


# On the design of a more robust Constant-Coefficient Predictor-Corrector scheme for ACCORD Models

F. Voitus (MF), P. Smolíková (CHMI), J. Vivoda (ECMWF)  
and S. Malardel (MF)

03  2025

- 1 A brief Introduction to ICI scheme
- 2 Design of the vertically-dependent updated SI parameters
- 3 Improve the treatment of Orographic NL residuals
- 4 Investigation on Baric NL residuals
- 5 Summary and perspectives

## Constant-coefficient Iterative-Centered-Implicit (ICI) scheme

$$\frac{\partial X}{\partial t} = \mathcal{M}(X) = \underbrace{(\mathcal{M} - \mathcal{L}^*)(X)}_{NL\text{-residual}} + \underbrace{\mathcal{L}^*.X}_{Linear}$$

- Iterative centred implicit resolution, for  $i \in [0, N_{\text{siter}} - 1]$  :

$$\frac{X^{+(i+1)} - X^0}{\delta t} = \frac{(\mathcal{M} - \mathcal{L}^*)(X^{+(i)}) + (\mathcal{M} - \mathcal{L}^*)(X^0)}{2} + \frac{\mathcal{L}^*.X^{+(i+1)} + \mathcal{L}^*.X^0}{2},$$

- **Quasi-Newton-Raphson approach** :  $[I - (\delta t/2)\mathcal{L}^*]$  plays as a preconditioner  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}^*$  is typically chosen as a linear counterpart of  $\mathcal{M}$  around a reference-state  $X^*$ .
- **Constant-coefficient assumption** : The coefficients of  $\mathcal{L}$  are taken constant in time and along horizontal directions  $\Rightarrow$  Make possible the inversion of  $[I - (\delta t/2)\mathcal{L}^*]$  in spectral space.

## Constant-coefficient Iterative-Centered-Implicit (ICI)

### Major drawbacks of constant-coefficient assumption :

- Stability strongly depend on the magnitudes of the non-linear residual terms ( $\mathcal{M} - \mathcal{L}^*$ ). Such issues even are more significant in fully-compressible (EE) mass-based models [Bénard *et al.* (2003,2004,2005)].
- ① **Thermal NL residuals** due to discrepancy between the actual temperature and the constant temperature used in the SI linear system  $\Rightarrow$  **Instability issue in presence too cold temperature in the top of the atmosphere.**
- ② **Orographic NL residuals** due to the presence in of horizontally-varying terrain-following metric terms involving the orography slope that are not taken into account in the SI linear model  $\Rightarrow$  **Steep slopes create stability issue.**
- ③ **Baric NL residuals** (specific to mass-based system) due to the discrepancy between actual hydrostatic surface pressure and the constant hydrostatic pressure entering in the definition of the vertical operators of the SI linear system  $\Rightarrow$  **Stability issue in presence of high orography plateau (e.g, Tibetan plateau region).**

## Current Constant-Coefficient SI linear of mass-based EE system : $\mathcal{L}^*$

$$\frac{\partial D}{\partial t} = -R_d \nabla^2 [(\mathcal{G}^*(T) + T_r^* q_s) + T_r^* (\hat{q} - \mathcal{G}^*(\hat{q}))]$$

$$\frac{\partial d}{\partial t} = -\frac{g^2}{R_d T_a^*} \mathcal{L}^*(\hat{q})$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = -\frac{R_d T_r^*}{C_{vd}} [D + d]$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{q}}{\partial t} = -\frac{C_{pd}}{C_{vd}} [D - (1 - \kappa) \mathcal{S}^*(D) + d]$$

$$\frac{\partial l_s}{\partial t} = -\mathcal{N}^*(D)$$

### Current Constant SI parameters :

- **SITR** : Warm constant SI temperature  $T_r^*$   $\Rightarrow$  impact on Thermal NL residuals related to gravity modes and horizontal elastic term (Lamd's mode).
- **SITRA** : Cold constant acoustic SI temperature  $T_a^*$   $\Rightarrow$  impact on Thermal NL residuals due to vertical elastic term.
- **SIPR** : Constant SI hydrostatic surface pressure  $\pi_{sr}^*$   $\Rightarrow$  Impact on Baric NL residuals.

