

Multi-scale Transport and Exchange processes in the Atmosphere over Mountains – programme and experiment

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Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Meteorologisches Institut – Meteorologisches Kolloquium, 14.1.2020

TEAMx

- Exchange processes induced by mountains: Transfer of heat, momentum and mass (water, CO₂, aerosols) between the ground, the PBL and the free atmosphere.
- Special challenges over mountains: Spatial heterogeneity, wide range of relevant scales of motion.



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Figure 13: Diagram of the structure of the atmosphere above a mountain range.

Global distribution of mountains

K1-Kapos et al., 2000 -UNEP/WCMC 0-----0 K1 Mountains K1 Mountain Classes 1. Elevation > 4500m 2. Elevation 3500-4500m 3. Elevation 2500-3500m 4. Elevation 1500-2500m and Slope $> 2^{\circ}$ 5. Elevation 1000-1500m and Slope $> 5^{\circ}$ 6. Elevation 300-1000m and LER > 300m 7. Isolated inner basins/plateau < 25 km² K2-Körner et al., 2011 - GMBA 0 0 K2 Mountains K2 Mountain Bioclimatic Belts K2c1 Nival K2c2 Upper alpine K2c3 Lower alpine K2c4 Upper montane K2c5 Lower montane K2c6 Mountain area with frost K2c7 Mountain area without frost K3-Karagulle et al., 2017 -Esri/USGS 0_____ K3 Mountains K3 Mountain Classes High Mountains Scattered High Mountains Low Mountains Scattered Low Mountains



Major experiments in mountain meteorology



TEAMx technological drivers

- Observational advances w.r.t. historical campaigns:
 - Remote sensing: ground based (radar, lidar, boundary-layer profiling) and satellite-based (resolution, parameters retrieved).
 - Airborne sampling and remote sensing.
- Model advances:
 - Steadily increasing resolution.
 - High resolution implies challenges in model initialisation, parameterization of sub-grid-scale physical processes, model evalution.

1. Shortcomings of parameterization schemes over mountains

- 2. Multi-scale interactions over mountains
- 3. TEAMx

Parameterizing exchange processes

- Two examples of gaps between the state-of-the art in parameterizations and the state of knowledge about exchange processes over mountains:
 - 1. Scaling laws in the surface layer
 - 2. Planetary boundary layer

Example 1: Scaling laws (MOST)

How parameterizations work

- SL parameterizations assume that the first model level lies within the constant-flux layer.
- Under this assumption, surface fluxes are estimated from model-level variables using bulk transfer relationships.
- Bulk transfer coefficients include adiabatic corrections, based on MOST (Ψ, ζ=z/L).

$$\overline{u'w'}_s = -C_d u_1 U_1$$
$$\overline{v'w'}_s = -C_d v_1 U_1$$
$$\overline{w'T'}_s = -C_h U_1 (T_1 - T_s)$$



FIG. 6.5. The dimensionless wind gradient ϕ_m and temperature gradient ϕ_h as function of the dimensionless height. For $\zeta < 0$ the solid lines are $\phi_m = (1 + \gamma \zeta)^{-1/4}$ and $\phi_h = (1 + \gamma \zeta)^{-1/2}$. For $\zeta > 0$ the solid line is $\phi_m = \phi_h = 1 + \beta \zeta$.

$$C_{d} = k^{2} \left[\log \left(\frac{z_{1}}{z_{0}} \right) - \Psi_{m} \left(\frac{z_{1}}{L} \right) \right]^{-2}$$
$$C_{h} = k^{2} \left[\log \left(\frac{z_{1}}{z_{0}} \right) - \Psi_{m} \left(\frac{z_{1}}{L} \right) \right]^{-1} \left[\log \left(\frac{z_{1}}{z_{0}} \right) - \Psi_{h} \left(\frac{z_{1}}{L} \right) \right]^{-1}$$

Example 1: Scaling laws (MOST)

What we know

- Over slopes, turbulent fluxes may change considerably with height above ground.
- Even using *local* scaling, fluxprofile relationships are often reported to match observed fluxes and gradients very poorly over complex terrain.
- The example refers to a steep mountain slope.



Fig. 10 Dimensionless wind shear ϕ_m for **a** $\zeta < 0$ and **b** $\zeta > 0$ at site T2, 1.5 m normal to the surface. The *solid red lines* represent the Businger–Dyer flux–profile relationships determined over flat and homogeneous surfaces (Businger et al. 1971; Dyer 1974)

Nadeau et al (2013)

Troen and Mahrt (1986)

How parameterizations work

- Regardless of the closure type (K-profile or TKE-based), the BL height (z_i) is a key parameter in determining the eddy transfer coefficients.
- *z_i* is determined in a variety of ways (e.g., gradient or *Ri_b* methods).
- PBL closures are often 1D (they only model vertical exchange).



