

# Is it time for interactivity and 3D?

## New approaches to analysing NWP data for observational campaigns using 3D and ensemble visualization

### Marc Rautenhaus

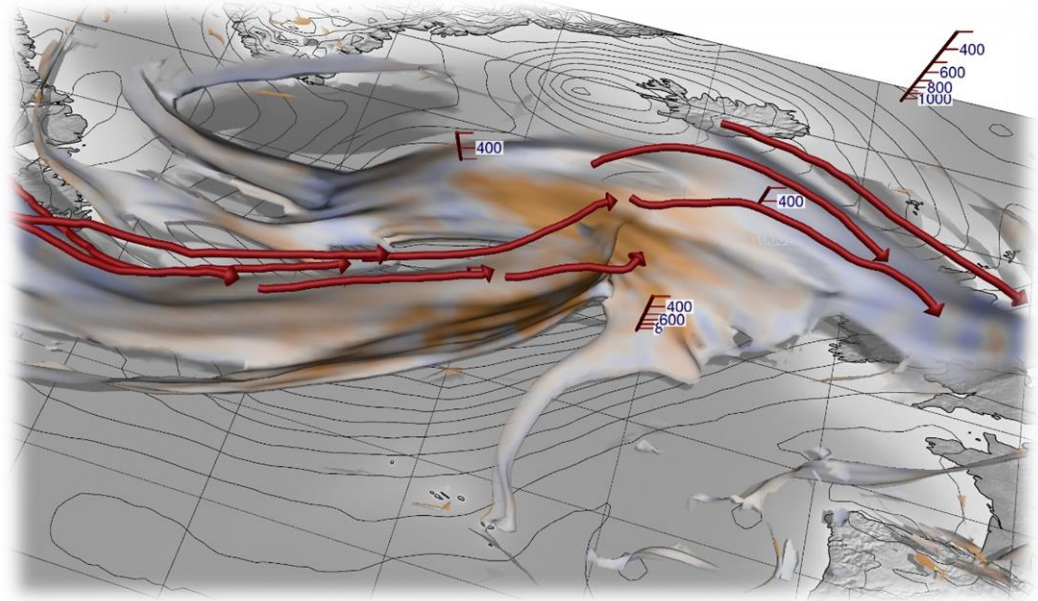
Universität Hamburg, Regional Computing Center,  
Center for Earth System Research and Sustainability (CEN)

(previously Technische Universität München)

Credit to: Michael Kern, Alexander Kumpf, Bianca Tost,  
Rüdiger Westermann (TU München); Tim Hewson (ECMWF);  
Andreas Schäfler (DLR); Michael Riemer (JGU Mainz) and others



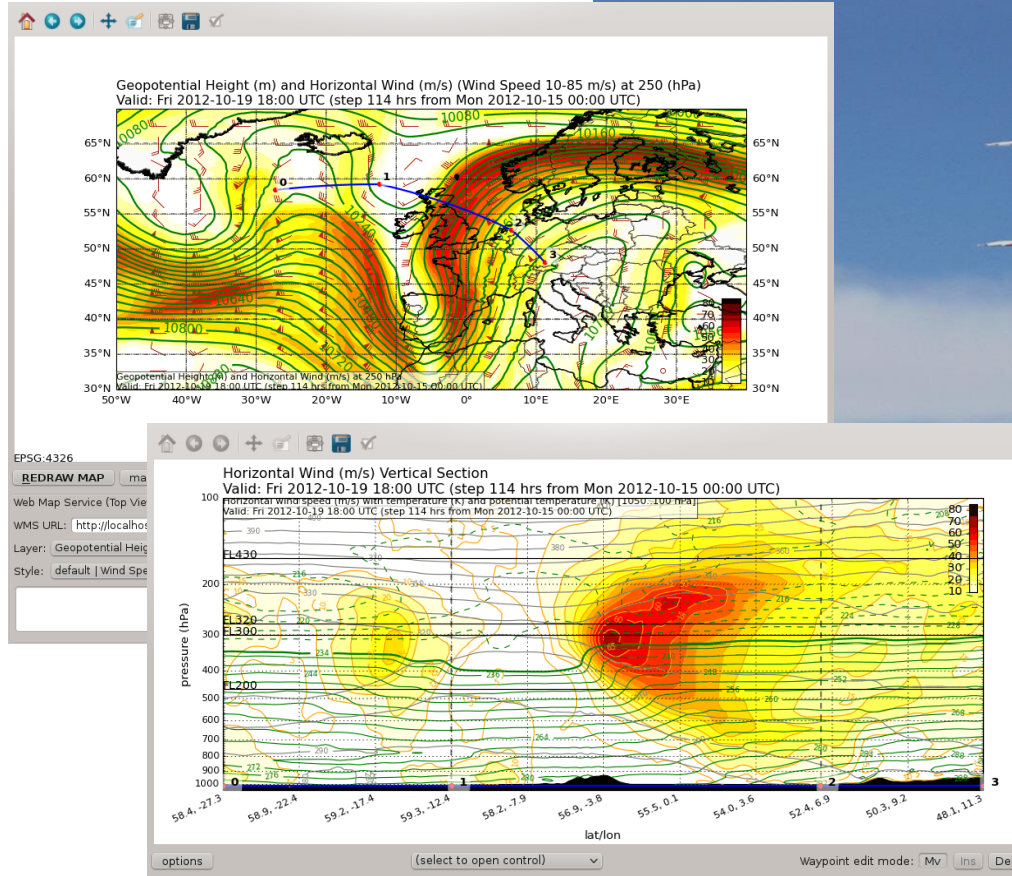
*ECMWF, 11 June 2019*



**How do we get straightforward access to the information that is contained in NWP data?**

# Planning research flights: the Mission Support System

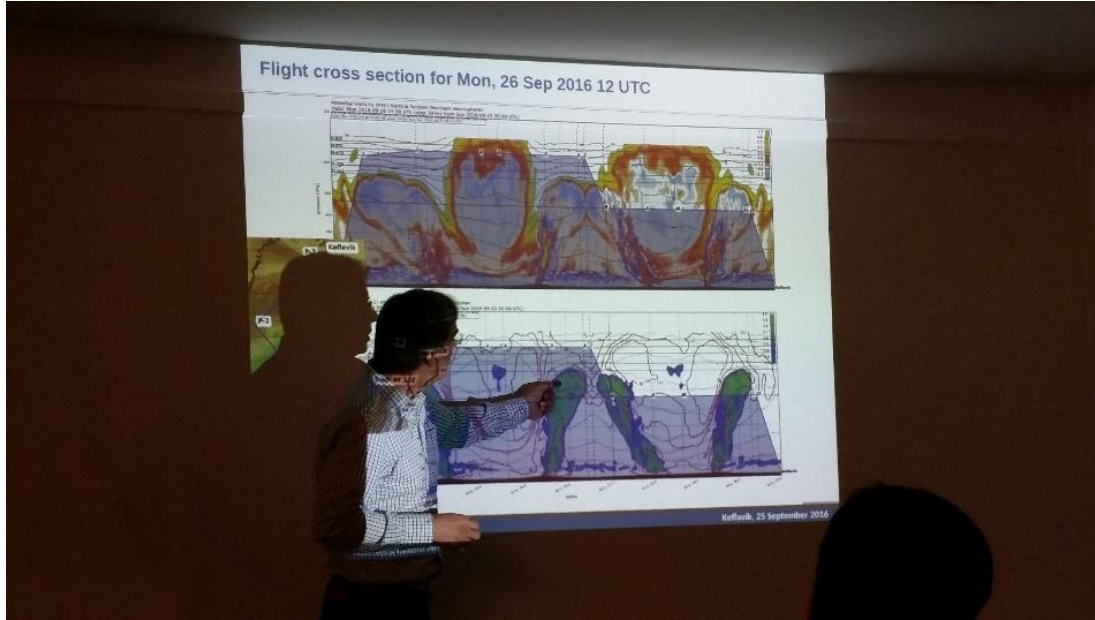
DLR Falcon



Rautenhaus, Bauer, Dörnbrack (Geosci. Model Dev. 2012)

