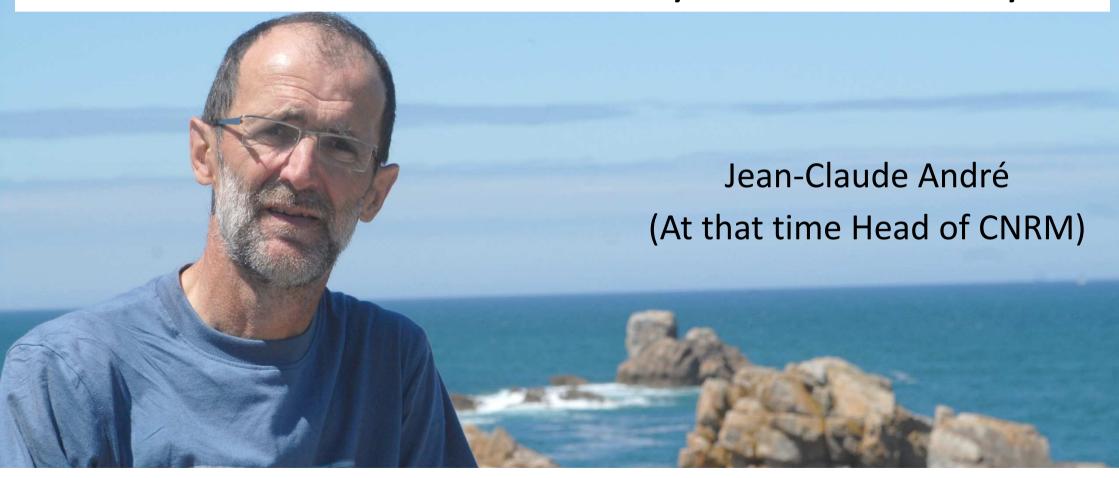
A tribute to Joël Noilhan Memories from the early scientific days



The very early days

Born in Clarens (Hautes Pyrénées) on October 9, 1953





University days (1/3)

University Paul Sabatier (Toulouse)

1974: "DUES" in physics

1976: "Maîtrise" in physics

1977: "DEA"

(Energie et pollution physico chimique du milieu atmosphérique)

1978-80: "Thèse de 3ème cycle" in Nantes (DGRST grant)

(Contribution à l'étude du microclimat au voisinage d'un bâtiment)

University days (2/3)

University Paul Sabatier

1980: Starting a "Thèse d'Etat" under B. Benech's guidance

The Météotron in Lannemezan, under an EDF contract



- Environmental impact of dumping waste dry heat
- Verify and test a 3d numerical model for the simulation of the atmospheric response



5 km away from Clarens!

1983 – "HAPEX vs. EDF« (1/4)

The HAPEX concept

J. Smagorinsky (early 70's): Simulation of climate using an atmospheric GCM

The parameterization problem (at that time $\Delta x \sim 500$ km)

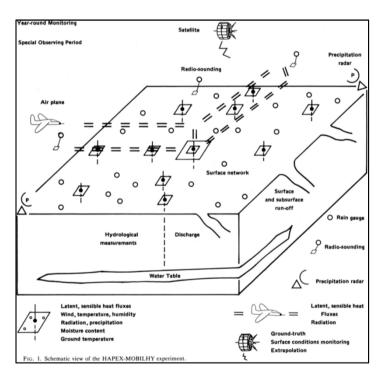
Documenting subgrid-scale processes

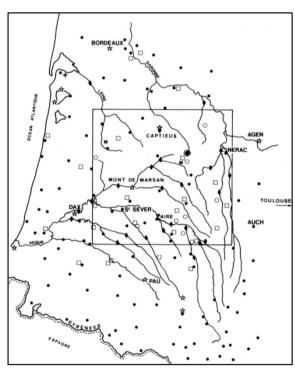
Early 80's: HAPEX, Hydrologic-Atmospheric Pilot Experiment

Commissioned by P. Morel (WCRP Director) with J.P. Goutorbe to check the feasibility and define the concept

1983 – "HAPEX *vs.* EDF« (2/4)

Definition of the HAPEX-MOBILHY experiment, planned for 1986





André, J.C., J.P. Goutorbe et A. Perrier, 1986: "HAPEX-MOBILHY: A hydrologic atmospheric experiment for the study of water budget and evaporation flux at the climatic scale". Bulletin American Meteorological Society, **67**, 138-144.

