

# Sensitivity of HARMONIE to nesting strategy and initial conditions

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**Acknowledgements:** *Isabel Martinez, Mariano Hortal, Bartolomé Orfila and Maria Díez*

ALADIN/HIRLAM ASM

Norrköping, 5-8 April 2011

# *Sensitivity of HARMONIE to nesting strategy and initial conditions*

## OUTLINE

- 1) Description of the experiments.
- 2) The period of studying
- 3) Nesting strategy: Need of an intermediate model to provide boundaries for the 2.5 km model.
- 4) Sensitivity to the frequency of the boundaries
- 5) Sensitivity to the initial condition
- 6) Conclusions

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# 1) Description of the experiments.

Model version	<b>HARMONIE 36h1.2</b>
Resolution	2.5 km, 60 v.l.
Physics:	AROME
Initial state	
Upper levels	None / <b>3DVar</b> (6h window) / <b>Blending</b>
Surface	CANARI_OI_MAIN
Boundaries:	<b>ECMWF T1279</b> 3 hr frequency (extracted 16/25 km, (046, 048)) 1 hr frequency (expver=048) ECMWF T2047 (10 Km, expver=049) <b>HIRLAM 8 km (hourly)</b> <b>ALADIN 8km (hourly)</b>
Forecast lenght:	H+42 -> 00 y 12 UTC H+06 -> 06 y 18 UTC

# 1) Description of the experiments.

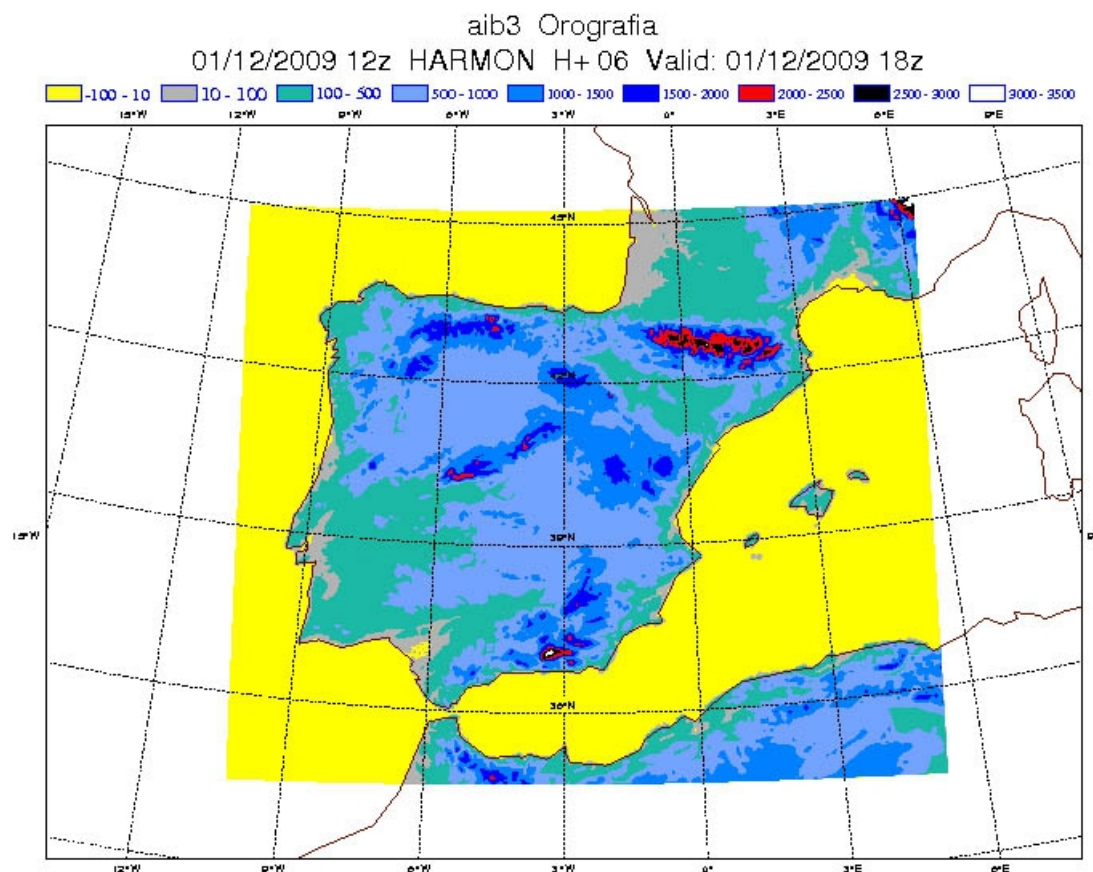
Domain

IBERIA\_2.5 (576x480)

Study period

11-20 dic 2009 Surface assimilation cycle H+6

21-31 dic 2009 Complete cycle H+42



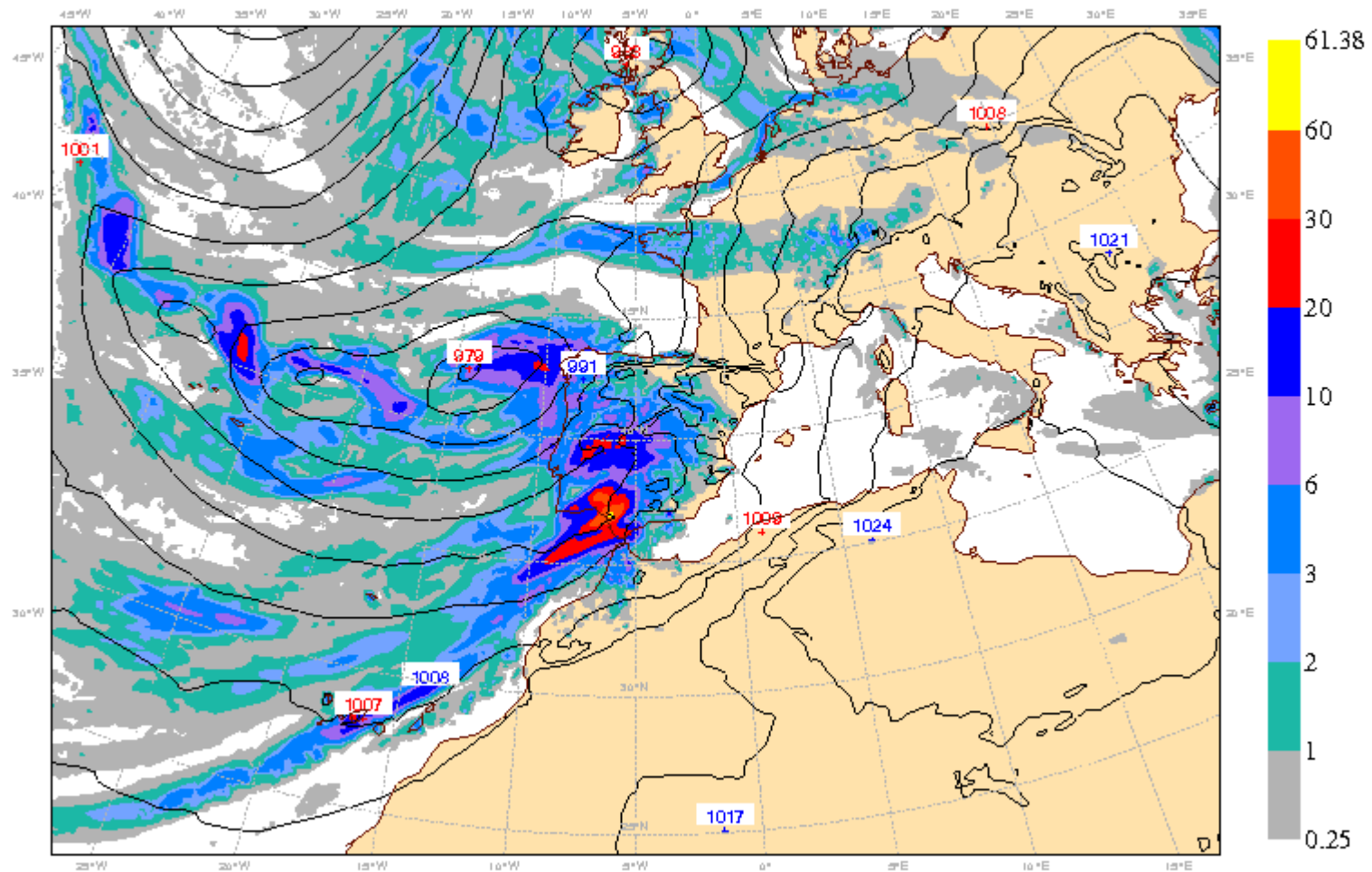


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EC46 MSLP and Precipitation (mm/6hr)  
21/12/2009 00z ECMWF H+ 06 Valid: 21/12/2009 06z



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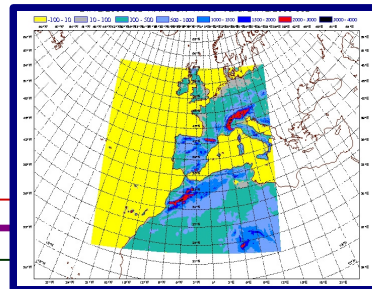


### 3) Nesting strategy: Need of an intermediate model

#### Three HOST MODELS:

##### **HIRLAM 8 KM** 60 vl

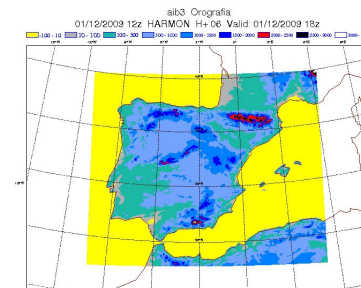
- HIRLAM 7.2.1 nested in T1279 (16 km) ECMWF fcs (3 hr).
- **3Dvar** (6 h wind) + **Blending** : conv obs + ATOVS
- AEMET\_08 (486x500)
- fc up to 48h, hourly



##### **ALADIN 8 KM** 60 vl, hydrostatic

- ALADIN 36h1.3 nested in T1279 (16 km) ECMWF fc (3 hr).
- **3Dvar** (6 h wind): conventional obs
- Scf scheme: old\_surface + CANARI
- IBERIA\_08 (486x500)
- fc up to 48h, hourly

##### **HARMONIE** **36h1.2** **2.5 km, 60 v.l.**

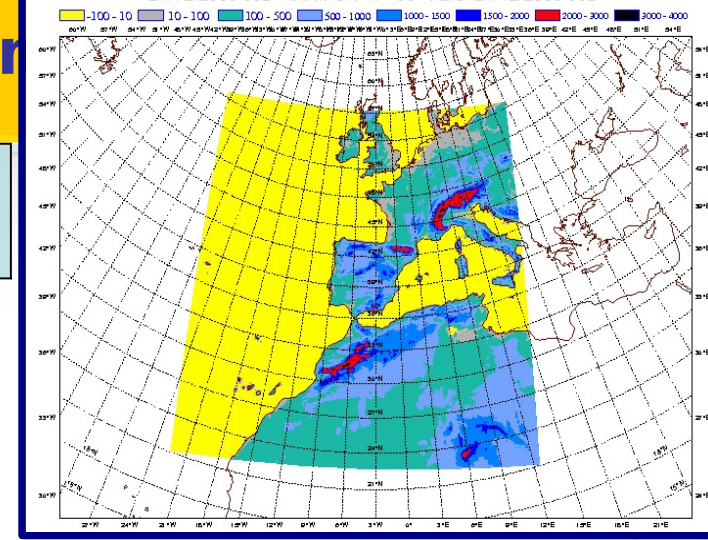


**IFS**  
**ECMWF**  
T1279,  
16 km  
resolution

# 3 ) Nesting strategy: Need of an internal model

8km exp: **HIRLAM**      HI8

Period	(21-31 /12/2009)
VERSION	7.2.1. (hydrostatic)
Horizontal resol.	8 Km
Vertical res.	60 levels
Domain	AEMET_08 (486x500)
PHYSICS	hirlam, KF
Upper-air scheme	3DVar (6hr window) + BLENDING (6hr) conventional obs +ATOVS
IC & Boundaries	IFS (T1279; 16 Km), 3 hr , fc-6
Forecast up to:	H+48, hourly.



