



Progress with multi-layer surface physics in HARMONIE-AROME

**Patrick Samuelsson, Karl-Ivar Ivarsson (SMHI)
Samuel Viana (AEMET)
Mikael Hasu, Ekaterina Kurzeneva (FMI)
Mariken Homleid, Åsmund Bakketun, Trygve
Aspelien, Jostein Blyverket (MetNorway)
Bolli Palmason (IMO)**

ACCORD surface multi-layer physics WW in Toulouse last October

We have experienced a few issues in our experiments with multi-layer physics. This WW focused mainly on atmosphere-surface-soil feedbacks related to the diffusion soil scheme but also included ECOCLIMAP/PGD aspects and hydrological aspects. [See WW wiki here.](#)

WW dinner



Since then some development and experiments have continued in the HARMONIE-AROME framework...

A recent status update with links to presentations and results is available via [this wiki.](#)

Patrick LM Anne-Lise Patrick S
Adrien Helene Samuel Trygve
Aaron Panu

HARMONIE-AROME cy46h with new surface options

We use the HARMONIE-AROME cy46h system. Default settings are used for the atmosphere with 3D-VAR assimilation (conventional observations). The surface is based on SURFEXv8.1

Reference setup (close to operational)

- ECOCLIMAP Second Generation
- 2 patches (forest and open land)
- ForceRestore (3-L)
- D95 snow

- OI surface assimilation for the soil temperature and moisture from SYNOP T2m, Rh2m

- Snow update from SYNOP snow depth
- ECUME6

CANARI is used for SYNOP quality control and surface analysis

Experiment setup with new surface options

- ECOCLIMAP Second Generation
- 2 patches (forest and open land)
- Diffusion soil scheme (14 layers)
- Explicit snow scheme (12 layers)
- Explicit canopy for the forest patch (MEB)
- Simplified EKF surface assimilation for the soil temperature and moisture from SYNOP T2m, Rh2m
- Snow update from SYNOP snow depth
- ECUME6

PySurfex, with TITAN and gridPP, is used for SYNOP quality control and surface analysis

Summary and some details to be presented

The new surface physics is less dependent on surface data assimilation than the ForceRestore/D95 combination and gives often good or reasonable results even without SEKF activated.

This is true especially during winter and spring seasons.

However, SEKF does improve scores when bias deviations occur.

Summary and some details to be presented

The winter period in northern Europe tends to be better with new surface physics with respect to T2m, although still too cold (larger snow roughness and lower snow emissivity helps).

But the bias depends also on diagnostics formulation (recent CARRA2 experience, Marvin Kähnert will present more on this at Thursday's physics side meeting).

Near-surface humidity is too dry though, not sure why yet...



Summary and some details to be presented

The spring (snowmelt) period in northern Europe is in general better described by the new surface physics, especially for near surface humidity which shows a significant positive bias in current operational systems.

Such a humidity bias is bothering e.g. the warning system for spring grass fires.



Summary and some details to be presented

For the summer/warmer period the new surface physics has given a general dry near-surface bias (and too warm bias).

This has been seen especially over the Iberian peninsula but also over agricultural-dominated areas of the MetCoOp domain. Excess bare soil evaporation has been identified as the most probable cause for this bias.

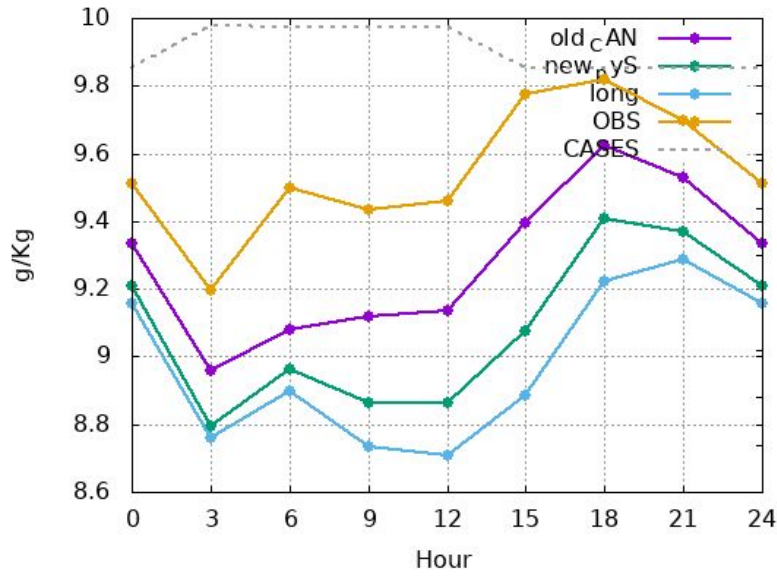
Samuel Viana has a poster dedicated to this summer dryness problem where he describes how the Dry Soil Layer parameterization helps.



