

*Regional Cooperation for  
Limited Area Modeling in Central Europe*



## ALARO status overview

Contributions by Jan Mašek and Luc Gerard

Neva Pristov



# Talk outline

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- ▶ ALARO status
- ▶ Developments
  - ▶ *TOUCANS (shallow convection)* Presentation Radmila Brožkova
  - ▶ Radiation scheme ACRANEB2
  - ▶ Complementary subgrid drafts scheme
- ▶ Outlook

# ALARO status

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- ▶ One of the physical parameterization package inside ALADIN-HIRLAM system

- ▶ In the operational use in ALADIN countries

National posters

- ▶ ALARO-0: at, be, hr, hu, ro, sk, si, tr

- ▶ ALARO-1vA: cz, po (*e-suite be,tr*)

model resolution between 8 km – 4 km, 2km

- ▶ In EPS systems

Presentation Martin  
Belluš

- ▶ ALADIN-LAEF, GLAMEPS, EPS at HMS

- ▶ HarmonEPS convection-permitting ensemble system

- ▶ In climatological simulations

Presentation Lesley De  
Cruz

- ▶ be, cz, se

# ACRANEB2

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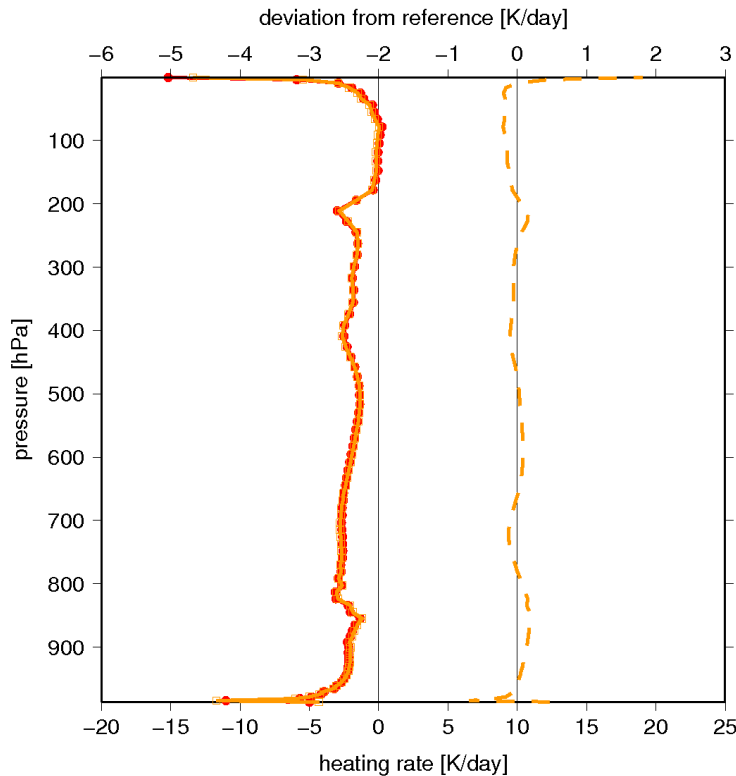
## Ongoing work

- ▶ scientific paper describing long wave (LW) part
  - ▶ an independent LW narrowband reference was constructed for validation of Net Exchange Rate concept with bracketing
- ▶ verification in NWP model
- ▶ implementation of generalized cloud overlap in radiation
- ▶ new products: unscaled direct solar flux, sunshine duration

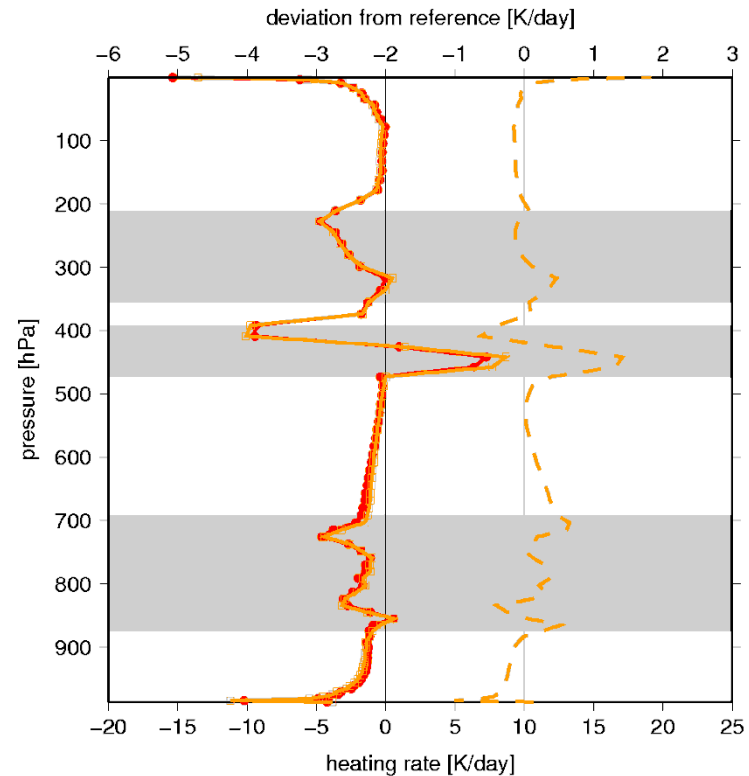
# ACRANEB2

ACRANEB2 is compared against narrowband reference (NBM)

