



An aerial photograph of a coastal town nestled among green fields and forests. The town is densely built with houses and some larger institutional buildings. A railway line cuts through the town. The sky above is filled with thick, white cumulus clouds, creating a dramatic contrast with the blue sea visible on the right side of the frame.

# Convection-permitting ensemble simulations and Mediterranean HPEs

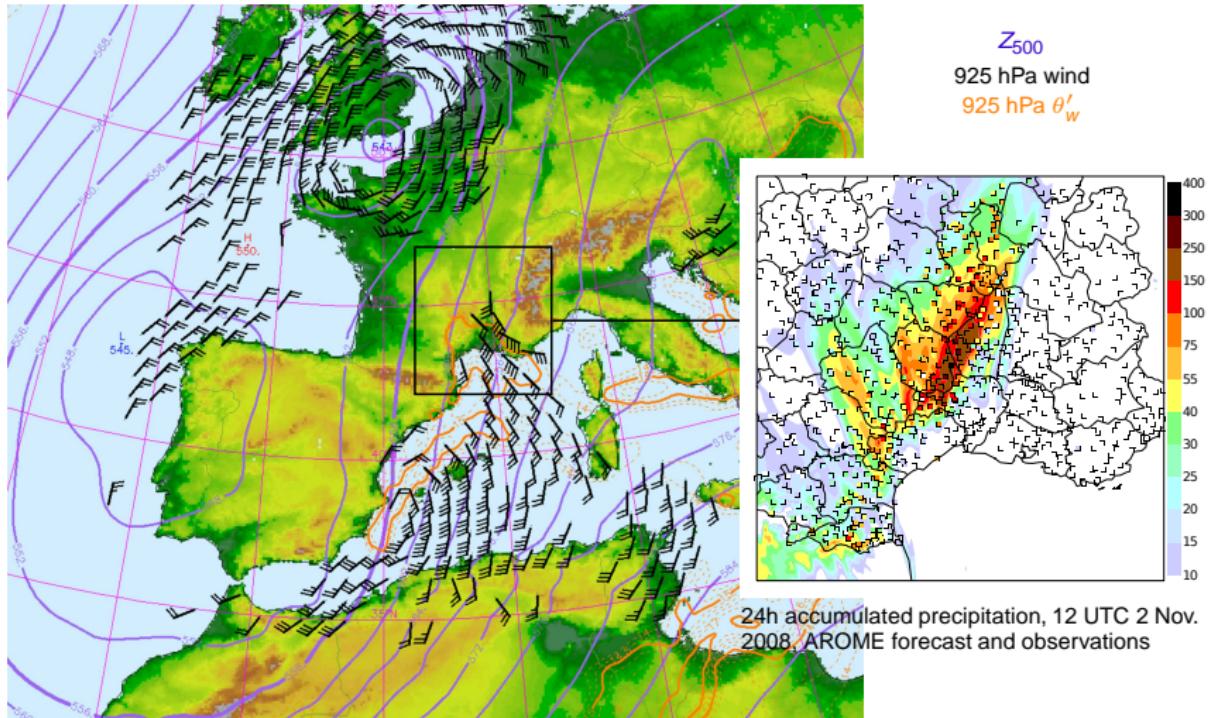
Benoît Vié<sup>1</sup>  
Olivier Nuissier<sup>1</sup>  
Véronique Ducrocq<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Météo-France - CNRM

1 August 2011

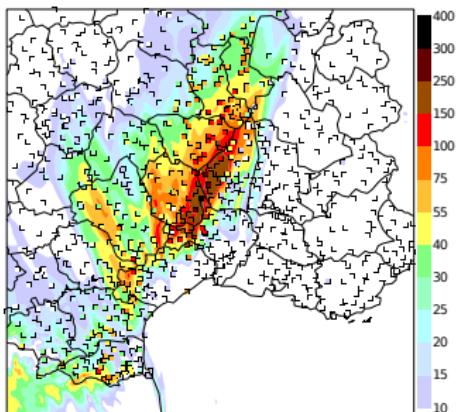


# Why do we need a convection-permitting EPS?



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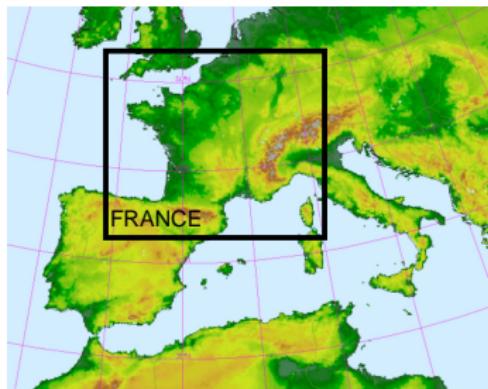
- ▶ Convection-permitting, non-hydrostatic NWP models produce very *realistic* forecasts
- ▶ Realistic  $\neq$  Real
- ▶ Runoff forecasts are very sensitive to the rainfall forecasts, especially for small and steep mountainous watersheds
- ▶ EPSs are one method to evaluate the forecast uncertainty



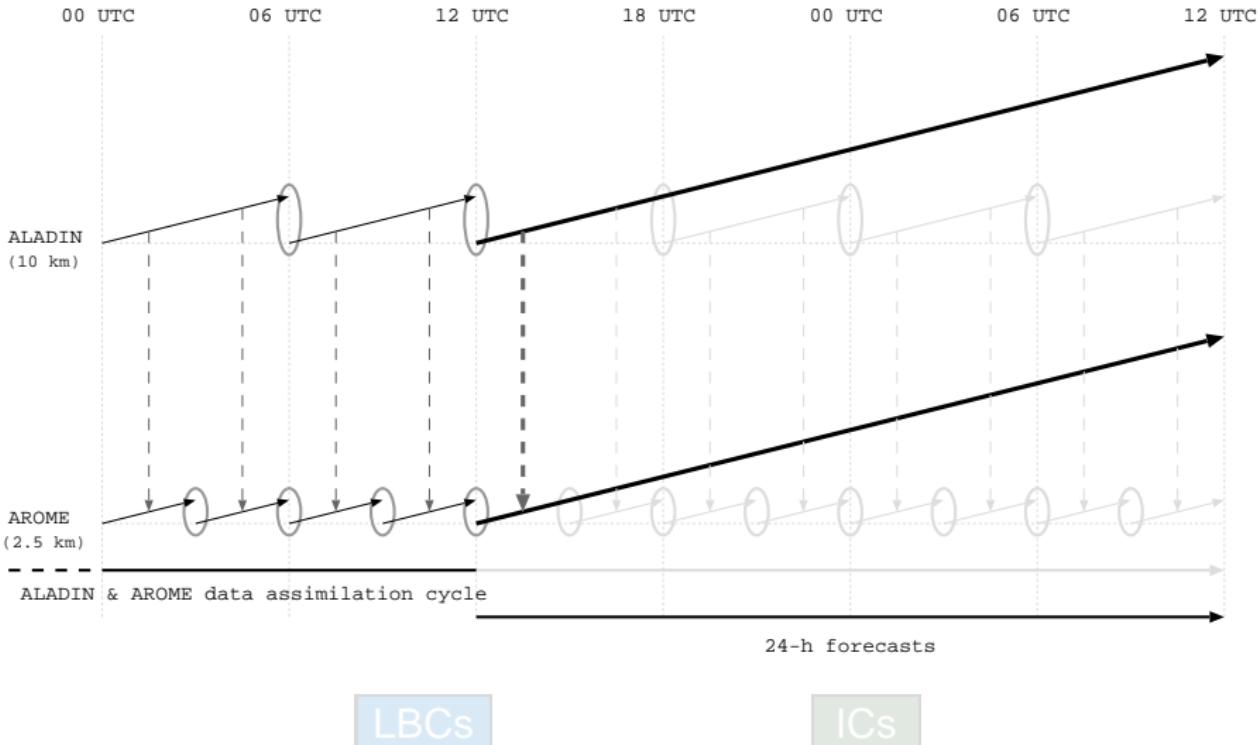
24h accumulated precipitation, 12 UTC 2 Nov. 2008, AROME forecast and observations