MetCoOp domain, summer, Q2m diurnal cycle

Analysing period: July 15-25, 2022 (2 weeks or 2 months spinup before that)

Denmark



DIFF+MEB with 2 weeks spinup gives a dry bias compared to **observations** (and is also drier than **ForceRestore**). One hypothesis was that a longer spinup might help. But, **2 months spinup looks even drier**. What can make longer spinup drier?

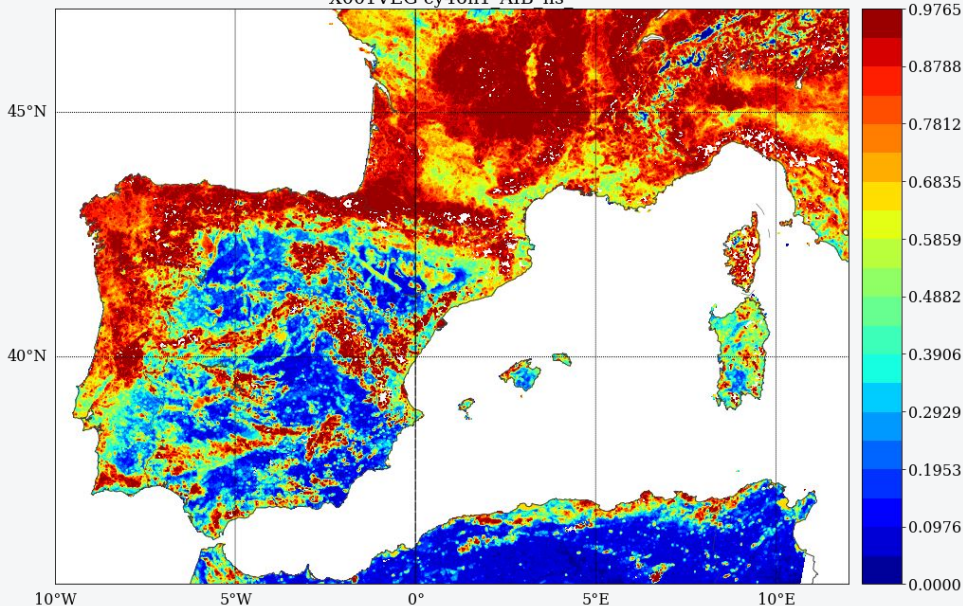
VEG and LAI for open land patch over AEMET domain in summer

Further investigation connected the problem to agricultural areas and to the occasional high fraction of bare soil.

As shown by Samuel, over Spain we see very low summer values of LAI (often < 1) and consequently also low VEG values (often < 0.3).

