

# Dust & Smoke Detection with MSG SEVIRI RGB Products



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# Outline (Dust and Smoke Detection)

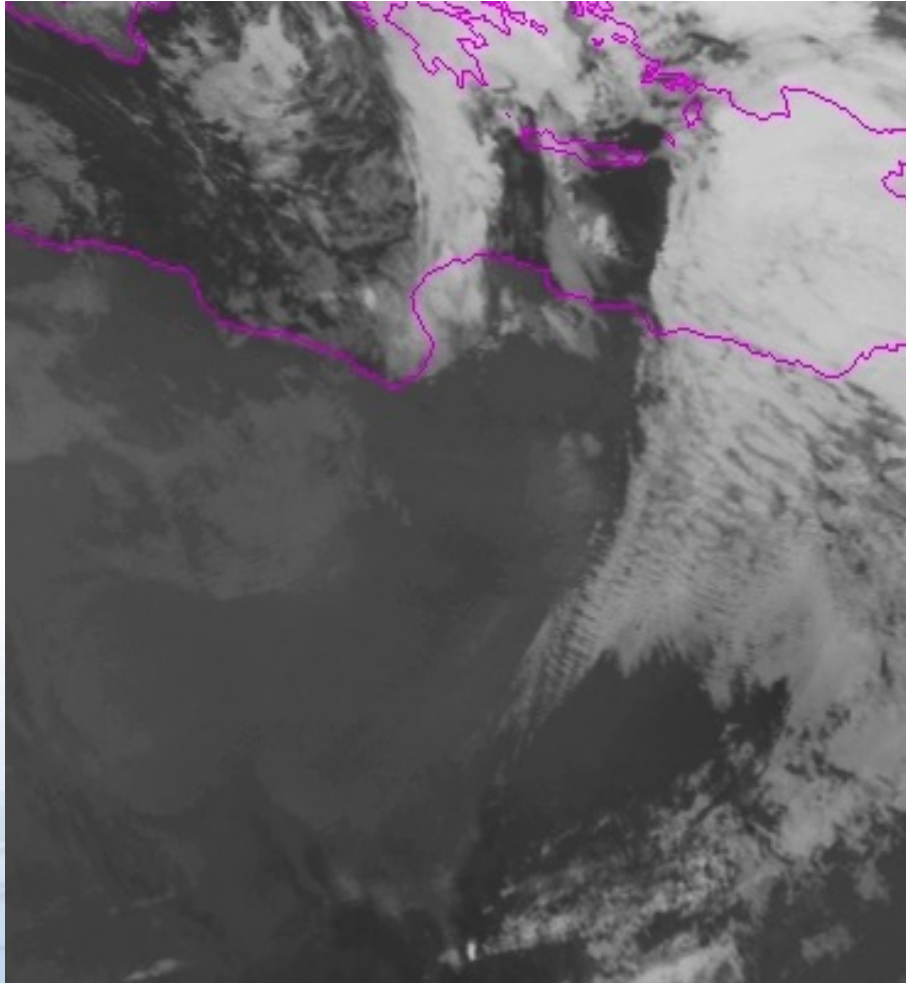
2

- ❑ Early MSG Findings
- ❑ Introduction to RGB Products
- ❑ Smoke versus Dust
- ❑ The IR Window Differences
- ❑ The Dust RGB Product + Colour Interpretation
- ❑ Types of Dust Outbreaks

## Exercise - where is the dust ?

3

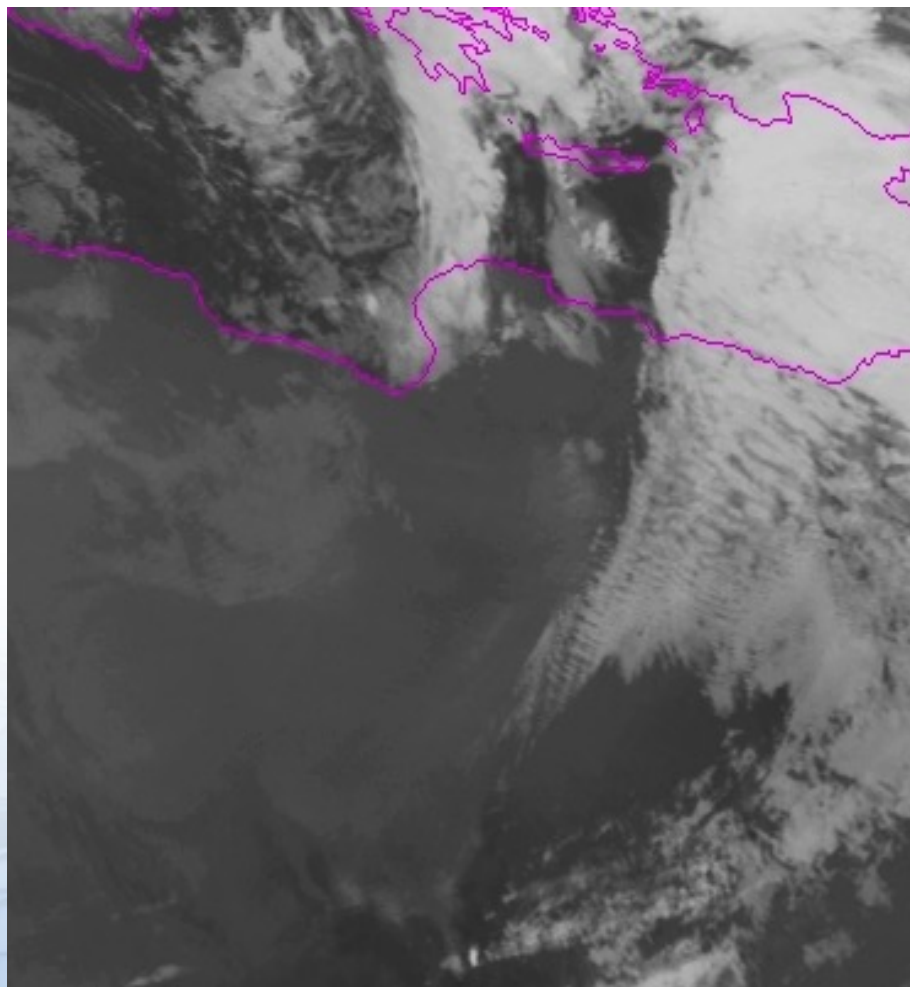
Met-7 IR image



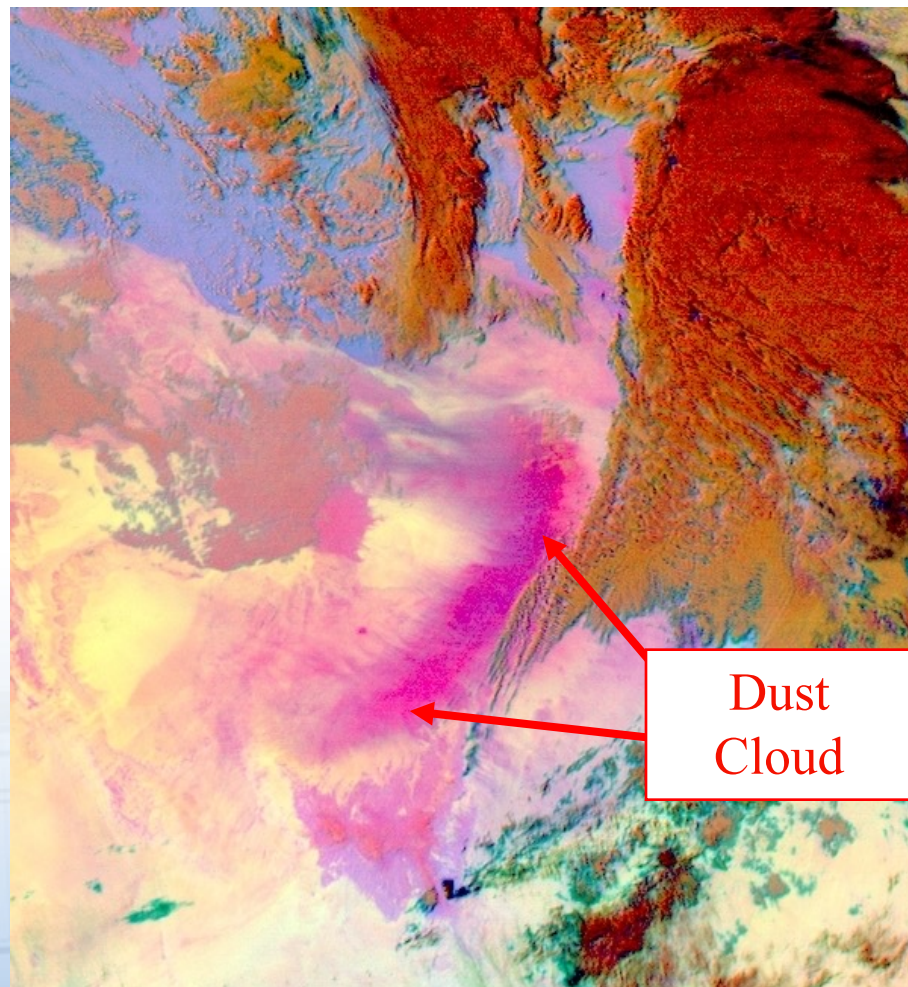
## Exercise - where is the dust ?

4

Met-7 IR image



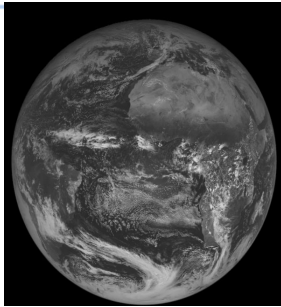
Met-8 Dust RGB Product



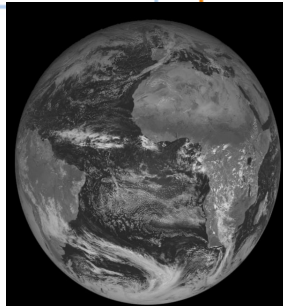


# MSG-1 First Image: 28 November 2002

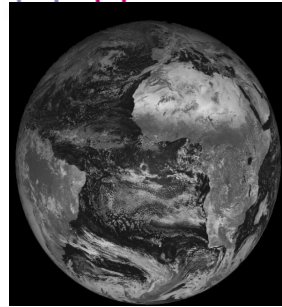
5



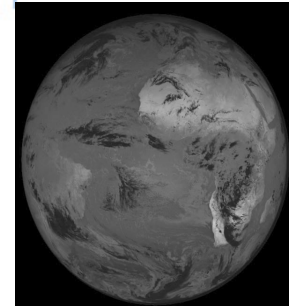
**VIS 0.6**



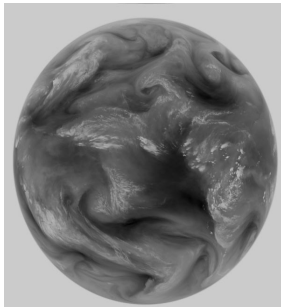
**VIS 0.8**



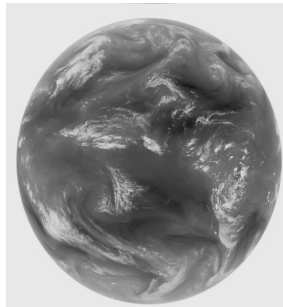
**NIR 1.6**



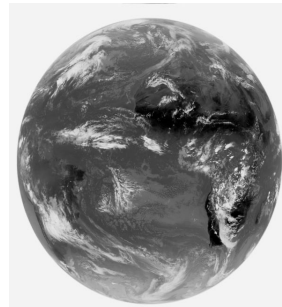
**MIR 3.9**



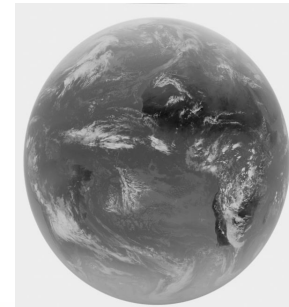
**WV 6.2**



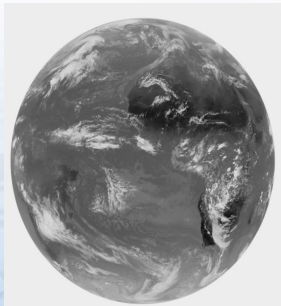
**WV 7.3**



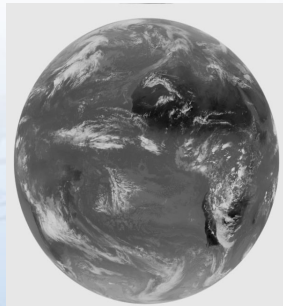
**IR 8.7**



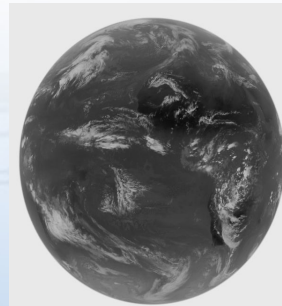
**IR 9.7**



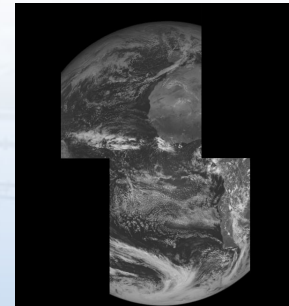
**IR 10.8**



**IR 12.0**



**IR 13.4**



**HRV**

# 7 MSG Window Channels

Window	Band (um)	Airmass	Band (um)
VIS 0.6	0.56 - 0.71	WV 6.2	5.35 - 7.15
VIS 0.8	0.74 - 0.88	WV 7.3	6.85 - 7.85
NIR 1.6	1.50 - 1.78	IR 9.7	9.38 - 9.94
MIR 3.9	3.40 - 4.20	IR 13.4	12.40 - 14.40
IR 8.7	8.30 - 9.10		
IR 10.8	9.80 - 11.80	High Res VIS	
IR 12.0	11.00 - 13.00	HRV	0.4 - 1.1

3 km data sampling intervals, except HRV (1 km)  
Images each 15 minutes (5 minutes Met-8 rapid scan)

# 3 MSG Window Channels in IR

Window	Band (um)	Airmass	Band (um)
VIS 0.6	0.56 - 0.71	WV 6.2	5.35 - 7.15
VIS 0.8	0.74 - 0.88	WV 7.3	6.85 - 7.85
NIR 1.6	1.50 - 1.78	IR 9.7	9.38 - 9.94
MIR 3.9	3.40 - 4.20	IR 13.4	12.40 - 14.40
IR 8.7	8.30 - 9.10		
IR 10.8	9.80 - 11.80	High Res VIS	
IR 12.0	11.00 - 13.00	HRV	0.4 - 1.1

# Dust Detection

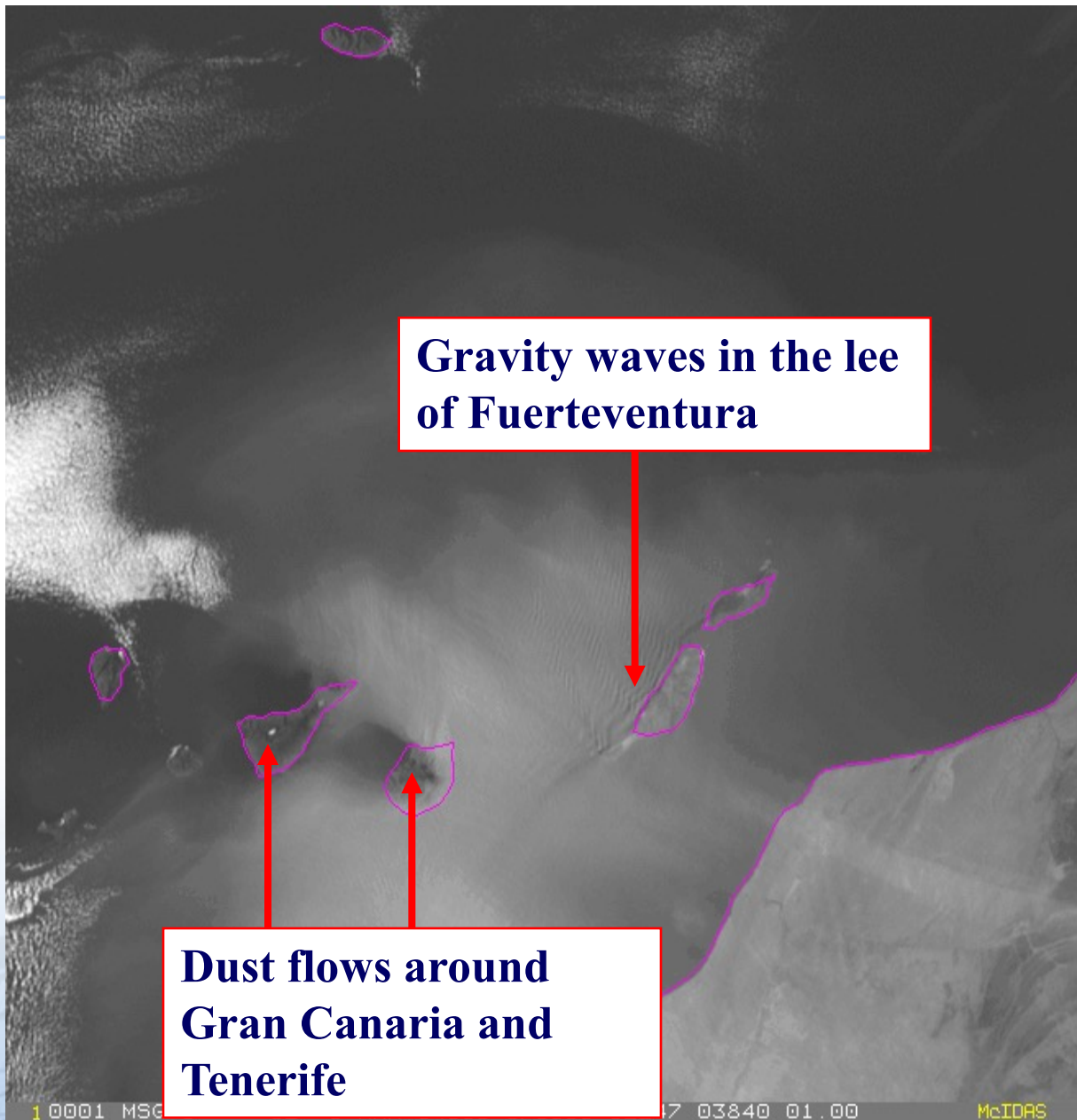
## Early MSG Findings



# Detection of Dust with MSG SEVIRI

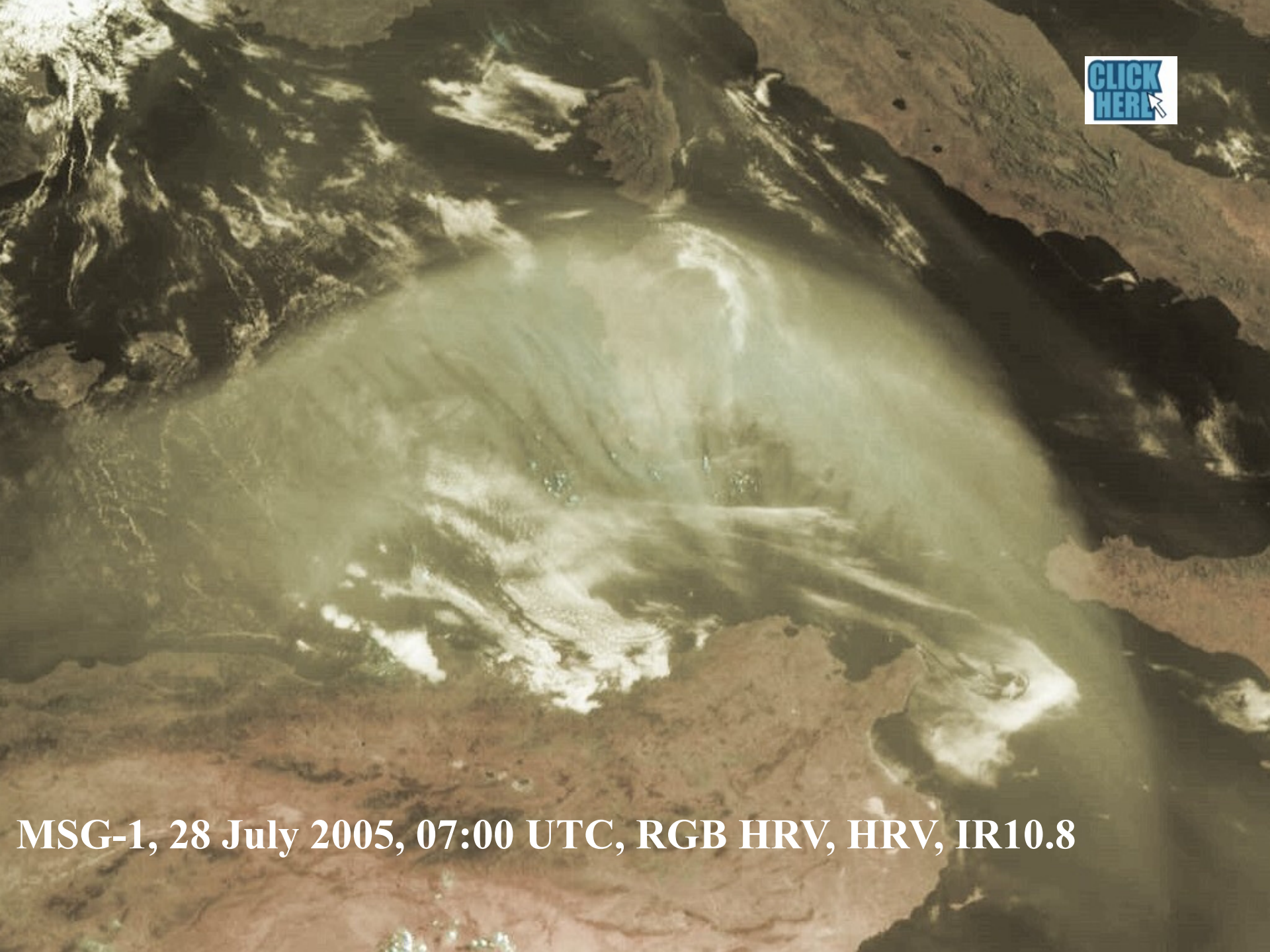


- **VIS0.6 or HRV (VIS0.8, NIR1.6 not good)**  
good over Oceans, only daytime
- **IR3.9r (reflectance part)**  
good over Oceans, only daytime
- **IR10.8 (thermal signal)**  
good over Land, only daytime
- **Difference IR12.0 - IR10.8 (known from AVHRR)**  
good for mid & high dust clouds, day and night, Land and Ocean
- **Difference IR8.7 - IR10.8 (new)**  
good over deserts, day and night
- **Difference IR3.9 – IR10.8 (known from AVHRR)**  
good over Land and Oceans, only daytime



HRV Channel  
shows fine details

MSG-1  
3 March 2004  
17:00 UTC  
Channel 12  
(HRV)



MSG-1, 28 July 2005, 07:00 UTC, RGB HRV, HRV, IR10.8

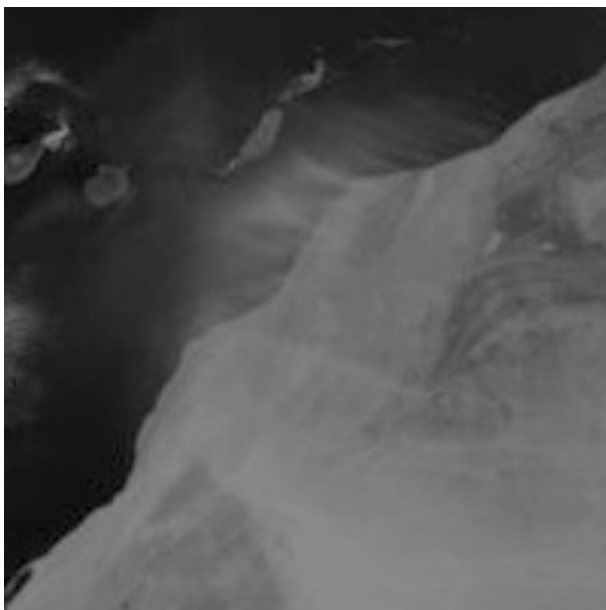


MSG SEVIRI IR10.8 on 3 March 2004 at 12:00 UTC  
showing a **major dust storm** over Northern Africa

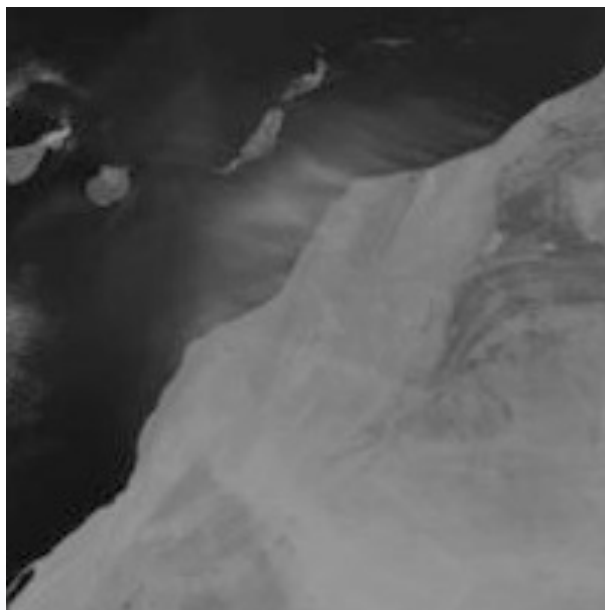




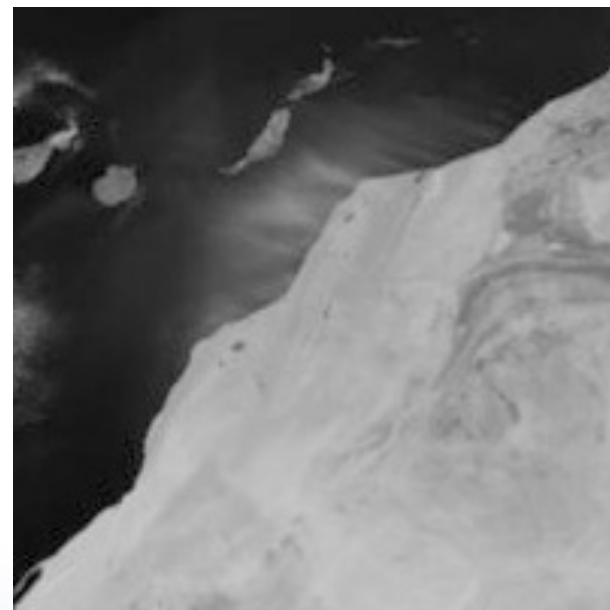
MSG SEVIRI IR10.8 on 3 March 2004 at 00:00 UTC  
showing a **major dust storm** over Northern Africa



Channel 01 (0.6  $\mu\text{m}$ )



Channel 02 (0.8  $\mu\text{m}$ )

