



KENDAscope: KENDA from Surface to Cloud Observations Progressive Extension (Sept. 2020 – Aug. 2025)

- Task 1: algorithmic developments
 - 1.1 reference KENDA (currently LETKF): [model parameter perturbations in DA](#)
impact of [Mode-S in ICON-global](#)
 - 1.2 Variational DA (EnVar , CEnVar, 4D-EnVar)
 - 1.3 Particle Filter
- Task 2: observations (from surface to clouds)
 - 2.1 Radar (Z + Vr)
 - 2.2 [ground-based GNSS ZTD + STD](#)
 - 2.3 [all-sky IR-WV + VIS radiances](#)
 - 2.4 MTG IRS
 - 2.5 screen-level obs (T2M, RH2M)
 - 2.6 [PBL profiling obs](#) (wind lidar, MW radiometer, Raman lidar, drones, towers)
- Task 3: soil / surface (satellite soil moisture, SST, ...)

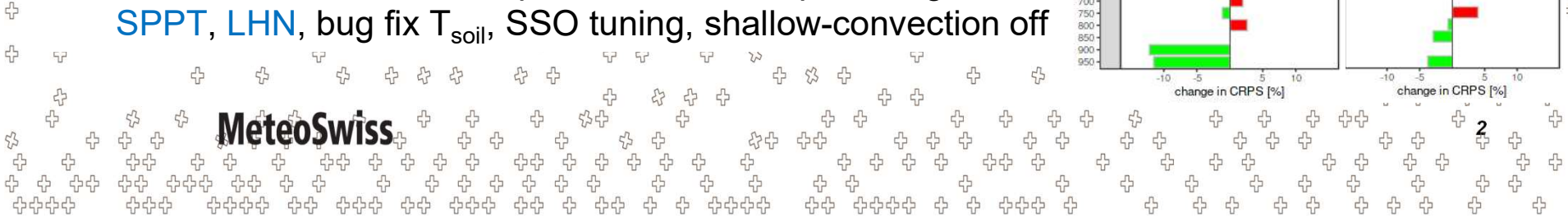
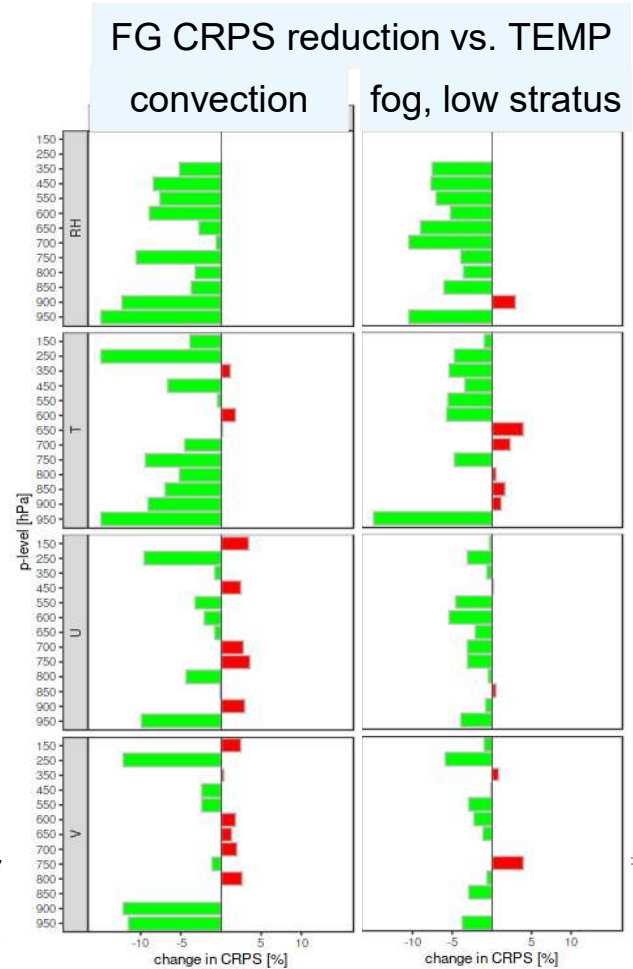




MeteoSwiss

(Daniel Leuenberger, Bas Crezee, Claire Merker
André Walser, Marco Arpagaus)

- From COSMO to ICON + new HPC system: much technical work + testing
- LHN: ICON-D2 settings work well for ICON-CH, high precip intensities better than in COSMO
- EMVORADO in ICON: techn. ready for 5 Swiss radars, GPU port partly done and optimizations starting
- 2-week e-suites for 4 periods: convection, strong forcing, fog + low stratus in winter, strong diurnal cycle in spring
- KENDA-CH1 generally as good or better than KENDA-1 (except T2m, RH2m, 10-m bias)
- due to missing model perturbations, spread generally lower
- SPPT ready, beneficial (more than PP) for KENDA-CH1
- 2nd set of e-suites with improved ICON setup running SPPT, LHN, bug fix T_{soil} , SSO tuning, shallow-convection off





ARPAE-EMR *(Thomas Gastaldo, Virginia Poli)*

- implementation of DA suite for ICON-I2 (to replace COSMO-2I in 2023)
(ongoing due to some issue with the radar operator:)
- testing LHN (settings for ICON-D2 work well for ICON-I2)
- testing influence of initial soil moisture (IFS vs. ICON-EU) on 1-month summer period
- plan: operationalize ICON-I2 with LHN + KENDA w/o 3-D radar data (added later on)
- will work on satellite DA

CNMCA *(Francesca Marcucci, Valerio Cardinali)*

- maintenance of operational suite, migration to new ECMWF ATOS system
- tests with LHN + work on use of 3-D radar data in ICON
- plan to work on new satellite obs & soil moisture assimilation



Task 1.2: Variational DA (**EnVar**, **CEnVar**) for **deterministic** analyses / forecasts

Deutscher Wetterdienst



- (C)EnVar: runs technically in a preliminary version (for **conventional obs** with **DACE obs operators** that are used operationally in global DA)
- 2-week test EnVar (no-tuning) vs. 4D-LETKF (w. Synop, TEMP, aircraft obs): comparable
 - much (!) work before operational (radar Z, VIS + WV cloud: extension of control vector)

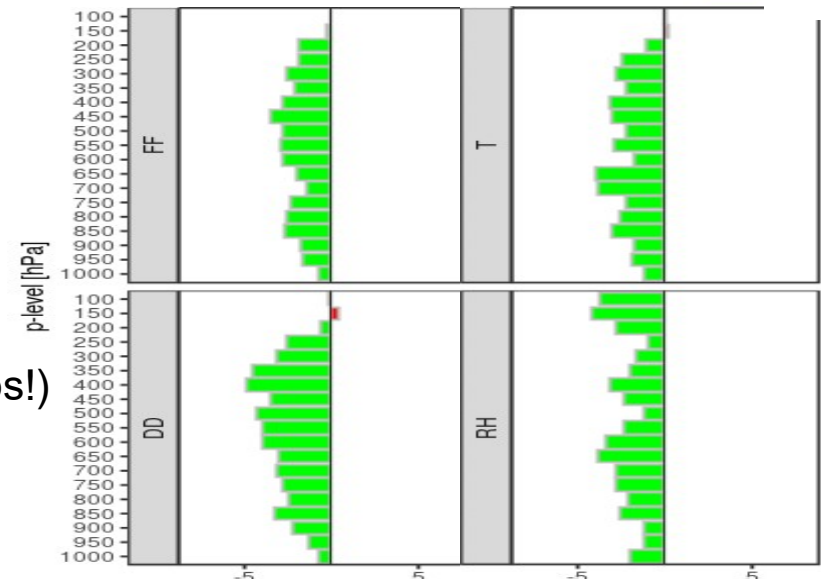
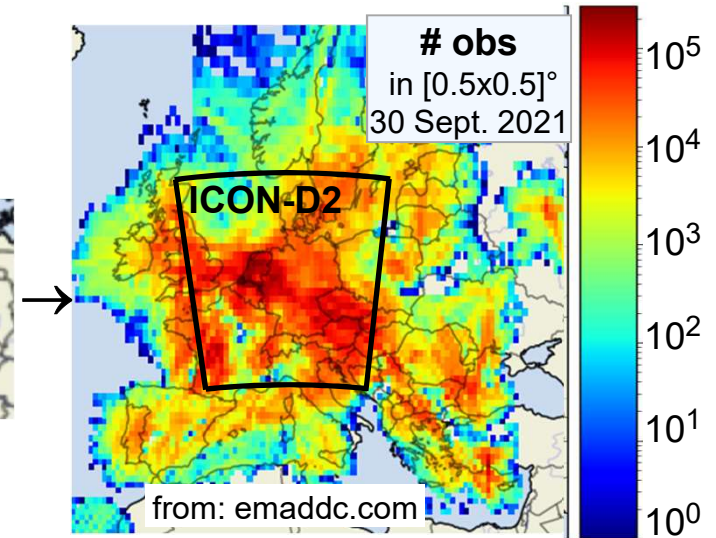
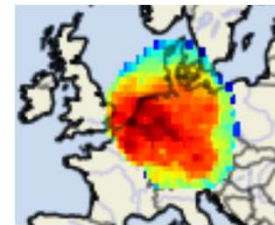
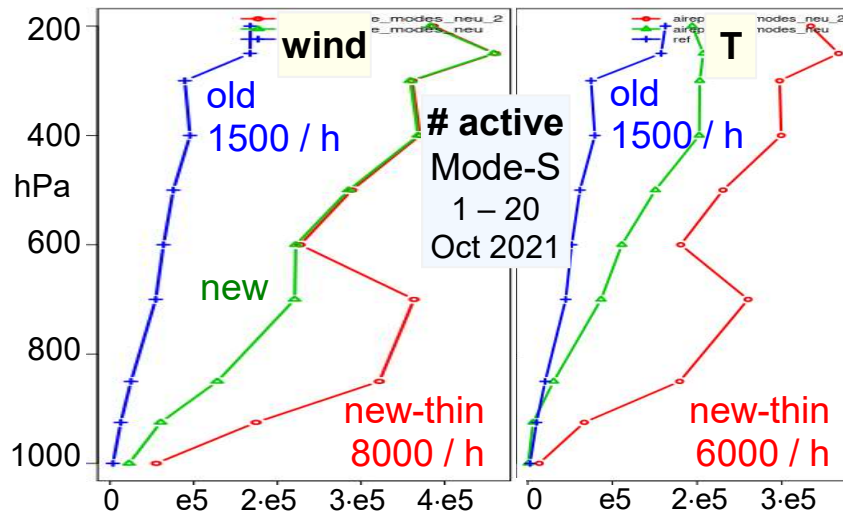
CEnVar: no need to run LETKF (ensemble DA cycle) for deterministic analyses + forecasts
instead use pre-emptive **coarse-scale** ensemble to estimate required background errors B:

- **CEnVar** (with full ensemble B) **technically ready**:
 - with ensemble-B from complete or **cropped** ICON-EU or ICON-global ens. fields
- **CEnVar** (technical) test for Romanian **NMA domain**:
 - test at DWD: now works with obs set from DWD data base, and with obs (only Synop!) obtained from NMA
 - **CEnVar ready for testing at NMA** (technical test, then full performance tests, no resources so far)
- **CEnVar** for HMC (Brazil):
 - 6-day exp. at DWD: CEnVar vs. 3DVar (global clim. B) far better, vs. downscaler neutral
 - all single components function at HMC, setting up the DA job suite is ongoing



Task 1.1: Refinements on reference KENDA 'new' V2.2 Mode-S in ICON-D2

- Mode-S aircraft: processed + quality controlled by KNMI
EMADDC: "European Meteorological Aircraft Derived Data Centre"
- new v2.2 Mode-S: operational in KENDA in March 2022
~ 45 / 25 million wind / T obs per day! (> 100 times more)

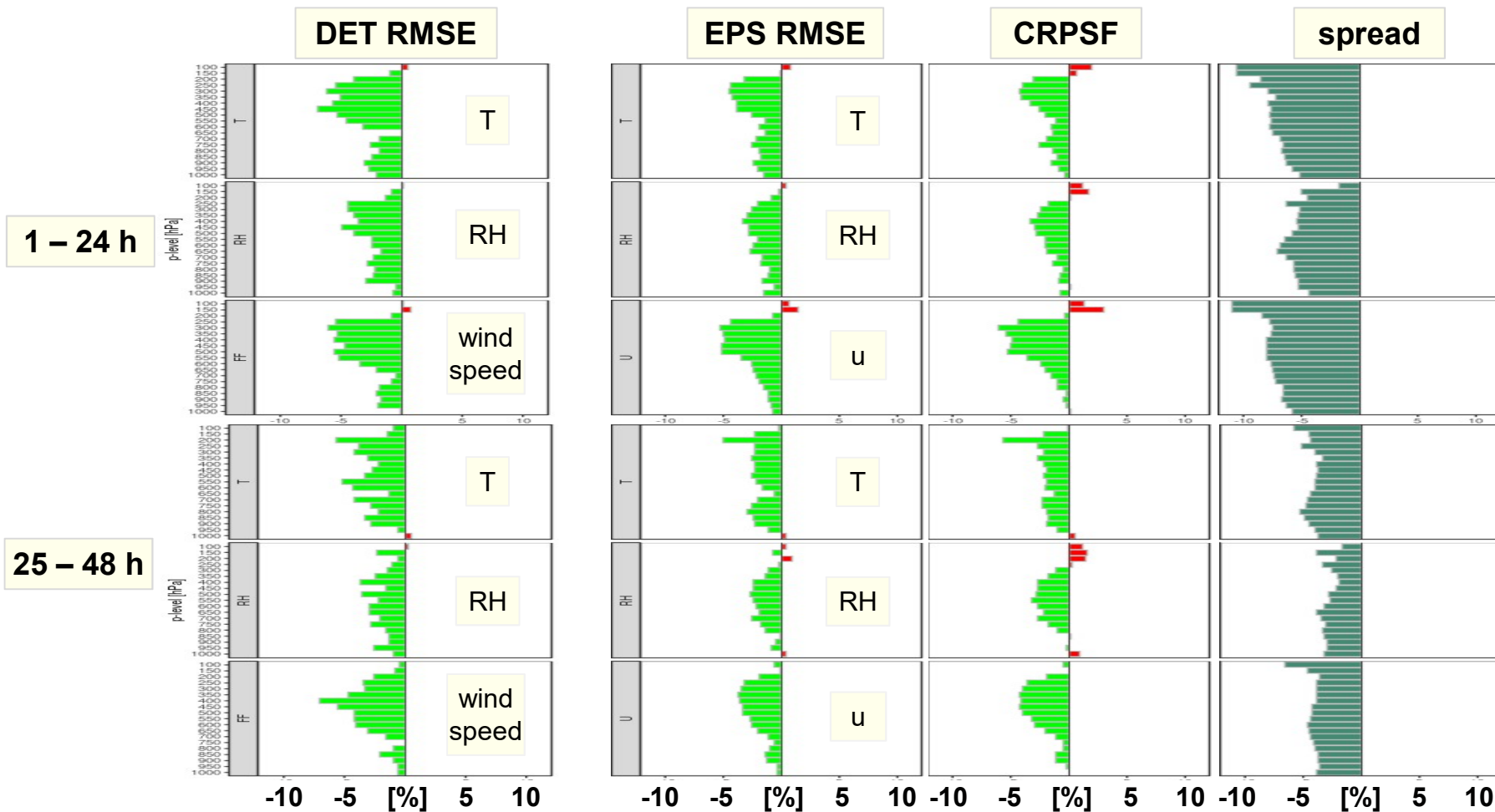


- rmse reduced by 3 – 4 % in upper air (also on humidity despite no additional humidity obs!)
- positive impact on precip + all var in Synop verif. reducing spin-down in clouds

Impact of adding Mode-S in global DA (operational since May 2023) on ICON-D2

radiosonde verif.

parallel suite April 2023



- very large + long-lasting reduction of errors + CRPS (2 – 6 %) and of spread (4 – 8 %)



Impact of adding Mode-S in global DA on ICON-D2 via lateral BC

Synop verif.

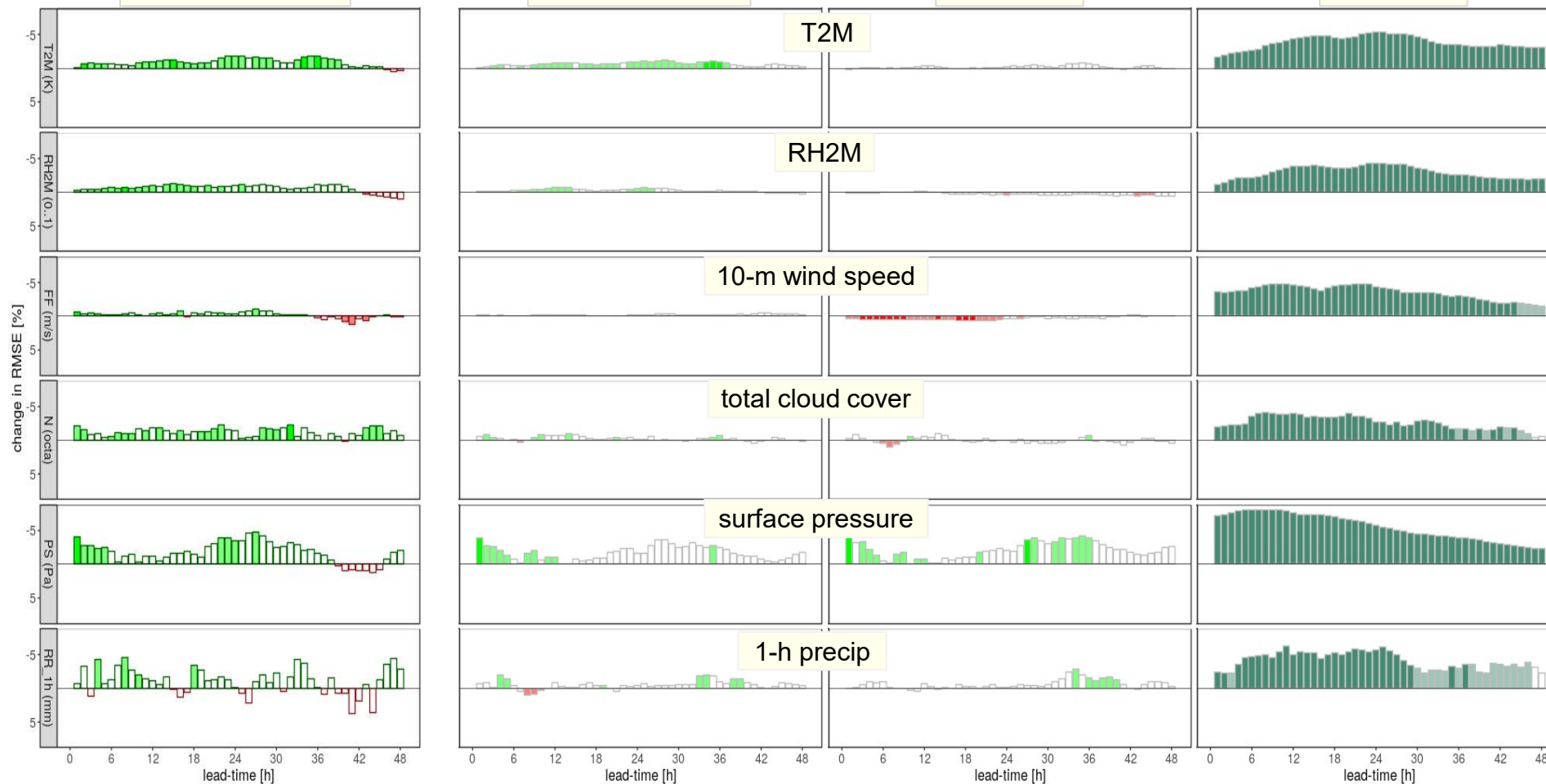
parallel suite April 2023

DET RMSE

EPS RMSE

CRPS

spread



- errors reduced in det by 1 – 2 %; EPS spread reduced by 4 – 5 % !, spread/skill by 2 – 4 %





Ensemble Parameter perturbations in the KENDA assimilation cycle

(Klaus Stephan, Christoph Schraff, Hendrik Reich, Günther Zängl)

