



Computationally efficient tilted independent  
column calculations of surface radiation

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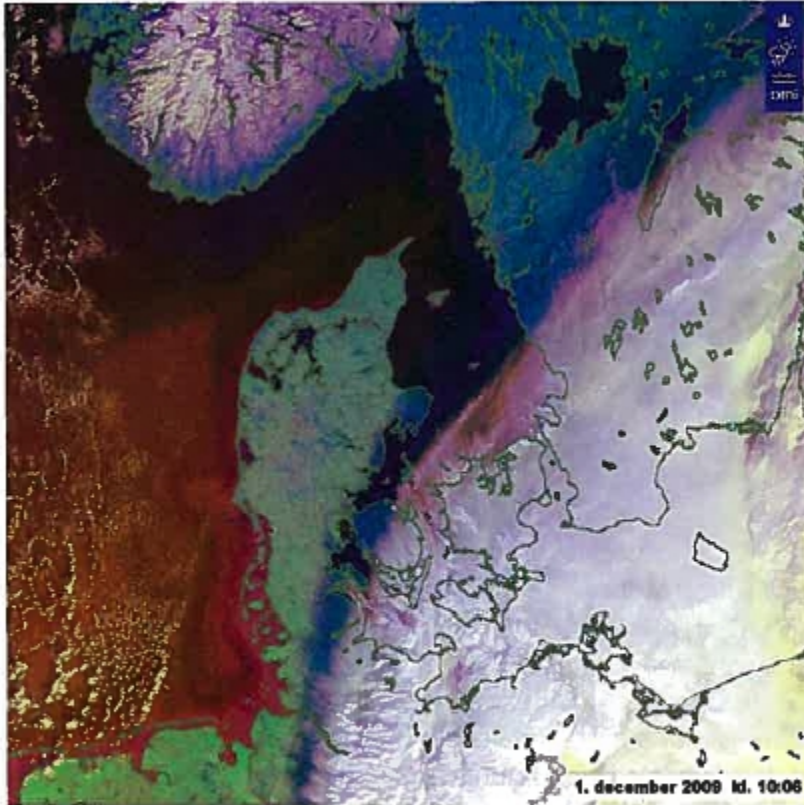
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- m.fl.



Dmi

# Tilted array modeling: Introduction



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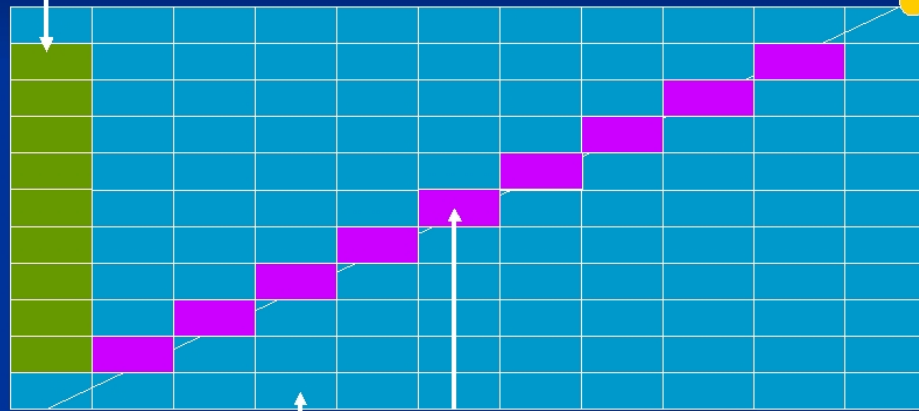


# Tilted array modeling: Introduction

Coarse mesh meteorological models (horizontal grid size ~20-50 km) could assume computations in a vertical column. DMI is among the first to implement a tilted column for solar radiation computations for high horizontal model resolution ('cloud geometry effects')

'classical' vertical air column  
for model physics computations

Position of the sun



Surface

model grid

**Planned new configuration:**  
Each time step a tilted air column is determined in the direction of the sun for computations of solar radiation



# Previous works



**Varnai and Davies (1999)**

**DMI Markowski and Harrington (2005)**

Kathrin Wapler, PhD Thesis, München, 2007:

- TICA is a very good approximation for surface solar radiation, when compared to exact 3D-modeling.
- **When TICA is not applied, convective clouds have shorter lifetimes.**
- **The cloud shadows significantly affect the pattern of convection.**

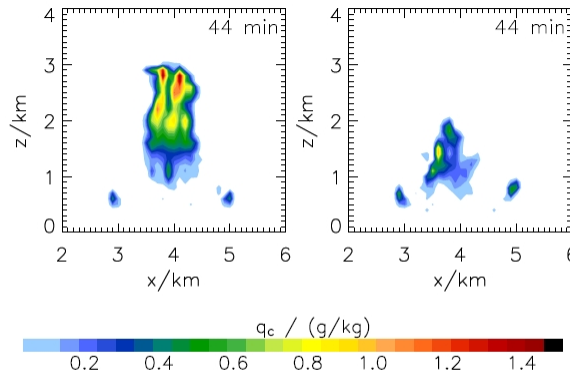


Abbildung 4.5: Vertikalschnitt des Wolkenwassermischungsverhältnisses nach 44 min der Simulationen mit EULAG (links) und mit EULAG-TICA30 (rechts).



# Tilted array modeling: Theory

$$x_{tilt}(x, y, z) = \frac{Z(x, y, z) \tan(\theta_0(x, y))}{\lambda(x, y, z)} \sin(\phi_0(x, y) - \rho_{grid}(x, y)) \quad (1)$$

$$y_{tilt}(x, y, z) = \frac{Z(x, y, z) \tan(\theta_0(x, y))}{\phi(x, y, z)} \cos(\phi_0(x, y) - \rho_{grid}(x, y)) \quad (2)$$

$$\rho_{grid}(x, y) = -\tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\phi(x+1, y) - \phi(x-1, y)}{\cos(\phi(x, y))(\lambda(x+1, y) - \lambda(x-1, y))} \right) \quad (3)$$

Here,  $(x, y, z)$  are the regular array indices,  $(x_{tilt}, y_{tilt}, z)$  are the array indices of the tilted array,  $\rho_{grid}$  is the local rotation between the modeling grid and the geographical grid,  $Z$  is the geopotential height,  $\theta_0$  is the solar zenith angle,  $\phi_0$  is the solar azimuth angle,  $\phi$  is the latitude and  $\lambda$  is the longitude.

