

A roadmap to Earth surface kilometre-scale simulations

G. Balsamo, A. Agusti-Panareda, G. Arduini, A. Beljaars, S. Boussetta, M. Choulga, E. Dutra, H. Hersbach, J. Munoz-Sabater, P. de Rosnay, I. Sandu, N. Wedi and several others

Outline: (i) land reanalysis past & present, (ii) modelling enhancement, (iii) mapping challenge.

Presented on 17 November 2017, 5th International Conference on Reanalysis, Rome
ECMWF, Earth System Modelling Section, Coupled Processes Team

gianpaolo.balsamo@ecmwf.int



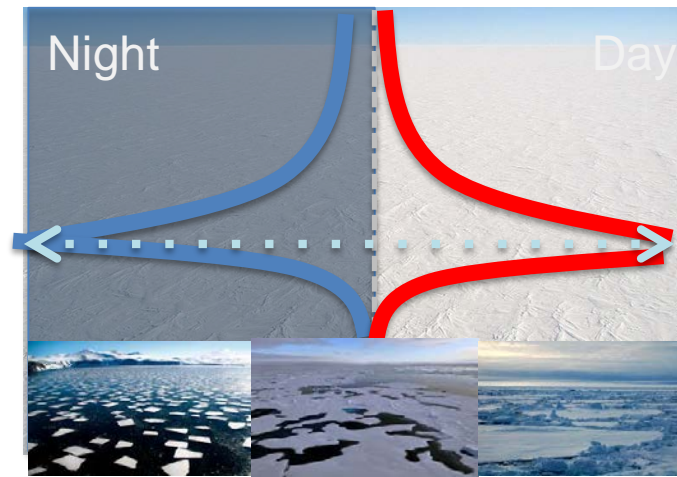
Modelling surface heterogeneity and coupling with the atmosphere

- The processes that are most relevant for near-surface weather prediction are also those that are most interactive and exhibit positive feedbacks or have key role in energy partitioning



Over Land

- Snow-cover, ice freezing/melting have positive feedback via the albedo
- Vegetation growth and variability interact with turbulence & moisture
- Vertical heat transport in soil/snow



Over Ocean/Cryosphere

- Transition from open-sea to ice-covered conditions
- Sea-state dependent interaction wind induced mixing/waves
- Vertical transport of heat



Over Water-bodies

- Lakes have large thermal inertia
- Different albedo & roughness

Spatial heterogeneity calls for high-resolution horizontal/vertical to represent the surface-atmosphere coupling

Earth surface modelling components @ECMWF

• NEMO3.4

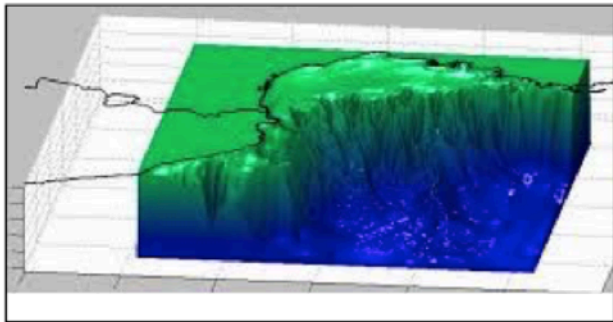
NEMO3.4 (Nucleus for European Modelling of the Ocean)

[Madec et al. \(2008\)](#)

[Mogensen et al. \(2012\)](#)

ORCA1_Z42: 1.0° x 1.0°

ORCA025_Z75 : 0.25° x 0.25°



• EC-WAM

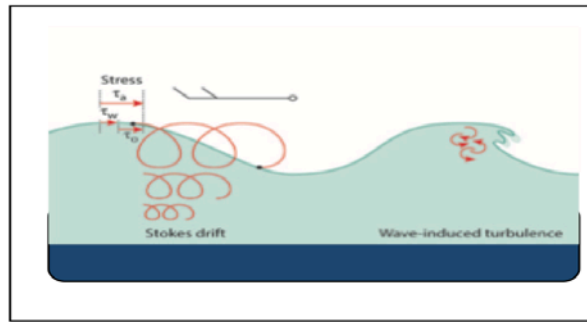
ECMWF Wave Model

[Janssen, \(2004\)](#)

[Janssen et al. \(2013\)](#)

ENS-WAM : 0.25° x 0.25°

HRES-WAM: 0.125° x 0.125°



• LIM2

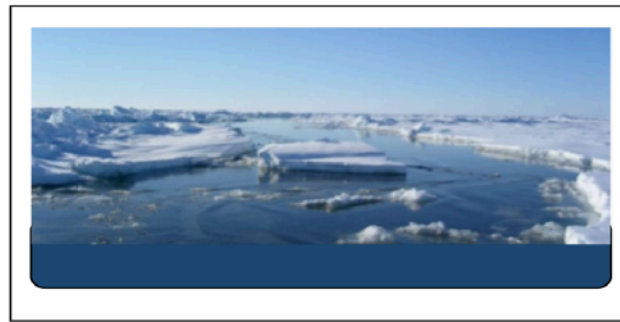
The Louvain-la-Neuve [Sea Ice Model](#)

[Fichefet and Morales Maqueda \(1997\)](#)

[Bouillon et al. \(2009\)](#)

[Vancoppenolle et al. \(2009\)](#)

ORCA025_Z75 : 0.25° x 0.25°



Atm/L and resol.	ECMWF Config. in 2017
80 km	ERA1*
32 km	ERA5* SEAS5
18 km	ENS
9 km	HRES+

• Hydrology-**TESSEL**

[Balsamo et al. \(2009\)](#)
[van den Hurk and Viterbo \(2003\)](#)

Global Soil Texture (FAO)

New hydraulic properties

Variable Infiltration capacity & surface runoff revision

• **NEW SNOW**

[Dutra et al. \(2010\)](#)

Revised snow density

Liquid water reservoir

Revision of Albedo and sub-grid snow cover

• **NEW LAI**

[Boussetta et al. \(2013\)](#)

New satellite-based

Leaf-Area-Index

• **SOIL Evaporation**

[Balsamo et al. \(2011\),](#)

[Alberico et al. \(2012\)](#)

• **H₂O / E / CO₂**

Integration of

Carbon/Energy/Water

[Boussetta et al. 2013](#)

[Agusti-Panareda et al. 2015](#)

• **Lake & Coastal area**

[Mironov et al \(2010\),](#)

[Dutra et al. \(2010\),](#)

[Balsamo et al. \(2012, 2010\)](#)

Extra tile (9) to for sub-grid lakes and ice

LW tiling (Dutra)

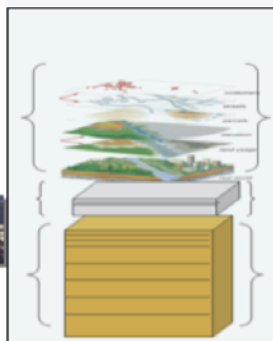
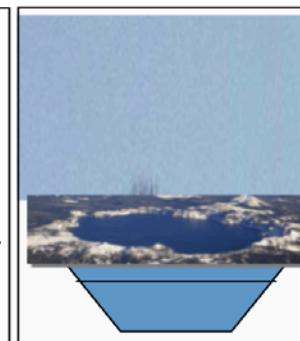
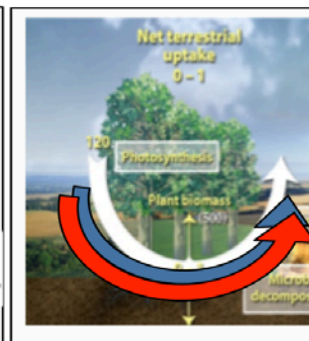
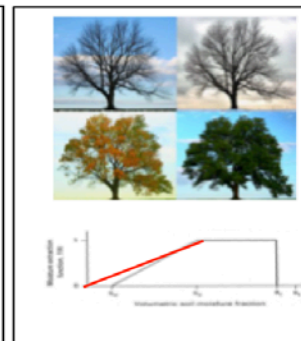
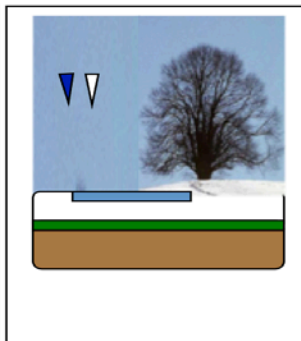
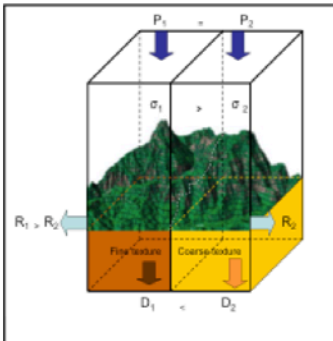
• **Enhance ML**

Snow ML5

Soil ML9

[Dutra et al. \(2012, 2016\)](#)

[Balsamo et al. \(2016\)](#)



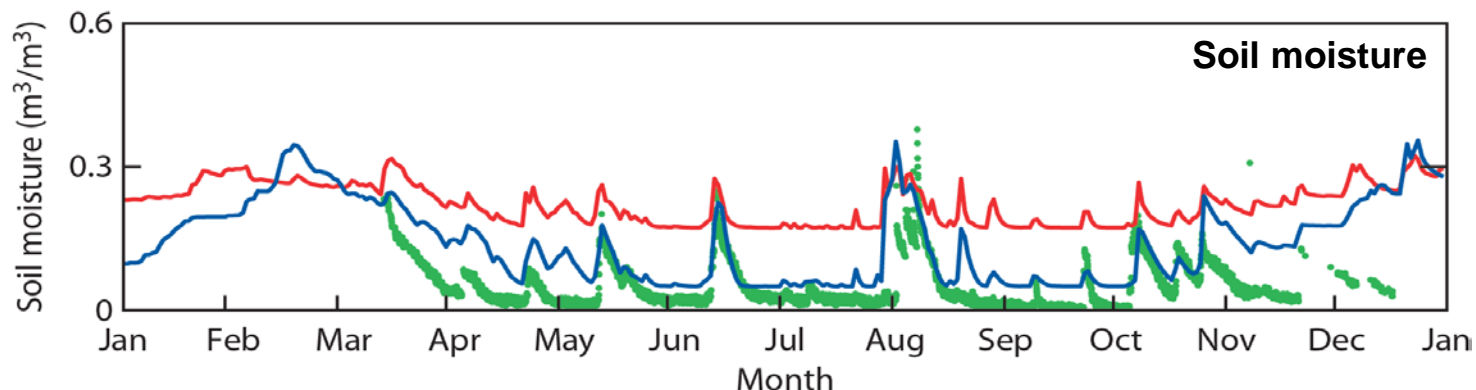
Ocean 3D-Model
Surface Waves and currents, Sea-ice.
*(ocean-uncoupled)
+(coupled in 2018)

Land surface 1D-model
soil, snow, vegetation,
lakes and coastal water
(thermodynamics).
Same resol. as Atm.