Crucial need for 1d modelling of the soil upper-layer ... opening of a position at CNRM

1983 – "HAPEX *vs.* EDF« (3/4)

The end of the EDF contract

Je, soussigné Bruno Bénech, Chef du Centre de Recherches Atmosphériques, agissant en qualité de représentant du Directeur de 1'I.O.P.G. D. Ramond, certifie que Monsieur Joël Noilhan est actuellement employé dans notre Laboratoire comme ingénieur 3A 3ème échelon dans le cadre de la Convention de Recherche n° 16455 conclue entre l'Université de Clermont II et E.B.F. depuis février 1980. La fin de ce contrat, renouvelé tous les ans prend fin en septembre 1983.

Fait à Lannemezan, le 19 juillet 1983

B. BENECH

1983 – "HAPEX vs. EDF« (4/4)

Comple term des difficultés qui apparaissent par ma plabilisation au C.R.A, et cei malgré le soutien de mes collègues, pe mis contraint de durcher un empli auprès des divers laborations de recherche. Dans l'hypothèse au me solution mait travée, j'envisagnais de cener mus me solution mait travée, j'envisagnais de cener mus activités au C.R.A en accord avec T! BENECH.

Two candidates were ranked for the position

#1: A Parisian girl with already experience in land-surface modelling

#2: Joël, promising but with no experience yet in the field

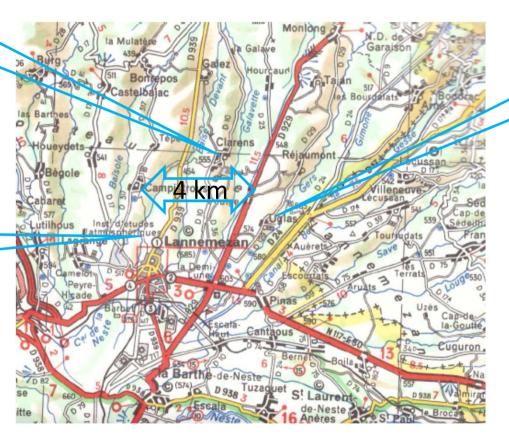
... but the boy friend of #1 could not move to Toulouse, #2 was then hired on Sept. 15, 1983!

A difficult move?

Where he was born

Where he was living

Where he was working



At that time administration was easy and fast, although using surface mail!

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2 Dest.	Arr.	36p.
3 Dest.	Arr.	Dép.
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University days (3/3)

University Paul Sabatier

1980-(83)-85: Thèse d'Etat (based on accepted papers)

Experimental Study of an Artificial Thermal Plume in the Boundary Layer (Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology, **25**, 1986)

- * Part I (Benech, Noilhan, Druilhet, Brustet, Carpentier): Flow characteristics near the heat source (pp. 418-437)
- * Part II (Noilhan, Benech, Letrenne, Druilhet, Saab): Some aspects of the plume thermodynamical structure (pp.439-457)
- * Part III (Noilhan, Benech): Dynamic structure within the plume (pp.458-467)

Joël and the land-surface s (1/3)

From small-scale physical processes and water and heat storage and transfer in the upper-soil layer, during HAPEX-MOBILHY,

to 1D modelling,

and to contained land-surface parametrization schemes, the birth of the Noilhan-Planton scheme

Joël and the land-surface (2/3)

André, J.C., J.P. Goutorbe, A. Perrier, J.Noilhan and 27 other co-authors, **1988**: "Evaporation over land-surfaces: First results from HAPEX-MOBILHY Special Observing Period". <u>Annales Geophysicae</u>, **6**, 477-492.

André, J.C., Ph. Bougeault, J.F. Mahfouf, P. Mascart, J. Noilhan et J.P. Pinty, **1989**: "Impact of forests on mesoscale meteorology". <u>Philosophical Transactions Royal Society London</u>, **B324**, 407-422.

- Noilhan, J., J.C. André, Ph. Bougeault, J.P. Goutorbe et P. Lacarrère, **1991**: "Some aspects of the HAPEX-MOBILHY programme: The data base and the modelling strategy". <u>Survey Geophysics</u>, **12**, 31-61.
- Bolle, H.J., J.C. André, J. Noilhan and 34 other co-authors, **1993**: "EFEDA: European field experiment in a desertification-threatened area". <u>Annales Geophysicae</u>, 11, 173-189.

André, J.C., J. Noilhan et J.P. Goutorbe, 1999: "Mesoscale field experiments and models". Global Energy and Water Cycles, Cambridge University Press, 183-199.

Joël and land-surface programmes (3/3)

L. Molion Lambada Brazil G. McBean BOREAS/MAGS Canada H. Bolle EFEDA Spain A. Perrier HAPEX-MOBILHY France R. Murphy FIFE USA JCA H-M, HAPEX-Sahel Niger

Joël is not on the picture, but he participated in most of the large-scale, land-surface field experiments coordinated by this WCRP working group!



This was just the beginning of the story, much more to come with Philippe!