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Contributions / input by:

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Daniel Leuenberger, **Simon Förster**, **André Walser** (MeteoSwiss)

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Amalia Iriza (NMA)

Mikhail Tsyurulnikov, Dmitri Gayfullin (HMC)

- Task 1: General issues in the convective scale , to decide on LETKF (e.g. occurrence and effects of non-Gaussianity in COSMO-DE-EPS)
- Task 2: Implementation of LETKF system
→ **MEC (Model Equivalent Calculator)** for feedback files (verification)
- Task 3: Main development (tuning, refinement, **testing**) of LETKF, **comparison with nudging (using conventional obs)**
 - Stochastic Perturbation of Physics Tendencies (*Torrisi, CNMCA*)
 - Stochastic Pattern Generator (*Tsyrlunikov, Gayfullin, HMC*)
- Task 4: **Use of additional (high-resolution) observations**

- first version disseminated for testing + use
 - with documentation, test cases for deterministic and ensemble forecasts
 - for verification of conventional obs
- some pending issues
 - verification of time-accumulated quantities
 - some technical issues
 - (e.g. need to use same model domain / resolution for first creation of feedback file and for forecasts for which model equivalents are computed)
- future : extend to non-conventional obs

3-D radar radial velocity and reflectivity

- obs operator implemented, superobbing, thinning,
- tuning, sensitivity tests with LETKF , [impact studies](#)

GPS slant path delay *(Bender, DWD)*

- obs operator implemented, technically ready for DA experiments

Use of cloud top height (CTH) derived from satellite (SEVIRI) data

- obs operator implemented, LETKF single-obs experiments
- [sensitivity tests and impact studies for low-stratus periods](#)

Use of direct satellite radiances for assimilation of cloud information

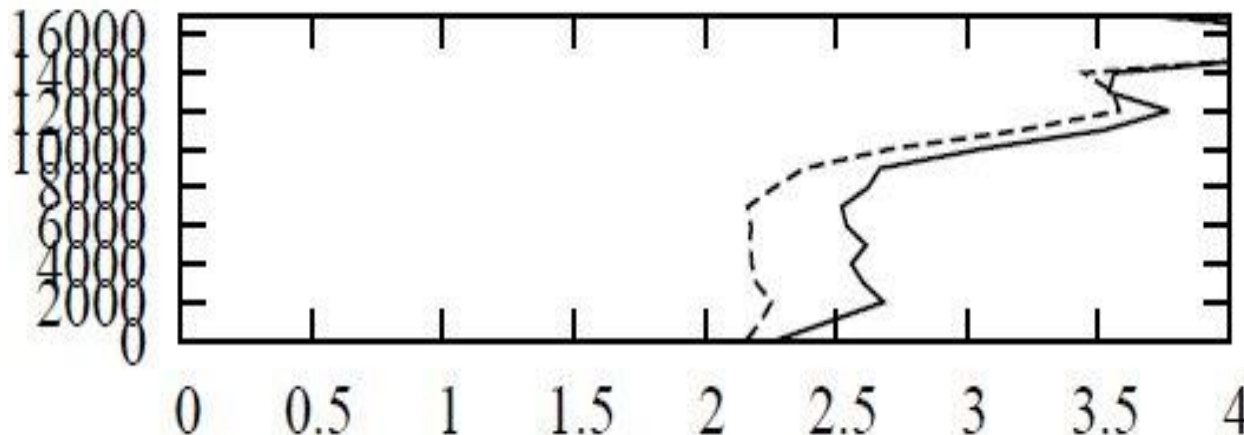
- first DA exp. over several days : benefit for f.g. simulated radiances

Raman lidar (qv-profile) & microwave radiometer (T-profile) delay *(Haefele, MCH)*

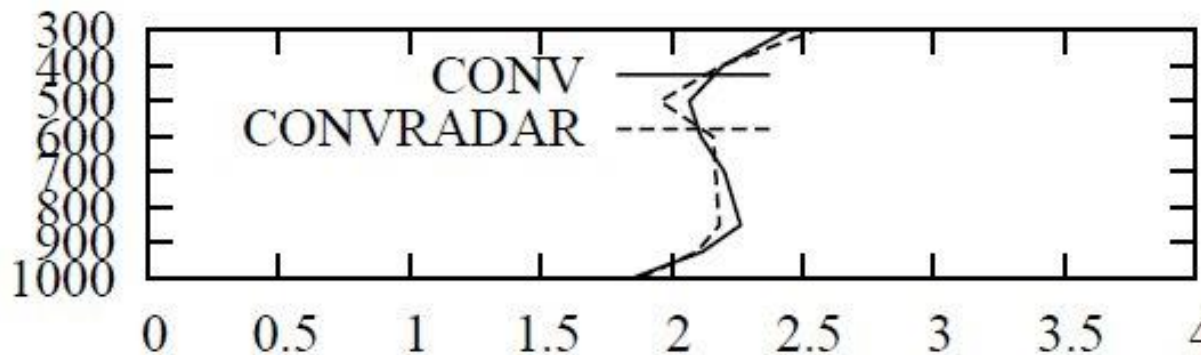
- innovation statistics of obs at Payerne with COSMO-2 forecasts

1-hrly LETKF cycling over 5 days (1 – 6 June 2011)

RMSE of first guess (1-hr forecast)



against
Radar
radial velocity



against
radiosonde
+ aircraft
wind speed

LETKF: use of radar reflectivity → *Theresa Bick et al* impact study (7 day period)



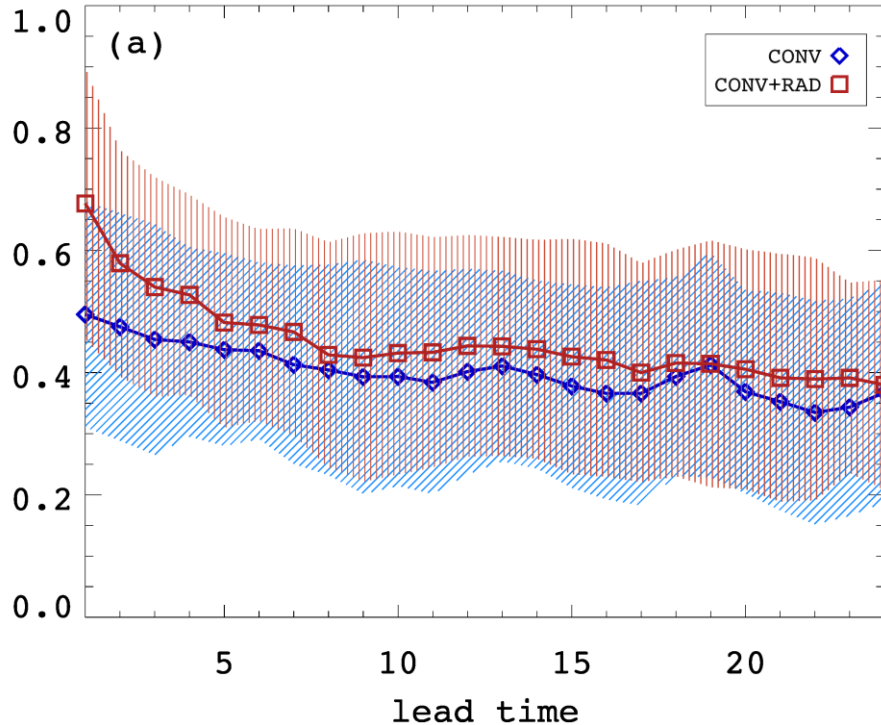
7 days: 22 – 29 May 2014

CONV
 CONV + RAD

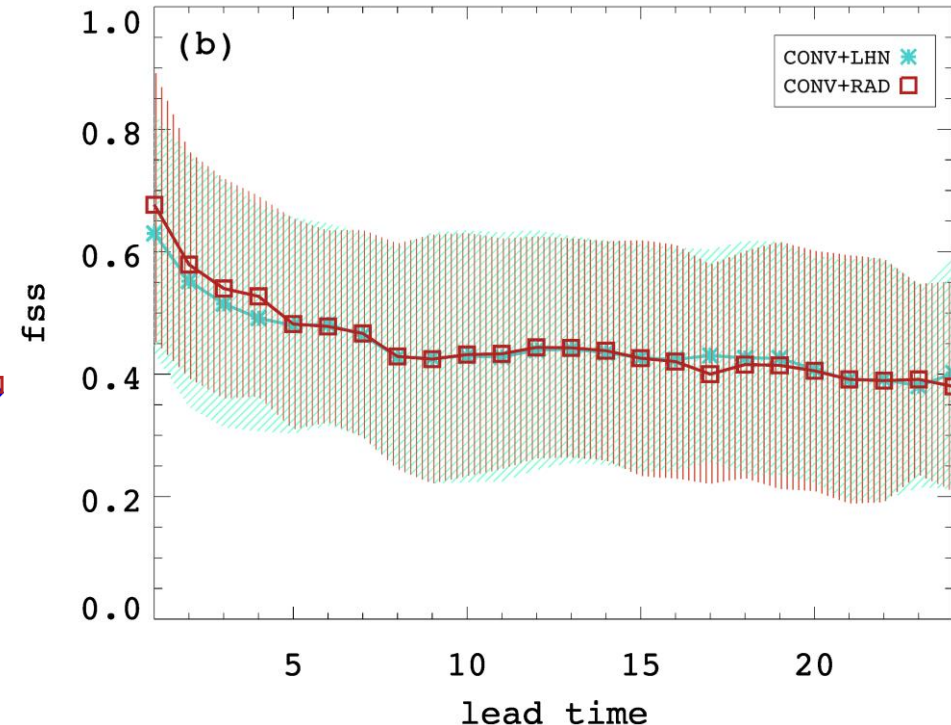
– mean FSS (precip)
 over 19 forecasts
 – std dev.

CONV + LHN
 CONV + RAD

5gp 0.5mm/h precip



5gp 0.5mm/h precip



- ✓ rather large, long-lived positive impact from use of radar reflectivity in LETKF
- ✓ use of radar reflectivity in LETKF slightly better than LHN in first 4 hours



radar radial velocity (5-day period)

- (small) positive impact on 1-hr forecast of upper-air wind

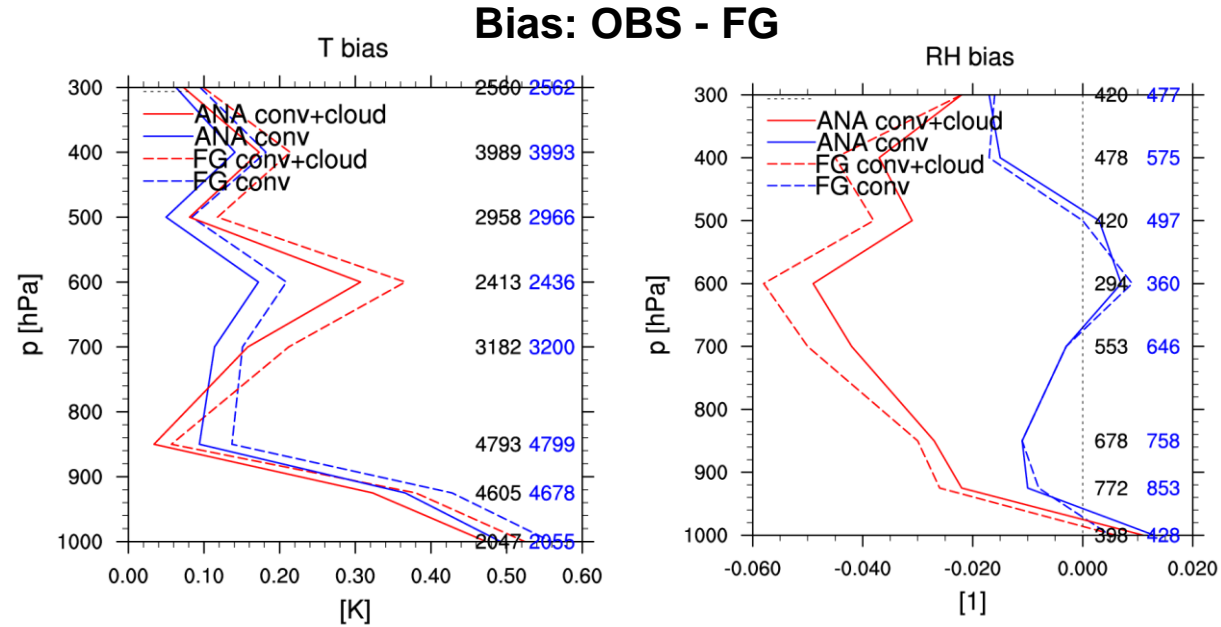
radar reflectivity (7-day period)

