

# Priority Project

## CALibration of the COSMO MOdel

### CALMO

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# Outline

- Motivation
- Goals of CALMO
- Overview of the method
- Discussion



# Motivation

- NWP/Climate models **are subject to high parametric uncertainty** due to poorly confined model parameters of parameterized physical processes
- Uncertainty of unconfined model parameters is constrained through **expert tuning during model development**.
- **Lacks transparency**, proper documentation, does not **follow a well defined strategy**, does not take parameter interactions into account.
- **Hinders implementation of new model developments** due to error compensation.
- Perturbation of model parameters based on subjective expert ranges.

*Currently no consensus emerged on how to deal with parameter uncertainty in computationally expensive high-resolution models!*



# Goal of CALMO

## Objective parameter calibration and perturbation of high-resolution NWP models

- **Objectives:**
  - Transparent parameter estimation which takes parameter interactions into account and follows a pre-defined strategy
  - Mainly automatised framework for re-calibration after new model developments , resolution changes, or new model domains
  - Determine observationally constrained parameter ranges for perturbed physics ensembles in EPS systems
- **Methodology:** Based on regional climate model calibration  
*„Objective calibration of regional climate models“. Bellprat et.al (2012)*



# Steps for CALMO

- Find an optimal model configuration in terms of simulation length/period, initial conditions (soil) and data assimilation.
- Select a subset of model key parameters to be used for calibration.
- Achieve goal: Gain knowledge on both optimal model configuration and parameter selection for a cost-effective parameter estimation of COSMO



# Challenges for CALMO

- Establish the calibration framework from Bellprat et al. (2012) in NWP mode for an integrated validation.
- Key Aspects:
  - Framework effective also for NWP configurations?
  - Is COSMO over-tuned and needs to be re-calibrate for new developments?
  - Is a re-calibration beneficial for new model domains (e.g. Greece)?
- Achieve goal: Development of an automatised tool to re-calibrated COSMO for new model developments/target domains



# Opportunities for NWP

- A framework that allows to generate statistically consistent physics ensembles and can improve probabilistic forecast systems.



# CALMO Overview

- Started on January 2013
- Will be completed at the end of December 2014.
- 2.35 FTE's are assigned.
- The scientists involved at the project are
  - O.Bellprat / ETHZ 0.66 FTE
  - J.M. Bettems/MeteoSwiss 0.06 FTE
  - F. Grazzini/ARPA-SIMC 0.1 FTE
  - A.Voudouri / HNMS 1.53 FTE (project leader)
- This priority project was assigned to Working Group 3b.





# Method: Tuning parameters

RCM  
Calibration

Many unconfined parameters in different parameterizations

### Turbulence

|          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| gkdrag   | [0.075*,0.2,0.5] |
| gkwake   | [0.2,0.5*,1]     |
| securi   | [0.1,0.85*,0.9]  |
| tkhmin   | [0,1*,2]         |
| tkmmin   | [0,1*,2]         |
| turb_len | [100,500*,1000]  |
| a_heat   | [0.1,0.5,0.74*]  |
| a_mom    | [0.5,0.8,0.92*]  |
| d_heat   | [12,15,10.1*]    |
| d_mom    | [12,15,16.6*]    |
| c_diff   | [0.01,0.2*,10]   |

### Convection

|         |                         |
|---------|-------------------------|
| rmfdeps | [0.2,0.35*,0.5]         |
| rcucov  | [0.01,0.05*,0.5]        |
| rtau    | [0.5,1*,1.5]            |
| rprcon  | [1.5,1,15*,20,150]e-3   |
| entrsc  | [0.0001,0.001]          |
| entrpen | [0.0004,0.0008*,0.0012] |
| entrmid | [0.0004,0.008*,0.0012]  |
| entrscv | [0.001,0.003*,0.01]     |
| clccon  | [0.15,0.35*,0.55]       |
| cmfctop | [0.2,0.33*,0.55]        |
| Tmpmin  | [260,265,270]           |
| zdnoprc | [0,2,4]                 |
| maxevap | [0.6,8,1]               |
| iclthrl | [e-8,e-7,e-8]           |

### Surface layer

|           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| rlam_heat | [0.1,3*,5,10]      |
| rat_sea   | [1,10*,50,100]     |
| rat_can   | [0,1*,10]          |
| rat_lam   | [0.1,1*,10]        |
| c_sea     | [1,1.5*,10]        |
| c_soil    | [0,1*,10]          |
| c_lnd     | [1,2*,10]          |
| z0m_dia   | [0.001,0.1*,10]    |
| patlen    | [10,100,500*,1000] |
| e_surf    | [0.1,1.5*,10]      |

### Radiation

|          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| uc1      | [0.2,0.5*,0.8]   |
| zuc0     | [0.75,0.85,0.95] |
| q_crit   | [1,4*,7,10]      |
| clc_diag | [0.2,0.5*,0.8]   |
| hincrad  | [0.5,0.75,1*]    |
| conv_clc | [0.7,1*,1.3]     |

### Microphysics

|           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| cloud_num | [5e7,5e8*,1e9]      |
| qi0       | [0,0.01*]           |
| zxstar    | [.33,2.6*,7.25]e-09 |
| zv0s      | [10,15*,30]         |
| iclthld   | [0.6,0.8*,1.0]      |
| maxevap   | [E-8,E-7*,E-6]      |

