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2   **High-Resolution Data Assimilation for Two Maritime Extreme Weather**  
3   **Events: A comparison between 3DVar and EnKF.**

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11           **Abstract**

12       Populated coastal regions in the Mediterranean are known to be severely affected by extreme weather  
13 events. Generally, they are initiated over maritime regions, where a lack of in-situ observations is  
14 present, hampering the initial conditions estimations and hence, the forecast accuracy. To face this  
15 problem, Data Assimilation (DA) is used to improve the estimation of the initial conditions and their  
16 respective forecasts. Although comparisons between different DA methods have been performed at  
17 global scales, few studies are performed at high-resolution, focusing on extreme weather events  
18 triggered over the sea and enhanced by complex topographic regions. In this study, we investigate the  
19 role of assimilating different types of conventional and remote-sensing observations using the  
20 variational 3DVar and the ensemble-based EnKF, which are of the most common DA schemes used  
21 globally at National Weather Centers. To this aim, two different events are chosen because of both the  
22 different areas of occurrence and the triggering mechanisms. Both the 3DVar and the EnKF are used  
23 at convection permitting scales to improve the predictability of these two high-impact coastal extreme  
24 weather episodes, which were poorly predicted by numerical weather prediction models: (a) the heavy  
25 precipitation event IOP13 and (b) the intense Mediterranean Tropical-like cyclone Qendresa. Results  
26 show that the EnKF and 3DVar perform similarly for the IOP13 event for most of the verification  
27 metrics, although looking at the ROC and AUC scores, the EnKF clearly outperforms the 3DVar.  
28 However, the ensemble mean of the EnKF is in general worse than the 3DVar for Qendresa, although  
29 some of the ensemble members of the EnKF individually outperforms the 3DVar allowing for gaining  
30 information on the physics of the event and hence the benefits of using an ensemble-based DA scheme.

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37       Keywords: Variational Data Assimilation (3DVar), ensemble data assimilation (EnKF), low-predictable  
38 weather events, extreme weather events, high-resolution numerical forecasts.

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## 1. Introduction

The Mediterranean basin is recognized as one of the geographical regions most frequently affected by high impact weather events in the world (Petterssen, 1956). The Mediterranean region has a natural disposition for these events because of its singular orographic features, which include having a relatively warm sea surrounded by complex terrain. This geographical configuration forces the warm and moist airflow to lift, favoring condensation and triggering convection. Hazardous weather events in this region, such as heavy precipitation (e.g., flash floods, snowstorms), cyclogenesis or windstorms (e.g., squall lines, tornadic thunderstorms), produce huge economic, injury and human losses in populated coastal regions (e.g., Romero et al., 1998b; Llasat and Sempere-Torres, 2001; Llasat et al., 2010; Jansa et al., 2014; Flaounas et al., 2016; Pakalidou and Karacosta, 2018; Amengual et al., 2021). Since 1900, more than 500 billion Euros associated with total damages to the property and over 1.3 million fatalities related to hydrometeorological disasters has been registered for the EM-DAT international disaster database<sup>1</sup>. These effects underscore the critical need for accurate and rapid high-resolution weather forecasting systems, aimed at extending the lead time for severe weather warnings, thereby enabling the implementation of effective mitigation strategies to reduce fatalities and economic losses. However, while the accuracy of weather forecasting has significantly improved in recent years, with better representation of physical processes and dynamics, accurate prediction of high impact weather events in terms of their location, timing, and intensity remains a major challenge for the scientific community (Stensrud et al., 2009; Mass et al., 2002; Bryan and Rotunno, 2005; Yano et al., 2018; Torcasio et al., 2021). For this reason, improving the forecast of high-impact weather events becomes an imperative goal.

Deficiencies in the accurate prediction of the location (spatial and temporal), intensity and phenomenology of extreme weather events are tightly related to the accuracy of the initial conditions of the system (Wu et al., 2013). The initial conditions of the hazardous weather events affecting coastal populated regions, are typically poorly estimated, mainly because these weather systems originate over the sea, where there is a lack of *in-situ* observations. Enhanced representations of the initial conditions are typically achieved by blending information from observations into numerical models through sophisticated *Data Assimilation* (DA) techniques (Kalnay, 2003), which accounts not only for the nominal values of the observations and the model, but also accounts for their respective error statistics. DA has been widely used and applied for global numerical weather prediction (NWP) problems (e.g., Eliasen, 1954; Lorenc, 1981; Le Dimet and Talagrand, 1986; Rabier et al., 2000; Whitaker et al., 2008; Carrassi et al., 2018; Albergel, et al., 2020, among others). However, less attention has been paid to convective-scale NWP problems, especially those associated with small scale convective phenomena initiated over regions with sparse observational data coverage, such as the extreme weather events affecting coastal regions in the Mediterranean basin (Carrió et al., 2016; Amengual et al., 2017; Carrió et al., 2019; Lagasio et al., 2019; Amengual et al., 2021; Mazzarella et al., 2021; Torcasio et al., 2021, Canechetti et al., 2021). To improve forecasts of such extreme weather events, accurate high resolution numerical weather models which solve convective scale processes are required, as well as dense observations at high spatial and temporal resolution. These will provide accurate information regarding the convective systems themselves or their environmental conditions. One of the most important sources of convective scale information are ground weather radars that provide three-dimensional data related to the storms at high spatial (order of hundreds of meters) and temporal (order of few minutes) resolution. In addition, weather radars provide thermodynamic and dynamic information of thunderstorms, which are crucial to understand and forecast convective structures. Due to the

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.emdat.be/>

95 high spatio-temporal variability of convective structures, a rapid update cycle of the initial state  
96 (i.e., analysis) using weather radar observations is required to reduce errors and keep physical  
97 balances in the initial conditions. Several studies have shown the positive impact in forecasting  
98 severe weather events by assimilating weather radar information (e.g., Xiao and Sun, 2007;  
99 Lee et al., 2010; Wheatley et al., 2012; Yussouf et al., 2015; Carrió et al., 2019; Mazzarella et  
100 al., 2021).

101 During the last decades, different DA algorithms have been developed with the aim of  
102 improving weather forecasts making use of all available observations in the best possible way.  
103 In this context, most of the developed DA methods are based on exploiting Bayes' Theorem  
104 (Lorenc, 1986) and making use of different types of approximations. Generally, DA algorithms  
105 can be classified into the following three Bayesian-based families: (a) Variational DA (e.g.,  
106 3DVar (Barker et al., 2004) or 4DVar (Huang et al., 2009)); (b) Ensemble-based DA, which  
107 are based on the *Ensemble Kalman Filter* (EnKF; Evensen, 1994) and (c) Monte-Carlo DA  
108 methods. Variational DA minimizes a cost function to obtain the analysis (i.e., the best  
109 estimation of the initial conditions). More specifically, variational DA methods provide a  
110 (quasi) optimal analysis based on an imperfect forecast (*prior state* or *background*), a set of  
111 imperfect observations and their respective error statistics that are prescribed and assumed to  
112 be Gaussian, for simplicity. In addition, variational DA algorithms require a linearized and  
113 adjoint version of the numerical model, which can be very difficult to develop and maintain.  
114 This often involves the use of automatic differentiation tools or complex manual derivation,  
115 both of which are error-prone and time-consuming. On the other hand, the ensemble-based DA  
116 algorithms do not require the use of linearized or adjoint versions of the model, and they do  
117 not use prescribed error statistics. Instead, they compute the error statistics from an ensemble  
118 of forecasts, with the main property that these errors are evolving in time as the system evolves.  
119 The Monte-Carlo DA method allows the assimilation of observations described with non-  
120 Gaussian errors. Particle filters (PF; Van Leeuwen, 2009; Poterjoy, 2016) are a clear example  
121 of Monte-Carlo DA algorithm. However, PFs are not well-suited for large multidimensional  
122 systems, such as the atmosphere, although a lot of improvements have been achieved recently.  
123 In the present study, we will focus on the most widely used DA schemes typically used in major  
124 operational weather centers, which are the variational and ensemble-based DA schemes,  
125 leaving the Monte-Carlo methods for future work.

126 Although variational DA schemes have been used in numerical weather prediction for many  
127 years (Courtier et al., 1994; Park and Zupanski, 2003; Rawlins et al., 2007), allowing the  
128 assimilation of a wide range of different observations, they present a well-known limitation.  
129 This limitation is related to the use of a climatological background error covariance matrix to  
130 characterize the error statistics, which is kept constant along the assimilation window, where  
131 the different observations are distributed at different times. This weakness is specifically linked  
132 to the 3DVar method, which typically uses the *National Meteorological Center* (NMC) method  
133 (Parrish and Derber, 1992) to generate those static background error covariances using forecast  
134 differences over a period of time reasonably close to the event. The error statistics derived from  
135 such DA schemes are static, isotropic and nearly homogenous, misrepresenting the true error  
136 statistics in space and time, which are inherently flow-dependent, resulting in less accurate  
137 analysis. On the other hand, the EnKF DA scheme is designed to provide flow-dependent  
138 background error covariances. Some studies have shown the potential of the EnKF spreading  
139 information from the observations flow-dependently in comparison with the 3DVar (Yang et  
140 al., 2009; Gao et al., 2018). On the other hand, 3DVar techniques require less computational  
141 resources and there is no need to build an ensemble compared to EnKF or even simulate the  
142 model trajectory as in 4DVar. Therefore, the assimilation with 3DVar takes only a few tens of  
143 minutes, making this technique particularly suitable for operational purposes.

144 To solve convective scale (i.e., grid spacing of a few kilometers) physical processes associated  
145 with extreme weather phenomena, high-resolution numerical simulations are required.as well  
146 as high resolution initial conditions. This turns in performing computational expensive high-  
147 resolution simulations, which poses a significant challenge by limiting the number of ensemble  
148 members that can be used in EnKF DA schemes, potentially hindering the estimation of the  
149 background error covariance matrix. In this context, which DA method is more suitable? The  
150 3DVar using an *ad hoc* background error covariance matrix or the low-rank background error  
151 covariance matrix obtained from the EnKF?

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152 Recent convective-scale DA studies have primarily focused on the mature stage of weather  
153 events (e.g., Tong et al., 2005; Fujita et al., 2007; Dowell et al., 2021; Jones et al., 2013;  
154 Wheatley et al., 2015; Jones et al., 2016; Gao et al., 2016; Ballard et al., 2016; Gustafsson et  
155 al., 2018; Carrió et al., 2019; Mazzarella et al., 2020; Yussouf et al., 2020; Federico et al.,  
156 2021; Junjun et al., 2021; Janjić et al., 2022; Wang et al., 2022). However, at this stage, the  
157 system is already well-developed and likely impacting the population, limiting the  
158 effectiveness of DA in terms of forecast lead time. In such cases, the potential for early  
159 warnings and mitigation actions is significantly reduced, as there is little time left to respond  
160 and minimize socio-economic impacts. Despite its potential benefits, very few studies have  
161 explored the role of DA in the developing stage (e.g., Carrió et al., 2019; Carrió et al., 2022;  
162 Corrales et al., 2023), where assimilating observations before convection initiates could  
163 significantly improve forecast lead time, providing advanced warnings and allowing decision-  
164 makers to act proactively. In this study, we compare the performance of two widely used DA  
165 techniques – 3DVar and EnKF – in enhancing the forecast lead time for two extreme weather  
166 events initiated over the sea, a data-sparse region where observational constraints pose  
167 additional forecasting challenges, affecting populated coastal regions in the Mediterranean  
168 basin. It is important to emphasize that this study does not aim to derive statistically significant  
169 conclusions. Instead, the main objective is to compare the performance of EnKF and 3DVar in  
170 two distinct extreme weather events, each characterized by unique atmospheric conditions and  
171 observational limitations. The two extreme weather events selected for this study are: (a) the  
172 heavy rainfall episode, IOP13, affecting coastal regions of Italy during October 2012 (Pichelli  
173 et al., 2017) and (b) the low-predictable Mediterranean Tropical-like cyclone (medicane),  
174 Qendresa, affecting Sicily in November 2014 (Pytharoulis et al., 2017; Pytharoulis, 2018; Cioni  
175 et al., 2018; Di Muzio et al., 2019).

Eliminado: Recently, a few DA studies at convective scale mainly focused just on the mature stage of the weather event have been carried out

176 On overall, this study aims at:

- 177 (a) Assessing the impact of 3DVar in comparison with the EnKF system to predict small-scale  
178 extreme weather events initiated over maritime regions with lack of in-situ observations.
- 179 (b) Investigate the potential of using 3DVar and EnKF in the developing phase, that is hours  
180 before the mature stage of convective systems are reached, to improve forecast lead time and  
181 warning capabilities for extreme weather events.
- 182 (c) Compare the forecast impact from assimilating in-situ conventional observations in  
183 comparison to assimilating high spatial and temporal resolution data from remote sensing  
184 instruments.
- 185 (d) Provide a quantitative assessment between the different DA schemes by means of using  
186 several statistical verification methods.

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This paper is organized as follows. Section 2 briefly describes the meteorological characteristics of the two events used for comparing the impact of 3DVar and EnKF. In Section 3 the observation dataset that will be assimilated by the different DA methods will be presented. Section 4 briefly explains the main characteristics of the two DA algorithms that will be used in this study. Then, the numerical model configuration and the design of the different experiments for the two different case studies will be described in Section 5 and 6, respectively. Section 7 describes the verification methods used in this study. Results of the different numerical experiments for both meteorological situations are summarized in Section 8. Finally, conclusions are presented in Section 9.

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## 204 **2. Brief Description of Case Studies**

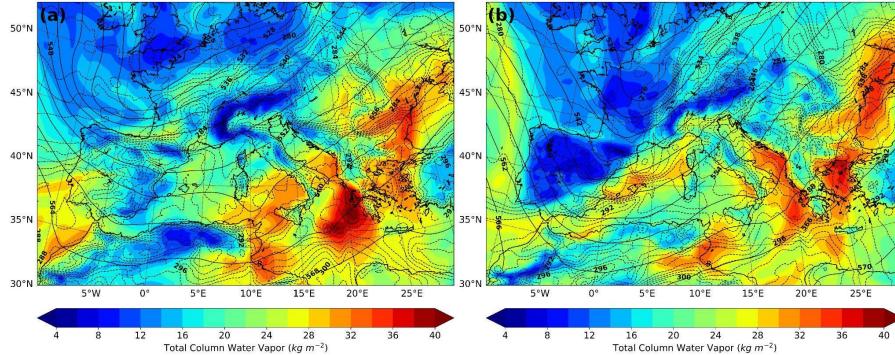
205 Two different extreme weather systems, occurring in the Mediterranean region and affecting  
206 populated coastal regions, are considered in this study. The first extreme weather event was  
207 associated with heavy rainfall affecting central and northern Italy during October 2012  
208 (IOP13), while the second extreme weather event was associated with the Qendresa medicane  
209 affecting southern Sicily, Lampedusa, Pantelleria and Malta islands during November 2014.  
210 Both systems were poorly forecasted, and for this reason they are perfect candidates for this  
211 intercomparison study.

