

**17th ALADIN LTM meeting
Wednesday 30th September 2014
Offenbach, Germany**

Minutes



Participants

ALADIN Program Manager : Piet Termonia

LTM and representatives :

Algeria : Abdelhak Razagui (LTM) by web-conference

Austria : Christoph Wittmann (LTM), Christoph Zingerle

Belgium : Alex Deckmyn (LTM)

Bulgaria : Boryana Tsenova (dep. LTM)

Croatia : Alica Bajic (LTM), Dijana Klaric

Czech Rep : Radmila Brozkova (LTM)

France : Claude Fischer (LTM)

Hungary : Gergely Boloni (LTM)

ACNA: Maria Derkova (Mariska)

LACE Program Manager : Yong Wang

Support Team : Patricia Pottier

HIRLAM observer : Ulf Andrae

Morocco : *not represented*

Poland : Marek Jerczynski (LTM)

Portugal : Nuno Moreira (dep. LTM)

Romania : Alexandra Craciun (dep.LMT)

Slovakia : Michal Nestiak (dep.LTM)

Slovenia : Neva Pristov (LTM)

Tunisia : Zied Sassi (LTM)

Turkey : Alper Güser (LTM)

1. Opening and welcome

All partners but Morocco are represented (with the Algerian LTM attending by web-conference from Toulouse where he is currently hosted for a one month flat-rate visit).

For the first time in an LTM meeting, we welcome a special guest, **Ulf Andrae**, as **HIRLAM observer**. The dense agenda of the meeting doesn't give room to repeat the contents of the preparatory documents that were distributed before the meeting and that will be discussed in the meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda is adopted without modification.

3. Status of cy38t1:

- implementation by Partners

Mariska presents the status of the implementation of cy38t1 : **cycle 38T1 has been installed by all partners and is operational in several countries**, the others being still under testing or validation, or waiting for a new machine. HIRLAM has already fully validated cy38 and uses a version that includes additional harmonic components and changes (cy38h1).

Radmila warns that Canari is not working for upper-air fields – needed for diag.pack or veral (recommendation : rather use varpack).

- reference without SURFEX

Nuno reports some problem with aladin at 9km, namely what is the reference without SURFEX? (recommendation: as this configuration based on Arpege physics is becoming a marginal configuration in the Aladin NMSs, rather use alaro configuration, with possible support of the alaro team).

It is planned to test SURFEX in ARPEGE for a possible implementation 2016. Thus, Piet proposes to allocate some manpower funded with the flat-rate budget to analyze the impact on the aladin/alaro configurations. He will contact François Bouyssel and Alain Joly for details on the ARPEGE/SURFEX calendar.

For HIRLAM, Ulf explains that most countries are running arome (HARMONIE) configurations (thus already with SURFEX). ALARO with SURFEX is available within GLAMEPS-V2. Patrick Samuelsson is the HIRLAM expert for SURFEX.

- bug in DEFRUN (c002)

A bug in defrun routine (screening) was reported by Tonda Bucanek, CHMI. The description and corrected code were announced via LACE forum.

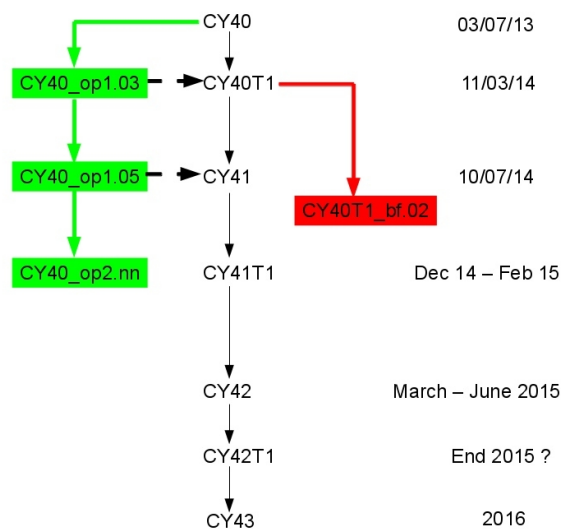
Mariska encourages the LTMs to use existing LACE forum to exchange information when installing and validating a new cycle, and for bug reports as well. The access can be given (also to non-LACE members) by Oldrich Spaniel.

- plans for 40t1?

Before discussing the ALADIN plans for cycle 40t1, Mariska gives the floor to Claude for the status/plans of the cycles and e-suites at MF.

