

Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik



# Emerging technologies in the numerical forecasting: regional ensemble prediction and nowcasting

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With contribution of many colleagues from ZAMG, LACE, ALADIN...

# Outline

- Regional ensemble prediction  
ALADIN-LAEF (Limited Area Ensemble Forecasting)
- Nowcasting  
INCA (Integrated Nowcasting through Comprehensive Analysis)
- Summary



# Regional ensemble prediction

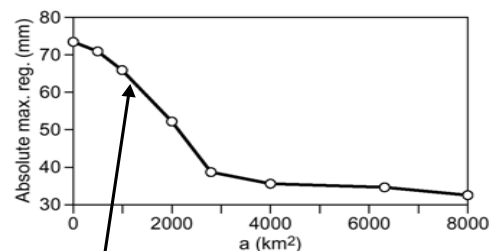
Atmosphere: chaotic and highly non-linear nature

Small errors in analysis, model physics can grow rapidly and become large, even in a matter of hours.

Global EPS: lower resolution. medium range

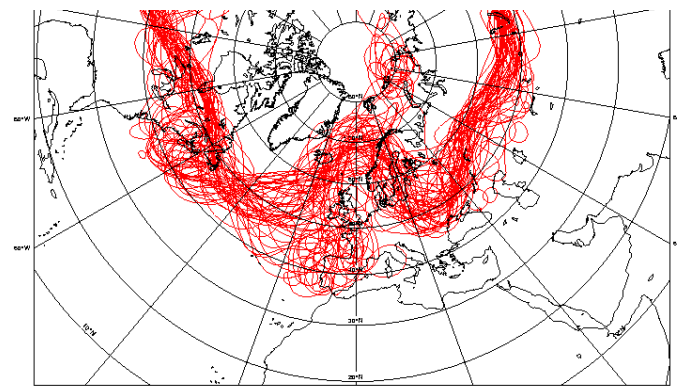
## Global NWP models cannot predict extremes of precipitation: need for coupling to LAMs

Extreme rainfall as a function of spatial scale (observational study:  
Olsson et al, 1999)



EPS cannot resolve circulation features in this range (cf lack of  $k^{-5/3}$  spectrum in model)

## Forecast spread for Wed 13 May 2009

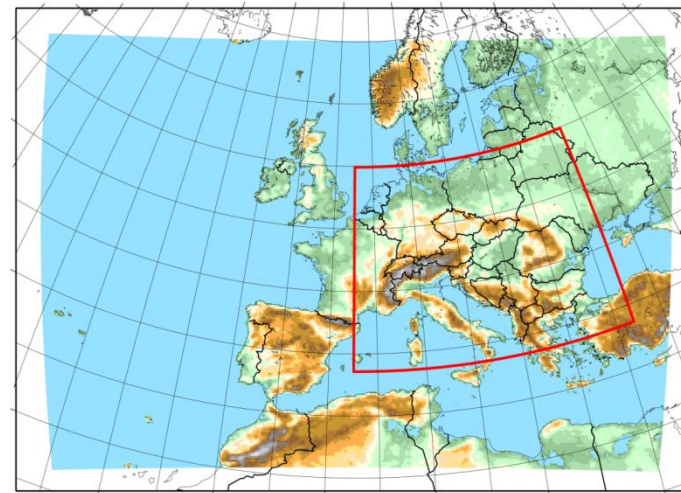




# ALADIN-LAEF: Limited Area Ensemble Forecasting

Ensemble size	16+1
Horizontal resolution	18 km
Vertical resolution	37 levels
Runs/Day	2 (00, 12 UTC)
Forecast range	60h
Output-Frequency	1h
Model time step	720s
Coupling-Model	<i>ECMWF-EPS</i>
Coupling-Update	6h

