



Progress on ecRad radiation in Météo-France and ACCORD models

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Overview

- Radiation: sources and impact
- Radiation scheme ecRad
- Status of ecRad in AROME, HARMONIE-AROME
- Options: cloud geometry and 3D effects
- Previous sensitivity tests on radiation options
- Case study: missing cloud, 04.02.2025
- Research project on 3D effects in mountains
- Summary

Radiation sources

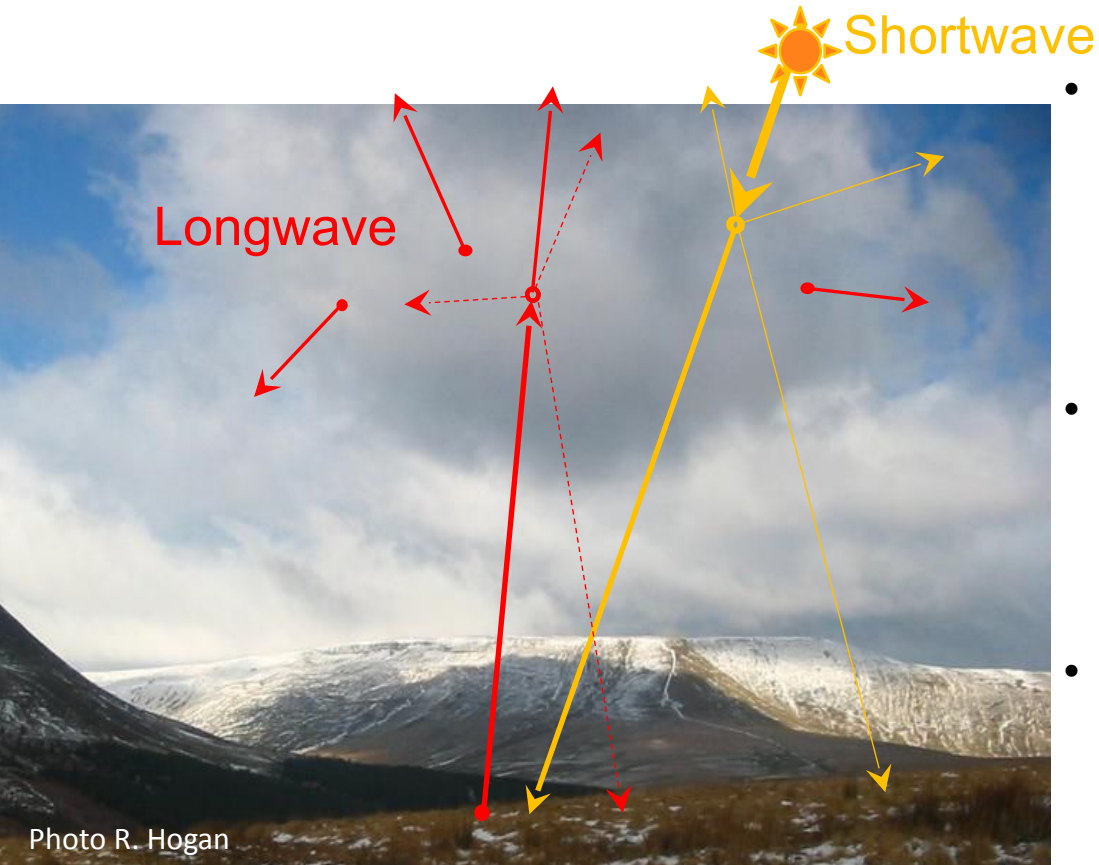
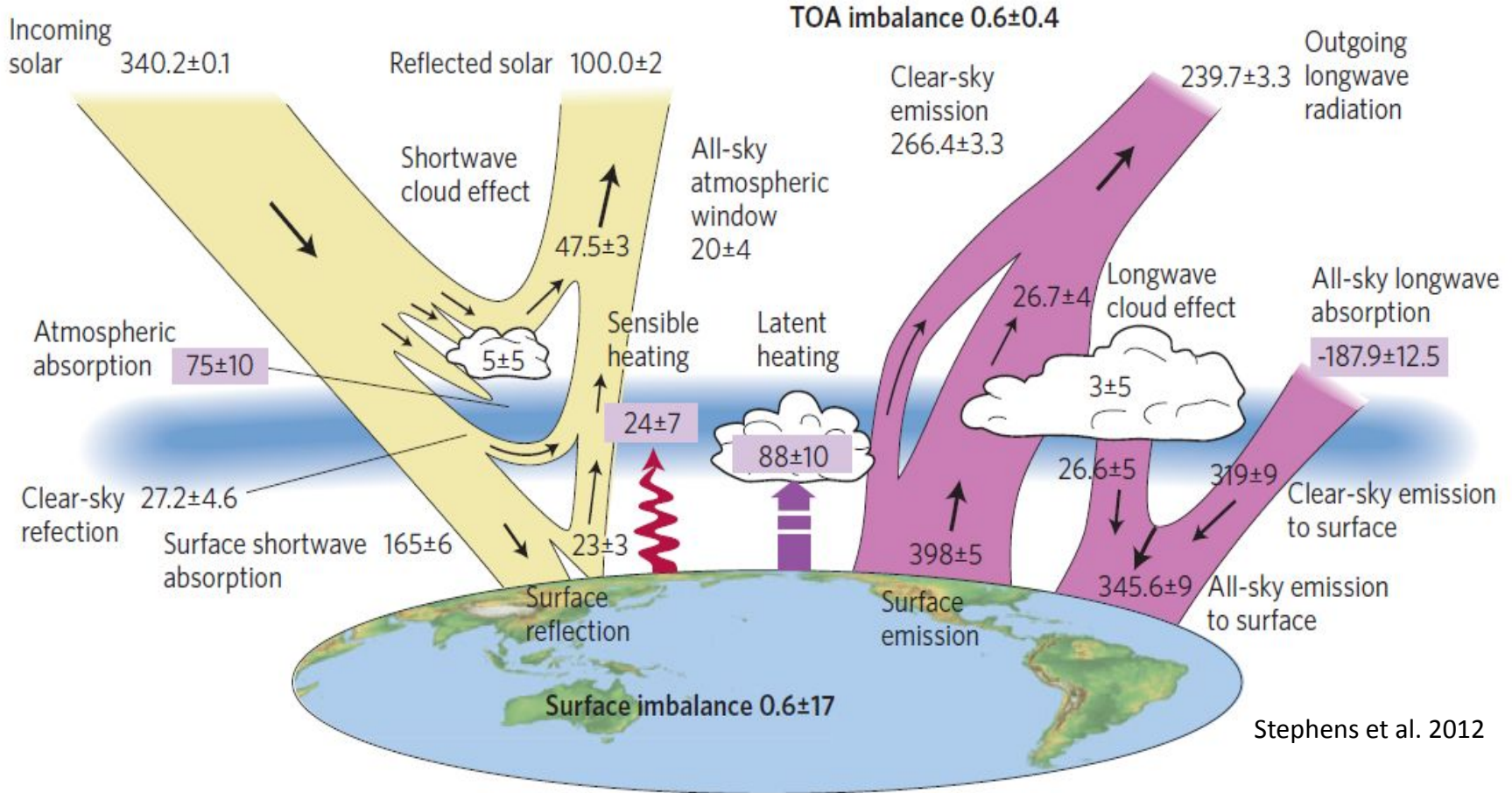


