

# Status of data assimilation in the HARMONIE-AROME model at AEMET

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with contributions from AEMET-NWP team

# ACCORD

**A Consortium for CONvection-scale  
modelling Research and Development**

- Born the 1st of January 2021,
- 26 Euro-Mediterranean National Met Services.
- Built on the ALADIN, LACE and HIRLAM consortia.
- Provide with a state-of-the-art operational short and very short range NWP system



# New HPC (cirrus)

High Performance Computer: **Atos IT Solutions and Services**  
**Two identical clusters** (systems and development) each with:

- 140 compute nodes mounted on Bull Sequana X440 A5 chasis
- 4 pre/postprocess nodes
- 2 login/control nodes
- 2 I/O nodes
- Each node with 2 AMD EPYC™7742 processors (64 cores)
- Infiniband HDR
- The new HPC provides almost ten times more computing capacity than previous one.



**HARMONIE-AROME** is a convection permitting NWP model used for operational short-range forecasting (Bengtsson et al., 2017)

- Limited Area Model (LAM)
- Horizontal resolution: 2.5 km in two geographical domains (AIB: Iberian peninsula and the Balearic Islands and AIC: Canary Islands)
- ALADIN non-hydrostatic dynamics
- Surface data assimilation Canari (Optimal interpolation)
- Vertical resolution: 65 levels (top 10 hPa)
- Boundaries from ECMWF (1 hour)
- Model time step is 75 s
- Run 4 times per day with 72 hours forecast length
- Operational run with **Cy43** from **Sep 2021**

