# Recent research work on stochastic parameterization using cellular automata

Lisa Bengtsson 2016-08-31

## **Outline of presentation**

- A brief background
- Deep convection parameterization
- Ensemble Prediction and sub-grid variability
- Atmospheric scale interaction

### **Cellular Automata (CA)**

A CA is a dynamical system with a state vector which takes on a number of discrete (often just two) states. This CA state vector is defined on a discrete grid of points in space and time

A set of rules are defined to determine the state of a cell at t+1, by using the states of the neighbourhood cells at t.



The "birth" and "survival" of a cell state is dependent on the number of "living" nearest neighbours.

### **Cellular Automata (CA) in NWP**



From Martin Steinheimer, ECMWF

- Bengtsson et al. (2013) used a cellular automaton for the parameterization of convection, which allows for the horizontal transports of heat, moisture and momentum across neighbouring grid-boxes.
- It possesses many qualities interesting for deep convection parameterization.
  - Horizontal communication
  - Added memory
  - Stochastisity

# Stochastic parameterization of cumulus convection using cellular automata

- Can we use random numbers and self-organizational properties of cellular automata to mimic statistical fluctuation in cloud numbers and intensities?
- Can we allow for horizontal organization and communication between adjacent model grid-boxes in the cumulus parameterization?
- Bengtsson, L., Steinheimer, M., Bechtold, P. and Geleyn, J.-F. (2013), A stochastic parametrization for deep convection using cellular automata. Q.J.R. Meteorol. Soc., 139: 1533–1543.



### **Prognostic updraft mesh-fraction**



### Radar image, squalline 14/7-10 16 UTC (or 18 CET)







ALARO 36h1.1, total 1h precip. (No data assimilation, cold start) 1 hour precip from radar image.

### Cellular automata field on NWP grid



### **Updraught mesh fraction, 2010-07-14**

ALARO reference, 36h1.1

ALARO CA exp, 36h1.1





16 UTC

16 UTC

### **Total precipitation, 2010-07-14**

ALARO reference, 36h1.1

#### ALARO CA-CAPECONV, 36h1.1

#### LSCMF = FALSE





16 UTC

16 UTC

# Ensemble Prediction using the stochastic scheme

Can the proposed scheme have an impact on the performance of the *uncertainty estimates* given by an ensemble prediction system?

## **Experiment setup**



• 18 day period June, 2012.

36 h forecasts, initiated 00 and 12 UTC.

The control member is using 3D-variational data assimilation, with 6 hour cycling.

The perturbations come from the boundary and initial conditions updated at 00 UTC and 12 UTC, where each member of HarmonEPS uses a member from the ECMWF EPS with 16 km horizontal resolution. (Courtesy of Martin Leutbecher, ECMWF). All perturbed members use their own surface data assimilation.

The reference experiment uses only 10+1 members with ALARO physical parameterization.

Te cellular automata (CA) experiment uses the exact same initial/lbc perturbations, but each member has a different random seeding in the initialization of new CA cells.

### Monthly Mean of 6h sub-grid precip.



 $54^{-N}$  0.015  $52^{O}N$  0.005  $50^{O}N$  0.005  $48^{O}N$  0.005  $48^{O}N$  0.015  $46^{O}N$  0.005 -0.005 0.005 -0.015-0.02 • CA – Reference

**Ensemble Mean** 

CA – Reference
Ensemble Spread

### Monthly Mean of 6h resolved precip



• CA – Reference

**Ensemble Mean** 

CA – Reference
Ensemble Spread



## **Conclusion EPS simulation**

• The inclusion of the stochastic scheme increases the spread of convective precipitation, but the knock-on effects on large-scale precipitation mean that the approach overall reduces the spread in total precipitation.

-> A stochastic scheme on the sub-grid, does not automatically produce more spread.

- The scheme reduces the model bias in 6h acc. precipitation, which leads to a slightly improved ensemble forecast (more reliable), but not because of increased spread, but rather because of improved skill.
- The influence of the scheme seem confined to the sub-grid scale, no large impact on ensemble spread in the resolved variables, T, q, U, V
- Useful to have cellular automata at 2.5 km grid-spacing?
- In order to really understand the interaction with the dynamics, and "transfer of uncertainty" upscale, would like to study convectively coupled equatorial waves, with/without the cellular automata scheme.

### Shallow water simulation with CA

- Initialize shallow water model with wave solutions of Kelvin, EMRG, WMRG, ER, EIG and WIG waves.
- 10 day forecast coupled to "convection" using a CA (tests with different space and time correlations.)
- 10 day forecast coupled to "convection" using random numbers.

Bengtsson, L., Körnich, H., Källén, E., & Svensson, G. (2011). Large-scale dynamical response to subgrid-scale organization provided by cellular automata. Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences, 68(12), 3132-3144.







### **Convectively coupled Equatorial waves**

#### Real time monitoring of kelvin waves OLR (ECMWF) 20150210





### Real time monitoring of kelvin waves OLR (ECMWF) 20150212 contour interval: 15 W/m2



### **Convectively coupled Equatorial waves**

Cloud cover, 2015021100 +24

ALARO-0 reference simulation.

12 h acc precip, 2015021100 +24



### **Convectively coupled Equatorial waves**

0.9 0.8 0.7 0.6 0.5 0.4 120 100 80 60 40 20 10

Cloud cover, 2015021100 +24

ALARO-0 with CA scheme simulation.

12 h acc precip, 2015021100 +24