

# Prognostic aerosols in the Ensemble Prediction System and impacts at the monthly/sub- seasonal scales

Angela Benedetti

With contributions from:

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Antje Inness, Johannes Flemming, Samuel Rémy, Anna Augusti  
Panareda, Rossana Dragani, and Magdalena Alonso Balmaseda

# OUTLINE

- General context: the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring System (CAMS)
- Scientific motivation
- Overview of modelling efforts with focus on aerosols
- Impact of aerosols on NWP (medium-range and sub-seasonal range)
- Summary and future perspectives

# THE COPERNICUS ATMOSPHERE MONITORING SYSTEM (CAMS)



# Atmospheric composition is a pivotal element between human activities and the Earth Environment



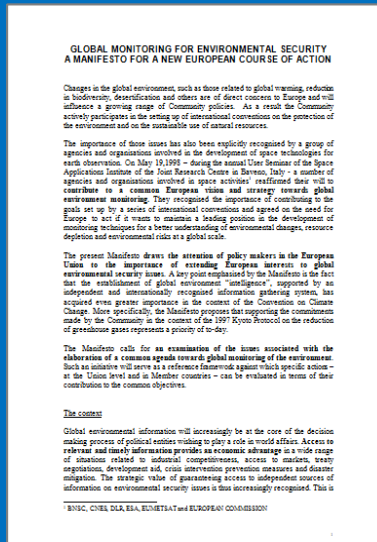
Atmospheric composition and its changes  
affect our health and well-being



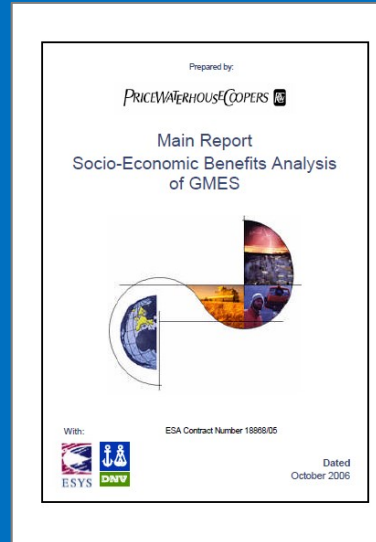
# CAMS: A Significant Heritage

- A decade-long series of R&D projects and an internationally respected European achievement (GEMS, MACC, -II, -III)
- An equally long experience in engaging with users and potential users in Europe and across the world (PROMOTE, MACC, -II, -III)

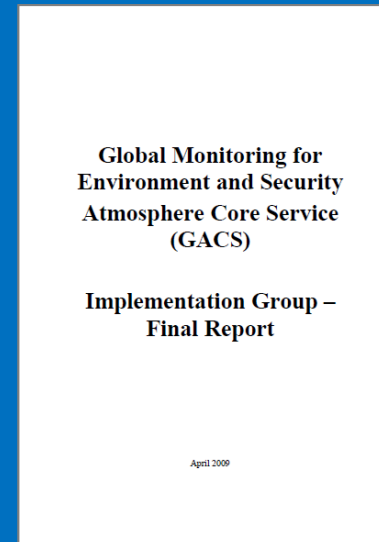
## Strategy



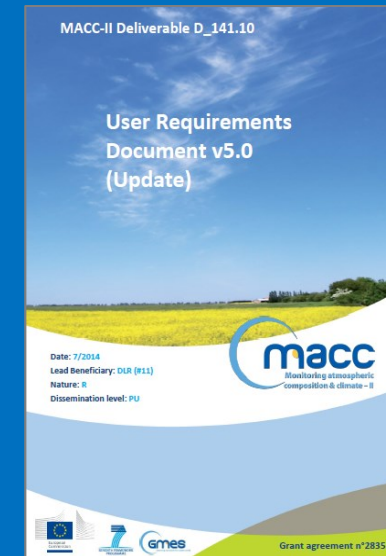
## Socio-economic impact

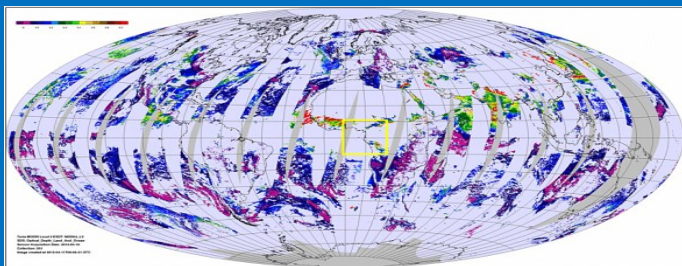
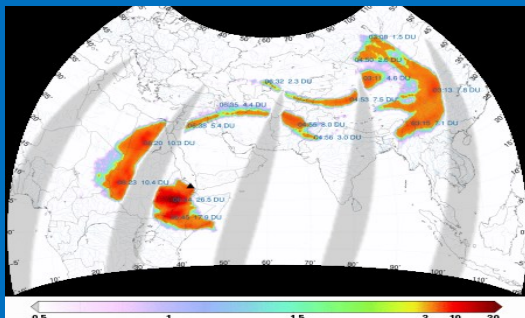


## Experts



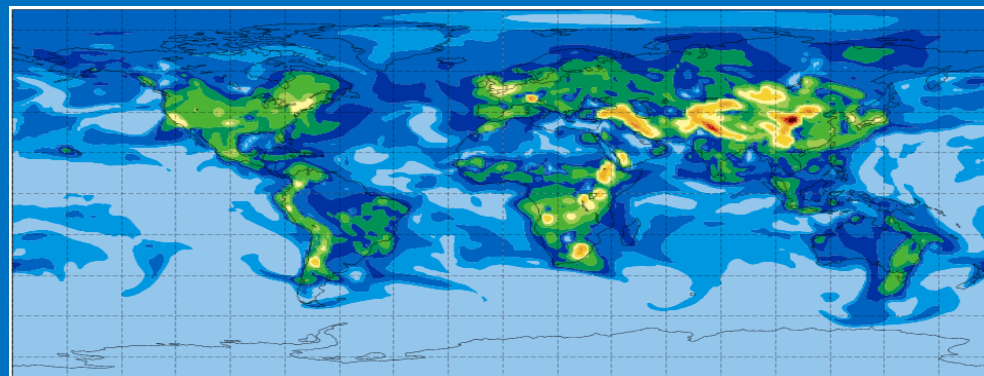
## Users



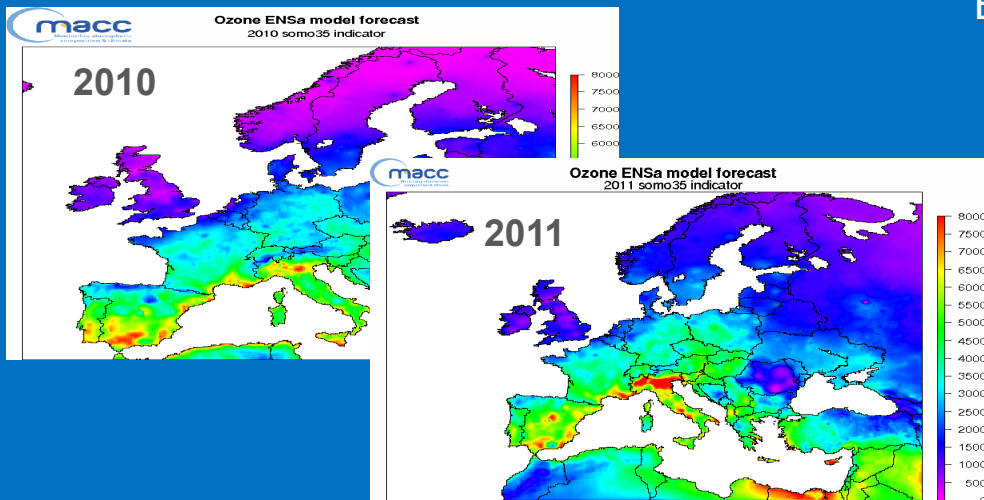


# From Earth Observation to policy-quality products

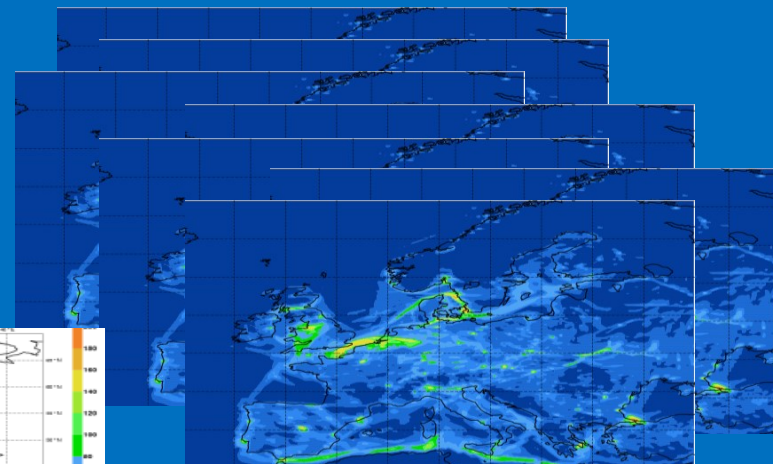
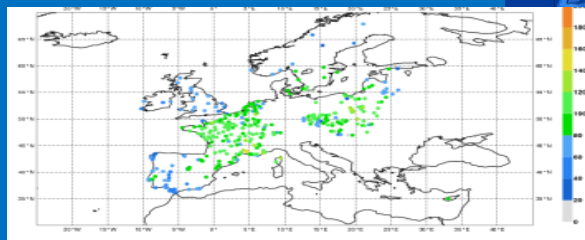
Over 70 EO instruments are assimilated in the global system



Boundary conditions feed an ensemble of high-resolution European AQ systems (in order to assess uncertainties)



More data are assimilated (in particular in situ) and used for extensive validation



Policy-relevant (here health indicator for ozone) products are delivered. They are “maps with no gaps”, which observations alone don’t provide and are essential to assess impacts.

# CAMS Portfolio



## AIR QUALITY AND ATMOSPHERIC COMPOSITION

European air quality analyses, forecasts and assessments in support of reporting and policy making, pollen forecasts, global transport of constituents/pollutants.



## CLIMATE FORCING

Distributions of aerosol components and their radiative impacts, other radiative forcings.



## OZONE LAYER AND UV

Monitoring and forecasting of the ozone layer / hole, UV index, UV radiation (crops, ecosystems).



## SOLAR RADIATION

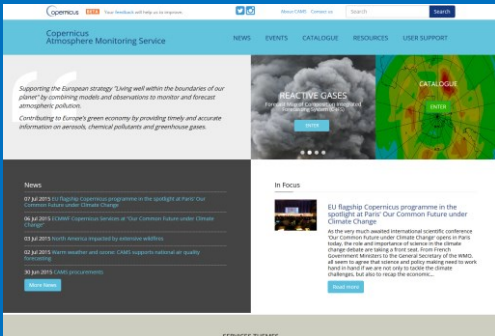
Estimates of solar irradiance at surface, improved potential yield assessments for solar plants.



## EMISSIONS AND SURFACE FLUXES

Estimates of human emissions globally and in Europe (high-resolution), emissions by wildfires, surface fluxes of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O.





# CAMS online catalogue search (open data policy)

**Product**

Air quality & atmospheric composition

Aerosol

Dust AOD

-- Please select a data type --

-- Please select a geographic area --

Reset

Search

Name	Service Type	Product Family	Parameter
MACC-IFS NRT forecast of global dust aerosol optical depth at 550 nm	Air quality & atmospheric composition	Aerosol	Dust AOD
MACC-UKMO NRT dust AOD forecast	Air quality & atmospheric composition	Aerosol	Dust AOD

**MACC-IFS NRT forecast of global dust aerosol optical depth at 550 nm**

**Description:** This service provides pre-operational daily forecasts up to 5 days for dust aerosol optical depth.

Saturday 3 November 2012 00UTC MACC Forecast t+012 VT: Saturday 3 November 2012 12UTC  
Dust Aerosols Optical Depth at 550 nm

**Service type:** Air quality & atmospheric composition

**Product family:** Aerosol

**Parameter:** Dust AOD

**Geographical area:** Global

**Vertical coordinate:** column

**Time resolution:** 3-hourly

**Data type:** Model

**Production type:** Forecast

**Links:** [Plots](#) [Data access](#) [Verification results](#) [Validation reports](#) [Contact us](#)

Products found

Search criteria based on service themes, species, geographic area, etc.

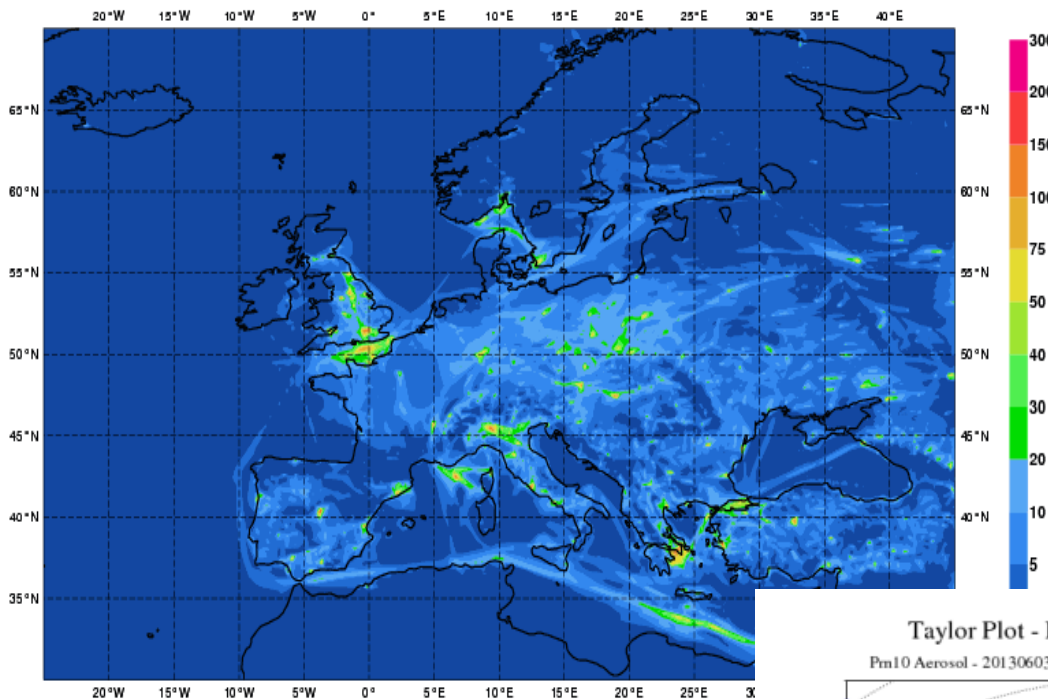
Pop-up window with product description and links to plots, data, and validation

<http://www.copernicus-atmosphere.eu>

# FORECAST PRODUCTS

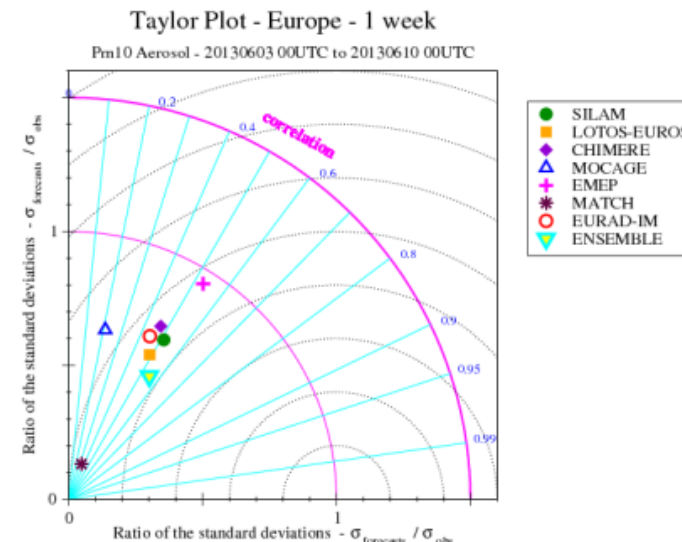
*NO<sub>2</sub>, Europe-wide, ~15 km, hourly +96h*