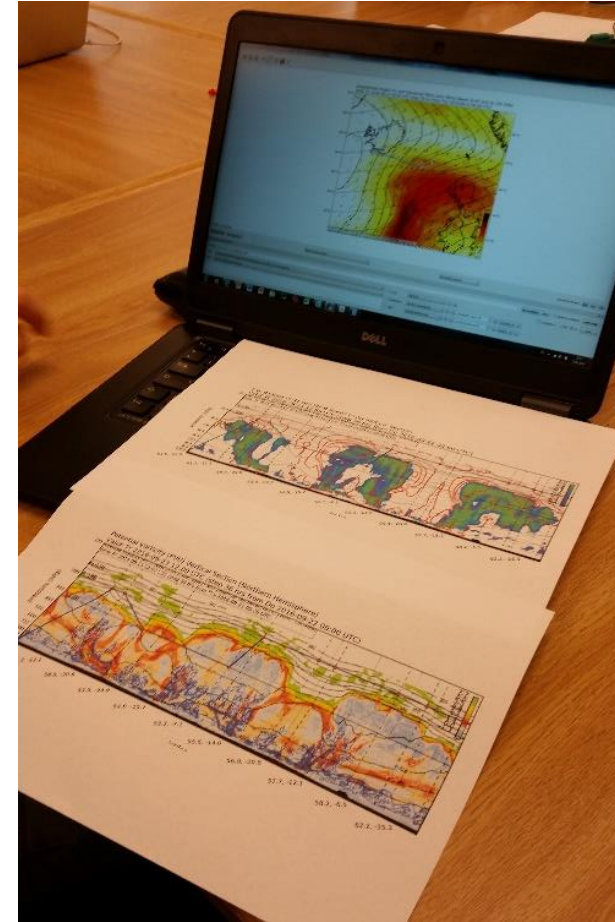
**Mission Support System (MSS):**  
approach to introduce interactivity  
into forecast exploration and flight  
planning.

# MSS has become an open-source community project



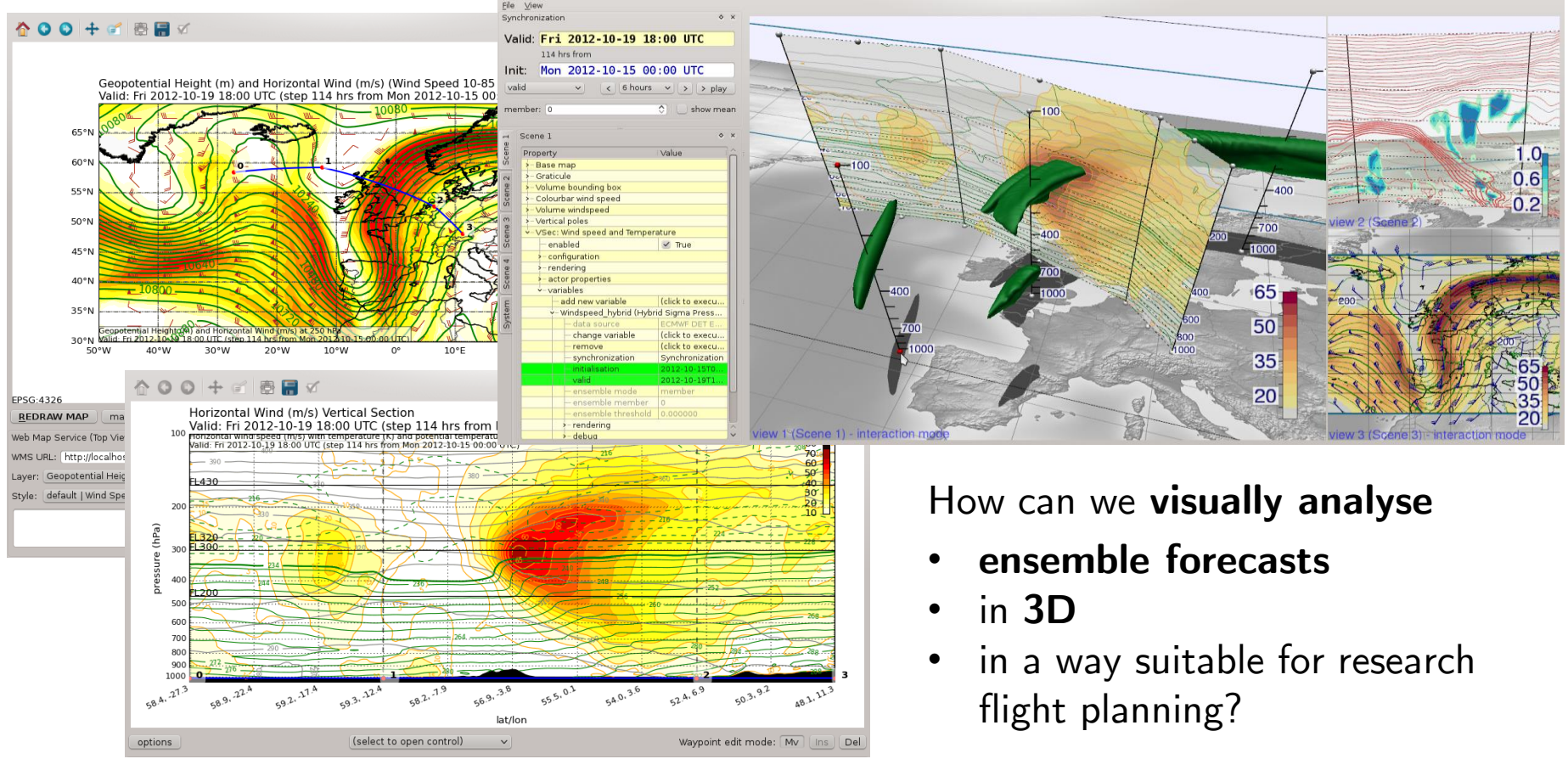
MSS development today driven by FZ Jülich;  
available at: [bitbucket.org/wxmetvis/mss](https://bitbucket.org/wxmetvis/mss)

Here: Deployment during NAWDEX, 2016





# 3D and ensembles: the “birth” of Met.3D in 2012



Rautenhaus, Bauer, Dörnbrack (Geosci. Model Dev. 2012)

How can we **visually analyse**

- **ensemble forecasts**
- **in 3D**
- in a way suitable for research flight planning?

