

Subgrid-scale orography parametrization

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May 1, 2001

THE LAST HIRLAM

Laura Rontu

Thanks to
Ekaterina Kurzeneva, Kalle Eerola

Finnish Meteorological Institute



HIRLAM-ALADIN ASM-WORKSHOP
Norrköping 5-8.4.2011





Towards HIRLAM 7.4

Newsnow

Orographic parametrizations

Handling of lakes

Forecasting future of HIRLAM



A photograph of a tree heavily covered in snow, with a green oval highlighting the trunk and the word "TRUNK" written inside.

TRUNK



TRUNK

NEWSNOW



TRUNK

ORSULA

NEWSNOW



TRUNK

ORSULA

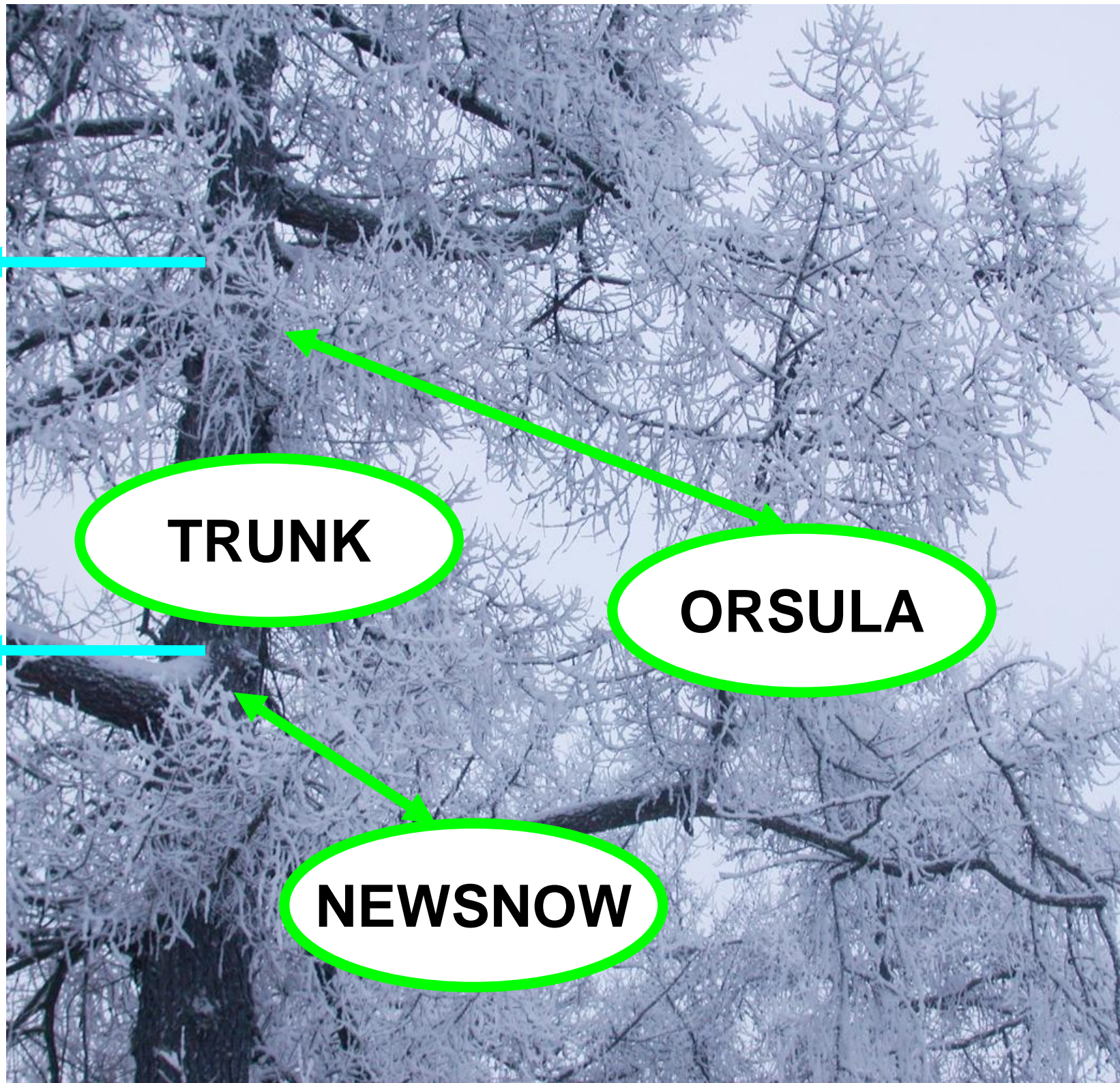
NEWSNOW



TRUNK

ORSULA

NEWSNOW



TRUNK

ORSULA

NEWSNOW



Property	HIRLAM 7.3	HIRLAM 7.4	Switchable
Default resolution	0.15/60L <u>operational RCR</u>	0.075/65L	
Newsnow surface scheme	default	default	NO
Mesoscale / small-scale orography parametrisations	default	default	YES
Parametrisation of orographic effects on radiation	available	default	YES
Freshwater lake (FLake) parametrisations	none	available	YES

IN SEARCH OF SOLUTIONS FOR THE HIRLAM SURFACE TEMPERATURE PROBLEMS

ASM09 poster/LR:

Laura Rontu, Finnish Meteorological Institute

laura.rontu@fmi.fi

Problems

Studies

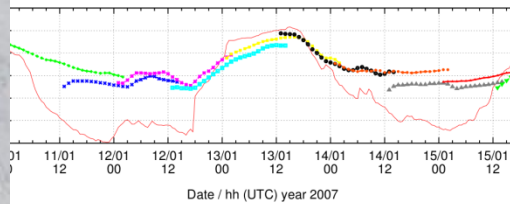
Discussions

Newsnow has solved, from the point of view of a synoptic forecaster

Well-known Nordic winter temperature problem is related to cold surface temperatures. Most of the NWP models have problems in treating these situations. Symptoms of the problem in HIRLAM include:

- screen-level temperature stays near surface inversion conditions
- gradient between lowest model level and surface/screen level is too small

As seen in case studies, not so clearly in standard verification scores



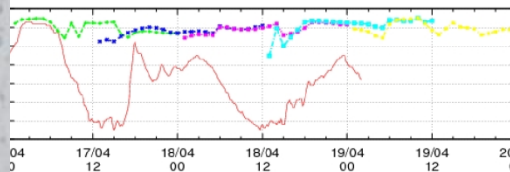
Screen level temperature in Sodankylä 11-15 January 2007. Thin line: observed, lines: reference HIRLAM forecasts (v.7.1beta, spring 2007), starting every 12 UTC

Figure above, an example of observed and forecasted temperatures in January 2007 in Sodankylä is shown. On the right, the same period and observations are compared with forecasts by two versions of HIRLAM "newsnow" (Samuelsson et al., 2006) surface parametrizations.

SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM NORDIC SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM NORDIC SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM NORDIC SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM NORDIC SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM

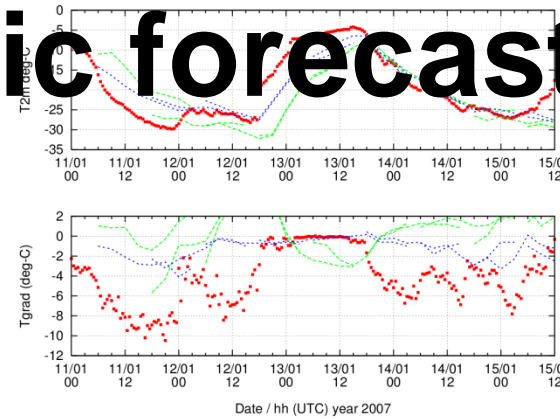
The spring humidity problem has been detected when sun is already shining during the day and snow starts melting, but during night the screen-level temperature is well below zero, most typically in April in Sodankylä. Perhaps it exists also on moist surface without snow. The symptoms of this problem in HIRLAM are:

- constant almost 100 % relative screen-level relative humidity
- anomalously large latent heat flux and very small sensible heat flux
- underestimated daytime surface energy balance (sum of surface layer and radiation fluxes), which may lead to lower than observed daytime screen level temperature



Relative humidity in Sodankylä 17-18 April 2009. Thin line: observed, colour lines: reference HIRLAM forecasts (operational RCR v. 7.2.1)

Figure above, an example of observed and forecasted relative humidity in April 2009 in Sodankylä is shown. On the right, observations during the same period are compared with forecasts by two versions of HIRLAM: "newsnow" (v.7.3beta) and the reference v. 7.3beta1.



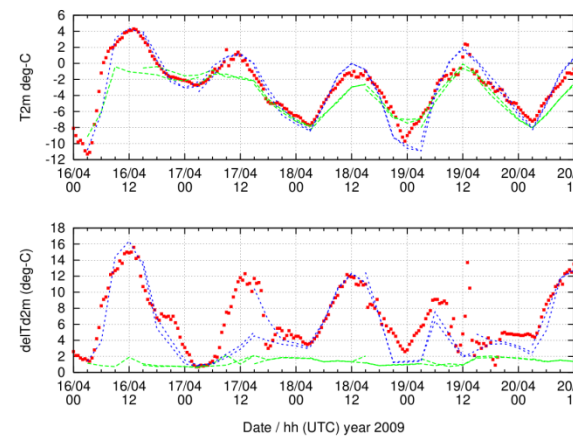
Screen level temperature (upper figure) and $T_s - T_{2m}$ (lower) in Sodankylä 11-15 January 2007. Red dots: observed, lines - newsnow HIRLAM forecasts: blue - v. 7.3beta1newsnow, April 2009, green - a version of newsnow as in March 2008.

Now the screen-level temperature is realistic, presumably most probably because the insulating effect of snow cover is properly handled by the "newsnow" surface parametrization. However, there is still almost no gradient between the lowest model level and the near-surface temperature. This means that the lowest model level temperature is too cold. This feature seems to be typical for the simulations of the shallow arctic boundary layer. Possible reasons to be studied further:

- surface layer turbulent flux formulations and related diagnostics of screen-level temperature over different surface types
- vertical resolution close to the surface
- formulations related to the long-wave radiation
- humidity and cloud formation in these conditions

CONCLUSION

The "newsnow" parametrizations seem to solve the "Nordic temperature problem" from the practical point of view, i.e. the predicted screen level temperature is realistic. However, deeper questions of modelling the shallow arctic boundary layer remain.



Screen level temperature (upper figure) and dew point deficit $T_{2m} - T_{d2m}$ (lower) in Sodankylä 11-15 January 2007. Red dots: observed, lines - newsnow HIRLAM forecasts: blue - v. 7.3beta1newsnow, April 2009, green - v. 7.3beta1)

Most of the NWP models have some problems in treating these spring situations, but the reference HIRLAM seems to behave worst of all, as is regularly seen at the mast verification page <http://fminwp.fmi.fi>.

The HIRLAM 7.3beta1 shows the same unrealistic features as the operational RCR. In "newsnow", the screen-level temperature and dew point deficit are now mostly realistic. The sensible heat flux is larger, and latent heat flux smaller, both clearly closer to the observations than in the reference simulation (not shown). The afternoon 17th of April is an exception: too moist and with unrealistically large latent heat flux also in "newsnow".

CONCLUSION

Based on comparisons during three weeks of April 2009, it can be concluded that "newsnow" parametrizations basically solve the spring humidity problem. Also the verification scores show clearly improved humidity forecast. However, in individual cases the old problem shows up, indicating that the subtle surface layer energy and moisture balance is difficult to simulate and sensitive to small changes in any of the near-surface meteorological parameters, snow cover and (low level) cloudiness. Again, the role of surface data assimilation may be important in these cases.

