



# Training event on Atmospheric Composition Data Exploitation.

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Day 2. Atmospheric Models

**IR0000032 – ITINERIS, Italian Integrated Environmental Research Infrastructures System**  
(D.D. n. 130/2022 - CUP B53C22002150006) Funded by EU - Next Generation EU PNRR-  
Mission 4 “Education and Research” - Component 2: “From research to business” - Investment  
3.1: “Fund for the realisation of an integrated system of research and innovation infrastructures”



*Training event on Atmospheric Composition Data Exploitation, 28-30 January 2025*

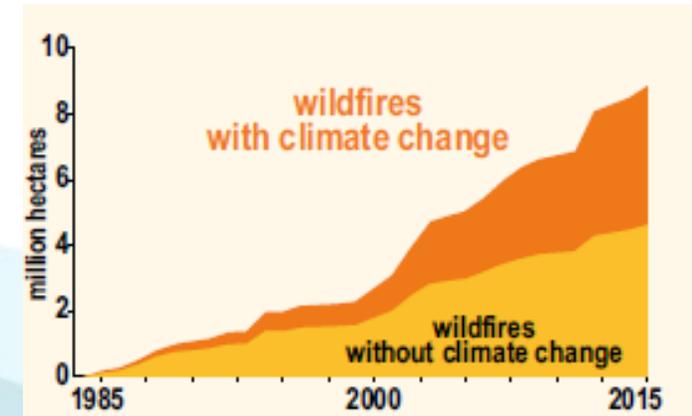
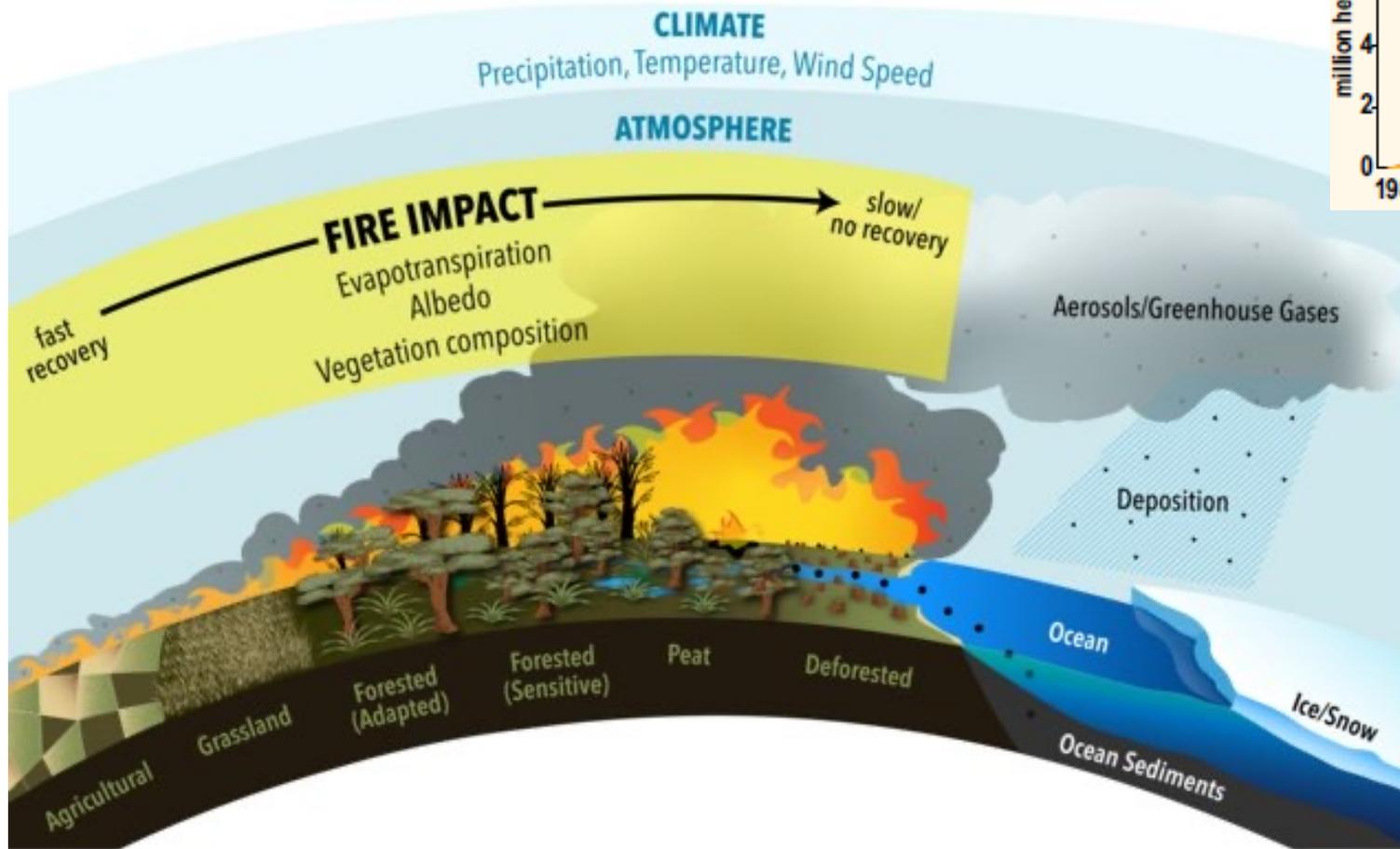
# Atmospheric Models: Basic concepts

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Science and Innovation Department



WORLD  
METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION

# Atmospheric Composition on the Global context: Wildfires



Lower emissions that would limit the global temperature increase to  $<2^{\circ}\text{C}$  would reduce projected increases of global burned area to 30% to 35% and **projected increases of fire frequency to ~20%**.

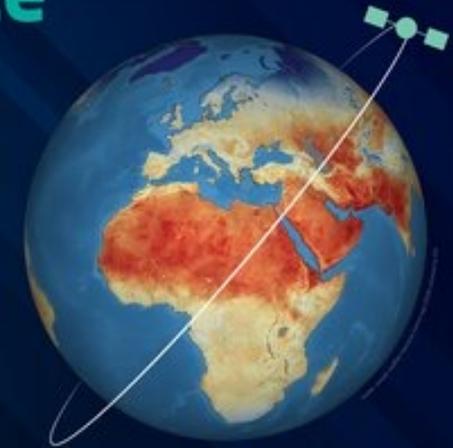
(IPCC, 2021)

(Lasslop et al., 2019)

# Weather versus Climate



The difference between weather and climate is a matter of time



## Weather

refers to short-term changes in the atmosphere. It can change minute-to-minute, hour-to-hour and day-to-day

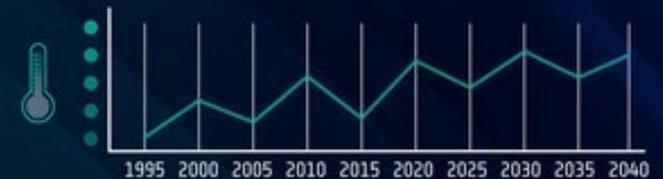


## Climate

describes the average weather conditions in a specific area over a long period of time – 30 years or more



