



# Satellite operational products for precipitation, soil moisture and snow: applications and case studies



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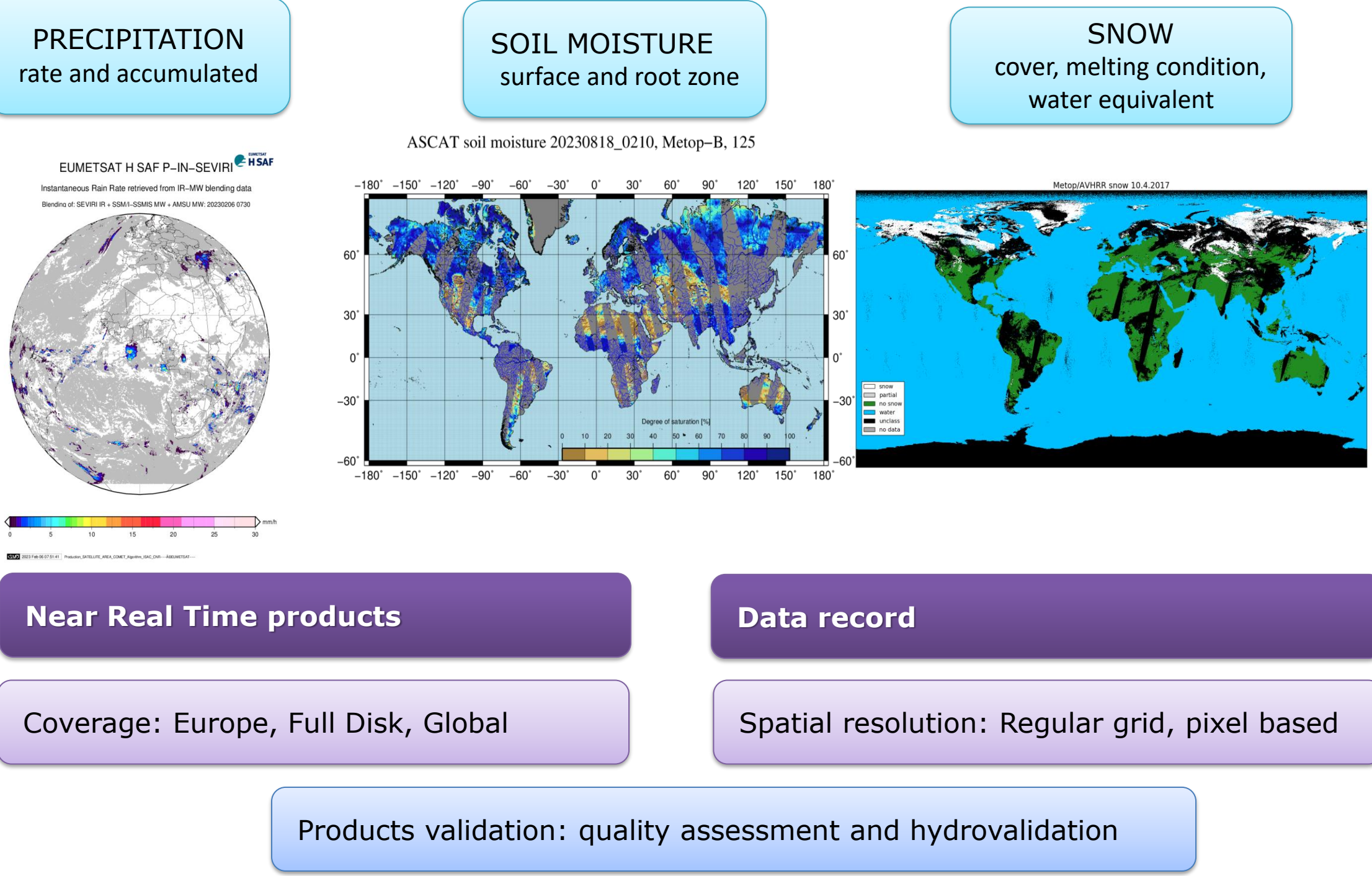
The EUMETSAT Satellite Application Facility on Support to Operational Hydrology and Water Management (H SAF) provides quality checked real time products to satisfy the need of operational hydrology and water resources management. The H SAF portfolio includes more than twenty operational products for snow, precipitation, and soil moisture, obtained through the use of different approaches and satellite sensors offering the users data characterized by high temporal and spatial resolution. Data format as well as the computational and storage needs sometimes could limit the use of satellite observations, especially for operational purposes and for less experienced users.

