



# Tuning of HIRLAM screening and variational quality control

**ALADIN / HIRLAM**

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# Structure

- Overview observation quality control in HIRLAM data assimilation
- A first step of background check improvement
- On-going tuning of observation quality control
- Conclusions

# Overview HIRLAM variational data assimilation observation quality control

- Screening Background check (BgQC)
- Variational Quality Control (VarQC)

# Screening background check (BgQC)

$$\frac{(y_i - [Hx^b]_i)^2}{\sigma_b^2 + \sigma_o^2} \leq L^2$$

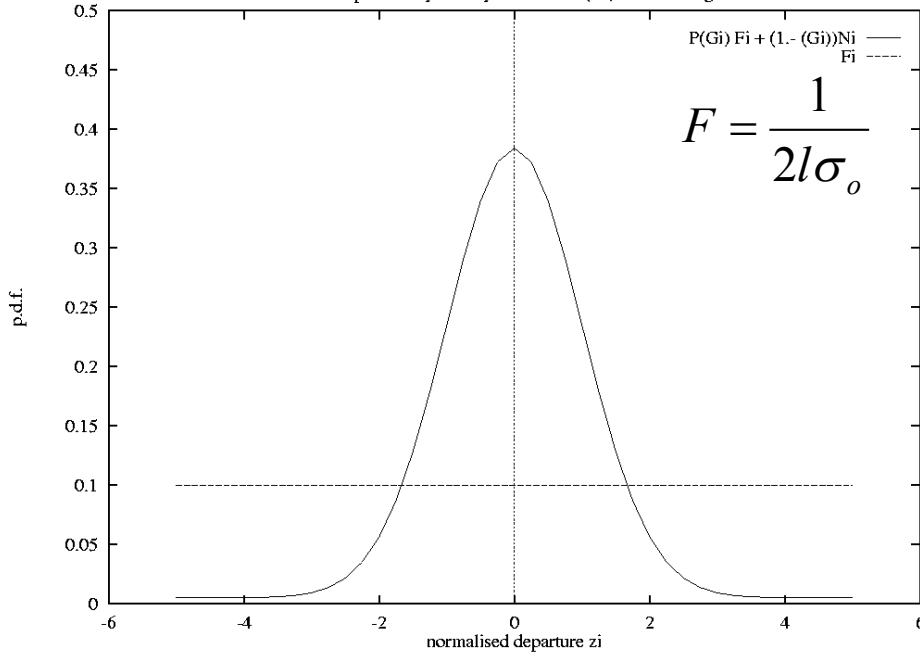
where

- $y_i$  - observation
- $[Hx^b]_i$  - background state equivalent
- $\sigma_b^2 + \sigma_o^2$  - sum of error variances
- $L$  - rejection limit

**L needs to be specified for different types of observations**

# Variational Quality Control (VarQC)

FIGURE 1: probability density function  $P(G_i)=0.05$   $l=5$   $\sigma=1$ .



Probability density function ( $p_i$ ) for single observation defined as a sum of natural errors ( $N_i$ ) and Gross errors ( $F_i$ ):

←  $p_i = P(G_i)F_i + (1 - P(G_i))N_i$   
 ( $P(G_i)$ -probability of Gross errors)

Cost of one single observation without (full) and with (dotted) variational quality control, as function of normalized observation minus model state departure.

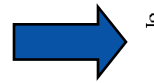
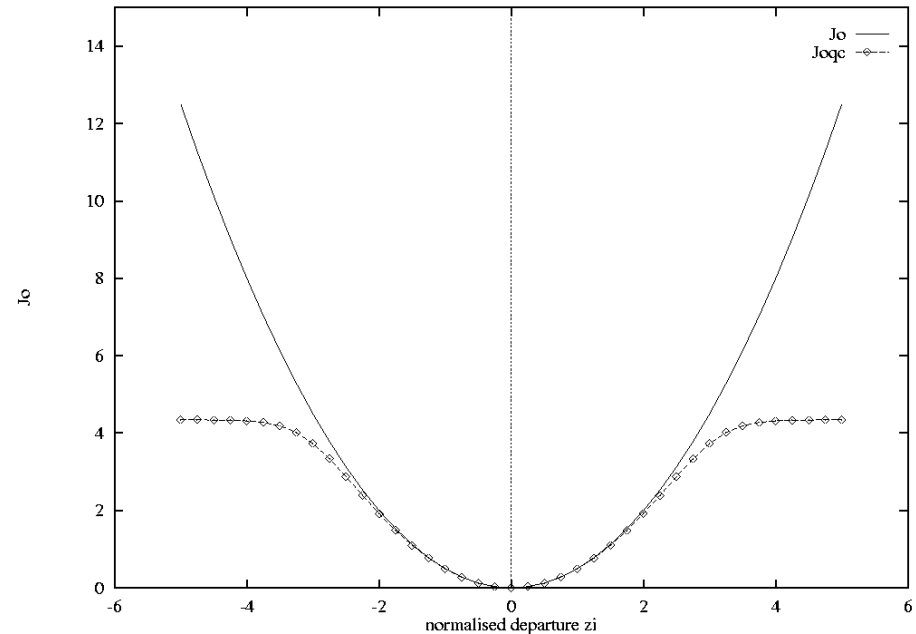