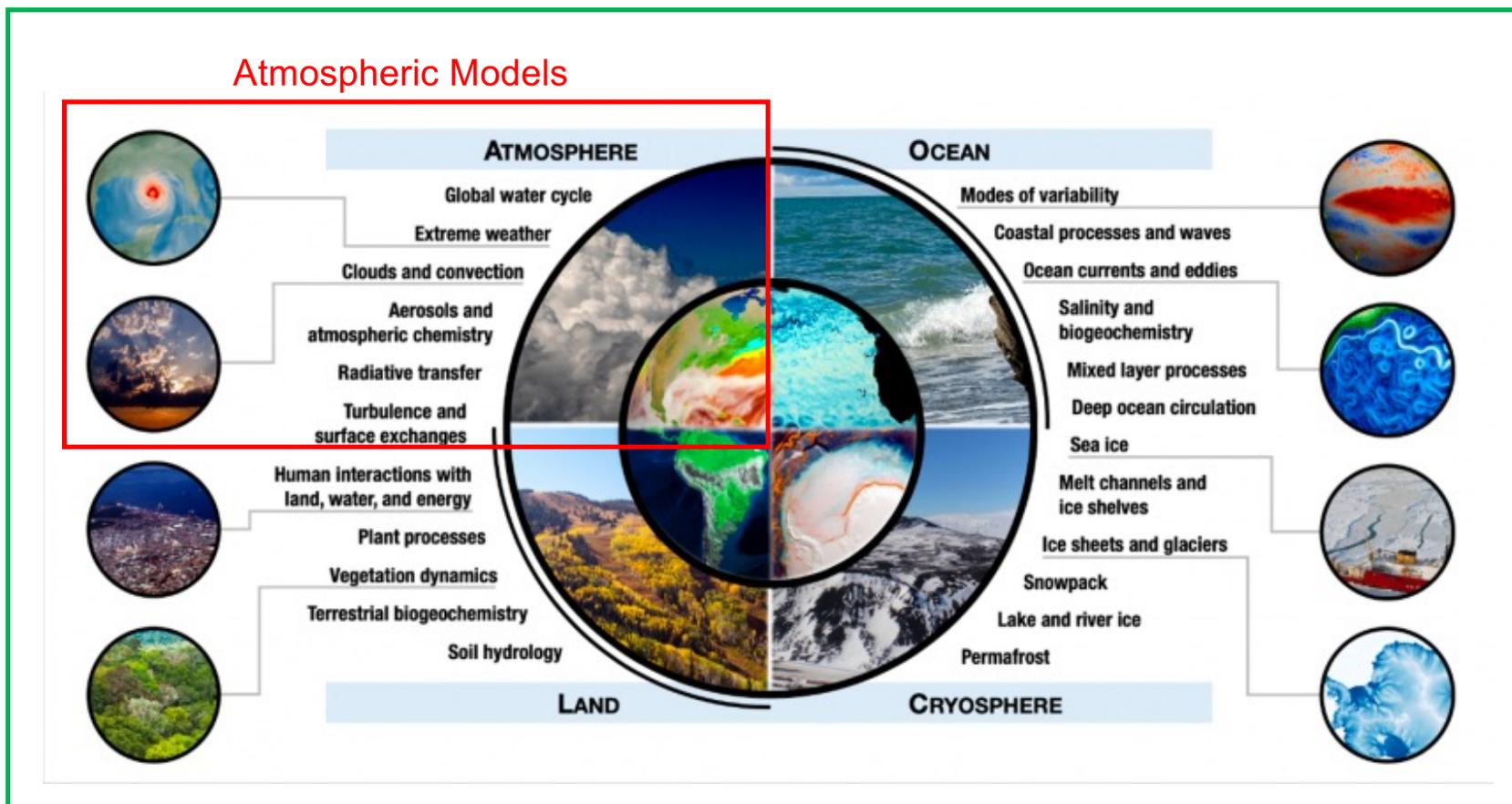
Satellites measure several aspects of Earth's weather as well as provide essential data over decades to monitor how our climate is changing



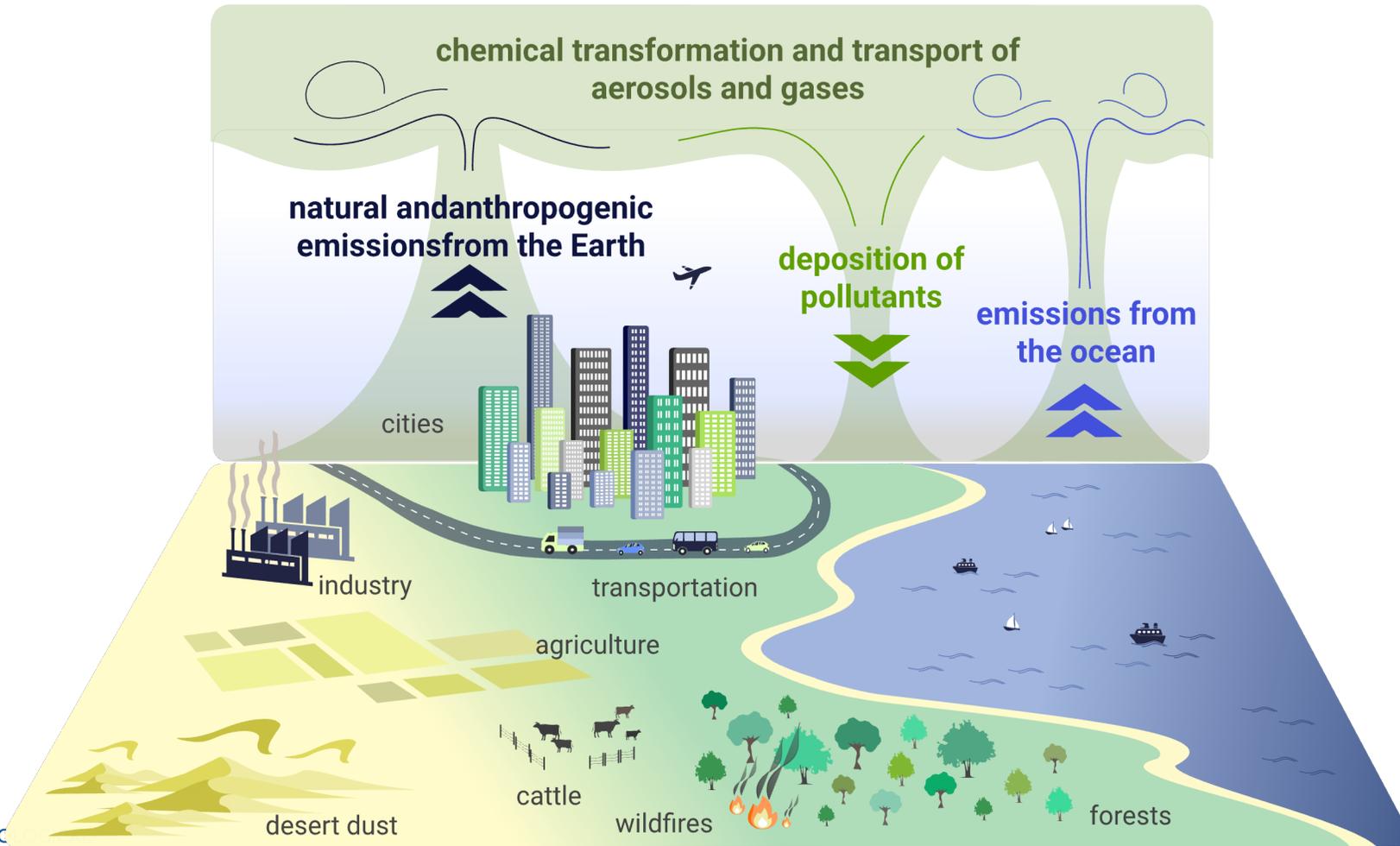
For more information, visit space for our climate:  
[www.esa.int/climate](http://www.esa.int/climate)

