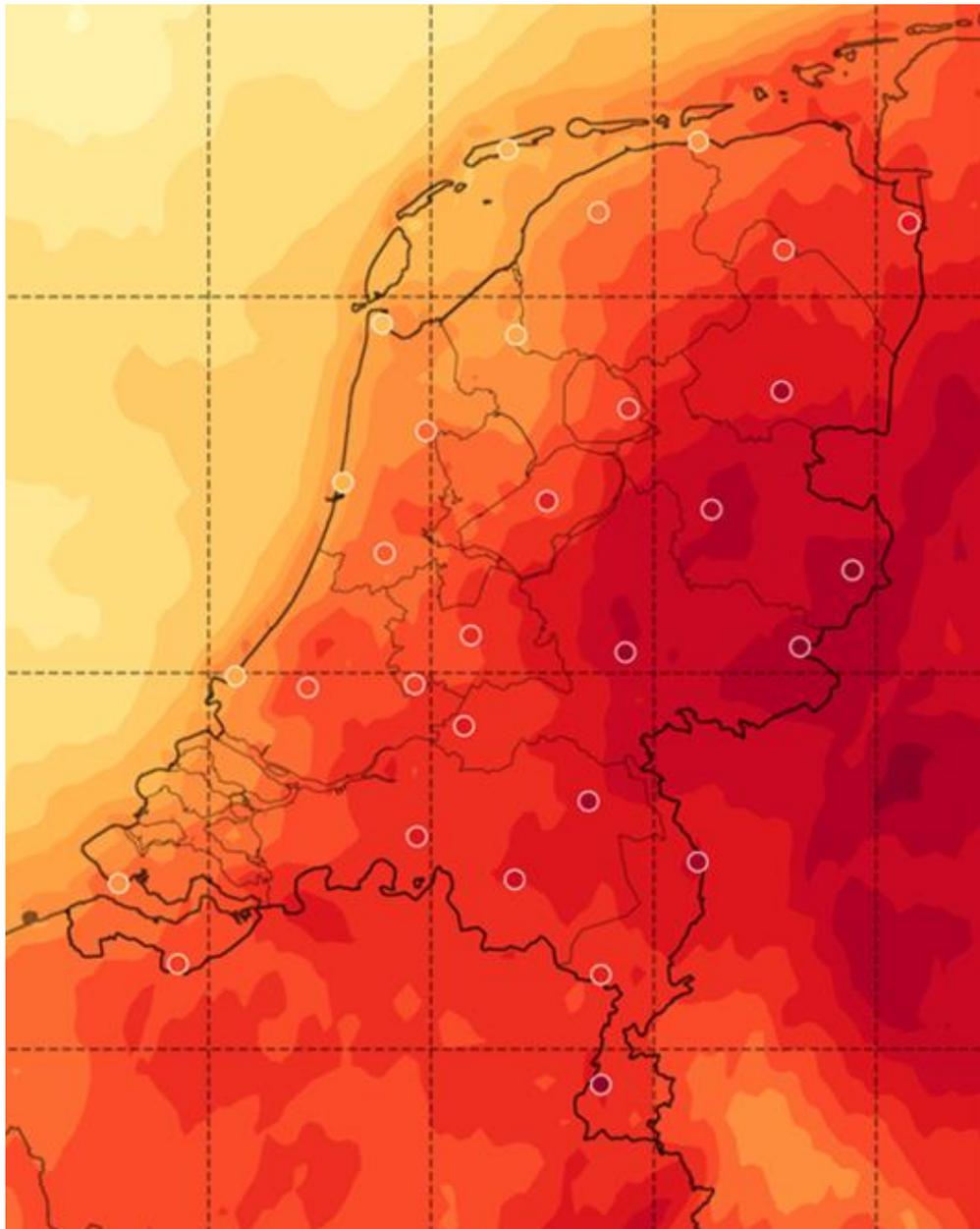




Royal Netherlands  
Meteorological Institute  
*Ministry of Infrastructure and the  
Environment*

# Observing and forecasting surface solar irradiance with Meteosat

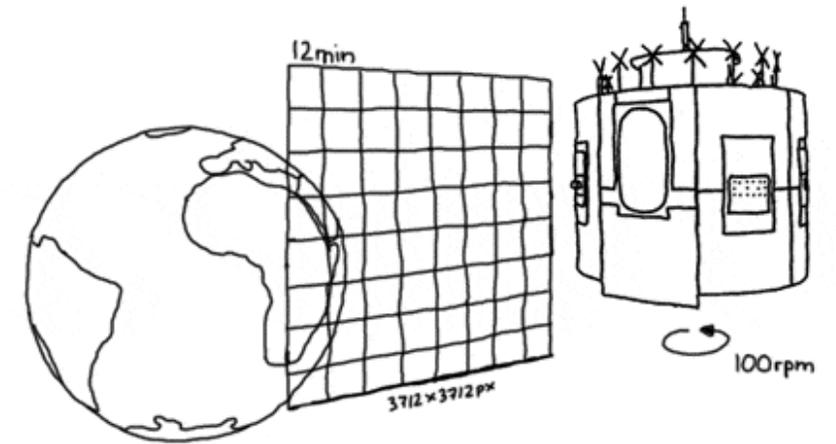
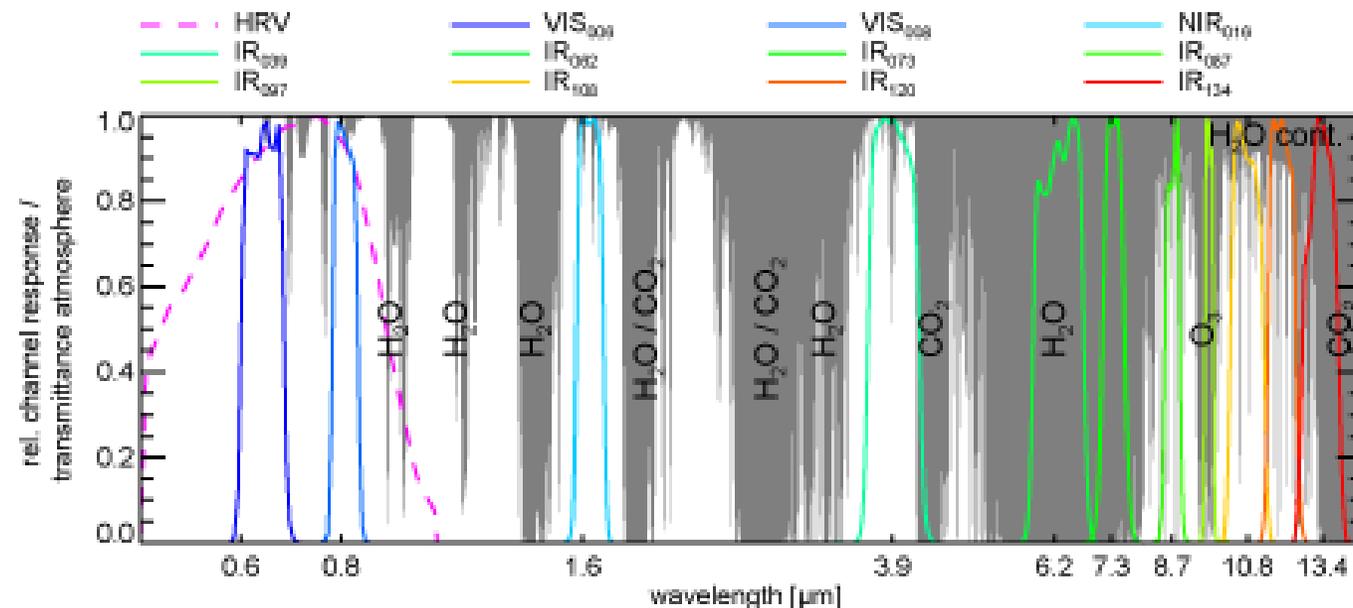
Wouter Knap  
Jan Fokke Meirink  
Ping Wang  
Rudolf van Westrhenen  
Sibbo van der Veen



