

Nowcasting applications



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Hungarian Meteorological Service

Principles of Satellite Meteorology, Online Course, 20 September 2011

Outlines

Satellite images

Derived products

- SAFNWC/MSG products (continue)
 - plans for the next 5 years
- SAFNWC/PPS products
- MPEF products for nowcasting purposes
- Automatic/interactive applications in Hungary

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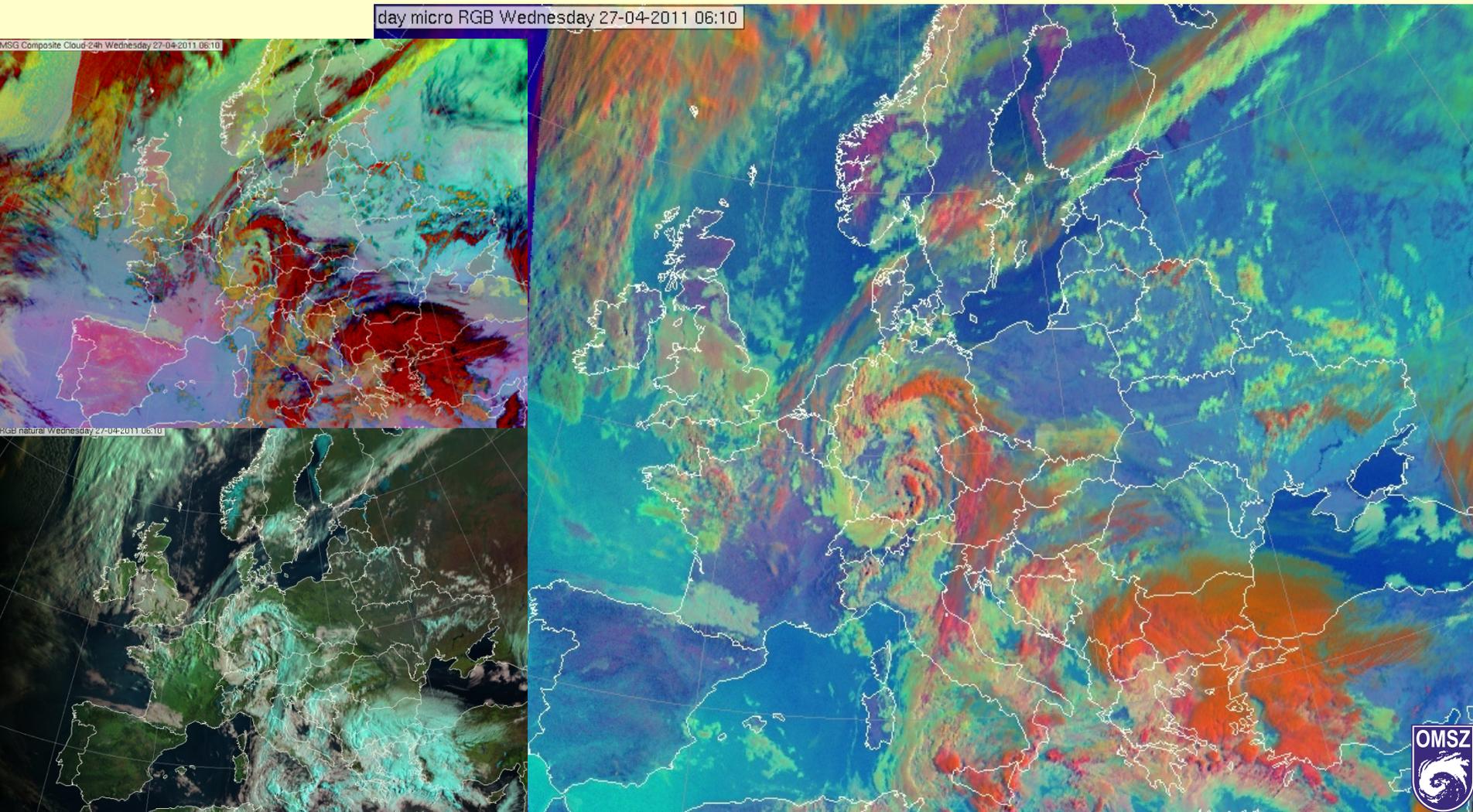
Satellite images

The main tool for interactive nowcasting applications are the images (single and RGB)

Geostationary satellite polar satellites (northern latitudes)

There were several presentations about satellite image interpretation,
I will speak about derived products for nowcasting applications.

Where are you from?



Outlines

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Nowcasting SAF



Satellite Application Facility in support of Nowcasting and Very Short-range Forecasting

Objectives:

- Development of Nowcasting products derived from MSG and Polar satellite systems
- deliver the SW Packages to users
- User's support tasks through Help Desk

Two software packages to produce products for nowcasting purposes:

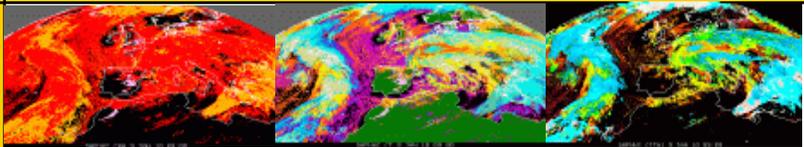
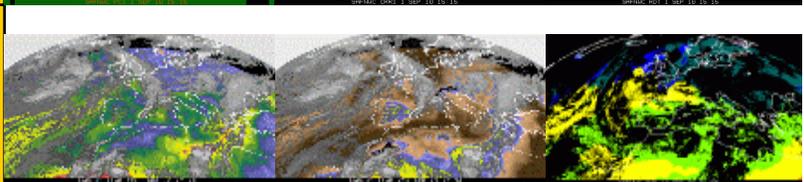
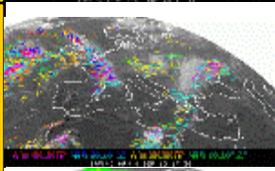
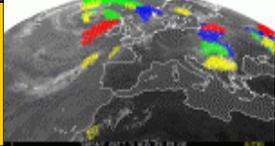
- **SAFNWC/MSG**, to process geo satellites
- **SAFNWC/PPS**, to process polar satellites

National Meteorological Institute has to run it locally

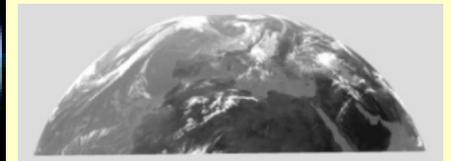
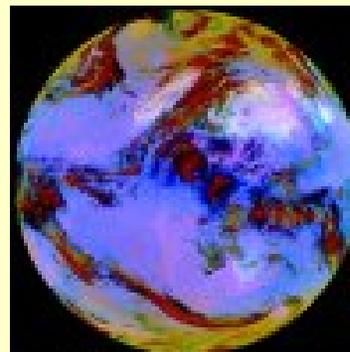
The products may be used

- as **input to a program** e.g.
 - to an objective meso-scale analysis
(which in turn may feed a simple nowcasting scheme),
 - as an intermediate product input to other products,
- as a **final image product** for display at a forecaster 's desk, or for case studies.

Products overview SAFNWC/MSG

<i>MSG SW package</i>		
<i>Clouds</i>		<p>Cloud Mask (+ dust, volcanic ash) Cloud Type (+ cloud phase) Cloud Top Temperature, Pressure, Height</p>
<i>Precipitation & Convection</i>		<p>Precipitating Clouds (probability of pr.) Convective Rainfall Rate Rapidly Developing Thunderstorms</p>
<i>Clear Air</i>		<p>Total/layer Precipitable Water Stability Analysis Imagery (Statistical and Physical retrieval) Air Mass Analysis</p>
<i>Wind</i>		<p>High Resolution Winds</p>
<i>Conceptual Models</i>		<p>Automatic Satellite Image Interpretation</p>

All products can be created from 15- and 5-minute data, except ASII.



Cloud products

Cloud mask (CMa), Cloud Type (CT), Cloud top temp. and height (CTTH)

Cloud mask (cloudy, not cloudy, partly cloudy) + dust and volcanic ash cloud detection

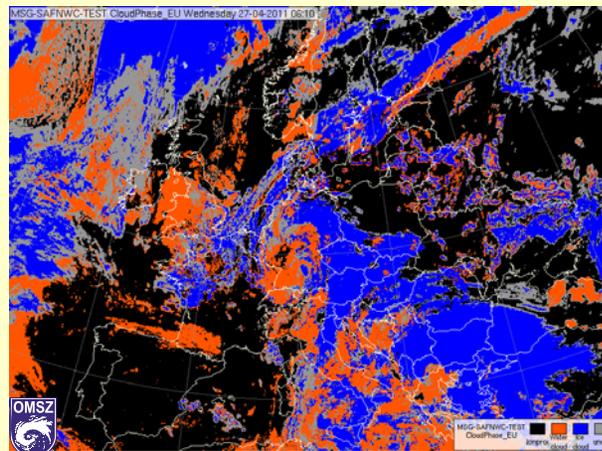
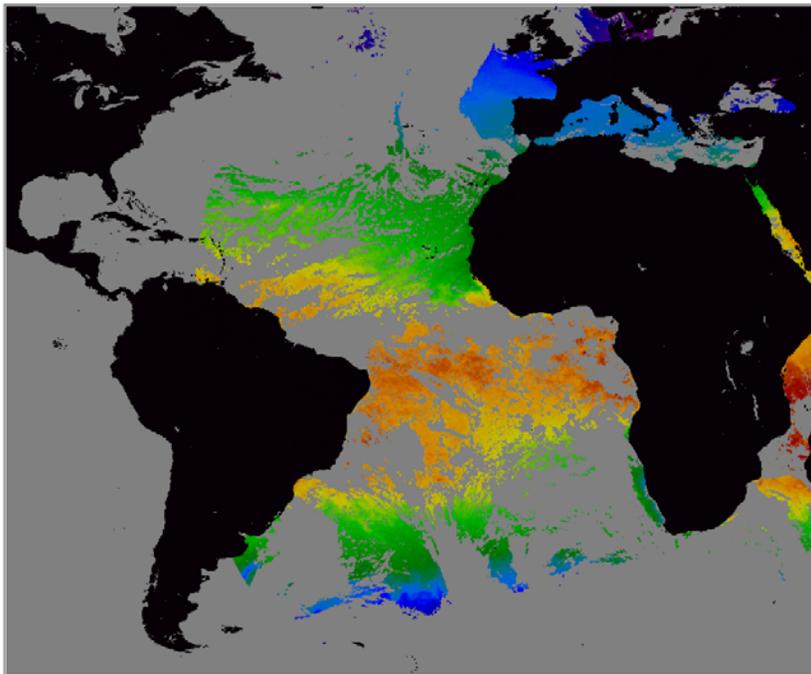
Cloud type (21 classes of cloudy and cloud free) + cloud phase (ice/water droplets, not class.)

Cloud top temperature, pressure, height, effective cloudiness (cloud amount*emissivity)

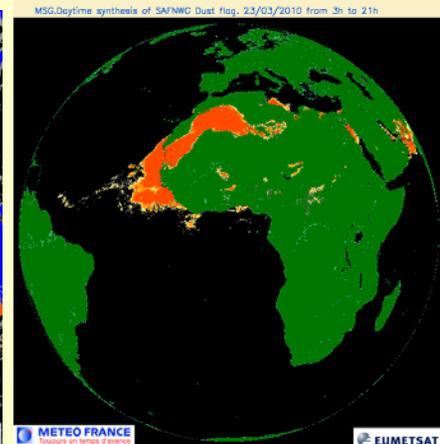
5- and 15-minute data processing

We think these are the **most reliable** products of the NWC SAF

SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE
HOURLY FIELD 03/17/2009 1700 UTC



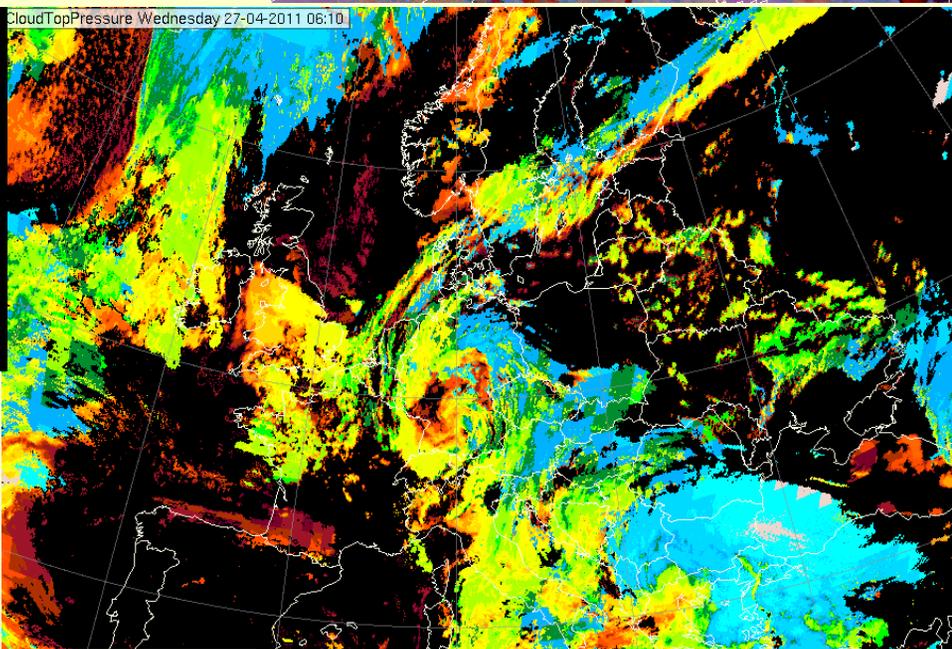
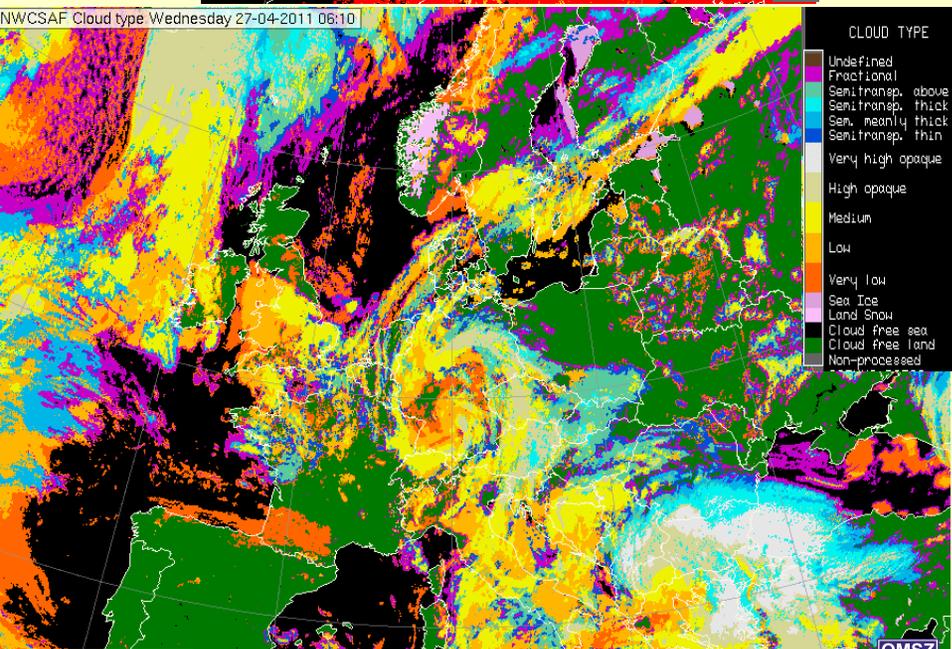
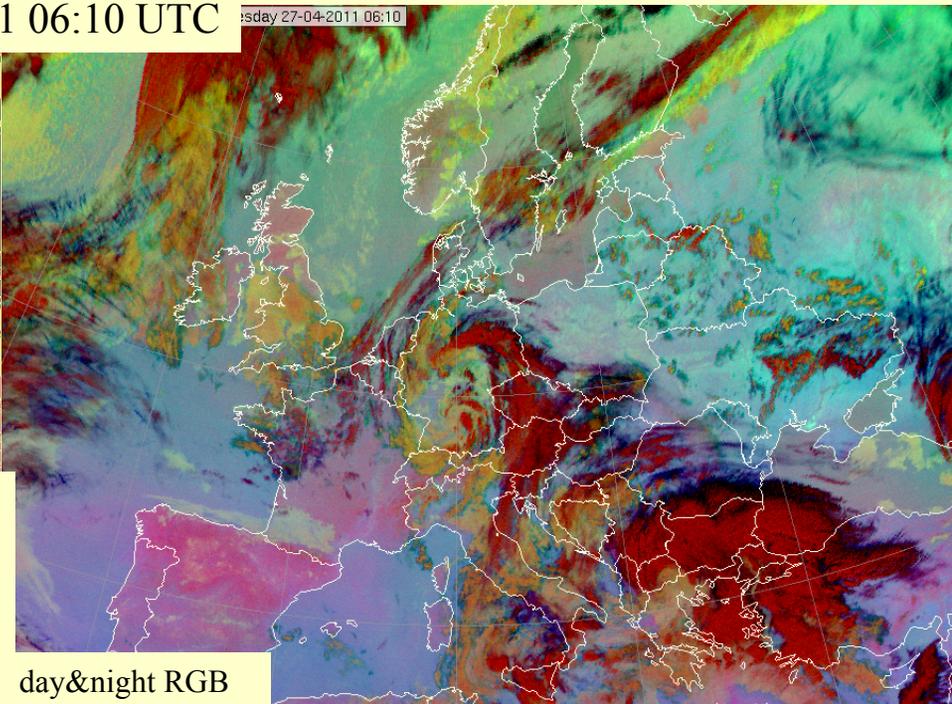
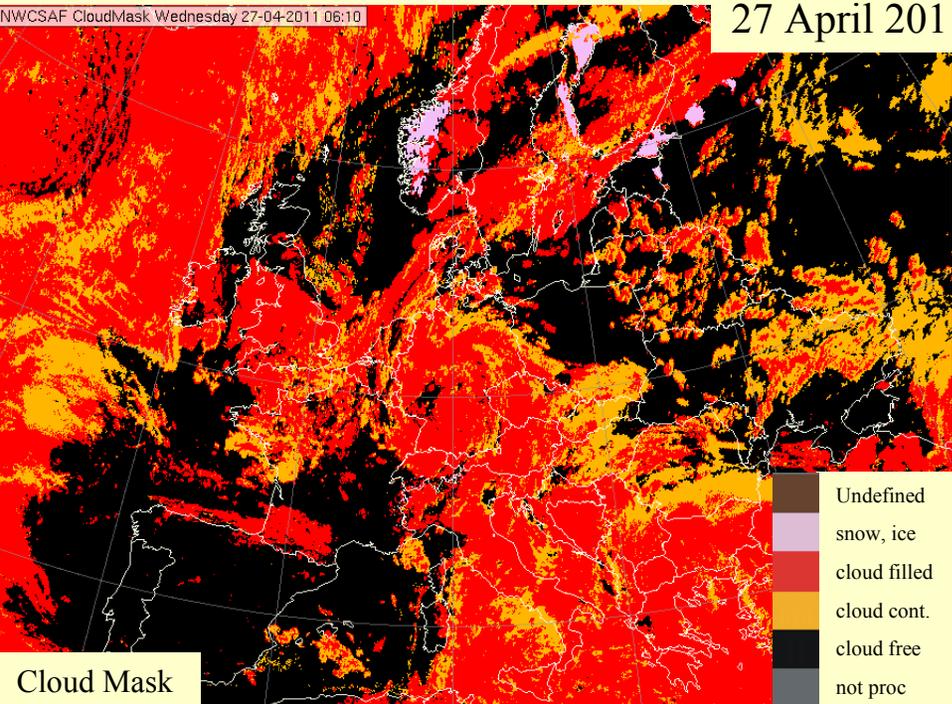
Cloud top phase



dust cloud

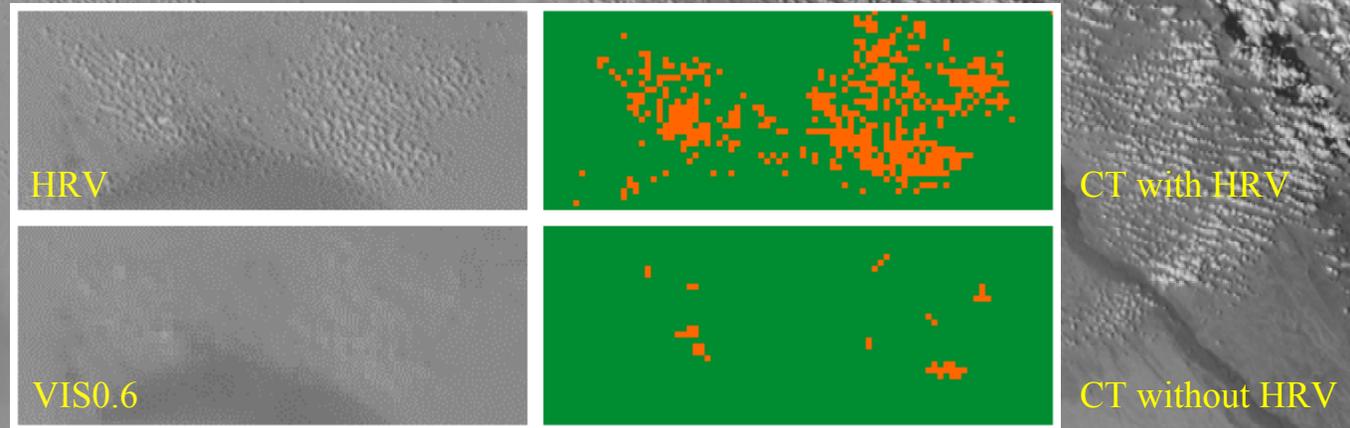


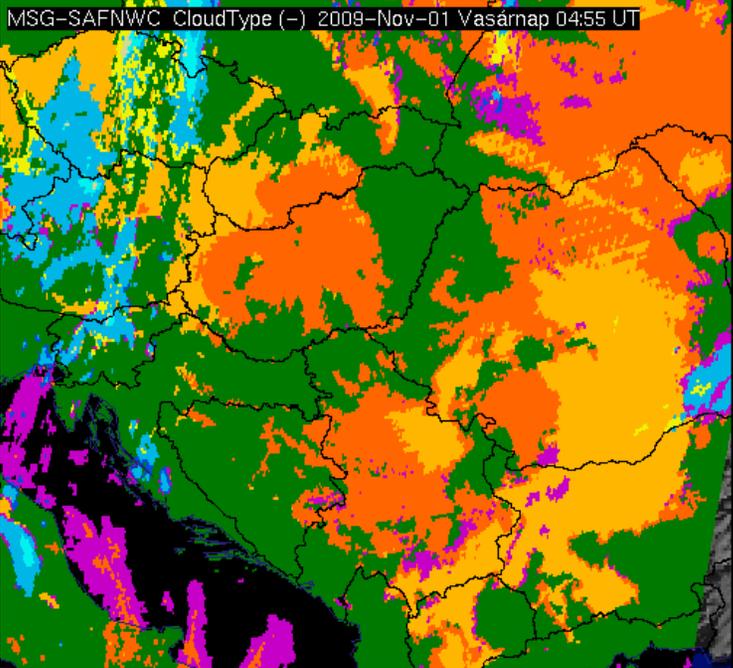
Cloud Mask, Cloud Type frequently serve as a **basis** for other cloud/surface products.



