



# Convection Initiation Nowcasting and Verification

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and Arnold Taufferner<sup>1</sup>**

9th International SRNWP-Workshop on Non-Hydrostatic  
Modelling, Bad Orb, 16 - 18 May 2011

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# Outline

Motivation

Cb-TRAM (**C**umulonim**b**us **T**Racking **A**nd **M**onitoring)

CI-Verification

Additional data sources

Summary





# Motivation

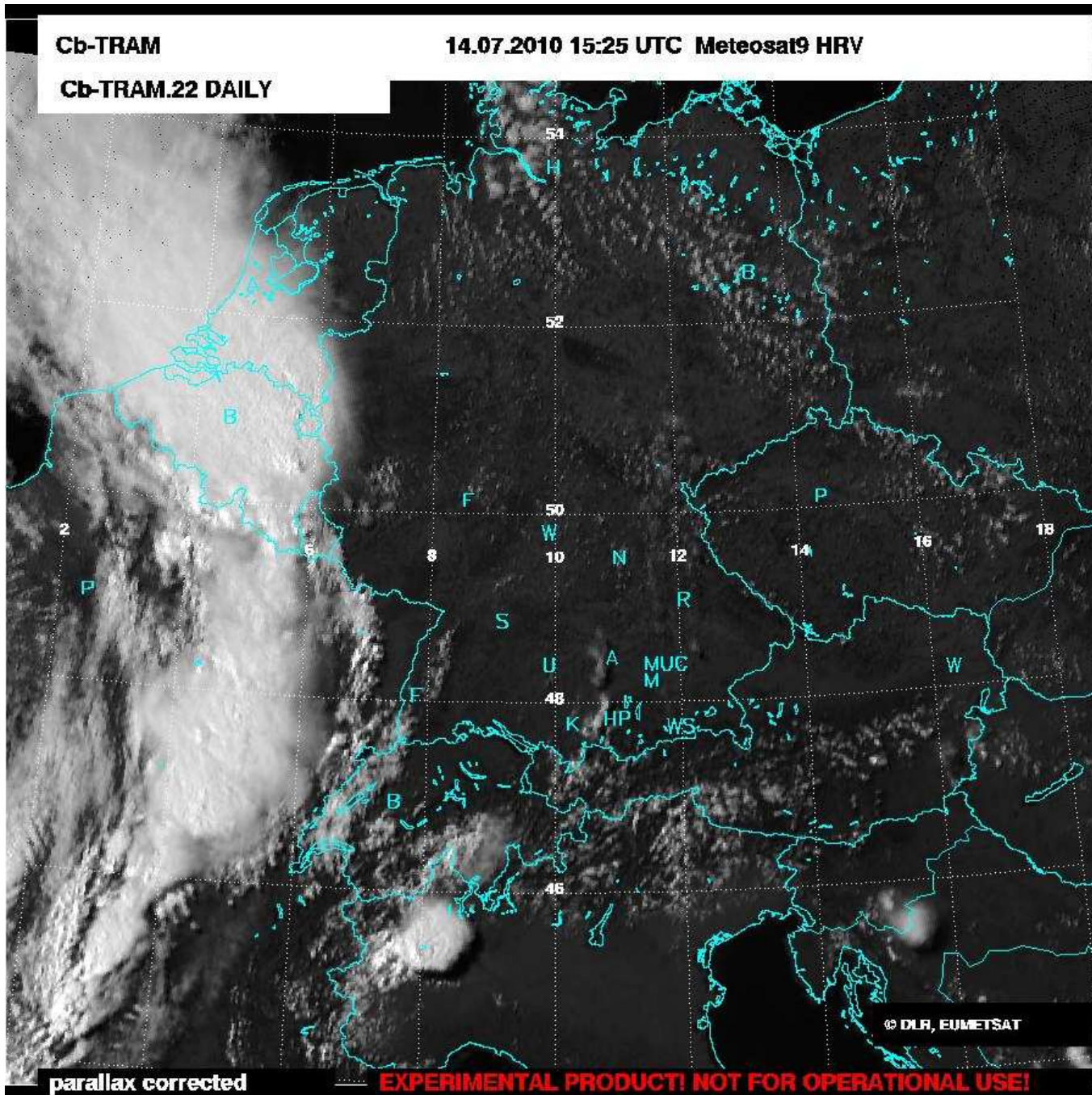
Aviation purposes

Cb-TRAM as basic tool

Adding non-satellite fields for further development



# Cb-TRAM - Cumulonimbus TRacking And Monitoring

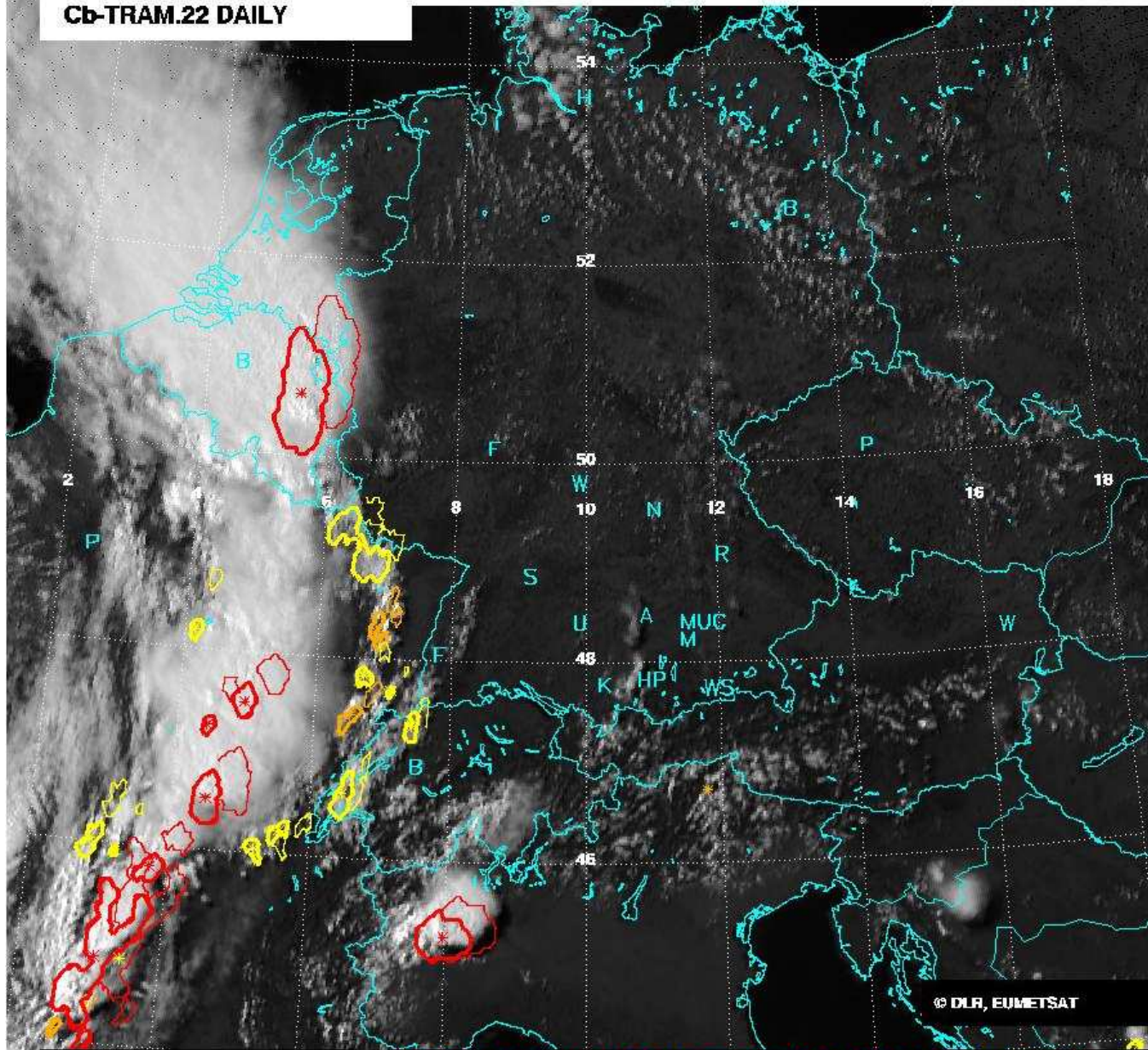


# Cb-TRAM - Cumulonimbus TRacking And Monitoring

Cb-TRAM

14.07.2010 15:25 UTC Meteosat9 HRV

Cb-TRAM.22 DAILY



Used MSG (rapidscan) data:

WV 6.2

IR 10.8

IR 12.0

HRV

Detection stages:

**1: Convection Initiation (CI)**

development in HRV

IR 10.8 cooling

**2: Rapid development**

WV 6.2 rapid cooling

(> 1K/15min)

**3: Mature storms**

T 6.2 - T 10.8

HRV texture

Extrapolation up to 60 min  
(here 30 minute nowcast plotted)

Description: Zinner et al., 2008

parallax corrected

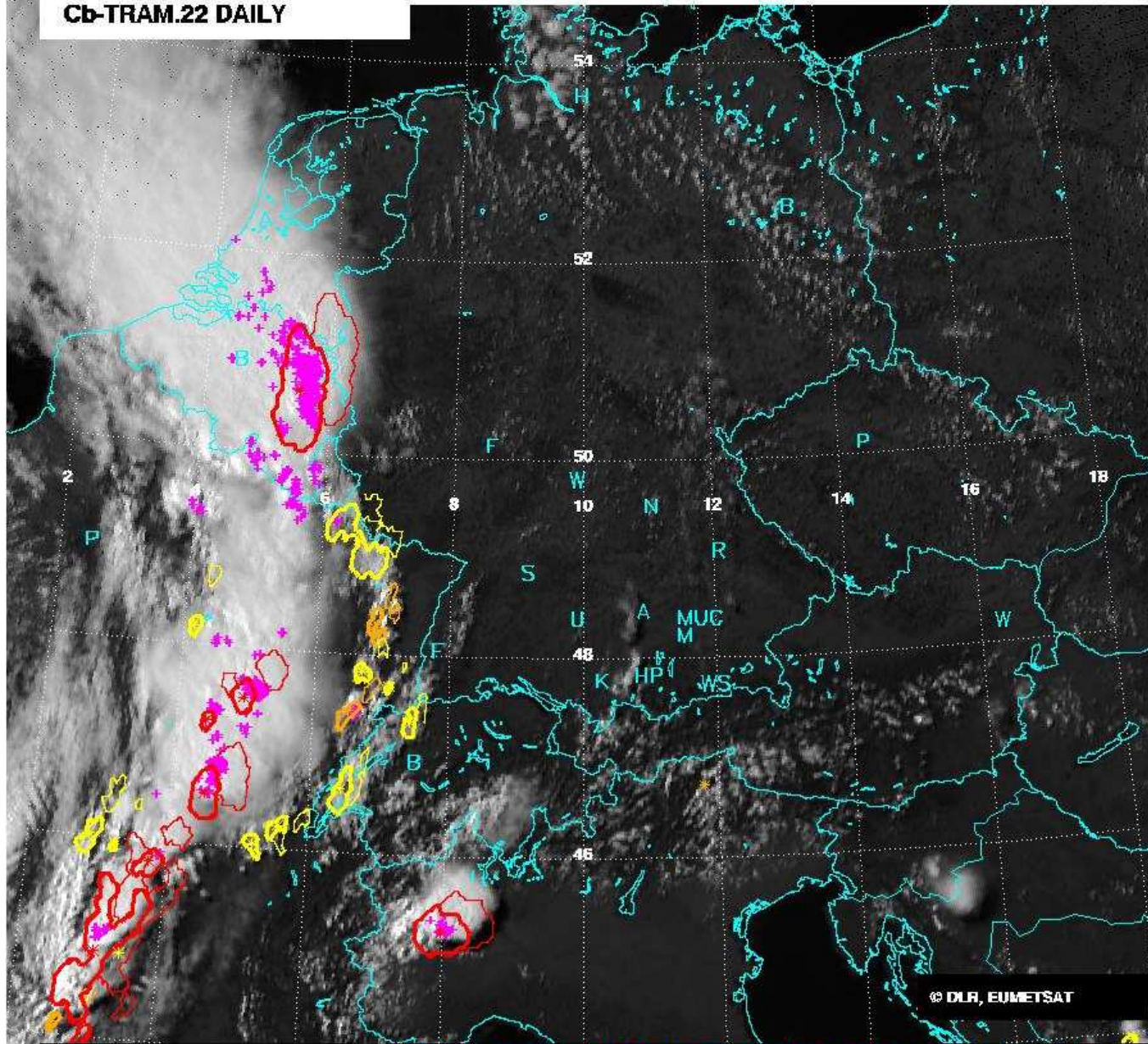
**EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCT! NOT FOR OPERATIONAL USE!**

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Cb-TRAM

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(> 1K/15min)

**3: Mature storms**

T 6.2 - T 10.8

HRV texture

**Lightning (LINET)**

Extrapolation up to 60 min  
(here 30 minute nowcast plotted)

Description: Zinner et al., 2008

parallax corrected

EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCT! NOT FOR OPERATIONAL USE!

# CI-Verification

How to verify CI?

Cutting edge of forecast verification!

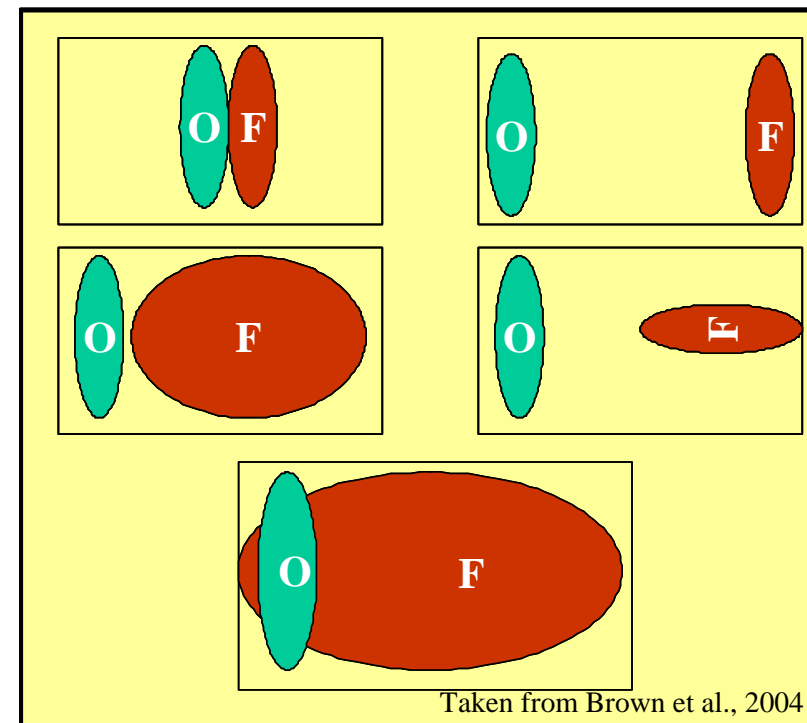
Difficult to match CI satellite indicators to lateron (30 – 60 min) existing storms, detected in radar, lightning or satellite data

Thunderstorms are relatively rare events!

How to deal with close nowcasts?  
What is close?

Contingency table

		Observed	
		yes	no
Forecast	yes	hit	false alarm
	no	miss	correct negative





# CI-Verification

How is a “CI-event“ defined? Or: What’s used as “truth“?

- radar echo  $\geq 35$  dBZ  
(e.g. Roberts & Rutledge, 2003; Mecikalski & Bedka, 2006)
- Lightning density / flash rate  
(e.g. Zinner & Betz, 2009; Donovan et al., 2008)
- Cb-TRAM “mature storm“-stage  
determined by IR 6.2 – IR 10.8 and HRV texture





# CI-Verification

How is a “CI-event“ defined? Or: What’s used as “truth“?

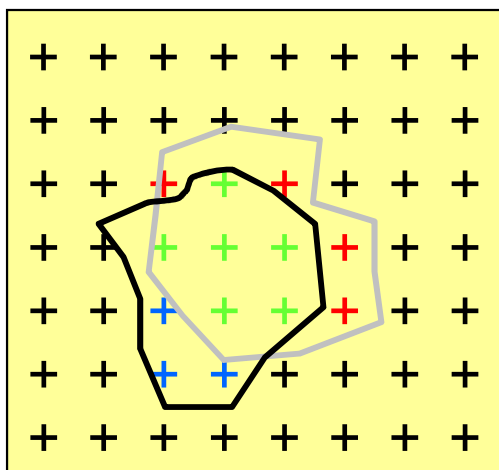
- radar echo  $\geq 35$  dBZ  
(e.g. Roberts & Rutledge, 2003; Mecikalski & Bedka, 2006)

**Cb-TRAM analysis used for comparison with the 15, 30, 45, and 60 minutes CI-stage nowcasts**

- Cb-TRAM “mature storm“-stage  
determined by IR 6.2 – IR 10.8 and HRV texture

# CI-Verification

		Observed	
		yes	no
Forecast	yes	hit	false alarm
	no	miss	correct negative



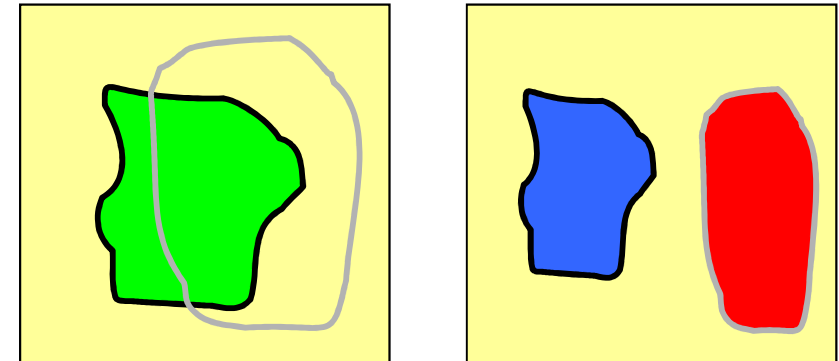
Pixel based

Requires perfect matching!

