



# **An introduction to SURFEX**

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SURFEX course

# Program of the course

	09:30	09:45	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00		14:00	14:30	15:00	15:30	16:00	16:30	
<b>Tuesday 12/03/2024</b>	introduction	SURFEX general presentation <i>(Patrick Le Moigne)</i>			break	SURFEX installation and compilation -PART I <i>(Marie Minvielle)</i>		<b>L U N C H</b>	SURFEX installation and compilation - PART II <i>(MM)</i>		break	PGD and ECOCLIMAP <i>(MM)</i>			
<b>Wednesday 13/03/2024</b>	PREP <i>(MM)</i>	PGD and PREP exercises <i>(Antoine Verrelle and MM)</i>			break	PGD and PREP exercises <i>(AV and MM)</i>			ISBA presentation <i>(Aaron Boone)</i>	break	Practical exercises : ISBA <i>(AV and MM)</i>				
<b>Thursday 14/03/2024</b>	Town scheme : TEB <i>(Valéry Masson)</i>		break	Practical exercises : TEB <i>(AV and MM)</i>		Water scheme : FLAKE <i>(PLM)</i>			Practical exercises : FLAKE <i>(AV and MM)</i>		break	Practical exercises : ISBA <i>(AV and MM)</i>			
<b>Friday 15/03/2024</b>	Data assimilation in SURFEX <i>(Bertrand Bonan)</i>			break	Practical exercises <i>(AV and MM)</i>		Conclusion discussion evaluation								

Attestation of stage ?

# Documentation for the course

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Presentation and exercices :

<http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/surfex/spip.php?article423>

Documentation : scientific documentation and user's guide (efficient research tool) export versions, bugfixes, etc. :

<http://www.umr-cnrm.fr/surfex/>

# Outline

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- Introduction – main principles
- Physics
- Description of the surface (tiles – patches – databases)
- Interface with the atmosphere
- SURFEX applications

# Main Principles

# Let's begin, what is SURFEX ?

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SURFEX means « surface externalisée »

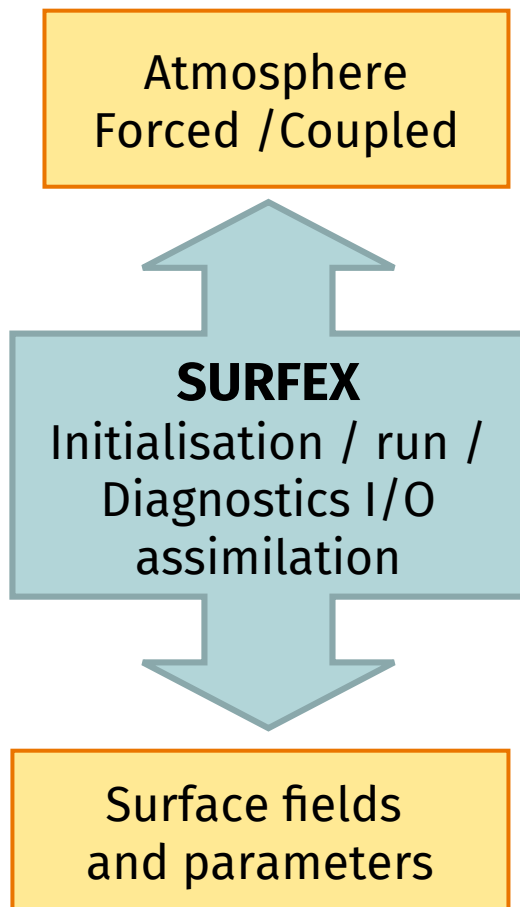
SURFEX is a code that represents the surface processes.

SURFEX is « externalized », this means that the code can be used inside a meteorological or climate model, or in stand alone (offline) mode.

SURFEX has a modular structure and can include new parameterizations or schemes.

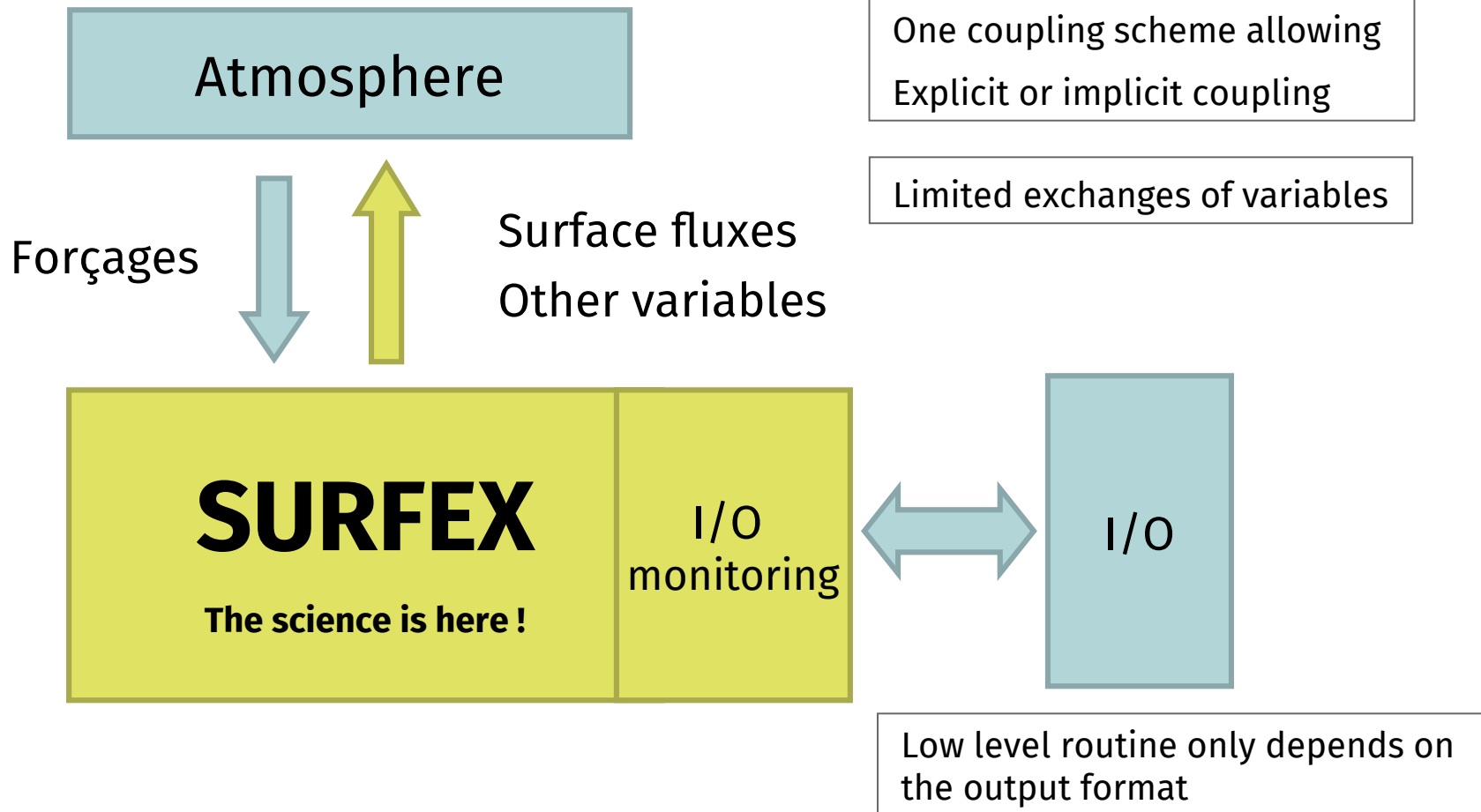
# Why do we need externalized surface codes ?

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- The aim of a surface code is to simulate the fluxes between the surface and the atmosphere : energy, water, carbon, dust, snow, chemical species...
- The surface code needs to simulate processes « below » or « inside » the surface to provide this fluxes.
- Surface codes are improved and validated offline, many works on surface processes are done by people not belonging to the meteorological or climatological communities.
- The use of the same code for coupled and offline application is mandatory in order to ensure the consistency between the two applications.
- Need to externalize the surface code of the atmospheric model. I.e. clearly separate them from other part of the code in order to run them in stand alone mode

# Coupling and interfaces





# SURFEX : history

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~2000 : Initial decision : building of SURFEX on the base of the existing ISBA/TEB codes

Scales : 1 m  $\leftrightarrow$  300 km

Use : numerical weather forecast, climate runs, monitoring, reanalysis, process studies..

2005 : V1 : Méso-NH, AROME

2008 : coupling with TRIP

2009 : Extended Kalman filter

2009 : FLake

2010 : coupling with Top-Model

2010 : CNRM-CM5.1

2010/2011 : ALADIN, assimilation (OI) for ALADIN et AROME

2011 : Surfex Scientific committee : CNRM (GMAP, GMGEC, GMME), Méso-NH, ALADIN, HIRLAM.

2011 : CROCUS

2012 : SODA (Surfex offline data assimilation)

2013 : TEB/BEM (building energy model)

2015 : ISBA/MEB, use of OASIS for coupling with hydrology and ocean models

# Versions and correspondence with atmospheric models versions

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<b>SFX</b>	<b>release</b>	<b>NWP</b>	<b>MNH</b>	<b>CNRM-CM</b>
<b>V1</b>	2005			
<b>V4.8</b>	2008	CY35t2	V4.8	
<b>V5.8</b>	2009	CY36t1		CM5 (CY32+V5.38)
<b>V6</b>	2010	CY37t1		
<b>V7.1</b>	2011		V4.9	
<b>V7.2</b>	Feb 2012	CY38t1		
<b>V7.2.1</b>	Jan 2013	CY39t1		
<b>V7.3</b>	Feb 2013	CY40t1	V4.10	
<b>V8.0</b>	2016	CY43t1		
<b>V8.1</b>	Feb 2018		V5.4.0	CM6 (CY37t2+V8 or V7.3)

# Coupled and operational applications based on SURFEX

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## **Atmospheric models :**

**Mesoscale model Meso-nh**

**Climate research : ARPEGE – ALADIN**

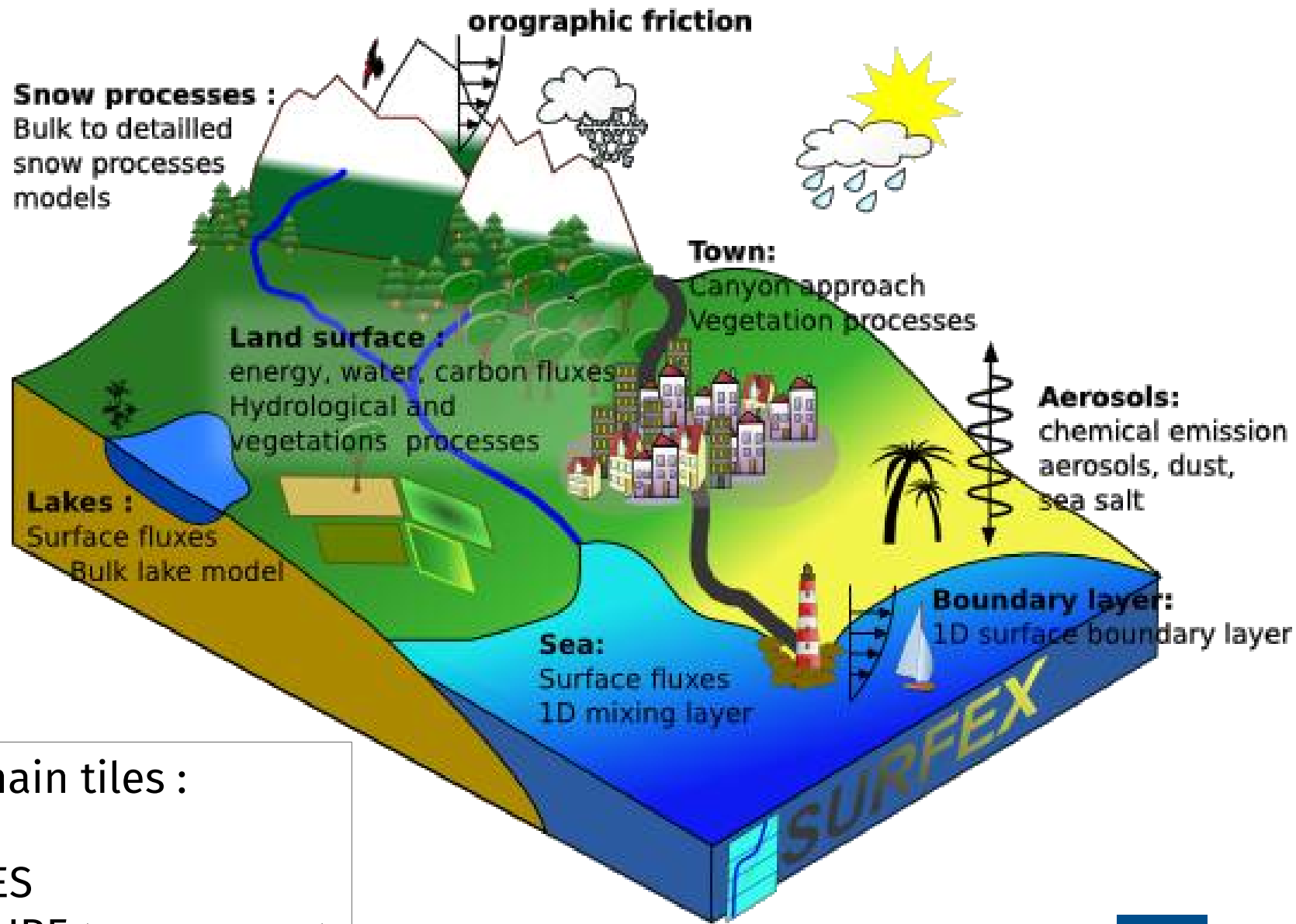
## **Numerical weather prediction :**

- AROME (2008)
- ALADIN (2010)
- Soil analysis (OI\_MAIN) 2011
- ALARO
- HARMONIE-AROME
- ARPEGE (2015/2016)

## **Offline operational applications**

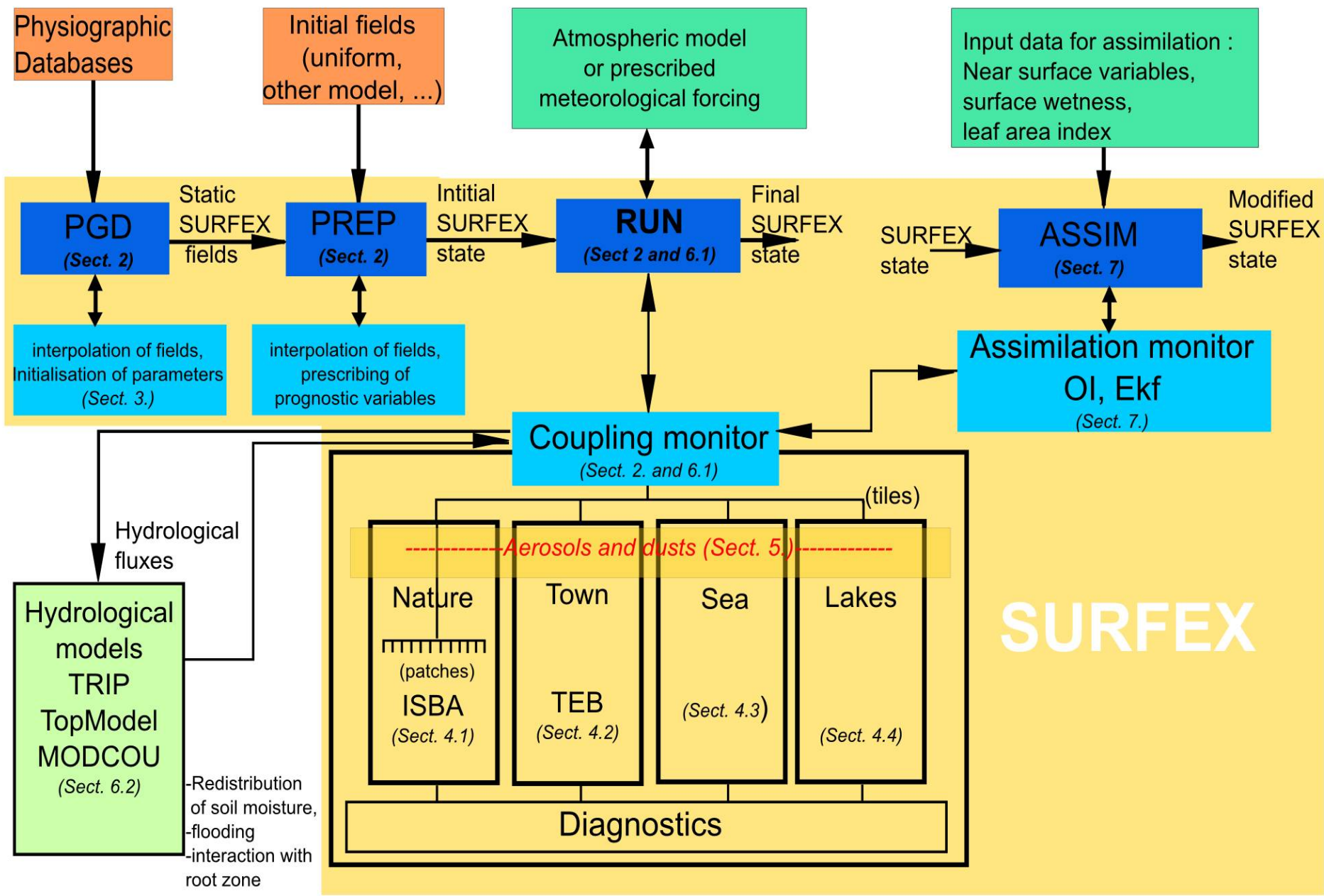
**Snow and avalanches : Safran-Surfex-Meptra (2014)**

**Hydrology : Safran-Surfex-Modcou (2015/2016)**



**Four main tiles :**

- SEA
- LAKES
- NATURE (natural surfaces)
- TOWN



# Physics

# Physical schemes

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## **SEA and OCEANS :**

Prescribed SST, Charnock formula  
Mondon and Redelsperger  
ECUME (multicampaign parametrisation)  
1D ocean model