212

### 213 **2.1. The IOP13 Heavy Precipitation Episode**

214 The *IOP13* occurred during the *First Special Observation Period* (SOP1) of the international  
215 project *Hydrological cycle in the Mediterranean Experiment* (HyMeX; Drobinski et al., 2014),  
216 that was mainly designed to better understand heavy rainfall and flash flooding episodes  
217 occurring in the Mediterranean region. The heavy precipitation IOP13 event took place  
218 between 14 and 16 October 2012, and it was characterized by a frontal precipitation system  
219 associated with a deep upper-level trough extending from northern France towards northern  
220 Spain (Fig. 1). It initially affected southern France coastal areas, and afterward it also affected  
221 the northern and central parts of Italy. During 15 October, the Italian rain gauge network  
222 registered 24-hour accumulated precipitation with peaks reaching 60 mm in central Italy, 160  
223 mm in northeastern Italy and 120 mm in Liguria and Tuscany. During the night of 14 October,  
224 a cold front affected the Western Mediterranean region and during 15 October the system  
225 rapidly moved from France to Italy, advecting low-level moisture towards the western coast of  
226 Italy and Corsica, destabilizing the atmosphere and favoring deep moist convective activity.  
227 More details on the synoptic situation and observational data collected during IOP13 can be  
228 found in Ferretti et al., 2014.

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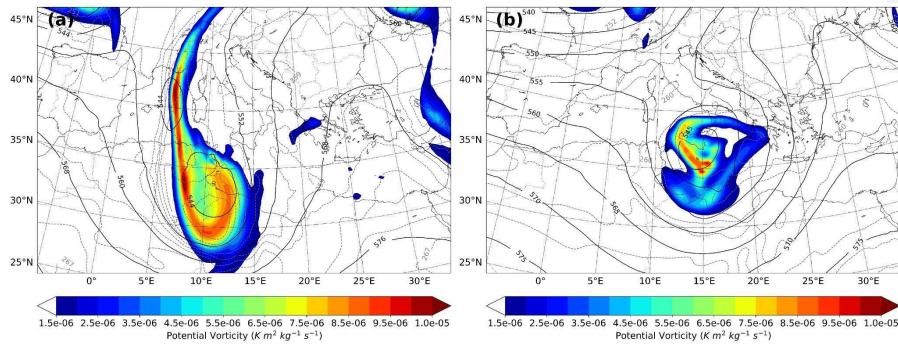
427  
428 Figure 1. IOP13 ERA5 analyses: 500 hPa geopotential (solid black lines), 925 hPa temperature (dashed grey lines)  
429 and total column of water vapor (color shaded areas) at (a) 12 UTC 14 October and (b) 00 UTC 15 October 2012.  
430

## 431 2.2. The Qendresa Tropical-Like Cyclone Episode

432 Among the wide spectrum of maritime extreme weather events, tropical-like Mediterranean  
433 cyclones, a.k.a. medicanes (Emmanuel, 2005), draw particular attention to the community  
434 mainly because they share similar morphological characteristics with tropical cyclones. Given  
435 their tendency to impact densely populated and economically critical areas around the  
436 Mediterranean basin, enhancing the accuracy and reliability of medicane forecasts has become  
437 an urgent priority. Here, we focus on the 7 October 2014 medicane (Qendresa; Cioni et al.,  
438 2018) that affected the islands of Lampedusa, Pantelleria, Malta and the eastern coast of Sicily.  
439 This event was recognized by the community for its limited predictability (Carrión et al., 2017),  
440 making it a compelling case study for investigating the performance of the 3DVar and EnKF  
441 DA methods. *In-situ* observations located in Malta's airport registered gust wind values  
442 exceeding 42.7 m s⁻¹ and a sudden and deep pressure drop greater than 20 hPa in 6 hours.  
443 Satellite imagery during its mature phase showed a well-defined cloud-free eye surrounded by  
444 axisymmetric convective activity, which resembles the morphological properties of classic  
445 tropical cyclones.

446 A deep upper-level trough associated with a cyclonic flow at mid-levels characterized the  
447 synoptic situation in the Western Mediterranean from 5 to 8 November 2014. The upper-level  
448 trough was associated with an intense PV streamer extending from Northern Europe to  
449 Southern Algeria, and the cyclonic flow at mid-levels was dominated by a strong ridge over  
450 the Atlantic and a deep trough moving along Western Europe. Late on 7 November, the upper-  
451 level trough became negatively tilted, evolving into a deep upper-level cut-off low and the PV  
452 streamer disconnected from the northern nucleus (Fig. 2). A small well-defined spiral-to-  
453 circular cloud shape formed just south of Sicily and evolved east-northeastward, reaching its  
454 maximum intensity over Malta, at midday. Finally, the cyclonic system dissipated as it crossed  
455 the Catania (eastern) coast of Sicily. More details on the synoptic situation and observational  
456 data collected during this event can be found in Carrión et al., 2017.

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458  
459 Figure 2. Qendresa ERA5 analyses: 500 hPa geopotential (solid black lines), 500 hPa temperature (dashed grey  
460 lines) and 300 hPa Potential Vorticity (color shaded areas) at (a) 00 UTC 7 November and (b) 00 UTC 8 November  
461 2014.

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### 463 3. Observations Description

464 In this study, a combination of remote-sensing and *in-situ* observations were assimilated, for  
465 both case studies. Specifically, the following three types of observations were assimilated: (a)  
466 conventional *in-situ* data from surface meteorological stations, maritime buoys, rawinsondes  
467 and aircraft measurements, (b) high temporal and spatial reflectivity data from two Doppler  
468 Weather Radars and (c) satellite-derived 3D wind speed and direction data. A summary of the  
469 assimilated observations, including their data sources, assimilation frequency, coverage and  
470 additional processing is provided in Table 1.

**Eliminado:** different sources of

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**Eliminado:** *in-situ*

**Eliminado:** derived from satellites

Event	Observation Type	Data Sources	Assimilation Frequency	Coverage	Additional Processing
IOP13	Conventional <i>in-situ</i> data	MADIS (NOAA)	Hourly	Entire Domain	Quality-controlled
IOP13	Radar Reflectivity	Météo-France Doppler Weather Radars (Aleria & Nimes)	Every 15 minutes	Ligurian Sea & Gulf of Genoa	Quality controlled and Interpolated using Cressman Objective Analysis (6 km grid)
Qendresa	Conventional <i>in-situ</i> data	MADIS (NOAA)	Hourly	Mediterranean Region	Quality-controlled
Qendresa	Satellite-Derived	EUMETSA T (SEVIRI)	Every 20 minutes	Entire atmosphere	Quality-controlled,

	<u>Winds</u> <u>(RSAMVs)</u>	<u>instrument</u> <u>onboard</u> <u>MSG)</u>		<u>over the</u> <u>Mediterranean</u> <u>Region</u>	<u>superobbbing</u> <u>(128x128 km,</u> <u>25 hPa vertical)</u>
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478 Table 1: Summary of assimilated observations for each case study, including observation type, data  
 479 sources, assimilation frequency, spatial coverage and additional processing details.

### 480 3.1. IOP13 Observations

481 For the IOP13, we assimilated both *in-situ* conventional data and remote sensing observations  
 482 from two Doppler Weather Radars. While Italy has a dense national network of radar and *in-*  
 483 *situ* stations, the majority of these datasets were not publicly available. To ensure  
 484 reproducibility and accessibility, we exclusively used freely available data. For radar  
 485 observations, we assimilated data from the only two radars providing coverage over the  
 486 maritime region where the event initiated. Specifically, data from: (a) Aleria radar (9.496°E,  
 487 42.129°N, 63 m ASL), located on Corsica Island, and (b) Nimes radar (4.502°E, 43.806°N, 76  
 488 m ASL), located in southern France (Fig. 3a). These two Météo-France polarimetric S-band  
 489 Doppler Weather Radars, strategically positioned, ensure a good spatial coverage over the  
 490 Ligurian Sea, the area where triggering and intensification of deep convection occurred, and  
 491 provide key information about the 3D structure of the convective systems at high spatial and  
 492 temporal resolution. Aleria and Nimes radars perform 5 and 9 elevation scans every 5 minutes,  
 493 respectively, and their data are available at the HyMeX's official website (see  
 494 <https://www.hymex.org>). Specifically, Aleria radar provides data at 5 elevation angles: 0.57°,  
 495 0.96°, 1.36°, 3.16° and 4.57° with a mean frequency of 2.8 GHz. In comparison, Nimes radar  
 496 provides data at 9 elevation angles: 0.58°, 1.17°, 1.78°, 2.38°, 3.49°, 4.99°, 6.5°, 7.99° and  
 497 89.97°, also at the same frequency. It is worth mentioning that Aleria and Nimes radar  
 498 reflectivity data are provided by the Météo-France operational radar network and undergo  
 499 rigorous data quality control. This ensures that common radar error sources, such as signal  
 500 attenuation, ground clutter or beam blocking, are meticulously identified and corrected. Radial  
 501 velocity from Aleria and Nimes Doppler radars was also available, but because of the low  
 502 reliability of the data (not quality controlled properly) it was not used in this study.  
 503 Additionally, conventional *in-situ* observations were obtained from NOAA's Meteorological  
 504 Assimilation Data Ingest System (MADIS), a global dataset that provides high-quality, quality-  
 505 controlled meteorological observations. In particular, we assimilated pressure, temperature,  
 506 humidity and horizontal wind speed and direction from *in-situ* instruments such as METARS,  
 507 maritime buoys, rawinsondes and aircrafts (Fig. 3a).

508  
 509 Overall, the following observations were assimilated for this event:

- 510 • Conventional *in-situ* data were hourly assimilated over the entire model domain (Fig.  
 511 3a).
- 512 • Reflectivity data from Aleria and Nimes weather radars were assimilated every 15  
 513 minutes (Fig. 3a).

514 The high spatial resolution of the reflectivity data poses significant challenges for their direct  
 515 assimilation, potentially leading to detrimental analysis related with signal aliasing and the  
 516 violation of the uncorrelated observational error assumptions followed in the derivation of the  
 517 3DVar and EnKF analysis equations. To mitigate the adverse effects associated with these  
 518 issues, the *Cressman Objective Analysis* technique (Cressman, 1959) was used to interpolate  
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Eliminado: Moreover, conventional data were obtained from the NOAA's *Meteorological Assimilation Data Ingest System* (MADIS), which has the main advantage of providing high-level quality-controlled data<sup>2</sup> worldwide. In particular, pressure, temperature, humidity and horizontal wind speed and direction from *in-situ* instruments such as METARS, maritime buoys, rawinsondes and aircrafts (Fig. 3a). In addition to these conventional observations, reflectivity data from two Météo-France polarimetric S-band Doppler Weather Radars, were also available on the Gulf of Genoa. One located in Corsica Island (9.496°E, 42.129°N) at 63 m ASL, known as Aleria, and the other located in southern France (4.502°E, 43.806°N) at 76 m ASL, known as Nimes (Fig. 3a). These two radars, strategically positioned, ensure a good spatial coverage over the Ligurian Sea, the area where initiation and intensification of deep convection occurred, and provide key information about the 3D structure of the convective systems at high spatial and temporal resolution. The two radars perform 5 and 9 elevation scans every 5 minutes, respectively, and their data are available at the HyMeX's official website (see <https://www.hymex.org>). Specifically, Aleria radar provides data at 5 elevation angles: 0.57°, 0.96°, 1.36°, 3.16° and 4.57° with a mean frequency of 2.8 GHz. In comparison, Nimes radar provides data at 9 elevation angles: 0.58°, 1.17°, 1.78°, 2.38°, 3.49°, 4.99°, 6.5°, 7.99° and 89.97°, also at the same frequency. It is worth mentioning that Aleria and Nimes radar reflectivity data are provided by the Météo-France operational radar network and undergo rigorous data quality control. This ensures that common radar error sources, such as signal attenuation, ground clutter or beam blocking, are meticulously identified and corrected. Radial velocity from Aleria and Nimes Doppler radars was also available, but because of the low reliability of the data (not quality controlled properly) it was not used in this study.

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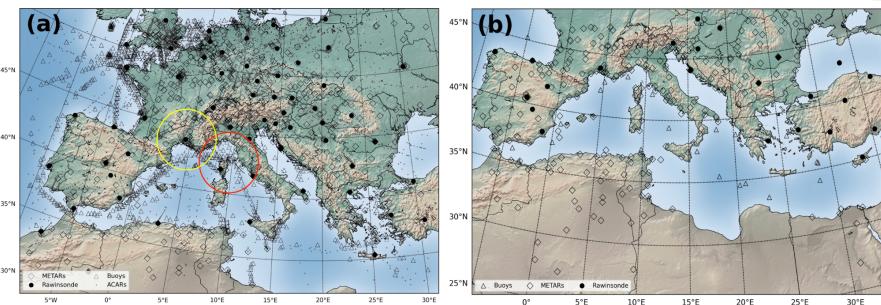
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564 raw radar observations to a regularly spaced 6 km horizontal grid, as suggested by previous  
 565 work (i.e., Wheatley et al., 2015; Yussouf et al., 2015). It is important to note that reflectivity  
 566 observations are typically obtained in polar coordinates, a prerequisite step before applying the  
 567 Cressman interpolation involves converting them to a Cartesian coordinate system. We have  
 568 performed several sensitivity tests using different grid space resolution (e.g., 3, 6, 9 km) and  
 569 we found that using 6 km grid space produces the best analysis. To reduce spurious convective  
 570 signals and remove excessive humidity the *null-echo* option, which allows assimilation of no  
 571 precipitation echoes, has been adopted in 3DVAR experiment.

572



573  
 574 Figure 3. (a) IOP13 Episode: Spatial distribution of *in-situ* observations (gray and black markers) assimilated on  
 575 the parent numerical domain during 24 h assimilation window from 00 UTC 14 October to 00 UTC 15 October  
 576 2012. Doppler Weather Radars located at Nîmes and Aleria and their coverage range, depicted in yellow and red  
 577 circles, respectively. (b) Qendresa Episode: Spatial distribution of *in-situ* observations hourly assimilated during  
 578 12 h assimilation window from 12 UTC 6 November to 00 UTC 7 November 2014.

579

### 580 3.2. Dendresa Observations

581 For the Qendresa event, two different observational sources were publicly available: (a)  
 582 conventional *in-situ* observations and (b) satellite-derived observations. Conventional *in-situ*  
 583 observations were obtained from MADIS database. However, only observations from buoys,  
 584 METAR and rawinsonde were used for this case. It is essential to highlight that observation  
 585 gaps persist across large areas of the region, particularly over the sea (Fig. 3b), where Qendresa  
 586 initiated and evolved. As for the IOP13, we were interested in Doppler Weather Radars data to  
 587 enhance the intensity and trajectory forecasts of Qendresa. Unfortunately, Doppler Weather  
 588 Radars were not publicly available in the neighborhood of the region where Qendresa initiated  
 589 and evolved. Instead, we used an alternative high-resolution data source, the so-called Rapid-  
 590 Scan Atmospheric Motion Vectors (RSAMVs; Velden et al., 2017). This dataset provides 3D  
 591 wind information throughout the entire atmosphere (both speed and direction) at high spatial  
 592 and temporal resolution (i.e., every 20-min). These observations were particularly valuable for  
 593 capturing wind field structures over the sea, where conventional observations were sparse or  
 594 unavailable. This satellite product is obtained using the Spinning Enhanced Visible and  
 595 Infrared Imager (SEVIRI) instrument onboard the Meteosat Second Generation (MSG)  
 596 satellite, which has a scanning frequency as low as 5 minutes. The final product is indeed  
 597 obtained averaging 4 consecutive images.

