

UEF2023

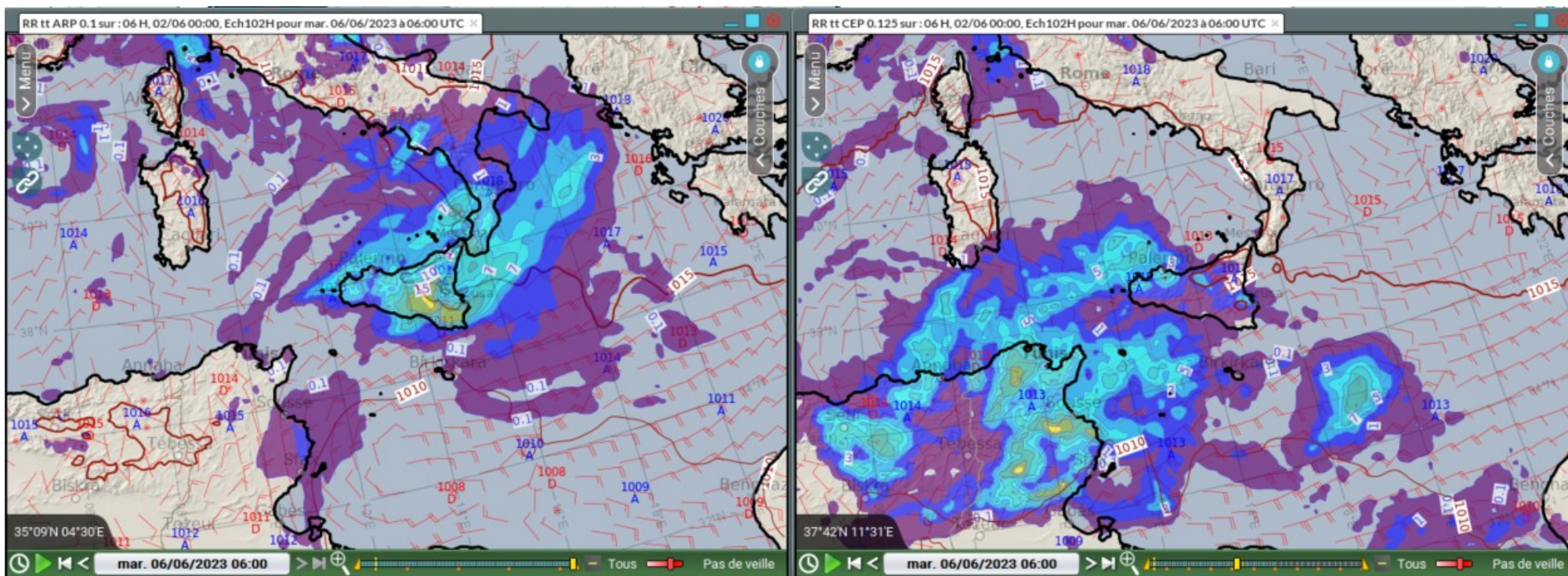
Using ensemble models to provide a deterministic forecast in an operational context : methodology used at Météo-France

Alexandre Trajan,
Reading, 6th June 2023

From multi-models to Ensemble models

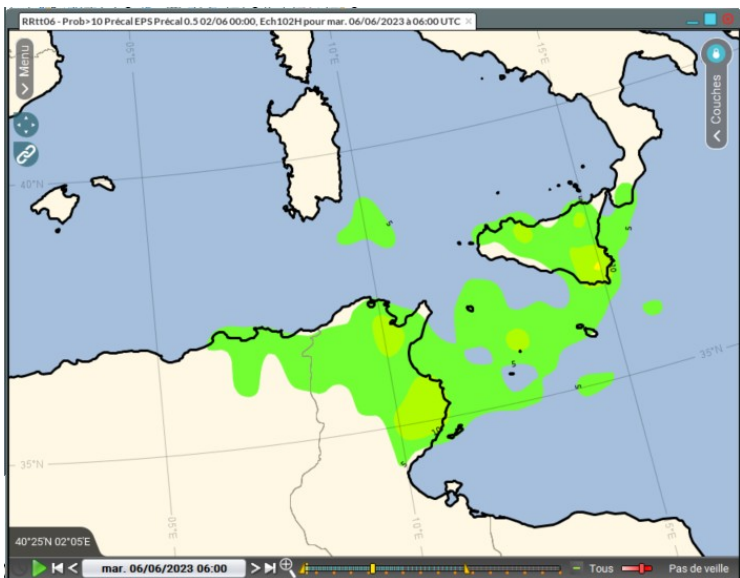
We are used for decades to comparing several runs of several deterministic models for assessing uncertainty.

Arpège, IFS, Arôme-ARP, Arôme-IFS, ICON, ICON-D2, UKMO, GFS, etc. :
« the poor's man ensemble prediction » → 4 models x 4 runs = 16 propositions



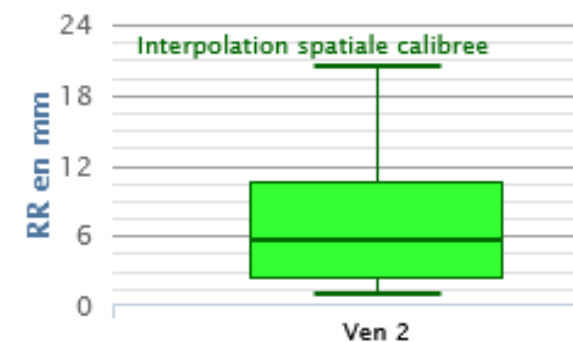
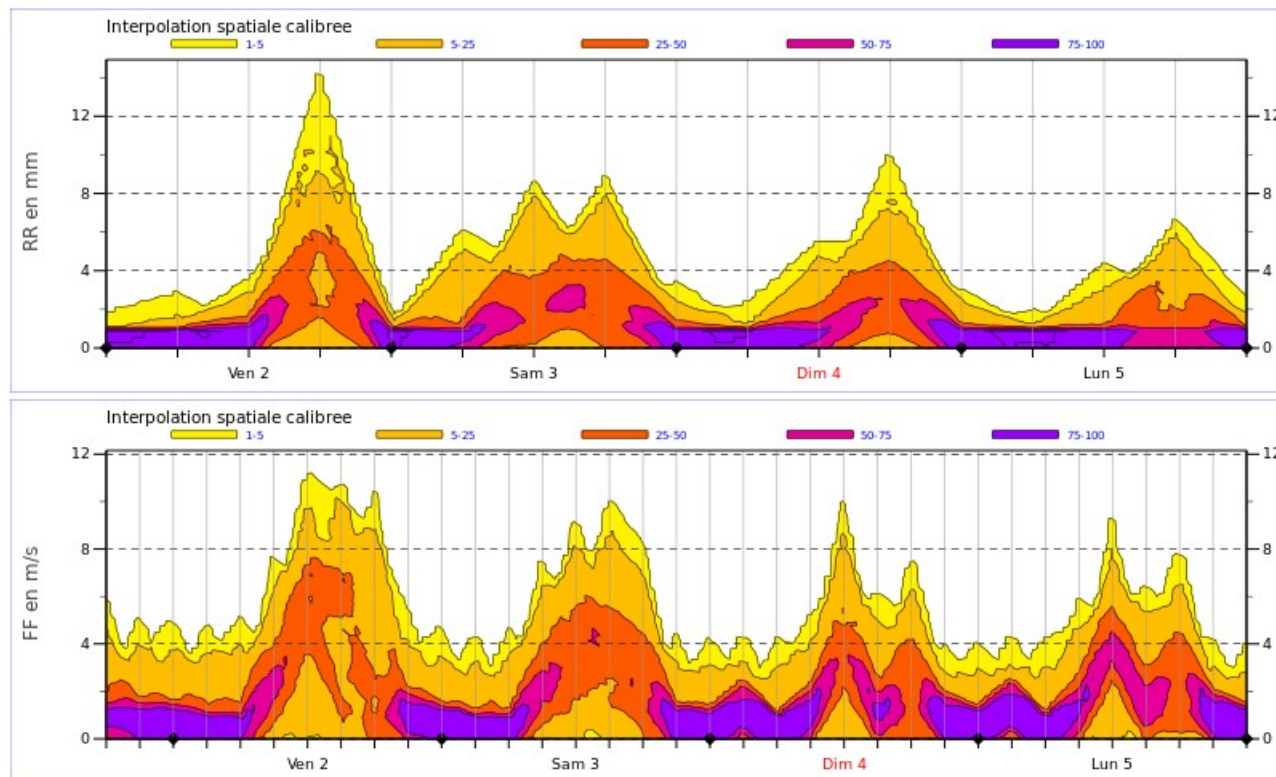
From multi-models to Ensemble models