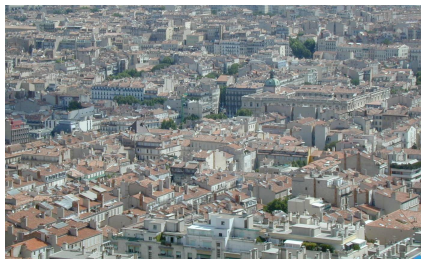


## **LAKES :**

Prescribed surface temperatures, Charnock formula  
FLake



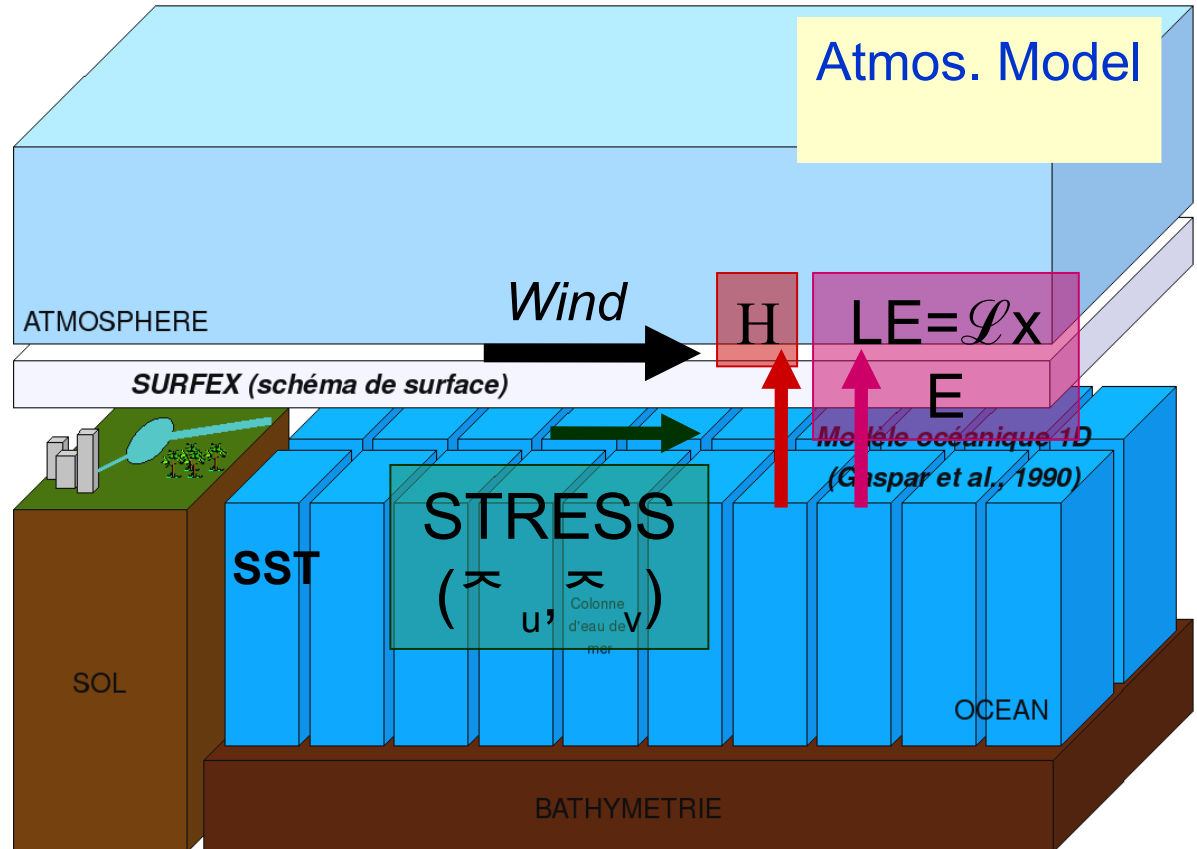
**SOL/VEGETATION : ISBA**  
(Interaction Soil Biosphere Atmosphere)



**TOWN : TEB (Town Energy Balance)**  
Canyon Approach,  
Detailed radiatif scheme  
Heat storage in buildings

# Sea / Ocean

- ECUME multi-campaign parametrisation (prescribed SST)
- 1D ocean mixing layer model Gaspar et al., 1990





# Lakes : Flake model

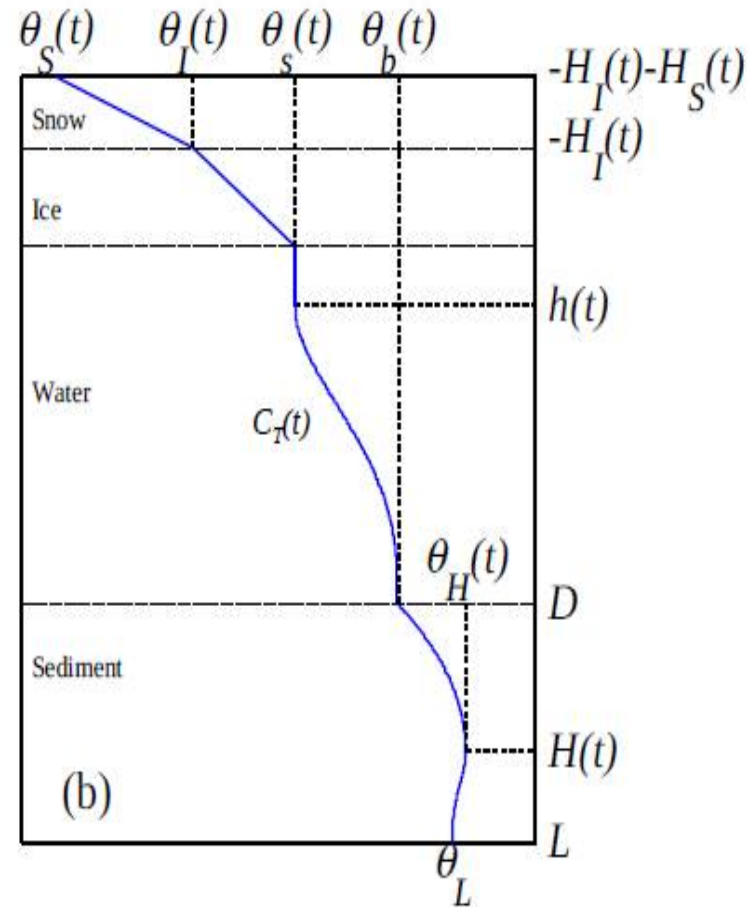
Simple model, based on assumed shape of the temperature profile

Snow/Ice :

- the ice depth,
- the temperature at the ice upper surface,
- the snow depth, and the temperature at the snow upper surface.

Water / Sediments

- the surface temperature,
- the bottom temperature,
- the mixed-layer depth,
- the shape factor with respect to the temperature profile in the thermocline,
- the depth within bottom sediments penetrated by the thermal wave, and
- the temperature at that depth.

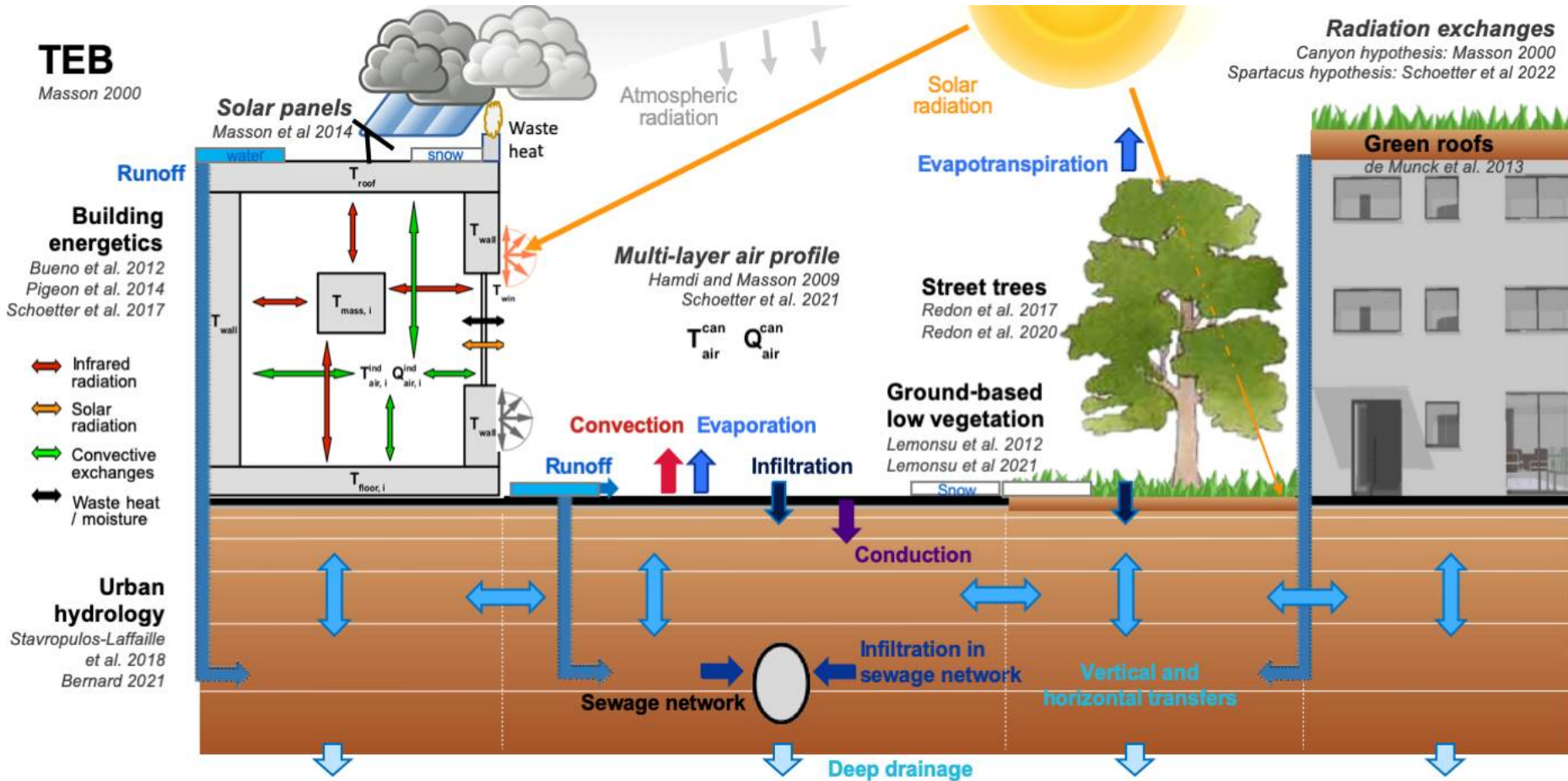


# ISBA main physical options

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<b>ISBA</b>	Soil	Force restore : 2 temperature, 2 or 3 layers for water, icing Diffusion : multilayer (temperature, water, icing)
	Vegetation	Noilhan et Planton 89 (~Jarvis) A-gs (photosynthesis and CO2 fluxes) A-gs and interactive vegetation Slow carbon processes (wood and roots)
	Hydrology	No subgrid process Subgrid surface runoff Subgrid drainage Flooding and coupling with TRIP
	Snow	1 layer, albedo, density variable (ARP/Climat, Douville 95) 1 layer, albedo, density variable (ARP/ALD, Bazile) Multilayer (3, or...) albedo, density, liquid water content (Boone and Etchevers 2000)

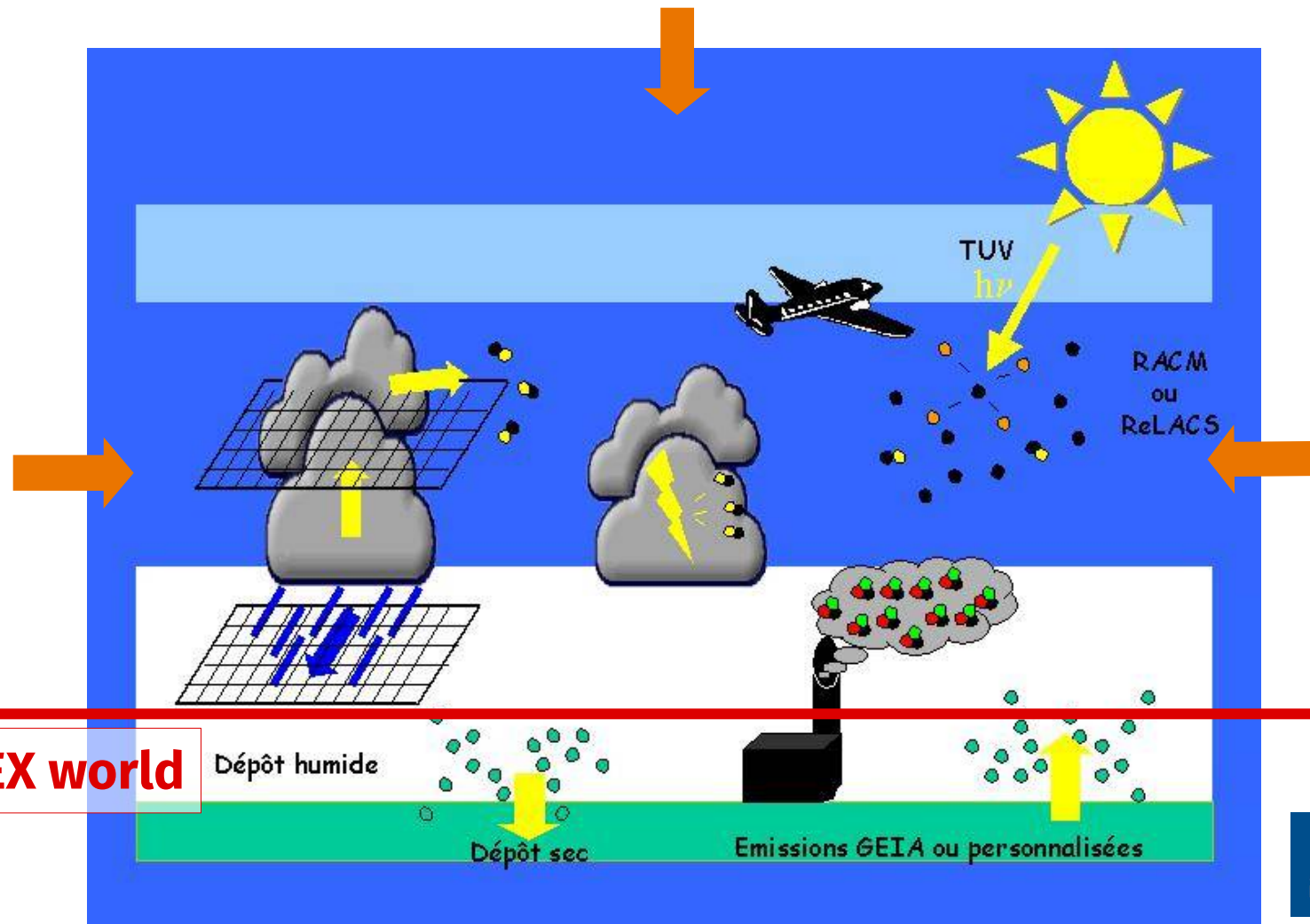
# Town : TEB



# Chemical scheme

From local (dx=1 km) to synoptic scale (dx=50 km)