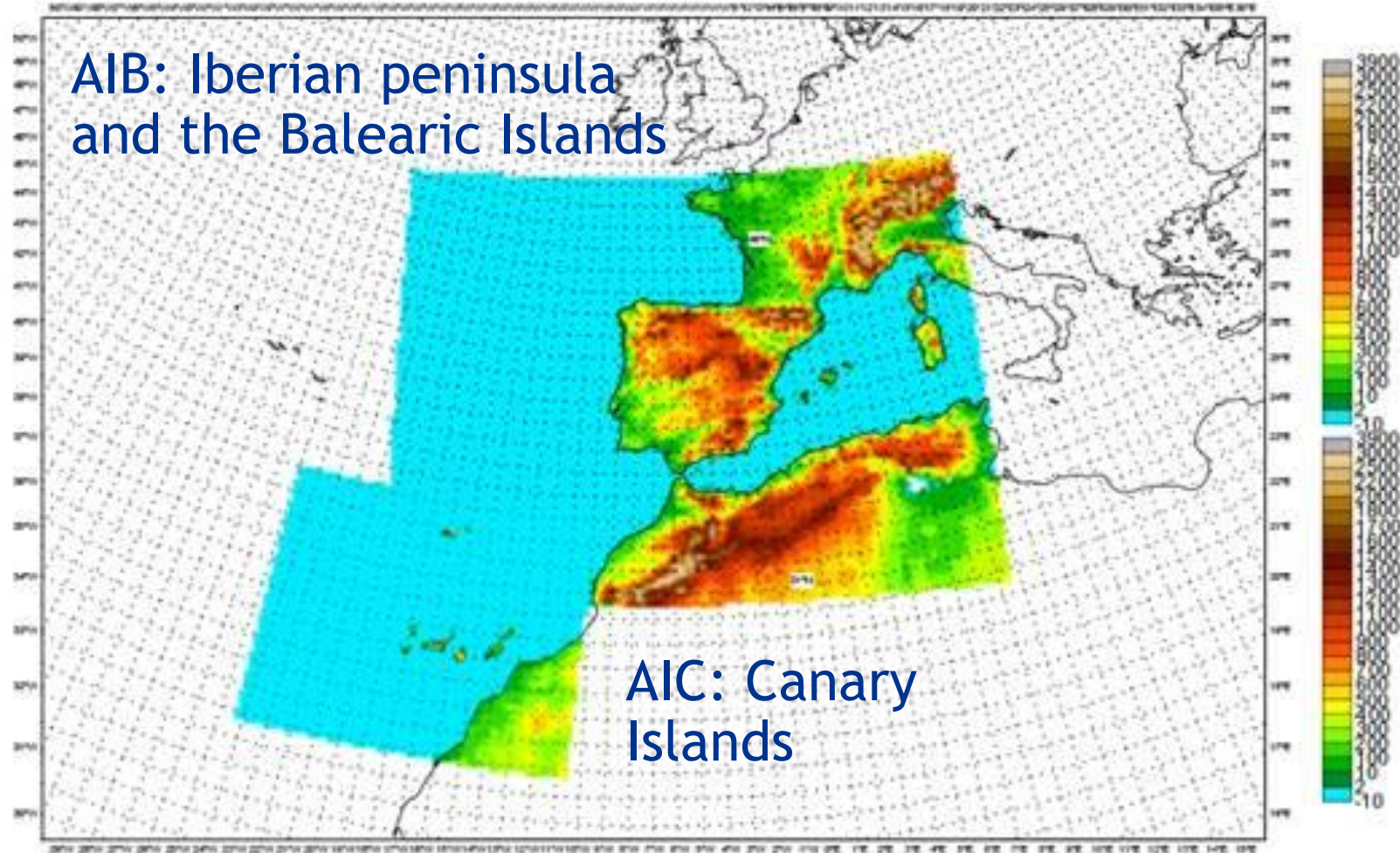


GOBIERNO  
DE ESPAÑA

MINISTERIO  
DE AGRICULTURA Y PESCA,  
ALIMENTACIÓN Y MEDIO AMBIENTE

**Aemet**  
Agencia Estatal de Meteorología

AIB: Iberian peninsula  
and the Balearic Islands



AIC: Canary  
Islands



- AROME physics:

a) Radiation

b) Clouds and cloud microphysics (ICE3):

Six species: vapor, cloud vapor, rain, cloud ice, snow and graupel

c) Turbulence (HARATU)

d) Convection: explicitly resolved deep convection, but parametrized for shallow convection (EDMFM)

**Currently in the operational suite for upper air data assimilation:**

- 3D-Var (3h cycling)
- LSMIXBX for T, u, v, and q
- Conventional observations: surface synoptic stations (SYNOP and SHIP), buoys (DRIBU), aircraft (AMDAR), and radiosondes (TEMP), and T2m and Rh2m.

**Non-conventional:**

- **Radar reflectivities**
- **Satellites:**
  - ZTD from GNSS
  - ASCAT winds
  - AMSU-A, MHS and IASI radiances

# Large Scale Mixing (LSMIXBC)

Mixes large scales at host model with small scales of own model. In HARMONIE-AROME this would typically be to take advantage of the high quality ECMWF forecasts in 3D-Var cycling scenario.

$$\hat{x}_{\text{MIX}}(m, n, l) = w_{\text{BC}} \hat{x}_{\text{BC}}(m, n, l) + (1 - w_{\text{BC}}) \hat{x}_{\text{OWN}}(m, n, l),$$

where  $m$ ,  $n$  are wavenumbers,  $l$  is the level. The total weight on the BC field is a product of a horizontal and vertical weight

$$w_{\text{BC}} = w_h w_v.$$

LSMIXBC for  $q$  was introduced (before only for  $T$ ,  $u$  and  $v$ ) in June 2020.



# Radar reflectivities

(Sánchez-Arriola et al., ALADIN-HIRLAM NL 14, 2020)

The data from Portuguese (2), Spanish (17) and French (23) radars pre-processed by OPERA (Radar program of EUMETNET).

The relationship between the model variables and the reflectivities is non-linear and therefore it is complex, since it takes into account the microphysics parameterization. For these reasons, in the HARMONIE-AROME system, the reflectivity variable is not directly assimilated in the model but is previously transformed into a 1D vertical profile of relative humidity.

Results show that the impact of these observations has been similar to other studies performed in AEMET, which is positive in precipitation forecast mainly by decreasing the false alarm rate of precipitation and being in general more accurate on the place.

