

# Metview's new Python interface – first results and roadmap for further developments

EGOWS 2018, ECMWF



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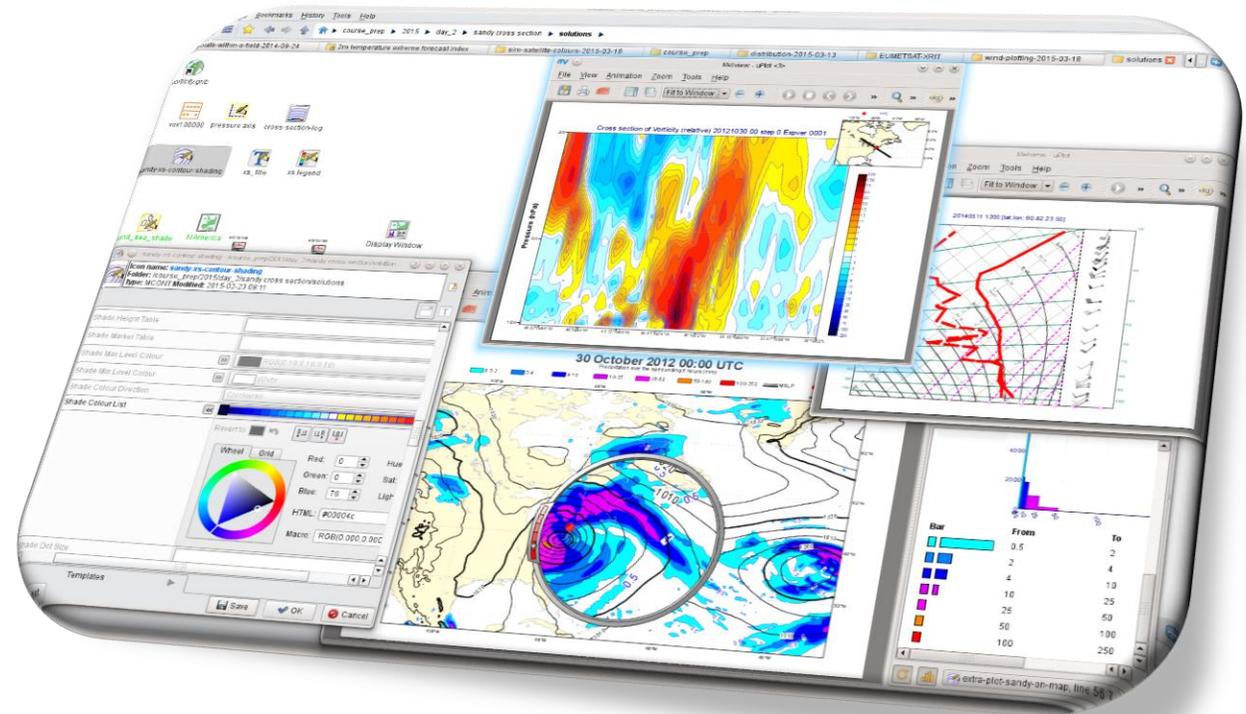
Development Section, ECMWF

Thanks to

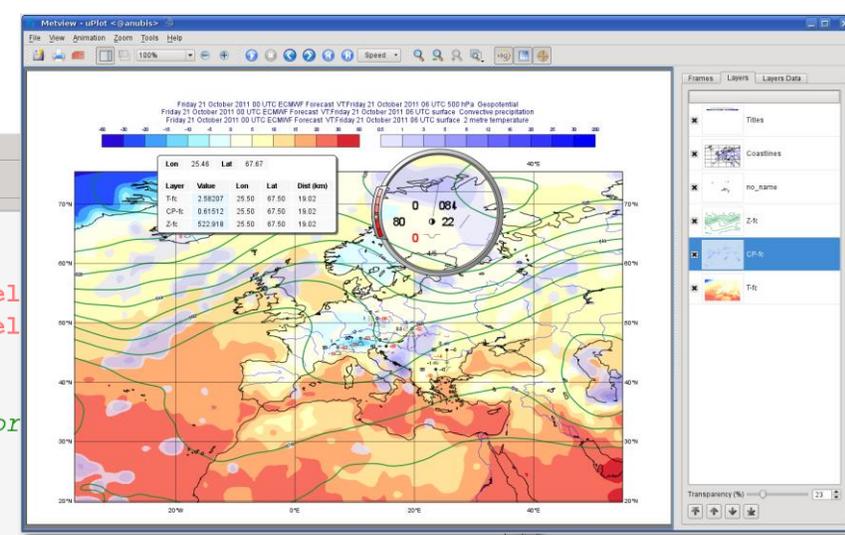
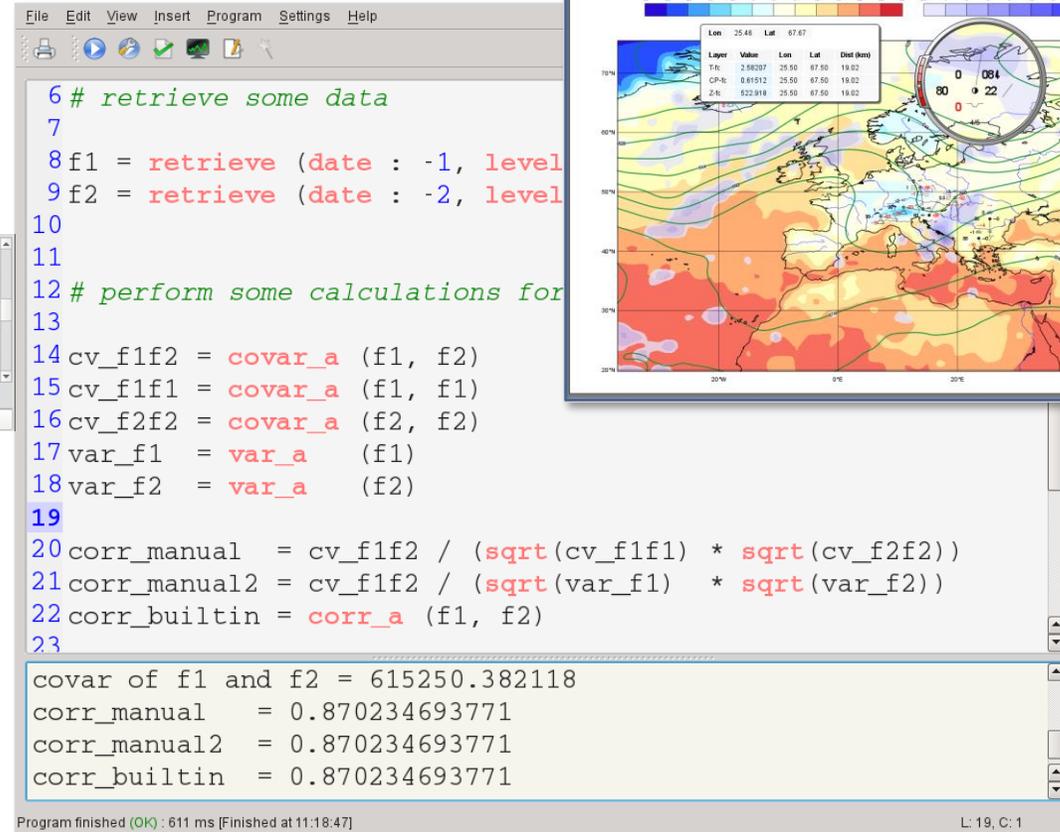
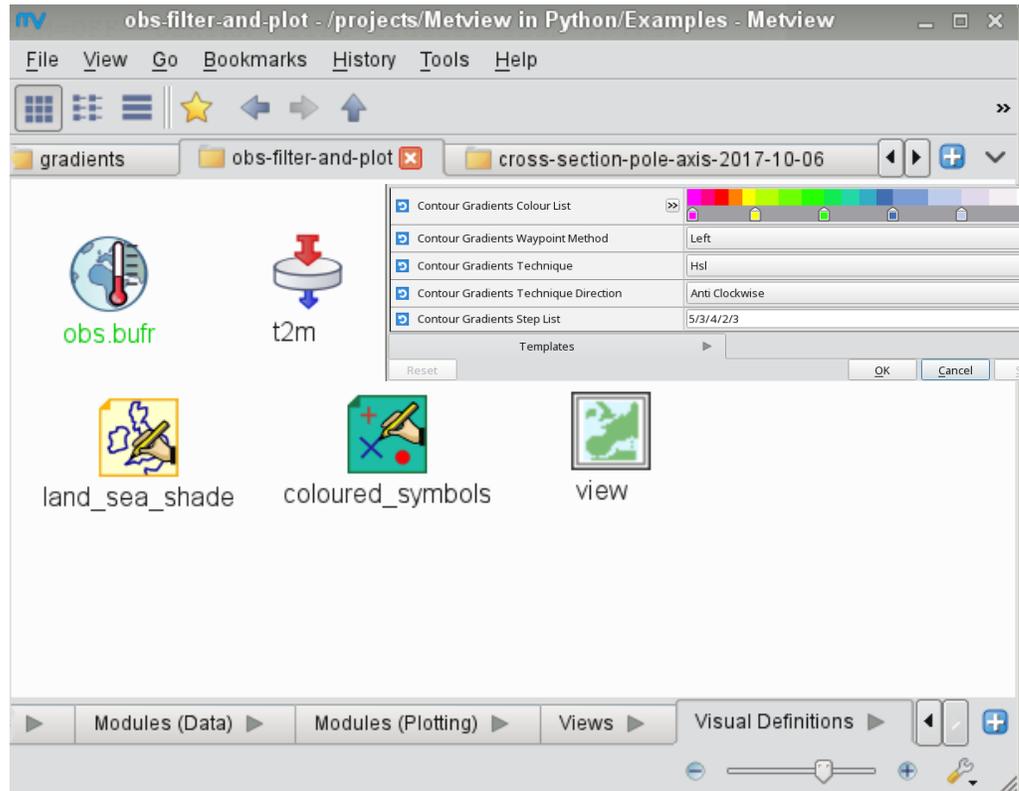
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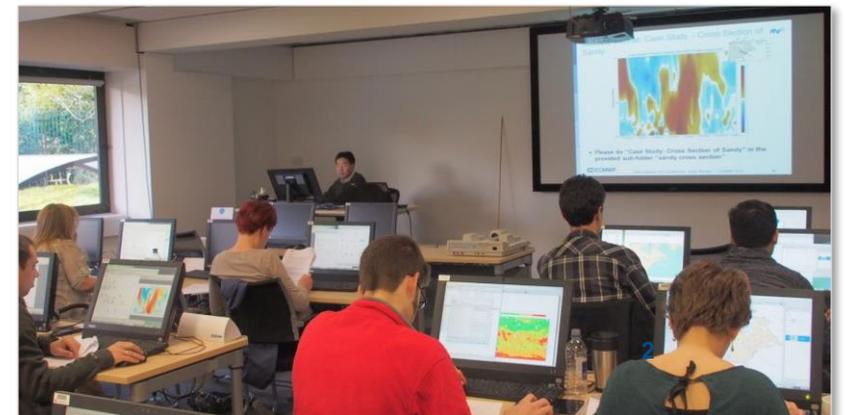
# What is Metview?



