

# Nowcasting of Circumsolar Radiation

## Vorhersage der Circumsolarstrahlung

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4. Fachtagung Energiemeteorologie,  
Bremerhaven, 20.04.2016



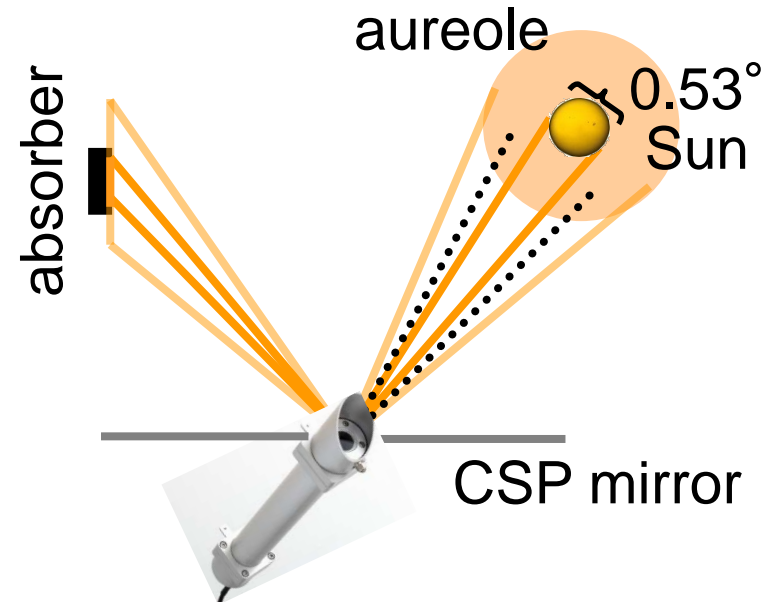
Knowledge for Tomorrow

# Circumsolar Radiation

Circumsolar radiation is the solar radiance around the Sun disc produced by forward scattering of aerosols and (cirrus) clouds.



*MYSTIC radiative transfer simulation w and w/o cirrus*  
(B. Reinhardt)



- **Pyreheliometers usually have larger opening angles than concentrating solar collectors that only use a fraction of CSR**
- **Direct radiation from radiative transfer models does not consider photons scattered into the fov of the instrument/collector**



**Systematic overestimation/underestimation of collector performance**



# Surface Measurements of Circumsolar Radiation

Plataforma Solar de Almeria (PSA):  
CSR measurements 2013-2015



SAM: Sun and Aureole Measurement

Aeronet Sun Photometer

$$\alpha = 0.266^\circ - 2.5^\circ$$

$$\int_{\alpha_{Sun}}^{\alpha_{Inst}} L(\theta) \sin(\theta) d\theta$$

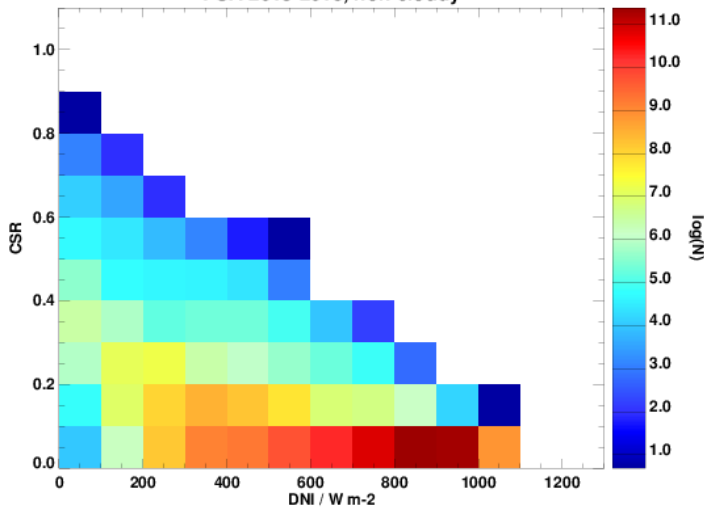
$$CSR = \frac{\int_{\alpha_{Sun}}^{\alpha_{Inst}} L(\theta) \sin(\theta) d\theta}{\int_0^{\alpha_{Inst}} L(\theta) \sin(\theta) d\theta}$$

$$\int_0^{\alpha_{Inst}} L(\theta) \sin(\theta) d\theta$$

$$\alpha = 0^\circ - 2.5^\circ$$

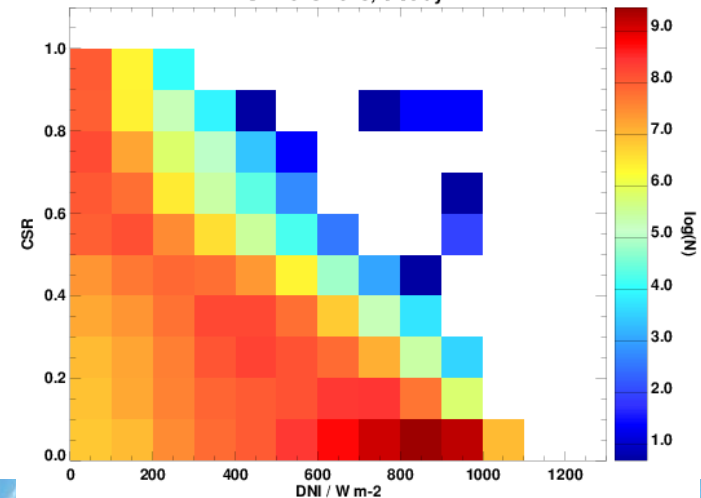
32% cloudy measurements

PSA 2013-2015, non-cloudy



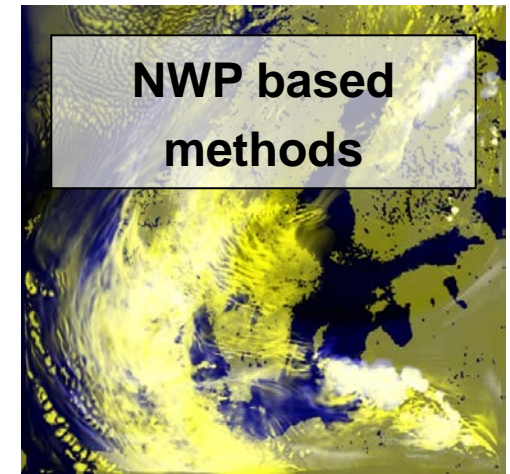
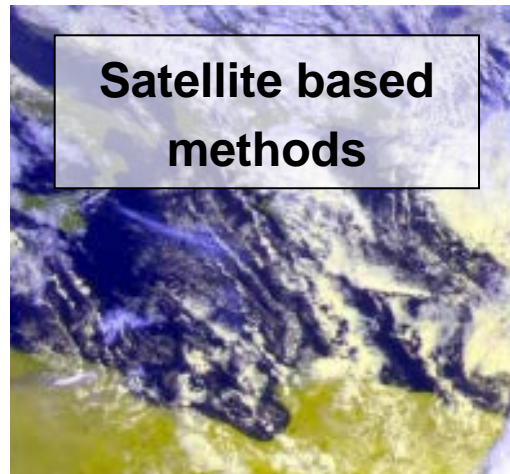
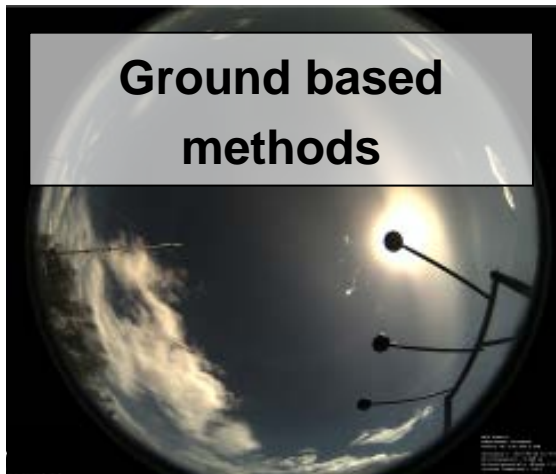
DLR

