

# Report and Update on the Stable Boundary Layer Workshop, December 2012

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**HIRLAM ASM and ALADIN Wk  
Reykjavik 15-18 March 2013**



## Parameterization of Stable Boundary Layer in Numerical Weather Prediction Models

Finnish Meteorological Institute, Helsinki, December 3 - 5 2012

Home

Programme

Committee

Venue

Accommodation

Travel

Participate

Links

A workshop on "Parameterization of Stable Boundary Layer in Numerical Weather Prediction Models" was arranged in Helsinki on December 3 - 5, 2012.

Thank you for participation! Please find the presentations (pdf files) linked to the [programme](#).



Workshop participants at 5 December 2012 inside the FMI building

### Organisers

Nordic Network [MUSCATEN](#). MUSCATEN is funded by the [Nordic Research Board](#)

[PBL-PMES](#) on "Atmospheric planetary boundary layers: physics, modelling and role in Earth system"(ERC Advanced Grant No. 227915, 2009-2013)

TEMPUS JEP-159352 [QualiMET](#) (Development of Qualification Framework in Meteorology, 2010-2013)

Russian Government Mega Grant "Interaction of the Atmosphere, Hydrosphere and Land Surface" (No. 11.G34.31.0048)



# Forecasting SBL Weather

## Modelling of SBL over snow and ice

## Turbulence parametrisations

## Air quality modelling in SBL

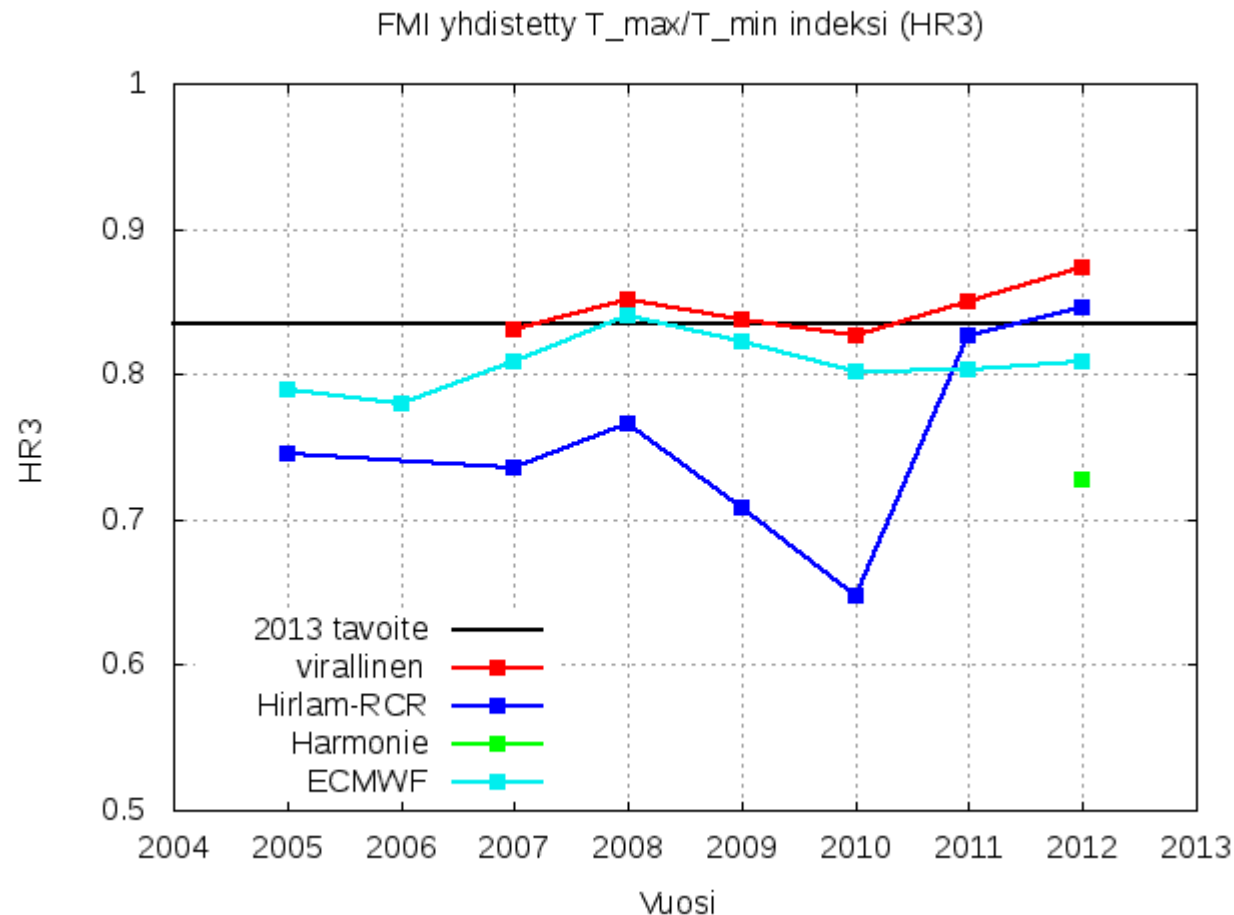
### **Suggested working groups:**

**WG-Oper:** Problems and solutions for handling of SBL in operational NWP  
Expected outcome: identification of main problems and suggestions for further work

**WG-GABLS:** Preparation of GABLS4 Antarctic experiment  
Expected outcome: plans and perhaps data for the next phase of the experiment

**WG-Turb:** Ways to implement the new turbulence parametrisations into NWP models  
Expected outcome: suggestions for the approach and code structures for AROME-ALARO and other models

# FMI $T_{\min}/T_{\max}$ index - yearly mean hit rate



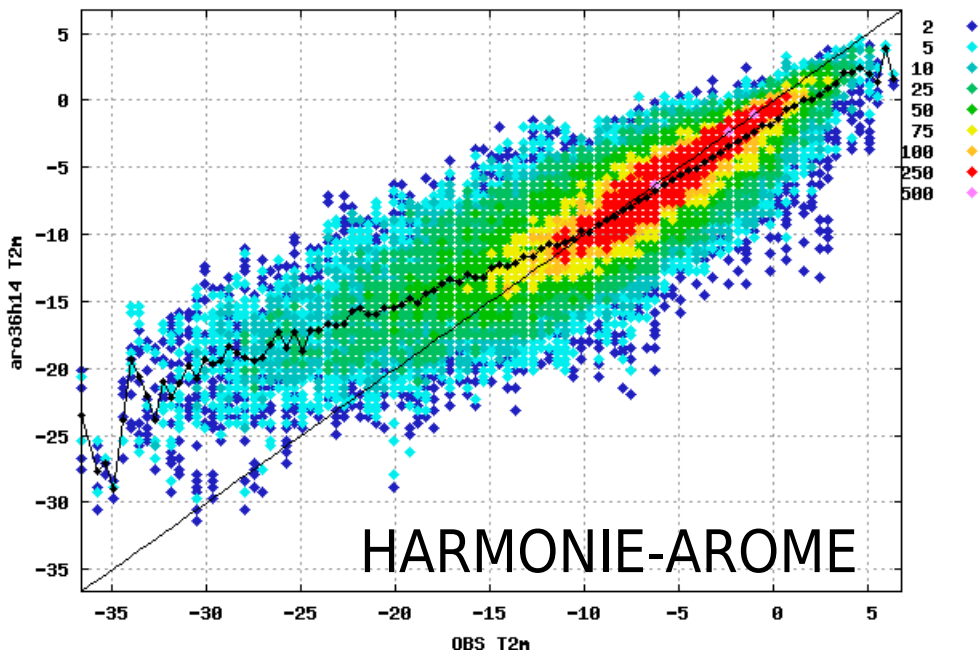
Based on forecasts v.s. observations over selected Finnish SYNOP stations

- $T_{2m\_max}$  forecasts: 00UTC + 18h ja 12UTC + 30h
- $T_{2m\_min}$  forecasts: 00UTC + 30h ja 12UTC + 18h