Recent improvements

Use of HRV to earlier detect the small size clouds/ convection



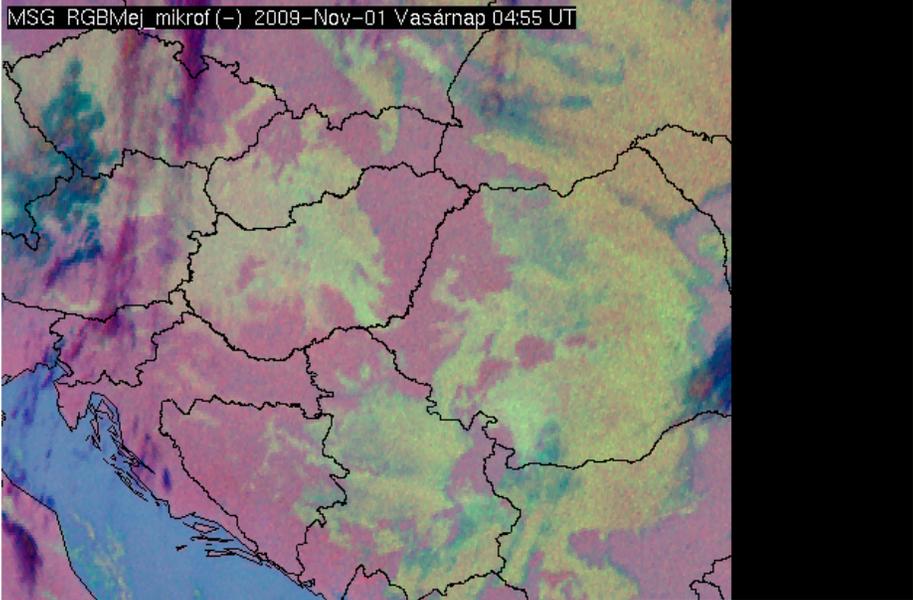
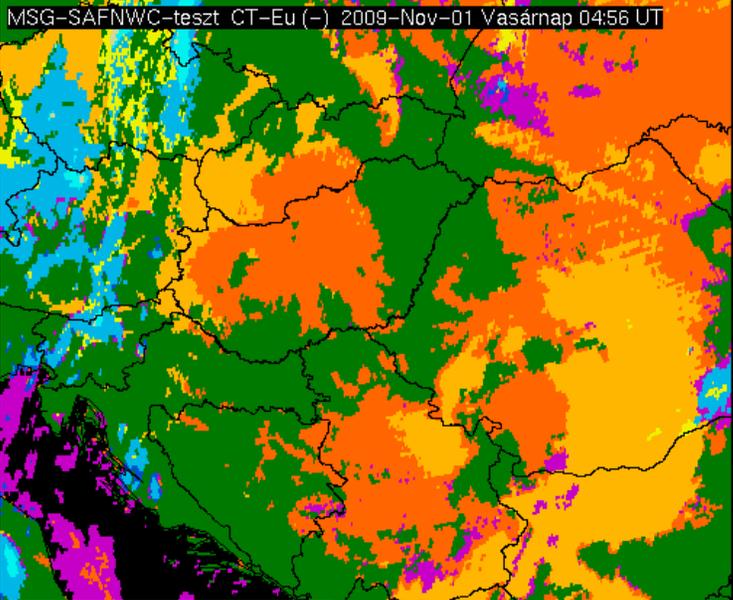


MSG HRV_kod (-) 2009-Nov-01 Vasárnap 04:55 UT

Improvement in v2009
Better detection of the very low clouds/fogs
at twilight ($-3^\circ > \text{sun elevation} < 10^\circ$)

Fog - very important in Central-Europe

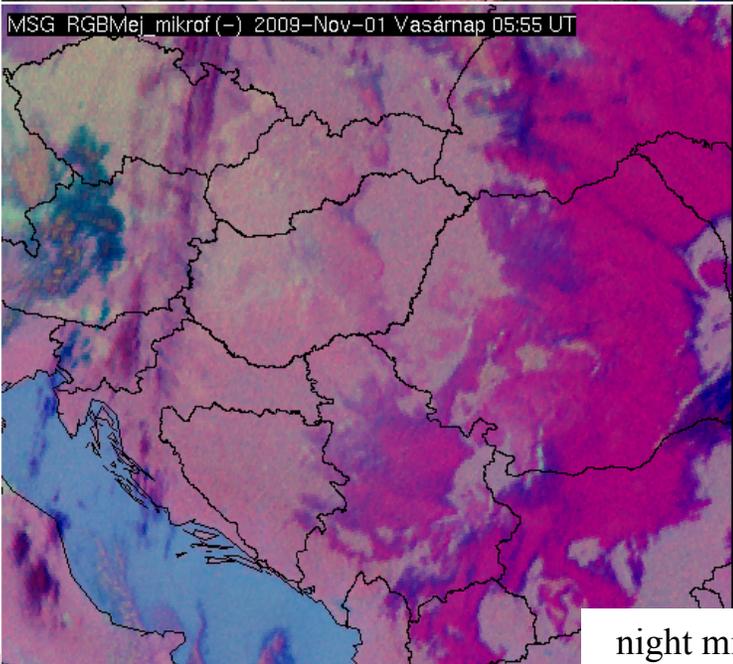
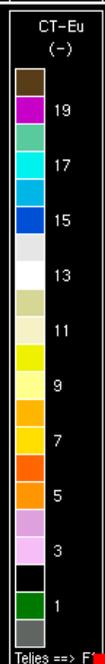
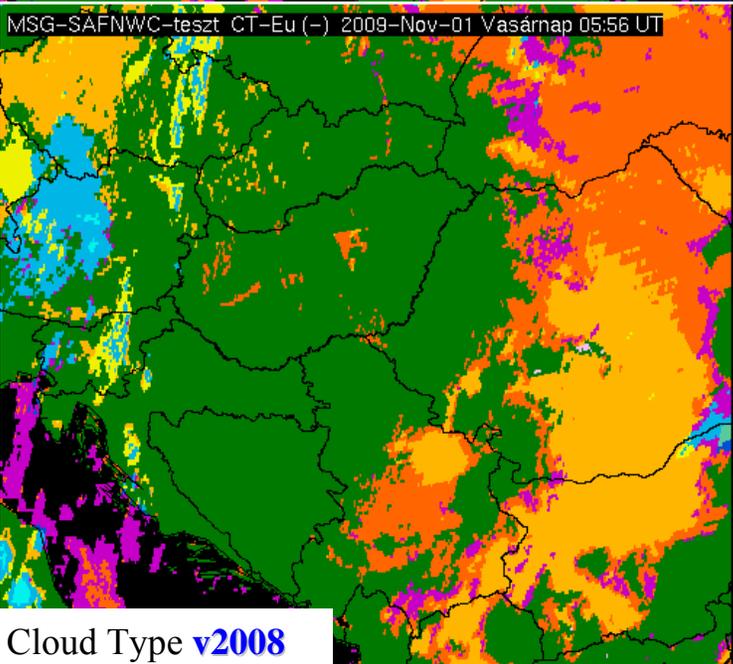
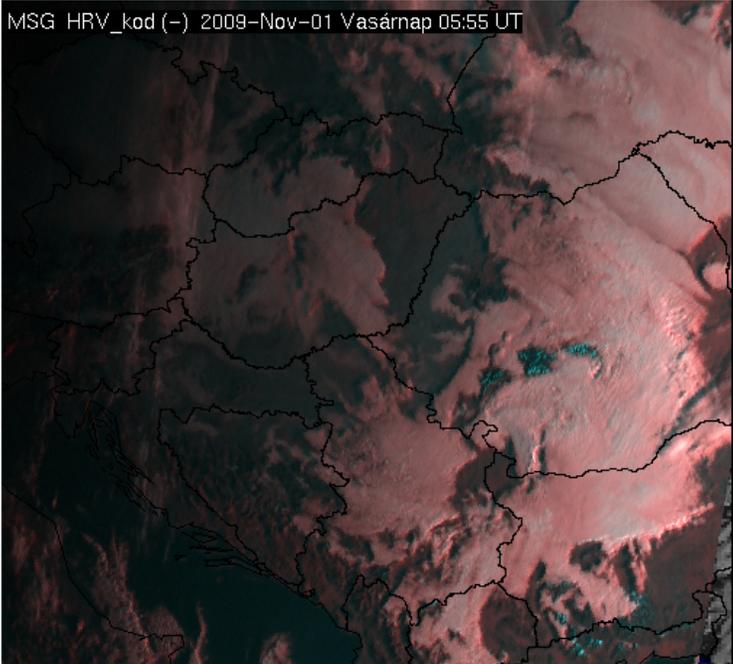
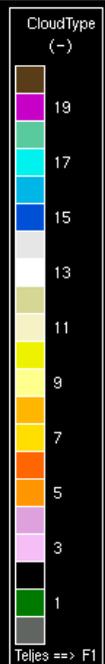
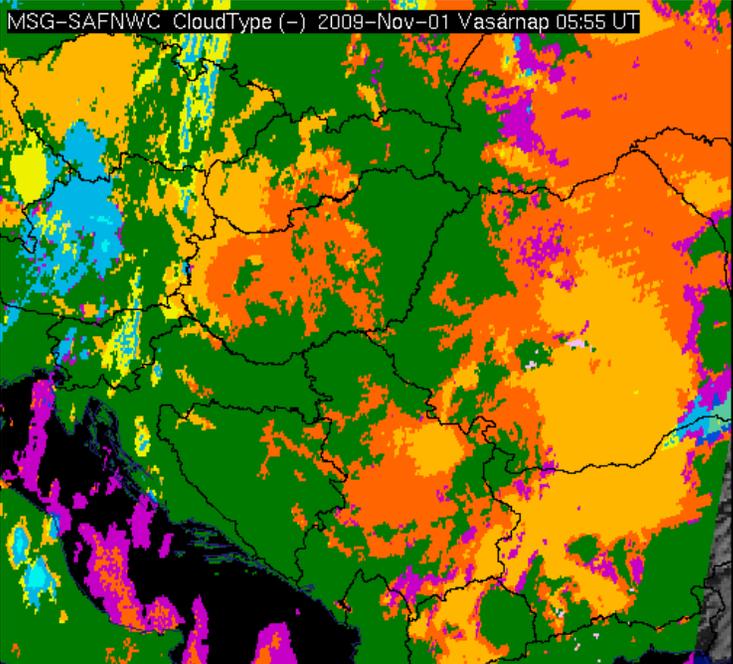
IR10.8-IR3.9 positive at night, negative daytime

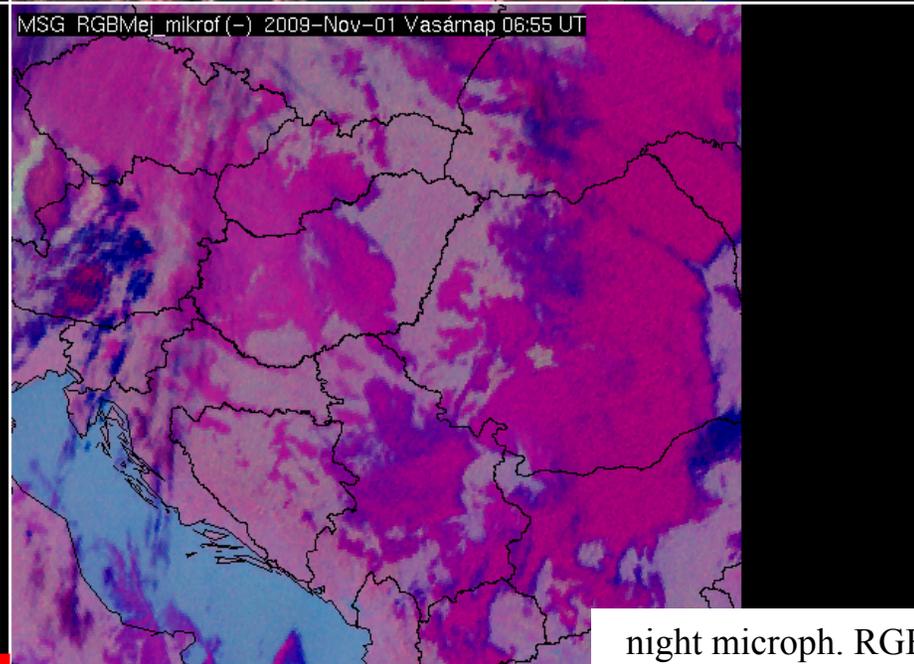
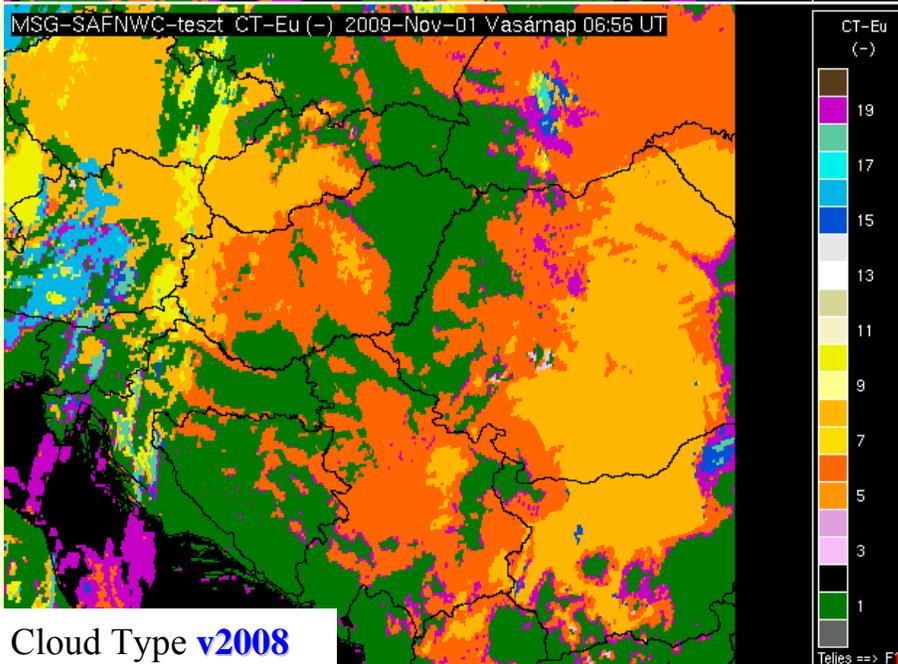
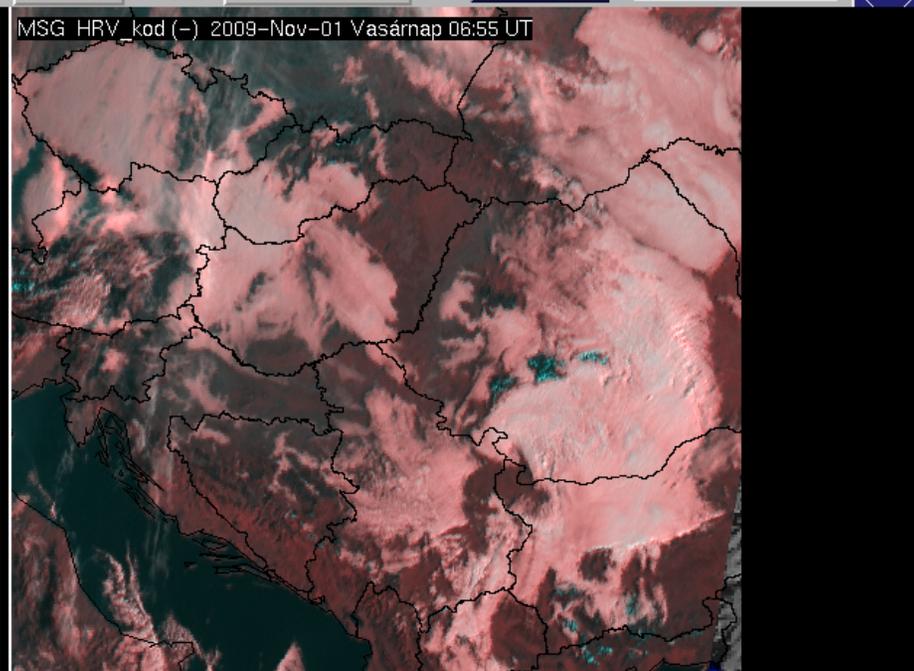
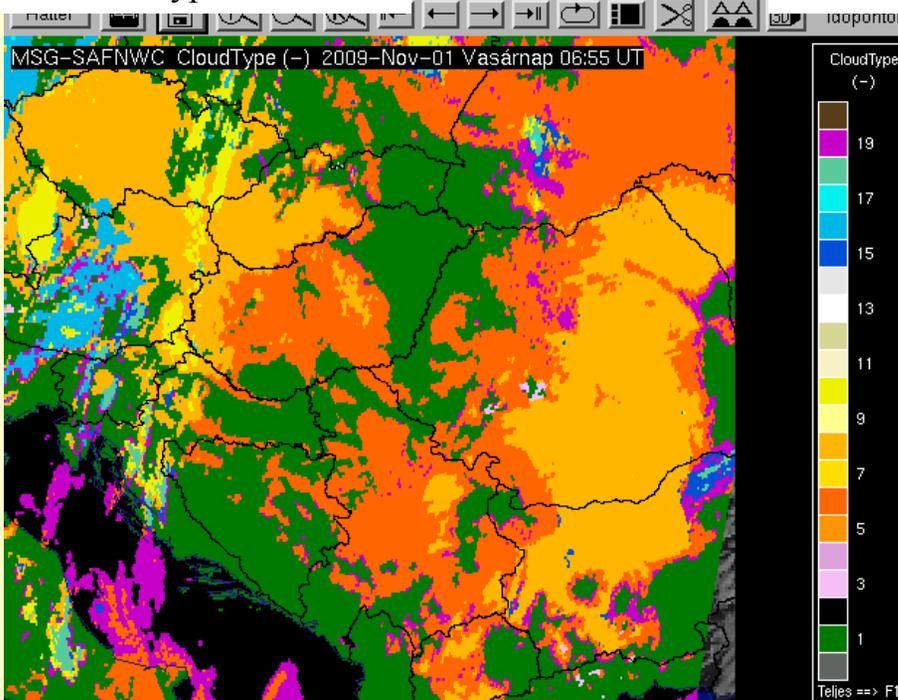


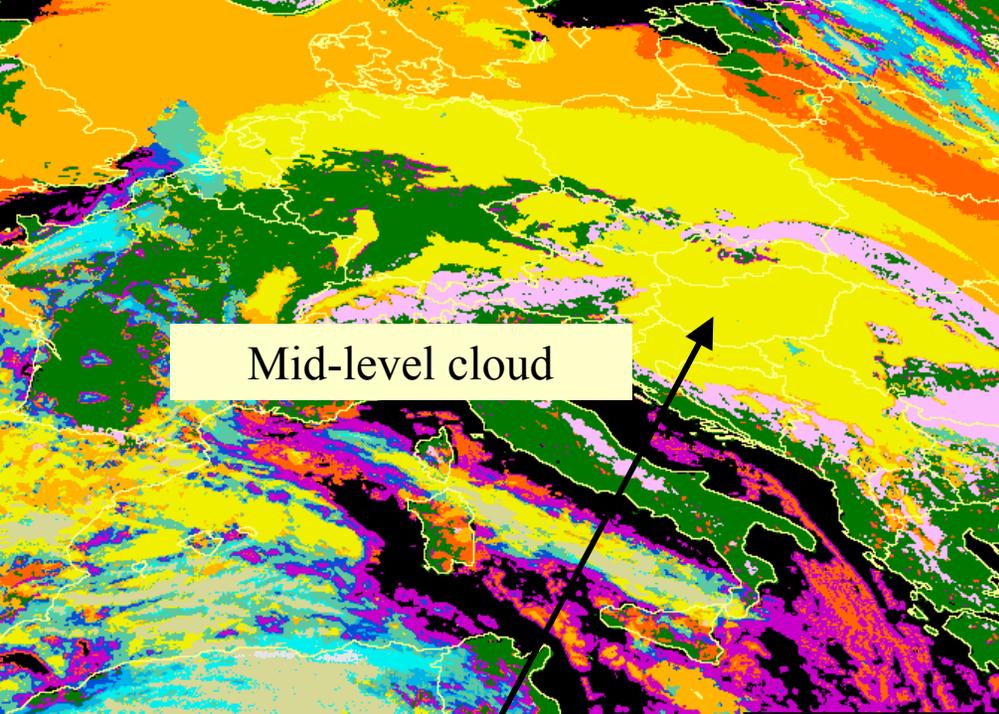


pciók Makrók Adatok Műhold Radar

Villám Meteogram Met. ob. Megfigy.: Egyedi beállítás Fein.: marcsi_marta 2009-Nov-01 06:02 UT





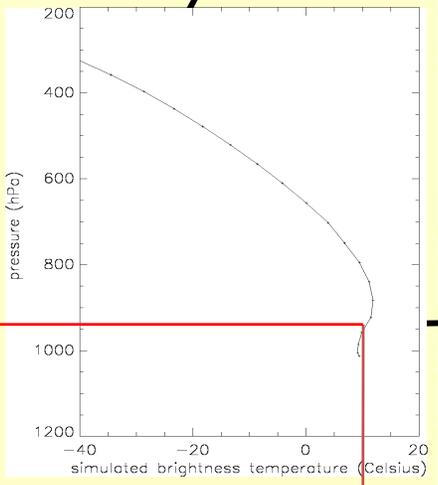


Cloud Type v2009

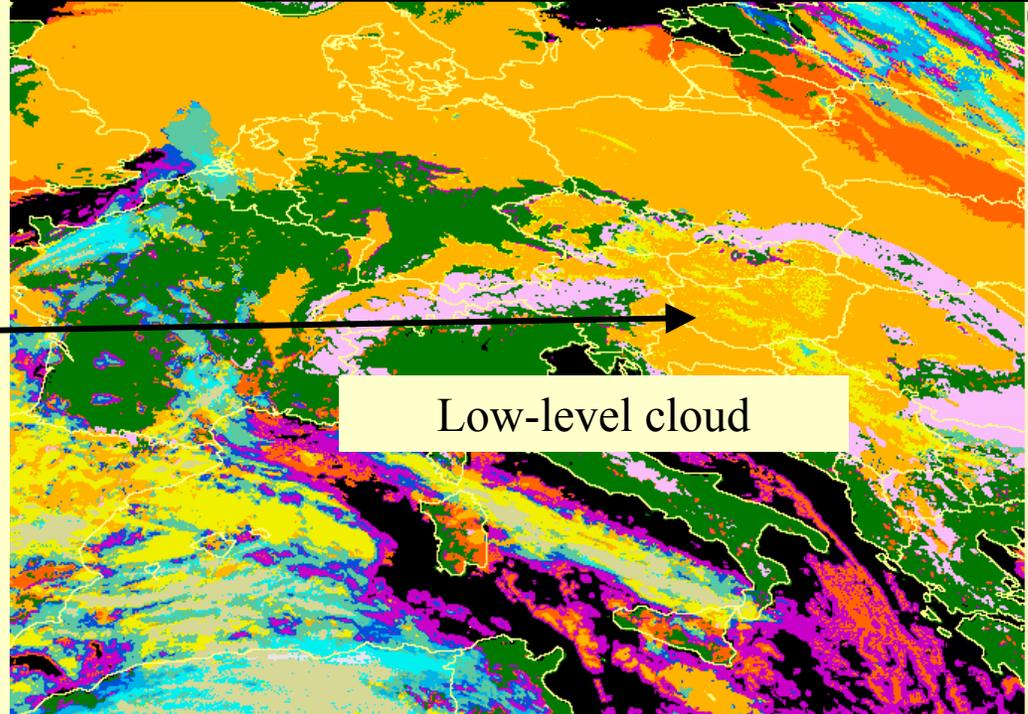
21 December 2007

Improvement of the CT in cold air pool situation (temperature inversion)

