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Meteorological
Institute

Assimilation of MW low-peaking channels in HARMONIE-AROME at high latitudes

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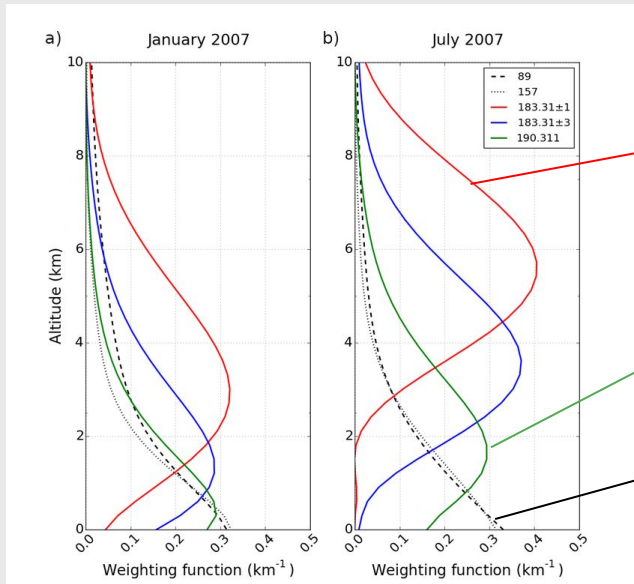
ITSC-24, 16 – 22 March, 2023, Tromsø, Norway.

Assimilation of MW channels

What is a low peaking channel & what information does it contain?

MHS
(Arctic)

Weighting function



High-peaking channel: emission from the atmosphere

Low-peaking channel: mixed signal coming from both the atmosphere and the surface

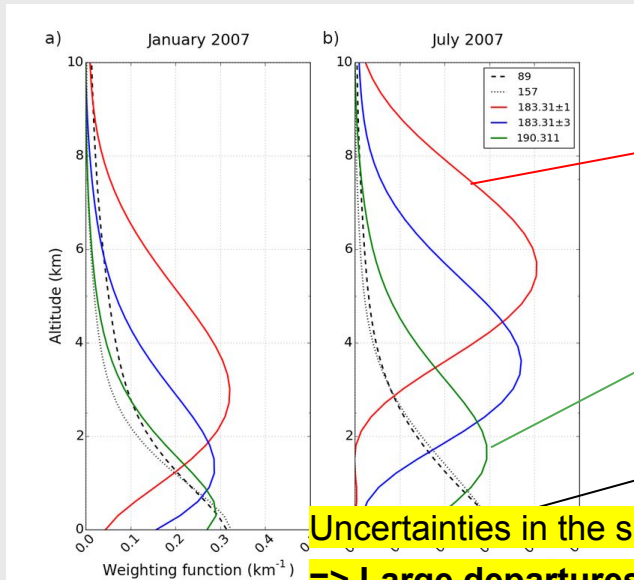
Window channel: Information on the surface

Assimilation of MW channels

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High-peaking channel: emission from the atmosphere

~~Low-peaking channel: mixed signal coming from both the atmosphere and the surface~~

~~Window channel: Information on the surface~~

Uncertainties in the surface modelisation for radiances over land & sea-ice

=> Large departures to observations for surface-sensitive channels

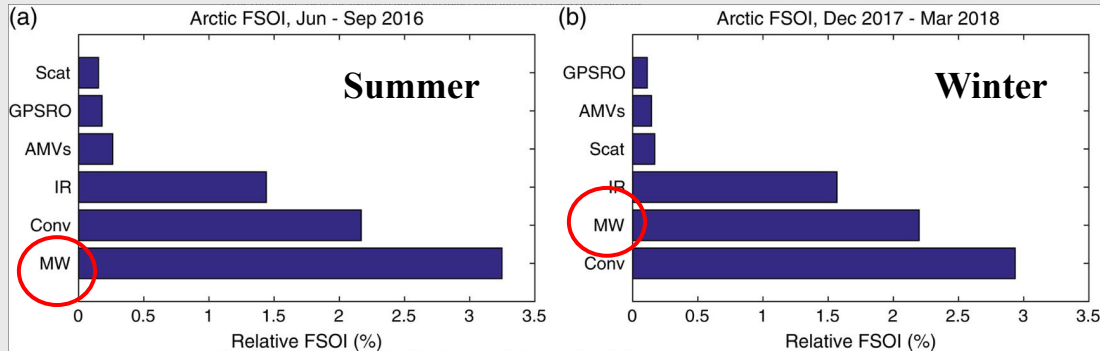
low-peaking channels remain blacklisted or in passive mode over complex surfaces