Wednesday 22 May 2013 00UTC

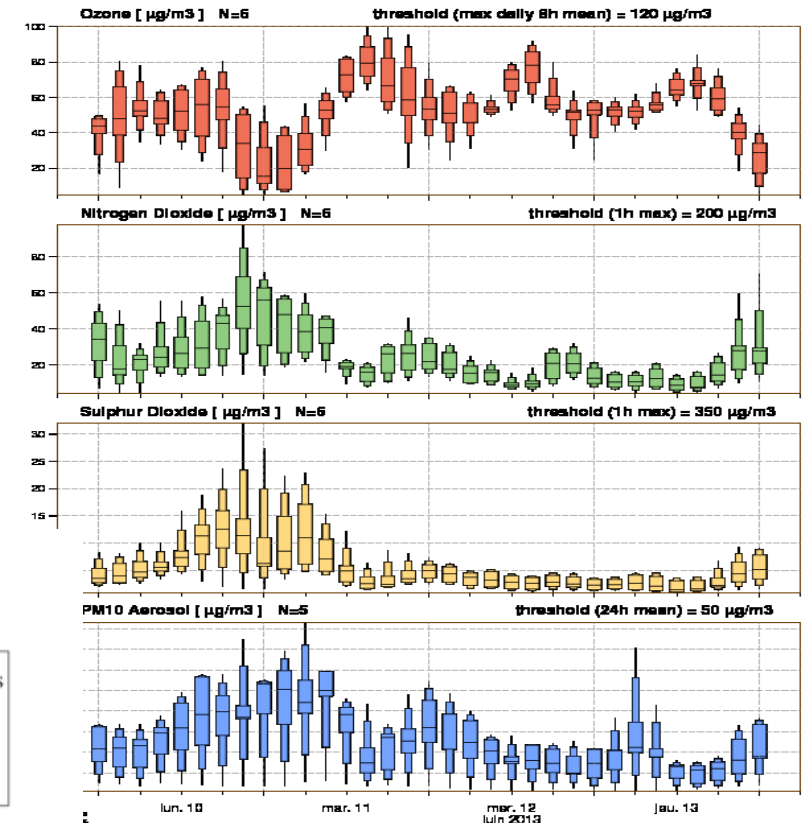


*Global and European maps of major pollutants*

*NRT / on-line evaluation*

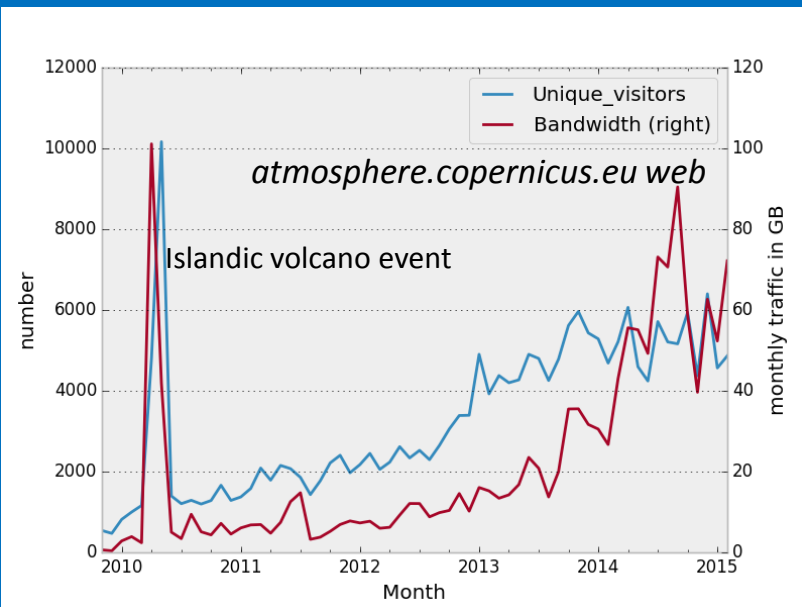


MACC RAQ EPSGRAM  
London(51.5°N, 0.13°W)  
Forecast lundi 10 juin 2013 00 UTC

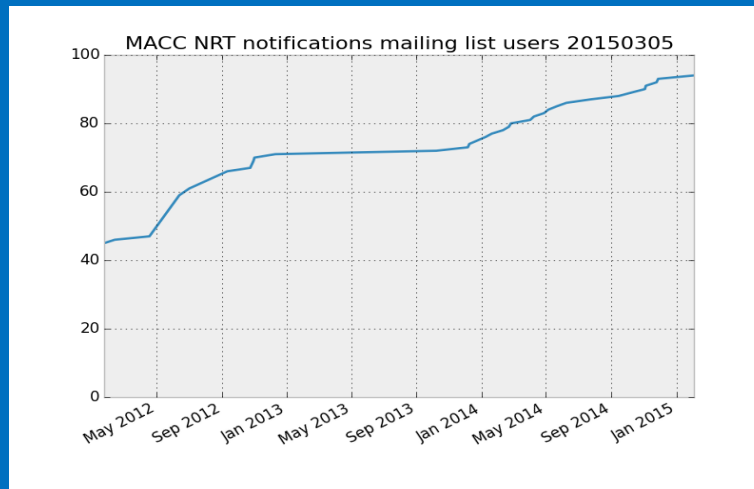


*Multi-model spread as a measure of forecast uncertainty*

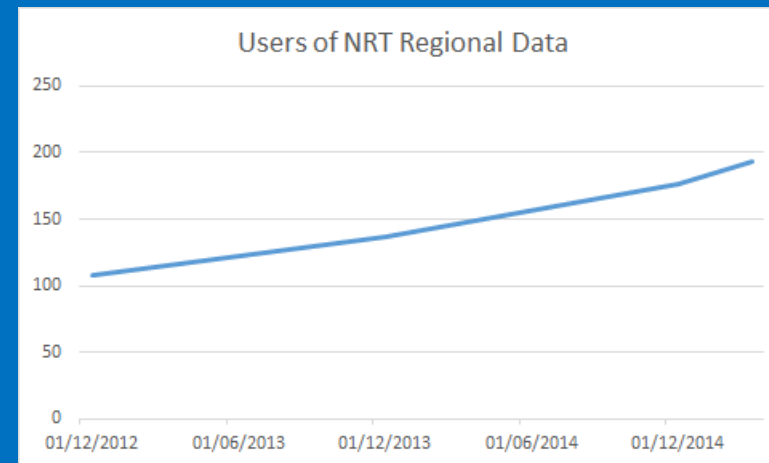
# GROWING CAMS AUDIENCES (3000+ USERS)



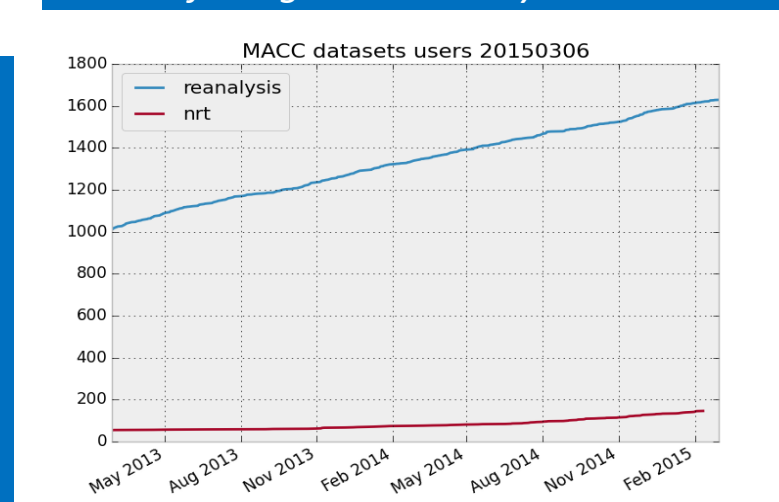
## Daily time-critical users of Global Services



## Daily time-critical users of Regional Services



## Users of the global re-analysis



Service	Number of Users/ Requests for data
Global NRT Analyses & Forecasts	~225 users
Regional NRT Analyses & Forecasts	155 users
Global Reanalysis	1600 users
GHG flux inversions	40 users
Solar Radiation	~1000 requests/year
Global ftp	~ 40 users
Emissions, fire	1773 users (716 institutes)



# EXTREME EVENTS: INDONESIAN FIRES(AUG-OCT 2015)



theguardian ≡ all

## Deforestation Indonesia forest fires: how the year's worst environmental disaster unfolded - interactive

As world leaders gather in Paris to discuss the global response to climate change, we assess the impact of the widespread forest fires in Indonesia. Set to clear land for paper and palm oil production, the fires have not only destroyed forest and peatland, but also severely affected public health and released massive amounts of carbon

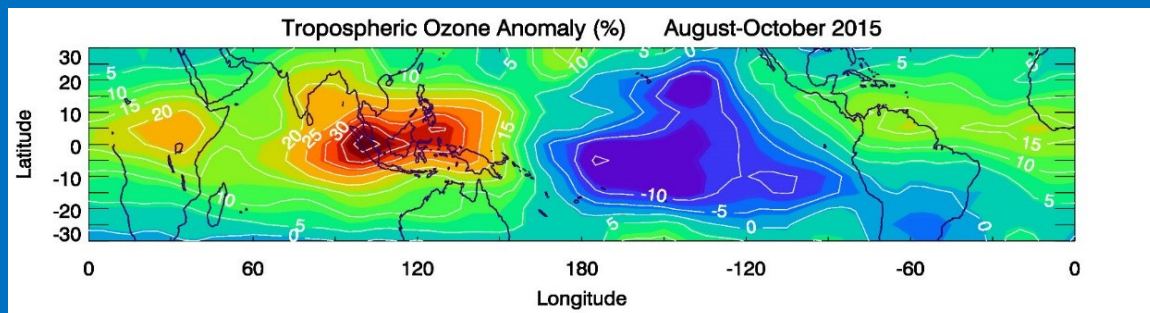
Tuesday 1 December 2015 14.05 GMT



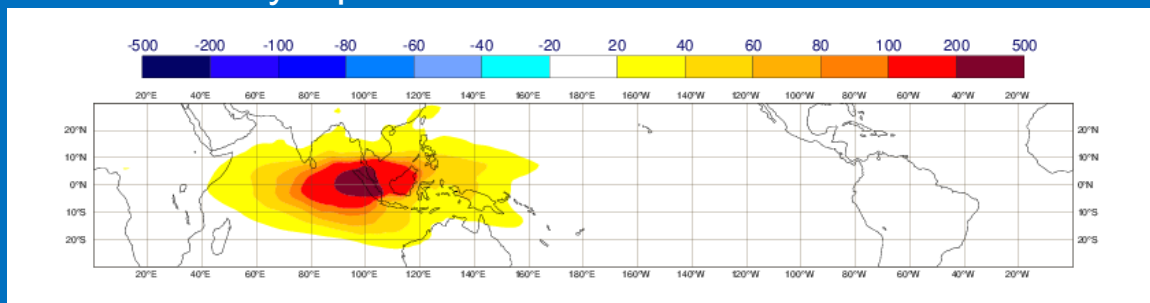
Fire Radiative Power ( $\text{W/m}^2$ ) accumulated over Indonesia during the 2015 fire season (Aug-Oct). Credits: Francesca Di Giuseppe

# INDONESIAN FIRES (AUG-OCT 2015)

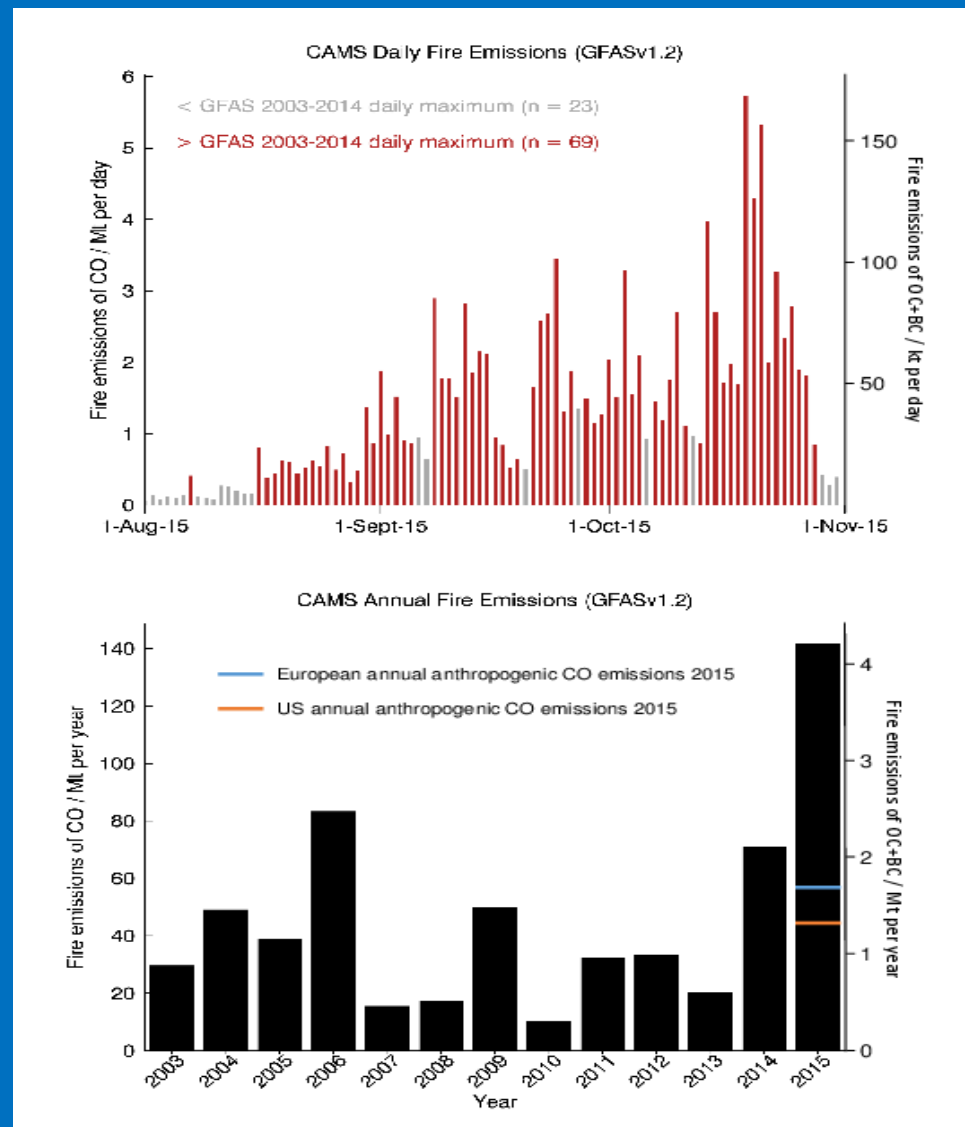
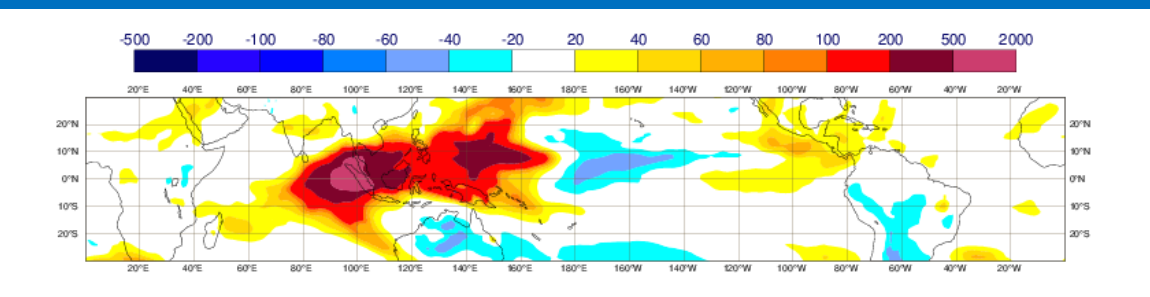
O3 anomaly: 30-40 %



CO anomaly: up to 500%



Biomass burning AOD anomaly: up to 2000%



Benedetti et al, 2016, in “State of Climate 2015”, BAMS.  
Credits: Antje Inness, Mark Parrington (ECMWF), Gerry Ziemke (NASA)



# EXTREME EVENTS: CHILEAN FIRES(JAN 2017)


 website of the year

home > world > americas

## Wildfires

### Chile battles devastating wildfires: 'We have never seen anything on this scale'

The world's largest firefighting aircraft has flown in from the US, alongside help from France, Peru and Mexico, as fires continue to ravage Chilean lands

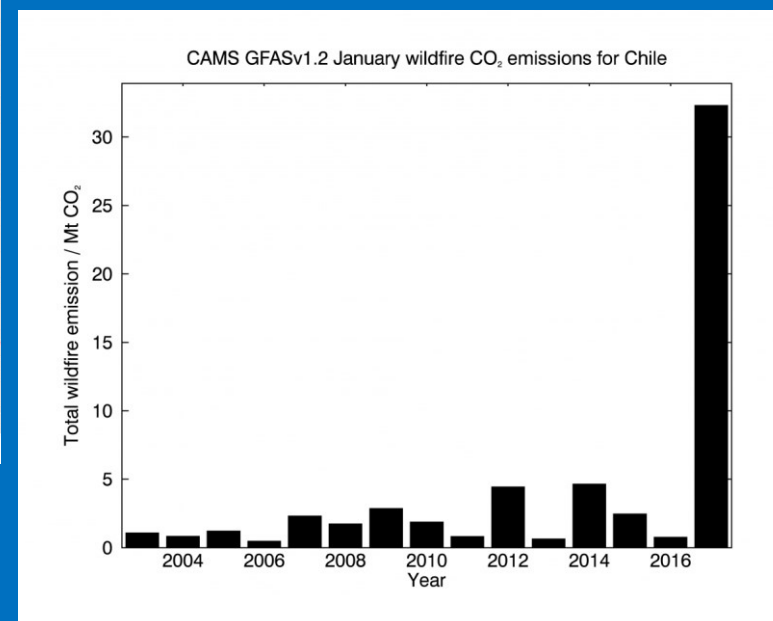
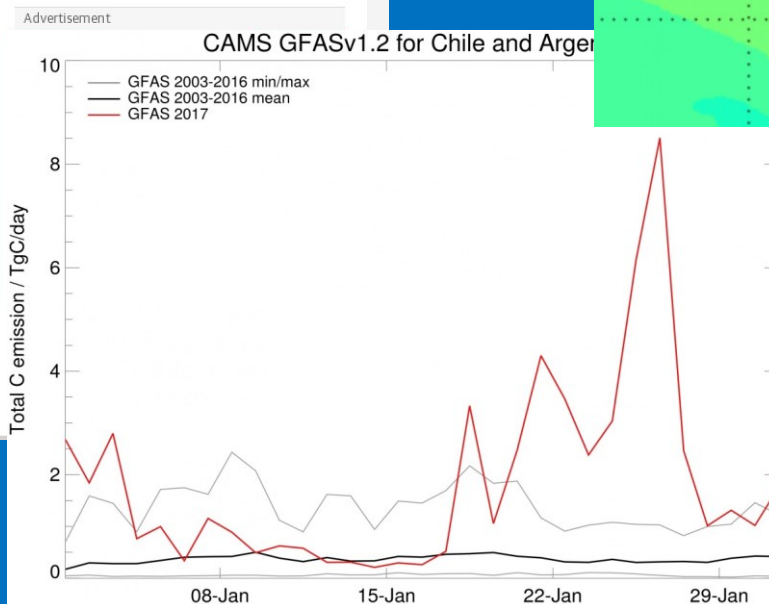
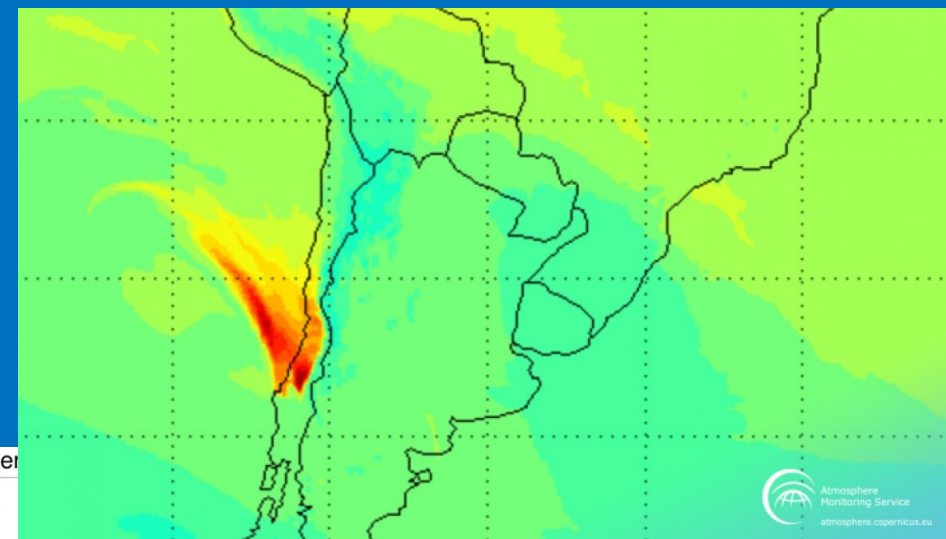
< 22k