# 3D and ensembles: the “birth” of Met.3D in 2012

## 3D visualization for flight planning?

- 3D vis has historically been limited by
  - Inability to see “where you are”
  - Lack of computing power
  - Lack of mechanisms to portray weather features
  - (Reluctance of potential users to change)

Transfer of state-of-the-art knowledge  
from visualization and computer  
graphics into meteorology

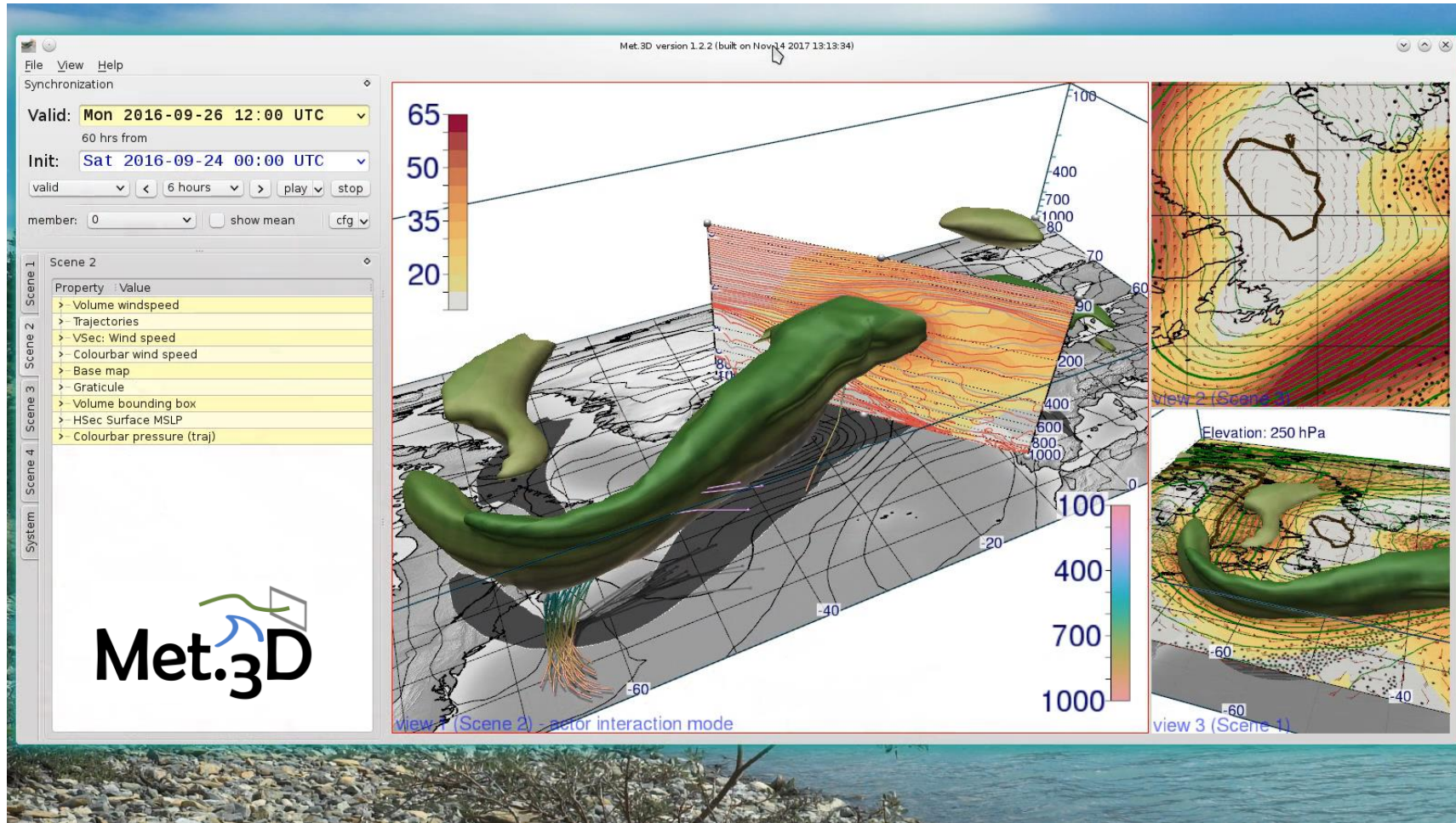
- **ensemble forecasts**
- **in 3D**
- in a way suitable for research  
flight planning?



# Ease transition by building a bridge from 2D to 3D

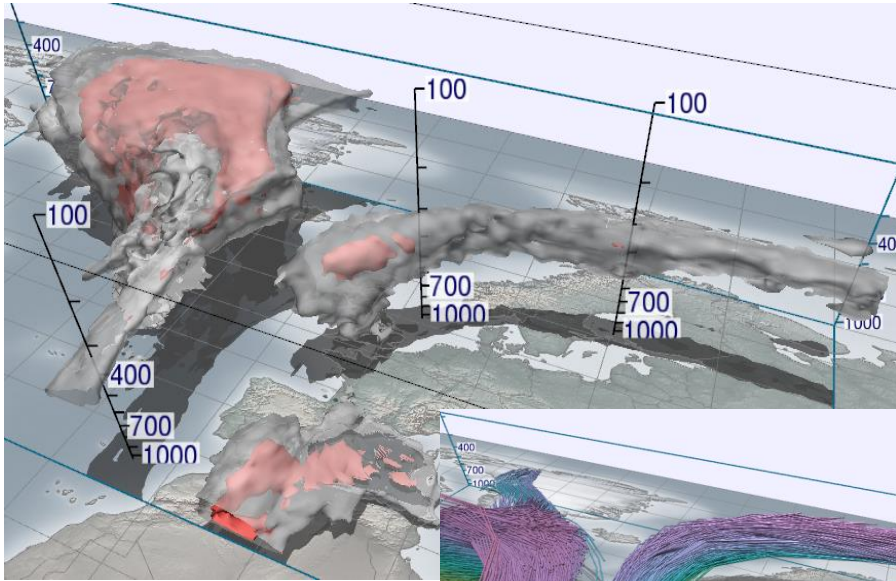
Do **not** replace proven 2D techniques but put them into a 3D context and use 3D elements to add value.

Intuitive interaction and spatial perception are key elements.

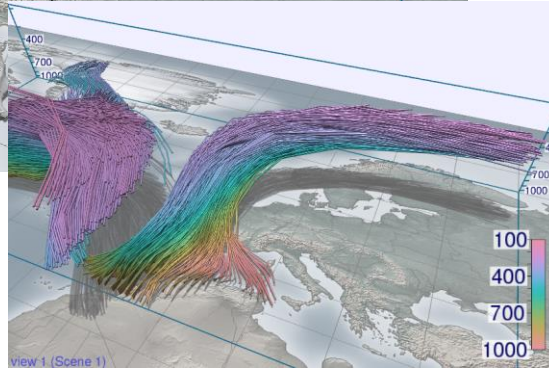


# “Overview first, zoom and filter, then details on demand”

-- Shneiderman (1996)



Example ensemble overview product for flight planning: probability of WCB occurrence as a summary measure to quickly find “interesting” regions.

