

# Sand and Dust Storm – Warning Advisory and Assessment System (WMO SDS-WAS)

Enric Terradellas, AEMET, Barcelona

WMO SDS-WAS. Regional Center for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe



**Barcelona  
Supercomputing  
Center**  
*Centro Nacional de Supercomputación*



**World  
Meteorological  
Organization**  
Weather • Climate • Water

**3rd Training Course on WMO SDS-WAS Products**  
**Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 8-12 Dec 2013**

# Outline

- Atmospheric aerosol
- The dust cycle
- Observation of atmospheric dust
- Prediction of atmospheric dust

**WMO SDS-WAS Regional  
Center for Northern Africa,  
Middle East and Europe**

<http://sds-was.aemet.es>  
[sdswas@aemet.es](mailto:sdswas@aemet.es)



- **Atmospheric aerosol**
- The dust cycle
- Observation of atmospheric dust
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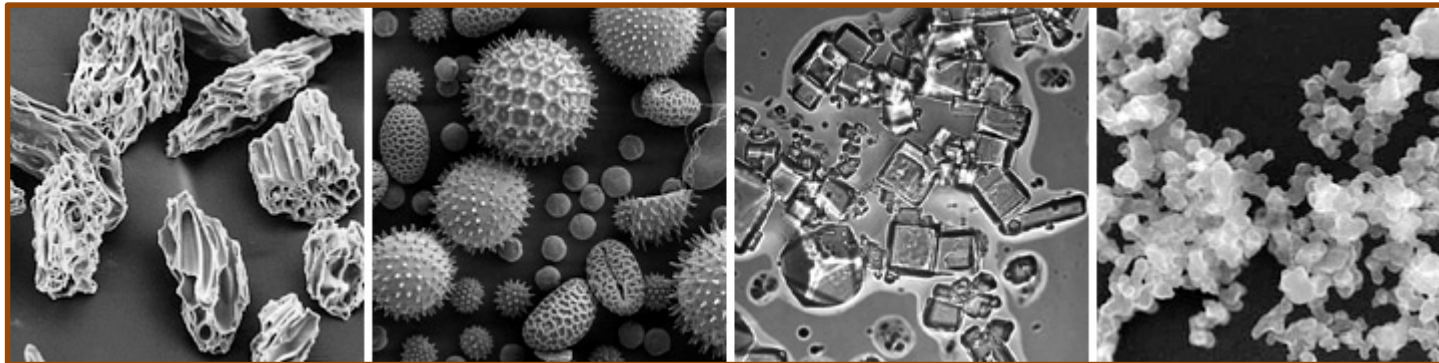
# Atmospheric aerosol

## Atmospheric aerosol

Solid or liquid particles suspended in the air

## Particle size

Diameter  $\sim 0.002 - 100 \mu\text{m}$

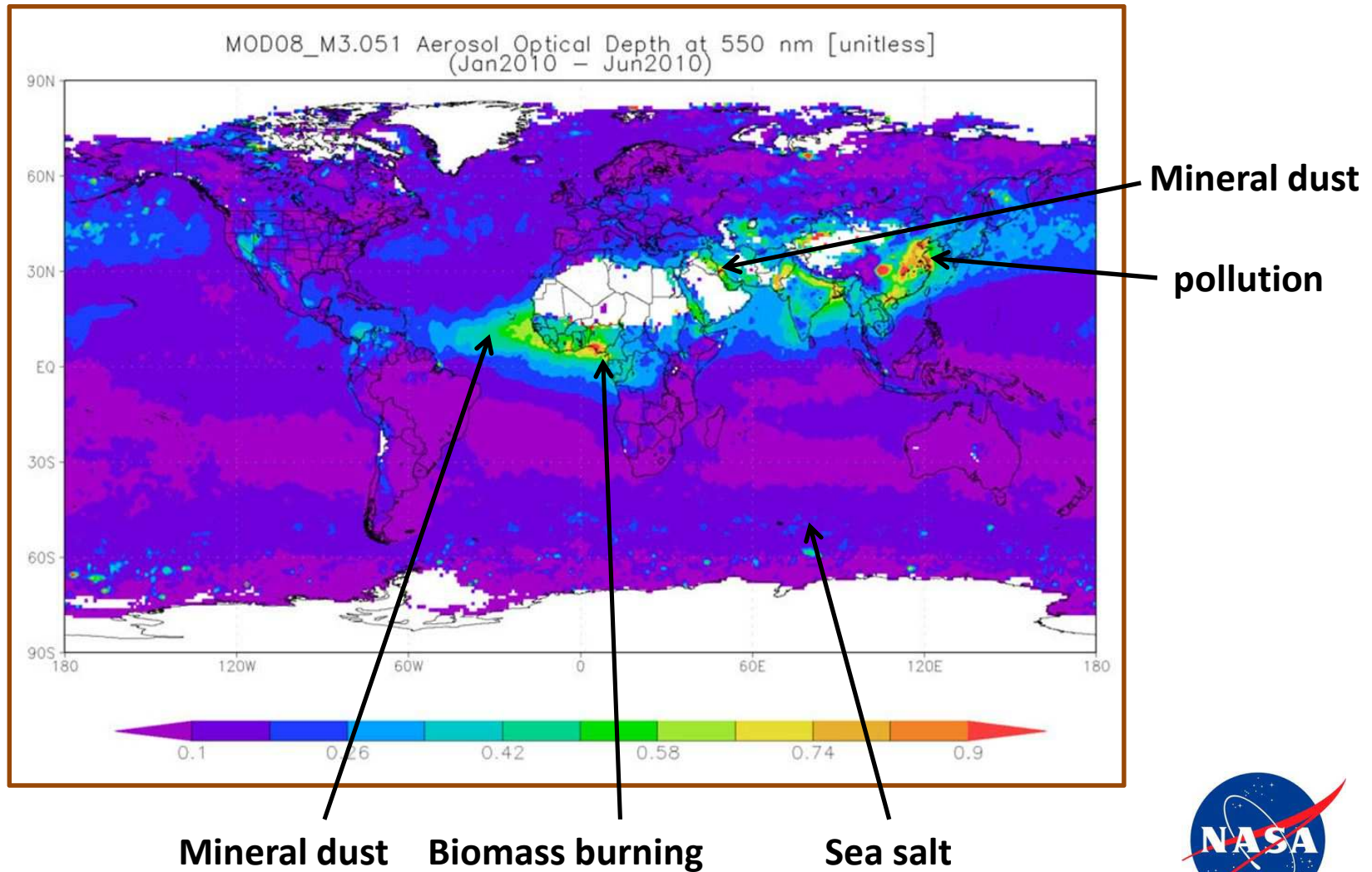




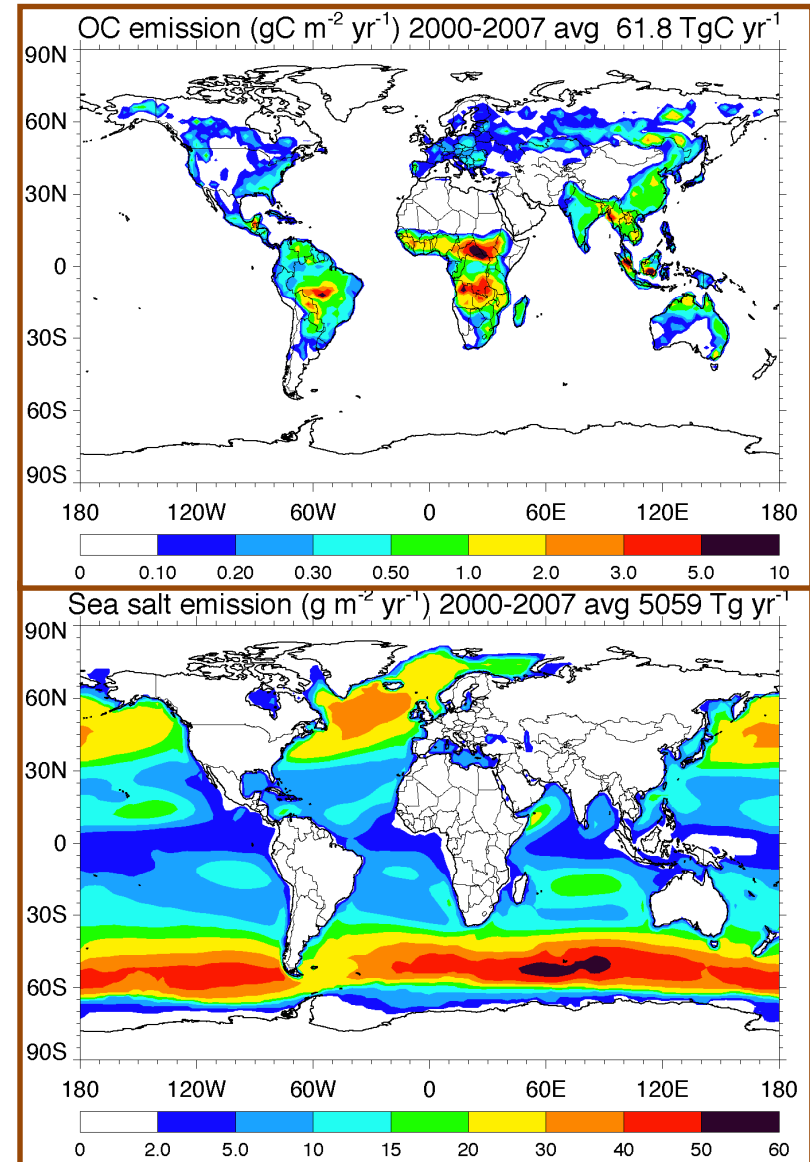
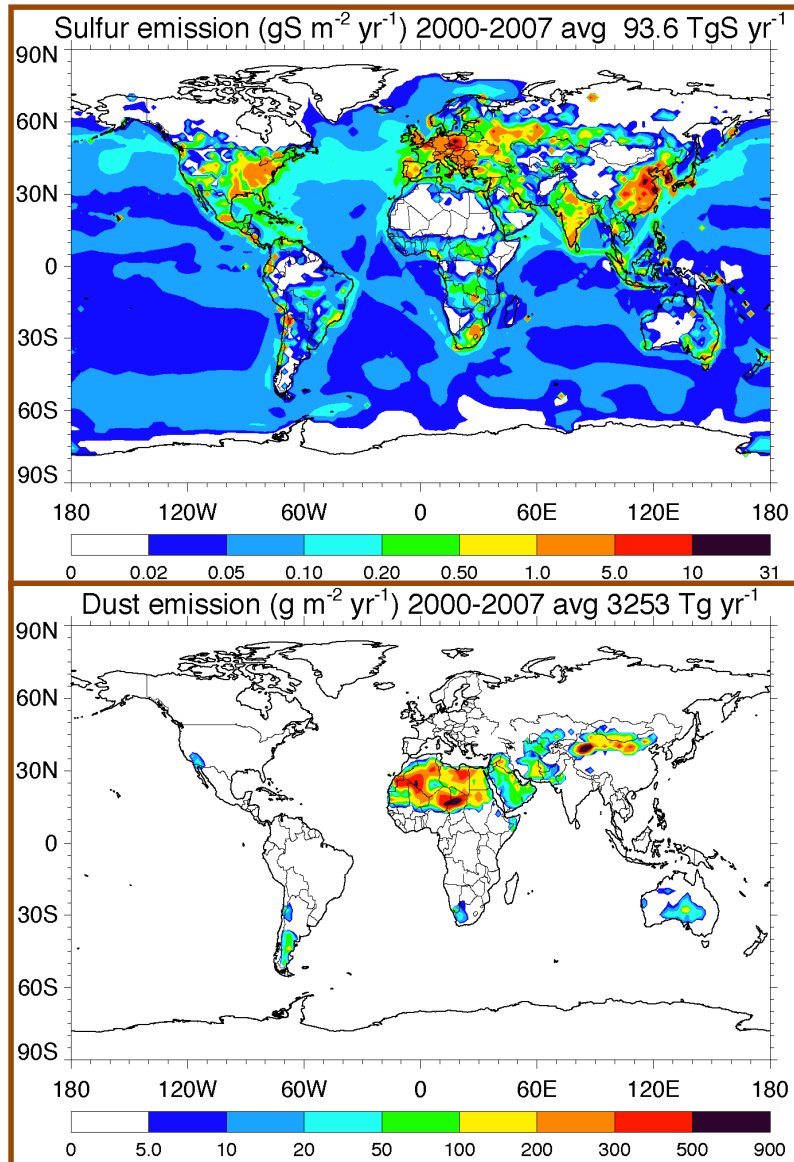
# Aerosol sources



# Global AOD



## Emissions 2000-2007



- Atmospheric aerosol
- **The dust cycle**
- Observation of atmospheric dust
- Prediction of atmospheric dust

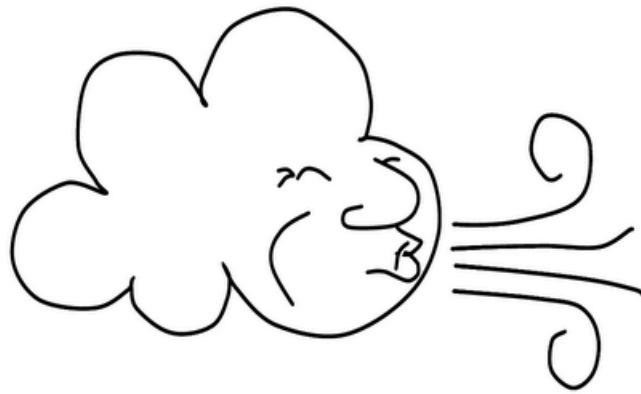
**WMO SDS-WAS** Regional  
Center for Northern Africa,  
Middle East and Europe

<http://sds-was.aemet.es>  
[sdswas@aemet.es](mailto:sdswas@aemet.es)