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Problems

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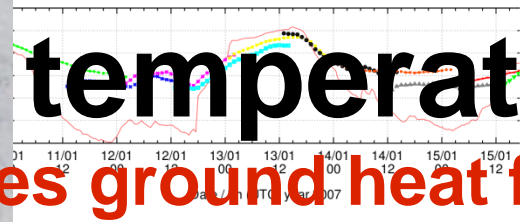
Newsnow has solved, from the point of view of a synoptic forecaster

- Nordic temperature problem (snow insulates ground heat flux)

- Spring humidity problem (realistic treatment of melting snow)

- Ice (glacier) heat flux problem (better estimate of heat transfer in ice)

Well-known Nordic winter temperature problem is related to cold surface fluxes. Most of the NWP models have problems in treating these situations. Symptoms of the problem in HIRLAM include:
- unrealistic screen-level temperature, especially in inversion conditions
- unrealistic temperature gradient between lowest model level and surface/screen level
- unrealistic results in case studies, not so clearly in standard verification scores



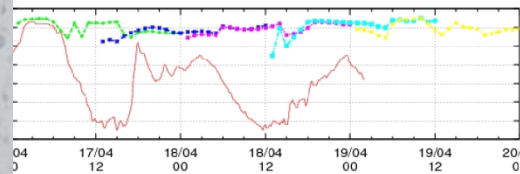
Screen level temperature in Sodankylä 11-15 January 2007. Thin line: observed, other lines: reference HIRLAM forecasts (v. 7.3beta, spring 2007), starting every 10 days.

Investigating an example of observed and forecasted temperatures in Sodankylä is shown. On the right, the same period and observations are compared with forecasts by two versions of HIRLAM "newsnow" (Samuels-2006) surface parametrizations.

SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM NORDIC SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM NORDIC SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM NORDIC SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM NORDIC SPRING HUMIDITY PROBLEM

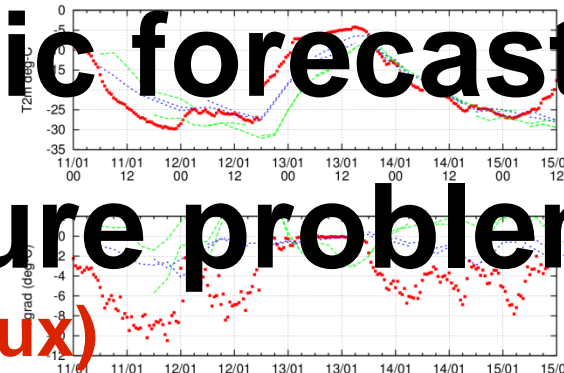
Spring humidity problem has been detected by sun glaze and melting snow and snow melt, but during night the screen level temperature was below zero mostly until April 18th. The problem is associated with moist surface without snow. The symptoms of this problem in HIRLAM are:

- underestimated daytime surface energy balance (sum of surface layer and radiation fluxes), which may lead to lower than observed daytime screen level temperature

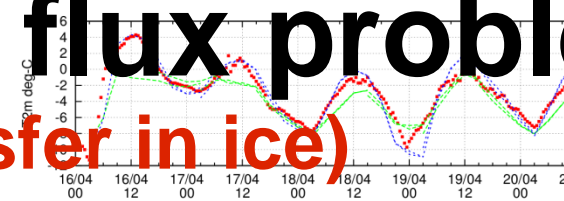


humidity in Sodankylä 17-18 April 2009. Thin line: observed, colour lines: reference HIRLAM forecasts (operational RCR v. 7.2.1)

On the left, an example of observed and forecasted relative humidity in April 2009 in Sodankylä is shown. On the right, observations during the same period are compared with forecasts by two versions of HIRLAM: "newsnow" (v. 7.3beta) and the reference v. 7.3beta1.



Screen level temperature (upper figure) and dew point deficit $T_{2m} - T_{d2m}$ (lower) in Sodankylä 11-15 January 2007. Red dots: observed, lines - newsnow HIRLAM forecasts: blue - v. 7.3beta1newsnow, April 2009, green - a version of newsnow as in March 2008.



Screen level temperature (upper figure) and dew point deficit $T_{2m} - T_{d2m}$ (lower) in Sodankylä 16-20 April 2009. Red dots: observed, lines - newsnow HIRLAM forecasts: blue - v. 7.3beta1newsnow, April 2009, green - v. 7.3beta1

Screen level temperature (upper figure) and dew point deficit $T_{2m} - T_{d2m}$ (lower) in Sodankylä 11-15 January 2007. Red dots: observed, lines - newsnow HIRLAM forecasts: blue - v. 7.3beta1newsnow, April 2009, green - v. 7.3beta1

Now the screen-level temperature is realistic, presumably most probably because the insulating effect of snow cover is properly handled by the "newsnow" surface parametrization. However, there is still almost no gradient between the lowest model level and the near-surface temperature. This means that the lowest model level temperature is too cold. This feature seems to be typical for the simulations of the shallow arctic boundary layer. Possible reasons to be studied further:

- surface layer turbulent flux formulations and related diagnostics of screen-level temperature over different surface types
- vertical resolution close to the surface
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The HIRLAM 7.3beta1 shows the same unrealistic features as the operational RCR. In "newsnow", the screen-level temperature and dew point deficit are now mostly realistic. The sensible heat flux is larger, and latent heat flux smaller, both clearly closer to the observations than in the reference simulation (not shown). The afternoon 17th of April is an exception: too moist and with unrealistically large latent heat flux also in "newsnow".