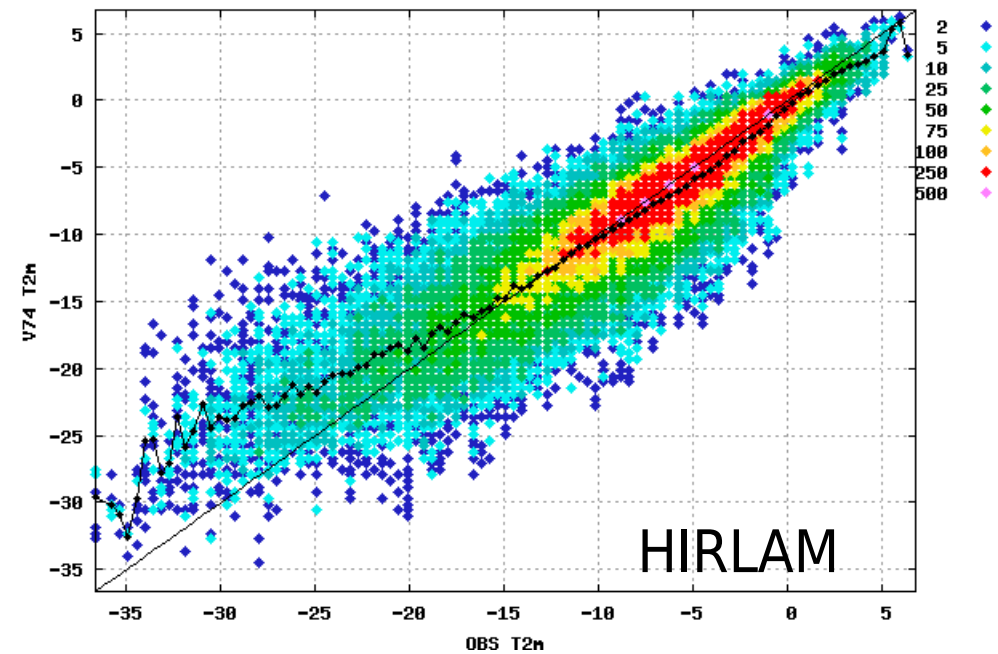
# FMI HARMONIE-AROME compared to FMI HIRLAM, March 2013 $T_{2m}$

FMI HARMONIE monitoring:  
aro36h14: HARMONIE 36h14 (2.5km L65)  
V74 (RCR): HIRLAM 7.4 (7.5km L65)

Scatterplot for 156 stations Selection: ALL  
 $T_{2m}$  [deg C]  
Period: 201303  
Used {00,06,12,18} + 06 12 18 24



Scatterplot for 156 stations Selection: ALL  
 $T_{2m}$  [deg C]  
Period: 201303  
Used {00,06,12,18} + 06 12 18 24



The classical Nordic Temperature Problem in AROME (not very bad, though)

A night-time photograph of a snowy cityscape. In the foreground, a large evergreen tree is decorated with colorful lights. The middle ground shows a snow-covered area with many small, warm lights, possibly a park or a large building. In the background, city buildings are visible, some with lights on. The sky is dark blue.

**In this presentation:**

**WG1 - Operational**

**WG2 - GABLS4 update**

**WG3 - EFB update**

## Main conclusions ECMWF/GABLS SBL workshop (Nov 2011)

- ✓ Uncertainty in the formulation of diffusion in stable situations remains high. Meso-scale variability and terrain heterogeneity are important
- ✓ *Use of Turbulent Energy equations to support the turbulence closure.*
- ✓ Large uncertainties on momentum budget in models. Impact of drag over land on the planetary scales. Intercomparison proposed.
- ✓ Biases in the LW downward radiation even in clear sky situations. *Verification studies using e.g. BSRN were recommended.*
- ✓ SBL is highly interactive with the underlying surface. Consider coupled system. *LES should have at least simple surface energy balance.*
- ✓ More diagnostic studies on behavior of the boundary layer and its interaction with the surface. More use of super-sites (CEOP, FLUXNET)
- ✓ For land surface : (i) shallow top soil to represent fast time scales, (ii) multi-layer snow scheme, (iii) use many observational sites to derive relevant model parameters, (iv) use DA techniques to "inverse" land surface parameters.
- ✓ *Define a new GABLS case for uniform snow*