### Vegetation and Soil

|          |                     |
|----------|---------------------|
| crsmin   | [50,200,300*]       |
| maxalb   | [0.6,0.7*,0.9]      |
| rootdp   | [0.5,1*,1.5]        |
| cf_w     | [1e-3,1.5e-3*,2e-3] |
| csalb_p  | [0.1,0.15*,0.2]     |
| eversalb | [0.1,0.2*,0.5]      |
| snowfr   | [0.5,1.5*,2.5]      |



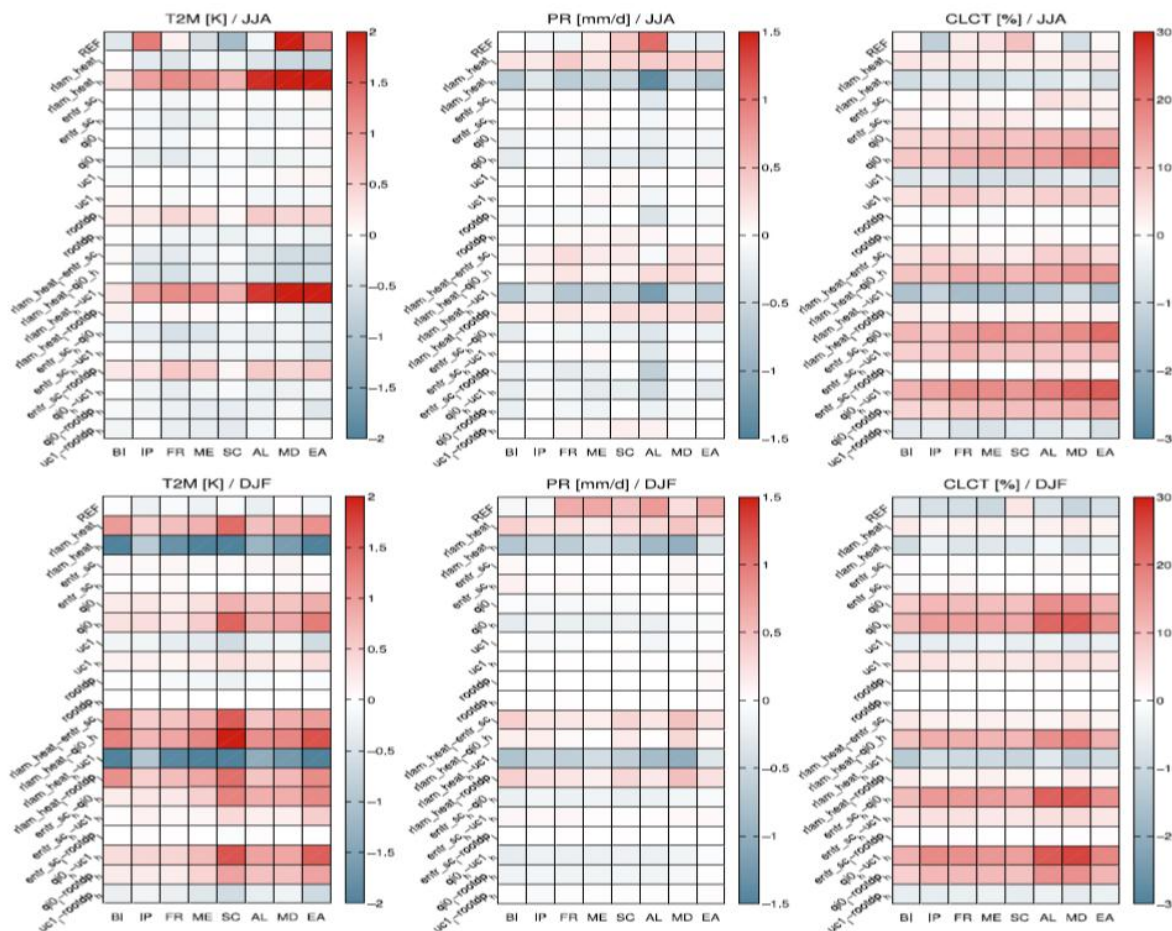
# Overview of the method



D23115

BELLPRAT ET AL.: OBJECTIVE CALIBRATION OF RCMS

D23115



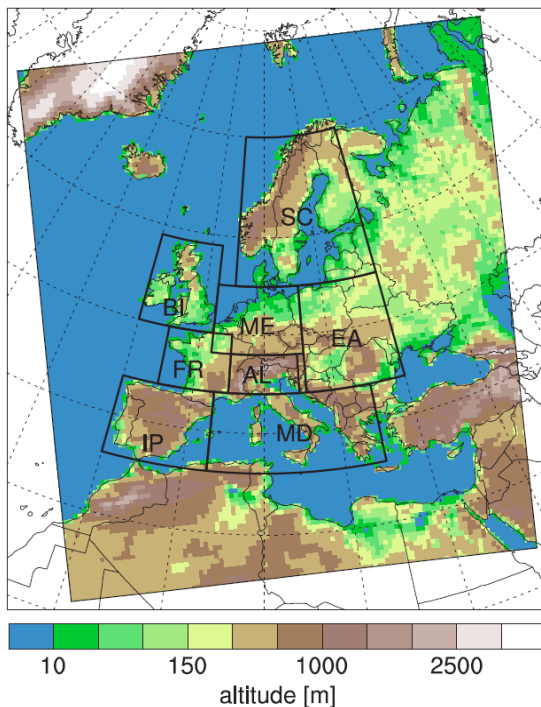
**Figure 3.** Sensitivity of reference simulation REF with respect to parameter perturbations for (top) JJA and (bottom) DJF. The vertical axes of each panel list the parameter perturbations. The effect of the perturbations is shown by color shading, for seasonal and regional means of T2M, PR, and CLCT averaged over the PRUDENCE regions on the horizontal axes. In the first row of each panel, the biases of the reference simulation are shown. The subsequent rows show the perturbations when using either a minimum or maximum value for single parameters, or when perturbing two parameters simultaneously. The subscripts of the experiment labels in the vertical axis denote whether the lower (“l”) or higher (“h”) bound of parameter has been chosen.

