

# Cloud reunification in the CSD context

Luc Gerard

Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium

March 2019

## Smith 1990 Cloud scheme

Symmetric pdf of  $s$ , departure from mean saturation excess

$$Q_c: s = \check{q}_c - Q_c \equiv (q_t - q_s) - (\bar{q}_t - \bar{q}_s):$$

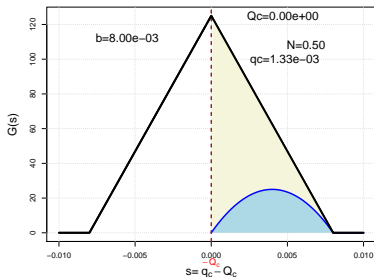
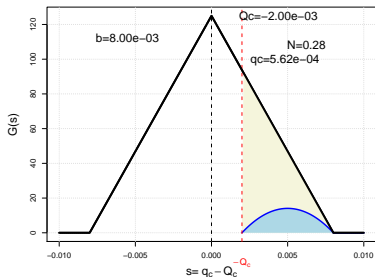
width  $b = \sigma\sqrt{6} = \bar{q}_s(1 - U_c)$ , ( $U_c$  is critical relative humidity).

# Smith 1990 Cloud scheme

Symmetric pdf of  $s$ , departure from mean saturation excess

$$Q_c: s = \check{q}_c - Q_c \equiv (q_t - q_s) - (\bar{q}_t - \bar{q}_s):$$

width  $b = \sigma\sqrt{6} = \bar{q}_s(1 - U_c)$ , ( $U_c$  is critical relative humidity).

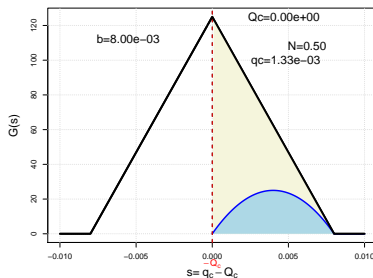
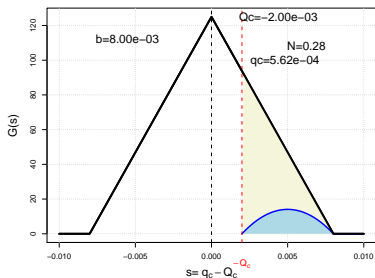


# Smith 1990 Cloud scheme

Symmetric pdf of  $s$ , departure from mean saturation excess

$$Q_c: s = \check{q}_c - Q_c \equiv (q_t - q_s) - (\bar{q}_t - \bar{q}_s):$$

width  $b = \sigma\sqrt{6} = \bar{q}_s(1 - U_c)$ , ( $U_c$  is critical relative humidity).



$Q_c < 0$ : unsaturated grid-box

$Q_c = 0$ : just saturated mean grid-box

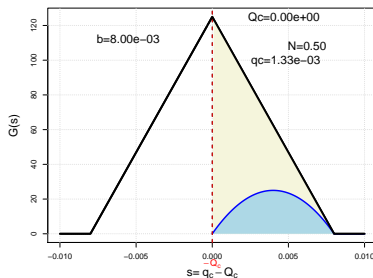
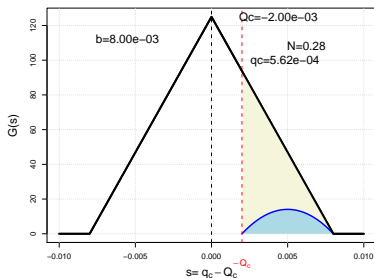
$$\iff \bar{q}_t = \bar{q}_s, N = 0.5.$$

# Smith 1990 Cloud scheme

Symmetric pdf of  $s$ , departure from mean saturation excess

$$Q_c: s = \check{q}_c - Q_c \equiv (q_t - q_s) - (\bar{q}_t - \bar{q}_s):$$

width  $b = \sigma\sqrt{6} = \bar{q}_s(1 - U_c)$ , ( $U_c$  is critical relative humidity).



