

A Consortium for CONvection-scale modelling  
Research and Development

**On the process-oriented validation of weather forecasting models;  
status and perspectives in ACCORD**

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ACCORD ASW-5, 31 March - 4 April 2025, Zalakaros, Hungary

# Outlook

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- **Background & significance**
- **Summary of the Madrid WW and more**
- **Future perspectives in ACCORD**

## **Motivation**

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**Why do we need a process-oriented validation?**

# Storm-resolving NWP & impact weather

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**Models are expected to provide a confidence in climate projections (many decades) and weather predictions for hours (sub-hours) to seasons**

- Predicting the **mean weather** well; but storm-resolving NWP focus more on deep convective weather systems => improving extreme meteorological weather
- **Impact weather** - extreme meteorological events from users' points of view  
(icing on roads, icing on structures, small-scale (local) showers, UAV aviation needs)
  - Need of **process-oriented weather forecast** (the mean weather forecast insufficient)

# Option 1: improve parameterization

$$\frac{\partial q^{l,s}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \nabla q^{l,s} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla F_z^{l,s} + S_z^{l,s} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P^{l,s}}{\partial z}$$

Hydrometeors evolution

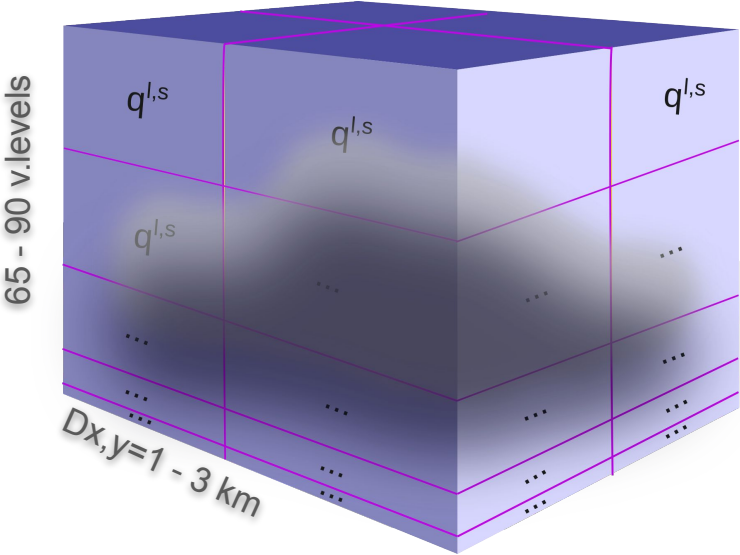
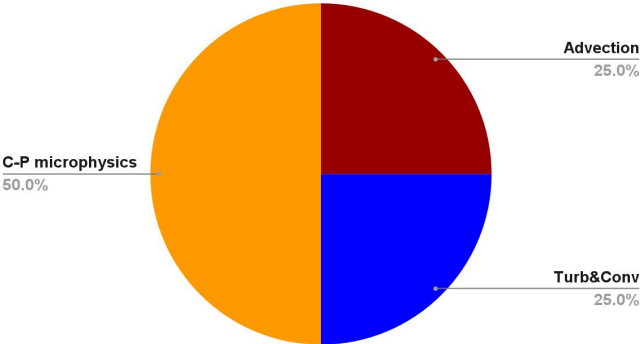
Large-scale transport (advection)

Turbulent and convection transport

Microphysics: condensation, freezing, autoconversion,

Precipitation and sedimentation flux

Points scored



**Well established balance between large-scale and SGS contribution in NWP currently**

# Option 2: towards VHR in NWP? E.g. DE\_330

$$\frac{\partial q^{l,s}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \nabla q^{l,s} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \mathbf{F}^{l,s} + S_z^{l,s} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P^{l,s}}{\partial z}$$

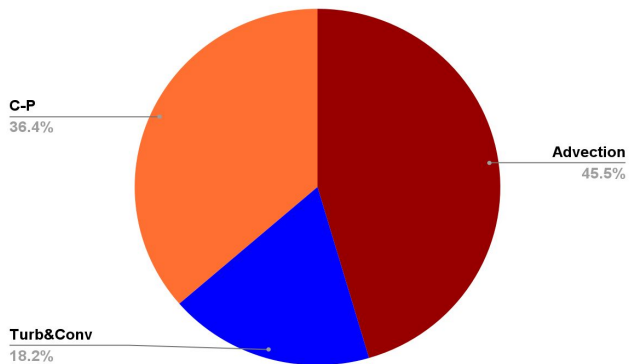
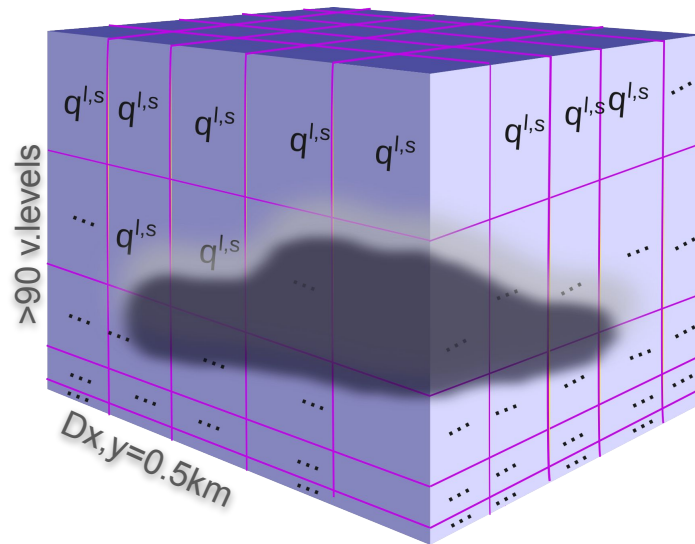
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**The balance between dynamics and SGS partitioning has to be reestablished for any new scale of interest.**