# MSG-SEVIRI

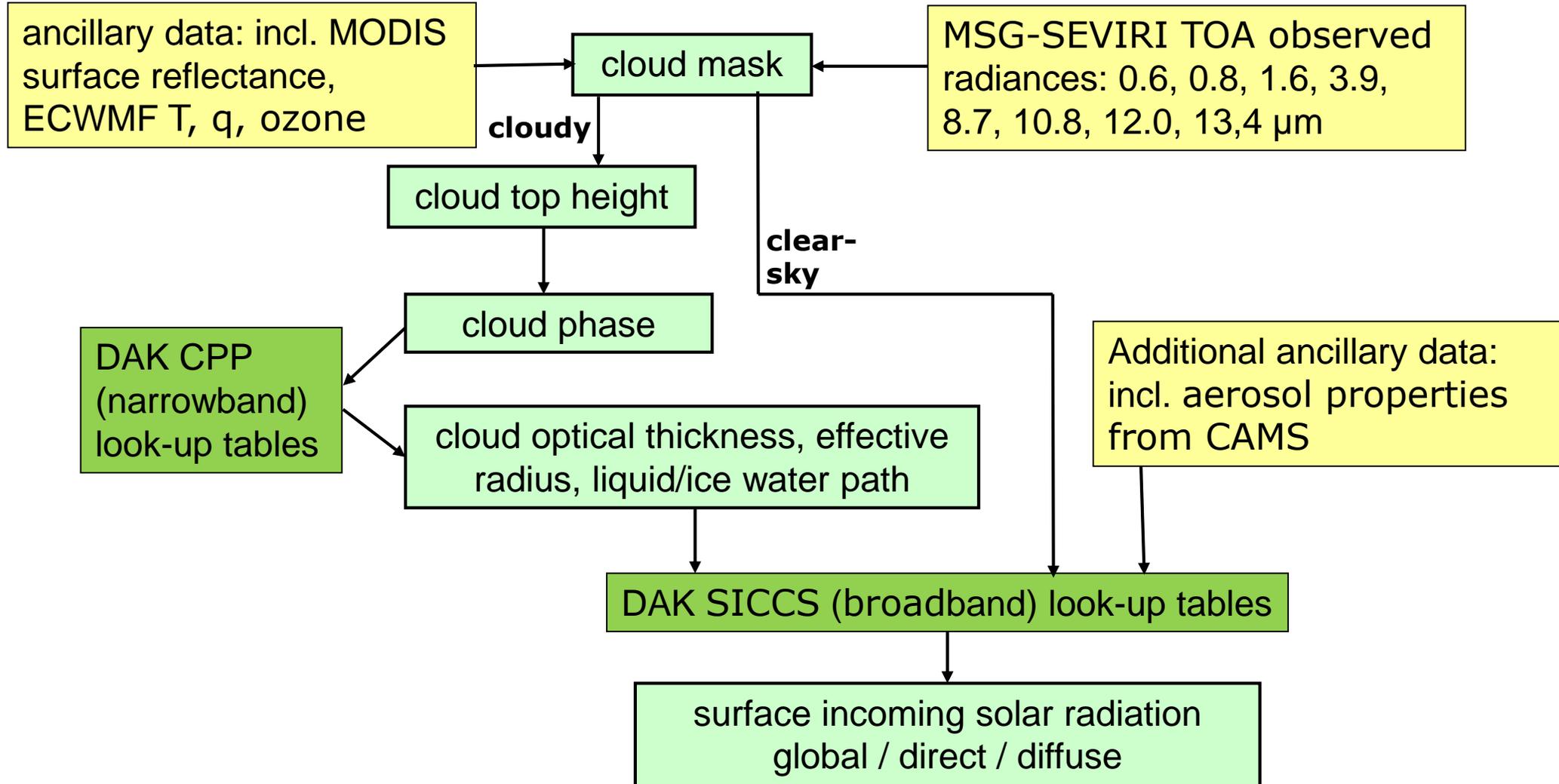


- Geostationary imager
- 12 spectral channels
- 3 x 3 km resolution sub-satellite
- 15 min repeat frequency



[moments-from-space.com](http://moments-from-space.com)

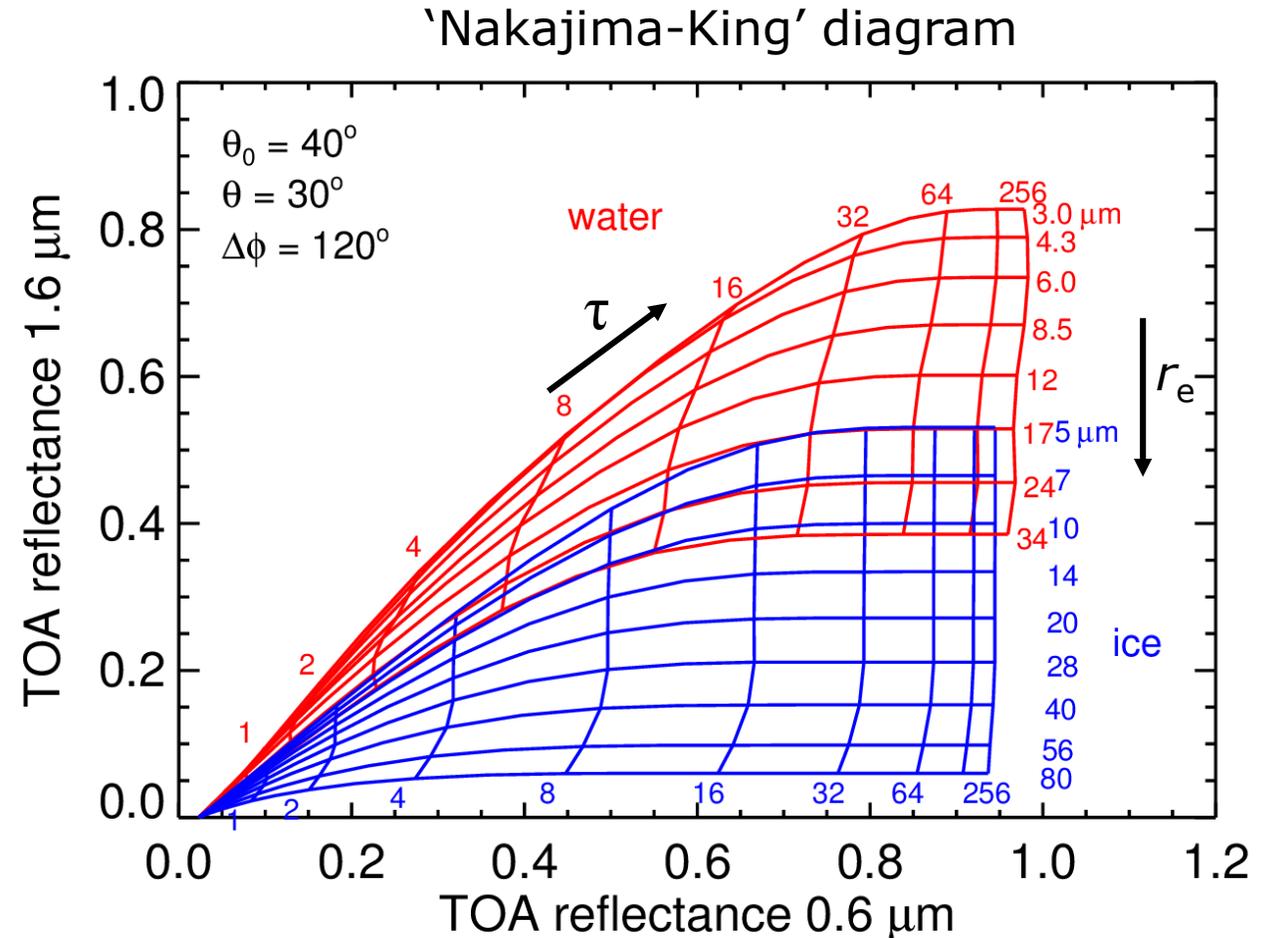
# CPP-SICCS algorithm





# Cloud optical thickness and effective radius

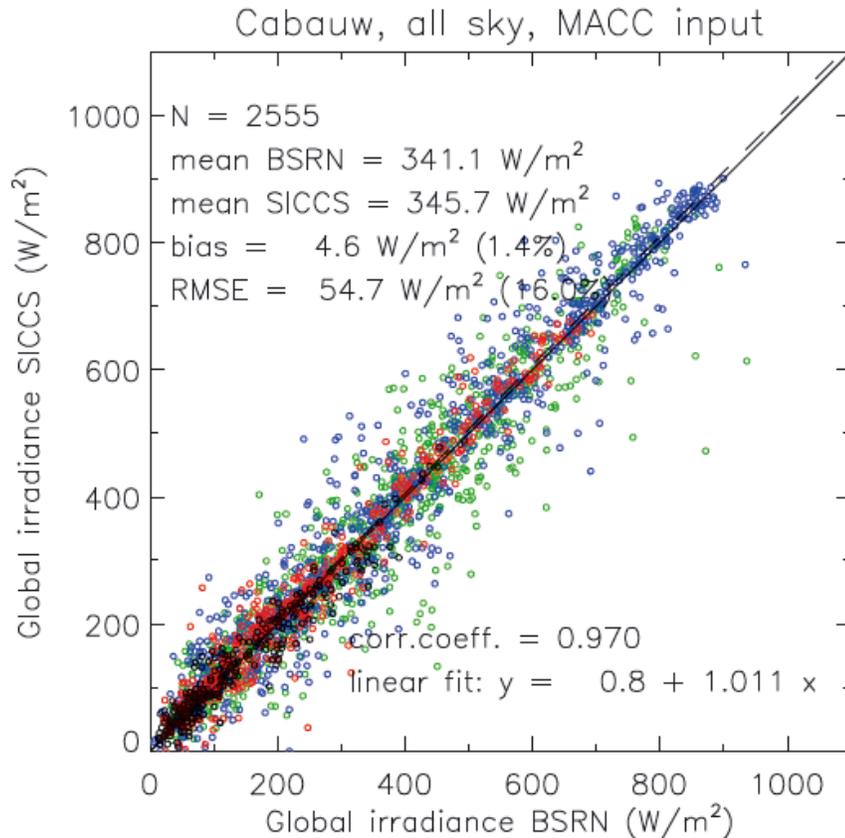
- 0.6 / 0.8  $\mu\text{m}$ 
  - Scattering
  - No absorption
  - $R_{0.6} = f_1(\tau)$
- 1.6 / 2.1 / 3.8  $\mu\text{m}$ 
  - Scattering
  - Absorption
  - $R_{1.6} = f_2(\text{SSA}) = f_3(\text{phase}, r_e)$
- Retrieval by matching observed and simulated refl. pairs