$Q_c < 0$ : unsaturated grid-box

$Q_c = 0$ : just saturated mean grid-box

$$\iff \bar{q}_t = \bar{q}_s, N = 0.5.$$

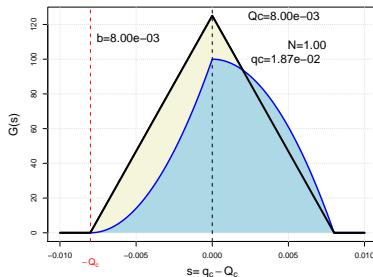
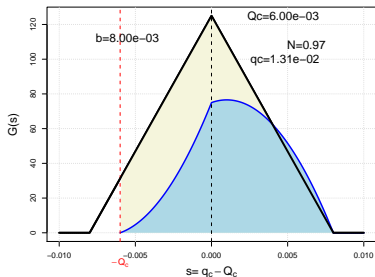
*more cloud at  $\overline{RH}_t = \overline{RH} + \frac{\bar{q}_c}{\bar{q}_s} = 1$  requires a skewed pdf !*

# Smith 1990 Cloud scheme

Symmetric pdf of  $s$ , departure from mean saturation excess

$$Q_c: s = \check{q}_c - Q_c \equiv (q_t - q_s) - (\bar{q}_t - \bar{q}_s):$$

width  $b = \sigma\sqrt{6} = \bar{q}_s(1 - U_c)$ , ( $U_c$  is critical relative humidity).



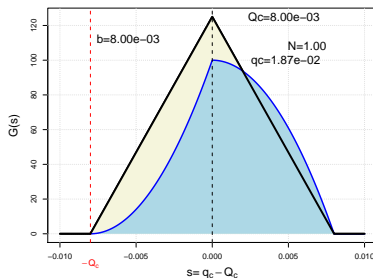
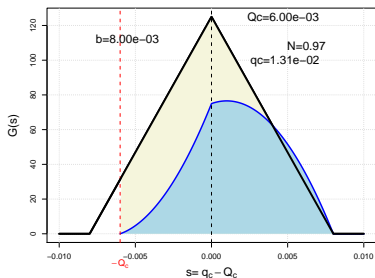
$Q_c > 0$ : saturated mean grid-box       $Q_c \geq b$ : overcast,  $N = 1$ .

# Smith 1990 Cloud scheme

Symmetric pdf of  $s$ , departure from mean saturation excess

$$Q_c: s = \check{q}_c - Q_c \equiv (q_t - q_s) - (\bar{q}_t - \bar{q}_s):$$

width  $b = \sigma\sqrt{6} = \bar{q}_s(1 - U_c)$ , ( $U_c$  is critical relative humidity).



$Q_c > 0$ : saturated mean grid-box       $Q_c \geq b$ : overcast,  $N = 1$ .

$$\bar{q}_t - \bar{q}_s = b \iff \overline{RH}_t = 1 + b = 1 + \bar{q}_s(1 - U_c) = 2 - U_c$$

e.g.  $U_c = 0.7$  and  $\overline{RH} = 1$  requires  $\bar{q}_c = 0.3 \bar{q}_s$  for  $N = 1$

## Xu-Randall cloud diagnostic formula

Xu-Randall 1996:  $N \rightarrow 1$  as soon as  $\overline{RH} \rightarrow 1$ , whatever be  $\overline{q_c}$

$$N = (\overline{RH})^r \left[ 1 - \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha \overline{q_c}}{(\overline{q_s}(1 - \overline{RH}))^\delta}\right\} \right] \quad \text{with } \overline{RH} = \frac{\overline{q_v}}{\overline{q_s}}$$



## Xu-Randall cloud diagnostic formula

Xu-Randall 1996:  $N \rightarrow 1$  as soon as  $\overline{RH} \rightarrow 1$ , whatever be  $\overline{q_c}$

$$N = (\overline{RH})^r \left[ 1 - \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha \overline{q_c}}{(\overline{q_s}(1 - \overline{RH}))^\delta}\right\} \right] \quad \text{with } \overline{RH} = \frac{\overline{q_v}}{\overline{q_s}}$$

Tuning done with  $U_c > 0.9$  and  $\overline{RH} = N + (1 - N)U_c$   
... results in too binary cloud fraction

## Xu-Randall cloud diagnostic formula

Xu-Randall 1996:  $N \rightarrow 1$  as soon as  $\overline{RH} \rightarrow 1$ , whatever be  $\overline{q}_c$

$$N = (\overline{RH})^r \left[ 1 - \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha \overline{q}_c}{(\overline{q}_s(1 - \overline{RH}))^\delta}\right\} \right] \quad \text{with } \overline{RH} = \frac{\overline{q}_v}{\overline{q}_s}$$

Tuning done with  $U_c > 0.9$  and  $\overline{RH} = N + (1 - N)U_c$   
... results in too binary cloud fraction