598 Hence, the following observations were assimilated for this event:

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Eliminado: but another source of observations

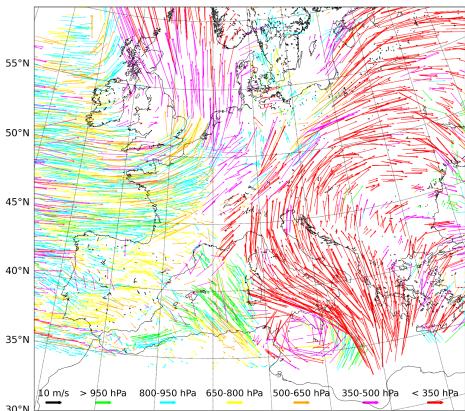
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Eliminado: , were available for this event over the sea

- 603     • Conventional *in-situ* data from buoys, METAR and rawinsonde for the entire  
 604     Mediterranean region were hourly assimilated.  
 605     • Wind speed and direction from the *Rapid-Scan Atmospheric Motion Vectors* for the  
 606     entire atmosphere at high spatial and temporal resolution were assimilated every 20  
 607     minutes.

608     Recent studies have shown that upper-level dynamics played a key role in the genesis and the  
 609     development of Qendresa (Carrió et al., 2017; Carrió, 2022), so the assimilation of RSAMVs  
 610     is expected to significantly improve its predictability. Here, the infrared channel from  
 611     RSAMVs ( $10.8 \mu\text{m}$ ), which contains information throughout the entire atmosphere, was  
 612     selected to be assimilated (Fig. 4). However, before assimilating RSAMVs, a quality control  
 613     check to reject non-physical and outlier observations that could deteriorate the quality of the  
 614     analysis and the successive forecast was applied. In addition, to minimize the effect of having  
 615     spatial correlated observation errors associated to high density observations, the “superobbing”  
 616     technique consisting in reducing the data density through spatially averaging the observations  
 617     within a predefined prism is applied (i.e., Pu et al., (2008); Romine et al., (2013); Honda et al.,  
 618     (2018)). Based on the most accurate analysis obtained by multiple sensitivity experiments (not  
 619     shown) for Qendresa, the RSAMVs data are thinned using a prism with horizontal resolution  
 620     of  $128 \times 128 \text{ km}^2$  and 25 hPa in the vertical.

Eliminado: dimensions  
 Eliminado: dimension



621  
 622     Figure 4. Raw EUMETSAT’s RSAMV observations depicted at different vertical levels by infrared channel  $10.8 \mu\text{m}$  at 12 UTC on 7 November 2014 over the Mediterranean region. Wind information is only valid at the center  
 623     of the wind vectors.  
 624

625  
 626     Observations from aircraft (i.e., ACARS) were not assimilated in this case because preliminary  
 627     assimilation tests indicated a worsening of the results and led to a poorer estimation of the  
 628     atmospheric state. Buoys, METAR and rawinsonde observations covering the entire  
 629     Mediterranean region were hourly assimilated.

630     Finally, observational errors used for the assimilation of the observations associated with both  
 631     IOP13 and Qendresa are motivated by Table 3 in Romine et al., (2013) with the following  
 632     minor changes: METAR altimeter (1.5 hPa), marine altimeter (1.20 hPa), METAR and marine

635 temperature (1.75 K) and RSAMV wind observations ( $1.4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ). These minor changes are  
636 found to provide better data assimilation analysis for the IOP13 and Qendresa extreme weather  
637 events in the Mediterranean region. The remaining of the observation errors are the same as  
638 the ones in Romine et al., (2013).

639  
640 **4. Data Assimilation Schemes**  
641

642 In the present study, two widely used data assimilation algorithms are used for improving the  
643 forecast of extreme weather events initiated and developed over poorly observed maritime  
644 regions and affecting densely populated coastal areas. We refer to the *Ensemble Adjustment*  
645 *Kalman Filter* and the variational *3DVar* data assimilation schemes, which are briefly  
646 described below.

647  
648 **a) The Ensemble Adjustment Kalman Filter (EnKF)**  
649

650 The *Ensemble Adjustment Kalman Filter* (EAKF; Anderson 2001), which is implemented in  
651 the *Data Assimilation Testbed Research* (DART<sup>3</sup>), is used in this study as the former ensemble-  
652 based data assimilation technique. The EAKF provides an optimal estimation, in the least  
653 square error sense, of the true probability distribution of the state of the atmosphere by merging  
654 two main sources of information: (a) the available observations and (b) an ensemble of  
655 forecasts (a.k.a. *background*) valid at the analysis time. In particular, the EAKF assimilates the  
656 observations serially. This means that the analysis ensemble obtained by the EAKF after the  
657 assimilation of the first observation at a given time is then used as the *background* for the next  
658 observation at the same analysis time. This is done recursively until all the observations valid  
659 at the same analysis time are finally assimilated.

665 Ensemble covariances used in real-case studies, where only a limited number of ensemble  
666 members is feasible, suffers from sampling error, resulting in the generation of spurious  
667 correlations that hamper the analysis (Hacker et al., 2007). The detrimental effects of these  
668 spurious correlations are mitigated by employing covariance localization functions that go to  
669 zero as the distance between the assimilated observation and the grid model point where the  
670 analysis occurs, increases (Houtekamer and Mitchell, 1998). In our case, a fifth-order piece-  
671 wise rational Gaussian localization function is used (Gaspari and Cohn, 1999). For this study,  
672 after several sensitivity simulations it was found that using a half-radius<sup>4</sup> of 230 km in the  
673 horizontal and a half-radius of 4 km in the vertical for the horizontal and vertical localizations,  
674 respectively, results in the best performance of the DA scheme.

Eliminado: high-resolution

Eliminado: simulations, such as the present study,

675 The assimilation of each observation results in a reduction of the ensemble spread, attributed  
676 to using a reduced-moderate ensemble size (Anderson and Anderson, 1999). To address this  
677 issue and help to maintain the spread, an *adaptive inflation technique* (Anderson and Collins,  
678 2007; Anderson et al., 2009) is applied to the prior ensemble before assimilating the  
679 observations. The adaptive inflation technique increases the spread of the ensemble without  
680 changing the mean. The inflation value has a probability density distribution described by a  
681 mean and a standard deviation. In this study, it was determined that initializing the mean value

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.image.ucar.edu/DARes/DART/>

<sup>4</sup> The half-radius or cutoff term is defined here as 0.5 times the distance to where the impact of the observation assimilated go to zero. Multiplying the half-radius by 2 results in the maximum distance at which an observation can modify the model state.

684 of inflation at 1.0 and using a standard deviation of 0.6, yields the best performance of the DA  
685 scheme.

686

687 **b) Three-dimensional Variational Data Assimilation (3DVar)**

688 The 3DVar technique, implemented in WRFDA (Barker et al., 2004), is adopted for the  
689 numerical simulations. The 3DVar aims to seek the best estimate of the initial conditions  
690 through the iterative minimization of a cost function:

691 
$$J(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_b)^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_b) + [\mathbf{y}_o - H(\mathbf{x})]^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} [\mathbf{y}_o - H(\mathbf{x})] \right\}$$

692 ▾

693 where  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{R}$  are the background and observation error matrices, respectively;  $\mathbf{x}$  is the state  
694 vector;  $\mathbf{y}_o$  is the observations,  $\mathbf{x}_b$  is the first guess and  $H$  is the forward (non-linear) operator  
695 that converts data from model space to observation space.

696 The solution of the above cost function  $J$  consists in finding a state  $\mathbf{x}_a$  (analysis), that minimizes  
697 the distance between the observations and the background field. However, in a model with  $10^6$   
698 degrees of freedom, the direct solution is computationally expensive. To reduce the complexity  
699 and calculate  $\mathbf{B}^{-1}$  more efficiently, a pre-conditioning is applied by transforming the control  
700 variables, respectively, pseudo relative humidity, temperature, u, v, and surface pressure, as  $\mathbf{x}$   
701  $= \mathbf{x}_b = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{v}$ , where  $\mathbf{v}$  is the control variable and  $\mathbf{U}$  the transformation operator.

819

820 The background error covariance matrix  $\mathbf{B}$  matrix plays a key role in the assimilation process  
821 by weighing and smoothing the information from observations and by ensuring a proper  
822 balance between the analysis fields. The *National Meteorological Center* method (NMC;  
823 Parrish and Derber, 1992) was used to model the  $\mathbf{B}$  matrix. This method evaluates the  
824 differences between two short-term forecasts valid at the same time but with different lead  
825 time, 12h and 24h, respectively, to generate the forecast error covariance matrix  $\mathbf{B}$ . Consistent  
826 with several papers (Hung et al. 2023; Fitzpatrick et al., 2007; Mazzarella et al., 2020, 2021)  
827 showing positive results, a two-week period was used for the calculation of the  $\mathbf{B}$  matrix in this  
828 study. Recently, several works (Wang et al., 2013; Li et al., 2016; Shen et al., 2022; Ferrer  
829 Hernandez et al., 2022) show the benefit of using a slightly different approach for the  $\mathbf{B}$  matrix  
830 (CV7) in assimilating radar reflectivity, besides in precipitation forecast accuracy. The CV7  
831 differs from the others by using empirical orthogonal functions (EOFs) to represent the vertical  
832 covariance instead of a vertical recursive filter. Moreover, the control variables are in  
833 eigenvector space, and they are the following: u, v, temperature, pseudo relative humidity  
834 ( $RH_s$ ), and surface pressure ( $P_s$ ). Therefore, CV7 option has been used to generate the  $\mathbf{B}$  matrix  
835 for both case studies. In this study, the weak penalty constraint (WPEC) option (Li et al., 2015)  
836 implemented in WRFDA has been activated to improve the balance between the wind and  
837 thermodynamic state variables, enforcing the quasi-gradient balance on the analysis field.

838

839 **5. Model set-up**

840 The mesoscale Advanced Research Weather Research and Forecasting Model (WRF;  
841 Skamarock et al., 2008) version 3.7 is used in this study. WRF solves a fully compressible and  
842 non-hydrostatic set of equations, using a  $\eta$  terrain-following hydrostatic-pressure vertical

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$$J(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_b)^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_b) + [\mathbf{y}_o - H(\mathbf{x})]^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} [\mathbf{y}_o - H(\mathbf{x})] \right\}$$

844 coordinate. The Arakawa C-grid staggering scheme and a third-order Runge-Kutta time-  
845 integration, to improve the precision of the numerical solutions, are used. Because IOP13 and  
846 Qendresa episodes took place in different locations and with different conditions, two different  
847 model configurations were used. For the IOP13 episode, a one-way nested model configuration  
848 with the parent domain centered over the Western Mediterranean Sea, covering Central Europe  
849 and North Africa, with a horizontal grid-resolution of 15 km (168x247) and a nested domain  
850 centered over Gulf of Genoa with a horizontal grid-resolution of 3 km (250x250) were used  
851 (Fig. 5a). **A total of 51 vertical model levels were employed, spanning from the surface to 50**  
852 **hPa, with a denser distribution of levels in the lower atmosphere than in the upper for both**  
853 **domains.** For Qendresa, a one-way nested model configuration is also used, but now the parent  
854 domain is centered over the Central Mediterranean Sea, covering most of the European region  
855 and the northern part of Africa (Fig. 5b), using a horizontal grid resolution of 15 km (245x245).  
856 The nested domain is centered over Sicily (Southern Italy) using a grid resolution of 3 km  
857 (253x253). Both numerical domains use a 51 terrain-following  $\eta$  levels up to 50 hPa, as in the  
858 IOP13 case.

859 For the EnKF DA experiments, initial and boundary conditions used to perform the simulations  
860 associated with IOP13 were obtained from the *European Center of Medium Range Weather*  
861 *Forecasts Global Ensemble Prediction System* (EPS-ECMWF), which stored meteorological  
862 fields using a horizontal and vertical spectral triangular truncation of T639L62 (i.e., ~32 km  
863 grid resolution in the horizontal). In particular, the EPS-ECMWF provides 51 different initial  
864 and boundary conditions from 50 perturbed ensemble members plus a control simulation.  
865 However, due to unfeasible computational resources required to run our numerical simulations  
866 at high resolution, here we will use an ensemble consisting of 36 members. This configuration  
867 is analogous to the one used at the internationally prestigious *National Oceanic and*  
868 *Atmospheric Administration - National Severe Storms Laboratory* (NOAA-NSSL) in Norman  
869 (Oklahoma, USA) to improve predictability of tornadoes. To obtain the desired 36-member  
870 ensemble, a *Principal Components Analysis* and *K-mean* clustering technique were used  
871 together to select the 36 ensemble members from the EPS-ECMWF showing more dispersion  
872 over the entire numerical domain (see Garcies and Homar, 2009 and Carrión et al., 2016 for  
873 more details using these techniques). To perform Qendresa DA simulations, the initial and  
874 boundary conditions were obtained following the same methodology explained above for the  
875 IOP13 case, i.e., using an ensemble of 36 members obtained from the EPS-ECMWF. On the  
876 other hand, the initial and boundary conditions for 3DVar simulations are provided by the  
877 *Integrated Forecast System* (IFS) global model from the ECMWF, with a spatial resolution of  
878 0.1° x 0.1° and updated every 3 hours.

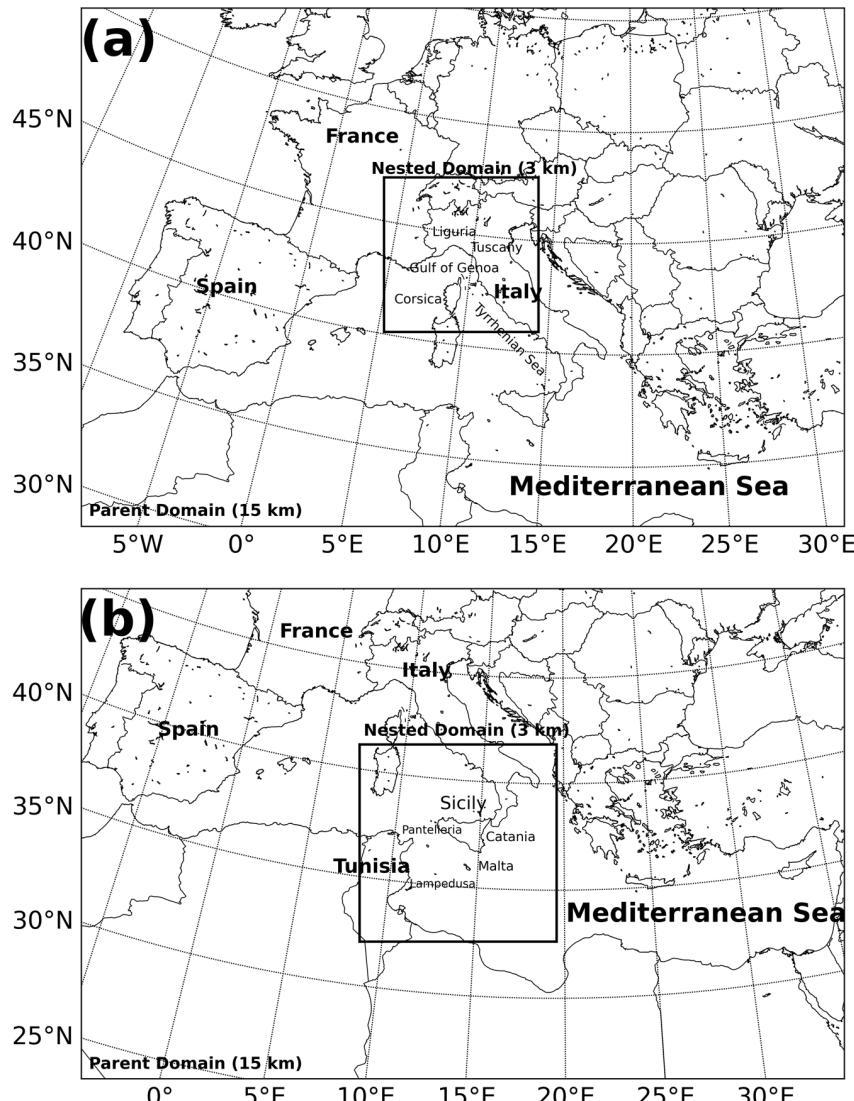
**Eliminado:** Both domains were characterized to have

**Eliminado:** 51 vertical model levels, from surface to 50 hPa,  
with higher density of levels in the lower part of the  
atmosphere than in the upper

**Eliminado:** for both domains were used

**Eliminado:** two

**Eliminado:** grid



886  
887 Figure 5. Mesoscale and storm-scale numerical domains used in this study for the (a) IOP13 and (b) Qendresa  
888 episodes, respectively.