Jonathan Watts,  
 Latin America  
 correspondent

Wednesday 25 January  
 2017 23:06 GMT



View of a forest fire in Chile in 2015. Photograph: STR/AFP/Getty Images

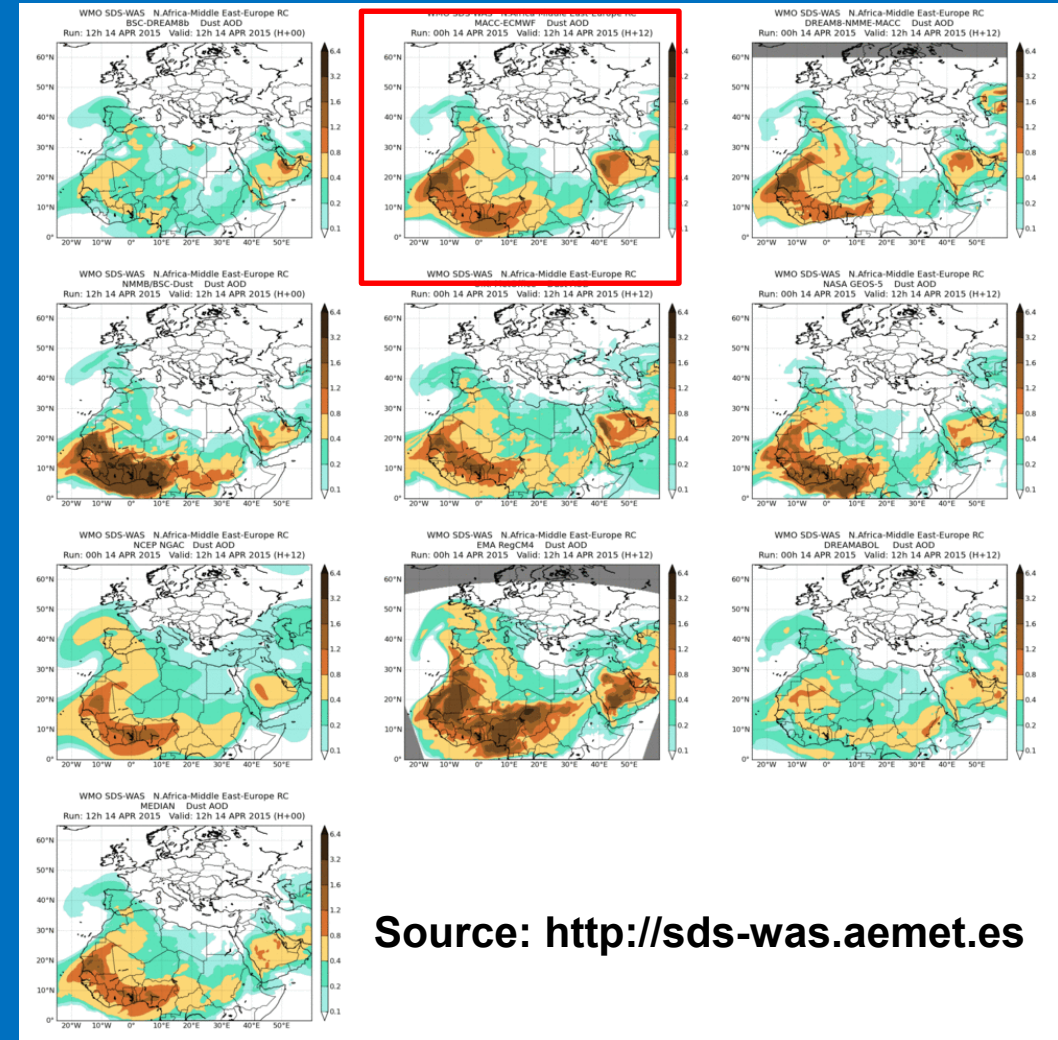


Credits: Mark Parrington (ECMWF)

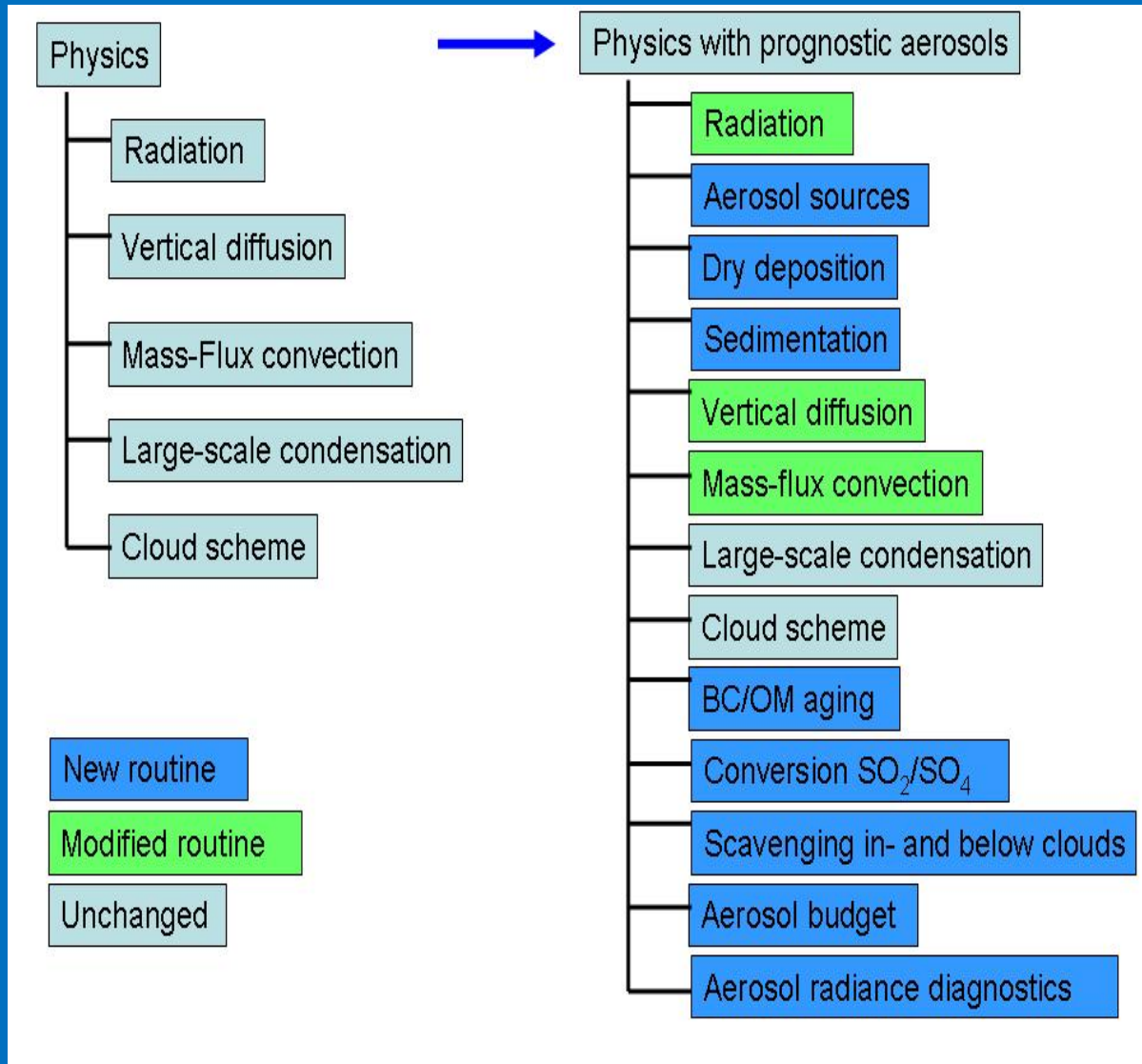
# AEROSOL MODELLING

# CAMS aerosol forecasts

- Built on the ECMWF NWP system with additional prognostic aerosol variables (sea salt, desert dust, organic matter, black carbon, sulphates)
- Aerosol data used as input in the aerosol analysis:
  - NASA/MODIS Terra and Aqua Aerosol Optical Depth at 550 nm
  - NASA/CALIOP CALIPSO Aerosol Backscatter (experimental)
  - AATSR, PMAP, SEVIRI, VIIRS (experimental)
- Verification based on AERONET Aerosol Optical Depth (and now also Angstrom exponent)
- Part of multi-model ensemble efforts such as the International Cooperative for Aerosol Prediction (ICAP) and the WMO Sand and Dust Storm Warning and Assessment System (SDS-WAS) North-African-Middle-East-Europe and Asian nodes.



# Aerosols in the ECMWF IFS (C-IFS)



12 aerosol-related prognostic variables:

- \* 3 bins of sea-salt (0.03 – 0.5 – 0.9 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- \* 3 bins of dust (0.03 – 0.55 – 0.9 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- \* Black carbon (hydrophilic and –phobic)
- \* Organic carbon (hydrophilic and –phobic)
- \*  $\text{SO}_2 \rightarrow \text{SO}_4$

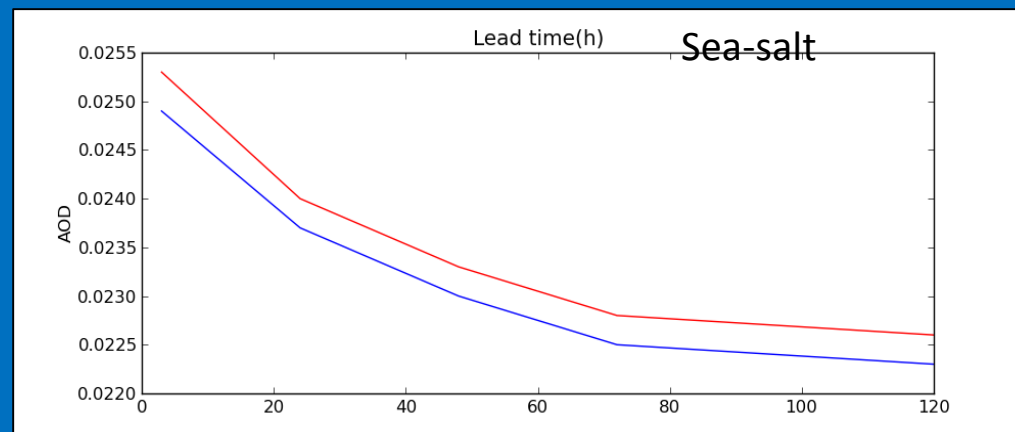
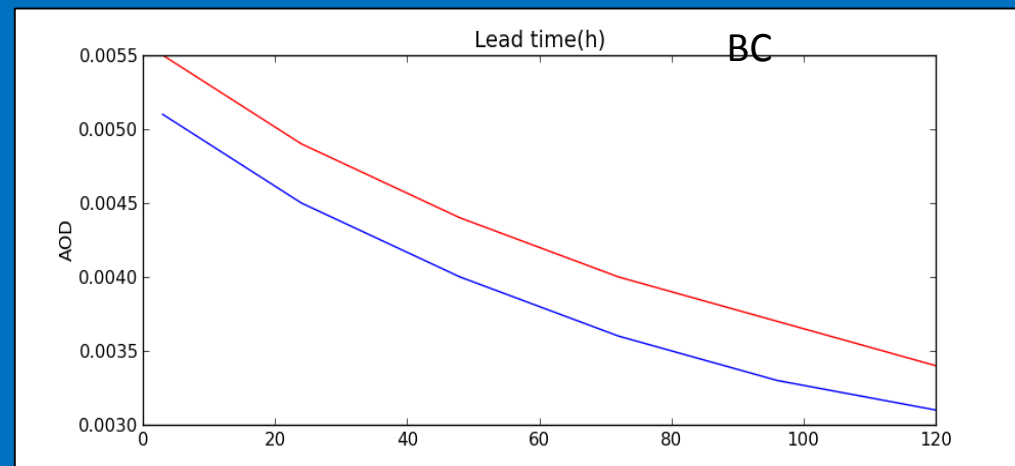
Physical processes include:

- emission sources (some of which updated in NRT, i.e. fires),
- horizontal and vertical advection by dynamics
- vertical advection by vertical diffusion and convection
- aerosol specific parameterizations for dry deposition, sedimentation, wet deposition by large-scale and convective precipitation, and hygroscopicity (SS, OM, BC, SU)



# Recent developments: Use of a mass fixer for aerosol species in CIFS

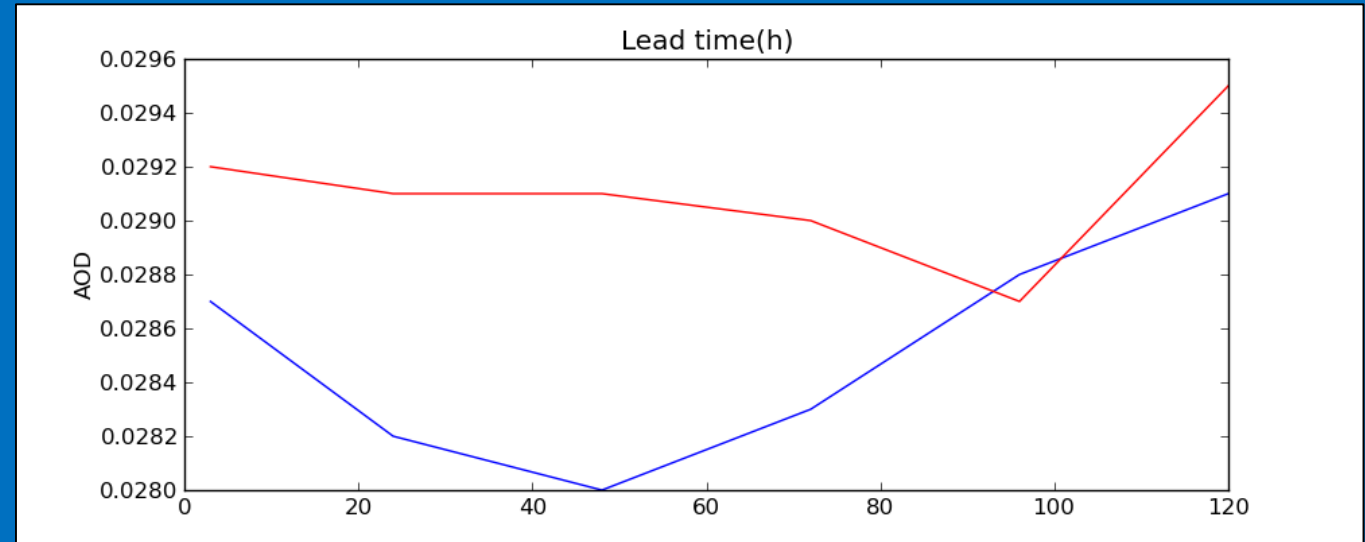
- For aerosol species as for chemical species, the Semi Lagrangian Advection (SLA) scheme is not mass conservative.
- With the hybrid sigma-pressure system, the vertical discretization changes with surface pressure and orography.
- The GRG project already studied the impact of this phenomenon (Flemming and Huijnen, 2013, Diamantakis and Flemming, 2014) on chemical species.
- Tests with the same mass fixer as used by GRG : additive mass fixer
- Impact important on OM and BC (-10% AOD), significant on Sulfates (+3% AOD), small on total AOD (-1%)
- **It was the missing term to balance aerosol species' budgets!**



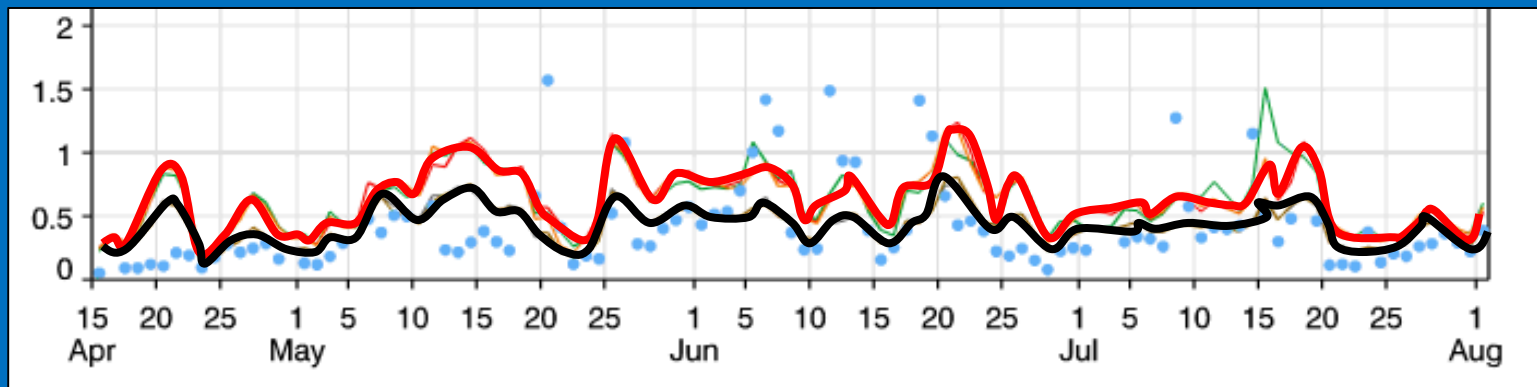
*Mean global AOD for May 2014 for BC (top) and sea-salt (bottom), reference in red, with mass fixer in blue*