Photo R. Hogan

- Photons emitted by sun (visible/shortwave) and Earth system (infrared/longwave) interact with surface, atmospheric gases, aerosol, cloud water or ice particles
- Described by electromagnetic **Maxwell equations** and quantum mechanics, BUT can't treat every photon and atmospheric particle!
- Have to capture bulk effect of each component - simplifications for practical calculation

Radiation budget drives climate and weather



Models tuned to top-of-atmosphere radiative fluxes (directly observable), ideally bias $< 1 W/m^2$

New modular radiation scheme ecRad (Hogan & Bozzo 2018)

Gas optics:

- RRTMG (Iacono et al. 2008)
- ecCKD (Hogan & Matricardi 2020): Fewer spectral intervals but similar precision

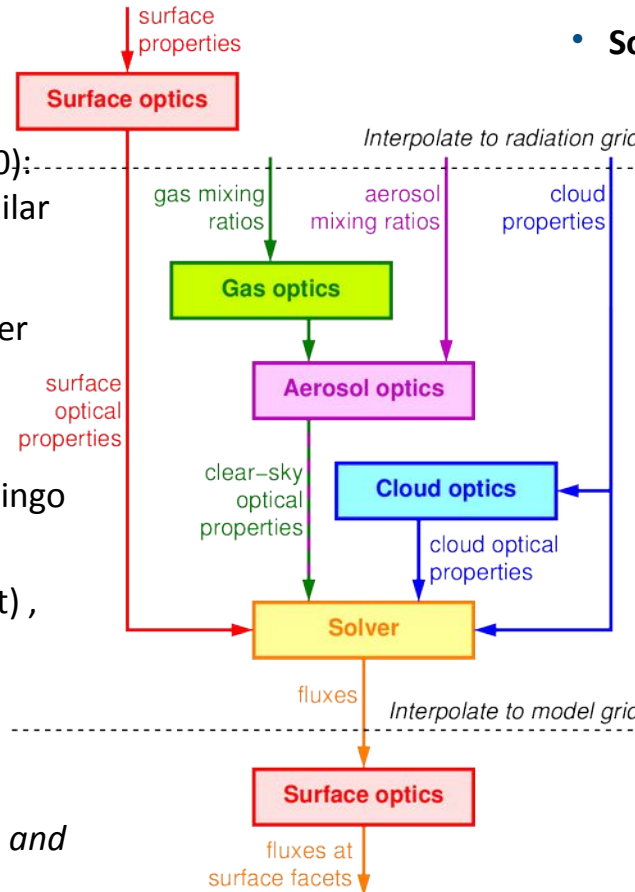
Aerosol optics: variable species number and properties (set at run-time)

Cloud optics:

- **liquid:** SOCRATES (MetOffice), Slingo (1989), Mie calculation
- **ice:** Fu 1996, 1997, 1998 (default), Yi et al. 2013, Baran et al. 2014, Baum et al. 2014

From ecRad 1.6: user can choose hydrometeor number + add optics

Surface: Consistent treatment of urban and forest canopies



Solvers for radiative transfer equations:

- **McICA** (Pincus et al. 2003), **Tripleclouds** (Shonk & Hogan, 2008) or **SPARTACUS** (Schäfer et al. 2016, Hogan et al. 2016)
- SPARTACUS makes ecRad the only global radiation scheme that can do sub-grid **3D** radiative effects
- Longwave scattering optional
- Can configure **cloud overlap**
- **Cloud inhomogeneity:** can configure width and shape of PDF

ecRad 1.6 operational in ARPEGE, AROME Meso-NH: update in progress

Namelist parameters for ecRad in AROME

All ecRad parameters are explained in the user guide:

https://confluence.ecmwf.int/download/attachments/70945505/ecrad_documentation.pdf?version=4&modificationDate=1584914933898&api=v2

&NAERAD #radiation parameters for all schemes, still being tested

Needed for ecRad (?):

LAER3D=.TRUE., # => using 3D or real-time aerosols? Might be important?

LUSEPRE2017RAD=.FALSE., # => To use ecRad

LRRTM=.TRUE., # => To use ecRad

LSRTM=.TRUE.,# => To use ecRad

NAER=0, # Aerosol option, used, 1 by default, 0=no aerosols

NRADFR=18, # Variable for intermittent

NAERMACC=1, # CAMS aerosol, needed

NOZOCL=4, # Ozon climatology choice

NSW=6, # No. of shortwave bands, somethingg funny happening...

RRE2DE=0.64952, # Geometrical factor for hexagonal particles, not sure if needed

Not used in ecRad ?:

NDUMPBADINPUTS=0, ??

NICEOPT=3, # Ice option, Internal for old scheme

NLIQOPT=2, # Liquid option, Internal for old scheme

NMCICA=1, # old scheme, hopefully

NOVLP=1, # Overlap - not needed

NRADIP=3, # effective radius size ice particle, probl. not used

NRADLP=2, # effective radius size liquid particle, prob. not used

RLWINHF=1, # Longwave inhomogeneity, old scheme, spp-patterns ensemble

RSWINHF=1, # Shortwave inhomogeneity, old scheme, spp-patterns ensemble

&RADIATION # ecRad parameters

Iverbose=1, # from 1 to 5

Iverbssetup=3, # highest is 5

directory_name="", # can change

do_clear=.TRUE., # clear sky and all sky calculations if TRUE

do_save_radiative_properties=.FALSE., # default FALSE

do_save_spectral_flux=.FALSE., # goes into seperate file, for debugging...

do_save_gpoint_flux=.FALSE., # as above, a lot of data

do_surface_sw_spectral_flux=.TRUE., # for spectral coupling to the surface

use_aerosols=.TRUE., # FALSE: all aerosol input ignored, should always be TRUE?!

do_lw_derivatives=.TRUE., # Diagnostic, set to FALSE?

gas_model_name='RRTMG-IFS', # Other options in user guide, only in offline ecRad

cloud_mixing_ratio_threshold=.100E-08, # less water than this then considered no cloud

cloud_inhom_decorr_scaling= 1.00, # same vertical decorrelation scale for cloud edges and cloud internal inhomogeneity

cloud_fraction_threshold= .100E-05, # if less than this then no cloud

use_beta_overlap=.FALSE., # not using beta -> then using alpha overlap, default

liquid_model_name='Nielsen', #needs the .nc file provided in data folder

ice_model_name='Fu-IFS', # Operational option, other might be better

do_fu_lw_ice_optics_bug=.FALSE., # There was a bug in the IFS, can be reproduced if you want

overlap_scheme_name='Exp-Ran', # Most sensible choice, IFS used a different one

sw_solver_name='McICA', # Shortwave solver , McICA is the operational one

lw_solver_name='McICA', # Longwave solver, possible to use different from SW but need a reason

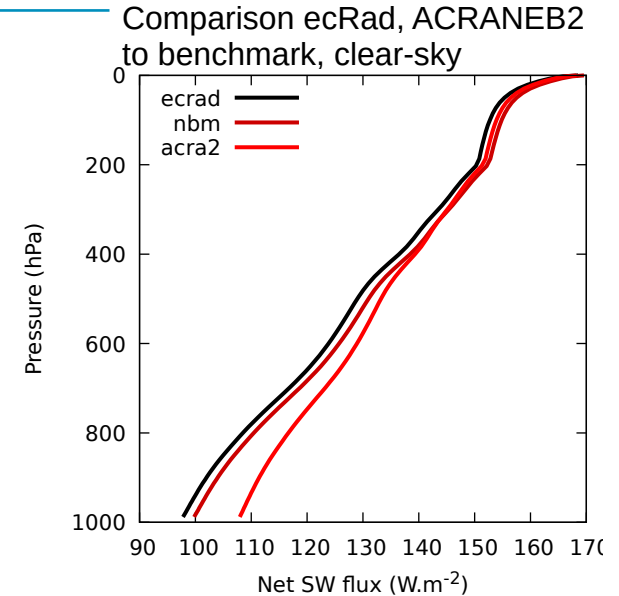
do_sw_delta_scaling_with_gases=.FALSE., # FALSE: only cloud particles, TRUE: also with gases

do_lw_cloud_scattering=.FALSE., # TRUE: more expensive, better, but more cost for small benefit

do_lw_aerosol_scattering=.FALSE., # benefit of TRUE is even smaller than for the cloud scattering