889  
890 To estimate the uncertainties of WRF, which is a necessary information for the EnKF, a  
891 multiphysics ensemble is built for both the IOP13 and Qendresa event (e.g., Stensrud et al.,  
892 (2000); Wheatley et al., (2012)), where each ensemble member gets a different set of  
893 parameterizations (see Table 2). In particular, the diversity in our ensemble consists of (a) two

short- and long-wave radiation schemes [Dudhia (Dudhia, 1989) and RRTMG (Iacono et al., 2008)], (b) three cumulus parameterizations schemes [Kain-Fritsch (KF; Kain and Fritsch, 1993; Kain, 2004), Tiedtke (Tiedtke, 1989) and Grell-Freitas (GF; Grell and Freitas, 2013)] and (c) three planetary boundary layer schemes [Yonsei University (YSU; Hong et al., 2006), Mellor-Yamada-Janjic (MYJ; Janjic, 1990, 2001), and Mellor-Yamada-Nakanishi-Niino level 2.5 (MYNN2; Nakanishi and Niño, 2006, 2009)]. Two widely used physics parameterizations are adopted for the microphysical processes and land surface interactions, the New Thompson (Thompson et al., 2008) and Noah (Tewari et al., 2004) schemes, respectively. Note that the above-mentioned physical parameterizations are used for both the large-scale ensemble in the parent domain and the storm-scale ensemble in the nested domain, except for the cumulus parameterization that is only applied in the parent domain ensemble. On the other hand, for the WRF deterministic simulation using 3DVar, the microphysical processes are parametrized by using the New Thompson scheme, while a YSU scheme is adopted for PBL. Long- and short-wave radiation are considered through a RRTMG and Dudhia scheme, respectively; while Kain-Fritsch scheme is used for the convection, except for the inner domain where it is explicitly resolved.

910

911 **Table 2:** Multiphysics parameterizations used to generate the 36-member ensemble for the EnKF experiments in  
 912 IOP13 and Qendresa episodes. PBL, SW and LW stand for planetary boundary layer, short-wave and long-wave,  
 913 respectively.

Multiphysics Configuration											
Ens. Memb.	MP	CU	PBL	Land Sfc	SW/LW Rad.	Ens. Memb.	MP	CU	PBL	Land Sfc	SW/LW Rad.
1	New Thompson	KF	YSU	Noah	Dudhia	19	New Thompson	KF	YSU	Noah	Dudhia
2	New Thompson	KF	YSU	Noah	RRTMG	20	New Thompson	KF	YSU	Noah	RRTMG
3	New Thompson	KF	MYJ	Noah	Dudhia	21	New Thompson	KF	MYJ	Noah	Dudhia
4	New Thompson	KF	MYJ	Noah	RRTMG	22	New Thompson	KF	MYJ	Noah	RRTMG
5	New Thompson	KF	MYNN2	Noah	Dudhia	23	New Thompson	KF	MYNN2	Noah	Dudhia
6	New Thompson	KF	MYNN2	Noah	RRTMG	24	New Thompson	KF	MYNN2	Noah	RRTMG
7	New Thompson	GF	YSU	Noah	Dudhia	25	New Thompson	GF	YSU	Noah	Dudhia
8	New Thompson	GF	YSU	Noah	RRTMG	26	New Thompson	GF	YSU	Noah	RRTMG
9	New Thompson	GF	MYJ	Noah	Dudhia	27	New Thompson	GF	MYJ	Noah	Dudhia
10	New Thompson	GF	MYJ	Noah	RRTMG	28	New Thompson	GF	MYJ	Noah	RRTMG
11	New Thompson	GF	MYNN2	Noah	Dudhia	29	New Thompson	GF	MYNN2	Noah	Dudhia
12	New	GF	MYNN2	Noah	RRTMG	30	New	GF	MYNN2	Noah	RRTMG

	Thompson						Thompson				
13	New Thompson	Tiedke	YSU	Noah	Dudhia	31	New Thompson	Tiedke	YSU	Noah	Dudhia
14	New Thompson	Tiedke	YSU	Noah	RRTMG	32	New Thompson	Tiedke	YSU	Noah	RRTMG
15	New Thompson	Tiedke	MYJ	Noah	Dudhia	33	New Thompson	Tiedke	MYJ	Noah	Dudhia
16	New Thompson	Tiedke	MYJ	Noah	RRTMG	34	New Thompson	Tiedke	MYJ	Noah	RRTMG
17	New Thompson	Tiedke	MYNN2	Noah	Dudhia	35	New Thompson	Tiedke	MYNN2	Noah	Dudhia
18	New Thompson	Tiedke	MYNN2	Noah	RRTMG	36	New Thompson	Tiedke	MYNN2	Noah	RRTMG

914

915 **6. Design of IOP13 and Qendresa Experiments**

916 To quantitatively assess the benefits of assimilating different types of observations using the  
 917 3DVar and the EnKF DA schemes, a few numerical experiments are performed. A reference  
 918 experiment without any data assimilation (**NODA**) is carried out. Then, several numerical  
 919 experiments using different types of observations for the assimilation are performed. Only  
 920 conventional *in-situ* observations are assimilated using the 3DVar and the EnKF, for the first  
 921 set of experiments (**SYN**). All available observations (i.e., conventional, radar based and  
 922 satellite derived data) are assimilated using both 3DVar and EnKF, for the second type of  
 923 experiments (**CNTRL**). The comparison between these numerical experiments will provide  
 924 information on which DA scheme and observation is performing better for these weather  
 925 events. The DA experiments mainly consist of two phases: the first one is related to the data  
 926 assimilation procedure, where different types of observations are assimilated by the variational  
 927 3DVar and the ensemble-based EnKF DA schemes; the second phase is associated with the  
 928 free model run initialized using the initial conditions obtained during the first phase. The total  
 929 forecast time is 24 h and 36 h for IOP13 and Qendresa, respectively. For IOP13, a further  
 930 simulation lasting 6-hour from 18 UTC 13 October to 00 UTC 14 October 2012 (Carrió et al.,  
 931 2019) is performed (Fig. 6) to reduce spin-up problems related to the direct downscaling from  
 932 global ECMWF analysis (32 km grid resolution) to the WRF parent domain used in our  
 933 simulations (16 km grid resolution). This procedure improved the DA for IOP13, but it had a  
 934 small impact for Qendresa.

935 Therefore, the following model simulations were performed:

- 936 • No Data Assimilation (**NODA**)
- 937 • Only conventional *in-situ* observations are assimilated using the 3DVar and the EnKF  
 938 (**SYN**)
- 939 • All available observations (i.e., conventional, radar based and satellite derived data) are  
 940 assimilated using both 3DVar and EnKF (**CNTRL**)

941 **The comparison between the DA experiments and NODA allows us to assess the impact of the**  
 942 **DA procedure. On the other hand,** the comparison between SYN and CNTRL will allow for  
 943 assessing the role of radar and/or satellite data, especially for the events originated in the area

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945 where observations are not available. Moreover, the assimilation of the radar and/or satellite  
946 will produce important information on the triggering phase of both events developing on the  
947 sea.

948

#### 949 **6.1. CNTRL Experiments**

950 For IOP13, the CNTRL experiment is designed to assimilate both *in-situ* conventional and  
951 reflectivity observations from Aleria and Nimes Doppler weather radars. The assimilation of  
952 the reflectivity is expected to improve the forecast of this event by significantly improving the  
953 initial conditions over the sea, where convective activity initiated and evolved into deep  
954 convection affecting coastal populated areas of Italy. As briefly described in the previous  
955 section, this experiment consists of three stages: 1) the spin-up of the storm-scale domain is  
956 accounted for by running the WRF model during 6 hours from 18 UTC 13 October to 00 UTC  
957 14 October 2012. Note that for the 3DVar experiment, the spin-up is accounted ~~for~~ by just  
958 initializing WRF with the deterministic analysis from the IFS ECMWF. However, for the EnKF  
959 counterpart, the spin-up is accounted by initializing the 36-member ensemble at 18 UTC 13  
960 October; 2) *in-situ* conventional observations were hourly assimilated during 24 hours from 00  
961 UTC 14 October to 00 UTC 15 October, meanwhile reflectivity observations were assimilated  
962 using a Rapid-Update Assimilation Cycle every 15 minutes during a period of 6 hours, from  
963 18 UTC 14 October to 00 UTC 15 October (Fig. 6); 3) a 24-h ensemble (deterministic) forecast  
964 until 00 UTC 16 October, using the recently obtained initial conditions, is performed by the  
965 EnKF (3DVar).

**Eliminado:** 21

966 For the Qendresa episode, CNTRL experiment is designed to assimilate both *in-situ*  
967 conventional and RSAMV observations. The assimilation of RSAMV observations is expected  
968 to improve the representation of the atmospheric circulation at upper-levels, whereas the  
969 assimilation of surface conventional observations is expected to enhance the one at low-levels.  
970 The Qendresa CNTRL experiment consists of two main phases: 1) *in-situ* conventional and  
971 satellite derived RSAMV observations are hourly and 20-min assimilated, respectively, during  
972 a 12-h period from 12 UTC 6 November to 00 UTC 7 November 2014 to end up with the last  
973 analysis at the end of the assimilation window (i.e., 00 UTC 7 November); 2) a free 36-h  
974 ensemble (deterministic) forecast is performed by the EnKF (3DVar) from 00 UTC 7  
975 November to 12 UTC 8 November 2014 (Fig. 6).

**Eliminado:** b

**Eliminado:** and

**Eliminado:** c

976

#### 977 **6.2. SYN Experiments**

978 For IOP13, the SYN experiment assesses the impact of *in-situ* conventional observations,  
979 which are crucial to characterize mesoscale atmospheric circulation. Analogous to the CNTRL,  
980 SYN follows the same three phases, but in the second phase only the hourly *in-situ*  
981 conventional observations from 00 UTC 14 October to 00 UTC 15 October 2012 are  
982 assimilated. The analysis obtained from the assimilation stage is used as initial conditions for  
983 running the free forecast for 24h, in the third phase (Fig. 6).

**Eliminado:** a

984 Similarly, also for Qendresa, in the SYN experiment only *in-situ* conventional observations are  
985 hourly assimilated for 12 hours, from 12 UTC 6 November to 00 UTC 7 November 2014 (Fig.  
986 6).

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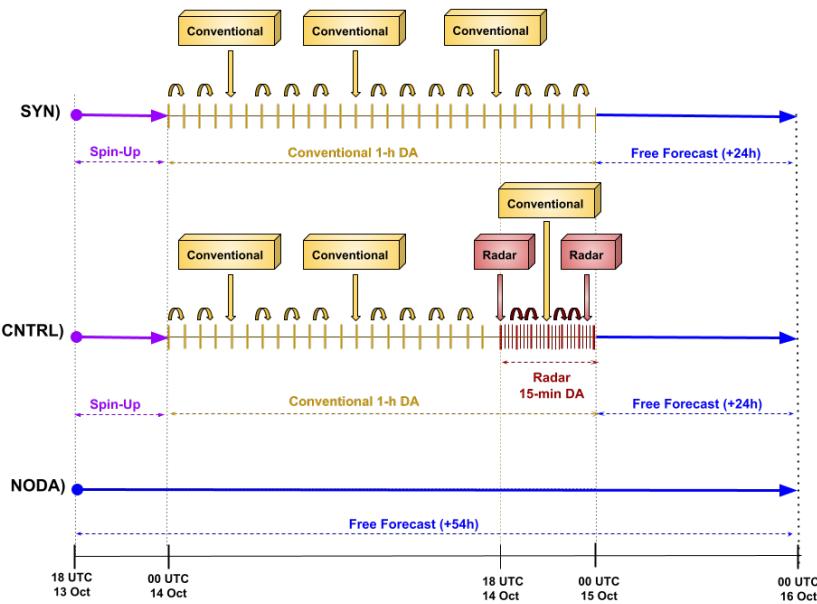
987

994 **6.3. NODA Experiments**

995 For the IOP13, NODA experiment is a direct downscaling from EPS-ECMWF boundary and  
 996 initial conditions valid at 18 UTC 13 October to 00 UTC 16 October 2012 (Fig. 6). The  
 997 comparison among NODA, CNTRL and SYN will provide us with valuable information on the  
 998 impact of assimilating different sources of observations.

999 For Qendresa, NODA experiment is simply a direct downscaling of 36 hours from EPS-  
 1000 ECMWF at 00 UTC 7 November to 12 UTC 8 November 2014 (Fig. 6). Here again, it is  
 1001 important to note that the choice of starting NODA at 00 UTC 7 November instead of starting  
 1002 at 12 UTC 6 November was made intentionally to extract general conclusions applicable  
 1003 possibly to an operational framework.

1004



1005

1006

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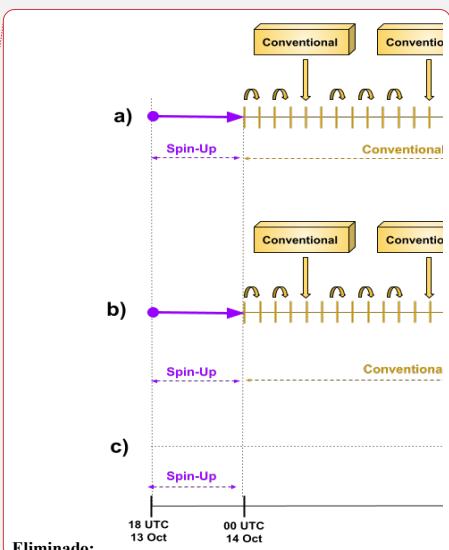
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**Eliminado:** 00

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**Eliminado:** To the aim of simulating an operational framework, the NODA experiment starts at 00 UTC 15 October, instead of starting at 18 UTC 14 October (Fig. 6c). With this choice of the starting time, one could answer the question of which forecast system we should use to predict a 24-48 h forecast. Should we simply perform a simple downscaling using the last analysis obtained from a global model, or should we start our simulation with a previous analysis but now using DA at high temporal and spatial resolution to enhance the estimation of the initial conditions?