# The AROME model (late 2008)

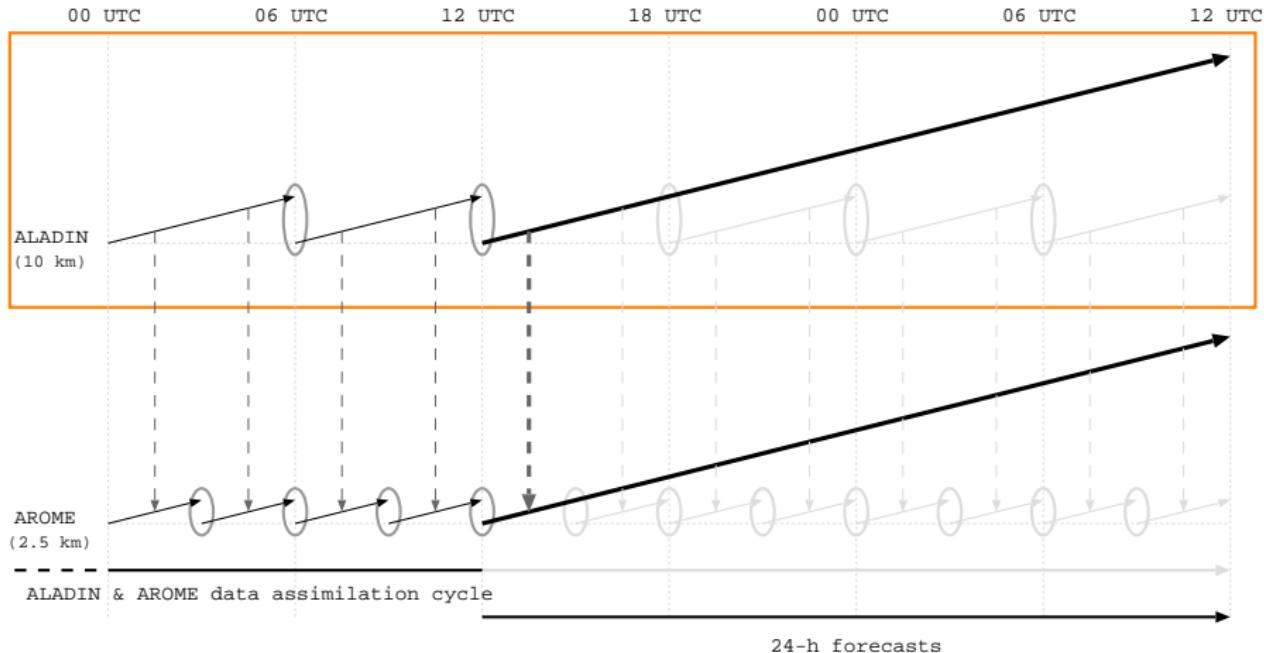
- ▶ Non-hydrostatic
- ▶ 2.5 km horizontal grid spacing
- ▶ 41 vertical levels
- ▶ 3D-VAR data assimilation scheme
- ▶ Bulk microphysics parameterization,  
6 prognostic water variables: water  
vapour, cloud water, rainwater,  
primary ice, graupel and snow  
(Pinty and Jabouille, 1998, Caniaux,  
1994)



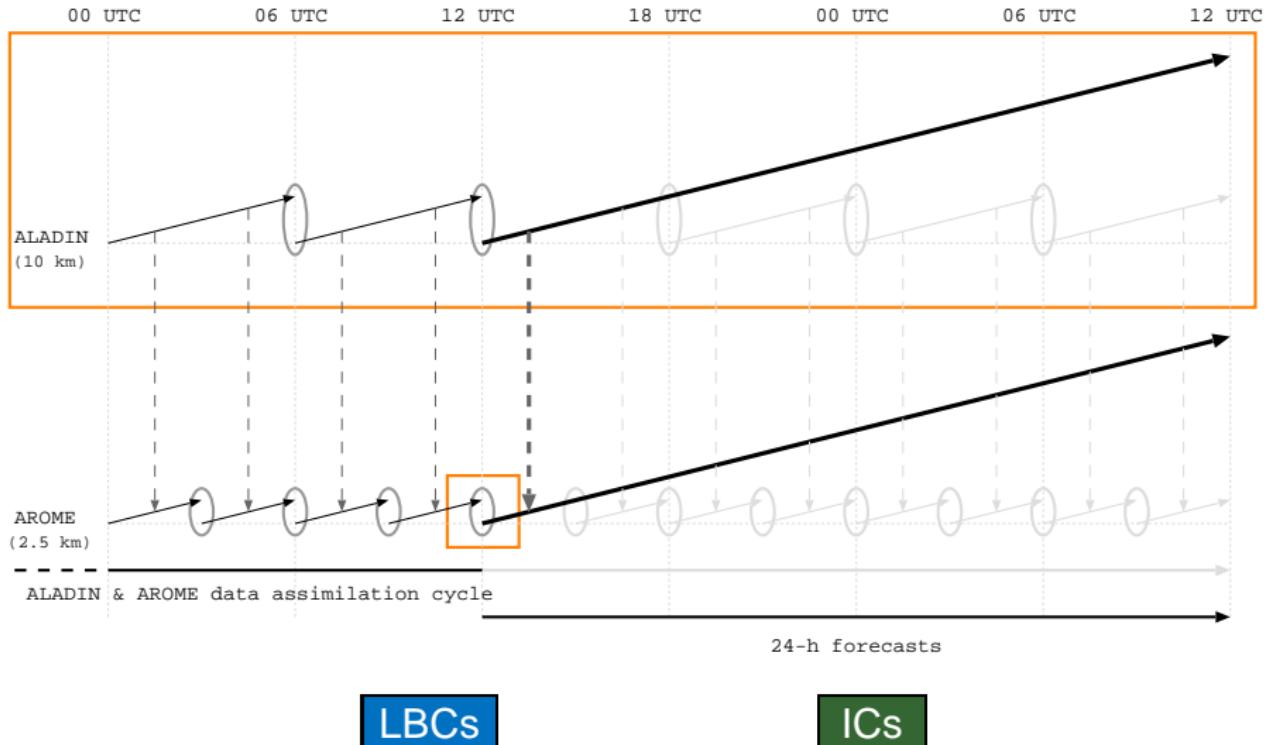
# AROME forecasts and uncertainty



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### AROME-PEARP

- ▶ Each AROME assimilation cycle uses LBCs from one PEARP (global, short range ensemble) member

### AROME-PERTOBS

- ▶ Unique LBCs from the deterministic large scale forecast
- ▶ Each AROME assimilation cycle uses randomly perturbed observations
- ▶ The AROME-PEARP ensemble samples the uncertainty on synoptic-scale LBCs and initial conditions

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### AROME-PERTOBS

- ▶ Unique LBCs from the deterministic large scale forecast
- ▶ Each AROME assimilation cycle uses randomly perturbed observations
- ▶ The ensemble data assimilation technique is known to sample the analysis error quite well (Berre et al., 2006)

## The Ensemble experiments

### AROME-PEARP

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### AROME-PERTOBS

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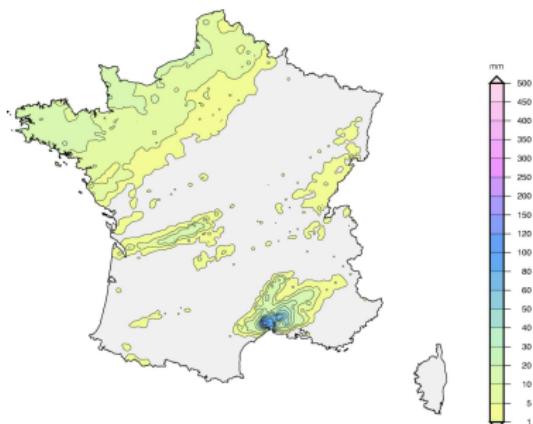
### AROME-COMB

- ▶ LBCs from one PEARP member
- ▶ Assimilation of randomly perturbed observations

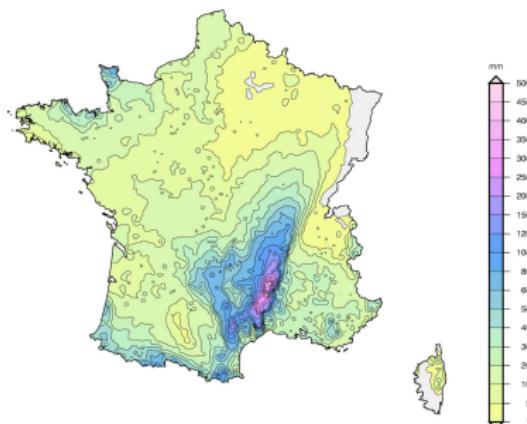
## Evaluation period

31 (18) days

- ▶ 6 October 2008 -> 5 November 2008 (31 days)
- ▶ 15 October 2008 -> 1 November 2008 (18 days)



- ▶ 20 October 2008  
observed daily precipitation



- ▶ 1-2 November 2008  
observed daily precipitation



## Results

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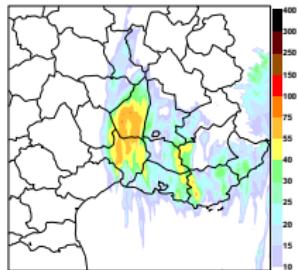
Vié, B., O. Nuissier and V. Ducrocq, 2011: *Cloud-resolving ensemble simulations of Mediterranean Heavy Precipitating Events: Uncertainty on initial conditions and lateral boundary conditions*, MWR, 139:403-423

