

# MESOR TRAINING SEMINAR

PART 3:

# Overview on Solar Resource Products

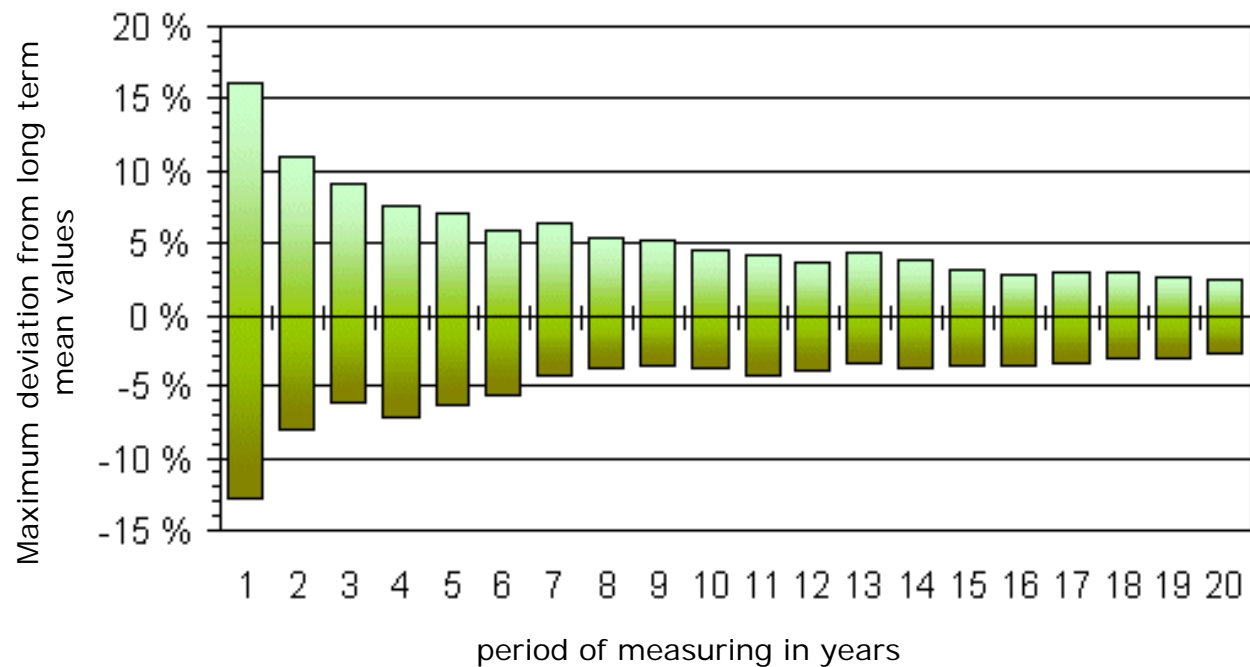
[elke.lorenz@uni-oldenburg.de](mailto:elke.lorenz@uni-oldenburg.de)

## Overview

- sources of irradiance information
  - ground measurements
  - satellite data
  - reanalysis of numerical weather prediction models and climate models
- overview on resource products

## Representative historic data -> long-term time series

period large enough to account for seasonal  
and inter-annual variability



Meteorological station at Potsdam, 1937- 1999 (source: Quaschnig, 2001)

## Solar radiation instruments

### global irradiance

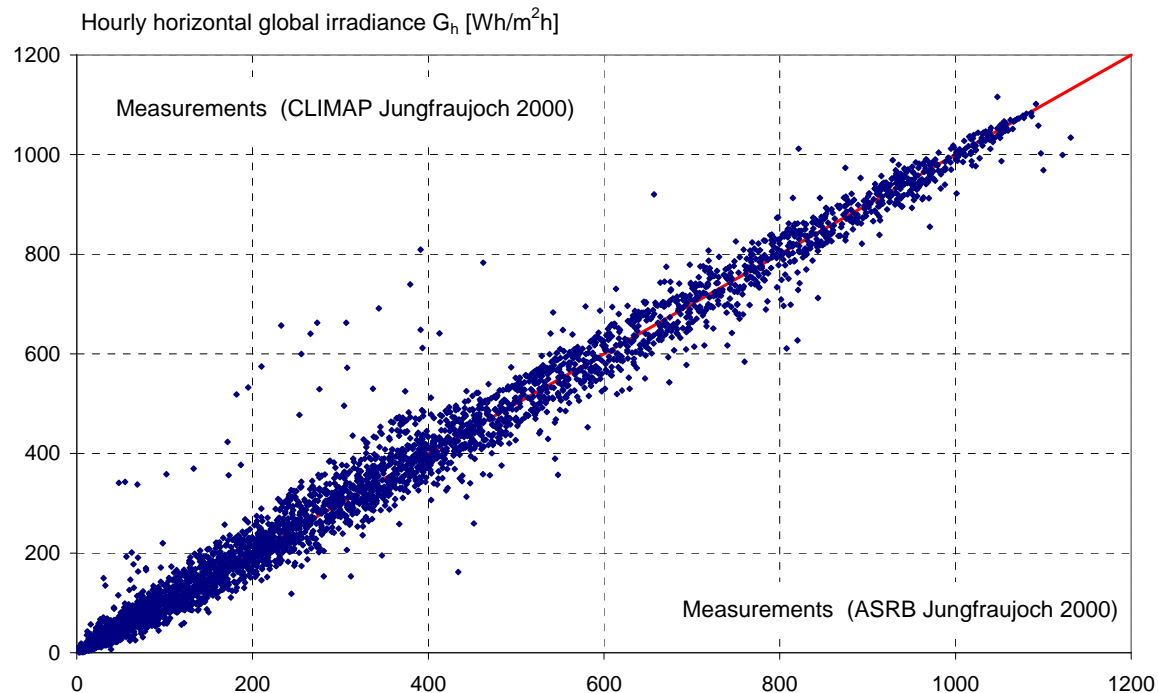
- pyranometer:  
uncertainty: 2%\* – 5%
- reference cells:  
uncertainty: 5% – 10%



\*target accuracy of Baseline Surface Radiation Network (BSRN)

# Side by side comparison: Junfraujoch station

- ASRB station and CLIMAP station (MeteoSwiss)
- comparable GHI with 12% dispersion (42 Wh/m<sup>2</sup>h)
- comparable DNI with very high dispersion (extrem conditions)



## Solar radiation instruments

### diffuse irradiance

#### shaded pyranometers

- pyranometer with shading ring
  - pyranometer with shading disc and sun tracking device
- uncertainty: 4%\* - 8%



\*target accuracy of Baseline Surface Radiation Network (BSRN)

## Solar radiation instruments

### direct irradiance

- field pyrhelimeter
- absolute cavity radiometer  
(current world reference of calibration)
- combined measurements  
uncertainty: 1%\*
- rotation shadowband pyranometer  
uncertainty: 2%



\*target accuracy of Baseline Surface Radiation Network (BSRN)

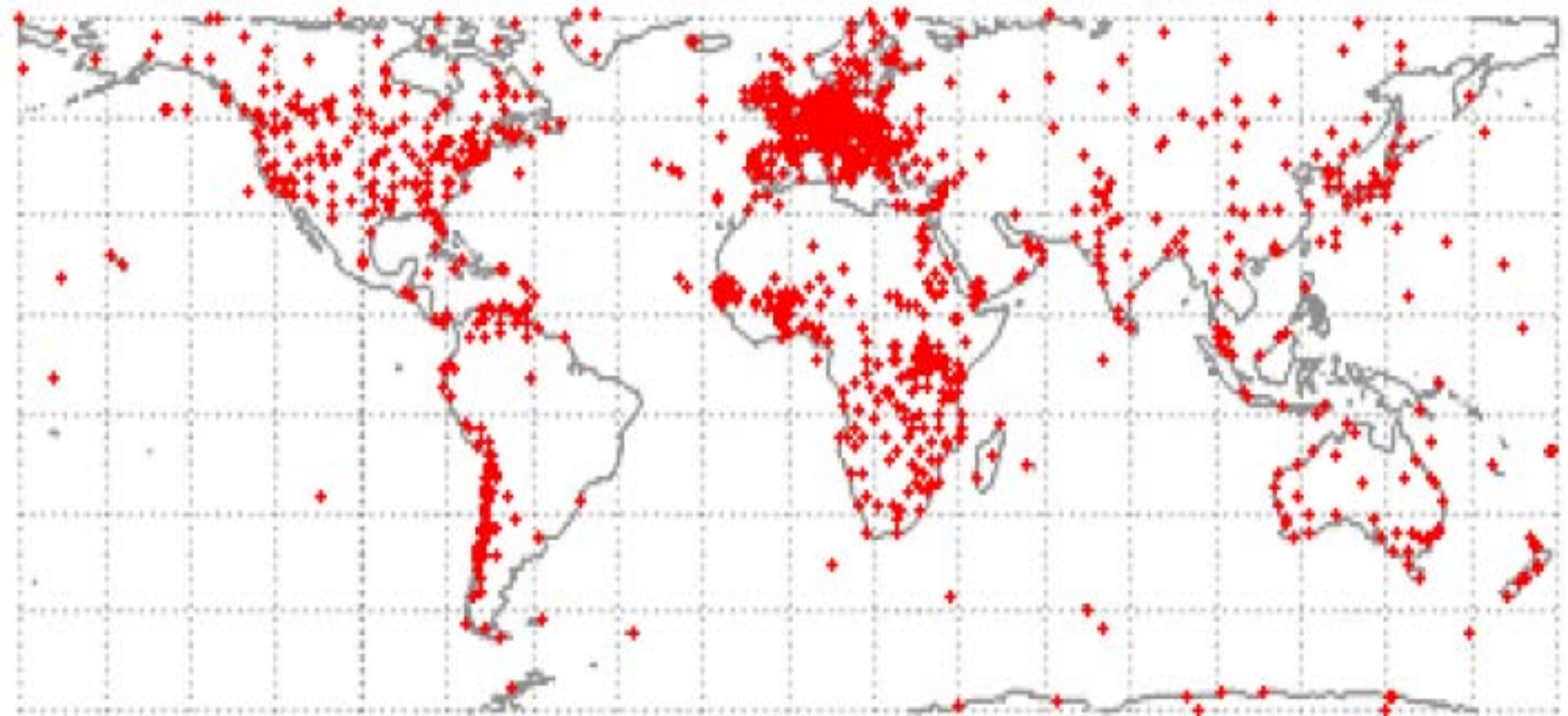
## Availability of ground measured data

### **long term measurements at meteorological stations**

- National Meteorological offices
- World radiometric Network (by World Meteorological Organisation)
- Baseline Surface Radiation Network