NWP in Polar regions

Given the high availability of satellite data over the poles that have large impact despite a limited usage (Lawrence et al., 2019)

=> Potential for reducing forecast errors if we use better MW low-peaking channels

Especially, on estimating the surface emission (surface temperature, emissivity ...)



(Lawrence et al., 2019)

Data & Forecast systems

MW instruments: AMSU-A, MHS, ATMS & MWHS-2

3D-Var LAM NWP systems over Northern latitudes

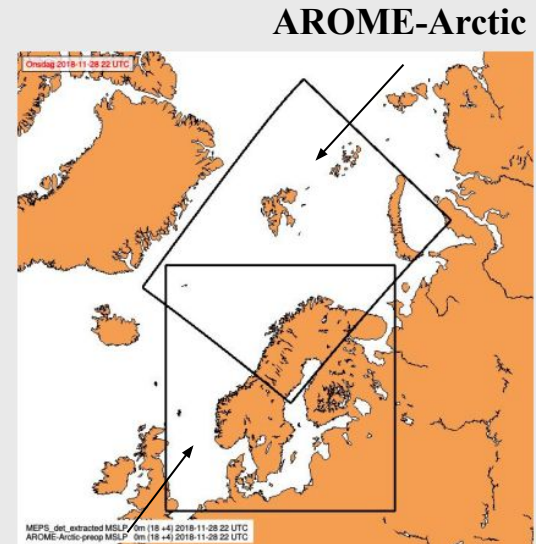
2.5 km horizontal resolution

65 level vertical levels

AROME-Arctic: **Sea-ice**

METCOOP: **land**

Objective => Enhance the assimilation of low-peaking channels
over difficult surfaces

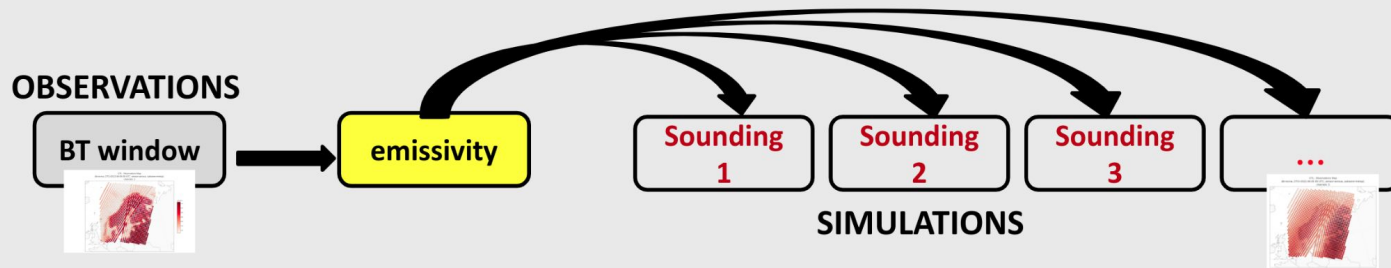


METCOOP

(Reima's poster)

Method

Dynamic emissivity method: Retrieve the surface emissivity from a window channel & allocate it to adjacent sounding channel (Karbou et al., 2006)



Assumption: non-scattering & plane parallel atmosphere, specular surface, the medium emits at the temperature of the surface skin & **the variability of emissivity with frequency is low.**

=> OK over land surfaces but more complex over snow and sea-ice (Karbou et al, 2014) ...