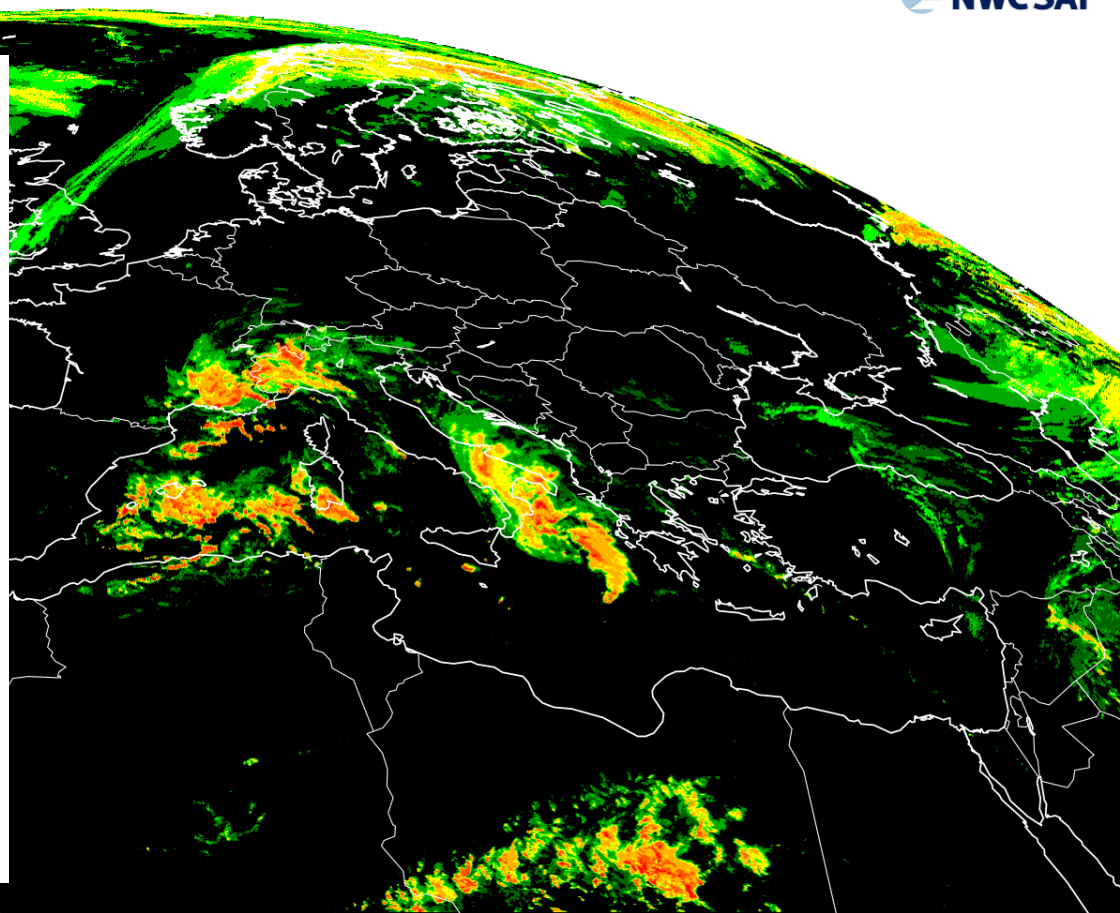
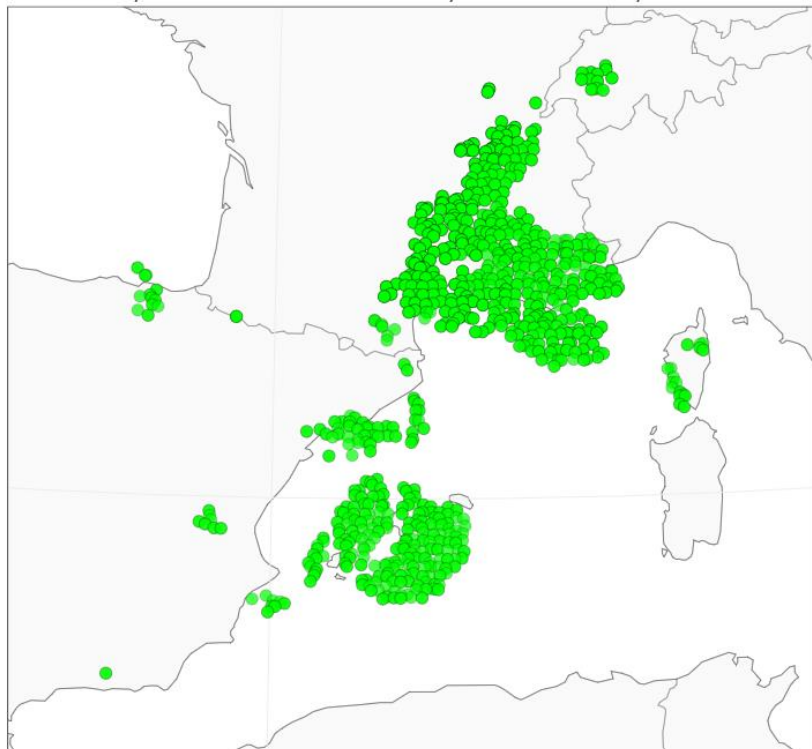
Radar reflectivities are assimilated since June 2020.

# 15 Nov 2021 12 UTC

S\_NWC\_PC\_MSG4\_Europe-VISIR\_20211115T120000Z

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AIB: Observation Usage  
db=ccma, DTG=2021-11-15 12 UTC, obname=radar, varname=rh



NWC GEO v2018 PC Total Precipitation Likelihood Class

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

# ASCAT winds

(Sánchez-Arriola et al., ALADIN-HIRLAM NL 14, 2020)



Scatterometers use radar to measure the electromagnetic backscatter from the wind-roughened ocean surface, from which data on wind speed and direction can be derived.