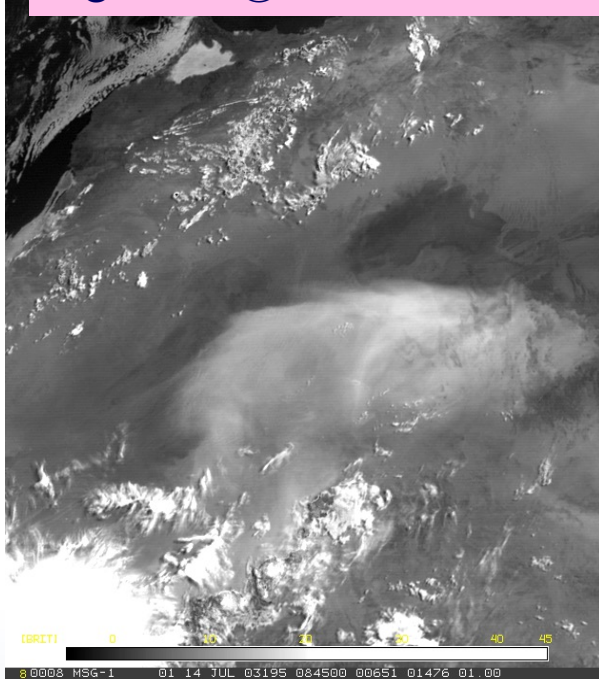


Channel 03 (1.6  $\mu\text{m}$ )

MSG **VIS** imagery on 3 March 2004 at 12:00 UTC  
showing a **dust cloud** over the Canary Islands

## Dust Clouds

high refl. @ IR3.9



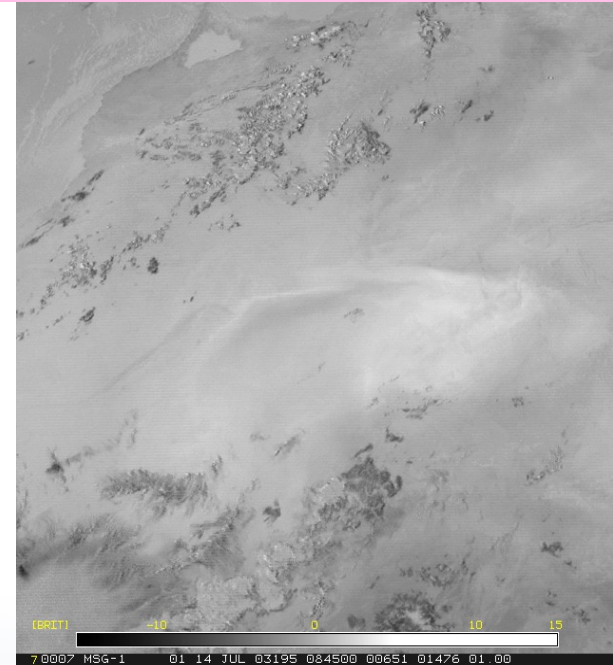
Diff.  $3.9\ \mu\text{m} - 10.8\ \mu\text{m}$

low emissivity of sand @ IR8.7



Diff.  $8.7\ \mu\text{m} - 10.8\ \mu\text{m}$

different transmissivities



Diff.  $12.0\ \mu\text{m} - 10.8\ \mu\text{m}$

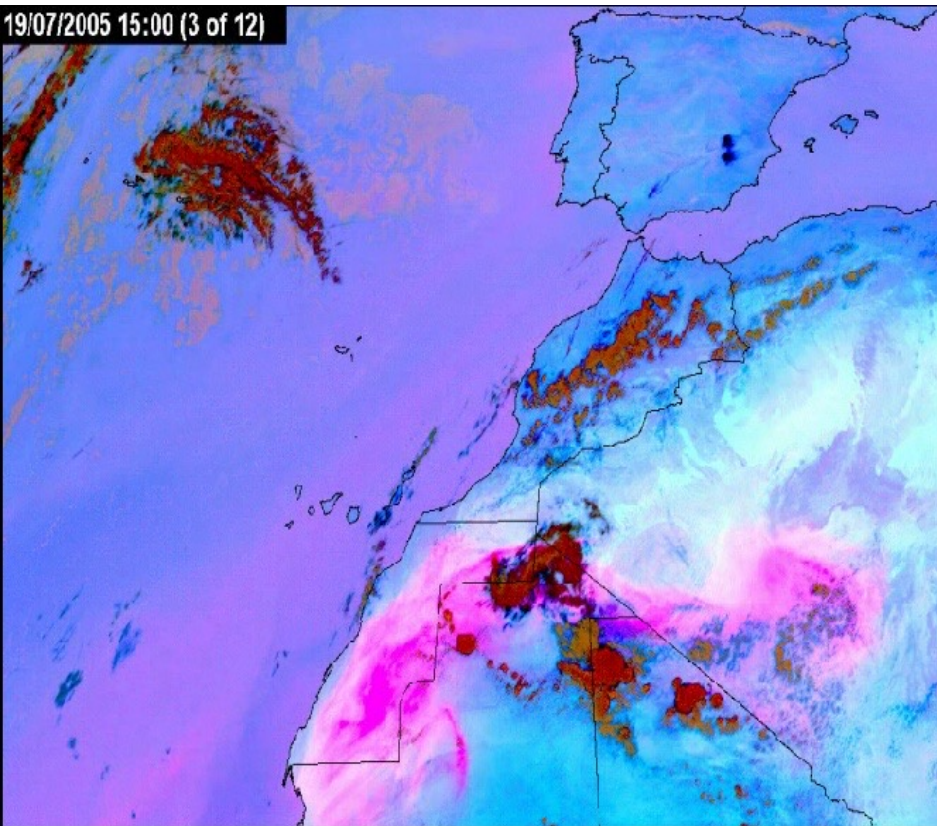
MSG imagery on 14 July 2003 at 08:45 UTC  
showing a **dust cloud** over Algeria

# Introduction to RGB Products



# RGB Products – How ?

19/07/2005 15:00 (3 of 12)

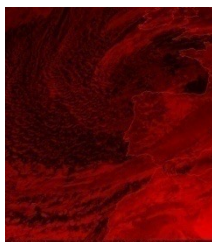


How do we get a picture like this?

# RGB Image Composites: Natural Colours RGB

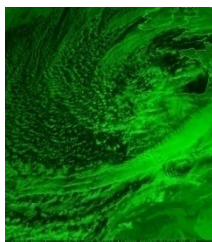
18

Ch. NIR1.6



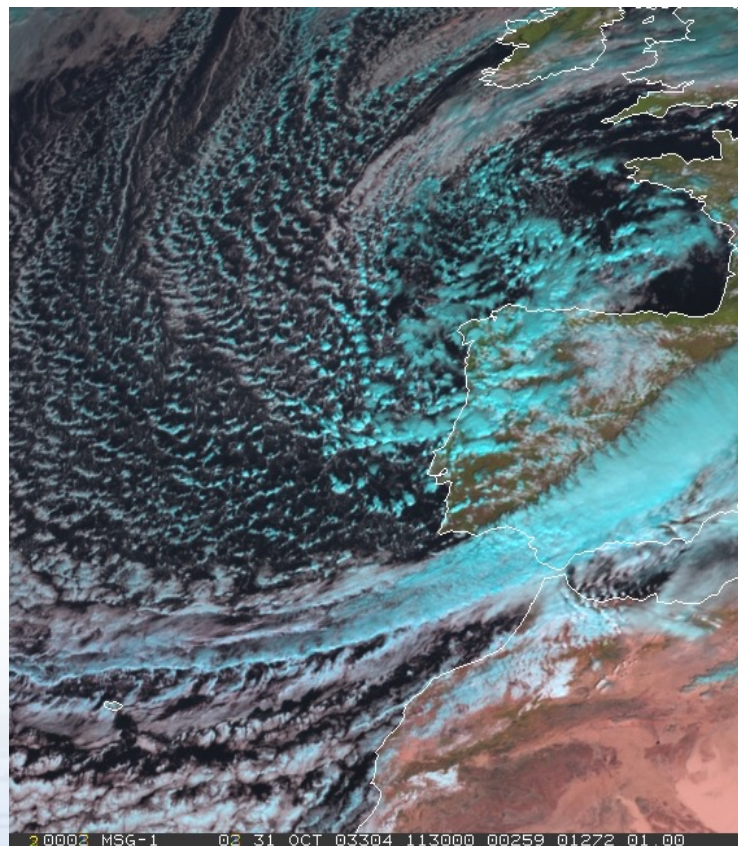
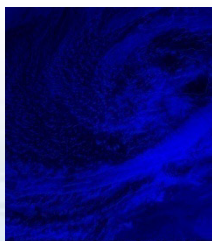
+

Ch. VIS0.8



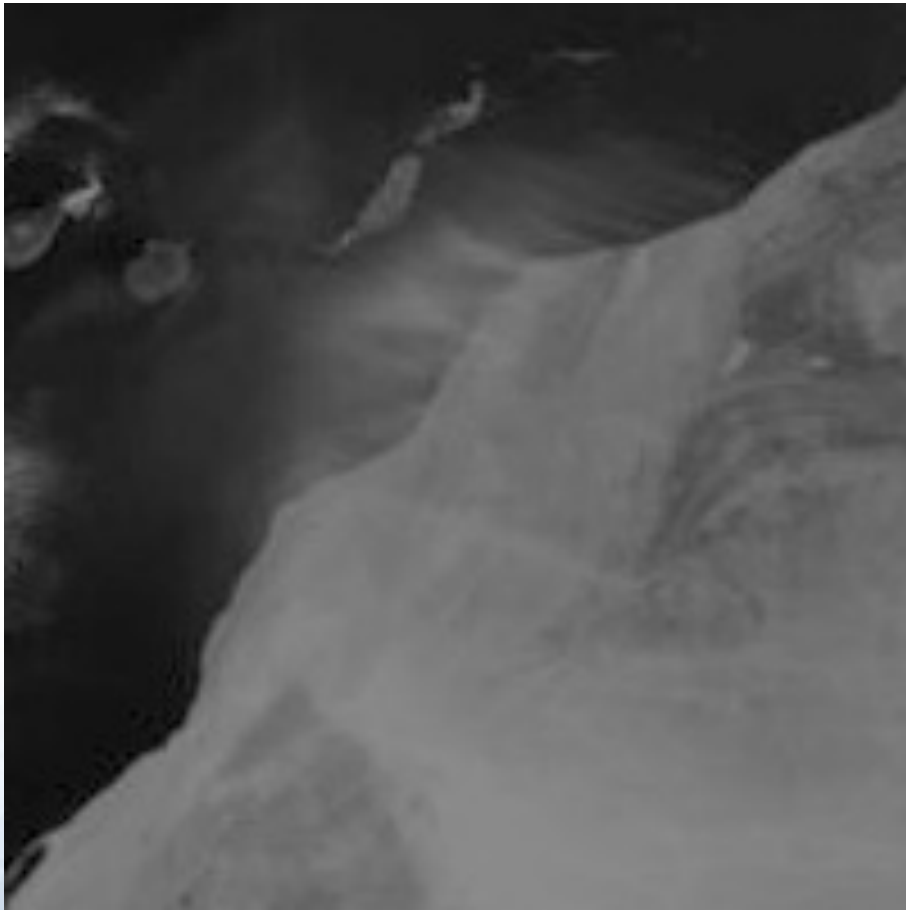
+

Ch. VIS0.6

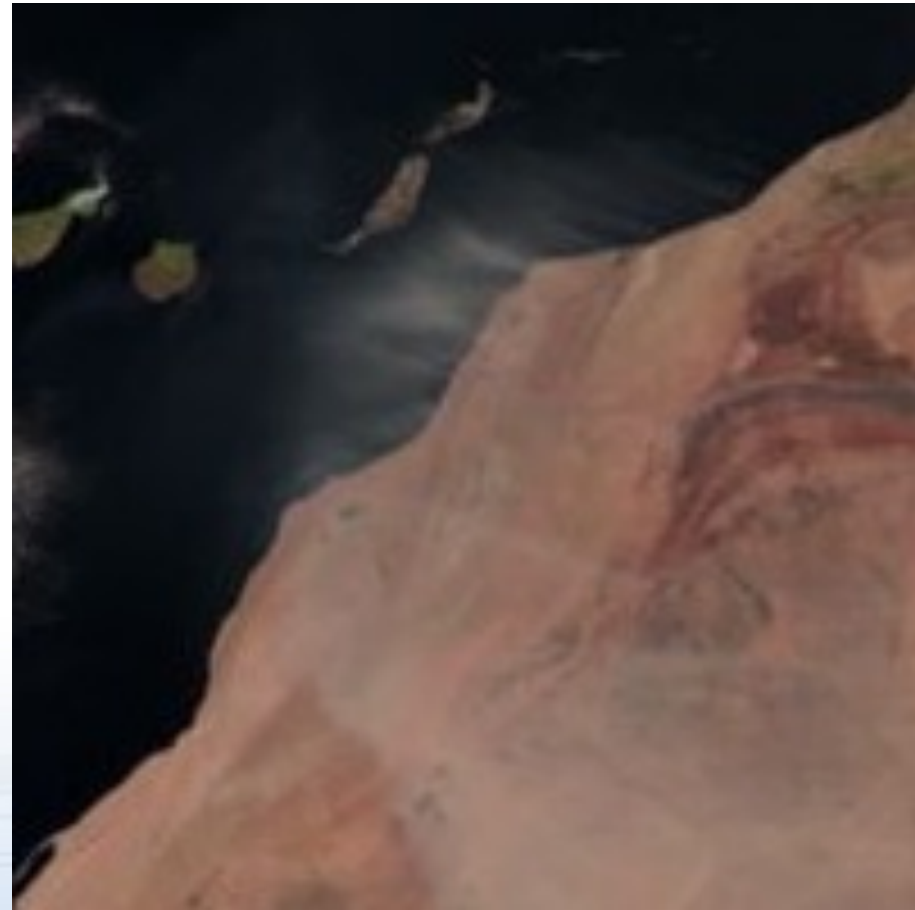




# Natural Colours RGB: dust colour



Channel 01 (0.6  $\mu\text{m}$ )



RGB Natural Colours

3 March 2004 at 12:00 UTC

**dust cloud** over the Canary Islands



# Rules for Creating “Good” RGB Products: Part 1

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Select three channels or channel differences that represent three different physical properties !!!

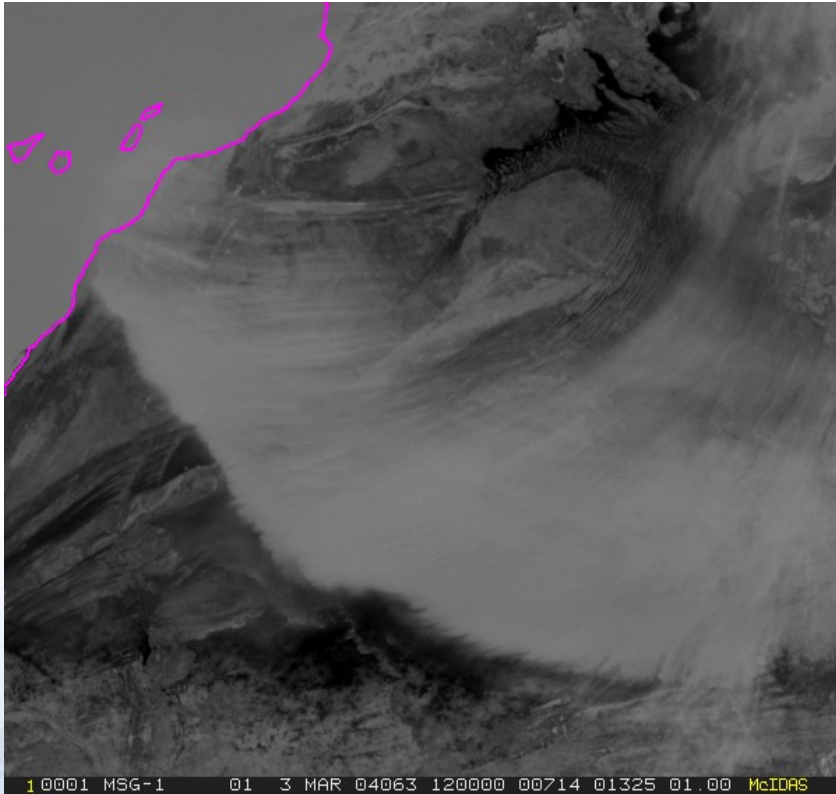
Channel	Main Cloud Physical Properties (clouds, NADIR viewing)
01 (VIS 0.6)	optical thickness, amount of cloud water and ice
02 (VIS 0.8)	optical thickness, amount of cloud water and ice
03 (NIR 1.6)	optical thickness, particle size & shape, phase
04 (MIR 3.9)	Day-time: top temperature, particle size & shape, phase Night-time: top temperature (very noisy below -50°C)
07 (IR 8.7)	top temperature
09 (IR 10.8)	top temperature
10 (IR 12.0)	top temperature



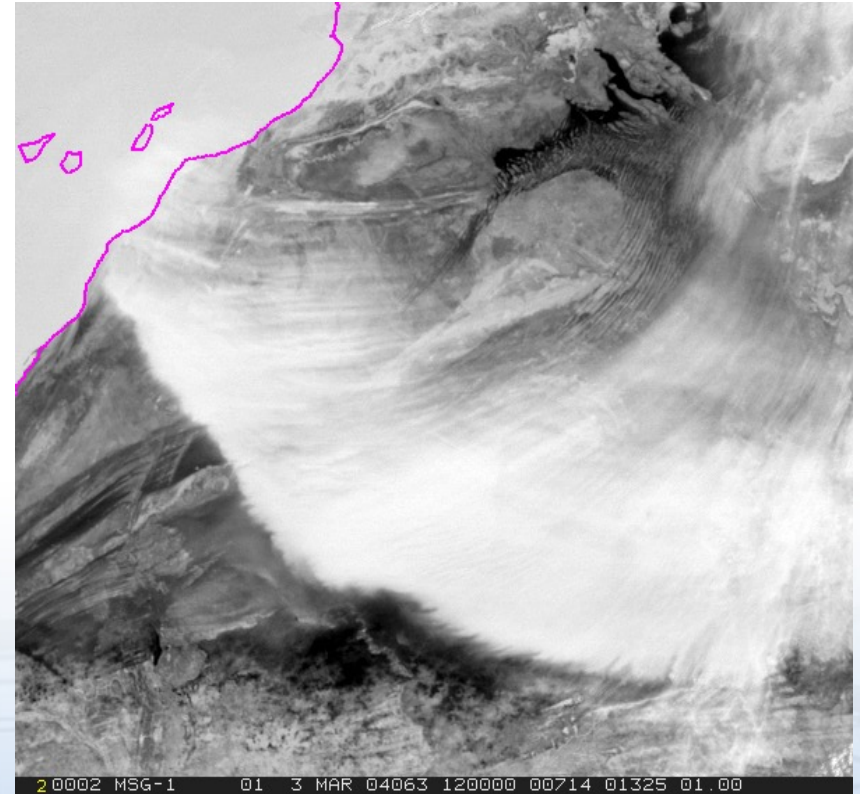
**The best RGBs are achieved using  
brightness temperatures for IR  
and (solar zenith angle corrected)  
reflectances for VIS channels !!!**

- Counts  $\emptyset$
- Radiances  $\emptyset$
- **Brightness temp. (IR channels)** ✓
- **Reflectances (VIS channels)** ✓

## Stretching of Intensity Range



**Range = -15 K / +15 K**



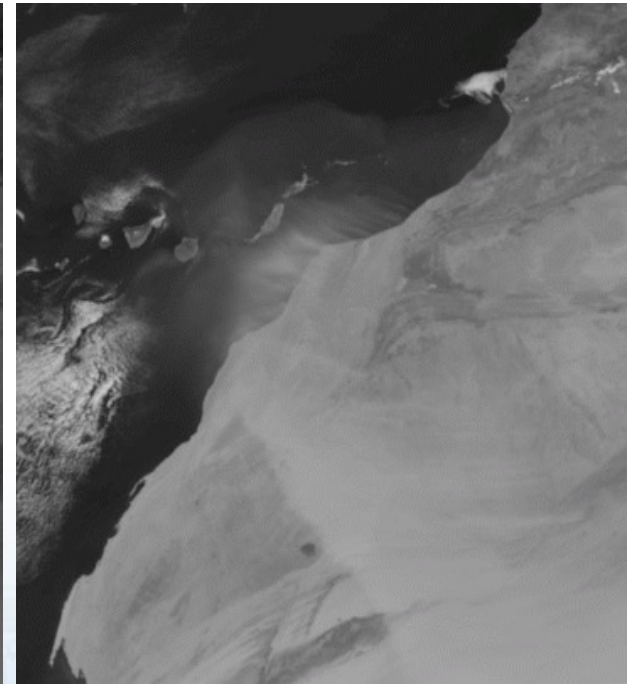
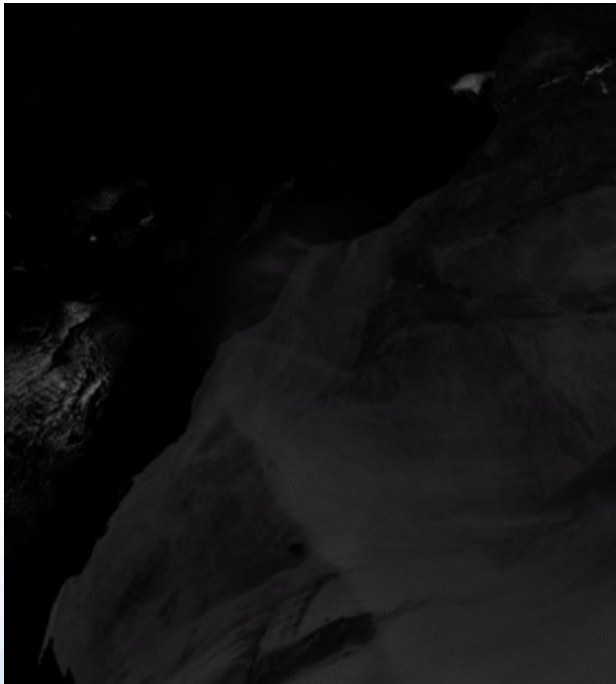
**Range = -15 K / 0 K**

MSG-1, 3 March 2004, 12:00 UTC, Diff. IR8.7 - IR10.8

# Rules for Creating “Good” RGB Products: Part 4

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**Perform Gamma correction, if needed**



**Range = 0 - 100%,  $\Gamma=0.5$**

**Range = 0 - 100%,  $\Gamma=1.0$**

**Range = 0 - 100%,  $\Gamma=2.0$**

MSG-1, 3 March 2004, 12:00 UTC, Channel 01 (VIS0.6)

# Smoke versus Dust



2007/08/26 11:12

CH01 0.6

CH01 0.6

CH01 0.6

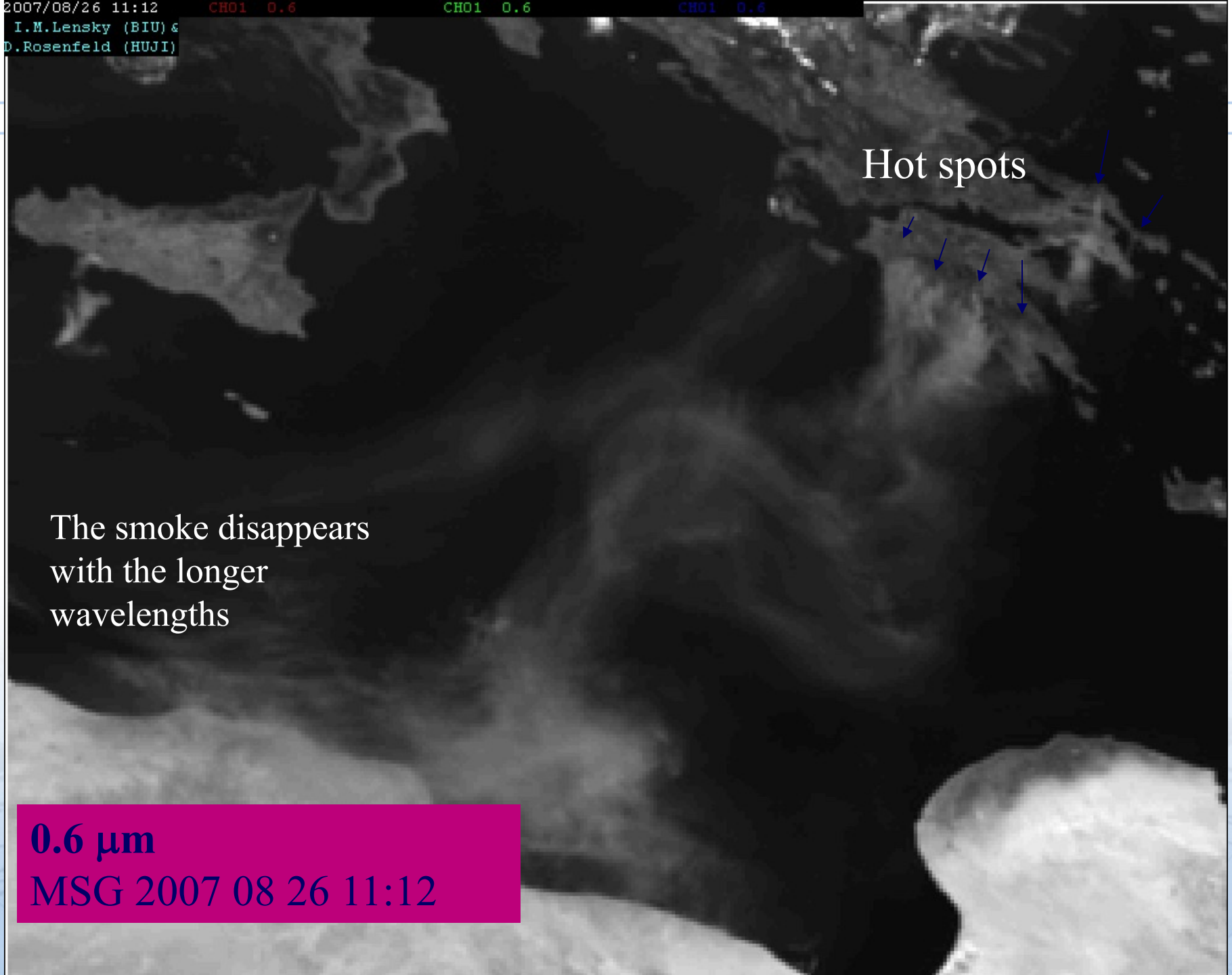
I.M.Lensky (BIU) &  
D.Rosenfeld (HUJI)

Hot spots

The smoke disappears  
with the longer  
wavelengths

**0.6  $\mu\text{m}$**

MSG 2007 08 26 11:12



2007/08/26 11:12

CH02 0.8

CH02 0.8

CH02 0.8

I.M.Lensky (BIU) &

D.Rosenfeld (HUJI)

