



Evolution of H SAF near real-time rainfall products derived from soil moisture observations

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outline

- Introduction to H SAF
- SM2RAIN algorithm
- Product development and next steps

Introduction to H SAF



Support to Operational Hydrology and Water Management
Led by Italian Meteorological Institute



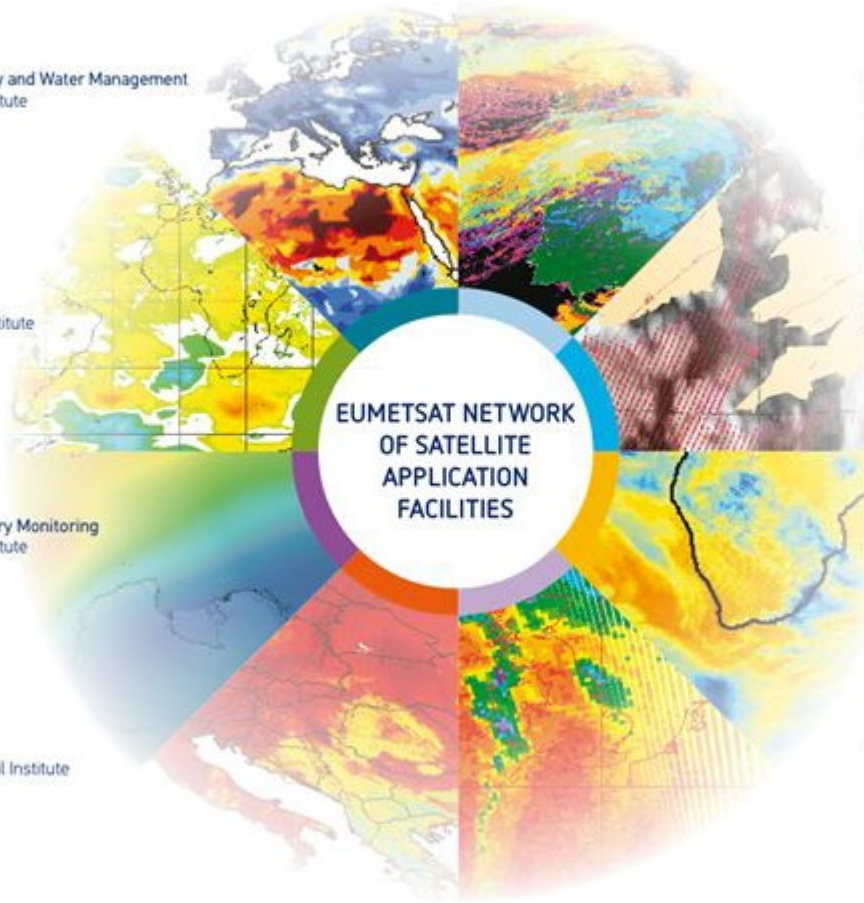
Radio Occultation Meteorology
Led by Danish Meteorological Institute



Ozone and Atmospheric Chemistry Monitoring
Led by Finnish Meteorological Institute



Land Surface Analysis
Led by Portuguese Meteorological Institute



Support to Nowcasting and Very Short Range Forecasting
Led by Agencia Estatal de Meteorología, Spain



Ocean and Sea Ice
Led by Météo France



Climate Monitoring
Led by Deutscher Wetterdienst, Germany



Numerical Weather Prediction
Led by Met Office (UK)

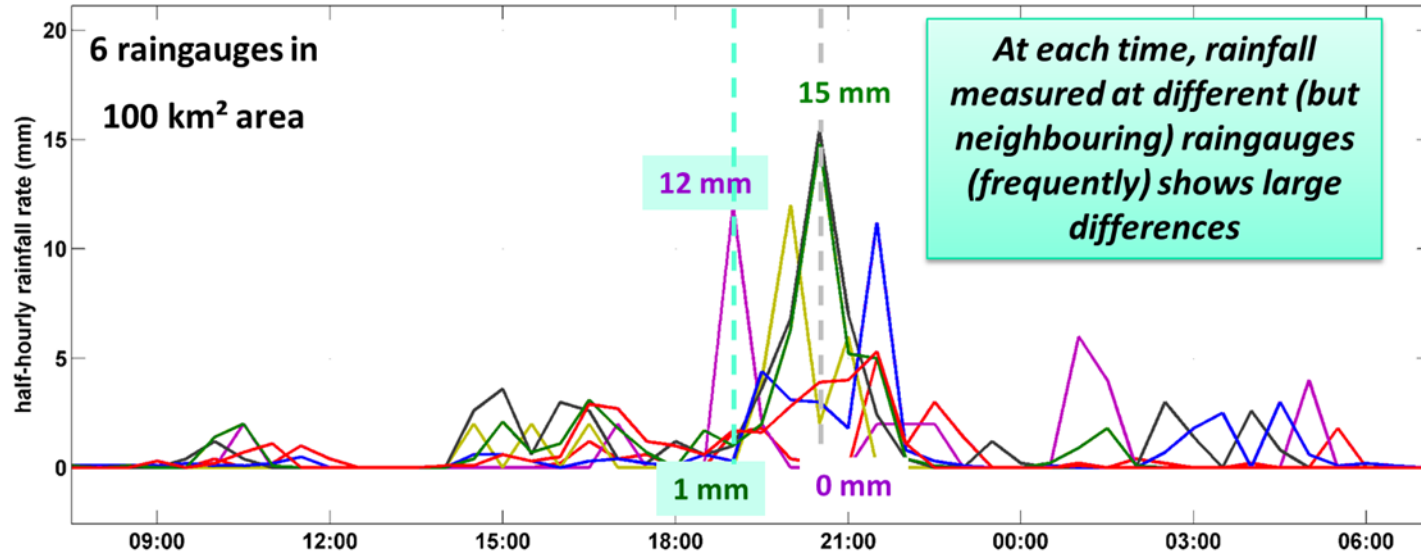
The "EUMETSAT Satellite Application Facility on Support to Operational Hydrology and Water Management (H SAF)" started on 2005 as part of the [EUMETSAT SAF Network](#)

In March 2022 the Programme entered its Fourth Continuous Development and Operation Phase (CDOP-4) which will last until February 2027.

Introduction to H SAF

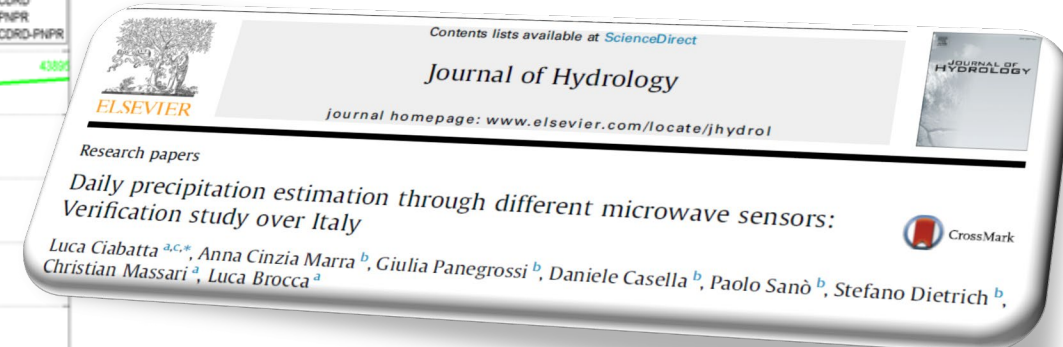
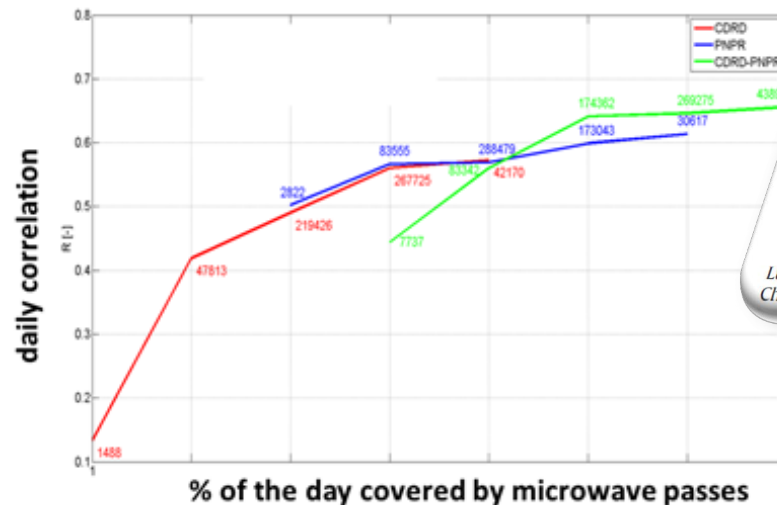
The **consortium** is composed by 11 countries:
Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary,
Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Turkey and ECMWF.