- long-lasting positive impact on precip, slightly better than LHN
- (small) positive impact on 1-hr forecast of upper-air wind, better than LHN
- small positive impact in surface verification, not as good as LHN

further steps

- quality control
- balance impact of precip vs. non-precip obs / (4-D) radar vs. conventional obs
- thinning / superobbing, obs errors, localization, Gaussianity (variable transform?)
- more test periods

upper-air verification for 83 hours cycled assimilation starting 12 Nov. 2011, 12 UTC



assimilation of conventional obs only
assimilation of conventional + cloud obs

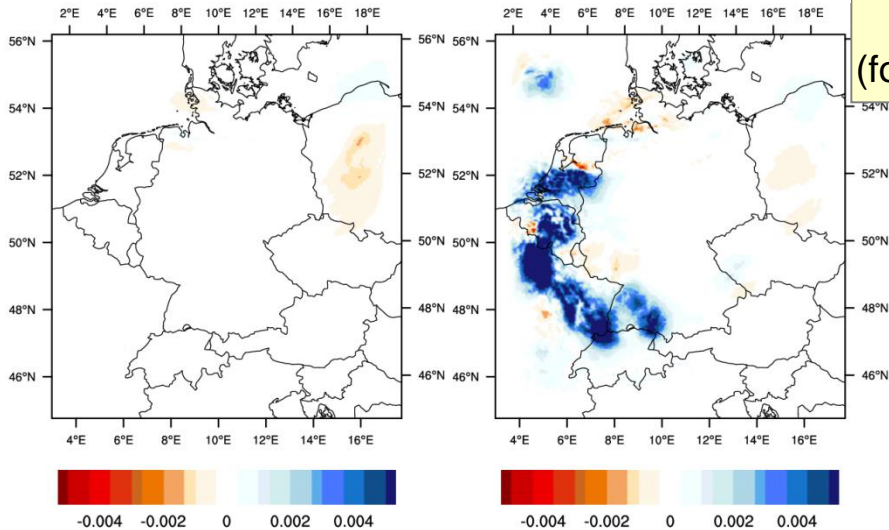
→ cold and strong moist bias in mid-levels !
 Why ?

LETKF: use of satellite cloud top height data application to low stratus period

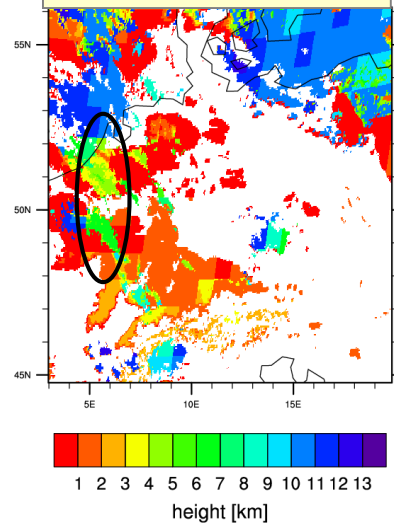
conventional only

conv + cloud

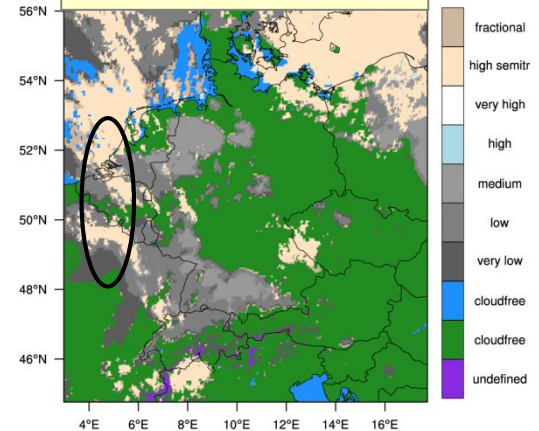
mid-level moisture
analysis increment
(for 13 Nov. 2011, 12 UTC)



'observed'
cloud top height



observed cloud type



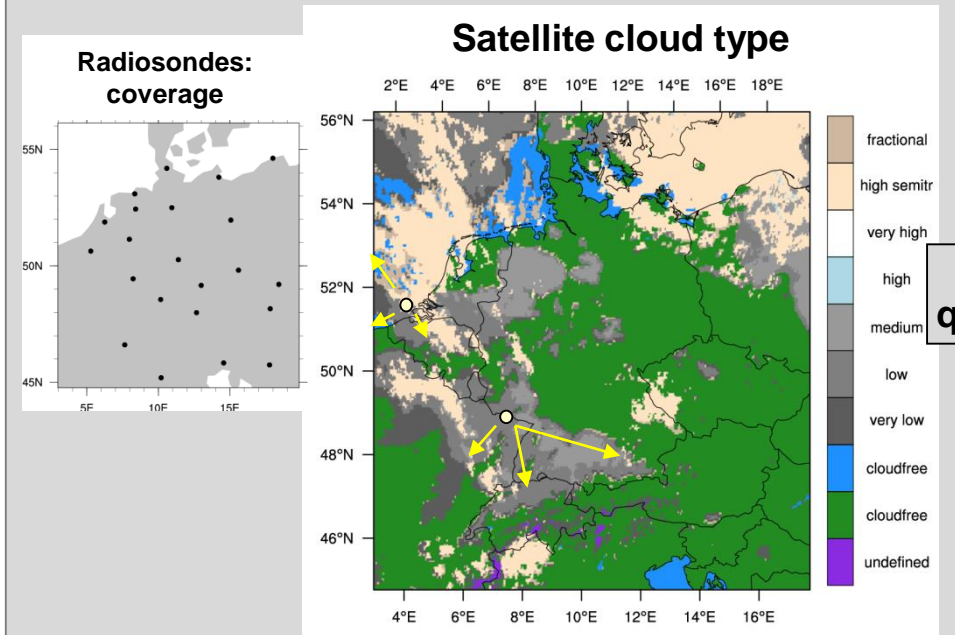
→ mid-level moisture increment
in low-stratus situation ! Why ?

→ problems caused by **incorrect cloud top height**
in **NWCSAF** cloud top height product

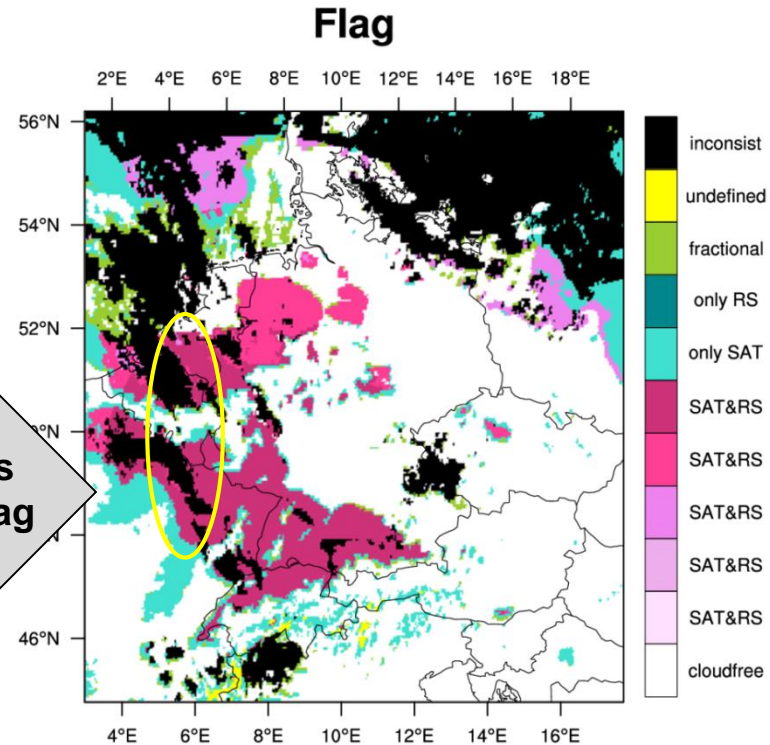
LETKF: use of satellite cloud top height data application to low stratus period

pre-processing to merge satellite and radiosonde cloud top height information (cloud analysis):

use nearby radiosondes within the same cloud type to determine quality flag



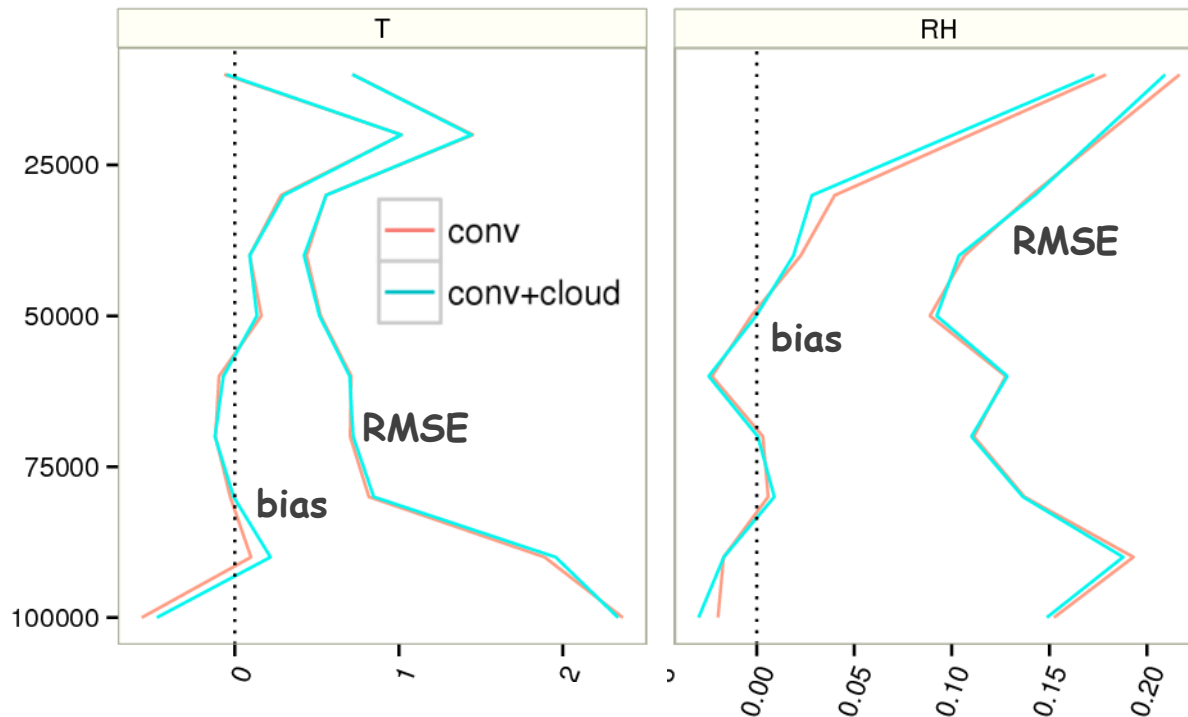
provides quality flag



- discard data flagged as 'inconsistent'
- applied to new experiment

LETKF: use of **satellite cloud top height data** application to low stratus period

results of new experiment with rigid quality control:
upper-air verification for several 6-h forecasts from 13 – 15 Nov. 2011

