

Evaluating remote sensing methods of solar irradiance methods under the consideration of cloud variability.

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IEA PVPS Task 16 Meeting September 2021



DLR Institute of Networked Energy Systems

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Knowledge for Tomorrow



Content

- Introduction: new generation of satellites and cloud variability
- Background on CAMS Radiation scheme
- Evaluating improvements in CAMS scheme in traditional manner
- Evaluating with variability classes
- Evaluation with ground based COD and cloud duration
- Conclusions and Outlook



New Capabilities Satellite MTG satellite (fulldisk)

	MSG	MTG
Temporal resolution	15 min.	10 min.
Spatial resolution nadir full disk	3 km x 3 km	0.5 km x 0.5 km/ 1 km x 1km

Similar or better resolutions for Himwari and GOES



Steps forward with MTG

**Clouds in most
remote sensing
models:**



Real clouds:

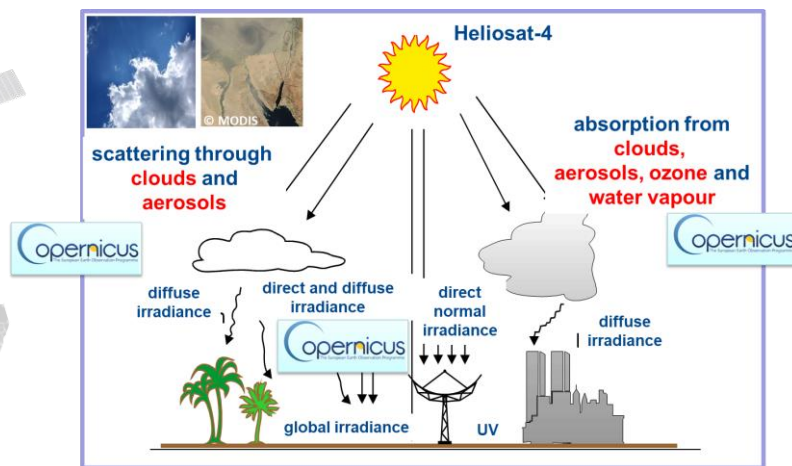
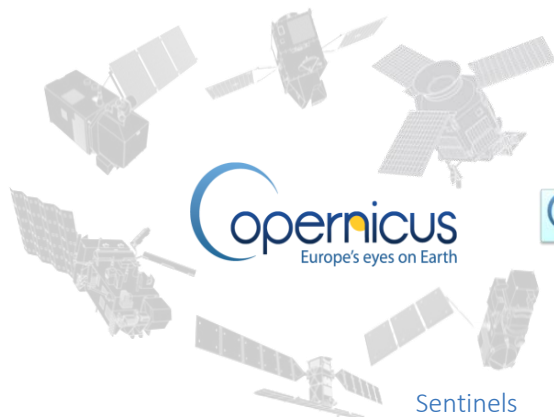


→ Even with improved temporal and spatial resolution it will not be possible to give an accurate detailed description of individual clouds. Identifying cloud states by variability is the next best thing



Case study: Method Development for EU's Solar Radiation Services

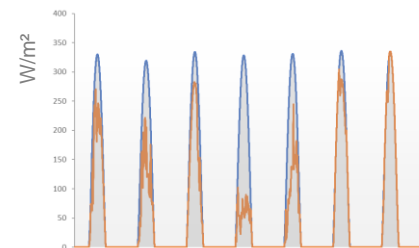
CAMS is the EU's **Copernicus Atmospheric Monitoring Service Programme**



clouds from satellite
 aerosols, H₂O, O₃ from model

↓ ↓

New: APOLLO_NG & circumsolar treatment



cloud free irradiance
 global horizontal irradiance

The **CAMS Radiation Service** is provided by



Qu et al., Contrib. Atm. Phys., 2017; Lefèvre et al., AMT, 2013;
 Gschwind et al., Contrib. Atm. Phys., 2019;
 Schroedter-Homscheidt et al., Contrib. Atm. Phys. In prep.



