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# Application of the UW/CIMSS high spectral resolution global IR land surface emissivity database into the RTTOV model

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# The RTTOV Uwiremis module: EUMETSAT NWP-SAF AS mission

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•**Objective:** To provide an improved estimate and associated error of land surface emissivity for infrared radiometers for input to RTTOV (v9.3 and later)

•**Place:** Space Science and Engineering Center (SSEC), University of Wisconsin-Madison, and NRL, California, USA

•**Participants:** Roger Saunders (Met Office, UK)  
Ben Ruston (NRL, USA)  
Eva Borbas (UW/SSEC, USA)

•**Support personals:** Andrew Collard (Met Office, UK/NCEP, USA)  
James Hocking (Met Office, UK)  
Robert Knuteson (UW/SSEC, USA)  
Technical support: UW/SSEC TC,  
Ray Garcia, Graeme Martin, William Straka

# Outline

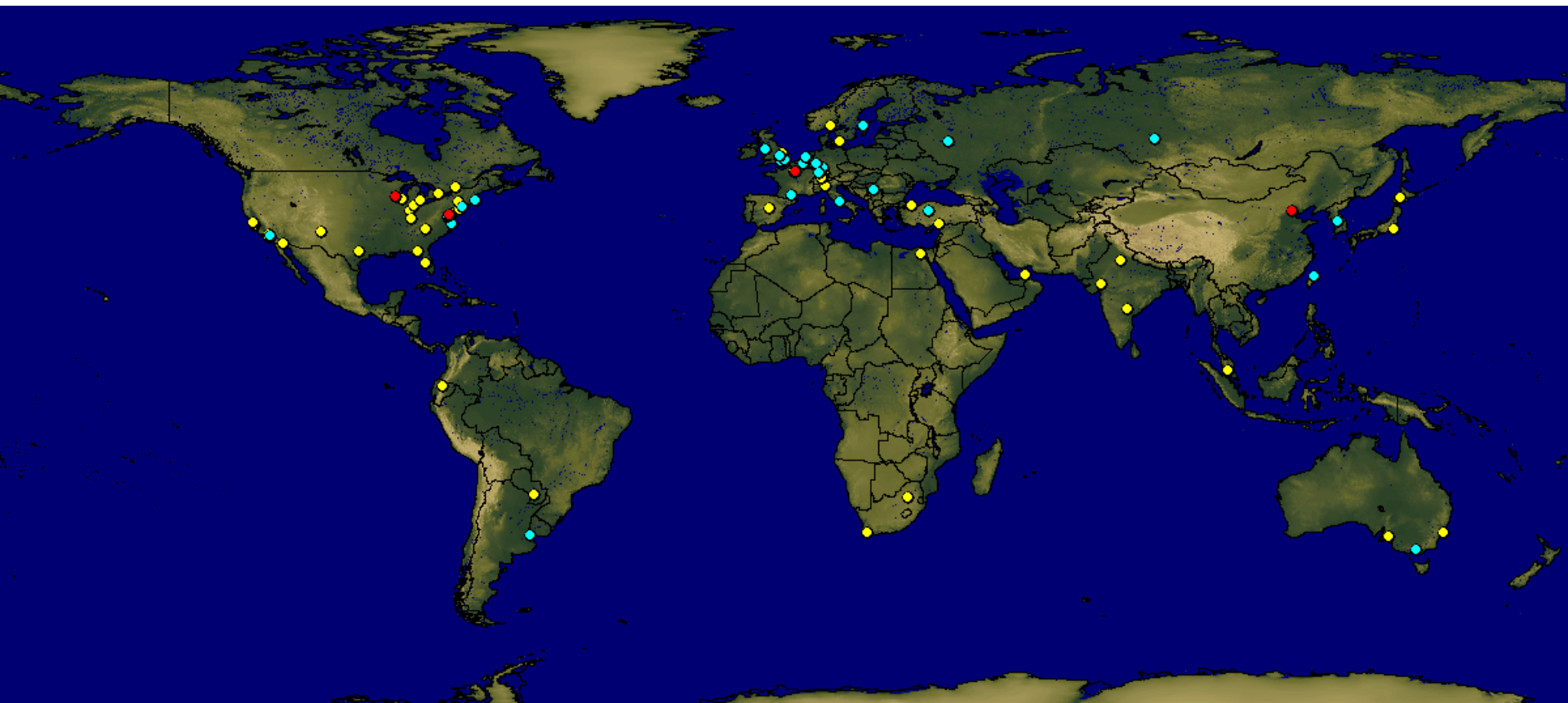
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- UW/CIMSS Global IR Land Surface Emissivity Database (UWiremis database)
- The RTTOV UWiremis module
- Evaluation of the module with satellite data (SEVIRI, IASI)
- Test of the UWiremis module in assimilation mode
- Conclusions

# Current status of the UW Global Infrared Land Surface Emissivity Database

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- Time coverage: Monthly: Oct 2002 - Dec 2006 - 4 years (based on MYD11 V4.0)
- Jan 2007 - Dec 2009 - 3 years (based on MYD11 V4.1)
- **No longer available data based on MYD11 V5.0 !!!!**
- Spatial Resolution: 0.05 degree ~ 5 km;
- Spectral Resolution: 10 hinge points (3.7 and 14.3  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- Available: <http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/irem>

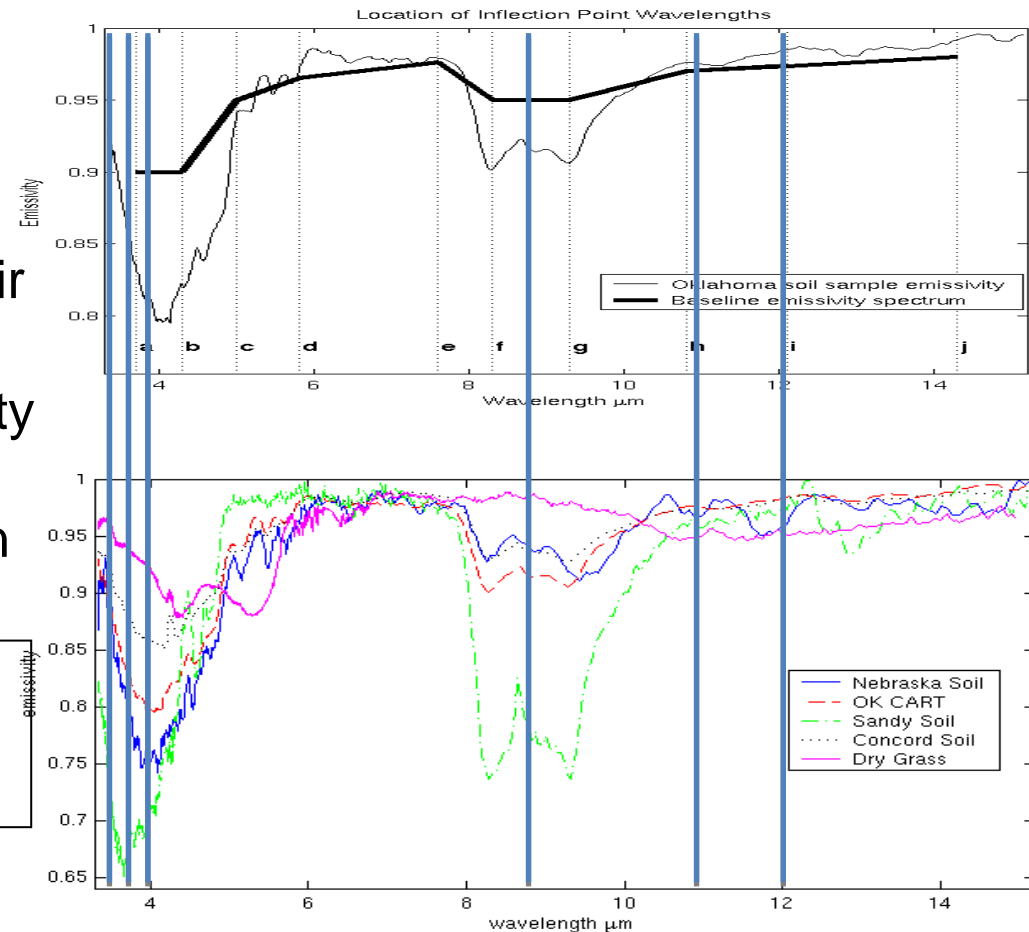


# The UW Global Infrared Land Surface Emissivity Database: Baseline Fit Method

- Based on a **conceptual model** developed from **laboratory measurements** (UCSB) of surface emissivity is applied to fill in the spectral gaps between the six emissivity wavelengths available from **MYD11**
- 10 hinge points** were chosen between 3.7 and 14.3  $\mu\text{m}$
- Adjust a laboratory-derived “baseline emissivity spectra” based on the MOD11 values for every global latitude/longitude pair
- Result:** a monthly global emissivity database at 10 wavelengths with 0.05 degree spatial resolution

## Reference:

*Suzanne W. Seemann et al., 2008;  
J. Appl. Meteor. Climatol., Vol. 47, 108-123.*



# Method (Uwiremis HSR algorithm)

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$$\vec{e} = \vec{c}\mathbf{U}$$

$$\vec{c} = \vec{e} * \mathbf{U}^T (\mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}^T)^{-1}$$

$\vec{e}$  is the HSR emissivity spectra

$\vec{c}$  is the PCA coefficient vector

$\mathbf{U}$  is the matrix of the first PCs of the lab emissivity spectra

- Most Important Idea (Bill Smith)

Represent high spectral resolution infrared emissivity as a linear combination of a limited number (e.g. 6) of eigenfunctions of a set of laboratory spectra that covers 3.7 to 14.3 $\mu\text{m}$ .