4. MF report on cycles and e-suites

cf preparatory document n°4 and summary graphic below..



Radmila announces that the ALARO team prepares a contribution for ALARO-1 configuration for CY41T1. Radmila asks for guidelines to make this contribution OOPS-compliant.

Radmila explains that partners have just installed cy38t1 and won't probably install cy39t1. Waiting for cy41t1 to benefit from their new contributions seems too long, thus they would prefer to prepare an alaro-1 contribution both for cy41t1 and for cy40t1_bf02. CY40t1_bf02 is the cycle given to HIRLAM, and is also the last cycle without significant OOPS refactoring in the Fortran model codes.

Ulf/HIRLAM will also test hirlam contributions both on cy40t1 and cy41_bf.

It is proposed that 2 basic configurations are validated for future export versions: AROME-France and ALARO baseline.

Claude renews his call for phasers for cy41t1, especially for December 2014 when nobody volunteered so far.

5. System/code cooperation with Hirlam (with Ulf)

Ulf underlines the great potential of more people working on the same system and the HIRLAM wish to collaborate more on this system. After last year first common system working week, a 2nd HARMONIE system WW will take place in Bratislava on 13-17 October 2014.

Piet explains that, due to different working practices, system collaboration has not exactly the same meaning in ALADIN (code only) and HIRLAM (also scripting). This point has been presented to HAC/PAC, will also be in ALADIN GA/HIRLAM Council. It should be clarified in the next MoUs. Yong underlines the importance of the LTMs giving their opinion before the next GA. Patricia reminds that LTMs may find information on the discussions on system collaboration in the last PAC and HAC/PAC minutes (<http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?article109>). Anyone who wants to react should contact Piet before the GA.

6. new MF rules on upgrade of IT/operational apps

At MF, new rules exist for preparing and implementing changes in MF's operational suites (NWP, ocean, air quality etc.). In short (**details in preparatory document n°6**): (1) have a 1.5-2 year planning ahead of now, (2) changes are grouped by applications for which specific time windows for operational changes are set, (3) strict rules when a foreseen change is moving behind schedule => the time window is lost.

The production of LBC files from Arpège for Aladin partners has been defined as one group of applications. Therefore, LBC changes requested by partners will be grouped in order to be implemented within the given "LBC-window" in time. For 2015, this window is presently set at July. The major change with respect to past practice therefore is that the "on-the-fly-when-ready" implementation of a change in one single LBC production will cease.

The practical steps and the technical coordination for the preparations of an LBC change with any partner country will not be modified. This means that MF and the ALADIN partners will continue to collaborate for creating new domains, new clim files, for testing new LBC files etc. The partners still will have to create clim files on their own, and perform tests in advance, when needed.

There is a long chain of interactions before a change is implemented. **The ALADIN management and Support Team proposal is to go towards a more coordinated preparation of the changes (including providing coordinated support and technical help in the framework of the Consortium's work plan and budget)**. A reverse planning is proposed :

- LTMs should send Piet, Claude, Mariska and Patricia their expected changes of LBC production, by 8 December 2014.
- then, Claude will liaise with MF Operations and IT, in order to check that all suggested changes are technically feasible (not all NMSs need and can afford the same changes, also the IT/telecom constraints of MF are to be taken into account),
- March 2015: a dedicated working week (LBC WW) is proposed in Toulouse, in order to kick-off the technical work with all involved partners.
- all technical preparations, including implementation of new LBC input at GCO/OLIVE and tests of new LBC files by the partners, should be completed for end of May 2015.
- July 2015: the new LBC input is handed over to MF Operations for implementation in the operational suite. Therefore, all involved partners will experience the switch of their LBC production from "old" to "new" at about the same date.

The LTMs agree on the above planning. Piet underlines the importance for teams who don't have the expertise to send somebody to the LBC WW. These missions will be funded by the 2015 aladin budget (through the flat-rate or LACE).

7. Newsletter

Patricia announces the **publication of the 3rd common ALADIN-HIRLAM newsletter**. This number 3 is scientific articles oriented : it mainly contains articles written from some key presentations during the ALADIN WK/HIRLAM ASM in Bucharest last April. For **number 4**, Patricia proposes the LTMs to write their contribution at the same time they will provide Piet with their slide for his presentation “**Tour d'ALADIN**” at the next General Assembly (highlight in their NMS in 2014). Dead-line is around mid November and will be specified by e-mail.