ERA-Interim/Land: a 80 km land-reanalysis (open-loop + precipitation correction)

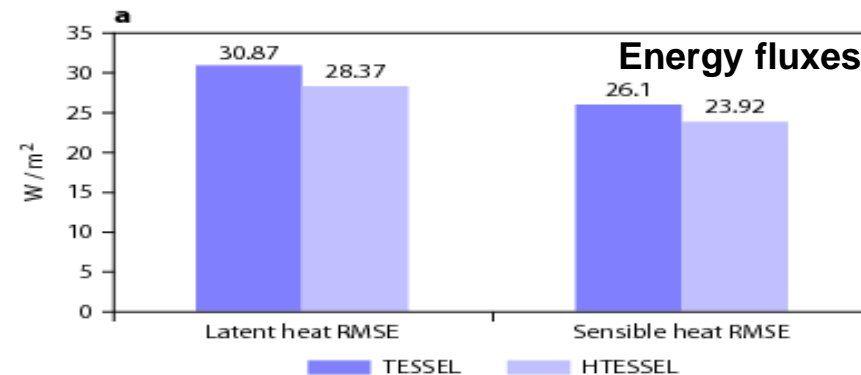
Balsamo et al. (2015 HESS)

ERA-Interim/Land had the same horizontal resolution of ERA-Interim (80km) integrates land surface modelling improvements with respect to ERA-Interim and provided a balanced initial condition for the Monthly/Seasonal Re-Forecasts

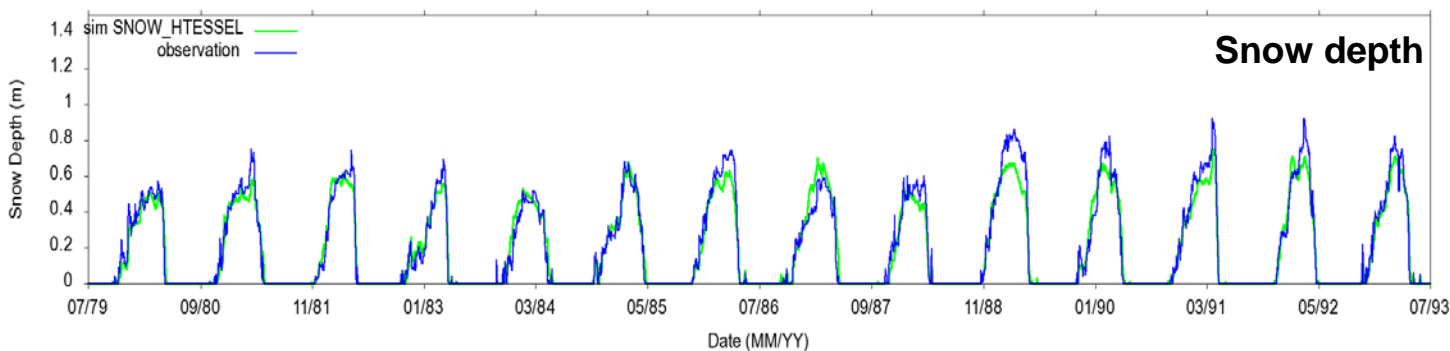


Evolution of soil moisture for a site in Utah in 2010. Observations, ERA-Interim, and ERA-Interim/Land.

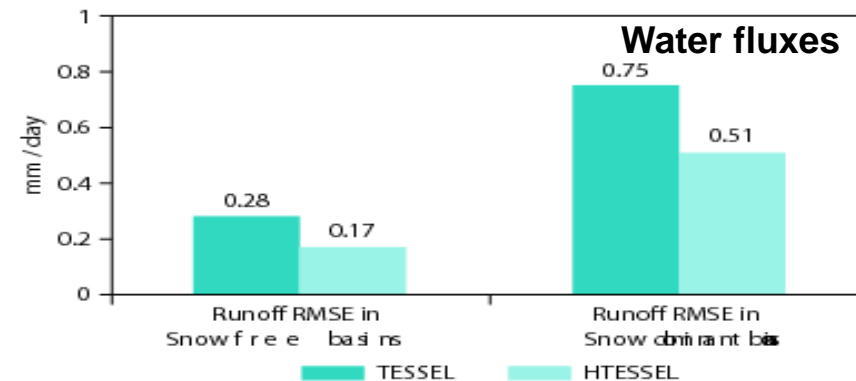
Bias -0.008 Rmse 0.054 Corr 0.979



Mean performance measured over 36 stations with hourly Fluxes from FLUXNET & CEOP Observations



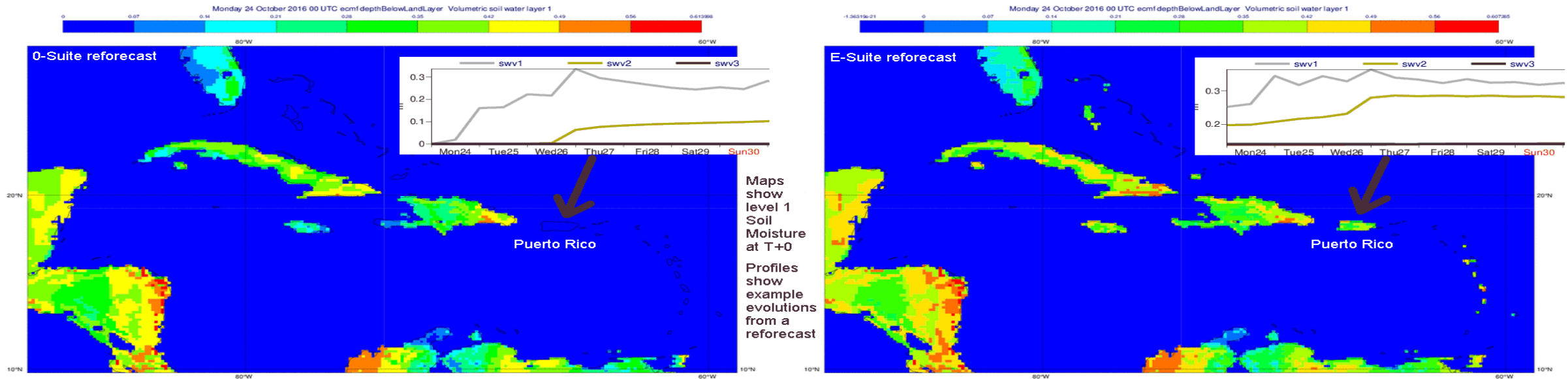
Evolution of snow depth for a site in Perm Siberia (58.0N, 56.5E) ERA-Interim/Land and in-situ observation between 1979 and 1993.



Mean performance measured for the monthly rivers discharge verified with GRDC observations

ERA5-Land: a 9-km land reanalysis (open-loop + high-resolution downscaling)

ERA5/Land benefits from the R&D done in Earth2Observe H2020 project and Copernicus, is based on the new ERA5 and it run at 9-times higher resolution than ERA-Interim and 3.5-times higher resolution than ERA5. ERA5/Land will match the highest resolution currently operational at ECMWF (HRES 9km)



See poster of **Munoz-Sabater et al** on ERA5-Land description and performance & poster of **Dutra et al** on high resolution downscaling and performance






ERA5-Land State-of-the-art land surface reanalysis

J. Muñoz-Sabater ⁽¹⁾, E. Dutra ⁽¹⁾, G. Balsamo ⁽¹⁾, E. Zsoter ⁽¹⁾, S. Boussetta ⁽¹⁾, C. Albergel ⁽¹⁾ and many others

⁽¹⁾ ECMWF, Reading, UK ⁽²⁾ University of Lisbon ⁽³⁾ CNRM, Meteo-France

A temporally and spatially varying environmental lapse-rate for temperature downscaling

E. Dutra⁽¹⁾, J. Muñoz-Sabater⁽²⁾, S. Boussetta⁽²⁾, T. Komori⁽³⁾, S Hirahara⁽³⁾, and G. Balsamo⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Instituto Dom Luiz, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal; ⁽²⁾ European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, United Kingdom; ⁽³⁾ Global Environment and Marine Department, Japan Meteorological Agency.

Corresponding author: endutra@fc.ul.pt

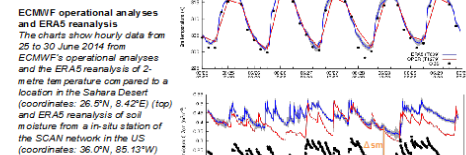
Motivation

Temperature near the surface varies with altitude accordingly to the environmental lapse-rate (ELR). The ELR depends on the overlying air masses, large-scale situation and local effects. In this study we propose the derivation of the ELR from the reanalysis lower troposphere vertical profiles of temperature. This creates a temporally and spatially varying ELR, that can be used to downscale near-surface air temperature from the reanalysis resolution to higher resolutions.