- UNIX, Open Source under Apache Licence 2.0
- Metview is a co-operation project with INPE (Brazil)



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MEDIUM-RANGE WEATHER FORECASTS

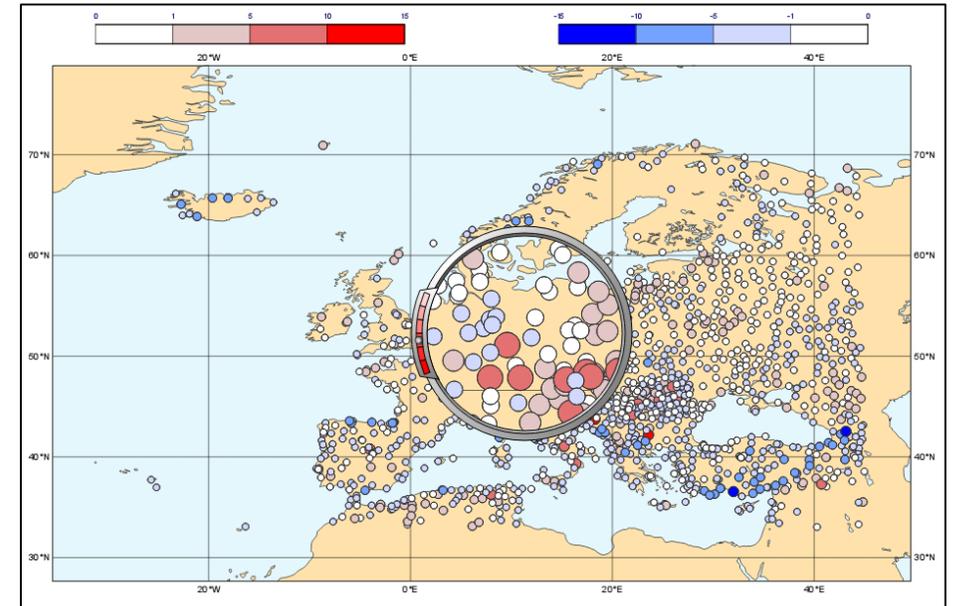


# High-level data processing with Metview Macro

- We already have the Macro language...

Forecast – observation difference:

```
forecast = retrieve (...) # GRIB from MARS
obs       = retrieve (...) # BUFR from MARS
t2m_obs  = obsfilter(data:      obs,
                    parameter: 012004,
                    output:    'geopoints')
plot(forecast - t2m_obs)
```

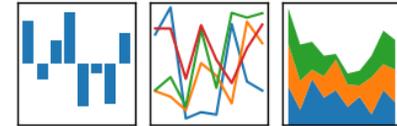


# Why create a Python interface to Metview?

- Metview's Macro language is great; Python has even more language features
- Not everyone knows Metview Macro!
  - Less learning curve for people who already know Python
  - Better for community-building
  - Learning Python is a good investment in general!
- Enable Metview to work seamlessly within the Python eco-system
  - Bring Metview's data processing and interactive data inspection tools into Python sessions ; interact with Python data structures
  - Use existing solutions where possible (e.g. for multi-dimensional data arrays, data models)
- Enable Metview to be a component of the Copernicus Climate Data Store Toolbox



pandas  
 $y_{it} = \beta' x_{it} + \mu_i + \epsilon_{it}$



# Current Status

- Alpha release (developed with B-Open)
  - Beta release just around the corner
- Available on github and PyPi
  - <https://github.com/ecmwf/metview-python>
  - `pip install metview`
- Python layer only – this still requires the Metview binaries to be installed too

The image shows two screenshots. The top screenshot is a GitHub repository page for 'ecmwf/metview-python'. It displays the repository name, navigation tabs for Code, Pull requests (0), Wiki, Insights, and Settings. Below this, it shows 'Python interface to Metview meteorological workstation and batch system'. Statistics include 339 commits, 1 branch, and 6 releases. A 'New pull request' button is visible. A commit message snippet reads: 'iainrussell XARRAY: use cfrib instead of eccodes-grib for conversion of fieldset...'. The bottom screenshot is the PyPI project page for 'metview 0.8.4'. It features a search bar, the project name 'metview 0.8.4', and a prominent button that says 'pip install metview'. Below the main content, there is a 'Navigation' section with links for 'Project description' and 'Release history', and a 'Project description' section with the text: 'Python interface to Metview meteorological workstation https://software.ecmwf.int/metview/Metview's+Python+'.

# Macro / Python comparison

Macro

Python

```
xsdifabs.mv - /home/graphics/cgi/metview/projects/Metview in Python/Ex...
File Edit View Insert Program Settings Help
[Icons]
1 # Metview Macro
2
3 t_fc24 = read('t_fc24.grib')
4 t_fc96 = read('t_fc96.grib')
5
6 diff = abs(t_fc96 - t_fc24)
7
8 pos = mcont(
9     legend                : 'on',
10    contour_level_selection_type : 'level_list',
11    contour_shade           : 'on',
12    contour_shade_method    : 'area_fill',
13    contour_shade_colour_direction : 'clockwise',
14    contour_max_level       : 10,
15    contour_min_level       : 0.5,
16    contour_level_list      : [0.5,1,2,4,10],
17    contour_shade_max_level_colour : 'red',
18    contour_shade_min_level_colour : 'orange_yellow')
19
20 xs_europe = mxsectview(line : [55,-6,43,16])
21
22 plot(xs_europe,diff,pos)
```

```
xsdifabs.py - /home/graphics/cgi/metview/projects/Metview in Python/Examples...
File Edit View Insert Program Settings Help
[Icons]
1 import metview as mv
2
3 t_fc24 = mv.read('t_fc24.grib')
4 t_fc96 = mv.read('t_fc96.grib')
5
6 absdiff = mv.abs(t_fc96 - t_fc24)
7
8 pos = mv.mcont(
9     legend                = 'on',
10    contour_level_selection_type = 'level_list',
11    contour_shade           = 'on',
12    contour_shade_method    = 'area_fill',
13    contour_shade_colour_direction = 'clockwise',
14    contour_max_level       = 10,
15    contour_min_level       = 0.5,
16    contour_level_list      = [0.5,1,2,4,10],
17    contour_shade_max_level_colour = 'red',
18    contour_shade_min_level_colour = 'orange_yellow')
19
20 xs_europe = mv.mxsectview(line = [55,-6,43,16])
21
22 mv.plot(xs_europe, absdiff, pos)
23
```

# Macro / Python comparison

Macro

Python

The image shows a side-by-side comparison of Macro and Python code for generating a contour plot. The Macro window on the left contains the following code:

```
1 # Metview Macro
2
3 t_fc24 = read('
4 t_fc96 = read('
5
6 diff = abs(t_fc
7
8 pos = mcont(
9     legend
10    contour_lev
11    contour_sha
12    contour_sha
13    contour_sha
14    contour_max
15    contour_min
16    contour_lev
17    contour_sha
18    contour_sha
19
20 xs_europe = mxs
21
22 plot(xs_europe,
```

The Python window on the right shows the equivalent code:

```
1 import metview as mv
...
24)
...
= 'on',
pe = 'level_list',
= 'on',
= 'area_fill',
tion = 'clockwise',
= 10,
= 0.5,
= [0.5, 1, 2, 4, 10],
lour = 'red',
lour = 'orange_yellow')
= [55, -6, 43, 16])
s)
```