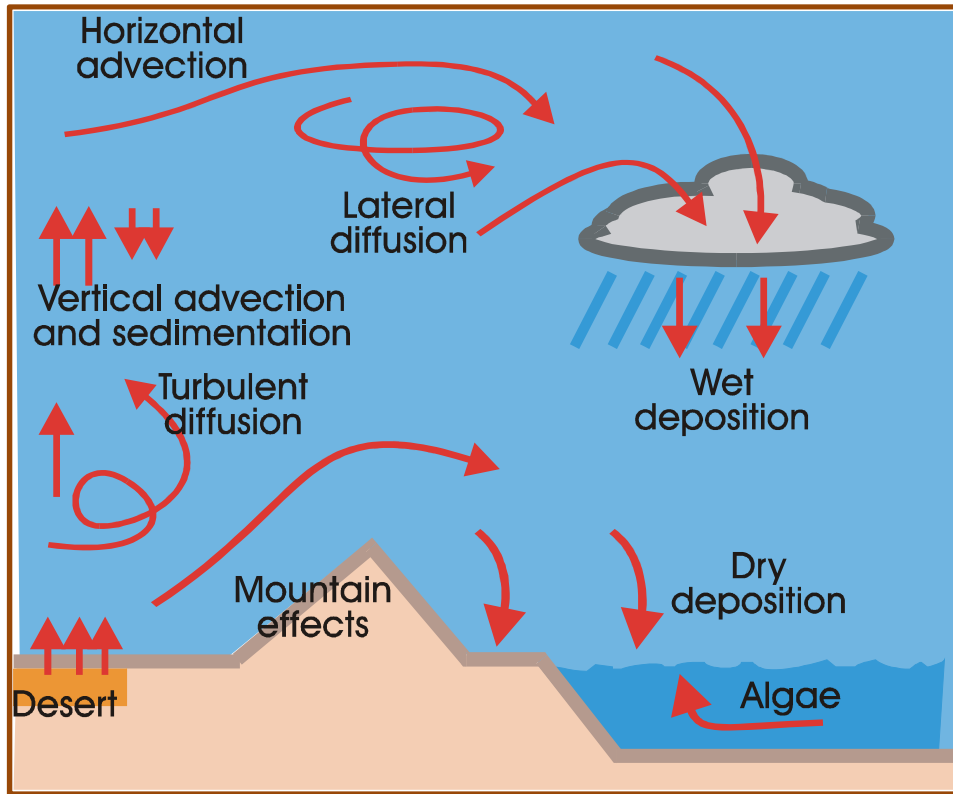


# The dust cycle



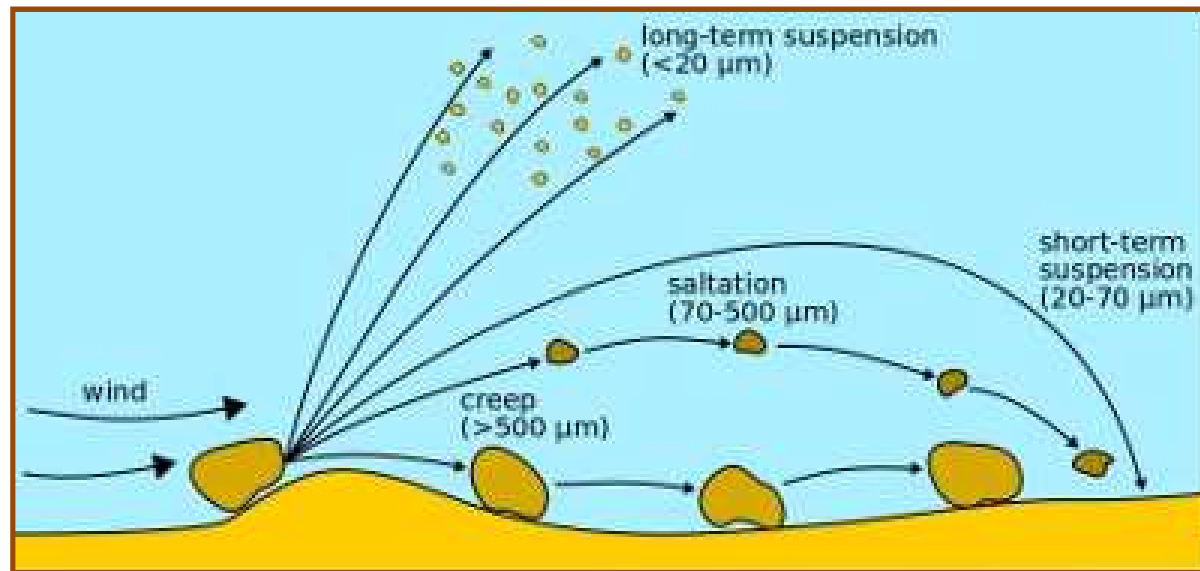
MODIS. 4 Feb 2013

# The dust cycle



- Emission
- Turbulent mixing
- Transport
- Dry/wet deposition

# Emission



- Soil texture
- Soil humidity
- Vegetation

- Wind
- Near-surface turbulence

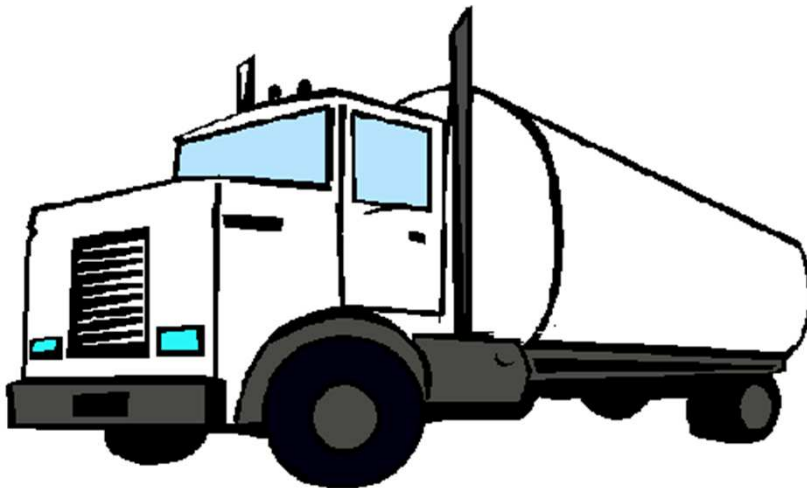


# Mobilized dust

$\sim 60,000 - 120,000 \text{ kg / s}$

$\sim 2 - 4 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ kg / yr}$

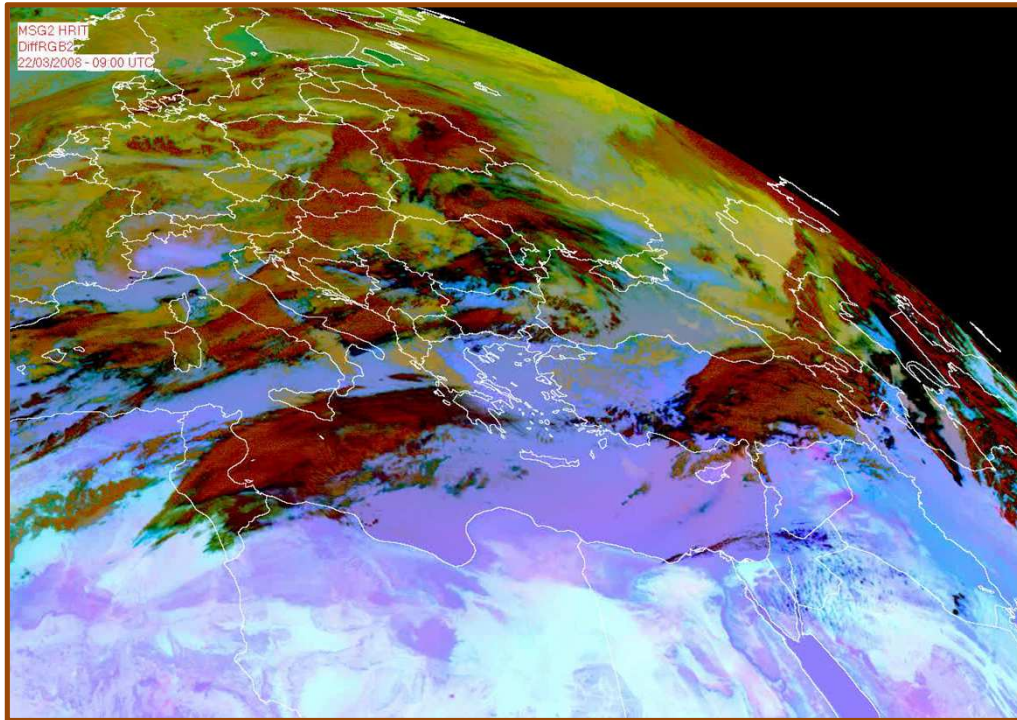
100,000,000 trucks



5,000 ULCC



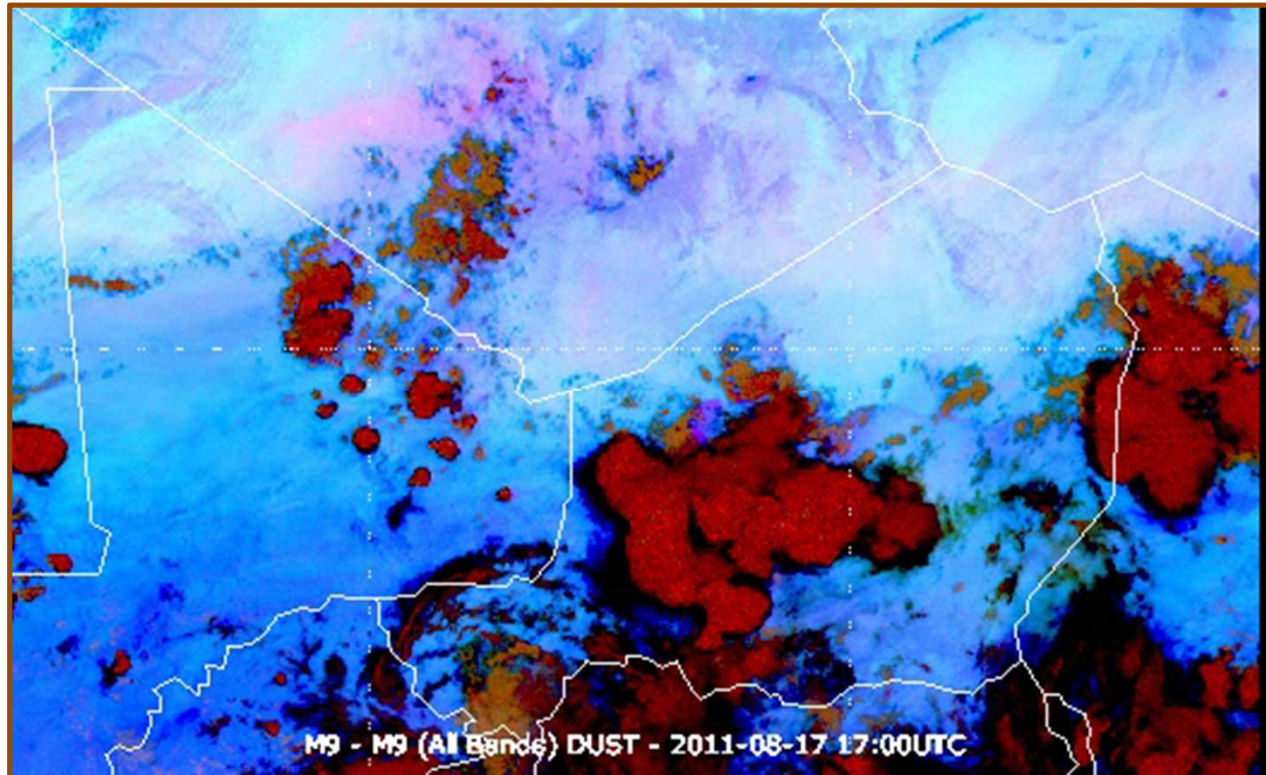
# Meteorological conditions



## SYNOPTIC SCALE

- Frontal systems
- Reinforced trade winds

# Meteorological conditions



## MESOSCALE-MICROSCALE

Convection

Low-level jets

Drainage winds

Gap winds

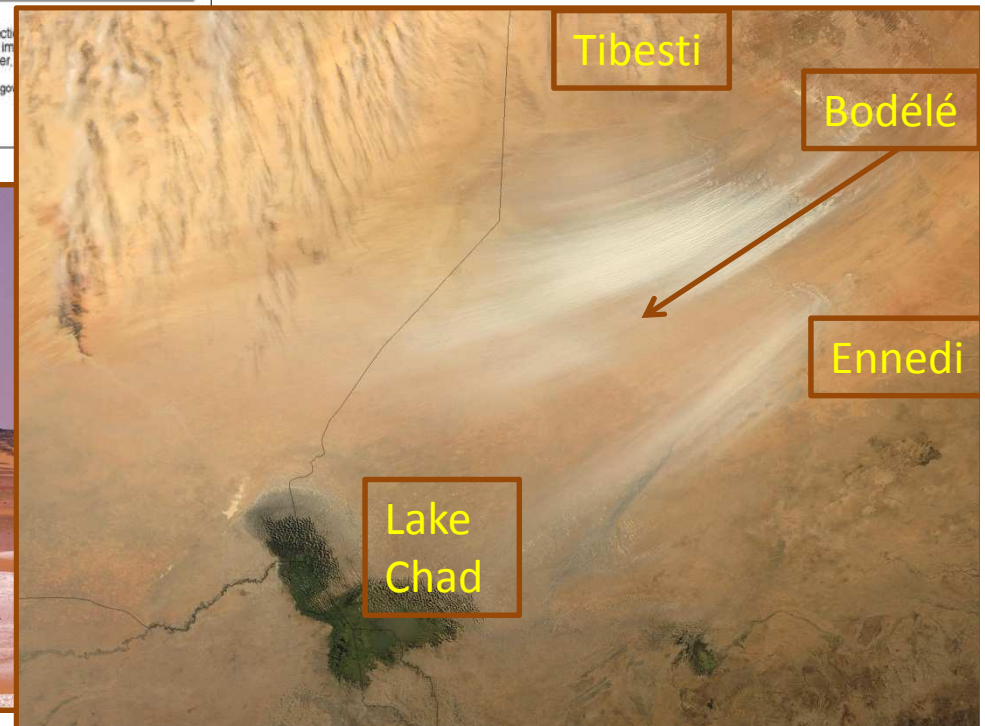
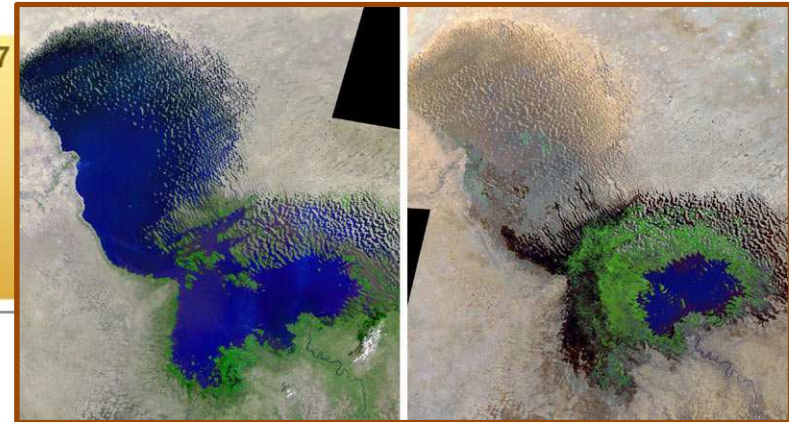
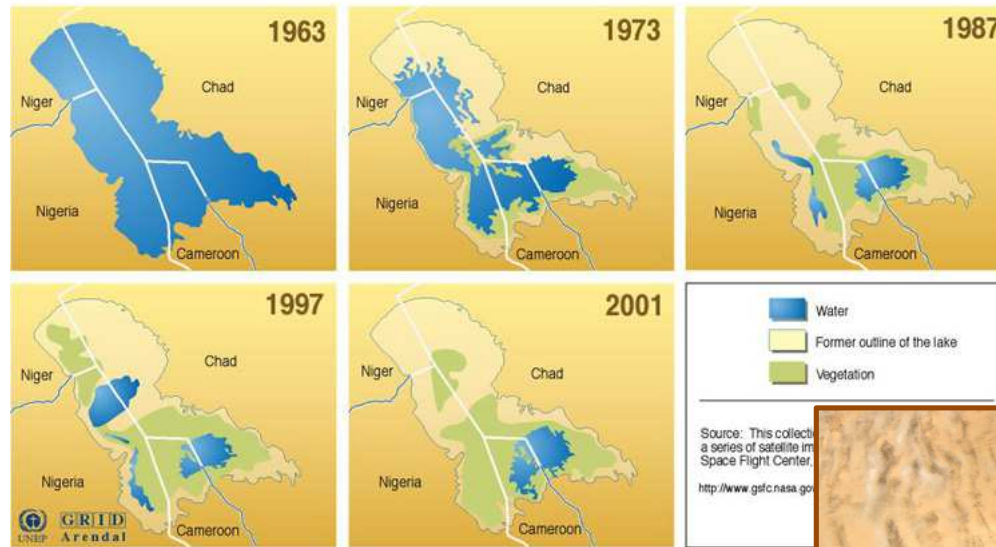


# Dust sources



# The Bodélé depression

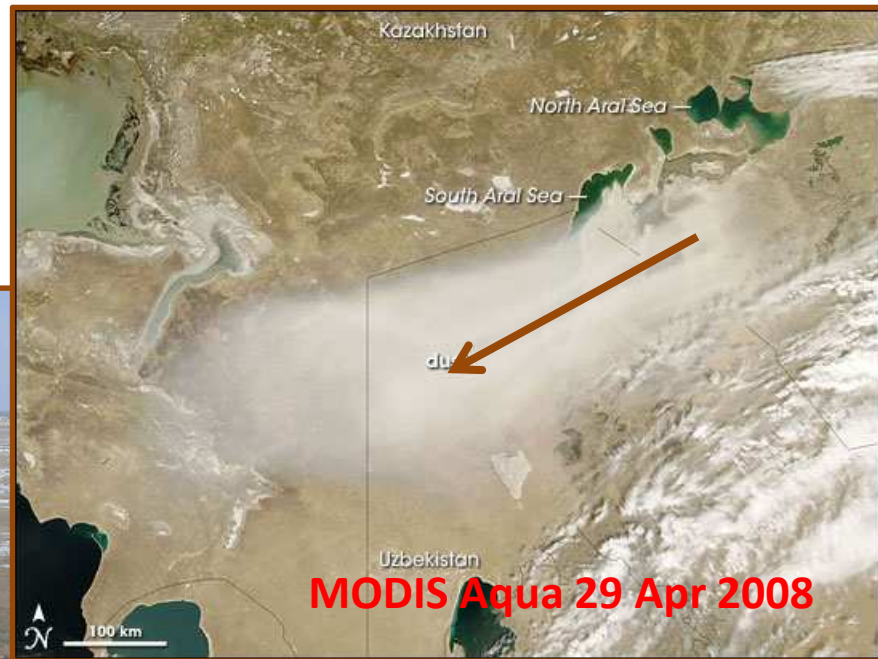
The Disappearance of Lake Chad in Africa





# The dust cycle

## The Aral sea



# Dust at high latitude



South Iceland  
MODIS. 4 Oct 2004

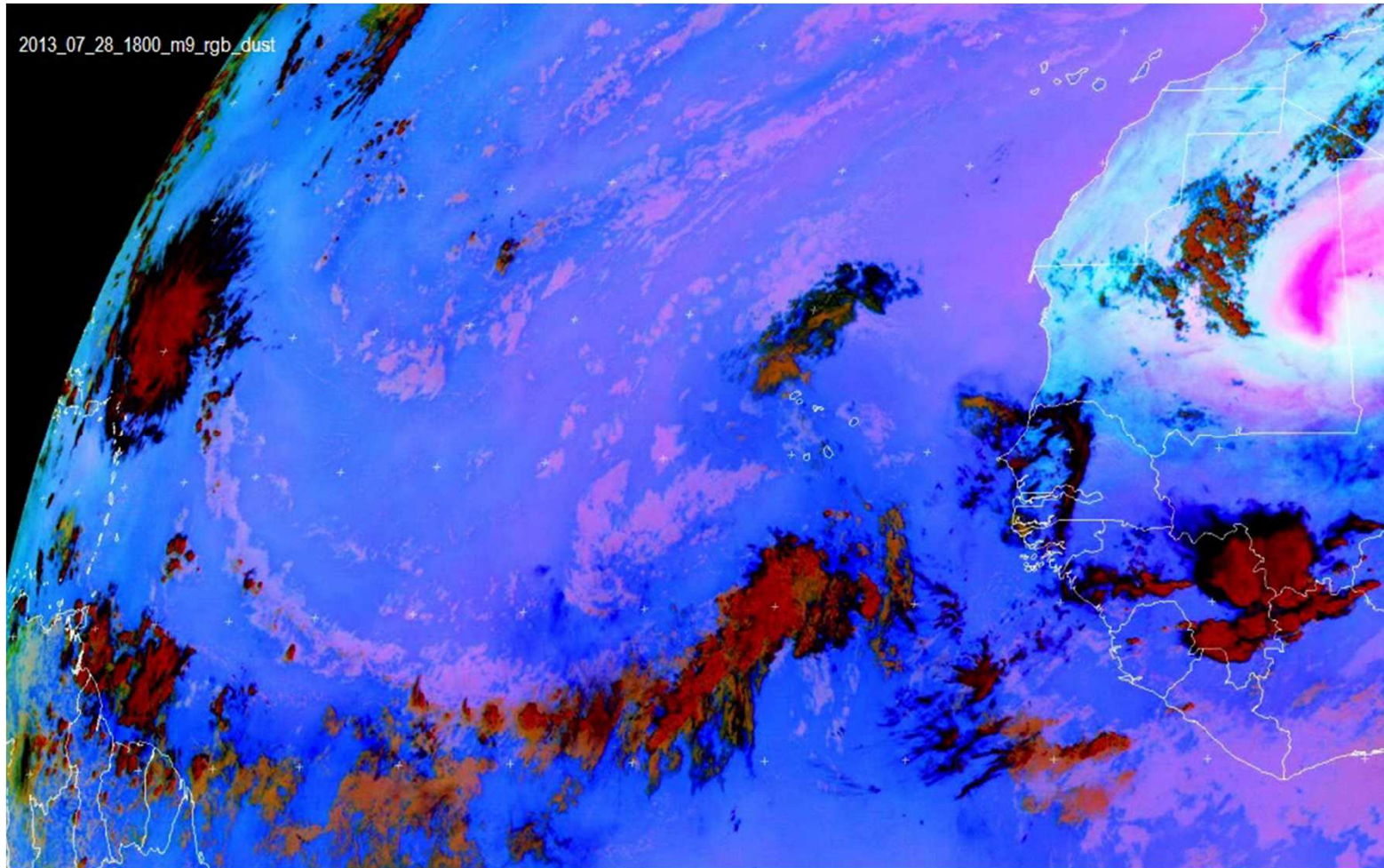


South Alaska  
MODIS. 5 Nov 2005

Common in autumn, when the level of rivers fall and sediments are exposed to wind. Not to be confused with volcanic ash or products from biomass burning (tundra fires)

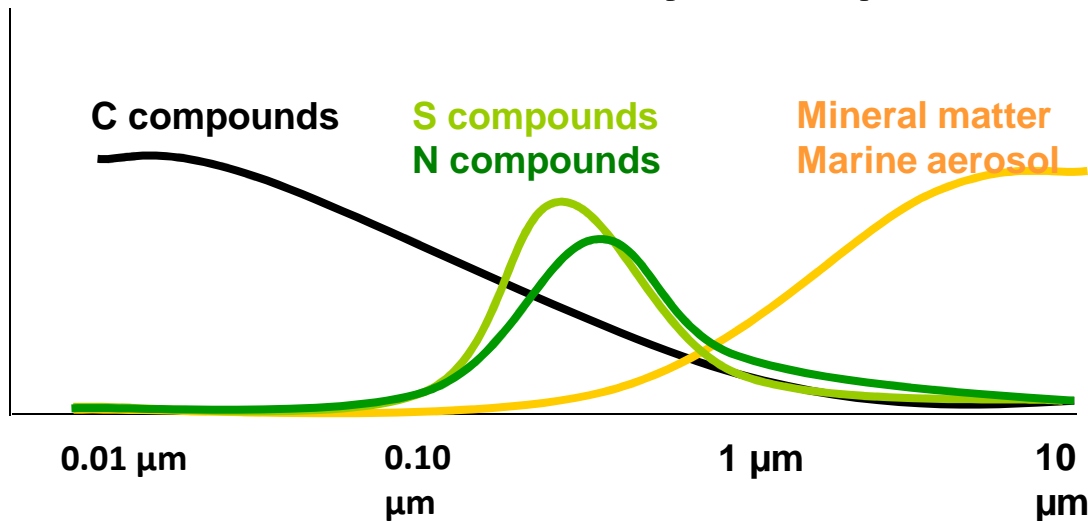


# Transport

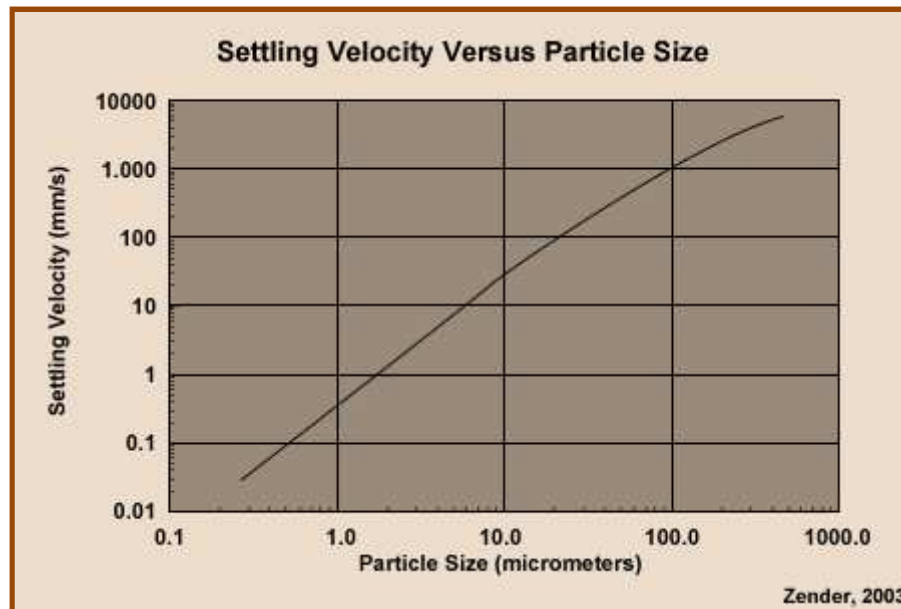


**Thunderstorms over W Africa arise large amounts of dust. On 30 July 2013, dust starts crossing the Atlantic and reaches the Antiles on 2 August**

# Dry deposition



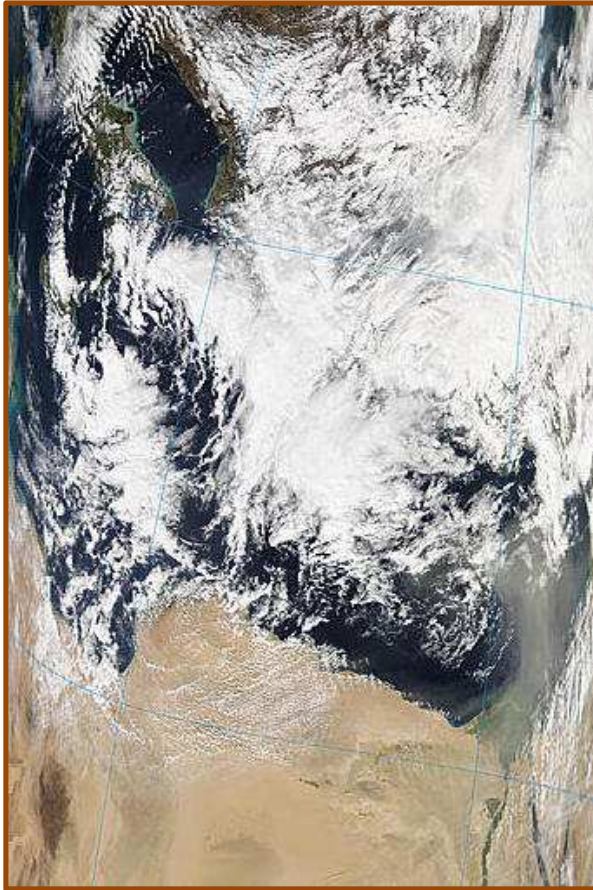
Warneck (1988), Harrison and Van Grieken (1998)



SIZE (μm)	AVERAGE LIFETIME (h)
0.1 - 0.18	231
0.18 - 0.3	229
0.3 - 0.6	225
0.6 - 1	219
1 - 1.8	179
1.8 - 3	126
3 - 6	67
6 - 10	28

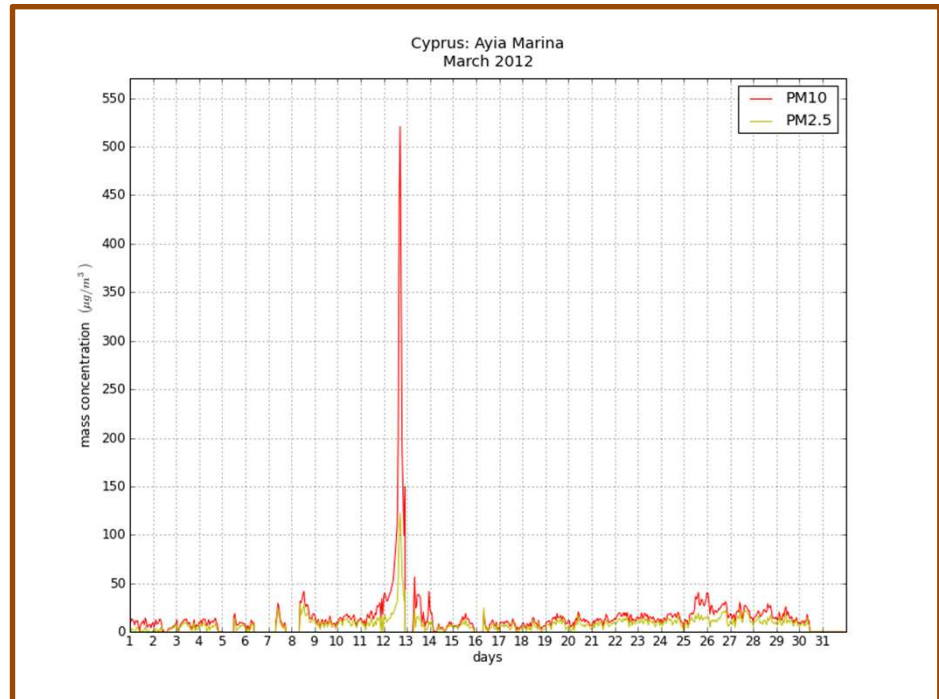
Tegen and Lacis (1996)