# WG - OPER

**We do not need to list and solve all problems but concentrate on some?**

Consistent treatment of momentum fluxes of different scales and origin

Forecast of (dissolution of) fog and visibility over different surfaces

Consistent treatment of cloud microphysics-radiation interactions

Proper handling of heterogeneity of the surface + under and above it





# WG - OPER

## Consistent treatment of momentum fluxes of different scales and origin

Suggestion:

Ensure **consistent in scales derivation** of the **mean elevation and parameters** needed for the parametrisations of subgrid-scale orographic momentum fluxes, based on **high-resolution digital elevation data** (SRTM and others).

Coordinate work already ongoing in HIRLAM, ALADIN, UKMO, COSMO . A working week on the finest scale modelling planned in HIRLAM, might start with the orography update and continue to provide fine-resolution estimate of orographic drag for comparison with global models?



## **Forecast of (dissolution of) fog and visibility over different surfaces**

Suggestion:

Arrange a **model intercomparison of forecast visibility and cloud base** (=diagnostic, post-processed), starting from an inventory of existing schemes and validation methods



# Consistent treatment of cloud microphysics-radiation interactions

>  $T_{2m}$

Suggestion:

Ensure consistency between the assumptions concerning **cloud particle size distribution in microphysics and radiation parametrizations**

- For stable boundary layer: mostly fog and low level water and ice cloud



## Proper handling of heterogeneity of the surface + under and above it

Suggestion

Compare **surface temperature** and Under-surface profiles over different surfaces using advanced process models like CROCUS, HIGHTSI, ...





**In this presentation:**

**WG1 - operational**

**WG2 - GABLS4 update**

**WG3 - EFB update**



## Motivation

Numerical weather prediction and climate models continue to have large errors for stable boundary layers (SBL). To understand and to improve on this, so far three atmospheric boundary layer model inter-comparison studies have been organised within the Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment (GEWEX) of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP).

## Previous GEWEX ABL Studies (GABLS)

have joined about 20 research groups to model:

- the SBL (GABLS1)
- the diurnal cycle (GABLS2, GABLS3), and
- the nocturnal low-level jet (GABLS3).

Timo Vihma, 2012



## Conclusions from GABLS 1-3

- Diurnal cycles of temperature and wind continue to be a challenge for NWP and climate models
- inter-model scatter is large for all SBL variables
- sensitive processes in SBL include turbulent mixing, surface-interactions, and longwave radiation divergence
- GABLS experiments suggest that operational models typically overestimate mixing in SBL. This is supported by several 3D experiments and validation studies (Louis et al, 1982; Beare, 2007; Steeneveld et al, 2010; Lüpkes et al., 2010; Tastula and Vihma, 2011; Jakobson et al., 2012; Atlaskin and Vihma, 2012)

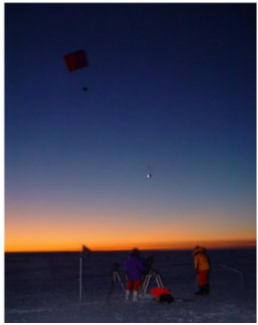
## So far not addressed in GABLS

- long-lived very stable stratification
- ABL over polar regions with validation against observations
  - Actual topic because of:
    - decrease of Arctic sea ice cover vs. increase in the Antarctic
    - collapse of Antarctic ice shelves
    - rapid melting of continental glaciers and permafrost