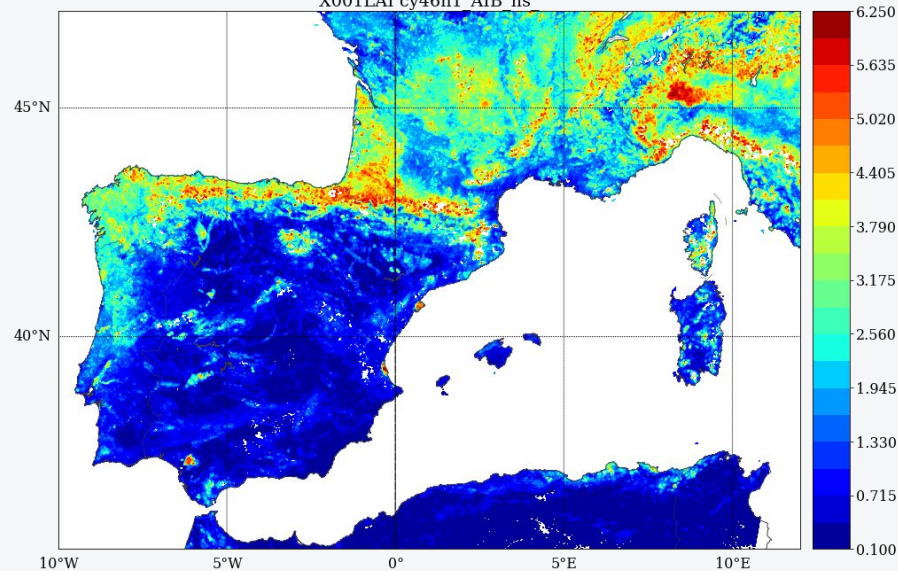
X001VEG

X001VEG cy46h1 AIB ns



X001LAI

X001LAI cy46h1 AIB ns



What does low LAI and VEG for crop areas mean in SURFEX?

We have come to the conclusion that we need to improve both the bare soil processes and the dead vegetation material processes connected to the diffusion soil scheme:

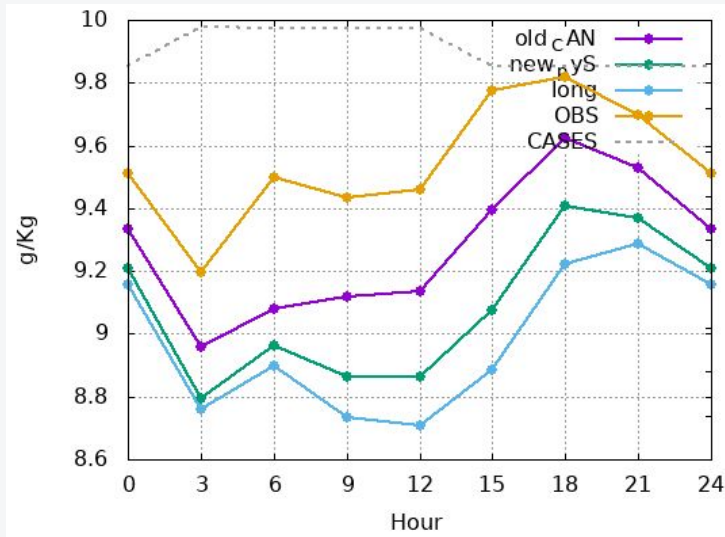
For the **bare soil** we now apply and test the **Dry Soil Layer (DSL) parameterization** described in the poster by Samuel Viana et al. It reduces bare soil evaporation and prevents the soil to dry out.

For the **dead vegetation material** we plan to introduce modified heat capacity and heat transfer characteristics for the top soil layers which will resemble more porous soil characteristics.



MetCoOp domain, summer, Q2m diurnal cycle over Denmark

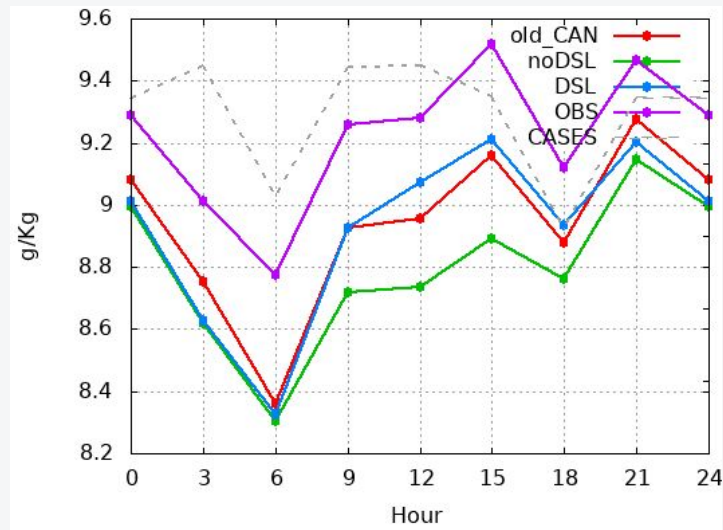
Analysing period: July 15-25, 2022
2 weeks or 2 months spinup before that



DIFF+MEB with 2 weeks spinup gives a dry bias compared to **observations** (and is also drier than **ForceRestore**). One hypothesis was that a longer spinup might help. But, **2 months spinup looks even drier**. What can make longer spinup drier?

