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# PT SAINT: Outcomes and outlook for multi-layer snow modelling in COSMO

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# Snow modelling across scales



## Point Scale:

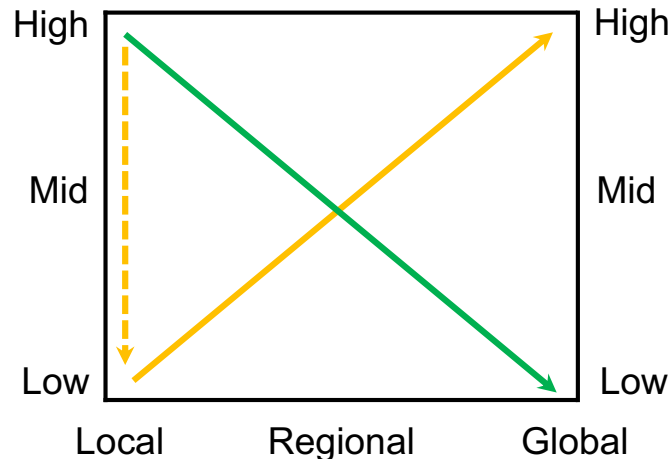
- Avalanche safety
- Infrastructure health



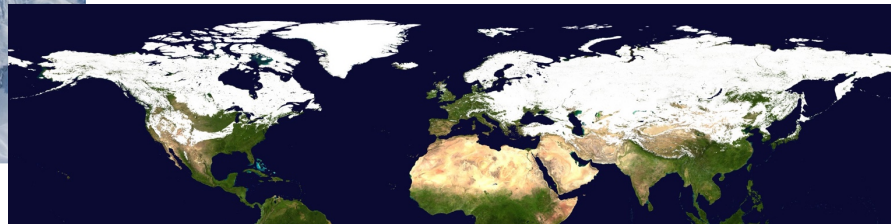
## Valley Scale:

- hydrology
- agriculture / water resources

Model complexity



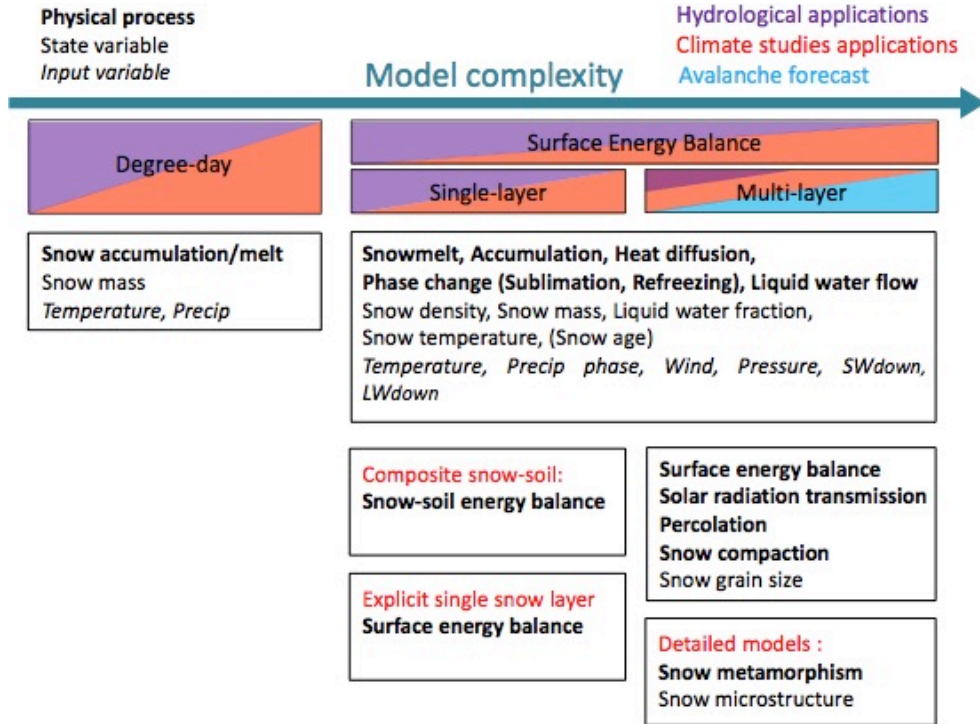
Comp. costs



## Global Scale:

- earth's energy budget
- sea level rise

# Snow model complexity



**SNOWPACK**

**CROCUS**

- ‘Good’ models must include ...
  - multiple layers
  - new snow density
  - surface energy balance (albedo, transfer coefficients)
  - heat conduction/equation
  - phase changes
  - water transport
  - compaction/settlement