**Again, we need to adjust the parameterization**

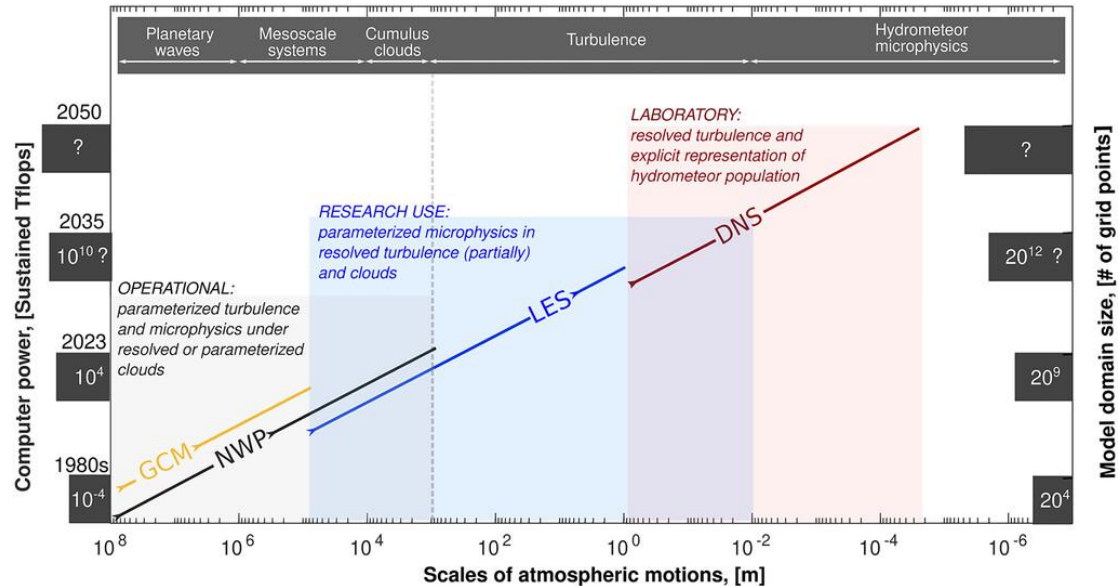
# Challenge

In order to improve/adjust, one needs to understand first:

What is the “true”? How much (q, T, v, cloud, rain, snow, SGS mixing (1D vs 3D)? When? Where?

**We need a reliable reference (benchmarks)**

- Process-oriented weather forecast requires a process-oriented validation framework



## Why do we need a process-oriented validation?

*“A key opportunity to accelerate model improvement is greater incorporation of process-oriented diagnostics (PODs) into standard packages that can be applied during the model development process, allowing the application of diagnostics to be repeatable across multiple model versions and used as a benchmark for model improvement.”*

[Meloney et al. 2019, BAMS]

1st ACCORD WW on process-oriented validation

Click the [link](#) to the ww wiki page

[accor\\_phys](#)

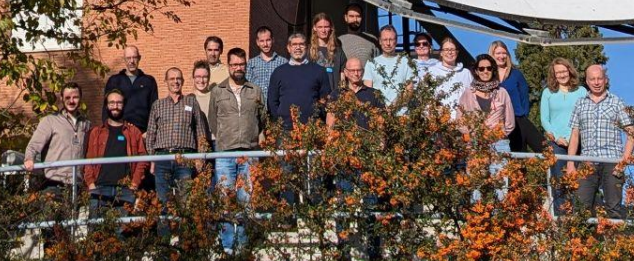
[accord\\_mqa](#)

[accord\\_sys](#)

