

# Atmospheric Modeling Applications

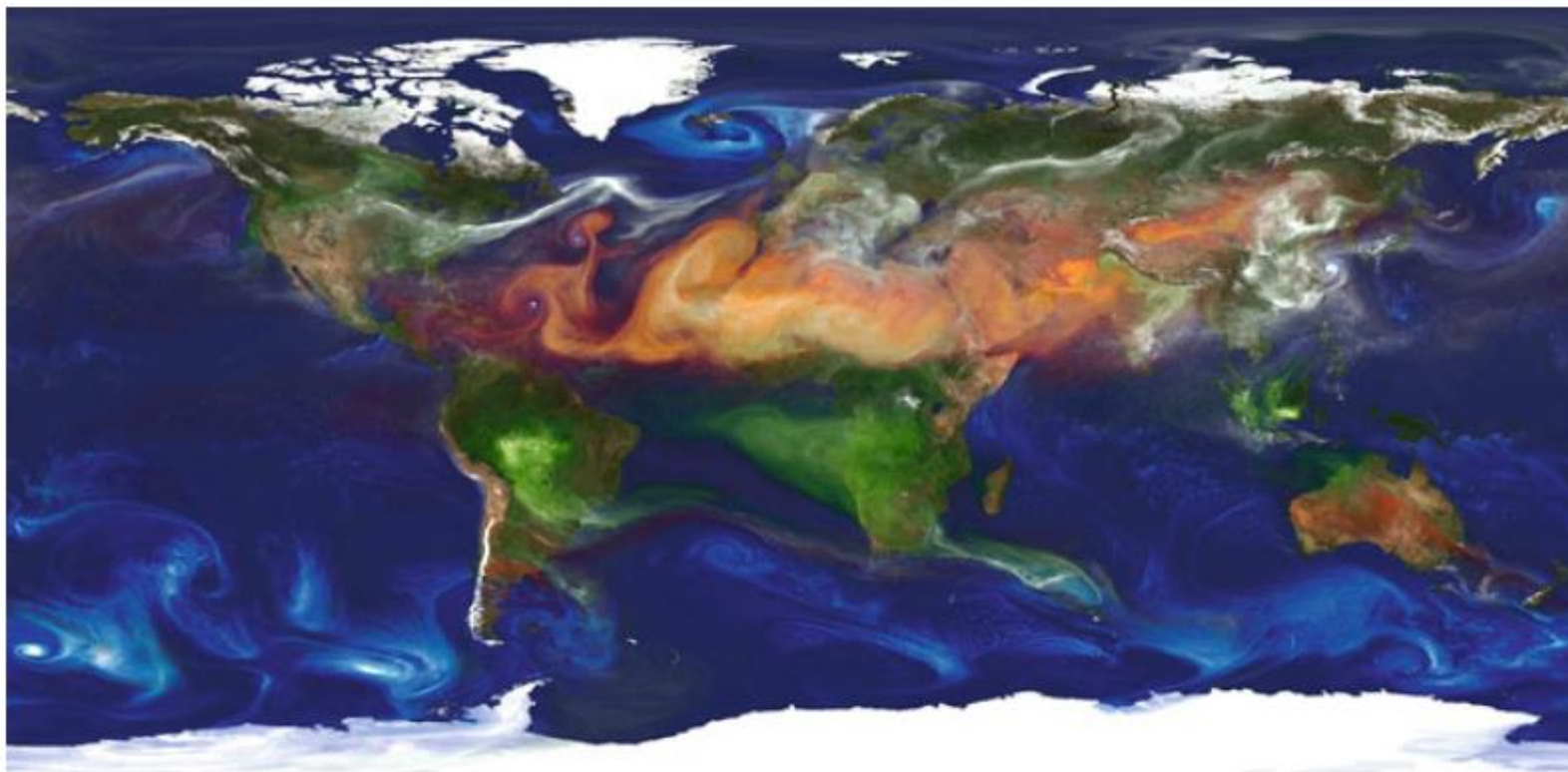
Stavros Solomos  
National Observatory of Athens

May 2019



## Layout

- Haboobs and modeling/remote sensing synergies
- Introduction to atmospheric modeling
- Numerical modeling applications
- HYSPLIT exercise

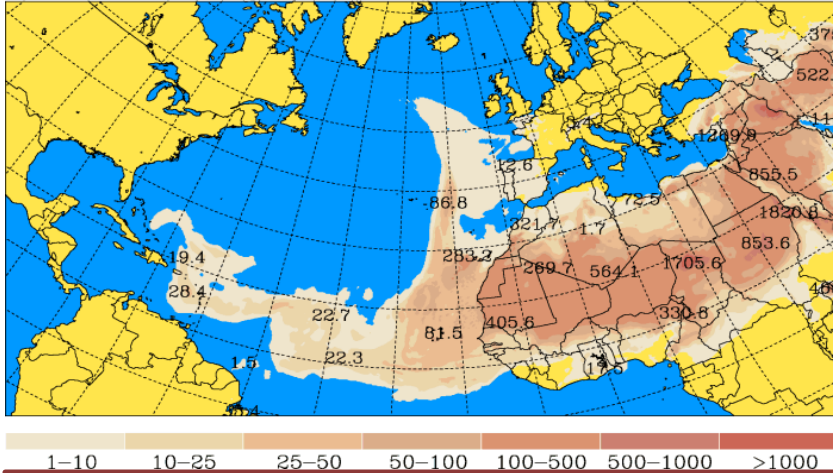


**Fig. 1.1** NASA's GEOS-5 simulation, showing the four main aerosols: mineral dust from deserts (*red*), sea salt from spray (*blue*), soot and smoke from fires (*green*) and sulphate particles from fossil fuel combustion and volcanoes (*white*). Source: <http://geos5.org>

## Aerosols from Natural Sources

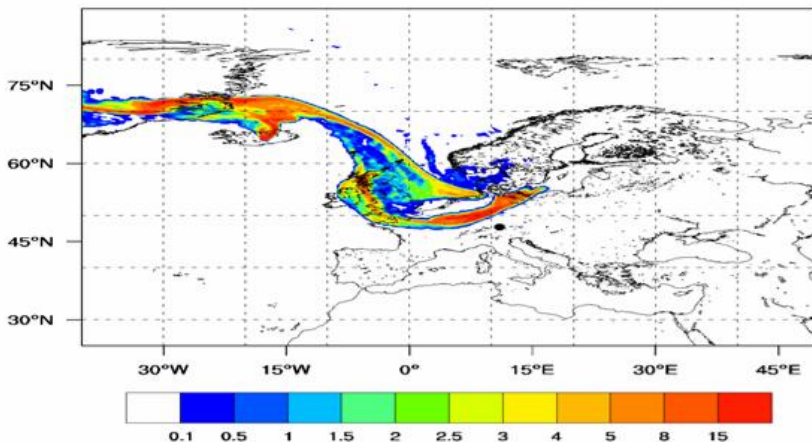
### Dust

University of Athens (AM&WFG) SKIRON Forecast  
 Dust Concentration Near Ground ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) 29.10.17 at 12 UTC



### Volcanic ash

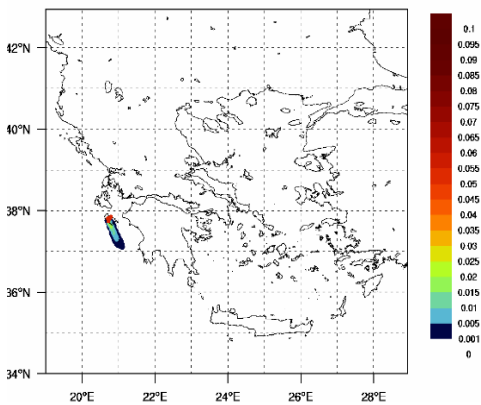
BEYOND/NOA FLEXPART  
 SO<sub>2</sub> Integrated Column (DU) max=100.579  
 valid:21-09-2014 2300 UTC



### Biomass burning

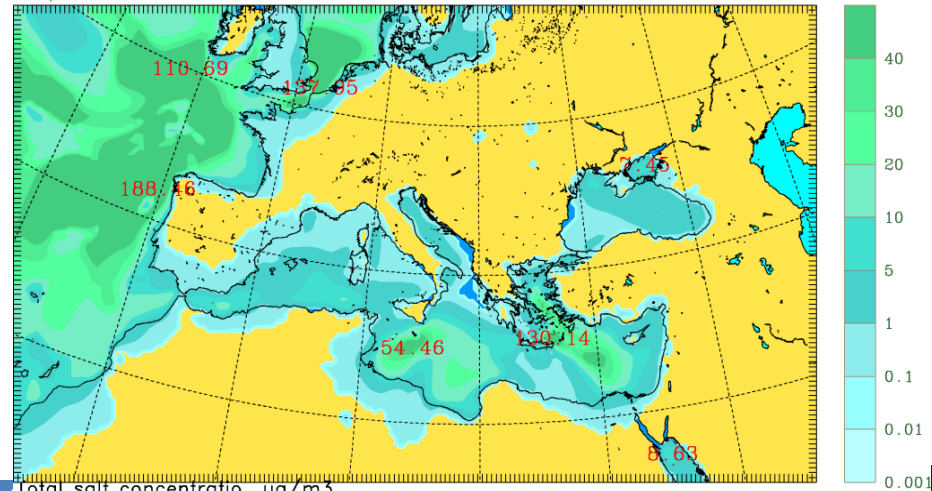


BEYOND / NOA FLEXPART valid:11-08-2017 2215 UTC  
 Smoke Aerosol Integrated Column ( $\text{g m}^{-2}$ )