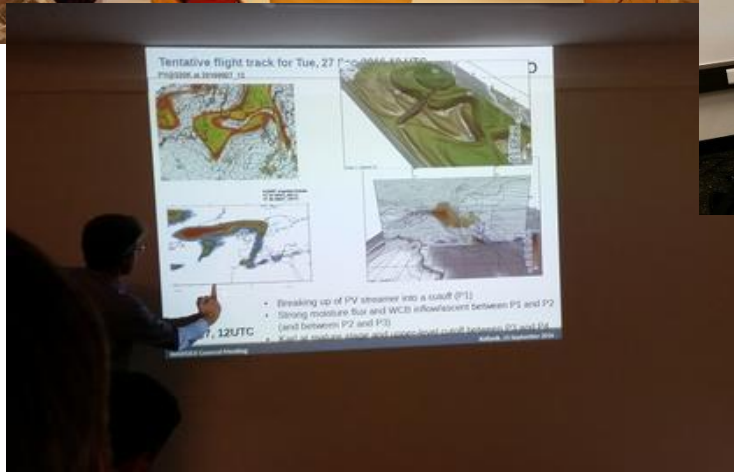
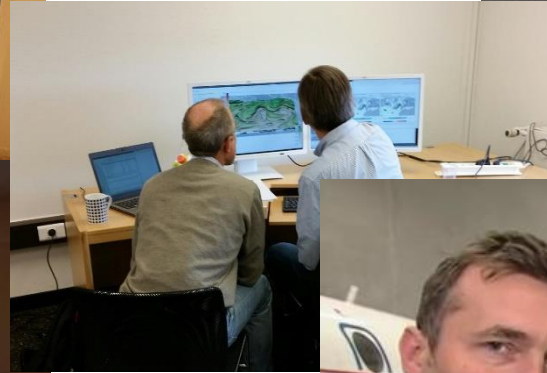
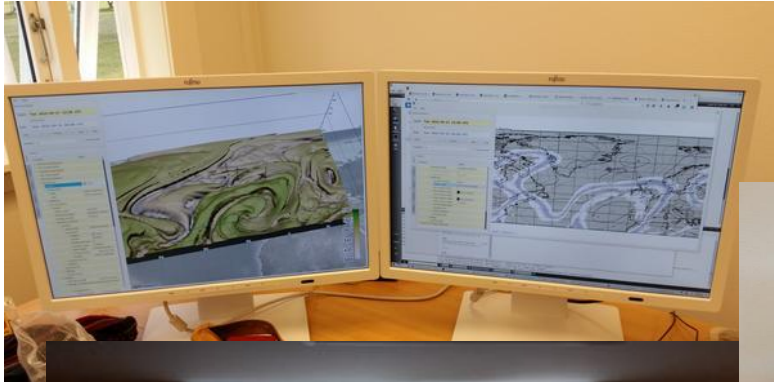


Feature detection per ensemble member with Lagrangian particle trajectories.

Rautenhaus, Grams, Schäfler, Westermann (Geosci. Model Dev. 2015)



# Met.3D in campaign practice: NAWDEX 2016



Met.3D workstations with  
ECMWF ENS on Iceland

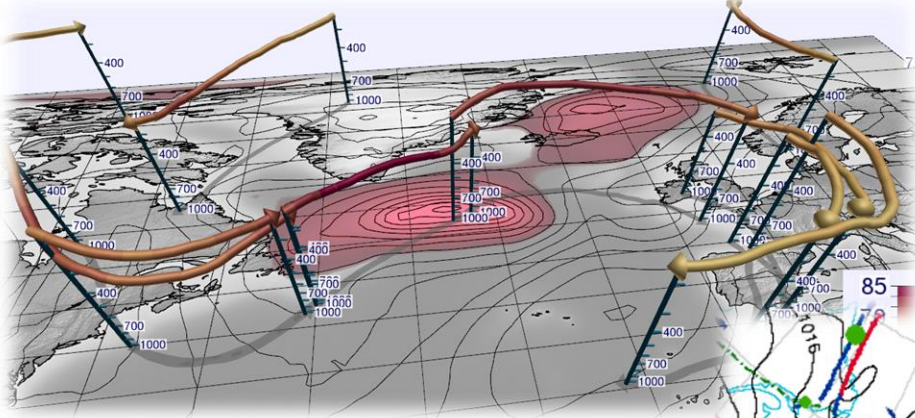
3D on TV



# NAWDEX motivated vis research and development

How to examine 3D meteorological features? (Michael Kern, TU Munich)

3D jet-stream core lines

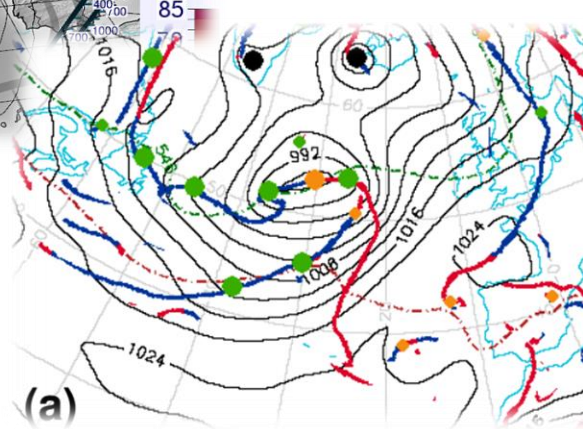


Kern, Hewson, Sadlo,  
Westermann, Rautenhaus (2018)

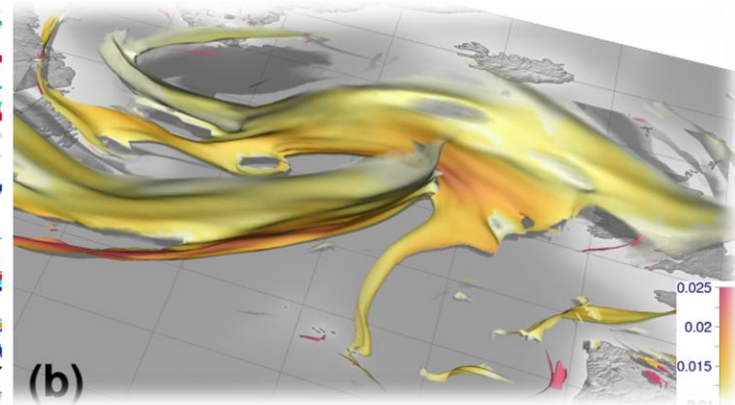
Compression of huge amounts  
of information into  
meaningful, focussed entities.