*possible cure: prevent overcast at (nearly) no suspended condensate*

$$N = (\overline{RH})^r \left[ 1 - \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha \overline{q}_{csus}}{\max[\epsilon_1, (\overline{q}_s - \overline{q}_v + \max(0, QSUSN - \overline{q}_{csus}))]^\delta}\right\} \right]$$

## Xu-Randall cloud diagnostic formula

Xu-Randall 1996:  $N \rightarrow 1$  as soon as  $\overline{RH} \rightarrow 1$ , whatever be  $\overline{q}_c$

$$N = (\overline{RH})^r \left[ 1 - \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha \overline{q}_c}{(\overline{q}_s(1 - \overline{RH}))^\delta}\right\} \right] \quad \text{with } \overline{RH} = \frac{\overline{q}_v}{\overline{q}_s}$$

Tuning done with  $U_c > 0.9$  and  $\overline{RH} = N + (1 - N)U_c$   
... results in too binary cloud fraction

*possible cure: prevent overcast at (nearly) no suspended condensate*

$$N = (\overline{RH})^r \left[ 1 - \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha \overline{q}_{csus}}{\max[\epsilon_1, (\overline{q}_s - \overline{q}_v + \max(0, QSUSN - \overline{q}_{csus}))]^\delta}\right\} \right]$$

...and consider  $\overline{q}_{csus}$  a maximum *mean grid-box* condensate, e.g.

$$\overline{q}_{csus} = N \cdot \widehat{q}_{csus}(\overline{w}, \alpha_j, \dots)$$

## More about cloud scheme

- Both XR and Smith schemes valid *exclusively for stratiform* clouds: others where excluded from the datasets.
- Any cloud produced from elsewhere should have associated condensation taken into account, e.g.
  - Shallow convection
  - Sub-inversion enhanced condensation
  - Deep convective cloud, *parameterized or not*

## The problem of shallow cloud condensate

Let  $\overline{q_{cs}}$  be the condensate produce by the stratiform cloud scheme.

- TOUCANS produces  $N_{sc}$ , up to now not further used.

## The problem of shallow cloud condensate

Let  $\overline{q_{CS}}$  be the condensate produce by the stratiform cloud scheme.

- TOUCANS produces  $N_{SC}$ , up to now not further used.
- Associated condensate can be estimated by assuming a given suspended condensate:

$$\overline{q_{CSC}} = N_{SC} \cdot \text{QSUSCC},$$

$$\overline{q_{C1}} = \max[\overline{q_{CS}}, \overline{q_{CSC}}]$$

## The problem of shallow cloud condensate

Let  $\overline{q_{CS}}$  be the condensate produce by the stratiform cloud scheme.

- TOUCANS produces  $N_{SC}$ , up to now not further used.
- Associated condensate can be estimated by assuming a given suspended condensate:

$$\overline{q_{CSC}} = N_{SC} \cdot \text{QSUSCC},$$

$$\overline{q_{C1}} = \max[\overline{q_{CS}}, \overline{q_{CSC}}]$$

... But this would be too easy !

## The problem of shallow cloud condensate

Let  $\overline{q_{CS}}$  be the condensate produce by the stratiform cloud scheme.

- TOUCANS produces  $N_{SC}$ , up to now not further used.
- Associated condensate can be estimated by assuming a given suspended condensate:

$$\overline{q_{CSC}} = N_{SC} \cdot \text{QSUSCC},$$

$$\overline{q_{C1}} = \max[\overline{q_{CS}}, \overline{q_{CSC}}]$$

... **But this would be too easy !**

- Autoconversion has a  $q_{lcr}$ ,  $q_{icr}$  that will precipitate these shallow condensate *that had to remain suspended*



# The problem of shallow cloud condensate

Let  $\overline{q_{CS}}$  be the condensate produce by the stratiform cloud scheme.

- TOUCANS produces  $N_{SC}$ , up to now not further used.
- Associated condensate can be estimated by assuming a given suspended condensate:

$$\overline{q_{CSC}} = N_{SC} \cdot \text{QSUSCC},$$

$$\overline{q_{c1}} = \max[\overline{q_{CS}}, \overline{q_{CSC}}]$$

... **But this would be too easy !**

- Autoconversion has a  $q_{lcr}$ ,  $q_{icr}$  that will precipitate these shallow condensate *that had to remain suspended*
- and we will re-condensate the shallow cloud at next time step

# The problem of shallow cloud condensate

Let  $\overline{q_{CS}}$  be the condensate produce by the stratiform cloud scheme.