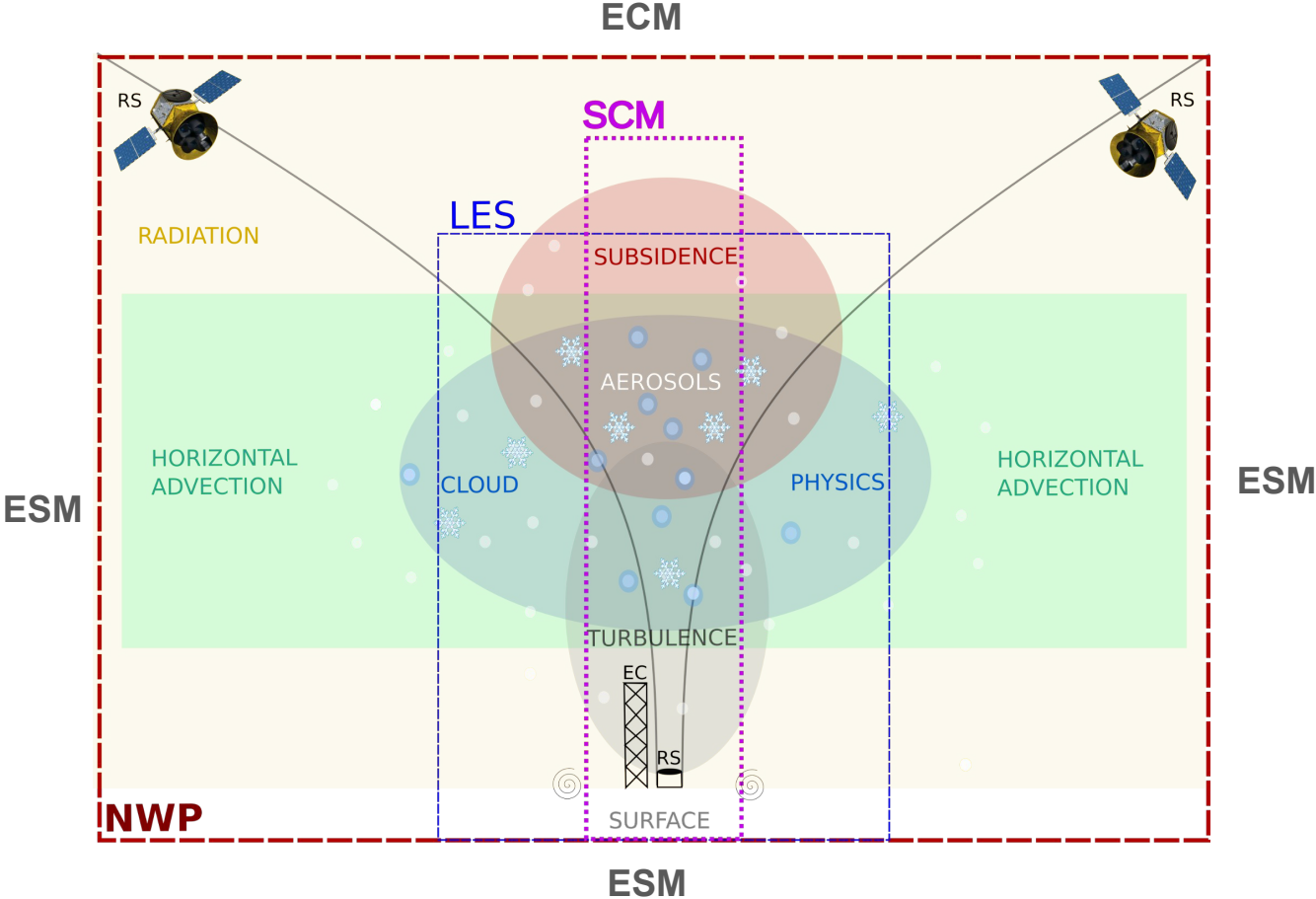
[accord\\_surf](#)

[de\\_330](#)

[CloudNet -ASTRICS](#)



# Goal: build a common process-oriented validation framework



## Acknowledgements to ...

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- **Hosts of the WW on process-oriented model validation at AEMET (Madrid, Nov. 2024)**
- **All participants (online and in person) during the working week**
- **All those who could not participate but contributed before and after**
- **TEAMx team/coordinator (Manuela Lehner) for the online access to their workshop**

# Methods

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## Models

- GCM, Reanalysis (forcing)
- LEM (coarser to higher grids)
- LES (at supersites, locations of interests)
- SCM (at supersites, locations of interests)
- SURFEX offline
- Stand-alone models
- Learned-by-data models

## Observations

- SYNOP (conventional)
- Remote Sensing (ground, space): LiDAR, MWR, Cloud radar, Ceilometer
- Tower: flux-gradients, radiation
- Non-conventional (other), specific campaigns

## Specialized tools

- Model output/interpolations: **DDH, EPyGrAM**
- Visualize/statistics: **various scripts (py, R)**

# Methodology - draft framework

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STEP 1:	Working problem <b>DEFINE</b>	Warm bias in vSBLs, Rain from OCC, cloudiness in high-pressure systems, ...	...
STEP 2:	Affected (parameterization) scheme <b>SELECT</b>	Microphysics, convective and turbulent transport, radiation, surface-atmosphere exchange, ...	
STEP 3:	Reference (REF) <b>CREATE</b>	Observations (a set off), LES	
STEP 4:	Controlled case (stand alone) <b>CREATE</b>	Parameterization vs reference <b>COMPARE &amp; IMPROVE</b>	
STEP 5:	Improved scheme in 1D <b>TEST</b>	OFF => technical check (vs CTRL) ON => works as expected (vs REF)	
STEP 6:	Improved scheme in 3D <b>TEST</b>	OFF => technical check (vs CTRL) ON => works as expected (vs REF)	
STEP 7:	Domain-statistic verification <b>PERFORM</b>	Scors (e.g. HARP) Check effects on other variables	