clear sky case



cloudy case



Longwave heating rates: red - NBM reference, yellow - ACRANEB2

Dashed line: difference (upper scale); grey shading – cloud layers

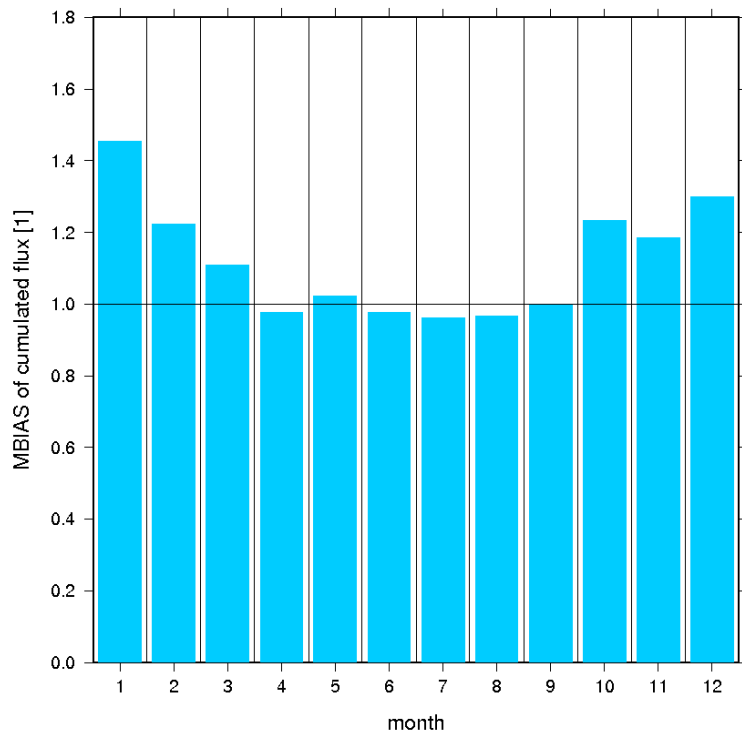
# ACRANEB2 – verification in NWP model

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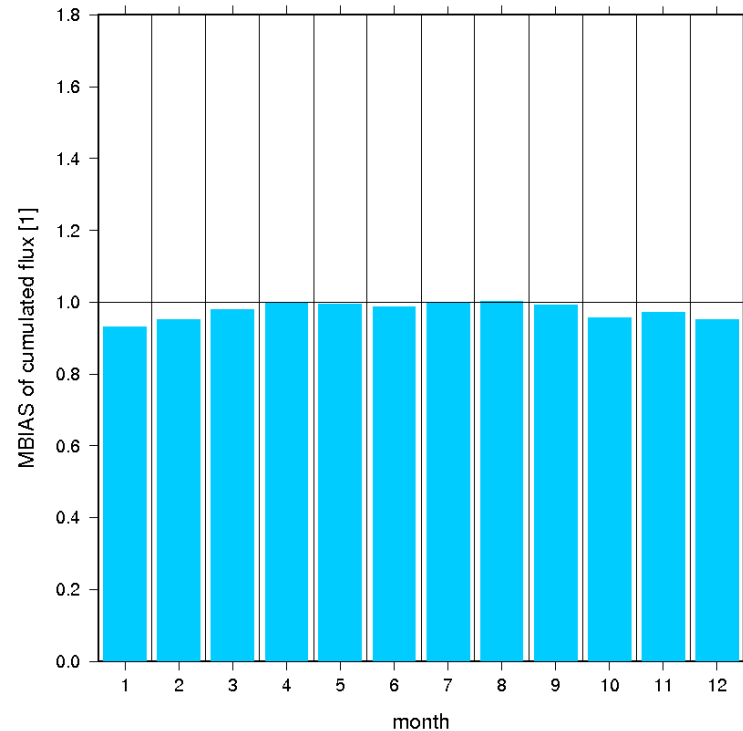
- ▶ systematic verification of operational ALADIN/CHMI
  - ▶ ALARO-1 configuration with ACRANEB2 in 2015
  - ▶ daily means of forecasted SW global radiation and LW downward radiation at surface were compared to ground measurements (CHMI network):
    - ▶ 19 stations with SW global radiation
    - ▶ 1 station with LW downward radiation