Hot spots

The smoke disappears  
with the longer  
wavelengths

**0.8  $\mu\text{m}$**

MSG 2007 08 26 11:12

## Exercise – what colour does smoke get in the Natural Colours RGB ?

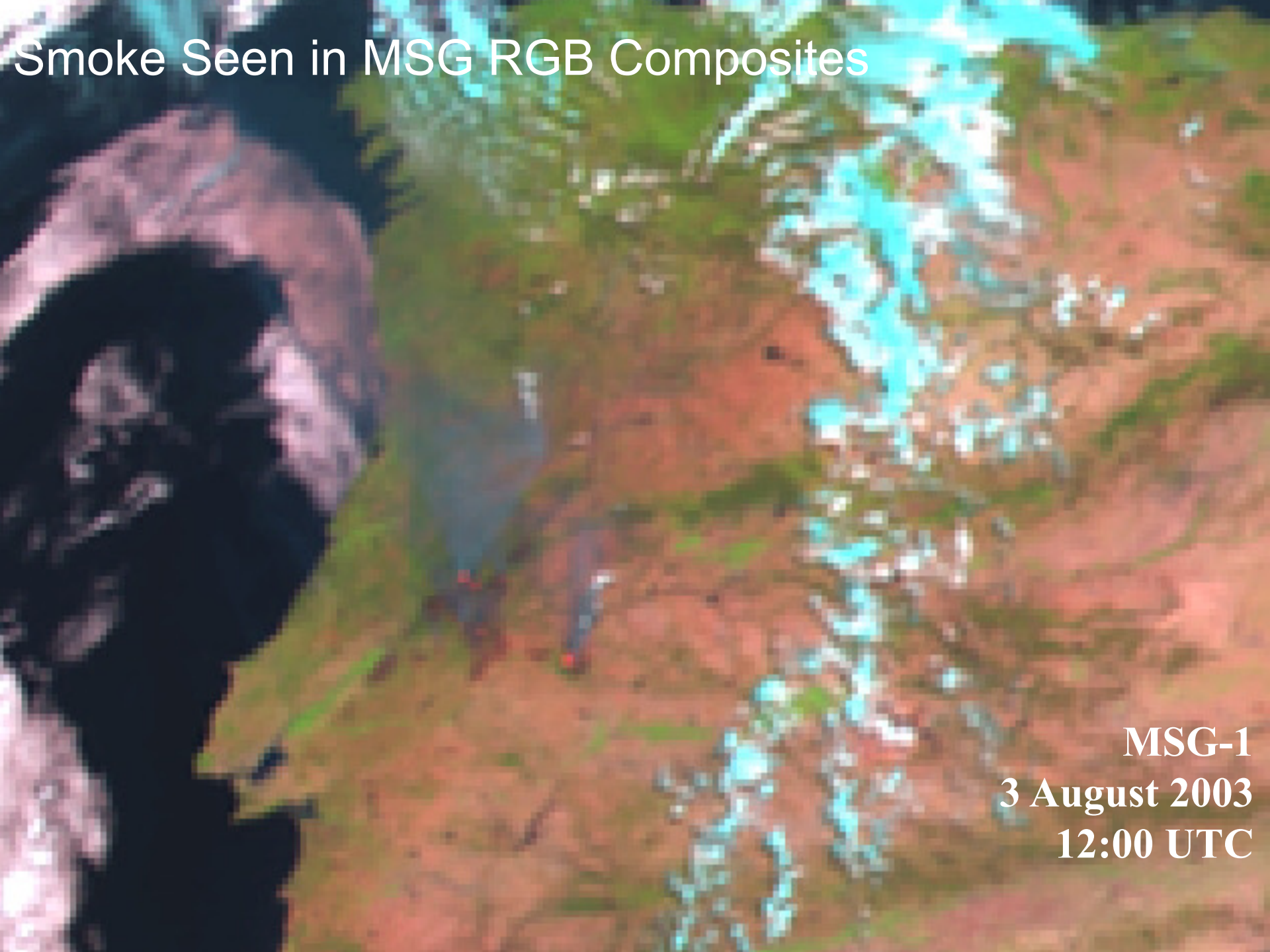
Hot spots

The smoke disappears  
with the longer  
wavelengths

1.6  $\mu\text{m}$

MSG 2007 08 26 11:12

Smoke Seen in MSG RGB Composites



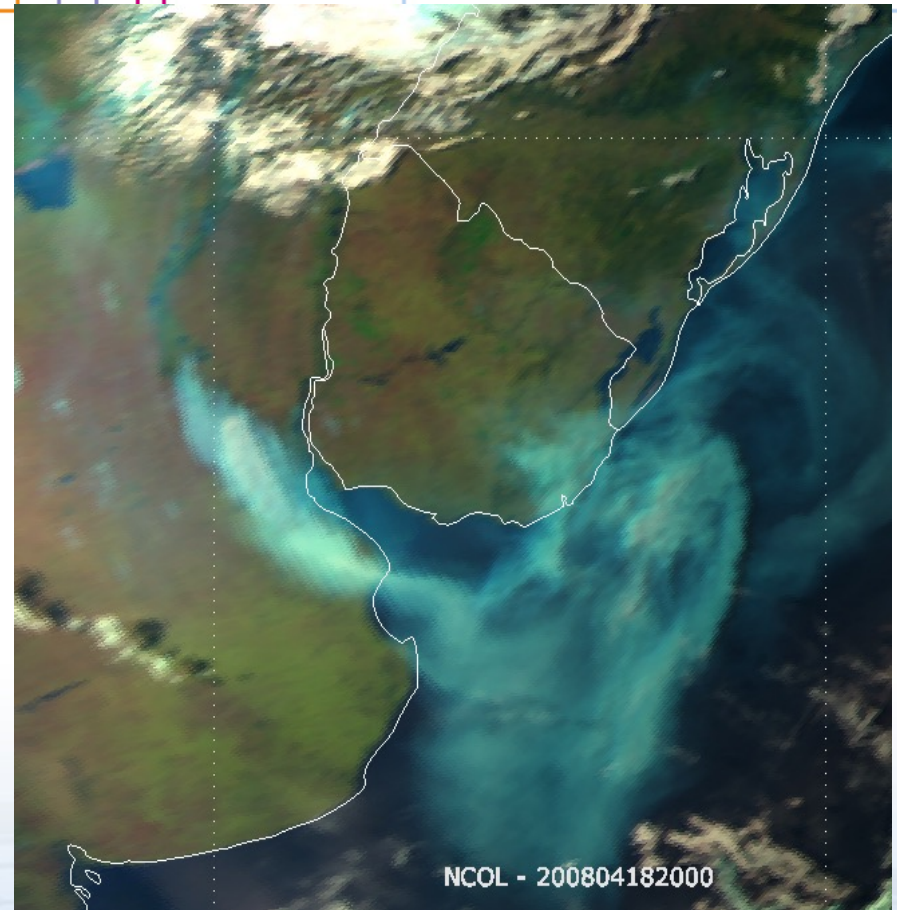
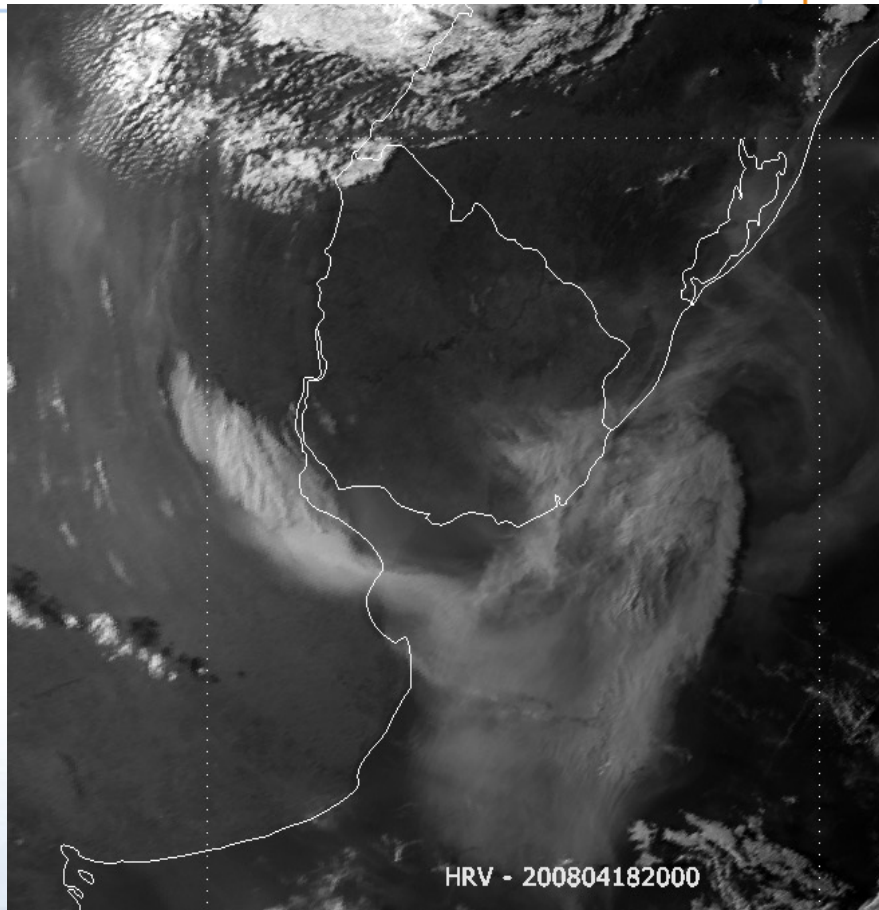
MSG-1

3 August 2003

12:00 UTC



# Dense Smoke over Argentina and Uruguay



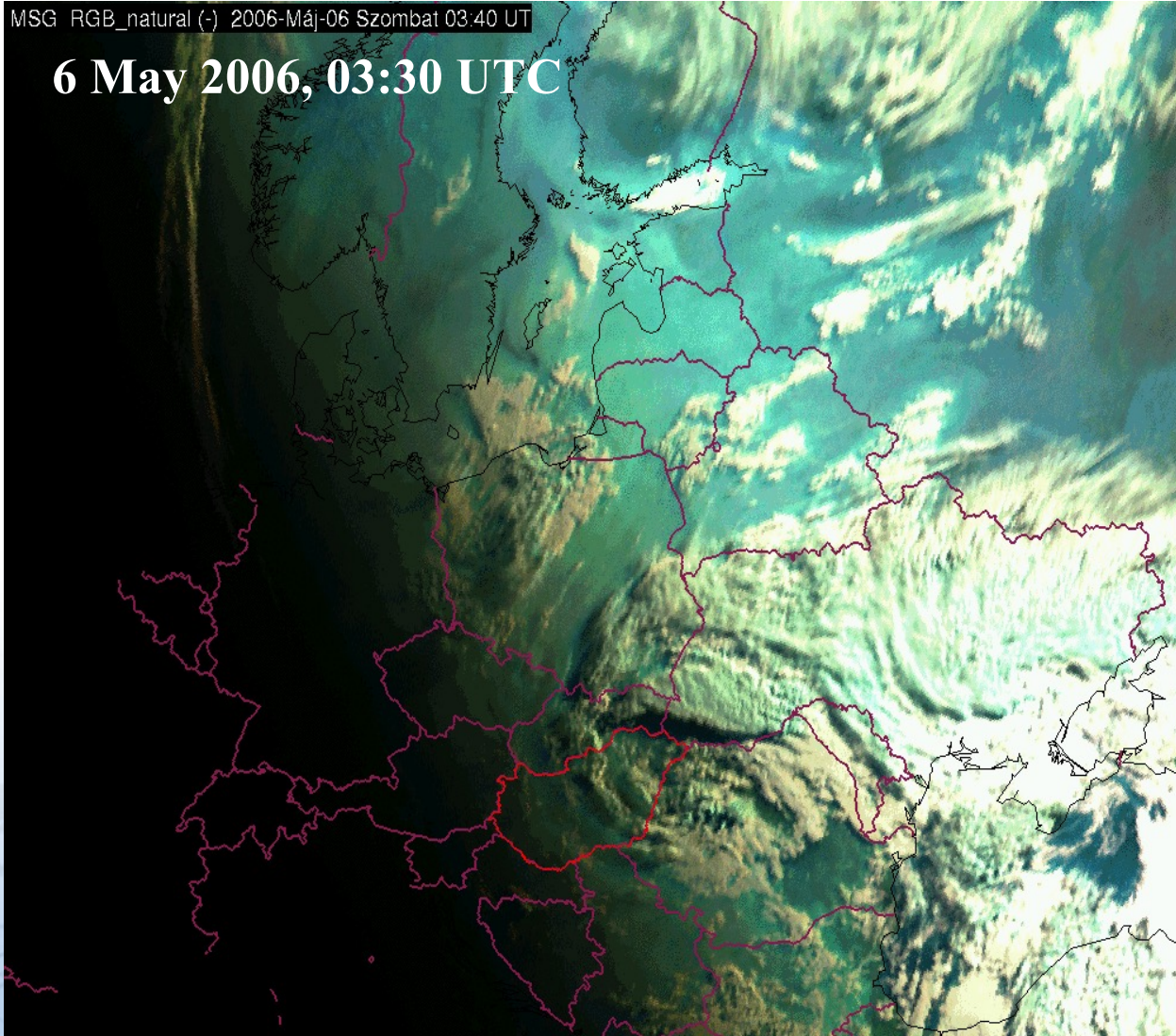
Met-9, 18 Apr 2008, 20:00 UTC



# Smoke from Russian / Ukrainian Fires

MSG RGB\_natural (-) 2006-Máj-06 Szombat 03.40 UT

6 May 2006, 03:30 UTC



[CLICK HERE](#)



# Smoke from Oil Tank Fire (Libya)



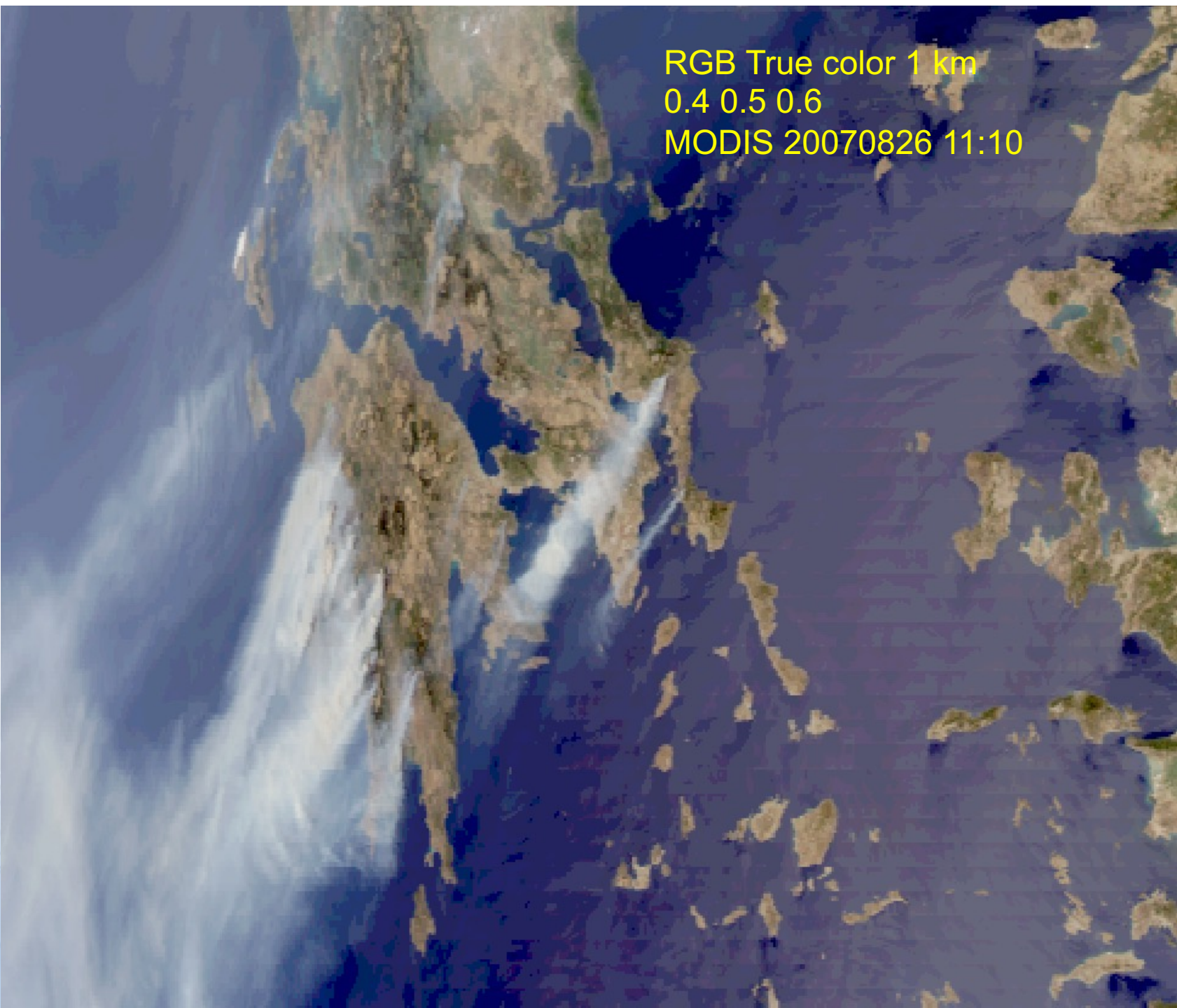
Aqua, MODIS, 20 Aug 2008  
True Colour RGB

Met-8, 19 Aug 2008  
Nat Colour RGB

**Exercise – what colour does smoke get in the  
True Colours RGB (MODIS) ?**



RGB True color 1 km  
0.4 0.5 0.6  
MODIS 20070826 11:10





Single channel 1 km

0.4  $\mu\text{m}$

MODIS 20070826 11:10

Smoke has similar  
refl. in 0.4, 0.5 and  
0.6 micron bands



Single channel 1 km

0.5 mm

MODIS 20070826 11:10

Smoke has similar  
refl. in 0.4, 0.5 and  
0.6 micron bands





Single channel 1 km

0.6  $\mu\text{m}$

MODIS 20070826 11:10

Smoke has similar  
refl. in 0.4, 0.5 and  
0.6 micron bands



Single channel 1 km  
0.8  $\mu\text{m}$   
MODIS 20070826 11:10

The smoke  
disappears with the  
longer wavelengths



Single channel 1 km  
1.2  $\mu\text{m}$   
MODIS 20070826 11:10

The smoke  
disappears with the  
longer wavelengths

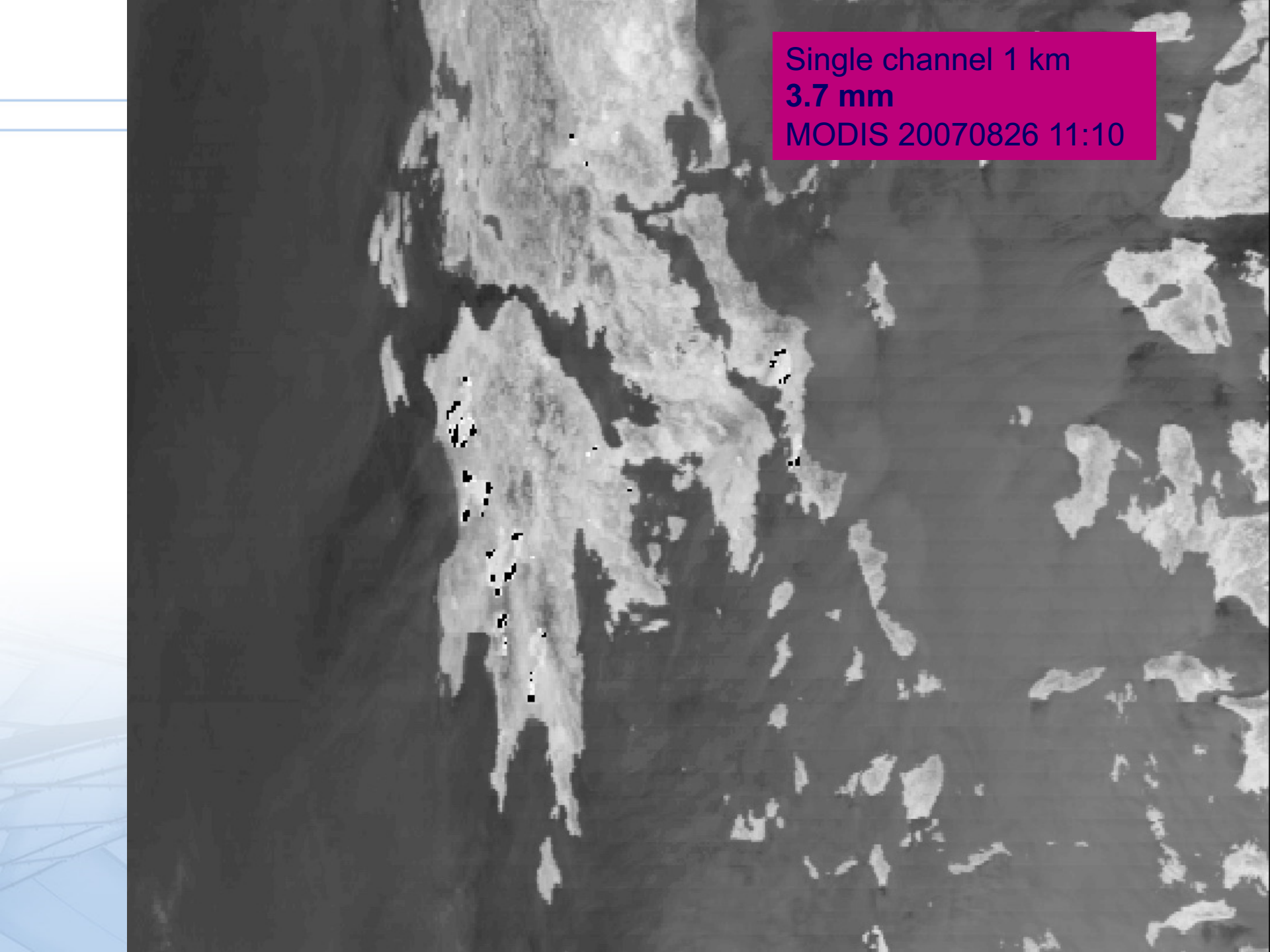


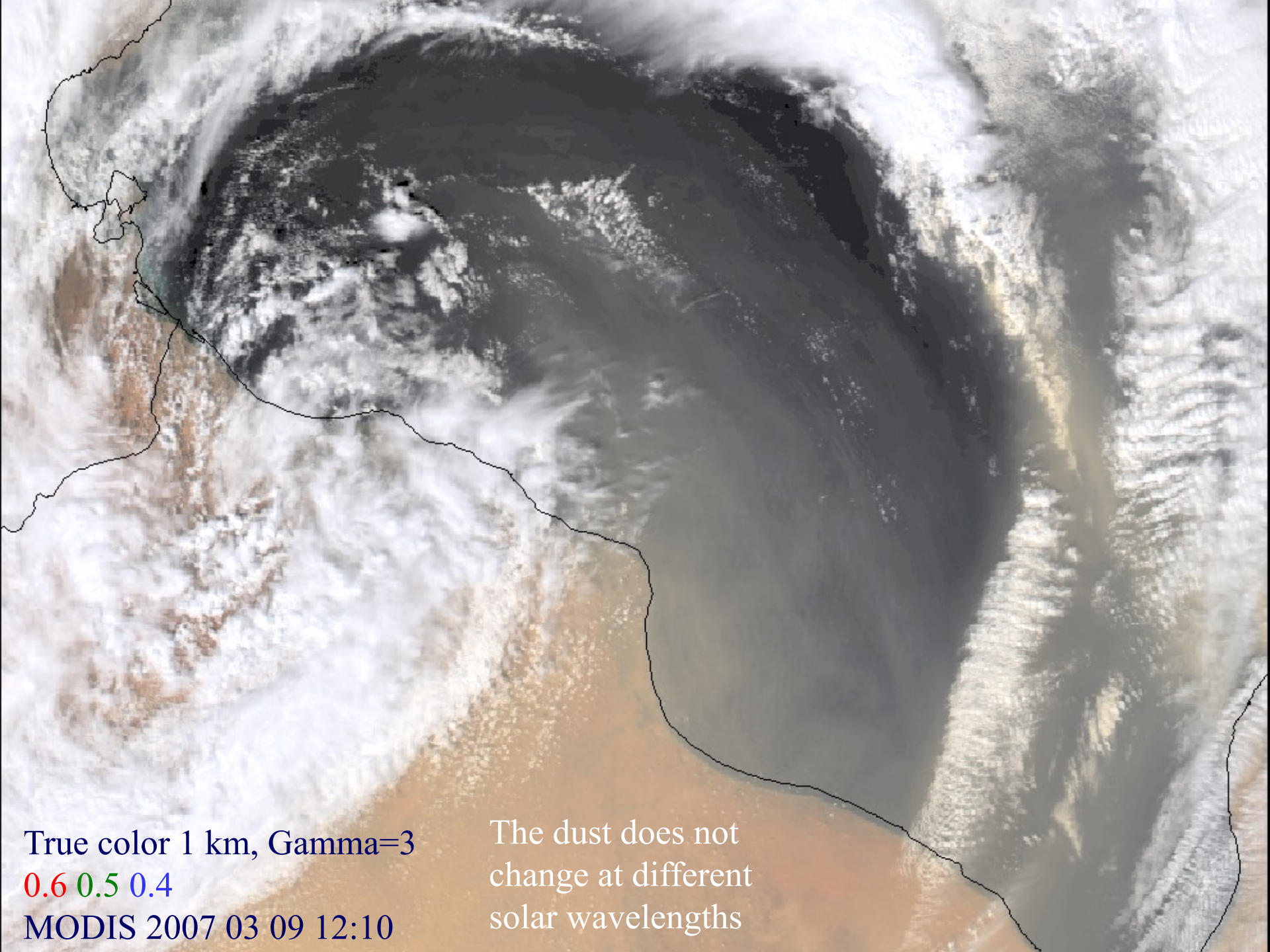
Single channel 1 km  
2.1  $\mu\text{m}$   
MODIS 20070826 11:10