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**Status:**

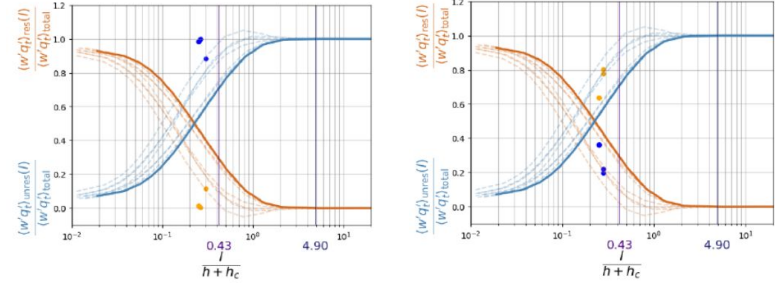
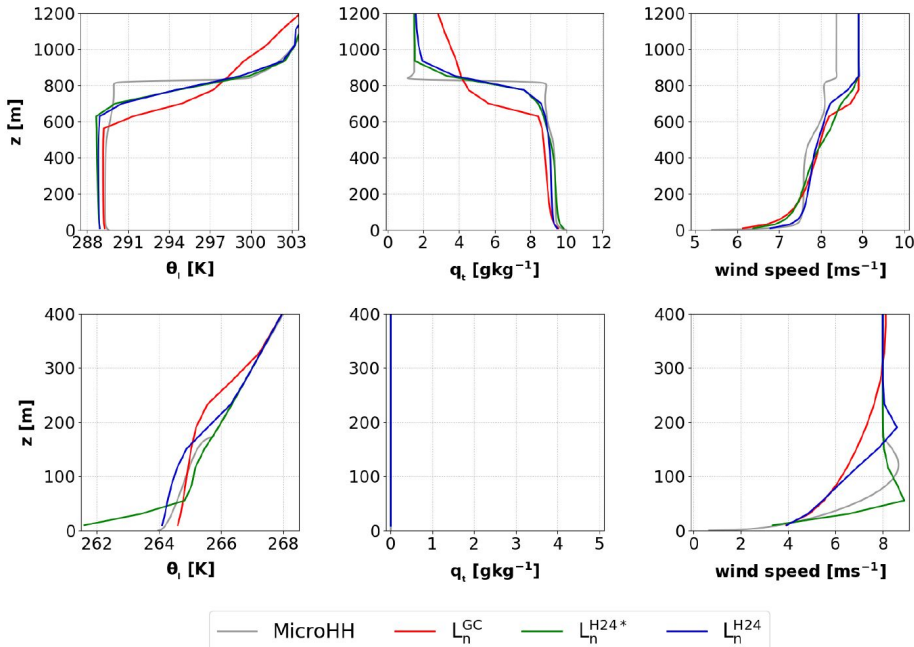
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# Status:

# turbulence and convection

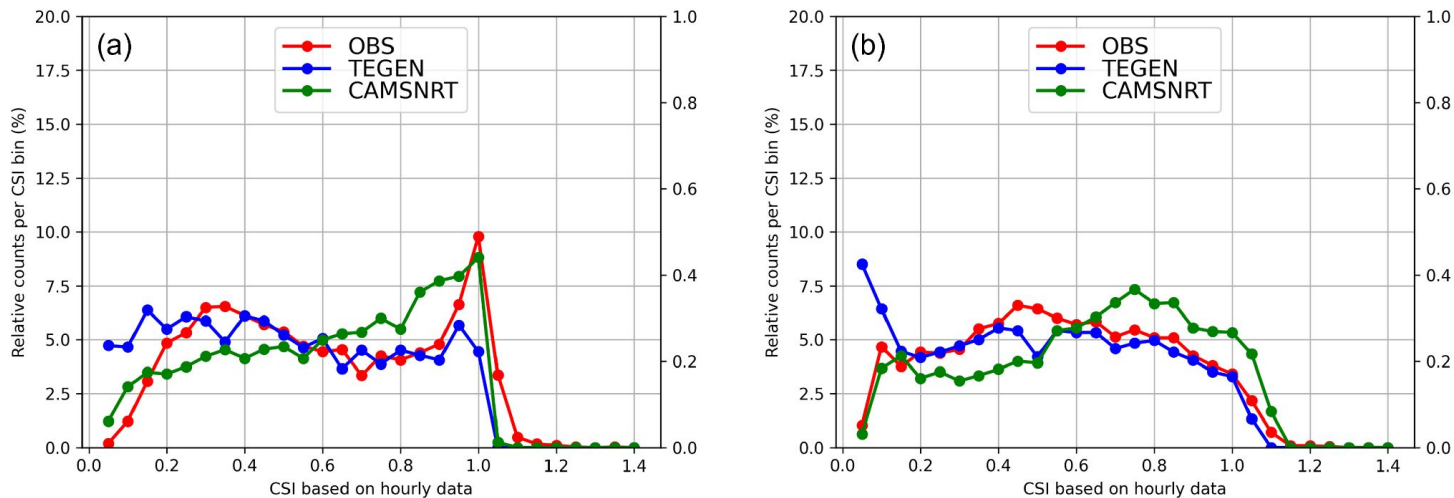
Process-oriented validation of the TOUCANS scheme [Mario Hrastinski via David Nemeč]

Process-oriented validation of the EDMF scheme [Wim de Rooy via Emily Gleeson]



(i) HARMONIE run of the Cabauw case, at 500m resolution, with the original EDMF-scheme.