Table 1.	
Acronym	Details
E5	ERA5 reanalysis (35 km)
CLR	Direct downscaling to station elevation using a constant ELR of -6.5 K km ⁻¹
MLR	Direct downscaling to station elevation using a climatological ELR
DLR	Direct downscaling to station elevation using a daily ELR
bil5	Surface only at 9 km driven by E5 with bilinear interpolation
clr5	As bil5 but with a constant ELR of -6.5 K km ⁻¹ temperature

Motivation

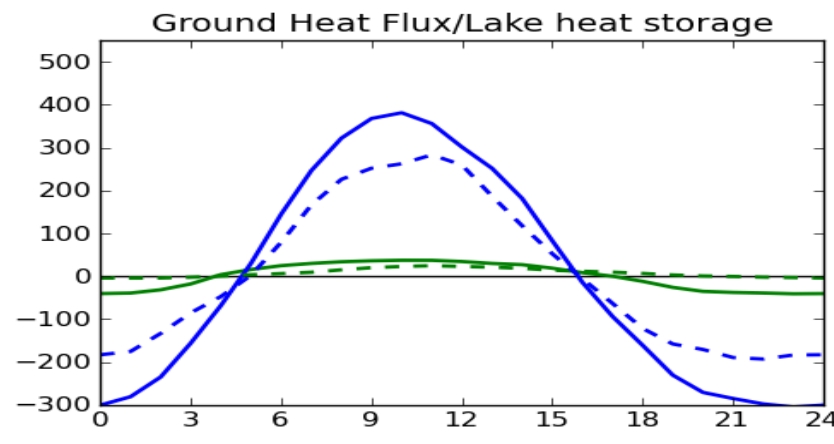
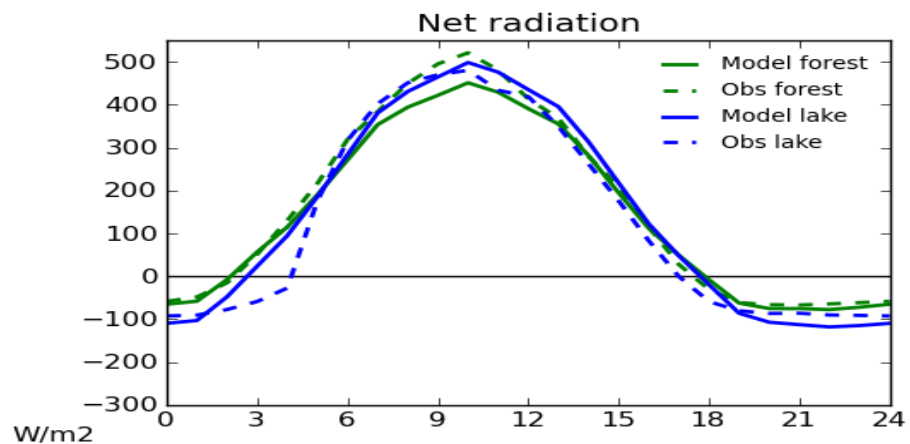
- Climate reanalysis provide consistent fields over all dimensions and across variables for several decades, but they do not occur very often (once per decade)
- Land model developments occur rapidly, and there is a need to integrate them to long, consistent time series in a cost-effective way
 - Support hydrological studies addressing global water resources
 - Provide consistent land initial conditions to weather and climate models.
 - Foster research into intra-seasonal forecasting
 - Provide dedicated datasets to support and encourage downstream land applications



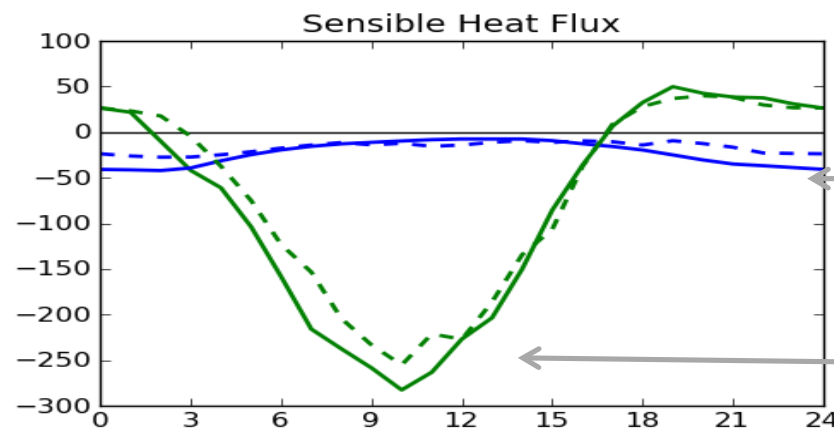
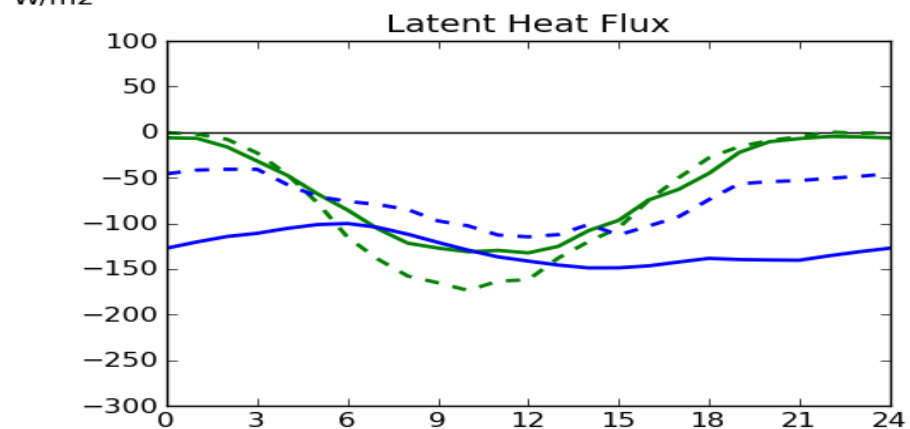
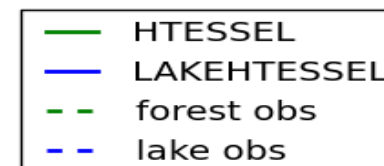
ERA5 & ERA5-Land include lakes

Manrique-Suñén et al. (2013, JHM)

Why lakes are important? Compare a lake with a nearby forest energy partitioning on a summer day



Finland July 2010
model diurnal cycles
matches fluxes
observations
reasonably well for
each surface



Lake SH peak is at night

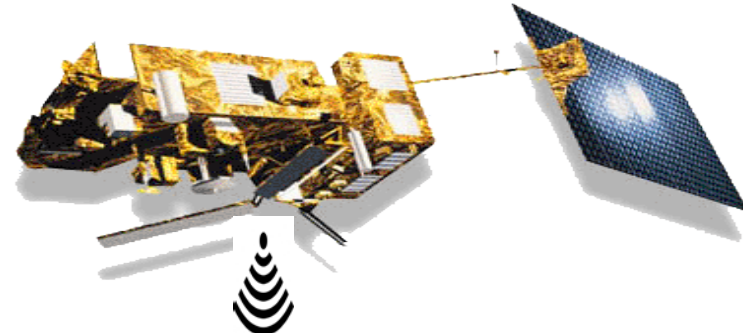
Forest SH peak is at midday



ERA-Interim reanalysis (near surface meteorological forcing) has enabled to study the impact of lakes and this research is now an integral part of ERA5

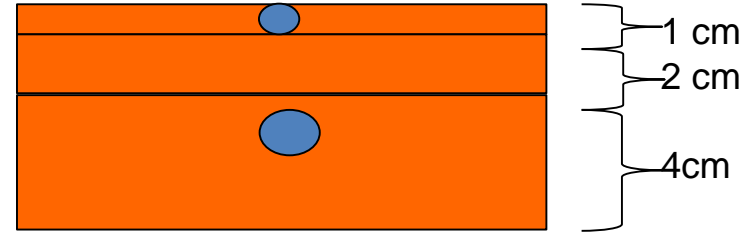
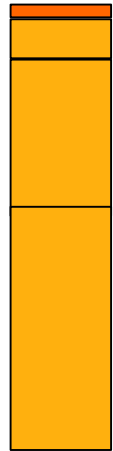
Future enhanced soil model vertical resolution to increase use of satellite data

The model bias in Tskin amplitude shown by *Trigo et al. (2015)* motivated the development of an enhanced soil vertical discretisation to improve the match with satellite products.



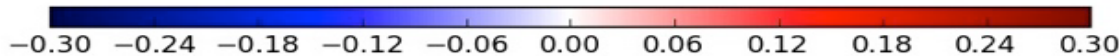
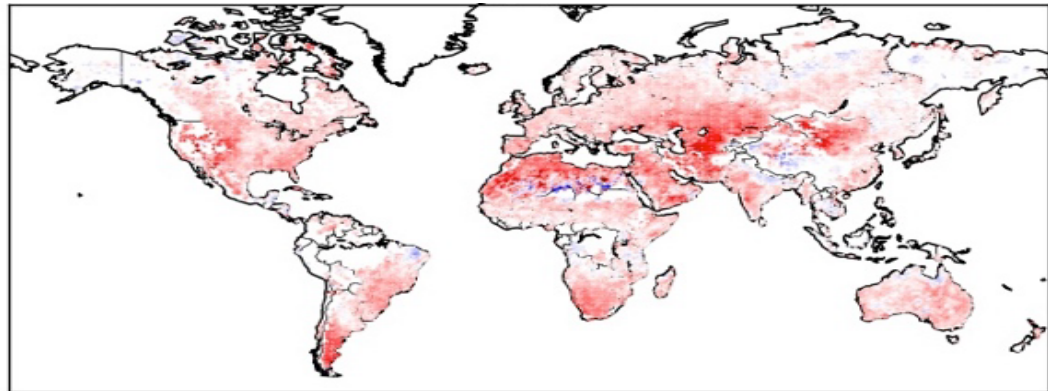
4-layers:

- # 0-7 cm
- # 7-28 cm
- # 28-100 cm
- # 100-289 cm



9-layers:

- # 0-1 cm
- # 1-3 cm
- # 3-7 cm
- # 7-15 cm
- # 15-25 cm
- # 25-50 cm
- # 50-100 cm
- # 100-200 cm
- # 200-300 cm



Thanks to Clément Albergel

Comparison with ESA-CCI soil moisture remote sensing (multi-sensor) product.(1988-2014). A finer soil model improves the correlation with measured satellite soil moisture