Then came the Ensemble models : EPS, PEARP, Arome-EPS, and others.



Probabilities, statistics, percentiles, mustache boxes don't help most of end-users to make their decision.

They need a deterministic scenario to apply an « on / off » or « go / no go » procedure.



Arome-EPS : from forecast uncertainty to forecasting uncertainty

Arome-EPS offers since 2016 new possibilities to handle and reduce uncertainty, and then provide an uncertain scenario with more confidence.

ARO-EPS :

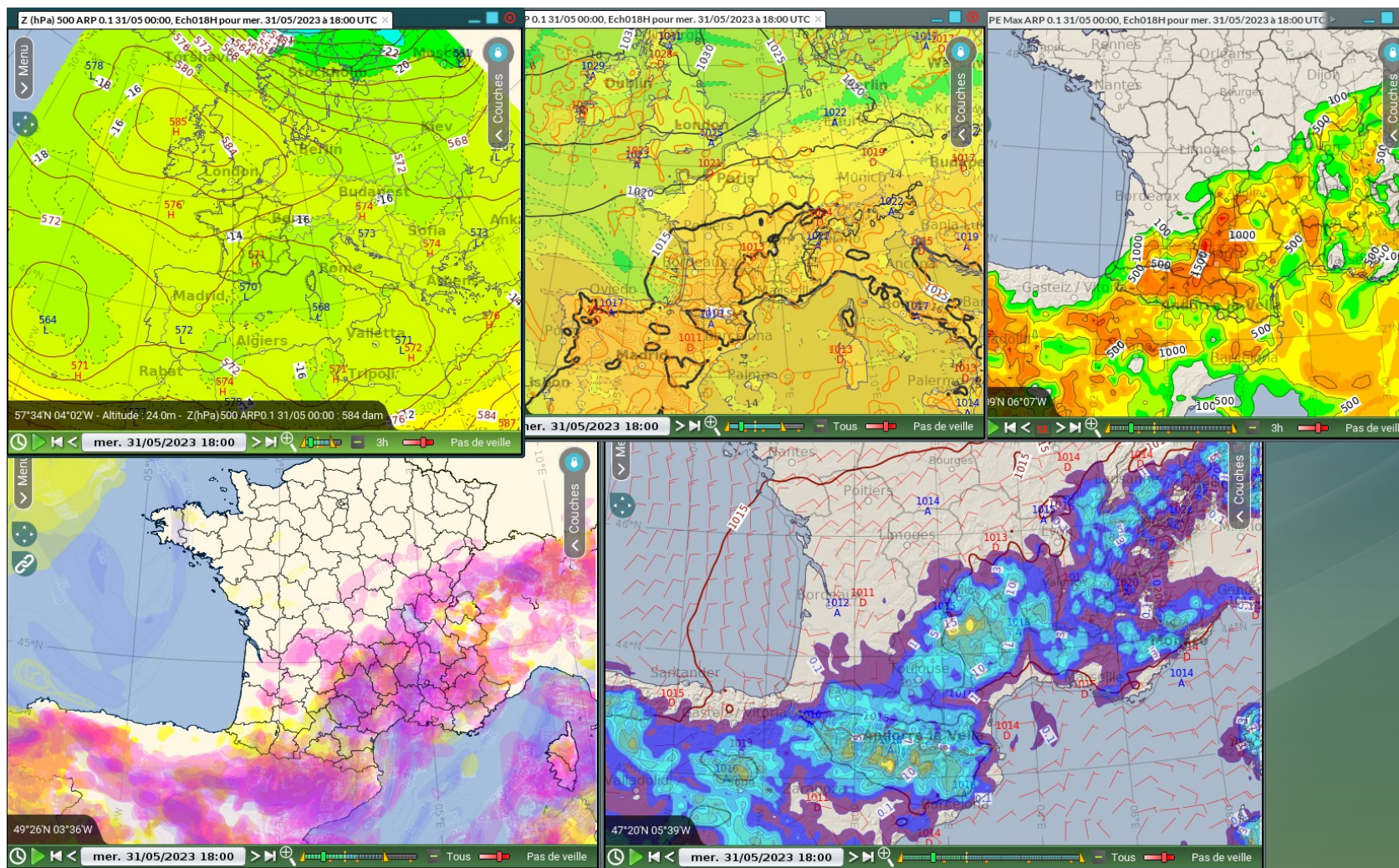
- Arpège boundary conditions
- 16 members
- 2,5 km resolution and 90 vertical levels
- 45 hours lead-time
- 4 runs per day.

It provides percentiles, probability to have phenomena or reach thresholds, thumbnails views, spaghetti.

Forecasters have been shaping methods to use them.