(iii) HARMONIE run of the Cabauw case, at 500m resolution, with the scale-adaptive MF-scheme, and the  $w_{max}$  threshold.



**Figure 7.** Distribution of CSI for summer (a) and winter (b) 2-week periods, obtained from observations over Ireland and from the results of two HARMONIE-AROME Cycle 46 experiments, with prescribed CDNC (Tegen) and with CDNC derived from CAMS data (CAMSNRT). [Gleeson *et al.* 2024]

# Status:

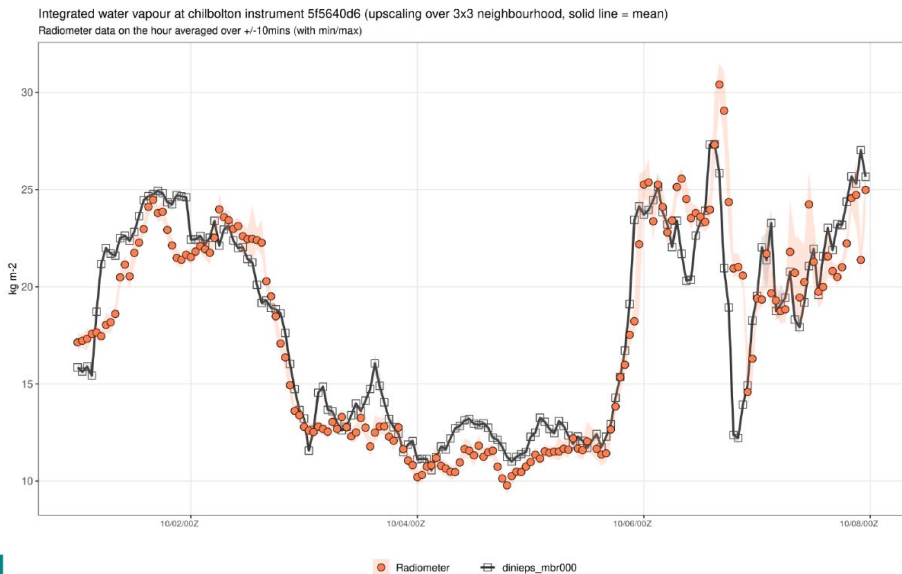
## cloud-precipitation microphysics

Process-oriented validation of ICE3 in HARMONIE-AROME: IWV [James Fannon]:

Github/Repo: [https://github.com/j-fannon/cloudnet\\_harmonie\\_comp](https://github.com/j-fannon/cloudnet_harmonie_comp)

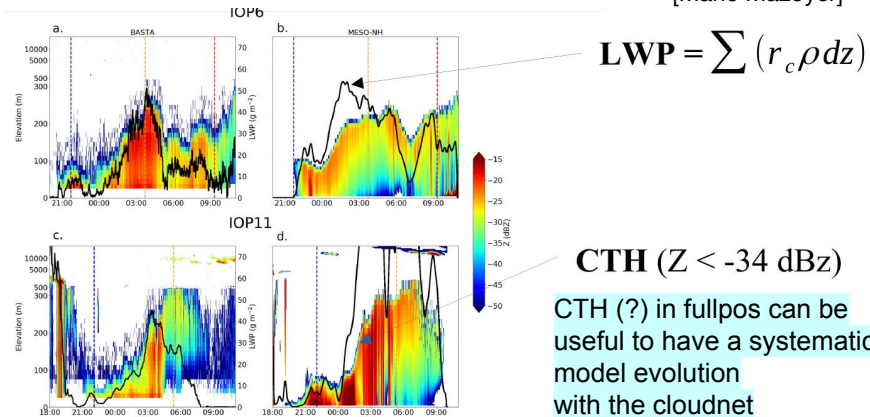
Tutorial (install within/link to HARP)

Scripts to plot/analyse



Process-oriented validation of LIMA scheme in Meso-NH using PHYEX

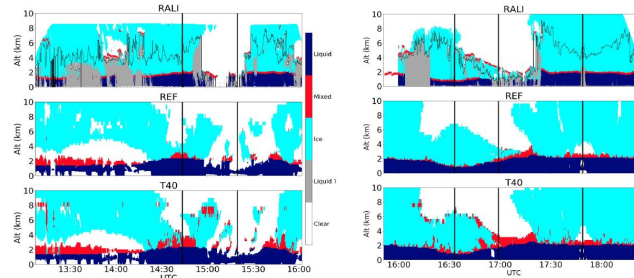
[Marie Mazoyer]



Fog process validation – SOFOG3D (Burnet et al, 2020)

Observation, Radar-Lidar (RALI) platform (Delanoë et al., 2013)

Meso-NH, mixed-phase clouds : LWC / (IWC + LWC) > 10 % (Korolev et al., 1998)



# Status:

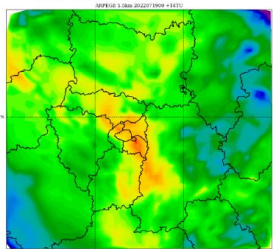
# surface forcing and near-surface diagnostics

(more details by Patrick, Katya, Martina, Eric)

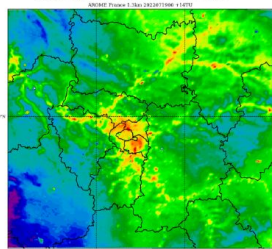
[Salomé Antoine]:

How to show the improvements of a new system?