- Accuracy depends on

- UWiremis BF emissivity DB and **MODIS MYD11** data
- Set of laboratory spectra (current version contains 123 selected lab spectra on 5 wavenumber [ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ] spectral resolution)

- Output: emissivity spectra with 416 spectral points between 3.7 and 14.3  $\mu\text{m}$

# Outline

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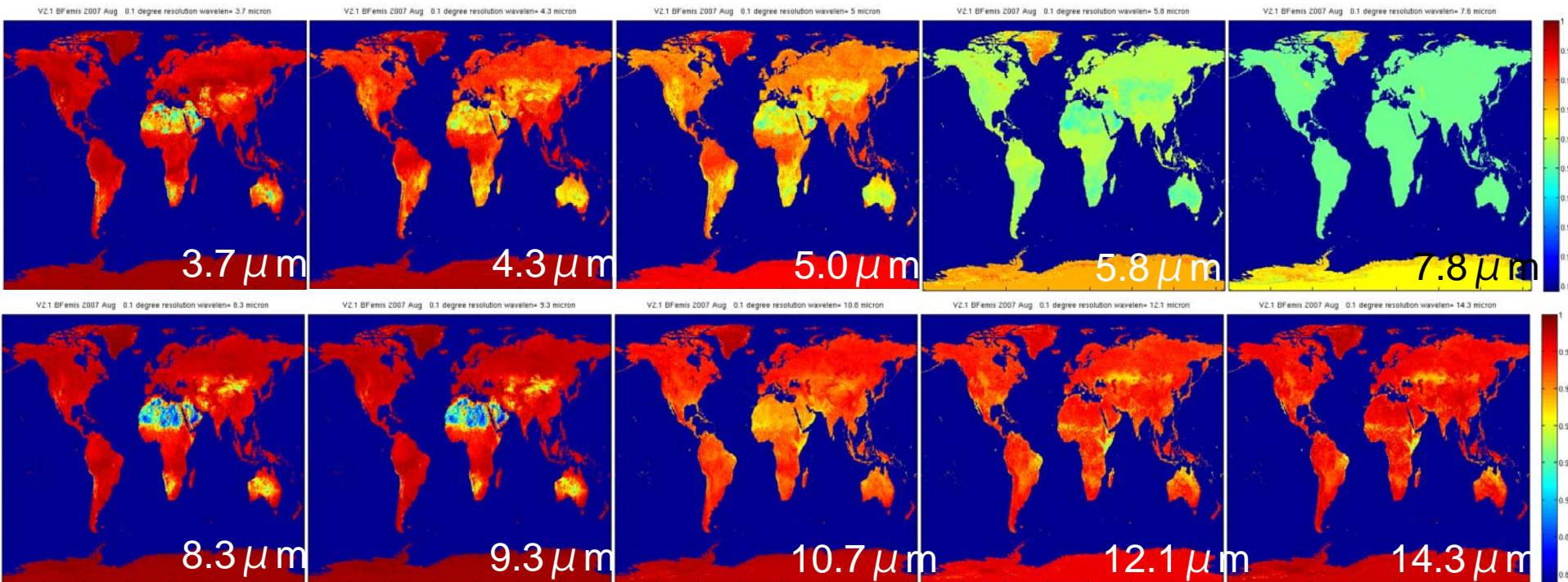
- UW/CIMSS Global IR Land Surface Emissivity Database (UWiremis database)
- The RTTOV UWiremis module
  - List of the components
    - Modification of the UW IR global land surface emissivity database for RTTOV
    - The new emis\_flag
    - The variances of the UW IR global land surface emissivity
    - Emissivity over snow and sea ice
    - Subroutines (7) and test scripts
- Evaluation of the module with satellite data (SEVIRI, IASI)
- Test of the UWiremis module in assimilation mode
- Conclusions



# The RTTOV Uwiremis IR emissivity module

## Modification of the UW IR global land surface emissivity database for RTTOV

- The 0.05x0.05 degree resolution UW emissivity database has been reduced to a 0.1x0.1 degree resolution and a land/sea mask (MOD44) has been applied to reduce the file size. **545 MB -> 50 MB**
- The database was created for each month of the **2007** year data.
- A new Emis Flag was created (see later)
- Filename:** Uwirbfemis\_V2.1\_0.1deg\_200708\_mask.nc (netCDF format)





# The RTTOV UW IR land surface emissivity module

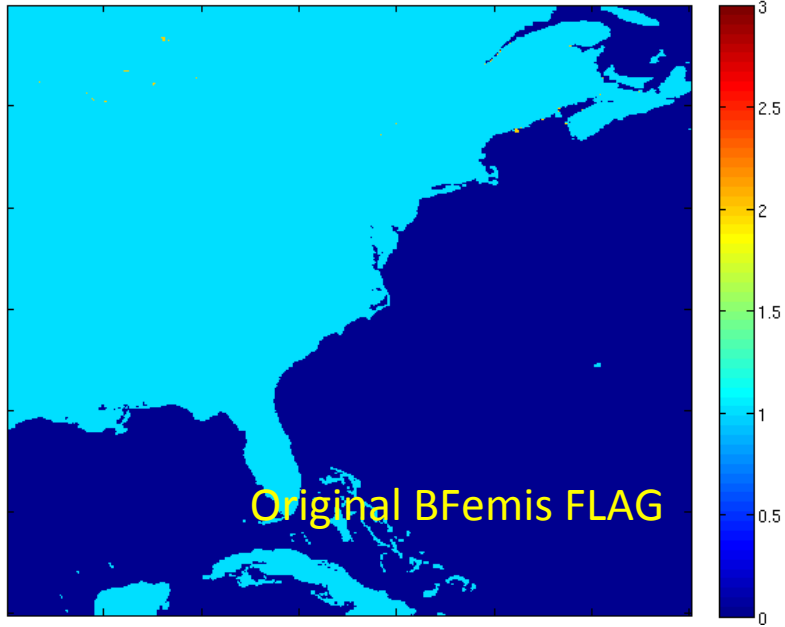
## The emis flag

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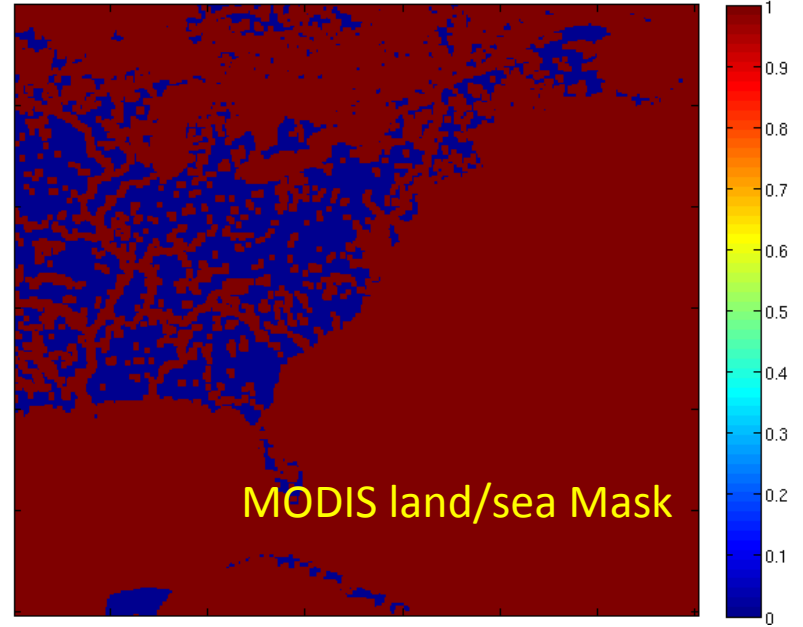
The emissivity flag is a combination of the original emissivity flag in UW emissivity database and a simplified version of the land/sea mask and the land fraction calculated during the 4x4 interpolation

- The original UW flag (**BFflag**): 0= sea
  - 1= BF method was applied,
  - 2= missing data filled with average
- MODIS Land/Sea **Mask** (MOD44):
  - simplified version: 0=land 1=contains water
- Calculated land fraction (**LF**): from the 4x4 0.05 degree UW IR emissivity database (0 or 0.25 or 0.5 or 0.75 or 1)

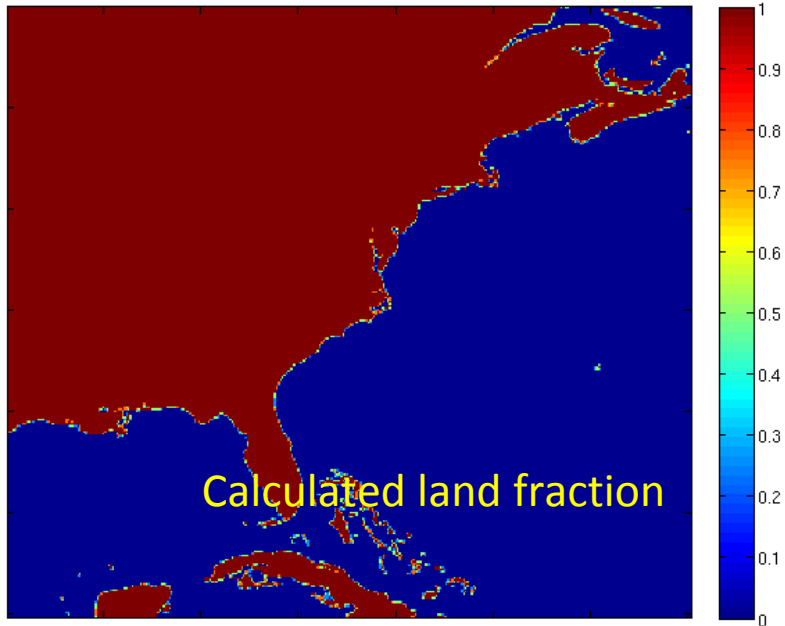
V2.1 2006 01 BFemis FLAG



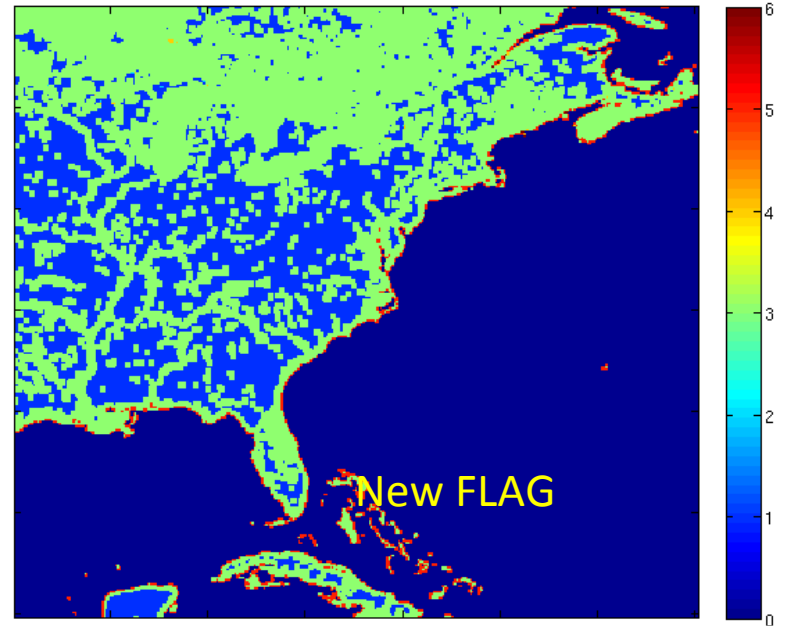
V2.12006 Land/Water Mask 0.1 degree resolution