Changes in CAMS cloud scheme

CAMS 3.2	CAMS 4.0
Uses reflectance values as given by EUMETSAT	Variable calibration correction based on Meirink et al. 2013
Deterministic cloud mask based on Kriebel et al. 1988/1989	Probabilistic cloud mask from Klüser et al. 2015
COD from Stephens scheme, $0 < \text{COD} < 0.5$ clipped at 0.5	Stephens scheme extrapolated down to zero
Single COD value	Empirical apparent COD modification factor for DNI calculations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.41 for optical thin ice clouds • 0.20 for water/mixed phase clouds Implicitly corrects for circumsolar irradiance and broken clouds
Bias correction of irradiance with empirical multiplication factor (uncorrected irradiance available in expert mode)	Retrained Bias correction (uncorrected irradiance available in expert mode)



General validation of improvements: GHI

Study design:

GHI (Global horizontal irradiation)

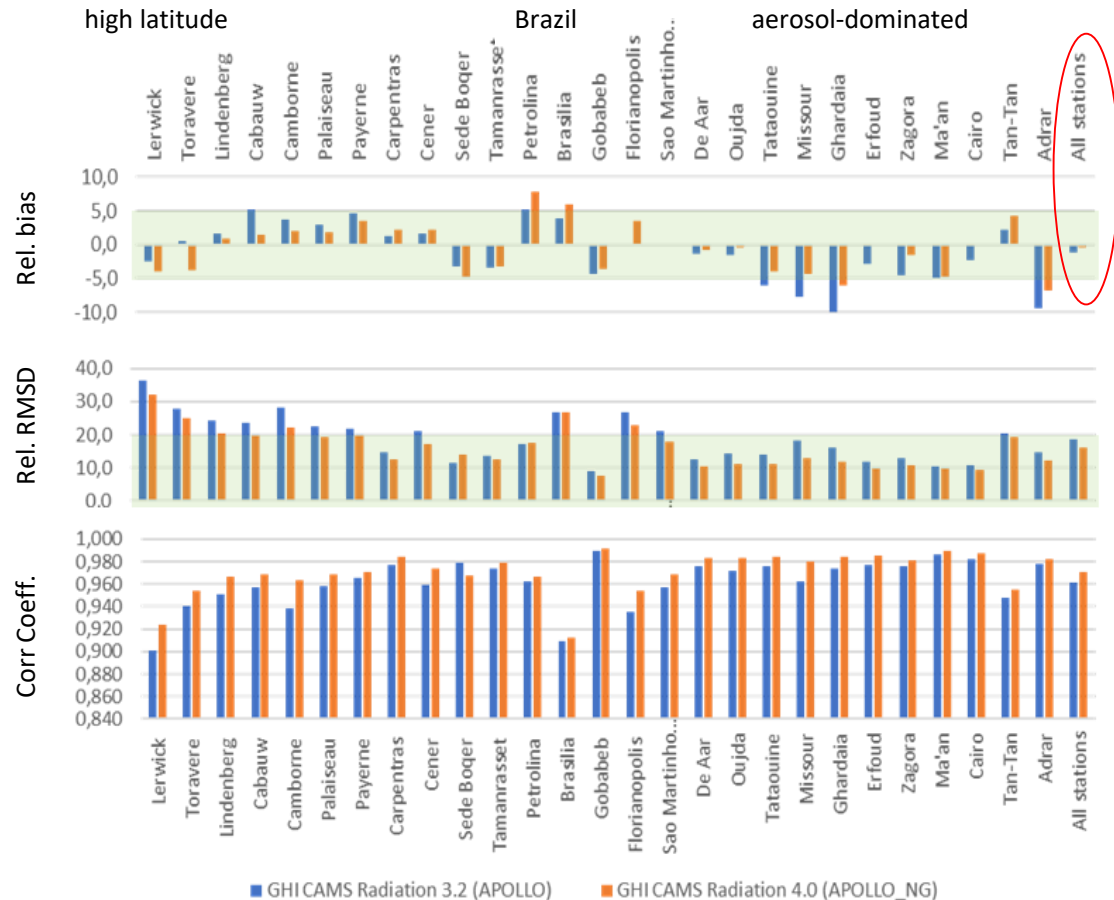
hourly evaluation; 2004 to 2020

CAMS operational v3.2 (old)

CAMS operational v4.0 (online)

Note: Bias correction method as originally developed for v3.2 was updated for v4.0, but is now nearly passive for GHI.

Thanks to BSRN & EnerMENA station teams for providing their data.