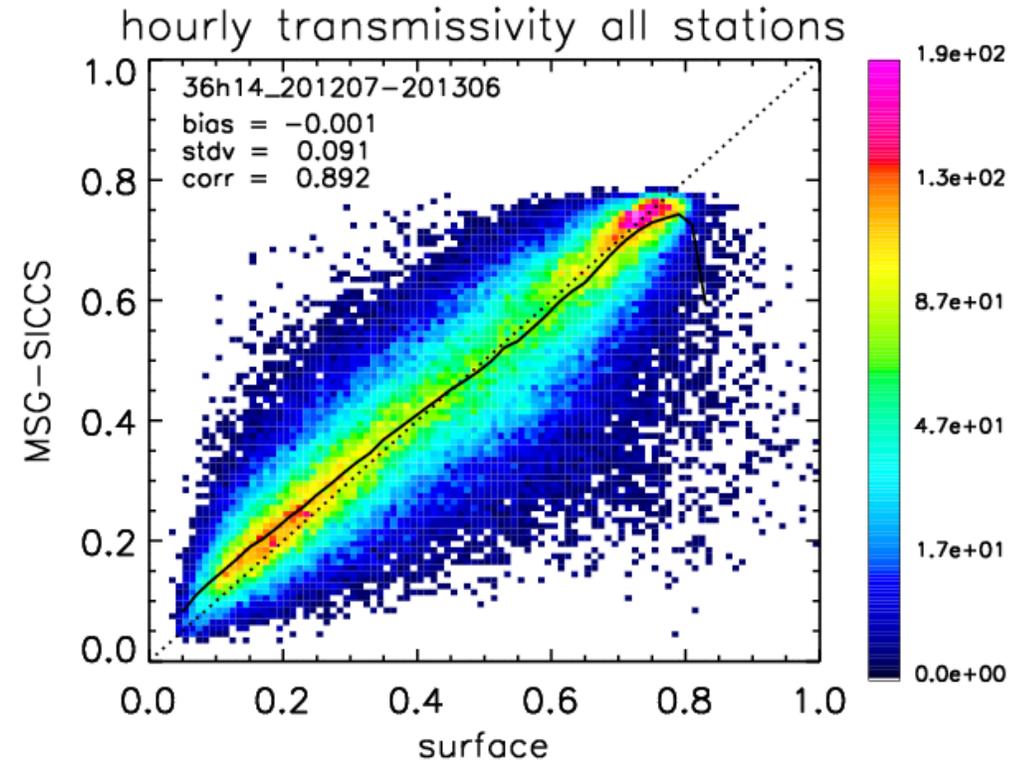


# SICCS validation

## BSRN Europe



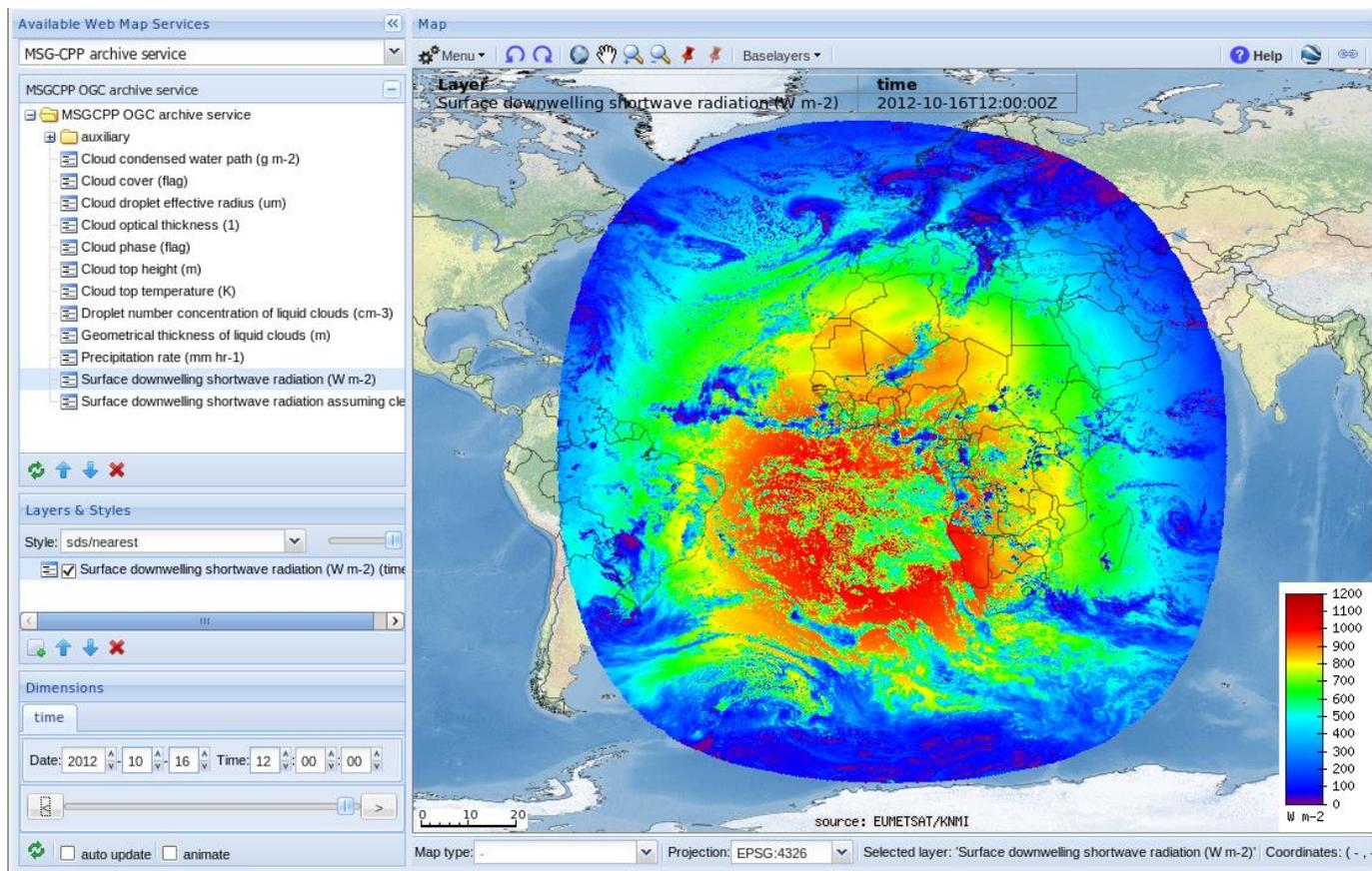
## Dutch pyranometer network



**Greuell et al., J. Geophys. Res., 2013:** median bias 2%; median hourly RMSE 18%



# Near-real time data



[msgcpp.knmi.nl](http://msgcpp.knmi.nl)

- Full MSG-disc
- Interactive visualization
- OpenGC services
- 2-year archive online



# Practical applications

## Solar energy



## Greenhouse cultivation



## Hydrology (evaporation)





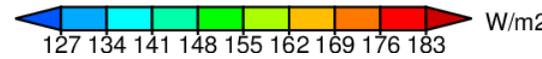
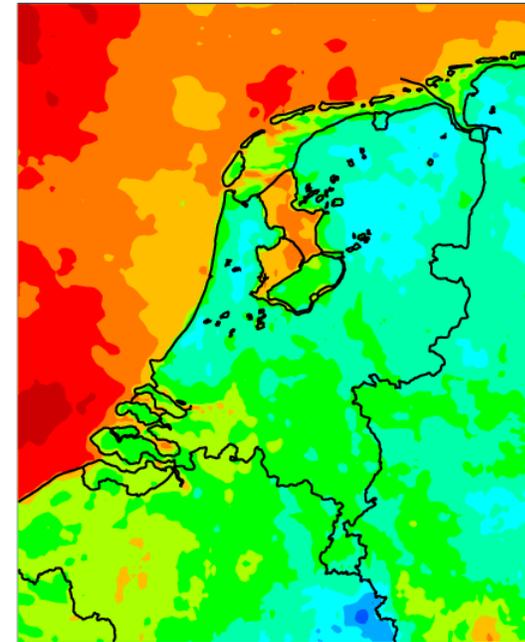
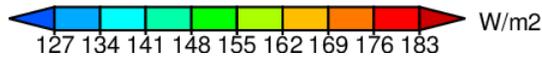
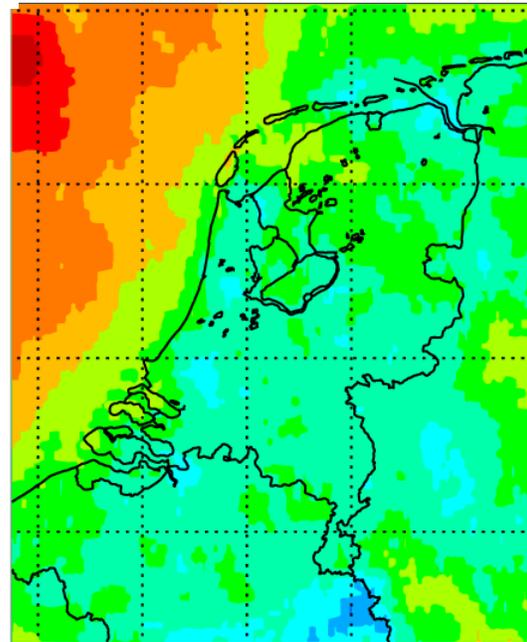
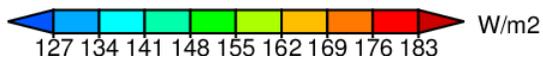
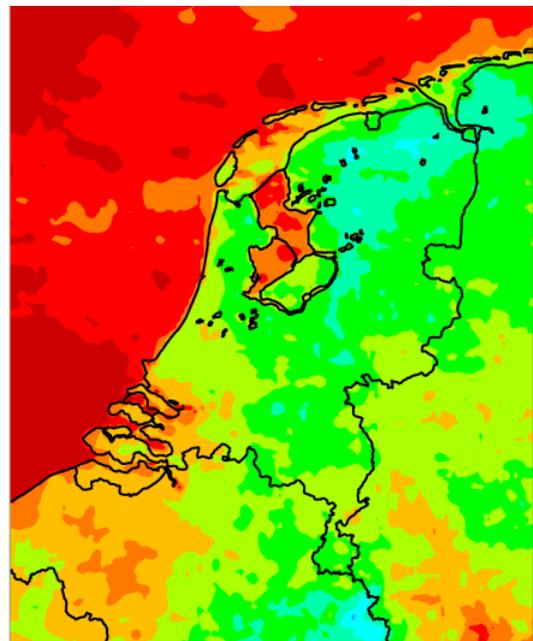
# Application at KNMI: HARMONIE weather model evaluation

