

Towards Earth system reanalysis

Patricia de Rosnay, Phil Browne, Eric de Boisséson, David Fairbairn, Sébastien Garrigues, Christoph Herbert, Kenta Ochi, Ewan Pinnington, Kirsti Salonen, Dinand Schepers, Pete Weston, Hao Zuo,

Hans Hersbach, Gabriele Arduini, Magdalena Alonso Balmaseda, Gianpaolo Balsamo, Bill Bell, Niels Bormann, Souhail Boussetta, Carlo Buontempo, Anca Brookshaw, Jonny Day, Stephen English, Sean Healy, Tony McNally, Tracy Scanlon, Adrian Simmons, Tim Stockdale, Frédéric Vitart

and many others

What is Reanalysis

Reconstruction of the past weather and climate, using

- Observations (satellite, in situ) and gridded boundary forcing,
- Modern weather forecasting model and data assimilation systems, to *Re - analyse* the weather for past periods.

Reanalysis data provide the most reliable and consistent estimate of past weather and climate
→ **Used for climate monitoring**

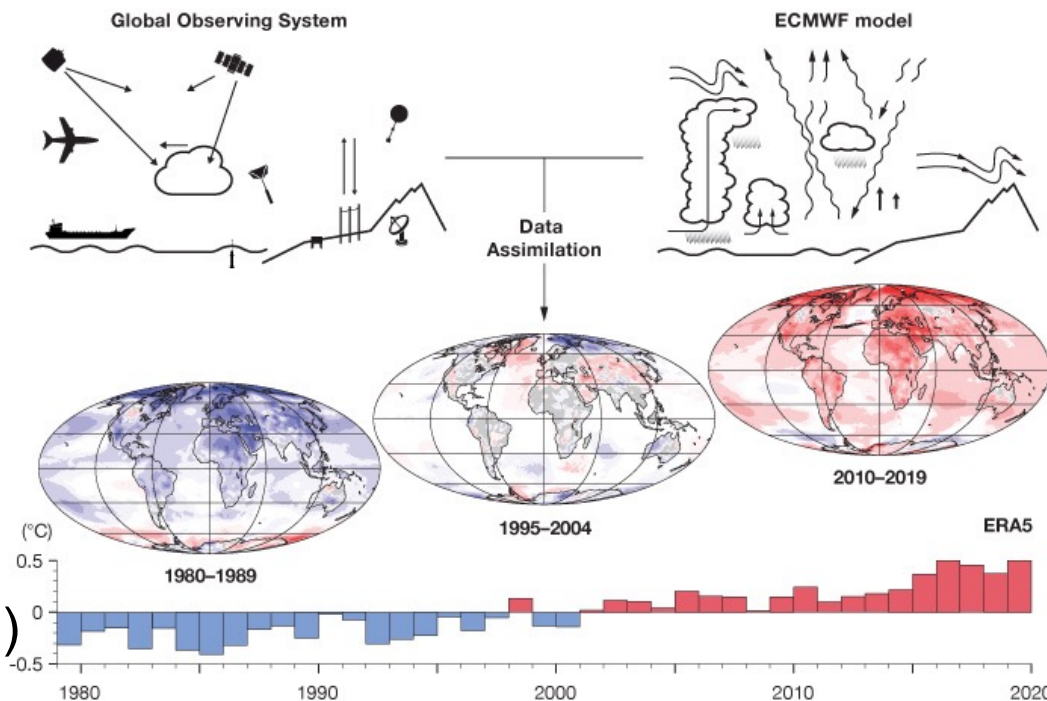
Reanalysis are used by the climate community, Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) seasonal prediction.

Huge impact for the general public, private sector,

More recently ERA5 has become a key input to train machine learning weather prediction models.

→ **Matthew Chantry's talk on Thursday**

Reanalyses are produced by several centres (e.g. ERA5, MERRA-2, JRA-3Q, CRA-40, CFSR, CARRA, and many more)



ECMWF experience with reanalysis

Reanalysis activities started in 1979 at ECMWF with the First Global Experiment of the Global Atmospheric Research Programme (FGGE reanalysis)

Annual Seminar on Data Assimilation Systems and Observing System Experiments with Particular Emphasis on FGGE

The Annual Seminar on Data Assimilation Systems and Observing System Experiments with Particular Emphasis on FGGE was held from 3 to 7 September 1984.

MONITORING OF OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS QUALITY BY A DATA ASSIMILATION SYSTEM

A. Hollingsworth, D.B. Shaw, P. Lönnberg,
L. Illari, K. Arpe, A.J. Simmons

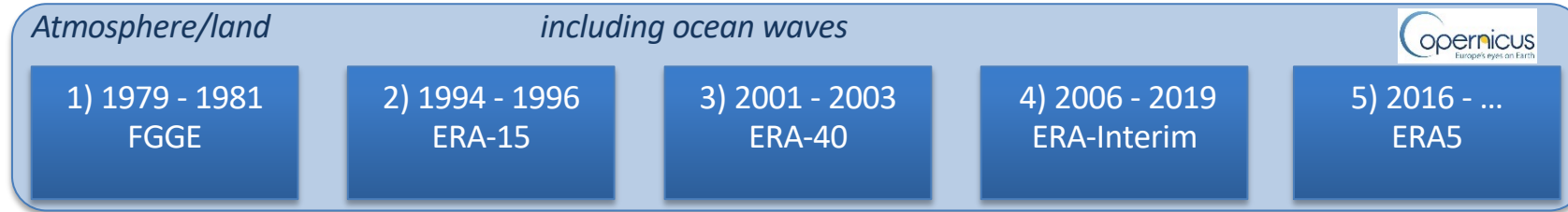
European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts
Reading, U.K.

→ Talk on Thursday

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate the ability of a modern data assimilation system to provide long-term diagnostic facilities to monitor the performance of the observational network. Operational data assimilation

ECMWF experience with reanalysis



Dee et al., ECMWF Tech Memo 687, 2012
[10.21957/3v3hcppnp](https://doi.org/10.21957/3v3hcppnp)

- FGGE and ERA-15: focused on atmosphere with very little interest in other components. Surface conditions were just needed as lower boundary condition of the atmospheric reanalysis.
- The current ERA5 reanalysis is funded by the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S).
- It accounts for atmosphere, land, ocean waves with sea surface temperature and sea ice prescribed

Quarterly Journal of the
Royal Meteorological Society



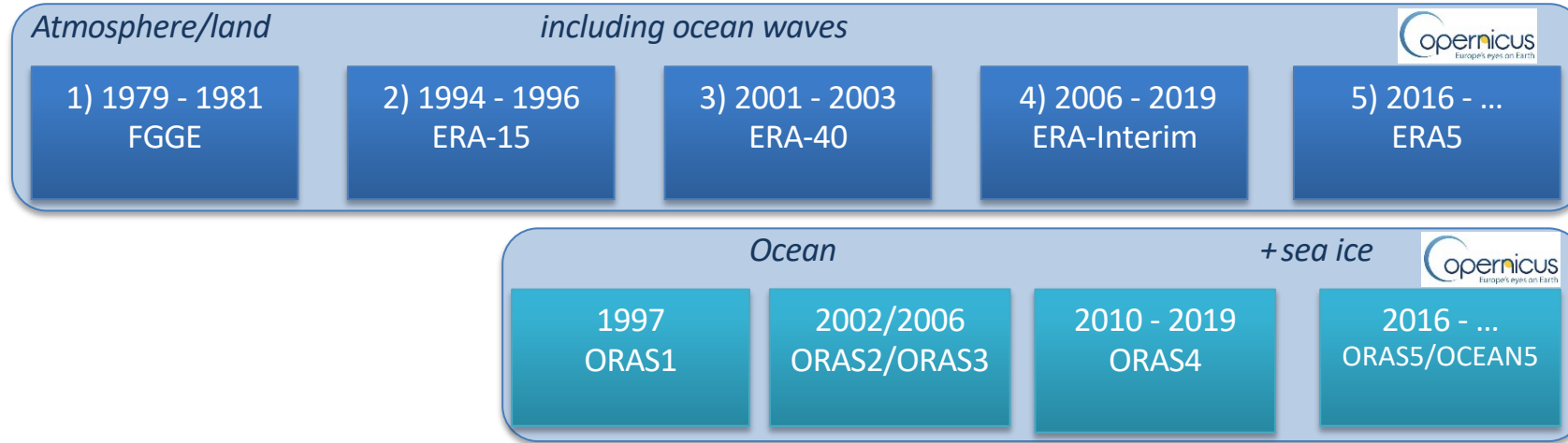
RESEARCH ARTICLE | [Open Access](#) |

The ERA5 global reanalysis

Hans Hersbach , Bill Bell, Paul Berrisford, Shoji Hirahara, András Horányi, Joaquín Muñoz-Sabater, Julien Nicolas, Carole Peubey, Raluca Radu, Dinand Schepers, Adrian Simmons ... [See all authors](#) ▾

Hersbach et al., 2020 <https://doi.org/10.1002/qj.3803>

ECMWF experience with reanalysis



→ Hao Zuo tomorrow

ECMWF also started seasonal prediction developments in the 90's (SEAS1 in 1997)

→ Need for an ocean model and assimilation and ocean reanalysis

Global seasonal rainfall forecasts using a coupled ocean-atmosphere model

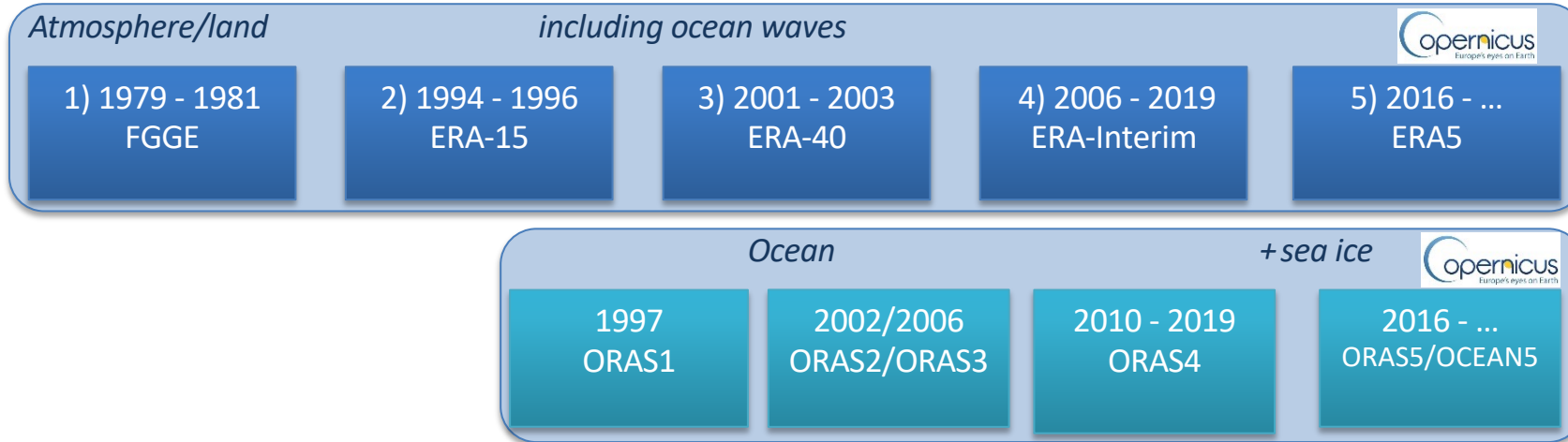
Temp increments (0-300m)

[T. N. Stockdale](#) ✉, [D. L. T. Anderson](#), [J. O. S. Alves](#) & [M. A. Balmaseda](#)

[Nature](#) 392, 370–373 (1998) | [Cite this article](#)

→ ORAS1 in 1997 (Ocean Reanalysis System1)

ECMWF experience with reanalysis



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Global seasonal rainfall forecasts using a coupled ocean-atmosphere system

[T. N. Stockdale](#) ✉, [D. L. T. Anderson](#)

Nature 392, 370–373 (1998) | [Cit](#)

→ ORAS1 in 1997

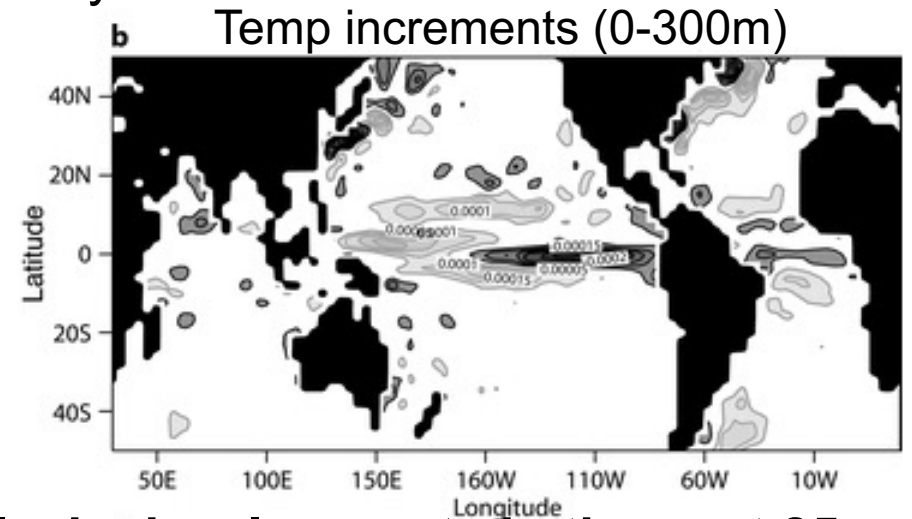
The ECMWF Ocean Analysis System: ORA-S3

MAGDALENA A. BALMASEDA
European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, Reading, United Kingdom

