

Operational products on Clouds and Radiation



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Deutscher
Wetterdienst

Clouds, Albedo, Top-of-Atmosphere
Radiation and Surface Radiation

1. Overview
2. General features of the data fields
3. Application examples
4. Some questions?

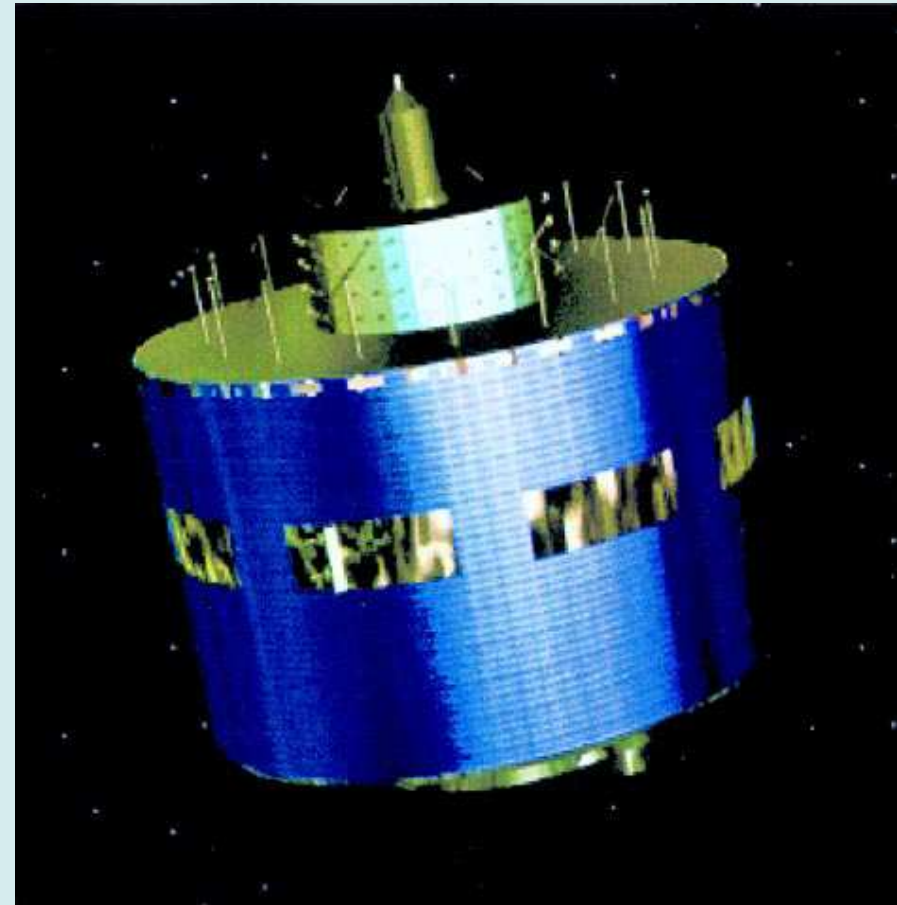
The protagonists:

1) Meteosat second generation

-geostationary → high temporal resolution

-field of view → constant with time, centered at 0°

-instruments used by CM SAF: SEVIRI + GERB



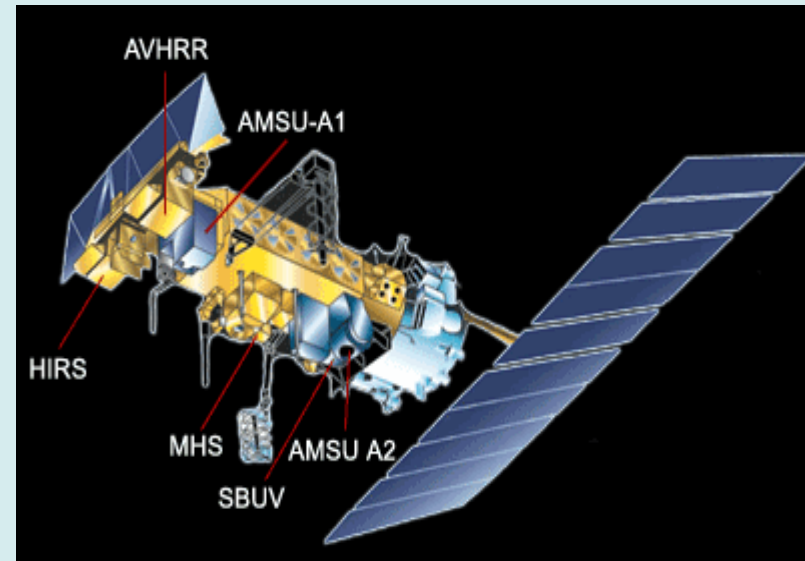
from Schmetz et al. (2002)

2) global players NOAA + Metop

- polar orbiting → repetition cycle is 2/day

- global view of the earth

- instrument used by CM SAF: AVHRR, ATOVS as well as CERES on AQUA



NOAA18 from NASA website

general information on satellite meteorology can be found at:

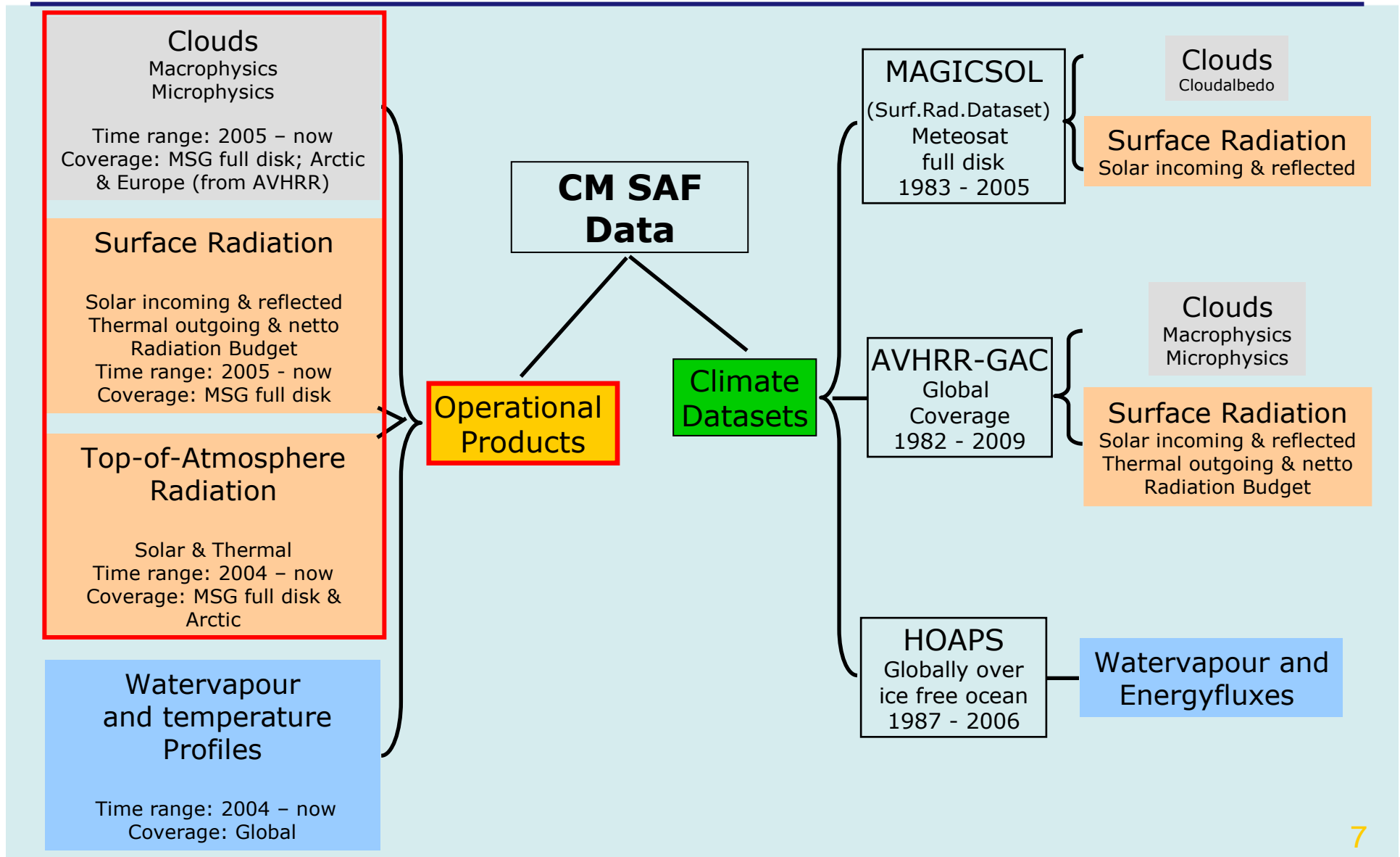
http://eumetrain.org/courses/basic_satellite_meteorology.html 4

The CM SAF products are categorized in

- “near real time” operational products (routinely and operationally produced data sets in support to climate monitoring)
- data sets based on carefully intersensor calibrated radiances

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Products are available in various temporal formats:

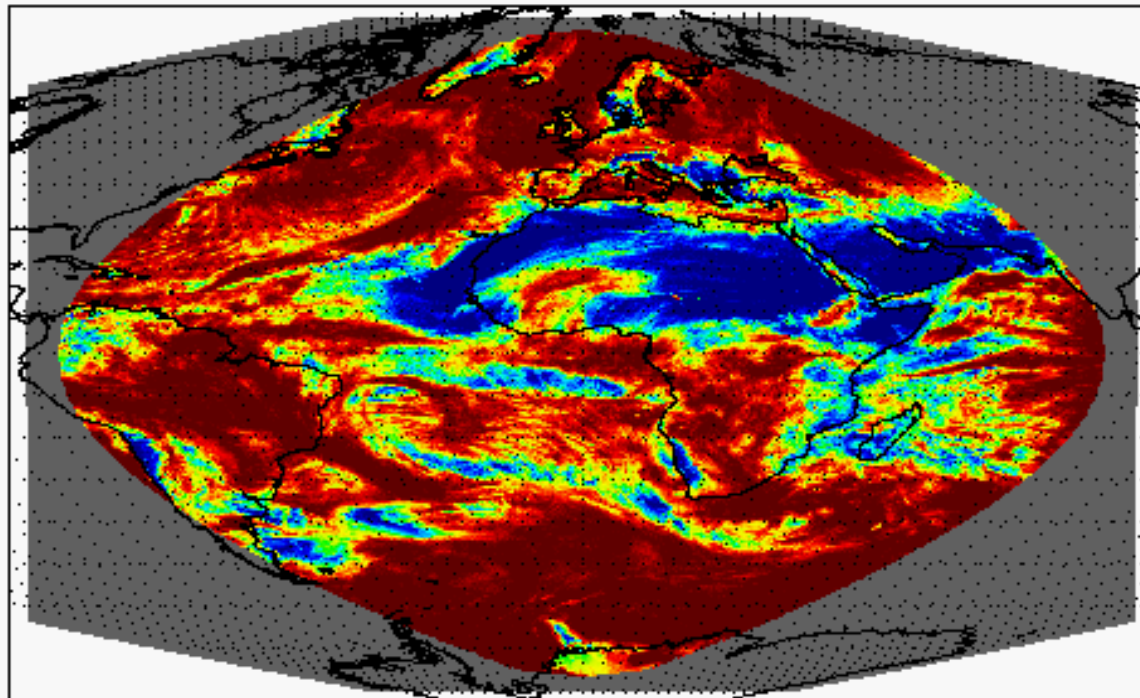
- daily mean
- monthly mean
- monthly mean diurnal cycle

also available on special request:

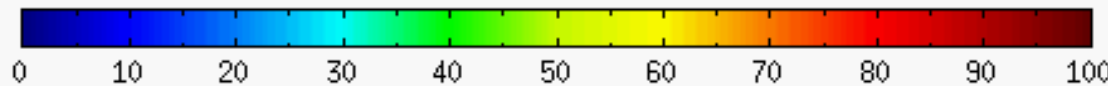
- non-averaged products, so-called level 2 data like SEVIRI cloud mask in hourly resolution

Product example daily mean: cloud fractional coverage

CFC-DM 01.01.2011 00:00 UTC | min:0,0 | max:100,0 | mean:69,2 | stdev:32,8



cloud fraction / %



daily average is created from cloud mask (yes/no, maybe decision for cloud), 24 timeslots/day, horizontal resolution is reduced from original SEVIRI pixel to 15x15 km² equal area grid

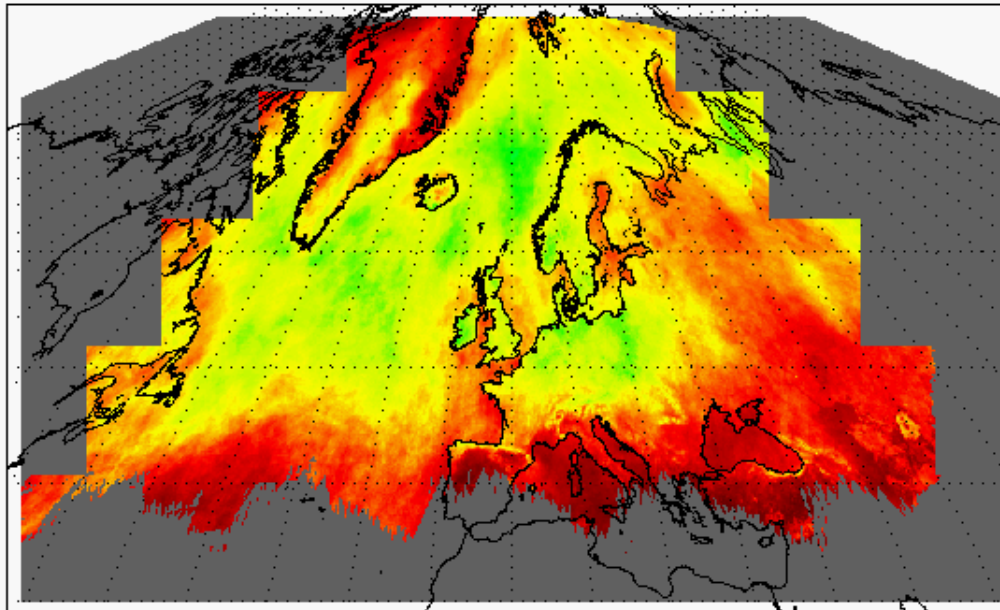
minimum requirement:

6 slots or overpasses per day (clouds)

Product example monthly mean:

solar incoming surface radiation shortwave

SIS-MA from POES 01.07.2011 00:00 UTC | min:132,1 | max:350,7 | mean:230,3 | stdev:44,8



Surface incoming solar radiation / Wm^{-2}

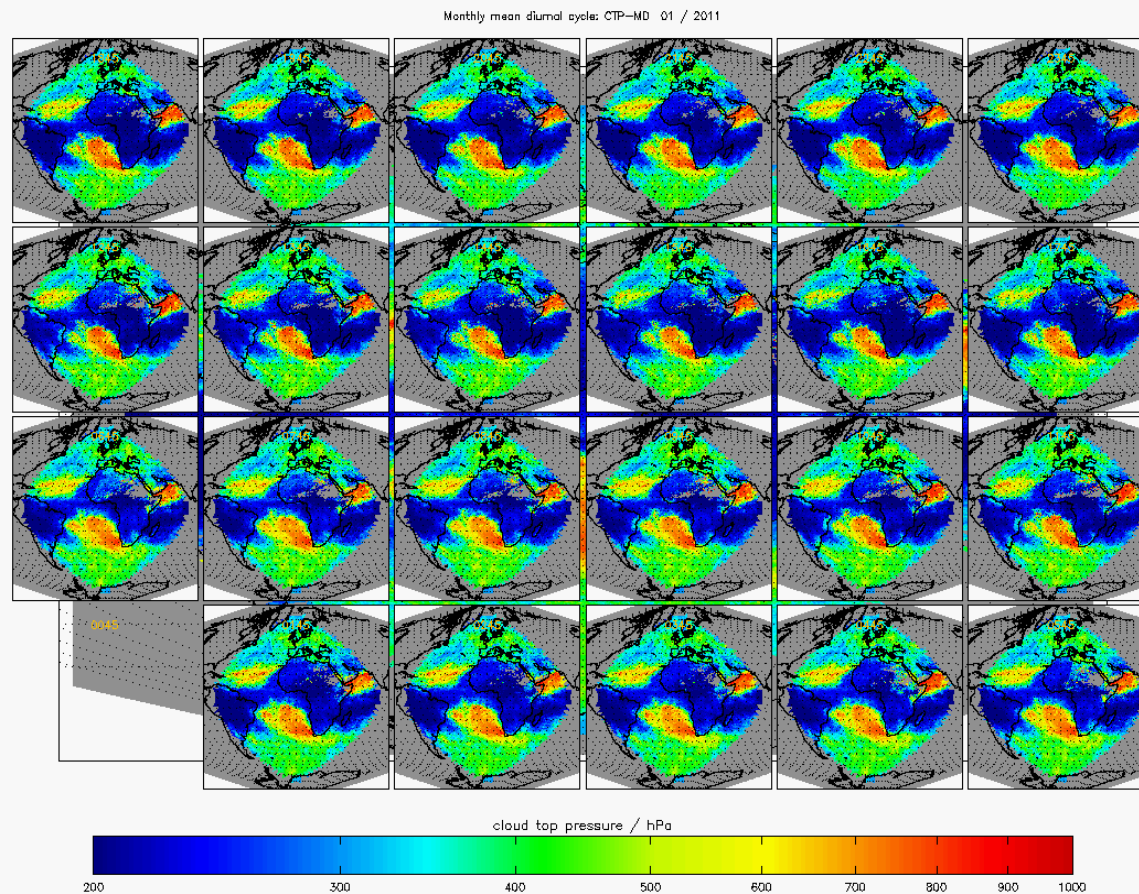


monthly averages are created by averaging the daily mean products → each day gets the same weight

minimal number of existing dm's for a mm: depends on product, 20 in case of SIS

Product example monthly mean diurnal cycle:

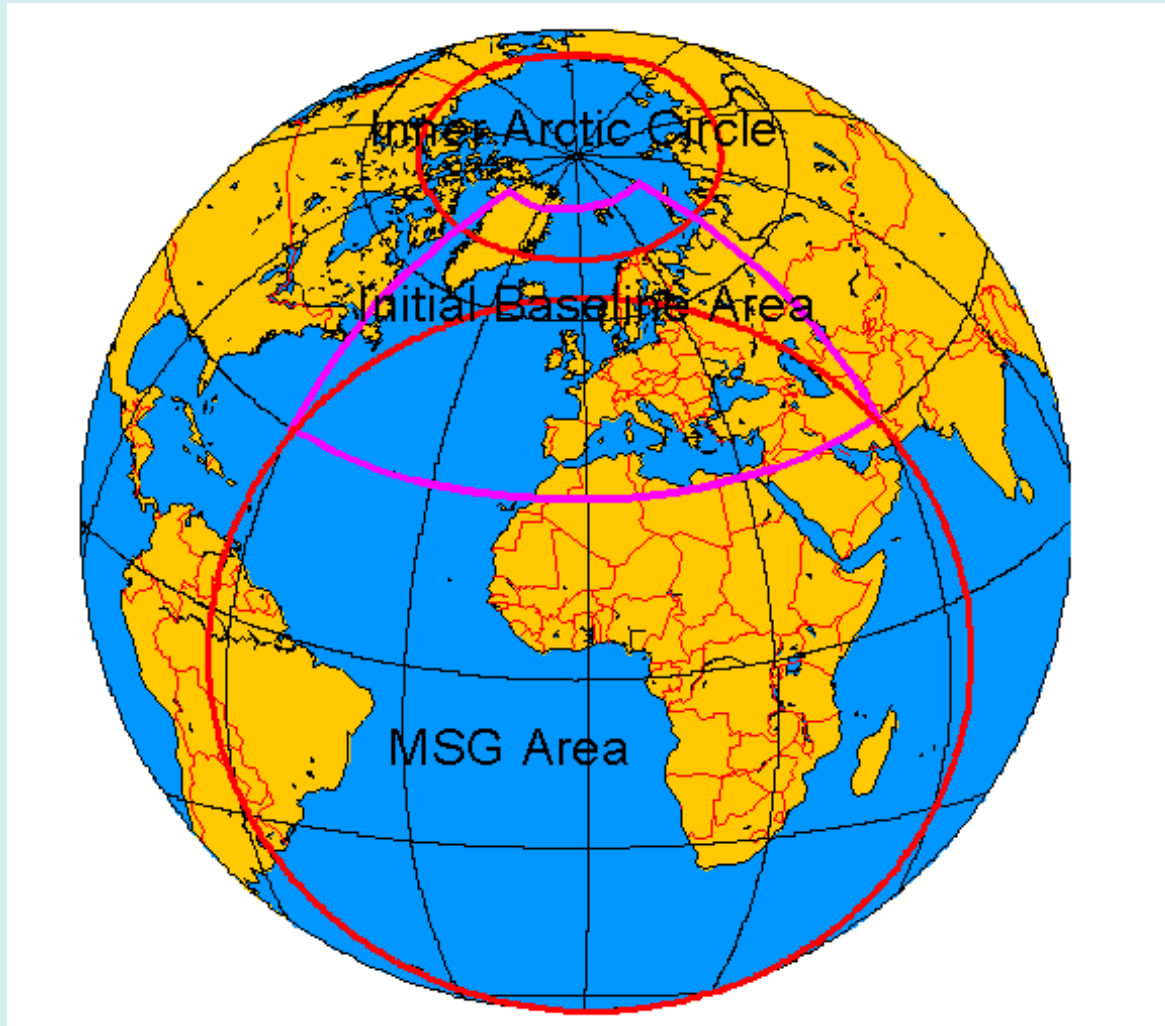
cloud top height



for one month all data are averaged time slot wise, result is a file with 24 fields, one/hour

minimum requirement:
20 days per slot (clouds)

Products are available for different areas



also combinations of the areas are possible, e.g. top of atmosphere radiation combines all three areas

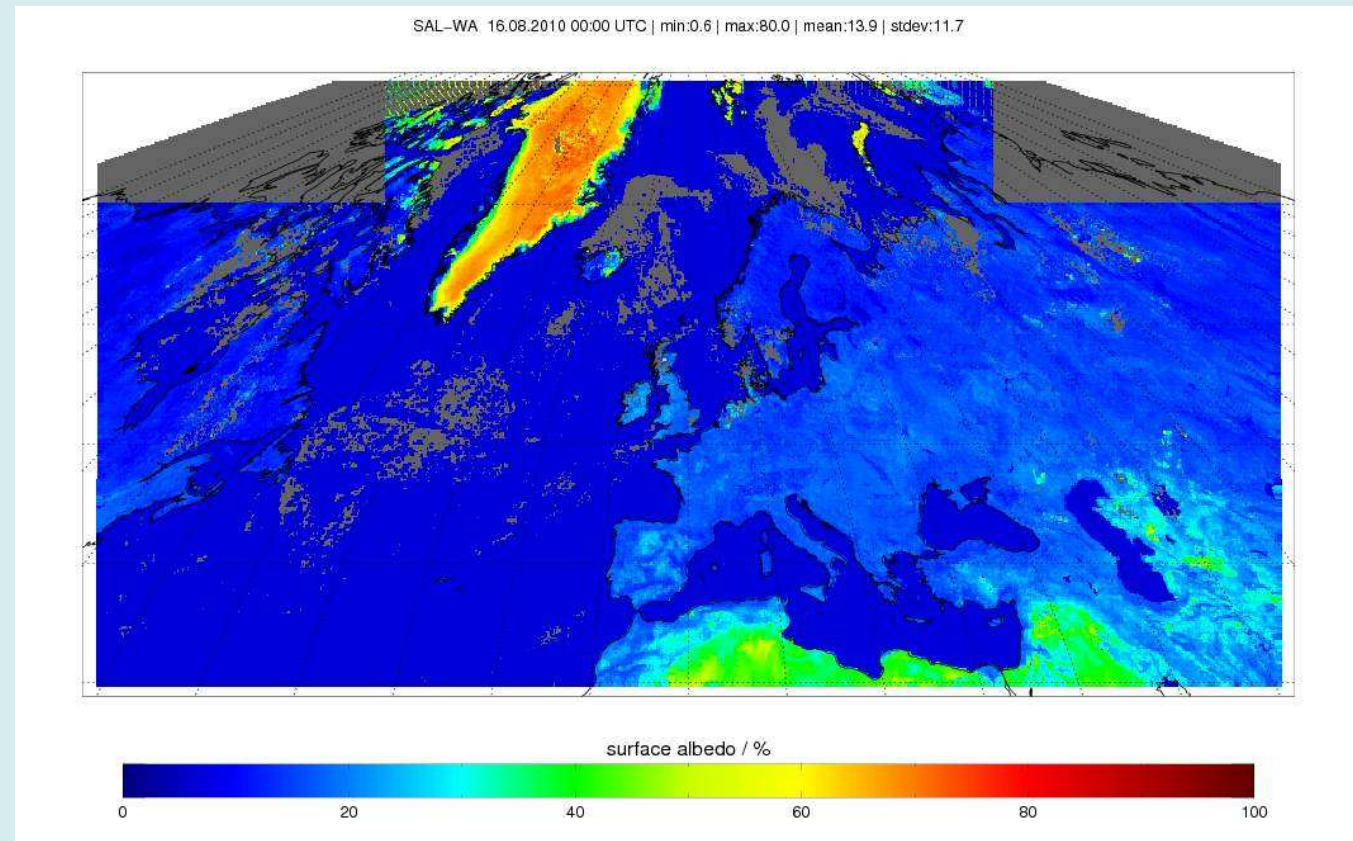
Example: Surface broadband albedo (SAL)

- Broadband albedo over the solar spectrum
- Dedicated algorithms for different land cover and snow/ice
- Weekly and monthly products for:

