

# Assimilation of radar reflectivity into the LM model with a high horizontal resolution

Zbynek SOKOL

Daniela REZACOVA

Petr PESICE

Inst. of Atmosph. Physics

ASCR

Prague, CR

[www.ufa.cas.cz](http://www.ufa.cas.cz)

# Content

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- Radar data assimilation
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- Conclusions

# Motivation: Flash flooding in the CR



extreme event in July  
1998, Orlice (202mm)



# Data, NWP model

Data set :

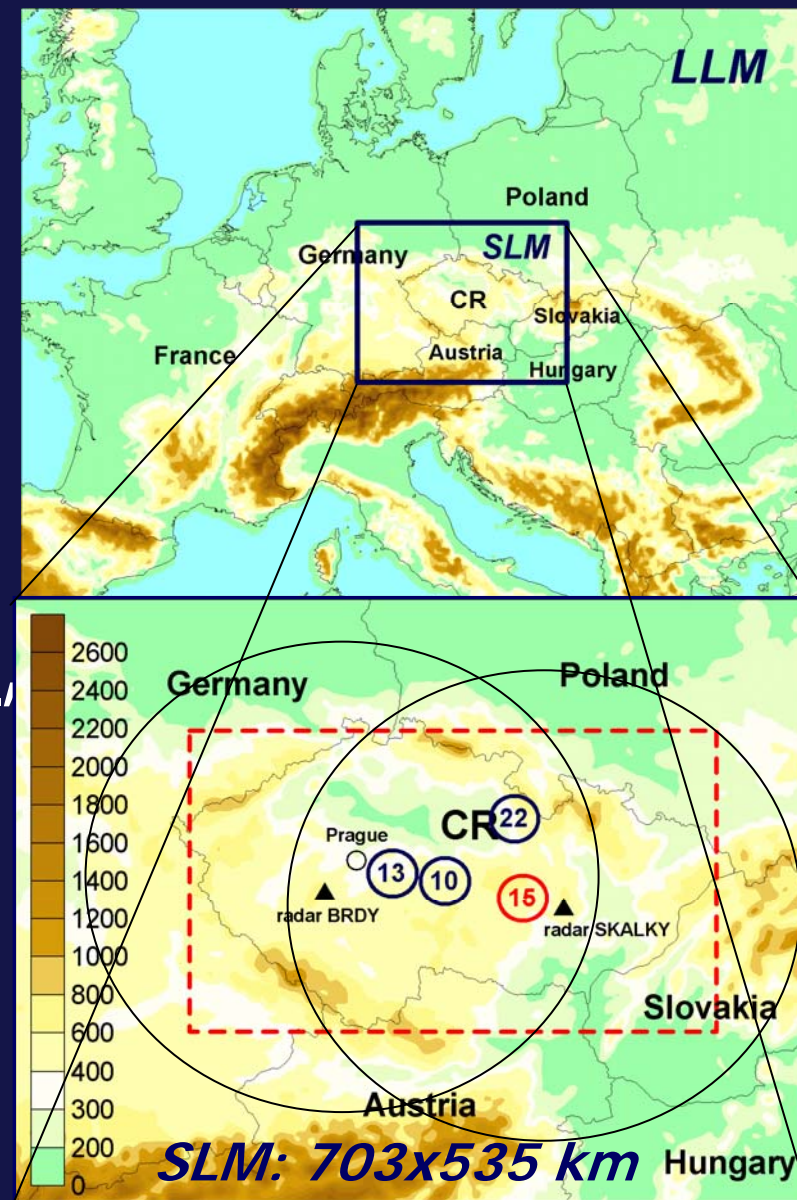
- CZRAD-CHMI, 2 radars
- ~ 800 gauges measure daily rainfalls

LM COSMO

- (i) v3.09 with diagnostic precipitation
- (ii) v3.16 with prognostic precipitation

# LM: LLM → SLM

- LLM : 231x175 g.p., 11km, 00UTC+24h, init.cond. ECMWF
- SLM : 251x191 g.p., 2.8 km, 06UTC+18h, init.con. LLM
- CZRAD - 2 radars
- Local flash flood storm 150702



# Assimilation of radar data

- Data: radar reflectivity
  - $\Delta t=10$  min.,
  - Area resolution  $\Delta h=1\text{km} \times 1\text{km}$
  - Vertical levels: 1000, 1500,..., 14000m
  - Relations used (Hagen, Yuter, 2003):

$$Z = 200R^{1.6}$$

$$W = 3.4Z^{4/7}$$

$$Q = \frac{W}{\rho}$$

Z reflectivity [dBZ]

R rain rate R [mm/h]

W liquid water content [ $\text{mm}^3/\text{m}^3$ ]

Q water vapour mixing ratio [kg/kg]

