



An Online-Trajectory Module for the COSMO Model

Annette K. Miltenberger¹, Stephan Pfahl¹ and Heini Wernli¹

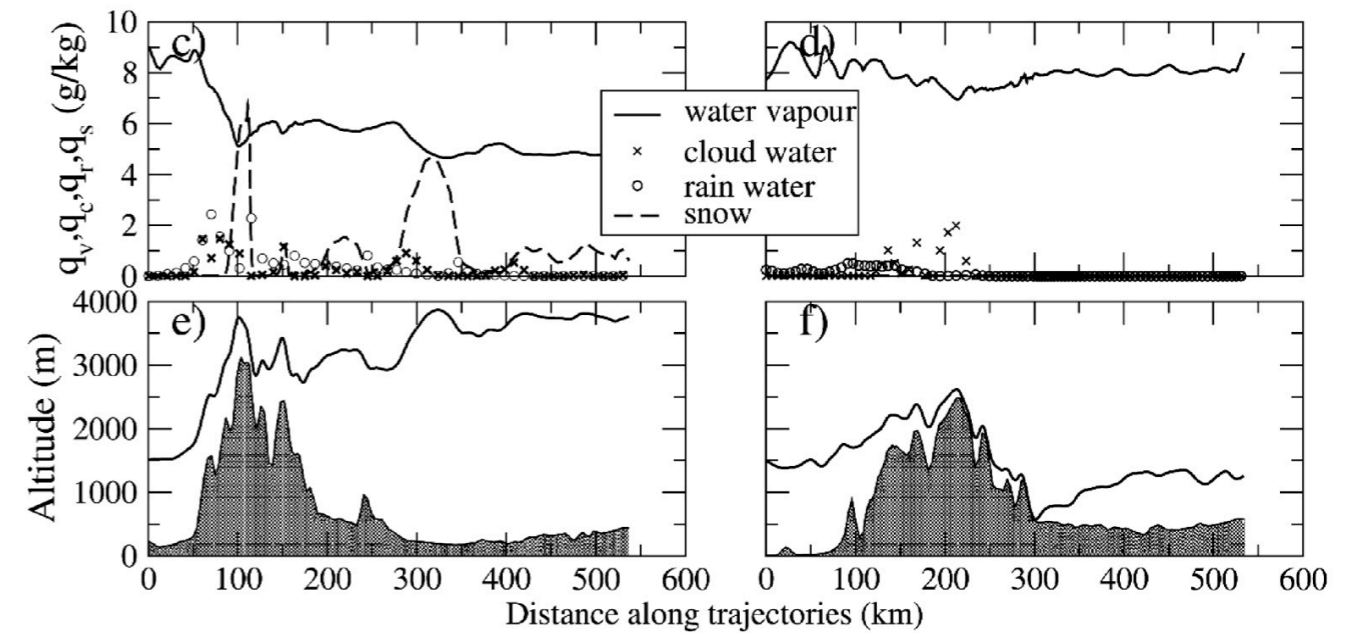
¹ *Institute for Atmospheric and Climate Science, ETH Zurich*

published in GMDD 6, 1223 - 1257 (2013)

ETH

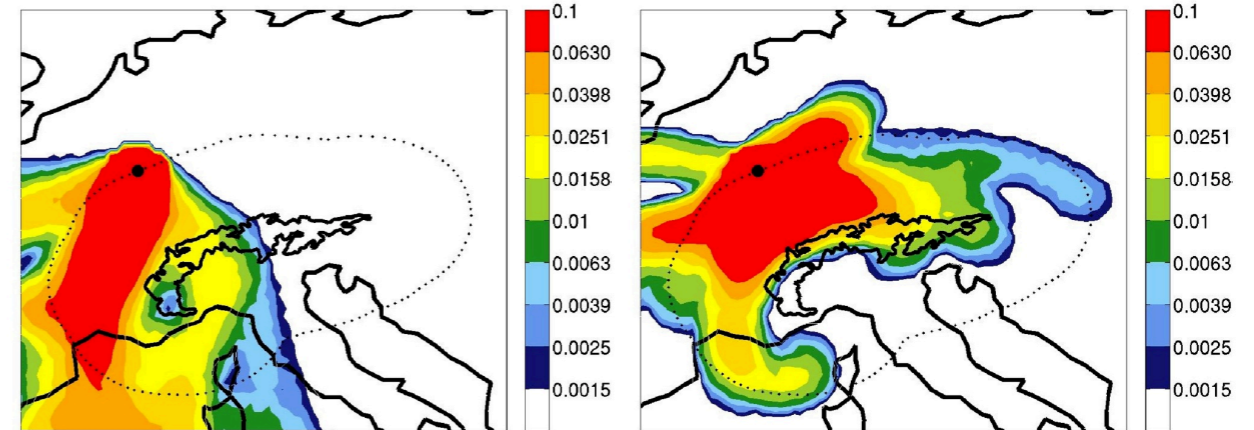
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Föhn - air mass transformation & precipitation (Smith et al., 2003)



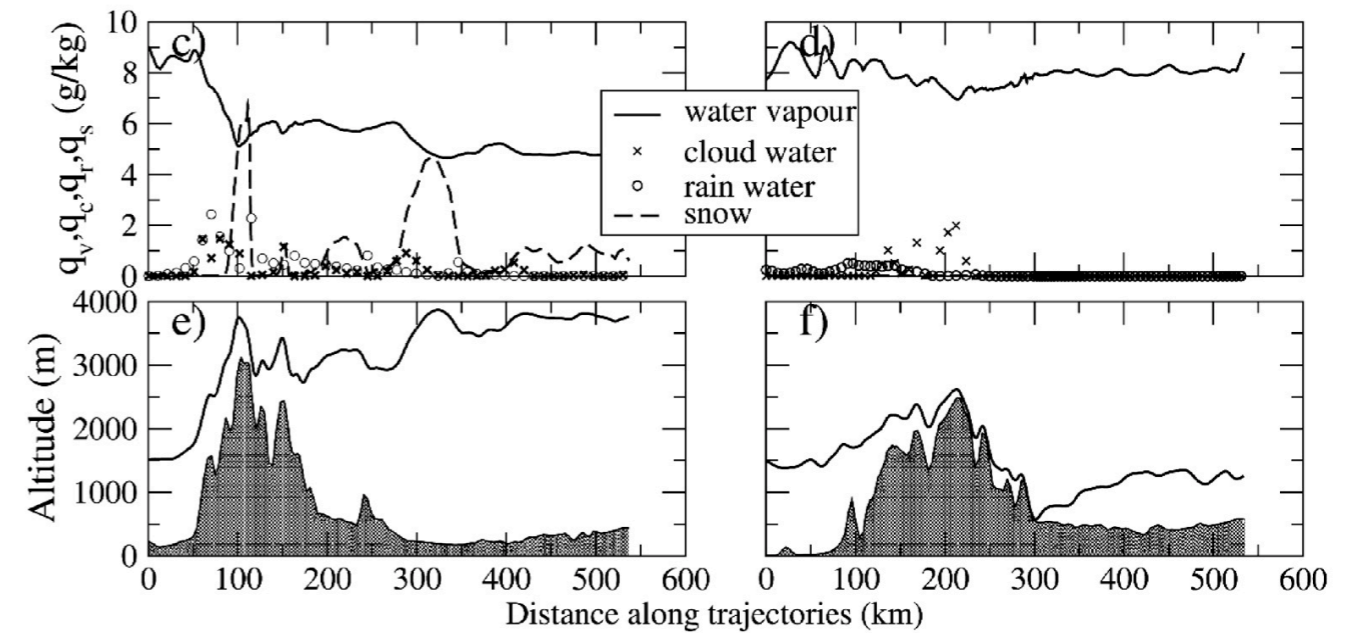
Orographic blocking

(Master thesis Alexandre Roch, 2011)



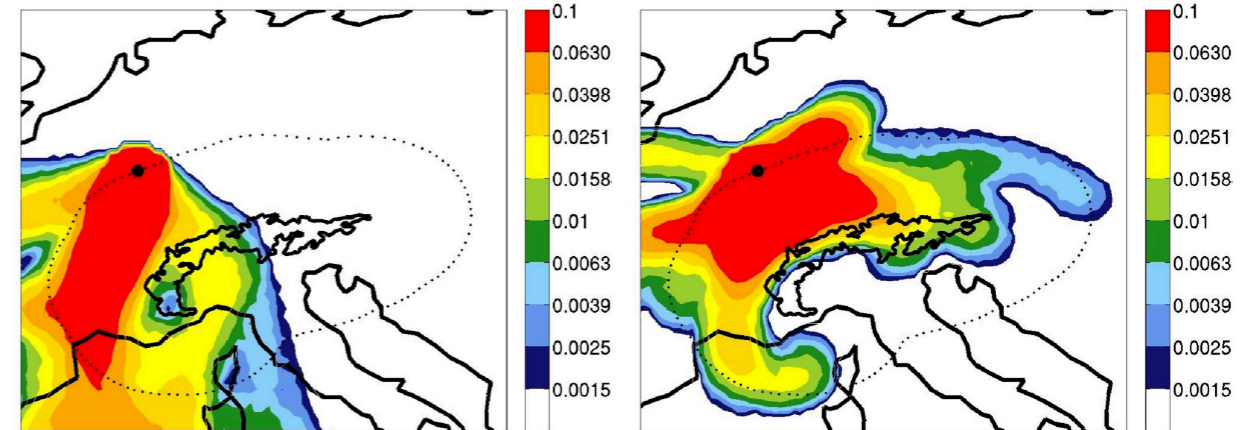
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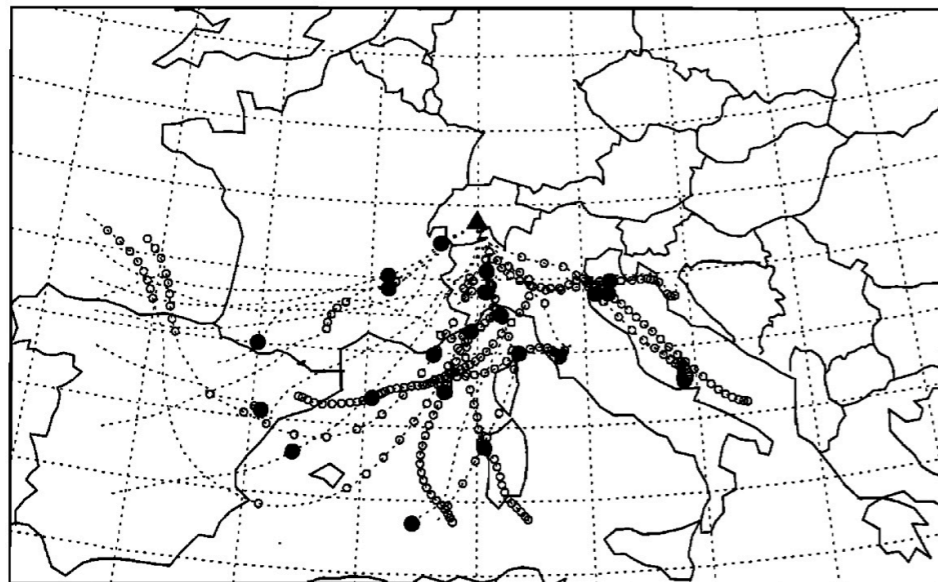
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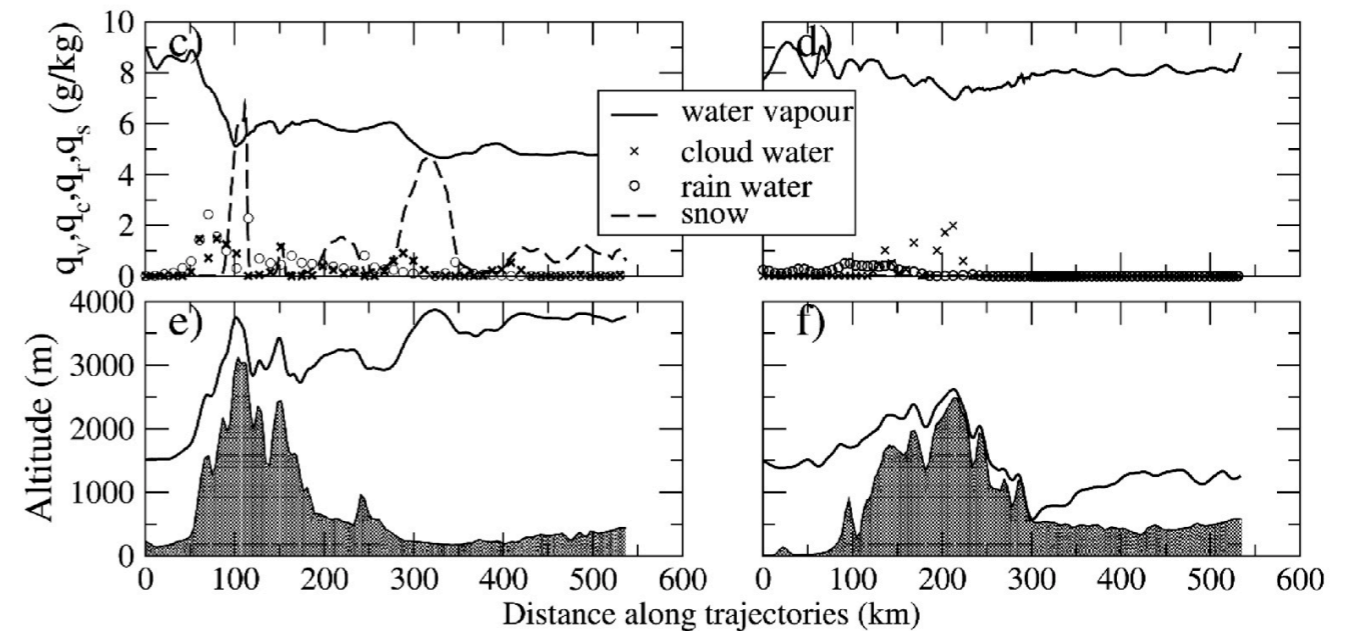
Trace gas variability at Jungfraujoch

(Forrer et al., 2000)

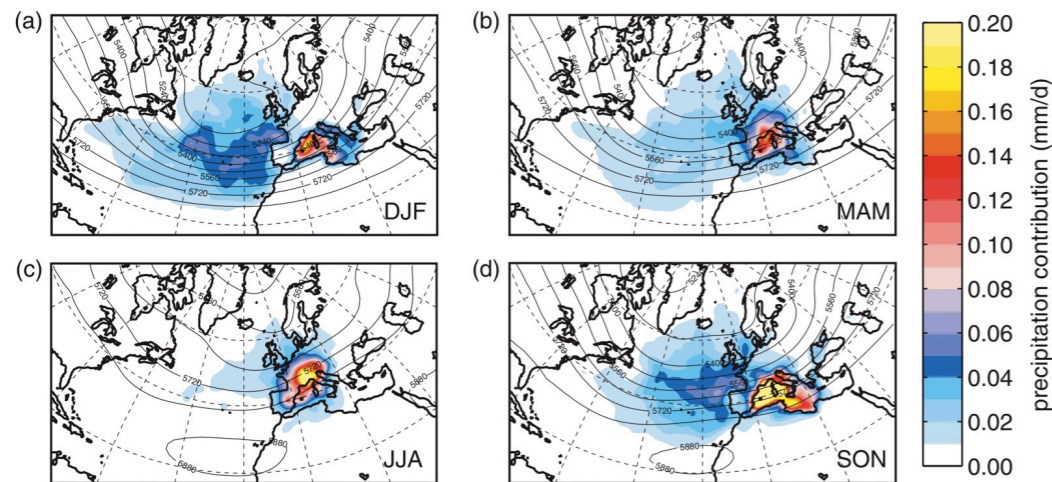


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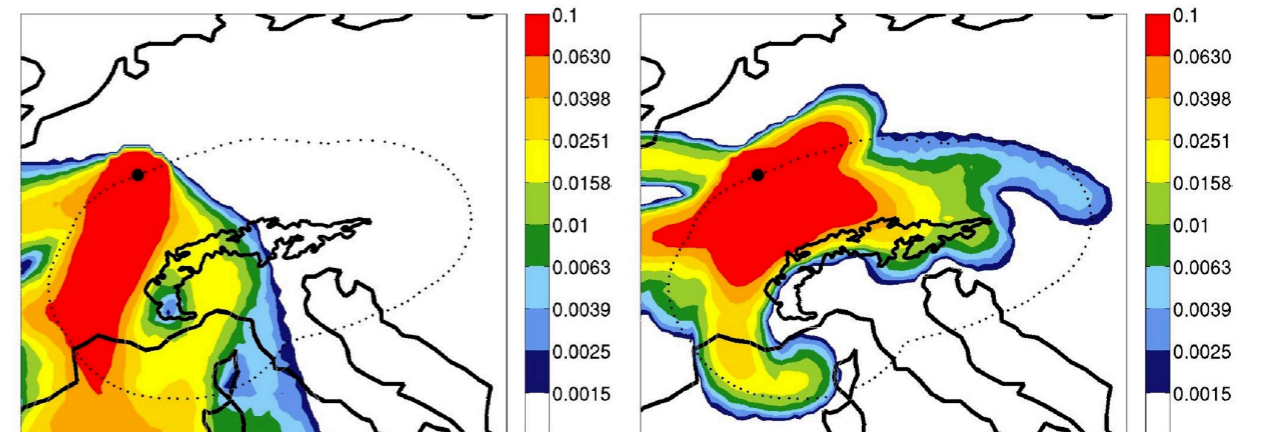
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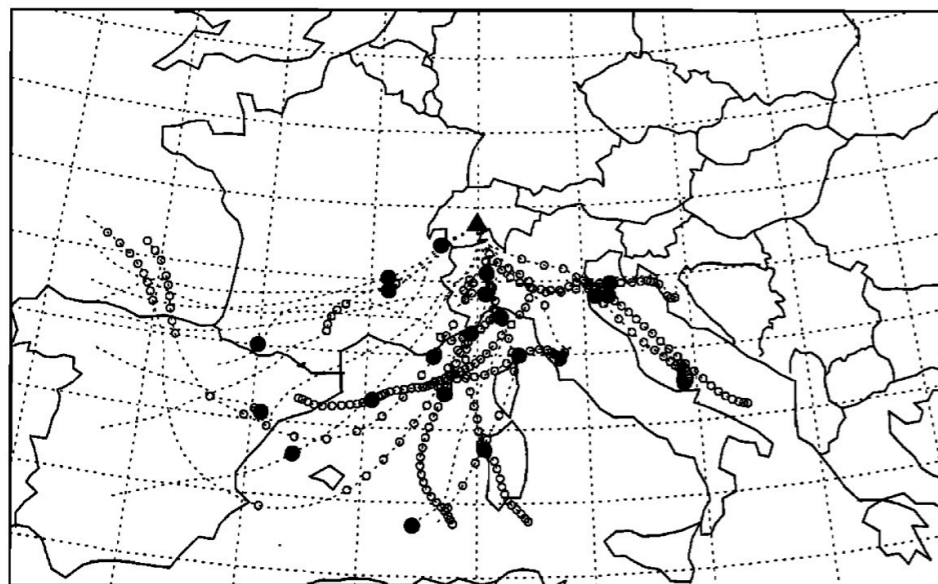
Moisture sources for Alpine precipitation (Sodemann and Zubler, 2010)



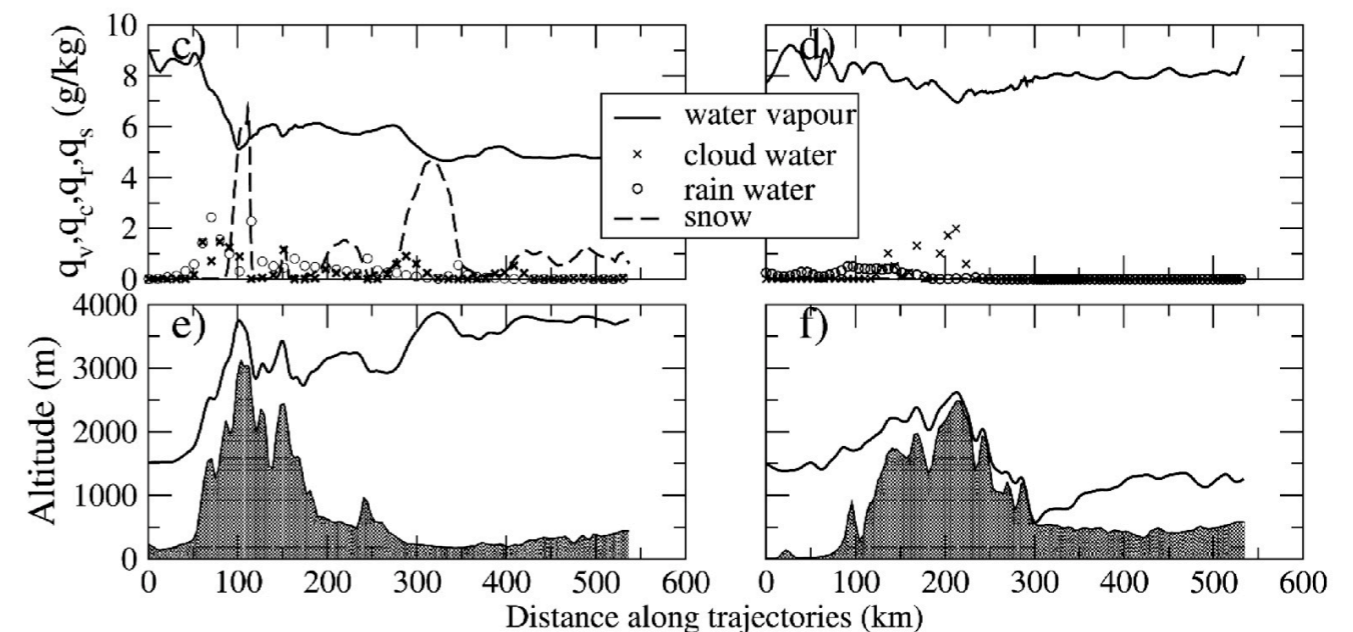
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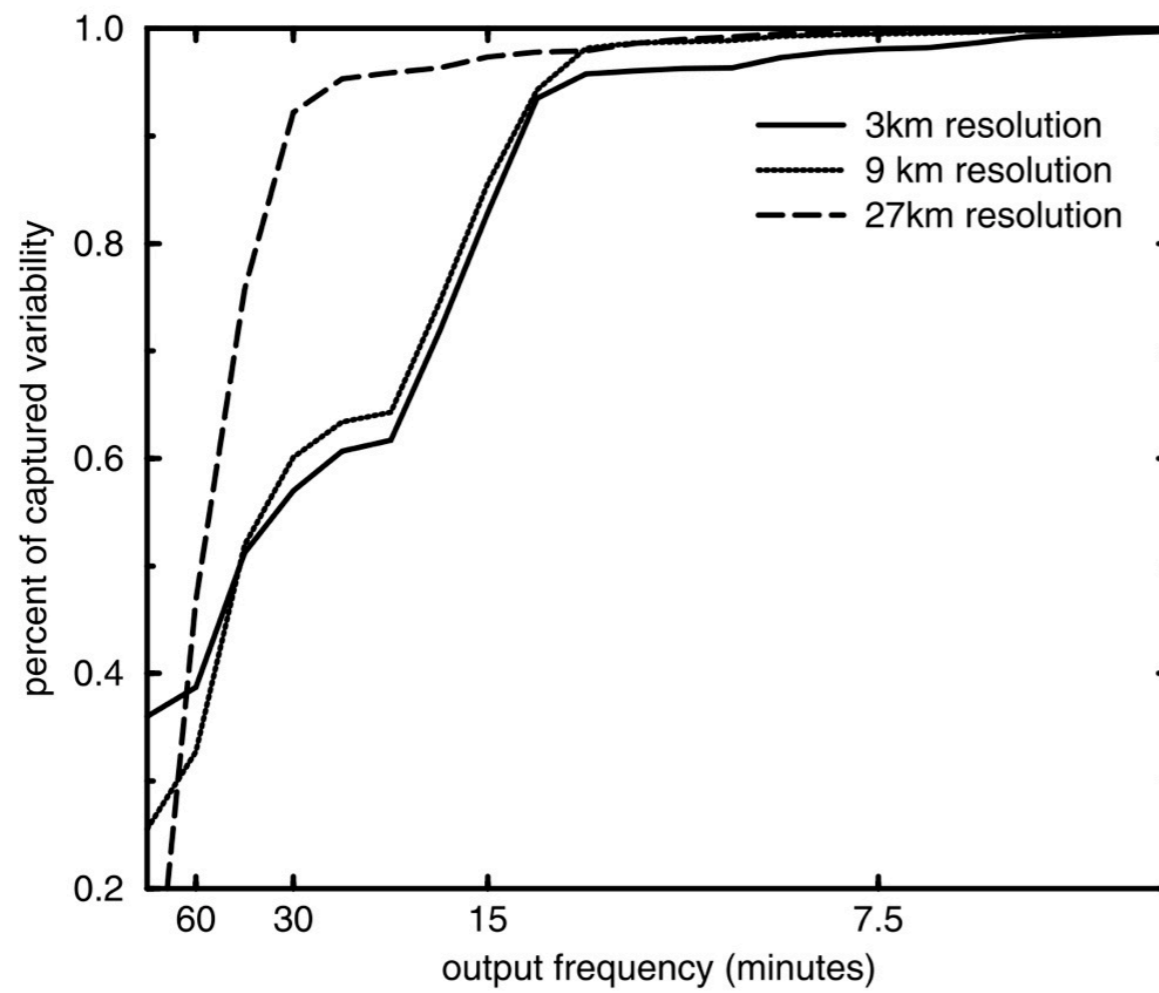
error sources for numerical solution of **trajectory equation** $\frac{D\mathbf{x}}{Dt} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t)$ (Stohl, 2003)