ARTHUR VIDARD
L'Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique (INRIA), Grenoble

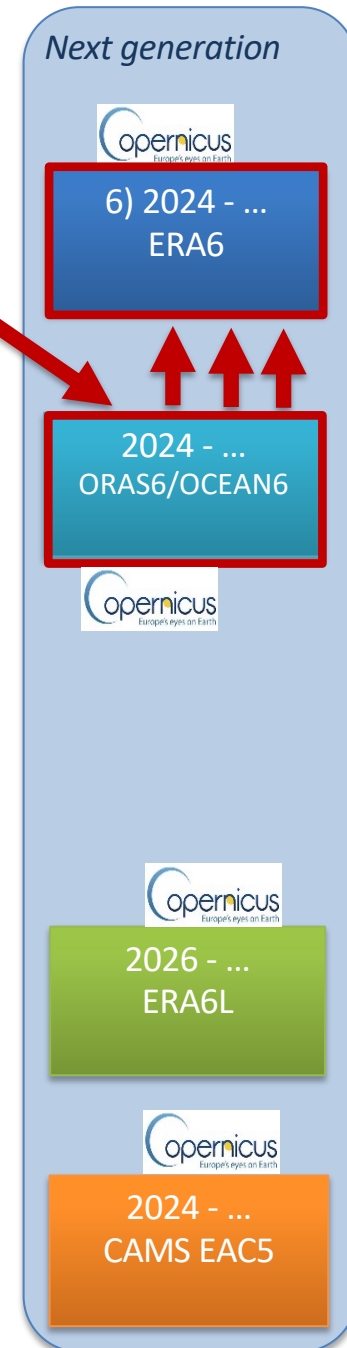
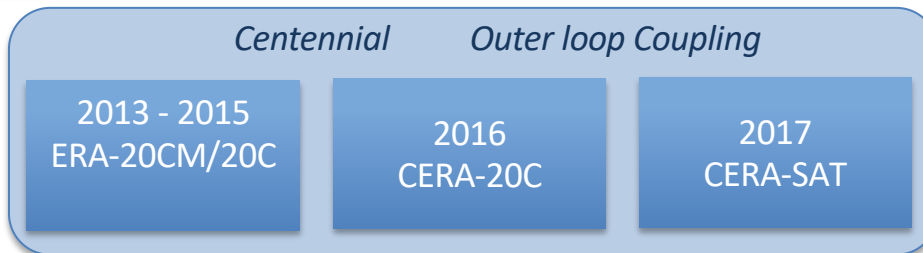
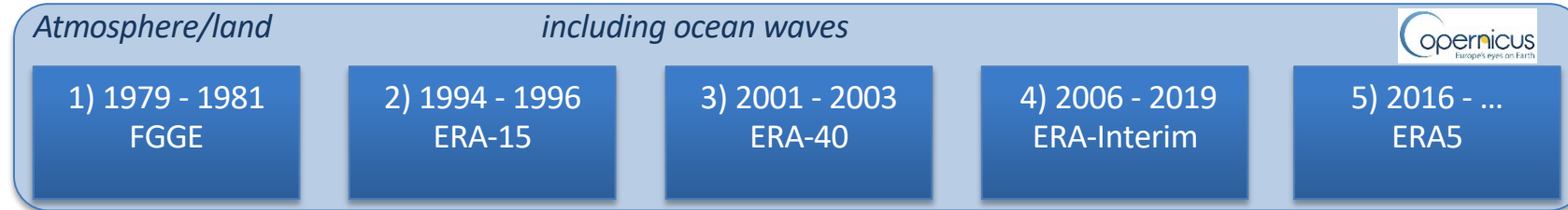
DAVID L. T. ANDERSON
European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, Reading, United Kingdom

Monthly Weather Review 136, 8; [10.1175/2008MWR2433.1](https://doi.org/10.1175/2008MWR2433.1)

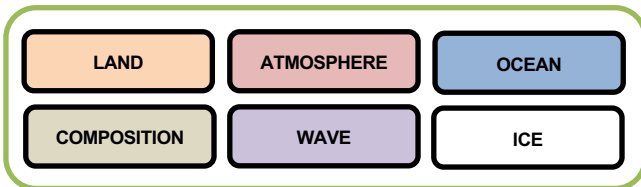


Seasonal Prediction has been a key driver in ocean reanalysis developments in the past 25 years

ECMWF experience with reanalysis



→ Hans Hersbach's talk tomorrow



ECMWF experience with reanalysis



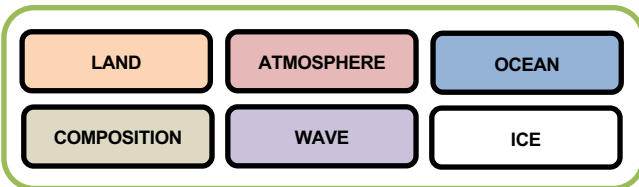
Ocean + sea ice

ERA5-Land hourly data from 1950 to present

Consistent input for NWP and climate studies & relevant for water resources, hydrological and agricultural modelling.



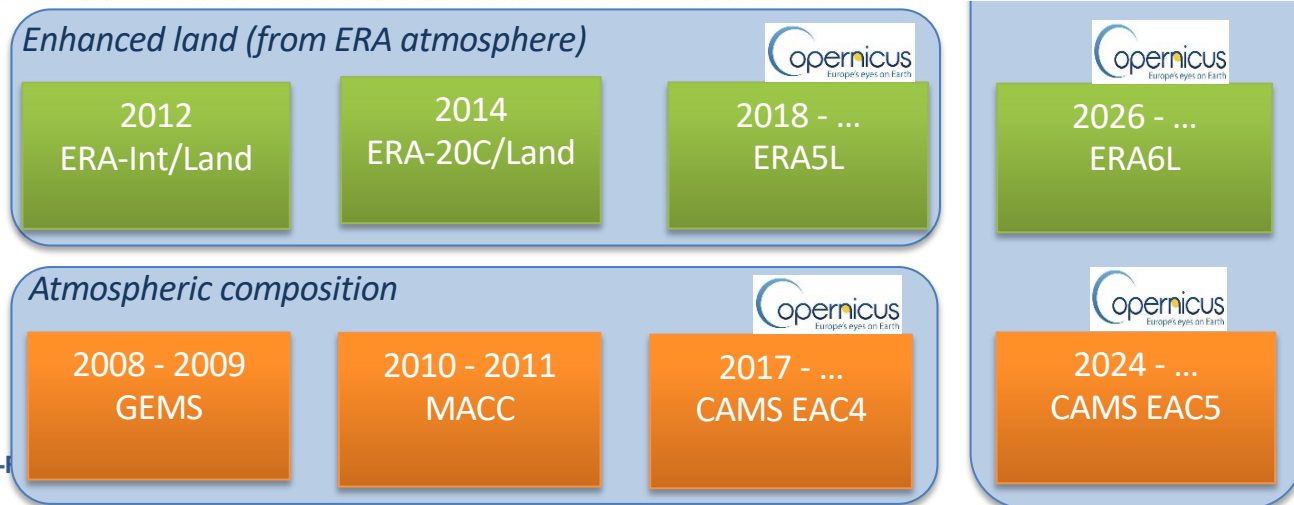
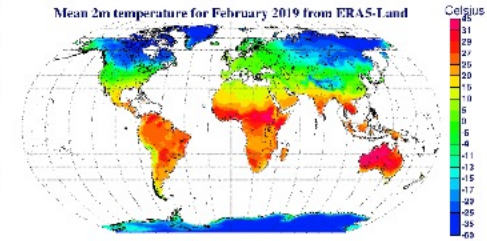
→ Hans Hersbach's talk tomorrow



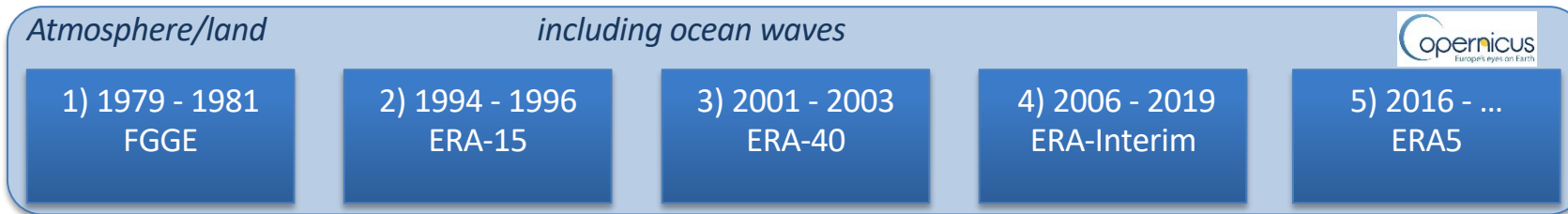
ERA5-Land is a reanalysis dataset providing a consistent view of the evolution of land variables over several decades at an enhanced resolution compared to ERA5. ERA5-Land has been produced by replaying the land component of the ECMWF ERA5 climate reanalysis. Reanalysis combines model data with observations from across the world into a globally complete and consistent dataset using the laws of physics. Reanalysis produces data that goes several decades back in time, providing an accurate description of the climate of the past.

ERA5-Land uses as input to control the simulated land fields ERA5 atmospheric variables, such as air temperature and air humidity. This is called the atmospheric forcing. Without the constraint of the atmospheric forcing, the simulated land fields would be unrealistic.

Muñoz-Sabater et al., 2021 <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-13-4349-2021>

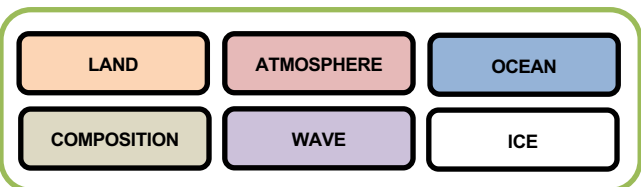


ECMWF experience with reanalysis

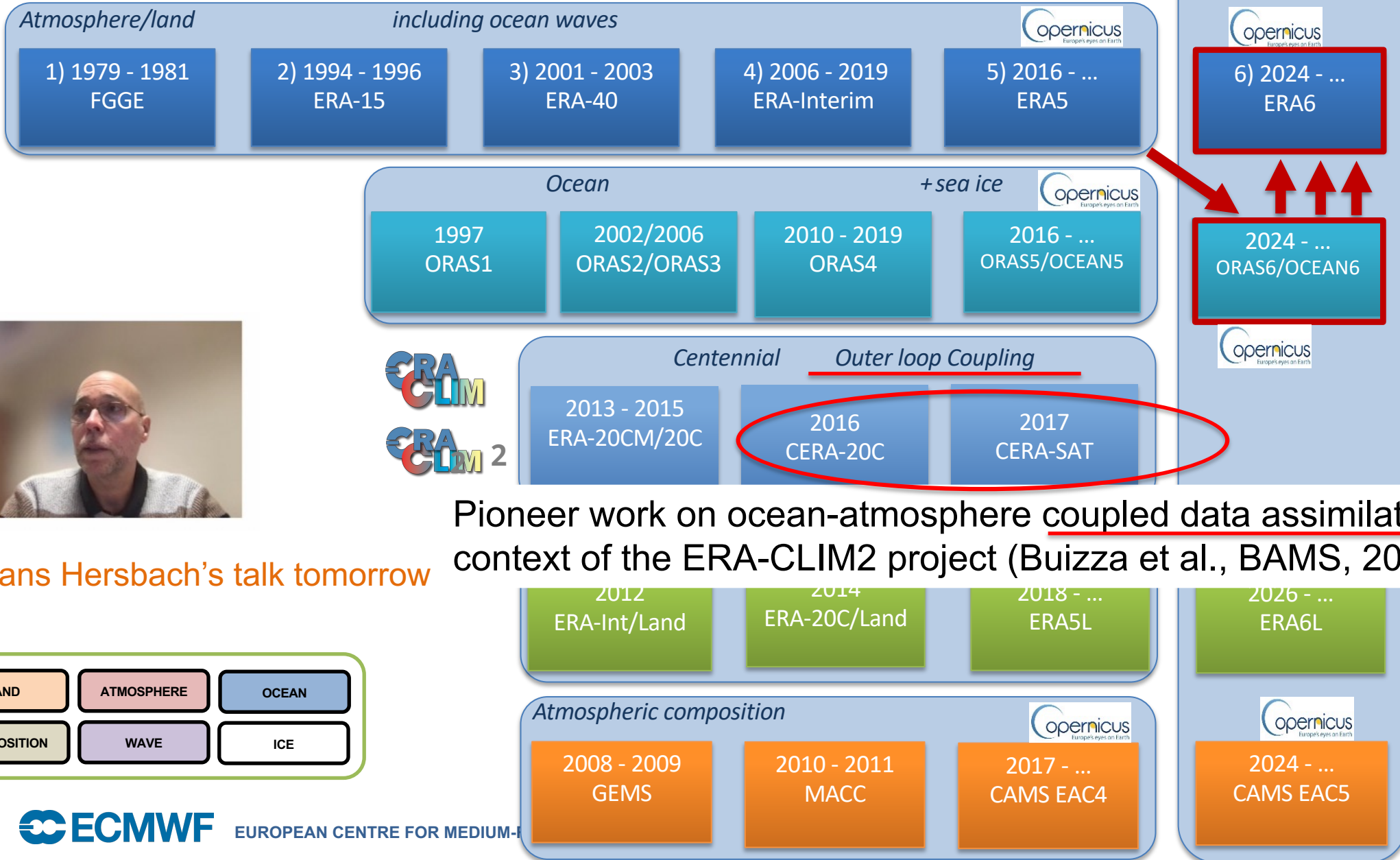


→ Hans Hersbach's talk tomorrow

Large diversity of reanalysis products covering atmosphere, ocean, ocean waves, sea-ice, land surface and atmospheric composition