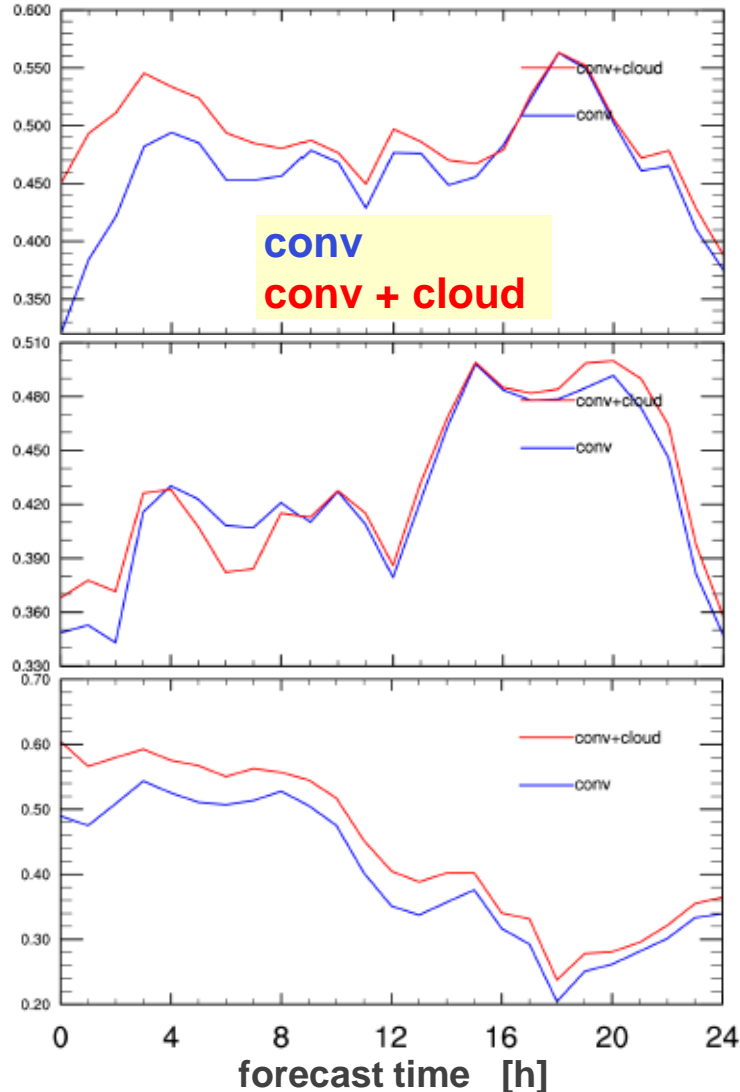


- no detrimental effect of cloud assimilation any more
- but sometimes a lot of cloud data are discarded by new QC

LETKF: use of **satellite cloud top height data** application to low stratus period



correlation between forecast and observed total cloud cover



13 Nov.
2011
6 UTC

new experiment
with rigid
quality control

14 Nov.
2011
12 UTC

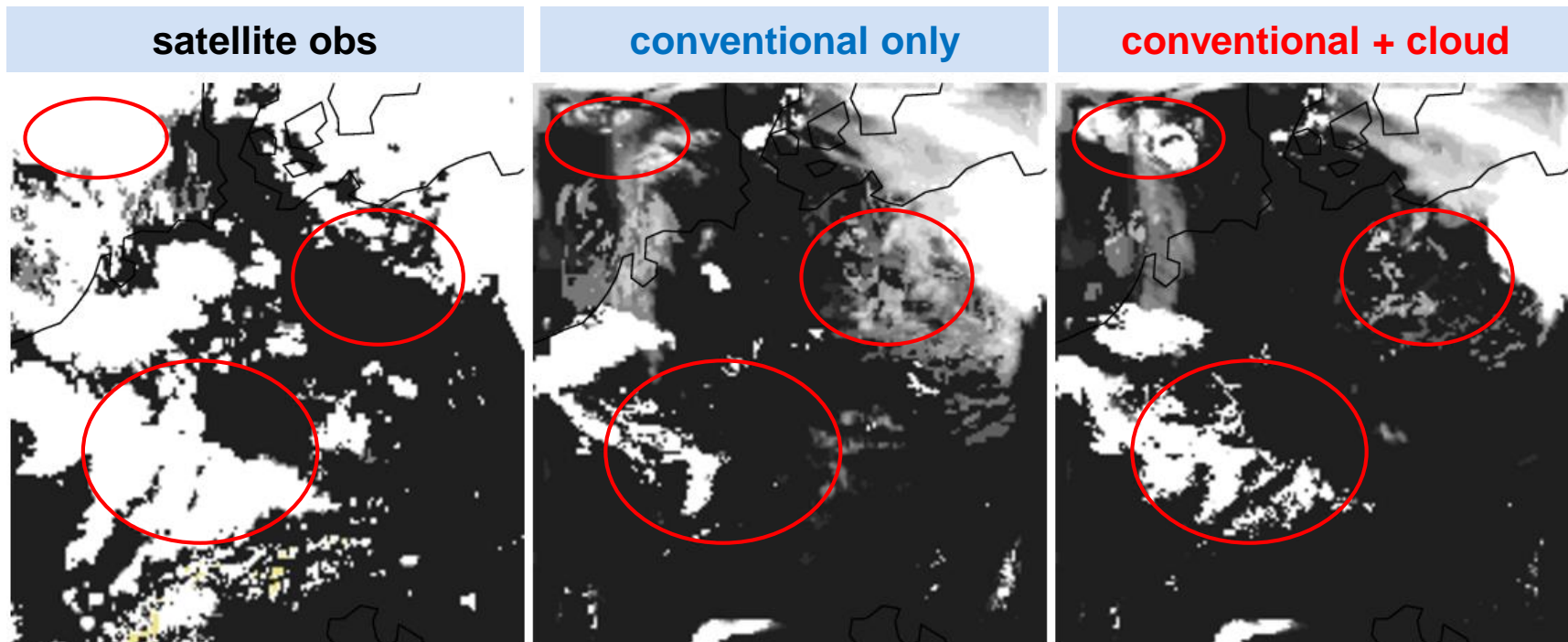
15 Nov.
2011
0 UTC

→ some long-lasting benefit
in some cases

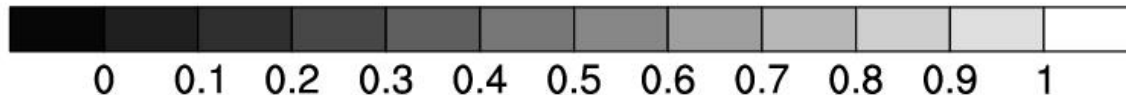


LETKF: use of **satellite cloud top height data** application to low stratus period

results of (new experiment with rigid quality control:
total cloud cover of first guess fields (1-h forecast) after 24 hours of cycling



13 Nov 2011,
12:00 UTC



→ better match with observed cloud cover

status

- problem with mid-tropospheric cold / moist bias solved; with new QC, less data are used in LETKF
- some positive impact on cloud cover remains

further steps

- quality control
- balance impact of cloudy (which may be flagged by QC) vs. cloud-free obs (which are never flagged)
- localization (dep. on observed cloud ?), thinning / superobbing, obs errors
- alternative use of Optimal Cloud Analysis (Watts et al., 2011) , which can detect multi-layer clouds ?
- more test periods, other weather types



DWD

- sensitivity tests, [impact studies](#)

MeteoSwiss

- sensitivity tests (10-day summer 2014 period: RTPP + soil perturbations, LHN, use of RH2m, new FG-check, ENS-LBC perturbations w. lead time 15-24h)
- real-time KENDA suite at CSCS since 11 Jan. 2015 !
- [impact studies](#)

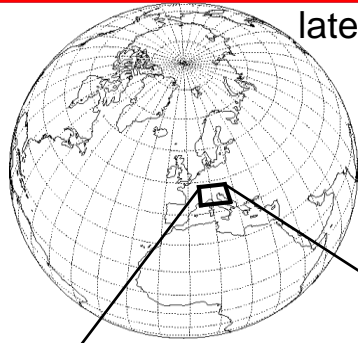
ARPA-SIM

- sensitivity tests for 2 autumn cases (LHN, SPPT, etc.)



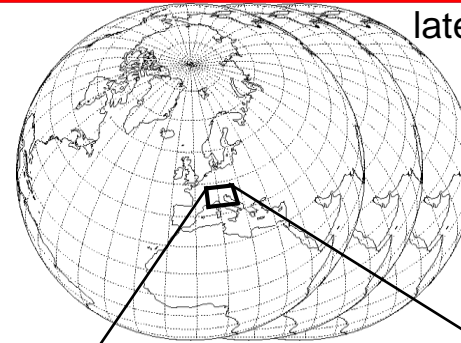
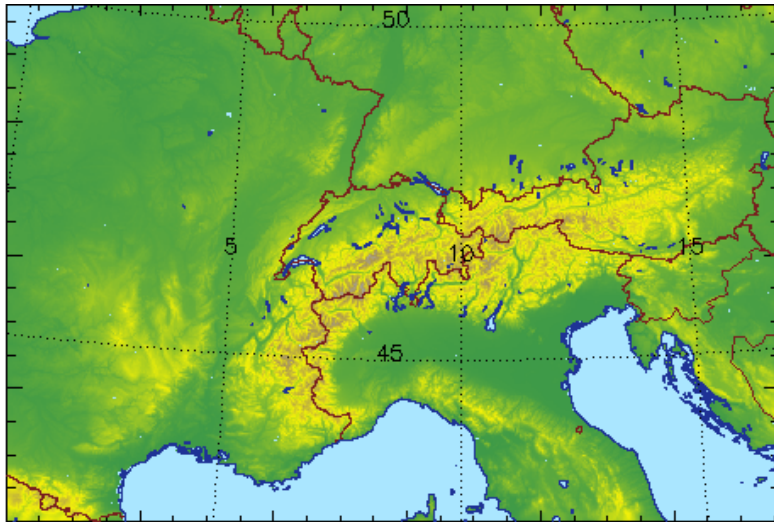


Next Generation MCH NWP System



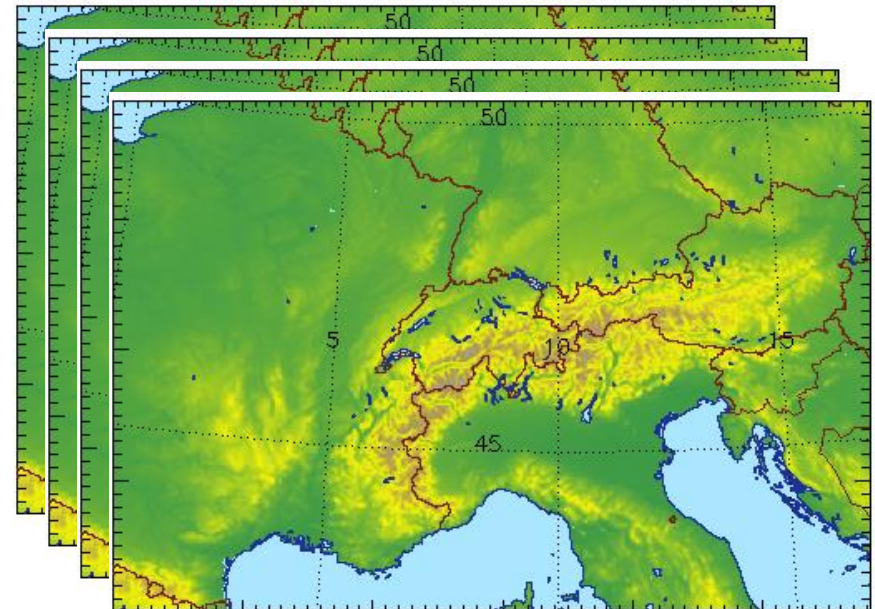
lateral boundary conditions:
IFS-HRES
8-10km
4x per day

COSMO-1: 24h forecasts, 8x per day
1.1km grid size (convection permitting)



lateral boundary conditions:
IFS-ENS
20km
4x per day

COSMO-E: 5 day forecasts, 2x per day
2.2km grid size (convection permitting)
21 ensemble members

