



# Z-coordinate

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P. Prohl, DWD  
Milano 2004



## Semi Lagrange(SL) and Euler(EL) LM-Z

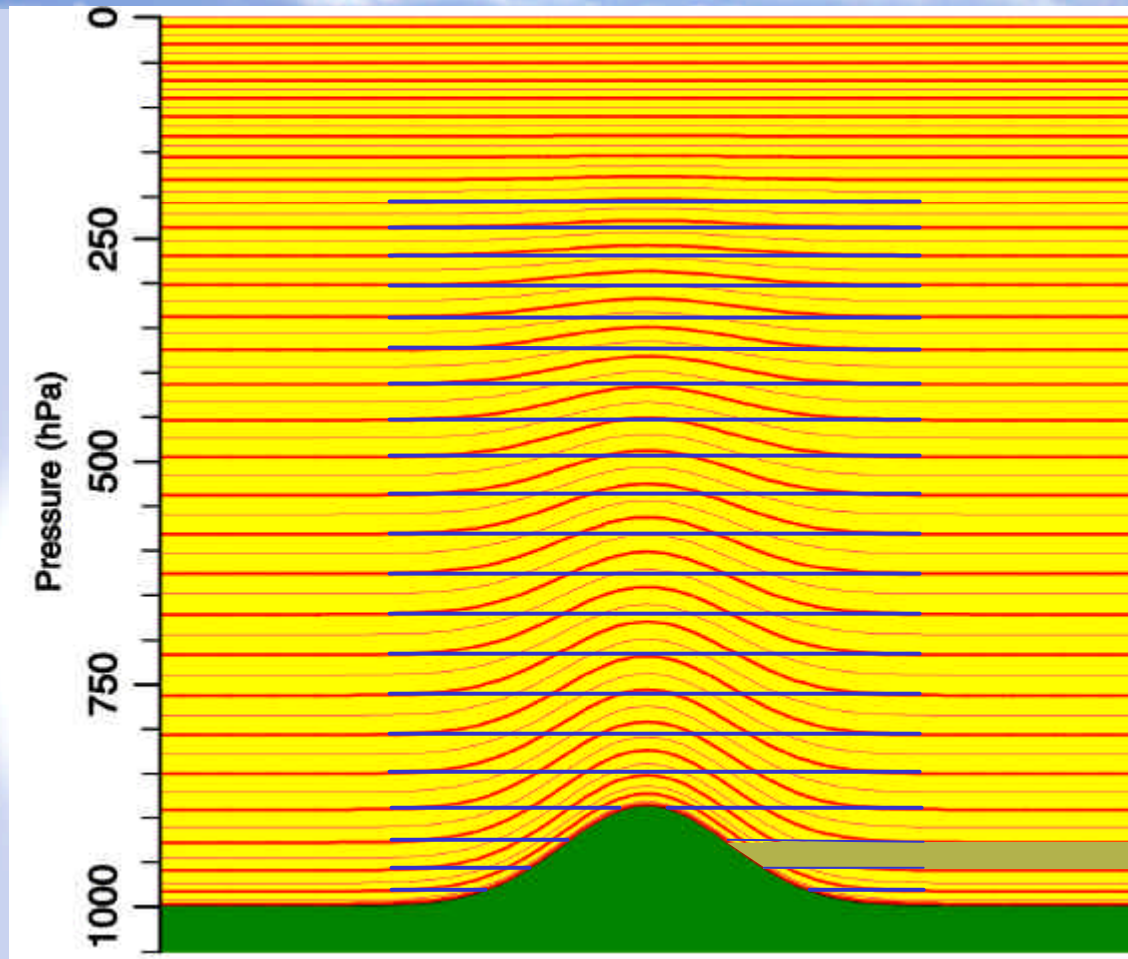
- Both methods use finite volumes for the fast waves and finite differences for the slow waves
- For time integration of the fast waves SL uses implicit integration and EL split explicit (limits the time-step)
- Advection terms (slow waves) are done Lagrangian (allows in principle  $CFL > 1$ ) with SL and using centred differences with EU (Limited to  $CFL < 1$ )
- Results presented here concern the Eulerian version



- Introduction: Why z?, Eta model, Euler/SL
- Adiabatic tests of LM-Z
- The two grid physical parameterisation concept
- Idealised tests with physics
- Tests with real initial fields
- Conclusions
- Aspects of further work

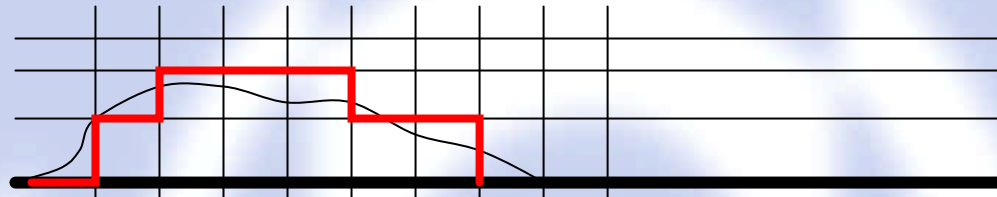
# Expected advantages of the Z-coordinate

- The atmosphere at rest can be represented in Z-coordinates, but not in terrain following coordinates
- Stratiform clouds and low stratus are predicted better in LM-Z
- Mountain and valley winds are better with LM-z
- Precipitation amplitudes should be better with LM-Z, in particular maxima and minima near mountains

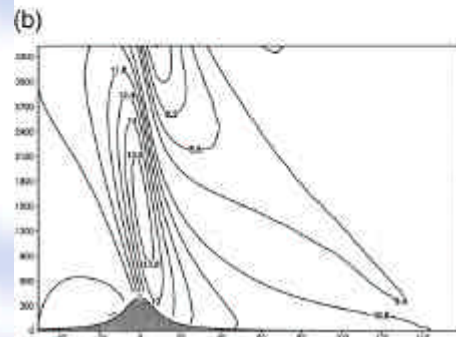
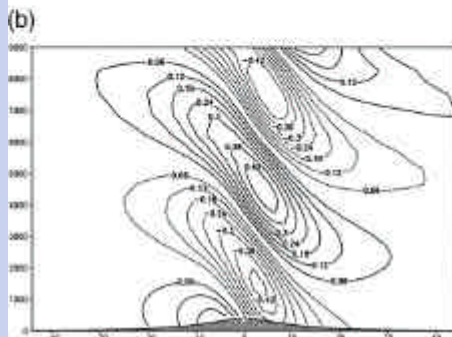
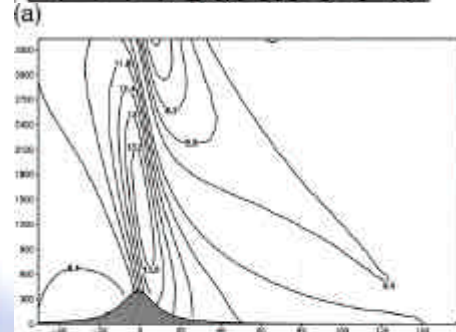
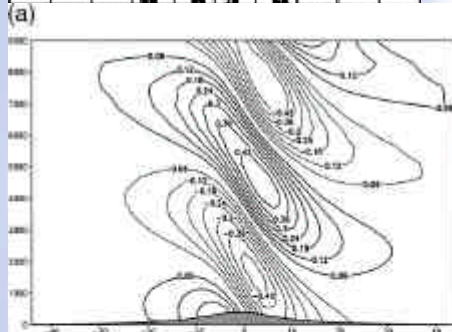
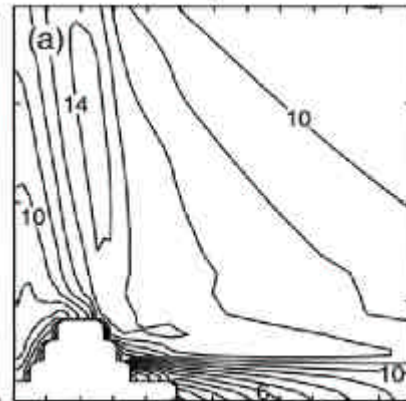
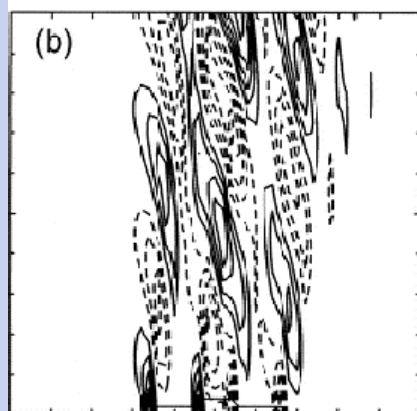