More than 50 researchers are involved in the project.



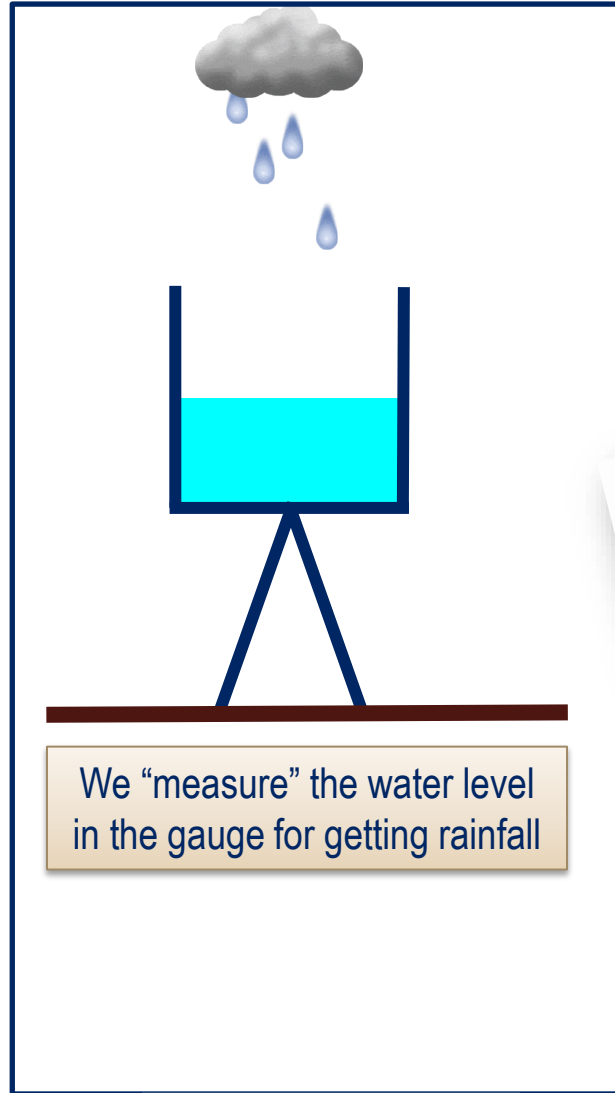
The retrieval approach used in **state-of-the-art** precipitation products (e.g., GPM) is (mainly) based on a **“top-down”** approach providing an estimate of the **INSTANTANEOUS RAINFALL RATE** at the satellite overpass

At least, 10 passes per day are needed for obtaining satisfactory performance in estimating 1-day rainfall