- Cloud inhomogeneity
- Cloud properties
- Turbulence

**HARMONIE v38h12  
with updates**

**HARMONIE v38h12**

**MSG**



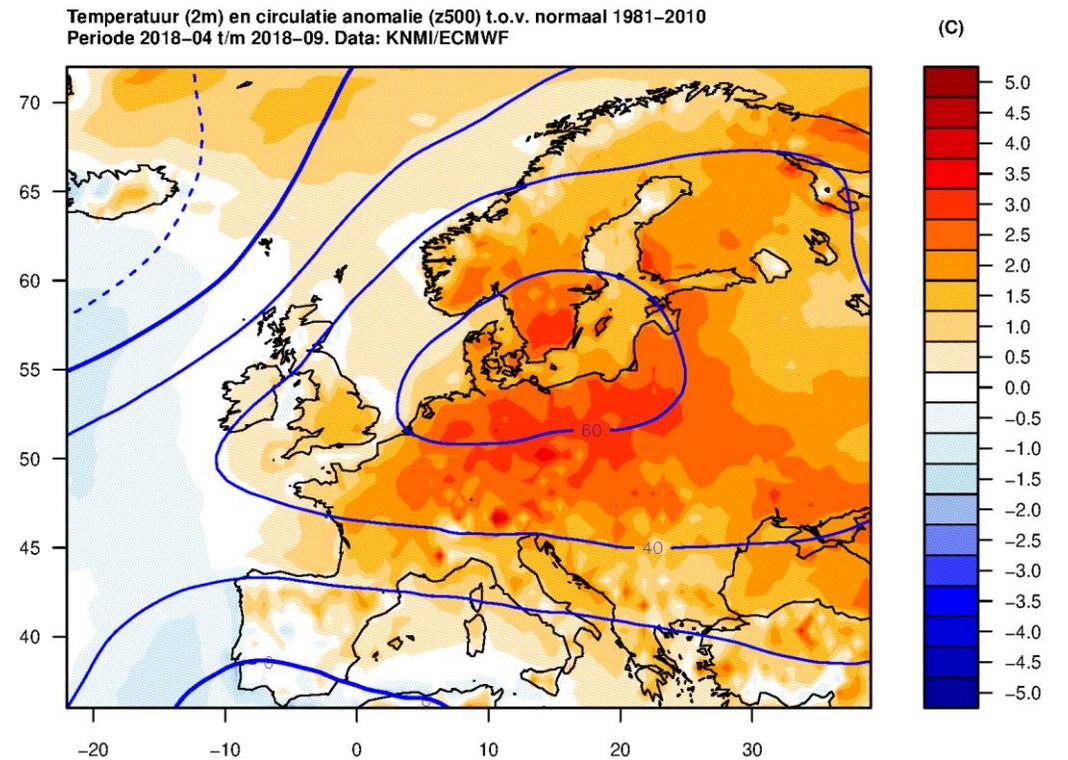
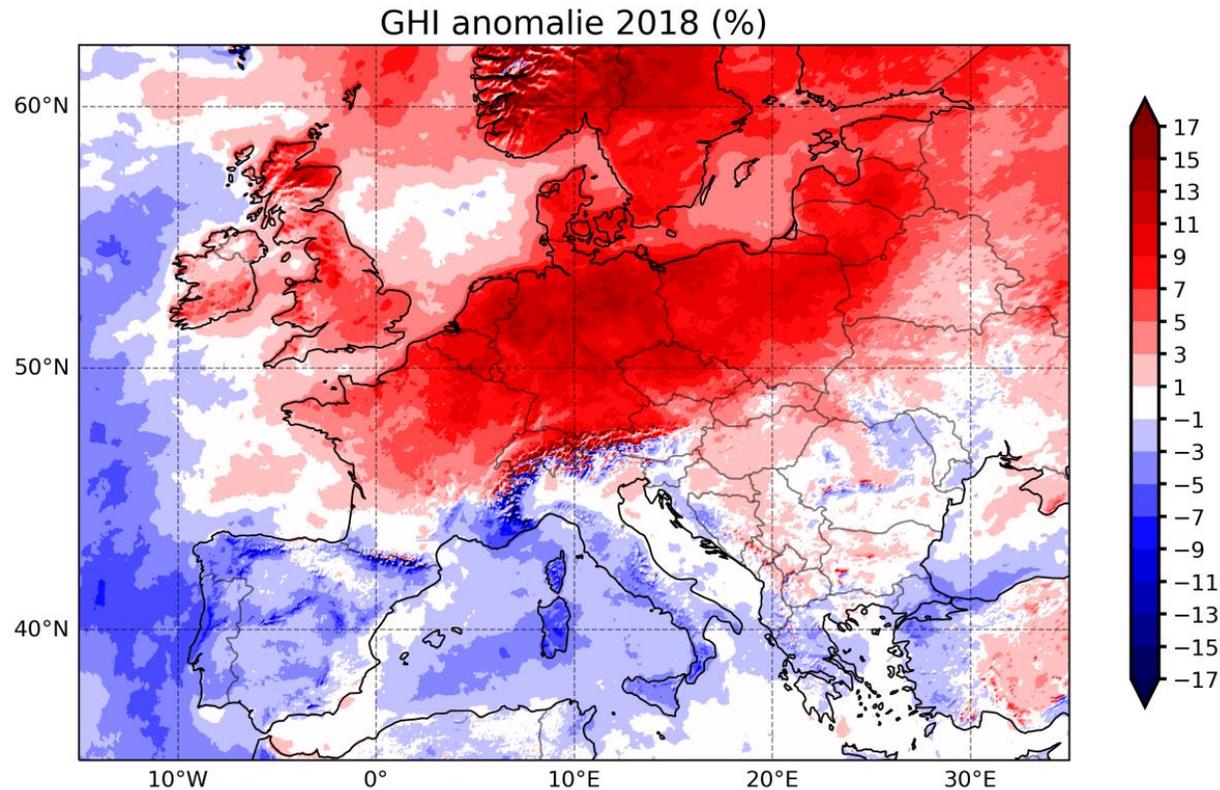
**August 2006**

Strong positive bias in HARMONIE surface solar radiation removed by updates in radiation and turbulence schemes