IR8.7-IR10.8:
it is less for low clouds than for mid-level clouds



Measured brightness temperature



Cloud Type v2010



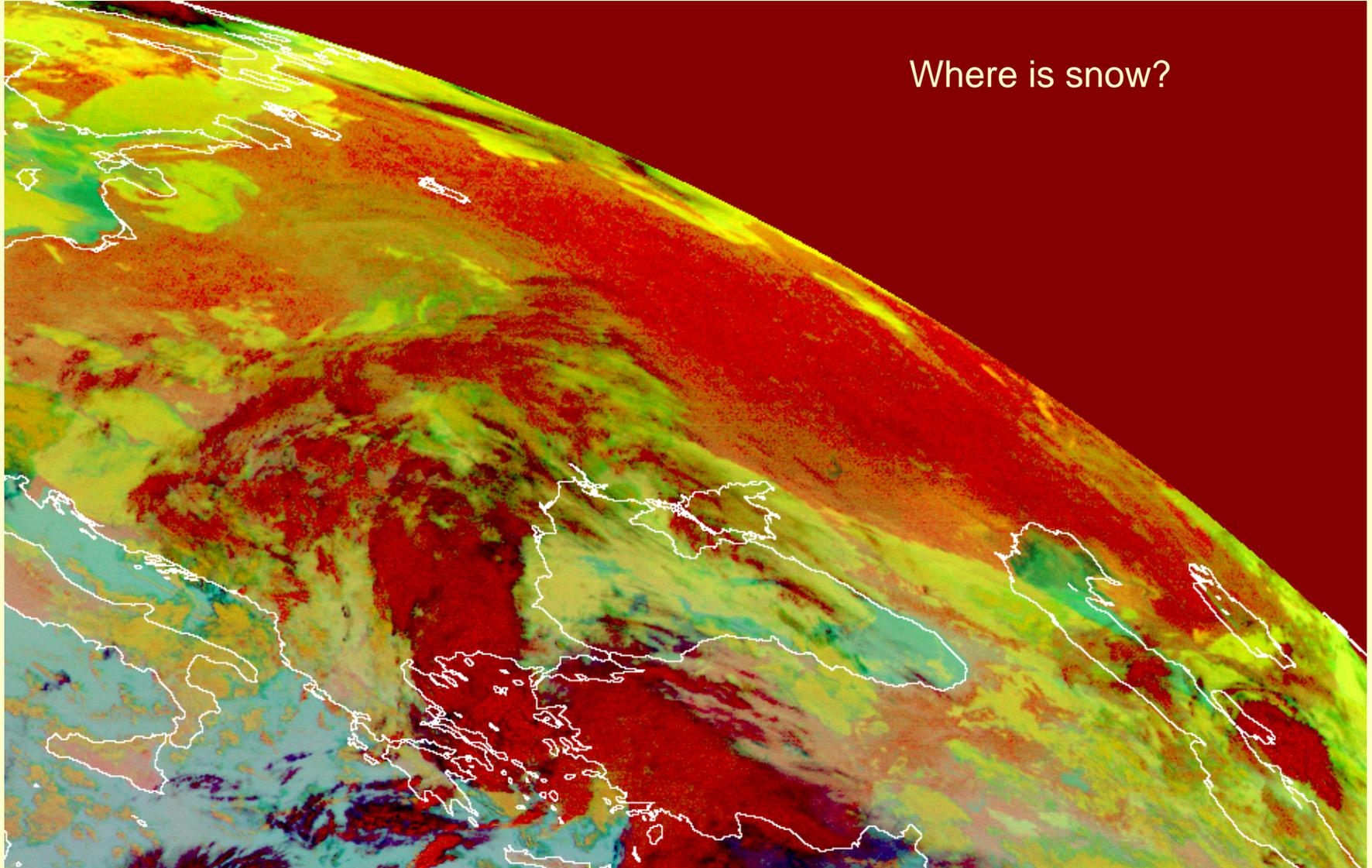
Snow at night

Snow detection only daytime

Key: refl in NIR1.6, IR3.9

At night IR108-IR39 and IR108-IR87

Dust RGB, 22.02.2011. 02:55 UTC



Cloud detection improvement over cold ground at night

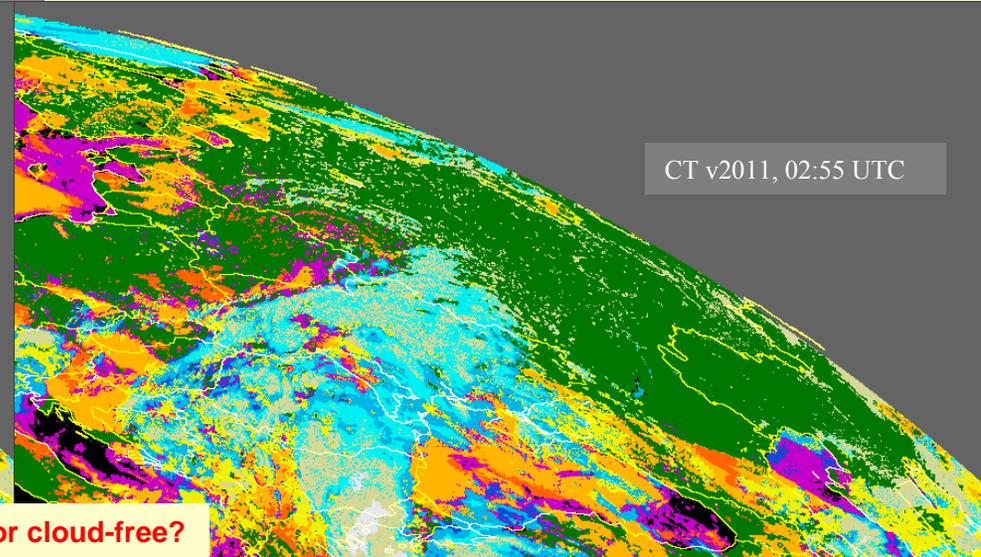
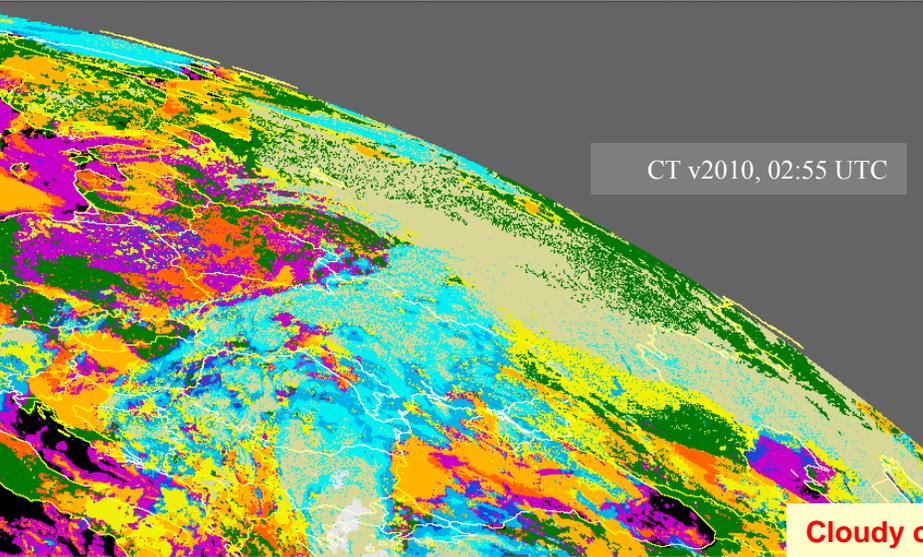
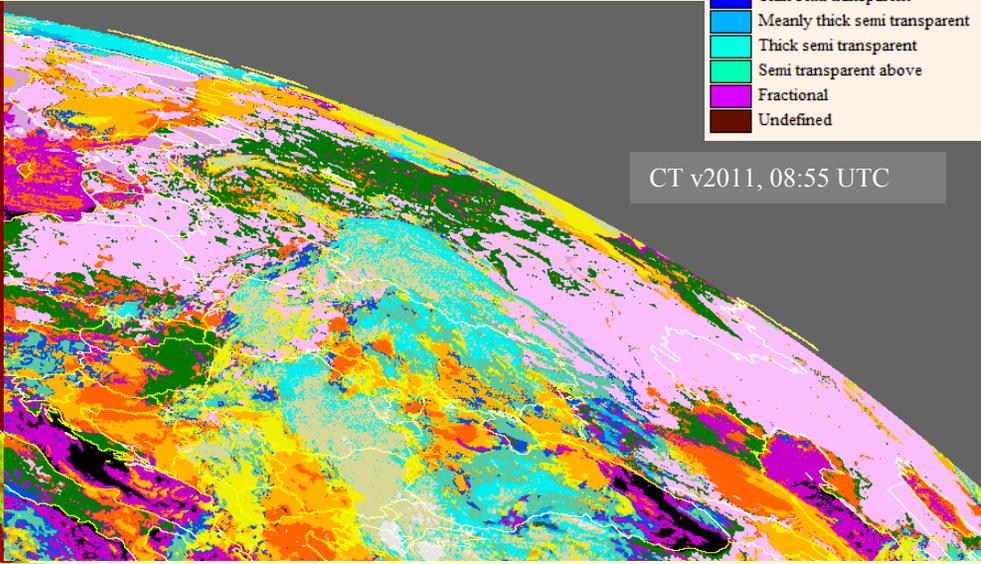
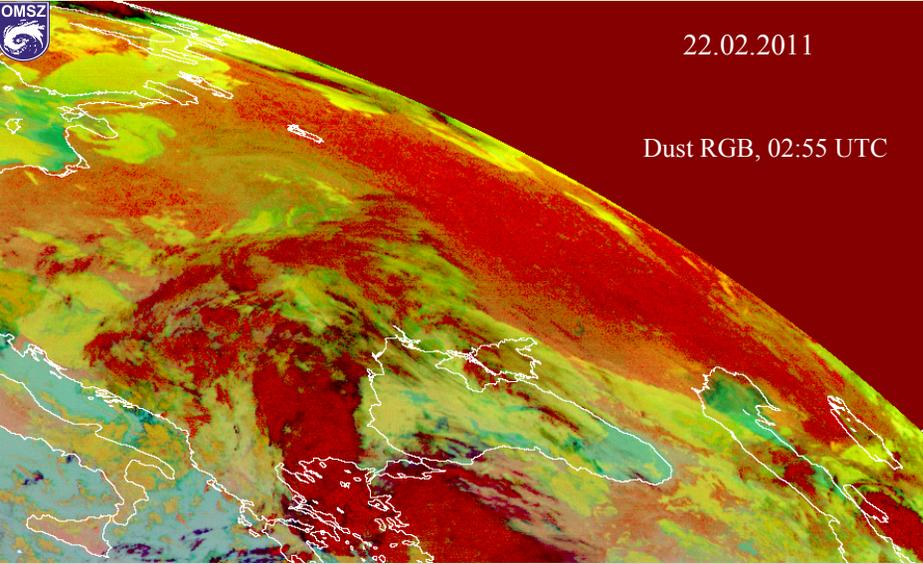
- Not processed
- Clear land
- Clear sea
- Snow land
- Sea ice
- Very low
- Low
- Mid. level
- High opaque
- Very high opaque
- Thin semi transparent
- Meanly thick semi transparent
- Thick semi transparent
- Semi transparent above
- Fractional
- Undefined

Snow detection only daytime

Key: refl in NIR1.6, IR3.9

At night IR108-IR39 and IR108-IR87

The cloud mask behavior is very sensitive to the NWP model data.

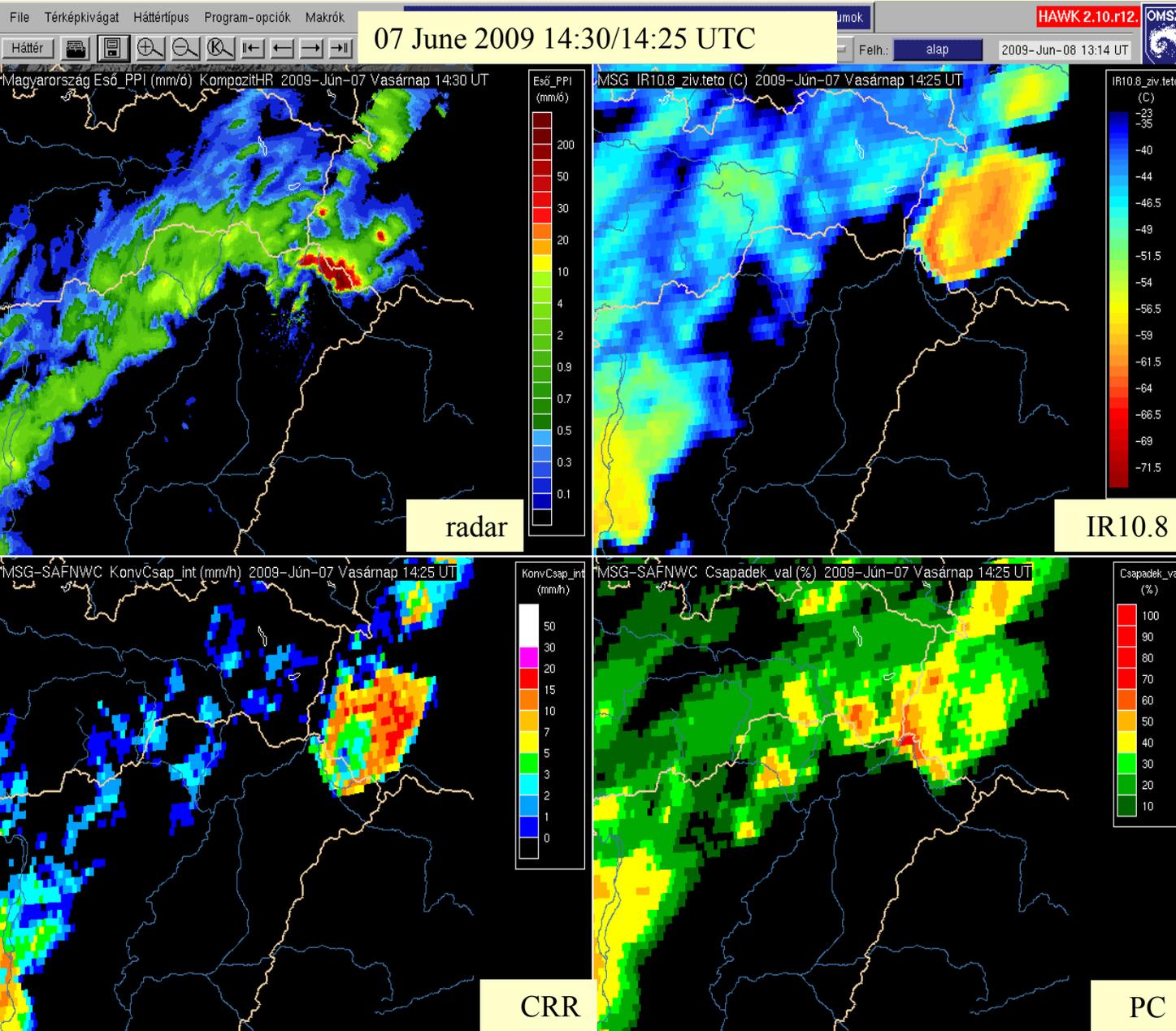


Cloudy or cloud-free?

Precipitation products

PC: precipitating clouds (probability of precipitation), CRR: Convective rain rate

1 hour accumulated rain

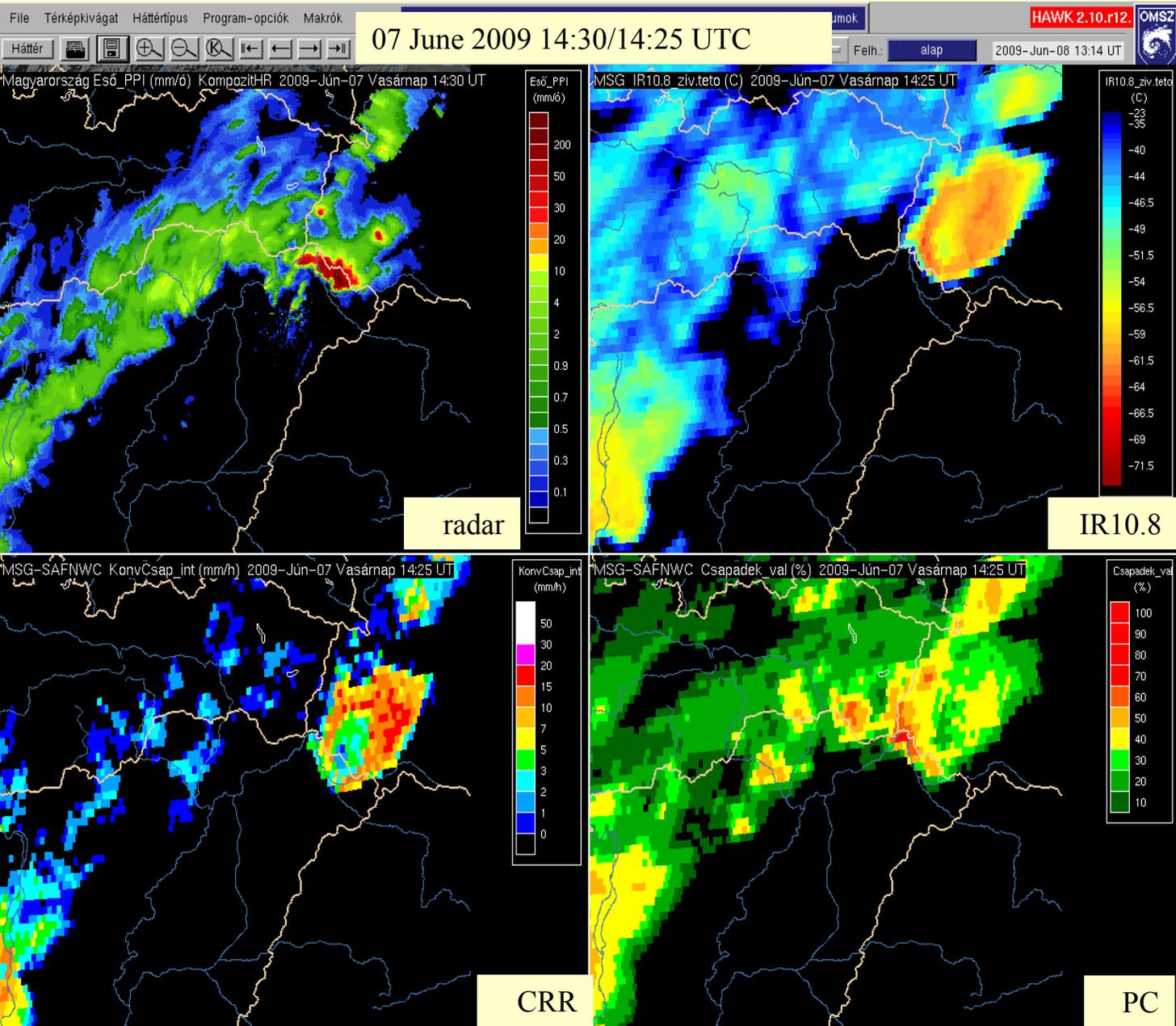


Useful if no radar data are available:

- Over ocean
- Breakdown of radar
- Area not covered by radar

CRR useful when and where convection is dominant.

Do you see some interesting cloud top feature?



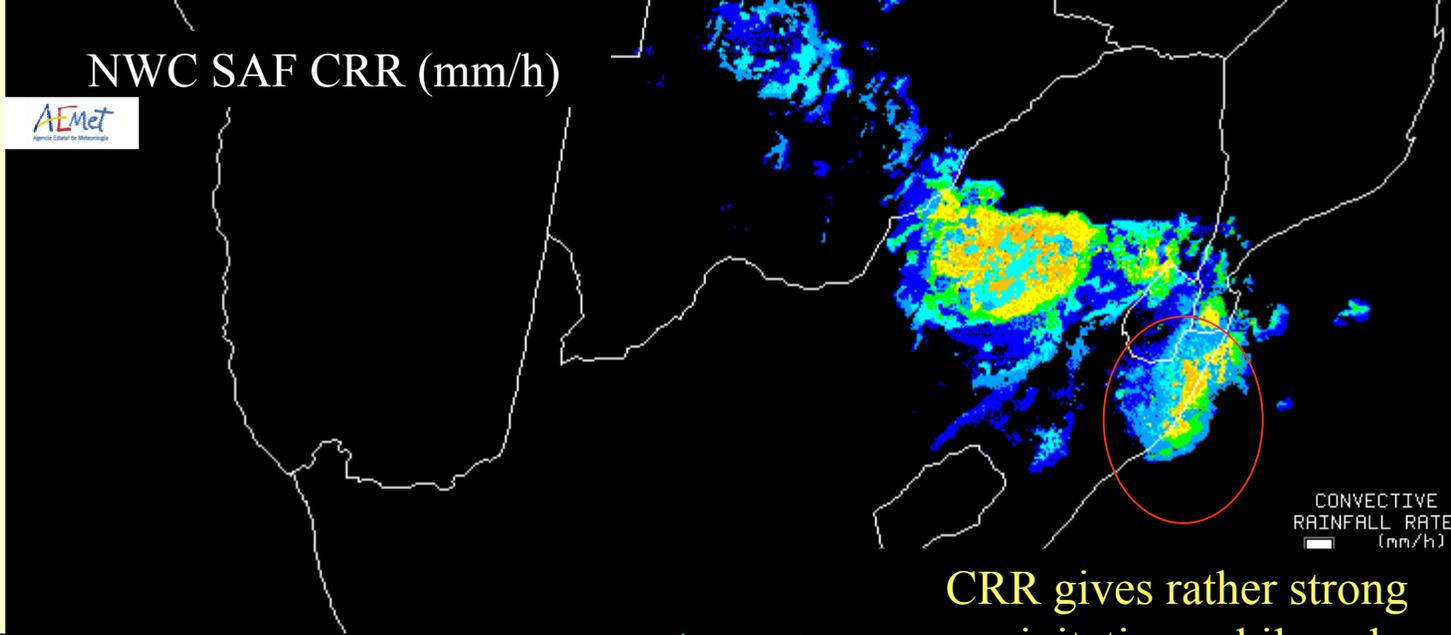


Comparison of NWCSAF CRR and radar measurements in South Africa

**19 December 2009
19:00 UTC**

Data from E. de Coning and C. Marcos

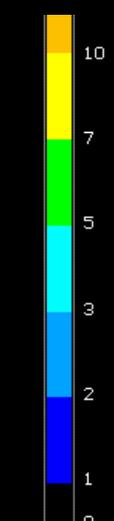
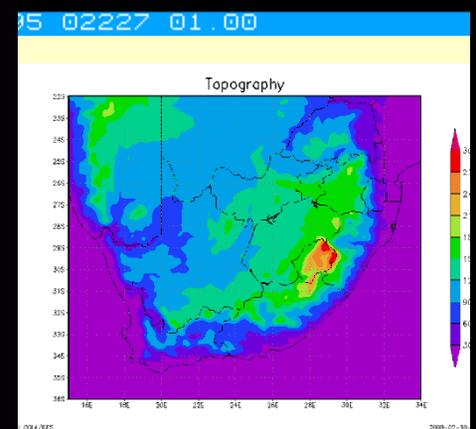
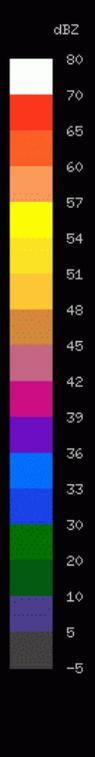
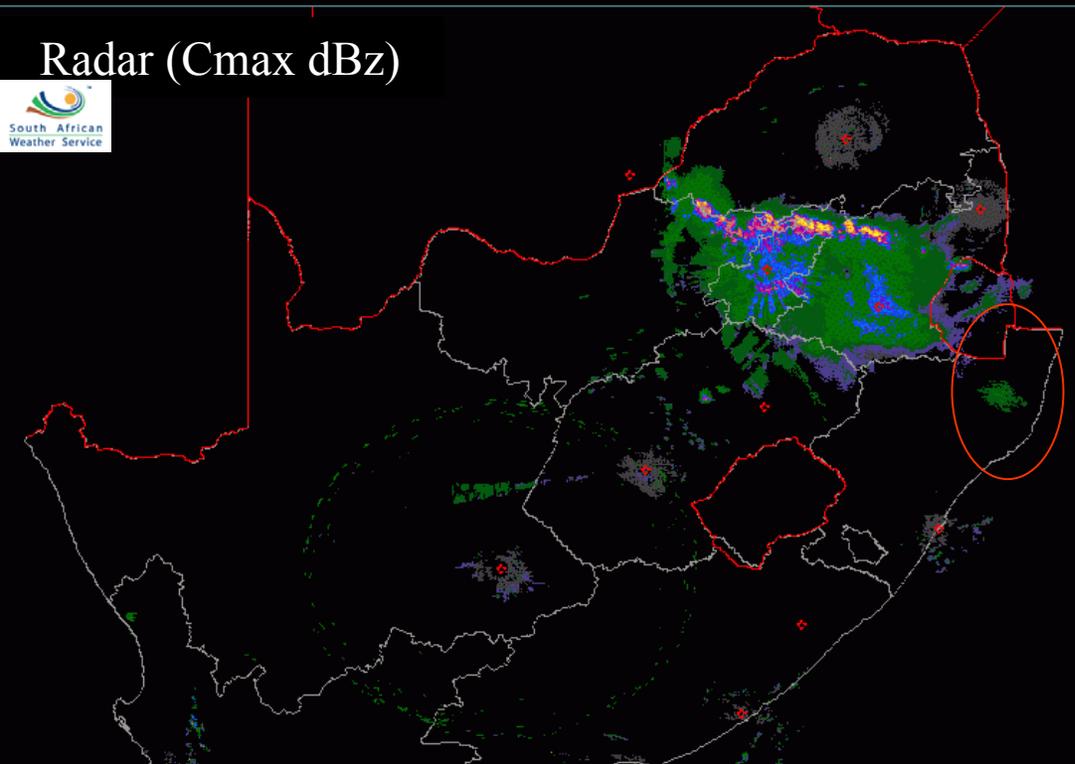
2009/12/19 19:00:00 Composite



CRR gives rather strong precipitation, while radar gives only low signal.

This area is blocked for radars due to the mountains.

Radar (Cmax dBz)



SAFNWC PGE05

MSG IR10.8 (C) 2011-Apr-27 Szerda 06:10 UT
NWC-SAF HRW-Basic (conf>60%) (m/s) 850-1050hPa 2011-Apr-27 Szerda 06:10 UT
NWC-SAF HRW-Basic (conf>60%) (m/s) 700-850hPa 2011-Apr-27 Szerda 06:10 UT
NWC-SAF HRW-Basic (conf>60%) (m/s) 400-700hPa 2011-Apr-27 Szerda 06:10 UT
NWC-SAF HRW-Basic (conf>60%) (m/s) 100-400hPa 2011-Apr-27 Szerda 06:10 UT

NWCSAF HRW

High Resolution Wind

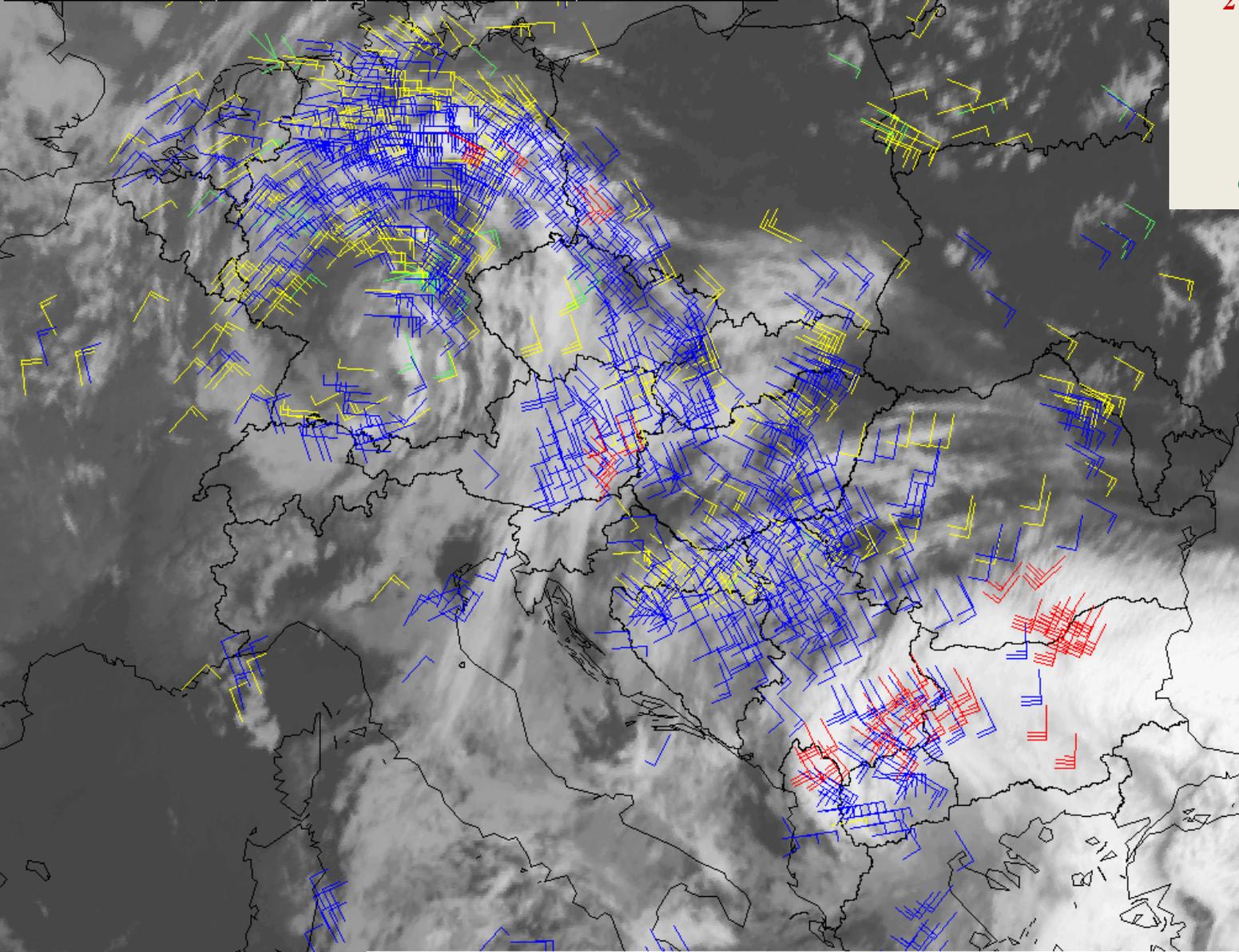
27.04.2011. 06:10 UTC

Red 100-400 hPa

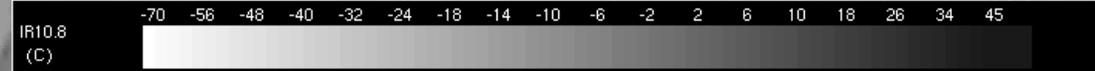
Blue 400-700 hPa

Yellow 700-850 hPa

Green 850- 1050 hPa



15-min image
sequence → cloud
motion – wind field,
including wind
pressure level
information,
calculated from
HRV and IR10.8
images



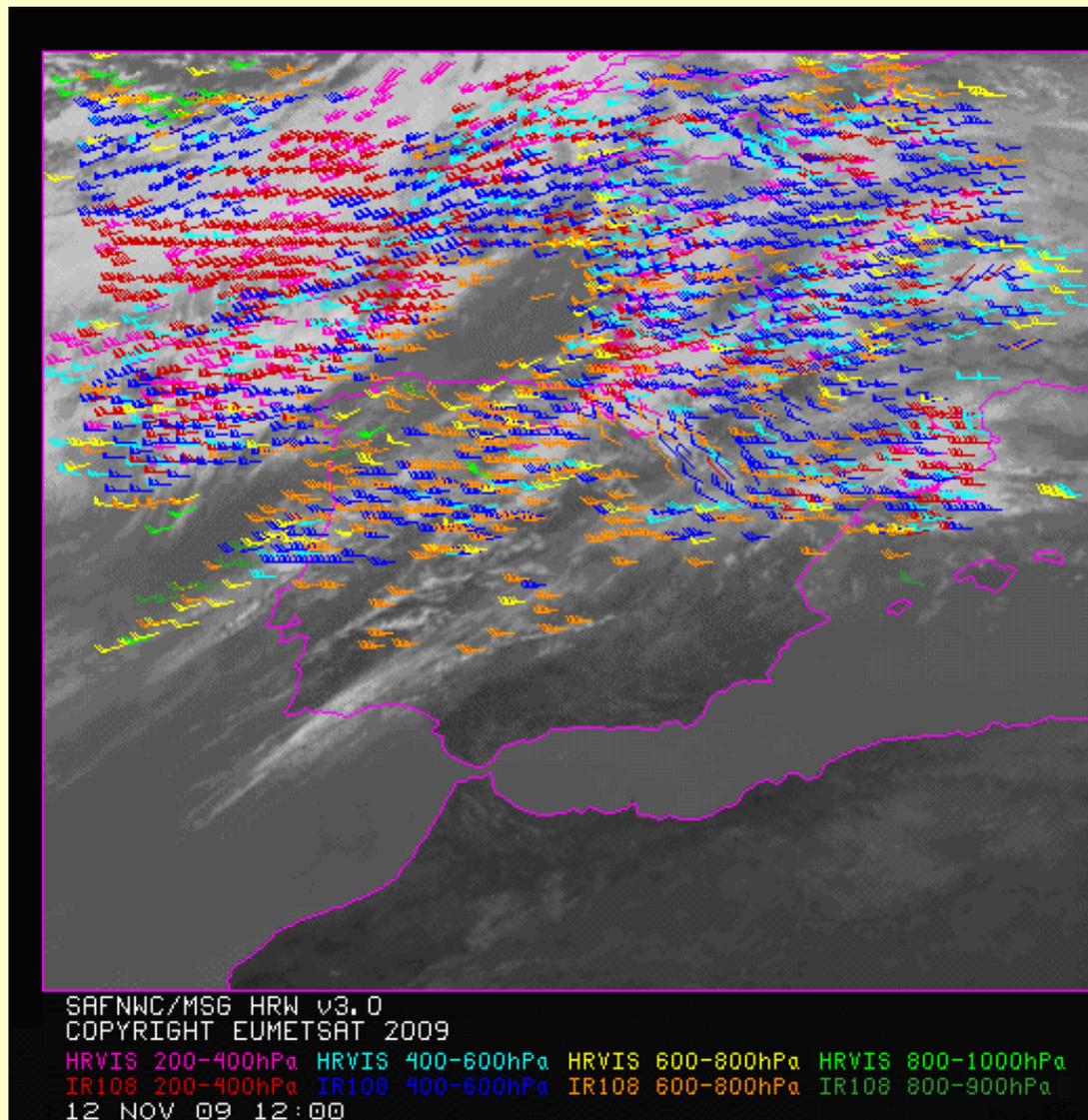
HRW product can be useful for:

- Nowcasting monitoring tasks:

- * Flux displacement
- * Watch and warning of dangerous strong wind situations
- * Convergence & divergence (specially around cloud systems)
- * Small scale circulation
- * Wind singularities.

