

Earth surface modelling: coupling to the atmosphere

Land surface lecture 2

Gianpaolo Balsamo

Presented on 21st June 2018 to 2nd Alqueva Summer School - Portugal

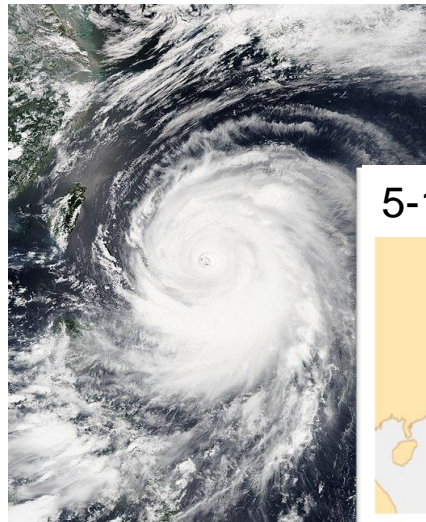
ECMWF, Earth System Modelling Section, Coupled Processes Team

gianpaolo.balsamo@ecmwf.int

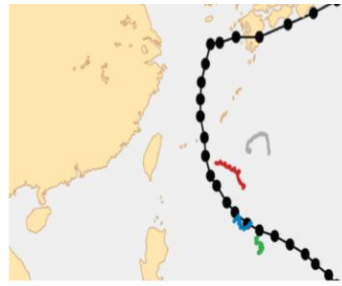


Coupling for improved diurnal cycle and impact on extremes

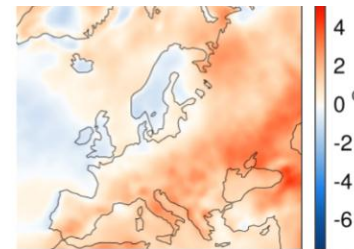
- **Introduction: the ECMWF forecasting systems in 2018**
- Three examples for surface-atmosphere coupling relevance:
 - Ocean-coupling effects on diurnal cycle of temperature and cyclones
 - Soil-coupling effects on soil moisture and extreme surface temperature
 - Snow-coupling effects on snow depth and extreme surface temperature



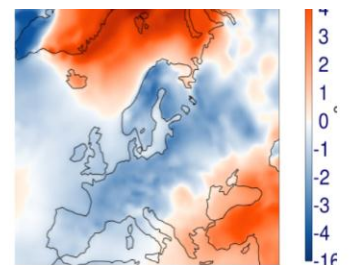
5-10th July 2014



2-10th Aug 2017



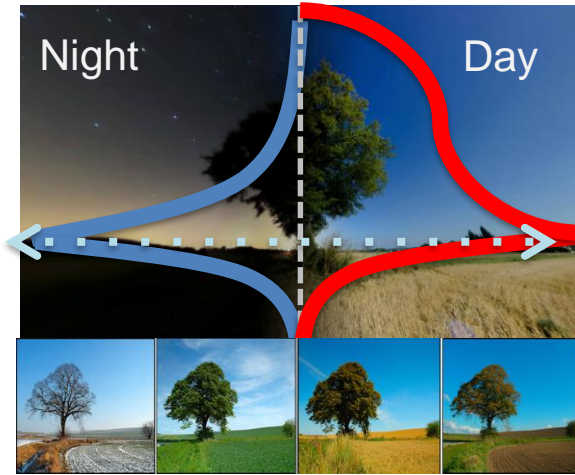
20-28th Feb 2018



- Outlook
 - Improved surface coupling as key to hydrological & environmental applications

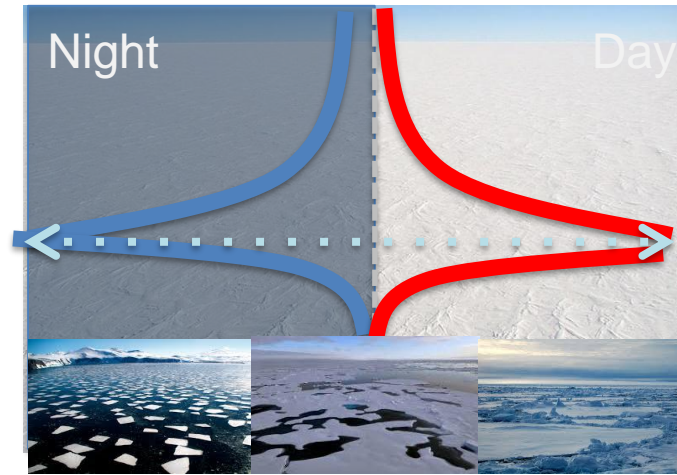
Modelling surface heterogeneity and coupling with the atmosphere

- 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

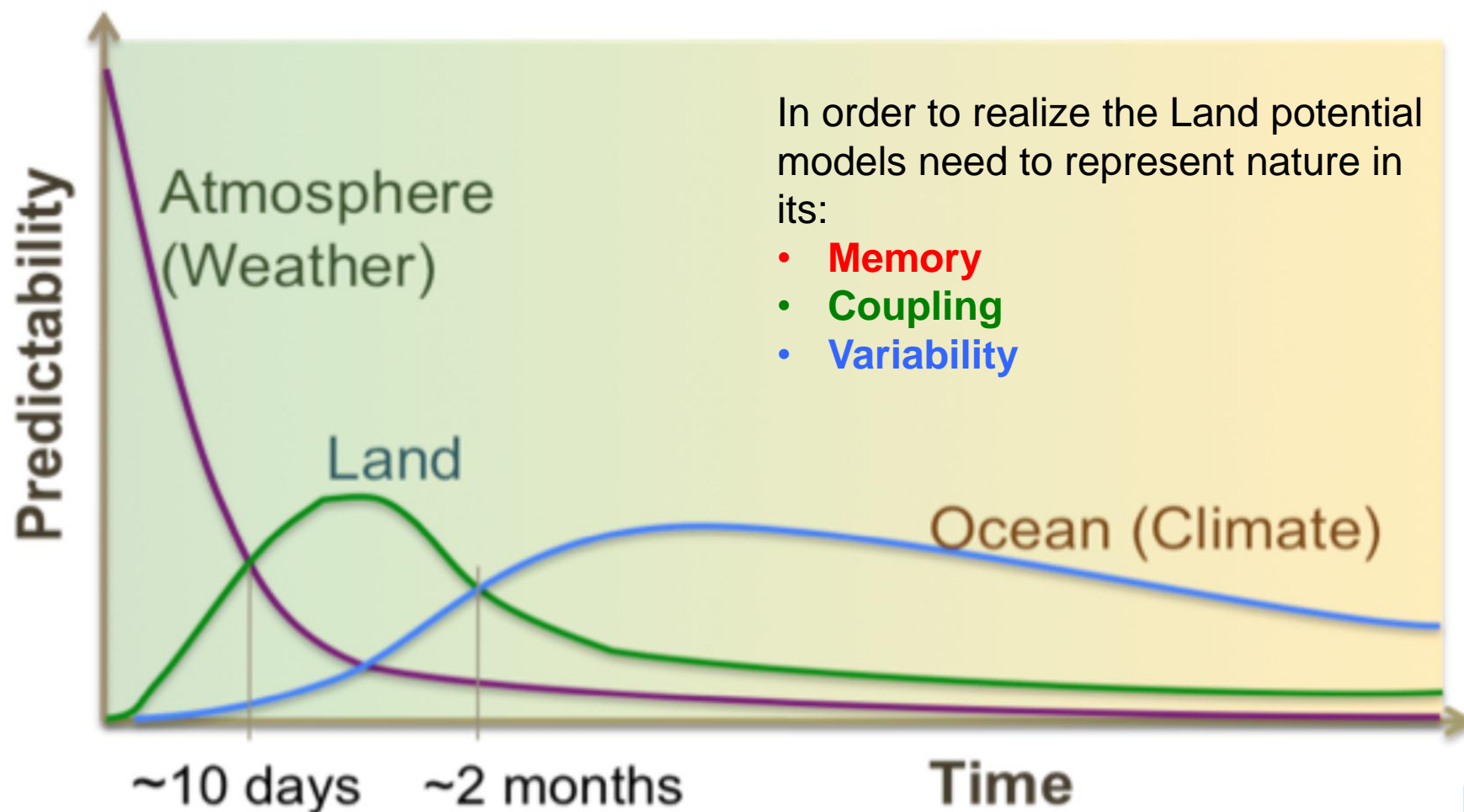


Over Water-bodies

- Lakes have large thermal inertia
- Different albedo & roughness

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

Earth surface coupling role in medium-range and S2S



Dirmeyer et al. 2015: http://library.wmo.int/pmb_ged/wmo_1156_en.pdf

Earth surface modelling components @ECMWF in 2018

• NEMO3.4

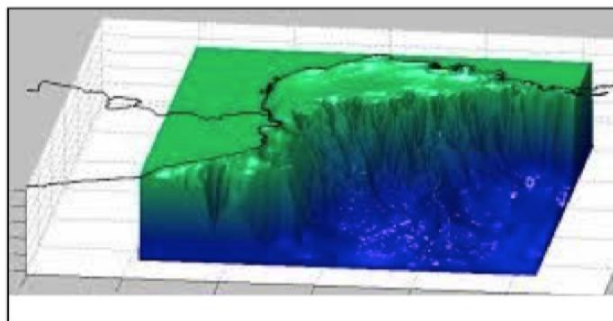
NEMO3.4 (Nucleus for European Modelling of the Ocean)

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

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

ORCA1_Z42: $1.0^\circ \times 1.0^\circ$

ORCA025_Z75 : $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$



• EC-WAM

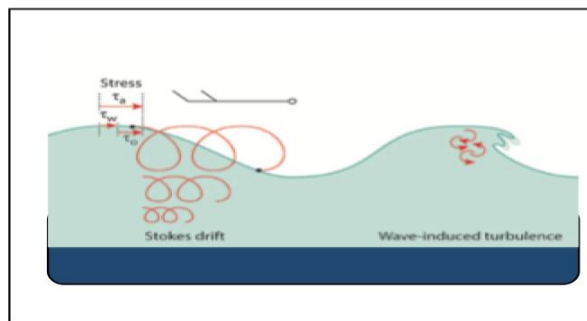
ECMWF Wave Model

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

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

ENS-WAM : $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$

HRES-WAM: $0.125^\circ \times 0.125^\circ$



• LIM2

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

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

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

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

ORCA025_Z75 : $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$



• 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. \(2011\),](#)