# Model types

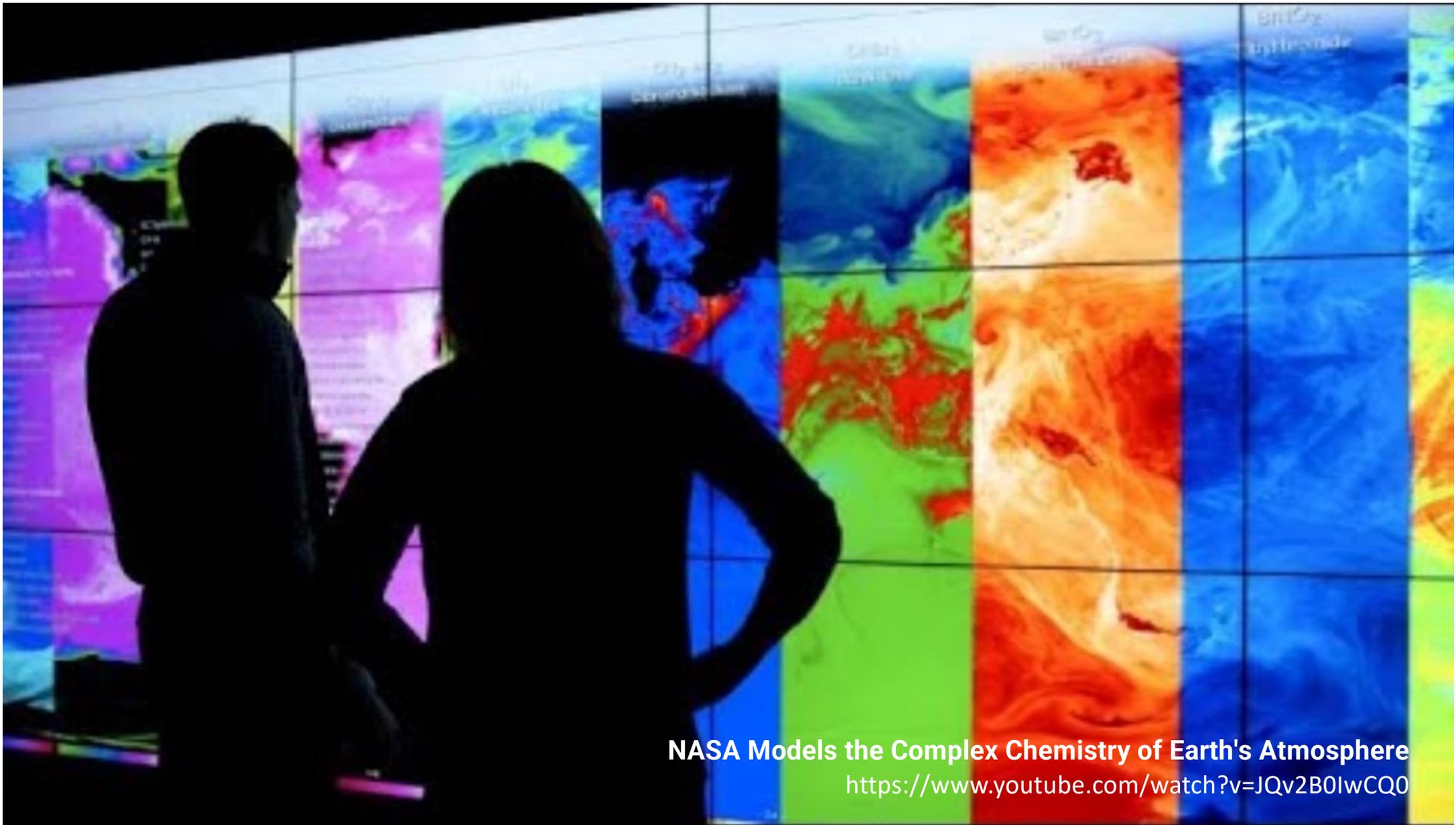
## Climate Models



# Atmospheric Composition models

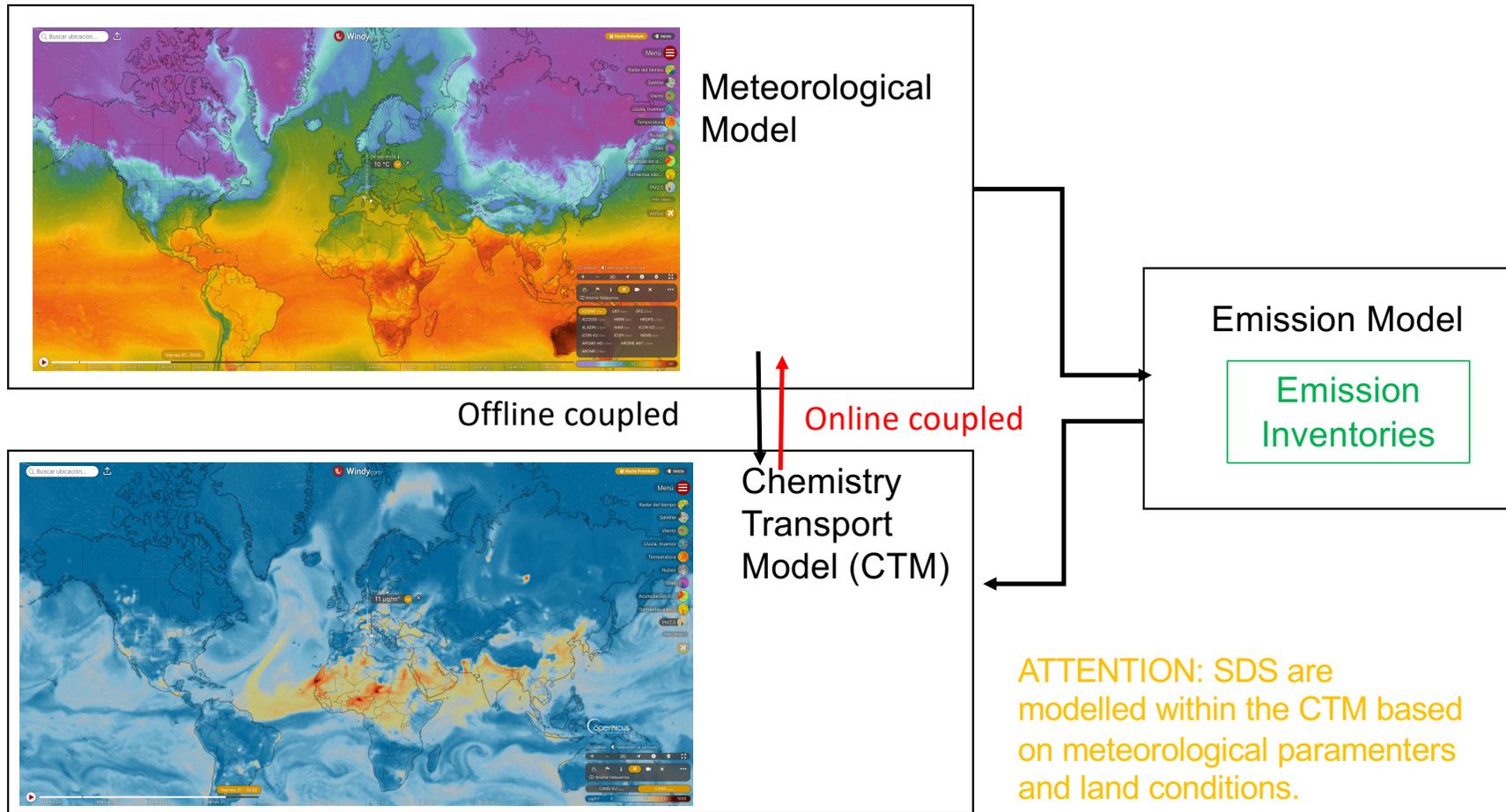


Source: <https://caliope.bsc.es/>

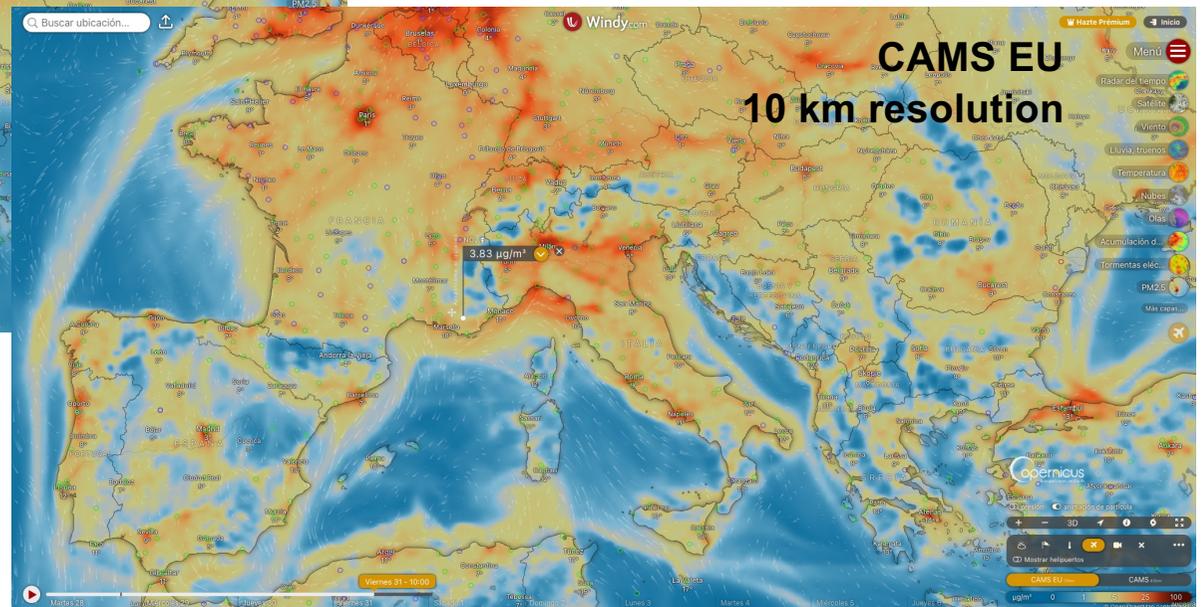
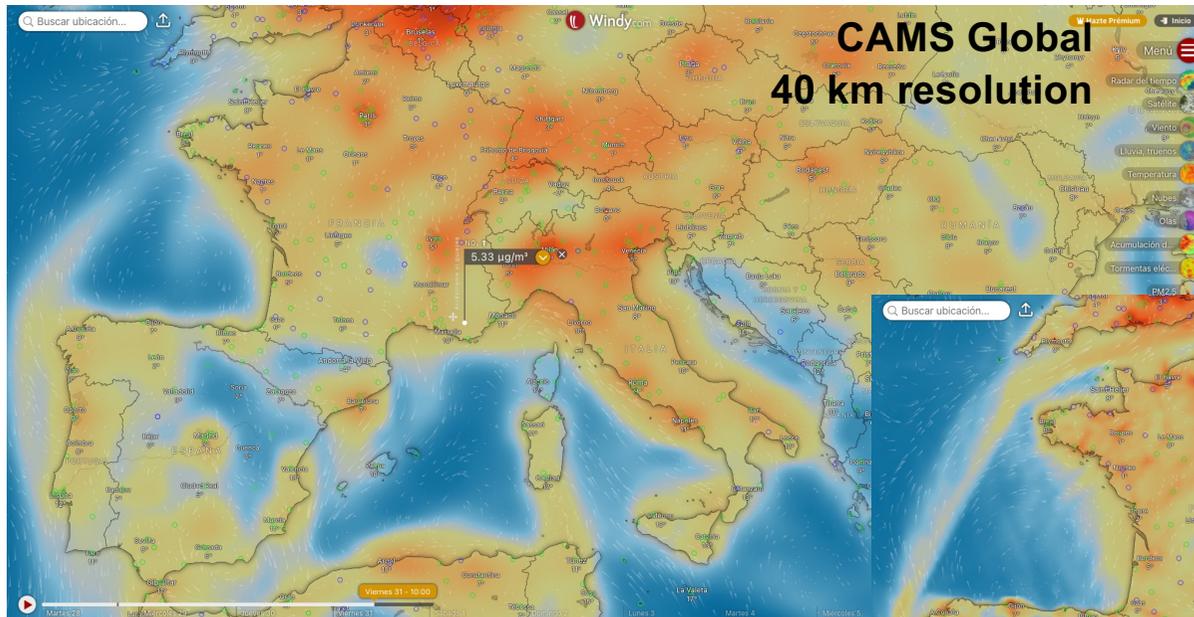