ALADIN-LAEF Domain & Topography



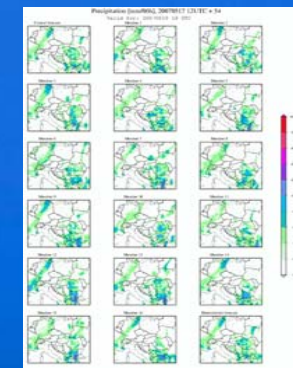
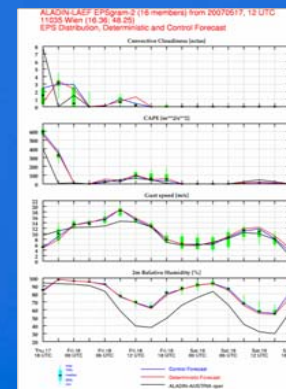
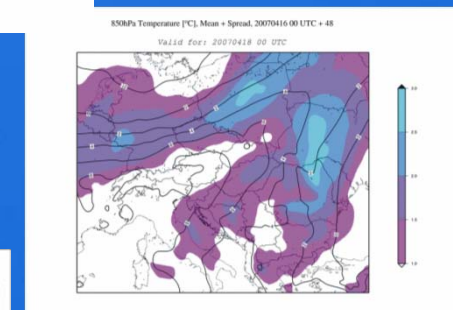
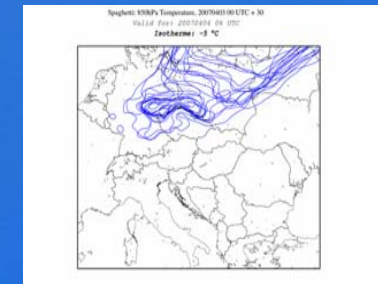
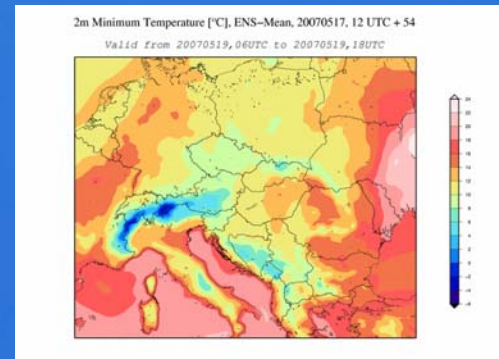
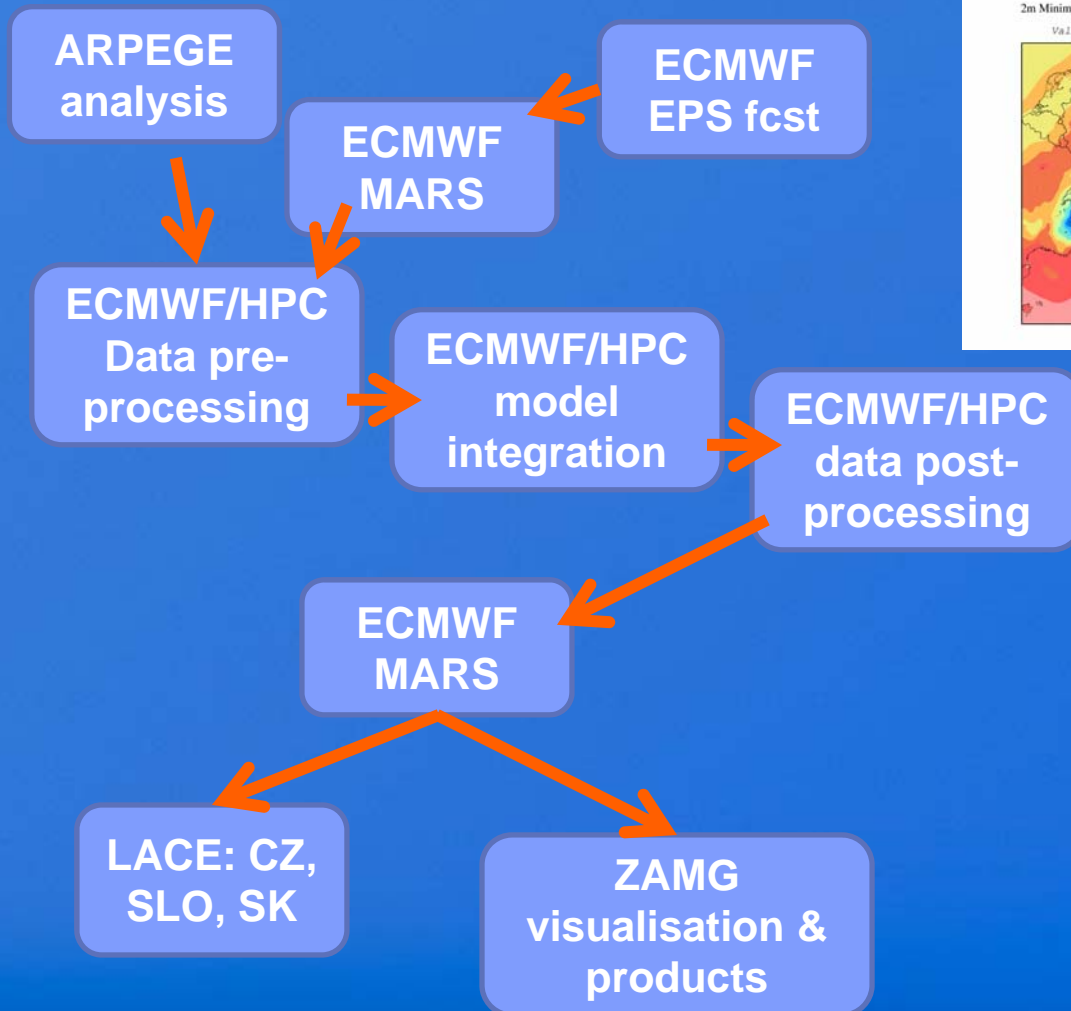
Atmosphere perturbation: **Blending  
ALADIN Bred + ECMWF EPS**