With DSL activated

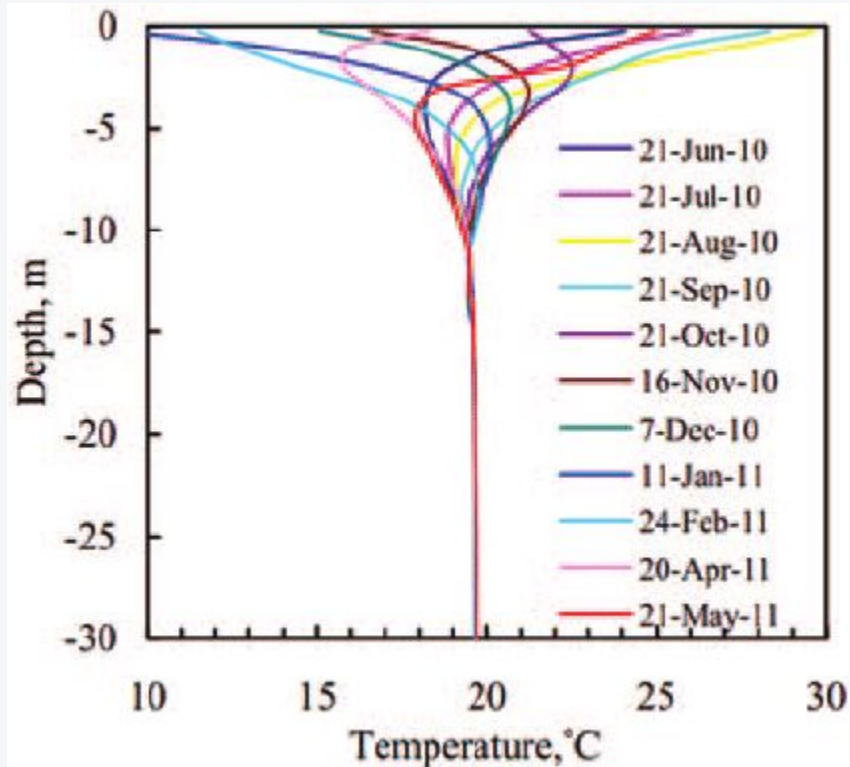
Analysing period: July 15-26, 2022
2 weeks spinup before that



DSL activated for open land Vegtypes reduces the dry bias seen **without DSL activated** compared to **Observations**.

Experiments and results related to initialisation of deep soil temperature

Typical annual variations in soil-temperature profile

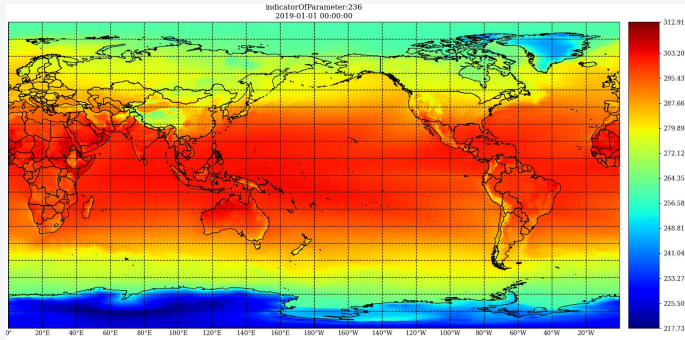


Over one year the variation does not penetrate deeper than some 10 m.

The default SURFEX DIF soil profile is divided over 14 layers with maximum depth at 12 m. The middle of the deepest layer is located at 10 m.

Thus, a multi-year mean temperature as a cold start (initial condition) value for 10 m would be a good approximation...