### Sea salt

UOA/AM&WFG 051 hr RAMS Valid 2100 UTC Sat 04 Jun 2011 z=48.5m

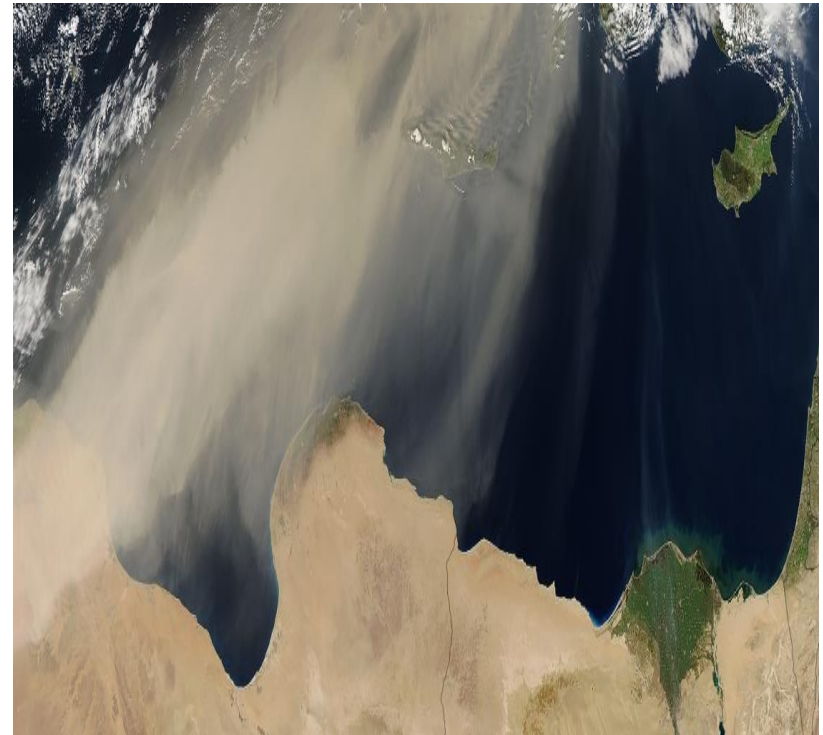


## Desert Dust Emissions

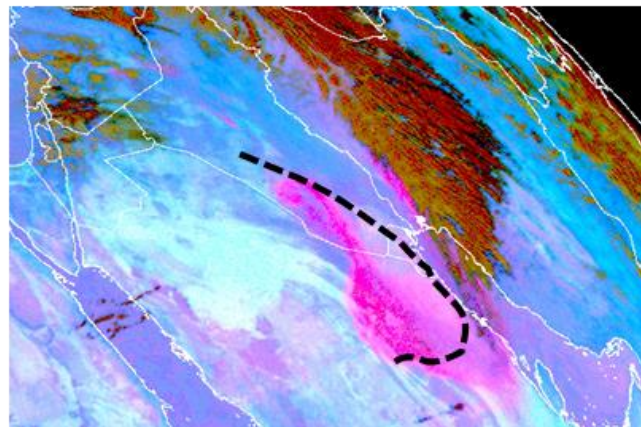
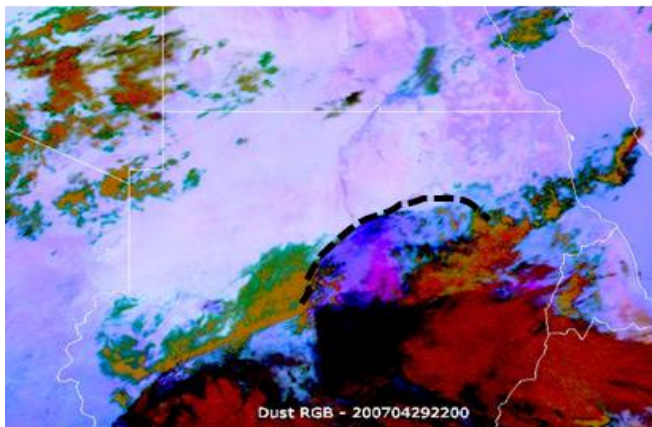
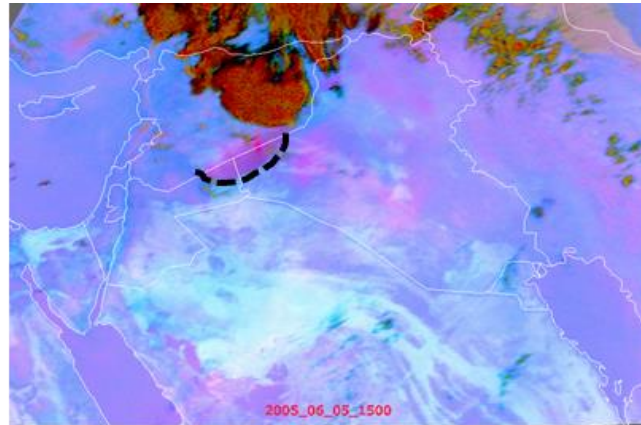
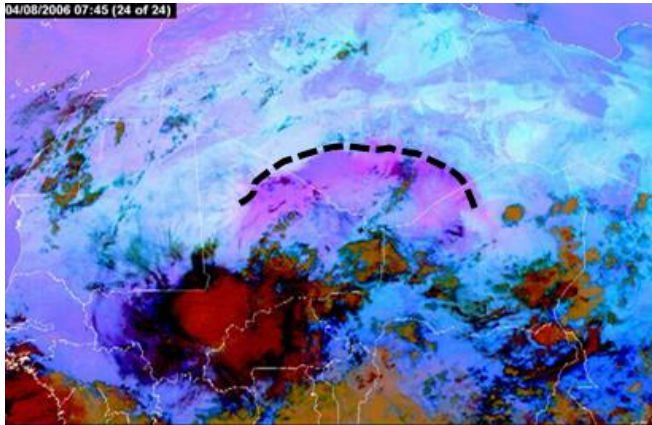
### Local Sand/dust storms (haboobs)



### Long Range Transport



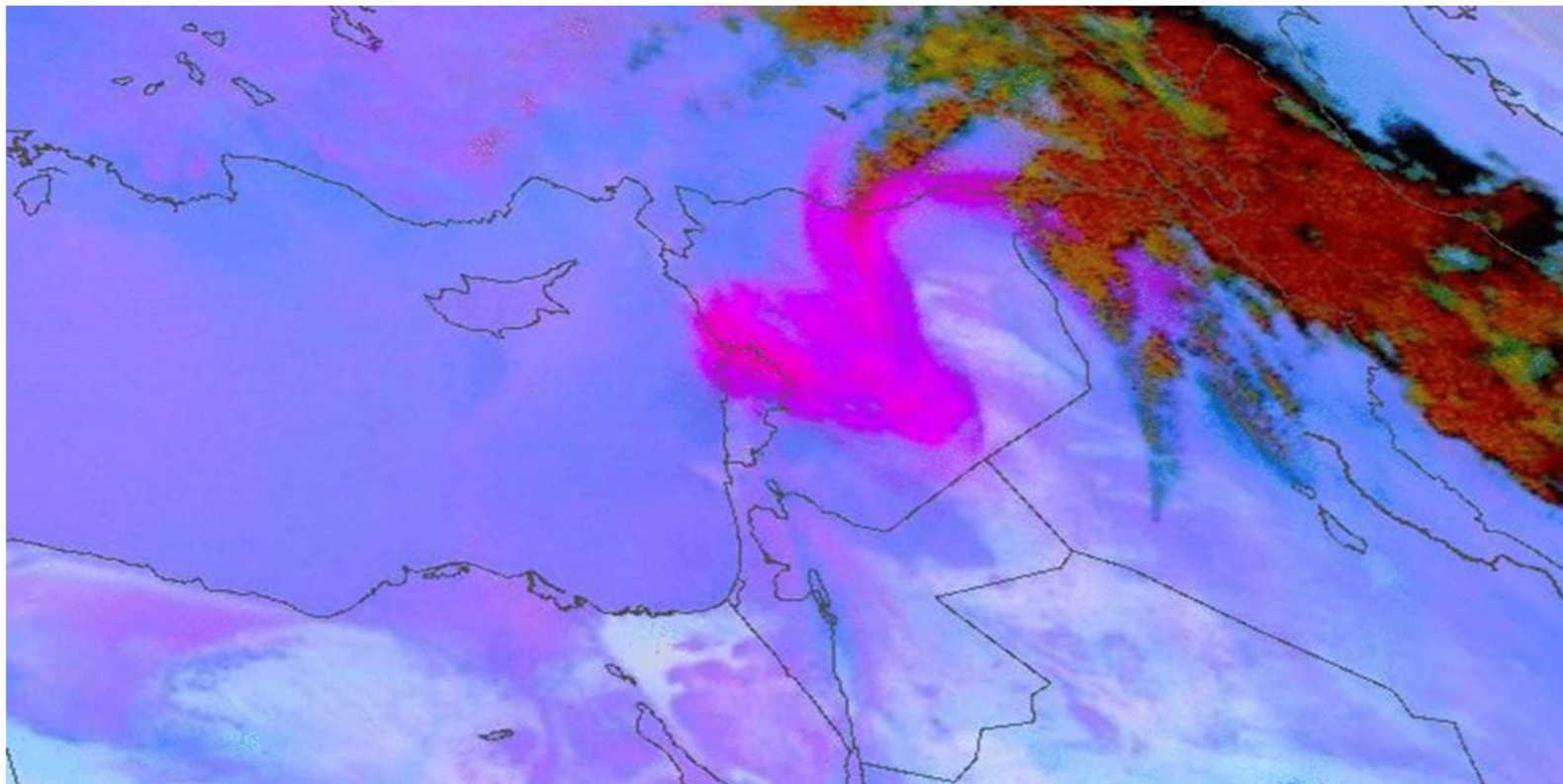
## Generation of “haboobs” from Mesoscale Convective Systems



Density currents and associated mobilization of dust is also a common feature for the Middle East and Arabian Peninsula (MSG/SEVIRI images).

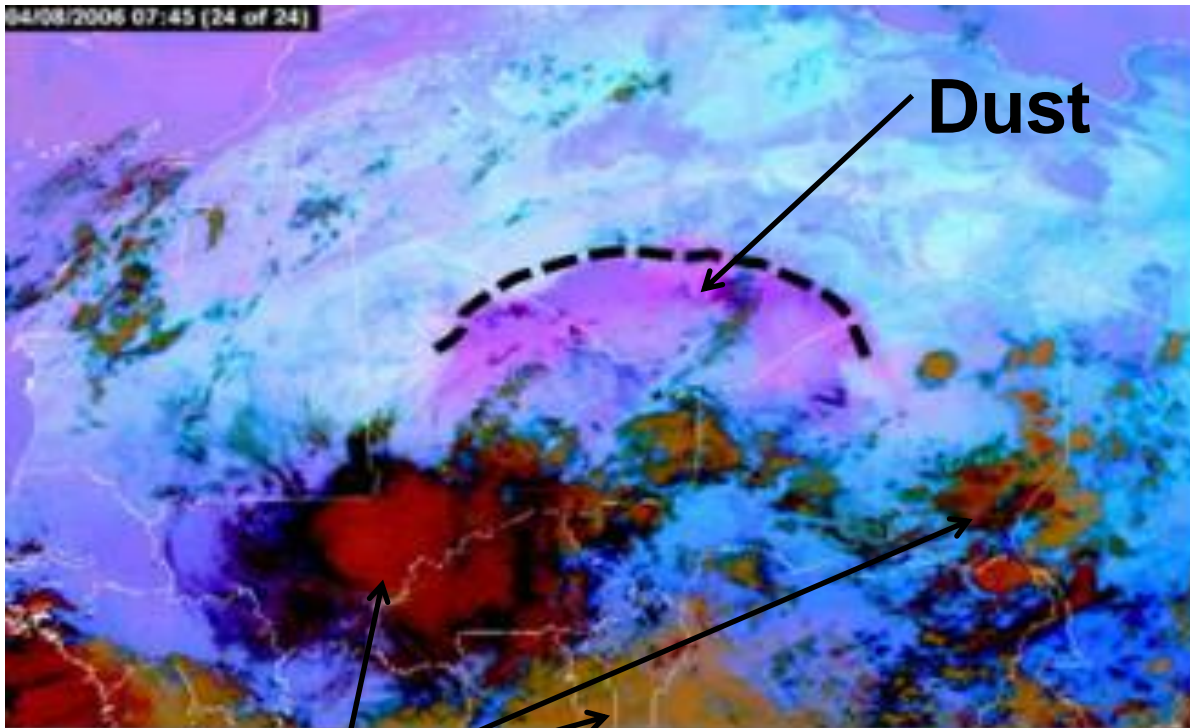
## Dust – Haboobs

Very complex systems – Synergistic efforts between land/atmospheric remote sensing and advanced modeling



Generation of haboobs by Mesoscale Convective Systems  
(MCS) *MSG-SEVIRI dust product*

## Dust - Haboobs

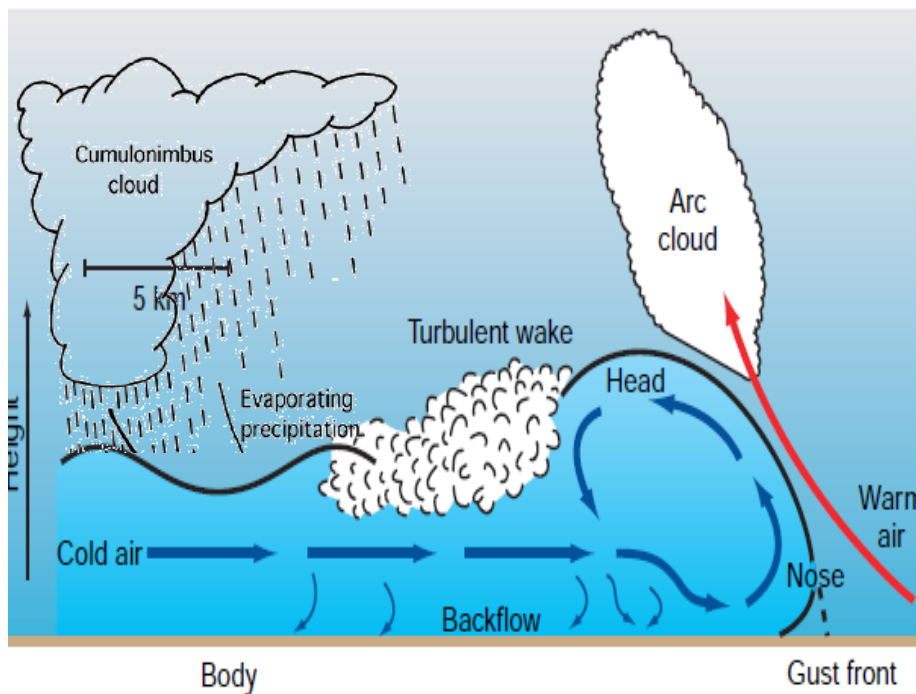


**Clouds**



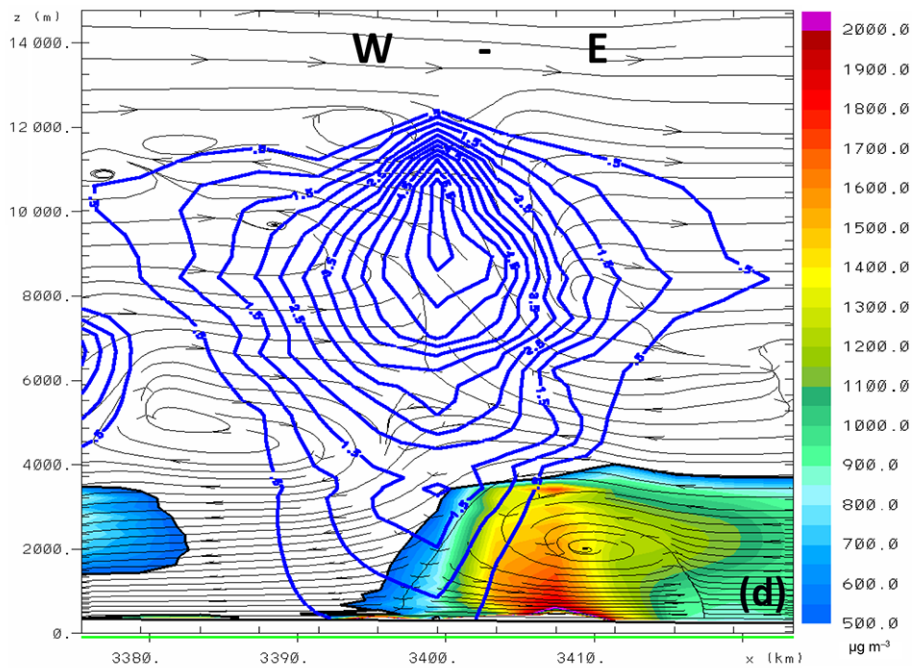
# Dust – Haboobs

## Atmospheric Density Currents



Schematic diagram of a density current formation

*Adopted from Knippertz et al., 2007, JGR*



Model reproduction of a density current formation and elevated dust concentration in RAMS

