

Assimilation of Infrared Radiances Into the HIRLAM Model

Martin Stengel, Per Unden, Nils Gustafsson,
Per Dahlgren, Magnus Lindskog



Outline

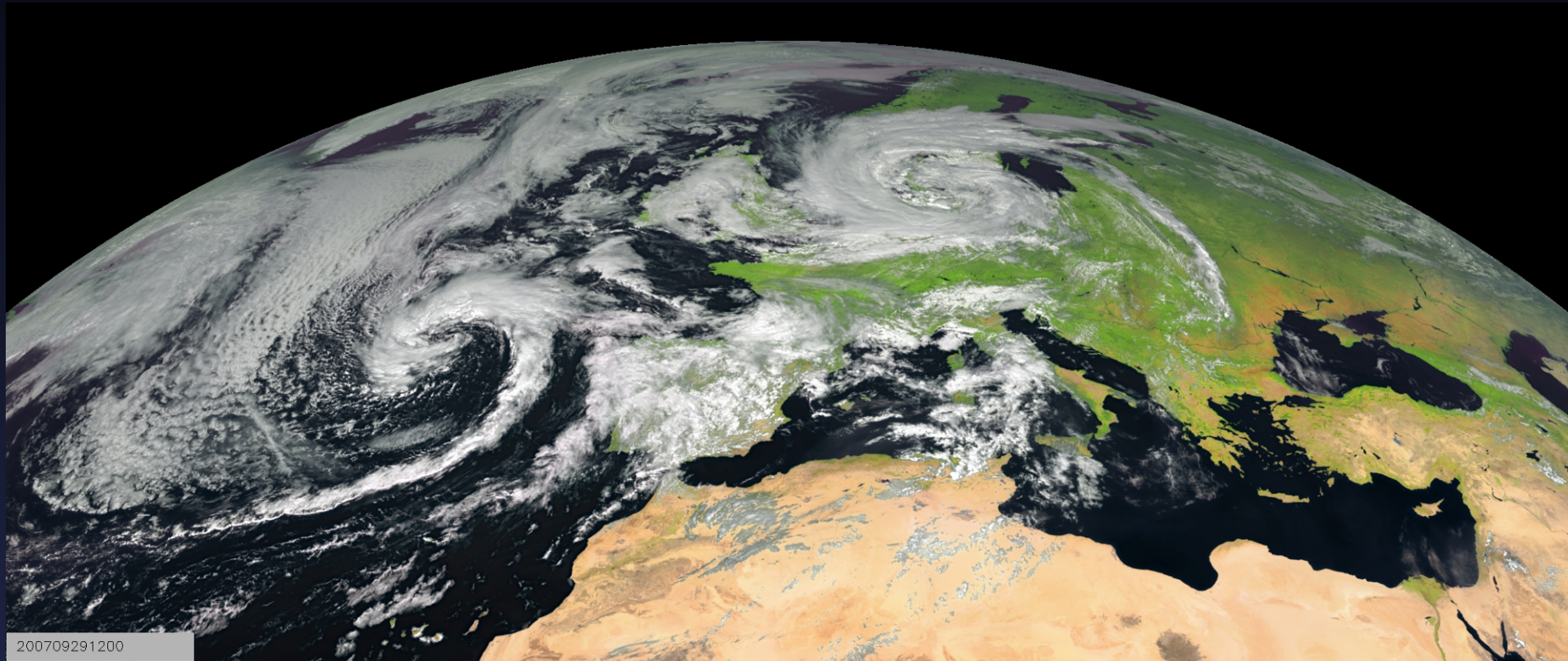
- Assimilation of IR radiances in clear-sky condition
 - Data preparation steps (SEVIRI radiances)
 - Example impact on analysis
 - Results of impact studies
- Assimilation of IR radiances in the presence of clouds
 - Observations above low-level clouds (not radiance-affecting)
 - Observations slightly affected by clouds
 - Extending the observation operator with a simplified moist physics scheme

SEVIRI data

- Resolution in space and time:

Imaging cycle of 15 minutes | 60 minutes res. used in 4D-Var

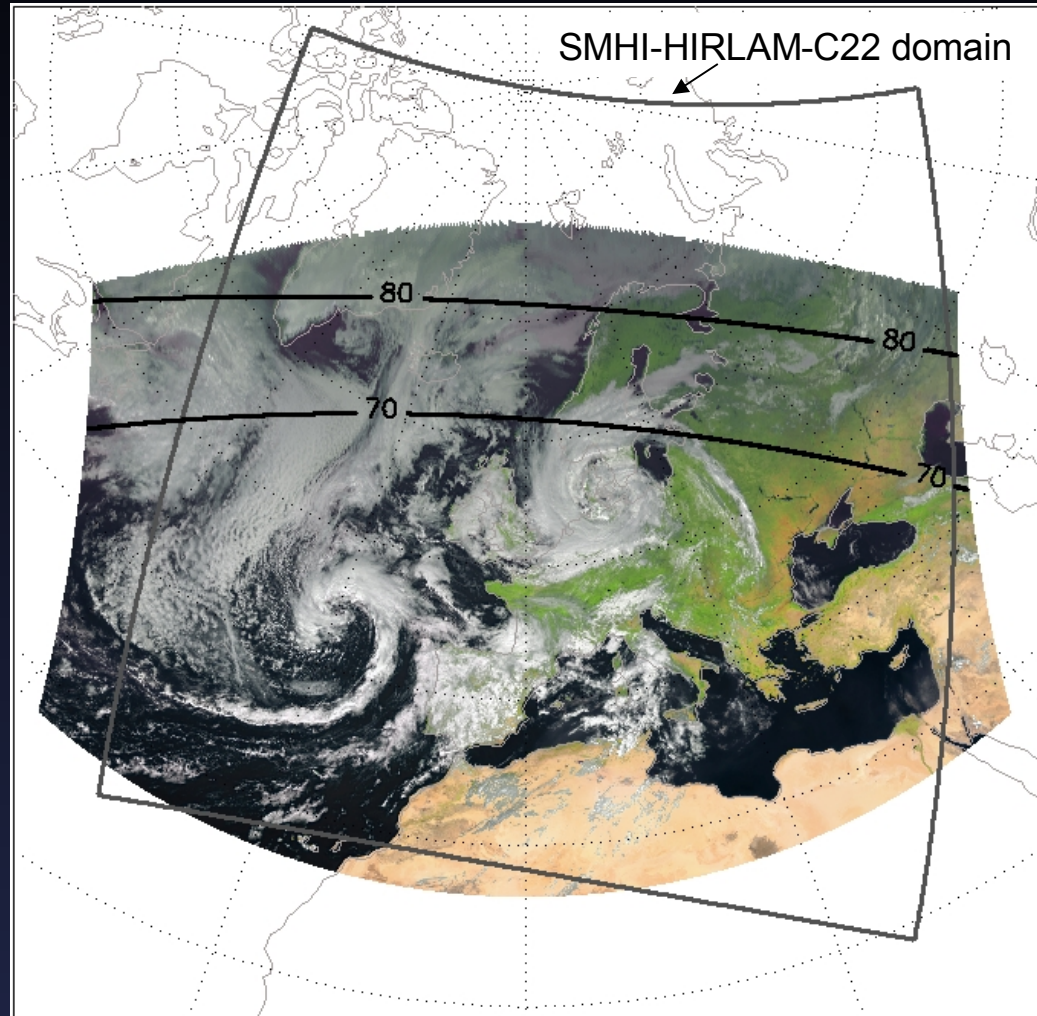
5km (IR) over central Europe | Spatial thinning applied (~90km)



SEVIRI data

- Data coverage:

Covers 2/3 of the HIRLAM-C22 domain

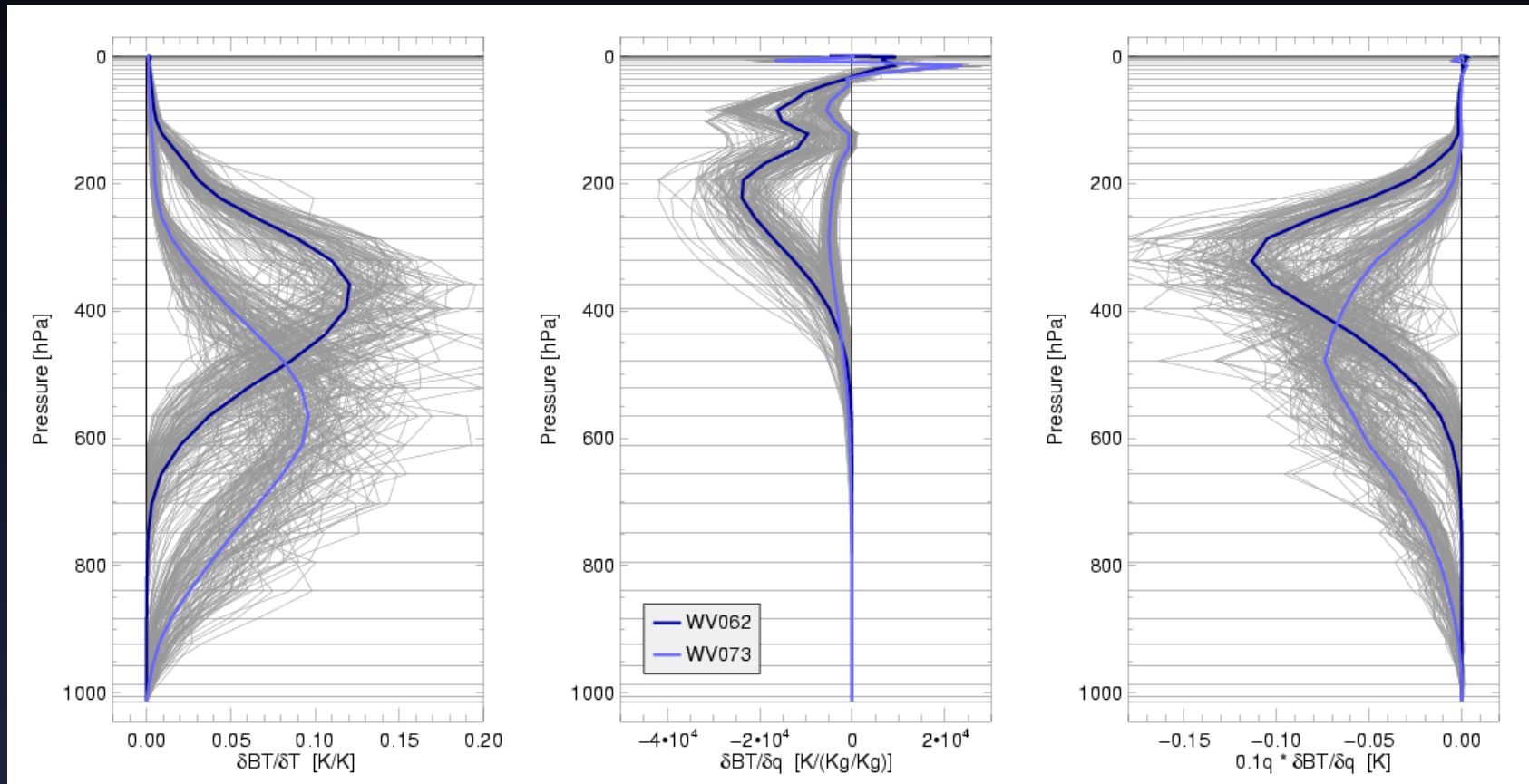


SEVIRI data

- Spectral resolution:

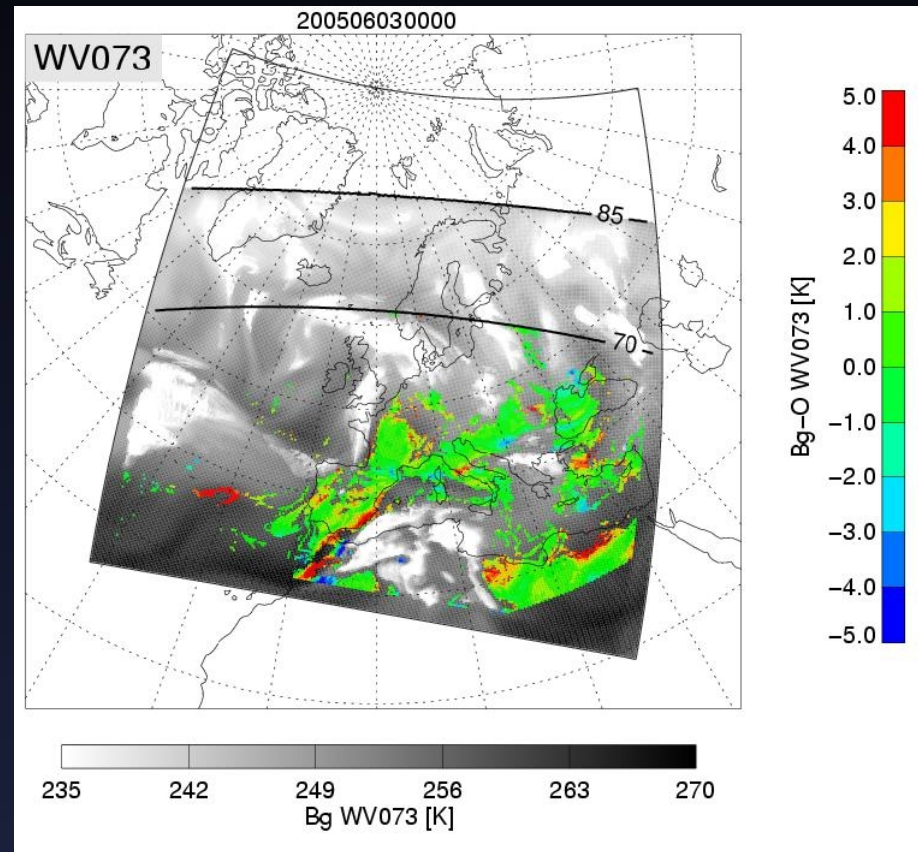
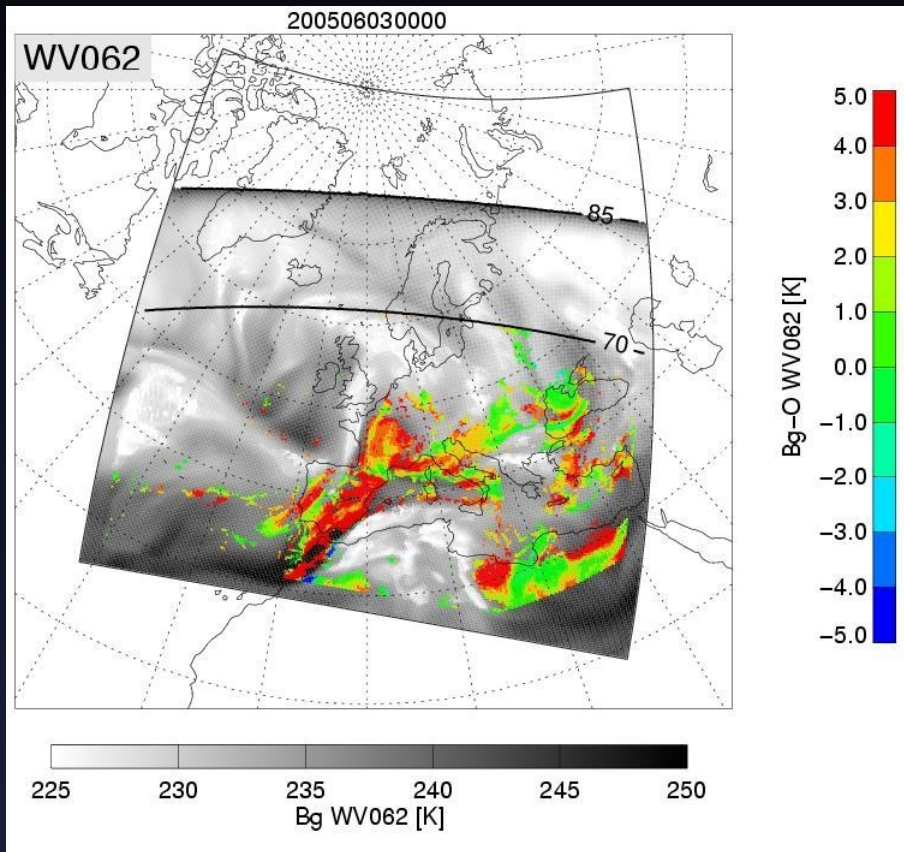
12 channels (8IR,1NIR,2VIS,1HRVIS) | Using water vapour channels only

Ensemble and mean of WV062 and WV073 T- and q-'Jacobians' (RTTOV):



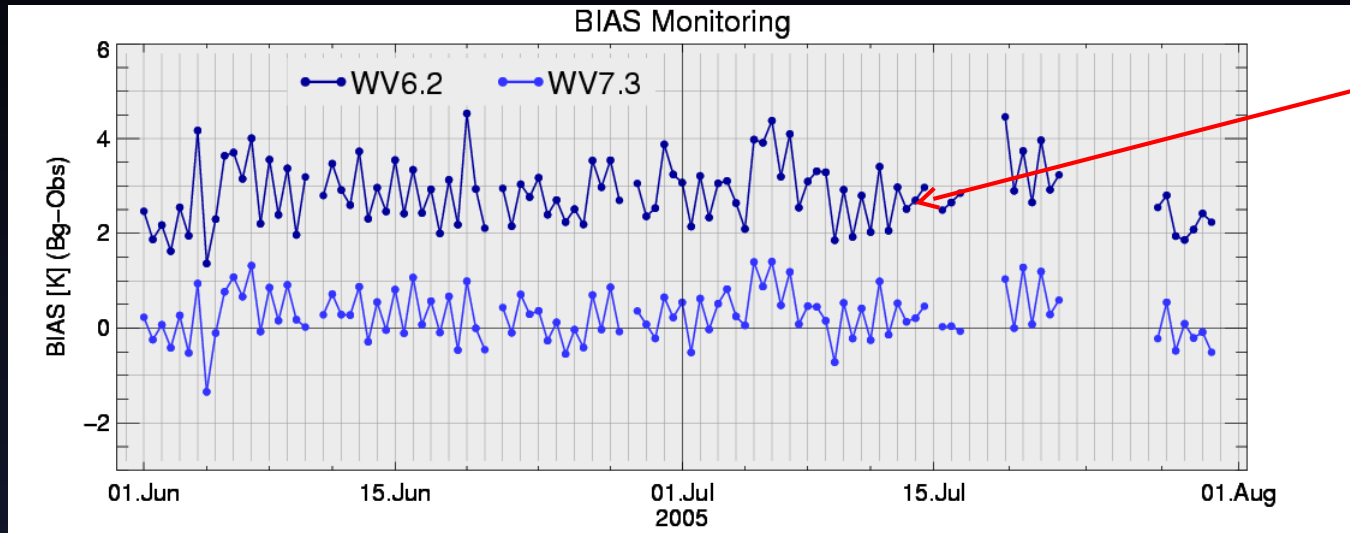
Background statistics

- Simulated radiances minus observed radiances
(6h forecast fields)