PSA 2013-2015, cloudy



Wilbert 2014, Wilbert et al., 2013

# Derivation and Nowcasting of Circumsolar Radiation



## Goal

Implementation of a method for the consideration of scattered radiation into fov of instrument/collector for

- better site assessment
- optimised operation/monitoring of CSP plants





# Parameterisation of Circumsolar Radiation: effective/apparent optical thickness

Shiobara und Asano, 1994

$$E_{dir} = E_0 \cdot e^{-\tau}$$

$$\tau_{eff} = k \cdot \tau \quad 0 < k < 1$$

$$E_{tot} = E_0 \cdot e^{-\tau_{eff}}$$

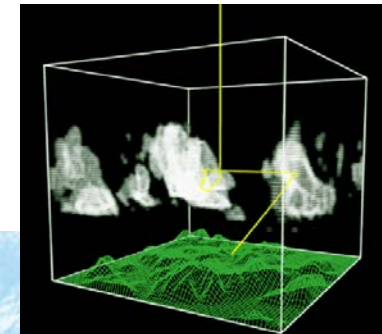
$$(\tau_{eff} = \tau_{app})$$

$$k_{ice/aer}(\tau) \approx const$$

$$\frac{\Delta k}{k} < 3\% \text{ für } (0 < \tau < 3)$$

$$k_{ice} = k_{ice}(\alpha, r_{eff}, \text{particle shape}) : \text{LUT}$$

$\alpha$ : aperture angle



$\tau$  = measure for  
radiation extinction  
in cloud

$r_{eff}$  = measure for  
cloud particle size  
distribution in cloud

Reinhardt et al., 2014

# Parameterisation of Circumsolar Radiation: effective/apparent optical thickness

$$E_{dni} + E_{circumsolar} = E_0 \cdot e^{-\tau_{eff}} = E_0 \cdot e^{-\tau^*k}$$

$$k_{ice/aer}(\tau) \approx const, \quad 0 < k < 1$$

$$k_{ice} = k_{ice}(\alpha, r_{eff}, \text{particle shape}) \quad \text{LUT}$$

Shiobara und Asano, 1994

**Requirements:** Independently of instrument, satellite sensor or  
NWP model:

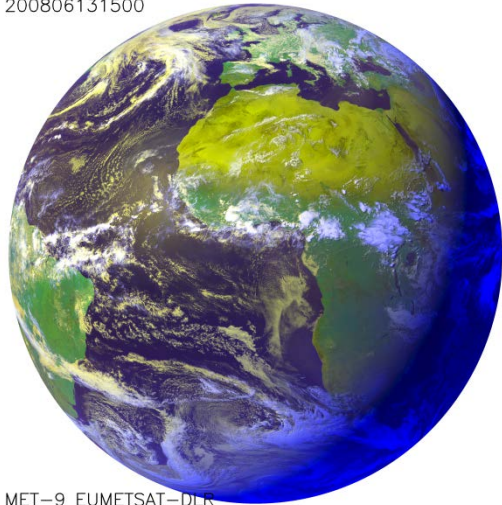
1 optical thickness  $\tau$

1 effective radius  $r_{eff}$



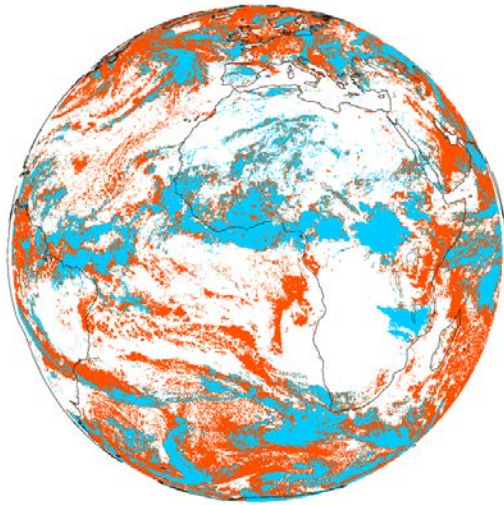
# Cloud Input Parameters from MSG/SEVIRI Observations

200806131500

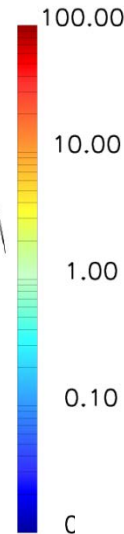
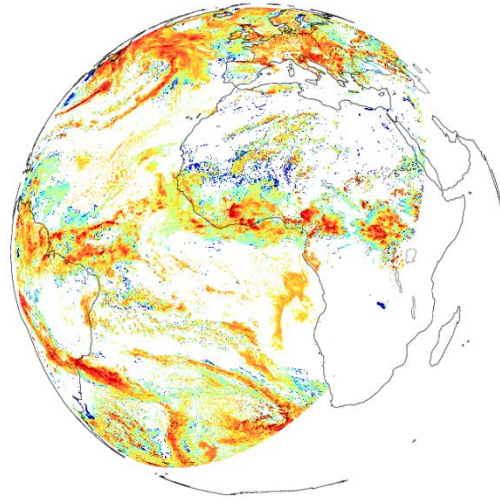


