



27th ALADIN LTM meeting
Tuesday 1 October 2019
16:30-18:30
Sofia, Bulgaria

Minutes

Participants

ALADIN Program Manager : Piet Termonia

Representatives :

Algeria : **Mohamed Mokhtari** (LTM)
Austria : **Clemens Wastl** (dep. LTM)
Belgium : **Alex Deckmyn** (LTM)
Bulgaria : **Boryana Tsenova** (LTM), **Andrey Bogatchev**
Croatia : **Antonio Stanesic** (dep. LTM)
Czech Rep : **Petra Smolikova** (dep. LTM)
France : **Claude Fischer** (LTM)
Hungary : **Gabriella Szepszo** (LTM)

Morocco :
Poland : **Piotr Sekula** (dep. LTM)
Portugal : **Maria Monteiro** (LTM)
Romania : **Simona Tascu** (LTM)
Slovakia : **Michal Nestiak** (dep. LTM),
Slovenia : **Benedikt Strajnar** (dep. LTM)
Tunisia :
Turkey : **Yelis Cengis** (dep. LTM)

ACNA: **Maria Derkova** (Mariska)
DA Coordinator : **Maria Monteiro**

LACE PM : **Martina Tudor**
Support Team: **Patricia Pottier**

1. Opening and welcome

Mariska opens the meeting and welcomes the participants. All ALADIN partners but Morocco and Tunisia are represented.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda is adopted without modification (see Annex 1).

3. Code and cycles

3.a. Usual MF report on codes/cycles/suites

Claude summarises the “progress and plans on the cycles and MF e-suites” document he sent before the meeting (Doc 3.a). This document (and the previous versions) can be found on the article with the history of the cycles that is available on the ALADIN website (main modifications, phasing teams) : <http://www.umr-cnrm.fr/aladin/spip.php?article64>.

- Operations in MF:
 - limited updates planned in November 2019 (CY43T2_op3);
 - migration to new HPC (BULL Sequana) over March-June 2020 : GMAP staff involved in the porting;
 - first scientific e-suite on the new HPC to start in September 2020; base cycle open (CY46T1_bf or CY47T1).
- Cycles:
 - CY43T2_op2 operational in MF
 - next T-cycle : CY47T1 : declaration expected by the end of November (phasers : Oлда, Abdenour, Boryana, GMAP);
 - common cycle with ECMWF CY48 (declaration expected for end of Feb. 2020);
 - CY48T1 planned for the autumn 2020.

Claude asks all LTMs and representatives to check within their team for potential volunteers for the upcoming phasing exercises in Toulouse : CY48 (Dec. 2019 first quarter of 2020) and CY48T1 (autumn 2020).

Claude proposes the next export cycle be based on version CY46T1bf or CY47T1, to be decided at the beginning of 2020, after liaison with the ALARO team and depending on the validation of AROME-3Dvar on these versions.

Andrey asks about single precision in the T-cycles, as he has understood that ECMWF plans to switch to single precision starting with CY47R1. Claude answers that only part of operations will go to single precision (ie EPS systems). Significant testing is still to be expected. Philippe Marguinaud validated CY46T1 in single precision for the AROME forecast version, showing significant differences in the results (same order of differences as when you compile in double precision with or without debug mode ...). A further (meteorological) validation and verification is therefore needed.

3.b. Porting of CY43T2 export version by Partners

Mariska presents the summary of the status of the installation of CY43T2 (see <http://www.umr-cnrm.fr/aladin/spip.php?article334> for informations on the export version). Most countries have ported/validated this cycle, without reporting technical problems. Details on the shared document : https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_IQMFDaRRDNEng21asHKQ42Hx_-lIOnRG3EX3BtfzVo/edit#gid=2011676472 .

4. Update of LBC files from ARPEGE (e923->climake, e927, schedule)

MF operation has confirmed the time window (second half of October) for a coordinated LBC change (for Partners coupling with ARPEGE and who want to benefit from the increase of ARPEGE resolution to upgrade their LBC data or who need any other update of their LBC data). MF is ready with 5 over the 6 involved telecom domains plus an additional new domain for AEMET. The other requests (higher frequency, longer range, extension of the domains, ...) have been passed to MF operation and have got no negative answer. All changes will probably be implemented in one go, except if there are specific problems with one partner at the time of the coordinated change.