AVHRR Europe

AVHRR Arctic

SEVIRI Full Disc



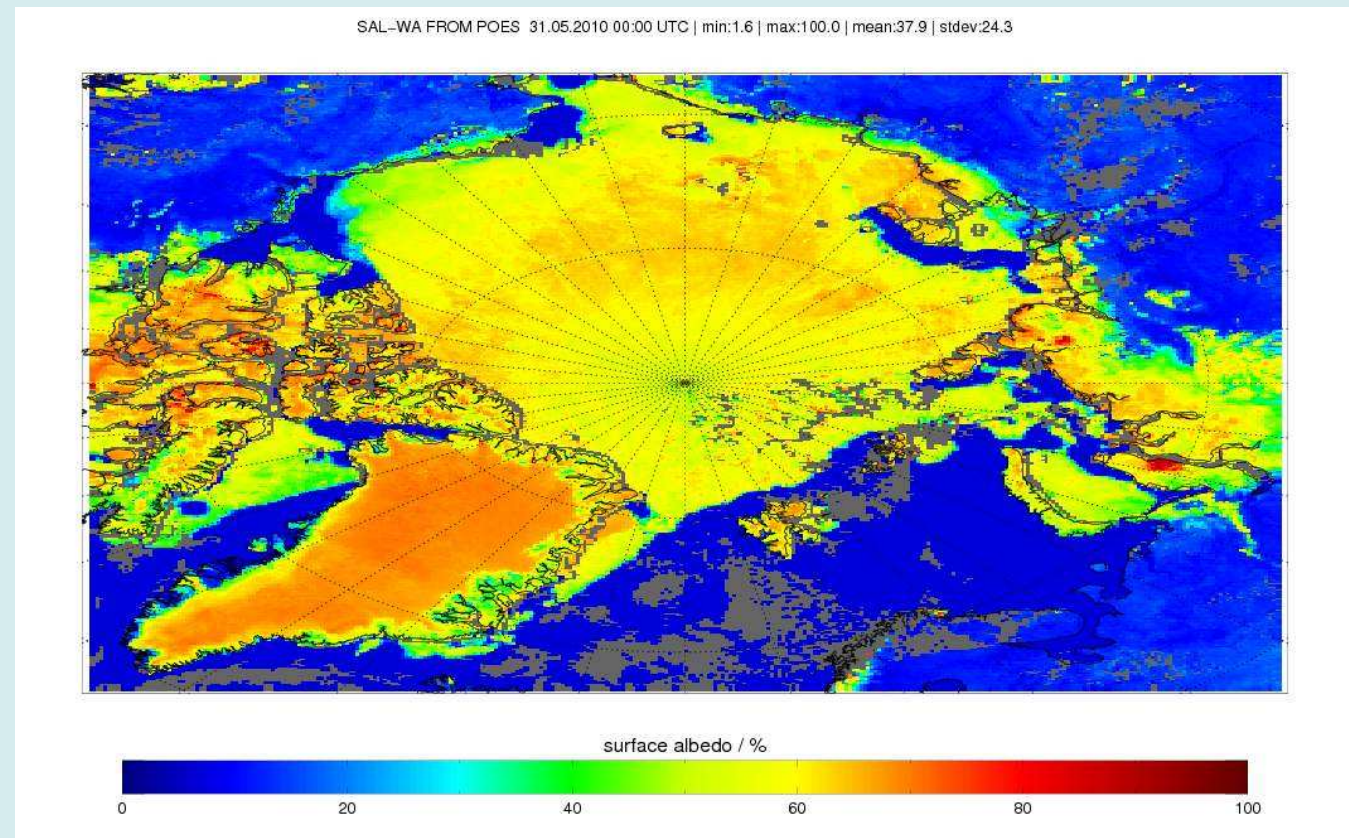
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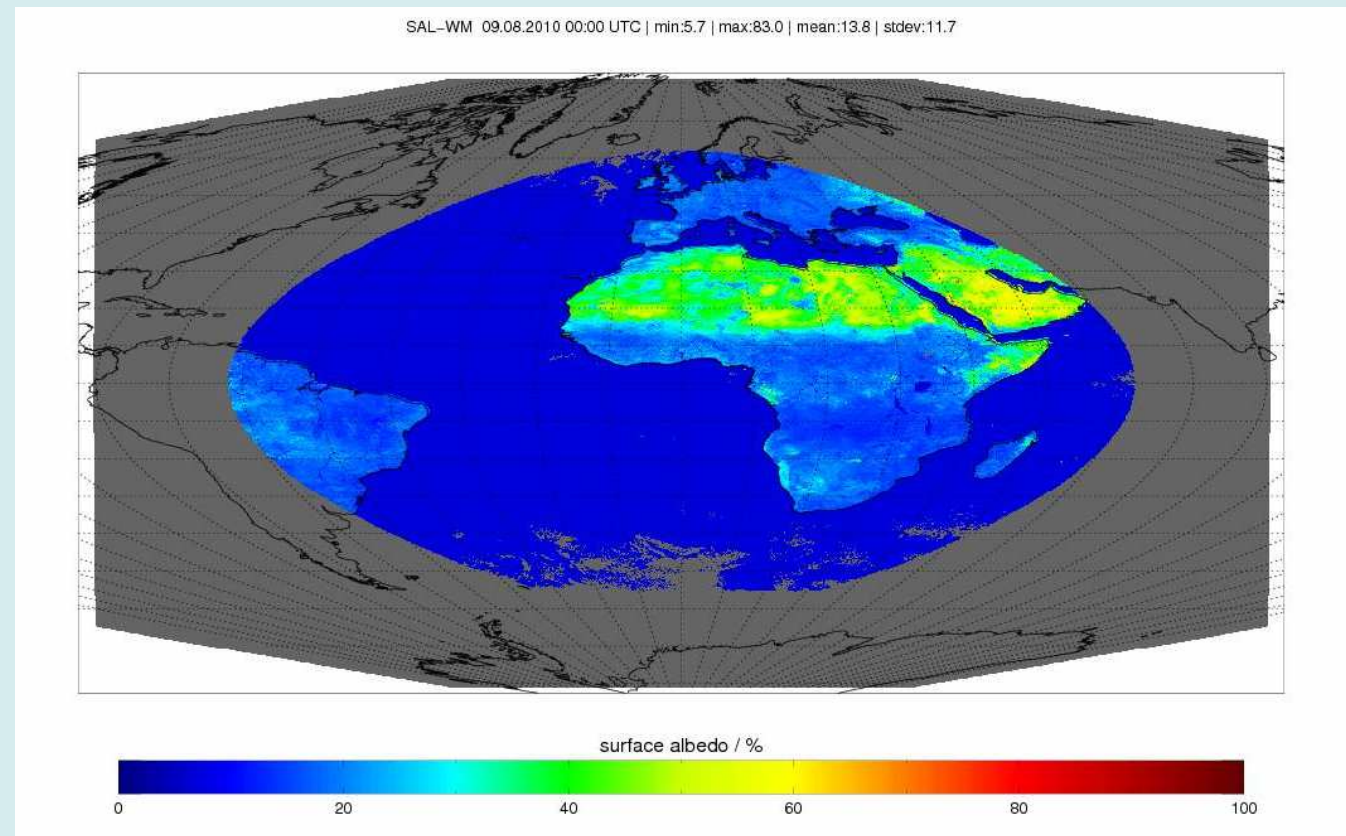
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AVHRR Europe

AVHRR Arctic

SEVIRI Full Disc



not only different areas but also varying grids:

radiation and cloud products on all areas are provided in equal area grids with a horizontal resolution of $15 \times 15 \text{ km}^2$

→ Paris fits quite accurately into a SEVIRI pixel

top of atmosphere radiation is provided in a $45 \times 45 \text{ km}^2$ equal area grid on the CMSAF baseline area plus MSG disk and inner arctic

→ 177 pixel needed for Germany

Documentation:

can be found on our website at “CM SAF documentation”

<http://www.cmsaf.eu>

most necessary documents are the “PUMs” → Product user manuals (covered areas, processing details)

and the “ATBD’s” → Algorithm theoretical basis documents (description of retrieval physics)

validation reports → show quality of the products via comparison with synoptic data, ground based measurements as well as satellite measurements

question for all:

Which of those products are day-time-only?

- solar incoming surface radiation
- cloud fractional cover
- cloud water path

Auxiliary data and tools available on the website like viewing software or latitude/longitude gridfiles at “Data access”

software changes or missing data are notified in the “service messages”

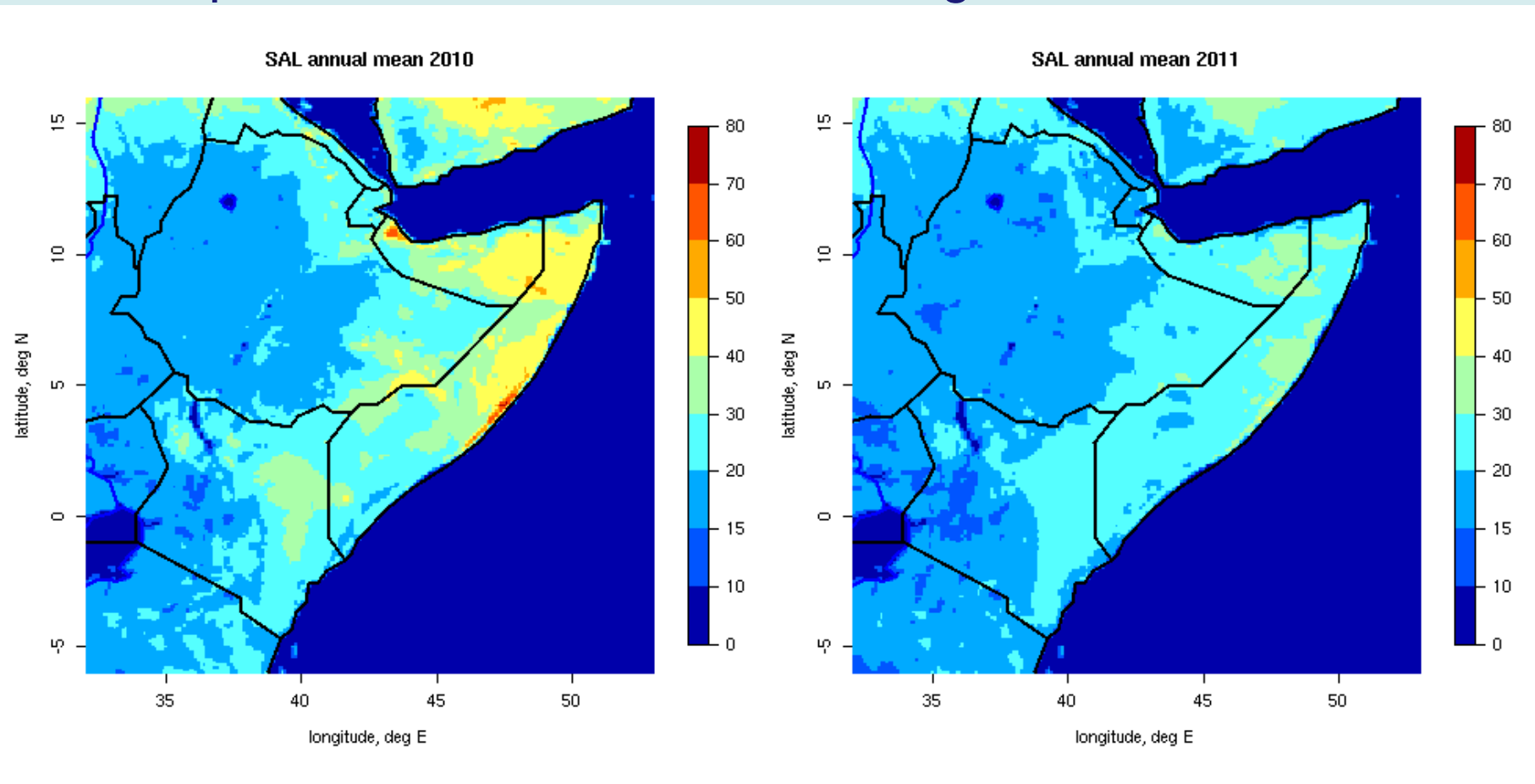
Properties of operational products

- + early and regularly available
- + regular update of the software
- + quality control via service specification

- inconsistent due to software changes
- not so carefully intercalibrated

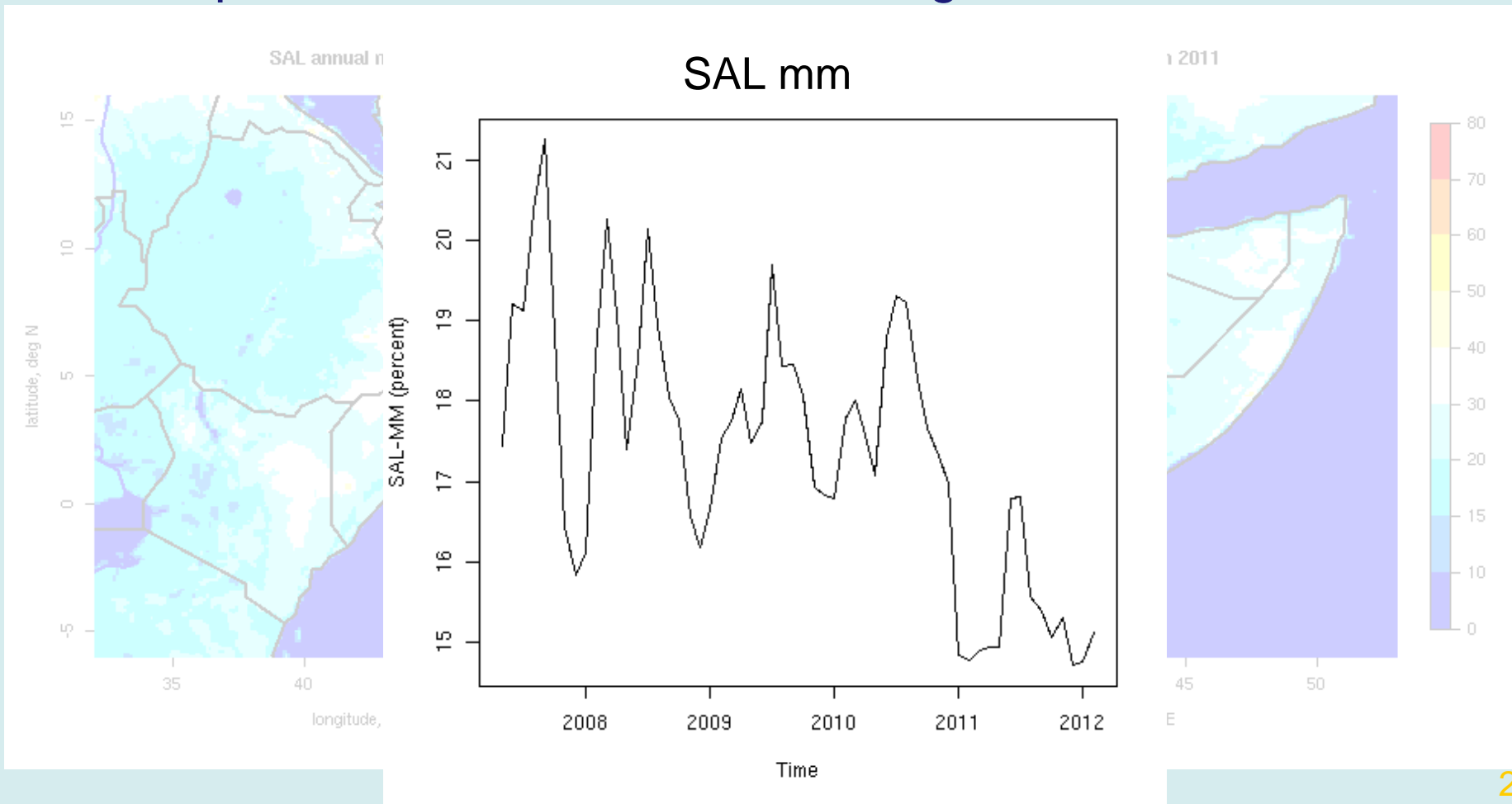
Advantages/Disadvantages compared to datasets