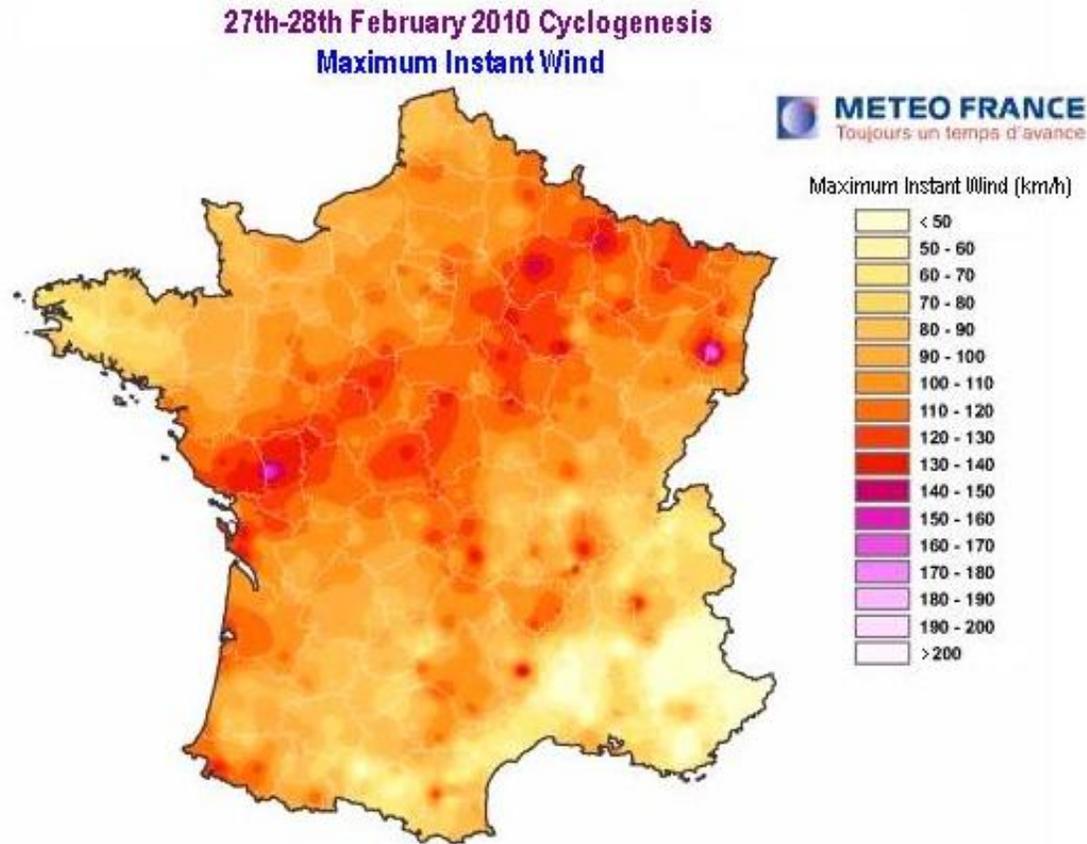
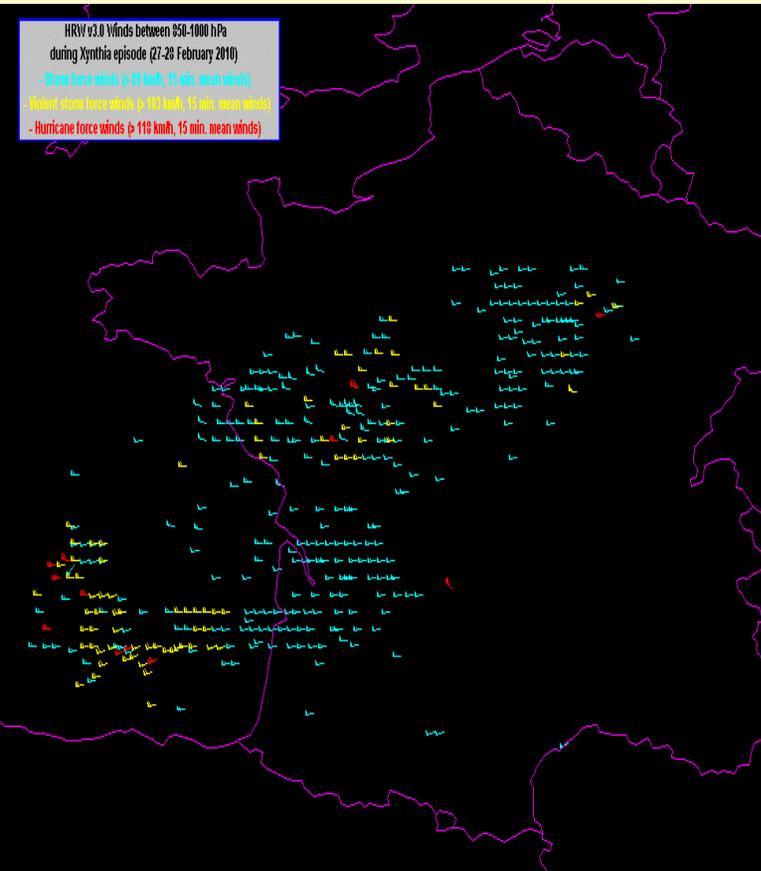
- Assimilation in:

- * Analysis and Forecasting applications (including NWP models).

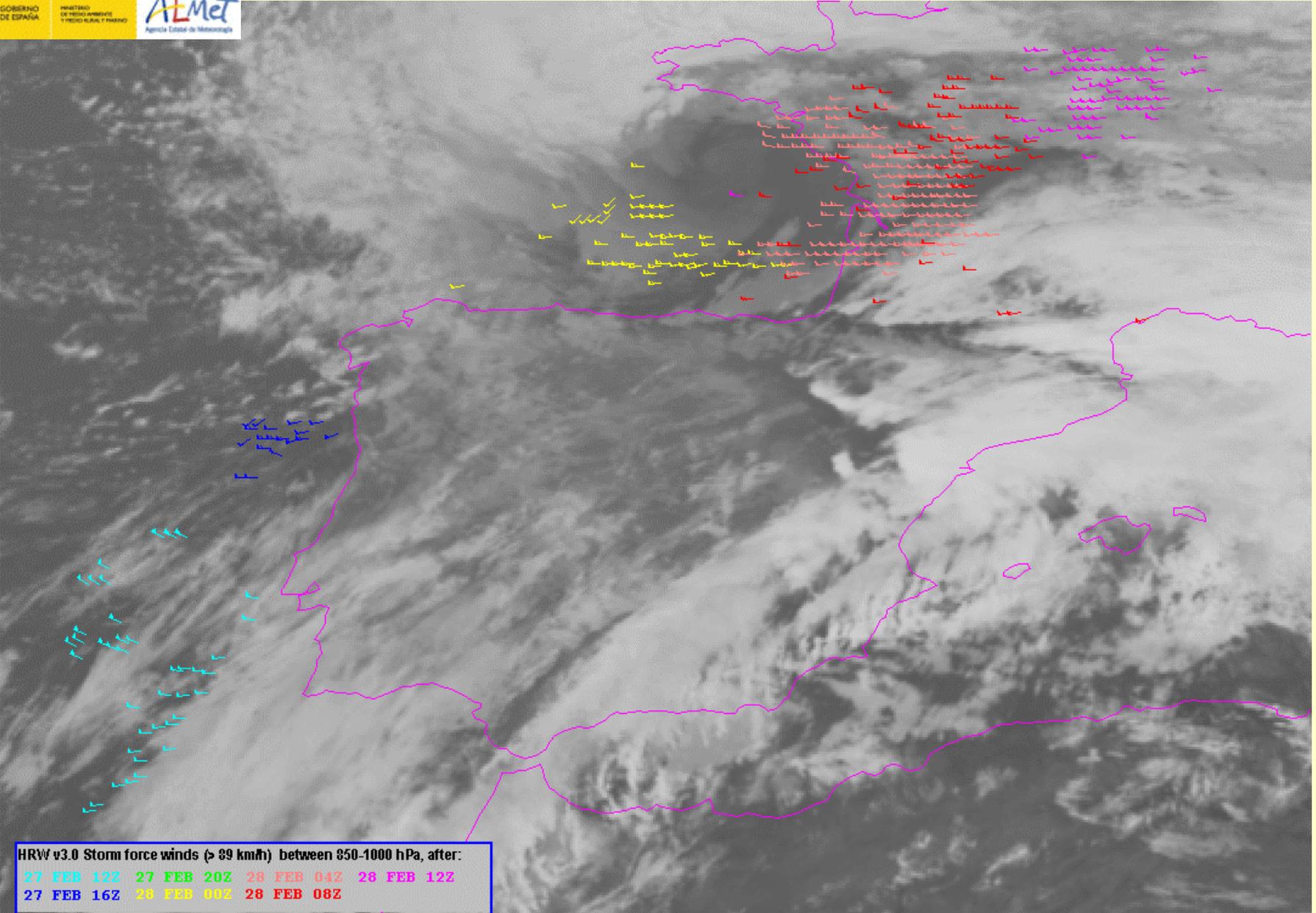


The strongest satellite retrieved winds
(15min mean winds > 89 km/h)
in the 850-1000 hPa layer

Surface wind observation



The diagonal path followed by the strongest winds is similar in both figures.
Temporal resolution of HRW is higher than that of the model forecasted winds.
HRW can be helpful for watch and warning tasks.



HRW v3.0 Storm force winds (> 89 km/h) between 850-1000 hPa, after:

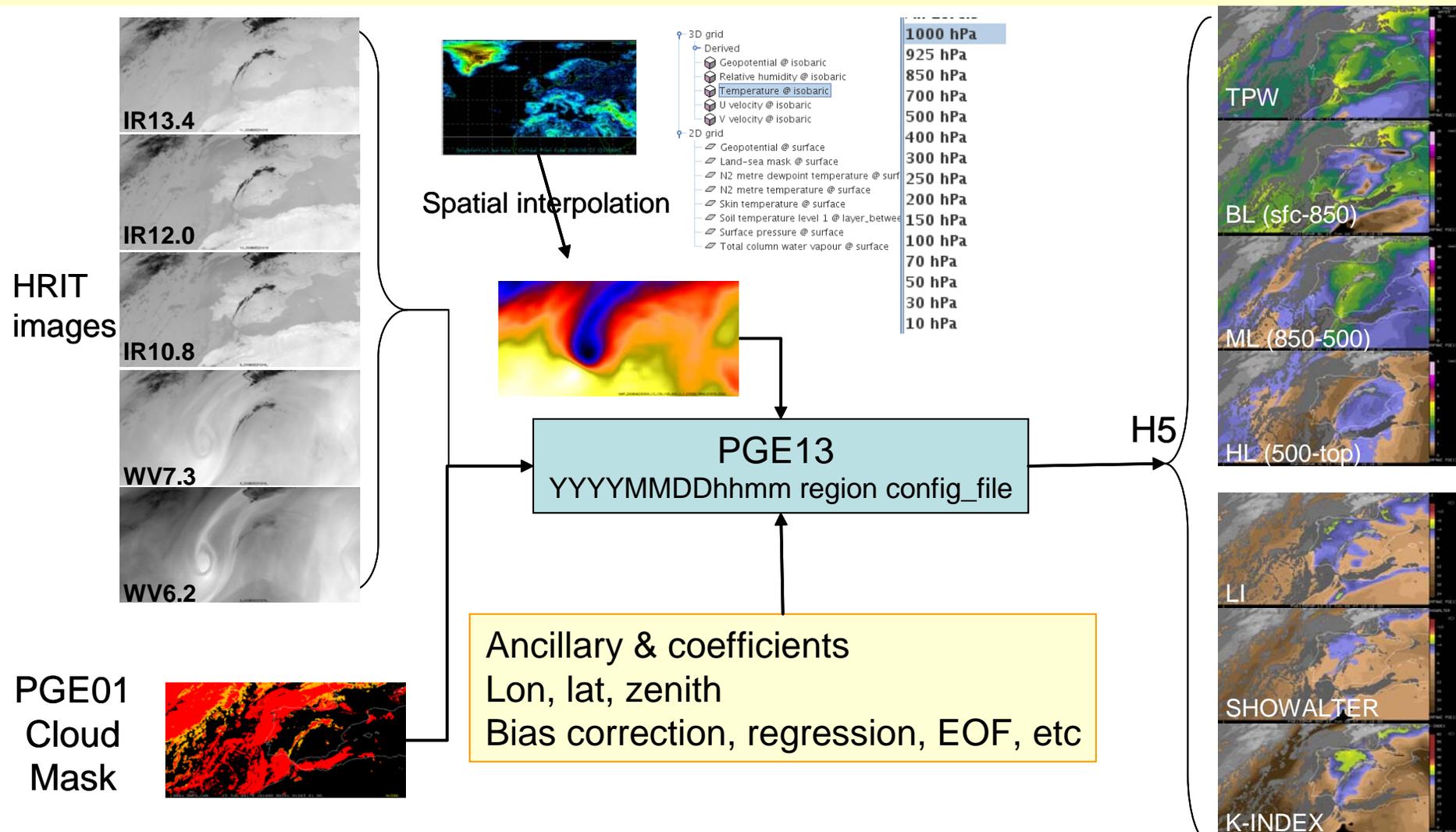
27 FEB 12Z	27 FEB 20Z	28 FEB 04Z	28 FEB 12Z
27 FEB 16Z	28 FEB 08Z	28 FEB 08Z	

The **temporal evolution of HRW winds** permits also to identify when the hardest winds are striking.

Total and Layered Precipitable Water and Instability Indexes



NWC SAF Physical Retrieval (SPhR)

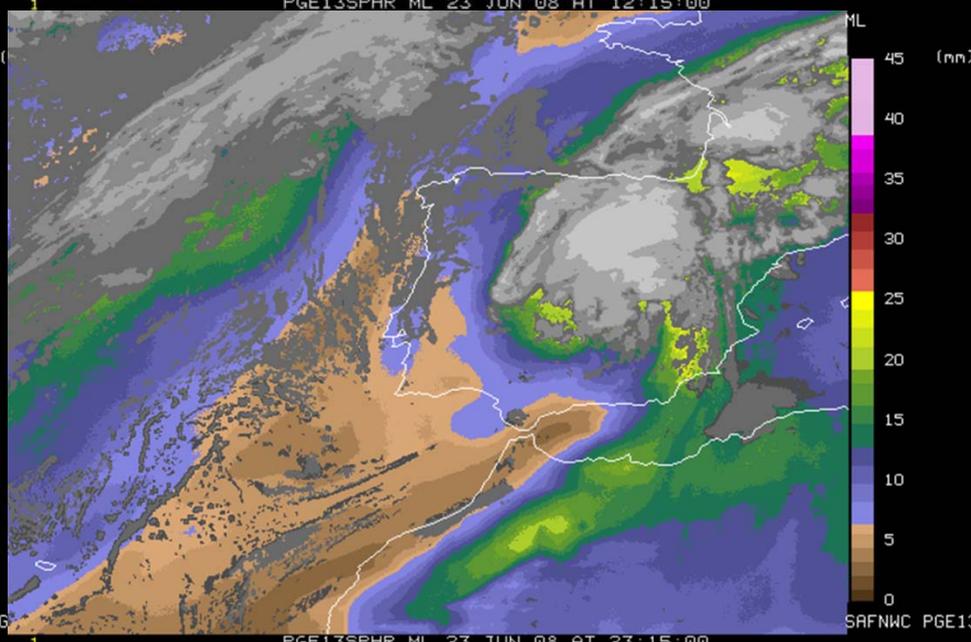
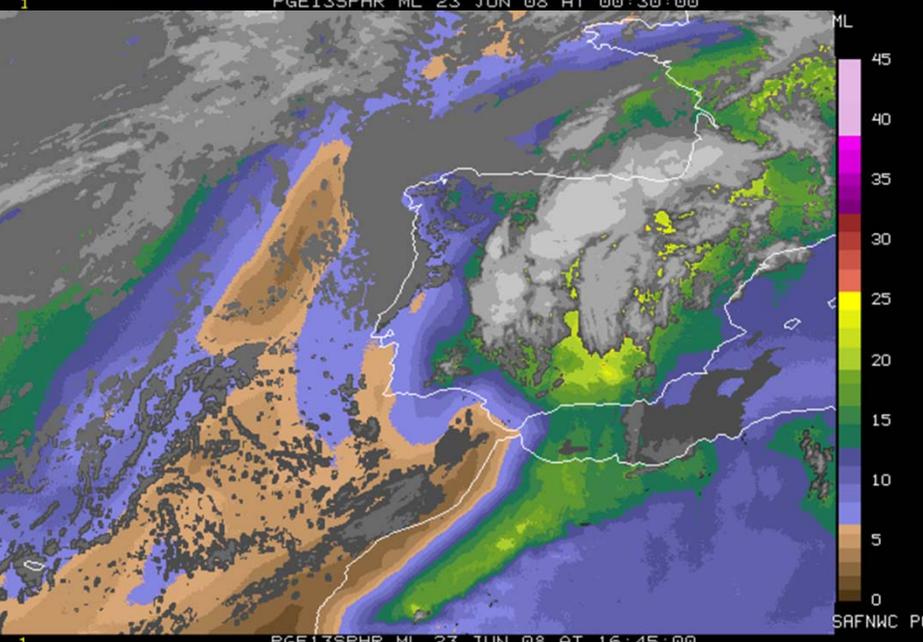
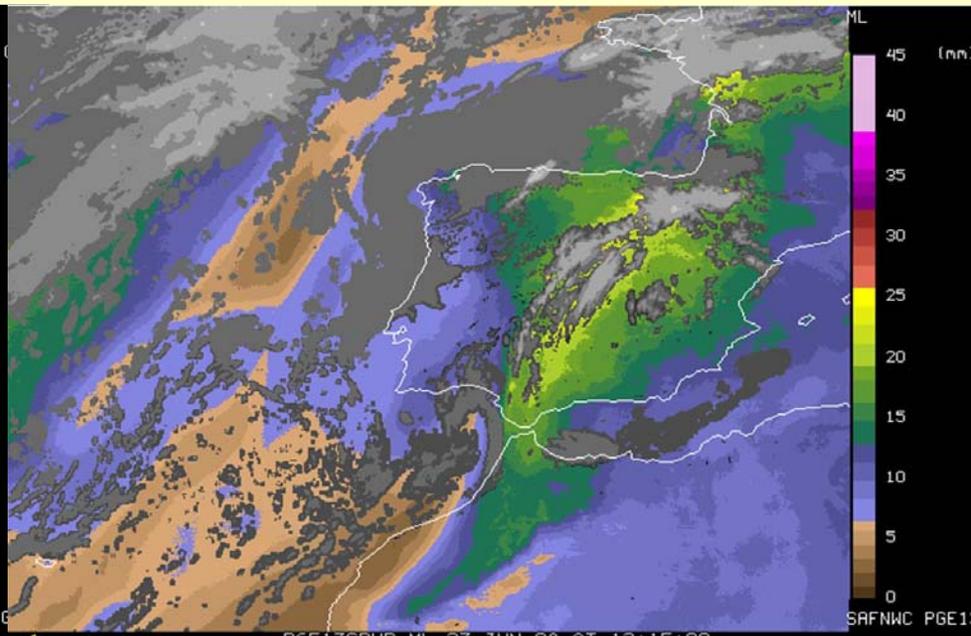
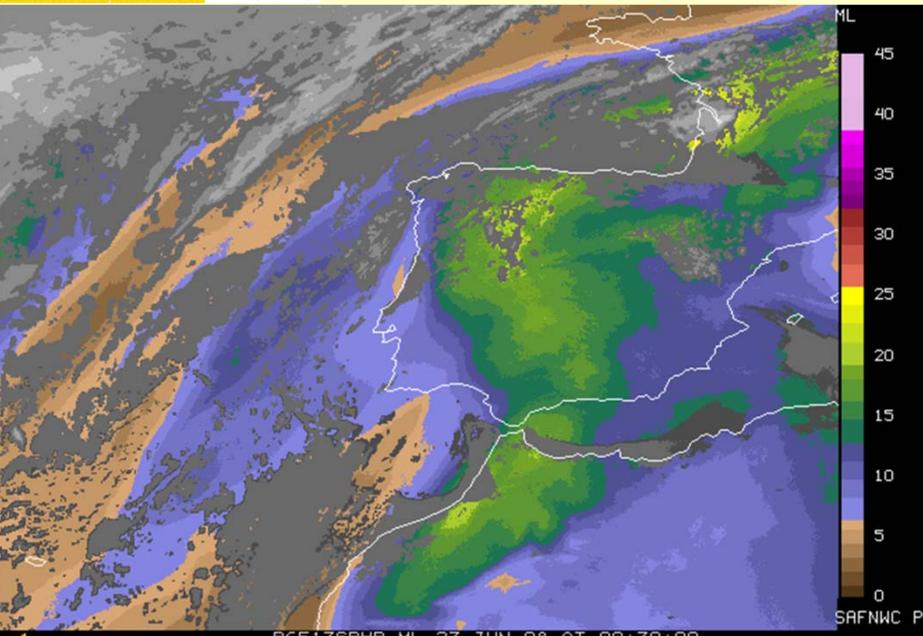


+ differences
(phy. Ret - NWP)

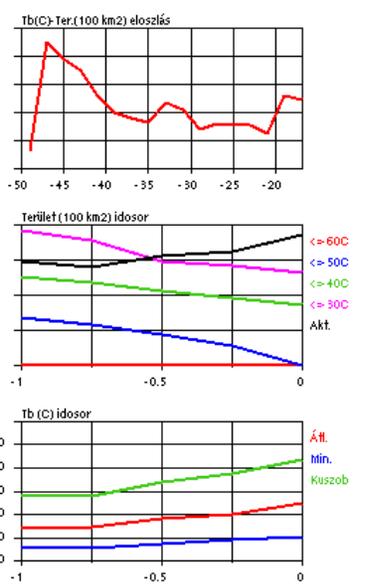
Mid-level (850-500 hPa) Layer Precipitable Water