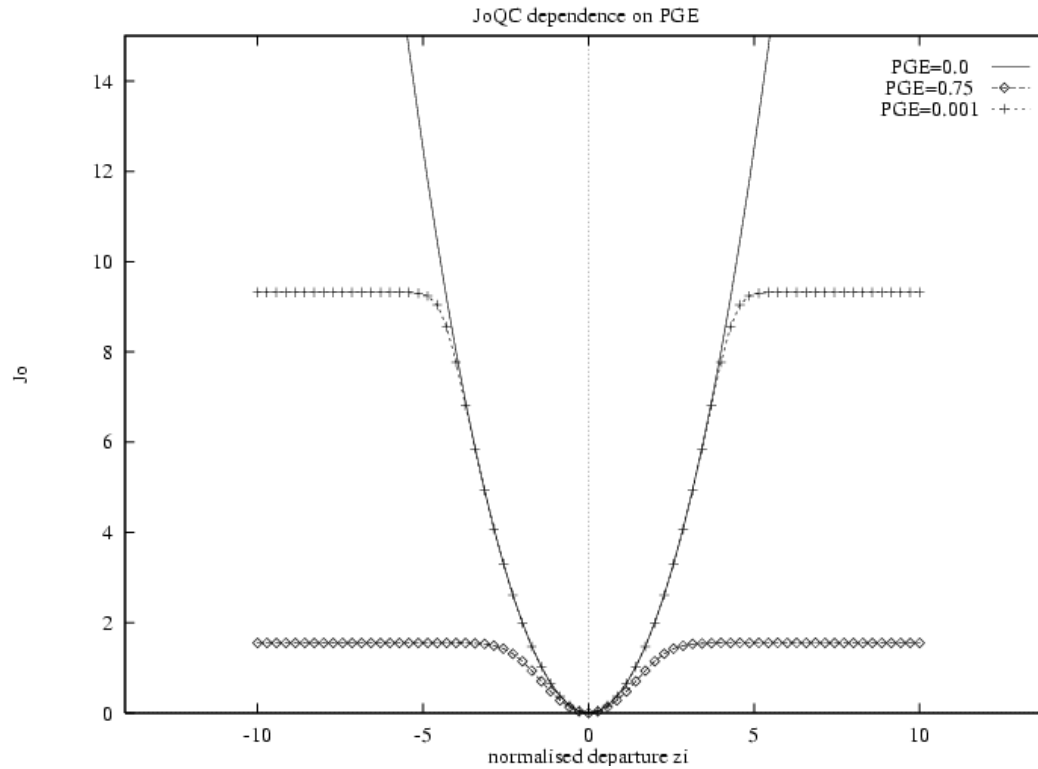
FIGURE 2: observation cost functions  $P(G_i)=0.05$   $l=5$   $\sigma=1$ .