# Snow modelling is hard

## BAMS Article

### Scientific and Human Errors in a Snow Model Intercomparison

Cecile B. Menard, Richard Essery, Gerhard Krinner, Gabriele Arduini, Paul Bartlett, Aaron Boone, Claire Brutel-Vuilmet, Eleanor Burke, Matthias Cuntz, Yongjiu Dai, Bertrand Decharme, Emanuel Dutra, Xing Fang, Charles Fierz, Yeugeniy Gusev, Stefan Hagemann, Vanessa Haverd, Hyungjun Kim, Matthieu Lafaysse, Thomas Marke, Olga Nasonova, Tomoko Nitta, Masashi Niwano, John Pomeroy, Gerd Schädler, Vladimir A. Semenov, Tatiana Smirnova, Ulrich Strasser, Sean Swenson, Dmitry Turkov, Nander Wever, and Hua Yuan

“

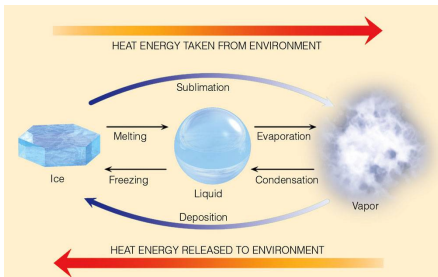
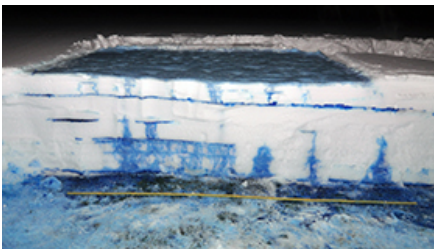
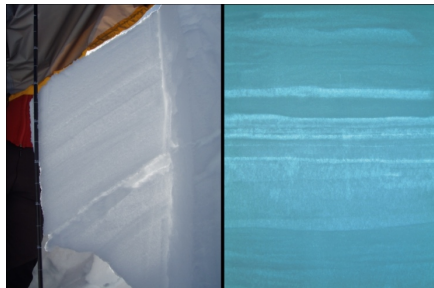
*In fact, the same modeling issues identified by previous snow MIPs arose: **albedo is a major source of uncertainty**, **surface exchange parameterizations are problematic**, and **individual model performance is inconsistent**. This lack of progress is attributed partly to the **large number of human errors** that led to anomalous model behavior and to numerous resubmissions.*



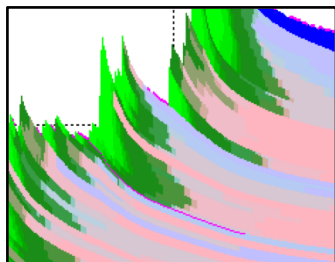
# Snowpack gives birth to Snowpolino !

## SNOWPACK

- one of the most advanced snow models
- developed by SLF – primarily for avalanche studies
- multi-layer / multiphase
- grain-scale derived parametrizations