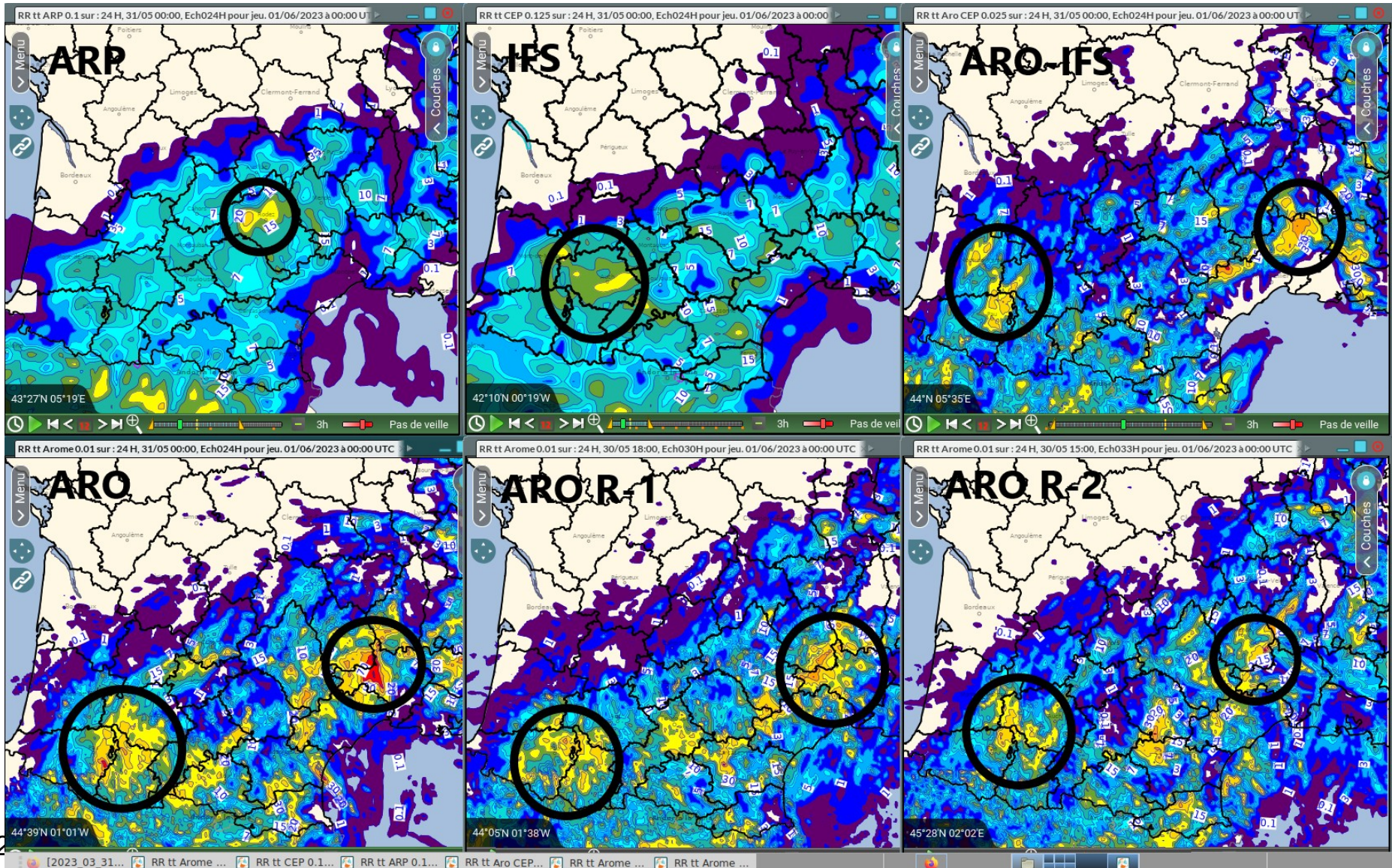
Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

We begin by studying the deterministic models to make the big lines of the story based on a phenomenological approach : unstable warm sector, organized convection, MCS, medicane, snow from easterly returns, narrow band of cold front, sting jet, etc...



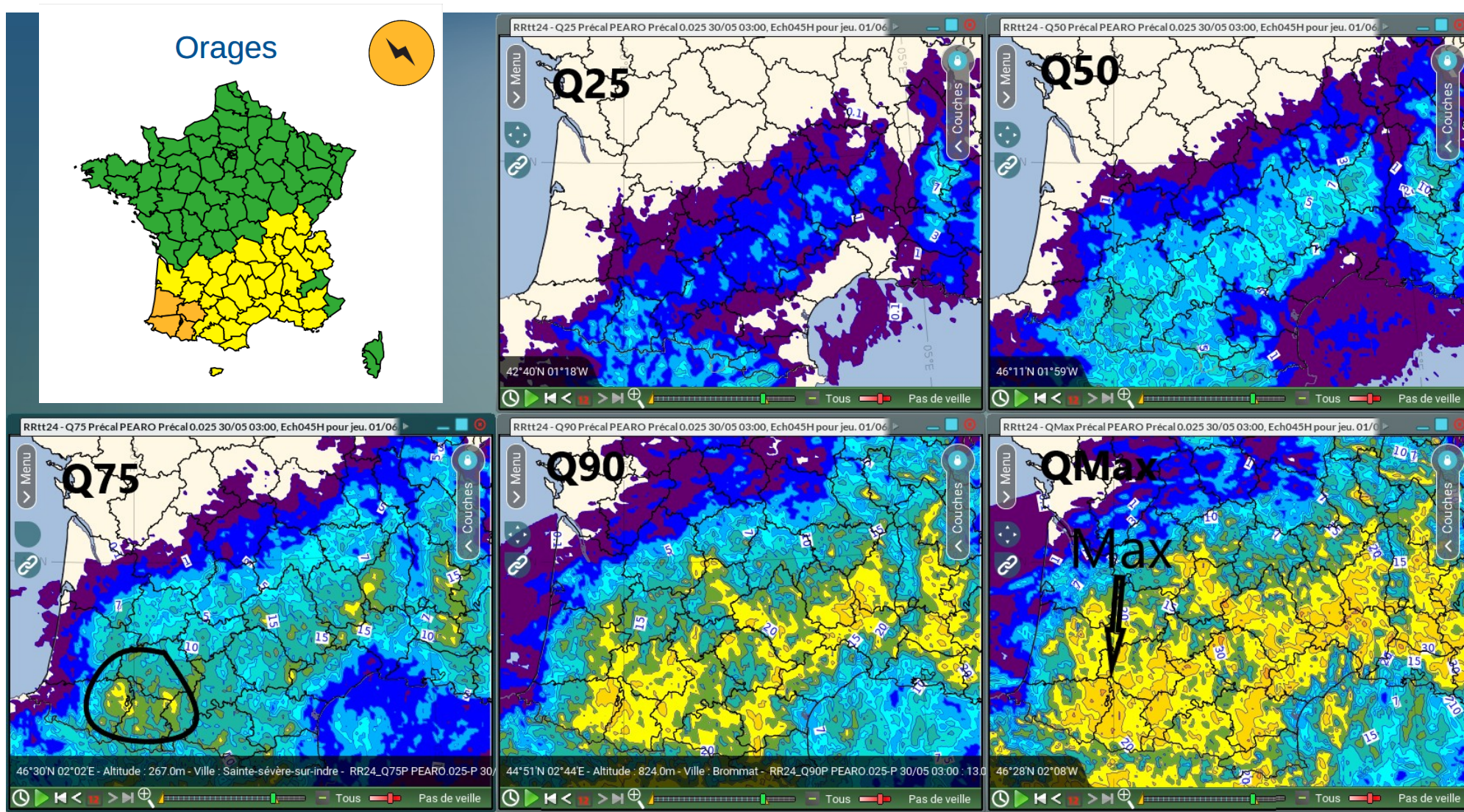
Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

Deterministic models are suggesting an issue with heavy rain under thunderstorms, but where does one trigger a warning?