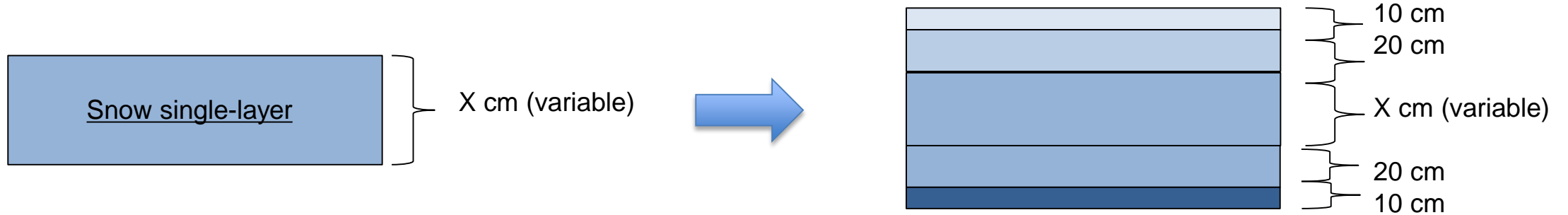
Globally Improved match to satellite soil moisture (shown is Anomaly correlation ΔACC calculate on 1-month running mean)



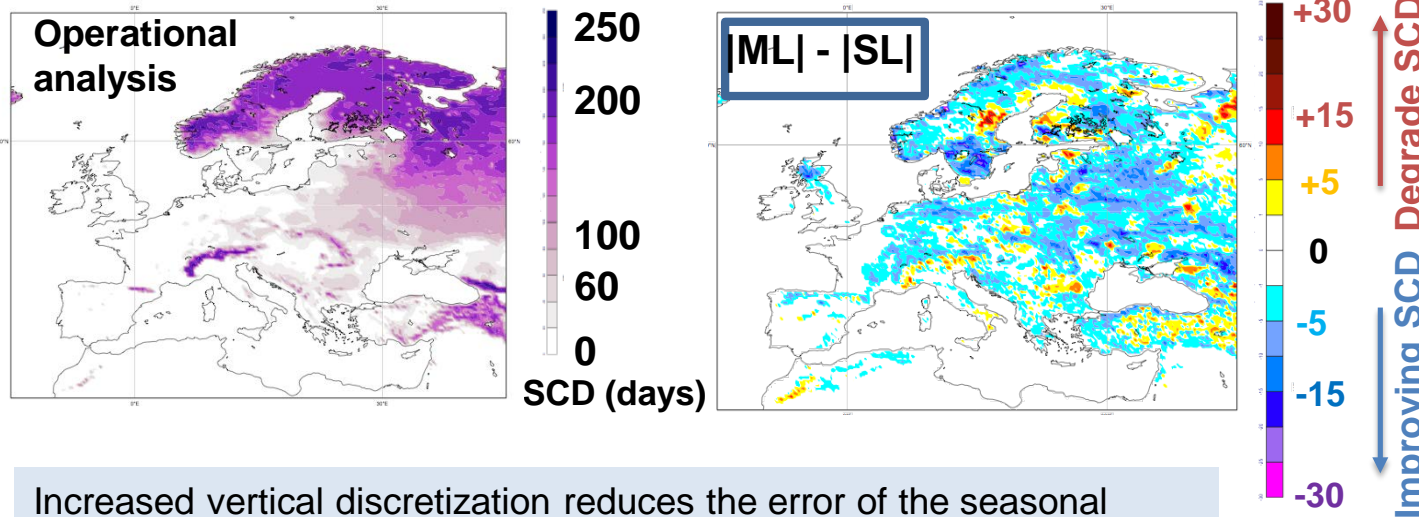
Dorigo et al. (2017 RSE)

Future enhanced snow model vertical resolution: impact in cold regions climate

Increased vertical discretization of the snowpack (**up to 5 layers**) permits a better physical processes representation

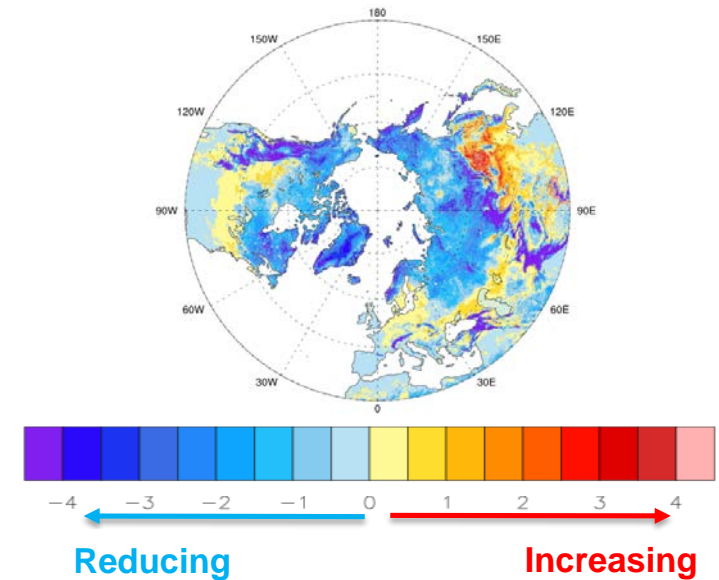


Snow cover duration (SCD) over Europe 2016/2017



Increased vertical discretization reduces the error of the seasonal snow cover duration by 5 to 15 days (evaluated in ERA5-Land mode)

Difference in T_{skin} minimum winter (DJF)



Potential for reducing the 2m temperature diurnal-cycle bias

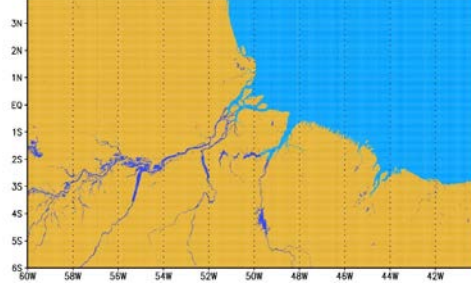
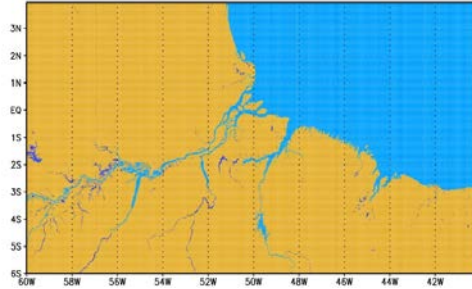
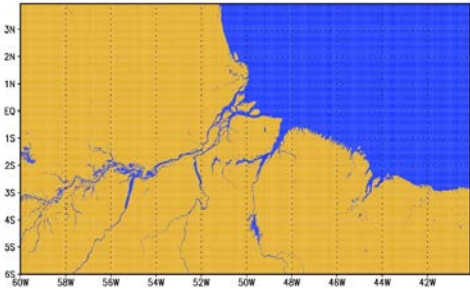
Mapping the surface at 1km: water bodies and changes over time

Classifying automatically inland water bodies is a complex task. A 1-km water bodies cover and bathymetry have been produced

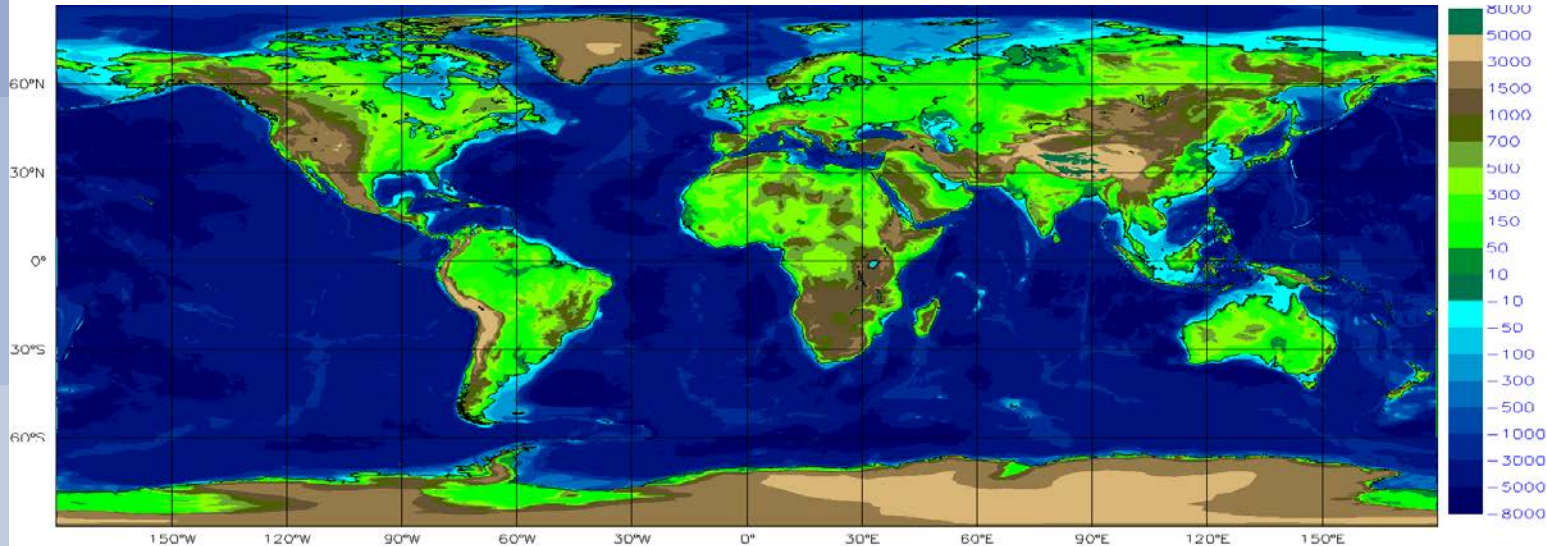
ESA GlobCOVER has no water class

Flooding allows classify, problems w. large rivers

New classification algo works well at 1km



A new 1-km global bathymetry and orography map (SRTM+/GEBCO/GLDB)



ESA GlobCOVER is combined with JRC/GLCS to detect Lake cover changes

NEWS

ECMWF Newsletter No. 150 – Winter 2016/17

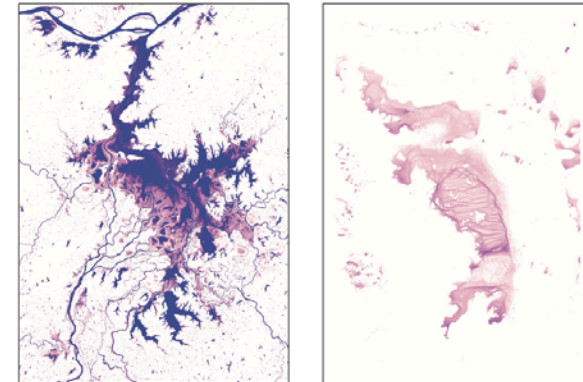
Lakes in weather prediction: a moving target

GIANPAOLO BALSAMO (ECMWF),
ALAN BELWARD
(Joint Research Centre)

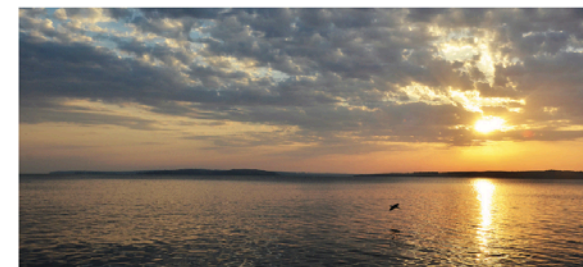
Lakes are important for numerical weather prediction (NWP) because they influence the local weather and climate. That is why in May 2015 ECMWF implemented a simple but effective interactive lake model to represent the water temperature and lake ice of all the world's major inland water bodies in the Integrated Forecasting System (IFS). The model is based on the version of the FLake parametrization developed at the German National Meteorological Service (DWD), which uses a static dataset to represent the extent and bathymetry of the world's lakes.