V2.12006 BFemis LF 0.1 degree resolution

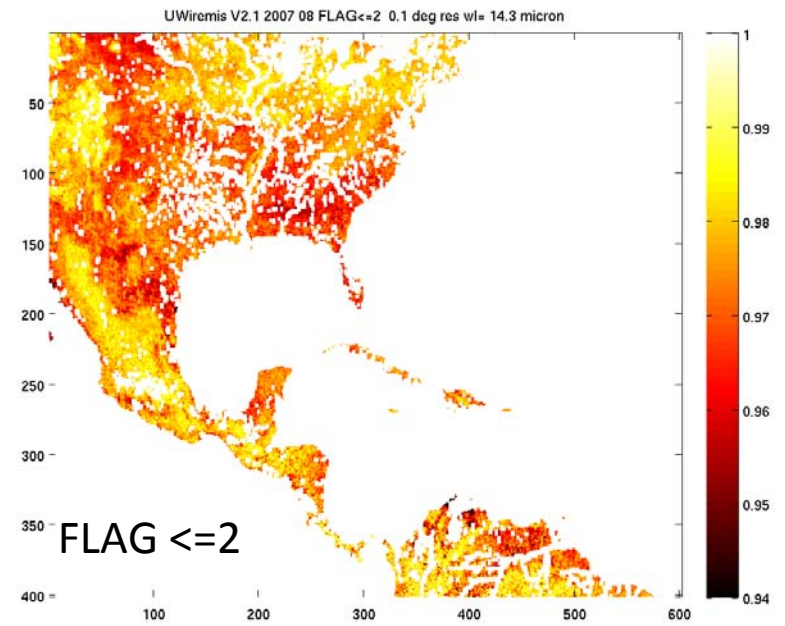
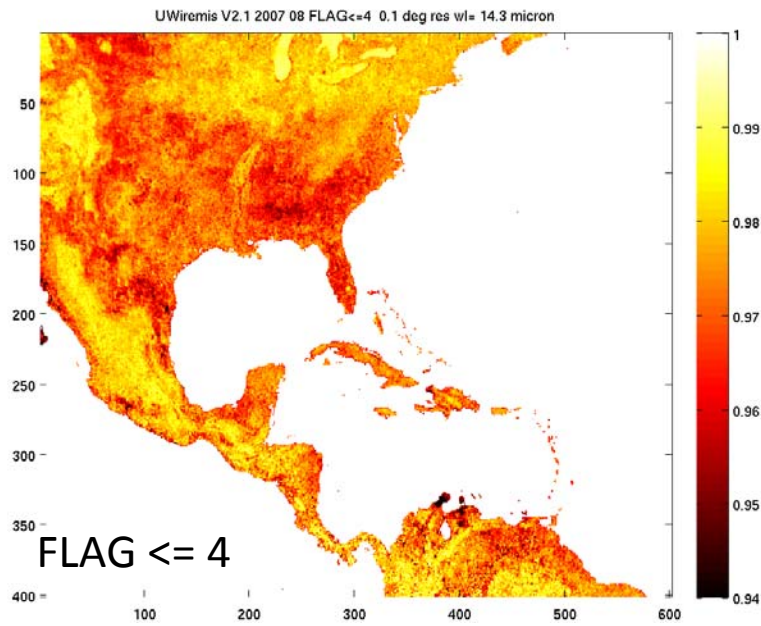
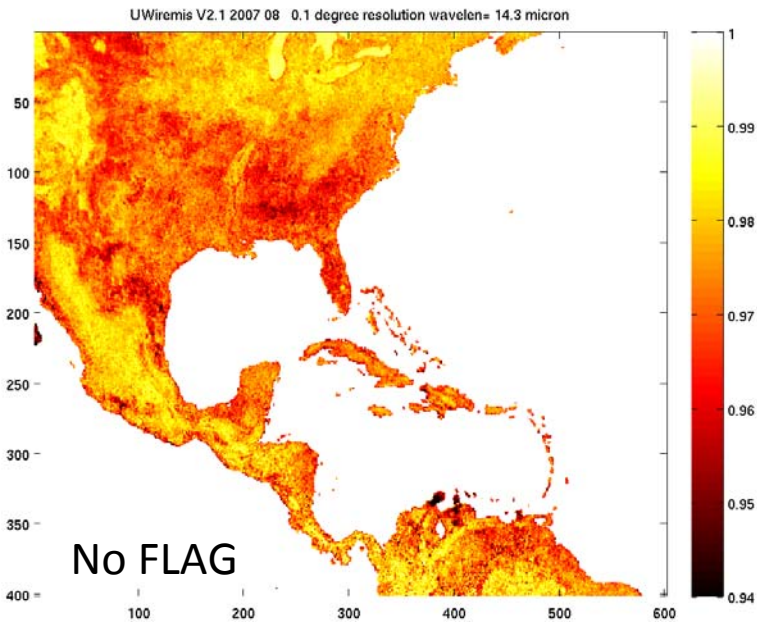


V2.12006 BFemis new flag 0.1 degree resolution



# Applying the flag over the Caribbean Sea

August 2007 V2.1  
(MYD11 C041) 14.3  $\mu\text{m}$

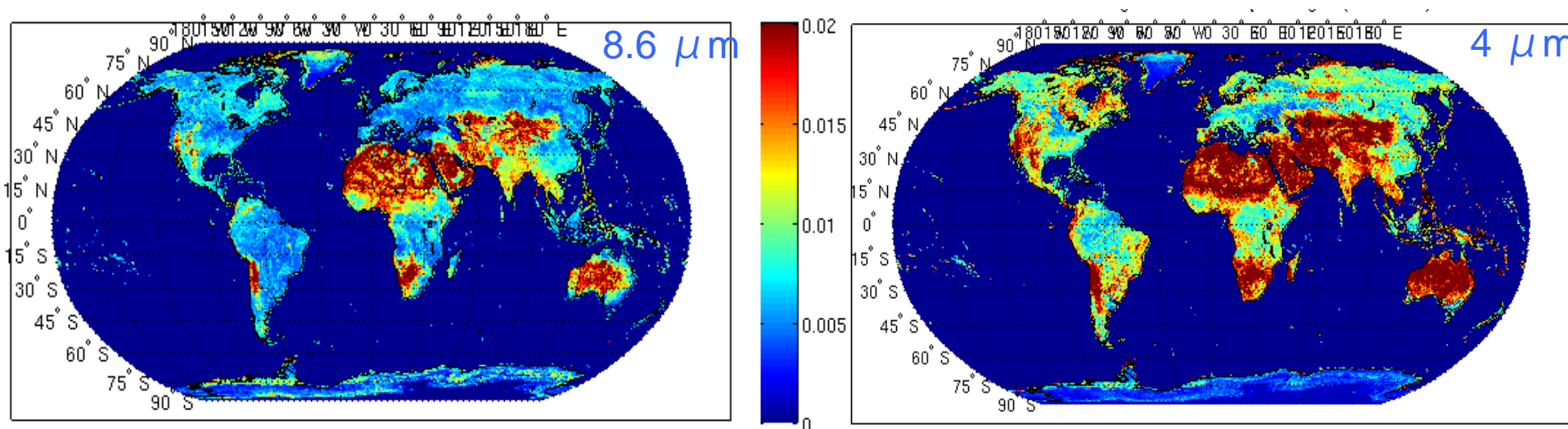


# The RTTOV Uwiremis IR emissivity module

## The variances of the UW IR global land surface emissivity

- The mean and the variance for **each month** has been created on 0.5x0.5 degree resolution between 2003 and 2006 data. -> 400 points/grid point
- The land/sea mask was also applied to store land grid point data only.  
-> 1/3 file size reduction ~ **158 MB**
- **Filename:** Uwiremis\_hsremis\_covmat\_V1.0\_deg0.5\_month08\_mask.nc (netCDF)
- Note, to store the full covariance matrix, the file size would be **500 MB/file**.