# Tilted arrays

- Cloud cover
- Cloud water
- Cloud ice
- Specific humidity
- Temperature

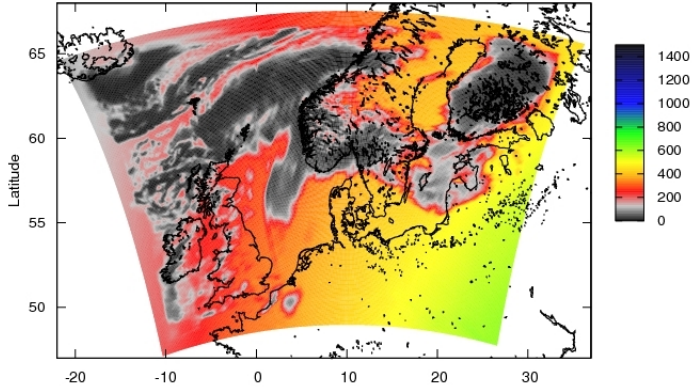
... used to calculate

- Surface short wave radiation

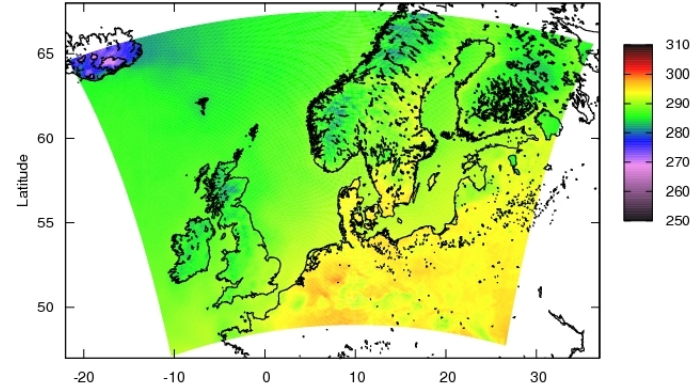


# Tilted array modeling - First results (2009-09-01)

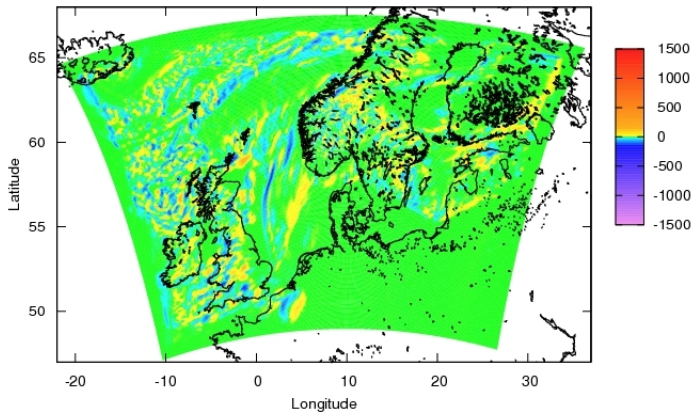
HIRLAM surface downward SW irradiance [ $\text{W m}^{-2}$ ]



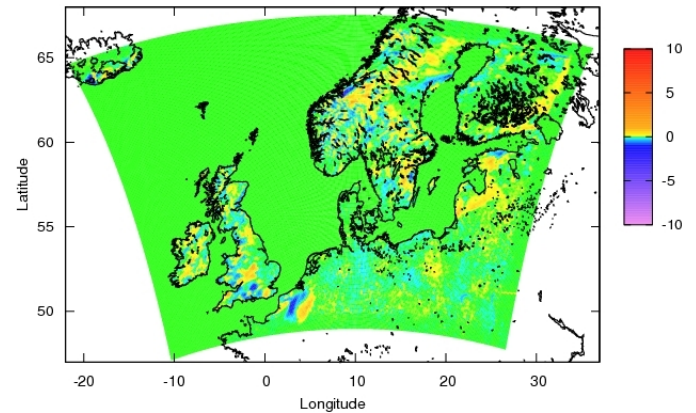
HIRLAM 2 m temperature [K]



Skewarr surface downward SW irradiance difference [ $\text{W m}^{-2}$ ]