# ACRANEB2 – verification in NWP model

MBIAS of 24-h accumulated downward  
short wave flux                      long wave flux



Strong yearly variation of SW bias related to underestimated cloud cover in cold season



Partial compensation of overestimated SW during cold season

# Clouds and cloud overlaps

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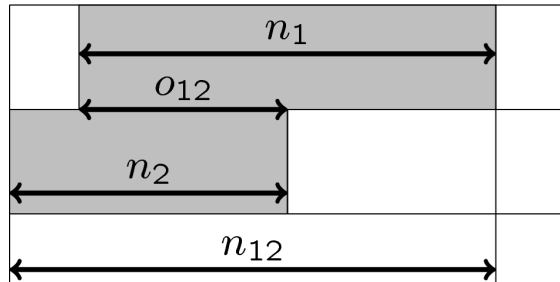
## 2 independent treatments of cloudiness in ALARO-1

- ▶ microphysics (APLMPHYS)  
cloud fractions and condensates are computed in thermodynamic adjustment having an implicit PDF, based on Xu-Randall type of computation;  
assumes **exponential-random overlap** between cloud layers when handling geometry of clouds and falling precipitation
- ▶ radiation and diagnostics share the cloud condensates and layer cloud fractions diagnosed by Xu-Randall scheme (ACNEBN)  
  
radiation (ACRANEB2) assumes **maximum-random overlap** between cloud layers  
  
diagnostics (ACNPART) assumes (optionally) **nearly maximum-random overlap** between cloud layers



# Two basic cloud overlap modes

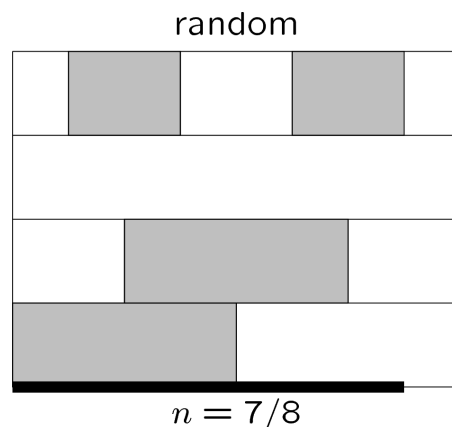
- ▶ adjacent cloud layers: random or maximum overlap



$$n_{12} = n_1 + n_2 - o_{12}$$

$$o_{12} = \begin{cases} n_1 n_2 & \text{– random} \\ \min(n_1, n_2) & \text{– maximum} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ distant cloud layers overlap randomly to the extent allowed by overlaps between adjacent layers  
→ random or maximum-random cloud overlap

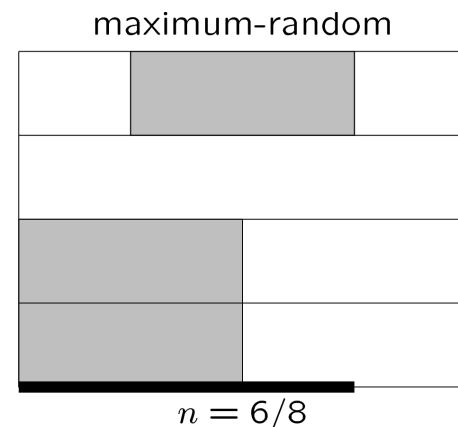


$$n_1 = 4/8$$

$$n_2 = 0/8$$

$$n_3 = 4/8$$

$$n_4 = 4/8$$



# Generalized cloud overlap

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- ▶ *random cloud overlap gives too high total cloud cover (especially in fine vertical resolution)*
- ▶ *maximum-random cloud overlap gives too low total cloud cover (especially for deep clouds)*

- ▶ solution is to introduce generalized cloud overlap with weight  $\alpha < 1$

$$o_{12} = (1 - \alpha)n_1n_2 + \alpha \min(n_1, n_2)$$

- ▶ **exponential-random cloud overlap** is obtained when  $\alpha$  is chosen to decay exponentially with layer separation  $\Delta p$

$$\alpha = \exp[-\Delta p / (\Delta p)_{\text{decorr}}]$$

- ▶ decorrelation depth is higher in situations with deep convection, it should be at least latitude and season dependent