# World radiometric network

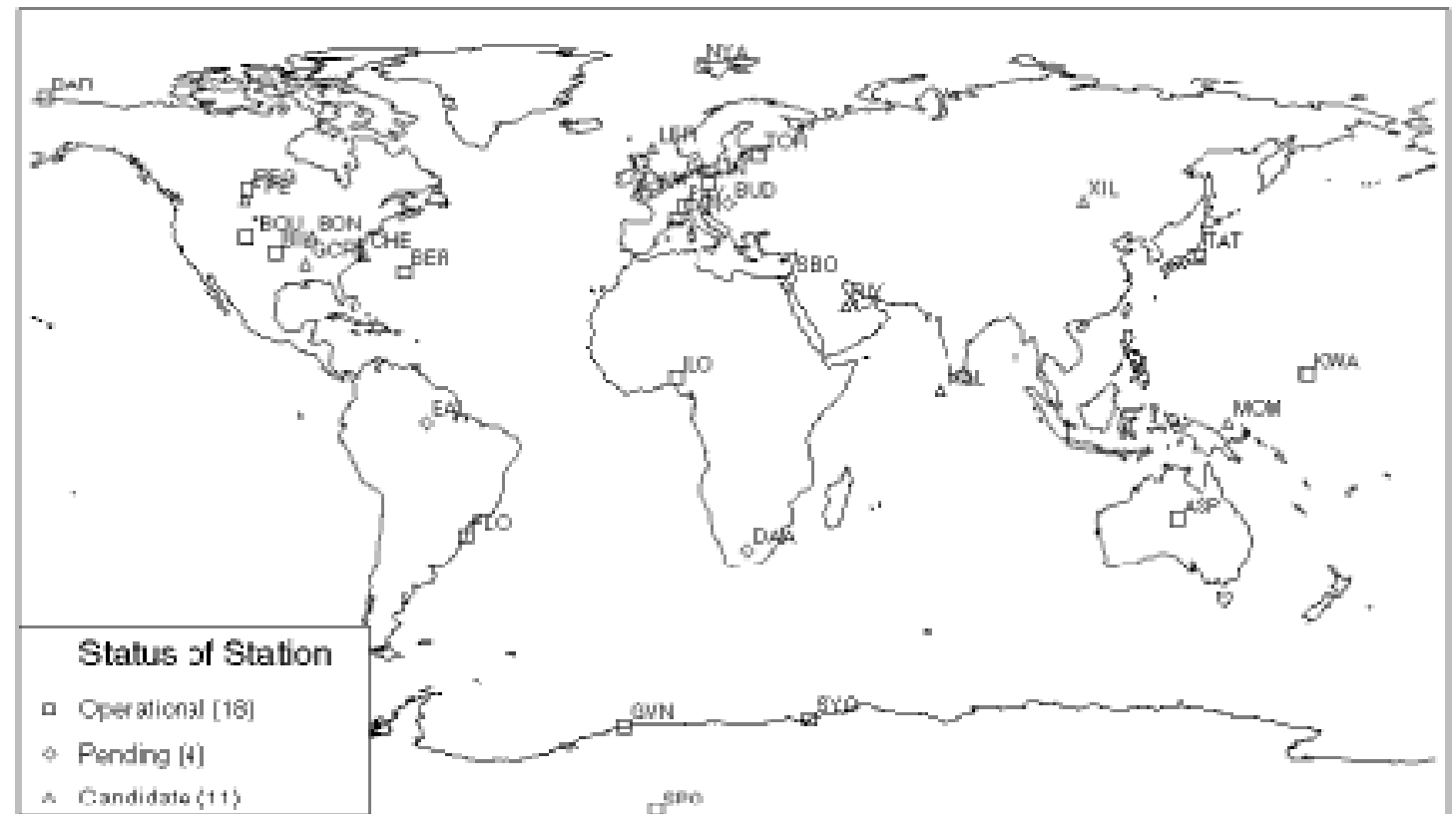
- global irradiance & sunshine duration
- ca. 1200 stations



World Radiometric network 1966- 1993  
(source: WRDC/WMO, Cros et al. , 2004)

## Baseline surface radiation network

- high quality measurements
- global, direct, diffuse
- minute values



source: Cros et al., 2004

## Ground measured data

### advantages and limitations

- **high quality** of data (for well maintained stations)
- **high effort & cost** for maintenance of stations
- **spatial coverage** of available long term measurements **is coarse**
- spatial distribution of stations is **heterogeneous**

## Resource products based on ground measured data

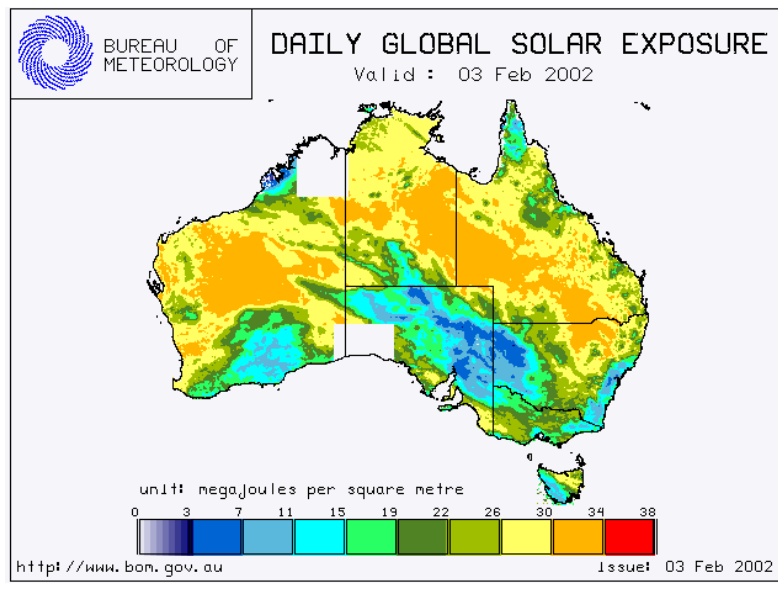
- **spatial interpolation techniques** to derive maps and site specific data
- **stochastic models or average daily profiles** to obtain values with high temporal resolution (daily, hourly or minute values)
- **global to beam models** to infer DNI

## Overview

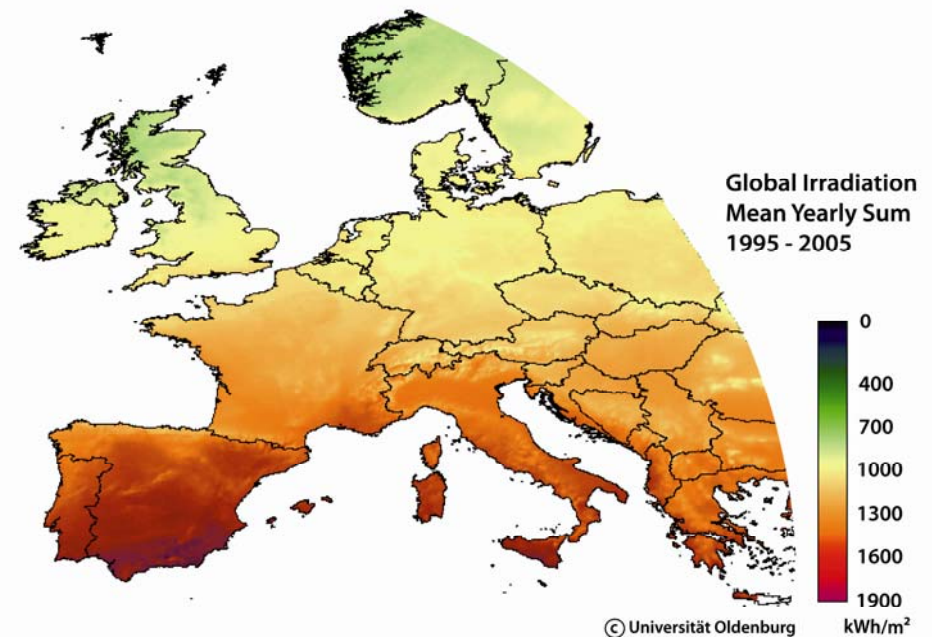
- sources of irradiance information
  - ground measurements
  - **satellite data**
  - reanalysis of numerical weather prediction models and climate models
- overview on resource products

## Irradiance from satellite data

advantage: available with high temporal and spatial resolution for large geographical regions