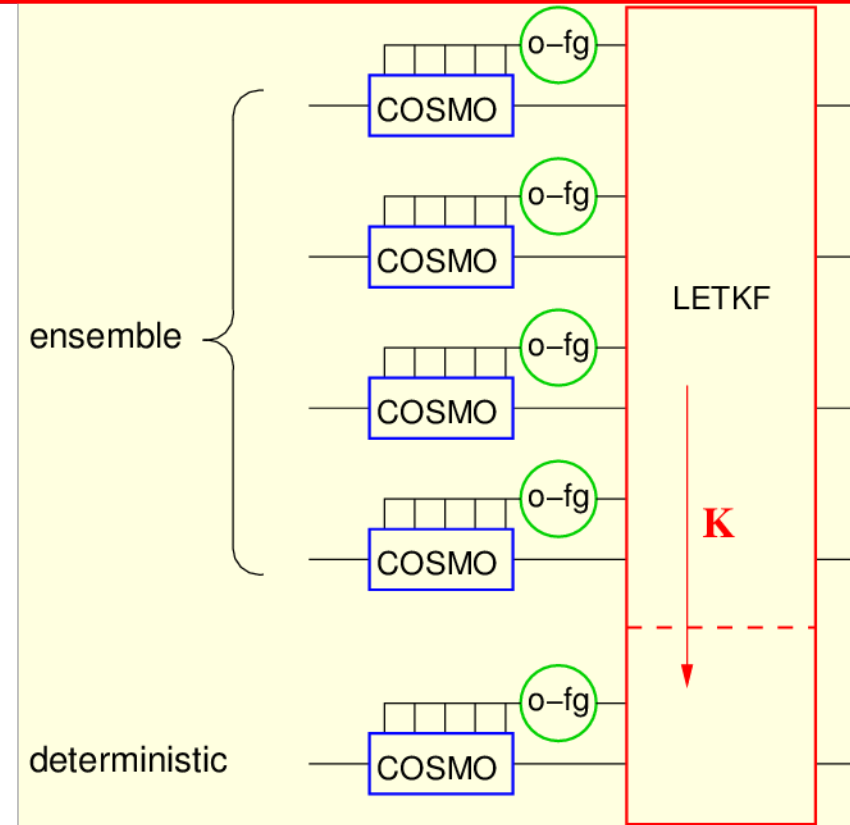




KENDA development at MeteoSwiss

→ *Daniel Leuenberger, Simon Förster, André Walser*

- use of KENDA for
 - IC perturbations for COSMO-E
 - IC for deterministic COSMO-1
- **real-time assimilation cycle running since 11. 01. 2015**
 - 40 ensemble members + deterministic analysis
 - Control: nudging / 'NO-OBS'
 - **2.2 km** grid length
 - since 28. 08. 2015: deterministic analysis with 1.1 km



- test forecasts (March + April 2015)
 - deterministic **2.2 km** forecasts, **comparison with nudging**
 - COSMO-E ensemble forecasts, **comparison with IC perturbations downscaled from ECMWF-EPS**





MeteoSwiss: deterministic forecast verification

- March + April 2015 , benchmark: nudging analysis

SYNOP

Parameter	ME	STDE
Surf. Pres.	✓	✓
T 2m	✓	✓
Td 2m	⬇️	✗
DD 10m	✓	✓
FF 10m	✓	✓

radiosondes (PBL)

Parameter	ME	STDE
T	⬇️	✓
RH	⬆️	✗
DD	✓	✓
FF	✓	✓

(combi-) precip

better Frequency Bias
very similar FSS

- cooler and moister than nudging (too cool and too moist) especially during night
- generally better than nudging at daytime, slightly worse during night





MeteoSwiss: ensemble forecast verification

- March + April 2015
- focus on first 6 forecast hours
- comparison against COSMO-E started from downscaled IFS-ENS analysis

median verification

Parameter	ME	STDE
Surf. Pres.	✓	✓
T 2m	⬇️	✓
Td 2m	✓	✗
DD 10m	⬆️	✓
FF 10m	✓	✓

probabilistic verification

Parameter	RPS(S)	Outliers	Spread/ Error	Resolution Thrs1	Resolution Thrs2
T 2m	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Td 2m	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
ff 10m	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Prec 12h	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Prec 1h	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gusts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

- reduces spin-up, particularly Td 2m and FF 10m bias





MeteoSwiss: summary + outlook

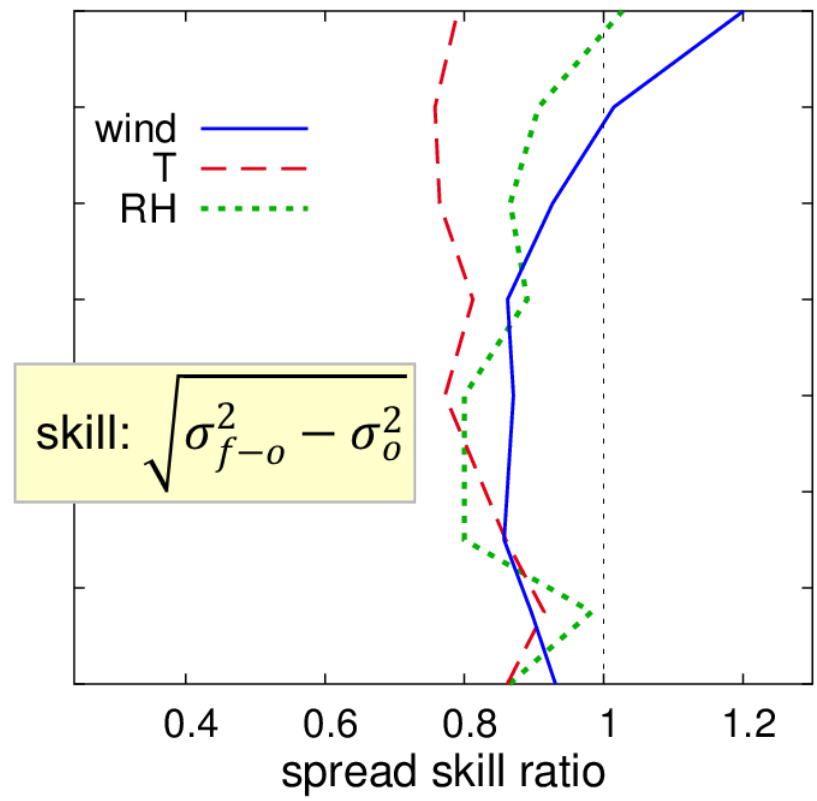
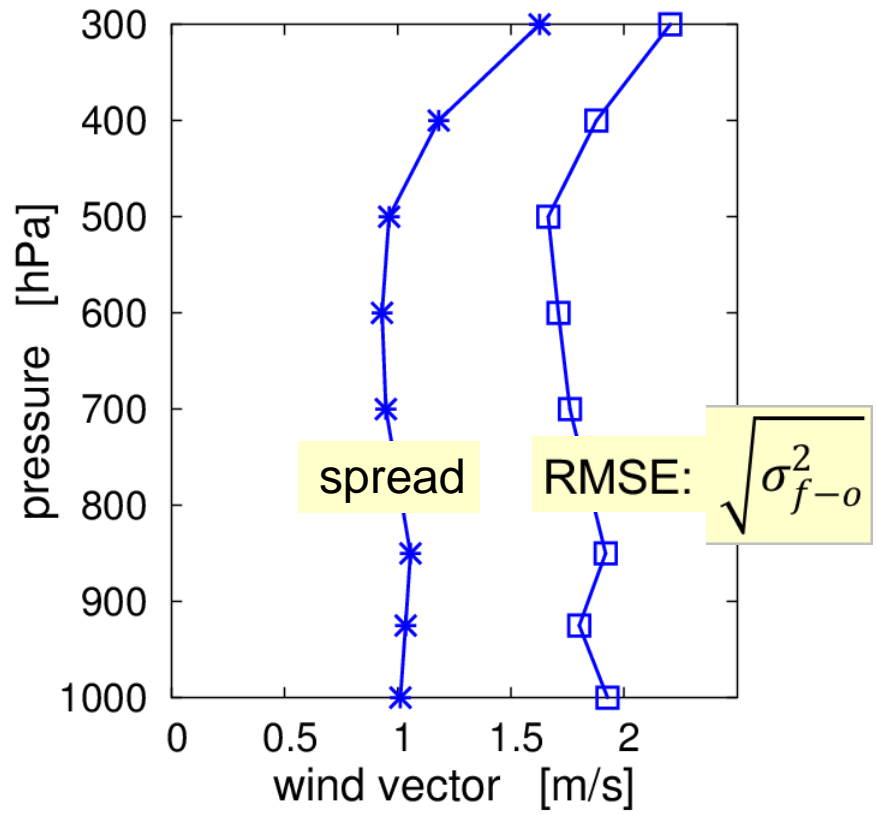
- real-time KENDA assimilation cycle runs **very stably** since mid-January 2015
- verification results from first months are **encouraging**
- deterministic 2.2km analysis performance **similar to nudging**
- COSMO-E forecasts started from KENDA compare mostly **favourably** to those downscaled from IFS-ENS (reduced spin-up effect)
- approaching to meet benchmark, but some problems in **PBL humidity and temperature**, still **lack of spread** there (soil moisture perturbations not applied !)
- COSMO-1 deterministic analysis under development
- COSMO-E plans to use KENDA IC when going **operational in Spring 2016**, (COSMO-1 will first use nudging IC)



DWD

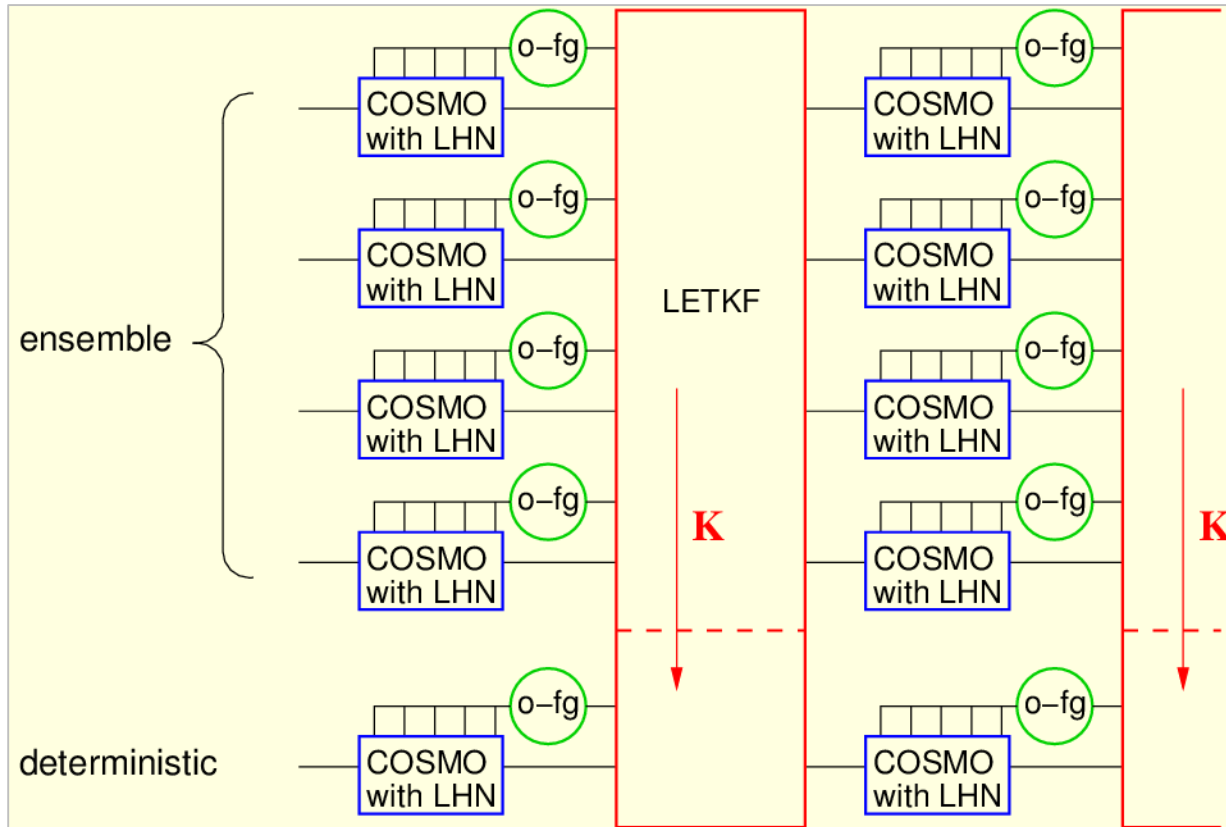
- 1st goal: replace nudging + LHN with deterministic LETKF analysis for COSMO-DE (2.8 km, 10.5 x 11.5 deg.) / COSMO-D2 (2.2 km, 13.0 x 14.3 deg.) (in summer/autumn 2016)
 - main task for operation-ability: quality of deterministic forecast from KENDA as good as nudging + LHN
 - **test period 28 days** (18 May – 15 June 2015 : convection, little advection)
 - LBC from 80-km ICON-LETKF / 40-km 3DVar
 - RTPP (relaxation to prior perturbations), soil moisture perturbations
 - **combine LETKF with LHN, compare with nudging (+ LHN)**
- 2nd goal: use KENDA for IC of COSMO-DE-EPS (possibly in combination with other perturbations)
 - WG7 / DWD-FE15 : encouraging results

LETKF with adaptive multiplicative cov. inflation + RTPP + soil moisture perturb.
(6-day period July 2012)



✓ spread-skill ratio of LETKF first guess mostly within 0.8 – 1.0
if (diagnosed) observation errors taken into account

KENDA-LHN



→ benchmark:
Nudging + LHN

- LHN influences first guess ensemble perturbations and hence LETKF estimation of first guess error (“B-matrix”) directly
- adverse influence of LHN on LETKF ?