# Method: Performance score



Multiobjective performance measure for climate applications

Used to select 5 important model parameters



## Performance Score (PS)

$$PS = \exp \left( -0.5 \sqrt{ \left\langle \frac{(m-o)^2}{(\sigma_{err} + \sigma_{iv} + \sigma_{inter})^2} \right\rangle } \right)$$

Least-squares error of monthly timeseries for T2M, PR and CLCT and for all PRUDENCE regions. (4DVar)

m=model output, o=observations

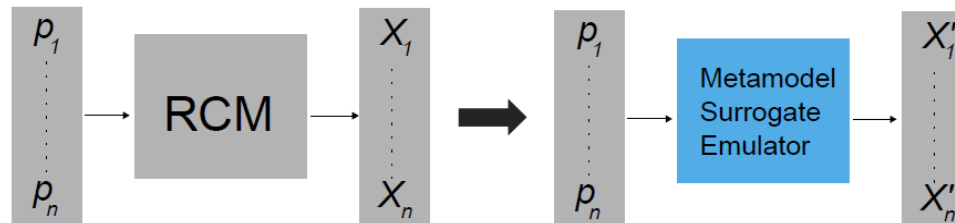


# Method: Parameter sampling



Sample multidimensional parameter space using a computationally efficient **metamodel**

To estimate the metamodel for **5 parameters only 21 simulations needed**



Multivariate quadratic model (Neelin, (2010), low resolution).

## Metamodel

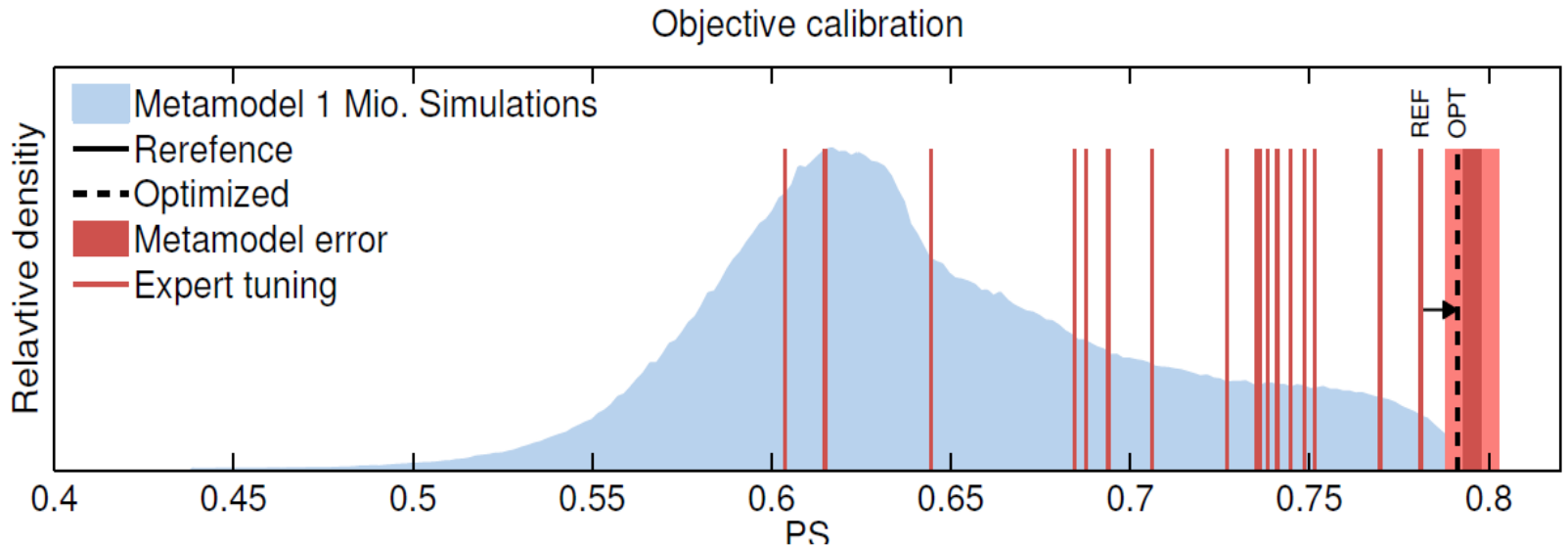
$$X' = X_s + \vec{p} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{p}^T \cdot B \vec{p}$$

$X'$ : Model field (e.g. T2M, PR, CLCT),  $\vec{p}$ : Parameter vector,  $a$ ,  $B$ : Coefficient matrices