23 June 2005

IR10.8 on cloudy areas + LPW on cloud-free areas

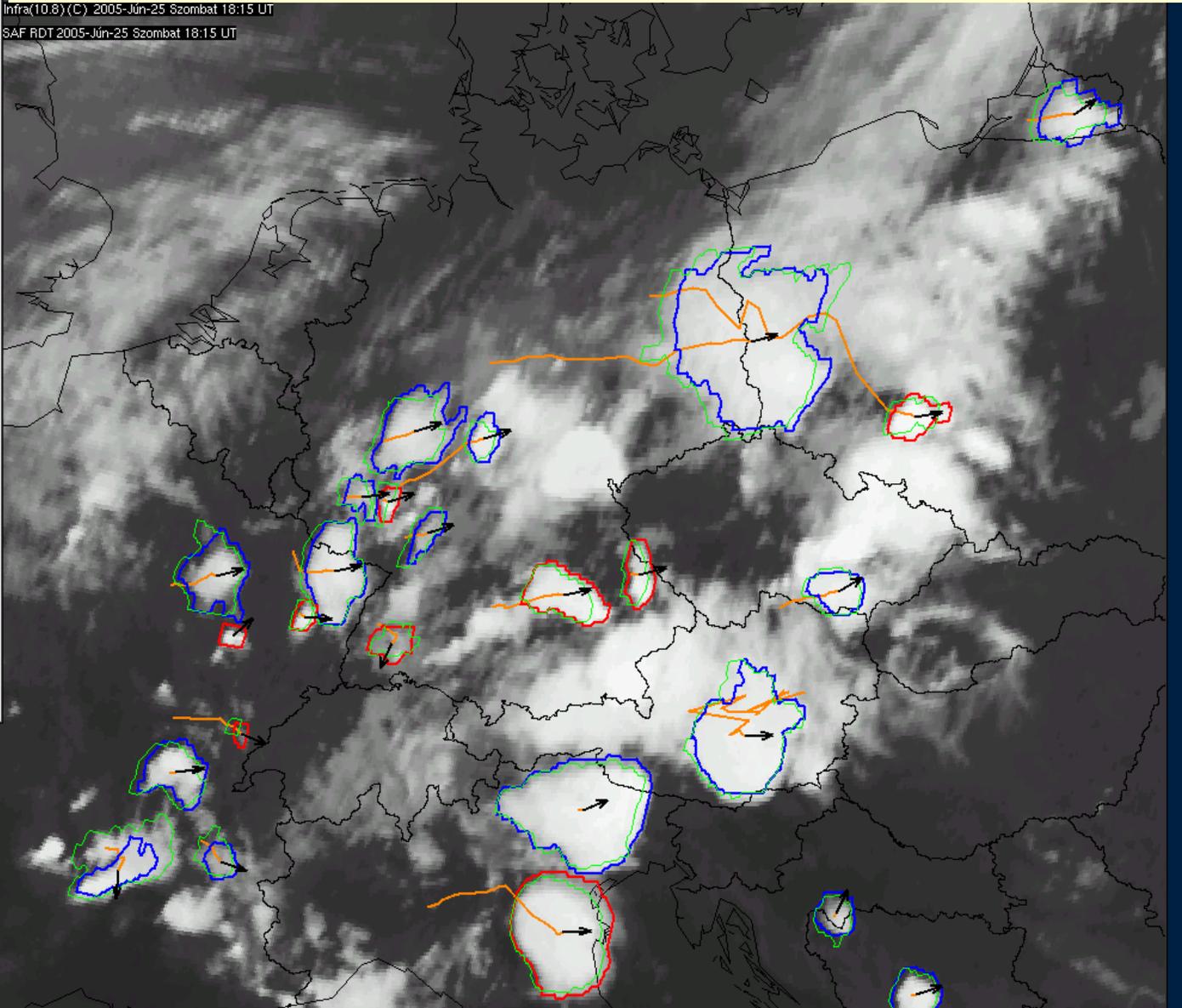


RDT
 2005-Jún-25 Szombat 18:15 UT
 Fi: 50.70
 La: 8.35
 Állapot: Leépülő cella
 Elettartam: 16 Óp
 Minimum T: -50.2 C
 Átlagos T: -35.9 C
 Hülési seb.: 5.0 K/h
 Tágulási seb.: -0.2 %/h
 Terület: 7409 km2
 Max. terület: 7409 km2
 18:14-kor (0 perce) T=-50 C
 Sebesség: 42.2 km/h
 Nyomás: 375 hPa
 Villám +: 65535
 Villám -: 65535
 Villám IC: 65535



IR10.8 + RDT
 Rapid Developing
 Thunderstorm
 2005.06.25.
 18:15

Time series of IR10.8 : Detection, tracking of cloud systems. Discrimination of convective clouds from non-convective clouds (IR10.8, WV6.2, WV7.3, IR8.7 and IR12.0). It calculates many useful parameters for each tracked cloud system/cell
+ lightning data (optional)



Infra(10.8): -48 - -46 (C)
 RDT: Leépülő cella seb: 42.2 (k/h) ir: 066 p: 375 (hPa) m_tb: -50 (C) a_tb: -36 (C) exp_r: -0.2 (%/h) cool_r: 5.0 (K/h)

Fi: 50.71 La: 8.33

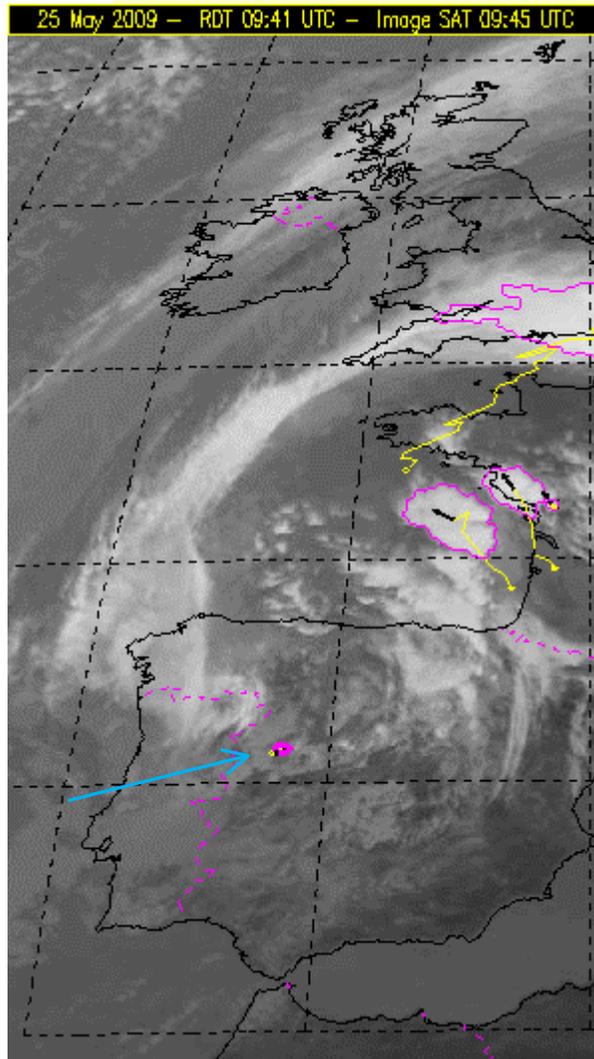


Rapid Developing Thunderstorm

25.05.2009. 09:45 UTC

Case study of the developers

Small cell showing all signs of rapid developing.

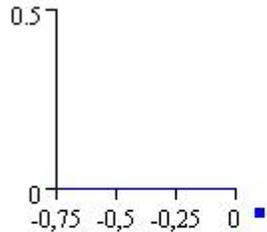


Phase : Mature
Threshold temp. : -7 °C
Minimum temp. : -41 °C
Temperature change : -55 °C/h
Expansion rate : +31% / 15 mn (-9 => +233 km2/h)
Duration : 56 mn
Speed : 5.3 m/s
Lightning + : 0 / 15 mn
Lightning - : 0 / 15 mn
Lightning : 0 / 15 mn
Area : 0.31 (1000)km2
Lat C.G. : 40.72 °
Lon C.G. : -5.92 °

Case studies/automatic applications

Time series of lightning strokes / 15mn

- strokes / + strokes / strokes or IC

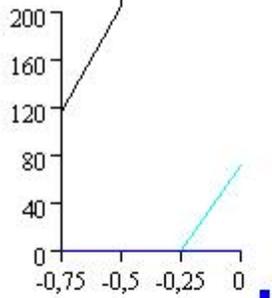


Time series of area (km2)

T <= -61°C T <= -51°C

T <= -41°C T <= -31°C

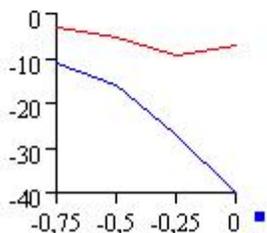
T <= -7°C



Time series of temperature

Minimum temp.

Threshold temp.



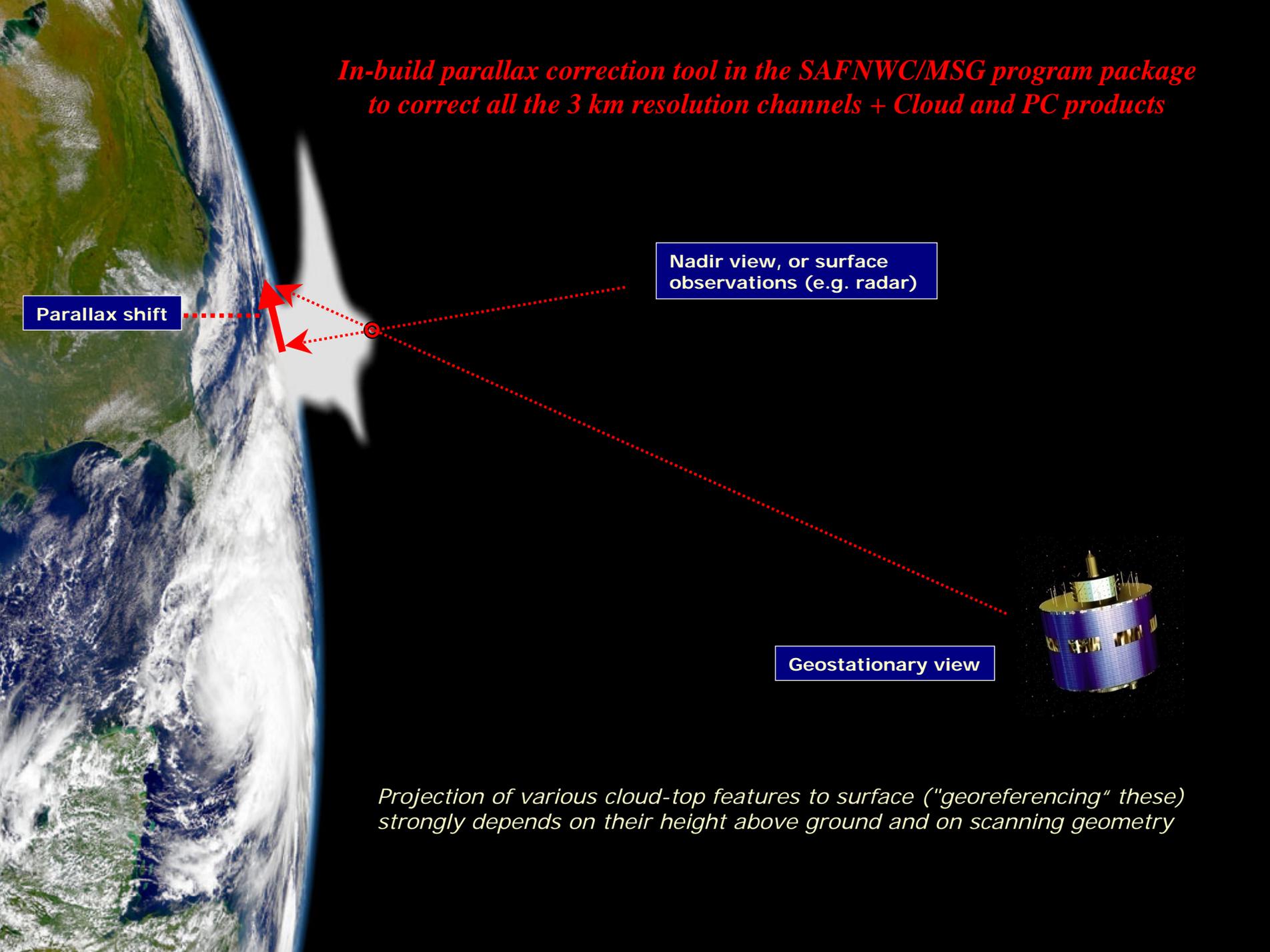
In-built parallax correction tool in the SAFNWC/MSG program package to correct all the 3 km resolution channels + Cloud and PC products

Parallax shift

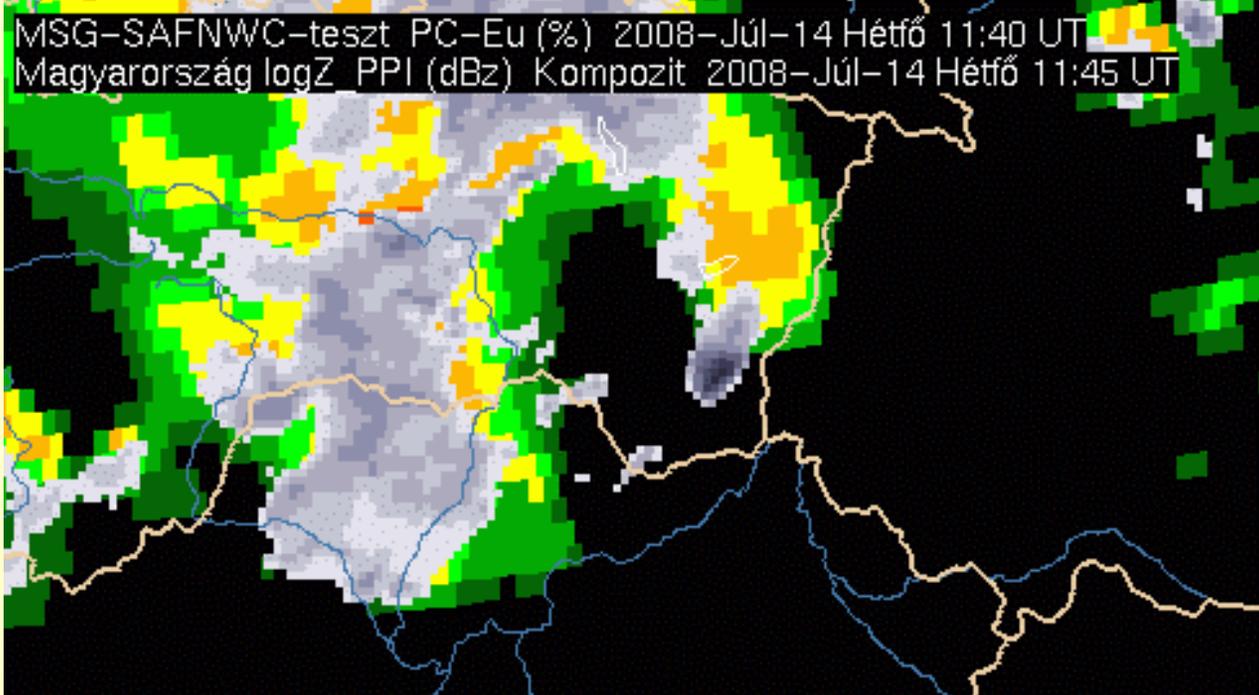
Nadir view, or surface observations (e.g. radar)

Geostationary view

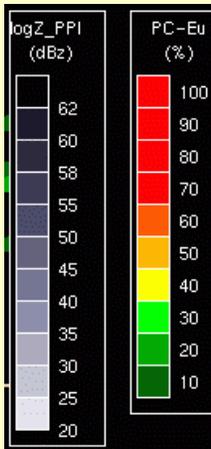
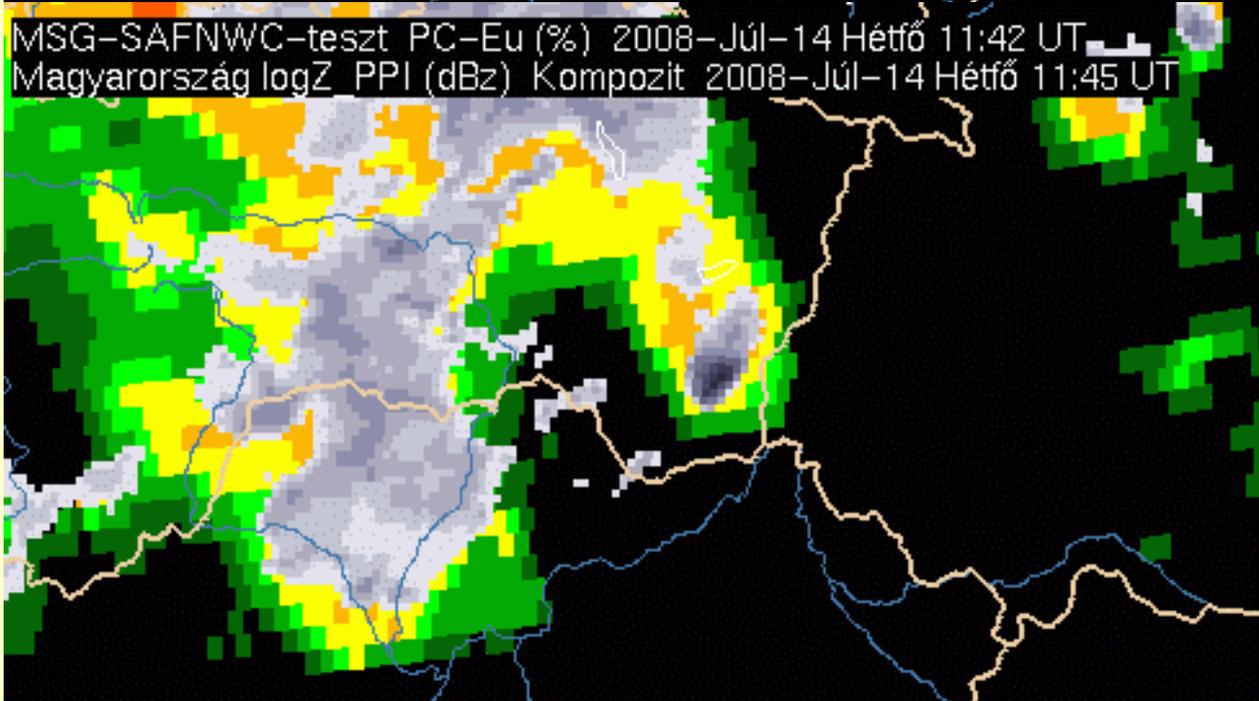
Projection of various cloud-top features to surface ("georeferencing" these) strongly depends on their height above ground and on scanning geometry



PC with radar



Parallax corrected PC
with radar



radar
(black&whith)

Important at
verification with
radar or with
surface
measurements.



Outlines

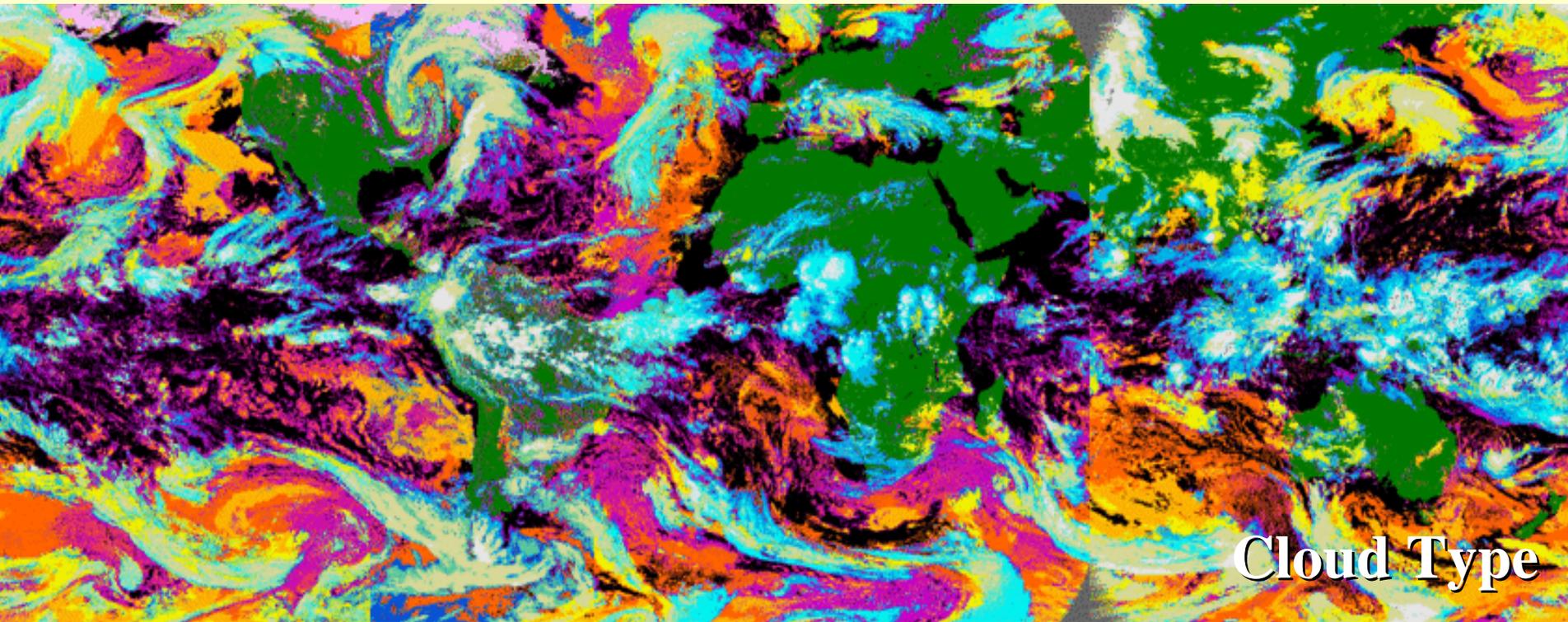
Satellite images

Derived products

- SAFNWC/MSG products (continue)
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- Automatic/interactive applications in Hungary

Next 5 year phase: extending the operability to other satellites

Single software for all geostationary satellites



GOES-W

GOES-E

MSG

MTSAT

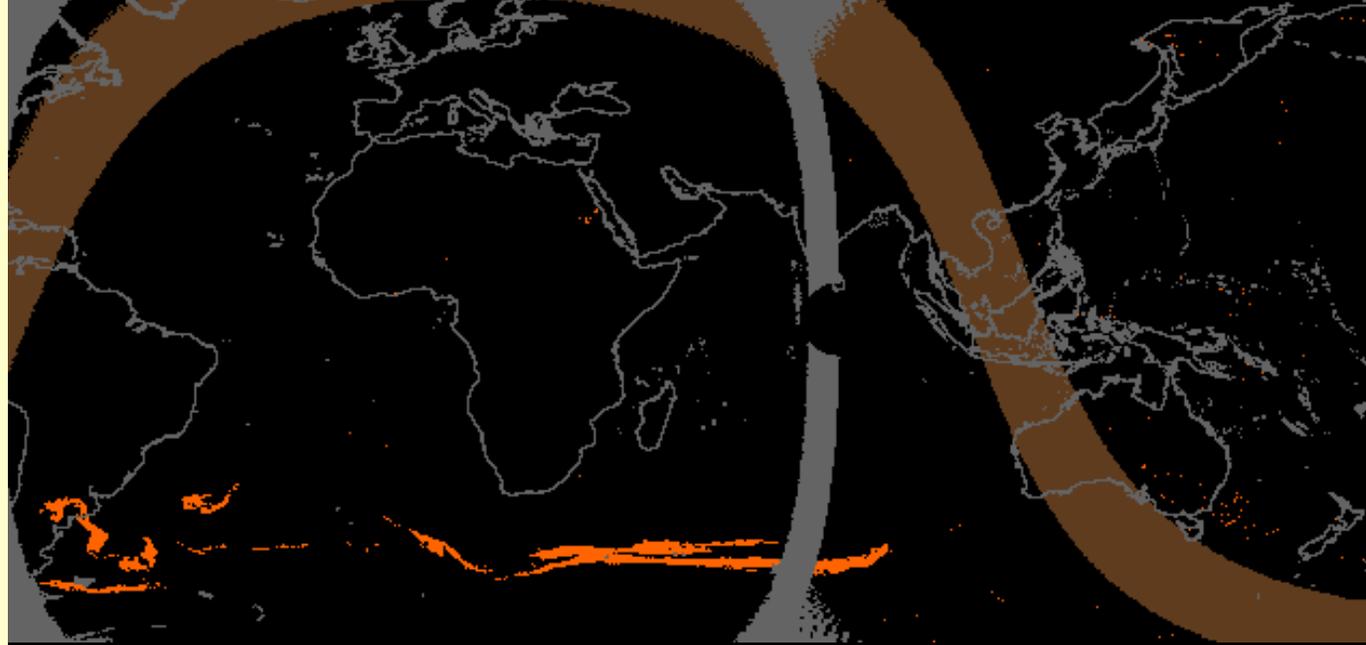
GOES-W

SAFNWC package scientifically adapted by Météo-France

Ash Flag from volcano Puyehue, Chile

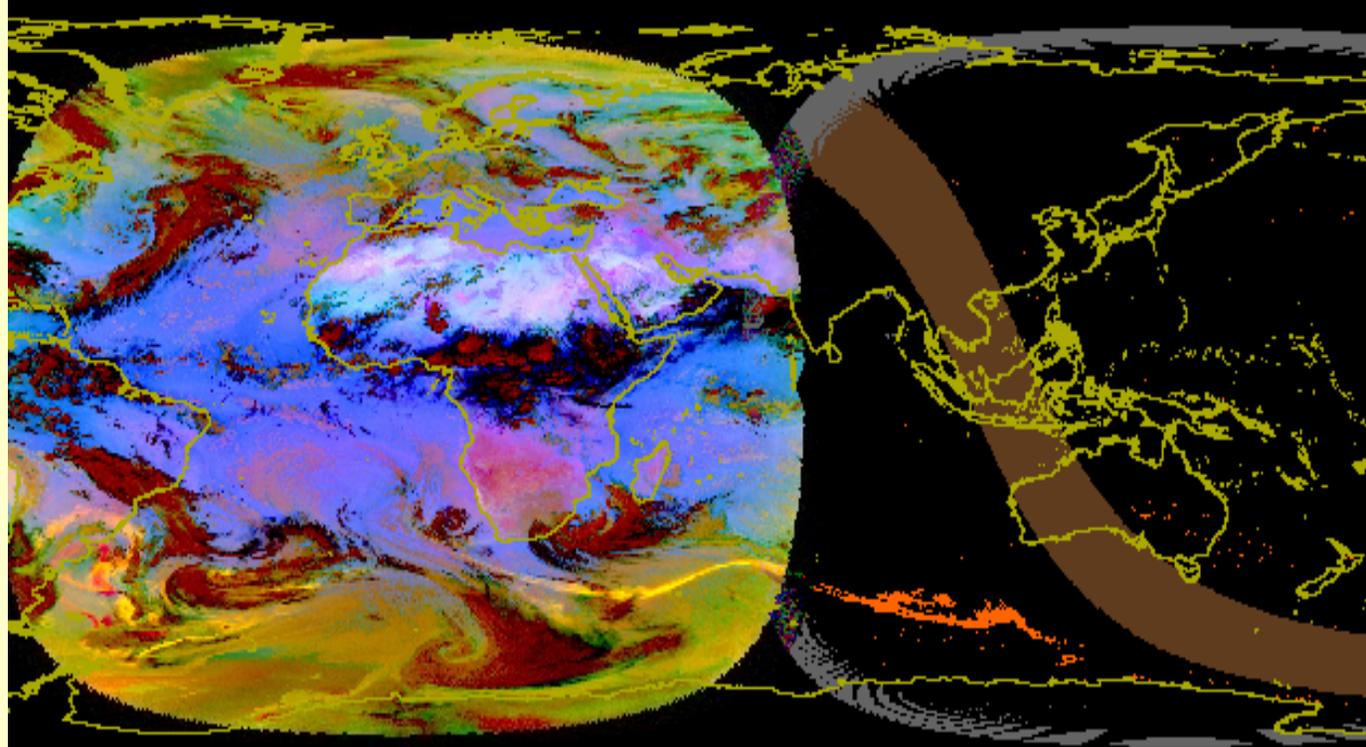
2011.06. 08 22:30 UTC

extracted from MSG and
MTSAT

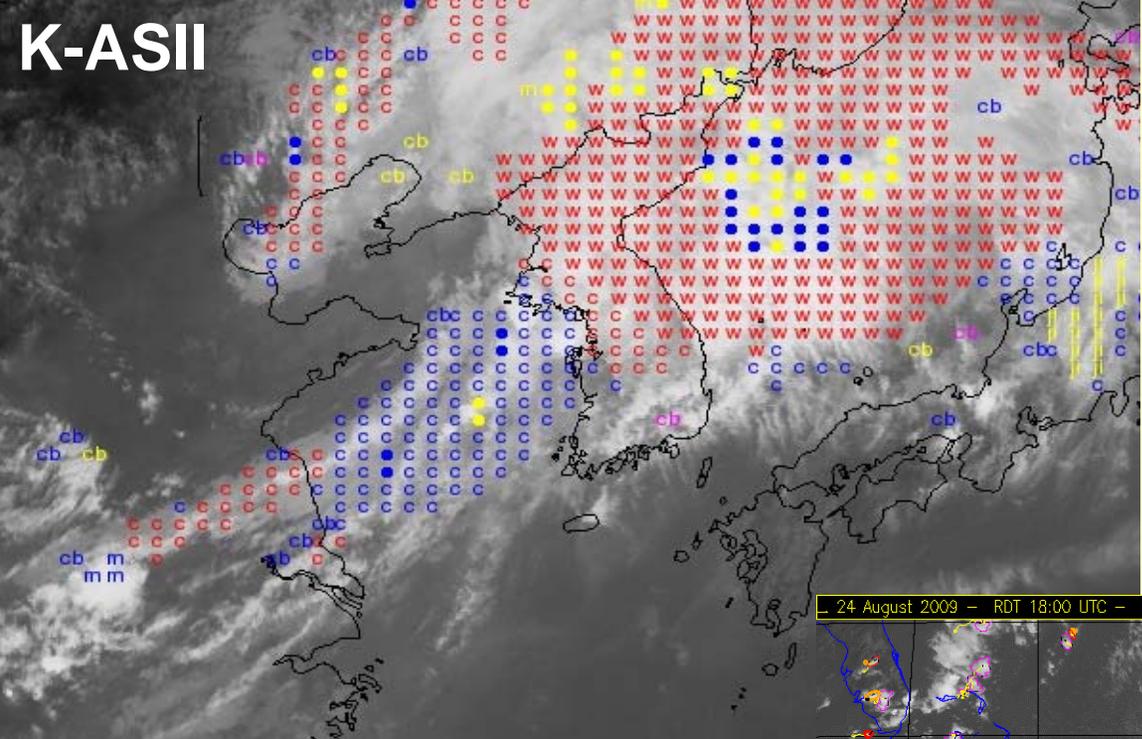


2011.06.09. 22:30 UTC

the dust RGB (MSG) and
ash flag (MTSAT)



