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HIRLAM in Sodankylä and at Vatnajökull

Laura Rontu, FMI
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April 21, 2007





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- New developments: “newsnow” surface scheme
- Need for detailed model-observation comparison

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- Subarctic boreal forest winter environment, Finland
- Unique combination of regular observations

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- Largest glacier of Europe, Iceland
- Observation campaign summer 1996

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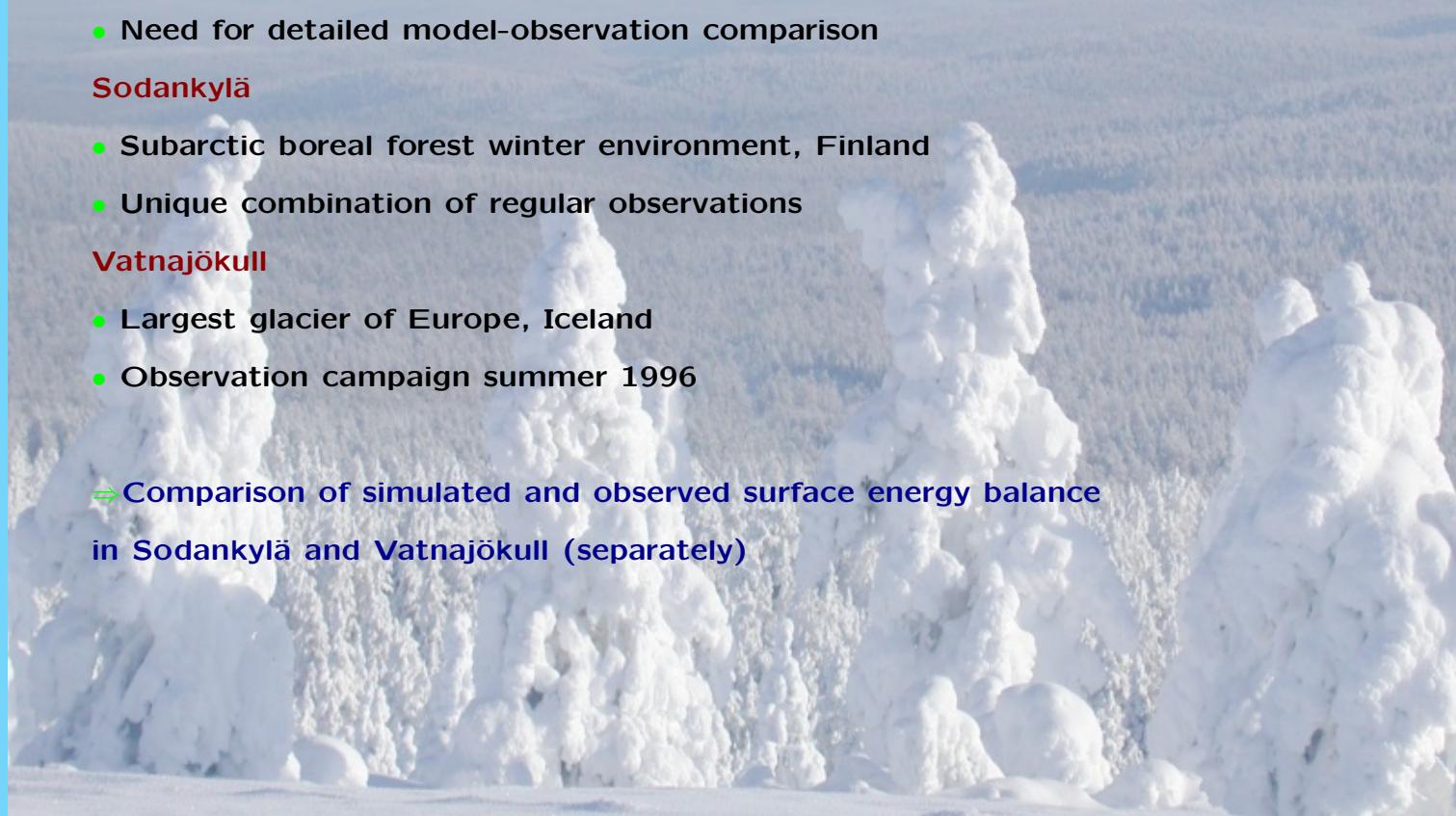
Sodankylä

- Subarctic boreal forest winter environment, Finland
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Vatnajökull

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⇒ Comparison of simulated and observed surface energy balance
in Sodankylä and Vatnajökull (separately)





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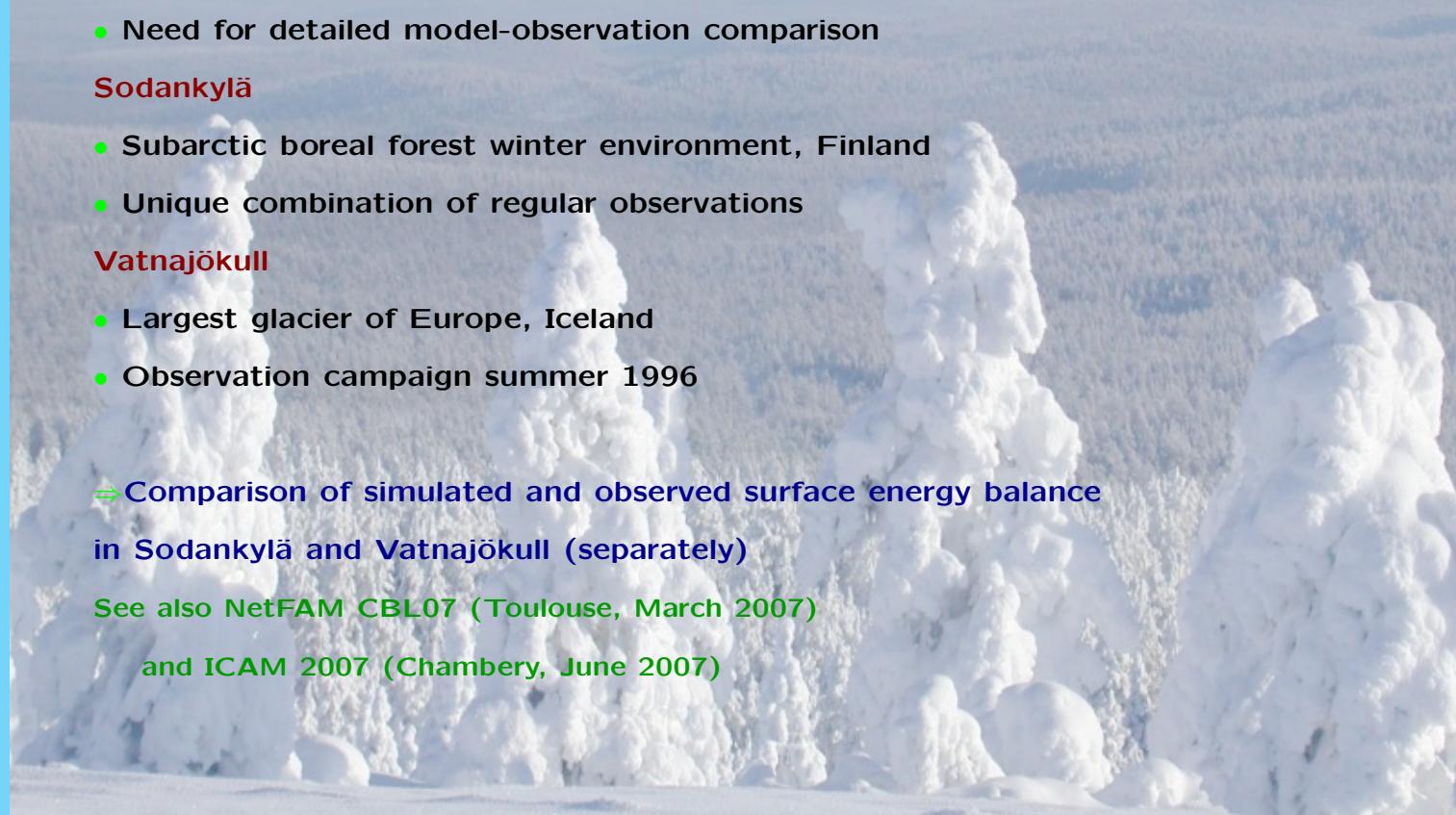
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Vatnajökull