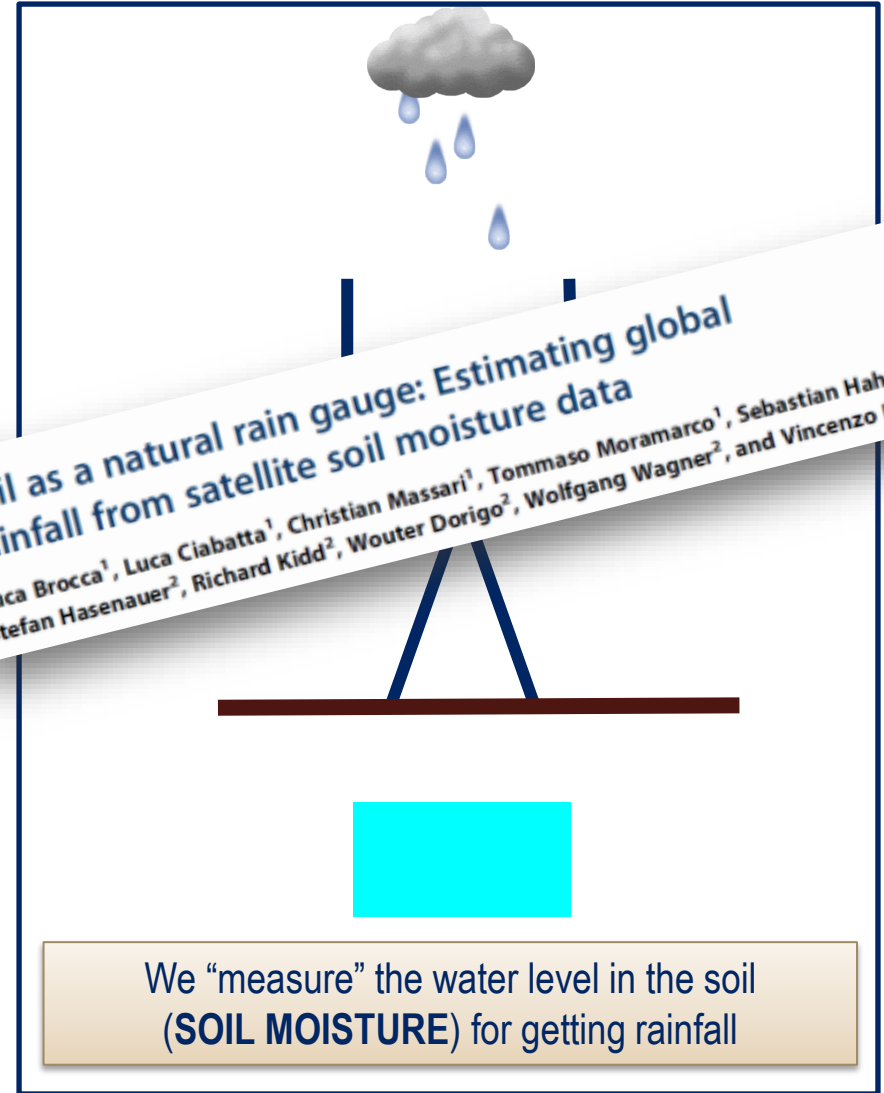


Ciabatta, L. et al. (2017) Journal of Hydrology 545, 436-450

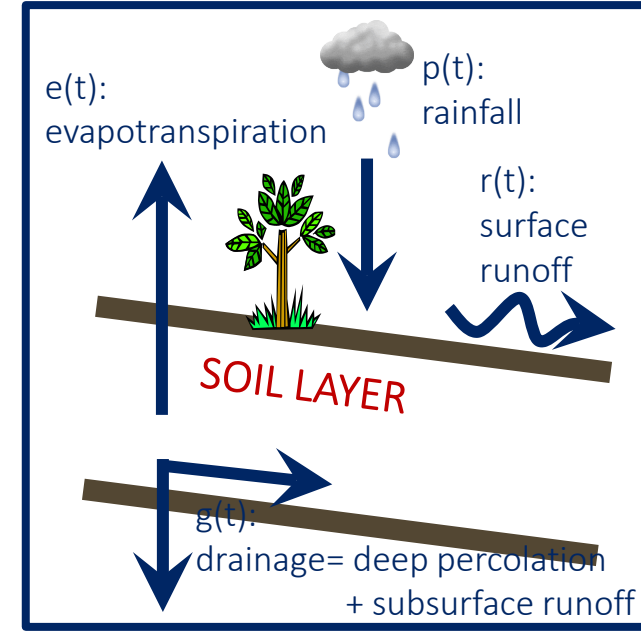
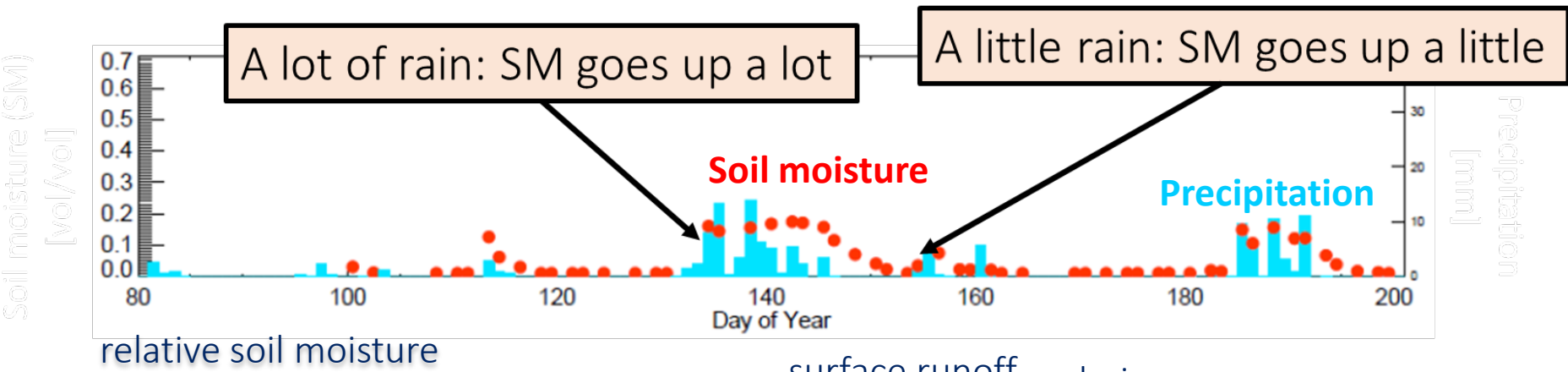
HOW DO WE MEASURE RAINFALL?



RAIN GAUGE



SM2RAIN



$$Z * ds(t)/dt = p(t) - r(t) - e(t) - g(t)$$

soil water capacity = soil depth X porosity
 precipitation
 surface runoff
 drainage
 evapotranspiration

During rainfall, surface runoff and evapotranspiration are assumed to be negligible

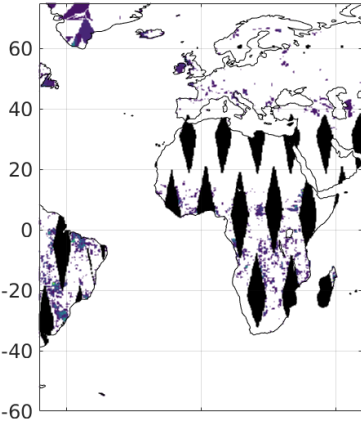
$$g(t) = as(t)^b \quad r(t) = 0 \quad e(t) = 0$$



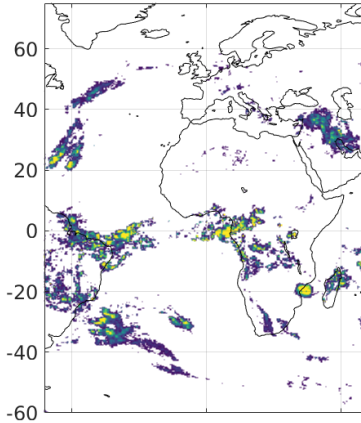
$$p(t) = Z * ds(t)/dt + as(t)^b$$

H SAF Precipitation Products: soil moisture-derived and Passive Microwave (H64)

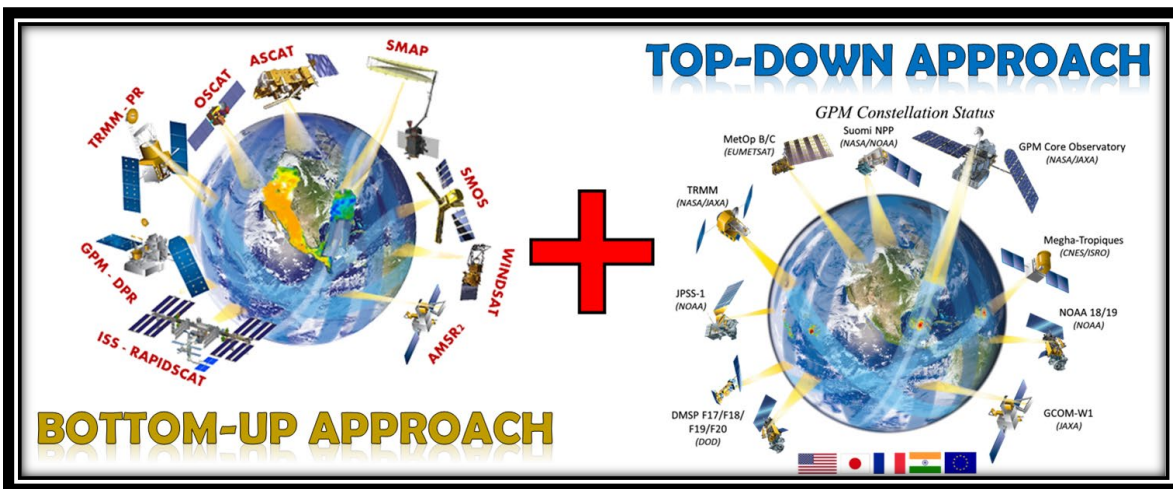
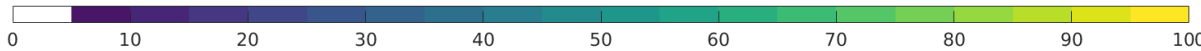
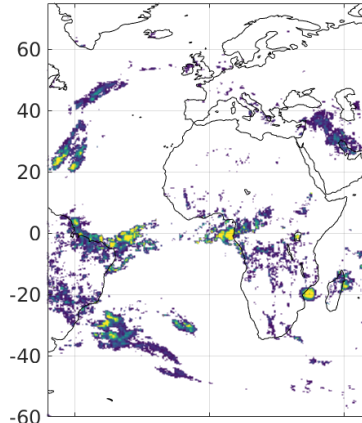
SM2RAIN-derived rainfall