However, new data obtained from satellites show that the world's surface water bodies are far from static. By analysing more than 3 million satellite images collected between 1984 and 2015 by the USGS/NASA Landsat satellite programme, new global maps of surface water occurrence and change with a 30-metre resolution have been produced. These provide a globally consistent view of one of our planet's most vital resources, and they make it possible to measure where the world's surface water bodies really can be found at any given time.

As explained in a recent *Nature* article (doi:10.1038/nature20584), the maps show that over the past three decades almost 90,000 km² of the lakes and rivers thought of as permanent have vanished from the Earth's surface. That is equivalent to Europe losing half of its lakes. The losses are linked to drought



Dynamic lakes. The size of Poyang Lake (left), one of China's largest lakes, fluctuates dramatically between wet and dry seasons each year while overall decreasing. Lake Gairdner in Australia (right), which is over 150 km long, is an ephemeral lake resulting from episodic inundations. Both maps show the occurrence of water over the past 32 years: the lighter the tone the lower the occurrence. (Images: Joint Research Centre/Google 2016)



Lake Victoria. Lakes in tropical areas are linked with high-impact weather by contributing to the formation of convective cells. (Photo: MHGALLERY/istock/Thinkstock)

Thanks to Margarita Choulga, Souhail Boussetta, Irina Sandu, Nils Wedi

Mapping the surface at 1km: urban cover, its expansion and uncertainties

Classifying automatically urban areas (fraction and height) is an extremely complex task. Urban areas expand each year

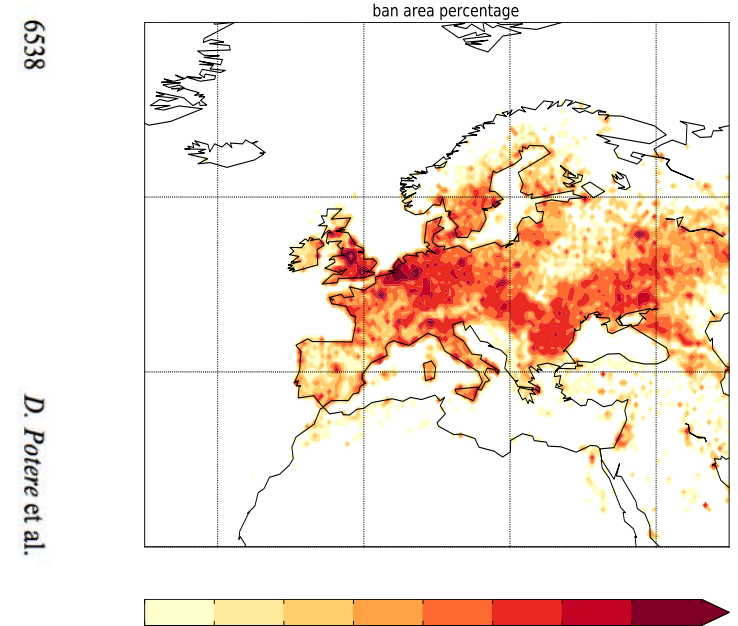
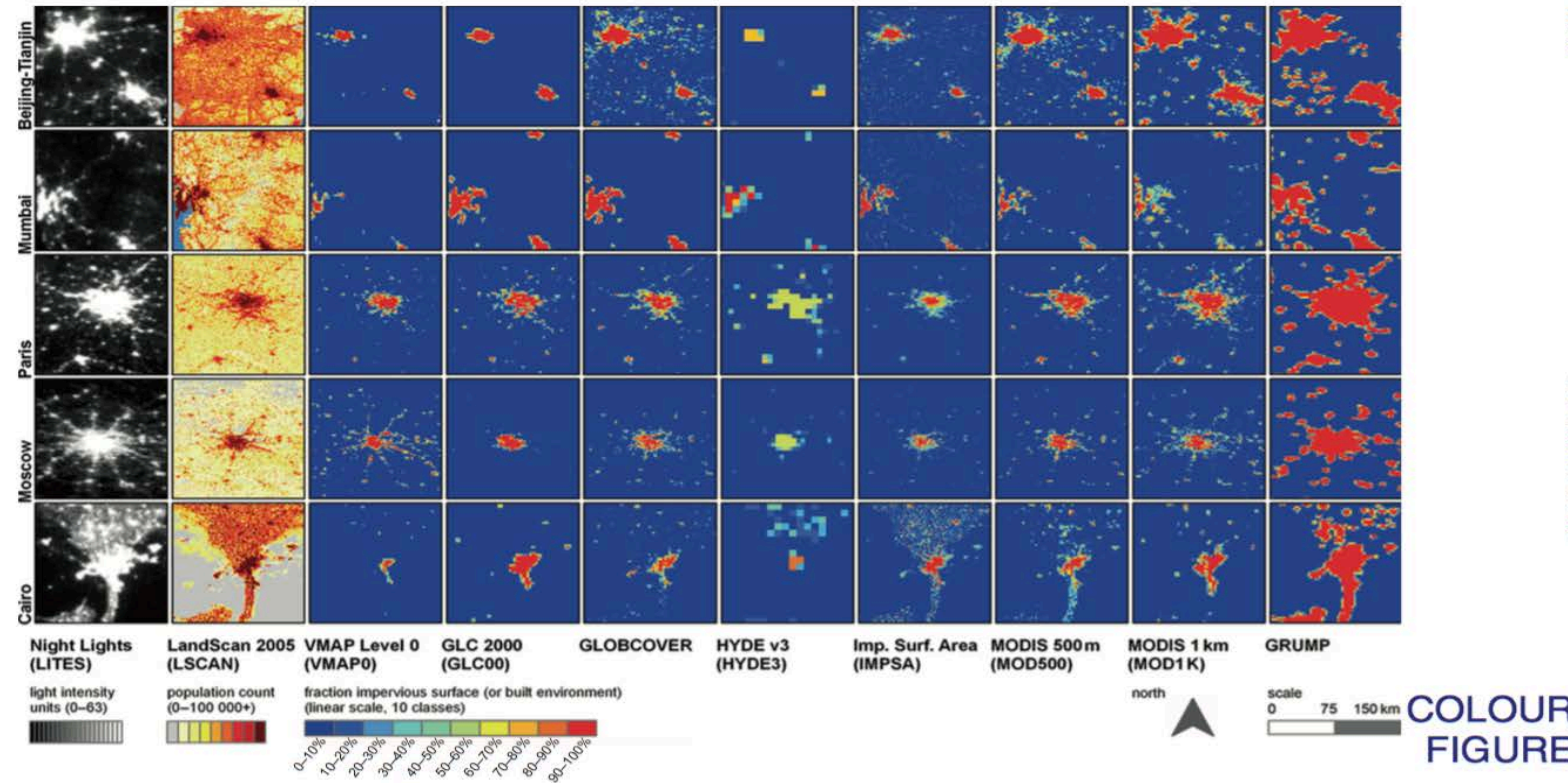


Figure 1. The eight global urban maps and two urban-related maps for Beijing-Tianjin, China (top row), Mumbai, India (second row), Paris, France (third row), Moscow, Russia (fourth row), and Cairo, Egypt (bottom row). LITES, LSCAN and IMPISA are at native 30 arc-second resolution, HYDE3 is at native 5 arc-minutes, and the remaining maps have been aggregated from 30 arc-seconds to 1.5 arc-minutes for display. This aggregation effectively converts their legends from binary (urban/rural) to continuous (percentage urban).