example output of Australian Global Solar Radiation Archive server

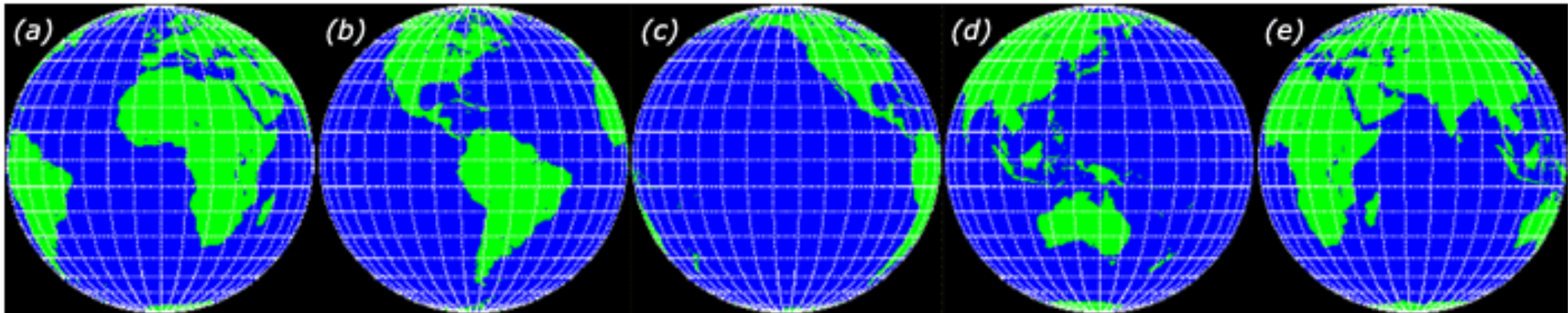


Mean yearly sums, 1995-2005  
 Source: University of Oldenburg

## Irradiance from satellite data

- satellite data
- Heliosat method to derive irradiance

## Coverage by geostationary satellites



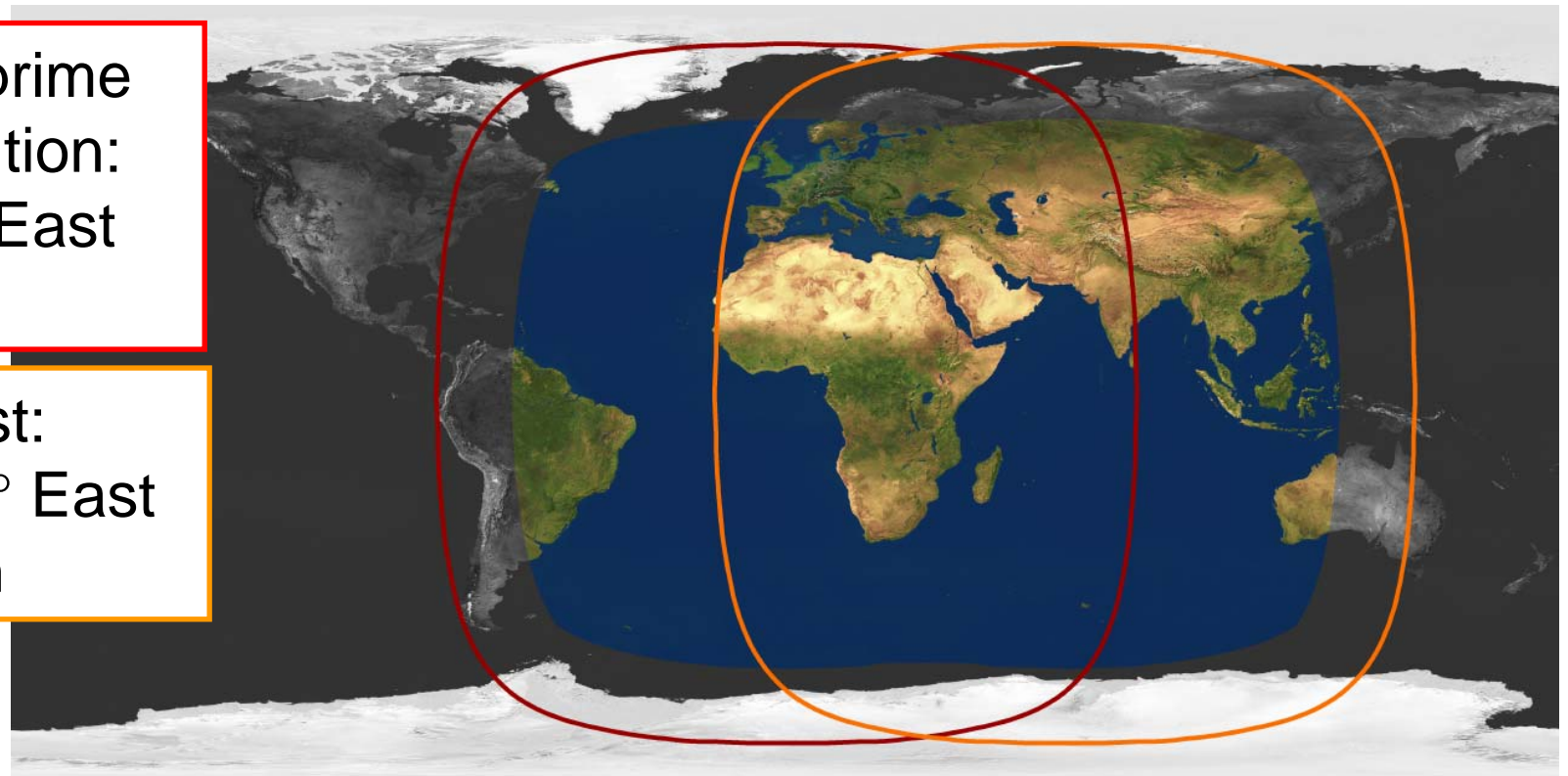
METEOSAT    GOES-EAST    GOES-WEST    GMS    IODC

coverage area map of geostationary satellites in operation  
(source: <http://swera.unep.net>)

## Coverage by Meteosat satellites

Meteosat at prime  
meridian position:  
0° North / 0° East  
from 1985 on

Meteosat east:  
0° North / 63° East  
from 1998 on

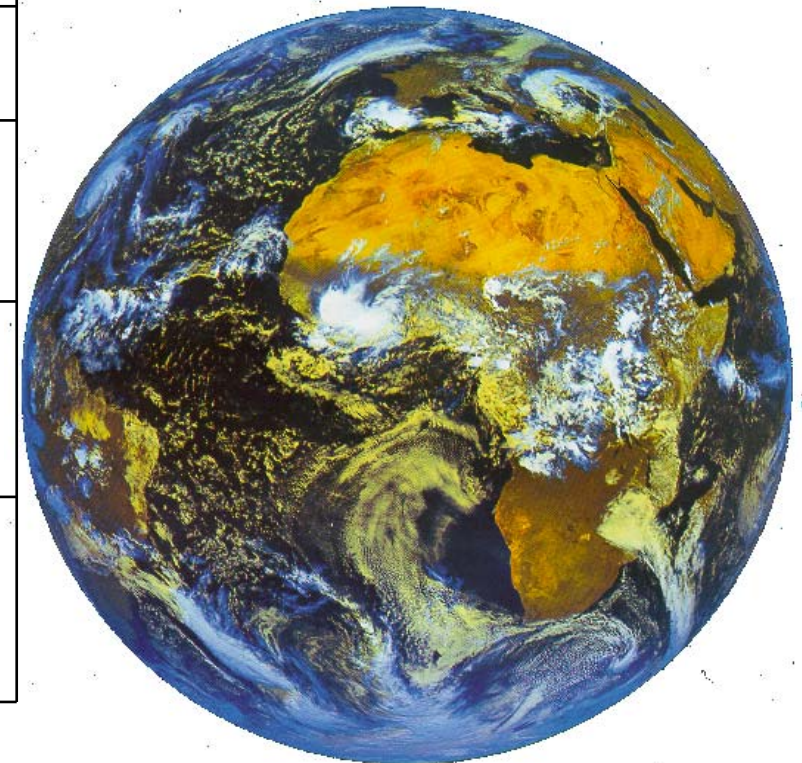


world map with the areas covered by Meteosat satellites  
(source: DLR)

## Meteosat first and second generation

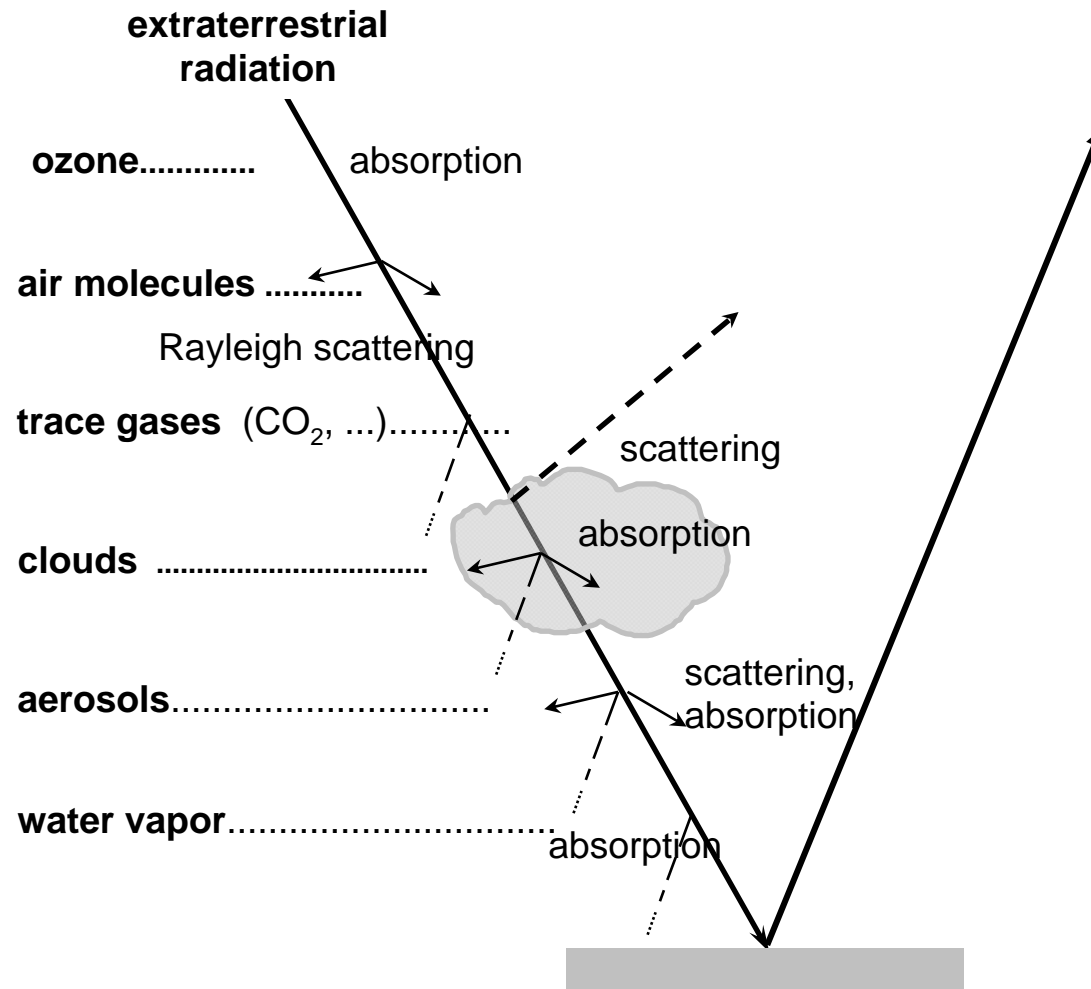


	<b>MFG</b>	<b>MSG</b>
<b>period</b>	1985-2005	2004 ongoing
<b>spatial resolution*</b>	2.5 km x 2.5 km	hr: 1 km x 1 km lr: 3 km x 3 km
<b>temporal resolution</b>	30 min	15 min
<b>spectral resolution</b>	vis: 500-900 nm ir and wv broadband	hrv: 500-900 nm & 11 lr channels