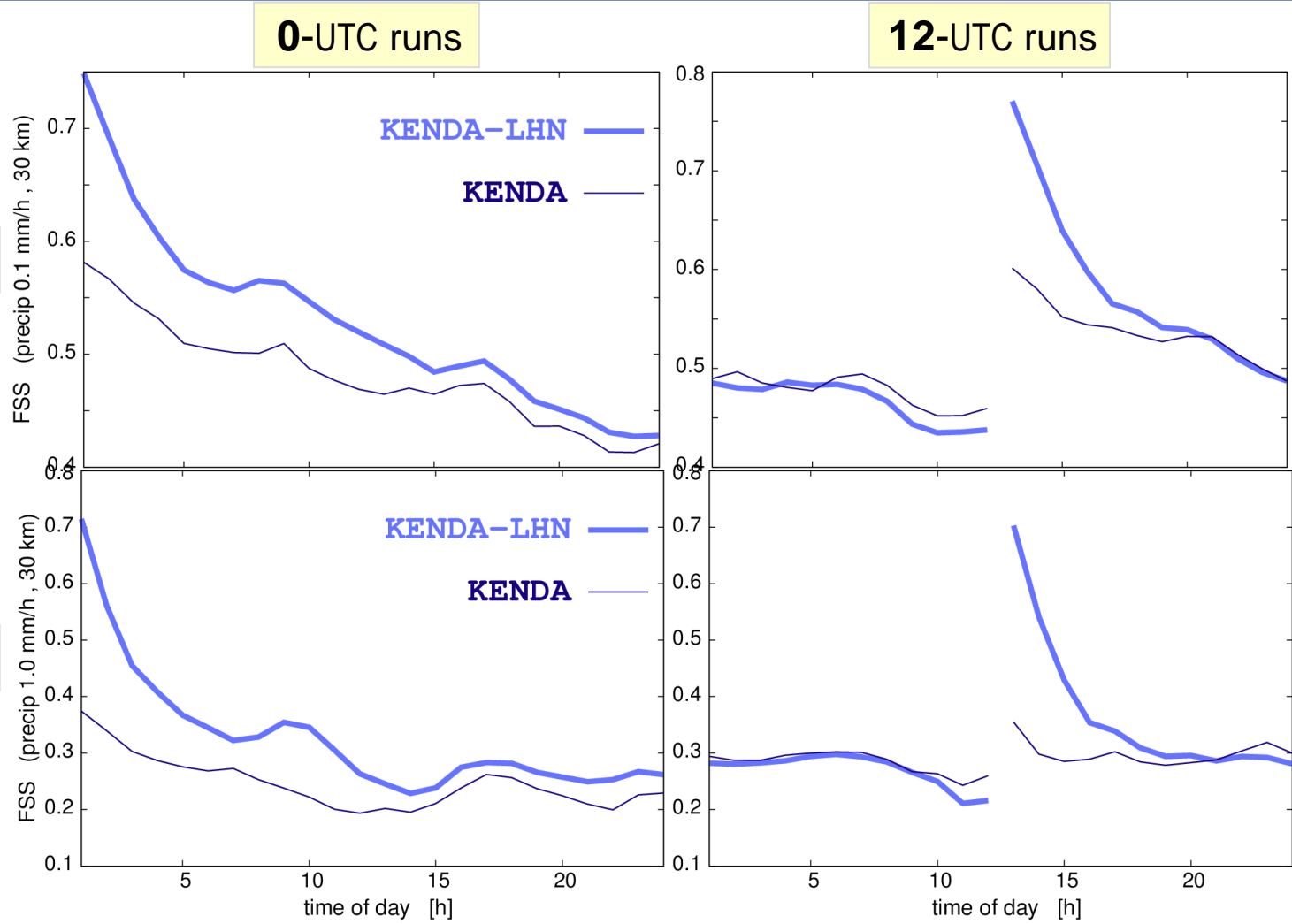
LETKF: main development + testing impact of LHN added to LETKF

28 days
18.05. – 15.06.
2014

0.1 mm/h

**precip
FSS
(30 km)**

1 mm/h



✓ large, long-lived positive impact from LHN (except 12 UTC run)

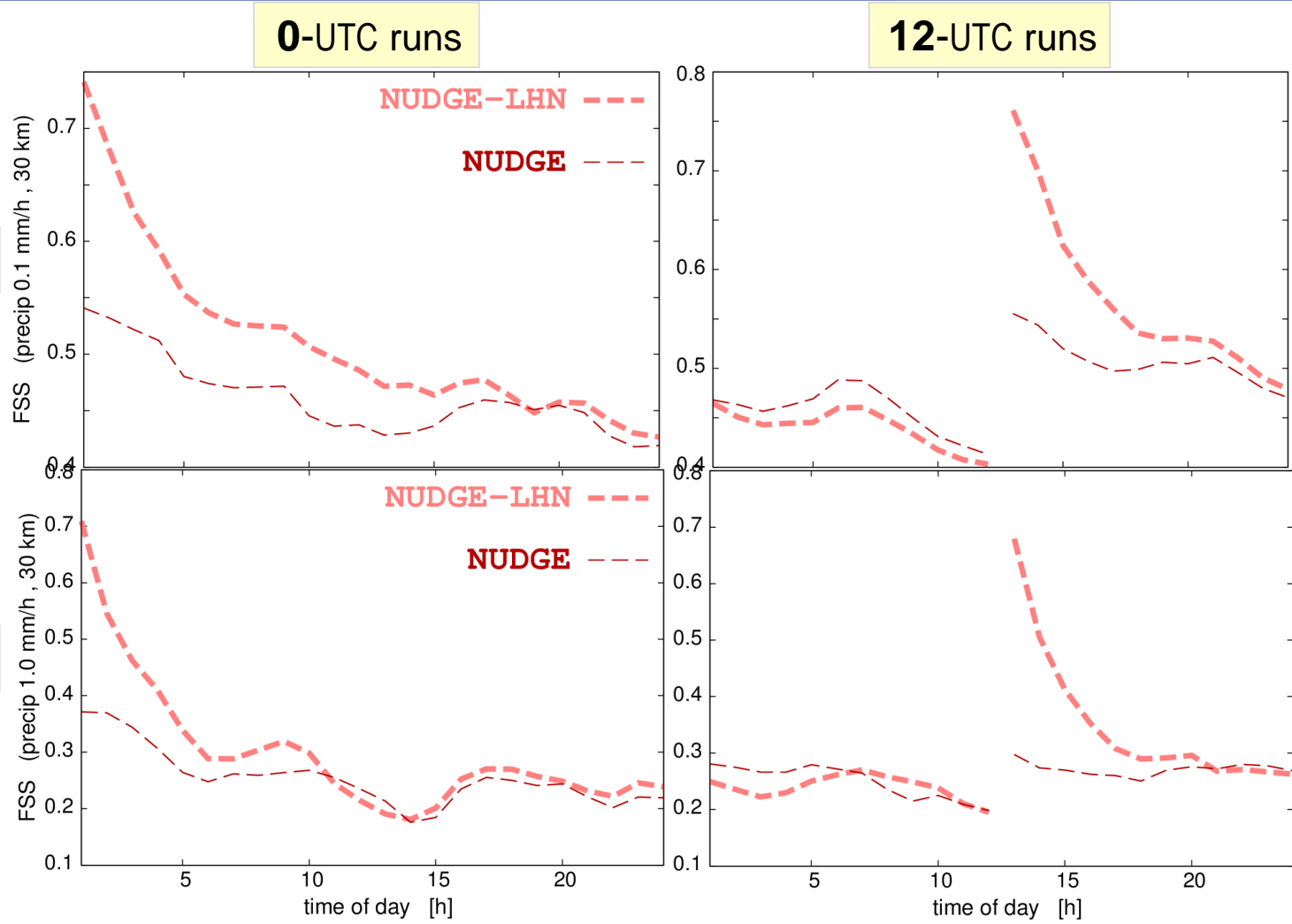
LETKF: main development + testing impact of LHN added to Nudging

28 days
18.05. – 15.06.
2014

0.1 mm/h

**precip
FSS
(30 km)**

1 mm/h



✓ combined with nudging, LHN has less long-lived positive impact and generally less impact for higher threshold (except 12 UTC run)