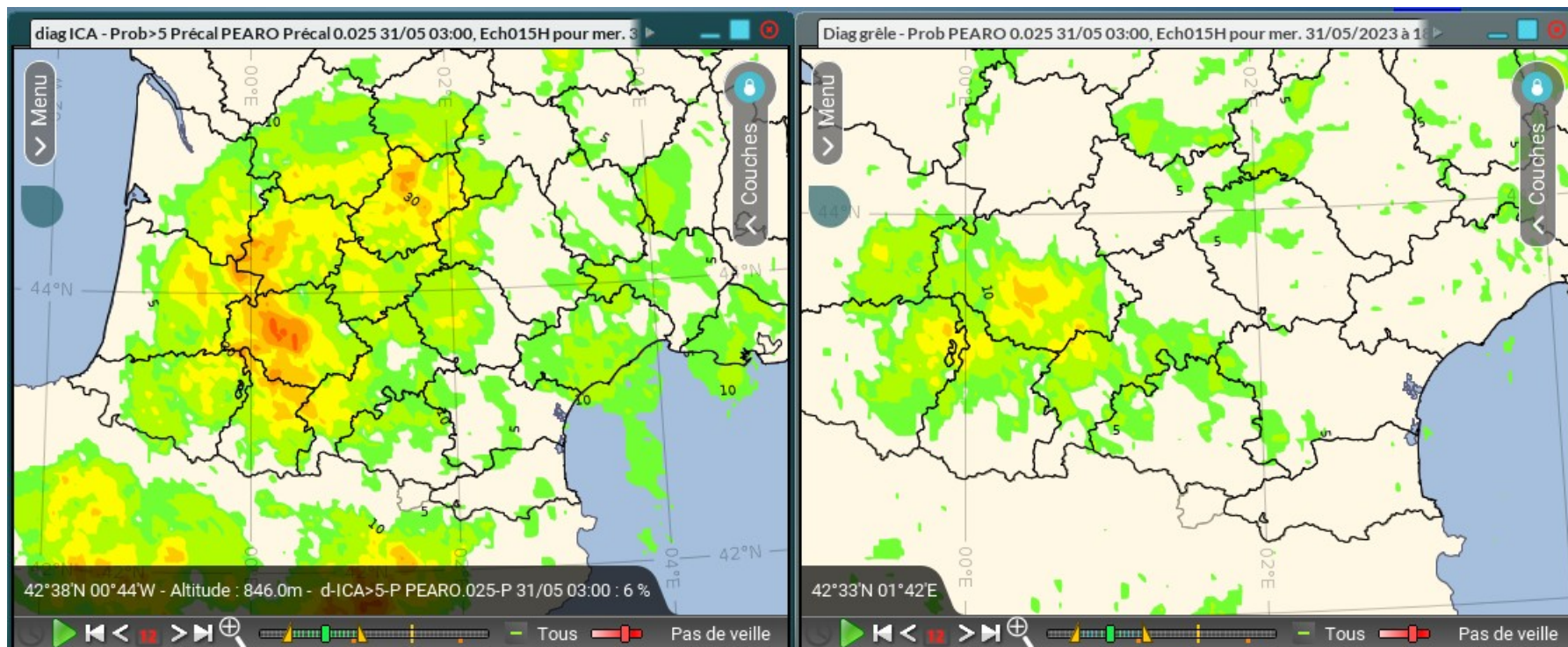
Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

The percentiles allow the forecaster to zone out the most risk area (Q75) and to set the maximum amount of rain (Q90/Qmax).



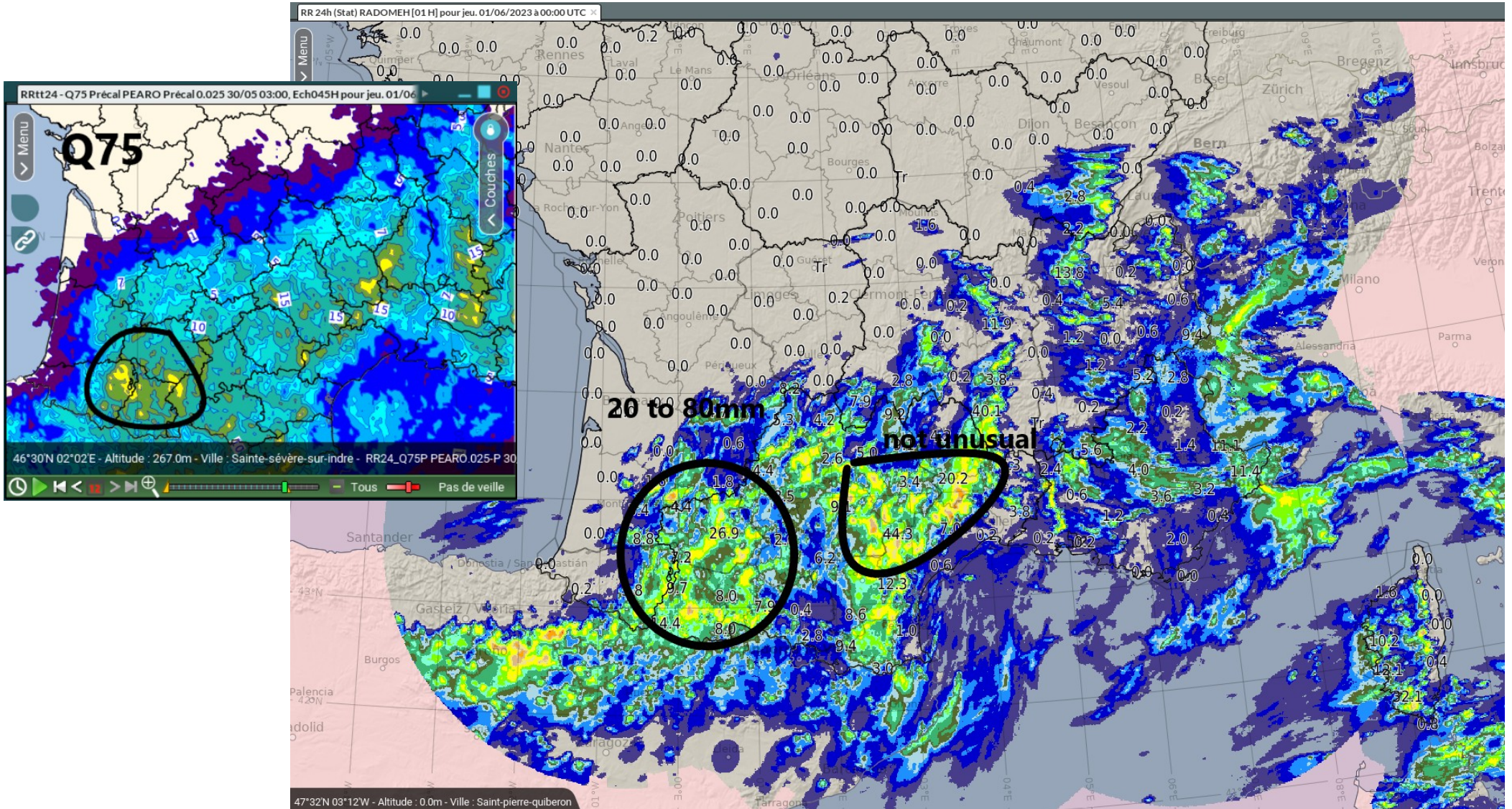
Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

The probabilities to have Hail and a strong convection index gave a good signal too.