# Wet deposition



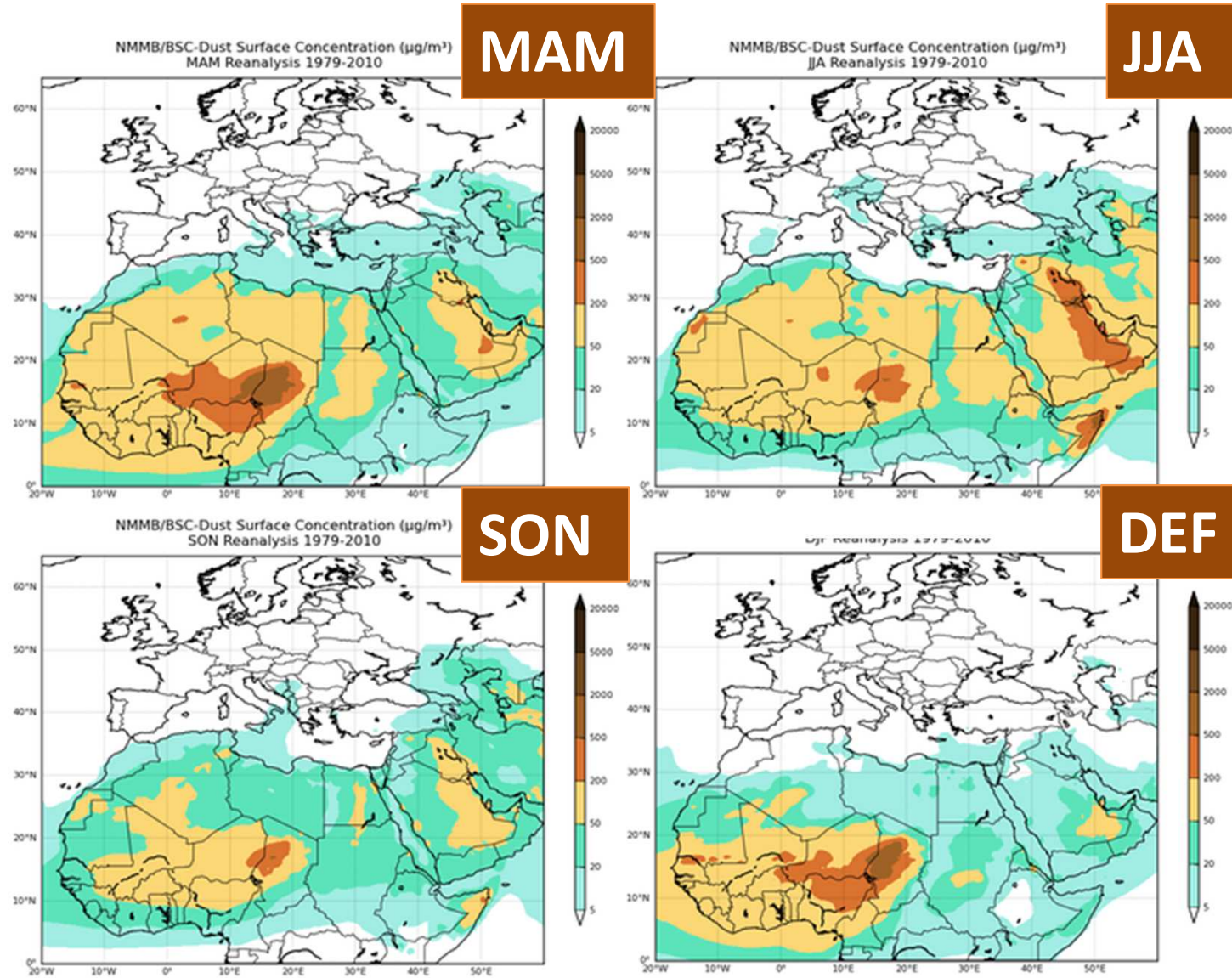
**MODIS 12 Mar 2012**

**Ayia Marina (Cyprus)  
March 2012**



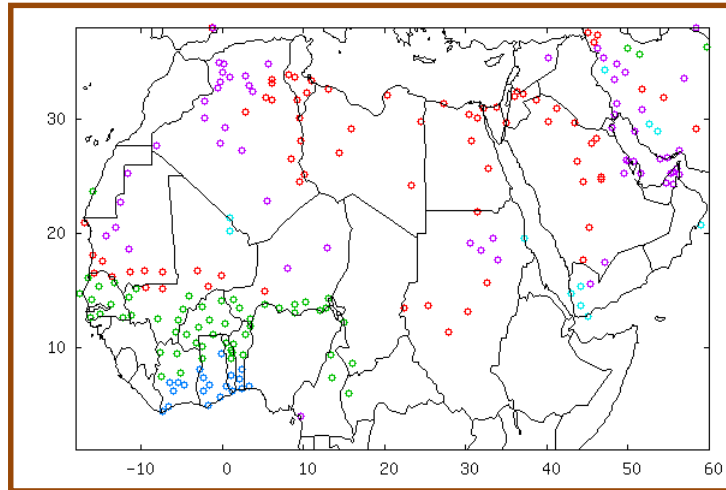


# Seasonal variability

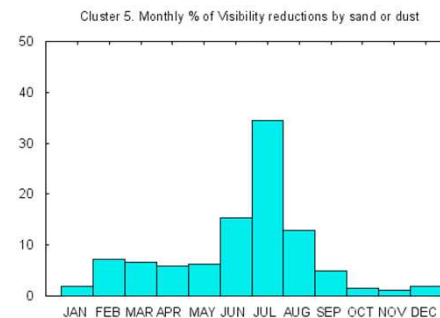
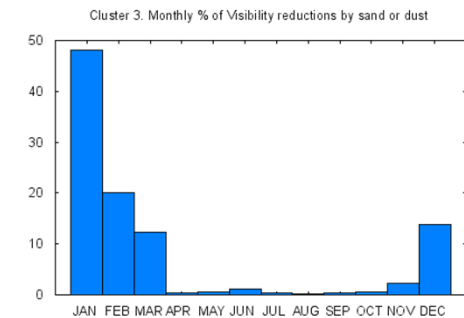
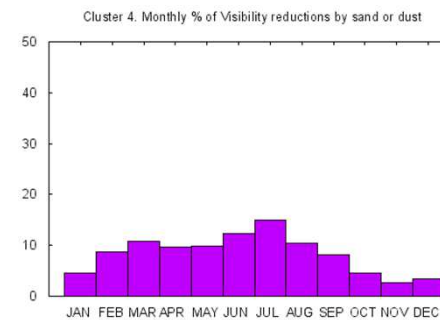
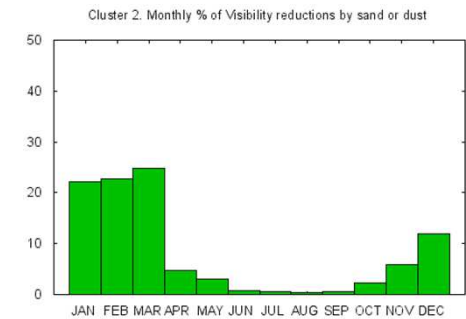
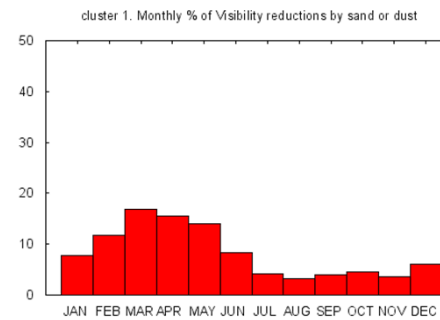
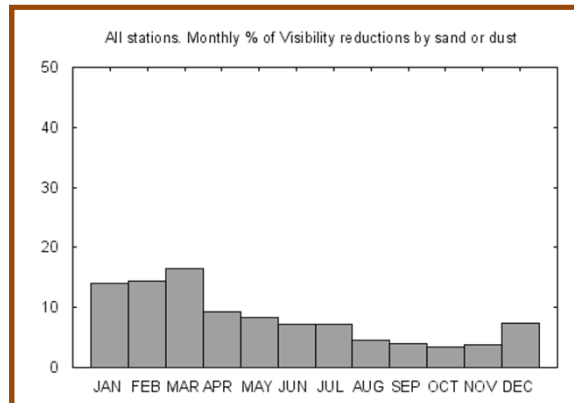


- Seasonal meteorology
- Phenology

## Seasonal variability



**1996-2010**



**Terradellas et al. (2012)**

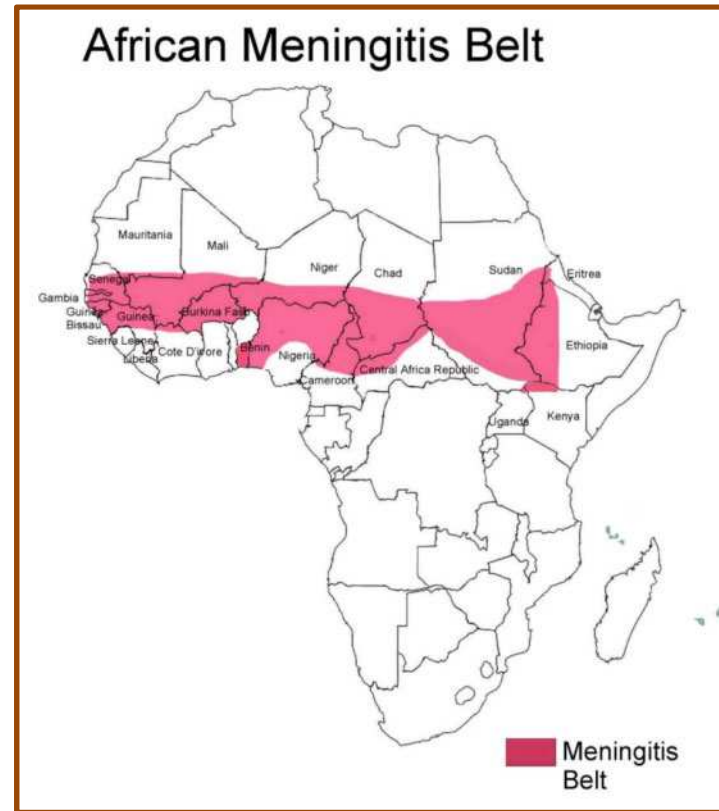
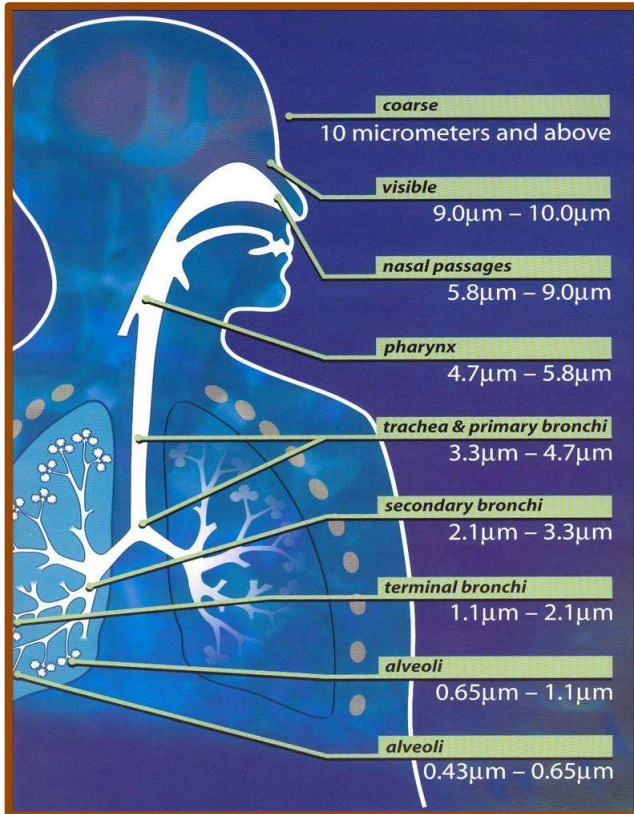
# Impacts of atmospheric dust

- Health
- Weather and climate
- Transport (visibility reduction)
- Energy generation
- Agriculture, forestry, fishing
- ...

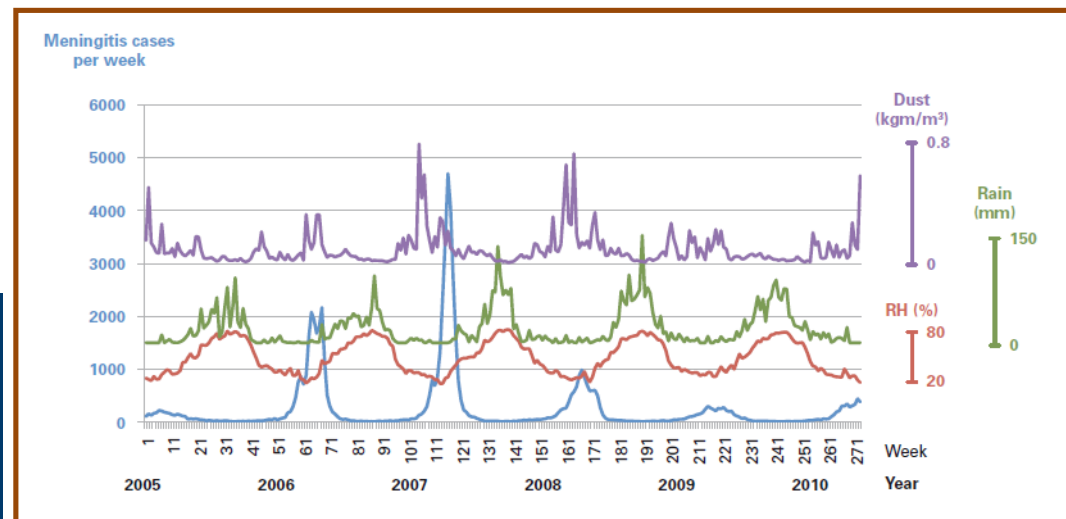
3:35P	On Time
3:45P	Cancelled
4:15P	On Time
4:24P	Delayed
4:30P	Cancelled
5:00P	On Time
5:12P	On Time
5:15P	On Time



# Health

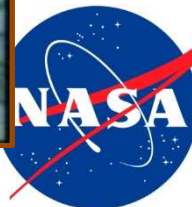
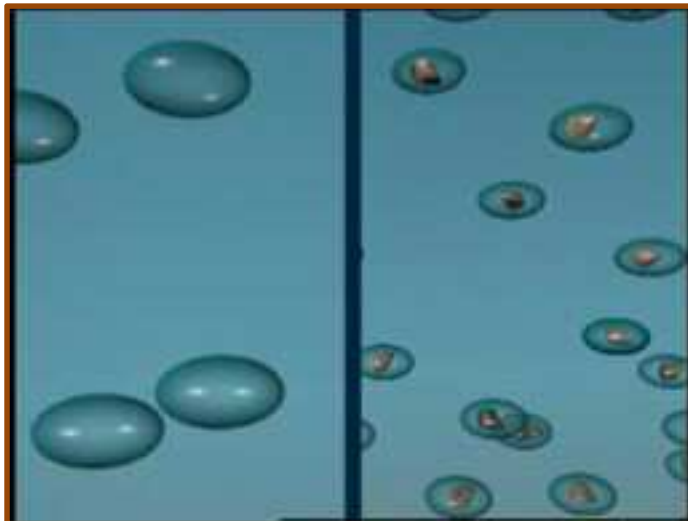
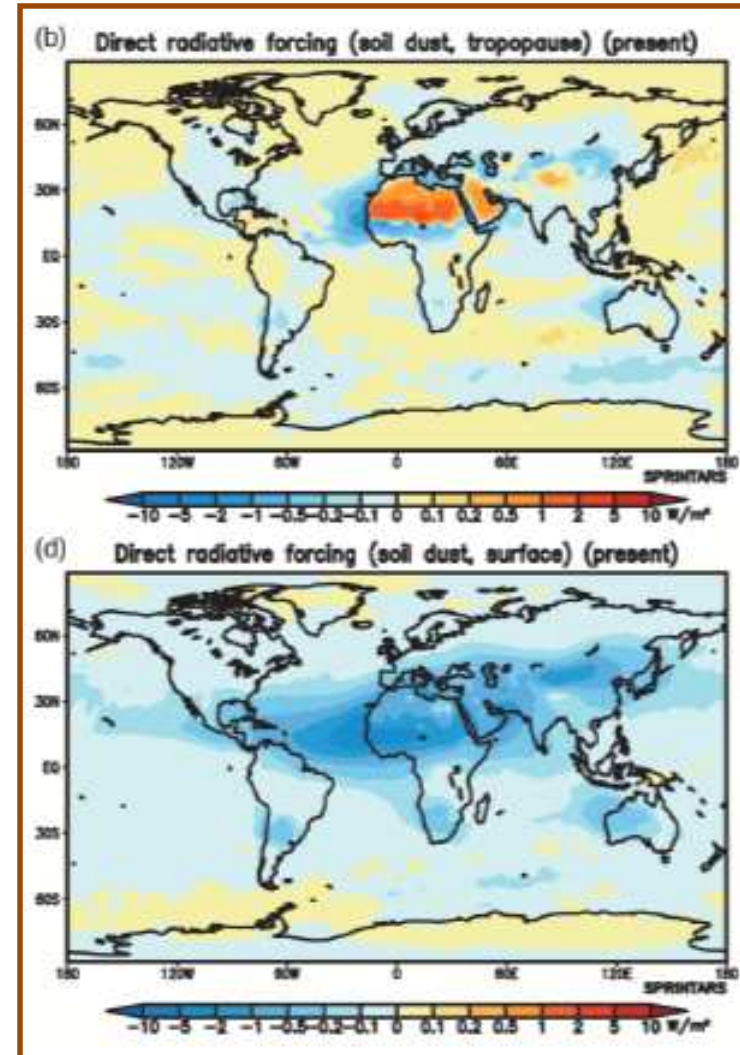
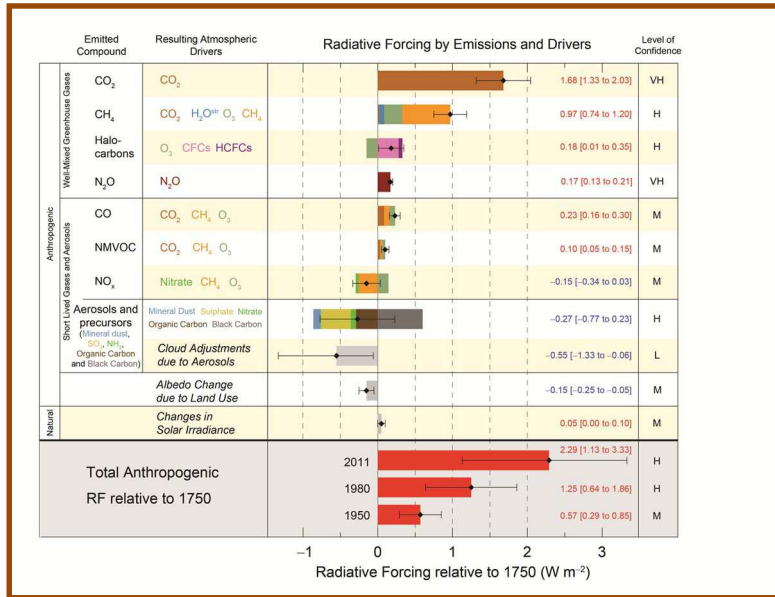


## Burkina Faso



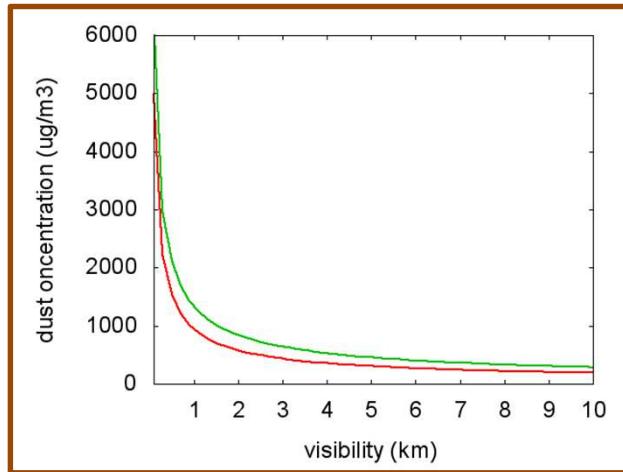


# Weather and climate



Takemura et al. (2009)

# Transport



D'Almeida (1986)

Ben Mohamed et al. (1992)



Arizona – 29 Oct 2013

11:16 A	CANCELLED
5A 10:30 A	CANCELLED
5A 10:15 A	CANCELLED
7A 6:50 A	DELAYED
7A 7:20 A	DELAYED
10:00 A	CANCELLED
17A 10:10 A	DELAYED



Tunisia - 7 May 2002

# Generation of solar energy

- Reduction of the available energy
- Reduction of the efficiency





# Agriculture – Forestry - Fishing



# WMO SDS-WAS

## Mission:

Improve the capacity of countries to produce and distribute to end users accurate forecasts of the mineral dust content in the atmosphere

## Structure:

- Regional Center for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe. Barcelona, Spain
- Regional Center for Asia, Beijing, China
- Regional Center for Pan America, Orange, Ca, U.S.A.
- Regional Center for West Asia (??)

# Regional Center NA-ME-E

The Center is managed by a consortium of AEMET and the Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC-CNS)



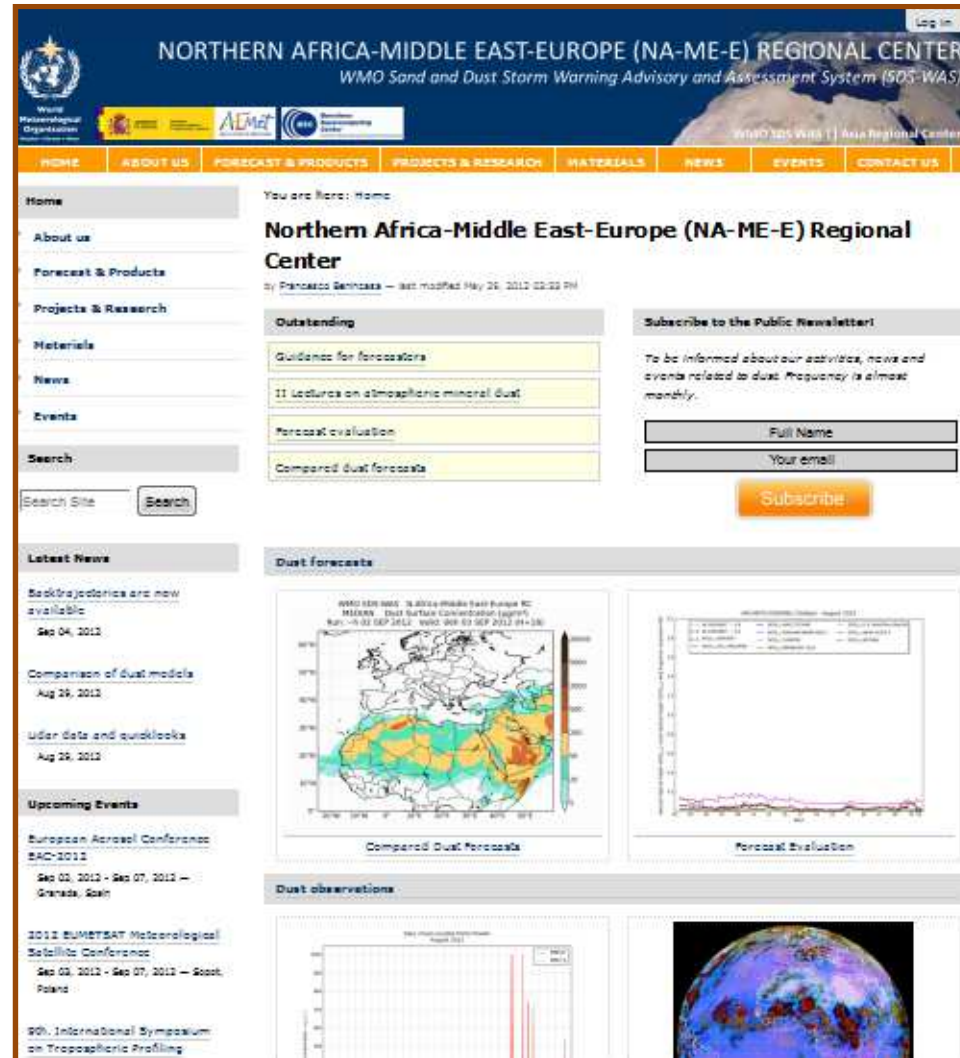
**Nexus II Building. Barcelona**



**MareNostrum – 3 supercomputer**



<http://sds-was.aemet.es>



[sdswas@aemet.es](mailto:sdswas@aemet.es)

[eterradellasj@aemet.es](mailto:eterradellasj@aemet.es)



<http://www.sds.cma.gov.cn>

WMO Sand and Dust Storm Warning Advisory and Assessment System(WMO SDS WAS)  
ASIA/CENTRAL PACIFIC REGIONAL CENTRE

Home Forecast Observation Model InterComparison News & Event Publications About us

**FORECAST**

**Concentration**  
Movies of surface dust concentration distribution over Asia in 3 hours interval for 3 days forecast from the model CUACE/Dust.