Surface perturbation:  
**Non-Cycling surface Breeding**

Model perturbation: **multi-physics**

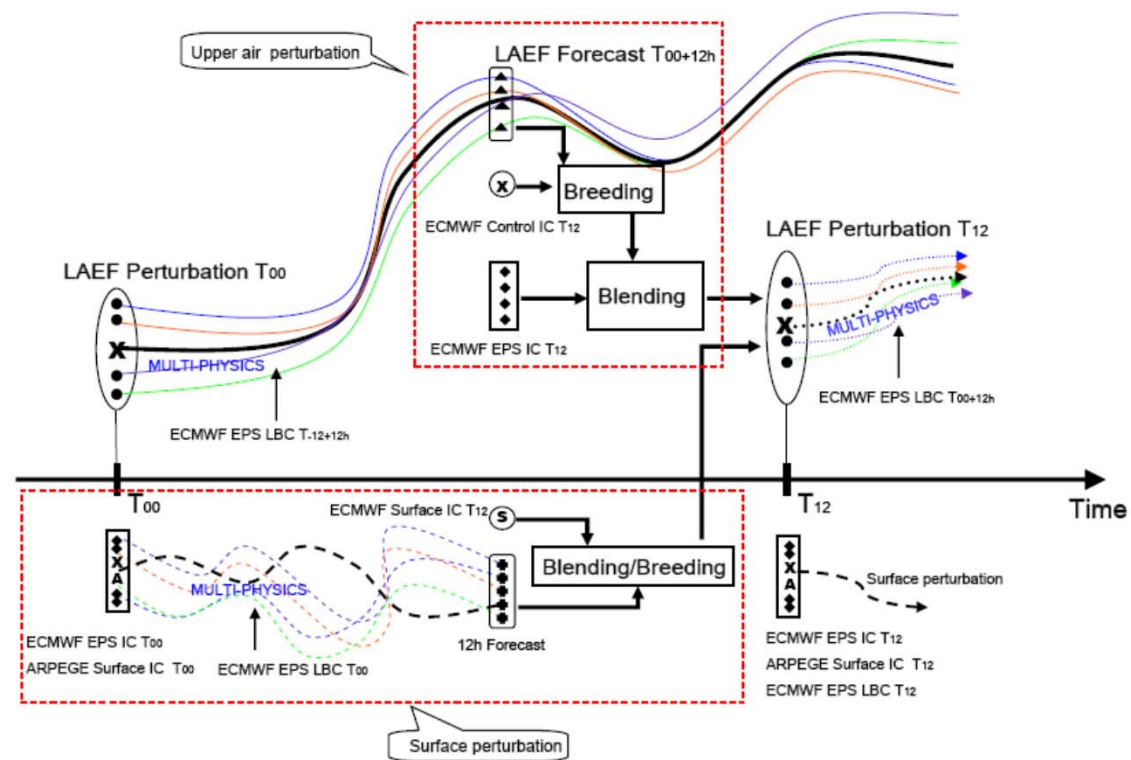


# Operation at ECMWF, SMS suite, Time Critical Application II



# ALADIN-LAEF: design

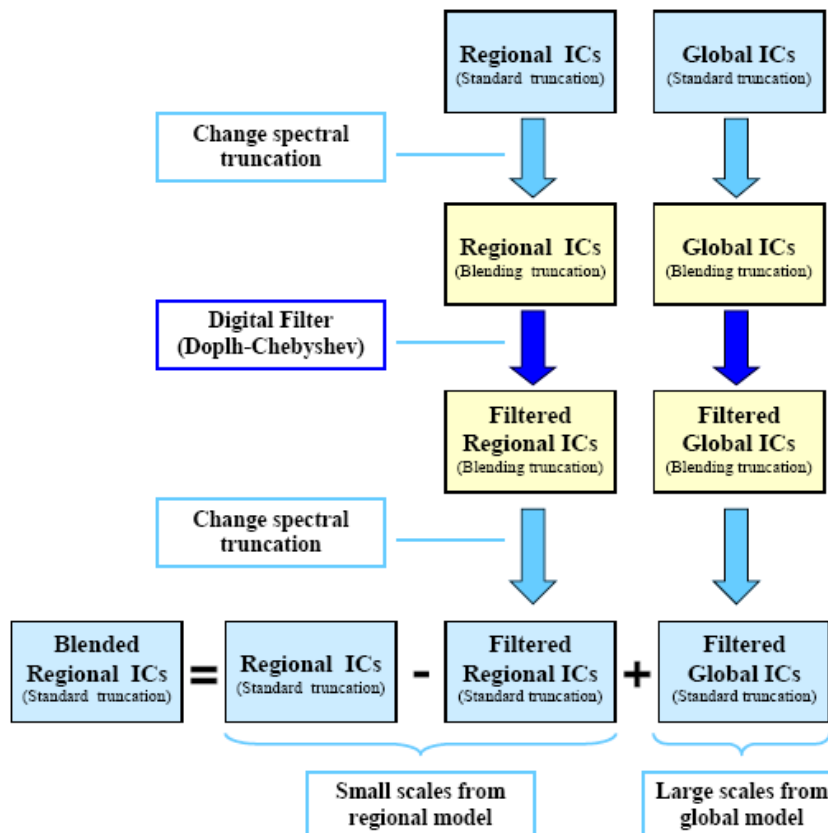
Schematic of ALADIN-LAEF configuration





# Blending: Theory

## Spectral Blending



### The Blending method

Following the idea by Machenhauer and Haugen (1987) and considering perturbed variable  $G$  from global ensemble, and  $R$  from regional ensemble, both  $G$  and  $R$  are valid at the resolution of regional model, their full harmonic Fourier expansions are given by:

$$G(x) = \sum_{m=-M}^M G_m e^{i 2 \pi m x / L_x} ; \quad R(x) = \sum_{m=-M}^M R_m e^{i 2 \pi m x / L_x} \quad (1)$$

where  $M$  is the maximum wave numbers, and  $L_x$  is the horizontal wavelengths in  $x$  direction. Let  $J$  be the number of grid-points of the whole regional domain along the  $x$  direction, the inverse truncated Fourier transform, i.e. the spectral coefficients  $G_m$  and  $R_m$  are obtained by:

$$G_m = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J G(j) e^{-i 2 \pi m j x / L_x} ; \quad R_m = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J R(j) e^{-i 2 \pi m j x / L_x} \quad (2)$$

As we mentioned above, the blending is applied on full grid-point resolution of the regional model but with a lower spectral resolution (we call it the blending truncation), which represents the scale resolved by the global data assimilation. We change the spectral truncation from the original resolution to the blending spectral resolution. For both  $G$  and  $R$ , their full harmonic Fourier expansions are given by:

$$G(x) = \sum_{m=-LM}^M G_m^{LOW} e^{i 2 \pi m x / L_x} ; \quad R(x) = \sum_{m=-LM}^M R_m^{LOW} e^{i 2 \pi m x / L_x} \quad (3)$$

where  $LM$  is the maximum wave numbers of the blending spectral truncation, the inverse truncated Fourier transform, i.e. the spectral coefficients  $G_m^{LOW}$  and  $R_m^{LOW}$  are obtained by:

$$G_m^{LOW} = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J G(j) e^{-i 2 \pi m j x / L_x} ; \quad R_m^{LOW} = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J R(j) e^{-i 2 \pi m j x / L_x} \quad (4)$$

The blending truncation is determined by the resolution of global analysis, i.e. the resolution of the data assimilation of the global model regional model. The estimation of the blending spectral truncation is obtained as follows:

$$T_{blending}^{LOW} = \sqrt{\frac{T_{regional}^{LOW}}{T_{global}^{LOW}}} \approx T_{regional}^{LOW}$$

Where  $T_{regional}^{LOW}$  is the spectral truncation of the global data equivalent truncation of global model corresponding to model.

For the low-frequency range,  $H(\theta)$  falls from 1 to 0 as  $|\theta|$  goes from 0 to  $\theta_c$ , and for the high frequency range  $\theta_c < |\theta| < \pi$ ,  $H(\theta)$  oscillates within  $\pm 1$ . Let  $f_n$  denote the low-frequency part of  $f_n$  clearly:

$$H(\theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n e^{i n \theta} \quad (12)$$

and

$$f_n = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} H(F) f_{n+m} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} h_m f_{n+m} \quad (13)$$

This is a non-recursive digital filter, since  $f_n$  depends on both past and future values of  $f_n$ , but not other outputs values (Lynch et al 1997).  $h_n$  is given by:

$$h_n = \frac{1}{2N+1} \left[ 1 + 2 \sum_{m=1}^N T_m \left( \frac{\theta_c}{\pi} \right) \cos \left( \frac{m \theta}{\pi} \right) \right] \quad (14)$$

The solution of the model, integrated from  $-t_0$  to  $t_0$  is weighted averaged:

$$f^*(0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} h_n f_n \quad (15)$$

so that at the end of the DFI a balanced initial state is achieved. In ALADIN DFI, the filter order  $N$  is determined by the time step  $\Delta t$  based on blending truncation and the cut-off period  $T_c$ .

Suppose the results of DFI on  $G_m^{LOW}$  and  $R_m^{LOW}$  are  $G_m^{LOW}$  and  $R_m^{LOW}$ . We obtain the large scale part of the perturbed ICs of global and regional model by

$$G_m^{LOW}(x) = \sum_{m=-LM}^M G_m^{LOW} e^{i 2 \pi m x / L_x} ; \quad R_m^{LOW}(x) = \sum_{m=-LM}^M R_m^{LOW} e^{i 2 \pi m x / L_x} \quad (16)$$

The symbolic equation of Blending can be summarized after Brožková et al. (2008) and Derkova and Bellus (2007):

$$IC_{blending} = \frac{R - R^{LOW}}{regional \ model} + \frac{G^{LOW}}{global \ model} \quad (17)$$

Where  $IC_{blending}$  denotes initial condition after blending. After the blending, the field itself keeps the large scale from global assimilation, and small scale from regional model, but it might be still noisy due to the pure interpolation, therefore an additional DF initialization with a narrow stop-band, could be applied to suppress the noise due to the interpolation.