<http://www.aero.obs-mip.fr/mesonh>



**SURFEX world**

Dépôt humide

Dépôt sec

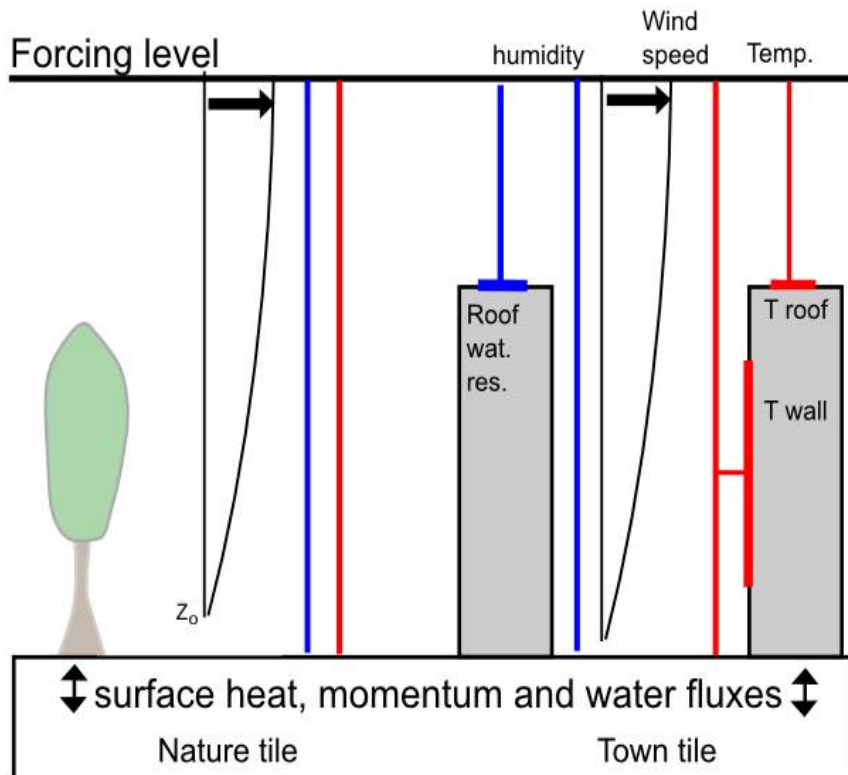
Emissions GEIA ou personnalisées

TUV  
h<sub>2</sub>

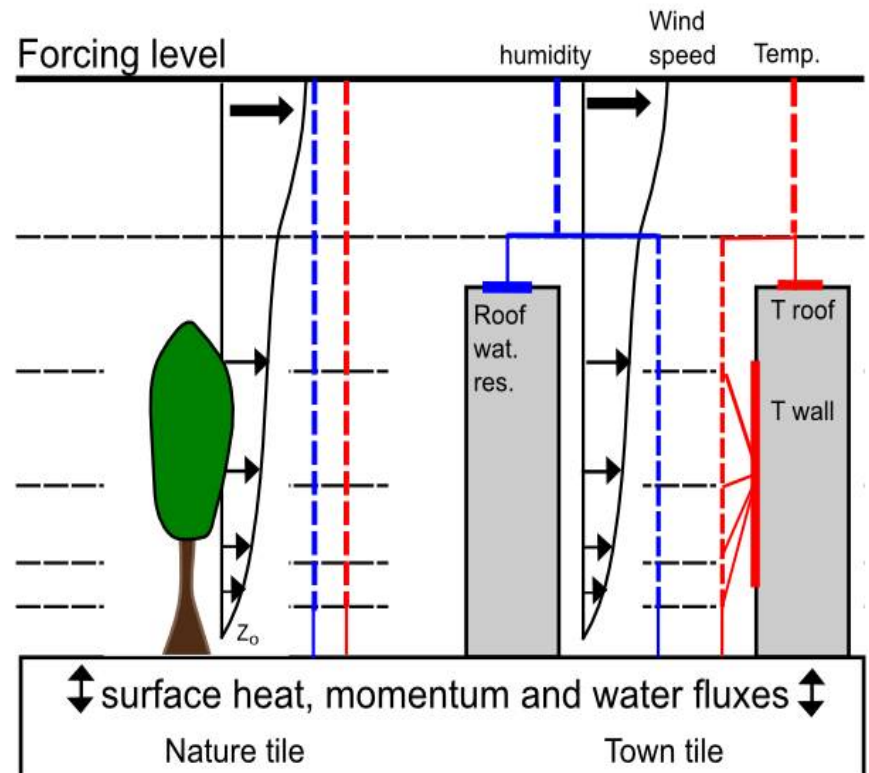
RACM  
ou  
ReLACS

# The SBL model (Canopy)

without SBL model



with SBL model

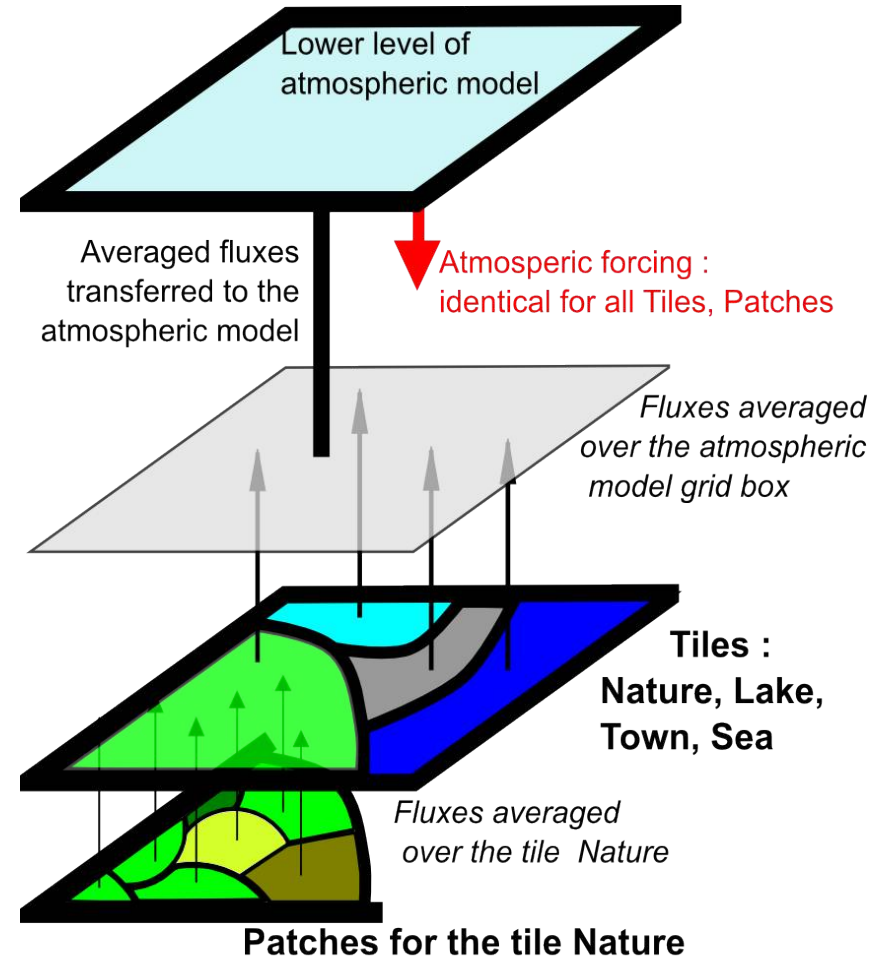


# Describing the surface

# How can we represent the surface heterogeneity in a grid ?

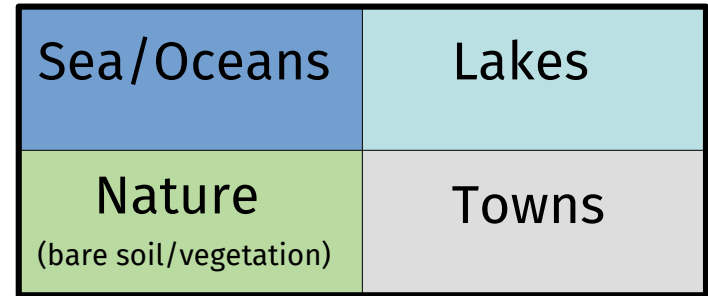
## Tiling approach :

- Within a grid mesh, the surface is divided into several homogeneous component.
- Each component receives the same atmospheric forcing
- Each component calculates fluxes
- Fluxes are aggregated and returned to the atmosphere
- No horizontal transfert within the surface



# Tiling in SURFEX

- The surface is divided into 4 main Tiles, which are treated by different models.



- The tile Nature is divided into 19 natural functional types

<b>NO</b> (no vegetation)	<b>C4</b> (summer crops)	<b>BOGR</b> (boreal grassland)
<b>ROCK</b> (bare rock)	<b>IRR</b> (irrigated crops)	<b>SHRB</b> (shrub)
<b>SNOW</b> (permanent snow and ice)	<b>GRAS</b> (grassland)	<b>TEBE</b> (temperate broadleaf evergreen)
<b>TEBD</b> (temperate broadleaf deciduous)	<b>TROG</b> (tropical grassland)	<b>TENE</b> (temperate needleleaf evergreen)
<b>BONE</b> (boreal needleleaf evergreen)	<b>PARK</b> (peat bogs, parks, gardens)	<b>BOBD</b> (boreal broadleaf deciduous)
<b>TRBE</b> (tropical broadleaf evergreen)	<b>TRBD</b> (tropical broadleaf deciduous)	<b>BOND</b> (boreal needleleaf deciduous)
<b>C3</b> (winter crops)		



# Aggregation of functional types is possible in ISBA

Number of patches chosen by user

	19	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
NO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
ROCK	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
SNOW	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
C3	7	7	7	6	5	4	4	3	3	3	3	1	1
C4	8	8	8	7	6	5	4	3	3	3	3	1	1
GRASS	10	10	10	9	8	7	6	5	5	3	3	1	1
BOGR	18	10	10	9	8	7	6	5	5	3	3	1	1
TROG	11	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	5	3	3	1	1
IRR	9	9	9	8	7	6	5	4	4	4	3	1	1
PARK	12	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	4	4	3	1	1
TEBD	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
TRBD	13	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
TEBE	14	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
BOBD	16	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
SHRB	19	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
TRBE	6	6	6	5	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
BONE	5	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
TENE	15	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
BOND	17	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1

# Physiographic parameters

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## The surface needs several types of parameters :

- Orography
- Type of the surface (tile) and vegetation types (patches) for « Nature »
- ISBA : Albedo, leaf area index, soil texture, ...
- FLAKE : lake depth, extinction coefficient ...
- SEA : Bathymetry
- - ...

## Solutions :

Prescribe the model parameters using a namelist (simple offline runs).

# Physiographic parameters

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## Solutions :

- **Databases :**
  - Land cover database ECOCLIMAP
  - Topography (e.g. Gtopo30 at 1 km or SRTM for higher resolution, from which the mean grid-cell altitude and sub-grid topography parameters are derived).
  - Soil properties (clay and sand proportions, organic matters) derived from FAO or HWSD databases.
  - Lake depth and optical water properties (Kourzeneva et al., 2011)
  - Ocean Bathymetry (e.g. Etopo2 from Smith and Sandwell (1997))
- **Ad hoc parameter list (specific cases)**

# ECOCLIMAP :

## A global database of surface parameters

A land cover map at 1 km resolution in latlon projection

Fully coupled to SURFEX, or available separately)

ECOCLIMAP I : global (215 covers)

ECOCLIMAP II Europe (273 covers)

10-day period surface parameters: LAI, fraction of vegetation veg,  
roughness length, emissivity, fraction of greeness.

Constant surface parameters: visible / nir / uv albedos, minimum stomatal  
resistance...

# ECOCLIMAP-II Europe

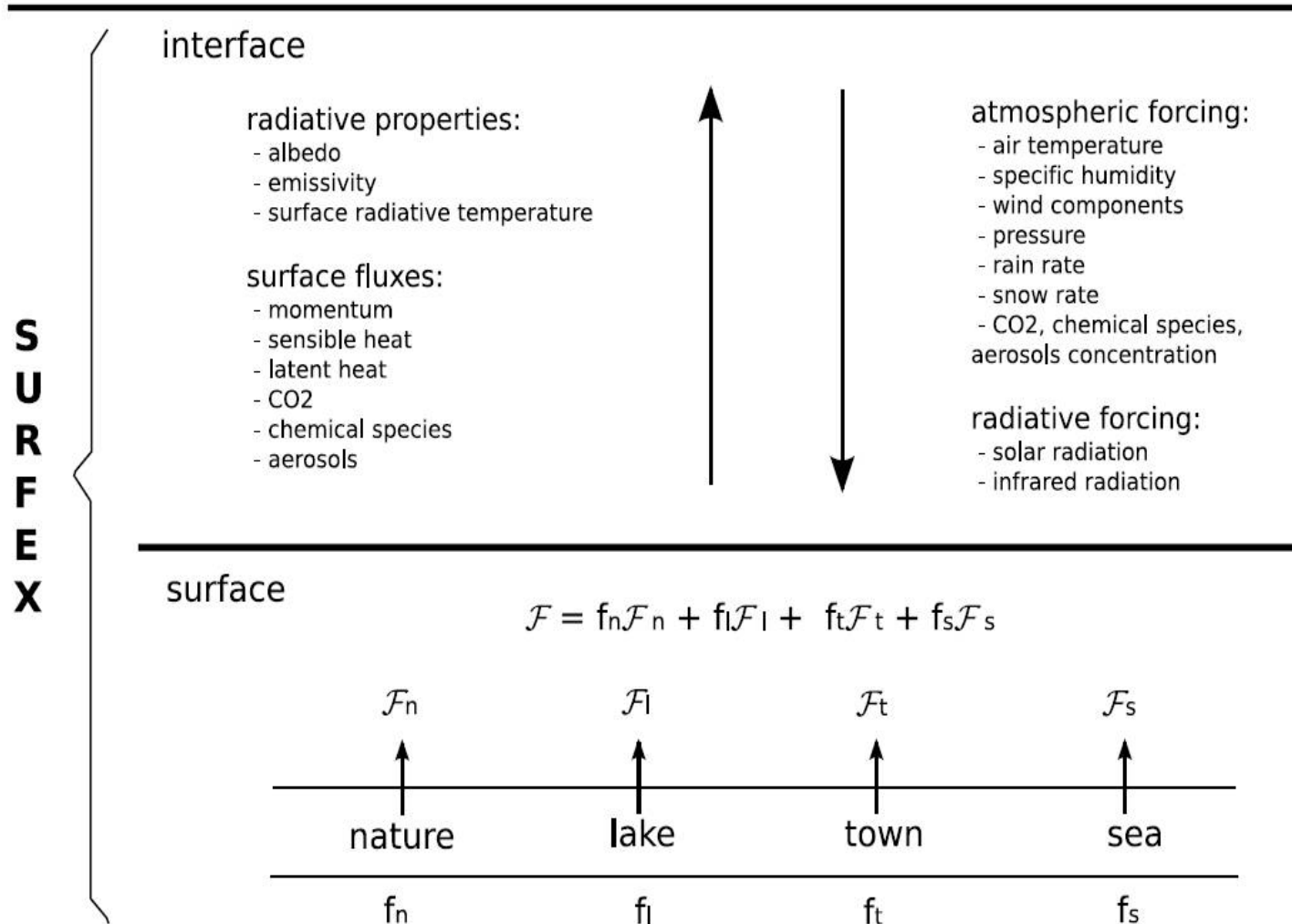
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# Interface with the atmosphere

# Interface with the atmosphere

## ATMOSPHERE



# Coupling with the atmosphere

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Explicit coupling (general case) :

variables are provided at  $T$  (or  $T \rightarrow T+DT$ )

Fluxes are returned averaged over  $T / T+DT$

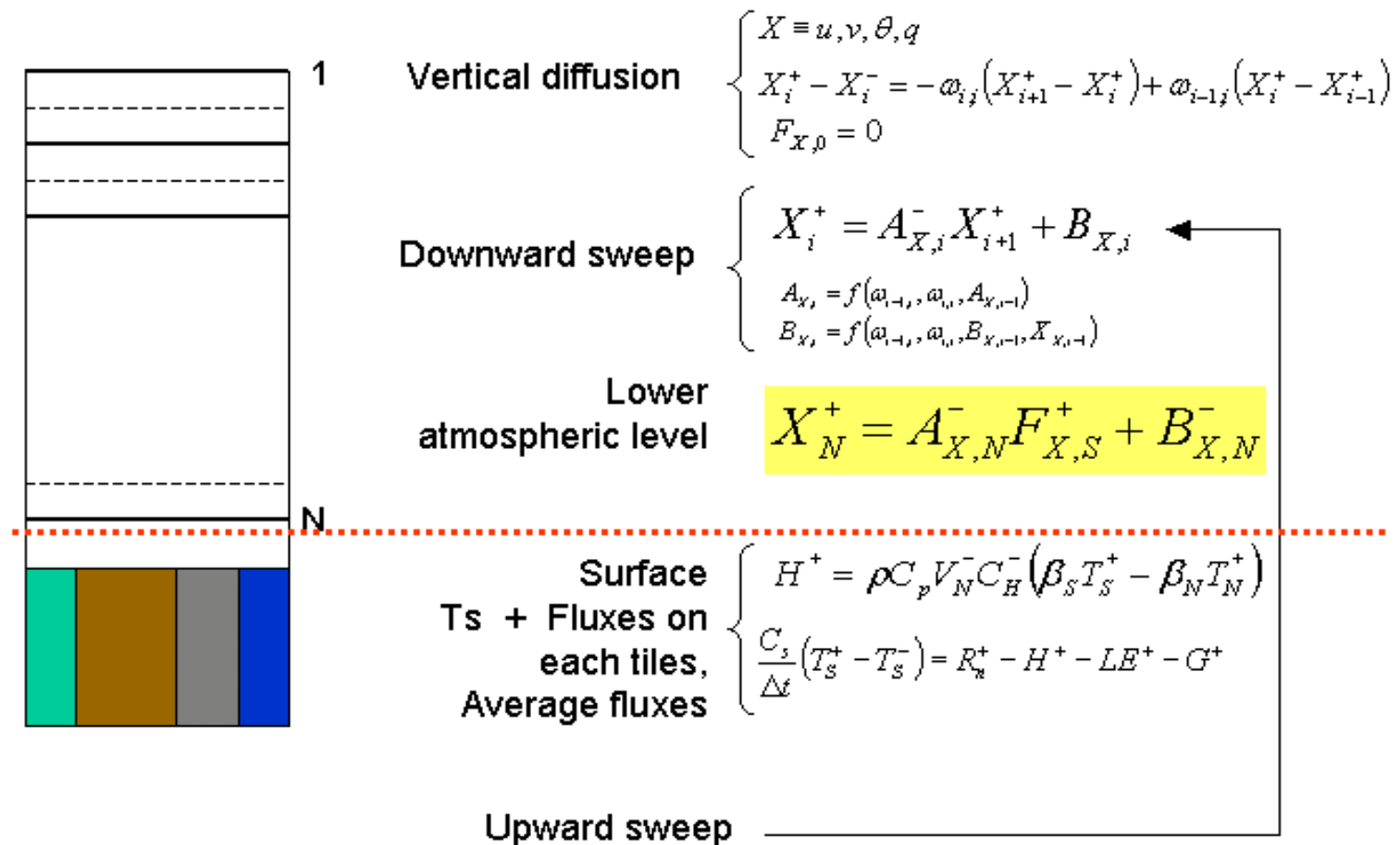
Offline :                      ASCII, binary, lfi, FA,  
                                    netcdf standardized interface

Coupled mode :      call `coupling_surf_atm( variables...)`



# Implicit coupling

In case of long time step to avoid instabilities in the coupling with the atmosphere. The surface is called in the middle of the vertical diffusion loop (Best et al. 2004)