[Alberrol 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](#))

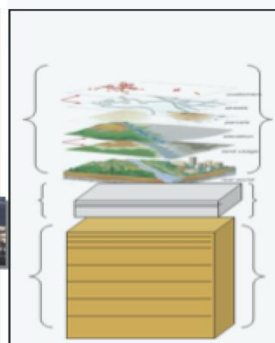
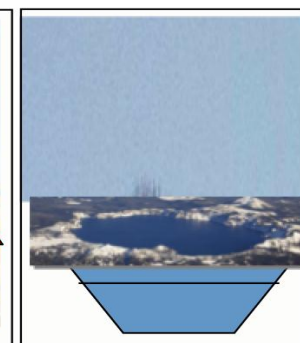
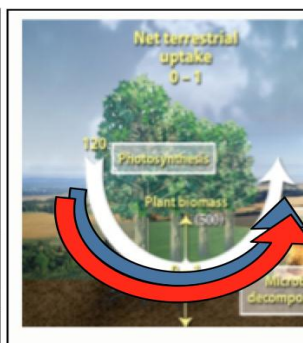
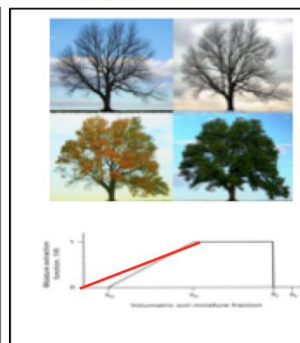
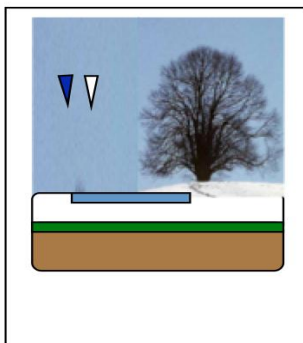
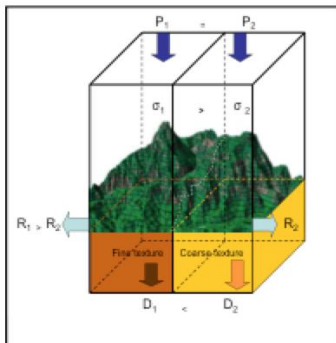
• **Enhance ML**

Snow ML5

Soil ML9

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

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



Atmos Land Resol.	ECMWF in 2018
80 km	ERA1
32 km	ERA5+ SEAS5+*
18 km	ENS+*
9 km	HRES+*

*Ocean

used across forecast systems and in Ocean reanalysis

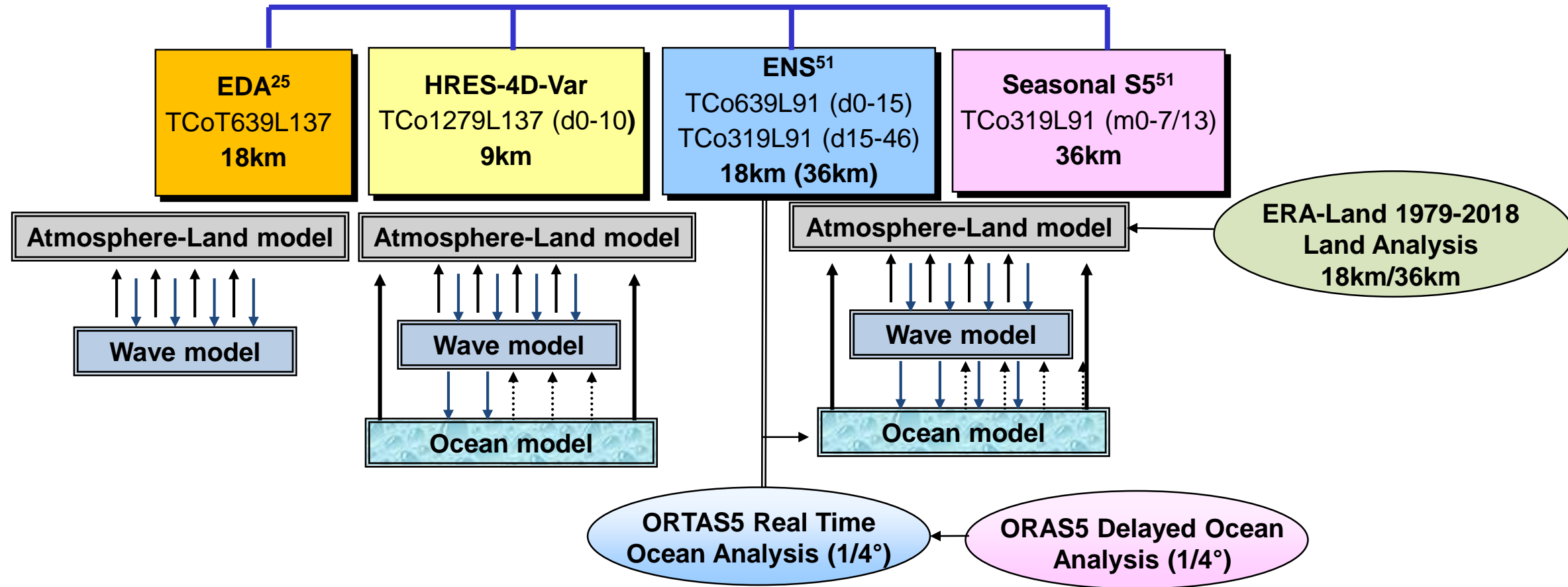
(*migration completed with HRES-coupled operational from the 5th June 2018)

+Land

used across forecast systems and new Climate reanalysis

Seamless surface-atmosphere coupling of Integrated Forecasting System

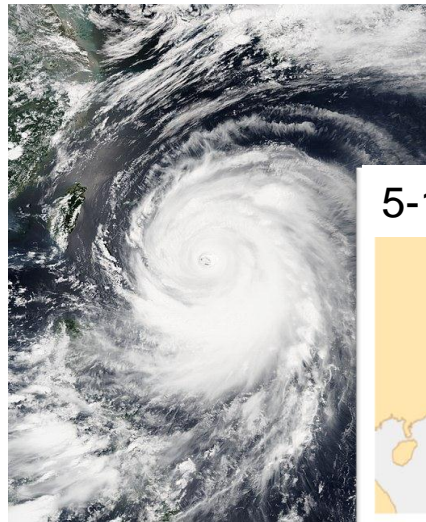
As operational on June 5th, 2018



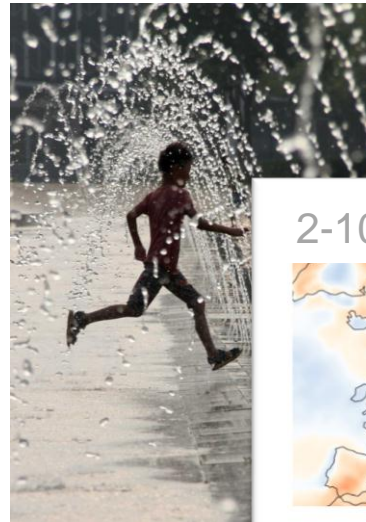
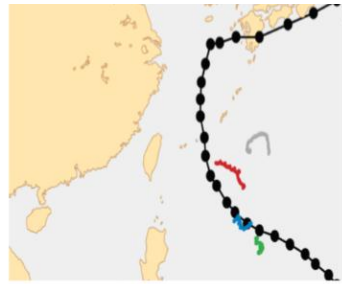
See Buizza et al (2018), Keeley et al (2018), Mogensen et al (2018), published in the ECMWF 2018 Summer Newsletter