Hourly GHI – rel. bias, rel. RMSE and correlation coefficient change from CRS 3.2 to CRS 4.0

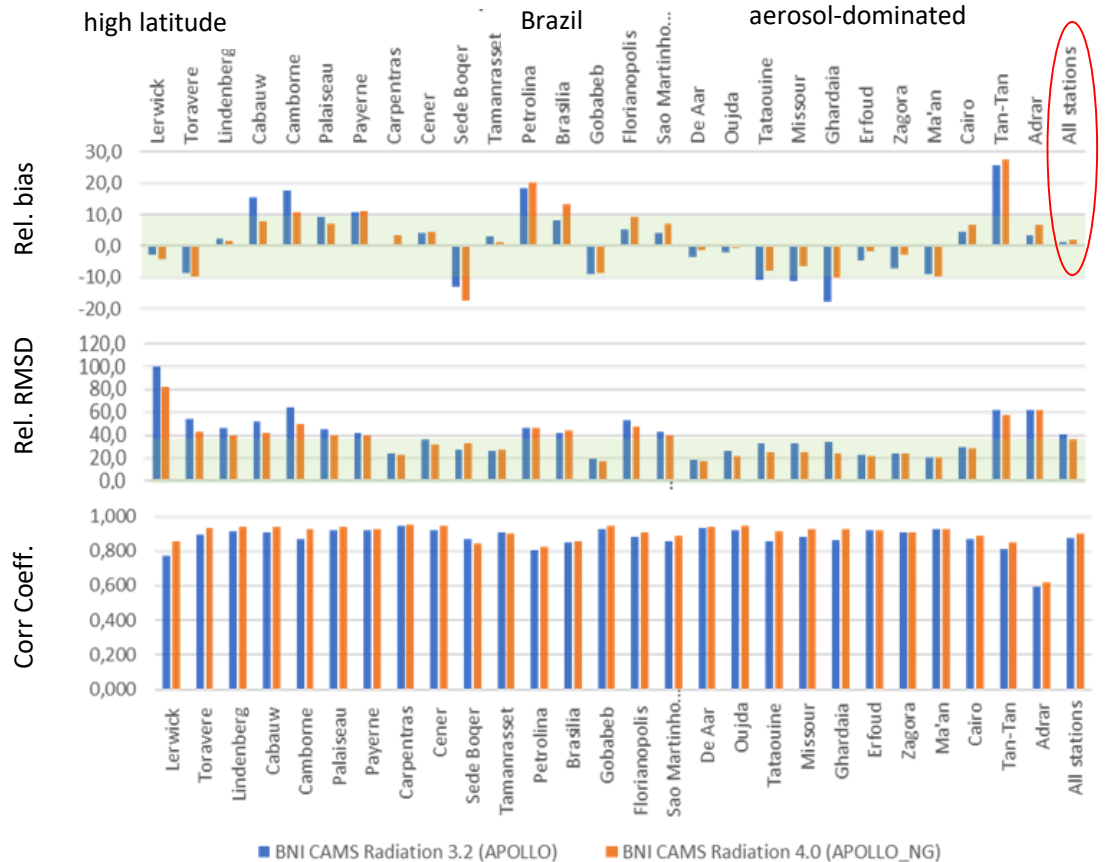


General validation of improvements: DNI

Study design:

BNI (beam normal irradiation)
 hourly evaluation; 2004 to 2020
 CAMS operational v3.2 (old)
 CAMS operational v4.0 (online)