# Interface routines

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coupling\_surf\_atm : packing and call 4 main tiles

coupling\_naturen : call of the chosen scheme for the tile

coupling\_isba\_svatn : choice of method of coupling

coupling\_isba\_orography : subgrid\_orography

coupling\_isba\_canopy : boundary layer

coupling\_isban : divide in patches, interactive vegetation , flood, dusts

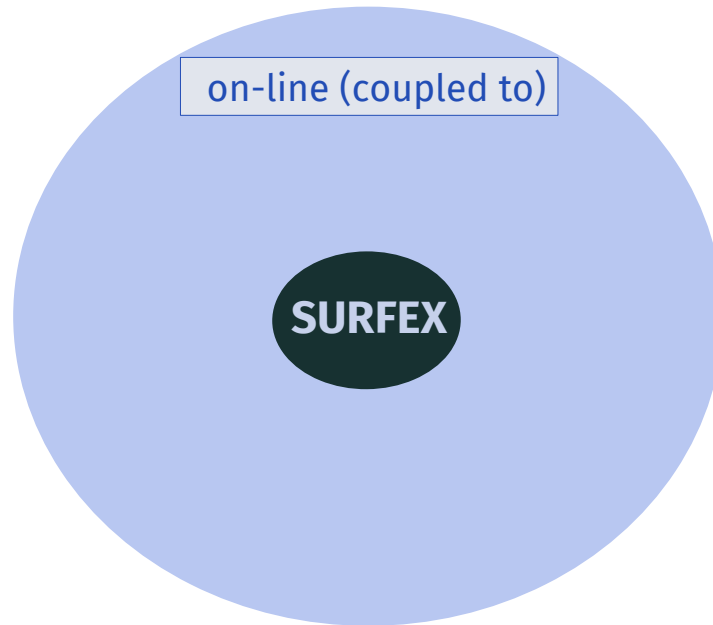
Isba : energy and water fluxes

All coupling\_xxx have the same arguments

# SURFEX applications

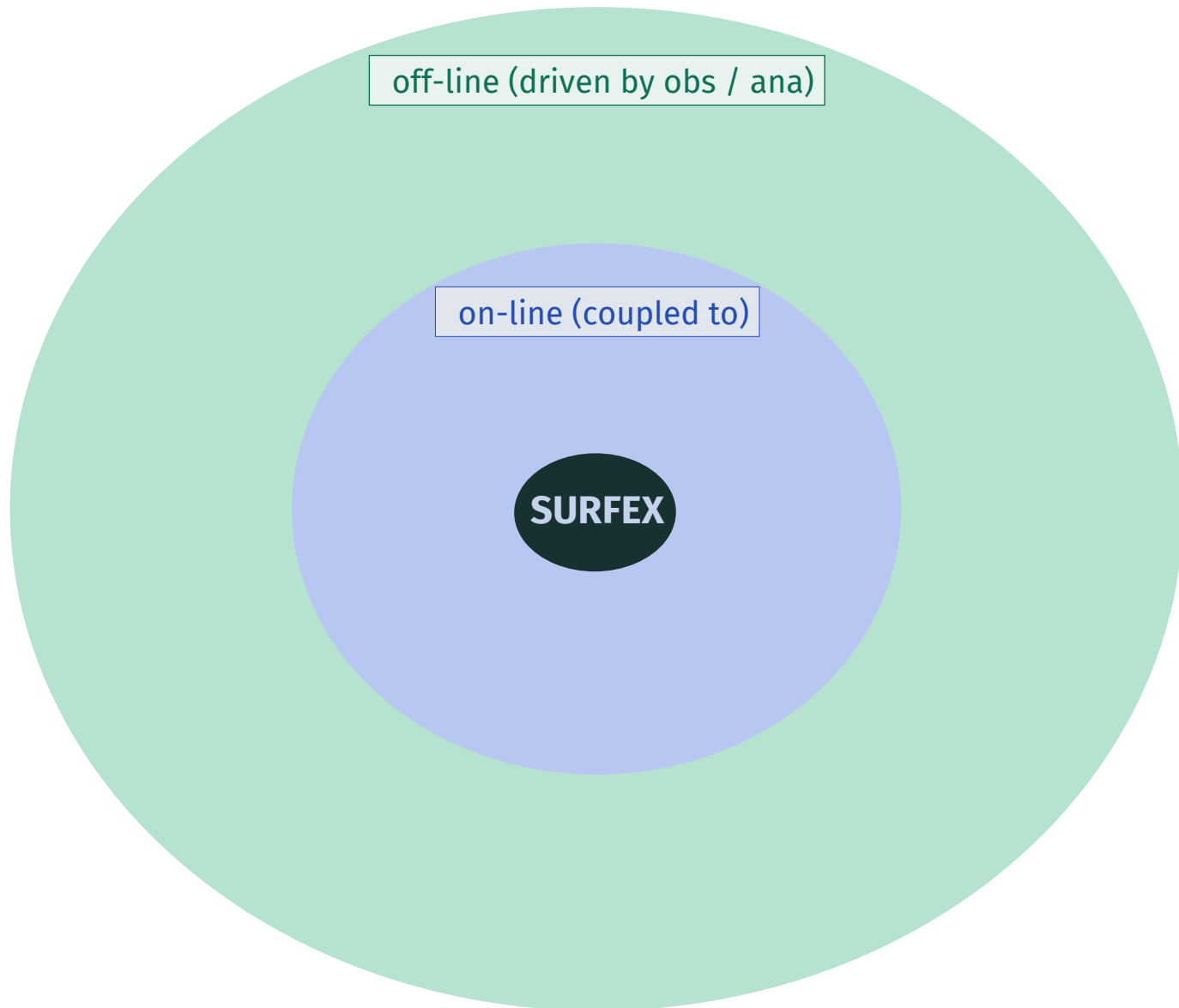
# SURFEX applications

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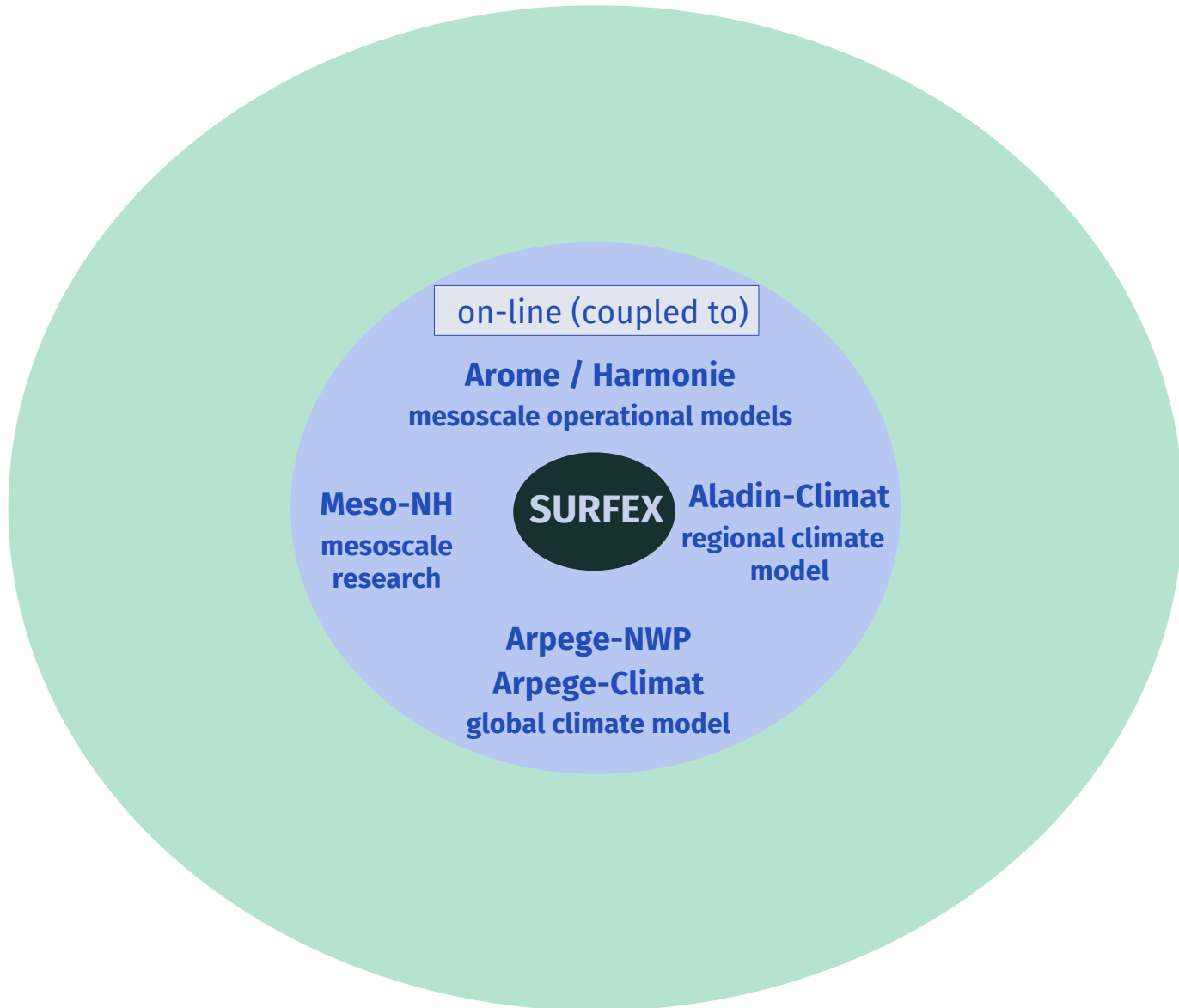
# SURFEX applications

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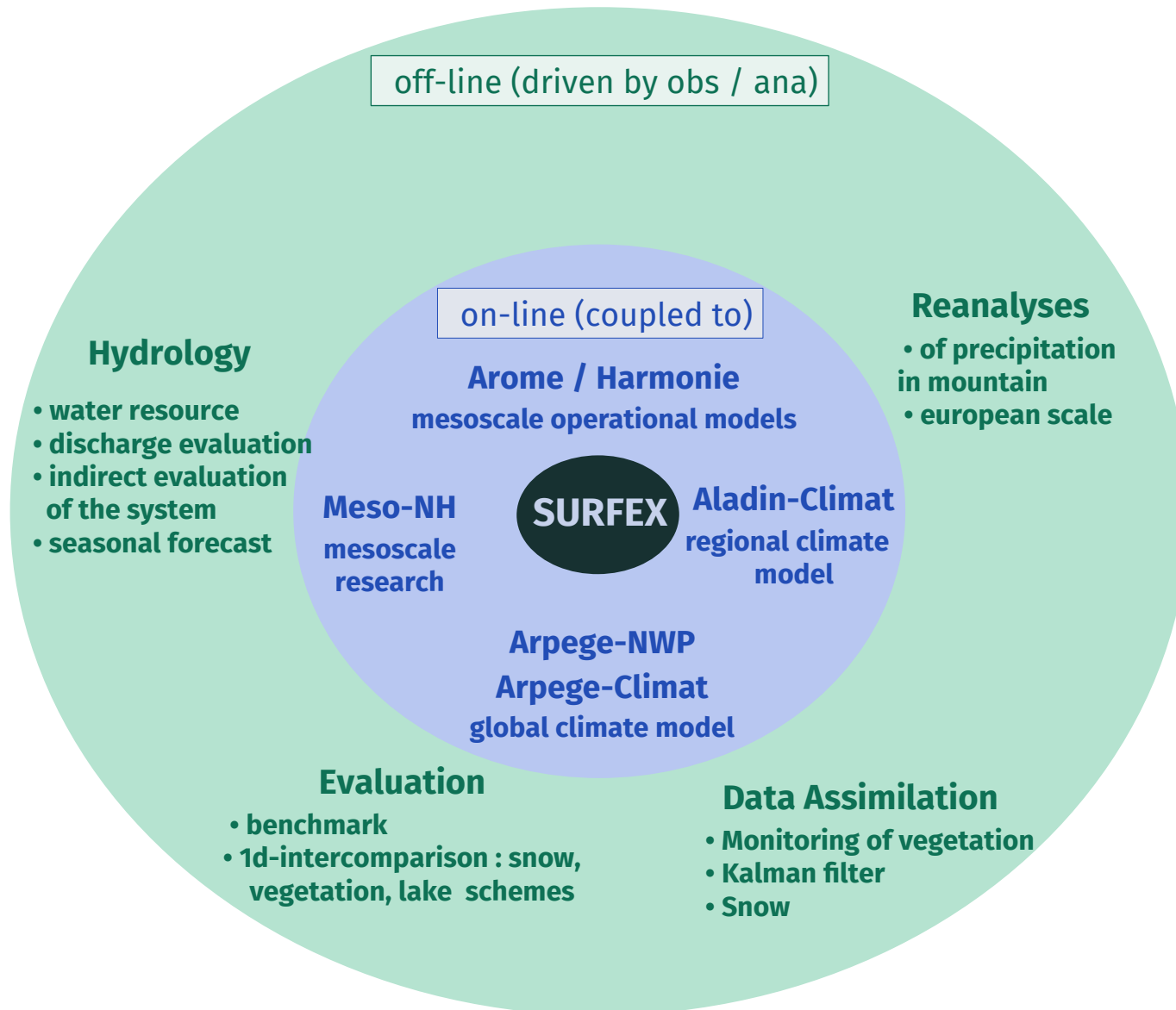


# SURFEX applications

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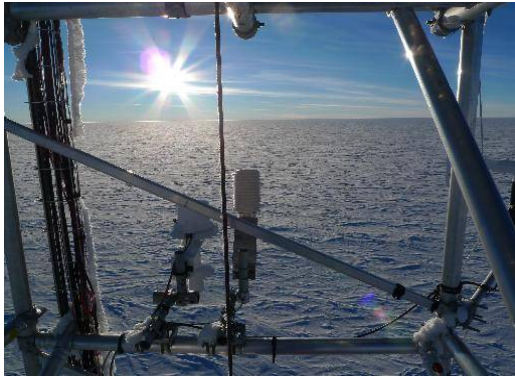
# SURFEX applications



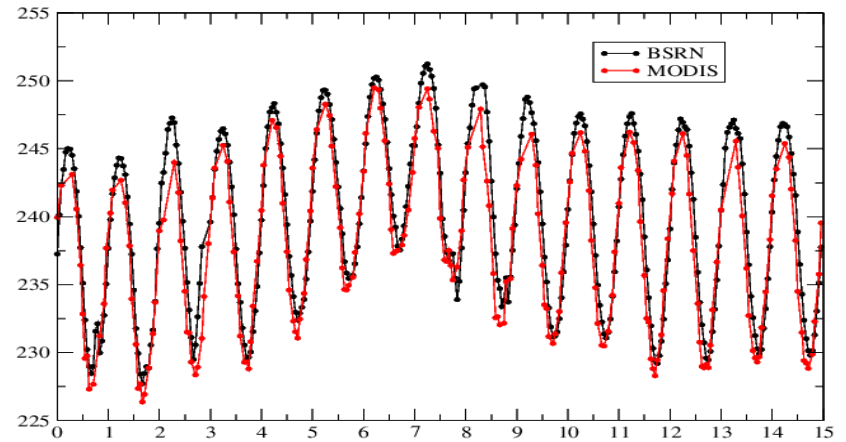


# Inter-comparison of snow models: GABLS4 experiment

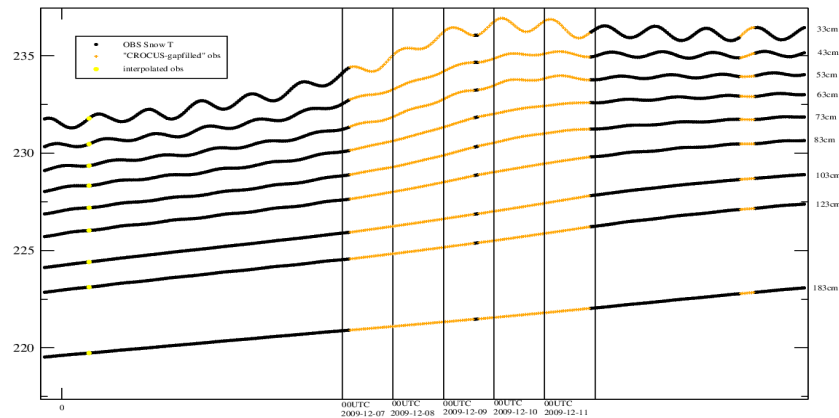
## DomeC Antarctica



## Surface temperature measurements



## Snow temperature measurements

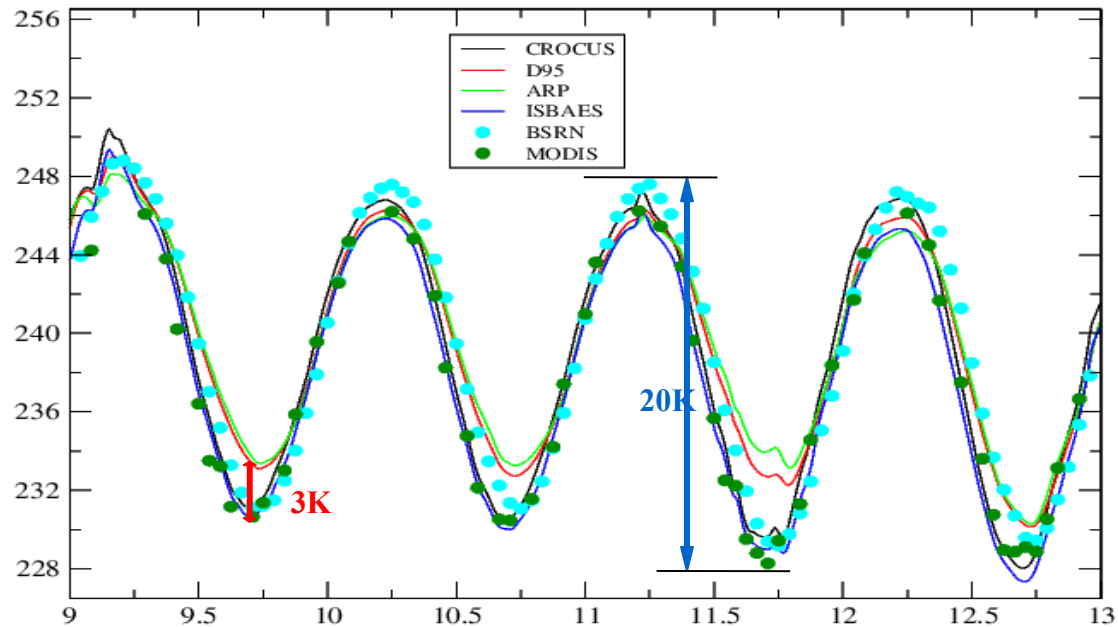






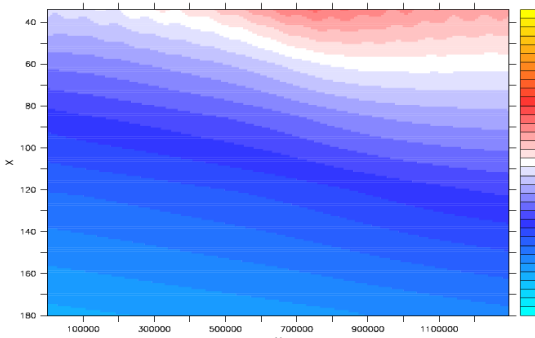
# Inter-comparison of snow models: GABLS4 experiment