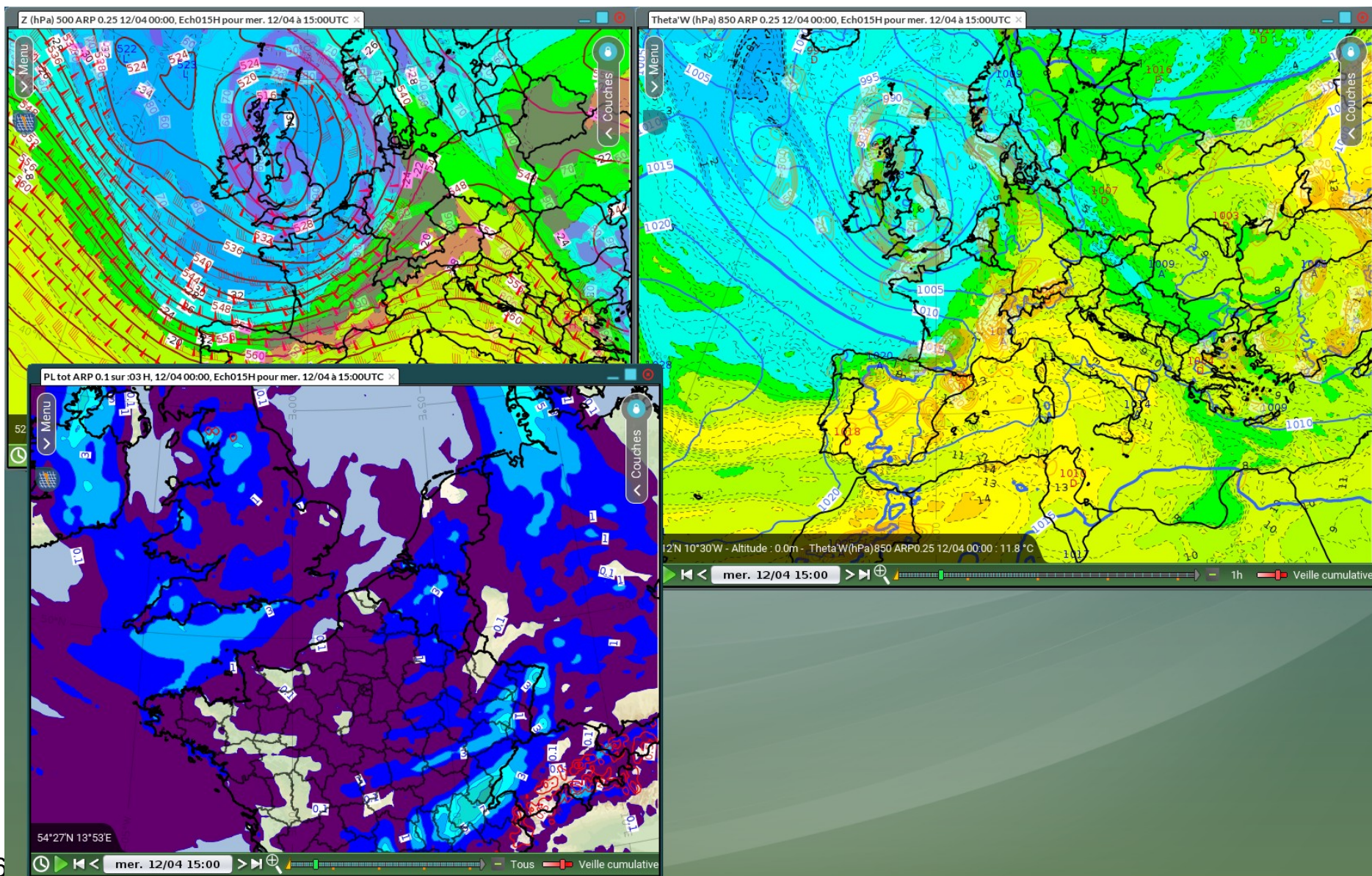
Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

The result :



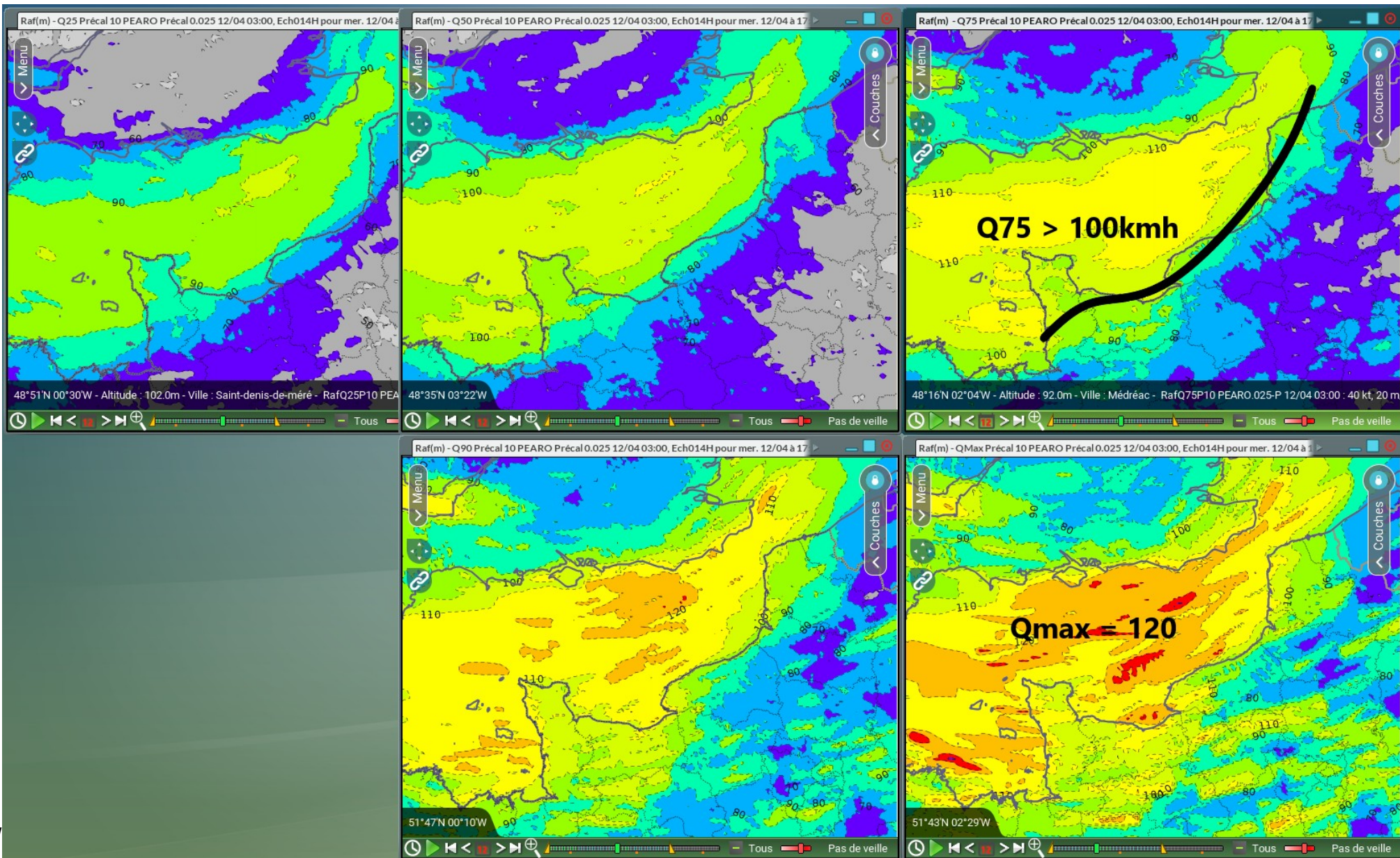
Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

An other exemple with the Atlantic storm Noa (windy secondary cold front) :