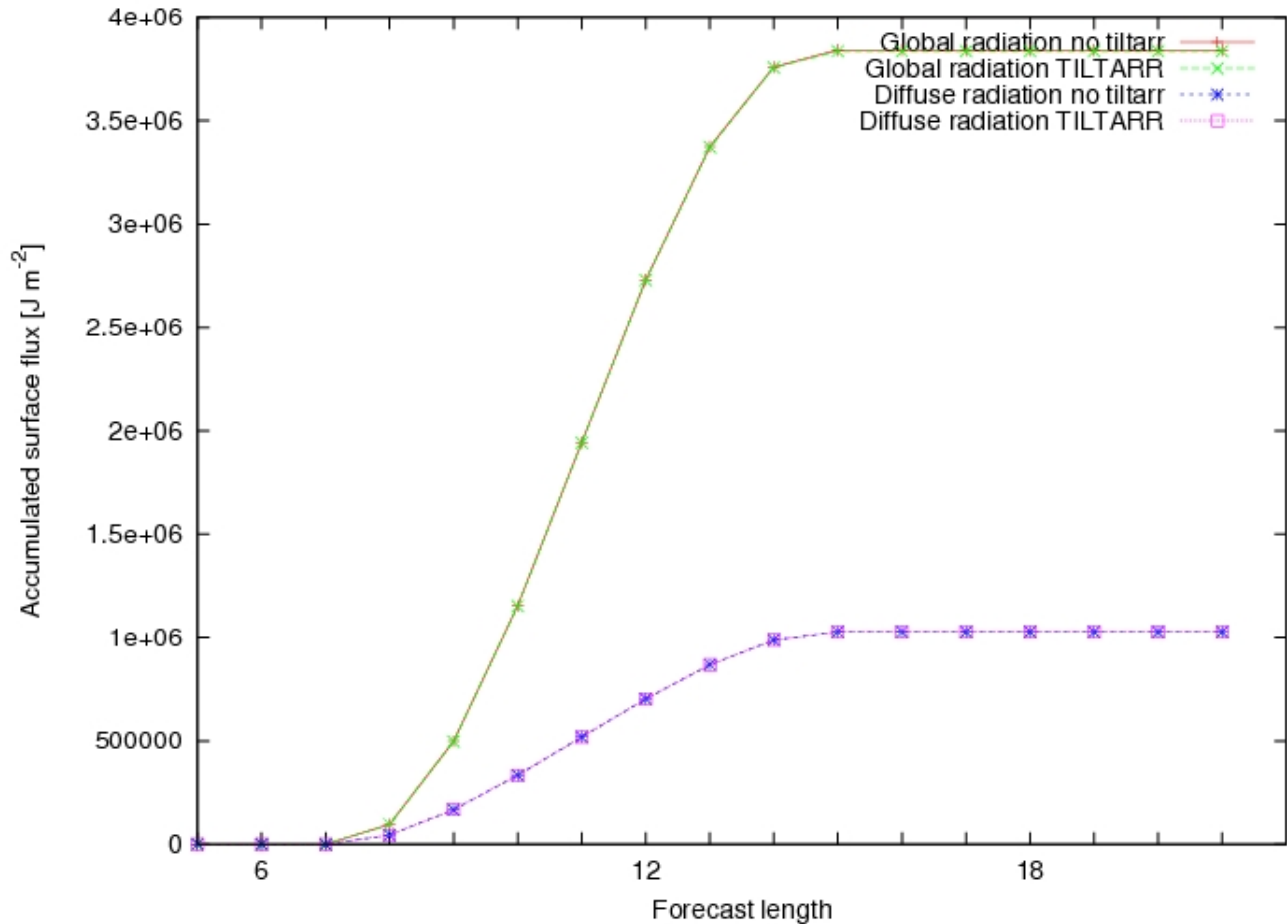


Skewarr 2 m temperature difference [K]