Advanced SCATterometer (ASCAT), is European C-band (microwave, rain insensitive) scatterometer on-board the Metop's satellites.

The sun synchronous reference orbit ensures that the local solar time of observations for a geographic location is the same time (at night on ascending orbits and during the morning for descending orbits). In our domain at 21, and at 09-12 UTC.

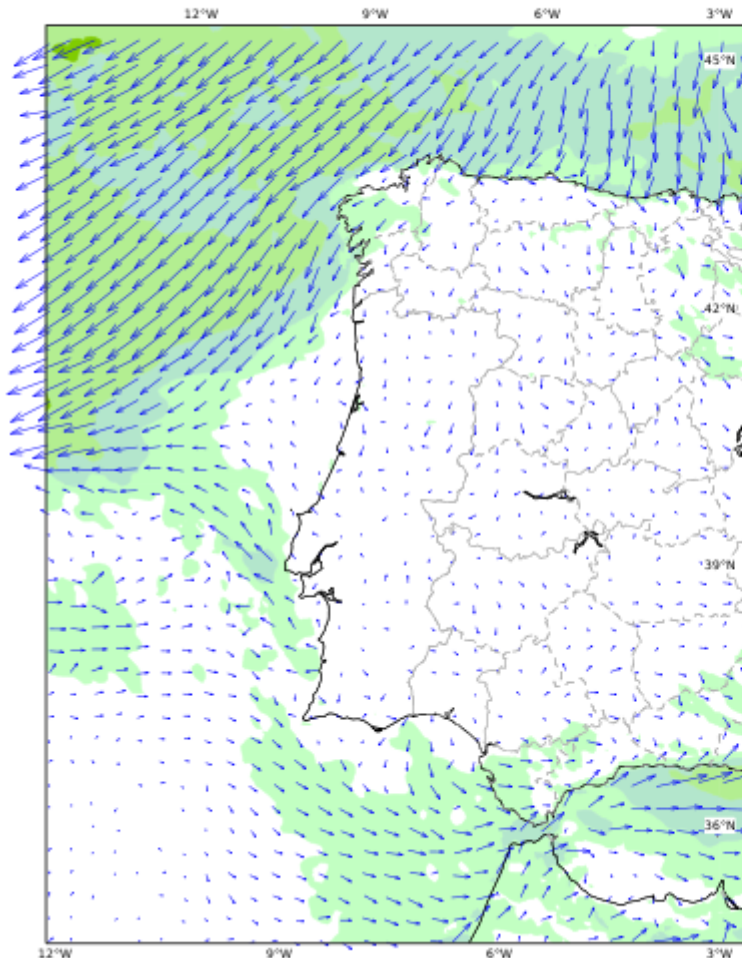
ASCAT data used at both AEMET and IPMA, are on a 12.5 km grid provided by the EUMETSAT Ocean and Sea Ice Satellite Application Facility (OSI SAF).

ASCAT winds are assimilated since June 2020.