The hot spots appear  
already at 2.1  $\mu\text{m}$



Single channel 1 km  
3.7 mm  
MODIS 20070826 11:10





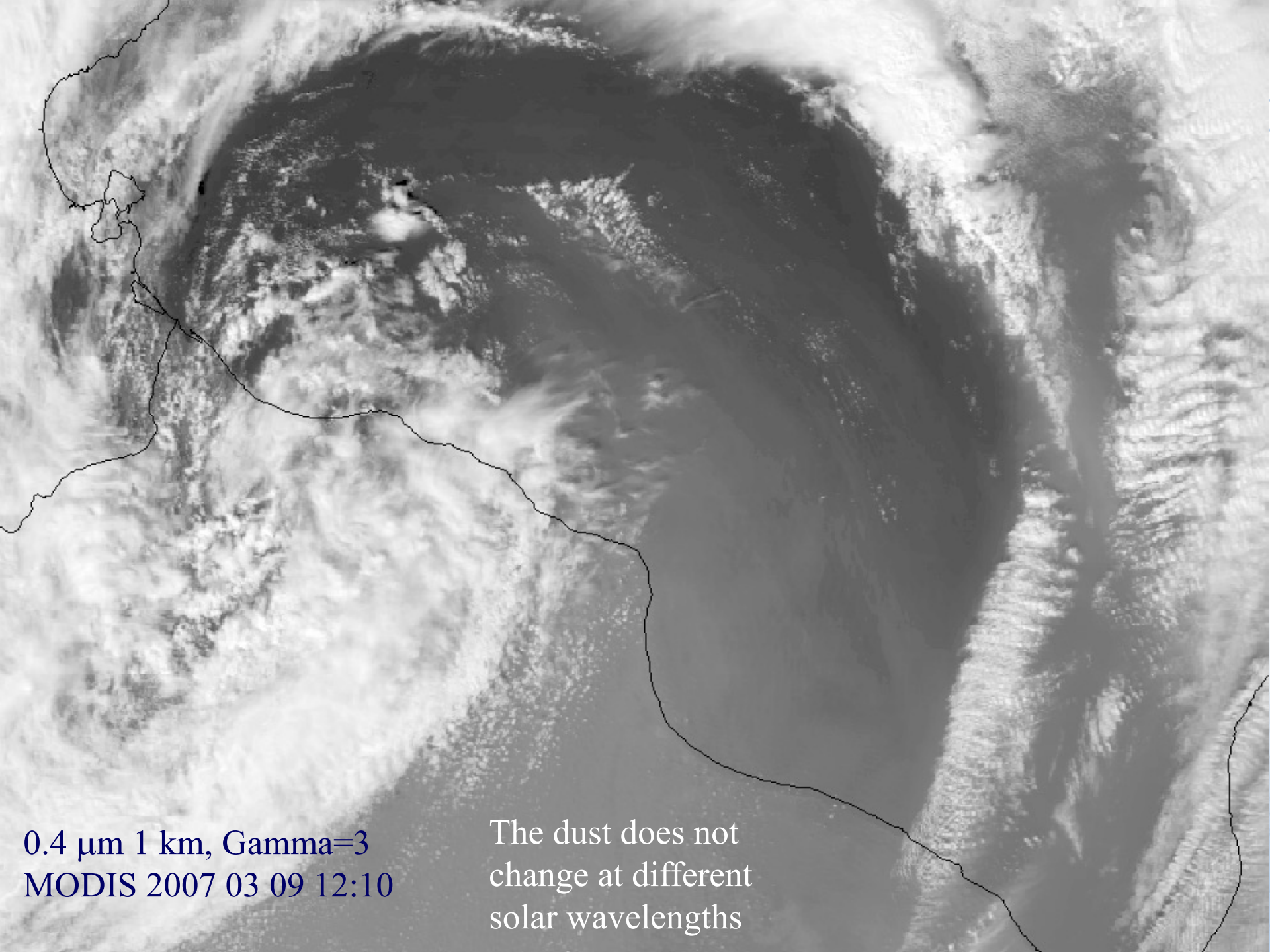
True color 1 km, Gamma=3

0.6 0.5 0.4

MODIS 2007 03 09 12:10

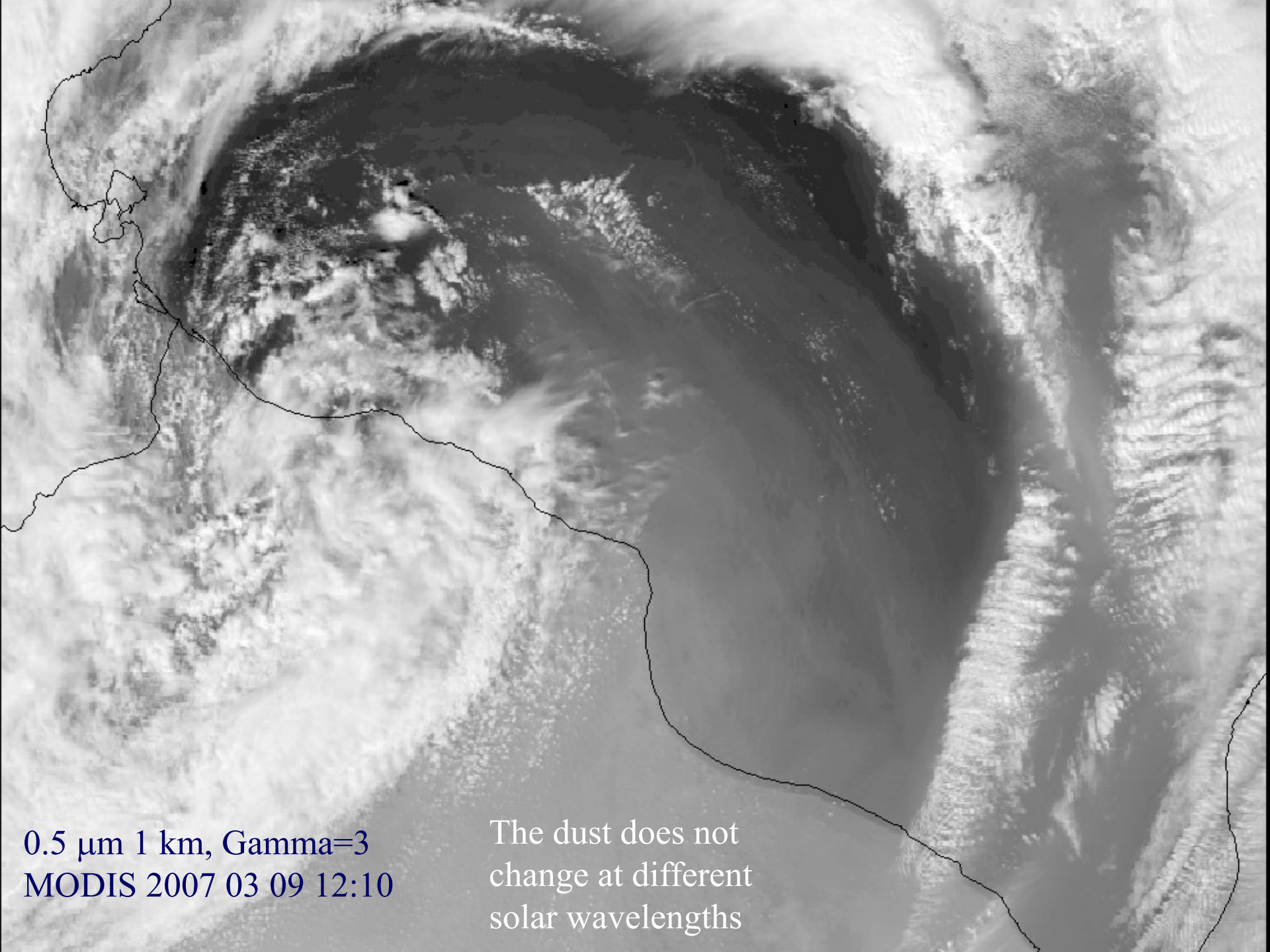
The dust does not  
change at different  
solar wavelengths





0.4  $\mu\text{m}$  1 km, Gamma=3  
MODIS 2007 03 09 12:10

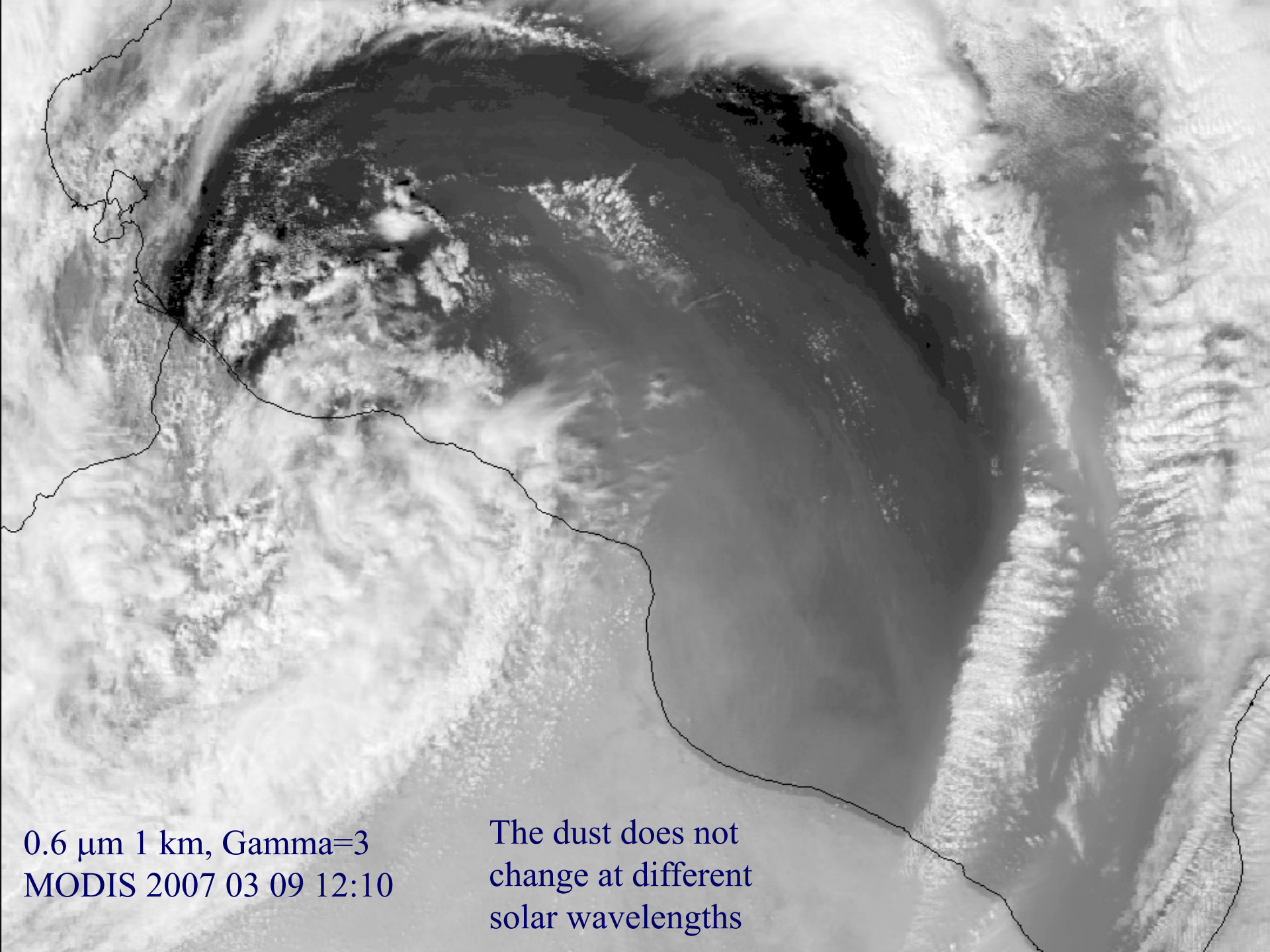
The dust does not  
change at different  
solar wavelengths



0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  1 km, Gamma=3  
MODIS 2007 03 09 12:10

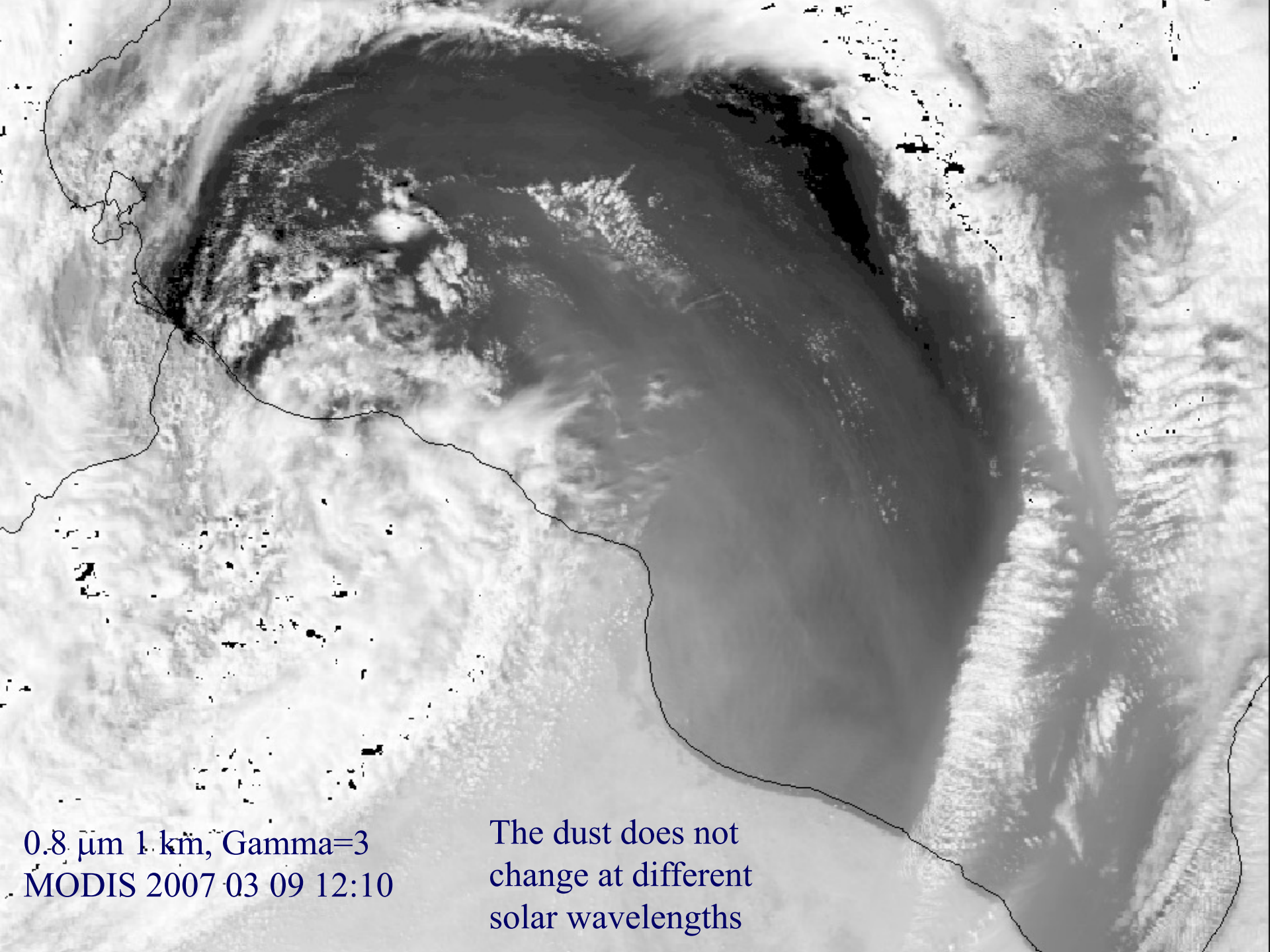
The dust does not  
change at different  
solar wavelengths





0.6  $\mu\text{m}$  1 km, Gamma=3  
MODIS 2007 03 09 12:10

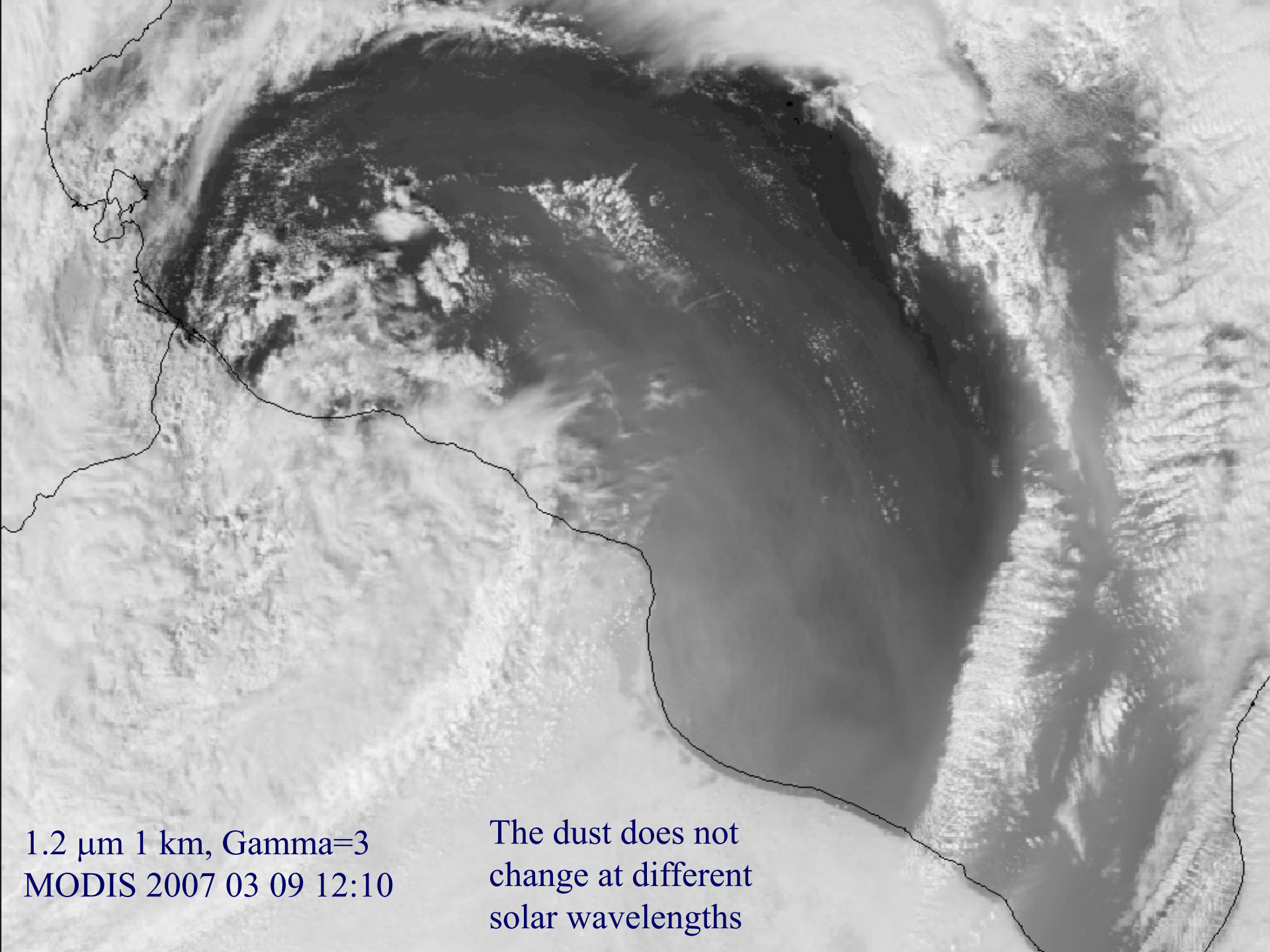
The dust does not  
change at different  
solar wavelengths



0.8  $\mu\text{m}$  1 km, Gamma=3  
MODIS 2007 03 09 12:10

The dust does not  
change at different  
solar wavelengths

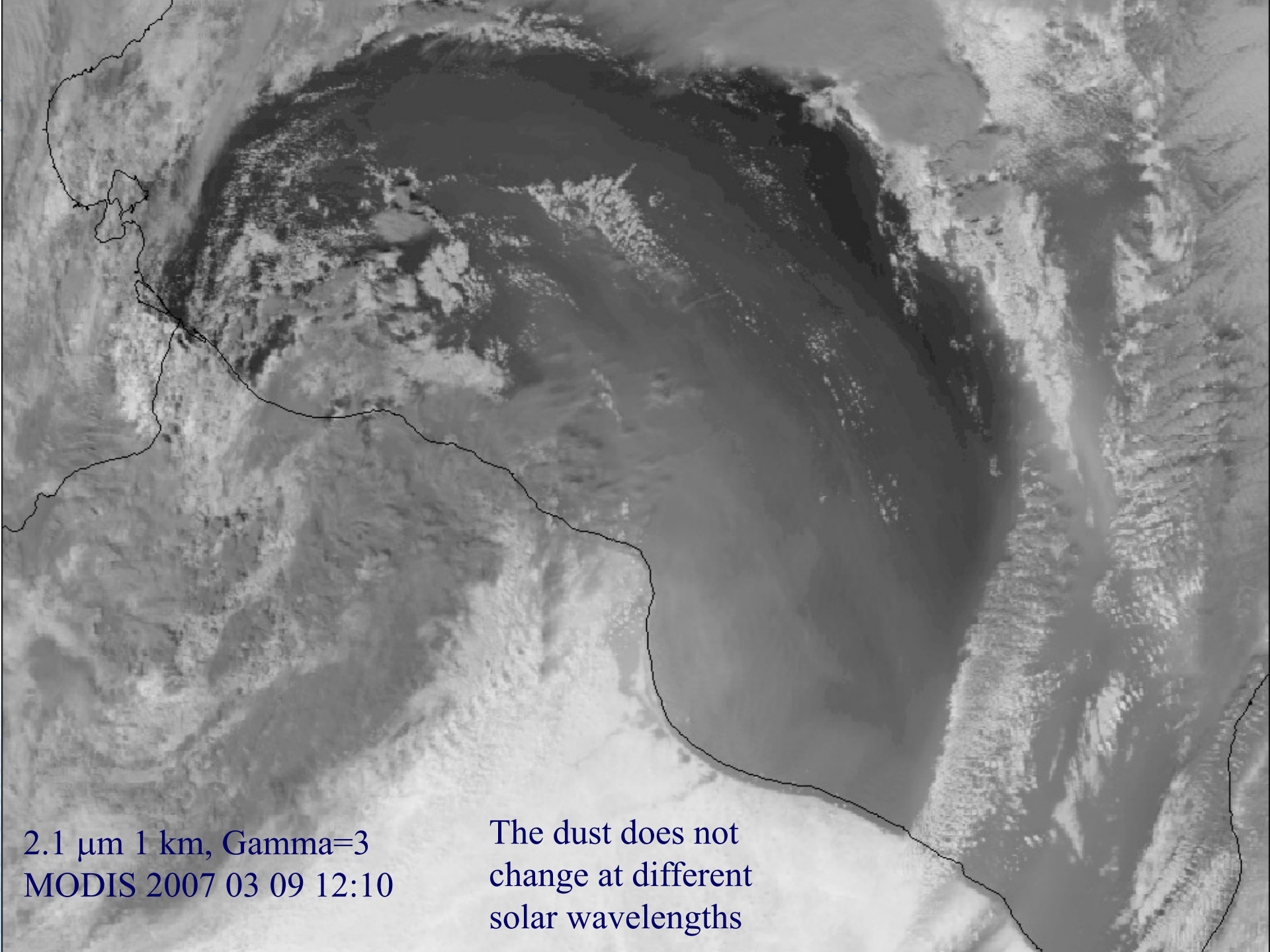




1.2  $\mu\text{m}$  1 km, Gamma=3  
MODIS 2007 03 09 12:10

The dust does not  
change at different  
solar wavelengths



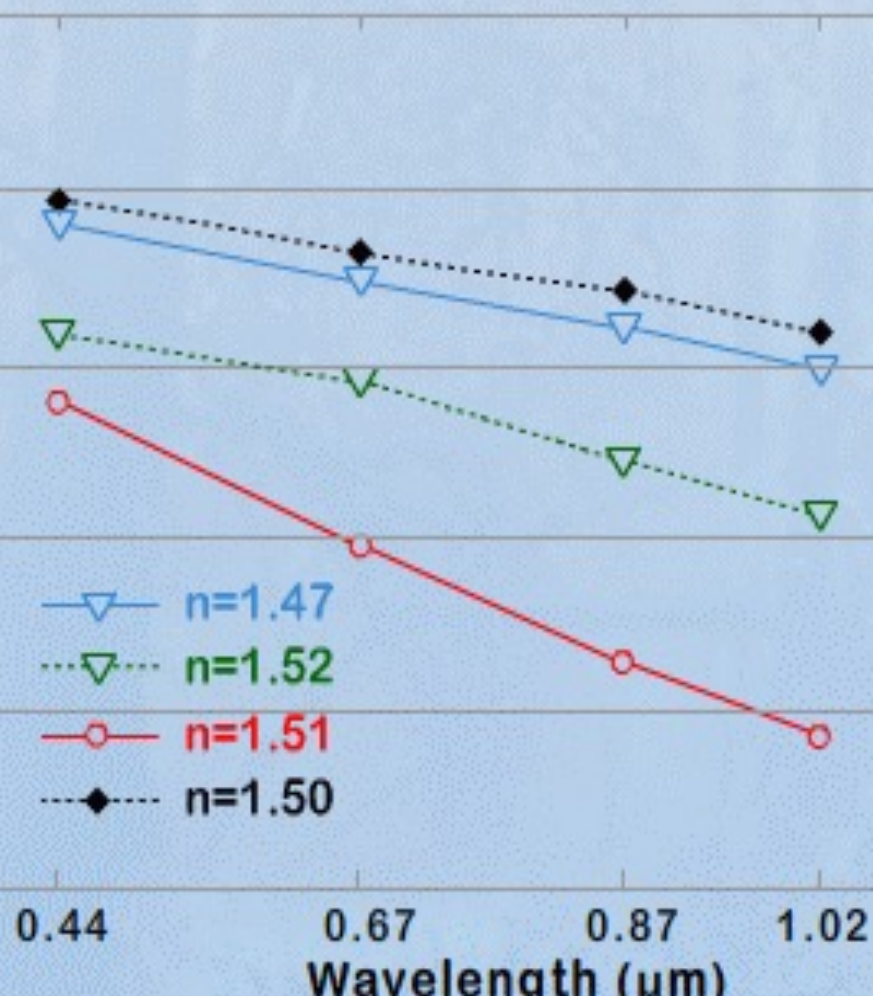


2.1  $\mu\text{m}$  1 km, Gamma=3  
MODIS 2007 03 09 12:10

The dust does not  
change at different  
solar wavelengths

## Biomass Burning

- ▽— Amazonian Forest
- ▽--- South American Cerrado
- African Savanna
- ◆--- Boreal Forest