- TOUCANS produces  $N_{SC}$ , up to now not further used.
- Associated condensate can be estimated by assuming a given suspended condensate:

$$\overline{q_{CSC}} = N_{SC} \cdot QSUSCC,$$

$$\overline{q_{C1}} = \max[\overline{q_{CS}}, \overline{q_{CSC}}]$$

... **But this would be too easy !**

- Autoconversion has a  $q_{lcr}$ ,  $q_{icr}$  that will precipitate these shallow condensate *that had to remain suspended*
- and we will re-condensate the shallow cloud at next time step

⇒ so creating an undue heat source in the lower part of the atmosphere.

# The problem of shallow cloud condensate

Let  $\overline{q_{cs}}$  be the condensate produce by the stratiform cloud scheme.

- TOUCANS produces  $N_{sc}$ , up to now not further used.
- Associated condensate can be estimated by assuming a given suspended condensate:

$$\overline{q_{csc}} = N_{sc} \cdot \text{QSUSCC},$$

$$\overline{q_{c1}} = \max[\overline{q_{cs}}, \overline{q_{csc}}]$$

... **But this would be too easy !**

- Autoconversion has a  $q_{lcr}$ ,  $q_{icr}$  that will precipitate these shallow condensate *that had to remain suspended*
- and we will re-condensate the shallow cloud at next time step

⇒ so creating an undue heat source in the lower part of the atmosphere.

- Solution: protect this shallow cloud condensate against auto-conversion

## The problem of shallow cloud condensate(II)

- Solution: protect this shallow cloud condensate against auto-conversion ?

## The problem of shallow cloud condensate(II)

- Solution: protect this shallow cloud condensate against auto-conversion ?  
... but only if there is no deep convection above !

## The problem of shallow cloud condensate(II)

- Solution: protect this shallow cloud condensate against auto-conversion ?

... but only if there is no deep convection above !

- In practice:
  - In columns where shallow cloud must be protected, increase autoconversion thresholds and reduce autoconversion efficiencies

## The problem of shallow cloud condensate(II)

- Solution: protect this shallow cloud condensate against auto-conversion ?

... but only if there is no deep convection above !

- In practice:

- In columns where shallow cloud must be protected, increase autoconversion thresholds and reduce autoconversion efficiencies
- For this pass an array to acacon containing

$$\xi = \begin{cases} -N_{sc} & \text{where it must be protected} \\ \rightarrow 0 & \text{where } \max^{above}(-\omega) > \omega_n > 0 \end{cases}$$

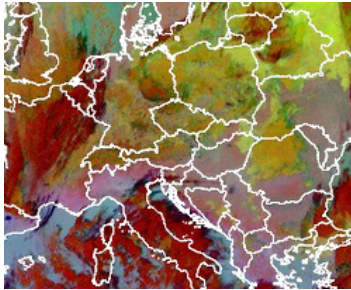
and

$$q'_{i|lcr} = q_{i|lcr} \cdot (1 - A \cdot \xi),$$

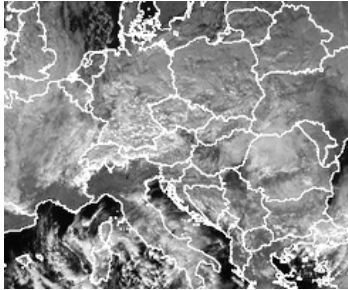
$$\text{zautef}' = \text{zautef} \cdot (1 + B \cdot \xi)$$

parameters  $A \equiv \text{ginvqcr} \sim 10$ ,  $B \equiv \text{ginvaut} \sim 0.99$ ,

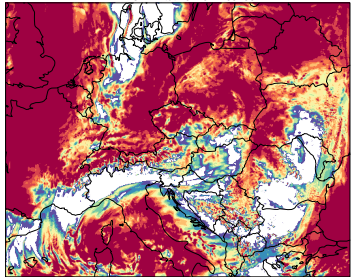
# Protecting shallow clouds: effect of protection