LDYN over sea-ice

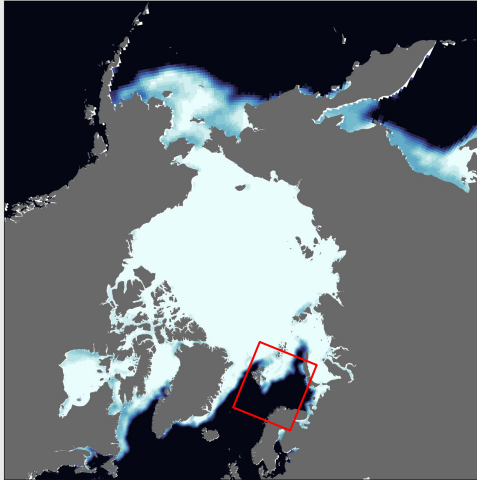
FG departures (in Kelvin)
of **ATMS** T channels over **Sea-ice**
(no change over open ocean / FASTEM)

Case study: 05/02/2022

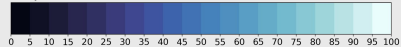
=> valid for MHS Q channels

OSI-SAF

Sea ice concentration (%)
05/02/2022



Lavergne et al., 2019



LDYN over sea-ice

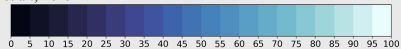
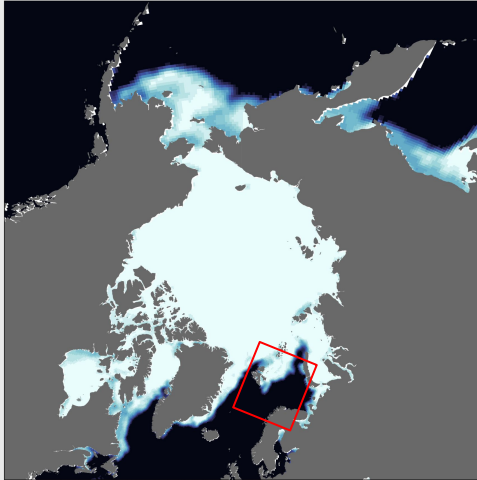
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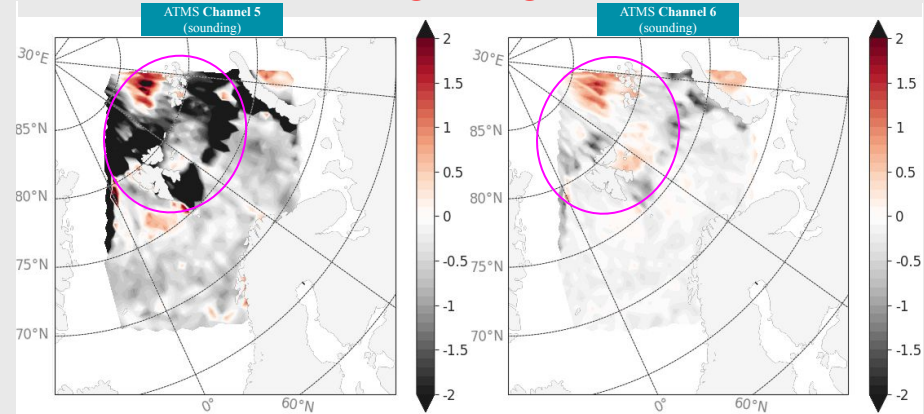
Sea ice concentration (%)
05/02/2022



Lavergne et al., 2019

Courtesy of Palermé C.

CONTROL



LDYN over sea-ice

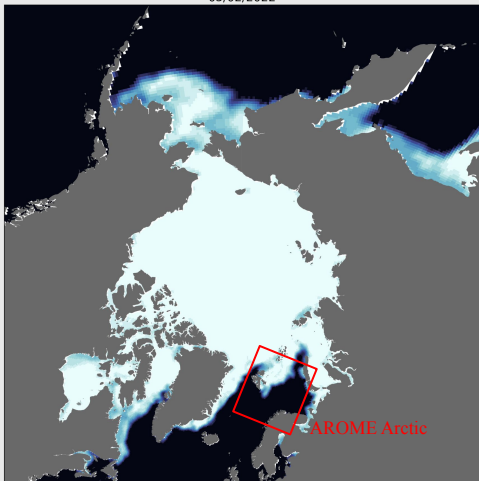
Emissivity & FG departures (in Kelvin)
of ATMS T channels over **Sea-ice**
(no change over open ocean / FASTEM)