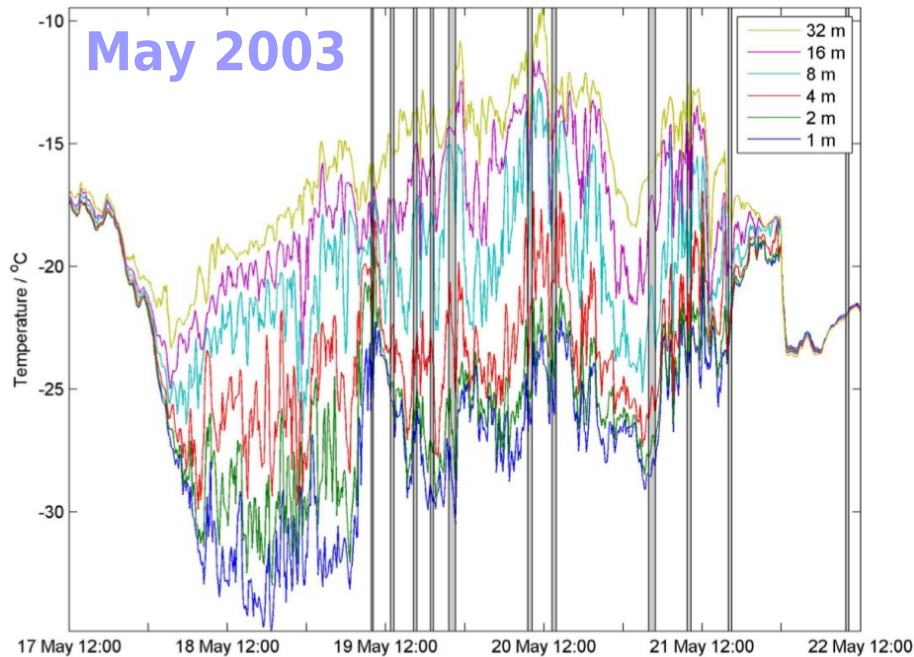
Plan for GABLS4

We explore the set-up of GABLS4 over the Brunt Ice Shelf, Antarctica, where the British Antarctic Survey carries out measurements at the Halley station

Halley station **Halley**  
75°35'S, 26°34'W, since 1956



Temperature, IOC 1, May 2003



Conclusions & Perspectives

- Several 3D experiments at 2.5km have been performed:
  - AROME physics with SURFEX and a specific option (Lglacier)
  - ARPEGE physics with the snow scheme used during the CONCORDIASI experiment or with the SURFEX scheme used in AROME
  - Number of vertical level 60 → 90
- Overestimation of low clouds:
  - Problem of the cloud scheme (PDF Function) ?
  - Underestimation of the mixing ?
  - Initial conditions ?
- Perspectives for 1D GABLS:
  - Create an "ensemble forcing"
  - Simplified the advection term
  - geostrophic wind forcing instead of wind advection ?
  - More comparison : surface fluxes, snow temperature (snow pack), TKE
- 1 year experiment in "Climate Mode "

**Dome C**



Workshop Stable Boundary Layer  
3/5 dec 2012



An homogeneous site ?



Eric Bazile, 2012



LGG tower 45m





# GABLS4 plans over Halley and Dome C

## Halley: (early) winter conditions

Research question: Evolution of very stable boundary layer starting from neutral conditions, with interaction of turbulence, longwave radiation, and heat conduction in snow

Challenges: At Halley, finding a case with minimum advection, katabatic winds and effects of sea is not easy: more suitable for 3D model comparisons

## Dome C: summer conditions

Research question: Understanding stable boundary layer in conditions of strongly forced diurnal cycle over snow, with interaction of short- and long-wave radiation, turbulence, and heat conduction in snow

Advantages: More homogeneous environment than Halley, a lot of previous modelling done to support single-column experiments

# **GABLS4 plans over Halley and Dome C**

## **3D model experiments**

ARPEGE - AROME

HIRLAM with ECMWF boundaries

Polar WRF with ECMWF boundaries

COAMPS

To understand advections, prepare input for 1D experiments, and compare 3D model results as such