# Recent developments: Dust emissions

- Overestimation of dust AOD : the **aerocom average is 0.023**
- Compared to the literature and other models, the amount of larger particles in dust emissions is too low.
- => decrease of the amount of small particles in the emissions, increase the amount of larger particles



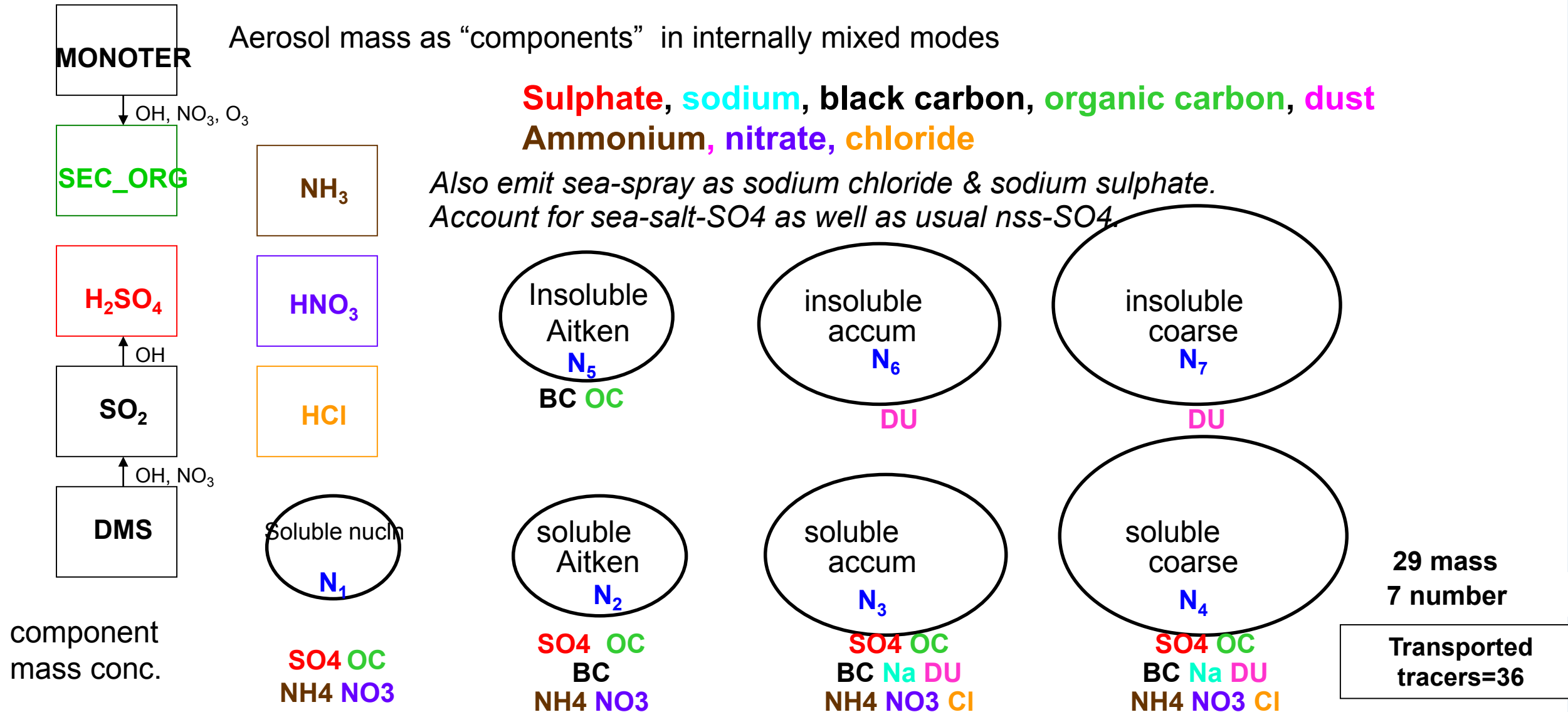
*Global dust AOD for May 2014 as a function of lead time, with (red) and without (blue) data assimilation*



*AOD at the AERONET station of Tamanrasset (Algeria), from 15/4/2014 to 1/8/2014. Observations (blue), old emissions (red) and new emissions (black)*

- Better balance between the model and observations after the introduction of new emissions

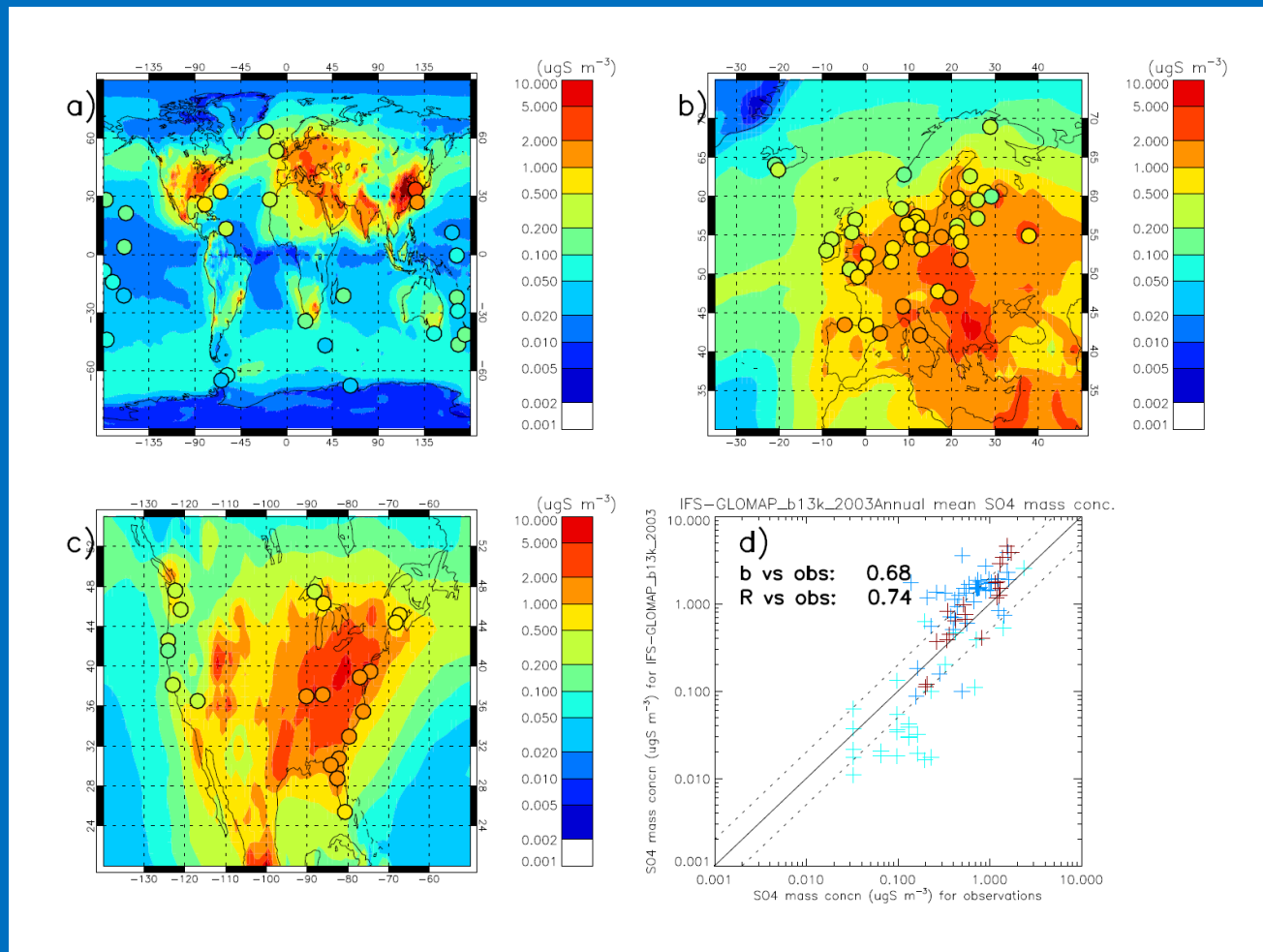
# Future: GLOMAP aerosol in C-IFS



# Evaluation suite for assessing IFS- GLOMAP (also in UM, TOMCAT)

Credits: Graham Mann,  
Sandip Dhomse (Uni Leeds)

*Sulphate mass  
evaluation against  
EMEP, IMPROVE,  
U. Miami  
obs datasets for  
reference  
IFS-GLOMAP run*

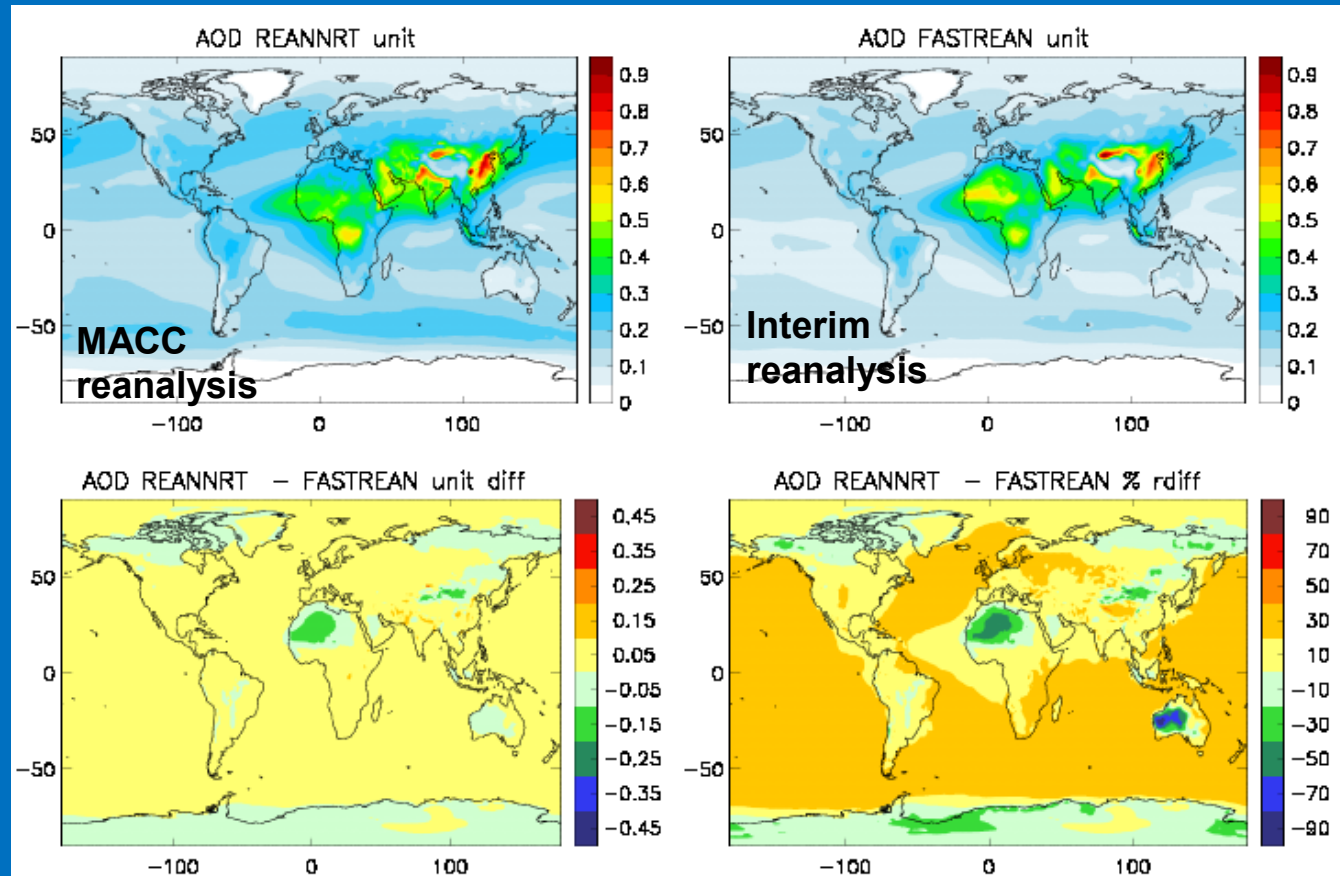


- GLOMAP evaluation strategy involves assessing a range of aerosol metric against observations. As well as aerosol optical depth, speciated mass, size-resolved number concentrations are used.



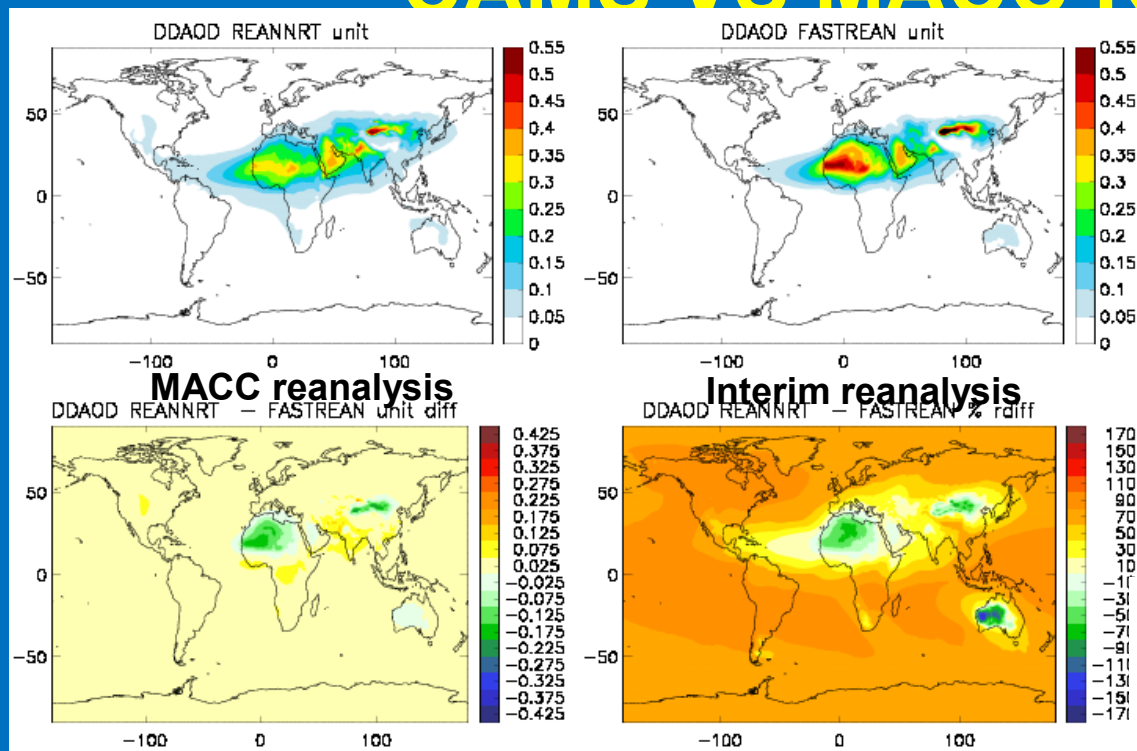
# CAMS REANALYSIS RUNS

- “Interim” reanalysis from 2003-2016 has been produced (Flemming et al 2017, ACP)
- Limited number of archived fields & reduced number of meteorological datasets
- Overall good performance
- Used for contribution to the State of Climate (BAMS) publication (2015 and 2016 contributions)
- New CAMS reanalysis in preparation