# Methods: Calibrations



**Objective calibration beats expert tuning** and leads to additional model improvement



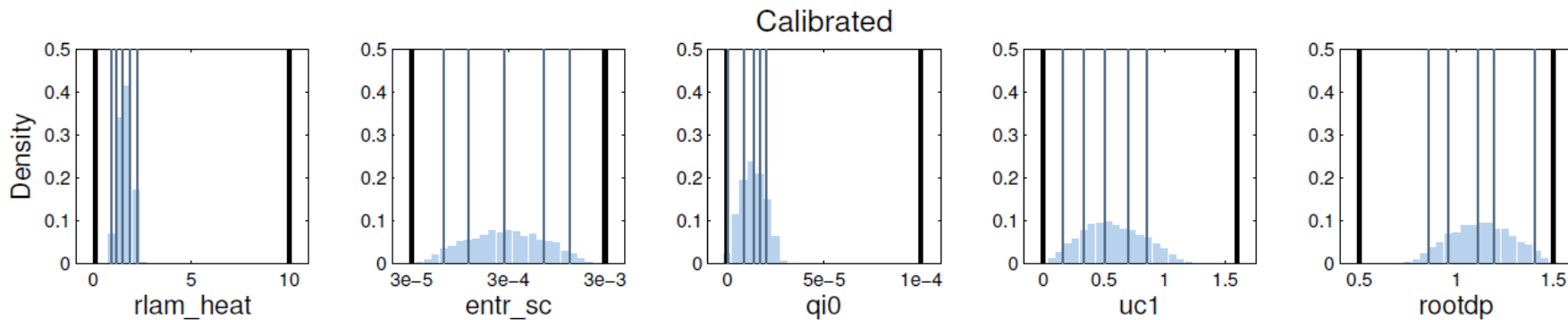


# Methods: Constrained parameters



Calibration allows to define **posterior parameter distributions** which agree with the observations.

Allows for physical perturbations with **equally likely but different parameter configurations** for ensemble prediction systems





# CALMO Tasks

- Administration and support (Task 0)
- Preliminary work (Task 1)
- Adaptation of the method (Task 2)
- Sensitivity with respect to target region (Task 3)
- Practicability of the method (Task 4)
- Documentation (Task 5)





# Task 1

- **Literature survey of relevant scientific papers..... an ongoing process.**
- **Adaptation of the statistical measures (performance score) to be used.** It is proposed to use **COSI Index** already implemented in VERSUS as well as timeseries of RMSE for the selected parameters.
- Discussions on possible modification of the parameterization schemes scheduled (change parameters under consideration)
- Adaptation of the documented list of tuning parameters delivered at the framework of Task 2.1.
- The necessary computing resources for model simulation have been calculated and guaranteed on CSCS.





# Task 2 and Task 3

- **Task 2: Adaptation of the method**
  - 2.1: Documentation of tuning parameters and choice of parameters subspace
  - 2.2: Selection of performance function(s)
  - 2.3: Identification of key-variables for NWP
  - 2.4: Experimental set-up.
  - 2.5: Collection of data
  - 2.6: Compute experiments and analyse results

## Task 3: Sensitivity with respect to target region

- 3.1: Application of the method over different regions
- 3.2: Analyse results



# Structure of the individual steps for the calibration approach

- Three major parts that operate independently from each other define the calibration:
  - the simulations of COSMO using specified design parameter points (already started),
  - the computation of the verification scores for each simulation,
  - the optimization, determining the optimal parameter values.
- It is proposed that the interface for the calibration algorithm should be independent from the choice of the verification score. Could this cause inaccuracies in the optimization procedure?
- A documentation of the optimization procedure is planned by the end of the year 2013.



# Year selection

- The year selected should be a climatological representative year (alternatively only summer and winter)
- Following the Annual Bulletin on the Climate in WMO Region VI as well as literature review:
  - 2011 was the warmest year over the past 100 years
  - Winter 2009/2010 was extremely cold.
- Thus **2008** was selected (against years examined 2009, 2010 and 2011).



# Development of methodology

- All simulations are carried out on CSCS Piz Daint using the COSMO version 4.26.
- The model configurations are those currently in production at MeteoSwiss (07.2013).
- The assimilation cycle uses all available conventional observations (a single data assimilation cycle - to be discussed) .
- Snow analysis and soil moisture analysis are disabled.
- Latent heat nudging is switched off.
- Boundary conditions are directly interpolated from the COSMO-7 analysis available in the MeteoSwiss archive.
- Initialized with an equilibrium soil state (3 months spin-up phase could also be considered).
- The simulations are performed for the full year 2008.
- The year is simulated using one-day (24 or 36h lead time starting at 12UTC) .



# CALMO: Parameter selection

- Depending on the number of parameters to be optimized the minimum number of model runs required is

$$2N + N(N-1)/2$$

where N is the number of parameters

- Parameters normally adjusted during tuning are related to fast processes such as convection and radiation (Schirber et al., 2013)
- Model sensitivity to these parameters should be evident even in short integrations such as those used in NWP (Rodwell and Palmer, 2007)



# CALMO: Parameter selection

On the base of :

- a) previous sensitivity studies conducted with COSMO-CLM version over Europe and N-America (Bellprat 2012, 2013)
- b) The outcome of the COSMO-QPF project whose aim was to investigate the sensitivity in different implementation of operational model respect to initial conditions and model/tuning parameters changes (Dierer, 2008)
- c) additional settings from different COSMO operational model implementations.

**initially a list of 6** tuning parameters from to start the optimization experiments **5 finally.**

These six tuning parameters are all included in the Tuning Namelist and some of them (laminar scalar factors and minimal diffusion values) are further investigated in Consolidation of Surface to Atmosphere Transfer (ConSAT) ?????