H23 rainfall



H64 rainfall

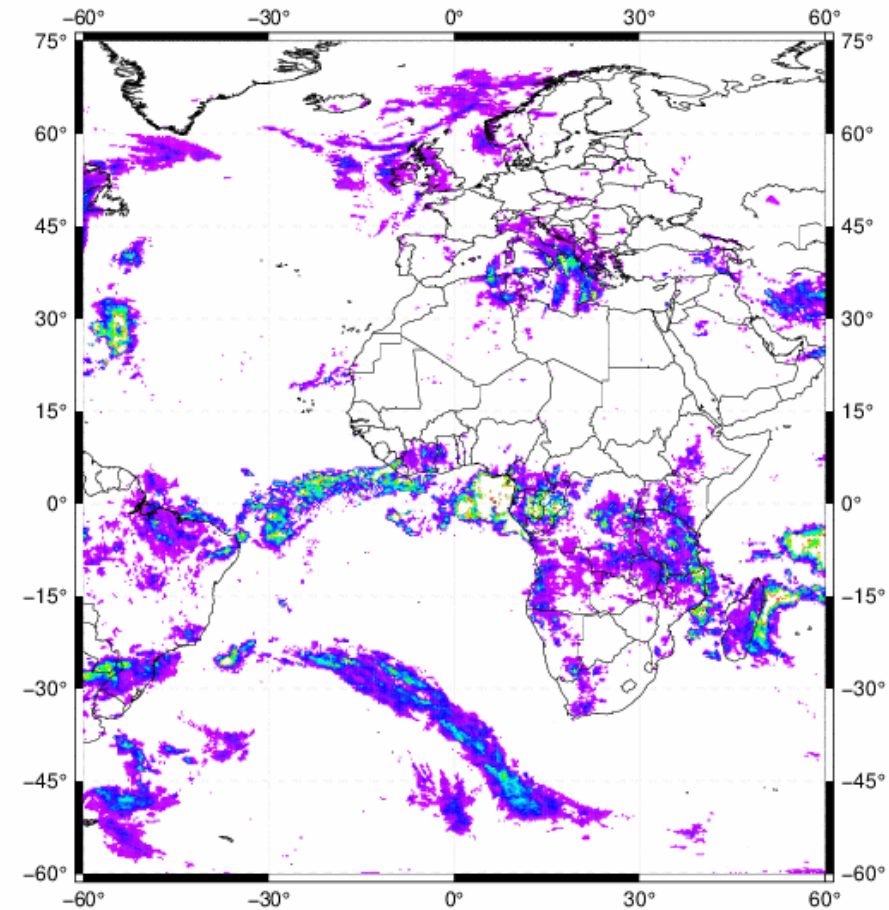


EUMETSAT H SAF P-AC-SM2RAIN-PMW (H64)

Gridded 24h accumulated precipitation at ground

Based on the integration of soil most.-derived rainfall and PMW estim.