MET-9 EUMETSAT-DLR

Cloud Phase

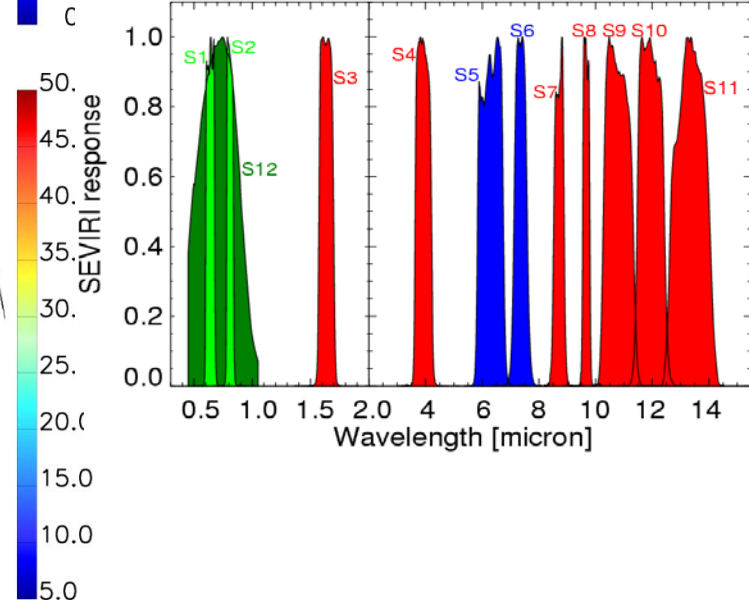
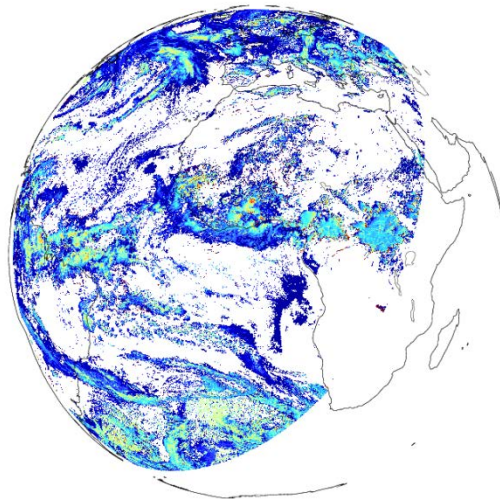


Cloud Optical Thickness



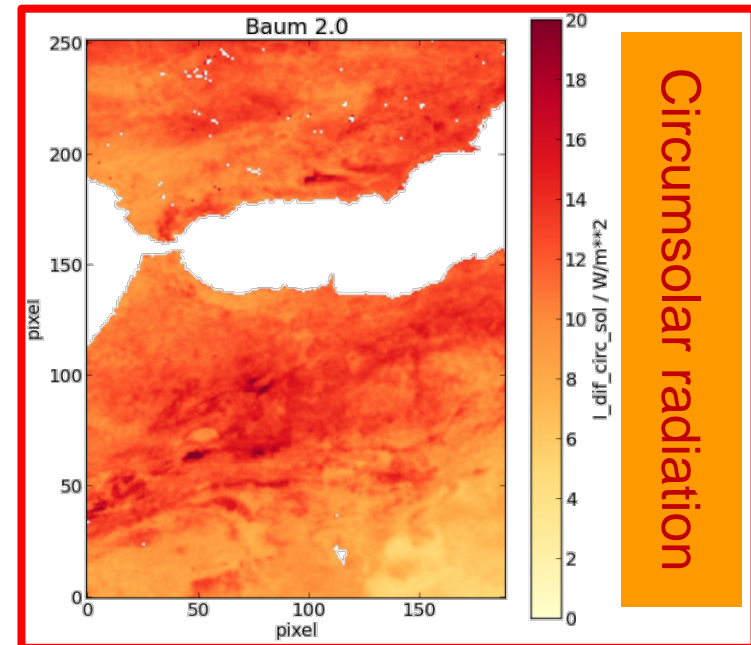
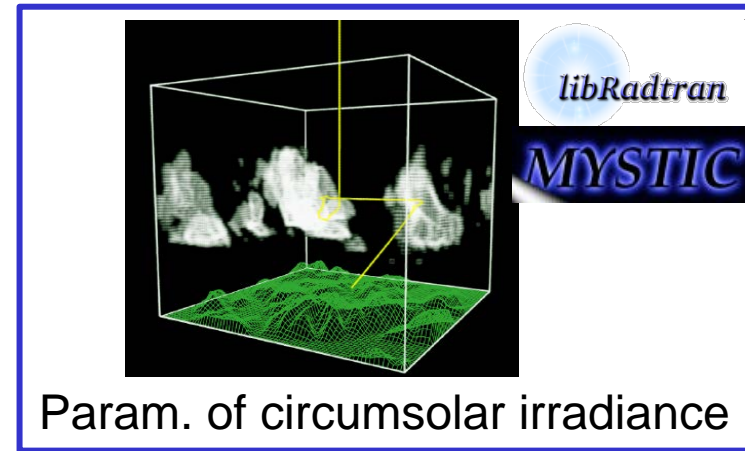
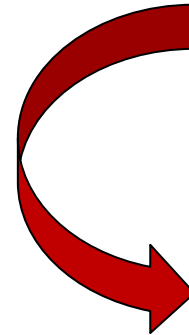
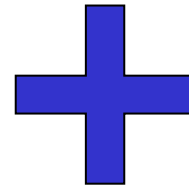
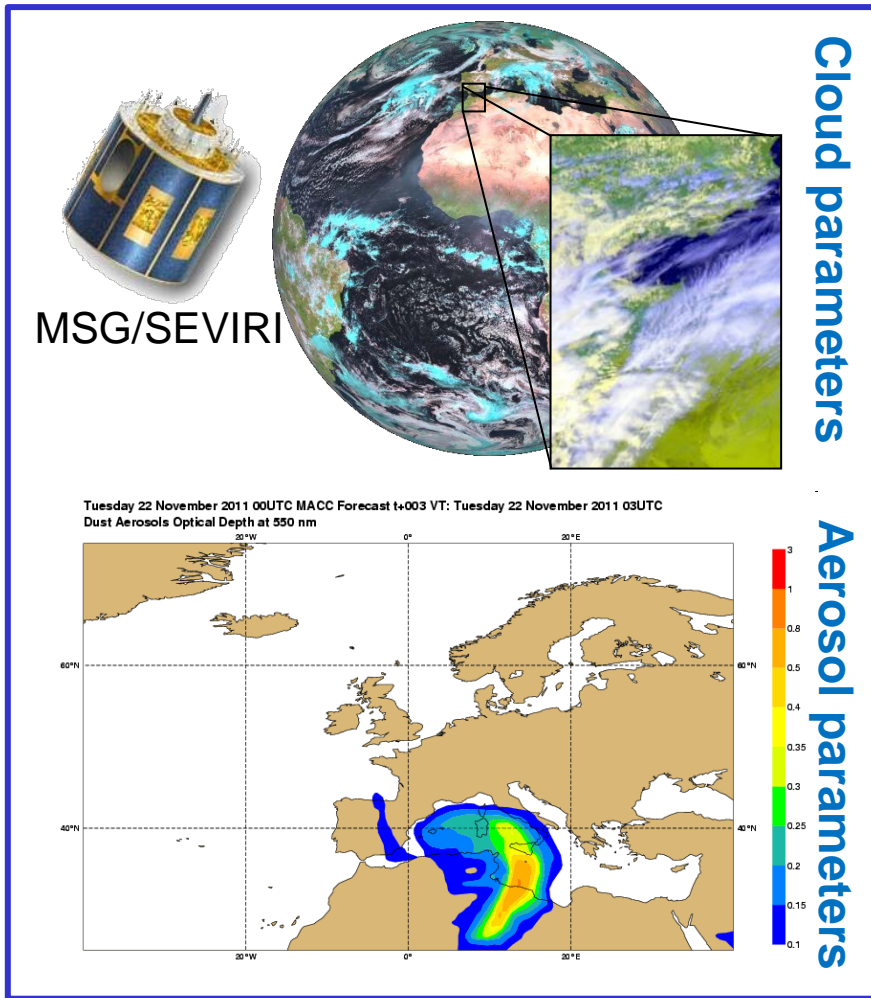
MSG/SEVIRI