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Based on comparisons during three weeks of April 2009, it can be concluded that "newsnow" parametrizations basically solve the spring humidity problem. Also the verification scores show clearly improved humidity forecast. However, in individual cases the old problem shows up, indicating that the subtle surface layer energy and moisture balance is difficult to simulate and sensitive to small changes in any of the near-surface meteorological parameters, snow cover and (low level) cloudiness. Again, the role of surface data assimilation may be important in these cases.

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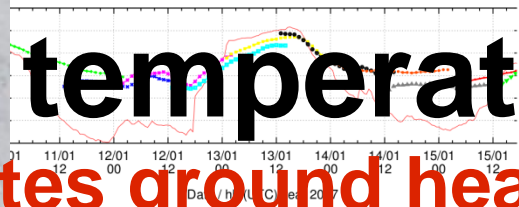
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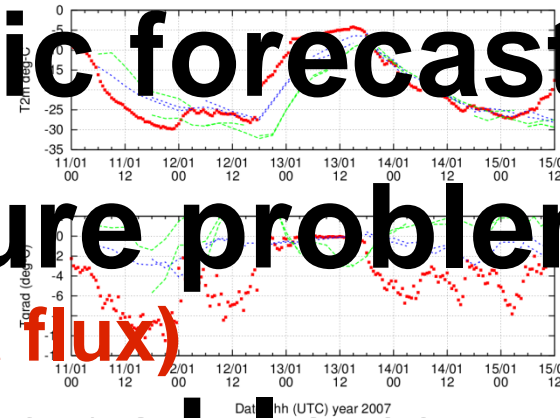
- Ice (glacier) heat flux problem (better estimate of heat transfer in ice)

The role of surface data assimilation: where is snow and ice?

Well-known Nordic winter temperature problem is related to cold surface fluxes. Most of the NWP models have problems in treating these situations. Symptoms of the problem in HIRLAM include:
- screen-level temperature stays too low, especially in conditions of snow cover
- insufficient temperature gradient between lowest model level and surface/screen level
- this is clearly seen in case studies, not so clearly in standard verification scores



Screen level temperature (upper figure) and dew point deficit $T_{2m} - T_{d2m}$ (lower figure) in Sodankylä 11-15 January 2007. Thin line: observed, red dots: reference HIRLAM forecasts (v. 7.3beta1, spring 2007), starting every 12 hours. Coloured lines: newsnow HIRLAM forecasts: blue - v. 7.3beta1newsnow, April 2009, green - a version of newsnow as in March 2008.



Screen level temperature (upper figure) and dew point deficit $T_{2m} - T_{d2m}$ (lower figure) in Sodankylä 11-15 January 2007. Thin line: observed, red dots: reference HIRLAM forecasts: blue - v. 7.3beta1newsnow, April 2009, green - a version of newsnow as in March 2008.

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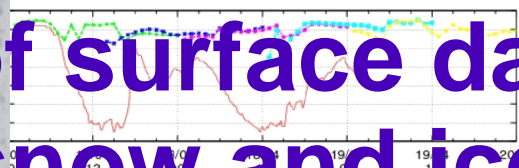
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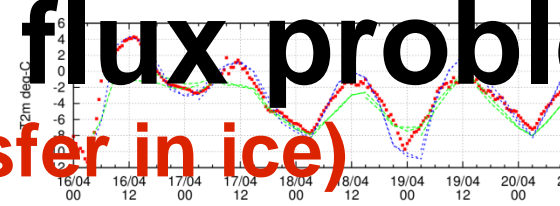
Spring humidity problem has been detected when sun is already shining and snow starts melting, but during night the screen level temperature is still below zero, mostly in April in Sodankylä. The problem is most prominent on snow-free surfaces. The symptoms of this problem in HIRLAM are:

- constant almost 100% relative screen level relative humidity
- small or late surface energy flux and underestimated heat flux
- underestimated daytime surface energy balance (sum of surface layer and radiation fluxes), which may lead to lower than observed daytime level temperature



Relative humidity in Sodankylä 17-18 April 2009. Thin line: observed, colour lines: reference HIRLAM forecasts (operational RCR v. 7.2.1)

In the above figure, an example of observed and forecasted relative humidity in April 2009 in Sodankylä is shown. On the right, observations during the same period are compared with forecasts by two versions of HIRLAM: "newsnow" (v. 7.3beta1newsnow) and the reference v. 7.3beta1.



Screen level temperature (upper figure) and dew point deficit $T_{2m} - T_{d2m}$ (lower figure) in Sodankylä 16-20 April 2009. Red dots: observed, lines - newsnow HIRLAM forecasts: blue - v. 7.3beta1newsnow, April 2009, green - v. 7.3beta1

Most of the NWP models have some problems in treating the spring humidity problem, but the reference HIRLAM seems to handle it well, at least as is regularly seen at the most verification page <http://fminwp.fmi.fi>.

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Tmax Mean Error in 24 hour forecasts