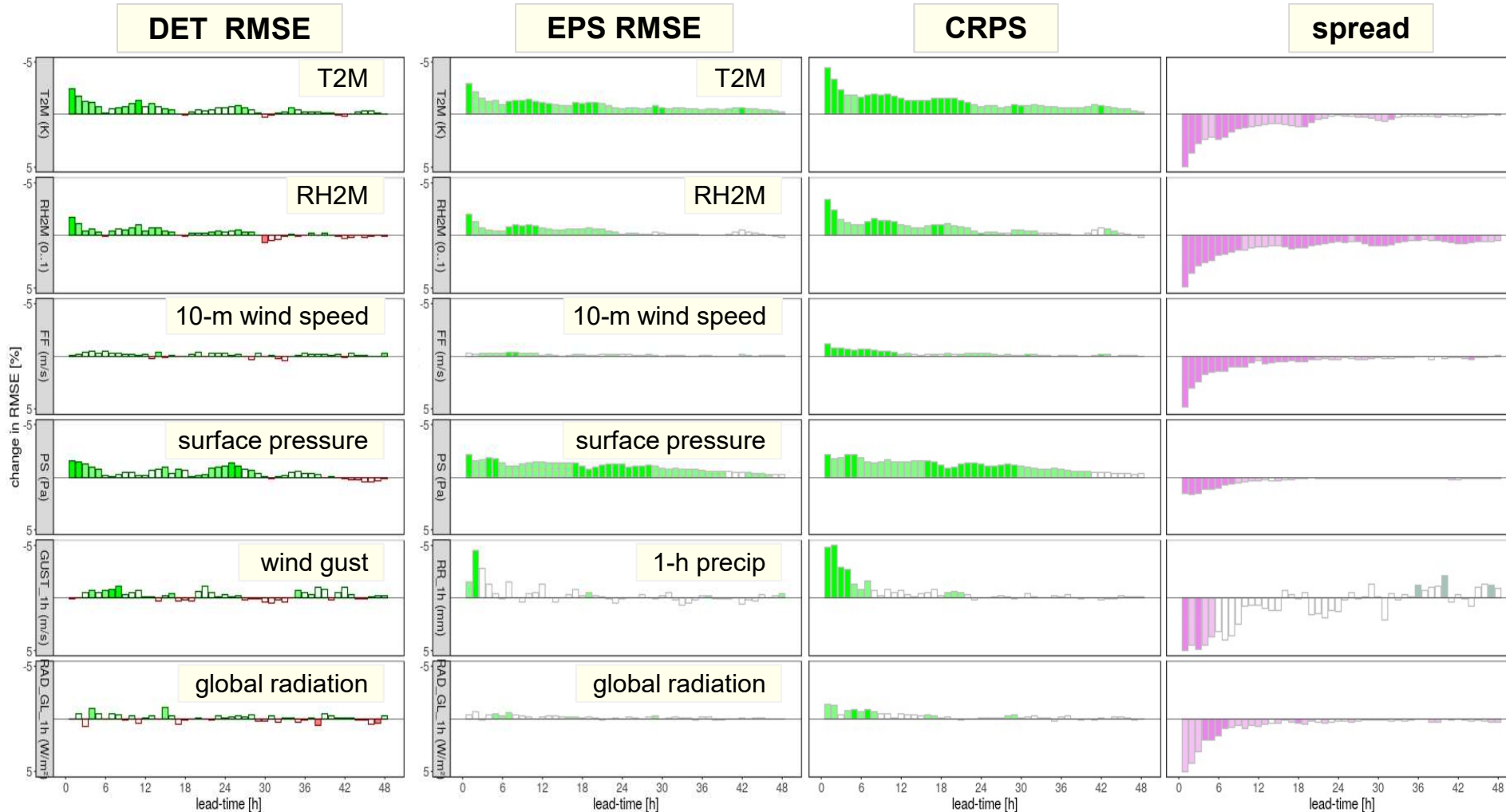
- ICON-D2-EPS: perturbation of physics parameters (PP), designed to increase spread particularly in PBL
- in DA cycle: PP settings as in global system
 - high consistency of perturbations between successive (1-h!) model runs in DA cycle, continuous range of perturbations instead of min./max. values
 - additional parameters, larger amplitudes for some
- in DA cycle: in addition perturbation of 4 latent heat nudging parameters (LHNP)
 - perturbing overall forcing, triggering of missing precip, ability to increase resp. decrease precip (i.e. bias)
 - influences directly only humidity field (after LHN retuning in 2022)



“Parameter Perturbations” in DA cycle: Impact in parallel suite

Synop verif.

2nd parallel suite 21/07 – 22/08/2023



• positive impact generally similar, up to +48 h



conclusions

- PP:
 - reduces **RMSE** in **T2M**, **RH2M**, (ps) up to > 24 hrs
 - increases spread mainly in first 6 hrs
- LHNP:
 - reduces **RMSE upper-air**
 - **spread increase** larger + more long-lived
 - **precip** slightly improved (det. FSS 6 – 10 hrs; ens. BSS up to 24 hrs)
- together:
 - spread increase allows to assimilate ~15 % **more radar reflectivity obs**
 - RMSE error reduction 0.5 – 1% in DET + EPS in first 12 – 24 hrs
 - similar improvements for **CRPS**, **spread (beyond 24 hrs)**
- decision not to adapt of ICON-D2-EPS perturbation scheme accordingly
(would require careful testing / evaluation , but resources very limited)
- **parameter perturbations** in DA cycle introduced in ICON-D2 parallel suite on 21/07/2023
... and **operational** since 06/09/2023



Task 2.1: **3-D radar**

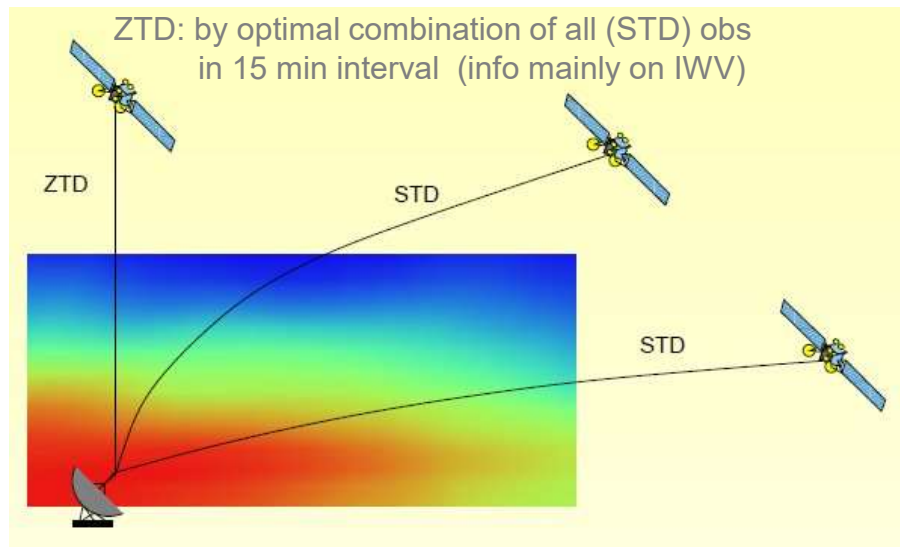
(Kobra Khosravian, Klaus Vobig, Lisa Neef, Klaus Stephan, Uli Blahak et al.)

- reflectivity: testing targeted covariance inflation:
in areas with missing (insufficient) precip / spread → only new cells
- use of foreign radars : successful tests with French radars
technically, 47 foreign radars (NL, BE, FR, CH, POL, CZ, DK) ready for operational use
(reflectivity: all radars, radial velocity only partly (DK good, F, NL not so good))
but need to specify / tune selection of elevation from each country (very heterogeneous)
- WG1: assimilation of radar-derived objects / lightning / nowcast cell features / FSS (ongoing)
- WG1: use of dual-polarization moments (direct / hydrometeor mixing ratio retrieval)
- WG1: Assimilation of Commercial Microwave Link data (CML are affected by attenuation, which can be calculated by EMVORADO; first experiments started)
- 2-moment microphysics: model 'tuning' for improved precip, investigation of spin-up (LHN)
- LHN of nowcasting radar composites: impact negative



Task 2.2: ground-based GNSS Zenith / Slant Total Delay (Michael Bender)

- first ICON-D2 experiments (June + July 2021 : old Mode-S, no SEVIRI VIS):
 - **no-GPS:** reference (no GNSS)
 - **ZTD:** (GPS-derived) **ZTD** only
 - **STD+ZTD:** ZTD + **GPS-derived STD** (low elevations < 25 deg only)
 - ZTD + **GNSS-derived STD** (2.5 * more STD's, incl. Galilei, Glonass)

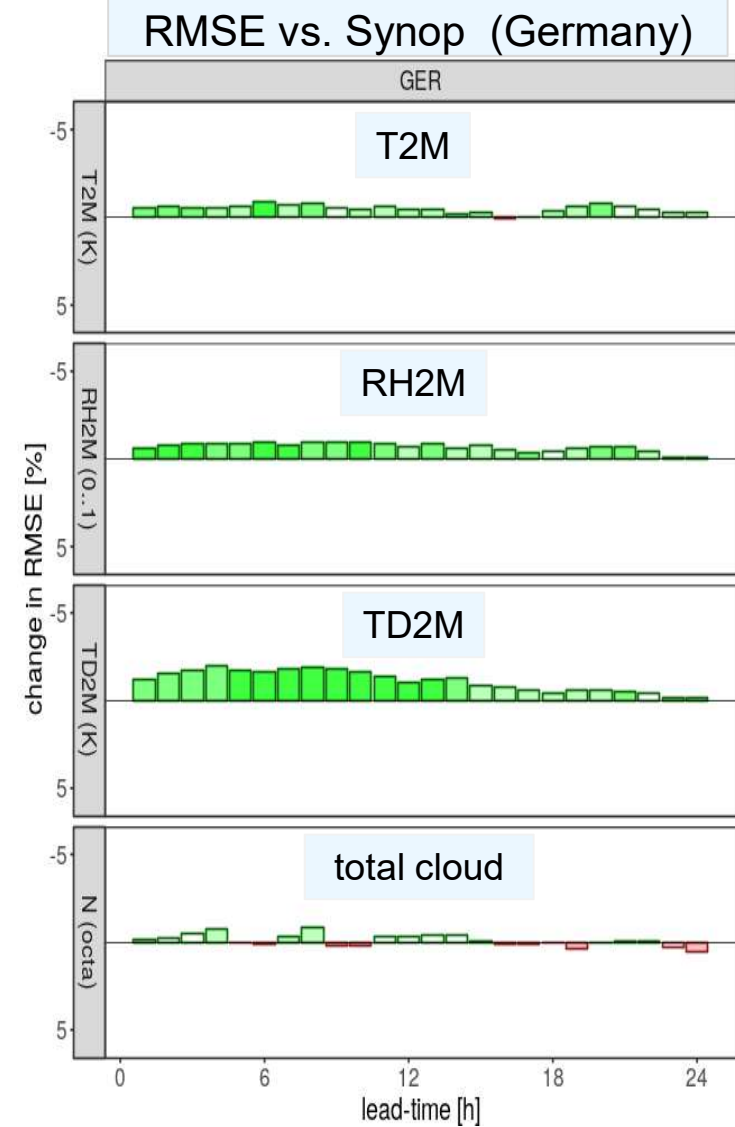
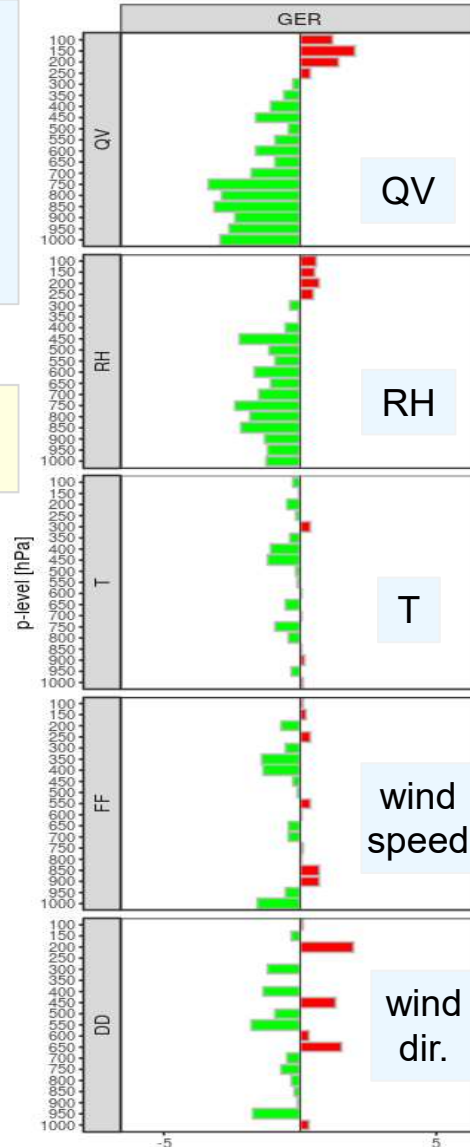
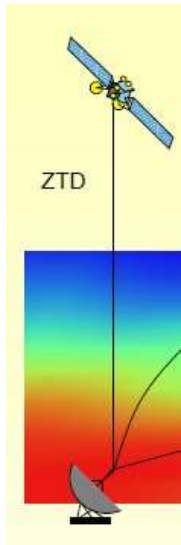