- ▶ The impact of uncertainty on **LBCs** rapidly overcomes the impact of uncertainty on **ICs** (after around 12 h in our configuration)
- ▶ The relative impact of **ICs** and **LBCs** depends on the meteorological situation
- ▶ The spread in the **AROME-PEARP** ensemble represents a temporal or spatial uncertainty better (it has a wider geographical extent)
- ▶ Promising precipitation scores, despite the underdispersion for low-level parameters
  
- ▶ The combination of both sources of uncertainty in the **AROME-COMB** ensemble improves the performance

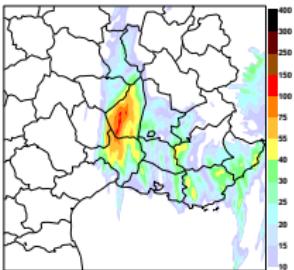
# Selective perturbation of observations

- ▶ Focus on important low-level parameters for the HPEs, as identified through case studies (O. Nuissier, V. Ducrocq) and idealized simulations (E. Bresson)

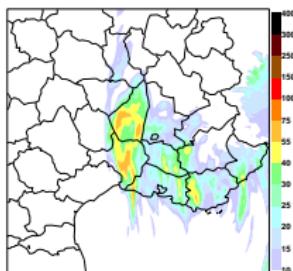
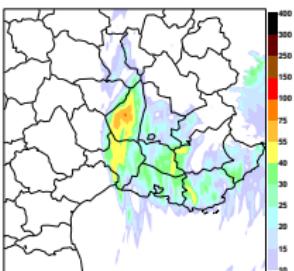
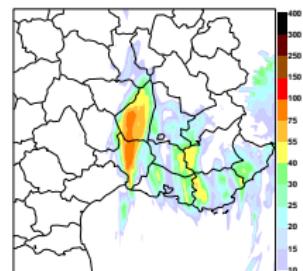
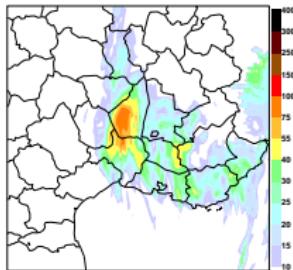
wind speed



humidity



temperature



00 UTC 31 Oct. 2010, 12-h accumulated precipitation, AROME forecasts

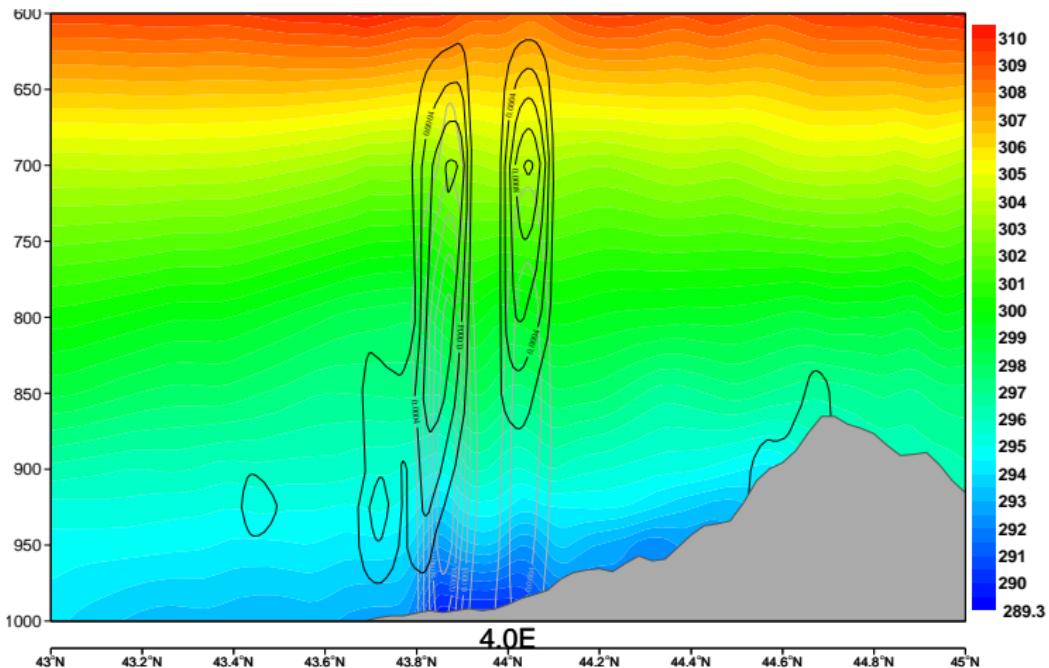
## Taking model errors into consideration

With collaboration from É. Richard, S. Fresnay and A. Hally, Laboratoire d'Aérologie, Toulouse, France.

- ▶ Perturbation of 3 microphysical tendencies:
  - ▶ autoconversion
  - ▶ accretion
  - ▶ evaporation
- ▶ No effect on probabilistic scores
- ▶ For some special cases, changes both the intensity and position of the precipitating system

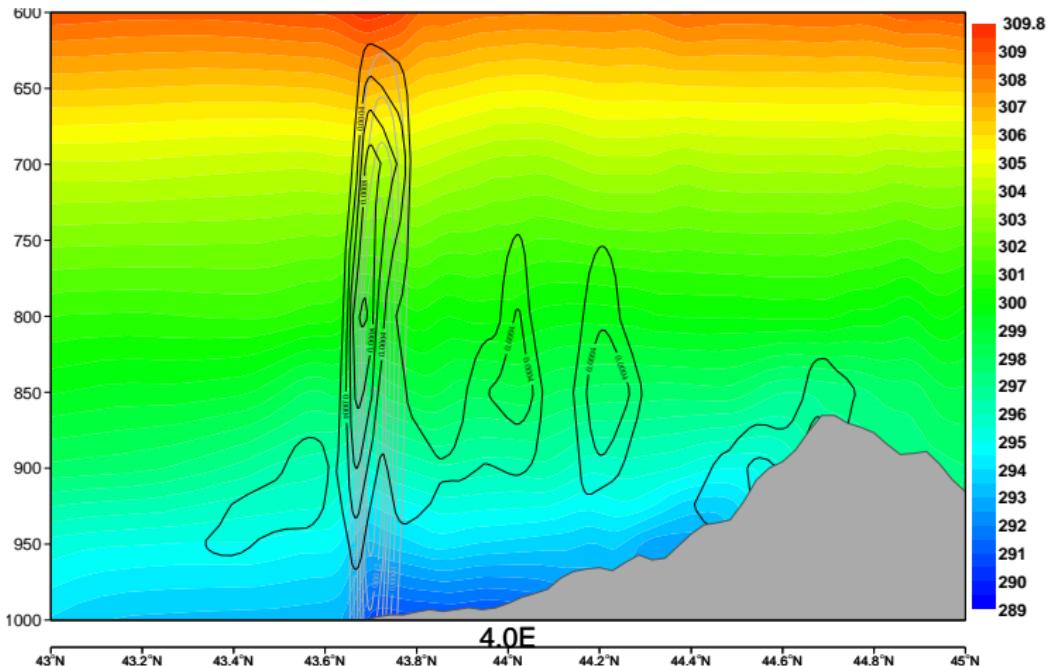
## Taking model errors into consideration

20 Oct. 2008, 00 UTC + 12 h,  $\theta_v$  (colours), CWC (black), RWC (gray)



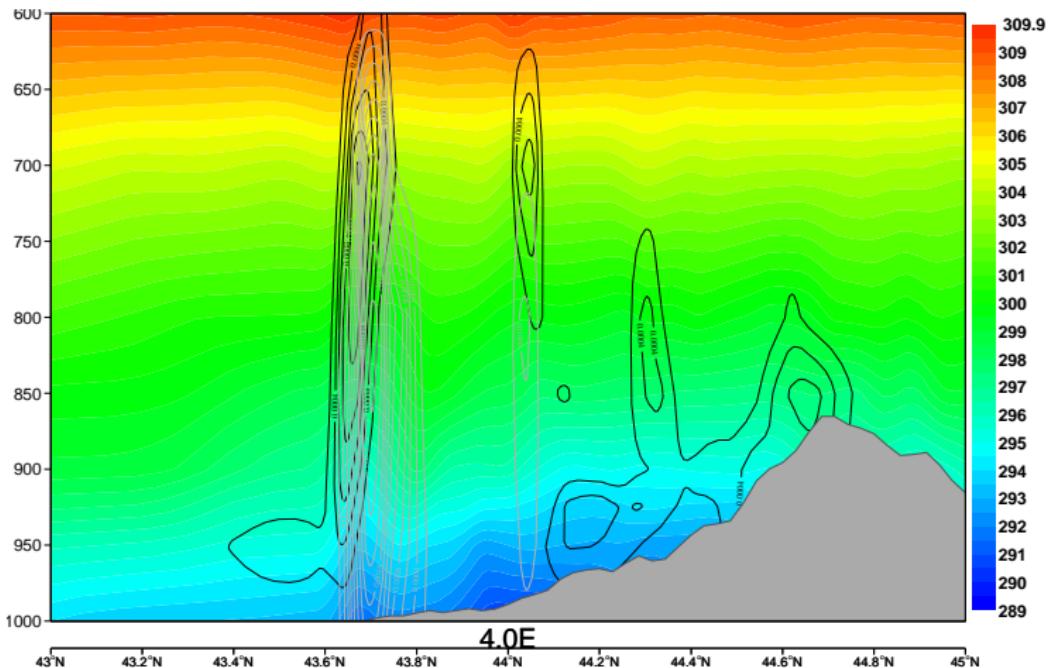
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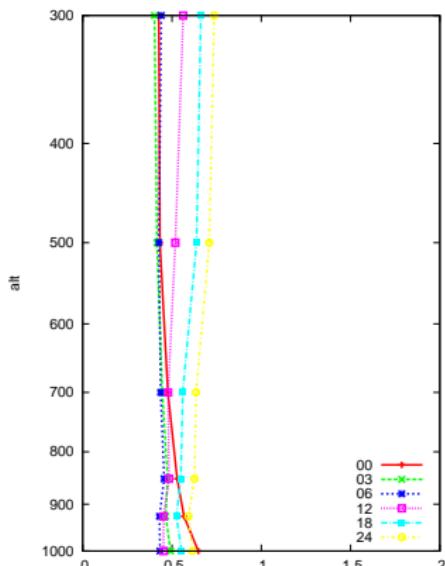
# Taking model errors into consideration