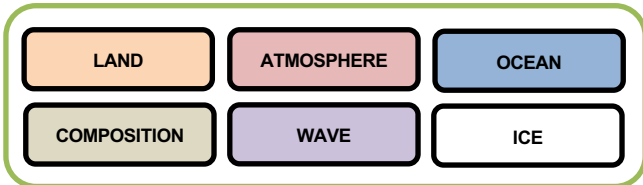


ECMWF experience with reanalysis

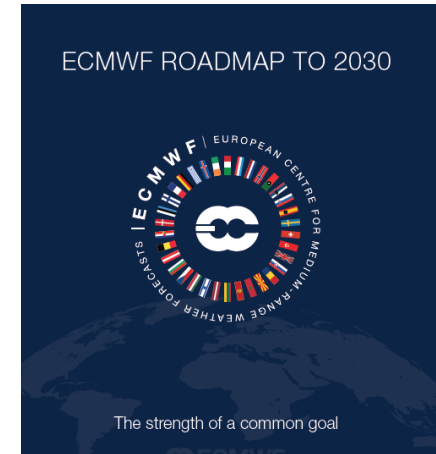
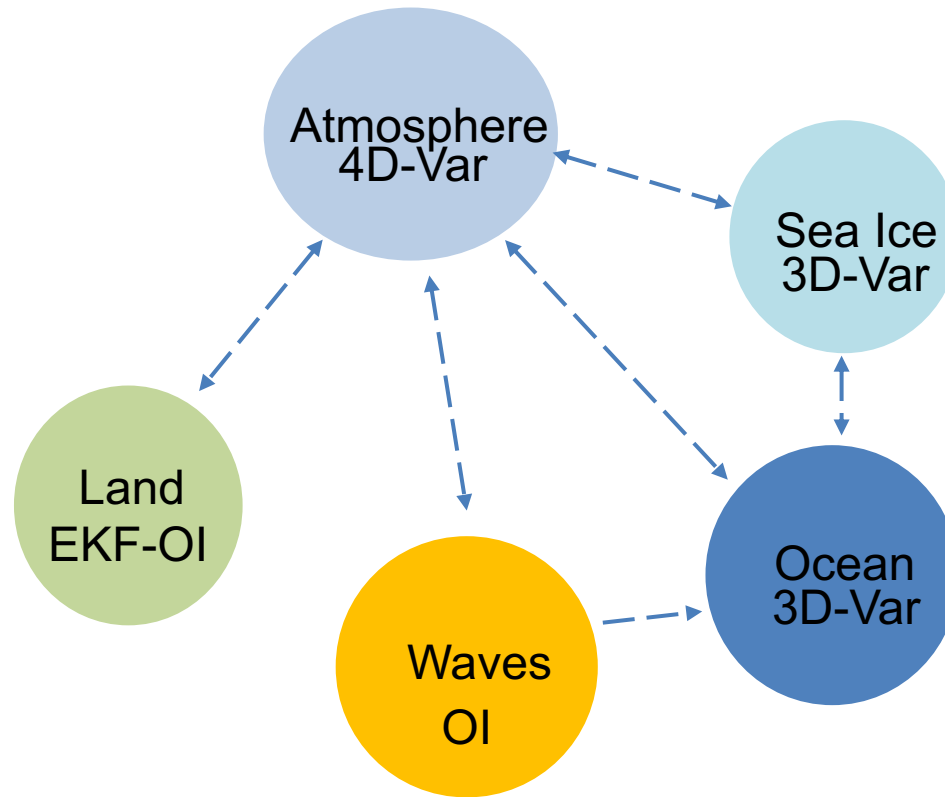


→ Hans Hersbach's talk tomorrow

Pioneer work on ocean-atmosphere coupled data assimilation in the context of the ERA-CLIM2 project (Buizza et al., BAMS, 2018)



Earth system approach



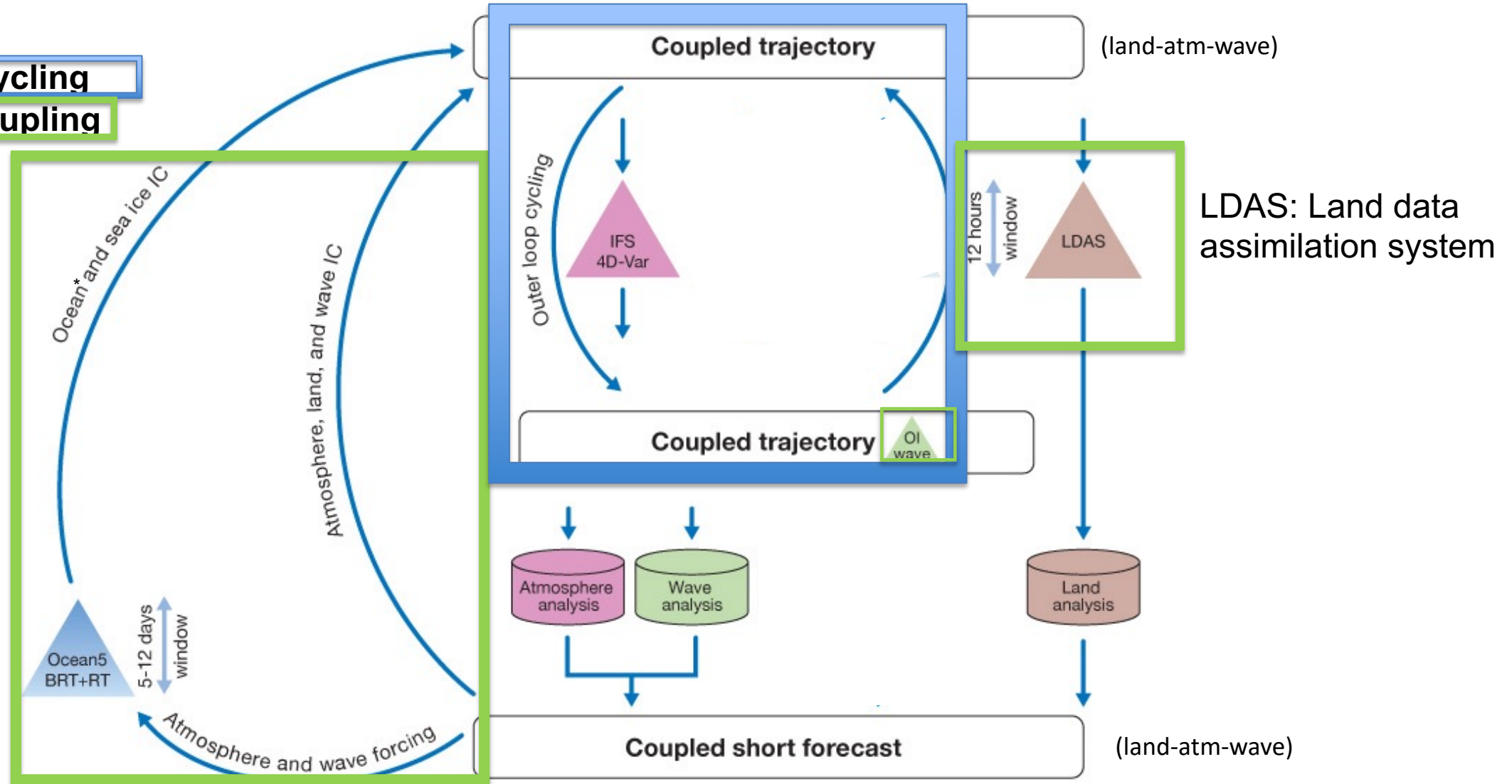
- Coupled assimilation developments for NWP and reanalyses
- Importance of interface observations (e.g. SST, sea ice, snow, soil moisture)

Coupled data assimilation

- **What:** Exchange of information between data assimilation systems so that observations from one component can influence the analysis of other components (Penny et al., WMO white paper, 2017)
- **Why:** to provide balanced initial conditions across the coupled forecast model components (e.g. Laloyaux et al., QJRMS 2016)
- **How:** Diversity of methodologies ranging from weak to strong coupling (e.g. Fujii et al., QJRMS 2021, Browne et al., 2019; Fairbairn et al. JHM 2019; Schepers et al., ECMWF NewsLett 2018, Storto et al., MWR 2018; Karspeck et al., QJRMS 2018, Frolov et al., MWR 2016, Smith et al., TellusA, 2015);

Coupled data assimilation (DA): current status for NWP at ECMWF

**Combined
outer loop cycling
and weak coupling**



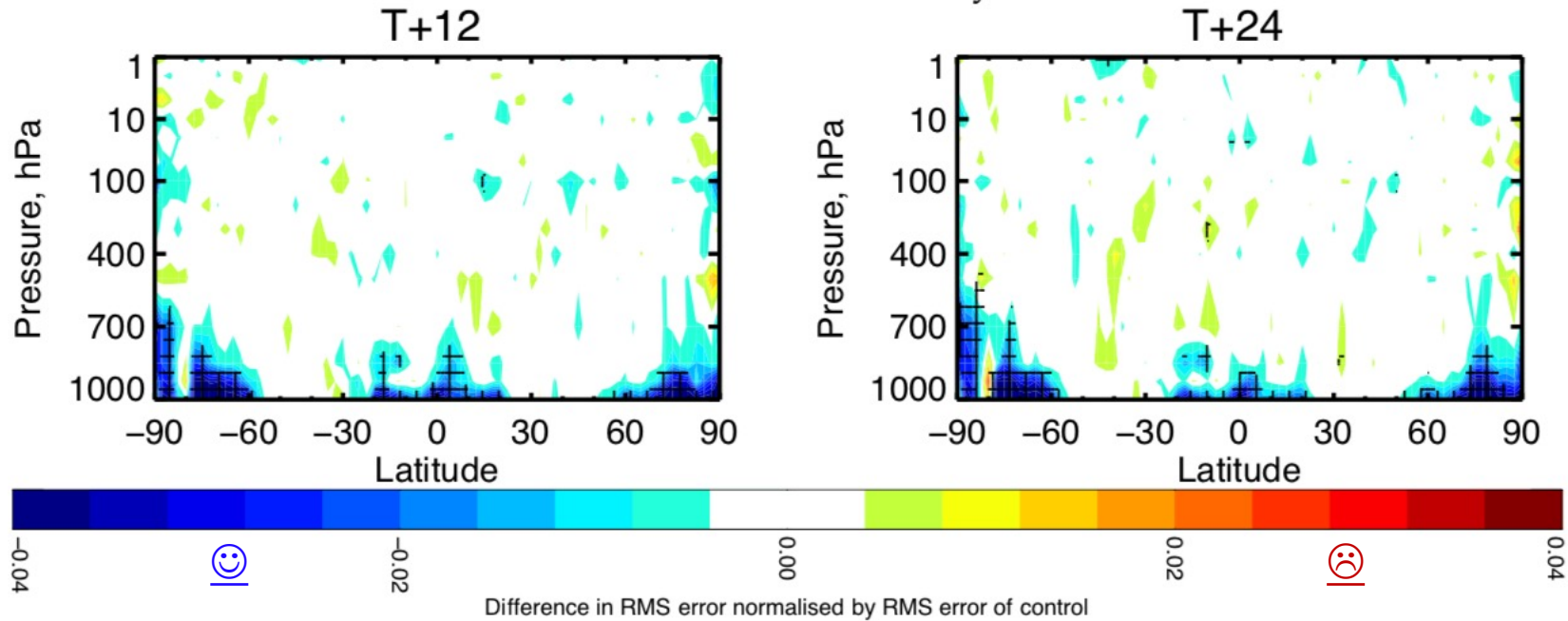
*patrial SST coupling (OSTIA in the Extratropics)

Ocean-atmosphere coupled DA: current status for NWP

Weakly coupled assimilation

June 2017-May 2018

Impact on Temperature Forecasts



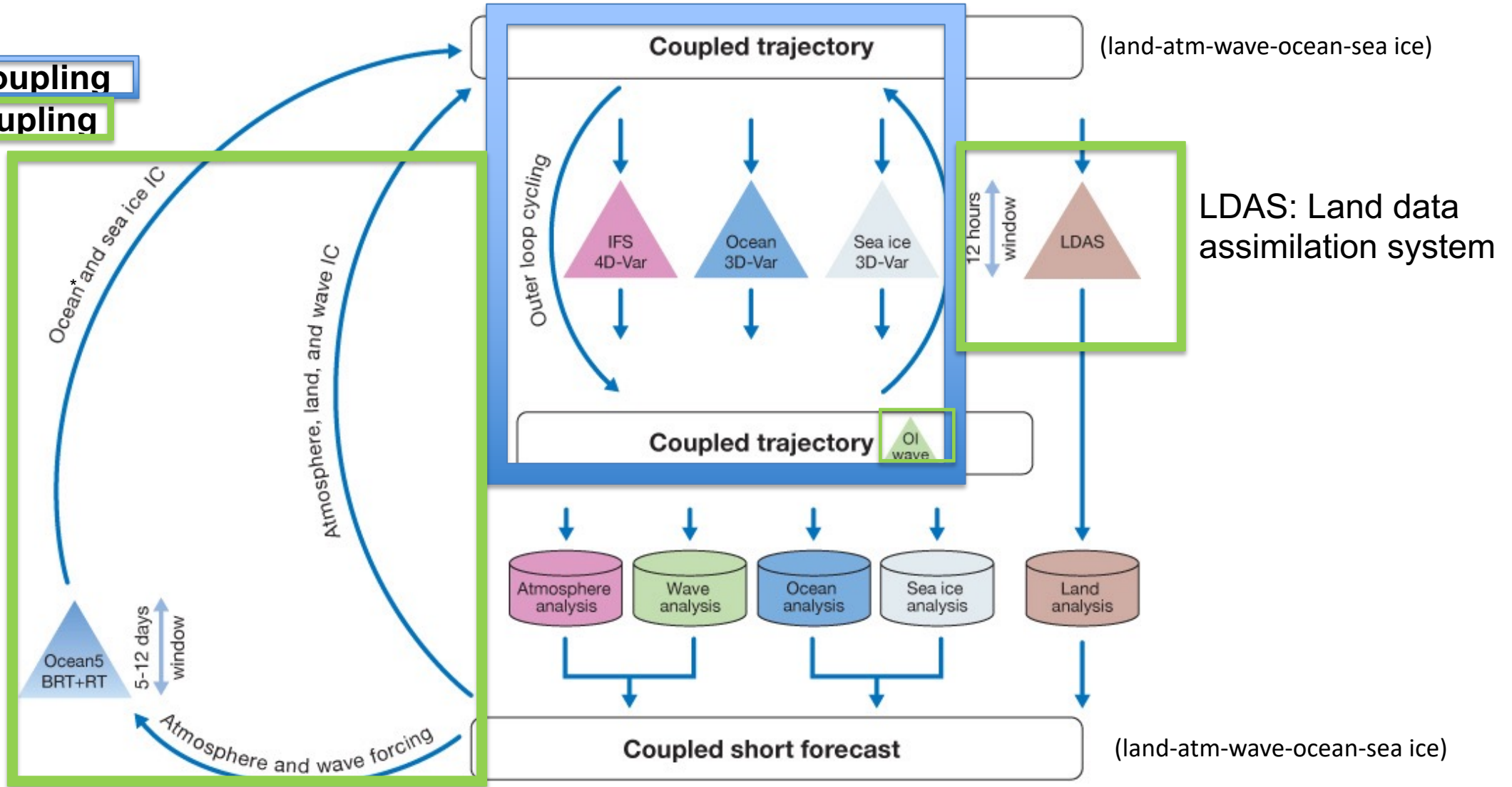
Normalized RMSE difference
(weakly coupled DA – uncoupled DA)