With the aim of boosting the use of the developed products and the involvement of the users within the project framework, H SAF started the last Continuous Development and Operational Phase (CDOP-4) with a dedicate cluster to "Product Usage and User Outreach" activities. One of the main goals of this new Cluster is to provide users with support and tools for product handling and usage for specific applications.

Recently, the data access tools for some precipitation products, the daily precipitation on a regular grid (at 0.25° x 0.25°), the instantaneous and accumulated precipitation on pixel based for the MSG full Disk in near real time (every 15 minutes) namely P-AC-SM2RAIN (H64), P-IN-SEVIRI-PMW (H60) and P-AC-SEVIRI-PMW (H61) respectively, have been developed and tested in real case studies.

The tools allow to download and tailor the data over the study area for a specific period indicated by the user. The code allows to draw figures and to produce a netCDF file that stores the subset of data for further analysis. The proposed approach will allow the user to save coding time, storage resources and to grant easy and fast access to the data also to the practitioners with less experience in data format and programming language. It is planned to expand and harmonize the portfolio of this type of script to also facilitate access to H SAF snow and soil moisture.

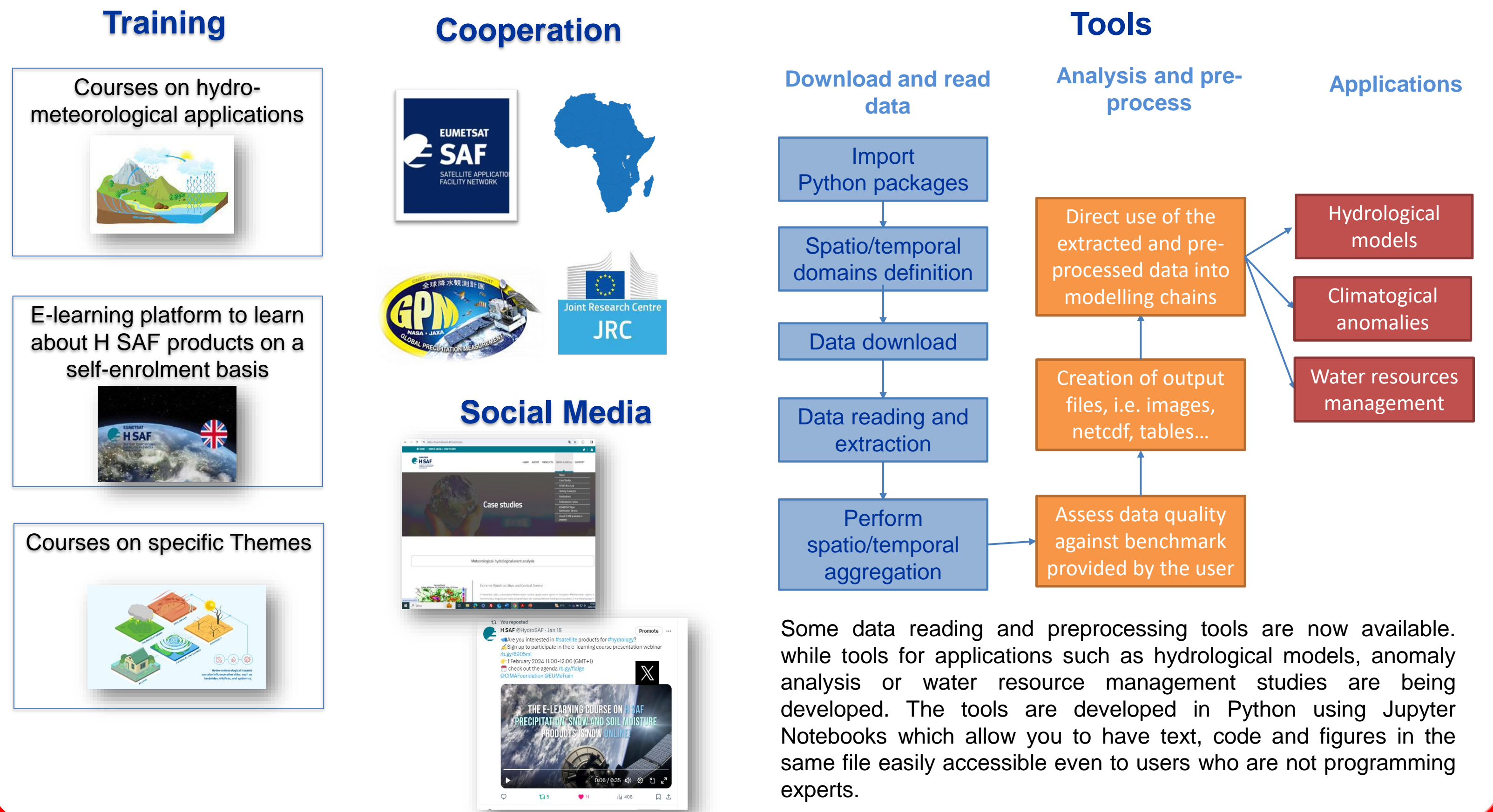
## H SAF OPERATIONAL PRODUCTS



To find out more about the H SAF



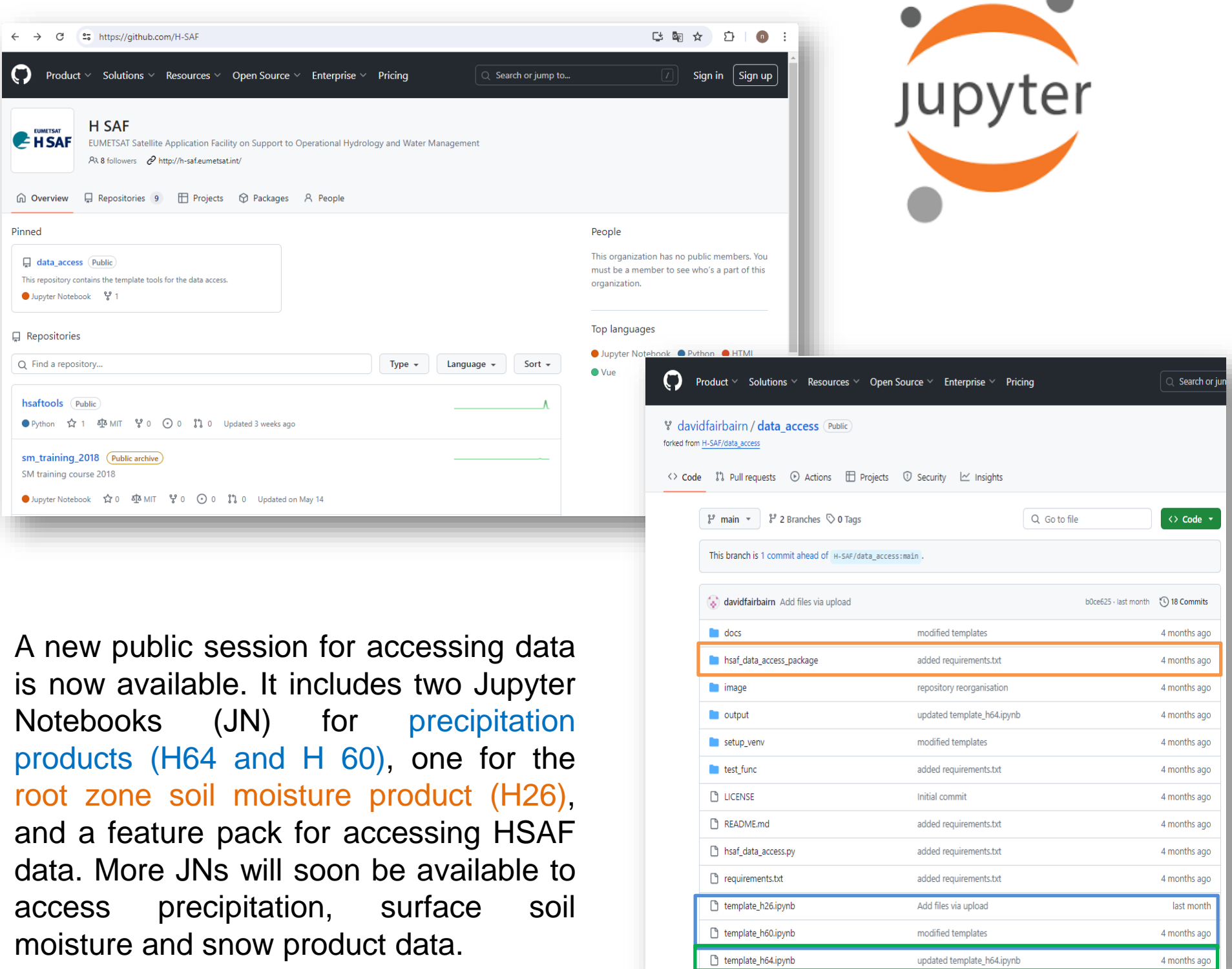