# 3) Nesting strategy: Need of an internal model

8km exp: **ALADIN** (ib36h13\_ec46)

Period (21-31 /12/2009)

VERSION 36h1.3. (hydrostatic)

Horizontal resol. 8 Km

Vertical res. 60 levels

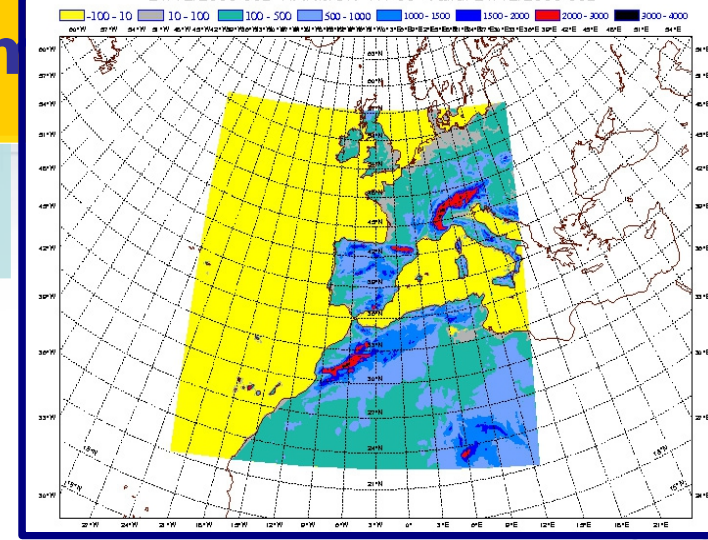
Domain IBERIA\_8 (384x400)

PHYSICS aladin; (Old\_surface + CANARI)

Upper-air scheme 3DVar (6hr window) conventional obs

IC & Boundaries IFS (T1279; 16 Km), 3 hr , fc-6, gl\_only

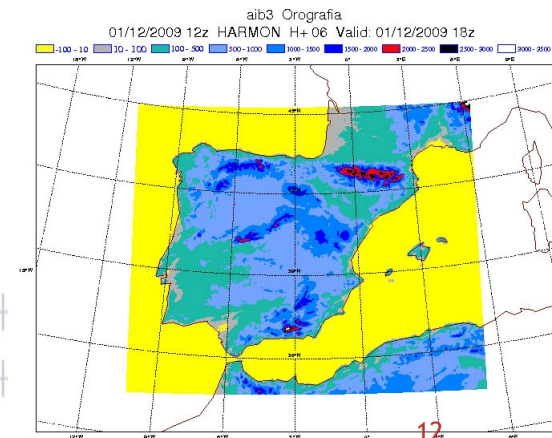
Forecast up to: H+48, hourly.



### 3) Nesting strategy: Need of an intermediate model

HARMONIE 2.5 km is nested in IFS ECMWF T1279 (EXP 46) boundaries, or in intermediate 8 km resolution HIRLAM or ALADIN integration.

Experimentos	Versión	Host model
a36h12ec16	36h1.2+Blending	ECMWF 16 km, 3hr, fc-6
a36h12hi8	36h1.2+Blending	HIRLAM 8 km, 1hr, fc+0
a36h12al8	36h1.2+Blending	ALADIN 8 km, 1hr, fc+0



# 3) Nesting strategy: Need of an intermediate model\_

Surface  
verification  
for  
experiments  
with  
different host  
models

RMSE and Bias  
function of the forecast  
length for

(a) Sfc pressure,  
(b) 10 m wind

- RMSE
- BIAS

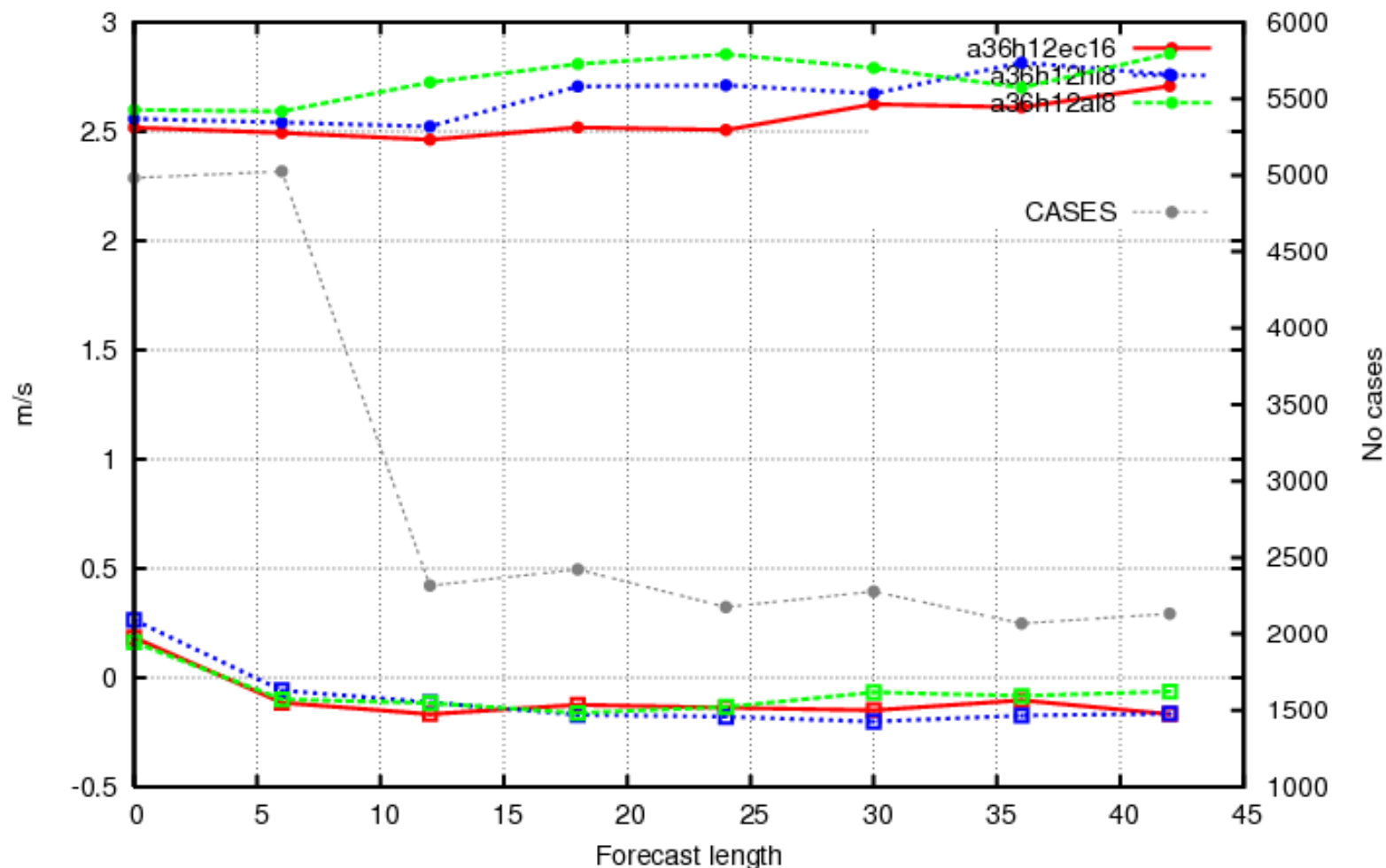
EC

HIR8

ALD8

## 10m WIND SPEED

Area: ALL using 156 stations  
Period: 20091221-20091231  
Wind speed Hours: 00,06,12,18





### 3) Nesting strategy: Need of an intermediate model\_

Surface  
verification  
for  
experiments  
with  
different host  
models.