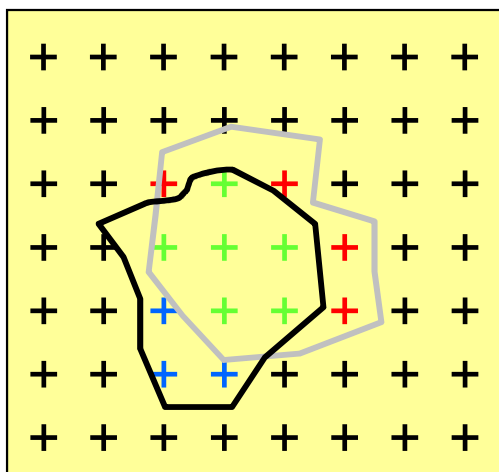
# CI-Verification

		Observed	
		yes	no
Forecast	yes	hit	false alarm
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## Object based



double penalty problem



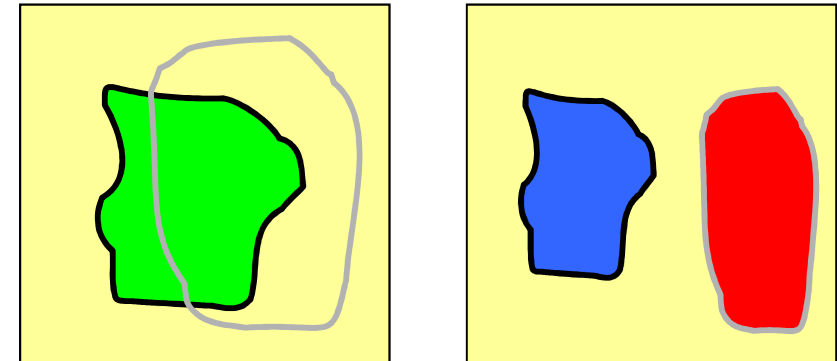
## Pixel based

Requires perfect matching!

# CI-Verification

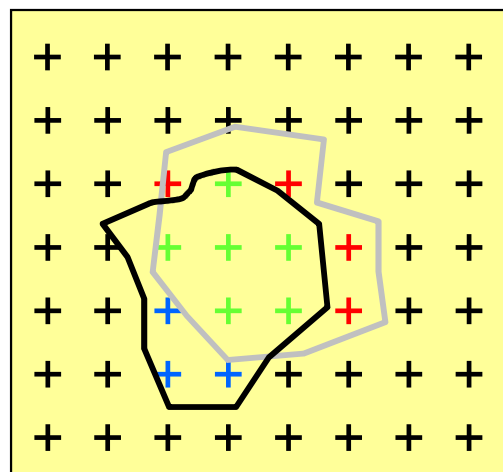
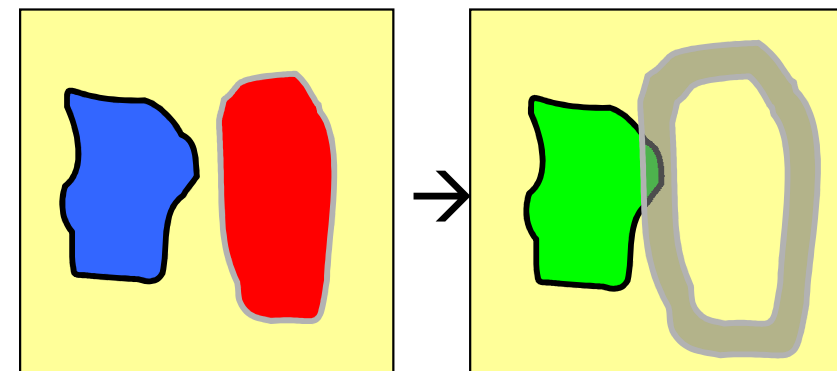
		Observed	
		yes	no
Forecast	yes	hit	false alarm
	no	miss	correct negative

## Object based



double penalty problem

## Fuzzy + Object based



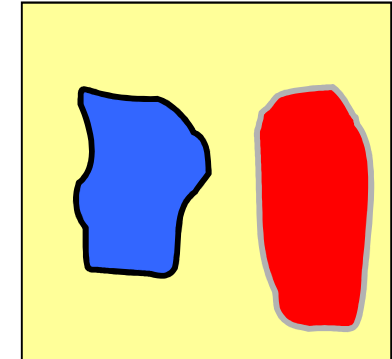
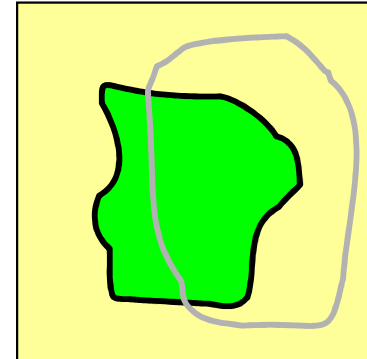
## Pixel based

Requires perfect matching!

# CI-Verification

		Contingency table	
		Observed	
Forecast		yes	no
	yes	hit	false alarm
no	miss	correct negative	

## Object based



# CI-Verification

Different versions shown:

Object based  
with Cb stage 1 analysis objects  
for the nowcast overlap

Developing Object based  
without Cb stage 1 analysis  
objects for the nowcast overlap  
→ just developing cells

Results for the summer 2009, 15 May to 31 August

	15 min	30 min	acc 15-60 min
Object based POD	0,5919	0,4212	0,4093
Object based FAR	0,6109	0,7545	0,5448
Object based CSI	0,2737	0,1462	0,2489
Dev Object POD	0,2281	0,1992	0,1697
Dev Object FAR	0,8853	0,8841	0,8176
Dev Object CSI	0,0397	0,0393	0,0654

POD = hits / (hits + misses)

FAR = false alarms / (hits + false alarms)

CSI = hits / (hits + misses + false alarms)



# Additional data sources

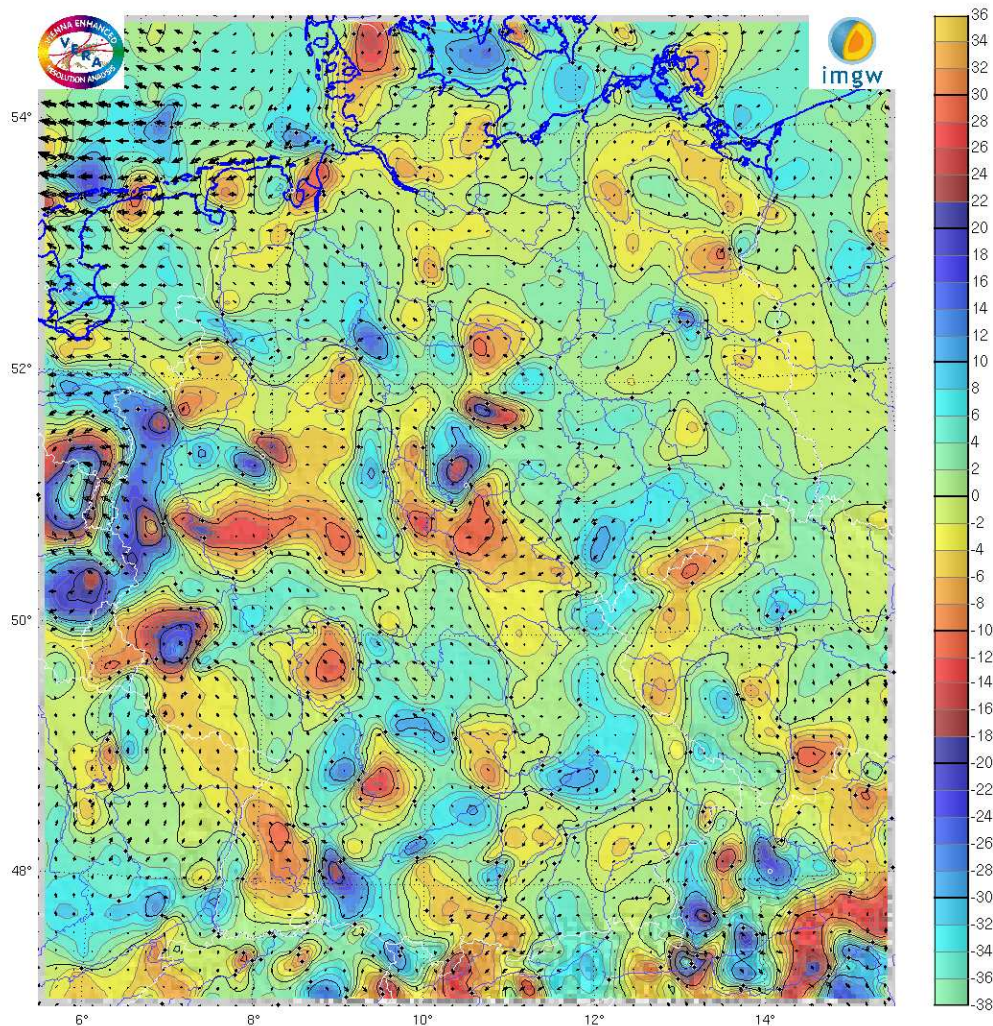
Testing the additional information provided by:

- more satellite channels
- VERA data (e.g. MFC/MFD, equivalent potential temperature)
- 
-

# Vienna Enhanced Resolution Analysis

Montag, 25. Mai 2009, 15:00 UTC, Deutschland

Feuchteflussdivergenz (Farbflächen), Einheit:  $10^{-4} \text{ g/(kg s)} [2]$ , Beobachtungen: 326, Symbol: \*, Min: -37.75, Max: 34.41,  $\mu$ : 0.67,  $\sigma^2$ : 32.38  
10 m Wind (Pfeile), Einheit: m/s, Beobachtungen: 345, Symbol: o, Min: 0.03, Max: 11.57,  $\mu$ : 2.39,  $\sigma^2$ : 2.53  $\rightarrow$  (10 m/s)



Erstellt am Montag, den 04. April 2011 um 09:42:24 UTC mit VERAflex 1.7. © 1995-2011 Institut für Meteorologie und Geophysik, Universität Wien

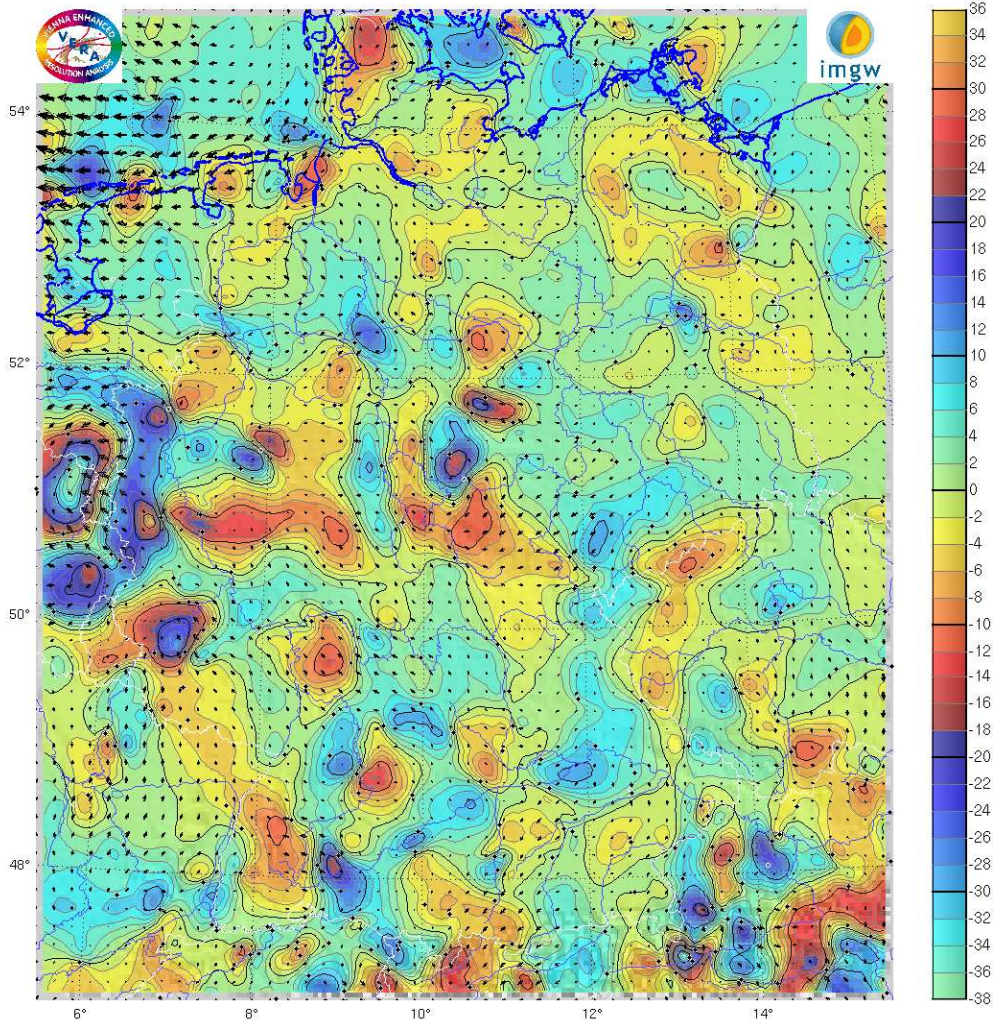
More information and references:  
<http://www.univie.ac.at/amk/vera/>