**P and l need to be specified**

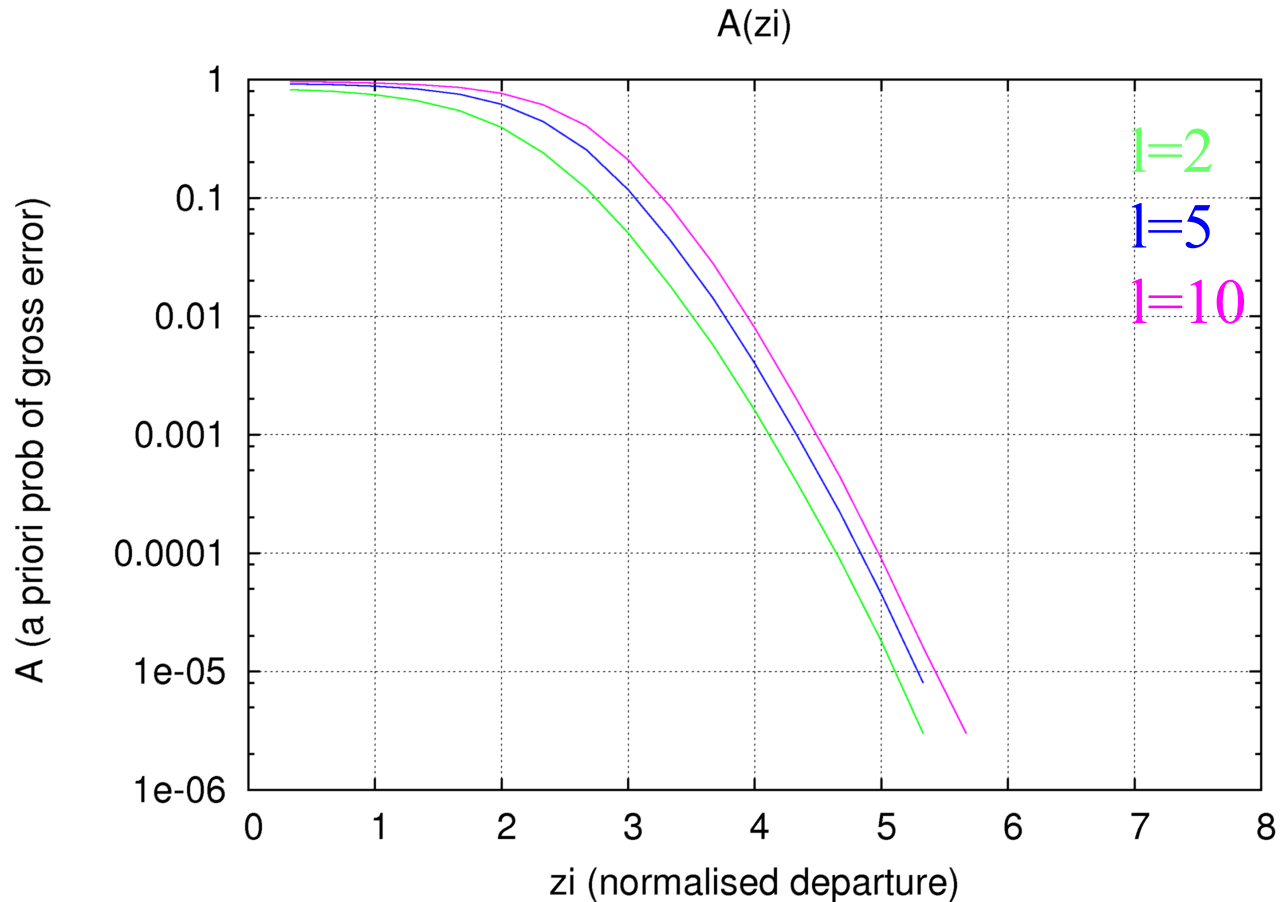
# VarQC

## Probability of Gross errors (for $l=5$ )



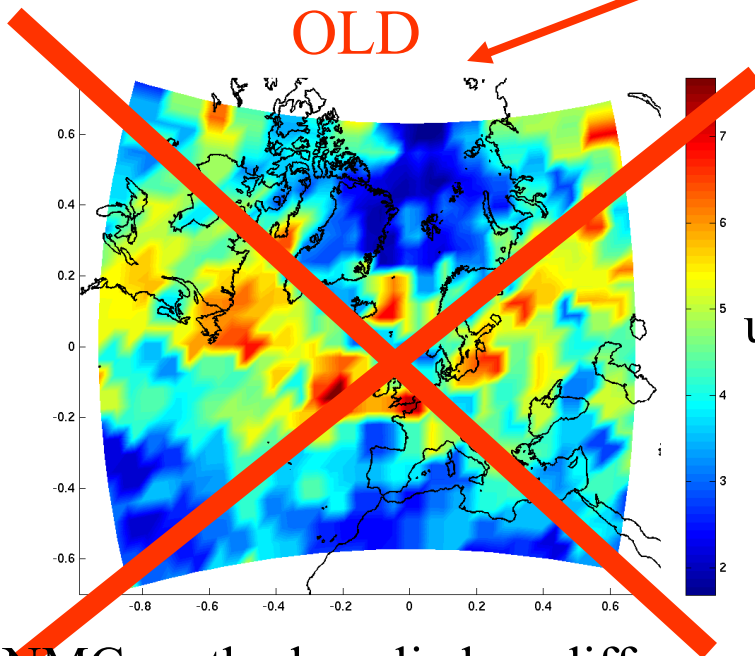
# VarQC

## Probability of Gross errors (P) and range of possible values (1)

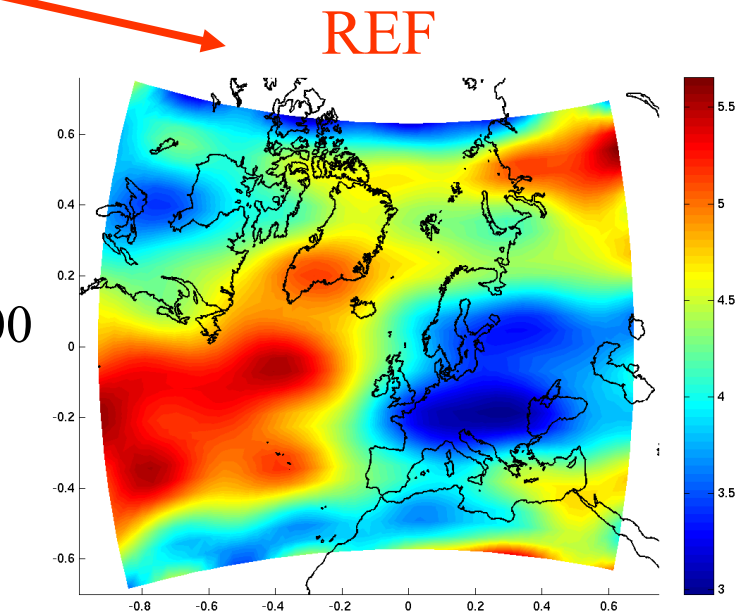


# A first step of BgQC improvement

$$\frac{(y - [Hx^b]_i)^2}{\sigma_b^2 + \sigma_o^2} \leq L^2$$



u 300



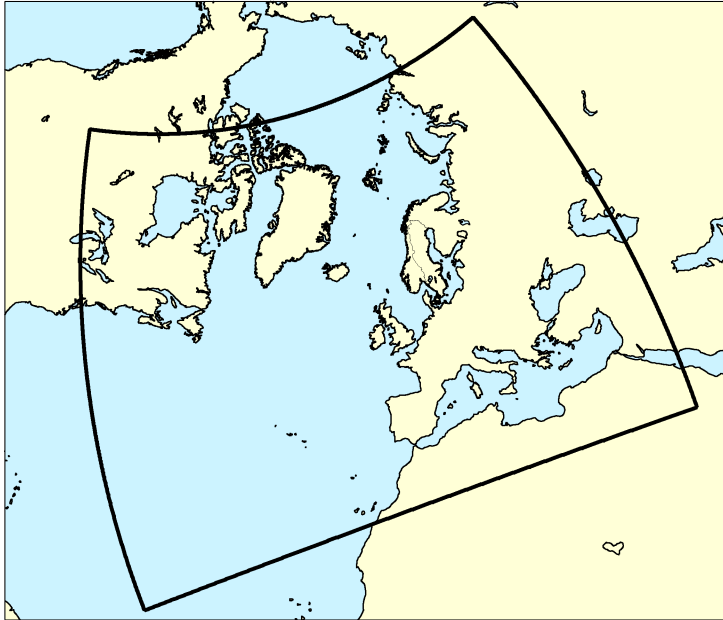
NMC-method applied on differences of ECMWF +24 and +48 h forecasts.

Based on  $\sigma_b$ -values used in minimization. Randomization method and climatological index field.