Case study: 05/02/2022

=> valid for MHS Q channels

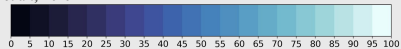
OSI-SAF

Sea ice concentration (%)
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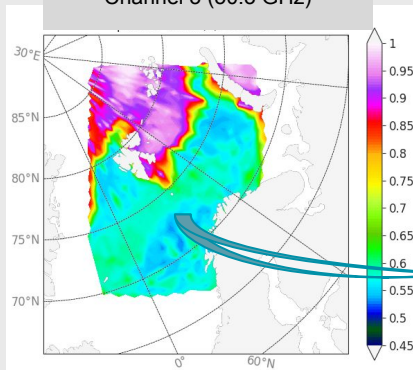


AROME Arctic

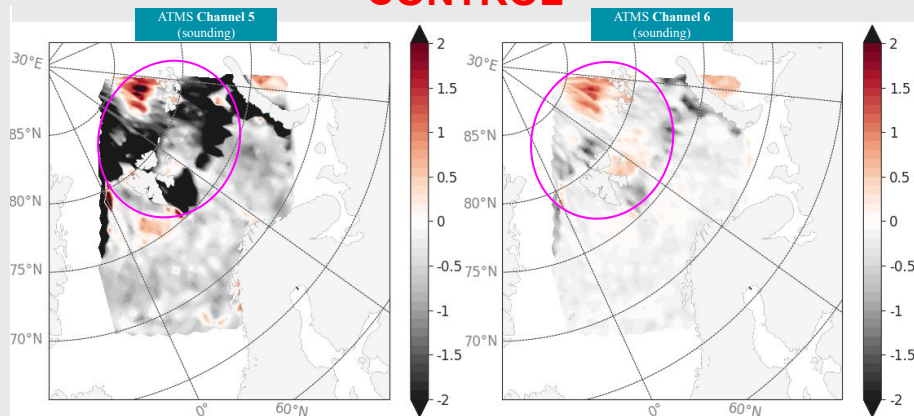
Lavergne et al., 2019



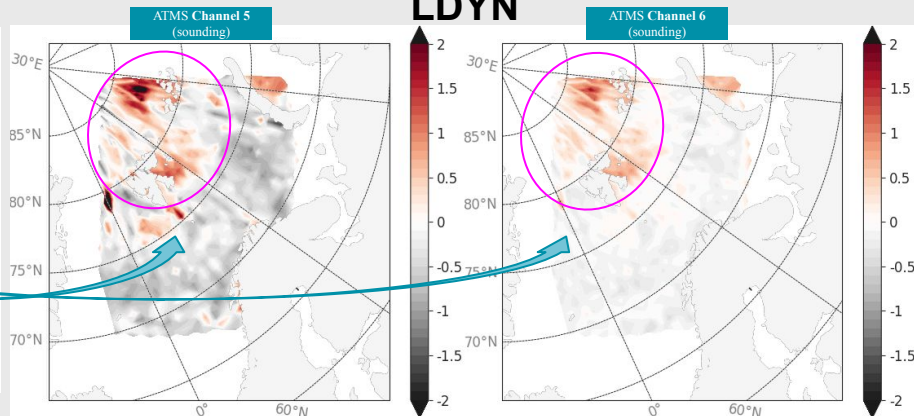
Retrieved emissivity
Channel 3 (50.3 GHz)