Exceptionally (due to short time constraint) new telecom climate files and corresponding LBC files for new domains that Partners requested were computed by GMAP people, using new CLIMAKE tool (for climate files, see below) and OLIVE (for LBC files). Those files were handed over to Partners for checking.

The retention period of the LBC data in BDPE will be uniformly set to 1 day. All LBC telecom domains from ARPEGE are computed using e903 instead of e927 since last operational switch to CY43T2.

Claude will check if assim LBC files will be produced by default for all DAsKIT partners, whether they explicitly asked for it or not.

Claude announces that CLIMAKE is now available : it is a new scripting tool for creating PGD and clim files in the Météo-France environment (i.e. the MF BULL cluster "beaufix"), for LAM applications (see http://www.umr-cnrm.fr/aladin/IMG/pdf/climake_initial_announce_v3.pdf , also distributed as preparatory document to this meeting). It was demonstrated at the [code training in Toulouse in September](#) (all presentations and documentations are on-line); an explanatory note has been distributed and provides details on how to use CLIMAKE.

Andrey points that after CY43T2 switch in Toulouse, the production of the coupling files for Bulgaria was delayed by 5-6 minutes. He plans to change and use RMDCN between MF and Bulgaria to transfer coupling files. Claude will check with MF operation.

5. DA coordinator activities

Documents around the DAsKIT core program are available on the ALADIN website (see the [DA coord webpages](#)).

The Data Assimilation coordinator informed about the latest progress and activities of the ALADIN DAsKIT programme (see [presentation](#) for details). Main achievements were presented during the recent 2019 Joint RC-LACE and DAsKIT Working Days hosted by CHMI in Prague. Preliminary scores of 4/8 participating countries clearly indicate that surface DA has an impact over the forecasts of screen level fields (dependent on the diurnal cycle); T2M and H2M scores also show a contrast from the initialization to the remaining model time steps that should be further investigated; besides, it was illustrated that the computation method of the T2M during the coupling files generation has an impact over T2M and H2M performance. Furthermore, it was announced that some tools for AMDAR pre-processing and Surface DA diagnostics (including verification and FA visualization) were shared and are now available from the 2019DAsKIT Working Days; the need for regular DA users' training and DA code writing training was discussed: the former should happen each second year; the latest is important for the topics of surface OI and B-matrix modelling (including Jk). The revisiting of the ALADIN RWP2020 pointing out to a step-by-step strategy to allow an optimal and parallel progress on the DAsKIT countries, was also announced. Finally, the overview of coming events on the DAsKIT programme was given: the 2020 DAsKIT WD will be jointly organised with RC-LACE DAWD and will be hosted by ZAMG in Vienna (Austria); moreover, the last 2019 video-conference will take place in December 2019.

Claude Fischer inquired for more details on the DA user's training format. Piet Termonia answered the material was there from the recent Common DA training week, held in Budapest, and could optimally be used on a webinar format without overloading too much the lecturers.

6. Support team information

6.a. *Call for contribution for NL14 and Tour d'ALADIN*

The LTMs are asked to think about what is important with respect to the ALADIN activities in their NMS in 2019, to be shown to the Directors in Piet's Tour d'ALADIN at the next ALADIN GA (16th of December in Istanbul) and to be published in the next Newsletter (due in January 2020). LTMs should prepare :

- **deadline November 25, 2019** : one **slide** to be shown by Piet during the next GA; Please use the slide 2 of the template (.odt, .ppt, .pptx) available on the aladin website : <http://www.umar-cnrm.fr/aladin/spip.php?article315> , add information on the "note part" of the slide and send the slide to Patricia.
- **deadline January 9, 2020** : one **article** for the "tour d'ALADIN-HIRLAM" in the 14th ALADIN-HIRLAM Newsletter (see <http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/aladin/spip.php?article260> for the NL templates)

Patricia underlines that, whereas the future of the summer newsletters has still to be discussed at the next Wk/ASM (due to very few contributions), the January Newsletter is more successful and really offers a good opportunity to give a wide overview of the variety and the richness of the ALADIN activities and people.

6.b. *Information for Toulouse stays*

Due to big groups of students expected entering the French MetSchool in the upcoming years, the residence management has announced that it would be very difficult to give rooms in the residence to the visitors. This summer, all demands for the autumn visitors were refused, waiting for the students to enter and possibly take a room. Finally, mid-September, all visitors were proposed a room, besides those who arrived in September (students too arrive in September) and besides visitors invited by MF International Department and French Ambassies. There is no guarantee that rooms can be proposed for future visits. As compensation, for the visitors funded by MF money or by FR-MF money, the per-diem are increased by 15 Euro/day in case no room can be proposed in the residence. Martina will try to find similar solution for visitors funded by LACE.