CUACE/DUST OF CMA [see more>>](#) [+ MORE](#)

MASINGAR OF JMA [see more>>](#) [+ MORE](#)

ADAM OF KMA [see more>>](#) [+ MORE](#)

**News & Event**

- >>Severe Solar Blast Affects China's Communication
- >>Science Steering Committee
- >>Workshop on the Implementation of the WMO SDS-WAS Asia Node (28-30 October 2009, Seoul, Korea)
- >>Workshop on the Implementation of the WMO SDS-WAS Asia Node

**OBSERVATION**

**PM10**

CMA JMA KMA Other

**AOD**

CMA JMA KMA Other

**Satellite Observation**

CMA JMA KMA Other

**MODEL COMPARISON**

**Model InterComparison**  
To promote the SDS forecast ability and to evaluate SDS forecast models representation in Asia Regional Center, one of the most important activities is model inter-comparison. At present there are three operational forecast models CUACE/Dust...

**LOGIN**

username

password

checking ☐ 0999

Login Register

**SDS COLOR INDEX**

No SDS
Suspended dust
Blowing sand
Sand And Dust Storm
Severe SDS
Extreme Severe SDS

**HOT LINKS**

- >> cma
- >> wmo sds was
- >> ca was
- >> cma
- >> namre regional center

**FORECAST DATA SHARING**

Download Forecast Data from 

# Operational forecasts



In May 2013, the WMO Executive Council appoints the consortium AEMET / BSC-CNS to create in Barcelona the first Regional Specialized Meteorological Center for Atmospheric Sand and Dust Forecast.


The Center will operationally generate and distribute predictions for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe



<http://dust.aemet.es>

Log in Register

**BARCELONA DUST FORECAST CENTER**

 WMO SDS-WAS | NA-ME-E Regional Center

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**LATEST NEWS**

Establishing a WMO SDS-WAS Regional Node for West Asia

**Training events in Muscat, Oman**

Dust-related training events organized by the Regional Center for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe of WMO SDS-WAS

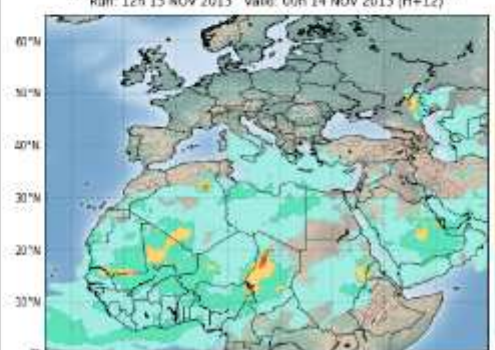
[Read More](#)



**Dust forecast**

Latest dust forecast for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe

[Check it here](#)





To be released in  
January 2014

- Atmospheric aerosol
- The dust cycle
- **Observation of atmospheric dust**
- Prediction of atmospheric dust

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# Why do we need dust observations?

- **Dust monitoring**
- **Evaluation of numerical dust forecasts**
- **Data assimilation into dust models**
- **Validation of other observations (i. e. ground observations to validate satellite products)**

Mali, 2001

Photo: Remi Benali/Corbis

# A comprehensive observing system

- **Ground observations**
  - In-situ
  - Indirect obs.: visibility
  - Sun photometers
  - Lidar – ceilometers
- **Satellite observations**

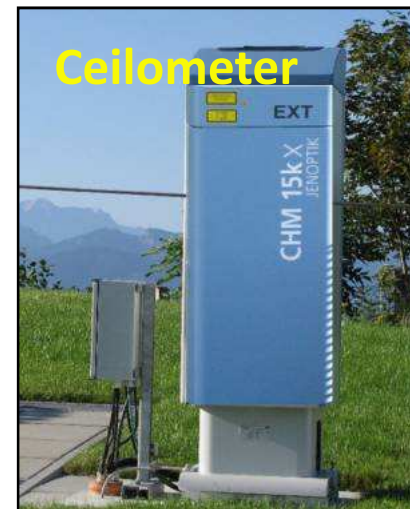
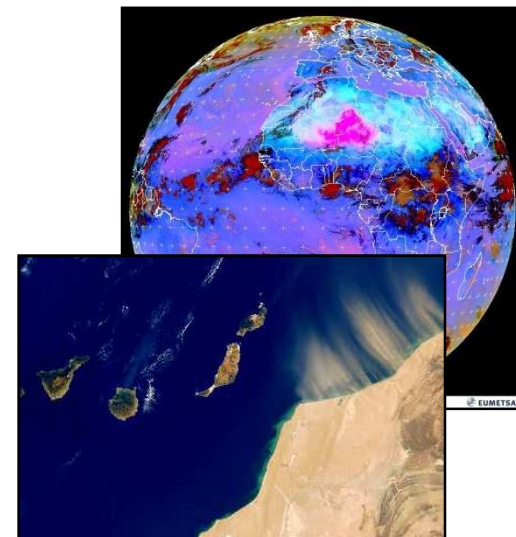
AQ station



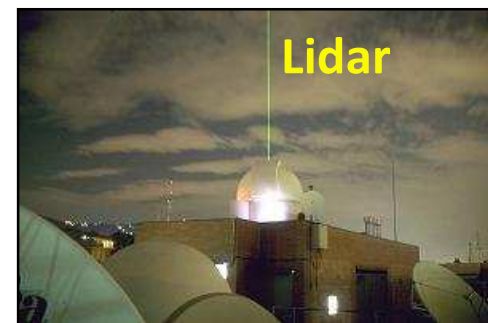
Transmissometer



Sun photometer



Ceilometer



Lidar

# In-situ measurements of PM10 and PM2.5 in AQ monitoring stations



$$PM = \frac{(W_2 - W_1)}{\text{Volumen}} \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$$



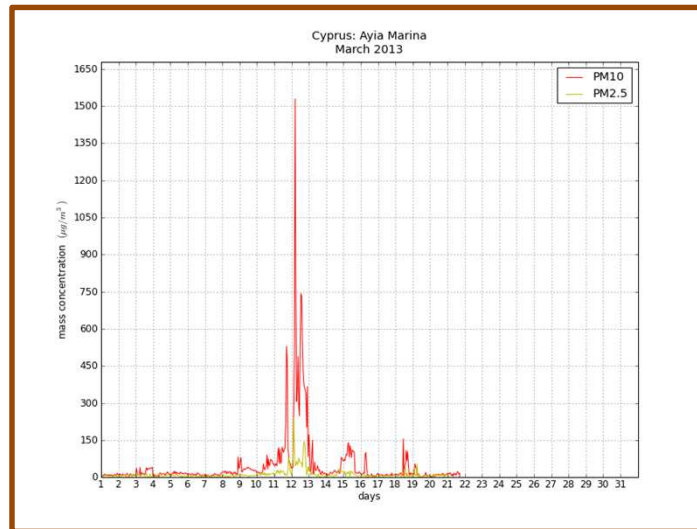


# Monitoring dust events with in-situ observations

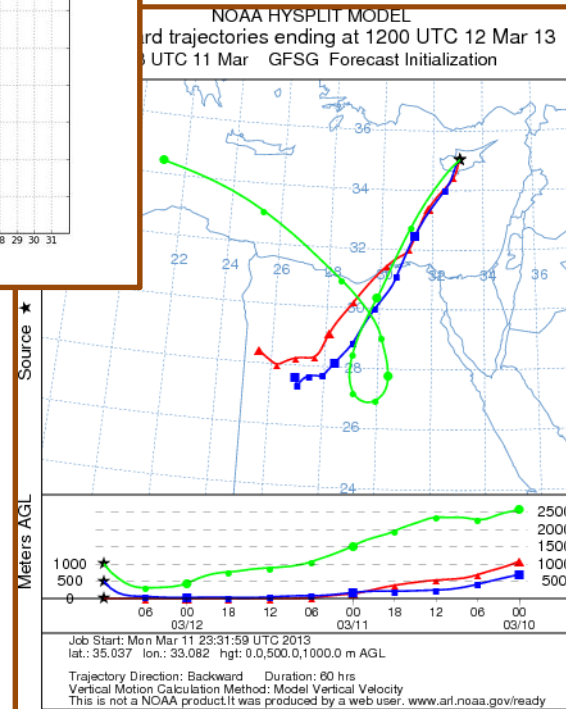




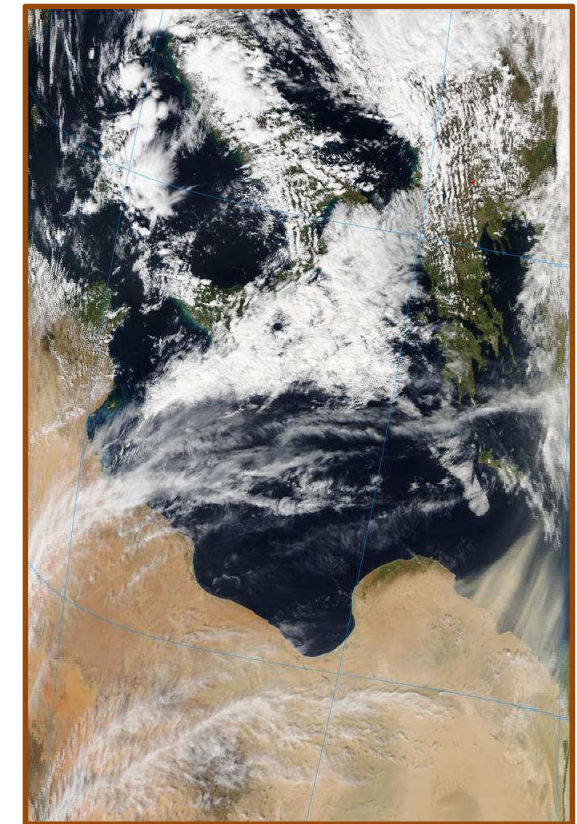
# Monitoring dust events with in-situ observations



Mar 2013

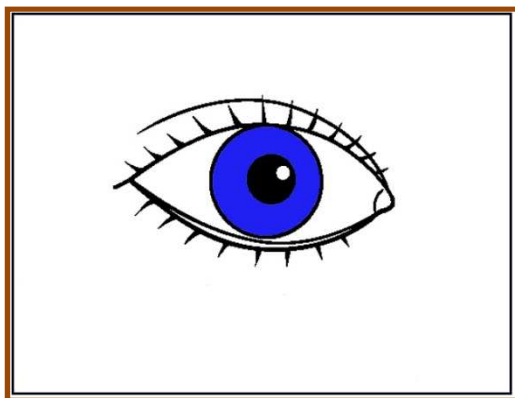


12 Mar 2013



11 Mar 2013

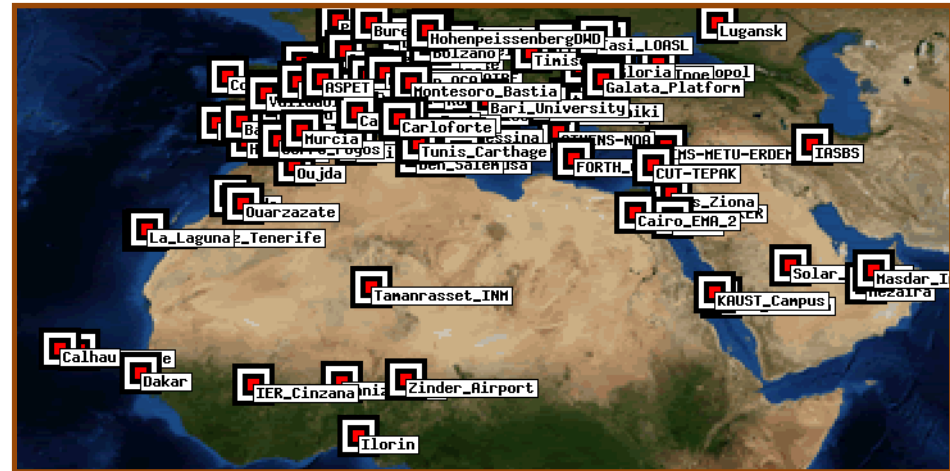
## Visibility and present weather from meteorological reports



**Barcelona  
Supercomputing  
Center**  
*Centro Nacional de Supercomputación*



# Sun photometers



- Sun photometers measure direct solar radiation
- Radiation at the top of the atmosphere is known
- Particles dissipate energy due to absorption and scattering
- Information on the aerosol concentration can be derived from the radiation that reaches the Earth surface

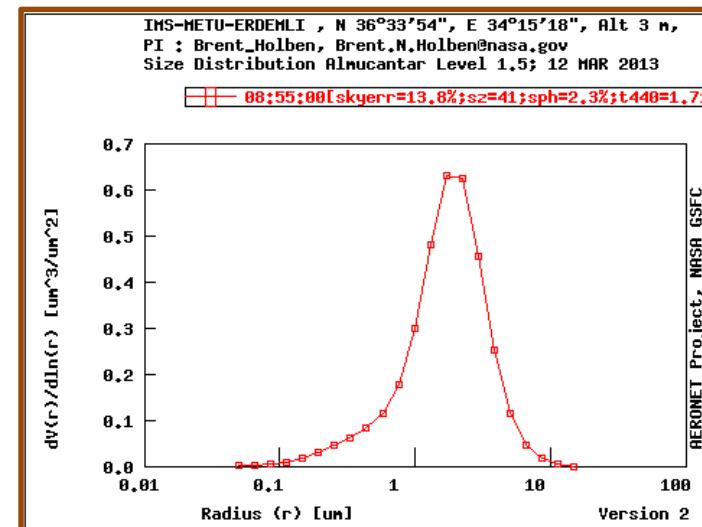
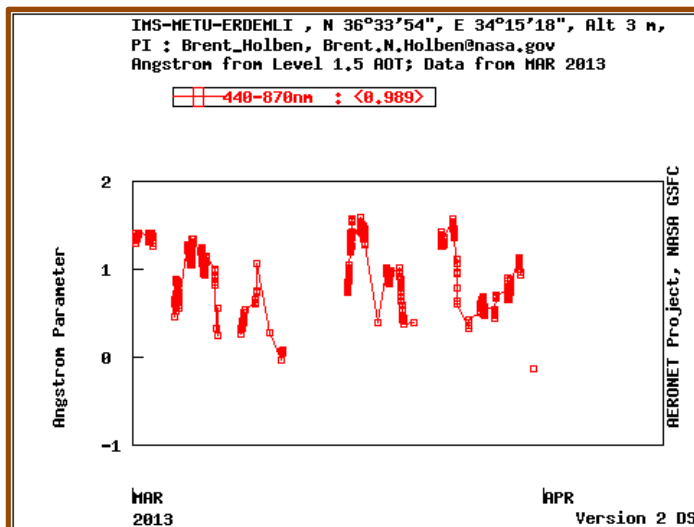
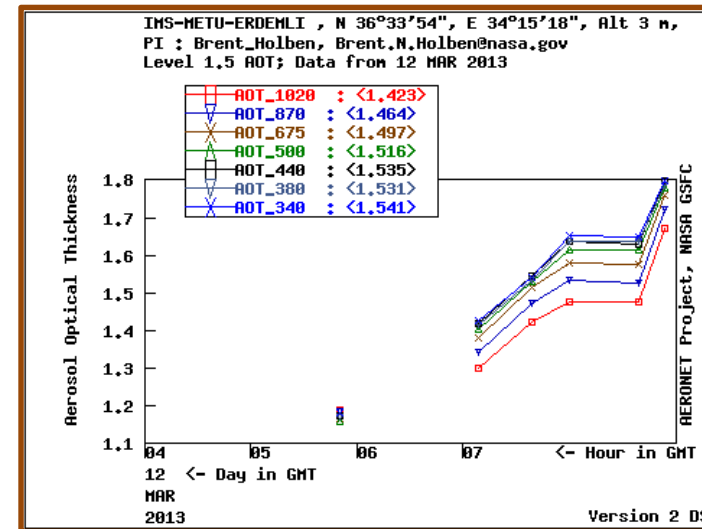
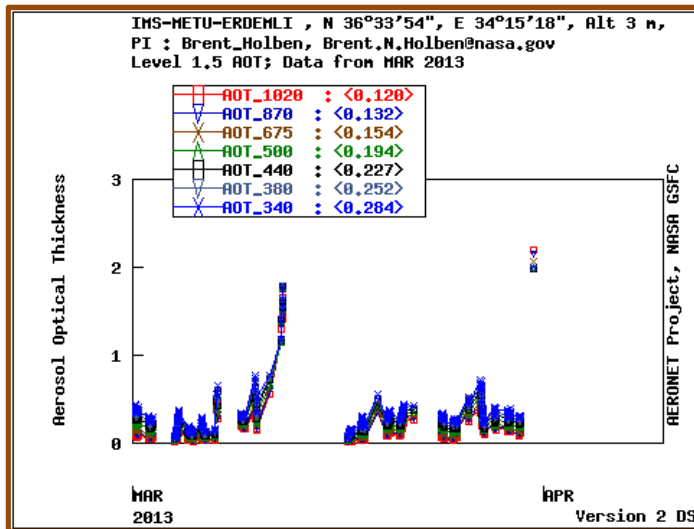


Map of the Mediterranean region showing various locations marked with red squares and labels. Three orange arrows point from the text "Three major areas of research" to specific locations: La Laguna, Tenerife; Tananrasset, NM; and Cairo, EMA\_2.



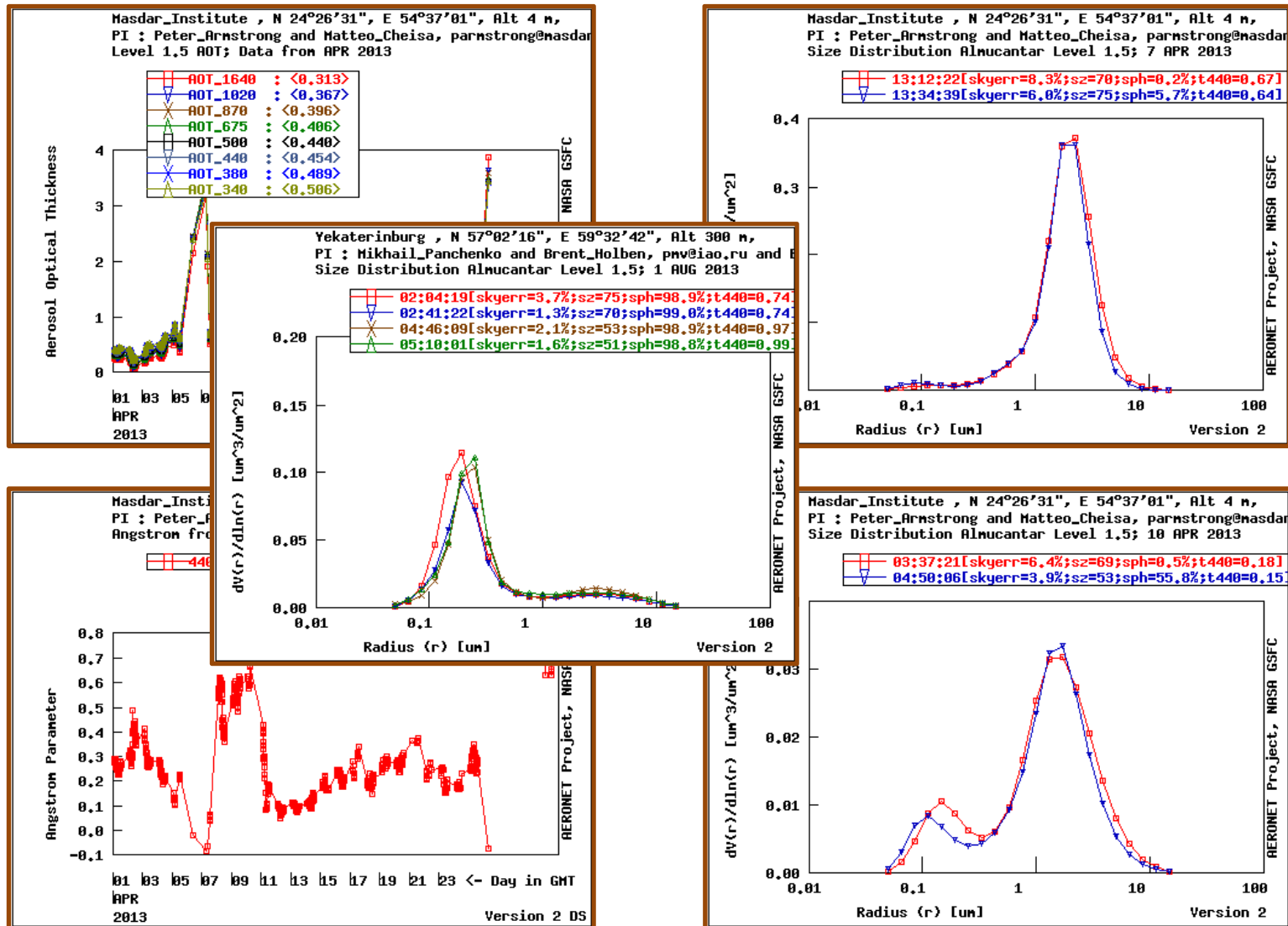


## Monitoring dust events with AERONET data

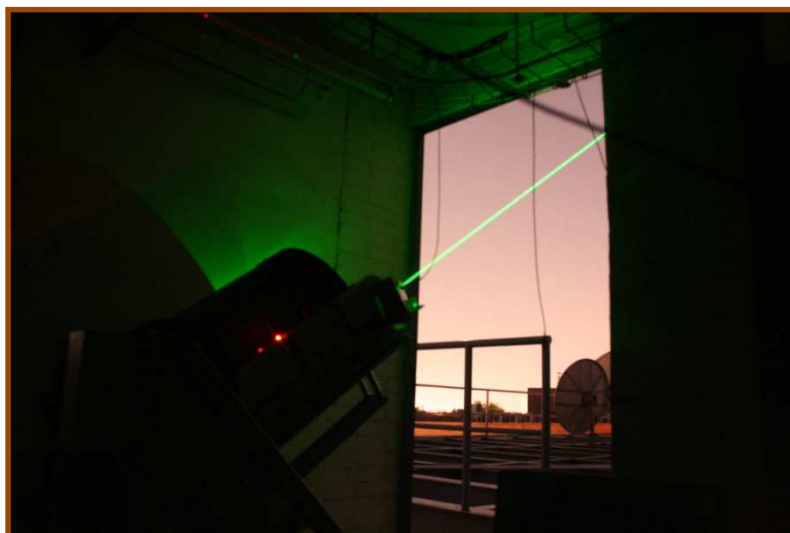


IMS-METU-ERDEMLI, Turkey, 12 Mar 2013

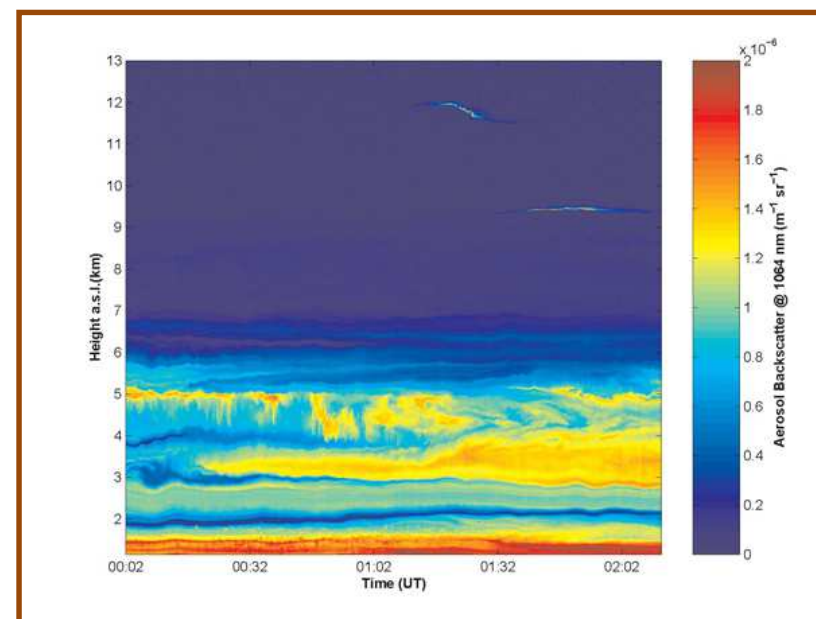
## Monitoring dust events with AERONET data