The central window displays a contour plot of temperature data. The plot shows a color-coded map with a legend at the top. A circular zoomed-in area highlights a specific region. A data table is overlaid on the plot:

Layer	Value	X	Y
	0.577496	3.08	190.74

Below the plot is a histogram titled "Histogram (for data in visible area)". The histogram shows the distribution of data values across different layers. The legend for the histogram is as follows:

Bar	From	To	Count
Yellow	0.5	1	564
Orange	1	2	794
Red	2	4	824
Dark Red	4	10	768

# Data types (1)

- All Metview Macro functions can be called from Python, e.g. `mv.covar(f1, f2)`
- Data types returned are either standard Python types (numbers, lists, strings, datetimes), numpy arrays
- Or... thin class wrappers around more complex objects such as fieldsets, geopoints or ODB
  - Allows `a+b` on Fieldsets, etc
  - Allows thin object-oriented layer, e.g.
    - `data = mv.read('file.grib')`  
`av = mv.integrate(data) # equivalent`  
`av = data.integrate() # equivalent`

The Macro Language

- Macro syntax
- › Macro Data Types
- ▼ List of Operators and Fun...
  - Information Functions
  - The nil Operand
  - Number Functions
  - String Functions
  - Date Functions
  - List Functions
  - Vector Functions
  - **Fieldset Functions**
  - Geopoints Functions
  - NetCDF Functions
  - ODB Functions
  - Table Functions
  - Observations Functions
  - Definition Functions
  - File I/O Functions
  - Timing Functions
  - UNIX Interfacing Functi...
  - Macro System Functio...

Note that the following lines are equivalent, although the first is more efficient:

```
z = corr_a (x, y)
z = covar_a (x, y) / (sqrt(var_a(x)) * sqrt(var_a(y)))
```

fieldset **coslat** ( fieldset )

For each field in the input fieldset, this function creates a field where each value is the cosine of the latitude of the field.

fieldset **covar** ( fieldset,fieldset )

Computes the covariance of two fieldsets. With n fields in the input fieldsets, the i-th value of the resulting field, the formula can be written :

$$z_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n x_i^k y_i^k - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n x_i^k \sum_{k=1}^n y_i^k$$

Note that the following lines are equivalent:

```
z = covar(x,y)
z = mean(x*y) - mean(x)*mean(y)
```

A missing value in either input fieldset will result in a missing value in the output fieldset.

number or list **covar\_a** ( fieldset,fieldset )  
number or list **covar\_a** ( fieldset,fieldset,list )

Computes the covariance of two fieldsets over a weighted area. The area is specified, the whole field will be used in the calculation. The result is a number or list.

list **datainfo** ( fieldset )

## Data types (2)

- Can also export Metview Geopoints (and BUFR via the filter), ODB and Table data types to **pandas** Dataframes (table-like format, common in scientific data processing)
- Example: load a geopoints file with forecast-obs differences (generated earlier), convert to Pandas Dataframe and plot a histogram of the values

jupyter fc-obs difference Last Checkpoint: 11 minutes ago (unsaved changes)

File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Widgets Help

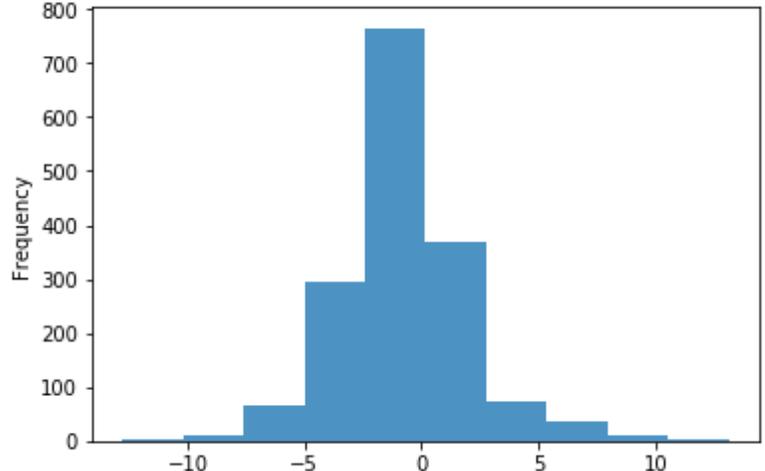
📁 + 🔍 📄 📄 ⬆️ ⬆️ ⏪ ⏹️ ⏩ Code ▾ 🗨️ CellToolbar

```
In [1]: import metview as mv
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
%matplotlib inline

In [2]: diffs = mv.read('fc_obs_diff.gpt')
df = diffs.to_dataframe()

In [3]: plt.figure();
df['value'].plot.hist(alpha=0.8)

Out[3]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7fb939b824a8>
```



A histogram showing the frequency distribution of forecast-obs differences. The x-axis is labeled 'value' and ranges from -10 to 10. The y-axis is labeled 'Frequency' and ranges from 0 to 800. The distribution is unimodal and centered around 0, with a peak frequency of approximately 750. The bars are blue.

Value Range	Frequency
-10 to -9	0
-9 to -8	0
-8 to -7	0
-7 to -6	0
-6 to -5	50
-5 to -4	100
-4 to -3	300
-3 to -2	750
-2 to -1	750
-1 to 0	750
0 to 1	350
1 to 2	350
2 to 3	100
3 to 4	100
4 to 5	50
5 to 6	50
6 to 7	50
7 to 8	50
8 to 9	50
9 to 10	50
10 to 11	0

## Data types (3)

- Example: tropical cyclone track encoded in BUFR
  - Run a filter to produce a Table (CSV)
  - Convert to pandas dataframe

```
1 import metview as mv
2 import pandas as pd
3
4 f = mv.read("tropical_cyclone.bufr")
5
6 res = mv.bufr_filter(
7     data = f,
8     output = "CSV",
9     message_index = 1,
10    custom_condition_count = 1,
11    custom_key_1 = "ensembleMemberNumber",
12    custom_value_1 = 2,
13    parameter_count = 1,
14    parameter_1 = "pressureReducedToMeanSeaLevel",
15    extract_mode = "all"
16 )
17
18 df=res.to_dataframe()
19 print(df)
```

	date	latitude	level	longitude	value
0	2015-11-18	5.4	0.0	156.9	100000.0
1	2015-11-18	6.3	0.0	155.8	100000.0
2	2015-11-18	6.8	0.0	154.6	100300.0
3	2015-11-18	7.7	0.0	153.8	100100.0
4	2015-11-18	8.2	0.0	152.1	100300.0
5	2015-11-18	8.8	0.0	151.3	100000.0
6	2015-11-18	9.4	0.0	150.7	100300.0
7	2015-11-18	9.9	0.0	149.9	100100.0
8	2015-11-18	10.2	0.0	148.7	100300.0

Program finished (OK) : 567 ms [Finished at 13:22:45]

## Data types (4)

- Can also export Metview Fieldsets to **xarray** Datasets (N-dimensional array (data cube) based on Pandas)
  - Provides data in the Common Data Model used by netCDF and the CDS
- Uses the **cfgrib** package developed by B-Open, available on github and PyPi:
- *“Python interface to map GRIB files to the NetCDF Common Data Model following the CF Conventions.”*
- This has an xarray GRIB driver, which is in the process of being integrated into the main xarray package

jupyter grib-xarray-plot-t2m-d2m Last Checkpoint: 12 minutes ago (autosaved)

File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Help

Code

```
In [1]: import metview as mv
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import xarray as xr
%matplotlib inline
```

```
In [6]: t = mv.read('./t2m_td.grib')
t = t - 273.16
ds = t.to_dataset()
print(ds)
```

<xarray.Dataset>  
Dimensions:  
Coordinates:  
 number  
 time  
 \* step  
 surface  
 \* latitude  
 \* longitude  
 valid\_time  
Data variables:  
 t2m  
 d2m  
Attributes:  
 GRIB\_edit  
 GRIB\_cent  
 GRIB\_cent

```
In [7]: # plot histograms of t2m and t2d
ds['t2m'].plot(alpha=0.5)
ds['d2m'].plot(alpha=0.5)
```

```
Out[7]: (array([ 1897.,  8675., 24396., 15599., 16115., 42512., 99148.,
106508., 99795., 125895.]),
array([ -67.63122559, -58.0996521, -48.56807861, -39.03650513,
-29.50493164, -19.97335815, -10.44178467, -0.91021118,
 8.6213623, 18.15293579, 27.68450928]),
<a list of 10 Patch objects>)
```