Coupling for improved diurnal cycle and impact on extremes

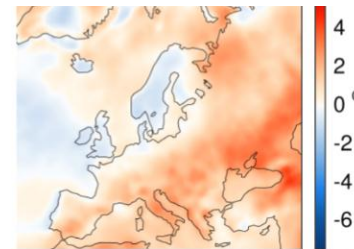
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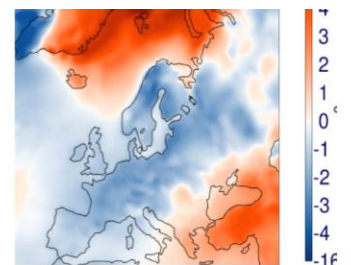
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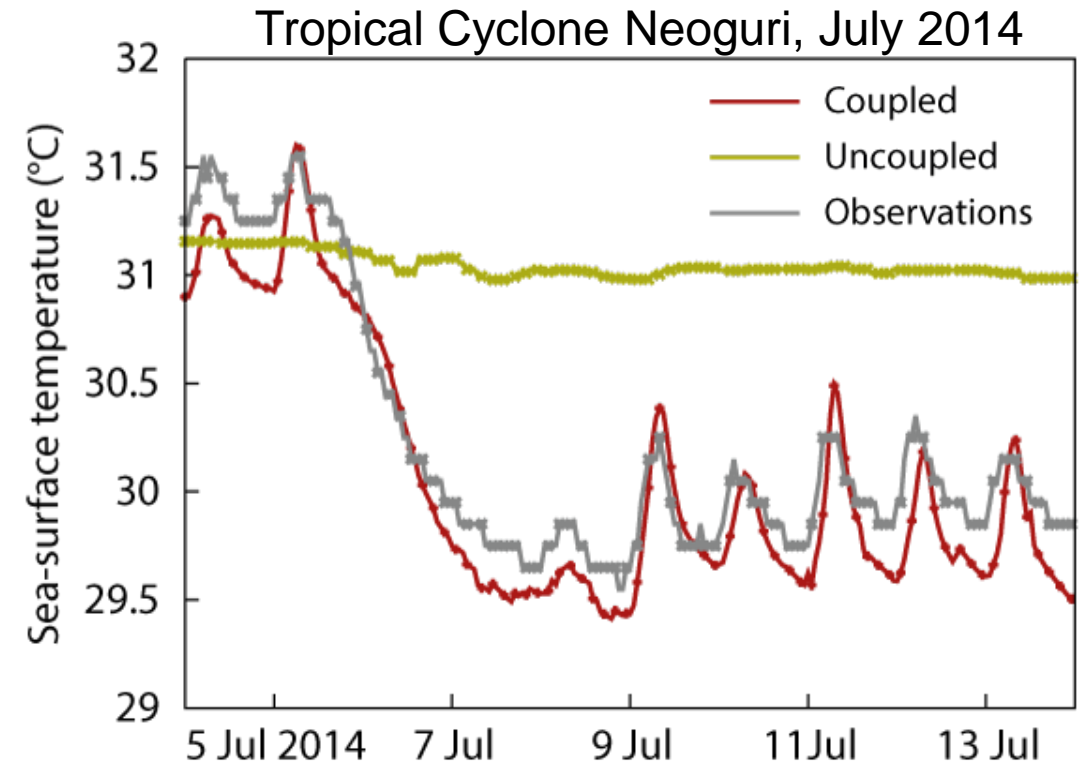
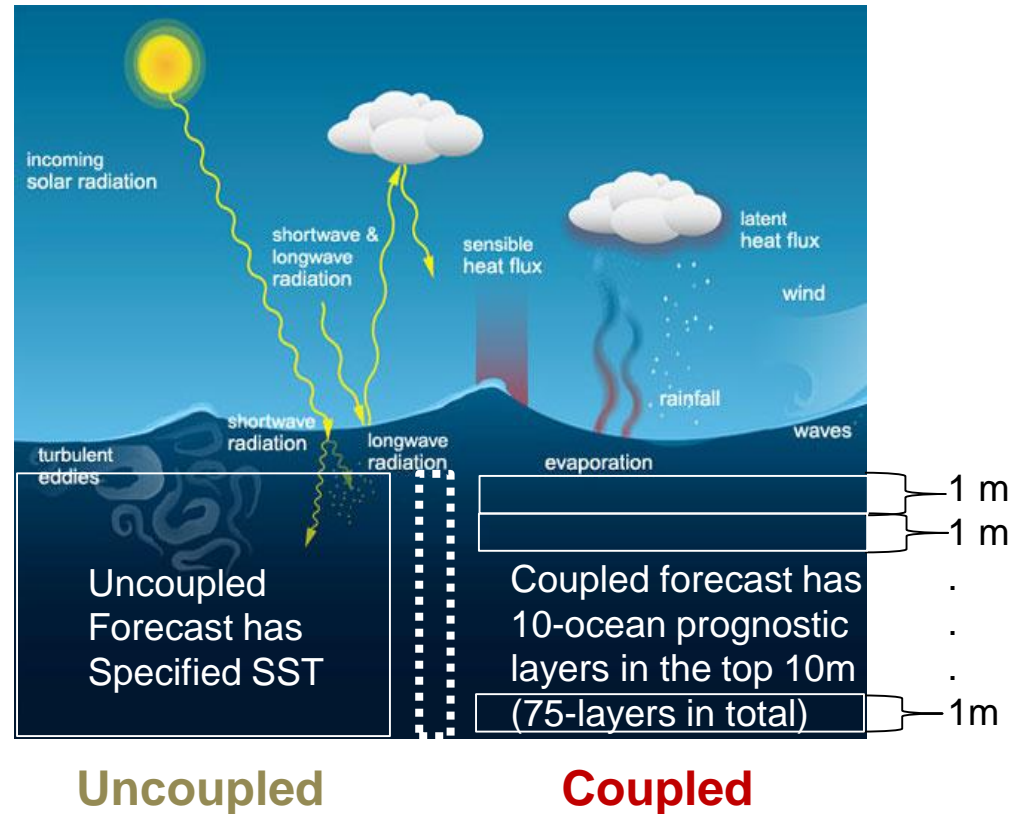


20-28th Feb 2018

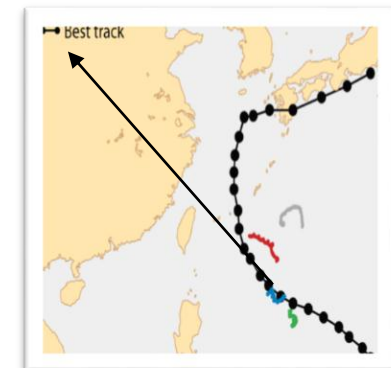


- Outlook
 - Improved surface coupling as key to hydrological & environmental applications

Ocean-coupling and local effects on sea surface temperature (SST)

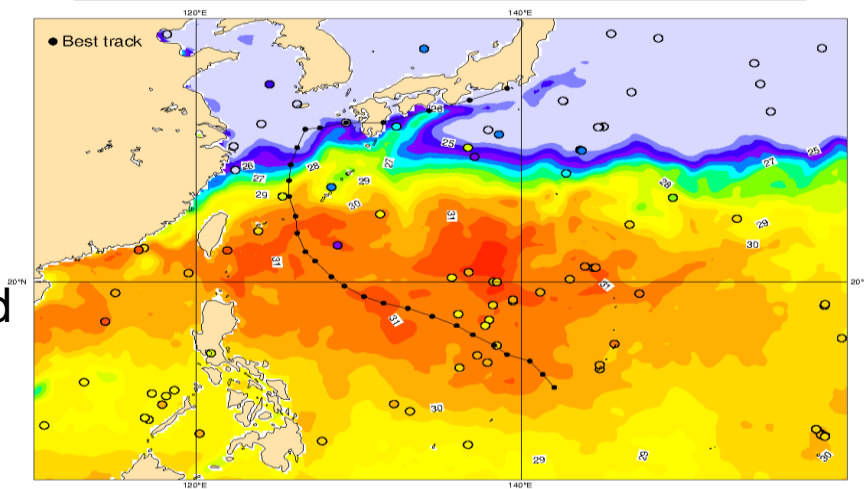
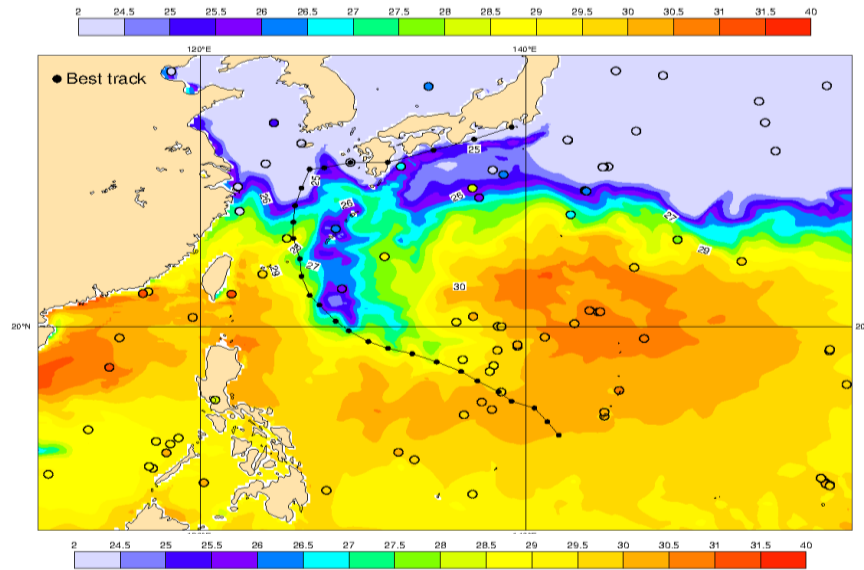


- The ECMWF Ocean-coupled (red) model is better simulate the cool wake after the passage of Tropical cyclone Neoguri. A more realistic response is observed comparing the 10-day forecast with an on-track DRIBU observation of SST, both for TC passage and diurnal cycle

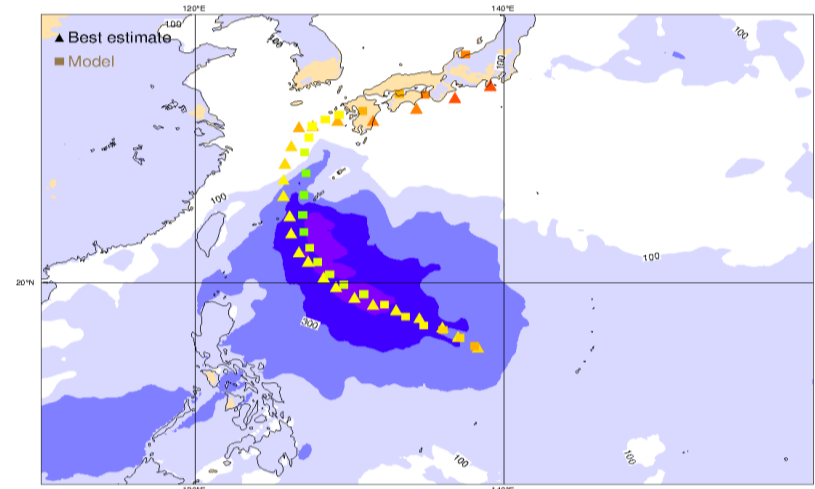
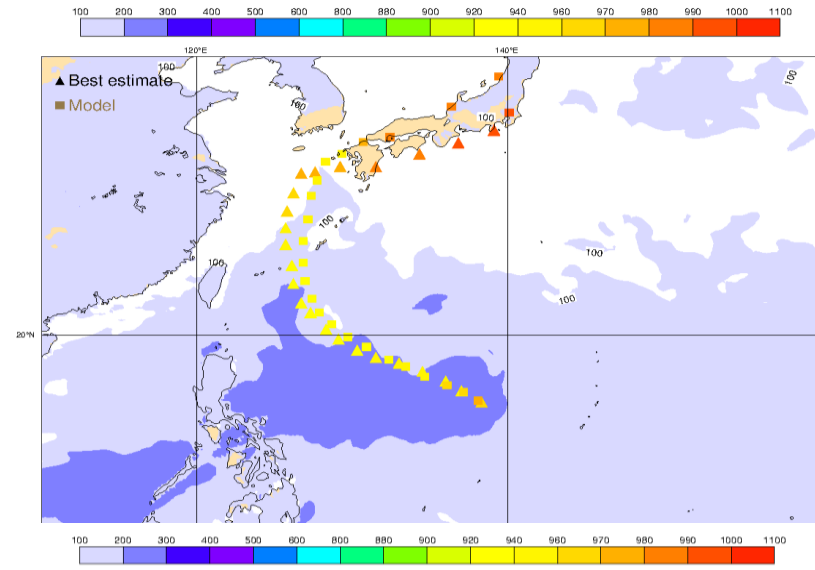