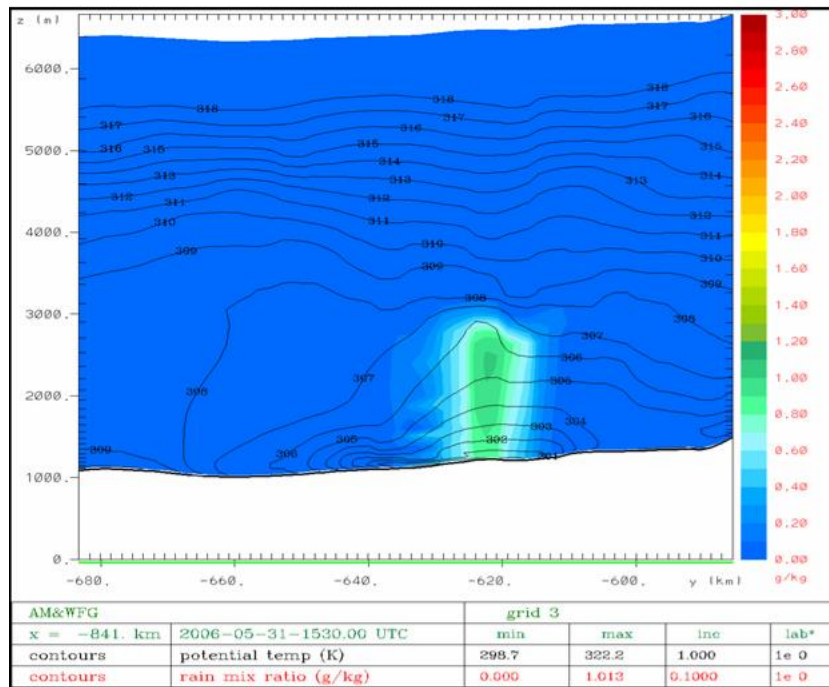
*Adopted from Solomos et al., ACP, 2017*

## Generation of a Saharan haboob south of Atlas Mountains

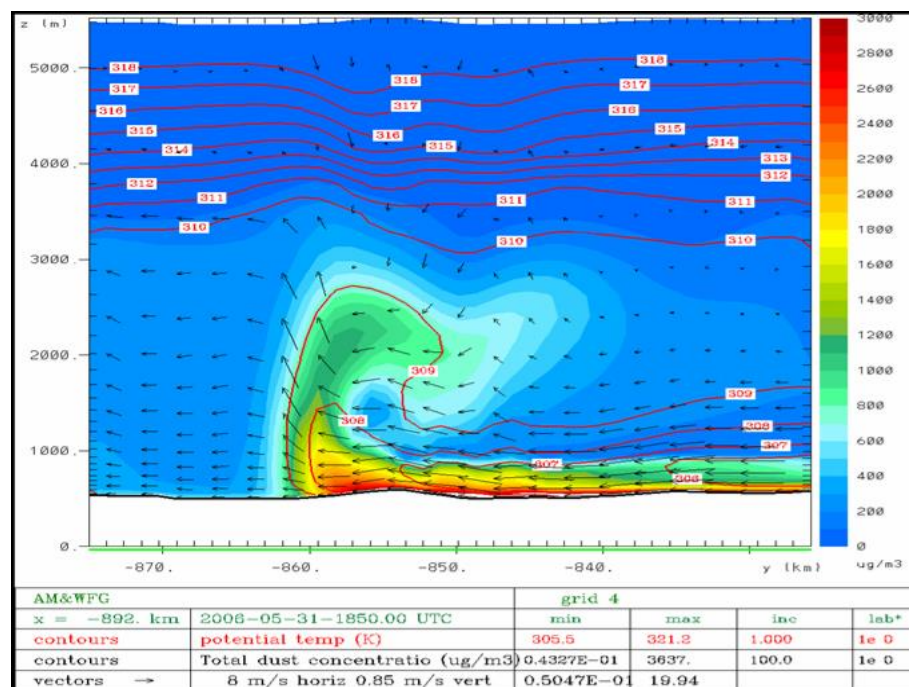


Panoramic photographs of the density current approaching the SAMUM measuring site Tinfou on 31 May 2006

*Knippertz et al., 2007, JGR*

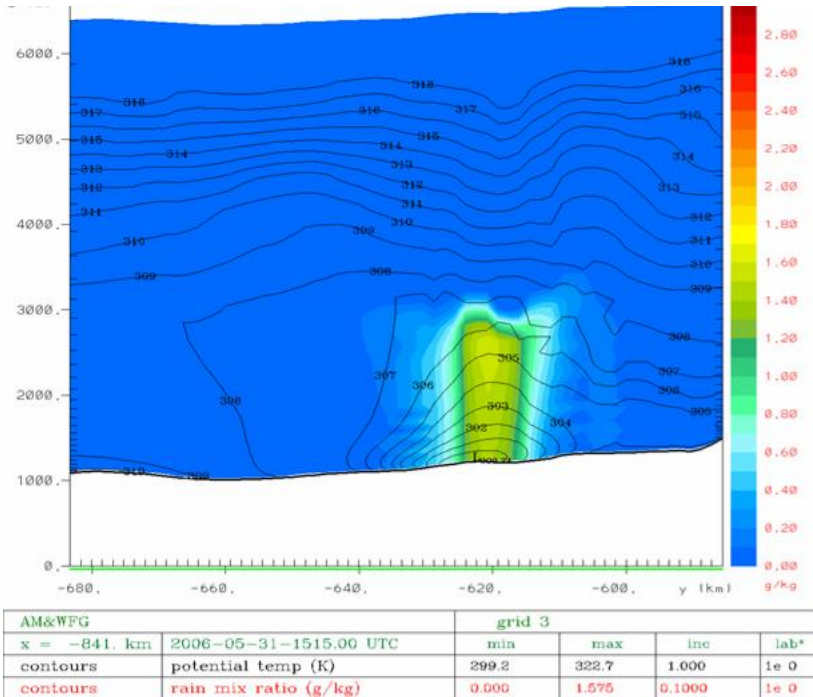


Potential temperature  $\theta$  (K) and rain mixing ratio (g/kg), RAMS simulation 31 May 2006,  $0.8 \times 0.8$  km grid space

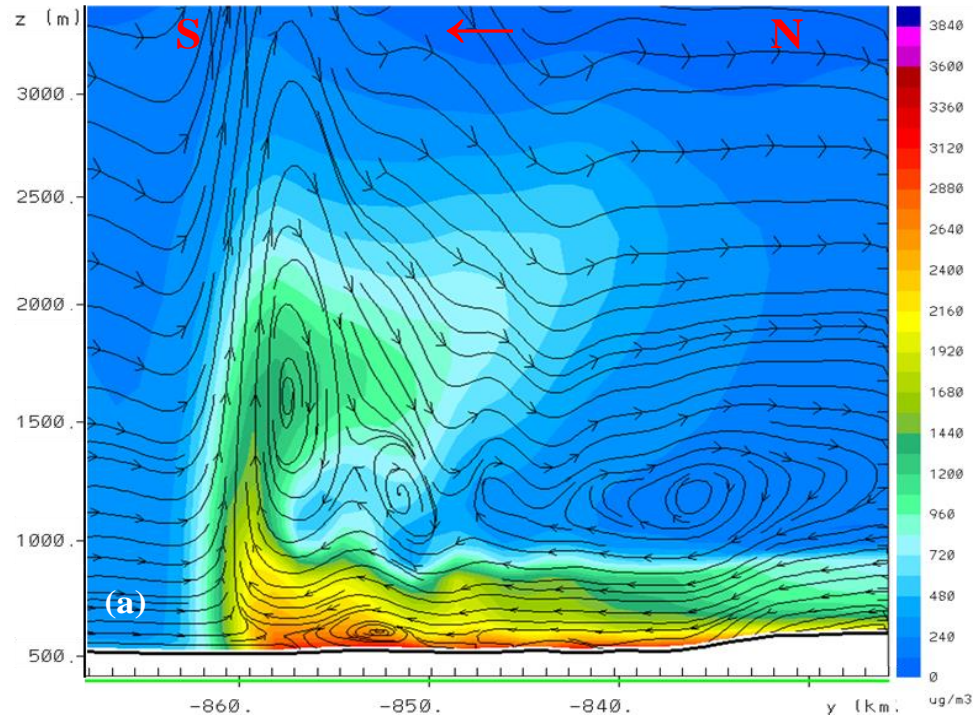


Potential temperature (red contour lines in K) and dust concentration (color scale in  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), RAMS simulation 31 May 2006,  $0.8 \times 0.8$  km grid space

## Dust production along the propagating front (cold pool)



Potential temperature  $\theta$  (K) and rain mixing ratio (g/kg), RAMS simulation 31 May 2006, **0.8x0.8 km grid space**



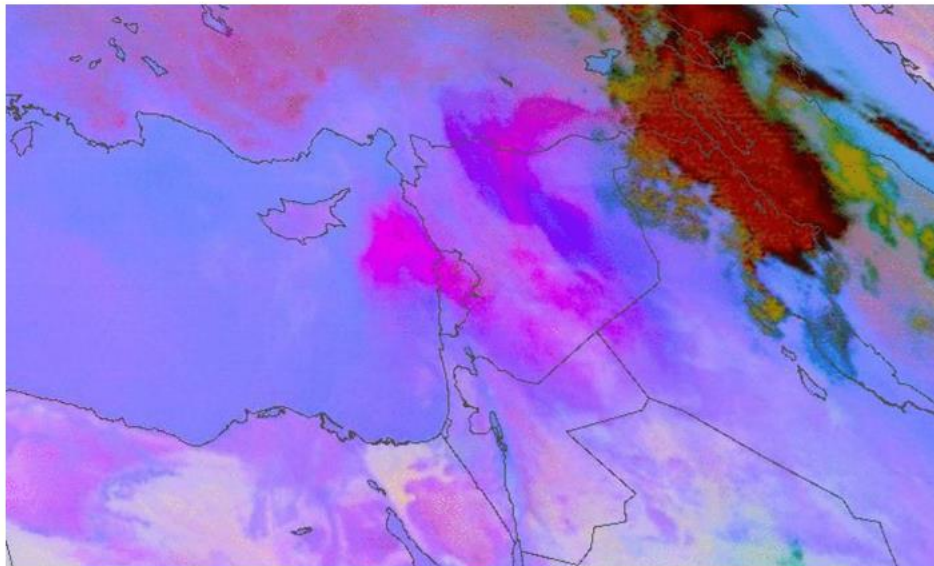
Streamlines and dust concentration (color scale in  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  for a reference frame relative to the propagating speed of the haboob.