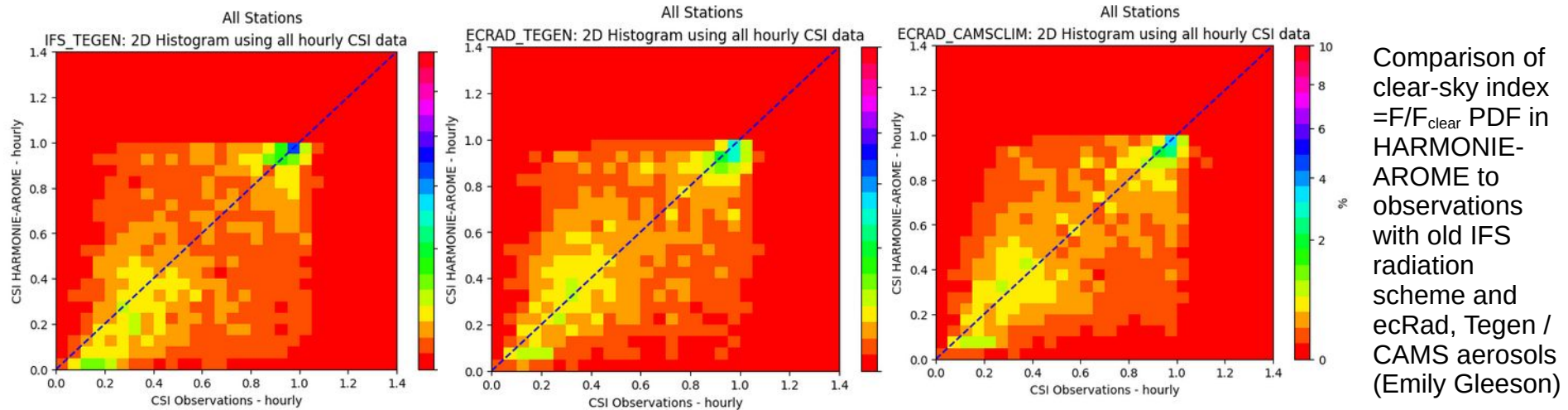
ecRad radiation + aerosol status in AROME/ARPEGE, tests in ALARO

	OPER (CY48T1)			E-SUITE (CY49T1)		
	SW	LW	Aerosols	SW	LW	Aerosols
AROME	ecRad (SRTM McICA)	ecRad (RRTM McICA)	CAMS 3D clim (11 var)	ecRad (SRTM McICA)	ecRad (RRTM McICA)	CAMS 3D clim (11 var)
ARPEGE			Tegen 2D clim (6 var)			



- Tests of near-real-time CAMS aerosol for CY49T1_op : improvements for dust outbreaks, ongoing work by Salomé Antoine
- Tested ecRad versus ACRANEB2 in ALARO (with Ján Mašek, CHMI, visit October 2024): ecRad much better for clear-sky (better gas optics), ACRANEB2 frequent cloud-only updates might be an interesting idea
- Ongoing work on reduced radiation grid (with Ole Lindberg, DMI, Balthasar Reuter, ECMWF, Fabrice Voitus, MF) and on ecRad GPU port (with MF and ECMWF colleagues)

Radiation tests in HARMONIE-AROME (Emily Gleeson, Met Éireann)



Comparison of clear-sky index $=F/F_{\text{clear}}$ PDF in HARMONIE-AROME to observations with old IFS radiation scheme and ecRad, Tegen / CAMS aerosols (Emily Gleeson)

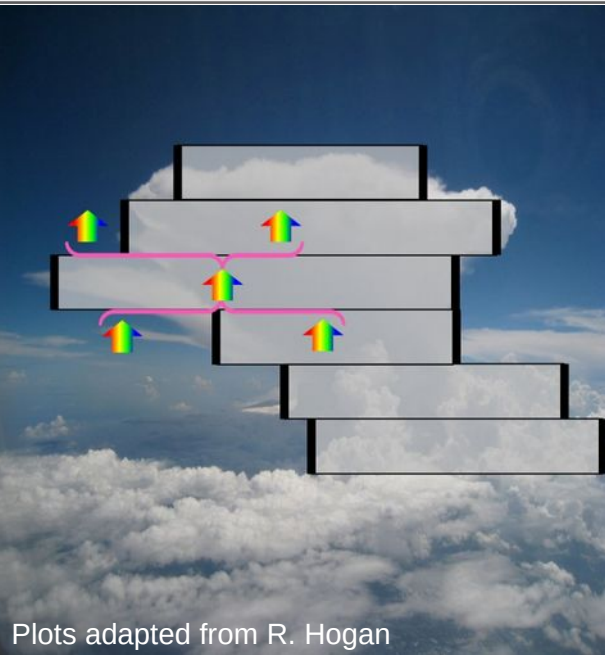
- First test: ecRad improves CSI PDF agreement with observations, using CAMS might further improve it; Agreement at CSI = 1 gets a bit worse
- → Further tests with ecRad, ecRad options, cloud and aerosol options in AROME and HARMONIE-AROME,
- Evaluate more meteorological variables

Options: Radiation solvers and sub-grid cloud geometry

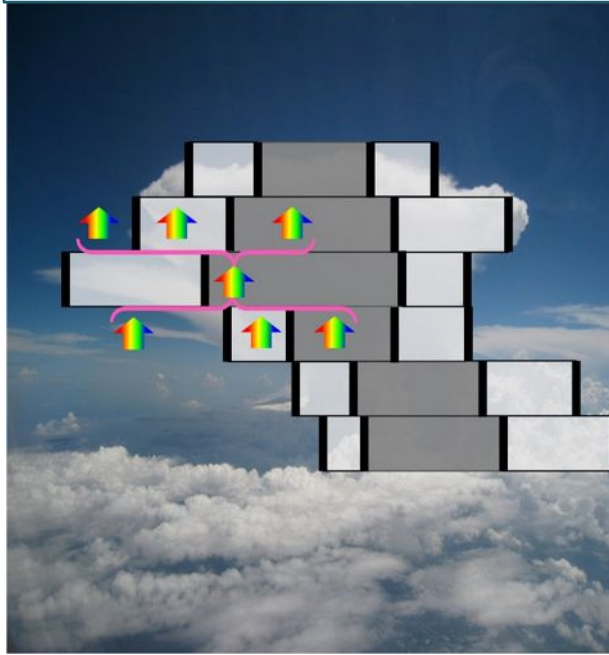
Simplify by treating **only vertical** dimension explicitly.