De Rooij and de Vries et al., Hirlam-Aladin tech. rep. No. 70, 2017

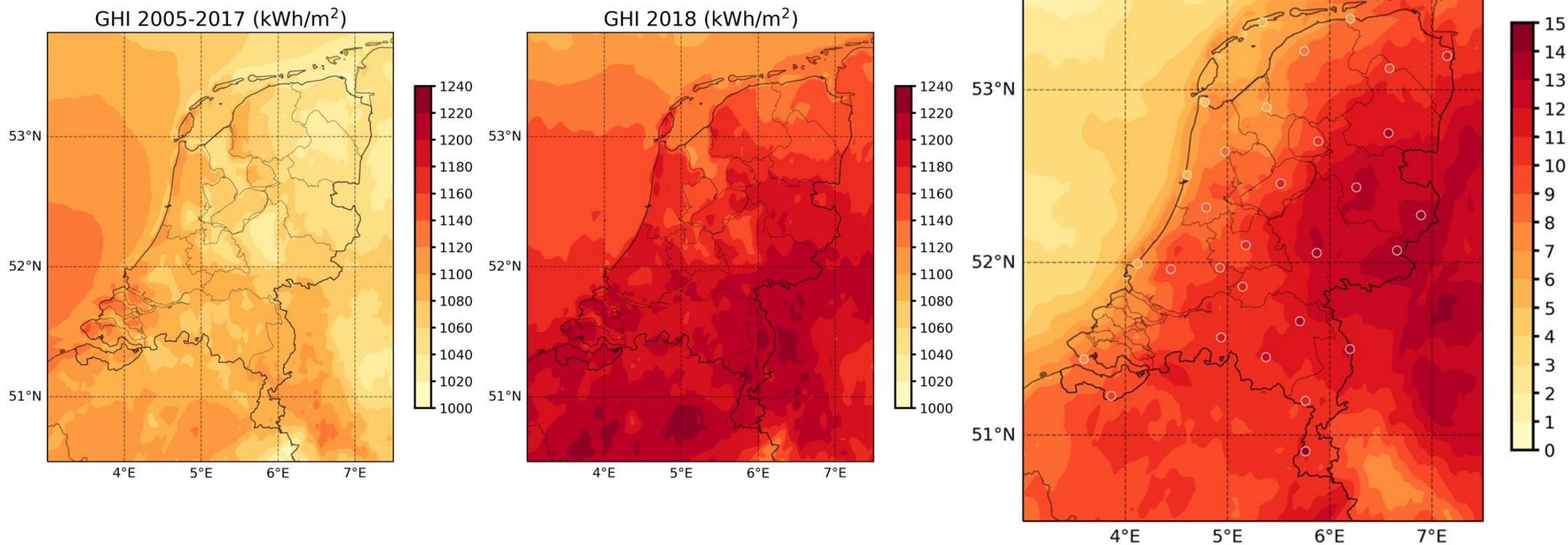


# Anomalous GHI 2018





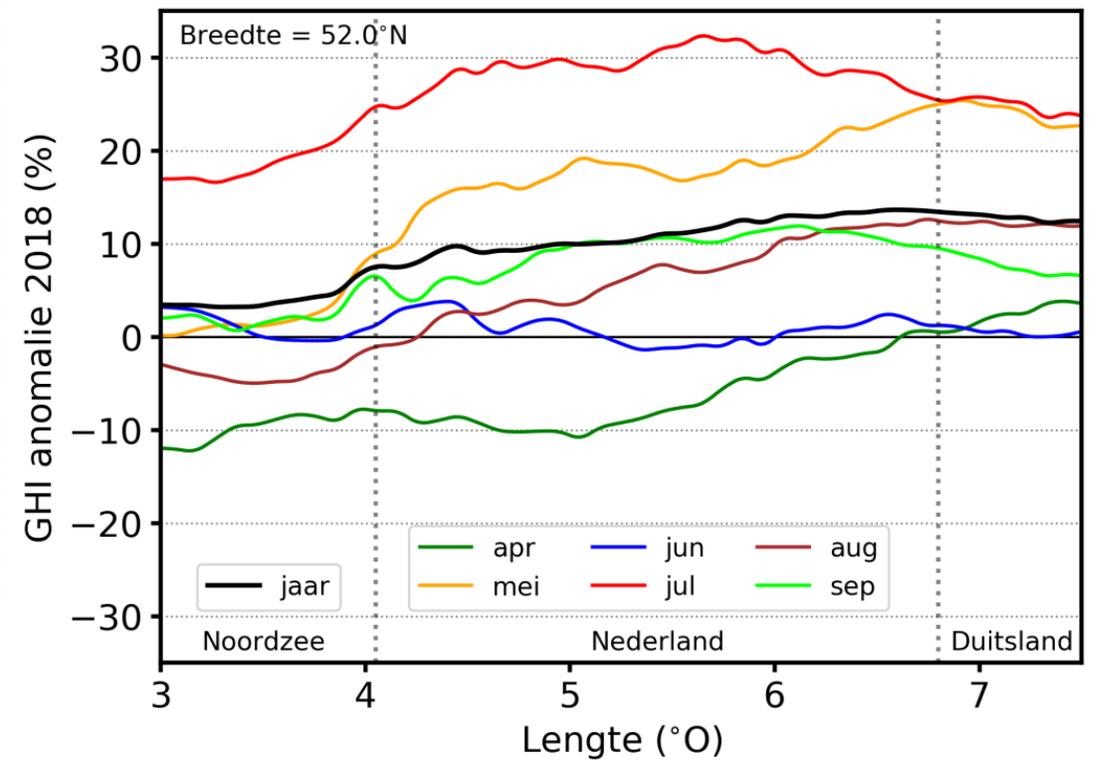
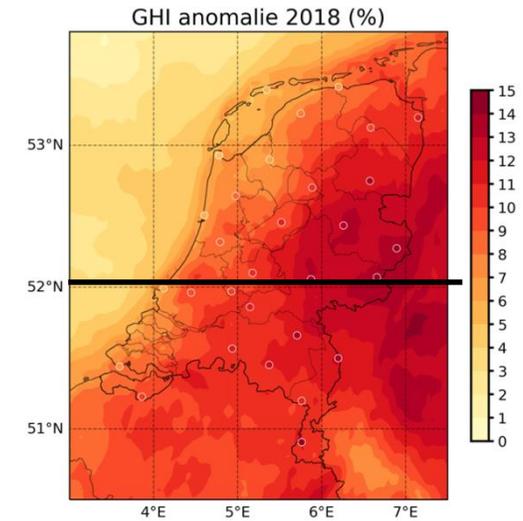
# Anomalous GHI 2018





# Anomalous GHI 2018

20 May 2018, 13:30h

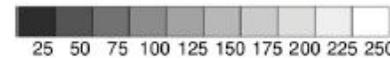
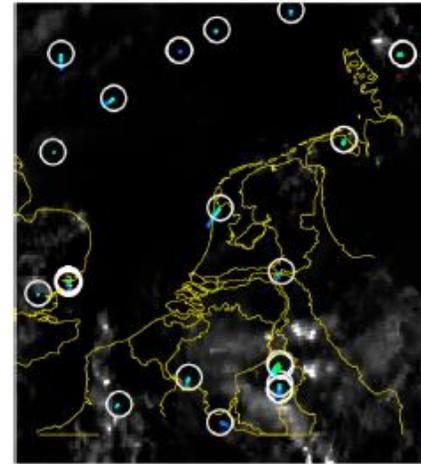


# Satellite-based forecasting

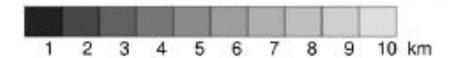
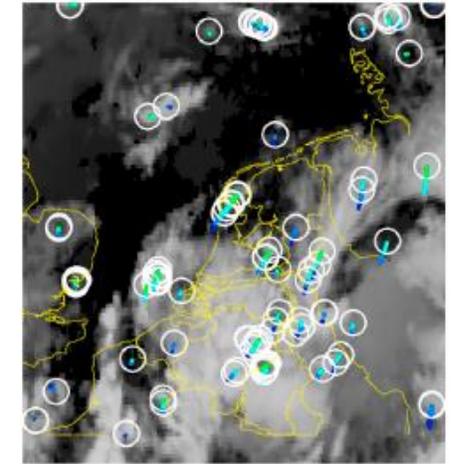


- > 5 subsequent SEVIRI images (1 hour)
- > Cloud motion vectors derived from different cloud properties
- > Vectors from different time steps and cloud properties combined
- > Completed with model wind vectors
- > Cloud properties advected in 15-minute time steps (no smoothing applied), 2 hours ahead
- > SSI (global and direct) calculated from advected clouds using SICCS

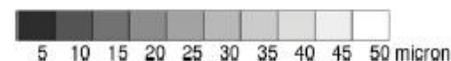
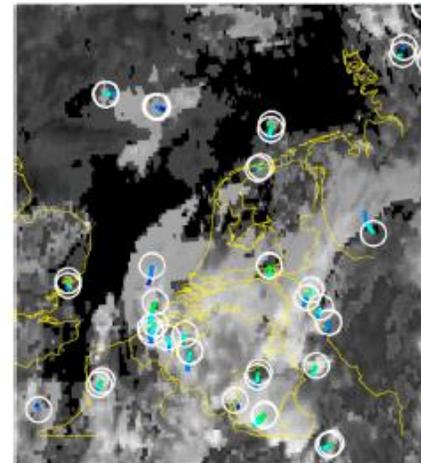
(a) COT 16 JUN 2016 1200 UTC