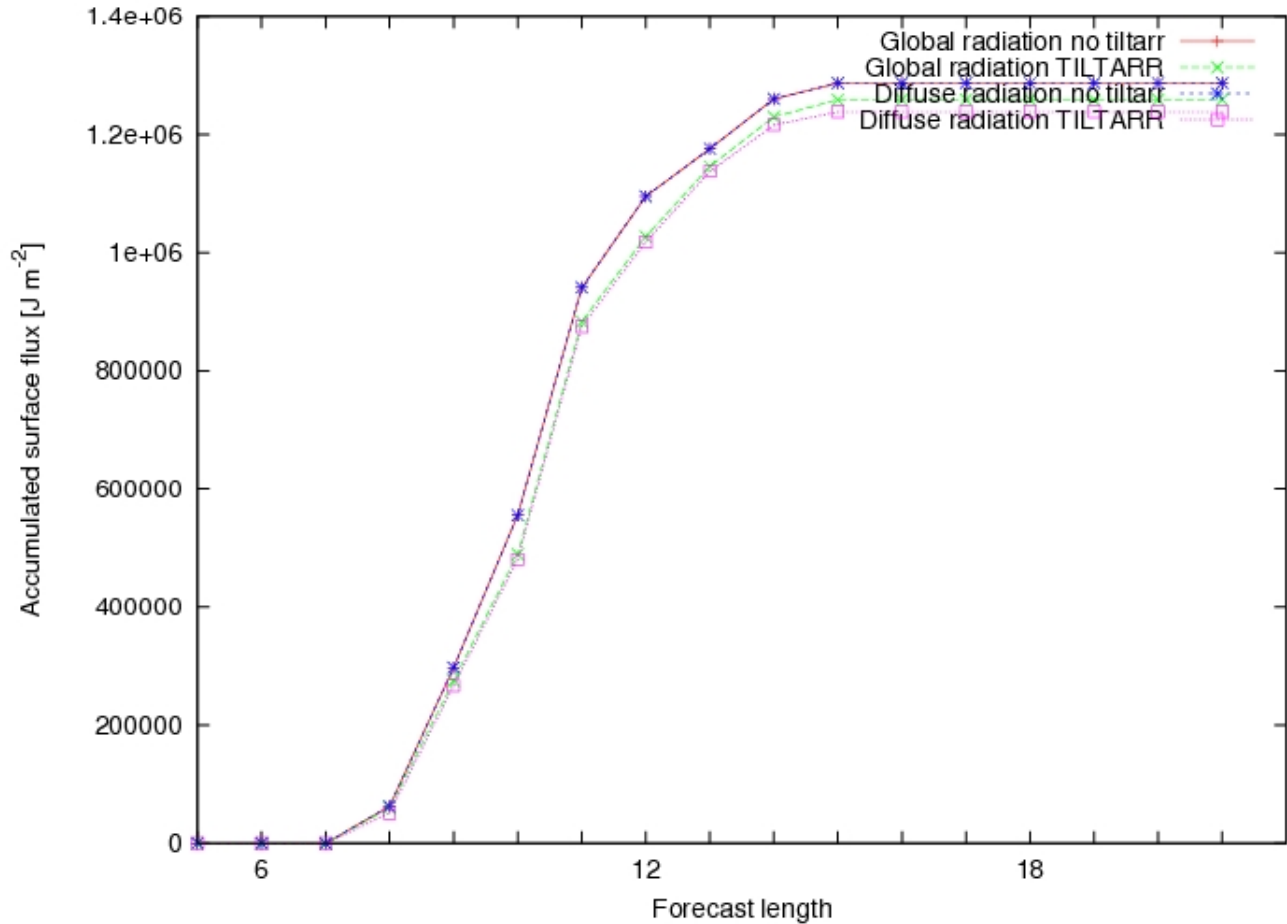


# Results for clear sky conditions



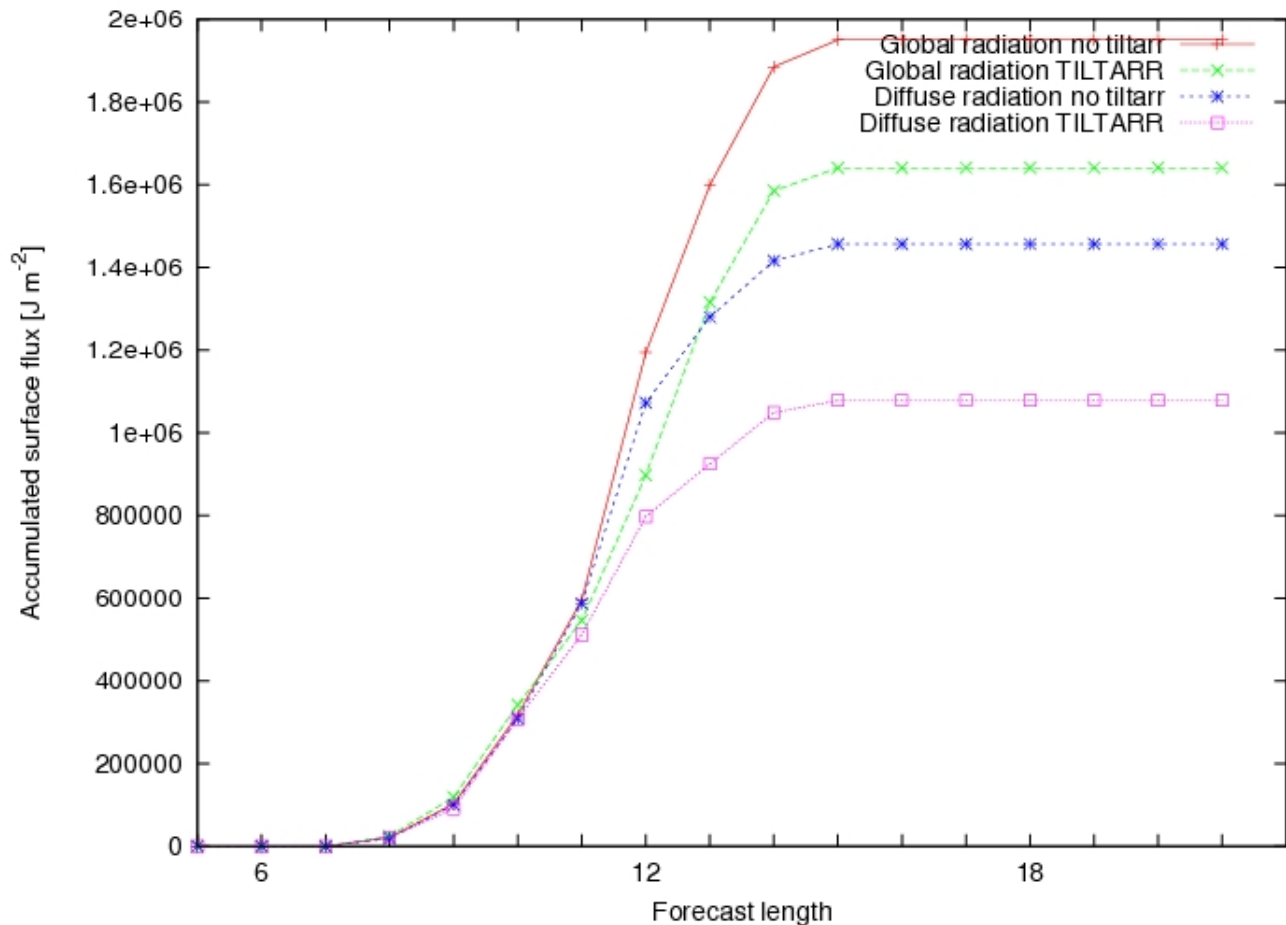
Station 6135: Flakkebjerg, 2009-11-20.

# Results for overcast conditions



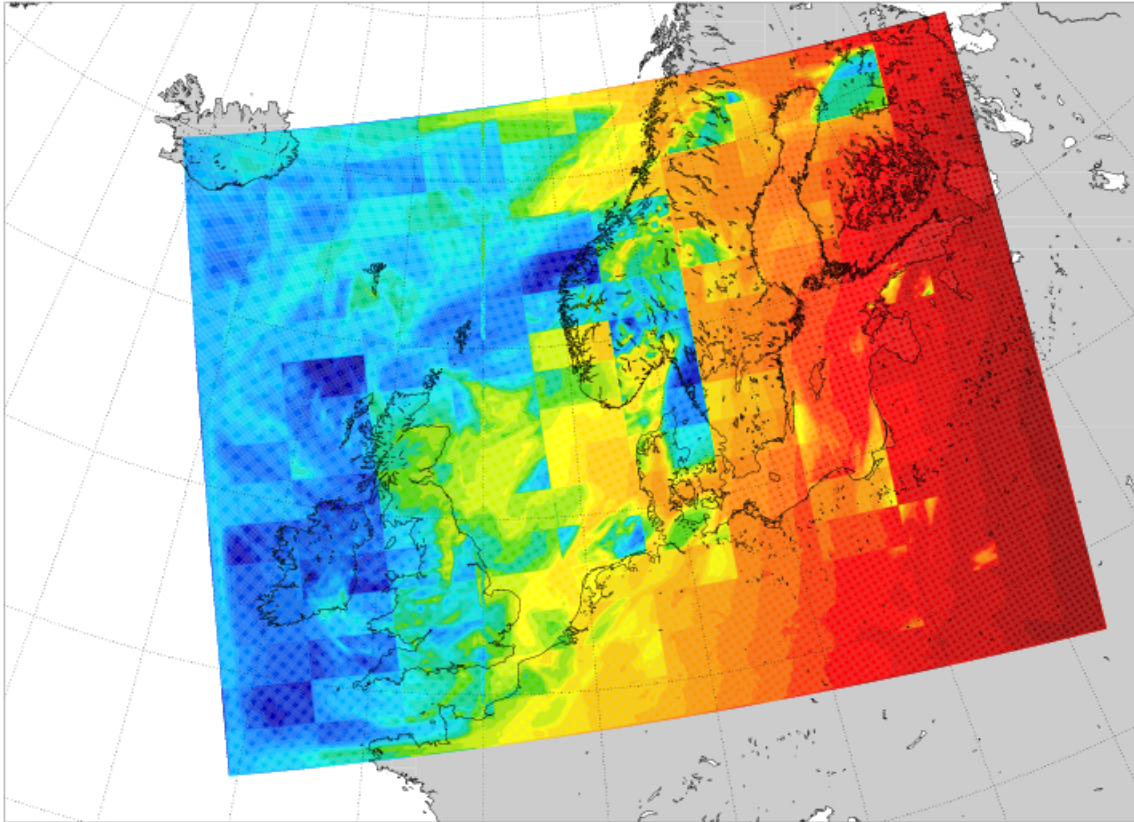
Station 6156: Holbæk, 2009-11-23.