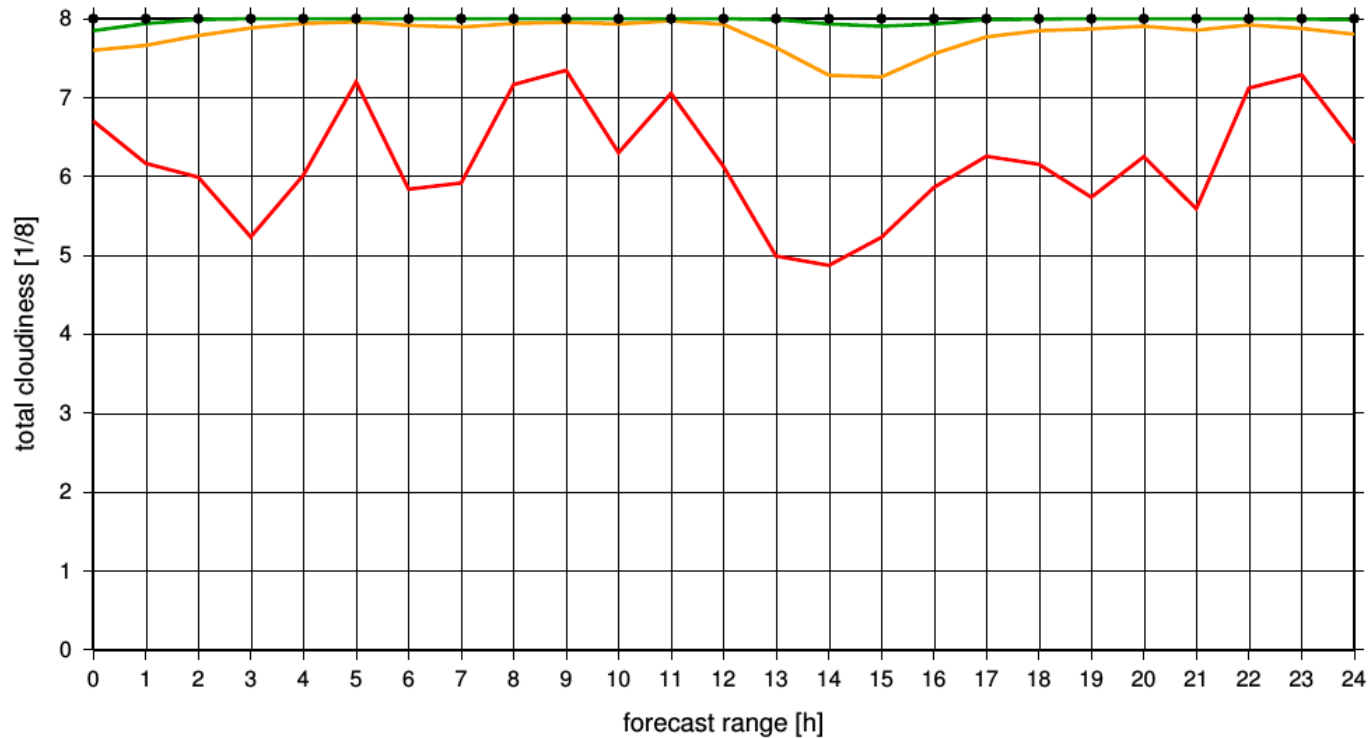
# Unifying cloud overlaps in ALARO-1

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- ▶ first step is unification of cloud overlap hypotheses, which has a strong impact in radiation and has the potential to decrease the observed bias
  - ▶ exponential-random overlap has been implemented in ACRANEB2 and ACNPART, where it should replace currently used options
  - ▶ variation of decorrelation depth across the globe and year has to be parameterized (using the fixed value is not optimal)
- ▶ *next step: use of microphysical cloud condensates and layer cloud fractions in radiation/diagnostics (more demanding on tunings)*

