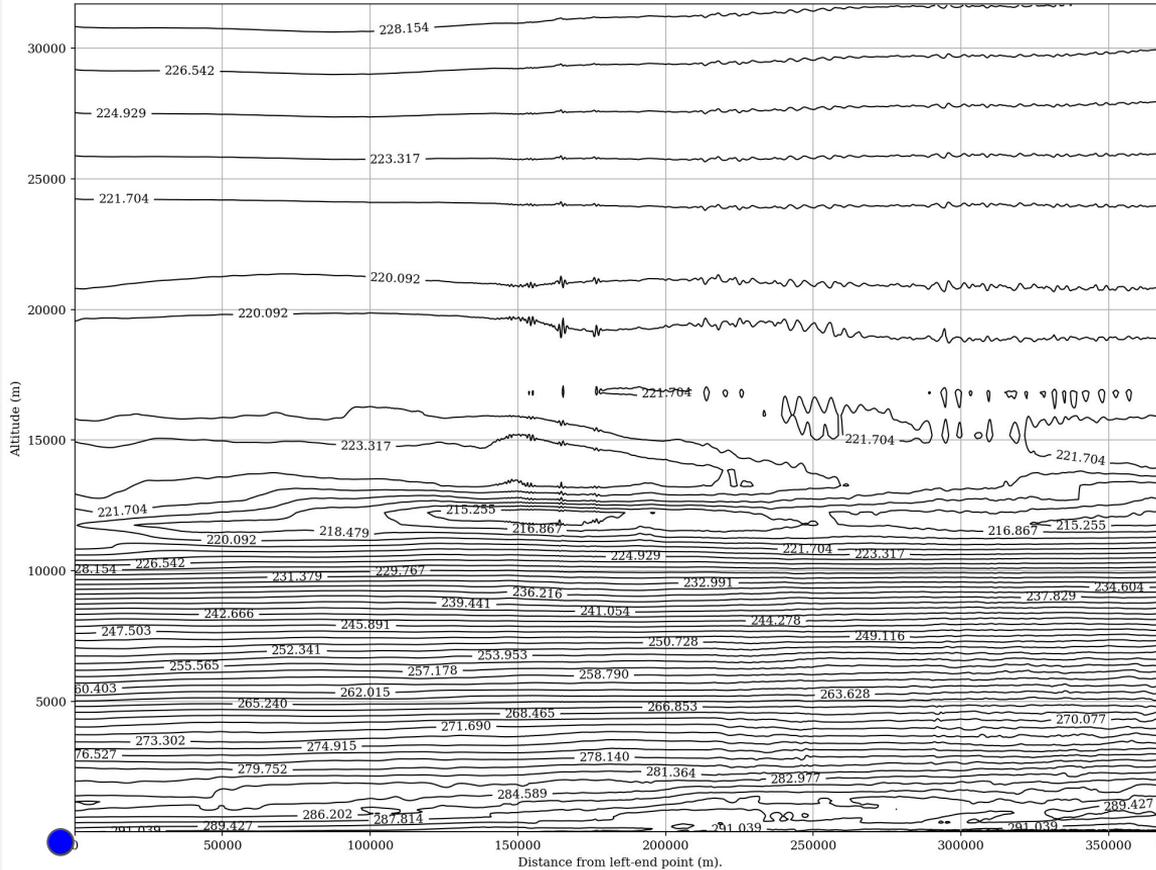
500 m, 1500x1500 gp



200 m, 1500x1500 gp

# High-resolution: Cross-section of Temperature (Kelvin)

Section of {'FA': 'S\*TEMPERATURE'} between  
 <- (23.000000000000004, 58.999999999999994) and (27.999999999999996, 61.199999999999998) ->  
 2017-08-13 00:00:00



# High-resolution: Resolution

## Conclusions:

Nesting within Harmonie (“same forecast”) better option, compared to nesting directly from IFS

- Using “same forecast” potential problem with excessive precipitation accumulation
- The placement of MSC is still controlled by the “host-model”

High resolution (200-750m) improves the accumulation near coastline

- Accumulation pattern also better
- High resolution need a sufficient large domain (grid points)

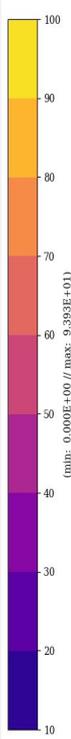
Use of cloud condensates in LBC does improve the precipitation forecast

Use of some days spinup (5-days) does improve the forecast, compared to no spinup (0 days)

TSTEP ranging from 20-40 seconds gave similar outcome (hor. res. 500m)

BDINT=1 gives clearly better result compared to BDINT=3 and 6

**No “noise” in upper-air temperature, for high resolution in our domain**





# Thank you!

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Τησικ λου!