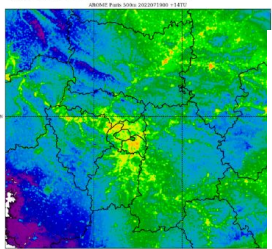
ARPEGE +14TU



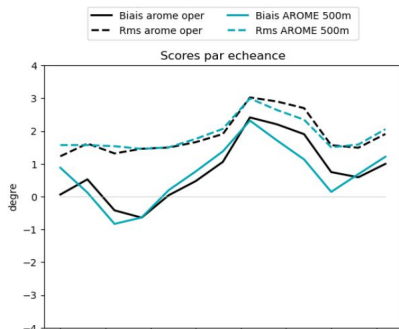
AROME 1.3Km +14TU



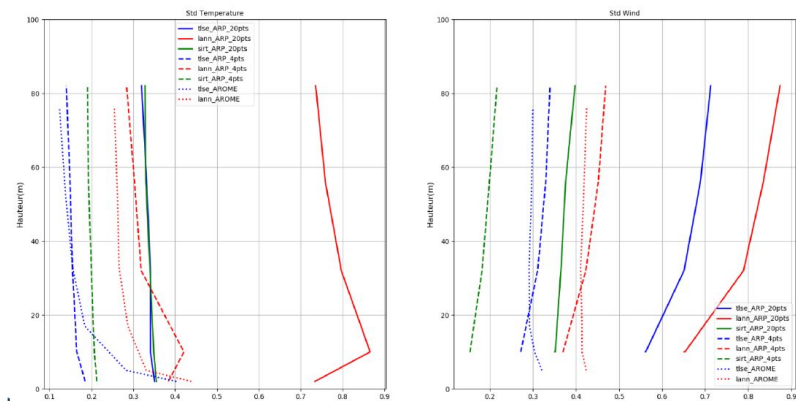
AROME 500m +14TU



(Images from E. Bazile)



How to compare models with different resolutions to obs?



- AROME (16pt) close to ARPEGE (4pt), especially for Toulouse

# Status:

# important specialized tools (DDH, EPyGrAM 2.x)

## [Jean-Marcel Piriou and all]:

Budget equation in  $\eta$  coordinate for the variable  $X$  :

$$\frac{1}{g} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial \pi}{\partial \eta} X \right) = \frac{1}{g} \frac{\partial \pi}{\partial \eta} \sum_{\mathcal{D}} \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{D}} - \sum_{\varphi} \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}_{\varphi}}{\partial \eta} + \mathcal{E}$$

- $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{D}}$  : Dynamical tendencies, e.g horizontal or vertical advection, pressure gradient, ...
- $\mathcal{F}_{\varphi}$  : Physical fluxes, e.g [radiation, convection, turbulence, precipitation, ...], from parametrizations.
- $\mathcal{E}$  : Residual, unexplained by physical or dynamical explicit terms, e.g [horizontal diffusion, semi-implicit correction, ...]

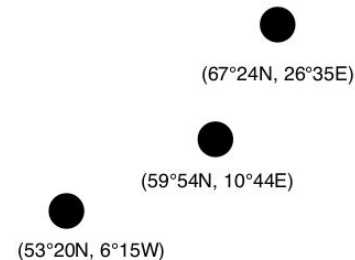
Output:

- **Budgets** : mass (PP), water vapour (QV), kinetic energy (KK), angular momentum (A1,A2,A3), entropy (SS), potential energy (EP), temperature (CT), etc.
- **Domains** : the whole model domain, zonal bands, limited area domains (rectangles, polygons), isolated grid points.