$\rho$  air density [ $\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$ ]

# Assimilation method

- Based on: Falkovich et al. (2000), Davolio and Buzzi (2004)
- Modifications  $q_v$  (water vapour mixing ratio)
- Modifications are made in each time step (30s) in each gridpoint
- Changes depend on:

$$D_k = Q(R^{\text{RAD}}_{\text{ground}}) - Q(R^{\text{NWP}}_{\text{ground}})$$

or

$$D_k = Q(R^{\text{RAD}}_k) - Q(R^{\text{NWP}}_{\text{ground}})$$

(A)

If  $D > 0$  ... actual rain rate is higher than  
model rain rate

$$q_{v,k}^{\text{new}} = q_{v,k} + \text{DIF}$$

$$\text{DIF} = \text{MIN}(\alpha D, \delta)$$

$$D = Q(R^{\text{RAD}}_{\text{ground}}) - Q(R^{\text{NWP}}_{\text{ground}})$$

$$\delta = \text{MAX}(\varepsilon^+ q_{\text{sv},k}(T_k) - q_{v,k}, 0)$$

$q_{\text{sv},k}(T_k)$  – saturated  $q_v$  for  $T_k$

Parameters:  $\alpha=0.001$   $\varepsilon^+=1.02$

**(B)**

If  $D < 0$  ... actual rain rate is lower than  
model rain rate

$$q_{v,k}^{\text{new}} = q_{v,k} - \text{DIF}$$

$$\text{DIF} = \text{MIN}(\alpha D, \delta)$$

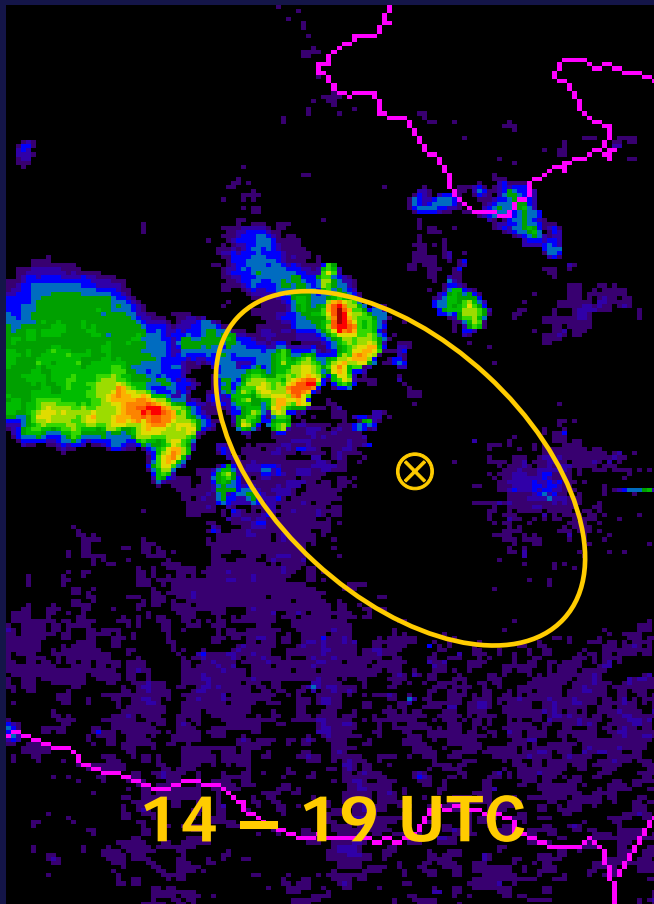
$$D = -\{Q(R^{\text{RAD}}_{\text{ground}}) - Q(R^{\text{NWP}}_{\text{ground}})\}$$