- Largest glacier of Europe, Iceland
- Observation campaign summer 1996

⇒ Comparison of simulated and observed surface energy balance
in Sodankylä and Vatnajökull (separately)

See also NetFAM CBL07 (Toulouse, March 2007)
and ICAM 2007 (Chambery, June 2007)





Sodankylä data

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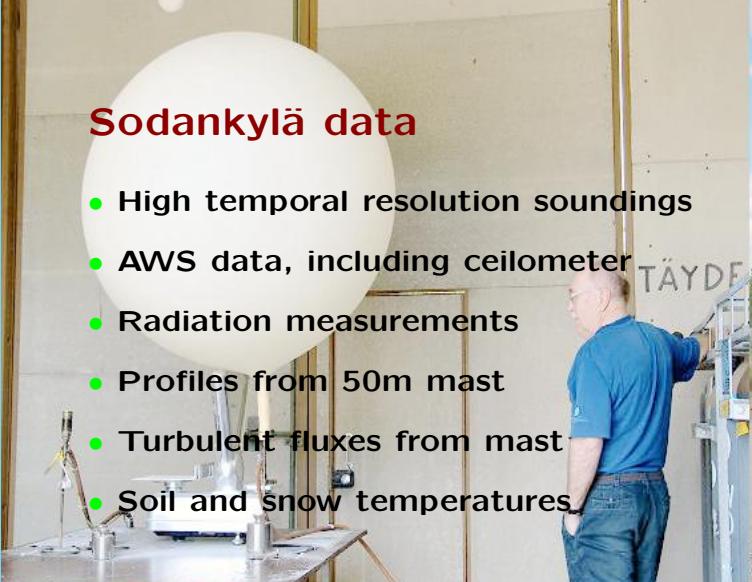
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Sodankylä data

- High temporal resolution soundings
- AWS data, including ceilometer
- Radiation measurements
- Profiles from 50m mast
- Turbulent fluxes from mast
- Soil and snow temperatures



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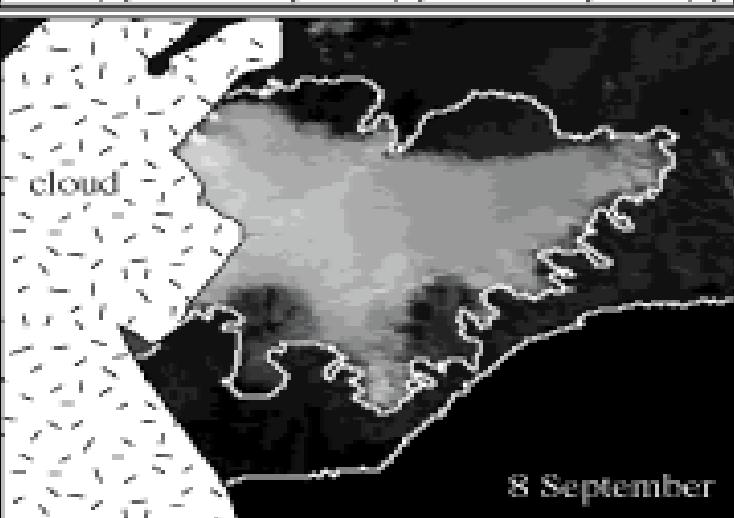
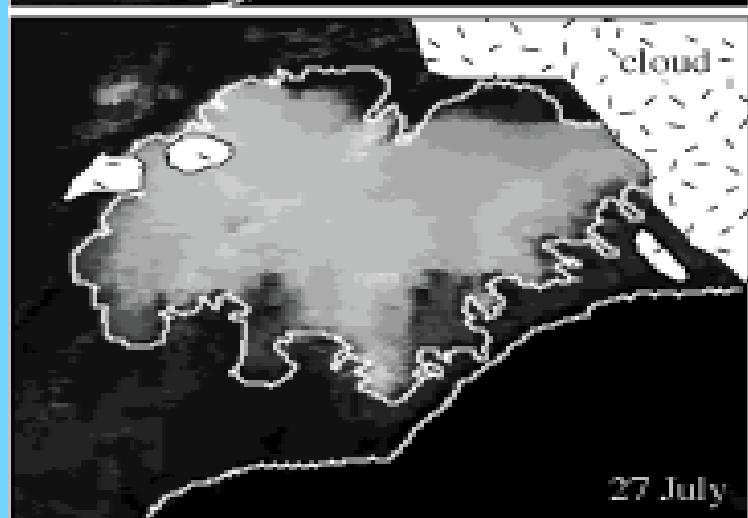
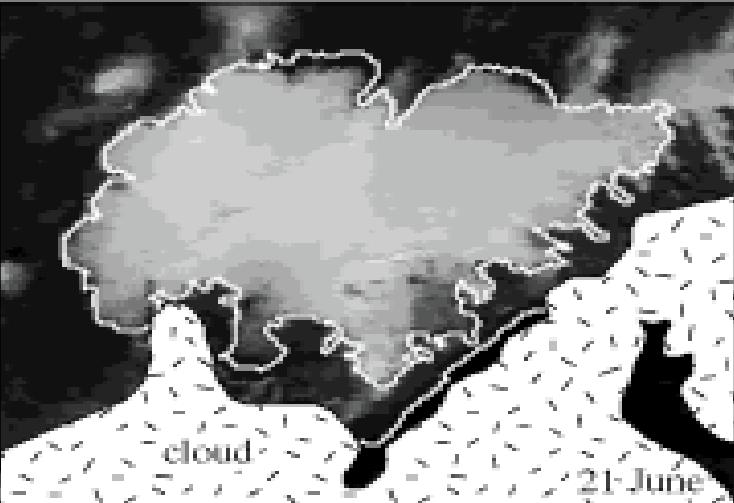
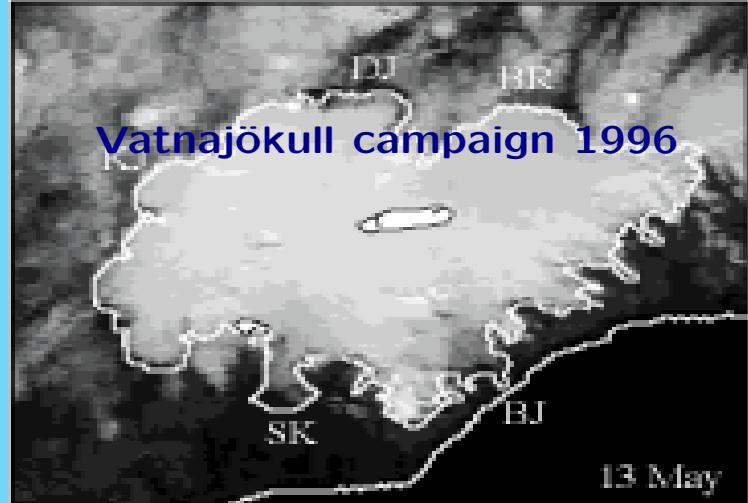
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Surface albedo