## Lidar



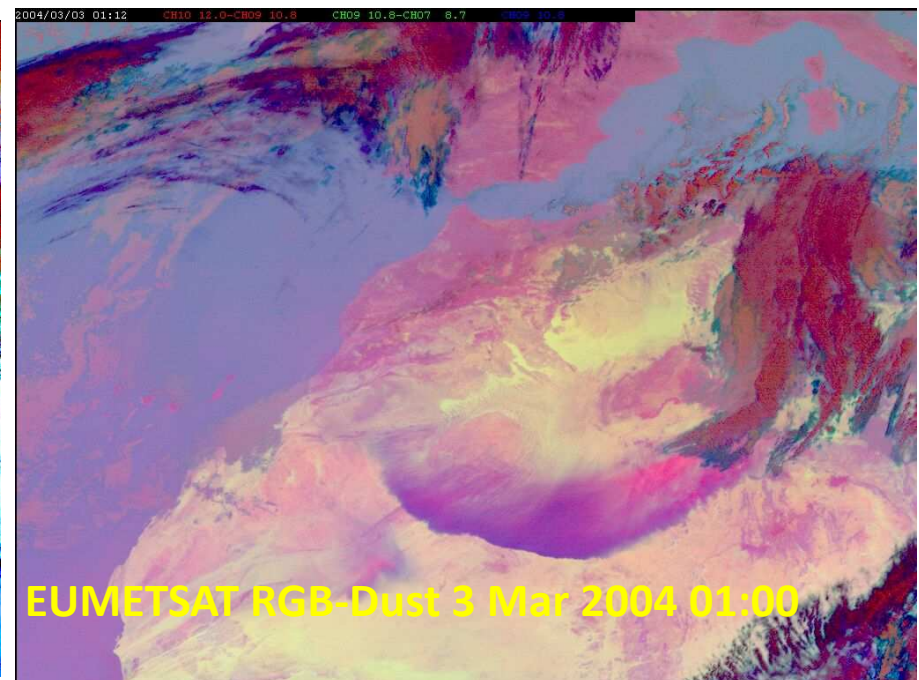
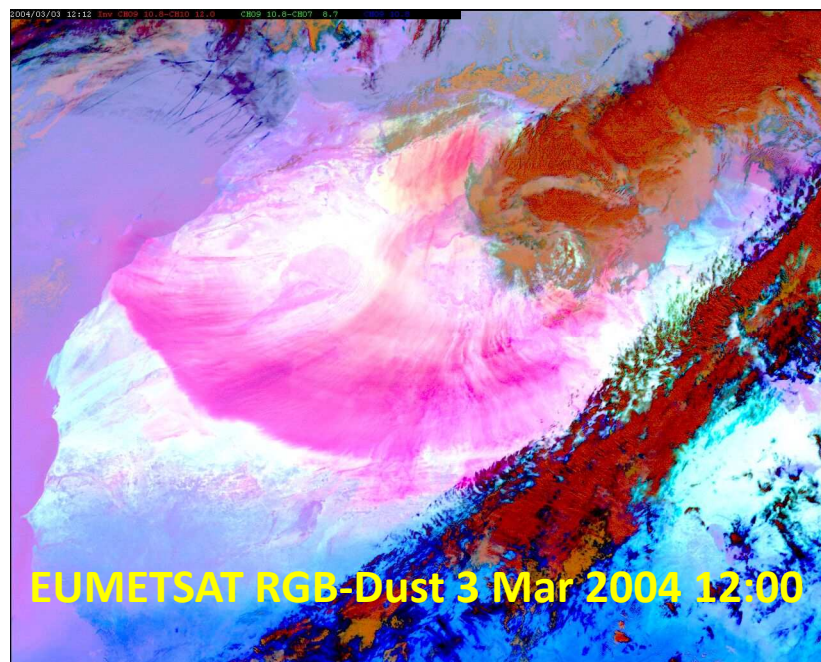
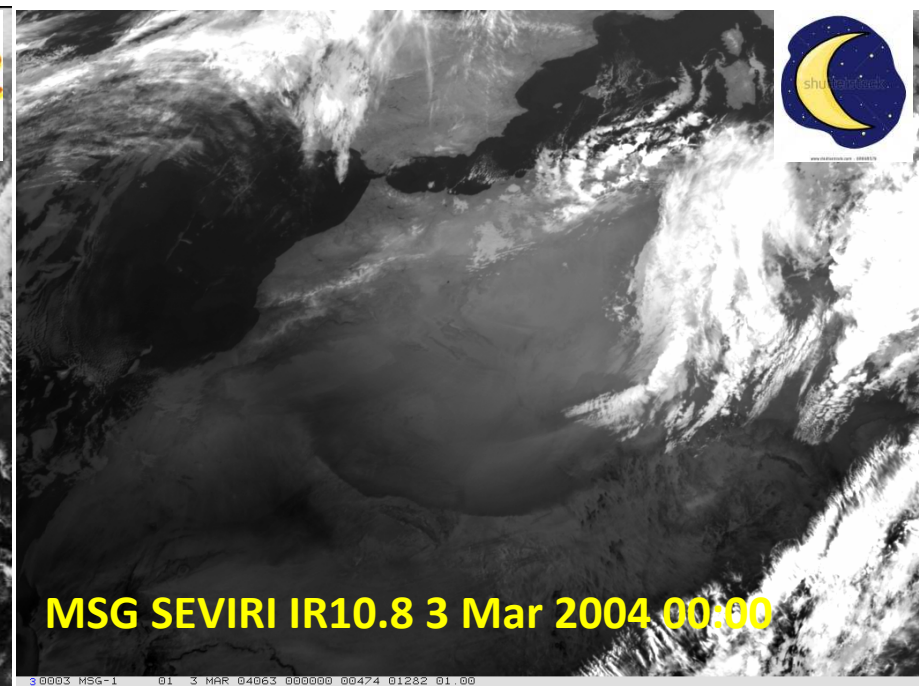
UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA  
DE CATALUNYA  
BARCELONATECH



Potenza, Italia  
26 Jun 2006



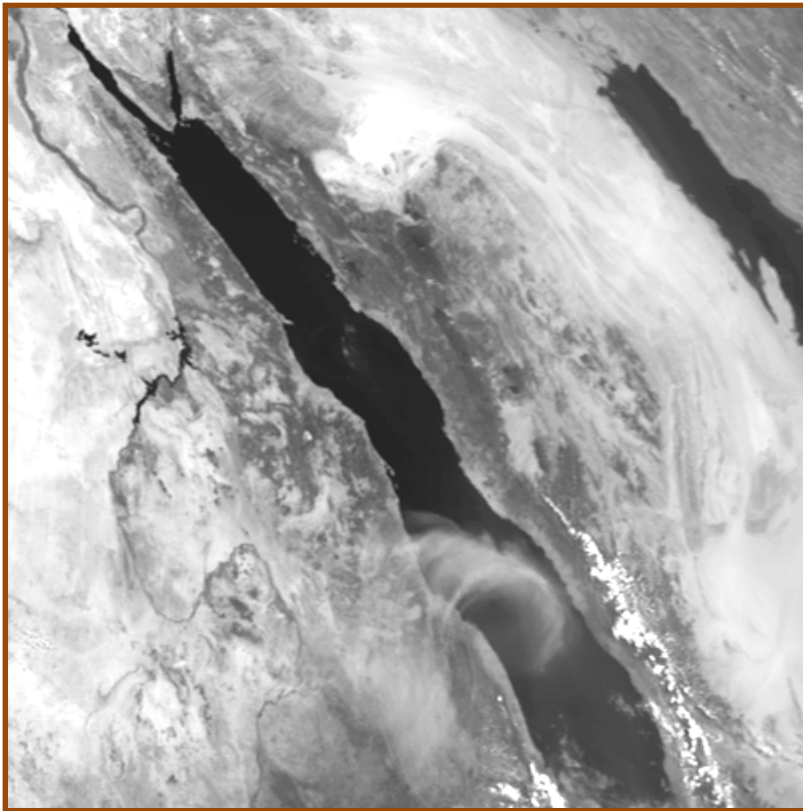
# Observation of atmospheric dust



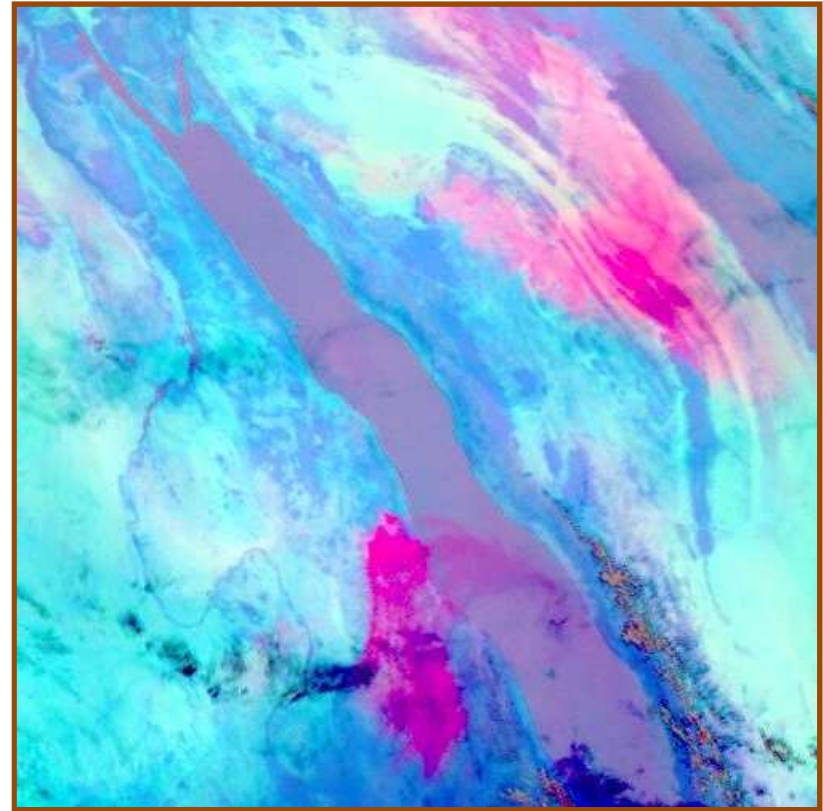


# Visible / RGB-Dust

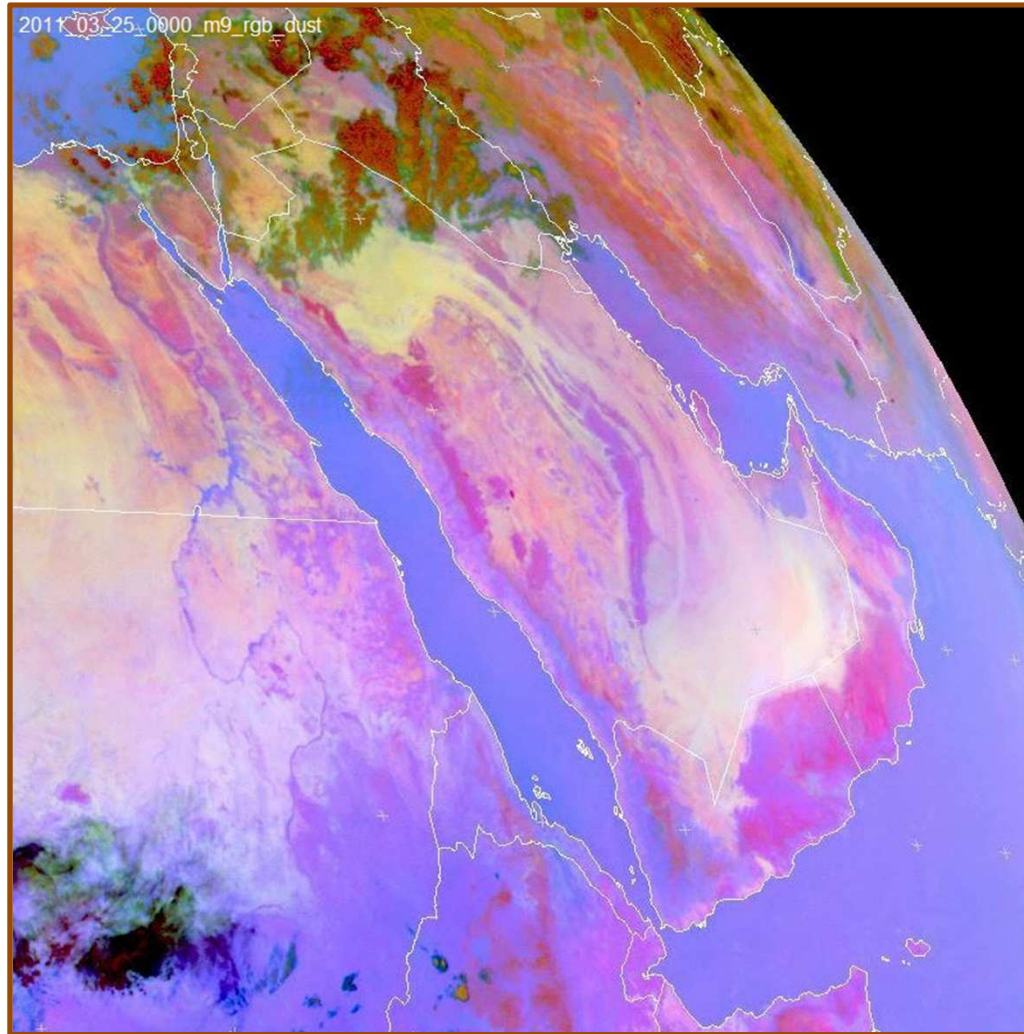
**Met-8 Vis**  
**25 Jun 2003 10:00**



**EUM RGB-Dust**  
**25 Jun 2003 10:00**

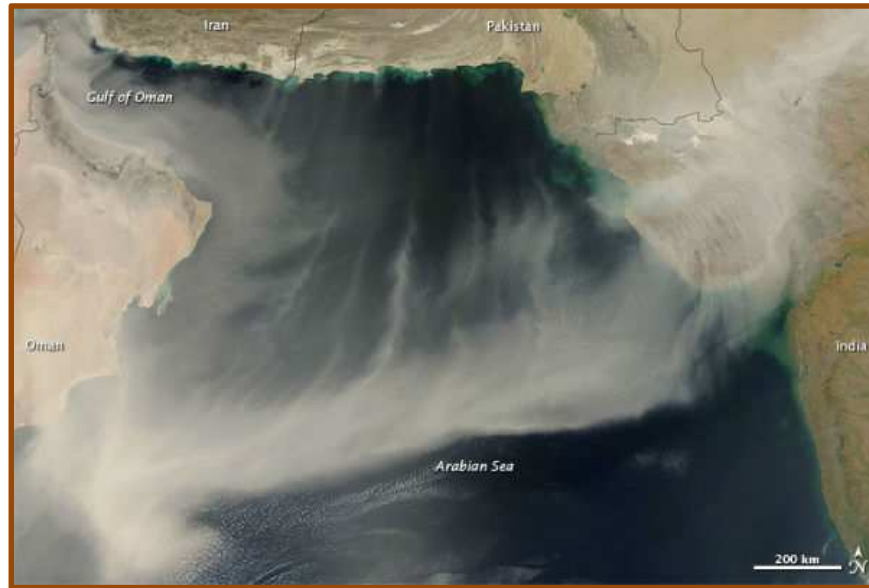


# EUMETSAT RRG-Dust



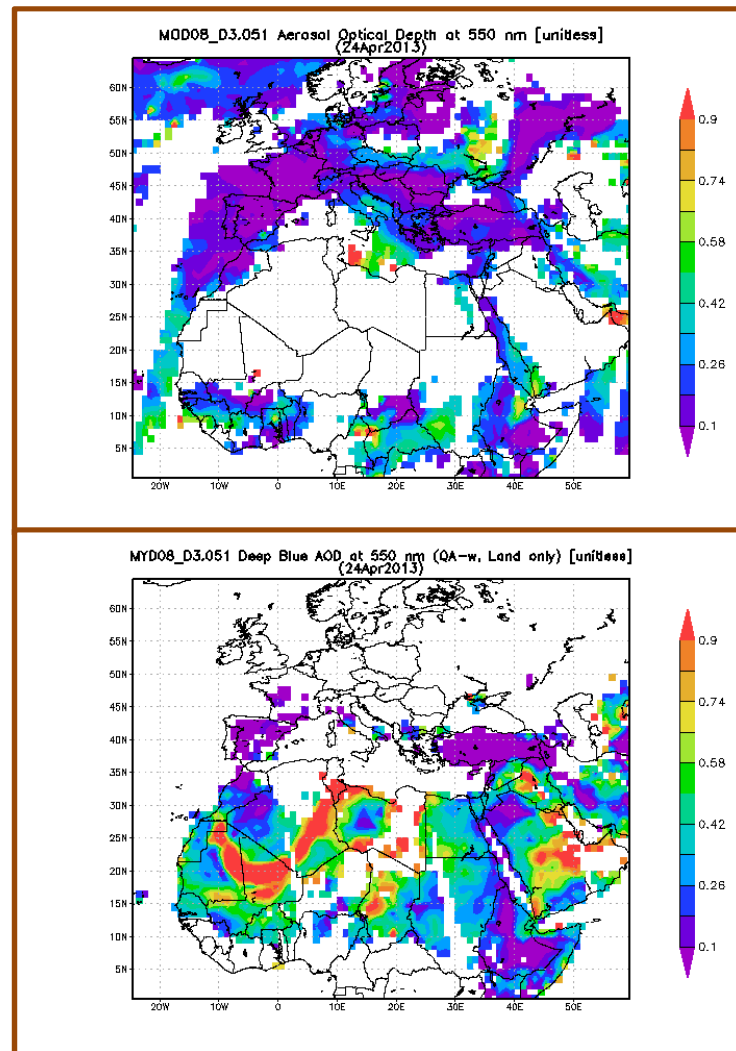
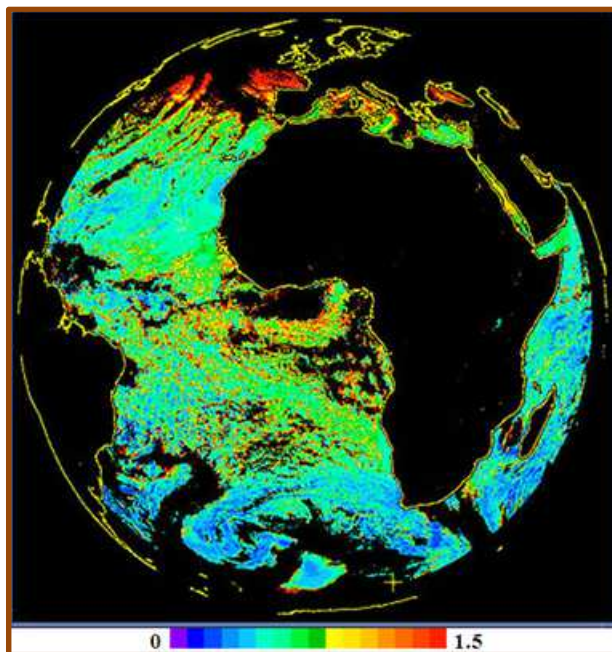
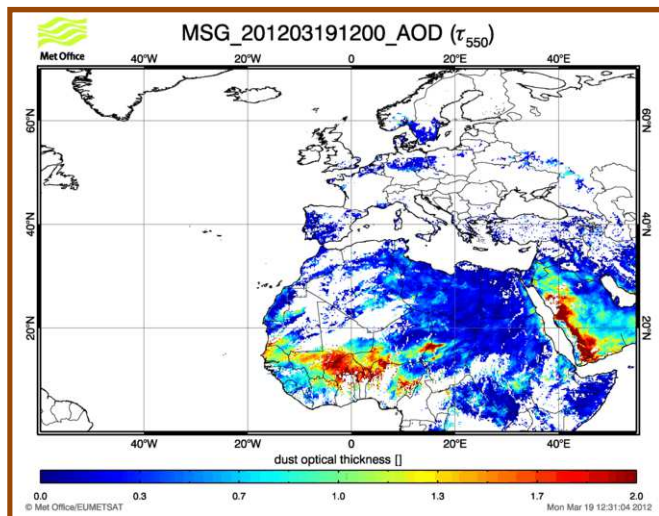
**26 Mar 2011**

## Other composites: MODIS





# Quantitative estimations of AOD



GODDARD  
SPACE FLIGHT CENTER



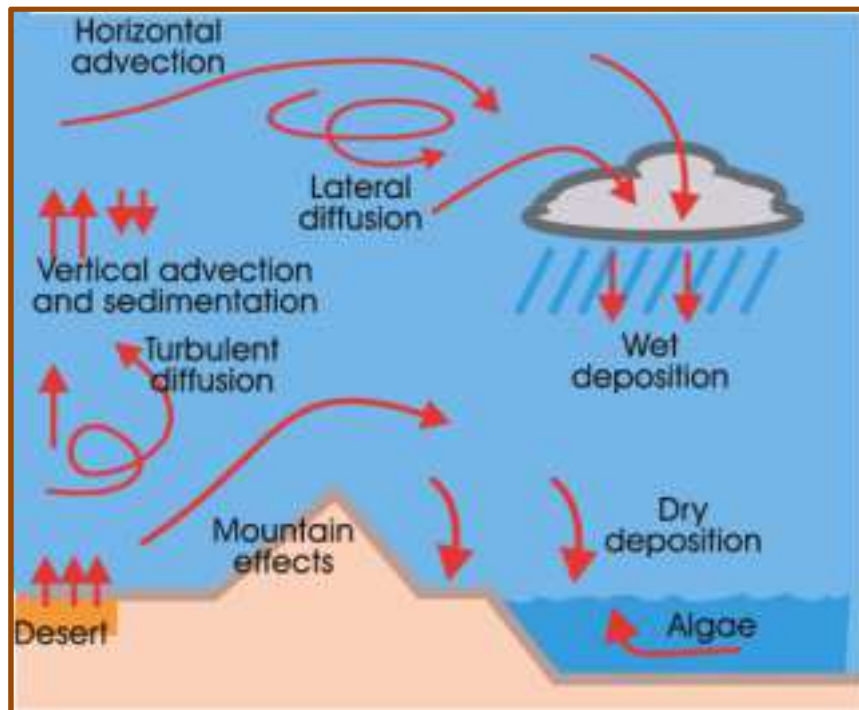
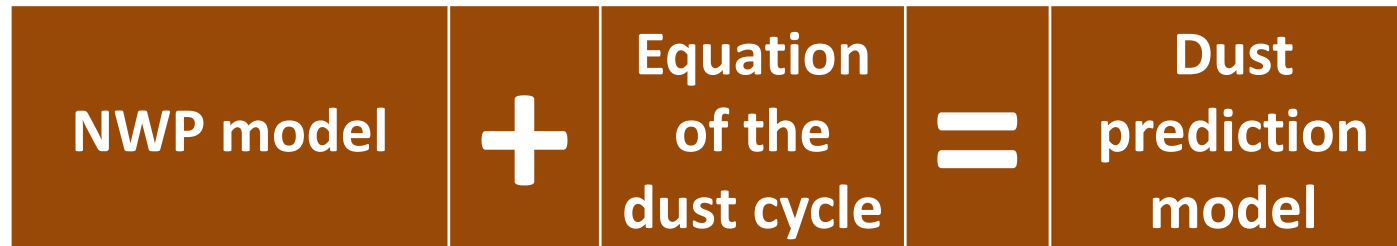
- Atmospheric aerosol
- The dust cycle
- Observation of atmospheric dust
- **Prediction of atmospheric dust**

**WMO SDS-WAS Regional  
Center for Northern Africa,  
Middle East and Europe**

<http://sds-was.aemet.es>  
[sdswas@aemet.es](mailto:sdswas@aemet.es)



# Dust prediction models



- Emission
- Turbulent diffusion
- Transport
- Dry and wet deposition

- Interaction with radiation
- Interaction with cloud particles
- Atmospheric chemistry
- ...