Ground-based GNSS (GPS) ZTD + STD

ZTD vs. no-GPS:
change [%] of RMSE
vs. radiosondes
(Germany)
averaged over 1 – 12 h,
0, 6, 12, 18 UTC runs

07.06. –
31.07.2021

ZTD better
no-GPS better

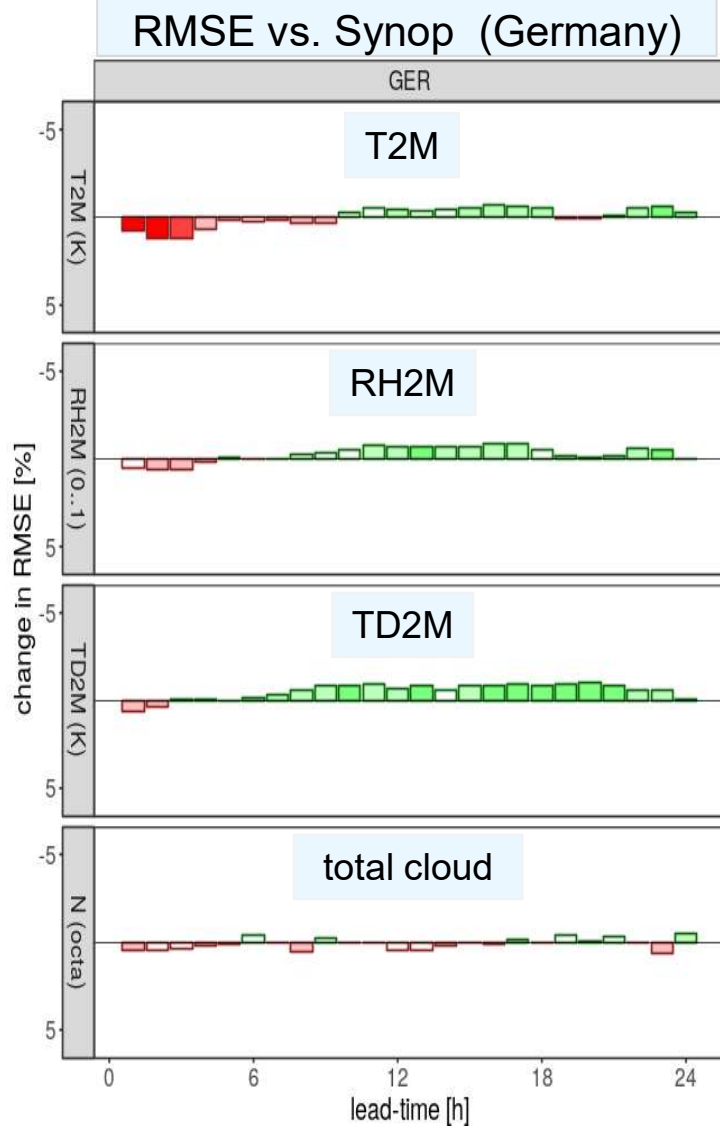
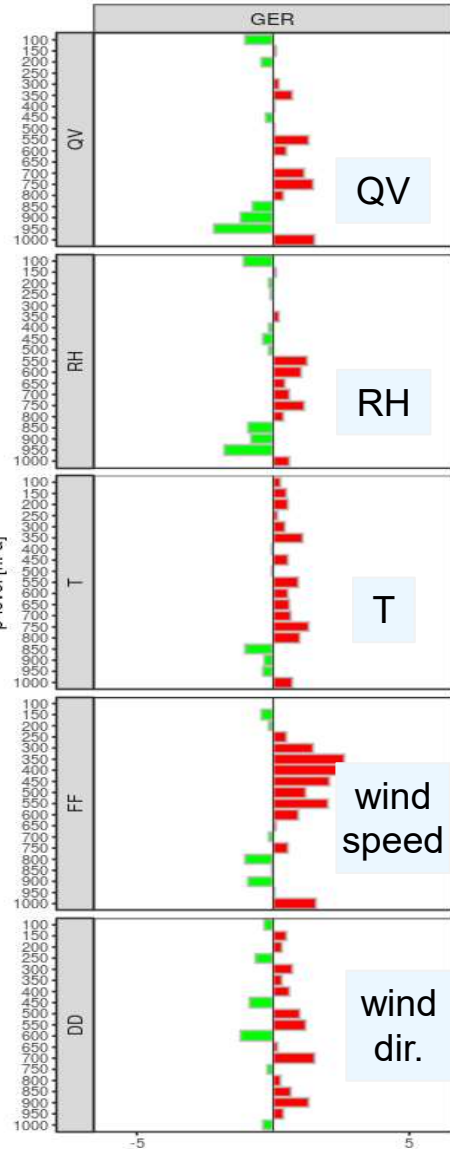
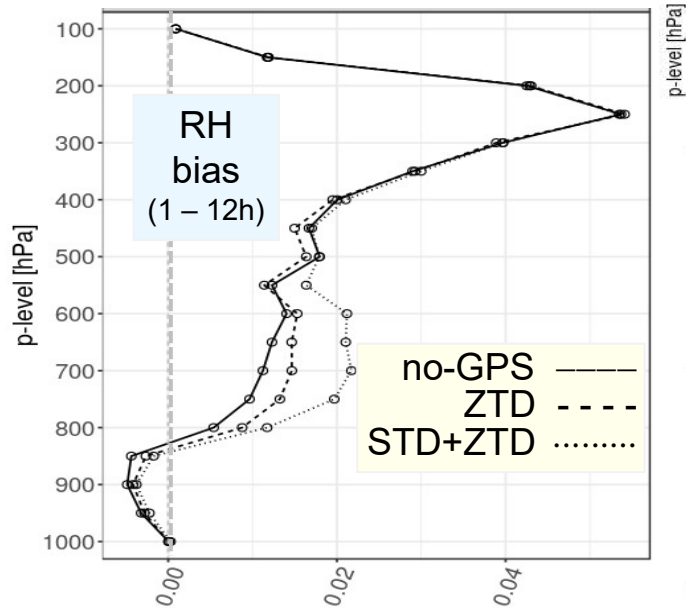


Ground-based GNSS ZTD + STD

STD+ZTD vs. ZTD:
change [%] of RMSE
vs. radiosondes
(Germany)
averaged over 1 – 12 h,
0, 6, 12, 18 UTC runs

07.06. –
31.07.2021

STD+ZTD better
ZTD better





- **ZTD** impact: clearly positive for **humidity** (RH2M, 2 % error reduction up to 700 hPa)
very slightly positive for **temperature** (incl. T2M)
~ neutral for wind, precip, cloud, etc. (no show-stopper)
- additional low-elevation **STD**: small impact,
slightly negative for **upper-air wind + temperature**, slightly positive for **precip**

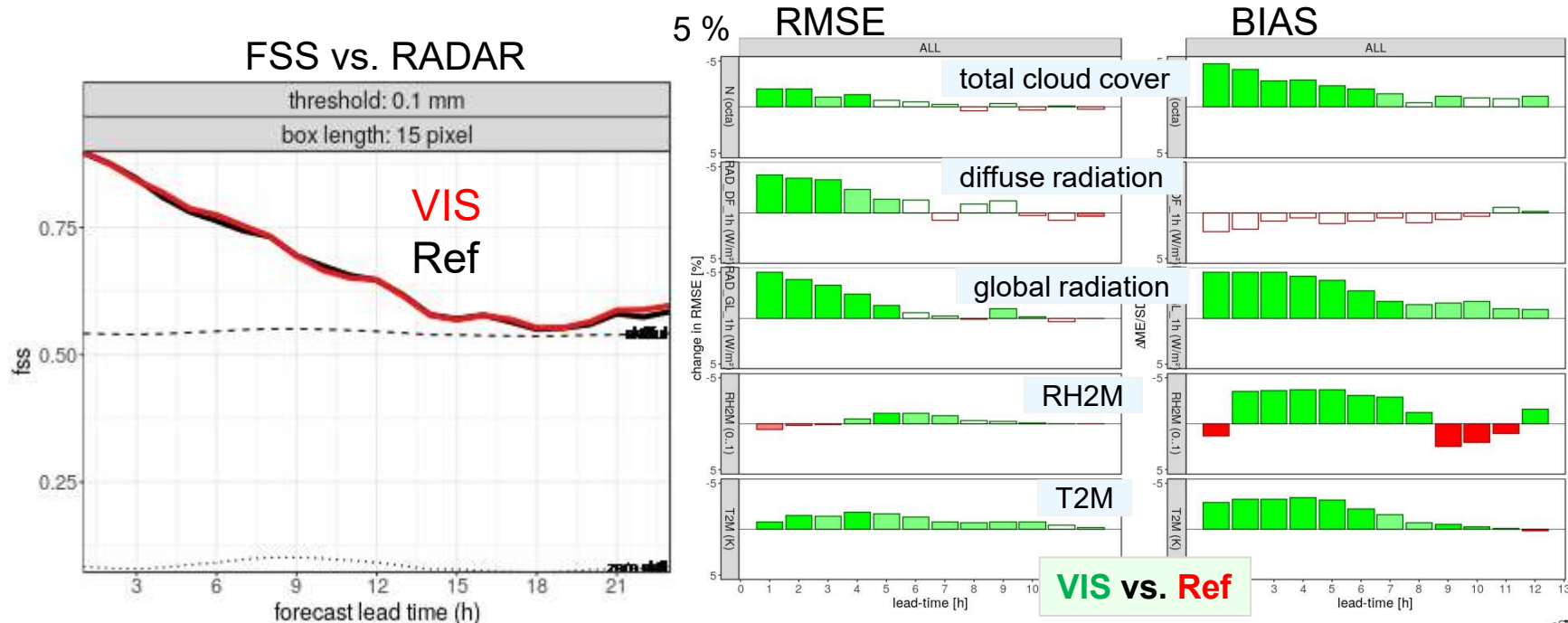
Next steps:

- further impact experiments, with operational use of obs: **SEVIRI VIS + WV, new Mode-S**
 - **winter** experiment: very slight (positive) impact
 - new summer experiment (June 2023) started
- possible procedure: **operationalize ZTD** first, **improve STD** assimilation in parallel
 - work on: **obs error variances** (adaptive, station dependent, using GPS processing info),
bias correction (elevation + azimuth bins)
localization (info from FSOI tool), possibly obs error correlations



Task 2.3: all-sky (cloudy) IR + VIS SEVIRI radiances

- **VIS** channels: info on all clouds, incl. low clouds (but not on cloud top height) at daytime
(Lilo Bach et al.)
 - latest experiment, ICON with LH of sub-grid cloud condensation, 12.05 – 11.06.2022
 - positive impact on cloud, radiation, 2-m temperature + humidity; upper-air neutral
 - precip neutral, no increase of negative bias





- **VIS** channels: info on all **clouds**, incl. **low clouds** (but not on cloud top height) at daytime
(Lilo Bach et al.)
 - in **Sinfony-RUC** since Oct. 2022
 - **monitoring** of SEVIRI VIS set up in global DA system (in NUMEX exp. for time being)

– **operational** since 15 March 2023:

- ✓ **first time in KENDA:** use of **satellite** data (except clear-sky rad. at CNMCA)
- ✓ first time at **DWD:** use of **cloudy** satellite data
- ✓ first time **internationally:** use of **visible** channel data



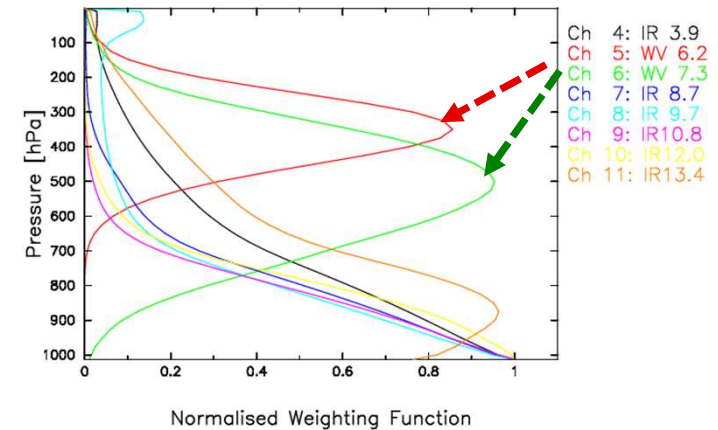
Task 2: Observations (surface to clouds)

- **IR WV** (water vapour) channels: info on **WV + clouds** in mid- to upper troposphere

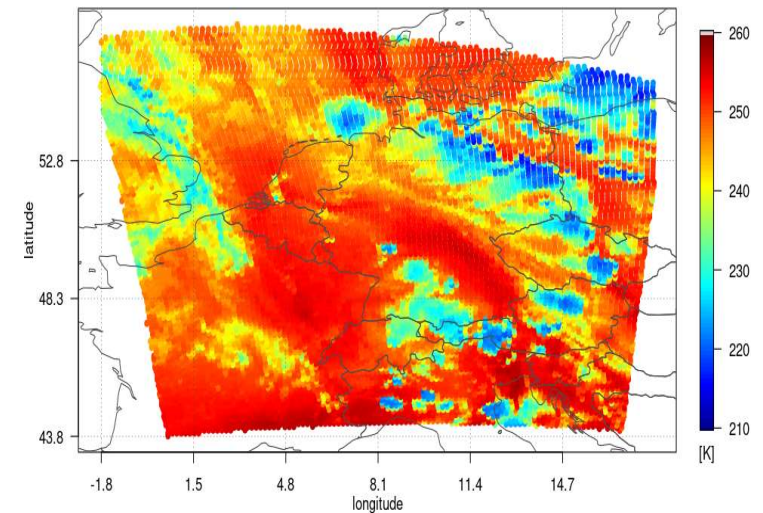
(Annika Schomburg et al.)

- what has been tested:
 - different **obs error** models (constant error, error model with different inflation)
 - different **height assignment** methods (based on Jacobians and transmission)
 - vertical localization (0.3 vs 0.25 (vs. 0.15))
 - **horizontal localizations** (35km, 25km, 12.5km)
 - superobbing, different **thinning** distances
 - with and without **QI update**
 - without and in **combination with SEVIRI VIS !**
→ **revised VIS** settings, e.g. vert. loc. at 800 hPa
 - periods: June, Aug – Sept, Nov., Feb.

Standard Mid-Latitude Summer Nadir



Observations of SEVIRI - channel 6 on METEOS11 (20220815, 1600 UTC)