OPE Ntot 2017011400+36

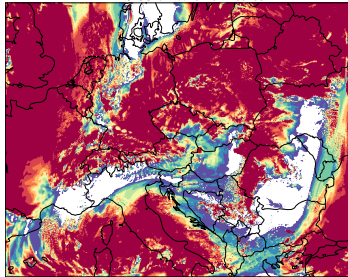


(Satellite)  
15 Jan 2017 12:00utc  
vs 36h forecast



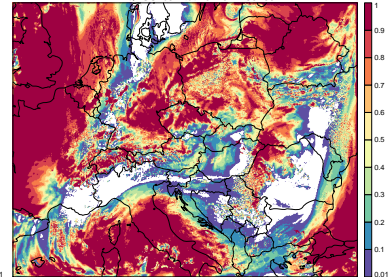
min=1.5259e-05, max=1, mean=0.65034

OPER



min=0, max=1, mean=0.67499

PROTECTED



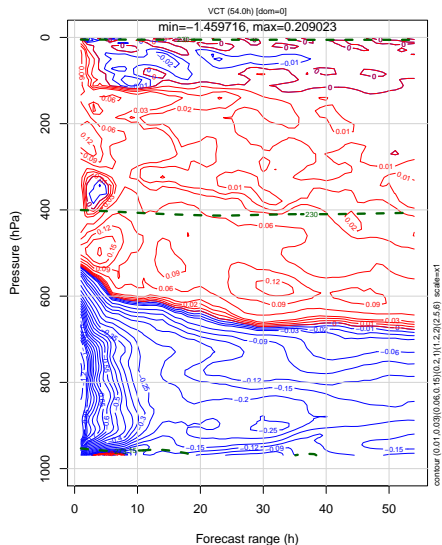
min=0, max=1, mean=0.58486

NOT PROTECTED



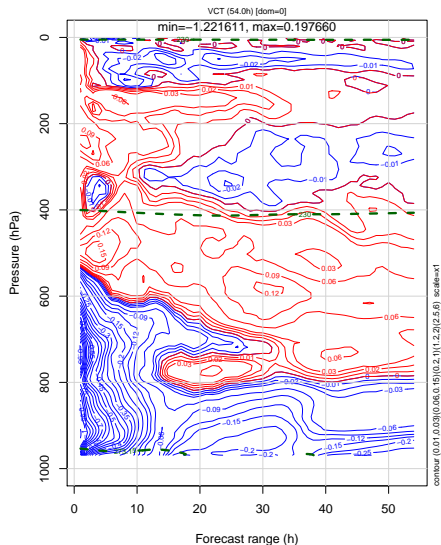
# Protecting shallow clouds: thermodynamics

QDUS1c\_0114-OPE\_0114, 2017-01-14 00:00



PROTECTED

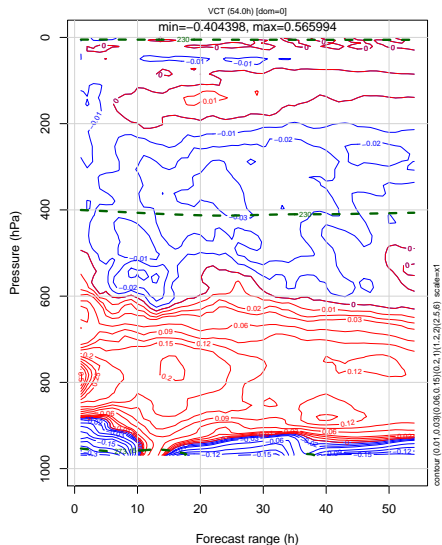
QDUS1c0\_0114-OPE\_0114, 2017-01-14 00:00



NOT PROTECTED

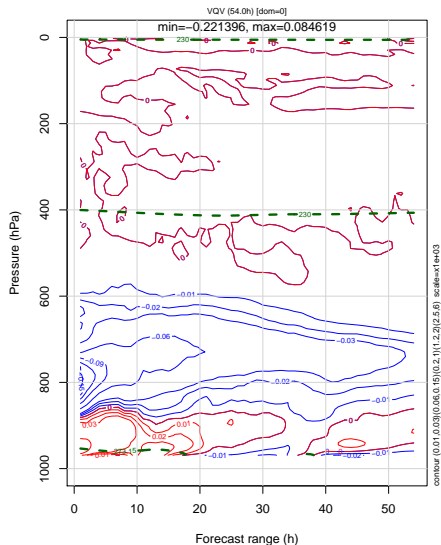
# Protecting shallow clouds: thermodynamics

QDUS1c0\_0114-QDUS1c\_0114, 2017-01-14 00:00



$\neq \dot{T}$  Unprotected - Protected

QDUS1c0\_0114-QDUS1c\_0114, 2017-01-14 00:00



$\neq \dot{q}_v$  Unprotected - Protected

## Cloud enhancement under a steep inversion (RPHI0)

- Under a steep inversion, the  $T'$  is overestimated,  $\Rightarrow q_{\text{sat}}$  as well.