Impact of Ocean-coupling along the track of Tropical Cyclone Neoguri

Sea surface temperature



Surface heat flux

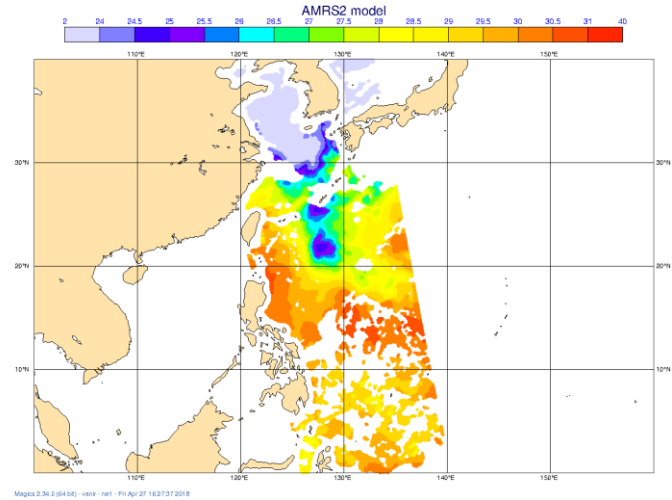


Coupled Forecast:

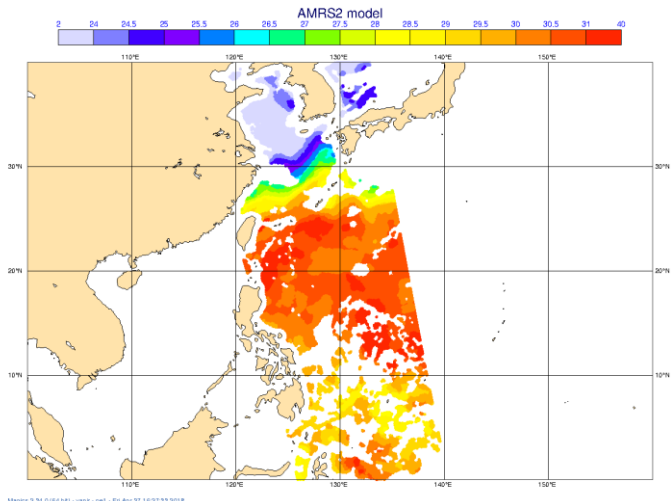
- Gets the SST cooling better
- Reduced Heat flux to atmos.
- Gets the TC Intensity Better

Comparing forecasts with satellite-based sea surface temperature

Sea surface temperature (forecast)

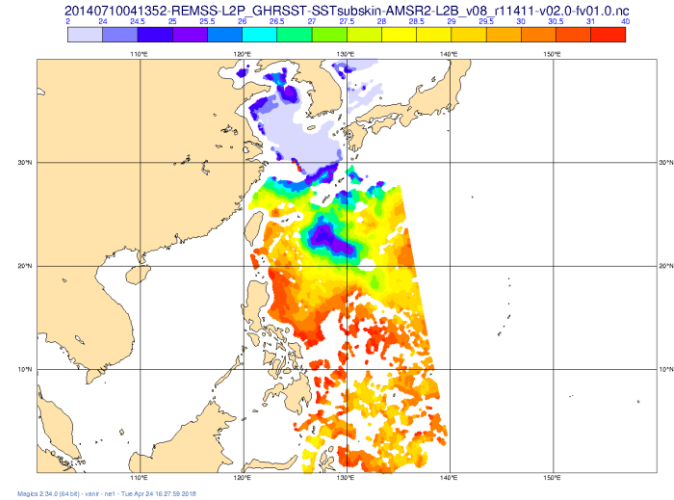


ECMWF
Ocean
Coupled
5-day
Forecast



ECMWF
Ocean
Uncoupled
5-day
Forecast

Sea surface temperature (observation)



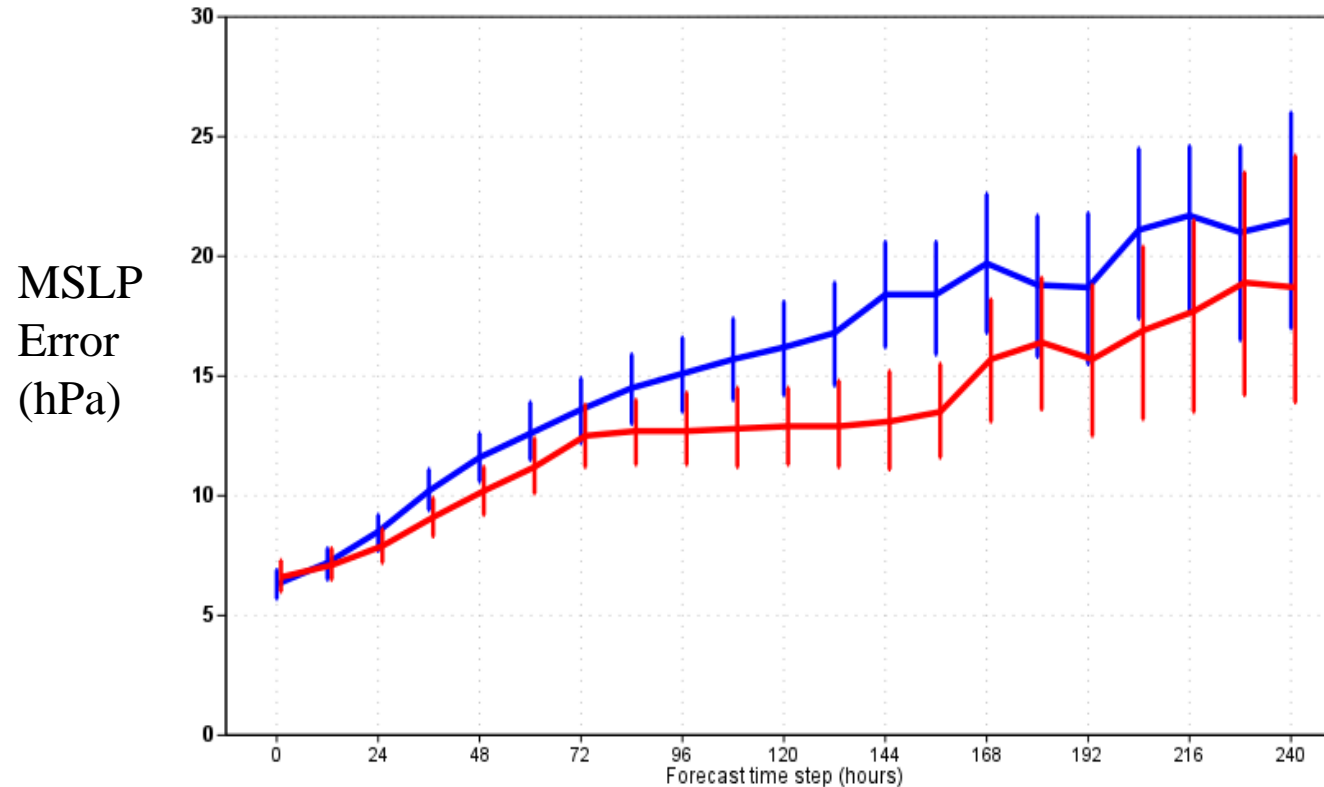
Satellite Observations
from AMSR2 MW SST

After the passage of
Tropical Cyclone Neoguri,
10th of July 2014

- Coupled forecast:
- Gets the SST cooling after the passage of Tropical Cycle in better agreement with EO data of Satellite SSTs

Impact of Ocean-coupling on Tropical Cyclones and relevance for 2018 season

Tropical Cyclones Intensity is generally improved when looking at recent cases (past 2-years)



The red curve is for the ECMWF HRES Coupled as implemented on the 5th of June 2018

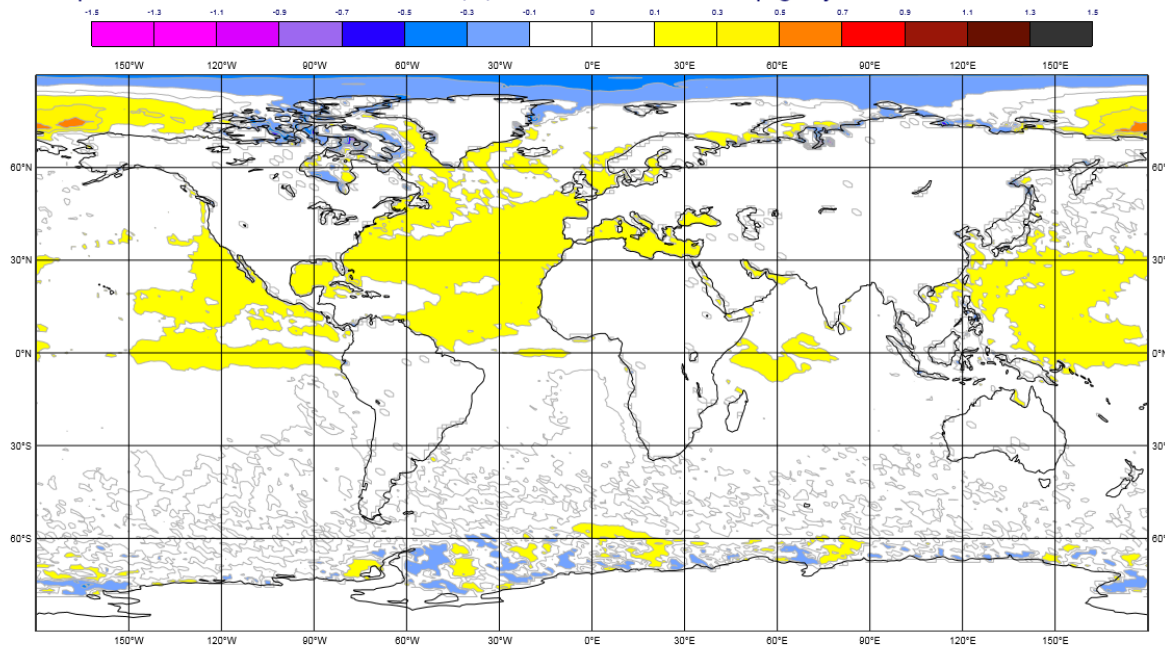
Mean-sea-level-pressure, MSLP in hPa, of new 45r1 (red) & 43r3 (blue). The data sample includes about 750 cases at initial time, decreasing to about 200 at forecast day 5-6 and to about 50 at day 10. Bars indicate 95% confidence.