## Simulated surface temperature



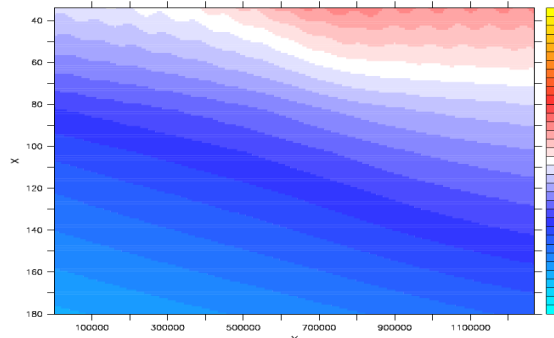
ISBAES

DATA SET: interp\_cnrm\_ies



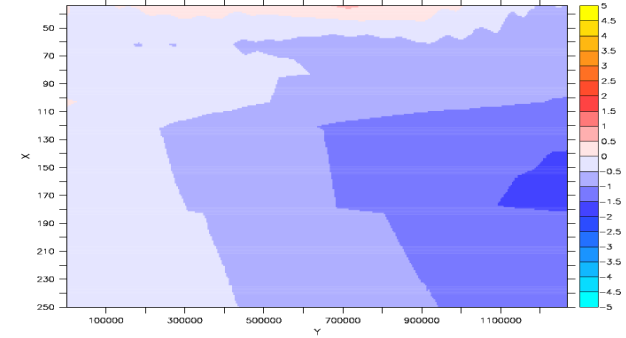
OBS

DATA SET: interp\_obs\_lgge



ISBAES

DATA SET: diff\_cnrm\_ies\_obs





# Inter-comparison of vegetation models: DICE experiment

## American Great Plains

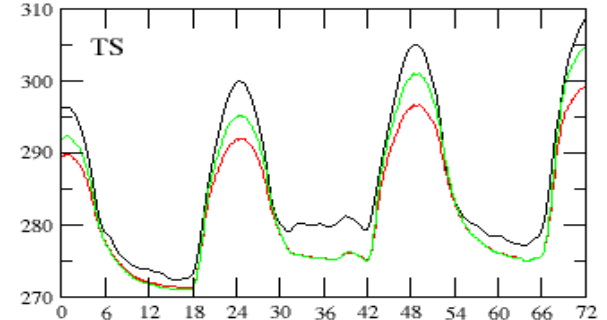
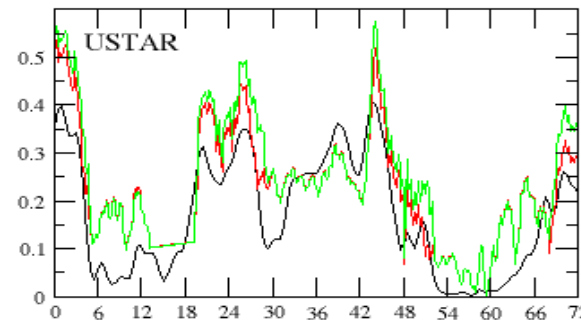
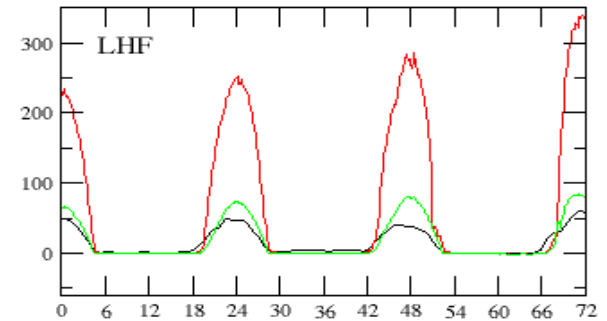
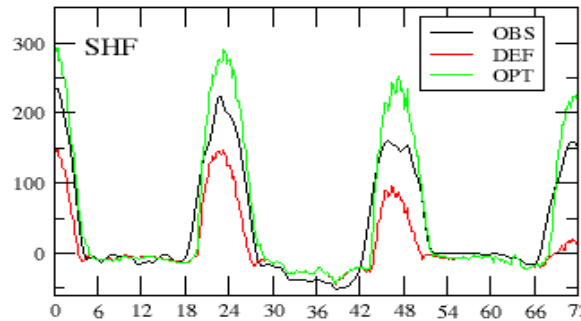


**DEF**

crops and grassland  
veg fraction = 0.81  
root depth=1.5m  
total depth=2.0m  
initial SWI = 0.60

**OPT**

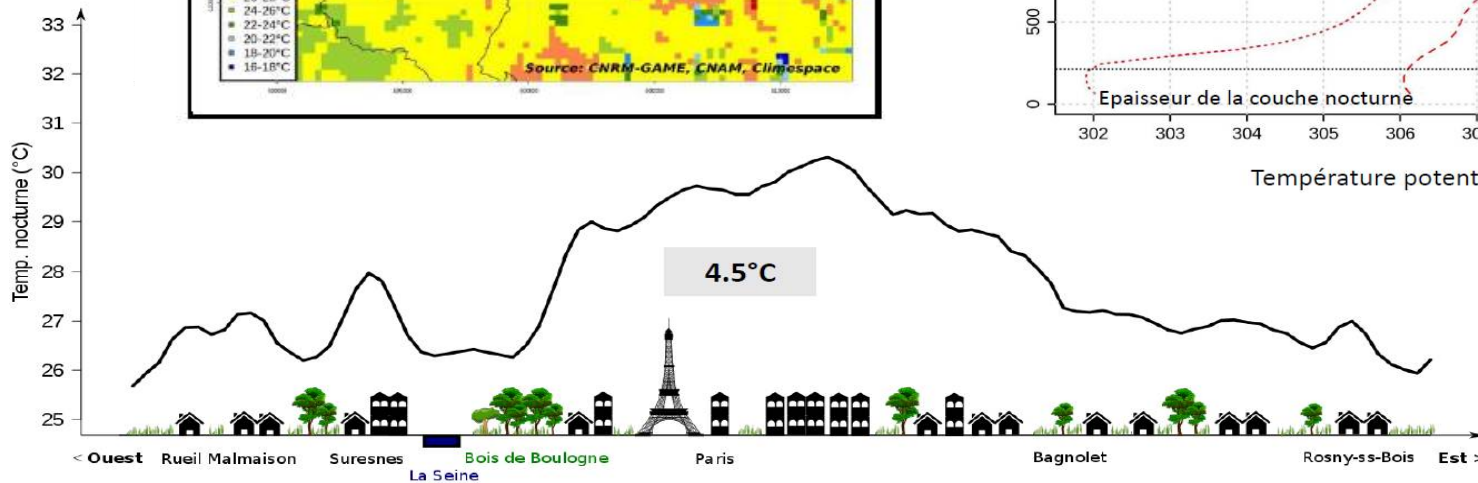
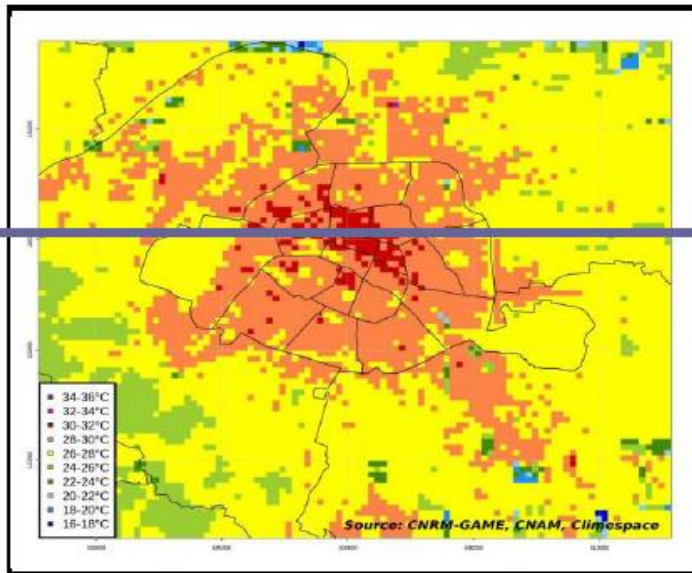
grassland  
veg fraction = 0.95  
root depth=0.4m  
total depth=0.6m  
initial SWI = 0.26



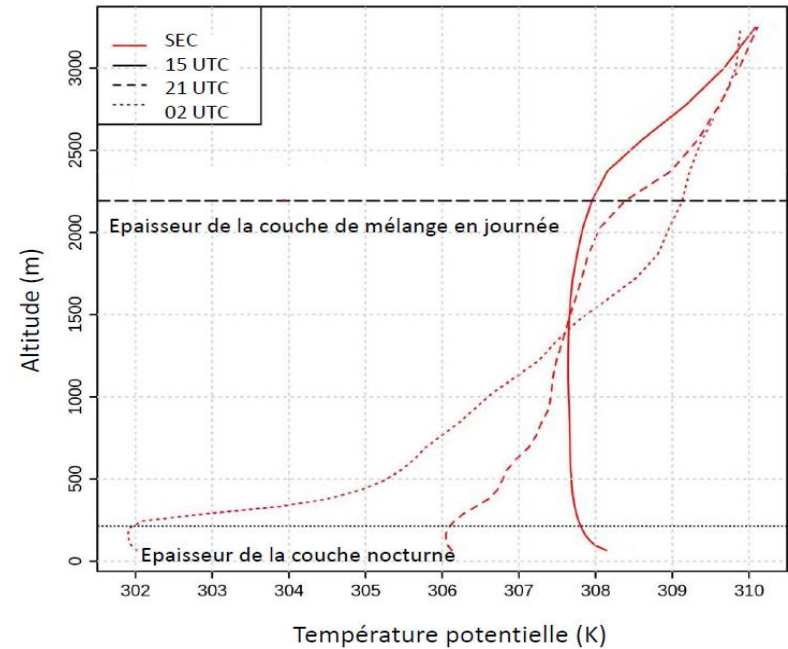


# TEB model dedicated to urban areas

## Urban Heat Island



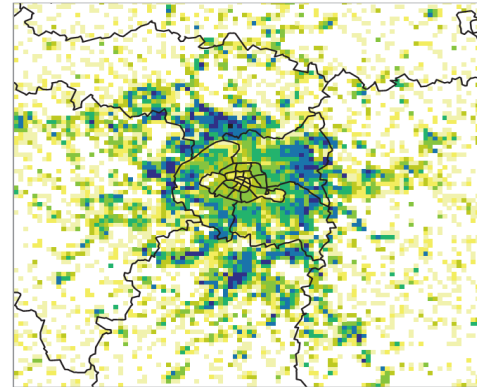
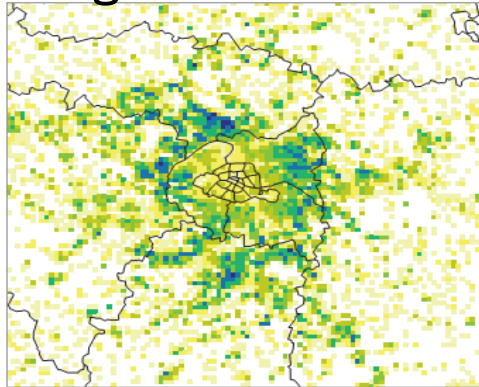
## Impact on PBL



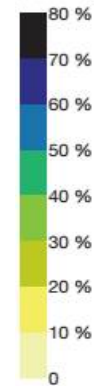


# TEB model dedicated to urban areas

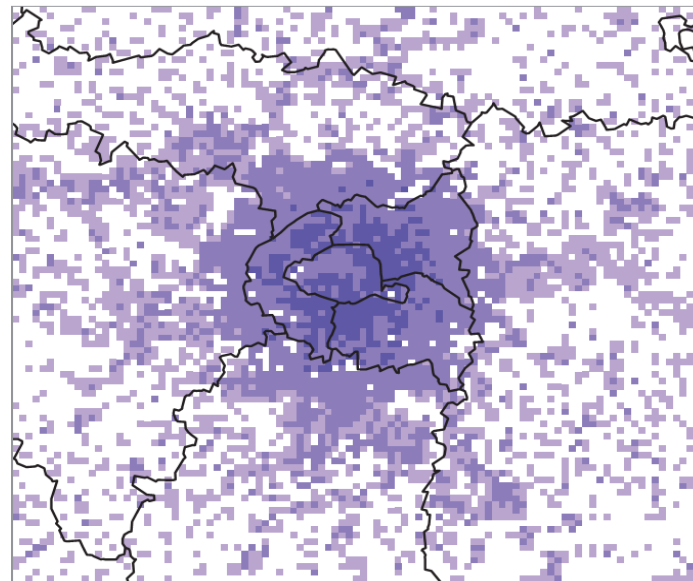
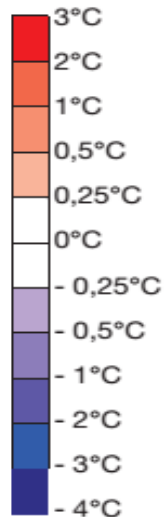
## Urban planning scenario



Urban fraction



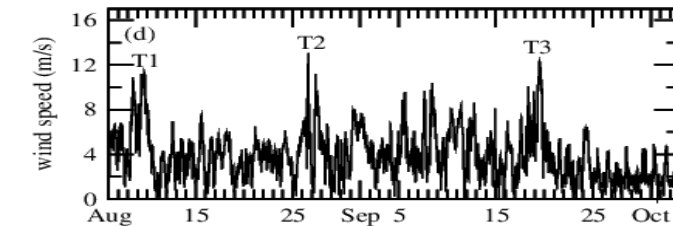
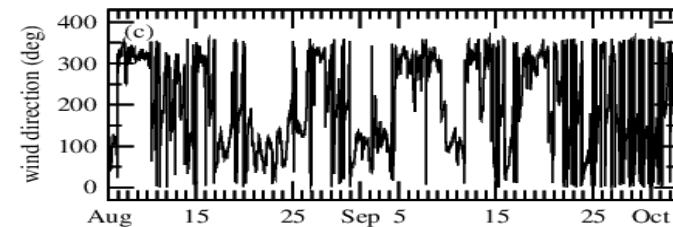
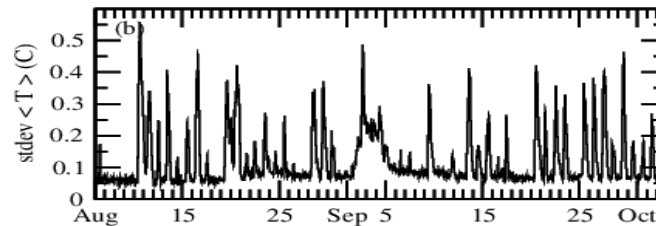
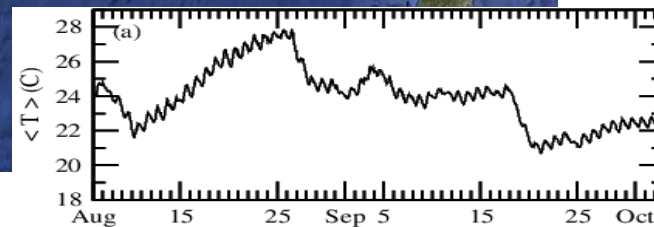
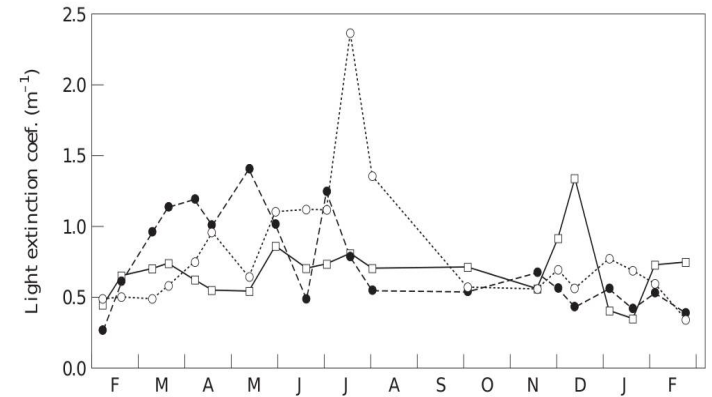
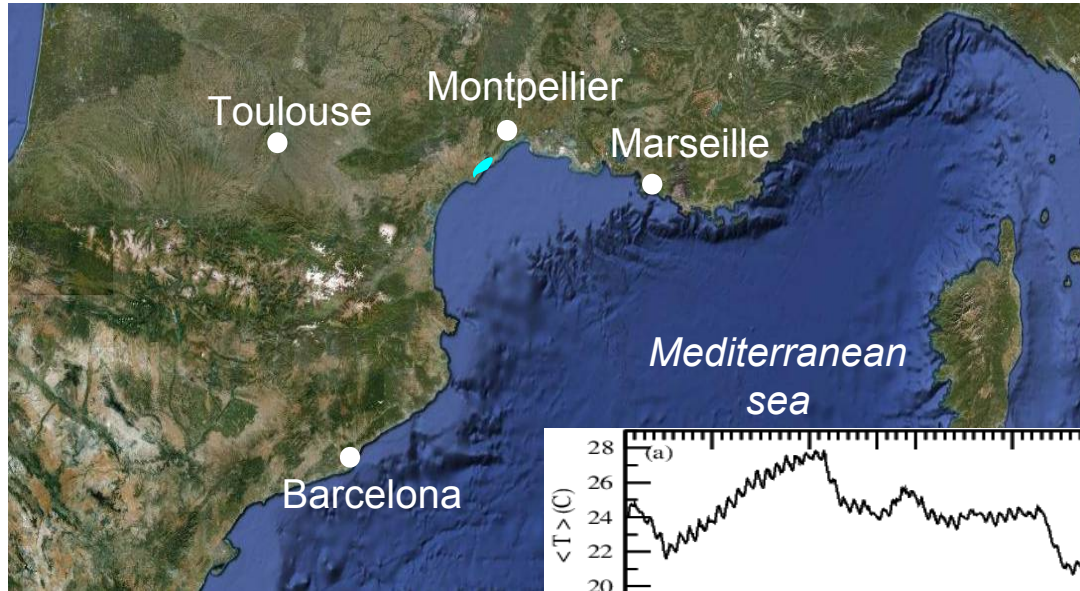
Street Temperature variation