As a first step, L set to 5 for all observation types



# Parallel data assimilation and forecast experiment



**Period:** 20070201-20070228

**Area:** HIRLAM reference

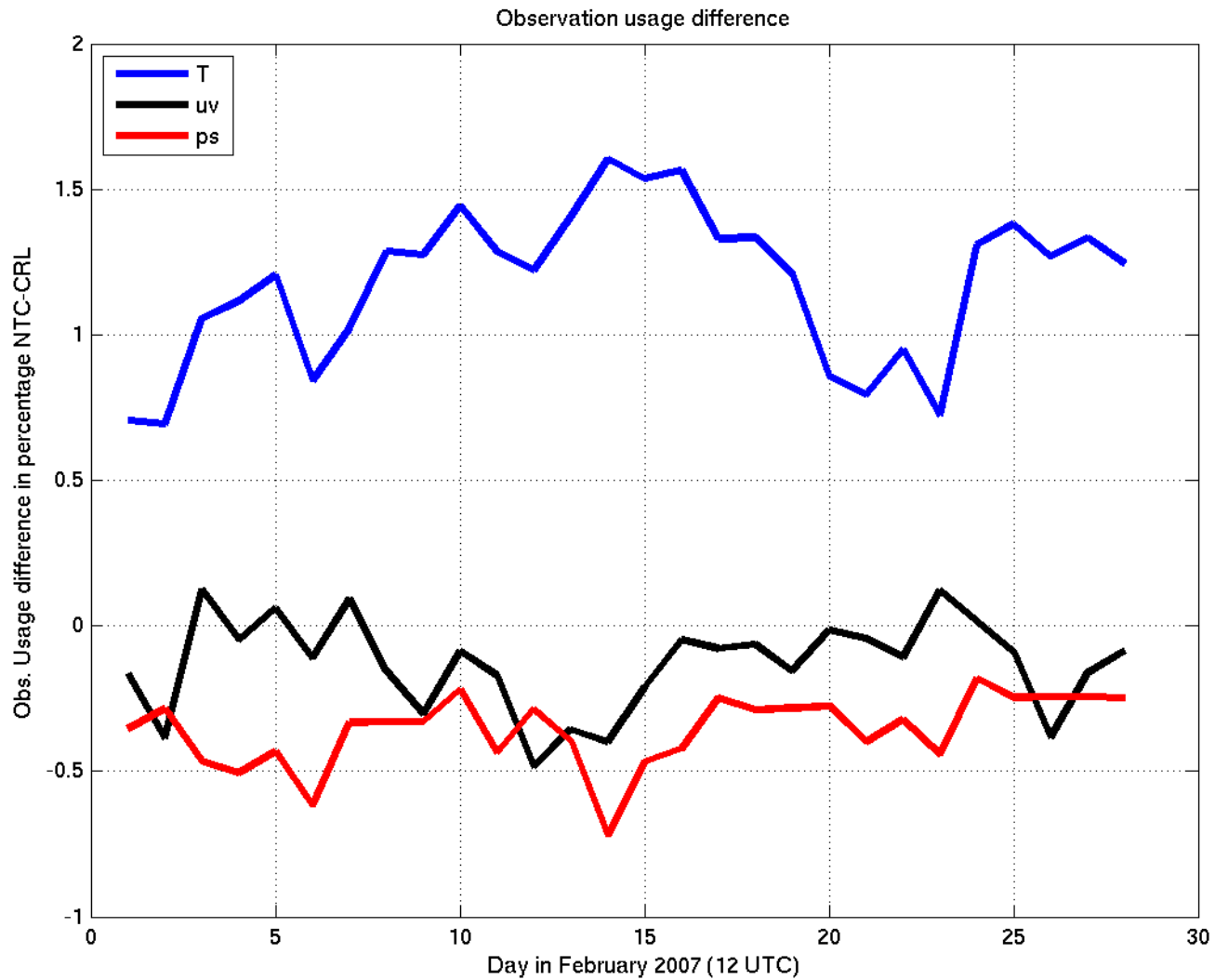
**Version:** HIRLAM 7.1.2

**Experiments:**

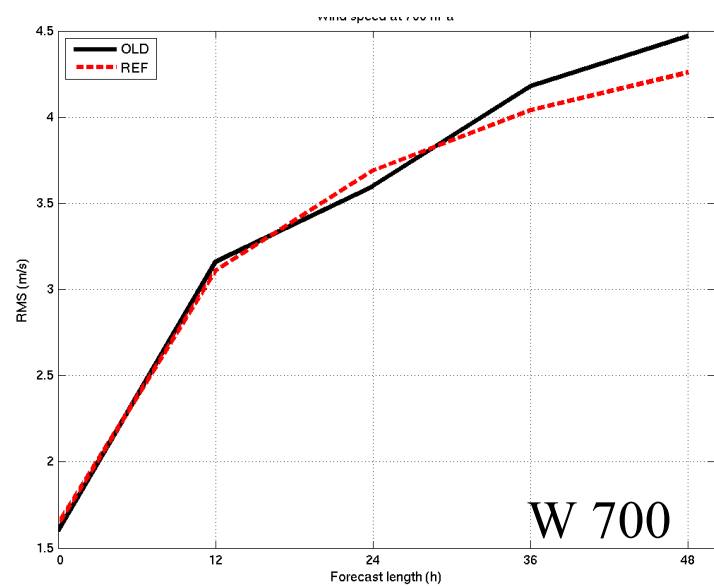
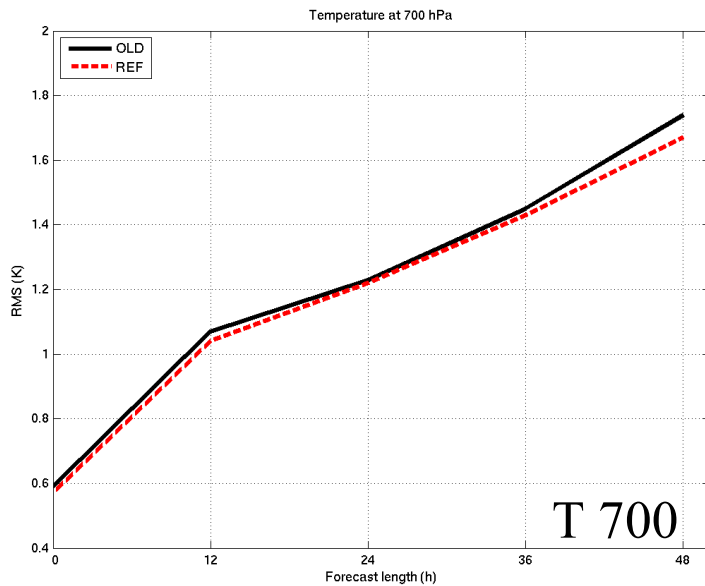
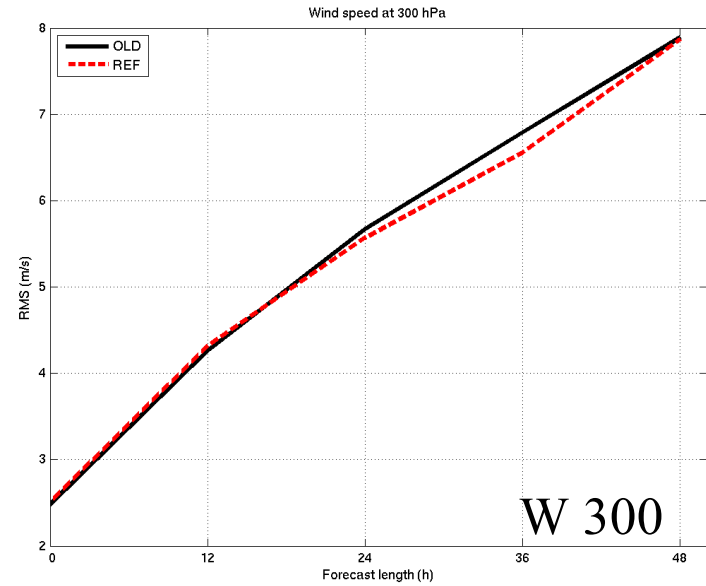
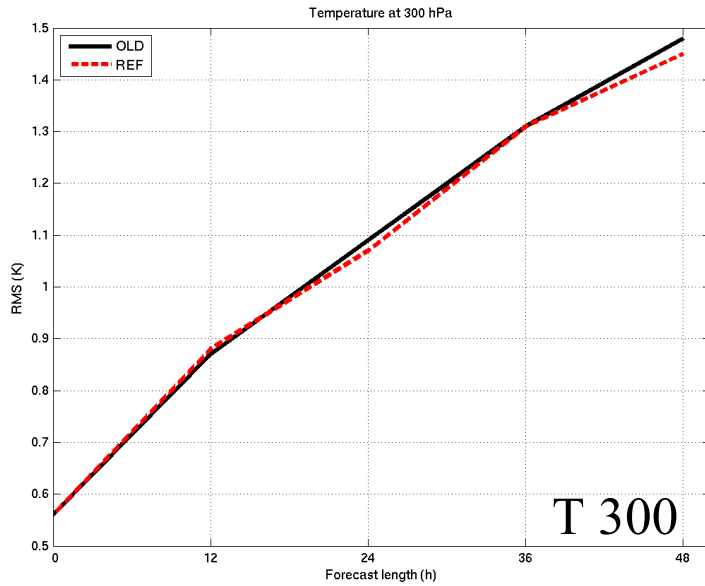
**OLD:** Old background check