**NASA Models the Complex Chemistry of Earth's Atmosphere**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQv2B0lwCQ0>

# Atmospheric Composition models

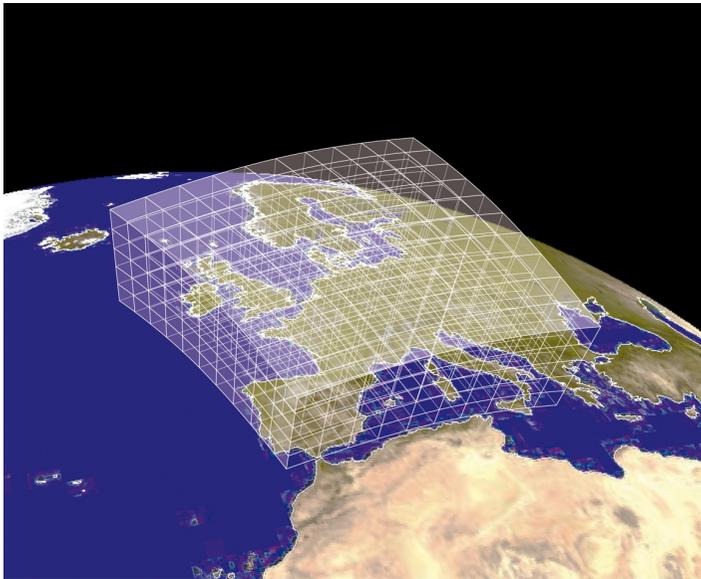


# Atmospheric Composition models: Global vs Regional

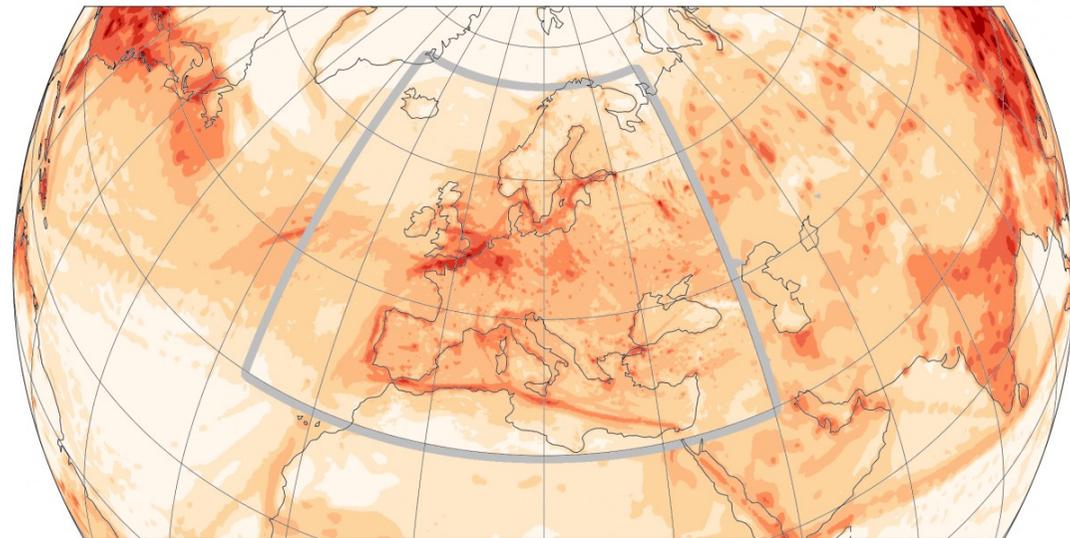


# Atmospheric Composition models: Global vs Regional

Global Forecasts are used as **Initial and Boundary conditions** by the Regional Forecasting Systems.



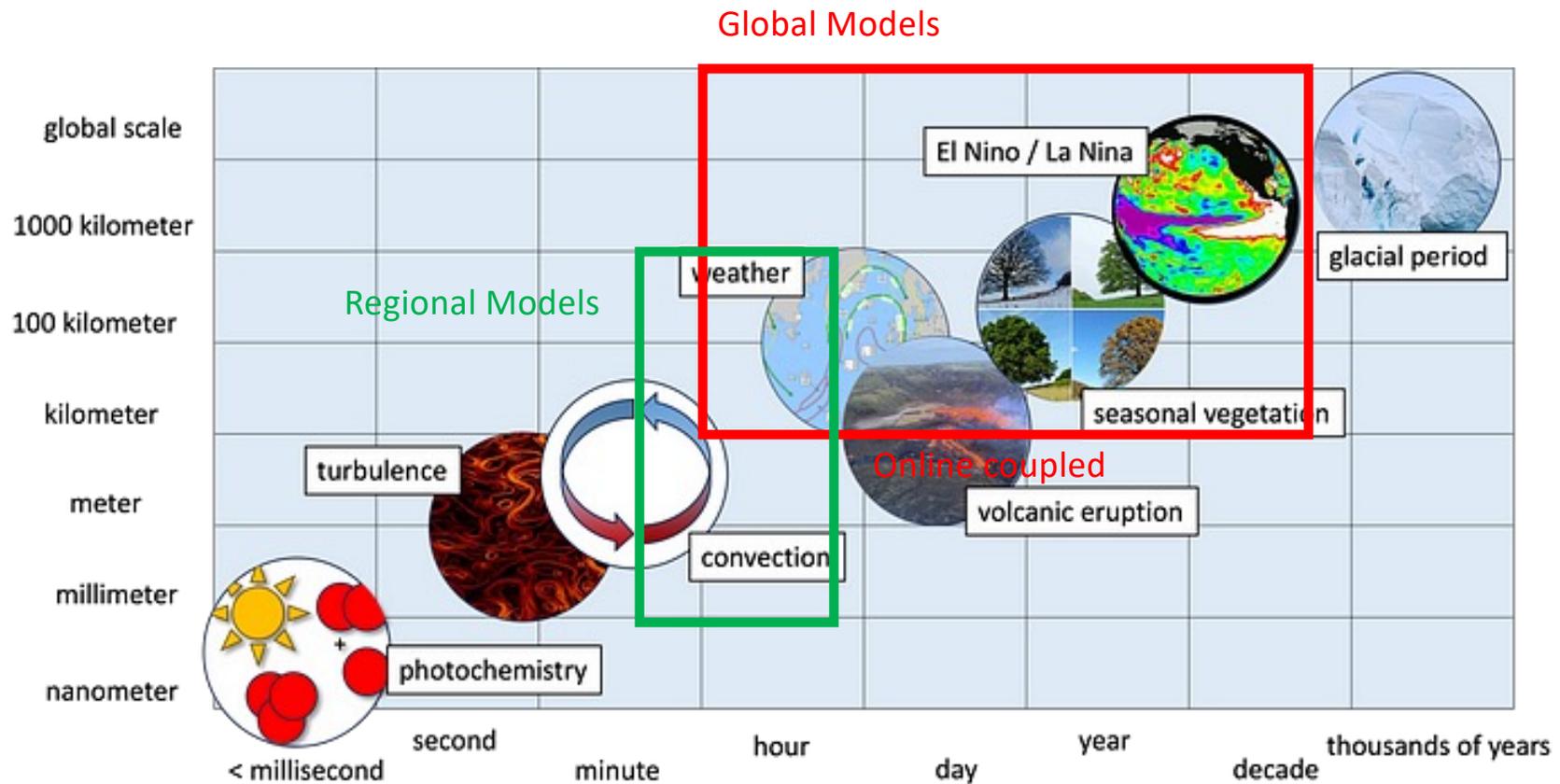
CAMS regional NO<sub>2</sub> analysis embedded in CAMS global forecast



mass concentration of nitrogen dioxide in air ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )

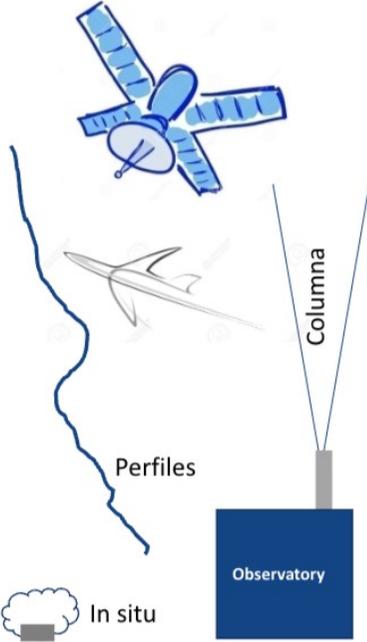
0.1      1.0      10.0

# Atmospheric Composition models: Scales

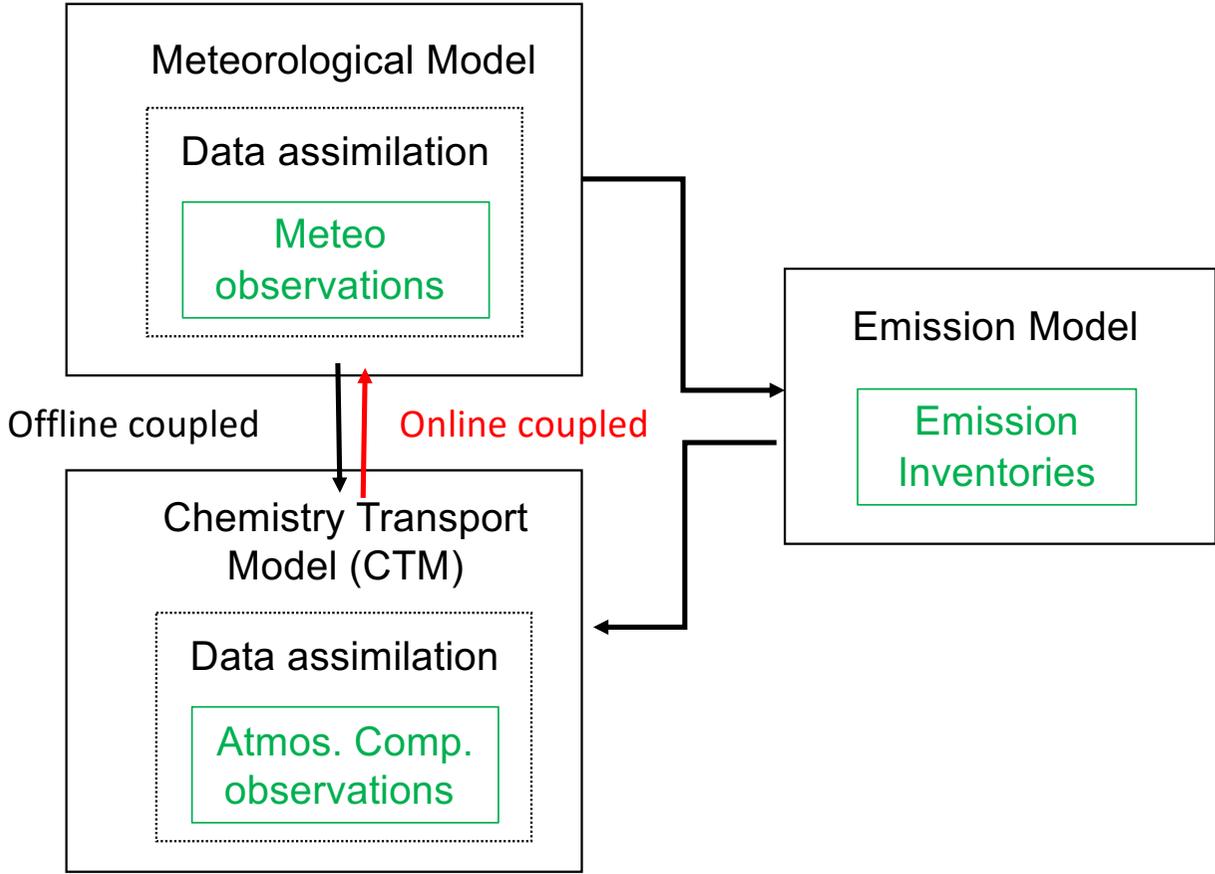


# Atmospheric Composition models: (Re)analysis

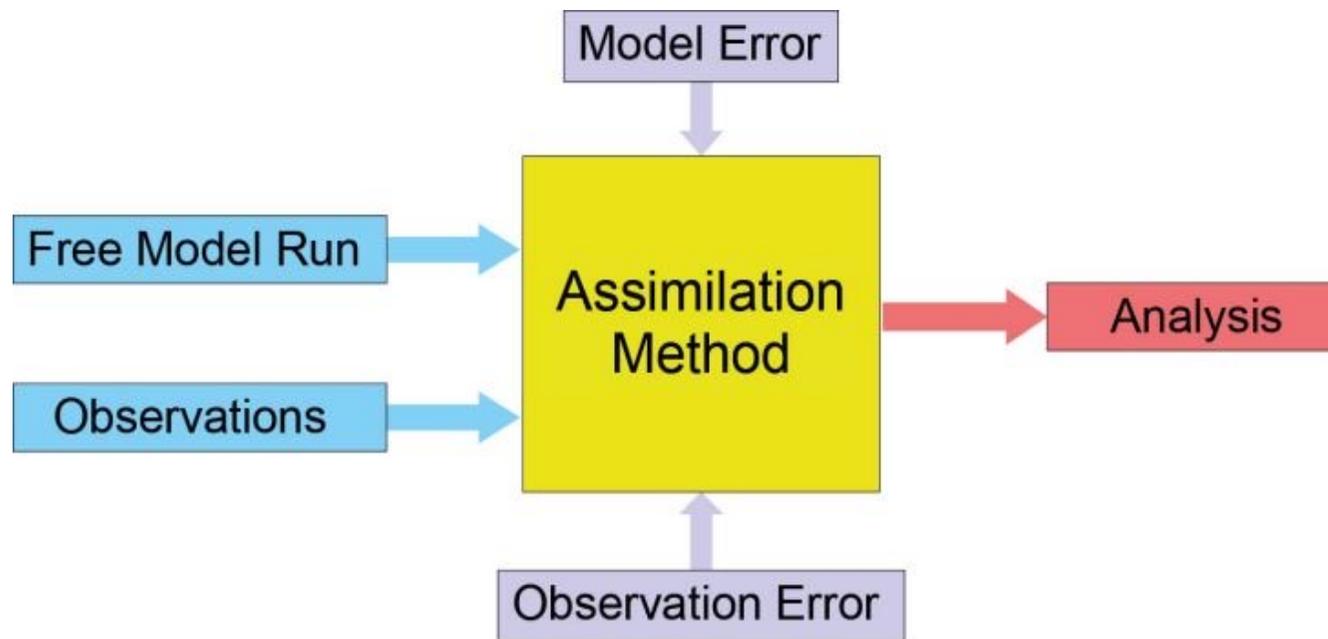
## Observations



Scheme courtesy of L. Mona



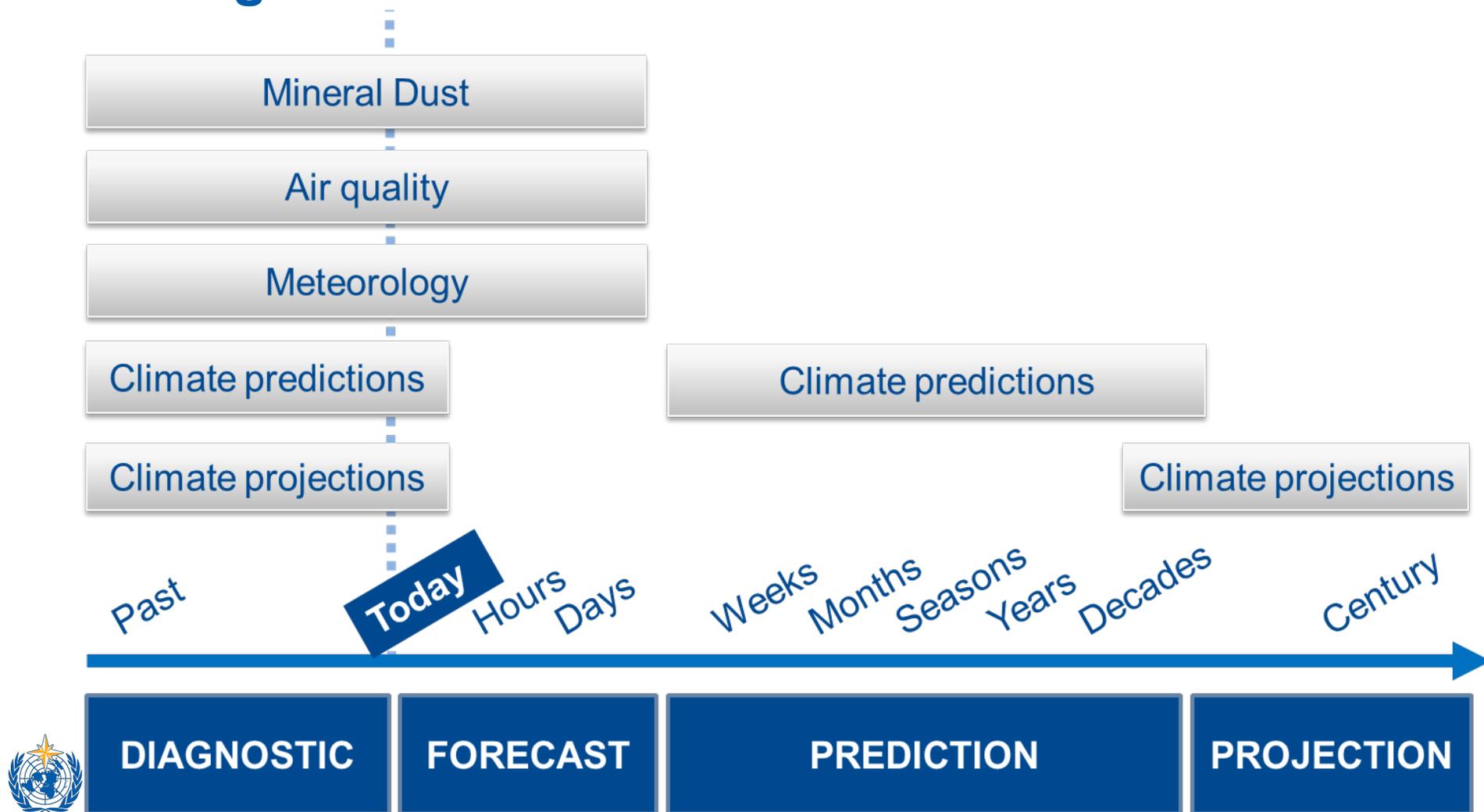
# Atmospheric Composition models: (Re)analysis