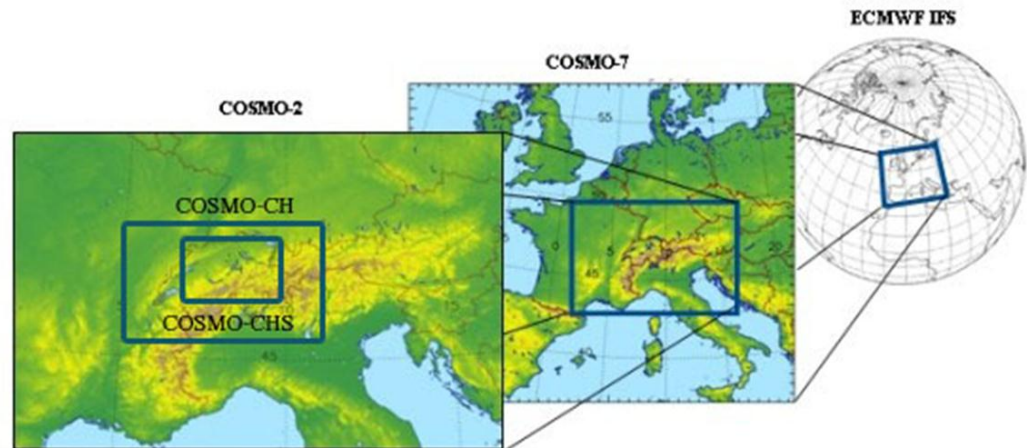
| Processes                            | Parameter name                                    | Parameter description                             | Range*                               | Main sensitivity                                     |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Clouds-radiation feedbacks           | “radfac”<br>(no name)                             | Fraction of cloud $q_i$ , $q_s$ seen by radiation | [0.3,0.5,1]                          | Strong effect on cloud / radiation interactions      |
|                                      | rlam_heat   | scalar for laminar boundary layer roughness       | [0.1, <b>1</b> ,10]                  | Strong effect on T2m clouds and precip               |
|                                      | rat_sea<br>(to be excluded, similar to rlam_heat) | scalar for laminar boundary layer roughness sea   | [1, <b>20</b> ,100]                  | Strong effect on T2m clouds and precip               |
| Boundary and surface layer processes | tkhmin<br>(to be discussed)                       | minimal diffusion coeff. for heat ( $m^2/s$ )     | [0, <b>0.4</b> ,1,2]                 | Strong sensitivity on T2m and clouds                 |
|                                      | tur_len   | turbulent lenght                                  | [100, <b>250</b> , <b>500</b> ,1000] | Moderate sensitivity on cloud and precip(convective) |
| Surface PBL feedbacks                | facroot_dp  | factor for the root depth for the entire field    | [0.5, <b>1</b> ,1.5]                 | Moderate sensitivity on T2m and clouds in summer)    |

\* numbers in bold represent default values, in green setting operated ad DWD if different from default, red settings operated by MeteoSwiss if different from



## Domain size and model resolution

1. Size of the model domain strongly affects the computational demands of the calibration
2. COSMO is initially calibrated on a small domain COSMO-CH. It covers the borders of Switzerland, is about 10 times smaller (area) than COSMO-2  $\sim 40 \times 60$  grid points.
3. A smaller domain COSMO-CHS to be discussed. **COSMO-CHS covers only the Northern Midlands and Alps of Switzerland and is about 25 times smaller than COSMO-2.**
4. Model resolution: 7 km (convection parameterized) version of COSMO for the COSMO-CH domain. (2.2 km (convection resolved) km to be tested. The comparison of the calibration results allows to test whether different optimal parameters are found depending on the resolution and definition of the physics.



**Fig. 1: Model domain and topography of COSMO-7 and COSMO-2, with an additional potential domain COSMO-CH to test effect of domain size**

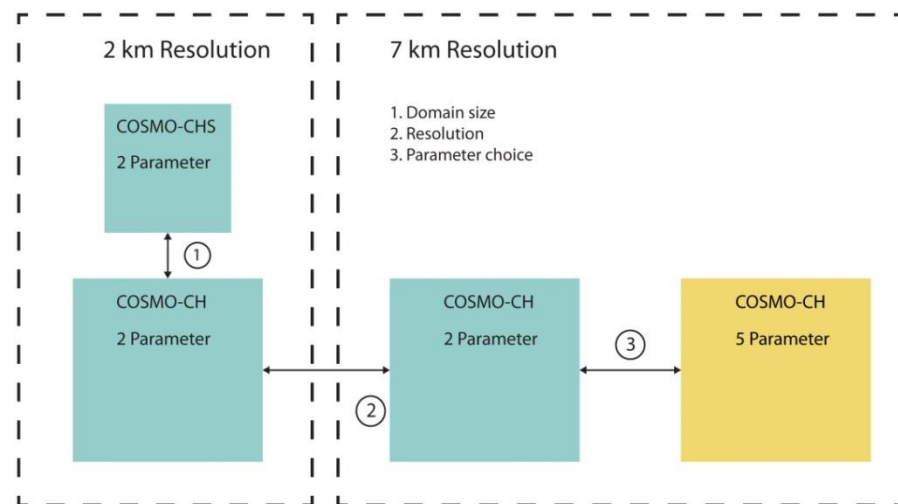




## Parameter selection

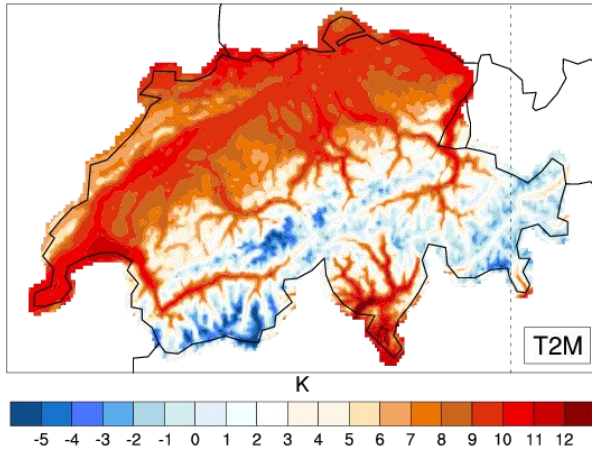
- The calibration suites with two parameters only (rlam\_heat or tkhmin and tur\_len, to be discussed .....)*~ 7 simulations*
- To test the effect when using more parameters a calibration with 7 km for the COSMO-CH domain with additional parameters (rlam\_heat, tur\_len, tkhmin, fac\_rootdp, radfac) will be performed.
- Sensitivity is ultimately depending on the parameter interactions of the selected parameters which are found to be relatively small in Bellprat et al. (2012)