## [Marvin Kähnert]:

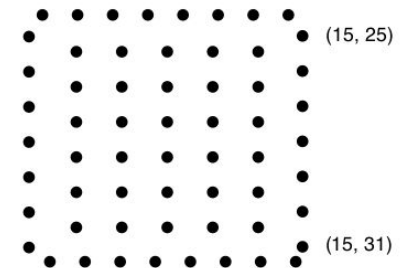
**BDEDDH(01, domain) = X**

**X = 1**



extract a single point of interest based on lon /lat

**X = 4**



extract region of interest and investigate in detail

# What's next?

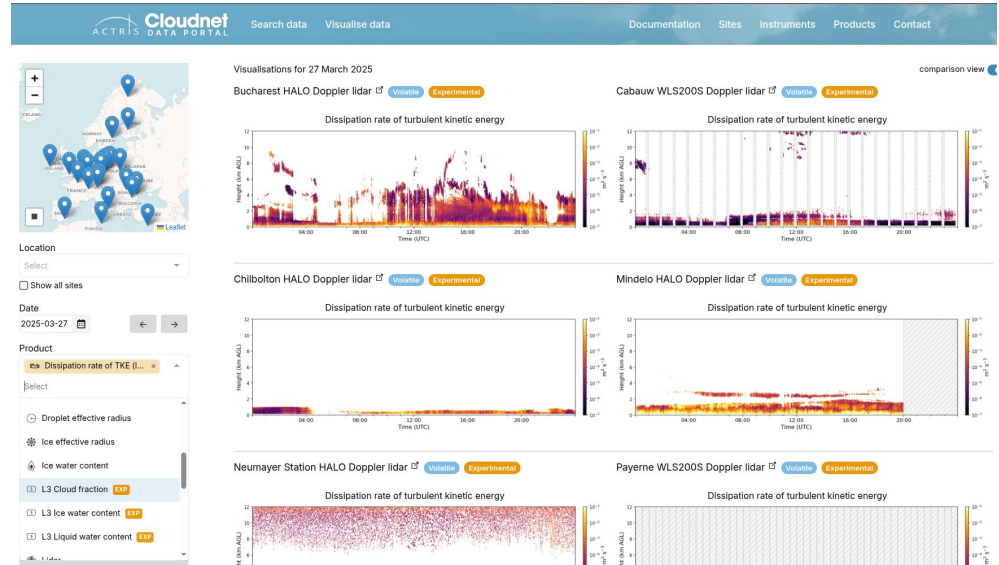
- Special issue from the AMS on process oriented diagnostics: [learn from others](#)

The image shows two screenshots of the AMS Journals website. The top screenshot displays the article "Process-Oriented Evaluation of Climate and Weather Forecasting Models" from the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, Volume 100, Issue 9. The article is by Eric D. Maloney, Andrew Gettelman, Yi Ming, J. David Neelin, Daniel Barrie, Annarita Mariotti, C.-C. Chen, Danielle R. B. Coleman, Yi-Hung Kuo, Bohar Singh, H. Annamalai, Alexis Berg, James F. Booth, Suzana J. Camargo, Aiguo Dai, Alex Gonzalez, Jan Hafner, Xianan Jiang, Xianwen Jing, Daehyun Kim, Arun Kumar, Yumin Moon, Catherine M. Naud, Adam H. Sobel, Kentaroh Suzuki, Fuchang Wang, Junhong Wang, Allison A. Wing, Xiaobiao Xu, and Ming Zhao. The abstract discusses realistic climate and weather prediction models and the use of process-oriented diagnostics (PODs).

The bottom screenshot displays the article "Benchmarking and Process Diagnostics of Land Models" from the Journal of Hydrometeorology, Volume 19, Issue 11. The article is by Grey S. Nearing, Benjamin L. Ruddell, Martyn P. Clark, Bart Nijssen, and Christa Peters-Lidard. The abstract discusses a conceptual and theoretical foundation for information-based model benchmarking and process diagnostics.

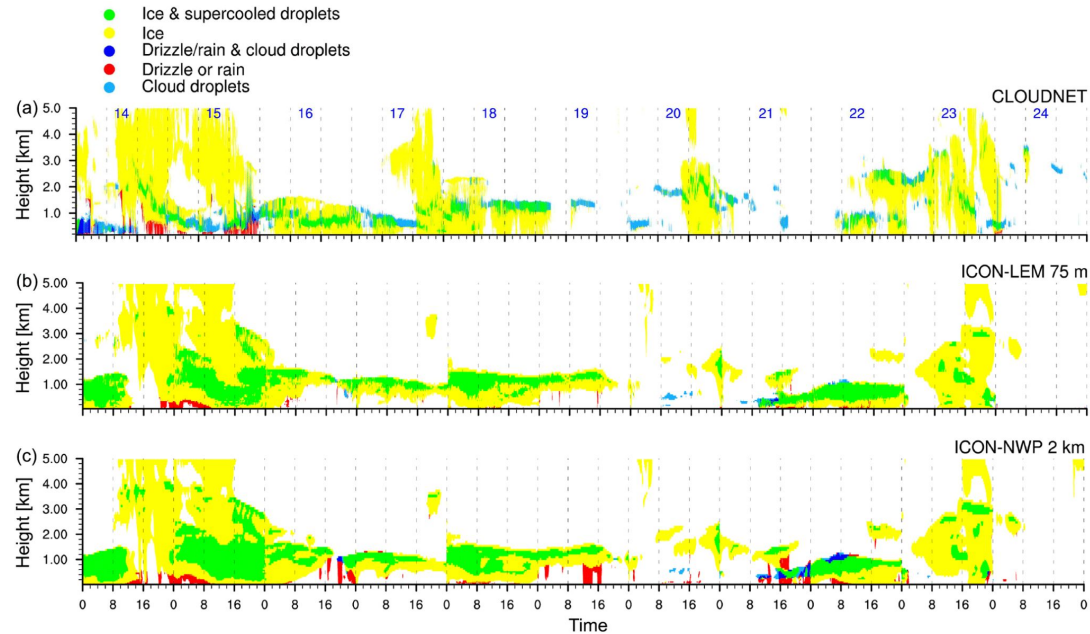
# What's next?

- Many validation tools has been already developed by CloudNet team. And new products are on the way; we have established a collaboration of data exchange. To be continued ...