RMSE and Bias  
function of  
the forecast  
length for

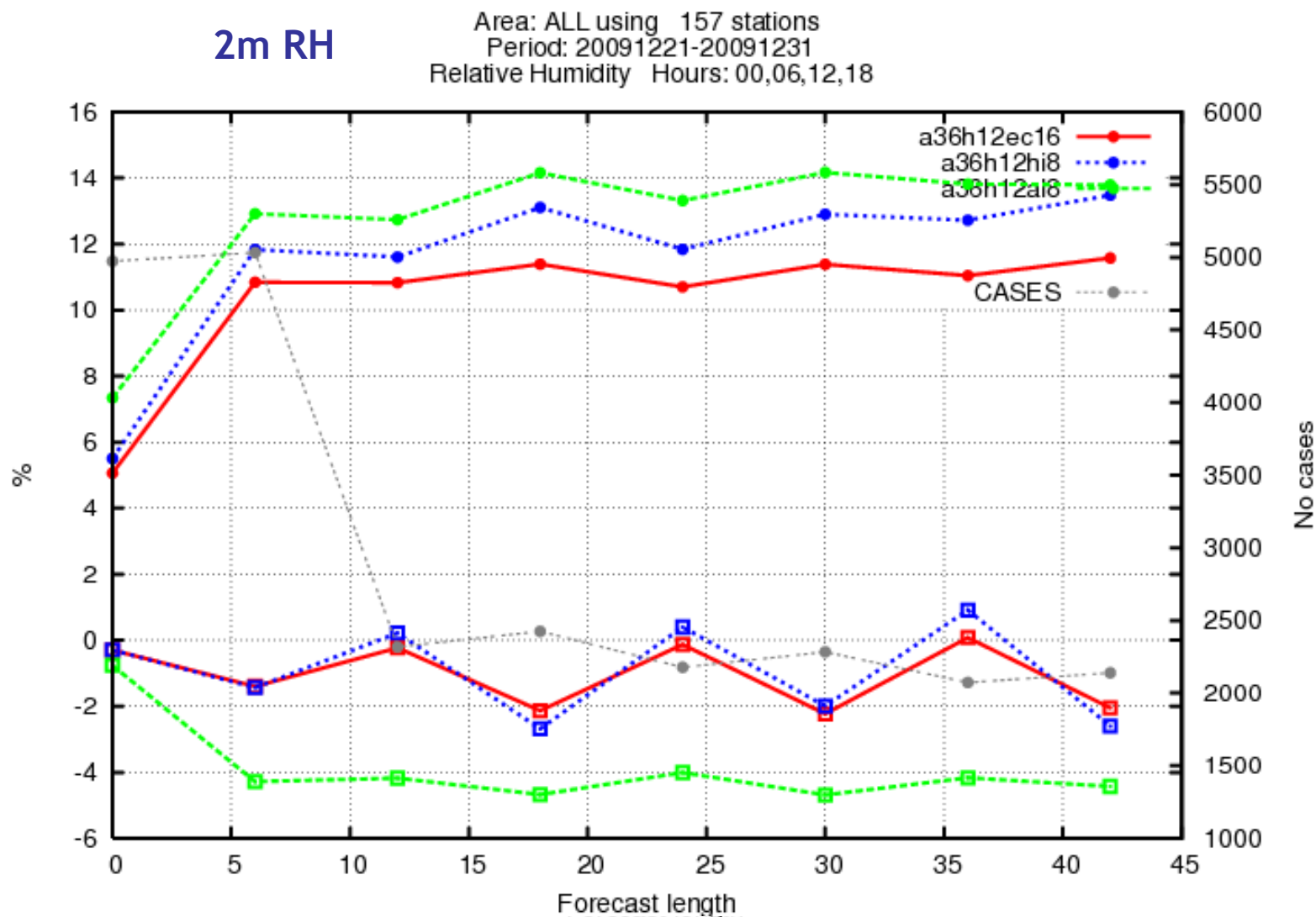
(c) 2m T  
(d) 2m RH

- RMSE
- BIAS

EC

HIR8

ALD8



# 3) Nesting strategy: Need of an intermediate model\_

EC

HIR8

ALD8

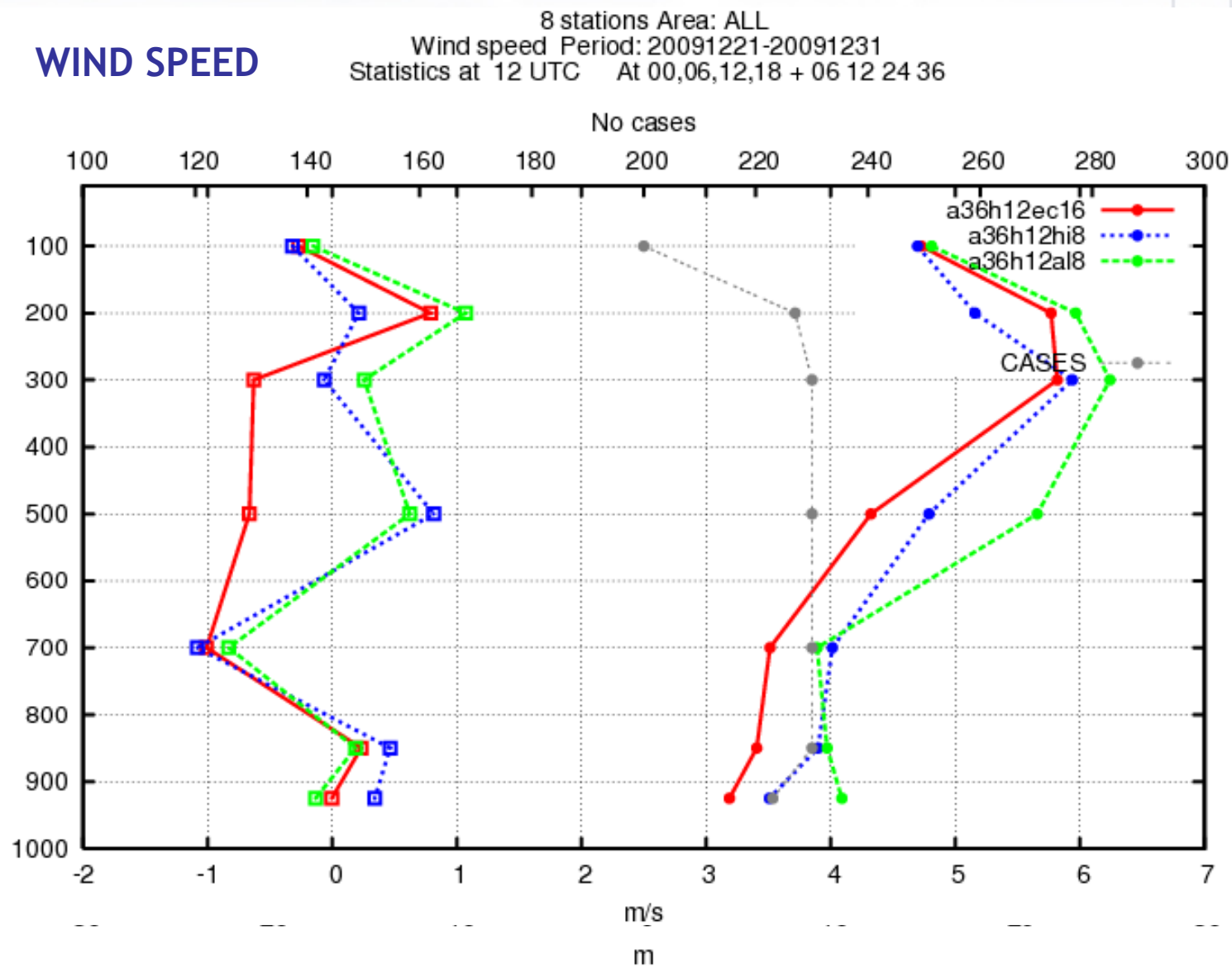
Verification  
against  
soundings,  
RMSE and Bias  
at 12 UTC of

(a) Height  
(b) Wind speed

• RMSE

▪ BIAS

## WIND SPEED



### 3) Nesting strategy: Need of an intermediate model\_

Verification  
against  
soundings,  
RMSE and Bia  
at 12 UTC of

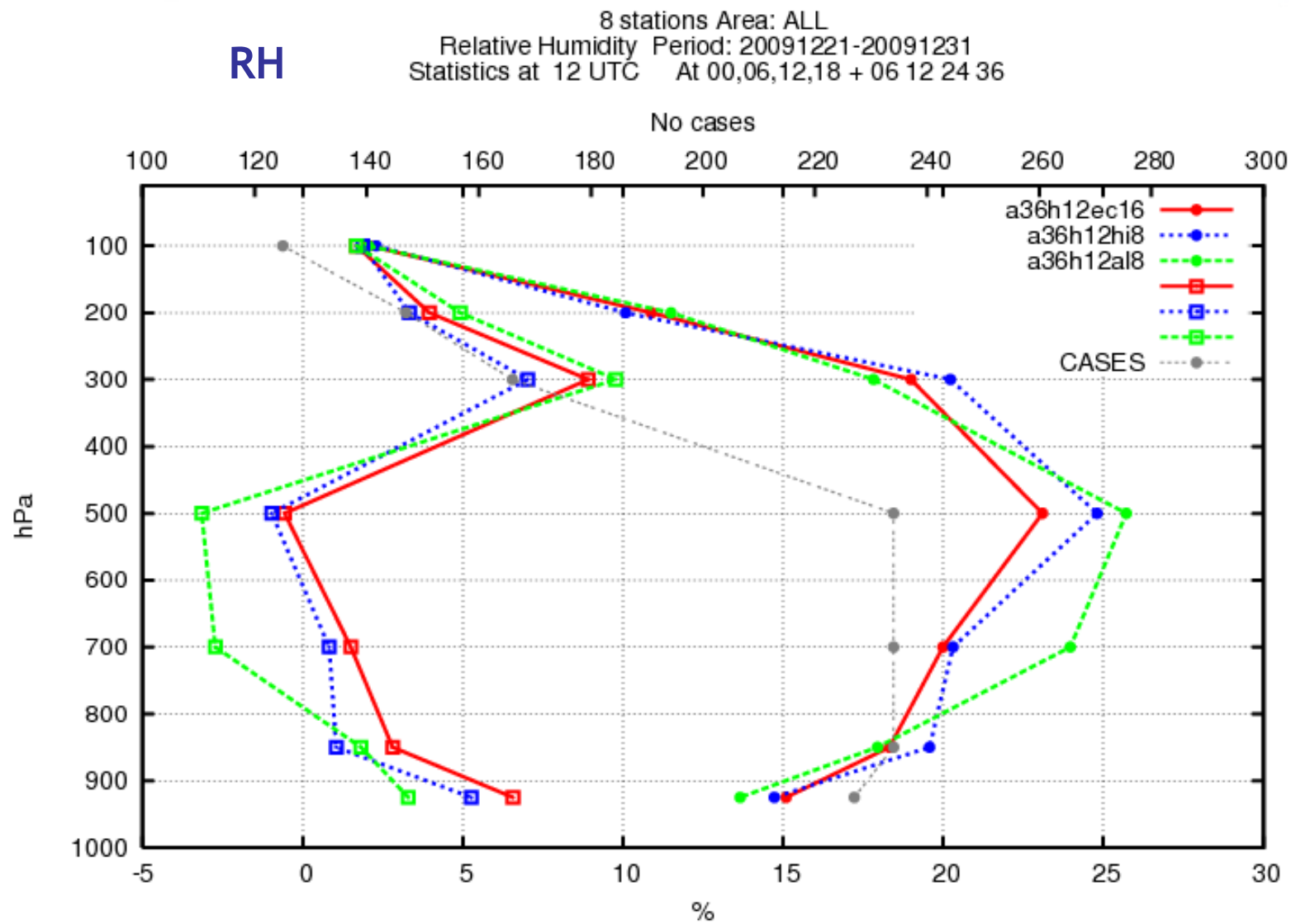
(a)  $T$   
(b)  $RH$

• RMSE  
■ BIAS

EC

HIR8

ALD8



#### Would an intermediate model introduce any advantage in the forecast?

- On precipitation verification there is an improvement when using ECMWF directly as host model, for lower precipitation rates ( $<15$  mm/12h) .
- For wind speed, the experiment nested in IFS model shows better skill to predict wind speeds until 8m/s.
- ✓ It is not observed a clear benefit of using an intermediate limited area model integration to provide boundaries or initial fields for HARMONIE 2.5

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## 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

IFS ECMWF T1279, 16 km resolution

HARMONIE 2.5 km hosted in IFS ECMWF T1279 (EXP 48)  
each 3 hr and 1 hr

Experimentos

Version

Host model

a36h12ecc3

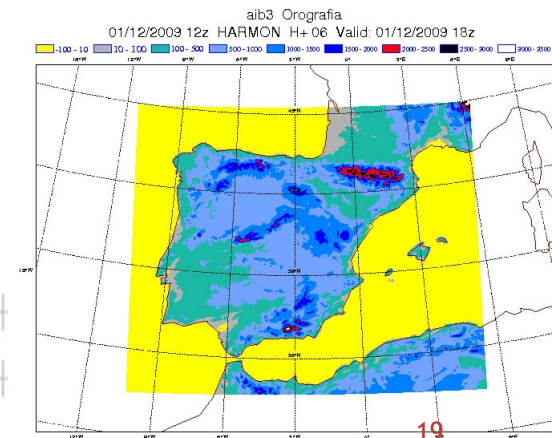
36h1.2+Blending

ECMWF 16 km, 3hr

a36h12ecc1

36h1.2+ Blending

ECMWF 16 km, 1hr



## 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

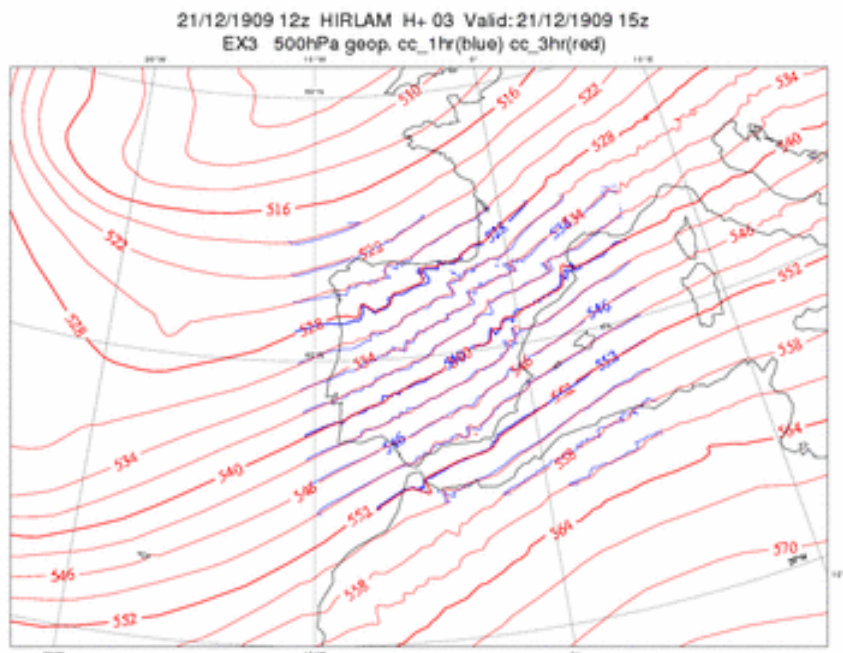
Traslation of boundary patterns to the inner domain