What happens to the temperature diurnal cycle enhancing surface coupling?

- Towards more realistic surface temperature (skin and below) particularly in clear/sky
- Towards increased variability and surface responsiveness to atmospheric forcing

Ocean skin

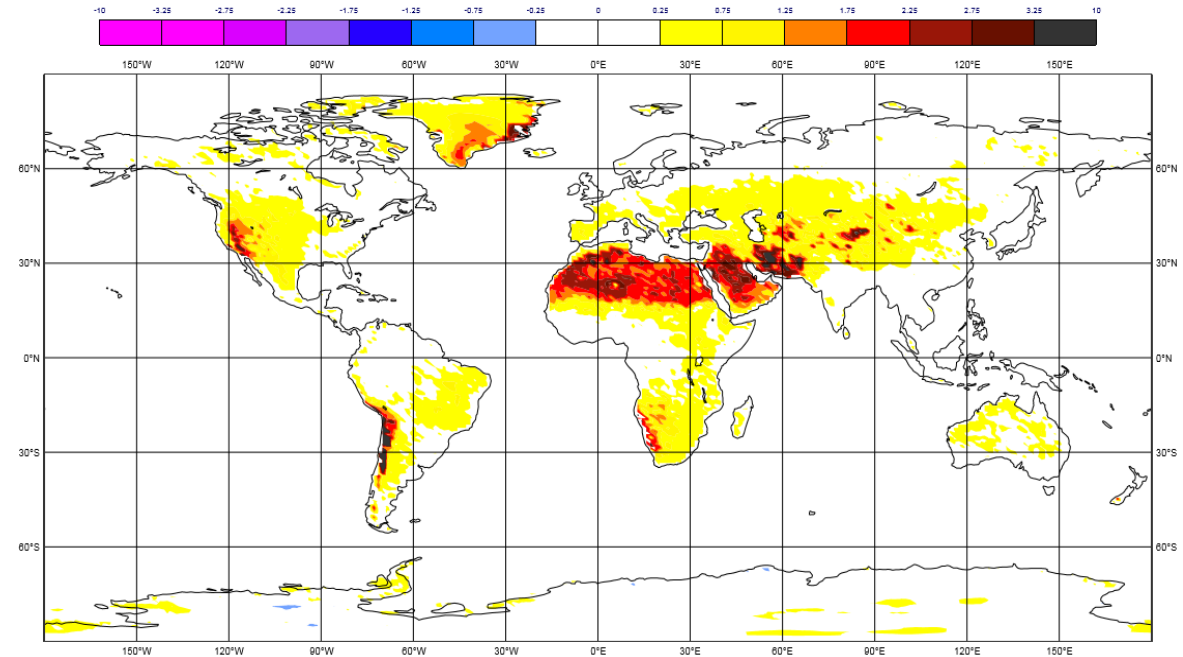
Ampl. 1st harmonic diurnal c.; Tskin(C), Month:20160700, Exp:gn6y-0001



Difference in diurnal cycle amplitude due ocean-coup

Land skin

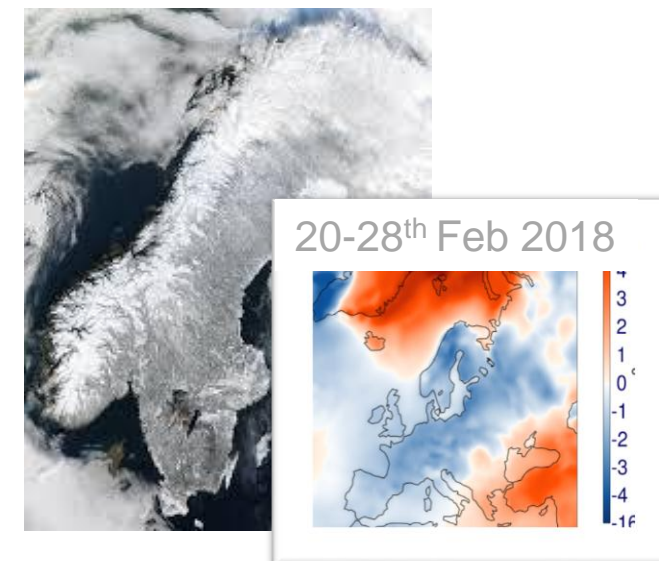
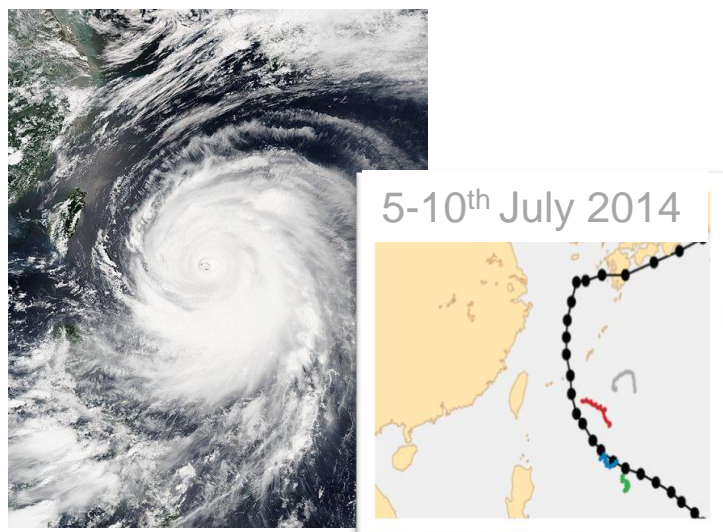
Ampl. 1st harmonic diurnal c.; Tskin(C), Month:20160800, Exp:gqx3-gqx4



Difference due to enhance multi-layer land-coup

Coupling for improved diurnal cycle and impact on extremes

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- Outlook
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Increased soil model vertical resolution to improve use of satellite data

An enhanced soil vertical layer is motivated by land data assimilation as it shown to better correlate with satellite products of soil moisture.

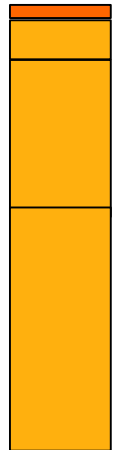
4-layers:

0-7 cm

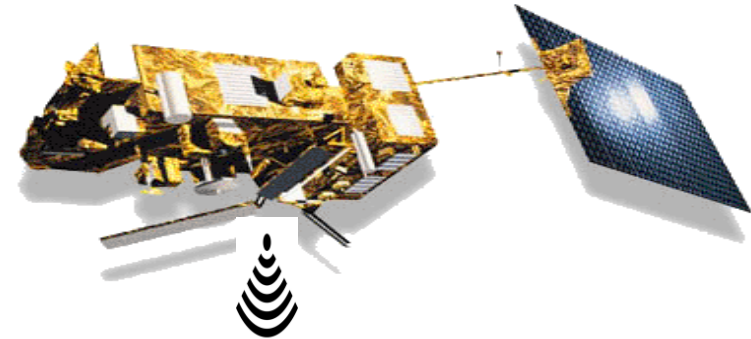
7-28 cm

28-100 cm

100-289 cm



7 cm



9-layers:

0-1 cm

1-3 cm

3-7 cm

7-15 cm

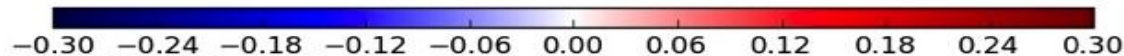
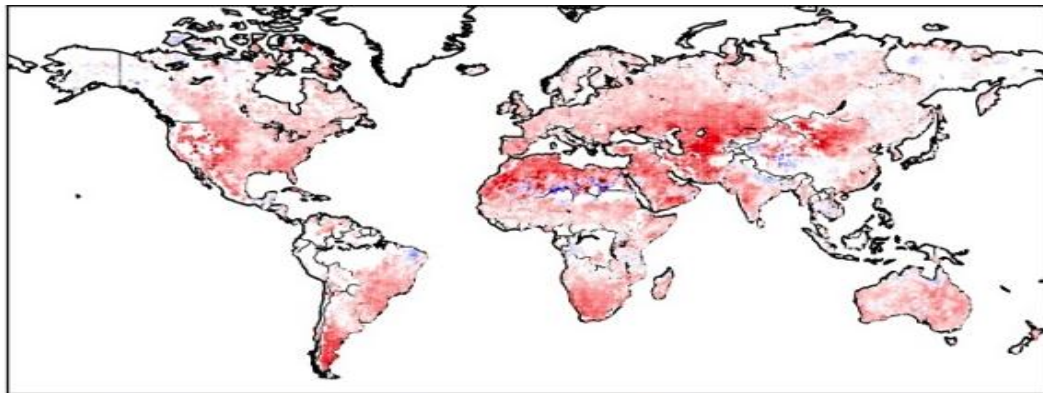
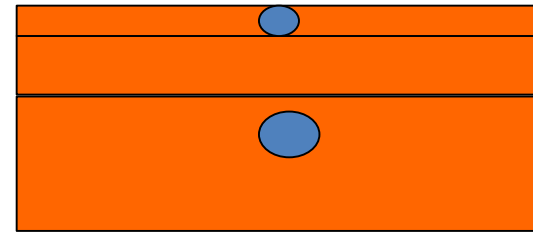
15-25 cm

25-50 cm

50-100 cm

100-200 cm

200-300 cm



Thanks to Clément Albergel, Patricia De Rosnay, LDAS-Team

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 Δ ACC calculate on 1-month running mean)

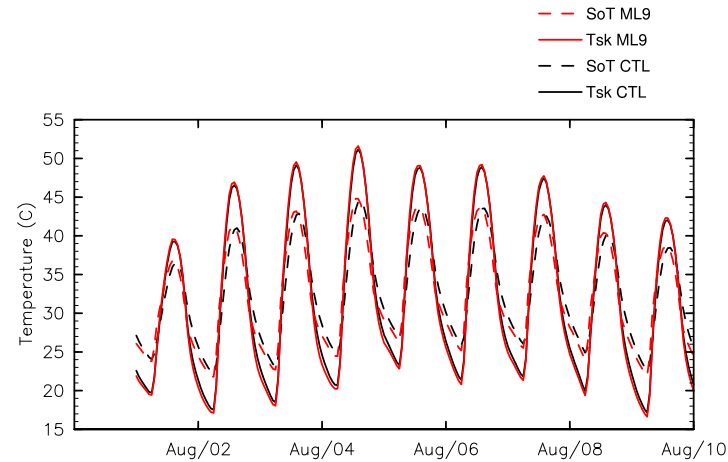


See Dorigo et al. (2017 RSE)