- ❖ Upward motions in the head of the system (dust wall)
- ❖ Reversal of flow at the lower levels - Kelvin Helmholtz billows on top
- ❖ Dust concentration constantly increasing inside the system

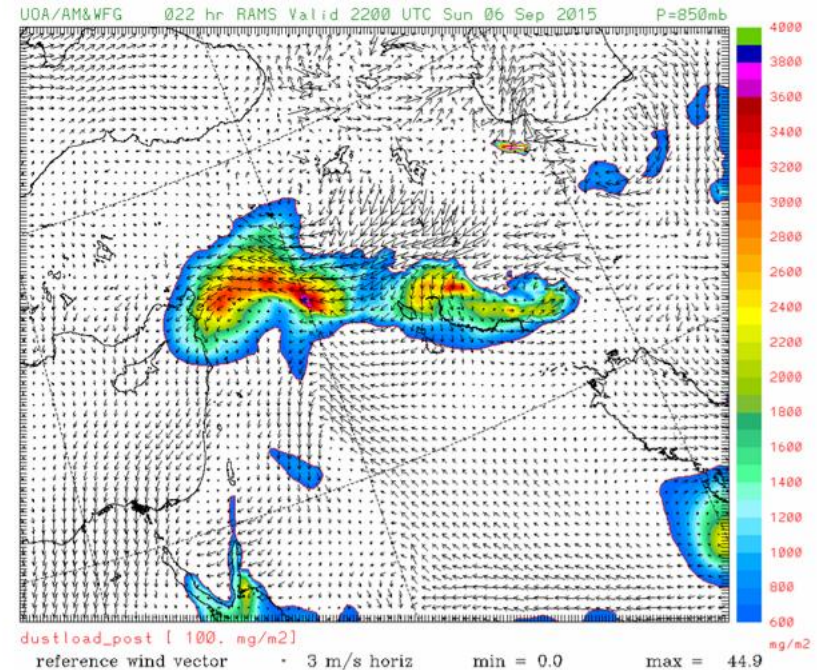
Solomos et al., ACP, 2012

## A record-breaking Middle East haboob 6-13 September 2015

### MSG / SEVIRI Satellite



### RAMS model

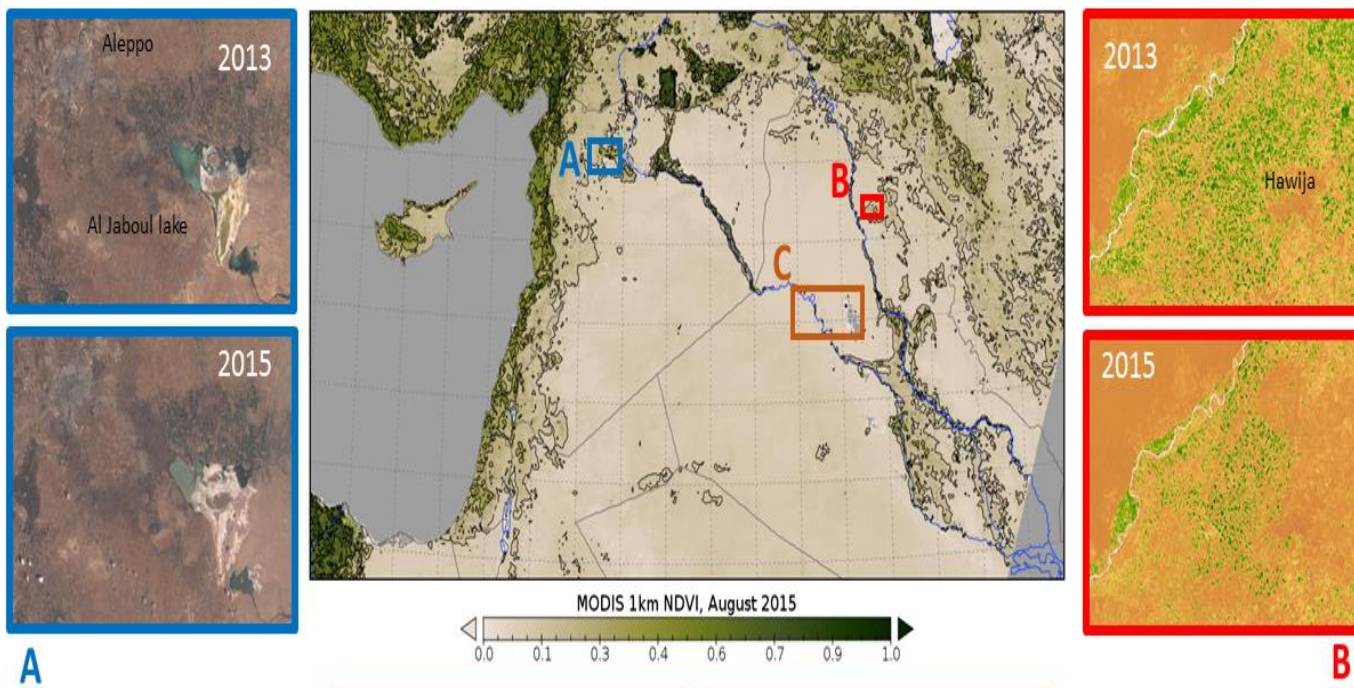


Severe convective downdrafts over the mountainous areas of East Turkey and North Iran resulted in mobilization of dust over Middle East and East Mediterranean.

Mamouri et al., 2016, ACP; Solomos et al., 2017, ACP

## A record-breaking Middle East haboob, 6-13 September 2015

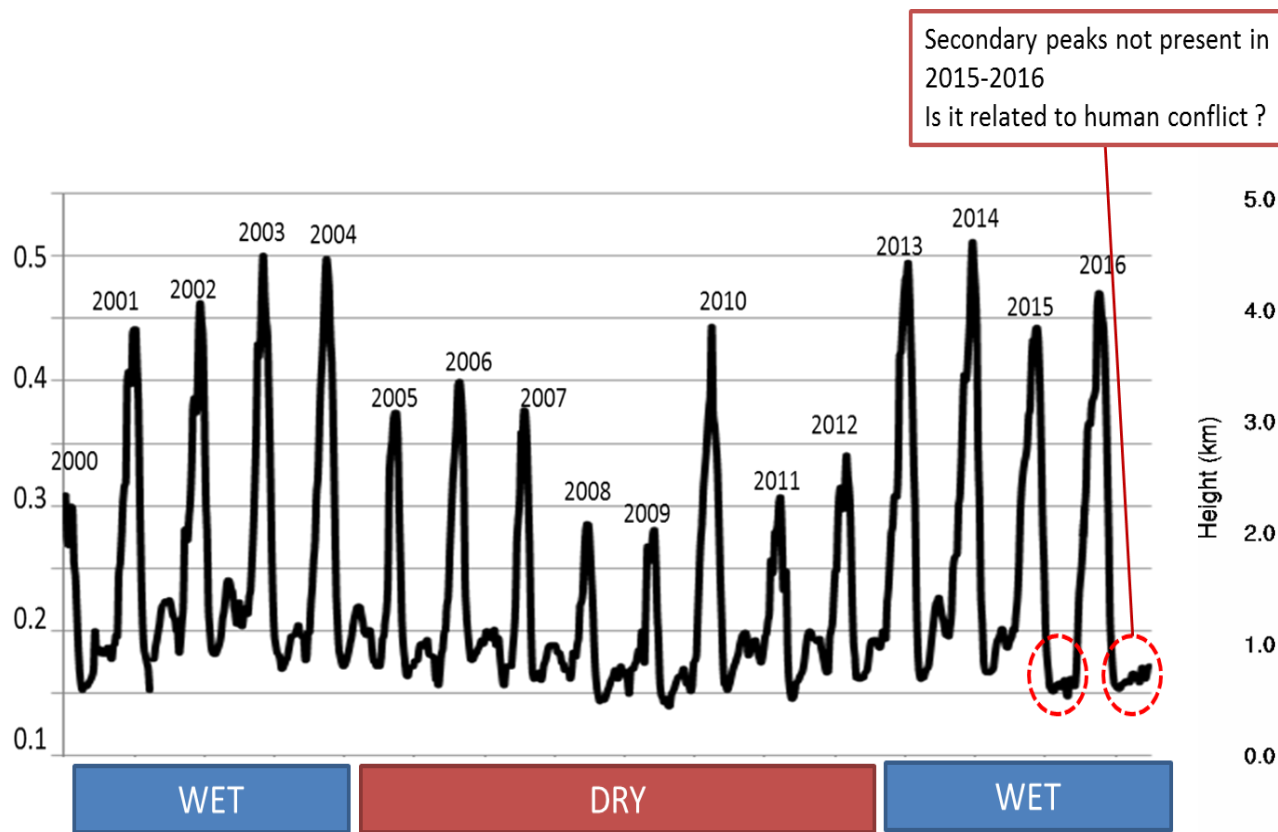
### Examples of land use changes in 2015



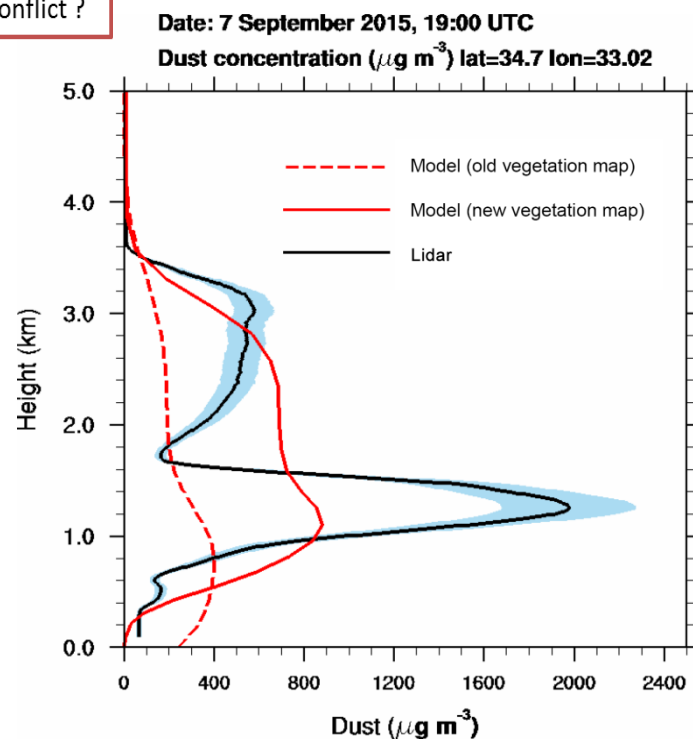
**A)** Landsat 8 natural color images of Aleppo region, Syria shows changes of cultivation patterns and drying of nearby Al Jaboul lake (e.g. the bright areas of the Al Jaboul Lake - dry parts of the lake - increased from 2013 to 2015)

**B)** Landsat 8 NDVI index images in the region of Hawija, Kirkuk Province, Iraq reveal that large areas remained uncultivated in 2015 (e.g. the 2013 map shows many more green spots - agriculturally used areas - than the 2015 map);

## A record-breaking Middle East haboob, 6-13 September 2015 Changes in Landuse affect dust emissions



MODIS NDVI (Normalized Vegetation Index) Hawija 2000 - 2016

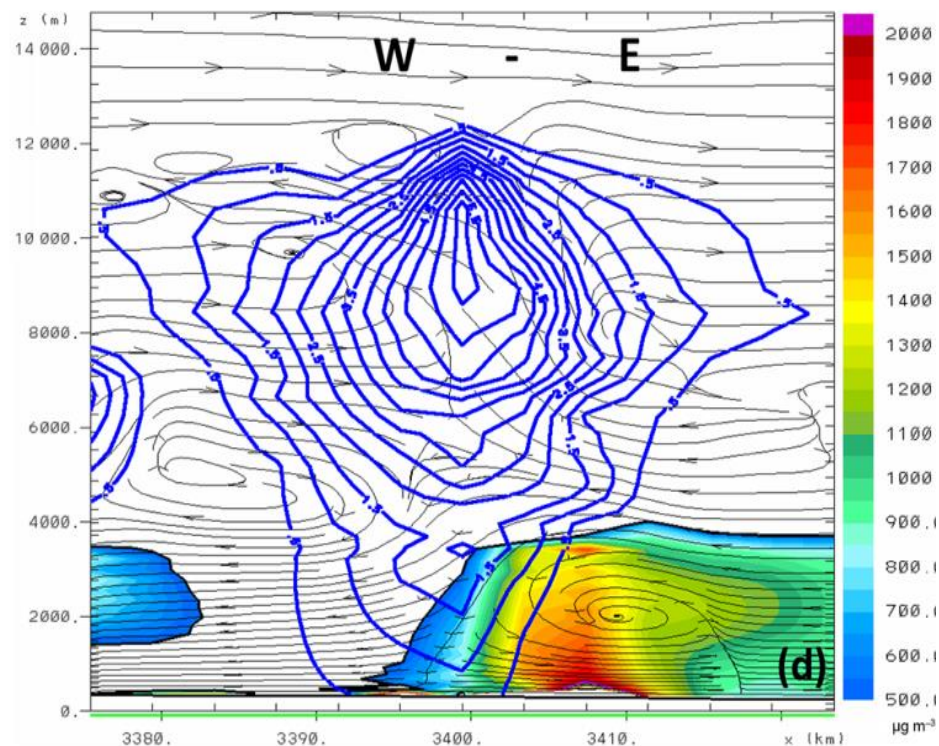
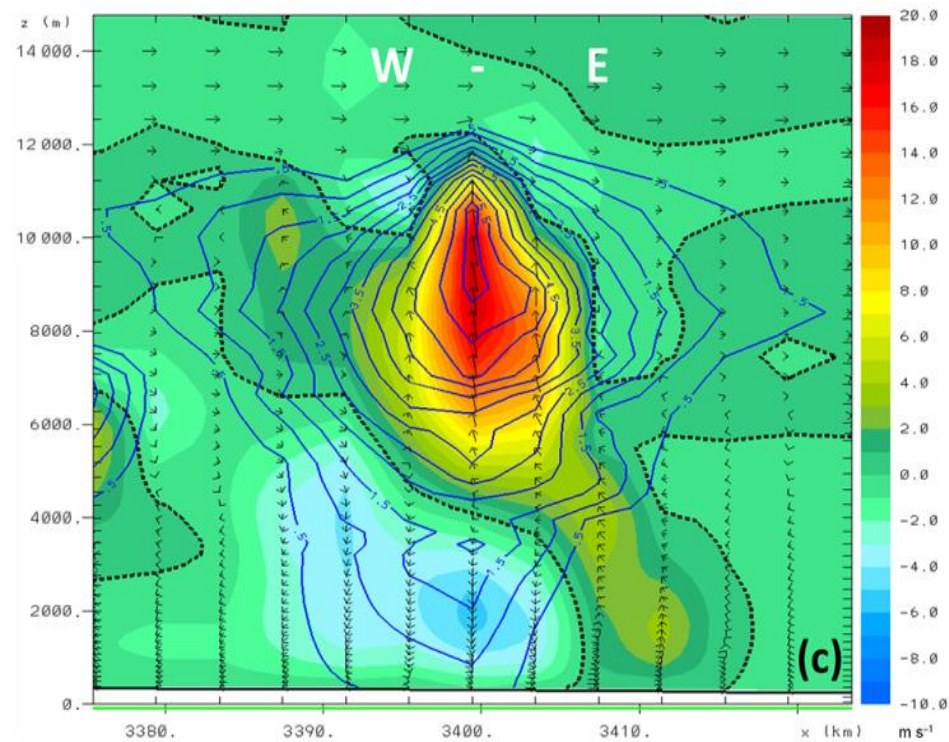