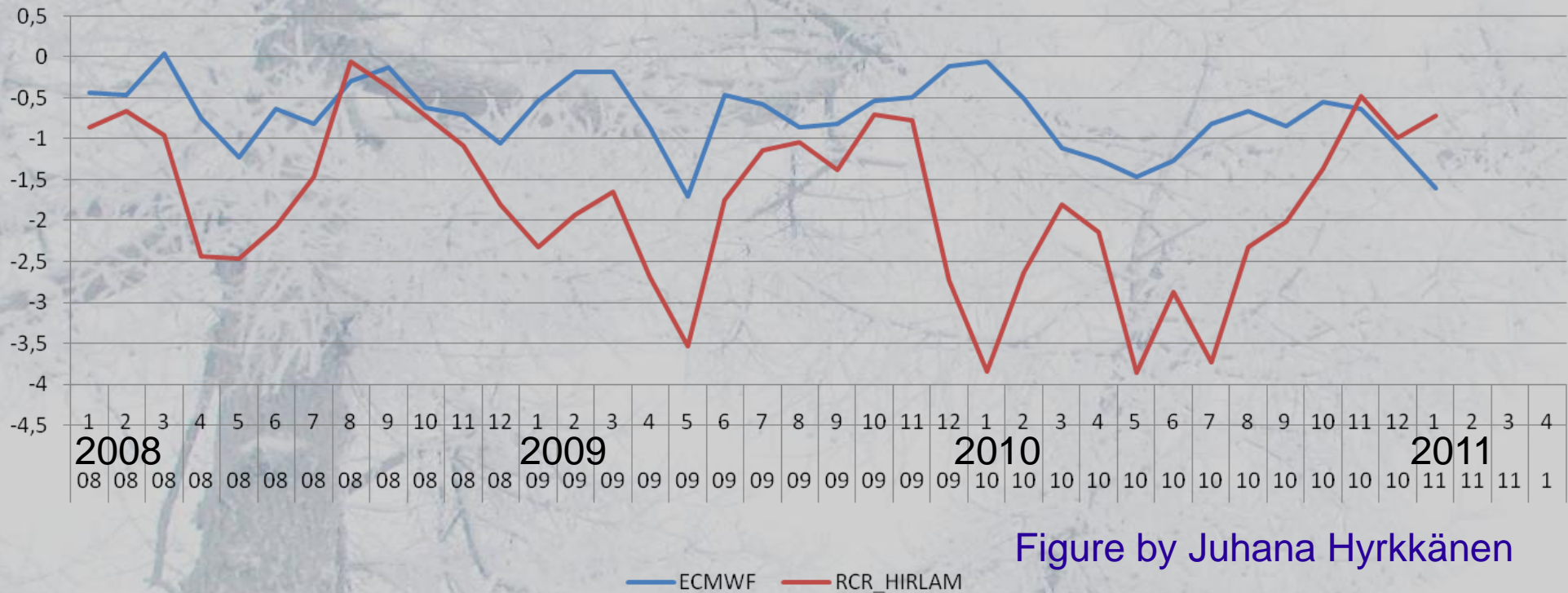


Figure by Juhana Hyrkkänen

A FMI forecaster's comment on the “reborn” HIRLAM:
“Improvement in November 2010 has been significant. Earlier, HIRLAM temperature forecasts have been a kind of joke. Now they are of similar quality, even better than ECMWF, which has experienced certain problems during this winter.”

THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO SMHI RESEARCHERS BEHIND THE NEWSNOW PARAMETRIZATIONS: STEFAN AND PATRICK et al.!

HIRLAM output snow variables

water equivalent of snowpack, grid average

water equivalent of snowpack: ice, open land, forest

water equivalent of snow on canopy

snow depth, grid average

open land snow depth

accumulated total, large-scale, convective snowfall

temperature of snow surface: open land, forest

water in open land, forest snow

snow albedo

snow density

fraction of snow on ice, open land, forest

Experiments

Questions

- Is the new MSO scheme technically correctly implemented?
- Does the scheme behave physically correctly?
- In which scales the new parametrization has an effect?
- Are the relations between turbulent and wave drag reasonable?
- How do the modifications influence on the verification results of HIRLAM?
- How sensitive are the results to the representation and filtering of the orography-related variables?

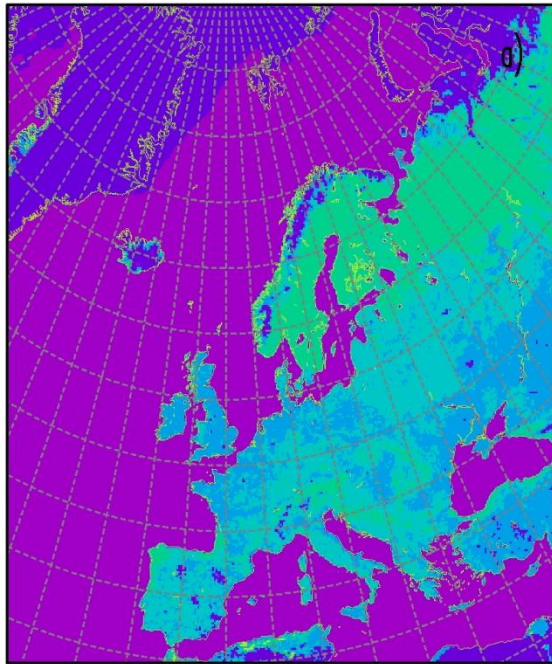
First conclusions

The momentum fluxes from the MSO scheme are one order of magnitude smaller than turbulent fluxes. Within the MSO parametrization flow blocking has the greatest effect. Verification against observations shows yet no improvement compared with the present situation.