- (i) wind field errors : the NWP model system
- (ii) starting position errors : ...
- (iii) truncation error : Pettersen scheme: $\sim \Delta t_{\text{traj}}^2$ trajectory integration
- (iv) interpolation error : Δt of model output and Δx of NWP model

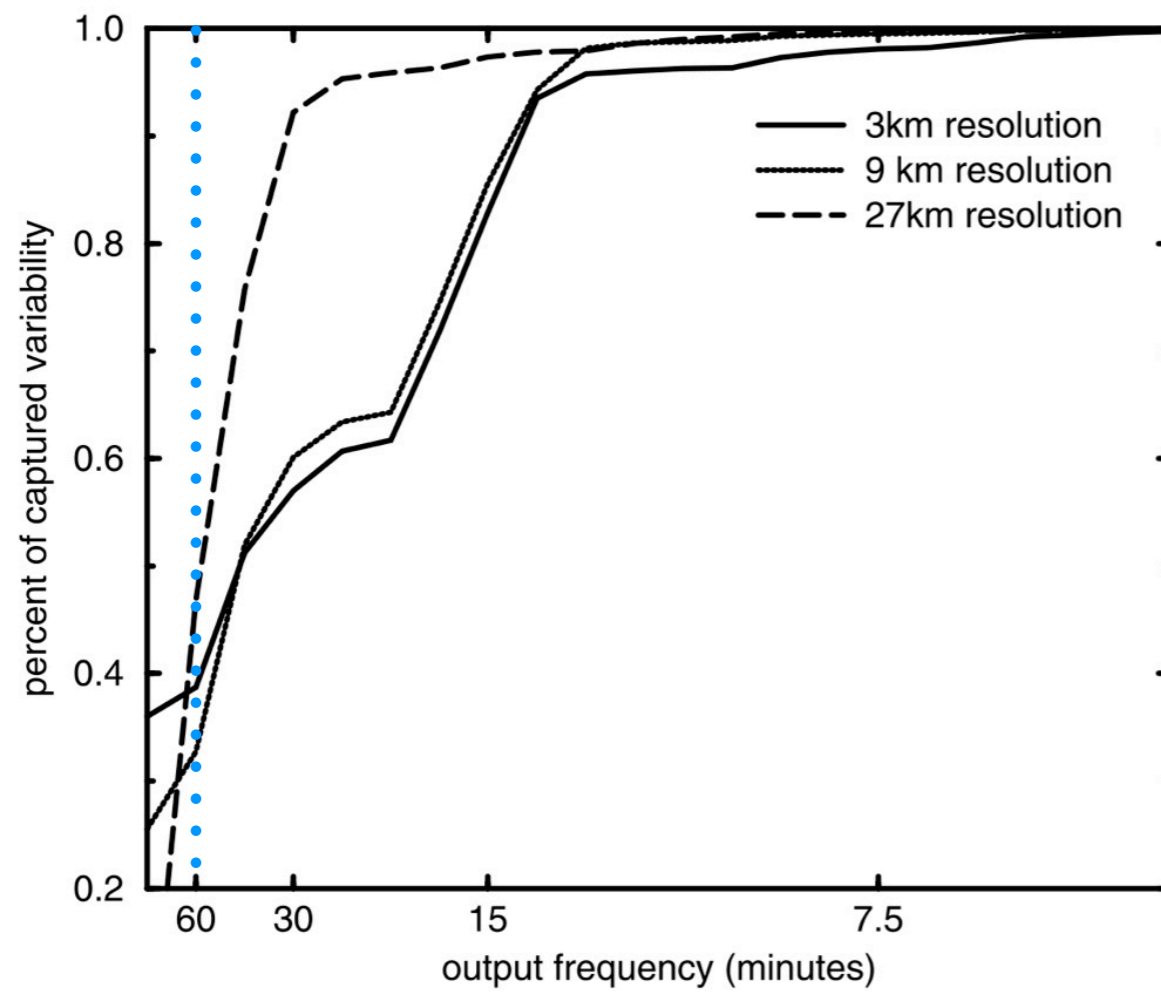
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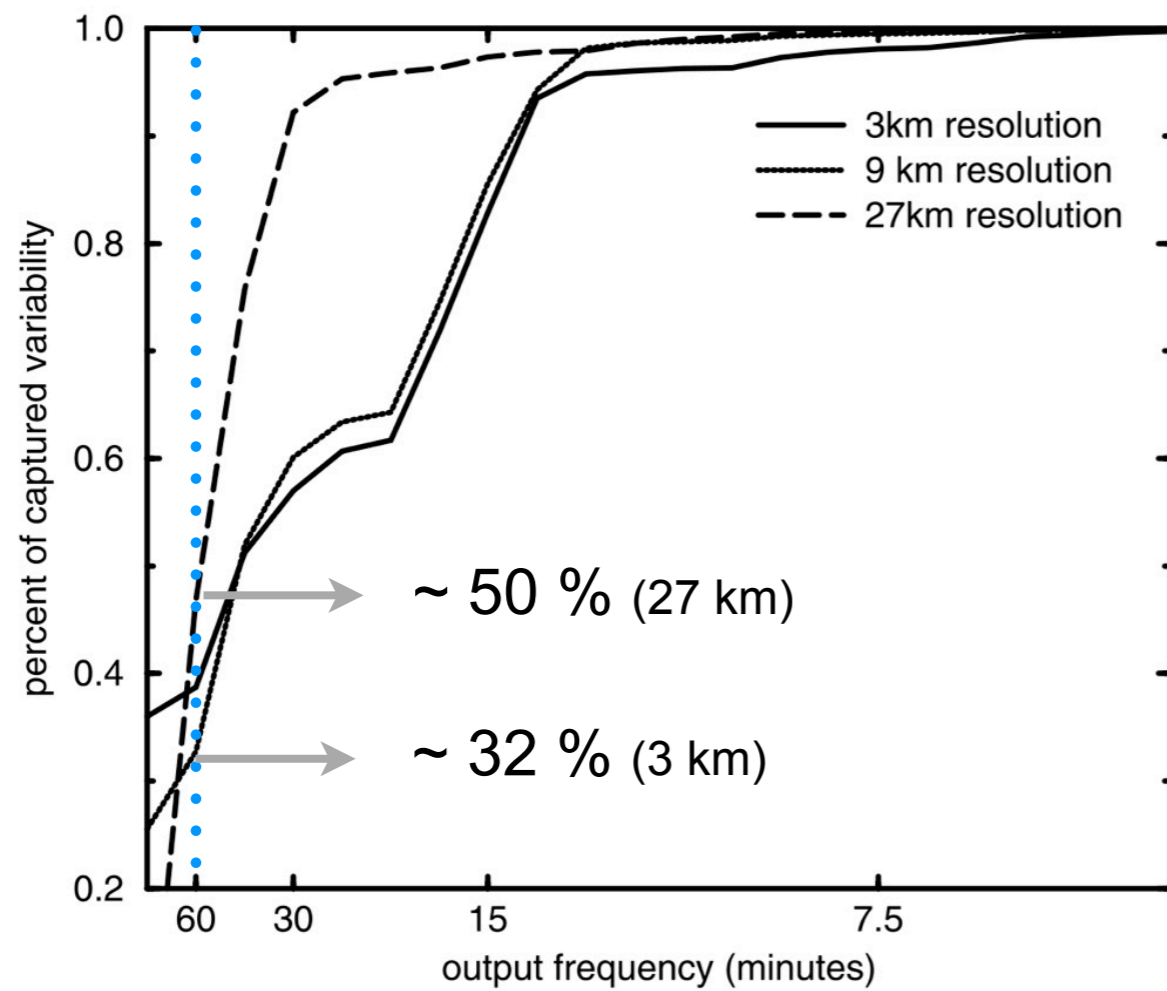
- >> Compute trajectories during the integration of the NWP model ([online trajectories](#))
- + minimal truncation error
 - + minimal temporal interpolation error



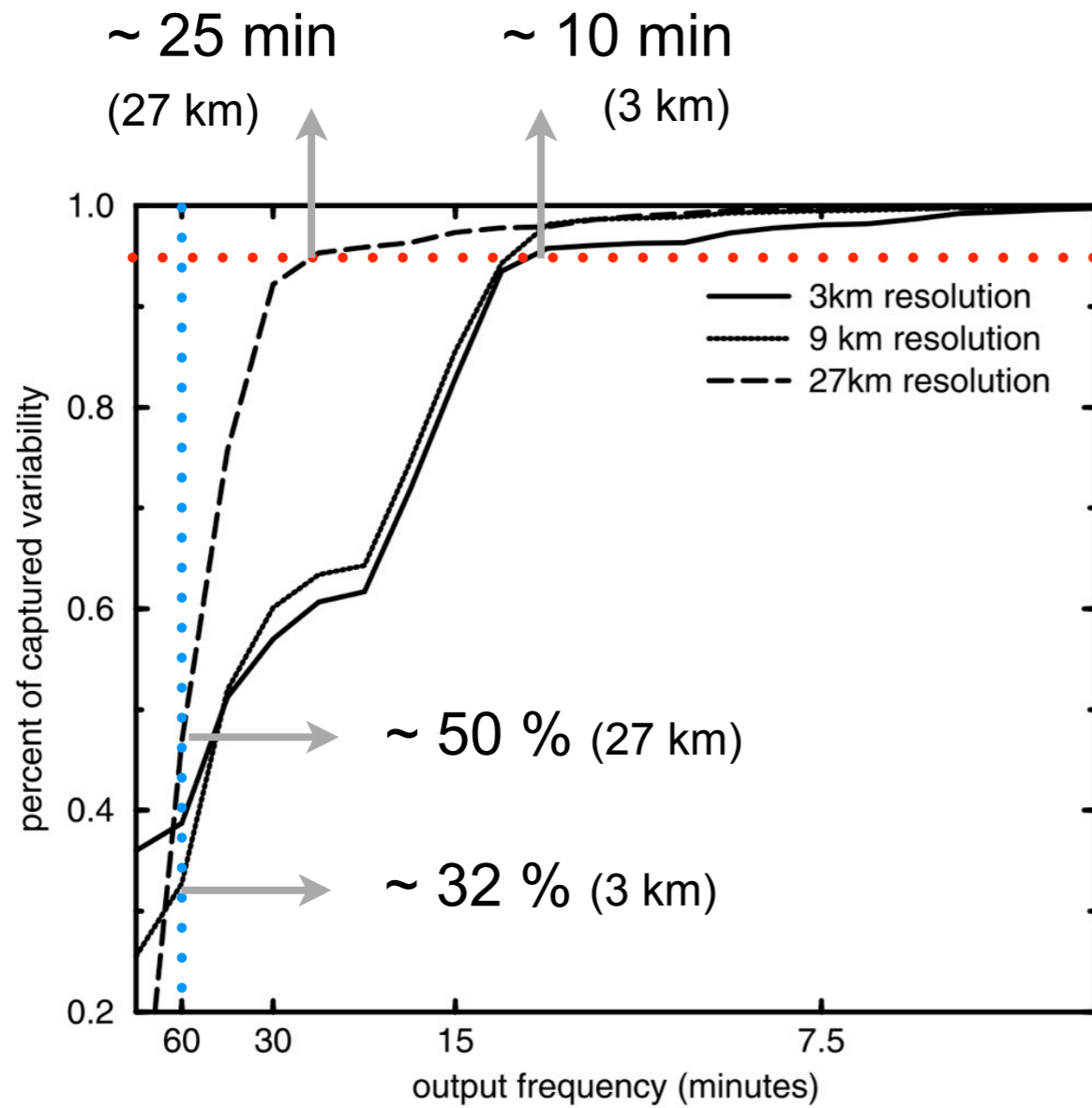
Grell et al. (2004)



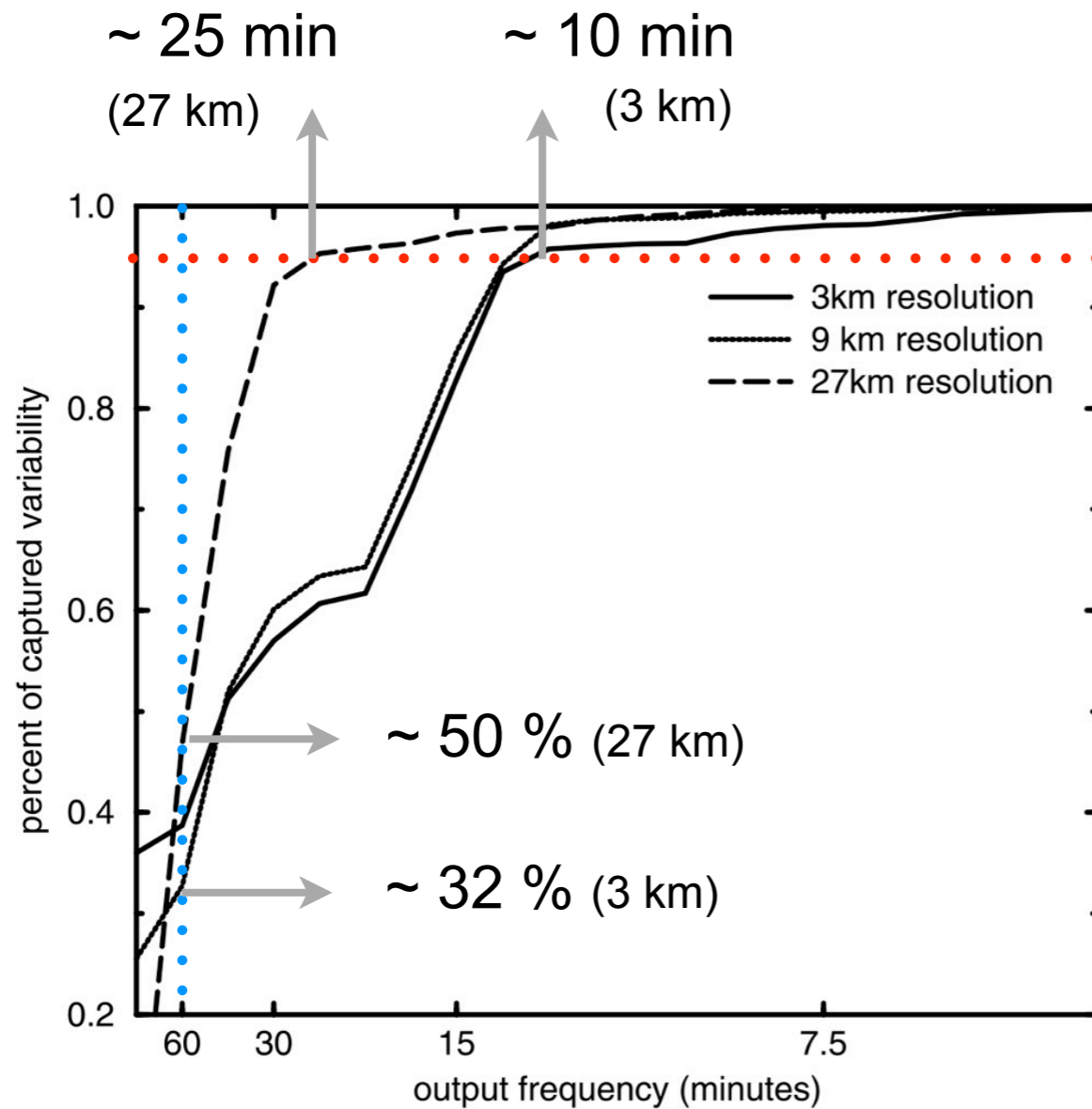
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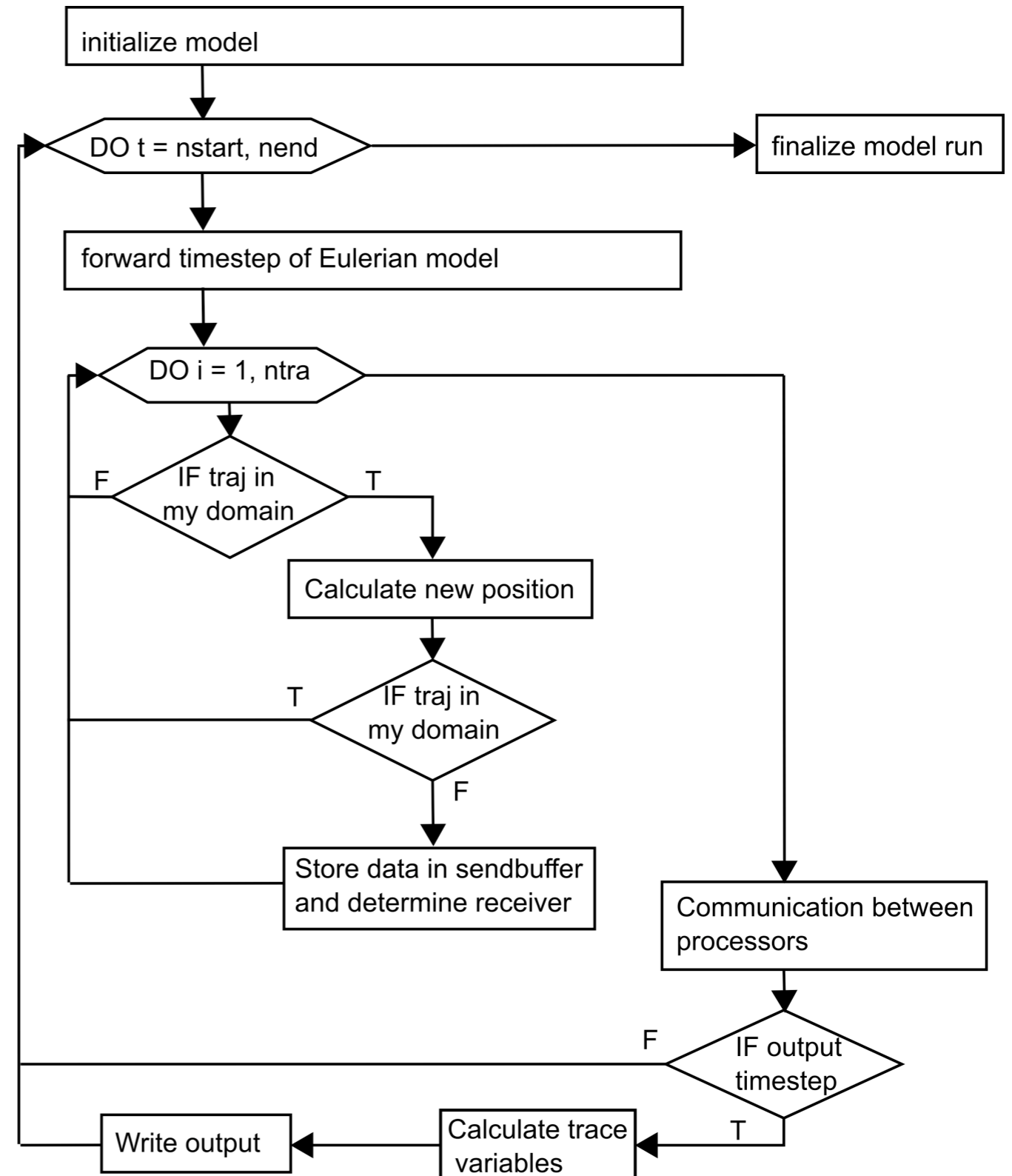


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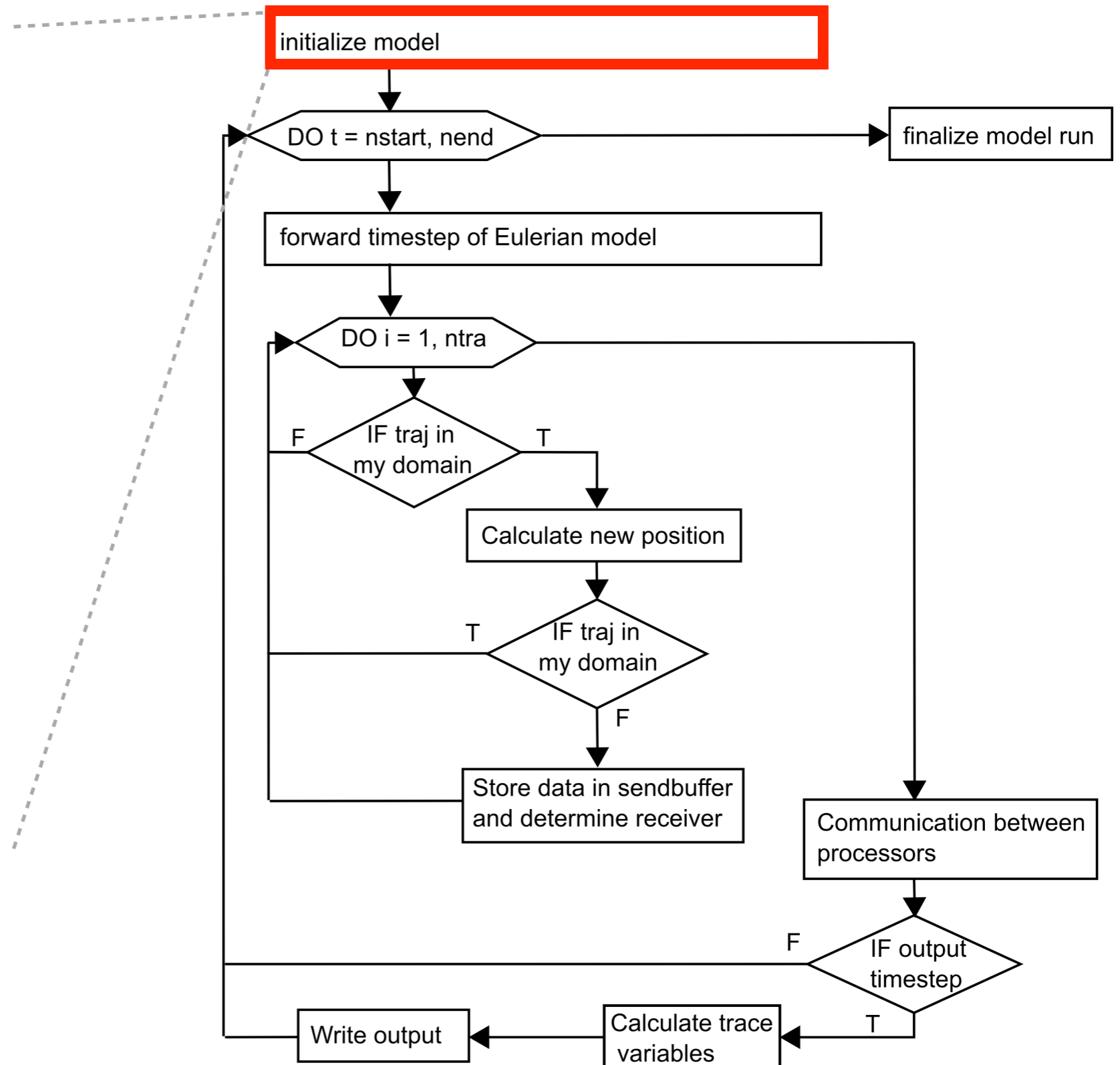