$$\delta = \text{MAX}(\varepsilon^- q_{\text{sv},k}(T_k) - q_{v,k}, 0)$$

$q_{\text{sv},k}(T_k)$  – saturated  $q_v$  for  $T_k$

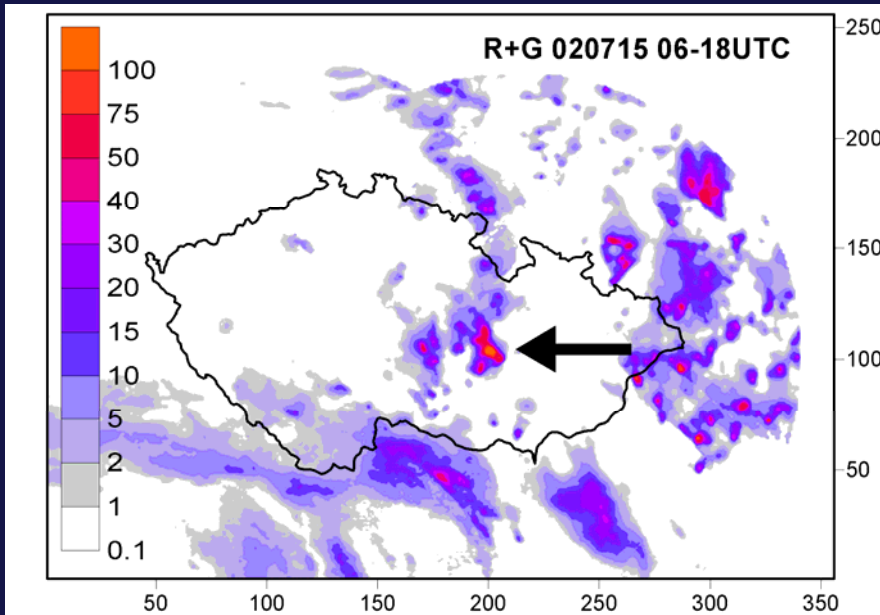
Parameters:  $\alpha = 0.001$   $\varepsilon^- = 0.95$

# Convective event 150702

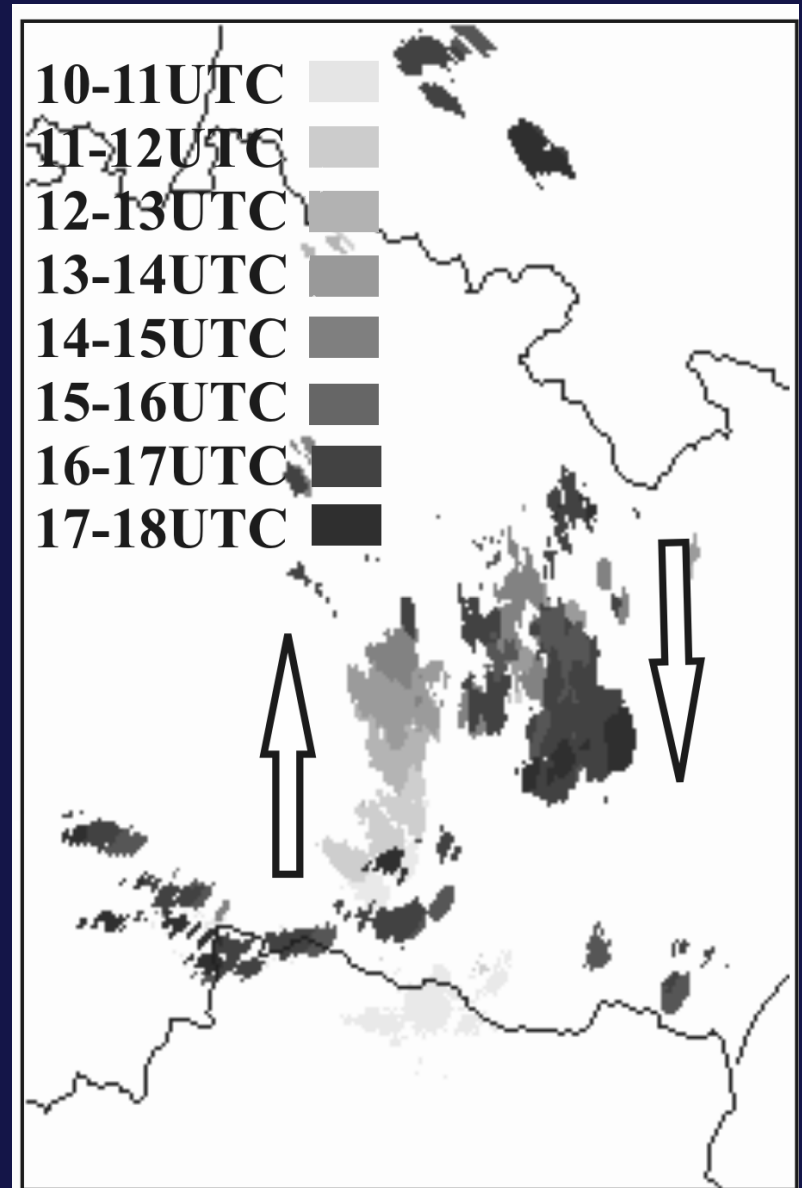


- 15/7/2002 multicellular convection
- 15-17UTC: convective storm in nearly steady position
- ⊗ daily max. rainfall of 171 mm
- local flash flood, local damage