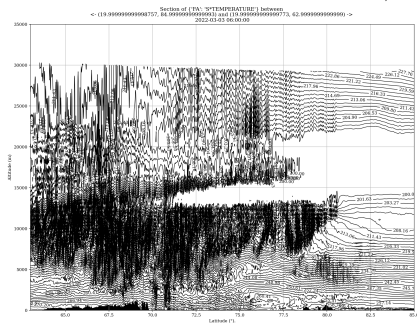
- (**SITR**, **SITRA**, **SIPR**) are set once for all at the beginning of the Model integration.  $\Rightarrow$  Need to be **tuned** over long period of tests trying to prevent that the Model blows up or exhibits noisy solution **for each domain**.

# Plan

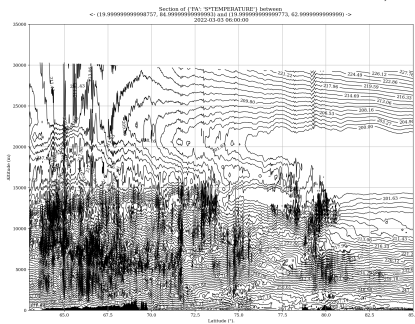
- 1 A brief Introduction to ICI scheme
- 2 Design of the vertically-dependent updated SI parameters
- 3 Improve the treatment of Orographic NL residuals
- 4 Investigation on Baric NL residuals
- 5 Summary and perspectives

## Svalbard problematic run with current PC scheme (NSITER=1)

**SITR**=350 K and **SITRA**=100, K



**SITR**=300 K and **SITRA**=140, K



- In Svalbard case,  $T_{max}(t)$  never exceeds 290K and  $\min[T_{max}^{\ell}(t)]$  reaches very cold value around 190K  $\Rightarrow$  Current value **SITR** = 350K exaggerates too much the thermal NL residuals  $\Rightarrow$  generate noisy solutions. can not damp.

## Design of the vertically-dependent updated SI parameters

Some useful definitions :

- Max/Min at each vertical levels  $\ell \in [1, L]$ :

$$T_{max}^{\ell}(t) = \max_{x \in \mathcal{D}_h} T(x, \ell, t)$$

$$T_{min}^{\ell}(t) = \min_{x \in \mathcal{D}_h} T(x, \ell, t)$$

- Global Max/Min over the domain :

$$T_{max}(t) = \max_{\ell \in [1, L]} T_{max}^{\ell}(t)$$

$$T_{min}(t) = \min_{\ell \in [1, L]} T_{min}^{\ell}(t)$$

### Proposed definitions :

- Reduce Thermal NL residual by defining vertically and time-dependent SI parameters from the grid-point norms min/max of temperature at each level as :

$$T_r^\ell(t) = T_{max}^\ell(t) + \min \left[ (T_r^* - T_{max}(t)), \beta_r (T_{max}^\ell(t) - T_{min}^\ell(t)) \right],$$

$$T_a^\ell(t) = \frac{T_{min}^\ell(t)}{2\beta_a + 1}, \quad \text{for } \ell \in [1, L],$$

$$T_r^s(t) = T_{max}(t)$$

- where  $\beta_r$  and  $\beta_a$  are control parameters lying in  $[0, 1]$ .