### Comparison of HARMONIE 2.5 km with ECMWF boundaries

Boundaries updated

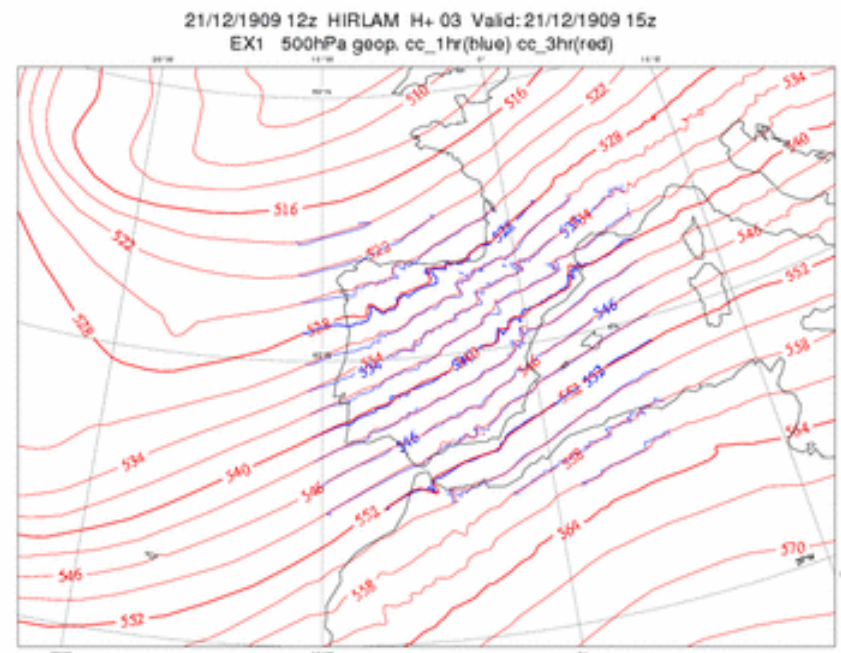
3hr

500 hPa geopotential



Boundaries updated

1hr



# 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

Surface  
verification  
for  
experiments  
with  
different freq  
of bd

RMSE and Bias  
function of  
the forecast  
length for

(a) Sfc pressure,  
(b) 10 m wind

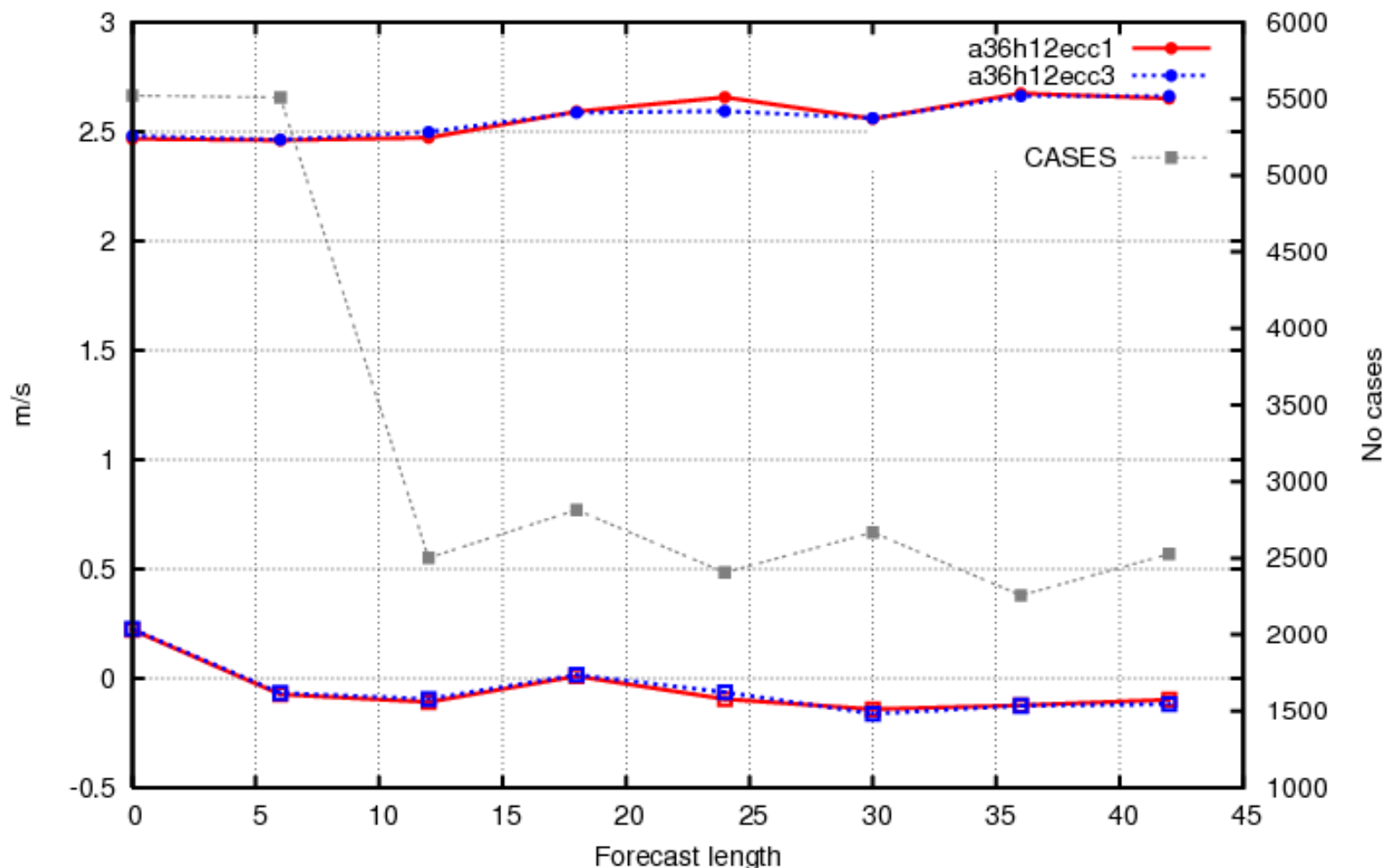
- RMSE
- BIAS

1hr

3hr

## 10m WIND SPEED

Area: ALL using 156 stations  
Period: 20091221-20091231  
Wind speed Hours: 00,06,12,18



# 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

1hr

3hr

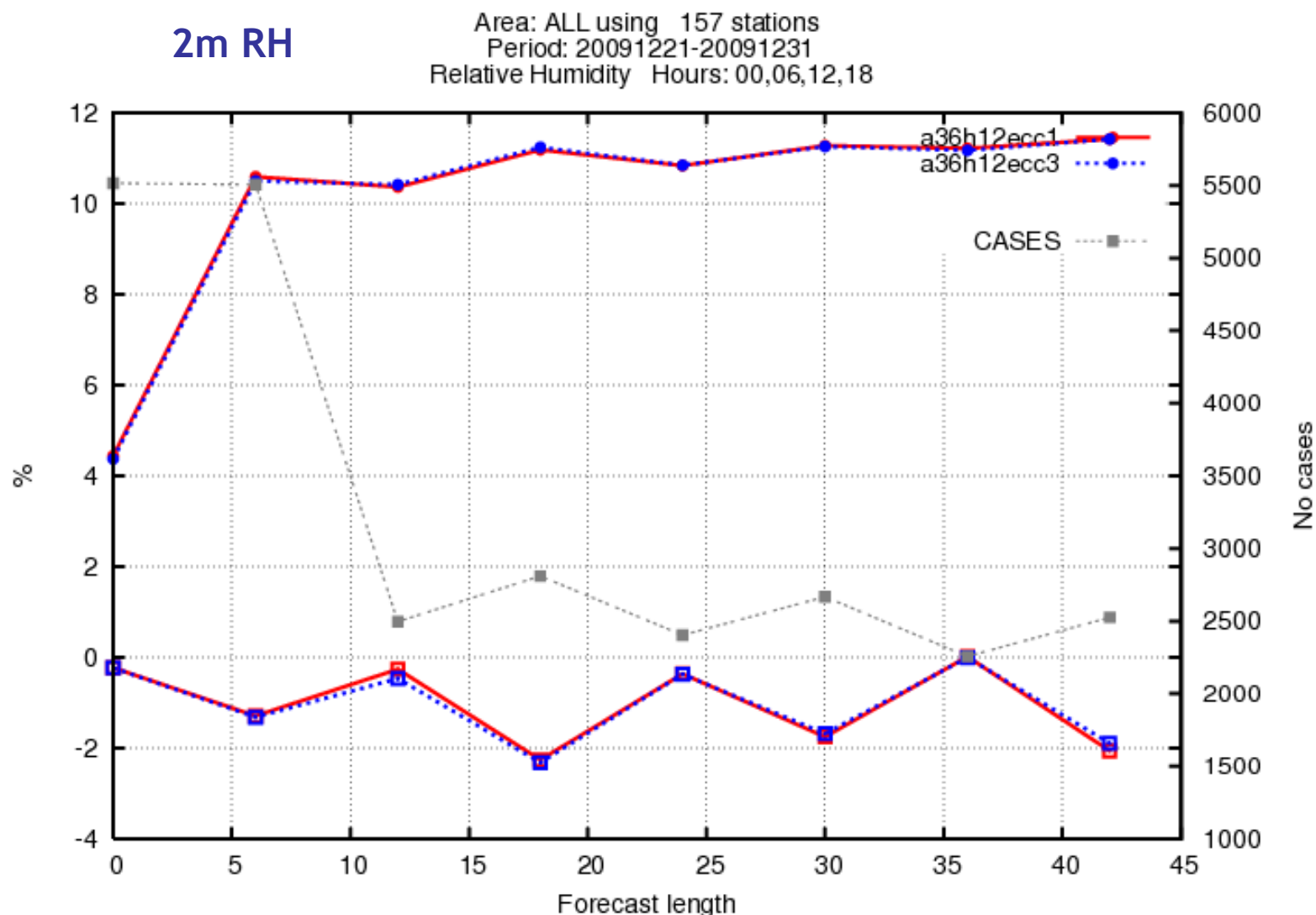
Surface  
verification  
for  
experiments  
with  
different freq  
of bd.

RMSE and Bias  
 function of  
 the forecast  
 length for

(c) 2m T  
 (d) 2m RH

• RMSE

▪ BIAS



# 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

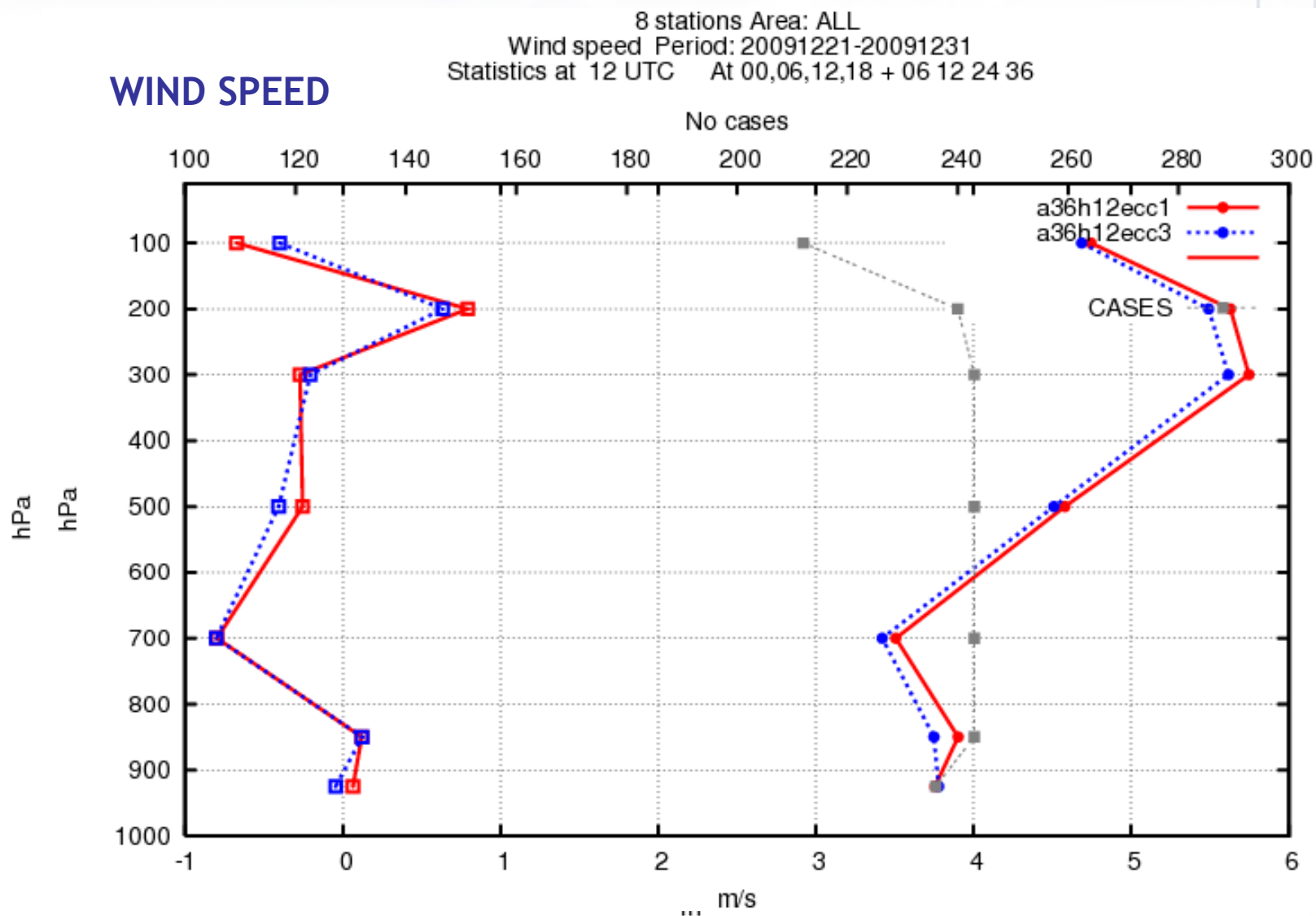
Verification  
against  
soundings,  
RMSE and Bia  
at 12 UTC of

