



Satellite observation of dust

Dust estimation via the Meteosat IR and solar channels

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Single Channel 12





Barcelona Dust Forecast Center - http://dust.aemet.es/ NMMB/BSC-Dust Res:0.1°x0.1° Dust AOD Run: 12h 17 MAR 2017 Valid: 12h 17 MAR 2017 (H+00)



Red: 12.4 - 10.4, -4 to +2 K Green: 11.2 - 8.5, 0 to +10 K, Gamma 2.5 Blue: 10.4, 261 to 289 K

2017_03_23_2032_g16_rgb_dust

RGB Composite



GOES-16

Meteosat-8 and -11. In the north rapid scans from Met-10 Two satellites, two eyes each: Infrared and visible



2017_05310600-06011100_m08



Can a satellite see dust particles ?



 \leftarrow Dust particle 10 μ m \rightarrow



 \leftarrow Earth globe 10 Mm \rightarrow

- From micro to mega, twelve orders of magnitude difference in size
- 10¹² kg in the atmosphere (10⁻⁷ of atmospheric mass) = fill all lorries!
- Disputed human contribution to global cooling (S.K. Satheesh, 2006)
- Inert tracer for atmospheric circulation
- Life vector (Saharan protozoa and bacteria to the Caribbean)



Better dust detection in the infrared?

Best contrast ?	DAY	NIGHT
IR		
VIS		

Choose one of the four fields, the one with best contrast between free-surfaces and dust areas

Ocean	DAY	NIGHT
IR	strong	strong
VIS	very strong	A/N/A

Desert	DAY	NIGHT
IR	very strong	weak
VIS	weak	A/N/A

- On IR imagery, dusty air appears cool in contrast to the hot **daytime** land surface. At **night**, the thermal difference between the background and the dust lessens. Dust is not raised by thermals, too.
- On VIS imagery over **water**, dust is easy to note. Over **land**, however, the dust plume and dry surfaces look similar



Consecutive days in Fuerteventura, January 2010





Dust at the moonlight







Fig. 1: immagine satellitare MODIS del 21.02.2016 alle 14:00 UTC (NASA'a Aqua- Earth)



 Meteosat

 Infrared+

 HRV

Dust on solar and infrared images



2004-05-13 13:00 UTC, 0.8 μm

Dust reflects back solar energy to spaceMidday, unfavourable reflection conditions

Same date and time, 10.8 μm •Dusty air rises (**cools** down)

Desert scene, Sudan



DUST RGB composite: the strength of infrared for dust detection



Solar RGB composite based on channels at 1.6, 0.8 and 0.6 μm

IR RGB composite based on channels at 8.7, 10.8 and 12.0 μm



Aerosol is more than dust



Forward fraction=exp(-AOD)



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Infrared dust properties

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A model of atmospheric dust

▹Where you learn to distinguish high thin from low fat

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Mixed scenes: cloud and dust

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➢Conclusions

➢Where you learn that there is more dust on books than books on dust



Dust characteristics

Dust storms occasionally reach 5 km height, frequently thicker than 1km

• Over land, dust optical depth is typically around 0.5 or 2 for storms, in the visible range. Efficient **thickness** in the IR is about 40% of those values.

Dust absorbs and scatters **infrared** radiation in the **Mie** region

Aerosol density average in the atmosphere 10⁻⁷ kg/m3 (optical depth 0.1)





•Dusty air ~ AOD=1 ~ 1 mg/m^3 ~ 1 g/m^2



Dust seen at a single IR channel



-Variable limits for colour enhancement-Uncertain nature of the cold area (cloud?)-Possible mixture of cloud and dust

2004 May 13th 13:00 Meteosat **10.8µm** colour-enhanced (left) and gray-enhanced (below)





Ch9 (upper left), two independent differences, and all together as colour





The 10.8µm-12µm difference (vertical)





Dust RGB 21 March 2010 12UTC



pink is not always dust





Met-8, 2013 July 12 12UTC, ch9-ch10, ch7-ch9 (-17K to 5K) differences and Dust RGB



Comparison of water cloud and dust in the IR window





Reversed transparency arc for dust: Ch9-Ch10 versus Ch10



MSG Natural (solar) RGB composite 4-July-20

4-July-2003 10:00 UTC

10.8µm radiation is more absorbed and more backscattered by dust than 12.0µm
 For dust or ash, arc is inverted due to the thinner contribution layer (CL) at 10.8µm
 10.8µm channel shows higher BT than 12µm for thick dust due to higher emissivity





Thin dust can change the satellite albedos in both directions: solar channels are NOT useful for fine dust detection Thick dust usually increases satellite albedos (less for higher w.l.) Over ocean, 2% dust can be detected

12UTC







Met-10 2015-04-01 23UTC, Dust composite







Dust model



Dust tends to higher levels far from the source, decreasing in **particle size**

Decrease in 12.0µm BT due to height and dust thickness (and size and...)