# 150702



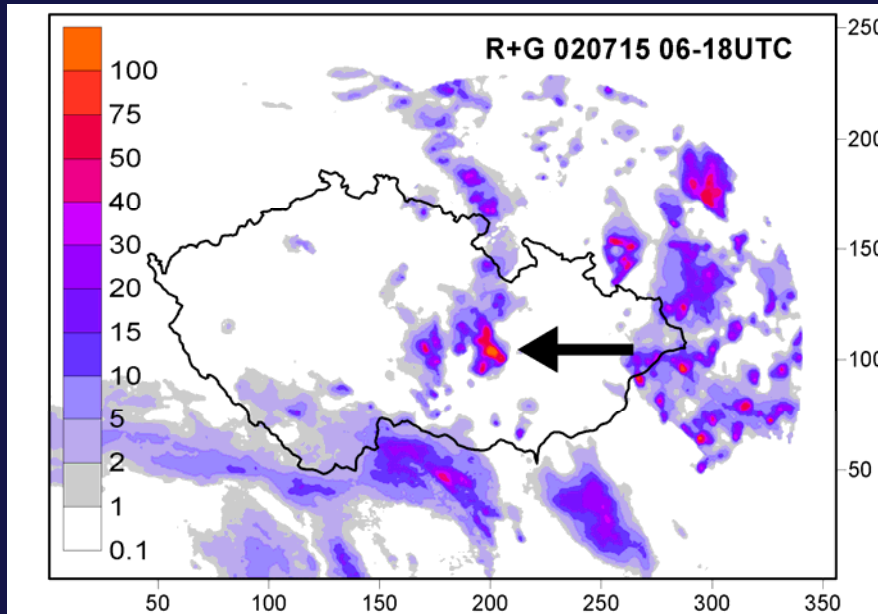
Radar+gauges 06-18 UTC  
Max. observation 171 mm