TUM



3D frontal structures

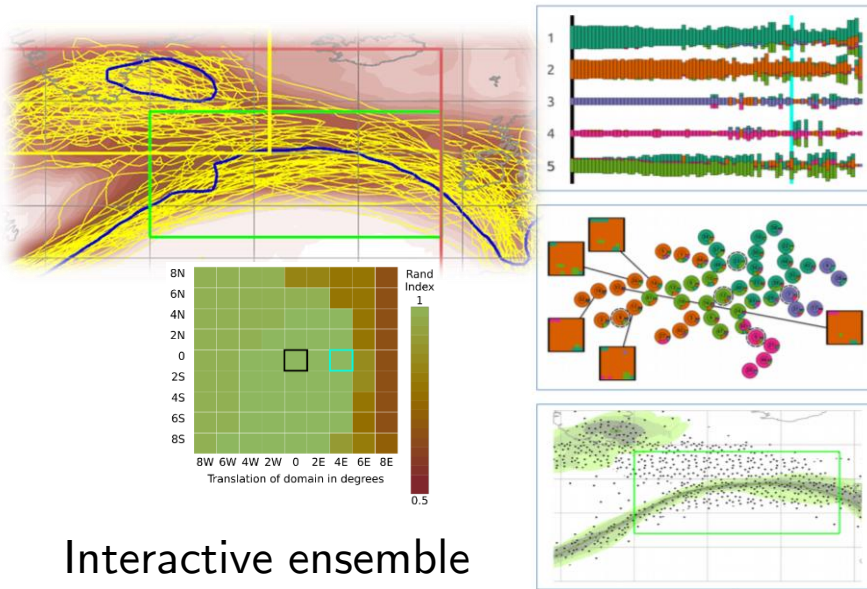


Kern, Hewson, Schäfler, Westermann, Rautenhaus (2019)



# NAWDEX motivated vis research and development

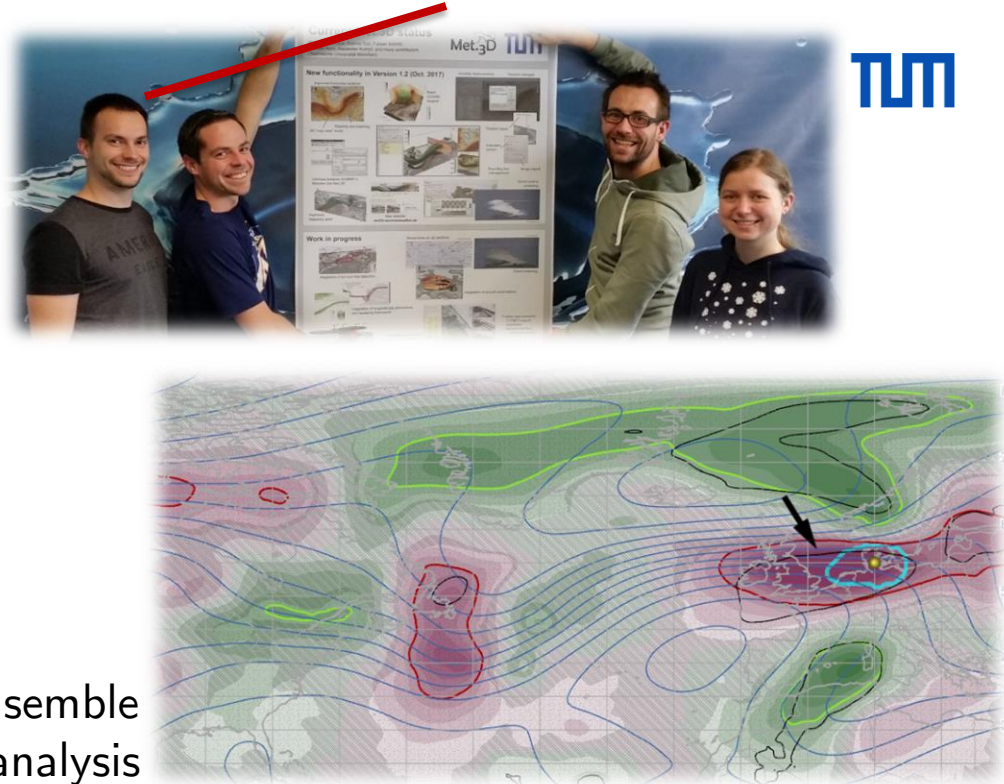
How to examine ensemble member similarity? (Alexander Kumpf, TU Munich)



Interactive ensemble  
clustering analysis

Kumpf, Tost, Baumgart, Riemer,  
Westermann, Rautenhaus (2018)

Interactive ensemble  
sensitivity analysis



Kumpf, Rautenhaus, Riemer, Westermann (2019)