h64_20240301_0000_24_he



Main features

MSG Full-disk area

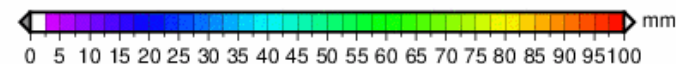
Every 24h

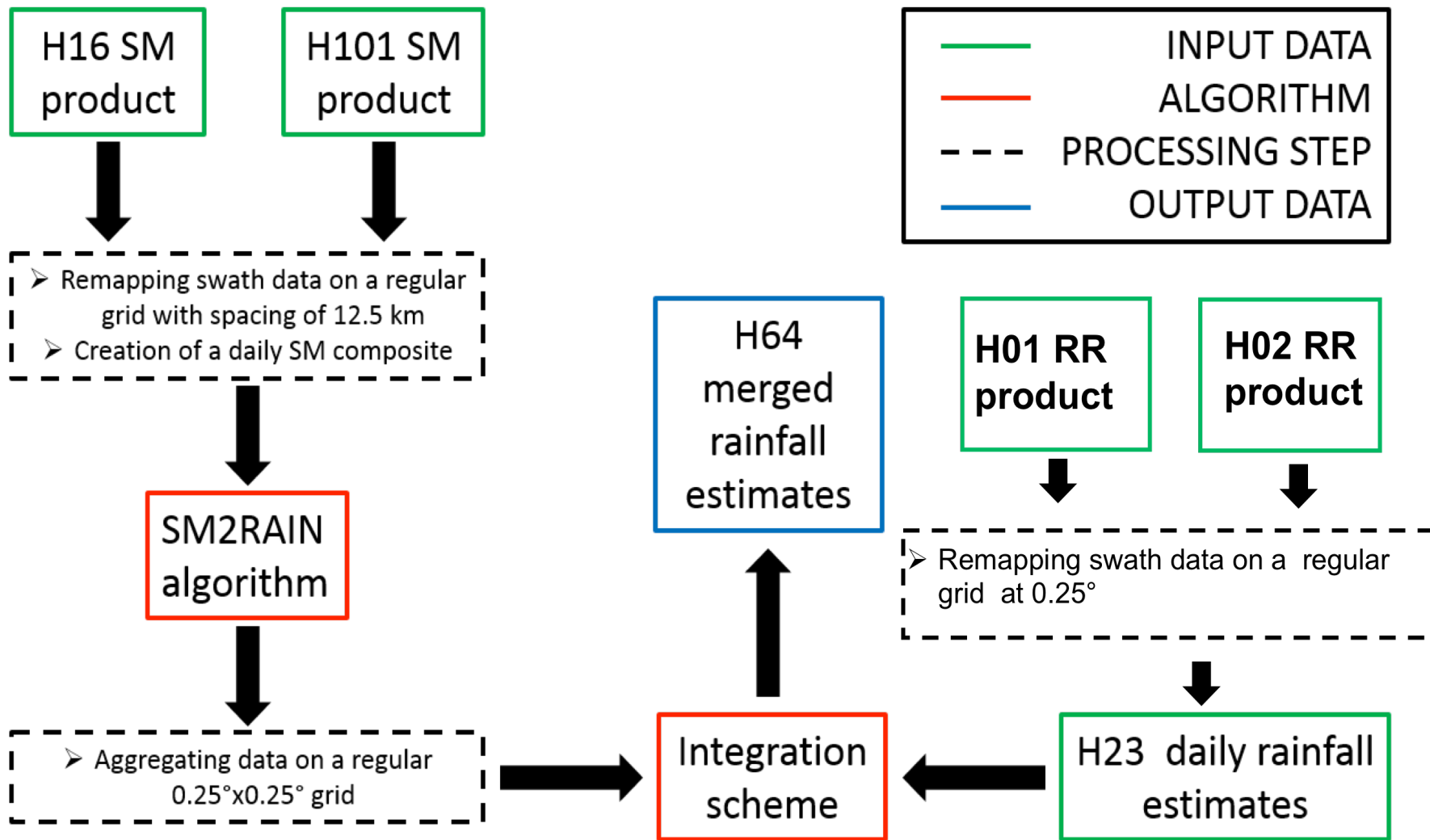
0.25° over a regular grid

15h

H SAF FTP

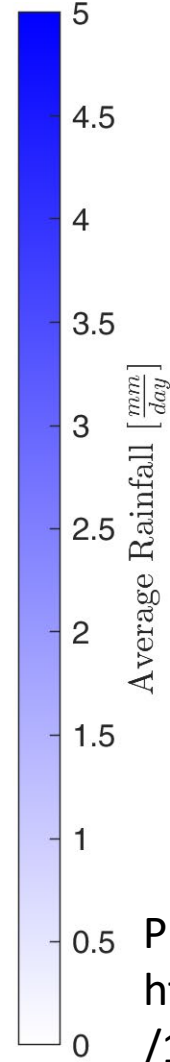
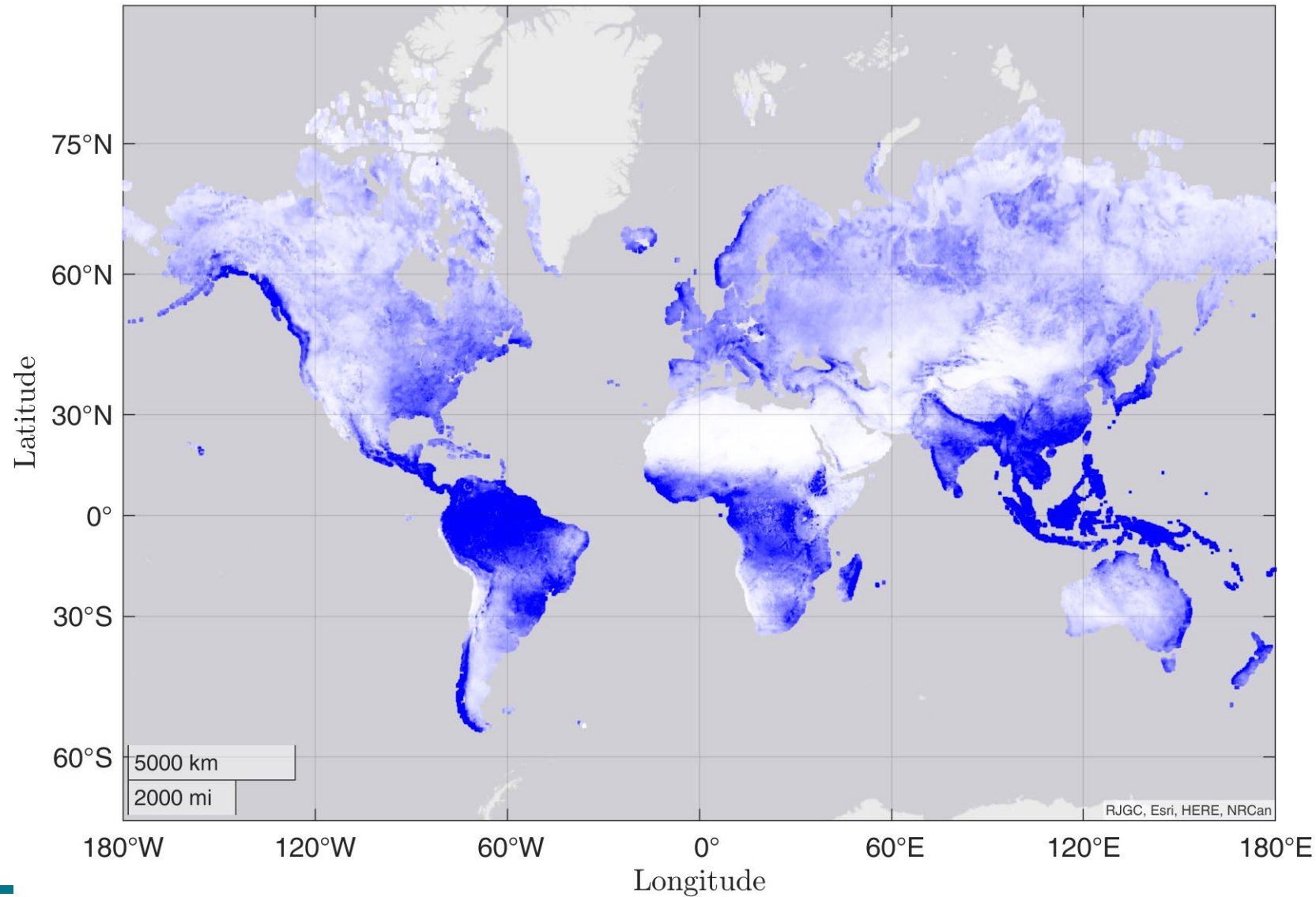
netCDF





H64 processing chain

H SAF Precipitation Products: Soil moisture-derived rainfall data record (H87)

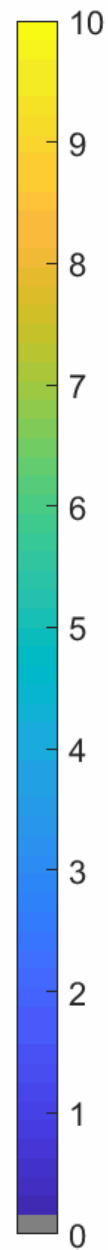
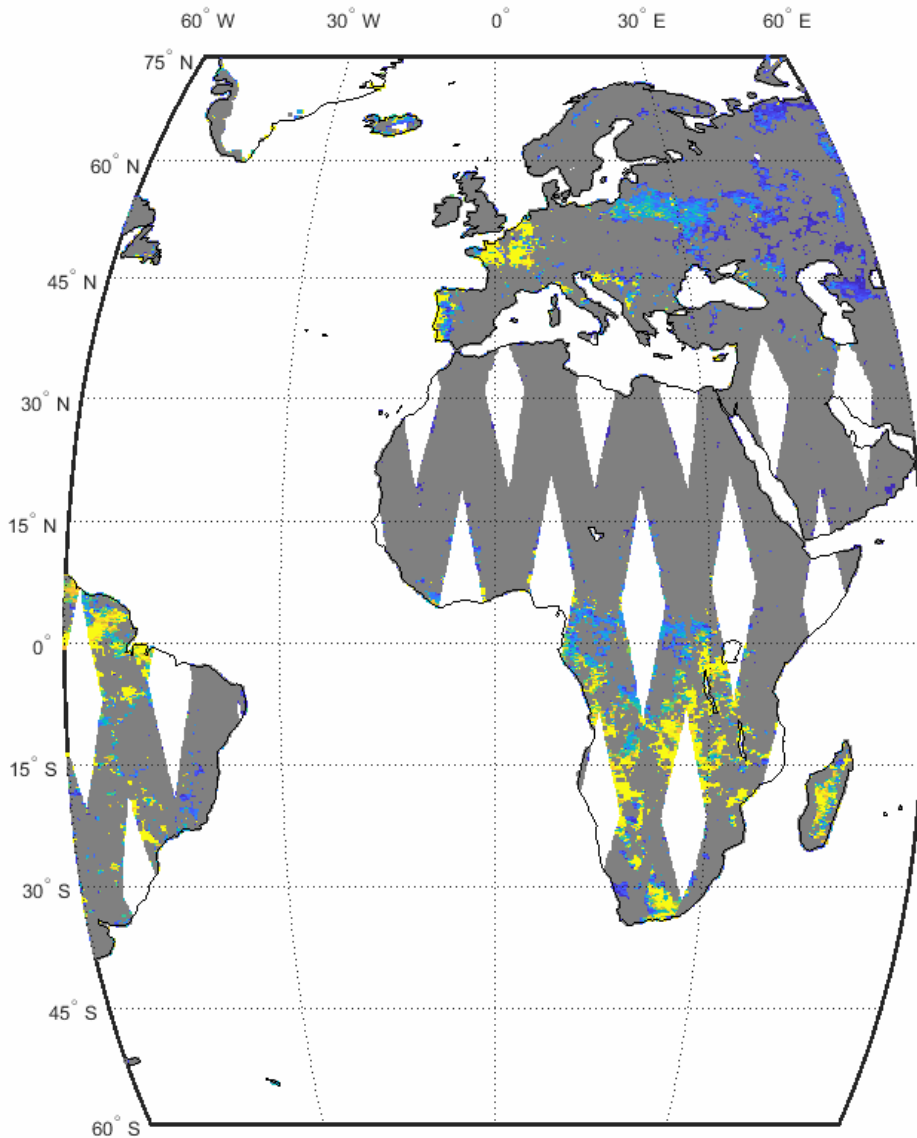
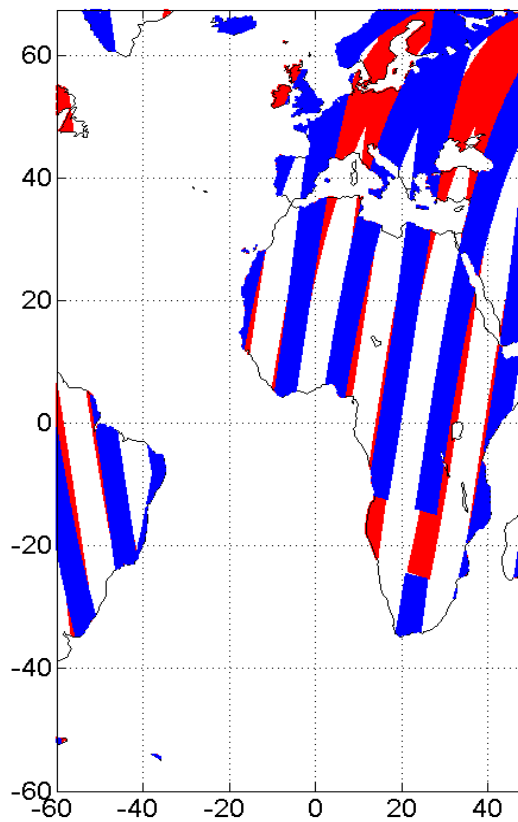