20 Oct. 2008, 00 UTC + 18 h,  $\theta_v$  (colours), CWC (black), RWC (gray)

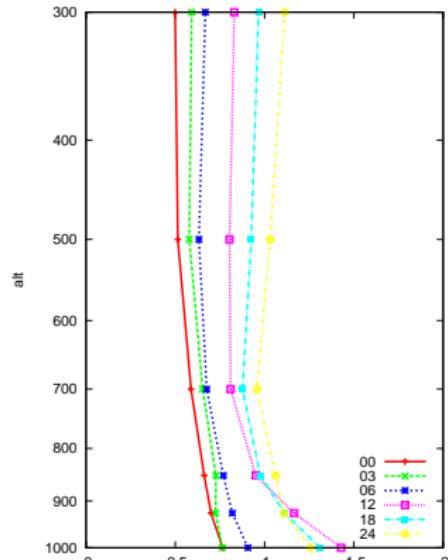


# Ensemble spread

- ▶ Ensemble combining all the three sources of uncertainty
- ▶ Average over 18 days
- ▶ Vertical profiles of ensemble spread and RMSE for temperature



▶ Ensemble spread



▶ RMSE



## Conclusions & prospects

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Vié, B., O. Nuissier and V. Ducrocq, 2011: *Cloud-resolving ensemble simulations of Mediterranean Heavy Precipitating Events: Uncertainty on initial conditions and lateral boundary conditions*, MWR, 139:403-423

- ▶ Uncertainty on LBCs has the strongest impact on the CPM forecasts
- ▶ Focus on the predictability of HPEs or design a generic EPS?
- ▶ Better sampling of model errors (e.g. stochastic physics, F. Bouttier)
- ▶ Introducing perturbations of the low-level conditions (surface fields, orography...)
- ▶ Select a few representative members from a global ensemble (O. Nuissier)
  
- ▶ Perform a hydrometeorological evaluation of the ensemble forecasts within the framework of the MEDUP project, article to be submitted in NHESS (in collaboration with G. Molinié, LTHE, and B. Vincendon)
- ▶ Sept-Oct 2013: Special Observing Period of HyMeX



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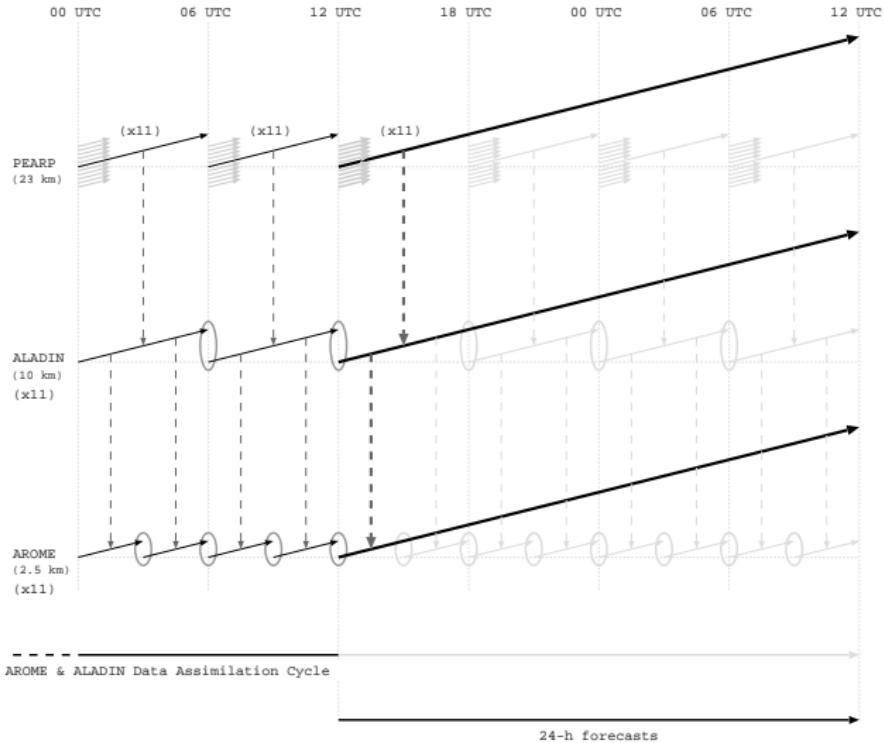
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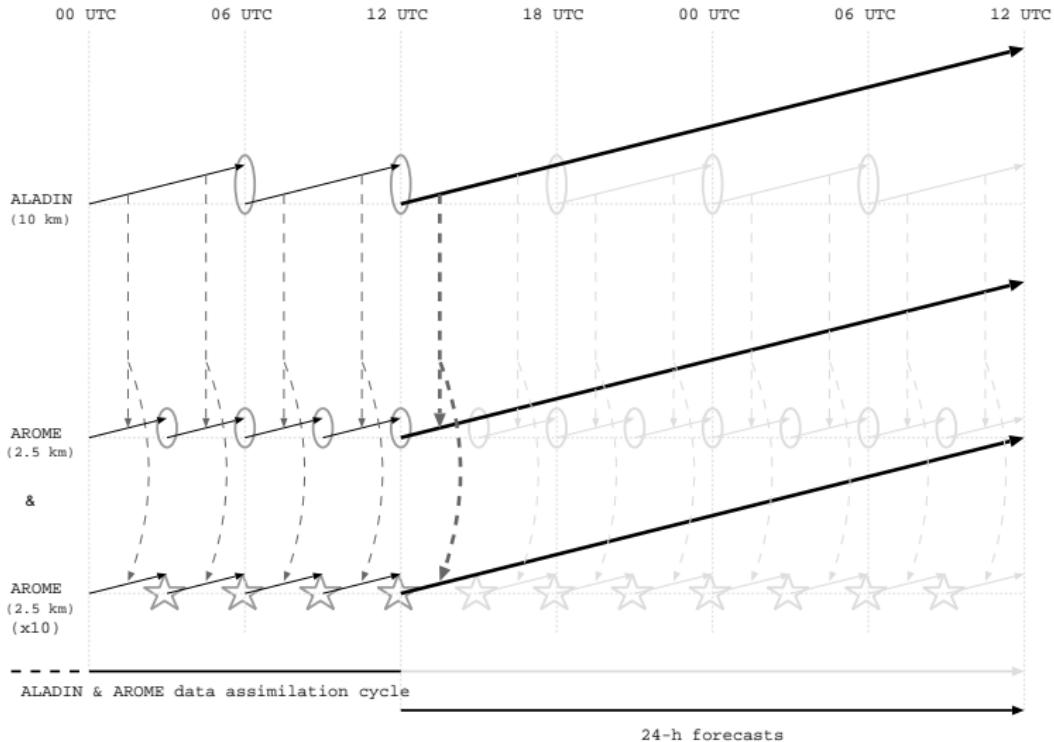
# Questions ?