Example: influence of software changes:

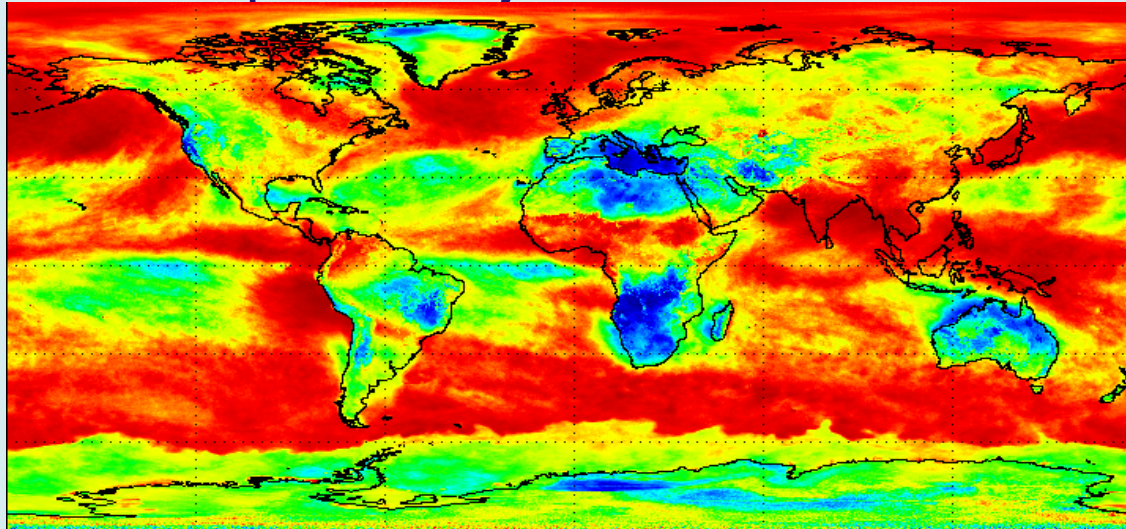


Advantages/Disadvantages compared to datasets

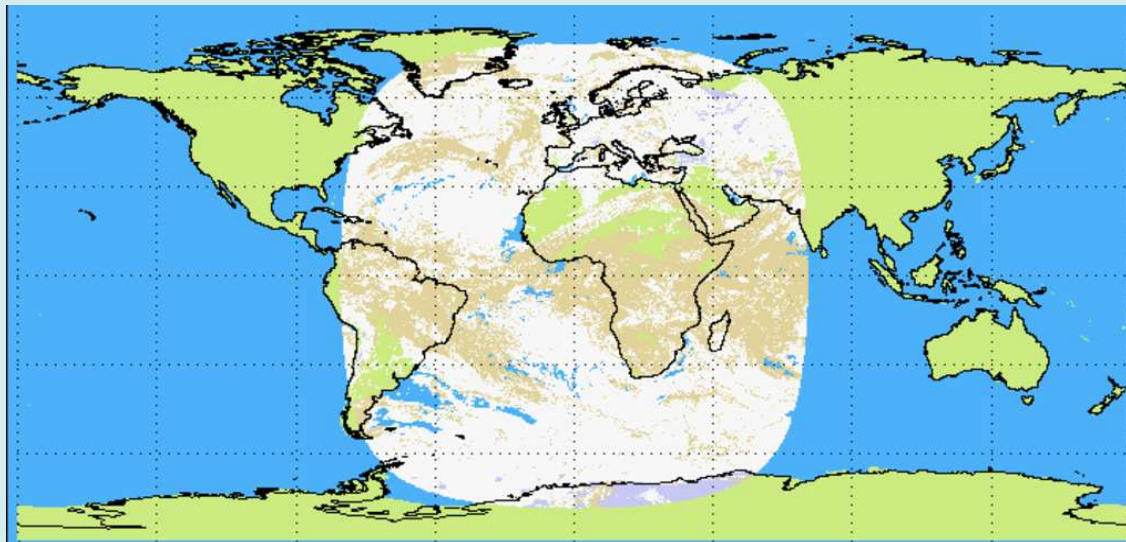
Example: influence of software changes:



small question, just 4 fun:

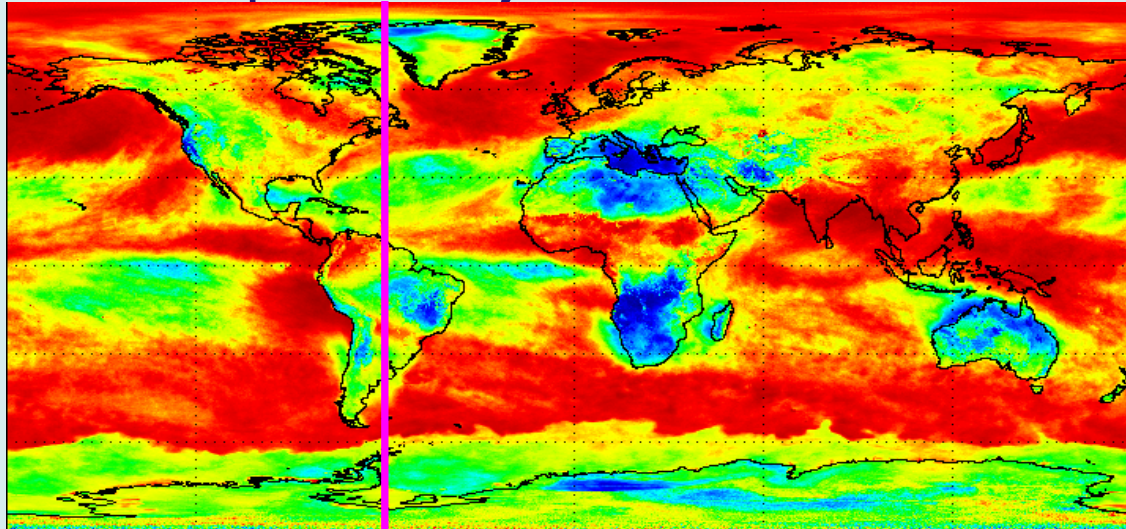


CFC mm from polar orbiter,
morning orbit (12:00 LT)

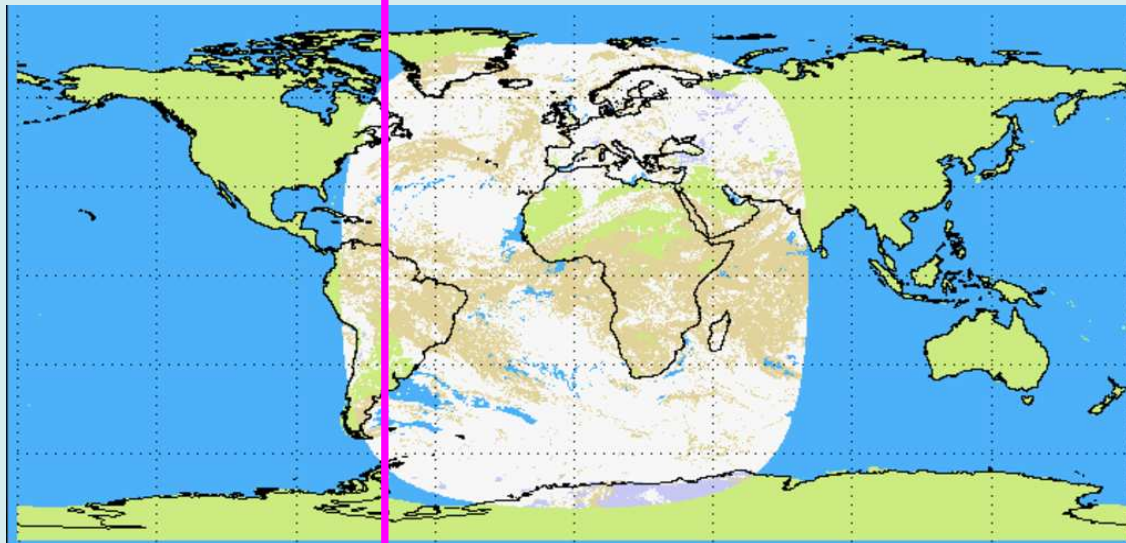


Cloud mask at 12:00 UTC,
geostationary

small question, just 4 fun:

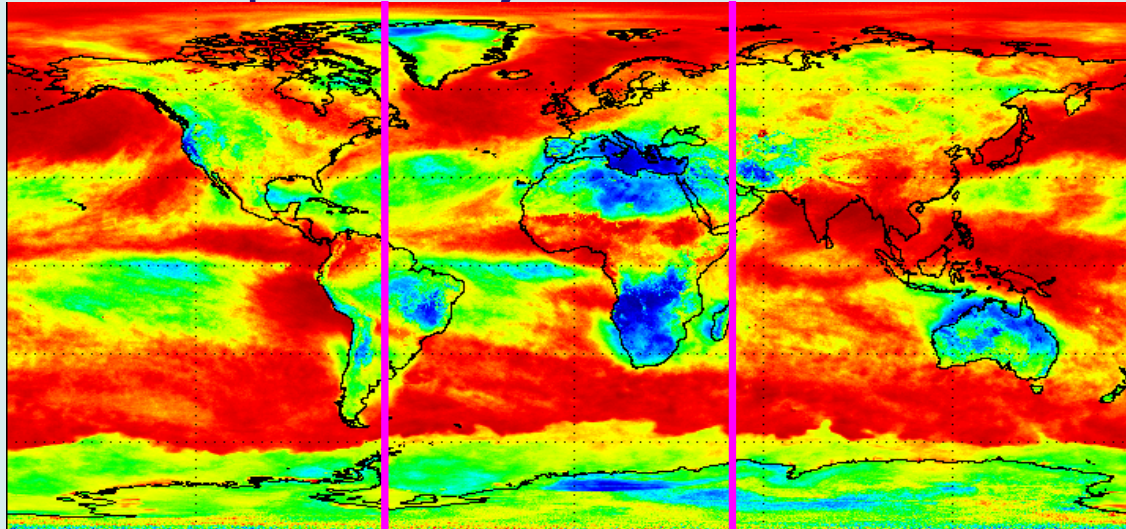


CFC mm from polar orbiter,
morning orbit (12:00 LT)

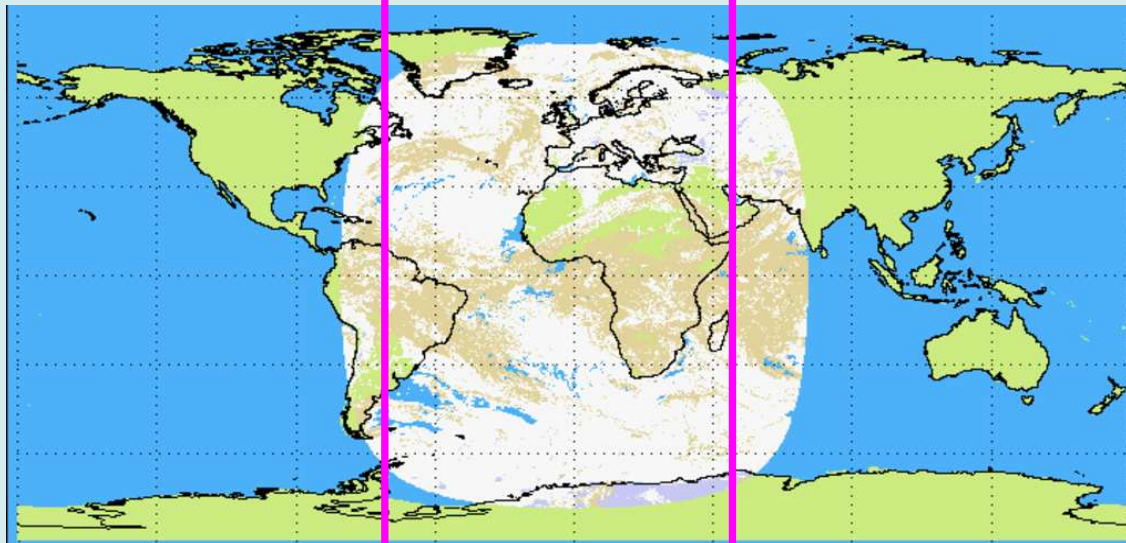


Cloud mask at 12:00 UTC,
geostationary

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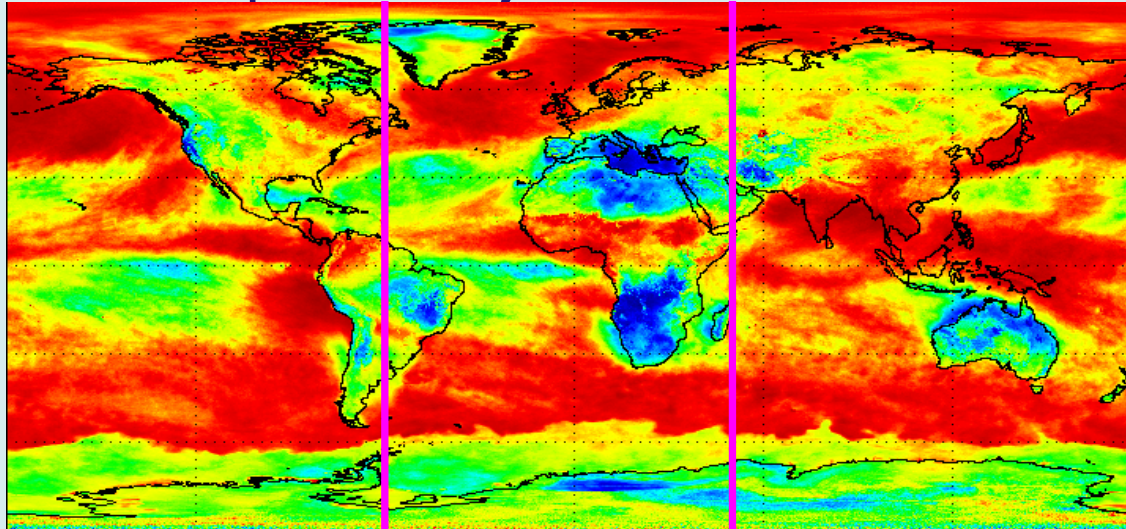