## PRODUCTS USAGE AND USERS OUTREACH



Some data reading and preprocessing tools are now available, while tools for applications such as hydrological models, anomaly analysis or water resource management studies are being developed. The tools are developed in Python using Jupyter Notebooks which allow you to have text, code and figures in the same file easily accessible even to users who are not programming experts.

## H SAF DATA ACCESS TOOLS

### Github repository



A new public session for accessing data is now available. It includes two Jupyter Notebooks (JN) for precipitation products (H64 and H 60), one for the root zone soil moisture product (H26), and a feature pack for accessing HSAF data. More JNs will soon be available to access precipitation, surface soil moisture and snow product data.

### Precipitation Jupyter Notebooks

A notebook for Precipitation/Soil Moisture Integrated product (H64) rainfall product:

- Mainly focused on case studies;
- Download and extract data according to user requirement;
- Create output maps and store data in a netCDF file to be downloaded

Study area, period and working directory definition

The access credentials to the ftp server are generated after registration on [hsaf.meteoam.it](https://hsaf.meteoam.it)

✓ Data download  
✓ Data reading  
✓ Figures creation

✓ Plot saving  
✓ Creation of a netCDF file with the tailored data for further analysis

H64 is the gridded daily precipitation obtained by merging soil moisture-derived rainfall with Passive Microwave (PMW) rainfall estimates.