(b) dRMSE of temperature (K)
(June 2017 to May 2018)

Browne et al., Remote Sensing, 2019

Coupled data assimilation: current status in research

**Combined
outer loop coupling
and weak coupling**



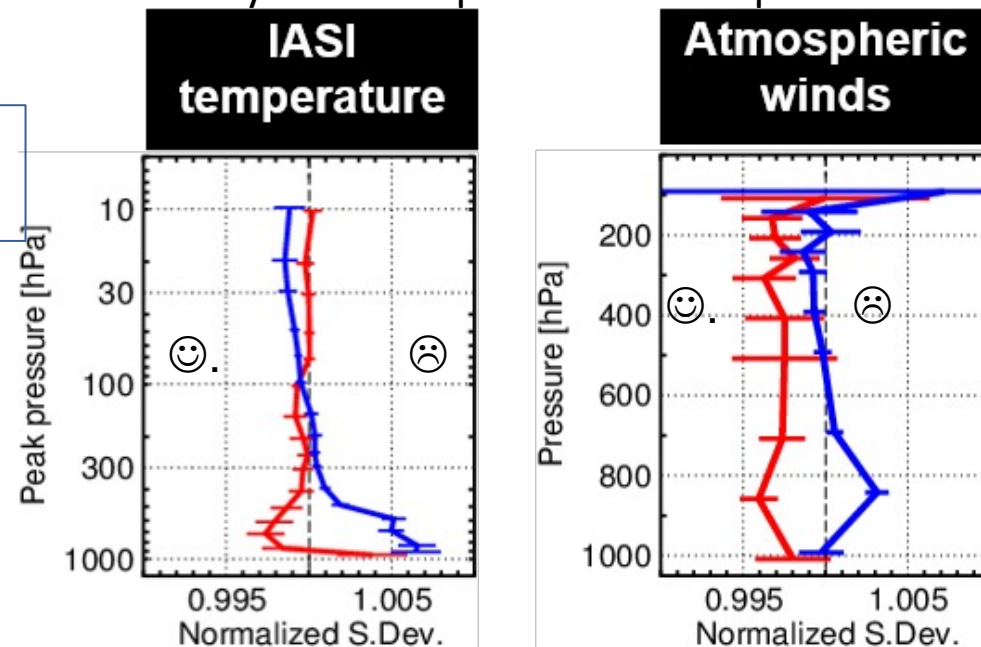
*patrial SST coupling (OSTIA in the Extratropics)

Outer loop coupling history and the ERA-CLIM2 project

- The ERA-CLIM2 (2014-2017) objective was to develop global centennial reanalysis based on coupled ocean-atmosphere data assimilation (Laloyaux et al., MWR 2016, JAMES 2018). It followed the ESA Coupled ECMWF ReAnalysis (CERA) project (2012-2014).
- CERA system → proposed the outer loop coupling methodology and demonstrated the relevance of the concept with CERA-20C (Laloyaux et al., JAMES 2018) & CERA-SAT (Schepers et al., ECMWF NewsLett. 2018).

The CERA system also showed challenges that needed to be addressed before operational applications.

First guess fit to observations in the CERA-SAT system compared to uncoupled CTRL



- Tropics
- Extra-tropics

Coupled ocean-atmosphere reanalysis challenges and progresses

ERA report series

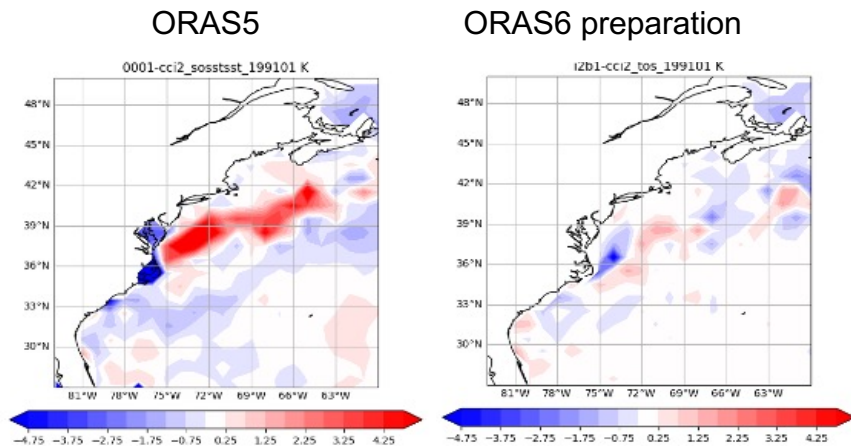
Western boundary current representation issues in the ocean model

- affecting the Gulf Stream and the Kuroshio positions,
- leading to wrong sea-surface temperature patterns
- propagating into the atmosphere with degradation of the NWP performance.



27 Operational global reanalysis: progress, future directions and synergies with NWP

Hersbach et al., ERA Report Series, 2018
[10.21957/tkic6g3wm](https://doi.org/10.21957/tkic6g3wm)

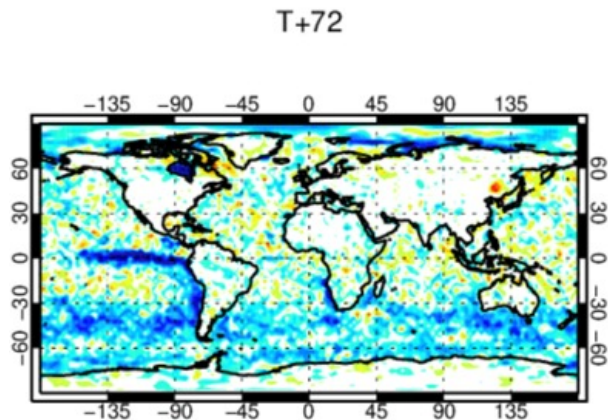
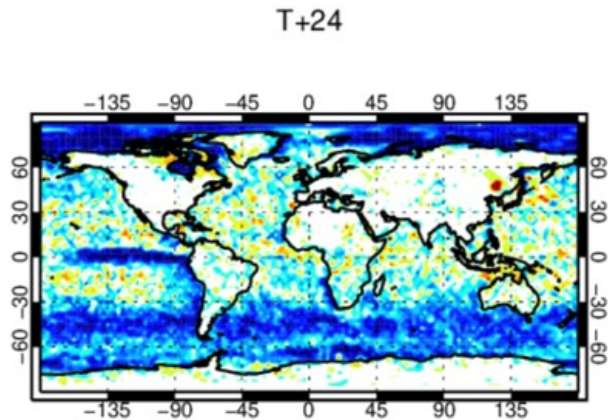


2018-2023 research progresses

→ Western boundary current issues addressed in the next ocean model and data assimilation system (Hao Zuo, Phil Browne, Marcin Chrust, Eric de Boissésou, Sarah Keeley, Kristian Mogensen and others).

- Improvements in the ocean system and coupled DA enhances the readiness level of the outer loop coupling methodology
- We now revisit outer loop coupling performances and extend the approach

Further research on ocean-atmosphere coupled assimilation



T2m forecast RMSE difference between outer loop coupling with RADSST and CRTL (operational configuration)

Outer loop ocean-atmosphere coupling with radiance-based SST analysis (RADSST) instead of using external SST from OSTIA.

Results with Infrared observations from IASI, CrIS and AIRS. DJF 2021/22

Research is ongoing to extend to microwave and sea-ice domain and exploration of the potential for altimeter assimilation simultaneously constraining sea level height and humidity with Extended Control Variable approach

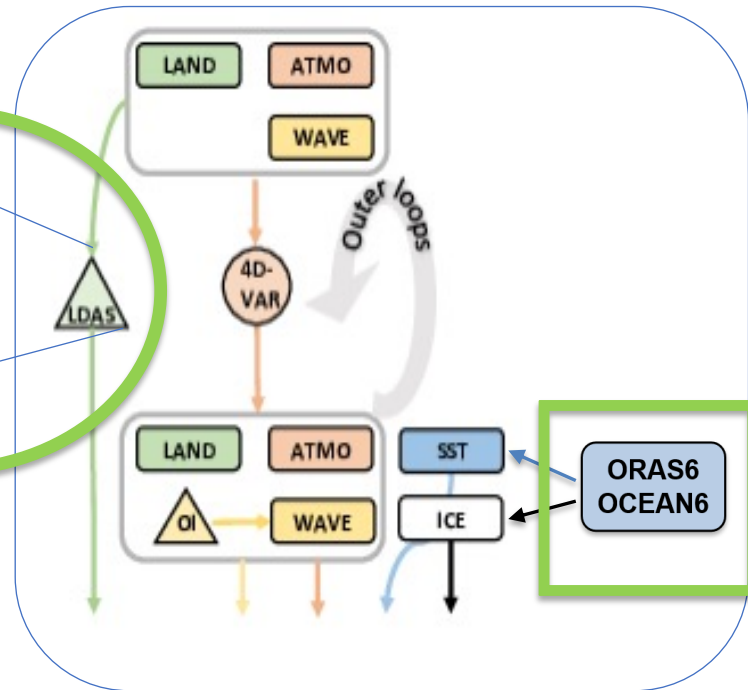
→ Phil Browne on Friday

What are we doing for operational reanalysis and where are we going?

Weakly coupled data assimilation for

- Land-atmosphere-waves (ERA5)
- Land-atmosphere-waves-ocean-sea ice (ERA6)