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## The step-orography



- Advantage: simple boundary conditions with z-coordinate
- Disadvantages: No proven convergence; In CFD not used (“legoland topography”); Problems with precipitation forecasts; Problems pointed out by Klemp
- **The disadvantages are avoided by representing the orography by a linear spline rather than steps**



**Mountain generated waves:**

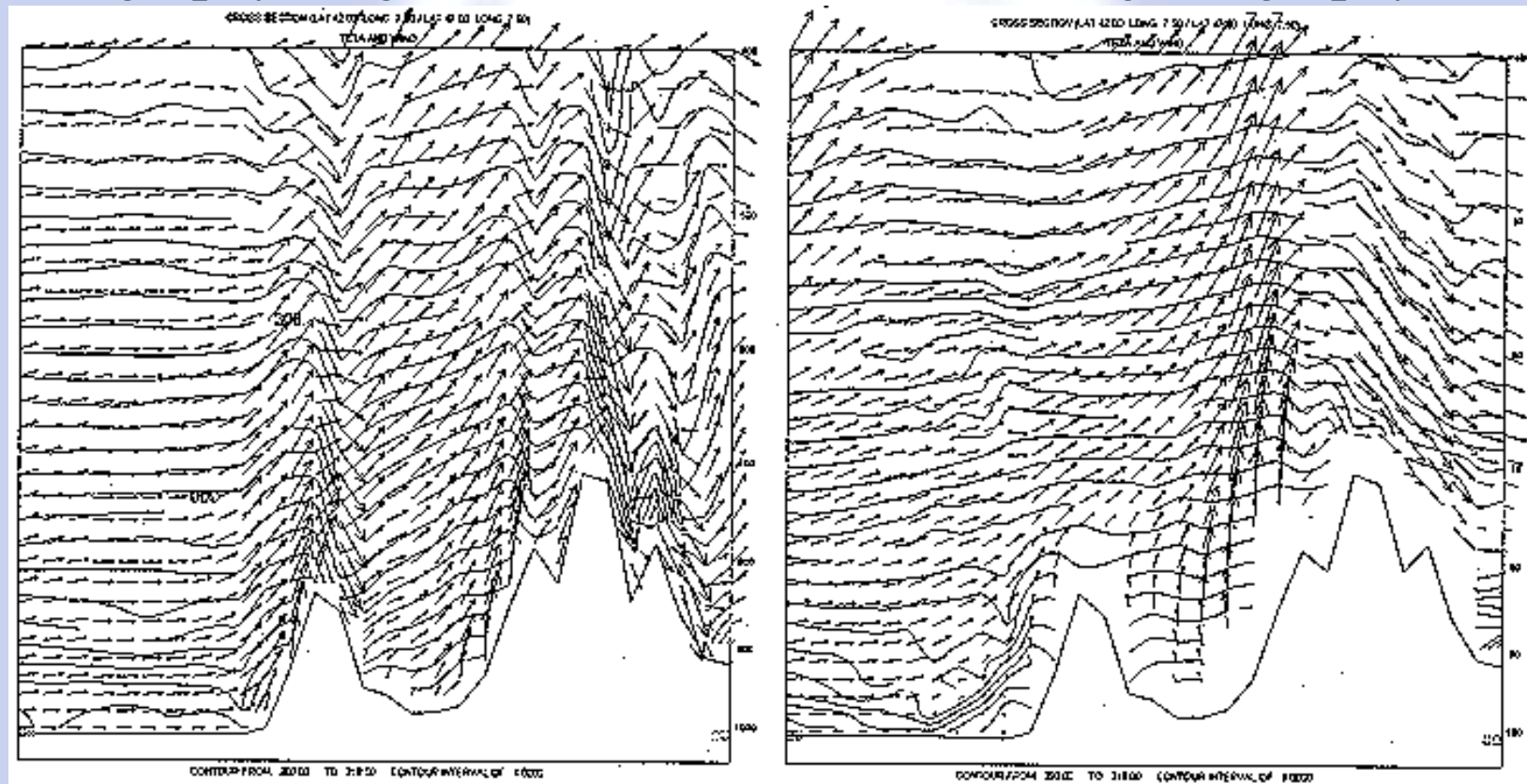
**W (left), U (right)**

**Eta - Model**

**Analytic solution**

**LM\_Z**

Cross Section for Flow Over the Alps, Forecasted by Eta Model with Step Orography (Right) and with Terrain Following Orography (Left)