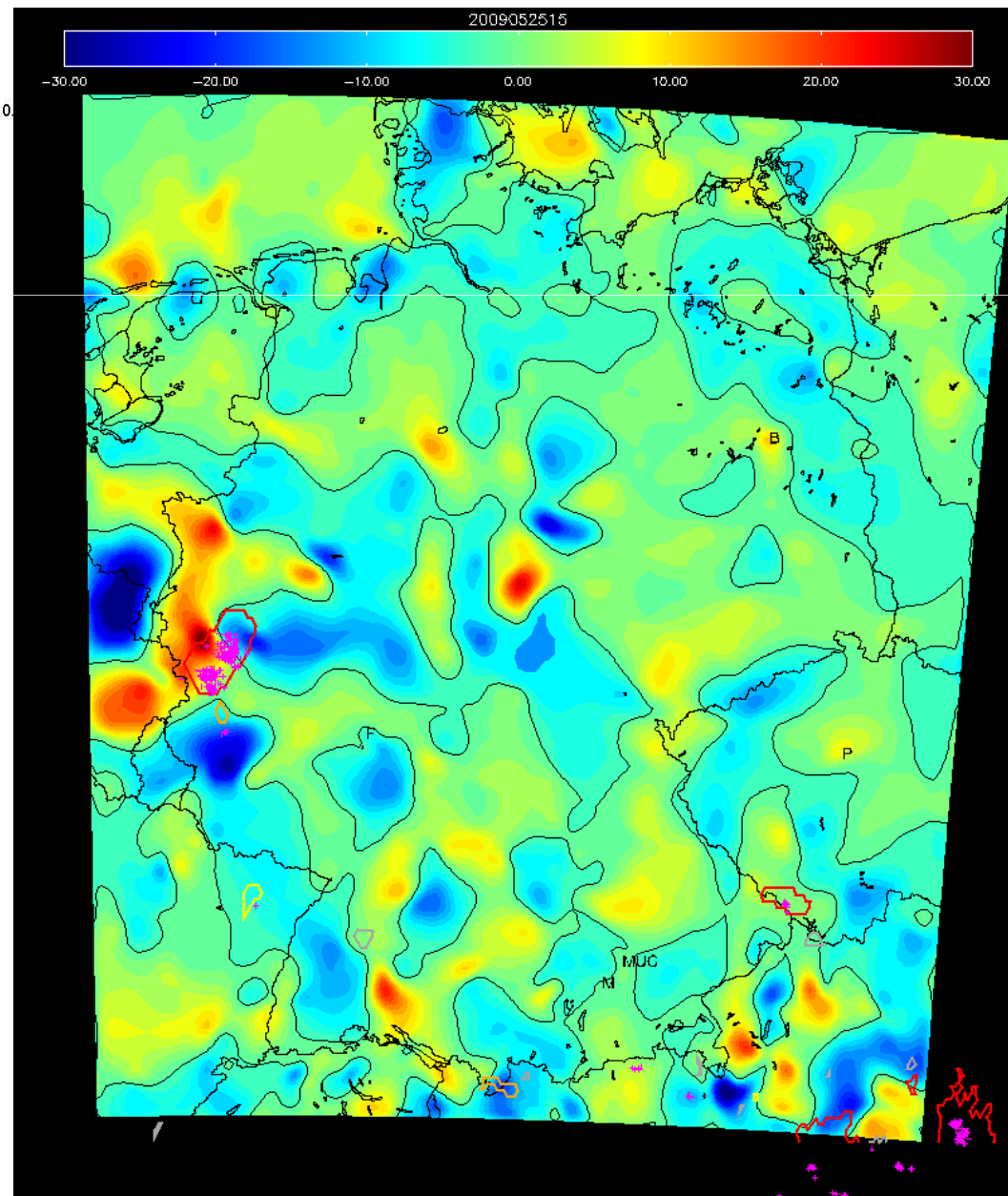
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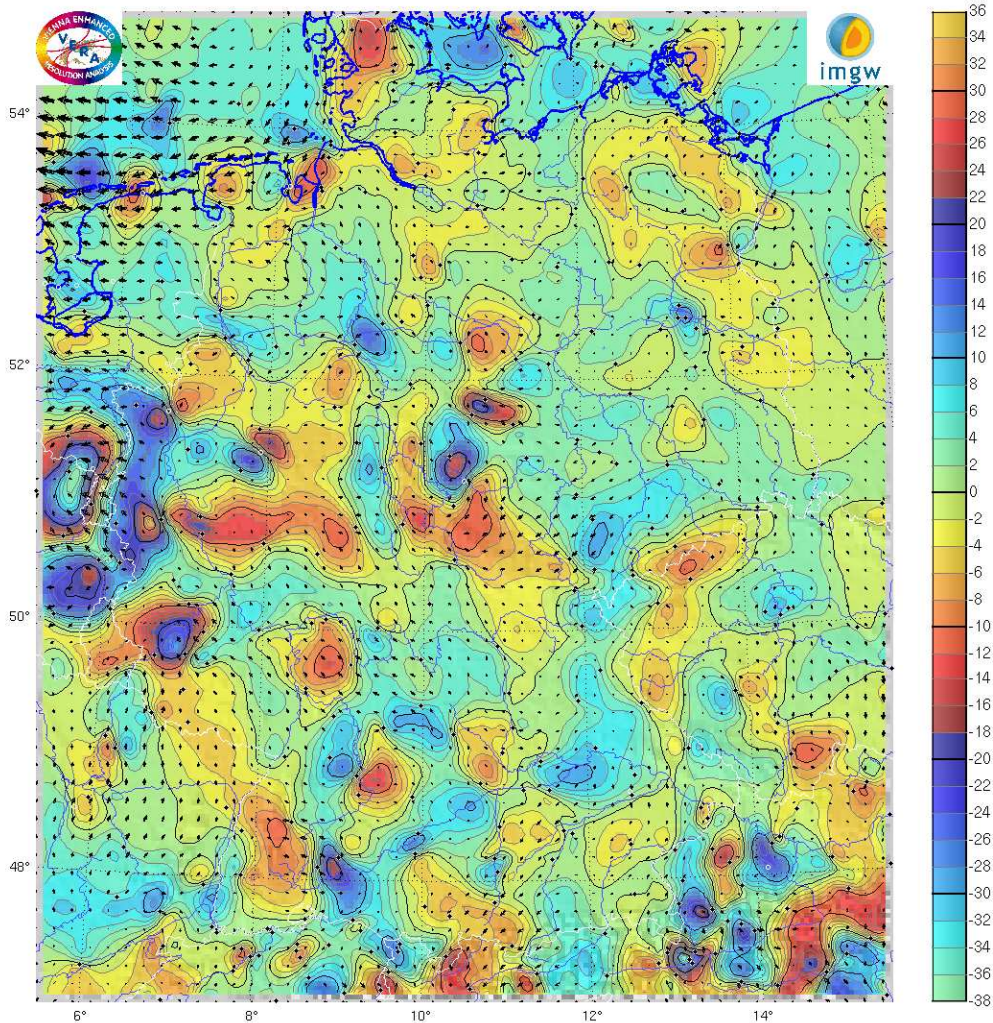
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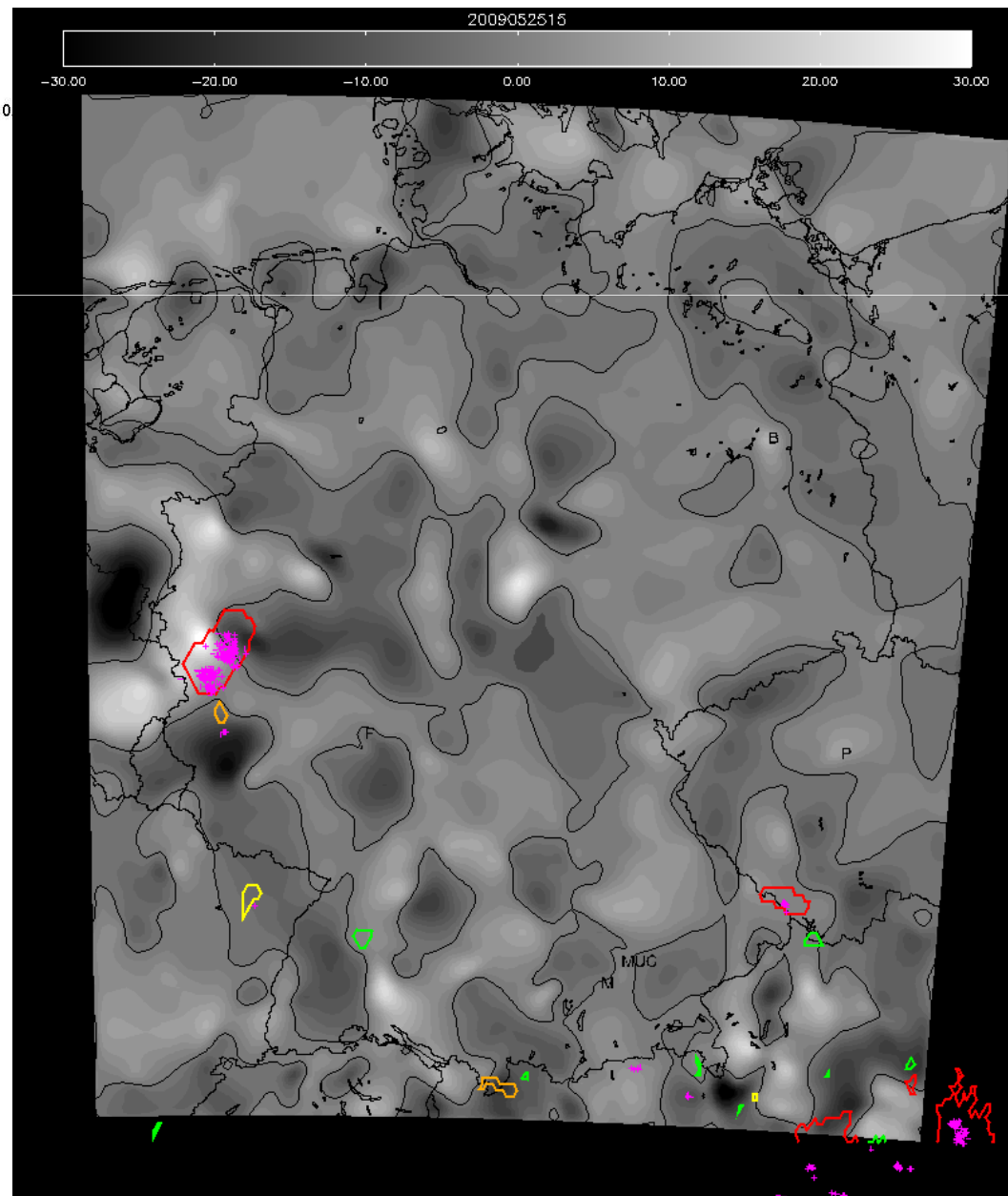
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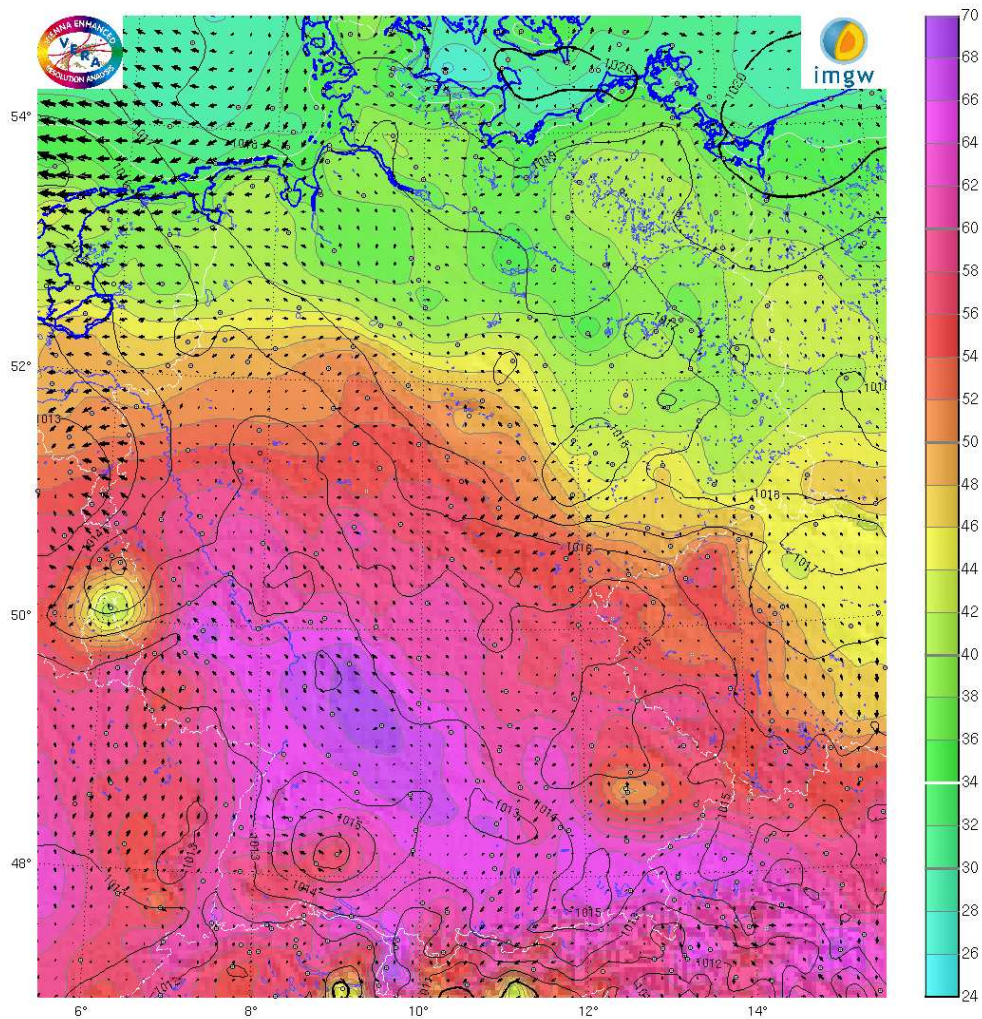
# Vienna Enhanced Resolution Analysis