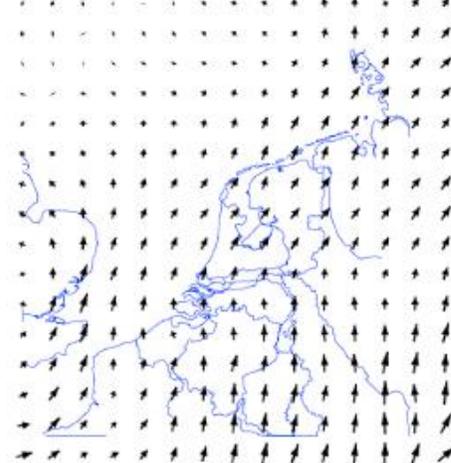
(b) CTH 16 JUN 2016 1200 UTC



(c) REFF 16 JUN 2016 1200 UTC



(d) VECTORS 16 JUN 2016 1200 UTC



Wang et al., Solar Energy, 2019

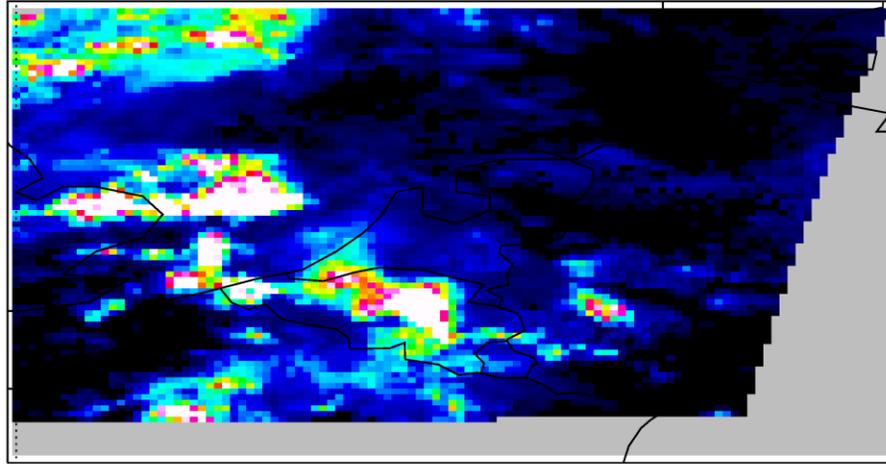
# Forecast example



COT

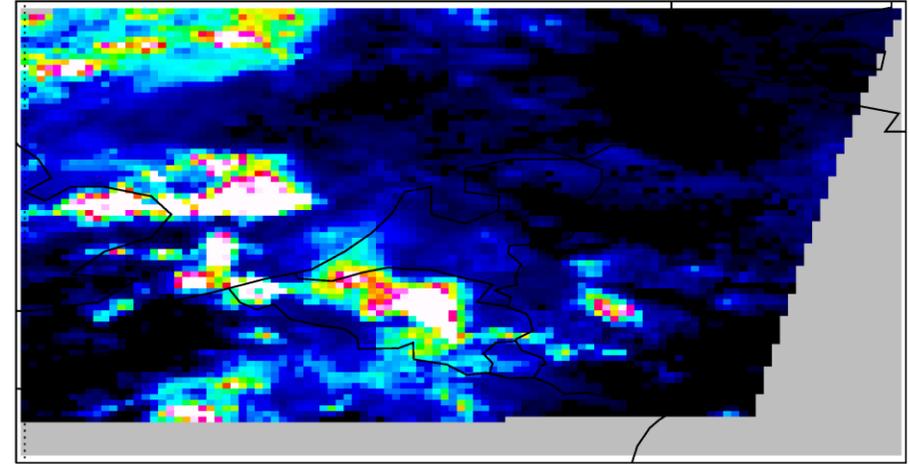
## Forecast

COT F 20170706 1200 +000



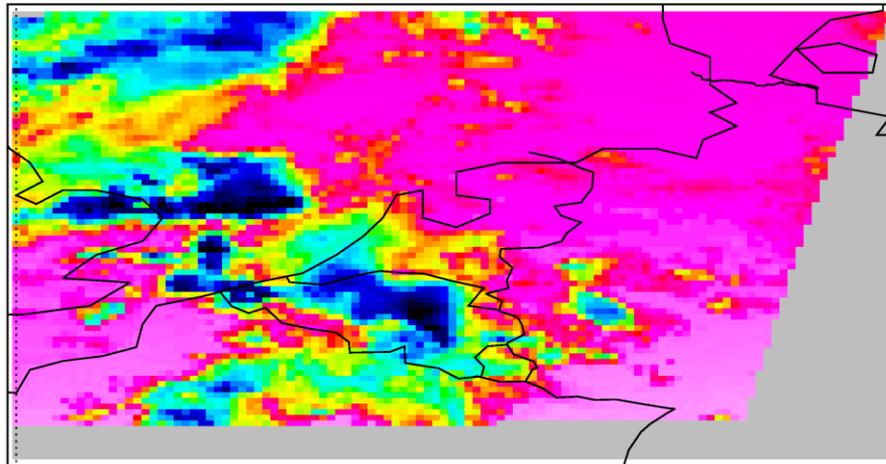
## Retrieval

COT O 20170706 1200 +000

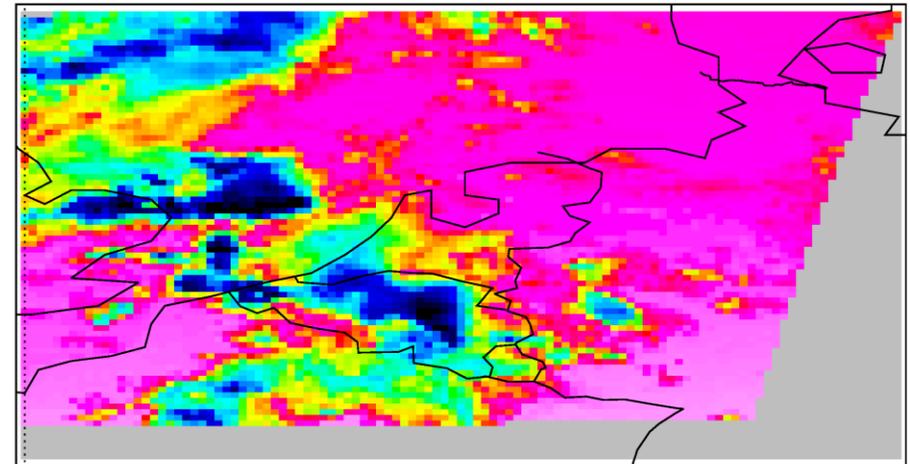


Global radiation

SDS F 20170706 1200 +000

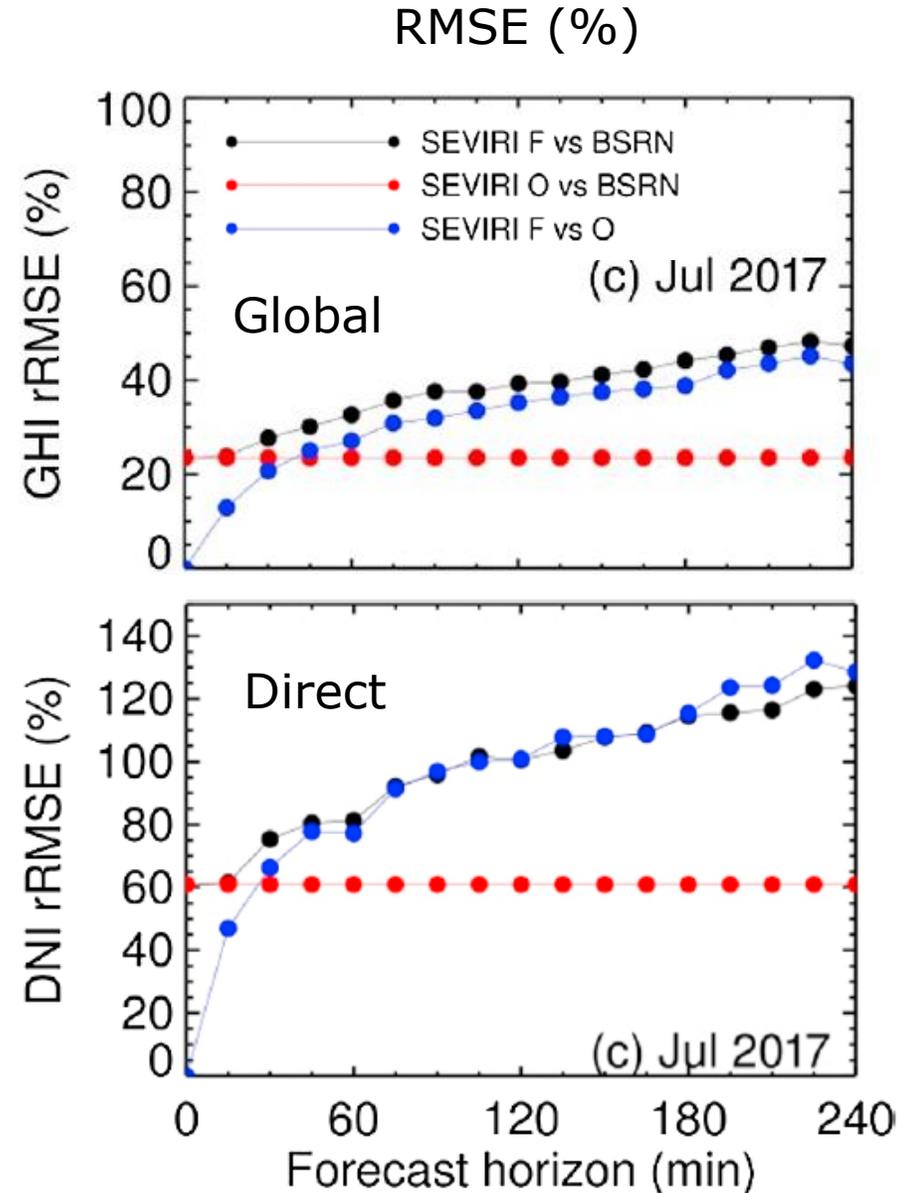
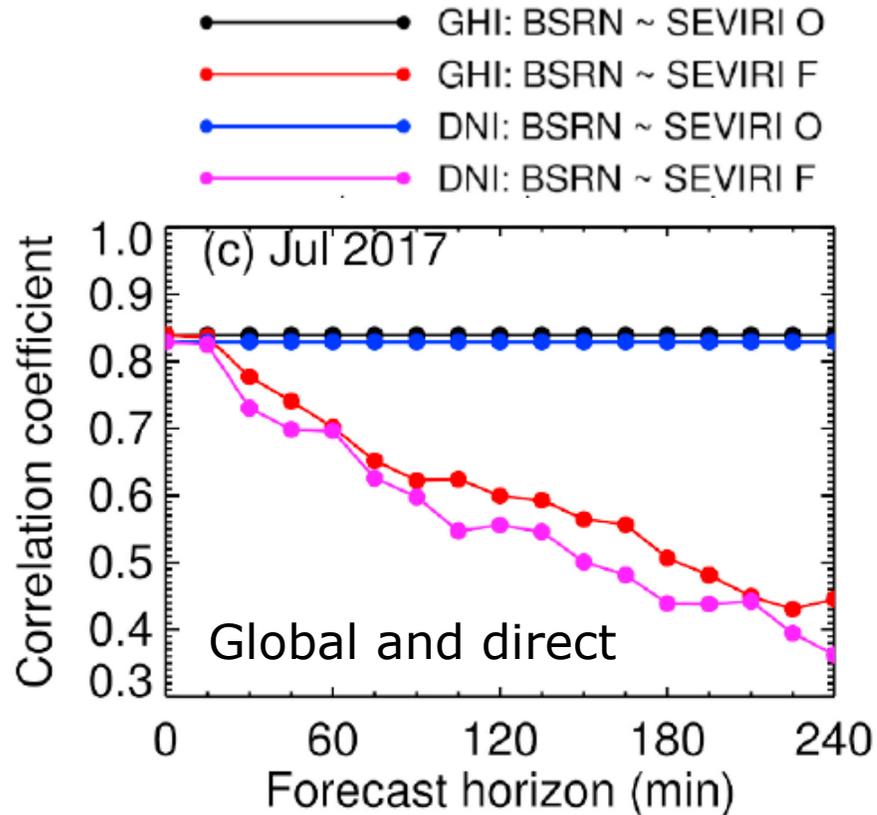