### Standard deviation of the UW HSR emissivity data base on 0.5 degree resolution For August (2003-2006)

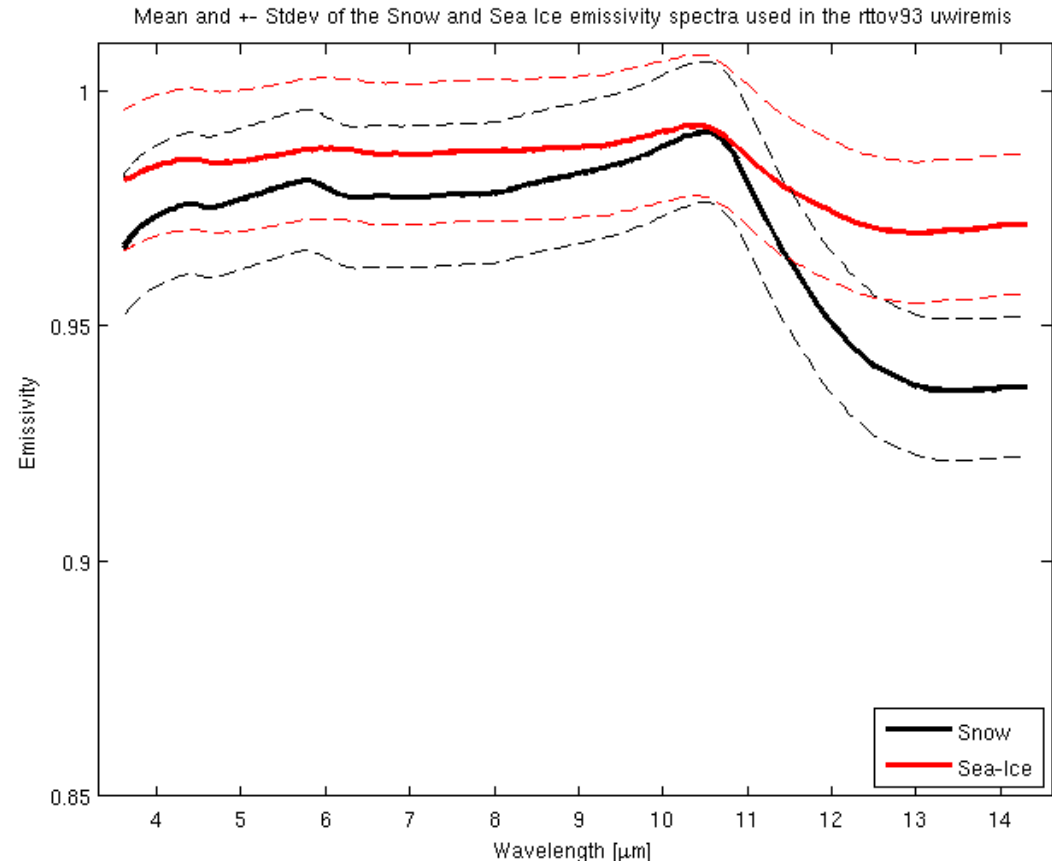


# The RTTOV Uwiremis IR emissivity module

## Emissivity over snow and sea ice

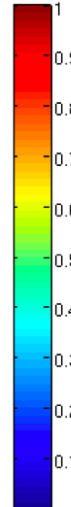
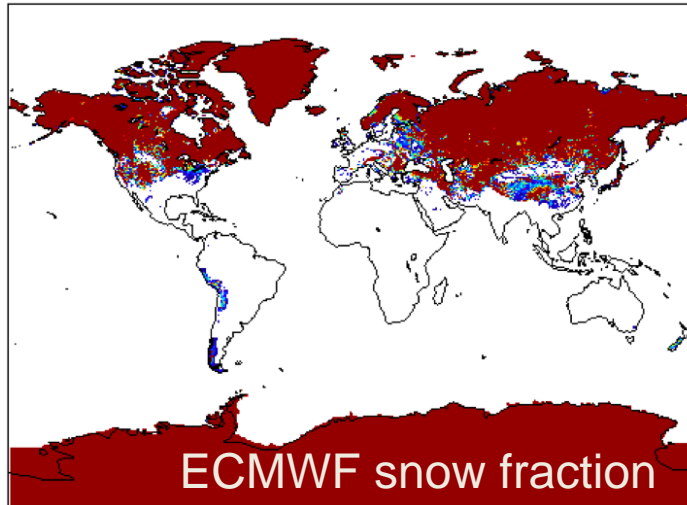
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- Snow and ice cover is important at high latitudes.
- Mean and standard deviation of snow and sea-ice emissivity spectra has been added to the Uwiremis module.
- Snow fraction was added to the RTTOV profile structure (Optional, default is 0) If the value is larger Than 0 the emissivity is linearly average of the snow and land emissivity.

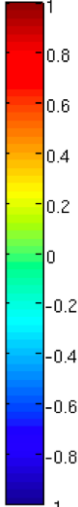
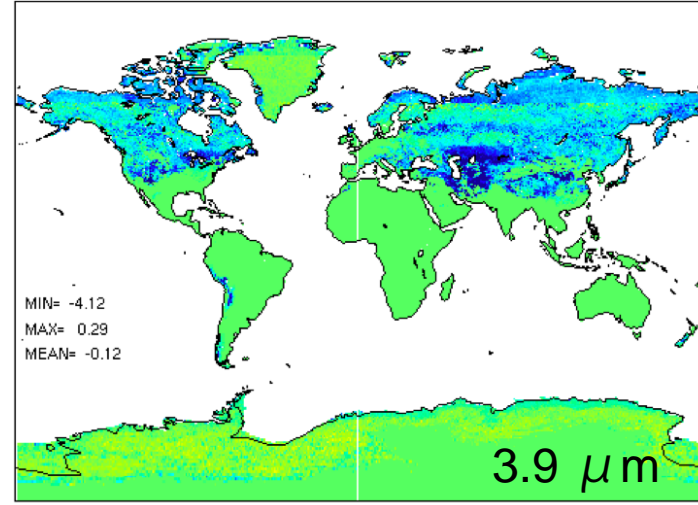


# Calculated BT differences (noSF - SF) on January 15, 2008, 12 UTC

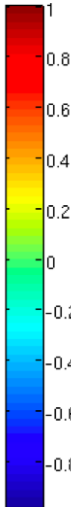
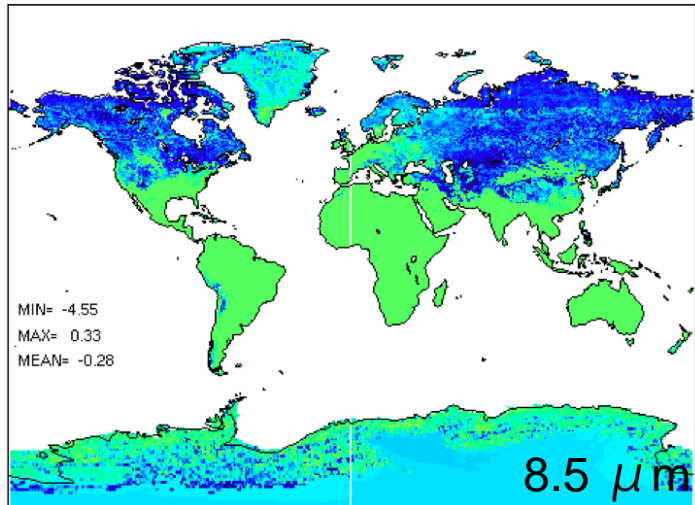
ECMWF snow fraction on 2008 January 15 12 UTC



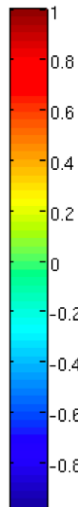
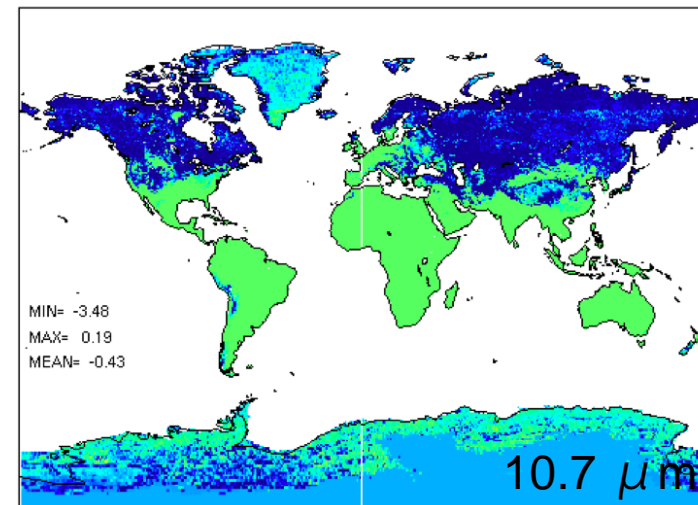
TTOV BT diff (nosf - sf, emis=UWiremis) 2008 January 15 12 UTC Ch= 3.9043 micron



TTOV BT diff (nosf - sf, emis=UWiremis) 2008 January 15 12 UTC Ch= 8.5143 micron



TTOV BT diff (nosf - sf, emis=UWiremis) 2008 January 15 12 UTC Ch= 10.661 micron





# The RTTOV Uwiremis IR emissivity module

Data file for the eigenvectors of the laboratory  
measurements

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- The eigenvectors of the 123 selected laboratory spectra is included in the *Uwiremis\_labeigvects.nc* file.

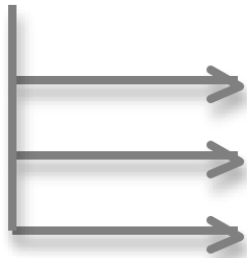


# The RTTOV Uwiremis IR emissivity module

## Structure

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**STEP I. rttov\_uwiremis\_init (called in rttov\_setup)**

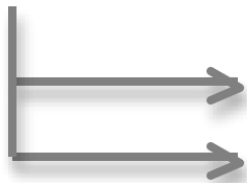


(1) rttov\_uwiremis\_read\_db

(2) rttov\_uwiremis\_read\_cov

(3) rttov\_uwiremis\_read\_labeigvects

**STEP II. rttov\_uwiremis (called in rttov\_calcemis\_ir)**



Rttov\_uwiremis\_recon\_hsremis

ttov\_uwiremis\_select\_wavenum

# The RTTOV Uwiremis IR emissivity module

## Input/Output

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### •Input data:

- integer imonth the number of the month [1,12]
- Integer ncs number of channels
- Real lat latitude [-90,90]
- Real lon longitude [0.360]
- Real instr\_wavenum(nchs) wavenumber of the instrument channels
- Logical addiremis default is false.

### •Outputs:

- Real isnr\_emis(nchs) emissivity of the instruments channels
- Real instr\_emis\_cov(nchs) variance of the emissivity for the instrument channels
- Integer isnr\_emis\_flag quality flag for the emissivity for the given location

# Outline

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# Validation of the IR emissivity database

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## Comparison with other IR emissivity data:

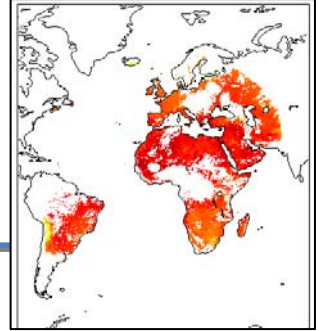
- UW AIRS Physical Retrievals (Jun Li et al)
- SEVIRI NWP\_SAF LSA Products (Moy et al. and James Hocking (UKMO))
- Comparison with the NRL database (Ruston et al.)
- UW Best Estimate (Tobin et al.)
- ASTER products (Hook et al.)
- ARIES JaVex aircraft measurements (Taylor et al.)
- LaRC IASI database (Dan Zhou)

## Indirect validation:

- comparison of observed and calculated AIRS radiances (Borbas et al.)
- dBT comparison with IASI and SEVIRI using RTTOV
- Application on retrieved satellite products:
  - Geocat, Leocat (Pavolonis et al.)
  - IMAPP and MOD07 MODIS TPW retrievals (Seemann & Borbas)
  - MSG Meteorological Product: SEVIRI TPW, SI (Konig et al.)
  - IMAPP AIRS retrievals (Weisz et al.)
  - UWPHYSRET (Antonelli et al.)