Effective Radius /  $\mu\text{m}$





# Circumsolar Radiation from MSG/SEVIRI (SFERA)



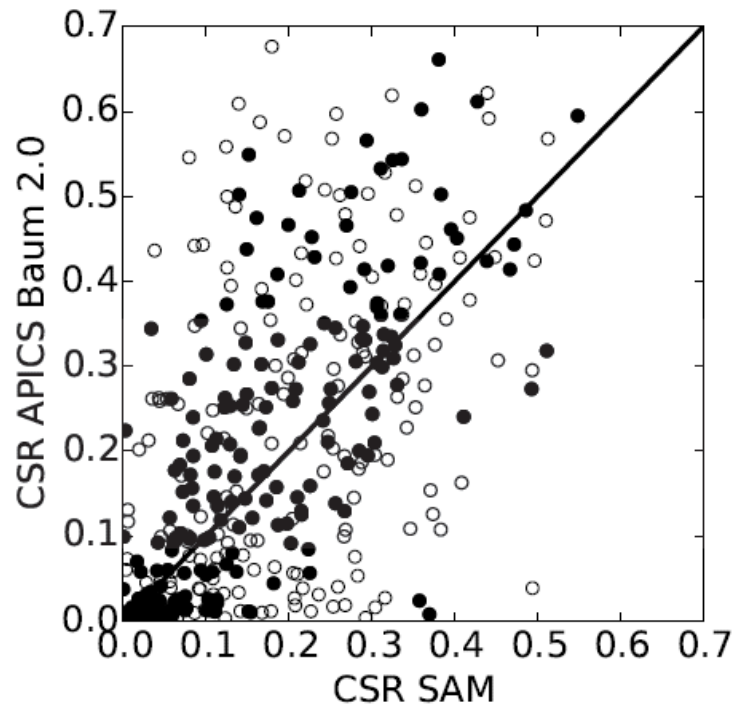


# Circumsolar Radiation from MSG/SEVIRI Observations

Validation against PSA surface measurements: May 2011 – April 2012

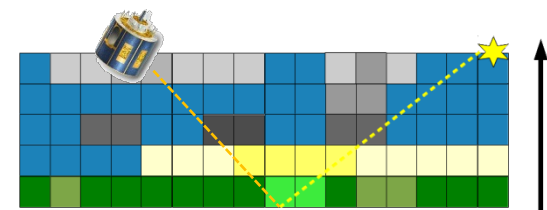
Optical Properties	$r_{\text{rank,CSR}}$	$r_{\text{CSR}}$	MAD	RMSD	MRD	Bias	$N$
Baum v2.0	0.54	0.50	0.11	0.16	75%	4%	2021

Validation against PSA surface measurements: May 2011 – June 2011



- all data
- manually screened after cumulus

- Parallax correction
- Ice clouds from DLR, water clouds from EUMETSAT
- $\Delta t = 35$  min
- $\text{DNI} > 200 \text{ W m}^{-2}$

