

# All-Staff 2014 Meeting WG Radar Meeting Notes

Chair: Martin Ridal (SMHI)

21 attending

First, the usage of radar data and the need for QC was addressed!

About half of the attending people was assimilating radar data.

Only a few services are actively using CONRAD.

Cartesian projection of radar data are still used, but only by a few services that are also using the MF-BUFR data format.

A couple of services has started to use opera data in assimilation.

The quality control packages in use are currently BALTRAD, INCA and the Norwegian PRORAD.

The need for thinning and methods to do this was then addressed. The HIRLAM community informed that the BALTRAD toolbox will soon include a super-observation facility that includes this feature.

The need for strict adherence of the ODIM format for the users of ODIM-HDF5 and ODIM-BUFR formats was stressed. According to M. Ridal OPERA have taken the decision to go to ODIM 2.2 standard. The present status of the contents of the national HDF5 files was discussed.

The issue of how ground-clutter is treated by the QC packages was discussed and there was a general agreement that this is still a problem that needs to be resolved (is it set to "nodata" or "undetected"). Feedback to data providers are strongly encouraged.

The availability of German radar data in HDF5 format was questioned and though the data is present in the ODC server, maintained by SMHI and BALTRAD, it is still unknown if the data is delivered in ODIM-BUFR or ODIM-HDF5 format.

MF stated that they are developing an operator for dual-polarization data and are experimenting with x-band radar data. The reflectivity data from the latter data source suffers from attenuation issues and the Radial wind data from low unambiguous velocity reducing its usability.

It was generally agreed that we should keep closer in contact, so four actions should be taken:

1. All attending will send a short status report to Martin Ridal to be put on a wiki page or similar.
2. Martin Ridal is to set up a mailing list based on the inputs from action 1 (possibly coupled to the HIRLAM Forum page)
3. People should register as opera data users, if we do not give feedback the product won't improve!
4. It was also stressed that users of OPERA data should "identify" their OPERA contact and use him/her to send feedback to OPERA.

NOTE: DMI still uses the German radar data from the HIRLAM ODC server. There is a bilateral agreement with DWD in place regarding exchange of Radar Data in HDF5 format, but the data has not started to arrive yet.