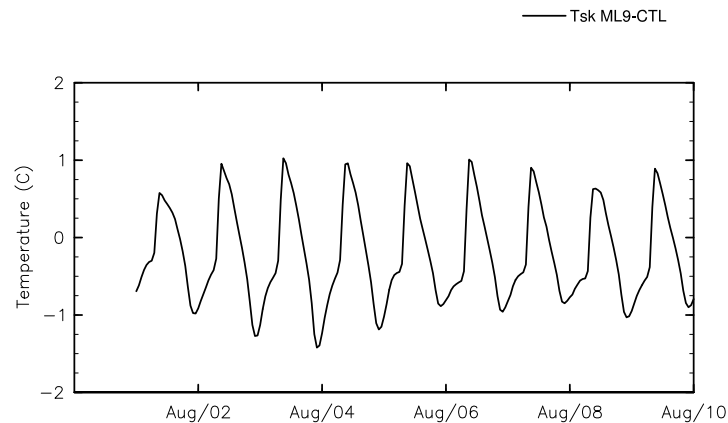
Impact of the soil model vertical resolution: heatwaves severity

During summer 2017 the effect of multi-layer is examined for European heatwave, here shown for Corboba (Spain) where temperatures went above 40° Celsius on the 6th of August 2017

ECMWF
Land
model
ML9 &
ML4
(offline)

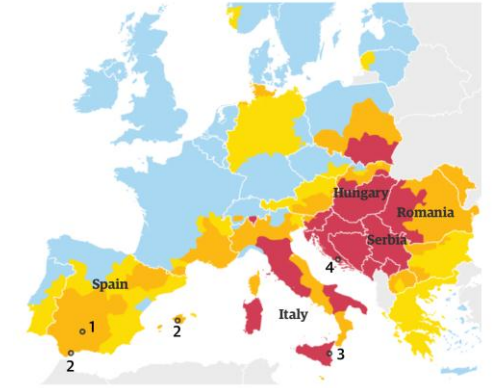


Difference
ML9-ML4
soil model
(offline)

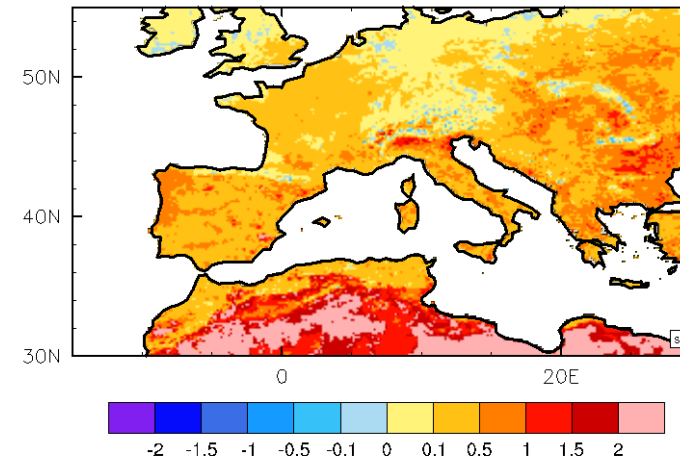


Extreme heat warnings across southern Europe as temperatures hit 40C and above

Not dangerous Potentially dangerous
Dangerous Very dangerous



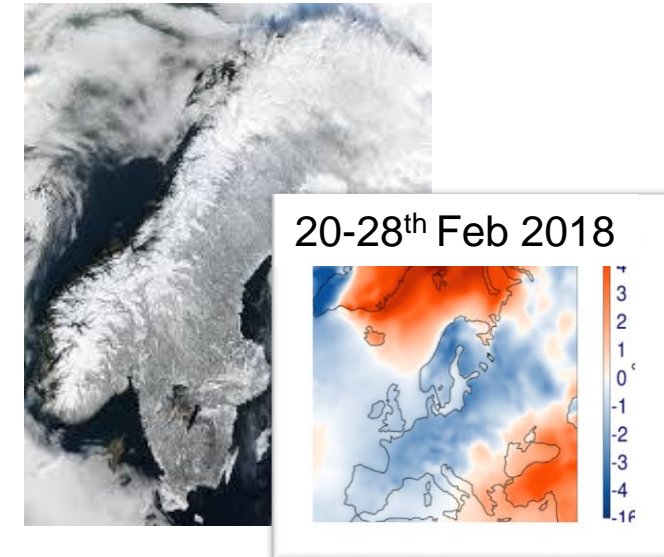
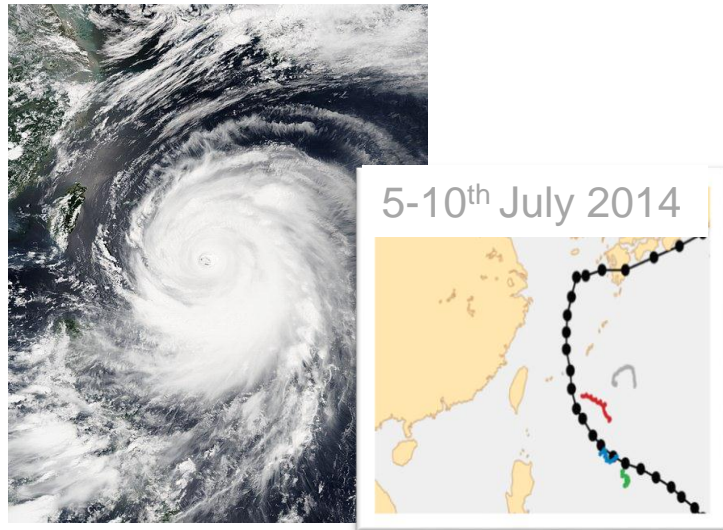
Differences in
the maximum
skin temperature
ML9-ML4



An enhanced soil vertical discretisation is increasing the amplitude of the diurnal cycle. Extremes heatwave are up to 1 K hotter

Coupling for improved diurnal cycle and impact on extremes

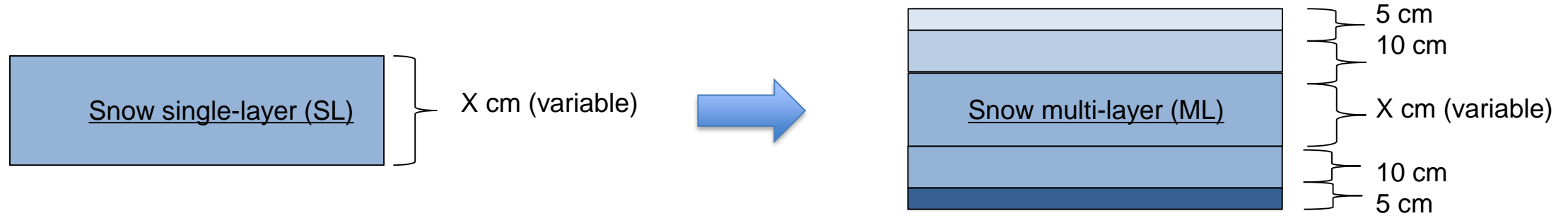
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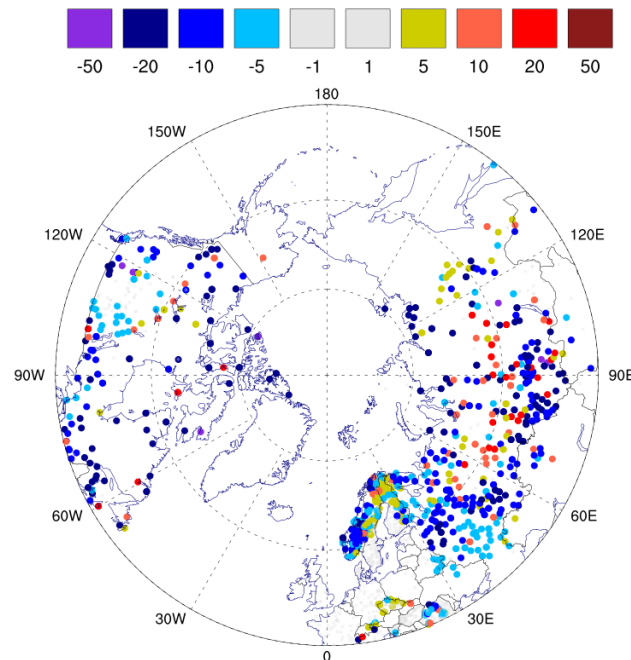
- Outlook
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Increased snow model vertical resolution: impact in cold regions climate

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

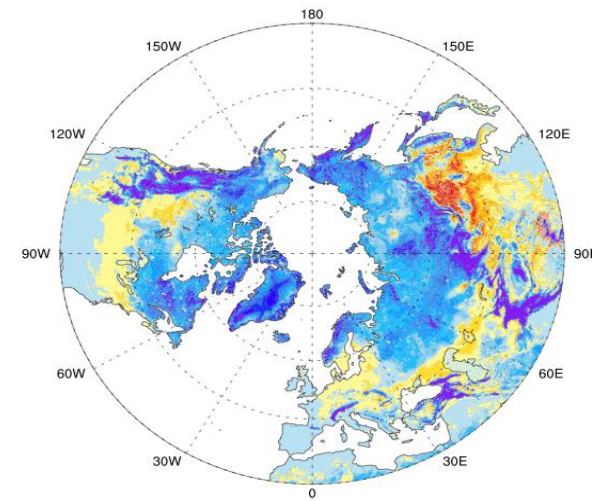


Difference ML- SL in Snow depth RMSE winter (DJF)

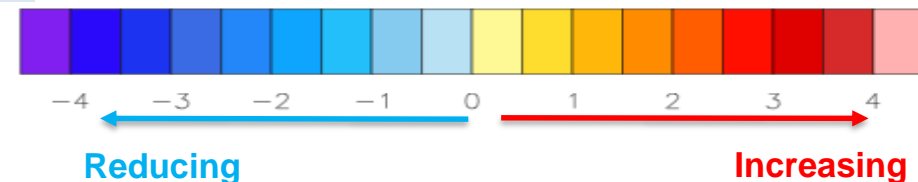


An improved snow depth (ML – SL) evaluated with in-situ SYNOP snow depth. RMSE of 0.19m (0.23m) in ML (SL). This is 17% RMSE error reduction in snow depth.