CFC mm from polar orbiter,
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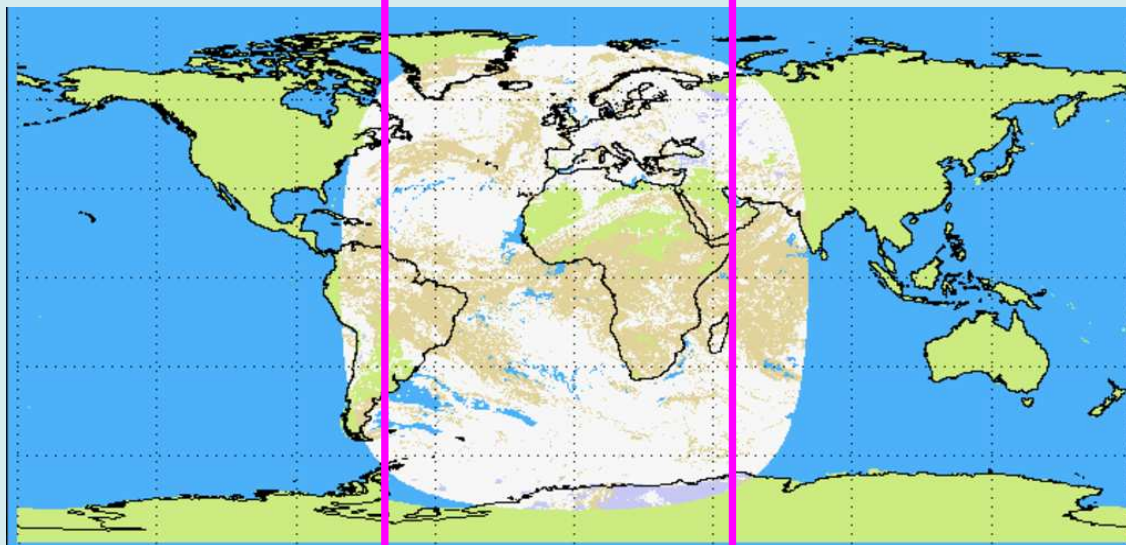


Cloud mask at 12:00 UTC,
geostationary

small question, just 4 fun:



CFC mm from polar orbiter,
morning orbit (12:00 LT)



Is the local measurement
time still equal everywhere
for a geostationary image?

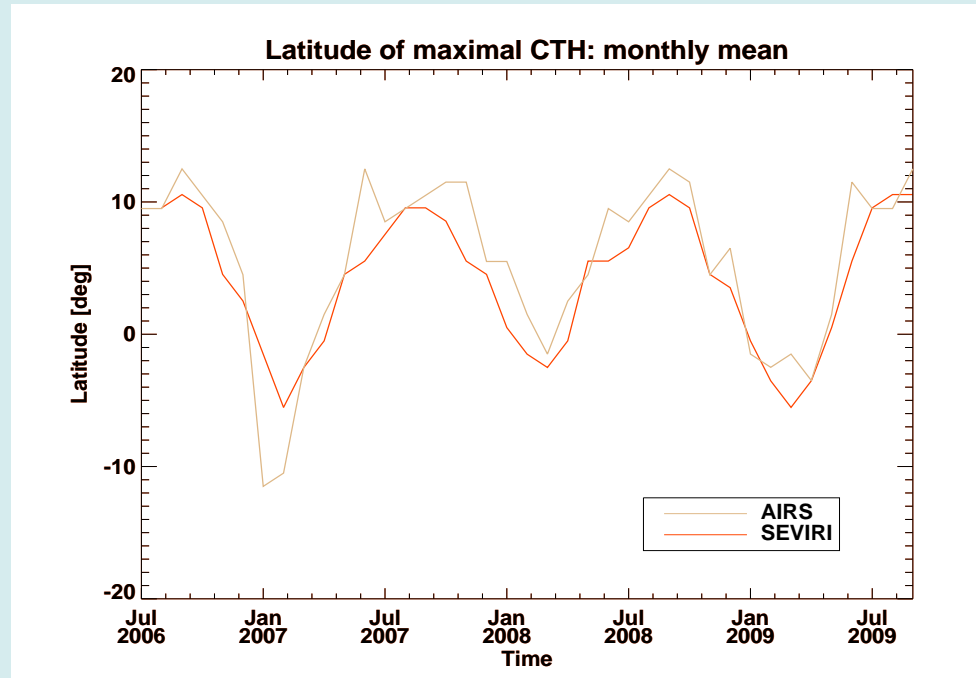
- Yes
- No

Cloud mask at 12:00 UTC,
geostationary

Some examples of analysis by our users and ourselves

- 1) cloud products
- 2) radiation combined with clouds
- 3) surface albedo
- 4) top of atmosphere

Meridional variation of CTH

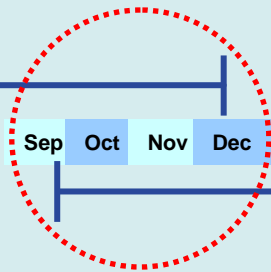


Meridional position of maximal CTH → monitor variation of Inner Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)

Maximal deviation (north/south) follows 1 month after maximal/minimal insolation → following theory

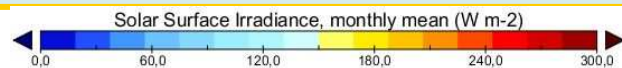
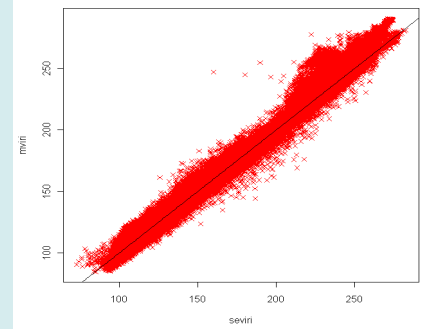
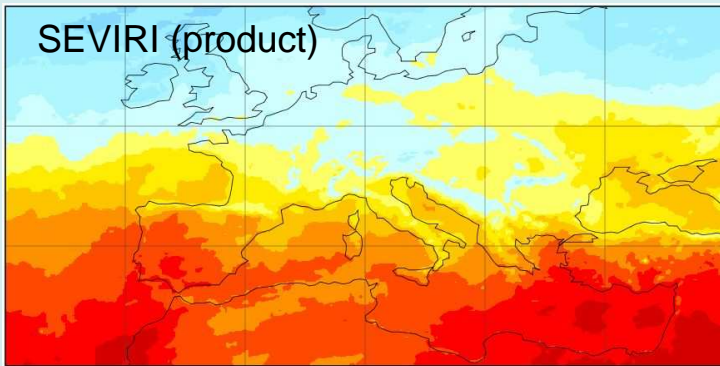
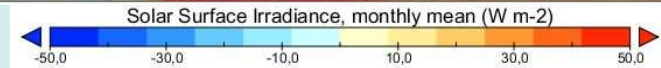
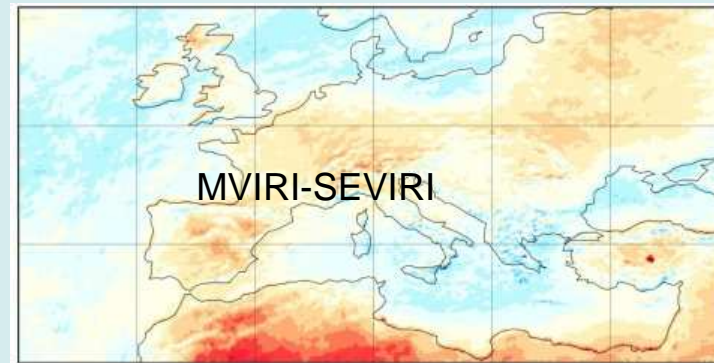
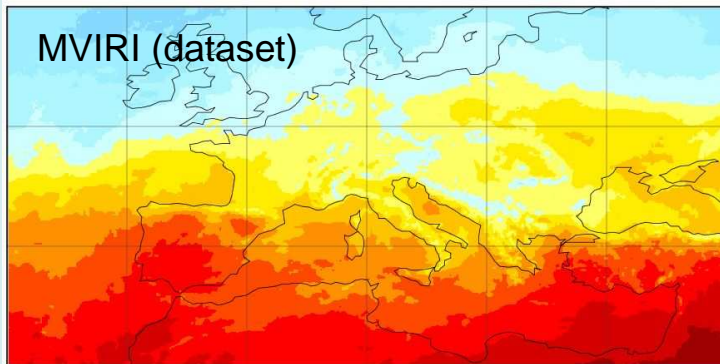
Global radiation

MFG: 01/1983-12/2005



September 2005

MSG: since 09/2005



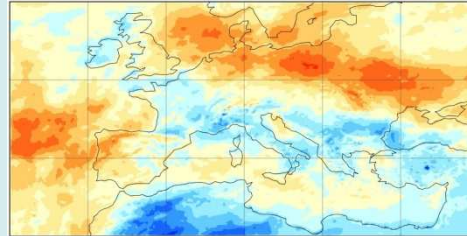
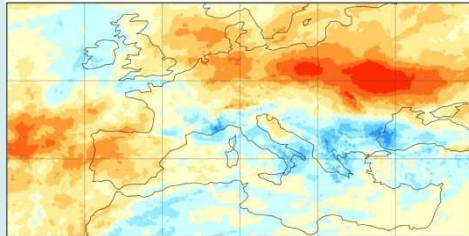
Global radiation

2005

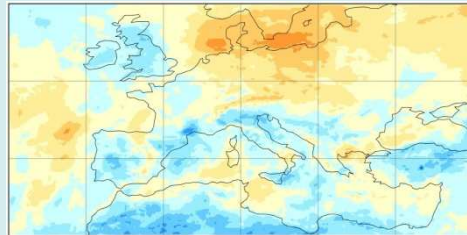
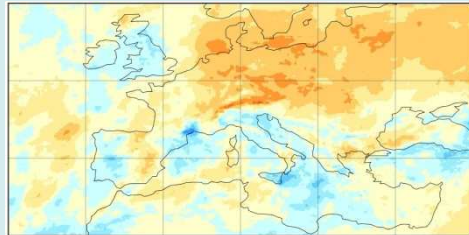
MVIRI (dataset)

SEVIRI (operational)

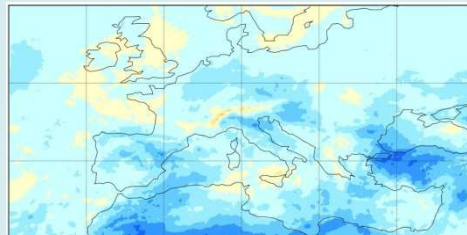
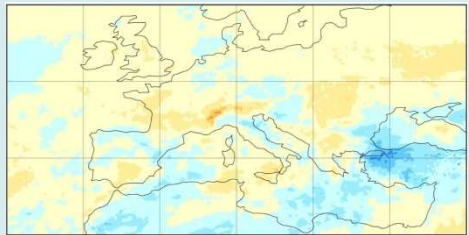
Sep



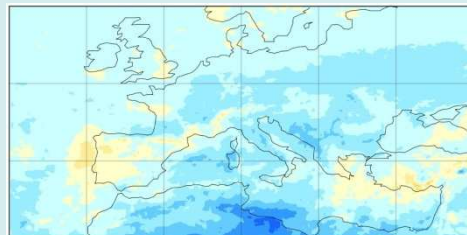
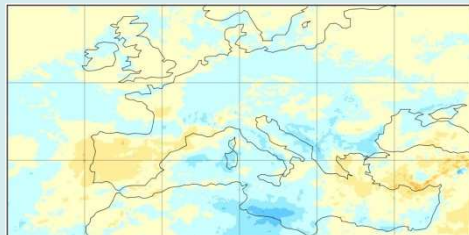
Oct



Nov



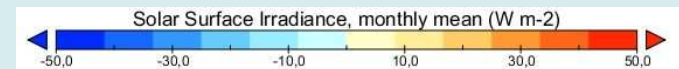
Dec



Anomalies:
(Reference period
1983-2005)