# Results for mixed cloud conditions



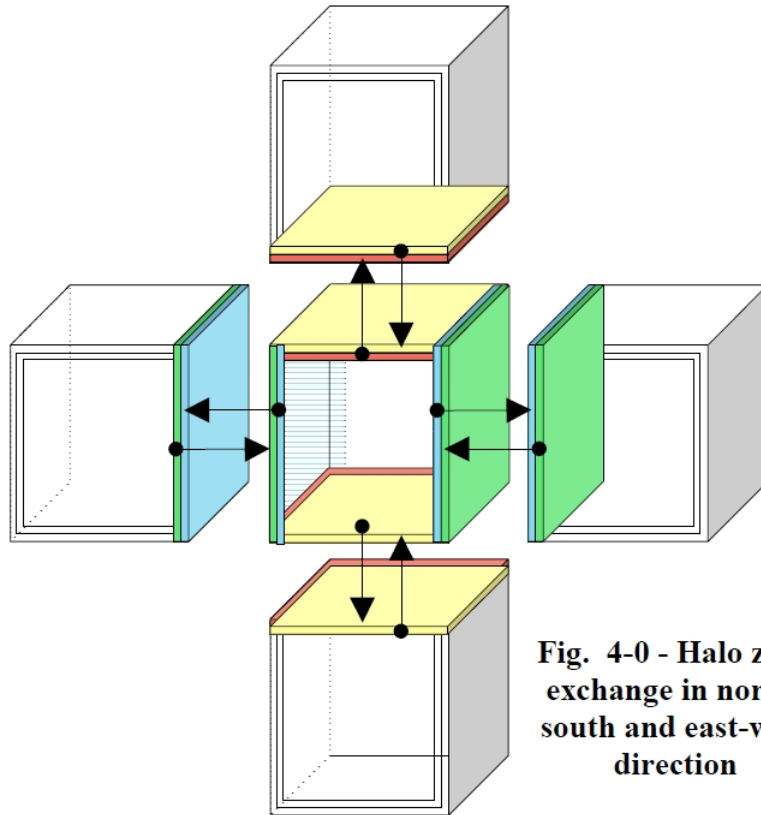
Station 6068: Isenvad, 2009-11-23.

# Problem with tilted arrays



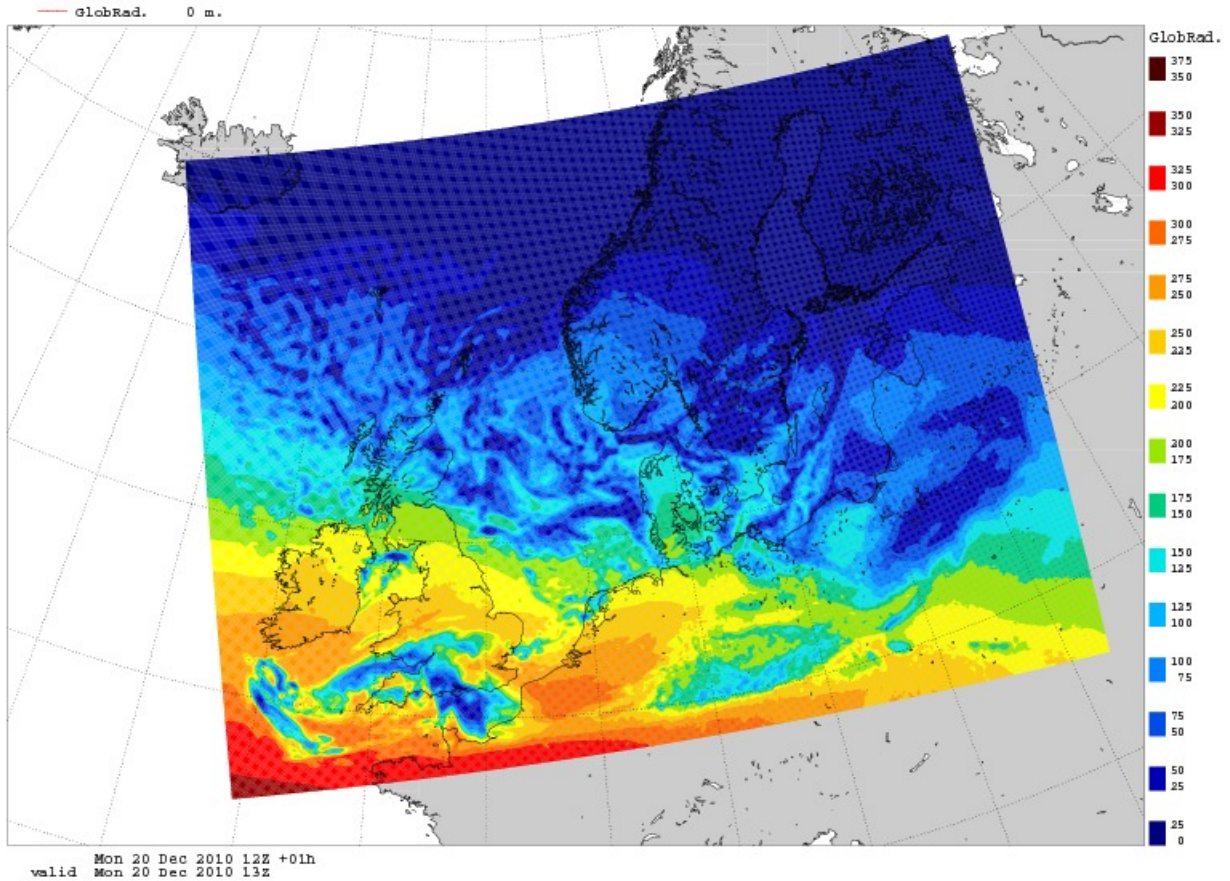
How to use tilted arrays on a parallel-processing computer?