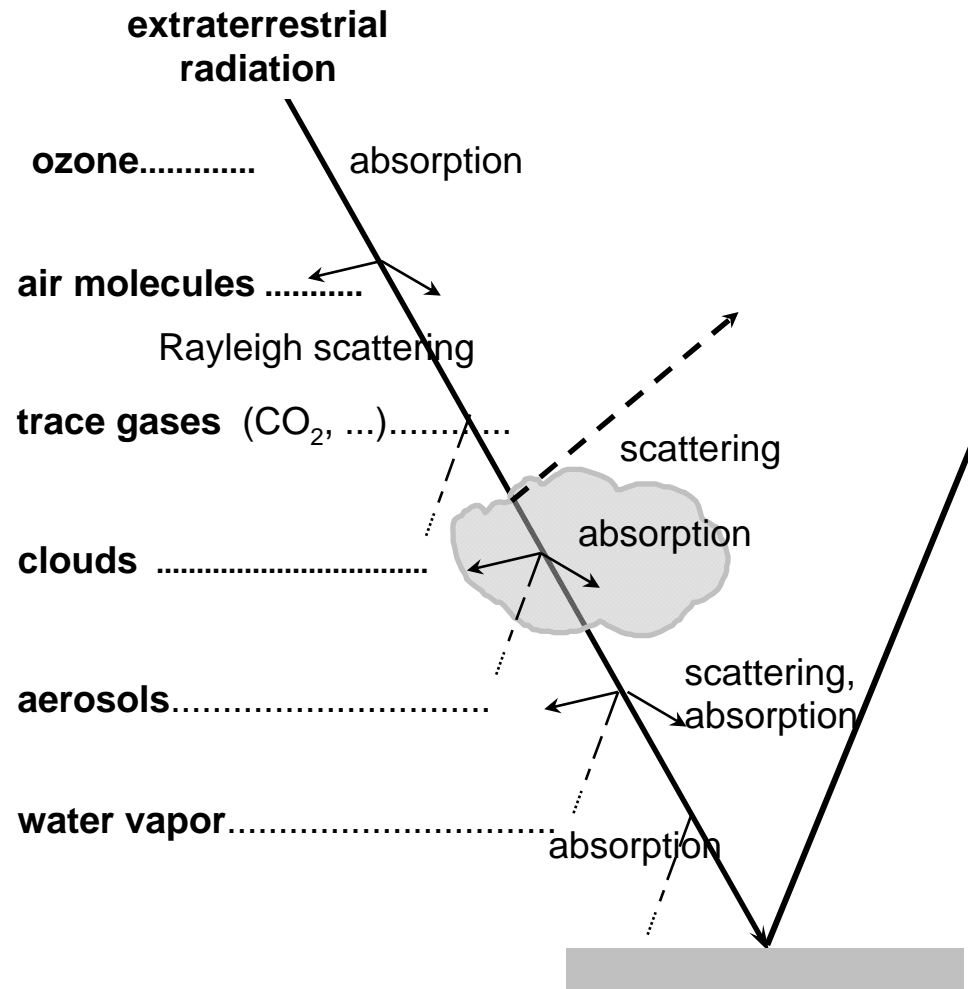


\*at sub- satellite point (0°/0°)

# Atmospheric extinction processes



# Atmospheric extinction processes



Global irradiance

$$GHI = k^* GHI_{clear}$$

$GHI_{clear}$ :

clear sky global irradiance

$k^*$ :

clear sky index, describes cloud transmissivity

## Clear sky

Definition: cloudless sky

maximum possible insolation at a given site, time and atmospheric conditions

used as normalization function for most of radiation models

clean



turbid

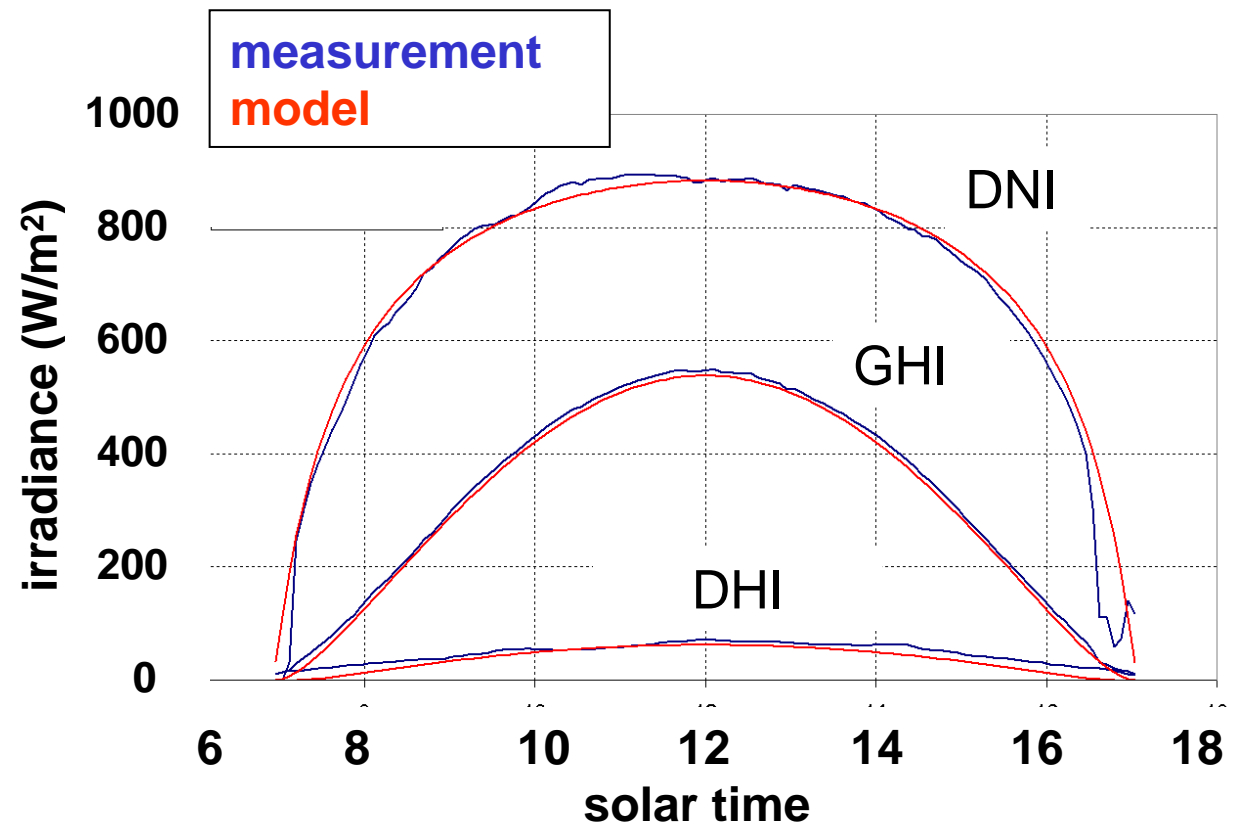


$$I_{\text{clear}} = f(\text{geometry, air molecules, ozone, aerosols, water vapour})$$

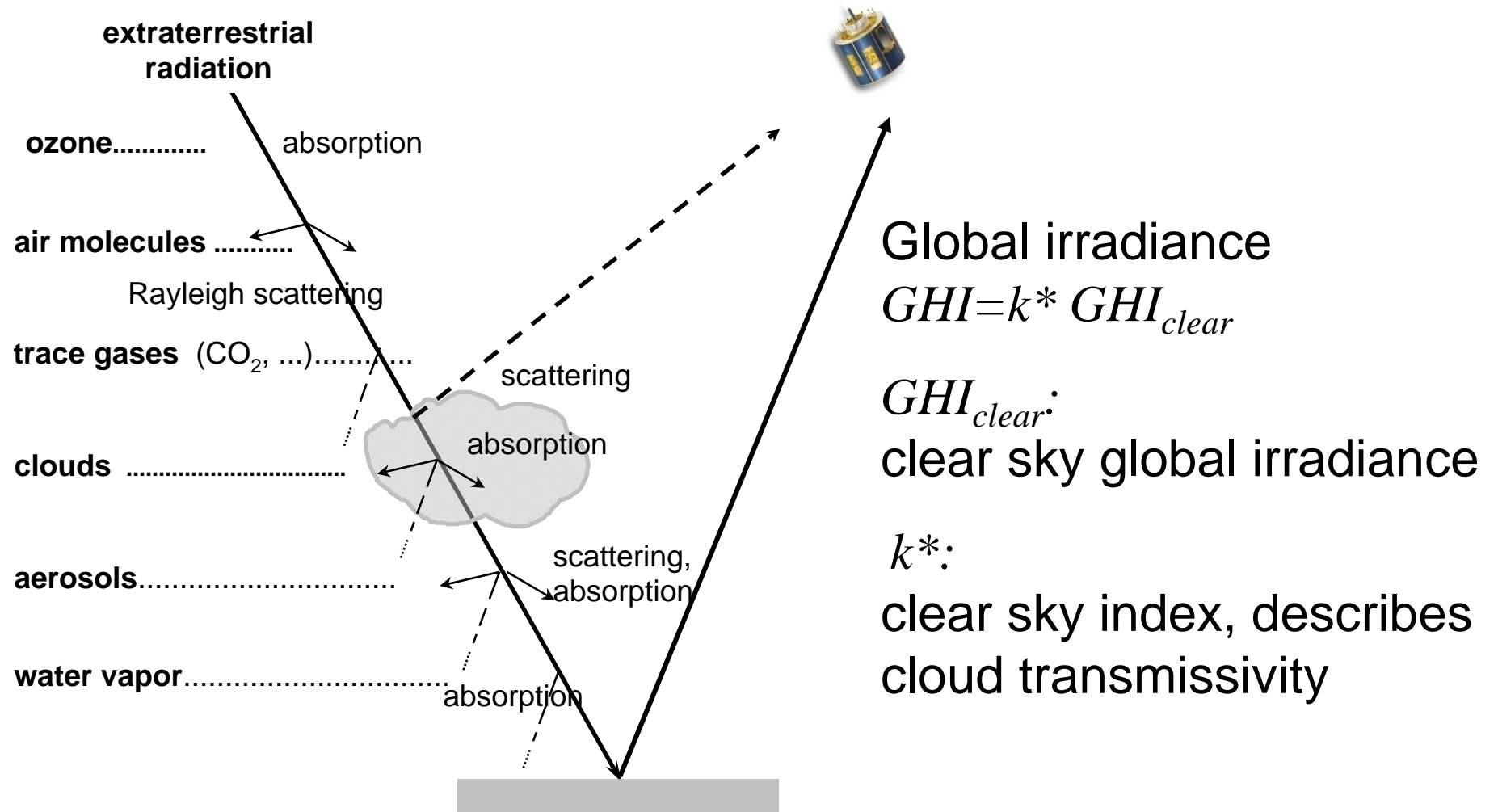
## Clear sky

Atmospheric transmission:

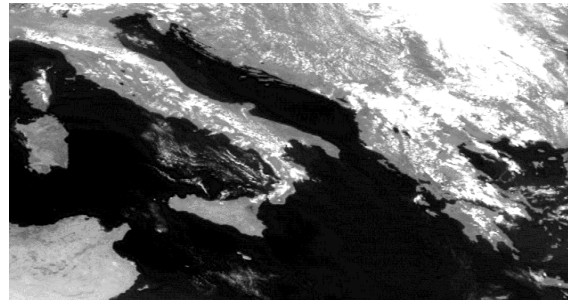
- geometry
- constant effect:  
NO<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, N, etc
- slight dependence:  
O<sub>3</sub>
- strong dependence:  
water vapour, aerosols