Histogram of d2m

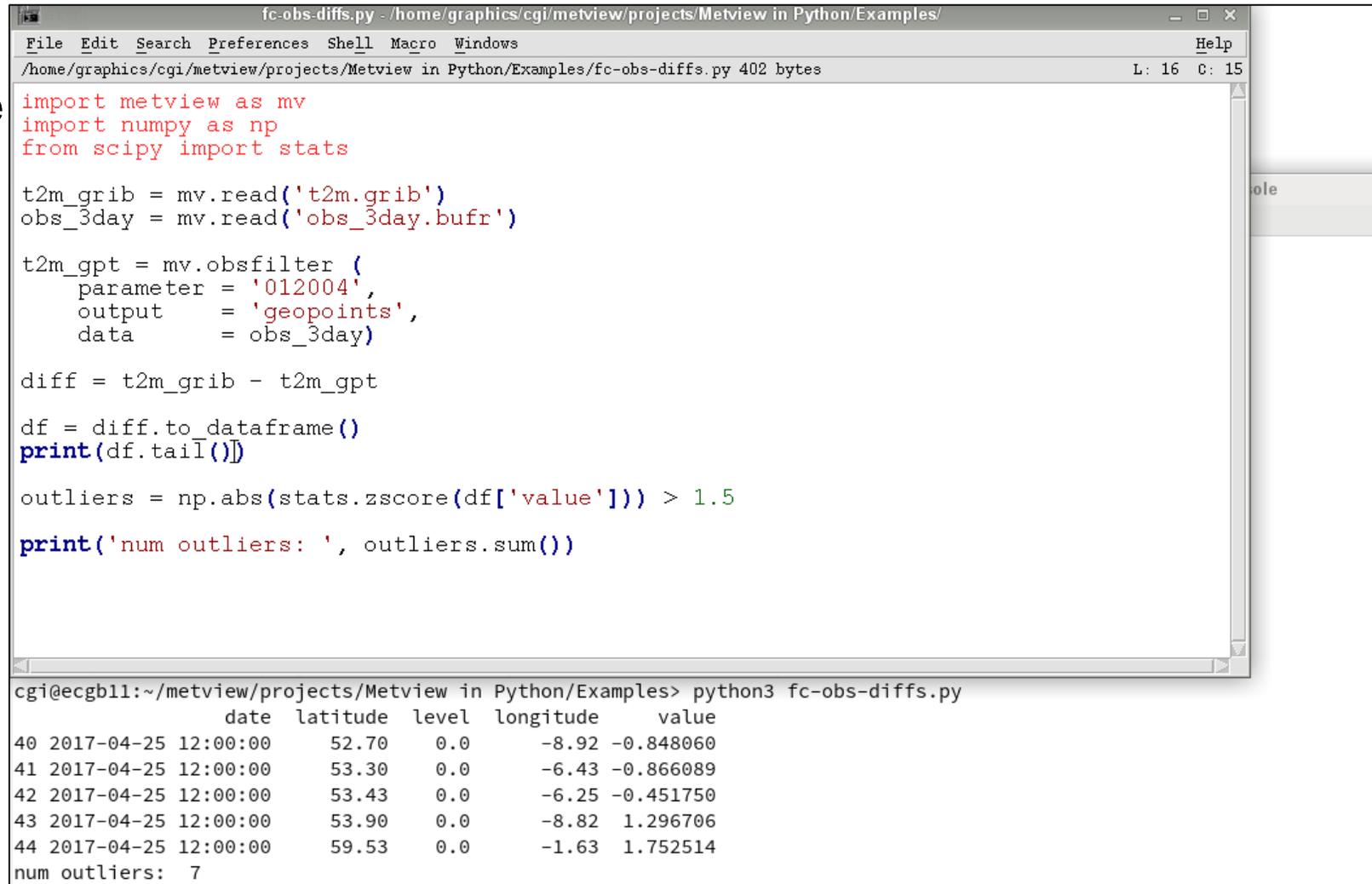
Count

120000  
100000  
80000  
60000  
40000  
20000  
0

-60 -40 -20 0 20 40

# Ways to run a Metview Python script (1)

- This is a standard Python package, so it can be run the same way as any other package, for example...
- Create a script in a text editor and run from the command line



```
fc-obs-diffs.py - /home/graphics/cgi/metview/projects/Metview in Python/Examples/
File Edit Search Preferences Shell Macro Windows Help
/home/graphics/cgi/metview/projects/Metview in Python/Examples/fc-obs-diffs.py 402 bytes L: 16 C: 15
import metview as mv
import numpy as np
from scipy import stats

t2m_grib = mv.read('t2m.grib')
obs_3day = mv.read('obs_3day.bufr')

t2m_gpt = mv.obsfilter (
    parameter = '012004',
    output     = 'geopoints',
    data       = obs_3day)

diff = t2m_grib - t2m_gpt

df = diff.to_dataframe()
print(df.tail())

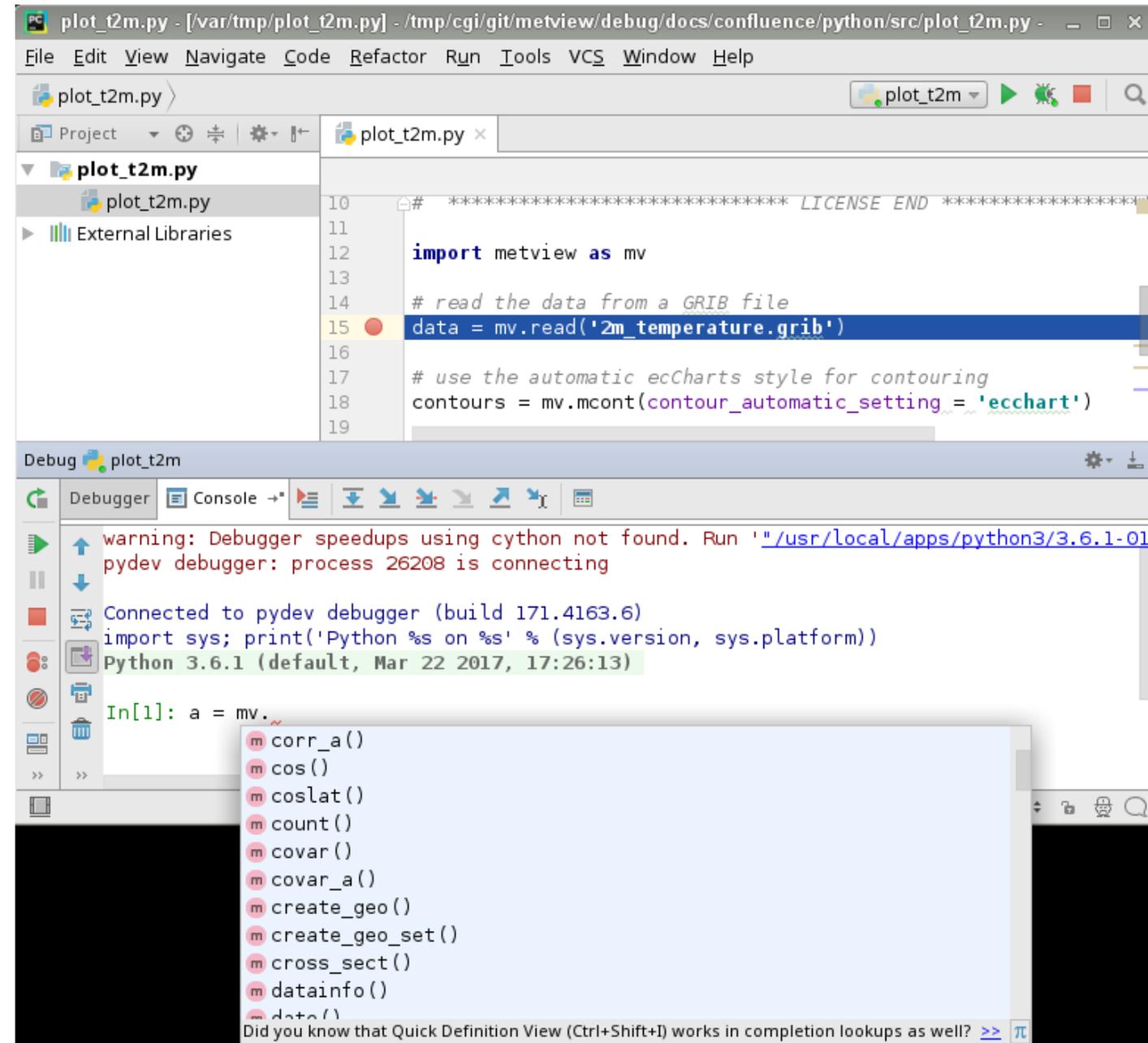
outliers = np.abs(stats.zscore(df['value'])) > 1.5

print('num outliers: ', outliers.sum())

cgi@ecgb11:~/metview/projects/Metview in Python/Examples> python3 fc-obs-diffs.py
      date  latitude  level  longitude  value
40 2017-04-25 12:00:00   52.70    0.0    -8.92 -0.848060
41 2017-04-25 12:00:00   53.30    0.0    -6.43 -0.866089
42 2017-04-25 12:00:00   53.43    0.0    -6.25 -0.451750
43 2017-04-25 12:00:00   53.90    0.0    -8.82  1.296706
44 2017-04-25 12:00:00   59.53    0.0    -1.63  1.752514
num outliers: 7
```

## Ways to run a Metview Python script (2)

- From a Python IDE, e.g. PyCharm – can provide code completion and debugging facilities



The screenshot displays the PyCharm IDE interface. The top pane shows the code editor for `plot_t2m.py` with the following content:

```
10 # ***** LICENSE END *****
11
12 import metview as mv
13
14 # read the data from a GRIB file
15 data = mv.read('2m_temperature.grib')
16
17 # use the automatic ecCharts style for contouring
18 contours = mv.mcont(contour_automatic_setting = 'ecchart')
19
```