*Fig. 2: Calibration suites to evaluate the sensitivity with respect to domain size, resolution and parameter choice*

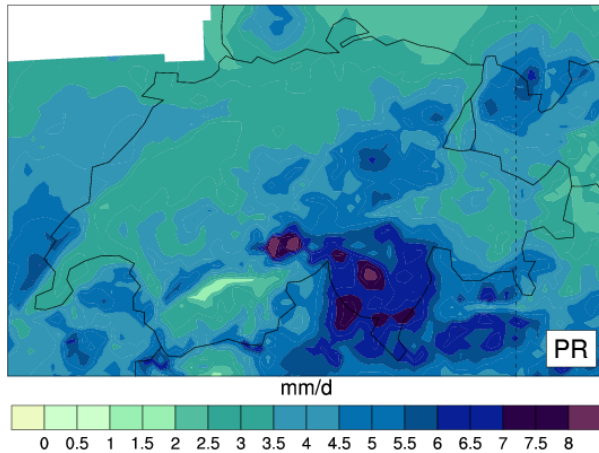


# Observations

MeteoSwiss 1km (Frei et al., 2013)

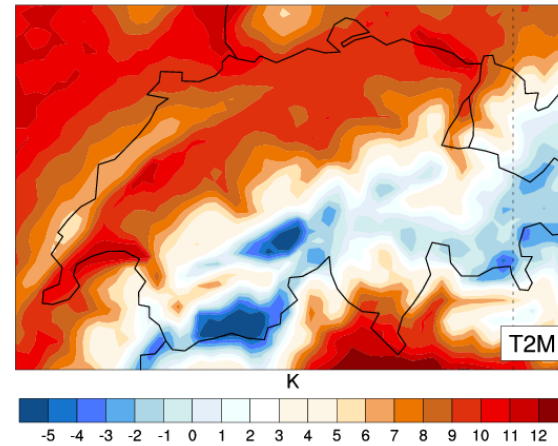


EURO4M 5km (Issota et al., 2013)

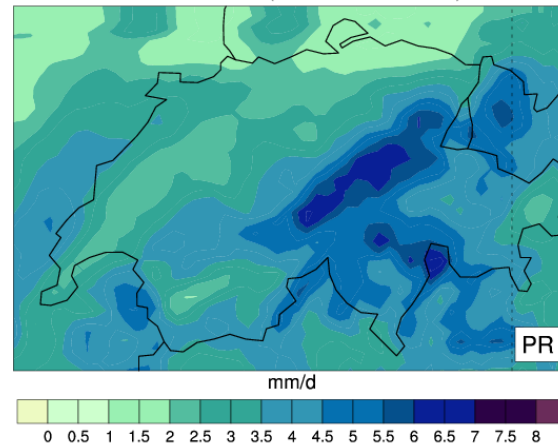


# COSMO 7 (CALMO)

COSMO 7km (CALMO Forecast)



COSMO 7km (CALMO Forecast)





# Validation

- Measuring model performance in terms of model variables considered and validation metrics.
- Potential variables to be considered: 6h precipitation, **24h precipitation**, **hourly T2m** and Td, T 850 , V 850, satellite cloud forward operators (top, middle, low).
- Integrated measures to be used? COSI, RMSE



# Metrics selection

- Definition of Cosi Index already implemented in VERSUS and used by DWD .
- The COSMO Index (henceforth called COSI) is a measure of the forecasting skill of the different COSMO models implementation in COSMO consortium. A score is calculated for each forecast included in COSI. The individual scores are then c
- COSI is compiled from the following parameters
  - Near-surface (2m) temperature
  - Near-surface (10m) wind speed & direction as wind vector
  - Precipitation yes/no (at least 0.2, 2.0 and 10.0 mm over the preceding 6 hours)
  - Total cloud amount (0-2, 3-6 and 7-8 oktas) for a total of two thresholds



# Summary

- Primary step of CALMO is to demonstrate the applicability of the approach using a computationally cost-effective framework.
- COSMO-7 for a small model domain (Switzerland) will be used for a first demonstration study and for a starting framework to test several sensitivities in the configuration choices.
- Use of COSMO-2 for small model domain with boundary conditions provided by the COSMO-7 analysis, may generate problems with regard to the different vertical stratifications and different treatment of convection.
- This would lead to inhibited development of convective systems at the western domain boundaries which would lead to bad verifications results.
- In order to define a cost-function for the model calibration it is suggested to use the meteorological verification at a station level, routinely performed for Switzerland. This verification should take into account uncertainties in the observations and limitations of the model predictability.