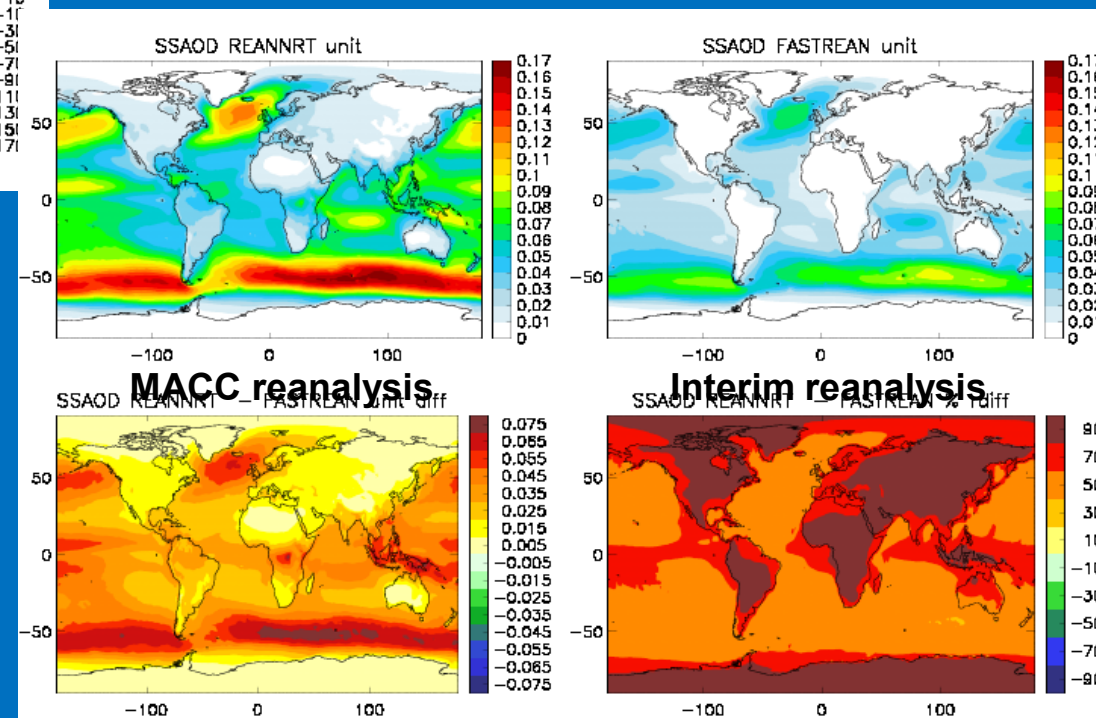


# CAMS VS MACC REANALYSIS RUNS

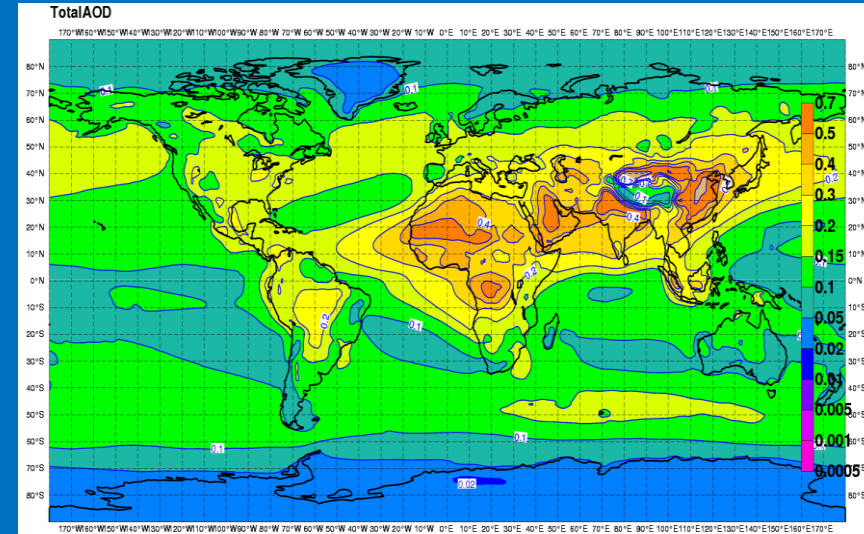
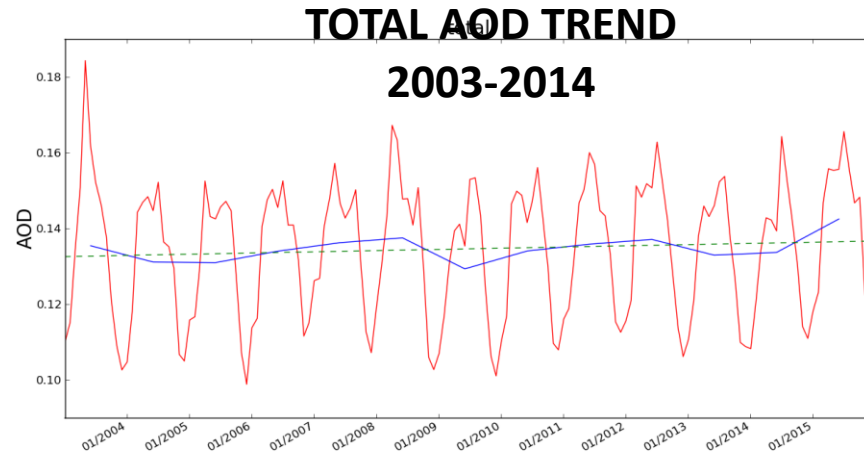
- Main differences in AOD are down to model changes since the CAMS “Interim” reanalysis uses MODIS Dark Target as the MACC reanalysis
- Increase in dust (particularly close to the source areas)
- Perhaps now too much dust but this is being corrected for the next reanalysis



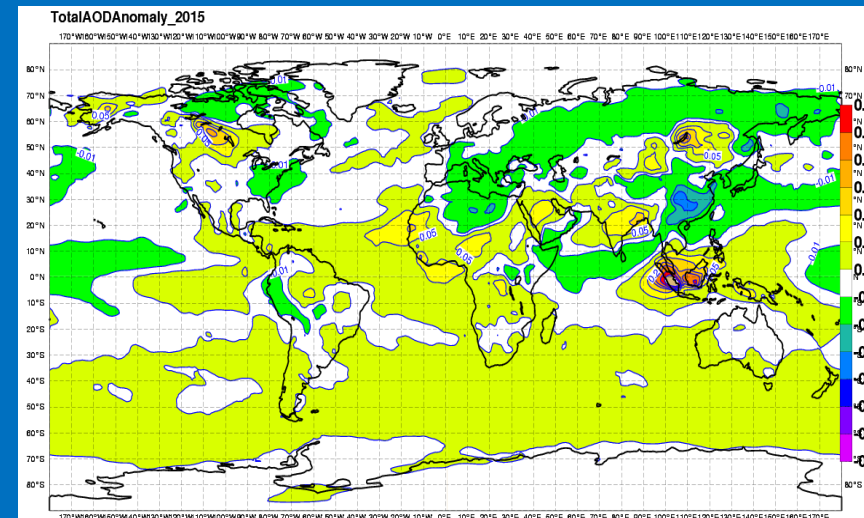
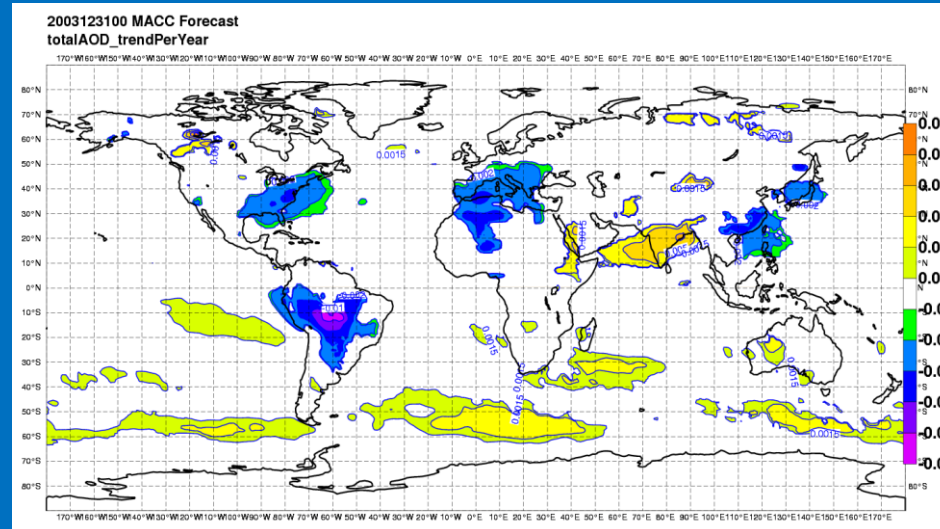
- Striking differences in sea salt are attributable to model changes (big impact)
- Bias correction for MODIS data includes also surface wind speed as predictor (smaller impact)



# REANALYSIS RUNS: BAMS STATE OF CLIMATE 2015



**TOTAL AOD**  
**2003-2014**



**AOD ANOMALY**  
**2015**

Rémy et al, 2016: [Global climate] Aerosols [in "State of the Climate in 2015"].

2016 contribution is in preparation!

# Summary so far...

- CAMS offers many services related to atmospheric composition from daily forecasts to reanalysis runs both at the global and at the regional (European) level
- Model developments related to aerosols have been carried out for the past 12 years during precursors projects. These are now part of the ECMWF's Integrated Forecast System (IFS)
- Several datasets related to atmospheric composition are routinely assimilated and more are in the pipeline (Copernicus Sentinel satellites)

# **AEROSOL IMPACTS ON NUMERICAL WEATHER PREDICTION**



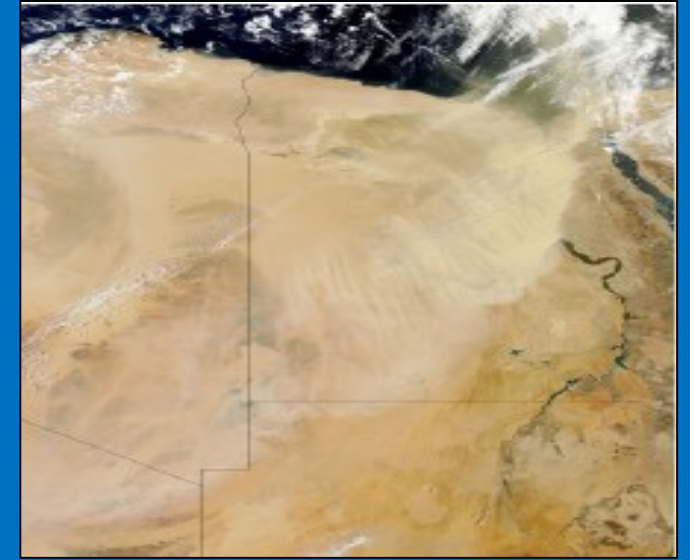
# WMO Working Group on Numerical Experimentation (WGNE)

This inter-comparison aims to evaluate the impact of aerosols on Numerical Weather Prediction

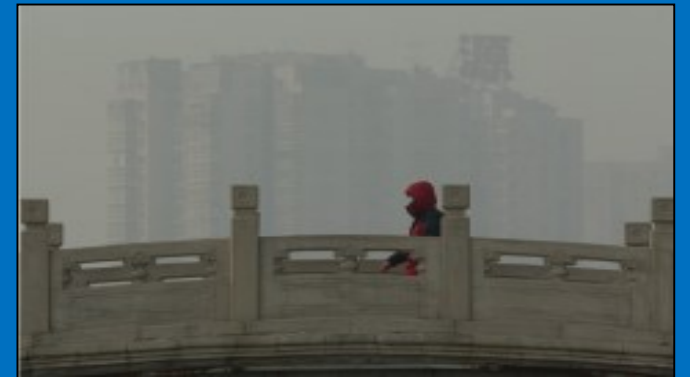
Three situations were proposed :

- Dust storm over Egypt on 18th of April 2012
- Extreme pollution over Beijing, 12-16th of January 2013
- Extreme biomass burning over Brazil in September 2012 during the SAMBBA field campaign

Participants : Météo-France, Met-Office, JMA, ECMWF, NOAA, NASA, CPTEC (Brazil)



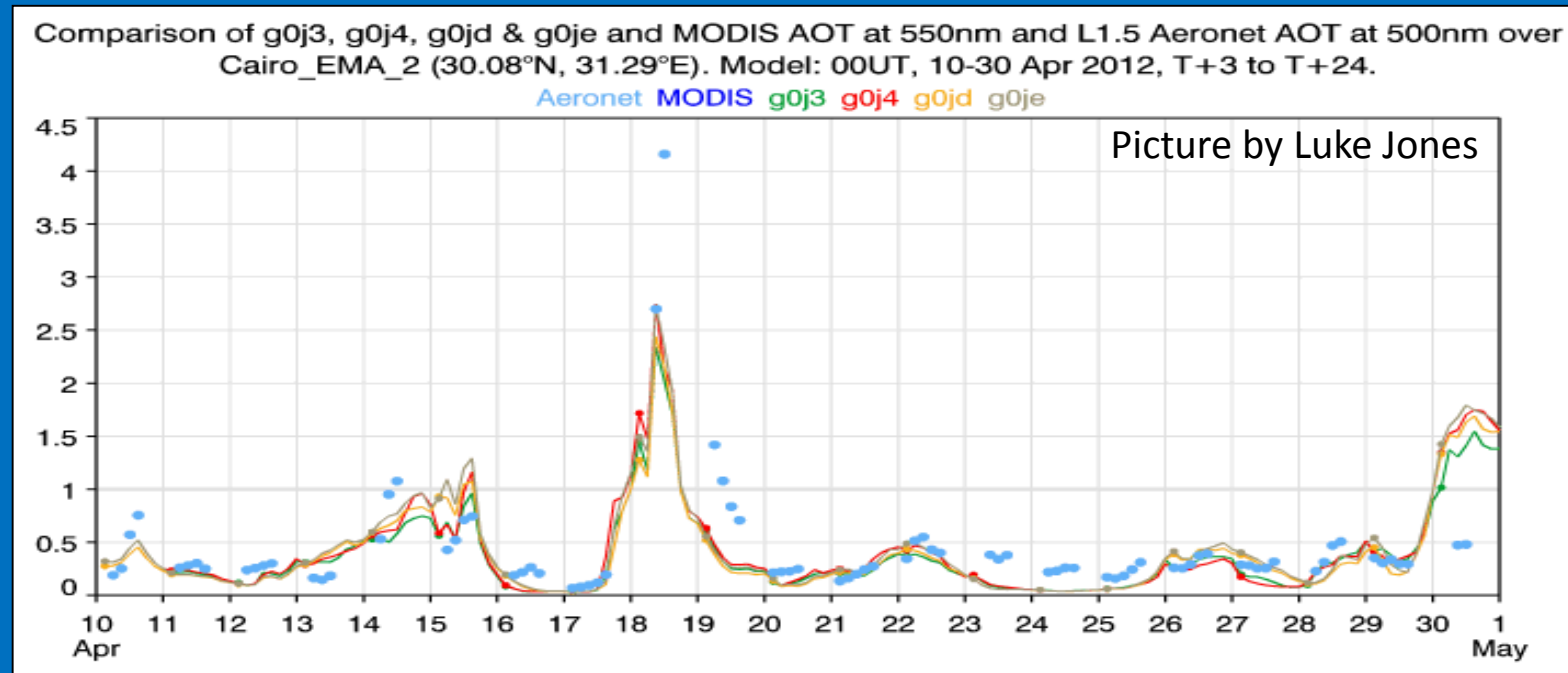
MODIS imagery, 18/4/2012



Beijing , 14/1/2013

# Dust case of April 2012 – AOD forecasts

- Cycling forecast with the MACC global system, with aerosol direct effect from climatology or prognostic aerosols at T511, L60
- Dust bins : 0.03 – 0.55 – 0.9 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$
- AOD peak of 18th of April well timed but underestimated
- End of the event forecast too soon



# Dust case of April 2012 – Impact on temperature, winds and dust production

**Table 2.** 2m temperature, RMSE of REF\_ASSIM and TOTAL\_ASSIM for forecast times 0, 12, 24, 36 and 48h, average for the period of 10th to 25th of April 2012. Stations considered are Hurguada, Luxor, Kosseir, Siwa, Wadi el Natroon, Cairo, Port Said and Ras Sedr in Egypt, and Ben Gurion airport close to Tel Aviv in Israel.

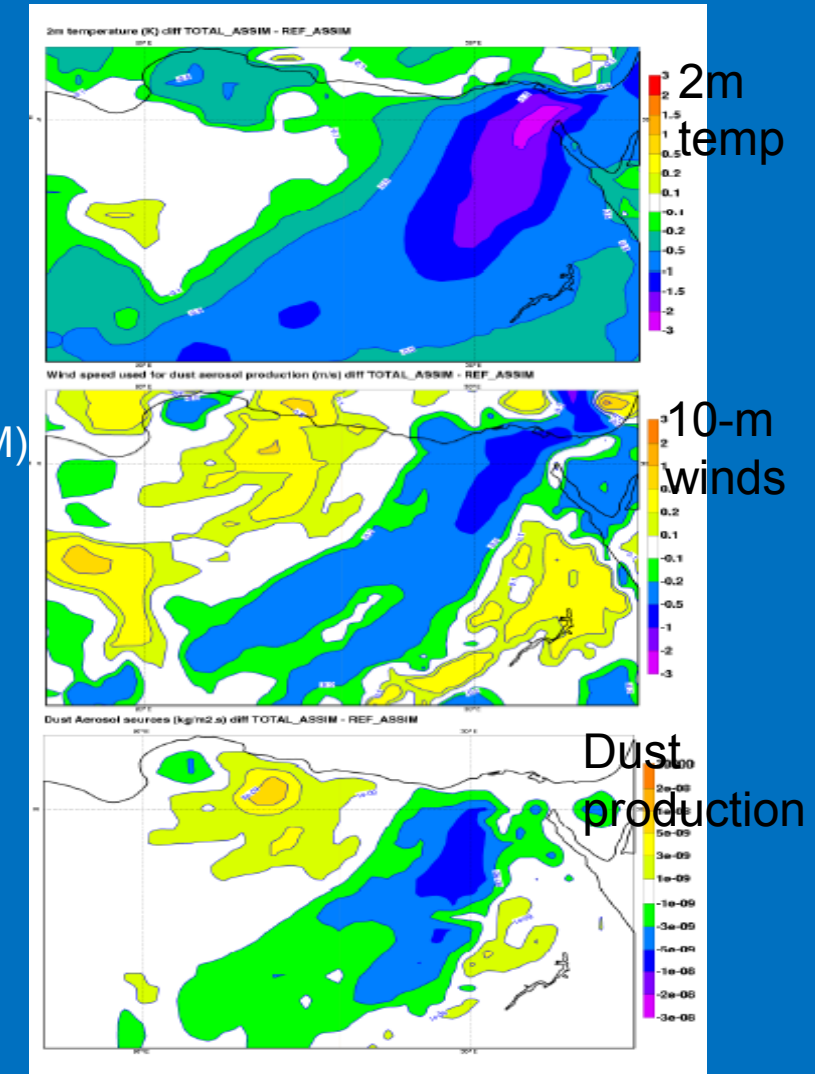
Forecast time	0h	12h	24h	36h	48h
REF_ASSIM	1.46	1.48	1.5	1.62	1.53
TOTAL_ASSIM	1.32	1.49	1.43	1.6	1.58

**Table 3.** 2m temperature, bias of REF\_ASSIM and TOTAL\_ASSIM for forecast times 0, 12, 24, 36 and 48h, average for the period of 10th to 25th of April 2012 over the same selection of weather stations as table 2.

