Performance of NWP models in complex terrain

Dorninger M (1), S. Serafin (2) and V. Hutter (1)

- 1) University of Vienna
- 2) University of Innsbruck

Question: Do NWP models perform better or worse in mountainous terrain?

Only very few papers are dealing with model performance in complex terrain specifically.

Hypothesis: E.g., Luv of mountain ranges helps to "fix" precipitation areas "in place" and NWP models perform better.

Verify NWP-model at station locations in and around Alpine Region

Start with 55 SYNOP stations:

- 13 Mountain stations
- 10 Foreland stations
- 32 Valley stations

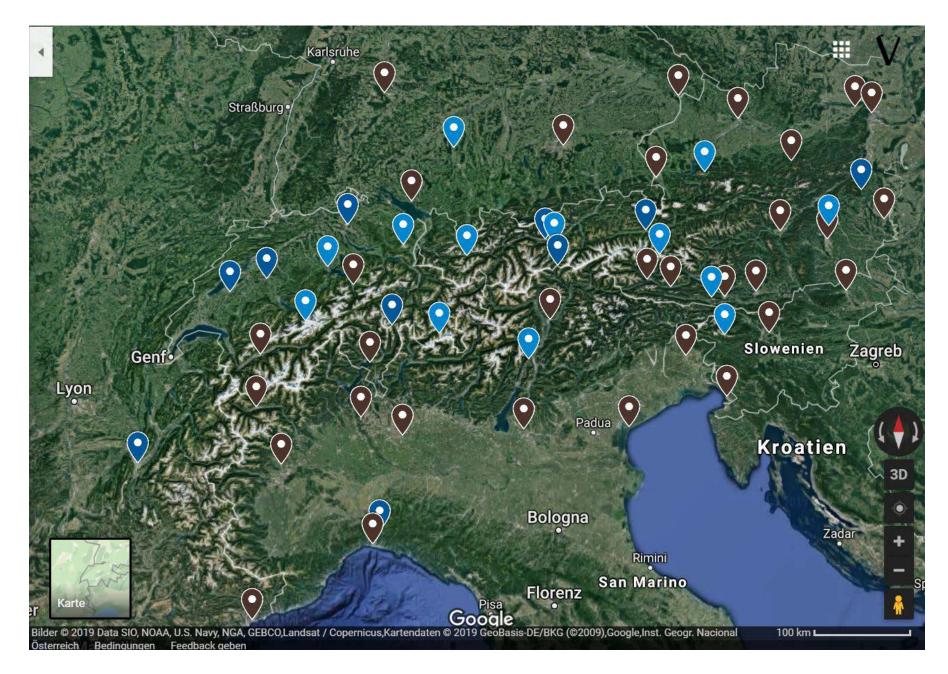
Including inner-alpine dry valley stations Including close-by mountain and valley stations

NWP-Model:

ECMWF in the current version

Data period:

8 March 2016 – 28 February 2019



- Extension of time period possible
- Inclusion of additional NWP-model results possible
- Rather simple verification scores
- Stratify verification according to
 - Foreland vs. Mountain stations
 - Inneralpine dry valley stations
 - Close-by mountains and valley stations
 - Weather situation

Overcome two problems of MesoVICT

- Course resolution of VERA
- Old cases