# Atmospheric extinction processes



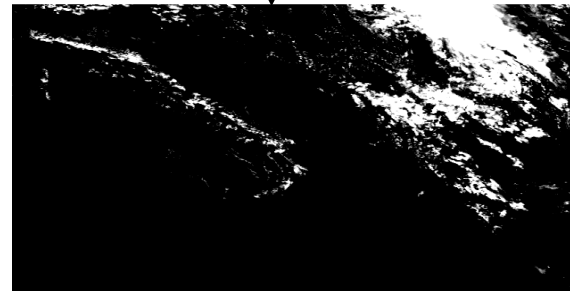
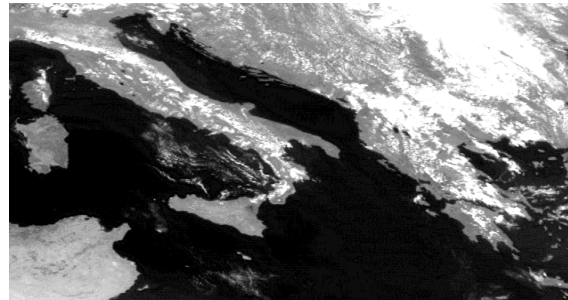
## Heliosat method



satellite images:

- bright clouds
- dark surface

## Heliosat method

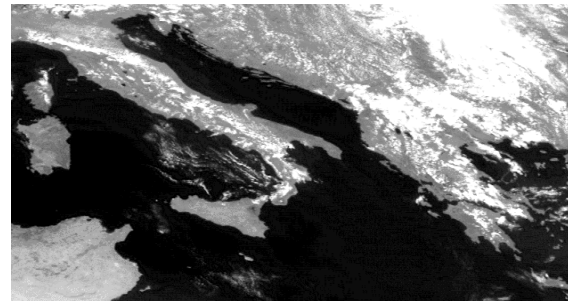


satellite images:

- bright clouds
- dark surface

cloud index images:  
measure of cloudiness

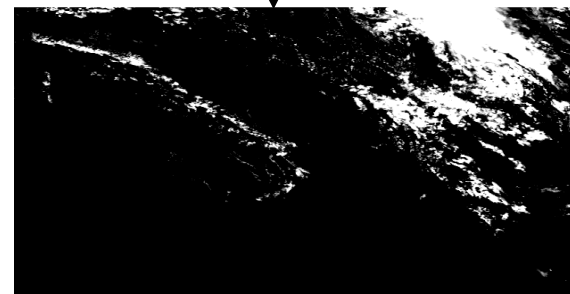
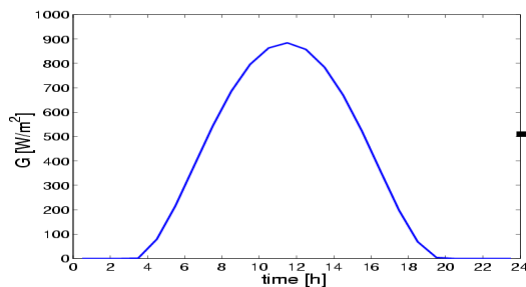
## Heliosat method



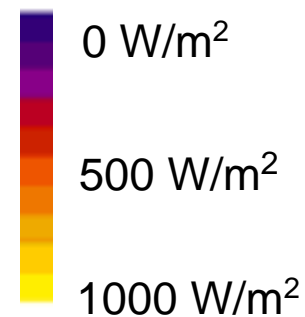
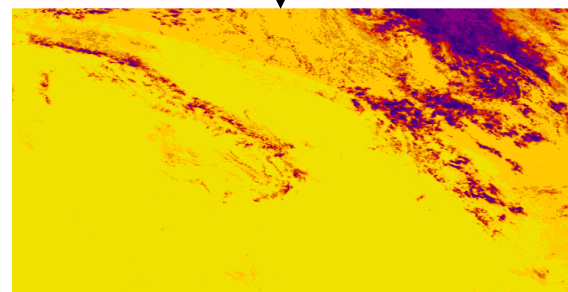
satellite images:

- bright clouds
- dark surface

clear sky model

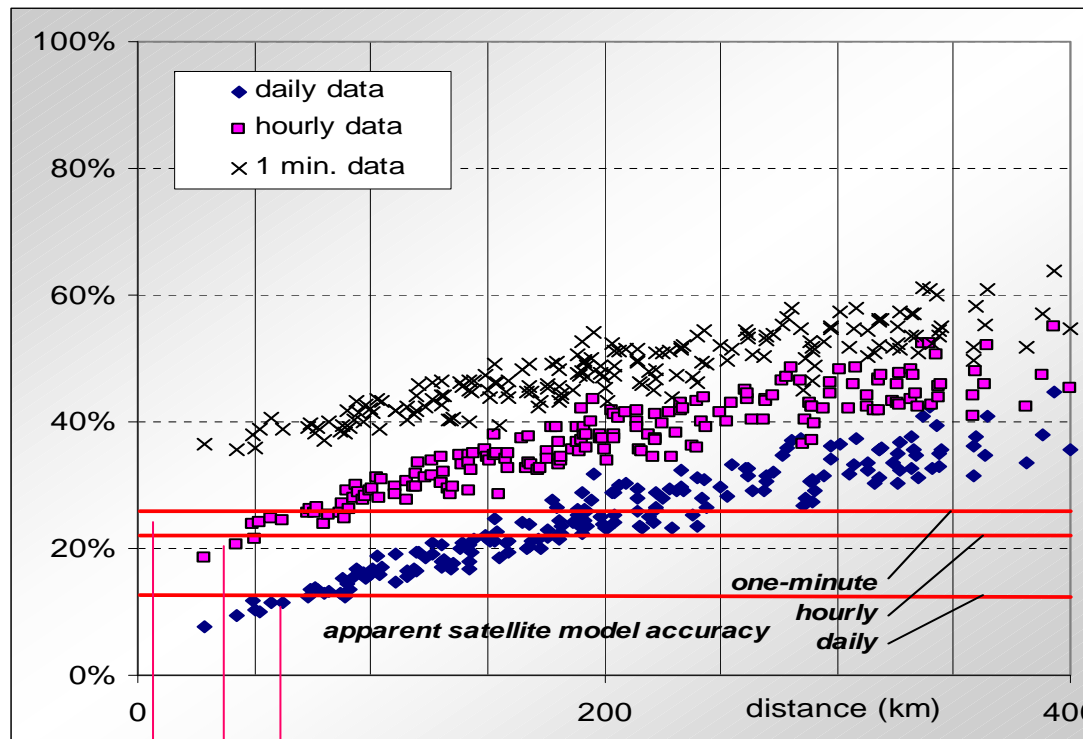


cloud index images:  
measure of cloudiness



global irradiance

# Interpolated ground vs satellite data



source:  
Perez, 2005

Daily breakeven distance ~ 60 km  
 Hourly breakeven distance ~ 35 km  
 1-minute breakeven distance ~ < 5 km




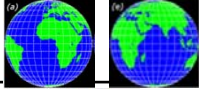







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## Overview

- sources of irradiance information
  - ground measurements
  - satellite data
  - reanalysis of numerical weather prediction models and climate models
    - > usually not applied for solar resource assessment
- overview on resource products

# Resource products: input and extension

product	input	area	period	provider
NASA SSE		World	1983-2005	NASA
Meteonorm	 *	World	1981-2000	Meteotest
Solemi			1991->	DLR
Helioclim			1985->	Mines-ParisTech
EnMetSol			1995->	Univ. of Oldenburg
Satel-light		Europe	1996-2001	ENTPE
PVGIS Europe	 *	Europe	1981-1990	JRC
ESRA	 *	Europe	1981-1990	Mines-ParisTech









\*world radiation data center

# Resource products: input and extension

product	input	area	period	provider
NASA SSE		World	1983-2005	NASA
Meteonorm		World	1981-2000	Meteotest
Solemi			1991->	DLR
Helioclim			1985->	Mines-ParisTech
EnMetSol			1995->	Univ. of Oldenburg
Satel-light		Europe	1996-2001	ENTPE
PVGIS Europe		Europe	1981-1990	JRC
ESRA		Europe	1981-1990	Mines-ParisTech

■ <10 years    
 ■ 10-20years    
 ■ >20 years

# Resource products: resolution

product	input	temp resolution	spatial resolution
NASA SSE		averag. daily profile	100 km
Meteonorm		synthetic hourly/min	1 km (+SRTM)
Solemi		1h	1 km
Helioclim		15min/30min	30 km // 3-7 km
EnMetSol		15min/1h	3-7 km // 1-3 km
Satel-light		30min	5-7 km
PVGIS Europe		averag. daily profile	1 km (+ SRTM)
ESRA		averag. daily profile	10 km

  synthetic high resolution values    
   measured high resolution values

## Resource products: parameters

product	parameters
NASA SSE	GHI, DNI, DHI, clouds
Meteonorm	GHI,DNI,DHI, shadowing, illuminance
Solemi	GHI, DNI
Helioclim	GHI, DNI
EnMetSol	GHI, DNI,DHI, spectra
Satel-light	GHI,DNI, DHI, illuminance
PVGIS Europe	GHI,DHI, shadowing
ESRA	GHI, DNI, DHI

## Resource products: access and price

product	access	price
NASA SSE	<a href="http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/sse">eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/sse</a>	free
Meteonorm	CD or <a href="http://www.meteonorm.ch">www.meteonorm.ch</a>	410 €
Solemi	on request	on request
Helioclim	<a href="http://www.soda-is.it">www.soda-is.it</a>	on request
EnMetSol	on request	on request
Satel-light	<a href="http://www.satel-light.com">www.satel-light.com</a>	free
PVGIS Europe	<a href="http://www.pvgis">www.pvgis</a>	free
ESRA	CD	380€

internet
  CD
  on request

## Resource products: access and price

product	access	price
NASA SSE	<a href="http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/sse">eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/sse</a>	free
Meteonorm	CD or <a href="http://www.meteonorm.ch">www.meteonorm.ch</a>	410 €
Solemi	on request	on request
Helioclim	<a href="http://www.soda-is.it">www.soda-is.it</a>	on request
EnMetSol	on request	on request
Satel-light	<a href="http://www.satel-light.com">www.satel-light.com</a>	free
PVGIS Europe	<a href="http://www.pvgis">www.pvgis</a>	free
ESRA	CD	380€