ABOUT ROUGHNESS

MOMENTUM VEGETATION – HEAT – OROGRAPHIC

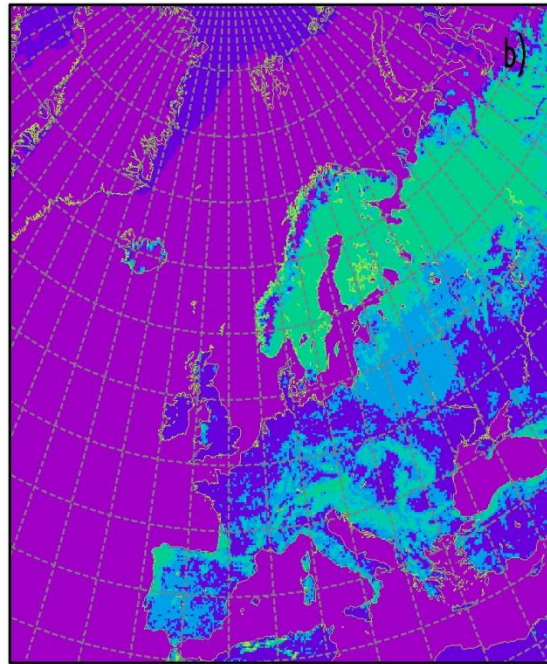
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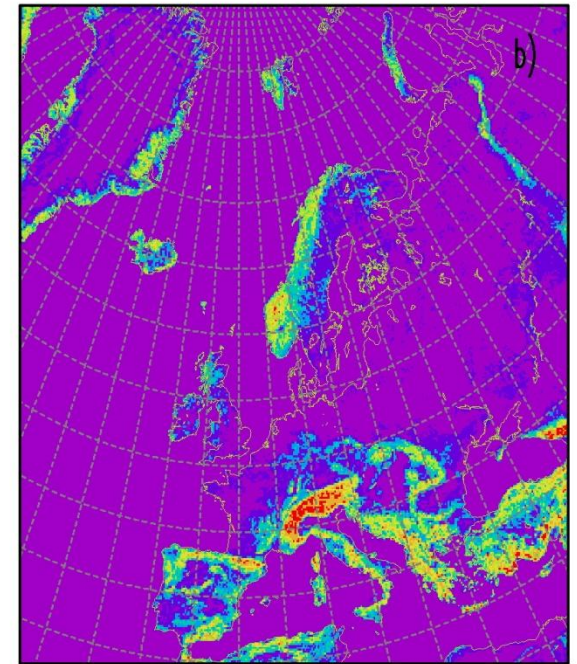
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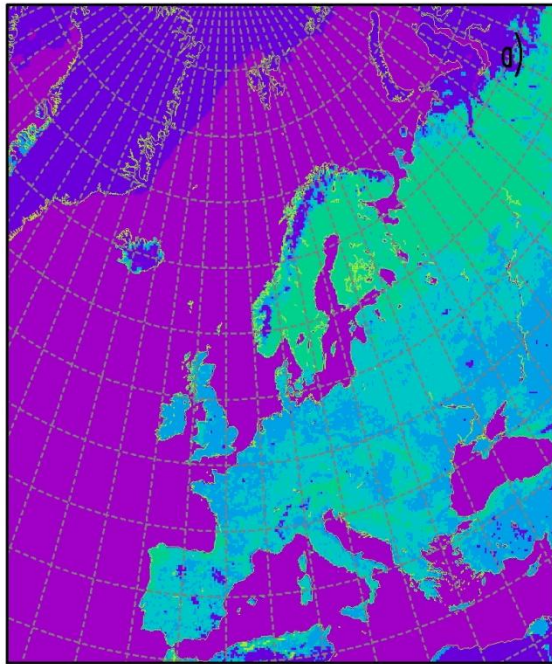
min=0 max=39.0781 mean=0.211594



MSO-SSO PARAMETRIZATIONS REPLACE USAGE OF OROGRAPHIC ROUGHNESS

MOMENTUM VEGETATION – HEAT – OROGRAPHIC

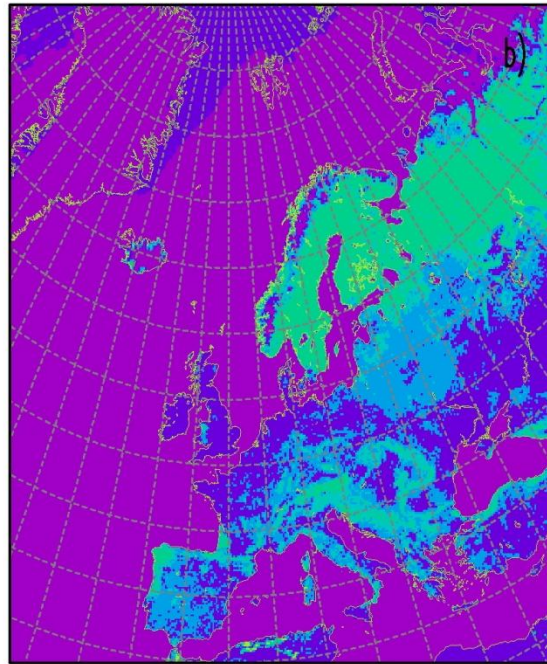
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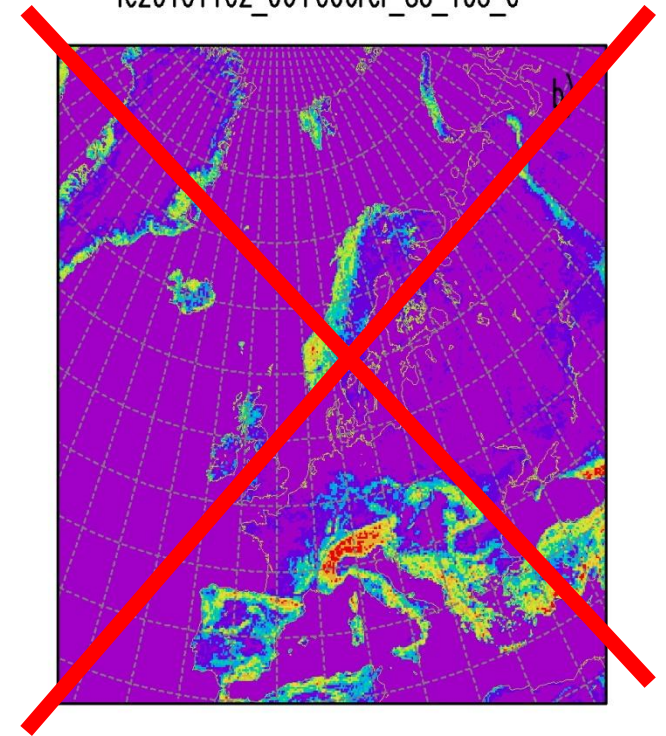
fc20101102_06+006mdrcr_168_105_0



min=1.43626e-05 max=1.80861 mean=0.120869



fc20101102_06+006rcr_83_105_0



min=0 max=39.0781 mean=0.211594



Parametrization of orographic effects on surface radiation in HIRLAM

By A. V. SENKOVA¹, L. RONTU^{2,*} and H. SAVIJÄRVI³, ¹*Russian State Hydrometeorological University, St. Petersburg, Russia;* ²*Finnish Meteorological Institute, Helsinki, Finland;* ³*University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland*