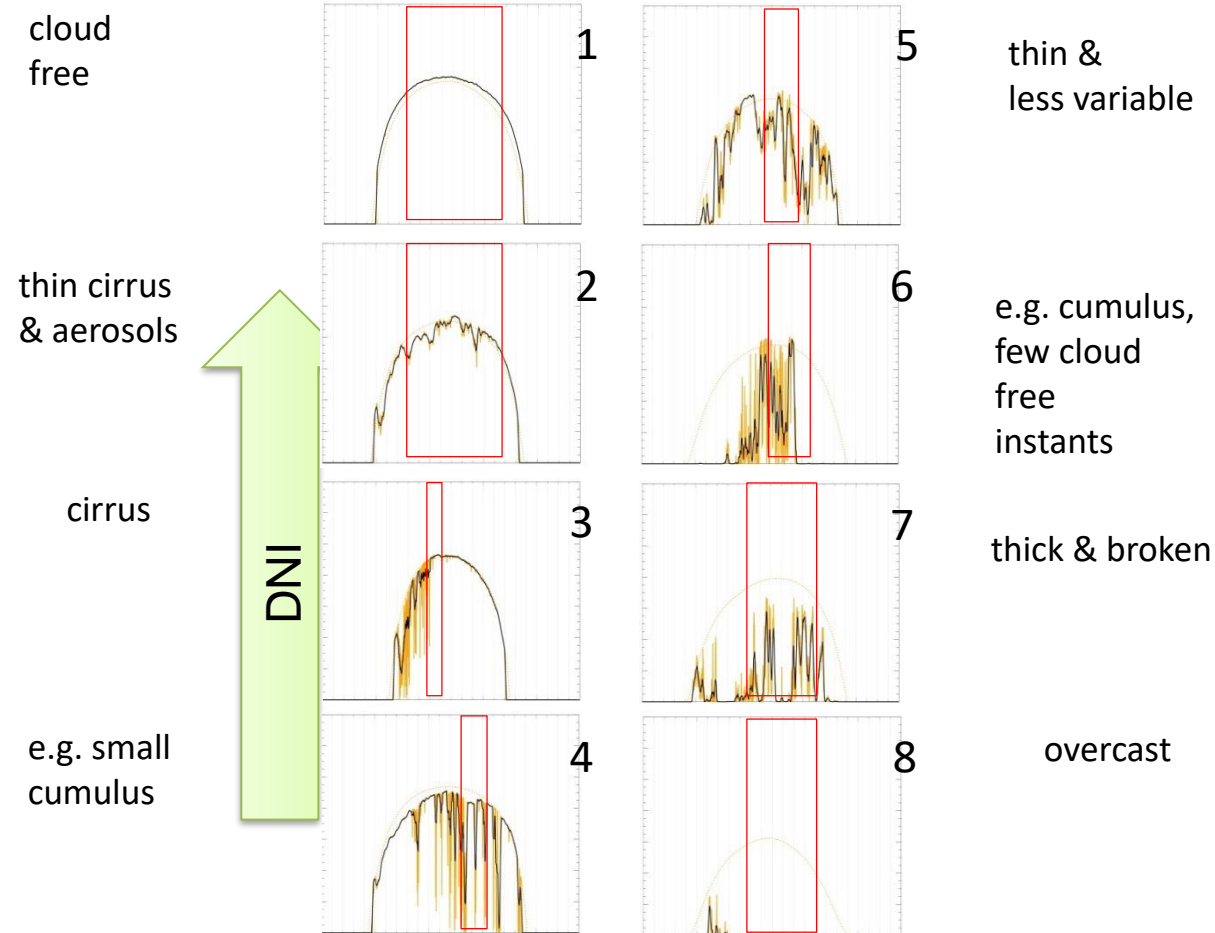
Thanks to BSRN & EnerMENA
 station teams
 for providing their data.



Hourly BNI – rel. bias, rel. RMSE and correlation coefficient
 change from CRS 3.2 to CRS 4.0



Ground based variability classes



- 8 variability classes defined by typical direct irradiance patterns
- Automatic classification possible from ground-based direct irradiance time series, sky cameras, and SEVIRI cloud mask structure parameters

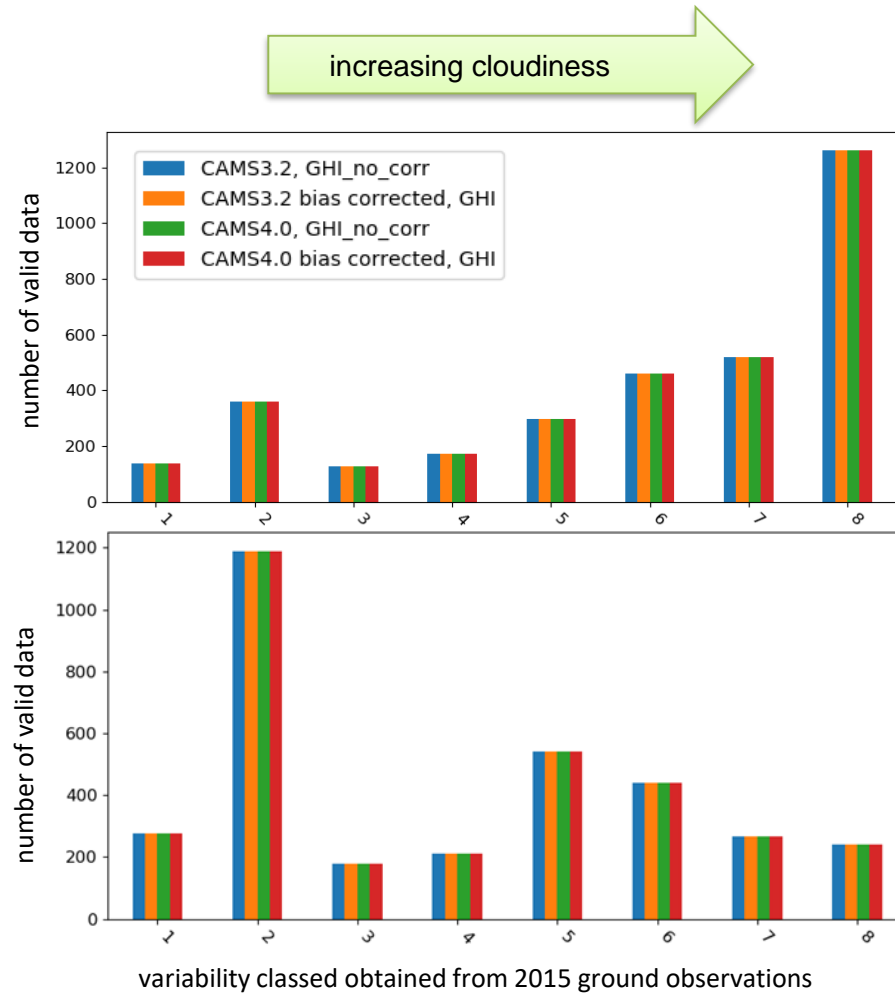
Schroedter-Homscheidt, et al.,
 Meteorol. Z.,
 DOI:10.1127/metz/2018/0875