■ free

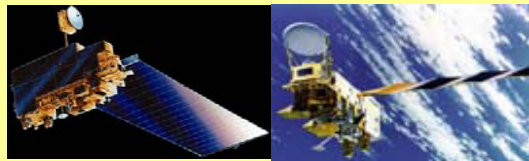
■ low cost

■ on request

## Earth System Science

## Applied Science Outcome

### NASA Satellite Measurements, Analysis and Modeling



Terra

Aqua



### SSE Web Site

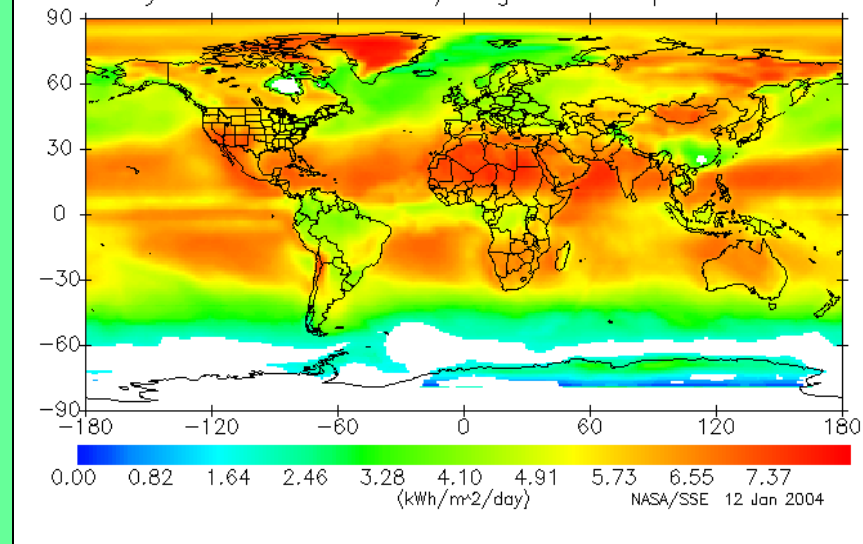
<http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/sse/>

Over 200 solar energy and meteorology parameters averaged from 10 years of data

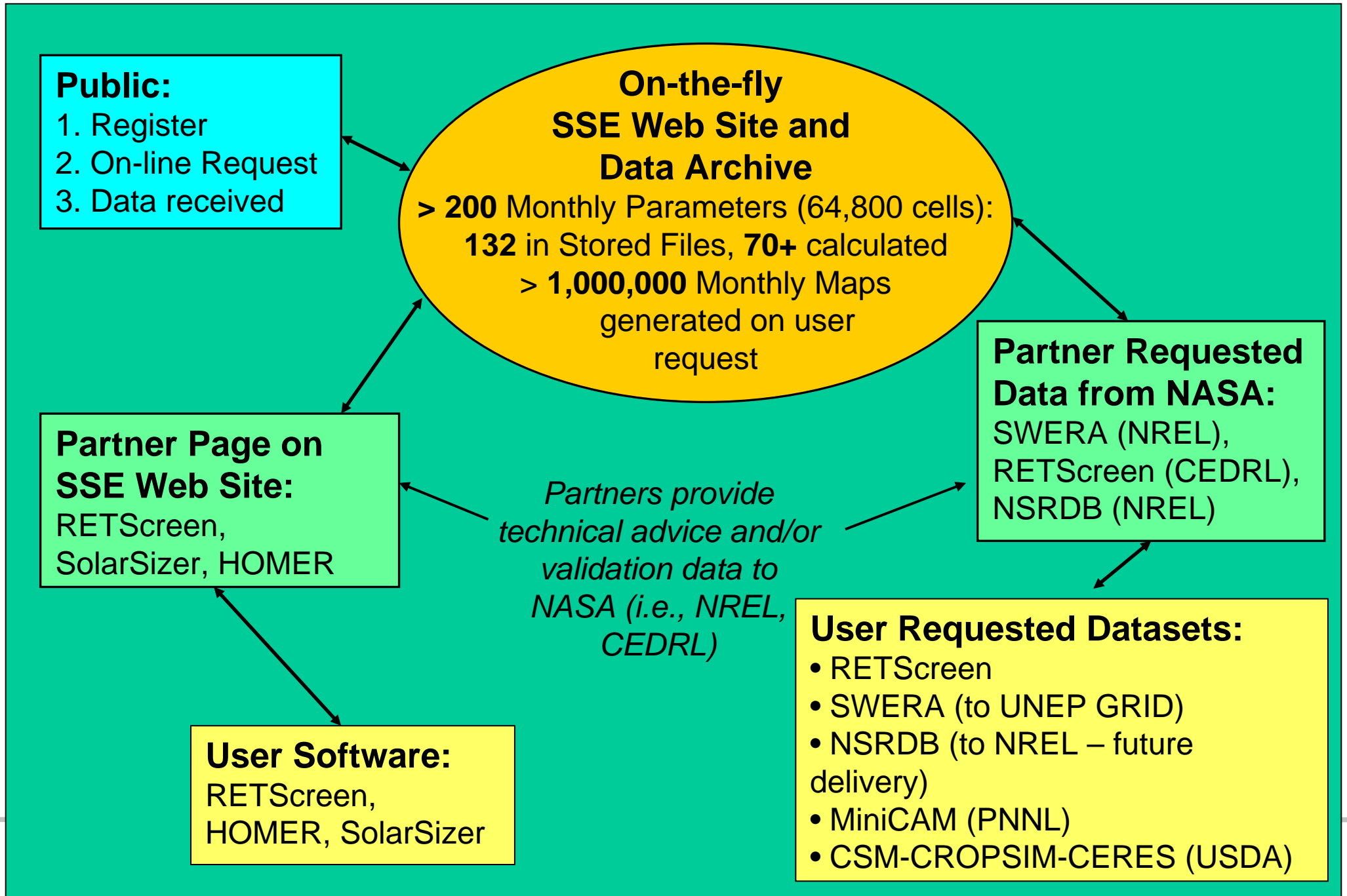
### Surface Meteorology and Solar Energy (SSE) Datasets And Web interface



April Radiation on Equator-pointed tilted surfaces (Perez/Erbs et al.)  
July 1983 - June 1993 / Angle of tilt equals latitude



Growing over the last 7 years to nearly 14,000 users, nearly 6.4 million hits and 1.25 million data downloads



**Public:**

1. Register
2. On-line Request
3. Data received

**On-the-fly SSE Web Site and Data Archive**

> 200 Monthly Parameters (64,800 cells):  
 132 in Stored Files, 70+ calculated  
 > 1,000,000 Monthly Maps generated on user request

**Partner Requested Data from NASA:**

- SWERA (NREL),
- RETScreen (CEDRL),
- NSRDB (NREL)

**Partner Page on SSE Web Site:**

- RETScreen,
- SolarSizer, HOMER

*Partners provide technical advice and/or validation data to NASA (i.e., NREL, CEDRL)*

**User Software:**

- RETScreen,
- HOMER, SolarSizer

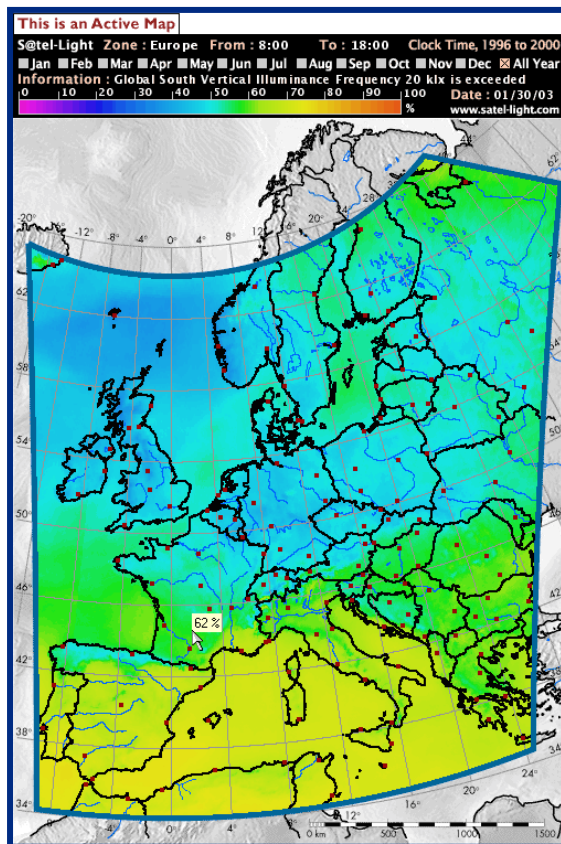
**User Requested Datasets:**

- RETScreen
- SWERA (to UNEP GRID)
- NSRDB (to NREL – future delivery)
- MiniCAM (PNNL)
- CSM-CROPSIM-CERES (USDA)

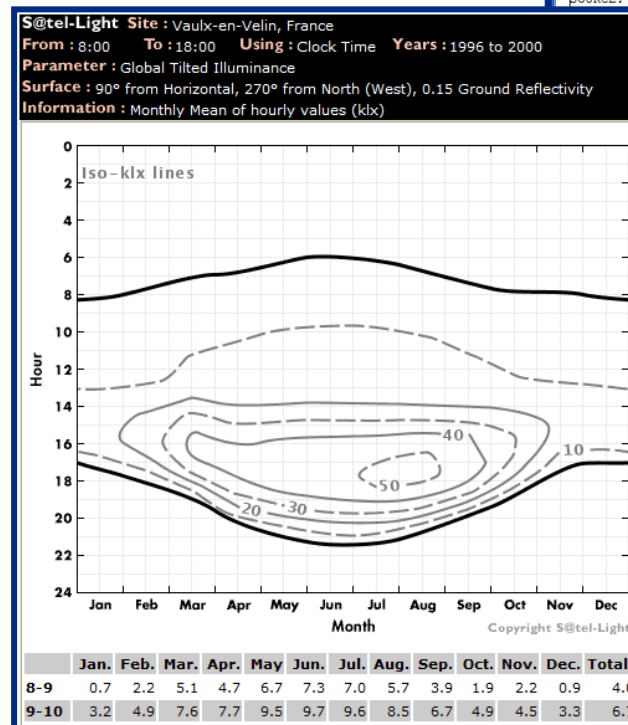
## A short glimpse at what you get !