K-ASII

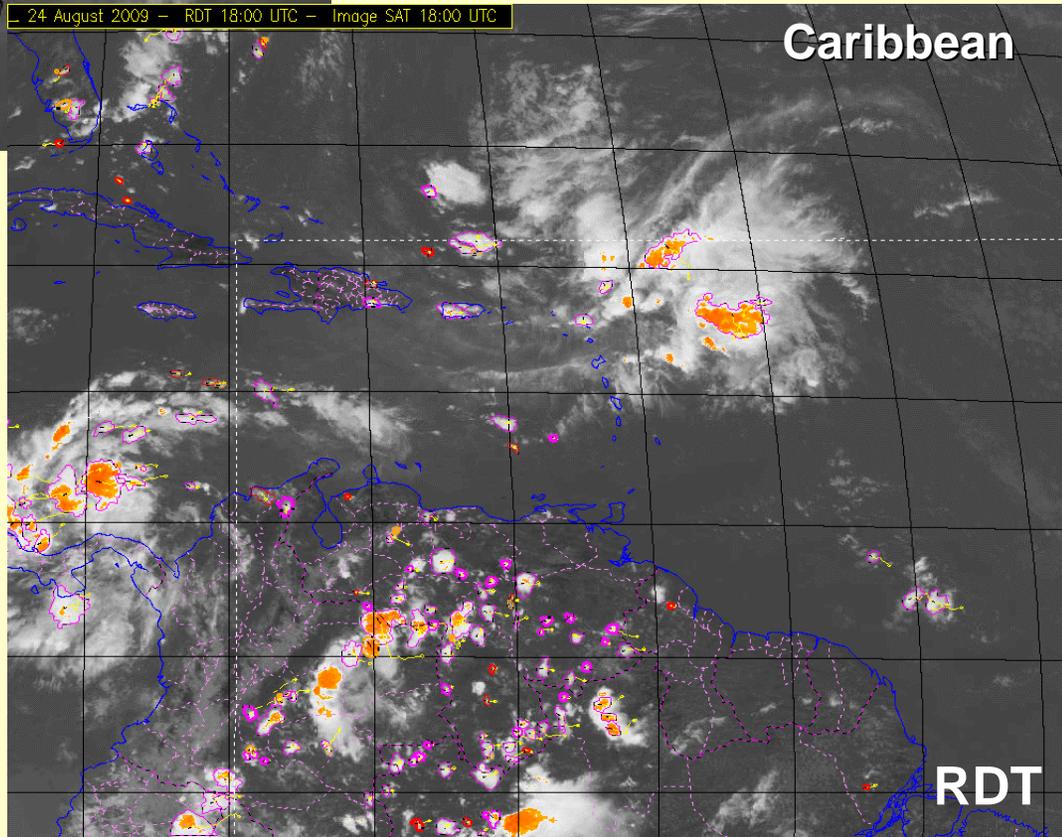


**Adaptation of NWC SAF ASII
product to the MTSAT-1R**
Courtesy of Jun-Dong Park, NMSC-
KMA (Korea)

24 August 2009 - RDT 18:00 UTC - Image SAT 18:00 UTC

Caribbean

**Adaptation of NWC SAF RDT
product to the GOES-R**
provided by Yann Guillou, MétéoFrance



RDT

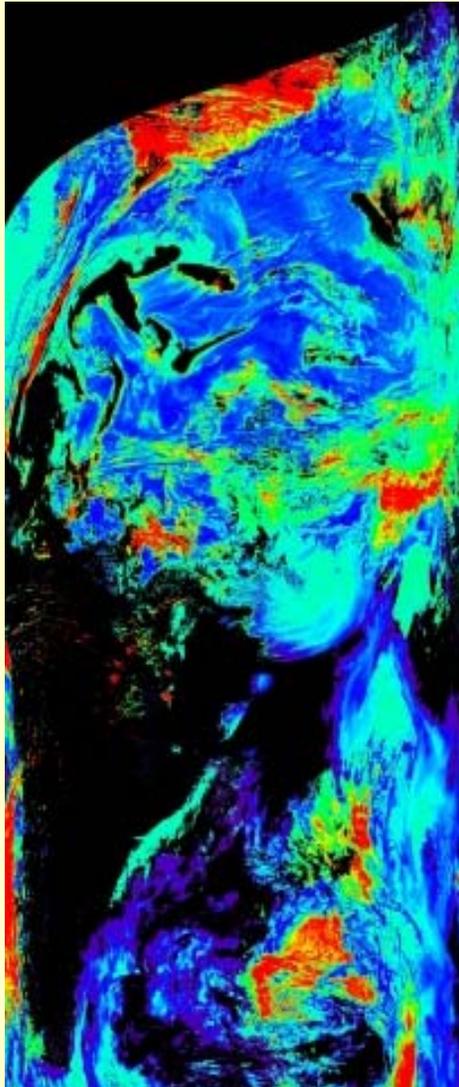
To develop new products and improve the current ones

Cloud top Microphysics

Cloud phase



Effective radius

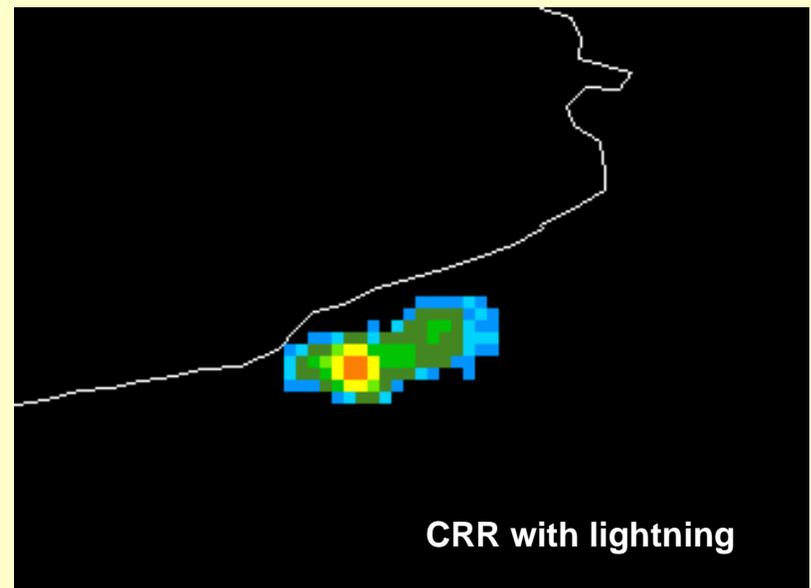
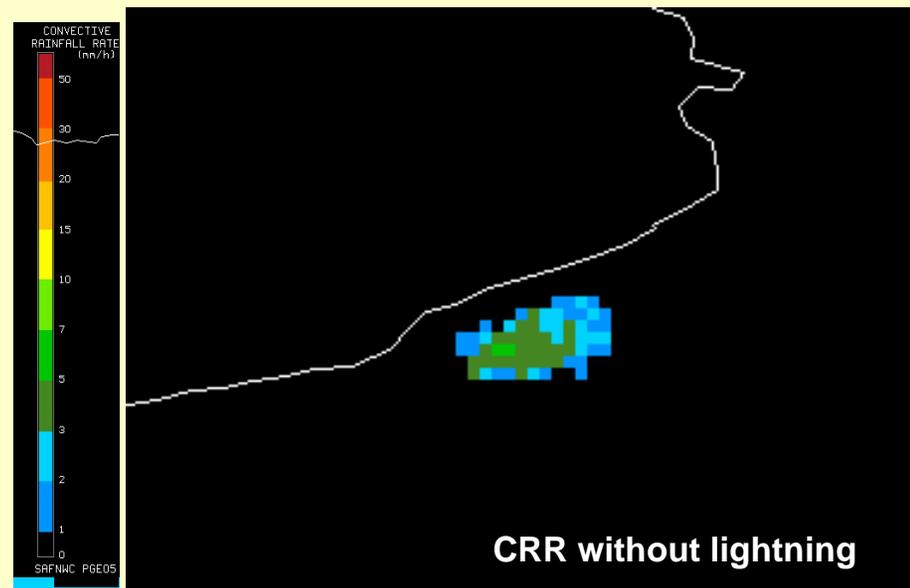
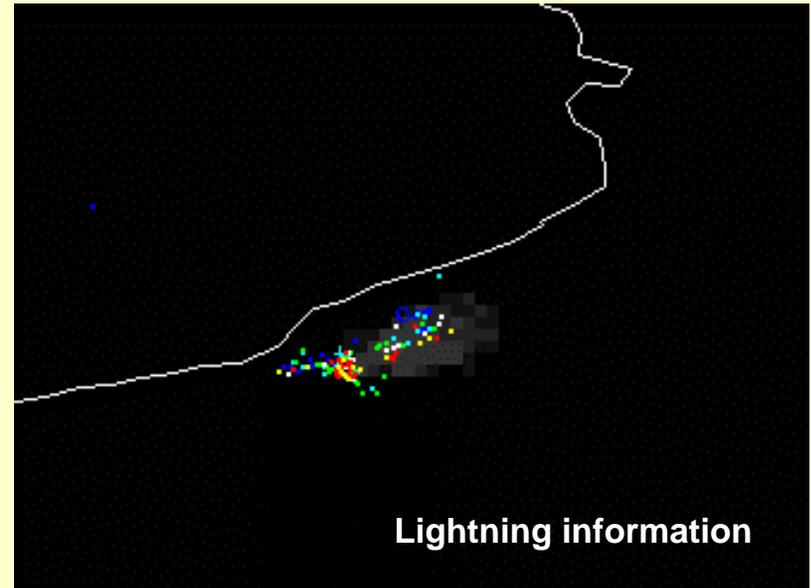
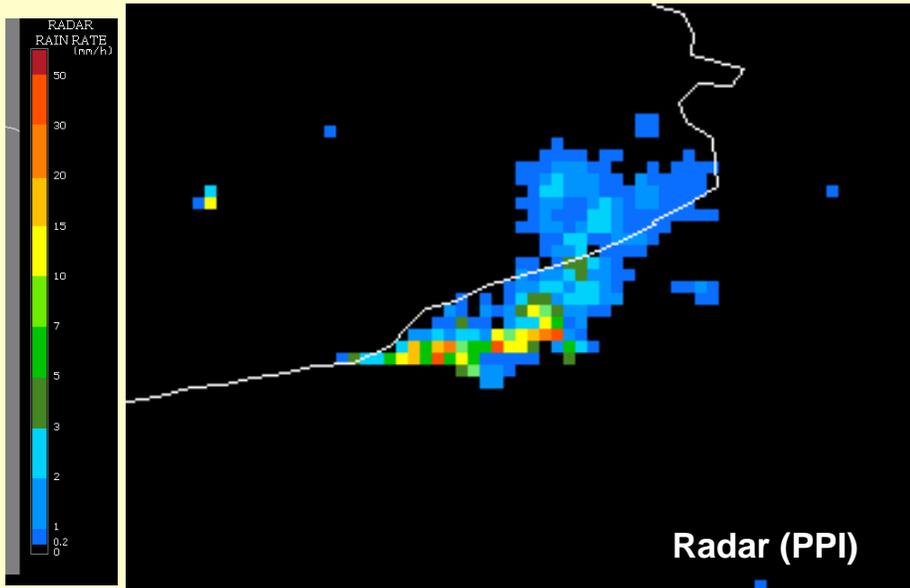


Condensed water path



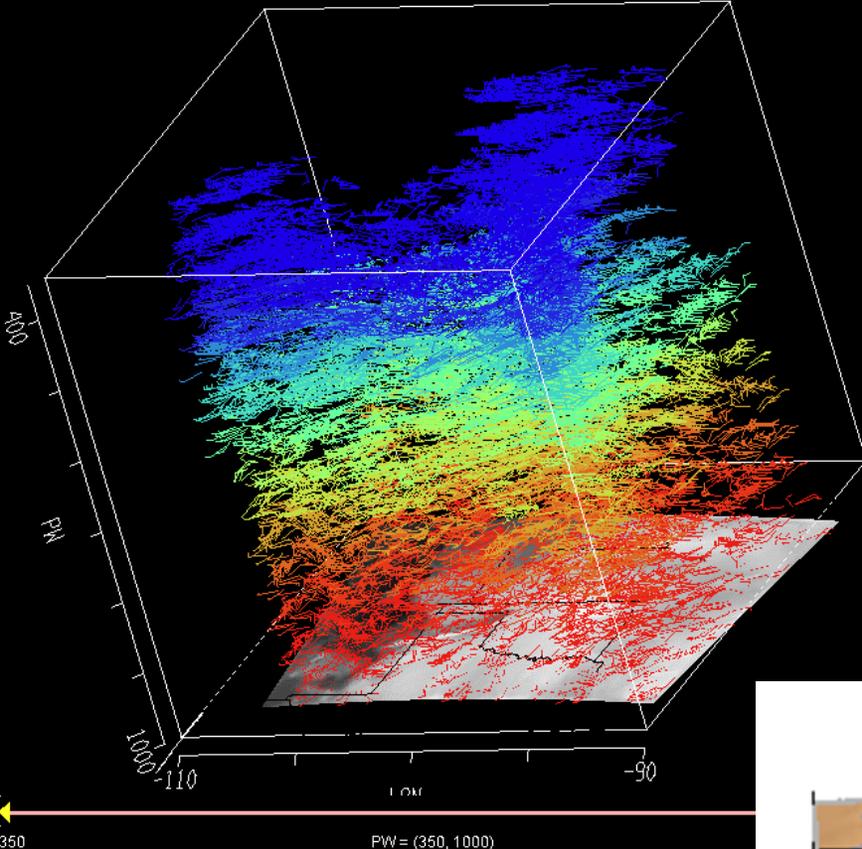
To prepare for MTG and Post-EPS

MTG-LI application to CRR

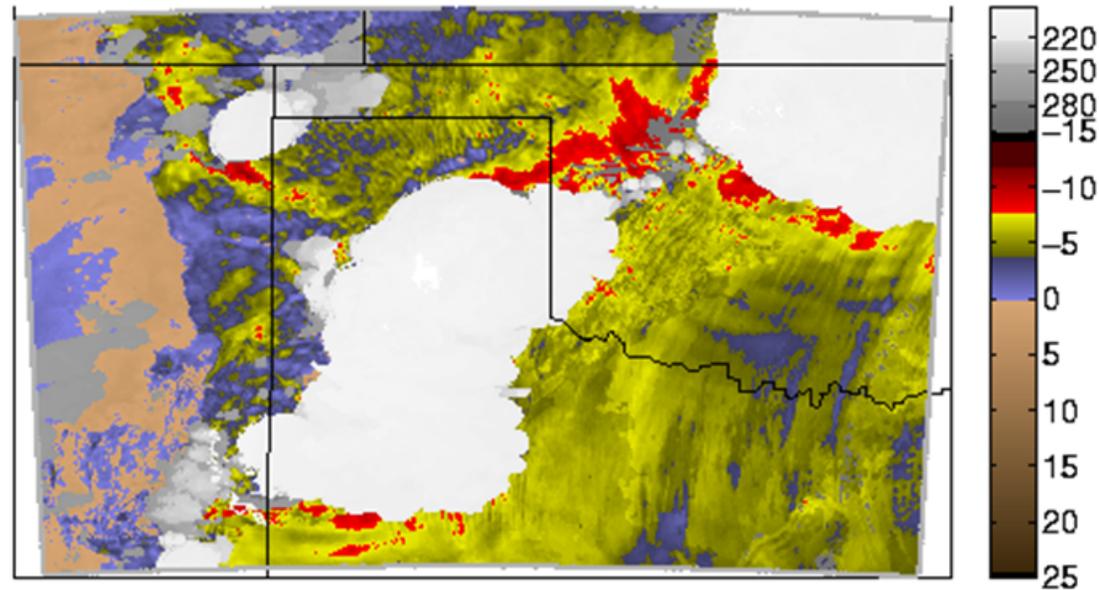


To prepare for MTG and Post-EPS

**3D wind from MTG-IRS
(possibility to calculate wind shear)**



06-12-2002, 2315 UTC
Lifted Index [°C]



**MTG-IRS application
to Lifted Index**

Outlines

Satellite images

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- Automatic/interactive applications in Hungary

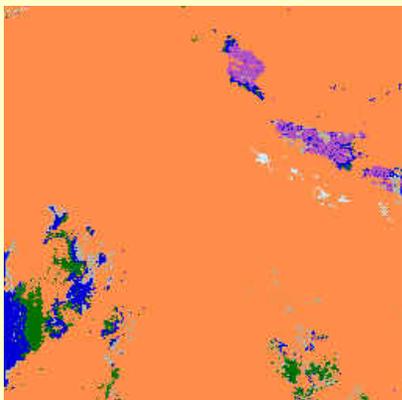
Do you use data/images of polar satellites?
Are you forecaster?

NWCSAF/PPS program package to process the data of the polar satellites:

NOAA, METOP/AVHRR + a microwave channel for PC

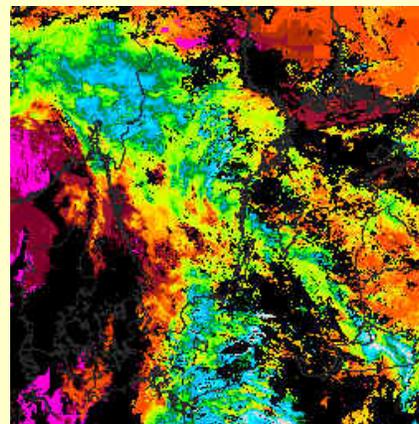
Near future: EOS/MODIS and NPP/VIIRS data

Cloud mask



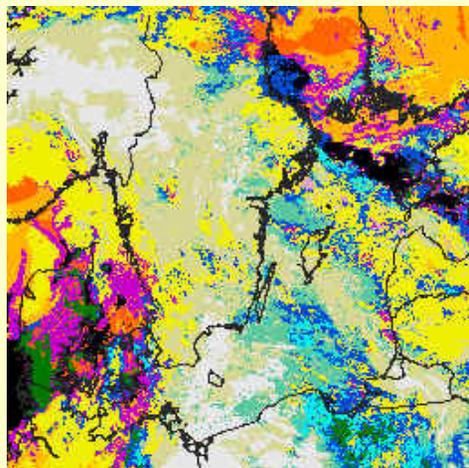
Grey	Unprocessed
Green	Cloud free land
Blue	Cloud free sea
Light grey	Cloud contaminated
Orange	Cloud filled
Light blue	Snow/Ice contaminated
Brown	Unclassified
Purple	Low quality

Cloud top temperature and height



Black	Unprocessed
Magenta	0-500m
Dark red	500-1000m
Red	1000-1500m
Yellow-green	4500-5000m
Green	5000-5500m
Bright green	5500-6000m
Dark green	6000-6500m

Cloud type



Green	Cloud free	White	Very high
Black	Cloud free	Blue	Very thin cirrus
Pink	Snow	Cyan	Thin cirrus
Purple	Snow/Ice	Light blue	Thick cirrus
Orange	Very low	Teal	Cirrus above
Yellow	Low	Magenta	Fractional
Light yellow	Medium level	Brown	Unclassified
Light green	High	Grey	Unprocessed

Precipitating clouds see next slide

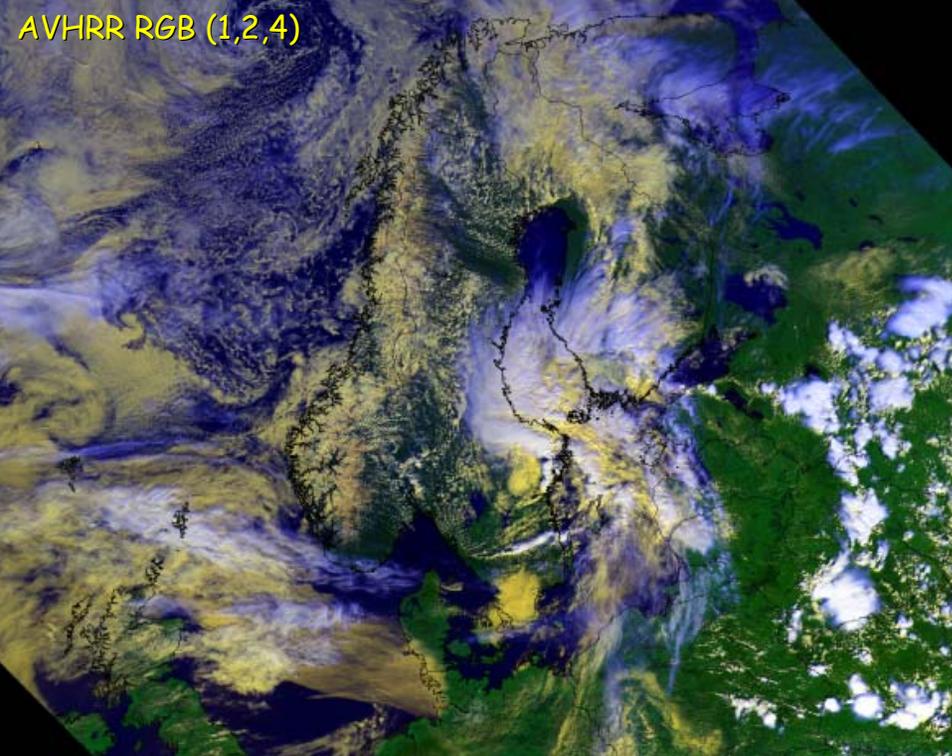
Near future: additional products:
cloud top microphysical parameters:
Cloud Optical Thickness, Cloud Phase, Effective Radius (averaged particle size),
Liquid/Ice Water path (how much water content below!)

NWCSAF webpage

<http://www.nwcsaf.org/HD/MainNS.jsp>

real time images + description

AVHRR RGB (1,2,4)



SAFNWC/PPS

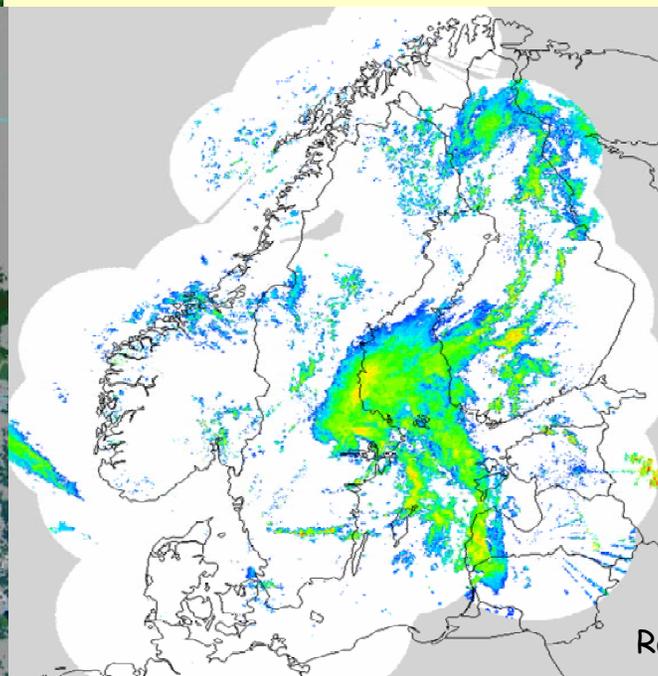
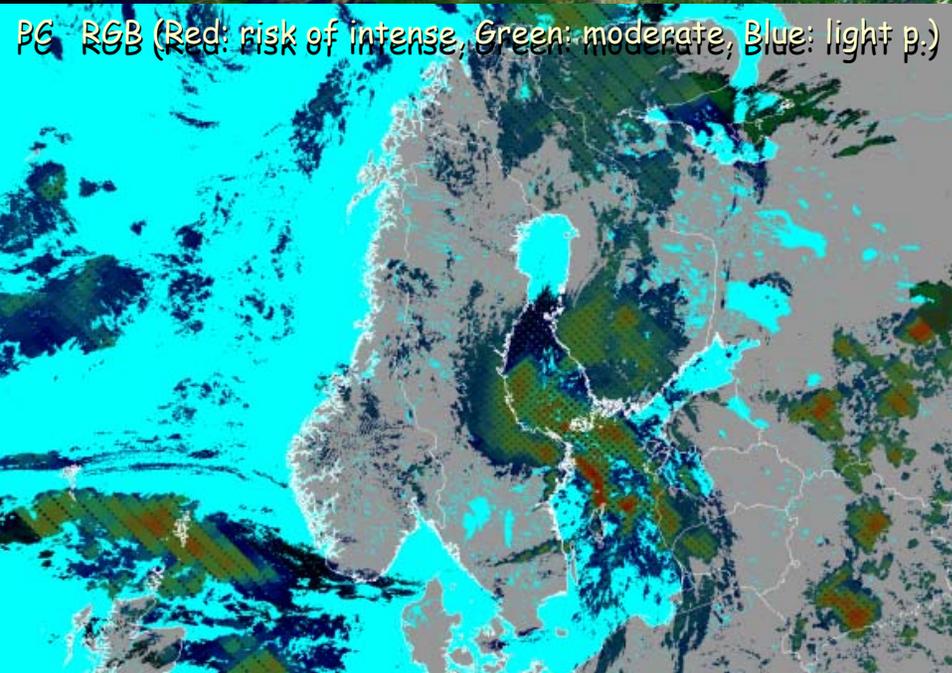
Precipitating Clouds (PC)

precipitation likelihood from AVHRR + microwave data.