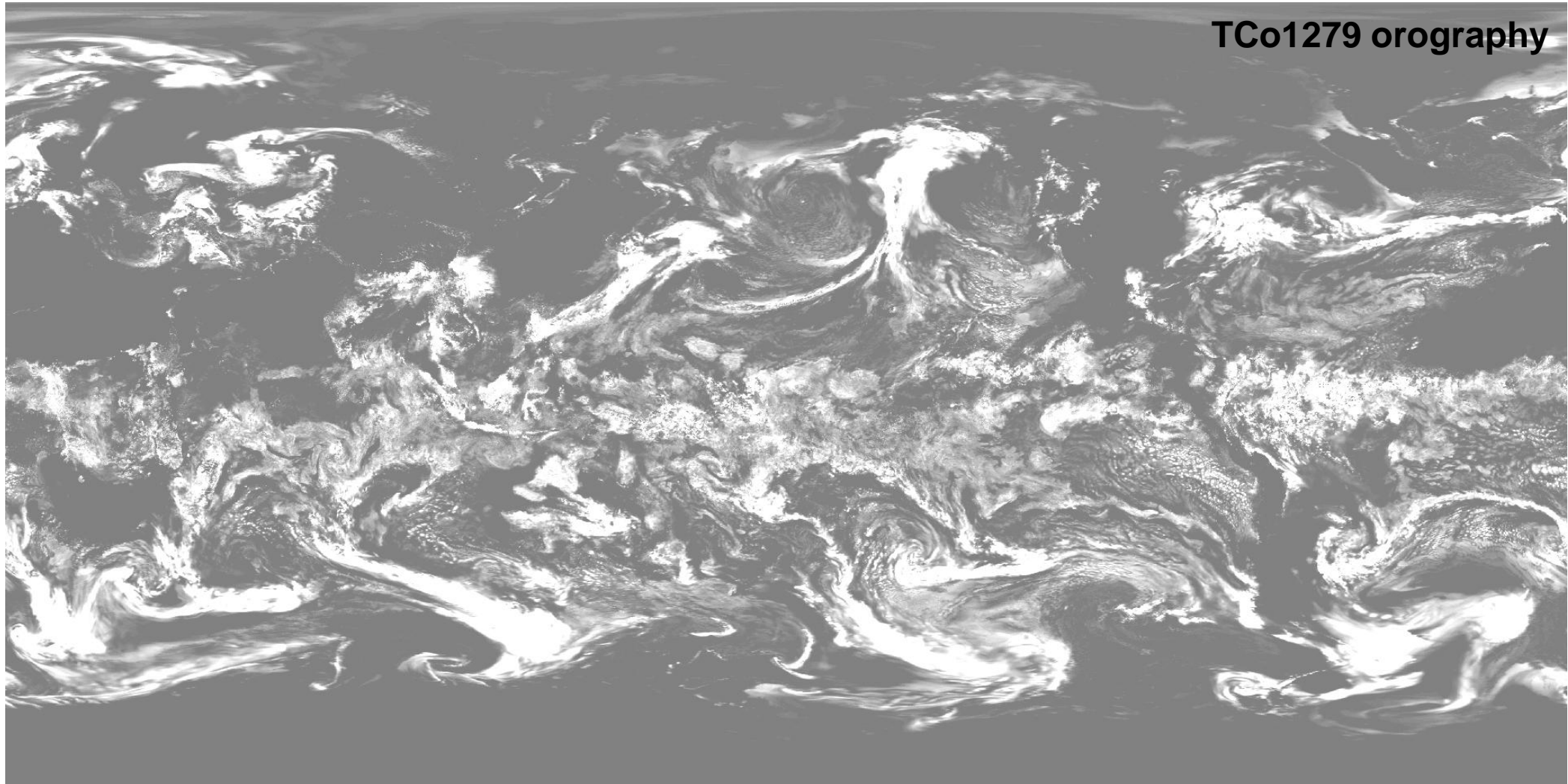
- Urban area dataset comparison on selected cities (Potere et al., 2009 IJRS) reveal large uncertainties and discrepancies

- Urban area (a, in %, from ECOCLIMAP Masson et al., 2003) see:

- Balsamo et al. 2014 ECMWF TM729

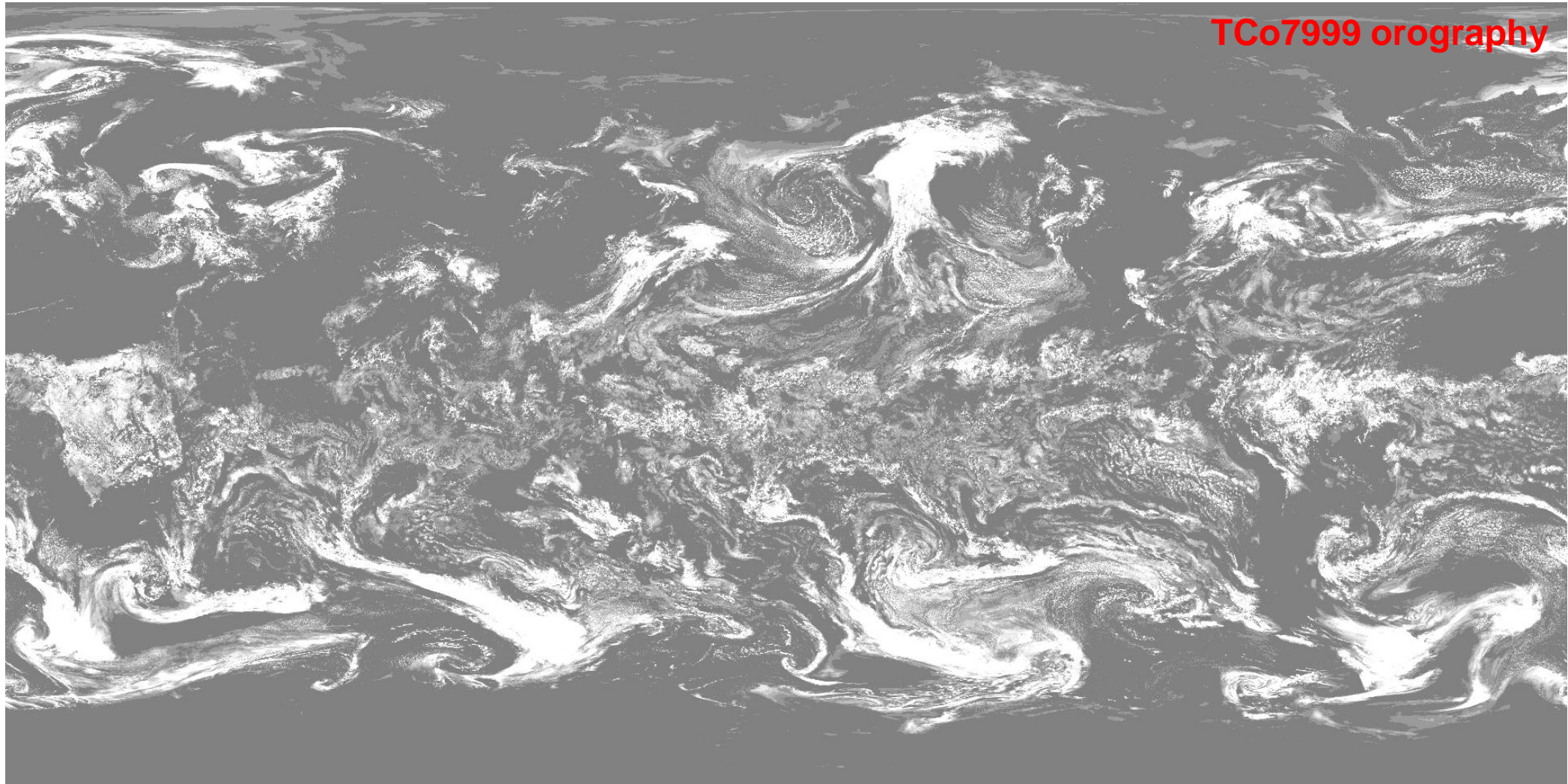
- CHE H2020 Project <http://www.che-project.eu>

Current km-scale: TCo1279 (~9km) highest global operational NWP today



(12h forecast, *hydrostatic*, with *deep convection* parametrization, 450s time-step, 240 Broadwell nodes, ~0.75s per timestep)

Towards km-scale: TCo7999 test-case (~1.3km) highest NWP test @ECMWF



(12 h forecast, *hydrostatic*, no deep convection parametrization, 120s time-step, 960 Broadwell nodes, ~6s per timestep in SP)

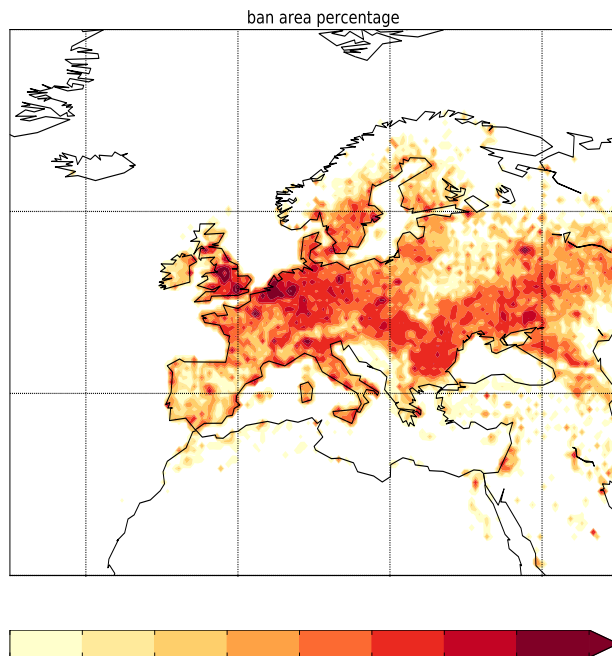
Summary and outlook

- Land Reanalyses benefit from high resolution/discretisation in horizontal and vertical
- NWP systems are moving towards Environmental prediction & Extended-range
- Supporting streams of Reanalyses: Climate-LRES, Satellite-MRES, Satellite-HRES
- Modelling activities are coordinating (GEWEX/WCRP/WWRP) greater use of EO-data
- Mapping activities are yet insufficiently coordinated to meet global modelling challenges
- A global km-scale (short) reanalysis can effectively enhance linkage with monitoring and mapping activities and support monitoring, eg. Copernicus Sentinels, GEO/LEO high-res.

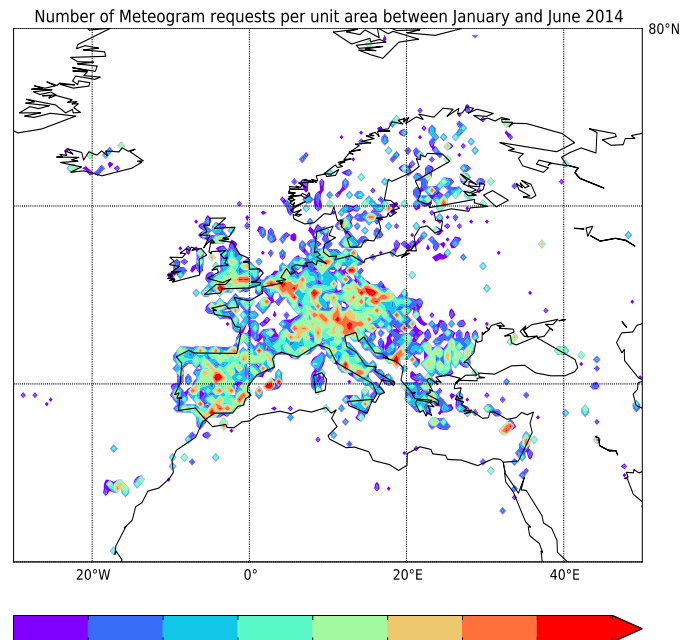


Why global models move towards urban-scale modelling?