# Dust prediction: main problems

- Processes of very different scales
- Need for very precise wind prediction
- Lack of suitable observations for forecast evaluation and data assimilation

Tegen et al. (1994) 
$$F = \sum_i C_i u^2 (u - 6.5)$$

Marticorena et al. (1997) 
$$F = \alpha \frac{\rho}{g} u_*^3 \sum_i s_i \left(1 + \frac{u_{*tri}}{u_*}\right) \left(1 - \frac{u_{*tri}^2}{u_*^2}\right)$$

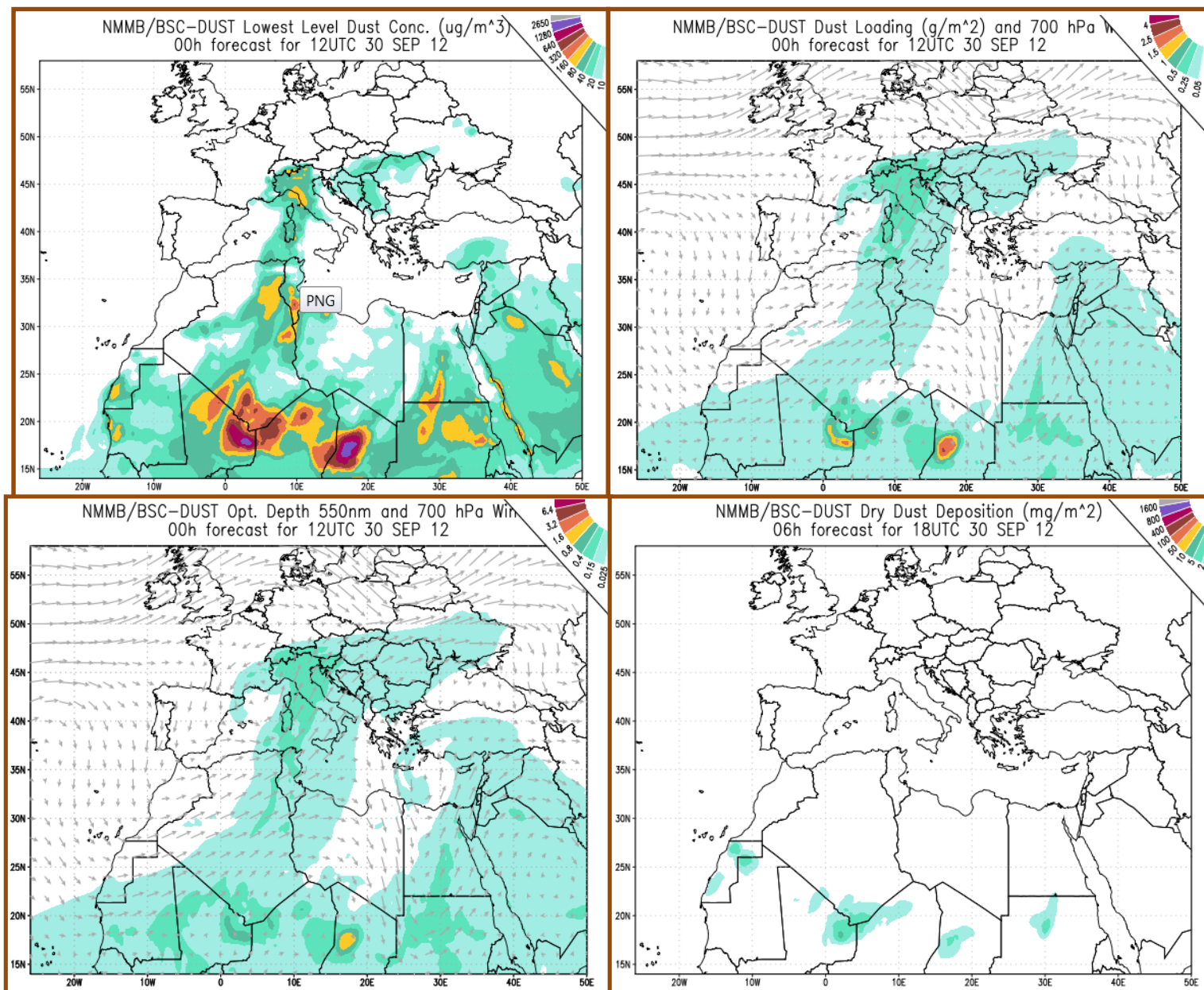
Ginoux et al. (2001) 
$$F = CS \sum_i u^2 s_i w_0 (u - u_{tri})$$

# Prediction of atmospheric dust



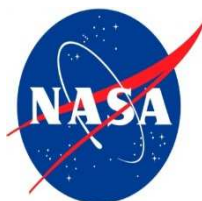
NMMB/BSC-Dust model

## Forecast products



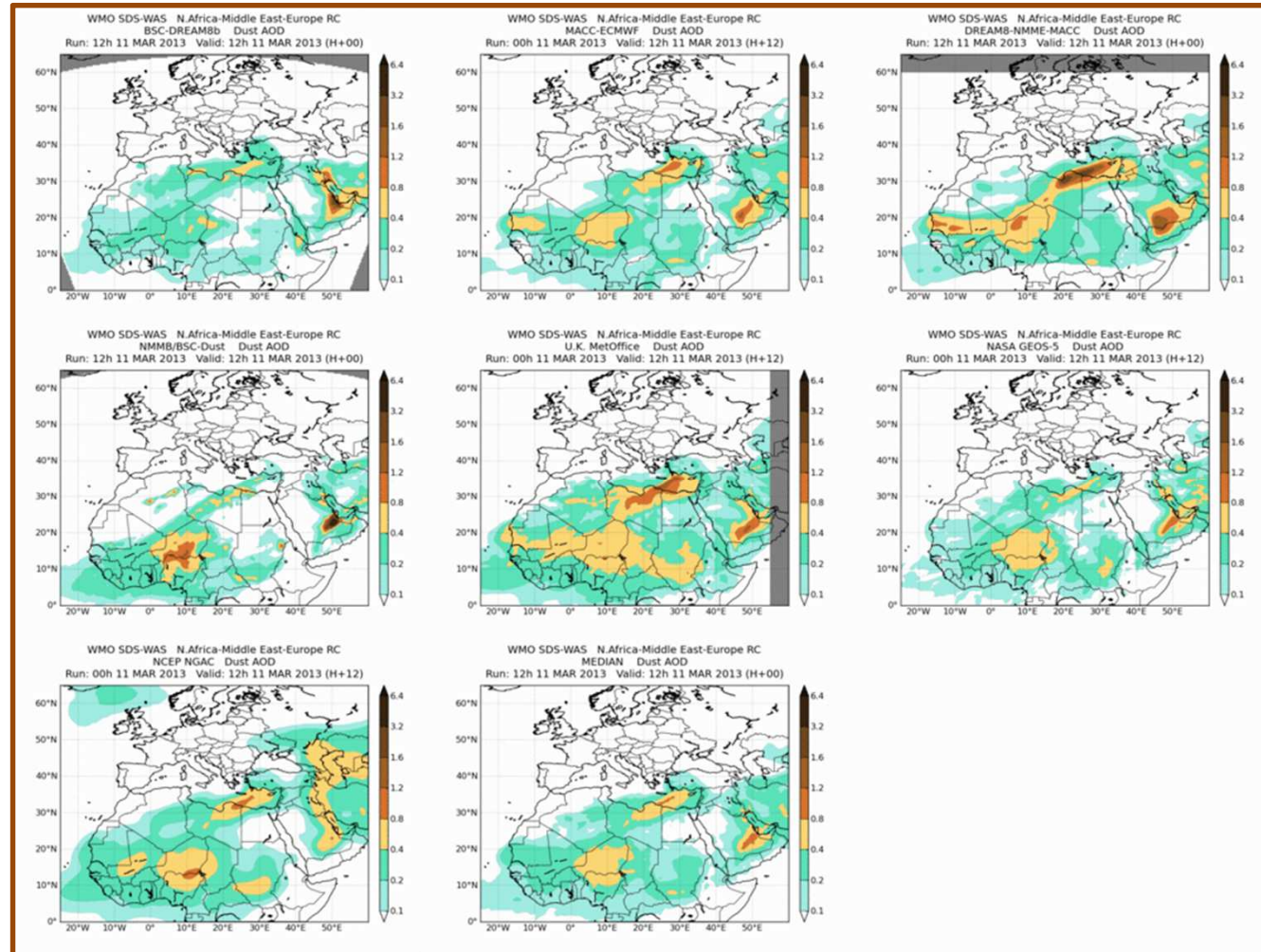


## SDS-WAS evaluation: The models



MODEL	INSTITUTION	RUN TIME	DOMAIN	DATA ASSIMILATION
BSC-DREAM8b	BSC-CNS	12	Regional	No
CHIMERE	LMD	00	Regional	No
LMDzT-INCA	LSCE	00	Global	No
MACC	ECMWF	00	Global	MODIS AOD
DREAM-NMME-MACC	SEEVCCC	12	Regional	MACC analysis
NMMB/BSC-Dust	BSC-CNS	12	Regional	No
MetUM	U. K. Met Office	00	Global	MODIS AOD
GEOS-5	NASA	00	Global	MODIS reflectances
NGAC	NCEP	00	Global	No

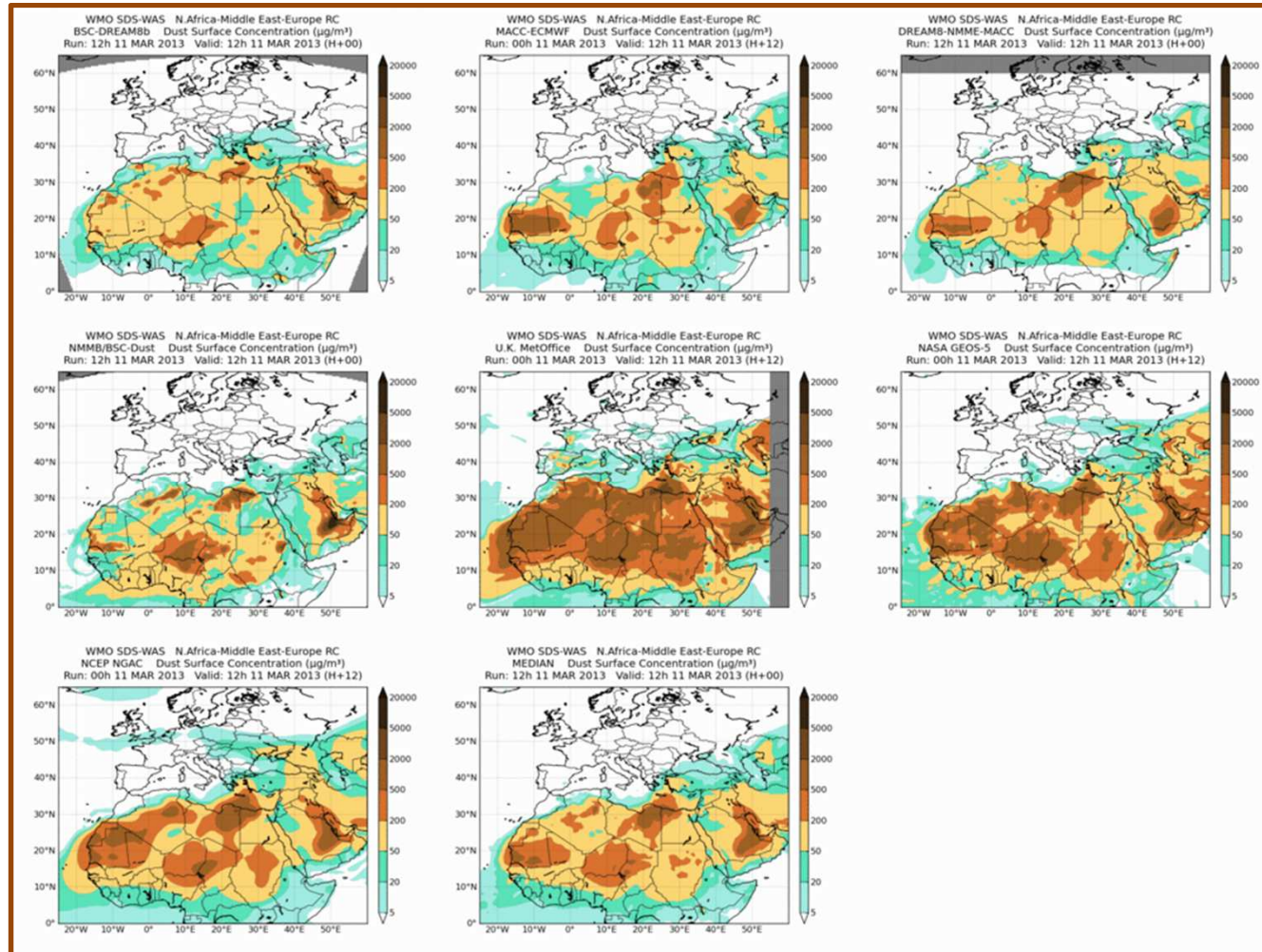
# Dust optical depth at 550 nm



RUN: 11 Mar 2013

VALID: 11 Mar 2013 12:00 – 14 Mar 2013 00:00

# Dust surface concentration

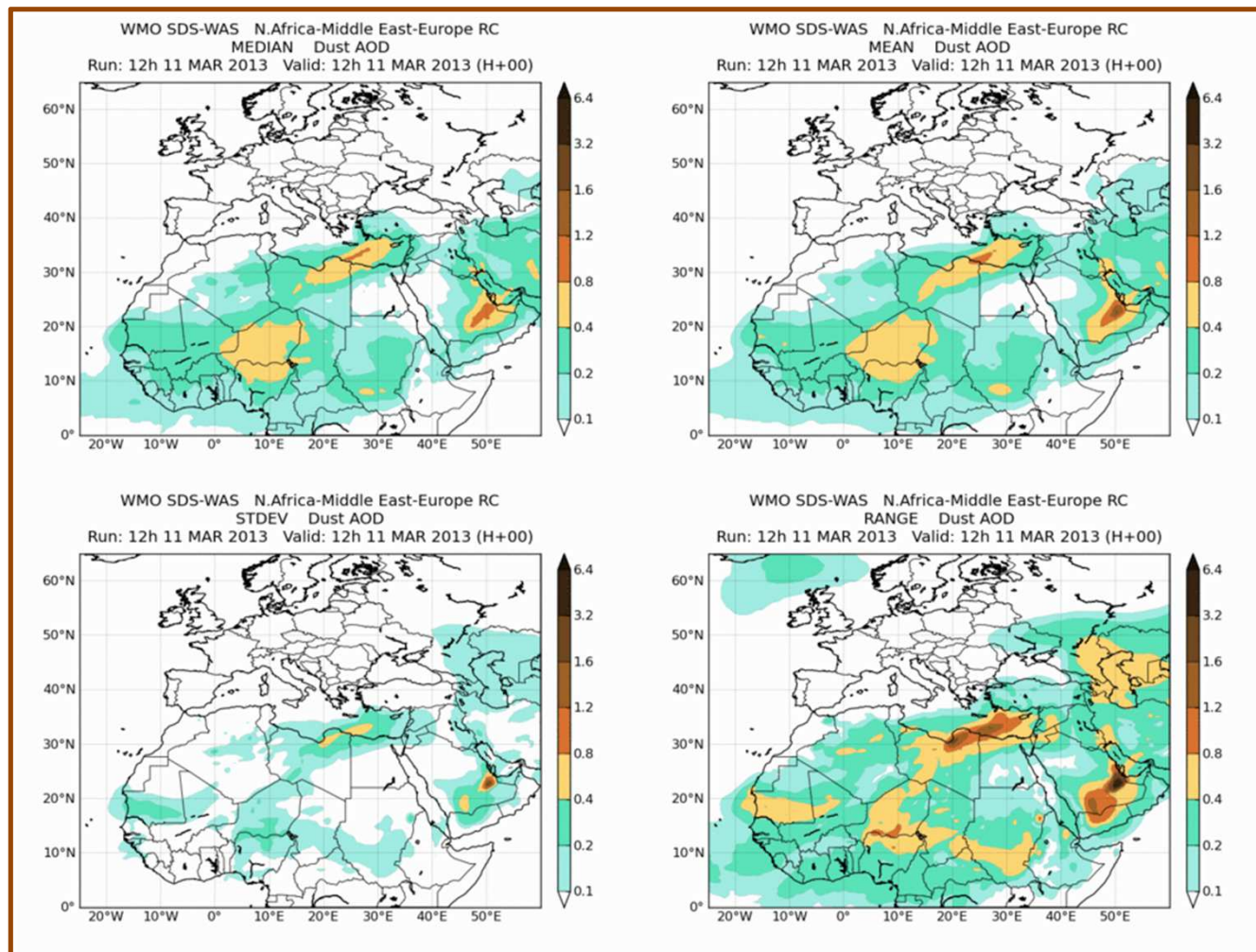


RUN: 11 Mar 2013

VALID: 11 Mar 2013 12:00 – 14 Mar 2013 00:00



# Multi-model products

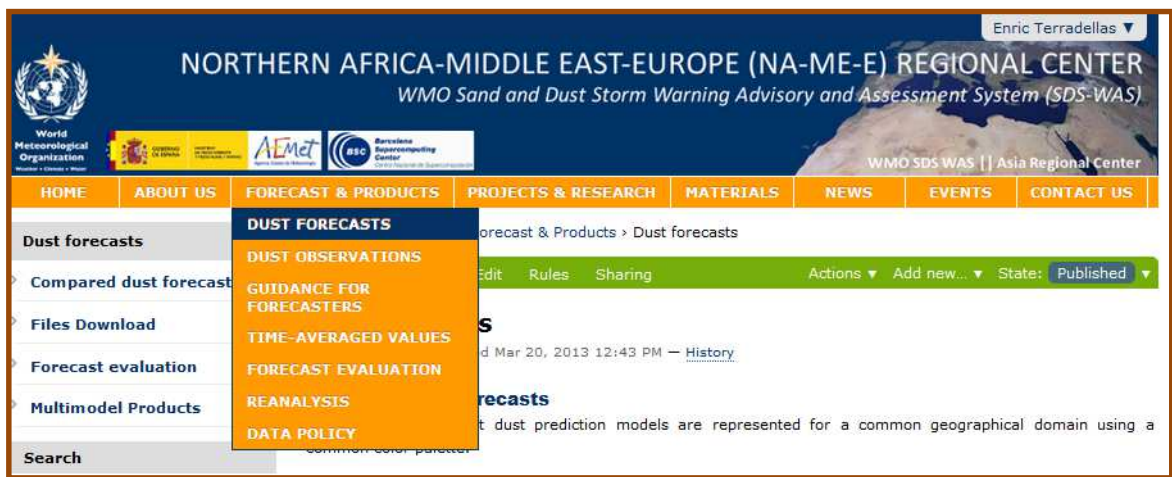


**RUN: 11 Mar 2013**

**VALID: 11 Mar 2013 12:00 – 14 Mar 2013 00:00**



# Download of numerical forecasts



Sfc. Concentración  
Dust AOD 550 μm

BSC-DREAM8b v2.0	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
MACC-ECMWF	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
DREAM-NMME-MACC	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
NMMB/BSC-Dust	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
NASA-GEOS-5	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
NCEP-NGAC	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
Multimodel MEDIAN	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	

netCDF format



Title	Size	Modified
<a href="#">latest - (download all)</a>	4.0 kB	Apr 18, 2013 09:00 PM
<a href="#">2013 - (download all)</a>	4.0 kB	Apr 01, 2013 09:00 PM
<a href="#">2012 - (download all)</a>	4.0 kB	Apr 08, 2013 04:30 PM

## Forecast evaluation with AERONET data



### Model evaluation metrics. Seasonal scores

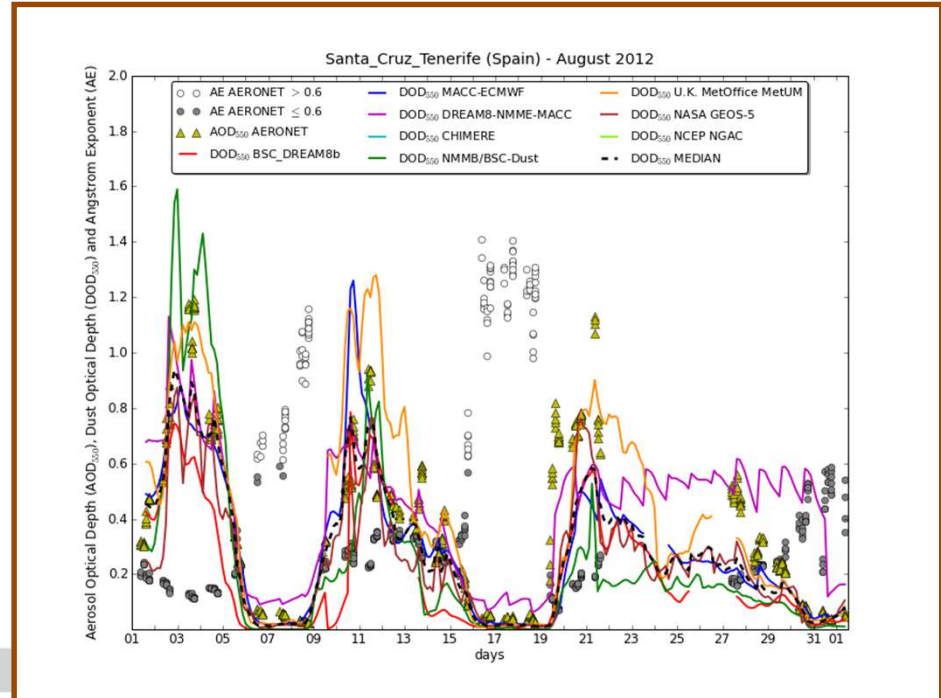
by Francesco Benincasa — last modified Mar 25, 2013 05:26 PM — History