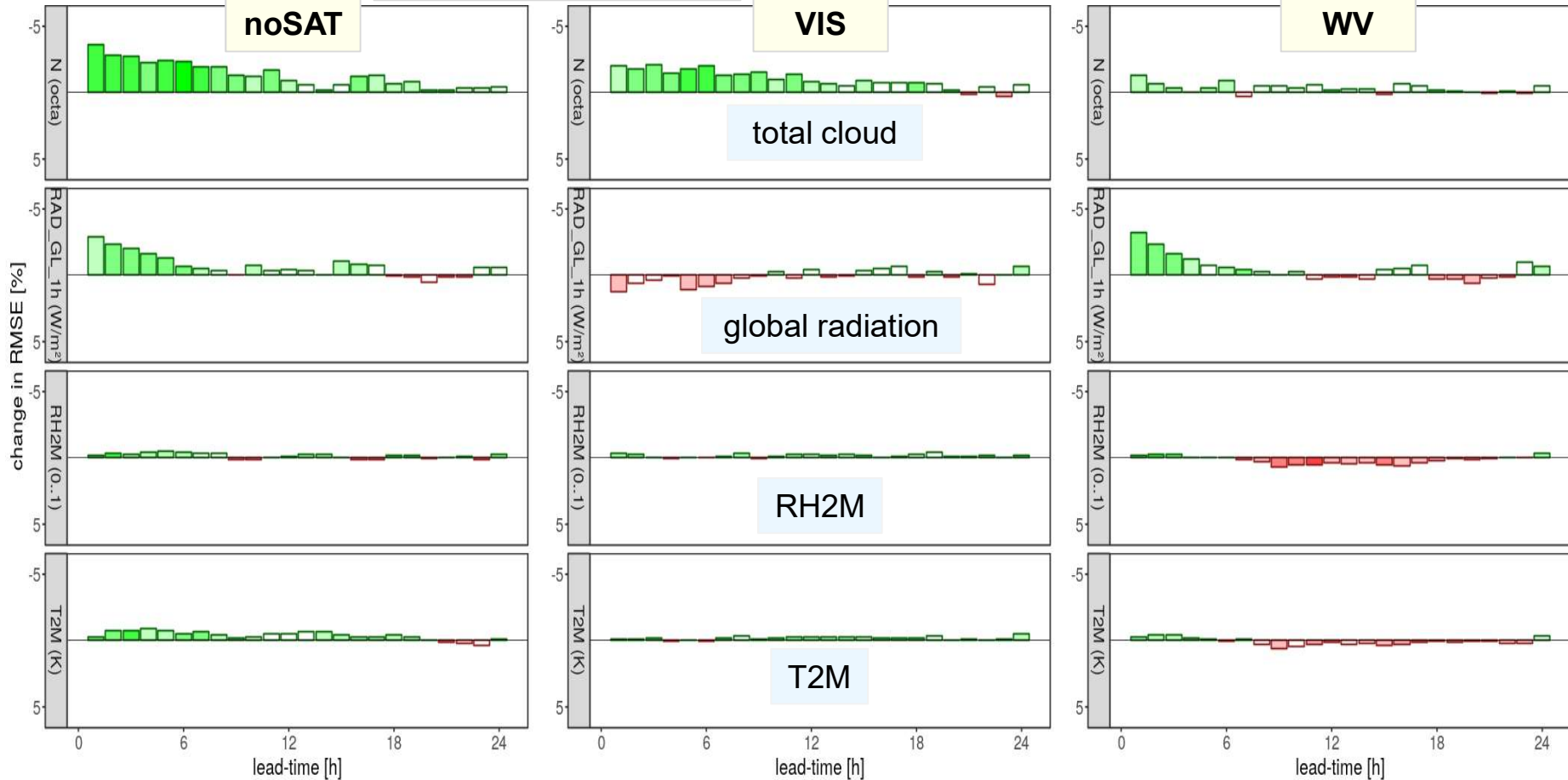
WV+VIS
vs.
noSAT

15 Aug. – 12 Sept. 2022
(incl. new Mode-S)

WV+VIS
vs.
VIS

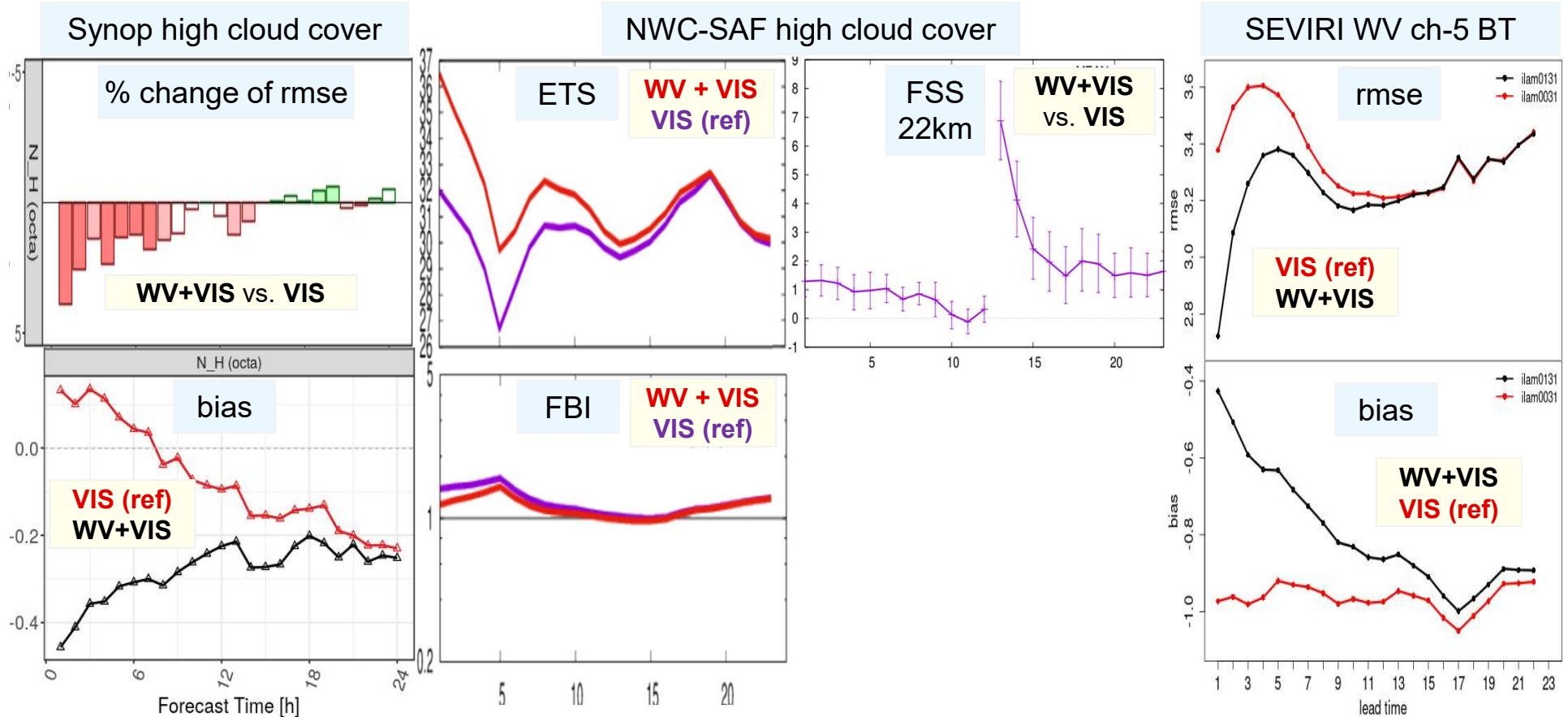
0-, 6-, 12-, 18- UTC runs

WV+VIS
vs.
WV



- extra benefit VIS: surface radiation
- extra benefit WV: upper-level QV + total cloud cover (high cloud slightly worse in new exp.)





- **Synop** high cloud: WV introduce **underestimation of high cloud**, negative impact
- **Satellite-derived** NWC-SAF high cloud, SEVIRI brightness temperature (ch5 + ch6): WV **reduce overestimation** of high cloud, clear **significant positive impact**



- SEVIRI WV channels: summary
 - suitable settings for combined use of WV + VIS data found, results in BACY exp. ok, positive impact of adding WV on cloud + upper-tropospheric humidity, underestimation of convective precip slightly decreased (12-UTC runs)
 - NUMEX experiments with current oper. NWP environment (Mode-S in global/EU LBC) started for summer and winter periods
 - if results ok, SEVIRI WV can be introduced / tested in parallel suite
- further steps VIS + WV channels
 - preparation for VIS & WV of FCI @MTG
 - further visible + near IR channels



Task 2: Observations (surface to clouds)

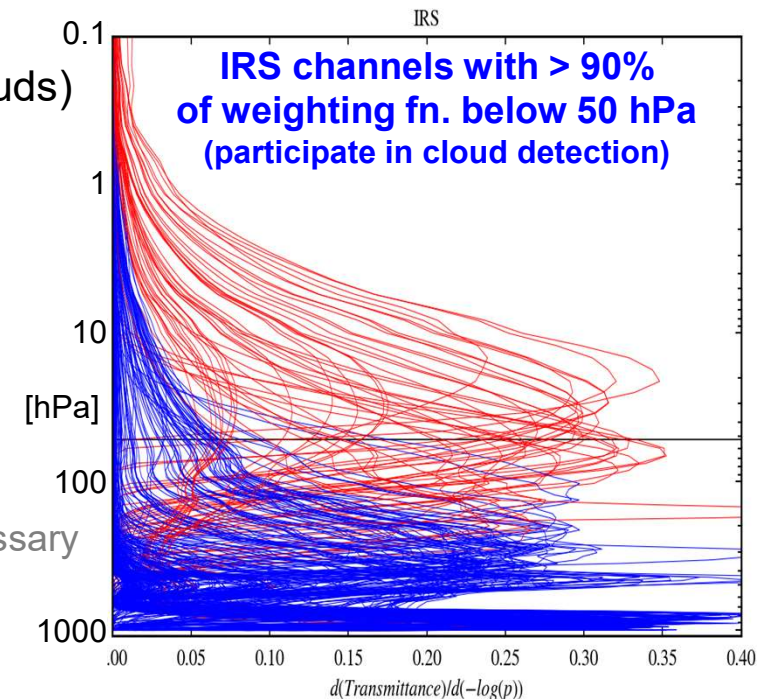
Deutscher Wetterdienst



Task 2.4: **MTG IRS** (Meteosat Third Gen. hyperspectral IR Sounder, launch mid-2024)

(Mahdiyeh Mousavi, Christina Köpken-Watts, a.o. DWD)

- **temperature + humidity profiles** (clear-sky / above clouds)
 - simulated IRS ,obs' (with RadSim) into fdbk file
 - (evaluating) **skin temperature T_s** retrieval from very low peaking channels, then use T_s for assimilated channels (in LETKF);
land IR-emissivity Atlas implemented (monitoring)
 - (improving) **cloud detection** (ICON-global + ILAM):
extrapol. above ILAM model top with global fields found necessary
 - channel selection (generic tool based on DFS)
 - LETKF code being extended for use of **non-diagonal obs error covariance matrix R** with **inter-channel** correlations (→ *Steffi Hollborn + Hendrik Reich*, requires distributed obs process.)
- ... before meaningful assimilation experiments can start
- important aspects: slant radiative transfer, 4D-EnVar (for indirect wind info),
horizontal obs error correlations (for use of obs at high resolution)

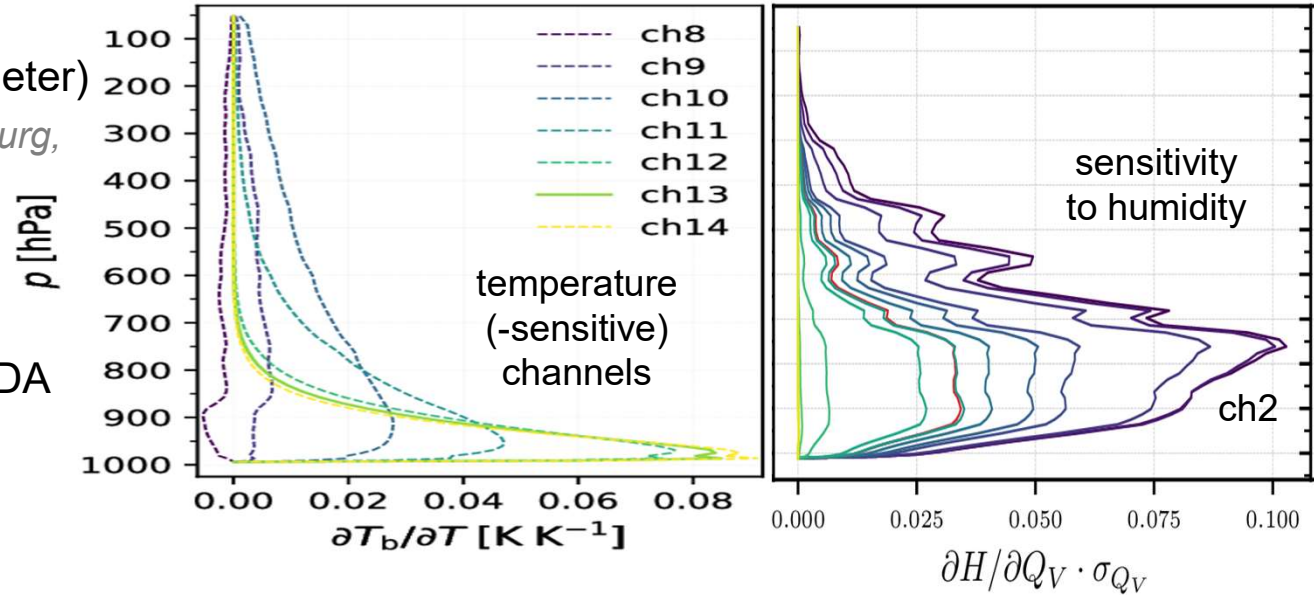


Task 2: Observations (surface to clouds)
 Task 2.5: Ground-based remote sensing

MWR (Microwave radiometer)
 (Jasmin Vural; Annika Schomburg,
 Christoph Schraff)

characteristics of MWR
 at Lindenberg

- sensitivity of channels in DA

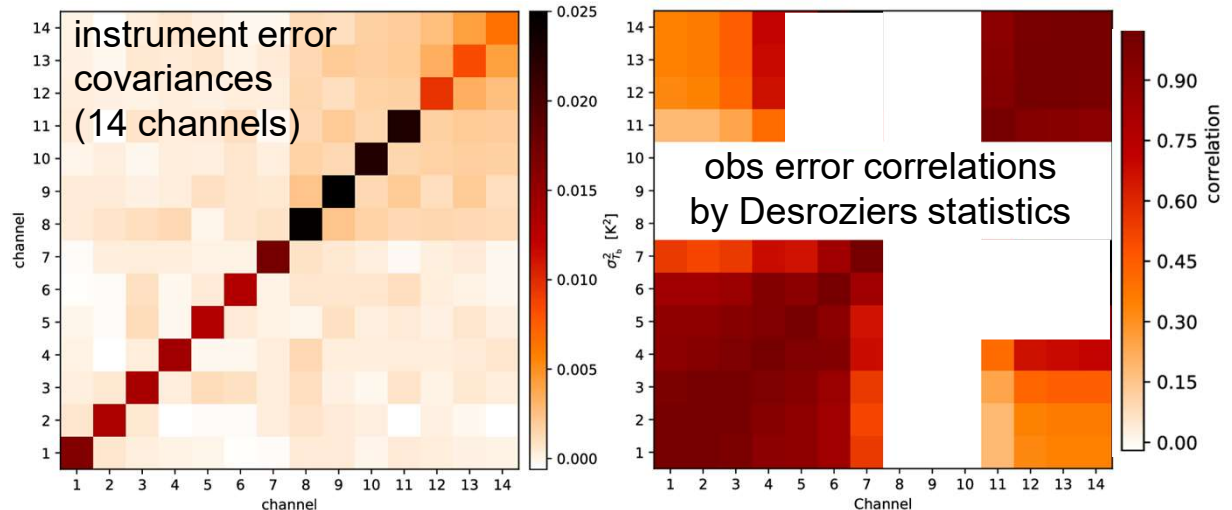


interchannel error correlations

- from instrument only: small
- total (incl. representativeness, observation operator) : very large !!