# References

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- Neelin J. D., Bracco A., Hao Luo, McWilliams J. C., and Meyerson J.E. 2010, Considerations for parameter optimization and sensitivity in climate models. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of USA*, **107** (50), 21349-21354
- Rodwell M.J. and T. N. Palmer, 2007: Using numerical weather prediction to assess climate models. *Quarterly Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society*. [Vol. 133, Issue 622](#), pp129-146
- Schirber, S., D. Klocke, R. Pincus, J. Quaas, and J. L. Anderson, 2013: Parameter estimation using data assimilation in an atmospheric general circulation model: From a perfect towards the real world. *J. Adv. Model Earth Syst.*, **5**, 58-70, [doi:10.1029/2012MS000167](#).
- Kaufmann, P. 2008: Association of surface stations to NWP model grid points. *COSMO Newsletter* **9**, 54-55.



Any suggestions, comments, remarks?

<http://mail.cosmo-model.org/mailman/listinfo/cosmo-calmo>



# Open Issues

- Adaptation of the statistical measures (performance score) to be used.
- Discussions on possible modification of the parameterization schemes scheduled (change parameters under consideration).
- Selected parameters (`rlam_heat`, `tur_len`, `tkhmin`, `fac_rootdp`, `radfac`) to be calibrated.



## Management issues

FTE's used

| <b>Countries involved</b>   | <b>TASK 0</b> | <b>TASK 1</b> | <b>TASK 2</b> | <b>TASK 3</b> | <b>Total FTE's per country</b> |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Switzerland                 | 0.02          | 0.12          | 0.19          |               | <b>0.33</b>                    |
| Greece                      | 0.06          | 0.17          | 0.25          | 0.1           | <b>0.58</b>                    |
| Italy                       |               |               | 0.1           |               | <b>0.1</b>                     |
|                             |               |               |               |               |                                |
| <b>Total FTE's per Task</b> | <b>0.08</b>   | <b>0.29</b>   | <b>0.54</b>   | <b>0.1</b>    | <b>1.01</b>                    |

## Management issues

FTE's to be used for the next COSMO Year

| Countries involved          | TASK 0      | TASK 1      | TASK 2      | TASK 3      | TASK 4     | TASK 5      | Total FTE's per country |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Switzerland                 | 0.02        |             | 0.15        | 0.05        |            | 0.15        | <b>0.37</b>             |
| Greece                      | 0.05        | 0.05        | 0.1         | 0.2         | 0.2        | 0.1         | <b>0.7</b>              |
|                             |             |             |             |             |            |             |                         |
| <b>Total FTE's per Task</b> | <b>0.07</b> | <b>0.05</b> | <b>0.25</b> | <b>0.25</b> | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0.25</b> | <b>1.07</b>             |

~ 0.35 FTE's will be used by the end of the project 12.2014



# Approach

## Application of a score like the UK-index - **basic values**

$$\text{rmse} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_n (t_f - t_o)^2}$$

**Continuous elements**

$$\text{rmsvwe} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_n |\mathbf{v}_f - \mathbf{v}_o|^2}$$

**Wind**

$$SS = 1 - \frac{r_f^2}{r_p^2}$$

**Skill score for wind and continuous elements  
related to persistence**

$$ETS = \frac{R - \text{"chance"}}{T - \text{"chance"}}$$

**Skill score for categorical elements  
related to chance**



# Approach

Application of a score like the UK-index - **final score**

$$S = \frac{1}{\sum_i w_i} \left( \sum_i (w_i SS_i) \right)$$

The Index,  $I$ , is normalised so that the value is equal to 100 on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2000.

Thus, the Index is defined as:

$$I = \frac{S}{S_0} \times 100$$

where:

$S_0$  is the value of  $S$  on 31<sup>st</sup> March



# Scores in MOVI and UKMO

- Continuous parameters: Reduction of variance

$$RV = 1 - (\text{RMSE prog} / \text{RMSE ref})^2$$

where ref = persistence

- Categorical parameters: ETS

- $ETS = (R - \text{„chance“}) / (T - \text{„chance“})$

R= number of obs events correctly forecast

T = number of events which were either observed or forecasted

✘ global score S like

$$S = \frac{1}{\sum_i w_i} \left( \sum_i (w_i SS_i) \right)$$

**COSMO-index COSI** =  $S/S_0 \times 100$



# Parameters

- total cloud amount [threshold: 0-2, 3-6, 7-8  
temperature [t2m, later: tmin, tmax]
- 10m- windvector
- precipitation [thresholds: 0.2, 2, 10 mm/6h]



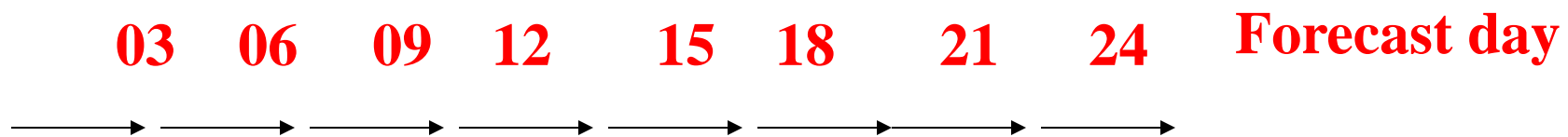
# Verification frequency

- Every 3h
  - T2m, 10m-wind and cloudiness:
    - @ 00, 03,..., 18, 21 UTC
  - later on: tmin & tmax over 12h
- 6h-sums: precipitation