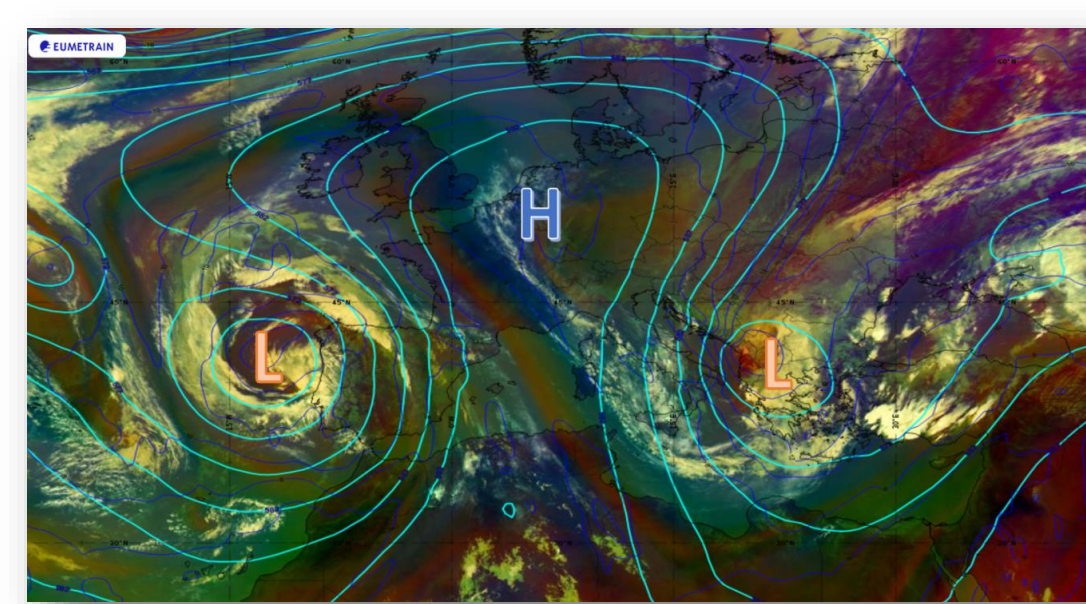
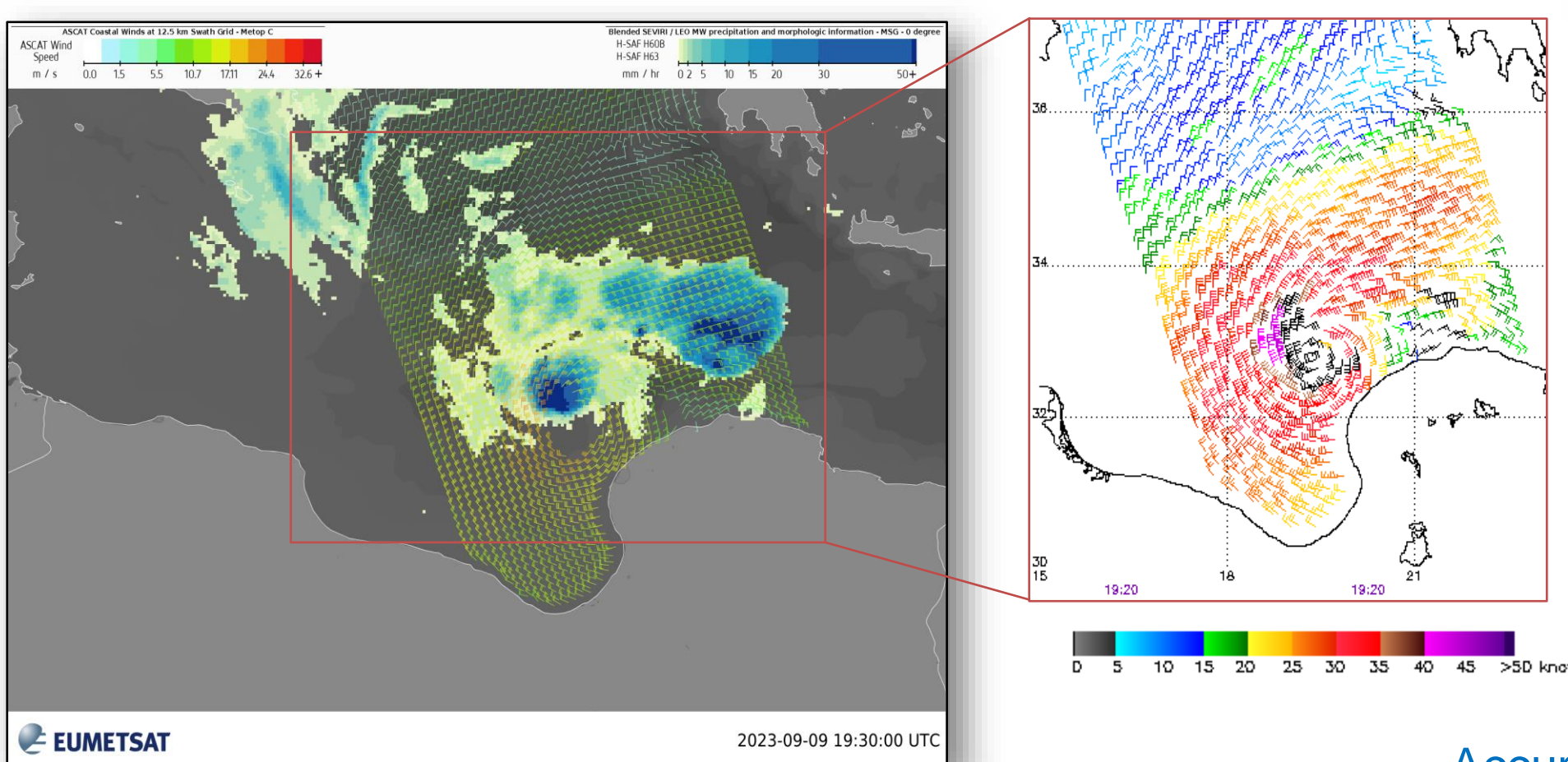
The JN for the precipitation product (daily cumulative) obtained from the soil moisture on the regular grid. It downloads the data and displays the daily maps for the chosen period. The figure shows the flash flood in the Marche region that occurred in September 2022.

## PRODUCT APPLICATION

### Mediterranean cyclone – Daniel 2023

In September 2023, a very intense Mediterranean cyclone caused severe floodings in the eastern Mediterranean regions. It first hit Greece, Bulgaria and Turkey bringing heavy rain and causing extensive flooding and casualties. In the following days it intensified over the Ionian Sea, moving towards the Libyan coast with very intense precipitation. In the coastal city of Derna two dams collapsed causing over 11,000 victims.