(a) Height  
(b) Wind speed

1hr

3hr

## WIND SPEED



• RMSE

■ BIAS



# 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

1hr

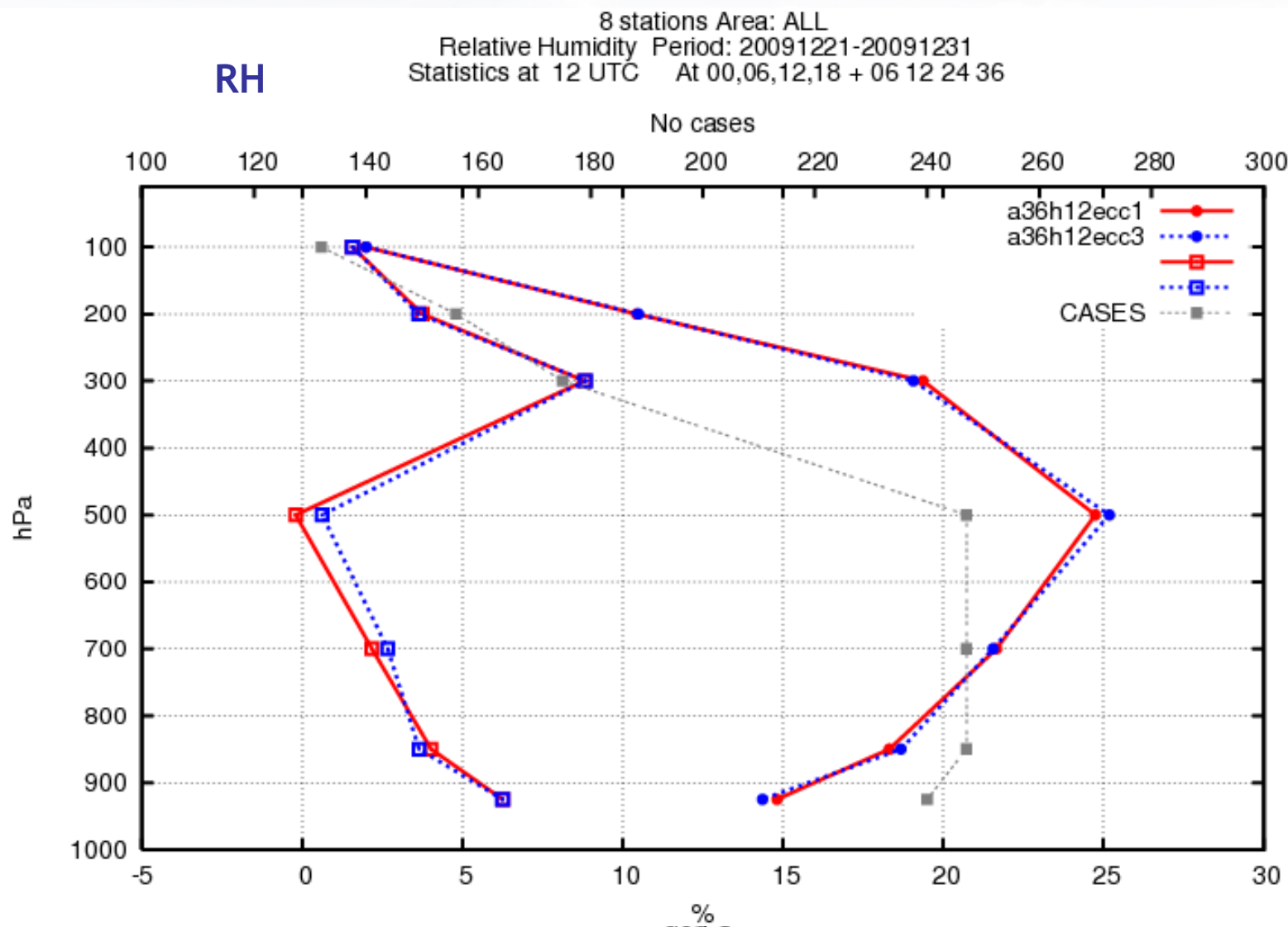
3hr

Verification  
against  
soundings,  
RMSE and Bias  
at 12 UTC of

(a) T  
(b) RH

• RMSE

■ BIAS



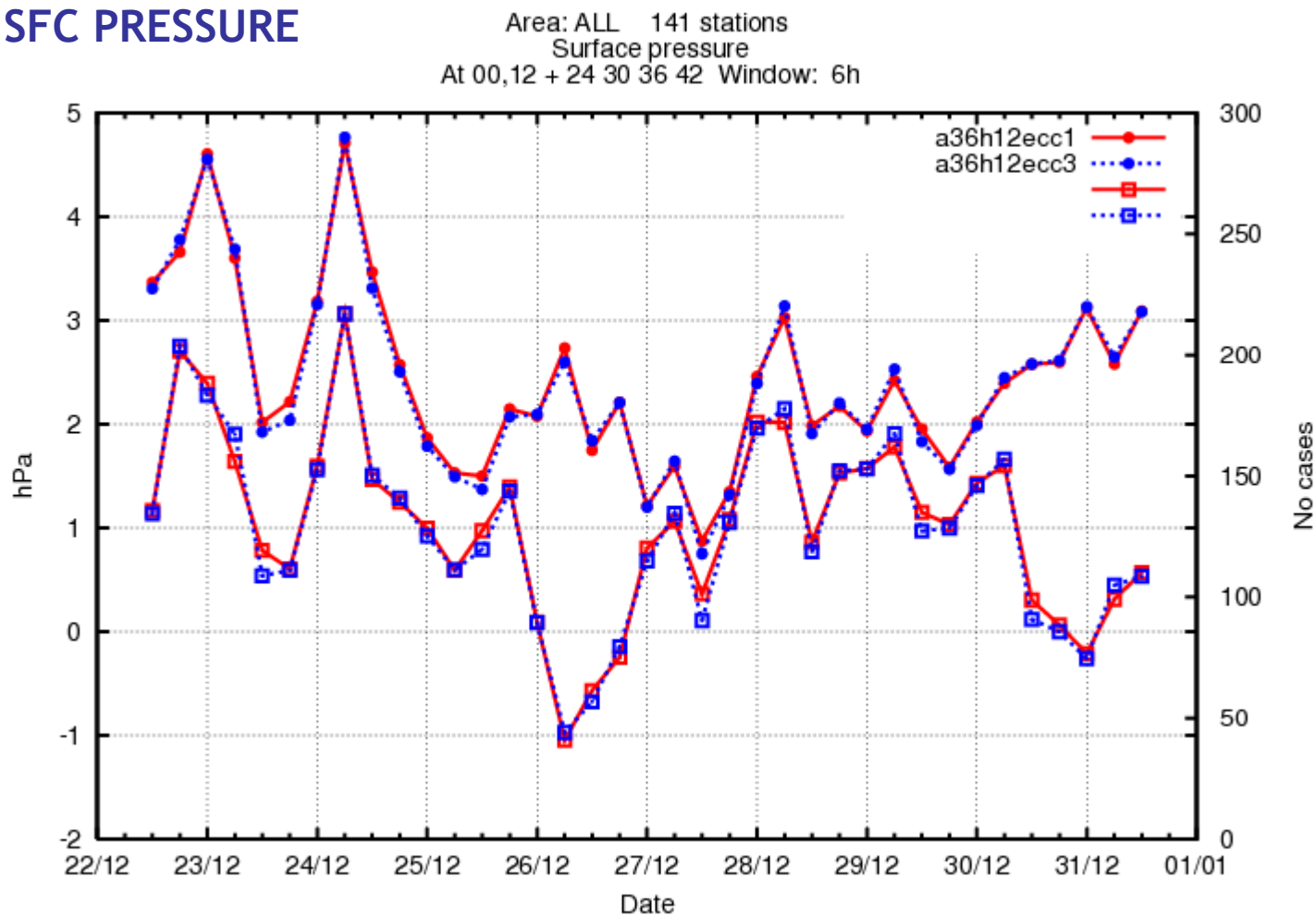
# 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

DAY evolution on sfc presure: different frequency of boundaries:  
1h (red), 3h (green).

1hr

3hr

## SFC PRESSURE



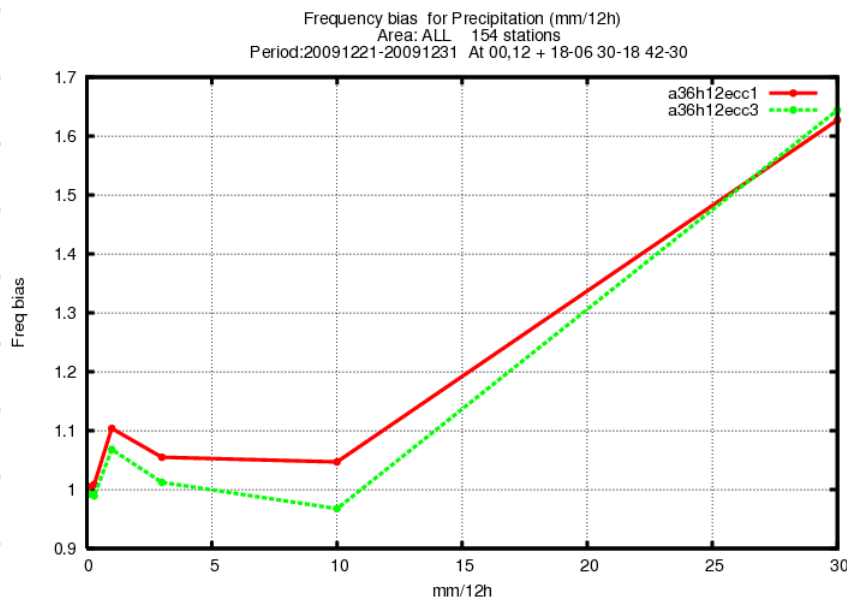
# 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

PRECIPITATION

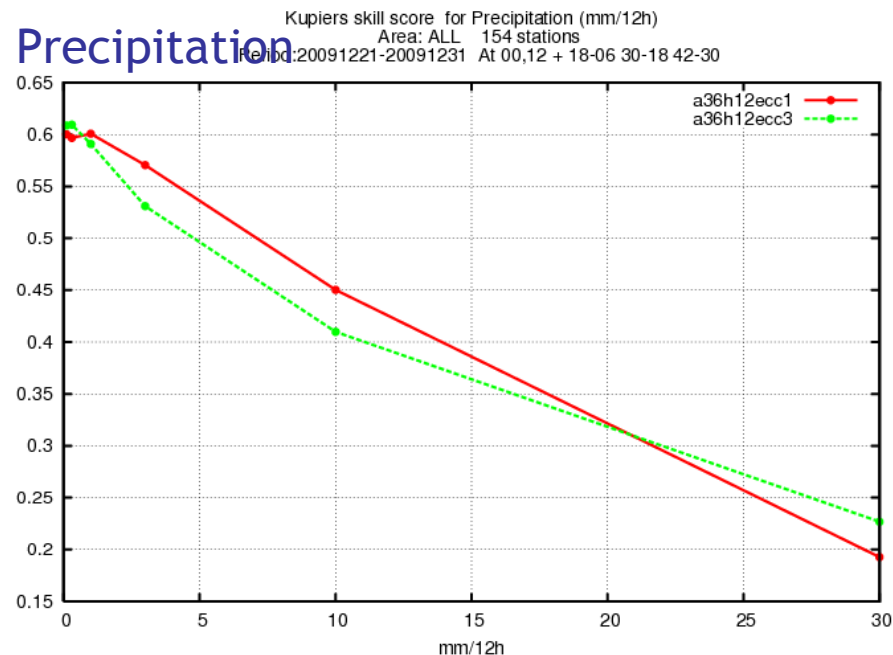
1hr

3hr

**Frequency Bias** precipitation  
and wind speed, different  
frequency of boundaries:  
1hr (red), 3hr (green).



**Kuiper Skill Score** precipitation and  
wind speed, different frequency of  
boundaries:  
1hr (red), 3hr (green).



### Would the frequency of boundaries affect the model skill?

- The benefit of using more frequent boundaries in the area is not clear for this period studied over the IBERIA\_2.5 domain.
- Day a day some differences are observed between the two configurations.
- 1hr freq seems to have higher impact for upper-air than for surface.
- Precipitation seems to be the only variable that benefit from using more frequent boundaries.