Deterministic:

Two-stream solver: solve in **cloudy / clear regions**, partition at layer boundaries according to **overlap**

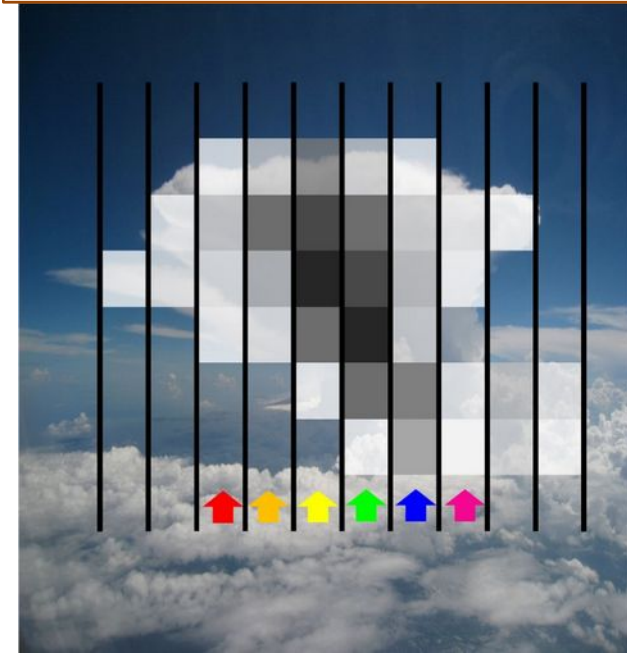


Tripleclouds/SPARTACUS (ecRad): similar; 3 regions: **clear, thin cloud, thick cloud cloud inhomogeneity**

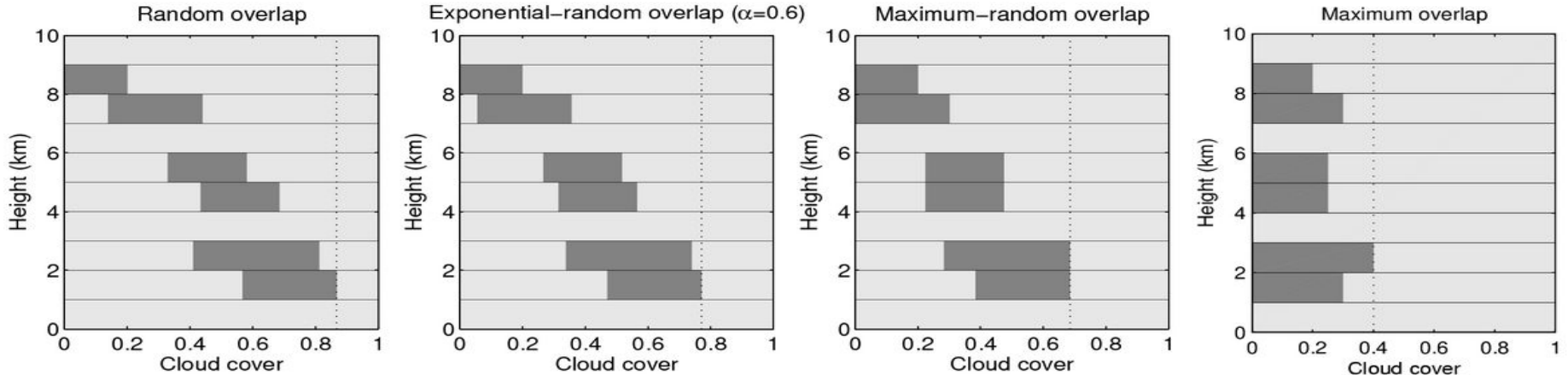


Stochastic:

McICA (ecRad): draw **random clouds** in sub-columns for overlap + inhomogeneity; **distribute spectral intervals** in 1 sub-column each **fast, random noise**

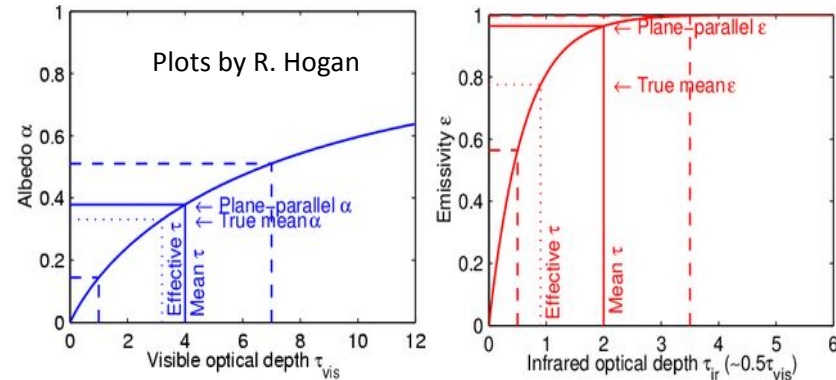


Cloud geometry uncertainties

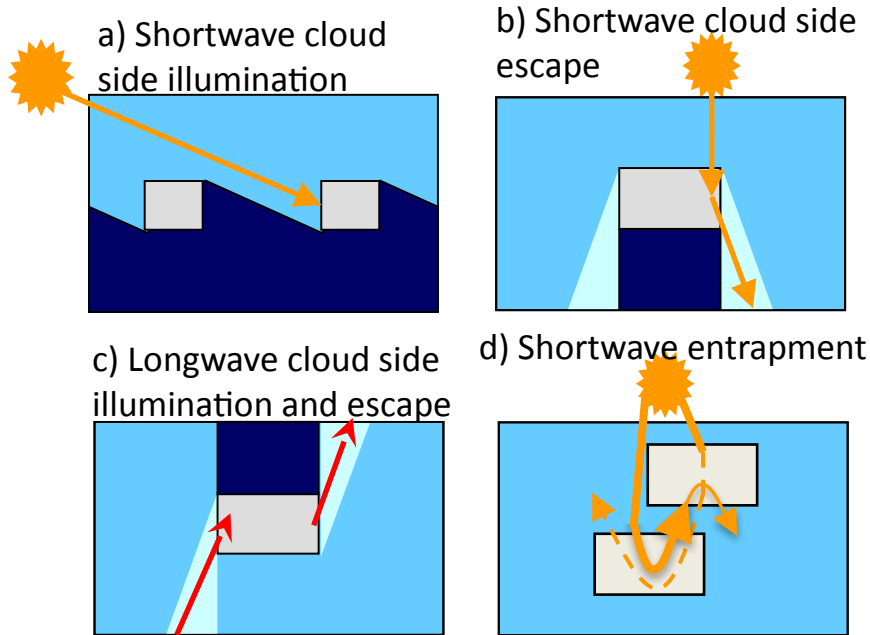


Adapted from Hogan & Illingworth 2000

- For given layer clouds, **cloud overlap** decides total cloud cover
- Observations: **exponential-random overlap**, decorrelation length 2 km (Hogan & Illingworth 2000) to 100-600 m (Neggers et al. 2011) - **Should depend** on cloud type
- Reflectivity and longwave emissivity **non-linear functions** of optical depth: need **horizontal cloud variability** (fractional standard deviation FSD = standard deviation / mean optical depth)
- Should also depend on cloud type, resolution