## Examples

# **NAWDEX Sequence A**

## **(case "Karl")**

**ECMWF ensemble forecast**  
**IT: 2016 Sept 22 00Z**

**overview (control run)**

# **NAWDEX Sequence A**

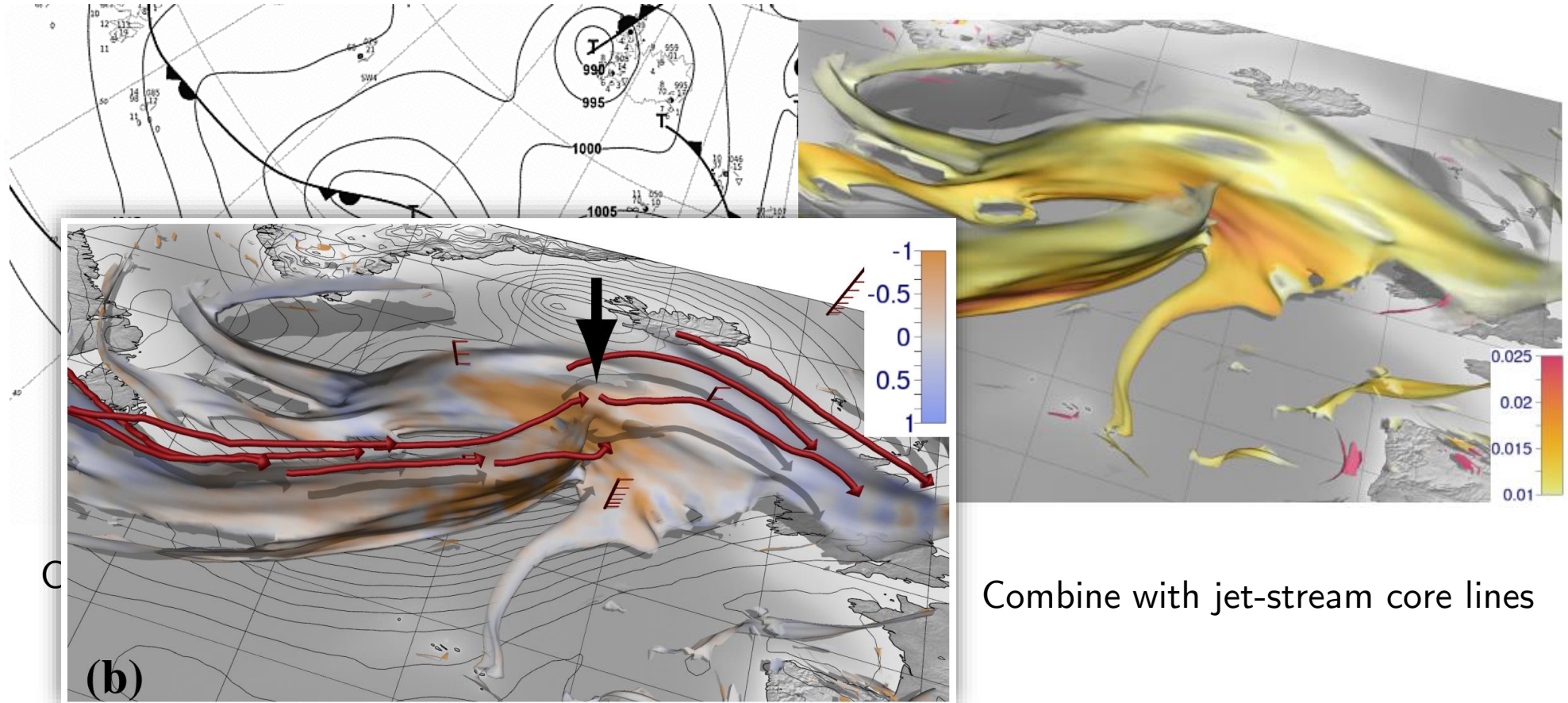
## **(case "Karl")**

**ECMWF ensemble forecast**  
**IT: 2016 Sept 22 00Z**

**analysis of member 13**



# Analysis of frontal structure



Combine with jet-stream core lines

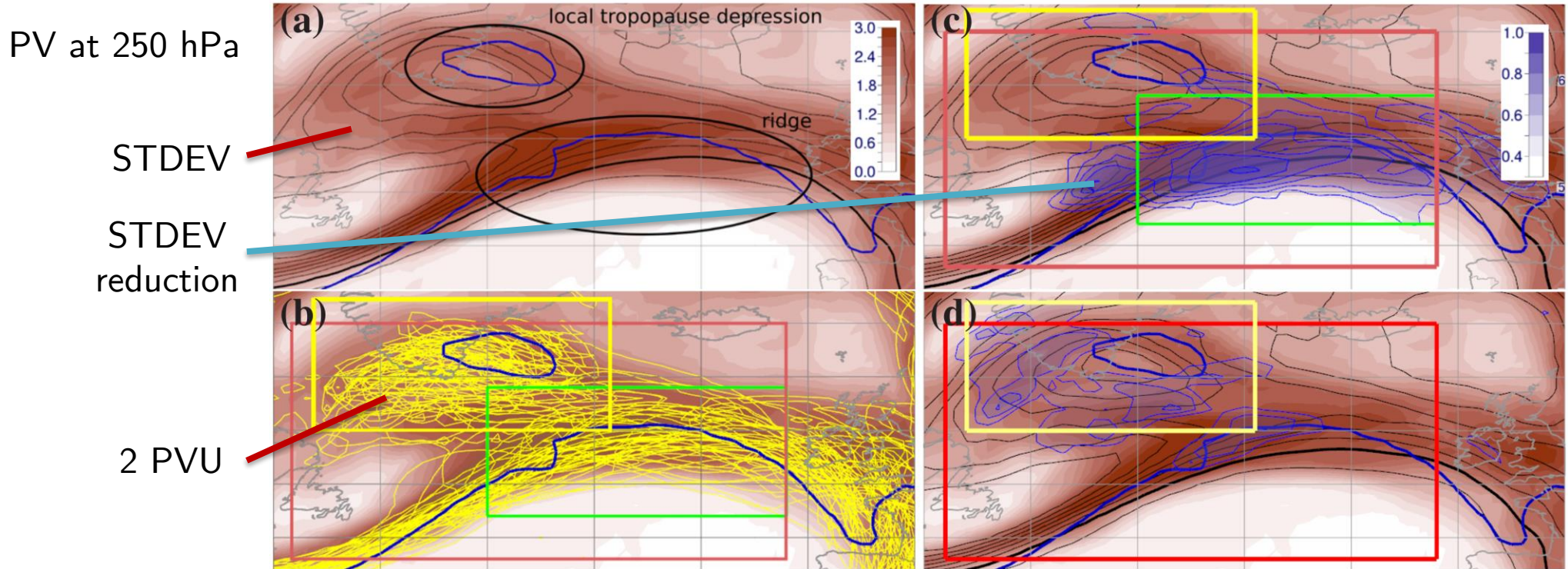
Kern, Hewson, Schäfler, Westermann, Rautenhaus (2019)

# Interactive 3D Visual Analysis of Atmospheric Fronts

Submission ID: 1075

# Clustering analysis of ridge region

Case "KARL", IT 00Z 22 Sept 2016, VT 00Z 26 Sept 2016



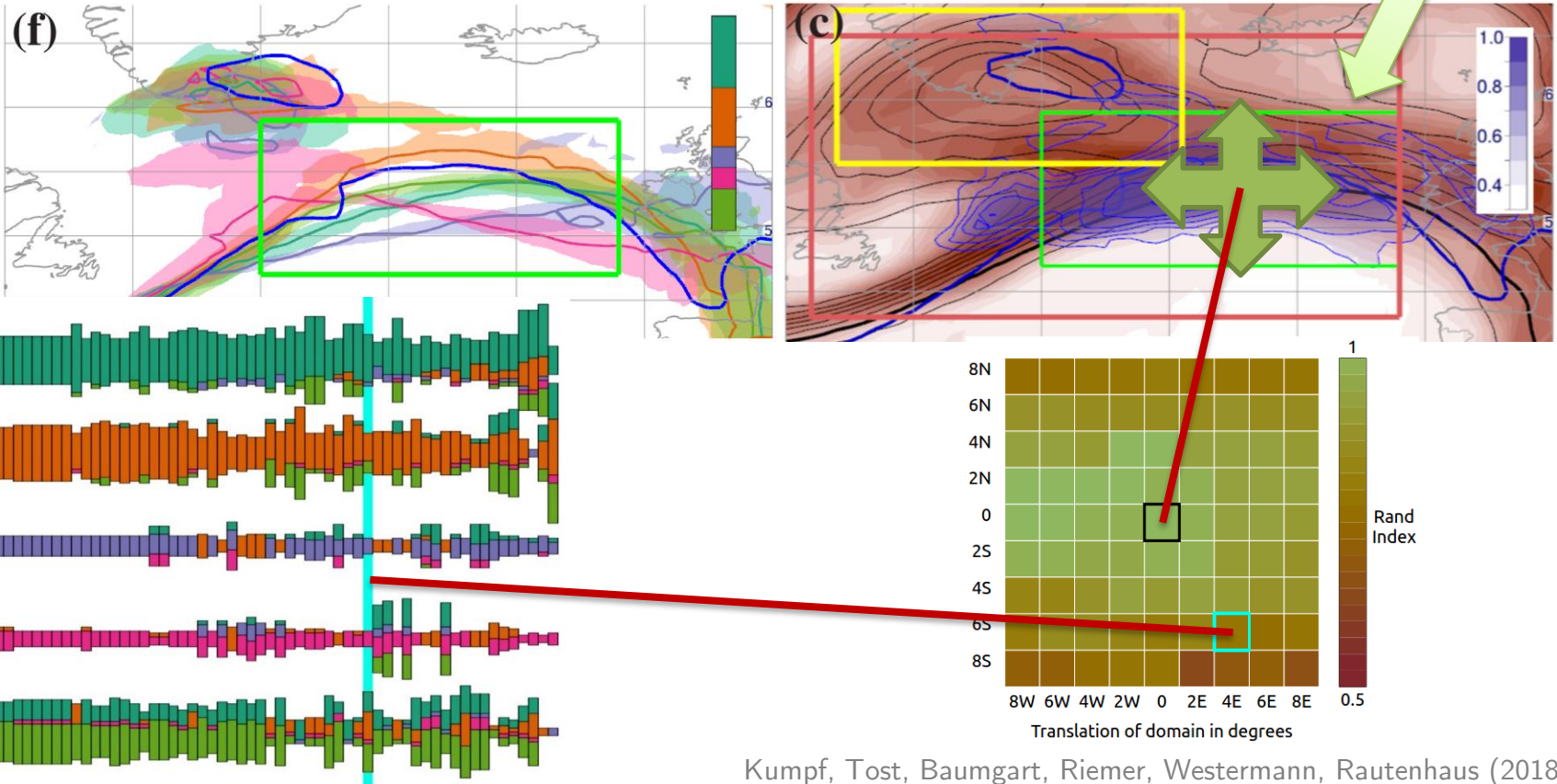
Kumpf, Tost, Baumgart, Riemer, Westermann, Rautenhaus (2018)