Main features
Global
Daily
10 km
Offline product Updated on a weekly basis
H SAF FTP
netCDF

Prototype freely available@
<https://zenodo.org/records/10376109>

Daily SM maps through ASCAT

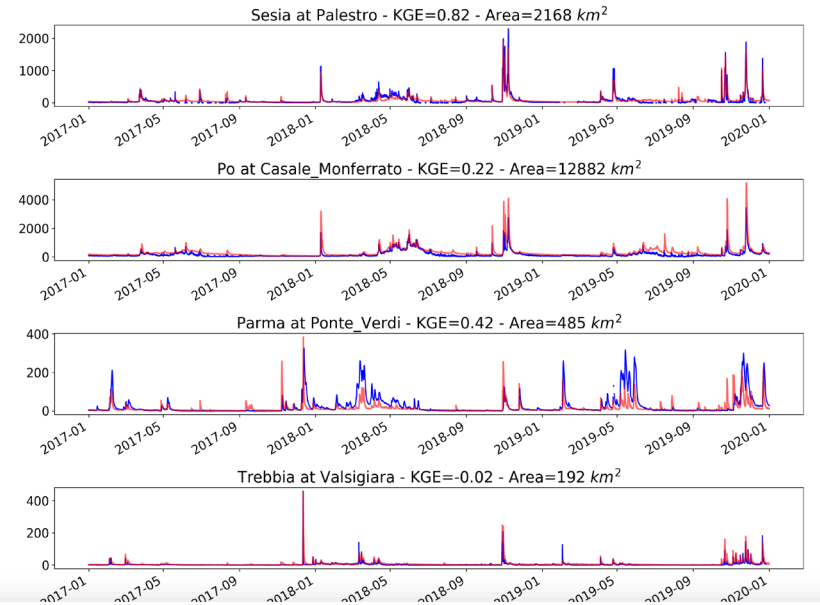
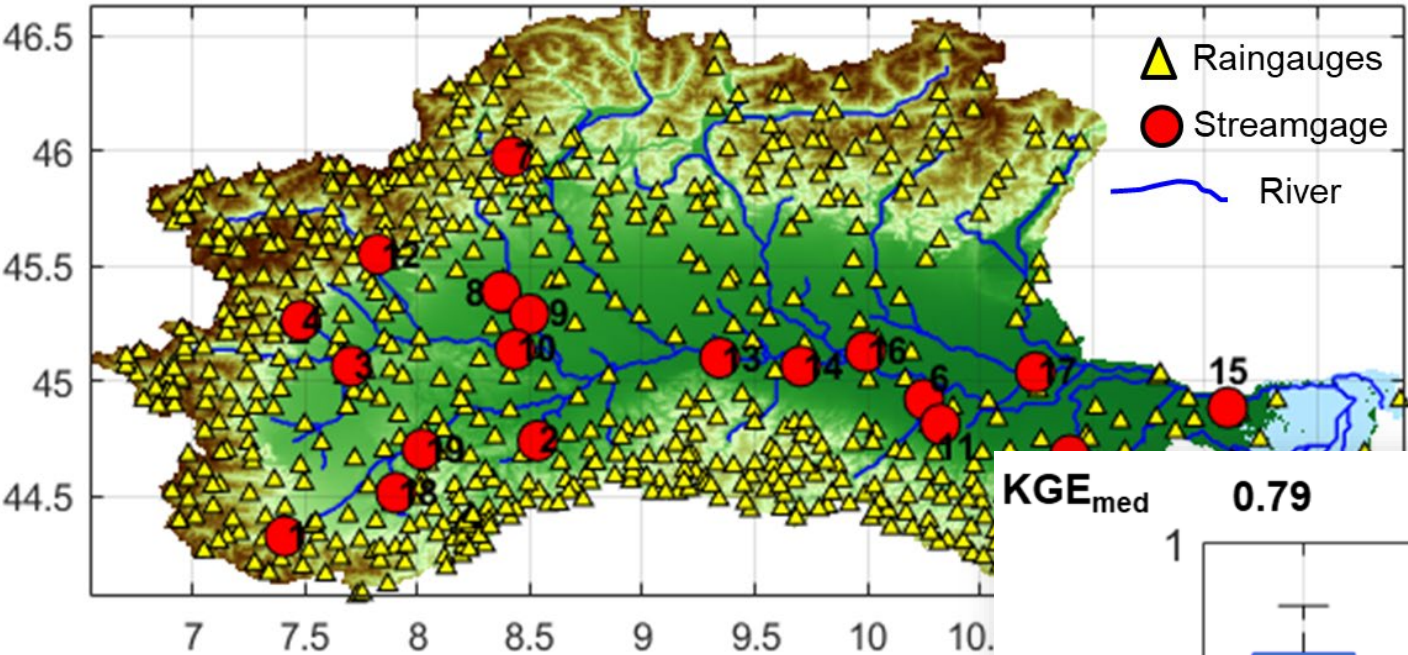
H16 + H101 SM - 08 February 2017 00:00



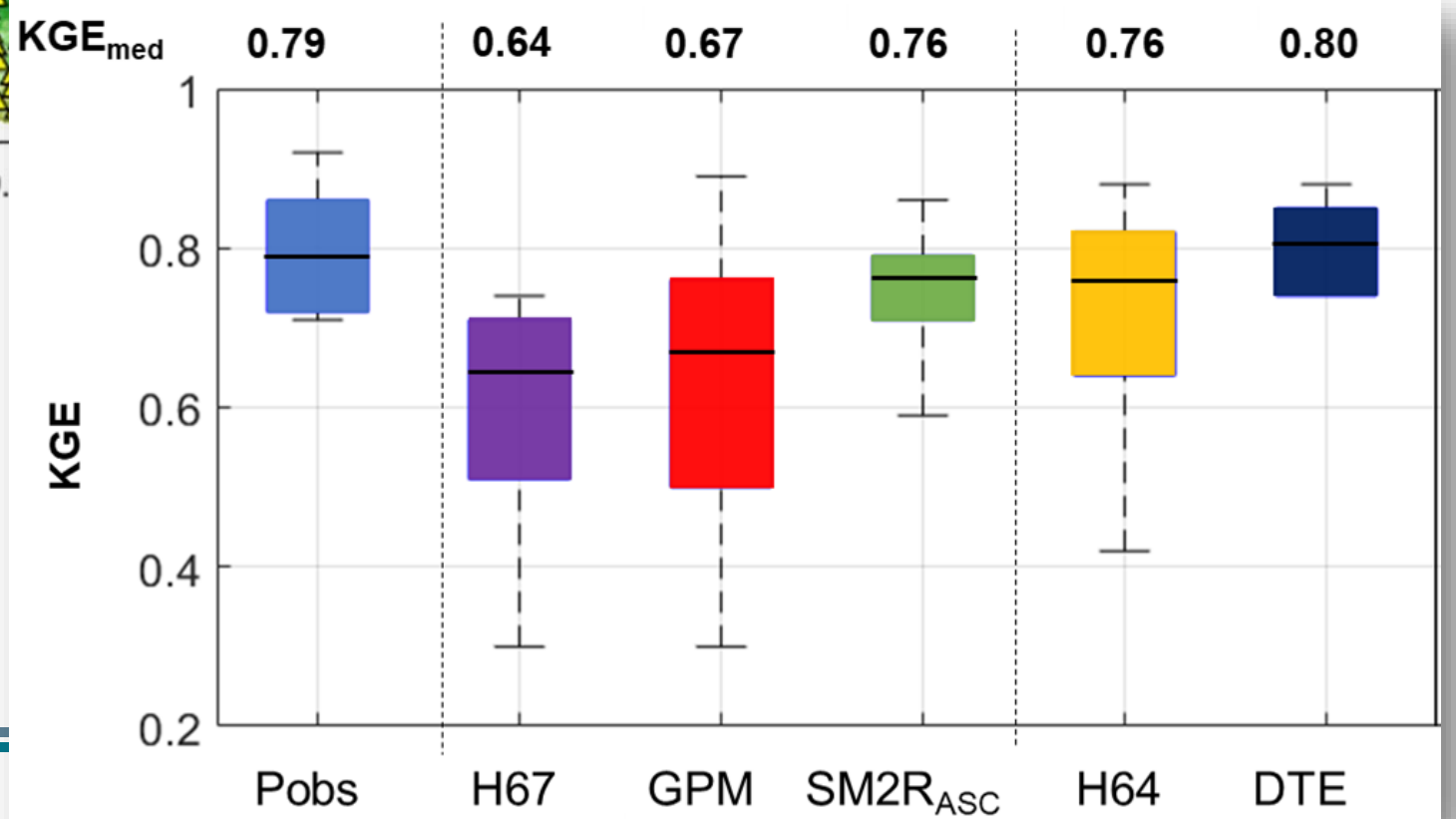
SM2RAIN parameters calibrated through the use of I121 CDR product considering ERA5 rainfall as benchmark during the period 2007-2023