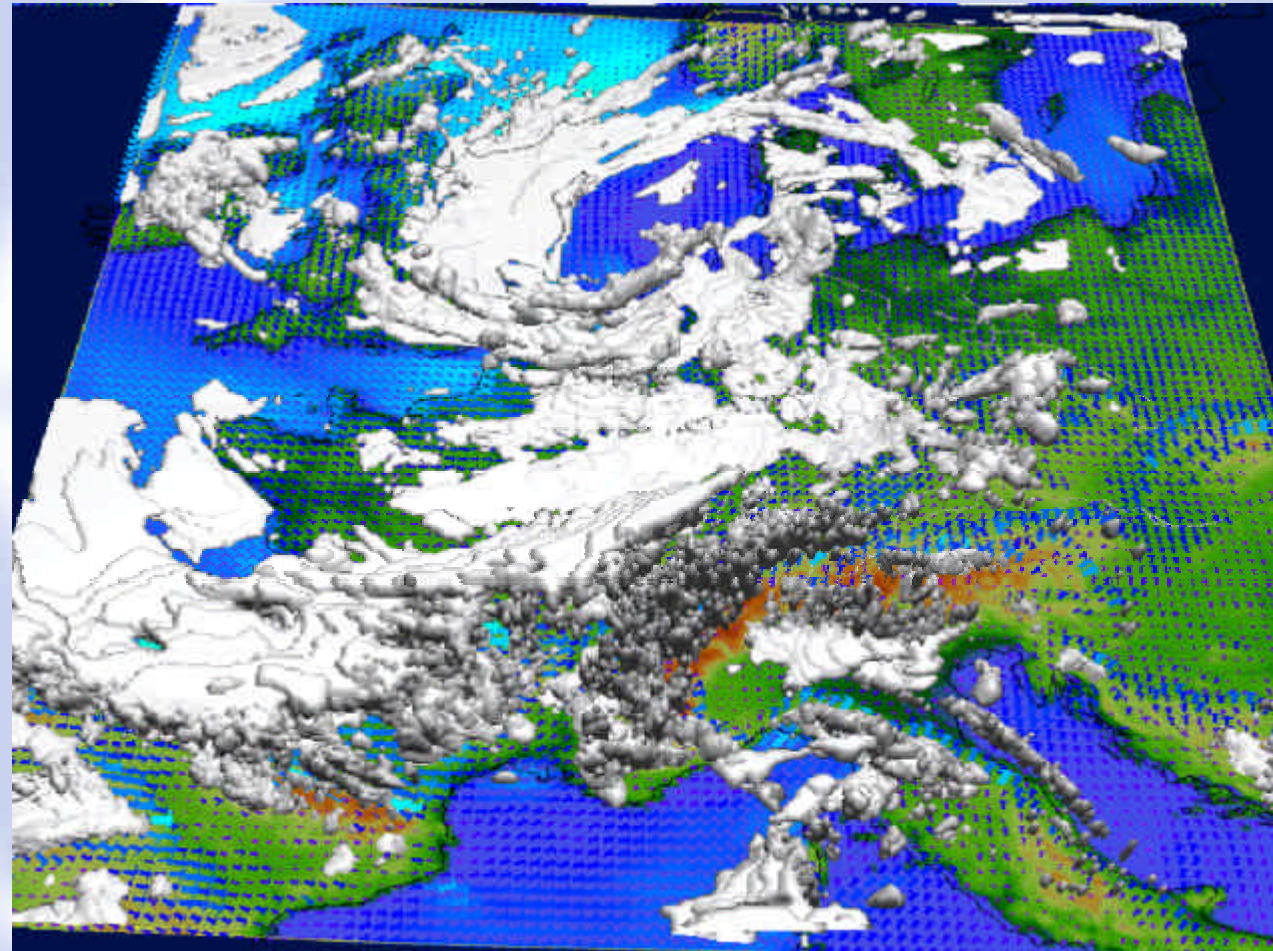




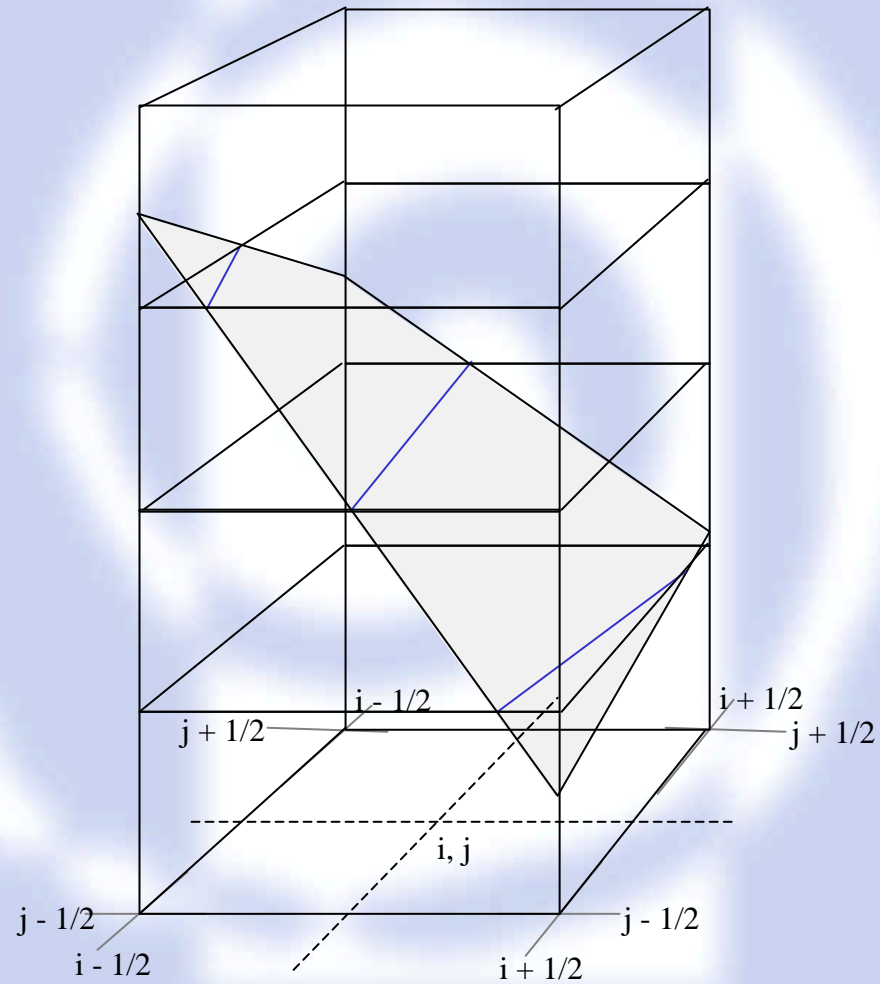
## 3-D Cloud-Picture

18 January 1998

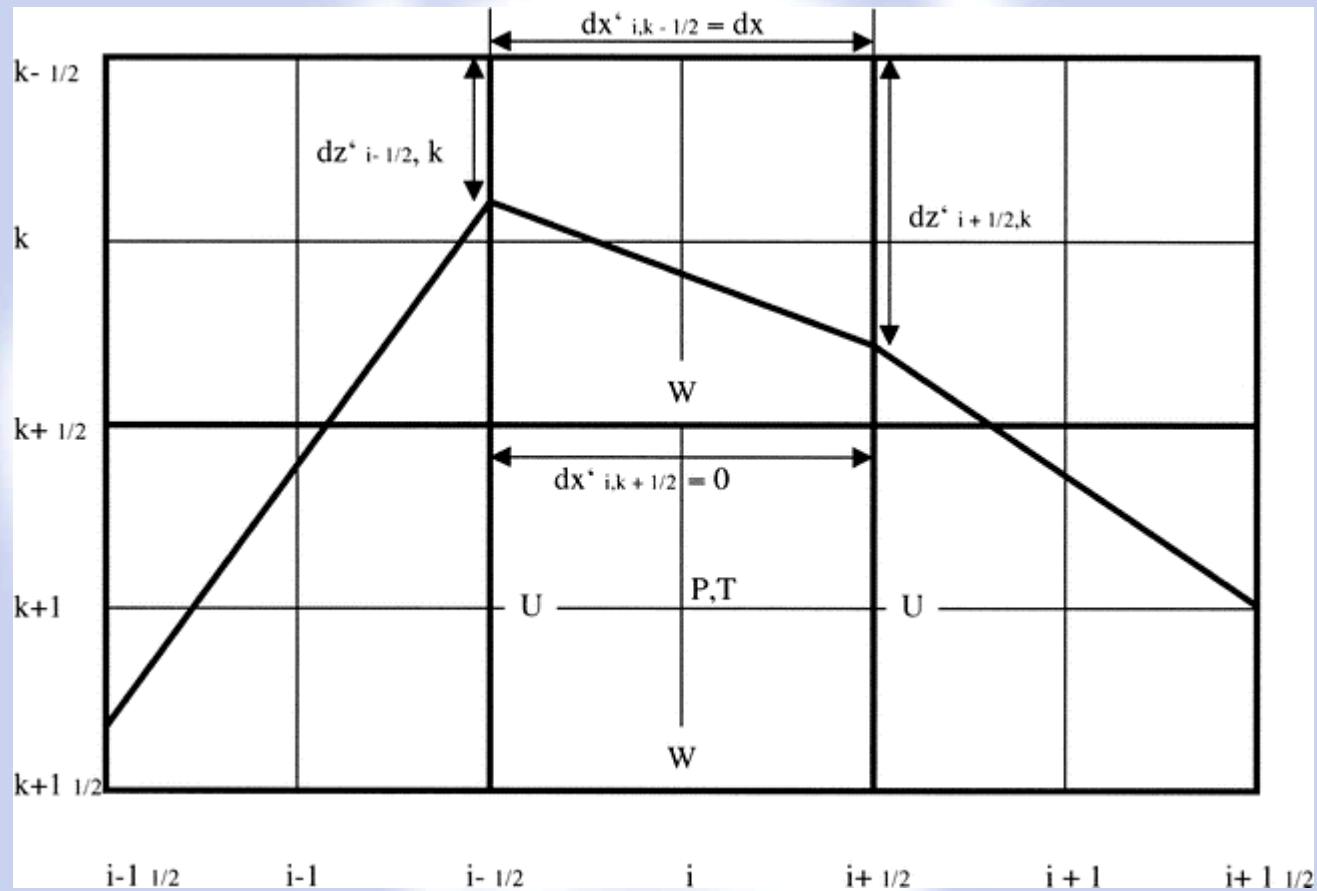
The mountain related bias of convective clouds and precipitation is supposed to disappear with the Z-coordinate



