

LDMZ tutorial: physics

LMDZ team

December 7th, 2020

This tutorial focuses on switching between different physics parametrizations in LMDZ.
This document can be downloaded as a pdf file:

```
wget http://www.lmd.jussieu.fr/~lmdz/pub/Training/Tutorials/Tutorial_Physics.pdf
```

which should ease any copy/paste of command lines to issue.

1 Prerequisites

You should be familiar with setting up simulations, as described in tutorials #1 and #2.

2 Switching between physics parametrizations

You can change the parameters of the model that are set up in the `.def` files and run new simulations without having to compile the model again. This is very convenient to test different parameterizations.

You will run a simulation with modified `.def` files.

- Create a new simulation folder in TUTORIAL :

```
mkdir SIMU1_test1
```

- Prepare the folder with the needed files (or links to files) :

The simulation will start from initial files produced by SIMU1. If you performed another optional tutorial exercise, you might already have a `start.nc` and a `startphy.nc` file in SIMU1. If you don't have them, rename the `SIMU1/restart*` files :

```
mv SIMU1/restart.nc SIMU1/start.nc
mv SIMU1/restartphy.nc SIMU1/startphy.nc
```

In `SIMU1_test1` , create links to the `limit.nc` and `start*` files that are in SIMU1:

```
cd SIMU1_test1
ln -s ../SIMU1/start.nc .
ln -s ../SIMU1/startphy.nc .
ln -s ../SIMU1/limit.nc .
```

If you used `veget=1`, you must also create a link called `sechiba_rest_in.nc` pointing to the `../SIMU0/sechiba_rest_out.nc` file:

```
ln -s ../SIMU0/sechiba_rest_out.nc sechiba_rest_in.nc+
```

Copy from SIMU1 all the `*.def` files from, except for those beginning with `used_` :

```
cp ../SIMU1/*.def .
rm -f used_*.def
```

ATTENTION : In case you re-run the simulation (in the same folder), make sure to remove the `sechiba_rest_out.nc` file in the folder, or the model will stop with an error (STOP 1).

- In your new directory `SIMU1_test1`, in file `physiq.def`, change the boundary layer parameterization by deactivating the Mellor and Yamada scheme (a scheme for the boundary layer based on a prognostic equation for the Turbulent Kinetic Energy):

```
iflag_pbl = 1
```

instead of the nominal value 12 (which corresponds to the Mellor-Yamada variant for very stable planetary boundary layer and exact dissipation, with vertical diffusion off q2). Thus, you will switch to the "Standard Physics" (SP, LMDZ5A).

- Run the model in `SIMU1_test1`, using the executable `gcm.e` available in TUTORIAL :

```
../gcm.e
```

- Compare the results of `SIMU1` and `SIMU1_test1`. You can use a convenient command called `ncdiff` to directly compute the difference between the two NetCDF files in a new file (provided that the 2 files have the same number of timesteps):

```
ncdiff ../SIMU1/histday.nc histday.nc histday_diff.nc
```

- Another test you can try is to deactivate the thermal plume model:

```
iflag_thermals=0
```

instead of the nominal value 18.

Remember that you can modify the content or time frequency of the output files if you want to focus on a particular question.