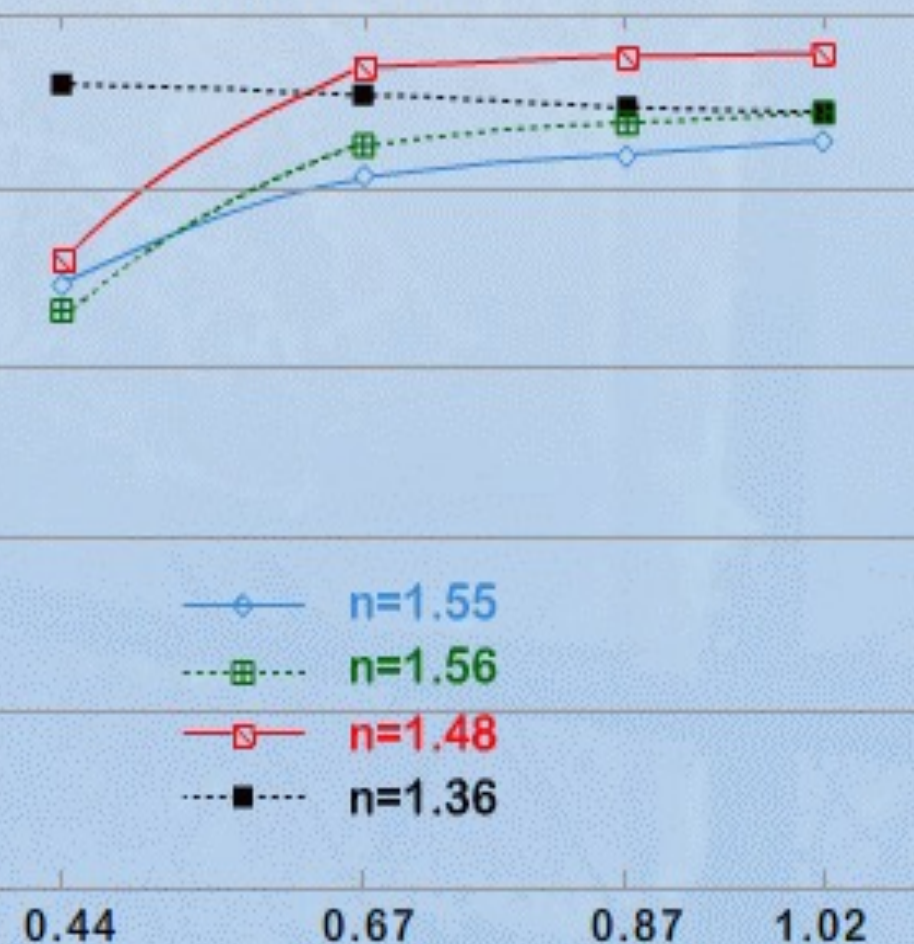


## Desert Dust

- ◇— Bahrain / Persian Gulf
- Solar Village / Saudi Arabia
- Cape Verde

## Oceanic Aerosol

- Lanai / Hawaii





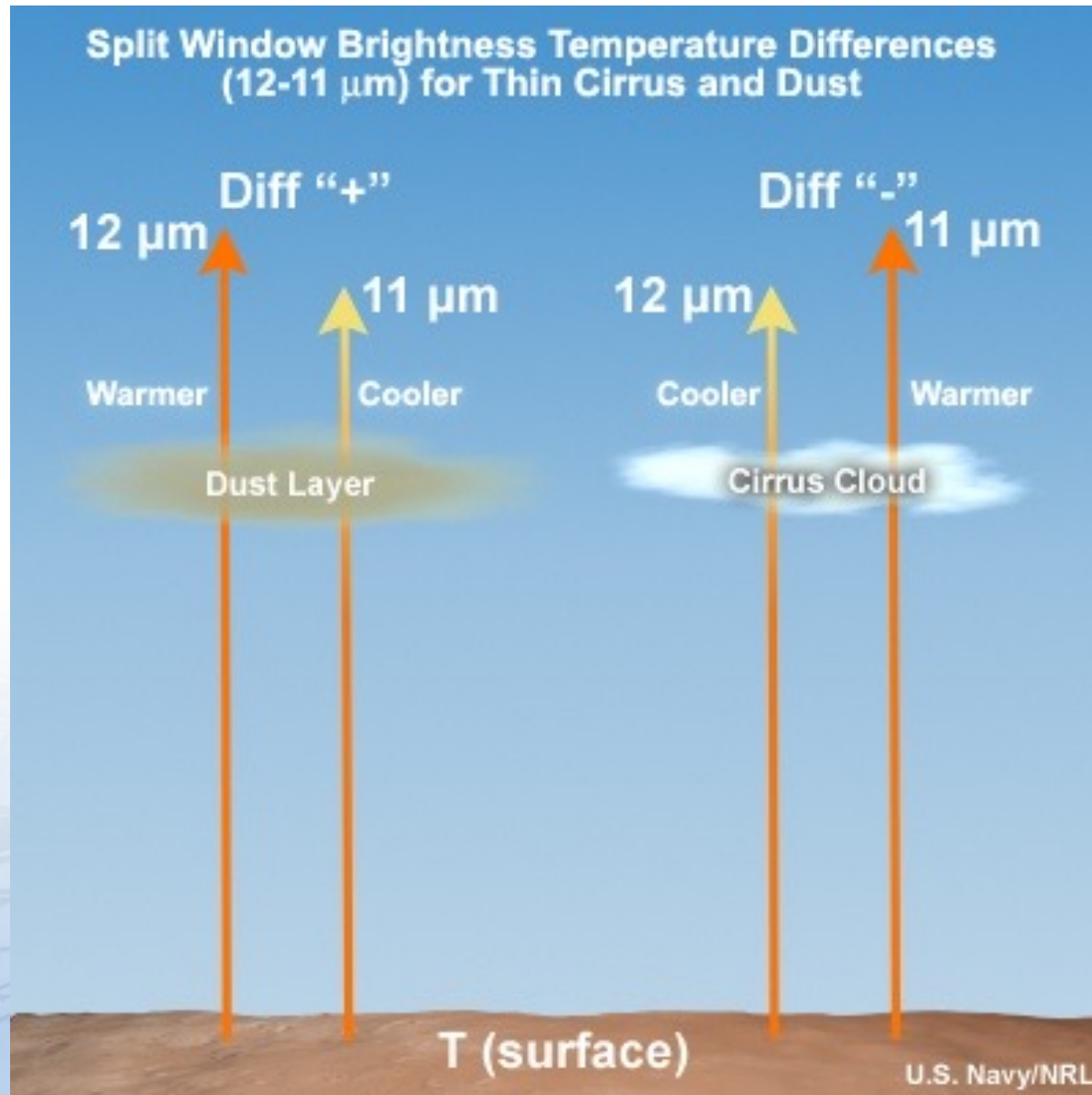
# **The IR Window Differences**

## **IR12.0 - IR10.8**

## **IR10.8 - IR8.7**



# Transmission Spectra for Dust & Ice Clouds



# Effect on Brightness Temperatures



***BTD IR12.0 - IR10.8 > 0***

***for thin dust (ash) clouds***

***BTD IR12.0 - IR10.8 < 0***

***for thin ice clouds***

***(neglecting other effects)***

# IR12.0 - IR10.8 BTD

- ☐ Positive BTD for thin dust clouds (WHITE)
- ☐ Negative BTD for thin water and ice clouds (BLACK)
- ☐ Zero BTD for thick ice clouds (GREY)

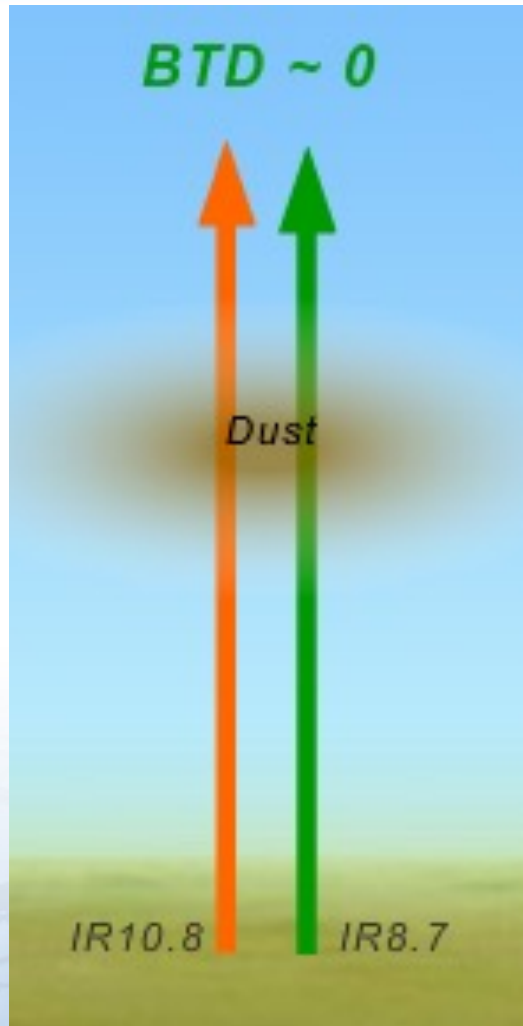
Met-8, 3 March 2004, 12:00 UTC



# Challenges to using the 12.0-10.8 $\mu\text{m}$ difference product

- ❑ Low dust clouds:
  - ❑ at night
  - ❑ over Ocean
  - ❑ obscured by higher clouds
- ❑ Mid & High dust clouds:
  - ❑ Low dust concentrations

# Transmission Spectra for Dust Clouds



# Effect on Brightness Temperatures



***BTD IR10.8 – IR8.7 >> 0                      for desert surfaces***

***BTD IR10.8 – IR8.7 = 0                      for clouds***

***(neglecting other effects)***



# IR10.8 – IR8.7 BTD

- ❑ Large positive BTD for desert surfaces (WHITE)
- ❑ Negative BTD for thin ice clouds (BLACK)
- ❑ Zero BTD for thick ice clouds (BLACK)
- ❑ Small positive BTD for dust and water clouds (DARK GREY)

Met-8, 3 March 2004, 12:00 UTC

# Challenges to using the 10.8 – 8.7 $\mu\text{m}$ difference product

- ❓ Does not distinguish between Dust Clouds and Water Clouds

# The Dust RGB Product



# Detection of dust with MSG: which features shall we use for the RGB Product ?

- **VIS0.6 or HRV (VIS0.8, NIR1.6 not good)**  
good over Oceans, only daytime
- **IR3.9r (reflectance part)**  
good over Oceans, only daytime
- **IR10.8 (thermal signal)**  
good over Land, only daytime
- **Difference IR12.0 - IR10.8 (known from AVHRR)**  
good for mid & high dust clouds, day and night, Land and Ocean
- **Difference IR8.7 - IR10.8 (new)**  
good over deserts, day and night
- **Difference IR3.9 – IR10.8 (known from AVHRR)**  
good over Land and Oceans, only daytime

# RGB 10-09, 09-07, 09 ("24-hour Dust Microphysics")

*devised by: D. Rosenfeld*

## Recommended Range and Enhancement:

Beam	Channel	Range	Gamma
Red	IR12.0 - IR10.8	-4 ... +2 K	1.0
Green	IR10.8 - IR8.7	0 ... +15 K	2.5
Blue	IR10.8	+261 ... +289 K	1.0

## Physical Interpretation (for dust/ash/water/ice clouds)

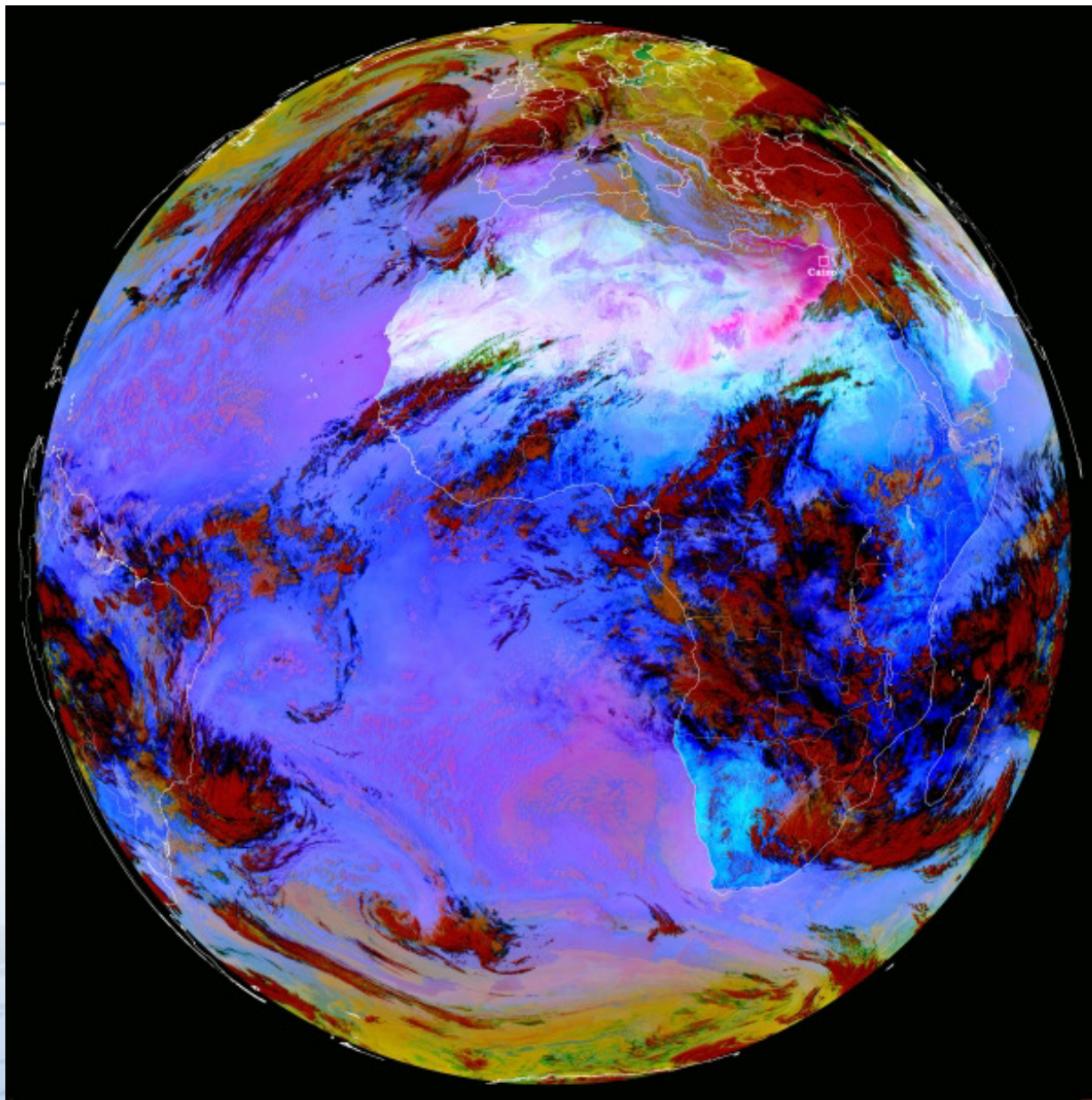
**R = Difference IR12.0 - IR10.8**  
**Optical Thickness, Tsurf-Tcloud**

**G = Difference IR10.8 - IR8.7**  
**Optical Thickness, Tsurf-Tcloud, Phase**

**B = Channel IR10.8**  
**Top Temperature**



**RGB  
24-hour  
Dust  
Microphysics  
Global View**



MSG-1  
22 January 2004  
12:00 UTC





# The Dust RGB: Interpretation of Colours

Spain

Dust

Dust

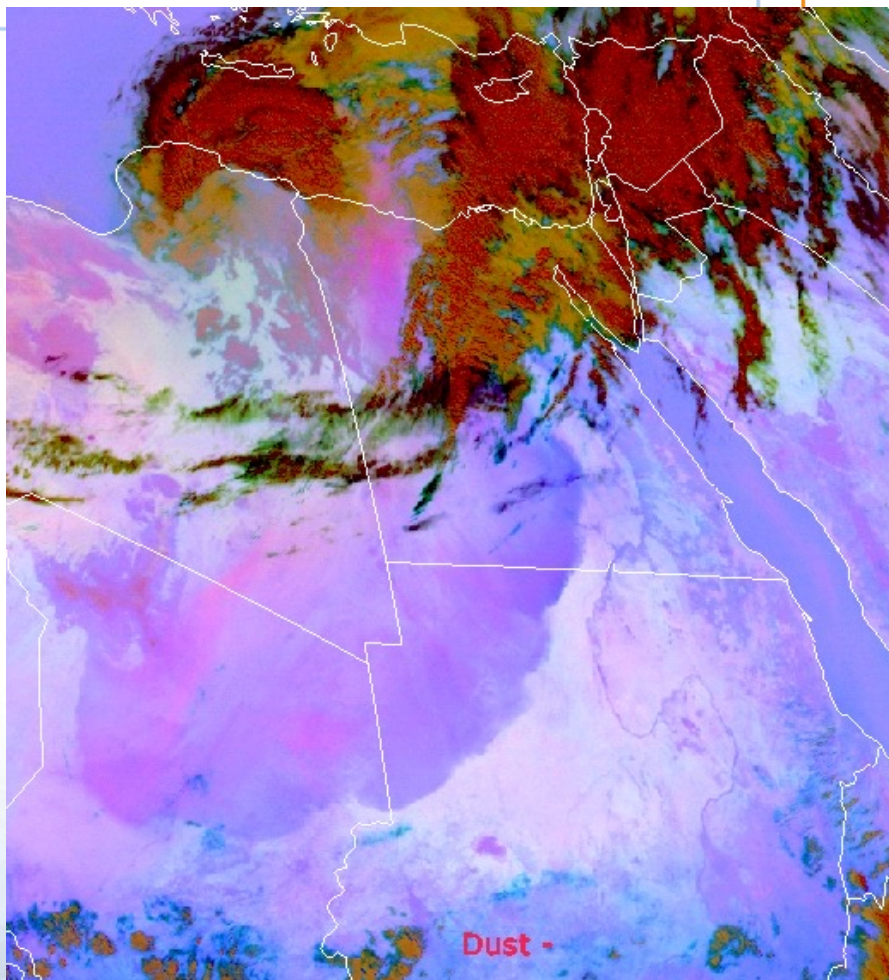
Thick high-level  
ice clouds

Thin high-level  
ice clouds

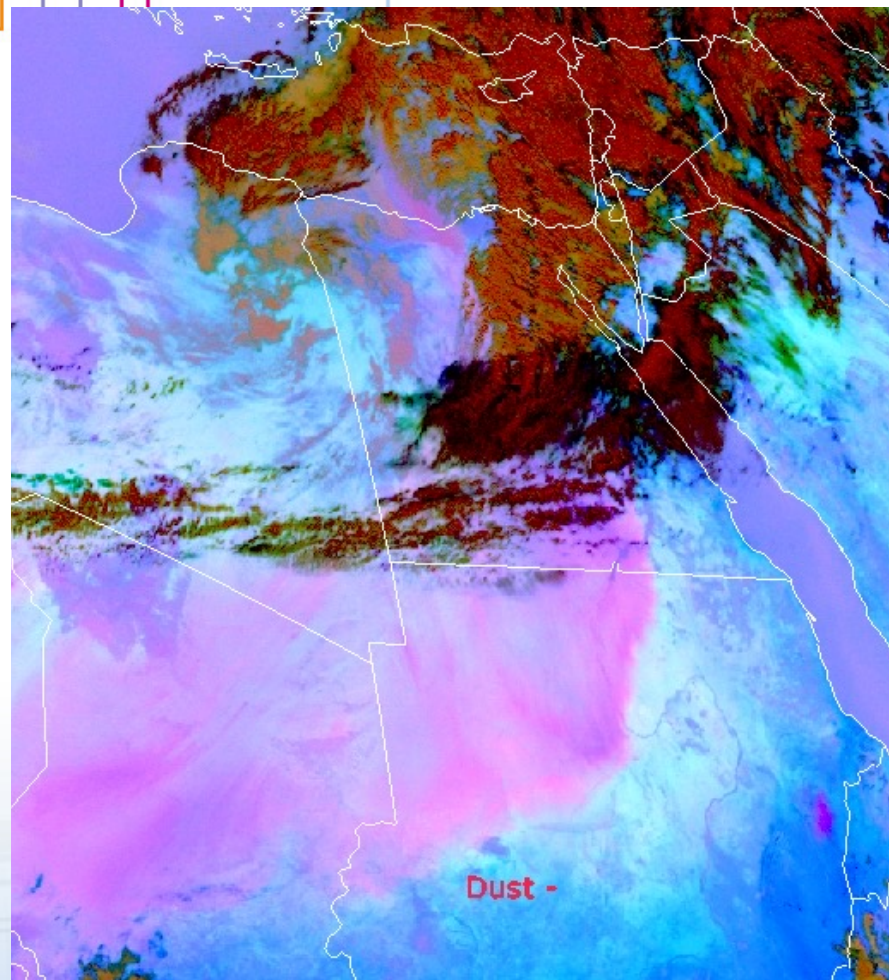
Meteosat-8, 21 February 2004, 13:00 UTC



# Comparison: Night vs Day



00:00 UTC

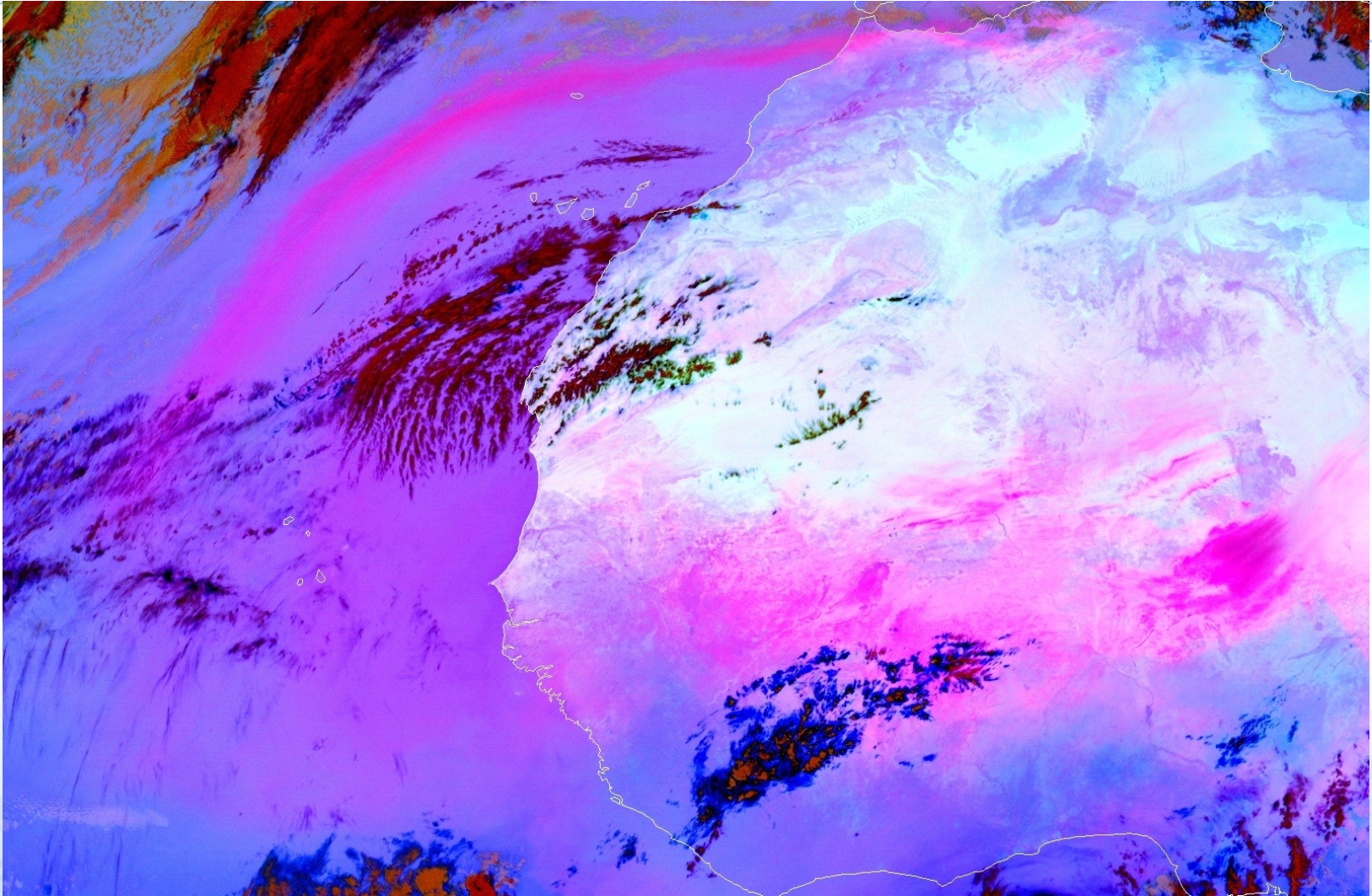


07:15 UTC

MSG-1, 10 May 2007



# Example: Dust over Ocean



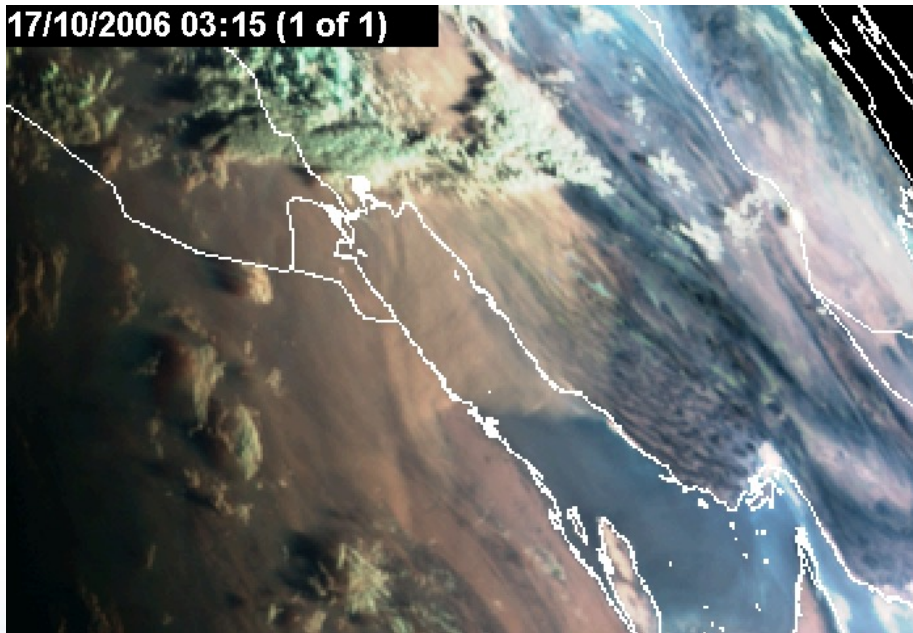
MSG-1, 6 March 2004, 12:00 UTC



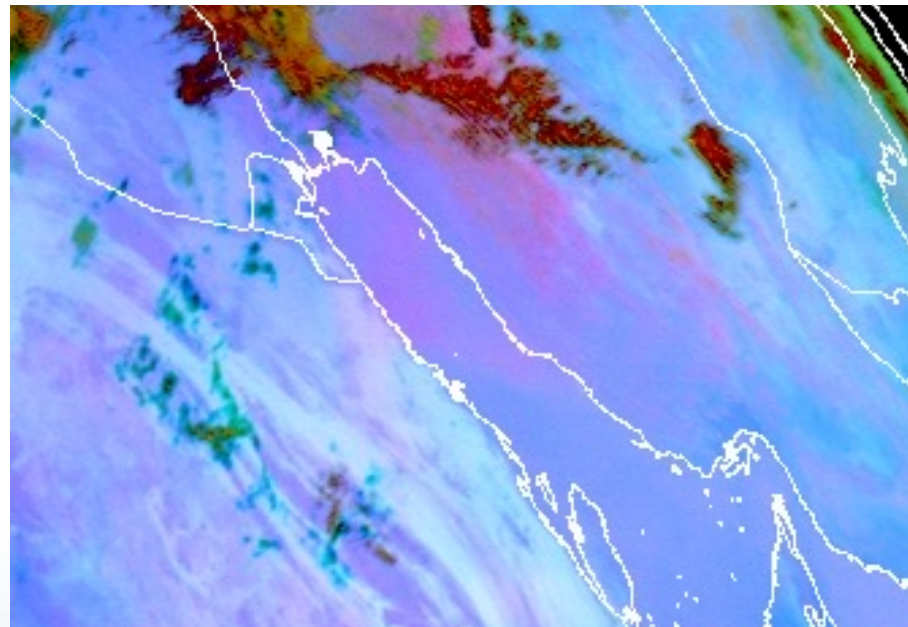
# Example: Dust over Ocean

65

17/10/2006 03:15 (1 of 1)