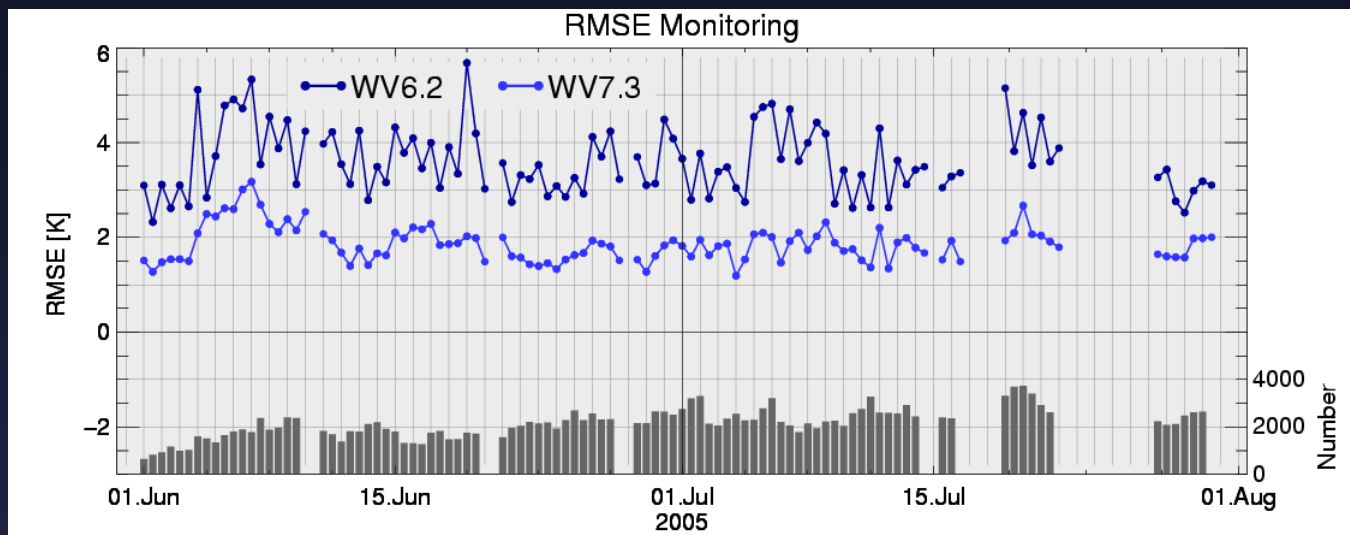
Background statistics

- Monitoring of RMSE and Bias
(Operational HIRLAM 6h-forecast fields used)



large BIAS found (2.6K)

- Systematic error in:
- NWP?
 - Observation?
 - Observation operator? (RTTOV)



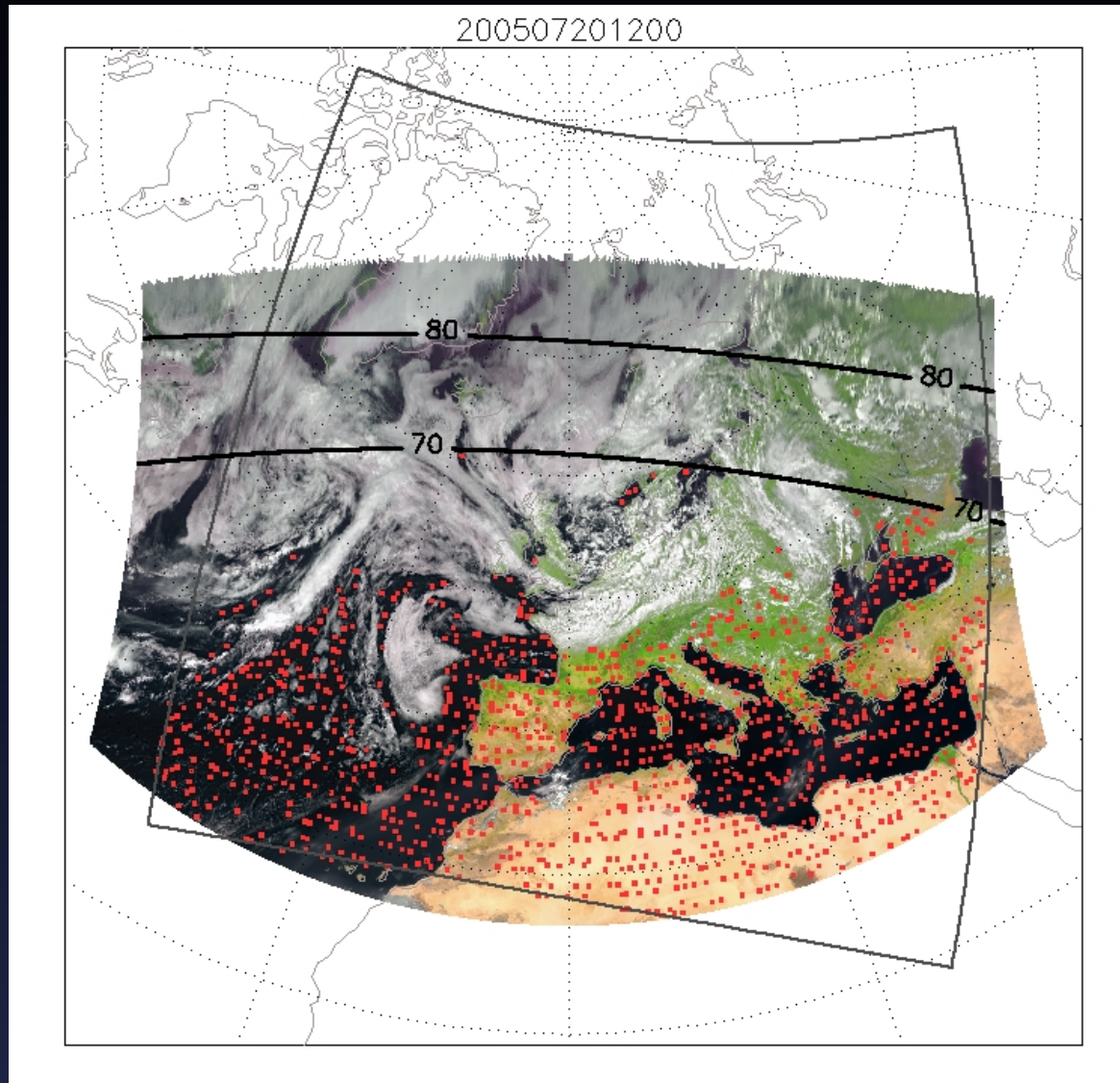
SEVIRI data preparation

- Data preparation steps

- Processing of BTs and PGEs employing the SAF NWC software (for SEVIRI-segments 7 and 8)
- Rejecting out-of-domain pixels
- Rejecting cloudy pixels (PGE01/CMa, cloud mask)
- Rejecting pixel which cover mountain areas
- Selecting 1 pixel out of a 10x10 pixel box
- BIAS correction applied to observations – WV062 (flat, 2.6K)
- First guess check
- Spatial thinning (thinning box size = 90km)
- 500 to 1200 pixels are then used in minimization

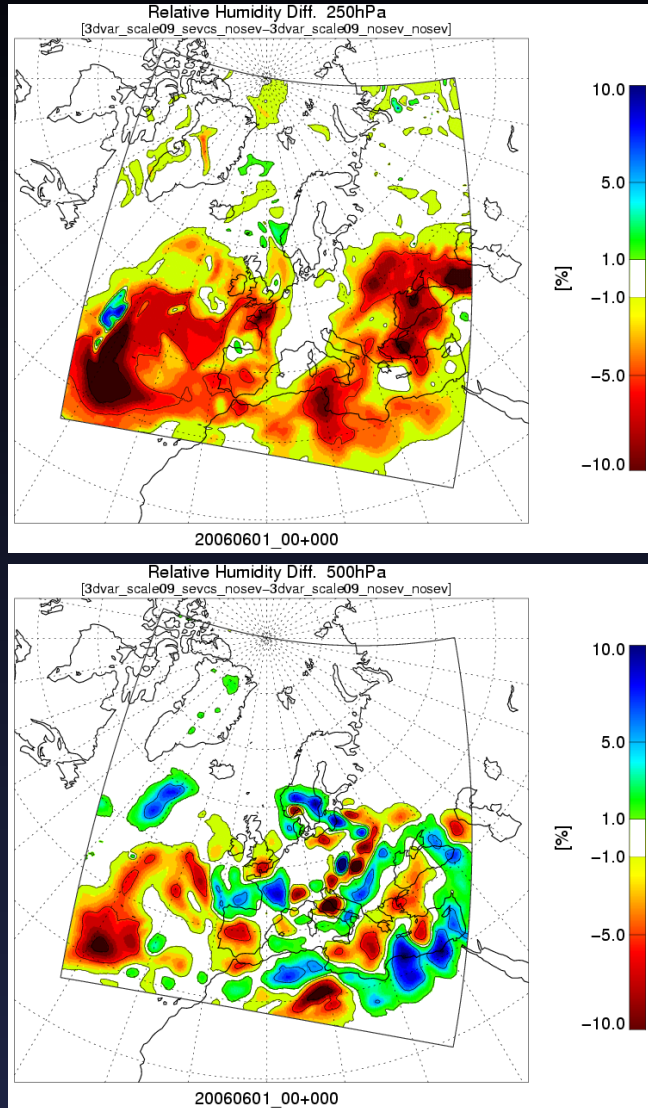
SEVIRI data preparation

- Example:



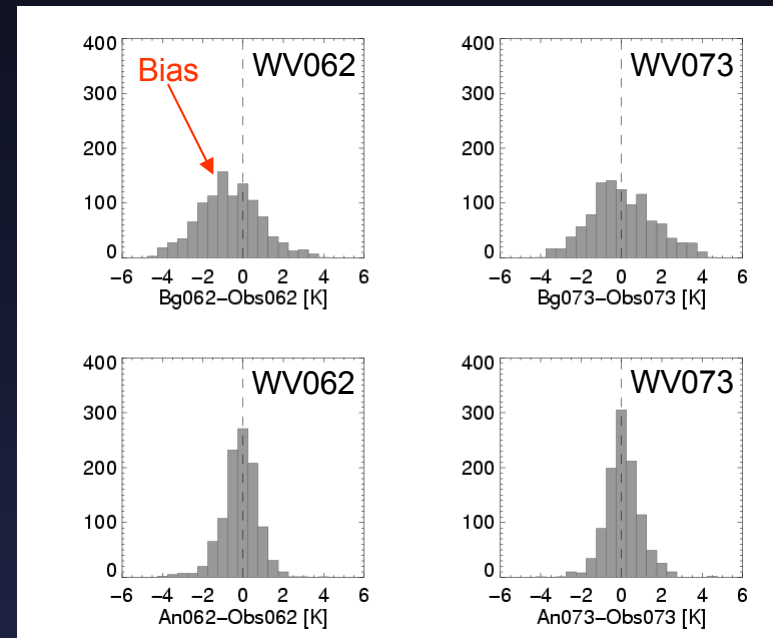
Impact on analysis

- Case study, 3D-Var:



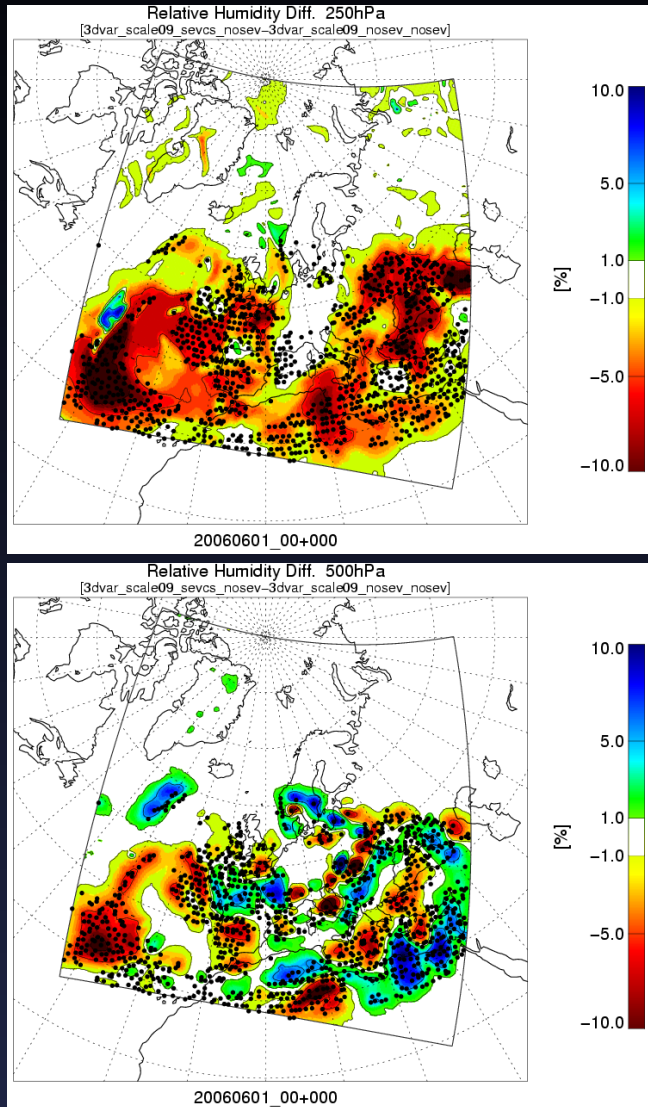
Relative Humidity increment, 250 hPa

Relative Humidity increment, 500 hPa



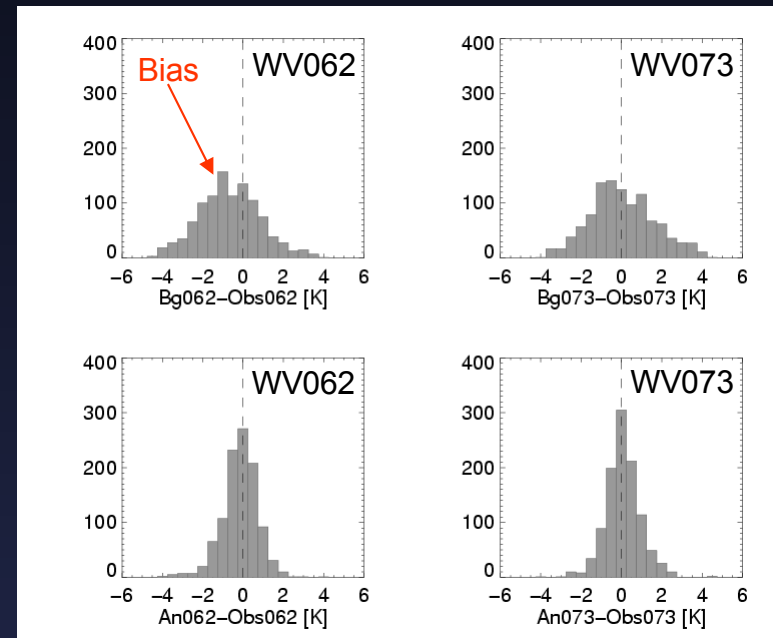
Impact on analysis

- Case study, 3D-Var:



Relative Humidity increment, 250 hPa

Relative Humidity increment, 500 hPa



Impact on analysis and forecast

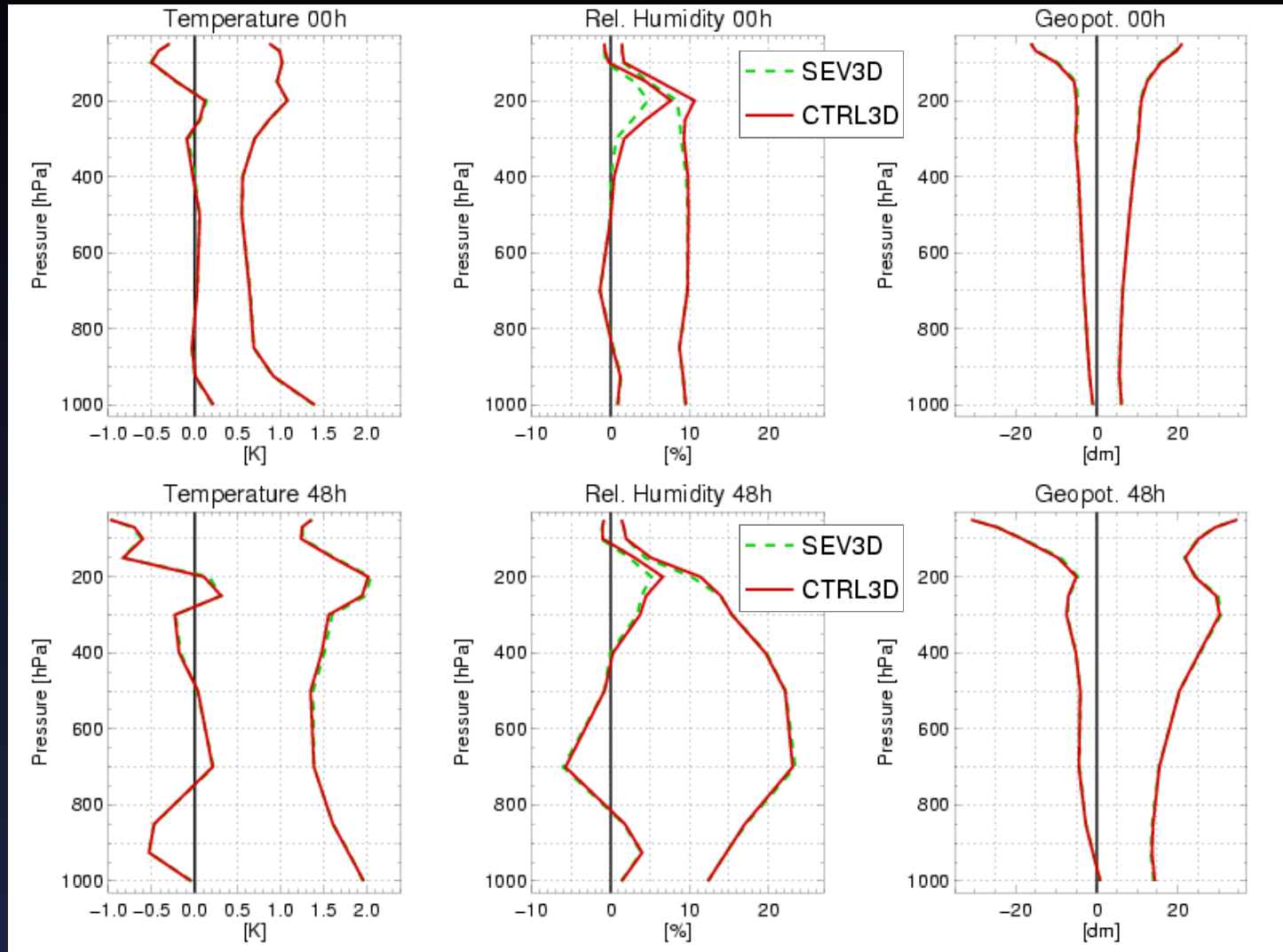
- Observing system experiments

CTRL3D	3D-Var analysis with conventional observation only
SEV3D	3D-Var analysis with conventional and SEVIRI observation SEVIRI; SEVIRI observation are taken only from one time slot , the one closest to analysis time is chosen.
CTRL4D	4D-Var analysis with conventional observation only
SEV4D	4D-Var analysis with conventional and SEVIRI observation SEVIRI; SEVIRI observation are taken from six time slots , where each is the one closest to the respective observation window centre
SigmaO	2K for both channels (observation error)
Period	Summer month (24/06/2005 - 21/07/2005) Winter month (02/12/2005 - 31/12/2005)
Cycle	6 hour assimilation cycle
Forecast	0-48 hours