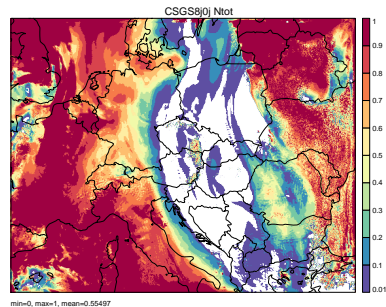
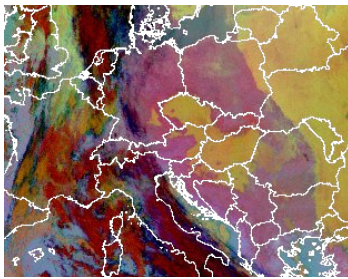
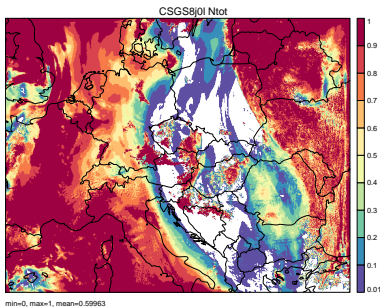
## Cloud enhancement under a steep inversion (RPHI0)

- Under a steep inversion, the  $T'$  is overestimated,  $\Rightarrow q_{\text{sat}}$  as well.
- Fixed by estimating a temperature gradient over a reference height below the inversion top (JFG's method).
- $\Delta T$  can be as large as 5K !
- Using  $q_{\text{sat}}(\overline{T'} - \Delta T)$  in the cloud scheme allows to compute directly the associated condensation.

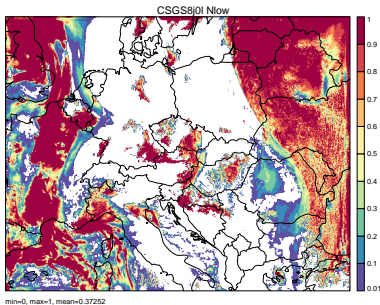
## Cloud enhancement under a steep inversion (RPHI0)

- Under a steep inversion, the  $T'$  is overestimated,  $\Rightarrow q_{\text{sat}}$  as well.
- Fixed by estimating a temperature gradient over a reference height below the inversion top (JFG's method).
- $\Delta T$  can be as large as 5K !
- Using  $q_{\text{sat}}(\overline{T'} - \Delta T)$  in the cloud scheme allows to compute directly the associated condensation.
- *More physical method possible with Smith scheme:  
use the mixing length from TOUCANS and build a multimodal local pdf  
(K. Van Weverberg, UKMO)*

# Cloud enhancement under a steep inversion: clouds

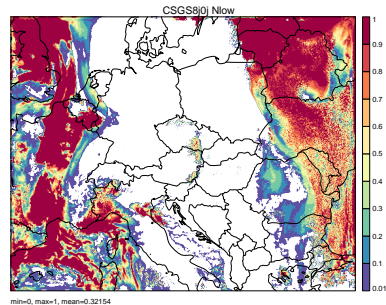


Satellite 28/1/2017 12:00utc



← Low cloud →

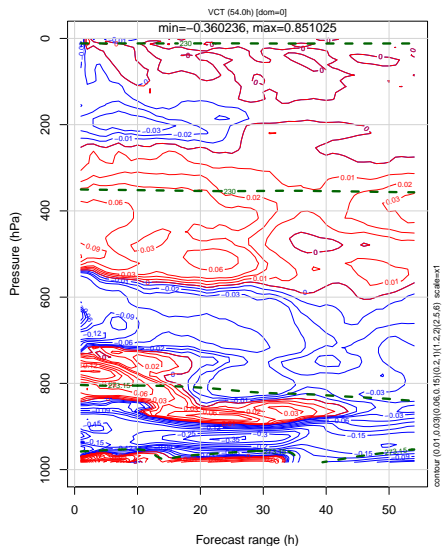
RPHI0=1250



RPHI0=0

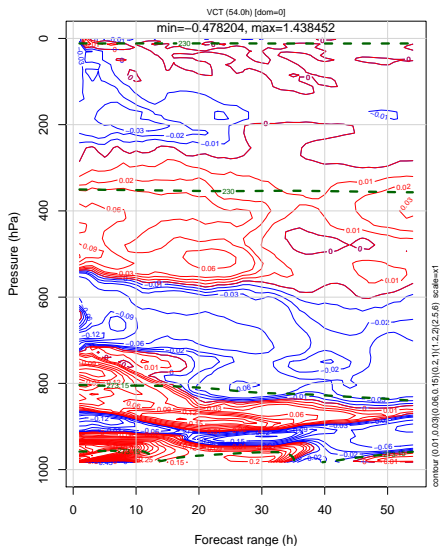
# Cloud enhancement under a steep inversion: thermodynamics