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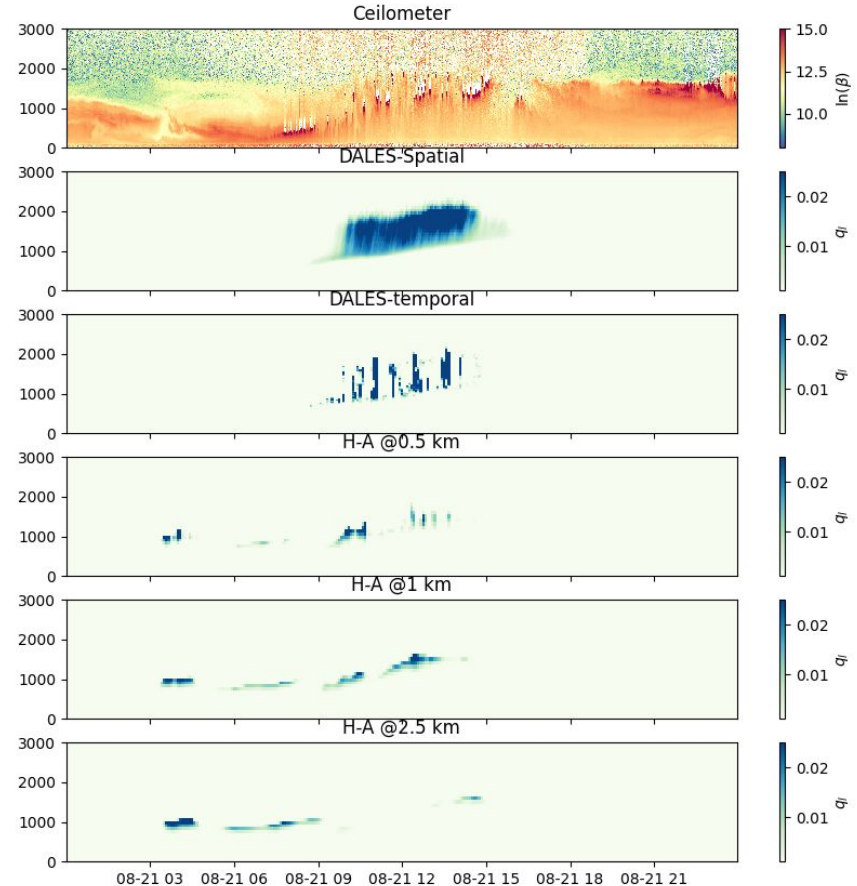
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- It is convenient to have our own scripts and tools; a work is ongoing ...
  - Target classification from model output



[Scheman and Ebell, 2020, ACP]

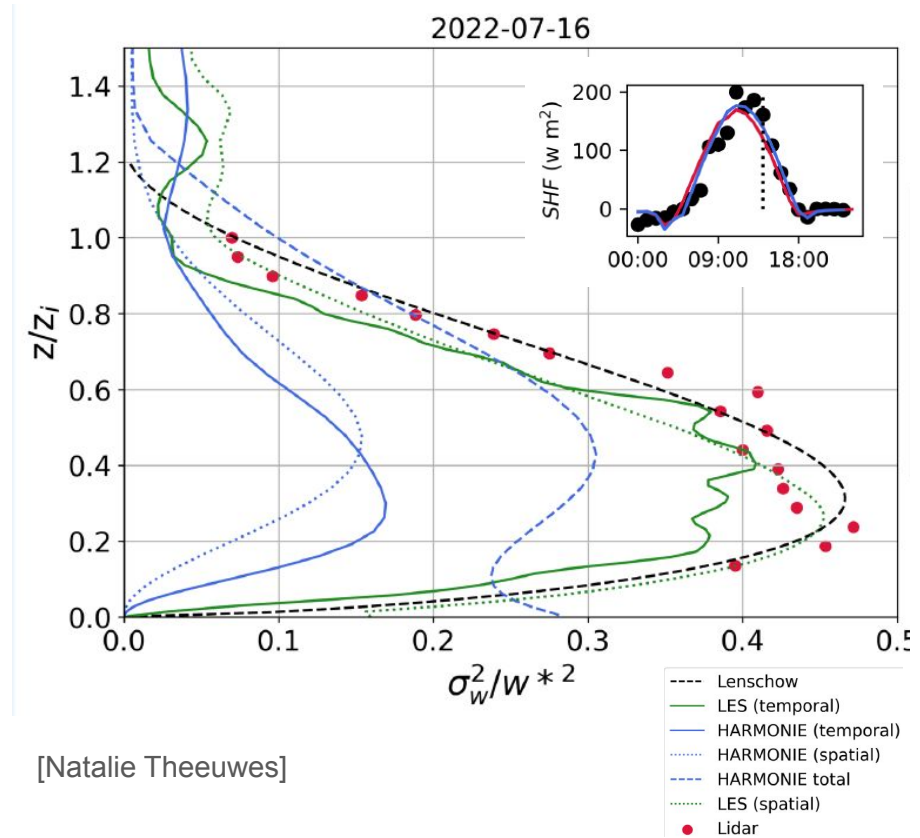
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- It is convenient to have our own scripts and tools;
  - Target classification from model output & lwc, iwc (on similar temporal scales)
  - Link LiDAR (ceilometer), LES, NWP (time step output, DDH)



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  - Link Doppler LiDAR, EC, LES, NWP



[Natalie Theeuwes]

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  - Link LiDAR (ceilometer), LES, NWP
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- A common MUSC:
  - Cy49T2+
  - ARMCU (SURFEX/noSURFEX)
  - DAVAI test