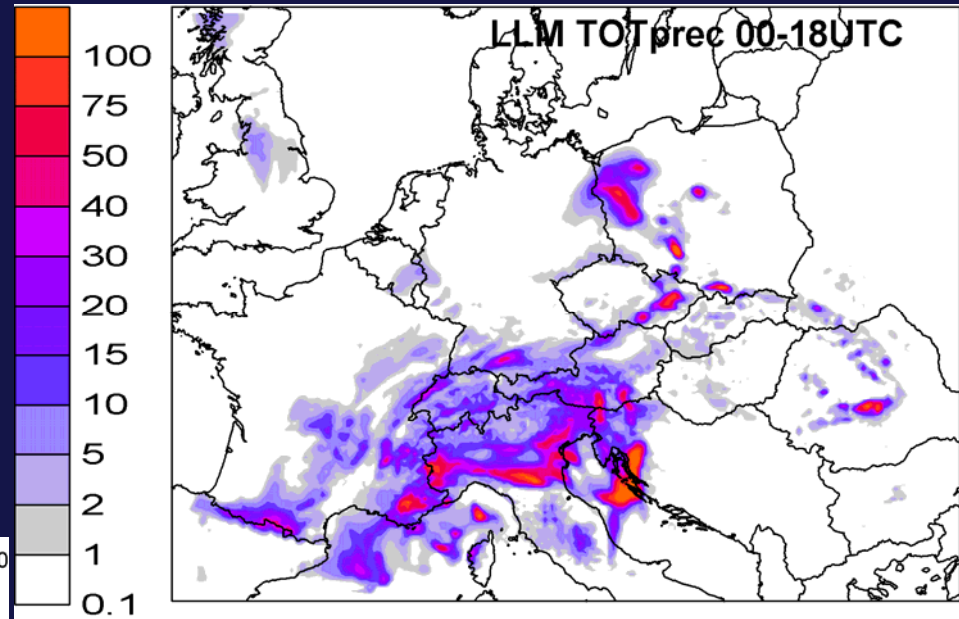
Time development of  $Z_{max}$

# Rainfall 1507 06-18UTC

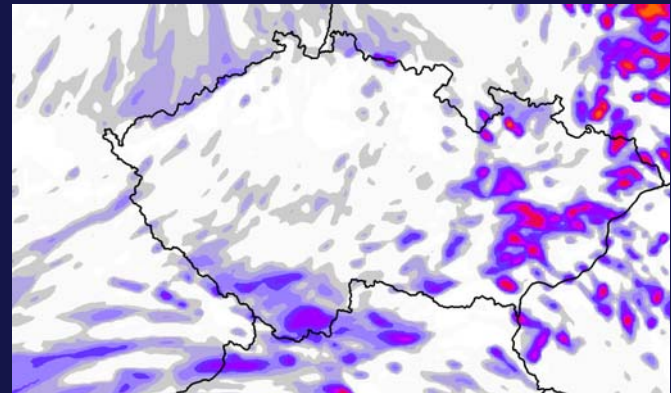
Estimated precipitation



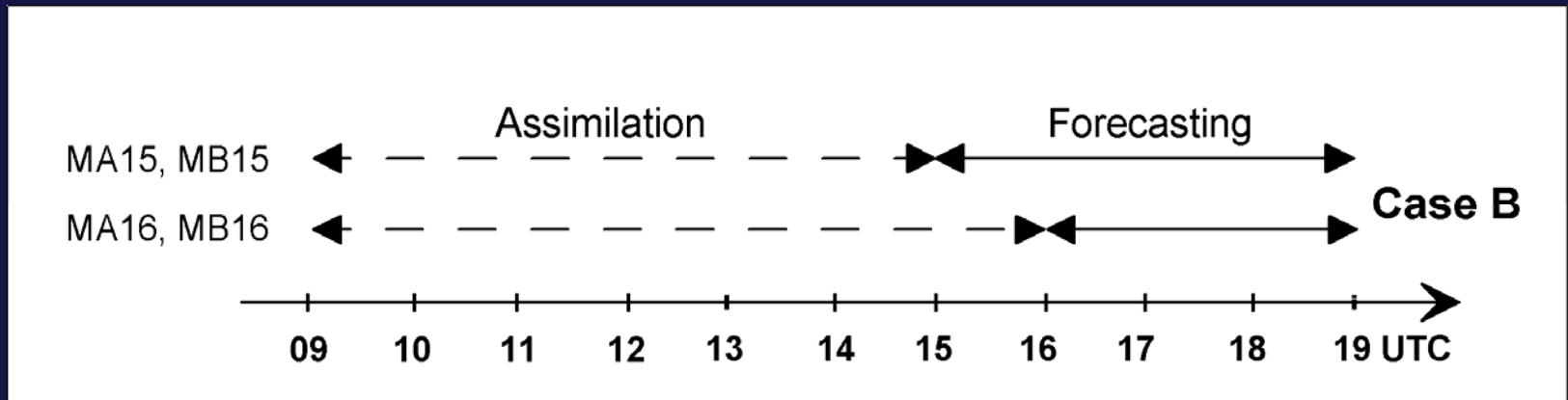
LM 3.09, h=11km, 06-18 UTC