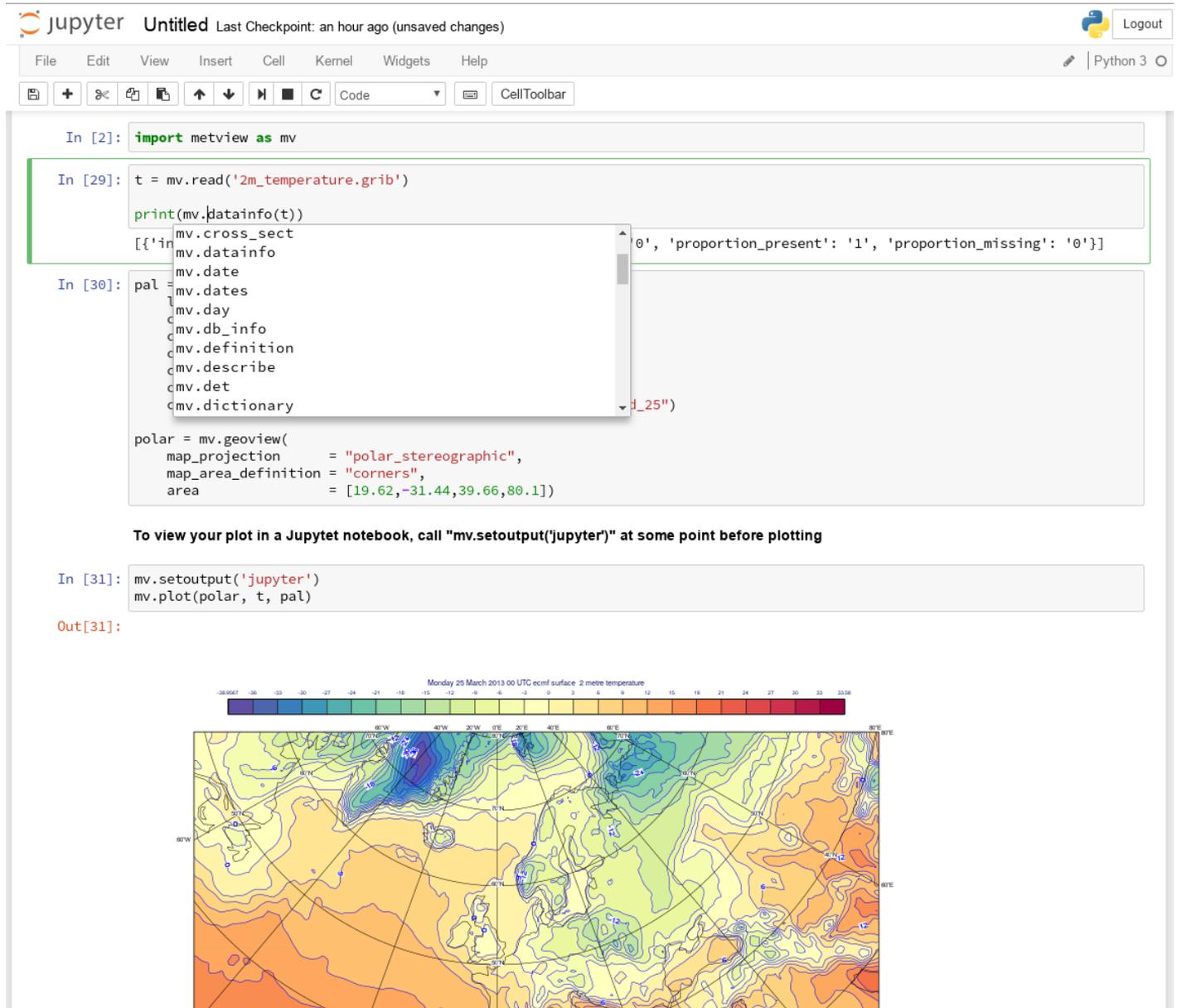
The bottom pane shows the Debug console for `plot_t2m`. The output includes:

```
warning: Debugger speedups using cython not found. Run '" /usr/local/apps/python3/3.6.1-01
pydev debugger: process 26208 is connecting
Connected to pydev debugger (build 171.4163.6)
import sys; print('Python %s on %s' % (sys.version, sys.platform))
Python 3.6.1 (default, Mar 22 2017, 17:26:13)
In[1]: a = mv.
```

A completion popup is visible for `mv.`, listing methods such as `corr_a()`, `cos()`, `coslat()`, `count()`, `covar()`, `covar_a()`, `create_geo()`, `create_geo_set()`, `cross_sect()`, `datainfo()`, and `data()`. A tooltip at the bottom right states: "Did you know that Quick Definition View (Ctrl+Shift+I) works in completion lookups as well? >> π"

# Ways to run a Metview Python script (3)

- Jupyter notebook
- Runs in a web browser
- Provides interactive environment combining code, documentation and plots
- A way of sharing and reproducing work
- The concept can be expanded using JupyterLab and JupyterHub



jupyter Untitled Last Checkpoint: an hour ago (unsaved changes) Python 3

```
In [2]: import metview as mv
```

```
In [29]: t = mv.read('2m_temperature.grib')
print(mv.datainfo(t))
[{'in': '2m_temperature.grib', 'proportion_present': '1', 'proportion_missing': '0'}]
```

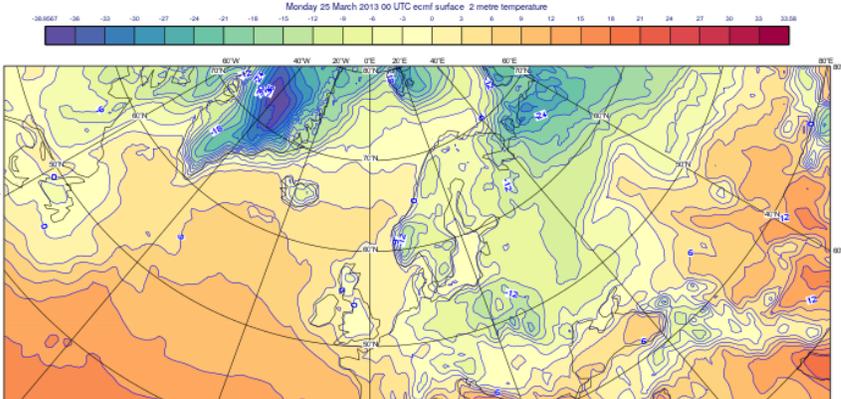
```
In [30]: pal = mv.palette(
    mv.cross_section,
    mv.date,
    mv.day,
    mv.db_info,
    mv.definition,
    mv.describe,
    mv.details,
    mv.dictionary)

polar = mv.geoview(
    map_projection = "polar_stereographic",
    map_area_definition = "corners",
    area = [19.62, -31.44, 39.66, 80.1])
```

To view your plot in a Jupyter notebook, call "mv.setoutput('jupyter')" at some point before plotting

```
In [31]: mv.setoutput('jupyter')
mv.plot(polar, t, pal)
```

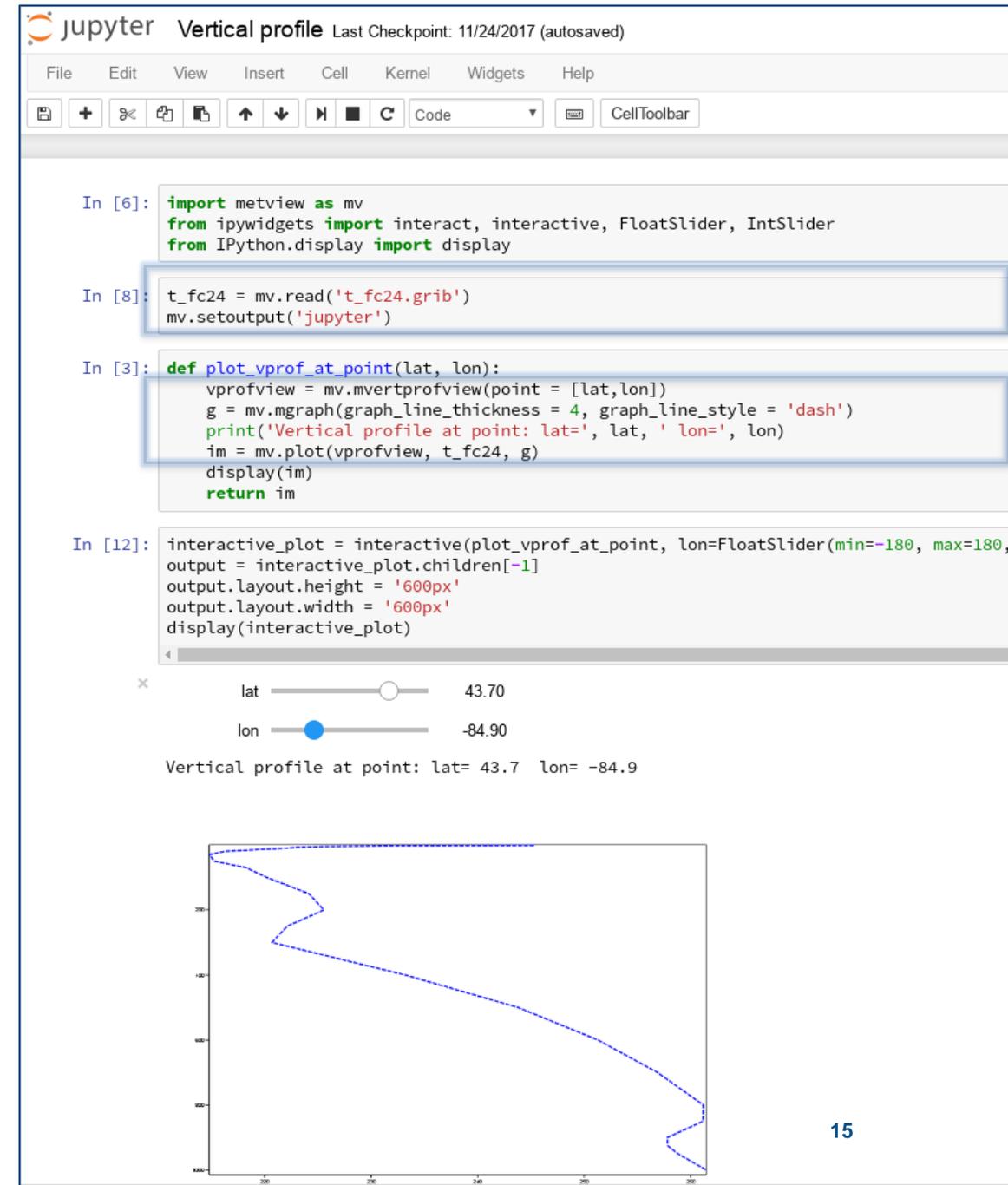
Out[31]:



Monday 20 March 2013 00 UTC ecml surface 2 metre temperature

## Ways to run a Metview Python script (4)

- Jupyter notebooks also offer some interactive tools that can be used in conjunction with Metview
- The highlighted code is Metview, the rest is boilerplate code for interactive plots in notebooks



The screenshot shows a Jupyter notebook interface with the title "Vertical profile" and a last checkpoint of "11/24/2017 (autosaved)". The notebook contains several code cells:

```
In [6]: import metview as mv
        from ipywidgets import interact, interactive, FloatSlider, IntSlider
        from IPython.display import display

In [8]: t_fc24 = mv.read('t_fc24.grib')
        mv.setoutput('jupyter')

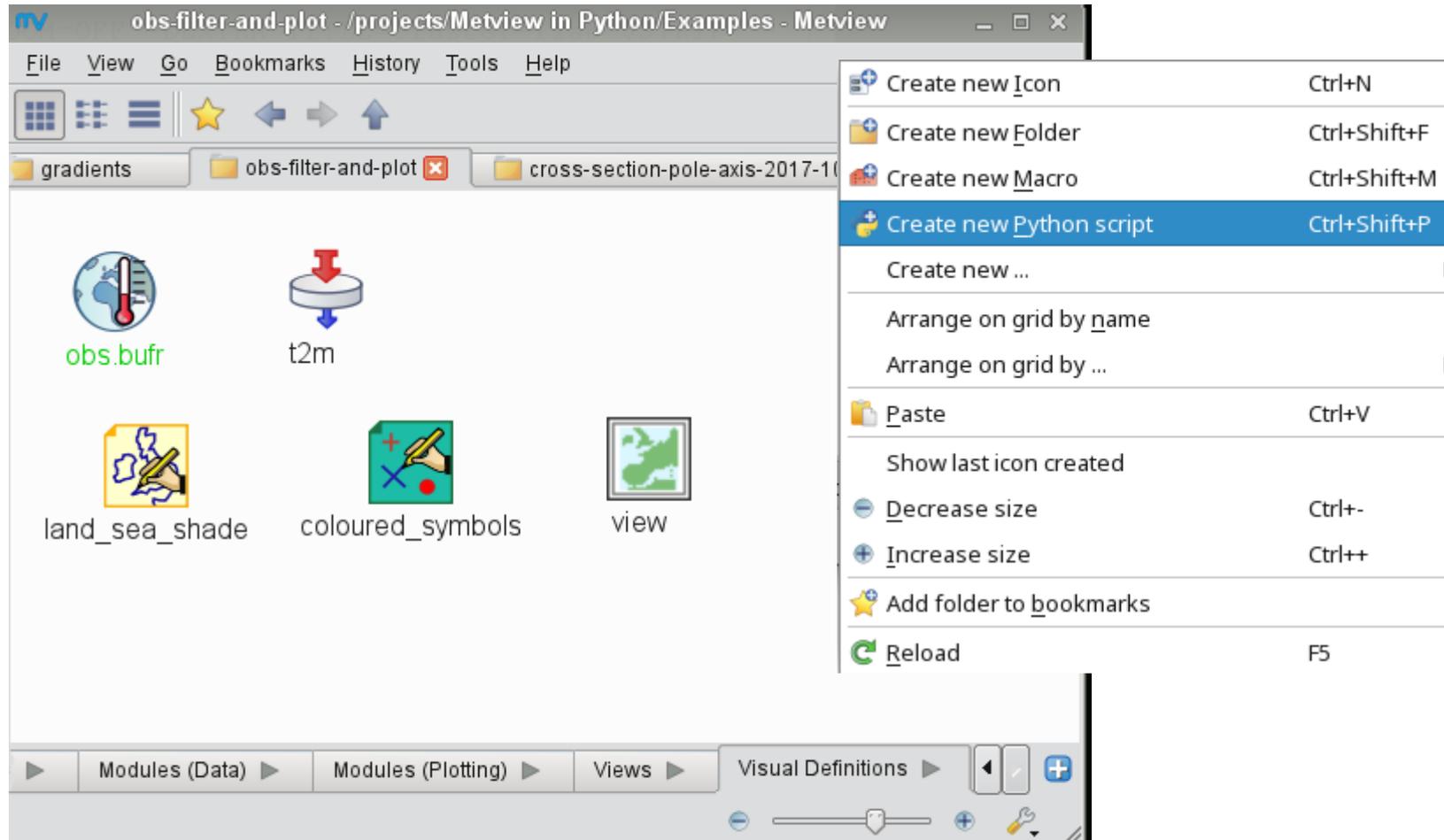
In [3]: def plot_vprof_at_point(lat, lon):
        vprofview = mv.mvertprofview(point = [lat,lon])
        g = mv.mgraph(graph_line_thickness = 4, graph_line_style = 'dash')
        print('Vertical profile at point: lat=', lat, ' lon=', lon)
        im = mv.plot(vprofview, t_fc24, g)
        display(im)
        return im

In [12]: interactive_plot = interactive(plot_vprof_at_point, lon=FloatSlider(min=-180, max=180),
        output = interactive_plot.children[-1]
        output.layout.height = '600px'
        output.layout.width = '600px'
        display(interactive_plot)
```

Below the code, there are two interactive sliders for "lat" and "lon". The "lat" slider is set to 43.70 and the "lon" slider is set to -84.90. Below the sliders, the text "Vertical profile at point: lat= 43.7 lon= -84.9" is displayed.

The plot shows a vertical profile of a variable (likely temperature) as a function of pressure (hPa) and longitude. The y-axis represents pressure in hPa, ranging from 1000 at the bottom to 100 at the top. The x-axis represents longitude, ranging from approximately 20 to 30. The plot shows a blue dashed line representing the vertical profile, which is relatively flat at the top and then shows a significant dip and recovery between 1000 and 100 hPa.

# Ways to run a Metview Python script (5)



## Ways to run a Metview Python script (5)

The image shows the Metview interface with a Python script being executed. The script defines a `geoview` and a `coloured_symbols` object. Blue arrows point from the script code to the corresponding icons in the Metview workspace.

```
17 view = mv.geoview(  
18     map_area_definition = "corners",  
19     area                 = [23.69, -31.63, 75, 50],  
20     coastlines           = land_sea_shade  
21 )  
22  
23 coloured_symbols = mv.msymb(  
24     legend                 = "on",  
25     symbol_type            = "marker",  
26     symbol_table_mode      = "advanced",  
27     symbol_outline         = "on",  
28     symbol_outline_colour  = "charcoal",  
29     symbol_advanced_table_max_level_colour = "red",  
30     symbol_advanced_table_min_level_colour = "blue",  
31     symbol_advanced_table_colour_direction = "clockwise",  
    symbol_advanced_table_height_list      = 0.4
```