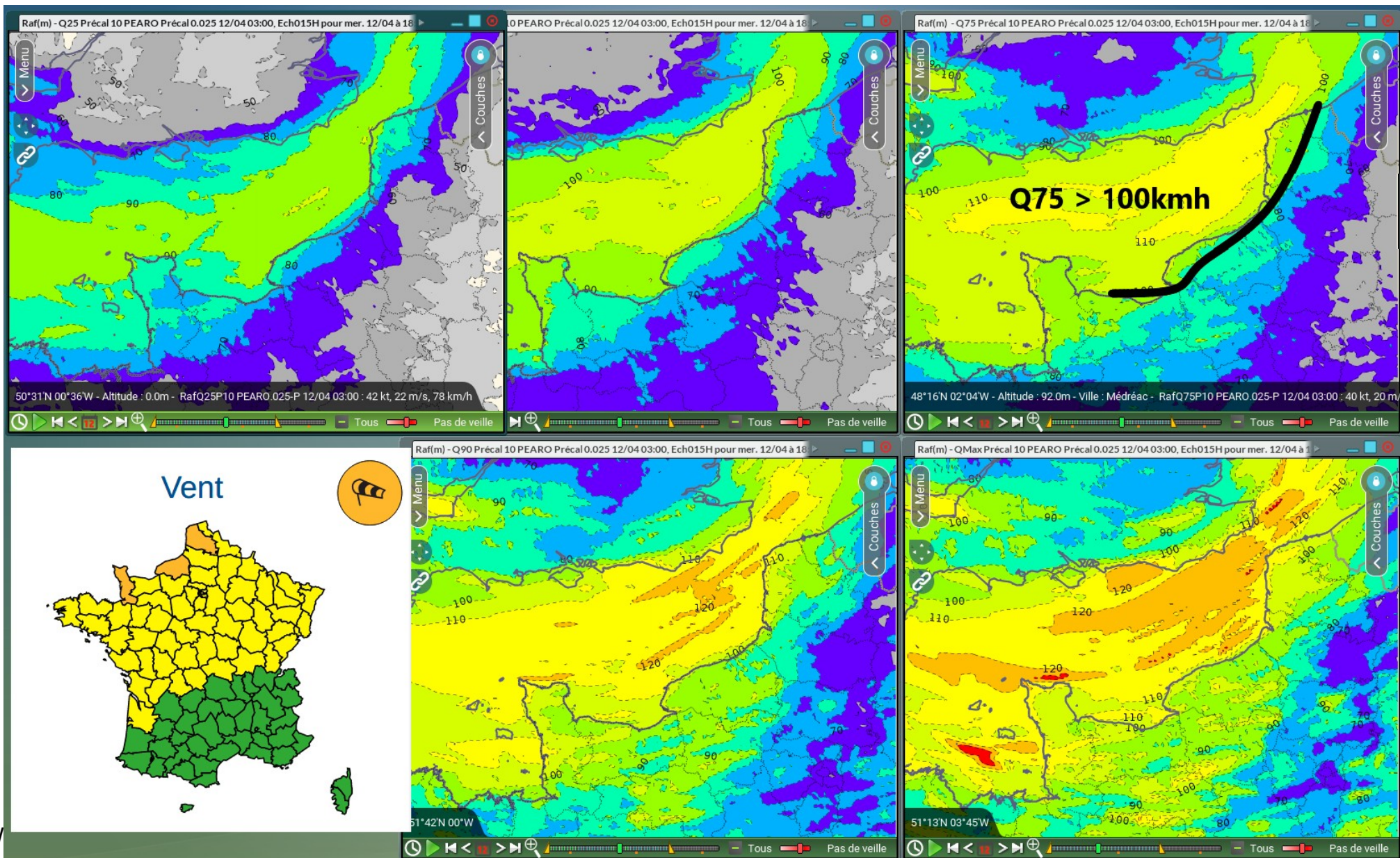
Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

The percentiles for max gust at 5pm



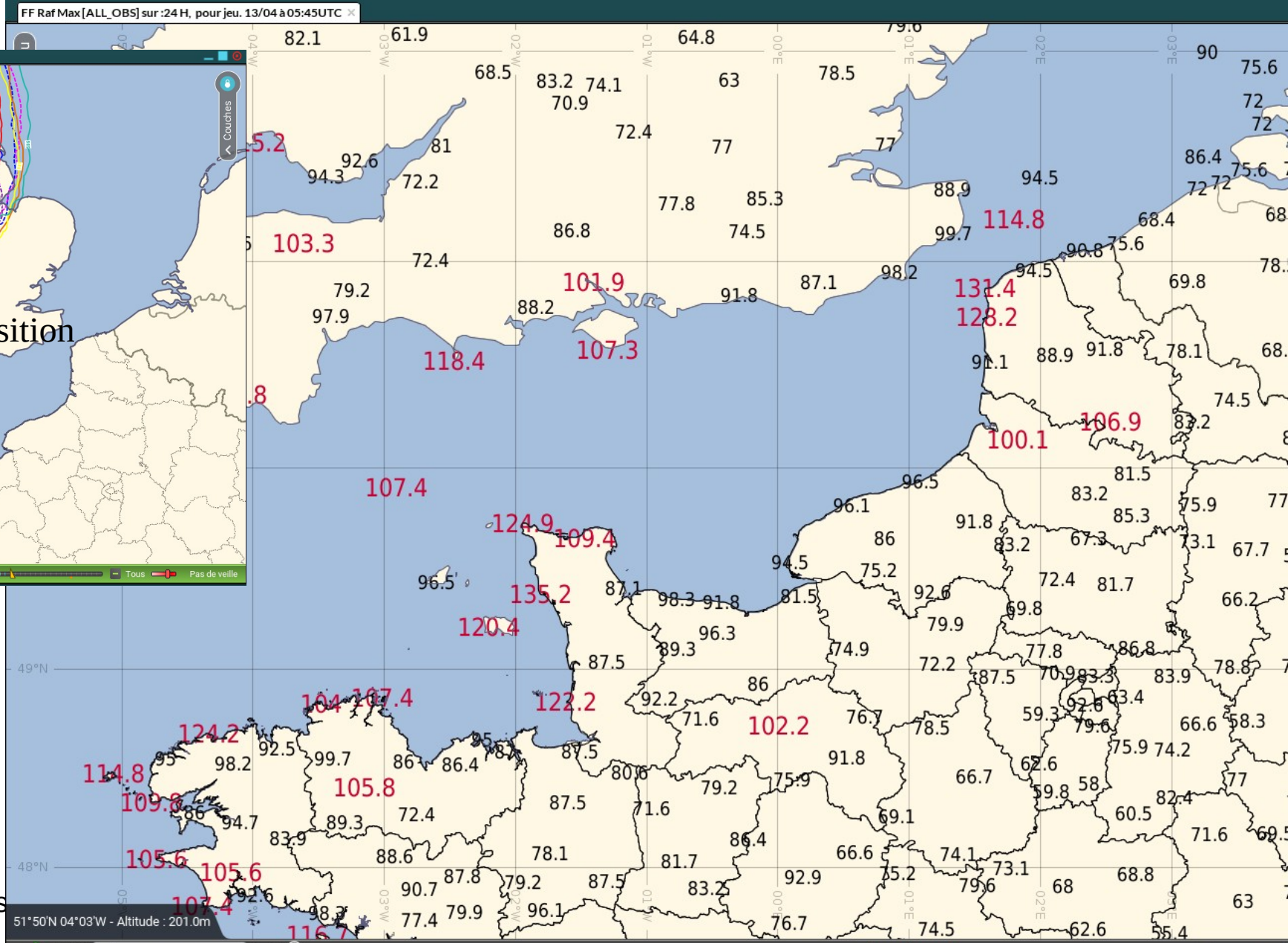
Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

The percentiles for max gust at 8pm



Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

Spaghetti are showing that uncertainty comes from the deepening depression.