**Analysis:** Obtaining the "best" estimate of current atmospheric dust conditions

**Reanalysis:** Creation of data sets describing the recent history of dust in the atmosphere

# Modelling framework



# Modelling framework

HPC (high-performance computers) are fundamental for executing numerical models. The **size of each cell in the grid** and the **length of the simulation** is determined by the power of the computer running the model.



The MareNostrum 5 supercomputer, Spain  
It is a pre-exascale EuroHPC supercomputer  
<https://www.bsc.es/ca/marenostrum/marenostrum-5>

# Why do we evaluate air quality models?

- **Accuracy & Reliability:**
  - Models need to predict pollutant concentrations with high accuracy.
- **Regulatory Compliance:**
  - Ensure models meet national and international air quality standards.

## Key Steps in Model Evaluation

### Comparison with Observations:

- Validate model output against measured air quality data (**points**: ground-based, **gridded**: satellite).

### Statistical Performance Metrics:

- **Categorical:** Definition of categories by intensity
  - Contingency tables
- **Continuous**
  - Metrics like Mean Bias (MB), Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), and correlation coefficients.

## TYPES OF DATA VISUALIZATION CHARTS



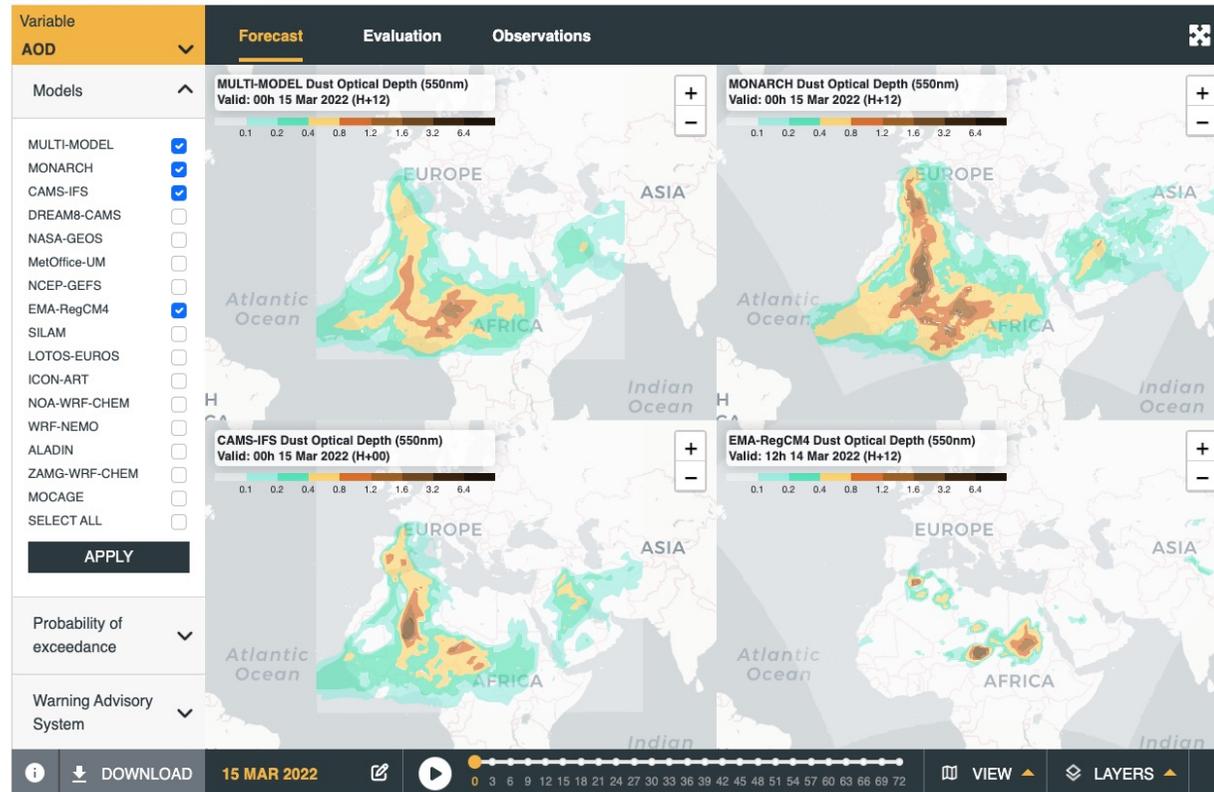
**VISUALISE THE RESULTS MATTERS!**



# Daily Dust Products

< BACK TO PRODUCTS

This interactive visualisation tool allows you to access dust forecasts from different numerical models and dust-related observational products. To find out how to interact with it, please watch the [Video Tutorial](#) or download the [User Guide](#) and read the [Documentation](#). The Warning Advisory System has been developed thanks to the co-funding support of [FEDER INTERREG MAC](#) program and [WMO-CREWS](#) initiative.



## Model intercomparisons

1. Promoting best practices and guidelines to be used by the international community

2. Development of probabilistic forecasts

<http://dust.aemet.es>  
@dust\_barcelona

ONLY DUST



# Daily Dust Products

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Variable  
AOD

Forecast Evaluation Observations

Visual comparison

Statistics

Visual comparison

The visual comparison offers a quick overview of the quality of the forecast. Please select among the available dust-related observations in near-real-time.

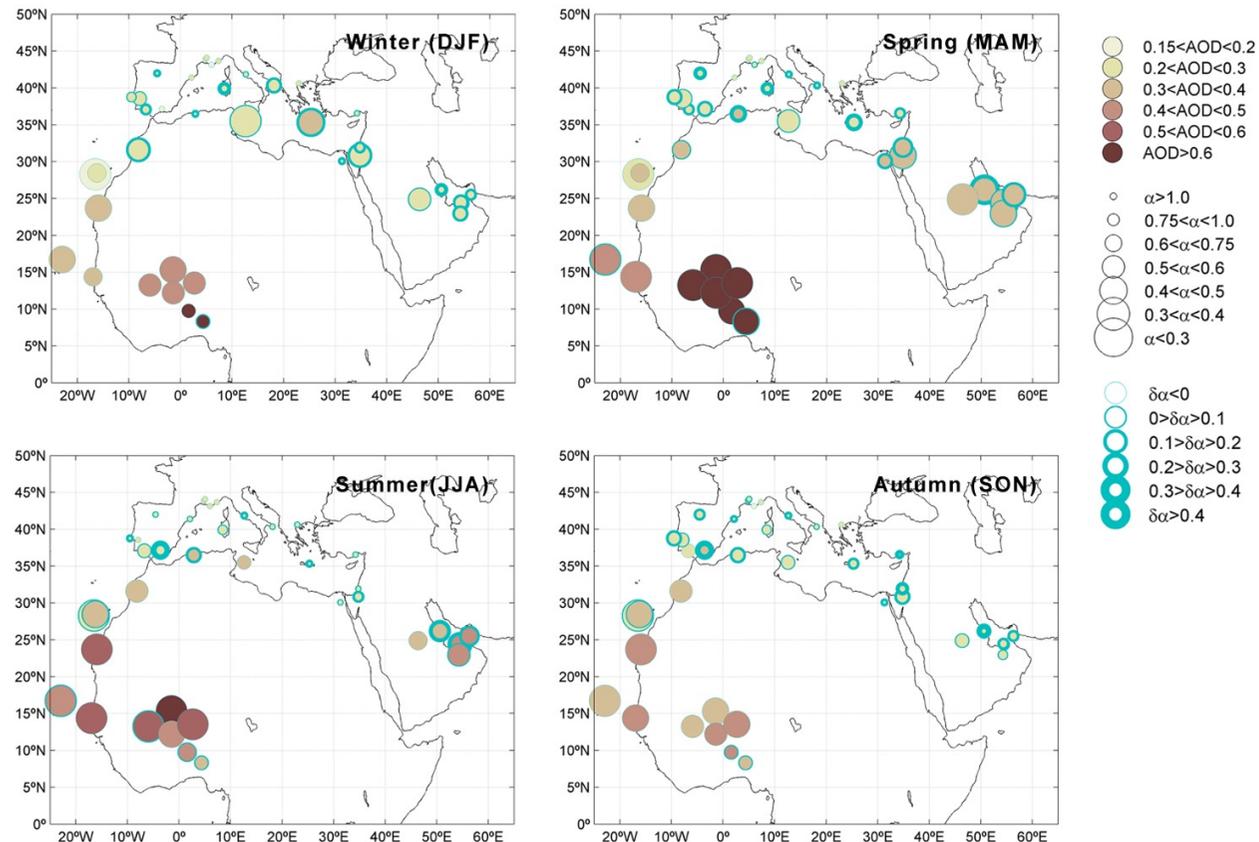
Network Model Date range

Aeronet v3 lev1.5 MULTI-MODEL 02 Jan 2022 31 Dec 2023 APPLY

Map showing dust observation stations (orange dots) across Europe and Africa. The map includes labels for various countries and the Atlantic Ocean and Indian Ocean.

