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- Why a "NH Newsletter" ?

According to various official agreements, there are currently four entities which are likely to design improvements and enter modifications into the code of the NH version of the IFS/ARPEGE/ALADIN system: Aladin and HIRLAM groups from one side, and ECMWF and Météo-France centers from the other side. This increasing number of "contributors" raises the need for some coordination but also for more communications, at least for optimizing the chances of a correct circulation of the information on a reasonable time-scale. The need of such a reactive communication tool dedicated to the NH topic is commonly recognized among the partners involved in the subject.

The role of the Newsletter is not to perform any coordination by itself (this should be done through direct communication, meetings, etc.), although it may act as a way to share the conclusions of accepted coordination agreements. The role of the Newsletter is rather to share the information about the progresses which are made, the problems encountered, and discussions about new ideas or options for the code implementations, etc.

• Principle of the NH Newsletter

This NH Newsletter will be essentially an electronic one, in PDF format, available on line in the "gmapdoc" internet site, at the following address:

http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/gmapdoc/article.php3?id_article=155

The list of registered persons will be advertised at each new issue by an e-mail indicating the clickable URL address, for a direct access. The frequency is foreseen as roughly every three months, possibly slightly more

or less frequently, if necessary. The principle for contributing to this Newsletter is flexible: contributions from persons involved in the subject are encouraged, however, they are not strictly necessary, since as the coordinator of the NH Working Group, I can manage the redaction of the Newsletter in most part.

It should be outlined that the content of the Newsletter, being available from internet, is entirely of public access, and therefore, is not supposed to contain any confidential or classified material.

● Scope of the NH Newsletter

The scope of the Newsletter will include the following topics and items:

- * Local continuous dynamical NH systems:
 - prognostic variables, multiphase fluids,...
- * Large-scale continuous dynamical NH systems:
 - horizontal geometry, deep-layer atmosphere, geoid,...
 - orography, vertical coordinates...
- * Numerics of NH systems:
 - stability, accuracy, convergence, dynamical consistency, conservation...
 - space and time discretizations,...
- * Physics/Dynamics interface for NH systems:
 - formulation of diabaticism, time formulations...
 - parallel/sequential parameterizations...
- * Tools for NH research and didactics:
 - toy models, research versions, analytical and didactic tools ...
- * Model environment:
 - post-processing, initialization, ...
- * Experiments (successes, and ... problems)
- * ... and any other (forgotten or emerging) topic related to NH systems

● Format of the NH Newsletter

The length of the Newsletter is expected not to exceed "some" pages for each issue. However, references to longer and easily accessible pieces of information such as articles, reports or memos, etc., are perfectly possible of course.

The only language is english, and the format for contributions is exclusively the LaTeX (ASCII) code format, therefore, all figures must be provided in the encapsulated PostScript (.eps) format.

Sincerely yours,

Pierre Bénard

(coordinator of the NH Working Group)