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LDYN



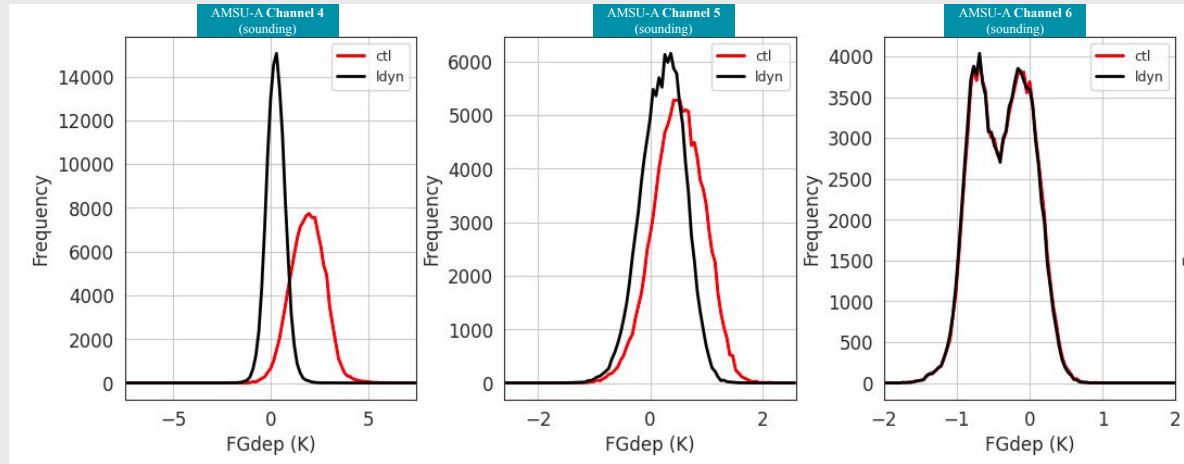
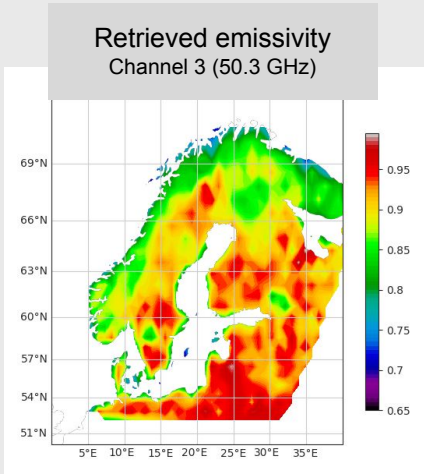
Courtesy of Palermé C.

LDYN over land

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LDYN

Emissivity & FG departures (in Kelvin)
of **AMSU-A** channels over **land**
Period: 20210201-20210315

Snow-free

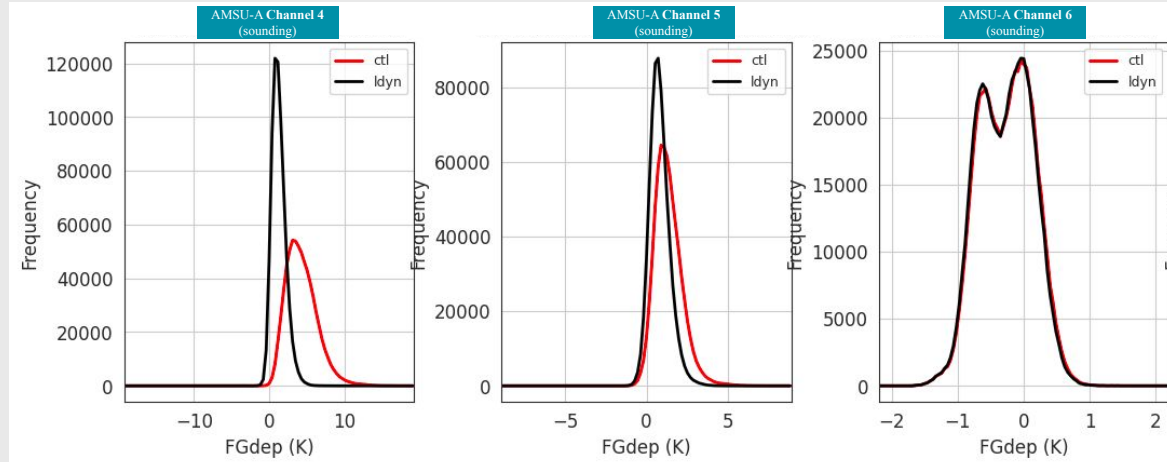
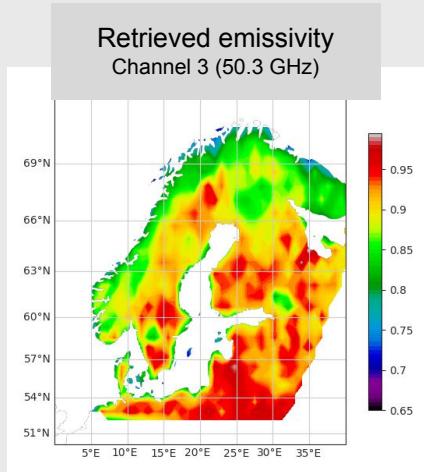