→ DWD: use only chann. 2, 13 (good O – B stats)

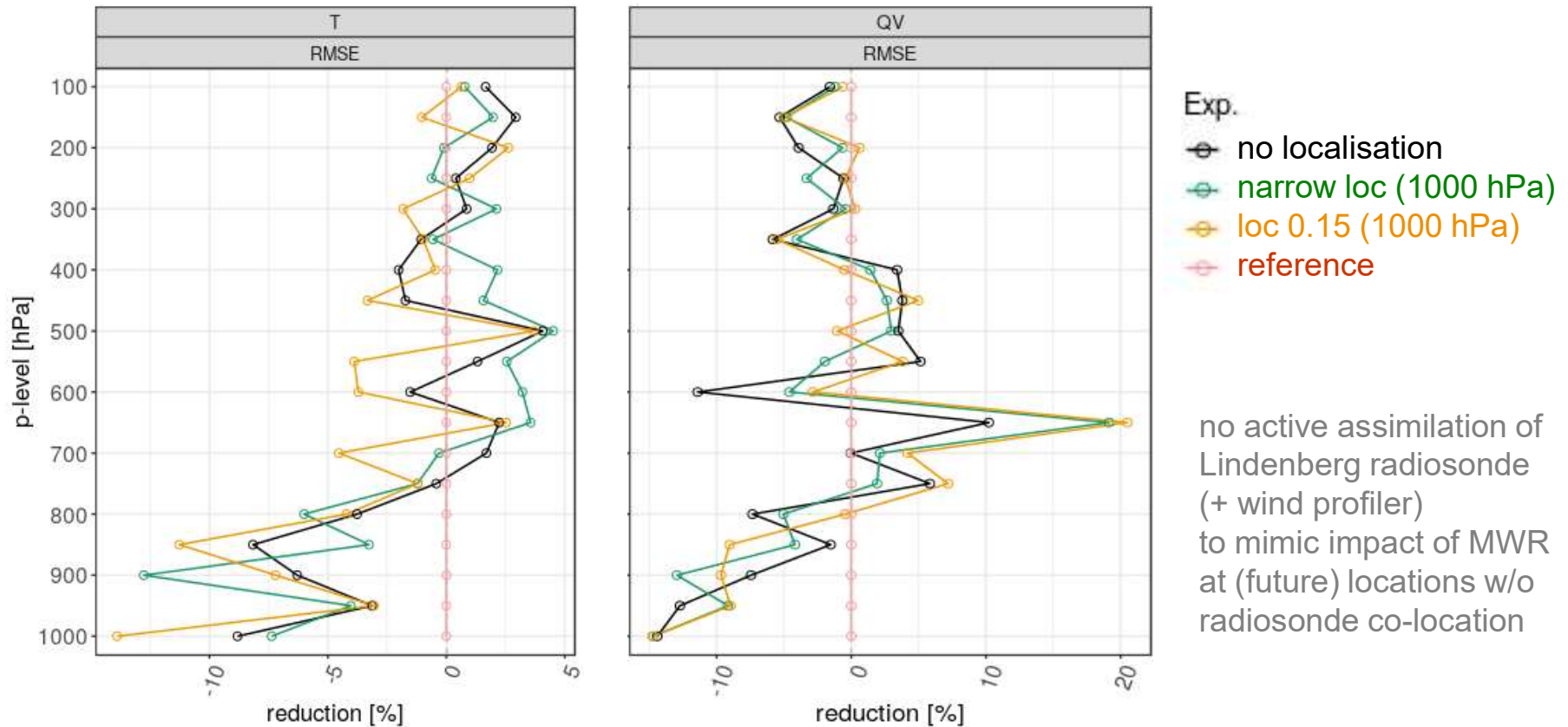
→ (MeteoSwiss: 10 channels oper. w. large specified obs errors)





change [%] of RMSE against **Lindenberg** radiosonde
 June 2021, averaged over 1 – 6 h, (mainly + 5 h),
 0-, 6-, 12-, 18- UTC runs

temperature
 channel 13



no active assimilation of Lindenberg radiosonde (+ wind profiler) to mimic impact of MWR at (future) locations w/o radiosonde co-location

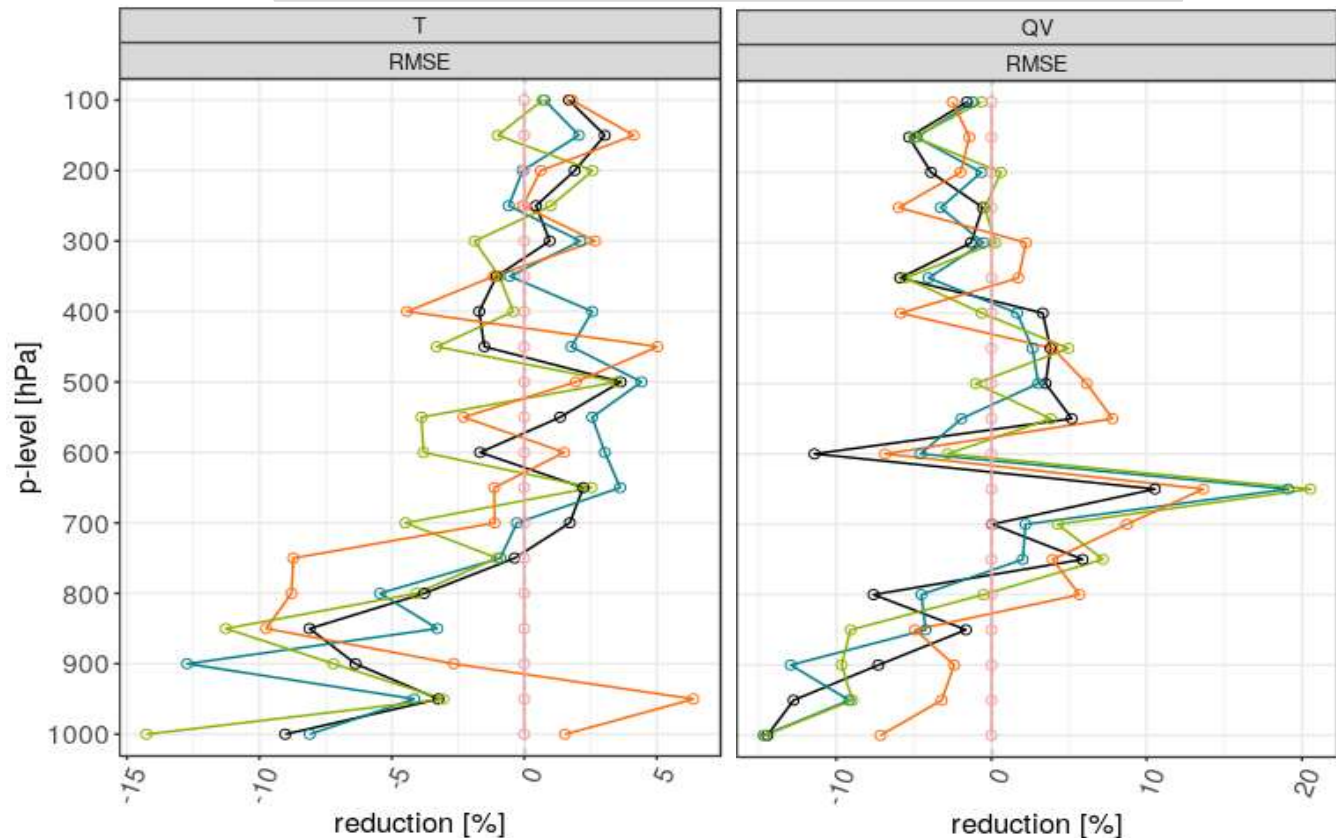
- vertical localisation: secondary effect, inconclusive results
- all exp.: $T \geq 800$ hPa , $QV \geq 850$ hPa improved; $QV 650$ hPa degraded ? ... against 1 ref !





change [%] of RMSE against **Lindenberg** radiosonde
 June 2021, averaged over 1 – 6 h, (mainly + 5 h),
 0-, 6-, 12-, 18- UTC runs

temperature
 channel 13



- Exp.
- no localisation
 - narrow loc (1000 hPa)
 - loc 0.15 (1000 hPa)
 - reference 2
 - reference

no active assimilation of Lindenberg radiosonde (+ wind profiler) to mimic impact of MWR at (future) locations w/o radiosonde co-location

- vertical localisation: secondary effect, inconclusive results
- all exp., 2 refs: $T \geq 900$ hPa , $QV \geq 900$ hPa improved

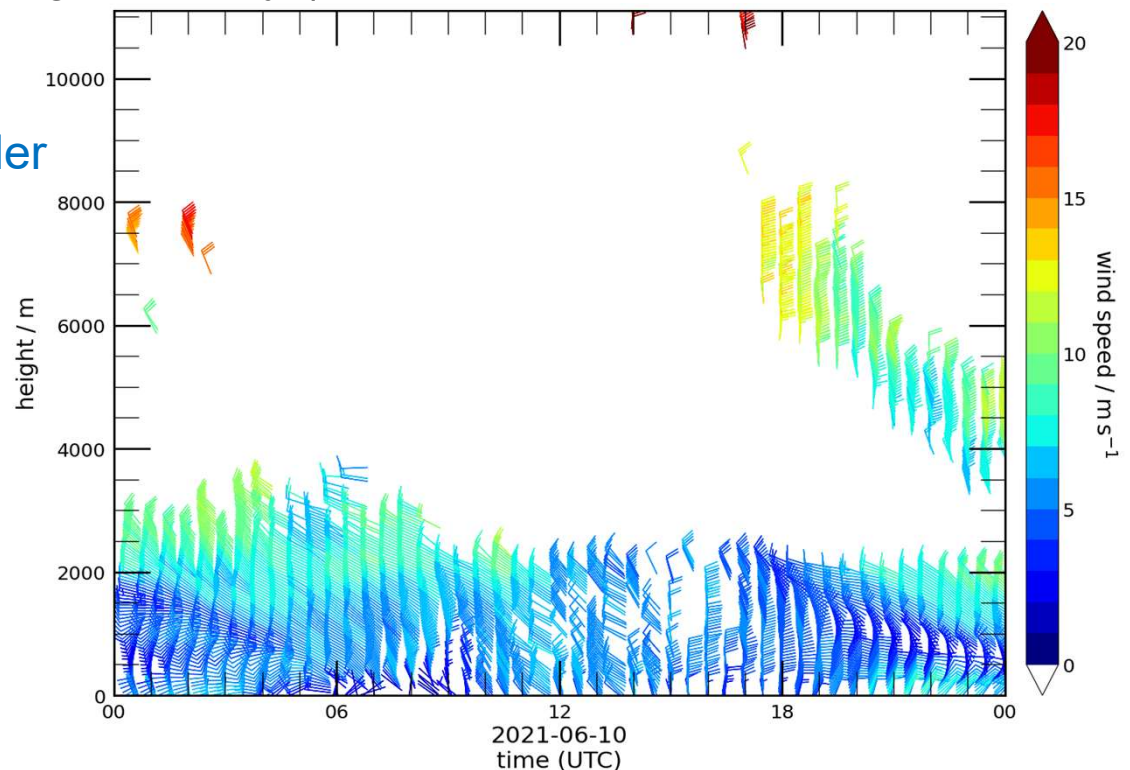


- **only 1 (or few) instruments: difficult to obtain conclusive (significant) results**
 - Rfdbk: info on (lack of) statistical significance only for separate initial times
 - learning exercise for us (initially individual exp. given too much creditability)
 - are results **confirmed** in similar experiments?
 - also depends on **available verifying obs in immediate vicinity**
- only very coarse tuning possible,
finer tuning experiments inconclusive, not possible to tune vertical localization
- many experiments with positive impact in lowest 100 – 200 hPa with channel 2
- inter-channel error correlations → full **R**-matrix in LETKF
- more stations, better reference obs (Raman lidar?) needed

wind lidar (at Lindenberg) (*Jasmin Vural; Annika Schomburg, Christoph Schraff*)