## Shaved Elements



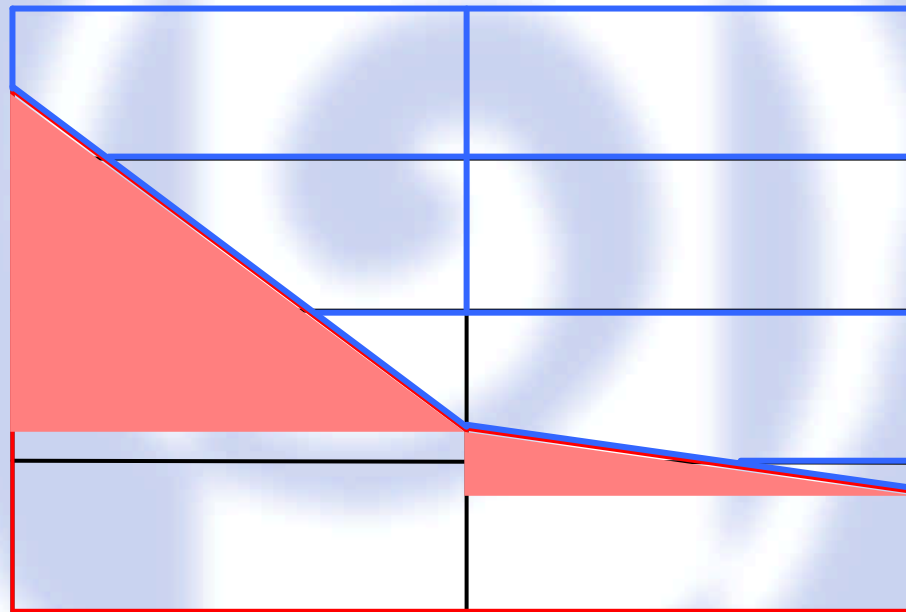
## 2-d Diagramm



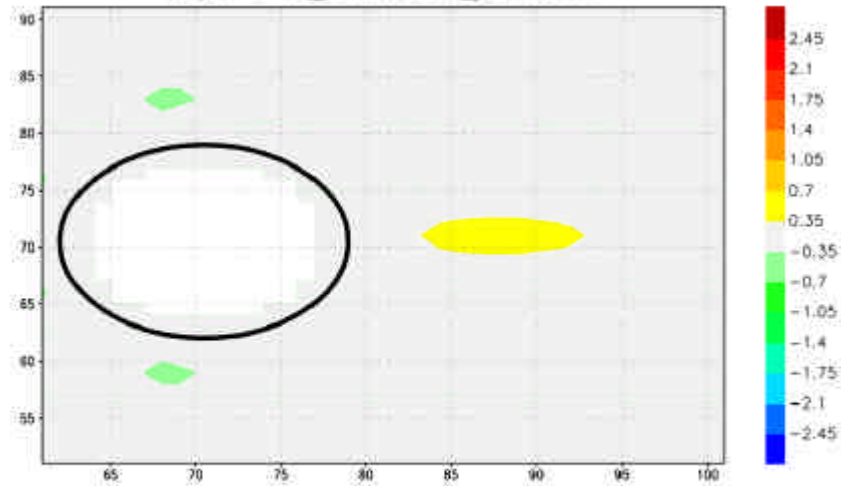
## The finite volume method for the treatment of the fast waves in LM-Z

- The computation of the fast waves is based on the the evaluation of fluxes into a cell
- The evaluation of the fluxes requires weights associated with the cell surfaces, which depend on their open part
- Advection terms (slow waves) are computed by finite difference methods

## Kombination von Elementen

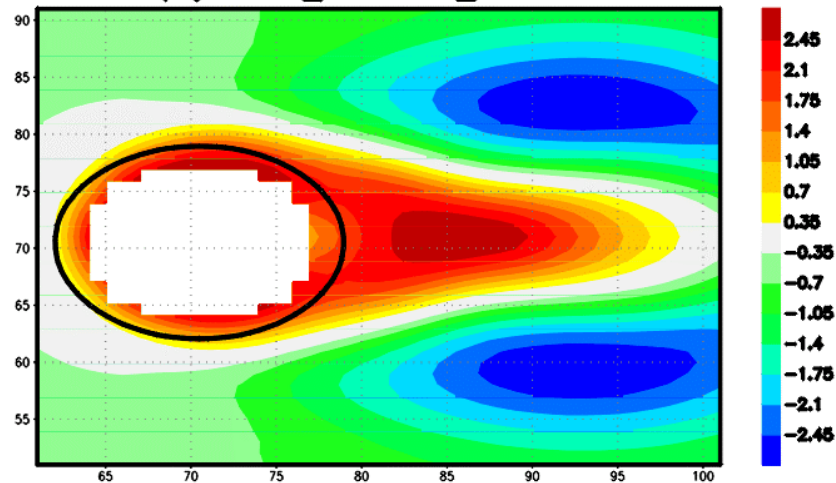


phys=0 t2\_02081601\_0023000

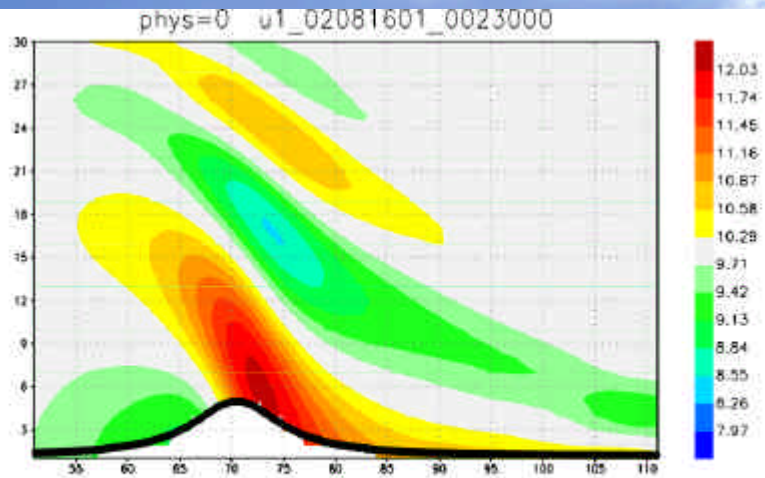


NO physics

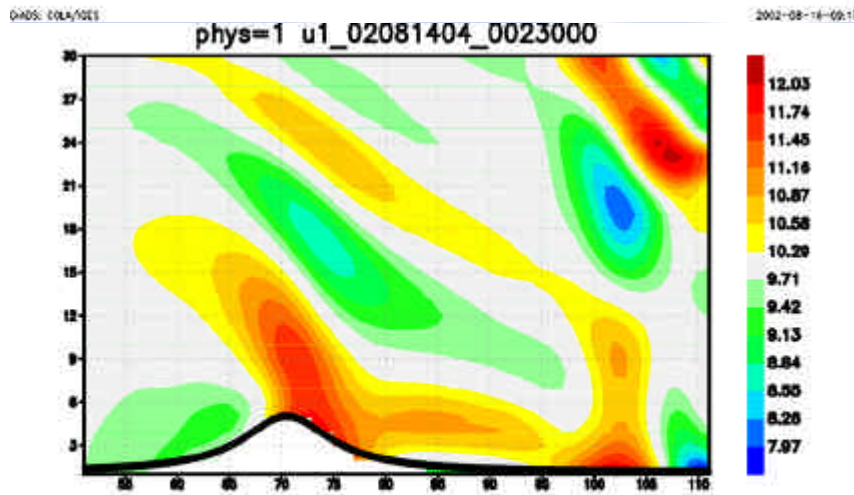
phys=1 t2\_02081404\_0023000



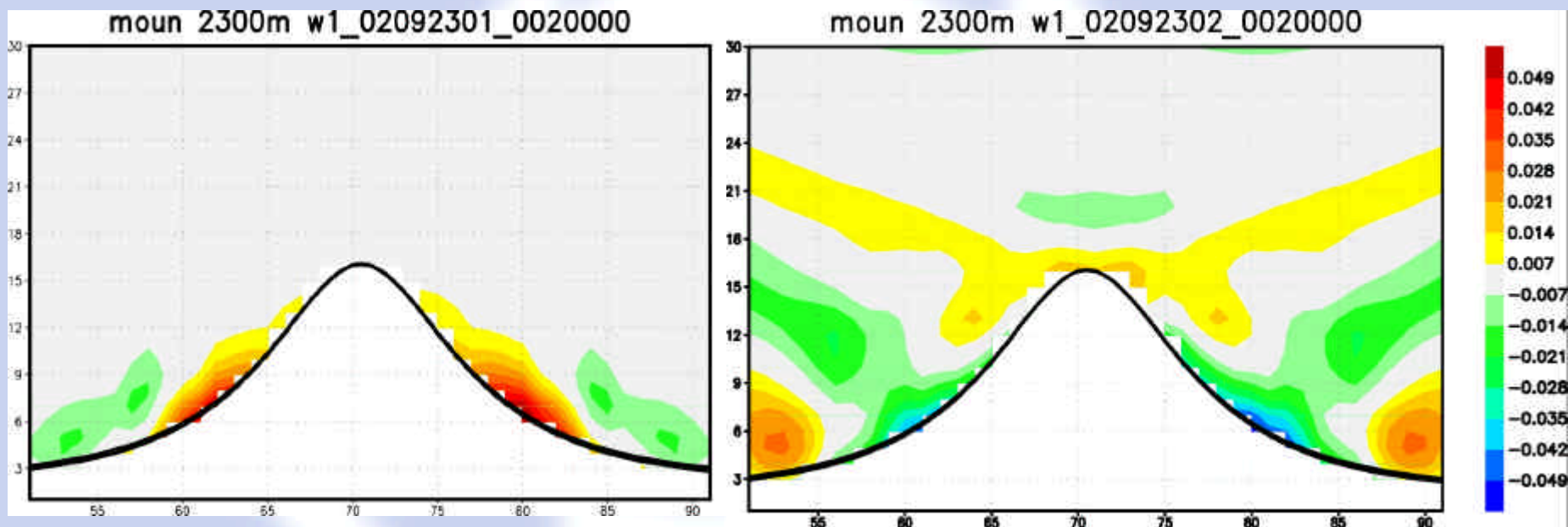
„dry“ Physik



No physics



Dry physics  
(Including radiation)