Improved deep soil cold start approach for PREP with ECMWF GRIB boundaries



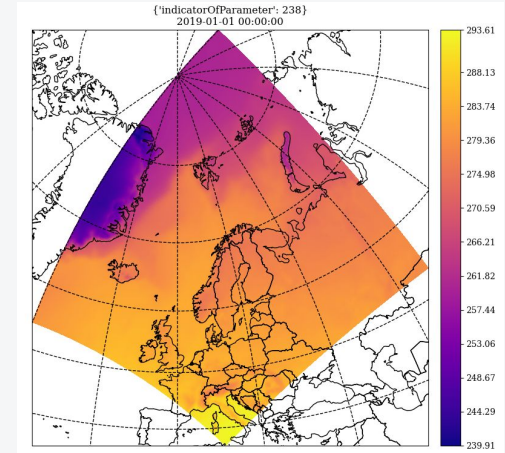
Pre-processing done only once:

Mean of ERA5 soil temperature at
TESSEL level 4 over period 2019-2021.

Please note that this specific implementation is not yet in the common SURFEX branch since it depends on external data and script (python and Pysurfex)...



Interpolating done at each cold start (in HARMONIE-AROME in Prep_ini_surfex):



This soil temperature field is read by SURFEX in the PREP step.

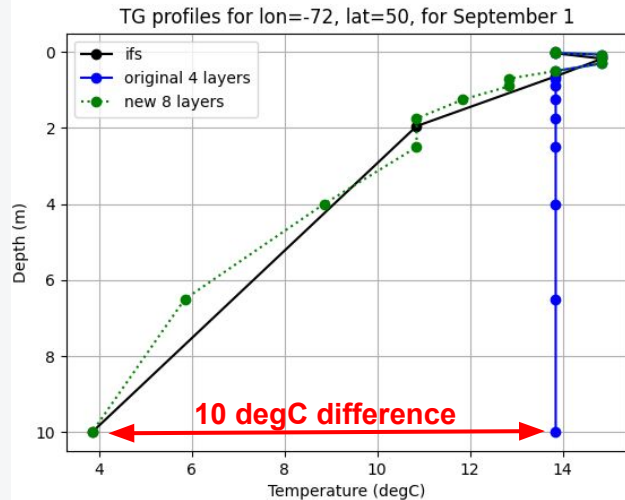
CARRA2_2500 domain TG vertical profiles

In addition to the ERA5 climatology:

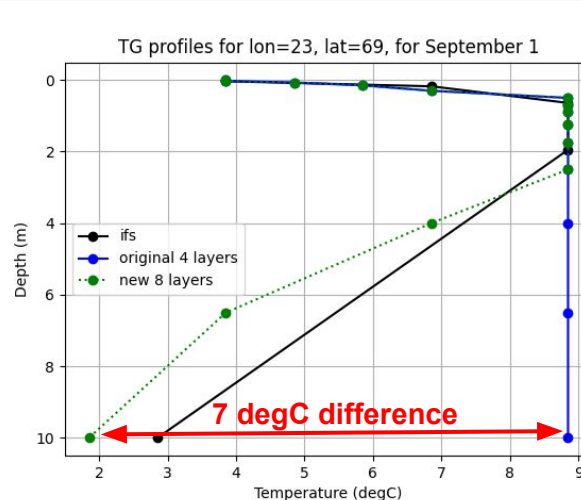
- A modified/corrected vertical interpolation routine, vertical_grid_nat.F90, used in PREP.
- Additional layers in mode_read_grib.F90 for a more realistic deep profile shape.

Cold start profiles by PREP for the CARRA2_2500 domain for time 2022-09-01 00Z

Quebec, Canada



Northern Norway



Legend:

ECMWF 4+1(ERA5) layer profile
 Default DIF profile without ERA5 deep climatology
 New DIF profile including ERA5 deep climatology

Comments

- **A new, Toulouse-continuation, ACCORD working week devoted to surface multi-layer physics will happen in coming autumn. It will be hosted by Jan De Pue at RMI in Brussels.**
- **Currently this new surface physics setup is running with SEKF surface data assimilation. However, SEKF is not developed anymore in HARMONIE-AROME. Efforts now goes into LETKF (see poster by Åsmund) and EnKF based algorithms.**