(Manuscript received 15 September 2006; in final form 19 February 2007)

ABSTRACT

A parametrization scheme for orographic effects on surface radiation was introduced in the High Resolution Limited Area Model. One-kilometre resolution digital elevation data were used to derive the needed orographic parameters. The scheme is applicable within a model setup of any resolution, but is shown to significantly affect the local near-surface temperatures only when the horizontal resolution is less than a few kilometres. Then, typical maximum local differences due to the new parametrizations are 50–100 W m⁻² in the net radiation fluxes and 1°–3° in the screen-level temperature. Interactions between clouds and radiation were detected both in the single-column and three-dimensional sensitivity experiments.

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**ORORAD TO ENTER PREOPERATIONAL PHASE WITHIN HIRLAM 7.4
(available in HIRLAM since 2007, to be suggested also to SURFEX)**



TERRA MODIS

HIRLAM RCR ANALYSIS

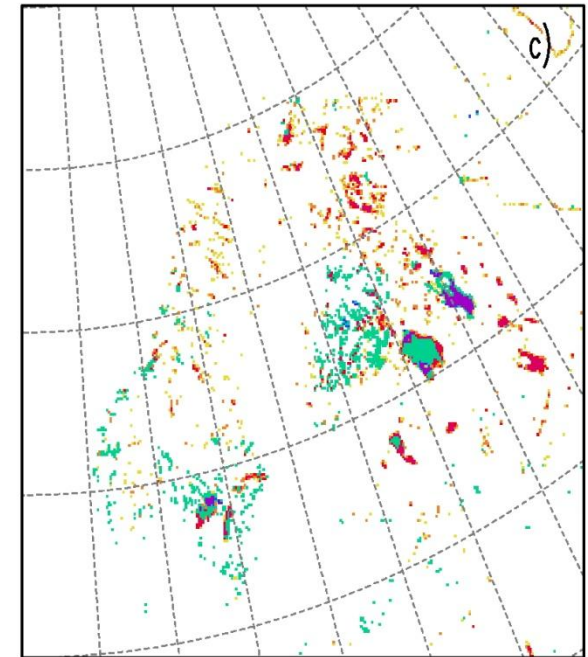
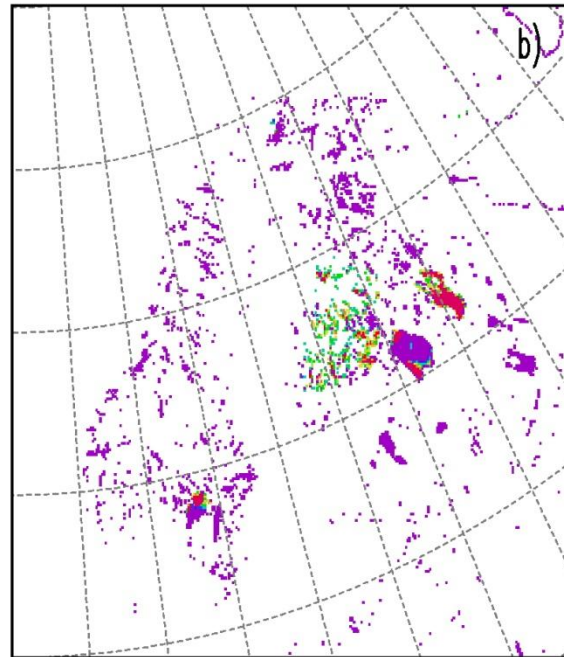
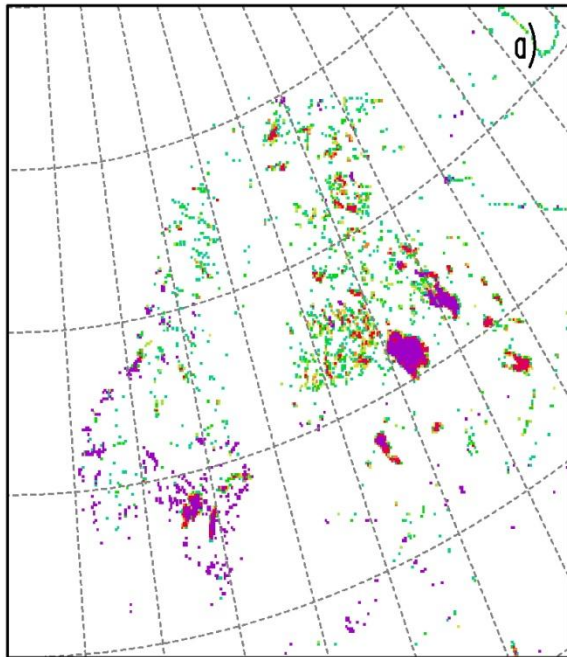
FRACTION OF LAKE ICE 15.12.2009