Grell et al. (2004)

- ▶ balance between spatial and temporal resolution required
- ▶ need of high temporal resolution of trajectories for high resolution NWP



I. Initialization



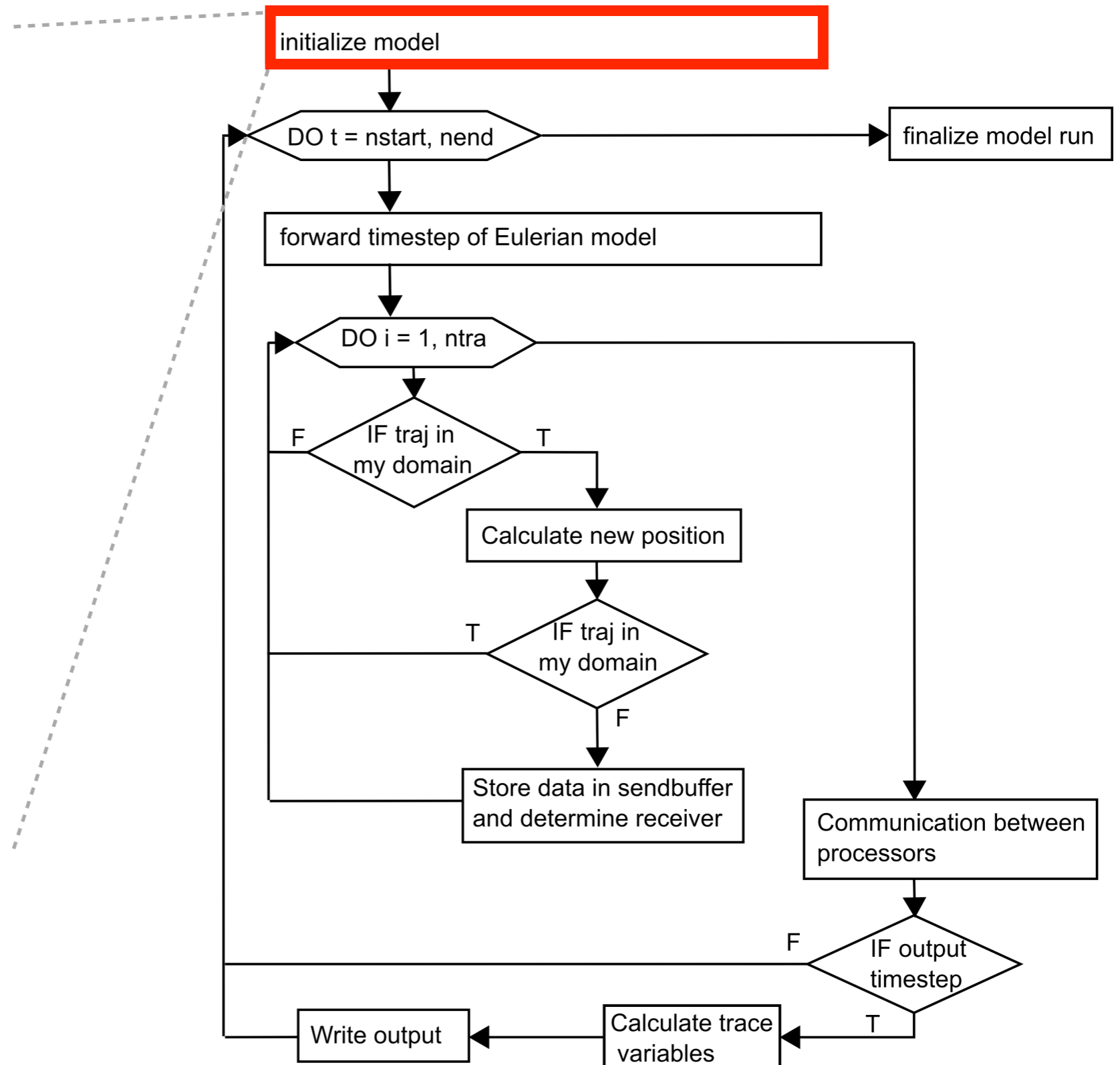
I. Initialization

& RUNCTL

ltraj = true,

& TRAJCTL

ltraj_init = 1,



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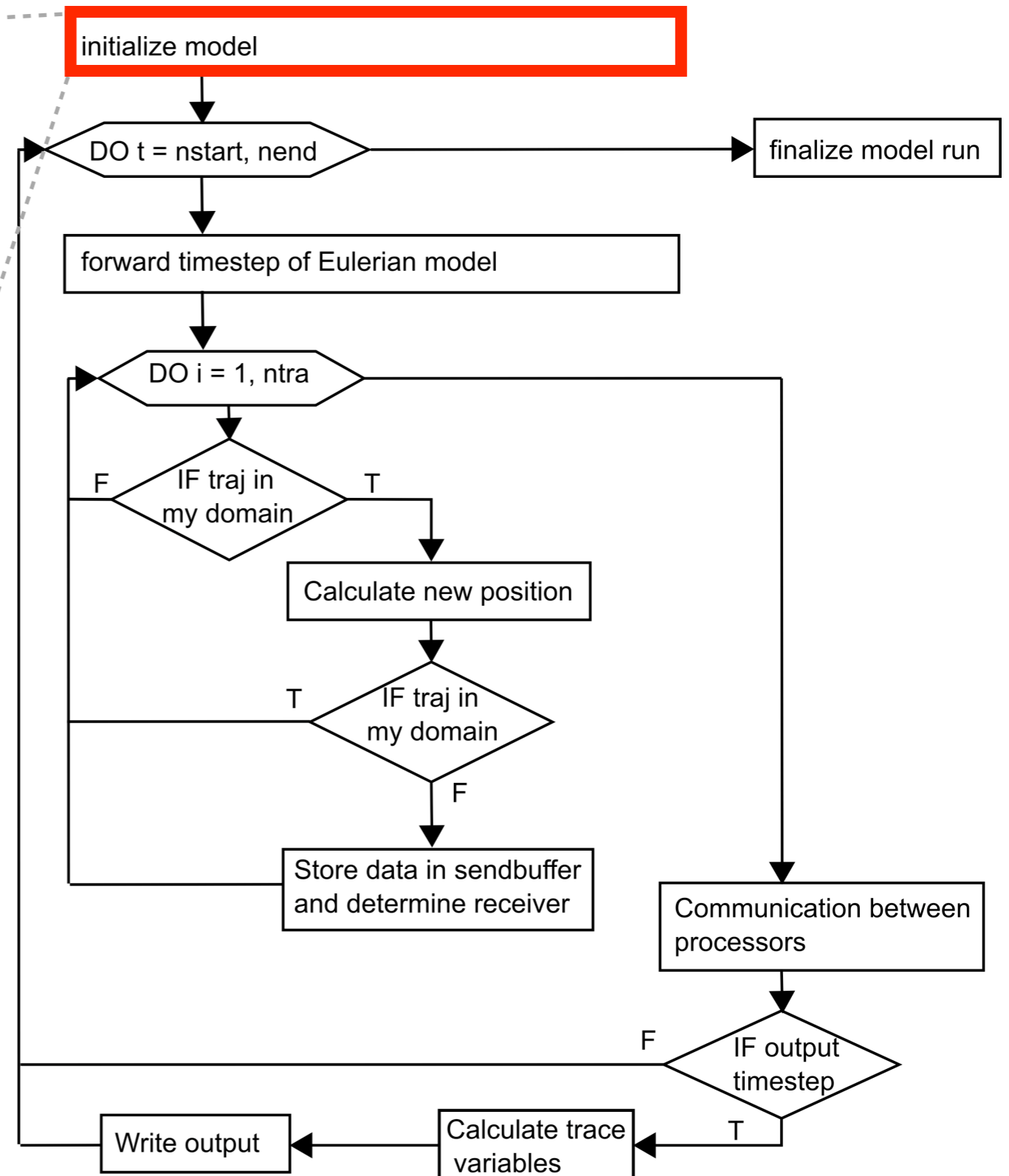
& TRAJCTL

ltraj_init = 1,

1: user specified starting times

2: starting with fixed temporal interval
(always same location, only namelist)

3: times and starting points
via startfile



I. Initialization

& RUNCTL

ltraj = true,

& TRAJCTL

ltraj_init = 1,

lstartf = true,

start_reg = lon1, lon2, lat 1, lat2, z1, z2,

traj_inittime = 0,

dt_traj = 20,

numit = 3,

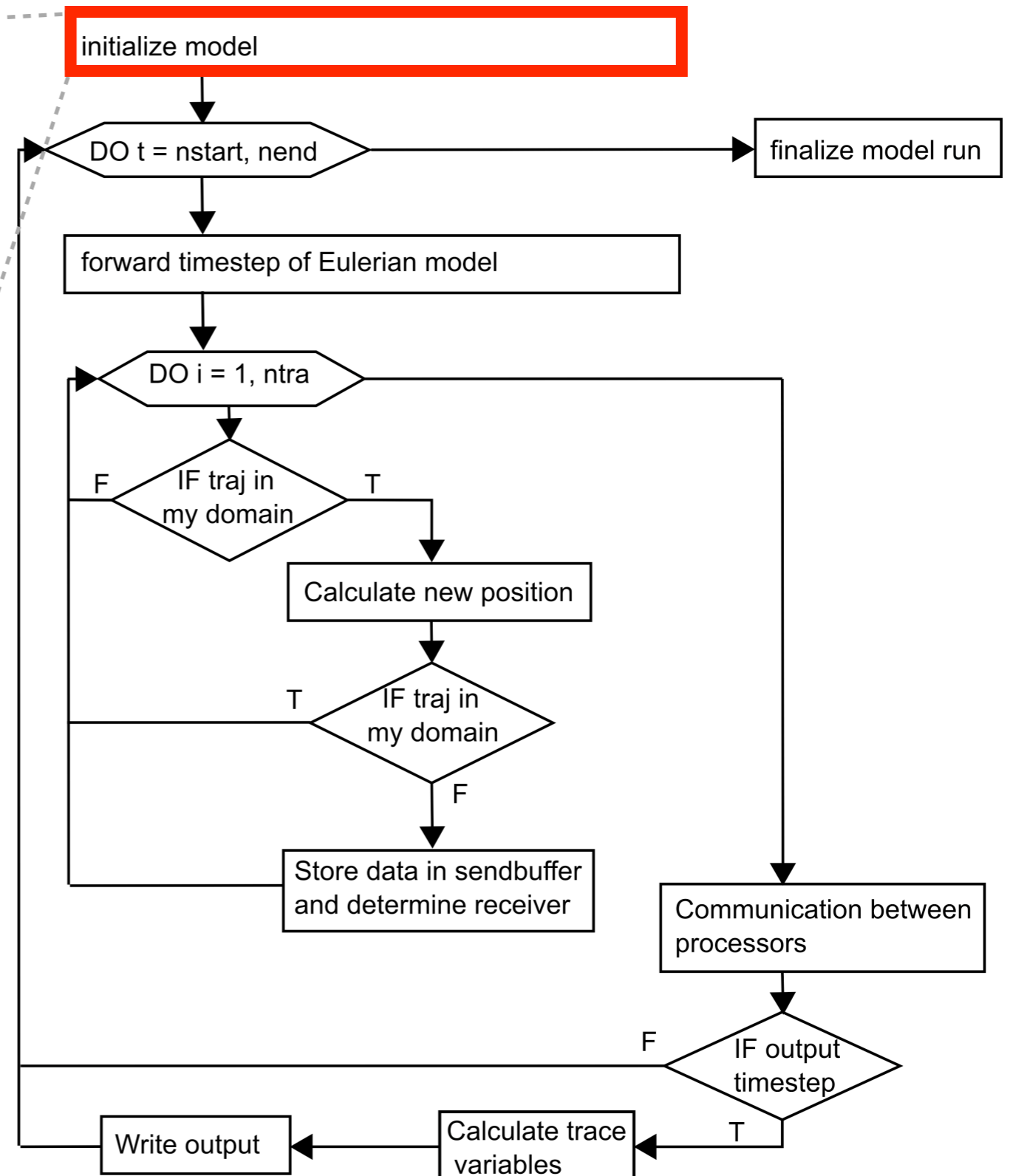
ljump = true,

ntrace = 2,

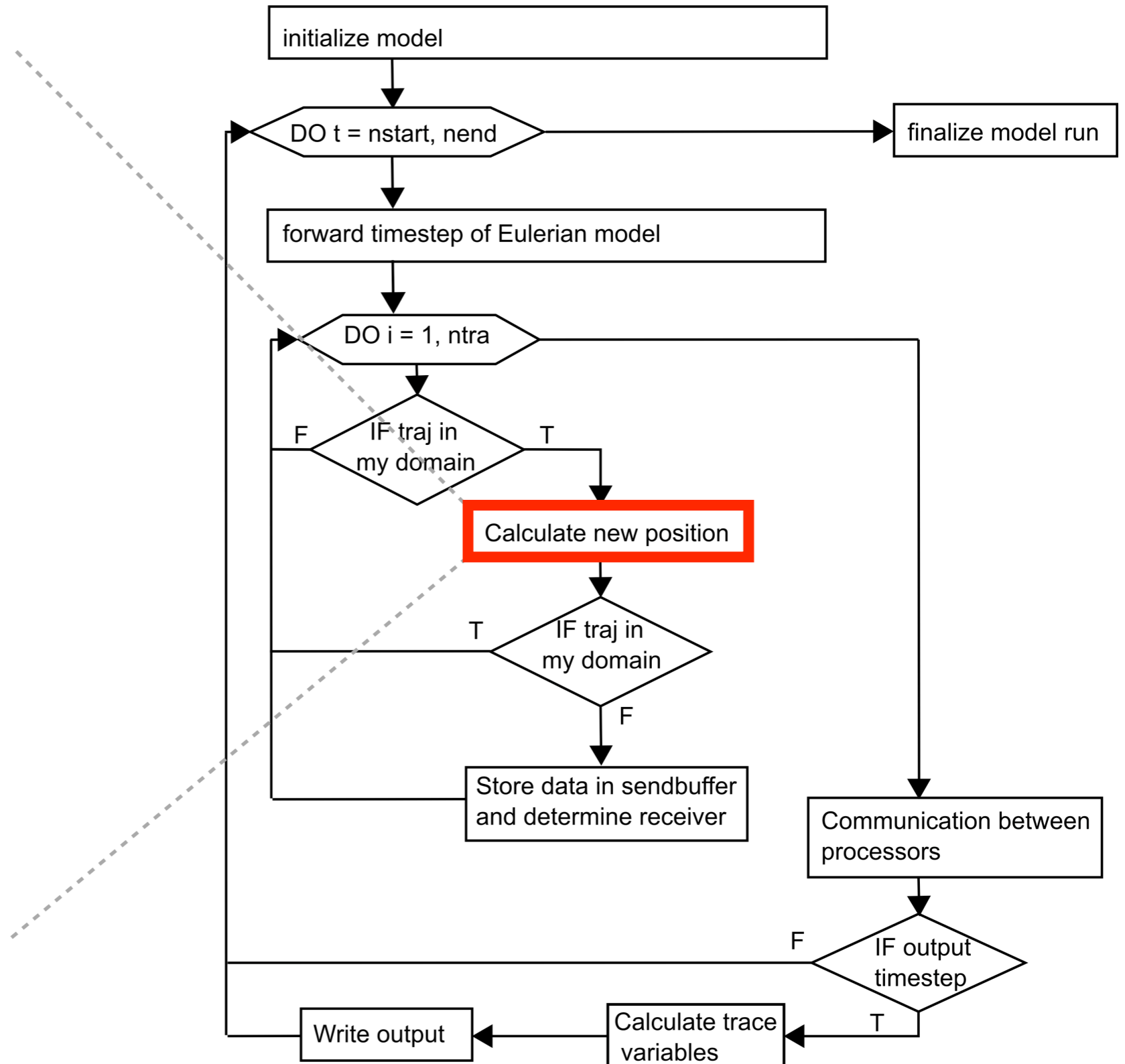
...

& TRACEVAR

trace_var = 'T', 'P'



II. Integration of Trajectory Eq.



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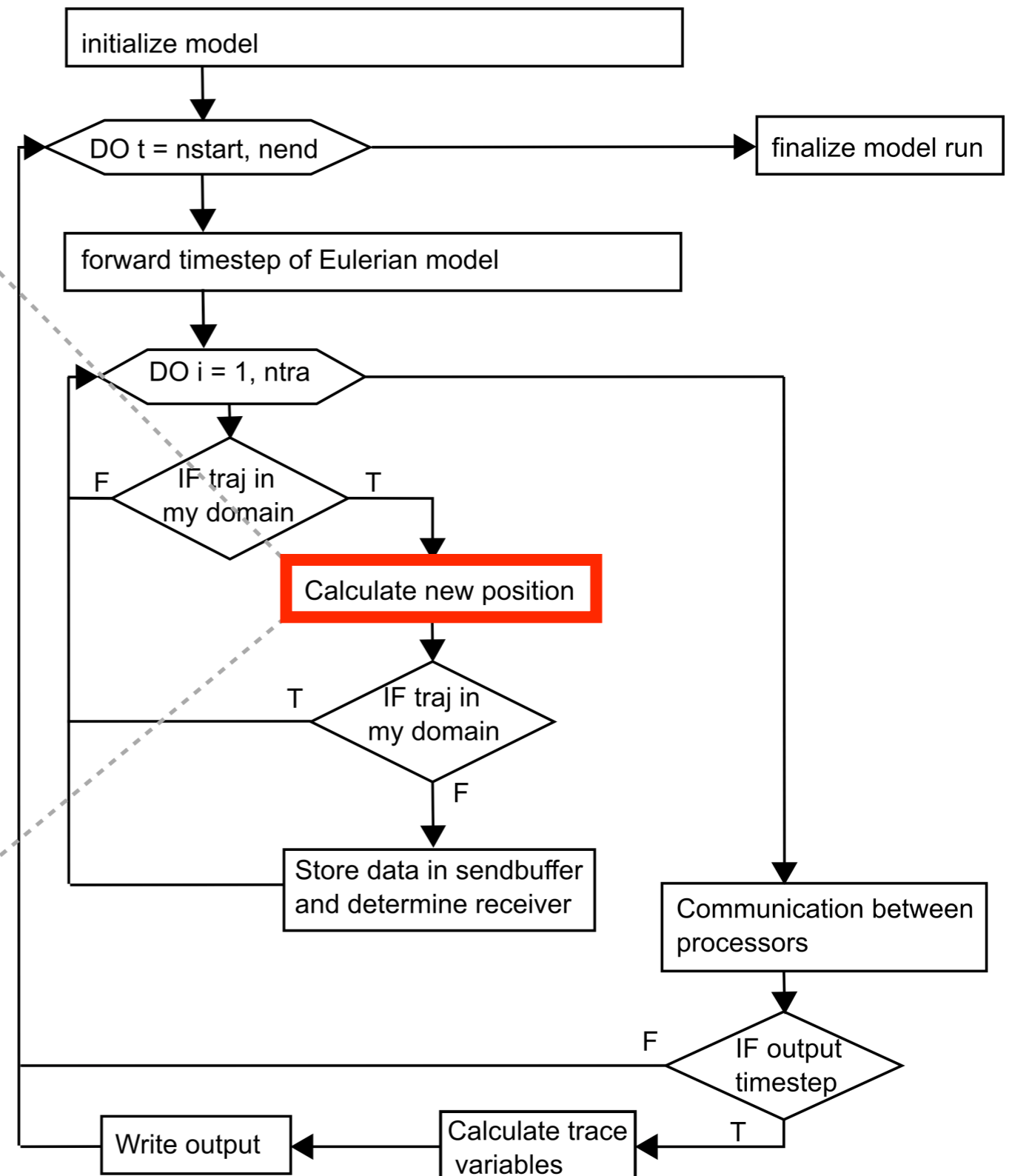
- iterative Euler forward timestep (Petterssen scheme)

$$\mathbf{x}_1(t_1) \approx \mathbf{x}(t_0) + \Delta t \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t_0)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2(t_1) \approx \mathbf{x}(t_0) + \frac{1}{2} \Delta t (\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t_0) + \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}_1, t_1))$$

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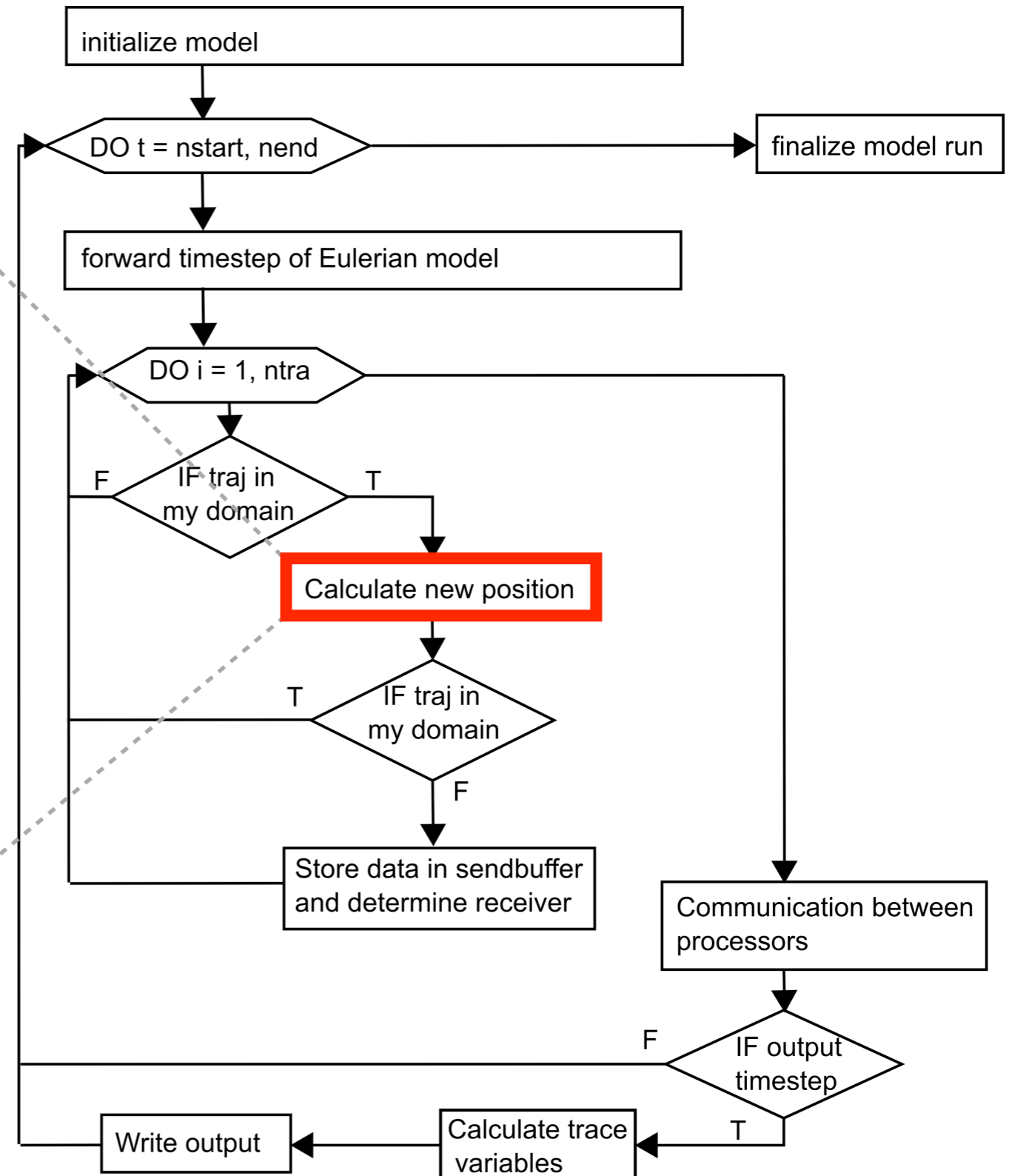
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- ▶ second order scheme