Difference ML - SL in T_{skin} minimum winter (DJF)



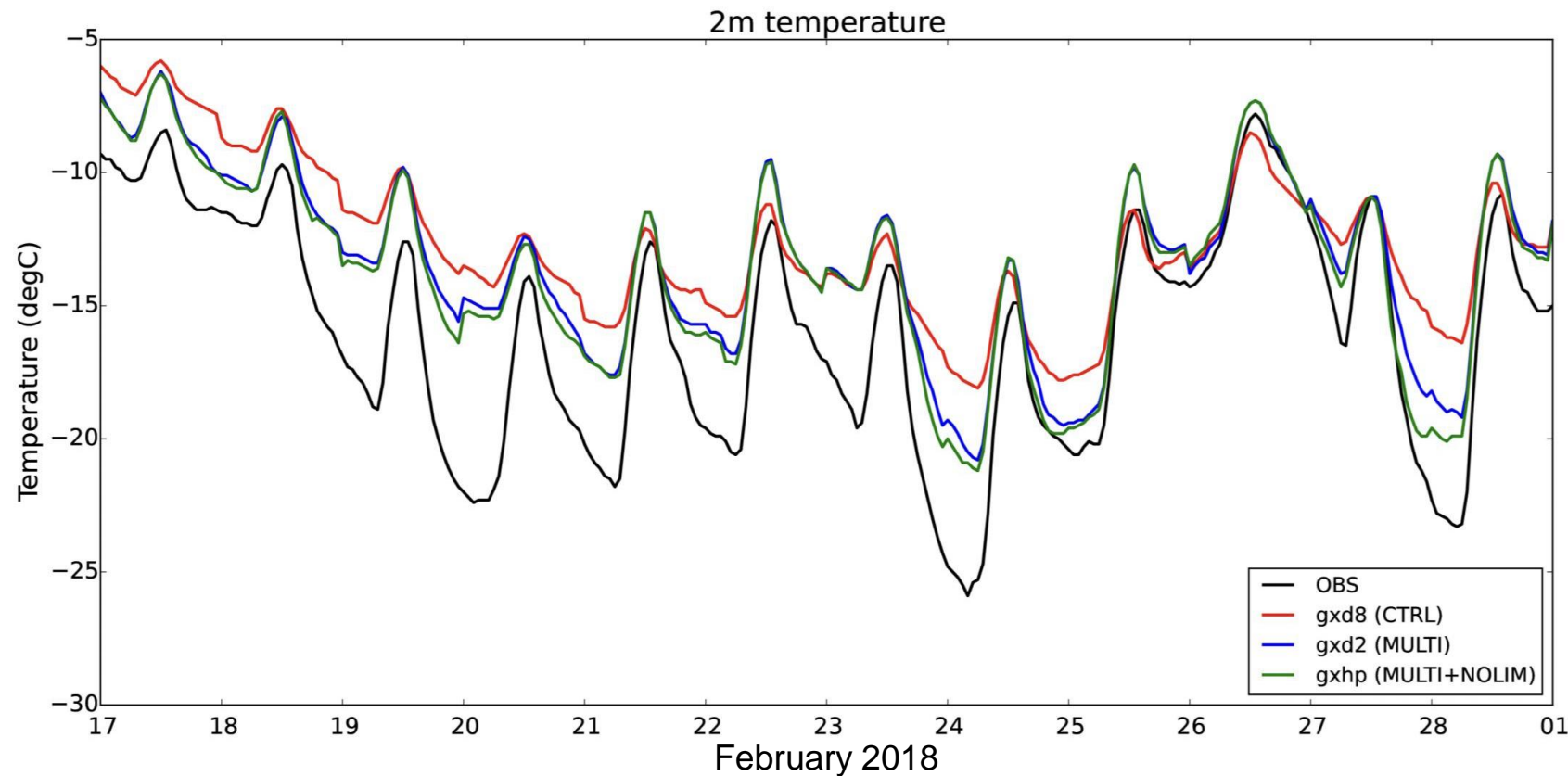
Winter reduction of the 2m minima temperatures with increasing diurnal-cycle. DIFF Tmin 2-4 K colder in ML compared to SL snow. Increased variability



Impact of snow model vertical resolution increase on near surface temperature

Increased vertical discretization of the snowpack (**up to 5 layers**) permits a better 2-m forecast: here hourly day-2 forecasts are shown for 24-hour to 47-hour ahead, concatenated to form a continuous time-series

T2m Observations, T2m forecast (current snow, SL), T2m forecast (ML)



In clear-sky the MULTI-layer snow scheme is capable to produce stronger winter inversions improving observation match.

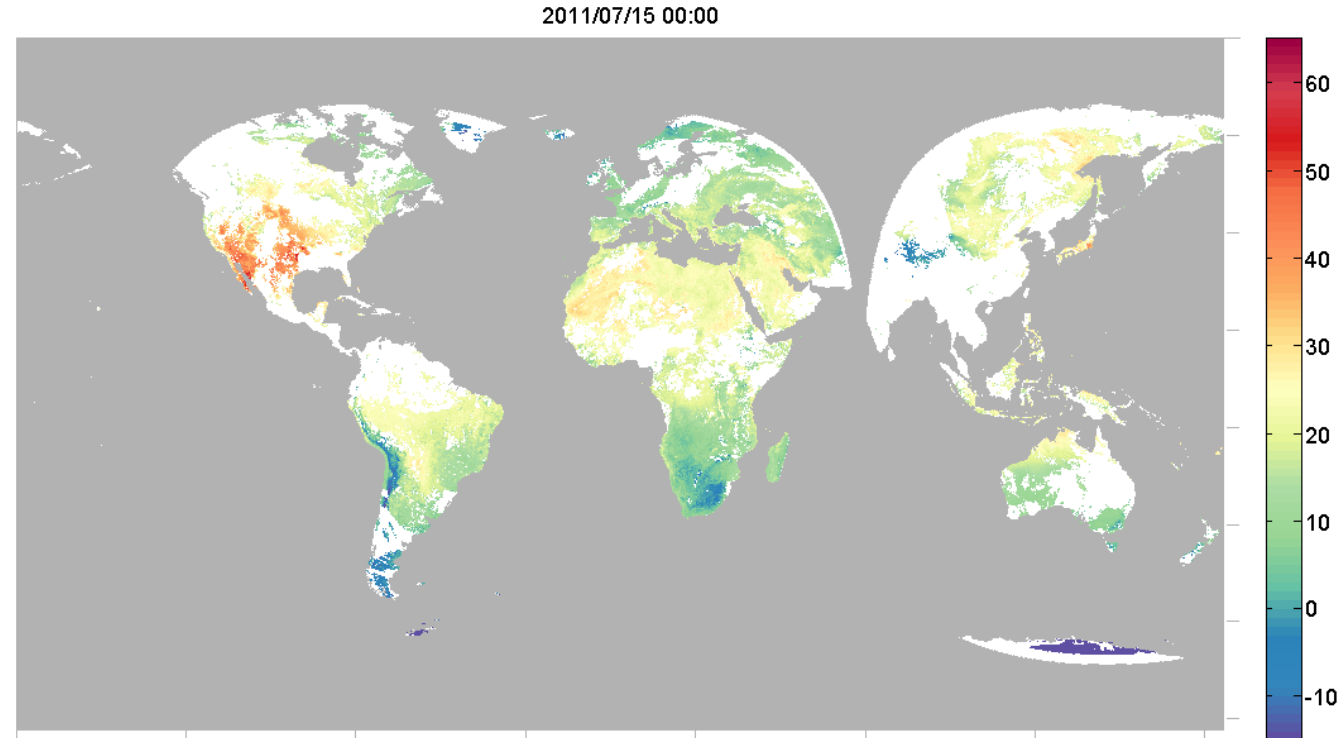
NOLIM indicates a stability limiter safety is deactivated.

The increased variability in the diurnal cycle is beneficial for ensemble forecasting.