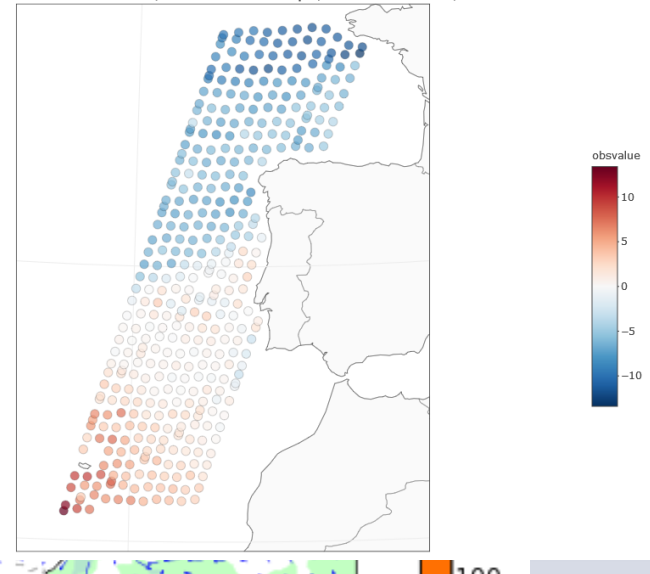
# ASCAT winds

AIB Vie  
21-11-2021 12z H+0 Valid  
21-11-2021 12z H+0 Valid



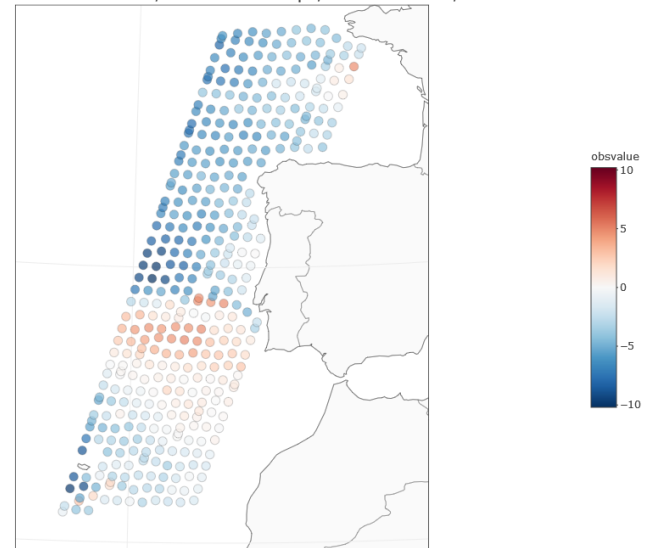
## u10m

AIB: Observations Map  
db=ccma, DTG=2021-11-21 12 UTC, satname=metopc, obname=scatt, varname=u10m



## v10m

AIB: Observations Map  
db=ccma, DTG=2021-11-21 12 UTC, satname=metopc, obname=scatt, varname=v10m



## AMSUA-A and MHS radiances

Since early 2017, the operational run of HARMONIE-AROME assimilates **microwave radiance** from the so-called Advanced TIROS Operational Vertical Sounders (ATOVS) on board of several polar orbiting satellites.

AMSU-A (Advanced Microwave Sounding Unit AMSU): 6,7, 8, and 9  
MHS (Microwave Humidity Sounder: 3, 4, and 5

Satellites: NOAA-18, NOAA-19, Metop-A, Metop-B, and Metop-C

**Metop-C was introduced in June 2020**

**Metop-A was switched off in November 2021**

# IASI radiances

Infrared Atmospheric Sounding Interferometer (IASI) measures the radiance emitted from the Earth in 8461 channels covering the spectral interval from 645-2760  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  at a resolution of 0.5  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

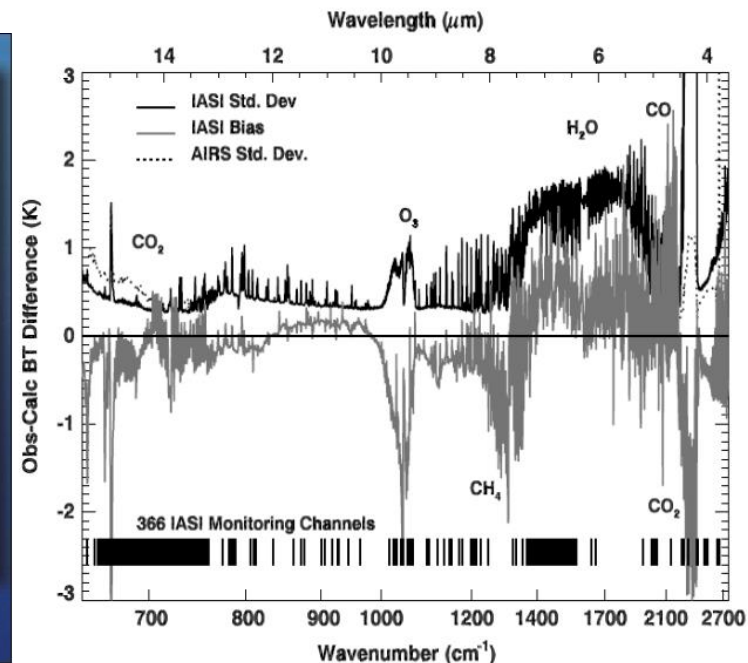
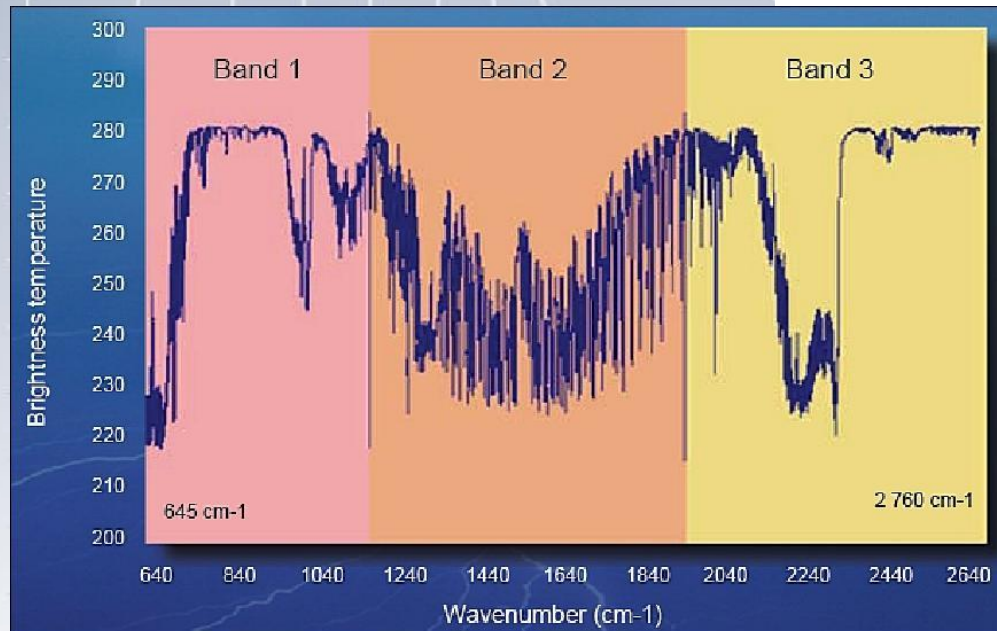