LM 3.09, h=2.8km 06-18 UTC



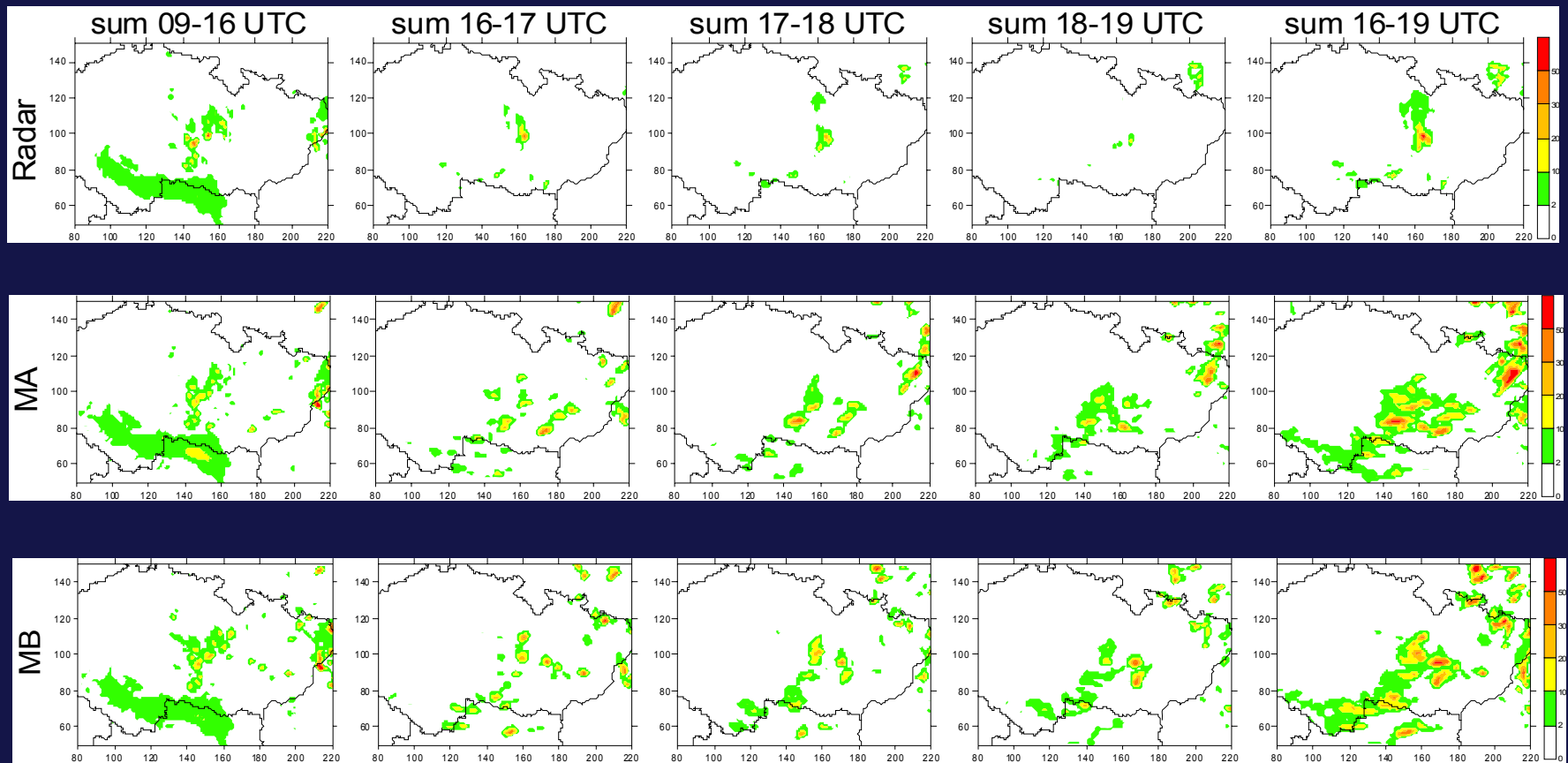
# Assimilation of radar data



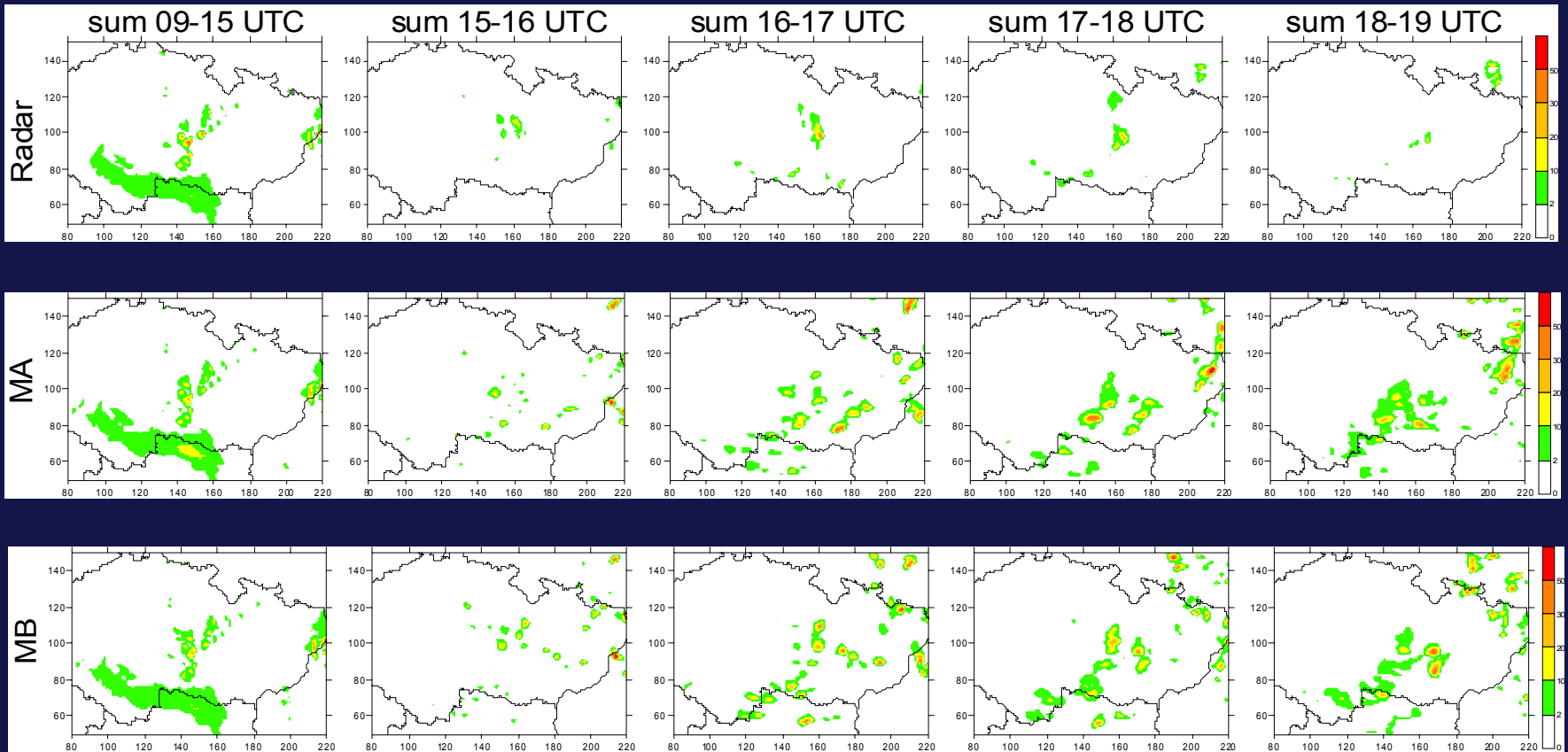
**MA:**  $D_k = Q(R^{\text{RAD}}_{\text{ground}}) - Q(R^{\text{NWP}}_{\text{ground}})$