985hPa isobare's position

Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

Thumbnails view gives an idea if a phenomenon is going to happen : sting jet

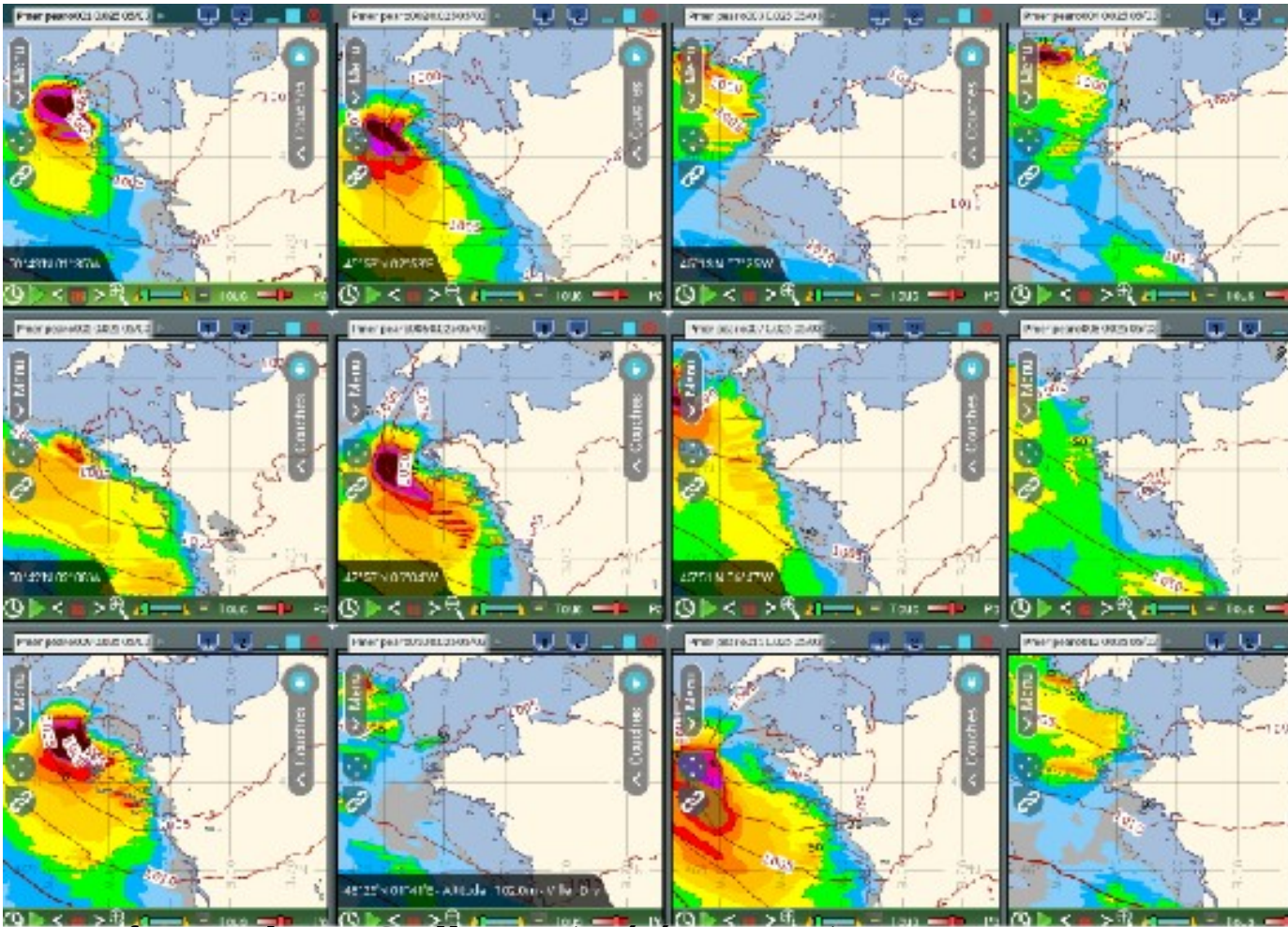
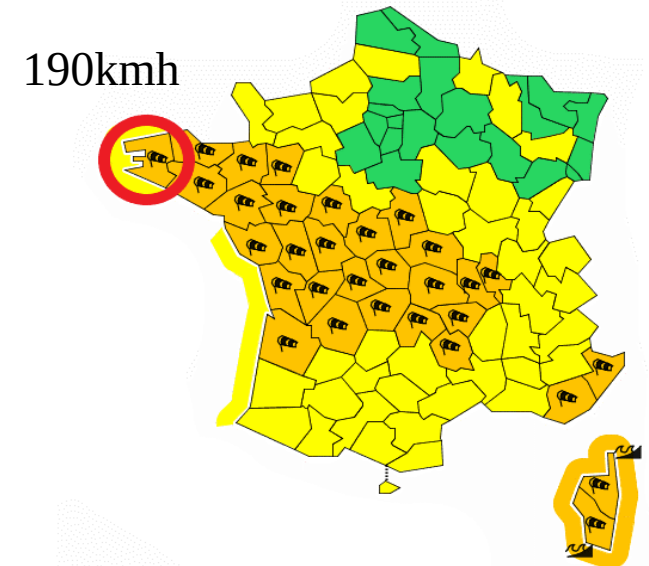


Image from Fabrice Guillemot (Météo-France)

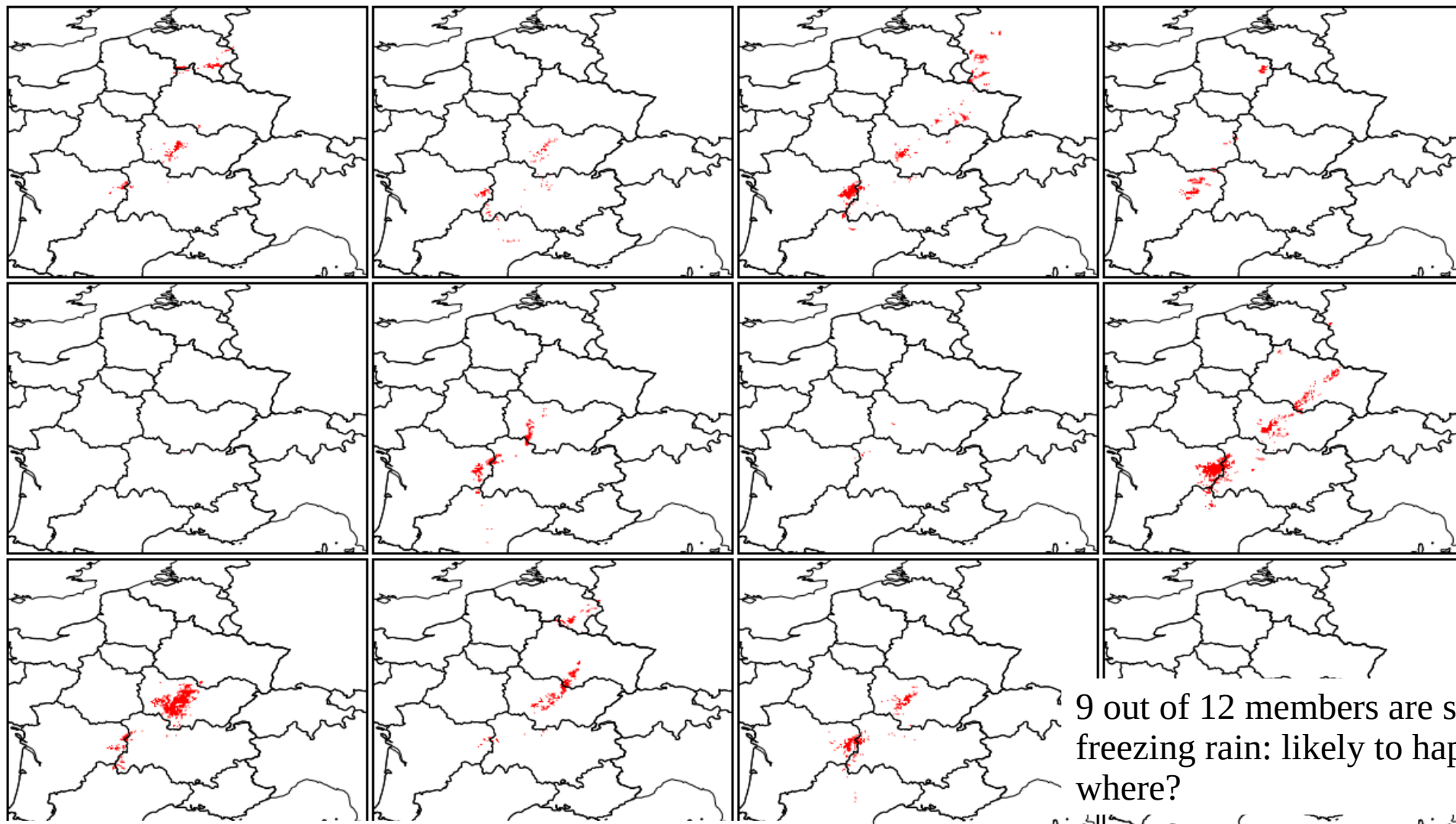
Zeus storm. Half of members are creating a sting jet : likely to happen, but where?



Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

Thumbnails view gives an idea if a phenomenon is going to happen : freezing rain

2018-02-09T21:00:00Z 2018-02-11T06:00:00Z Diag Bruine Vergl F BR VERG FC GROU



9 out of 12 members are showing freezing rain: likely to happen, but where?

Arome-EPS : methods to handle uncertainty

Probabilities help to pinpoint the risk, and trigger a warning where it is max :

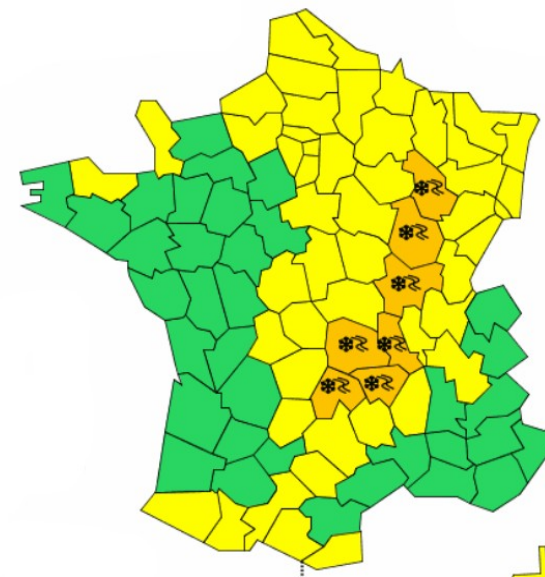
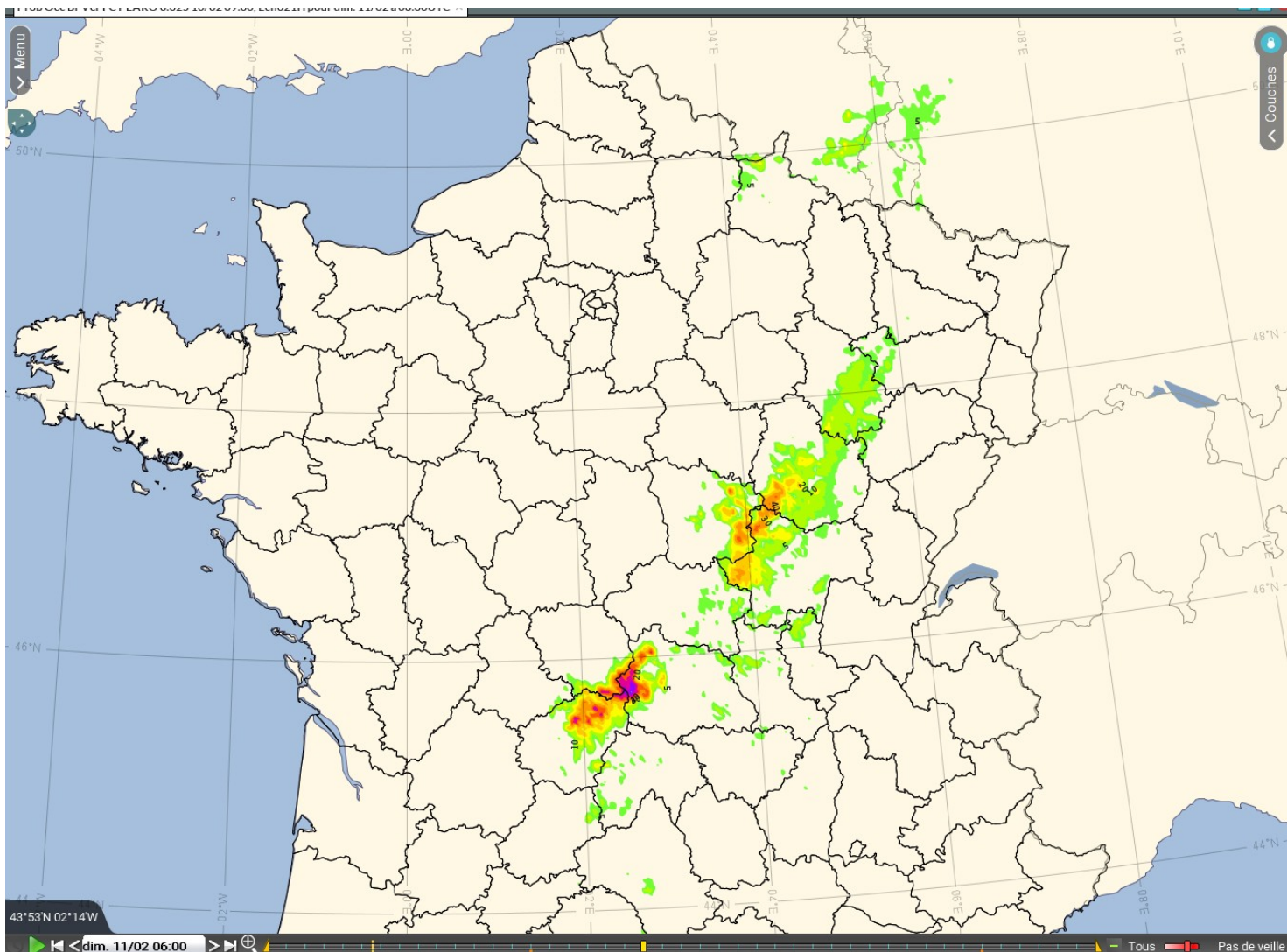


Image from Fabrice Guillemot

Hi-Res and EPS work together

Hi-Res models :

- make the main story
- assess the uncertainty.

EPS models :

- sketch the most likely story
- wrap it with other possible items one can communicate
 - range of values
 - possible change in the risk zone
 - alternative scenario.

Those methods come from a collective work between forecasters and researchers. They are still improving by experiencing new case studies, and depending on services' specificity (region, marine, avalanches, air traffic...).

Some cooking recipes

Percentiles :

P75 for zoning out the risk, P90/Pmax for the max possible value in that zone.

Thumbnails view :

If a phenomenon appears on most of half of thumbnails, it is likely.

Probabilities :

Useful to zone out a phenomenon (thunderstorm, hail, freezing rain) or a threshold overrun.

It could come with percentiles to precise the range of values reached.

Spaghetti :

Point out where the uncertainty comes from : low position or deepening, tropopause anomaly position, chronology...

Thank you for your attention.

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