HIRLAM C22 domain, 22km, 40 vertical levels, statistical balance

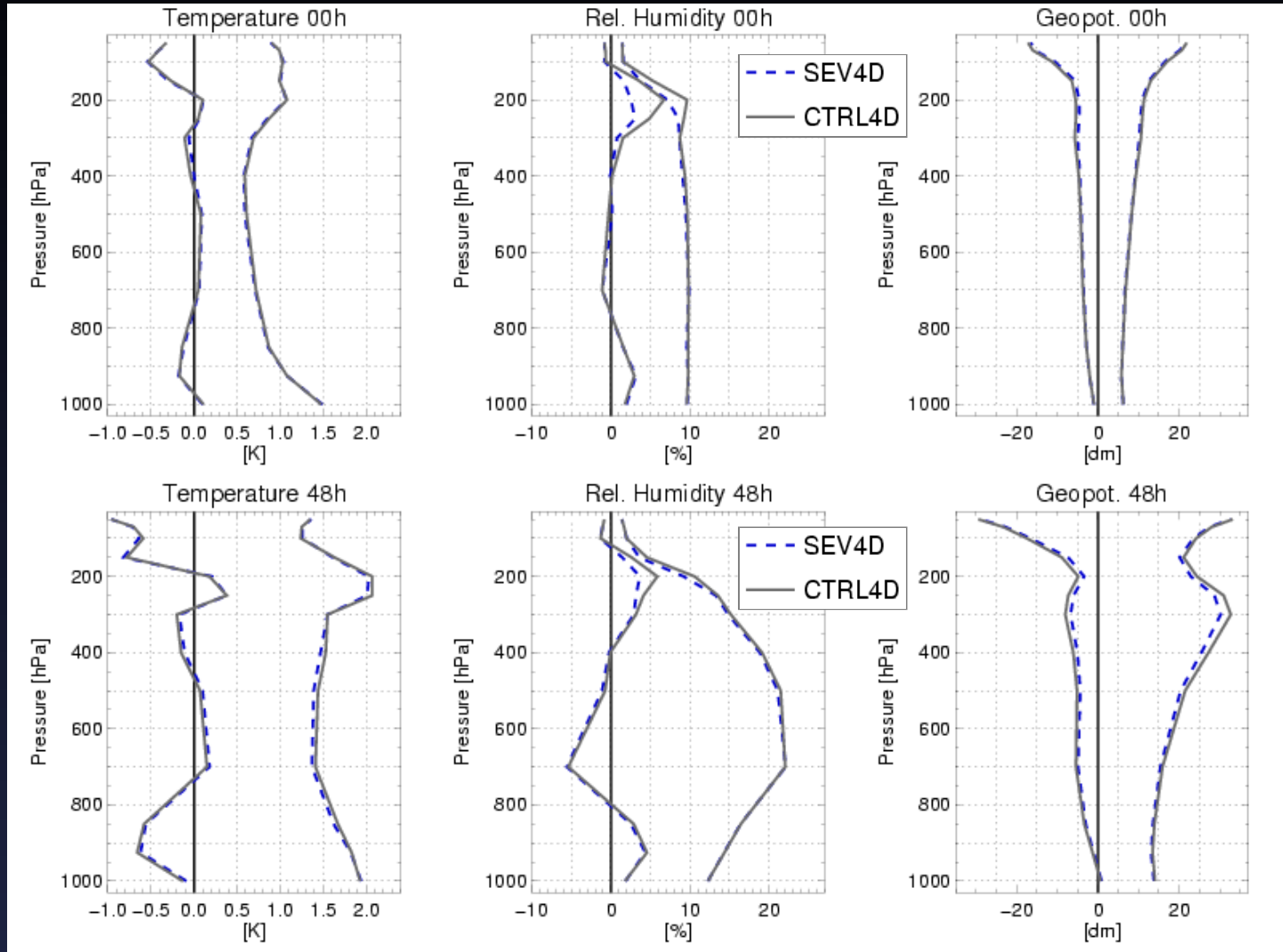
Impact on analysis and forecast

- Summer month / 3D-Var



Impact on analysis and forecast

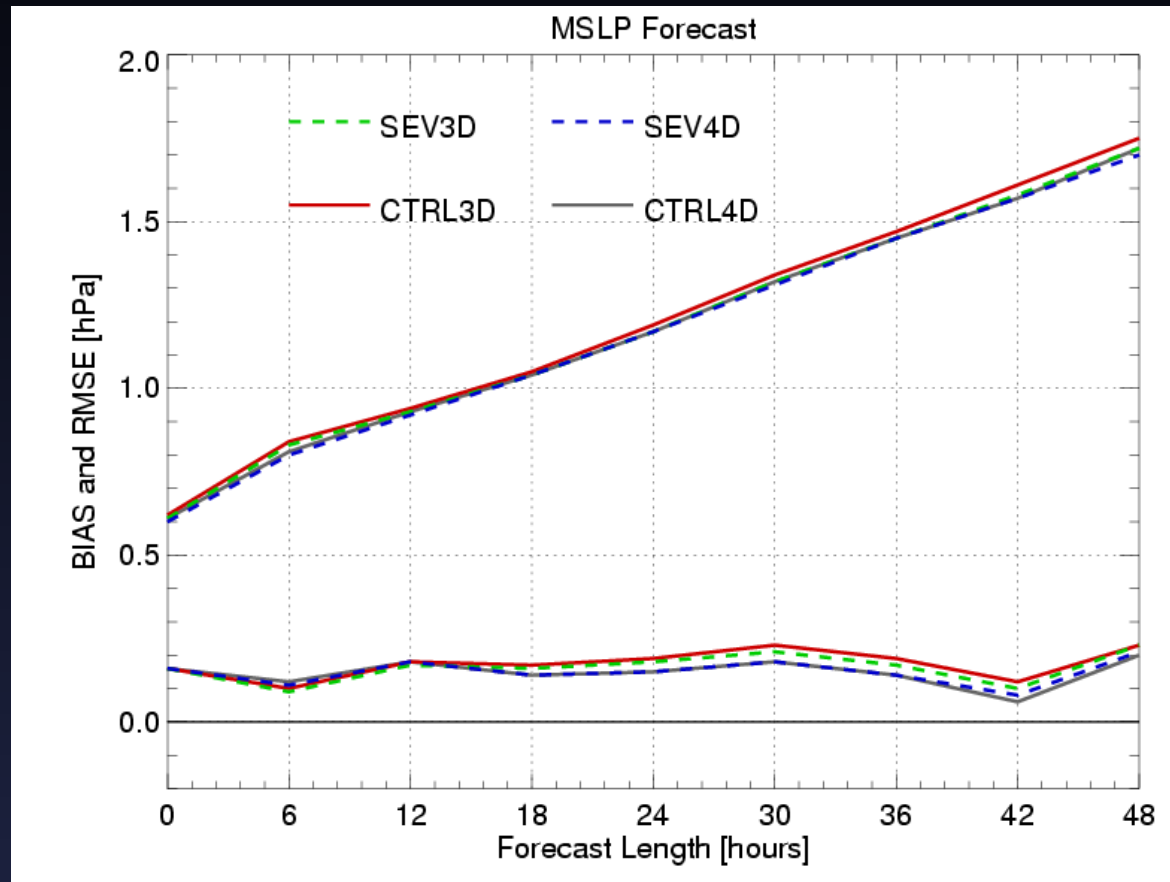
- Summer month / 4D-Var



Impact on analysis and forecast

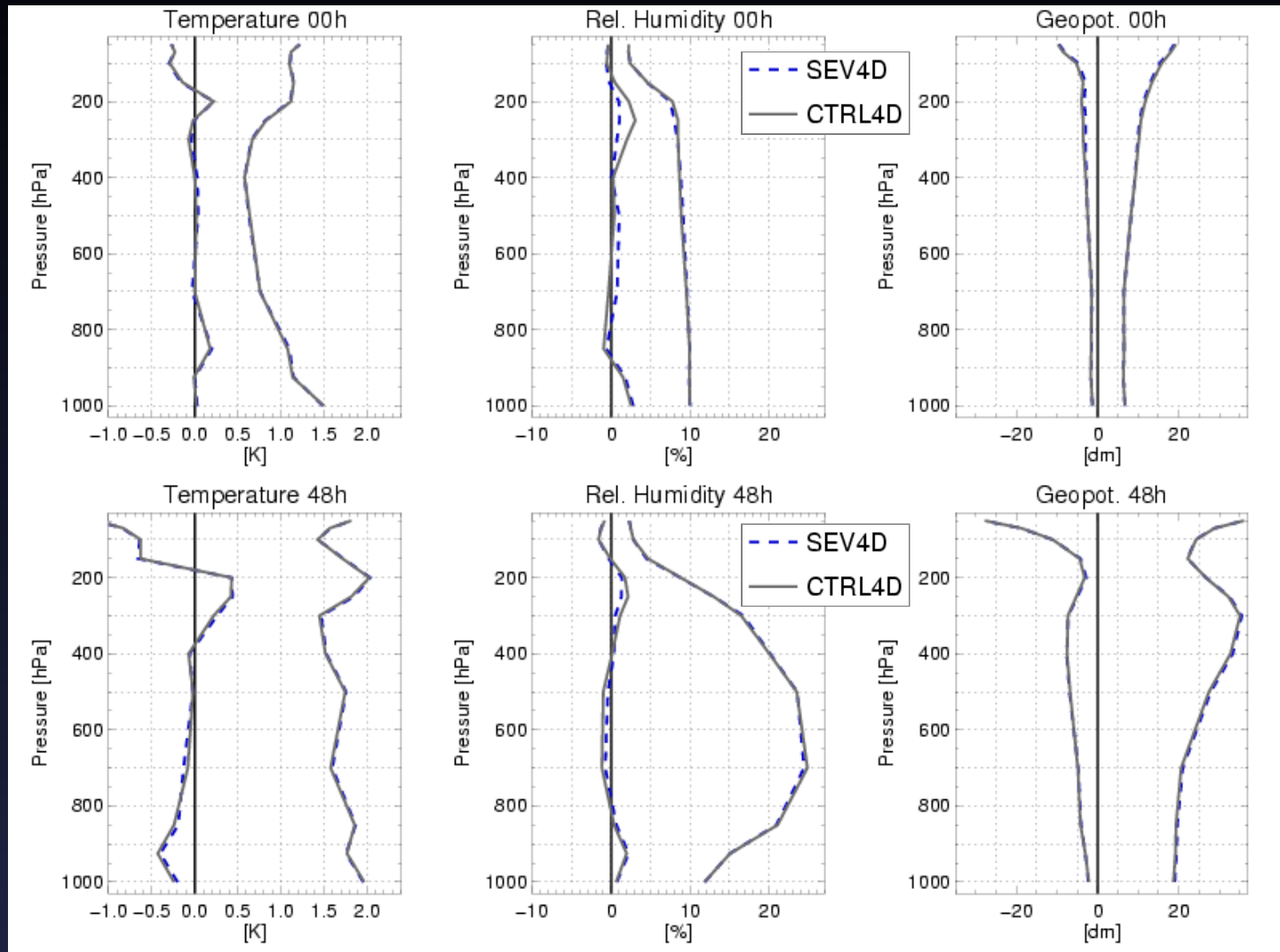
- Summer month / 3D-Var, 4D-Var

Mean sea level pressure forecast:

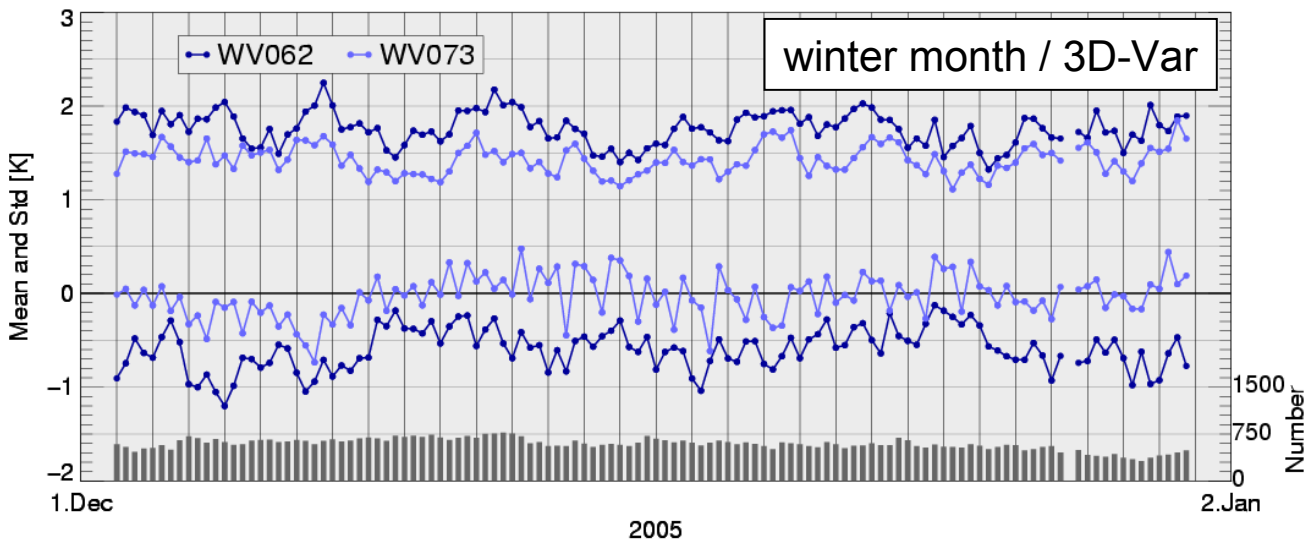
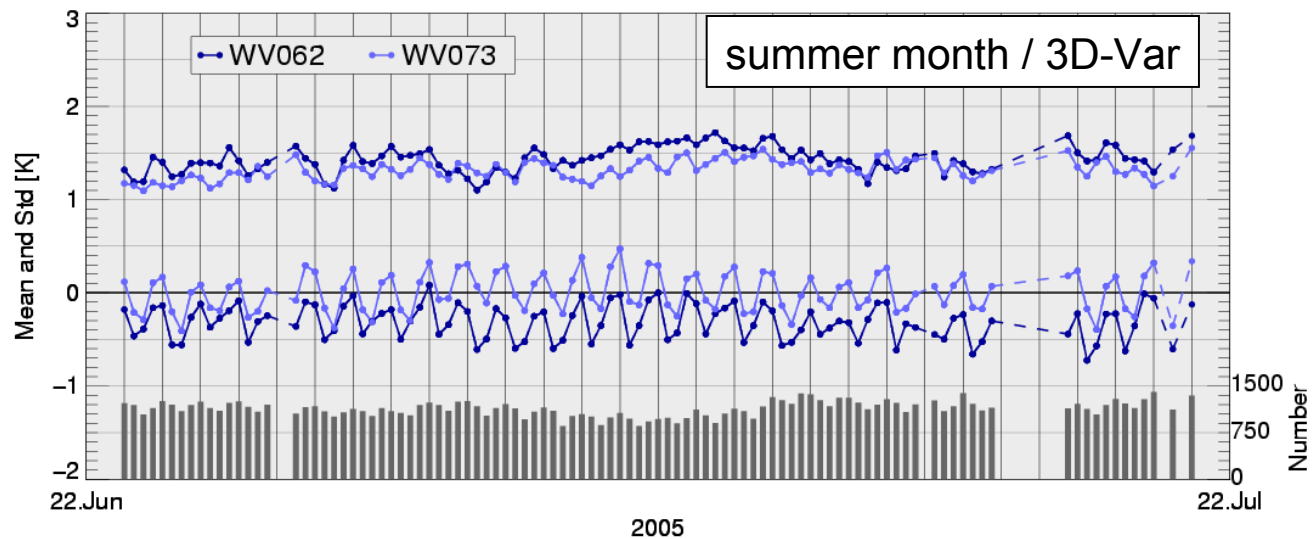


Impact on analysis and forecast

- Winter month / 4D-Var

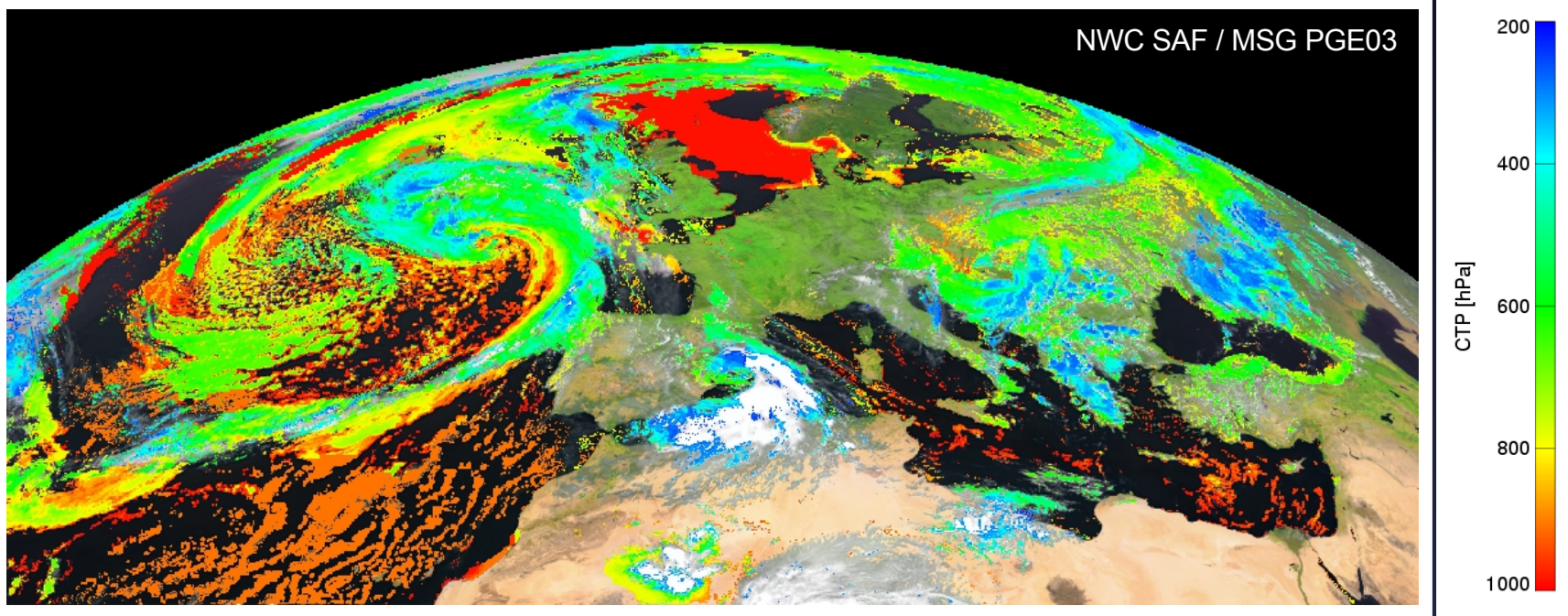
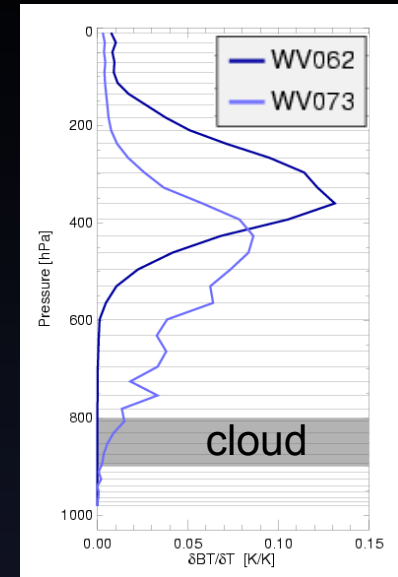