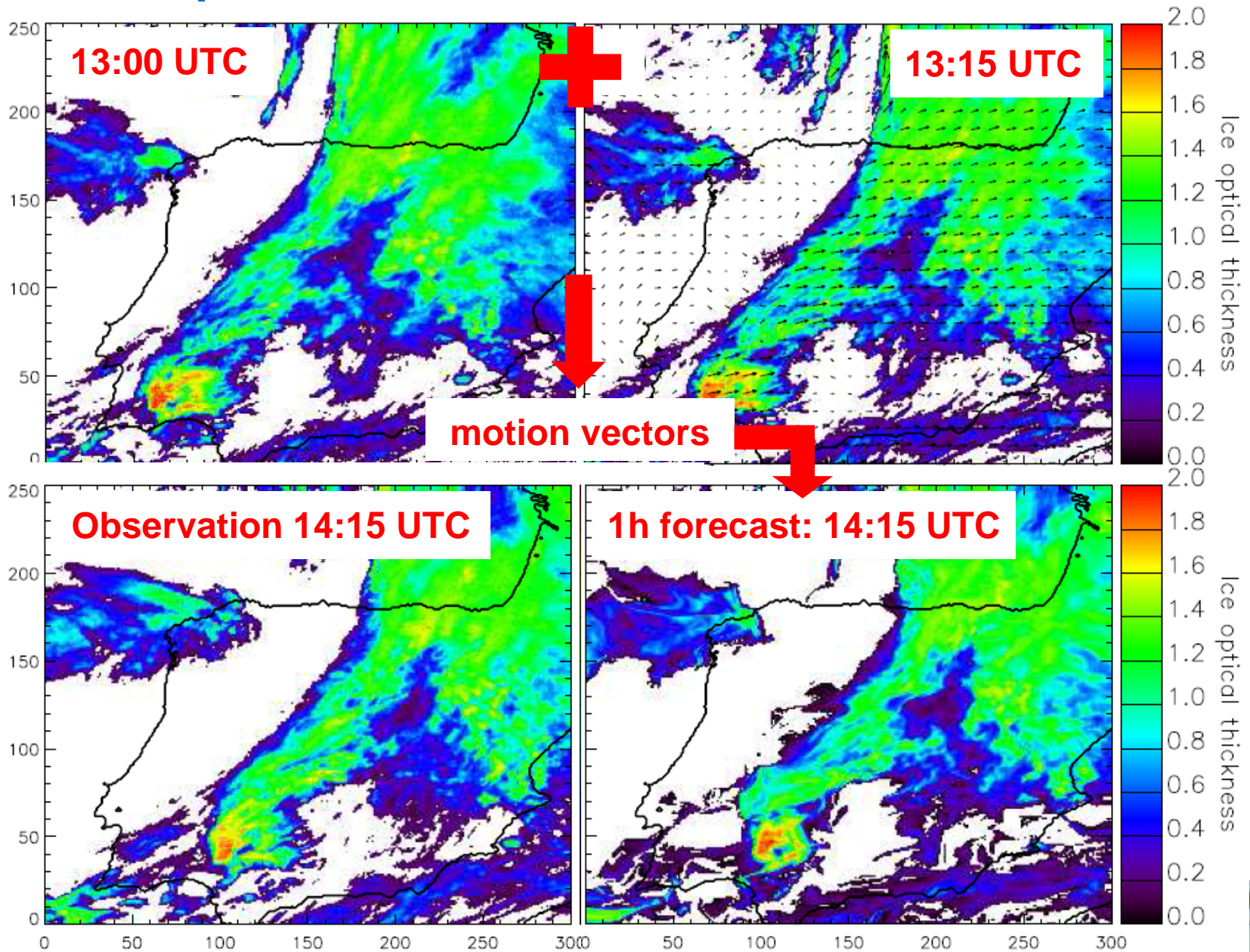


Reinhardt et al., 2014

Optical Properties	$r_{\text{rank,CSR}}$	$r_{\text{CSR}}$	MAD	RMSD	MRD	Bias	$N$
Baum v2.0	0.79 (0.68)	0.75 (0.62)	0.08 (0.10)	0.12 (0.14)	62% (62%)	18% (14%)	220 (407)

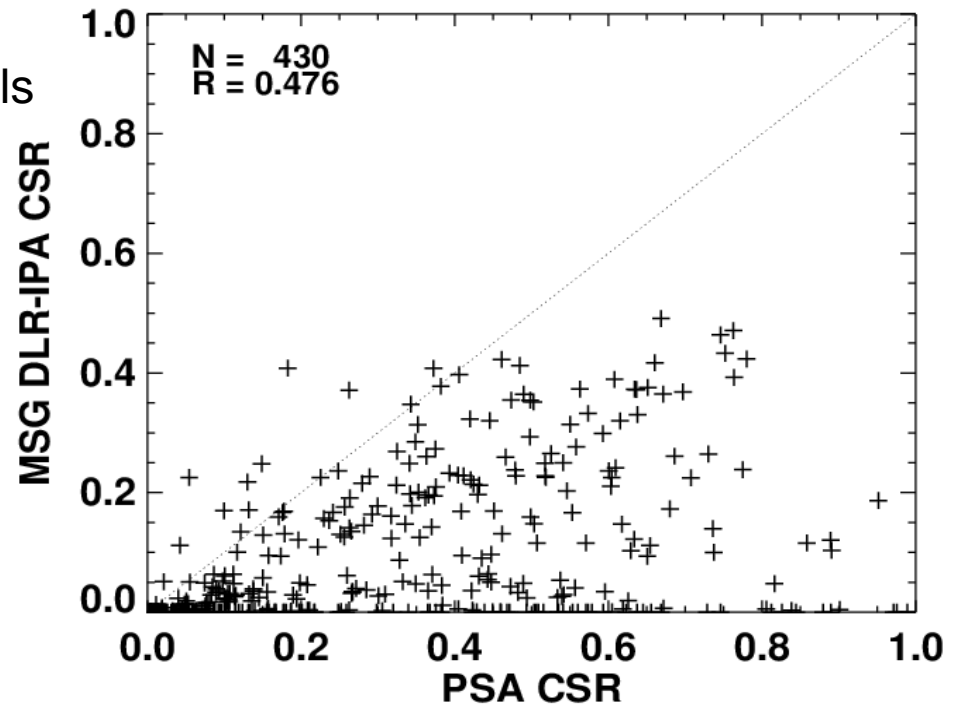
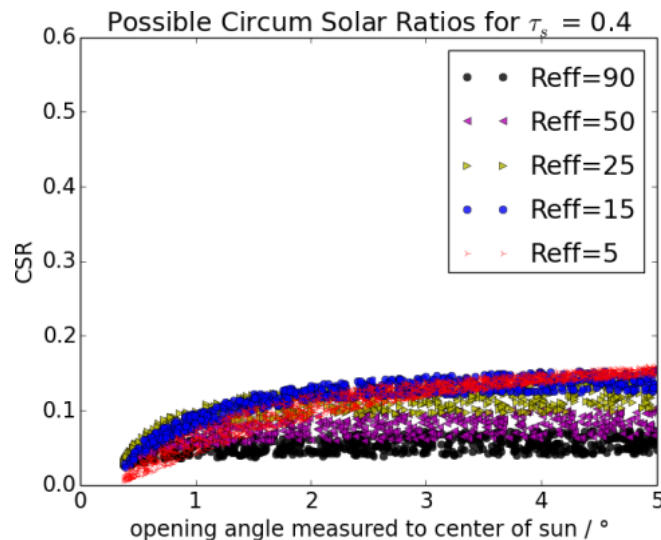
# Cloud Input Parameter Nowcast with MSG/SEVIRI

Sirch et al., in preparation



# Circumsolar Radiation Nowcast with MSG/SEVIRI

- March 2013
- No effective radius forecast, 25  $\mu\text{m}$  selected for ice clouds
- Ice cloud and water cloud optical thickness
- 1h forecast started at every full hour
- No parallax correction
- CSR mean over 5x5 SEVIRI pixels
- $\Delta t = 5$  min