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## 5) Sensitivity to the initial condition

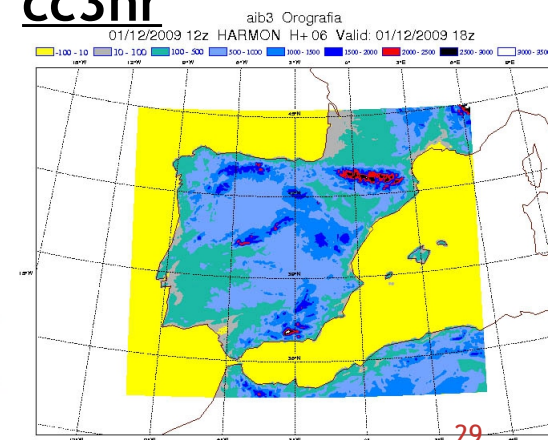
### IFS ECMWF T1279, 16 km resolution

HARMONIE 2.5 km hosted in IFS ECMWF T1279 (EXP 48) each 3 hr:

**Dynamical adaptation (Blending) vs 3DVar**

**(Both with surface assimilation)**

Experimentos	Version	Host model
a36h123blend	36h1.2+ <b>Blending</b>	ECMWF 16 km, <u>cc3hr</u>
a36h123Dvar	36h1.2+ <b>3DVar</b>	ECMWF 16 km, <u>cc3hr</u>



# 5) Sensitivity to the initial condition

Surface verification  
for  
experiments  
with  
different hos  
models

RMSE and Bias  
function of the forecast  
length for

(a) Sfc pressure,  
(b) 10 m wind

• RMSE

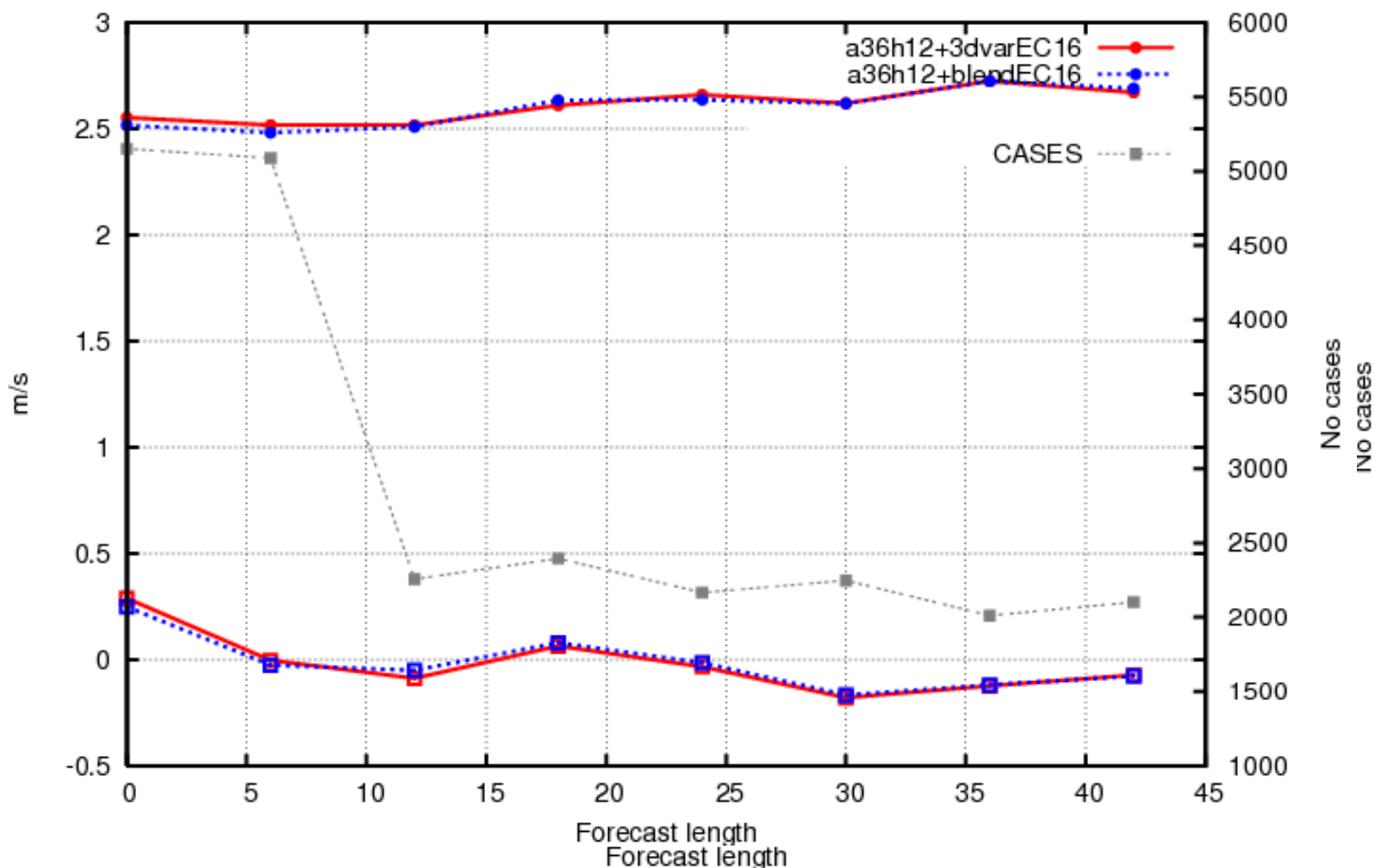
▪ BIAS

3DVar

Blending

## 10m WIND SPEED

Area: ALL using 156 stations  
Period: 20091221-20091231  
Wind speed Hours: 00,06,12,18



# 5) Sensitivity to the initial condition

Surface verification for experiments with different host models.

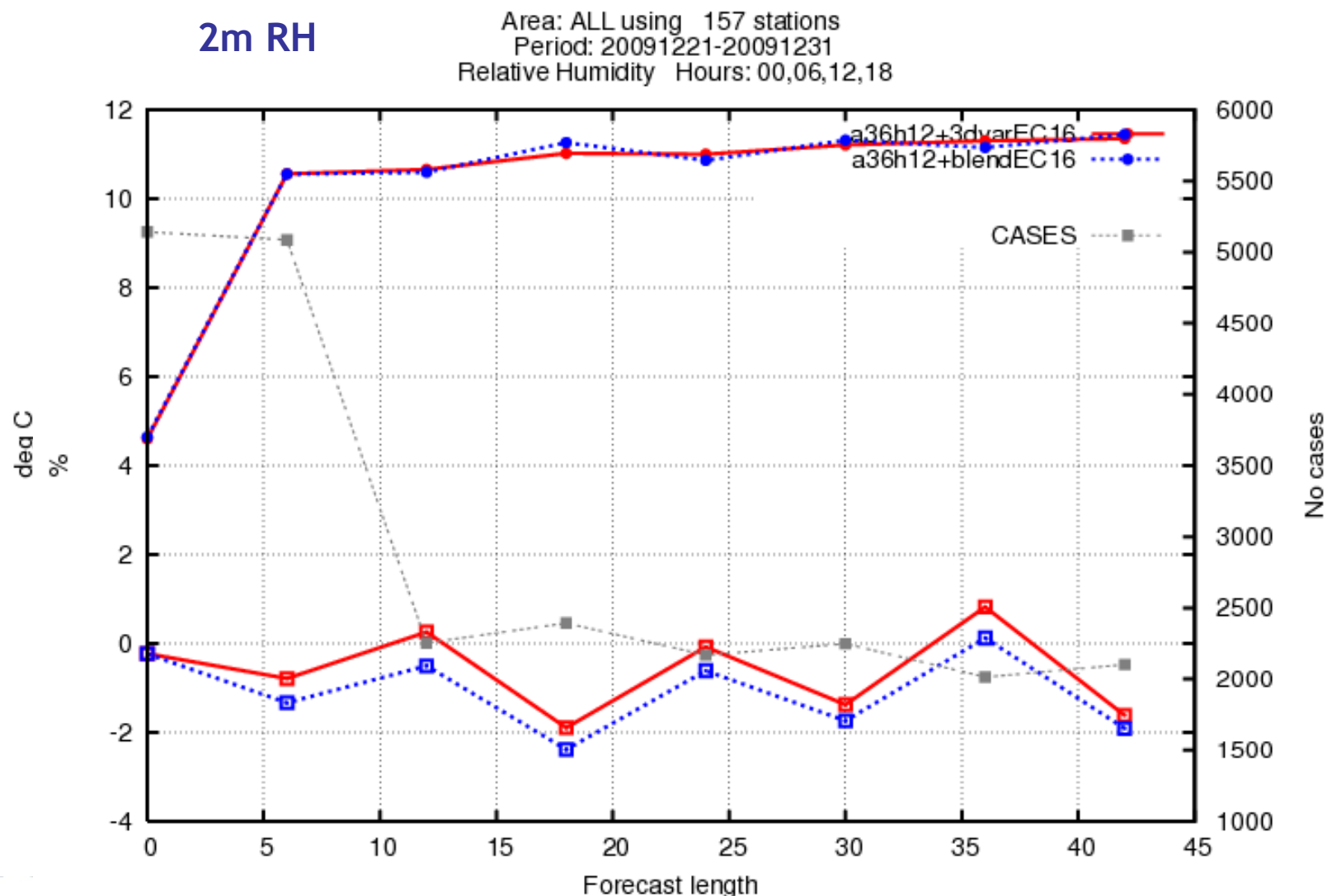
RMSE and Bias function of the forecast length for