**REF:** New reference background check

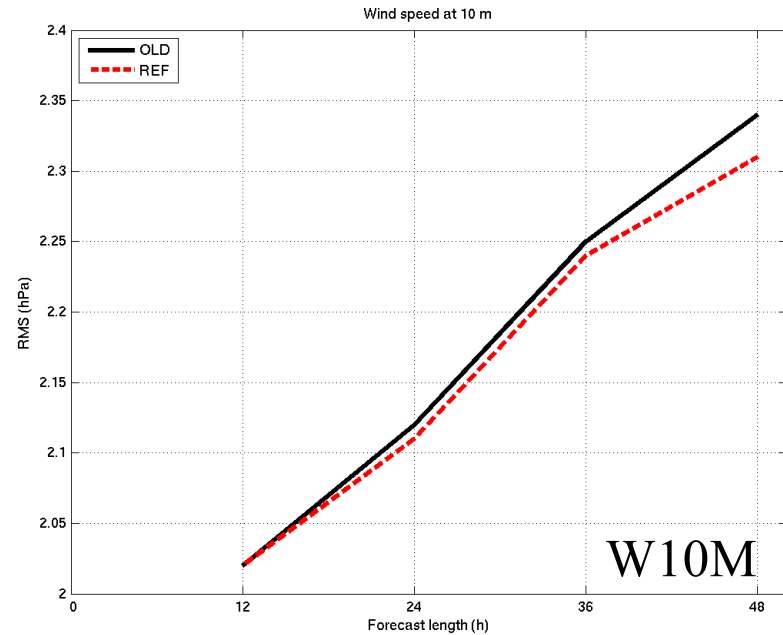
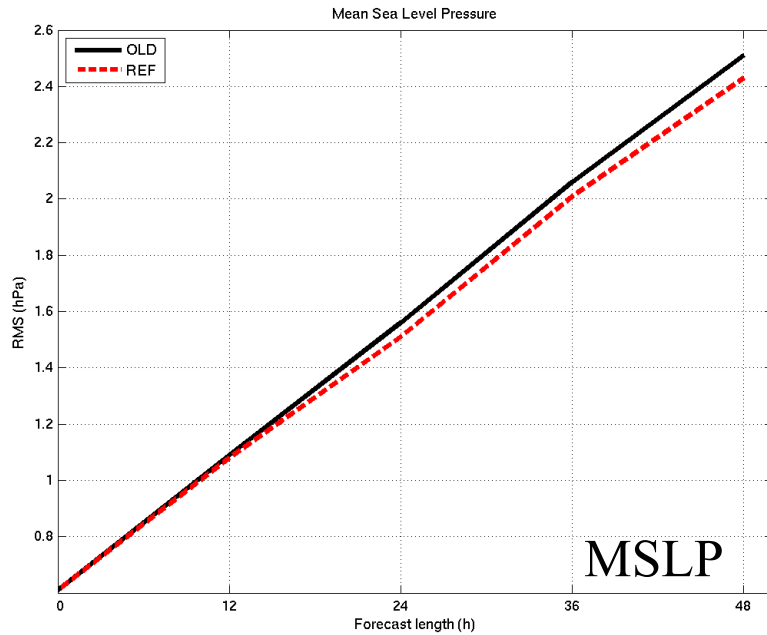
# Difference in observation usage (REF-OLD)