0 10

50 km



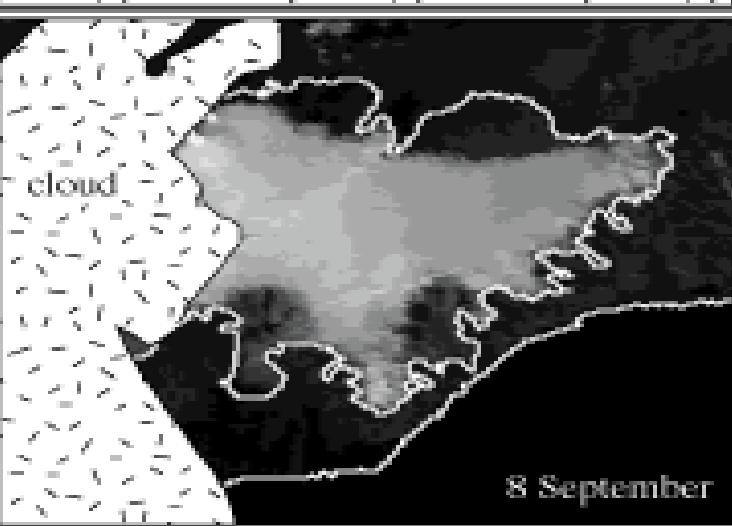
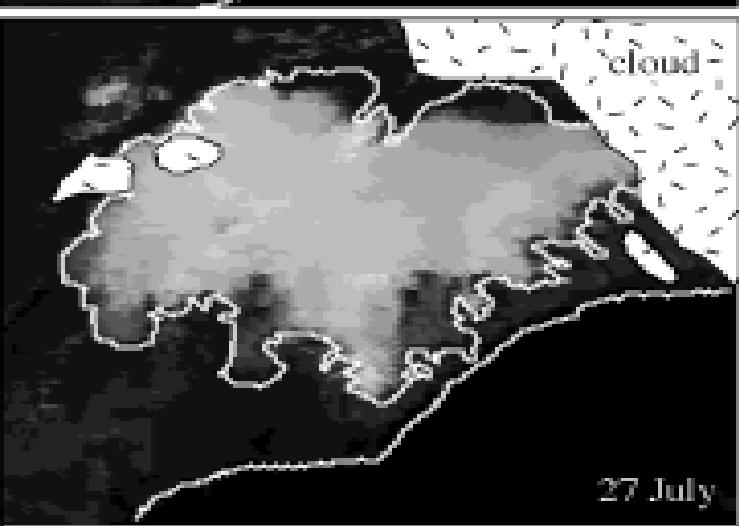
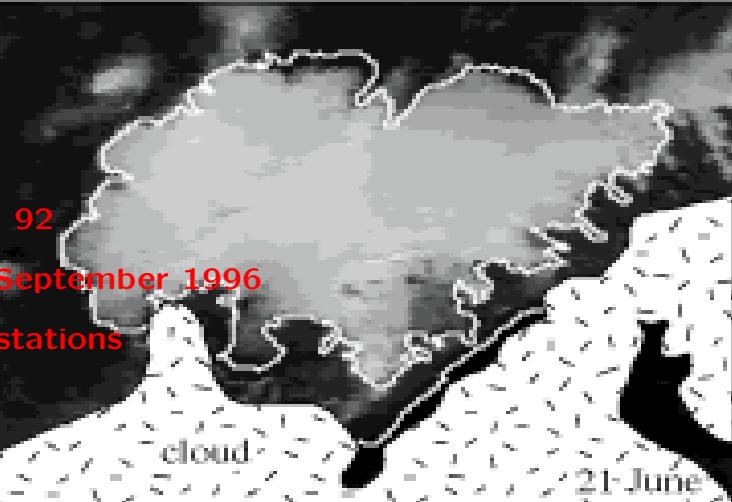
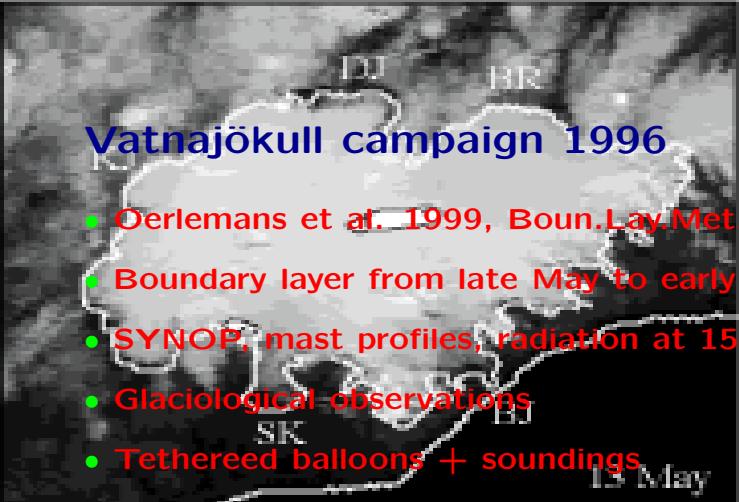
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Vatnajökull campaign 1996

- Oerlemans et al. 1999, *Boun. Lay. Met.*, 92
- Boundary layer from late May to early September 1996
- SYNOP mast profiles, radiation at 15 stations
- Glaciological observations
- Tethered balloons + soundings

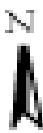


Surface albedo



0 10

50 km





HIRLAM experiments

Table 1: HIRLAM experiment setup

	Sodankylä	Vatnajökull
HIRLAM versions resolution domain period initial analysis boundaries validation comments	7.1beta1 and “newsnow” 11km/60L Northern Europe January 2007 NOUA HIRLAM RCR 22km/40L (an) standard + Sodankylä newsnow alpha3 and 7.1	7.1beta2 and “newsnow” 2.8km/60L Iceland June 1996 NOUA HIRLAM beta2 17km/40L (an) standard + Vatnajökull double nesting: ERA40-17km-2.8km