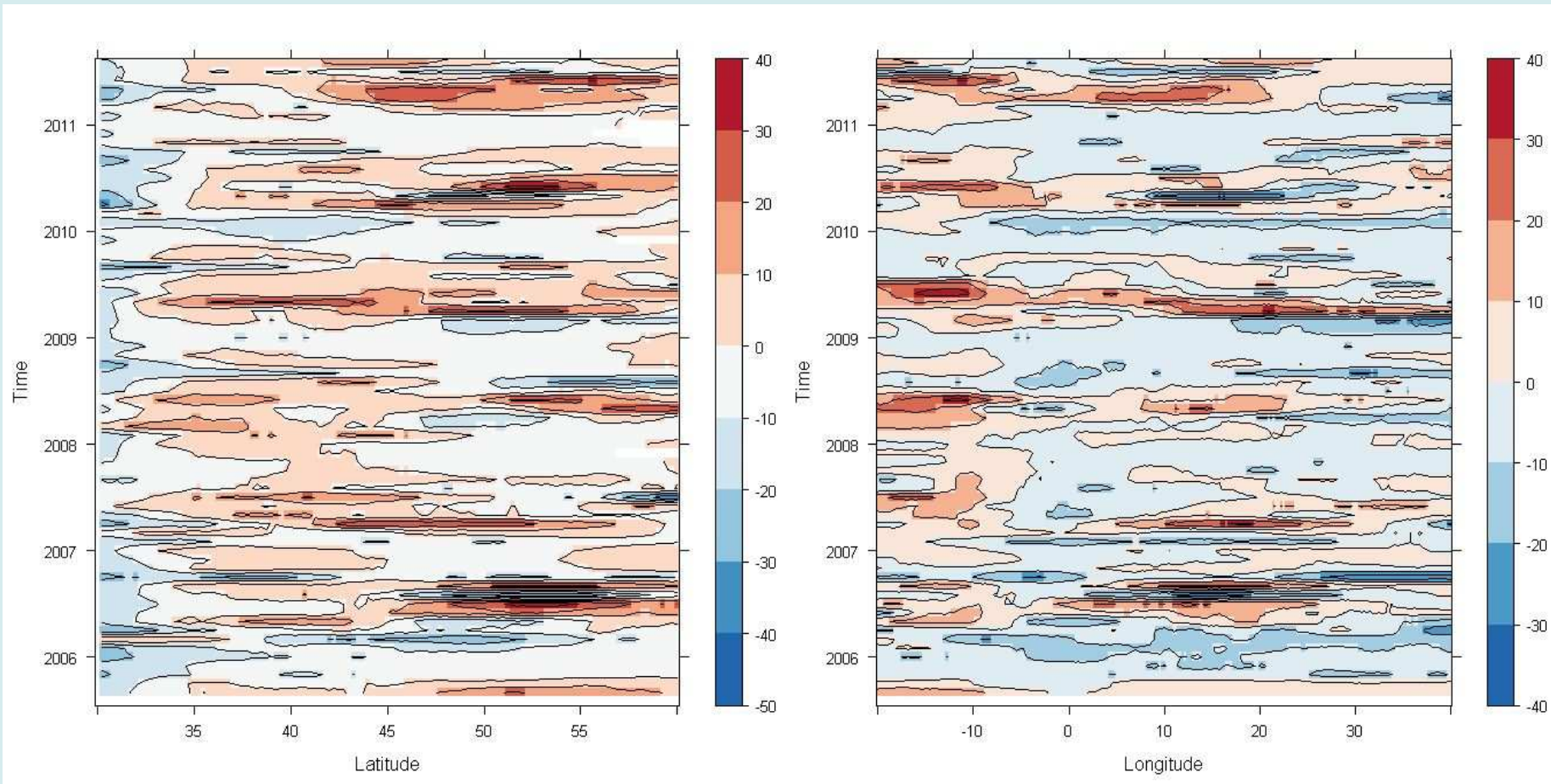
Absolute Anomalies:
correction of bias?

Percentile:
adaption of
variances?



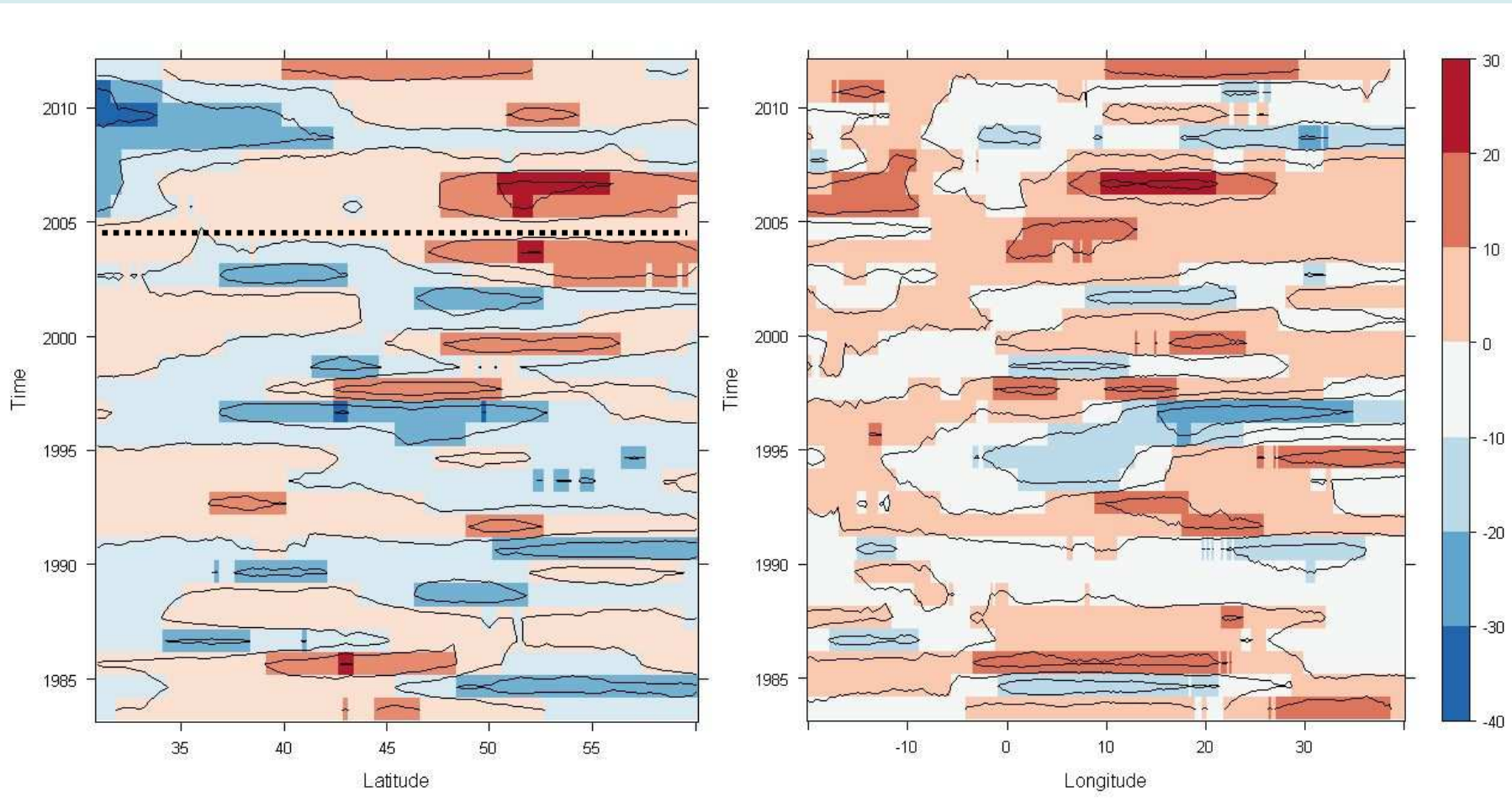
Global radiation

Hovmöller-plots (2005-2011 anomalies, SEVIRI only)



Global radiation

Hovmöller-plots (Sep 1983-2011 anomalies, SEVIRI and MVIRI)



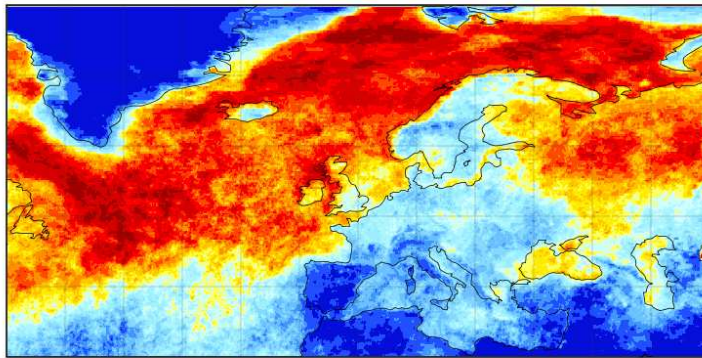
Sunshine duration

Indices (October 2010)

cloudy days
(≥ 6 octas)

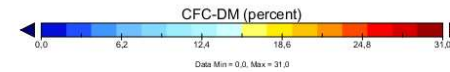
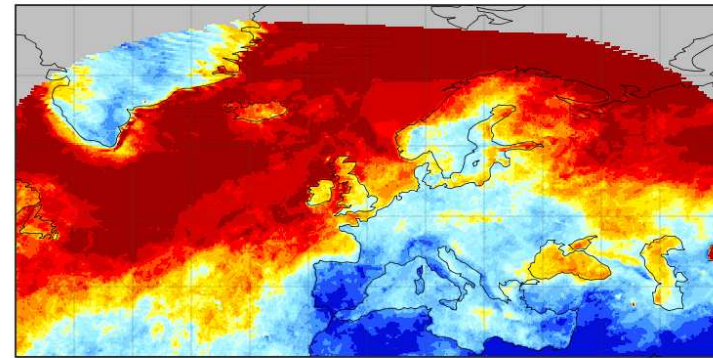
AVHRR

CFC-DM FROM POES



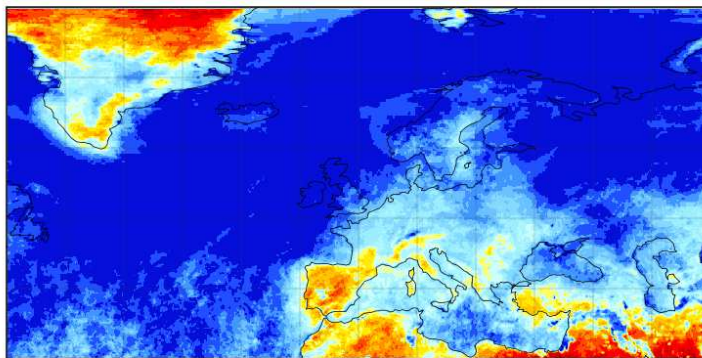
SEVIRI

CFC-DM

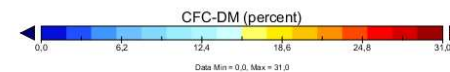
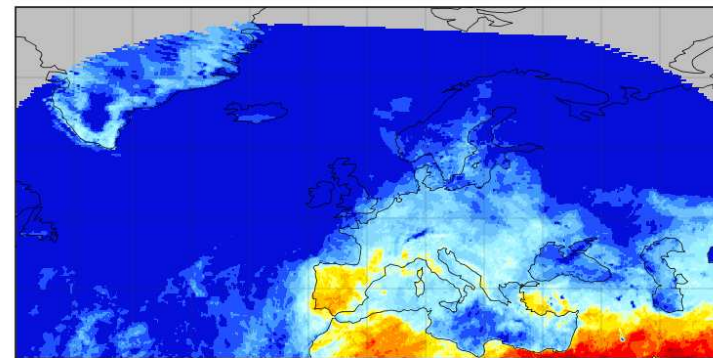


sunny days
(≤ 2 octas)

CFC-DM FROM POES



CFC-DM



Sunshine duration

**CM SAF:
Cloud Type**

Method following Good (Weather 2010):

Clouds -> 0

No Clouds -> 1

Fractional Clouds -> 0.5

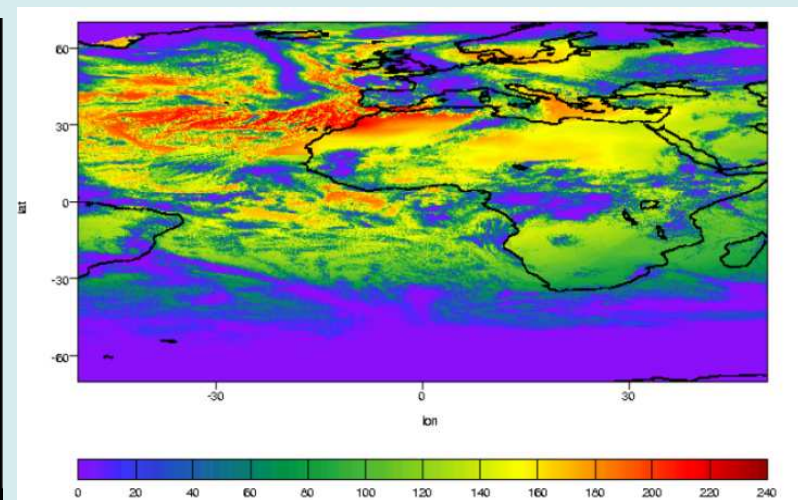
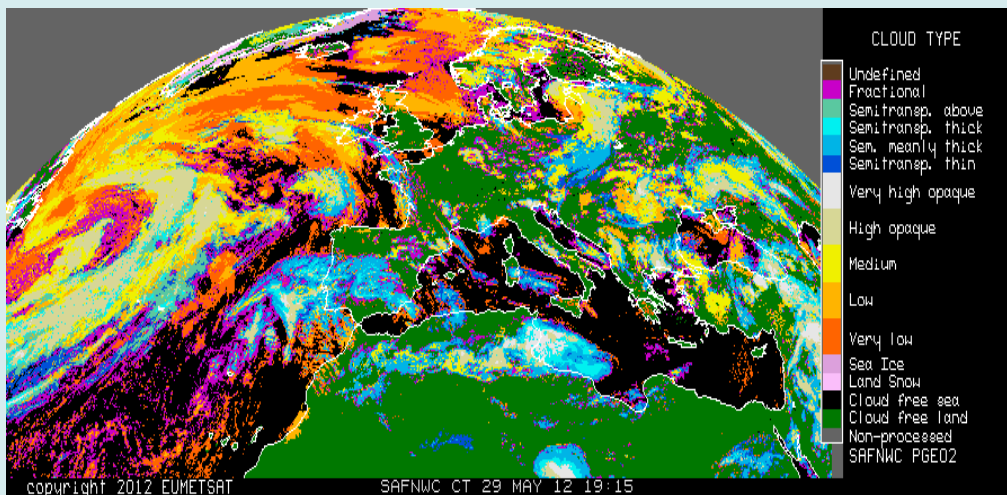
Semi-transparent Clouds -> Threshold SEA