Figure 1. The mean and standard deviation of the difference between observed and calculated IASI radiances. The statistics are for clear channels over sea and the profiles used in the calculation are derived from short-range forecasts (3–15 hours). Also shown is the standard deviation of the equivalent AIRS differences for the 15  $\mu\text{m}$  and short-wave bands.

**366 IASI Monitoring channels , ECMWF  
(Collard and McNally, 2009)**



# Assimilation of clear-sky IASI radiances in AEMET HARMONIE-AROME

(Campins and Navascués, ALADIN-HIRLAM NL 16, 2021)



Metop-B: 09, 12, and 21 UTC

55 channels (land and sea)

CO2 band: 30 channels

High-peaking: 38 to 167

Middle peaking: 173 to 296, and 386

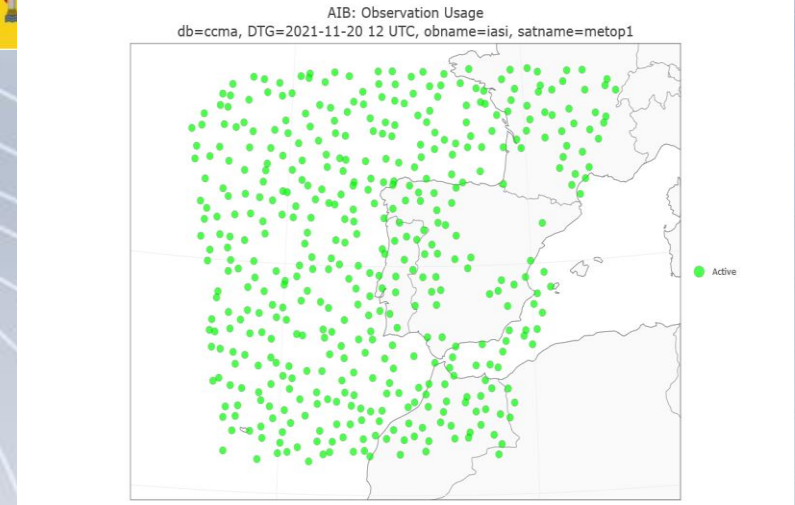
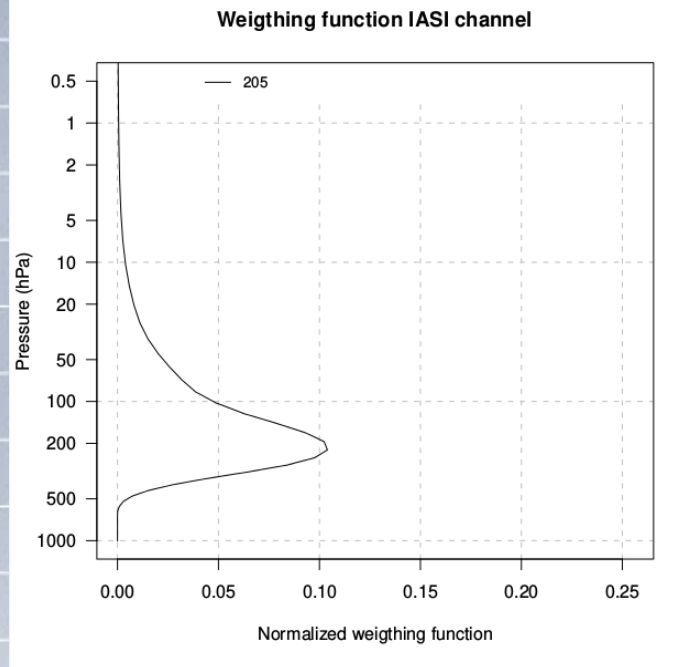
Low peaking: 333 to 432