3D cloud effects



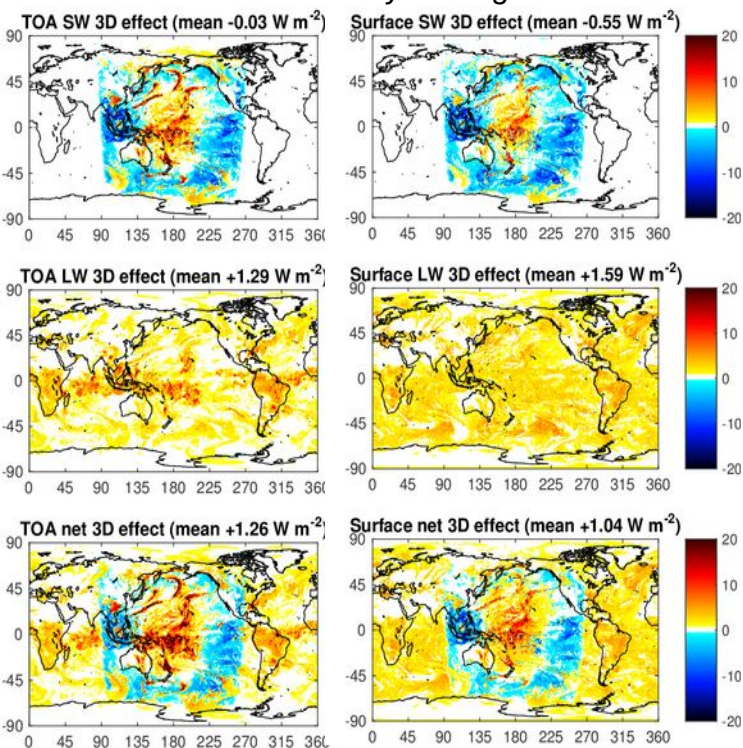
- **Shortwave cloud side illumination** increases cloud reflectivity, **cloud side escape** decreases cloud reflectivity
- **Longwave cloud side illumination and escape** increase cloud effect
- **Shortwave entrapment** decreases cloud reflectivity
- Similar effects at complex surfaces (trees / mountains / buildings)
- **Usually neglected, SPARTACUS** solver in ecRad can treat them (Schäfer et al. 2016, Hogan et al. 2016, 2019), cost x4

Further uncertainties: cloud optics (especially ice), surface coupling: albedo, emissivity, one- or multi-level
Cloud and aerosol input

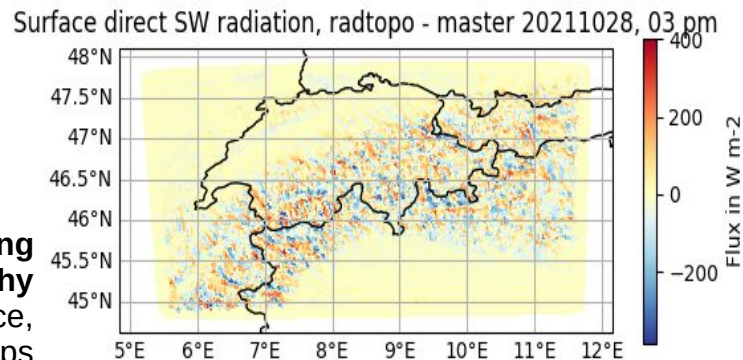
3D radiation in NWP / climate models

- Current AROME: cloud and vegetation 3D effects ignored; ORORAD corrections for 3D orography slope angle, shadowing, longwave skyview switched of due to bias (Rontu et al. 2016)

Instantaneous 3D cloud effects in Era5 field, 01.04.2000 0 UTC. Plots by R. Hogan



3D effects of **including shadowing by orography** on SW direct flux at surface, in ICON model, western Alps



- SURFEX: Mountain treatment with slopes for skyview (M.Lafaysse, I. Gouttevin et al.), NOT energy conserving when coupled to atmosphere; Buildings / vegetation: SPARTACUS coupled to TEB urban scheme (Schoetter et al 2024)
- In ecRad: SPARTACUS (Schäfer et al. 2016, Hogan et al. 2016, 2019) approximates sub-grid; depends on good geometry estimates
- Global 3D cloud effects: 1 W/m^2 (Hogan et al. 2019), partial compensations; some SPARTACUS biases in LW (ongoing work)
- Resolved 3D approximation POMART3D (R. Hogan, ECMWF, ongoing): tilted column + layerwise diffusion, ready for first testing

Impact of radiation options on radiation fluxes

Global ICON, Δx=40 km, 1y, TOA net down;
 Each cell mean bias, RMSE vs. CERES-EBAF

	1y 2020, SW	1y 2020, LW	1y 2020, clc (uncertain)
rrtm	1.78, 11.7	2.9, 6.51	-5.12, 9.15
ecrad	-0.0261, 9.18	-1.27, 5.65	-6.61, 9.95
lwscat	-0.11, 9.0	0.735, 5.41	-6.65, 10.0
tripleclouds	1.29, 8.92	-1.26, 5.38	-6.57, 9.84
SPARTACUS 3D	7.0, 11.3	2.48, 7.54	-5.86, 9.49
Slingo liquid	-0.452, 9.41	-0.341, 5.29	-6.07, 9.54
Baran 2016 ice	-1.4, 9.31	-1.04, 5.12	-6.69, 9.93
max-ran	1.61, 9.06	-1.87, 5.77	-6.69, 10.0
decorr 1000m	-1.89, 9.61	-0.575, 5.24	-6.67, 9.93
decorr param	0.538, 8.74	-1.39, 5.66	-6.68, 10.0
FSD 0.7	-3.16, 10.2	-0.0685, 5.44	-6.31, 9.81
FSD 1.4	4.52, 10.1	-3.1, 6.43	-7.05, 10.4
FSD param	1.26, 8.64	-1.4, 5.53	-6.66, 10.0

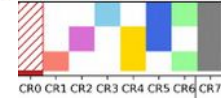
- Most radiation parameters only have small impact – larger uncertainty due to clouds
- Sensitivities fairly robust between models / height / runtimes, but errors vary wildly over cloud types

	ecRad	+Exp	+Max	+FSD	+Slingo	+SOCRATES
Biais	22.2/29.3	22.5/29.7	22.5/29.8	18.6/26.0	22.1/29.1	21.9/28.9
RMSE	71.8/109.3	71.9/109.4	71.9/109.5	71.7/109.4	71.8/109.5	71.6/109.1
SDE	68.2/105.3	68.3/105.3	68.3/105.3	69.2/106.2	68.4/105.3	68.2/105.2

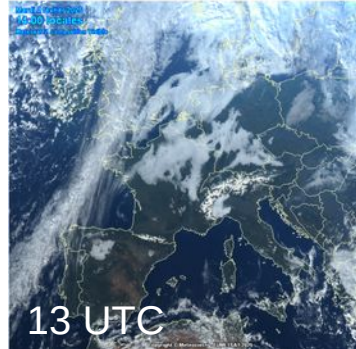
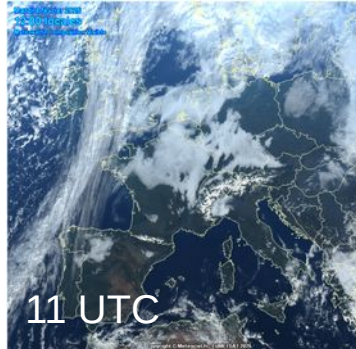
	+Yi	+Tripleclouds	+SPARTACUS	+k
Biais	20.7/28.1	23.6/30.7	23.6/30.6	29.5/37.2
RMSE	70.5/108.7	72.7/110.2	72.7/110.2	73.7/111.2
SDE	67.4/105.0	68.7/105.7	68.7/105.8	67.5/104.8

SW downward flux errors at surface in AROME Cy48t1 24h-forecasts for February / August 2020 (above) and February bias (SDE) by cloud type (below); Magnaldo (2024)