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## SNOWPOLINO

- From SLF to MCH
- bulk (layer-scale) derived parametrizations

$$\theta_i + \theta_w + \theta_a = 1$$

$$\rho_s = \rho_i \theta_i + \rho_w \theta_w + \rho_a \theta_a$$

$$\rho_s c_p \frac{\partial T_s}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( k_{eff} \frac{\partial T_s}{\partial z} \right) = [Q_{pc}] + [Q_{mm}] + Q_{sw} ;$$

$$[Q] = W m^{-3} \text{ Volumetric Heat Source}$$

$$\rho_s c_p = \rho_i c_i \theta_i + \rho_w c_w \theta_w + \rho_a c_a \theta_a$$



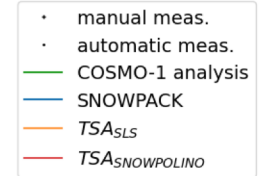
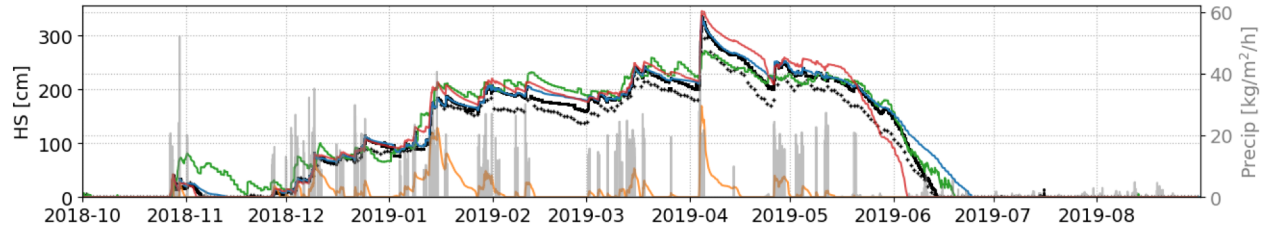
# Snowpolino in Terra StandAlone (TSA) !

- Snowpolino implemented in Terra-Standalone for proper ‘Soil-Snow’ coupling.
- Testbed for year-long / climate scale simulations.
- Terra-Standalone updated for Snowpolino variables I/O ( finalization of GRIB codes for COSMO implementation as well ).
- Perfect for debugging – Terra-Standalone very similar to COSMO for land-surface coupling
- Ability to force Terra-Standalone with COSMO analyses or station data.

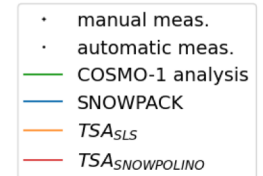
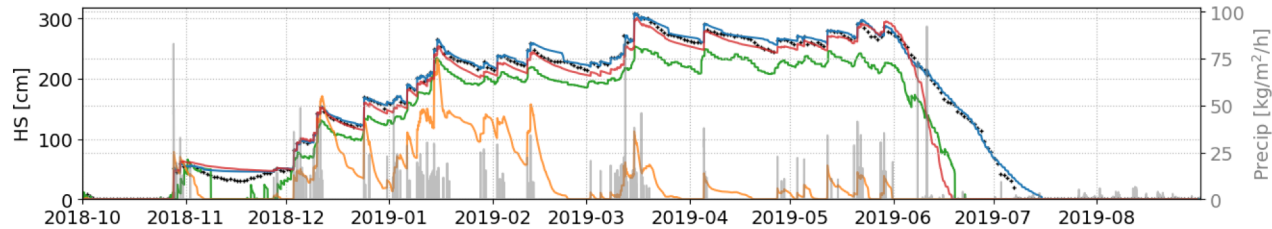


# Results : Forcing with Station measurements

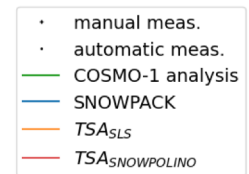
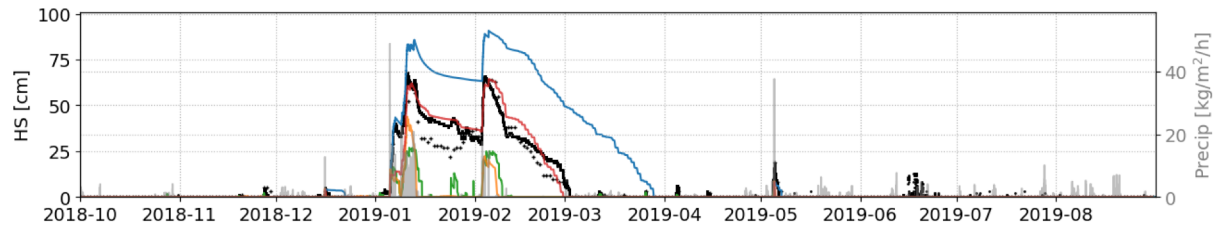
GRH - Grimsel Hospiz - (lat, lon, alt)=(46.572, 8.333, 1980.0)