5 years of half hour data from 1996 to 2000

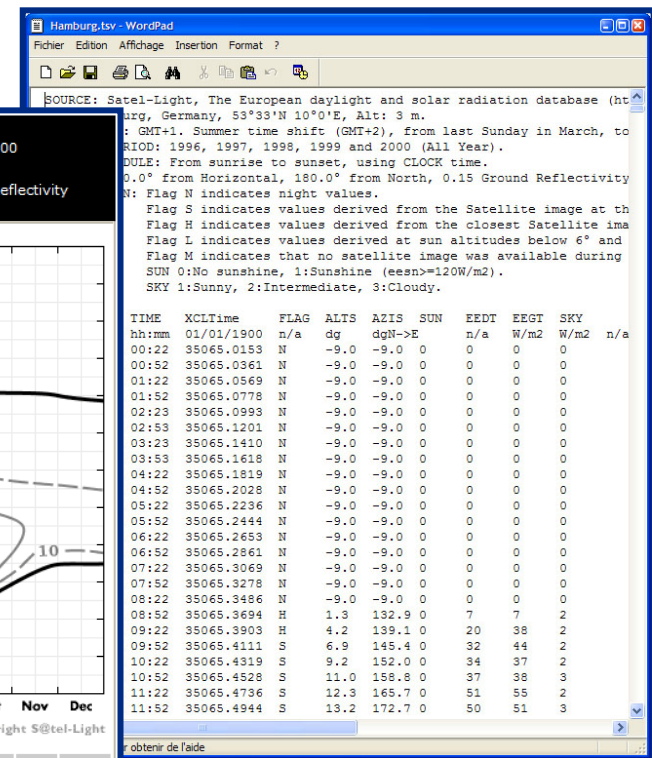
Maps



Diagrams



Data files



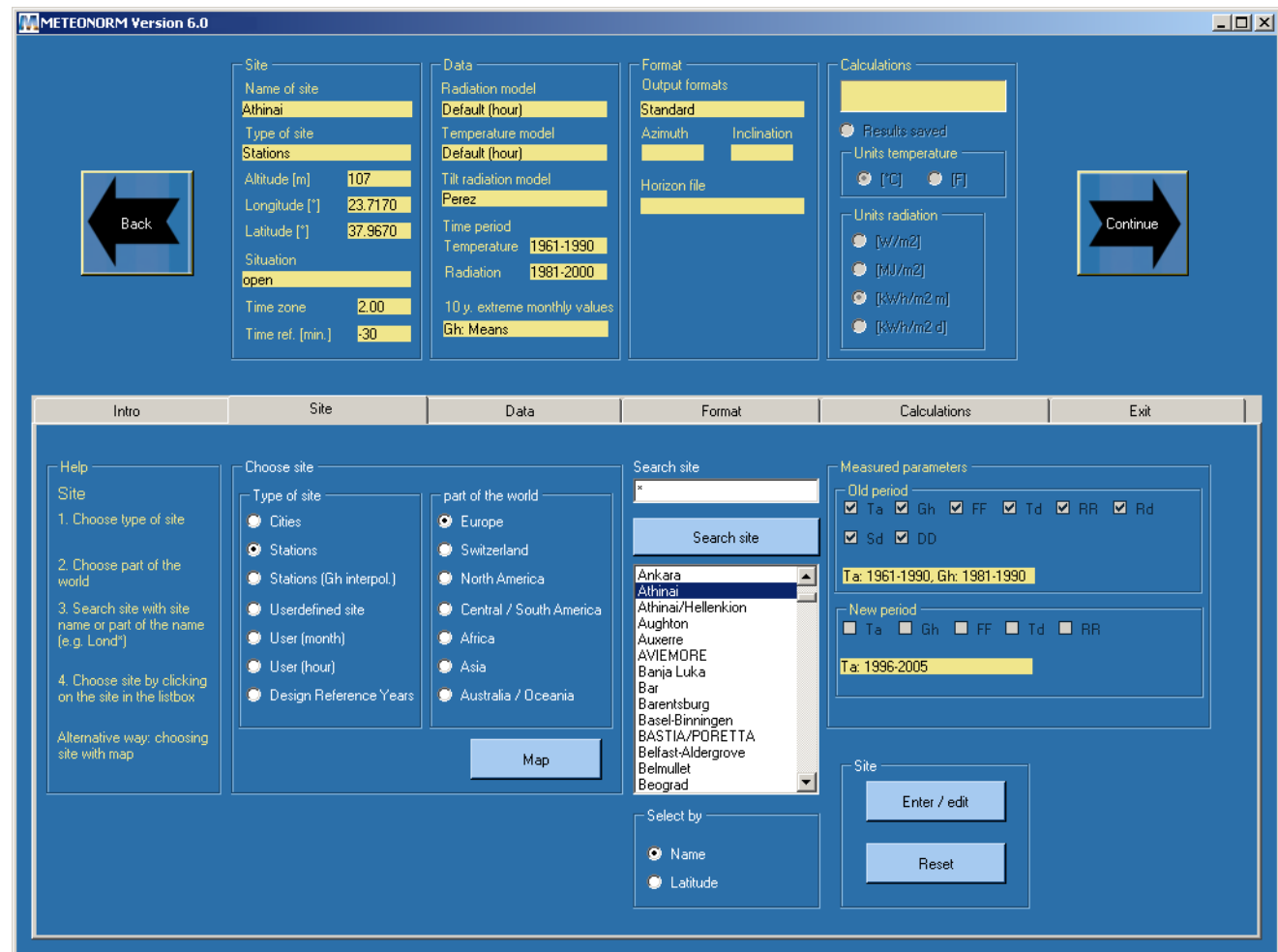
## What parameters are available ?

- global irradiance
- diffuse horizontal irradiance from global  
*(Olseth & Skartveit diffuse fraction model)*
- tilted irradiances with Perez model
- temperatures with Dumortier model  
*(from min/max daily and global irradiance)*
- illuminances with Olseth luminous efficacy model
- sky luminances with the Perez ASRC-CIE model

## Basic data / software

4 steps:

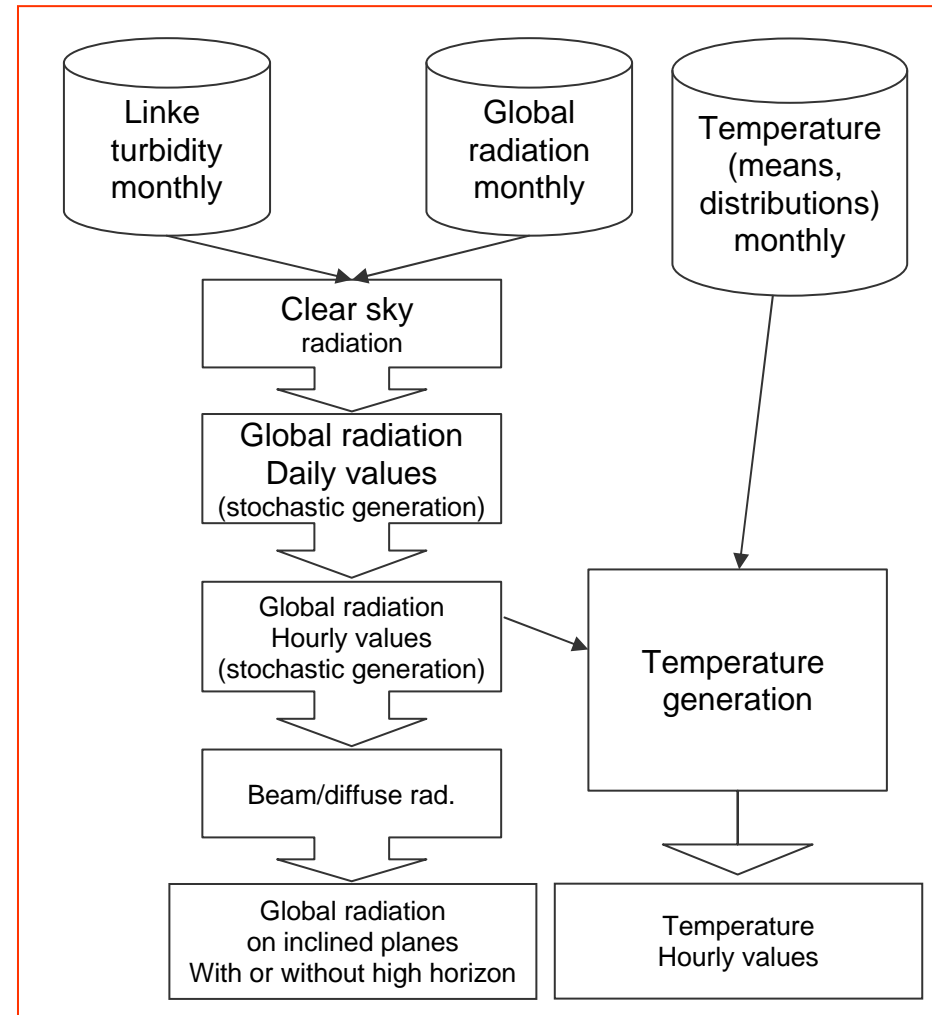
- site
- data
- format
- calculations



## Climate data

- 8050 stations
- 8 parameters:
  - global radiation (horizontal, inclined)
  - air temperature
  - dewpoint temperature
  - wind speed and direction
  - sunshine duration
  - precipitation
  - days with precipitation

## Chain of algorithms



## PVGIS provides free access to...

### data

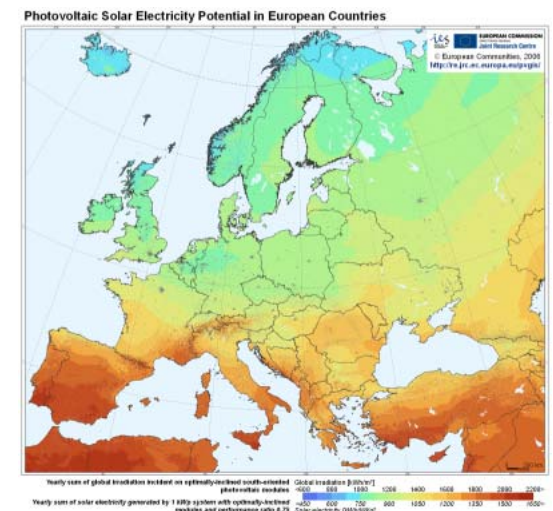
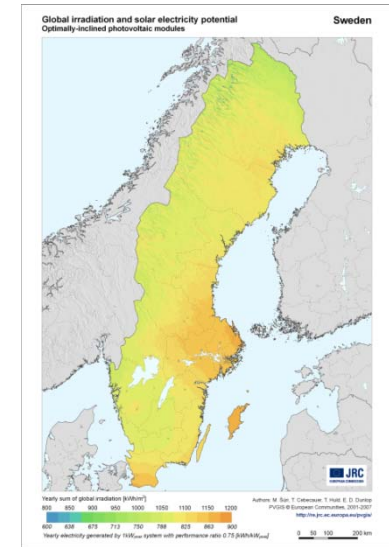
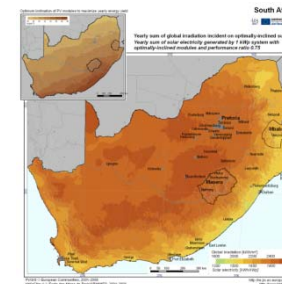
- solar radiation (Europe, Africa & SW Asia)
- ambient temperature (Europe)
- + terrain, land cover...