# SCORES FOR VERIFICATION OF FORECASTS AGAINST OBSERVATIONS (REF, OLD)

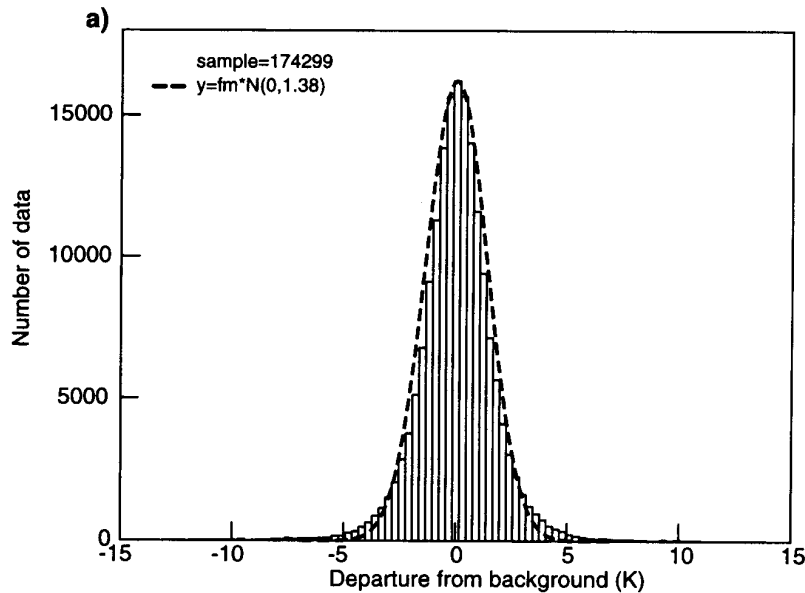


# SCORES FOR VERIFICATION OF FORECASTS AGAINST OBSERVATIONS (REF-OLD)

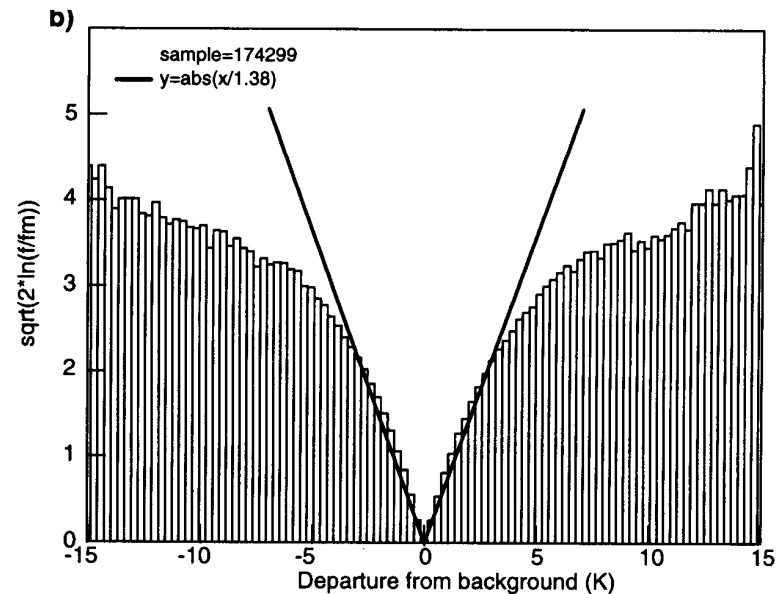


# “Objective” Tuning of BgQC and VarQC

(following Andersson and Järvinen, *QJR*, 1999)



Derive histograms ( $f$ ) of ob-bg  
and ob-an



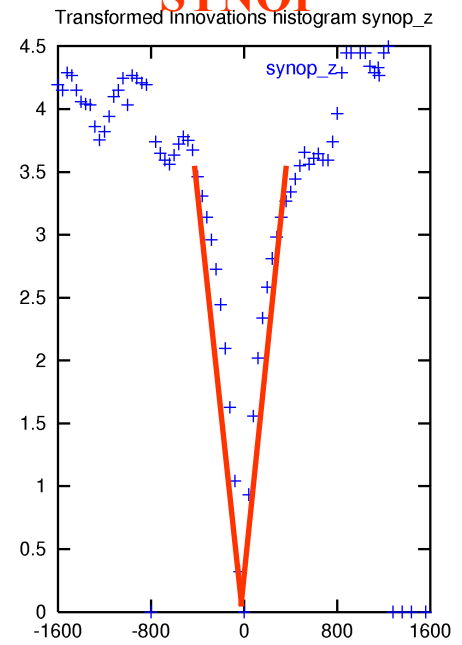
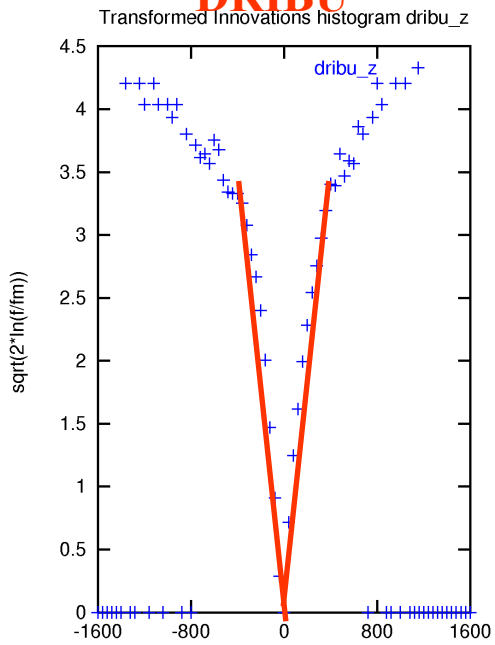
Transform histograms  
according to:

$$\hat{f} = \sqrt{-2 \ln[f / \max(f)]}$$

**DRIBU**

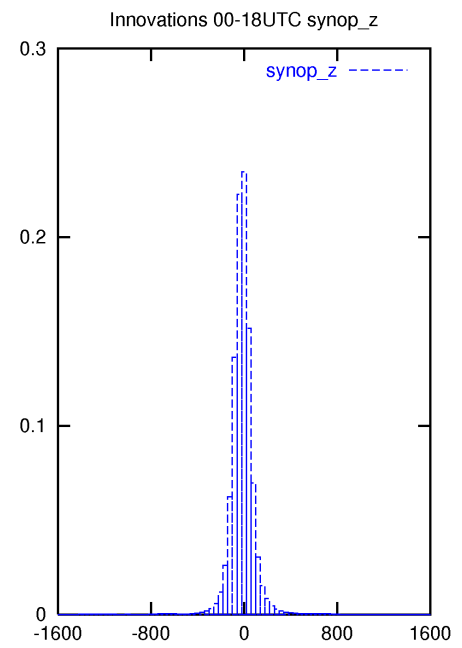
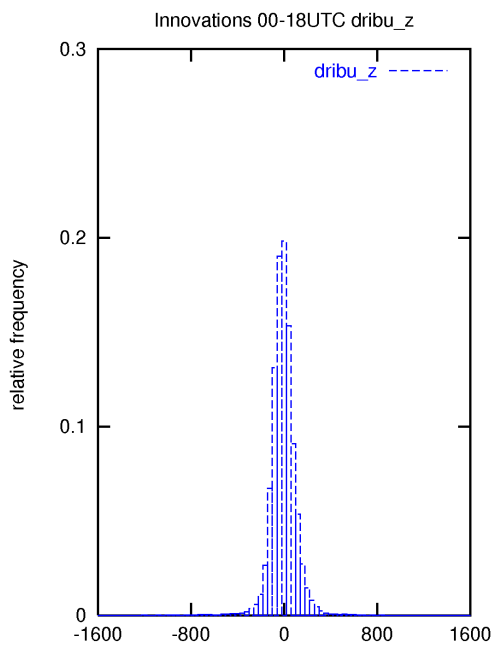
Surface pressure innovation histograms (Pa)