WFJ - Weissfluhjoch - (lat, lon, alt)=(46.833, 9.806, 2691.0)



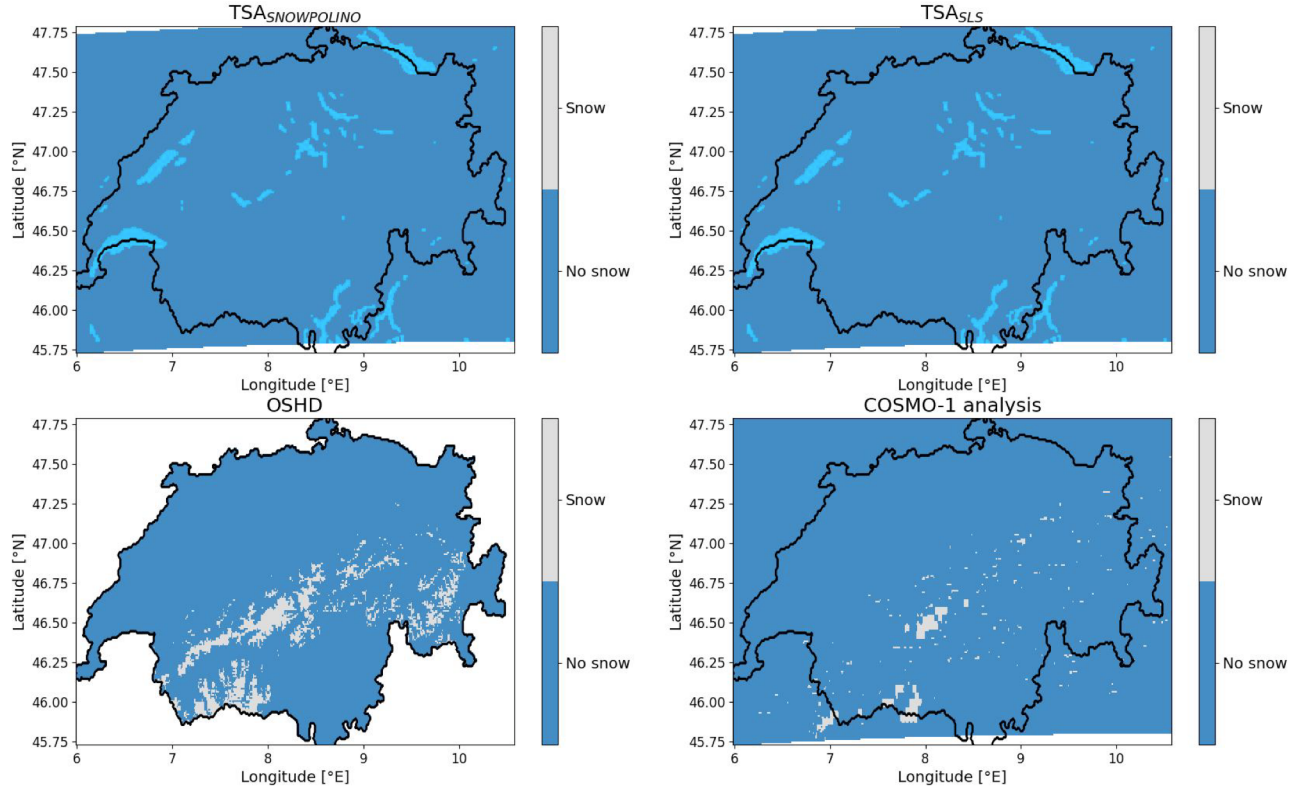
STG - St. Gallen - (lat, lon, alt)=(47.425, 9.399, 776.0)