SDS O 20170706 1200 +000



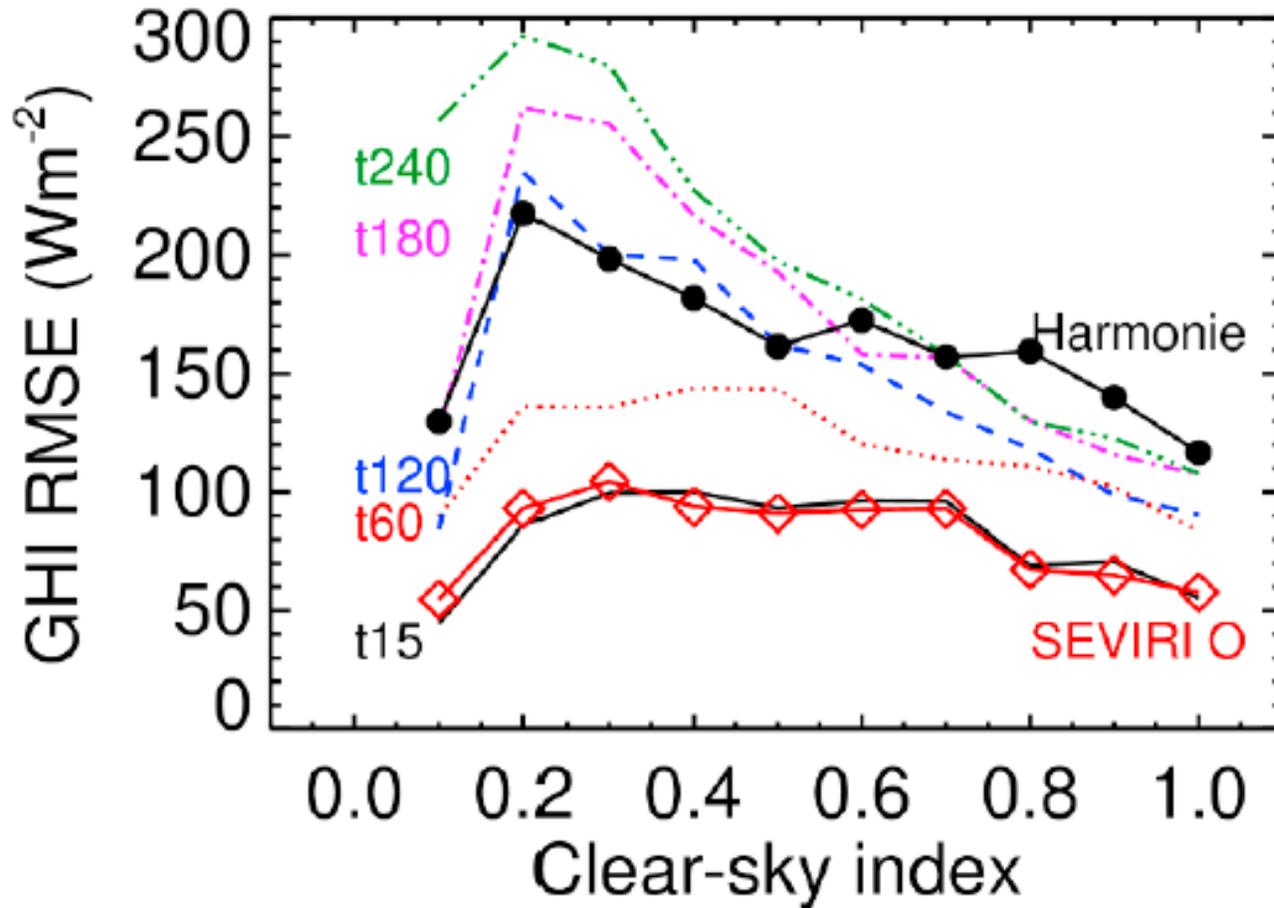


# Forecast statistics evaluation at BSRN Cabauw





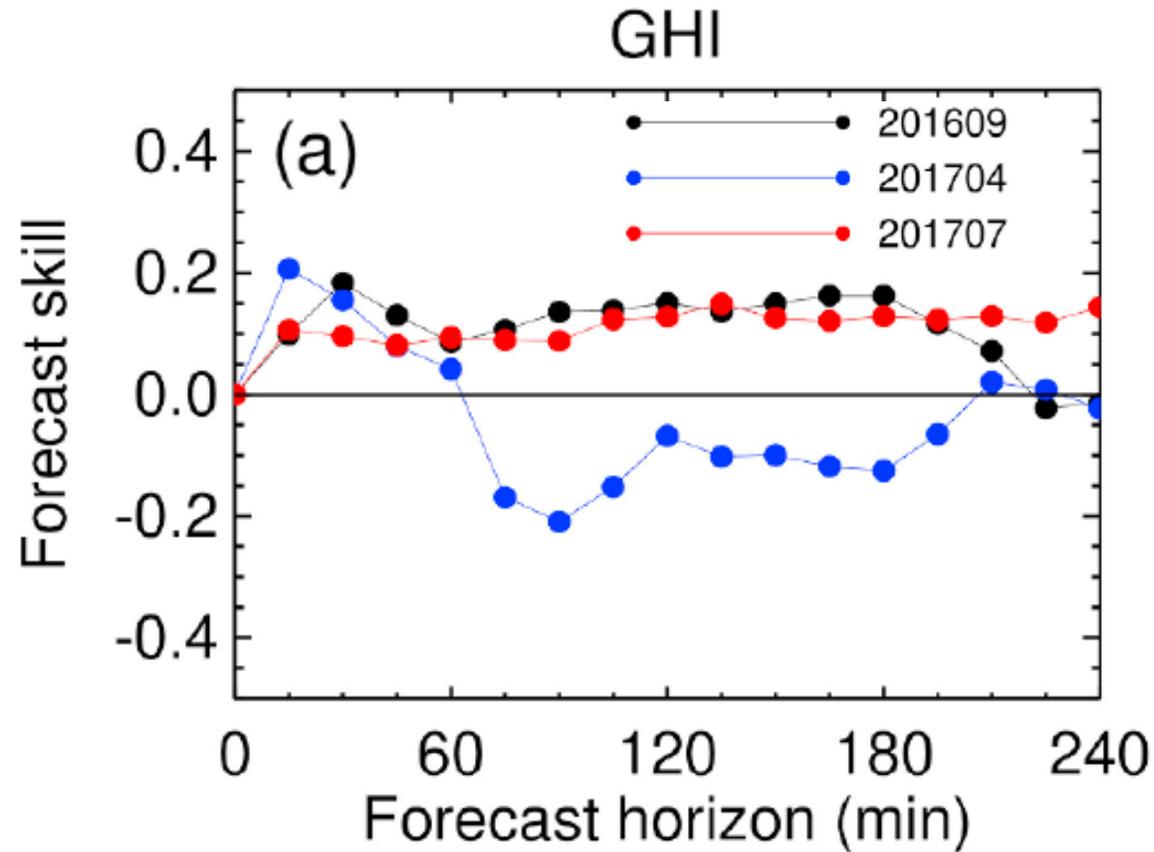
# Forecast statistics



- Satellite-based forecast outperforms Harmonie:
- always for clear-sky index > 0.7
  - Up to about 2h ahead for more cloudy situations

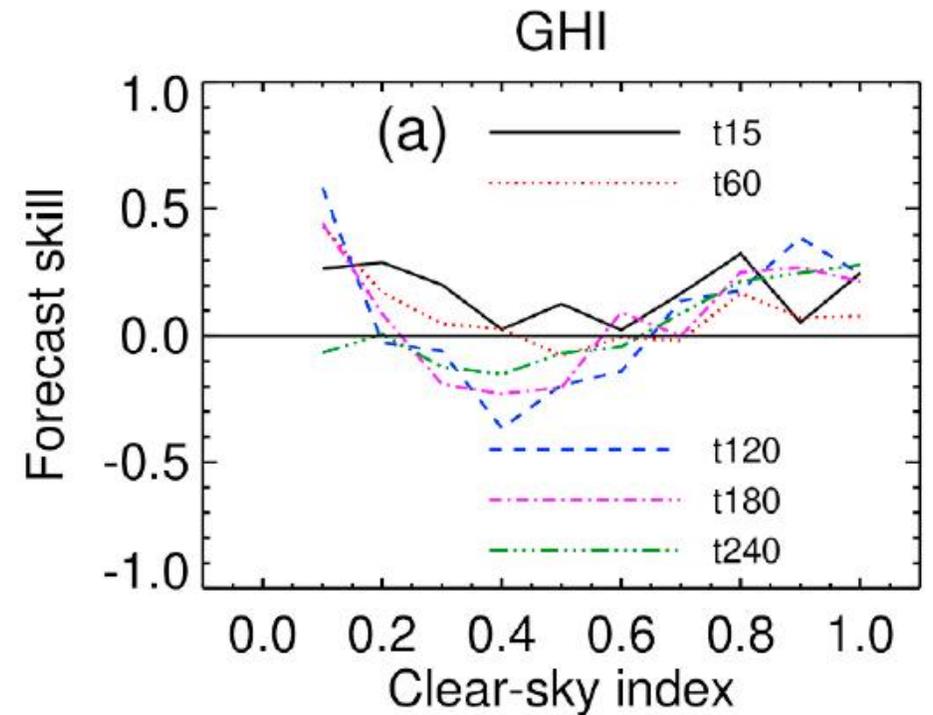


# Forecast statistics



Forecast Skill:

$$FS = 1 - \frac{RMSE_{forecast}}{RMSE_{persistence}}$$





Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

## Solar Energy

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/solener](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/solener)



### Surface solar radiation forecasts by advecting cloud physical properties derived from Meteosat Second Generation observations



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*Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI), P.O. Box 201, 3730 AE De Bilt, the Netherlands*

#### ARTICLE INFO

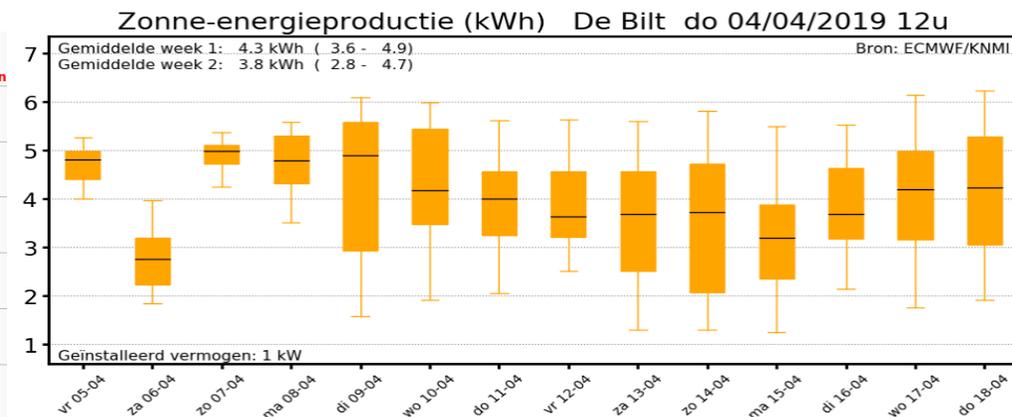
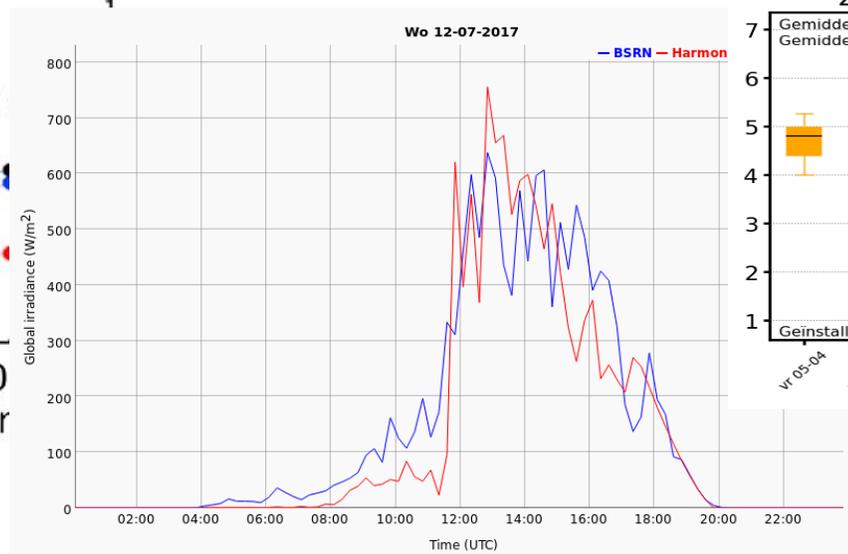
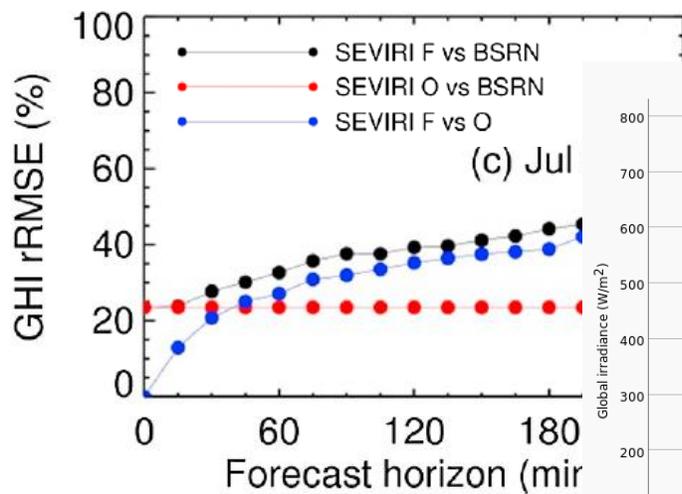
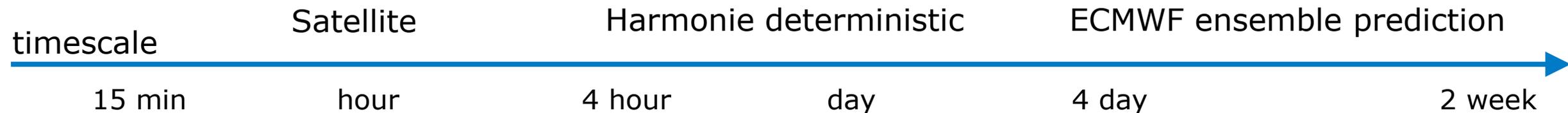
**Keywords:**