Fig. 1. Geometric sketch of the boundary-layer depth relationship to the profile of potential temperature above the surface layer (solid profile). For the unstable case, the first vertical broken line to the right of the profile indicates the potential temperature after enhancement due to the temperature excess associated with surface heating (11-12). The vertical broken line on the right indicates the potential temperature at the boundary-layer top after deepening due to shear-generated mixing as formulated in terms of a modified bulk Richardson number (10b). The latter mechanism completely determines the depth of the stable boundary layer.

What we know

- The vertical structure of the MBL is more complex than that of the CBL (evidence from both <u>observations</u> and numerical modelling).
- Different ways to estimate z_i perform very differently over complex terrain.
- Horizontal exchange is important over complex terrain.



What we know

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Figure 4. (a)–(e) Cross-sections of potential temperature (thin contour lines), cross-valley (colour shading) and along-valley wind speed (thick contour lines, negative values dashed, interval 1.0 m s^{-1} , the zero line is not shown) averaged between y = 5 and y = 15 km after 6 h of simulation. Boundary-layer heights PBL1, PBL2 and PBL3 are plotted with thick dashed green, black and grey lines, respectively.

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Figure 5. Schematic representation of the boundary layer in (a) a low-resolution numerical model, (b) a high-resolution operational numerical model, and (c) the turbulent boundary layer as found from different MAP boundary-layer studies.

Goger et al (2018)

Horizontal exchange

Impact of horizontal shear production on the modelled TKE budget





Goger et al (2018)

Horizontal exchange

Impact of horizontal shear production on the modelled TKE budget

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{q^2}{2}\right)_{\text{HSP}} = (c\Delta x)^2 \left[\underbrace{\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y}\right)^2}_{\text{confluence}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}\right)^2}_{\text{shear}}\right]^{3/2}.$$



Horizontal exchange

Impact of hybrid 3D TKE parameterization on forecast skill for surface variables



	Terrain	Rmse turb_1D	Rmse turb_hybrid	Rmse turb_pseudo3D
2-m temperature (K)	HCT	2.09	2.07	2.09
	Flat terrain	1.49	1.48	1.48
	Overall	1.72	1.71	1.71
2-m relative humidity (%)	HCT	10.95	10.58	10.40
	Flat terrain	8.92	8.91	9.17
	Overall	9.70	9.55	9.65
10-m wind speed (m s ^{-1})	HCT	1.12	1.12	1.14
	Flat terain	1.05	1.06	1.06
	Overall	1.08	1.08	1.09

- 1. Shortcomings of parameterization schemes over mountains
- 2. Multiscale interactions in orographic flows
- 3. TEAMx

- T-Rex field phase in March-April 2006, Owens Valley (California).
- Major focus: Atmospheric rotors.



T-REX Experiment Design Ground-based Instrumentation



Grubišić et al. (2008)





Mayr and Armi (2010)



Strauss et al. (2016)

18

- T-Rex IOP 6 simulated with a 70member EnKF ensemble.
- $\Delta x = 3$ km in innermost domain
- 40 vertical levels
- Focus on downslope windstorms, lowest 300 m of atmosphere in the red area.
- Cross-sections along A-A'
- Upstream profiles at A







FIG. 7. The evolution of the zonal wind averaged over the Owens Valley metric box during the IOP 6 simulation for the (a) 10 strongest and (b) 10 weakest ensemble members. The thick line shows the mean of each 10-member subset.



FIG. 4. Potential temperature of radio soundings upstream (thick) and downstream (thin) of the Sierra Nevada, with added altitude of the Sierra Nevada crest and Kearsarge Pass and launch times. Arrows show adiabatic descent of upstream air from gap and crest height, respectively, to the downstream air mass.

- A subtle interplay between large-scale and local-scale processes determines whether or not:
 - Foehn winds will break through to valley floors;
 - Mountain waves will reach large amplitude.



FIG. 11. Composite model soundings for the strong subset (solid) and weak subset (dashed) for IOP 6. The soundings are valid at forecast hour 5 (one hour before the time of maximum wind) and taken at the upstream edge of the A–A' cross section depicted in Fig. 1c. Plotted is the (a) cross-barrier component of the wind U, (b) potential temperature θ , (c) Brunt–Väisälä frequency N, and (d) RH.