Limassol PollyXT Lidar and RAMS-ICLAMS comparison

## Cold pool vertical structure

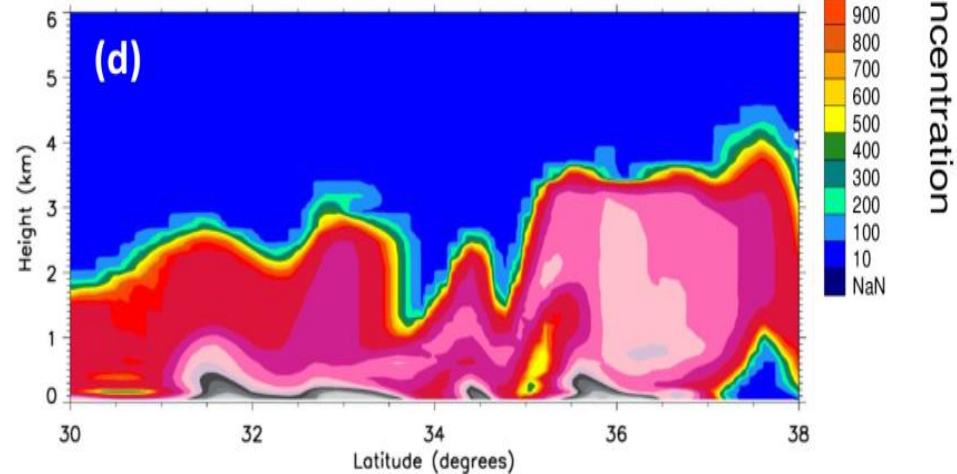
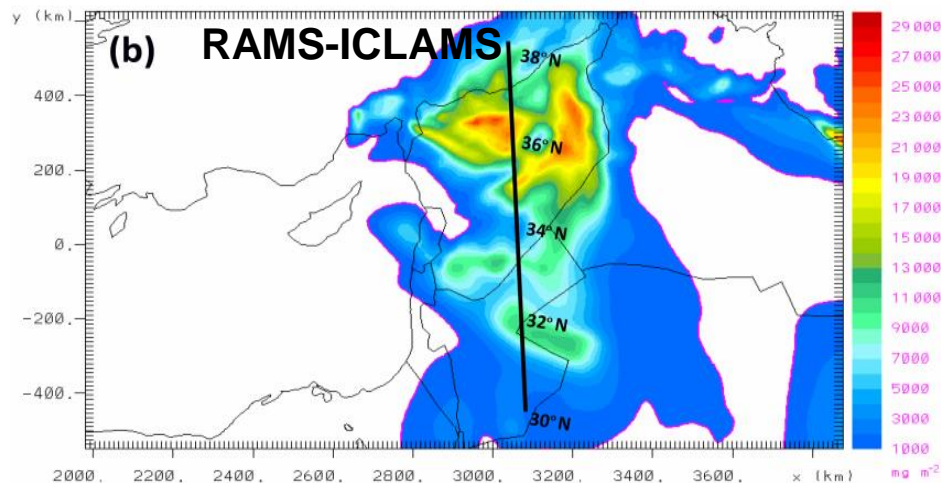
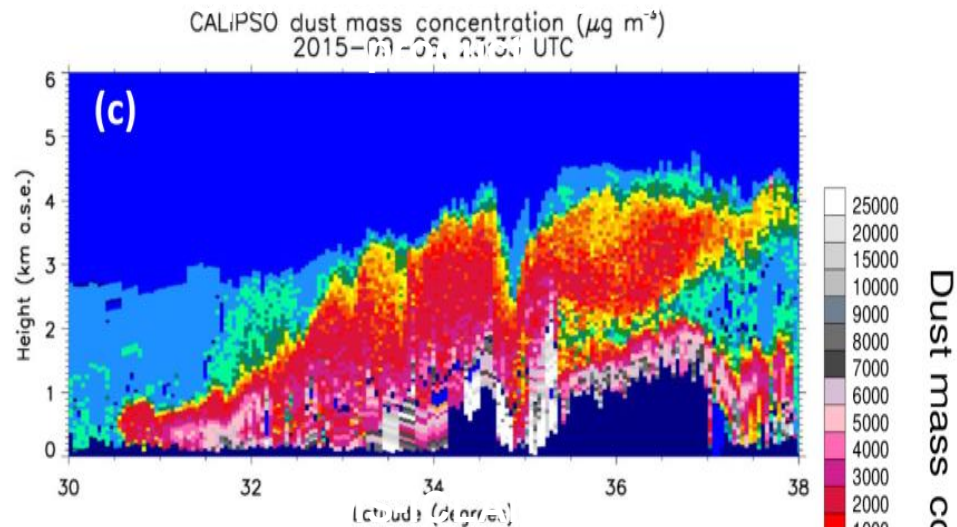
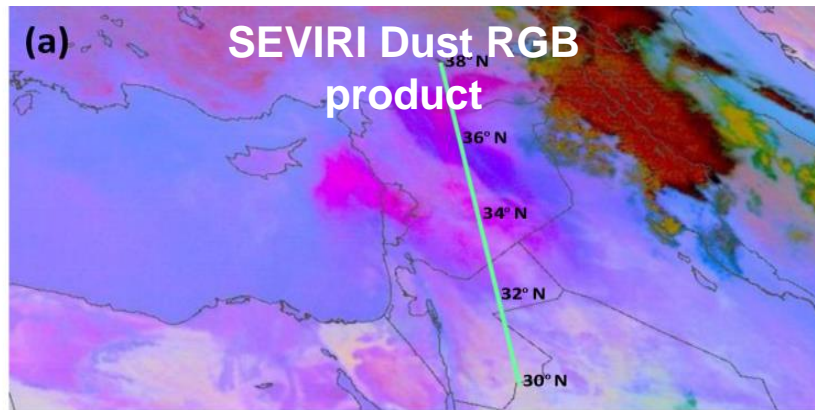
Total condensate mix. ratio (g/kg) and  $w$  (m/s)

Total condensate mix. ratio (g/kg), dust concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), and Streamlines



*Solomos et al., ACP 2017*

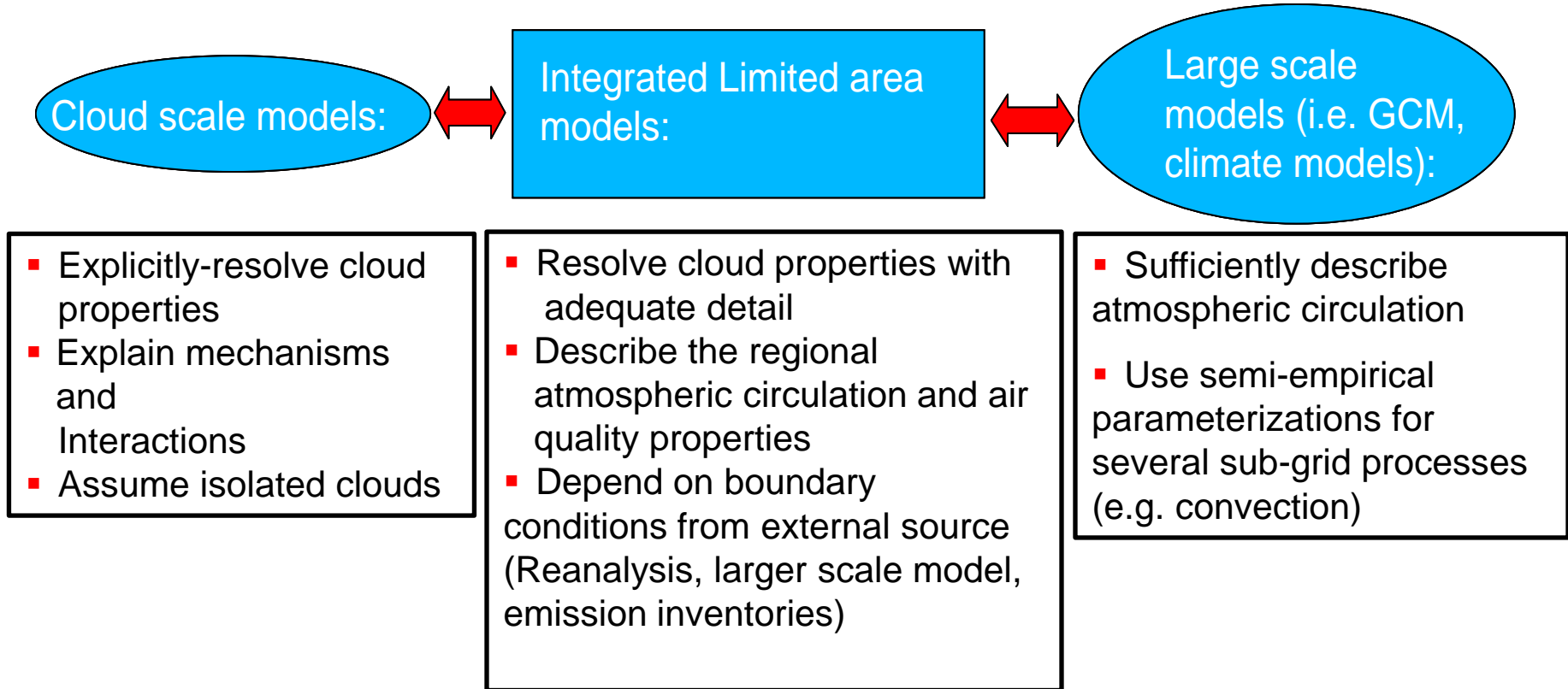
## Cold pool formations and comparison with SEVIRI and CALIPSO

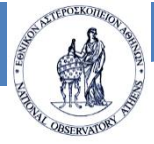


Modeling and remote sensing analysis reveal the extraordinary nature of this



# Aerosol Monitoring - Models





## All methods have limitations - Synergies

### In situ measurements

- Are very sparse (airborne)
- or at surface stations with little relevance for tropospheric aerosol layers
- Limitations at measuring sizes
- Dry particle measurements

### Models

- Rely on external initial and boundary conditions
- Computational errors
- Misrepresentation of physical processes

### Remote Sensing

- Sparse networks
- Retrieval algorithm errors
- Lidar near surface overlap

A synergistic use of available methods can provide more insight on specific atmospheric processes

## Introduction to Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP)



### Navier–Stokes Equations 3 – dimensional – unsteady

Glenn  
Research  
Center

Coordinates: (x,y,z)	Time : t	Pressure: p	Heat Flux: q
Velocity Components: (u,v,w)	Density: ρ	Stress: τ	Reynolds Number: Re
	Total Energy: Et		Prandtl Number: Pr

**Continuity:** 
$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho u)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho v)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\rho w)}{\partial z} = 0$$

**X – Momentum:** 
$$\frac{\partial(\rho u)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho u^2)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho uv)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\rho uw)}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{Re_r} \left[ \frac{\partial \tau_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial z} \right]$$