# Statistics of SEVIRI BT differences (Calc – Obs) July 15 2008 (full area)

---- Emis=0.98      - - - - Emis=UW

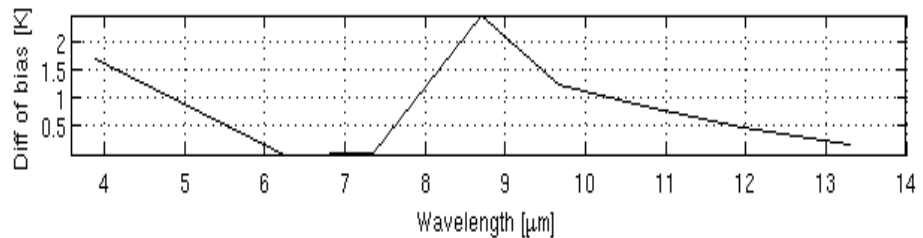
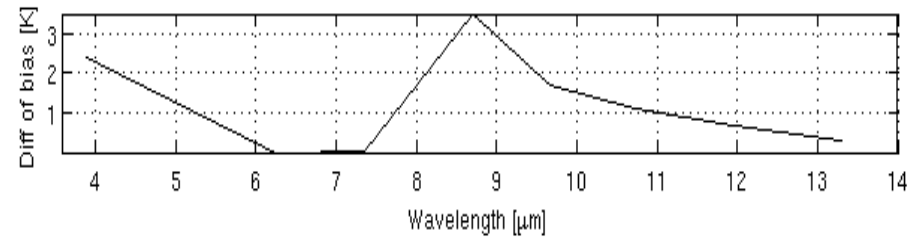
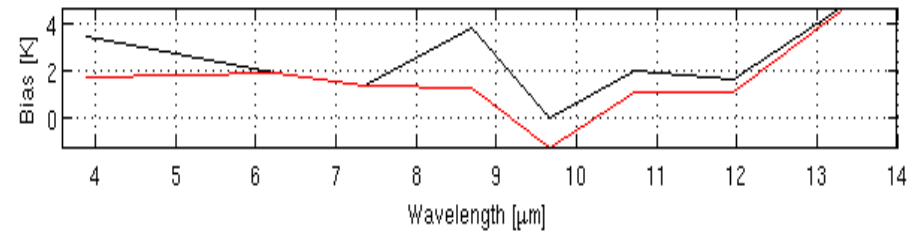
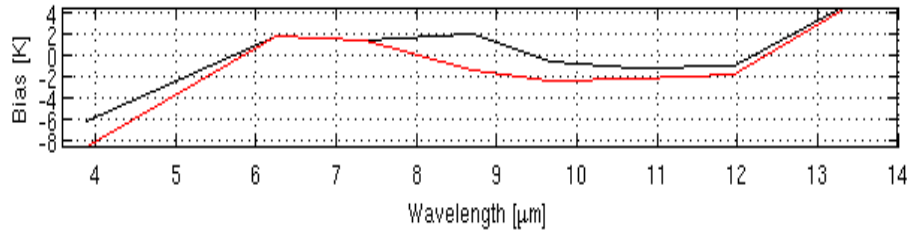


Day

Night

BTD (cal-obs) DB= UWiremis2007day ncases= 1487060 region= FullGlobe 200807151200

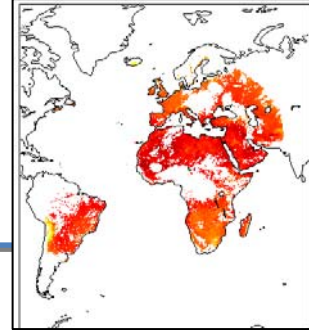
BTD (cal-obs) DB= UWiremis2007night ncases= 1778226 region= FullGlobe 200807150000



# Statistics of SEVIRI BT differences (Calc – Obs) July 15 2008 (full area)

---- Emis=0.98

---- Emis=UW

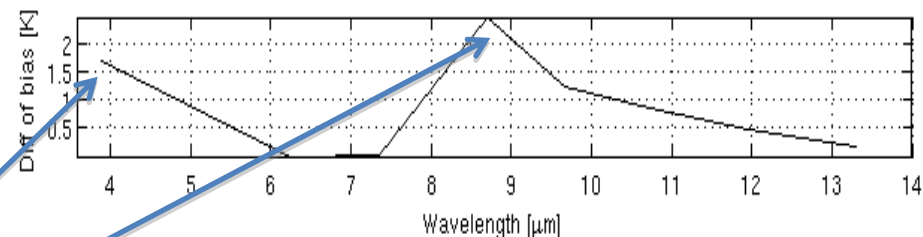
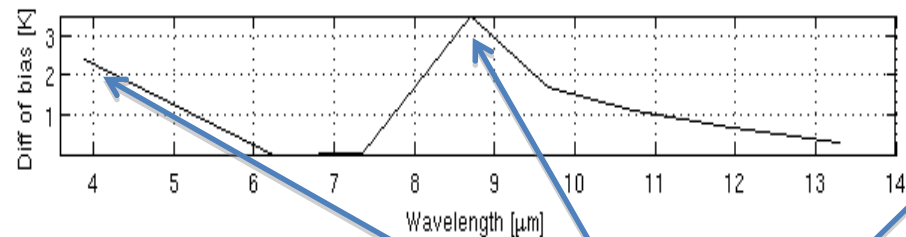
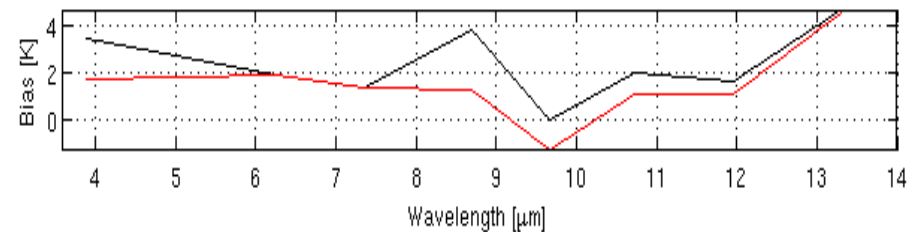
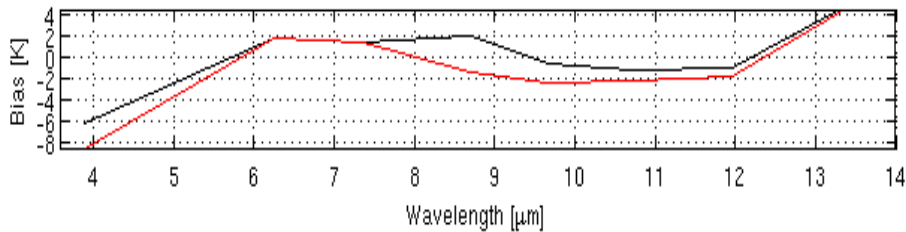


Day

Night

BTD (cal-obs) DB= UWiremis2007day ncases= 1487060 region= FullGlobe 200807151200

BTD (cal-obs) DB= UWiremis2007night ncases= 1778226 region= FullGlobe 200807150000



## CONCLUSIONS:

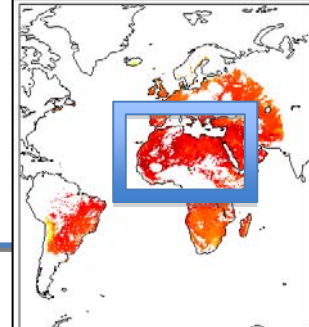
- The bias is reduced by 1.5 – 3.5 K at 4 and 8.7  $\mu\text{m}$  region.
- Systematic bias across all surface sensitive channels can be attributed to bias error in model LST.
- SW error in daytime is caused by the uncertainty in the solar radiation component in the RTM.

# Statistics of SEVIRI BT differences (Calc – Obs)

July 15 2008 over Sahara

---- Emis=0.98

---- Emis=UW

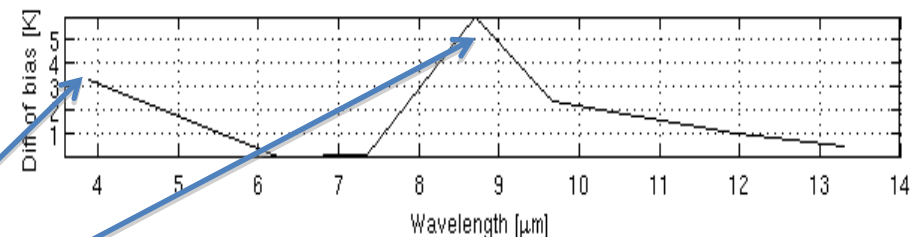
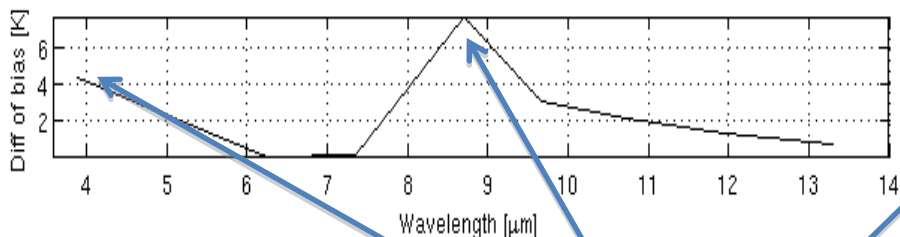
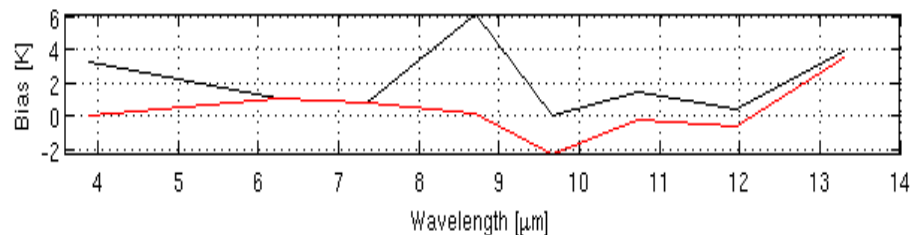
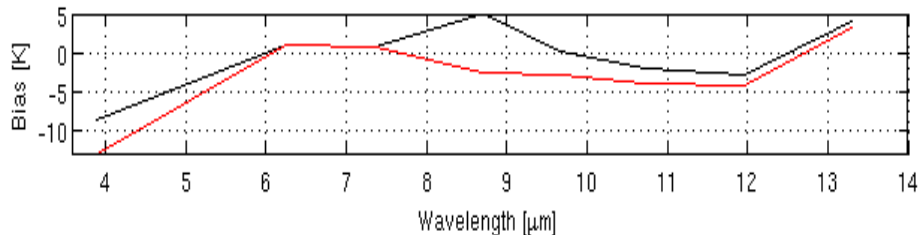