Montag, 25. Mai 2009, 15:00 UTC, Deutschland

Äquivalentpotentielle Temperatur (Farbflächen), Einheit: °C [2], Beobachtungen: 338, Symbol: Diamant, Min: 25.81, Max: 69.46,  $\mu$ : 49.34,  $\sigma^2$ : 124.65

Reduzierter Bodendruck (Isolinien), Einheit: hPa [1], Beobachtungen: 311, Symbol: +, Min: 1009.09, Max: 1020.75,  $\mu$ : 1015.87,  $\sigma^2$ : 5.84

10 m Wind (Pfeile), Einheit: m/s, Beobachtungen: 345, Symbol: o, Min: 0.03, Max: 11.57,  $\mu$ : 2.39,  $\sigma^2$ : 2.53  $\rightarrow$  (10 m/s)

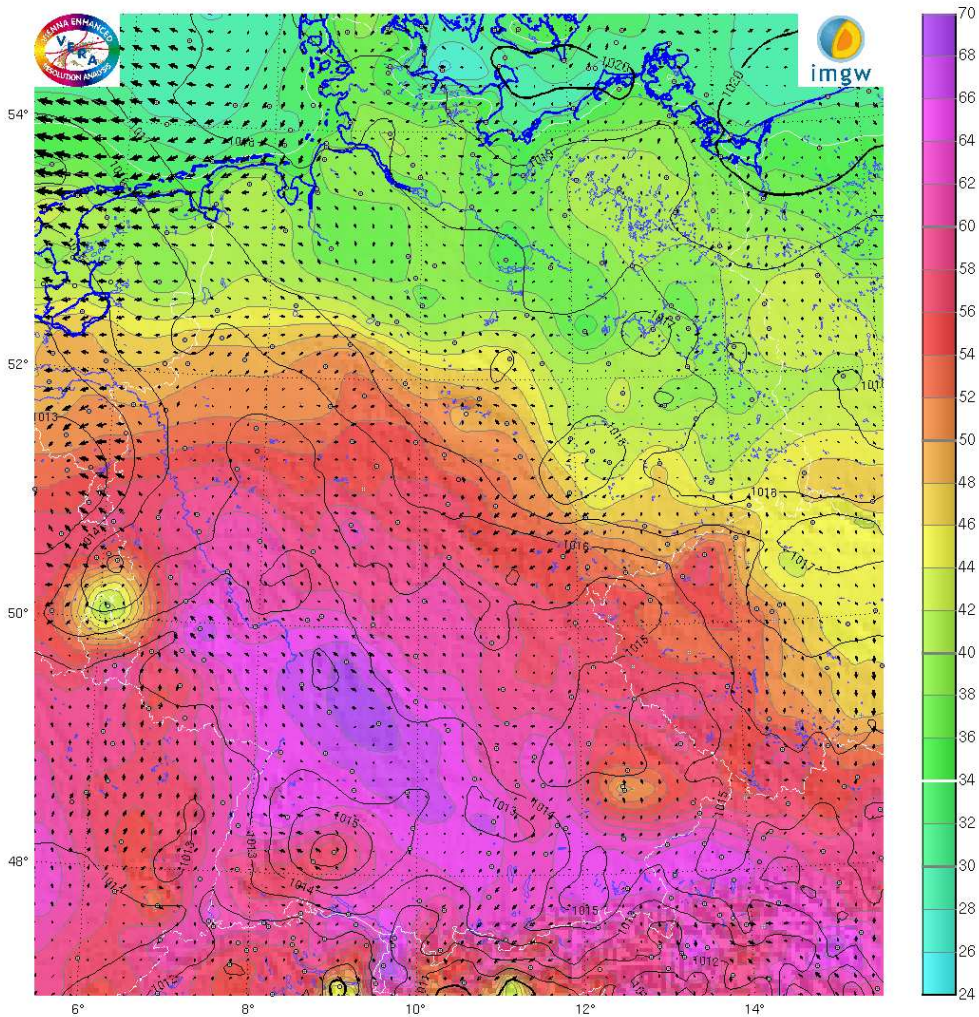


Erstellt am Montag, den 04. April 2011 um 09:42:35 UTC mit VERAflex 1.7. © 1995-2011 Institut für Meteorologie und Geophysik, Universität Wien