Graphical analysis

The arc shape depends on temperatures (dust top, ground, dust vertical extension) and The arc shape depends on efficiencies (dust composition, size, shape) The dip in the curve depends on relative weights of efficiencies at 10.8 and 12.0 μ m





Dust (Td) and ground (Tg) temperatures estimates



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Real (blue dots, right h.s.) compared with simulated (green-red dots left h.s. and lines) scatterograms based on Tg=318 Td=272 Σ 11=0.6, 0.3 Σ 12=0.2, 0.25

Dust column down to 50% of that temperature difference

Smaller arcs, higher in the scatterogram, indicate less temperature contrast (Tg - Td)

IR model operation



If slope=b, refresh To If slope=a, refresh Td



Decision tree



DUST TRACES

- 1. Subjective verification against masks, images and news media: Done
- 2. Verification from other sources (AERONET, LIDAR): In progress
- 3. Inter-comparison with other methods (Solar): Starting

Graphical validation



threshold ch9-ch10 < -1.3K AOT =1.7, strong depth threshold ch9-ch10 < -1.3K AOT =2.8, too strong depth Due to location of minimum threshold NOT < -1.3K

EUMETSAT

AOT not calculated

Ground versus dust skill

IR model does not usually pick on rock or sand areas



21Mar2010 12UTC Meteosat-9



The IR model separates the dust areas from the ground dry areas



Model fails for atmospheric inversions

- Occasionally, during night, thermal inversions duct dust at high speed
- $^{\bullet}$ Due to the thickness, no negative 10.8 μm 12 μm difference appears above the dust
- However, negative differences appear over clear ground





Met-10 2015-04-01 23UTC, Dust composite



Dust RGB



Magenta areas are typically dusty: neither necessary nor sufficient condition
Inside magenta areas, darker (less green) pixels show a smaller difference |c7-c9| which means higher AOD

The threshold in the red component (-2K) is exceeded in most pixels of the dust storms.
Blue component is most of the time saturated (>16°C) over desert areas during day. During night it generates a yellow hue for desert.



The cloud-to-dust spiral in the differences diagram



2004-05-13 13:00 UTC, 10.8 μm



- 1: Thick high cloud
- 2: Broken low cloud
- 3: Ground, drier air towards 4
- 4: Dust cloud



Validation based on ground measurements (AOD units)

<u>AERONET</u>

✓ 0.9✓ 0.35

✓ 2.1❖ 1.6

0.4

✓ 0.1

✓ 1.7

✓ 0.03

0.6	31-39 C	29 µm
0.2	40-47 C	31 µm
1.9	31-42 C	
0.8	33-42 C	14 µm
NO DUST (too uniform)		
NO DU	ST	

30-38 C





IR-MODEL is too sensitive to temperature at the arc minimum

2.6

NO DUST







Situations where the retrieval does not work

-Thermal inversions in the low atmosphere

-Granitic surfaces

-Cold surfaces

-Low level dust

Check if it moves! (animation)





Other validation source: Nowcasting SAF dust flag

- For the ocean, day time: R1.6/R0.6 high, T12.0-T10.8 high, SD(T10.8-T3.9) smooth
- For the ocean, night time: same IR, T8.7-T10.8 high
- For continental surfaces, day time: not cold T10.8, smooth T10.8, filters for cloud



Nowcasting SAF dust flag and Dust RGB 21-Mar-2010 12 UTC



Dust-cloud interaction



Cloud-dust index: 2*ch9 - ch7 - ch10



Receiving station



Thank you. Any question?



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

•List of used events:

•2004-05-13 12:00,	Sudan and Saudi Arabia
•2008-02-02 06:00,	Saudi Arabia
•2008-03-23 12:00,	Libya

•2009-03-28 18:00, Argentina



Dust all over the world? (or not so much?)



RGB Composite