## **Single-column model experiments**

MUSC with ARPEGE - AROME

Polar WRF 1D

Duynkerke model

and others

To address the main research questions of PBL evolution, and to create a test case for development of NWP parametrisations

**To be compared to LES results and detailed observations**



**In this presentation:**

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**WG2 - GABLS4 update**

**WG3 - EFB update**



## WG\_turb: Goal

- **Implementation of EFB closure with:**
  - Two prognostic equations for turbulent energy:
    - Motivation: reliable stability parameter  $\Pi = E_p / E_k$
    - Total energy + potential energy ?
    - Total energy + kinetic energy ?
    - Kinetic energy + potential energy ?
  - Prognostic turbulent time scale or length scale

# Energy- & flux-budget (EFB) closure (2007-12)

## Budget equations for major statistical moments

Turbulent kinetic energy (TKE)  $E_K$

Turbulent potential energy (TPE)  $E_P$

Vertical flux of temperature  $F_z = \langle \theta w \rangle$  [or buoyancy  $(g/T)F_z$ ]

Vertical flux of momentum  $\tau_{iz} = \langle u_i w \rangle$  ( $i = 1, 2$ )

**Relaxation equation for the dissipation time scale**  $t_T = E_K / \varepsilon_K = l(E_K)^{-1/2}$

Accounting for TPE → vertical heat flux (that “killed” TKE in Kolmogorov type closures)  
**drops out from the equation for total turbulent energy (TTE = TKE + TPE)**

Heat-flux budget equation → imposes a limit on the vertical heat flux and assures  
**self-preservation of turbulence** → **no Ri-critical in the energetic sense**

## **Disclosed two principally different regimes of stably stratified turbulence**

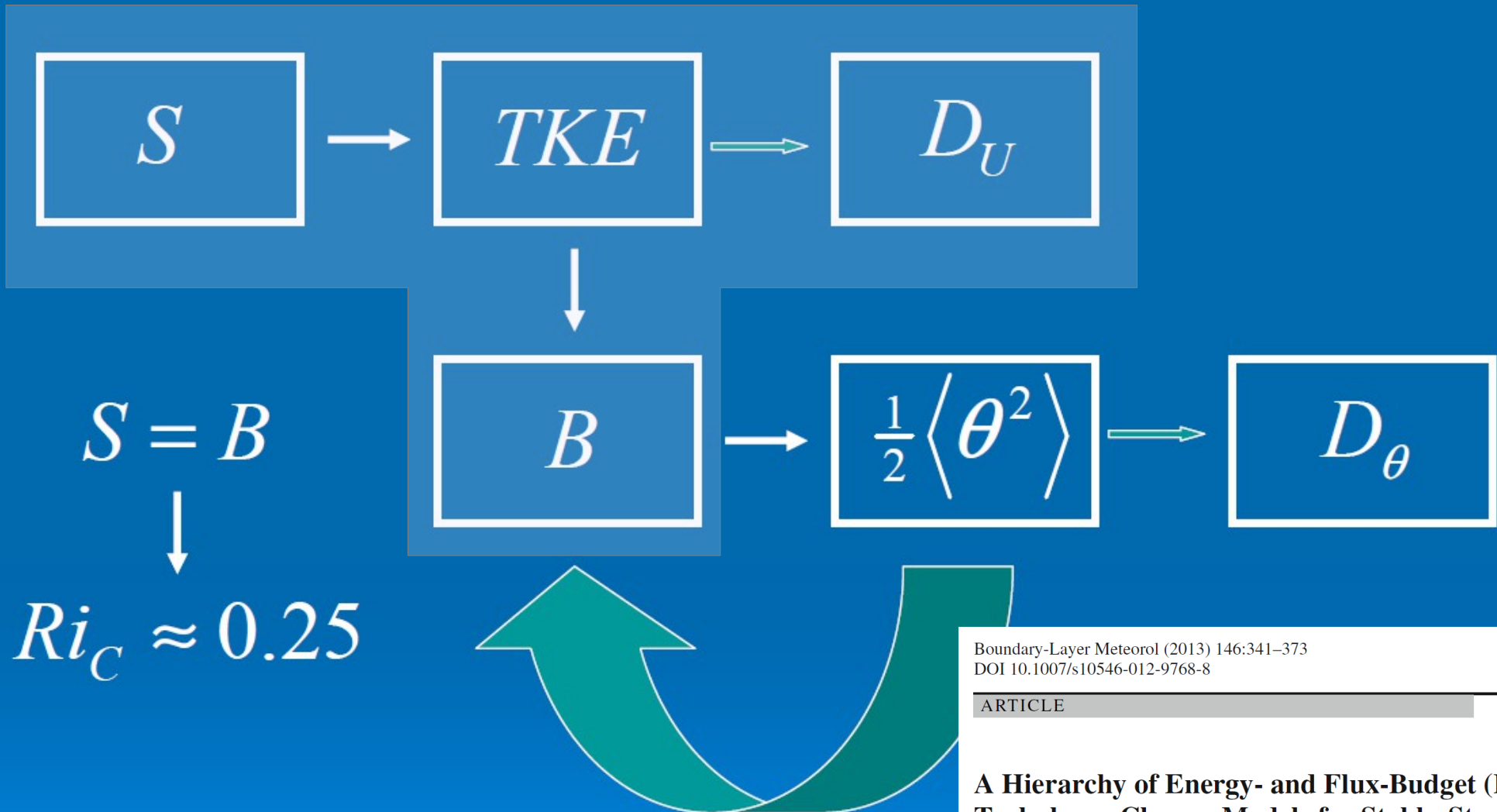
**“Strong turbulence” in boundary layer flows** with  $K_M \sim K_H$  at  $Ri < Ri_c$