# Tilted array modeling - SLSWAP



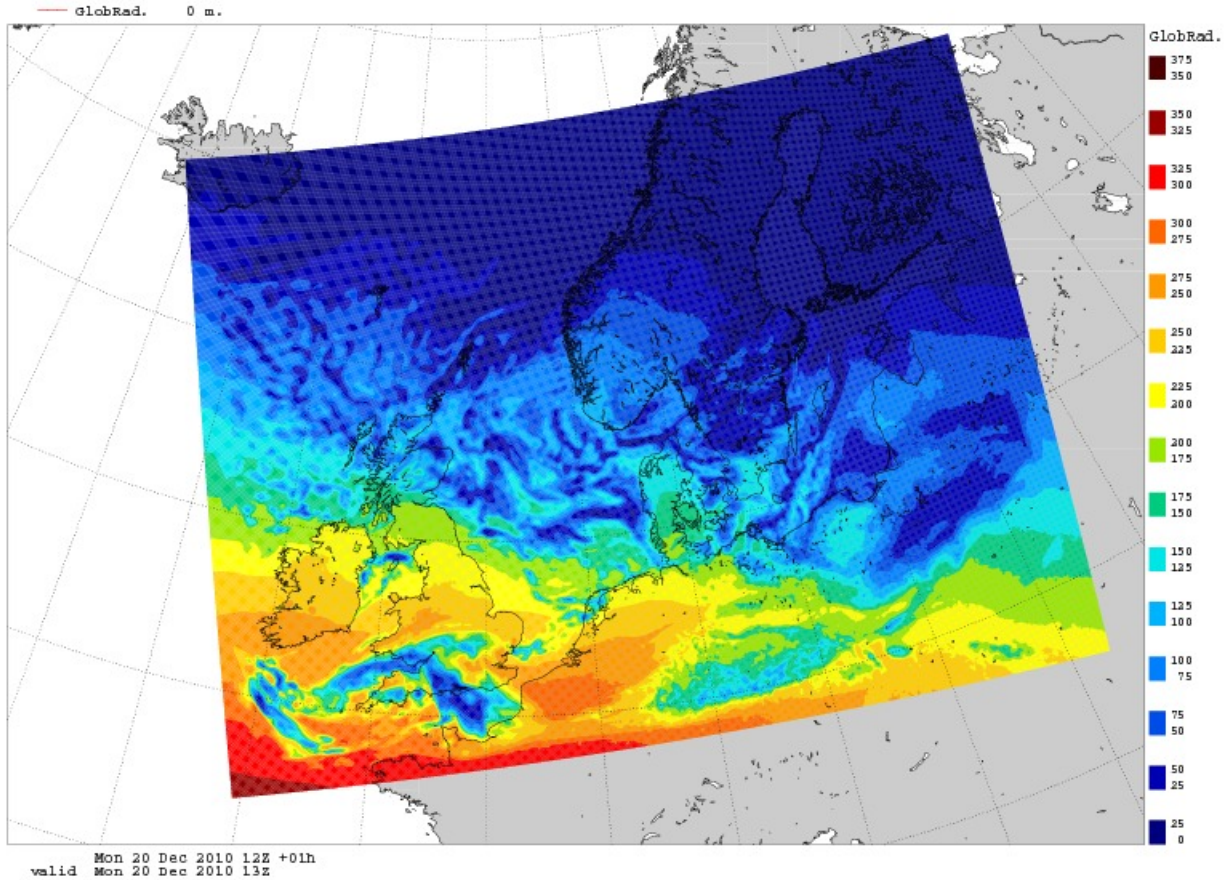
**Fig. 4-0 - Halo zone exchange in north-south and east-west direction**