- No precipitation (rain rate < 0.1 mm/hr)
- light precipitation: 0.1-0.5 mm/hr
- Light/moderate precipitation: 0.5-5.0 mm/hr
- Intensive (convective) precipitation: >5.0 mm/hr

23 May 2010 11:27 UTC

PC RGB (Red: risk of intense, Green: moderate, Blue: light p.)



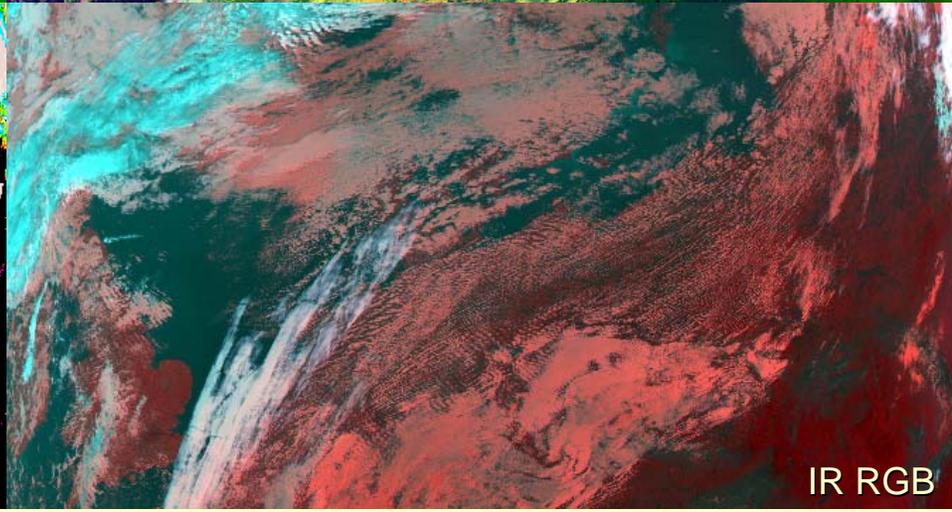
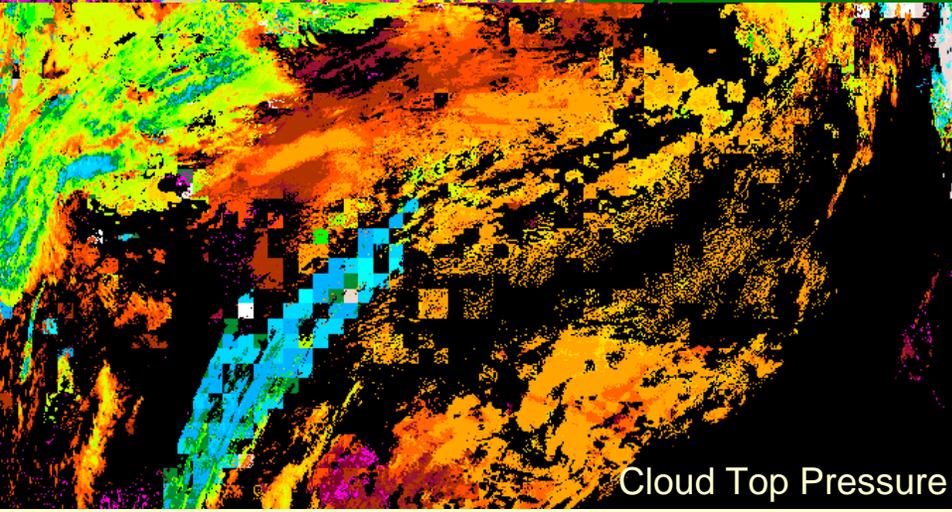
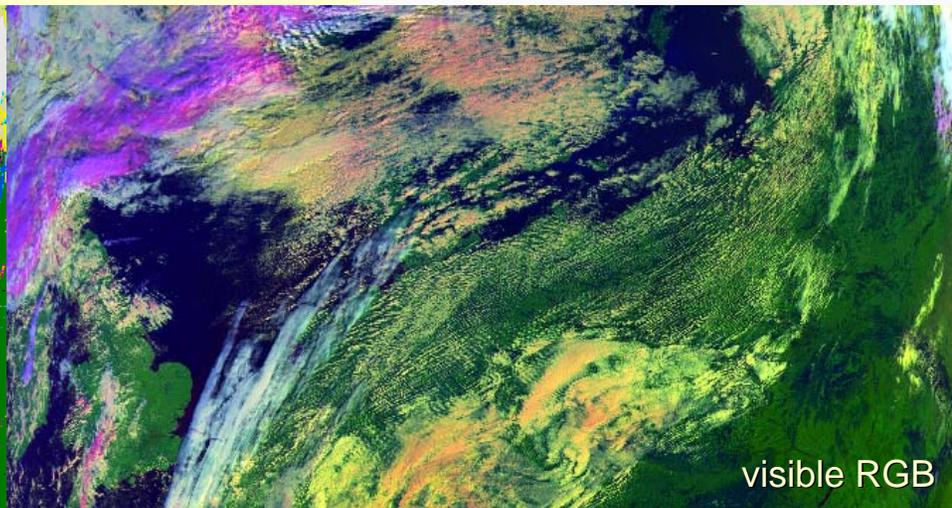
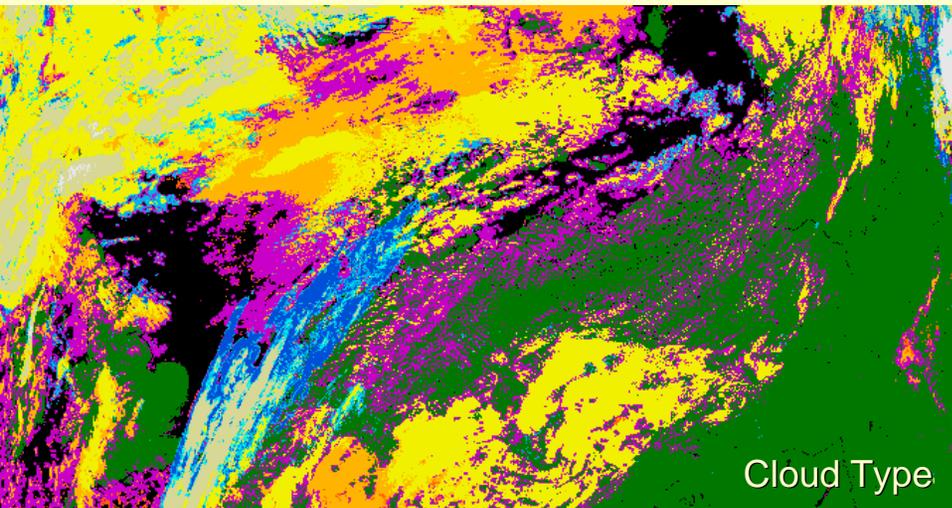
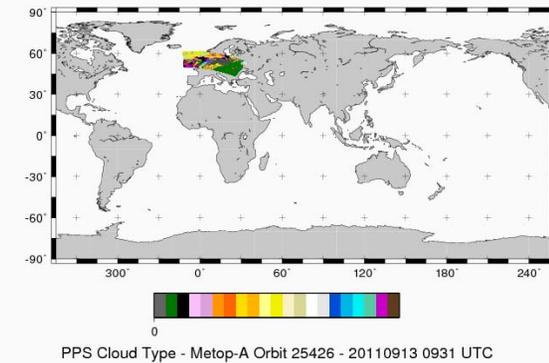
SMHI

Radar 11.30 UTC

SMHI webpage - real time images - global reception METOP-A

<http://nwcsaf.smhi.se/displaymetop.php>

Also local reception <http://nwcsaf.smhi.se/LocalReception.php>
for some regions all PPS products



Outlines

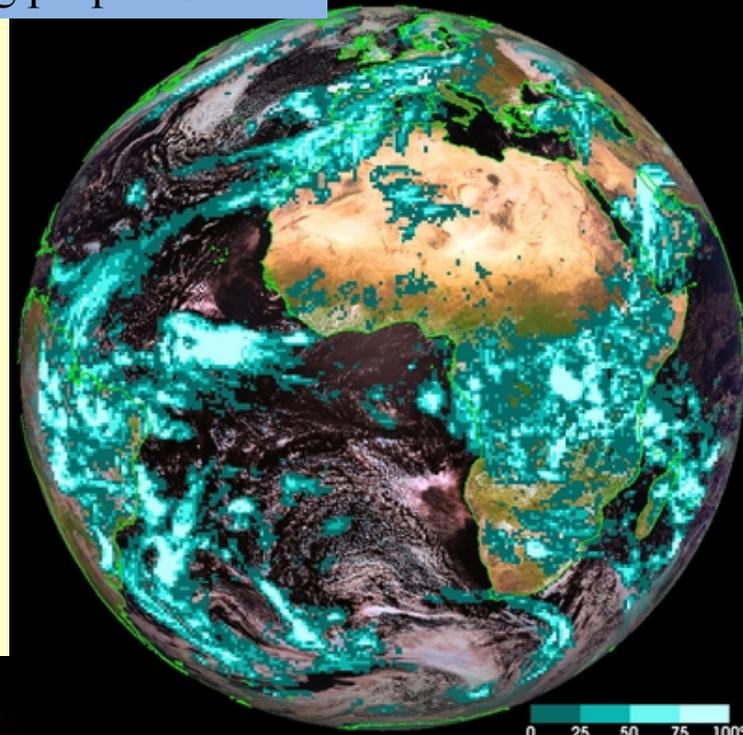
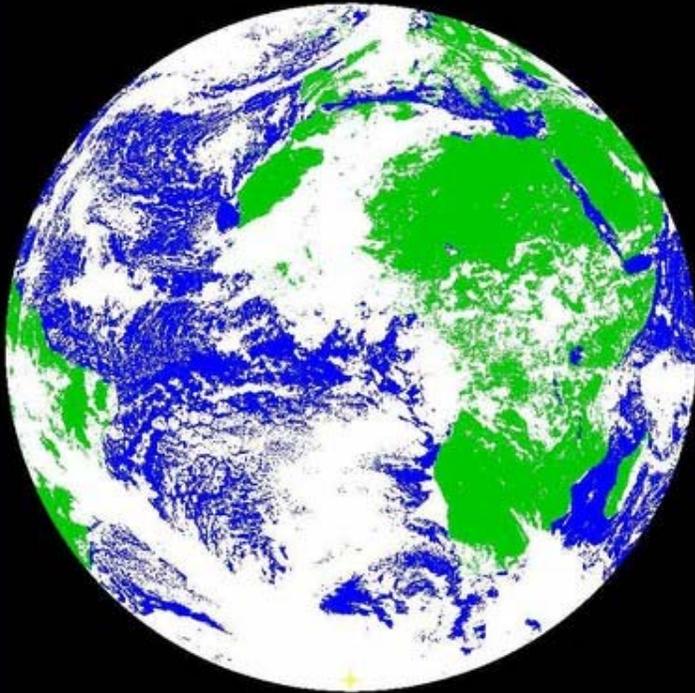
Satellite images

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Products
Not software

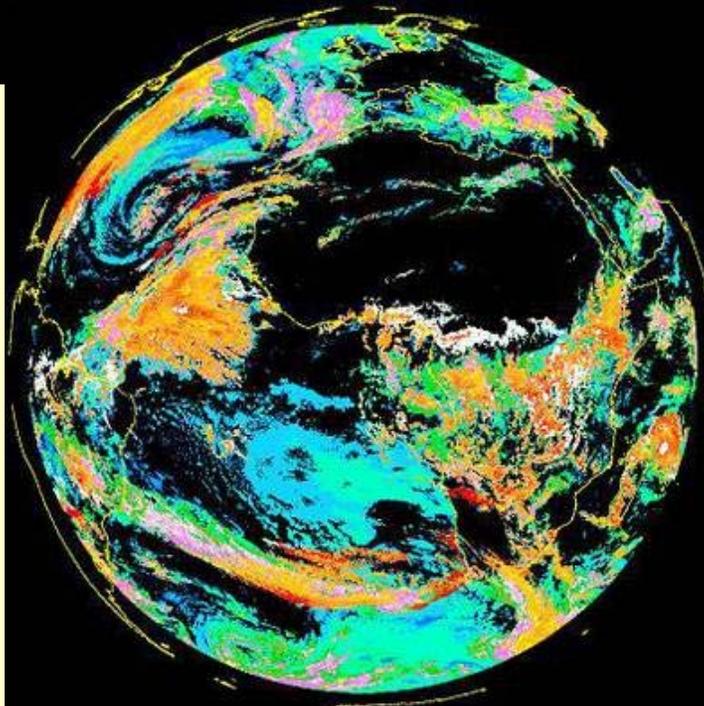


Cloud Mask

clear sky over water, clear sky over land, cloud, or not processed.

Cloud Analysis
cloud type, coverage, height and temperature

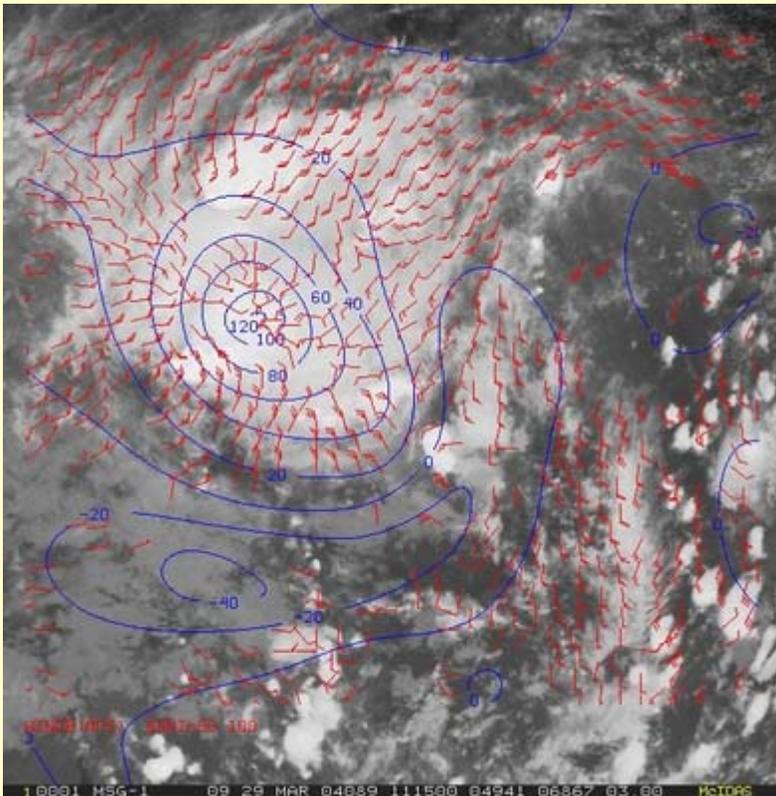
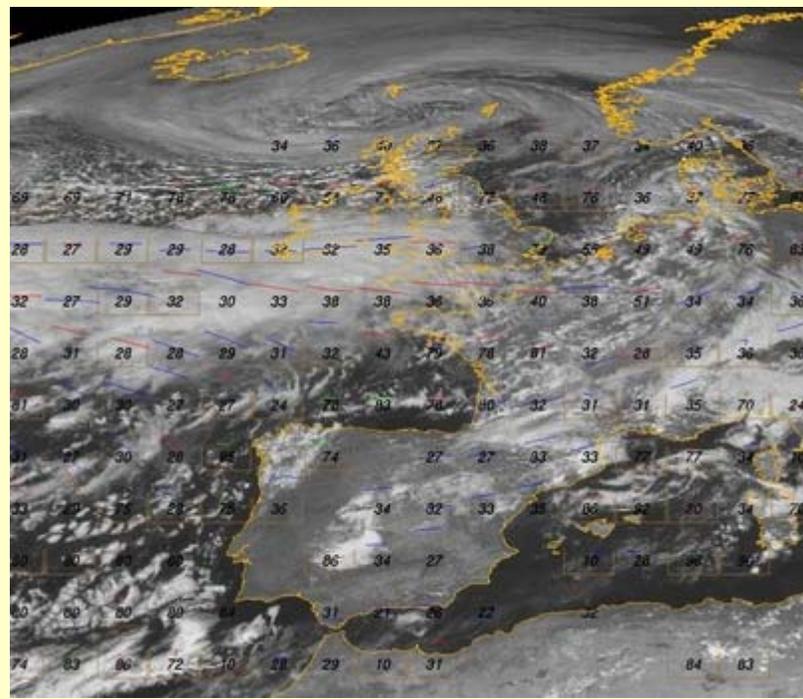
Cloud Top Height
of highest cloud.



Volcanic Ash Detection

Atmospheric Motion Vectors derived from VIS0.8, WV6.2, WV7.3, IR10.8 and the HRV, by tracking the motion of clouds /water vapor patterns.

Each AMV is assigned to a height.
(5- and 15-min AMVs)



Divergence

The Divergence is calculated from the field of the WV6.2 AMVs. High level (above 400 hPa) vectors are considered. Horizontal Divergence and Relative Vorticity on a 32 x 32 pixel grid.

Tropospheric Humidity

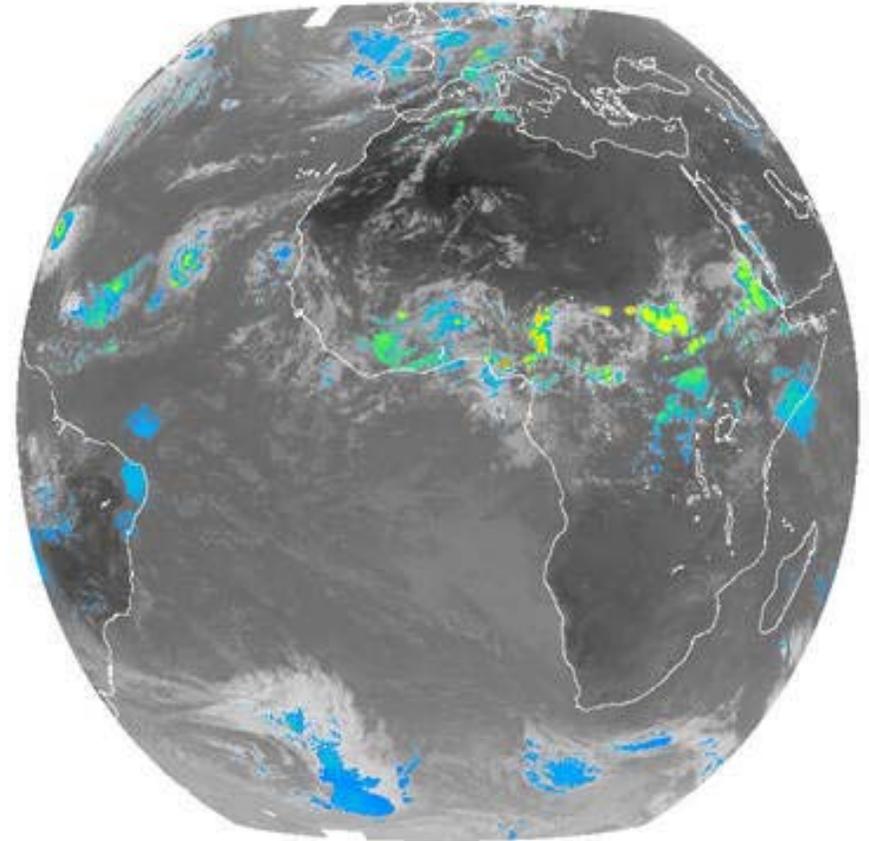
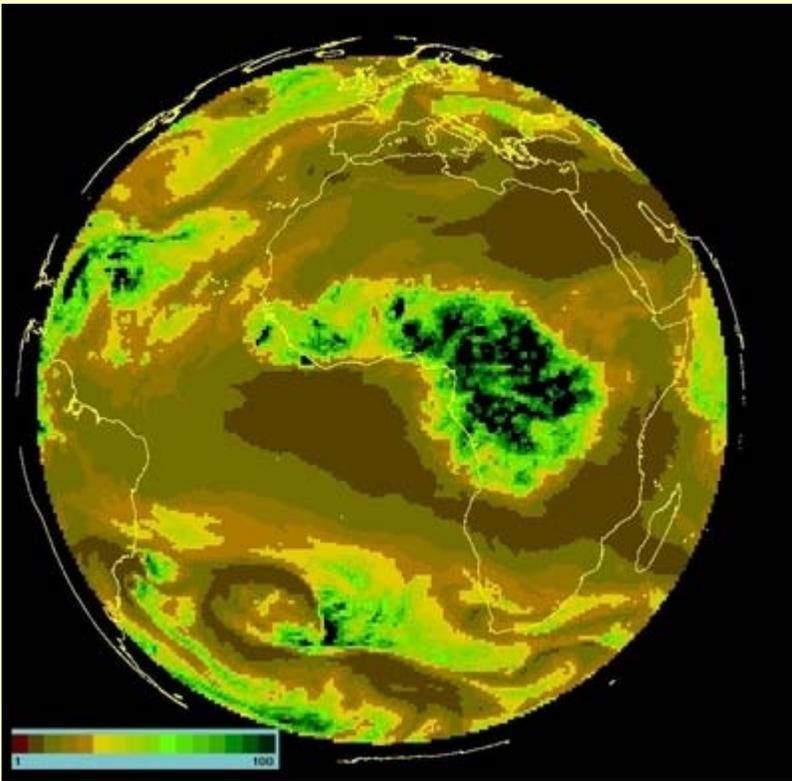
Relative humidity in mid and upper layers of the troposphere.