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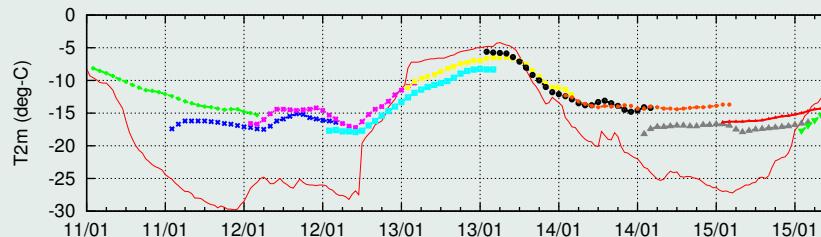
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January 2007 Sodankylä: HIRLAM reference

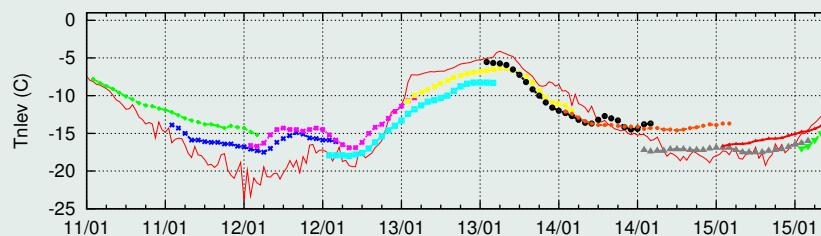
Temperature AWS 2m/Hirlam 2m

Screen level temperature Exp 71b1SR Station Soda



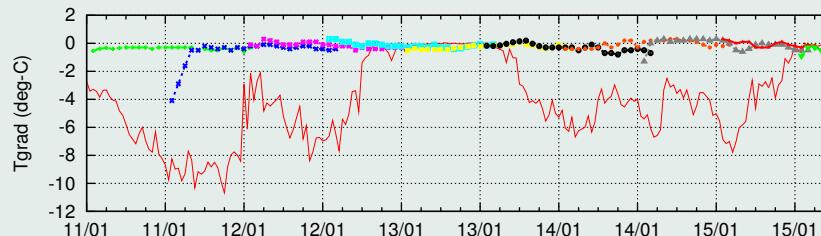
Temperature mast 31m/Hirlam 32m

T (31m) 71b1SR - Station Soda (32m)



Temperature gradient Ts-Tnlev mast/Hirlam

Temperature gradient Exp 71b1SR sfc-nlev - Station Soda T(skin)-T(32m)



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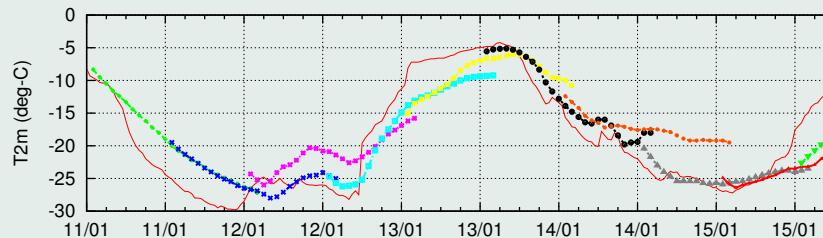
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January 2007 Sodankylä: HIRLAM “newsnow” corrected

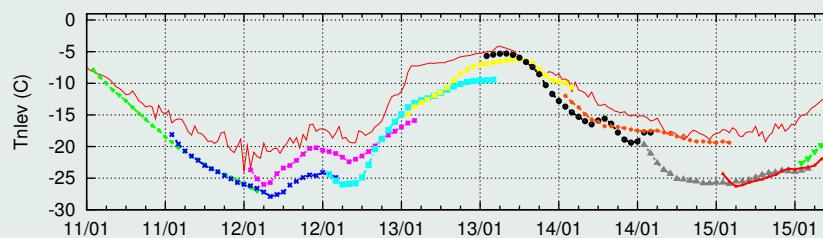
Temperature AWS 2m/Hirlam 2m

Screen level temperature Exp 71nS Station Soda



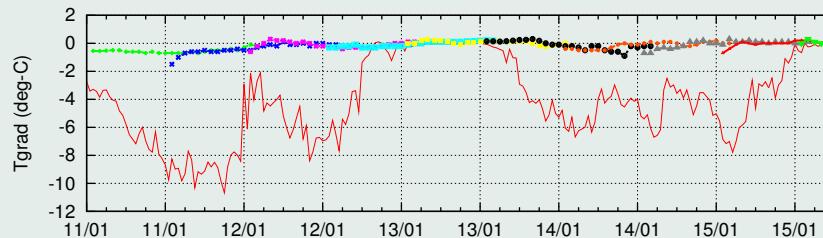
Temperature mast 31m/Hirlam 32m

T (31m) 71nS - Station Soda (32m)



Temperature gradient Ts-Tnlev mast/Hirlam

Temperature gradient Exp 71nS sfc-nlev - Station Soda T(skin)-T(32m)



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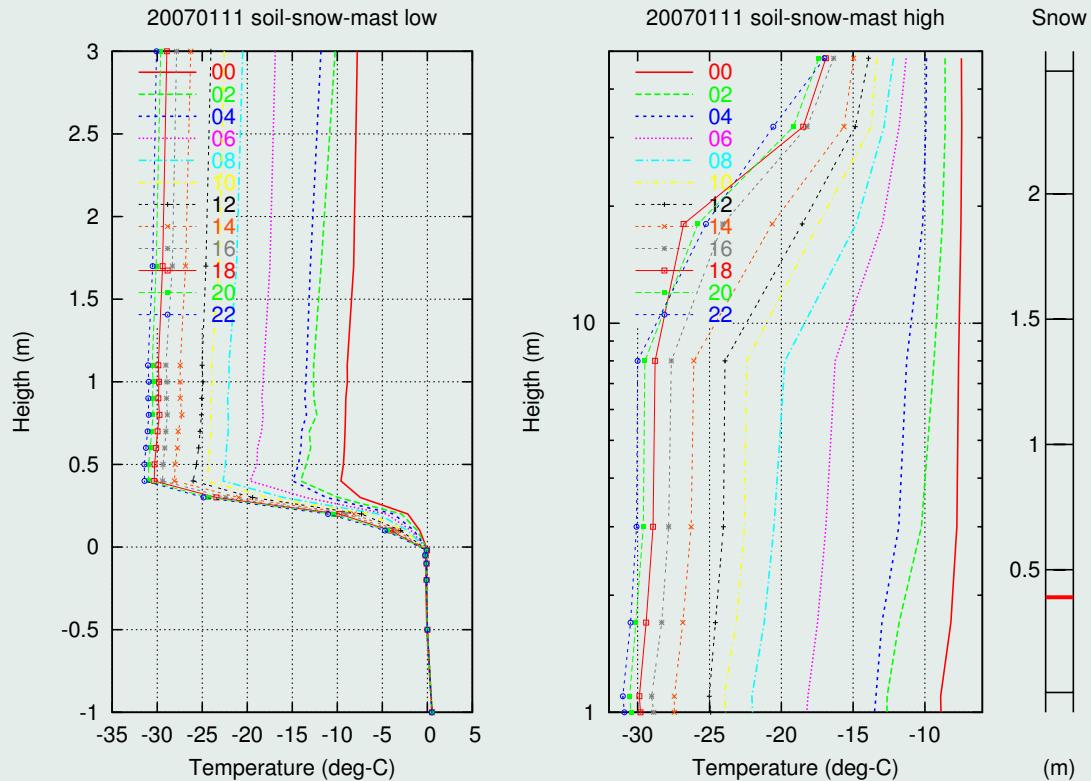
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Observed temperatures -1 ... 48 m: soil, snow and mast