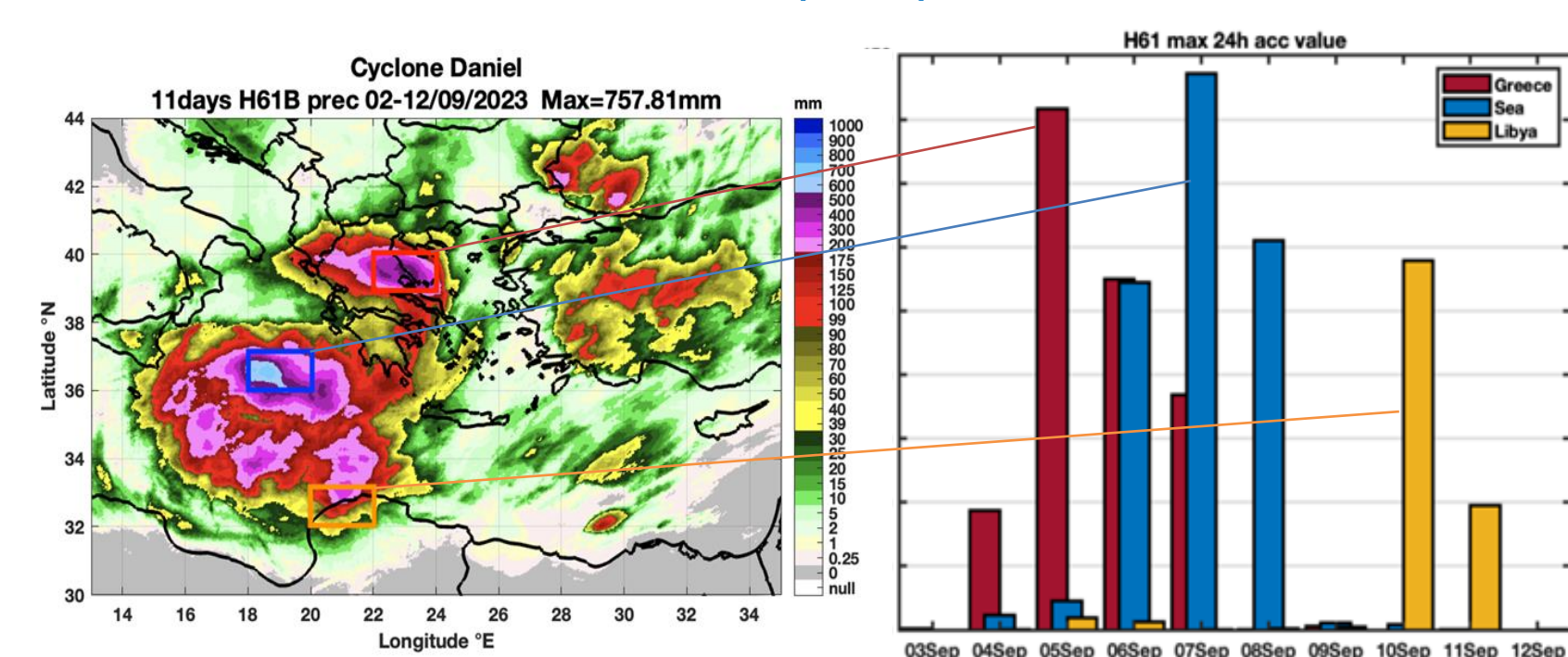
#### Costal wind and Instantaneous precipitation



Air mass and geopotential at 500 hPa

Exceeding the 34 kt threshold, Daniel has intensified to Storm category, due to the strong diabatic forcing over the very warm waters of the southern Mediterranean

#### Accumulated precipitation



**3-5 September**  
Accumulated precipitation estimated by satellites was mainly located in the Peloponnesus area, exceeding 500 mm.  
**6-8 September**  
Precipitation fell in the Ionian Sea, reaching the maximum for the entire event (over 730mm).  
**9-11 September**  
The cyclone affected the Libyan coast: an anomalous amount of rainfall with a daily peak of 294 mm.

### 07 September 2023 Daniel Cyclone: 24-h of accumulated precipitation estimated by H61

H61 is the accumulated Precipitation at ground by blended MW and IR. Available hourly and 24- hours at 00:00-06:00-12:00

A similar JN is available for the data reading of H60 and H61 rainfall products. The script shared the same characteristics with the one developed for H64