**Y – Momentum:** 
$$\frac{\partial(\rho v)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho uv)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho v^2)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\rho vw)}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{Re_r} \left[ \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial z} \right]$$

**Z – Momentum:** 
$$\frac{\partial(\rho w)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho uw)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho vw)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\rho w^2)}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{Re_r} \left[ \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{yz}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau_{zz}}{\partial z} \right]$$

**Energy:** 
$$\frac{\partial(E_T)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(uE_T)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(vE_T)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(wE_T)}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial(up)}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(vp)}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial(wp)}{\partial z} - \frac{1}{Re_r Pr_r} \left[ \frac{\partial q_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial q_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial q_z}{\partial z} \right] + \frac{1}{Re_r} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (u \tau_{xx} + v \tau_{xy} + w \tau_{xz}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (u \tau_{xy} + v \tau_{yy} + w \tau_{yz}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (u \tau_{xz} + v \tau_{yz} + w \tau_{zz}) \right]$$

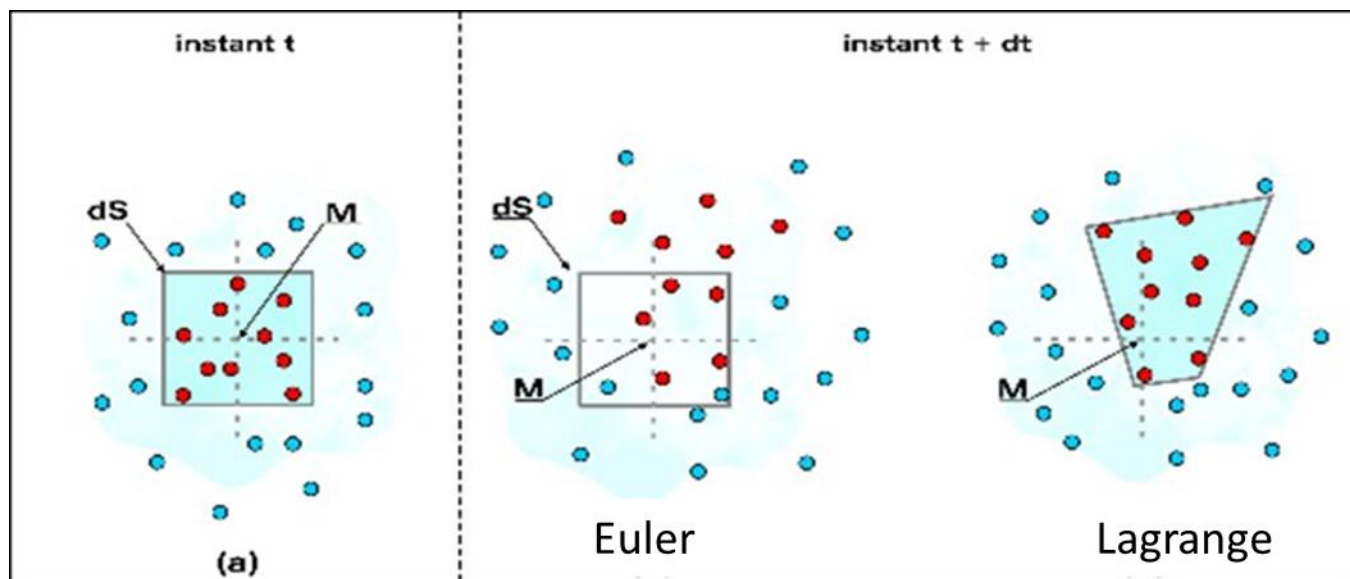
## Introduction to Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP)

### Lagrangian Description of Flow

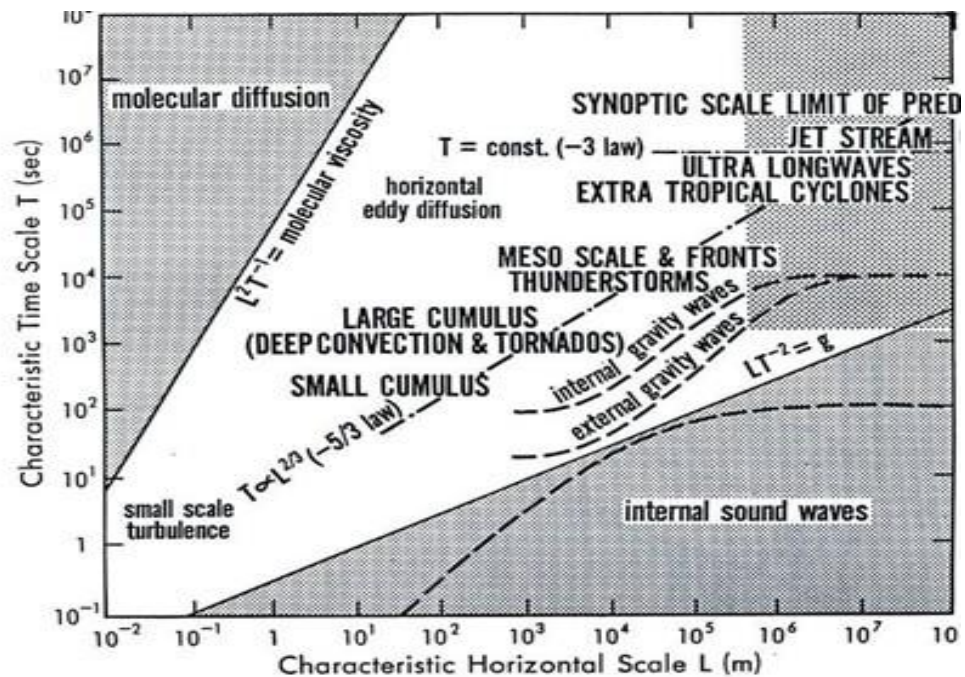
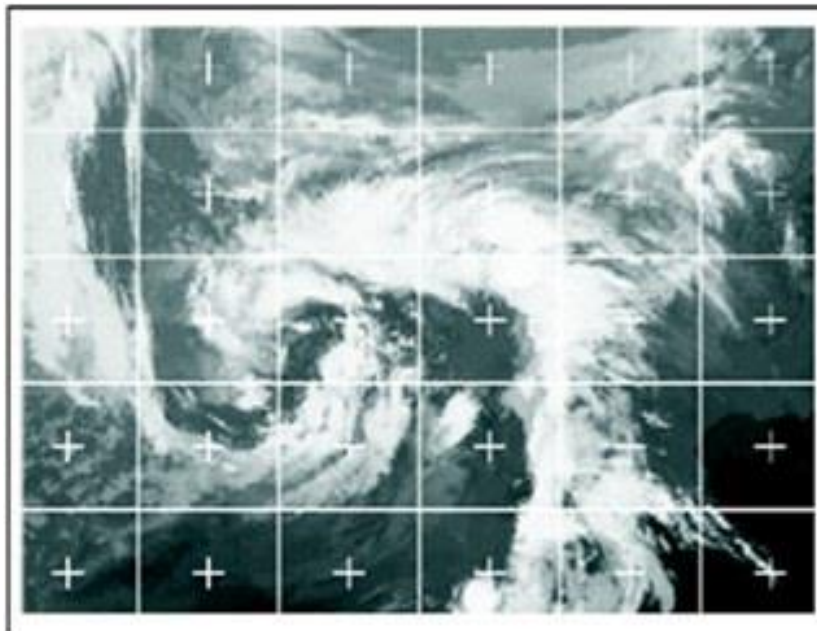
- We follow individual fluid particles (tracers)
- As the particles move their positions and velocities change with time
- The physical laws apply directly to each particle

### Eulerian Description of Flow

- We define a finite space grid
- The properties of each grid cell change with time
- The physical laws are reformulated to an Eulerian format



## Introduction to Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP)



- Practically speaking we need at least 10 grid points to describe a physical phenomenon.
- For example in order to resolve the development of a 20 km diameter convective cloud (Cb) this yields a model grid resolution of  $2 \times 2$  km
- Sub-grid parameterizations for small scale effects
- Convective parameterization remains the biggest problem in atmospheric models

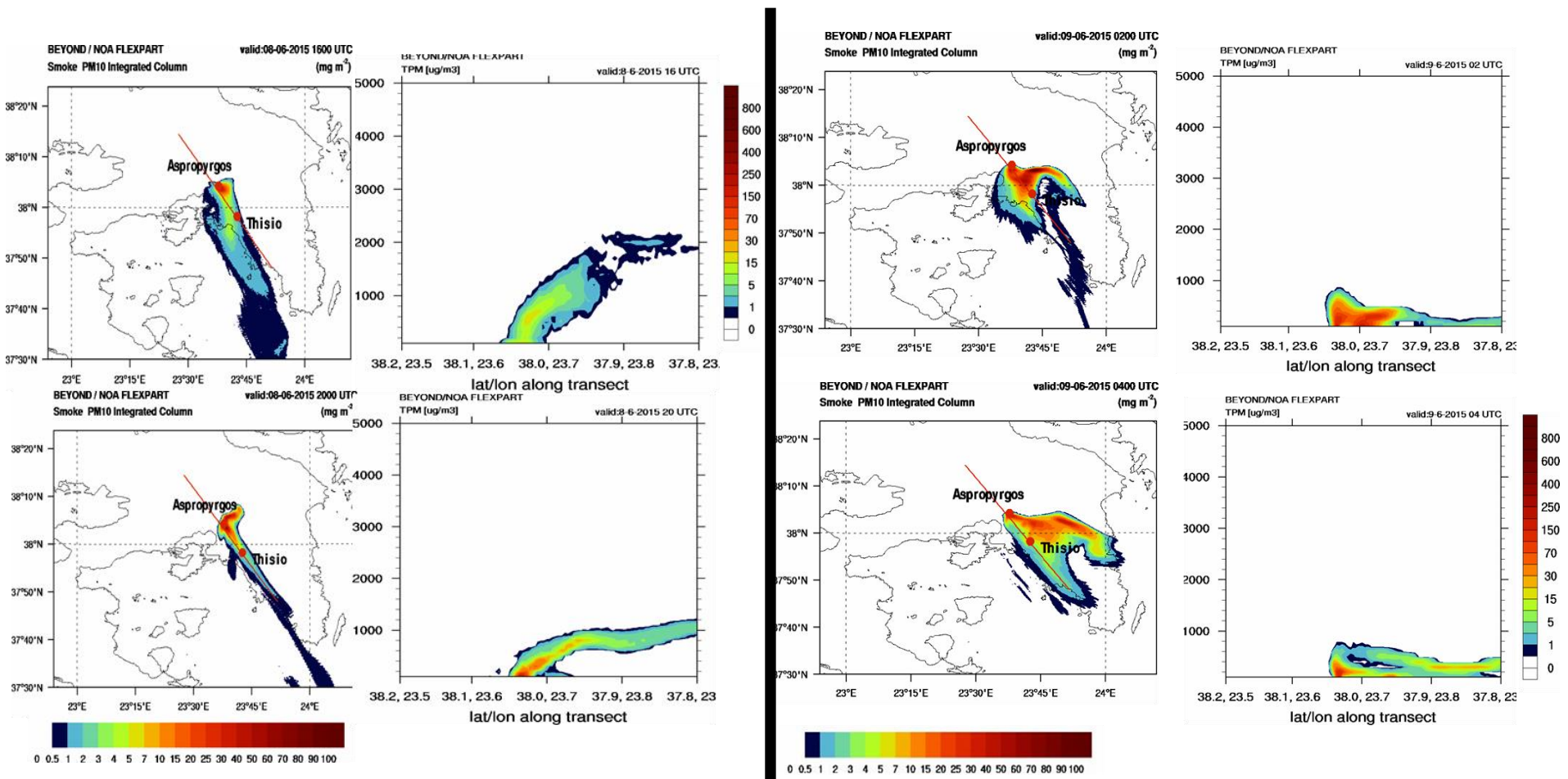
## Introduction to Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP)

- Most of the important development of primary atmospheric physical processes in NWP models was accomplished by 1990
- Currently we describe everything we know about atmospheric processes (actually, models have mostly caught up with our ability to observe the atmosphere)
- Most important NWP development in past 15-20 years: Cheap computer power (PC, Workstations, Supercomputers) and Multi-processing
- Higher resolution improves model topography, coastlines, treatment of physical processes

## Introduction to Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP)

- When using coarse resolution ( $> 10$  km), important weather events (e.g., thunderstorms) are not simulated explicitly
- Need of “parameterizations”
- If a parameterization gives an indication that a forecast thunderstorm occurred in a  $10 \times 10$  km grid cell, and it actually happened, it was considered a good forecast
- With high resolution (100 m), if a thunderstorm is forecast to occur 200m west of a road, but it actually occurred 200m east of the road:
  - good forecast? bad forecast?