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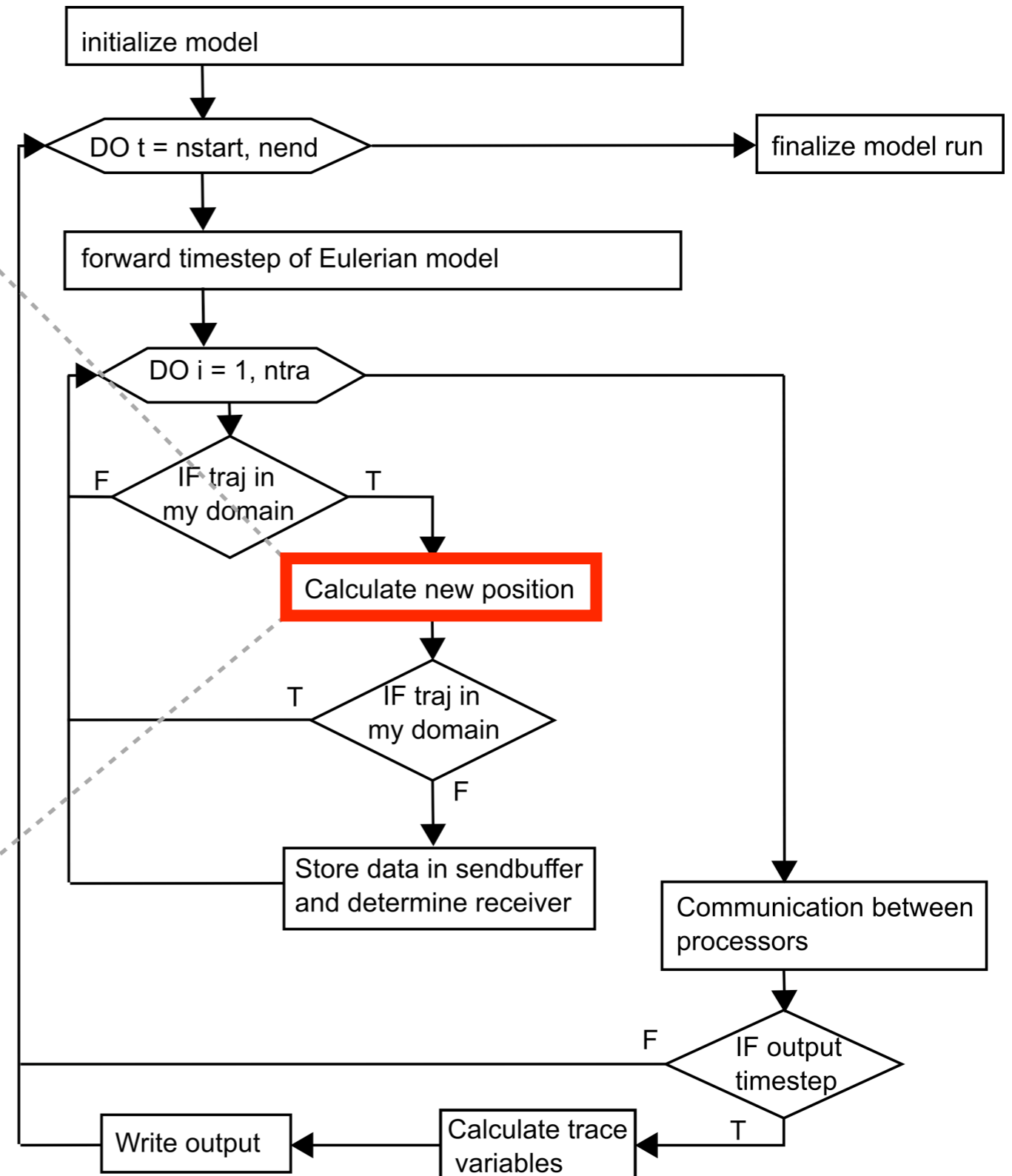
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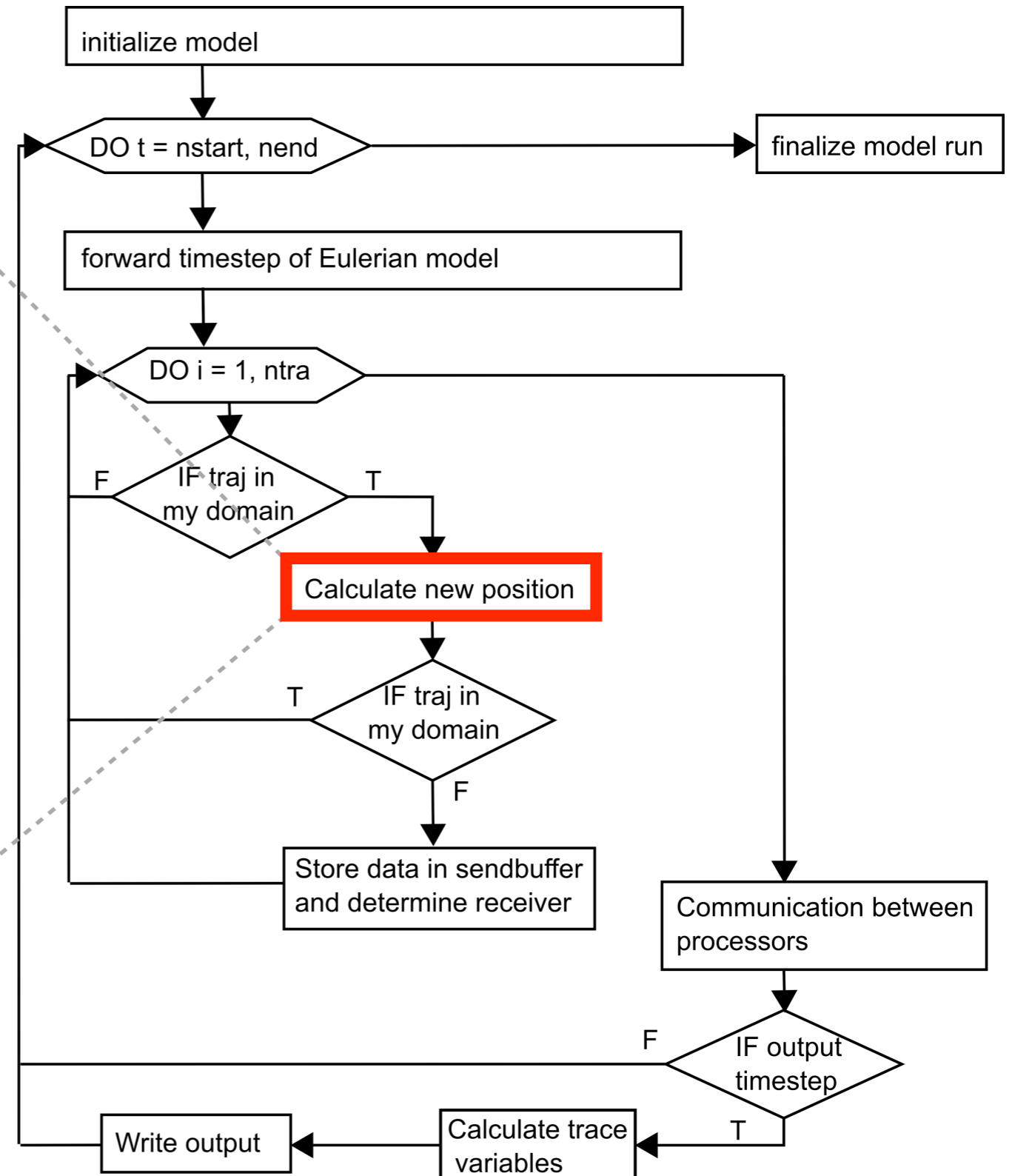
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- ▶ second order scheme
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- ▶ linear spatial 3D interpolation of \mathbf{u}



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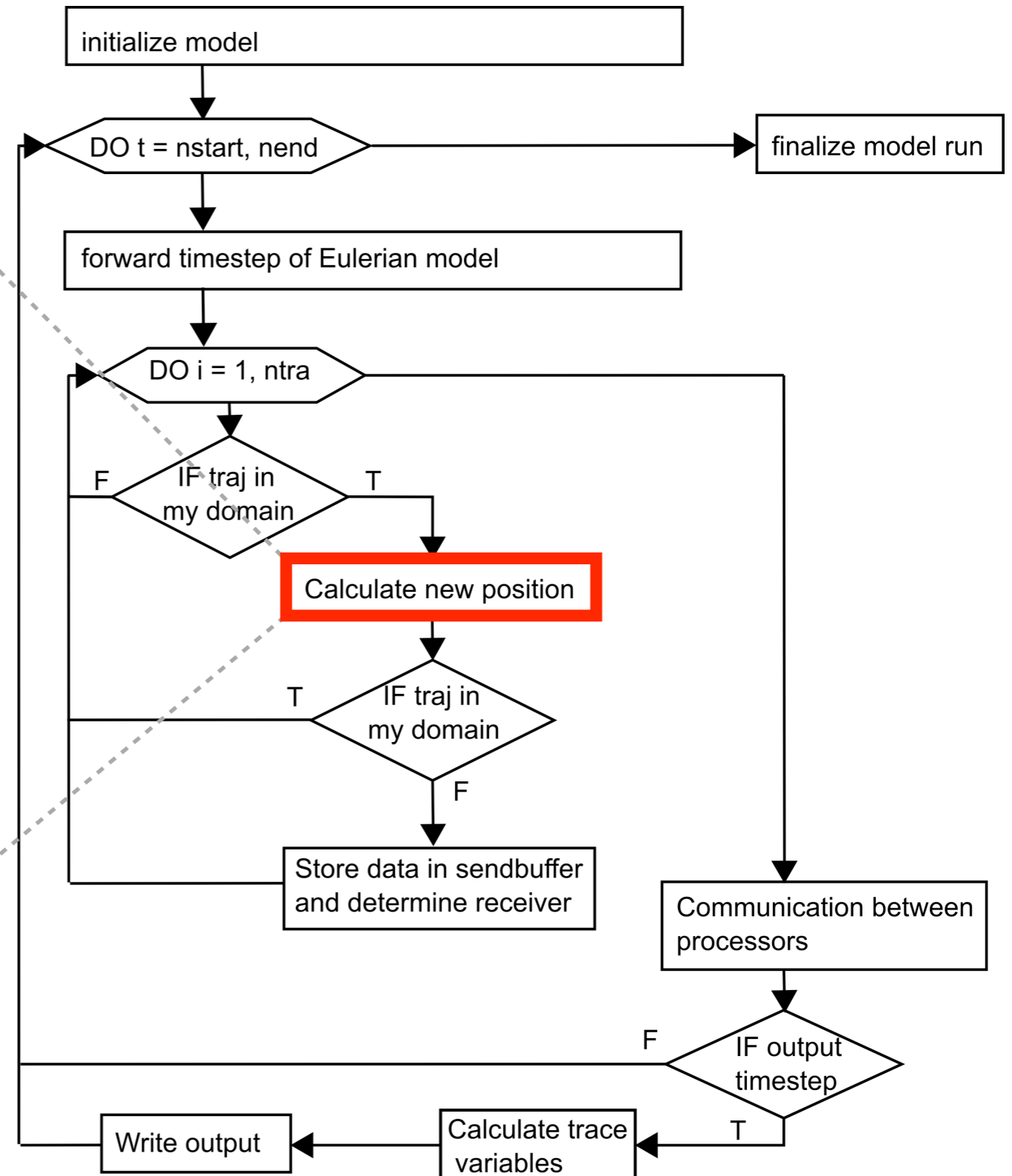
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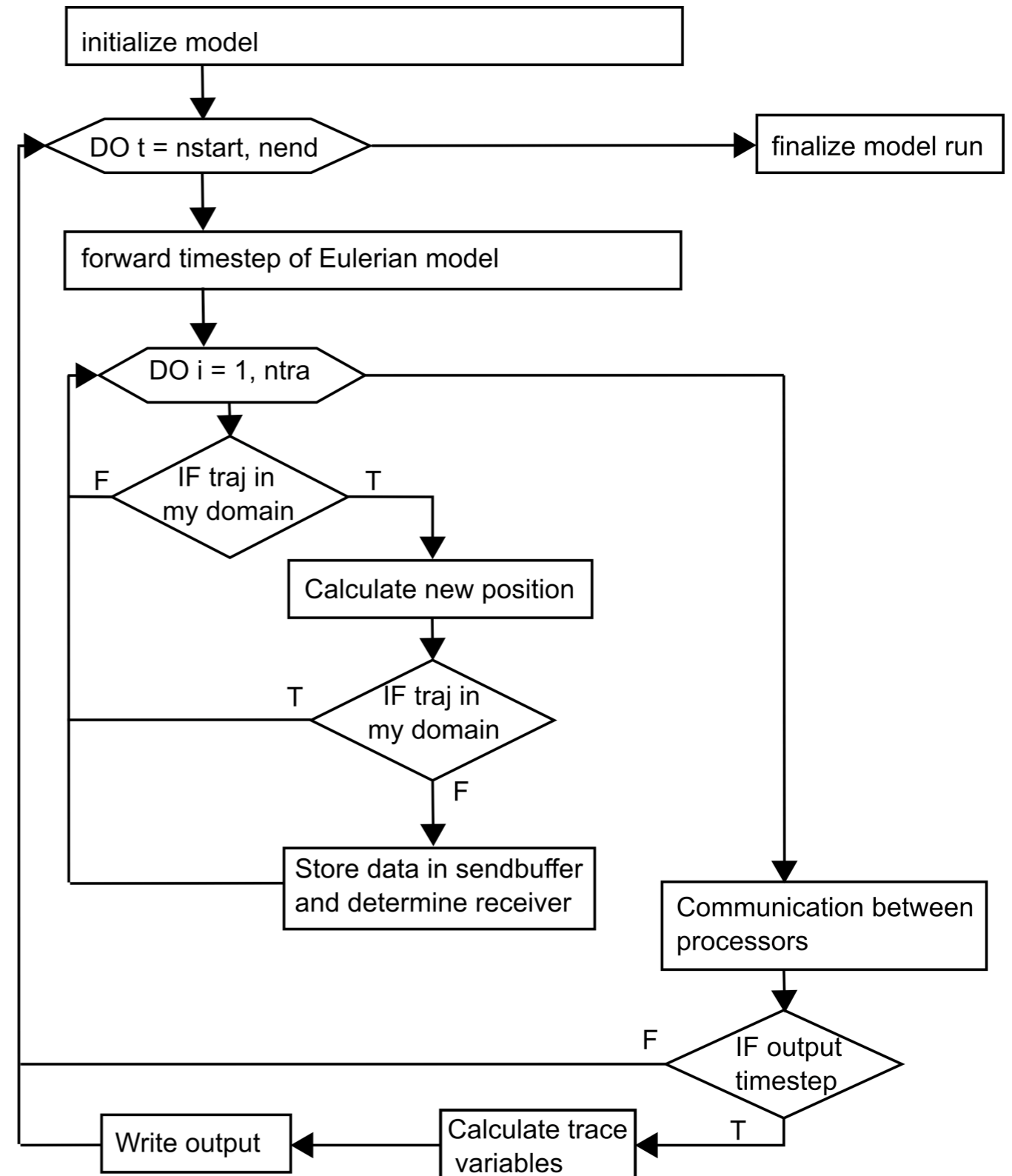
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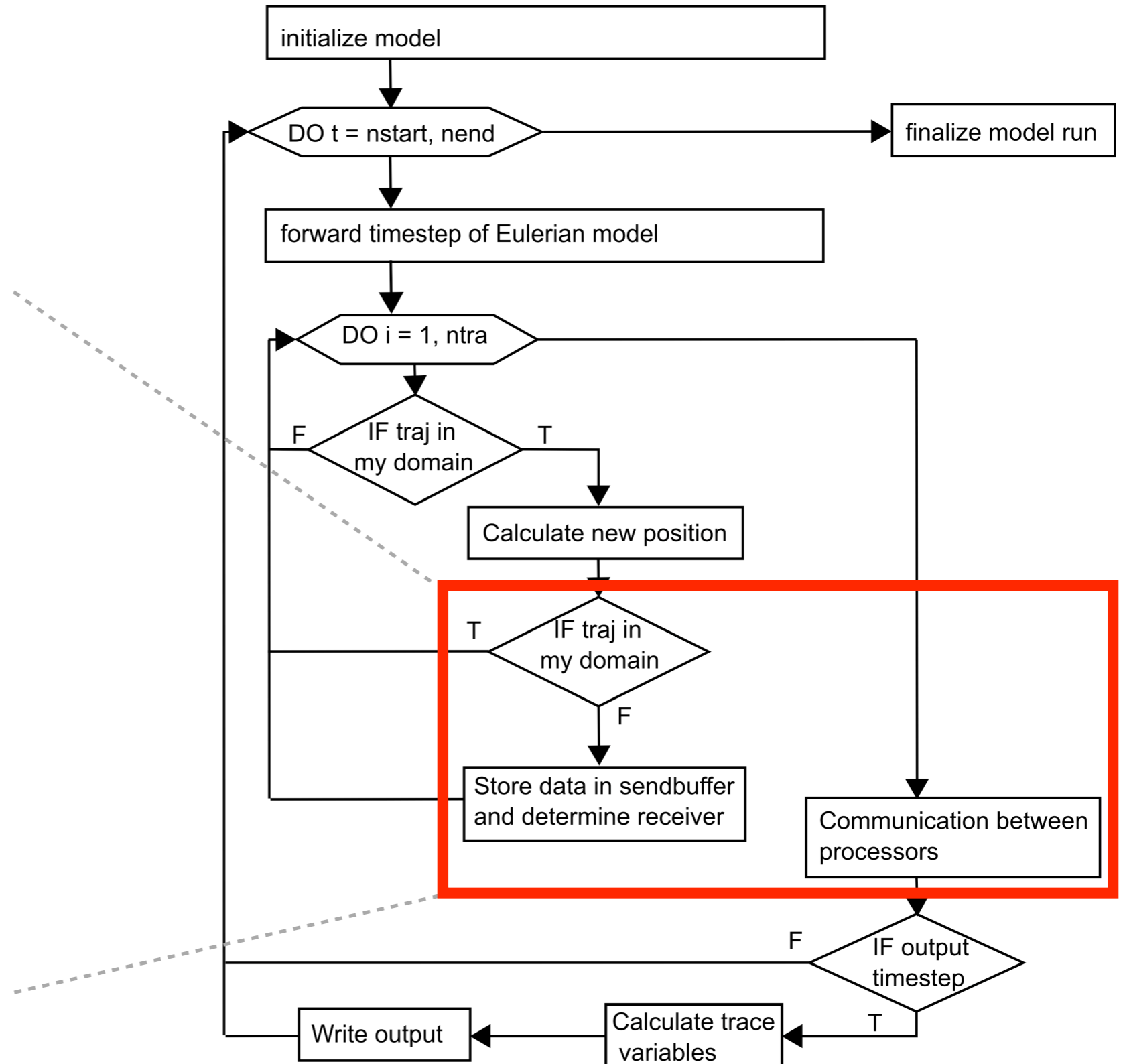
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- ▶ jump flag