	CR0	CR1	CR2	CR3	CR4	CR5	CR6	CR7
ecRad	-18 (46)	-18 (64)	43 (91)	29 (58)	-4 (61)	38 (71)	18 (79)	21 (66)
+Exp	-18 (49)	-16 (63)	45 (66)	29 (59)	-2 (62)	38 (72)	17 (79)	21 (66)
+Max	-19 (49)	-16 (63)	47 (73)	29 (59)	-3 (62)	38 (71)	18 (79)	21 (67)
+FSD	-25 (50)	-25 (66)	46 (80)	28 (59)	-9 (65)	35 (71)	11 (80)	16 (67)
+Slingo	-20 (51)	-16 (63)	48 (96)	29 (60)	-1 (62)	37 (71)	17 (78)	21 (67)
+SOCRATES	-18 (47)	-19 (64)	36 (88)	29 (59)	-4 (61)	37 (70)	17 (78)	21 (67)
+Yi	-18 (47)	-18 (61)	36 (64)	31 (60)	-7 (60)	36 (70)	18 (79)	17 (63)
Tripleclouds	-16 (47)	-16 (64)	46 (74)	29 (59)	-1 (62)	37 (72)	20 (80)	24 (67)
SPARTACUS	-16 (48)	-16 (65)	45 (74)	29 (59)	-0 (62)	36 (71)	20 (80)	24 (67)
+k	-2 (40)	2 (64)	52 (77)	30 (60)	10 (61)	38 (71)	32 (77)	31 (66)



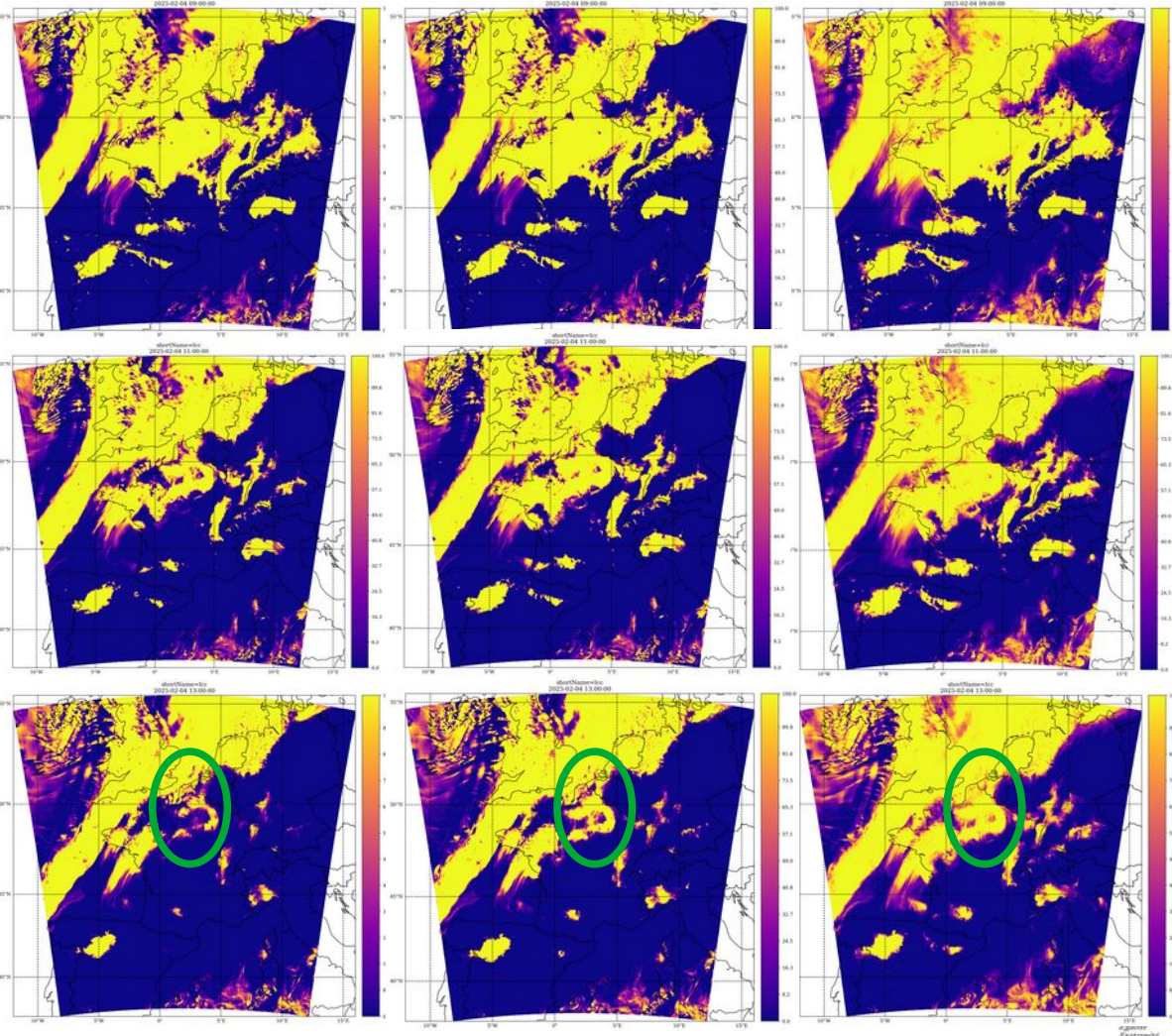
Case study: missing low cloud in AROME, 04.02.2025



Icc, AROME control

cloud FSD=0.0 (homog.)

cloud FSD=0.7, VSIGQSAT=0.05

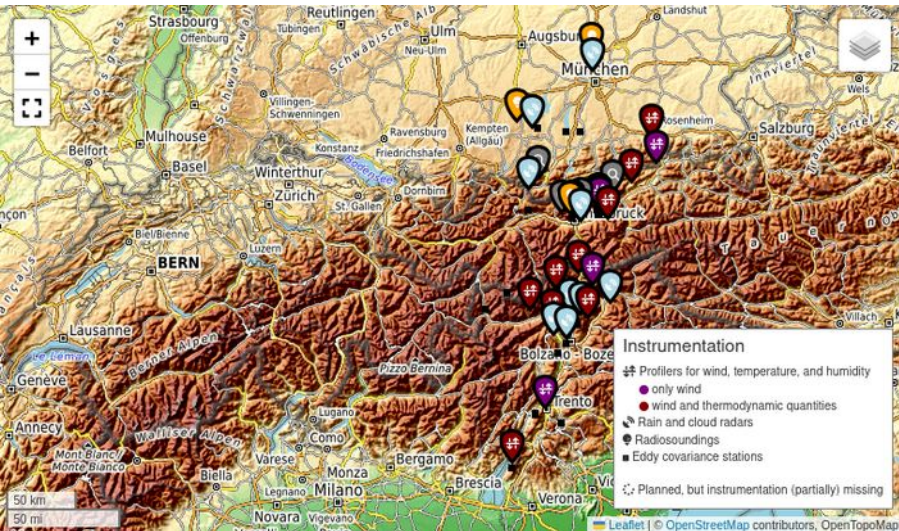


- Reducing cloud fractional standard deviation (FSD) increases the cloud radiative effect, **delays** afternoon cloud dispersal a bit
- Even with FSD=0, clouds still disperse too quickly
- Best : FSD 0.7 + VSIGQSAT=0.05 (from Sébastien Riette, increases cloud PDF width, de Rooy et al. 2010)