Surface solar radiation forecasts  
Cloud physical properties  
Meteosat second generation

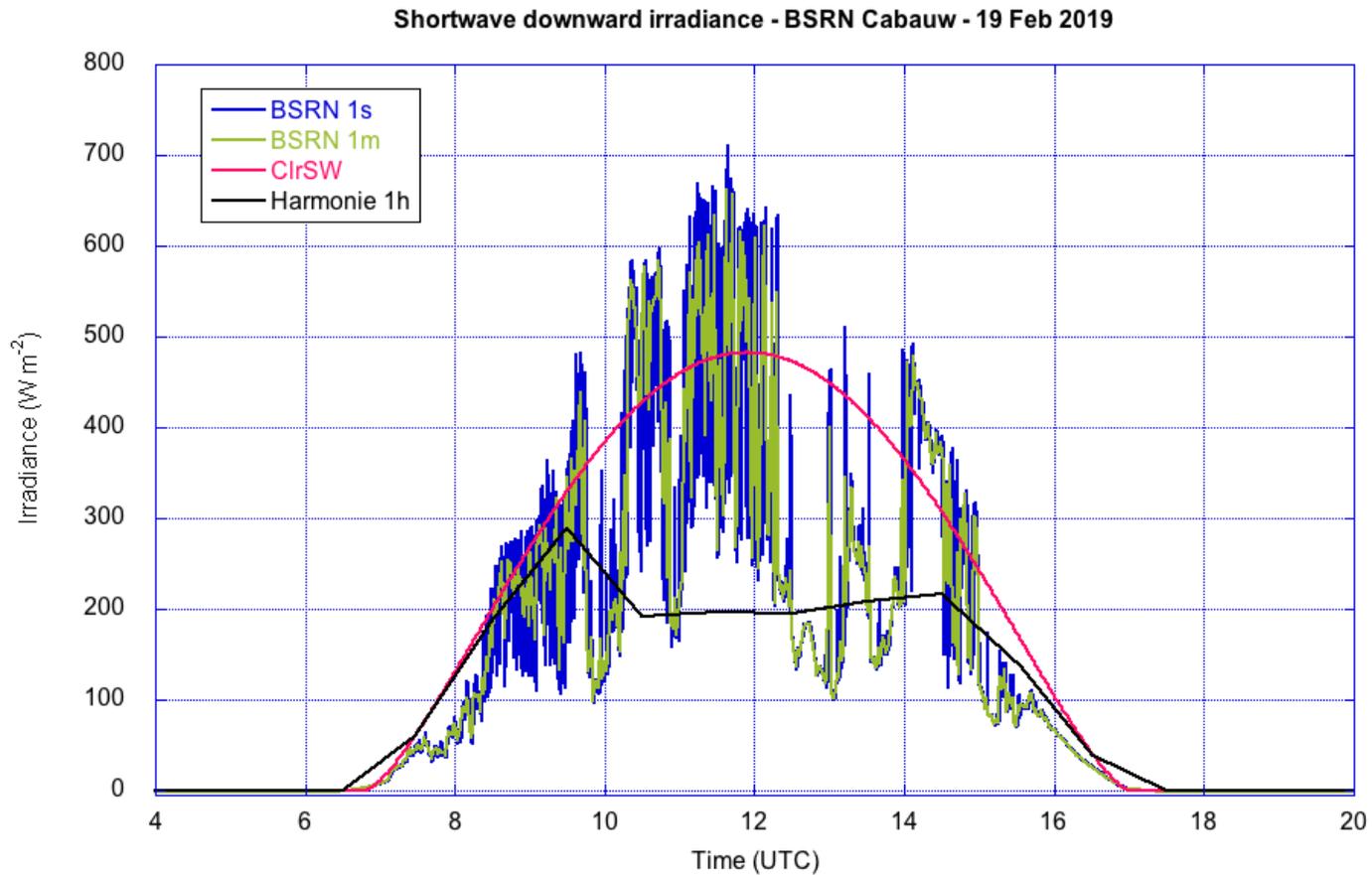
#### ABSTRACT

A surface solar radiation forecast algorithm is developed using cloud physical properties from the Spinning Enhanced Visible and Infrared Imager (SEVIRI) on board of the Meteosat Second Generation (MSG) geostationary satellite. The novelty of the algorithm is the derivation of cloud motion vectors using cloud physical properties. The solar radiation forecast products include global horizontal irradiance (GHI) and direct normal irradiance (DNI). The forecast horizon is 0–4 h at a 15 min temporal resolution. The forecast is currently tested for the Netherlands at a spatial resolution of about 4 km × 6 km. Compared to measurements of the Baseline Surface Radiation Network (BSRN) site of Cabauw, the root mean square error (RMSE) is about 31–44% for GHI and 59–100% for DNI at a forecast horizon of 2 h. For a forecast horizon of 15 min, the RMSE is 22–24% for GHI and 43–61% for DNI. The correlation coefficients between the forecasts and BSRN measurements are similar for GHI and DNI, and decrease from about 0.8–0.9 at 15 min to 0.45–0.75 at 2 h. The SEVIRI forecast outperforms the HARMONIE numerical weather prediction model forecast in the first 2–3 h. The quality of the forecast depends on the sky conditions: for clear-sky indices larger than 0.7, the SEVIRI GHI forecast is better than both smart persistence and the HARMONIE forecast in the first 4 h.

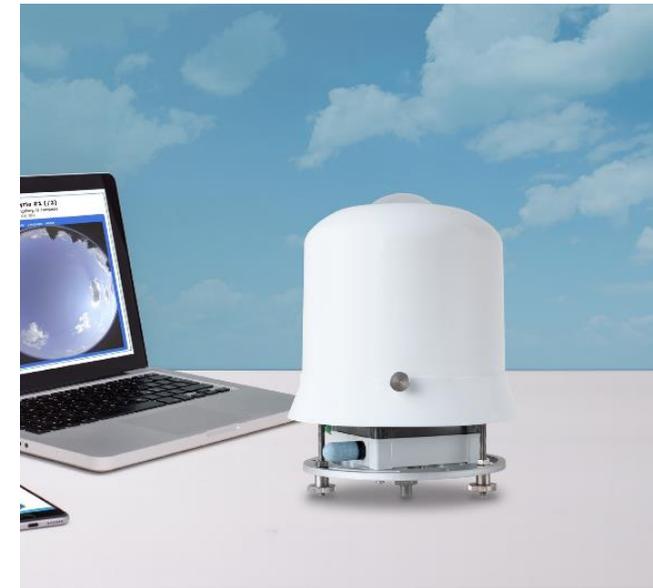
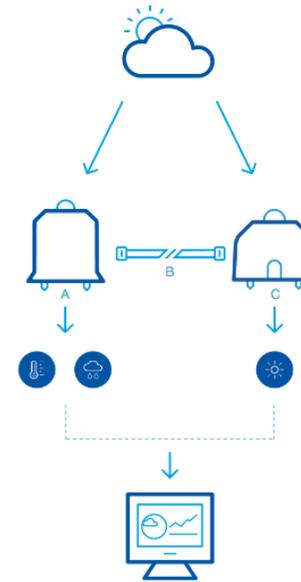
# Combined forecasts



# Nowcasting



## Ruisdael radiation/skycam network





# Forecast work in progress

- Statistical postprocessing of Harmonie solar radiation forecasts

- Cloud initialization Harmonie

Comparison of statistical post-processing methods for probabilistic NWP forecasts of solar radiation

Kilian Bakker, Kirien Whan, Wouter Knap, Maurice Schmeits\*

Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI), P.O. Box 201, 3730AE De Bilt, the Netherlands

## Abstract

The increased usage of solar energy places additional importance on forecasts of solar radiation. Solar panel power production is primarily driven by the amount of solar radiation and it is therefore important to have accurate forecasts of solar radiation. Accurate forecasts that also give information on the forecast uncertainties can help users of solar energy to make better solar radiation based decisions related to the stability of the electrical grid. To achieve accurate forecasts