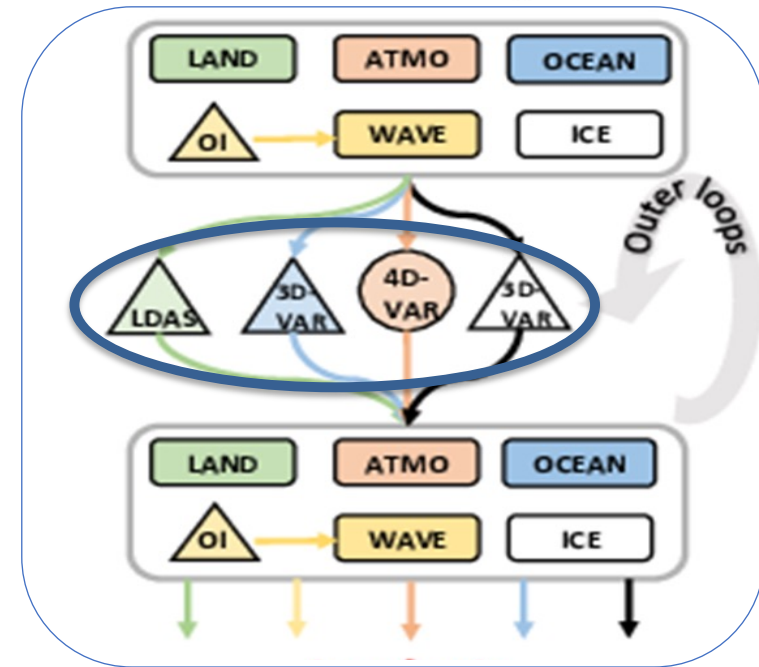
ERA5 and ERA6



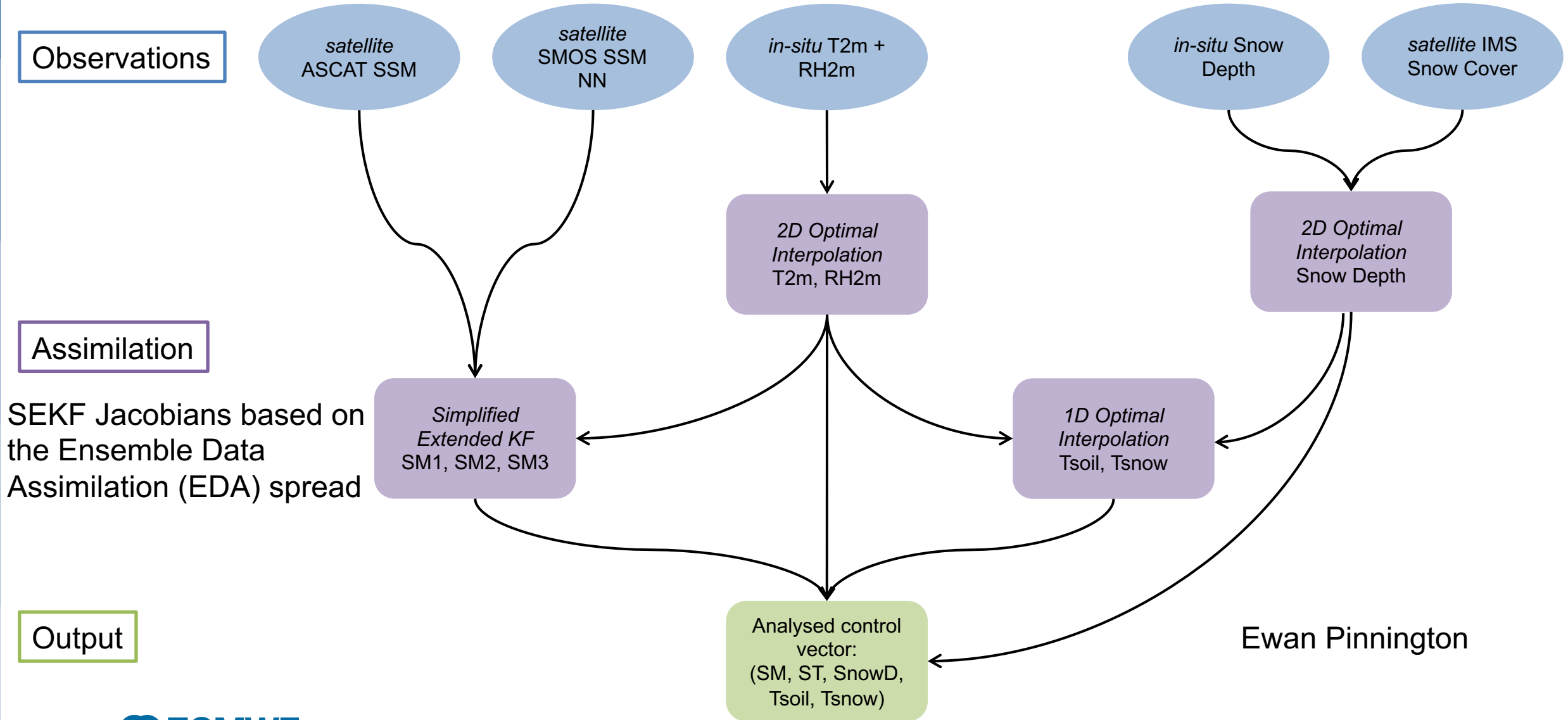
Enhanced outer coupled data assimilation for

- Land-atmosphere-waves-ocean-sea ice (ERA7)

ERA7



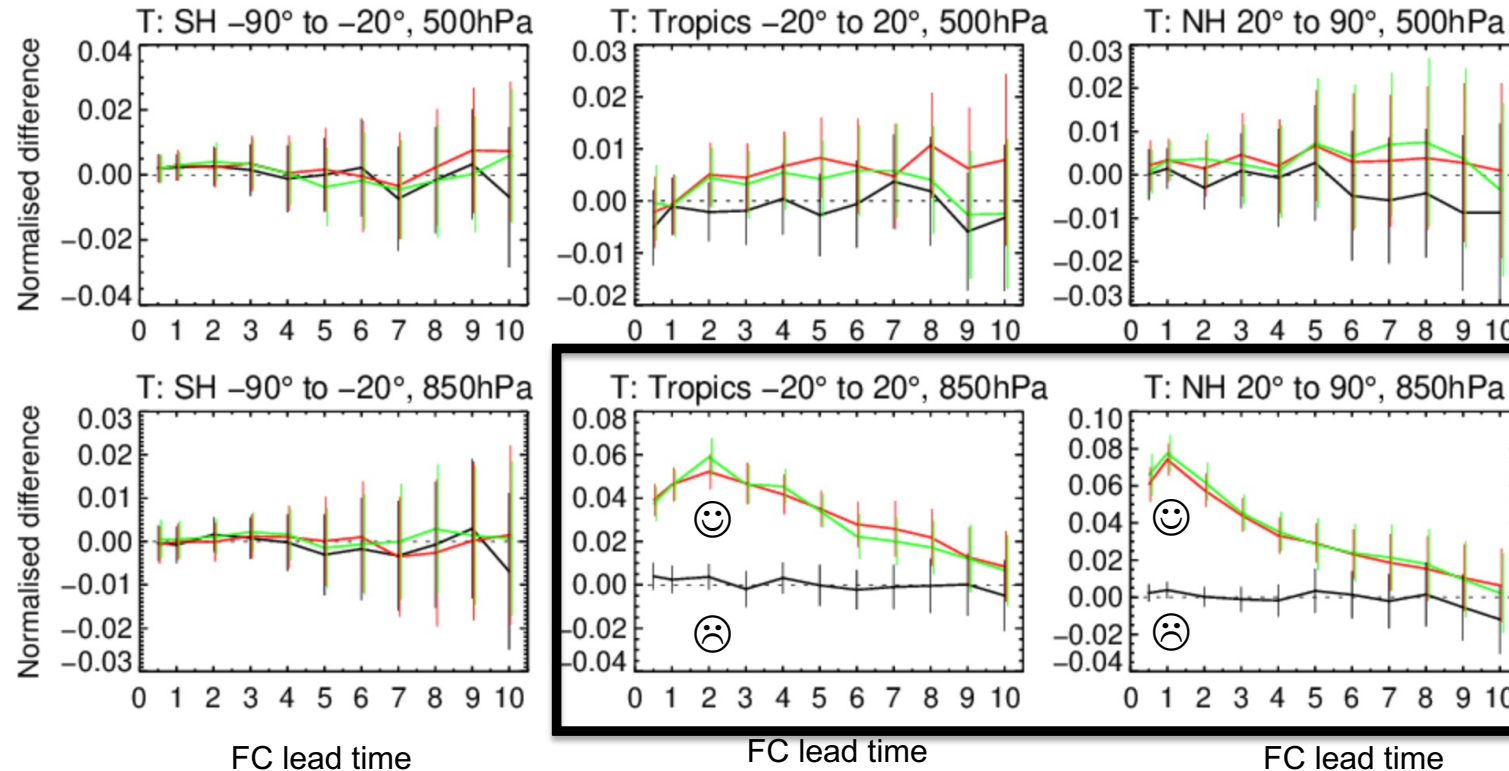
ECMWF Land Data Assimilation System (LDAS)



Soil analysis for NWP: impact on the atmospheric forecast

Temperature RMSE

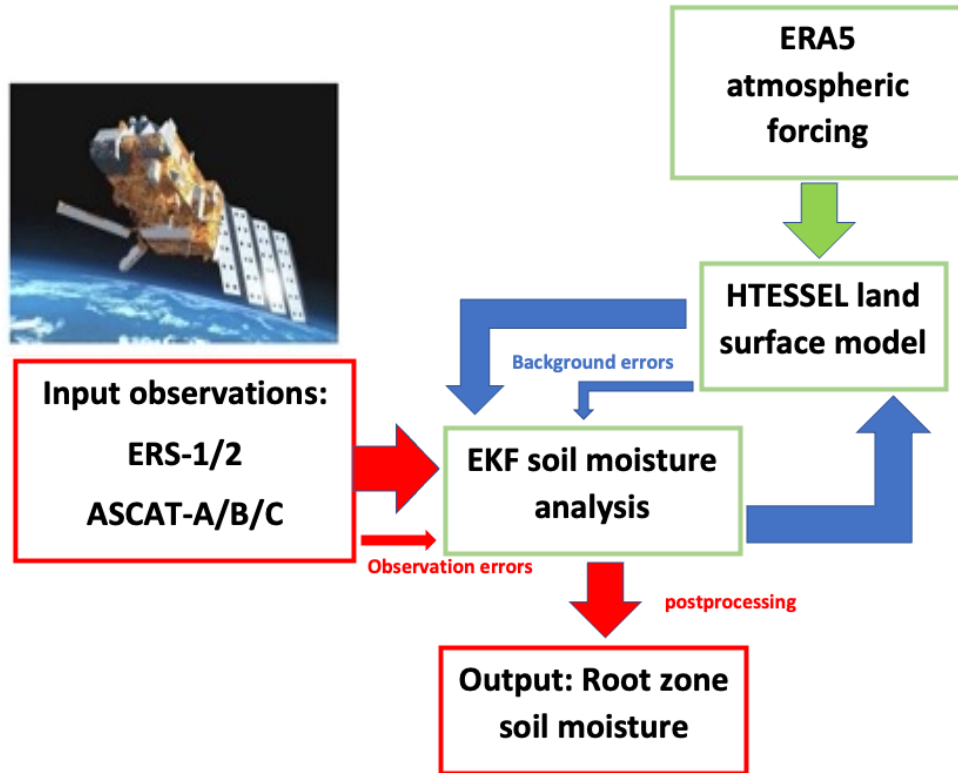
JJA 2020
IFS cycle 48r1



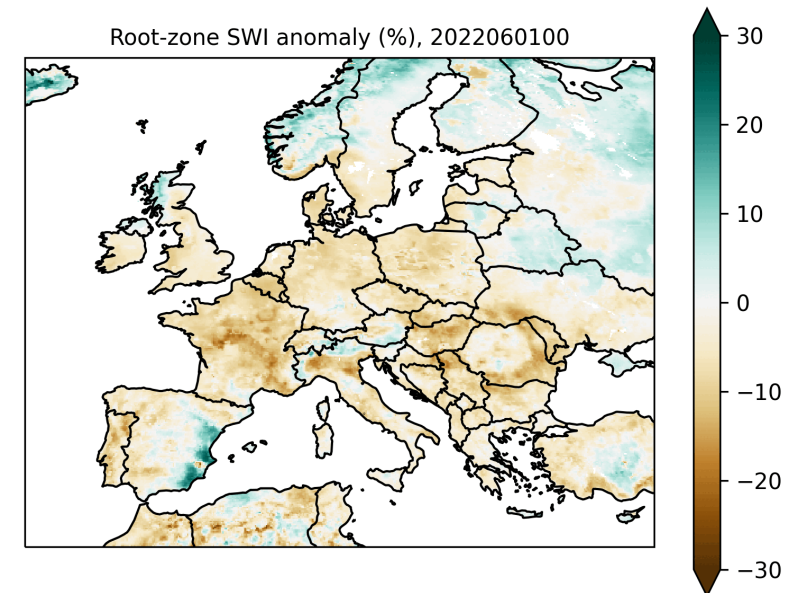
Without soil moisture DA
Without soil moisture DA
With soil moisture DA

Significant positive impact of land DA on low level atmospheric temperature forecasts

H SAF root zone soil moisture data record



- Preparation of new SM data record (1992-2023, planned release 2024)
- Offline land DA with adaptive ASCAT SM bias-correction following Draper et al., JHM 2015



H SAF product RZSM-SCAT-ASCAT-CDOP-4-CDR-10km (H145)
+ offline extension (H146)

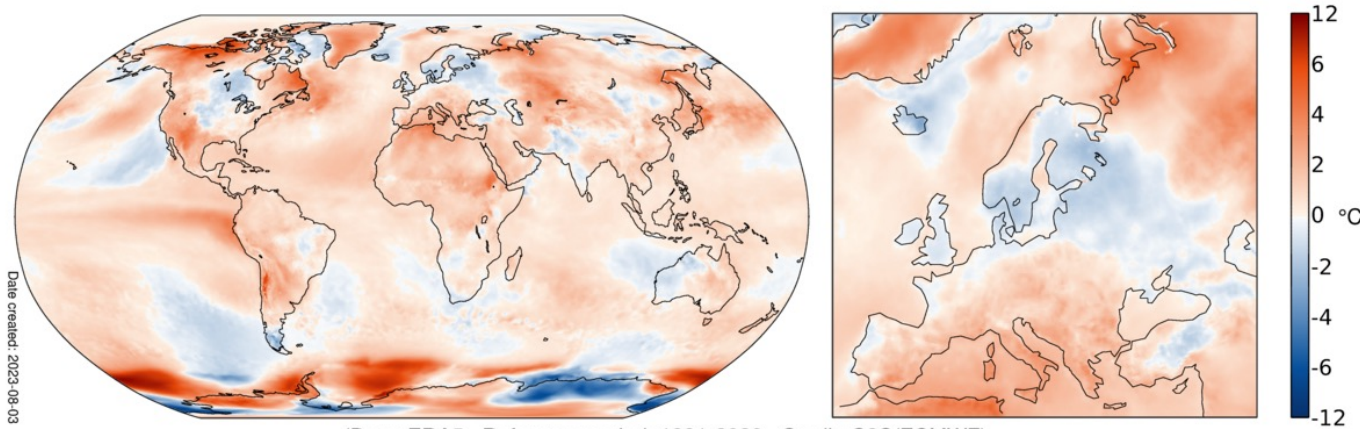
David Fairbairn

Land-atmosphere coupling progresses

Rolf Reichle tomorrow,
Clara Draper on Friday

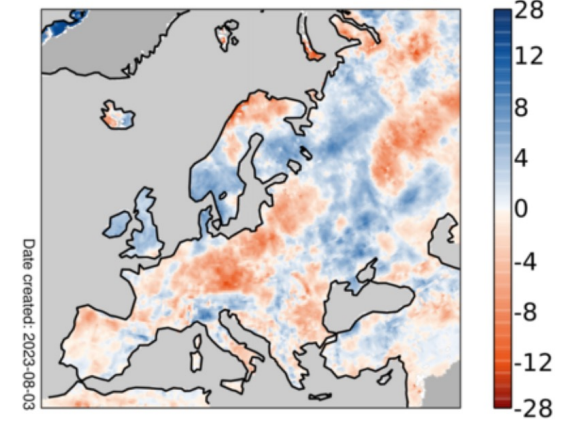
- Developments of Land DA systems in the past 20 years (soil moisture, satellite DA, snow DA etc), but still univariate approach.
- And relatively little effort has been dedicated to land-atmosphere coupled data assimilation, despite the fact that near-surface conditions over land are of critical interest to users.