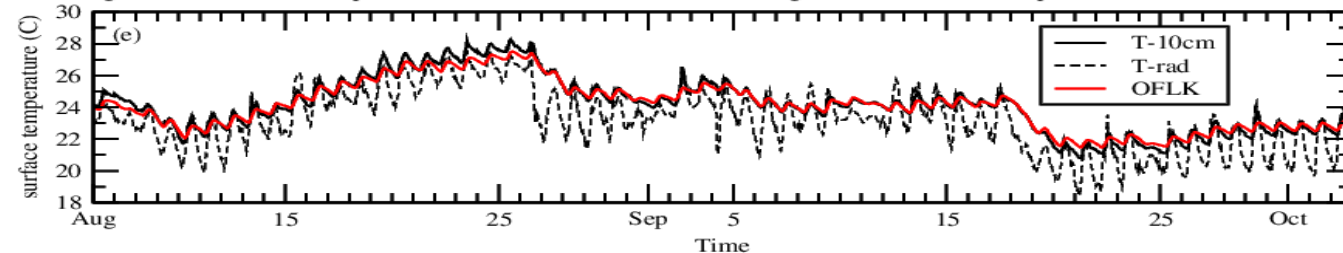


# Evaluation of the lake model

## Thau Lagoon in south France

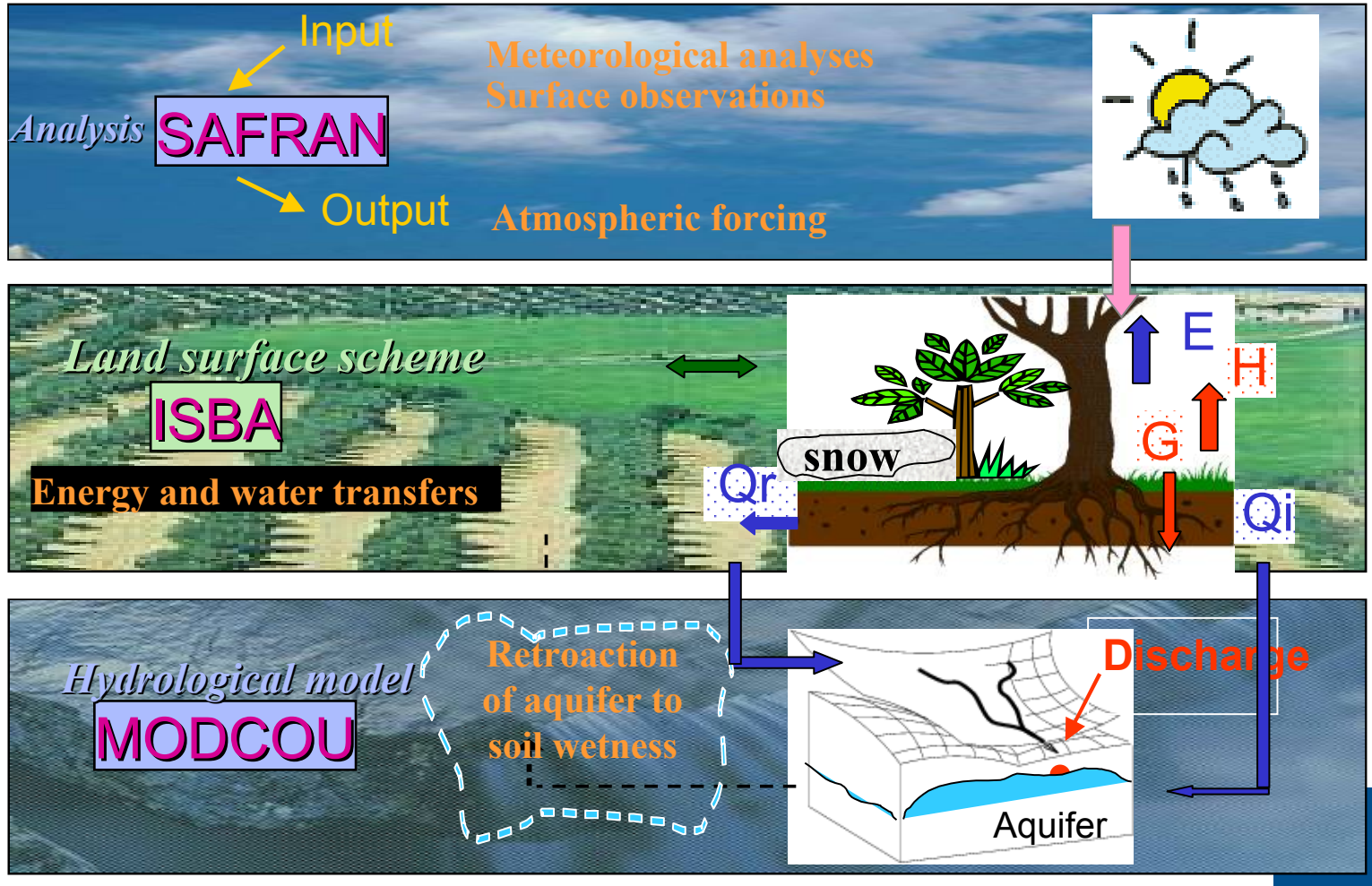


2,5 month field campaign  
Depth=4m



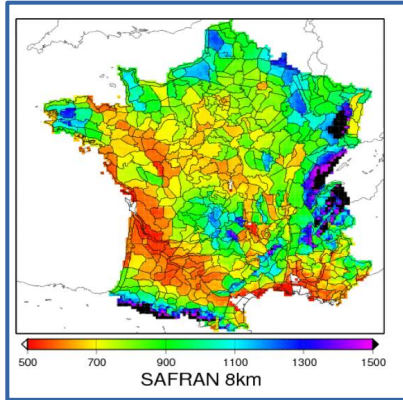


# Hydrologic suite SIM

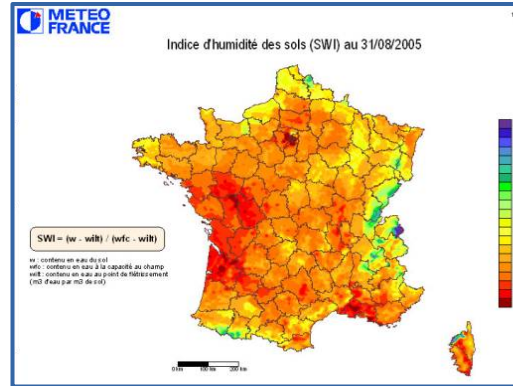
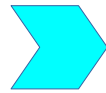




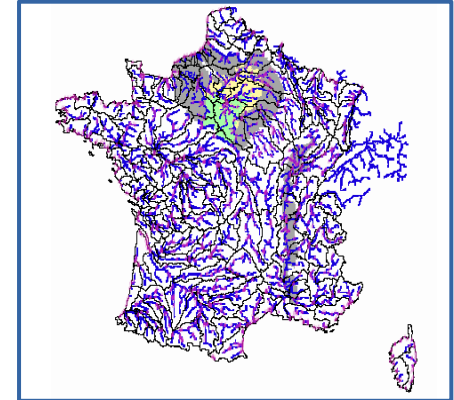
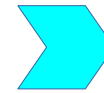
# Hydrologic suite SIM



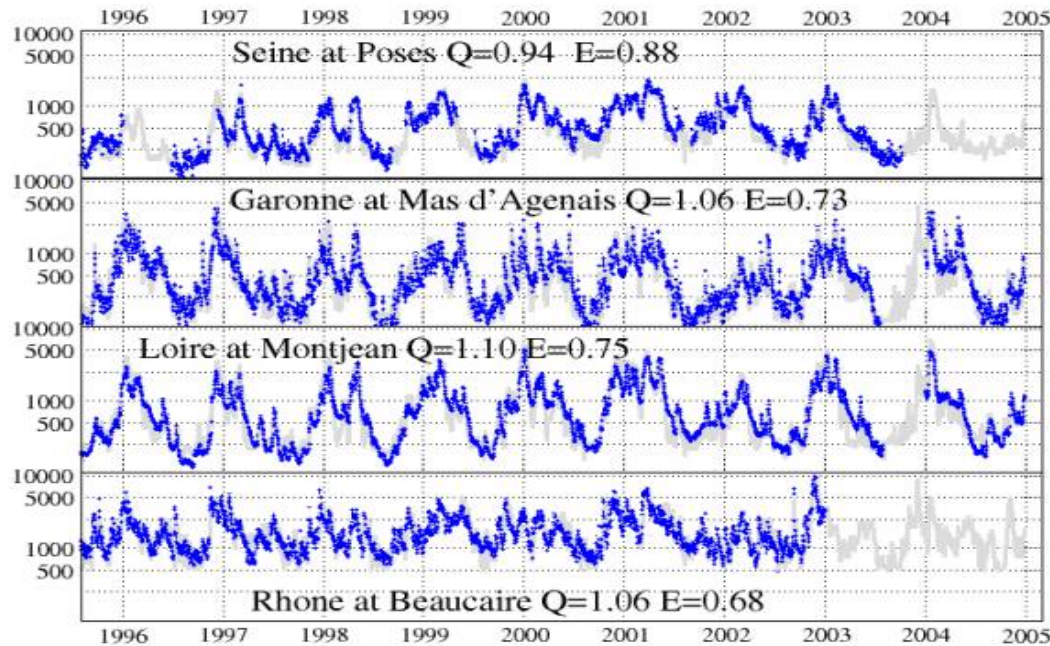
**SAFRAN**



**ISBA**

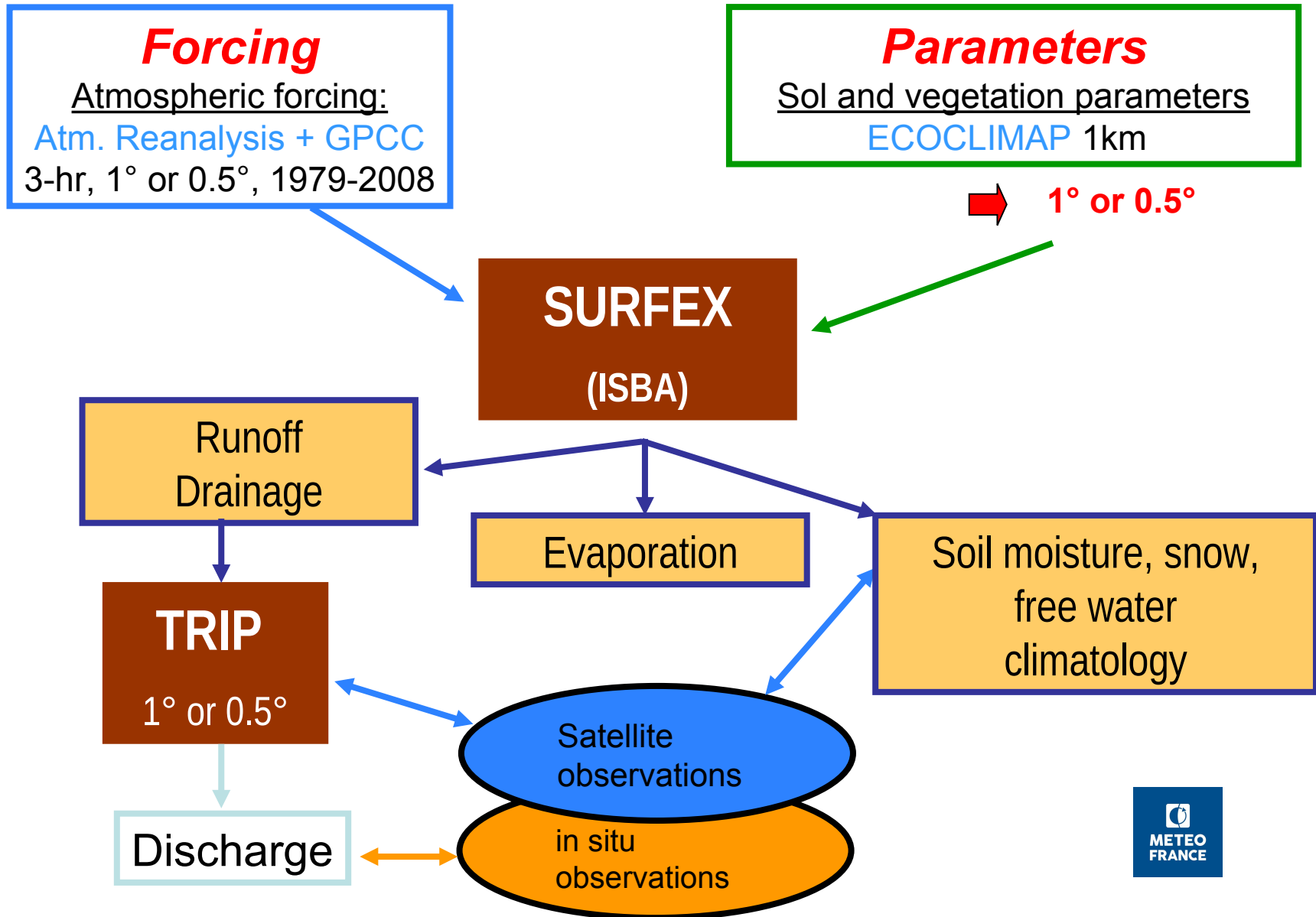


**MODCOU**





# Hydrologic suite SURFEX-TRIP

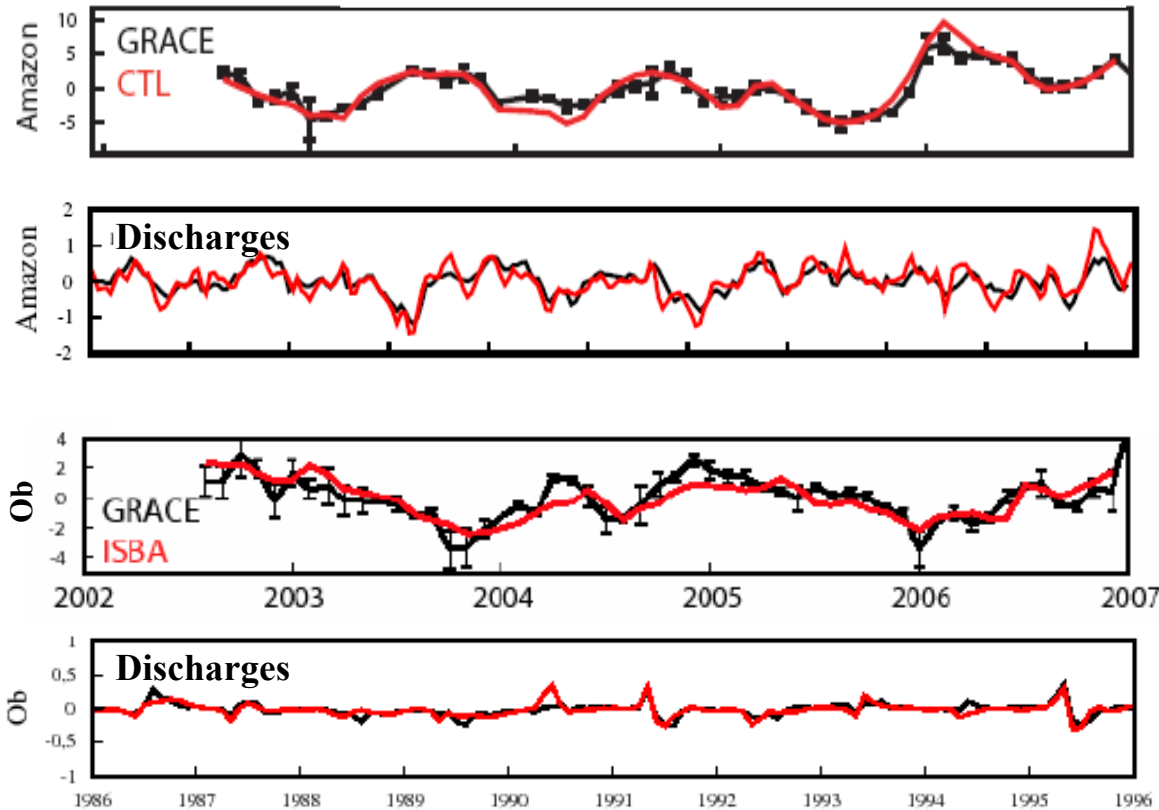






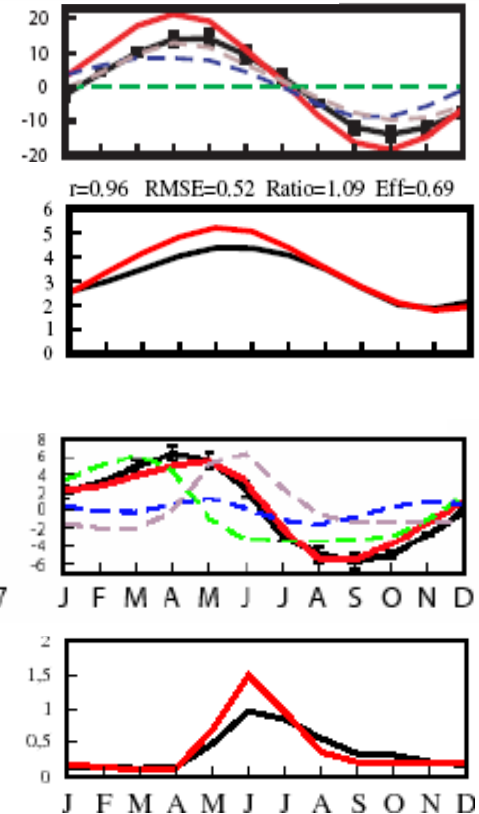
# Hydrologic suite SURFEX-TRIP

## Interannual variability



## Annual Cycle

$$\text{ISBA} = \text{Soil moisture} + \text{Rivers water content} + \text{Snow}$$