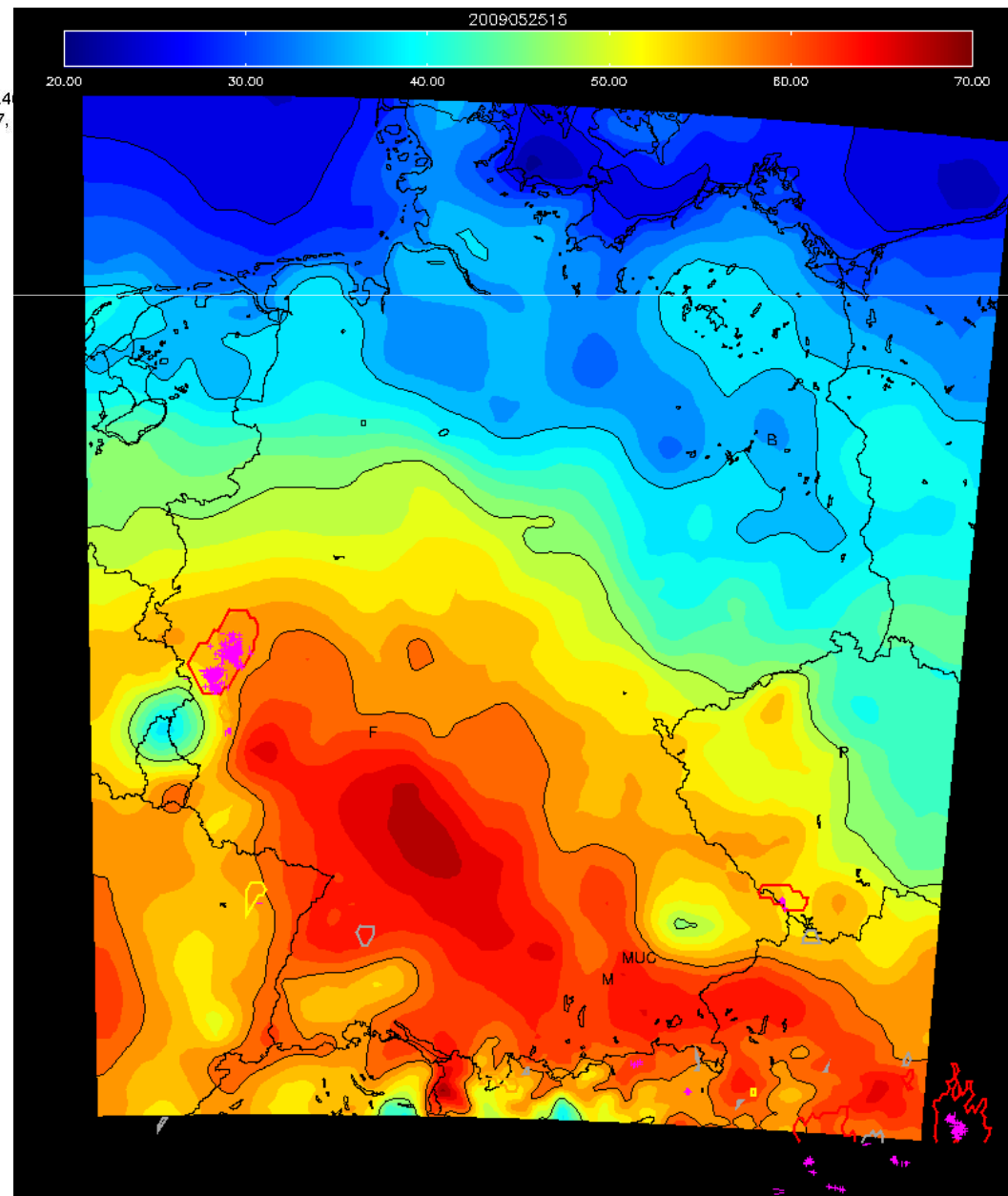
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Montag, 25. Mai 2009, 15:00 UTC, Deutschland

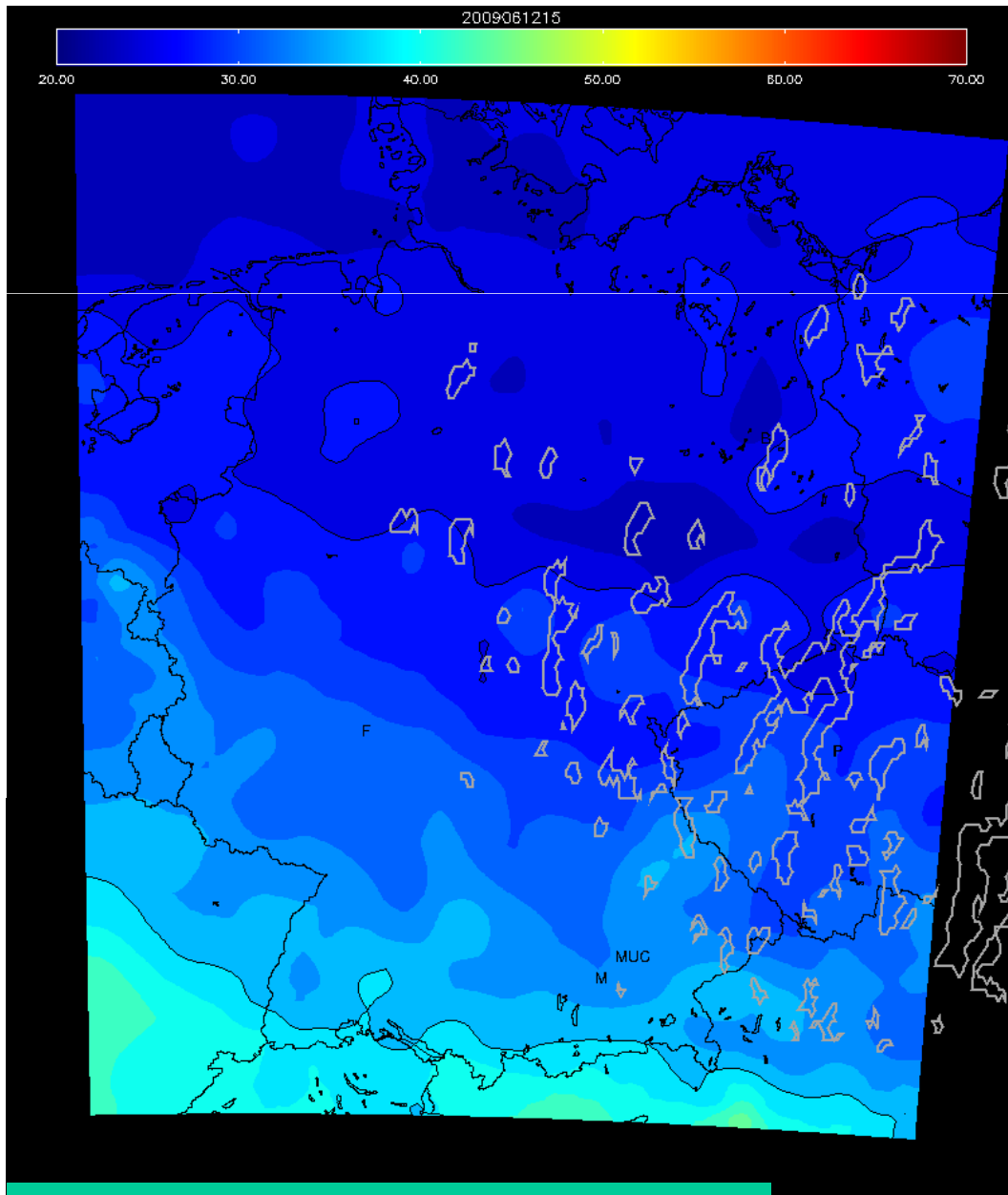
Äquivalentpotentielle Temperatur (Farbflächen), Einheit: °C [2], Beobachtungen: 338, Symbol: Diamant, Min: 25.81, Max: 69.4  
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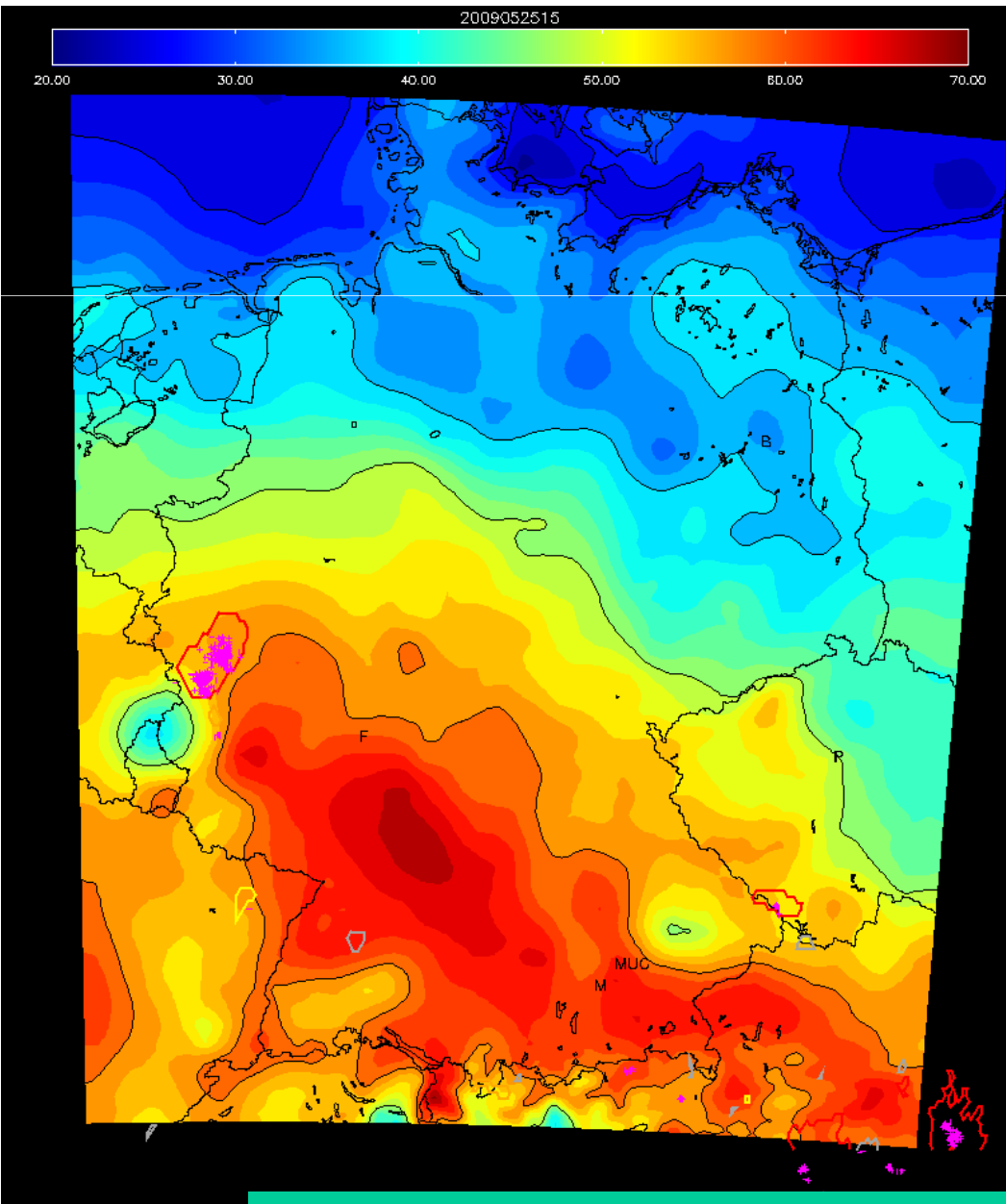
Erstellt am Montag, den 04. April 2011 um 09:42:35 UTC mit VERAflex 1.7. © 1995-2011 Institut für Meteorologie und Geophysik, Universität Wien