The maximum wave numbers of the blending spectral truncation is then calculated by:

$$LM = M \times (T_{regional}^{LOW} / T_{global}^{LOW}) \quad (6)$$

The blending ratio  $T_{regional}^{LOW} / T_{global}^{LOW}$  should be larger than ratio between the average resolution of global model over the regional domain and the resolution of the regional model.

The scale selection in the blending is by employing the digital filter technique, which was originally used for the initialization of meteorological fields in NWP. Its detailed description can be found in Lynch and Huang (1992).

For any model state  $G_m^{LOW}$  and  $R_m^{LOW}$  denoted in the following as  $f_n$ , known at  $(f_0, f_1, \dots, f_n, f_{n+1}, \dots, f_N)$ , it may be regarded as the Fourier coefficients of a function  $F(\theta)$

$$F(\theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n e^{i n \theta} \quad (7)$$

where  $\theta$  is the digital frequency. The filtering of  $F$  could be conducted by multiplying  $F(\theta)$  by a function  $H(\theta)$ :

$$H(\theta) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } |\theta| \leq \theta_c \\ 0 & \text{if } |\theta| > \theta_c \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

$\theta_c$  is the cutoff frequency. In ALADIN digital filter initialization, the non-recursive Doppl-Chebyshev filter is applied (Lynch et al. 1997), which is given by

$$H(\theta) = \frac{T_N(\frac{\pi}{\theta_c} \cos(\theta/2))}{T_N(\frac{\pi}{\theta_c})} \quad (9)$$

$N$  is specified by choosing a nominal, which is defined as:

$$N = \frac{\theta_c}{\Delta \theta} \quad (10)$$

its can be obtained from the

$$N = \frac{\theta_c}{\Delta \theta} \quad (11)$$



## Blending: feature

### **Blending global ECMWF EPS with LAEF Breeding**

To combine the large-scale uncertainty from ECMWF EPS with the small-scale uncertainty generated by Breeding in LAEF.

#### **LAEF Initial perturbations:**

- The scale of the LAEF perturbation is in accordance with the scales of variability resolved by the model.
- The LAEF perturbations are consistent with the perturbation coming through the lateral boundary.
- The LAEF perturbations are effective immediately from the initial time.

Met-office  
NCEP  
NCAR





## ALADIN-LAEF performance

What is the more added value of LAEF to its counterpart ECMWF EPS?

**ECMWF EPS ↔ LAEF**

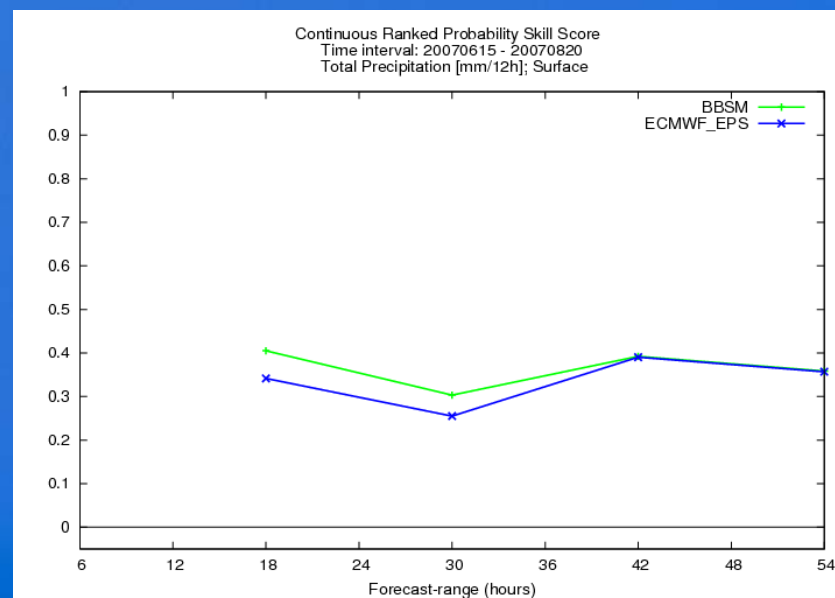
Is LAEF better than its existing high resolution deterministic ALADIN forecast?