Typical distribution of classes for two climate zones

Cabauw, Netherlands
BSRN station

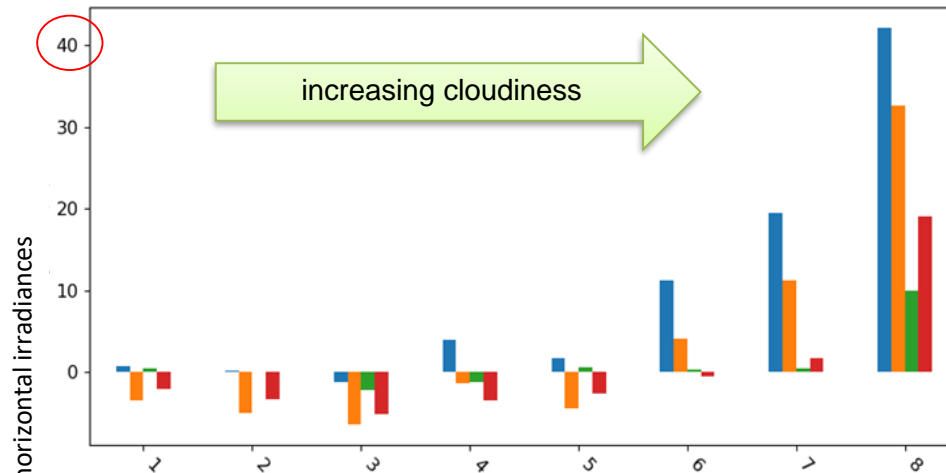
Cairo, Egypt
EnerMENA station



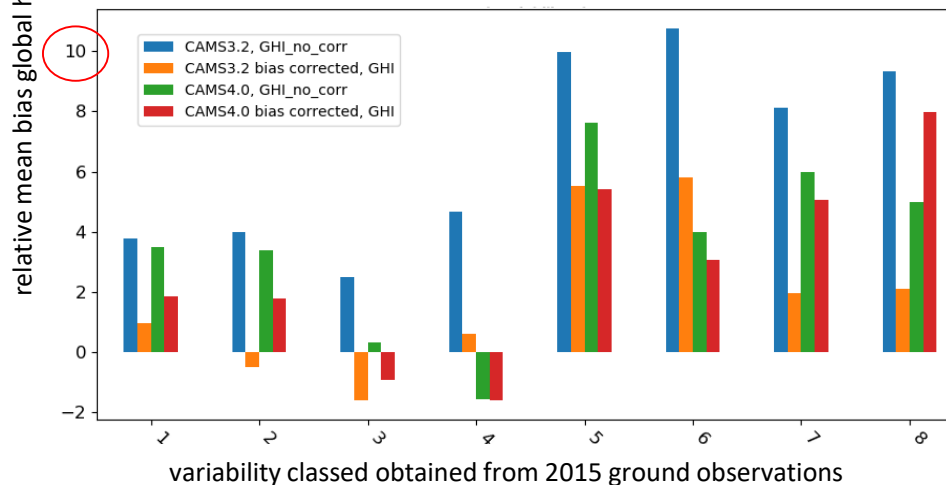
Variability dependent validation – relative mean biases

- 8 variability classes detected from ground-based 1 min direct irradiance observations
- Rel. biases CAMS v3.2 and v4.0 global horizontal irradiance
- With and without operational CAMS bias correction – trained globally with all data 2004-2020
- Bias correction V3.2: correcting cloudy cases & SEVIRI calibration; negative impact in clearer conditions in Cabauw
- Bias correction V4.0: correcting variable cloud conditions, less successful in clear & overcast conditions