# The AROME-PEARP experiment



# The AROME-PERTOBS experiment

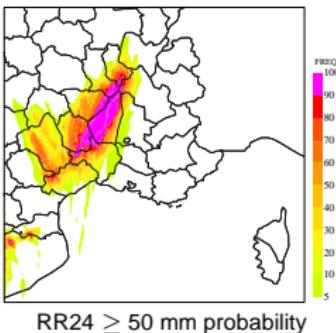
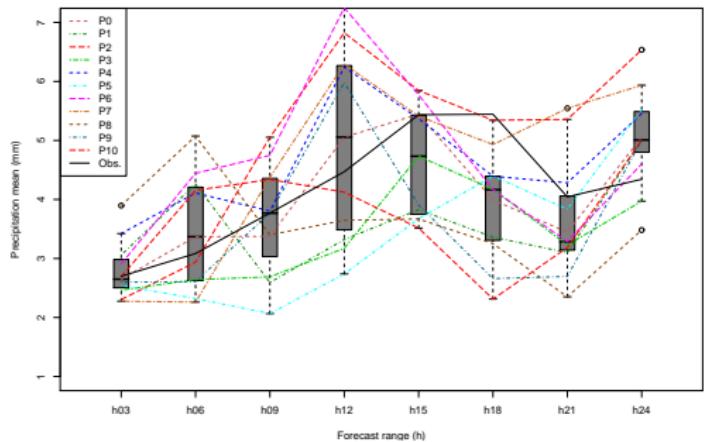


# Example on a case study: 1-2 Nov. 2008

AROME-PEARP

AROME-PERTOBS

AROME-COMB

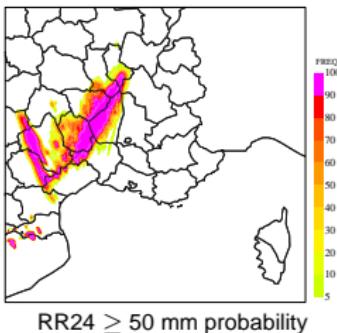
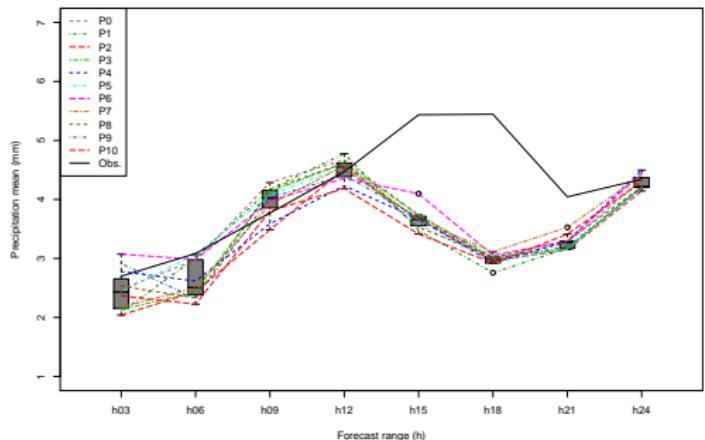


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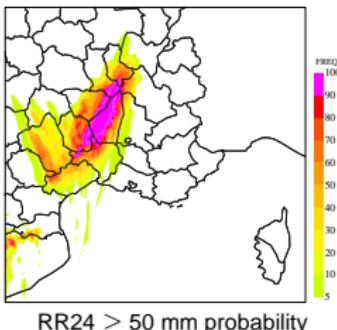
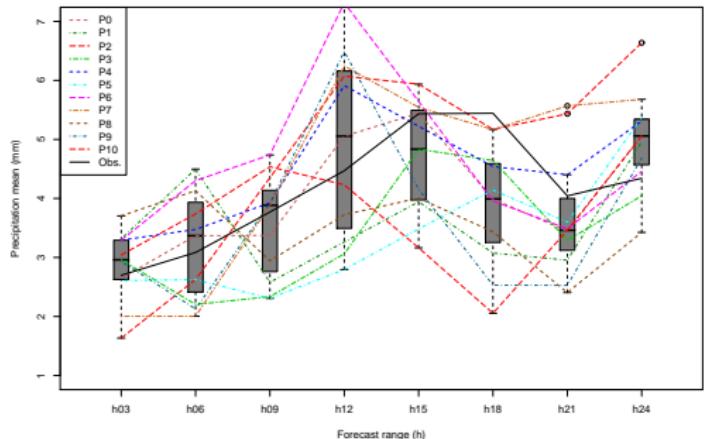


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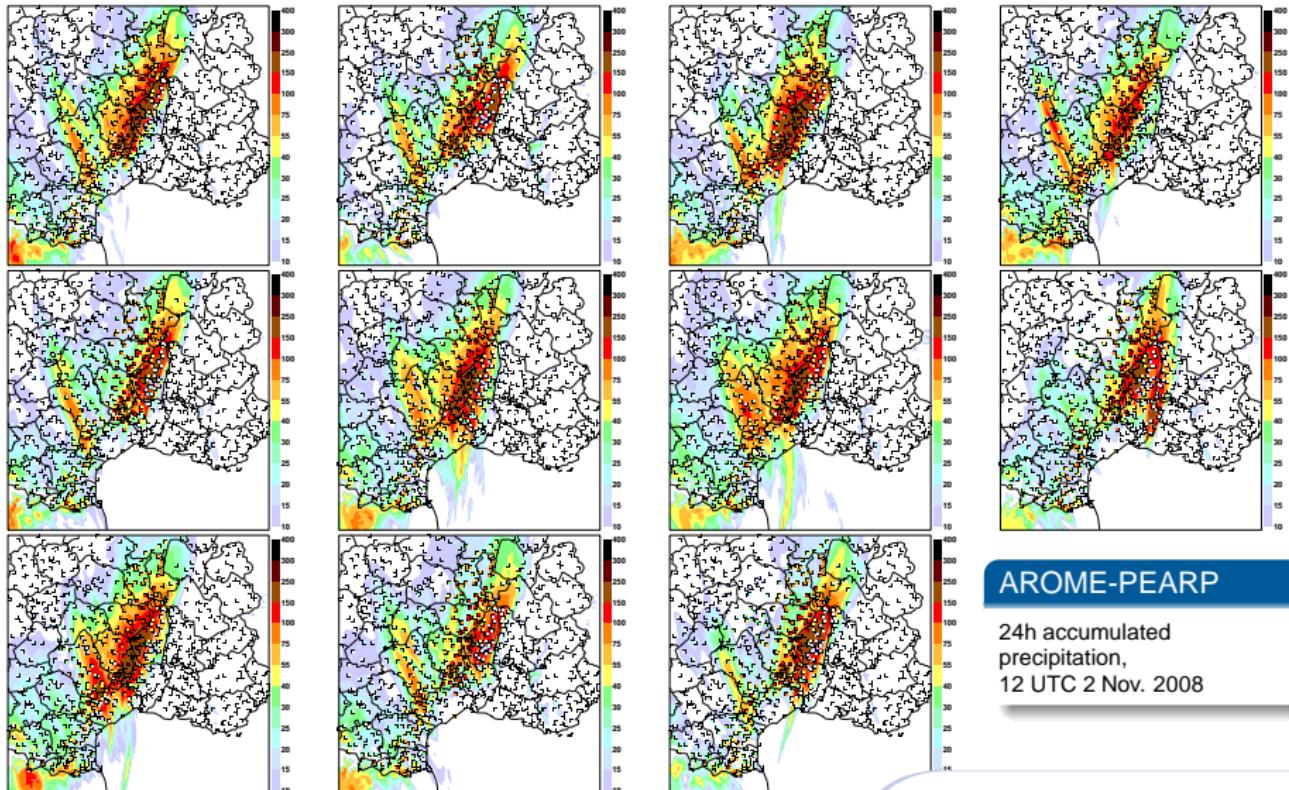
AROME-PEARP