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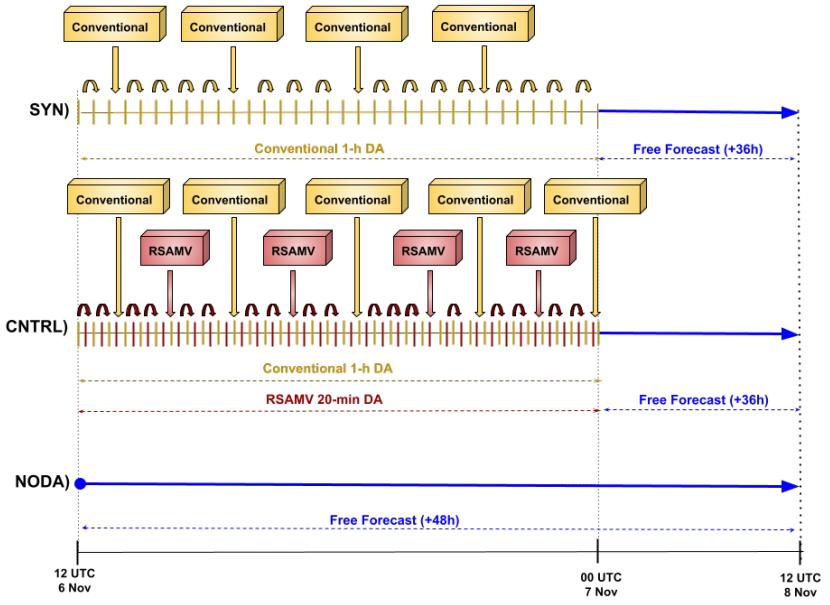
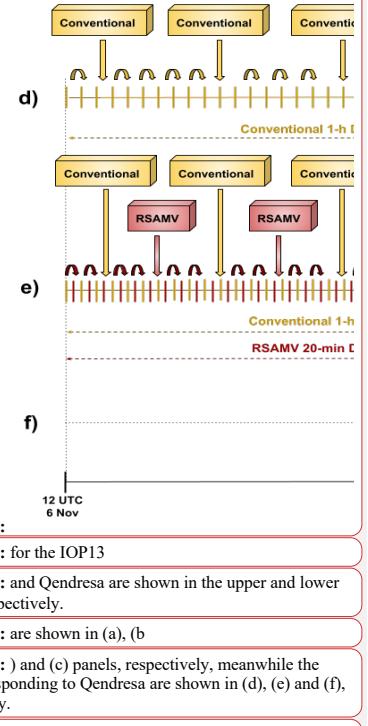


Figure 6. Schematic representation of the main numerical experiments performed in this study for the IOP13 (top panel) and Qendresa (bottom panel) episodes, respectively. SYN, CNTRL and NODA experiments are illustrated for each case, highlighting their respective configurations and assimilation strategies.

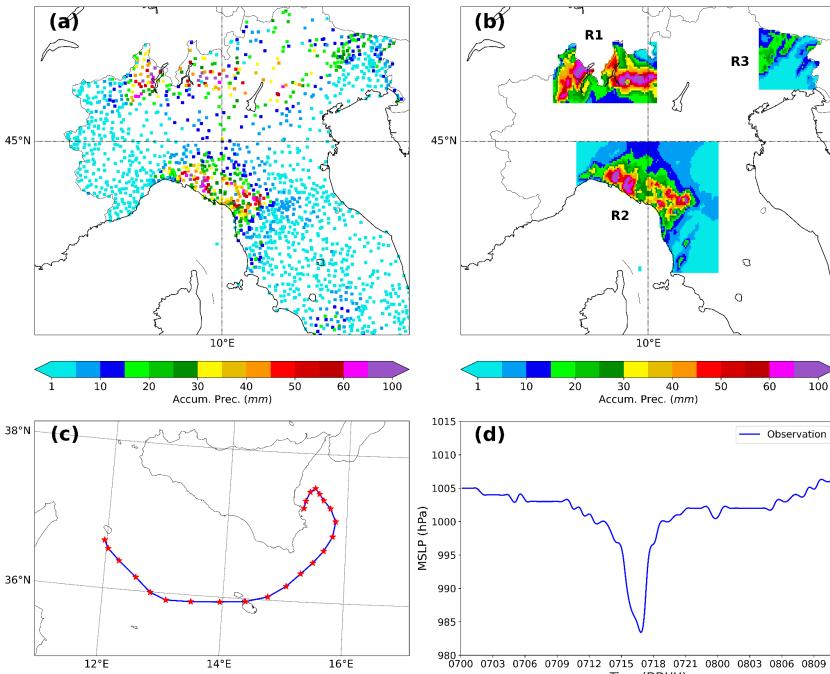
## 7. Verification Methods

To quantitatively evaluate the performance of the EnKF and the 3DVar and their impact on the short-term forecast of these two extreme weather events, various verification scores are used. Given the different nature of the weather phenomena associated with these episodes, the selection of verification scores is tailored specifically to each event. For the IOP13 heavy precipitation event (Fig. 7a), the model verification was performed using the observed accumulated precipitation field over different time windows (e.g., 3 hours, 6 hours or 9 hours). More specifically, the accumulated precipitation was computed using observations from the *Italian Department of Civil Protection*. However, the spatial distribution of rain gauges is not homogenous and there are regions where a lack of rain gauges is present. To address these issues, three sub-regions are chosen where the heavy precipitation event was well recorded by the weather stations (see R1, R2 and R3 in Fig. 7b). Conversely, for the Qendresa tropical-like cyclone, a limited number of *in-situ* observations were present since it initiated and moved over the sea during its lifecycle, and radar-data were not available. Consequently, IR satellite imagery was the primary source of data to approximately estimate Qendresa's trajectory (Fig. 7c). Regarding the intensity of Qendresa, since the cyclone's center passed over Malta island,



1055 reaching its minimum mean sea level pressure (MSLP) of 985 hPa, METAR data from Malta's  
 1056 airport was also used to verify the cyclone's intensity (Fig. 7d).

1057



1058  
 1059 Figure 7. (a) Example of the 12-h accumulated precipitation estimated values and their spatial distribution from  
 1060 the Italian Department of Civil Protection rain gauges. (b) Linear interpolation of 12-h accumulated precipitation  
 1061 values into the three target areas where verification has been performed. (c) Observed track of Qendresa medicane  
 1062 viewed from infrared satellite imagery. (d) Surface pressure (hPa) data obtained from the METAR station at  
 1063 Malta's airport.

1064

1065 To quantitatively assess the short-term (i.e., first 6-9 hours) precipitation forecast for the IOP13  
 1066 initialized using the analysis from the 3DVar and EnKF DA techniques, the *Filtering Method*,  
 1067 the *Relative Operating Characteristics* (ROC; Mason, 1982; Stanski et al., 1989; Swets, 1973)  
 1068 and the *Taylor Diagrams* (Taylor, 2001) were used. We avoid using the conventional point-  
 1069 by-point approach, which has been shown to have serious limitations in the evaluation of high-  
 1070 grid spatial and temporal precipitation field resolutions (Roberts, 2003). More specifically, as  
 1071 *Filtering Method* we use the *Fraction Skill Score* (FSS; Roberts and Lean, 2008), which is  
 1072 commonly used to quantitatively assess precipitation. A preliminary interpolation of the  
 1073 forecast and the observations onto a common regular mesh of 3 km is performed to compute  
 1074 FSS. Then the comparison is carried out within a region of 3x3 grid cells around each grid cell.  
 1075 The FSS can be used to determine the scale over which a forecast system has sufficient skill  
 1076 (Mittermaier, 2010). The FSS ranges from 0 to 1, being 1 a perfect match between model and  
 1077 observations. In addition to the ROC curves, the *Area Under the ROC Curve* (AUC; Stanski

1078 et al., 1989; Schwartz et al., 2010), which is also widely used to quantitatively assess the quality  
1079 of weather forecasts, will be also used in this study. For a perfect forecast, AUC is equal to 1.

1080 For Qendresa, the *Whisker diagrams* (Tukey, 1977) and the *Probability Distribution of the*  
1081 *Cyclone Center Occurrence (PCCO)*, which was based on the *Kernel Density Estimation*  
1082 (KDE; Bowman and Azzalini, 1997; Scott, 2015; Silverman, 2018), were used to validate the  
1083 simulations. More specifically, the KDE is used to compute the probability of having the center  
1084 of the cyclone over the entire numerical domain. The main idea behind KDE is to place a  
1085 “kernel” (i.e., a probability distribution function) at each data point, and then sum up the kernels  
1086 to estimate the overall probability density function. The kernel is typically chosen to be a  
1087 smooth function, such as a Gaussian, that decays to zero as the distance from the data point  
1088 increases. The width of the kernel is controlled by a parameter called the bandwidth, which it  
1089 turns out to be one of the limitations of the KDE technique. In this case, we found that the  
1090 optimal bandwidth is 20 km, which is within the meso  $\beta$  scale, i.e. a typical length scale for  
1091 convective cells. Here, a 2-dimensional KDE will be applied over each cyclone center (*lat, lon*  
1092 coordinates) identified for the different simulations (i.e., EnKF vs 3DVar). In this way, we will  
1093 infer the most probable track of Qendresa for the different simulations, thereby identifying  
1094 which is the best DA technique and which provides better estimations of Qendresa medicane’s  
1095 track.

1096

## 1097 8. Results

1098 **As discussed in the previous section,** the abovementioned verification techniques were  
1099 applied for the two extreme events. The results are described in the following subsections.

1100

### 1101 8.1. Statistical analysis: IOP13 Episode

1102 Because IOP13 was a heavy rainfall episode, to quantitatively assess the impact on the short-  
1103 range forecasts from assimilating both *in-situ* conventional and reflectivity observations from  
1104 Doppler weather radars using the 3DVar and the EnKF DA algorithms, the accumulated  
1105 precipitation field will be used.

1106

#### 1107 8.1.1. Filtering Method

1108 **The FSS associated with the 3-h accumulated precipitation field is computed**  
1109 **independently for the three sub-regions R1, R2 and R3, which are highlighted in Fig. 7b.**  
1110 **These regions were chosen due to their higher observation density, allowing for a more**  
1111 **reliable evaluation. The analysis is carried out using two precipitation thresholds: 5**  
1112 **mm·h<sup>-1</sup> (moderate rainfall) and 10 mm·h<sup>-1</sup> (heavy rainfall). In general, except for R3,**  
1113 **the comparison in terms of FSS (Fig. 8 a-f) shows that at the initial forecast time and**  
1114 **during the first 6 hours, DA simulations (EnKF and 3DVar) outperform the NODA**  
1115 **simulation (without assimilation). Among the DA simulation, EnKF generally**  
1116 **outperforms 3DVar in R1 and R2, especially for the higher precipitation threshold (10**  
1117 **mm·h<sup>-1</sup>). As expected, CNTRL experiments for both 3DVar and EnKF provide higher**  
1118 **FSS values compared to SYN experiments, where reflectivity observations were not**  
1119 **considered.**

1120

**Eliminado:** To quantitatively estimate the impact on the short-range forecast from assimilating the different types of observations considered in this study, using the 3DVar and the EnKF, ...

**Eliminado:** Because of the differences in their features, we used the *Filtering method*, the *Relative Operating Characteristics* (ROC) and *Area Under the ROC curve* and the *Taylor diagrams* for IOP13, and the *Whisker diagrams Occurrence* for Qendresa.

**Eliminado:** here

In R3, the results show an unexpected behavior when using the moderate threshold ( $5 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ ) (Fig. 8c), where NODA outperforms DA simulations during the first few hours. This anomaly could be explained by two factors: (1) the moderate precipitation threshold, which may not capture significant precipitation differences, and (2) the fact that in the first few hours, precipitation in R3 is minimal since the deep convection system has not yet reached this region. This interpretation is reinforced when examining the higher precipitation threshold ( $10 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ ) (Fig. 8f), where all methods exhibit similarly poor skill in the early forecast hours, indicating that precipitation is still too weak to be meaningfully assessed. However, after 6–9 hours, as expected, DA simulations outperform NODA in all sub-regions.

To be noticed, the CNTRL simulations do not consistently show better FSS scores than SYN simulations during the first hours, for R1. This could be due to the short-lived impact of radar reflectivity assimilation, which in past studies has been shown to last no longer than 2-4 hours for 3DVar and EnKF, respectively. These findings align with previous studies, which reported similar behavior regarding the transient impact of reflectivity DA (Carrió et al., 2016; Carrió et al., 2019).

Finally, we also computed the Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE) for the precipitation field over the first 24 hours of free forecast for both DA and NODA experiments (Fig. 8g-i). For 3DVar and NODA, RMSE is calculated from the deterministic forecast, while for EnKF, it is computed from the ensemble mean precipitation field. Overall, DA experiments exhibit lower (better) RMSE scores compared to NODA, confirming the positive impact of data assimilation on forecast accuracy. Among the DA experiments, EnKF consistently outperforms 3DVar in all regions, suggesting a better representation of precipitation variability and improved initial conditions.

**Eliminado:** The FSS associated with the accumulated precipitation field is computed independently for the three sub-regions R1, R2 and R3 highlighted in Fig. 7b, where the density of observation was higher, using as threshold

**Eliminado: 5**

**Eliminado:**  $1 \text{ mm} \cdot \text{h}^{-1}$

**Eliminado:** (moderate rainfall) and 10 mm·h<sup>-1</sup> (heavy rainfall)

**Eliminado:** In general, the comparison in terms of FSS (Fig. 8 a-

**Eliminado: f**

**Eliminado:** c) shows that EnKF outperforms 3DVar during the first 7 hours of free forecast in the three sub-regions. As it was expected, the CNTRL experiments for both the EnKF and 3DVar outperform the SYN experiments, where reflectivity observations were not considered. Moreover, Fig. 8a shows that the 3DVar-CNTRL provides the worst scores, except for the first few hours of simulation where 3DVar-CNTRL performs better than 3DVar-SYN. This is because the information ingested from the radar using the 3DVar in that region is lasting no longer than 2 hours. Something similar happens with the EnKF after 4 hours. These results would agree with past studies, showing similar behaviors (Carrión et al., 2016; Carrión et al., 2019).