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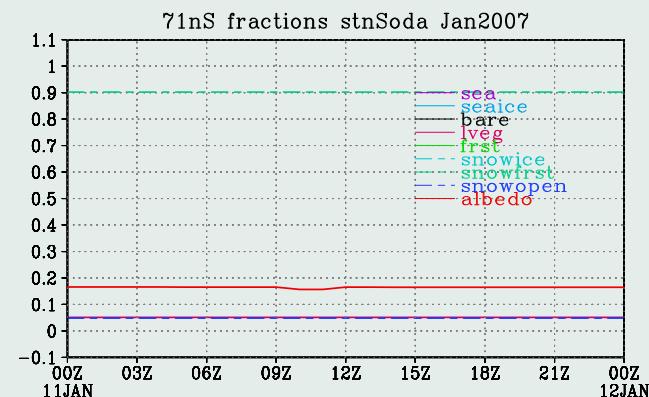
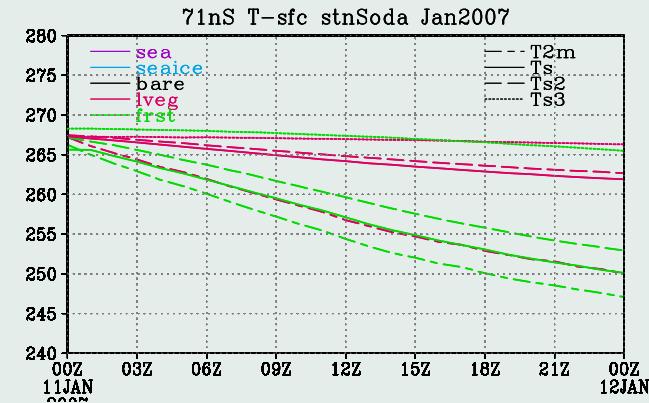
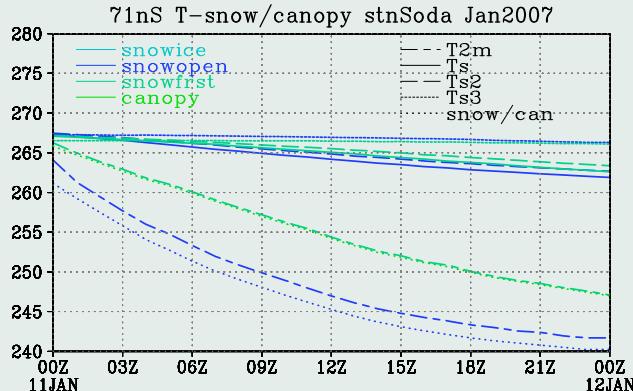
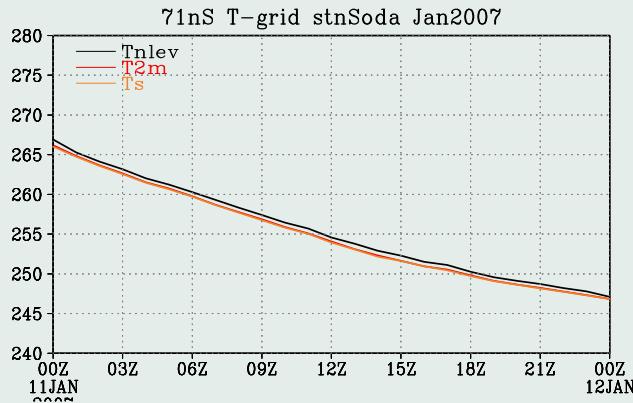
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"Newsnow" temperatures

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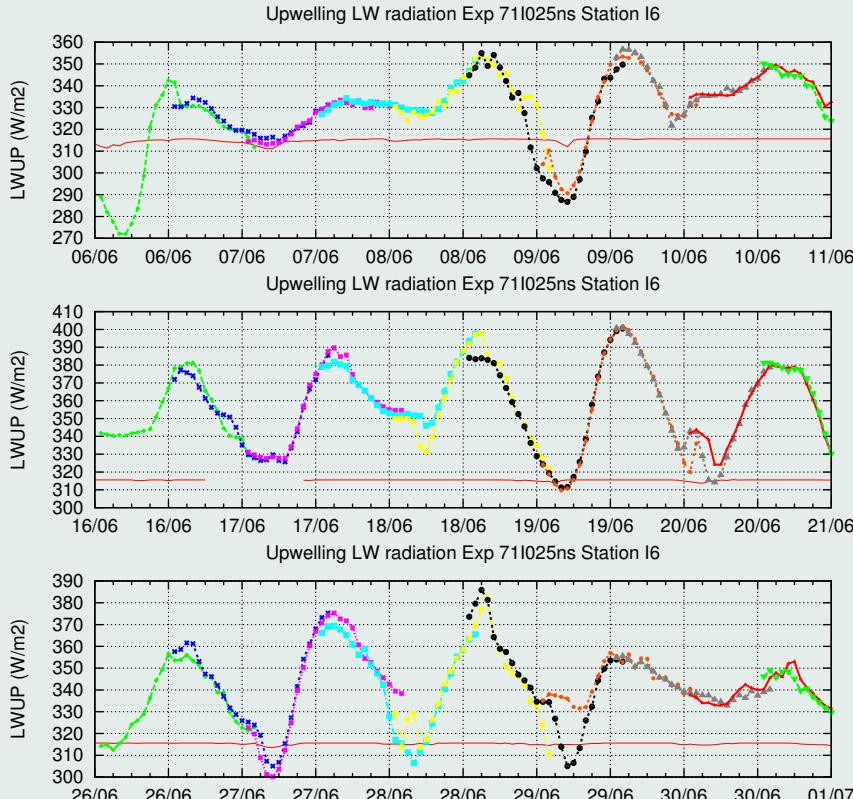
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June 1996 Vatnajökull: HIRLAM “newsnow”



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June 1996 Vatnajökull: Net radiation, HIRLAM “newsnow”