Case:14 October 2015 overcast with rain  
 Station Pardubice

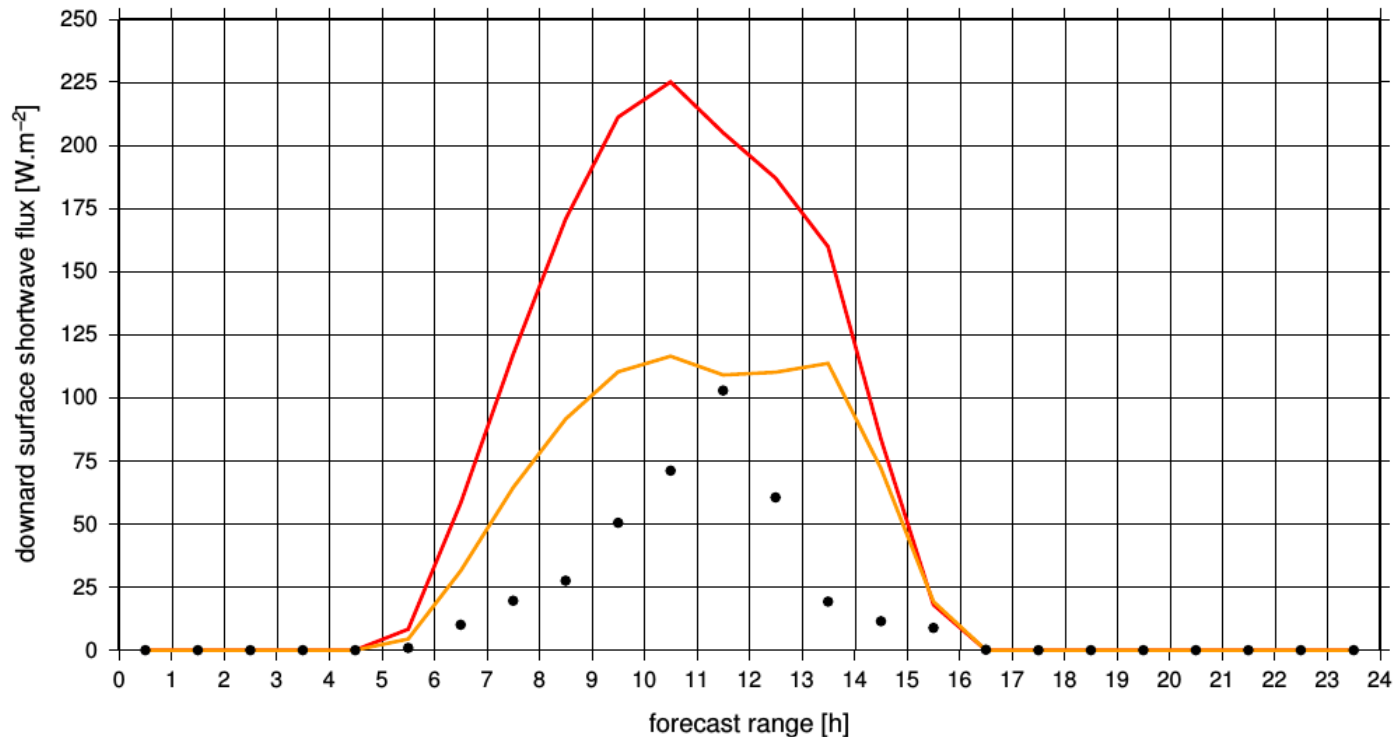
Total cloudiness



diagnostic cloud cover, nearly maximum-random overlap (WMXOV=0.8)  
 radiative cloud cover, maximum-random overlap  
 radiative cloud cover, exponential-random overlap (decorrelation depth 100 hPa)  
 dots - observations

Case:14 October 2015 overcast with rain  
 Station Hradec Kralove (near Pardubice)

Downward surface SW flux



maximum-random radiative cloud overlap

exponential-random radiative cloud overlap (decorrelation depth 100 hPa)

dots - measurements

# Deep convection

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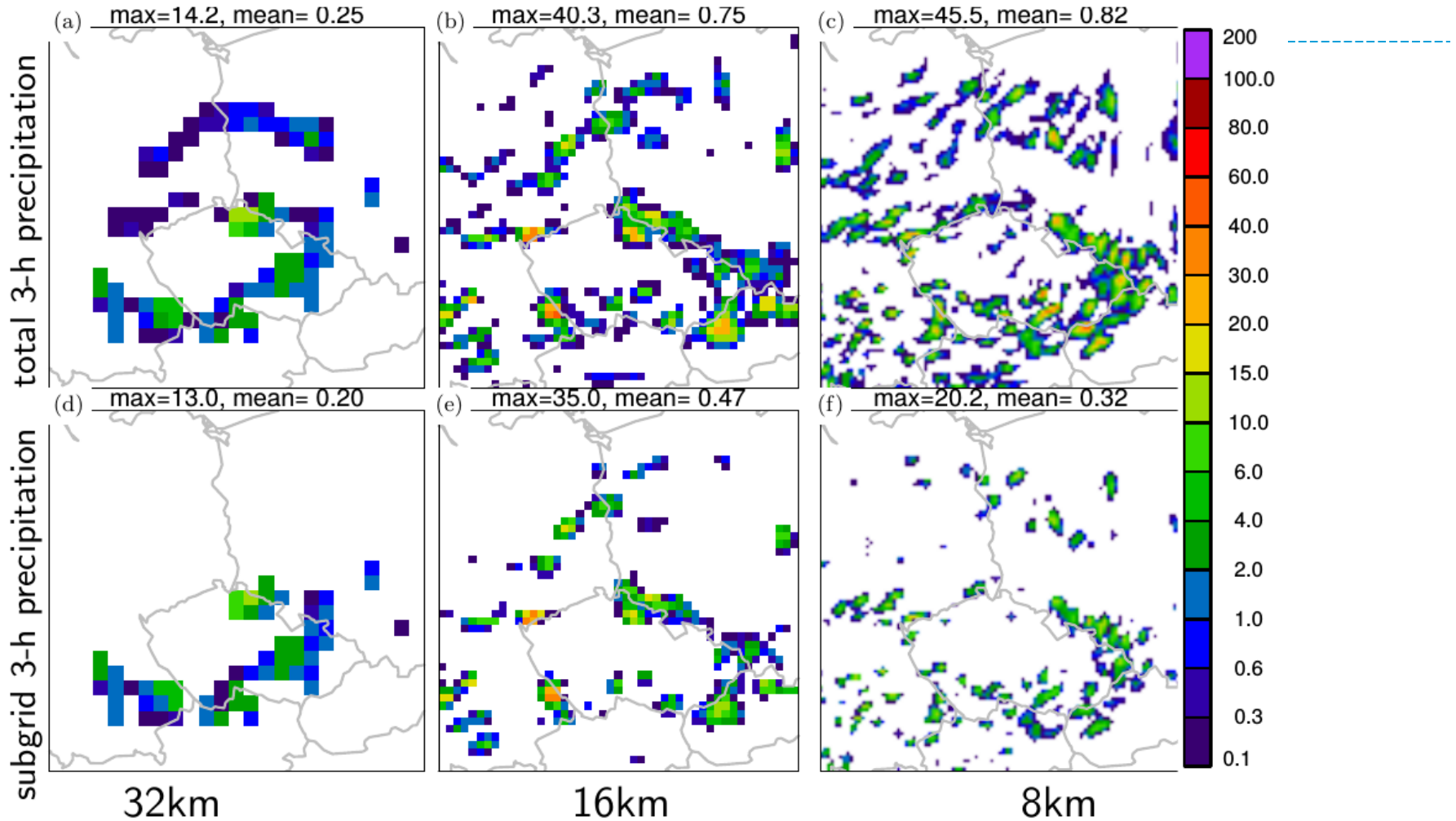
- ▶ A new deep convection scheme  
(Gerard, Mon. Wea. Rev. October 2015)  
CSD (Complementary Subgrid Draft) in testing
  - ▶ showed an improved behaviour at high resolution
  - ▶ the execution time of the model with CSD is around 10% longer than with 3MT
  - ▶ uses the signal of shallow transport from the turbulence scheme
  - ▶ allows a gradual fading out of the parameterized signal at high resolution