# Understanding the observations

## Aerosol typing – Example AERONET



**Intensity**  
AOD 440 nm

**Size**  
Angstrom Exponent  
 $\alpha(440,870 \text{ nm})$

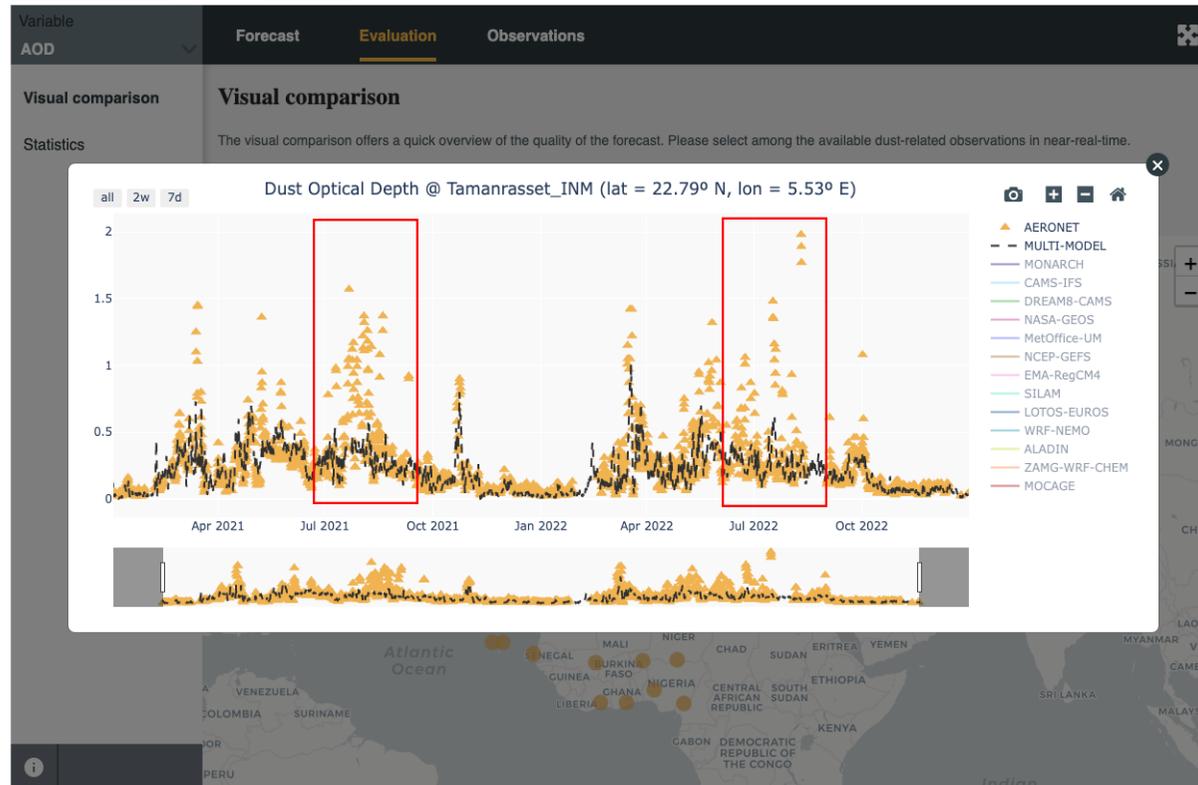
**Mixture**  
Angstrom Exponent  
Curvature  
 $\alpha(440,675 \text{ nm}) - \alpha(675,870 \text{ nm})$



# Daily Dust Products

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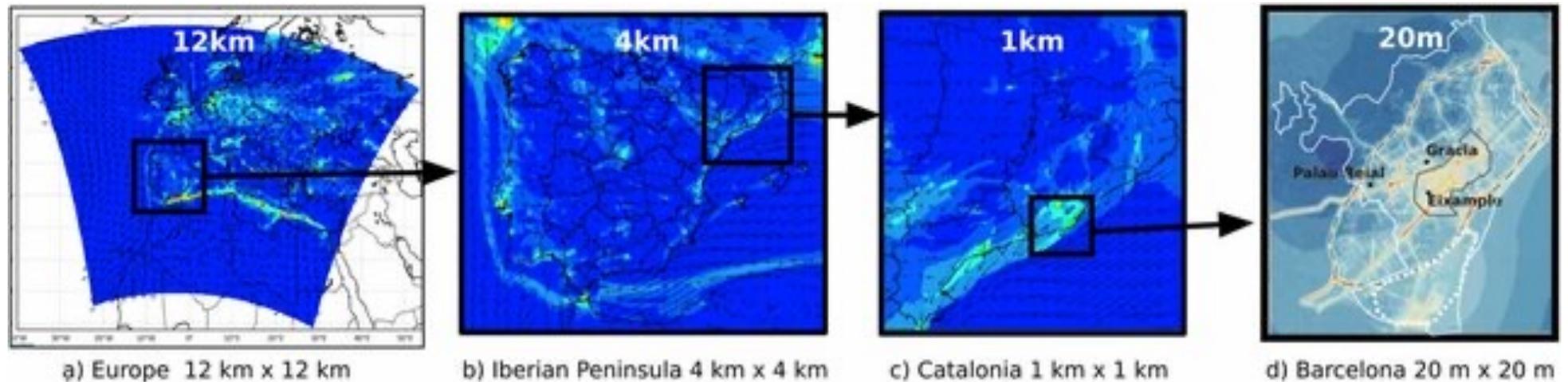
Systematic underestimations in summer in Tamanrasset (Algeria)

<http://dust.aemet.es>  
[@dust\\_barcelona](#)

ONLY DUST

# Understanding the forecast | Spatial resolution

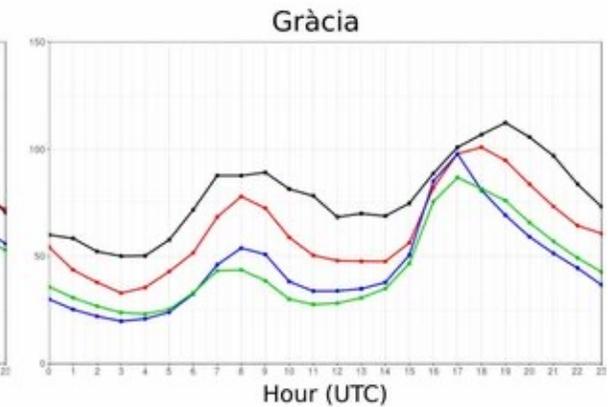
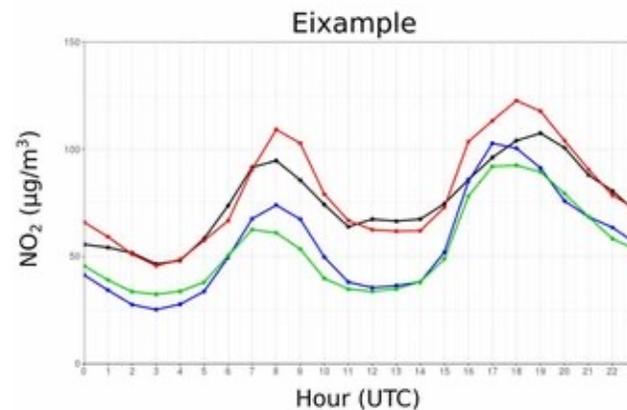
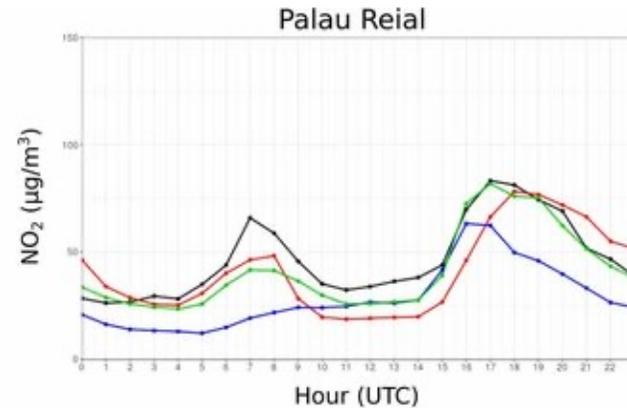
## Example of NO<sub>2</sub>



CALIOPE AQ forecasting system  
Barcelona, Spain, 9-25 November 2017

# Understanding the forecast | Representativity

CALIOPE AQ forecasting system  
Barcelona, Spain, 9-25 November 2017



Observations CALIOPE-Urban CALIOPE-1km CALIOPE-4km

(Benavides et al., 2021)

Experiments

IFS

IFS-EAC4

IFS-EGG4

IFS-ESUITE-Cy48R1

IFS: Evaluation of CAMS forecast models

Both OSUITE and CNTRL are evaluated against multiple observation records including AOD from AERONET and PM, O3 and NO2 measurements.