LETKF: main development + testing comparison to Nudging

28 days
18.05. – 15.06.
2014

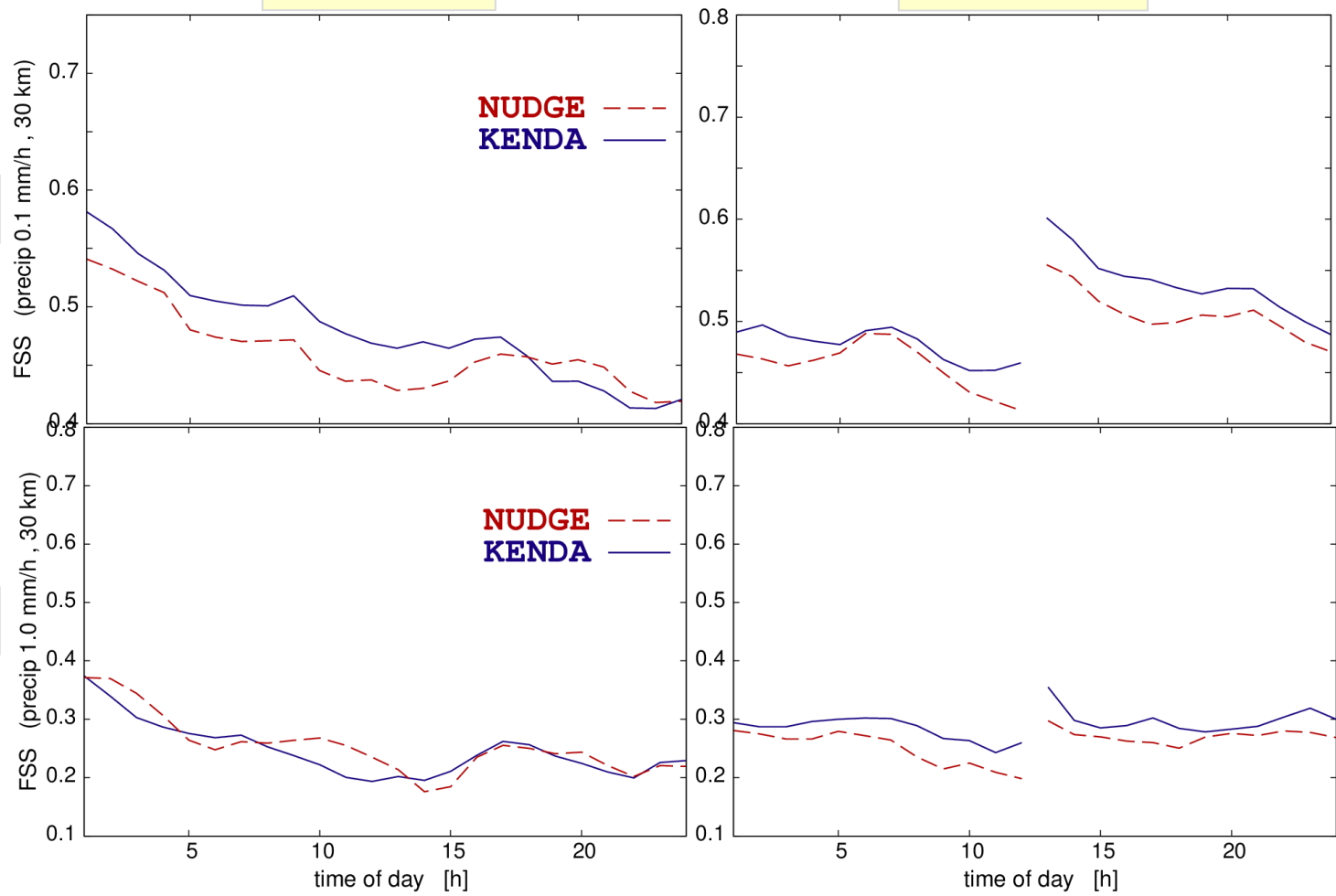
0.1 mm/h

**precip
FSS
(30 km)**

1 mm/h

0-UTC runs

12-UTC runs



✓ without LHN: usually long-lived advantage of KENDA over nudging

LETKF: main development + testing comparison to Nudging + LHN

28 days
18.05. – 15.06.
2014

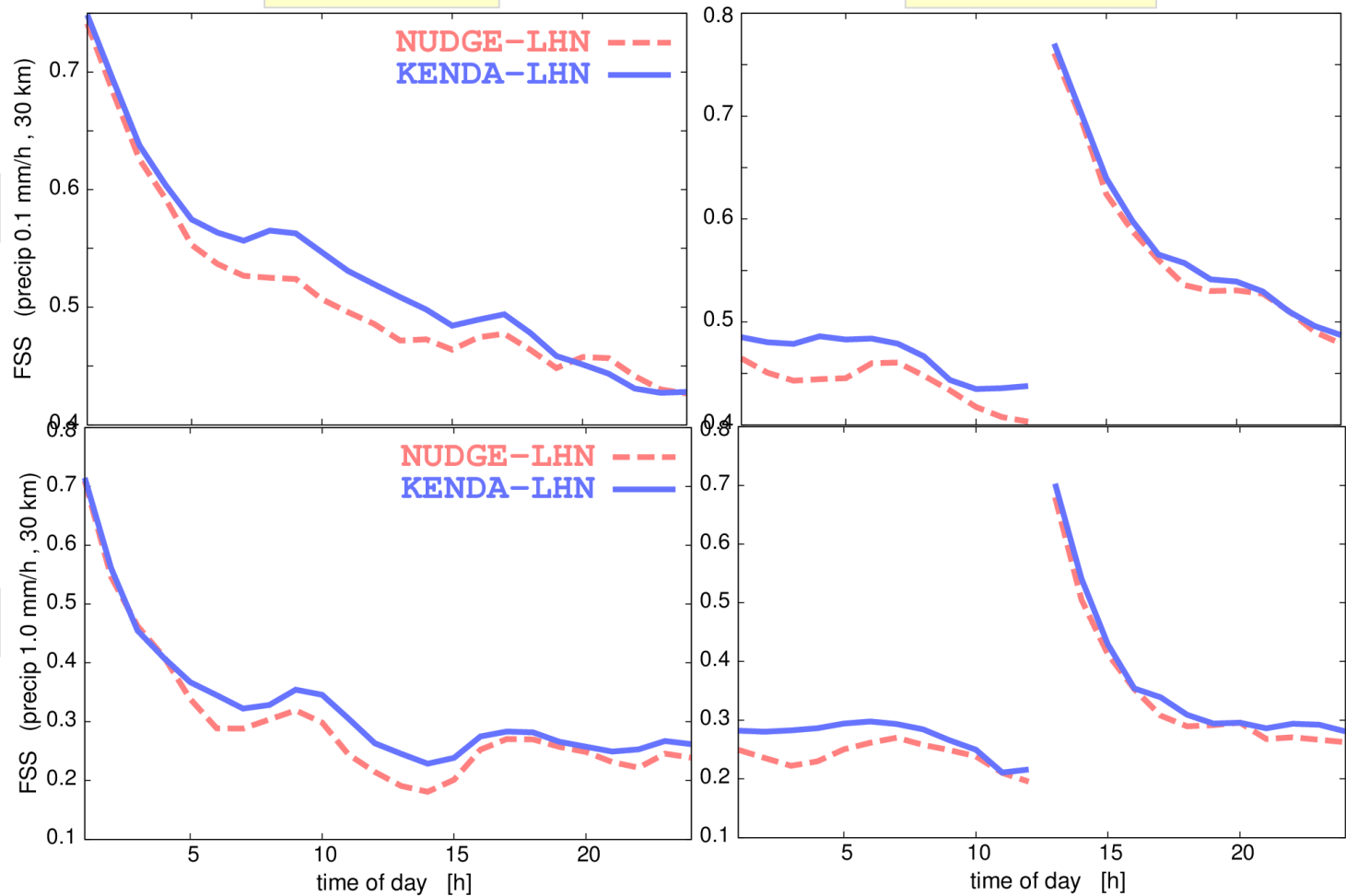
0.1 mm/h

**precip
FSS
(30 km)**

1 mm/h

0-UTC runs

12-UTC runs



✓ with LHN: small difference in first 4 hours due to dominating influence of LHN, thereafter, advantage of KENDA over nudging tends to be larger than without LHN

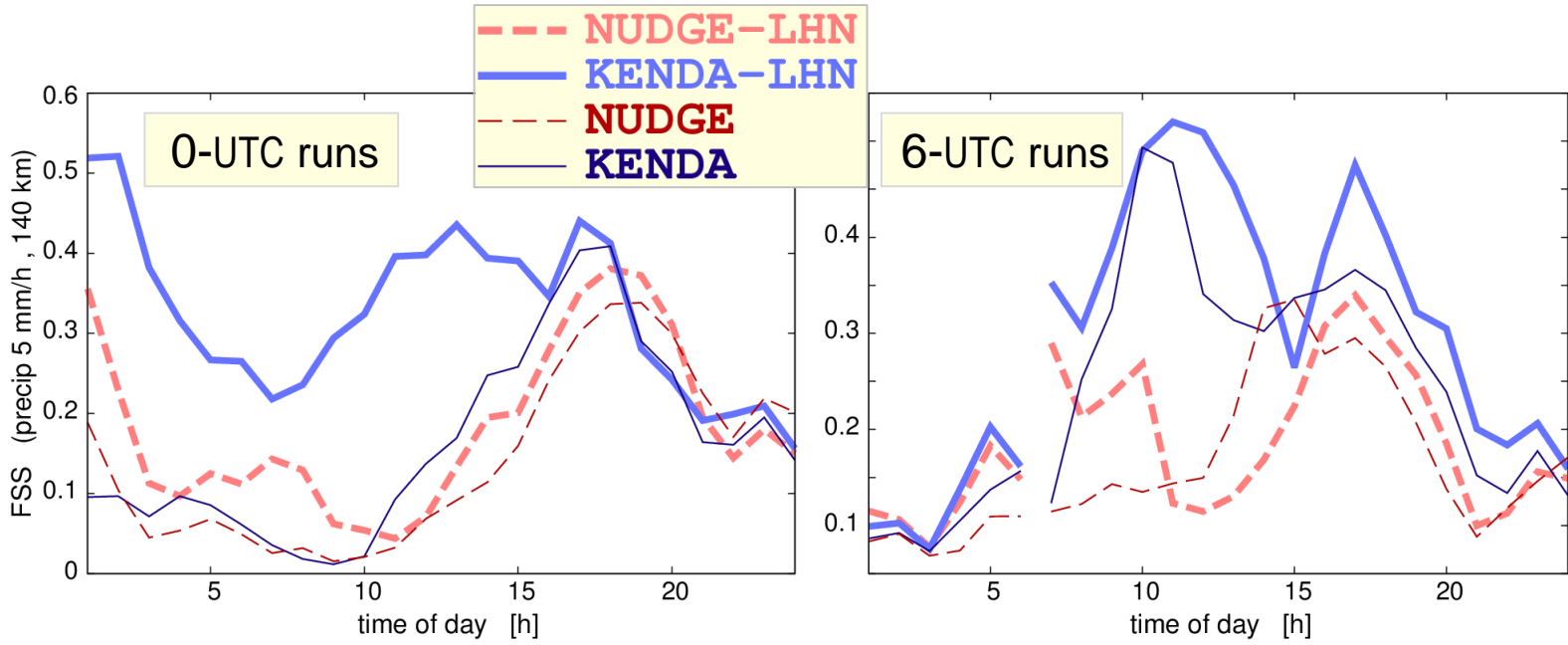


LETKF: main development + testing comparison to Nudging + LHN

28 days
18.05. – 15.06.
2014

examples where KENDA + LHN is even more clearly better:
high threshold 5 mm/h

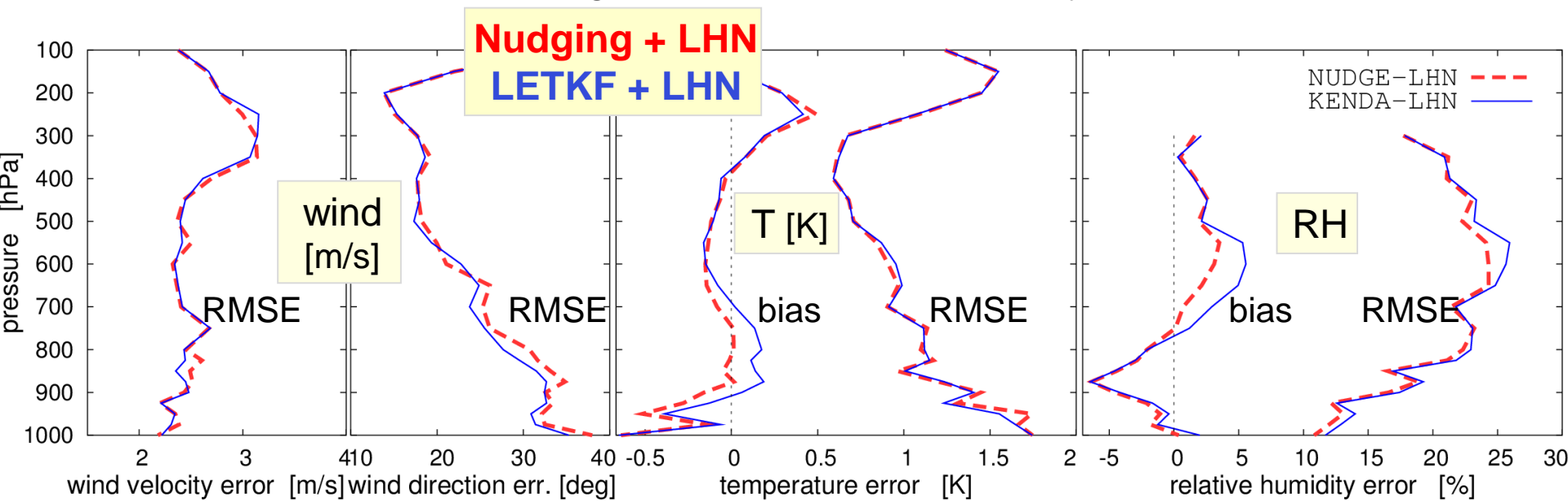
1-hrly precip
FSS
(140 km ,
5 mm/h)



- KENDA-LHN better than KENDA-LDET
 - main difference: B-matrix of LETKF is influenced only in KENDA-LHN
 - LHN has more (longer-lasting) benefit if combined with LETKF than with nudging
 - main difference: LHN influences B-matrix in LETKF, but not weighting functions in nudging
- LHN tends to influence B-matrix of LETKF positively (rather than adversely)