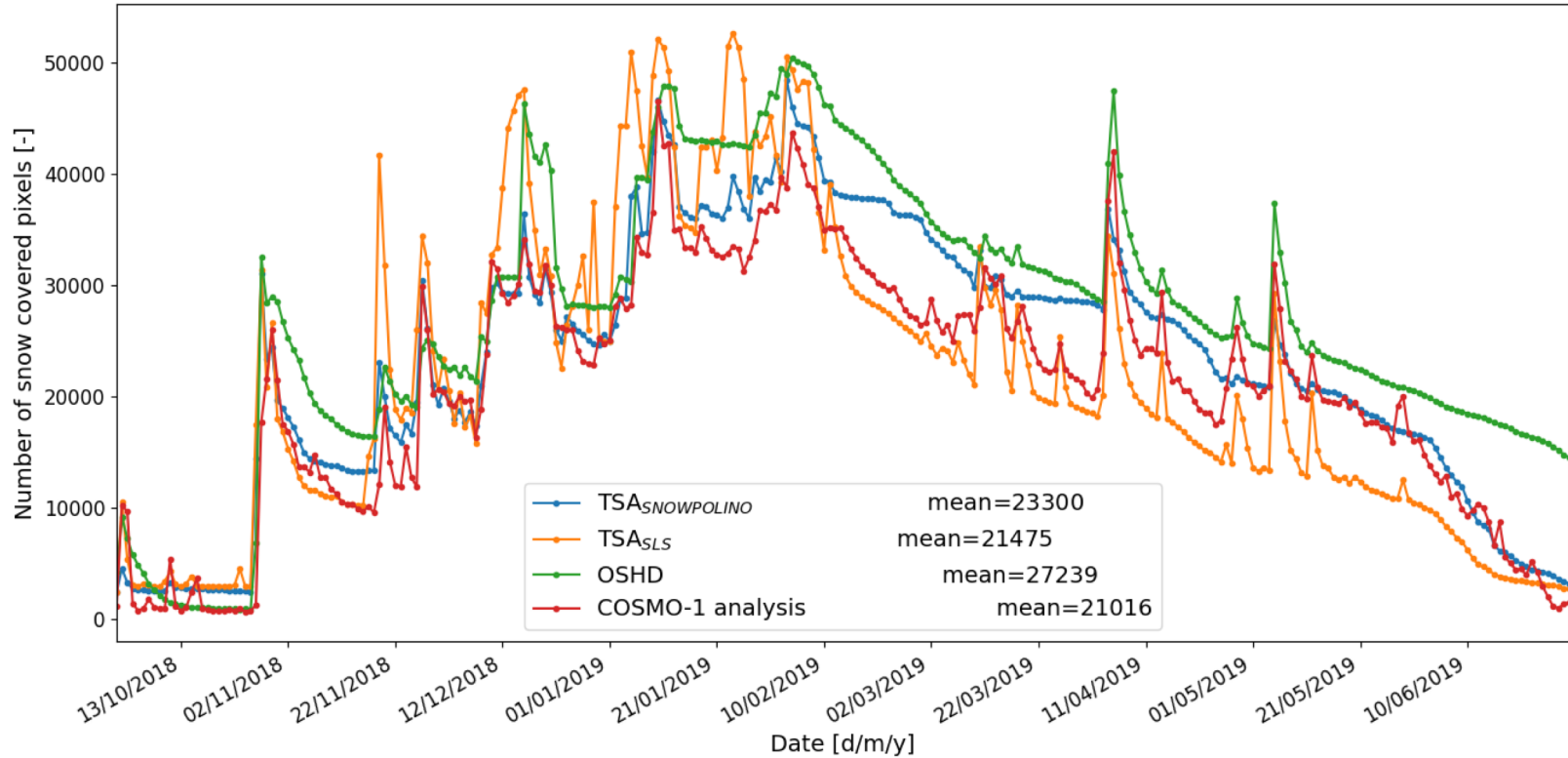
# Results: TSA + Snowpolino driven by COSMO-1 analyses