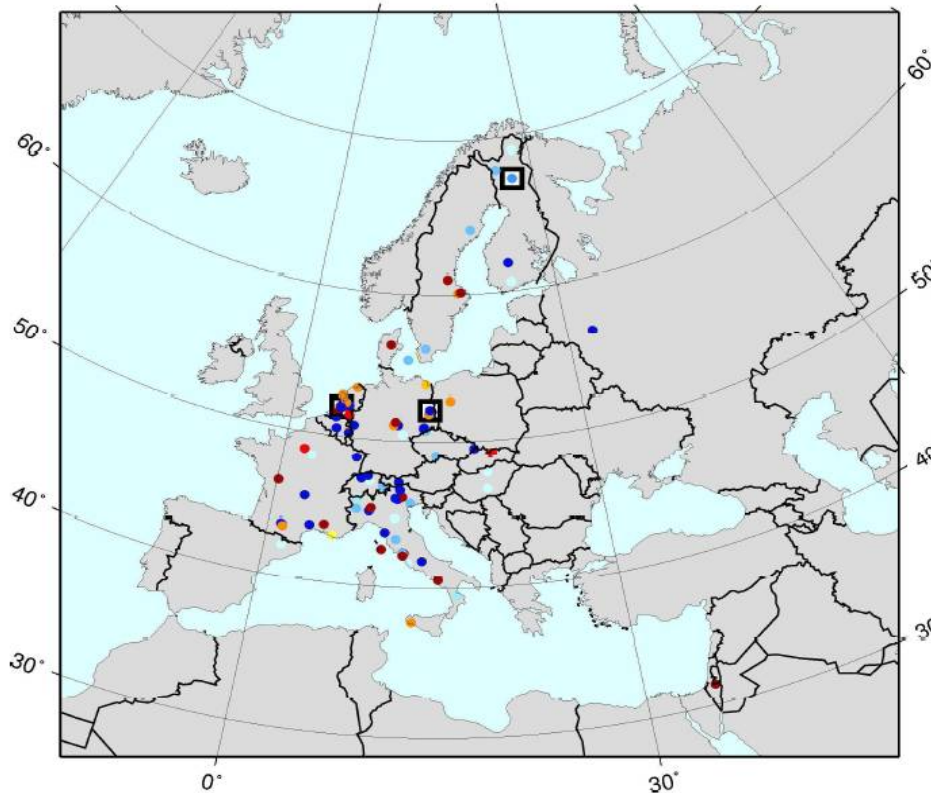


(Alkama et al. 2010, J. Hydrometeorology)

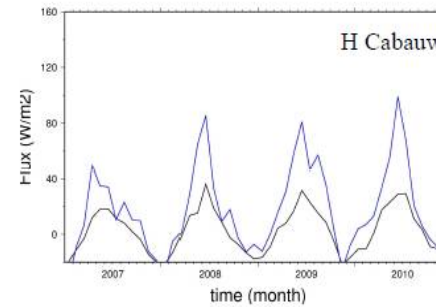


# Continental surfaces reanalyses

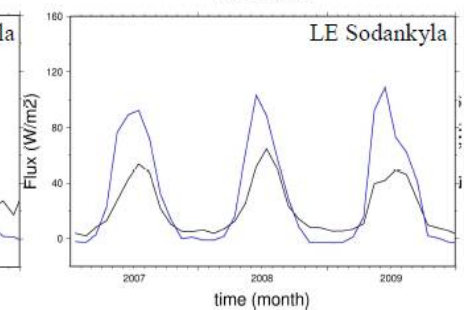
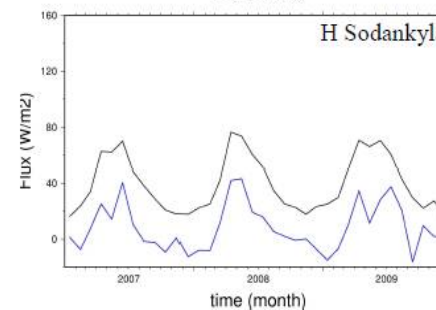
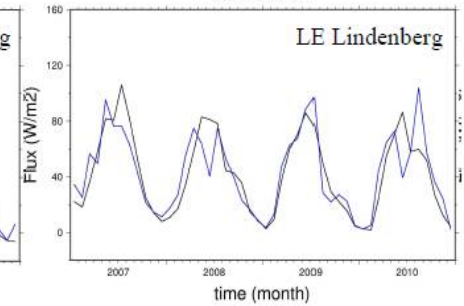
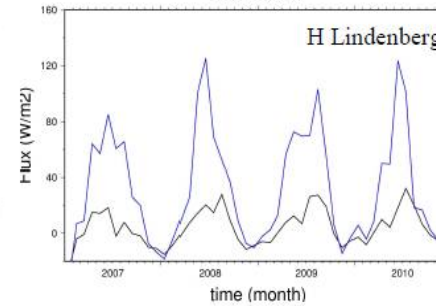
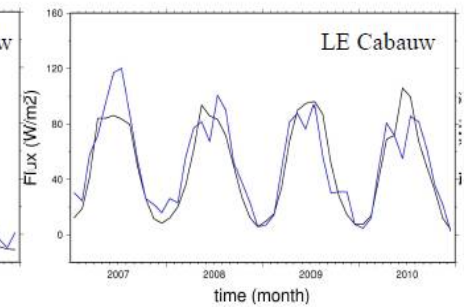
## Sensible Heat Flux FLUXNET sites



### Sensible Heat Flux



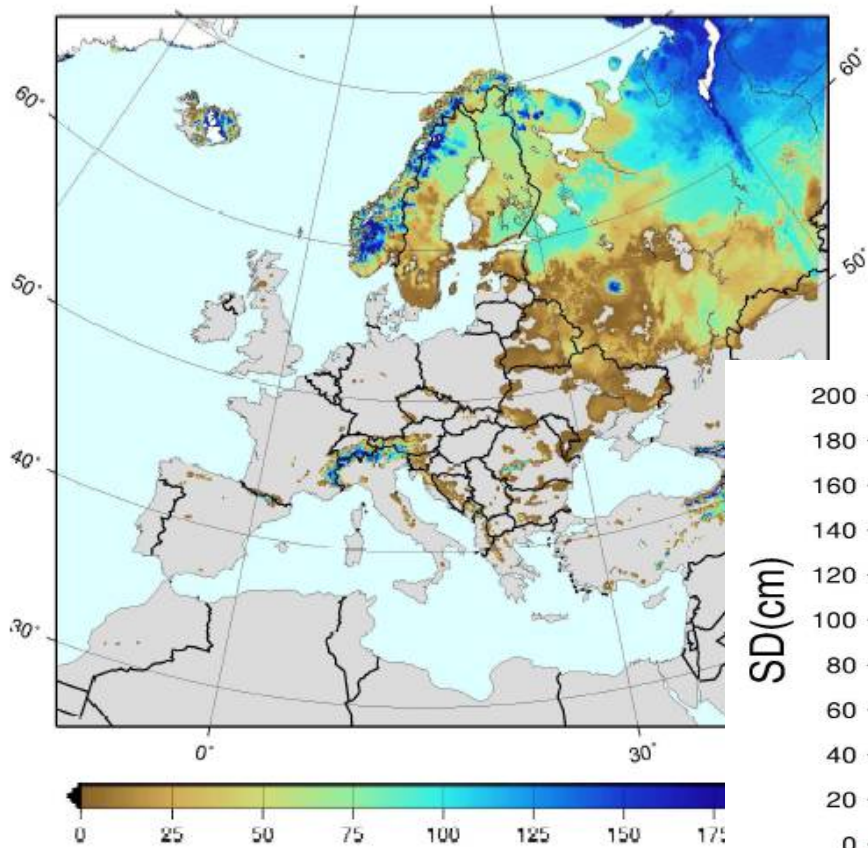
### Latent Heat Flux





# Continental surfaces reanalyses

## Snow Depth



## Results at Sodankyla

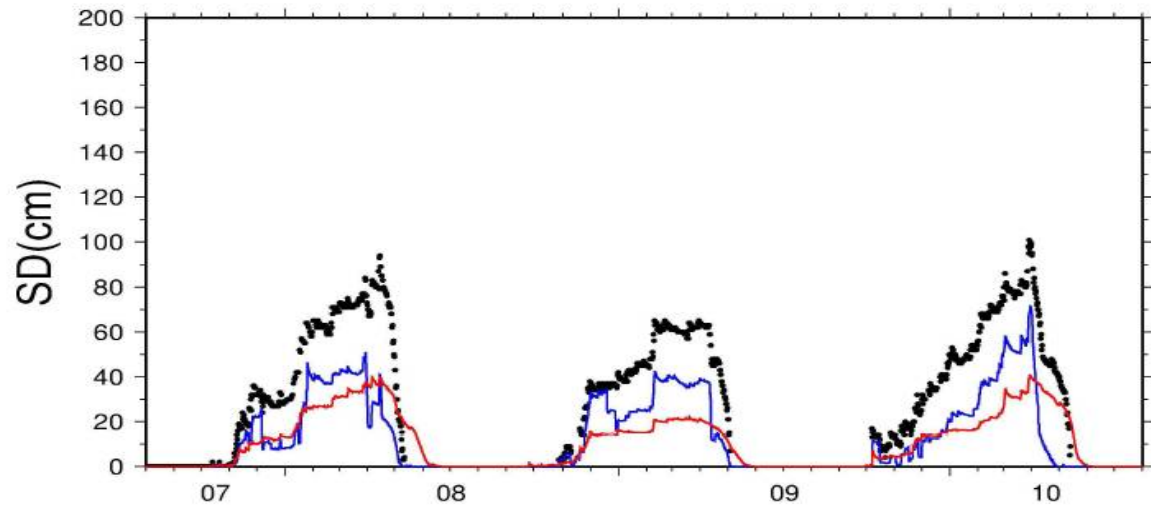
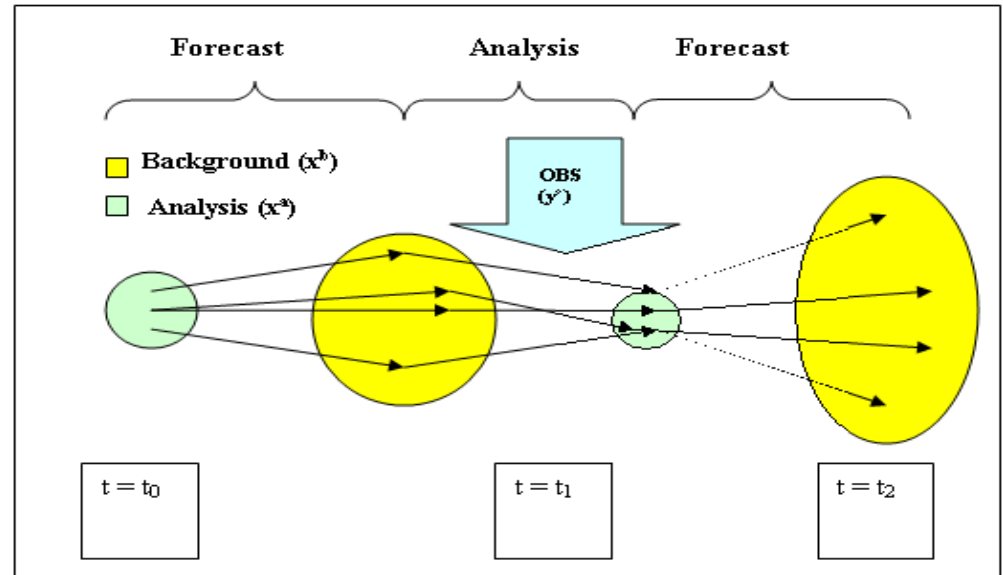


Figure : time series of snow depth (in cm) at the Sodankyla station during the period 2007-2010. The black dots represent the observations, the blue curve represents the simulation made by SURFEX driven by MESCAN and the red curve represents the simulation made by SURFEX driven by ERA-Interim.

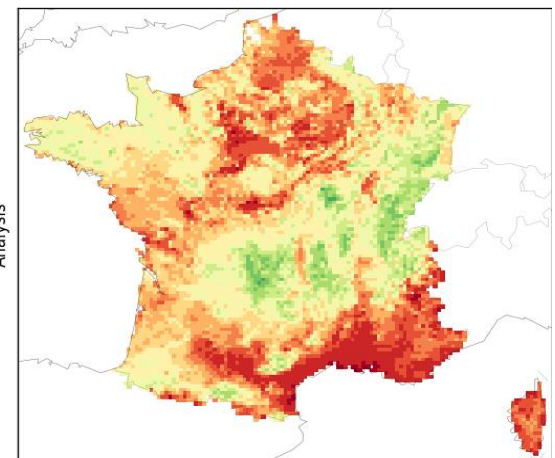
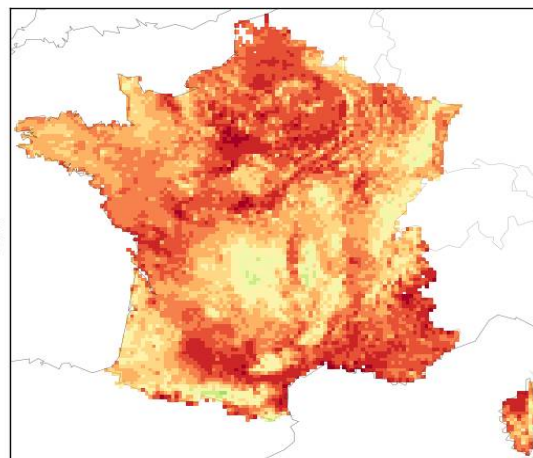
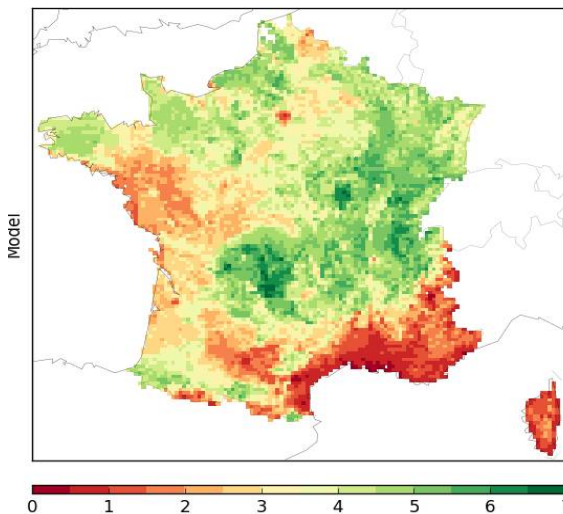


# Data Assimilation

EnKF uses flow-dependent background-error covariance from ensemble spread (Research only)