## Design of the vertically-dependent updated SI parameters

$$\frac{\partial D}{\partial t} = -R_d \nabla^2 [(\mathcal{G}^*(T) + T_r^s q_s) + (T_r^\ell \hat{q} - \mathcal{G}^*(T_r^\ell \hat{q}))]$$

$$\frac{\partial d}{\partial t} = -\frac{g^2}{R_d T_a^\ell} \mathcal{L}^*(\hat{q})$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = -\frac{R_d T_r^\ell}{C_{vd}} [D + d]$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{q}}{\partial t} = -\frac{C_{pd}}{C_{vd}} [D - (1 - \kappa) \mathcal{S}^*(D) + d]$$

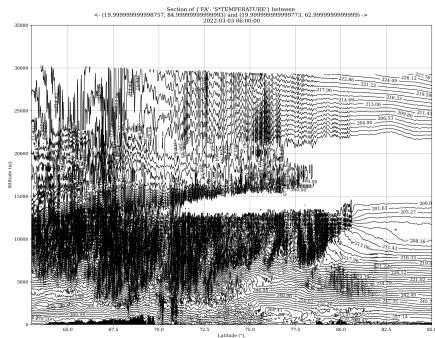
$$\frac{\partial I_s}{\partial t} = -\mathcal{N}^*(D)$$

- The formulation of  $T_r^\ell(t)$ ,  $T_a^\ell(t)$  and  $T_r^s$  results from theoretical SI analyses, but also from empirical knowledges on the behaviour of Constant-coefficient SI schemes for mass-based EE system.
- SI parameters can be updated at each timestep (Cheap option) or possibly at each PC iterations (Full option).
- $\pi_{sr}(t)$  is still set to 900hpa as in the current SI\_CST approach.

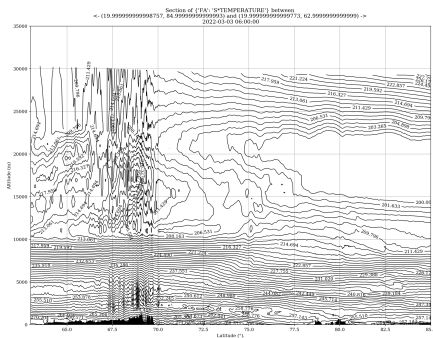
## Svalbard problematic run with PC scheme

AROME (1250m, L90, 50s) Temperature after 30H forecast :

PC + SI\_CST



PC + SI\_UPDATE



- Updating SI vertical parameters at each timestep with  $\beta_r = 0.5$  and  $\beta_a = 0.7$ .



# Plan

- 1 A brief Introduction to ICI scheme
- 2 Design of the vertically-dependent updated SI parameters
- 3 Improve the treatment of Orographic NL residuals**
- 4 Investigation on Baric NL residuals
- 5 Summary and perspectives

## Introduction of constant SI parameter for orography Slope

Basic underlying idea:

- Take into account the effect of slope in the vertical Laplacian-like operator definition  $\mathcal{L}^*$  :

$$\mathcal{L}^*(\hat{q}) = \frac{\pi_r^*}{\partial_\eta \pi_r^*} \partial \left[ \left\{ \frac{\partial_\eta (\pi_r^* \hat{q})}{\partial_\eta \pi_r^*} \right\} + \frac{\nabla \phi^{*2}}{g^2} \overline{\left\{ \frac{\partial_\eta (\pi_r^* \hat{q})}{\partial_\eta \pi_r^*} \right\}}^w \right]$$

with

$$\nabla \phi^* = g \Lambda_s^* + \int_\eta^1 T_{max}^\ell [\nabla \delta^* (\Lambda_s^* / T_{min}^\ell)] d\eta'$$

- where  $\Lambda_s^*$  (**SISLP**) is an additional constant SI parameter chosen as the maximum of orography slope over the domain  $\Rightarrow$

$$\Lambda_s^* = \max_{x \in \mathcal{D}_h} \left[ \sqrt{(\partial_x z_s)^2 + (\partial_y z_s)^2} \right]$$

- vertical interpolating operators  $\overline{(\ )}^w$  and  $\overline{(\ )}^v$  are build in such a way that  $\mathcal{L}^*$  akin to a negative definite vertical Laplacian operator.