USING FLAKE – 7.4 NO FLAKE – DIFFERENCE

fc20091215_06+006orsyk12_194_105_902

fc20091215_06+006test74_194_105_902

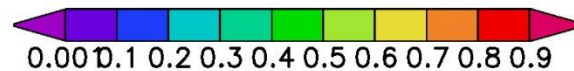
difference a)-b) mask 196_105_0_0.3



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min=0 max=1 mean=0.158696

min=-1 max=1 mean=0.256761



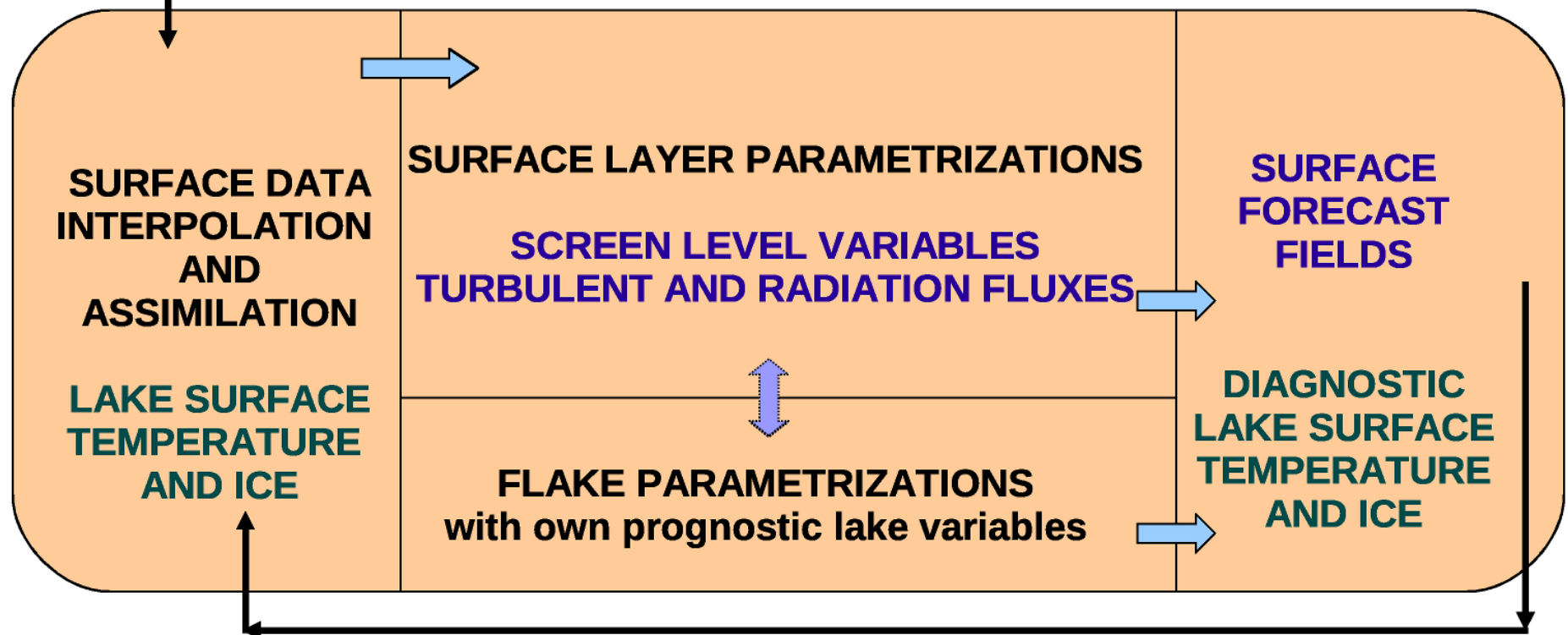
SYKE OBSERVATIONS FROM 27 FINNISH LAKES USED

PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE OF SURFACE DATA ASSIMILATION AND FLAKE

INPUT (OBSERVATIONS)

- ECMWF analysis = climate!
 - Finlake climate data
 - Baltic sea observations
 - Local lake observations

- FLake provides background for the LST analysis
- FLake prognostic lake variables are not influenced by the data assimilation
- During the forecast, the HIRLAM surface layer parametrizations see the assimilated SST and ice/water fraction and evolving lowest model level variables
- FLake parametrizations know the evolving atmospheric fluxes at each time step



**STATUS OF
FLAKE IN
OPERATIONAL
HIRLAM AND
IN SURFEX**

**Depth and
fraction of
lakes**

**Cold start
climate data**

**Data
assimilation**

Prognostic model

HIRLAM

Implemented
in climate
generation

Implemented
in climate
generation

Peaceful
coexistence
LST, ice

Integrated to ISBA +
all over HIRLAM
switchable

SURFEX

Stand-alone
only

Stand-alone
only

Not
implemented

Module for water tile

The background of the slide is a landscape photograph. It features a range of blue-toned mountains in the distance under a light, cloudy sky. On the left side, a tall, thin metal tower stands on a hillside. In the foreground, there is a paved road and some dry, brownish vegetation.

***HIRLAM, NWP
MODEL***

1.1.1985 - 31.12.2015

HIRLAM NWP MODEL 2011-2015

Operational weather forecasting

- **HIRLAM 7.4 RCR to be operational in the end of 2011?**
- **Using HIRLAM 7.4 within operational GLAMEPS**

Transfer of experience from HIRLAM to HARMONIE

- **Snow + forest and lake/sea ice data assimilation and modelling**
- **Orography-related parametrizations**
- **HIRLAM experience on radiation, clouds and convection**
- **Experience on single-column model and diagnostic tools**

HIRLAM NWP MODEL 2011-2015

Research projects and applications

- **Development and application of (surface) data assimilation using space-born observations**
- **Renalysis projects**
- **Atmospheric forcing for stand-alone SURFEX, HIGHTSI, FLake ...**
- **Ongoing model intercomparison experiments**
- **Studies on chemistry and urban effects with Enviro-HIRLAM**
- **HIRLAM on Mars**
- **Climate research – RCA model and NWP HIRLAM**

REBORN HIRLAM



***- towards operational RCR-7.4
in the end of 2011***

- 1. Import the latest small technical corrections***
- 2. Declare 7.4 beta and start systematic testing with the suggested operational setup (Europe with 0.075/65L)***
- 3. Continue improvement of FLake parametrizations to ensure proper work of peaceful coexistence in all seasons***



THANK YOU!