LETKF: main development + testing comparison to Nudging + LHN

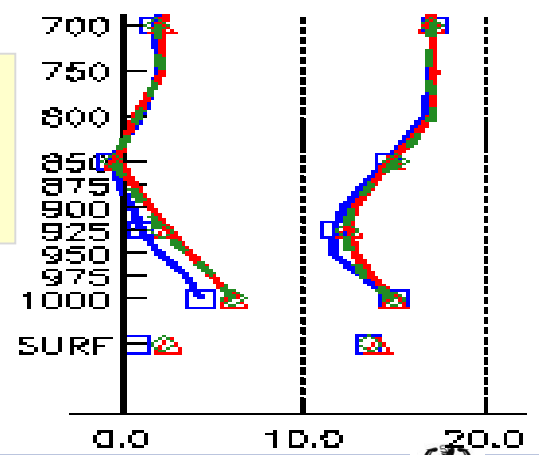
verification of **6-h** forecasts against radiosondes , 28 days (18.05. – 15.06. 2014)



MeteoSwiss: 2 months
(March + April 2015)

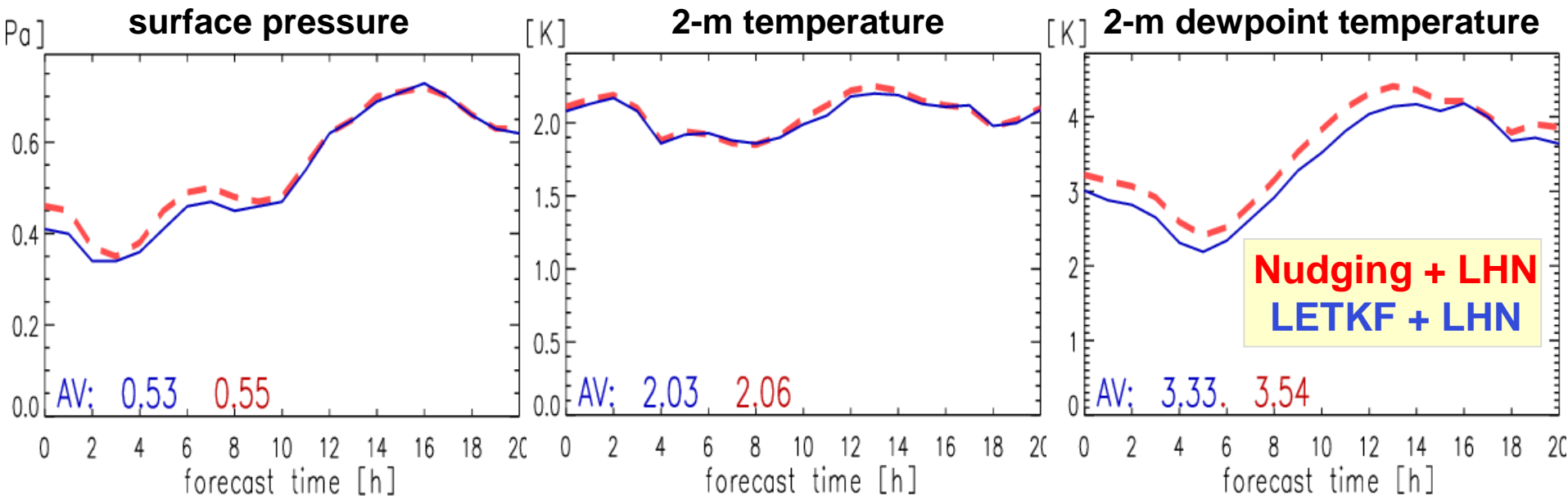
Nudging
LETKF
NO-OBS

- ✓ LETKF: smaller wind errors, larger humidity errors
- ✓ LEKTF less able to correct (model) biases



LETKF: main development + testing comparison to Nudging + LHN

surface verification (RMSE) of **0-UTC** forecast runs , 28 days (18.05. – 15.06. 2014)



- ✓ LETKF: smaller errors, particularly pressure and humidity
- ✓ (also slightly smaller error for 10-m wind, neutral for cloud cover)

DWD : **LETKF outperforms nudging** , in particular if both **combined with LHN**,
in test periods (→ KENDA paper submitted to QJRMS)
most critical criterion for operationability fulfilled (still **more periods required**)

MeteoSwiss : mostly only **neutral** results for deterministic forecast

→ possible reasons for different performance:

- model configuration + model domain (smaller at MCH!),
- lateral boundary conditions (ICON-LETKF vs. ECMWF),
- test period (summer period with little advection vs. spring),
- soil state, soil moisture perturbations, etc.

- **explicit soil moisture perturbations**: bias (drift), too large spread
 - **solutions**: symmetric limiter, re-scaling & re-centering of soil perturbations
- **upper-air humidity** verifies slightly worse, mainly in **PBL**
 - should be investigated (non-Gaussianity of relative humidity ?
sampling noise in LETKF cross-covariance ?)
 - tolerable, considering benefits for other variables (precip !) (DWD)
- LETKF less able than nudging to correct (temperature, humidity) **model biases**
 - inherent, difficult to solve in LETKF
 - needs improvement of model itself

The end of PP KENDA ...

... but not end of the KENDA system !

Thanks to:

Hendrik Reich, Andreas Rhodin, Yuefei Zeng, Ulrich Blahak, Klaus Stephan, Michael Bender, **Theresa Bick**, **Annika Schomburg**, **Africa Perianez**, Roland Potthast, ... (DWD)

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PP KENDA final report

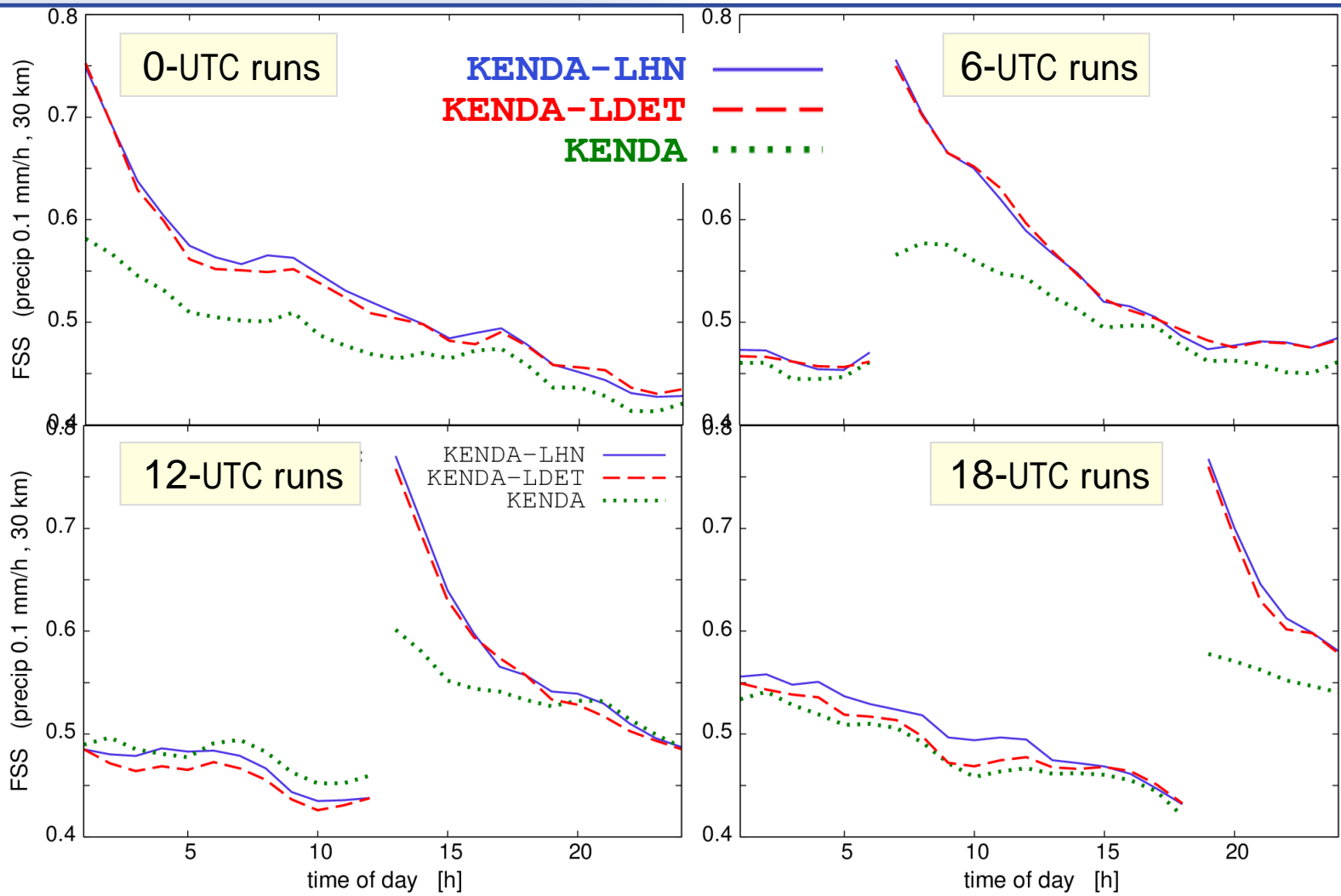
Deutscher Wetterdienst



LETKF: main development + testing impact of LHN added to LETKF

T2014:
28 days
18.05. – 15.06.
2014

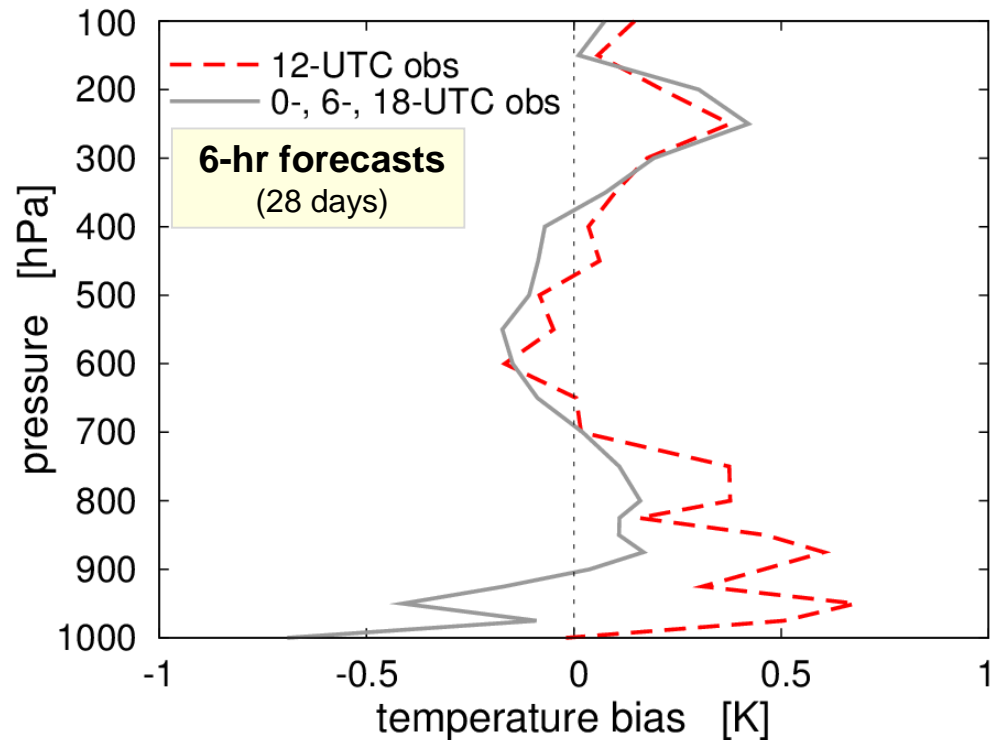
**1-hrly
precip
FSS
(30 km,
0.1 mm/h)**



- ✓ large, long-lived positive impact from LHN (except 12 UTC run)
- ✓ slightly better to apply LHN to all ens. members than only to deterministic run