## Dispersion Modeling – PBL Considerations



**High PBL top - Deep mixing**

**Low PBL top - Temperature**

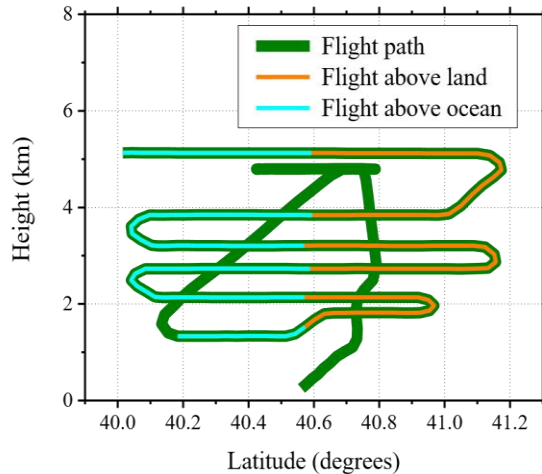


## Airborne – Satellite – Model combination

### ACEMED flight



### FAAM BAe-146 flight path

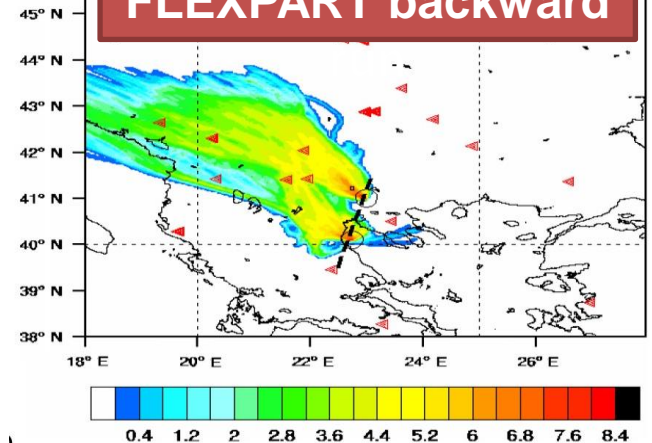


Valid date: 09 September 2011 00:30 UTC

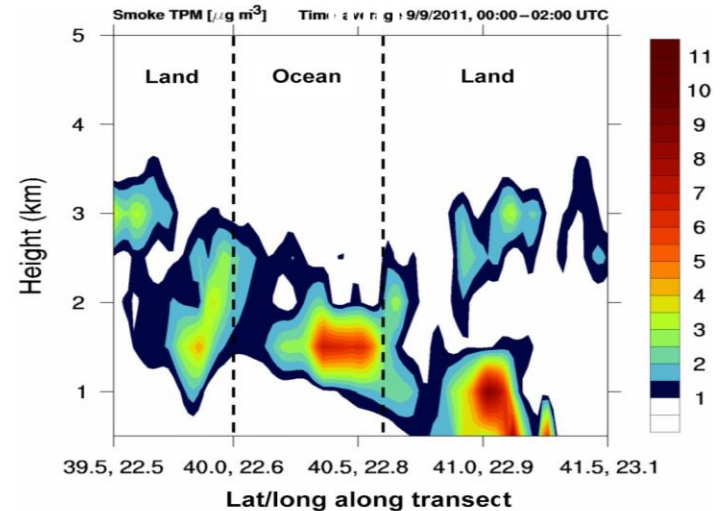
Model layer: 0–2.5 km

Emissions sensitivity (log) [ $\text{g m}^{-3} \text{kg}^{-1}$ ]

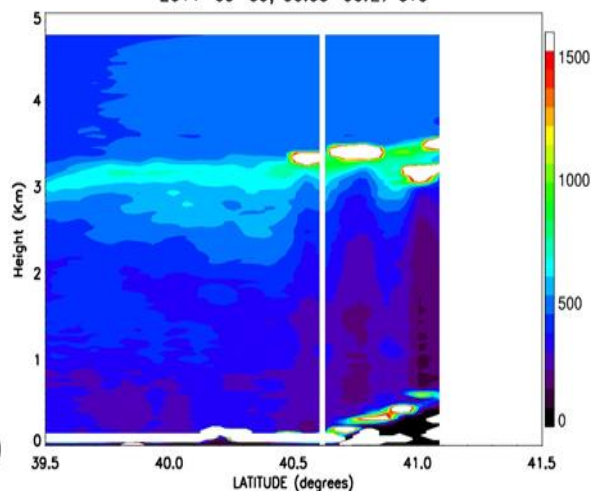
### FLEXPART backward



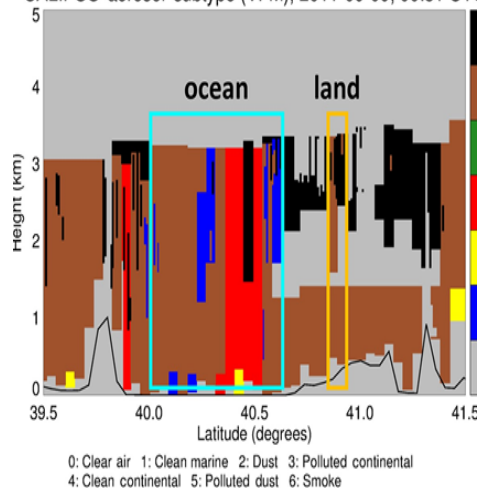
### FLEXPART forward



BAe-146 range-corrected lidar signal at 355 nm  
2011-09-09, 00:05–00:27 UTC



CALIPSO aerosol subtype (VFM), 2011-09-09, 00:31 UTC



## Modeling - Remote Sensing Synergies

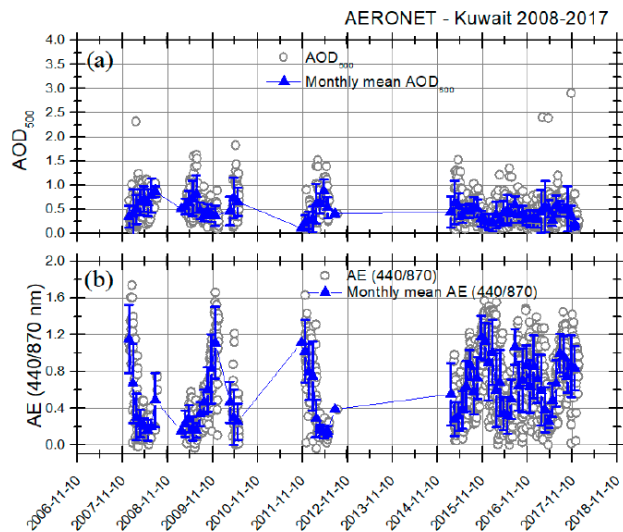


Figure 1. Time series of mean daily (grey circles) (a) AOD values at 500 nm ( $AOD_{500}$ ) and (b) Ångström exponent (AE), measured over Kuwait for the time period 2008–2017. Blue triangles correspond to their monthly averages and the error bars represent their standard deviation.

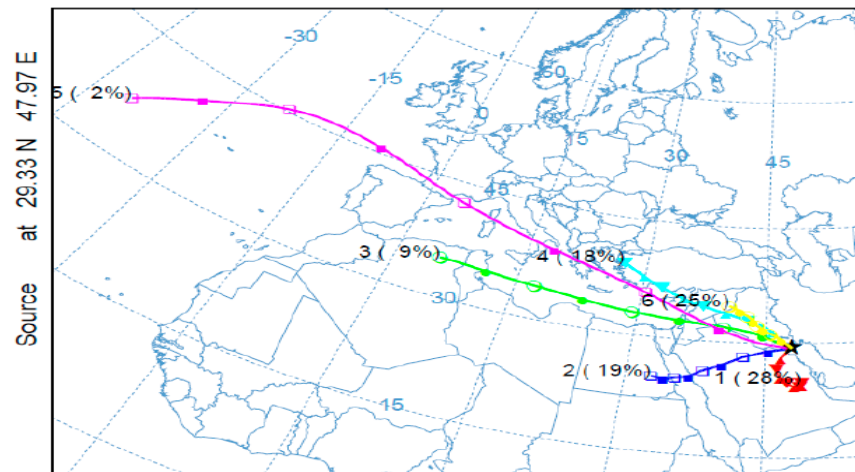
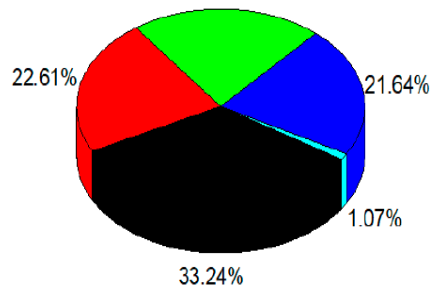
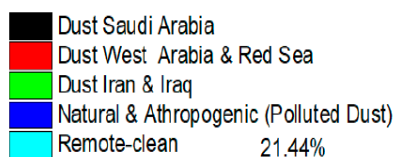


Figure 9. The main six air mass transport paths (centroids) are represented with the colored lines, indicating the central path of air masses with similar characteristics and directions, as determined from the HYSPLIT cluster analysis.

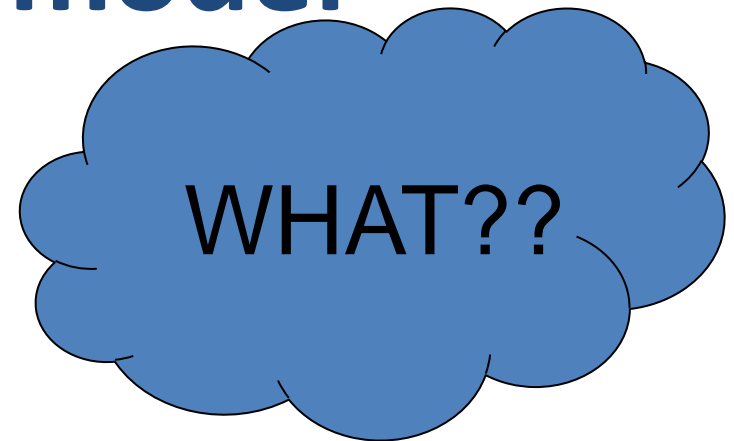


1. Station measurements (e.g. ASERONET)
2. HYSPLIT backtrajectories cluster
3. Result analysis to identify source apportionment

Figure 11. Contribution of the discrete source areas to the statistically mean value of  $AOD_{500}$ .

*Kokkalis et al., 2018, Remote Sensing*

# Hybrid Single-Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory model



Slides from the internet

What??

I think I'll call it  
**HYSPLIT**

<https://ready.arl.noaa.gov/HYSPLIT.php>

## What HYSPLIT Does

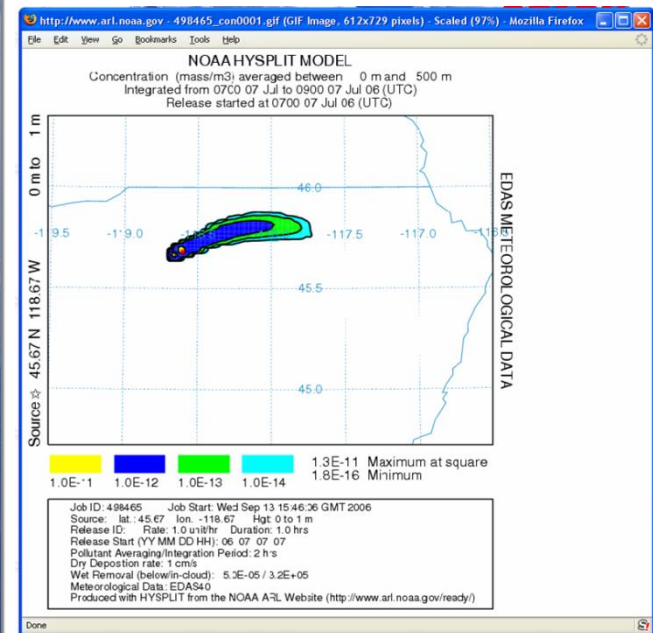
### Modeling tool used for computing :

- wind trajectories in three dimensions
- complex pollutant dispersion, deposition patterns
- can be used online or downloaded and used on your computer
- can provide short-term forecasts for pollutant dispersion, or wind trajectories using forecast meteorological data
- can help us predict air quality and explore existing pollution episodes in near-real-time, and increase understanding of past pollution episodes

## To Find Out Where is it Going



Proscribed burn



## And Where it Came From





[ARL Home](#) > [READY](#) > [Transport & Dispersion Modeling](#) > [HYSPLIT](#) > [HYSPLIT Trajectory Model](#)



- ▶ [Compute \*forecast\* trajectories](#)
- ▶ [Compute \*archive\* trajectories](#)
- ▶ [Retrieve previous model results](#)
- ▶ [Restart user session \(clear user inputs\)](#)
- ▶ [Current pre-computed U.S. trajectory forecasts](#)
- ▶ [Trajectory optimization for balloon flights](#)
- ▶ [Return to main HYSPLIT page](#)

### Daily Limits

Users are limited to 500 trajectories per day in order to share the resources available with all HYSPLIT users.