2018-10-01



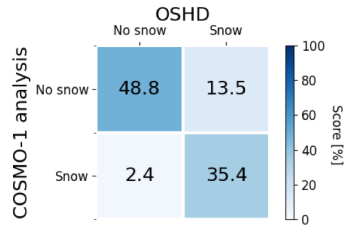
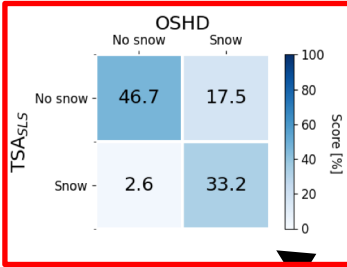
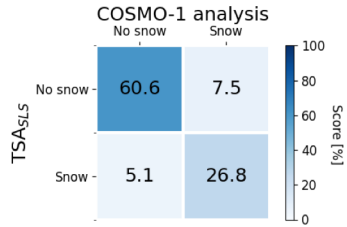
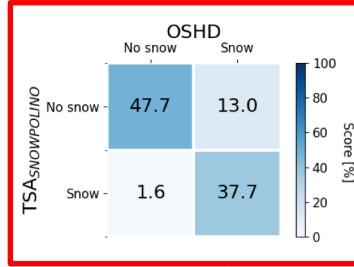
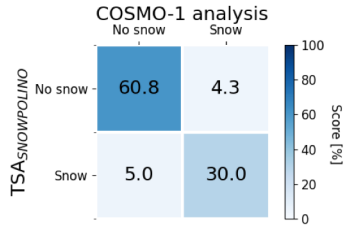
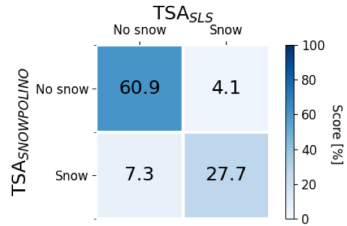


# Results: TSA + Snowpolino



# Results: TSA + Snowpolino

Contingency tables - average

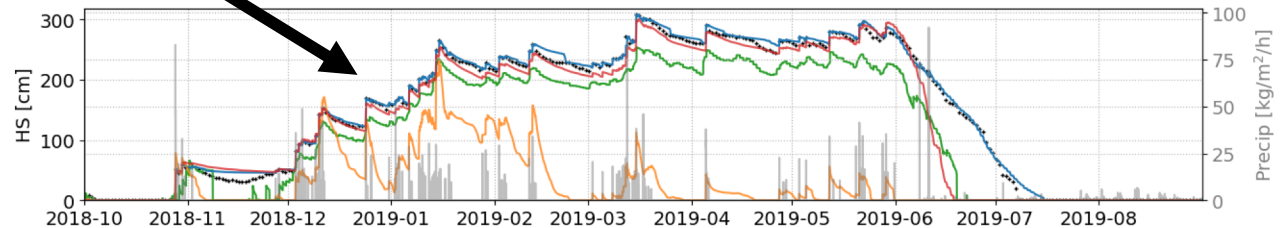


Meas. vs analysis ?