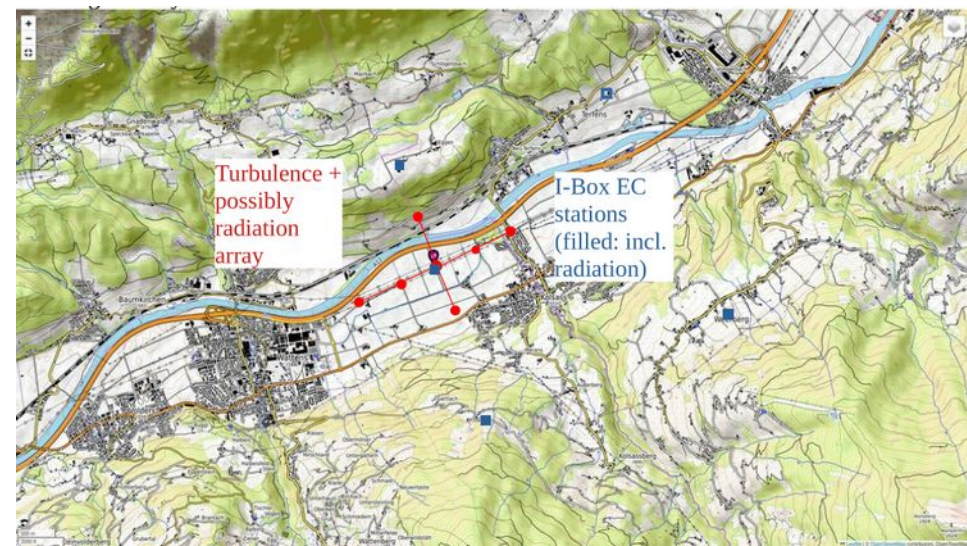
Planned AMCoM project on 3D physics in mountains

- Investigate 3D versus 1D model physics (radiation, turbulence, surface interactions) at high resolution in complex terrain, with Geosphere Austria, Uni Innsbruck, LEGI
- Use and develop 1D and 3D physics options in AROME and Meso-NH
- In TEAMx project (<https://www.teamx-programme.org>): Sept. 2024 – Sept 2025 with focus on complex terrain, energy fluxes, boundary layer, summer EOP 16 June – 25 July 2025: radiation obs array planned in Inn Valley (incl. CNRM instruments from CNRM)
- Improve current treatment for 3D mountains, test 3D cloud schemes in AROME / Meso-NH

Planned instrument locations in TEAMx campaign



Planned array in Inn Valley



Summary

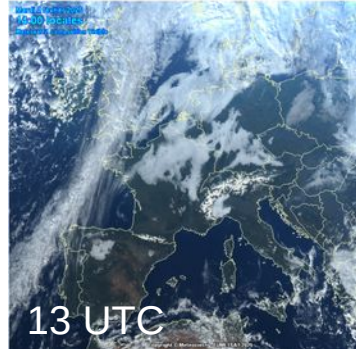
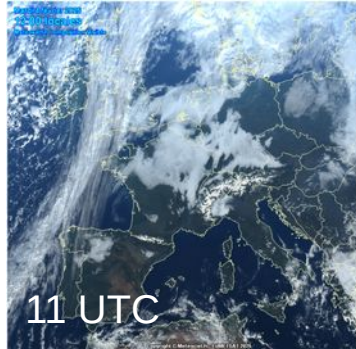
- ecRad operational in AROME, available in HARMONIE-AROME and ALARO
- Sensitivity tests: some uncertainty in cloud geometry, ice, even more in cloud input
- In HARMONIE-AROME, ecRad improves CSI, so do CAMS aerosols
- 3D radiation: mountains: ORORAD (AROME); clouds / vegetation: SPARTACUS sub-grid 3D, ongoing work on POMART3D for resolved 3D

- Ongoing: evaluation, optimisation of settings, consistency with other parametrisations (e.g. microphysics with ICCARE project), reduced radiation grid for AROME
- Planned project: AMCoM 3D physics in mountains
- Planned PhD project (with Dominique Bouniol, CNES): tropical cloud-radiation evaluation in AROME-Climat with EarthCARE data

Thank you for your attention!

Contact: sophia.schaefer@meteo.fr

Case study: missing low cloud in AROME, 04.02.2025

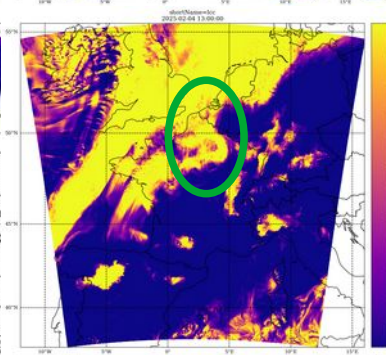
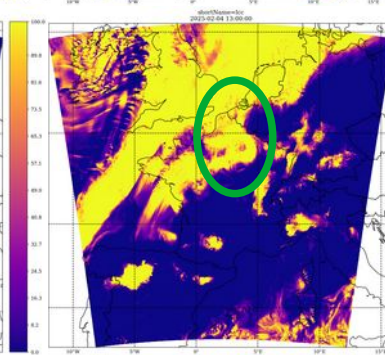
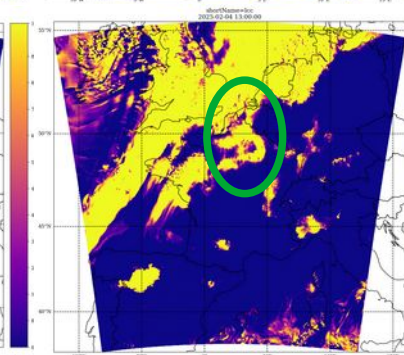
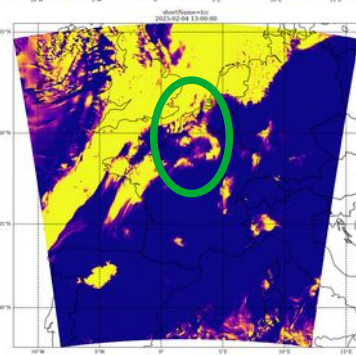
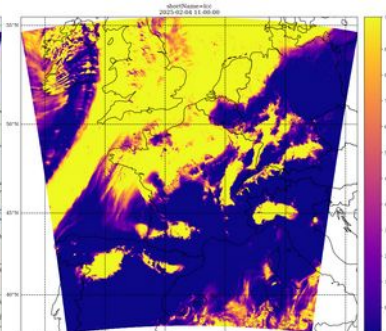
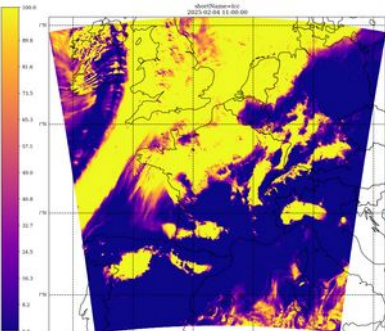
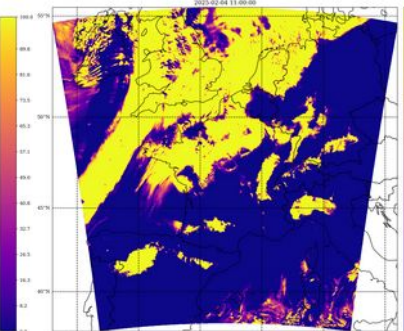
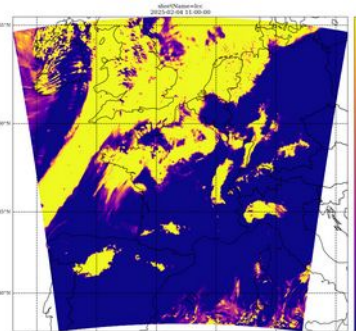
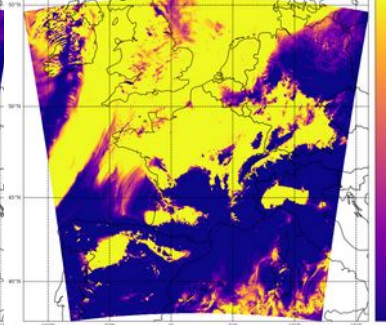
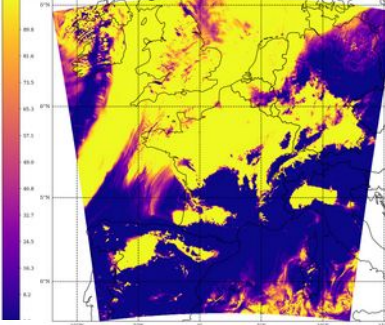
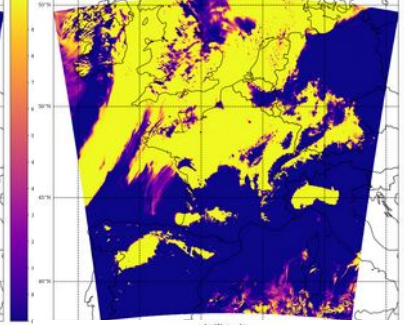
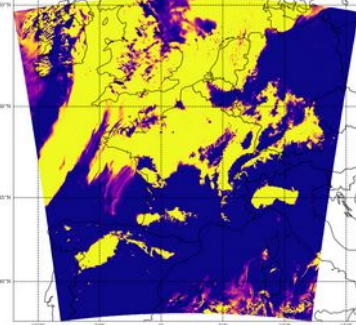