### assessment tools

- solar radiation for fixed and sun-tracking surfaces
- output from grid-connected PV
- performance of standalone PV (only Africa)

### maps

- interactive
- static



## Calculation of grid-connected PV performance

calculation takes into account angle-of-incidence effects

- For crystalline silicon and CIS/CIGS, the effects of temperature and irradiance on the conversion efficiency are modeled.
- generic (user-selected) value for BOS losses
- calculates output for:
  - specified inclination and orientation
  - optimum inclination for given orientation
  - optimum inclination and orientation
  - 1- and 2-axis flat-plate tracking

## Common Features

- same area for H1, H2, H3
- uncertainties of irradiance values assessed and provided
- dissemination through the SoDa Service  
*[www.soda-is.com](http://www.soda-is.com)*
- access to data in one click
- access on-pay, except 1985-1989 (daily) and 2005
- coupled to other services, e.g. irradiance on inclined surface

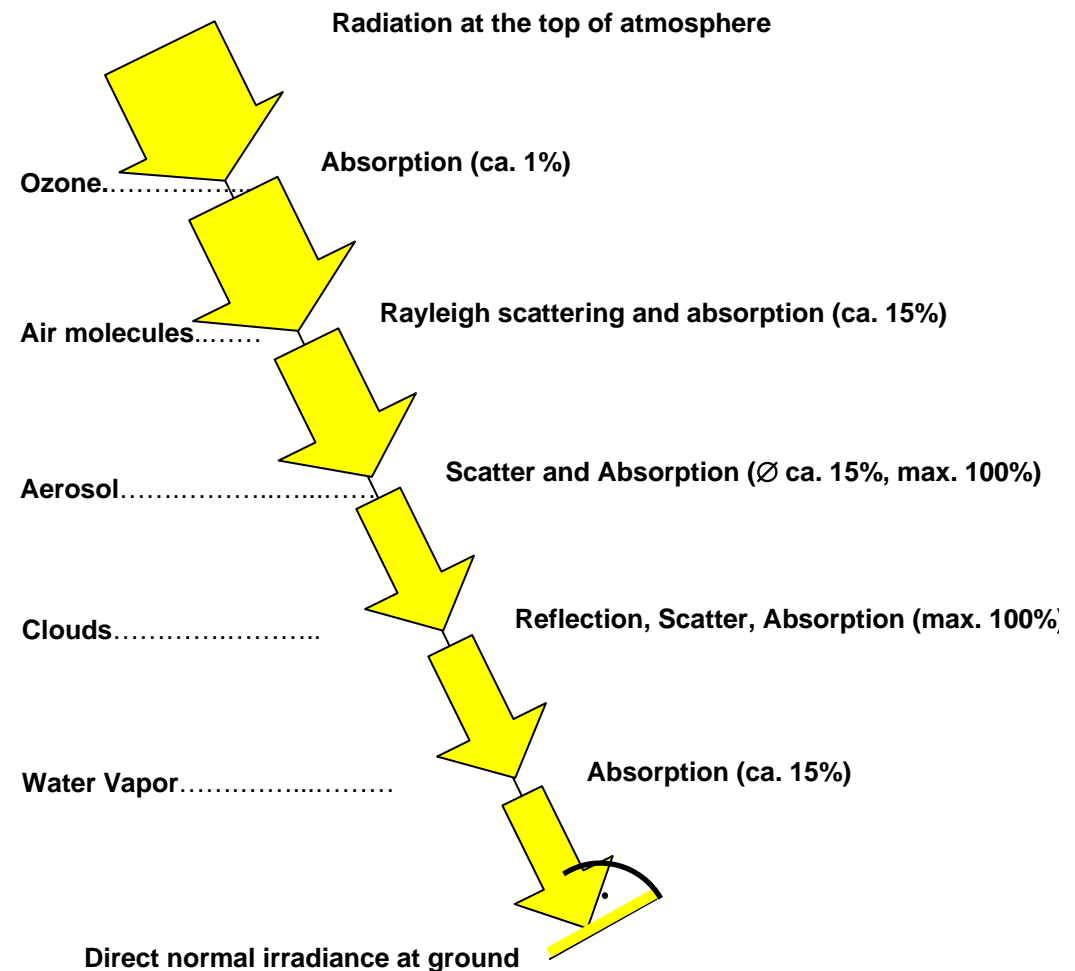
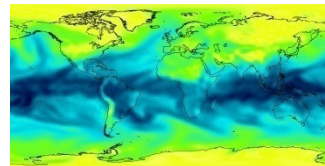
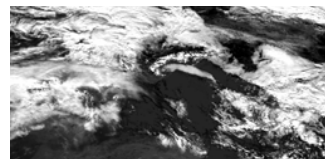
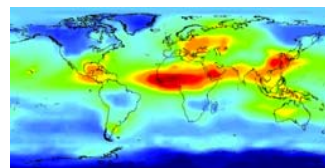
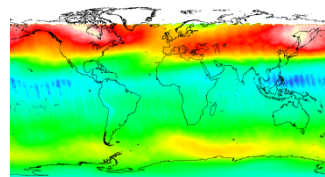
## Differences

HC1	Daily	-	5 km – 30 km	1985 - 2005	Heliosat 2
HC2	1 h	TST	5' fixed (10 km)	Real Time 2004 →	Heliosat 2
HC3	¼ h	UT, TST	pixel 3 km	Real Time 2004 →	Heliosat 2

HC-3 is more accurate than HC-2

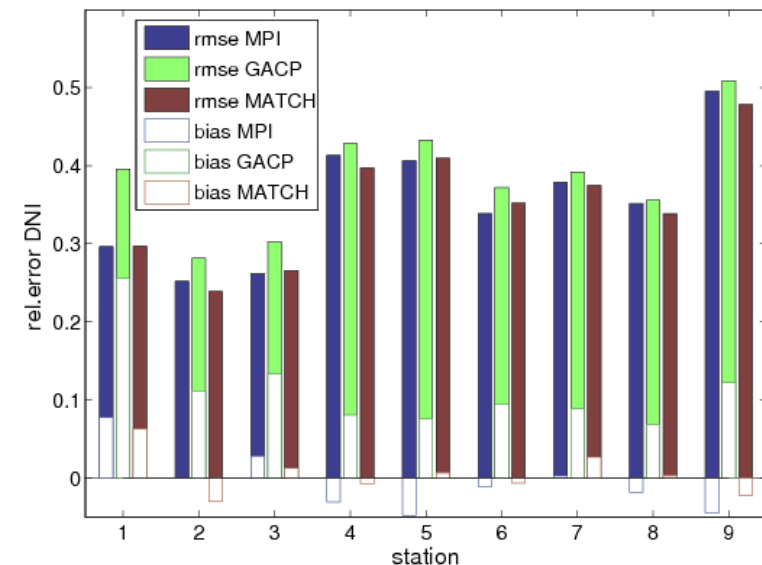
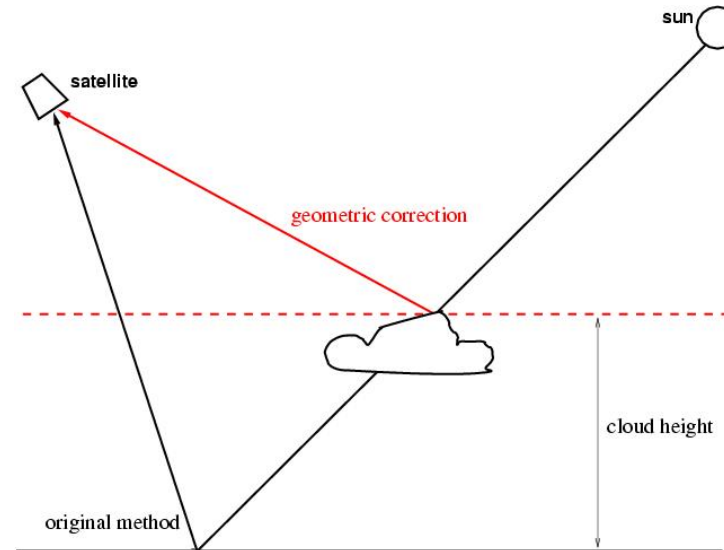
## Some of the highlights

- Large spatial extension
- > 15 years
- full satellite resolution
- separate treatment of atmospheric components



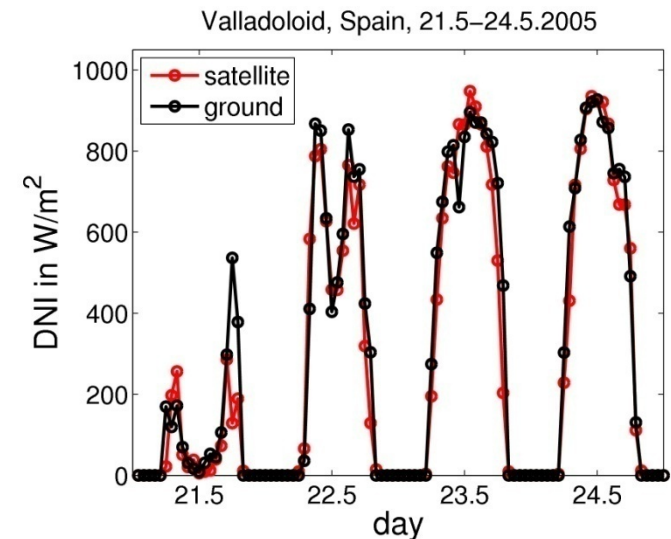
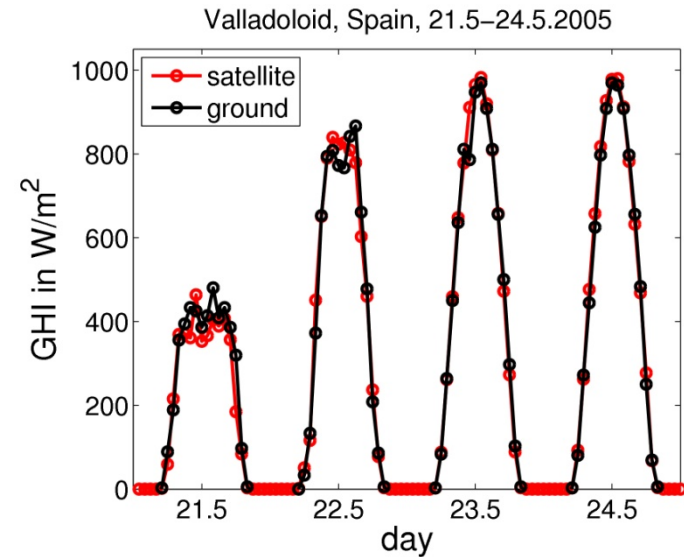
## Main features

- 13 years
- full satellite resolution
- **continuous model development**
  - parallax correction using cloud height
  - broken clouds correction
  - snow detection
  - investigation of appropriate atmospheric data sets



## Main features

- 13 years
- full satellite resolution
- **continuous model development**
  - parallax correction using cloud height
  - broken clouds correction
  - snow detection
  - investigation of appropriate atmospheric data sets
- **validation studies for requested sites/regions**



## Summary

### **different sources of irradiance information**

- ground data
- satellite data

### **resources products**

- different input data and methods
- different spatial and temporal resolutions
- different coverage
- different accuracy