Date: - Select Year - - Select Season -

Dec 2012 - Feb 2013. Dust Optical Depth.  
Threshold Angstrom Exponent = 0.600

#### BIAS

	BSC_ DREAM8b	MACC- ECMWF	DREAM8- NMME- MACC	NMMB/ BSC- Dust	U.K. Met Office	NASA GEOS-5	NCEP NGAC	MEDIAN
<b>Sahel/Sahara</b> show stations	-0.18	-0.14	-0.14	-0.09	0.00	-0.08	-0.03	-0.11
<b>Middle East</b> show stations	-0.12	-0.13	-0.04	-0.22	-0.00	-0.15	-0.14	-0.13
<b>Mediterranean</b> show stations	-0.13	-0.14	-0.12	-0.15	-0.09	-0.14	-0.11	-0.13
<b>TOTAL</b>	-0.16	-0.14	-0.13	-0.12	-0.03	-0.11	-0.07	-0.12

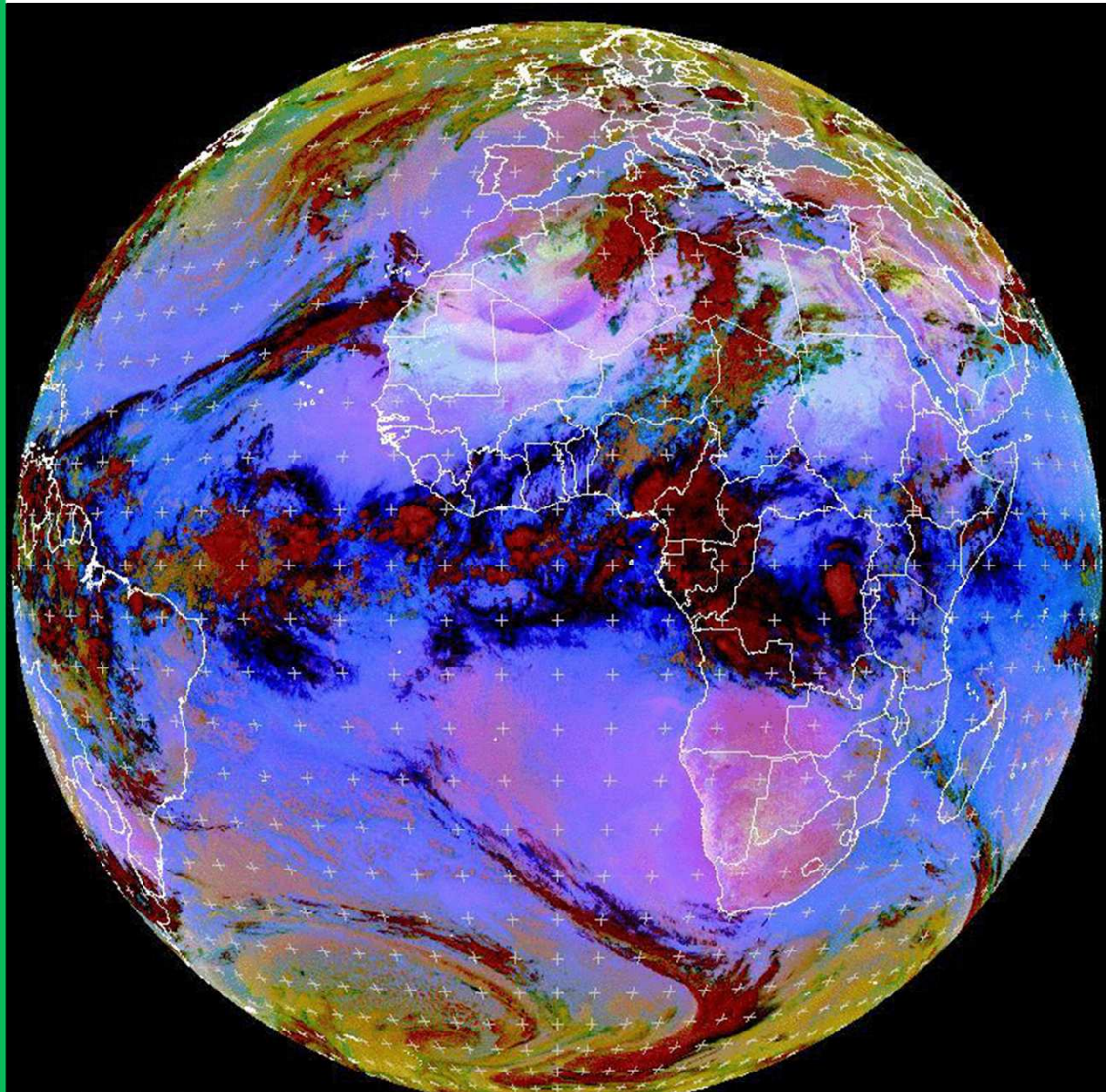


- Bias
- RMSE
- Correlation coefficient
- FGE

Monthly  
Seasonal  
Yearly



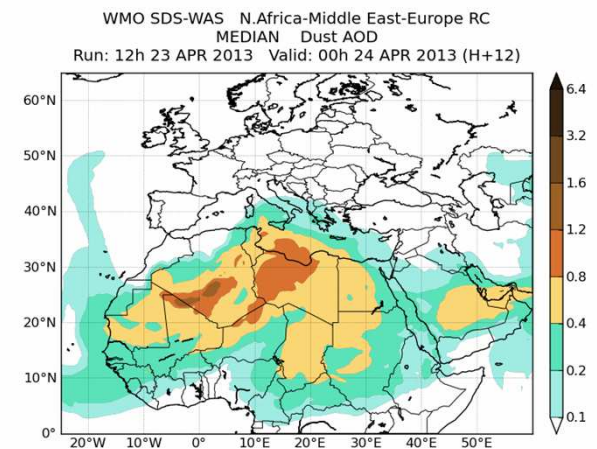
# Forecast evaluation with satellite prods.



MET10 RGB-Dust 2013-04-24 00:00 UTC

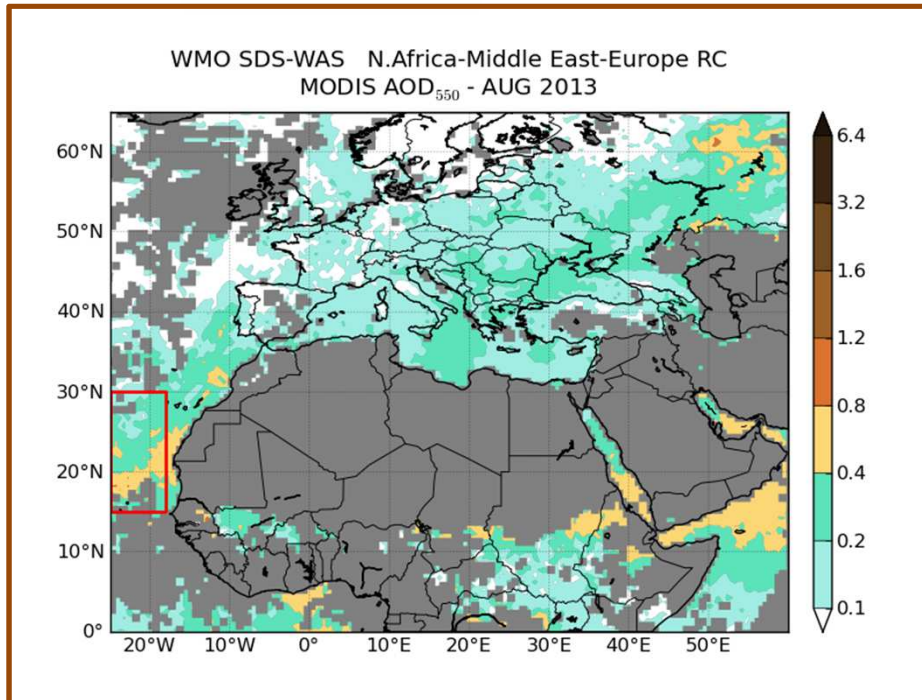


**24 April 2013**





## Evaluation with MODIS data

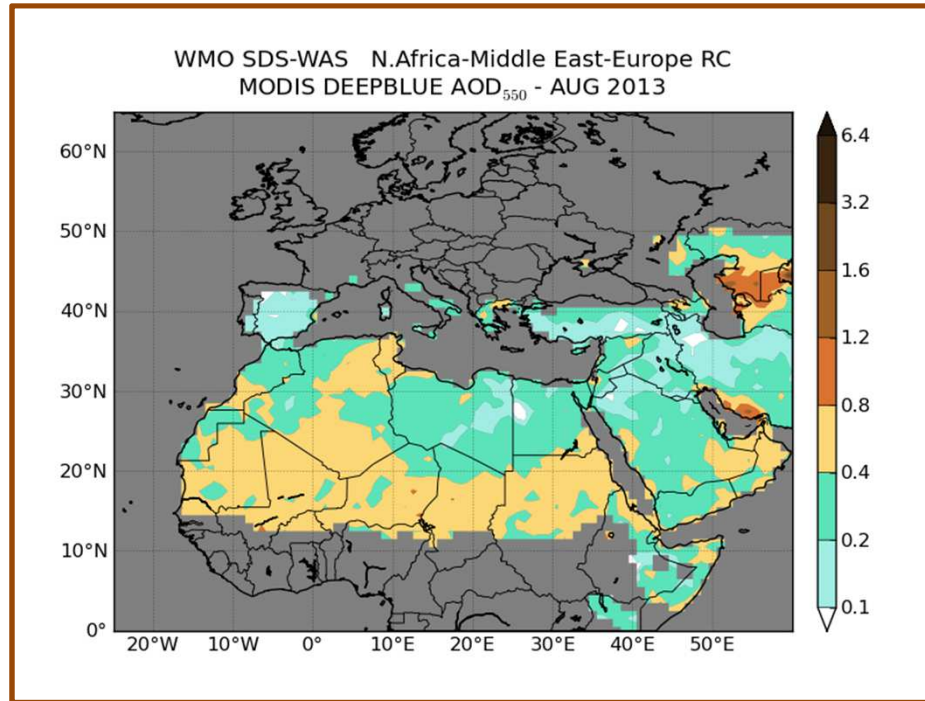


19 Aug 2013

	BIAS	ROOT MEAN SQUARE ERROR	CORRELATION COEFFICIENT	FRACTIONAL GROSS ERROR	NUMBER OF CASES
BSC_ DREAM8b	-0.16	0.21	0.70	0.87	1220
NMMB/BSC- Dust	-0.13	0.20	0.68	0.81	1038
NCEP NGAC	0.14	0.21	0.78	0.41	1228



## Evaluation with MODIS Deep Blue



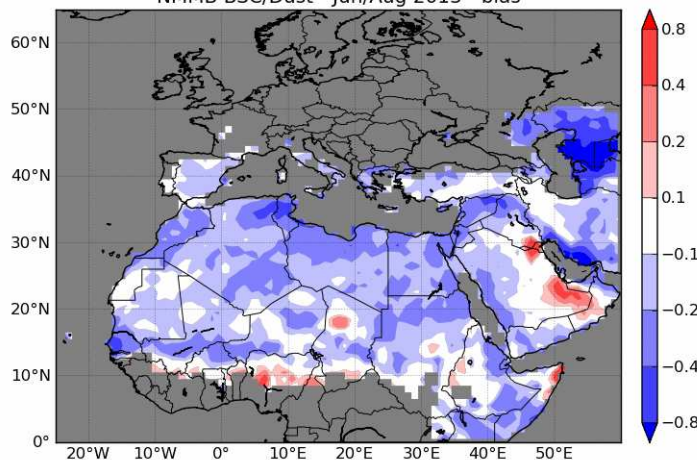
	BIAS	ROOT MEAN SQUARE ERROR	CORRELATION COEFFICIENT	FRACTIONAL GROSS ERROR	NUMBER OF CASES
<b>BSC_ DREAM8b</b>	<b>-0.17</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.28</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>42618</b>
<b>NMMB/BSC- Dust</b>	<b>-0.20</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>41049</b>
<b>NCEP NGAC</b>	<b>-0.06</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.64</b>	<b>42664</b>

# Evaluation with MODIS Deep Blue

bias

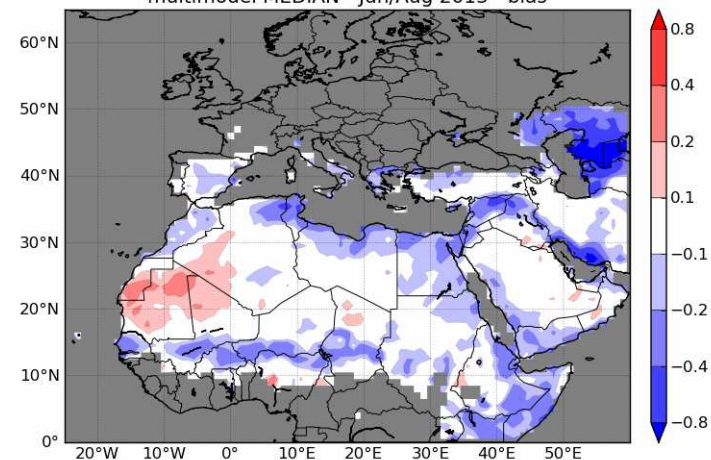
## NMMB-BSC/Dust

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
NMMB-BSC/Dust - Jun/Aug 2013 - bias



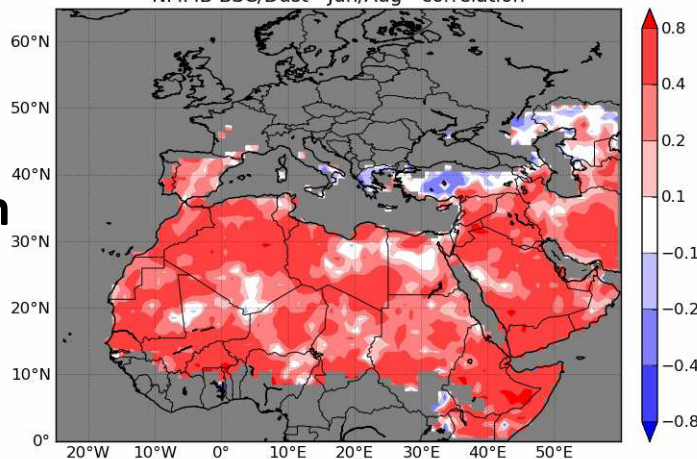
## Multimodel MEDIAN

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
multimodel MEDIAN - Jun/Aug 2013 - bias

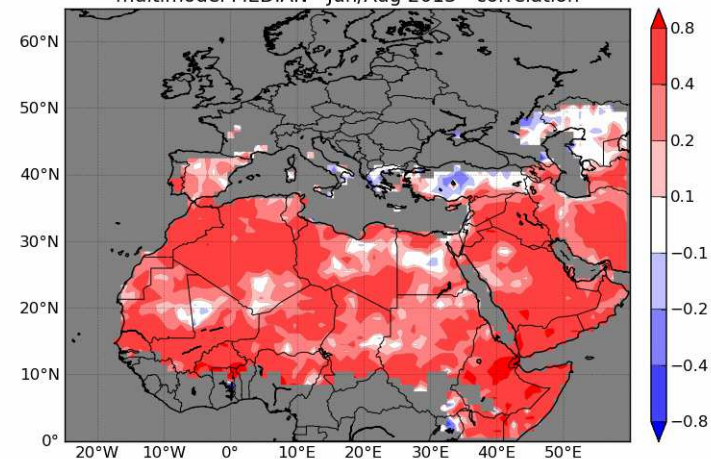


correlation

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
NMMB-BSC/Dust - Jun/Aug - correlation



WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
multimodel MEDIAN - Jun/Aug 2013 - correlation



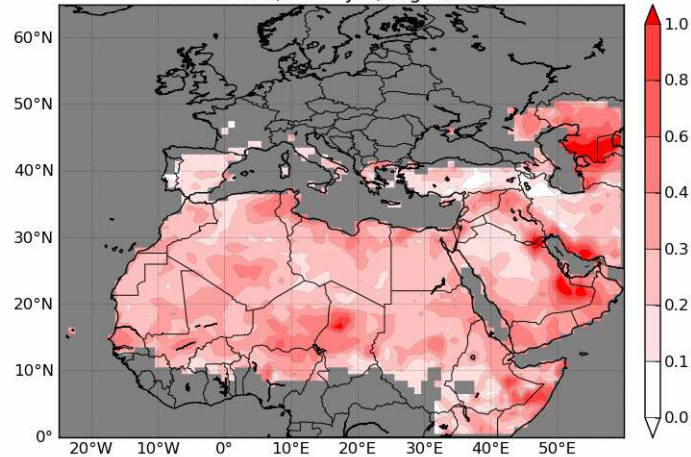


# Evaluation with MODIS Deep Blue

rmse

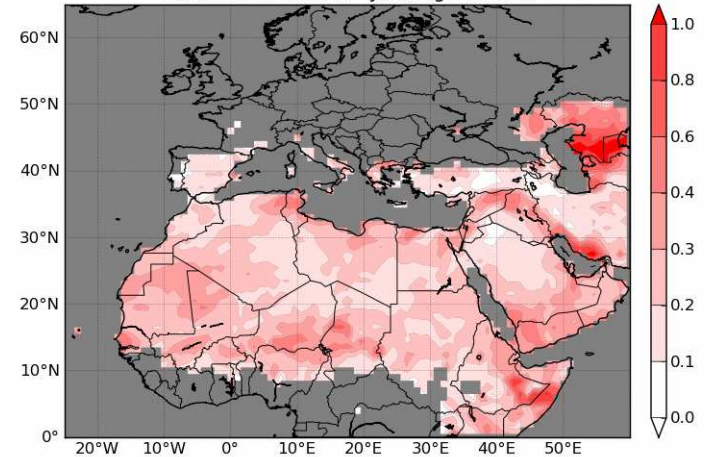
## NMMB-BSC/Dust

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
NMMB-BSC/Dust - Jun/Aug - r.m.s.e.



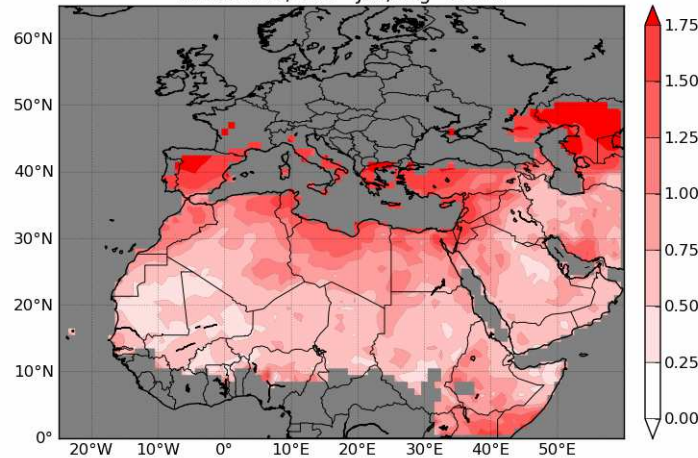
## Multimodel MEDIAN

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
multimodel MEDIAN - Jun/Aug - r.m.s.e.

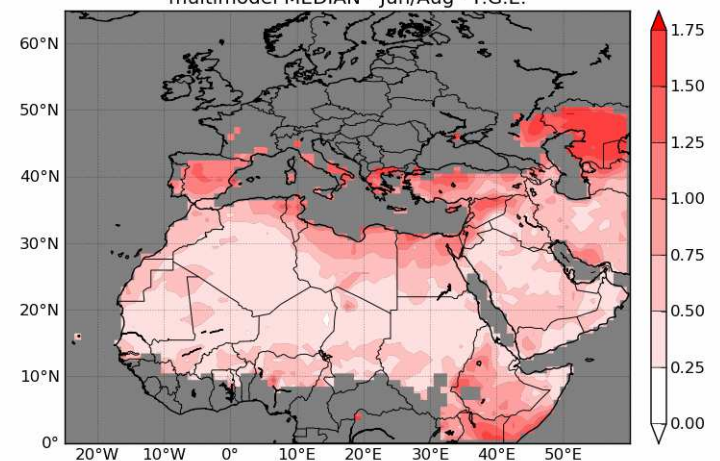


FGE

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
NMMB-BSC/Dust - Jun/Aug - F.G.E.

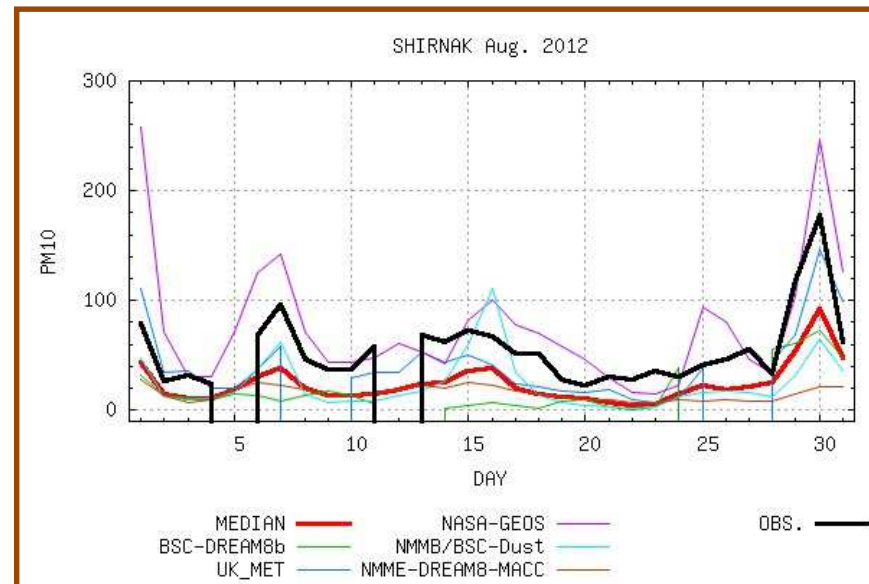
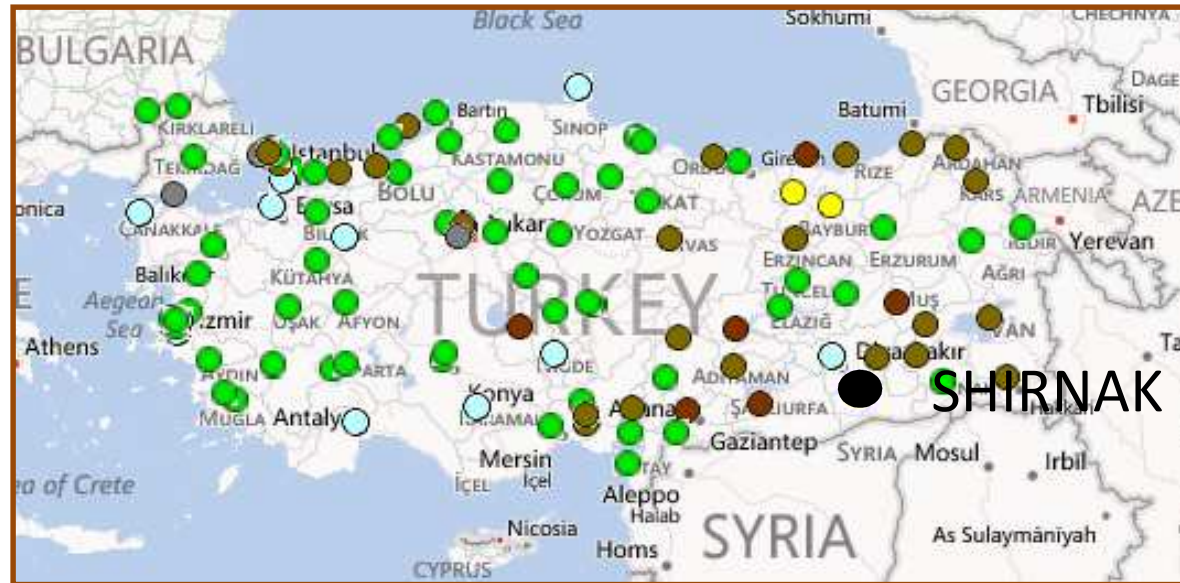


WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
multimodel MEDIAN - Jun/Aug - F.G.E.