**ALADIN-Austria ↔ LAEF**



## ALADIN-LAEF vs. ECMWF EPS

	ALADIN-LAEF	ECMWF-EPS
Resolution	18km; 37 Levels	T <sub>L</sub> 399; 62 Levels
Ens. Size	16	50
Model	ALADIN	ECMWF-IFS



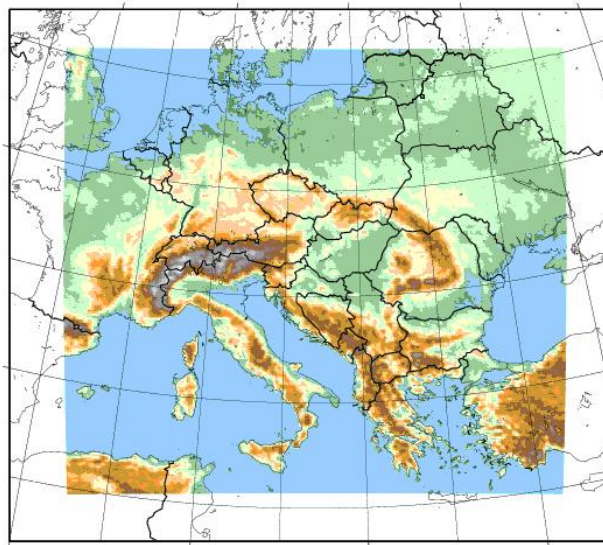
## ALADIN-LAEF vs. ALADIN-Austria

Is ALADIN-LAEF adding value to its existing high resolution deterministic ALADIN forecast?

Horizontal resolution	9.6 km
Vertical resolution	60 Levels
Runs/day	00,06,12,18 UTC
Forecast range	72h / 60h
Output-Frequency	1h
Time step	415s
Coupling-Modell	ARPEGE
Coupling-Update	3h

### ALADIN-Austria: deterministic

ALADIN-AUSTRIA Domain & Topography





## ALADIN-LAEF vs. ALADIN-Austria

	ALADIN-LAEF	ALADIN-AUSTRIA
Resolution	18km;37Levels	9.6km;60 Levels
Ensemble size	16 members	5 members (time lagged)
Forecast	Ensemble mean	deterministic

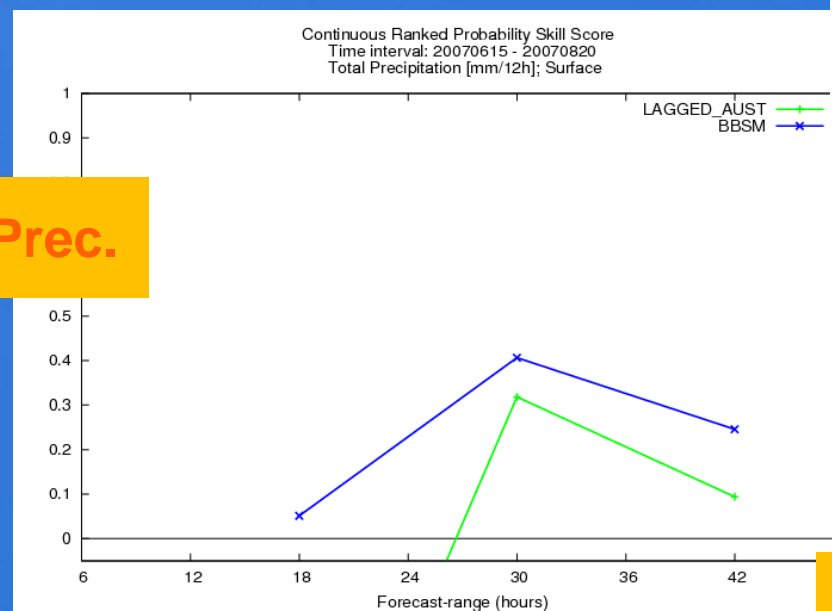
### ALADIN-Austria: time lagged EPS

00 UTC:	00	06	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
06 UTC:		00	06	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66
12 UTC:			00	06	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
18 UTC:				00	06	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54
00 UTC:					00	06	12	18	24	30	36	42	48