Day

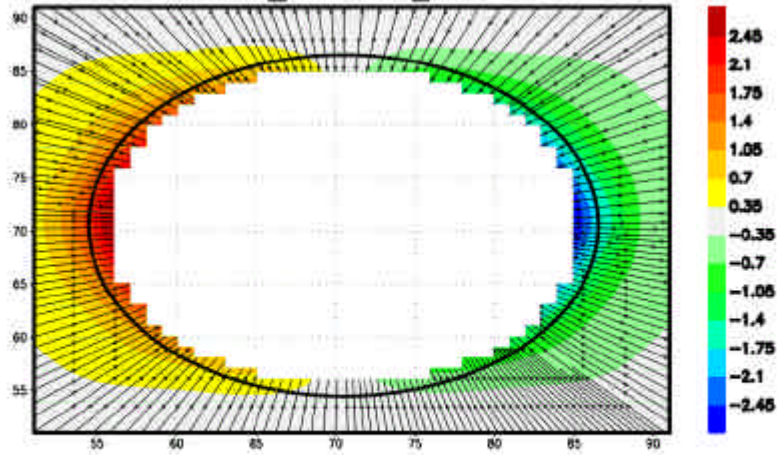
Night

The Atmosphere at Rest Computed with the Z\_LM



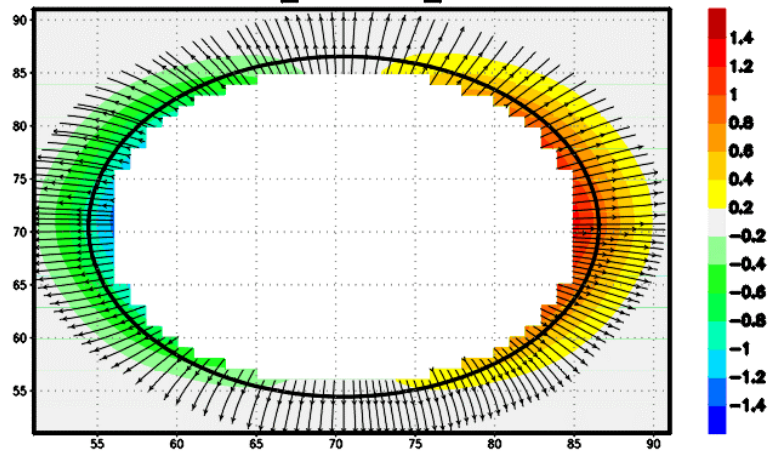


moun 2300 u1\_02092301\_0020000 lev=3



Day

moun 2300m u1\_02092302\_0020000 lev=3

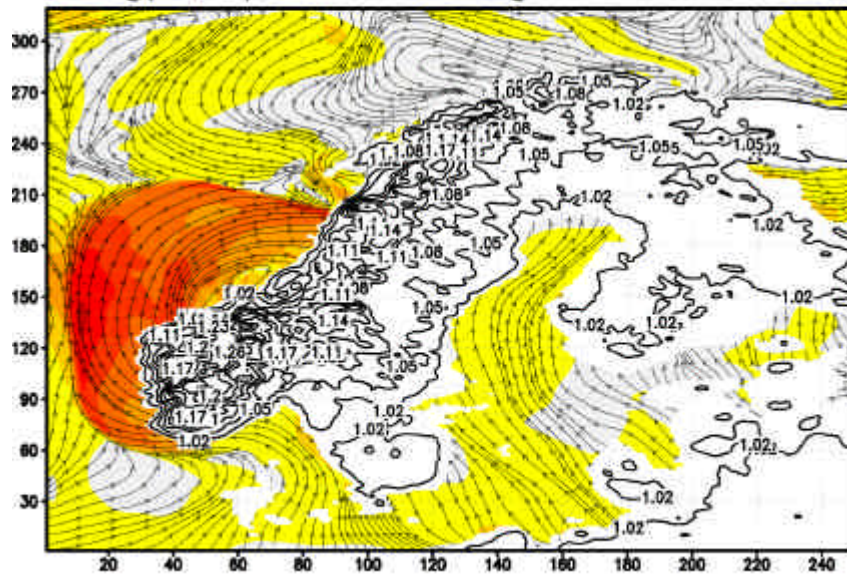


Night



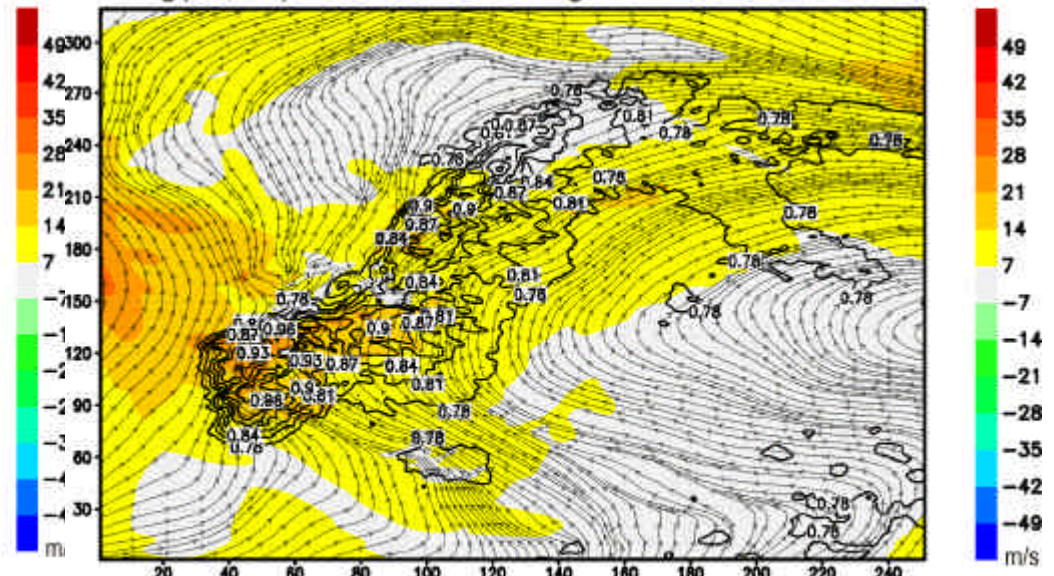
## No physics / Physics

mag(u1, v1) lev= 1 vv=12 height= 33.85m adiabatic