# Deep convection

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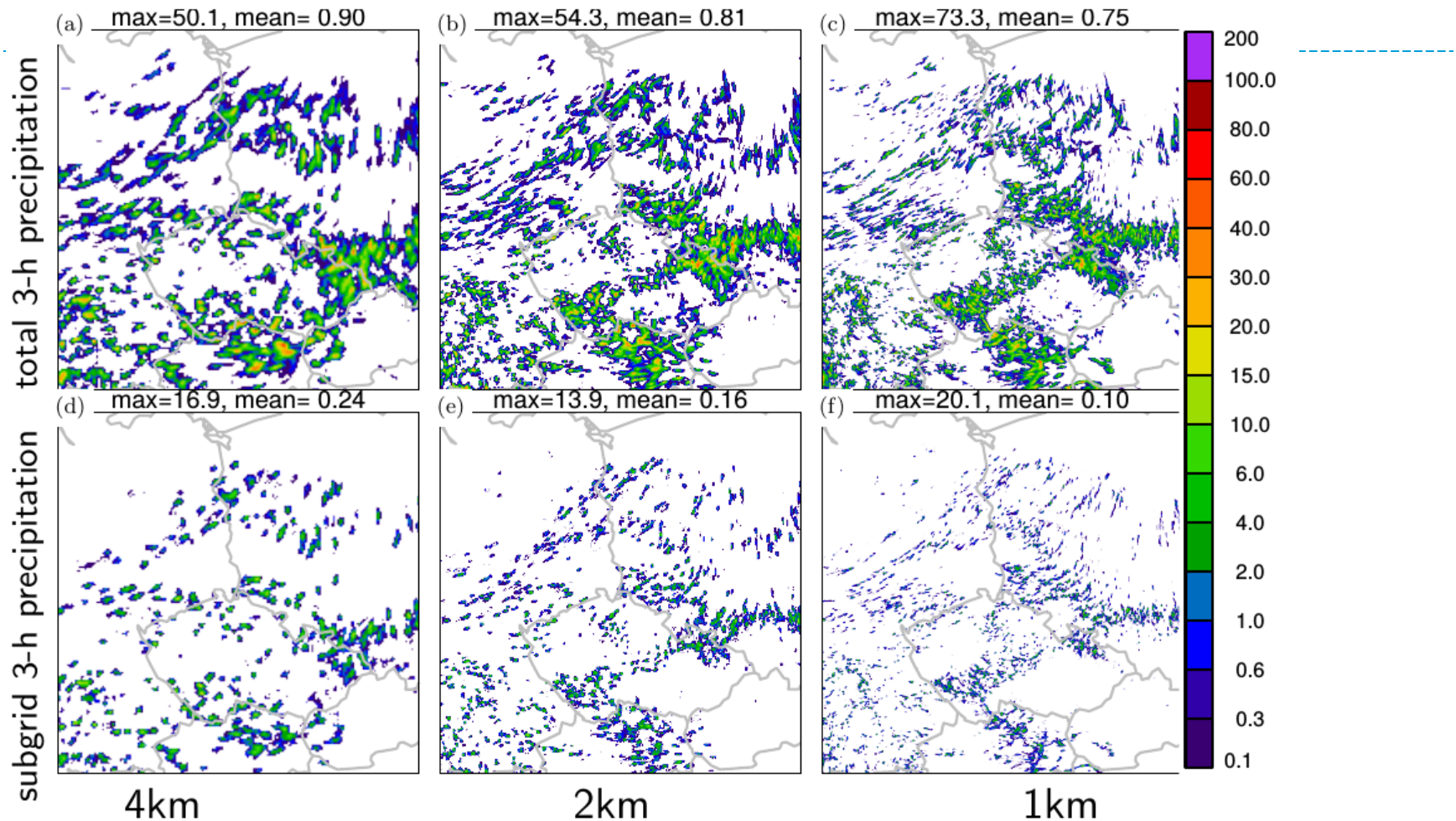
- ▶ **Expectation**
  - ▶ improvement of the diurnal cycle
  - ▶ further improvement of the multi-scale behavior
  - ▶ the potential to produce even more realistic forecasts at fine resolution
  