Surface air temperature anomaly for July 2023



(Data: ERA5. Reference period: 1991-2020. Credit: C3S/ECMWF)

0-7 cm volumetric soil moisture (%)



(Data: ERA5. Reference period: 1991-2020. Credit: C3S/ECMWF)



<https://climate.copernicus.eu/climate-bulletins>

CERISE Horizon Europe project



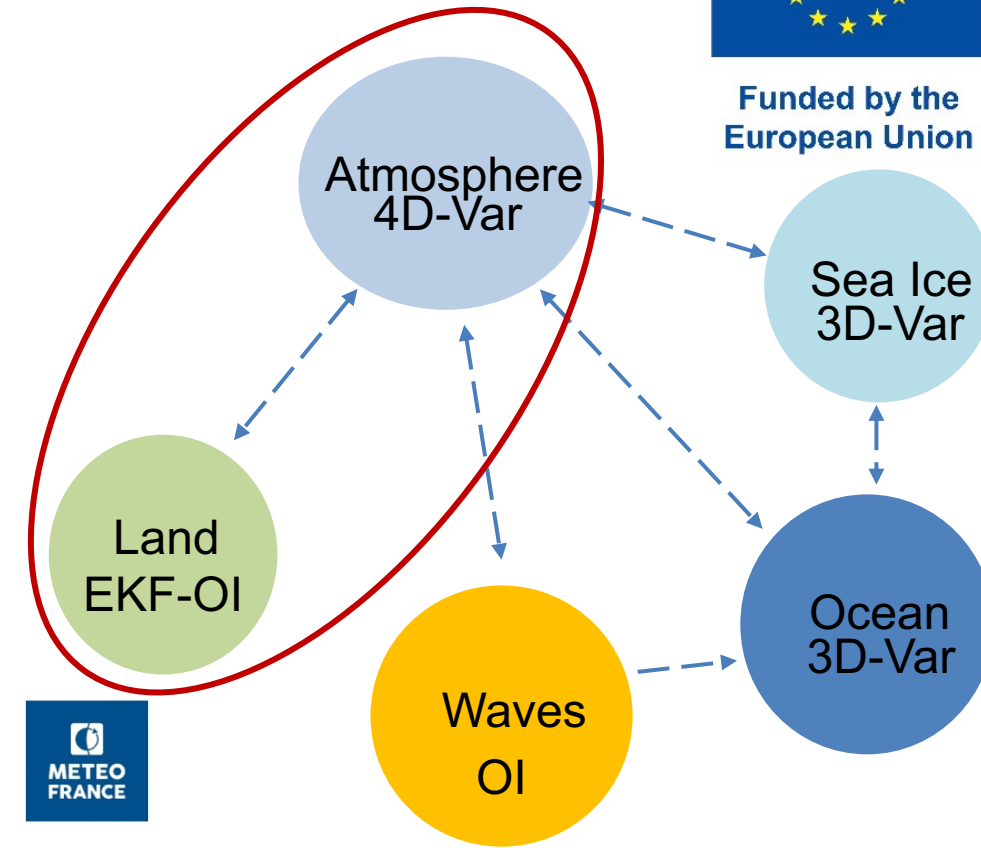
CERISE: CopERNIcus climate change Service Evolution (2023-2026)

→ Support the long-term evolution of C3S for
- regional and global climate reanalysis and
- multi-system seasonal prediction,
towards an Earth system approach with a focus on
land-atmosphere coupling.

<https://www.cerise-project.eu/>



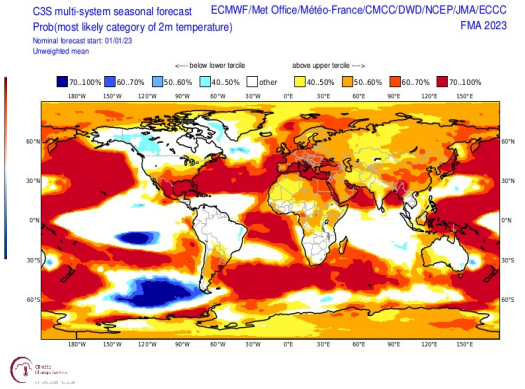
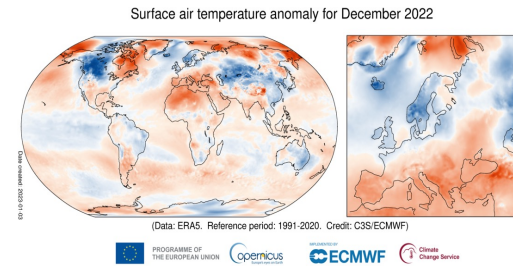
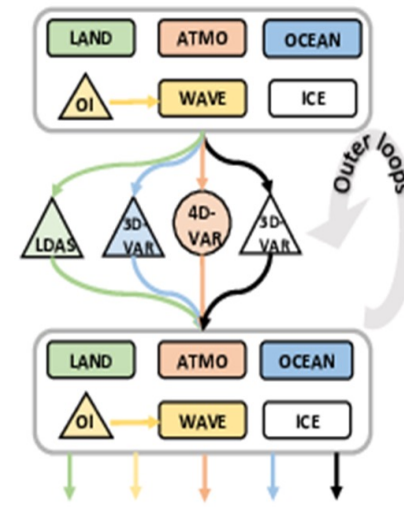
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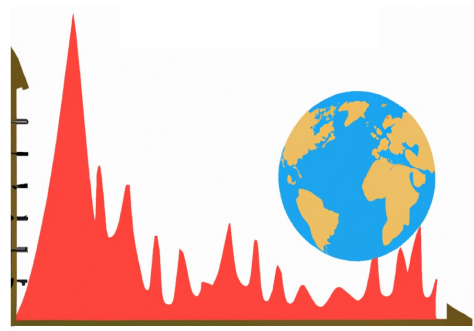
The CERISE project (grant agreement No101082139) is funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Commission. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

CERISE developments

- Land and coupled land-atmosphere data assimilation
- Explore ML-based observation operators to improve the exploitation of satellite observations
- Multidecadal representation of evolving vegetation and lakes, building up on CONFESS H2020 → **Magdalena Balmaseda on Wednesday**
- Prototypes of seamless reanalysis and multi-system seasonal prediction → High readiness level: ERA6-Land, ERA7, SEAS7
- Novel diagnostic tools to assess physical consistency of Earth system reanalysis and prediction



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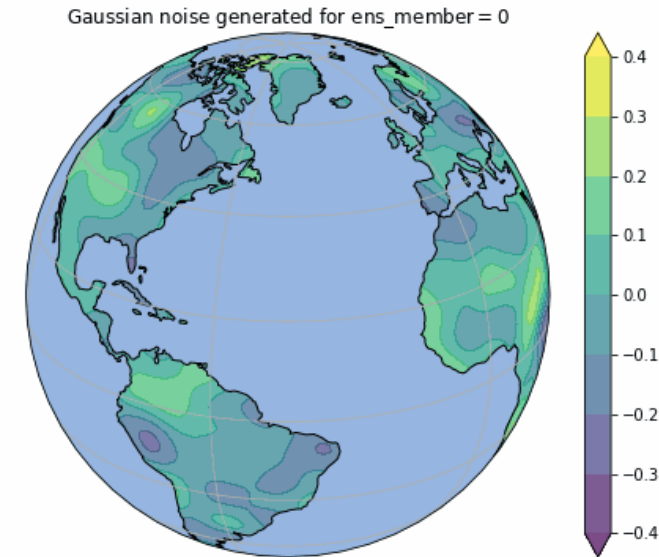
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Land surface parameter perturbations



Funded by the
European Union

- The ECMWF Ensemble of Data Assimilations (EDA) is under-spread at the surface
- As part of CERISE project, we explore methods to increase ensemble spread at the land surface for future Land Surface Data Assimilation Systems (LDAS)
- Stochastic Parameter Perturbation approach for Leaf Area Index (LAI) and vegetation fraction in the offline land DA system
- Draper et al., JHM 2021 also investigated surface parameter perturbations <https://doi.org/10.1175/JHM-D-21-0016.1> → Clara Draper's talk on Friday



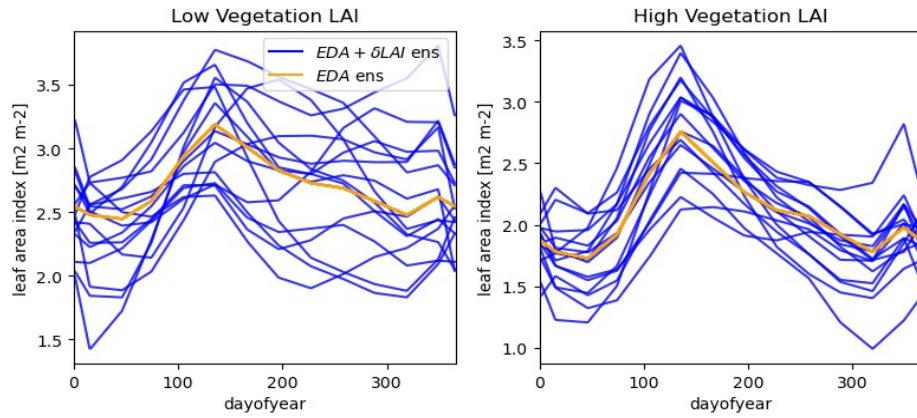
Perturbations generated with spatial and temporal correlation length scale

Ewan Pinnington

Land surface parameter perturbations



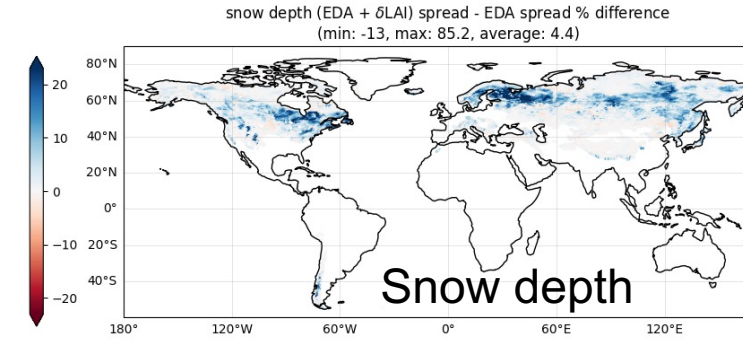
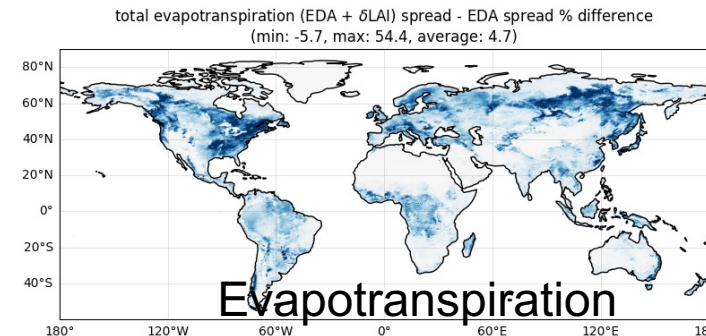
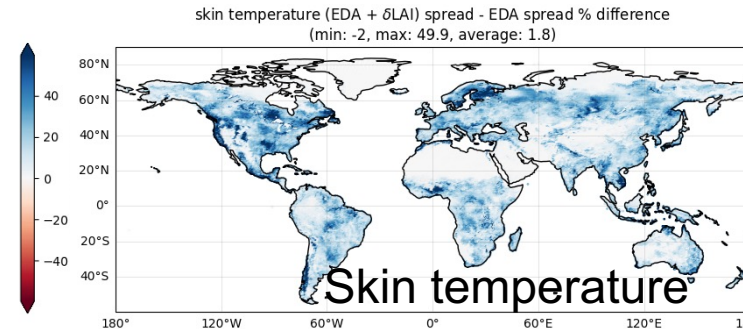
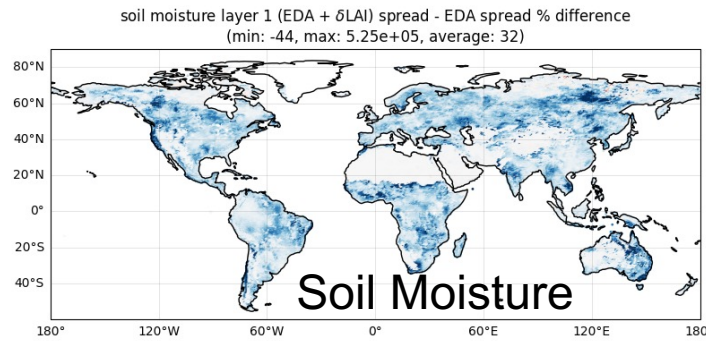
SPP-like Perturbations



- Maps: differences in spread between the EDA offline surface ensemble with and without perturbations.
- Blue corresponds to an increase in spread
- Further increase expected in the coupled EDA