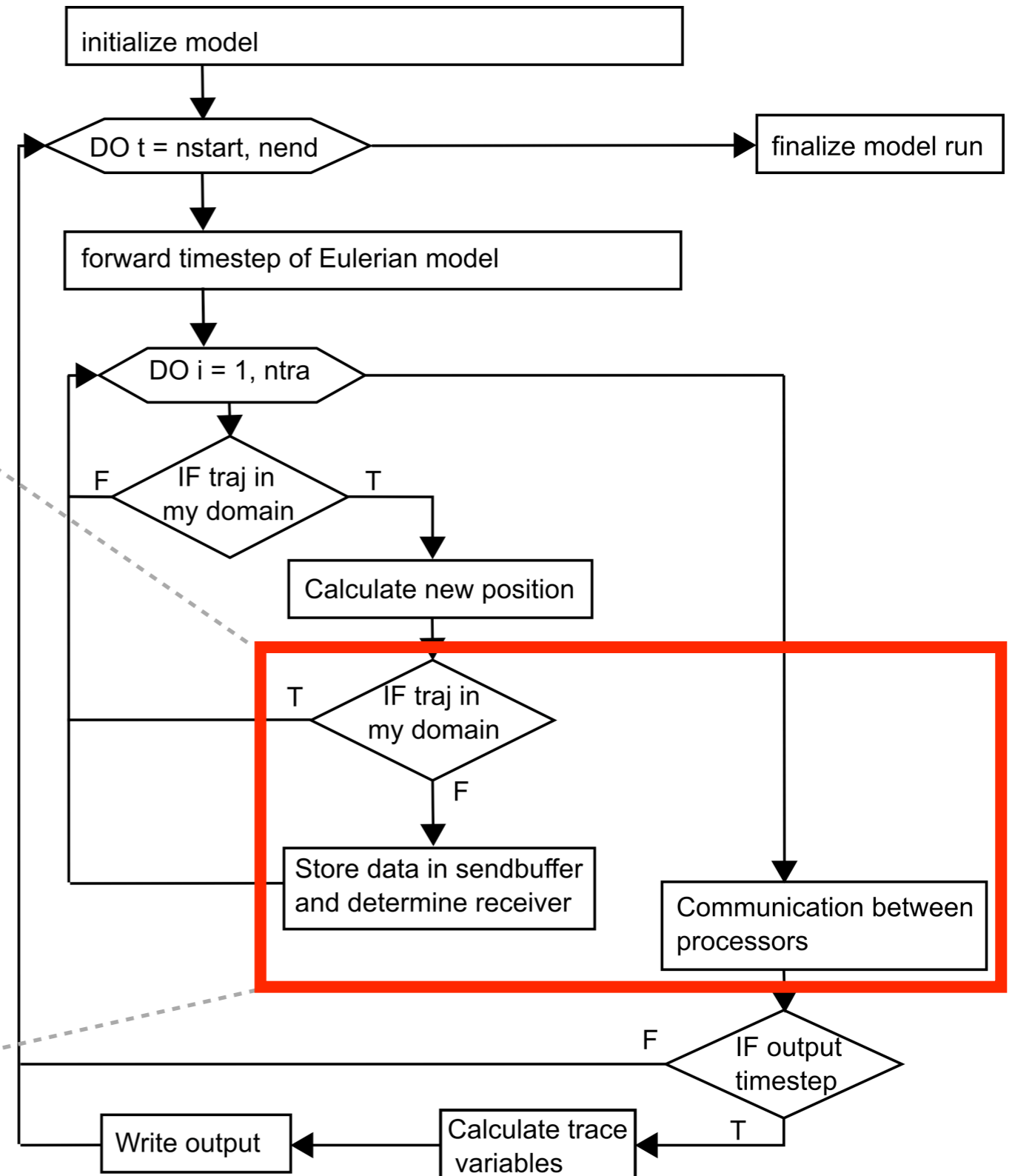


III. Communication



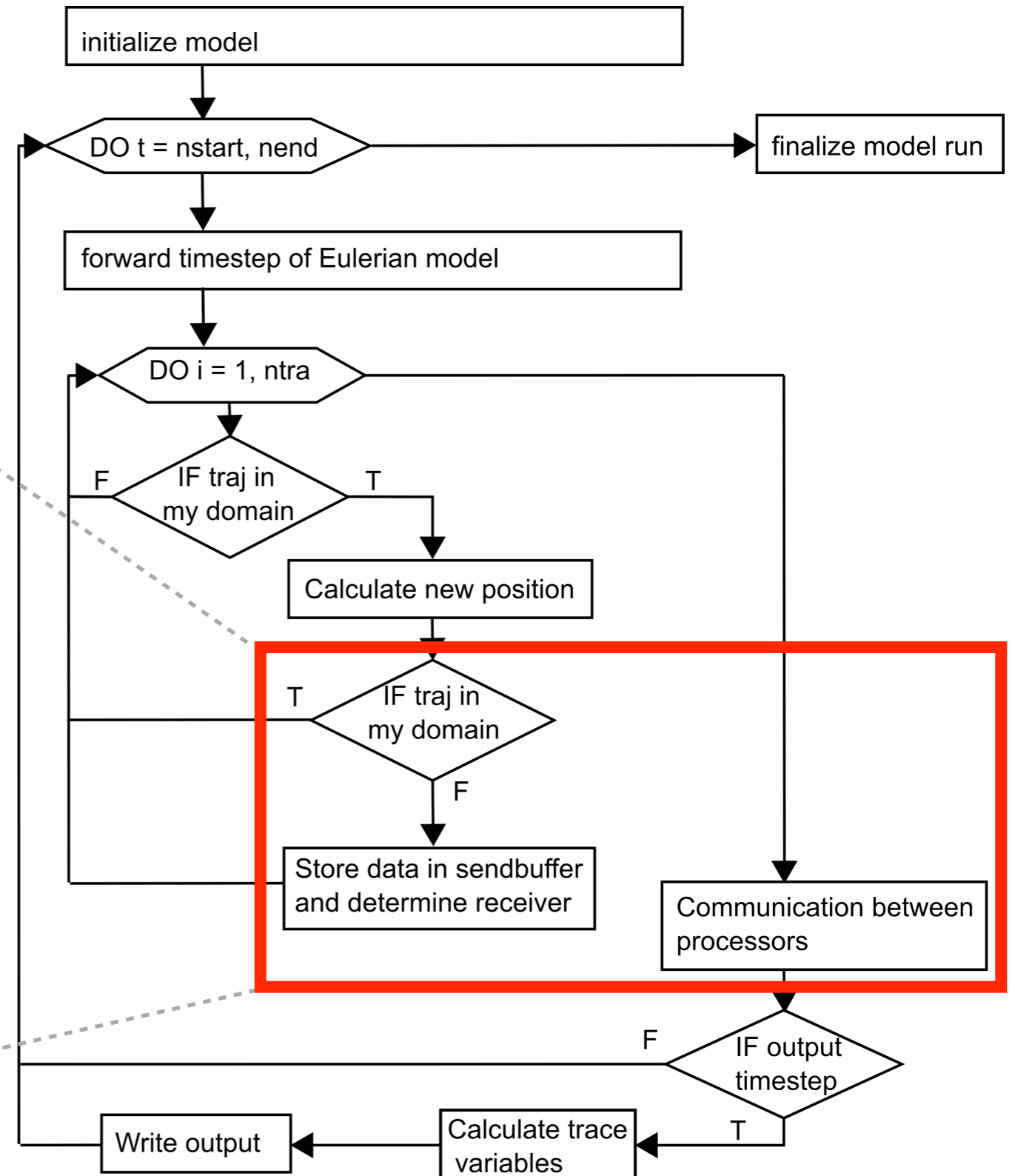
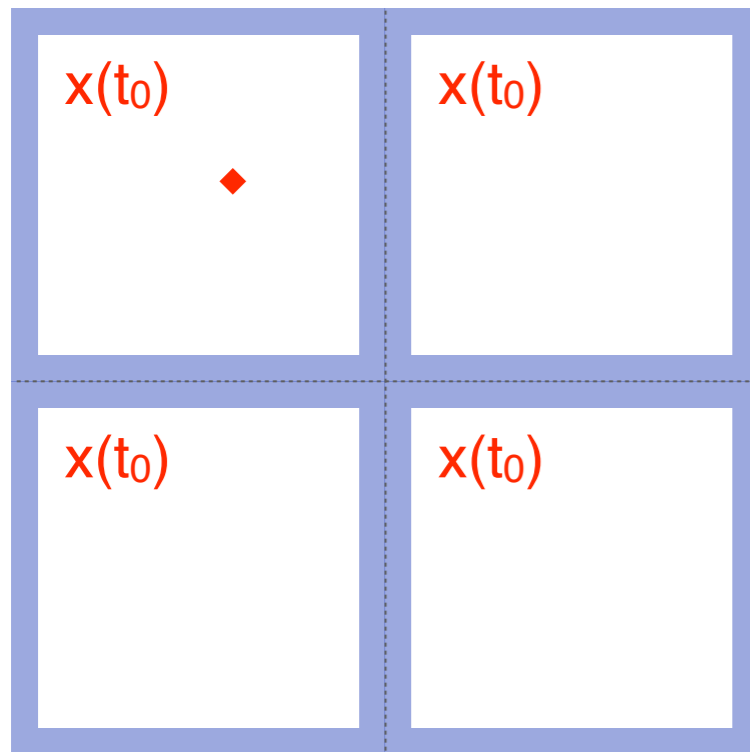
III. Communication

- ▶ fixed spatial domain decomposition
- ▶ trajectories pass between domains



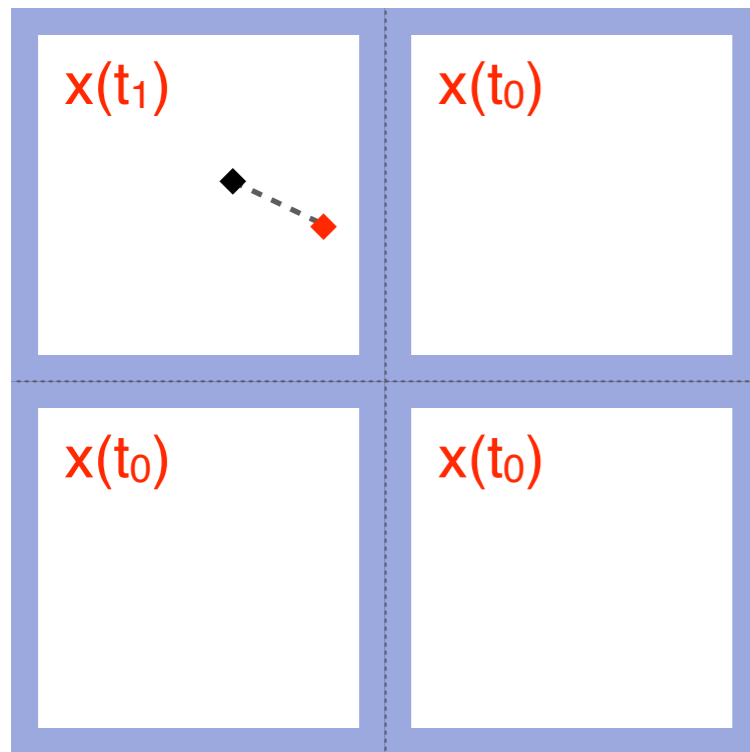
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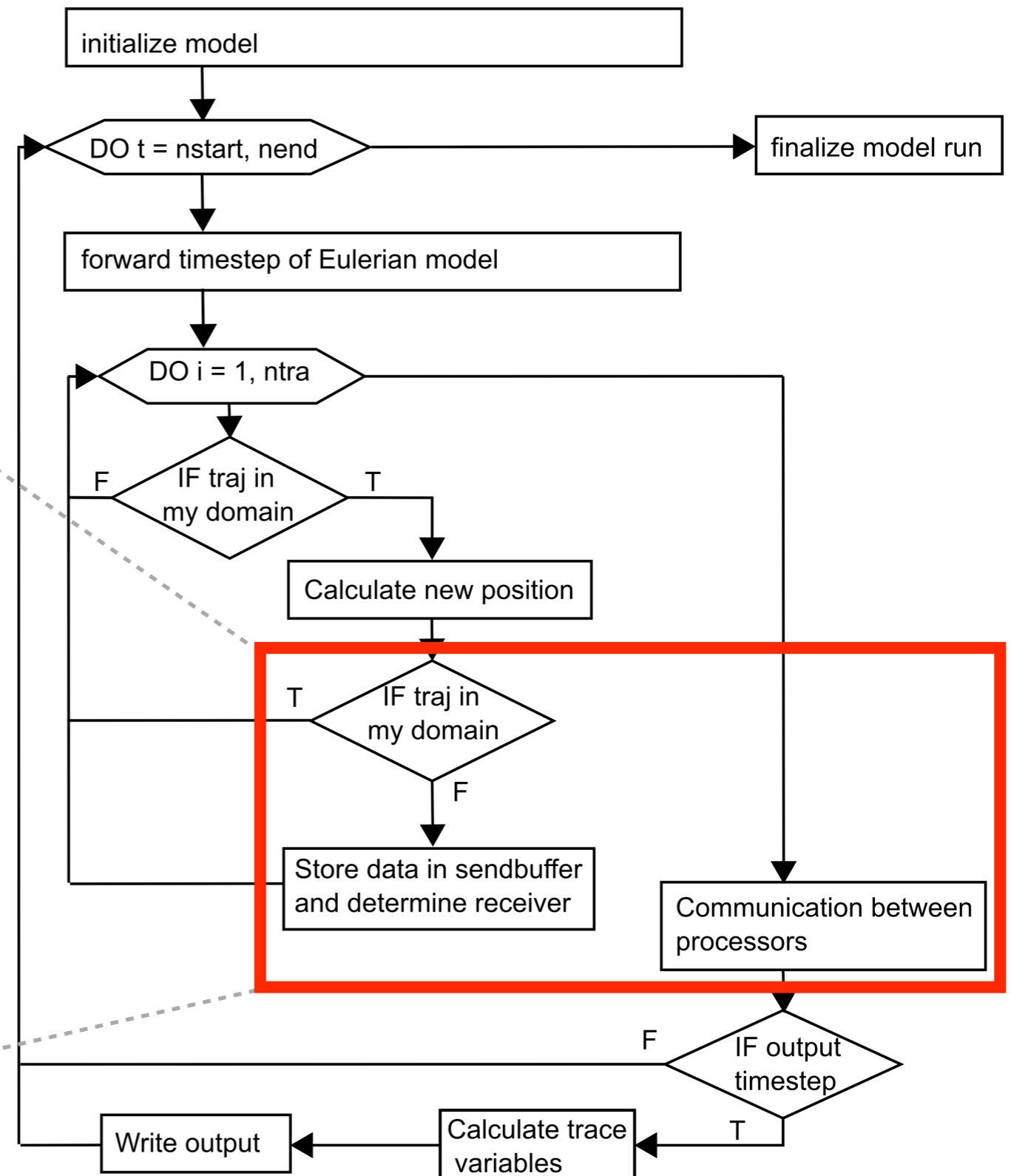


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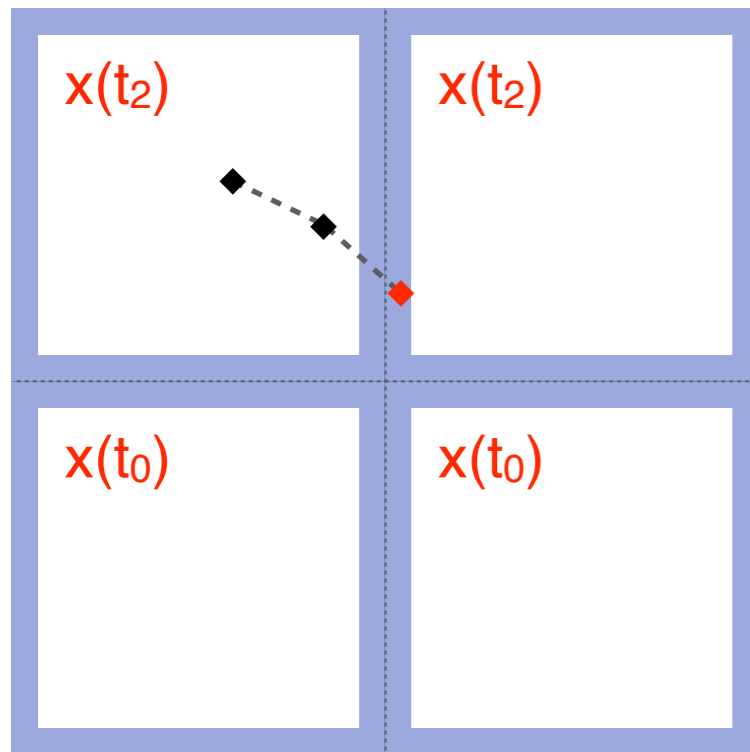


$t = 0$
 $t = 1$

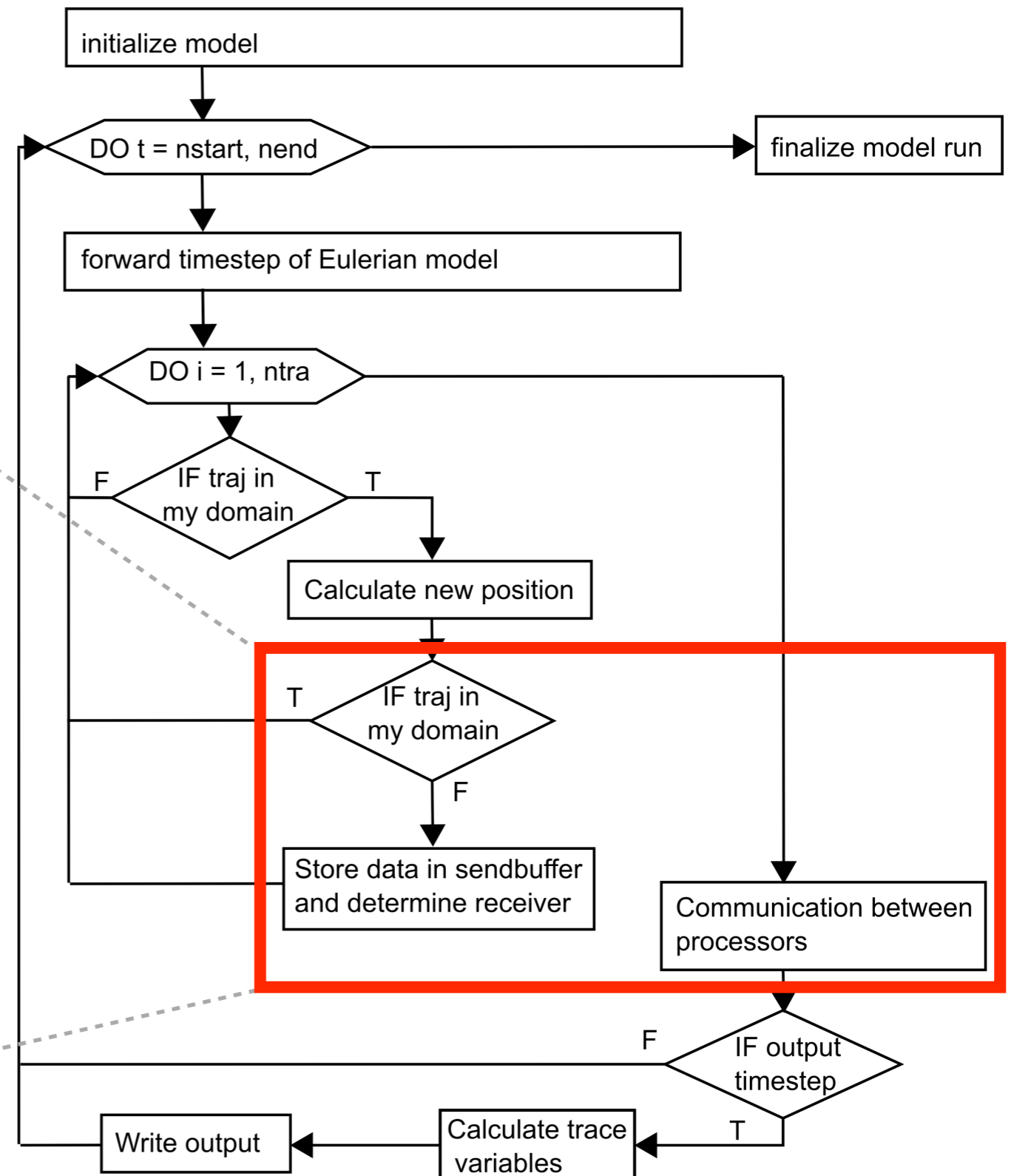


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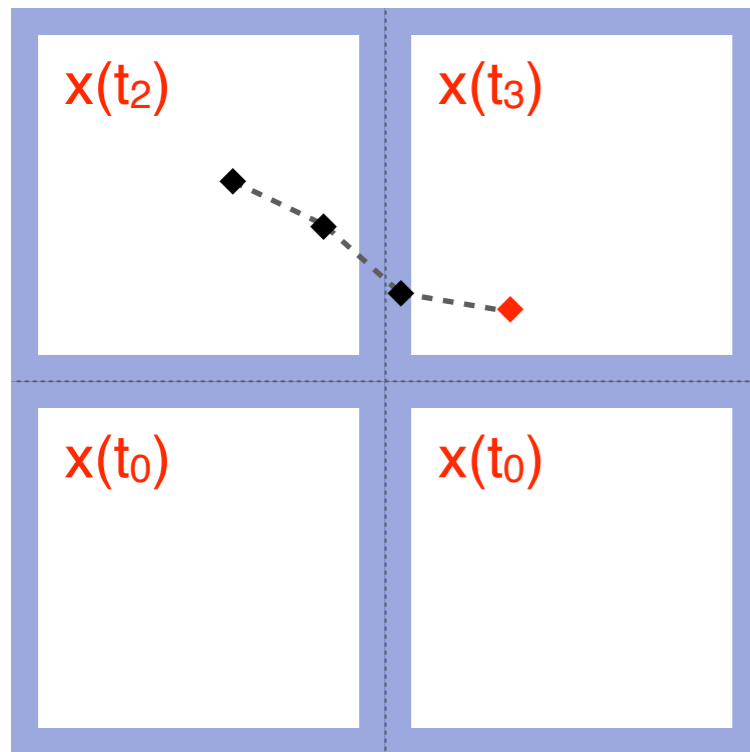


t = 0
t = 1
t = 2

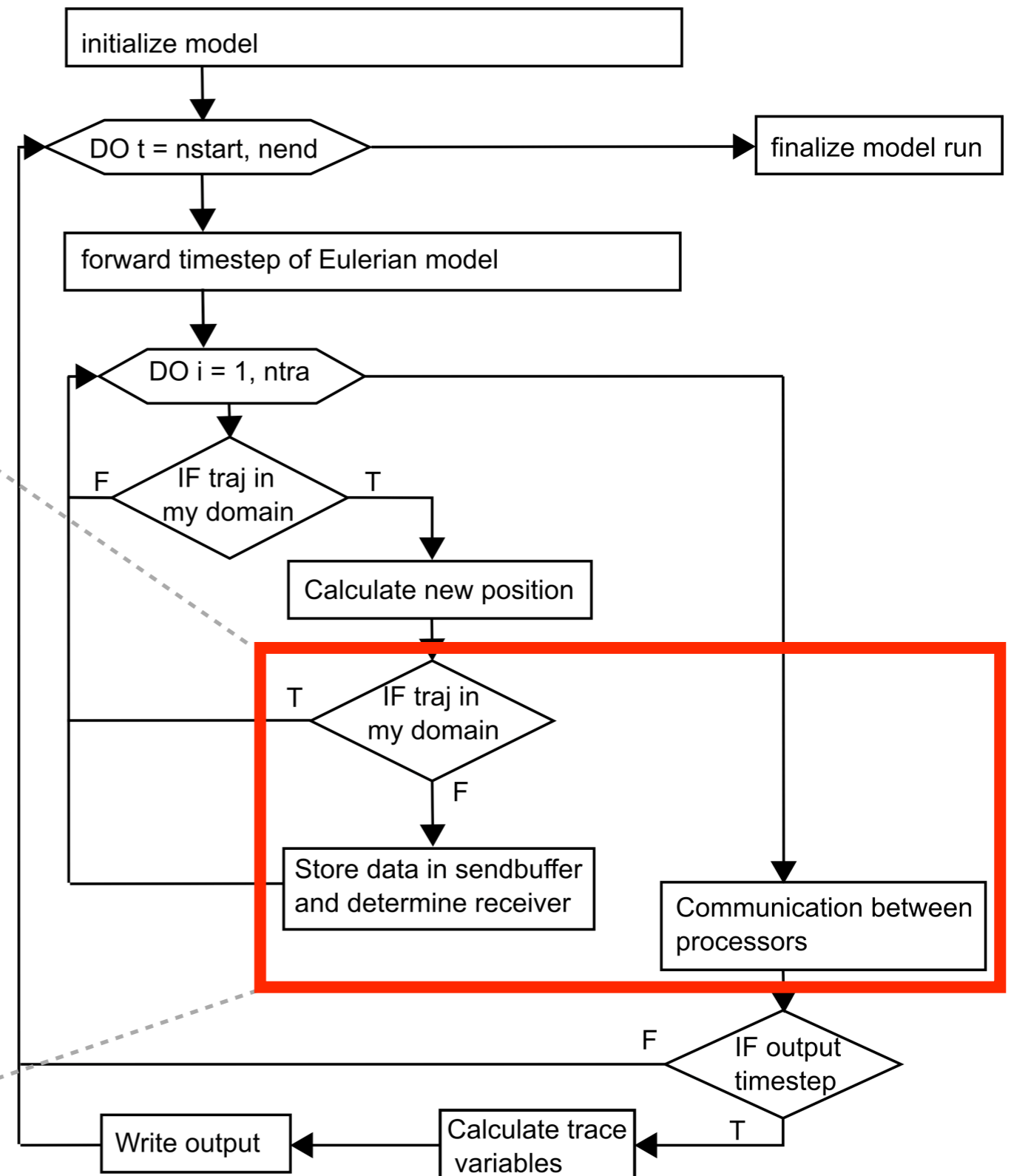


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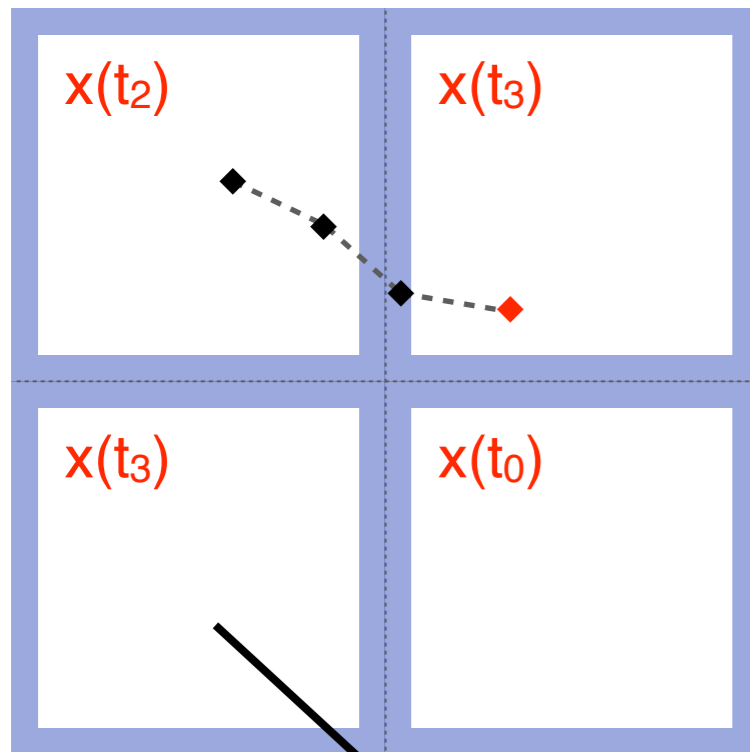