8. Information for Toulouse visitors

Patricia warns the future Toulouse visitors about some changes for visitors hosted in Toulouse residences : some 2014 visitors have been asked to lay down a deposit in cash or with a French cheque. It could be no longer the case in 2015. **Updated information will be provided on the aladin website (<http://www.cnr.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?article56>).**

There will be some renovation work in the residences thus we may face a very limited rooms availability at some point. **It is all the more important to plan visits well in advance.**

9. Planning of future meetings, forthcoming training courses, work meetings

Patricia reminds that the next meetings are listed on the aladin website calendar : So far,

- HIRLAM system and EPS WW, Norrköping, 24-28 November 2014
- General Assembly : 2 December 2014 in the morning, Reading, with the 1st joint ALADIN GA & HIRLAM Council in the afternoon
- 25th ALADIN Wk & HIRLAM ASM 2015 : 13-16 April 2015, Copenhagen (including LTM meeting on 14 April) + HMG/CSSI meeting on 17 April
- 3rd HAC/PAC meeting and 12th PAC Meeting : Helsinki, 22 May 2015
- EWGLAM meeting : Serbia, week 40 or 41

The LTMs agree on their next meeting being organized besides the ALADIN Wk in Copenhagen on Tuesday 14 April 2015 (to be confirmed, depending on the whole agenda of the workshop).

A provisional list of 2015 working weeks has been published in the Newsletter 3.

The last forecasters meeting was very well organized by the Turkish colleagues. It was a successful meeting and it will be reproduced next year. Portugal would prefer it not to be organized so close to the summer holiday (difficult period for shift work). Croatia expresses the same concern. This came also as feedback from the forecasters meeting.

10. Manpower commitment/contribution to the rolling plan

Each quarter, the LTMs are asked to report the ALADIN activities in their NMS into the manpower database. Once a year, the LTMs are also asked to commit the next year manpower into the rolling work plan. Reporting provides the official numbers (see MoU) but comparing reporting with commitment gives some useful global indicators that are presented at the GA. **Piet asks the LTMs to indicate some manpower before Friday 7 of November in the current version of the rolling work plan available on googledocs :**

https://docs.google.com/document/d/146gss2ja_IKsSN80YefyIE2GdS8HazOP4cz0K5avcxs.

Patricia recalls that the unit for registration of the manpower is 1/4 month, thus the very short events (Working Days) are not registered separately from the home work (i.e. the attendance during the forecasters meeting should be registered as “home work”). It's the same for longer events when not occurring in an ALADIN country (i.e. this year attendance to EWGLAM). The rules for manpower registration are available on the Partners part of

the aladin website (together with the on-line registration tool).

11. COPE

Mariska recalls the COPE project (Continuous Observation Processing Environment) : COPE is expected to provide a new framework for observation processing and conversion to ODB, but the project is in an early stage of development and there are still open questions regarding design and ODB. A collaboration on the COPE project is of an interest for ALADIN, which heavily relies on Météo France regarding the development of observation processing and conversion to ODB (BATOR) and it would be good to take the COPE project as an opportunity to get more involved. The main area for possible collaboration was identified as work on identification and externalization of the filters included in ALADIN observation processing components (OULAN, BATOR, screening).

Mariska kindly invites the LTMs to consider a contribution to the COPE project and keep in mind that corresponding human resources have to be allocated. Some programming experience with C++ and/or Python would be an advantage.

12. AOB

None.

Annex : Agenda with list of preparatory documents

Agenda	Introduced by	Decision, comments, information	Documents
Opening and welcome	ACNA		
Adoption of the agenda	ACNA		Agenda
Status of cy38t1: - implementation by Partners - reference without SURFEX - bug in DEFRUN (c002) - plans for 40t1?	ACNA	information	updated table (doc3)
MF report on cycles and e-suites	CF	information	doc4
System/code cooperation with Hirlam (with Ulf)	PT	information/ discussion	
new MF rules on upgrade of IT/operational apps	CF	information/ decision	doc6
Newsletter	PP	information	
Information for Toulouse visitors	PP	information	
Planning of future meetings, forthcoming training courses, work meetings	PP/PT	information	doc9
Manpower commitment/contribution to the rolling plan	PT	commitment	link to rolling plan (*)
COPE	ACNA	information	doc11
AOB	ACNA		

(*) https://docs.google.com/document/d/146gss2ja_IKsSN80YEFylE2GdS8HazOP4cz0K5avcx