Cabauw,
Netherlands
BSRN station



Cairo,
Egypt
EnerMENA
station

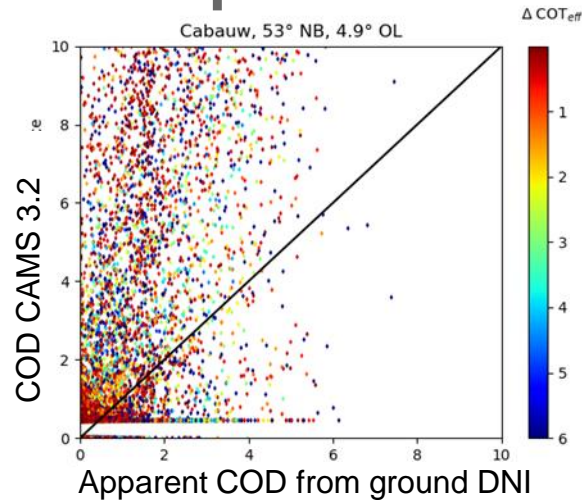


Directly assessing the COD using ground measured DNI

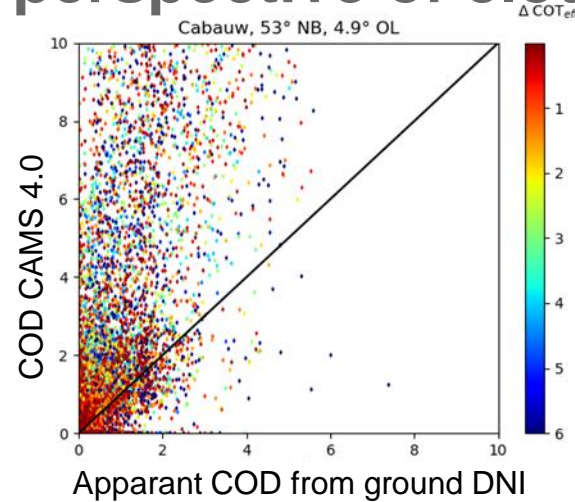
- $COD^{eff} = -\log \cos(\mu) \left(\frac{DNI^{meas}}{DNI_{clear}^{model}} \right)$ with μ : Solar zenith angle
- Limitations: only possible for $COD < 5$ to 8 (depending on SZA)
- Less suitable for cases of high atmospheric aerosol content
- Some interference by circumsolar radiation
- Temporal averaging mixes up clear sky, cloud interruptions and cloudy states
 - Need to identify total overcast states
 - Determining cloud duration from min and max values of minute DNI values, assuming binary states within the minute.



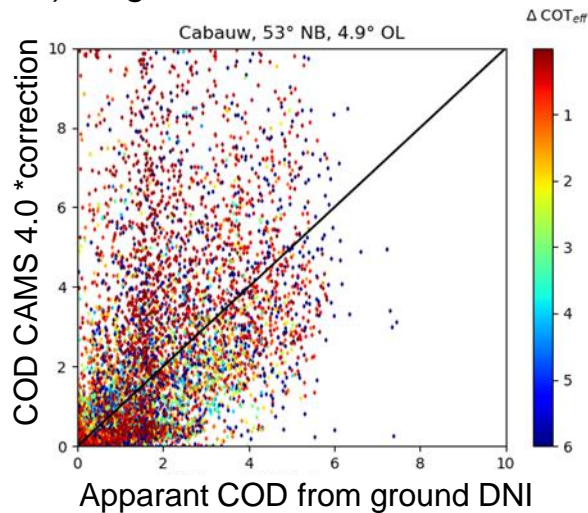
COD Improvements from perspective of cloud duration