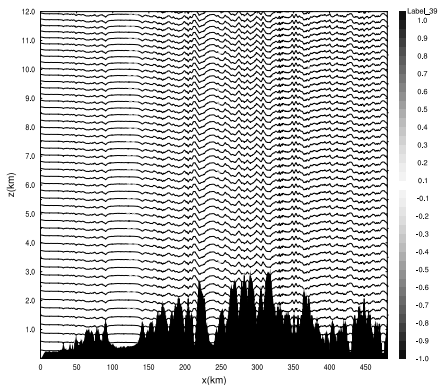
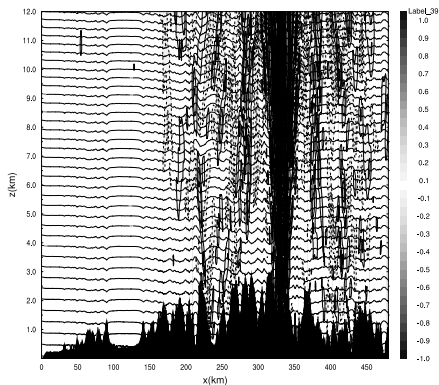
# No-Flow test over the Alps

AROME 3D (500m, L90, 25s) academic PC runs,  
vertical velocity  $w$ , and  $iso - \theta$  contours solutions after 24H forecast

SI\_UPDATE

SI\_UPDATE +

SISLP

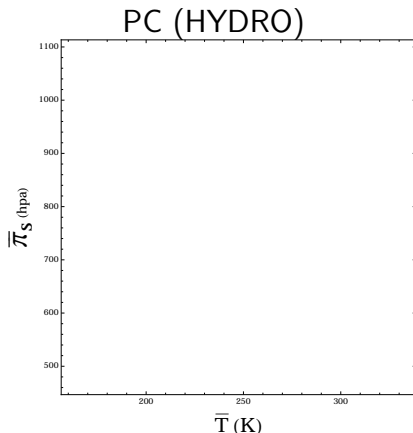
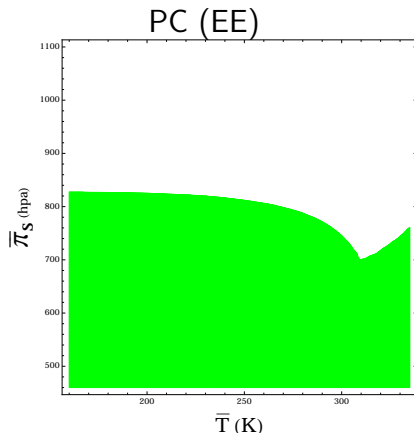


# Plan

- 1 A brief Introduction to ICI scheme
- 2 Design of the vertically-dependent updated SI parameters
- 3 Improve the treatment of Orographic NL residuals
- 4 Investigation on Baric NL residuals**
- 5 Summary and perspectives

## Stability analyses with current SI\_CST parameters

SITR=350K, SITRA=100K, SIPR=900hpa



- **Bad news** : EE with PC exhibits a wide region where Baric NL residuals are detrimental for stability  $\Rightarrow$  PC unstable if  $(\pi_s < 800\text{hpa} < \pi_{SR}^*)$ .
- **Good news** : Hydrostatic with PC does not suffer from the effect of Baric NL residuals  $\Rightarrow$  Problem comes from the acoustic part.

## Linear acoustic part :

$$\frac{\partial D}{\partial t} = -RT^* \nabla^2 [\hat{q} - (1 - \kappa) \mathcal{G}^*(\hat{q})]$$

$$\frac{\partial d}{\partial t} = -\frac{g^2}{RT_a^*} \mathcal{L}^*(\hat{q})$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{q}}{\partial t} = -\frac{C_p}{C_v} [D - (1 - \kappa) \mathcal{S}^*(D) + d]$$

- The coupling between the two integral terms in **blue** are responsible for the unstable behaviour of EE sytem. Dropping two of them  $\rightarrow$  PC (Acoustic) stable if

$$\pi_{sr}^* < \pi_s$$

used to build the vertical laplacian operator  $\mathcal{L}^*$ .