Snow cover vs SWE

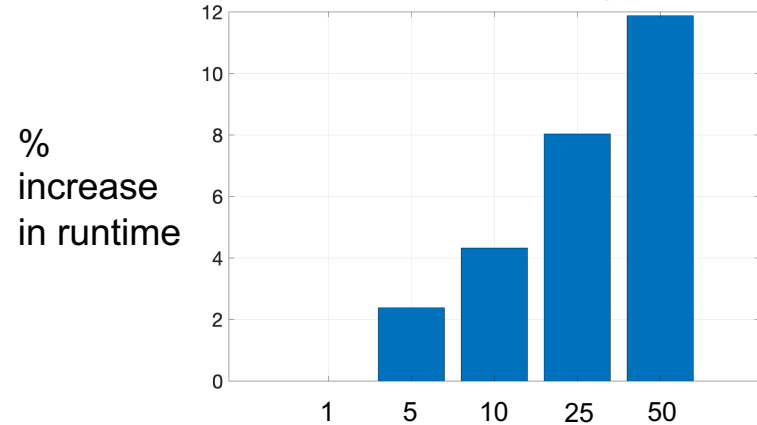
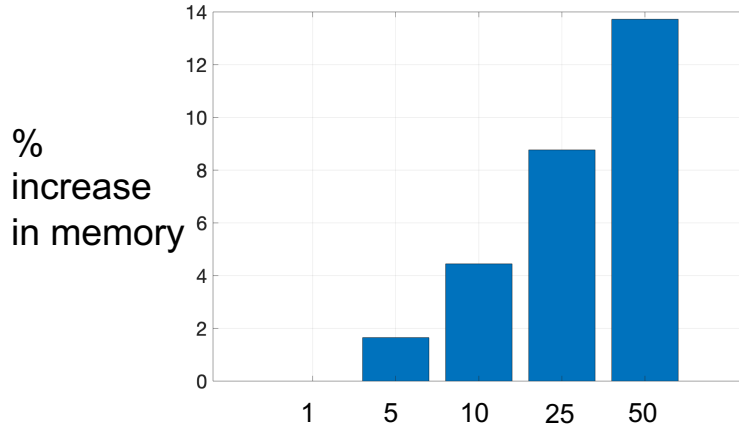
WFJ - Weissfluhjoch - (lat, lon, alt)=(46.833, 9.806, 2691.0)



# Snowpolino in COSMO !

- Snowpolino implemented in COSMO ( COSMO 6.0 )
- I/O ( GRIB ), other technical details sorted
- CPU / GPU both implemented
- Extensive testing to commence for scores ( un-tuning ? )

*500 x 500 COSMO-1 setup on GPUs ( 1 node TSA / SP )*





## PT Saint : Outlook ( immediate term )

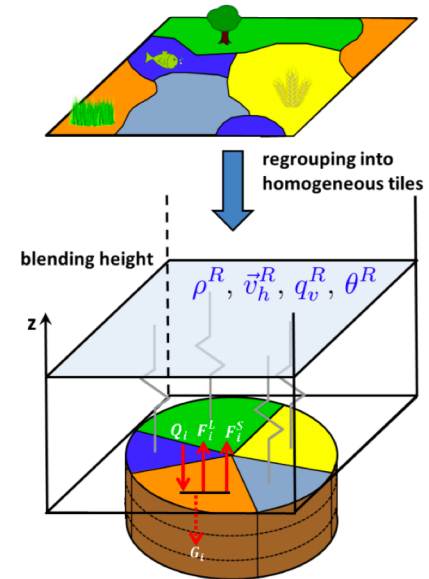
- Snowpolino part of COSMO 6.0 release
- COSMO + Snowpolino to be operational beginning Fall 2021 @ MCH
- TSA + Snowpolino to potentially replace snow analysis @ MCH



# PT Saint : Outlook (2021-2022/2023)

## Bringing SNOWPOLINO to ICON's 'tiled' approach

- Implementation within TERRA should bring all of Snowpolino's improvements and benefits to ICON (including for operational use)
- Testing for the 'tiled' approach in ICON critical
- Updates to surface-atmosphere coupling methodology in ICON ? Implications for 'Snowpolino / TERRA'