Day

Night

BTD (cal-obs) DB= UWiremis2007day ncases= 319867 region= Sahara 200807151200

BTD (cal-obs) DB= UWiremis2007night ncases= 333211 region= Sahara 200807150000

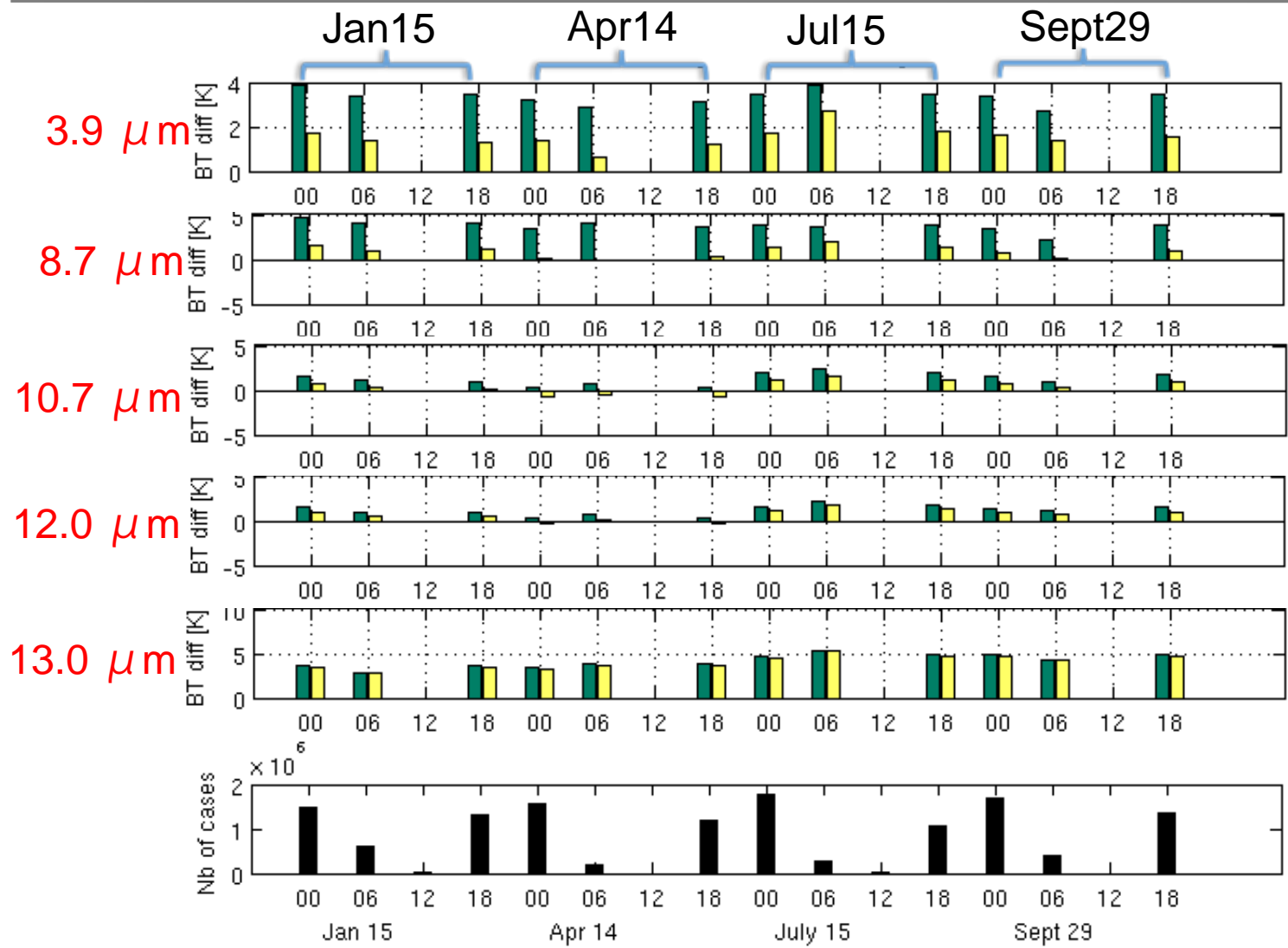
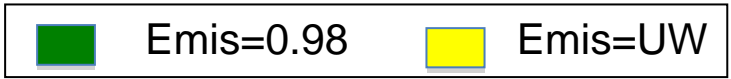


## CONCLUSIONS:

- The bias is reduced by (1.5 – 3.5) 3.5 – 8 K at 4 and 8.7 μm region.
- The most significant impact occur over very dry (sand) Sahara region.
- Systematic bias across all surface sensitive channels can be attributed to bias error in model LST.
- SW error in daytime is caused by the uncertainty in the solar radiation component in the RTM.



# Time series of SEVIRI BT differences (Calc – Obs) over Full Area (night)



•The seasonal variation in bias is reduced using the Uwiremis RTTOV module.

# Statistics of IASI BT differences (Calc - Obs)

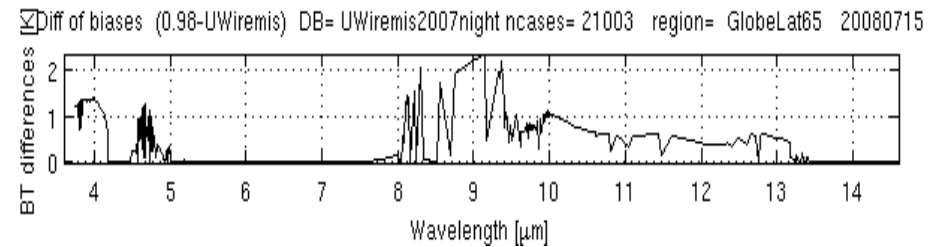
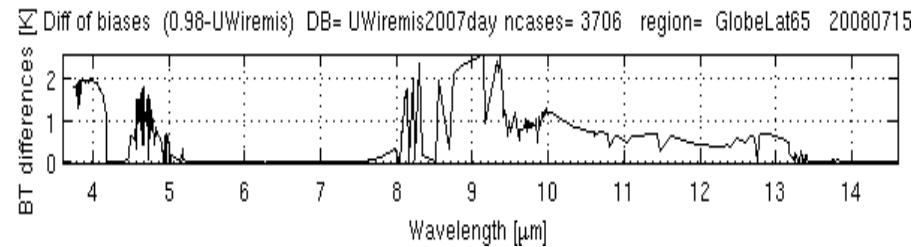
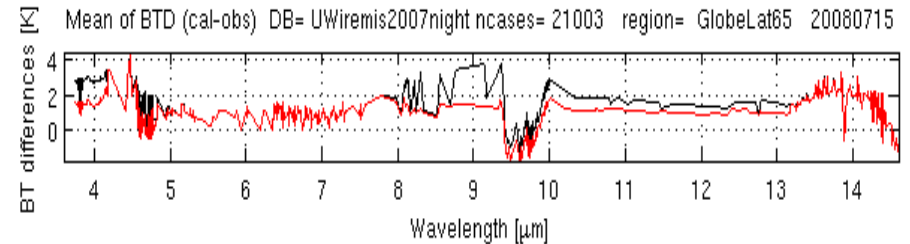
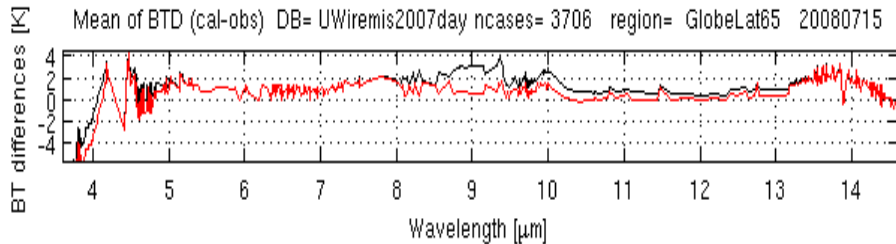
## July 15 2008 (full Globe Lat < 65)

---- Emis=0.98

---- Emis=UW

### Day

### Night



# Statistics of IASI BT differences (Calc – Obs)

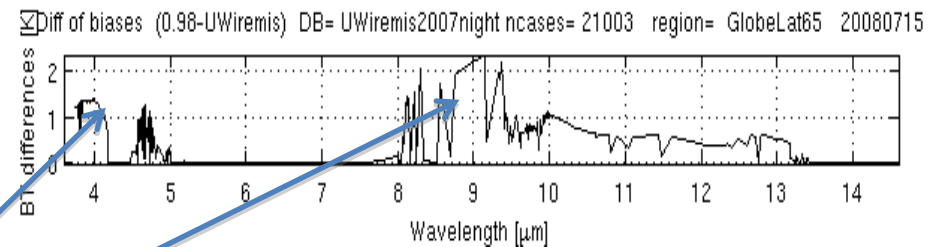
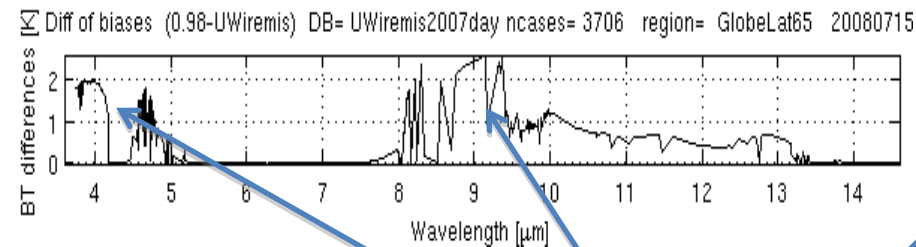
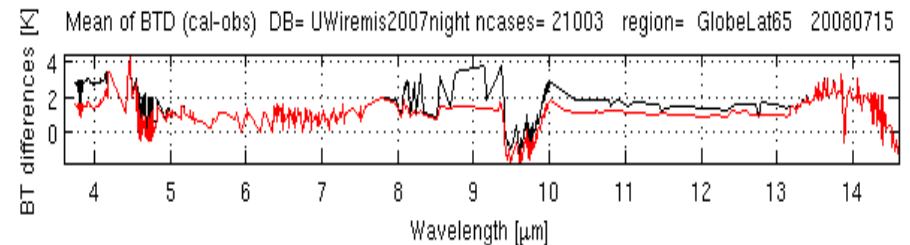
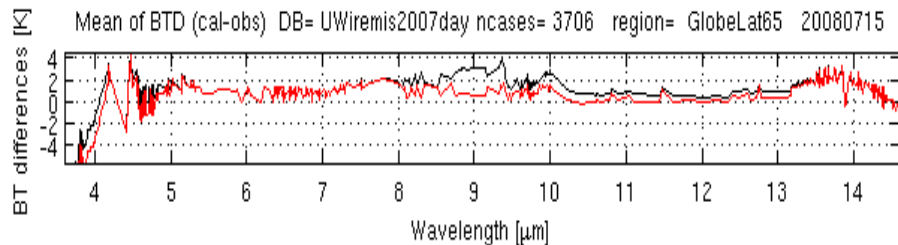
July 15 2008 (full Globe Lat < 65)