# With tilted array modeling





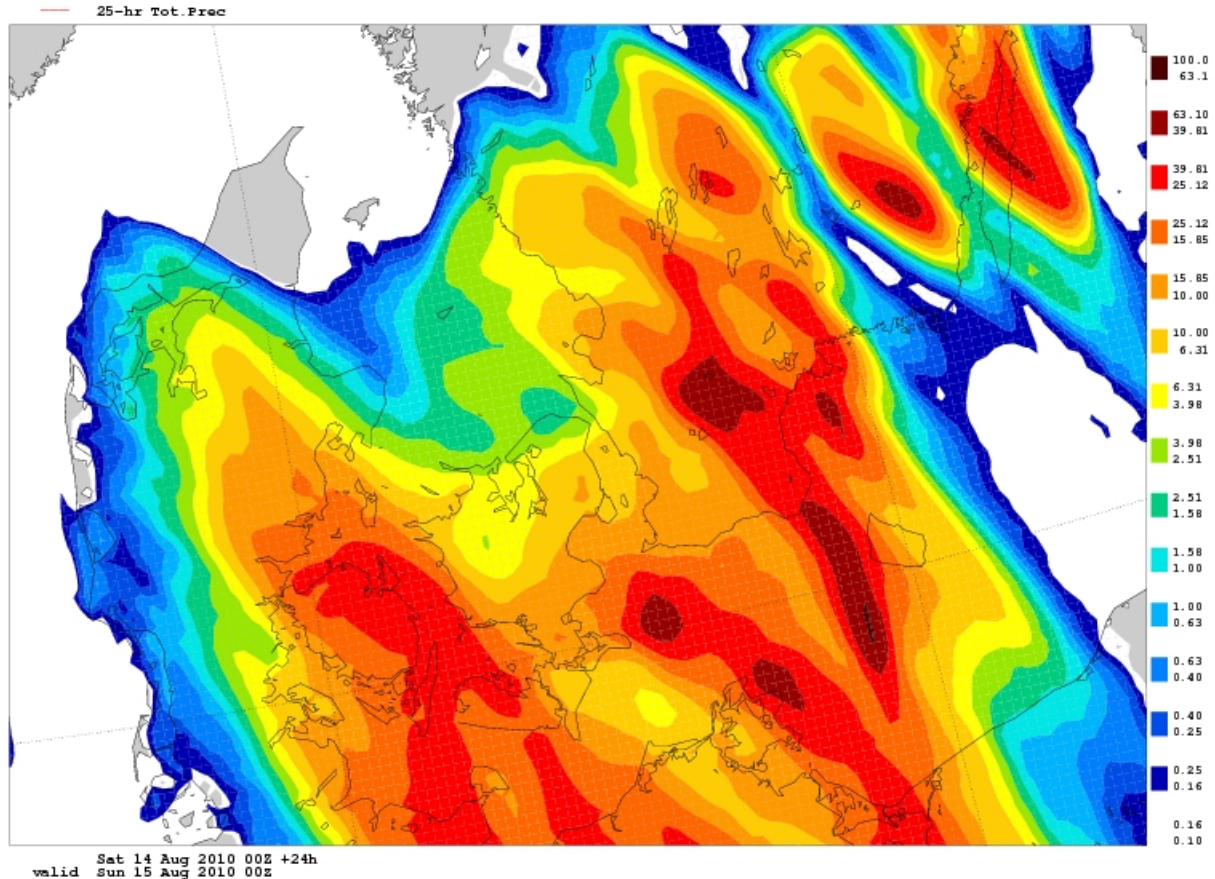
# Without tilted array modeling





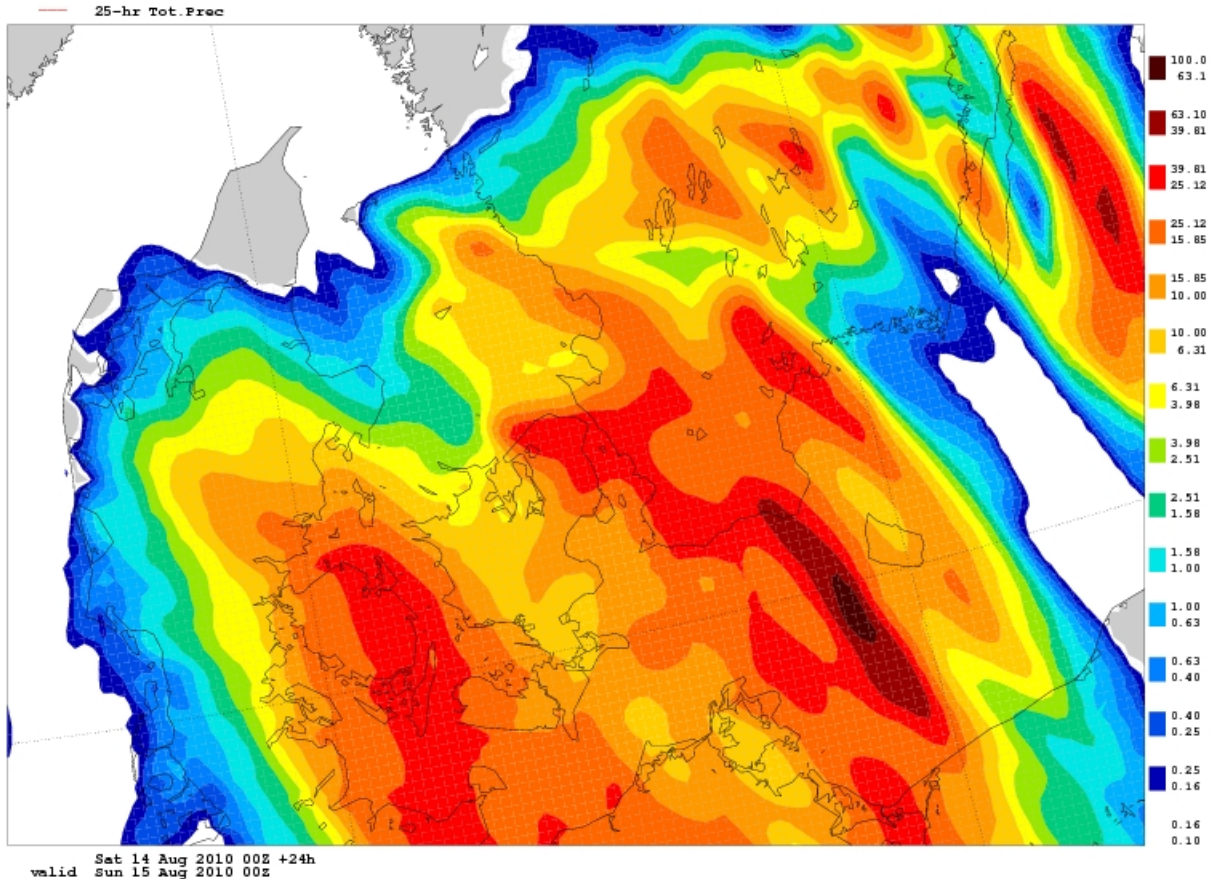
# Without tilted array modeling

24-hour precipitation 2010-08-14 0 UTC +24h



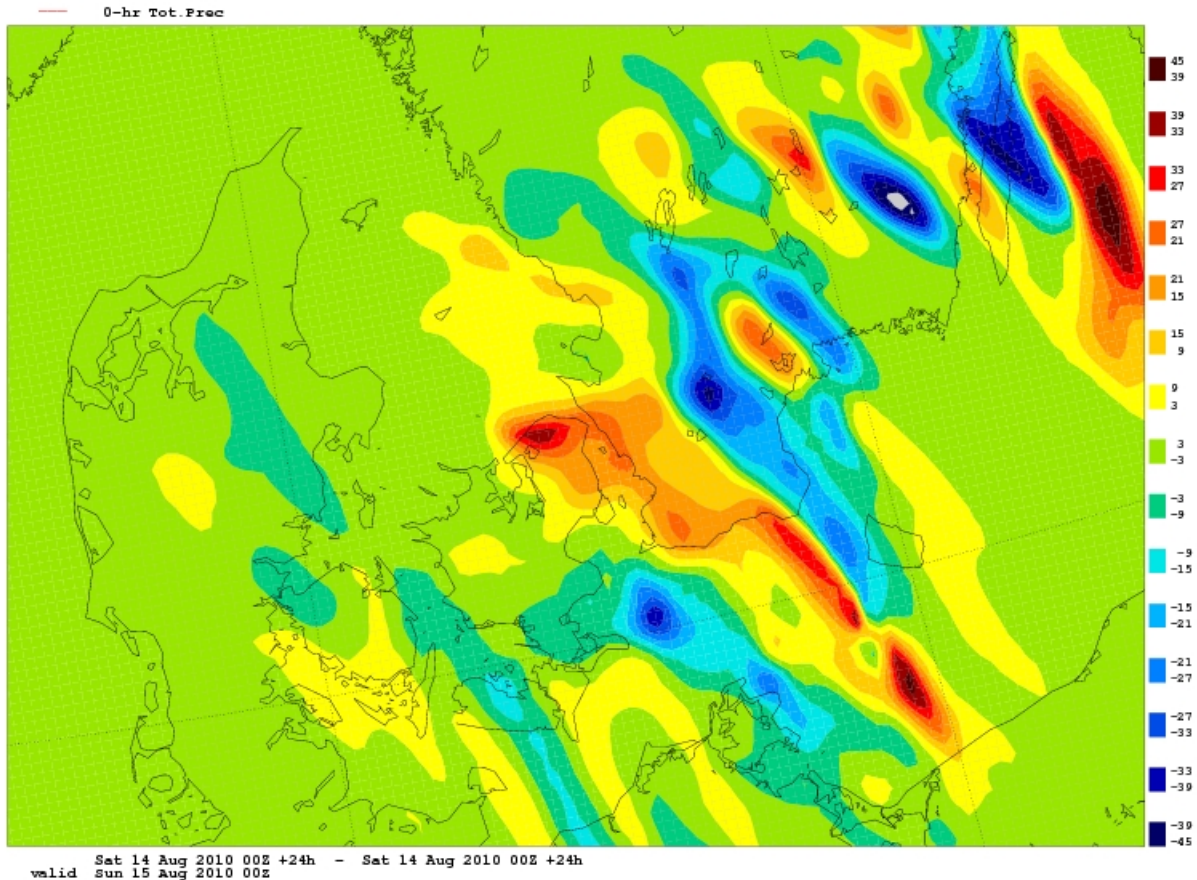
# With tilted array modeling

24-hour precipitation 2010-08-14 0 UTC +24h



# Tilted array modeling difference

24-hour precipitation 2010-08-14 0 UTC +24h





# Further aspects of 3D-radiation

Example 2  
order of magnitude computation for thermal radiation

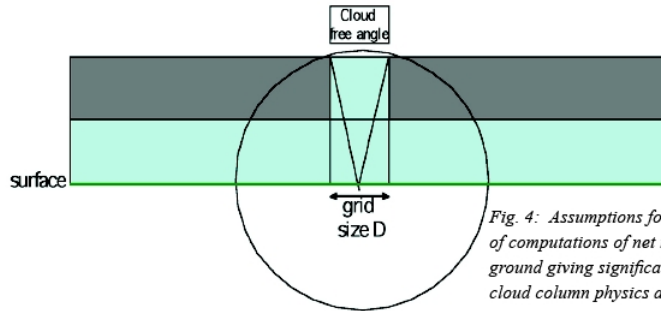


Fig. 4: Assumptions for 'worst case' type of computations of net radiation at the ground giving significant differences between cloud column physics and more realistic computations where the actual sky view (cloud free cone) is taken into account, integrating radiance over the half sphere above the ground – cloud layers of big horizontal extent exist outside the vertical 'column' (cylinder) !

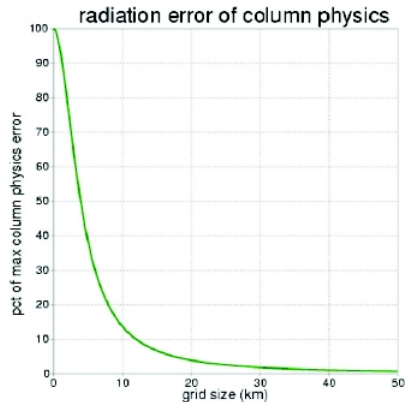


Fig. 5: Results for thermal radiation in stratiform cloud conditions.

Maximum error occurs when the grid size goes to very small values considering a cloud free column while in reality the surroundings are covered by a large cloud sheet radiating like a black body towards the ground. The figure shows the percentage of the maximum error ( $\sim 98 \text{ W/m}^2$ ) as a function of grid size, arising from executing column physics under the specified conditions.

## Concluding remarks

- We have devised a method for implementing tilted array modeling, which is only 1.09 times slower than a regular NWP run;
- Tilted array modeling significantly affects the strength and distribution of convective precipitation;
- Further aspects of 3-D radiative transfer could also be implemented;
- How to proceed?