Product ID	Product Acronym	Product Type	Coverage	Spatial resolution	Temporal Resolution	Note
H64	P-AC-SM2R-PMW	Precipitation/Soil Moisture integrated product	Extended H SAF area (LAT 60°S – 75°N, LON 60°W – 60°E)	0.25°	Daily	Fully operational @ H SAF
H79	P-AC-SM2R-PMW	Precipitation/Soil Moisture integrated product	Global	0.25°	Daily	Extension of H64 on a global scale
H84	P-AC-SM2R-PMW-L	Gauge adjusted Precipitation/Soil Moisture integrated product	Global	0.25°	Daily	Gauge-corrected product with GPCC observations
H75	P-AC-SCA-SM2R	Soil Moisture-based product (SM2RAIN) for EPS-SG SCA	Global	6.25 km	Daily	Higher resolution Better accuracy
H87	P-AC-SM2R-DR	SM2RAIN-only rainfall product	Global	0.1°	Daily – updated weekly	Since 2007 – Available soon
Hxx	P-AC-SM2R	SM2RAIN-only nrt	Extended H SAF area (LAT 60°S – 75°N, LON 60°W – 60°E) – Global	0.1°	Daily	NRT product fully consistent with DR Available soon

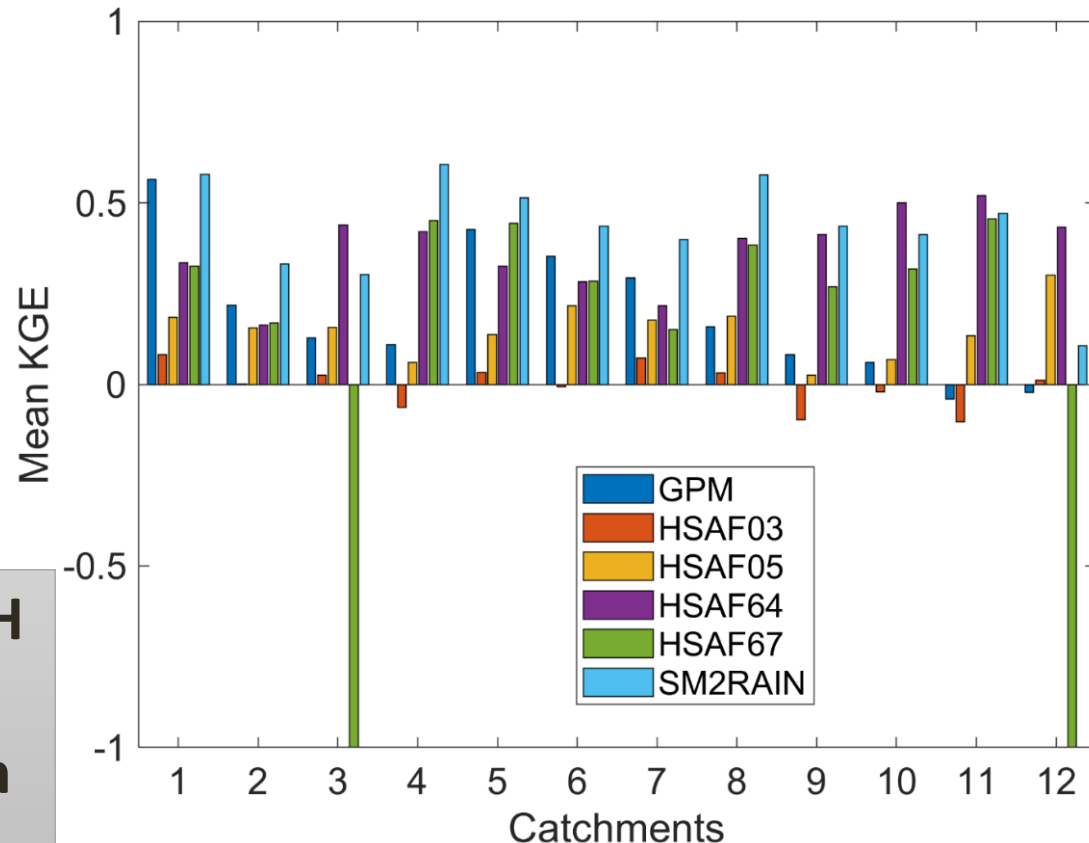
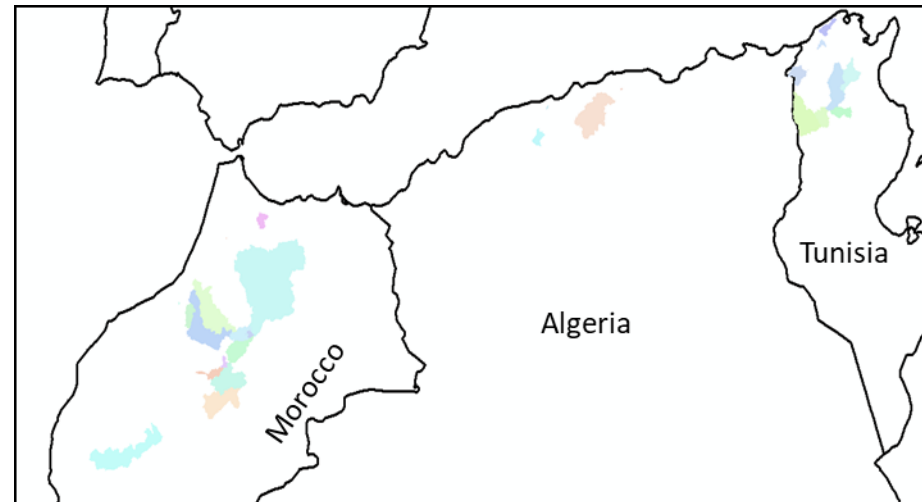
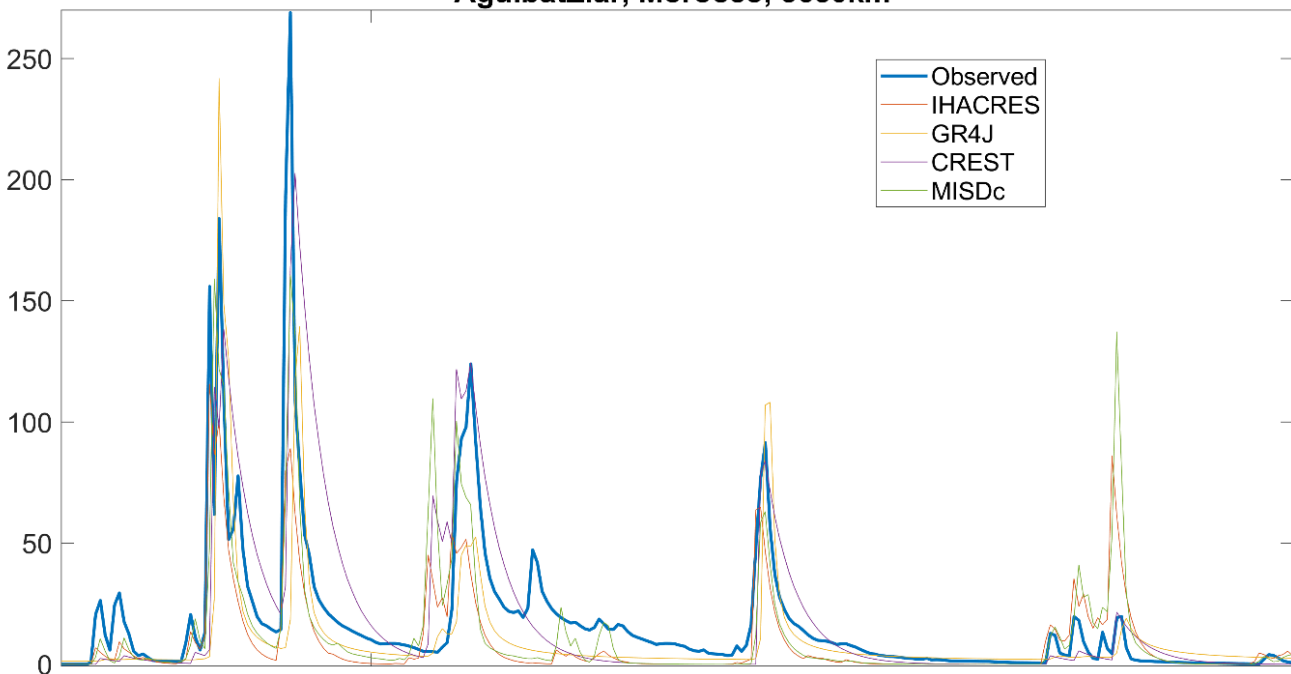