Forecast time	0h	12h	24h	36h	48h
REF_ASSIM	-0.87	-0.05	-0.73	0.48	-0.47
TOTAL_ASSIM	-0.65	-0.18	-0.58	0.2	0.26

Difference between run with interactive aerosols (TOTAL\_ASSIM) and reference run (REF\_ASSIM) 36 hour forecast (valid on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 12UTC)

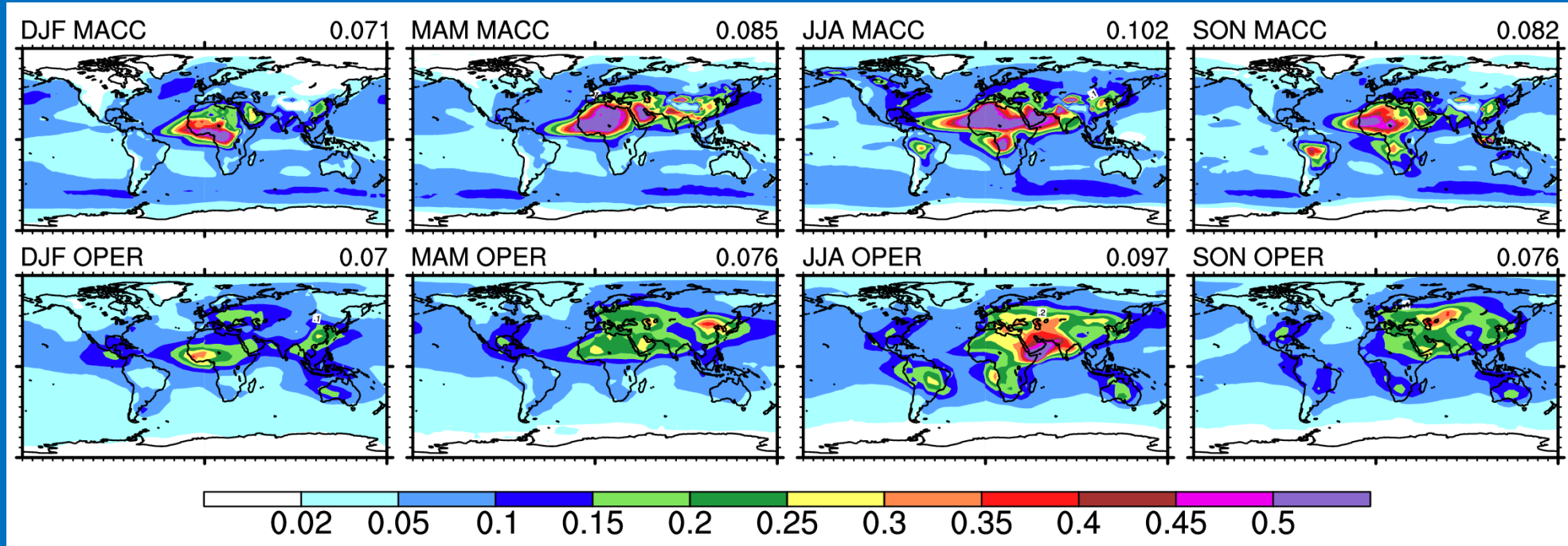
- Reduced 2m temperature
- Increased surface winds
- Increased dust production





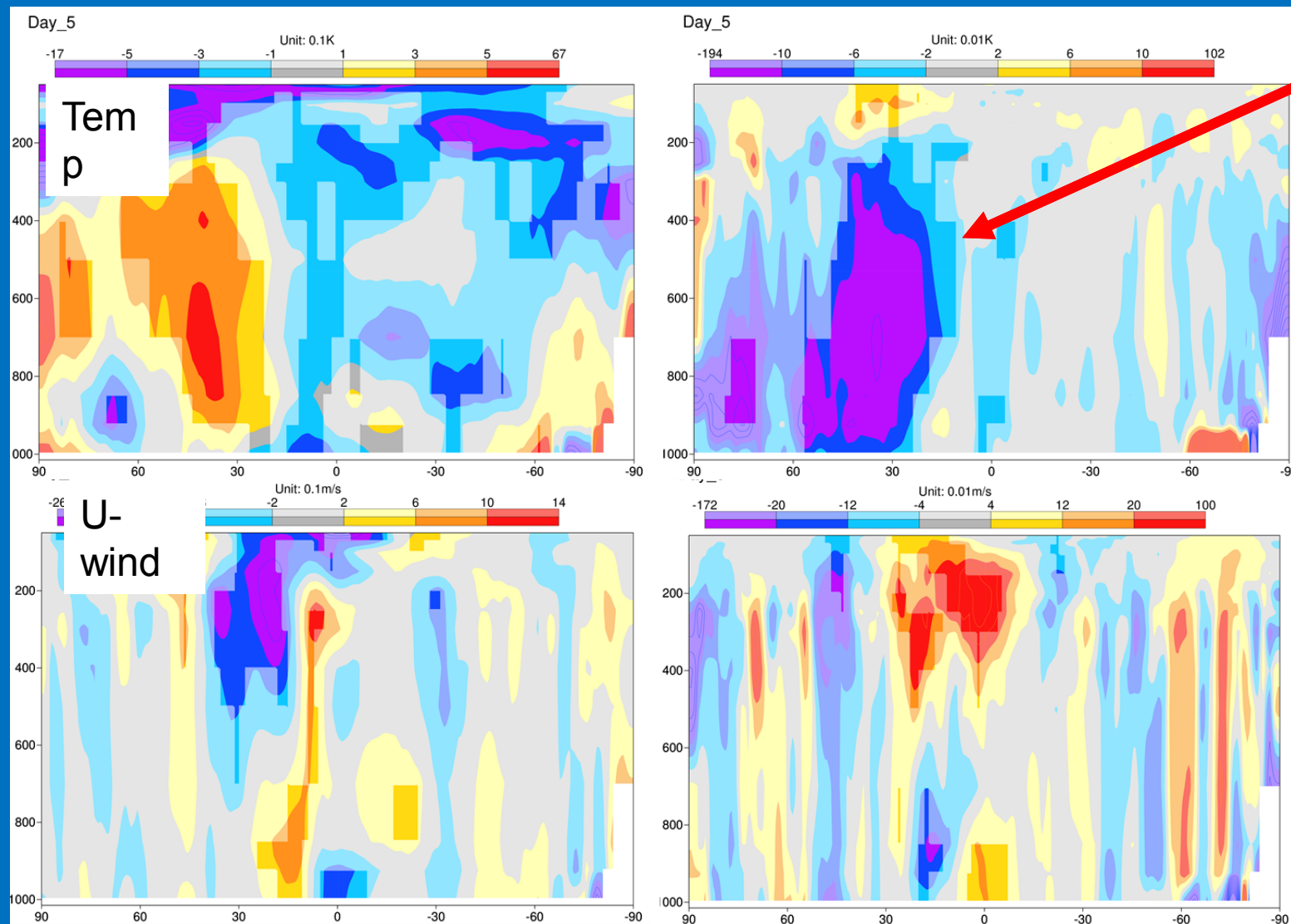
# Climatological AOD 550nm distribution MACC vs Tegen et al 1997 (OPER)

Credits: Alessio Bozzo



- MACC run (2003-2012): sources of biomass burning from GFAS, sulphate aerosol precursor from EDGAR 4.1, prognostic for sea salt and dust, revised dust model
- Optical properties recomputed for RRTM spectral bands and for each aerosol type/size bin. Mass mixing ratio as input to radiation
- Vertical distribution following an exponential decay with scale height derived from the MACC model for each aerosol type. Monthly varying for dust.

# Impacts on forecast errors



- Change in mass distribution and optical properties -> reduction in SW absorption -> reduction in temperature (positive)
- This is of the order of 0.1K for a bias of the order of 0.3K – it explains at least ~30% of the temperature error.
- Similar for winds at upper levels

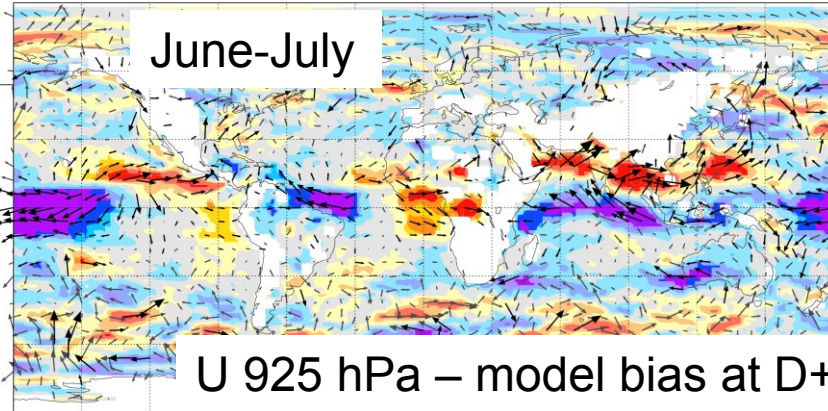
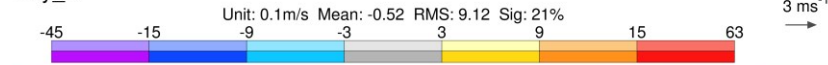
June-July  
Model FC error d+5

June-July  
Change in FC error d+5

# Impacts on FC errors

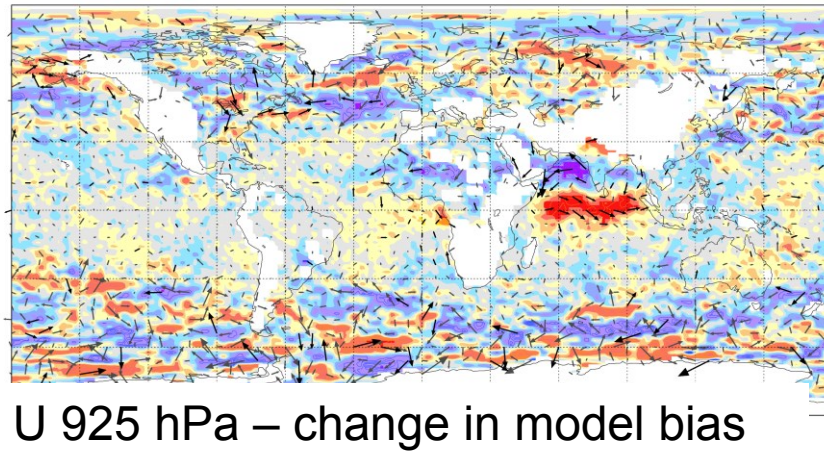
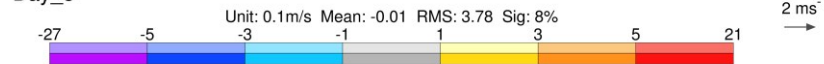
Forecast Error, u at 925 hPa. Mean for CNTL\_20140601-20140715. Deep colours = 5% sig.

Day\_5

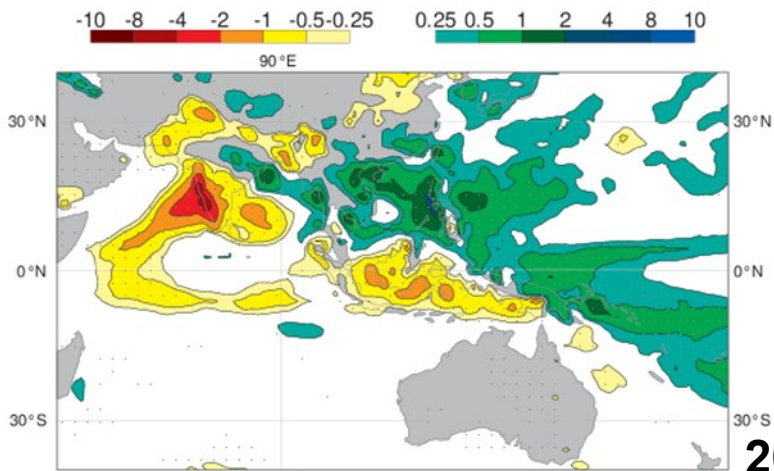


Forecast Error, u at 925 hPa. Mean for EXPT\_20140601-20140715-CNTL\_20140601-20140715. Deep colours = 5% sig.

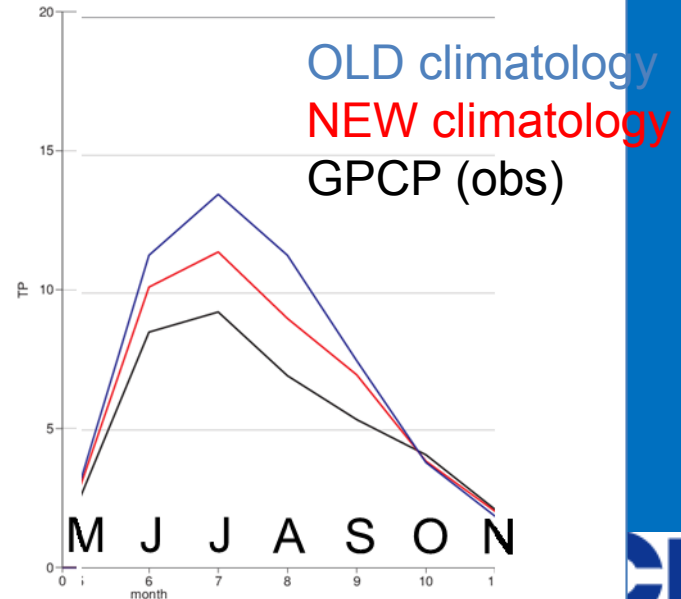
Day\_5



Difference TP (mm/day) gbp0 - gbr1 1981 - 2010 season JJA  
MAE:0.283, MeanBias:0.0138, Dotted: 5 % significance

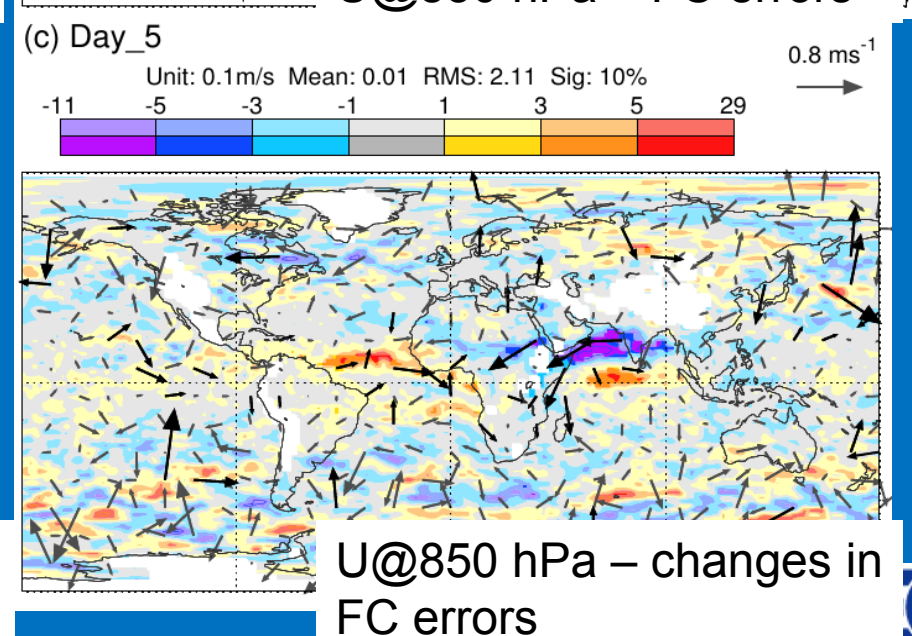
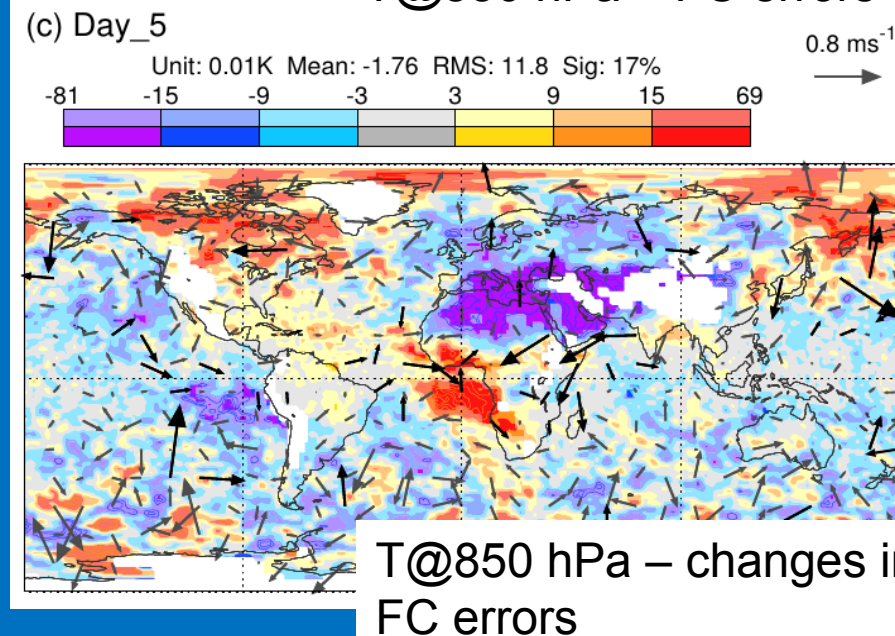
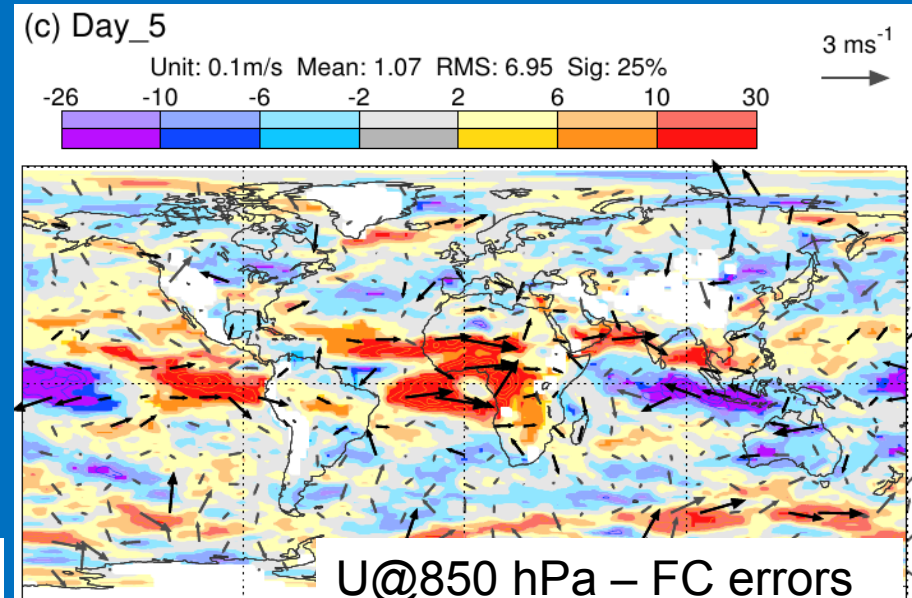
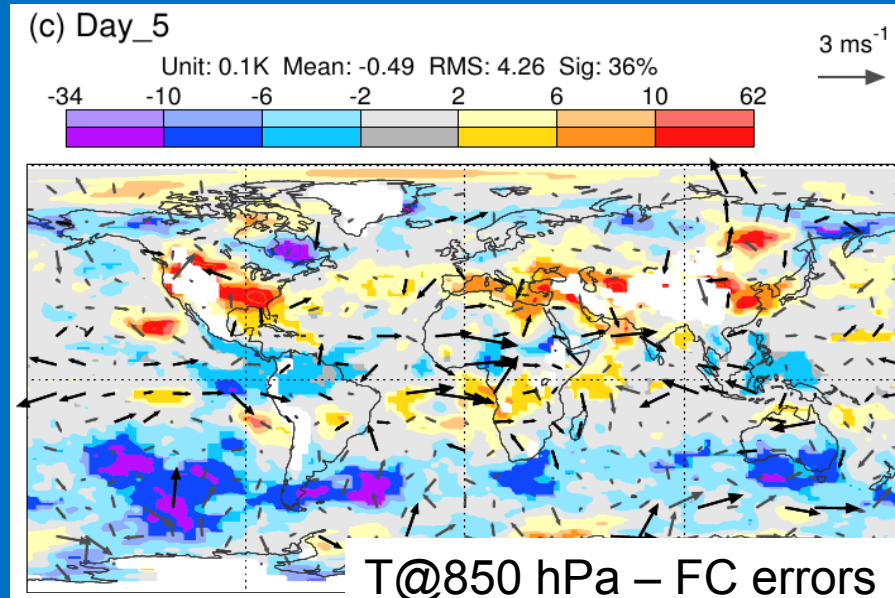