## Proposed Solution :

- A new prognostic variable for temperature

$$\hat{T} = T e^{-\hat{q}}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\pi \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \pi} = -R \hat{T}$$

- Introduction of a constant low SI acoustic surface pressure **SIPRA**:

$$\pi_{sa}^t = \min_{x \in \mathcal{D}_h} \pi_s(x, t)$$

affecting only the design of the vertical Laplacian operator  $\mathcal{L}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^*$ .

New SI linear EE system with  $\hat{T}$ :

$$\frac{\partial D}{\partial t} = -R_d \nabla^2 \left[ \left( \mathcal{G}^*(\hat{T}) + T_r^s q_s \right) + T_r^\ell \hat{q} \right]$$

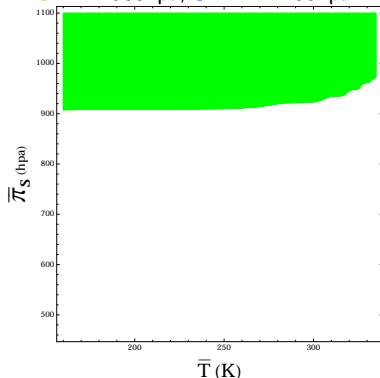
$$\frac{\partial d}{\partial t} = -\frac{g^2}{R_d T_a^\ell} \mathcal{L}^*(\hat{q})$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{T}}{\partial t} = T_r^\ell [D + d - S^*(D)]$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{q}}{\partial t} = -\frac{C_{pd}}{C_{vd}} [D - (1 - \kappa) S^*(D) + d]$$

$$\frac{\partial l_s}{\partial t} = -\mathcal{N}^*(D)$$

SIPR = 900hpa, SIPRA = 450hpa

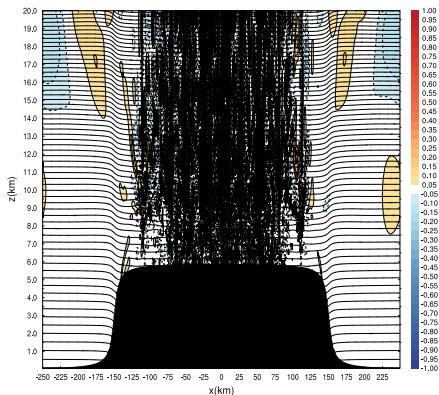


$\Rightarrow$  SIPR = 1100hpa and  
SIPRA = 450hpa fully stabilize the  
situation.

# 3D No-Flow test over a prescribed high plateau, $H_{max} = 6000m$ , $S_{max} = 19^\circ$

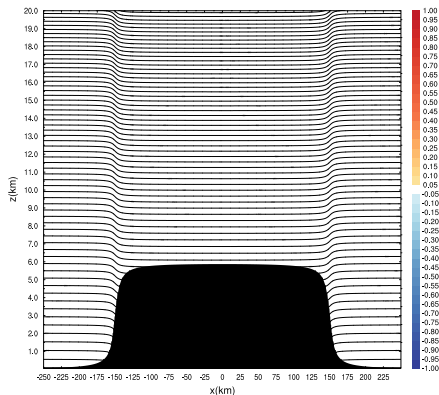
AROME (500m, L137, 15s, NSITER=1) vertical velocity  $w$  solution :

## 6H forecast



NO SIPRA

## 24h forecast



SIPRA = 450 hpa

# Plan

- 1 A brief Introduction to ICI scheme
- 2 Design of the vertically-dependent updated SI parameters
- 3 Improve the treatment of Orographic NL residuals
- 4 Investigation on Baric NL residuals
- 5 Summary and perspectives

- SI\_UPDATE + SISLP strategy offer the possibility to better control the impact of the NL residual terms on stability for the thermal Orographic and Baric NL residuals and therefore to **enhance the robustness of PC scheme** at reasonable cost.
- Strategy need to be intensively tested in more challenging realistic cases (over HImalaya domain for instance).

**Thanks for listening !!!**