**SYNOP**



**Data from 14 days of REF experiment**

**Transformed Histogram**



**Histogram**

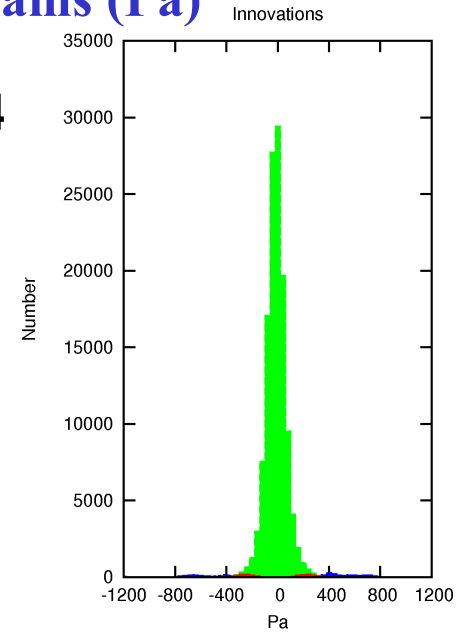
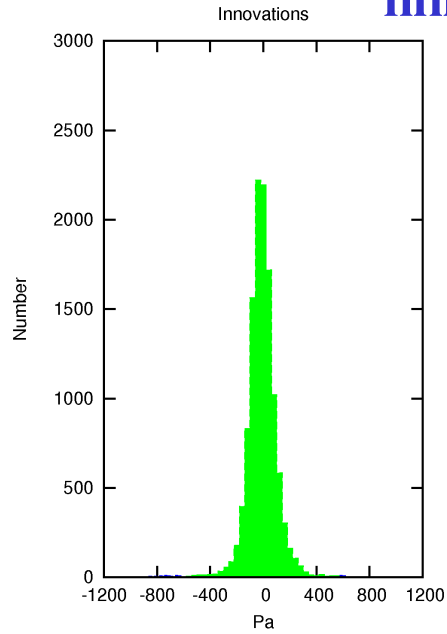
(Pa)

(Pa)

**DRIBU**

# Surface pressure innovation histograms (Pa)

**SYNOP**

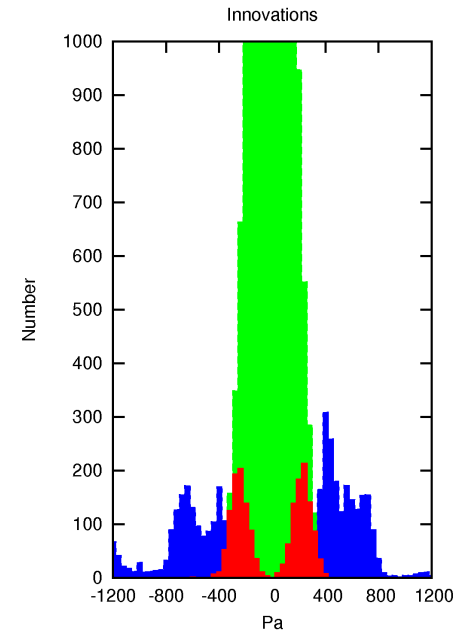
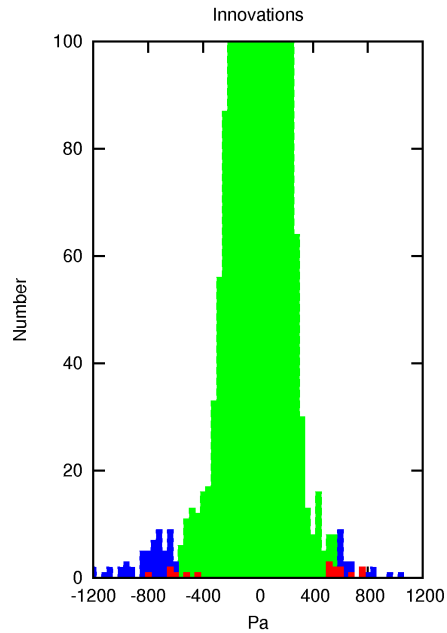