AROME-PERTOBS

AROME-COMB



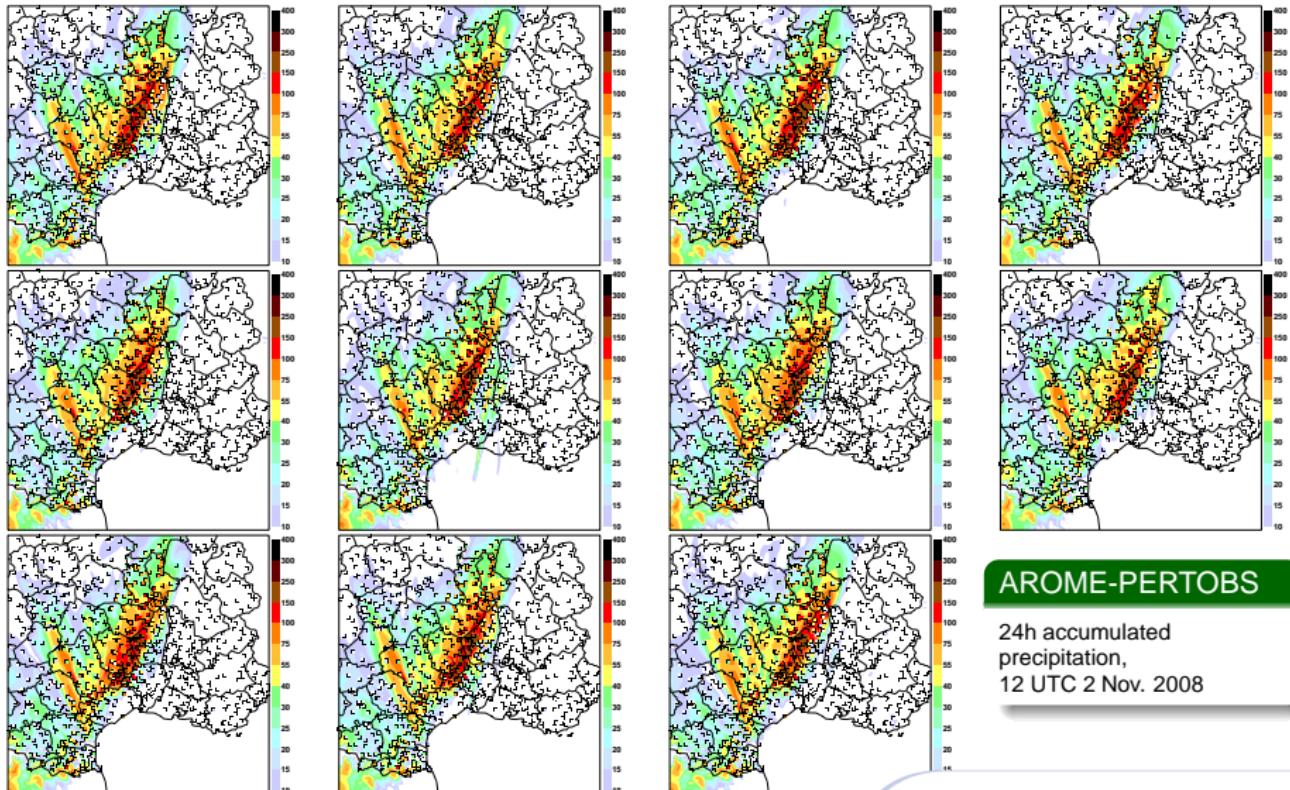
## Example on a case study: 1-2 Nov. 2008



AROME-PEARP

24h accumulated  
precipitation,  
12 UTC 2 Nov. 2008

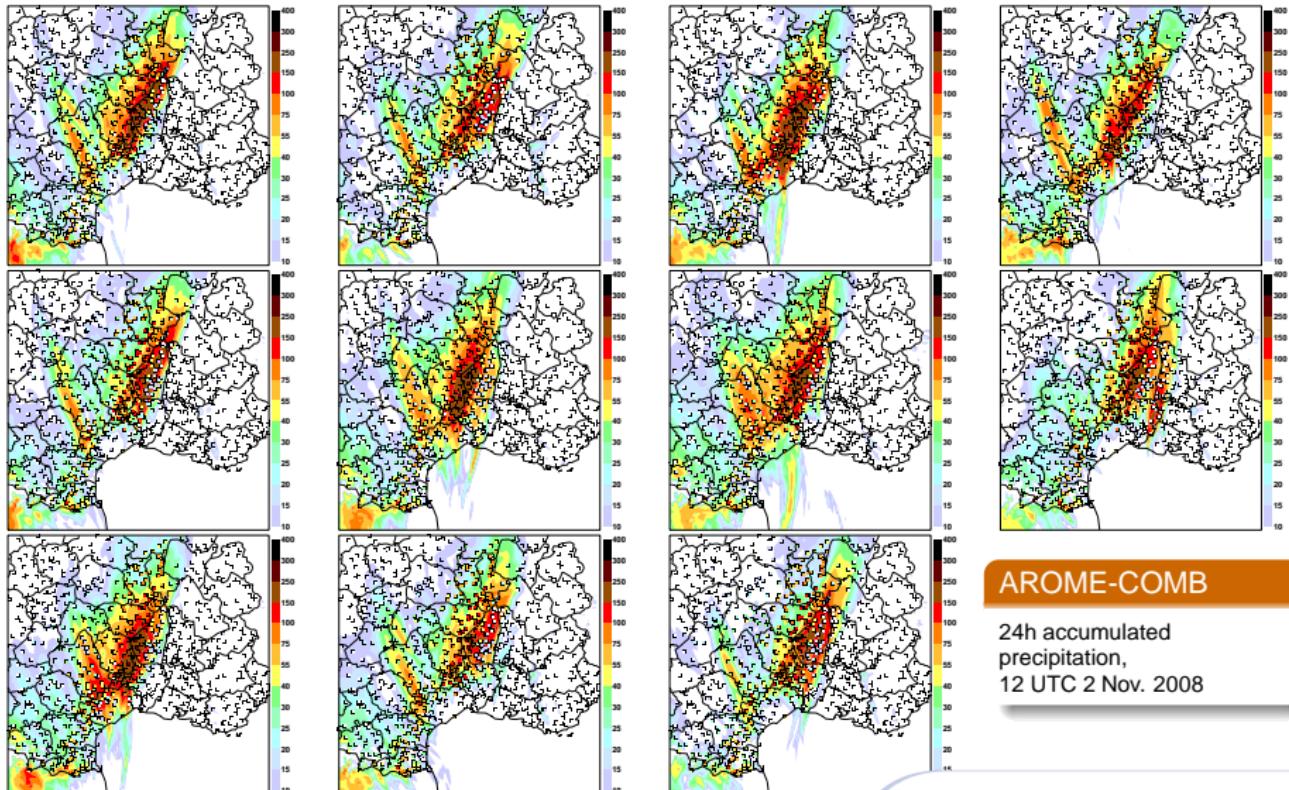
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**AROME-PERTOBS**

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## Example on a case study: 1-2 Nov. 2008



AROME-COMB

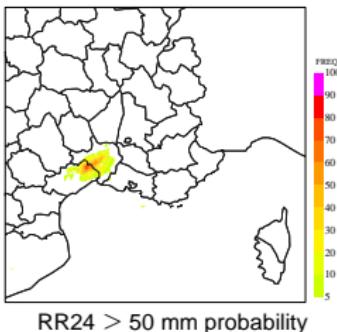
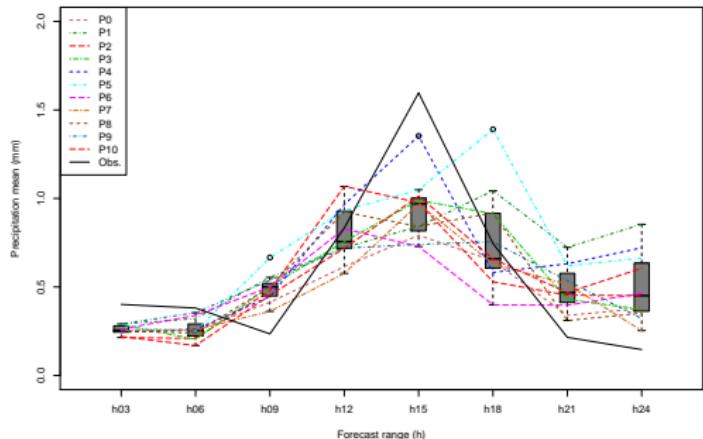
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# Case study: 20 Oct. 2008

AROME-PEARP

AROME-PERTOBS

AROME-COMB

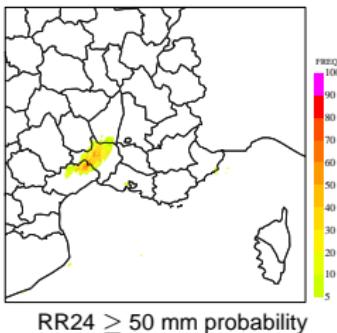
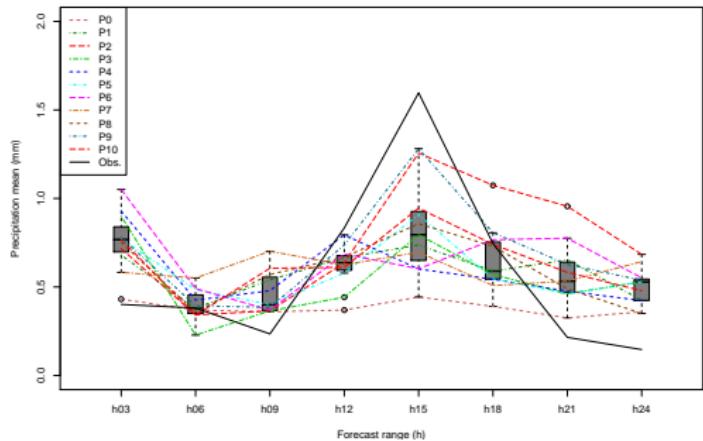