**CM SAF:
Direct Radiation**

WMO-Definition:

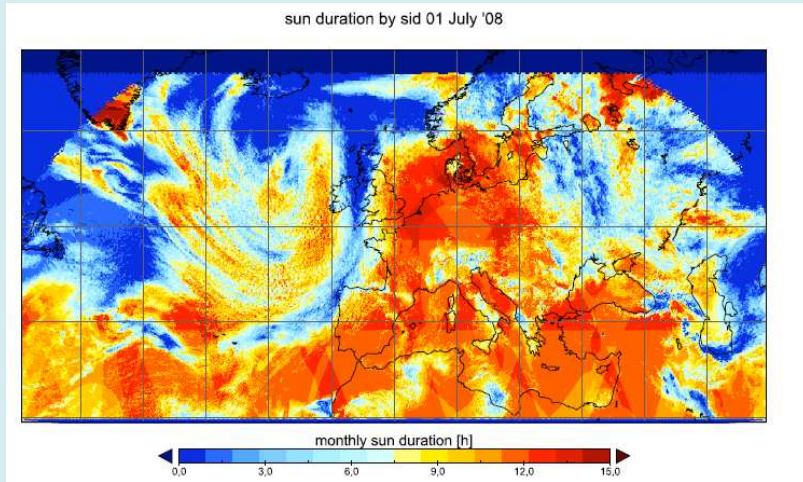
direct radiation >120 W m⁻²

Normalization:
$$DNI = \frac{SID}{\cos(SZA)}$$

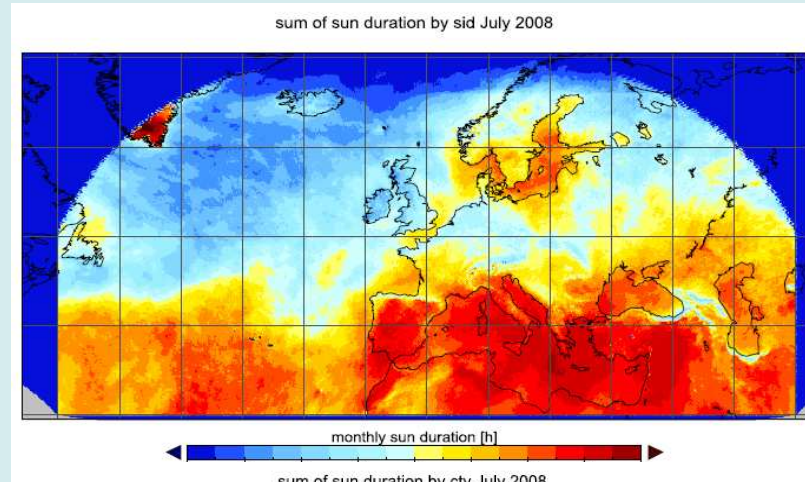


Sunshine duration

sum per day



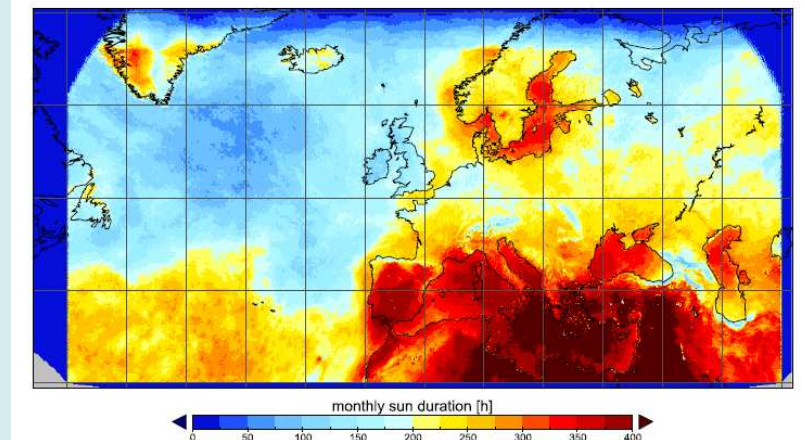
sum per month



SID

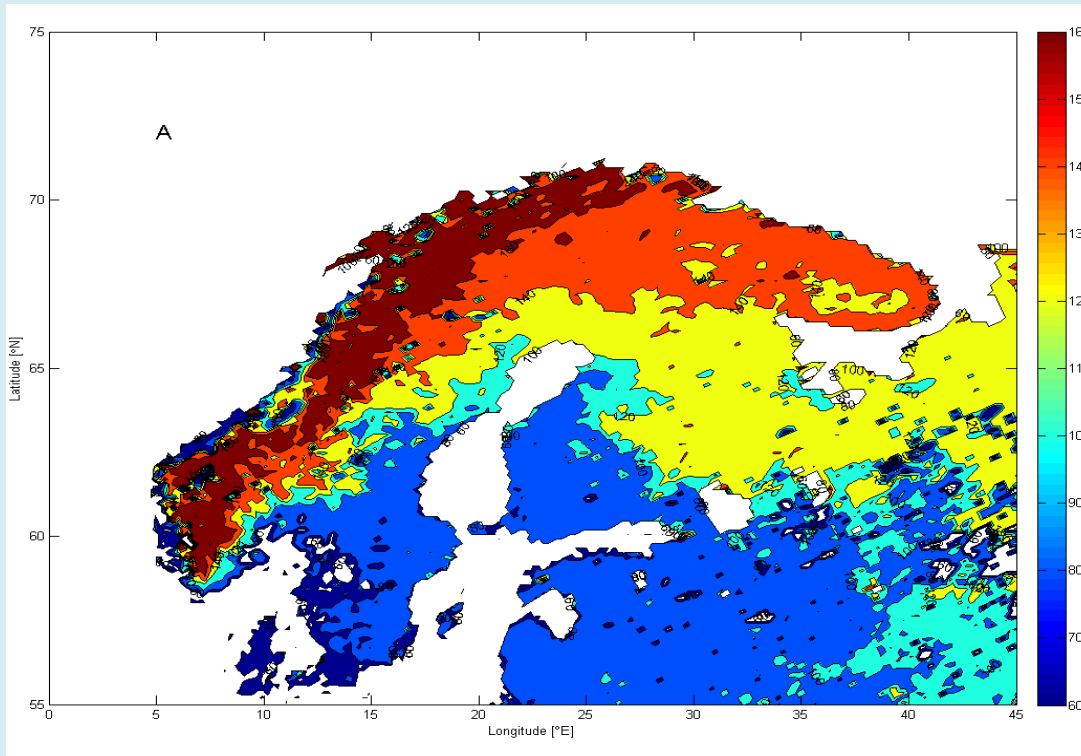
SID = surface incoming direct radiation

CTY = cloud type

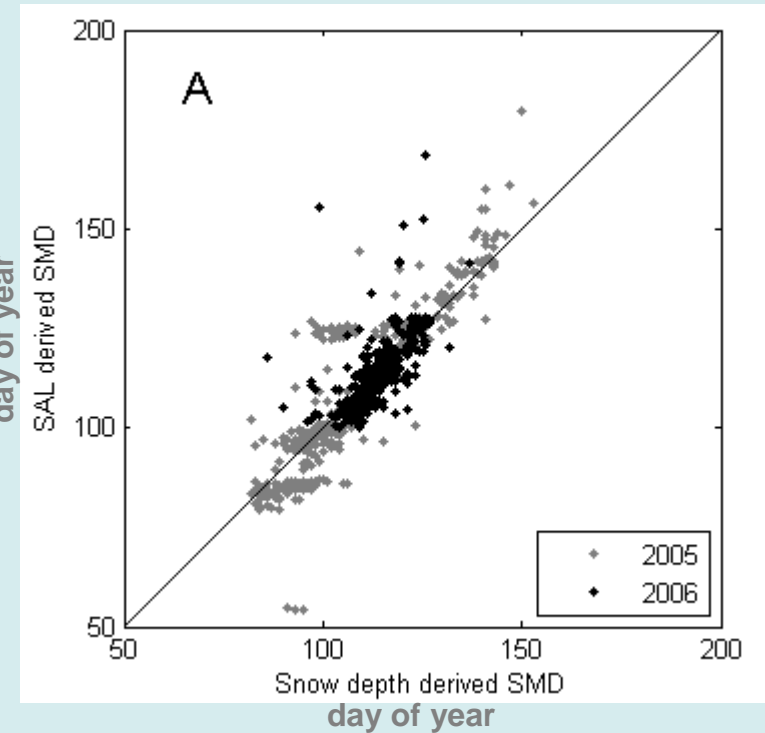


CTY

Surface broadband albedo: Snow melt timing in Finland



Snow melt onset day (SMD) derived from SAL products,
Based on tracking the drop in snow albedo as melt begins

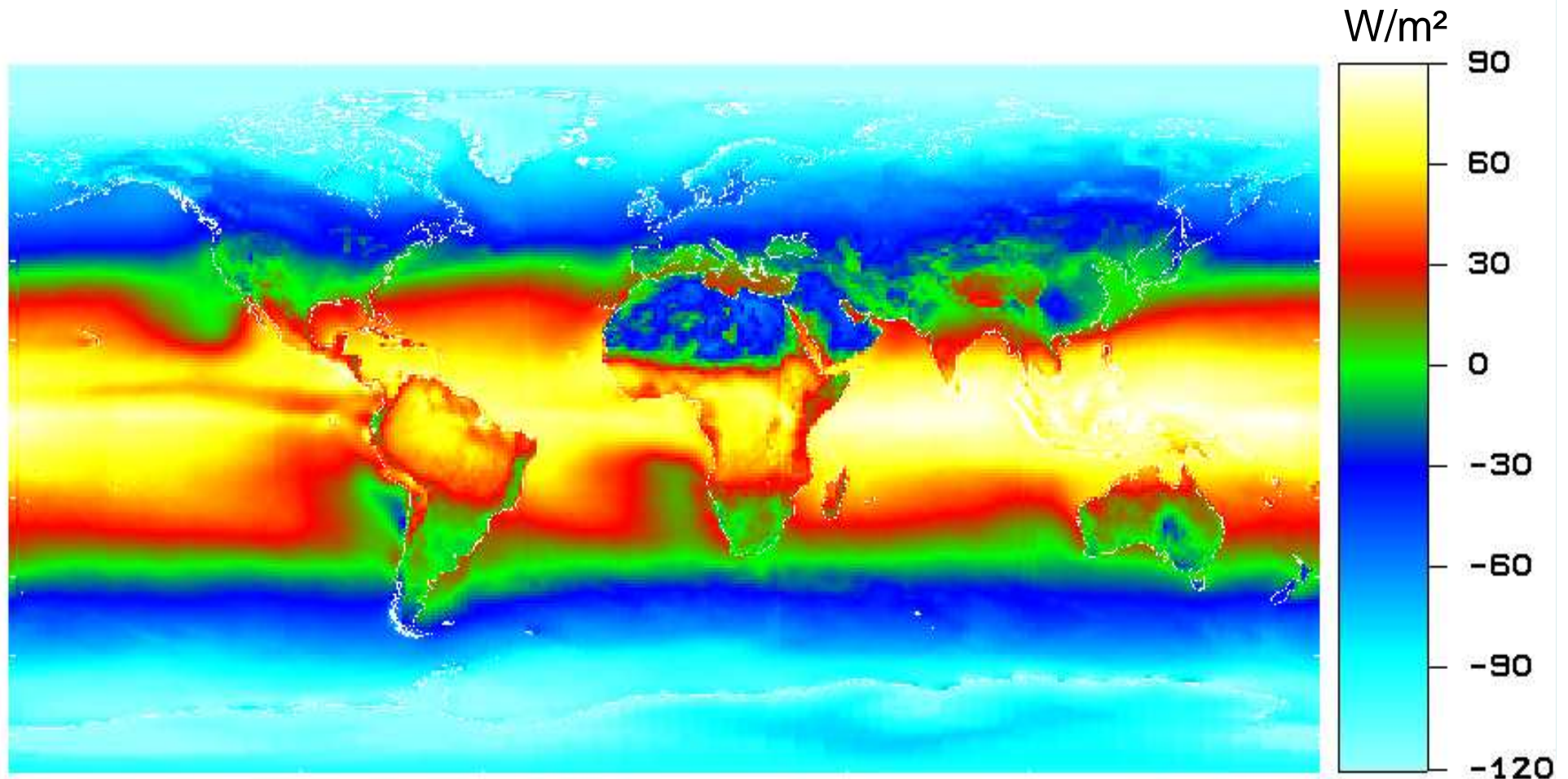


Correlation between SAL
SMD and in situ-based SMD

Images from Rinne et al. (2009): **A Simple Method to Determine the Timing of Snow Melt by Remote Sensing with Application to the CO₂ Balances of Northern Mire and Heath Ecosystems**, *Remote Sens.* 2009, 1(4), MDPI.