Funded by the European Union

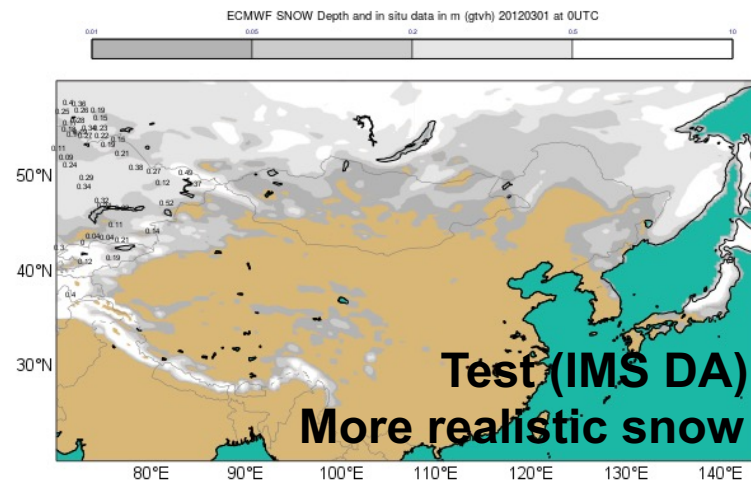
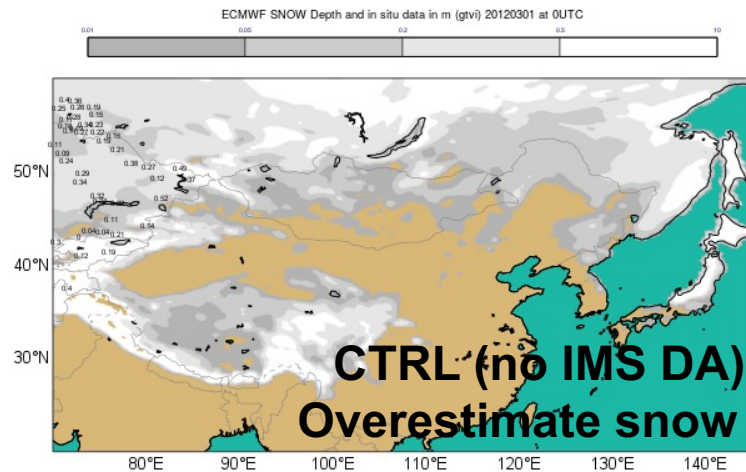


Ewan Pinnington



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Coupled snow-atmosphere data assimilation



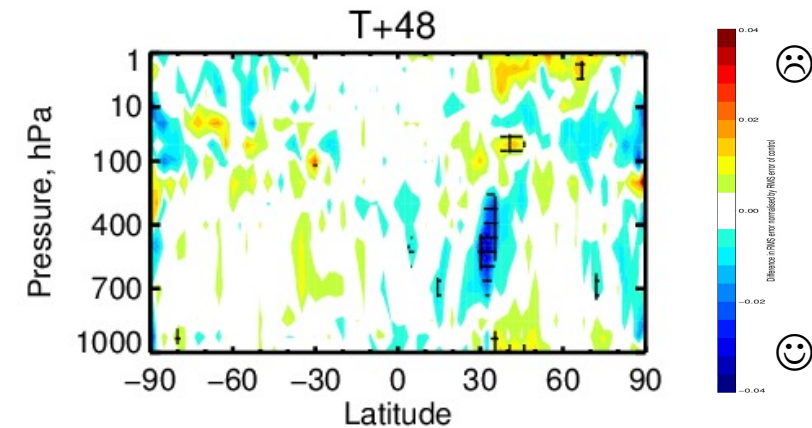
In previous studies, we showed the potential of snow cover data assimilation over the Tibetan Plateau (Orsolini et al, TC 2019, de Rosnay et al.).

Challenges related to model biases and snow-boundary layer coupling needed to be addressed to mitigate mixed atmospheric impact.

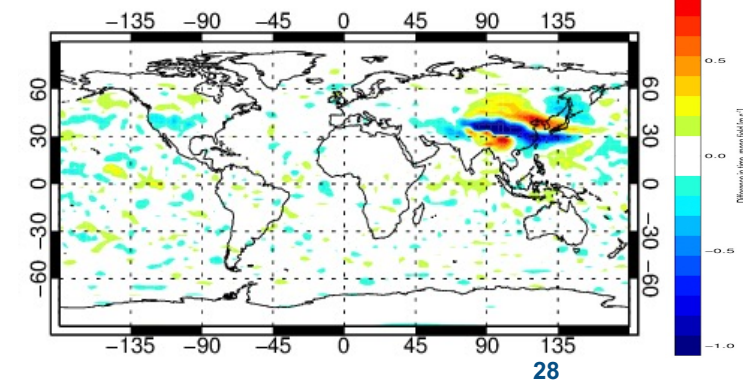
Multi-layer snow model reduced the snow model biases and enhanced consistency between snow and boundary layer processes. (Arduini et al, JAMES, 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019MS001725>)

Impact on albedo and momentum
→ Modifies the jet circulation

Change in humidity FC error
Oct 2011 – June 2012



Change in zonal wind
Oct 2011 – June 2012



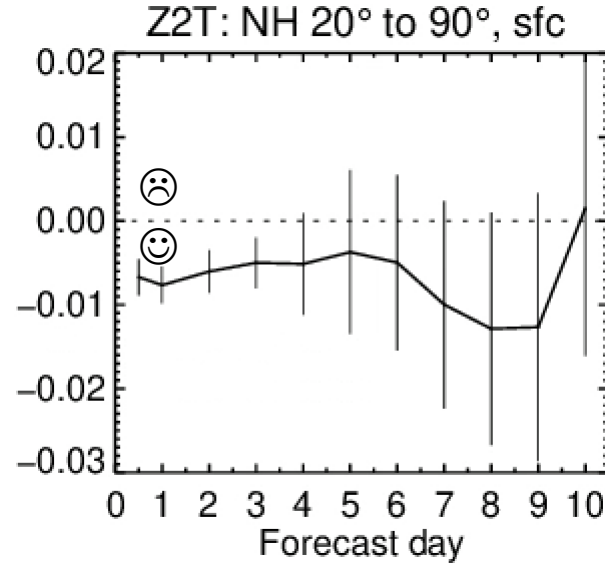
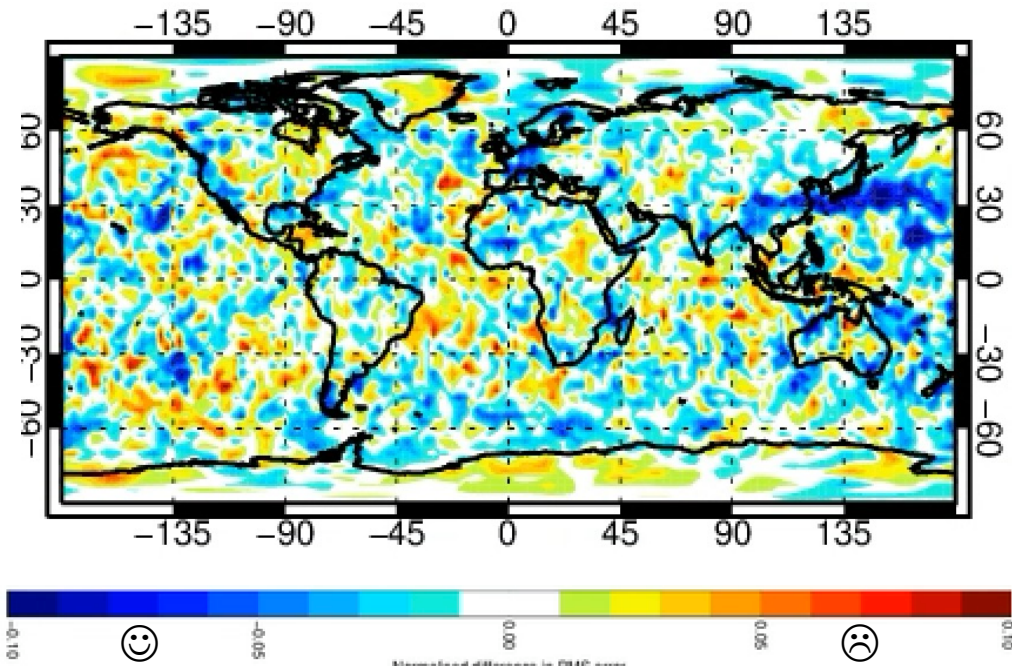
Further snow data assimilation improvements planned for ERA6

Refined snow cover modelling and assimilation methodology.

- positive impact of IMS snow cover assimilation in mountainous areas
- IFS cycle 49r1 & 49r2 (ERA6 and ERA6-Land)

T+72; 500hPa

Vector wind error reduction



Surface air temperature improvement

Scorecard →
(blue= improved
red=degraded)

Kenta Ochi

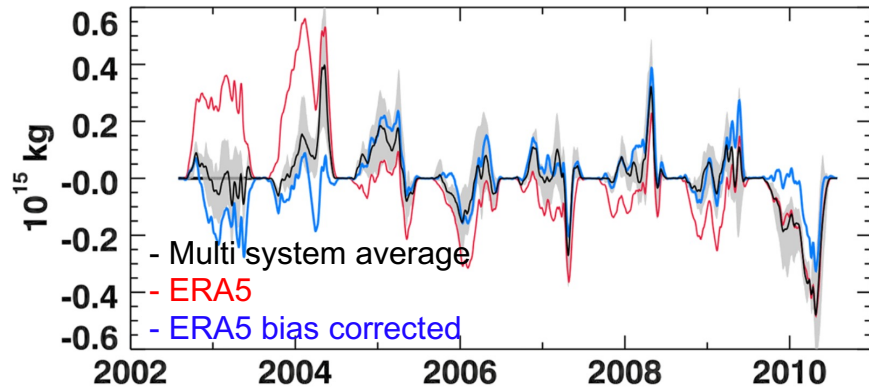
	n.hem		s.hem		tropics	
	ccaf/seeps	rmsef/sdef	ccaf/seeps	rmsef/sdef	ccaf/seeps	rmsef/sdef
an z	100					
	250					
	500					
	850					
msl						
t	100					
	250					
	500					
	850					
	1000					
2t						
vw	100					
	250					
	500					
	850					
	1000					
10ff						
r	250					
	700					
10ff@sea						
swh						
mwp						
ob z	100					
	250					
	500					
	850					
t	100					
	250					
	500					
	850					
2t						
vw	100					
	250					
	500					
	850					
10ff						
r	250					
	700					
2d						
tcc						
tp						
swh						

Snow reanalysis from ERA5 to ERA6



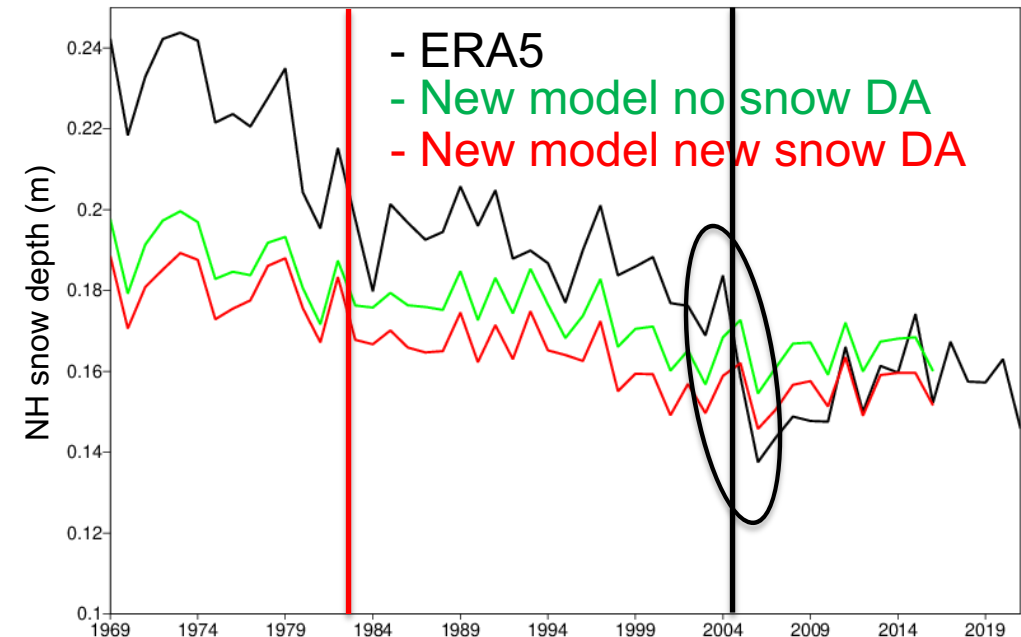
Funded by the European Union

- Step change in the ERA5 snow mass from 2004 (IMS snow cover started to be assimilated)
- Snow DA reduced the positive snow cover bias, but it amplified the snow mass negative trend



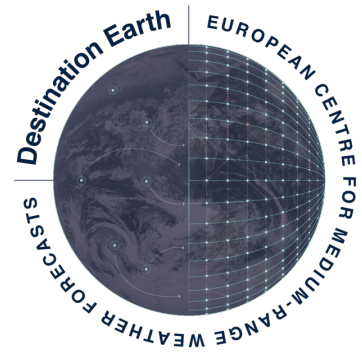
Mortimer et al., The Cryosphere 2020
<https://doi.org/10.5194/tc-14-1579-2020>

- In ERA6:
 - Snow model and a set of snow data assimilation improvements
 - ESA CCI AVHRR (1982-2017) + NOAA/NESDIS IMS (2017-NRT)
- → ERA6-Land 1st prototype in CERISE (1939-2022)