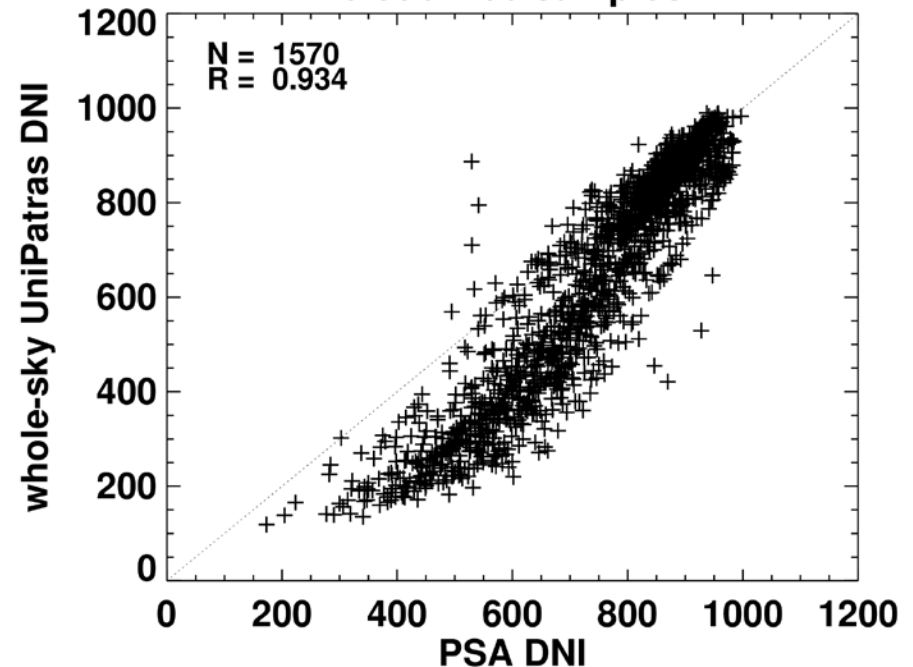
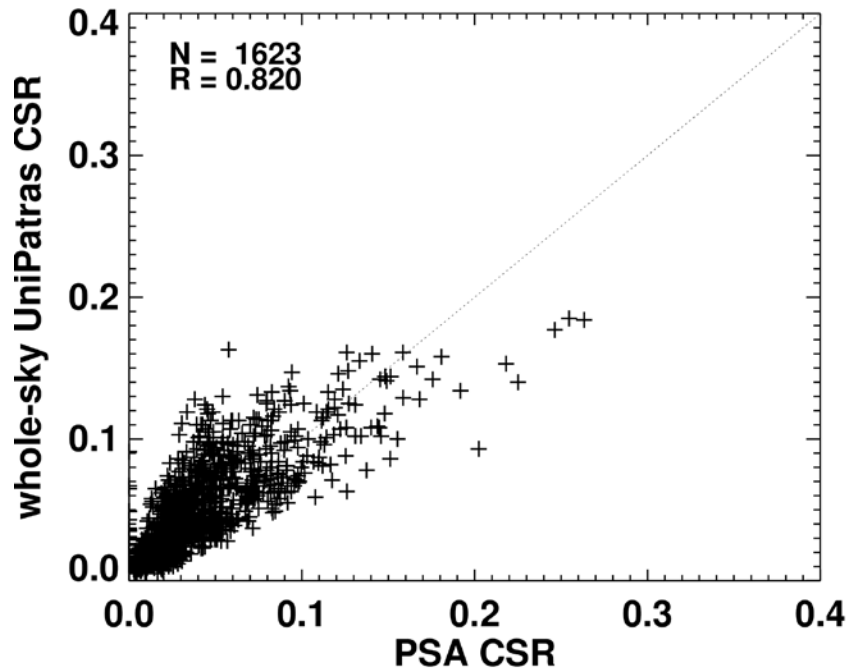




# Circumsolar Radiation from Whole-Sky Observations

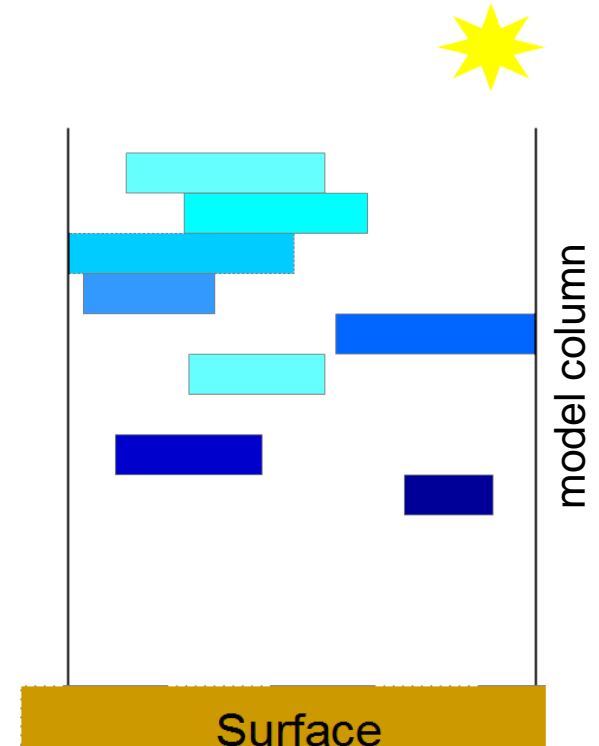
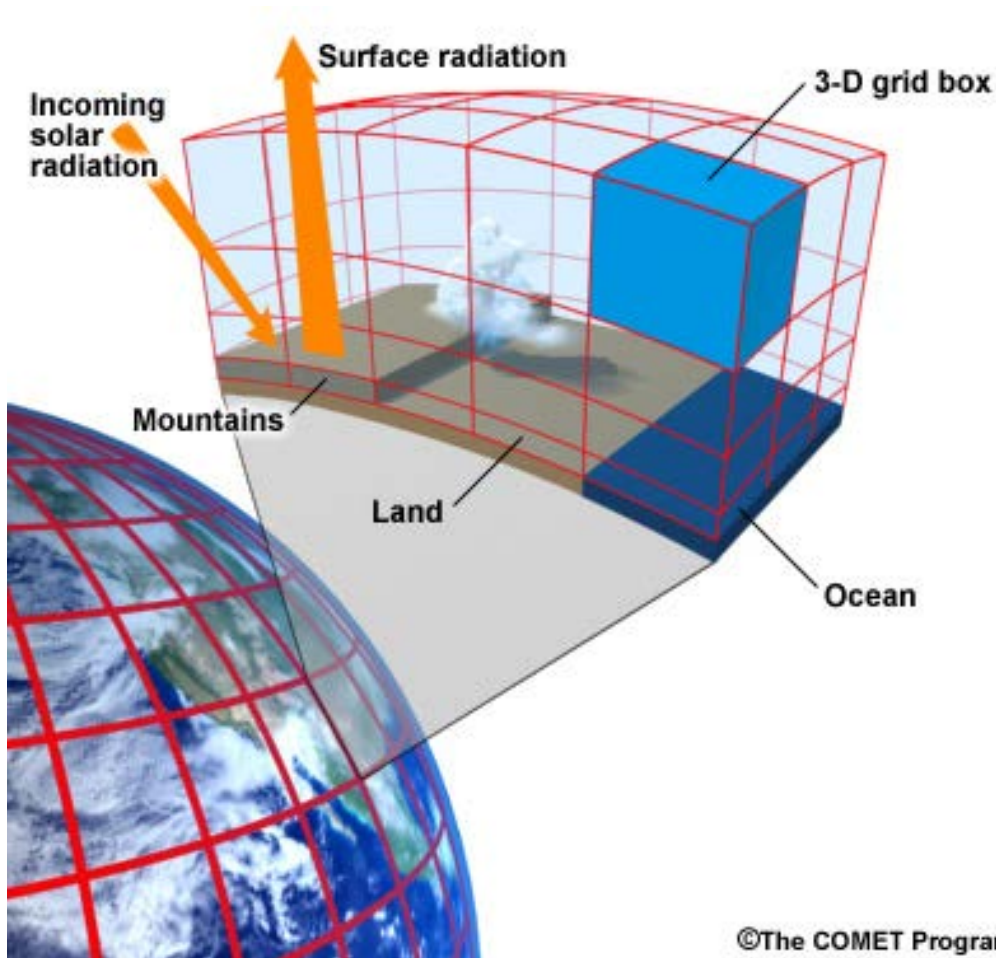


- Only clear sky observations
- Aerosol optical depth from whole-sky
- $\Delta t = 2$  min