lcc, AROME control,
FSD=1

cloud FSD=0.0 (homog.)

cloud FSD=0.7,
VSIGQSAT=0.05

cloud FSD=1,
VSIGQSAT=0.05



Implementation of ecRad 1.6.1 in Meso-NH (consistent with ARPEGE/AROME, IFS)

- New cleaner implementation of ecRad and finished except for error with aerosols (with Quentin Rodier), will be available in Meso-NH 6.0 (summer 2025)
- Includes update to ecRad 1.6.1: new options for gas optics (ecckd), general cloud optics: user-defined number and type of cloud hydrometeors, general aerosol optics
- Plan to include ecRad in Meso-NH as external library (also at ECMWF for IFS): easier, cleaner code, automated conversion offline ↔ online versions of ecRad (implementation ongoing at ECMWF)
- Evaluation planned using Adèle Magnaldo's methodology

Scientific options:

- Cloud optical properties accounting for particle shape distribution, (liquid E. Jahangir, ice M. Taufour) is being combined with new ecRad version by collaboration with Christelle Barthe and Samira el-Gdachi (project ICCARE, LAERO)
- Reduced radiation grid (implemented by V. Masson)

Namelist Meso-NH: From MesoNH 6.0, all ecRad namelist parameters will be available (see src/MNH/modn_param_ecradn.F90, https://confluence.ecmwf.int/download/attachments/70945505/ecrad_documentation.pdf?version=4&modificationDate=1584914933898&api=v2)

NAMelist/NAM_PARAM_ECRADn/

IVERBOSESETUP, IVERBOSE, & # How much is written in output?

output fluxes, solver

LDO_SW, LDO_LW, LDO_SW_DIRECT, LDO_CLEAR, LDO_SURFACE_SW_SPECTRAL_FLUX, LDO_CANOPY_FLUXES_SW, LDO_CANOPY_FLUXES_LW & #which fluxes?

LDO_SAVE_SPECTRAL_FLUX, LDO_SAVE_GPOINT_FLUX, LDO_LW_DERIVATIVES, LDO_SAVE_RADIATIVE_PROPERTIES, &# save intermediate properties?

CSW_SOLVER_NAME, CLW_SOLVER_NAME, LDO_LW_CLOUD_SCATTERING, LDO_LW_AEROSOL_SCATTERING, & # Radiation solver, Do LW cloud / aerosol scattering?

gas / cloud optics

CGAS_MODEL_NAME, NRADLP, NRADIP, **CLIQUID_MODEL_NAME, CICE_MODEL_NAME,** LDO_FU_LW_ICE_OPTICS_BUG, & # gas, liquid, ice optics, do IFS ice bug?

CGAS_OPTICS_SW_OVERRIDE_FILE_NAME, CGAS_OPTICS_LW_OVERRIDE_FILE_NAME& # use gas optics from specified file ?

LDO_SW_DELTA_SCALING_WITH_GASES, LUSE_THICK_CLOUD_SPECTRAL_AVERAGING & # Do Delta-Eddington scaling with gases/ thick cloud spectral averaging?

XMAX_GAS_OD_3D, XMAX_CLOUD_OD, **LUSE_GENERAL_CLOUD_OPTICS,** & # max. gas / cloud optical depth, General cloud types method?

CLOUD_TYPE_NAME, CCLIQ_OPTICS_OVERRIDE_FILE_NAME, CICE_OPTICS_OVERRIDE_FILE_NAME, & # Vector of cloud types, liquid / ice optics from specified file?

aerosols

LUSE_AEROSOLS, LUSE_GENERAL_AEROSOL_OPTICS, & # Do aerosols? Use general aerosol method?

LDO_CLOUD_AEROSOL_PER_SW_G_POINT, LDO_CLOUD_AEROSOL_PER_LW_G_POINT, & # do aerosols per band or per g-point?

NAEROSOL_TYPES , NI_AEROSOL_TYPE_MAP, CAEROSOL_OPTICS_OVERRIDE_FILE_NAME, & number + type of aerosols, use aerosol optics from file?

Surface

SURF_TYPE, LDO_WEIGHTED_SURFACE_MAPPING, & # Surface type / mapping

LSPEC_ALB, LSPEC_EMISS, LDO_NEAREST_SPECTRAL_SW_ALBEDO, LDO_NEAREST_SPECTRAL_LW_EMISS, & # spectral albedo / emissivity / mapping method

ISW_ALBEDO_INDEX, ILW_EMISS_INDEX, XSW_ALBEDO_WAVELENGTH_BOUND, XLW_EMISS_WAVELENGTH_BOUND, & # Albedo / emissivity index / bands

cloud geometry

XCLOUD_FRACTION_THRESHOLD, XCLOUD_MIXING_RATIO_THRESHOLD, & minimum thresholds for cloud

OVERLAP_SCHEME_NAME, LUSE_BETA_OVERLAP, NREG, **XCLOUD_FRAC_STD,** & # vertical overlap scheme, beta overlap? number of regions, fractional stand. dev.

XCLOUD_INHOM_DECORR_SCALING, XCLEAR_TO_THICK_FRACTION & # cloud inhomogeneity overlap compared to region overlap, ratio of thick cloud next to clear

CLOUD_PDF_SHAPE_NAME, CLOUD_PDF_OVERRIDE_FILE_NAME, & # name of horizontal cloud distribution PDF / Use PDF from file?

SPARTACUS solver: 3D effects

LDO_3D_EFFECTS, LDO_LW_SIDE_EMISSIVITY, LDO_3D_LW_MULTILAYER_EFFECTS, XMAX_3D_TRANSFER_RATE, & #Do 3D effects? / Which ones? Maximum 3D flux

CSW ENTRAPMENT NAME. LUSE EXPM EVERYWHERE. XOVERHANG FACTOR. XOVERHEAD SUN FACTOR. & # method entrapment. matrix exponential. min SZA 3D

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