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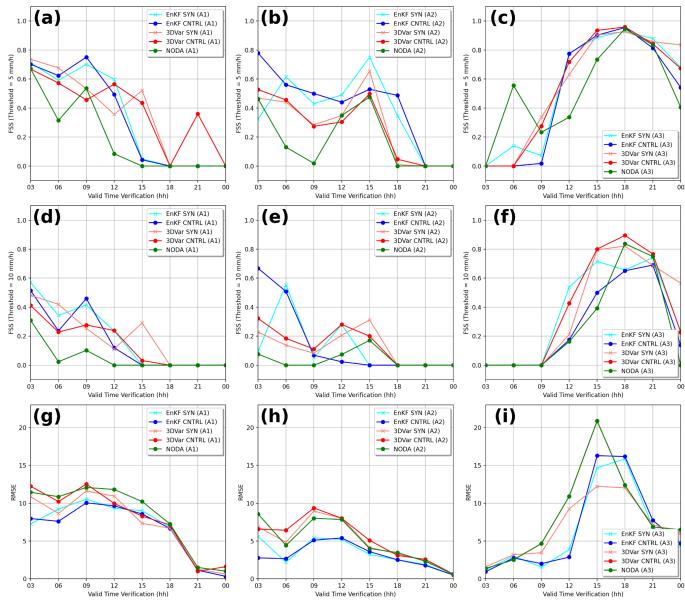
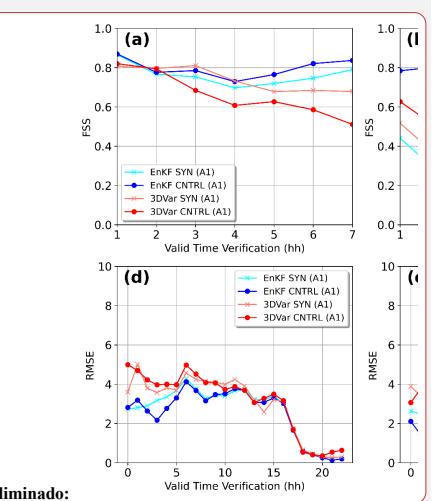


Figure 8. Upper panels: Evolution of the FSS during the first 24-h hours of free forecasts for 3-h accumulated precipitation in the Italian sub-regions R1 (first column), R2 (second column) and R3 (third column). Two thresholds are used:  $> 5 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$  (first row) and  $> 10 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$  (second row). Lower panels: Evolution of the RMSE associated with each experiment during the first 24 hours of free forecast in the different sub-regions. Simulations assimilating both conventional and radar observations (CNTRL) and simulations assimilating only conventional observations (SYN) associated with the 3DVar and the EnKF are shown here. As a reference, NODA results are also included.



- Eliminado:
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- Eliminado: for NODA, 3DVar and EnKF
- Eliminado:
- Eliminado: (a)
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- Eliminado: , using a threshold
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- Eliminado: (d) R1, (e) R2 and (f) R3
- Eliminado: In addition to the FSS, we also compute t... [17]
- Eliminado: For 3DVar, RMSE is computed from the ... [18]
- Eliminado:
- Eliminado: Overall
- Eliminado: In general, the EnKF
- Eliminado: exhibits lower (better)
- Eliminado: provides the lowest (best) RMSE scores
- Eliminado: compared to 3DVar, indicating improved ... [19]
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- Eliminado: diminishes after approximately
- Eliminado: does not last more than 4-6 hours,
- Eliminado: which is consistent with findings from previous
- Eliminado: in accordance with past studies.

1292 locations. The area under the ROC curve (AUC), which measures the ability of the system  
1293 to discriminate between the occurrence or nonoccurrence of the event, is also computed.  
1294

1295 For the sake of brevity and because the results from the three sub-regions are similar, the  
1296 ROC curve and AUC are computed, accounting for all the observations within the inner  
1297 domain. Specifically, to compute the ROC curves, we use the 3-hour (from 00 UTC - 03  
1298 UTC 15 Oct) and 6-hour (from 00 UTC - 06 UTC 15 Oct) accumulated precipitation fields  
1299 from the model simulation and the observed values registered by the rain gauges, using 1  
1300 mm and 10 mm as thresholds (Fig. 9).

1301 Overall, DA experiments outperform the NODA runs for both the 3-hour and 6-hour  
1302 accumulated precipitations, as shown by higher ROC curves and larger AUC values.  
1303 Among the DA approaches, the EnKF consistently outperforms 3DVar, with greater  
1304 benefits observed at the 10 mm threshold (i.e., bottom row of Fig. 9). This improvement  
1305 highlights the advantages of radar reflectivity assimilation within an ensemble-based  
1306 framework, especially for more intense precipitation events. To better understand this  
1307 result, we closely analysed the 1-h and 6-h accumulated precipitation fields obtained from  
1308 the EnKF (CNTRL) and the 3DVar (CNTRL) comparing them against corresponding  
1309 observations.(see Fig. A1 and Fig. A2 in the Appendix). The 1-h accumulated  
1310 precipitation (Fig. A1) shows that the EnKF localizes with high accuracy the regions  
1311 where the most intense precipitation was observed, that is near Tuscany and northern  
1312 Italy. Also, 3DVar correctly reproduces the rainfall in the regions affected by observed  
1313 precipitation, although the maximum amounts are centered over Liguria, instead of near  
1314 Tuscany. In addition, the 3DVar is also showing a tongue area of weak precipitation from  
1315 Liguria to northern Italy, that does not fit with the observations. Consequently, while  
1316 small differences exist between 3DVar and EnKF in the 1-h accumulated precipitation  
1317 field, the low magnitude of accumulated precipitation values leads to no substantial  
1318 differences in ROC verification scores. However, in the case of the 6-h accumulated  
1319 precipitation (Fig. A2), the 3DVar overestimates accumulated precipitation near Liguria,  
1320 Tuscany and northern Italy than the observed ones. Moreover, 3DVar is also misplacing  
1321 the locations of the precipitation for some places. On the contrary, the EnKF locates with  
1322 enough accuracy the regions where the accumulated precipitation was actually observed  
1323 and properly estimates the observed intensity. Consequently, ROC curve for the 6-hour  
1324 accumulated precipitation obtained from the EnKF produced a much better score than  
1325 the 3DVar. We hypothesize that this difference could be associated with the  
1326 static/climatological background error covariance matrix used by the 3DVar. Because of  
1327 the fast changes in the flow associated with the IOP13 case, using a climatological  
1328 background error covariance could not be as good as using a flow-dependent background  
1329 error covariance matrix, which is used in the EnKF.  
1330

1331 Eliminado: To strengthen how skillful are the different simulations performed by the 3DVar and the EnKF, the Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve is used. The probability of exceeding a given threshold is computed and verified against dichotomous observations. The ROC curve is computed as follows: the model variable is interpolated to the observation locations and if the model variable exceeds a given threshold, that model grid point is assigned a value of 1. On the contrary, if the model value does not exceed that threshold, the assigned value is 0. The same method is applied for the observations. Then, using these dichotomous values, the Hit Rate and False Alarm scores are computed. This process is repeated, varying the threshold value.

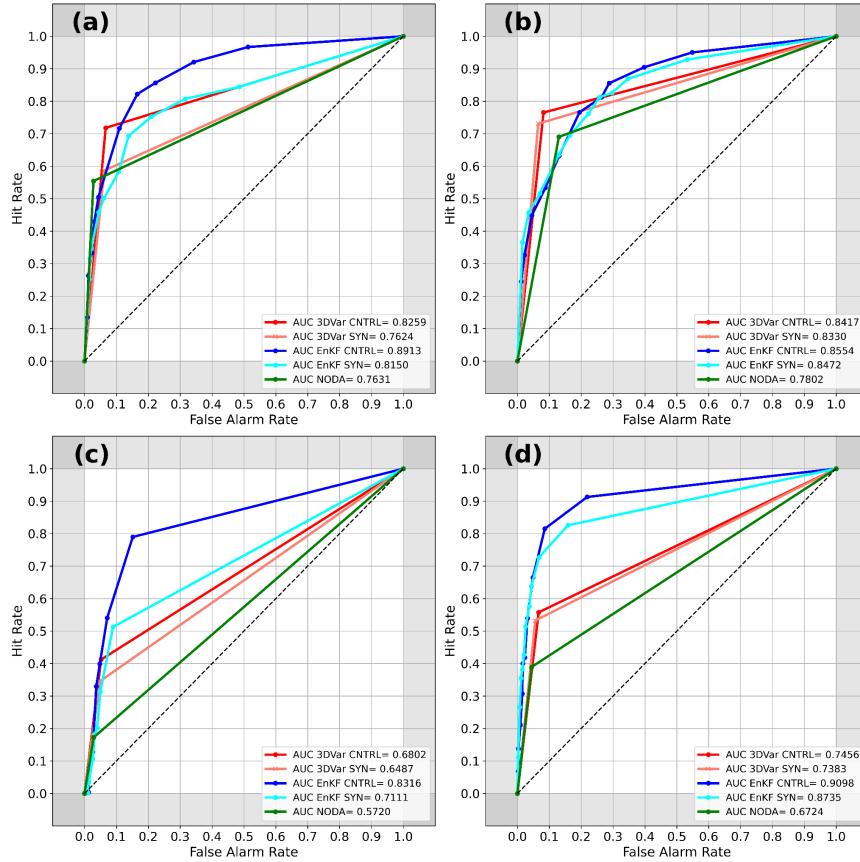
Gathering the Hit Rate and False Alarm scores for the different thresholds, we obtain the ROC curve. For the 3DVar, we get the Hit Rate and False Alarm scores by simply interpolating the model values to the observation locations and apply the threshold criteria explained above. In the case of the EnKF, the ensemble mean is used as the field to be interpolated to the observation locations. The area under the ROC curve (AUC), which measures the ability of the system to discriminate between the occurrence or nonoccurrence of the event, is also computed.

1332 Eliminado: ¶

Eliminado: For the sake of brevity and because the results from the three sub-regions are similar, the ROC and the area under the ROC curve are computed, accounting for all the observations within the inner numerical domain. Specifically, to compute the ROC curves, we use the 3-hour (from 00 UTC - 03 UTC 15 Oct) and 6-hour (from 00 UTC - 06 UTC 15 Oct) accumulated precipitation fields from the numerical model and the observed values registered by the rain gauges, using 1 mm and 10 mm as thresholds (Fig. 9).

Eliminado: ¶

Eliminado: Results show that EnKF clearly outperforms 3DVar for the different accumulated precipitation rates and thresholds, depicting larger values of AUCs. An even bigger improvement is obtained using a larger threshold (i.e., bottom row of Fig. 9) for EnKF, where the benefits of assimilating radar observations are noticeable, in comparison with 3DVar. To better understand this result, we inspected in more detail the 1-h and 6-h accumulated precipitation fields obtained from the EnKF (CNTRL) and the 3DVar (CNTRL) and we compared those fields against the corresponding observations (see Fig. A1 in the Appendix). The 1-h accumulated precipitation (first row, Fig. A1) shows that the EnKF is localizing with high accuracy the regions where the most intense precipitation was observed, that is near Tuscany and northern Italy. Also, 3DVar correctly reproduces the rainfall in the regions affected by observed precipitation, although the maximum amounts are centered over Liguria, instead of near Tuscany. In addition, the 3DVar is also showing a tongue area of weak precipitation from Liguria to northern Italy, that does not fit with the observations. Hence, although there are some differences between 3DVar and EnKF for the 1-h accumulated precipitation field, because the accumulated precipitation values are small, the ROC verification scores from the EnKF and 3DVar do not differ significantly. However, in the case of the 6-h accumulated precipitation (second row, Fig. A1), the 3DVar produces higher values of accumulated precipitation near Liguria, Tuscany and northern Italy than the observed ones. Moreover, 3DVar is also misplacing the locations of the precipitation for some places. On the contrary, the EnKF can (a) locate with enough accuracy the regions where the accumulated precipitat... [21]



1441  
1442 **Figure 9.** ROC curves and AUC associated with the 3DVar (red and pink colors) EnKF  
1443 (blue and cyan colors) and NODA (green color) for the 3-hour accumulated precipitation  
1444 using (a) 1 mm and (b) 10 mm threshold and 6-hour accumulated precipitation using (c)  
1445 1 mm and (d) 10 mm threshold, computed over the entire inner domain.

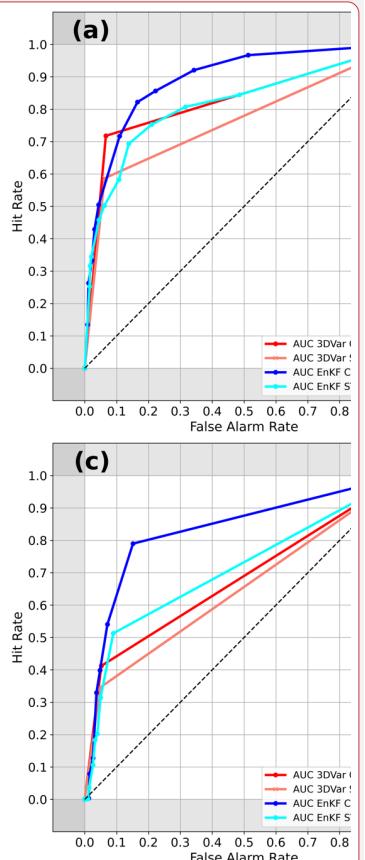
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### 1447 8.1.3. Taylor Diagrams

1448

1449 To strengthen the comparison of the DA schemes, the Taylor Diagram is used. This tool  
1450 provides us additional information about the skill of each ensemble member in the EnKF.  
1451 Here, we compute the Taylor diagram for the 6-hour and 24-hour accumulated  
1452 precipitation fields, which represents the forecast ranges where the observations  
1453 assimilated have more impact. Overall, results show that the NODA experiment generally  
1454 exhibits the lowest correlation and largest discrepancy in standard deviation relative to  
1455 observations, emphasizing that DA significantly improves the representation of  
1456 precipitation fields, especially for high-impact weather events. Among the different DA  
1457 approaches, the 3DVar and the EnKF ensemble mean provide comparable results, with

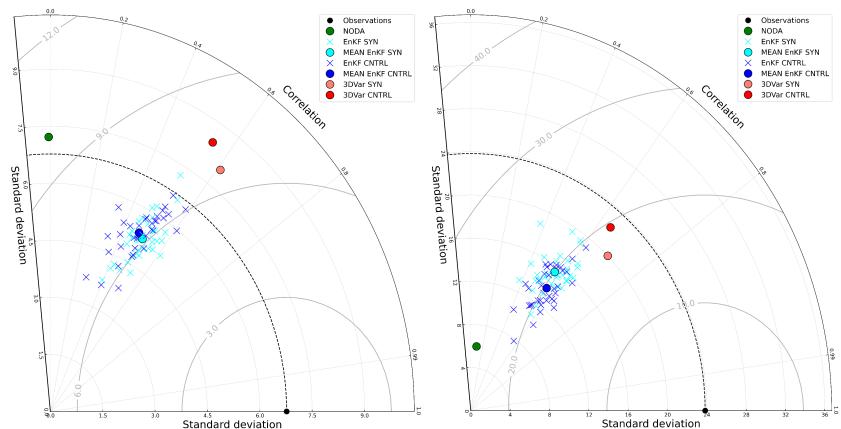
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correlations ranging from approximately 0.50 to 0.61, similar RMSE and standard deviation that are symmetrically distributed around the observed reference. Notably, 3DVar tends to overestimate the standard deviation, while the EnKF ensemble mean tends to underestimate it (Fig. 10). A key advantage of EnKF lies in its individual ensemble members, some of which exhibit better performance than the 3DVar run. Although the mean difference between EnKF and 3DVar is small, the ensemble-based approach provides additional insight through its member-by-member variability. Specifically, ensemble members using the Grell-Freitas cumulus parameterization coupled with the Yonsei University planetary boundary layer scheme exhibit higher correlation and standard deviations similar to the observations in this study. Conversely, ensemble members associated with the lower scores are those using Kain-Fritsch for the cumulus parameterization and the Mellor-Yamada-Janjic for the planetary boundary layer scheme. These findings underscore the potential of multi-physics ensembles to capture diverse physical representations of convective processes, thereby enhancing forecast accuracy.



**Figure 10.** Taylor diagram comparing the performance of 3DVar (red), EnKF (blue), and NODA (green) for the 6-hour (left panel) and 24-hour (right panel) accumulated precipitation valid at 06 UTC 15 October 2012.