LDYN over land

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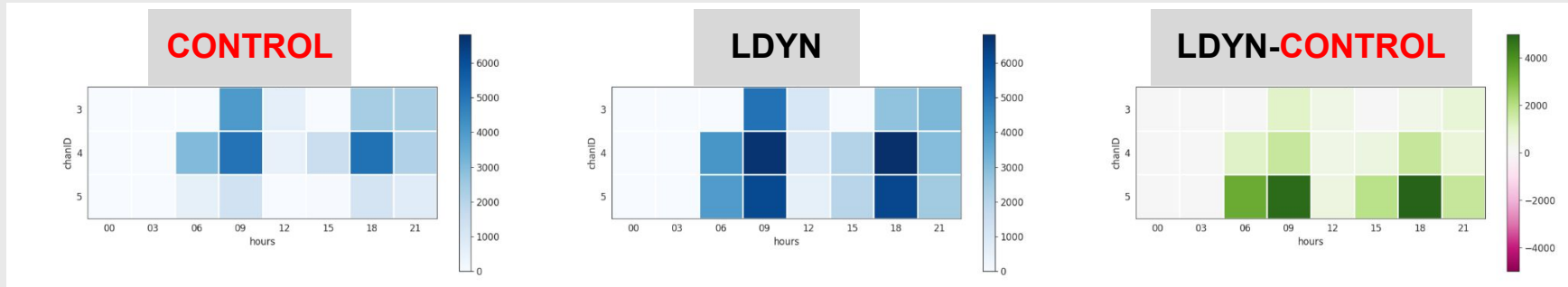
Emissivity & FG departures (in Kelvin)
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Snow