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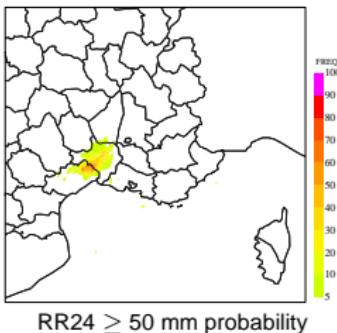
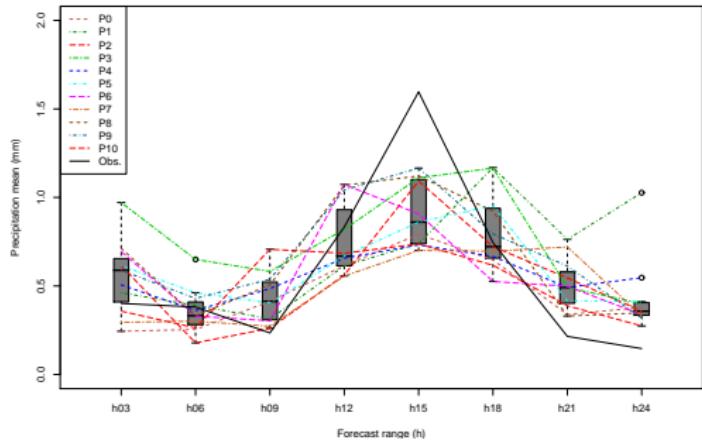


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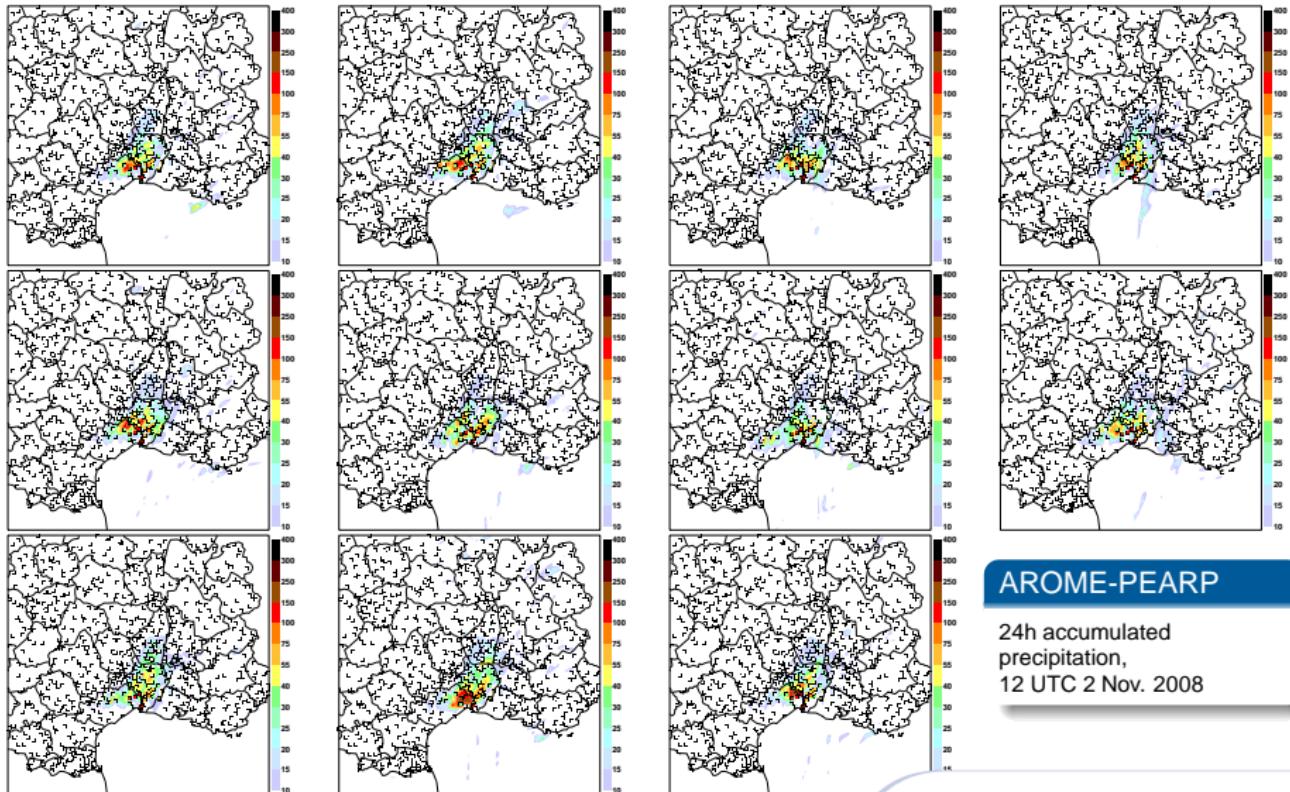
AROME-PEARP

AROME-PERTOBS

AROME-COMB



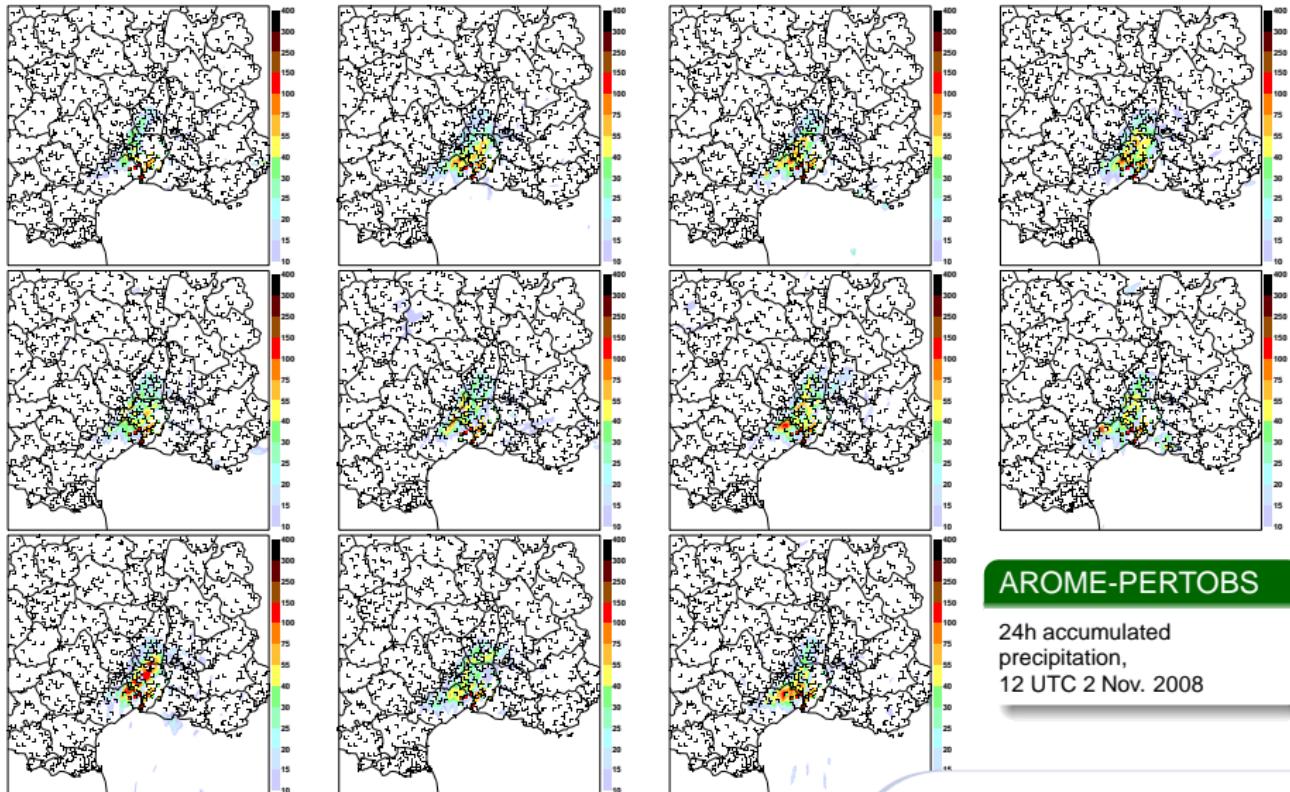
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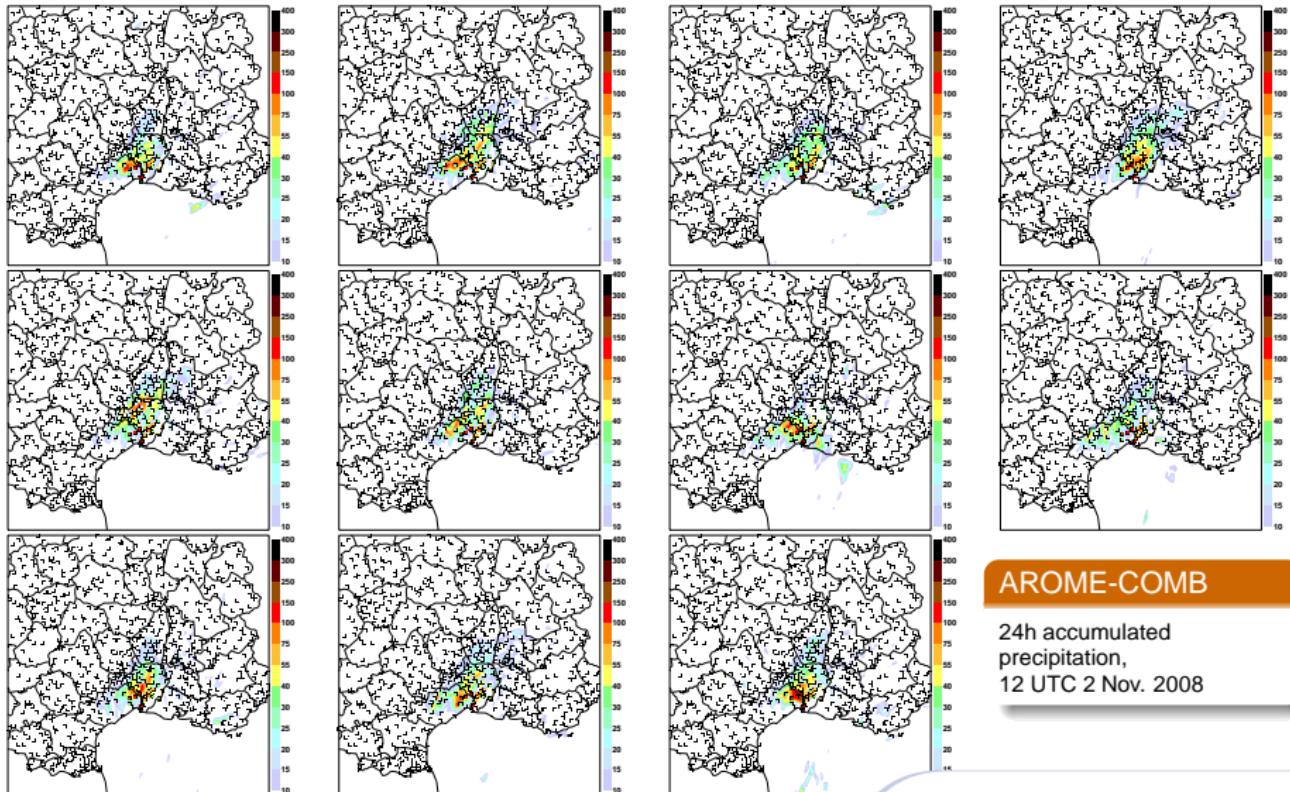
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**AROME-PERTOBS**