**MB:**  $D_k = Q(R^{\text{RAD}}_k) - Q(R^{\text{NWP}}_{\text{ground}})$

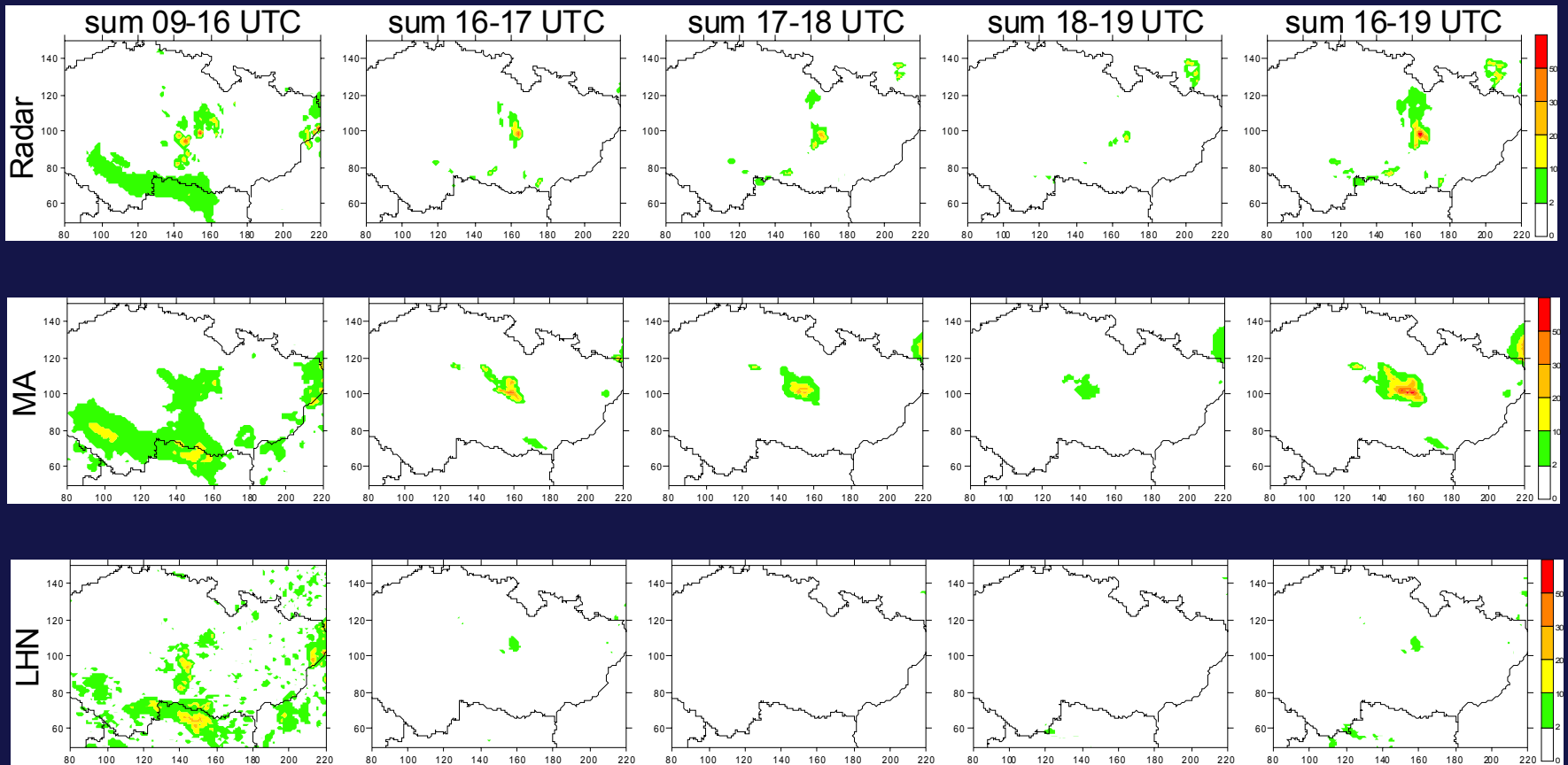
# LM 3.09: Assimilation 09-16 UTC Forecast 16-19 UTC