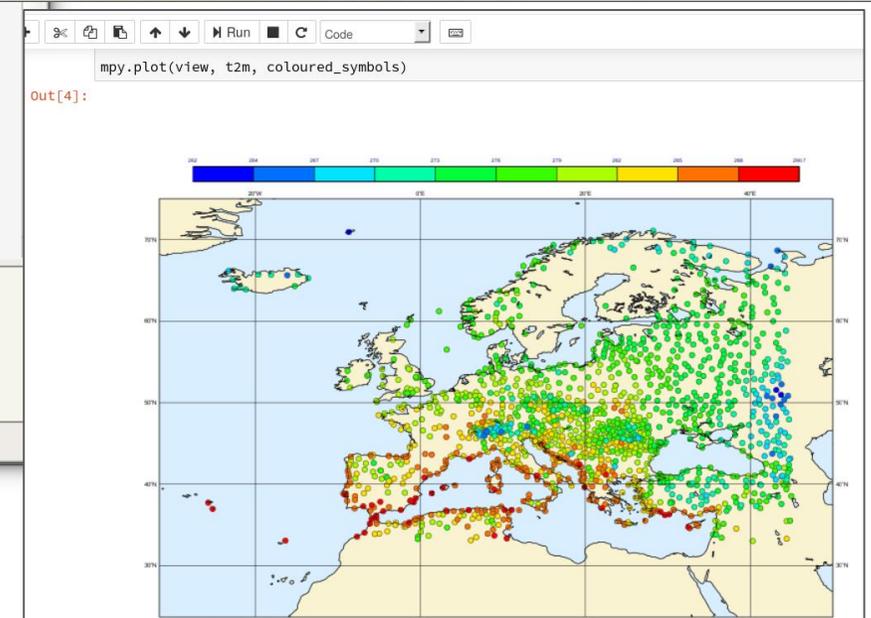
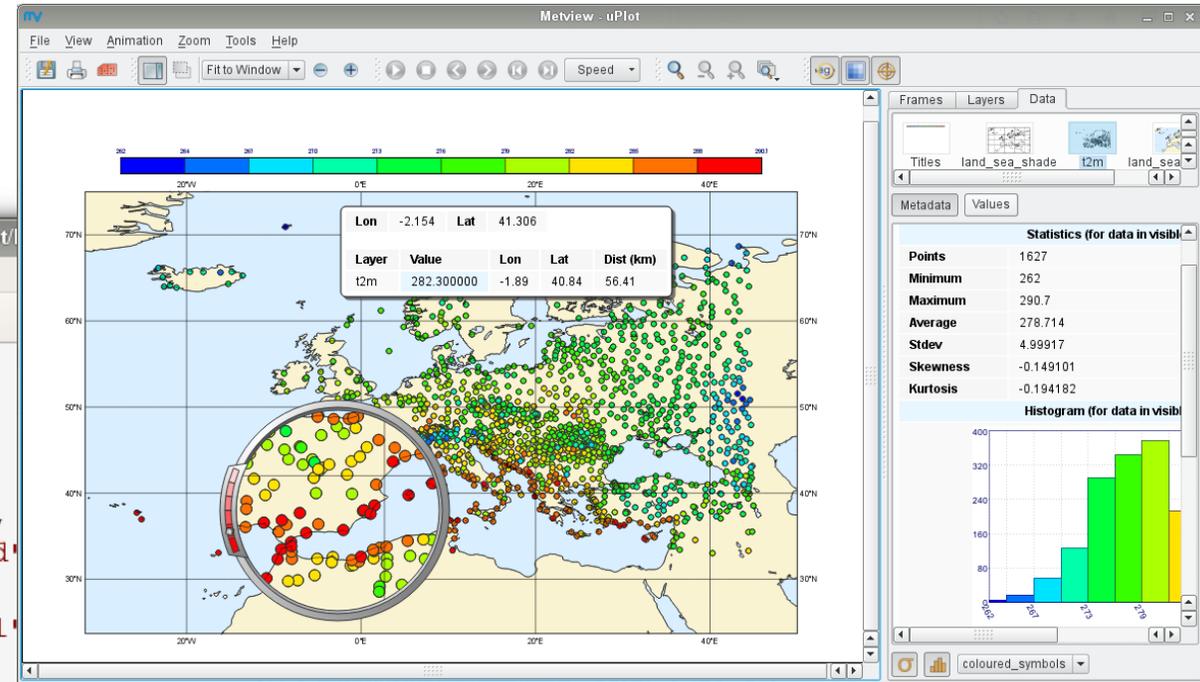
The Metview workspace shows the following icons:

- `obs.bufr` (Globe with thermometer)
- `t2m` (Red and blue cylinder)
- `Python Script.py` (Python logo)
- `land_sea_shade` (Map of Europe with pencil)
- `coloured_symbols` (Green square with pencil and symbols)
- `view` (Globe with pencil)

# Ways to run a Metview Python script (5)

```
Python Script.py - /home/graphics/cgi/metview/projects/Metview in Python/Examples/obs-filter-and-plot/
File Edit View Insert Program Settings Help
21 )
22
23 coloured_symbols = mv.msymb(
24     legend = "on",
25     symbol_type = "marker",
26     symbol_table_mode = "advanced",
27     symbol_outline = "on",
28     symbol_outline_colour = "charcoal",
29     symbol_advanced_table_max_level_colour = "red",
30     symbol_advanced_table_min_level_colour = "blue",
31     symbol_advanced_table_colour_direction = "clockwise",
32     symbol_advanced_table_height_list = 0.4
33 )
34
35 mv.plot(view, t2m, coloured_symbols)
```

File loaded L: 1, C: 1



## How to set up

- Requirements:
  - An installation of Metview 5
  - Python 3
  - Metview's python package installed

e.g. (Fedora 28)

```
dnf config-manager --add-repo
  https://download.opensuse.org/repositories/home:SStepke/Fedora_28/home:SStepke.repo
dnf install Metview # install binaries
pip install metview # install Python layer
python3 -m metview selfcheck # available in next release, 0.8.5
Hello world - printed from Metview!
Trying to connect to a Metview installation...
Metview version 5.3.0 found
Your system is ready.
```

- Ubuntu has Metview in its core repositories, but version 5 is not properly there

To run on internal ECMWF machines or ecgate:

```
module load python3/new
module swap metview/new
```

## Implementation details (1)

- We use the **cff**i package to bridge C++/Python
  - We needed to extract the Macro functions into a shared library for cffi to open
- One single source file in Metview – python.cc – with all the interface functions (extern C)
  - For passing various data types between Python and Macro
  - For pushing function operands onto the stack
  - For calling Macro functions (by name)
  - The Python module has the corresponding header file
- Macro has a function that returns a list of its functions
  - Create a Python function for each
  - Put into the module namespace
  - So we can add new functions to Macro, and the Python module will automatically see them (no need to update the Python layer)

```
extern "C" {  
    // Macro/Python interface functions here  
    // ...  
    void p_push_number(double n) // pass number from Python to Macro  
    {  
        // implementation ...  
    }  
    double p_value_as_number(Value *val) // pass number from Macro to Python  
    {  
        // implementation ...  
    }  
    // ...  
}
```

## Implementation details (2)

- But... Metview has a service-oriented architecture – how are services run and managed from Python?
- A suitable version of Metview must be in the PATH
  - The Python code starts a lightweight Metview session and links to the shared library
  - This allows the Macro functions to invoke other Metview modules (e.g. Cross Section, uPlot) and return their results
  - Not necessary if run from a Metview session!
- A little extra magic required here and there, e.g. to pass plots to Jupyter notebooks
- **`import metview`**
- Faster import - we noticed that importing some modules was quite slow (e.g. IPython for detecting the Jupyter environment), so we only import when actually needed

# Tricky things

- Indexing

- Macro uses 1 as its base index, Python uses 0
- There is now extra code into Metview's binaries and the Python layer to handle this
  - Macro: `first_field = my_fields[1]`
  - Python: `first_field = my_fields[0]`
  - Macro: `print(search('Where is this', 'this'))` # 3
  - Python: `print(mv.search('Where is this', 'this'))` # 2

- Keeping version independence

- Users should be able to update either the Metview binaries or its Python layer without updating the other
- Try to keep the interface functions as generic as possible
- New data types in Metview will require a little code in the Python layer
- We currently don't force a particular Metview version (apart from  $\geq 5.0$ ), but a change in the interface functions (as opposed to additions) could prompt it

# Documentation

- Currently consists largely of a conversion guide from Macro to Python, a description of new features, plus a gallery of examples with both Macro and Python code

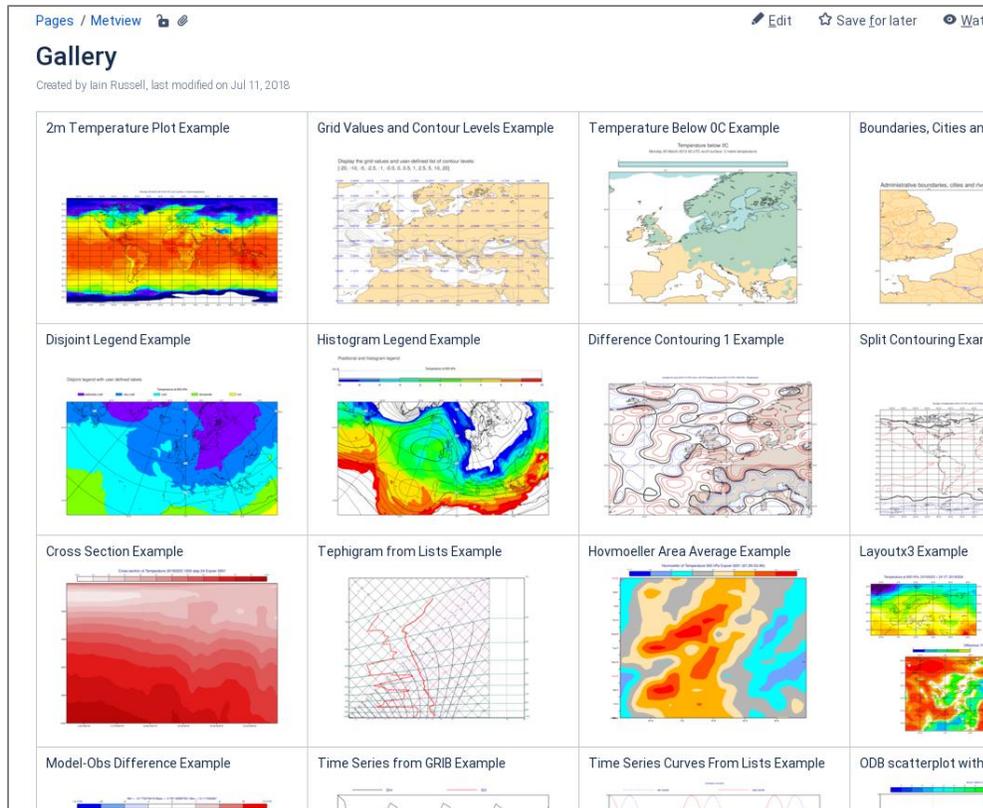
Macro	Python	Notes
definition	dictionary	
nil	None	