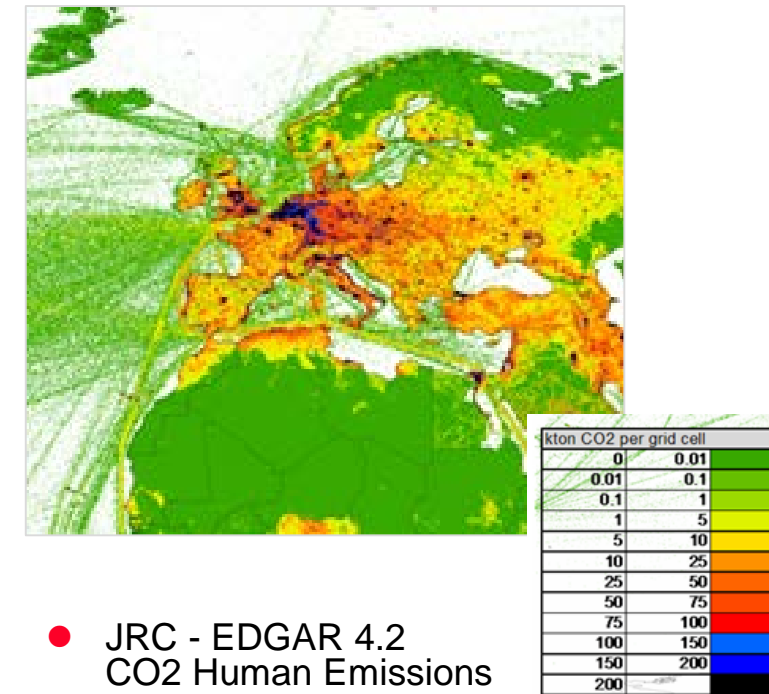
- Urban areas are important for the accurate prediction of extreme events such as heatwaves and urban flooding and need to be represented in ECMWF model.
- Best and Grimmond (2015) suggested that simple models may be well adapted to global applications
- Users lives in urban areas and look at the forecast for urban locations (see map of products-request below).
- Urban maps combined with emission factors can provide first guess CO2 anthropogenic fluxes



- Urban area (a, in %, from ECOCLIMAP, Masson et al., 2003)



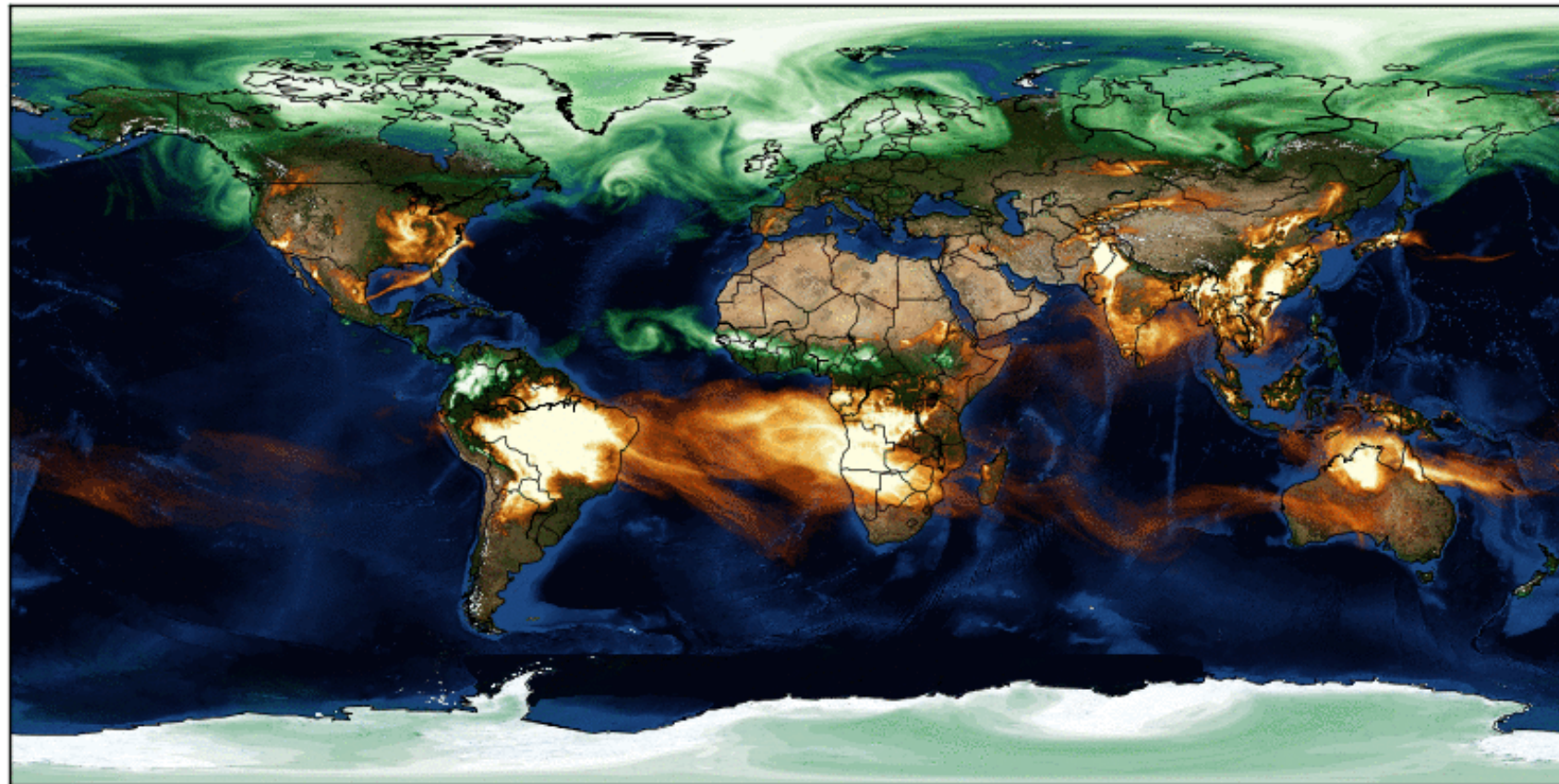
- Number of ECMWF Meteograms product requests from Member-States



The CO₂ Human Emission Project will make use of ECMWF IFS 9km and CAMS configuration to study anthropogenic emissions

Forecasts of the CO₂ variations from a 400 ppm concentration background. Another call for high res.!