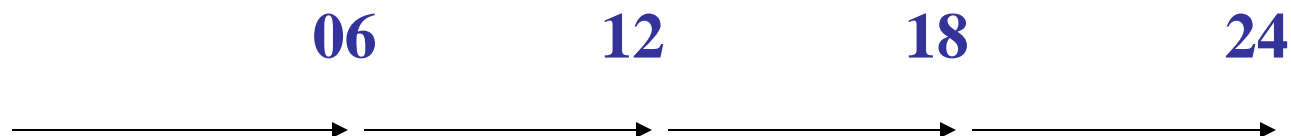


# Verification frequency

- Cloud cover wind and temperature



- 6h-sums: precipitation







# Final definition of the score: 1

**Continuous elements,  
sum over 8 time steps:  
(start: vv=3, end: vv=24, step: 3)  
Equal weights for all forecast times!**

$$SK_j = \frac{1}{8} \sum_{i=1}^8 sk_{i,j}$$

$SK_j$  : *Skill – Score for element j*

$sk_{i,j}$  : *Skill – Score for element j at time step i*



## Final definition of the score - 2

**Categorical elements,**

**sum over N time steps:**

**(start: vv=vvb, end: vv=vve, step: vvs)**

**Cloud cover: vvb=3, vve=24 vvs=3**

**Precipitation: vvb=6, vve=24 vvs=6**

**Equal weights for all forecast times and categories!**

$$SK_j = \frac{1}{M * N} \sum_{l=1}^M \sum_{i=1}^N sk_{i,j,m}$$

$SK_j$  : *Skill – Score for element j*

$sk_{i,j,m}$  : *Skill – Score for element j at time step i*

*in category m*



## Final definition of the score - 3

**Sum over all elements:**

**Equal weights for all elements!**

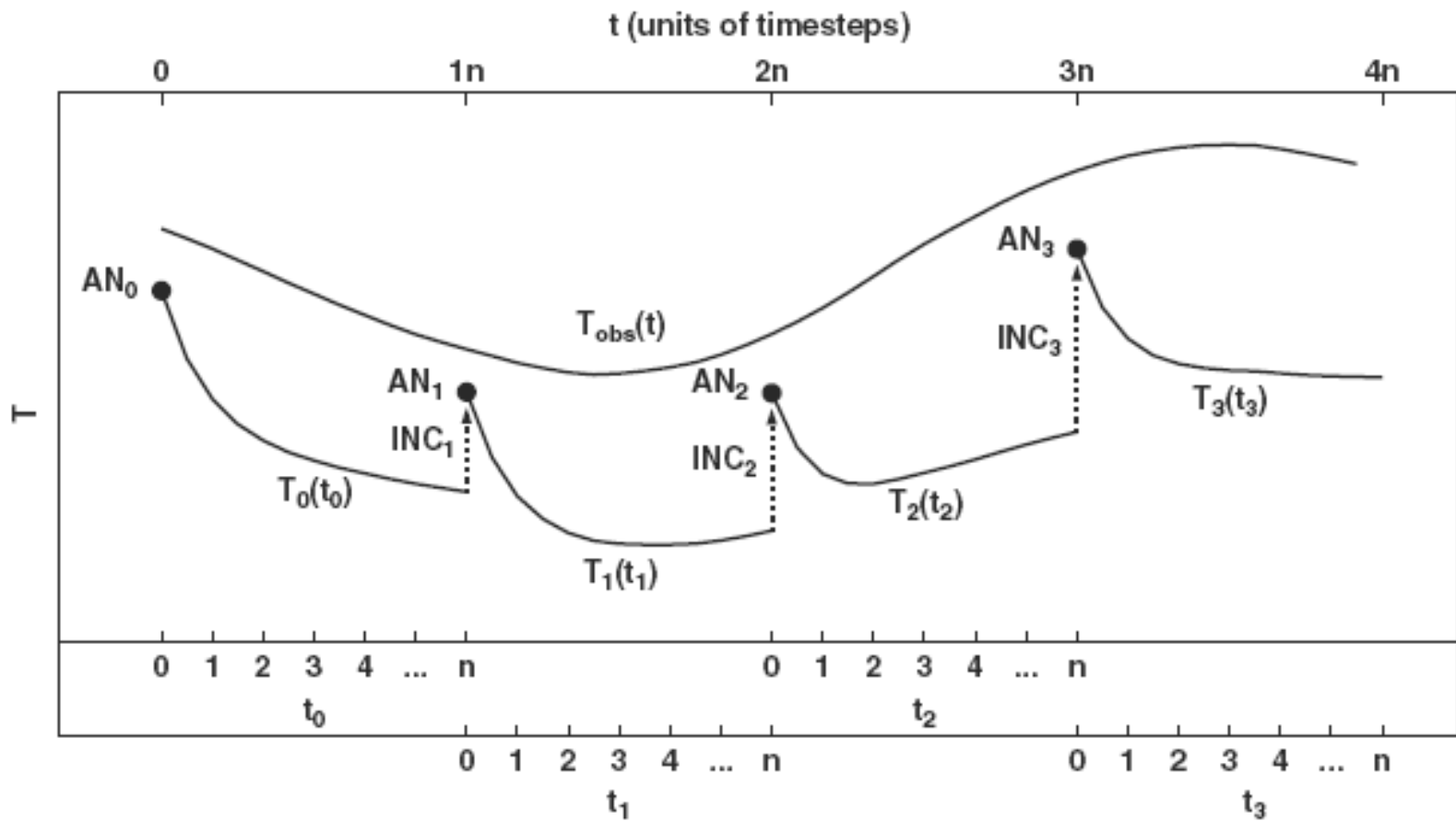
$$SK = \frac{1}{N_E} \sum_{j=1}^{N_E} SK_j$$

**COSMO-index COSI** =  $S/S_0 \times 100$

.....to be discussed with Wg5

# Schematic of the data assimilation process

Schematic diagram showing the data assimilation / forecast cycle



(from Rodwell and Palmer, 2007)