CSGS7\_0128-OPE\_0128, 2017-01-28 00:00



RPHI0=1250

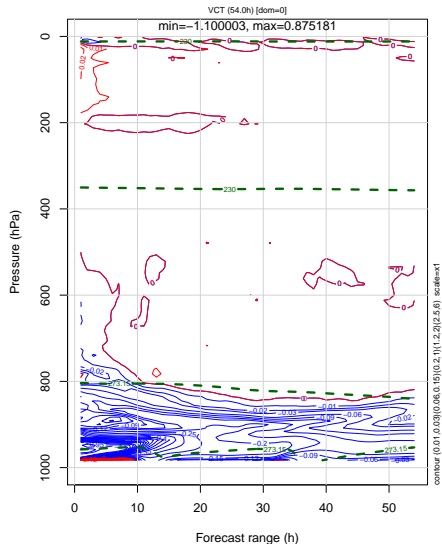
CSGS7a\_0128-OPE\_0128, 2017-01-28 00:00



RPHI0=0

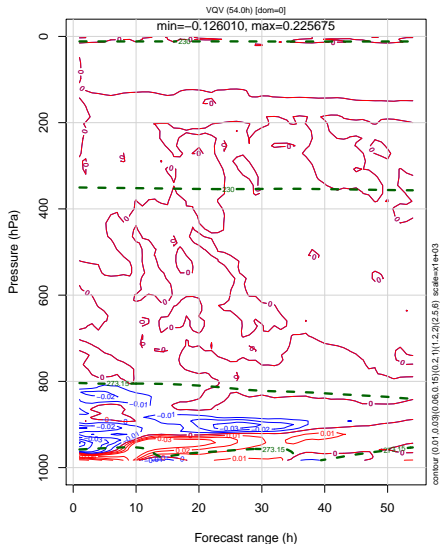
# Cloud enhancement under a steep inversion: thermodynamics

CSGSt7\_0128-CSGSt7a\_0128, 2017-01-28 00:00



$\neq \dot{T}$  Corrected – not corrected

CSGSt7\_0128-CSGSt7a\_0128, 2017-01-28 00:00



$\neq \dot{q}_v$  Corrected – not corrected



## Deep convection and the cloud scheme

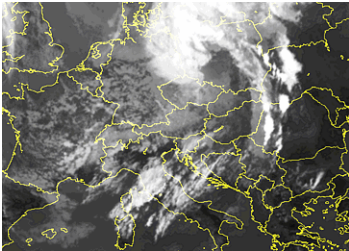
- Deep convection yields more intensive cloud condensate and smaller mesh fractions.
- The parameterization already provides  $q_{cc}$ ,  $N_c$

... but the resolved signal is not included !

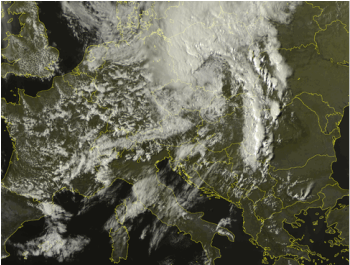
- Smoothly skewing the pdf would increase or decrease both  $N$  and  $q_c$ .
- Instead and much easier, reduce and increase  $q_c$  in function of  $\max^{above}(-\bar{\omega} - \omega_n)$