t = 0
t = 1
t = 2
t = 3



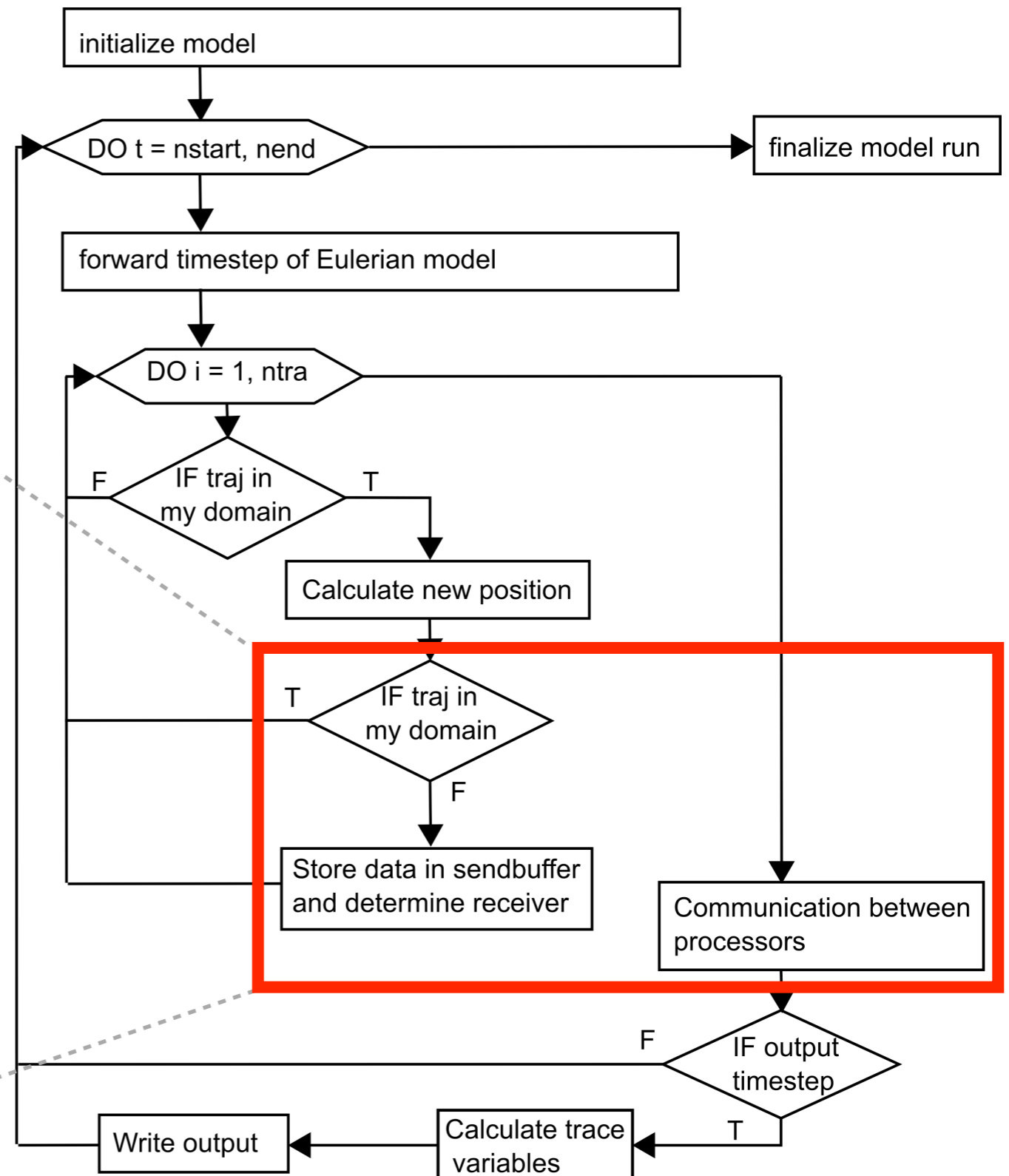
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t = 0
t = 1
t = 2
t = 3

write to file



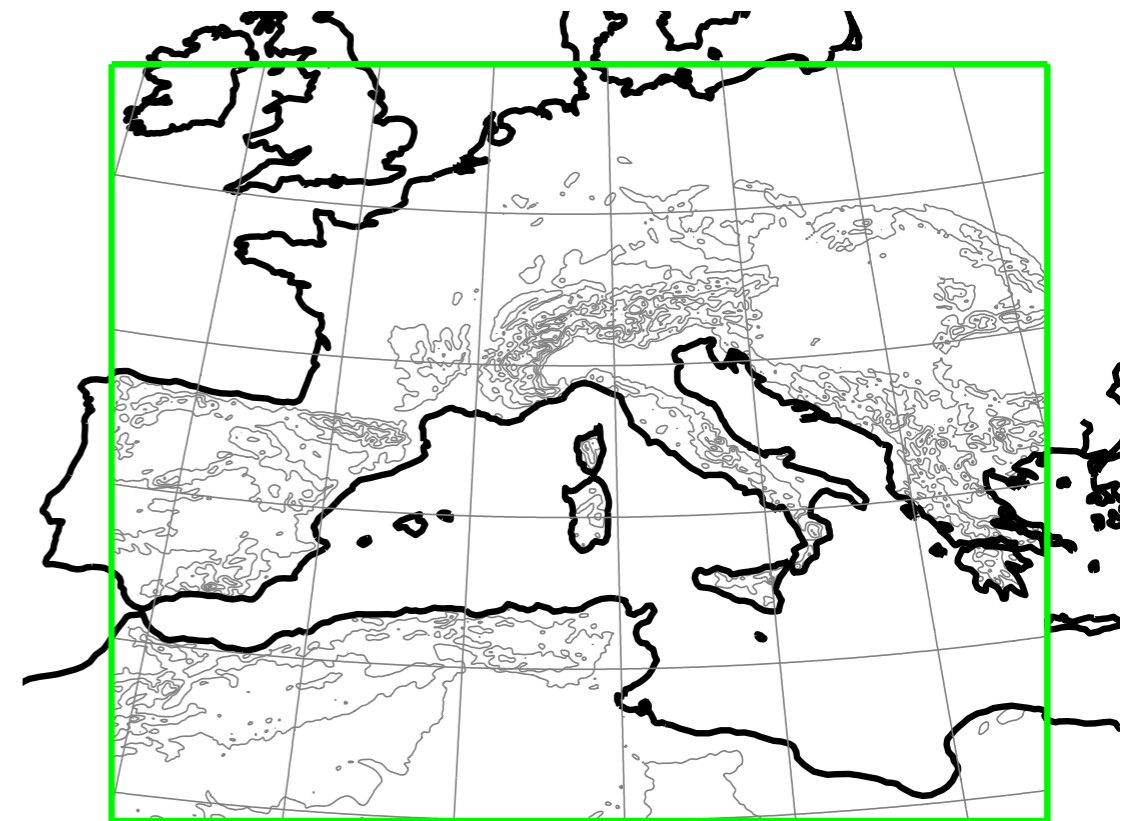
an alpine foehn event: 25 - 27 July 1987

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horizontal resolution	14 km	7 km	2.2 km
vertical resolution	40	40	60
timestep	40 s	40 s	20 s
convection param.	full	ful	shallow
BC / IC	ERA40	ERA40	7km

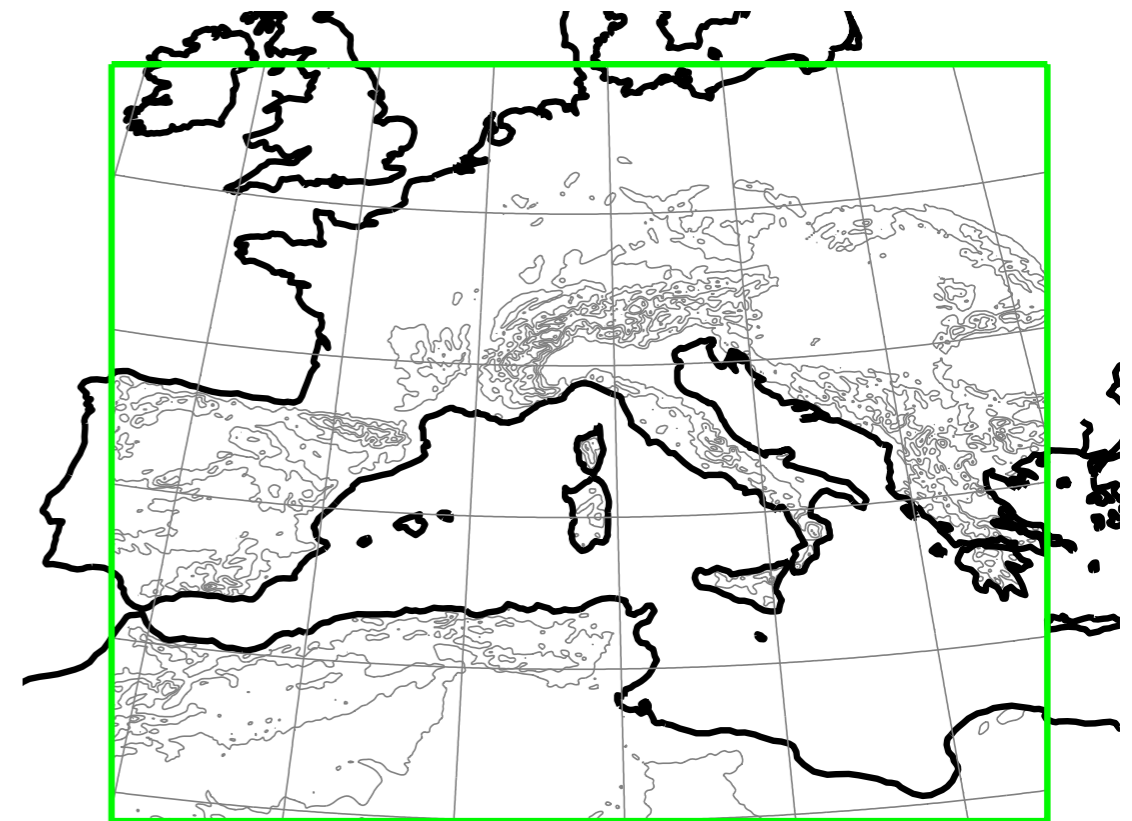


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 - ▶ based on 6-, 3- and 1-hourly COSMO output
 - ▶ jump flag

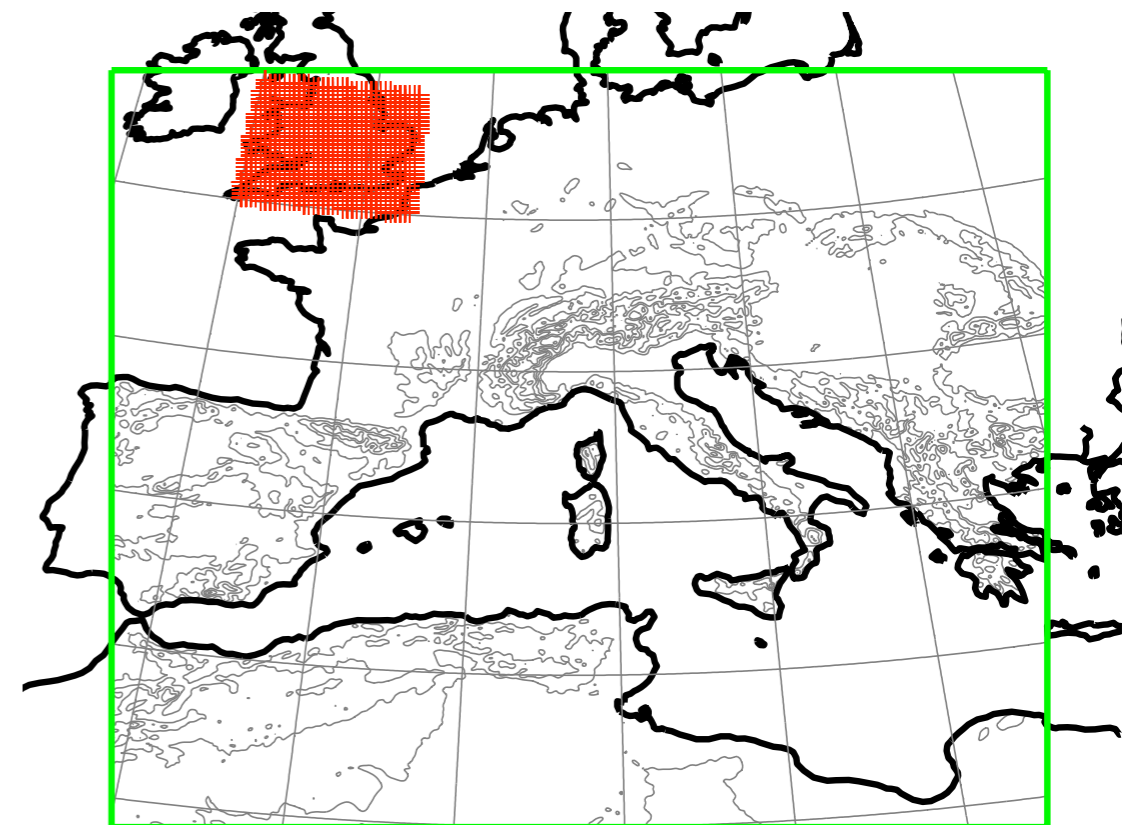


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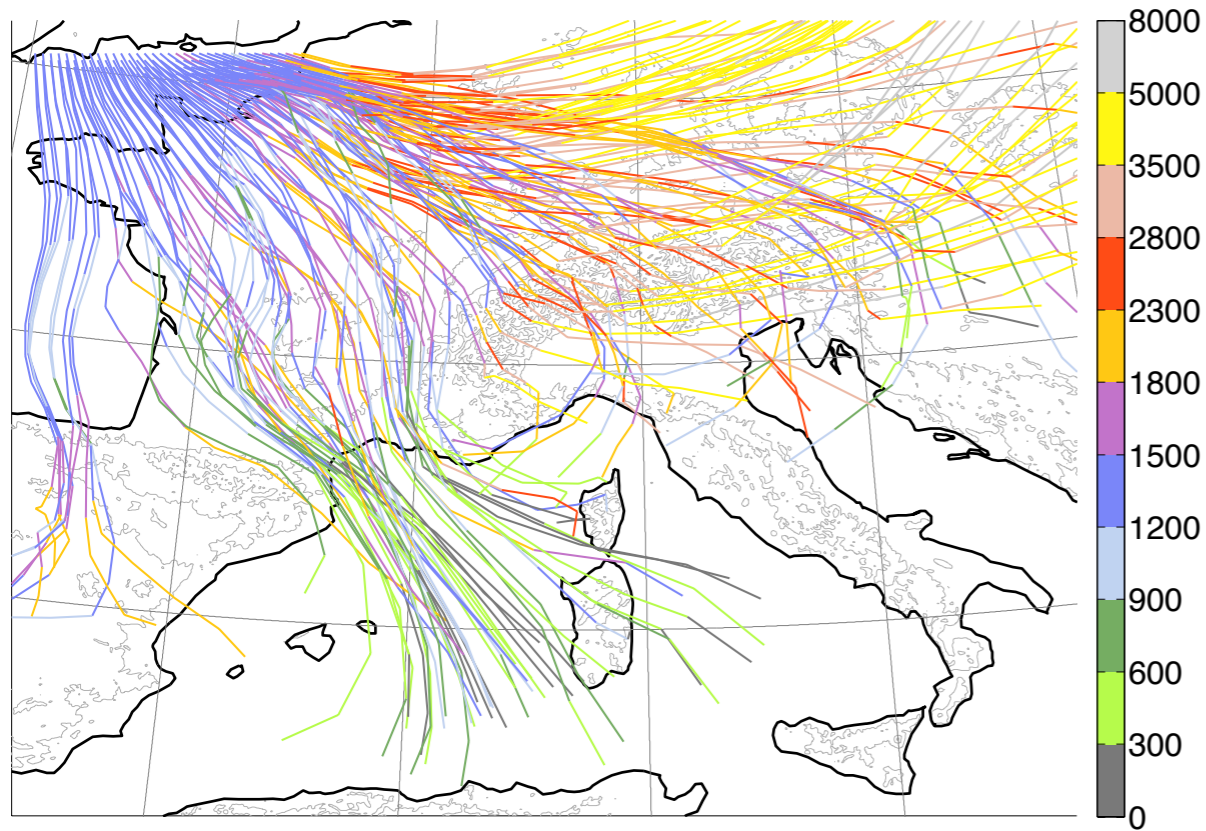
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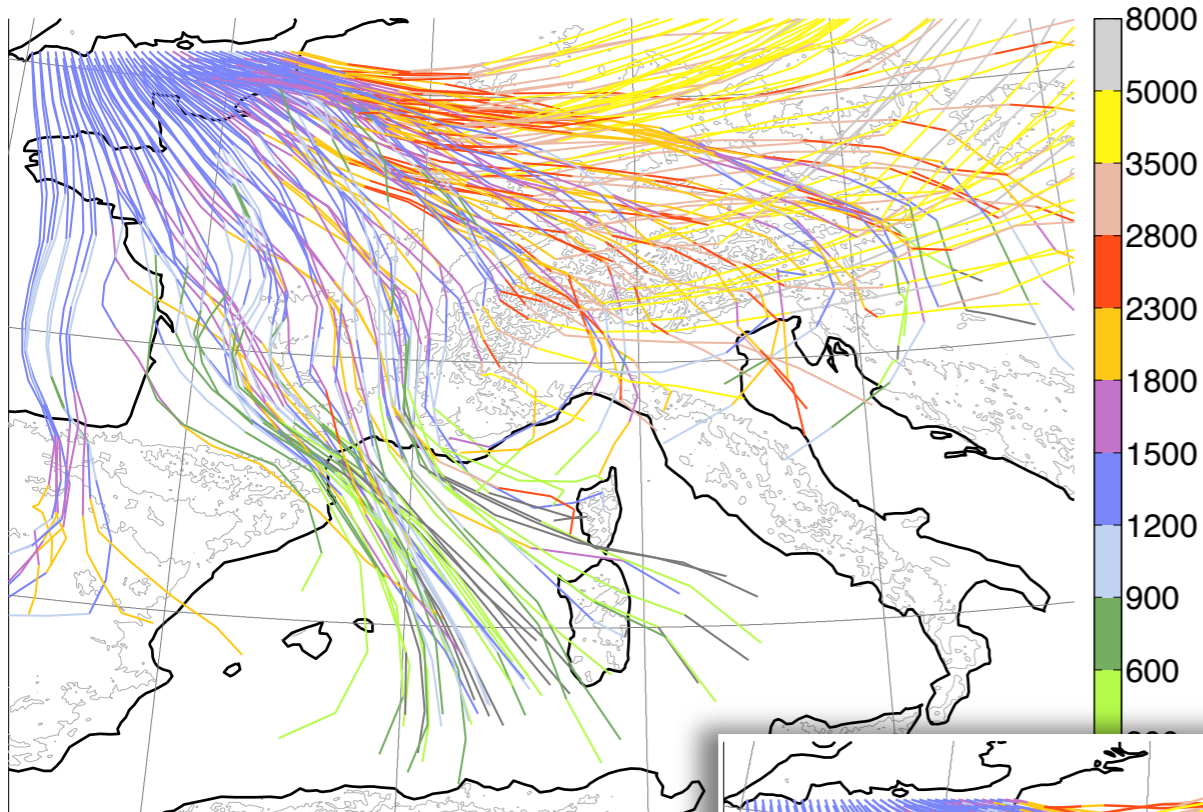
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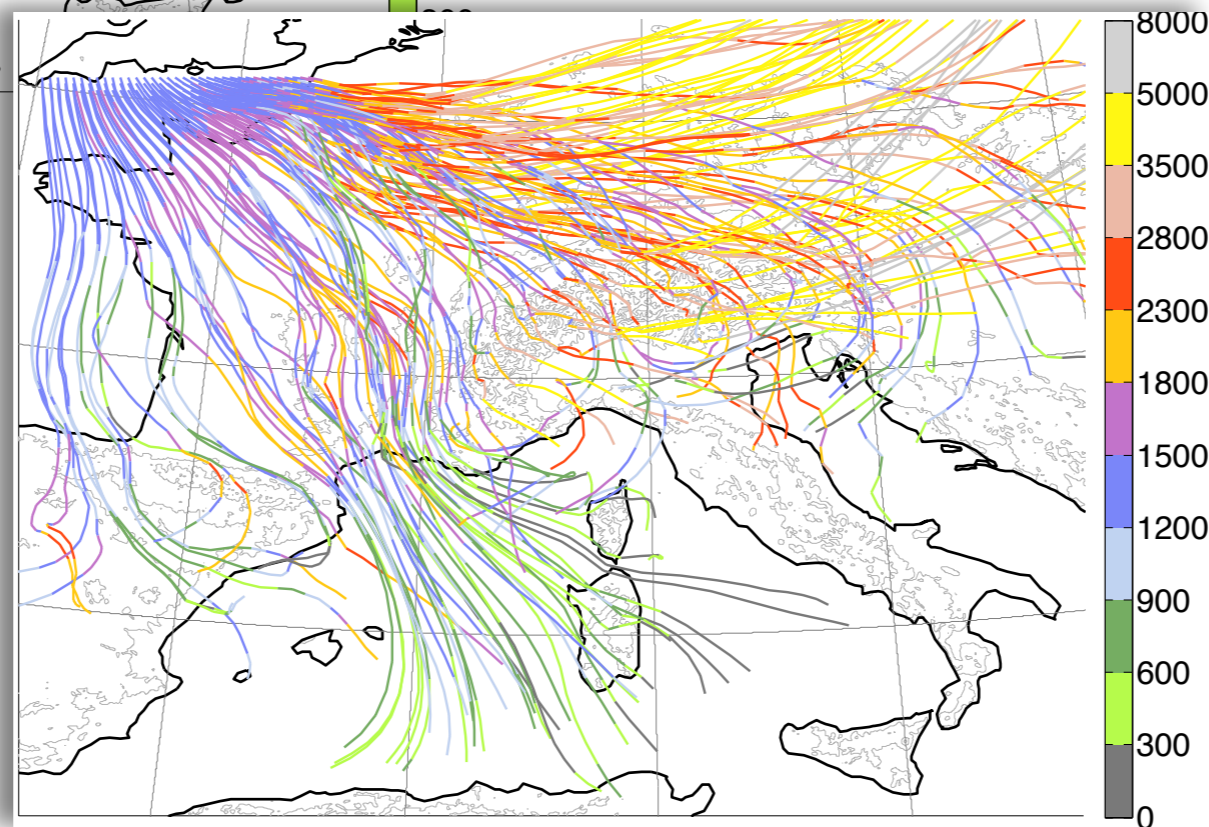
$\Delta t = 3h$; offline trajectories (COSMO2.2)