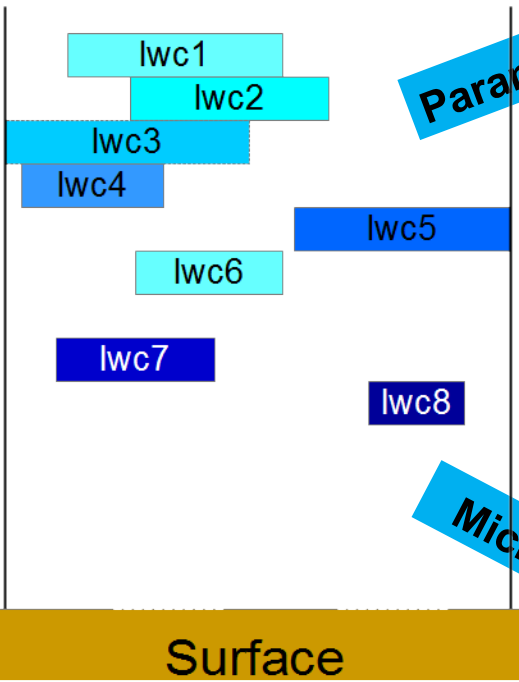
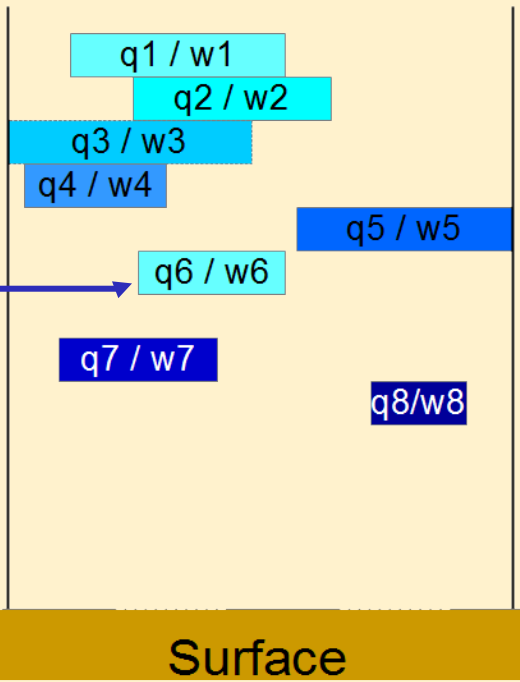
# Circumsolar Radiation from NWP Models

A NWP model describes reality using a series of vertical columns composed of a surface and a set of vertical atmospheric levels.