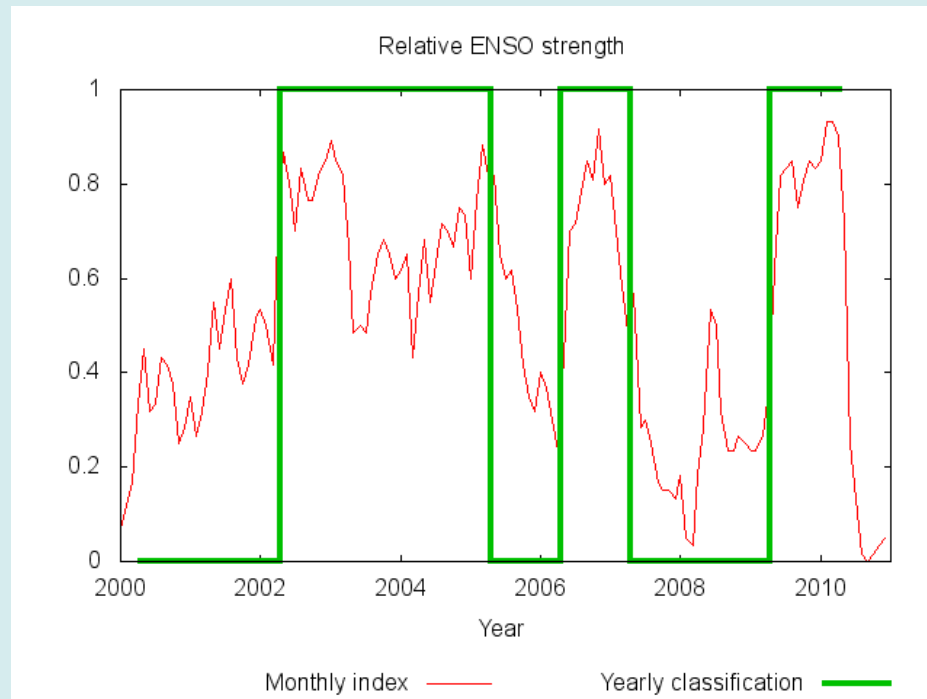
Top of atmosphere albedo

10 year annual mean Ceres EBAF net incoming radiation



Top of atmosphere albedo

El Nino / La Nina characterisation



Multivariate El Niño index
[Wolters, 2011]

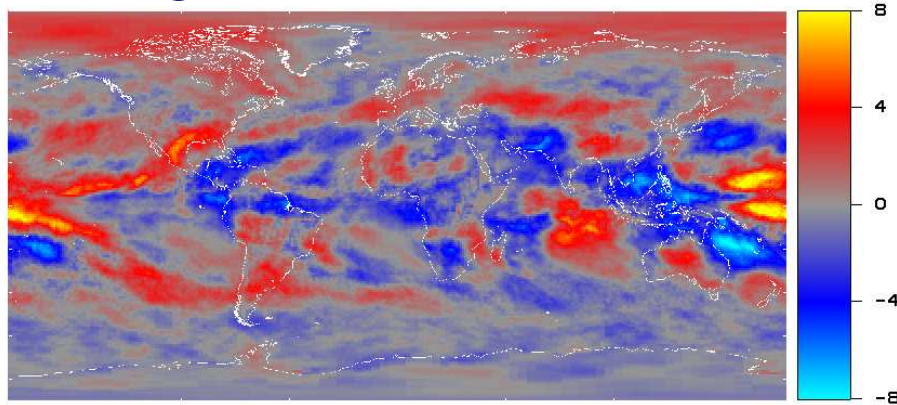
La Niña – El Niño change =
average over 5 strongest
La Niña years - average
over 5 strongest El Niño
years

Long term change =
average over last 5 years
- average over first 5
years

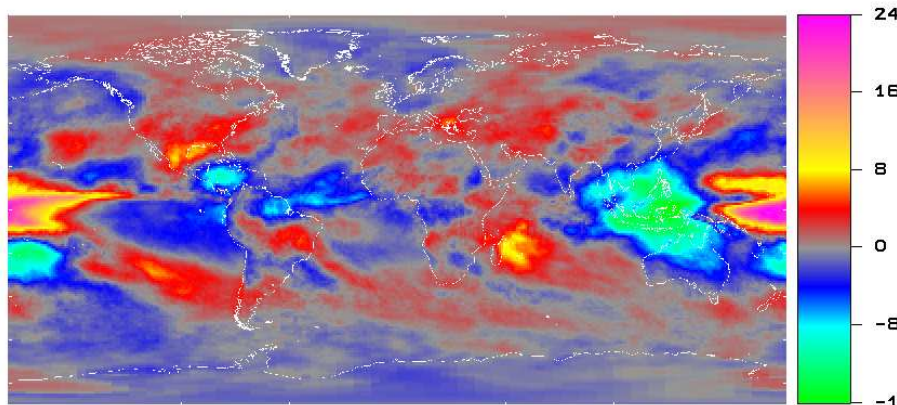
Top of atmosphere albedo

Long term change compared to La Nina – El Nino

Long term



La Nina –El Nino



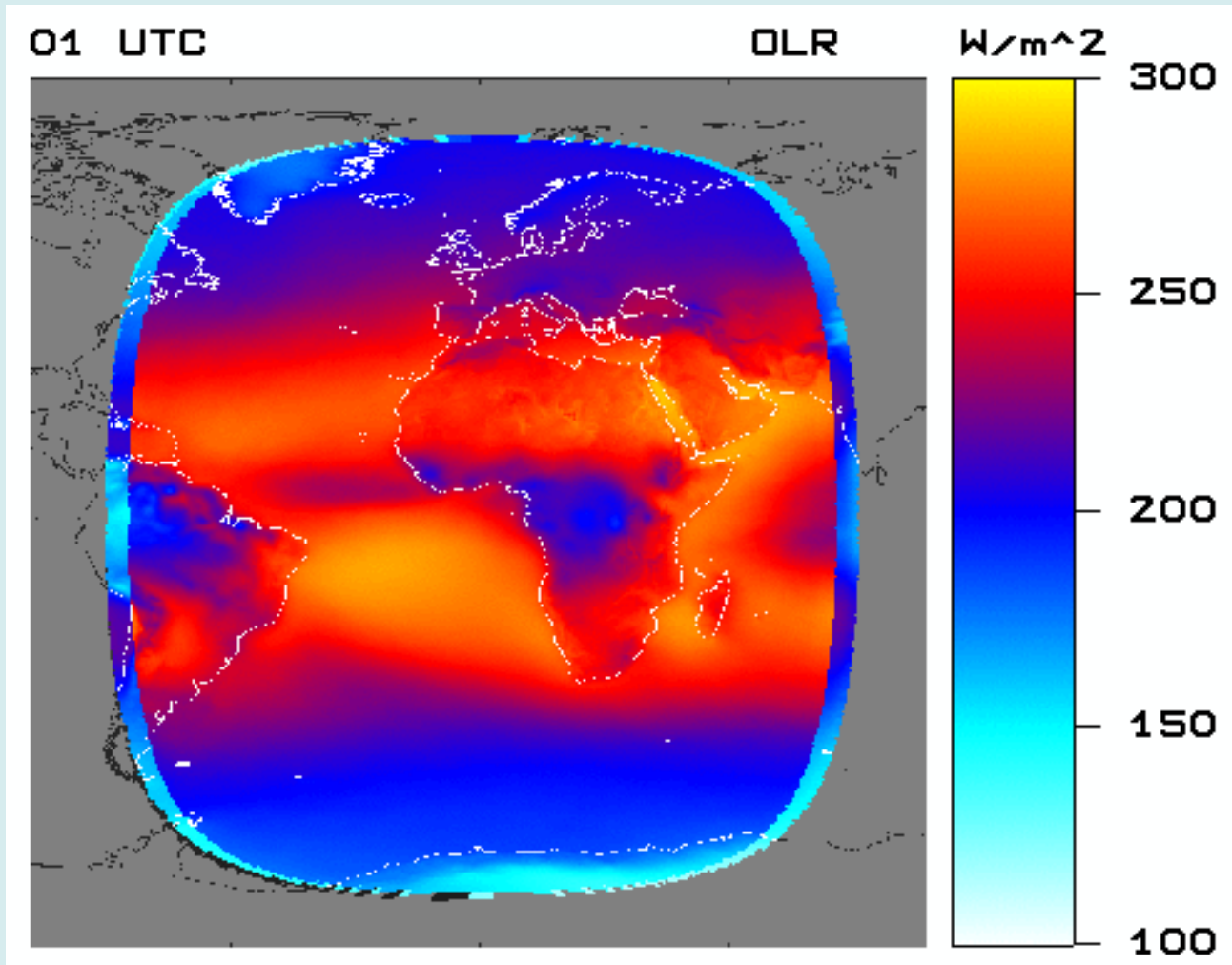
Main change: strengthening of La Nina

– Consistent with 'break' in global warming.

Faint warming in the Arctic, related to ice melting ?

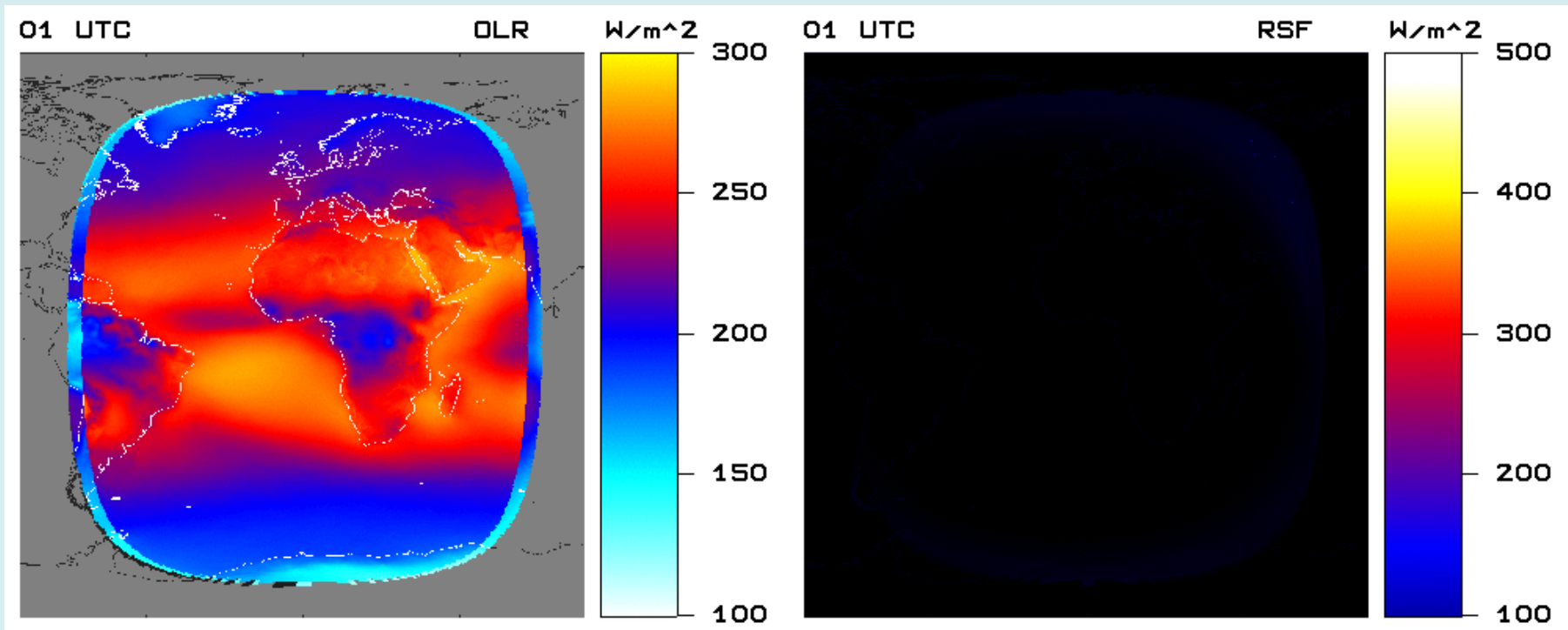
Top of atmosphere albedo

7 year GERB mean diurnal cycle



Top of atmosphere albedo

7 year GERB mean diurnal cycle



This is CM SAF's product suite at a glance:

available via the web-user-interface at our website

<http://wui.cmsaf.eu>

Product group	Specific products	Sensor, area and available since	Resolution
cloud parameter	cloud fractional cover	AVHRR: Baseline 01.11.2004	15x15 km ²
	Cloud Type	AVHRR: Arctic 01.01.2009	
	Cloud Top Pressure, Height + Temp.	SEVIRI: Meteosat disc 01.09.2005	
	Cloud Phase		
	Cloud Optical Thickness		
	Cloud Water Path		
Humidity Products	see ATOVS session on Thursday		
Surface Radiation	Incoming Shortwave Radiation	AVHRR: Baseline 01.11.2004	15x15 km ²
	Surface Albedo	AVHRR: Arctic (SAL only) 01.01.2009	
	Net Shortwave Radiation	SEVIRI: Meteosat disc 01.09.2005	
	Net Longwave Radiation		
	Downward longwave radiation		
	Outgoing longwave radiation		
	Surface radiation budget		
Top-of-Atmosphere	Incoming solar radiative flux	GERB and CERES (merged dataset):	45x45 km ²
	Reflected solar radiative flux	Baseline, MSG disc 01.02.2004	
	Emitted thermal radiative flux		

Thank you for you attention!