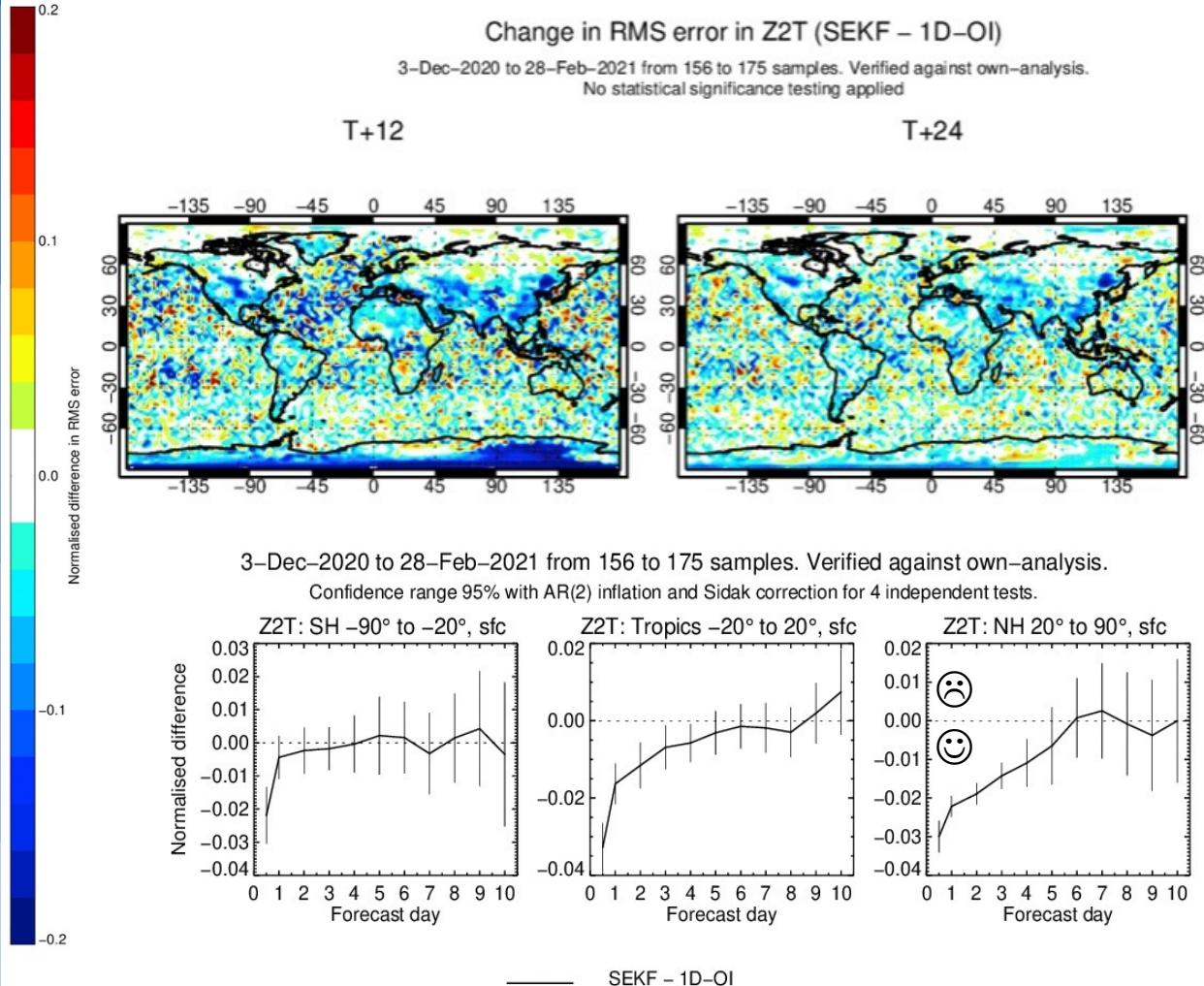
Soil and snow temperature analysis

Integration of the soil and snow temperature analysis in the SEKF, instead of using a 1D-OI approach



swvl1
swvl2
swvl3
stl1
stl2
stl3
tsn

control variables $x_i =$



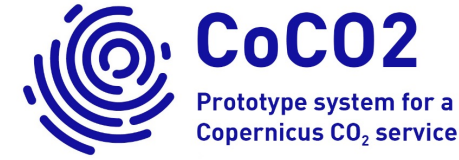
- Significant improvement in T2m analysis and forecasts

- Steps towards unified LDAS

CoCO2 Horizon 2020 project

Assimilation of Vegetation Optical Depth (VOD) from passive microwave sensors to constrain vegetation water and carbon cycle variables.

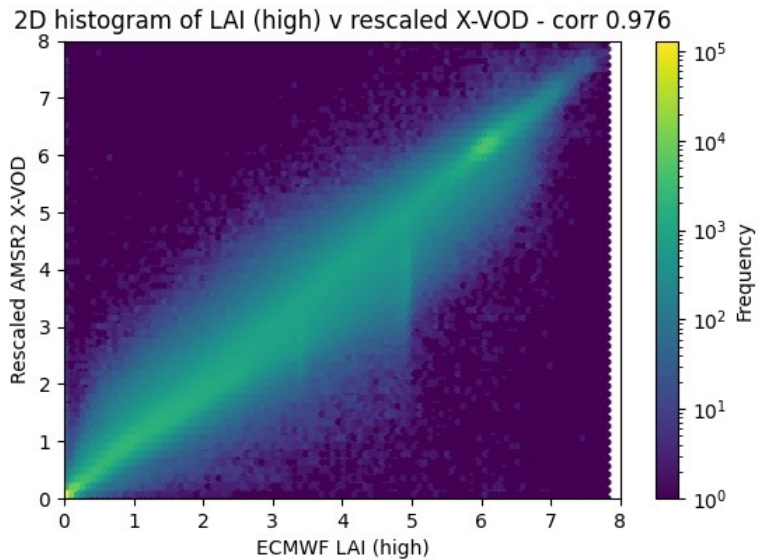
- L-band VOD (1.41GHz) from SMOS
- C-band VOD (6.9GHz) and X-band VOD (10.65GHz) from AMSR2



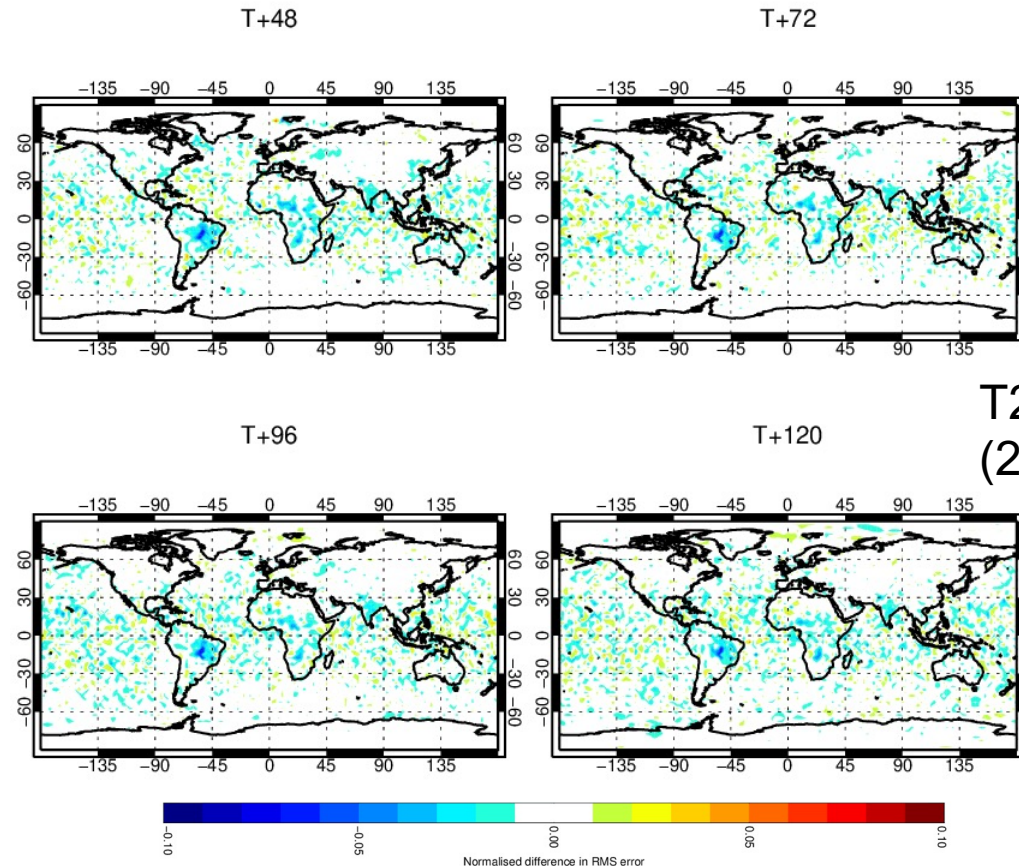
→ Anna Agusti Panareda



Funded by the European Union



Correlations between VOD observations and CONFESS (harmonization of the CGLS/C3S data and the AVHRR based data, Boussetta et al), LAI for high vegetation types for July 2018.



T2m RMSE reduction (2018-2021)

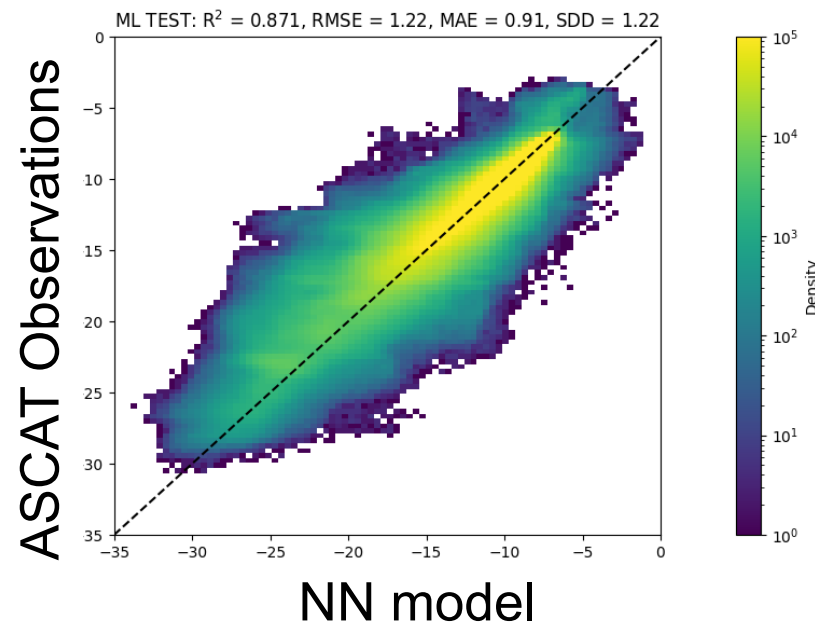
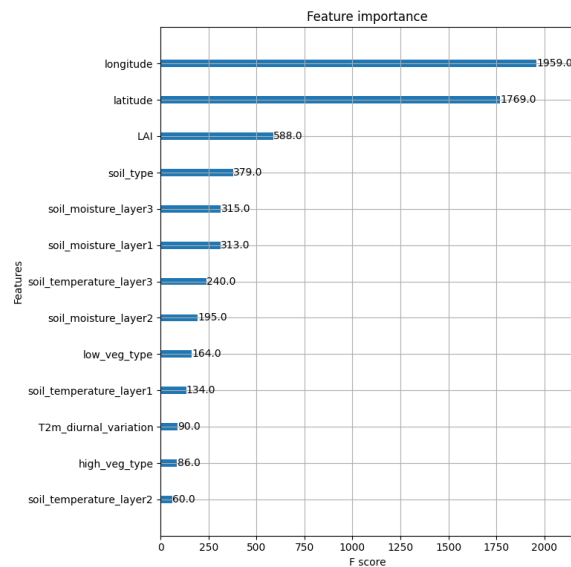
Pete Weston

CORSO Horizon Europe project

Enhance the exploitation of satellite observations in coupled land-atmosphere assimilation to constrain vegetation water and carbon cycle variables.

→ Development of ML-based observation operators for MW and SIF observations

Information content analysis



Funded by the
European Union

Sébastien Garrigues

→ Pave the way for future observations assimilation such as Metop-SG/SCA, Copernicus Expansion CO2 and CIMR missions, which are all relevant to consistently constrain vegetation and carbon fluxes in CO2MVS

Summary

- ECMWF has a long experience in reanalysis of the different Earth system components.
- Progressive implementation of coupled assimilation towards a consistent Earth system approach for operational NWP and future generations of reanalyses.
- Consistency between NWP and reanalysis, and synergy in research developments:
 - Initial research on coupled ocean-atmosphere data assimilation was primarily for reanalysis applications
 - Coupled DA is a key aspect of the ECMWF Earth system strategy 2021-2030
 - Ongoing research projects support time varying vegetation (CONFESS) and coupled land-atmosphere data assimilation (CERISE) for the preparation of the C3S next generation of reanalyses and consistent benefit across ECMWF systems.
- Earth system reanalysis developments rely on consistent joint model, data assimilation, and coupling progresses.
- Earth system reanalysis approach has some practical implications in terms of production and quality assurance (→ [Dinand Schepers on Thursday](#))
- Other components, e.g. river and flood forecast system (→ [Christel Prudhomme on Tuesday](#))

Next steps and strategic directions

- Convergence of the DA systems in each component to support exchange of information across components
 - Developments in each components.
- Coupling methodology
 - Step-by-step approach with progressive implementation towards the optimal degrees of coupling for seamless NWP and reanalysis.
- Enhance the exploitation and monitoring of observations across the components
 - Existing & new observations type, and future missions including Metop-SG, MTG, Copernicus Expansion CIMR and CRISTAL,
 - Transition to lower level, observation operator coupling integrating AI/ML, towards an “all-surface” approach.

Special Collection Quarterly Journal of The Royal Meteorological Society

“Coupled Earth system data assimilation”

Submission deadline: 31 December 2023

<https://rmets.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/>