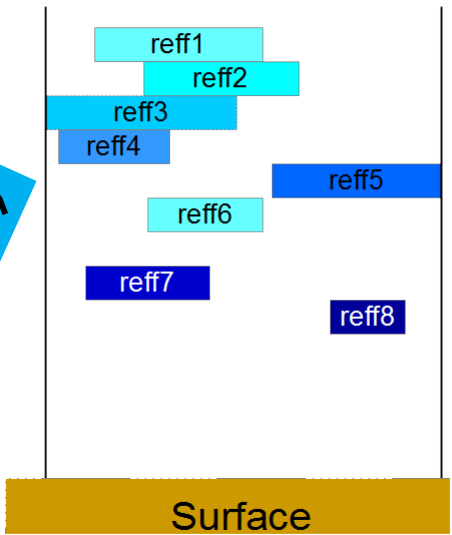


# Circumsolar Radiation from NWP Models

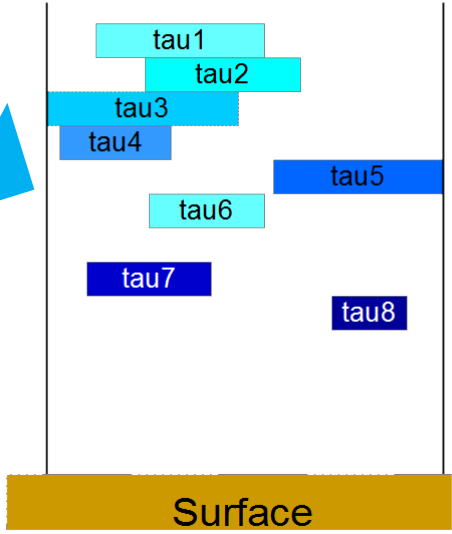
physical properties



Parameterisation



Microphysics



Thermodynamics

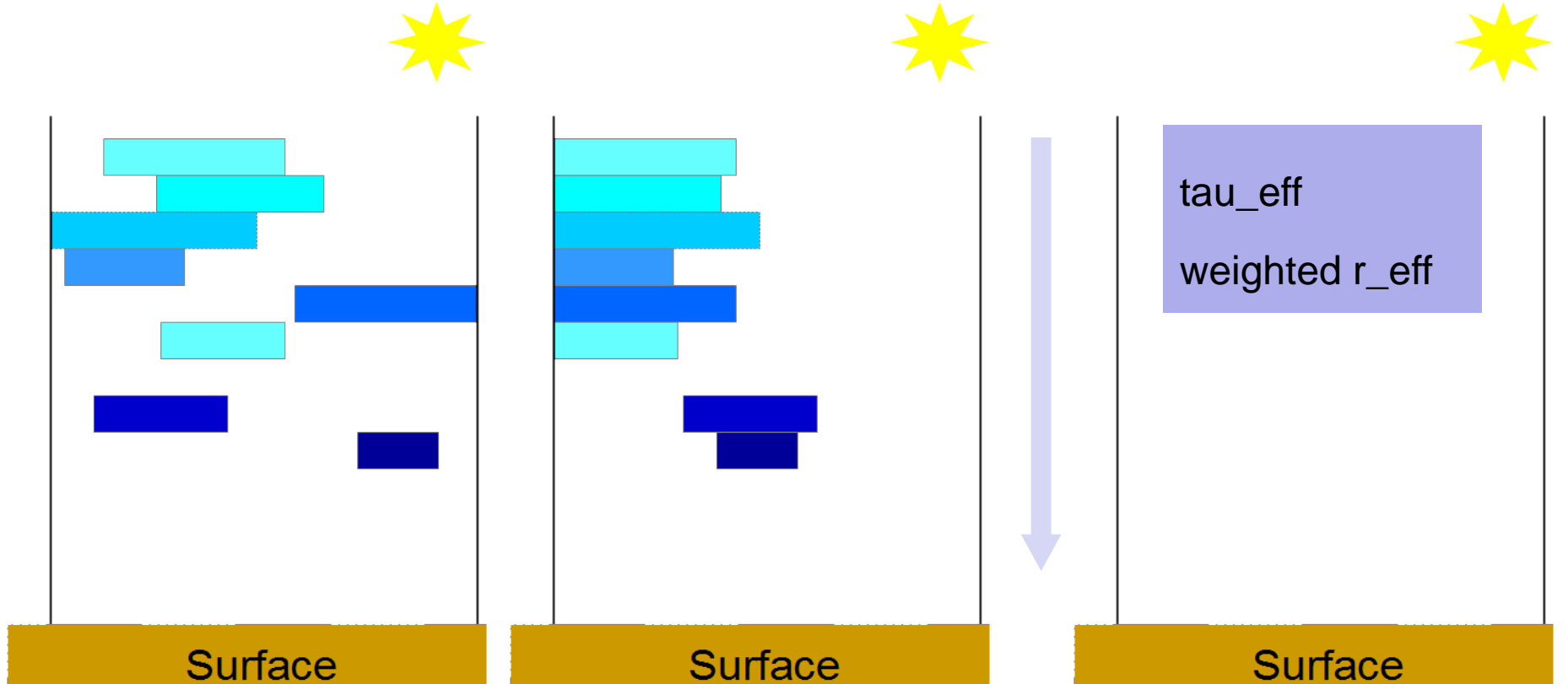
Specific contents / mixing ratios

Liquid / ice water content





# Circumsolar Radiation from NWP Models



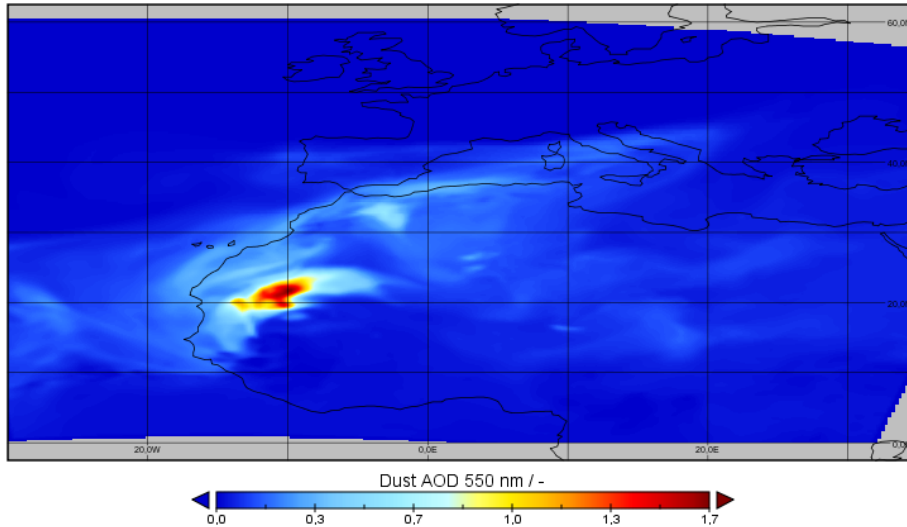
Cloud  
overlap assumption

Derive effective cloud quantities by mimicking  
the original NWP radiative transfer model



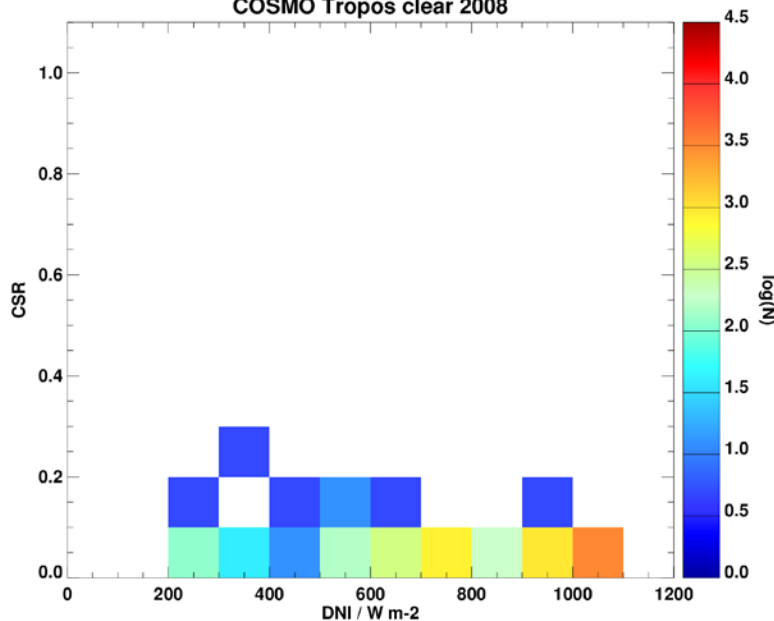
# Circumsolar Radiation from COSMO-MUSCAT

Dust AOD

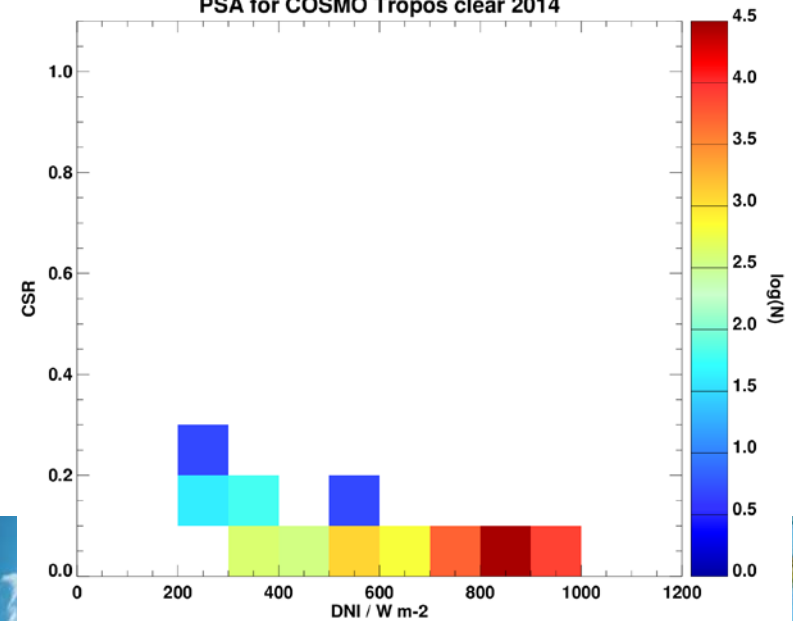


- Dust aod and clouds from COSMO-MUSCAT
- Plausibility check: June-September 2008 (COSMO) vs June-September 2014 (PSA)
- $\Delta t = 10$  min
- Only clear sky i.e. aerosol

COSMO Tropos clear 2008



PSA for COSMO Tropos clear 2014



# Conclusions

- The method by Shiobara and Asano (1994) is a flexible method that can be applied to various kinds of input data
- Results for satellite data (clouds) are reasonably good (confirmed by additional data from meteoest/SEVIRI + DLR/IASI)
- Results for whole-sky cameras (aerosols) are good
- Results for NWP models (clouds+aerosols) are still uncertain

# Outlook

- Extend/improve validation of CSR, especially for satellite/NWP data
- Extend/improve results for NWP models: evaluate additional data by SMHI/Harmonie, DLR/WRF, RIUUK/EURAD-IM





# References

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