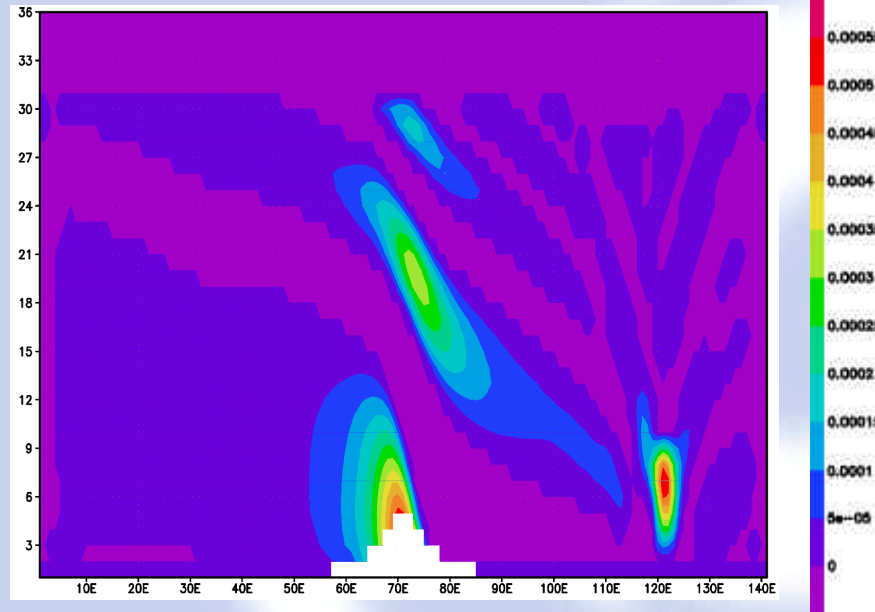
date: 09.01.04 00UTC

mag(u1, v1) lev= 11 vv=12 height= 1590.7m adiabatic

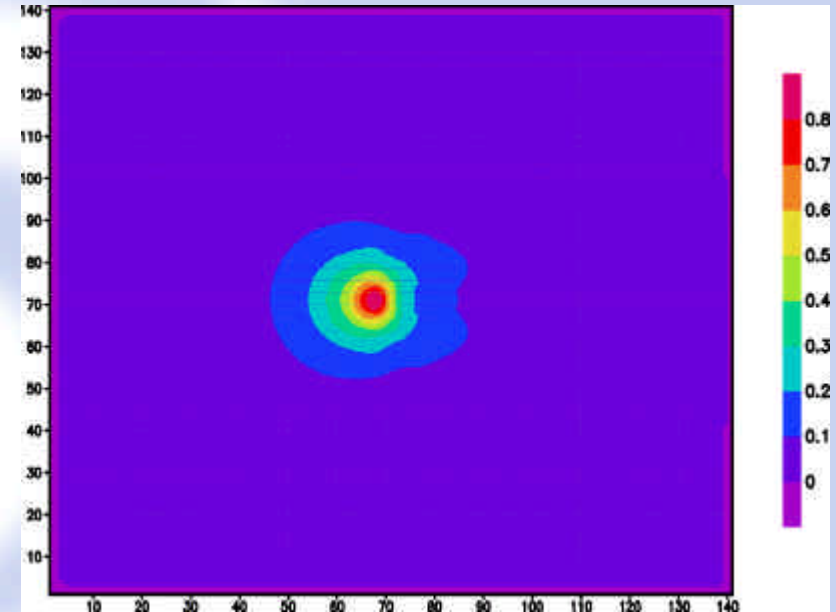


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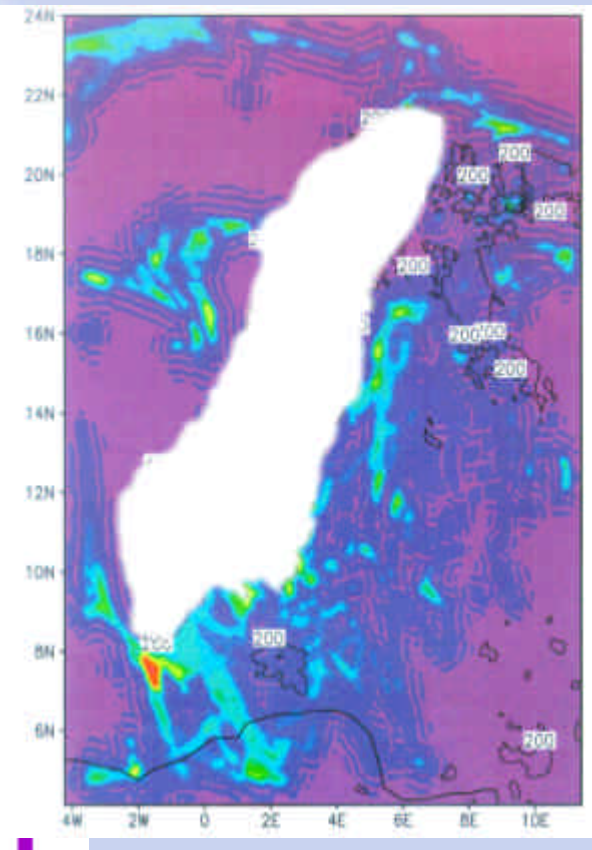
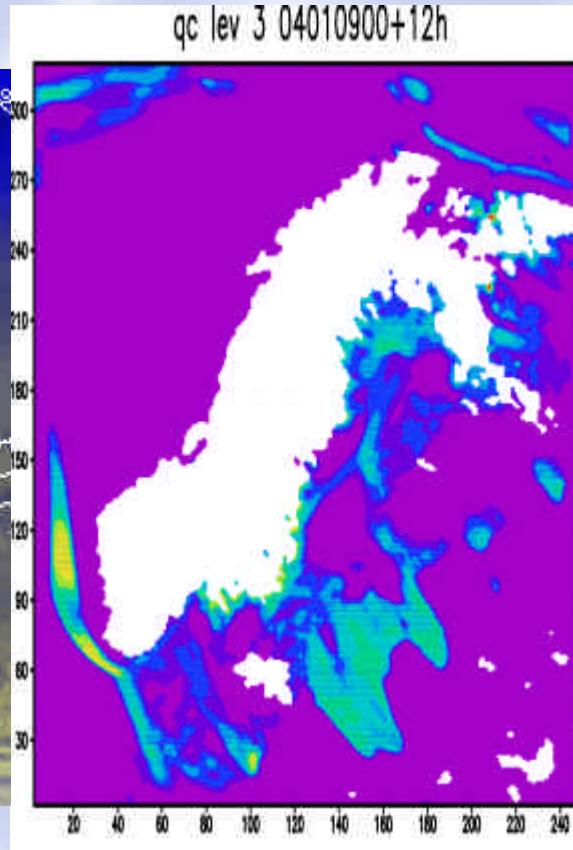
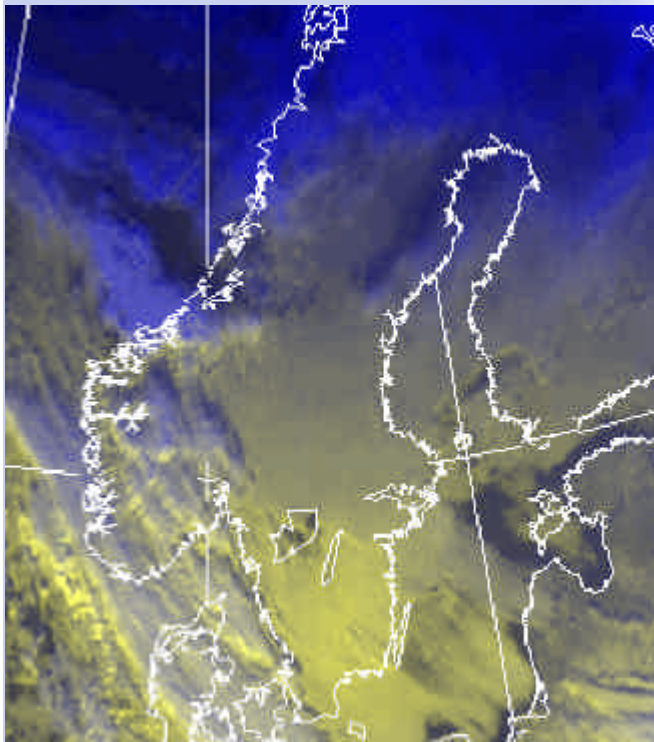
## Cloud water