# Clustering analysis of ridge region

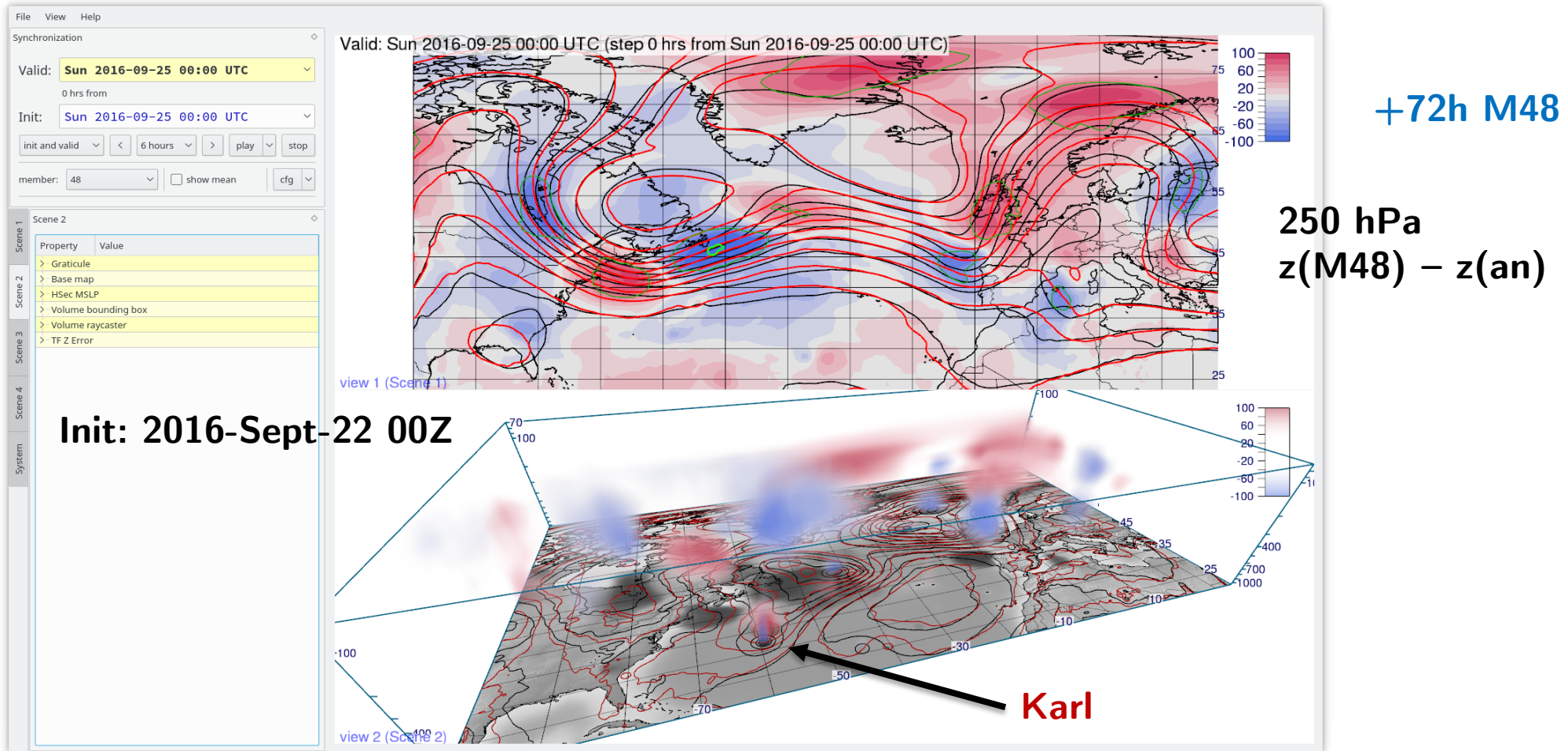
Case "KARL", IT 00Z 22 Sept 2016, VT 00Z 26 Sept 2016

PV at 250 hPa



Kumpf, Tost, Baumgart, Riemer, Westermann, Rautenhaus (2018)