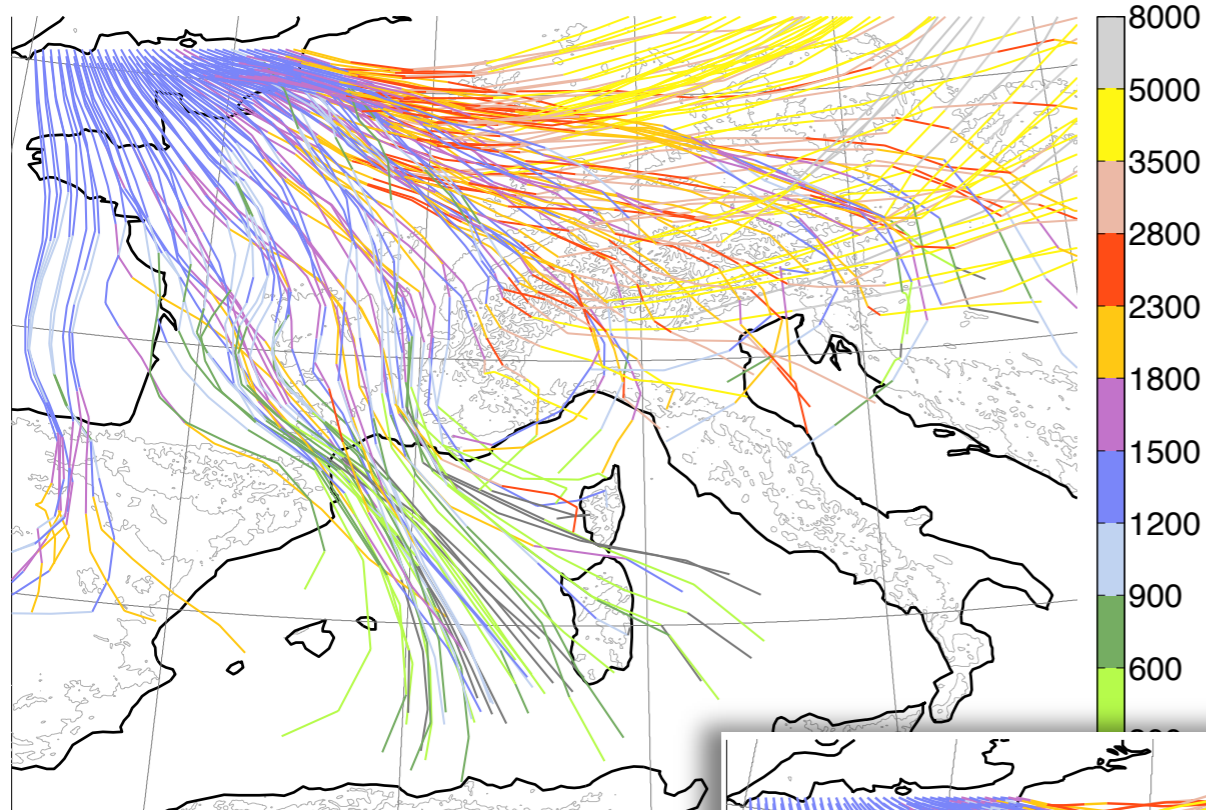
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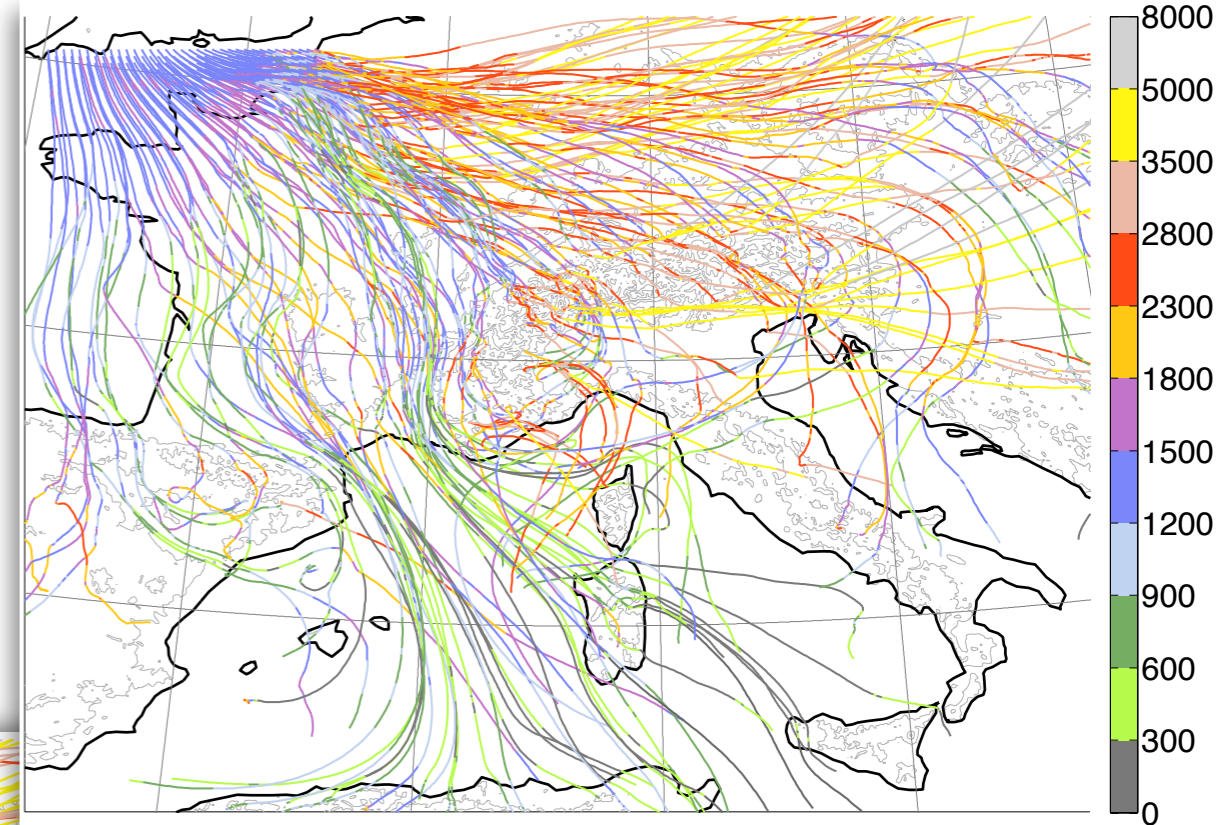
$\Delta t = 1h$; offline trajectories (COSMO2.2)



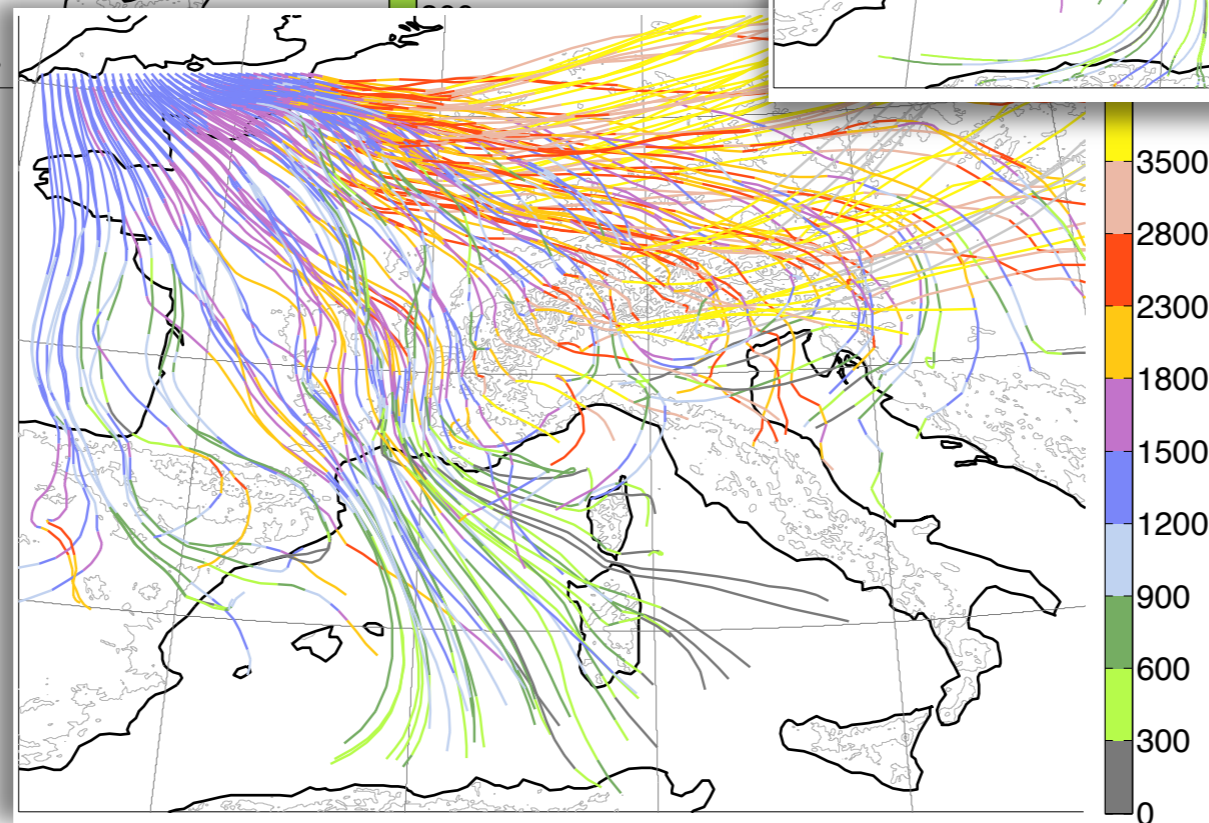
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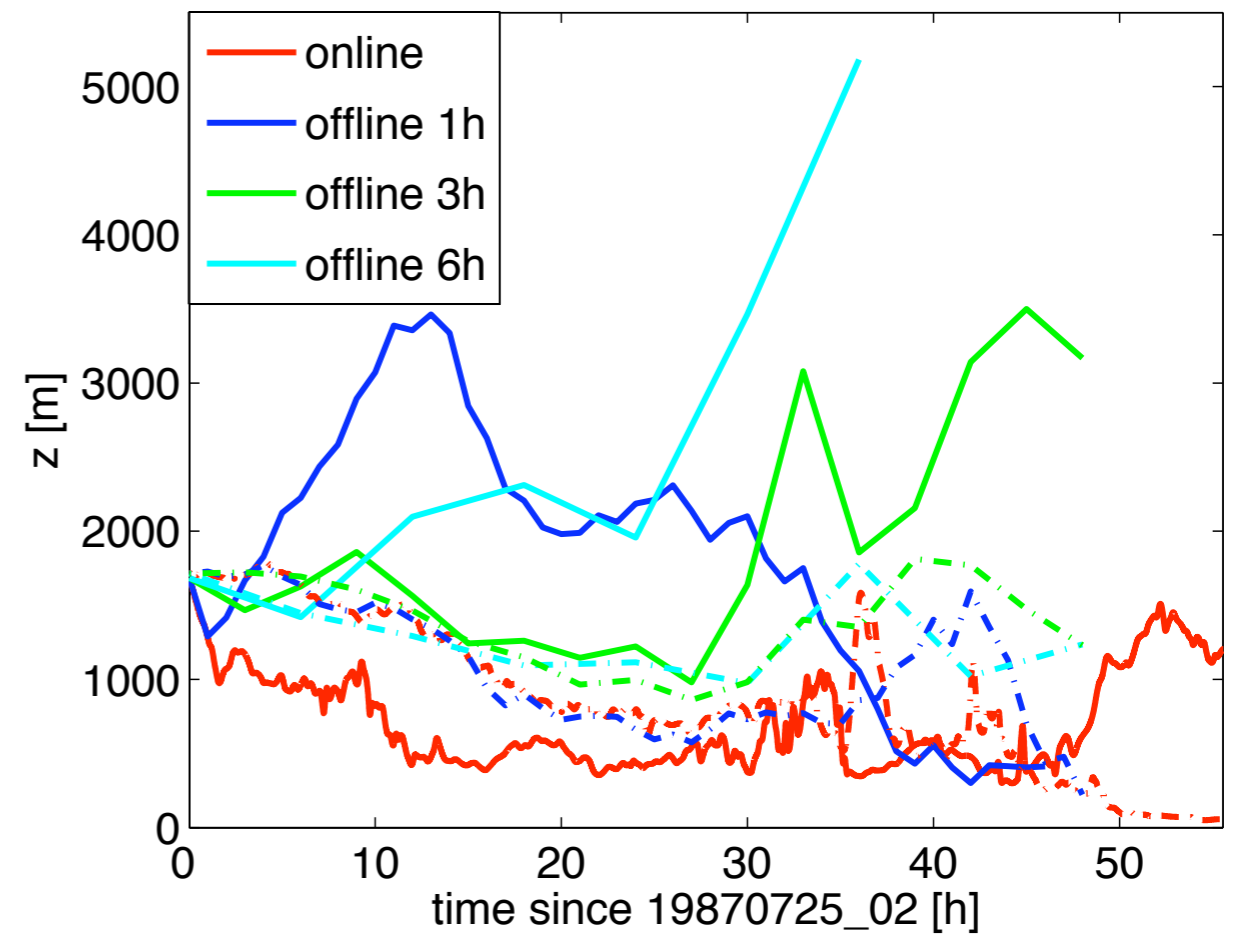
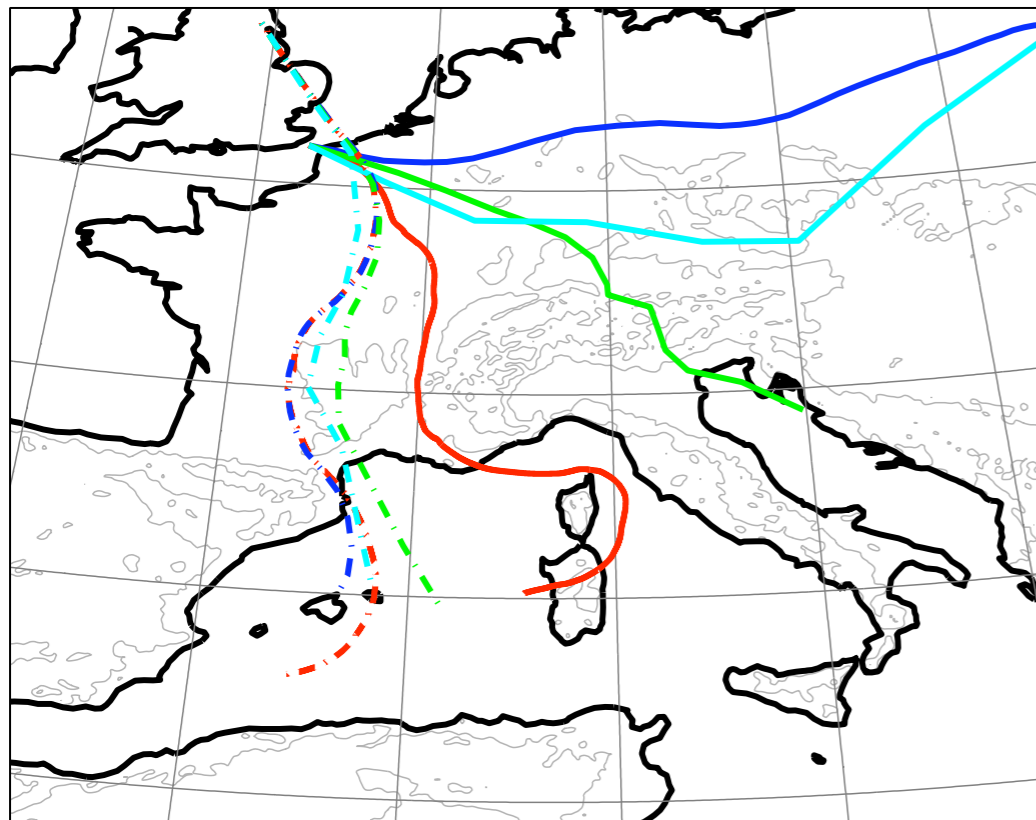
$\Delta t = 20s$; online trajectories (COSMO2.2)



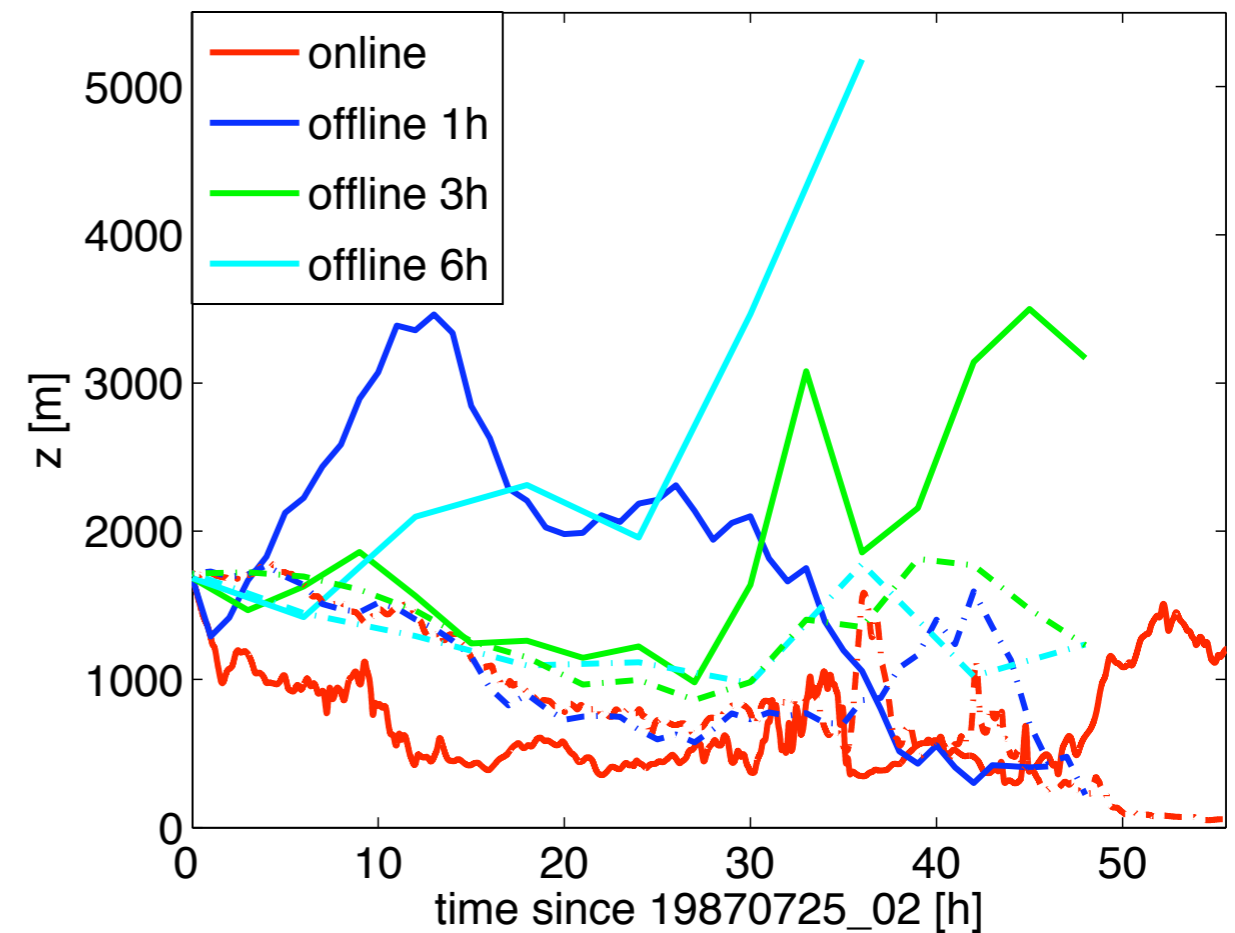
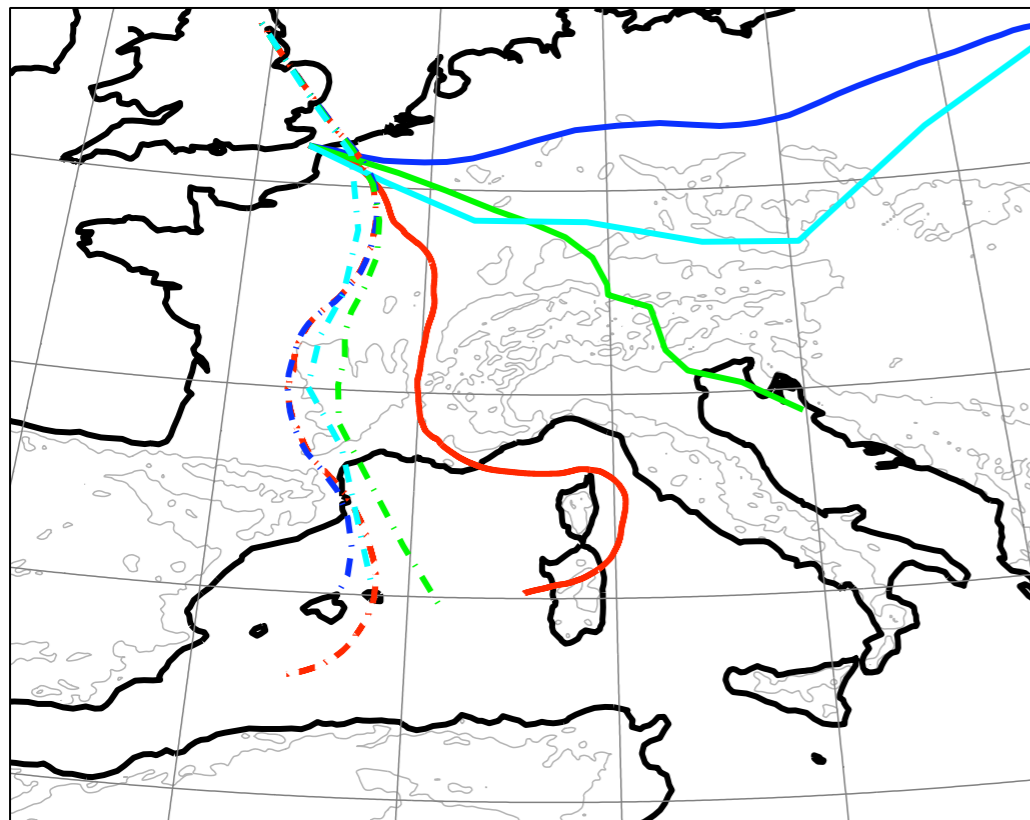
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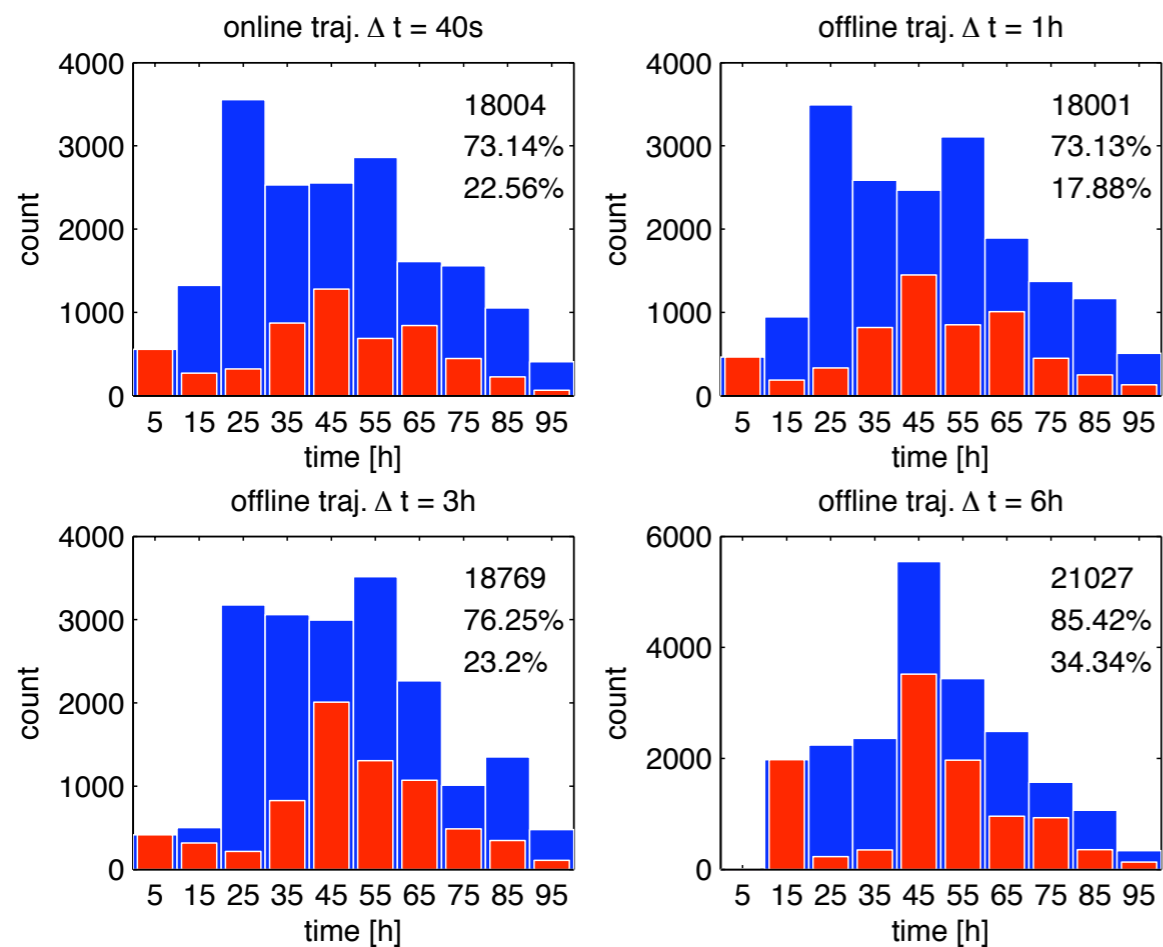
- ▶ average horizontal displacement after 48 h : 210 - 500 km
- ▶ average vertical displacement after 48 h : 445 - 980 m