## Precipitation

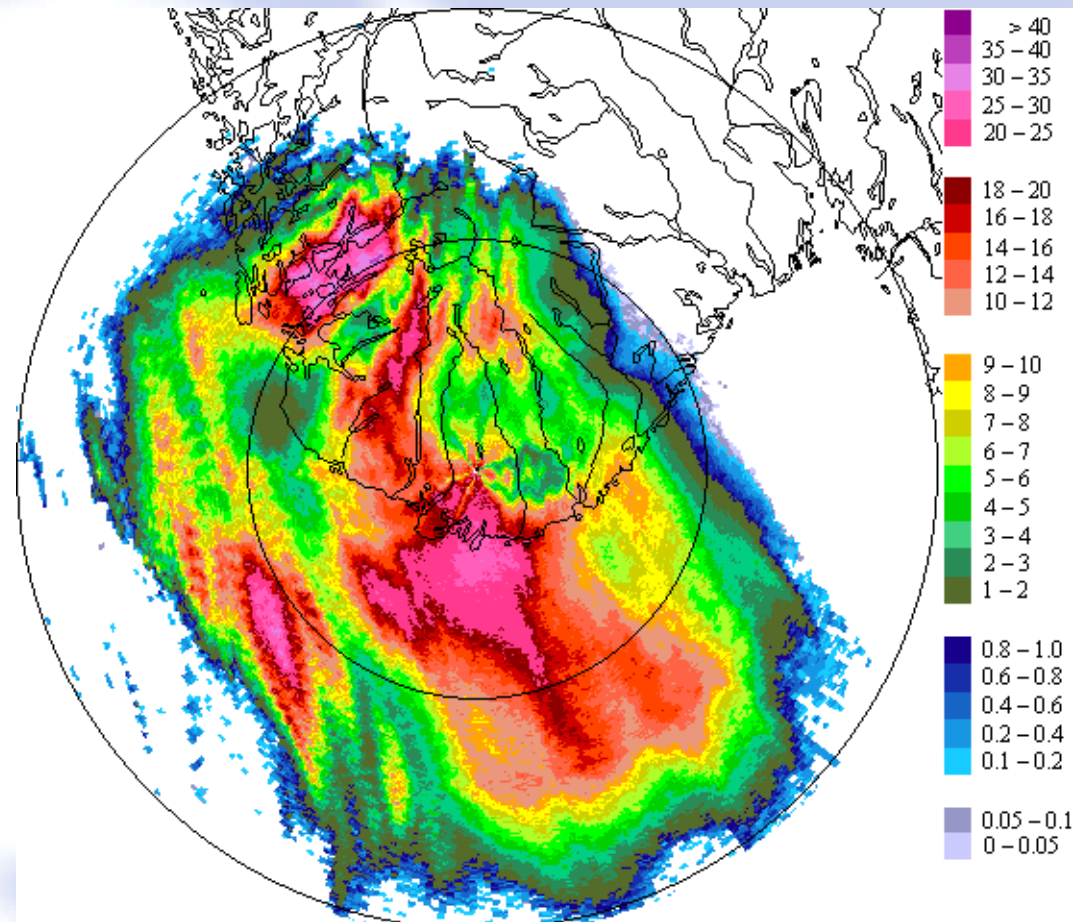
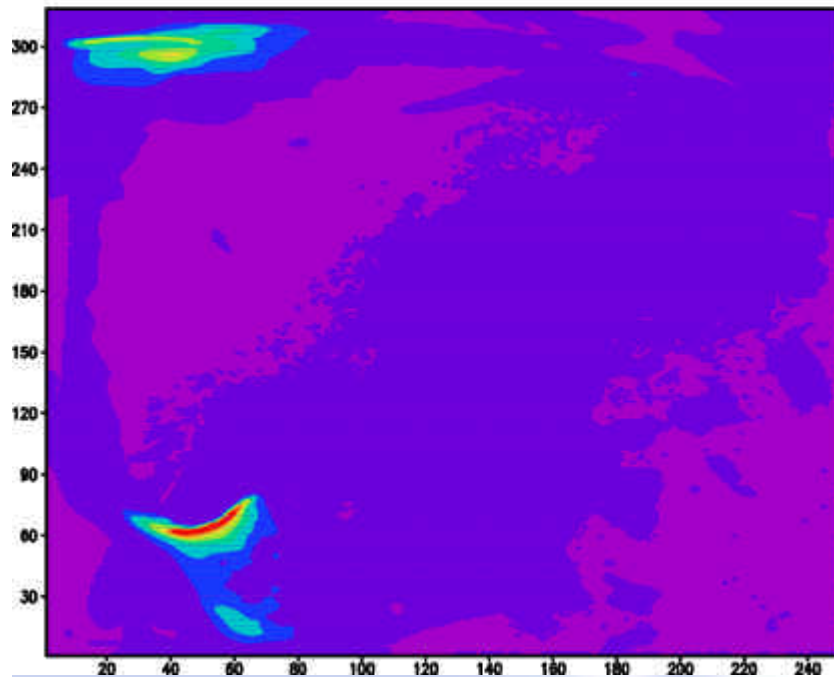


# Low stratus



## Z-coordinate

ras 04010900+12h

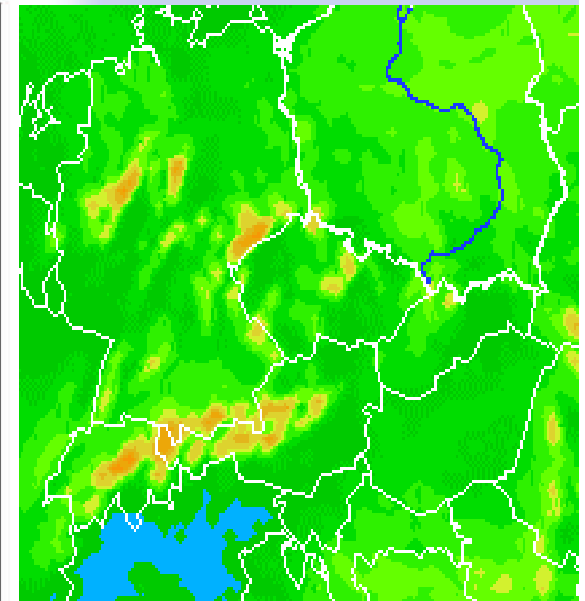
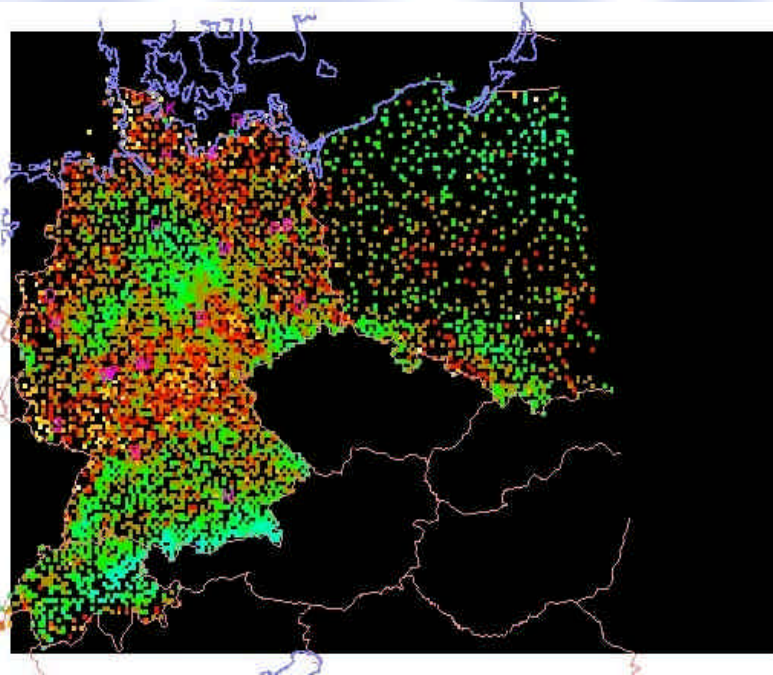
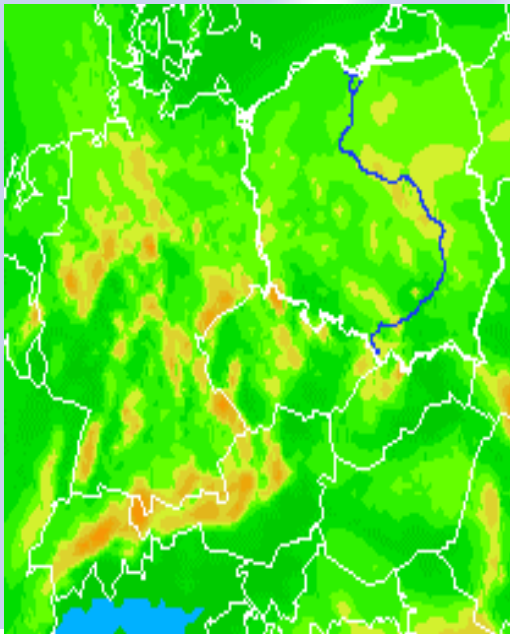


NO HGB 04.01.09 12:00 12 h accumulation. Threshold: 0.00 Corrected: 1

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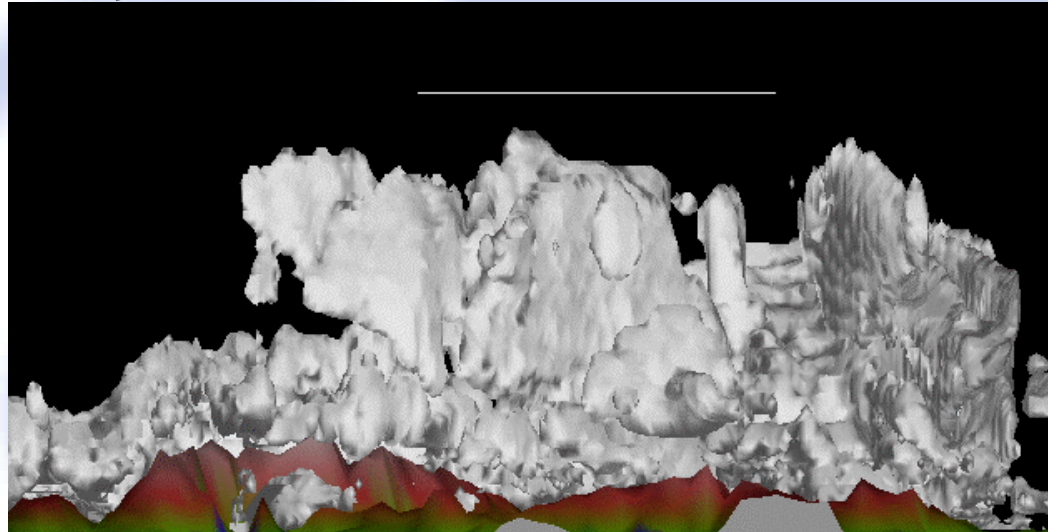
28039700 6 to 6