In a very densely gauged basins (642 stations/70000 km²), satellite rainfall data provide useful information for hydrological prediction



FLOOD PREDICTION IN NORTH AFRICA

AguibatZiar, Morocco, 3650km²

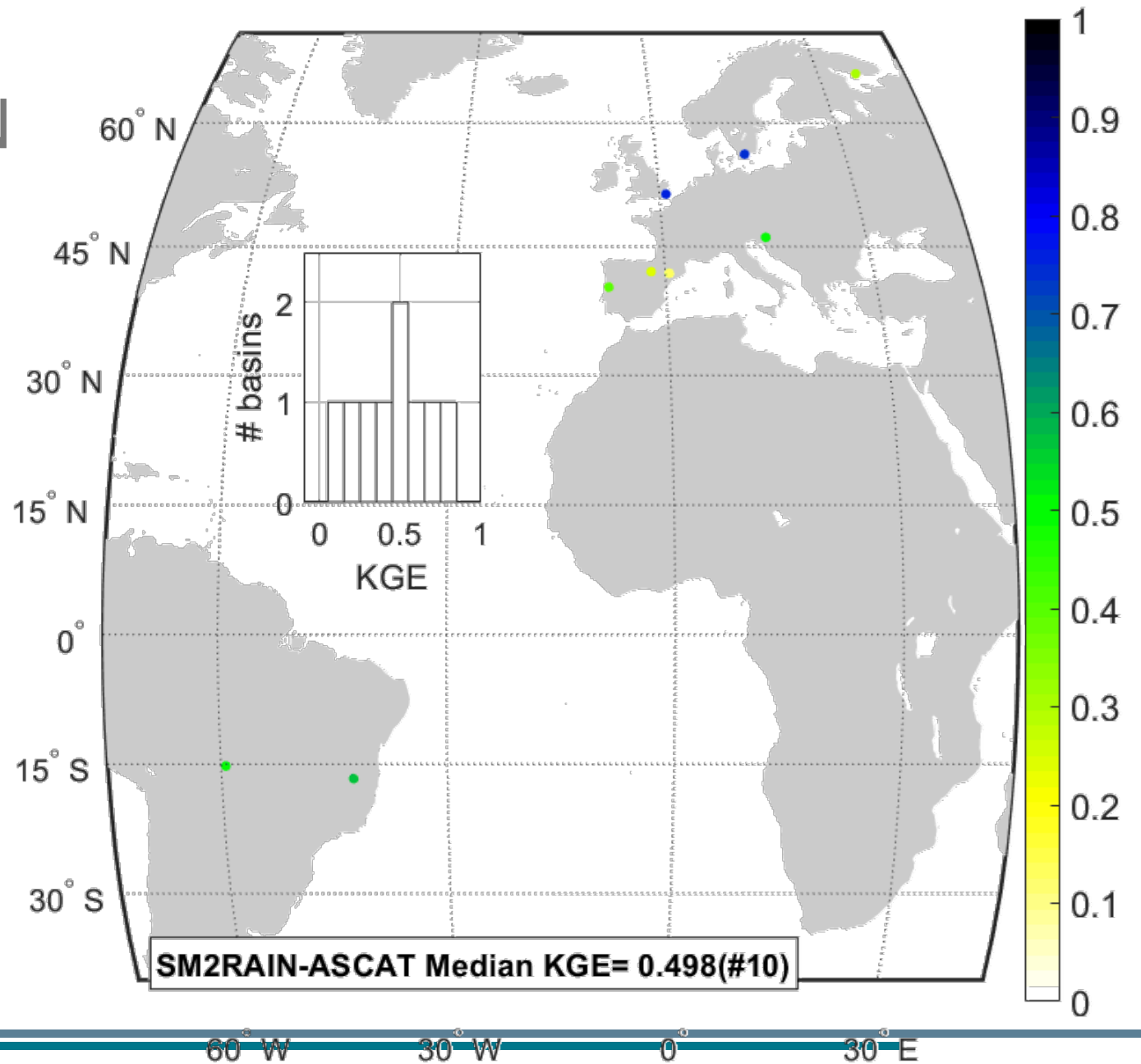


Tramblay et al. 2023 (HSJ)

During an H SAF visiting scientist activity, different H SAF precipitation products were tested in 12 basins in northern Africa highlighting their good prediction capabilities in most of the basins.

SATELLITE PRECIPITATION FOR FLOOD PREDICTION

Integration of rainfall obtained from satellite soil moisture measurements with state-of-the-art rainfall observations allows significant improvement in flood forecasting. A total of 2273 basins were analysed on a global scale with good results particularly in south Brazil, west Africa, and in the Mediterranean region.



Camici et al (2018 JoH; 2020 HESS)
Brocca et al (2020 SREP); Almagro et al (2021 JoH)

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Satellite soil moisture data can be used with benefits for rainfall estimation

H SAF is providing operational rainfall products derived through SM observations that are characterized by good skills in hydrological applications

The availability of long term SM dataset will allow the generation of a global rainfall dataset

The availability of the data in NRT will also allow to release rainfall estimates with low latency ready to be used operationally



<http://hsaf.meteoam.it/>



[@HydroSAF](https://twitter.com/HydroSAF)



<https://github.com/H-SAF>

Thank you very much for your attention



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