**“Weak turbulence” in the free atmosphere** with  $Pr_T = K_M / K_H \sim 4 Ri$  at  $Ri \gg Ri_c$

**MOS theory disregards weak turbulence at  $z/L \gg 1$  and yields artefact  $Ri_c$**

**PBL height = the boundary between strong- and weak-turbulence regimes**

# Total Energy



Boundary-Layer Meteorol (2013) 146:341–373  
DOI 10.1007/s10546-012-9768-8

ARTICLE

**A Hierarchy of Energy- and Flux-Budget (EFB) Turbulence Closure Models for Stably-Stratified Geophysical Flows**

S. S. Zilitinkevich · T. Elperin · N. Kleeorin · I. Rogachevskii · I. Esau

**Nathan Kleeorin, 2013**

With four prognostic equations (that will not change further in the document), that do not cause any solving problem. In the other equations,  $e$ ,  $\overline{\theta'^2}$ ,  $\overline{\theta'q'}$  and  $\overline{q'^2}$  will be supposed known !

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\overline{\theta'^2}) + U_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(\overline{\theta'^2}) &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(\overline{u'_k \theta'^2}) && -2\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial x} \overline{\mathbf{u}'\theta'} && -2\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial y} \overline{\mathbf{v}'\theta'} && -2\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial z} \overline{\mathbf{w}'\theta'} && -2C_{\epsilon\theta} \frac{\sqrt{e}}{L_\epsilon} \overline{\theta'^2} \\
 \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\overline{q'^2}) + U_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(\overline{q'^2}) &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(\overline{u'_k q'^2}) && -2\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \overline{\mathbf{u}'q'} && -2\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \overline{\mathbf{v}'q'} && -2\frac{\partial Q}{\partial z} \overline{\mathbf{w}'q'} && -2C_{\epsilon q} \frac{\sqrt{e}}{L_\epsilon} \overline{q'^2} \\
 \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\overline{\theta'q'}) + U_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(\overline{\theta'q'}) &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(\overline{u'_k \theta'q'}) && -\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \overline{\mathbf{u}'\theta'} && -\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \overline{\mathbf{v}'\theta'} && -\frac{\partial Q}{\partial z} \overline{\mathbf{w}'\theta'} && \\
 &&& -\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial x} \overline{\mathbf{u}'q'} && -\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial y} \overline{\mathbf{v}'q'} && -\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial z} \overline{\mathbf{w}'q'} && -2C_{\epsilon\theta q} \frac{\sqrt{e}}{L_\epsilon} \overline{\theta'q'} \\
 \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(e) + U_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(e) &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}(\overline{e'u'_k} + \overline{p'u'_k}) && -\overline{u'_k u'_l} \frac{\partial U_k}{\partial x_l} && +\beta_k \overline{u'_k \theta'_v} && && -\epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