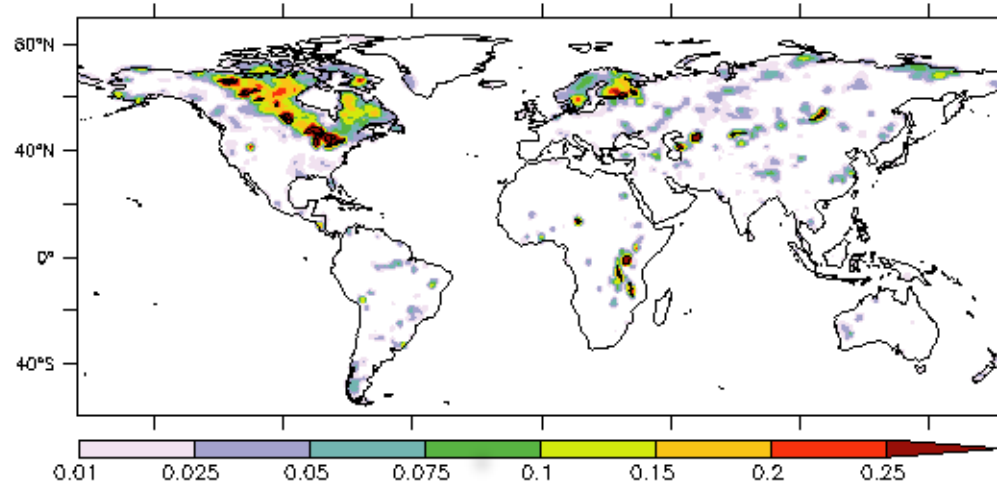
LAI -- September 2007



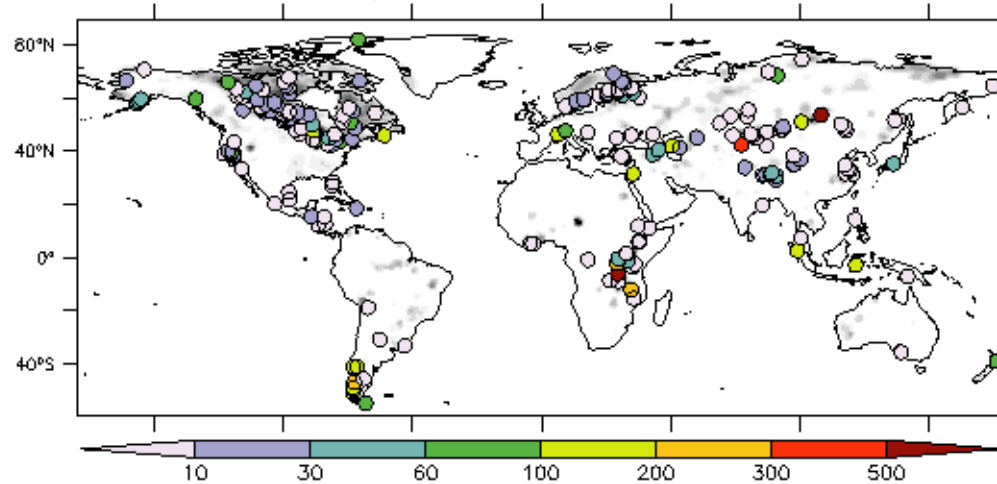


# Lake model in Arpege-Climat

a) Lake grid-cell fractions in CNRM-CM5

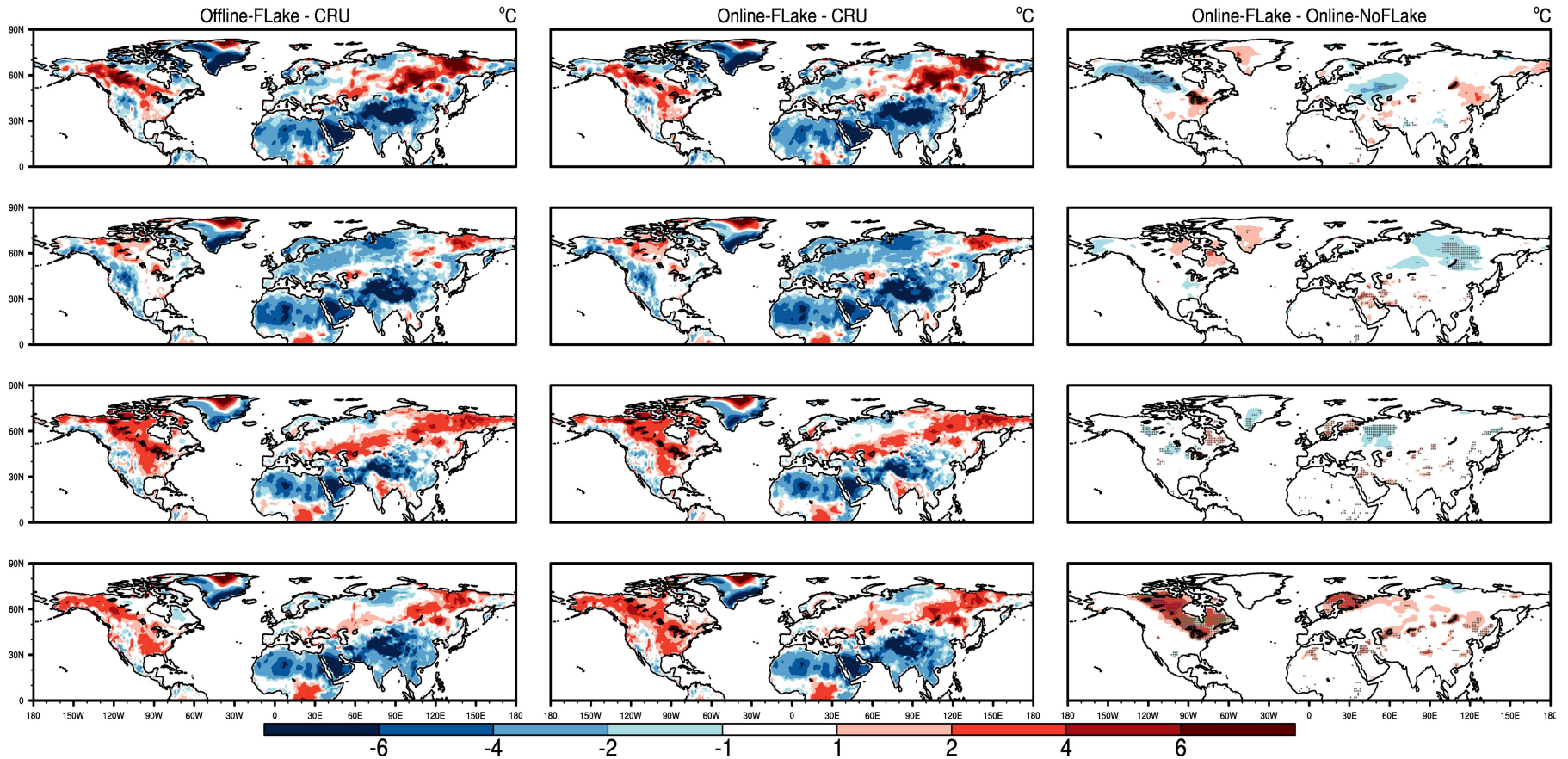


b) Lake depth observations from ARC-Lake



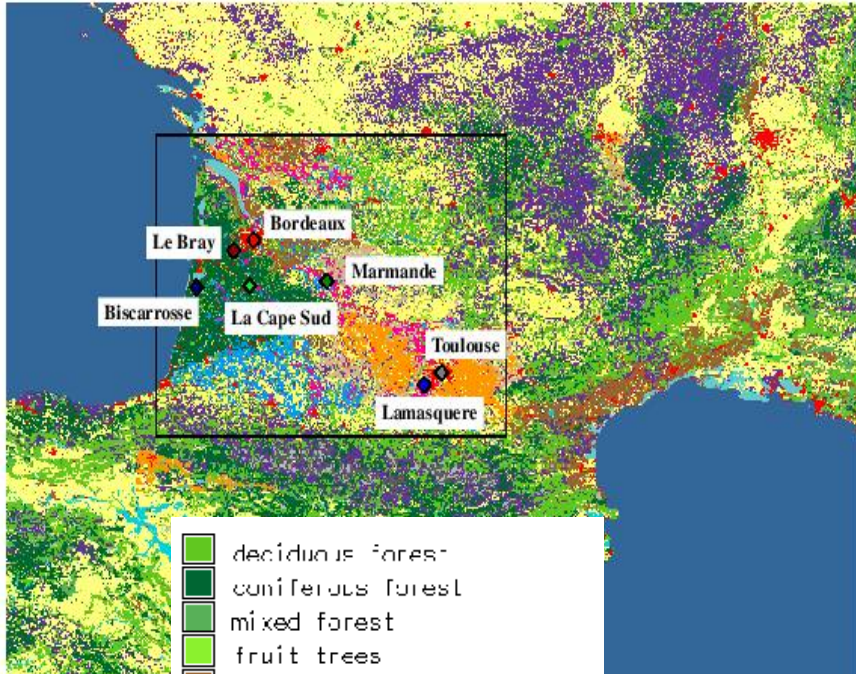


# Lake model in Arpege-Climat

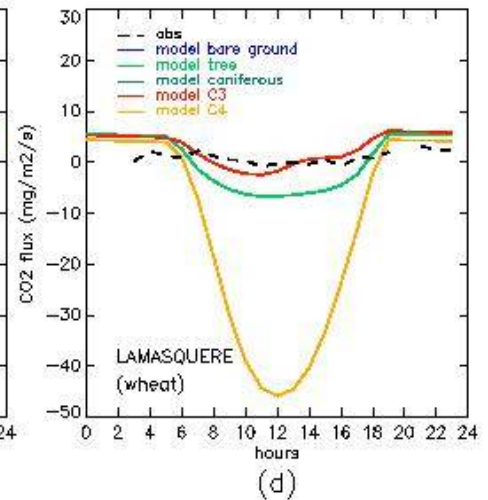
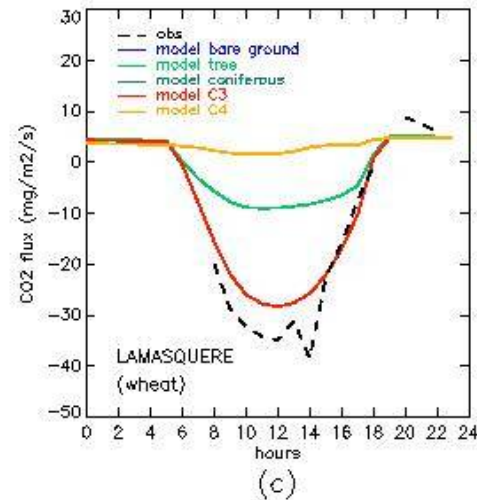
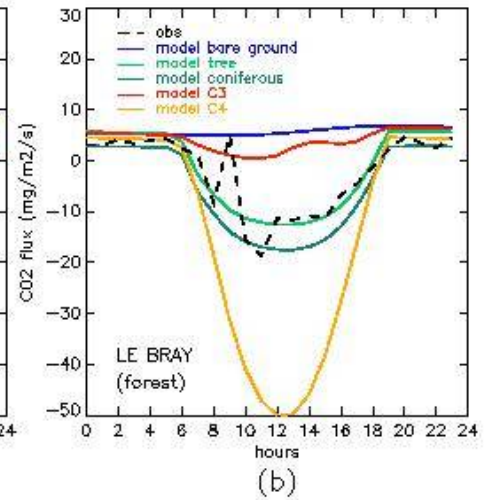
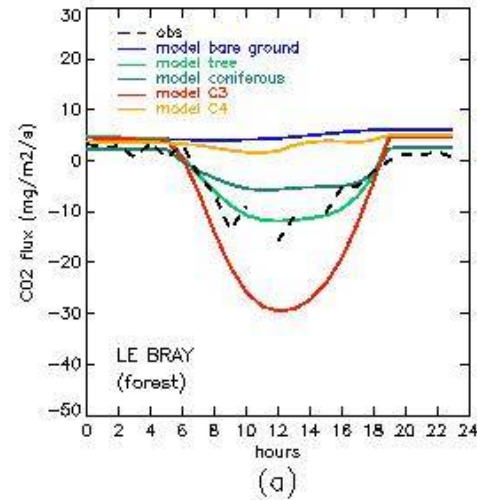




# CarboEurope with Meso-NH



- deciduous forest
- coniferous forest
- mixed forest
- fruit trees
- vineyards
- complex cultivated patterns
- winter crops
- summer crops
- irrigated crops
- market gardening
- pastures
- bare land
- rocks
- snow
- urban areas
- water bodies
- sea
- mixed crops

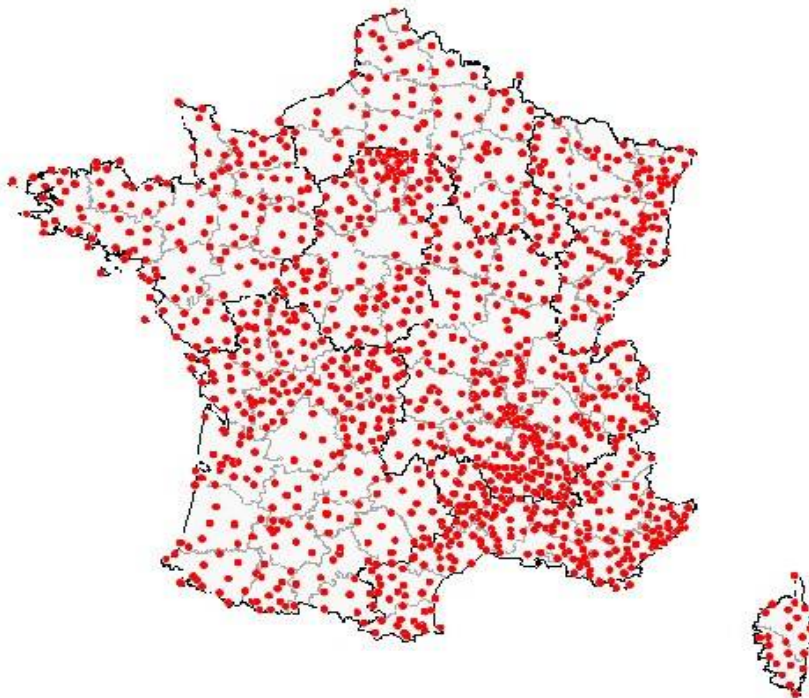




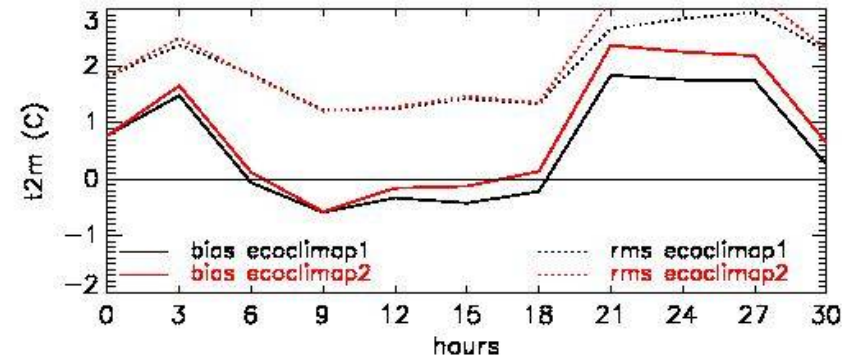
# Comparison with AROME

## Pointage des postes avec mesures de température horaire

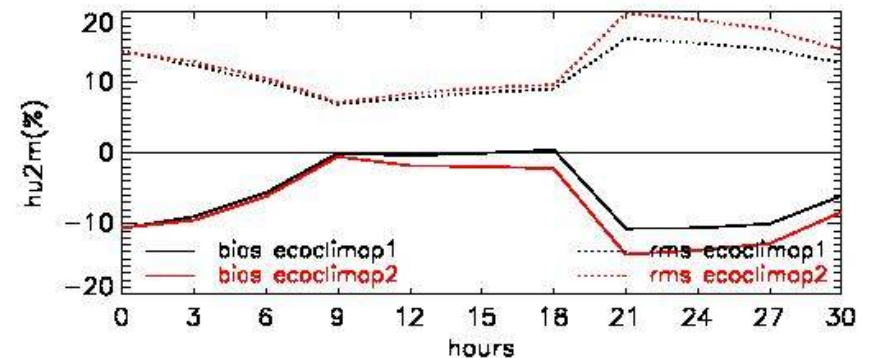
Informations extraites de la BDD CLIM le 27/06/2012



mean RMS and BIAS of T2M 20070804  
( 1200 stations )



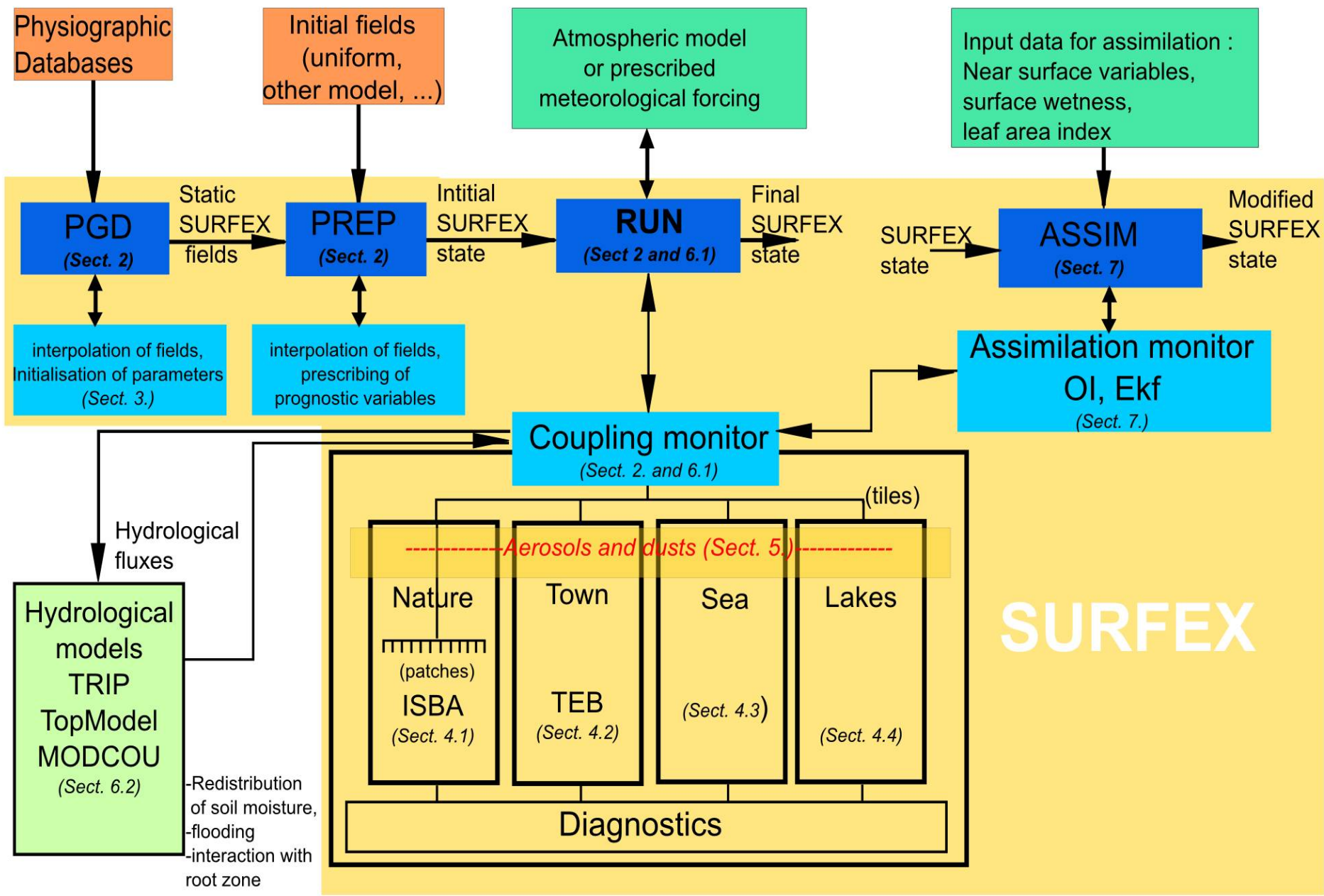
mean RMS and BIAS of HU2M 20070804  
( 967 stations )





# More practical...

# Running SURFEX



# Running SURFEX

---

## **PGD** : Physiography

- Choice of surface schemes
- Grid
- physiography



## **PREP** : initialisation of prognostics variables



**RUN mode** : atmospheric model, offline, ASSIM, DIAG  
run and diagnostics (need atmospheric forcing)

# PGD

---

- **Surface schemes** :

Example for NATURE : NONE, FLUX, TSZ0, ISBA (and options for ISBA)

- **Grid** :

- Gaussian, conformal projection, LONLAT reg, IGN (French Lambert projection), NONE (namelist)
- A part of the grid of an already existing file
- Can be given in fortran argument (ignore namelists)

- **Physiography** :

- Covers : ECOLIMAP or uniform
- Orography (GTOPO30, other files, uniform)
- Sand and Clay fractions (FAO, other file, uniform)

# PREP

---

Initialisation of prognostics variables

Date of all surface schemes

File to read, or uniform variables (namelist)

# RUN (offline) prognostic variables

---

OPTIONS for RUN :

General : general options for surface atmosphere

By scheme : options for run (e.g. : subgrid hydrology)

Run : need a PGD file, a PREP file and an atmospheric forcing

# DIAG

---

Inside « RUN » or autonomously using a surface file and an « instantaneous » forcing.

Defined by namelist (various options)

diagnostics aggregated over all the surface, or by tiles, or by patches (nature)

# ASSIM

---

OI\_MAIN :

Soil analysis based on Optimal interpolation (Giard and Bazile, 2000, Monthly weather review)

Input : T2m, RH2m

VARASSIM :

Soil analysis based on EKF (Mahfouf et al., 2009, JGR)

Input : T2m, RH2m, wg (satellite) and/or LAI (ISBA-A-gs)

SODA (SURFEX offline data assimilation) :

New driver for OI and varassim