Monthly mean precipitation Western India

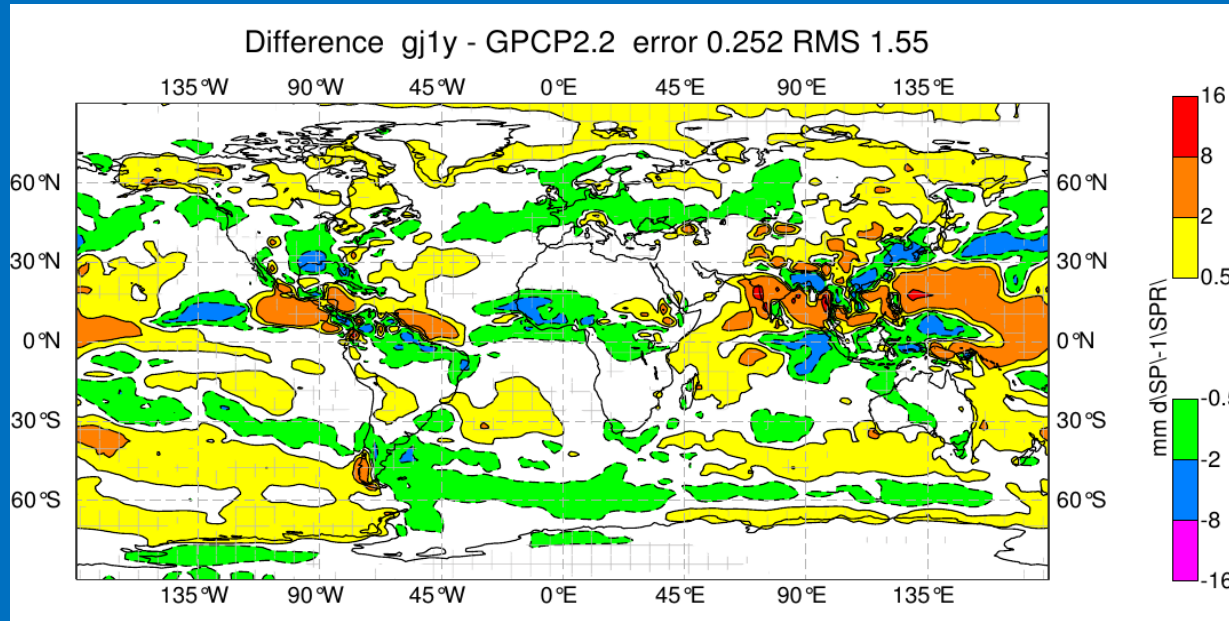




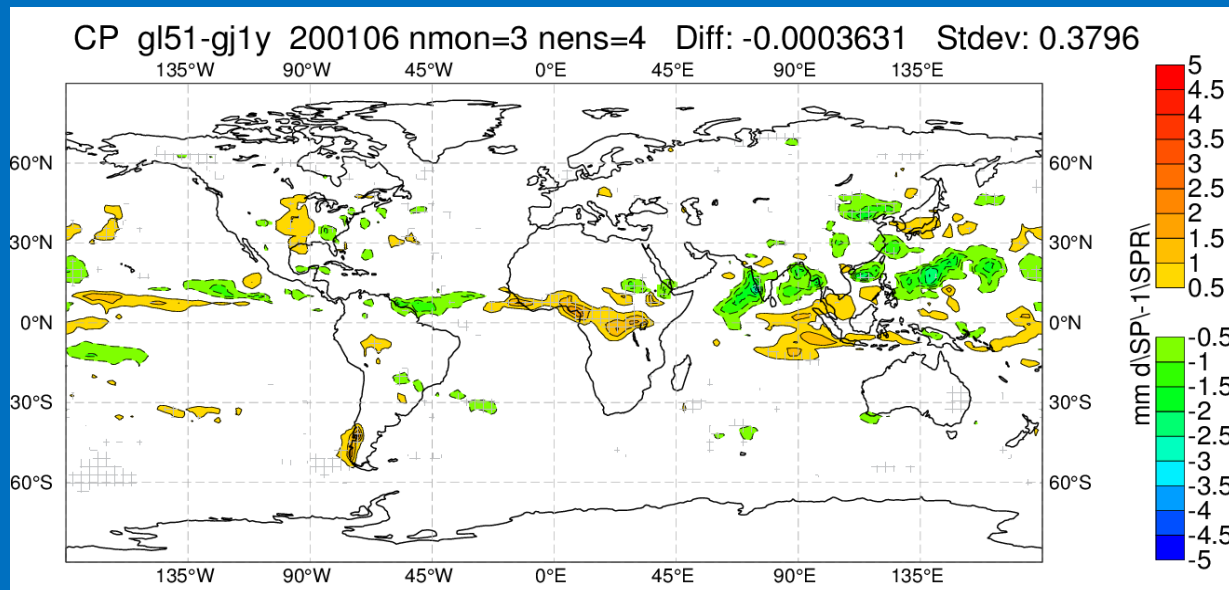
# Impacts on FC errors



# Impacts on precipitation patterns - JJA



Model error  
against  
GPCP2.2

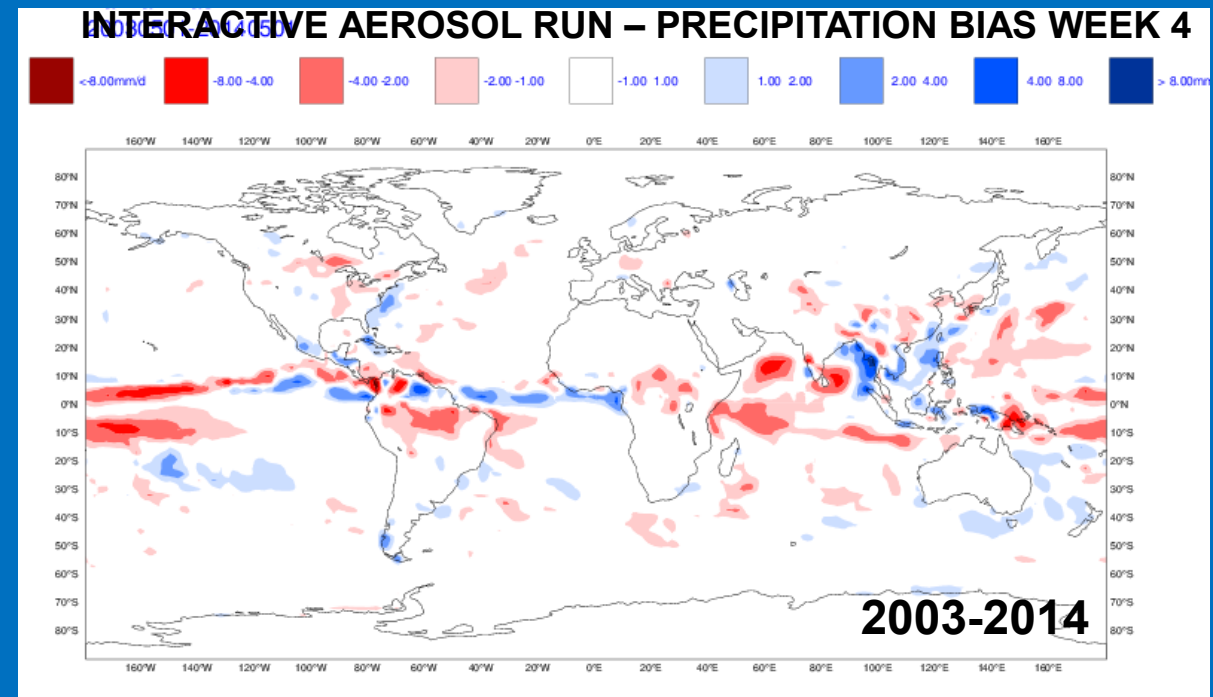
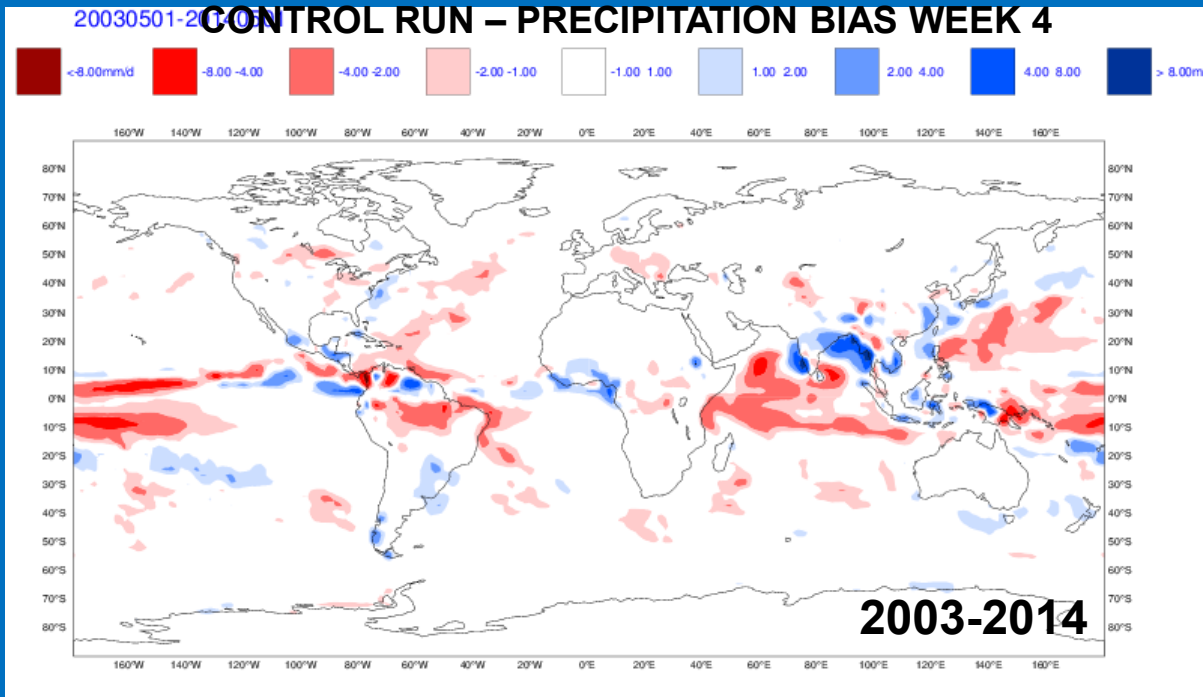


# Monthly EPS coupled runs with interactive aerosols

- Control run for the period 2003-2015 uses standard Tegen et al 1997 climatology
- Interactive aerosol run covers the same period and uses fully prognostic aerosols in the radiation scheme – only aerosol direct effect
- Free-running aerosols with updated emission for biomass burnin
- Ensemble size is 11 members, T255 resolution, 91 levels
- 5 different start dates around May 1 (55 cases in total) – summer runs (focus of this talk)
- 3 different start dates around November 1 (33 cases in total)- winter runs

# Aerosol impacts on monthly forecasts (summer)

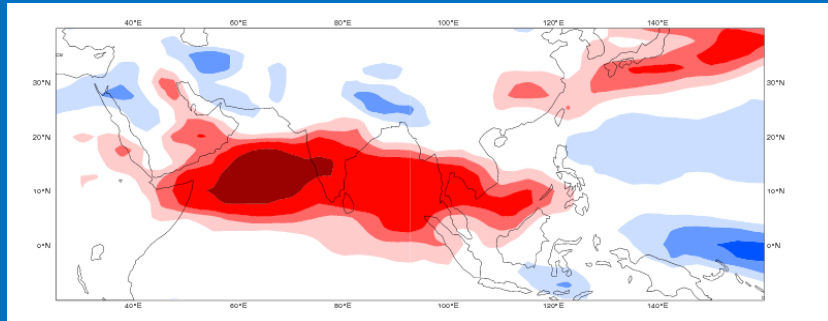
- Preliminary results show a positive impact (reduction in bias) of the interactive aerosols on meteorological fields (winds and precipitation) as observed in studies using a more up-to-date aerosol climatology
- More prominent (positive) impact over the Indian Ocean and to a lesser extent in other areas which is also consistent with new climatology results for the same model release



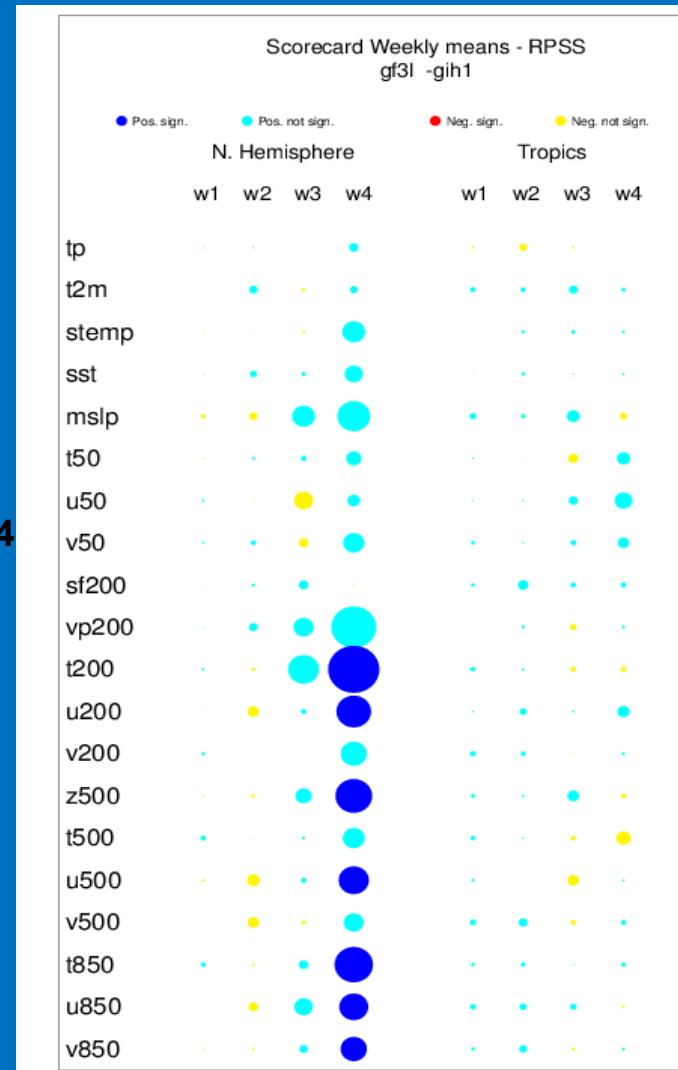
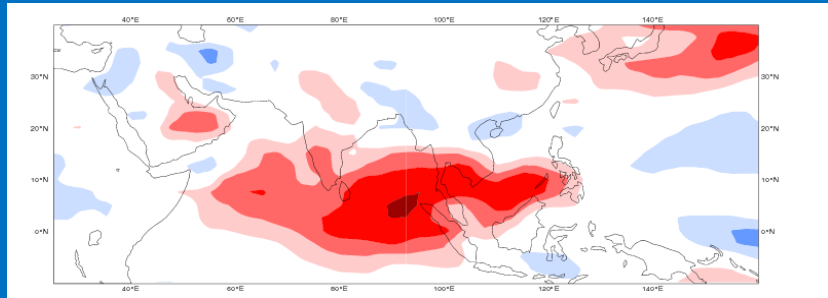


# Aerosol impacts on monthly forecasts (summer)

## CONTROL RUN – 850 hPa U WIND BIAS WEEK 4



## INTERACTIVE AEROSOL RUN – U WIND BIAS WEEK 4



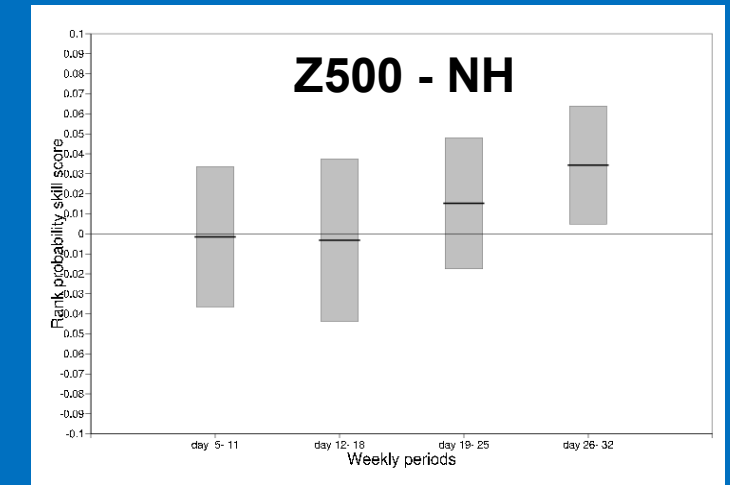
## Scorecards measures

- Performance of interactive aerosol experiment with respect to a control run for several parameters.