03:15 UTC  
Natural Colours RGB



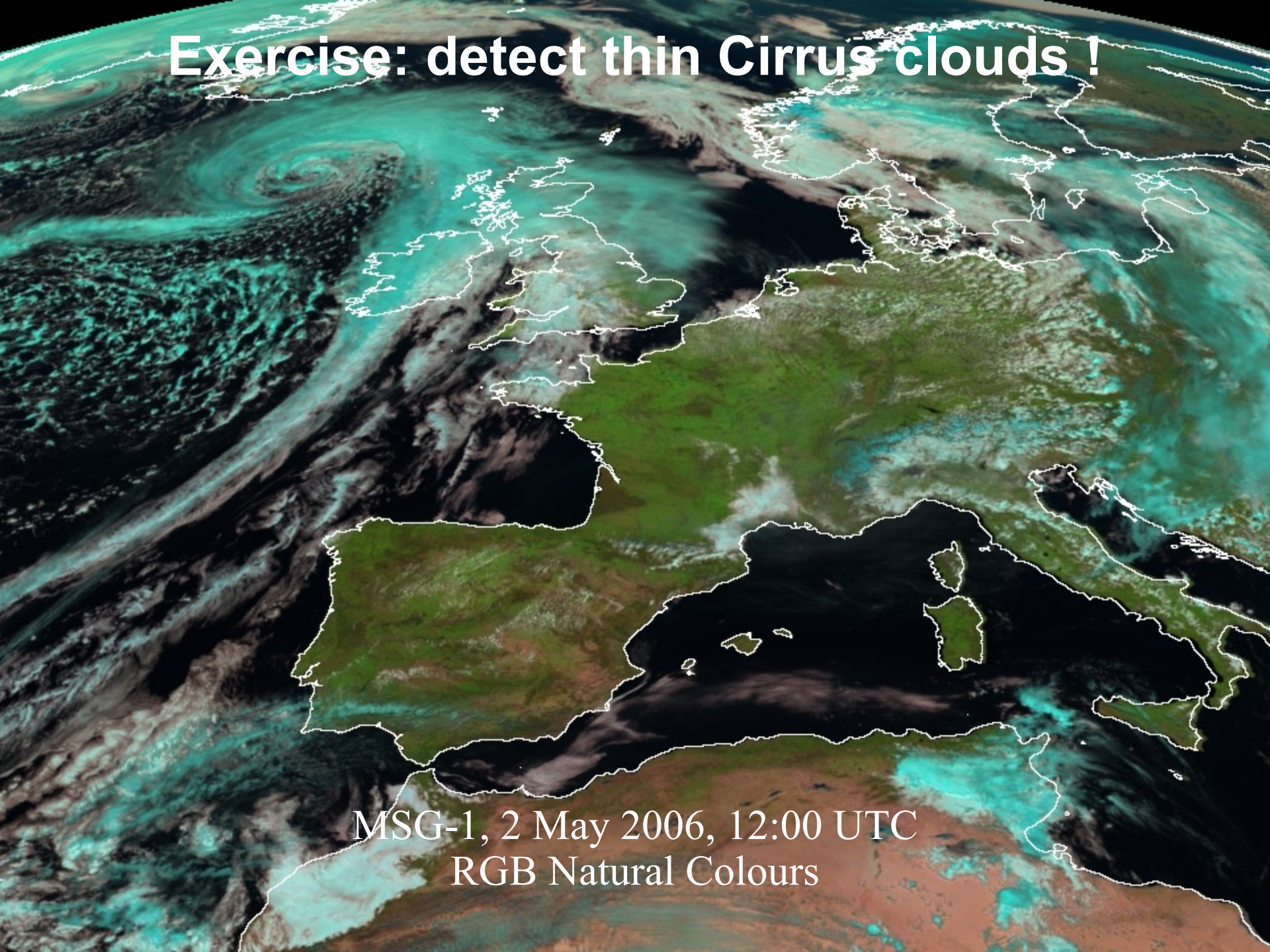
05:00 UTC  
Dust RGB

MSG-1, 17 October 2006

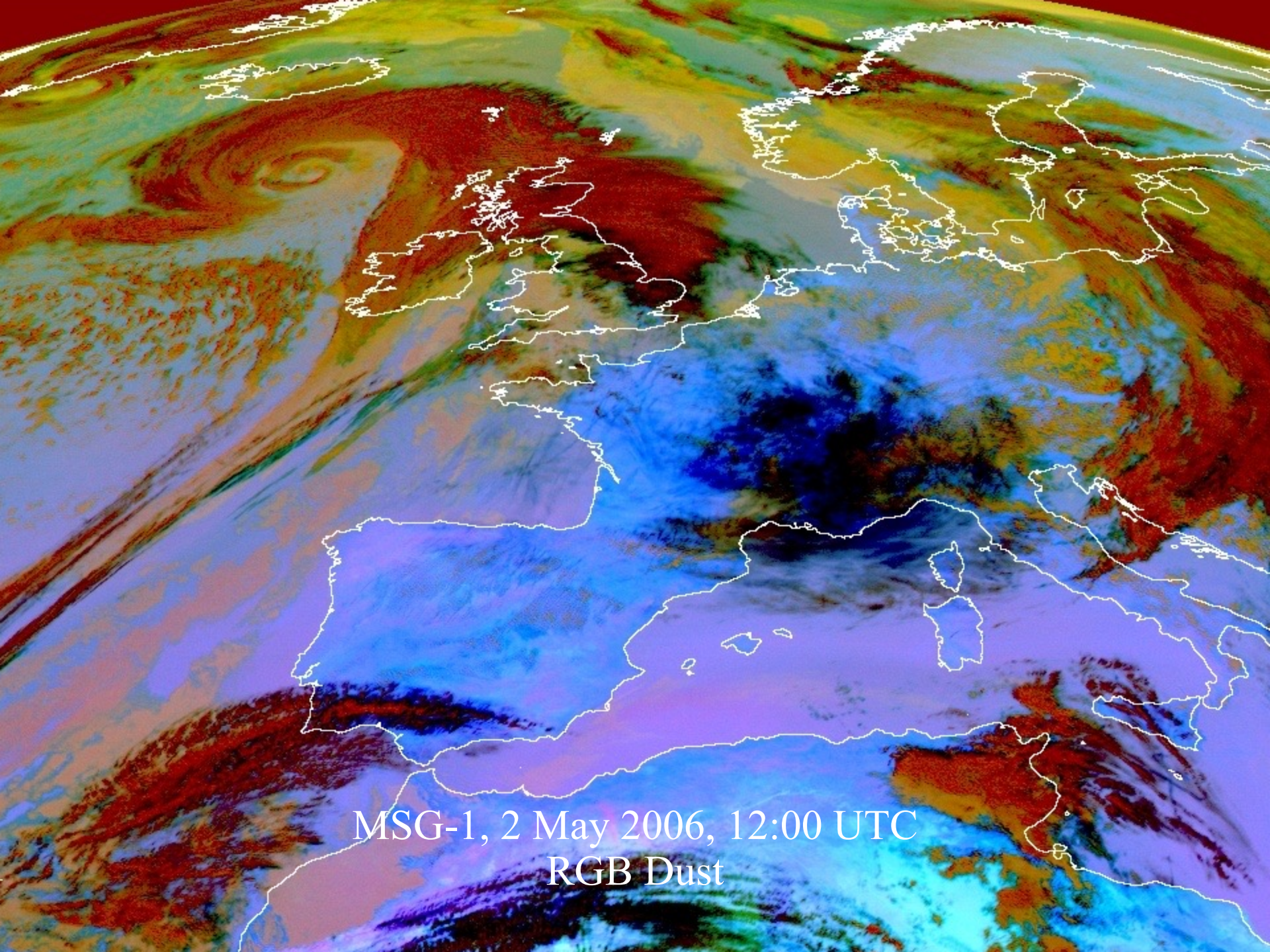


**Exercise: detect thin Cirrus clouds !**

MSG-1, 2 May 2006, 12:00 UTC  
RGB Natural Colours





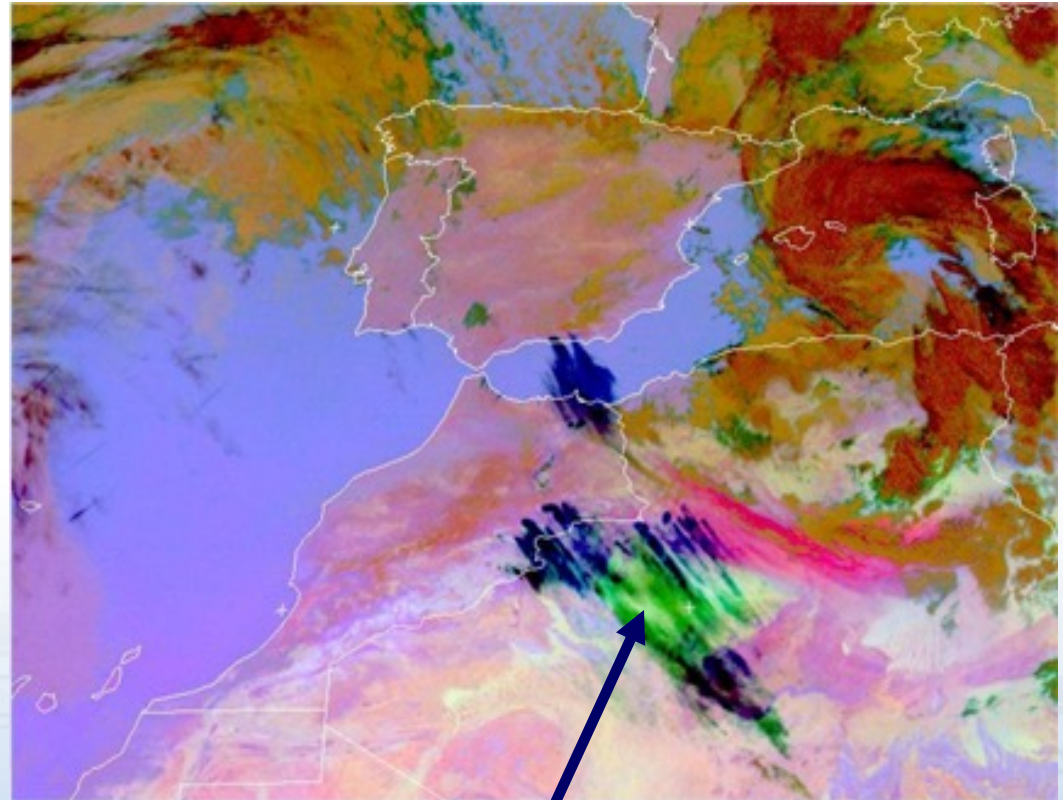


MSG-1, 2 May 2006, 12:00 UTC  
RGB Dust



## Other colors in “Dust RGB” - Green

Attention - **Thin cirrus** can also look green over some desert areas due to a different emissivity of the surface at IR 8.7



EUMETSAT



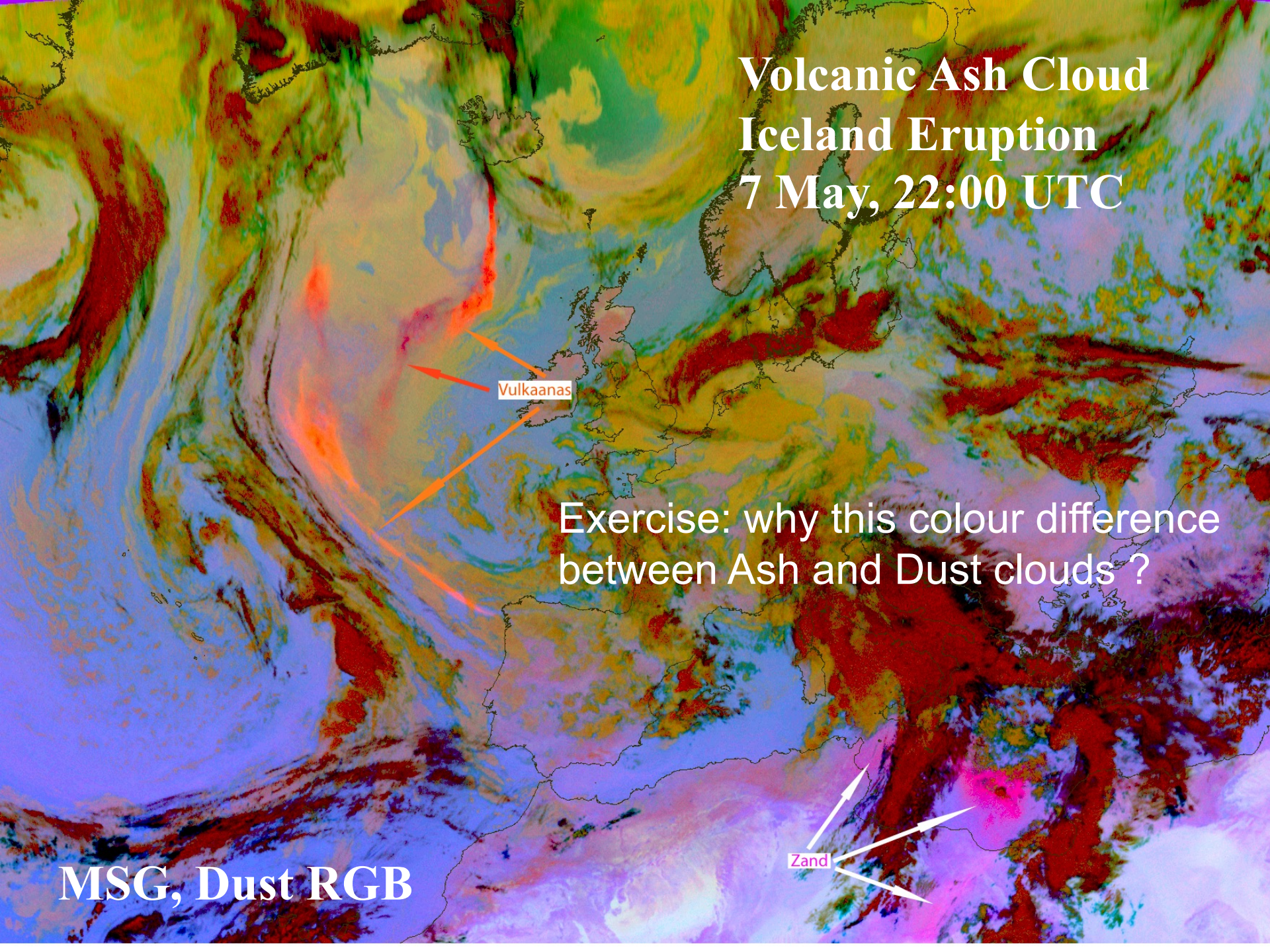
# Volcanic Ash Cloud Iceland Eruption 7 May, 22:00 UTC

Vulkaanas

Exercise: why this colour difference  
between Ash and Dust clouds ?

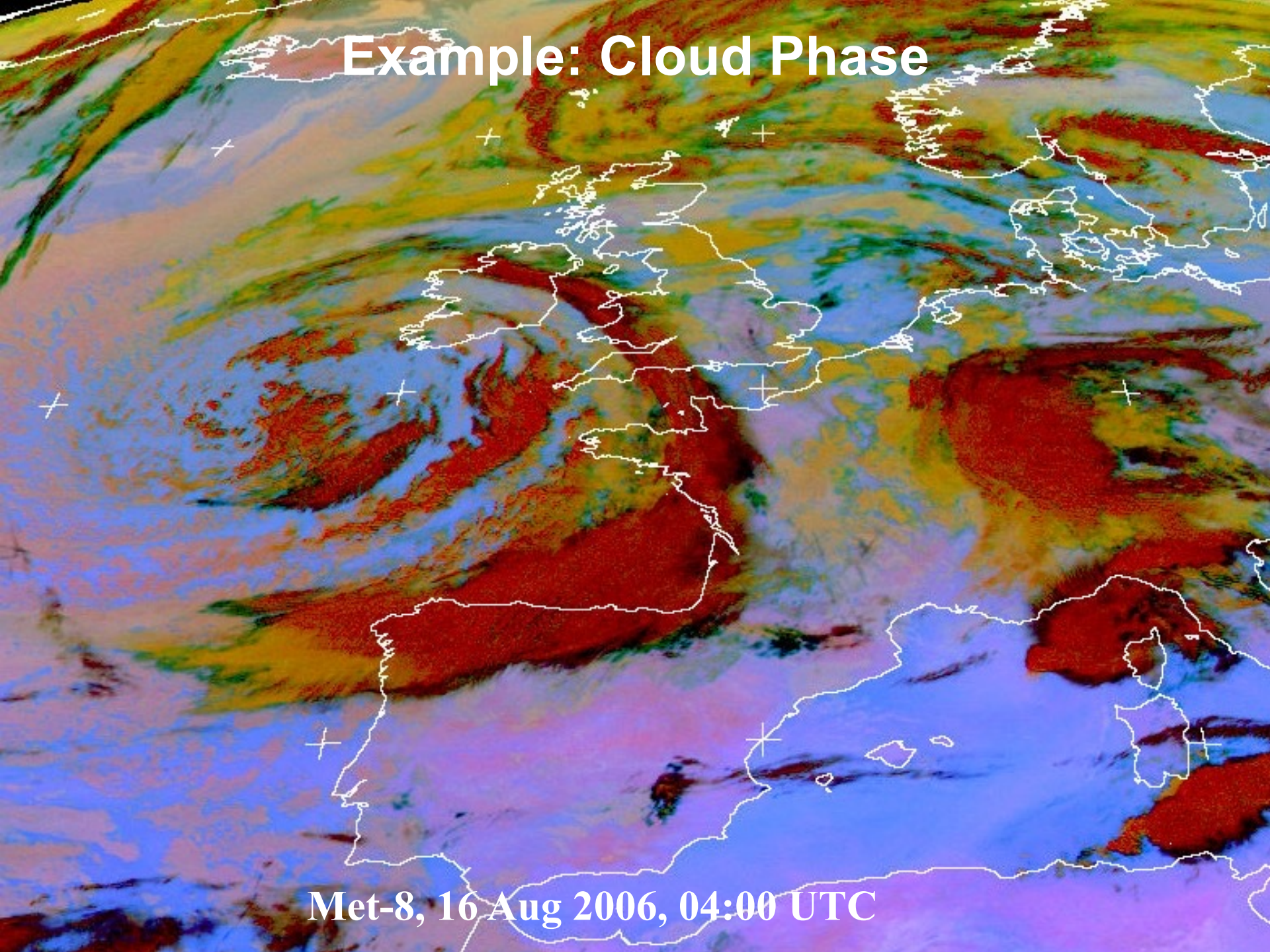
MSG, Dust RGB

Zand





# Example: Cloud Phase

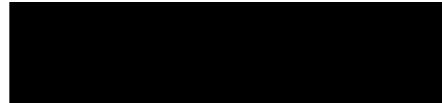


Met-8, 16 Aug 2006, 04:00 UTC

# RGB 24-hour Dust Microphysics: Interpretation of Colours for High-level Clouds



Cold, thick, high-level clouds



Thin Cirrus clouds / Contrails

over vegetated land / ocean

over sand desert

Ocean

Warm Desert

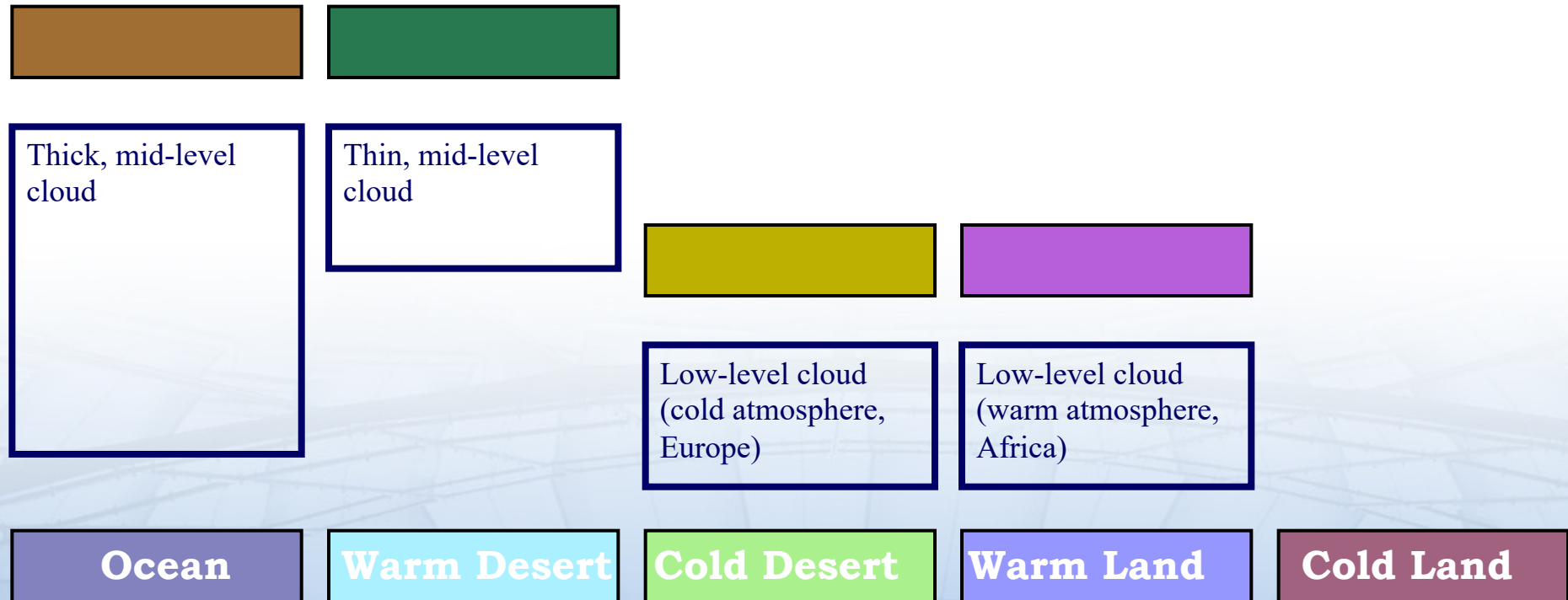
Cold Desert

Warm Land

Cold Land









# RGB 24-hour Dust Microphysics: Interpretation of Colours for Low/Mid-level Clouds





# The Dust RGB: Interpretation of Colours

## 1. Thin Dust Clouds

	Night	Day
High (4-5 km)		
Mid (2-3 km)		
Low (0-1 km)		

# The Dust RGB: Interpretation of Colours

## 2. Very Thick Dust Clouds

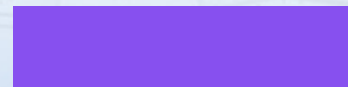
Night

Day

High (4-5 km)

Mid (2-3 km)

Low (0-1 km)