# Vienna Enhanced Resolution Analysis



EPOT June 12 2009 15 UTC



EPOT May 25 2009 15 UTC



# Additional data sources

Testing the additional information provided by:

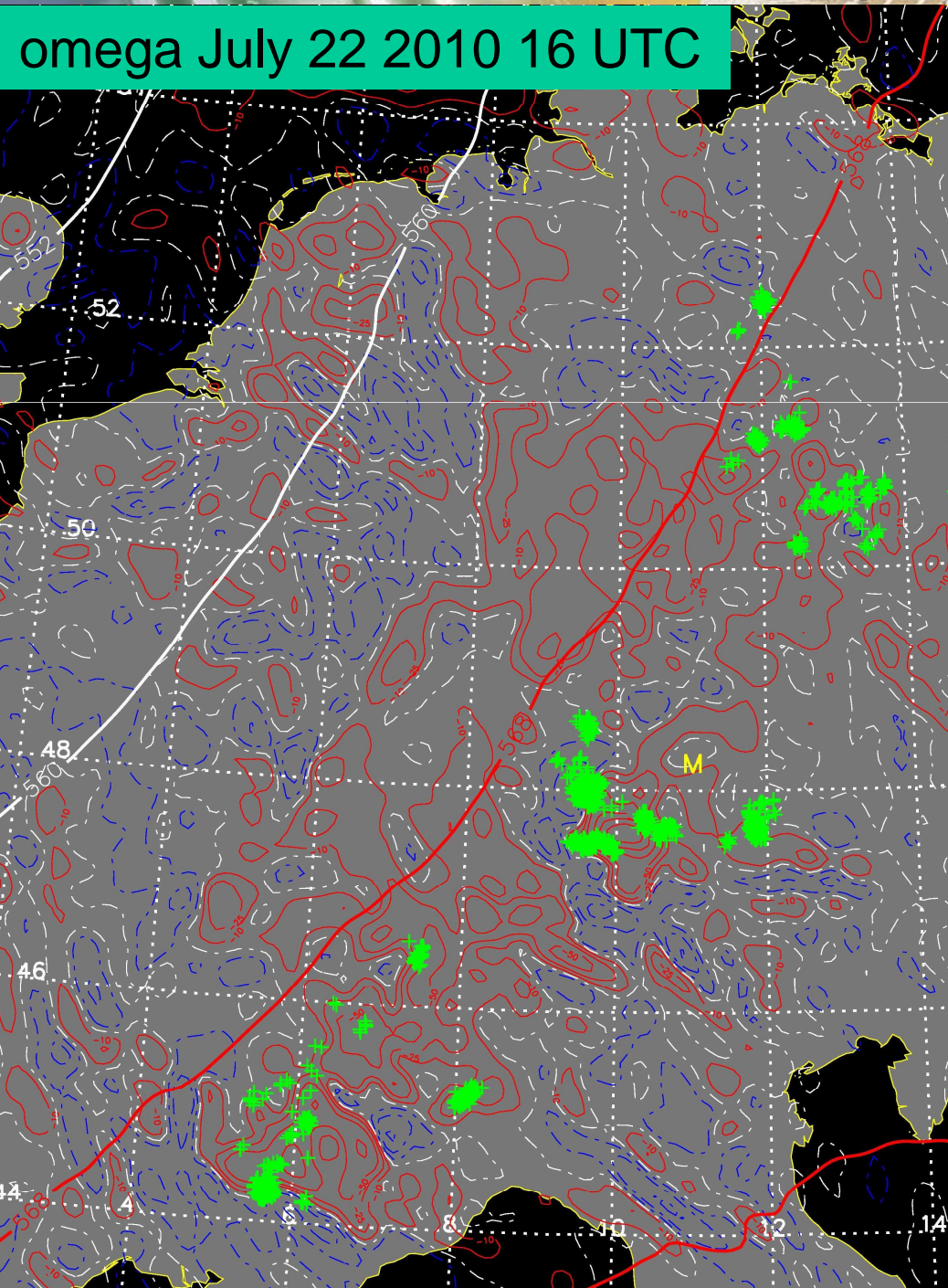
- more satellite channels
- VERA data (e.g. MFC/MFD, equivalent potential temperature)
- COSMO-EU data (e.g. updraft, an instability measure)
- COSMO-DE data (e.g. thunderstorm probability)

# COSMO-EU

Updrafts in vertical velocity of COSMO-EU and LINET lightning detections often correlated  
(Figure courtesy of M. Köhler, DLR)

Correlation between COSMO-EU updrafts and favoured thunderstorm areas already before lightning initiation?

→ ongoing work!





# Additional data sources

Testing the additional information provided by:

- more satellite channels
- VERA data (e.g. MFC, equivalent potential temperature)
- COSMO-EU data (e.g. updraft, an instability measure)
- COSMO-DE data (e.g. thunderstorm probability)

Data fusion (e.g. fuzzy logic)

Verify the abilities for the different products and their fusion





# Summary

Basic Tool  
(Cb-TRAM)



Verification

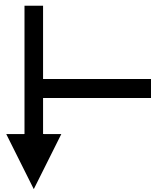


# Summary

Basic Tool  
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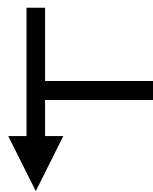
Data Fusion

# Summary

Basic Tool  
(Cb-TRAM)



Verification



Data Fusion

Cb-TRAM +  
Additional data



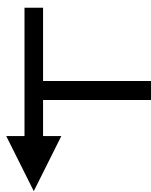
Verification

# Summary

Basic Tool  
(Cb-TRAM)



Verification



Data Fusion

Cb-TRAM +  
Additional data



Verification



CI-NOW – a CI detection and nowcasting tool



**Thank you for your attention! Questions?**

contact: [dennis.stich@dlr.de](mailto:dennis.stich@dlr.de)



# References

- Brown, B.G., R.R. Bullock, C.A. David, J.H. Gotway, M.B. Chapman, A. Takacs, E. Gilleland, K. Manning, J. Mahoney (2004): New verification approaches for convective weather forecasts. *11th Conf. Aviation, Range, and Aerospace Meteorology*, 4-8 Oct 2004, Hyannis, MA.
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- Mecikalski, J. and Bedka, K. (2006). Forecasting convective initiation by monitoring the evolution of moving cumulus in daytime GOES imagery. *Monthly Weather Review*, **134**: 4978.
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- Zinner, T. and Betz, H. (2009). Validation of Meteosat storm detection and nowcasting based on lightning network data. *Proceedings EUMETSAT 2009*, Bath
- Zinner, T., Mannstein, H., and Tafferner, A. (2008). Cb-TRAM: Tracking and monitoring severe convection from onset over rapid development to mature phase using multi-channel Meteosat-8 SEVIRI data. *Meteorology and Atmospheric Physics*, **101**: 191210.



# Vienna Enhanced Resolution Analysis

Objective high resolution analysis of meteorological fields based on surface observations

Thin plate smoothing spline interpolation of surface synop station observations on a 2 D grid

Additional information via so called "fingerprints" (a priori knowledge for areas with complex terrain or sparse data)

Quality control of the data

Output: e.g. u- & v-component of wind, potential temperature, equivalent potential temperature, pressure reduced to MSL, 6hourly accumulated precipitation, moisture flux convergence

More information and references on <http://www.univie.ac.at/amk/vera/>