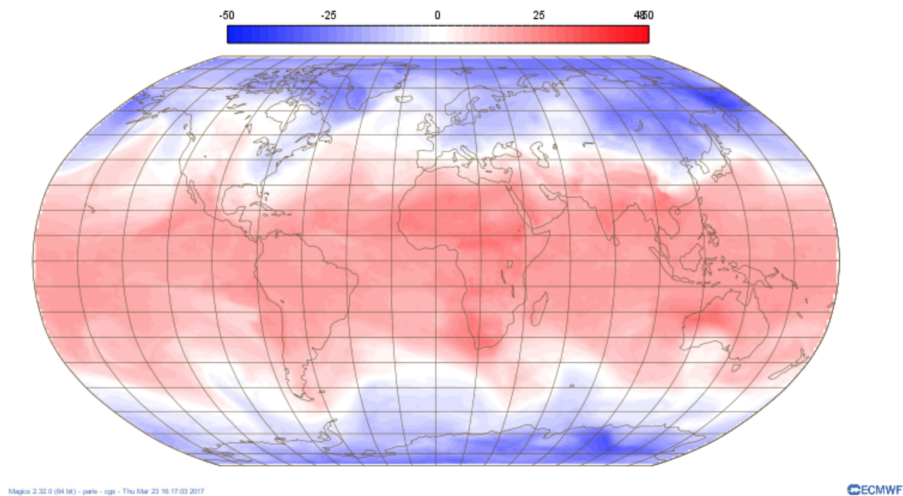


# March 2017 Software release

This week saw the March 2017 release of the standard ECMWF software packages. This month's release brings for ecCodes updates on the support of GRIB parameters and improvements on the BUFR decode performance and on the keys iterator. These changes are required for the next IFS cycle Cy45r1. This version of ecCodes was also used for the March 2017 Training course: [ecCodes: BUFR data decoding and encoding software](#). There are smaller incremental updates on ODB\_API, Magics and Metview.

Reminder: Starting with the November 2016 release **all packages now use ecCodes as their default library to decode/encode GRIB data**, instead of GRIB\_API. While we are confident that ecCodes is to a high degree backwards compatible with GRIB\_API, **we strongly recommend good testing** before using the software in your operational environments. In case you prefer to continue using GRIB\_API for now, we provide a minor update release of this package, but recommend that you move to ecCodes eventually, since new features will only be implemented in ecCodes.

Metview 4.8.4 is built at ECMWF with all the versions of our libraries listed in the table below, and all are included in the March 2017 [Metview Bundle](#).



*Magics 2.32 introduces a new gradient shading style. This will also be available in the upcoming Metview 5.0, along with new editor features to handle it.*

All these packages use the same build system based on CMake - simplifying and harmonising the installation experience. The versions are available on all ECMWF computer systems as "new" versions. If you encounter any issues please feel free to send feedback to [Software.Support@ecmwf.int](mailto:Software.Support@ecmwf.int).

ecCodes	2.2.0	<a href="#">ecCodes version 2.2.0 released</a>
GRIB_API	1.21.0	GRIB API version 1.21.0 released
Ecoslib	4.4.7	<a href="#">Versions 4.4.x / 00044x Updates</a> (Includes Interpolation & BUFRDC)
BUFRDC	000409	BUFRDC 000409 released
ODB_API	0.16.2	<a href="#">Beta version</a> <a href="#">Change history</a>
Magics	2.32.0	<a href="#">Latest News</a>
Metview	4.8.4	<a href="#">Version 4.8 Updates</a>