# PT Saint : Outlook (2021-2022/2023)

## Additional physics: Snow on forest canopies

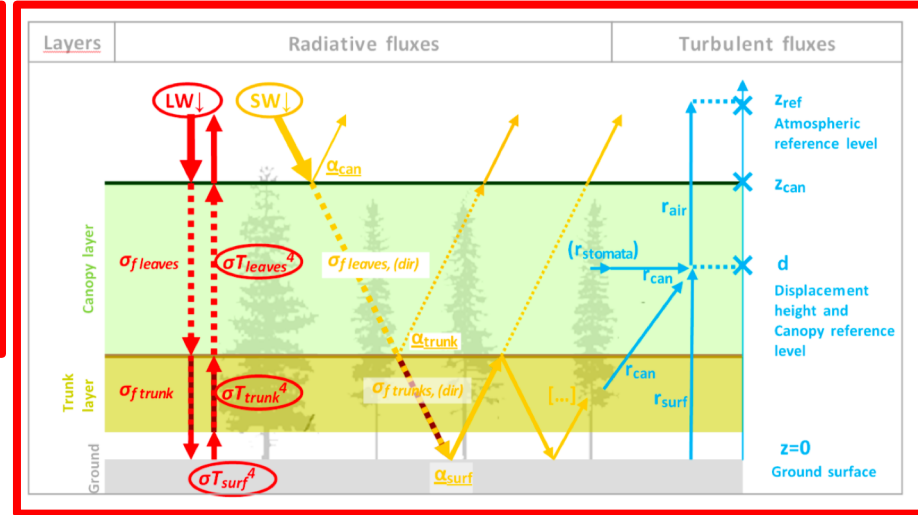
Geosci. Model Dev., 8, 2379–2398, 2015  
 www.geosci-model-dev.net/8/2379/2015/  
 doi:10.5194/gmd-8-2379-2015  
 © Author(s) 2015. CC Attribution 3.0 License.

Geoscientific  
 Model Development



**A two-layer canopy model with thermal inertia for an improved snowpack energy balance below needleleaf forest (model SNOWPACK, version 3.2.1, revision 741)**

- Trunk and leaf spaces separated
- Simple radiative transfer through canopy including effect of snow accumulation in the leaf space
- Consistent energy and mass balance in the two-layer canopy

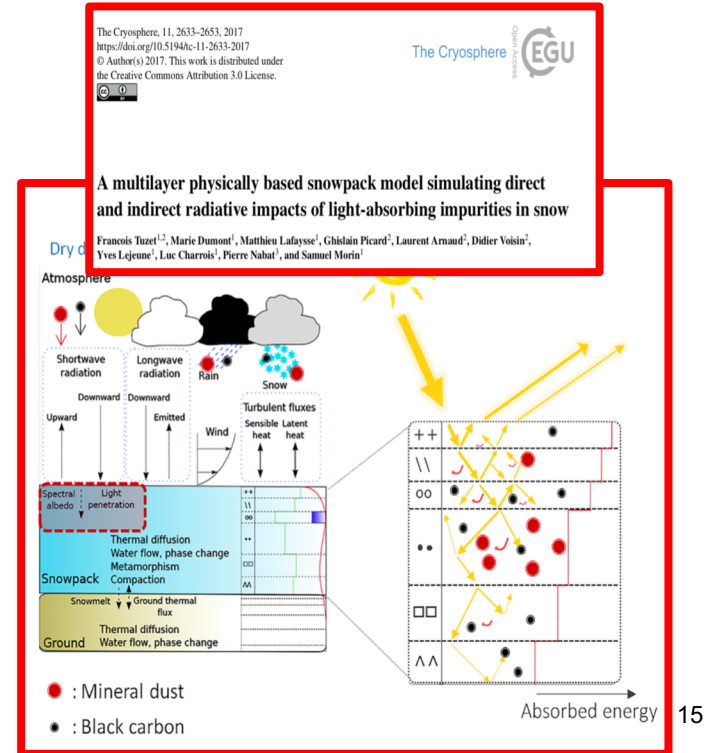




# PT Saint : Outlook (2021-2022/2023)

## Additional physics: Aerosols and their impact on snow albedo

- Need for multi-layer snow modelling is clearly motivated by this problem
- Snowpolino is equipped by design to easily be expanded to tackle this issue.
- Guidance from recent work at KIT ( Rohde et al. ) as well as recent implementations in CROCUS





# Summary and Discussion

- PT-SAINT coming to a wrap: multilayer snow model becomes operational in Fall 2021
- TSA + Snowpolino to be tested for potentially replacing the snow analysis at MCH
- COSMO 6.0 to include Snowpolino
- Operational Weather Prediction vs Climate Simulations
  - Current snow treatment in TERRA is of no use WITHOUT analysis
  - CMIP5 snow results !? ( most models used single layer snow treatment )
  - What are the analyses / tuning hiding ?
- Snowpolino is agnostic to soil models – i.e., can be quickly coupled to JSBACH for example.





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# Thank you!

## Questions or Comments?

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