# Types of Dust Outbreaks

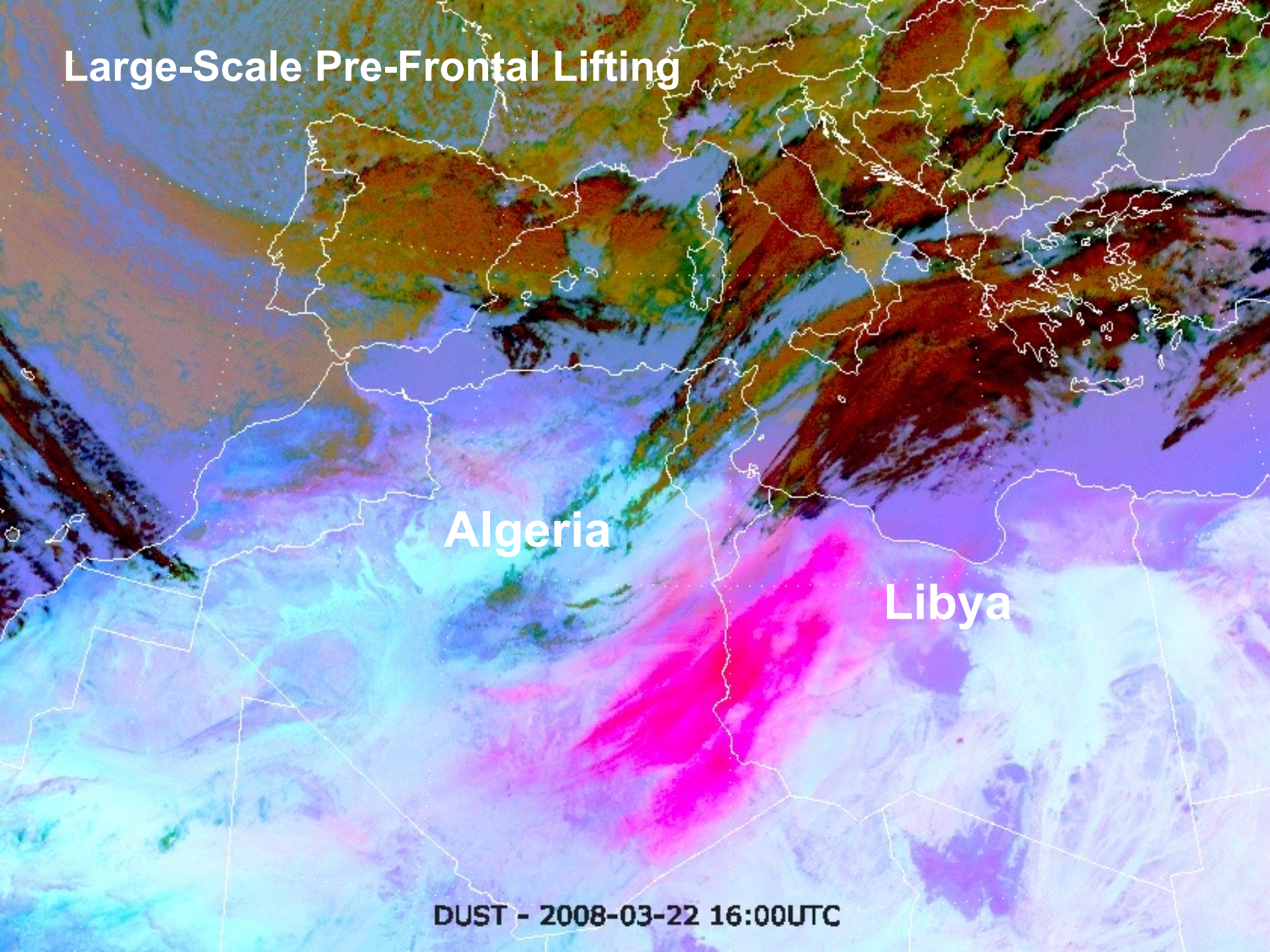


# Large-Scale Pre-Frontal Lifting

Algeria

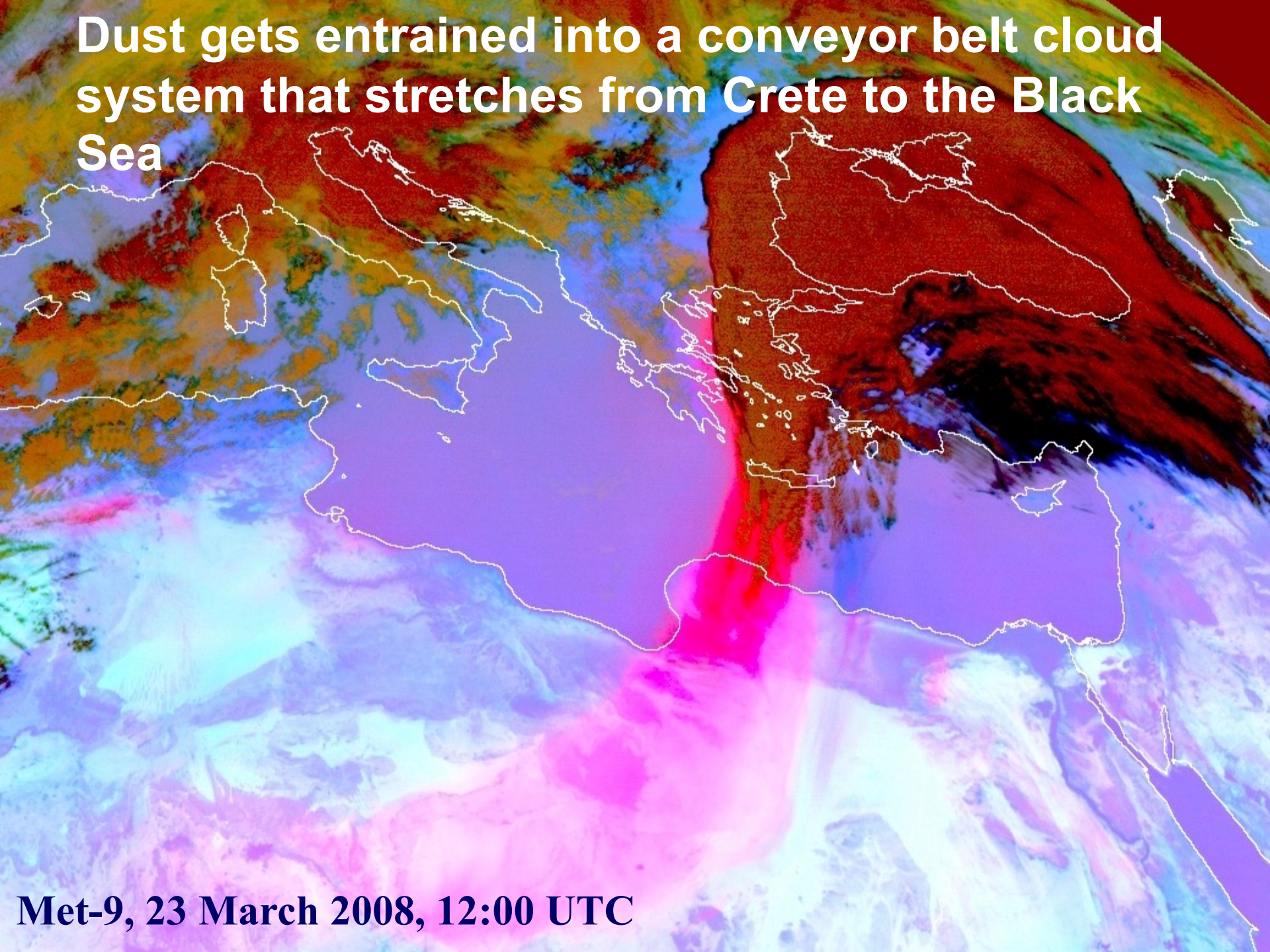
Libya

DUST - 2008-03-22 16:00UTC





**Dust gets entrained into a conveyor belt cloud system that stretches from Crete to the Black Sea**

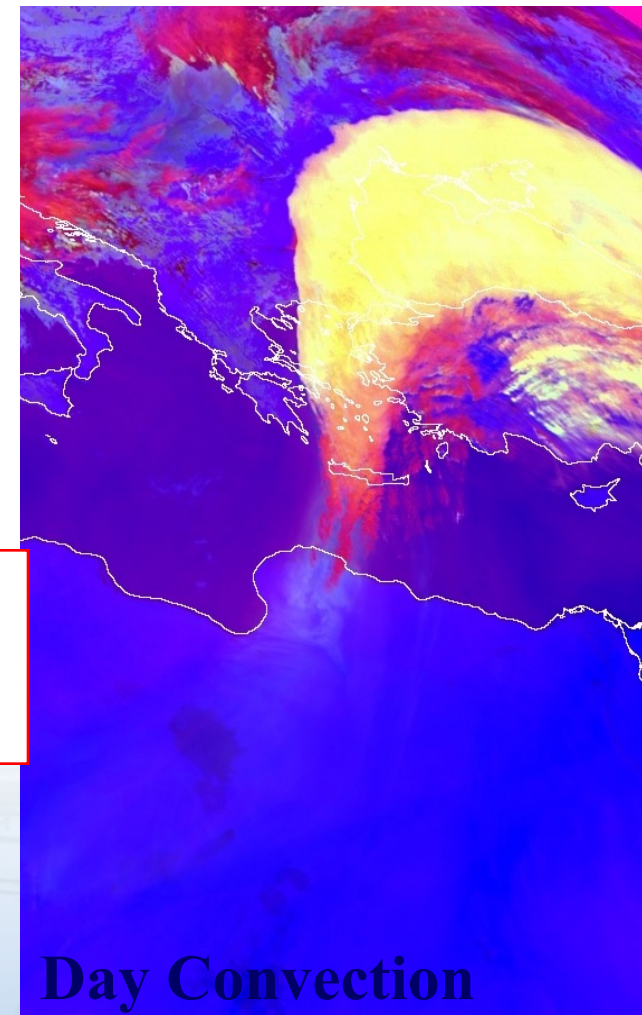
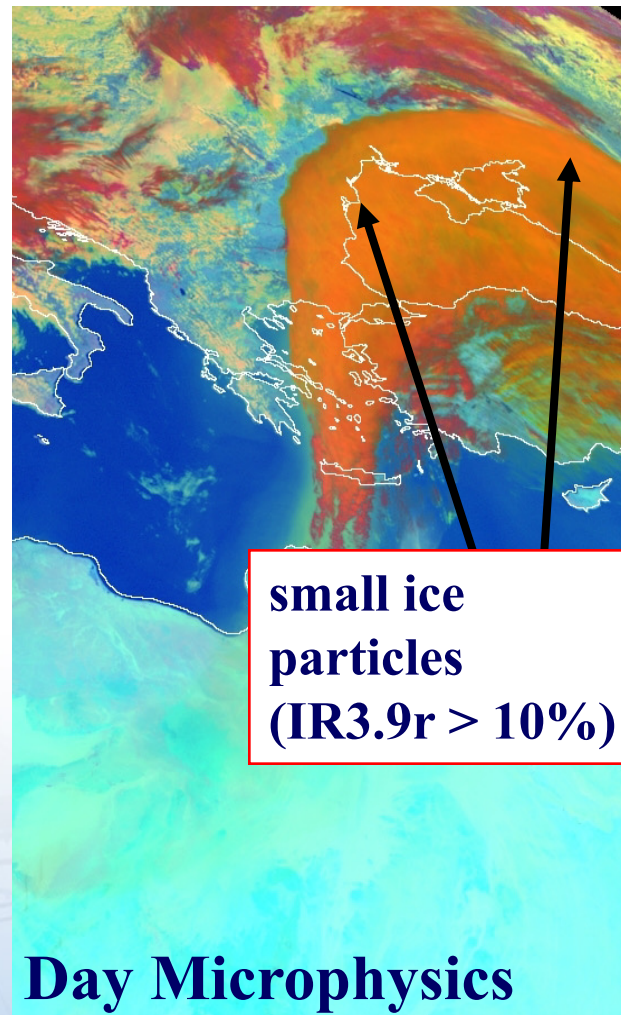
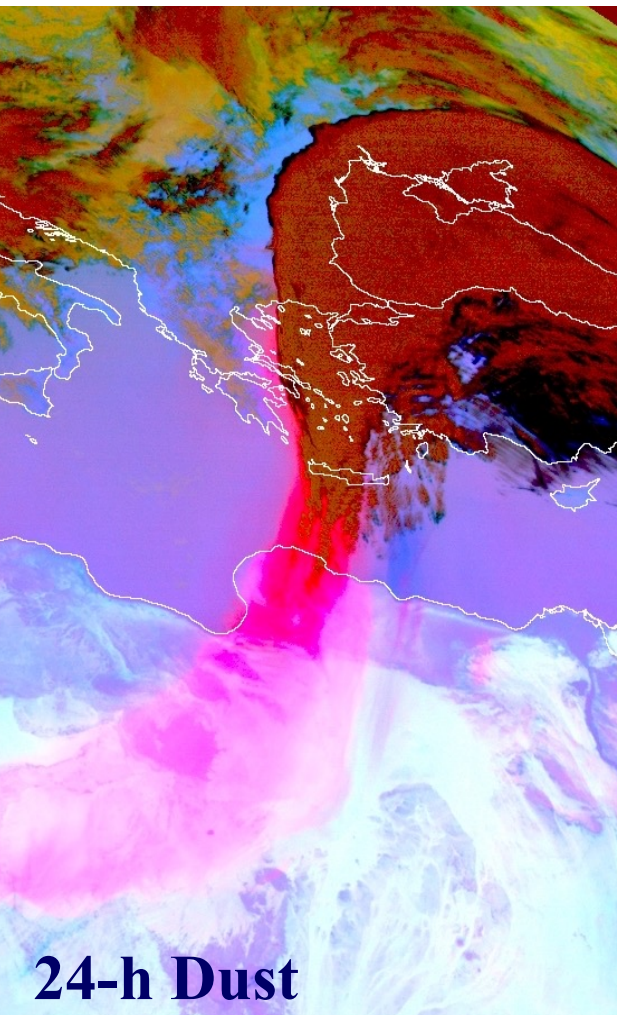


**Met-9, 23 March 2008, 12:00 UTC**



# Dust Changes Cloud Microphysics

cloud glaciates very quickly with lots of needle hydrometeors present  
dust acts as very efficient ice nuclei



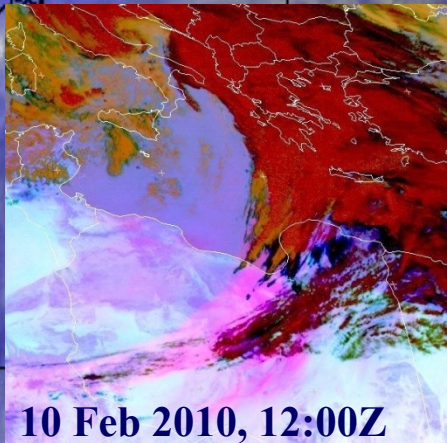
Met-9, 23 March 2008, 12:00 UTC



# Dust causes Granular Structure of Cirrus Shield

Poland

Ukraine

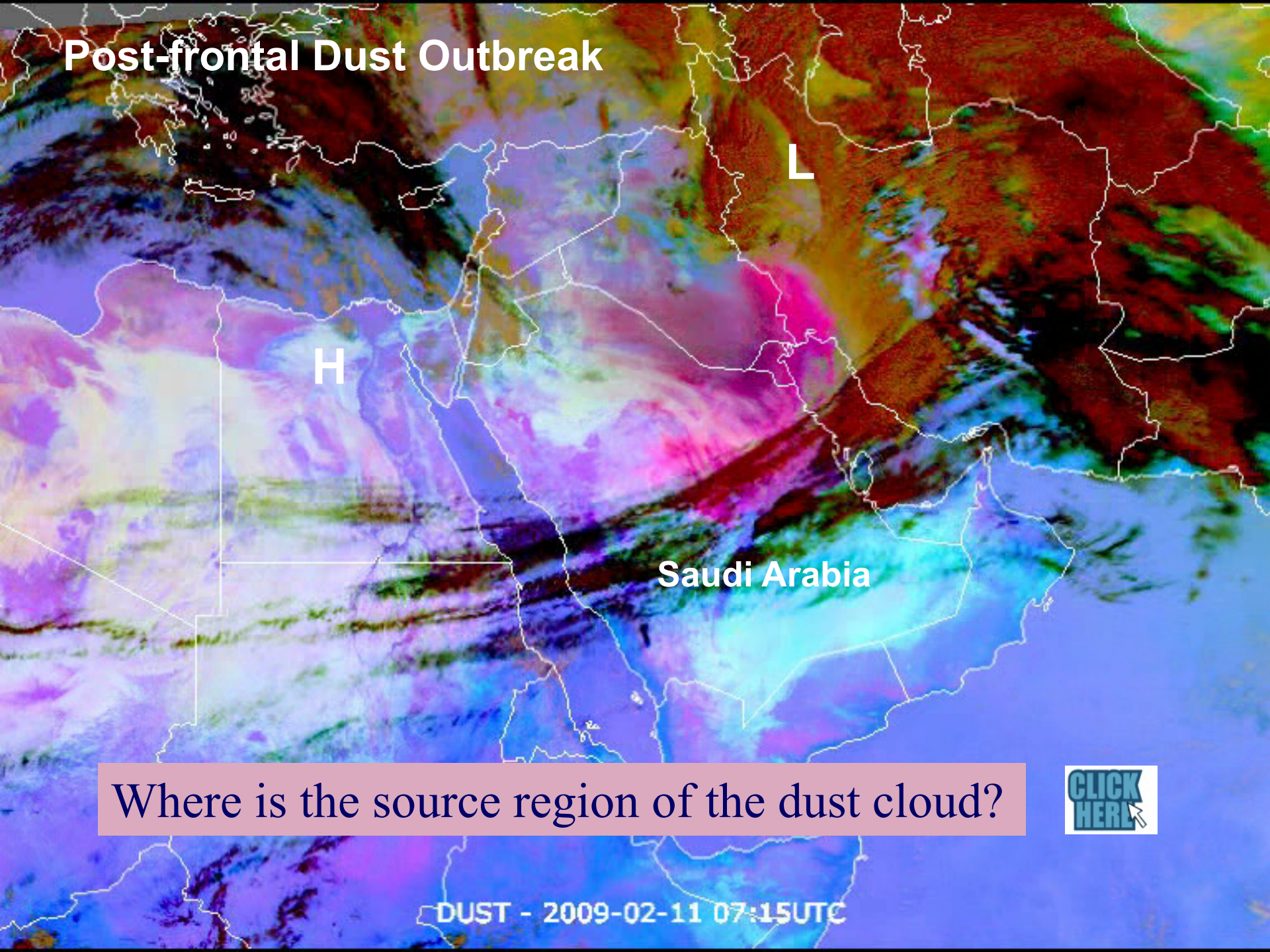


Met-9, 11 February 2010, 06:00 UTC, HRV  
Source: K. Kollath, Hungary

10 Feb 2010, 12:00Z



# Post-frontal Dust Outbreak



H

L

Saudi Arabia

Where is the source region of the dust cloud?

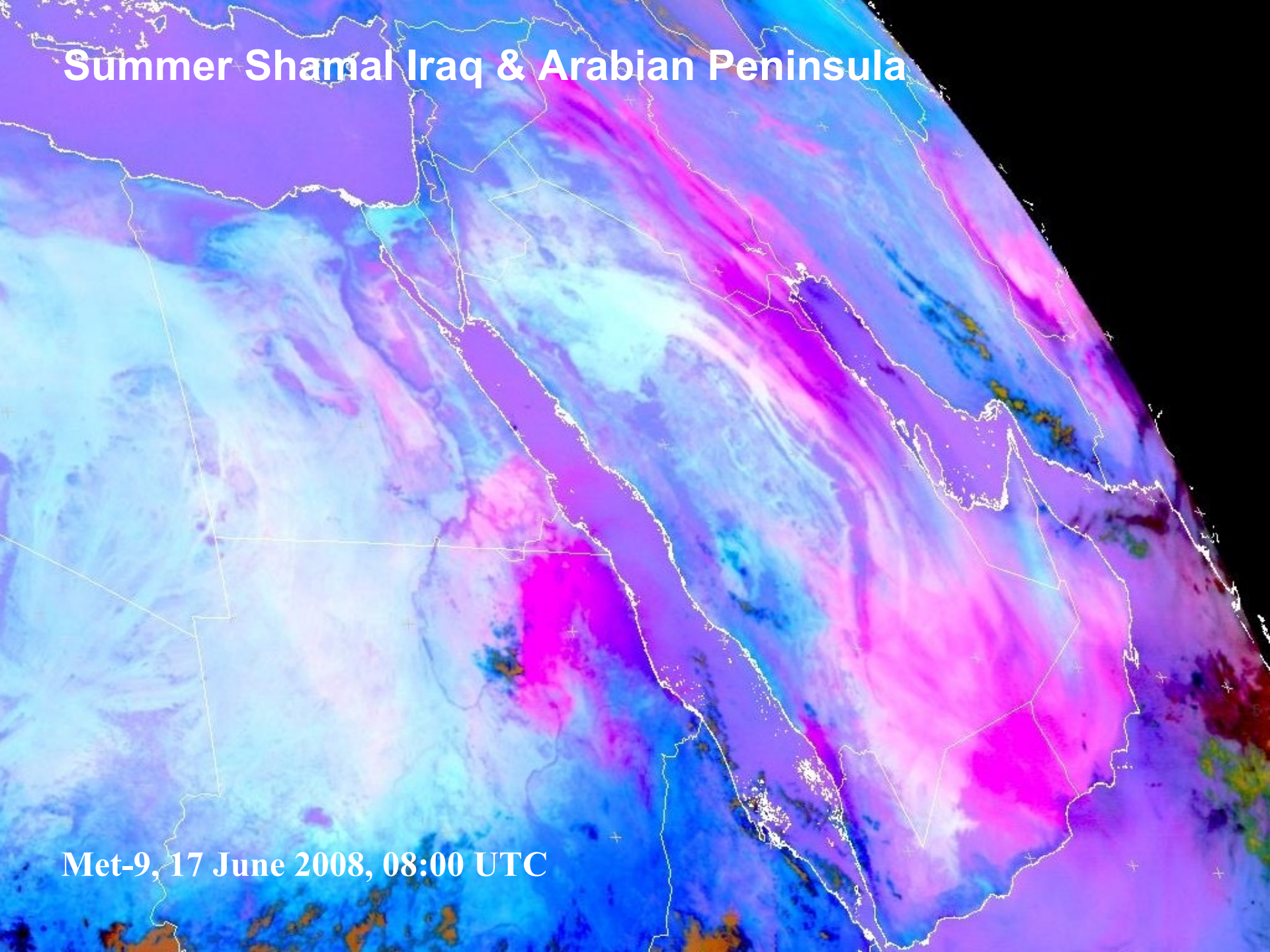


DUST - 2009-02-11 07:15UTC



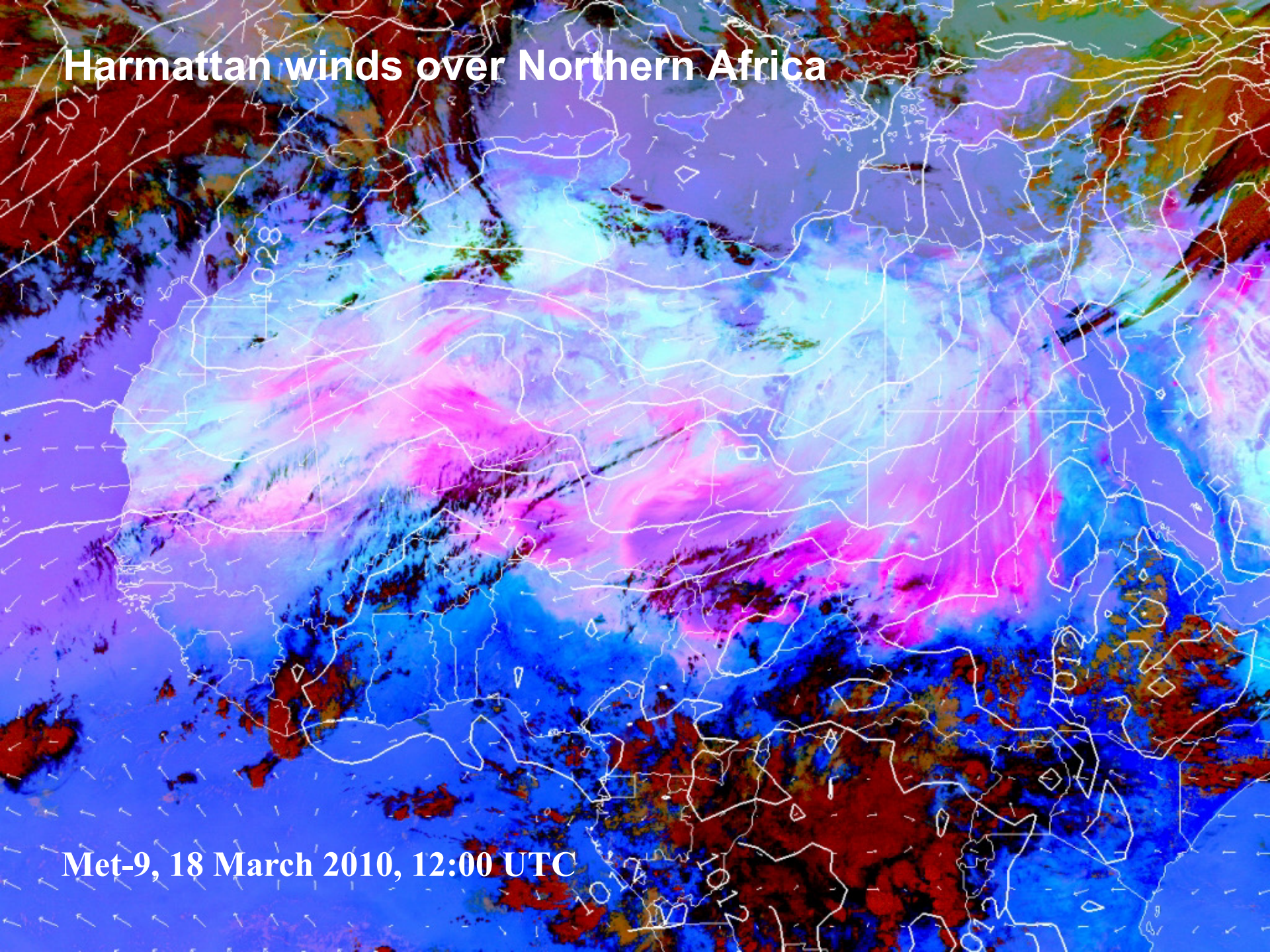
# Summer Shamal Iraq & Arabian Peninsula

Met-9, 17 June 2008, 08:00 UTC





# Harmattan winds over Northern Africa

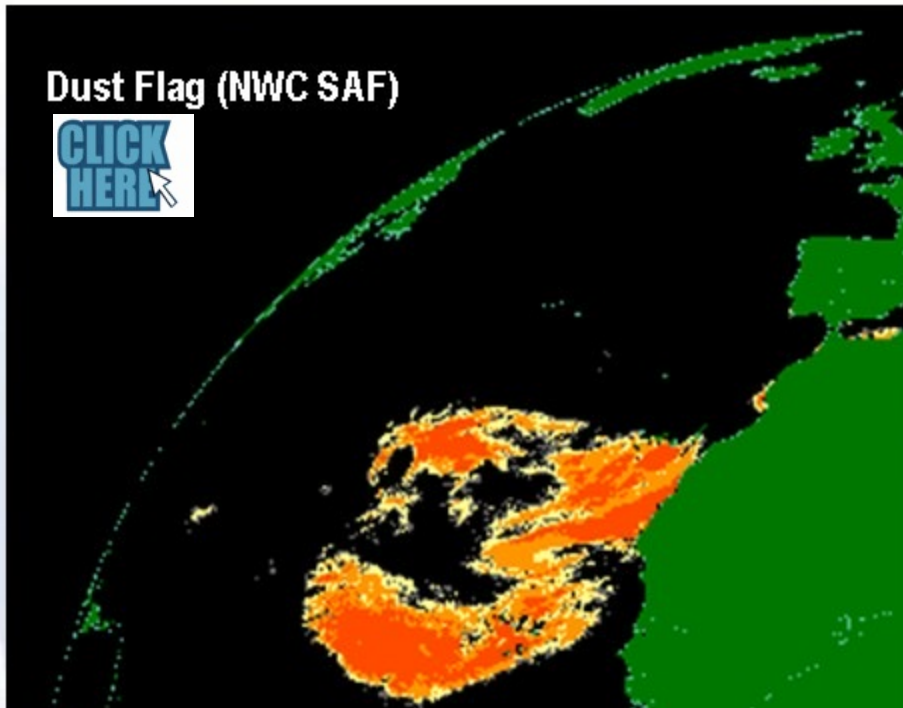


Met-9, 18 March 2010, 12:00 UTC

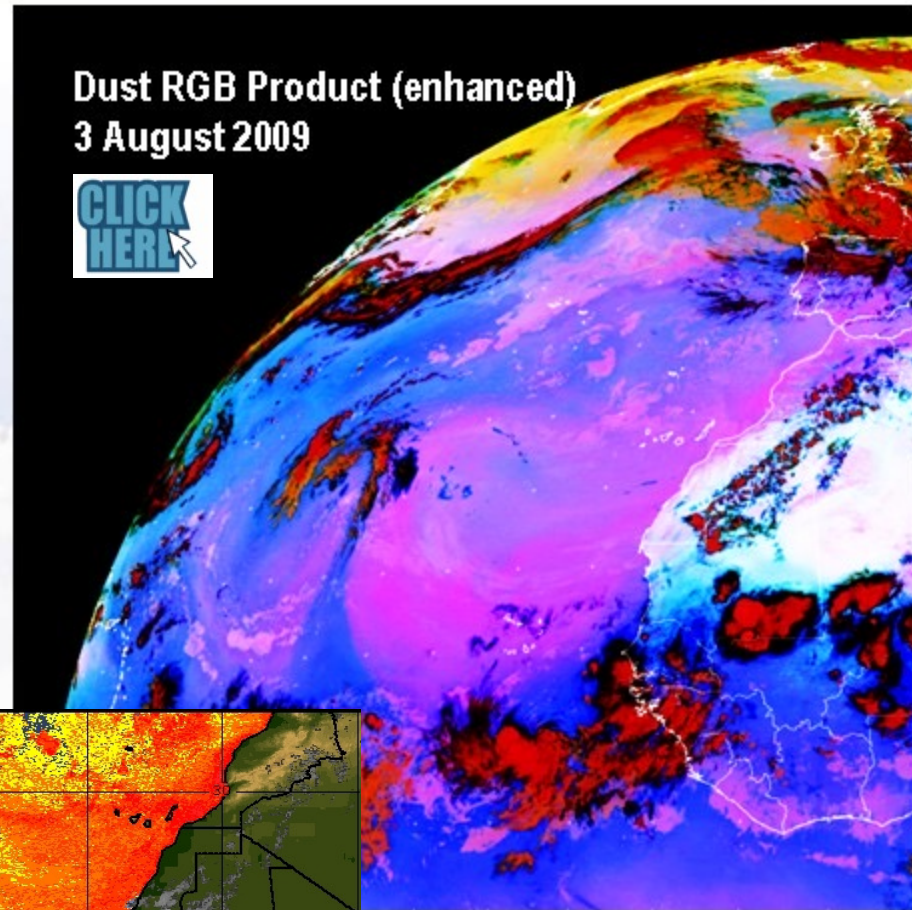


# Northeast Trade Winds over the North Atlantic

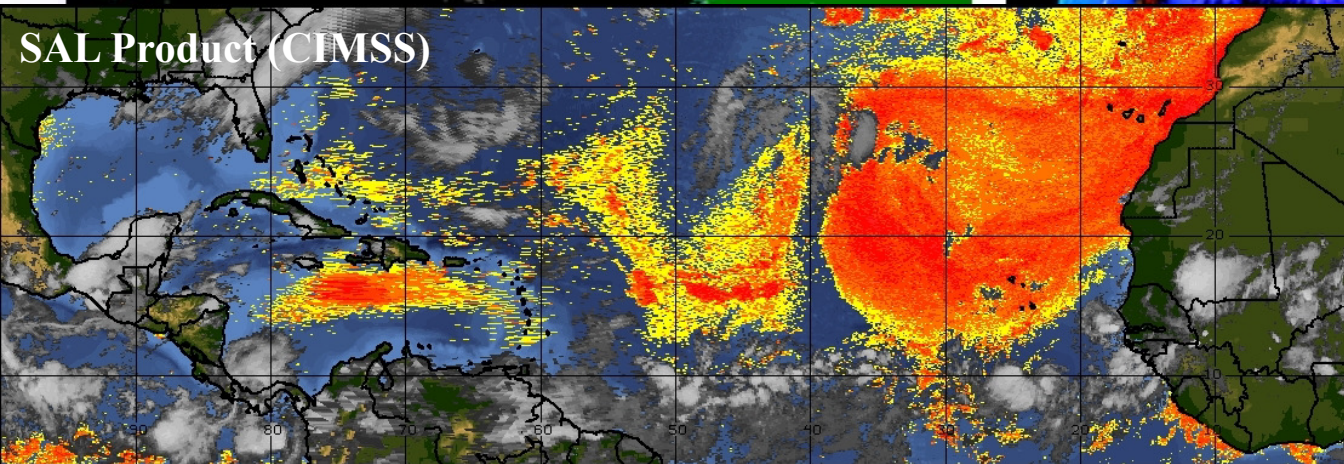
Dust Flag (NWC SAF)



Dust RGB Product (enhanced)  
3 August 2009



SAL Product (CIMSS)



weaker <----- SAL Strength -----> stronger





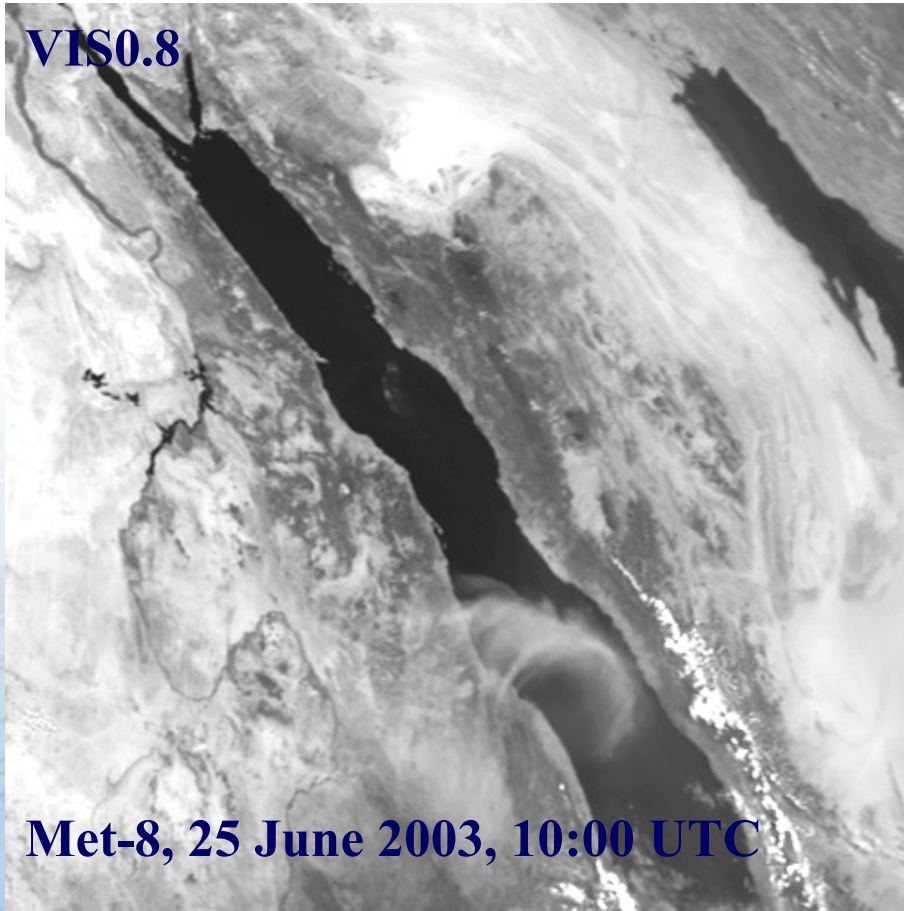
# Mountain Gap Winds



Outline the dust areas!