# Forecast error: 2D + 3D views to not miss any structure





Synchronization

Valid: Thu 2016-09-22 00:00 UTC

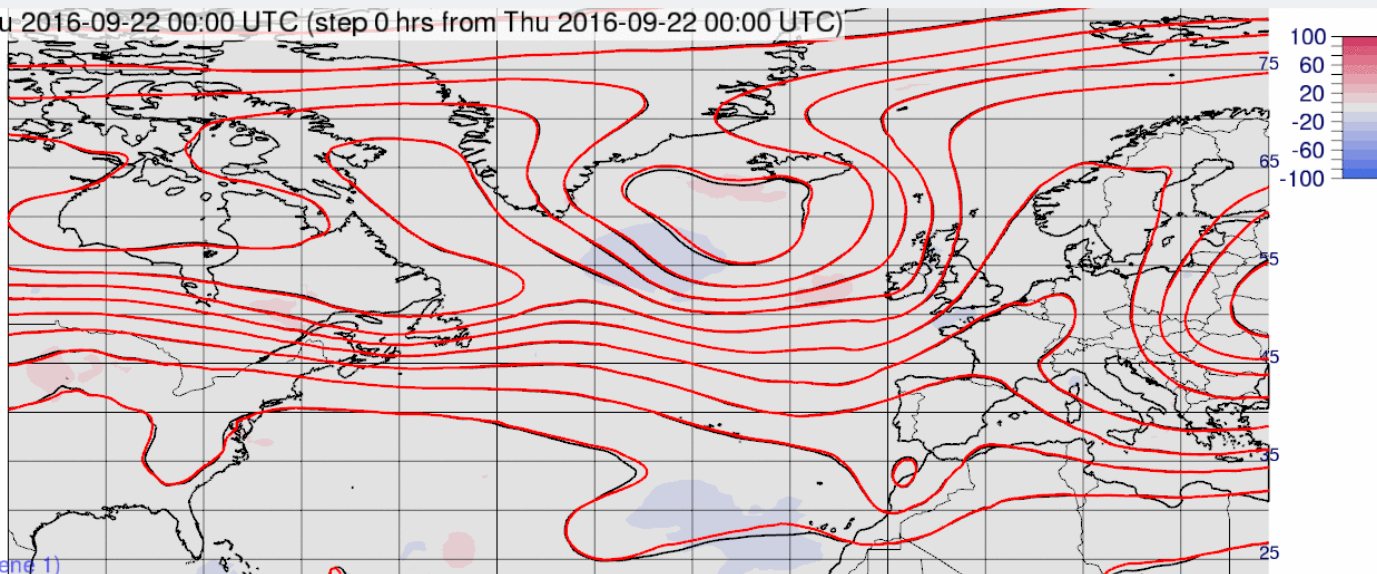
0 hrs from

Init: Thu 2016-09-22 00:00 UTC

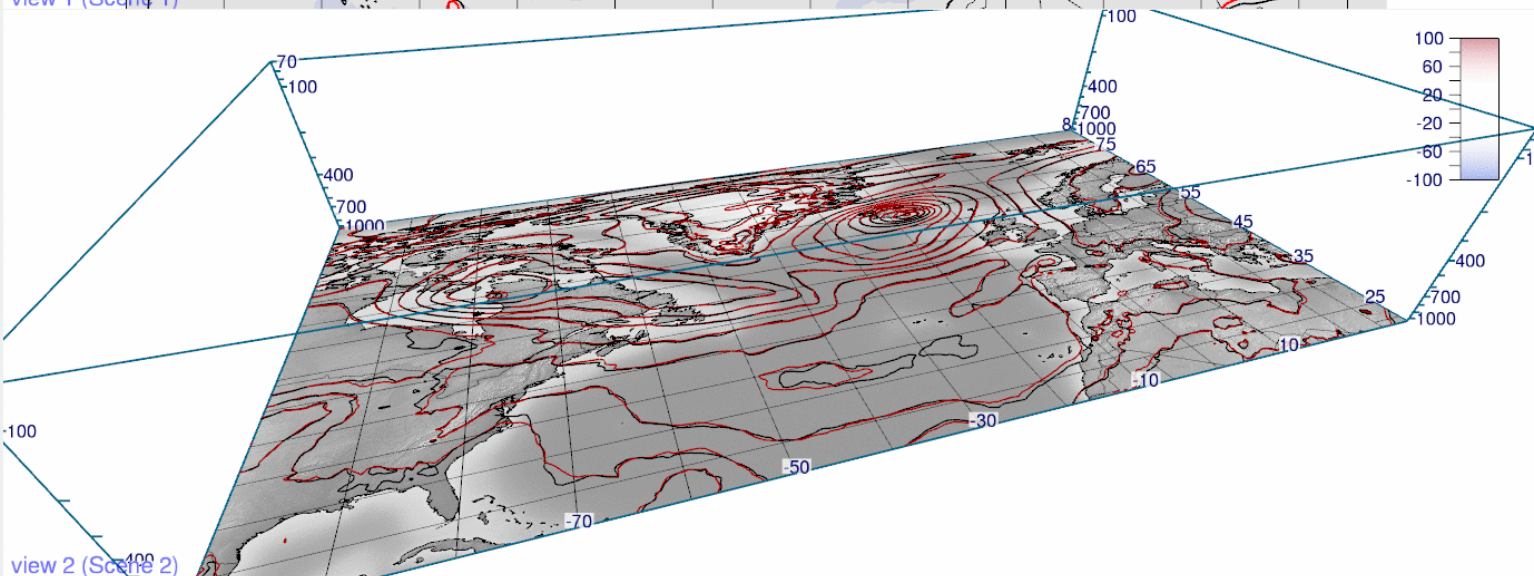
init and valid &lt; 6 hours &gt; play stop

member: 48 ☐ show mean cfg

Valid: Thu 2016-09-22 00:00 UTC (step 0 hrs from Thu 2016-09-22 00:00 UTC)



view 1 (Scene 1)



view 2 (Scene 2)

Scene 2

Property	Value
> Graticule	
> Base map	
> HSec MSLP	
> Volume bounding box	
> Volume raycaster	
> TF Z Error	

Scene 1

Scene 2

Scene 3

Scene 4

System

**How do we get straightforward access to the information that is contained in NWP data?**



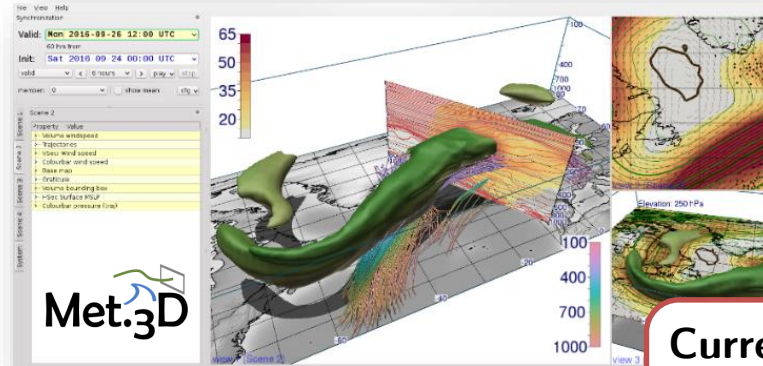
# Wrap-up: How can future campaigns benefit from Met.3D?

3D visual analysis can benefit **flight planning** and **case analysis** to examine 3D structures and uncertainty.

Experience shows:

- 3D interactive = fast exploration.
- Minimizes chance to miss structures, enhances understanding.
- Attractive in particular for students and younger scientists.

Method-centred work: I'm much interested in adapting and applying to wider range of cases.



Open-source community tool:  
[met3d.wavestoweather.de](https://met3d.wavestoweather.de)

I'm happy to discuss use for future campaigns.

Currently three open positions:  
1 PhD (W2W), 1 SciProg (W2W),  
1 PostDoc (CLICCS)

More (experimental) code exists,  
e.g. to visualize observational data.  
It would be great to collaborate  
w.r.t. to using some of this.

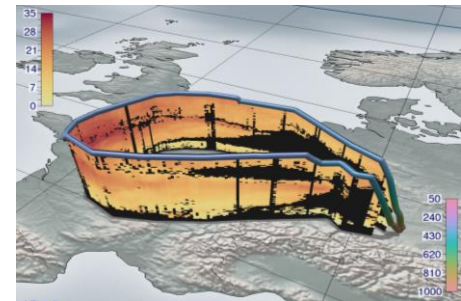


Image: Fabian Schöttl