- ▶ **How to keep meso-scale organization below 2 km?**
  - ▶ when deep convection is represented explicitly it can be too weak
  - ▶ with some re-tuning of diffusion
  - ▶ with the use of cellular automata

# Summer convection 2 July 2009 ( 3-hour precipitation at 18 UTC)





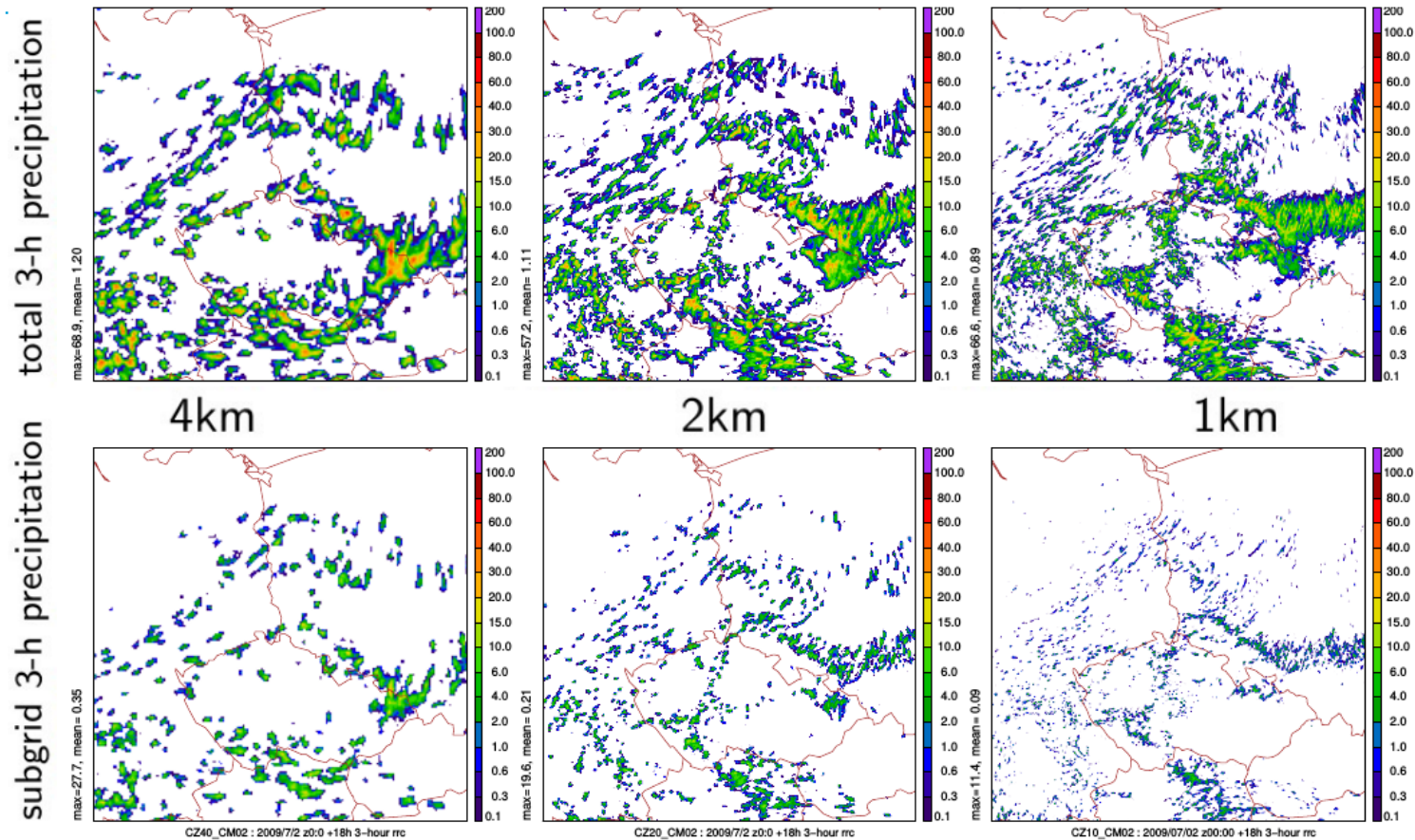
# Summer convection 2 July 2009 ( 3-hour precipitation at 18 UTC)