Characteristics of wind lidar data at Lindenberg

- assimilation 1 obs profile per hour
- vertical resolution 50 m; thinning optionally (100 m (below 3000 m) resp. 150 (above))
- obs error tuning
- verif. against 1-hrly wind profiler

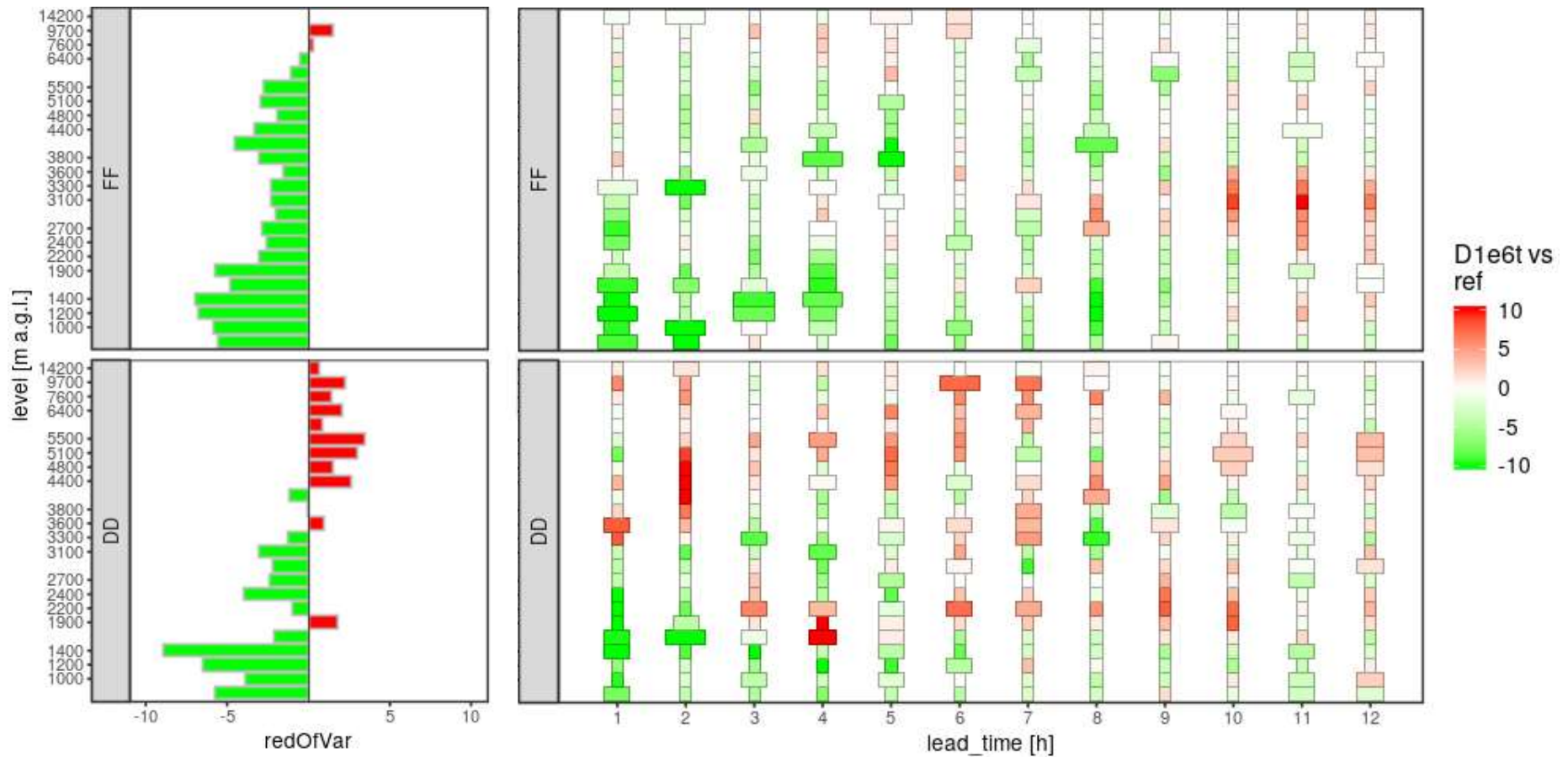


Assimilation of wind lidar data



change of RMSE against Lindenberg wind profiler, 15 May – 30 June 2021, 0-, 6-, 12-, 18- UTC runs

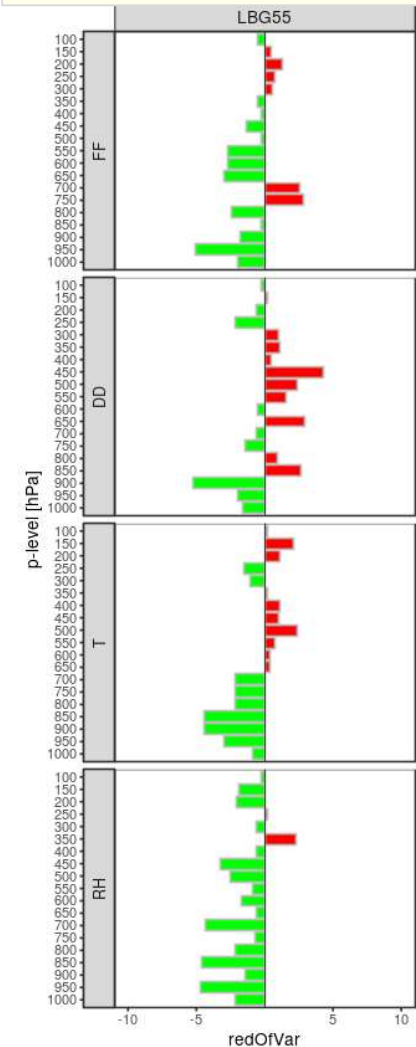
averaged over 1 – 6 h





- May – June 2021 period, summary:
 - up to 5 % error reduction of wind speed (direction) below 5 km (1.5 km) @ Lindenberg (in several experiments)
 - positive impact on T, RH below 700 hPa (some exp.)
 - neutral / inconclusive impact in Synop / Airep verif.
 - tuning of thinning / obs error specif. often inconclusive
- latest experiments 15 Aug. – 15 Sept 2022:
 - 1 – 2 % error red. of wind, (T, RH) < 3 km @ Lindenberg (?), but general impact neutral / inconclusive
 - possible reasons:
 - more (wind) obs in ref: radar (radial winds), new Mode-S
 - different period
- by end 2023: 6 wind lidar stations in DE

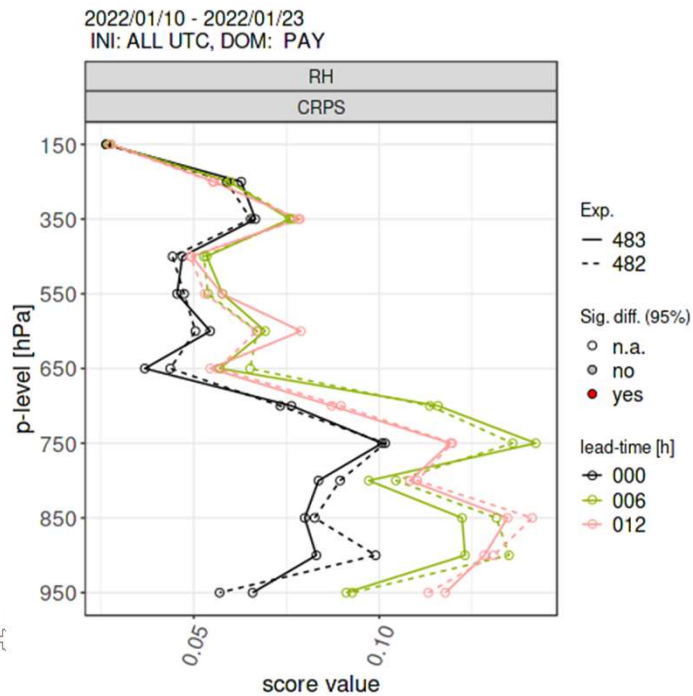
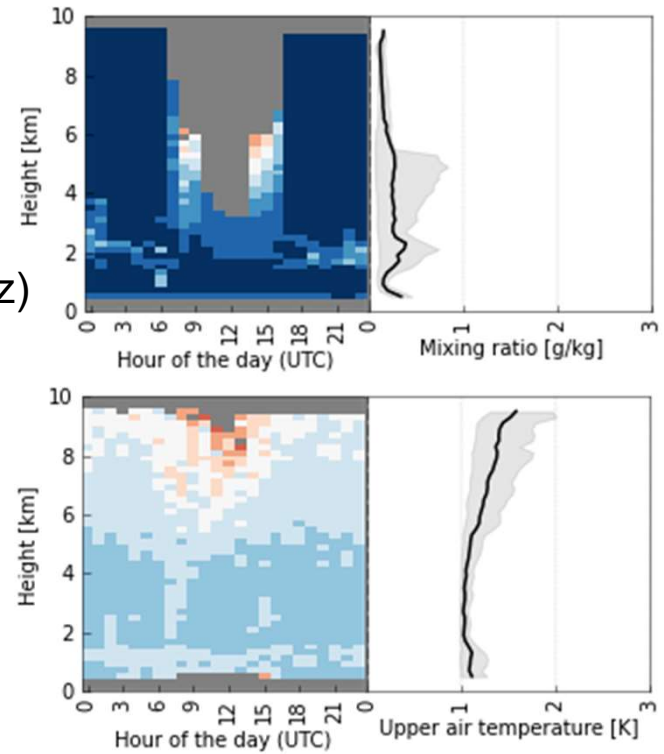
15 May – 30 June 2021 averaged over 1 – 12 h





Assimilation of Raman Lidar Observations

- new experiments with improved obs quality
- state-dependent observation error:
 - MIXR: $e_o(t,z) = e_{o_instrument}(t,z) + 0.03 * MIXR_clim(t,z)$
 - T: $e_o(t,z) = e_{o_instrument}(t,z) + 0.5 K$



improvements in obs quality lead to slight benefit of Raman lidar obs on KENDA-1 DA cycle + forecasts

- radiosonde: RH, T up to +6h at Payerne
- Synop: RH2m, cloud cover
- satellite verif: fog & low stratus (first hours)