I. Challenges

- ▶ no backward trajectories possible
- ▶ specification of starting region
- ▶ terrain intersection problem

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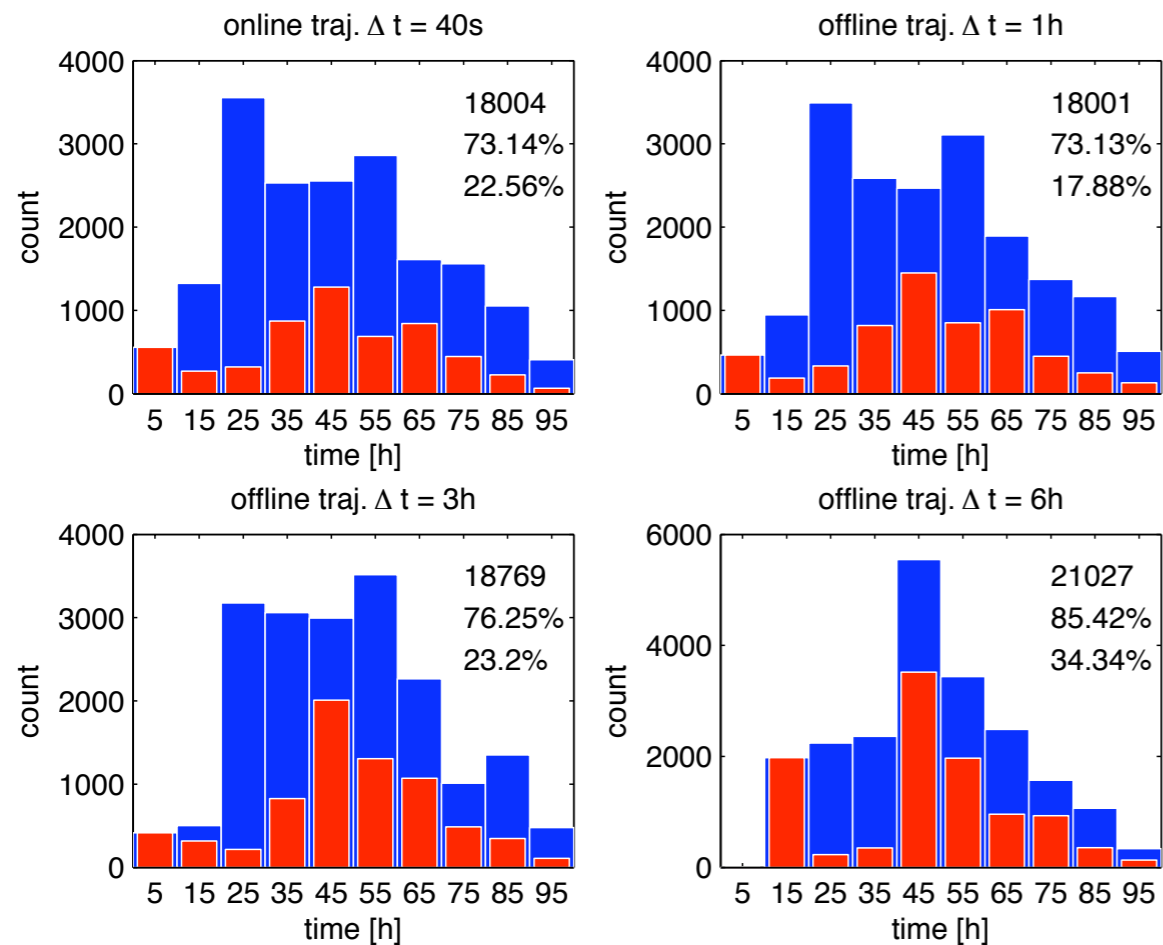
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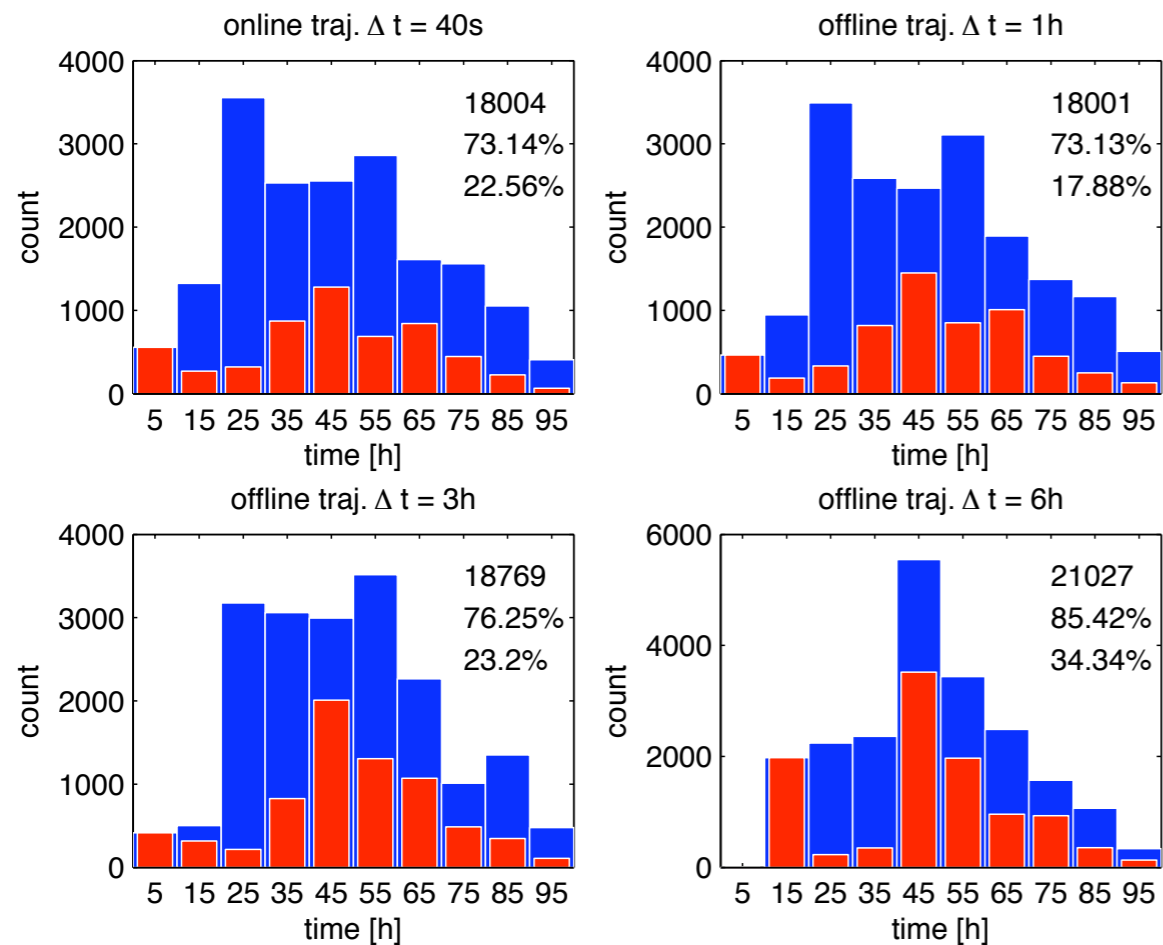


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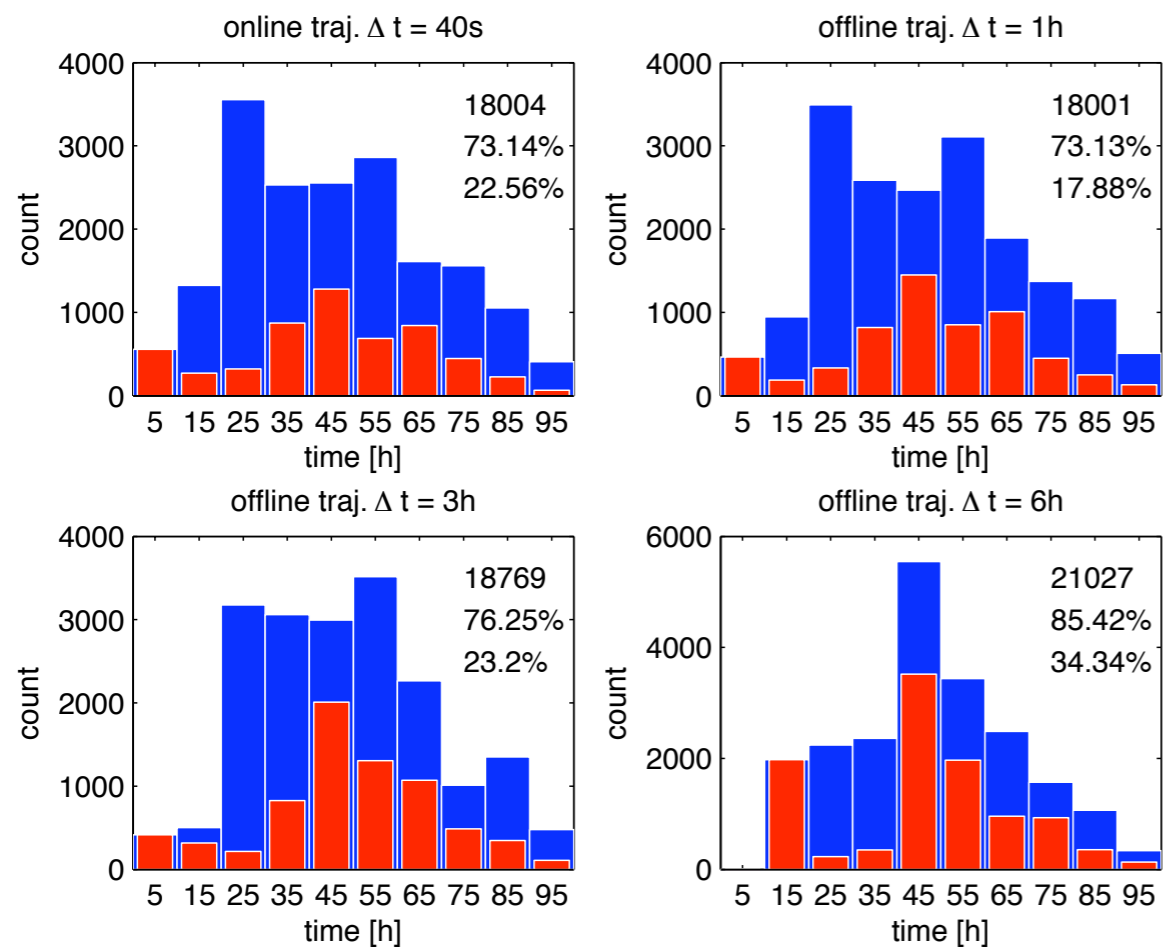
II. Potentials

- ▶ small numerical errors
- ▶ very high temporal resolution matching high spatial resolution
- ▶ run time increase below 30%
- ▶ appropriate for small scale phenomena



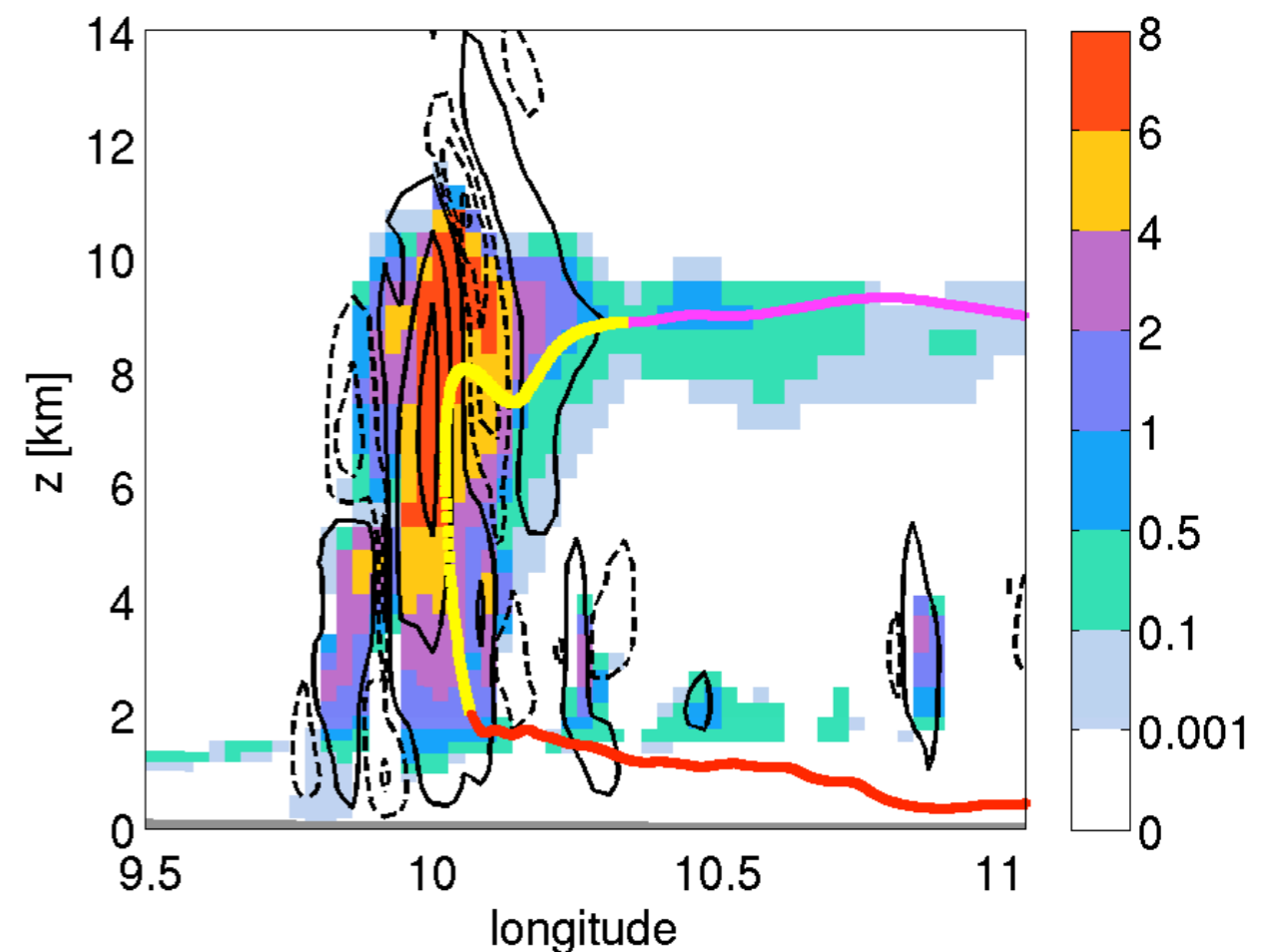
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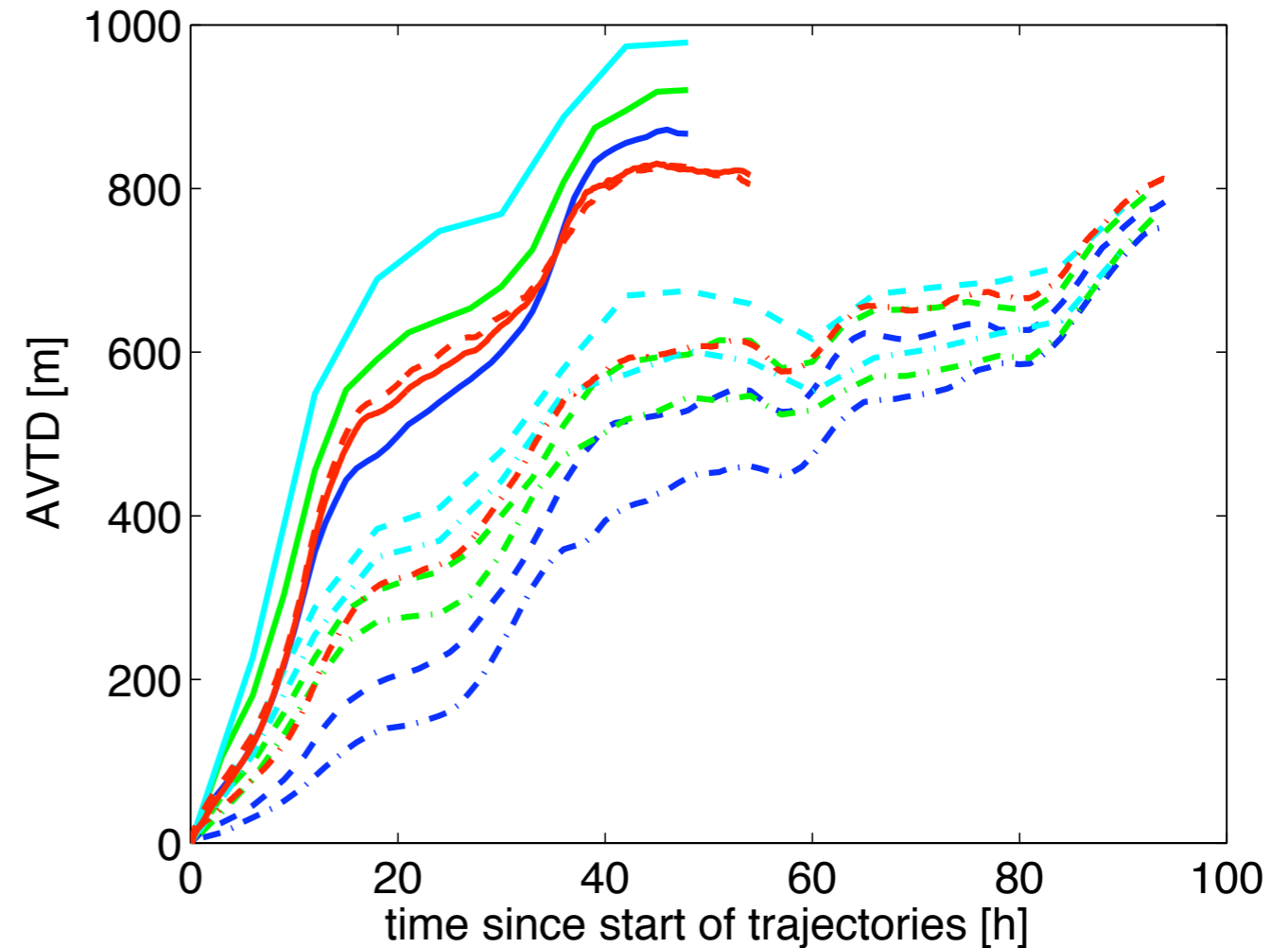
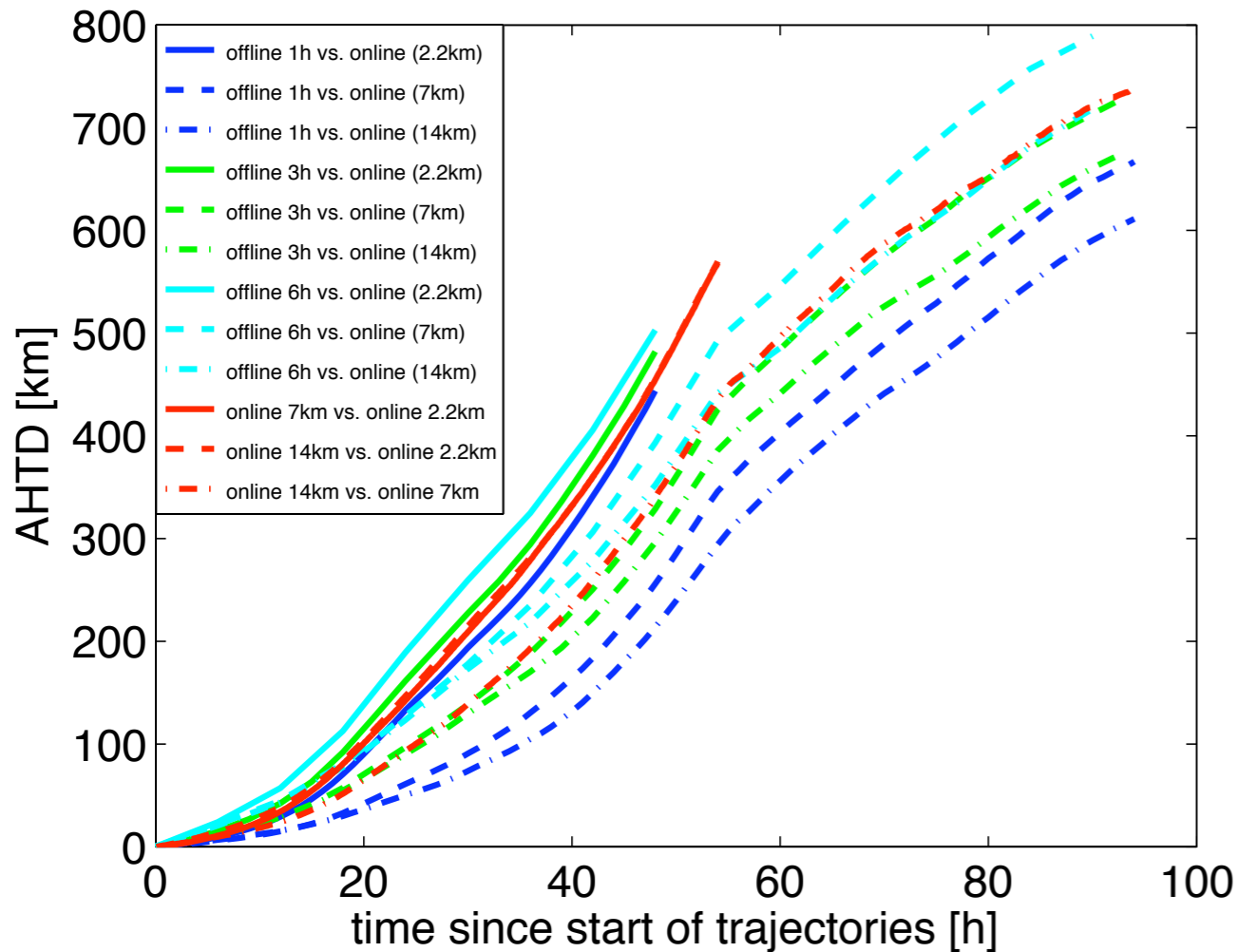
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- ▶ very high temporal resolution matching high spatial resolution
- ▶ run time increase below 30%
- ▶ appropriate for small scale phenomena





- ▶ average horizontal displacement after 48 h : 210 - 500 km
- ▶ average vertical displacement after 48 h : 445 - 980 m

$$[\text{distance measure } \text{AHTD}(t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N ((X_n(t) - x_n(t))^2 + (Y_n(t) - y_n(t))^2)^{0.5}]$$

Performance of COSMO with online trajectory module for the Alpine case study (16 processors for COSMO14 and COSMO7; 128 for COSMO2.2)

	$\Delta x = 14$ km	$\Delta x = 7$ km	$\Delta x = 2.2$ km
without trajectory module (reference: COSMO14 without trajectory module)	0.00	3.16	13.2
with trajectory module (reference: COSMO14 without trajectory module)	0.264	3.45	13.6
with trajectory module (reference: simulation without trajectory module)	0.264	0.0681	0.0366