Reinecke and Durran (2009)

Multi-scale interactions







Serafin et al (2018)

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TEAMx

- Joint experimental efforts to collect observations of exchange processes in complex-terrain areas. Use them for:
 - Model evaluation.
 - Parameterization improvement/development (SL, PBL, orographic drag, convection).
 - Process understanding.
- Field phase tentatively in 2023-2024, **European Alps**.



Coordination and Implementation Group

- Mathias Rotach, University of Innsbruck (Chair)
- Marco Arpagaus, MeteoSwiss
- Joan Cuxart, University of the Balearic Islands
- Stephan De Wekker, University of Virginia
- Vanda Grubišić, National Center for Atmospheric Research
- Norbert Kalthoff, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
- Daniel Kirshbaum, McGill University
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- Alexandre Paci, Meteo France
- Elisa Palazzi, National Research Council of Italy
- Stefano Serafin <- Coordinator
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Programme Coordinator Office at the University of Innsbruck Sponsored by C2SM, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology KIT, Météo France, MeteoSwiss, National Center for Atmospheric Science (NCAS), University of Innsbruck, University of Trento, ZAMG

Review articles

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 Special issues Sections Article Processing Charge Indexing & Archiving Most Cited & Viewed Journal Statistics Journal History Journal Awards Society Collaborations External Office 	Guest Editor View Prof. Dr. Mathias Rotach Website E-Mail University of Innsbruck, Institute of Atmospheric and Cryospheric Sciences, Innsbruck, Austria Interests: Soundary layer dynamics; turbulence and exchange processes; atmospheric dynamics; high-resolution Interests: Soundary layer dynamics; turbulence and exchange processes; atmospheric dynamics; turbulence and exchange processes; atmosphe
Journal Browser	Guest Exitor Ford. Dr. Dino Zardi Website E-Mail University of Trento, Department of Civil, Environmental and Mechanical Engineering, Trento, Italy University of Trento, Department of Civil, Environmental and Mechanical Engineering, Trento, Italy Interests: atmospheric boundary layer processes; turbulence measurements and analysis; earth-atmosphere exchange morests: mountain meteorniogy; air politicion measurement and modeling
Ch.	Goals Solicit review articles on TEAMx topics
	Basis for TEAMx White Paper

MPA

Memorandum of Understanding



Partnership



First TEAMx Workshop

28-30 August 2019 Rovereto Italy



92 participants11 countries

White paper



Recently finalized

EGU splinter meeting





- Observation of the components of the surface energy budget for extended periods in distributed observatories (e.g., i-Box).
- Fundamental investigations on turbulence properties in the atmosphere over complex terrain (e.g., anisotropy, generalization of scaling laws).
- Systematic evaluation of SL parameterization over complex terrain.



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- Comprehensive measurements of the MoBL: ground-based remote sensing to map 3D kinematic and thermodynamic structure and fluxes within PBL over valleys/mountains (flux towers+remote sensors; e.g. Doppler wind and Raman lidars, wind profilers).
- Possible use of light aircraft or UAVs for gap-filling measurements over wide areas.



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Modelling plans

• "NWP and climate modelling is plagued by larger uncertainty and larger systematic errors over/near mountains".

• True or not?

Precipitation forecast skill at day 3 (ECMWF IFS). Courtesy of Thomas Haiden



Modelling plans



GABLS1	GABLS2	GABLS3
		per la va
LES as reference	Data (CASES99)	Data (CABAUW)
Academic set up	Idealized forcings	Realistic forcings
Prescribed T_s	Prescribed T_s	Full coupling (SCM)
		Prescribed T_s (LES)
No Radiation	No Radiation	Radiation included
Turbulent mixing	Diurnal cycle	Low levet jet + transitions

LES: Large Eddy Simulation; SCM: Single Column Model

Holtslag, 2011



Funding

- TEAMx is bottom-up financed.
- While applying for funding, project PIs may request TEAMx "endorsement". Endorsement implies contributing and accessing to common data pool. Data policy in preparation.
- Projects can be individual, bi- or multi-lateral.
- TEAMx CIG/PCO supports coordination and initiation of new collaborative projects.



Conclusions

- TEAMx has started: MoU, review papers, workshop, white paper.
- Scientific focus on mountain-induced exchange processes.
- Aim: process understanding, observational evidence to better constrain parameterizations.
- Combination of field and modelling experiments.
- Plans for field campaign in 2023-2024 in the European Alps.
- Implementation details currently being defined.
- Funding: bottom-up approach, partners fund themselves.

Thank you!

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