### Publishing HYSPLIT results

Publications using HYSPLIT results, maps or other READY products provided by NOAA ARL are requested to include an acknowledgement of, and citation to, the NOAA Air Resources Laboratory. Appropriate versions of the following are recommended:

### Citation

Stein, A.F., Draxler, R.R., Rolph, G.D., Stunder, B.J.B., Cohen, M.D., and Ngan, F., (2015). NOAA's HYSPLIT atmospheric transport and dispersion modeling system, *Bull. Amer. Meteor. Soc.*, **96**, 2059-2077, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/BAMS-D-14-00110.1>

Rolph, G., Stein, A., and Stunder, B., (2017). Real-time Environmental Applications and Display sYstem: READY. *Environmental Modelling & Software*, **95**, 210-228, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsoft.2017.06.025>. (<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364815217302360>).

### Acknowledgment

The authors gratefully acknowledge the NOAA Air Resources Laboratory (ARL) for the provision of the HYSPLIT transport and dispersion model and/or READY website (<http://www.ready.noaa.gov>) used in this publication.

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Modified: September 18, 2018

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READY users produced 2753 un-registered HYSPLIT simulations since 00 UTC today!

## Type of Trajectory(ies)

**Number of Trajectory Starting Locations**

- 1  
 2  
 3

Note: By choosing just one source location, more options for selecting the location will be presented on the next page, such as choosing by latitude/longitude, by WMO ID, or by plant location. Multiple source locations limit the input to just latitude/longitude positions. This option is ignored for trajectory ensemble and frequency.

**Type of Trajectory**

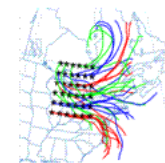
- Normal  Matrix  Ensemble  Frequency

Next>>

## Details

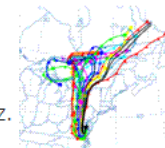
### Trajectory Matrix

The trajectory matrix option will run a grid of trajectories bounded by the first 2 source locations (trajectory 1 is the lower left grid point and trajectory 2 is the upper right grid point) and evenly spaced with a grid increment given by the distance between the lower left grid point (trajectory 2) and trajectory 3. Only one height is allowed.



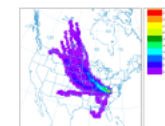
### Trajectory Ensemble

The trajectory ensemble option will start multiple trajectories from the first selected starting location. Each member of the trajectory ensemble is calculated by offsetting the meteorological data by a fixed grid factor (one grid meteorological grid point in the horizontal and 0.01 sigma units in the vertical). This results in 27 members for all-possible offsets in X,Y, and Z. Note: the starting height should be greater than 250 m for optimal configuration of the ensemble.



### Trajectory Frequency

The trajectory frequency option will start a trajectory from a single location and height every 6 hours and then sum the frequency that the trajectory passed over a grid cell and then normalize by either the total number of trajectories or endpoints. A trajectory may intersect a grid cell once or multiple times (with residence time options 1, 2 or 3).



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## Meteorology & Starting Location(s)

### Trajectory Calculation

**Meteorology:**

GDAS (1 degree, global, 2006-present) ▼

[More info](#) ▶

**Source Location** (enter using **one** of the following methods):



Click a location on the map or select from below:

Decimal Degrees Latitude:

56.000000 N ▼

Longitude: 161.000000 W ▼

DDD/MM/SS Latitude:

\_\_\_\_ N ▼  
Deg. Min. Sec.

Longitude: \_\_\_\_ W ▼  
Deg. Min. Sec.

City (Country or State: name: lat: lon):

\_\_\_\_ ▼

Airport or WMO ID (i.e., dca):

\_\_\_\_ [ID Lookup](#)

[Reset Form](#)

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We are looking at 8 August 2017



[ARL Home](#) > [READY](#) > [Transport & Dispersion Modeling](#) > [HYSPLIT](#) > [HYSPLIT Trajectory Model](#)



## Meteorology File

**Meteorology:** Archived GDAS1  
**Source Location:** Lat: 56.000000 Lon: -161.000000

Choose an archived meteorological file

Archive File:  ▼

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## We are looking at 8 August 2017

### Model Run Details

[Request trajectory](#)

The archived data file (GDAS1) has data beginning at 08/ 8/17 0000 UTC.

#### Model Parameters

Trajectory direction:

- Forward
- Backward (Change the default start time!)

[More info](#)

Vertical Motion:

- Model vertical velocity
- Isobaric
- Isentropic

[More info](#)

Start time (UTC):

Current time: 10:37

year month day hour  
17 08 08 12

[More info](#)

Total run time (hours):

[More info](#)

Start a new trajectory every:

 hrs

Maximum number of trajectories:

[More info](#)

Start 1 latitude (degrees):

[More info](#)

Start 1 longitude (degrees):

[More info](#)

Start 2 latitude (degrees):

Start 2 longitude (degrees):

Start 3 latitude (degrees):

Start 3 longitude (degrees):

Level 1 height:

 meters AGL meters AMSL[More info](#)

Level 2 height:

Level 3 height:



## We are looking at 8 August 2017

**Display Options**

GIS output of contours?  None  Google Earth (kmz)  GIS Shapefile [More info ▶](#)

---

The following options apply only to the GIF, PDF, and PS results (not Google Earth)

Plot resolution (dpi):  [More info ▶](#)

Zoom factor:  [More info ▶](#)

Plot projection:  Default  Polar  Lambert  Mercator [More info ▶](#)

Vertical plot height units:  Pressure  Meters AGL  Theta [More info ▶](#)

Label Interval:  No labels  1 hour  6 hours  12 hours  24 hours [More info ▶](#)

Plot color trajectories?  Yes  No

Use same colors for each source location?  Yes  No [More info ▶](#)

Plot source location symbol?  Yes  No

Distance circle overlay:  None  Auto [More info ▶](#)

U.S. county borders?  Yes  No [More info ▶](#)

Postscript file?  Yes  No [More info ▶](#)

PDF file?  Yes  No

Plot meteorological field along trajectory?  Yes  No [More info ▶](#)

Note: Only choose one meteorological variable from below to plot

Dump meteorological data along trajectory: [More info ▶](#)

- Terrain Height (m)
- Potential Temperature (K)
- Ambient Temperature (K)
- Rainfall (mm per hr)
- Mixed Layer Depth (m)
- Relative Humidity (%)
- Downward Solar Radiation Flux (W/m\*\*2)

Request trajectory (only press once!)



## We are looking at 8 August 2017

[ARL Home](#) > [READY](#) > [Transport & Dispersion Modeling](#) > [HYSPLIT](#) > [HYSPLIT Trajectory Model Results](#)



### HYSPLIT MODEL RESULTS FOR JOB NUMBER 124478

SETUP.124478  
NOTICE: using namelist file

**Model Status:** Last Changed Date: 2019-03-20 13:31:35 -0400 (Wed, 20 Mar 2019)  
Last Changed Rev: 1007  
HYSPLIT4 - Initialization  
Model submitted on Tue May 28 06:39:45 EDT 2019

RESULTS	Click on text link to view images in a new window.	
	<a href="#">GIF Plots</a>	<a href="#">PDF Plots</a>
<a href="#">Trajectories</a>	<a href="#">.gif</a>	<a href="#">.pdf</a>

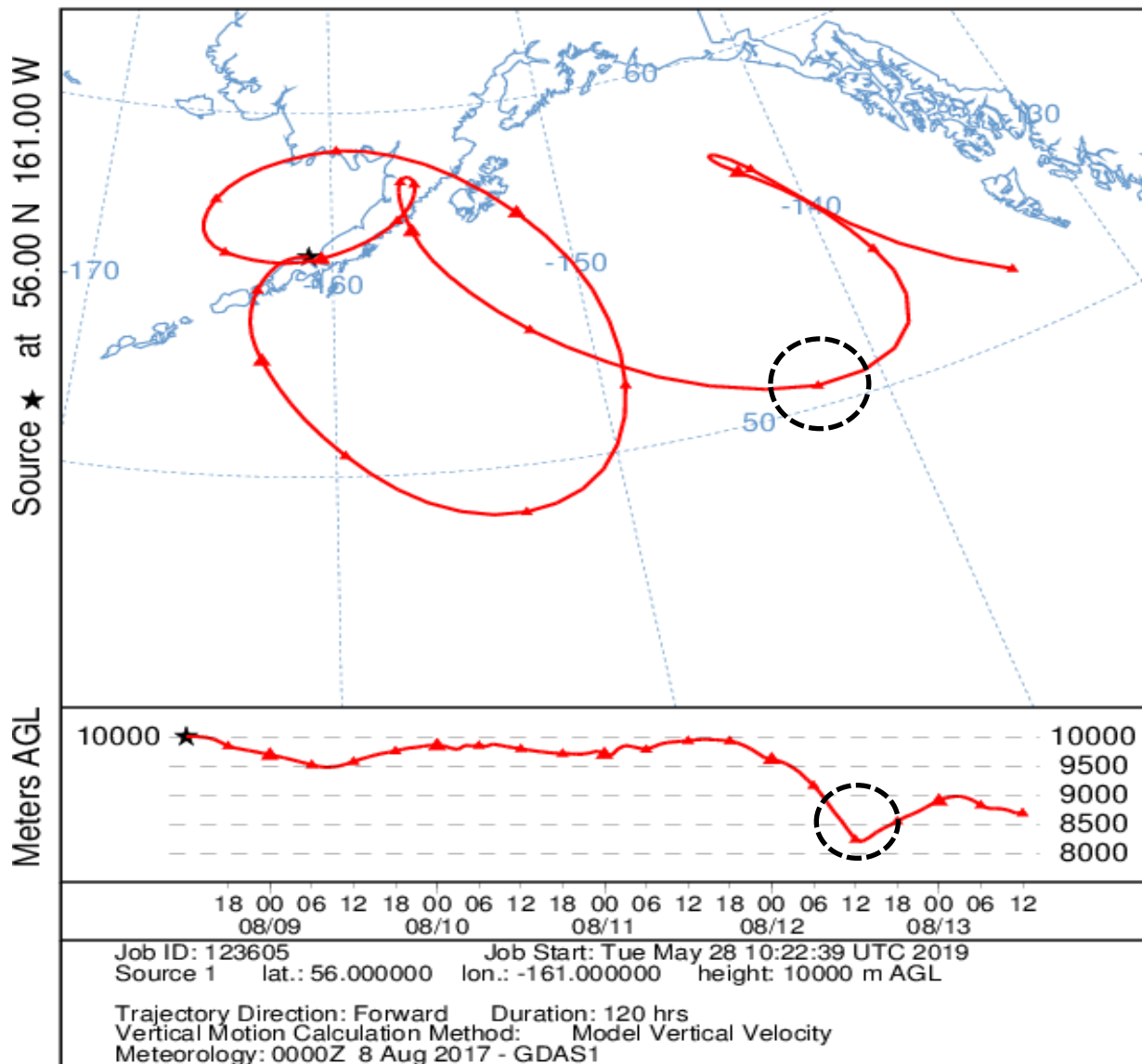
- [Modify the trajectory plot without rerunning the model.](#)
- [Trajectory endpoints file.](#)
  - [Trajectory endpoints format help.](#)
- [HYSPLIT SETUP file.](#)
- [HYSPLIT CONTROL file.](#)
- [HYSPLIT MESSAGE \(diagnostics\) file.](#)
  - [MESSAGE file format help \(pdf\)](#)

[Return to main menu \(keep user inputs\)](#)

[Return to main menu \(clear user inputs\)](#)

## NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL Forward trajectory starting at 1200 UTC 08 Aug 17 GDAS Meteorological Data

**Find the location of  
the air mass at  
12:00UTC  
12 AUG 2017**



## Sheveluch Volcano

56.55 N

161.3 W

8 – 16 August 2017



## British Columbia Fires

53.72 N

127.64 W

14-15 August 2017







1. Να εξεταστεί η προέλευση των αερίων μαζών που ανιχνεύονται σε ύψος 2, 4, 6, 8 και 10 km στο σταθμό της Φινοκαλιάς στην Κρήτη για τις 25 Μαρτίου 2019, 12:00 UTC
2. Να εξεταστεί αν για κάποια συγκεκριμένη ημερομηνία μεταξύ 15-25 Αυγούστου 2017 υπάρχει πιθανότητα να συνυπάρχουν αέριες μάζες προερχόμενες από τις περιοχές 1 και 2, καθώς και σε ποιο σημείο στην ατμόσφαιρα μπορεί να συμβαίνει αυτό.

## **Περιοχή 1**

### **Sheveluch Volcano**

56.55 N

161.3 W

8 – 16 August 2017

## **Περιοχή 2**

### **British Columbia Fires**

53.72 N

127.64 W

14-15 August 2017