## 8.2. Statistical analysis: Qendresa event

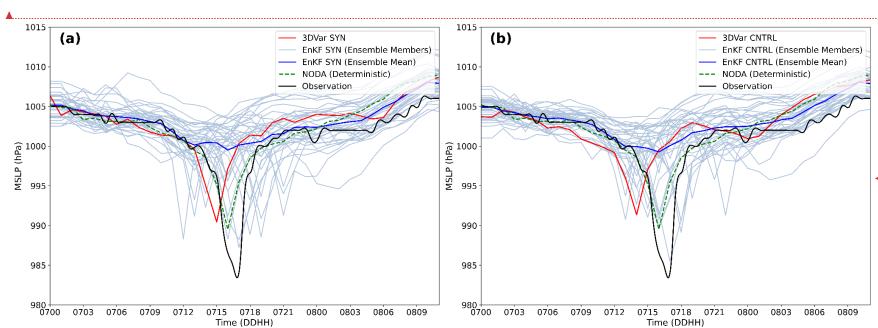
Typically, two key factors are investigated for Tropical cyclone forecasts: (a) the intensity and (b) the trajectory followed by the cyclone. Therefore, to assess the impact of assimilating both in-situ conventional and remote RSAMV observations using the 3DVar and the EnKF, these two factors are considered.

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- 8.8
- 9.0
- 9.2
- 9.4
- 9.6
- 9.8
- 10.0
- Standard deviation
- Correlation
- Observations
- NODA
- MEAN SYN
- ENKF SYN
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### 1562 8.2.1. Whisker Diagrams

1563 For this event, the lack of in-situ observations over maritime regions poses a main  
1564 challenge to properly verify the triggering and intensification of cyclones. Fortunately,  
1565 the Qendresa medicane crossed just over Malta island, where a pressure drop greater  
1566 than 20 hPa in 6 h, was registered by METAR at Malta airport, reaching a minimum of  
1567 surface pressure of 985 hPa. Therefore, this METAR is used to quantitatively assess the  
1568 skill of the different DA simulations. To compare the surface pressure registered at Malta  
1569 with the different simulations, the full cyclone trajectory is used, and the grid point closest  
1570 to Malta airport is selected. Specifically, the surface pressure time series measured by  
1571 METAR is compared with the different DA simulations from 3DVar and EnKF, such as  
1572 the 3DVar\_SYN, 3DVar\_CNTRL, EnKF\_SYN, and the EnKF\_CNTRL (Fig. 11).  
1573



1574  
1575 **Figure 11. Temporal surface pressure evolution at the closes grid point to Malta**  
1576 **for the (a) SYN and (b) CNTRL experiments associated with the EnKF (blue),**  
1577 **3DVar (red), and NODA (green), compared to the observed surface pressure**  
1578 **registered by METARs in Malta's airport (black line).**

1579 Overall, results indicate that NODA simulation captures the timing of the observed  
1580 pressure drop more accurately than the DA runs, suggesting that the large-scale  
1581 dynamics are adequately represented even without data assimilation (Fig. 11).  
1582 However, NODA underestimates the intensity of the medicane's central pressure.  
1583

1584 Among the DA simulations, assimilating in-situ conventional observations enables  
1585 some EnKF ensemble members to outperform NODA in both timing and intensity,  
1586 whereas 3DVar shows limitations in capturing the event timing and central  
1587 pressure depth (Fig. 11a). Additionally, the ensemble mean of the EnKF SYN  
1588 accurately fits the observations during the first hours of the forecast, from 00 UTC  
1589 to 13 UTC 7 November (Fig. 11a), performing slightly better than 3DVAR SYN.  
1590 However, during the intensification phase, the ensemble mean of the EnKF SYN

1596 barely shows the intensification of Qendresa, reaching minimum MSLP values of  
1597 1002 hPa. On the contrary, the 3DVar SYN simulation depicts the intensification  
1598 of the medicane, by deepening the MSLP and reaching values of 992 hPa, although  
1599 a time shift of 3 hours is found (i.e., 15 UTC 7 November) (Fig. 11a). Finally, during  
1600 the dissipation phase of Qendresa, the ensemble mean of EnKF SYN is  
1601 performing a bit better than the 3DVar SYN (Fig. 11a). These results highlight a  
1602 notable limitation of the EnKF when applied to low-predictable weather events,  
1603 such as Qendresa. The low predictability and the high sensitivity to the different  
1604 physical parameterization schemes lead to a very different behavior of each  
1605 ensemble member. Consequently, some members could completely fail in the  
1606 prediction of the weather event. In this situation, our small-to-moderate ensemble  
1607 will probably produce a poor flow-dependent background error covariance  
1608 matrix, which is key in DA, resulting in an analysis ensemble with large spread,  
1609 for which then ensemble mean will be smoothed out significantly. On the other  
1610 hand, a climatological/static background error covariance matrix, like the one  
1611 used in the 3DVar could produce better results than ensemble members, as we see  
1612 in Fig. 11a where we compared the 3DVar (red line) with the EnKF ensemble mean  
1613 analysis (blue line). Also, it is important to note that although the ensemble mean  
1614 of the EnKF SYN is not correctly reproducing the intensification of Qendresa,  
1615 some of the ensemble members accurately reproduce the observed MSLP both in  
1616 deepening and timing. This suggests that using an ensemble system, even having  
1617 the above-mentioned problems, is still more useful than using only a fully  
1618 deterministic system such as the 3DVar, which cannot provide information about  
1619 the uncertainties of the system. Therefore, we can speculate that for extreme  
1620 weather events with low numerical predictability, a better approach could be using  
1621 a hybrid error covariance model, where the forecast error covariance matrix is  
1622 obtained linearly combining ensemble-based covariance with static climatological  
1623 error covariances (Hamill and Snyder (2000); Lorenc (2003); Clayton et al., 2013;  
1624 Carrió et al., 2021). The impact of using hybrid DA to improve this kind of small-  
1625 scale extreme weather events could be of great interest in the weather forecast  
1626 community, although it is beyond the scope of this study. For this reason, the  
1627 authors leave as future work the benefits of using hybrid error covariance models  
1628 to improve the forecast of extreme weather events in the Mediterranean basin.  
1629

1630 Then, we evaluated the impact of assimilating both in-situ conventional and  
1631 RSAMV observations on the accuracy of Qendresa intensity forecast (Fig. 11b).  
1632 In this case, the results of the two experiments show large similarities (Fig. 11a).  
1633 In terms of the 3DVar, the MSLP signature is basically the same, without showing  
1634 a clear signal of improvement or diminishing, suggesting that the assimilation of  
1635 RSAMVs is not enough to significantly improve the low level relevant dynamical  
1636 structures associated with the genesis and intensification of Qendresa. However,  
1637 in terms of the EnKF a clear improvement for a few members is found, even if it  
1638 is not affecting the mean value. Indeed, some of the ensemble members depicted  
1639 an intense cyclone far from the time when it was observed (approx. at 18 UTC 7  
1640 November), were corrected reducing spurious cyclones and the deepening of at  
1641 least one ensemble member close to the observed value (Fig. 11b). It can be

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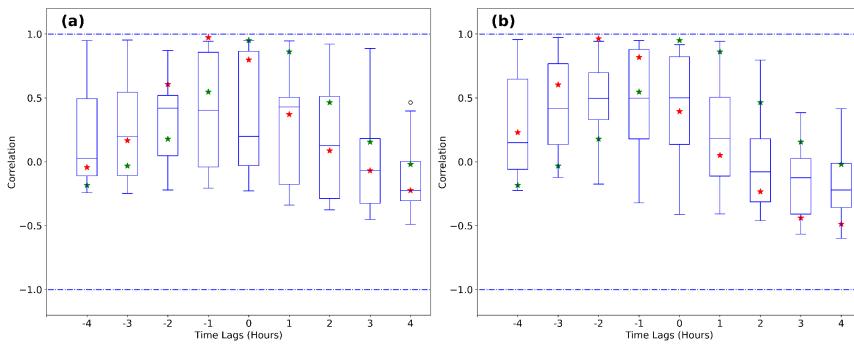
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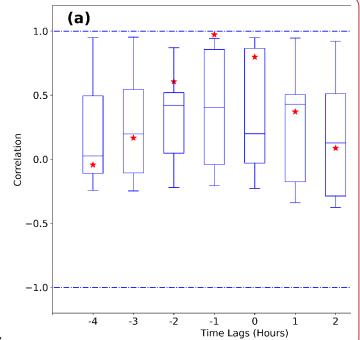
1642 observed that in the EnKF CNTRL, there are more ensemble members depicting  
 1643 a deep cyclone at the observed time than in the case of the EnKF SYN, showing  
 1644 the benefits of assimilating RSAMVs to improve the intensification estimation of  
 1645 Ondresa.

1646  
 1647 To quantitatively assess the performance of NODA and the different DA  
 1648 experiments, we use the lagged correlation technique computed between the model  
 1649 MSLP signatures and the observations. This technique allows us to measure how  
 1650 the shape of the surface pressure evolution obtained from the different simulations  
 1651 fits the shape of the observed MSLP, taking also into account temporal shifting.  
 1652 The correlation is computed for the NODA, 3DVar, and for each ensemble  
 1653 member from the EnKF. These results are shown using Whisker plots (Fig. 12),  
 1654 where a correlation of one indicates that the specific model field has the same 'V'  
 1655 pressure shape evolution as the observation, and that the minimum for both is  
 1656 found at the same time. The results show that the NODA simulation exhibits the  
 1657 highest correlation values among all the simulations, reaching its maximum  
 1658 correlation when no time-shifting is applied. For the 3DVar SYN, the correlation  
 1659 is maximum and approximately equal to one when 1-hour delay is applied to  
 1660 forecasts (Fig. 12a). Whiskers from EnKF SYN show that none of the ensemble  
 1661 members overcomes the maximum correlation value found in 3DVar SYN.  
 1662 However, when the assimilation of RSAMVs is added to the in-situ conventional  
 1663 observations, it is found that the maximum correlation value associated with  
 1664 3DVar CNTRL using 2h of delay applied to the forecasts, is surpassed by some of  
 1665 the ensemble members of the EnKF CNTRL, when a 3 or 4 hour of delay is  
 1666 applied (Fig. 12b).



1670  
 1671 **Figure 12.** Whisker plots depict the lagged correlation values between the  
 1672 observations and the EnKF (blue boxes), the 3DVar (red stars) and NODA (green  
 1673 stars) for the (a) SYN and (b) CNTRL experiments. The correlation is computed  
 1674 considering that the observed V-shape pressure signature associated with the  
 1675 observations is shifted 4 hours to the left and 4 hours to the right.

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1802

### 1803 8.2.2. Probability Distribution of Cyclone Center Occurrence

1804 Due to the difficulty to accurately predict the observed trajectory of Qendresa  
 1805 (Pytharoulis et al., 2018), the impact of assimilating different kinds of observations  
 1806 on the trajectory of the medicane is investigated.

1807 Results indicate that the NODA simulation fails to accurately capture the track of  
 1808 Qendresa, especially its recurvature towards Sicily after leaving Malta, as  
 1809 evidenced by satellite imagery. In contrast, the 3DVar\_SYN accurately captures  
 1810 the track of Qendresa during the first hours (Fig. 13b). However, after Qendresa  
 1811 leaves Malta, the trajectory simulated by 3DVar\_SYN diverges from the observed  
 1812 track, shifting north-eastwards and failing to capture the track-loop observed in  
 1813 satellite imagery. To quantify the benefits of assimilating *in-situ* conventional  
 1814 observations using the 3DVar or the EnKF, the probability of occurrence of a  
 1815 cyclone following the track observed via satellite imagery is computed. For  
 1816 instance, 3DVar\_SYN underestimates the probability of cyclone occurrence east  
 1817 of Sicily, where Qendresa made landfall while looping (Fig. 13b). On the other hand,  
 1818 some EnKF\_SYN ensemble members show a cyclone trajectory shifted  
 1819 significantly southward, while others reproduce the loop trajectory missed by  
 1820 deterministic numerical weather models (Fig. 13a). In addition, the probability of  
 1821 Qendresa occurrence eastwards Sicily, is in this case larger than 3DVar\_SYN,  
 1822 showing the benefits of using the EnKF against the 3DVar (Fig. 13a). Moreover,  
 1823 the EnKF\_SYN ensemble trajectories, in general, follow a 'V' shape (i.e., first  
 1824 moving towards the southeast, then moving to the east and finally moving towards  
 1825 the northeast) similar to the trajectory observed via satellite imagery. Although  
 1826 the shape of most of the EnKF\_SYN trajectories agree with the observations, a  
 1827 southeastward displacement is evident in their location.

1828 If both *in-situ* conventional and RSAMV observations are assimilated, some of the  
 1829 ensemble members from the EnKF\_CNTRL show more accurate trajectories in  
 1830 comparison with EnKF\_SYN: the loop trajectory is closer to the observed region  
 1831 of eastern Sicily (Fig. 13c). An improvement of the 3DVar\_CNTRL trajectory by  
 1832 increasing the probability of cyclone occurrence following the observed track is  
 1833 observed, especially eastern of Sicily. However, 3DVar experiments are not able to  
 1834 reproduce the looping trajectory observed via satellite imagery (Fig. 13b-d).  
 1835 Hence, EnKF outperforms 3DVar showing some of the ensemble members  
 1836 depicting a loop trajectory, although shifted southwards and producing a  
 1837 probability of cyclone occurrence lower than the 3DVAR ones.

1838 Both the EnKF and the 3DVar still have difficulties in depicting accurately the  
 1839 track observed by Qendresa, even after the assimilation of *in-situ* conventional and  
 1840 RSAMV observations. Because RSAMVs are useful in describing dynamical  
 1841 features on the upper levels of the atmosphere, we hypothesize that ingesting them  
 1842 via DA may not be sufficient to correct key low-level dynamical features. In this  
 1843 case, the assimilation of surface wind observations may help to even improve these  
 1844 results. However, this is beyond the scope of this study and the authors leave this

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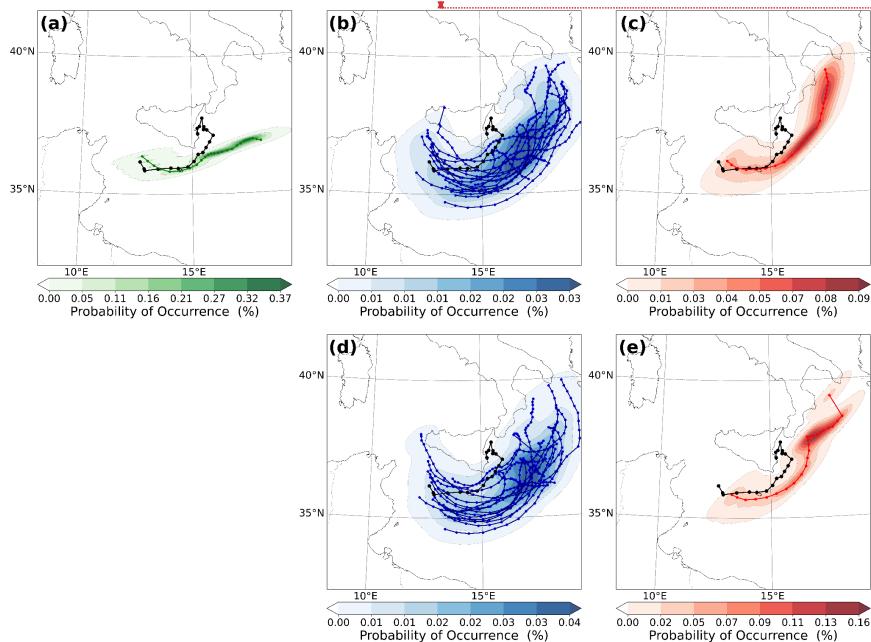
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question as future work, where other sources of information from satellites will be assimilated to improve low-level thermodynamic aspects of extreme weather events, such as medicanes.