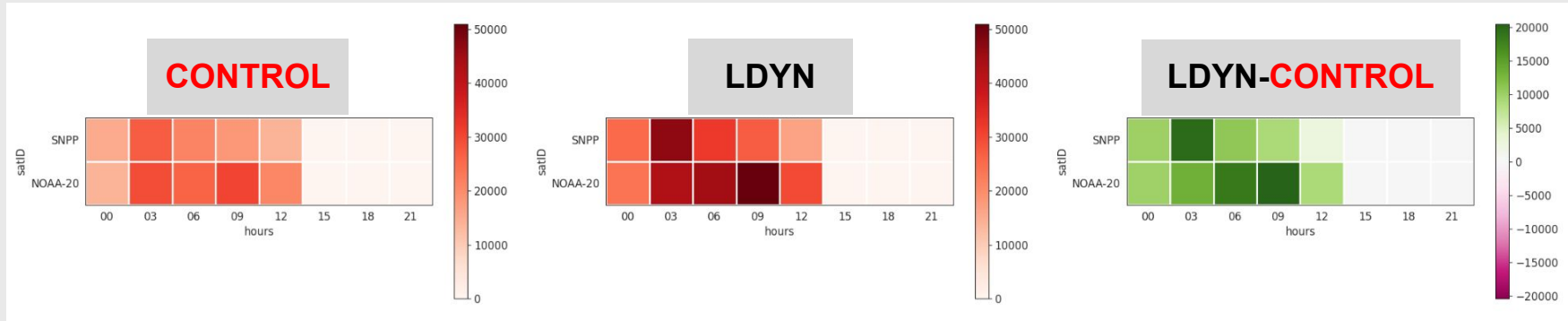


Changes in active data

MHS over land



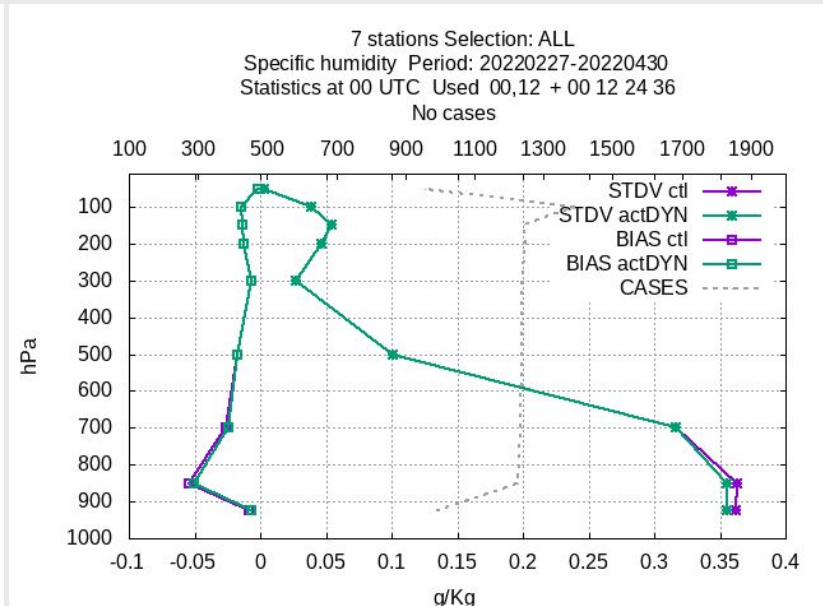
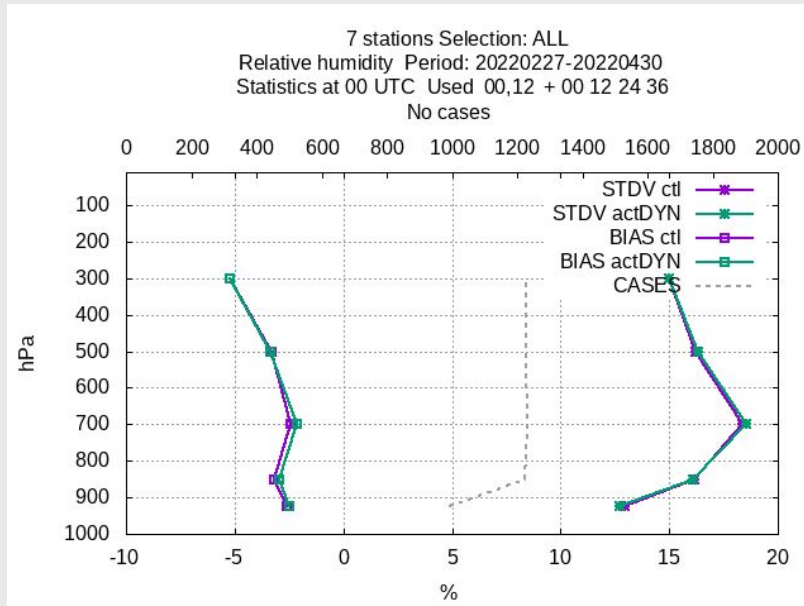
ATMS over sea-ice



Forecast scores

Assimilation of ATMS low-peaking channels over AROME-Arctic domain (winter):