Impact on analysis and forecast



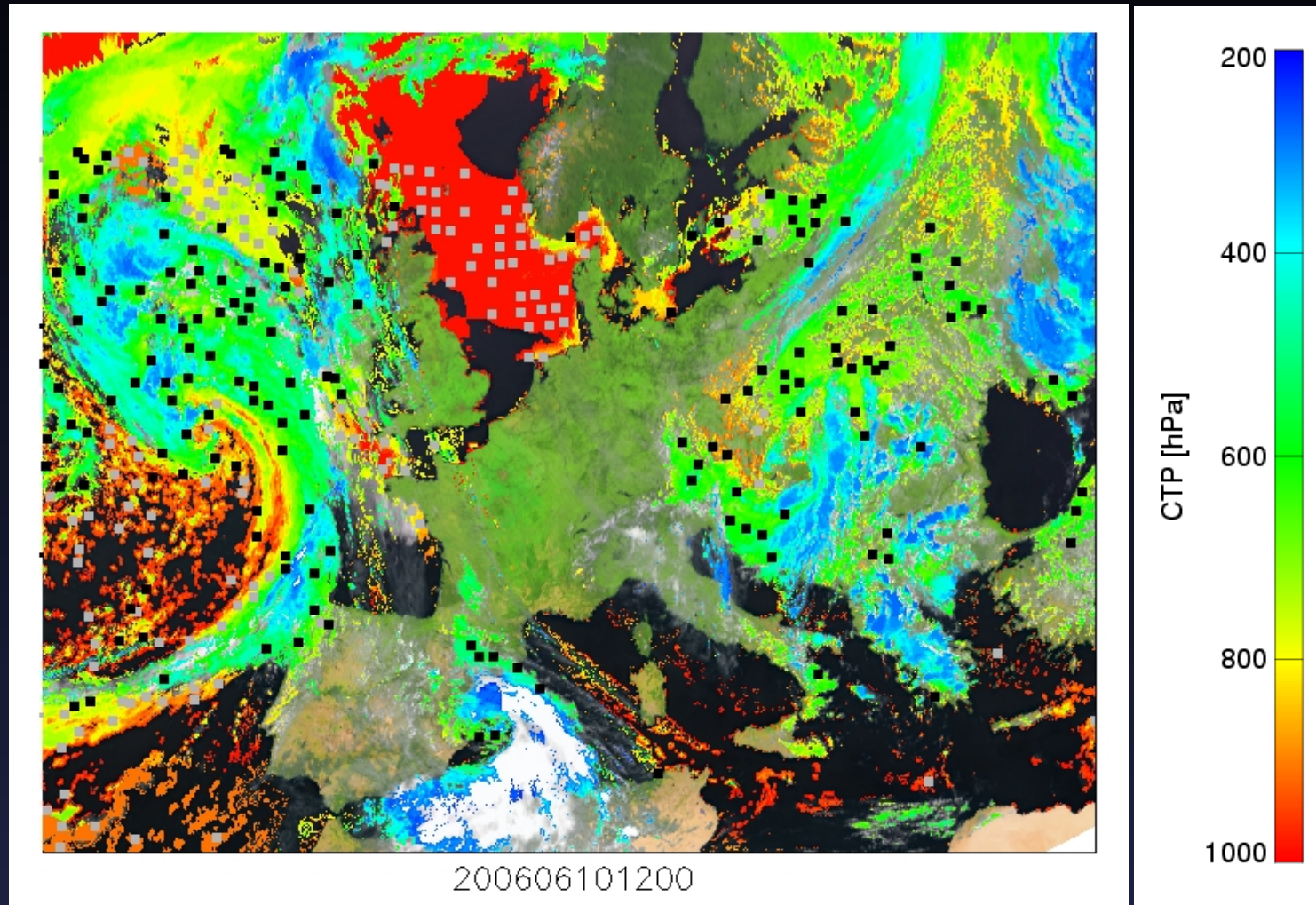
Observations above low-level clouds

- Identifying not-radiance-affecting clouds:
 - Using a cloud top pressure/height information
 - Identify not-radiance-affecting clouds using local Jacobians or CTP threshold
 - Assimilation as in clear sky conditions
 - (Blacklisting only one channel for some cases)



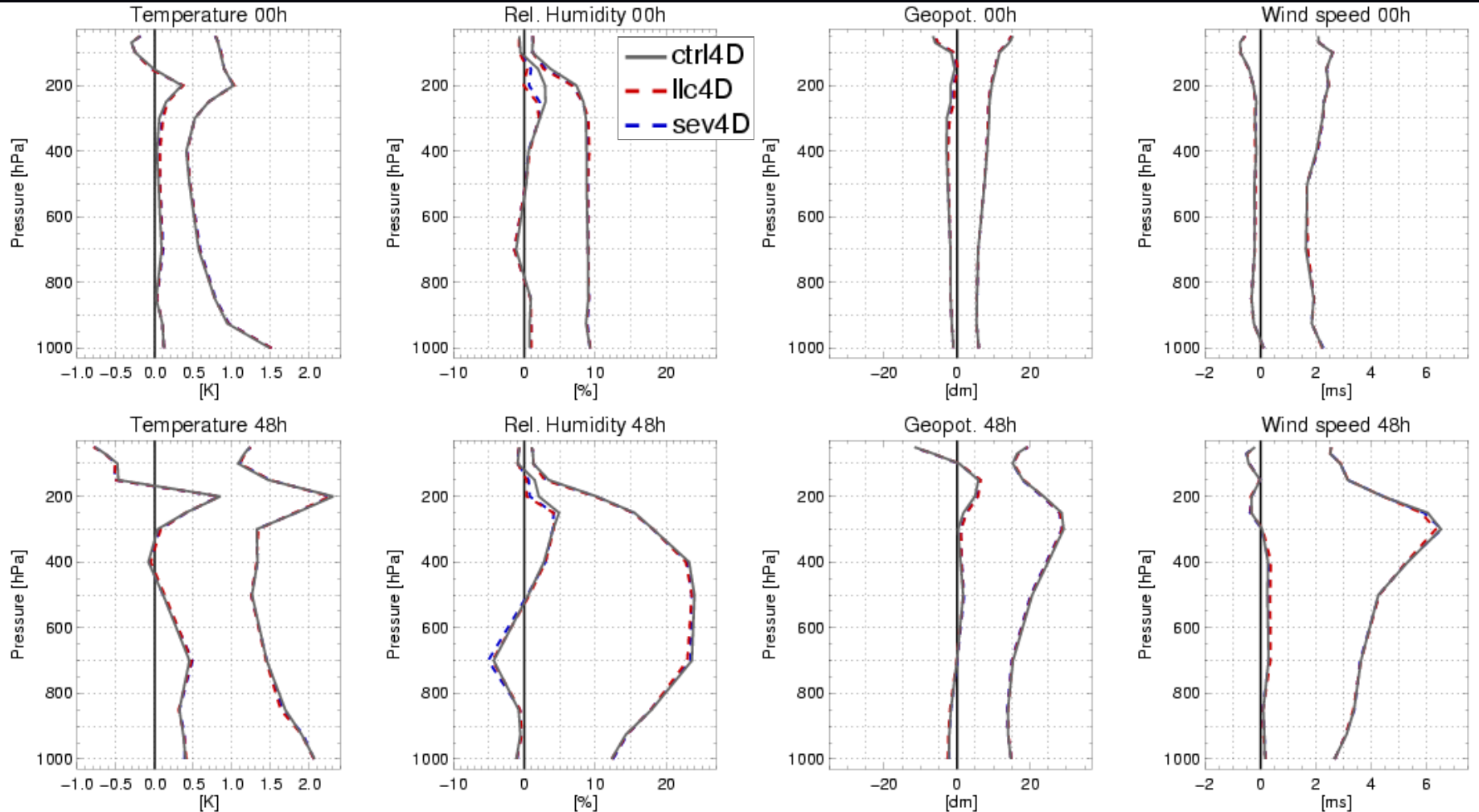
Observations above low-level clouds

- Example (after screening):



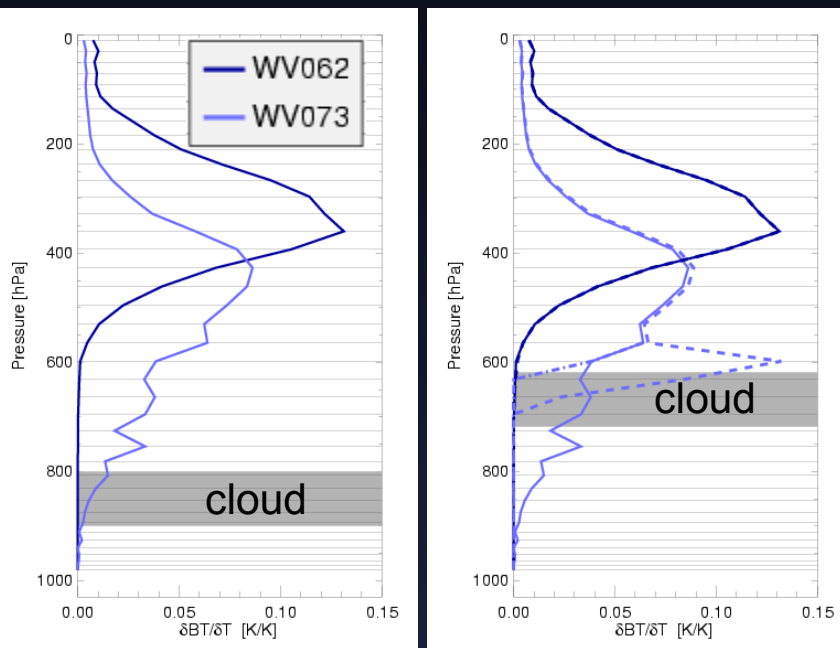
Observations above low-level clouds

- Summer month / 4D-Var

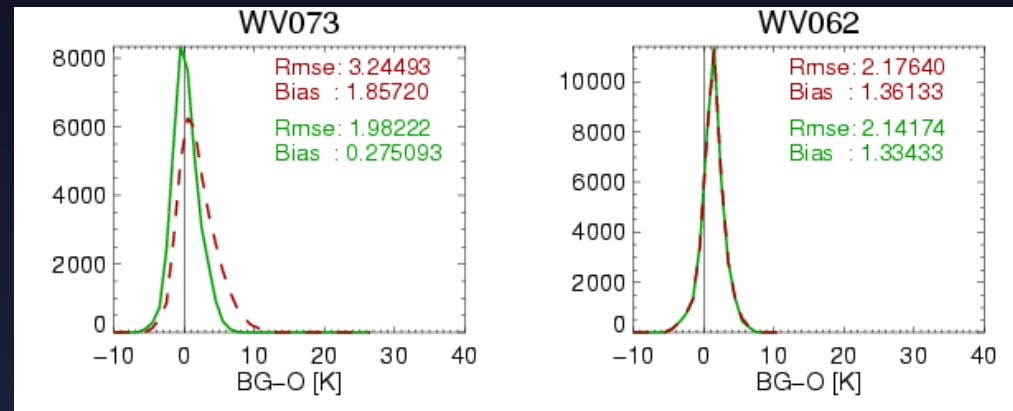


Observations above mid-level clouds

- Strategy:
 - Identify slightly-radiance-affecting clouds using local Jacobians
 - Using properties to constrain a cloud in RTTOV