20161001 03 UTC

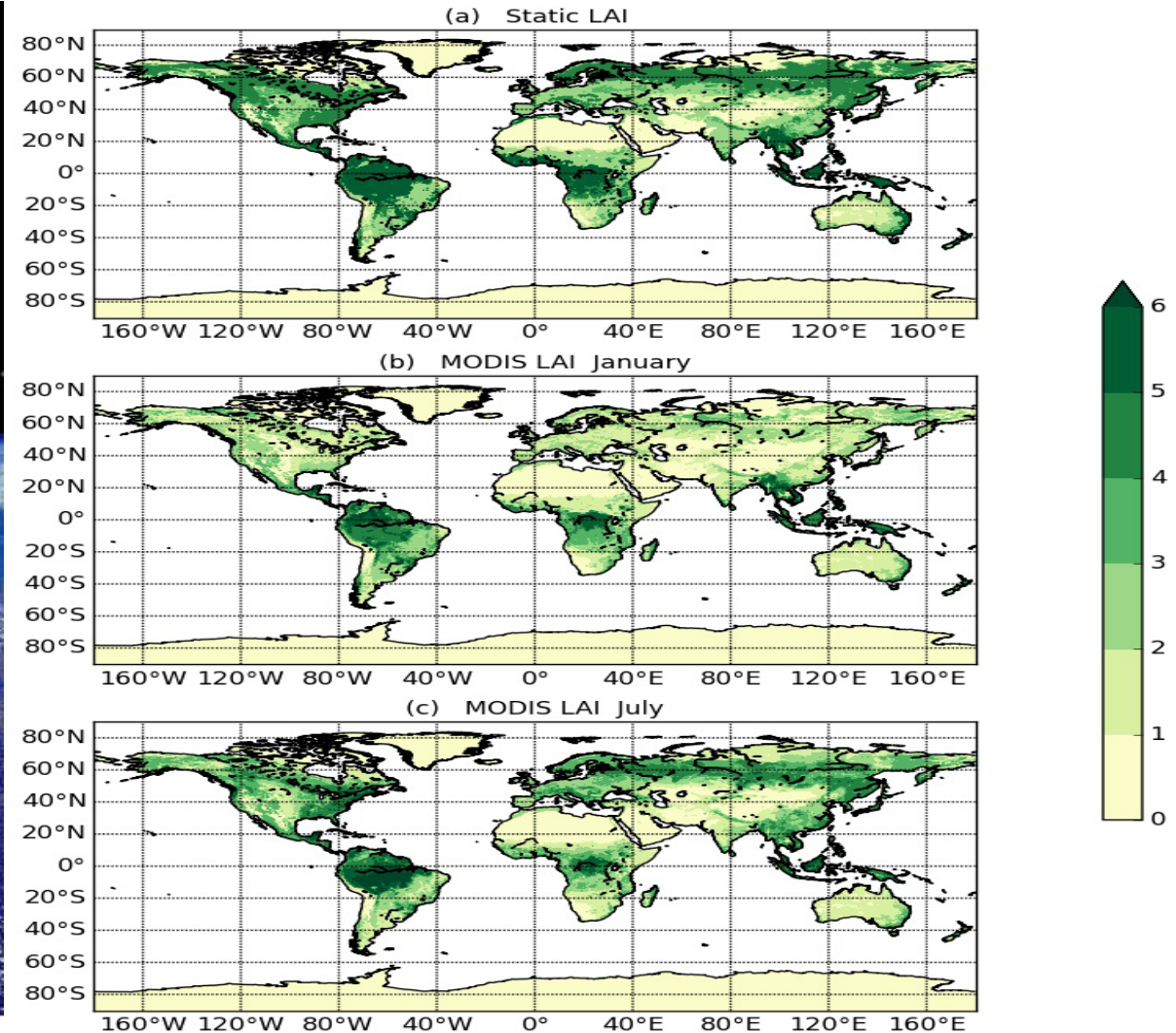
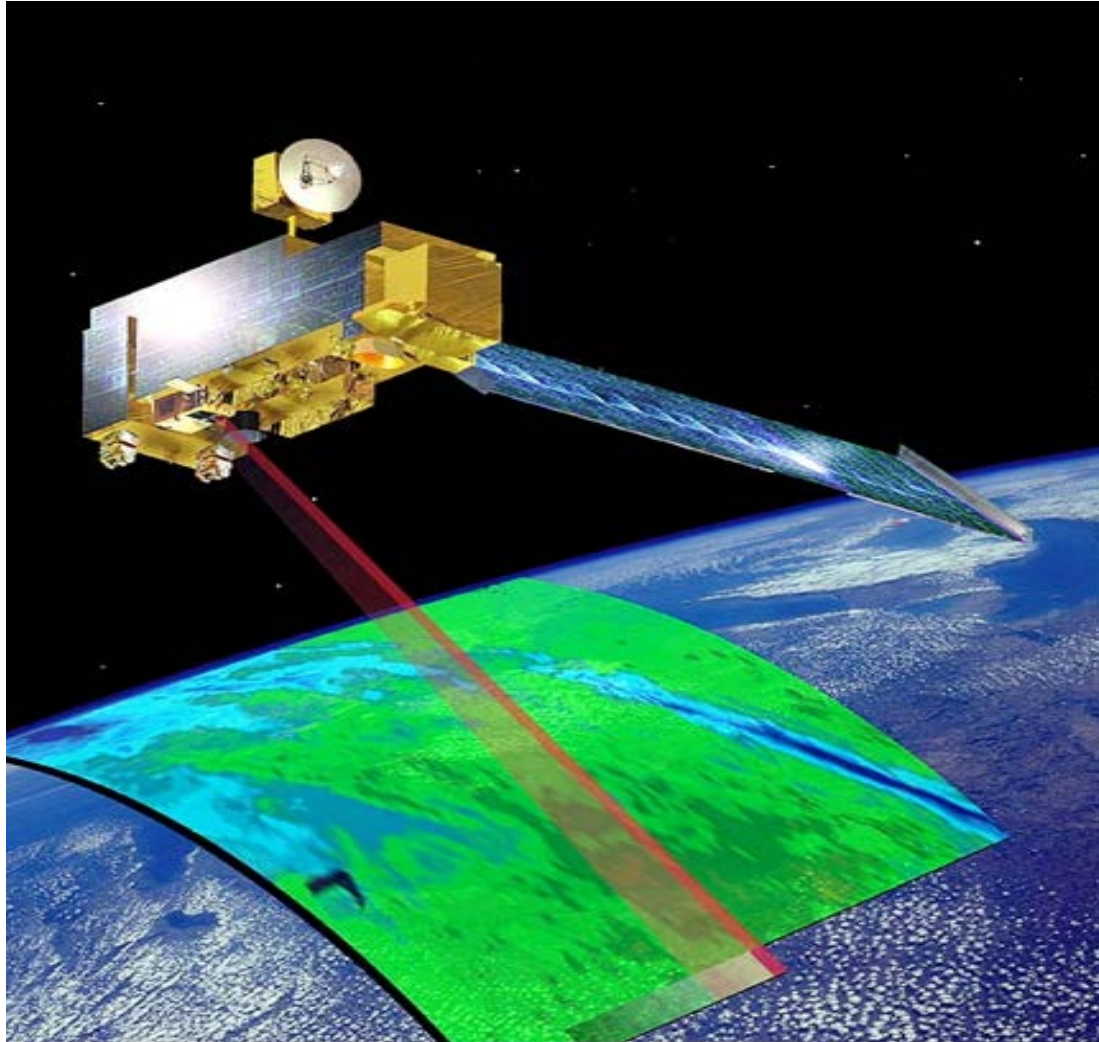


CO₂, CH₄, linCO,
tagged tracers at
Tco1279 (~9km) L137

- CTESSEL NEE (BFAS correction Agusti-Panareda et al. ACP 2016)
- EDGARv4.2FT2010
- Takahashi et al. (2009)
- GFAS biomass burning
- IFS transport
- Bermejo & Conde mass fixer (Agusti-Panareda et al. GMD 2017)

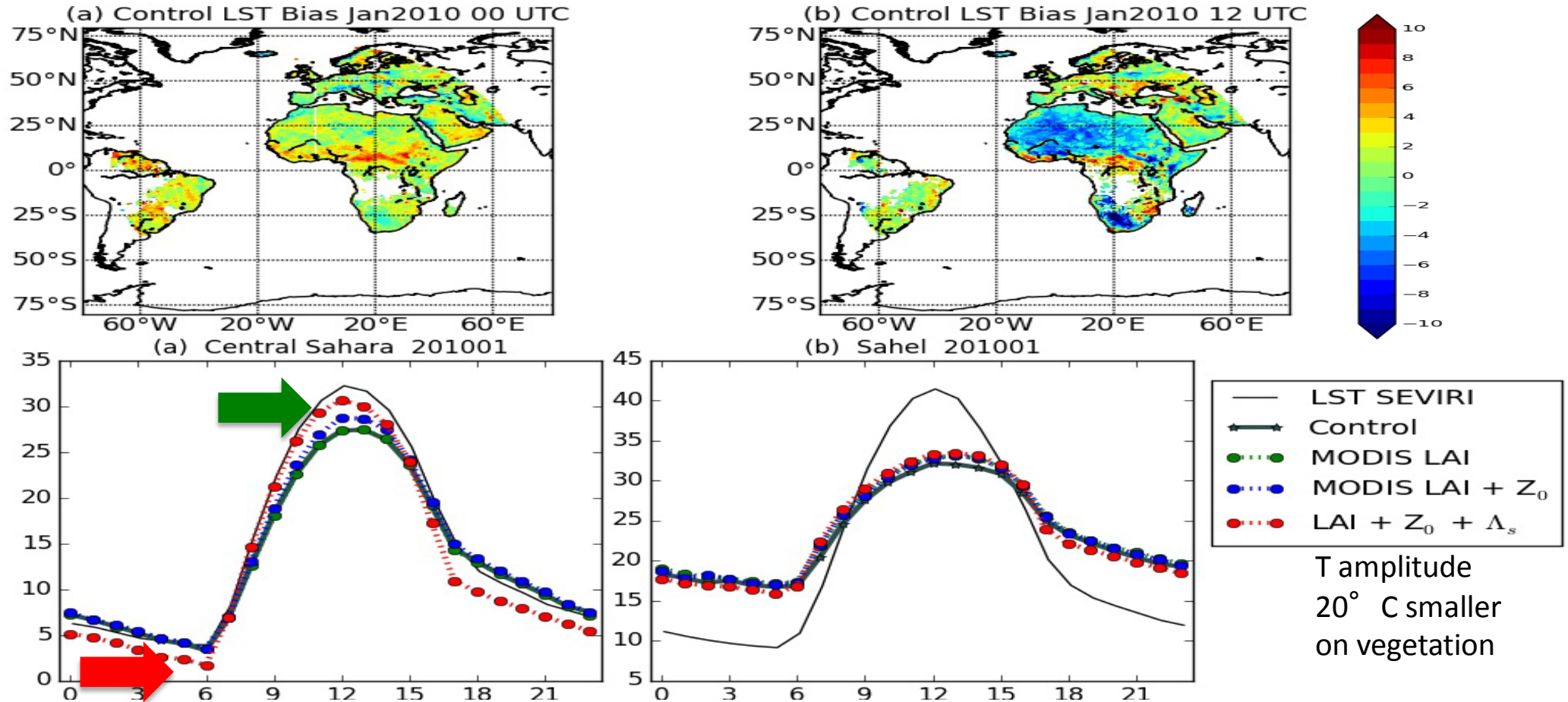
Monitoring vegetation state from satellite data

Vegetation assimilate CO₂ and is a powerful sink to regulate atmospheric concentrations. CO₂ and Water/Energy fluxes are linked!



Diurnal cycle: the effect of vegetation

Trigo et al. (2015, JGR in rev.), Boussetta et al. (2015, RSE)



Findings of large biases in the diurnal temperature reposed on the use of MSG Skin Temperature. However with the current model version we are limited (both over bare soil and vegetation)

A roadmap to Earth surface kilometre-scale simulations

The strive to produce increasingly more accurate forecasts has pushed horizontal resolutions of global Earth System Models (ESM) to break into single-digit kilometre-scale (e.g. 9 km for global HRES forecasts at ECMWF with a vision to increase it further towards 2025), while many National Meteo-Hydrological Services already run at 1-2 km resolution on wide regional domains. At about **1km** there is close to a billion grid points covering the Earth surface involving the use of High Performance Computing to be timely simulated. However, there are not only computing and software challenges involved, as accuracy requires to be able to characterise the **surface ancillary conditions** at those resolution (vegetation and soil, water-land-snow-ice fractions, and any meteorologically relevant properties) therefore involving satellite remote sensing observations and **optimisation/inversion** algorithms to estimate non-observable quantities.

Global high-resolution simulation capacity can benefit enormously **next generation reanalyses** products when combined with refinements in the treatment of physical processes to better account for regional and local meteorological/climate/human-induced changes.

This presentation will cover current efforts to characterise the Earth surface at kilometre-scale making use of recent remote-sensing dataset in collaboration with the **Copernicus Services** and it will illustrate some of the challenges with the internal consistency across datasets and with their use in long reanalysis.

Contribution to Earth surface research using EO data



remote sensing

Special Issue "Advancing Earth Surface Representation via Enhanced Use of Earth Observations in Monitoring and Forecasting Applications"

http://www.mdpi.com/journal/remotesensing/special_issues/earthsurface_RS

Extended submission to Spring 2018.