- LM-Z                      OBS                      LM-tf

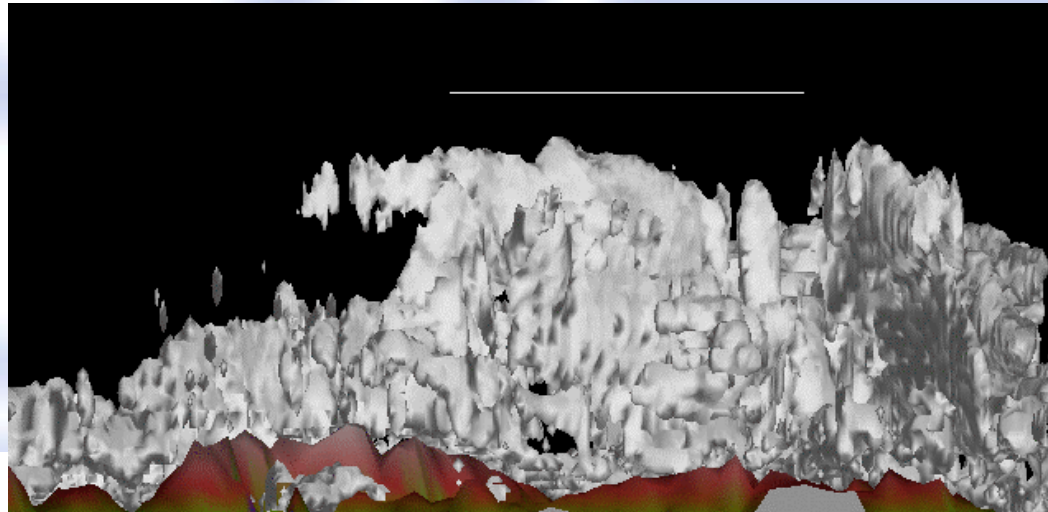


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- LM\_Z



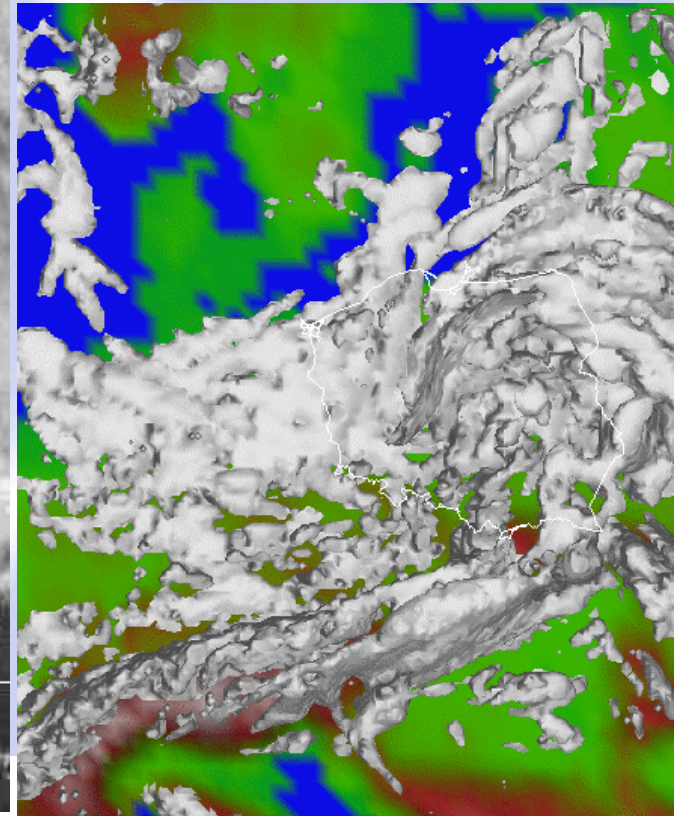
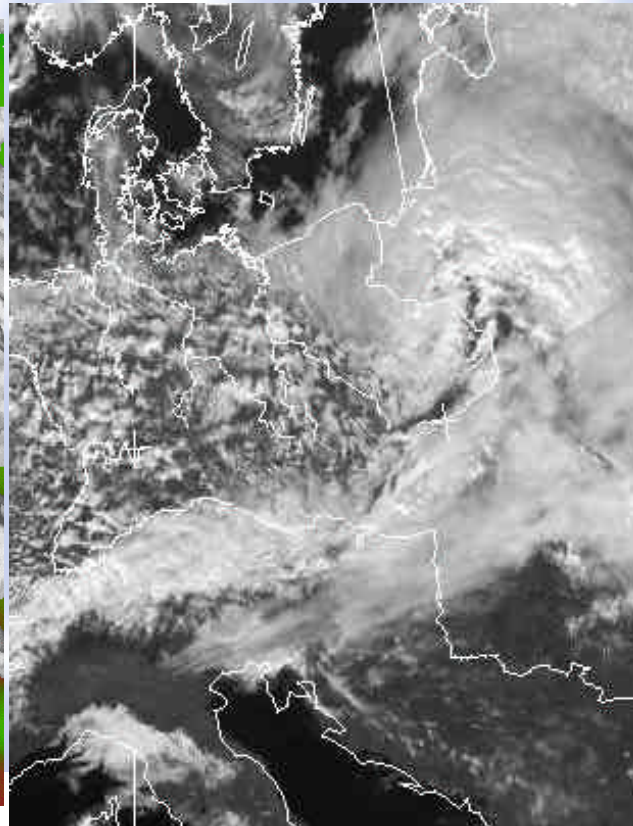
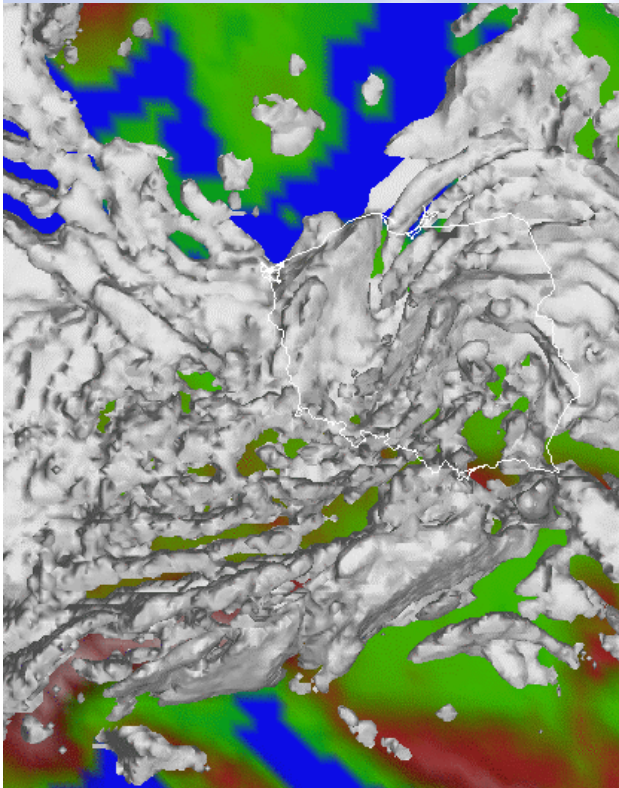
- LM\_tf



28039700+12

- LM\_Z

LM\_tf





## Current State of LM-Z

- Idealised tests with bell shaped mountain available for Euler (3-d) and SL (2-d)
- SKANIA Test with Euler version
- Four Physics implementations available with Euler version
- First realistic runs show impact on mesoscale cloud structuree and precipitation
- LM-Z library available for Euler and SL

versions

## Further work for 2004/2005

- More Realistic runs (COSMO?)
- Testing of the LM-Z concept
- Realising the potential for increased efficiency of the SL-version of LM-Z or by other methods