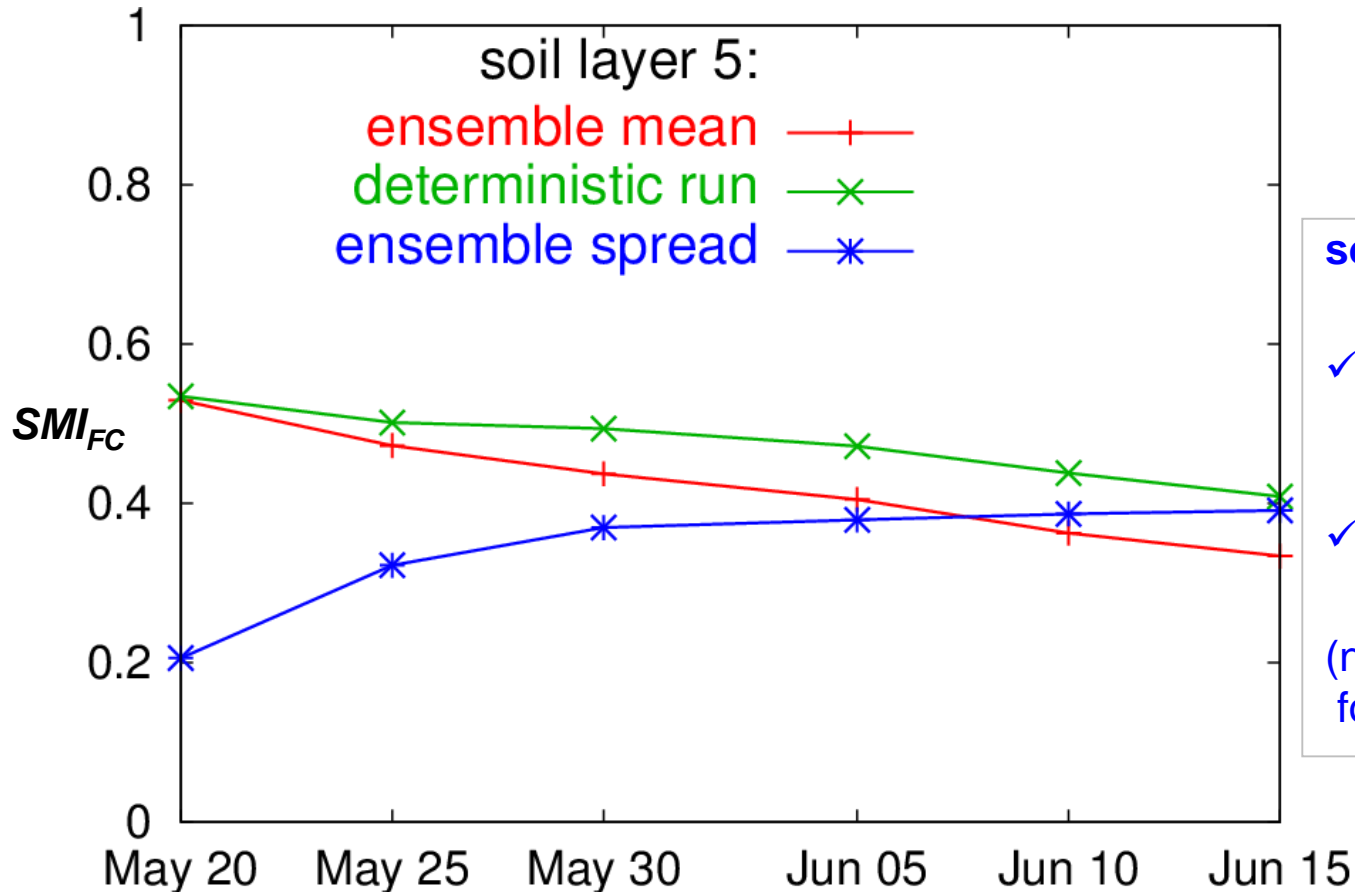


Why is impact different
in 12-UTC runs ?



- COSMO-DE has warm bias in PBL around noon
(requires excessive instability to produce realistic convection - limited resolution!)
- assimilating unbiased temperature profile obs tends to suppress convection
- LHN able to generate precip, but without destabilising the convective environment
- model tends to dissolve convection in free forecast, impact of LHN more short-lived

- explicit soil moisture perturbations:



soil layer 5 (27 – 81 cm)
(and 4):

- ✓ drift (bias) of mean of perturbed ensemble vs. unperturbed det.
- ✓ spread becomes (too) large

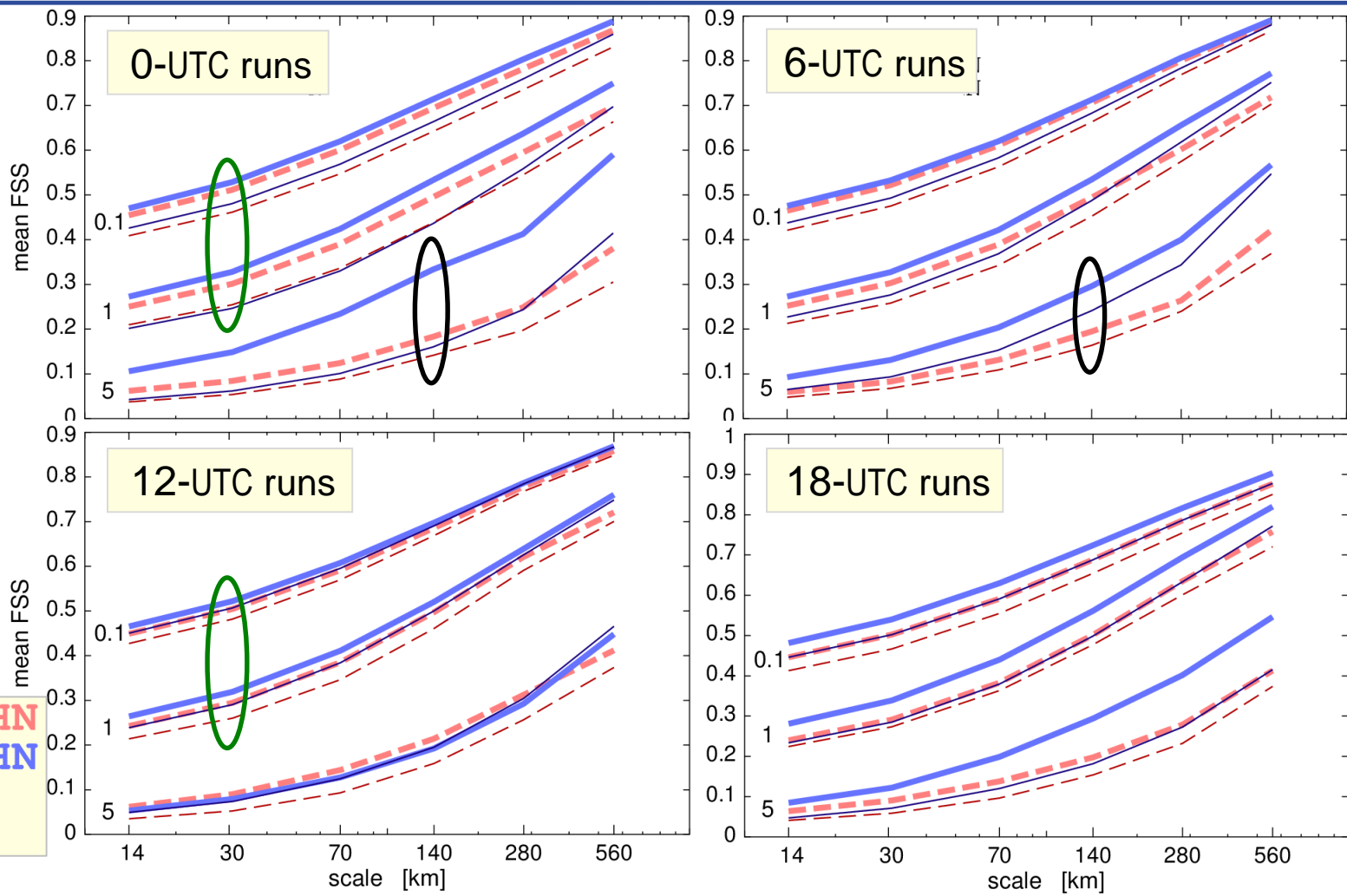
(no problems for soil layers 1 - 3)

LETKF: main development + testing comparison to Nudging + LHN

28 days
18.05. – 15.06.
2014

**1-hrly precip
FSS** averaged
over forecast
time 1 – 24 h
(various
scales +
thresholds)

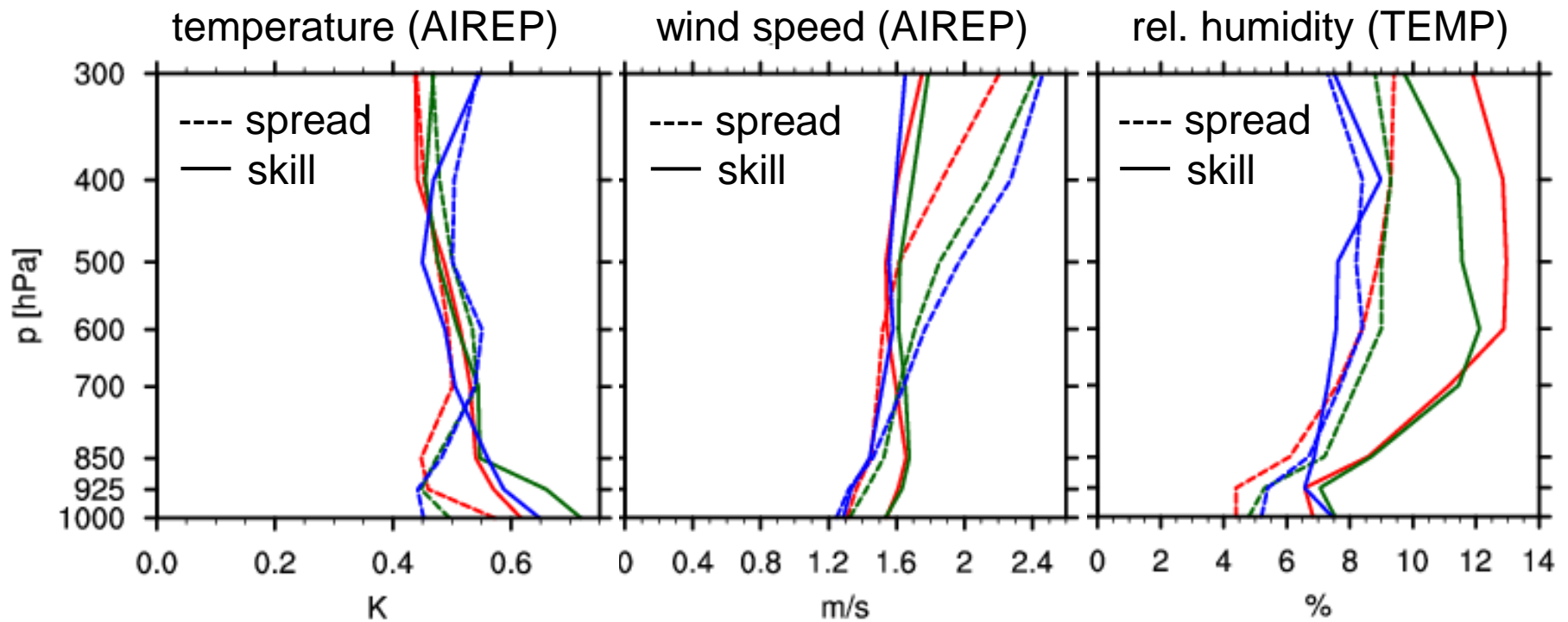
--- NUDGE-LHN
— KENDA-LHN
--- NUDGE
— KENDA



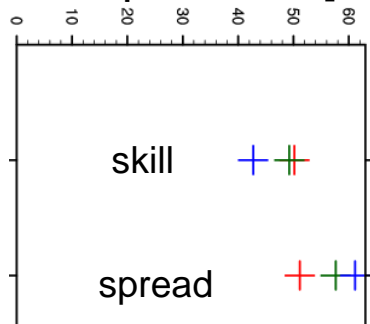
- ✓ previous findings confirmed for all scales
- ✓ KENDA + LHN is best particularly for high thresholds (except 12 UTC run)



MeteoSwiss: seasonal LETKF spread-skill relation



surface pressure [Pa]



Winter (JF)
 Spring (MAM)
 Summer (JJA)

observation error
 taken into account
 in skill !

✓ spread-skill ratio of LETKF mostly ok,
 more underdispersive near surface
 (no explicit soil moisture perturbations !)