# Summer 2016 situation

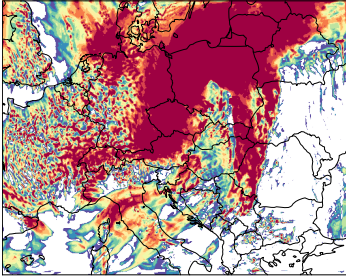
IR→



←VIS



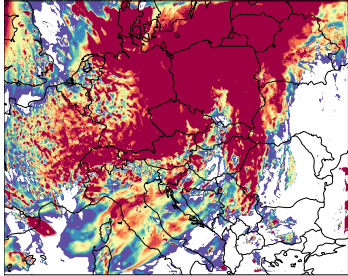
OPE Ntot 2016071400+15



min=1.5259e-05, max=1, mean=0.45758

Unified+CSD→

CSGS17 Ntot

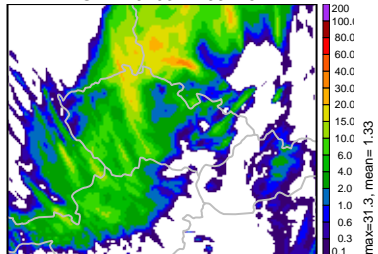


min=0, max=1, mean=0.47812

←OPER

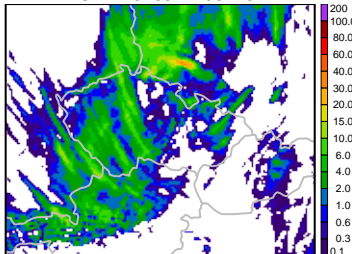
# Summer 2016 situation

OPE 2016071400+15

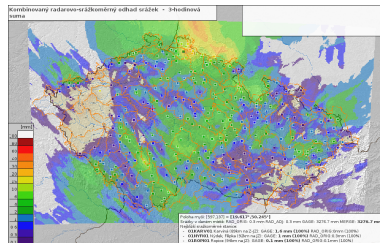


SURF PREC.EAU.CON+EAU.GEC+NEI.CON+NEI.GEC, 12 to 15

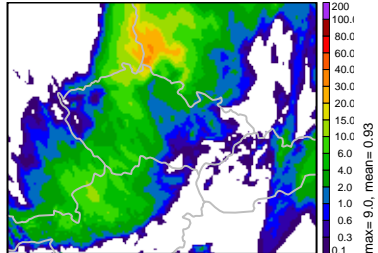
OPE 2016071400+15



SURF PREC.EAU.CON+NEI.CON, 12 to 15

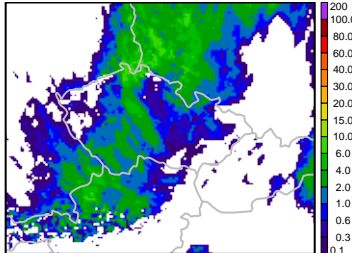


CSGS<sub>t7</sub> : 2016/07/14 z00:00 +15h



SURF PREC.EAU.CON+EAU.GEC+NEI.CON+NEI.GEC, 12 to 15

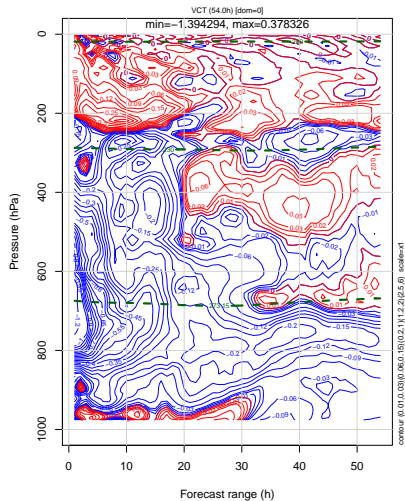
CSGS<sub>t7</sub> : 2016/07/14 z00:00 +15h



SURF PREC.EAU.CON+NEI.CON, 12 to 15

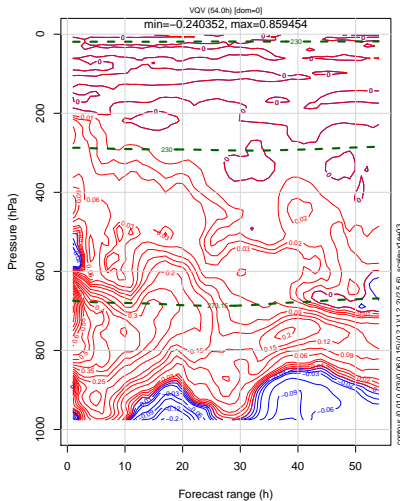
# Summer 2016

CSGSi7\_0714-OPER\_0714, 2016-07-14 00:00



$\neq \dot{T}$  vs OPER

CSGSi7\_0714-OPER\_0714, 2016-07-14 00:00



$\neq \dot{q}_v$  vs OPER

Moderate convection  
appears to work

See other talk



## Further on

- Resolved transport  $\neq$  subgrid transport: how to further enhance CSD subgrid transport.
- Other impacts of strong upwards velocity
  - Mixed phase / subgrid variability ( $Uc$ )
  - Autoconversion
  - Collection
  - Sedimentation
- Reduce the arbitrariness
  - Use turbulent mixing length for enhancing cloud under inversion top
  - Estimate directly the Smith pdf width using subgrid variances derived from TOUCANS.
- Why is it so difficult ?
  - CRMs use a binary cloudiness
  - cloud scheme prognostic character based on an evolving diagnostic rather than on tendencies
  - Most models recognize they stay with a schizoid representation of clouds between thermodynamics ad radiation