6.c. Rolling Work Plan 2020, manpower reporting, flat-rate plan : actions on the LTMs

The LTMs should have committed the manpower to the RWP2020 before end of September. So far, only half of them have done it. The other LTMs should send their commitments urgently to Patricia, as the whole RWP2020 should be distributed to PAC/HAC mid-October.

Patricia also reminds the LTMs to not forget to register the manpower contributions as soon as possible after the end of each quarter and anyhow within the 3 following months.

Patricia kindly asks the LTMs to check from time to time the [Flat-Rate-4-LTM shared document](#) and to update the status of the planned visits and missions. This is important to assess the realisation of the 2019 budget and to prepare for the 2020 budget. It is important to avoid as far as possible the reports or penalties due to cancelled actions, and it will be more important in 2020 as we would be at the end of the MoU5 period.

6.d. Announcement

On February 6, 2020, a seminar in honour of [Jean-François Geleyn](#) will take place in Météo-France Conference Centre in Toulouse. The LTMs are invited to distribute this information to colleagues and former colleagues of Jean-François and, of course, to join this day in Toulouse. Any proposals and ideas on the content of this day is also welcome.

7. Information about progress on the convergence with HIRLAM

Piet summarises the activities of the CWG (Convergence Working Group: PAC and HAC chairs, ALADIN, LACE and HIRLAM PMs, MF representatives) since the last meeting of ALADIN-HIRLAM Directors in November 2018, when the CWG was tasked to work on a proposal for the MoU of the future single consortium and to address questions still pending in the scope document approved by the Directors : <http://www.umr-cnrm.fr/aladin/spip.php?article326> .

A first draft MoU was communicated to the ALADIN and HIRLAM Directors after PAC-HAC recommendations. The CWG is currently addressing the comments either formulated at the HIRLAM Directors Council in June 2019 (where ALADIN Directors were invited to join) or received by email by ALADIN Directors. These email comments together with the minutes of the HIRLAM Council have been distributed to all Directors. The CWG will propose an adapted version of the MoU to the PAC-HAC (5 November) and produce a new draft for the Directors meeting (17 December) after PAC-HAC recommendations.

Some parts are still opened, i.e. the management positions : the CWG will propose to the Directors to work on this during a “Strategy meeting” on 3-5 February 2020. MoU is expected to be finalized by June 2020 (ALADIN General Assembly and HIRLAM Council).

The LTMs are encouraged to get information from their Director (the CWG is tasked to propose documents to the Directors and cannot distributed these working documents directly to the LTMs) and discuss with them the technical consequences of what is proposed in the draft MoU. It is important that LTMs do understand possible MoU consequences on their daily work related to ALADIN. All comments are welcome.

Petra, in the name of the Czech LTM, regrets the lack of room for technical discussions, not for directors but within LTMs; she also misses the answers from some countries and encourages the LTMs to respectfully suggest to their Director to express their opinion.

8. A.O.B. and Closing

Mariska wonders why the announcement for the HARP users meeting 15-17 October 2019 in Copenhagen haven't been widely communicated. Alex apologies for that and explains that it is still time to register. It will also be possible to follow remotely the presentations (but probably not the practical exercises).

The next LTM meeting will take place in Ljubljana, besides the 30th ALADIN Wk & HIRLAM ASM, on Monday 30 or Tuesday 31 of March 2020.

Annex 1 : Agenda

	Agenda	Introduced by	Decision, comments, information	Documents
1.	Opening and welcome	ACNA		
2.	Adoption of the agenda	ACNA		Agenda
3.	Code & Cycles			
3.a	Usual MF report on codes/cycles/suites	CF	information	Doc 3.a
3.b	Porting of CY43t2 export version by Partners	ACNA	information	
4.	Update of LBC files from ARPEGE (e923->climake, e927, schedule)	ACNA/CF	information	
5.	DA coordinator activities	MM	information	
6.	Support team information <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call for contribution for NL14 and Tour d'ALADIN• Info for TIs stays (rooms)• RWP2020 commitments, manpower reporting, flat-rate plans : actions on the LTMs• Announcement: seminar in honour of Jean-François	PP	information	
7.	Information about progress on the convergence with HIRLAM	PT	information	
8.	AOB	ACNA		