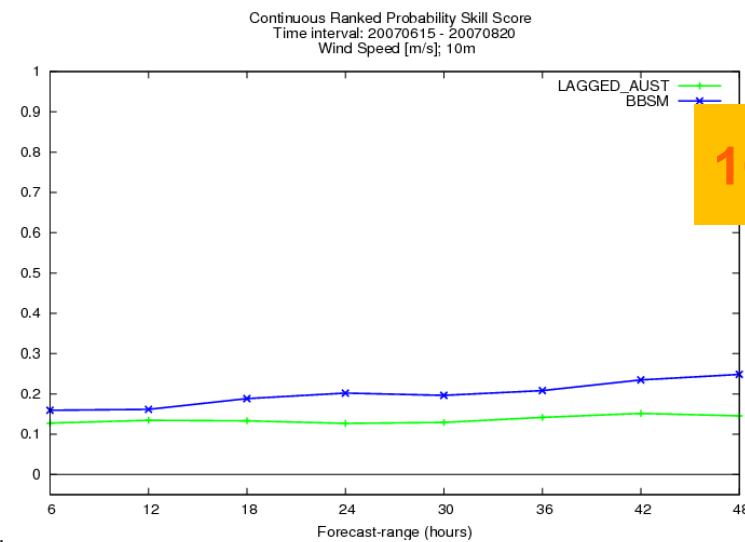


# ALADIN-LAEF vs. ALADIN-Austria

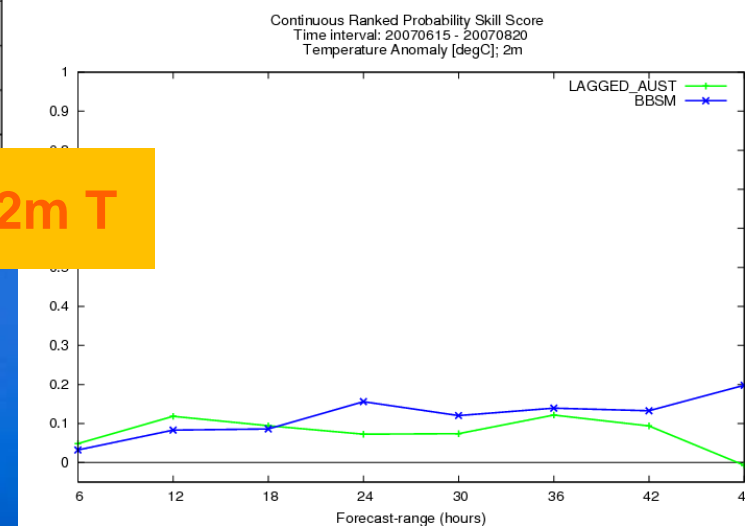
Prec.



2m T



10m W

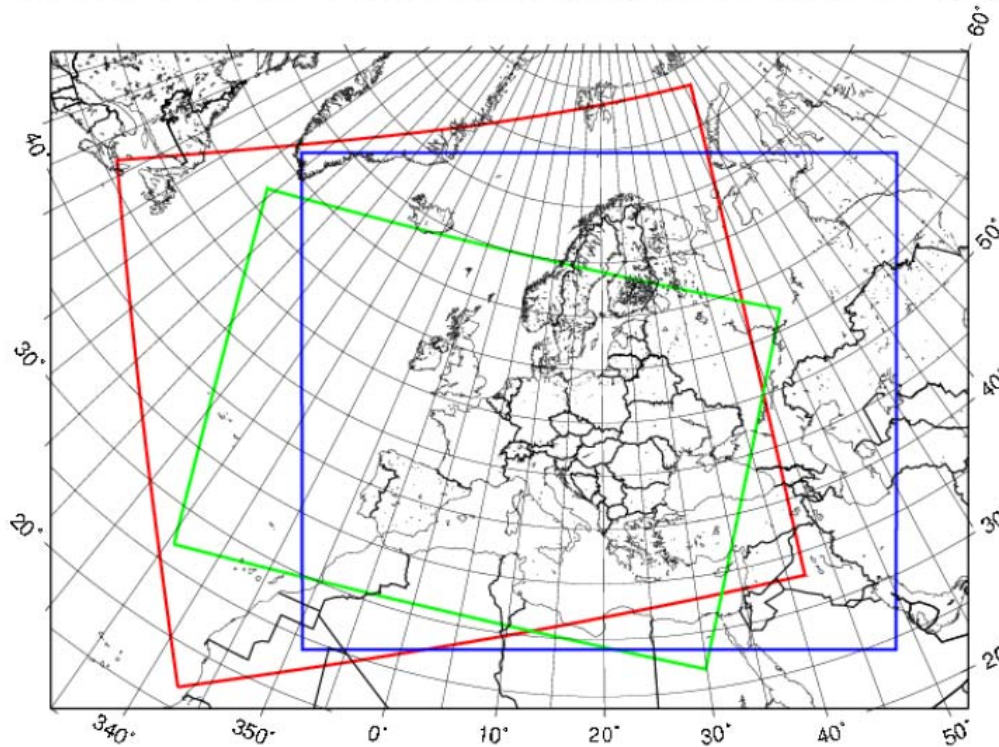


ALADIN-Austria as Reference



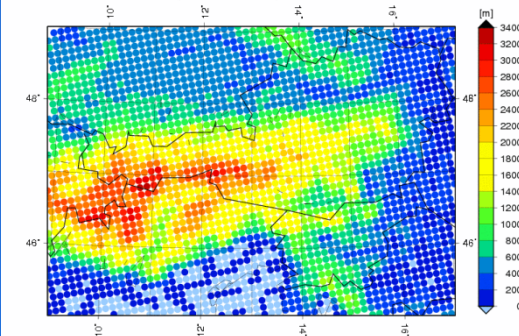
# ALADIN-LAEF upgrade, cooperation with Turkey

ALADIN-LAEF (old:G, new:B) vs GLAMEPS (R)