[+ Show More](#)

[CAMS user support](#)

Data Policy

AeroVal makes use of several observation networks. Before using the data, please check the specific network data policies on the

O3

ALL-obs

IFS-OSUITE

2023

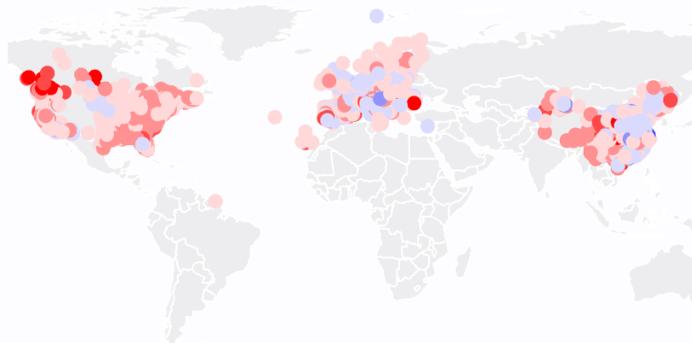
NMB



O3 - 2023

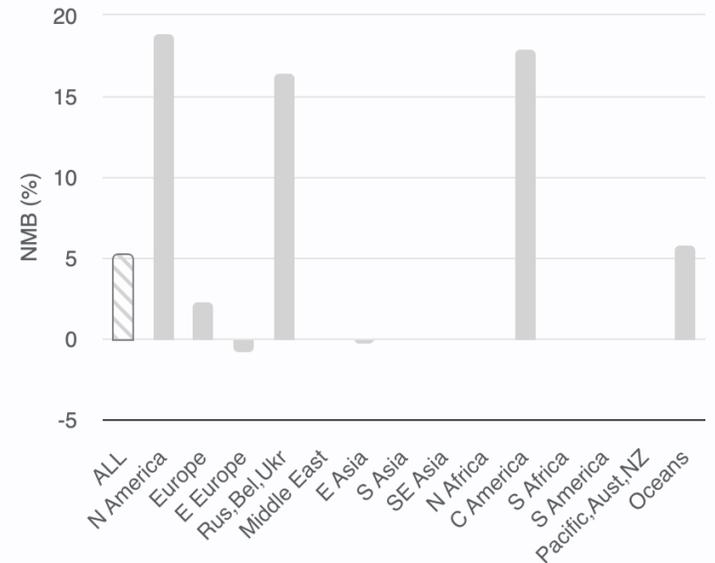
ALL-obs - IFS-OSUITE - daily data

Search for a station



O3 - 2023

daily data - all stations



O3 - ALL - 2023

ALL-obs - IFS-OSUITE

60

Observation (monthly)  
Model (monthly)

lin

O3 - ALL - 2023

ALL-obs - IFS-OSUITE

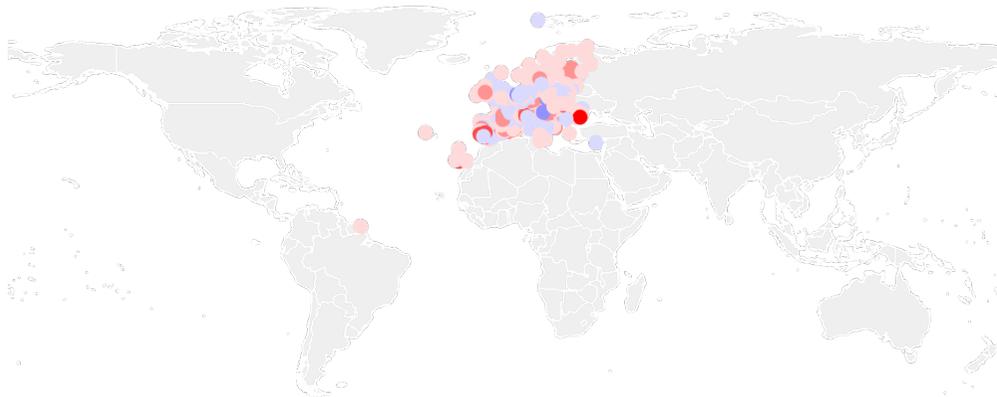
60

Linear regression (monthly)  
n: 12  
 $y = 1.01x + 1.29$

<https://global-eqc-server.atmosphere.copernicus.eu/>

# Understanding the processes NO<sub>2</sub> is the precursor of O<sub>3</sub>

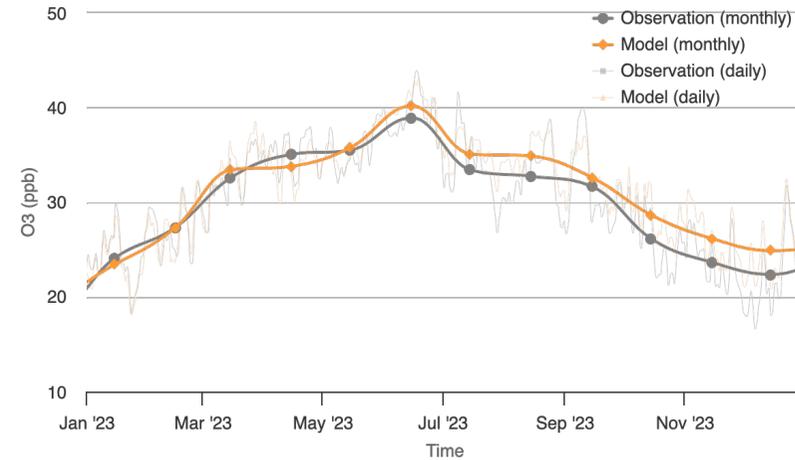
**O<sub>3</sub> - 2023**  
EEA-NRT-rural - IFS-OSUITE - daily data



NMB (%)  
-100< -75 -50 -25 0 25 50 75 >100

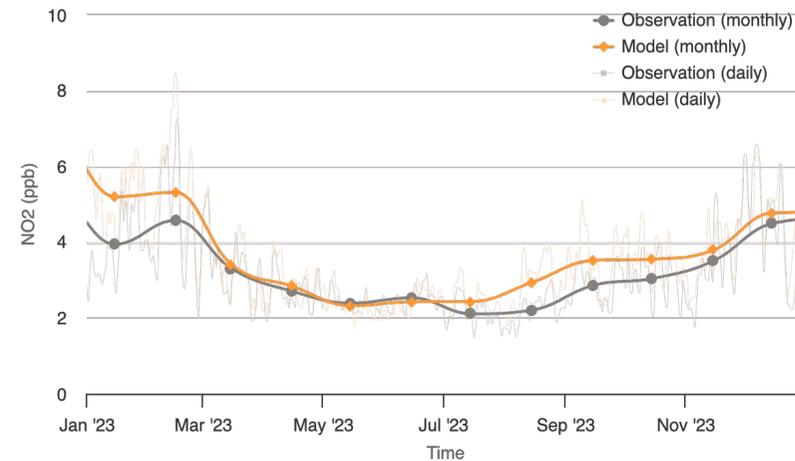
**O<sub>3</sub> - Europe - 2023**

EEA-NRT-rural - IFS-OSUITE



**NO<sub>2</sub> - Europe - 2023**

EEA-NRT-rural - IFS-OSUITE





Atmosphere  
Monitoring

## Copernicus overview

FULL, FREE AND OPEN  
ACCESS TO DATA

- ATMOSPHERE MONITORING
- MARINE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING
- LAND MONITORING
- CLIMATE CHANGE
- EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
- SECURITY

**Copernicus**  
Europe's eyes on Earth

Copernicus is the European Union's Earth observation programme, looking at our planet and its environment to benefit all European citizens.

It offers information services that draw from satellite Earth Observation and in-situ (non-space) data *as well as modelling products*.



# Key Messages

- Understand your model
  - Be sure about the scales that you are considering in your configuration and the processes represented
- Compare oranges with oranges
  - Understand the spatial and temporal representativity of the stations or gridded datasets that you are using you comparisons
  - Comparison of the same parameter



# THANKS!

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Ministero  
dell'Università  
e della Ricerca