---- Emis=0.98

---- Emis=UW

Day

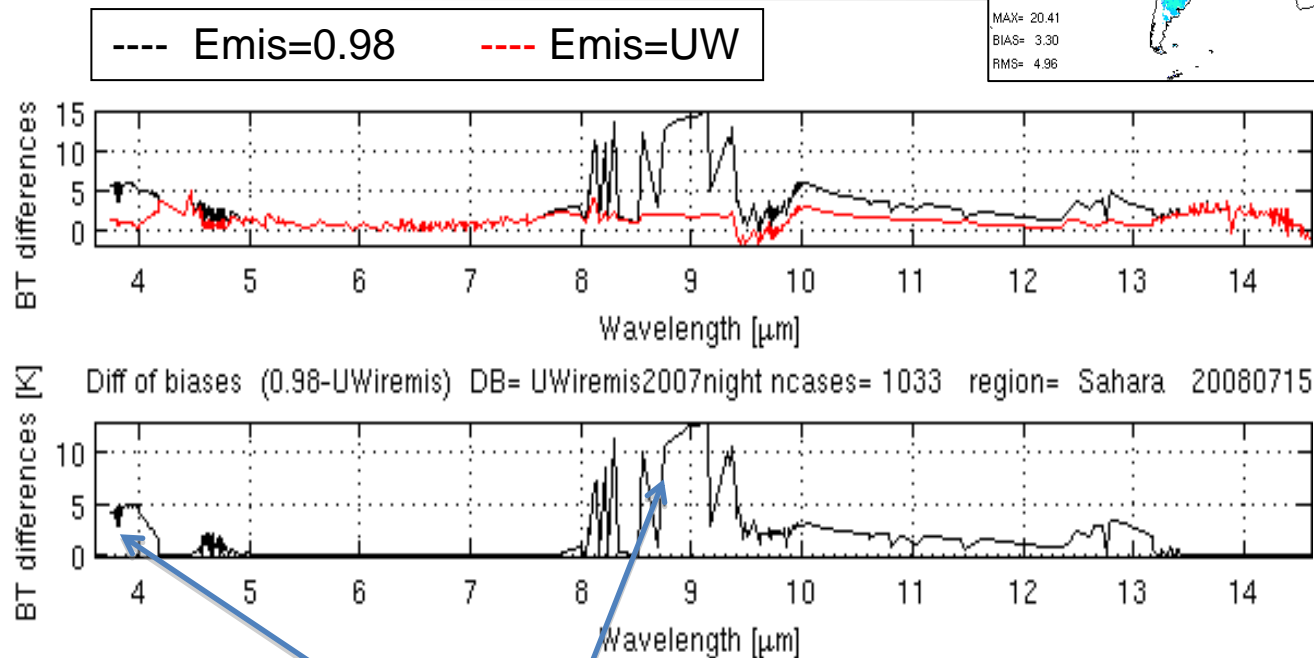
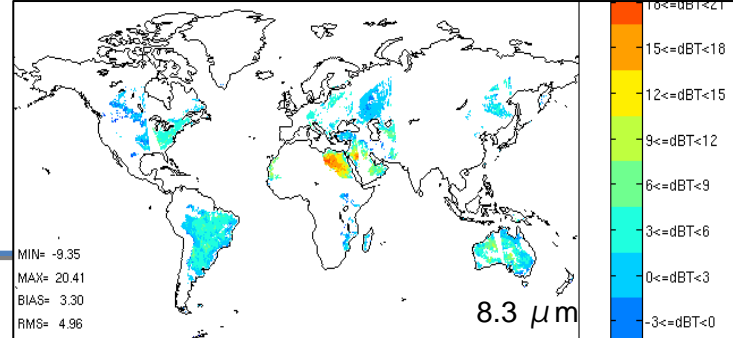
Night



## **CONCLUSIONS:**

- The bias is reduced by 1.5 – 2.5 K at 4 and 8.7  $\mu\text{m}$  region.
- Systematic bias across all surface sensitive channels can be attributed to bias error in model LST.
- SW error in daytime is caused by the uncertainty in the solar radiation component in the RTM.

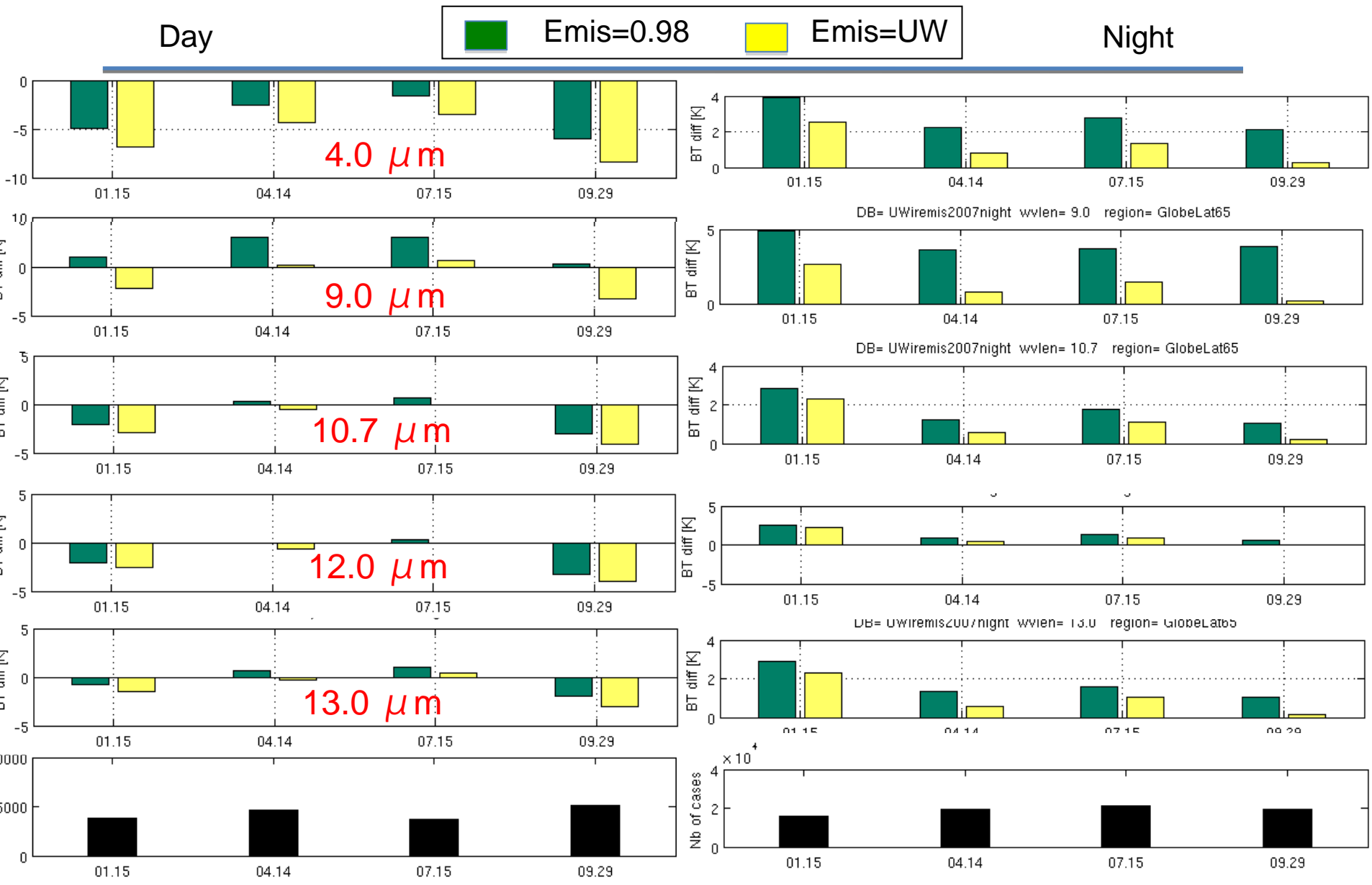
# Statistics of IASI dBT (Calc - Obs) July 15 2008 (night) over Sahara



## CONCLUSIONS:

- The bias is reduced by (1.5 and 2.5 K) 5 and 12 K at 4 and 8.7 μm.
- The most significant impact occur over very dry (sand) Sahara region.
- Systematic bias across all surface sensitive channels can be attributed to bias error in model LST.
- SW error in daytime is caused by the uncertainty in the solar radiation component in the RTM.

# Statistics of IASI BT differences (Calc – Obs) for Full Globe and 4 selected days: Jan15, Apr14, July15 and Sept29



# Outline

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- UW/CIMSS Global IR Land Surface Emissivity Database (UWiremis database)
- The RTTOV UWiremis module
- Evaluation of the module with satellite data (SEVIRI, IASI)
- Test of the UWiremis module in assimilation mode
- Conclusions

# NAVDAS-AR forecast sensitivity tests

## Ben Ruston, NRL

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NOGAPS forecast model 0.04 hPa top, 4D-Var analysis

### Includes Radiances:

MW - AMSUA ch3-10, SSMIS ch2-7

IR – IASI 39 channels, AIRS 34 channels

### Experiments:

Base – IASI and AIRS ocean only

**UWemis – add IASI and AIRS land points**

threshold check on: (innovation \* Tskin Jacobian)