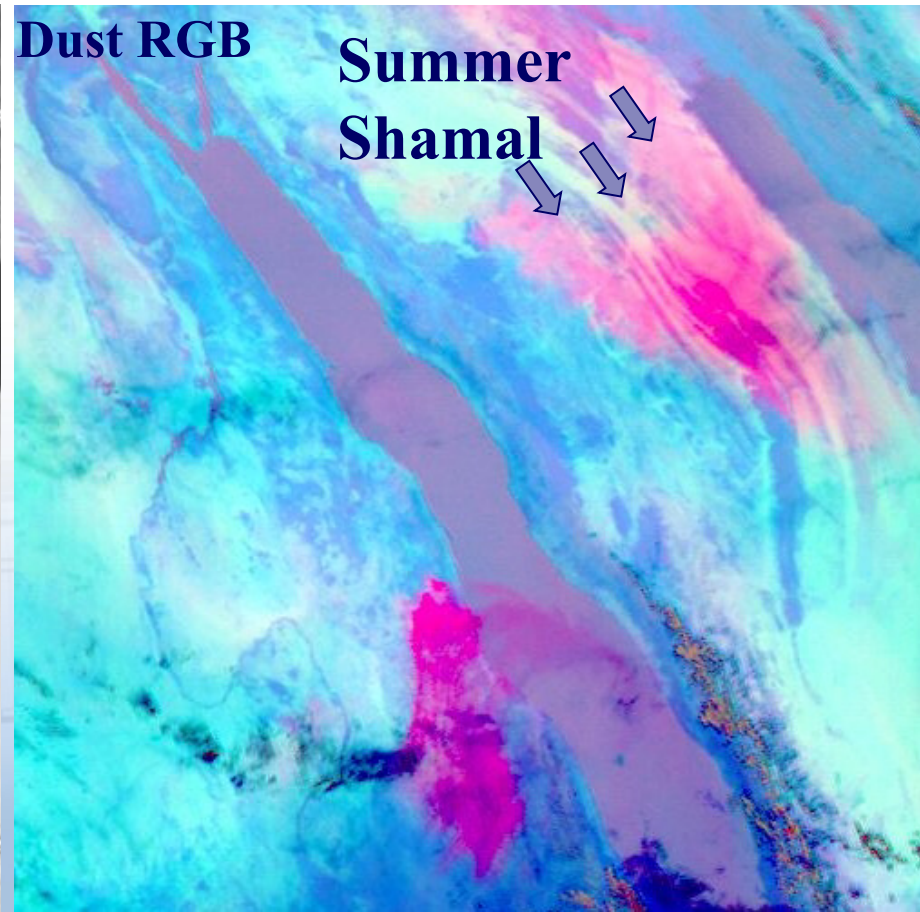
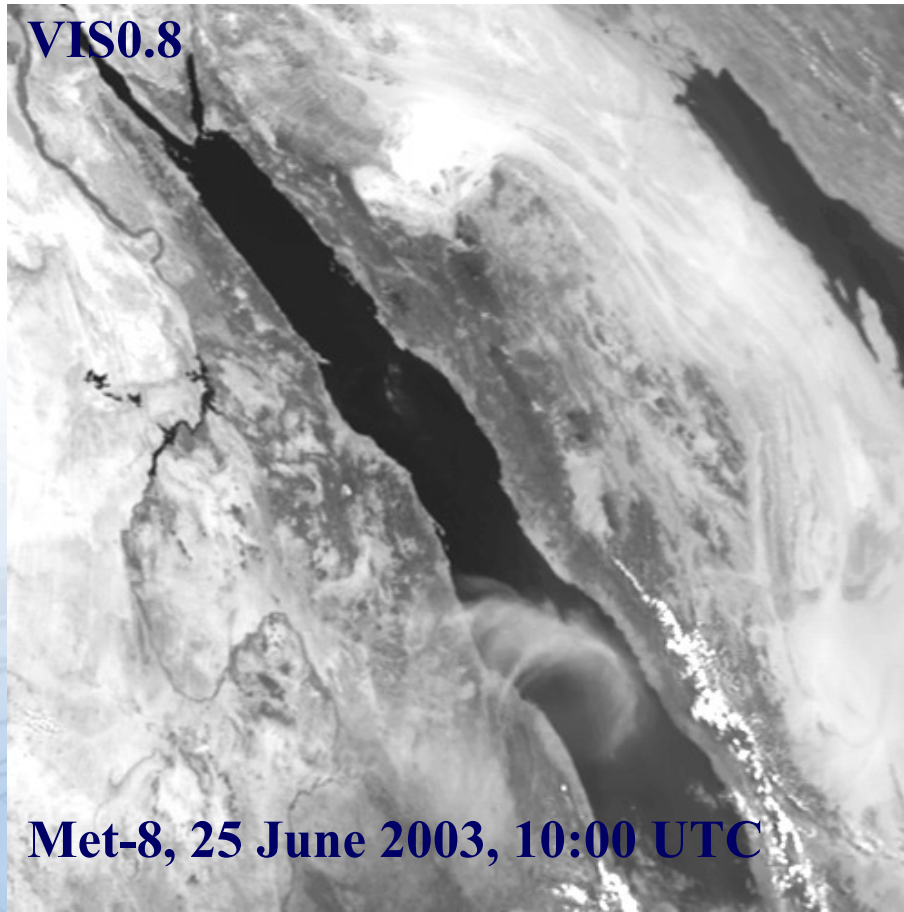


VIS0.8



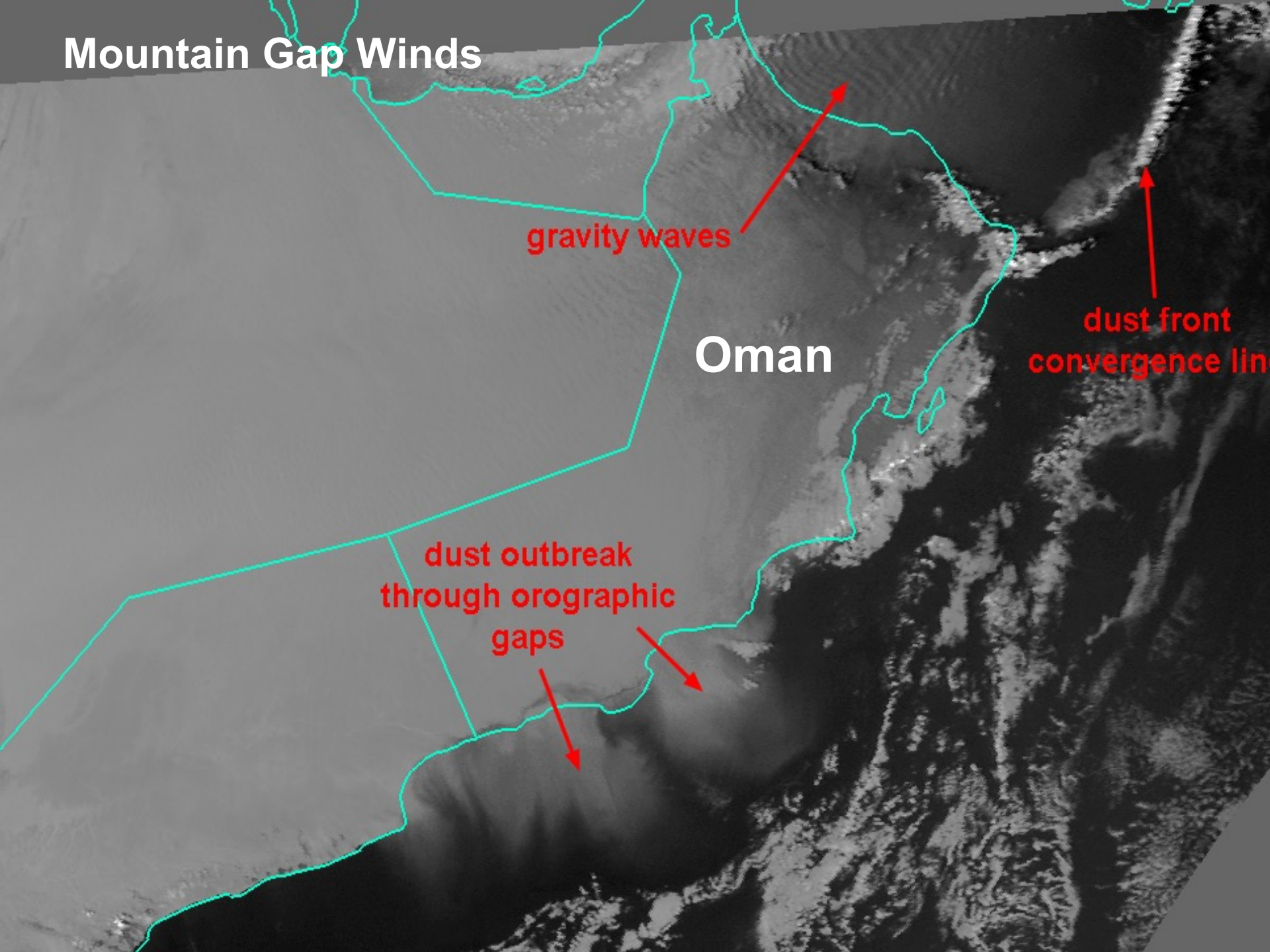
Met-8, 25 June 2003, 10:00 UTC

# Mountain Gap Winds





# Mountain Gap Winds





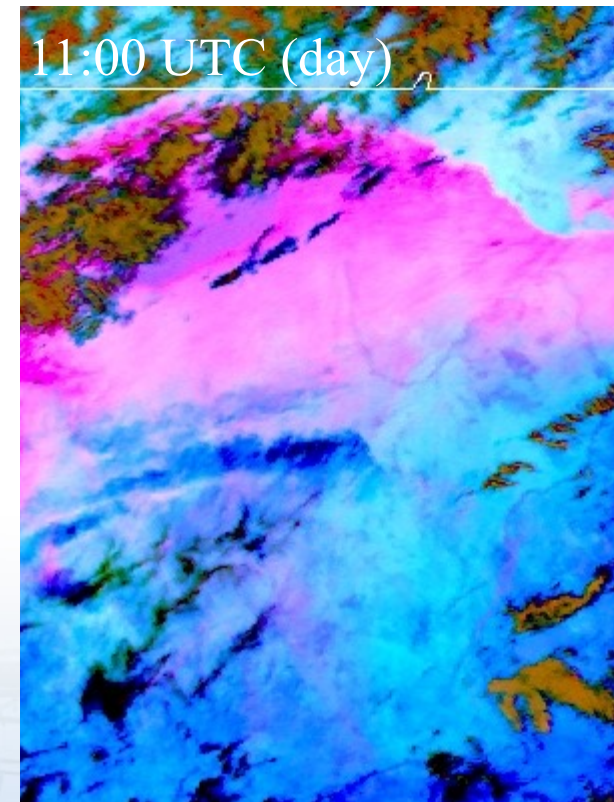
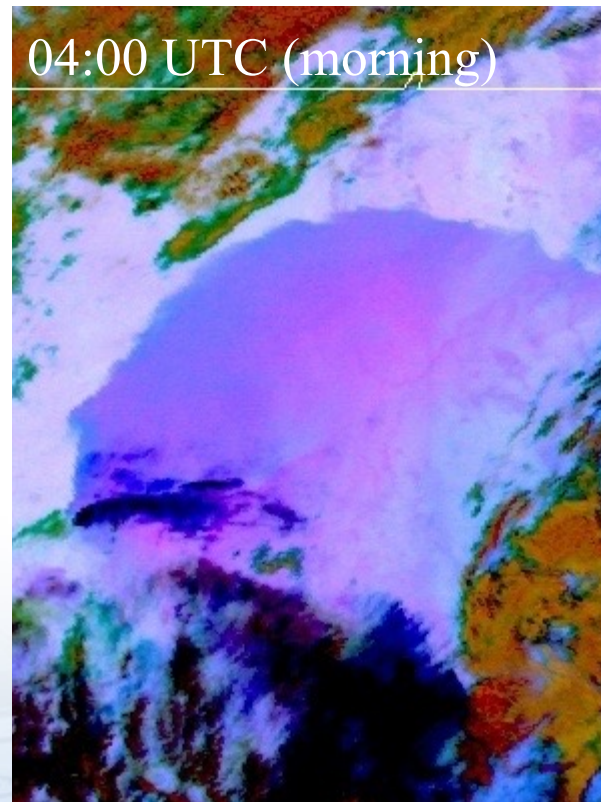
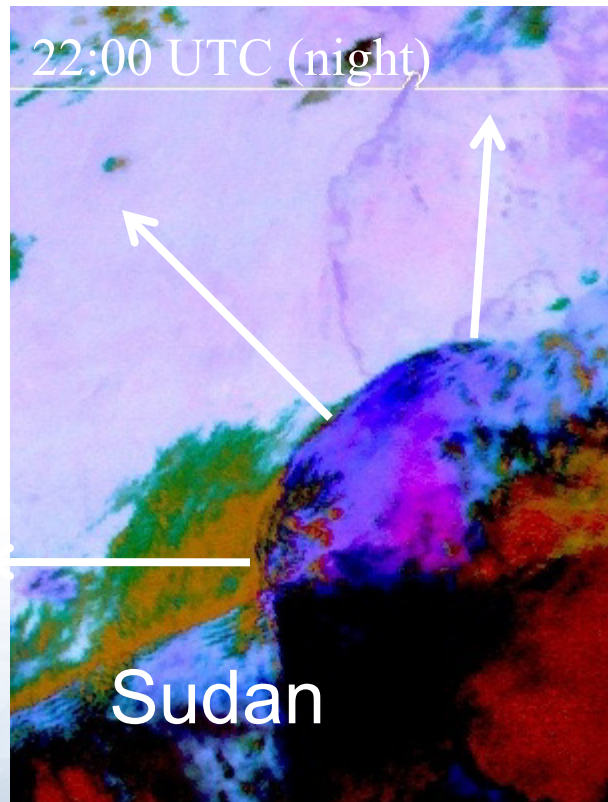
# Convective Outflow Winds (Haboobs, Dust Squalls)



MSG 2005 06 07 12:00

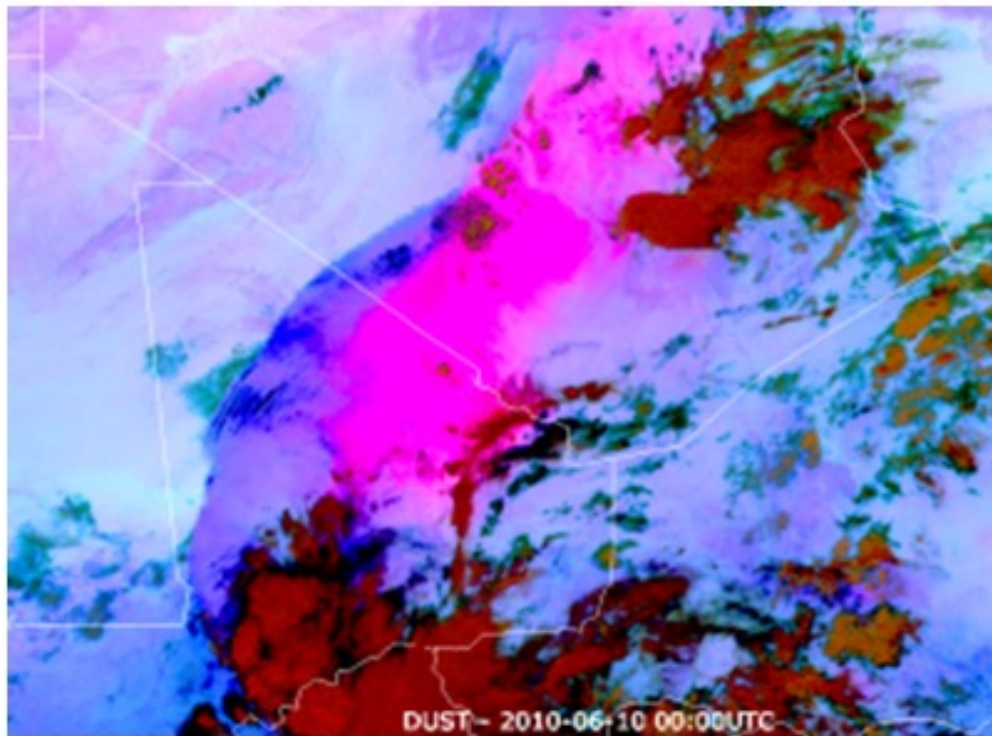


# Dust Haboobs can travel fast at night (undular bore?)



Met-8, 29-30 April 2007

# Dust Haboobs can travel long distances

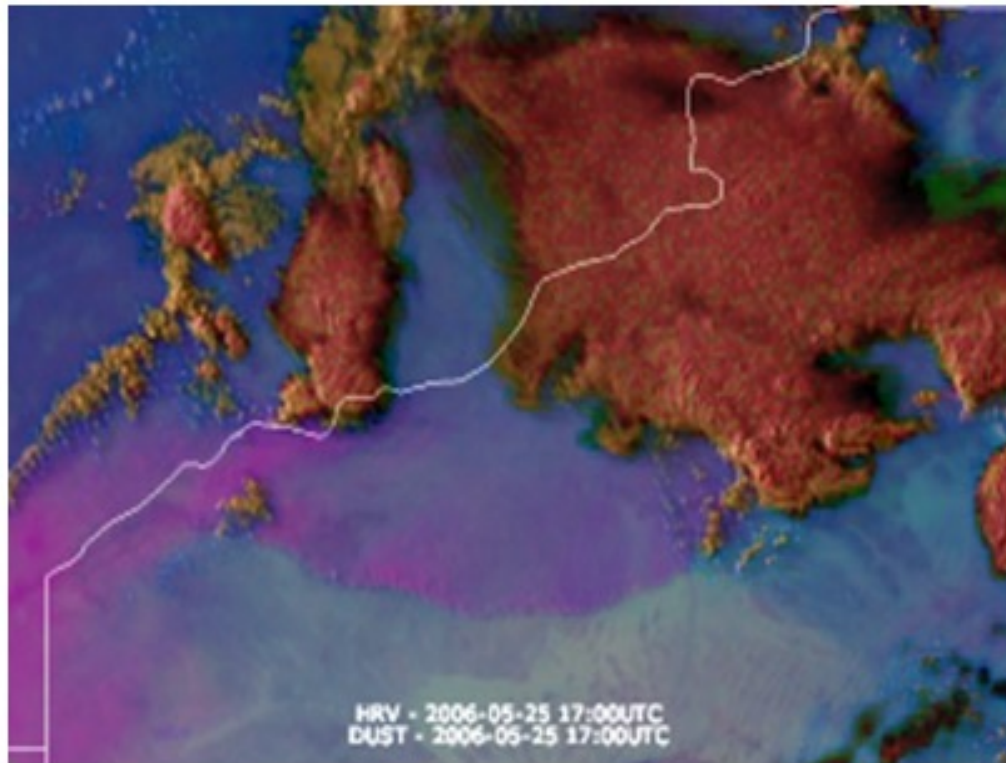


34-hour sequence of MSG (Meteosat-9) Dust RGB products on 9-10 June 2010. Source: EUMETSAT. Images created by HansPeter Roesli.

This MSG Dust RGB sequence shows a large dust squall over Niger, Mali and southern Algeria (highlight), triggered by a thunderstorm system visible in the lower part of the images, that travelled hundreds of kilometers westwards over the Sahara. This shows how long a distance strong haboobs can propagate and how well defined they can be at night. On 9 June, daytime convection lifts part of the low-lying dust higher up -- above the boundary layer -- where westerly winds carry it back in an easterly direction. The higher level dust can be seen very well in the late afternoon and night hours (highlight) by its bright magenta colour (as compared to the dark magenta colour of the low-level dust squall). Note that towards the end of this animation, the westward propagation of the dust squall slows down as it approaches a deformation zone.



# Combination of HRV & Dust RGB



5-hour sequence of MSG (Meteosat-8) blended HRV and Dust RGB products on 25 May 2006 from 12:00 to 17:00 UTC. Source: EUMETSAT. Images created by HansPeter Roesli. ¶

Note that this animation shows the HRV / Dust RGB "sandwich product", which is an image combination of the HRV channel and the Dust RGB product, allowing one to spatially co-locate the cloud features like the storm's overshooting top and outflow boundaries (at high resolution) with the dust clouds seen in the Dust RGB (at lower resolution). During daytime, this blended product is probably the best geostationary satellite product to monitor haboobs. ¶

# Downslope Winds

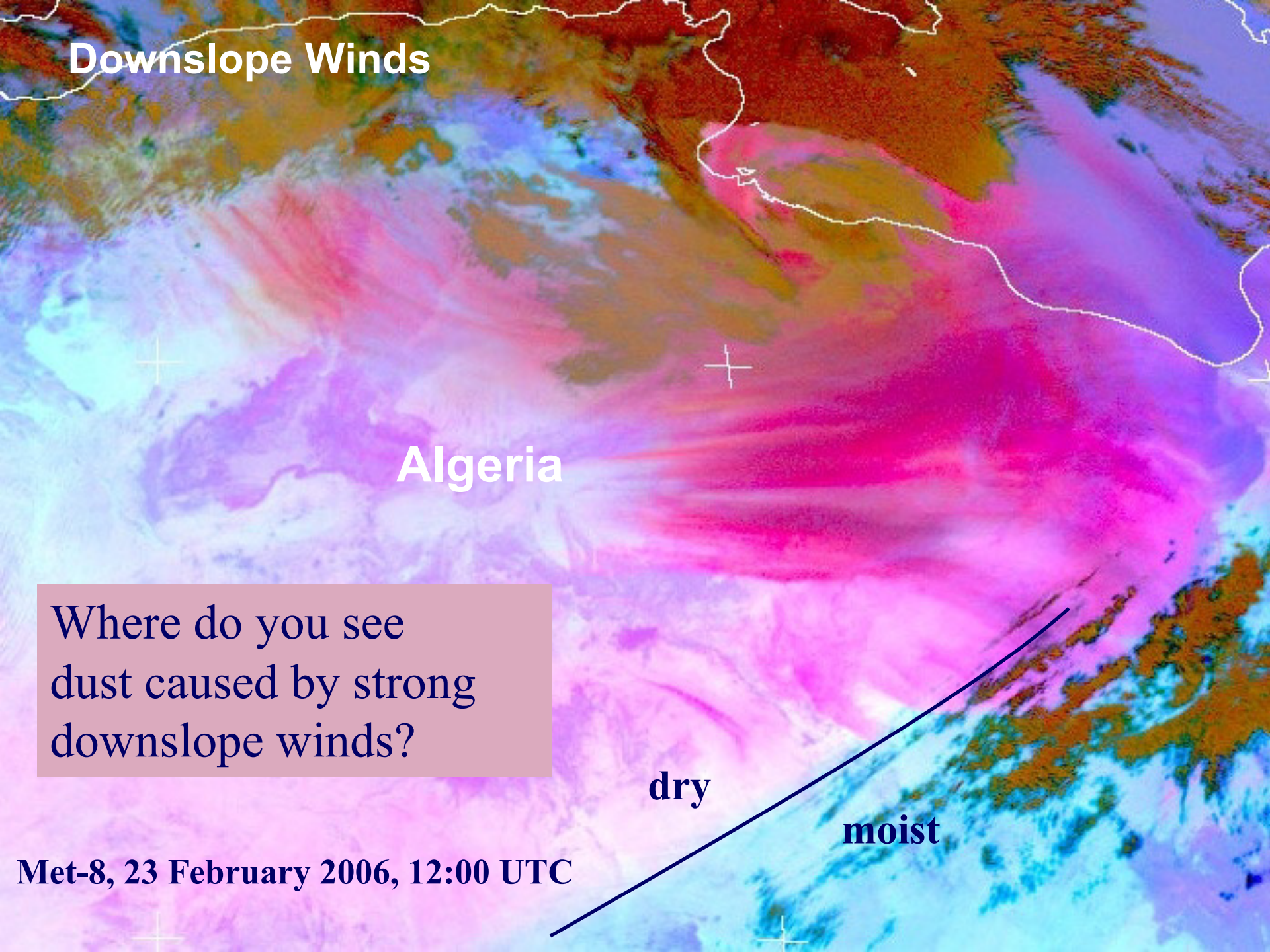
Algeria

Where do you see  
dust caused by strong  
downslope winds?

**dry**

**moist**

**Met-8, 23 February 2006, 12:00 UTC**





# SUMMARY

# Summary: Key Messages 1



- The Dust RGB can be used during day and night
- Dust Level identification is difficult but not totally impossible
- More contrast to background over land than over ocean
- Over ocean visible imagery is preferable during the day (e.g. Natural Colour RGB)



# Summary: Key Messages 2



- Dust changes cloud microphysics
- Mesoscale dust outbreaks cannot be forecasted with dust model (satellite data!)
- HRV / Dust RGB blended product very useful during daytime
- Haboobs can travel very fast at night!

# Thank you for your attention !



**More info: [www.eumetsat.int](http://www.eumetsat.int)**