**Data from 14 days of REF experiment**

Accepted

VarQC rej

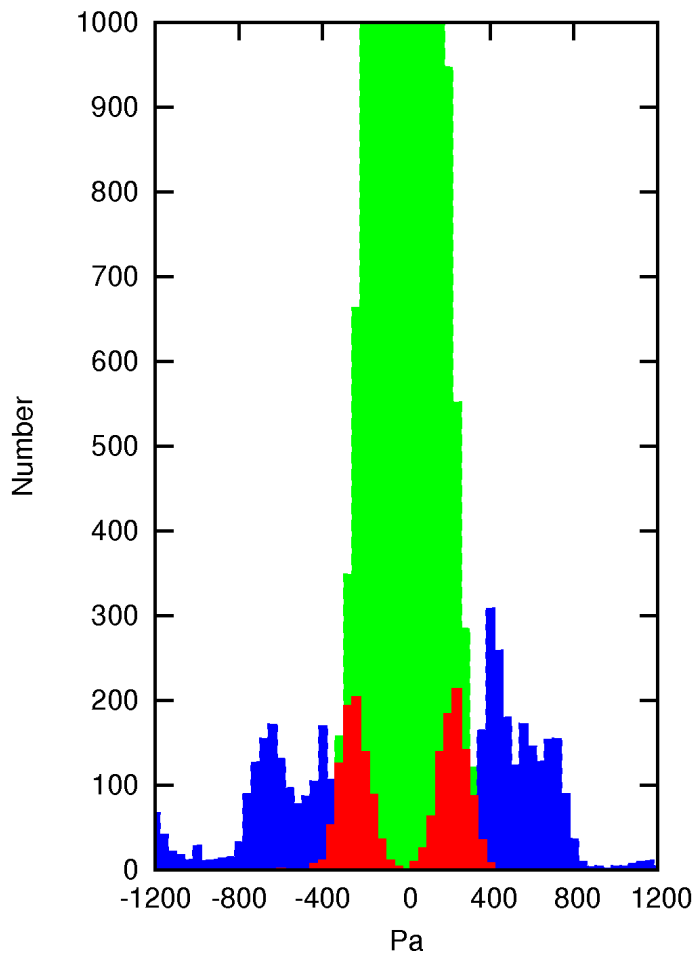
BgQC rej



# SYNOP Surface Pressure innovation histograms (Pa)

**REF**

Innovations

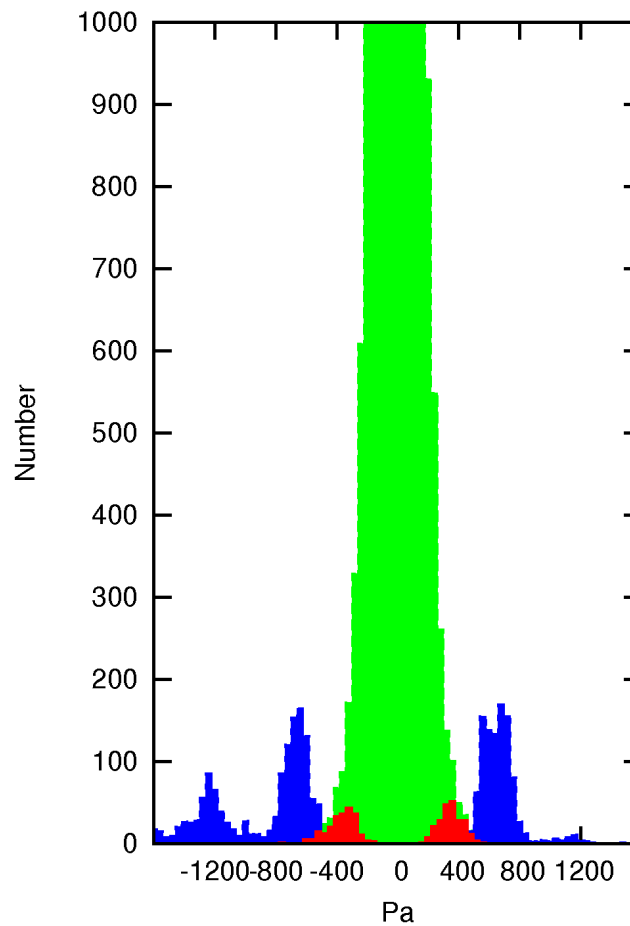


Accepted

VarQC rej

**TUN**

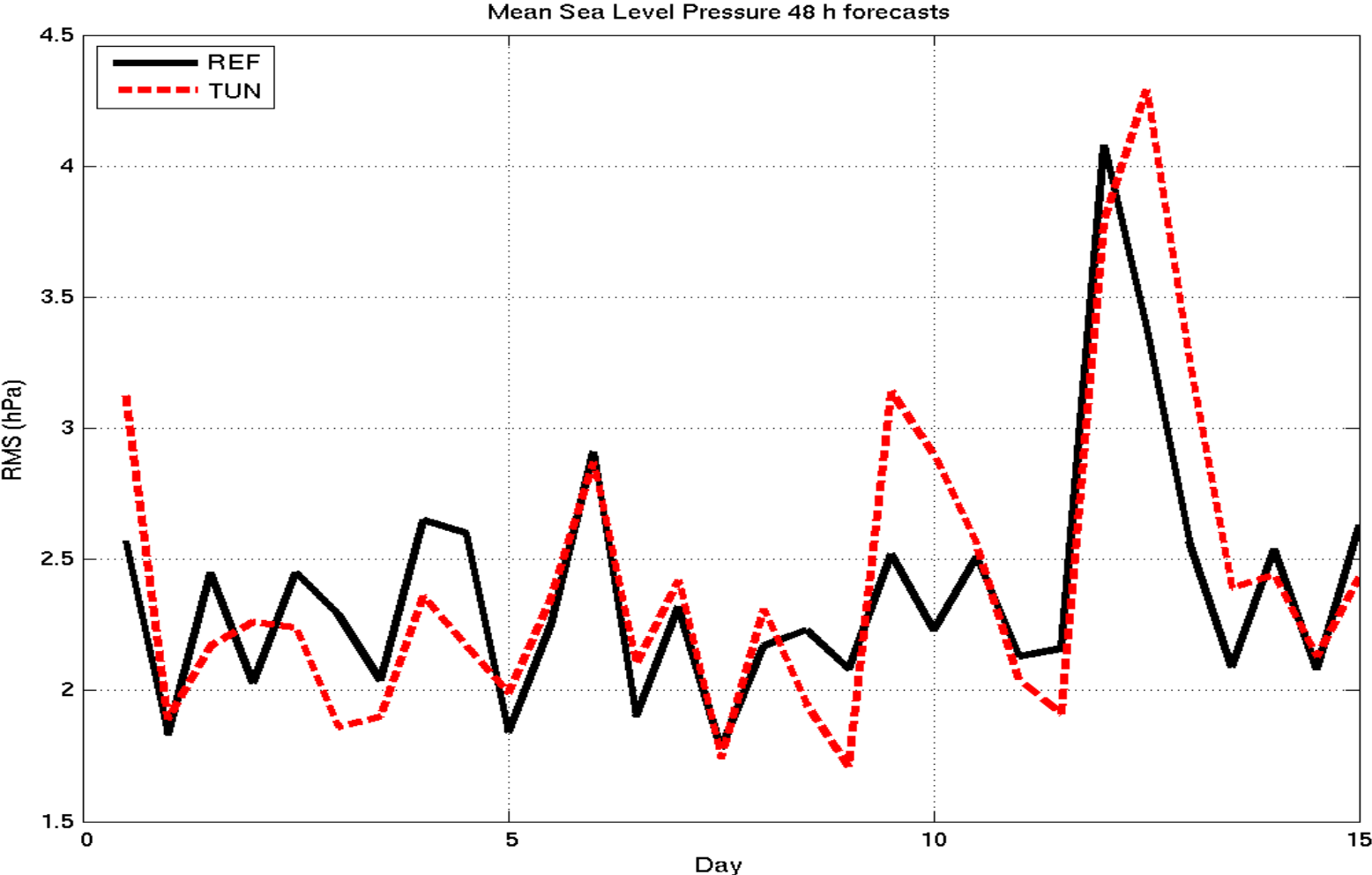
Innovations



BgQC rej



# TIME-SERIES OF SCORES FOR 48 H MSLP FORECASTS



# Conclusions

- New background error standard deviations used in background check consistent with the ones used in the minimization.
- First improvement of BgQC had positive impact on forecast quality and was introduced into the HIRLAM reference system.
- Further tuning of BgQC and VarQC parameters is ongoing.
- Extended experiments as well as studies of individual cases needed.