H2O band: 25 channels  
from 2701 to 4032

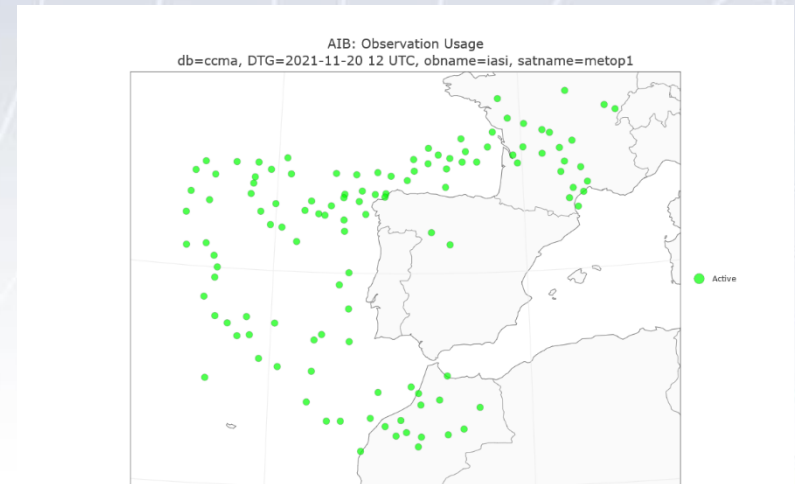
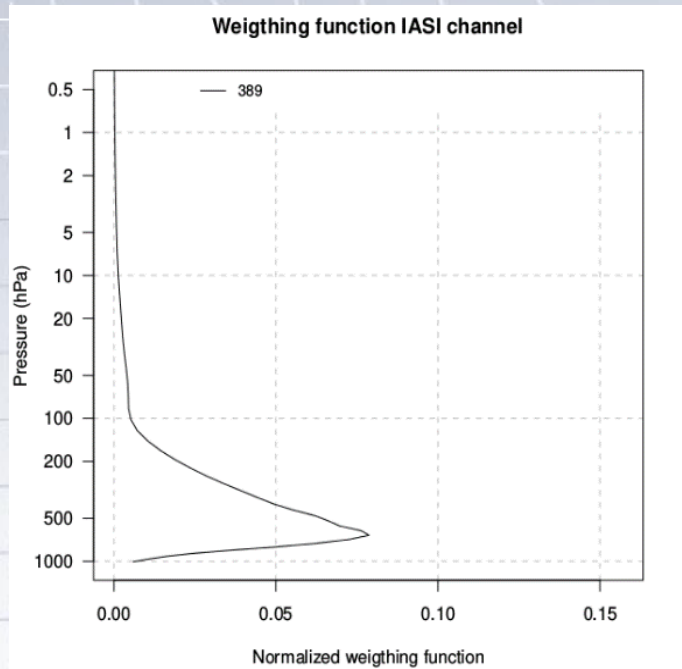
The different peaking level makes necessary a cloud-detection scheme to filter those channels affected by clouds.

The IASI radiances are assimilated since December 2020.

## Cha 205



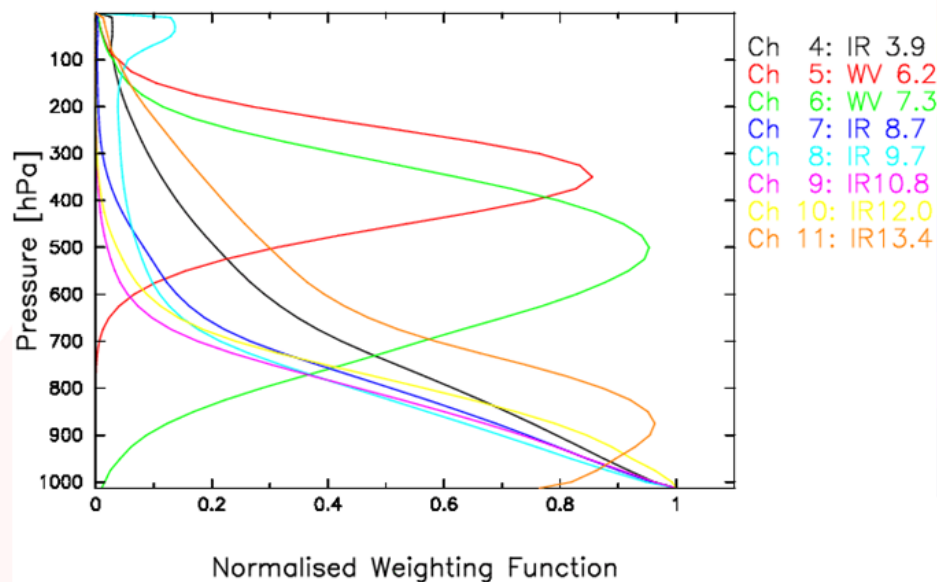
## Cha 386



# Ongoing: Assimilation of SEVIRI data Default configuration

- Meteosat-11/Seviri: Channels →
- Clear-sky radiances (CSR)
- Cloud detection based on cloud-mask and cloud-top from NWC SAF