# Evaluation with PM data



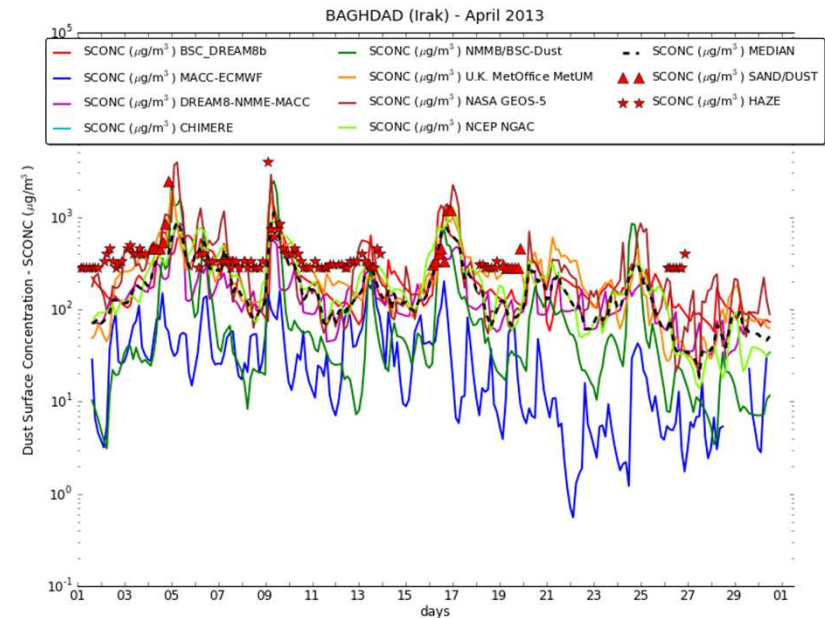
## Evaluation with visibility



$$PM_{10} = 1339.84 V^{-0.67}$$

Ben Mohamed et al. (1992)

BAGHDAD, Iraq  
April 2013



# LIDAR – models comparison



**BSC-DREAM8B\_v2**

**NMMB-BSC/Dust**



**DREAM8-NMME-MACC**



**BOLCHEM**

**60 – 80 dust cases for the period Jan 2011 – Jun 2013**

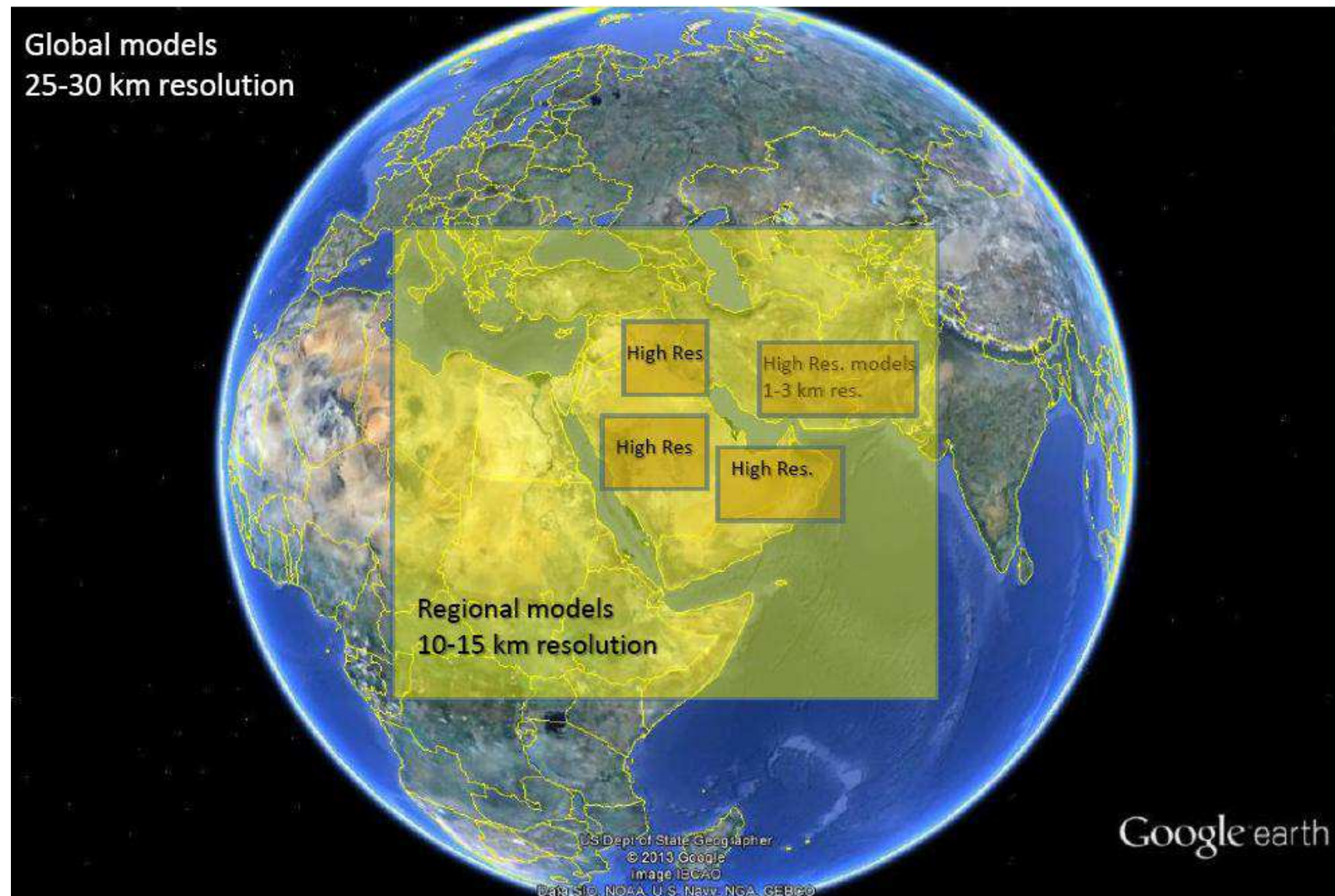


# Dust predicción: outlook into the future

- High-resolution models
- Improvements in data assimilation
- Long-range forecast
- Dust parameterization in operational NWP models

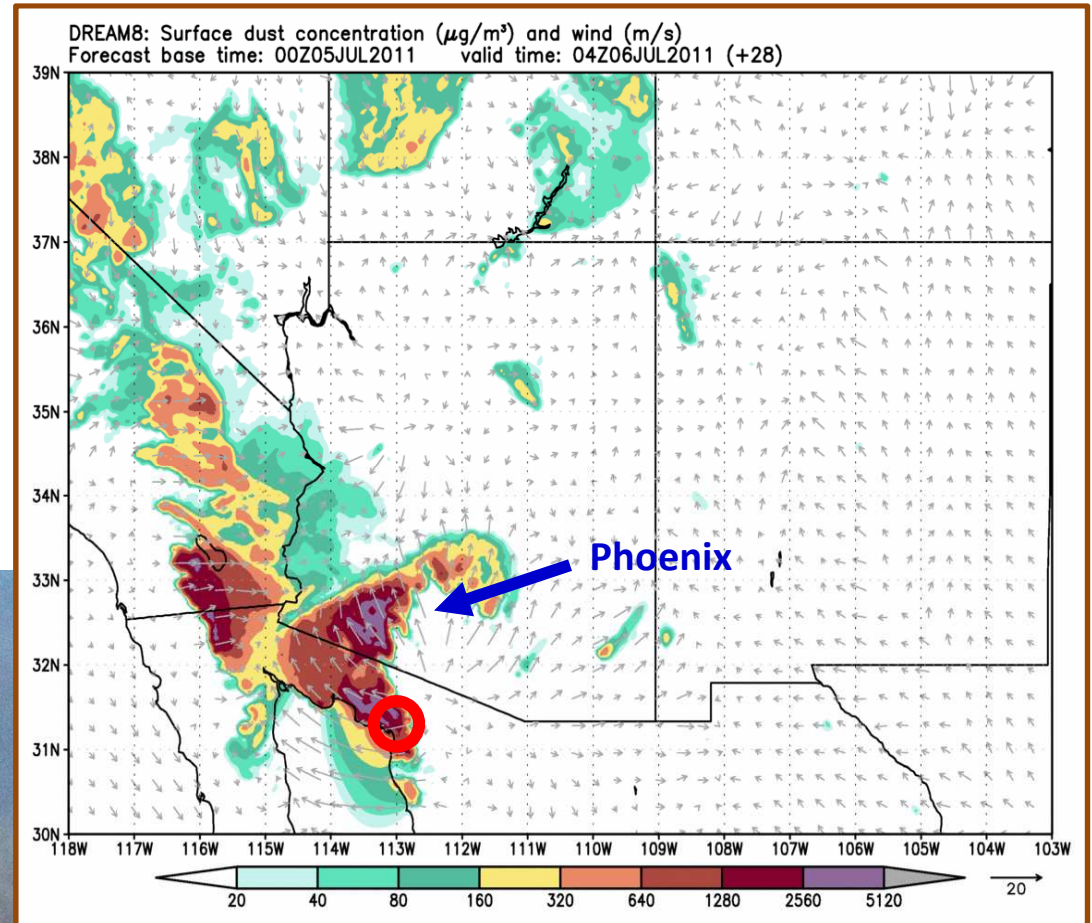


# High-resolution models



# High-resolution models

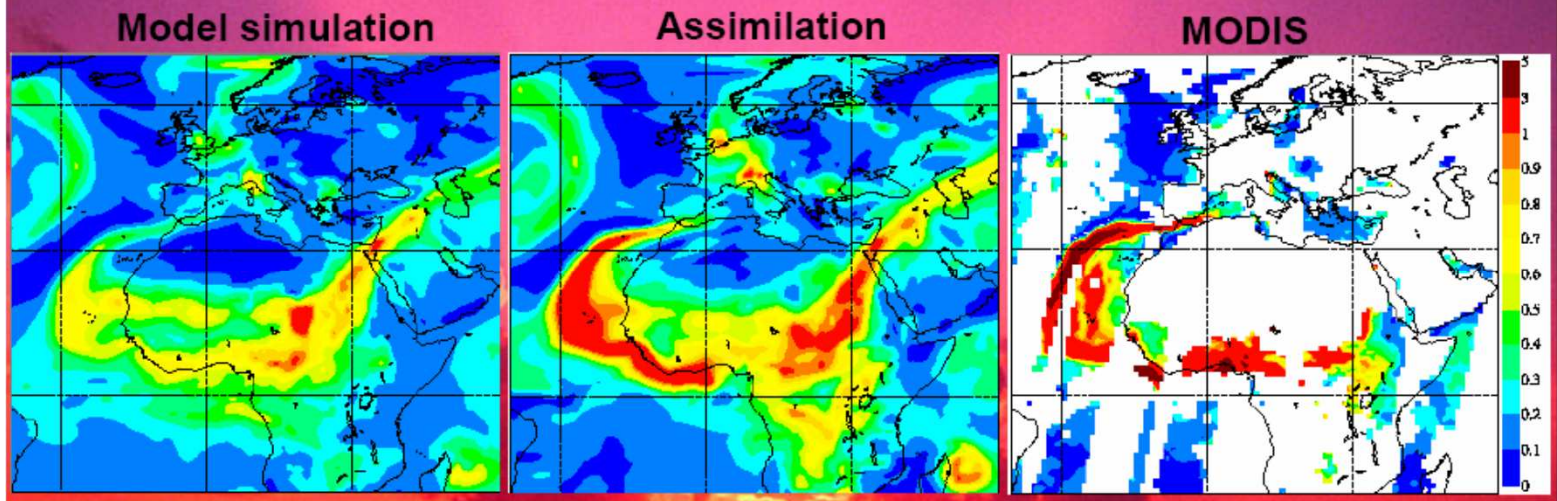
Phoenix, Az  
5 Jul 2005 19:45



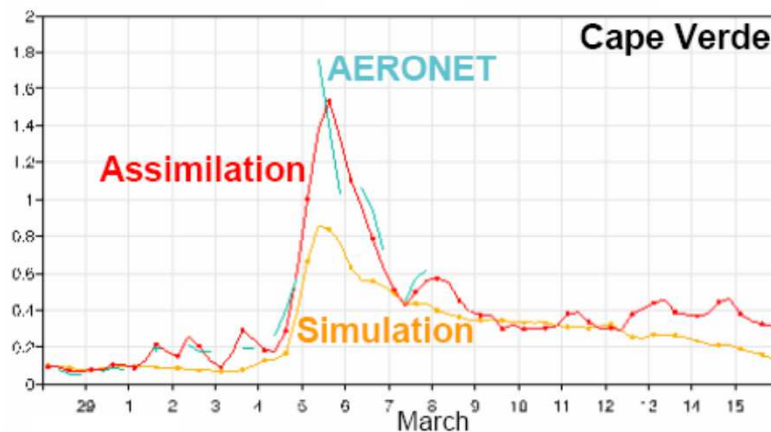


# Asimilación de datos

Saharan dust outbreak: 6 March 2006



Aerosol optical depth at 550nm

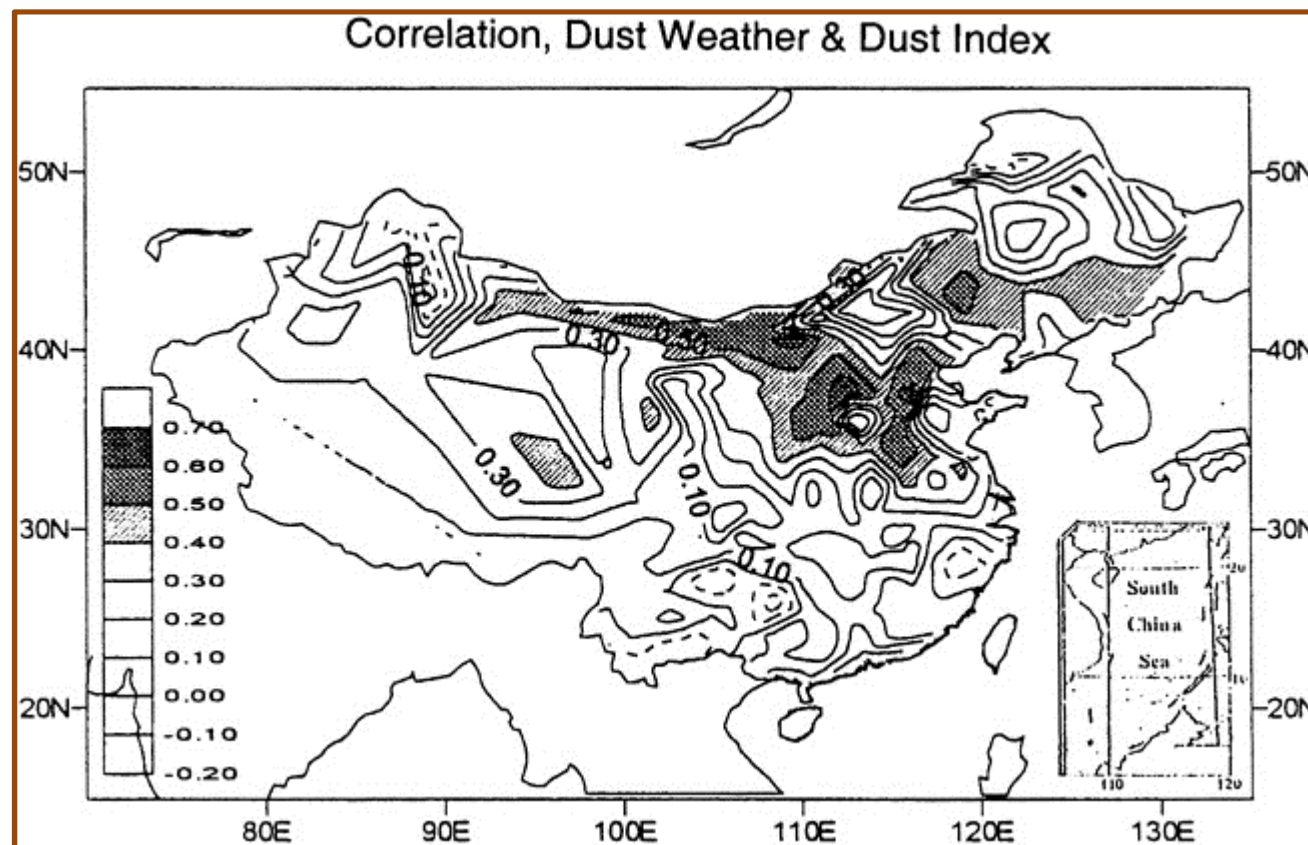


SEVIRI



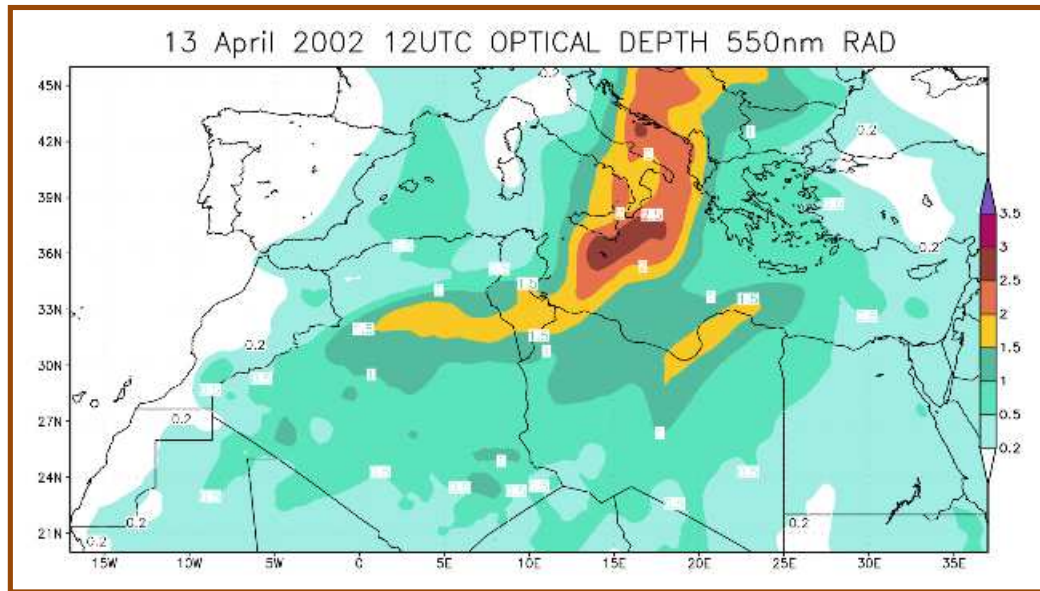


# Long-term forecast

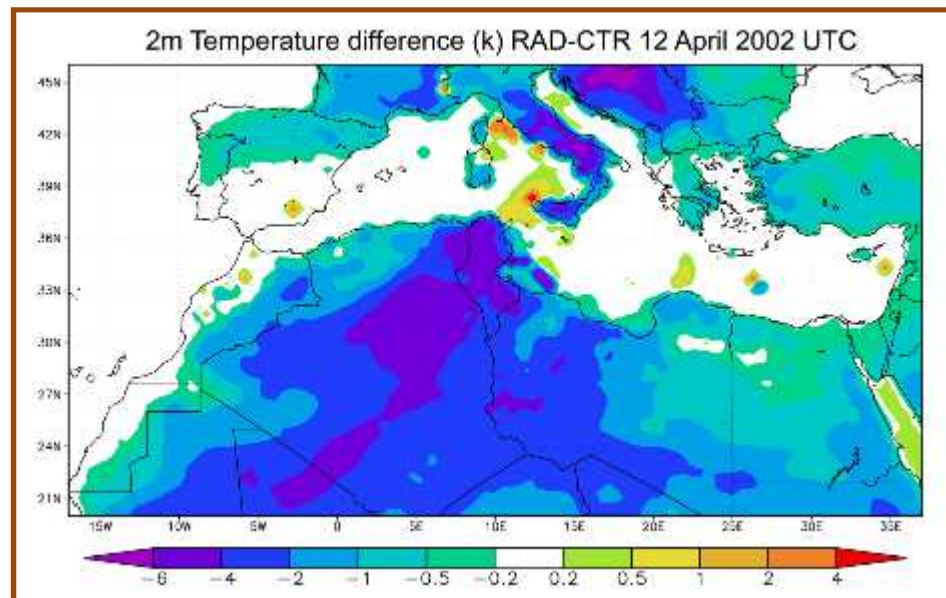


Qian et al. (2002)

# Dust parameterization in NWP models



Pérez et al. (2006)



## Capacity building

- 8-12 Nov 2010: Training Week on Satellite Meteorology. Barcelona, Spain
- 13 Nov 2010: Lectures on Atmospheric Mineral Dust and its Impact on Human Health, Environment and Economy. Barcelona, Spain
- 15-19 Nov 2010 Training Week on WMO SDS-WAS products. Barcelona, Spain
- 22-26 Feb 2011: Training on Meteorological Services, SDS Forecast and Early Warning System. Istanbul, Turkey
- 21-25 Nov 2011: 2<sup>nd</sup> Training Course on WMO SDS-WAS (satellite and ground observation and modelling of atmospheric dust). Antalya, Turkey
- 5-9 Nov 2012: II Lectures on Atmospheric Mineral Dust. Barcelona, Spain
- 19-23 Nov 2012: Cours sur l'utilisation des produits satellitaires aux applications agrometeorologiques, Niamey, Niger
- 26-28 Nov 2012: Workshop on Meteorology, Sand and Dust Storm (SDS), Combating Desertification and Erosion. Ankara, Turkey
- *10-14 Jun 2013*: Training Course on the Use of Satellite Products for Agrometeorological Applications, Accra, Ghana
- 28-31 Oct 2013: Workshop on Meteorology, Sand and Dust Storm (SDS), Combating Desertification and Erosion , Istanbul, Turkey
- 8-12 Dec 2013: 3rd. Training Course on WMO SDS-WAS products (satellite and ground observation and modelling of atmospheric dust), Muscat, Oman
- 15-16 Dec 2013: McIDAS-V Tutorial with focus on atmospheric dust cases, Muscat, Oman



Thanks for your attention

شكرا لاهتمامكم

**WMO SDS-WAS Regional  
Center for Northern Africa,  
Middle East and Europe**

<http://sds-was.aemet.es>  
[sdswas@aemet.es](mailto:sdswas@aemet.es)