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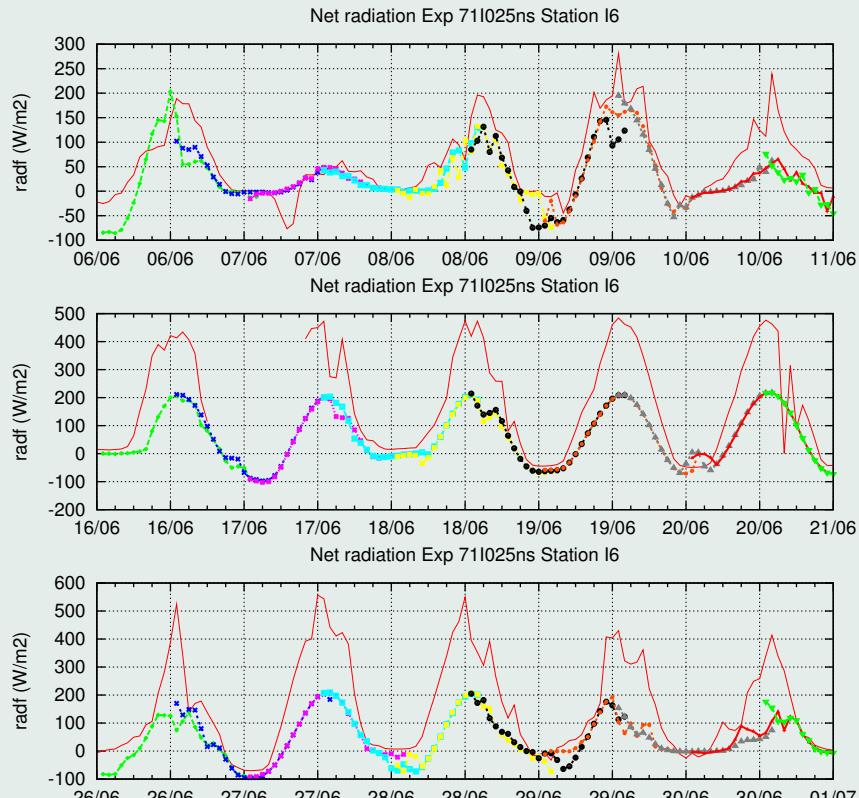
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June 1996 Vatnajökull: Albedo, HIRLAM “newsnow”

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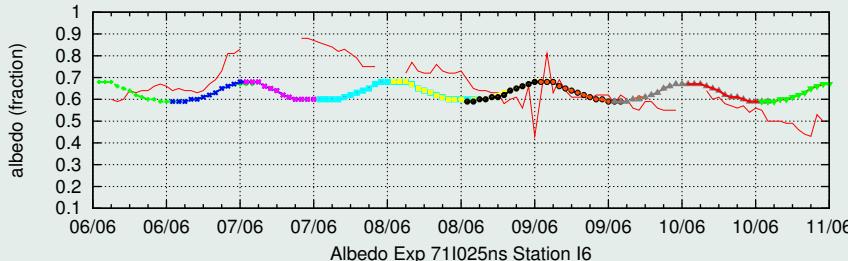
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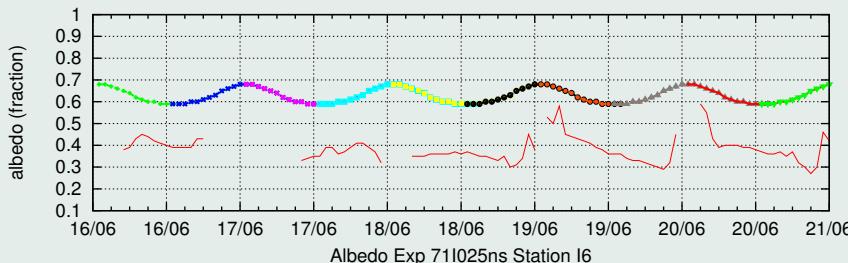
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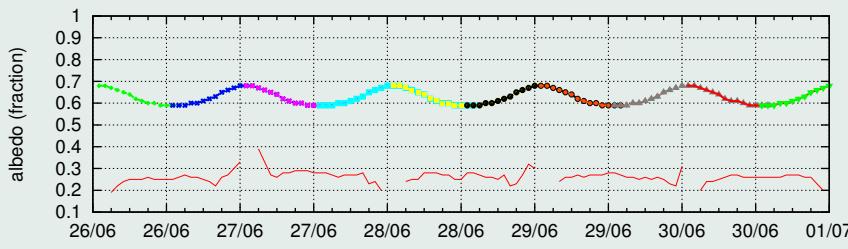
Albedo Exp 71I025ns Station I6



Albedo Exp 71I025ns Station I6



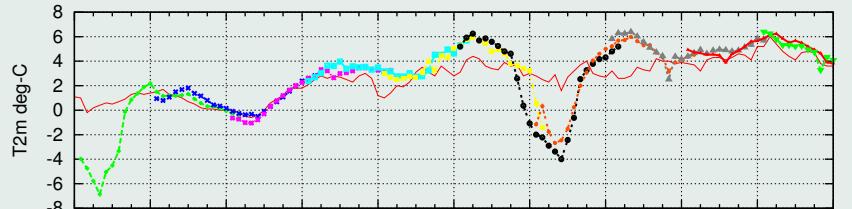
Albedo Exp 71I025ns Station I6



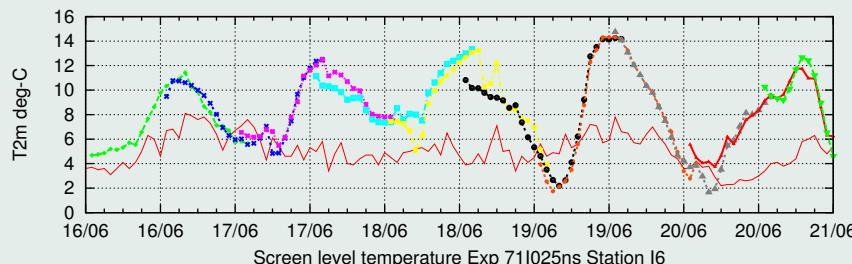


June 1996 Vatnajökull: T_{2m} HIRLAM “newsnow”

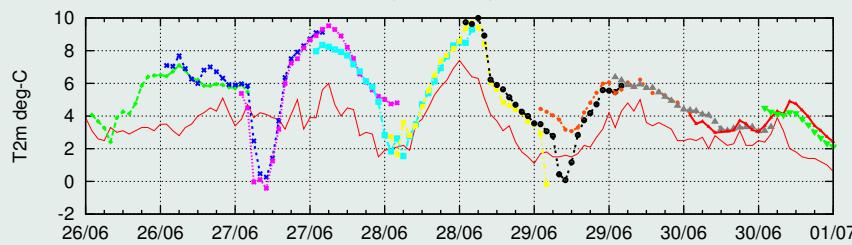
Screen level temperature Exp 71I025ns Station I6



Screen level temperature Exp 71I025ns Station I6



Screen level temperature Exp 71I025ns Station I6



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June 1996 at the top of Vatnajökull HIRLAM “newsnow”