Mean RH of ~300-600 hPa layer derived from WV6.2

Mean RH of ~600-850 hPa layer derived from WV7.3

Res. 16x16 pixel

 EUMETSAT



MET9 04 SEP 2008 1515 MPEF MPE 0

Multi-Sensor Precipitation Estimate

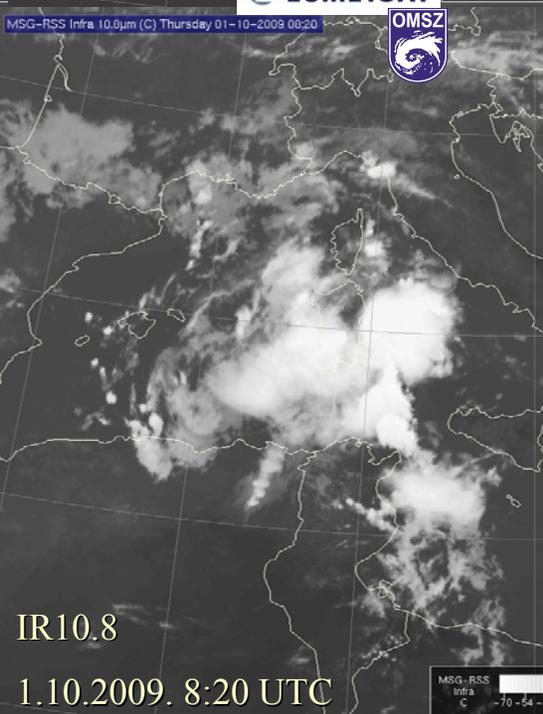
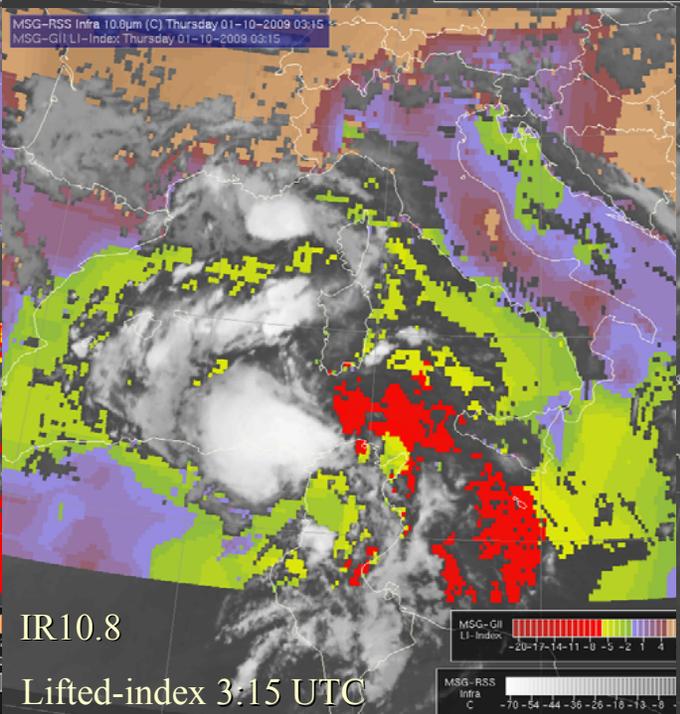
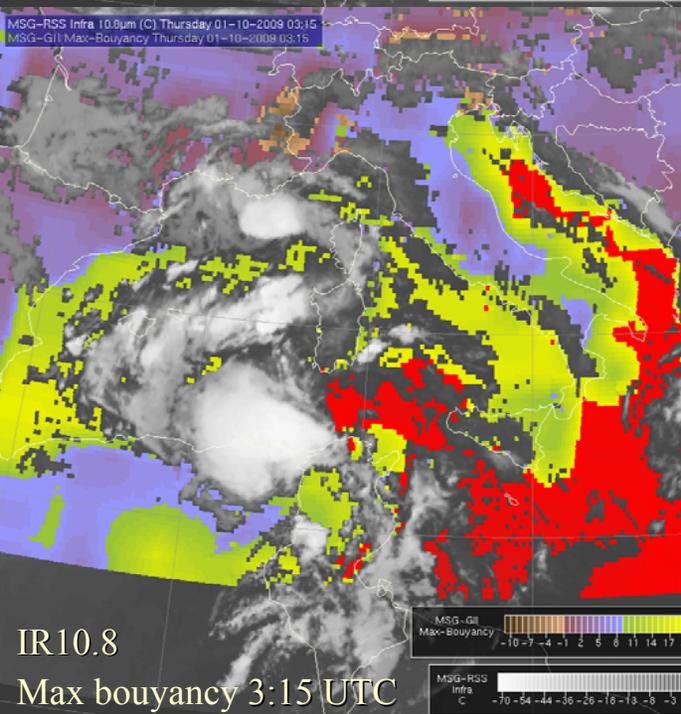
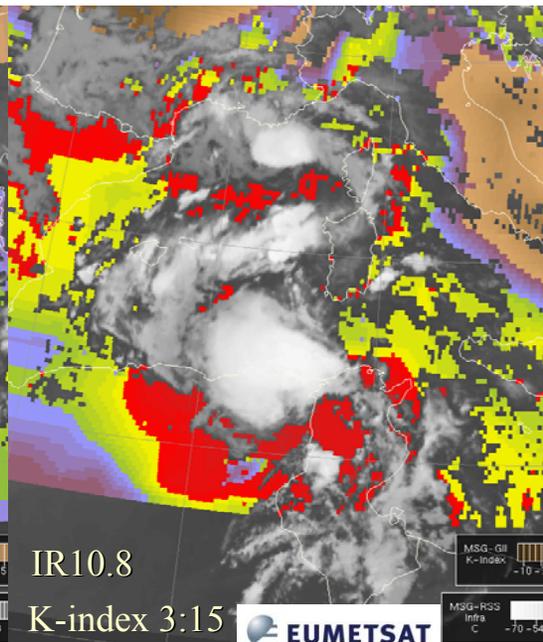
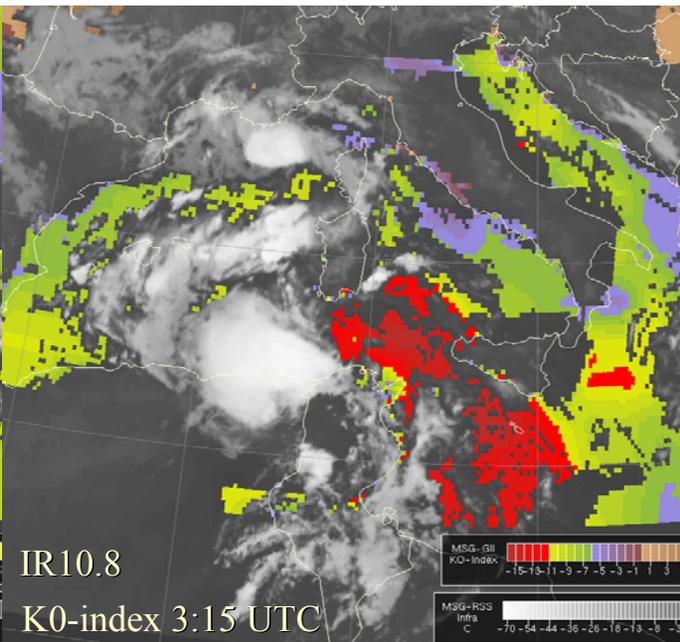
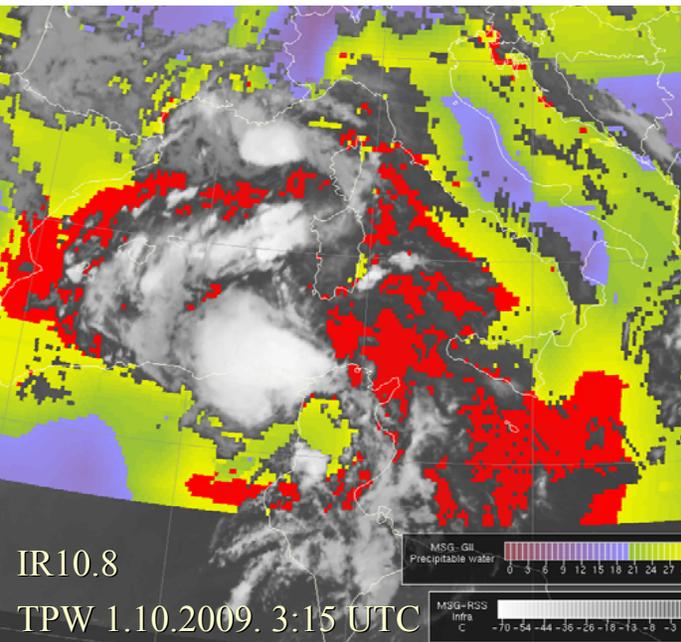
(5- and 15-minute)

rain rates in mm/hr, pixel resolution

Combination of polar orbiter microwave measurements and IR10.8 channel data.

Most suitable for convective precipitation in areas with poor or no radar coverage, especially in Africa and Asia.

Global Instability Index Total Precipitable Water and instability in cloud free areas. 3x3p. R11 5min, 1x1 pixel



Outlines

Satellite images

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Applications of the NWC SAF/MPEF products at the Hungarian Meteorological Service

Interactive applications HAWK software Visualization tool

Visualization for

- the forecasters
- evaluation of case studies
- Verification
 - of the satellite products (eg. with radar)
 - of NWP forecasts, simulations with the satellite images/products

What is visualized regularly?

- 4 single channels + RGBs
- Some of the NWCSAF products (CT, CTTH, RDT, ASII, PC, HRW)
- MPEF RII (GII)
- Cloud amount, ‘infra-cloud image’

Most often used products by the duty forecasters:

Winter period looking CT mainly to see the foggy areas (beside RGBs)

All year aviation meteorologists use CTTH to see the cloud top height
(beside radar cloud top height) (eg. in-cloud icing)

Automatic applications

Using at assimilation into the ALADIN/HU Numerical Weather Prediction Model

Assimilated satellite data/product into the ALADIN/HU

- MPEF satellite retrieved wind product (AMV) (plan: SAFNWC HRW)
- NOAA ATOVS data
- **brightness temperature (BT) data of some MSG infrared channels**

Pre-processing:

The CT and CTHH products (and their quality flags)

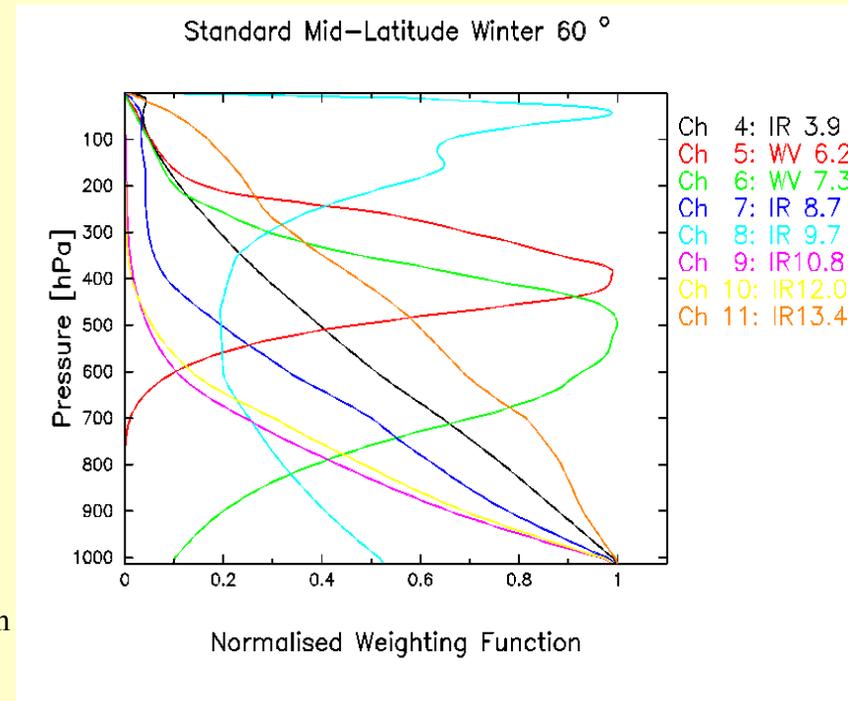
are used to select the BT pixels to be assimilated. The pixels are kept over cloud-free areas and above those clouds, for which the cloud-top pressure levels are below the tail of the weighting functions.

Test:

The **WV6.2**, **WV7.3**, **IR8.7**, **IR10.8**, **IR12.0** brightness temperatures were assimilated into the ALADIN/HU model.

Operational since June 2009

Using only **WV6.2** and **WV7.3** channels together with SYNOP data (T2m and RH2m)



Automatic applications

in the Hungarian nowcasting system (MEANDER) + warning system

MEANDER - MEsoscale Analysis, Nowcasting and DEcision Routines

present applications - since 2005

CMa, CT for deriving cloud amount

CT for filtering radar noises on cloud-free areas (+ very thin cirrus + ...)

CT for sending warning for potential foggy areas

(using CT + RH analyses, derived low visibility)

CTTH cloud top height (+ radar cloud top height + many other parameters)

estimate the maximum wind speed in the thunderstorm outflow

albedo and vegetation fraction (Land SAF) as input in WRF

(forecasted CT)

plans:

--- improve the fog module based on CT + using the 'Toulouse' algorithm (RH, wind, prec.)

--- using 6 hourly snow cover maps (CT + Land SAF Snow Cover product) to assimilate it into WRF model

--- using RDT (with radar cell tracking)

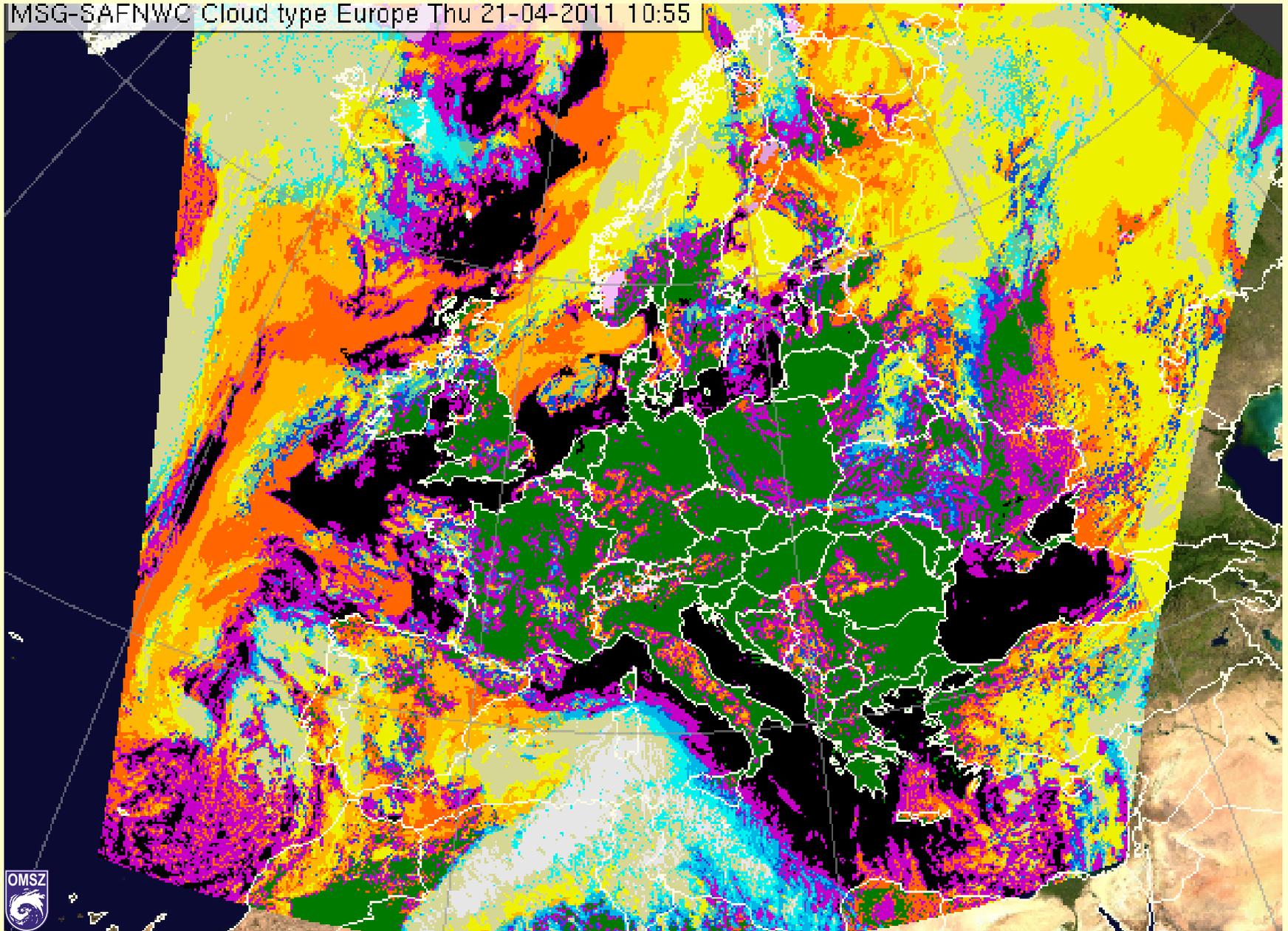
--- using Land Surface Temperature (Land SAF)

Creating 'Infra-cloud' images for partners (e.g. Roads admin.)

CT as cloud mask -- IR10.8 (black&white) on cloudy areas -- orographic map (colors) on cloud-free areas

21.04.2011. 10:55 UTC

MSG-SAFNWC Cloud type Europe Thu 21-04-2011 10:55

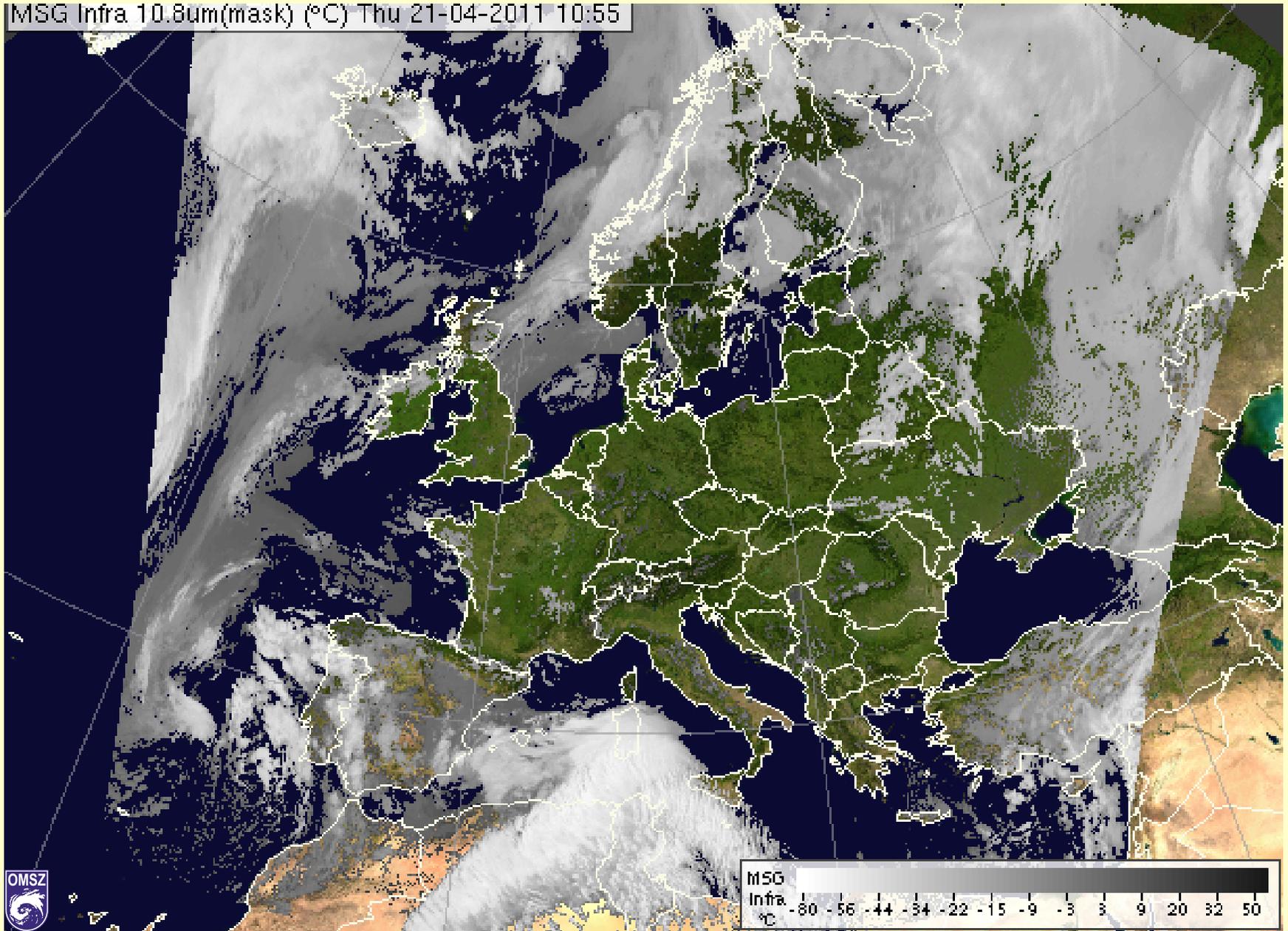


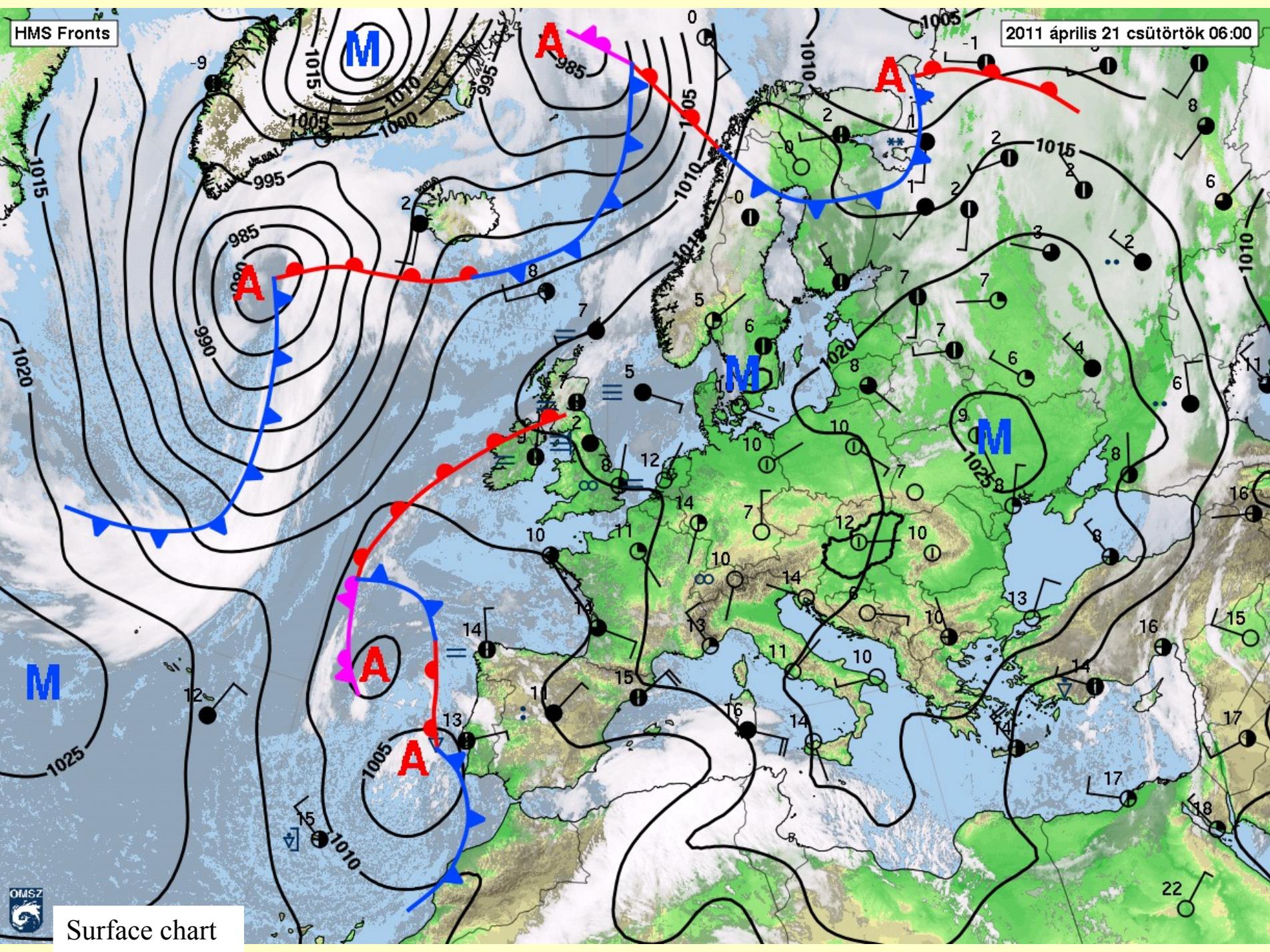
Creating 'Infra-cloud' images for partners (e.g. Roads admin.)

CT as cloud mask -- IR10.8 (black&white) on cloudy areas -- orographic map (colors) on cloud-free areas

21.04.2011. 10:55 UTC

MSG Infra 10.8um(mask) (°C) Thu 21-04-2011 10:55





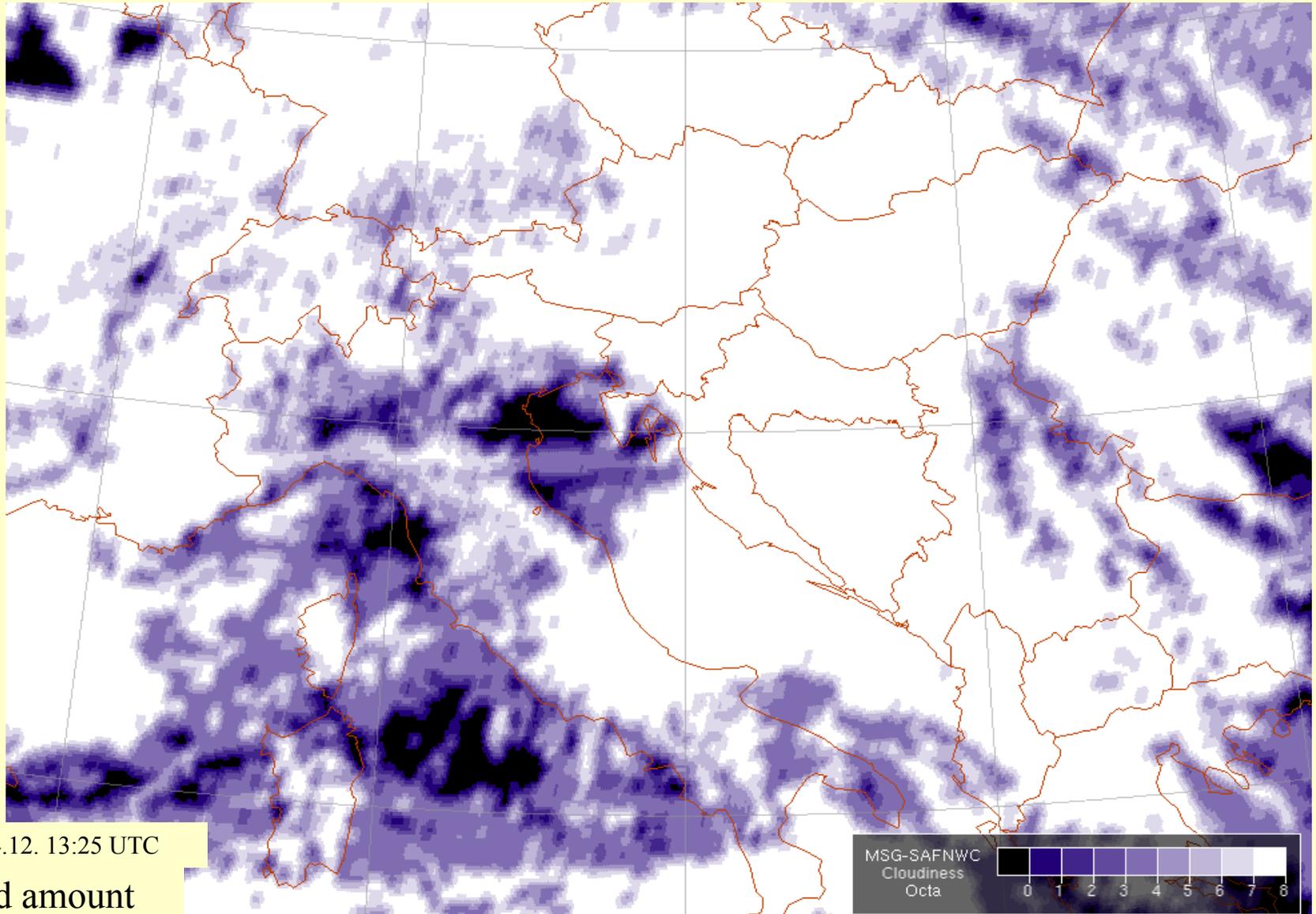
Automatic application - 'cloud amount' map derived from the **CT** product

How? - Creating a 'cloud mask' from CT by setting

0 - cloud-free, 0.5 - broken clouds and very thin cirrus, 1 - other cloud types

Smoothing/averaging this image with a 5x5 window

Application: **Verifying the forecasted cloud amount by ALADIN/HU** (and other) NWP model



2010.04.12. 13:25 UTC

Cloud amount



Using satellite data/ products at developing newer products

- Research
- verification
 - Interactive applications case studies
 - Automatic applications program

Thanks for my colleagues helping me!



I. Szenyán



Zs. Kocsis

Thank you for your attention!

putsay.m@met.hu