- Blue circles indicate positive impact

- Dark blue circles indicate significant impact

(Scores are applied to bias corrected fields)

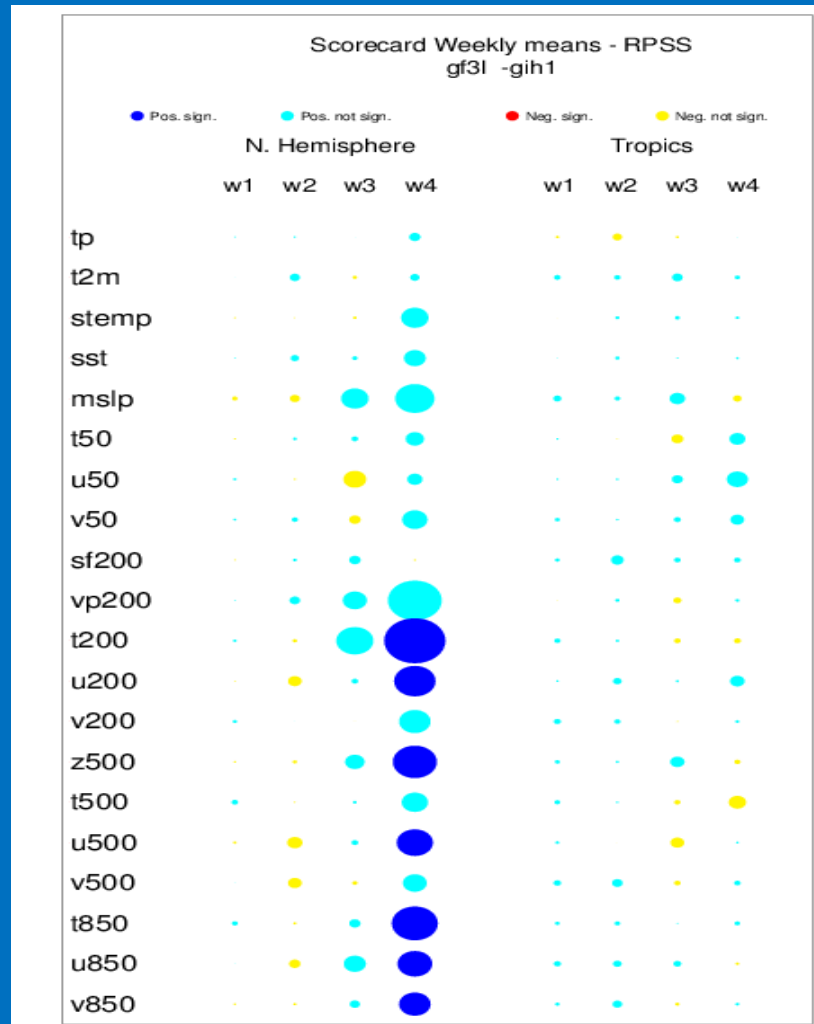


- Similar impacts are observed with the new ECMWF/CAMS climatology
- Need to understand the relative importance of the meteorological feedback on the daily variability of aerosols

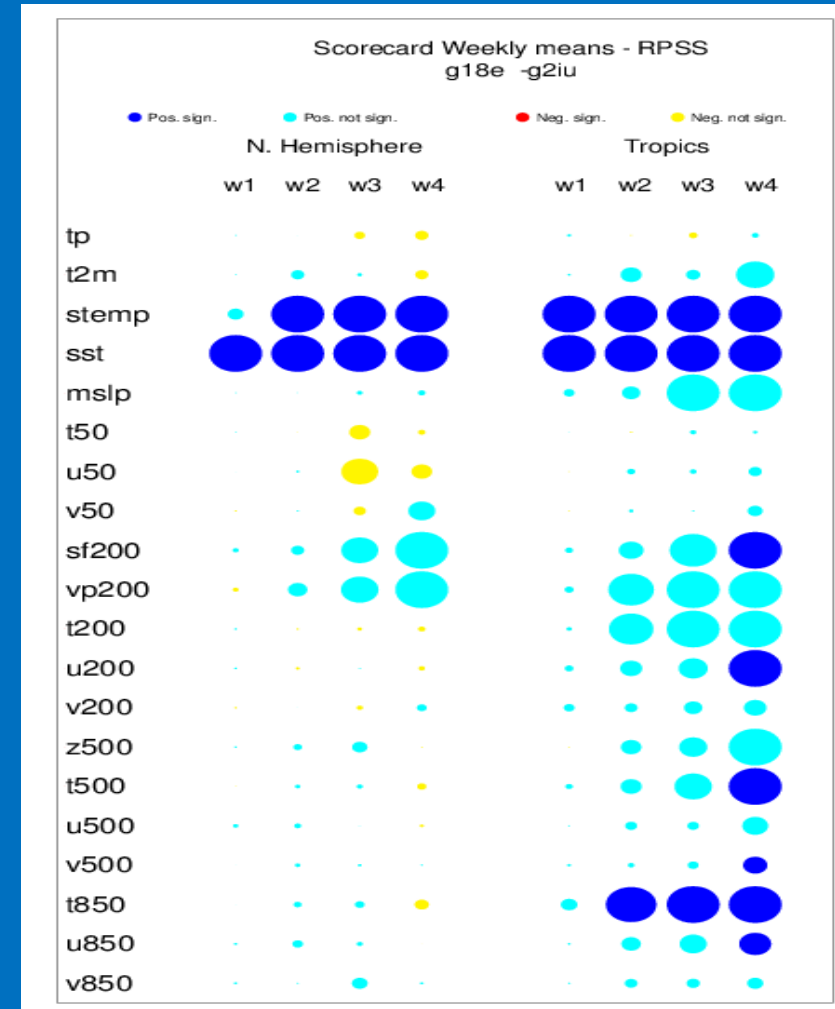


# Improvements to sub-seasonal skill scores

## Active aerosols



## Coupled vs pers SST

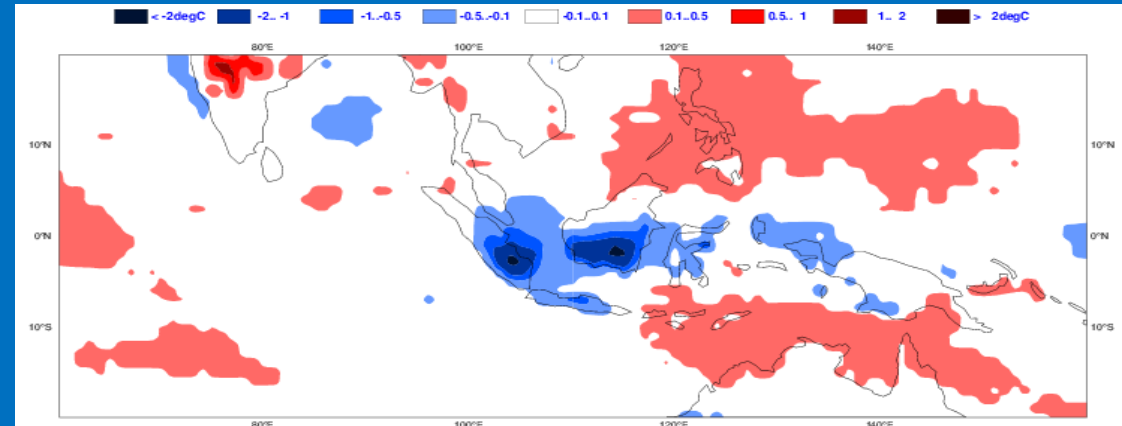


May start dates only (summer runs)  
2003-2015 period  
Observed (prescribed) Fire emission

# Indonesian fires (Aug-Oct 2015)

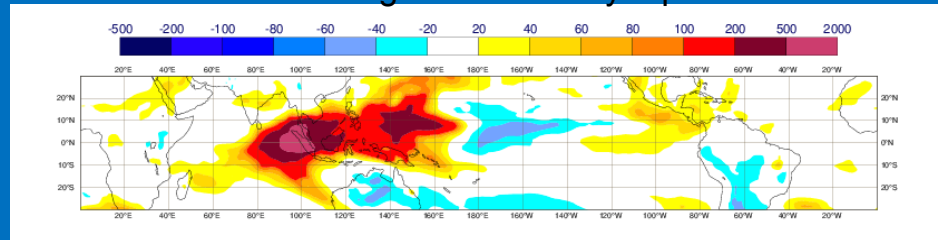


## 2m-tm anomaly Oct 2015 - Forecast starting 1<sup>st</sup> May



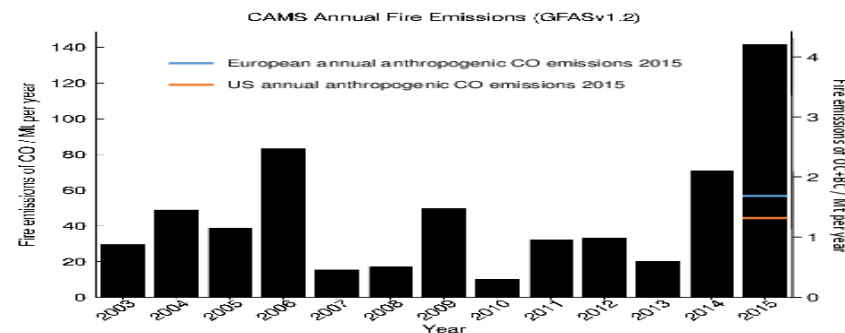
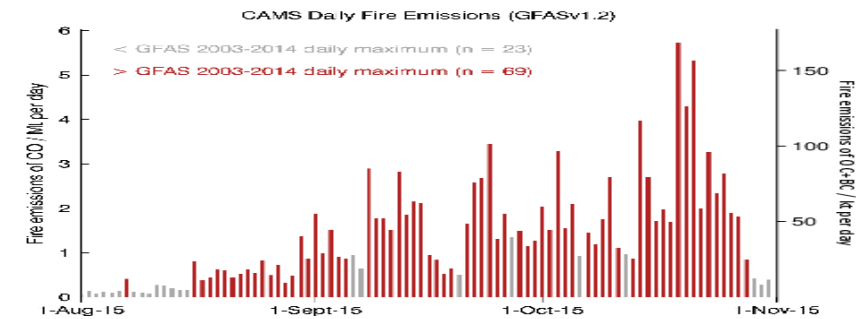
## Fire radiative power Aug-Oct 2015

Biomass burning AOD anomaly: up to 2000%



Benedetti et al, to appear in State of Climate 2016, BAMS.  
Credits: Antje Inness, Mark Parrington (ECMWF), Gerry Ziemke (NASA)

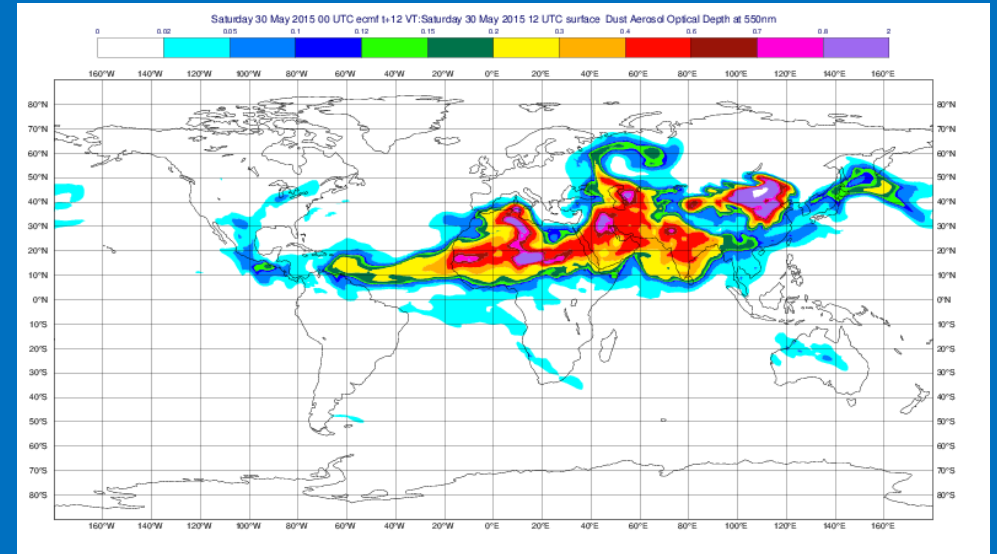
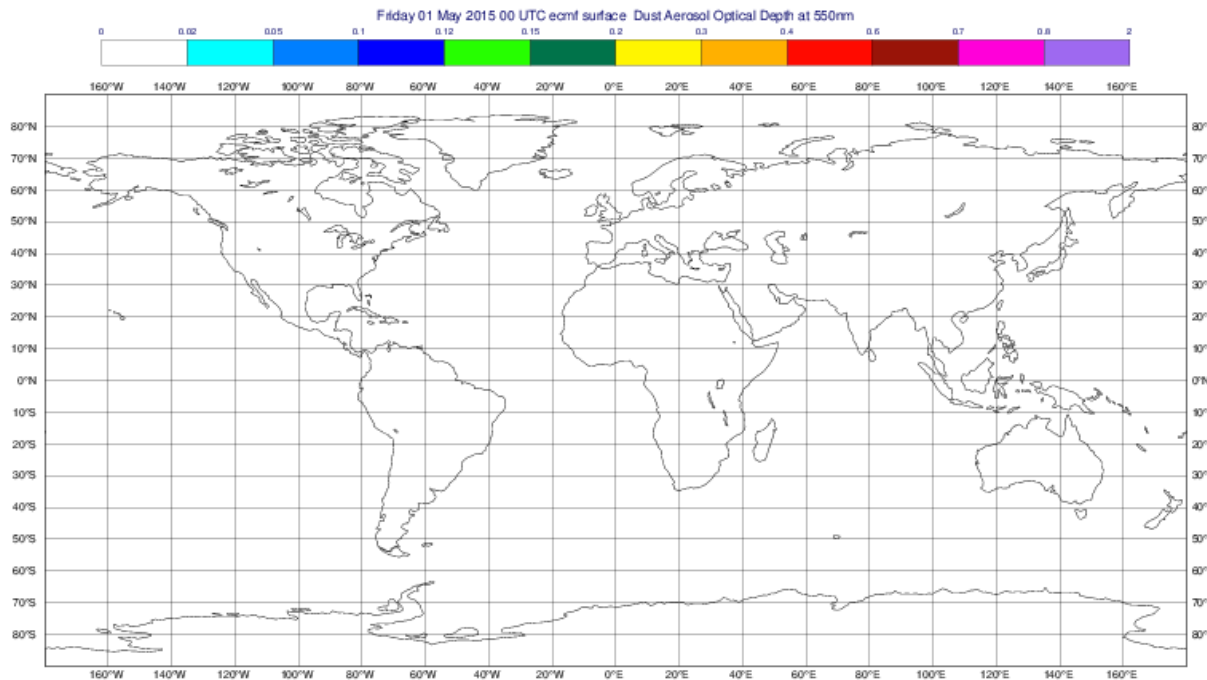
Prediction of fire emissions is needed (under development)



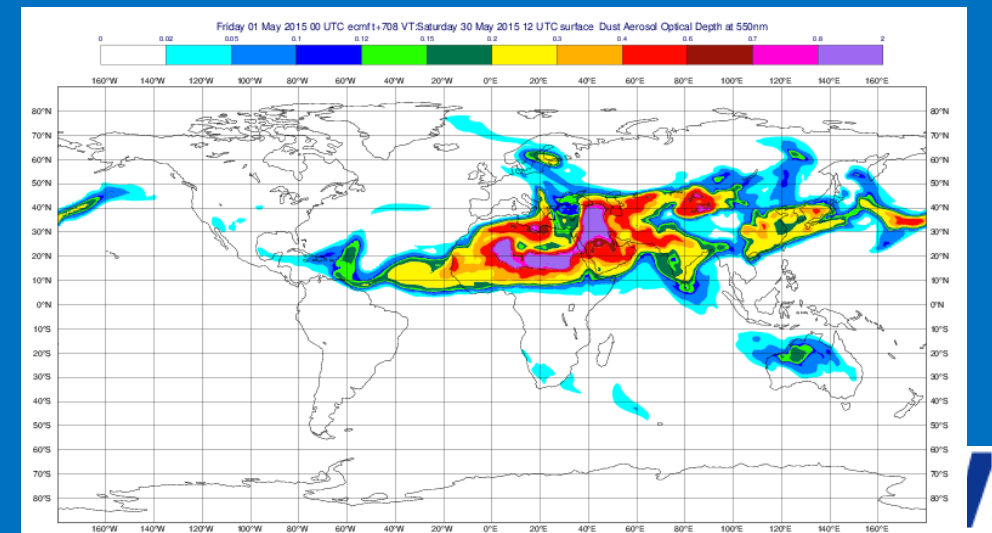
# By-product: monthly dust forecast (May 2015)

CAMS ANALYSIS – 30 May 2015 @ 1200UTC

## DUST AEROSOL OPTICAL DEPTH @ 550nm



MONTHLY FORECAST valid for 30 May 2015 @ 1200UTC



# Summary and Future Perspectives

- Using prognostic aerosols interactively in the radiation seems to be beneficial to model skill at the sub-seasonal range
- Similar positive results were obtained with an improved aerosol climatology
- More investigation is needed to understand if positive impact comes from resolved time and spatial variability or from a better representation of the aerosol fields which could be also delivered by an up-to-date accurate climatology
- Extreme events like the Indonesian fires of 2015 could only be captured with prognostic aerosols (and prognostic fire emissions) – these events are connected to El Nino and have a high degree of predictability at the seasonal scale
- By-products of using interactive aerosols is the sub-seasonal aerosol prediction per se
- More systematic experimentation is needed to understand benefits vs costs. In the current configuration the additional cost in the monthly EPS is 40-50%. HIGH RES runs are possibly prohibitive and perhaps benefits in the medium-range are smaller – an aerosol climatology would remain the most viable option.
- Experiments planned with the latest model release: control run with Tegen et al (1997) climatology, run with new ECMWF/CAMS climatology, runs with fully interactive prognostic aerosols

Thank you!