(c) 2m T  
(d) 2m RH

- RMSE
- BIAS

3DVar

Blending



# 5) Sensitivity to the initial condition

Verification  
against  
soundings,  
RMSE and Bias  
at 12 UTC of

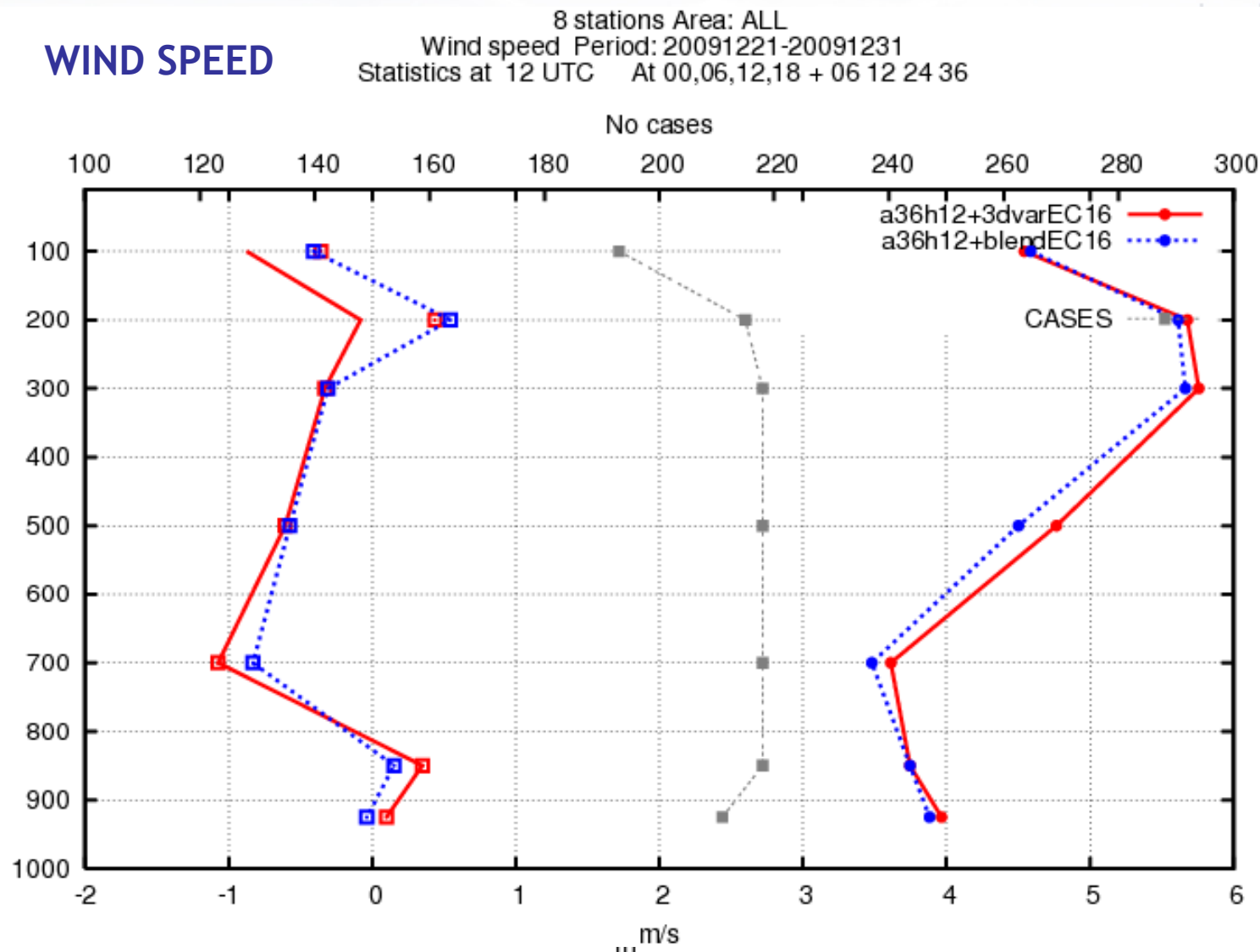
(a) Height  
(b) Wind speed

- RMSE
- BIAS

3DVar

Blending

## WIND SPEED



# 5) Sensitivity to the initial condition

3DVar

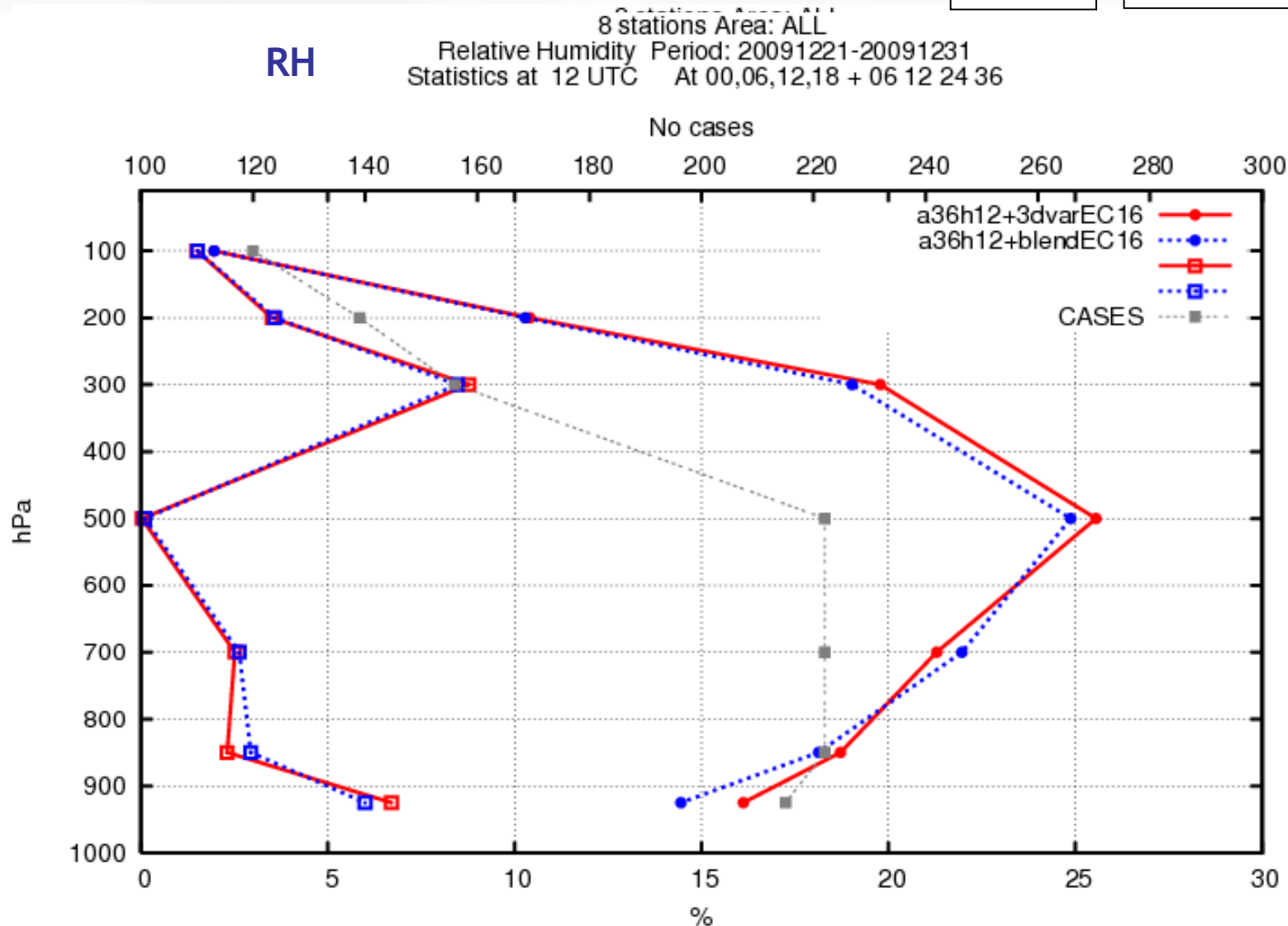
Blending

Verification  
against  
soundings,  
RMSE and Bias  
at 12 UTC of

(a) T  
(b) RH

• RMSE

▪ BIAS





### Is currently Blending a better option than 3DVar in Harmonie 36h1.2 for this period?

- Results are very similar for the two configurations, so no conclusions can be extracted about what strategy for the initial conditions is better.
- Anyway, 3DVar is a little bit better for surface and Blending for upper-air.

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HARMONIE 2.5 km has been run over a wet winter period of 11 days so not large enough to draw firm conclusions

### 1. Sensitivity to the host model:

- ✓ No clear benefit of using an intermediate limited area model integration to provide boundaries or initial fields for HARMONIE 2.5.
- ✓ Direct coupling to ECMWF seems to work well.

### 2. Sensitivity to the boundary frequency:

- ✓ We have compared **3-hr** vs **1-hr** boundaries. There are differences but these have little impact on the scores even in a daily basis.
- ✓ Apparently BC every 1-hr would benefit upper air scores but would deteriorate near surface scores. More noise? Need further research.

### 3. Impact of 3DVar compared with dynamical adaptation (blending)

- ✓ Overall Blending gives slightly better results although 3DVar has positive impact at lower levels. These would have two consequences:
  - ✓ So far dynamical adaptation for the upper-air fields seems to be a good option
  - ✓ Taking into account that we have only use convectional obs over a relatively small domain, 3DVar has promising perspectives

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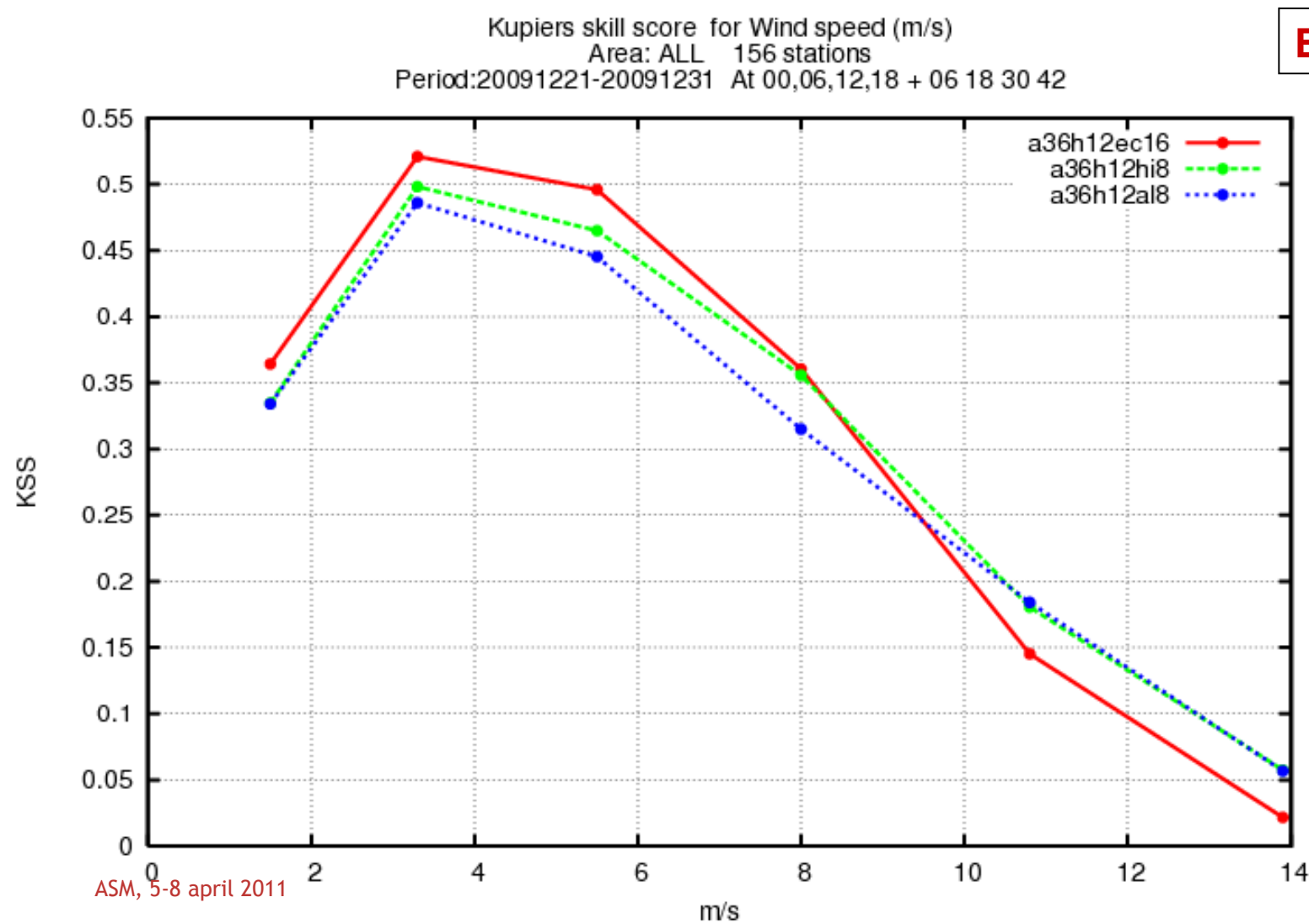
*Jana Sánchez, Javier Calvo and Ana Morata*

**Thank you !**

### 3) Nesting strategy: Need of an intermediate model\_

Kuiper Skill Score prec and wind speed, different host models:

ECMWF 16 km (red), HIRLAM 8 km (green), ALADIN 8km (blue).