Additional data export features

**NumPy arrays**

Any Metview function that normally returns a vector will return a numPy array when called from Py arrays:

```
a = mv.read('my_data.grib') # returns a Fieldset
lats = mv.lattitudes(a) # returns a numPy array
lons = mv.longitudes(a) # returns a numPy array
vals = mv.values(a) # returns a numPy array
```



**Pandas Dataframes**

The `Geopoints` data type has an addit...

```
import metview as mv
import pandas as pd

gpt = mv.read("gpts.gpt") #
df = gpt.to_dataframe() #
```

Pages / ... / Metview's Python Interface

## Developing and Running Metview Python Scripts

Created by Iain Russell, last modified on May 16, 2018

Here are some different ways that you can use Metview's Python interface. Make sure you have set up yo

- [Text editor and command line](#)
- [Python IDE](#)
- [Jupyter notebook](#)
- [A Metview session](#)

**Text editor and command line**

Perhaps the simplest - just use any text editor to edit the Python code and run it from the command line,

```
python3 my_metv_python_script.py
```

**Python IDE**

Python IDEs, such as PyCharm, provide an interactive environment and even debugging facilities.

The screenshot shows a Python IDE interface with a code editor on the left and a console/output window on the right. The code in the editor includes imports for 'metview' and 'pandas', and a call to 'mv.read()' to load data. The console shows the output of the code execution.

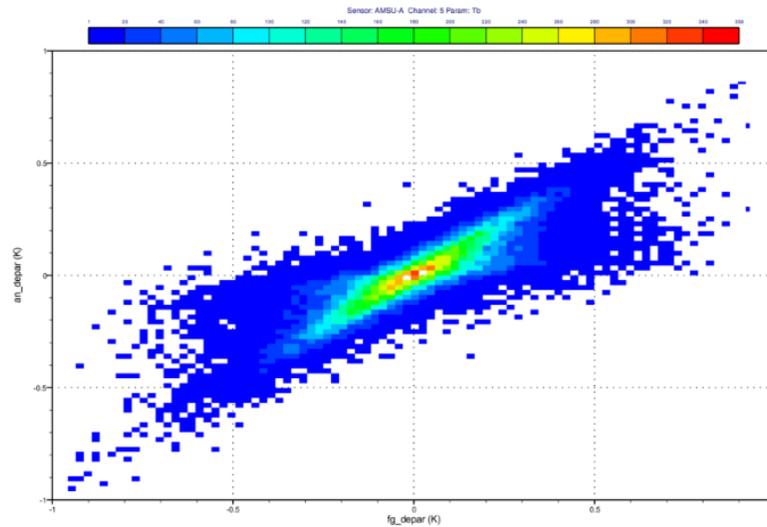
# Gallery example

[Download source and data](#)  
[odb\\_scatterplot\\_binning.tar.gz](#)

[Pages](#) / [Metview](#) / [Gallery](#)

## ODB scatterplot with binning Example

Created by Iain Russell, last modified on Sep 26, 2018



Macro [Python](#)

### ODB scatterplot with binning Example

```
# Metview Example

# ***** LICENSE START *****
#
# Copyright 2018 ECMWF. This software is distributed under the terms
# of the Apache License version 2.0. In applying this license, ECMWF does not
# waive the privileges and immunities granted to it by virtue of its status as
# an Intergovernmental Organization or submit itself to any jurisdiction.
#
# ***** LICENSE END *****

# -----
# Tags: ODB, Cartesian
# Title: ODB scatterplot with binning
# Description: Demonstrates how to generate a scatterpot from ODB
#             using binning.
# -----

import metview as mv

# ODB MARS retrieval - for AMSUA channel 5 (all satellites)
db = mv.retrieve(
    type      = "mfb",
    repres    = "bu",
    obsgroup  = "amsua",
    time      = 00,
    date      = -2,
    filter    = "select an_depar@body, fg_depar@body " +
               "where vertco_reference_1=5"
)
```

# Reaching out

- Metview, with its Python interface, is in the Copernicus CDS Toolbox
- We are also exploring ways to harmonise verification efforts across ECMWF with Metview supplying the core functionality (MARS, fieldsets, observations, ...) - part of a drive for having fewer packages to maintain

The screenshot displays the Copernicus CDS Toolbox editor interface. At the top, the Copernicus logo and 'Climate Change Service' are visible. The main area is divided into a 'Toolbox editor' on the left and a code editor on the right. The code editor shows a Python script for 'xsect' that uses the 'cdstoolbox' library to generate a cross-section plot. The script includes the following code:

```
1 from cdstoolbox import app
2 from cdstoolbox.tools import cds
3
4 @app.application(title='Metview cross-section')
5 @app.output.figure()
6 def application():
7     data = cds.services.mars(param='t',
8                             date='2012-01-01',
9                             levelist='all',
10
```

The resulting plot, titled 'Metview cross-section', shows a cross-section of temperature for 20120101 at 1300 h. The plot features a color scale from blue (low temperature) to red (high temperature) and a 'Show debug' button. Below the plot, there is a section titled 'Climate bulletins' with the text: 'Through our monthly maps, we present the current condition of the climate using key climate change indicators that are produced.' This section includes links for 'HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LATEST MONTHLY SUMMARIES', 'MONTHLY CLIMATE UPDATE', 'FEATURED STORY', and 'MONTHLY SUMMARY'. A specific highlight for '4TH OCTOBER 2018' is shown, featuring a world map and a temperature anomaly map for September 2018 relative to 1981-2010. The temperature anomaly map shows a color scale from -11 to 11 degrees Celsius. A list of bullet points is partially visible: 'Most of E...', 'overall fo...', 'regions th...', 'Iceland, I...', and 'Globally i...'. The bottom right corner of the plot area shows the app version: 'App version: 2.4.0 -- build: 82b6f1a (2018-3-5 10:28:19)'.

# Feedback

- Feedback has so far been very positive
- We have some enthusiastic users: “It combines all the power of Metview with all the power of Python!” (internal user to Iain, Oct 2018)
- As is often the case, we only hear from users if they encounter a problem, but log files suggest quite a lot of activity

```
123
124 ##### read in the MSLP analysis for calculation of surface pressure #####
125 mslpan = mv.read("/path/to/data/msl_elda_bg_"+datein+"_"+timein+".grb")
126
127 ##### read in the 2m temperature #####
128 t2m_an = mv.read("/path/to/data/t2m_elda_bg_"+datein+"_"+timein+".grb")
129
130
131 ## loop through the EDA members ##
132 for iens in range(0,1): #26
133
134     ##### q #####
135     if(typein == "obs"): valsq = mv.values(data_q, 'obsvalue_'+str(iens)) ; valsq[valsq < 0] = 0
136     if(typein == "bgd"): valsq = mv.values(data_q, 'obsvalue_'+str(iens))-mv.values(data_q, 'fg_depar_'+str(iens))
137     temp = np.column_stack((latq,lonq)) ; temp = np.column_stack((temp,levelq))
138     dfq = pd.DataFrame(data=temp, columns=['lat', 'lon', 'level'])
139     dfq['q'] = valsq
140     dfq['date'] = dateq
141     dfq['time'] = timeq
142     dfq = dfq.loc[(dfq['level'] > 70000)]
143
144
145     ##### u #####
```

## Future

- Release beta version in October 2018
  - Advertise more widely to get more feedback
- Release version 1.0.0 – end of 2018?
  
- Provide tools for automatic translation from Macro to Python
- Improve information available for IDEs (e.g. function descriptions)
  
- Investigate **conda** for packaging Metview's binaries and the Python layer together
  
- Use Metview's Python interface as a base layer for a new verification toolkit (some work already underway)
- Work more closely with the CDS Toolbox and other ECMWF Python frameworks

# For more information...

- Email us:
  - Developers: [metview@ecmwf.int](mailto:metview@ecmwf.int)
  - Support: [software.support@ecmwf.int](mailto:software.support@ecmwf.int)
- Visit our web pages:
  - <http://confluence.ecmwf.int/metview>
- Download (Metview source, binaries)
- Documentation and tutorials available
- Metview articles in ECMWF newsletters
- e-Learning material
- Download Metview's Python interface:
  - pip install metview
  - <https://github.com/ecmwf/metview-python>

Questions?