**Figure 13. Probability of cyclone center occurrence computed using Gaussian KDE for (a) NODA, (b) EnKF (SYN), (c) 3DVar (SYN), (d) EnKF (CNTRL) and (e) 3DVar (CNTRL), from 11 UTC 7 November to 12 UTC 8 November 2014. Dendresa's trajectory observed via satellite imagery is depicted in black.**

## 9. Summary and Conclusions

This study provides a quantitative assessment of the impact of two widely used DA techniques – 3DVar and EnKF – on the predictability of maritime extreme weather events. The focus is on evaluating their potential to improve forecast lead time by assimilating observations during the developing stage, as opposed to the mature stage, which affords limited time for preparedness and response. To evaluate the performance of 3DVar and EnKF we analyze two high-impact weather events triggered over the sea and later affected densely populated coastal regions. These two extreme weather events are known as (a) the high precipitation

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1923 event registered during the 13th Intensive Observation Period (IOP13) affecting  
1924 the western, northern and central parts of Italy, and (b) the intense Tropical-like  
1925 Mediterranean Cyclone (medicane) known as Qendresa, that affected the islands  
1926 of Pantelleria, Lampedusa, Malta and Sicily. These weather events pose a serious  
1927 challenge for the numerical weather prediction community due to their low  
1928 predictability, resulting from their initialization over the sea, where in-situ  
1929 observations are sparse and initial conditions are poorly estimated. Furthermore,  
1930 their evolution over complex terrain regions introduces additional forecasting  
1931 challenges.

1932 For these two extreme weather events, both 3DVar and EnKF DA methods were  
1933 applied, with the type and number of assimilated observations varying based on  
1934 the data availability. For Qendresa, we assimilated (a) hourly in-situ conventional  
1935 observations and (b) wind speed and wind direction profiles of the entire  
1936 atmosphere (RSAMVs) derived from geostationary satellites every 20-min,  
1937 providing high spatial and temporal resolution observations covering the Central  
1938 Mediterranean Sea, where Qendresa initiated and evolved. On the other hand, for  
1939 the IOP13, we assimilated (a) hourly in-situ conventional observations and (b) 15-  
1940 min 3D reflectivity observations from two type-C Doppler Weather Radars.

1941 Because of the different thermodynamic characteristics associated with Qendresa  
1942 and IOP13, a set of different verification metrics were used for each of these  
1943 extreme weather events. The Filtering method (FSS and RMSE), the ROC/AUC  
1944 and the Taylor diagram were used to verify the numerical simulations from 3DVar  
1945 and EnKF associated with IOP13. In the case of Qendresa, we used the Whisker  
1946 diagrams and the Probability Distribution of Cyclone Center Occurrence  
1947 verification scores. For the IOP13, both the Filtering method and Taylor diagram  
1948 verification show that EnKF slightly outperforms 3DVar, although the differences  
1949 are not significant. In addition, it was observed that the assimilation of spatial and  
1950 temporal high-resolution reflectivity observations significantly improved the  
1951 forecast for both 3DVar and EnKF, showing the key role of this type of  
1952 observation. On the other hand, the ROC and AUC scores clearly show that EnKF  
1953 outperforms 3DVar. For the Qendresa event, while the ensemble mean of EnKF  
1954 underestimates the intensity of the medicane compared to 3DVar, some individual  
1955 EnKF ensemble members produce more accurate results than 3DVar. This  
1956 behaviour suggests how important it is using an ensemble forecast system to  
1957 predict extreme weather events at high spatial and temporal resolution. Regarding  
1958 the cyclone's trajectory, the EnKF provides a more realistic representation of the  
1959 Qendresa's observed path.

1960 Although the EnKF technique has shown in general better performance against  
1961 the 3DVar for the two extreme weather events analyzed in this study, it is also  
1962 important to account for the computational resources required by each method.  
1963 The 3DVar requires much less computational resources than the EnKF because it  
1964 does not need to build an ensemble of considerable size, and it does not need either  
1965 to simulate model trajectories between the assimilation of a set of observations at  
1966 time  $t_1$  and the subsequent set of observations valid at  $t_2$ . This makes the 3DVar

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2057 appealing because it is much faster and cheaper than the EnKF, and it makes this  
2058 technique particularly suitable for operational purposes at the small weather  
2059 forecast centers.

2060 Another interesting result that we have shown in this study is that depending on  
2061 the level of predictability of the weather event and its sensitivity to numerical  
2062 physical parameterizations used to build the ensemble, the 3DVar performs better  
2063 than the EnKF ensemble mean. We speculated that this is linked to the way the  
2064 background error covariances from these two methods are built. Based on this, we  
2065 suppose that a better approach could be to use Hybrid error covariance models,  
2066 where the forecast error covariance matrix is obtained linearly combining the  
2067 ensemble-based error covariance from the EnKF and the static climatological  
2068 error covariance matrix from the 3DVar.

2069 Further work will investigate the impact of using hybrid DA schemes in  
2070 comparison to standard 3DVar or EnKF. In this scenario, it is expected that the  
2071 hybrid error covariance matrix will be more precise than the one derived from the  
2072 ensemble members or from climatology, which on their own are not able to  
2073 reproduce key aspects of challenging extreme weather events. High temporal and  
2074 spatial observations from Doppler Weather radars, such as reflectivity and radial  
2075 wind velocities, will be assimilated for this case to obtain accurate analysis and  
2076 thus, improve the short-range forecast of this catastrophic flash-flood event. In  
2077 addition, it is important to highlight that satellite-based data assimilation provides  
2078 a significant opportunity for enhancing convective-scale forecasting, particularly  
2079 in data-sparse maritime regions, such as the Mediterranean, where the formation  
2080 of extreme weather events like tropical-like cyclones is increasingly impacting  
2081 densely populated areas. Future studies integrating high-resolution satellite  
2082 observations, such as cloud top heights, thermodynamic profiles or cloud  
2083 properties, could further enhance the accuracy of convective-scale predictions,  
2084 improving early warning capabilities and disaster preparedness.

2085 ▲  
2086 **Acknowledgements:**  
2087 ▲

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Eliminado: As a case study, a catastrophic and deadly flash flood event affecting the Balearic Islands will be used to quantitatively assess the skill performance of the hybrid DA scheme against the EnKF and more advanced version of the 3DVar, which is known as the 4DVar.

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2116 [ECMWF data center, required to perform the high-resolution simulations](#)  
2117 [presented in this study.](#)

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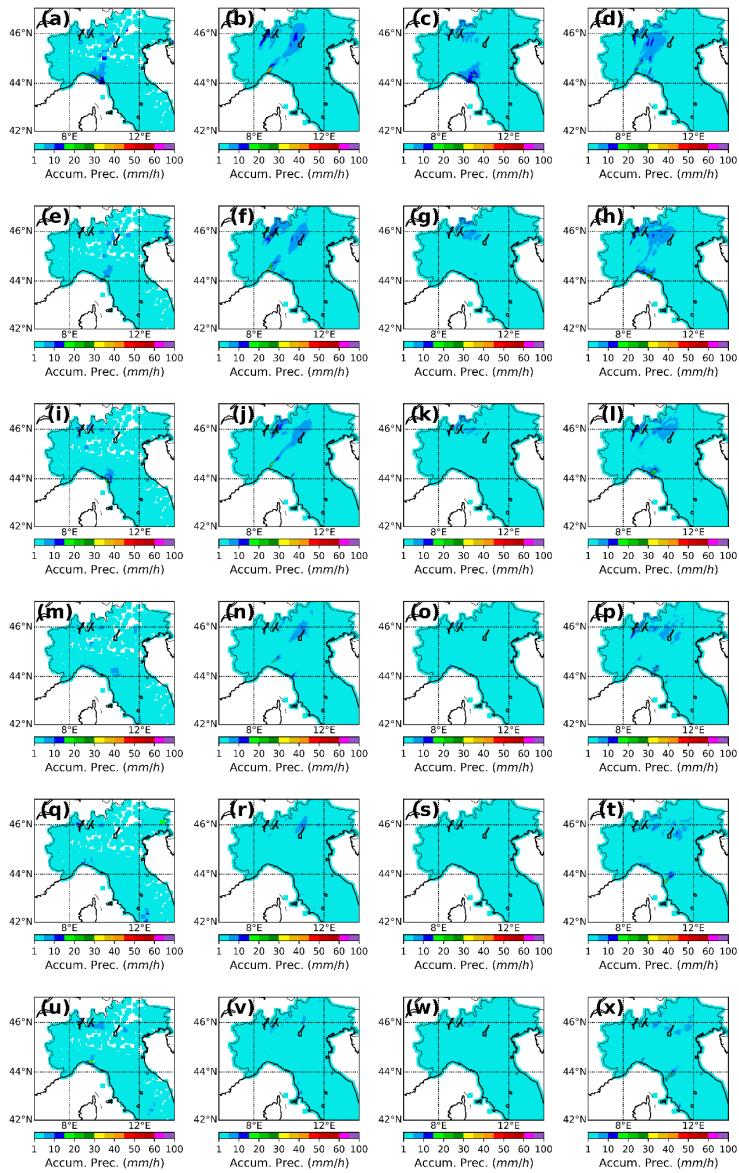
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## Appendix



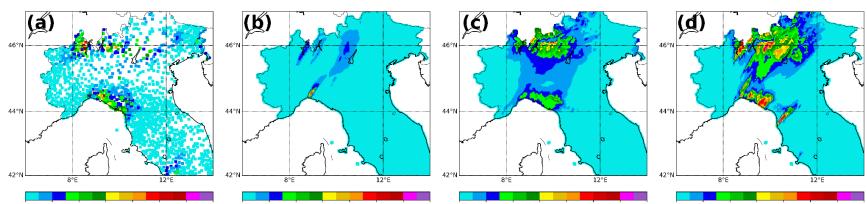
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2629 Fig. A1. 1-h accumulated precipitation computed from 00-06 UTC 15 October 2012 associated with  
2630 Observations (first column), NODA (second column), EnKF (CNTRL) (third column) and 3DVar (CNTRL)  
2631 (fourth column).

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2635 Fig. A2. 6-h accumulated precipitation computed from 00-06 UTC 15 October 2012 associated with (a)  
2636 Observations, (b) NODA, (c) EnKF (CNTRL), (d) 3DVar (CNTRL).

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## Author Contribution

2645

2646 **D. S. Carrió:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Software, Validation, Formal analysis,  
2647 investigation, writing-original draft, writing-review & editing, visualization, supervision; **V.**  
2648 **Mazzarella:** formal analysis, writing-review; **R. Ferretti:** formal analysis, writing-review,  
2649 supervision.

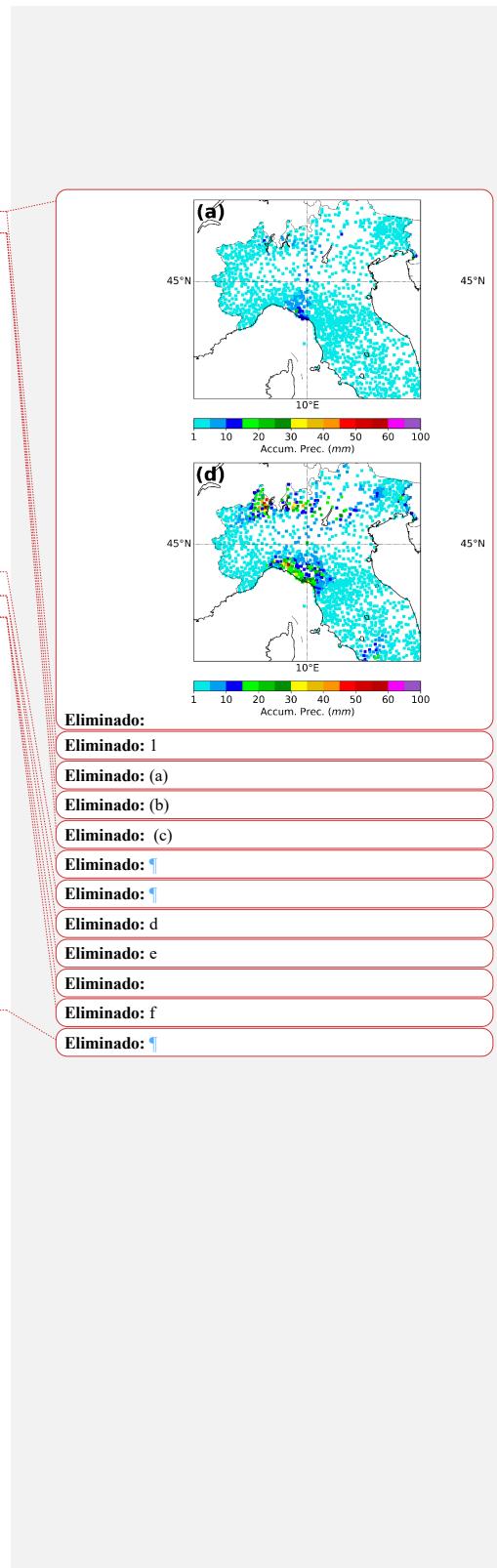
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The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.



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Página 32: [97] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [98] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [99] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [100] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [101] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [102] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [103] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [104] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [105] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [106] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [107] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [108] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [109] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [110] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [111] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [112] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [113] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [114] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00

Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 32: [115] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [116] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [117] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [118] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [119] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [120] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [121] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [122] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [123] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [124] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [125] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [126] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [127] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [128] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [129] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [130] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [131] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [132] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		

Página 32: [133] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [134] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [135] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [136] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [137] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [138] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [139] Eliminado	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	5/3/25 11:13:00
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Página 32: [140] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [141] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [142] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [143] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [144] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [145] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [146] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [147] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [148] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [149] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Superíndice / Subíndice		
Página 32: [150] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 32: [151] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00

Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Superíndice / Subíndice

Página 32: [152] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 33: [153] Eliminado	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	15/3/25 10:52:00
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Página 34: [154] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [155] Eliminado	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	6/3/25 12:06:00
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Página 34: [156] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [157] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: (Predeterminada) Times New Roman, 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [158] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: (Predeterminada) Times New Roman, 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [159] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: (Predeterminada) Times New Roman, 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [160] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: (Predeterminada) Times New Roman, 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [161] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: (Predeterminada) Times New Roman, 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [162] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [163] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [164] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [165] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar

Página 34: [166] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar

Página 34: [167] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar

Página 34: [168] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar

Página 34: [169] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar

Página 34: [170] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [171] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 34: [172] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [173] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [174] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [175] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [176] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [177] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [178] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [179] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [180] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [181] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [182] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Sin Cursiva, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [183] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [184] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul, Sin Resaltar		
Página 34: [185] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 34: [186] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 34: [187] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul		
Página 34: [188] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00

Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [189] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [190] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [191] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [192] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [193] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [194] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [195] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [196] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [197] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [198] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul

Página 34: [199] Con formato	Diego Saúl Carrió Carrió	4/3/25 13:26:00
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Fuente: 13 pto, Negrita, Color de fuente: Azul