# *Sensitivity of HARMONIE to nesting strategy and initial conditions*

**HARMONIE 2,5 Km resolution nested in ECMWF 16 Km model...  
some questions:**

- 1) Do we need an intermediate model to provide boundaries?
- 2) What if we increase the resolution of the host model?**
- 3) Would the frequency of boundaries affect the model skill?
- 4) Is there any improvement using 3DVar for upper levels compared with a simple dynamical adaptation from the boundary (Blending option)?

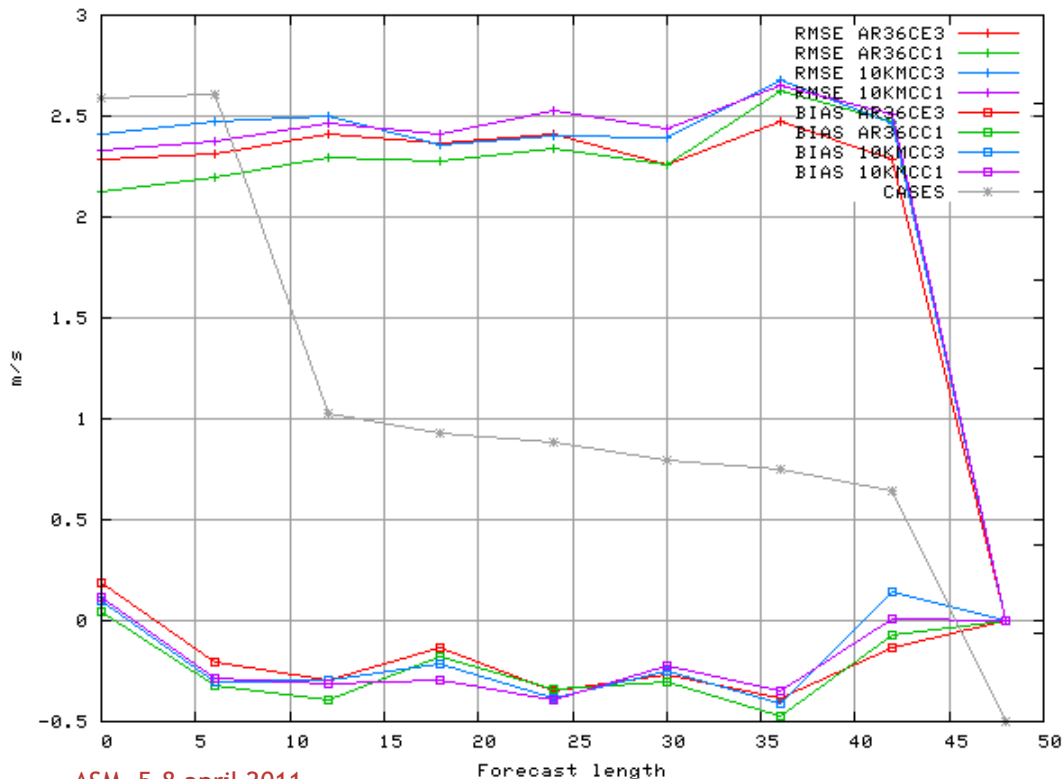
## 2) Experiment **COMPARISON**: Different resolution on the host model

IFS ECMWF T1279, 16 km resolución (cada 3 horas Y cada hora)

IFS ECMWF T2047, 10 km resolución (cada 3 horas y cada hora)

Harmonie 36h1.1, 2,5 km , no DA.

Area: EWGLAM using 33 stations  
Period: 20091222-20091228  
Wind speed Hours: {00,06,12,18}



What if we increase the resolution of the host model?

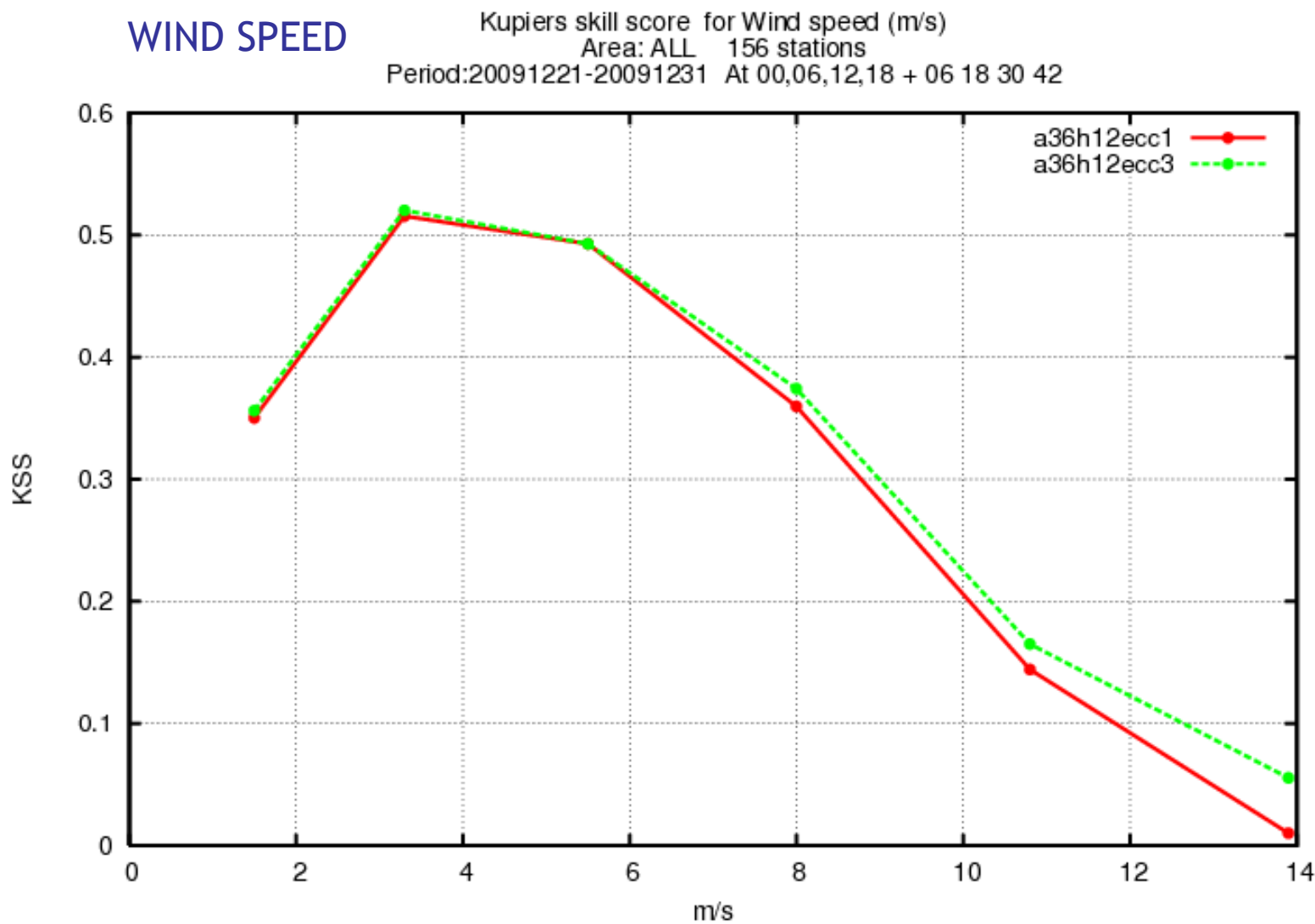
**NEUTRAL IMPACT (T2m y RH2m) for this study period.**

## 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

Kuiper Skill Score precipitation and wind speed, different frequency of boundaries:  
1hr (red), 3hr (green).

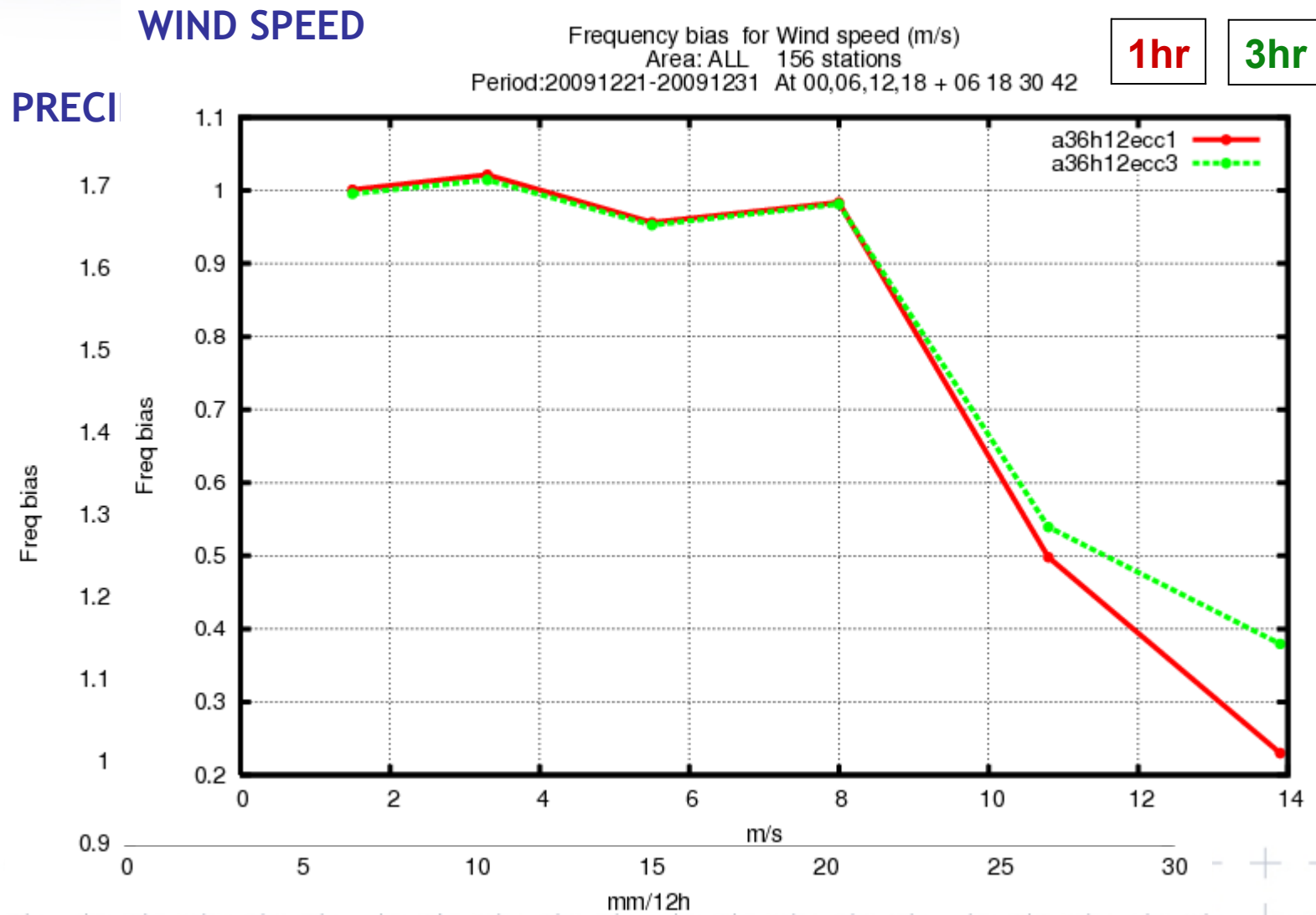
1hr

3hr



# 4) Sensitivity to the the frequency of the boundaries

**Frequency Bias** precipitation and wind speed, different frequency of boundaries:



# 5) Sensitivity to the initial condition

Kuiper Skill Score precipitation and wind speed, different frequency of boundaries:  
3DVar (red), Blending (green).