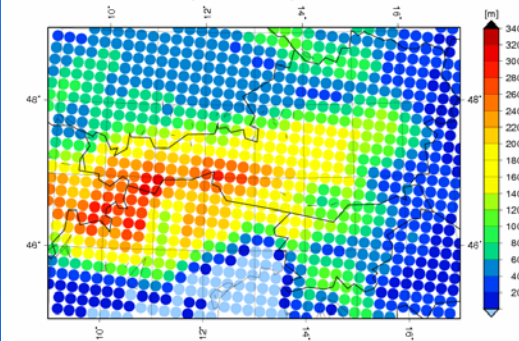


**Fig.01** Domain boundaries of the operational ALADIN-LAEF (green), new redefined ALADIN-LAEF (blue) and GLAMEPS (red).

ALADIN-LAEF (AT ZOOM) – new domain: 10.9km



ALADIN-LAEF (AT ZOOM) – old domain: 18km



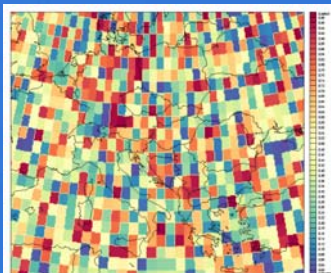


# ALADIN-LAEF upgrade, cooperation with Turkey

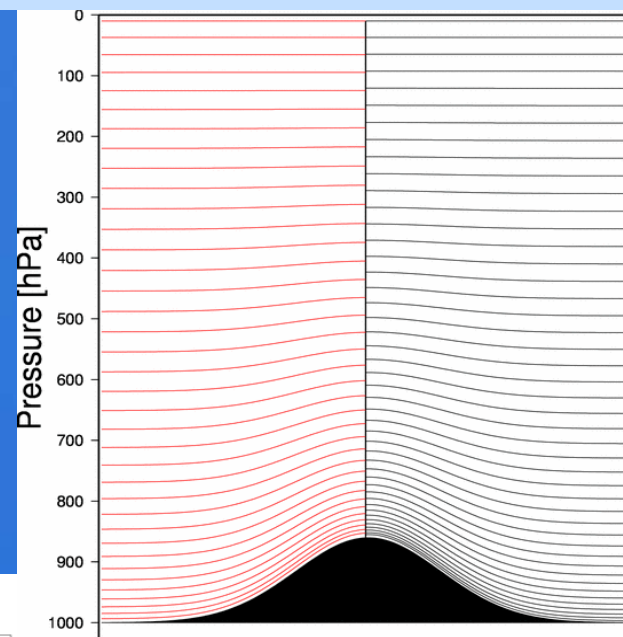
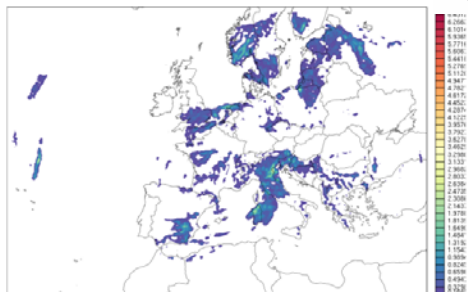
LAEF old vs. LAEF new

Higher resolution

Stochastic physics

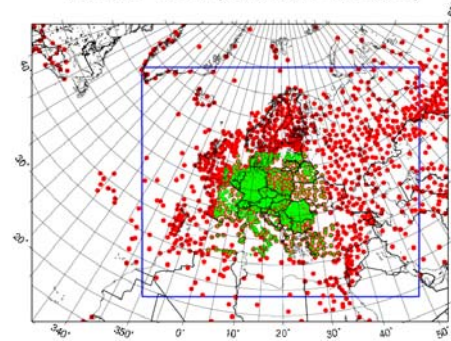


SURFPREC.CON\_sd\_time\_063



Optimsied multi-physics

ALADIN-LAEF (domain and used OBS)



Ensemble land surface assimilation

NAMELIST	MICROPHY	TUNING	DEEP	TUNING	SHALLOW	TUNING	SALINATION	TUNING	TURBULEN	TUNING	DRIFT DRAG	TUNING	SCREENING	TUNING
MP01	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP02	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP03	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP04	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP05	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP06	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP07	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP08	LOPEZ	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP09	LOPEZ	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP10	LOPEZ	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP11	LOPEZ	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP12	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP13	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP14	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP15	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP16	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP17	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP18	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP19	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP20	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP21	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP22	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP23	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP24	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP25	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP26	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP27	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP28	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP29	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP30	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP31	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP32	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP33	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP34	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP35	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP36	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP37	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP38	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP39	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP40	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP41	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP42	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP43	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP44	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP45	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP46	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP47	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP48	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP49	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MP50	ALADIN	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO



## ALADIN-LAEF publications

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- Wang Y, Tascu S, Weidle F, Schmeisser K. 2012. Evaluation of the added values of regional ensemble forecast on global ensemble forecast. *Weather and Forecasting*, **27**, 972-987.
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- Weidle F, Wang Y, Tian W, Wang T. 2012. Validation of strategies using Clustering analysis of ECMWF-EPS for initial perturbations in LAMEPS. *Atmosphere-Ocean*. **Accepted**.
- Wang Y, Bellus M, Geleyn JF, Tian W, Ma X, Weidle F. 2012. A new blending method for generating initial perturbations in regional ensemble system. *Submitted to Mon. Wea. Rev.*