Earth Observations for surface coupled model development: the example of LSTs

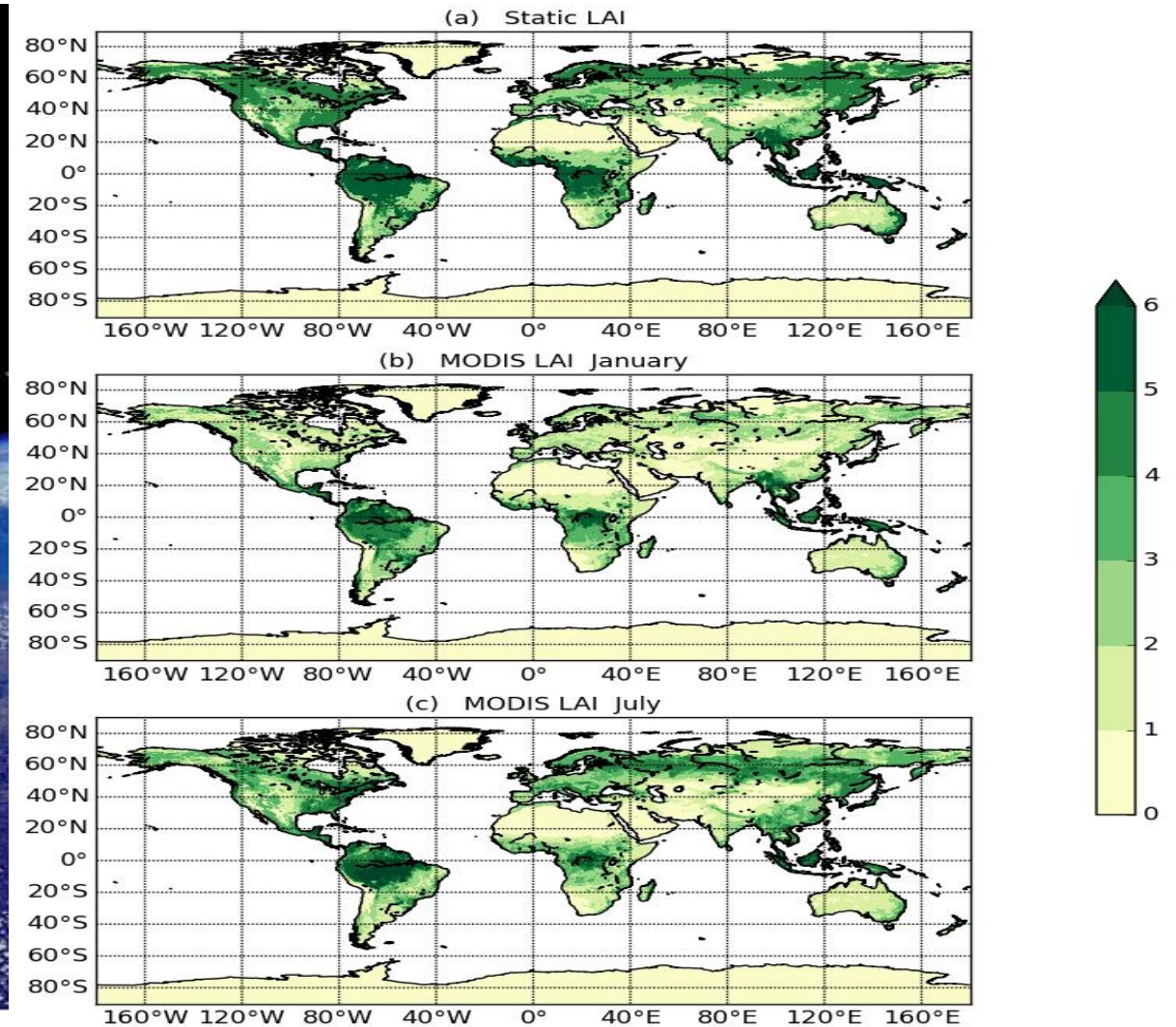
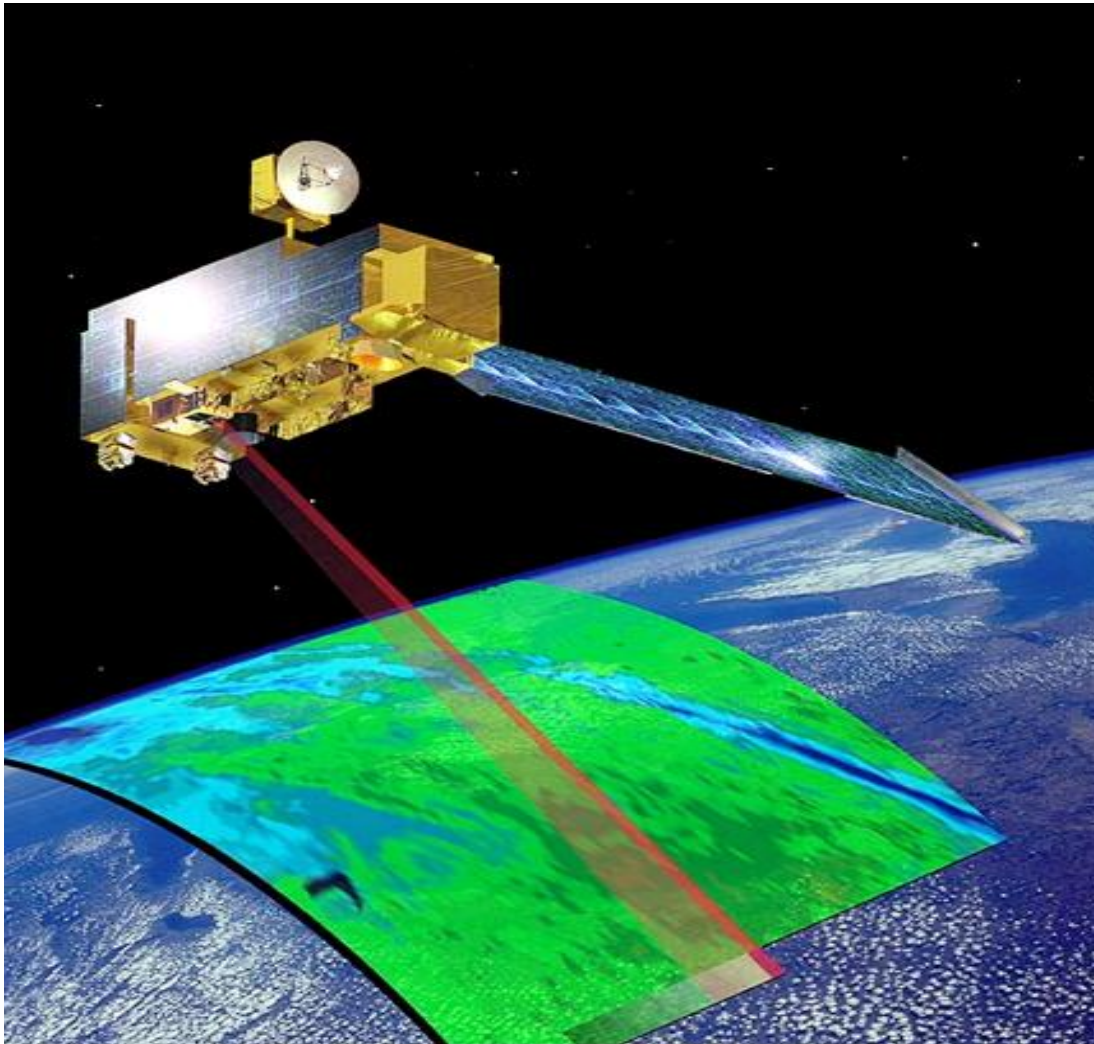
Land Surface Temperatures (LSTs) provides validation and guides diurnal cycle model development:

- LST to evaluate impact of vegetation modelling (see Trigo et al. 2015, used EUM-LSA-SAF)
- LST to constrain HTESSEL coupling parameters (see Orth et al., 2017, used ESA-CCI)
- LST to show value multi-layer snow over Antarctica (see Dutra et al 2017, used MODIS)



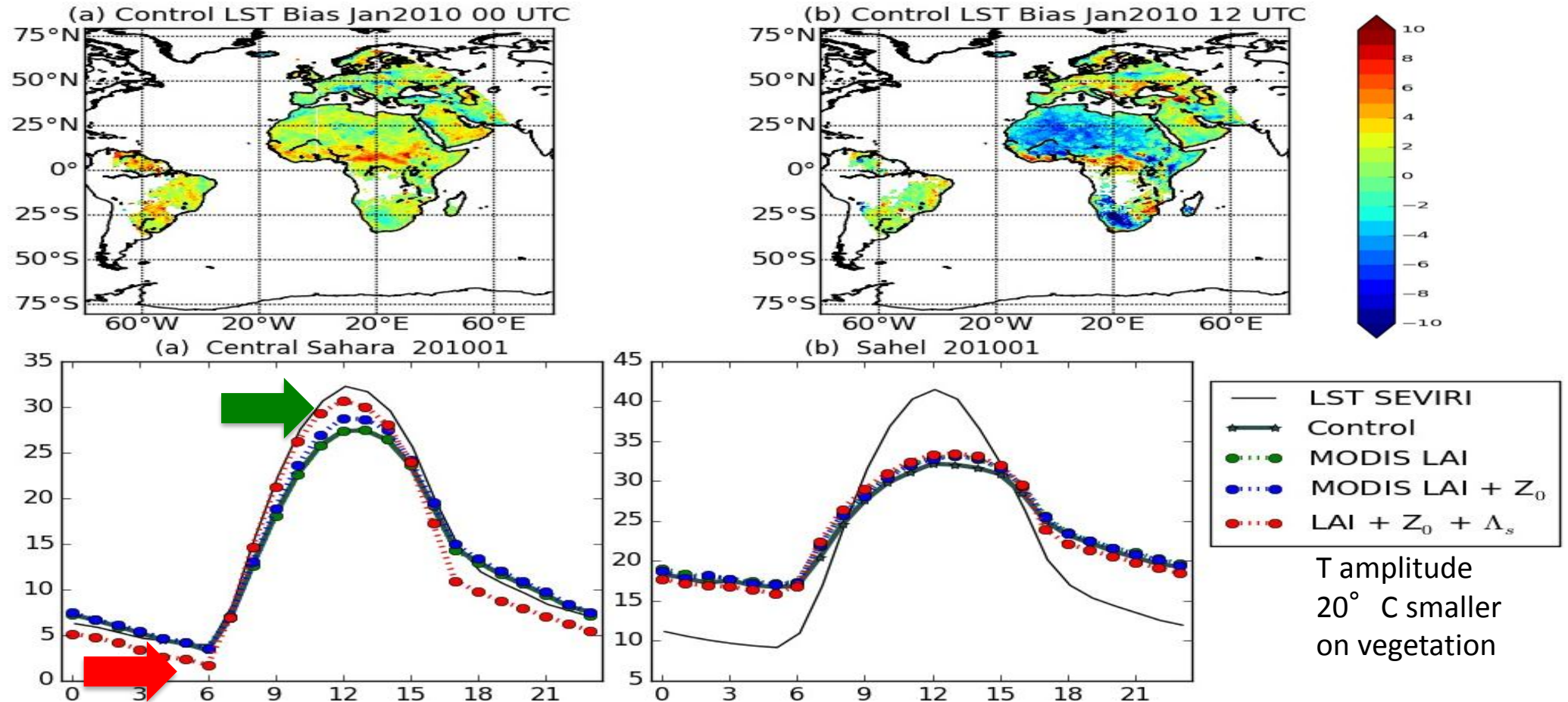
Mapping the vegetation state from satellite data

Boussetta et al. (2015, RSE)



Coupling and diurnal cycle: 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)

Summary

- Model development on diurnal cycle improvements connects to capability of better representing Extreme events (good argument in favor of seamless approach)
- Three cases shown: Ocean-coupling, Soil-layers, Snow-layers enhancements
- Systematic model errors when reduced will introduce larger variability (skill_{vs} rmse)
- Energy & Water cycle improvements (e.g. soil moisture, snow) support hydro-apps
- Carbon cycle forecasting skills strongly depend on temperature & moisture, fluxes

Outlook:

- EO-observations (Tskin, MW) can validate increase complexity in surface modelling
- Progressive inclusion across-models of human impact (CO₂, Water-use, Land-use)

An example in the CO₂ Human Emissions project <https://www.che-project.eu>