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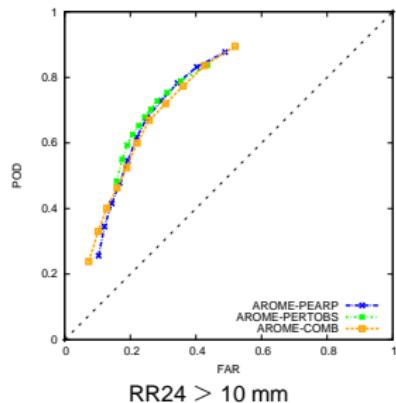
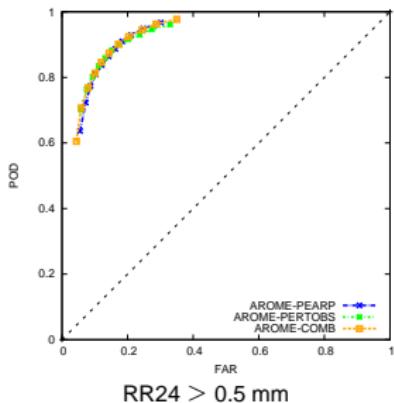
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# Precipitation: ROC and reliability diagram

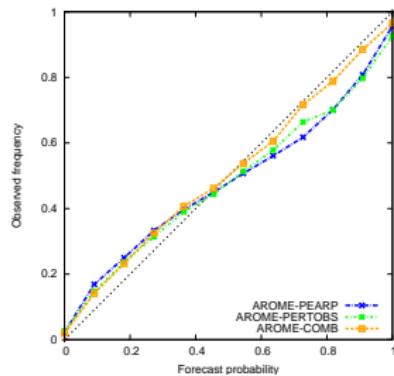
## Relative Operating Characteristics

- ▶ Probability Of Detection against False Alarm Rate
- ▶ The upper the curve is, the better the resolution of the ensemble is

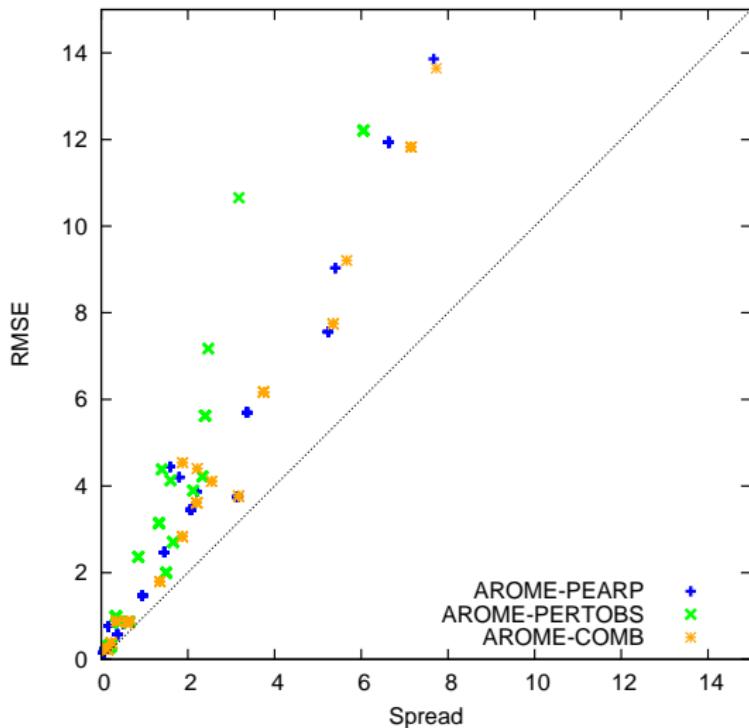


## Reliability diagram

- ▶ Observed frequency against forecast probability

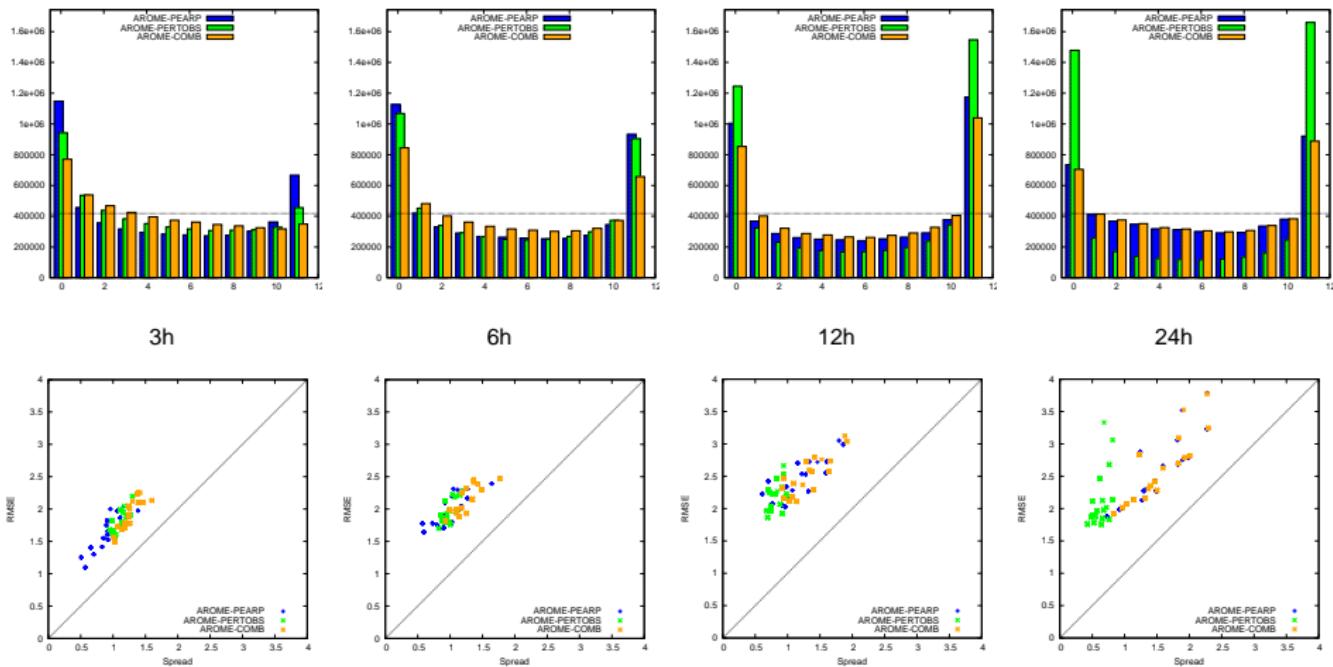


## Precipitation: Ensemble spread



# Ensemble spread for 925hPa wind speed

Rank histograms: a U-shaped histogram shows ensemble underdispersion



RMSE vs. Ensemble spread