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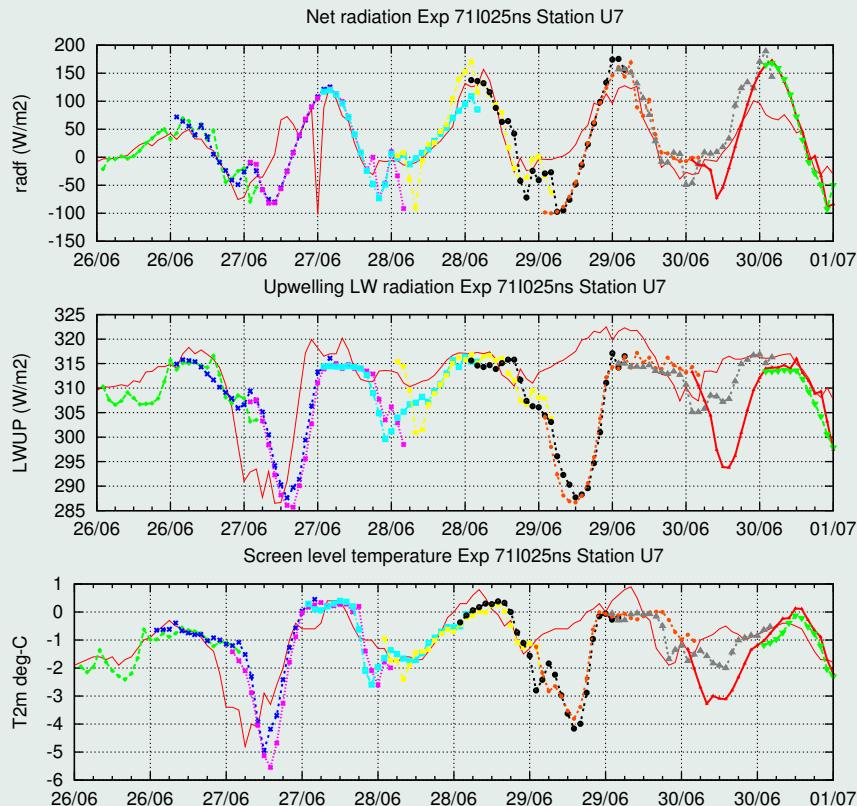
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June 1996 Vatnajökull: HIRLAM modifications

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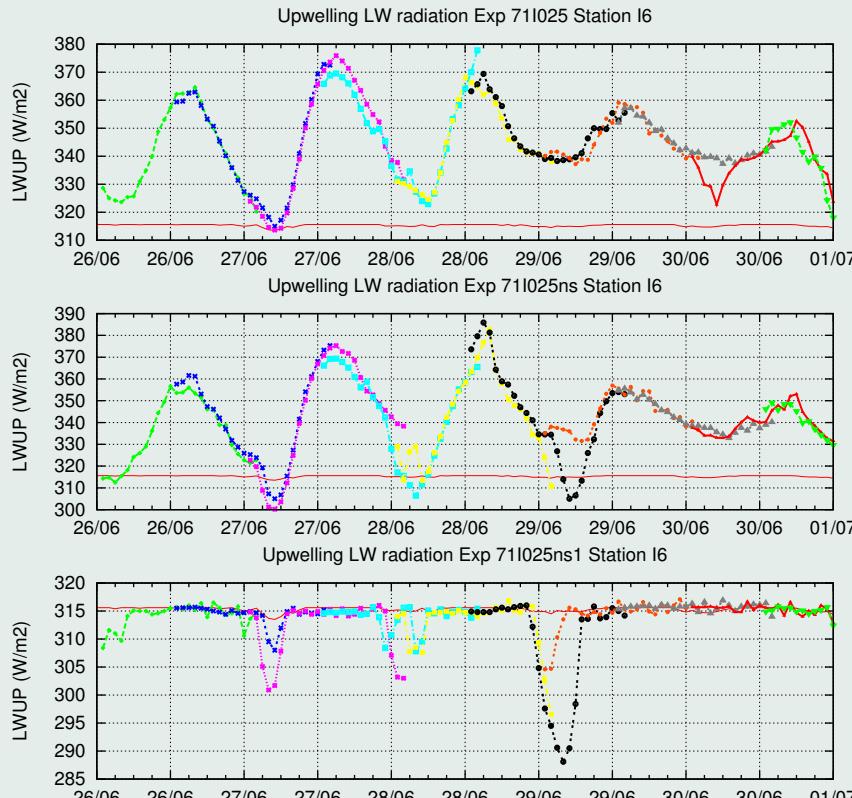
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Table 2: Impact of the HIRLAM modifications at different stations

Stn	Elev. (m)	Ice Nature	HIRLAM	Snow Nature	HIRLAM	reference	T_s quality	newsnow	tuned
I6	715	yes	yes	partly	no	poor	poor	good	good
U7	1530	yes	yes	yes	yes	fair	good	good	poor
U2	50	no	yes	no	no	fair	fair	poor	poor



Findings and problems

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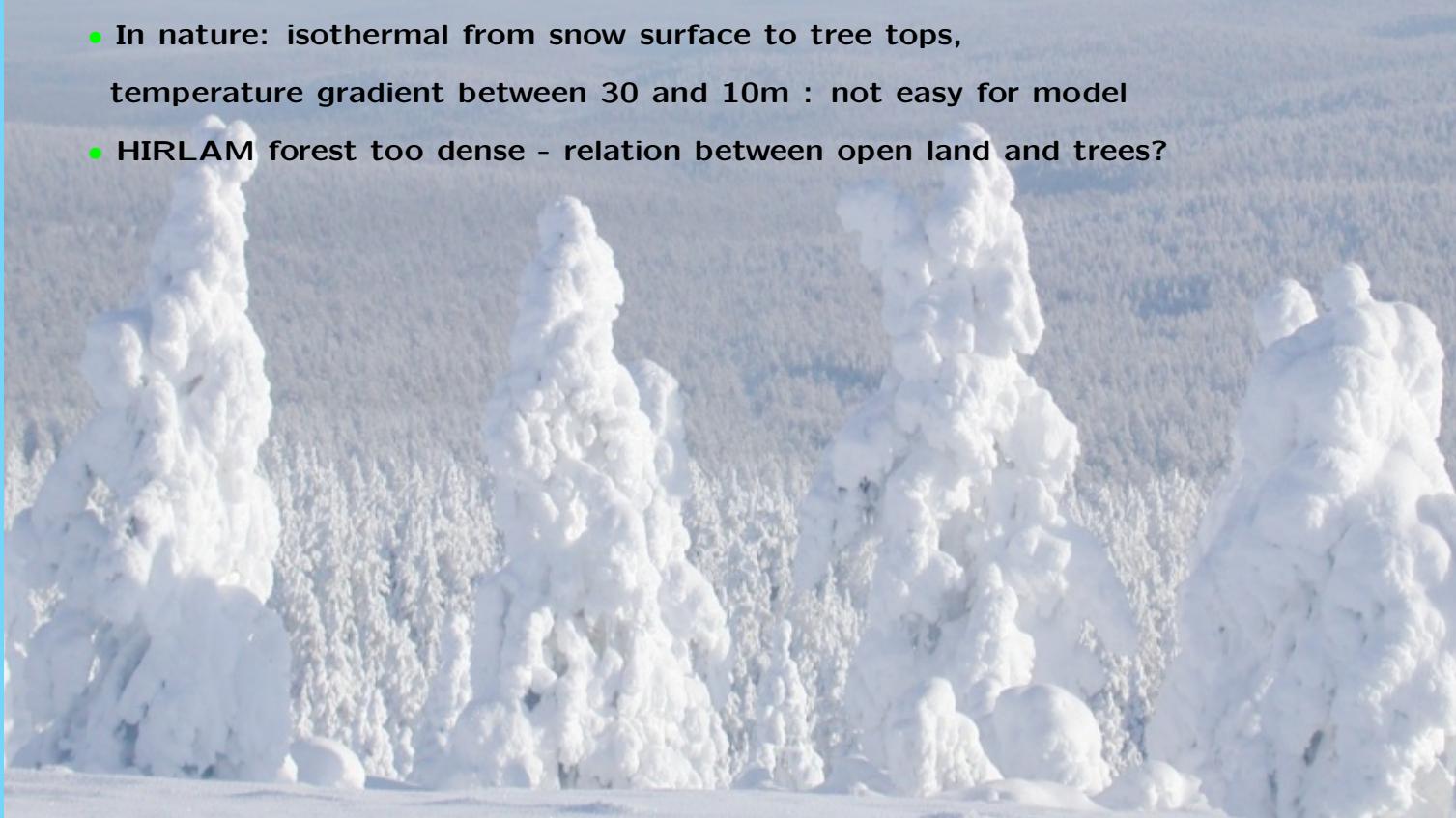
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Findings and problems