**Valery Masson for  
MNH/AROME, 2013**

# Code modifications based on cy38t1\_op1:

- 3 GFL (YEFB1, YEFB2, YEFB2) added by Y. Bouteloup for 3 new prognostic variables (Ep or theta variance, humidity variance and covariance of theta and q)
- For the turbulence code used in ARPEGE, it seems feasible to implement the 4.2 proposal (Zilitinkevich et al 2012):
  - add Ep equation (eq88) (ACTURB and ACEVOLET)
  - Diagnose vertical component Ez with eq 92 (ACTURB)
  - Computes Km and Kh with eq 95 (ACTURB)
  - As a 1st step use the current mixing length (BL89)
- Minimum code modifications, still use the same algorithm for the tri-diag resolution and the flux computations.
- Probably less complex than the Valery's proposal for the AROME turbulence code
- Interesting to compare the two approaches on GABLS1 and GABLS3 but also with the modified TOUCAN (ALARO scheme)



# 'Dry case' target time-step organisation of TOUCANS

The resulting 'dry' scheme would then look like this:

1. computation of stability functions  $\chi_3, \phi_3, T_h, F_{w'z}$ , and  $F_\epsilon$  from  $\Pi^- = \frac{TPE^-}{e^-} [= \frac{C_p Ri_f}{1-Ri_f} \leftarrow \text{cold start}]$   
[or at start for fast and dirty implementation: computation of  $Ri$  from  $\Pi^-$ ]
2. computation of  $L, l_m$  from  $e^-$  and  $\Pi^-$
3. computation of  $\tau_\epsilon$ , and  $K_E$  from  $l_m, e^-$ , and  $F_\epsilon$
4. computation of  $\tau_{TTE}$ , and  $K_{TTE}$  from  $\tau_\epsilon, K_E$ , and  $\Pi^-$
5. computation of  $\tilde{e}$  from  $\overline{w'\theta'}, \overline{w'u'}, \overline{w'v'}$ , and  $\tau_\epsilon$
6. computation of  $\overline{TTE}$  from  $\overline{w'u'}, \overline{w'v'}$ , and  $\tau_{TTE}$
7. solver for prognostic TKE
8. solver for prognostic TTE and prognostic L for next time step if not diagnostic
9. computation of  $K_m, K'_h$ :  $K_m = L_K C_K \sqrt{e^{(+)}} \chi_3(\Pi)$ ,  $K'_h = L_K C_K C_3 \sqrt{e^{(+)}} \phi_Q(\Pi)$
10. local vertical diffusion solver with  $K_m, K'_h$
11. non-local solver with additional TPE(=TTE-TKE) source term
12. no need anymore for a non local correction to the final value of TKE (and of TTE)

The main difference of TOUCANS with respect to other schemes is that the new TKE is computed first (with direct 'local' closure in the case of prognostic TKE only; with use of previous time step fluxes and present gradients in the case with prognostic TKE & TTE). The exchange coefficients follow (and they are used even in the fully prognostic scheme, because we want to differentiate SOMs from TOMs terms, the 'local' solving acting as preconditioning for the 'total' solving).

**Many colleagues have contributed  
to this presentation:**

**Eric Bazile, Valery Masson,  
Francois Bouysse, Jean-Francois Geleyn  
Meteo France**

**Timo Vihma, Carl Fortelius,  
Sergej Zilitinkevich  
FMI**

**Nathan Kleeorin, Ben Gurion University**

**Thank YOU!**