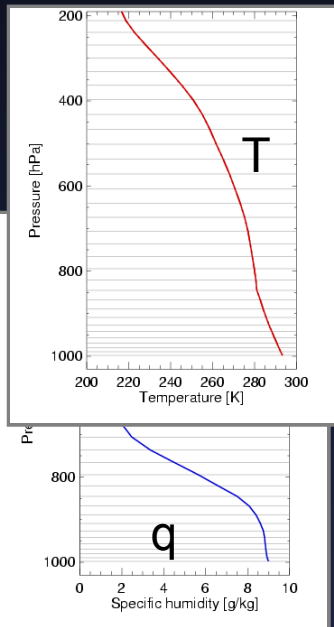
500 < CTP < 600 hPa



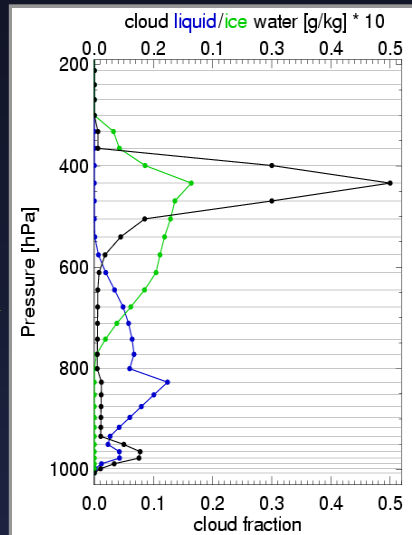
Cloudy radiances / Extending the obs. operator

- Strategy:

- “Next-Generation” Simplified Moist Physics Package (SIMPHYS), (ECMWF)
- Simplified parameterization for convection
- Simplified parameterization for large scale cloud and precipitation processes
- Using sensitivity of modelled cloud to model fields of T and q
→ sensitivity of modelled cloudy radiances to T and q
- Provide sensitivity to assimilation system
- Goal: Mapping cloudy BG-O via cloud scheme sensitivities to T and q increments



SIMPHYS



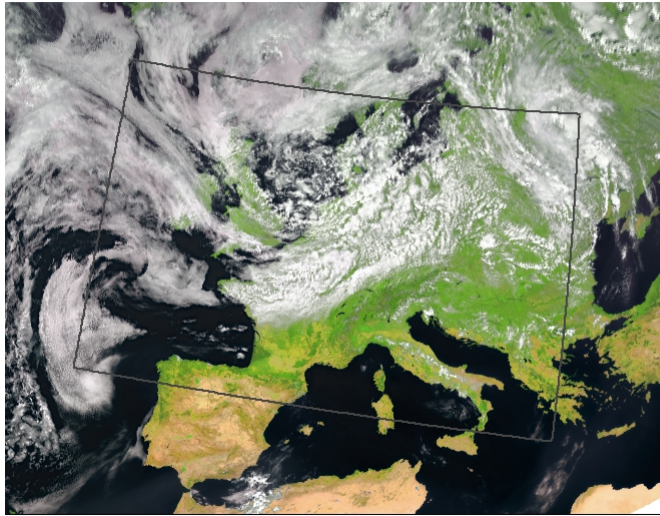
Observation operator

RTTOV-8

Cloudy radiances

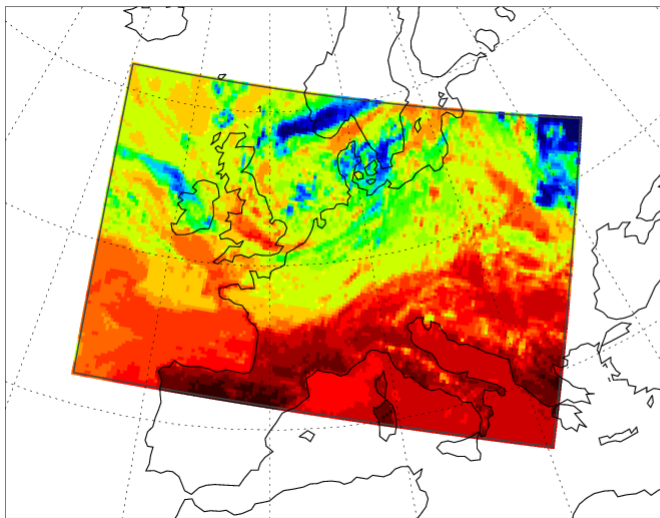
Cloudy radiances / Extending the obs. operator

MSG1-SEVIRI



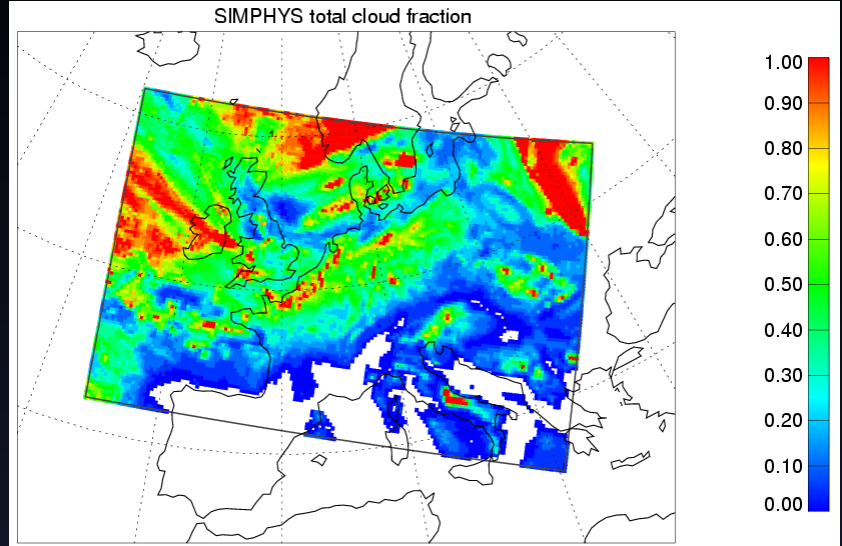
200507201200

Observation BT - IR10.8



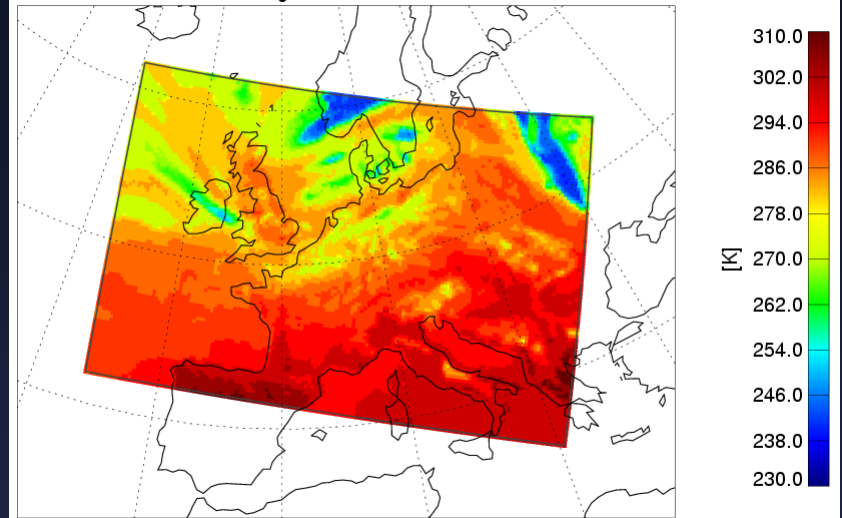
200507201200

SIMPHYS



200507201200

Background BT - IR10.8



200507201200

Cloudy radiances / Problems

- First comparisons show: SIMPHYS underestimates clouds (cloud cover,.....)
- Performance of RTTOV?
(ok for low levels water clouds?)
- Matching observations and model in space and time
- Identifying when the cloud scheme models 'realistic' clouds
- On/Off processes
- Errors in modelled land surface temperatures lead to errors in modelled IR window channel radiances

Summary / Future work

- Clear-sky radiance assimilation
 - Neutral to positive impact of SEVIRI radiances during the summer trial
 - Neutral to slightly negative impact during winter; probably due to the inefficient Bias correction
 - More impact studies needed
 - Improve Bias correction, to take into account medium- and long-term trends of systematic errors
 - Improve spatial data thinning (maybe 'supperobbing'?)
- Cloudy radiance assimilation
 - Strategies as described on previous slides
 - First statistics of extended observation operator performance (not shown)
 - First 1D-Var studies (not shown)
 - Use in HIRVDA (long term goal)

Thank you!