Sodankylä temperatures

- “Newsnow”: open snow temperature cold enough, forest a bit warm
- Still no vertical gradient: nlev too cold - why?
- In nature: isothermal from snow surface to tree tops, temperature gradient between 30 and 10m : not easy for model
- HIRLAM forest too dense - relation between open land and trees?





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Findings and problems

Sodankylä temperatures

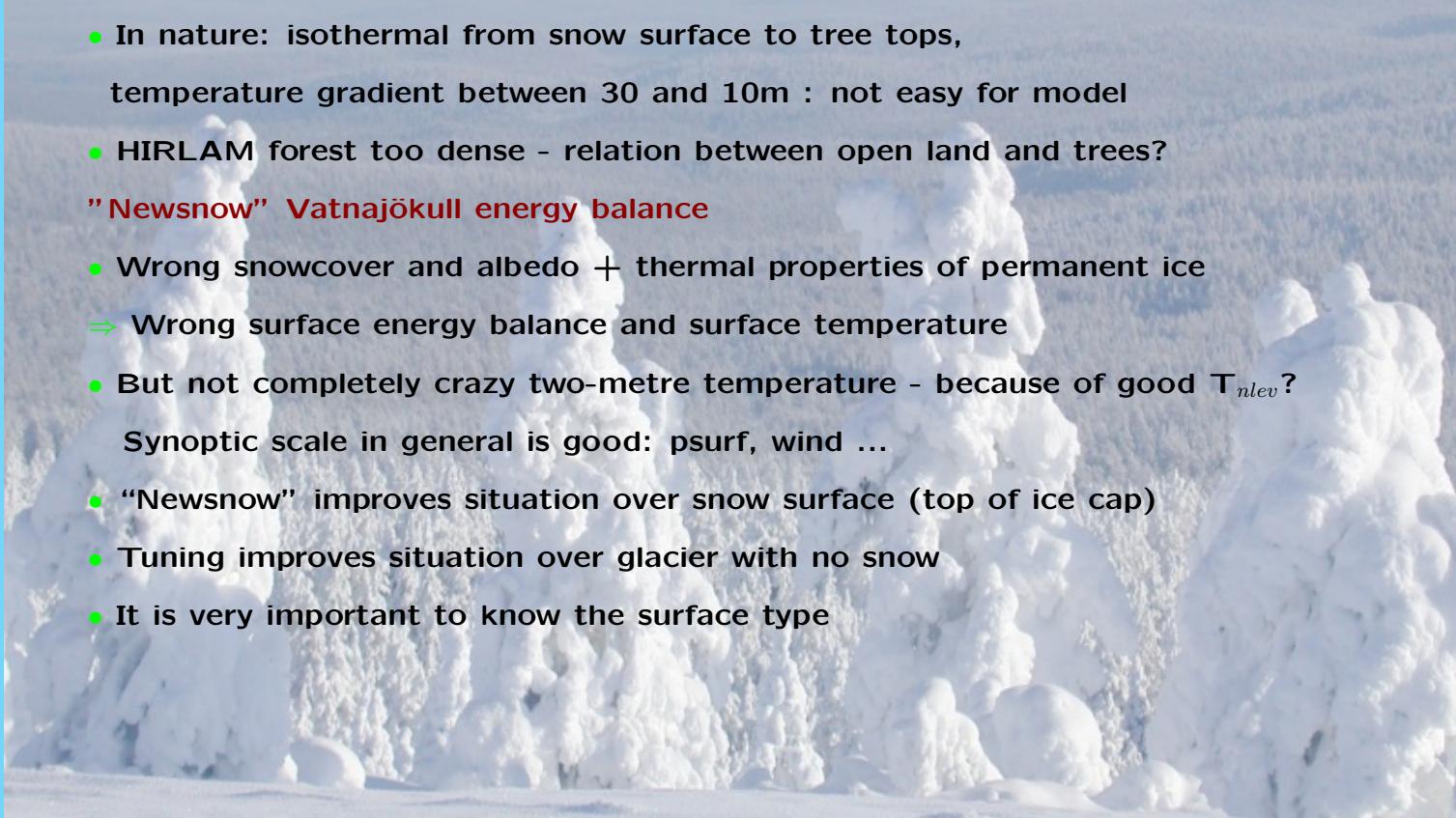
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- In nature: isothermal from snow surface to tree tops, temperature gradient between 30 and 10m : not easy for model
- HIRLAM forest too dense - relation between open land and trees?

“Newsnow” Vatnajökull energy balance

- Wrong snowcover and albedo + thermal properties of permanent ice
- ⇒ Wrong surface energy balance and surface temperature
- But not completely crazy two-metre temperature - because of good T_{nlev} ?

Synoptic scale in general is good: psurf, wind ...

- “Newsnow” improves situation over snow surface (top of ice cap)
- Tuning improves situation over glacier with no snow
- It is very important to know the surface type





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More conclusions

- Sometimes it is good to learn by looking at details ...
- Perspectives of NOUA

By-products:

- Tools for model-observation studies
- Suggestions for improvements of the Sodankylä operational comparison





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More conclusions

- Sometimes it is good to learn by looking at details ...
- Perspectives of NOUA

By-products:

- Tools for model-observation studies
- Suggestions for improvements of the Sodankylä operational comparison

To do ...

- Study details of temperature and humidity, find remaining problems
- Turn to the Sodankylä spring problem
- Try higher vertical resolution with lower nlev
- Develop parametrization of stable BL turbulent fluxes
- Study aspects related to (low) clouds
- Improve surface description: climate files, surface analysis
- Over Vatnajökull: study local orographic circulations



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Thanks to

Stefan Gollvik (SMHI), Jevgeni Atlaskin (RSHU)

Christoph Zingerle (ZAMG), Friedrich Obleitner (University of Innsbruck)

Sander Tijm (KNMI), Carleen Reijmer (University of Utrecht)

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Thank YOU for attention!





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Thank YOU for attention!

P.S. Want to see the Sodankylä spring problem?

(from the operational page <http://fminwp.fmi.fi>)