**Sub-grid part of precipitation is decreasing**

**Lack of meso-scale structure, precipitation areas are more “dotty”**

# Summer convection 2 July 2009 ( 3-hour precipitation at 18 UTC) Using Cellular Automaton and new horizontal momentum handling



**Sub-grid part of precipitation is significantly reduced**  
**Meso-scale structure is kept**

## Summer convection 2 July 2009

Using Cellular Automaton and new horizontal momentum handling

### ► Domain-averaged precipitation accumulation over time (sampled every 3 hours)

solid – total 3 h precipitation

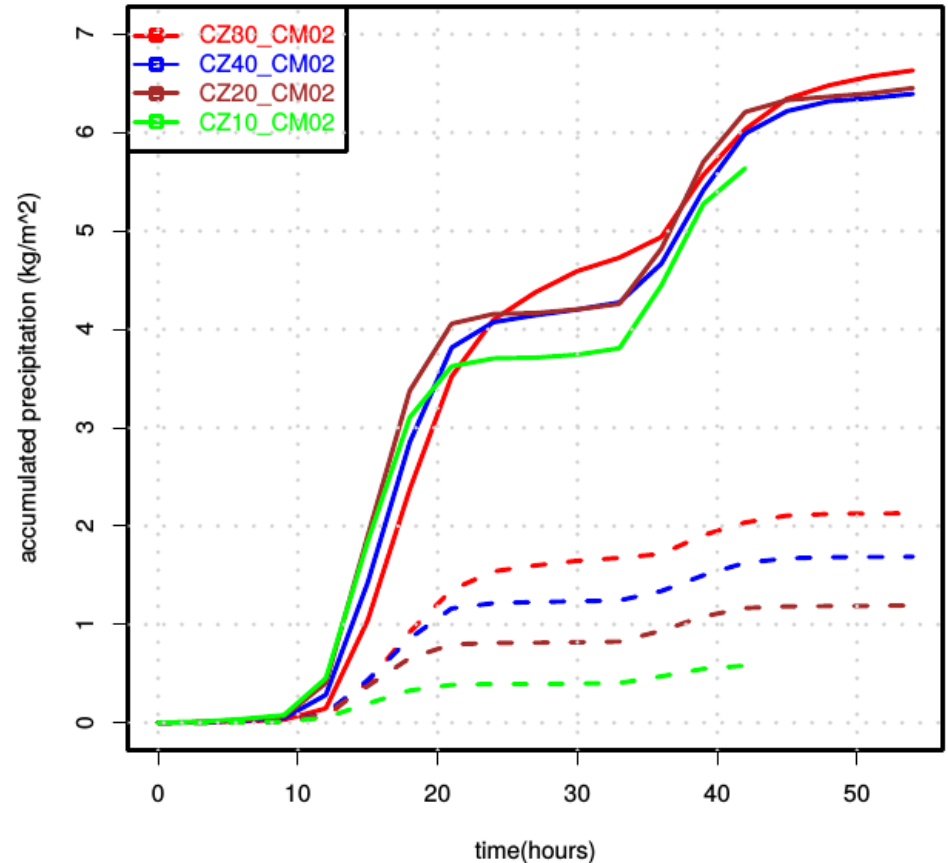
dashed – subrid 3 h precipitation

red – 8 km

blue – 4 km

brown – 2 km

green – 1 km



**Total precipitation is consistent at all resolutions**

# Outlook

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- ▶ Enhancement of the 3MT downdraft parameterization towards unsaturated downdraft option
- ▶ Adding aspects of Complementary Sub-grid Drafts
- ▶ Further enhancements of the shallow convection and mixing length scale parameterization in TOUCANS
- ▶ Steps towards the unification of cloud cover representation
- ▶ Linking with the SURFEX scheme

# Announcement

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- ▶ ALARO-1 Working days  
12-14 September 2016, Brussels, RMI
  - ▶ a status overview, spread knowledge, planning
  - ▶ lectures by developers
  - ▶ presentations from evaluators/users