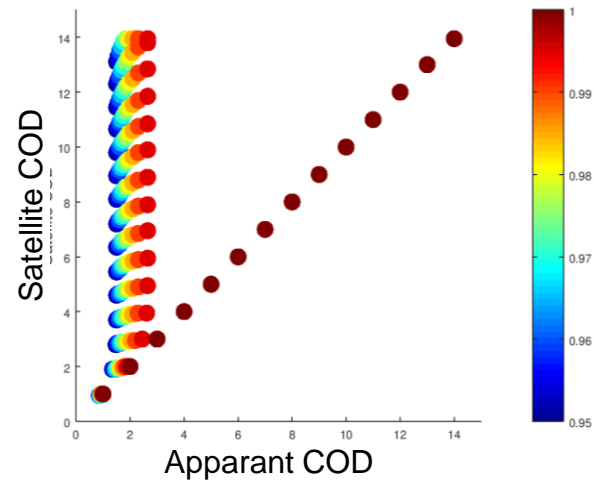
a) Original APOLLO Scheme



b) APOLLO NG Scheme



c) APOLLO NG Scheme *
Apparant COD correction



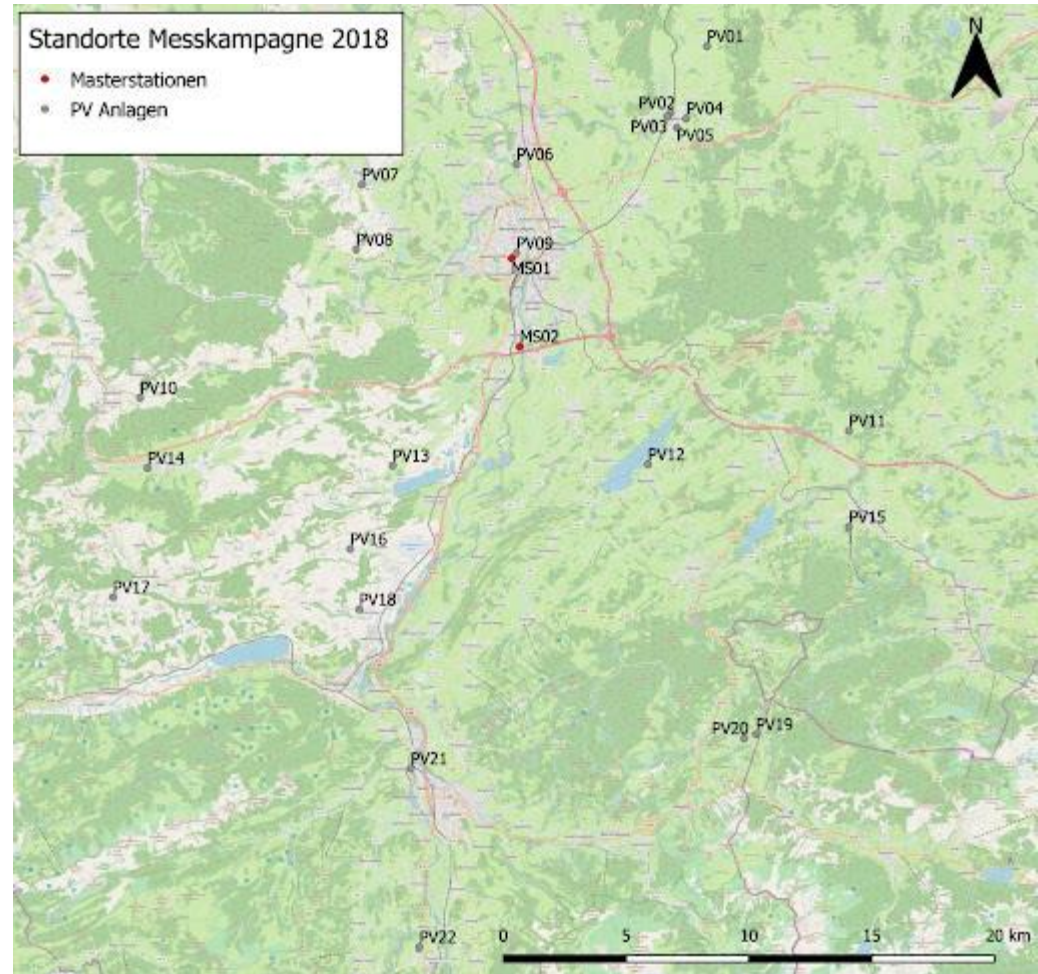
c) RTM calculation for interrupted clouds
(courtesy Antti Arola, FMI)

15 minute
resolution



MetPVNet Measurement Network

- 24 Measurement stations for GHI measurement
- Located in South of Germany near town of Kempten
- Area covers 4x4 satellite pixels
- Month long measurement campaigns in 2018 and 2019
- Data provided courtesy of TROPOS and Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg

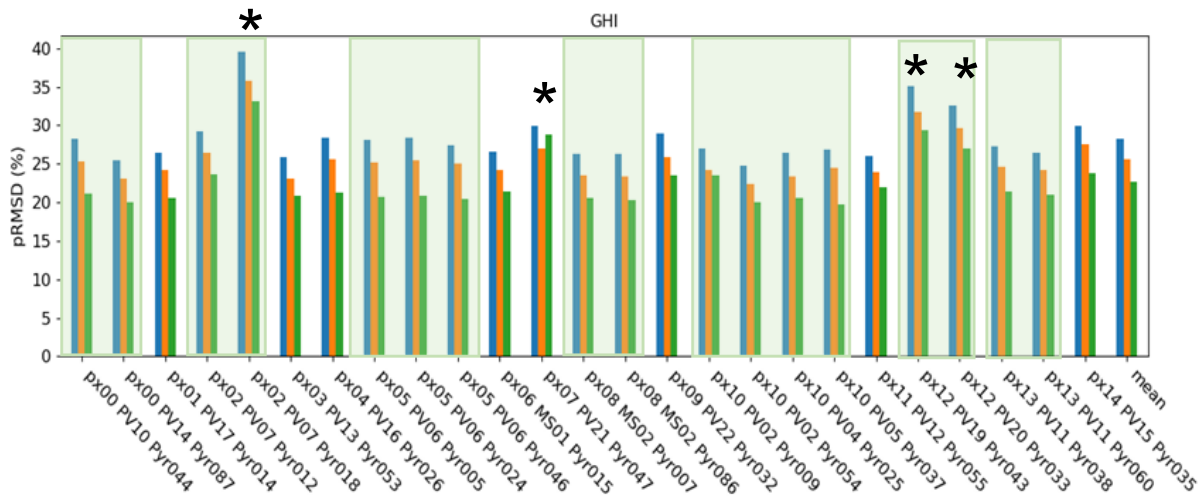


Hochschule
Bonn-Rhein-Sieg
University of Applied Sciences

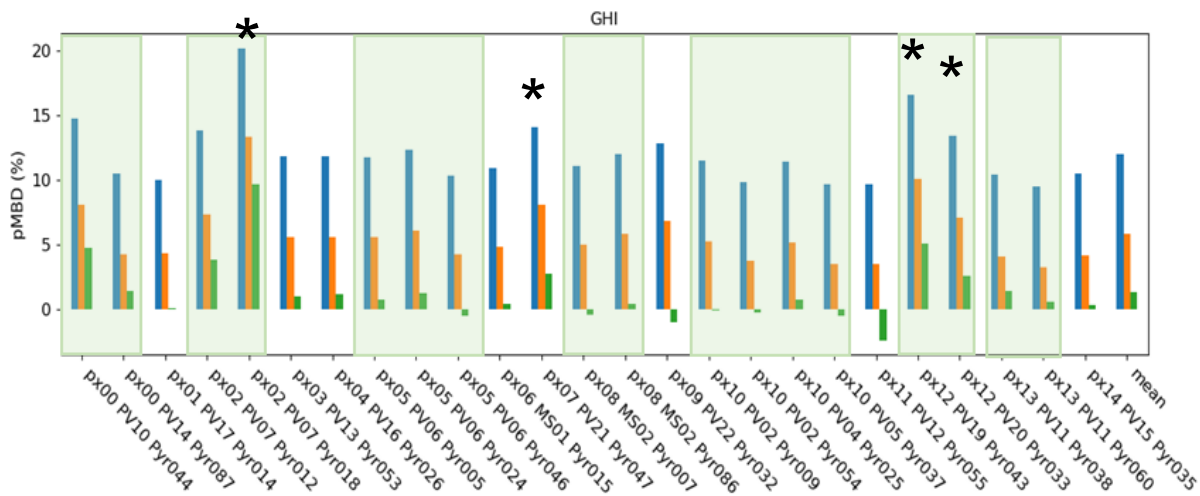


* reduced data availability

Spatial evaluation



- 35 days in June-Juli 2019
- Temporal resolution 15 minutes
- Differences in accuracy between pixels, but also within pixels:



→ shows limits to comparison of point measurement and spatial average



Conclusions and outlook

- The quality of the irradiance data of the CAMS-Rad service has improved significantly due to recent methodological changes.
- Analysing satellite based irradiance by means of variability classes, cloud duration and spatial distribution gives additional information on the performance of the satellite method under different cloud state conditions.
- It is expected that these analysis method will be useful in further development of satellite based remote sensing of irradiance



Acknowledgements

This work was supported by:

- the EU Copernicus program
- the sixth Energy Research Framework Program of the German Federal ministry for economic Affairs and Energy



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Special thanks to:

- The colleagues of Transvalors and ARMINES for providing the operational CAMS-RAD data
- The colleagues of TROPOS and Hochschule Bonn-Rheinland-Sieg for providing the METPVNET measurements
- Annti Arola of FMI for the RTM calculations