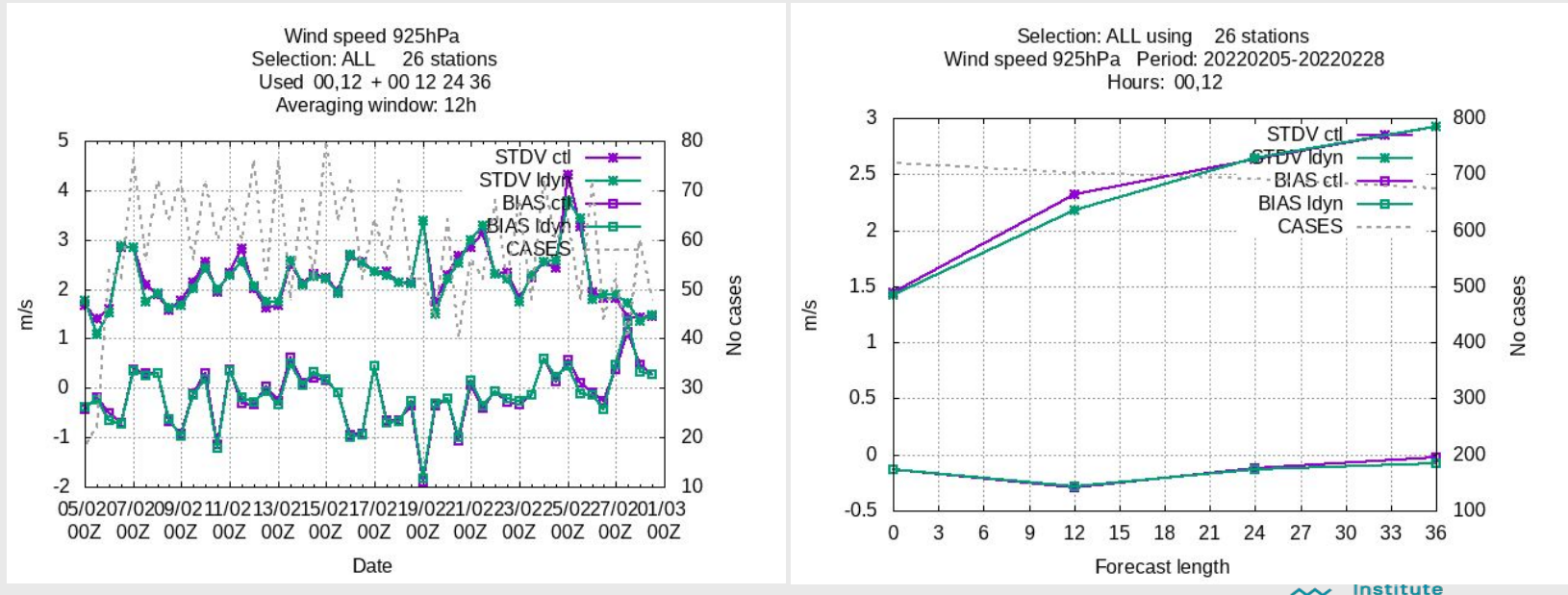
Positive impact on humidity profiles vs radiosondes but rather neutral for other parameters



Forecast scores

Assimilation of AMSU-A & MHS over METCOOP domain (winter):

Positive impact on wind speed and humidity vs radiosondes but rather neutral for other parameters



Conclusion

- Polar regions benefit from a high-density coverage of satellite observations but their usage are still limited over complex surfaces due to large uncertainties in the emissivity and temperature.
- Following “LDYN” Karbou’s method, the surface emissivity has been updated to assimilate low-peaking channels
- Better BT simulations, increase of active assimilated data & neutral to positive impacts on forecast :)

Operational implementation of “LDYN”:

- June 2022: ATMS low-peaking added to AROME-Arctic (+ MWHS-2 ongoing)
- Feb 2023: AMSU-A & MHS low-peaking channels added to MEPS (Reima’s poster)
- March 2023: ATMS & MWHS-2 in MEPS Preop
- Baseline of the 3D & 4D-Var experiment for the ESA-AWS mission preparation (Magnus’ presentation)

Future plans:

- Improve the QC over mixtes surfaces (Alan Geer TN) + Footprint operator (Maté’s talk)
- Retrieval of skin temperature instead of emissivity (“LSKIN”)
- Lambertian assumption over snow-covered surface in regional system (Global tested in Bormann, 2022)
- A machine learning approach for estimating snow and sea-ice emissivity in Arctic NWP (Jostein’s poster)
(EUMETSAT Fellowship)

Thank you



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References

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- Bormann, N.. (2022) Accounting for Lambertian reflection in the assimilation of microwave sounding radiances over snow and sea-ice. *Quarterly Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society*, 148(747), 2796– 2813. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1002/qj.4337>
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- Lawrence, H, Bormann, N, Sandu, I, Day, J, Farnan, J, Bauer, P. Use and impact of Arctic observations in the ECMWF Numerical Weather Prediction system. *Q J R Meteorol Soc.* 2019; 145: 3432– 3454. <https://doi.org/10.1002/qj.3628>

What about the skin temperature ?

Idea: Retrieve & allocate the skin temperature (Karbou et al., 2006)

=> Use of emissivity atlas (averaged retrievals)