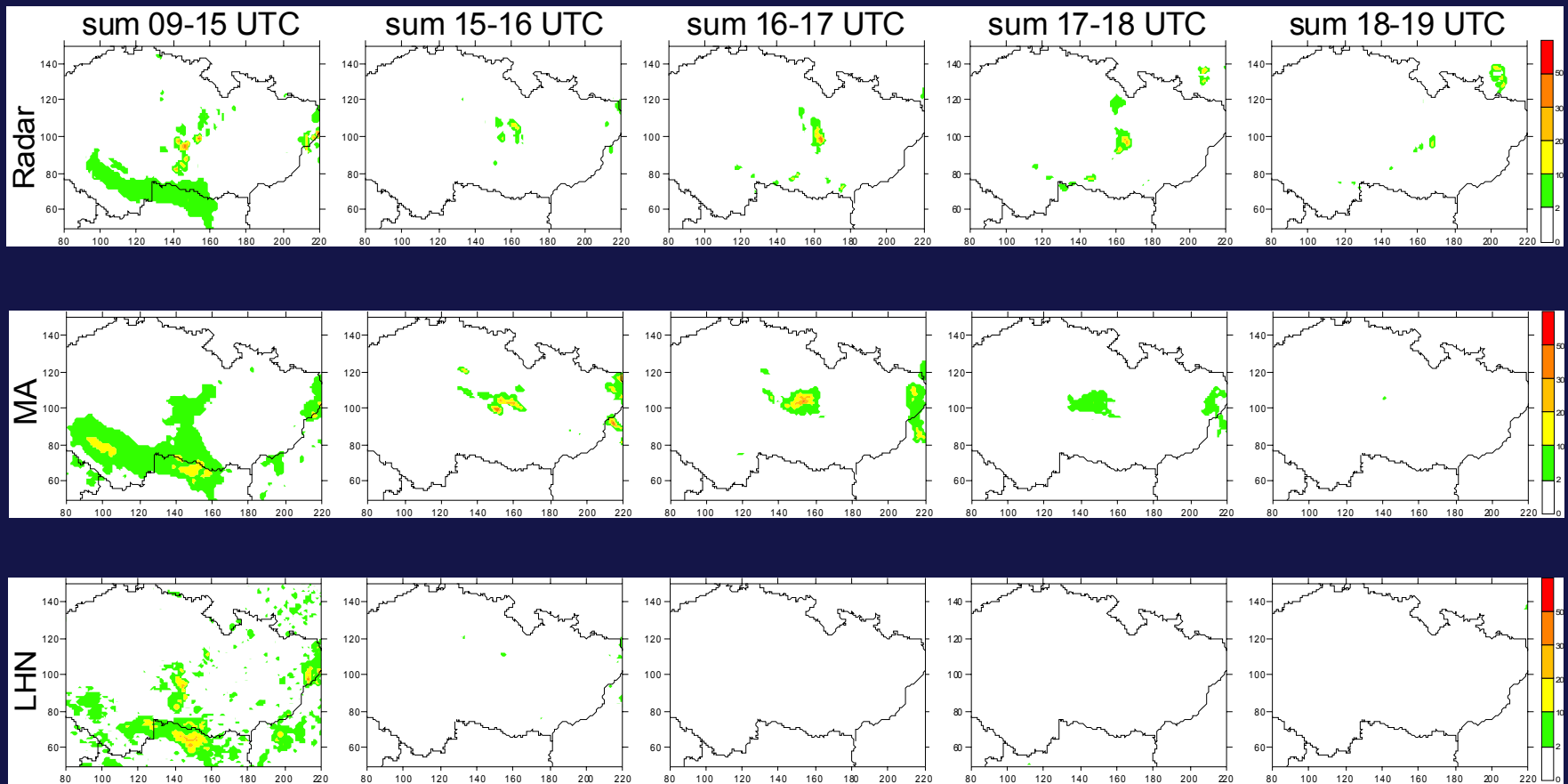
# LM 3.09: Assimilation 09-15 UTC Forecast 15-19 UTC



# LM 3.16: Assimilation 09-16 UTC Forecast 16-19 UTC



# LM 3.16: Assimilation 09-15 UTC Forecast 15-19 UTC



# Conclusions - 1

## Assimilation:

- Assimilation of radar reflectivity apparently improves the precipitation forecast of convective storms
- The improvement is visible 2-4 hours after finishing the assimilation
- The proposed method is an alternative to the LHN method

# Conclusions - 2

## LM model (our experience):

- The diagnostic precipitation scheme in LM3.09 and LM3.16 yields different forecasts
- The precipitation forecast by LM3.16 with the prognostic precipitation scheme seems to be smoother than the forecasts by LM3.09 with the diagnostic scheme

**Acknowledgement:**  
DWD (LM COSMO)  
CHMI (radar and gauge data)

***Thank you***