Cha	Spectral band	Use in DA
2	WV6.2	CSR and mid-level clouds
3	WV7.3	CSR and mid-level clouds
4	IR8.7	CSR, no land
6	IR10.8	CSR, no land
7	IR12.0	CSR, no land
8	IR13.2	CSR, no land

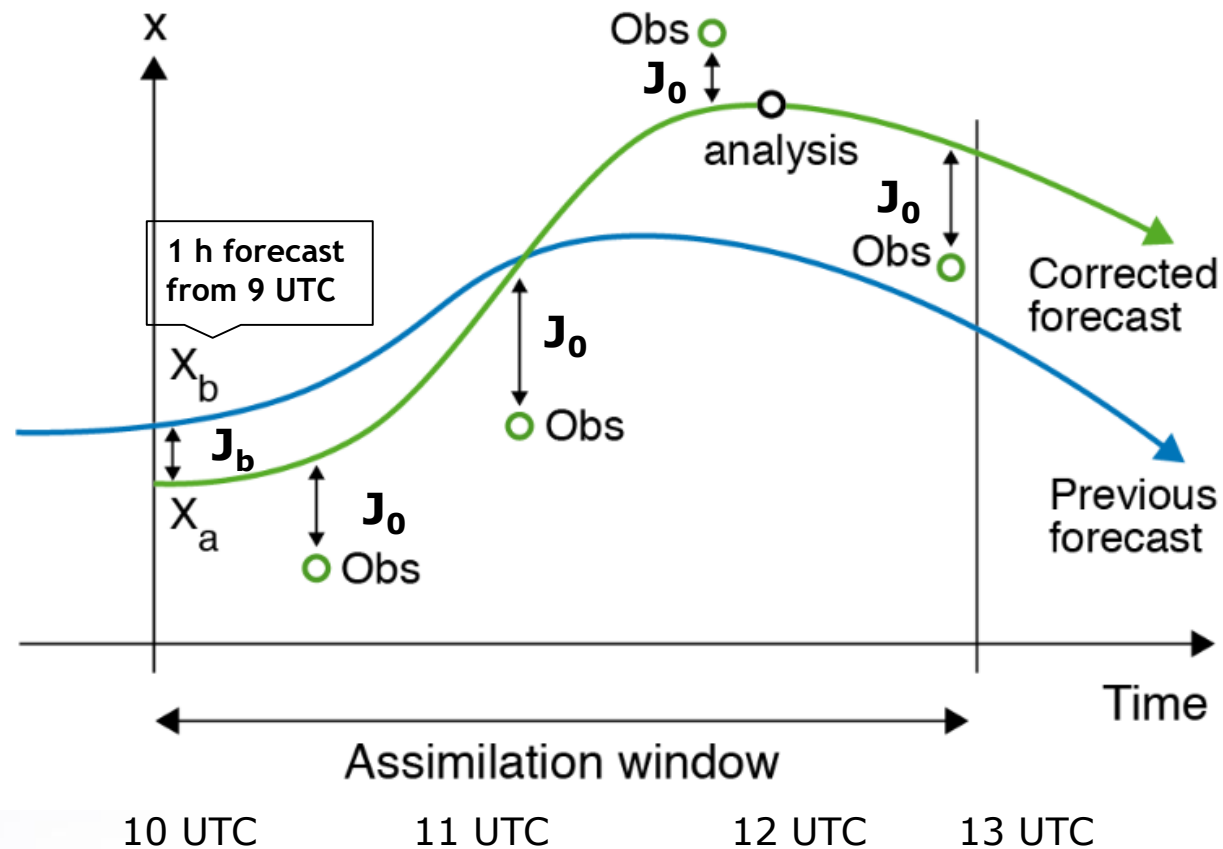


- Spatial thinning ~ 65 km
- Land and Sea ?
- Variational Bias Correction (VarBC)
- Obs. at all analysis cycles (00, 03, 6, 09, 12, 15, 18 and 21 UTC)



Ongoing:

- Pre-operational 4D-Var suite



## Future:

- New bigger domain

New B matrix need

- Radar Doppler wind
- Mode-S
- Nowcasting suite:

1.25 km resolution, observations, cycling, etc...