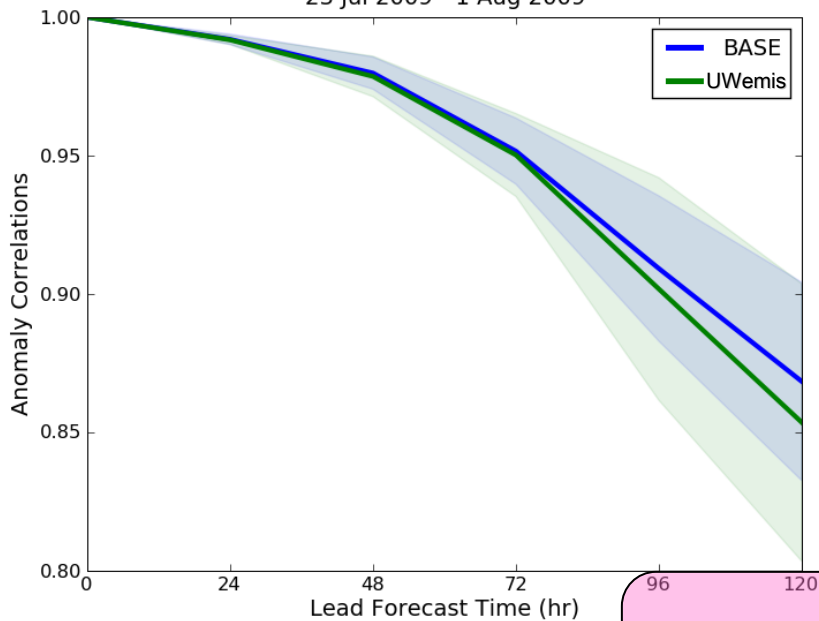
### Running 3 time periods

**partially complete:** Jul23 – Sep15, 2009; Jan18 – Mar15, 2010

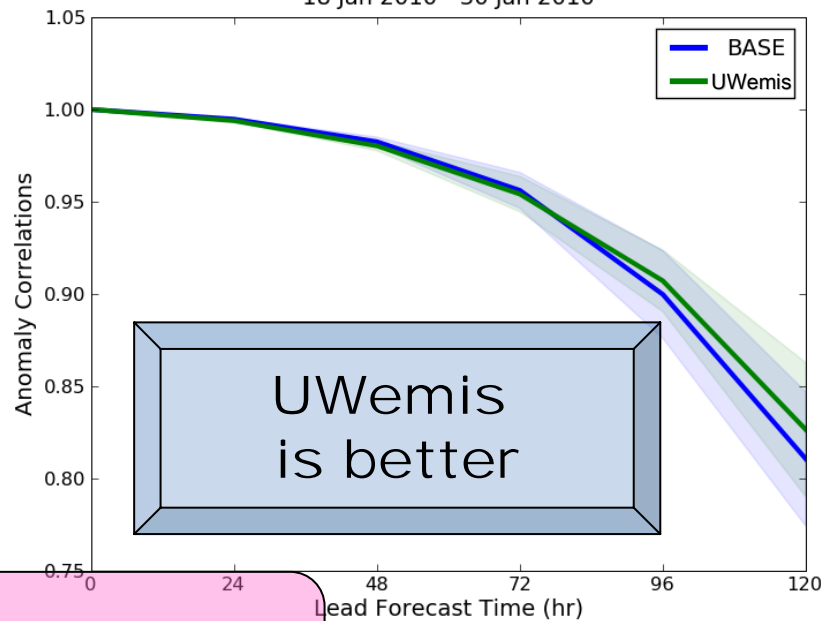
**incomplete:** Nov20, 2008 – Feb15, 2009



Northern Hemisphere 0500 mb Height  
23 Jul 2009 - 1 Aug 2009

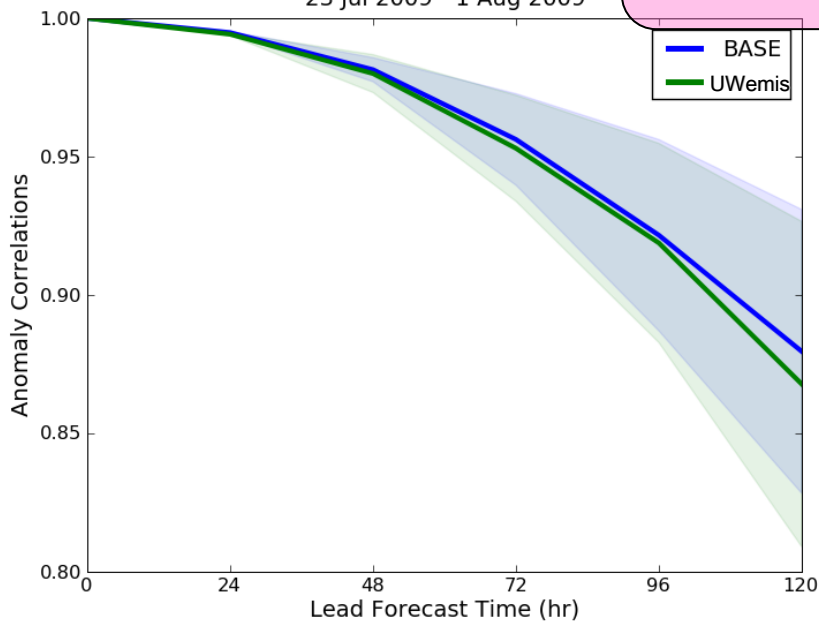


Northern Hemisphere 0500 mb Height  
18 Jan 2010 - 30 Jan 2010

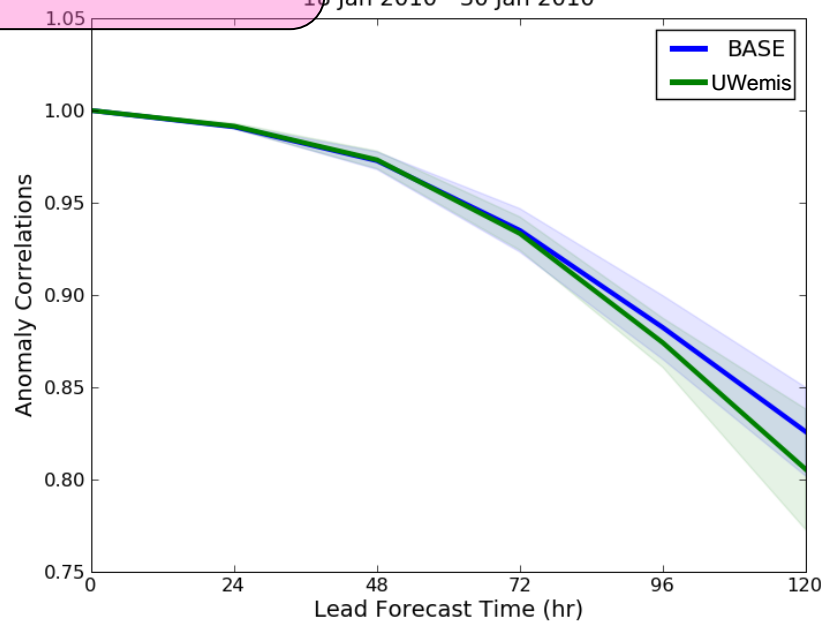


Regrettably - none are statistically significant

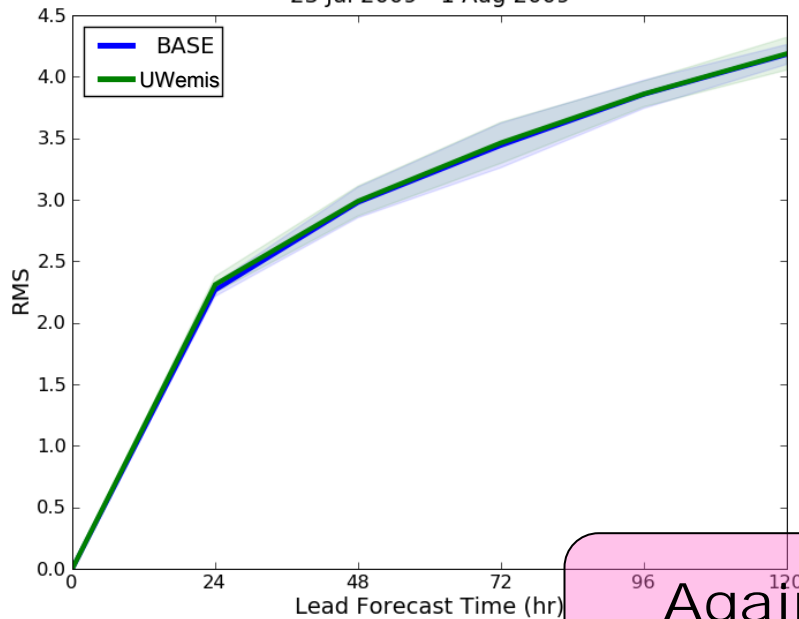
Southern Hemisphere 0500 mb Height  
23 Jul 2009 - 1 Aug 2009



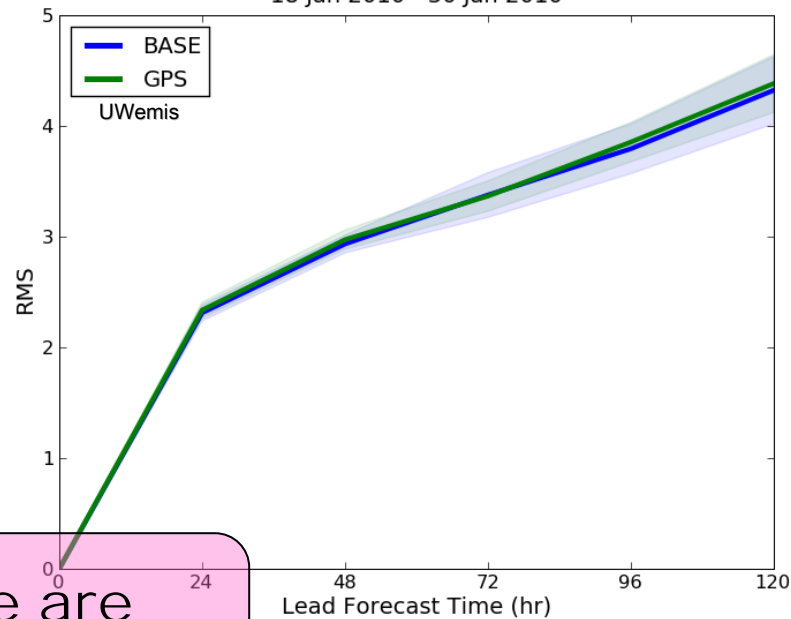
Southern Hemisphere 0500 mb Height  
18 Jan 2010 - 30 Jan 2010



Tropics 0850 mb Wind  
23 Jul 2009 - 1 Aug 2009

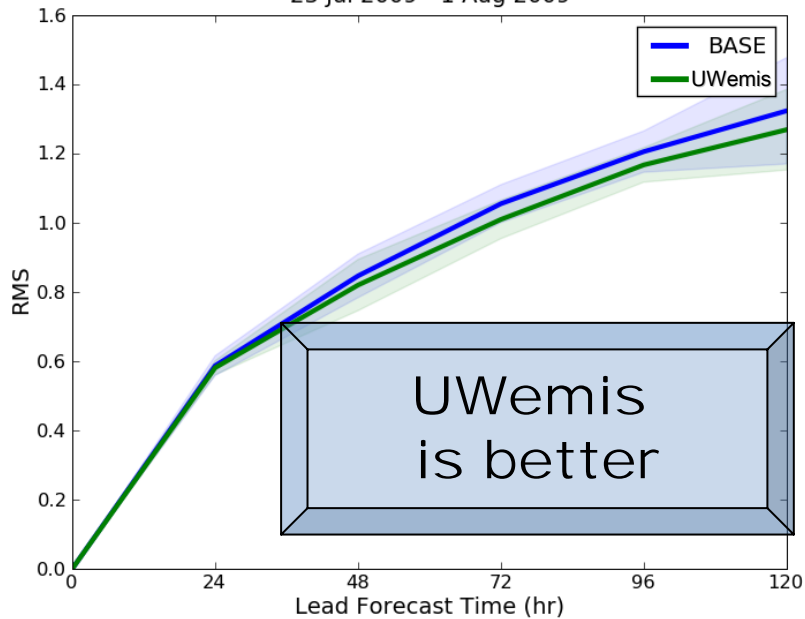


Tropics 0850 mb Wind  
18 Jan 2010 - 30 Jan 2010

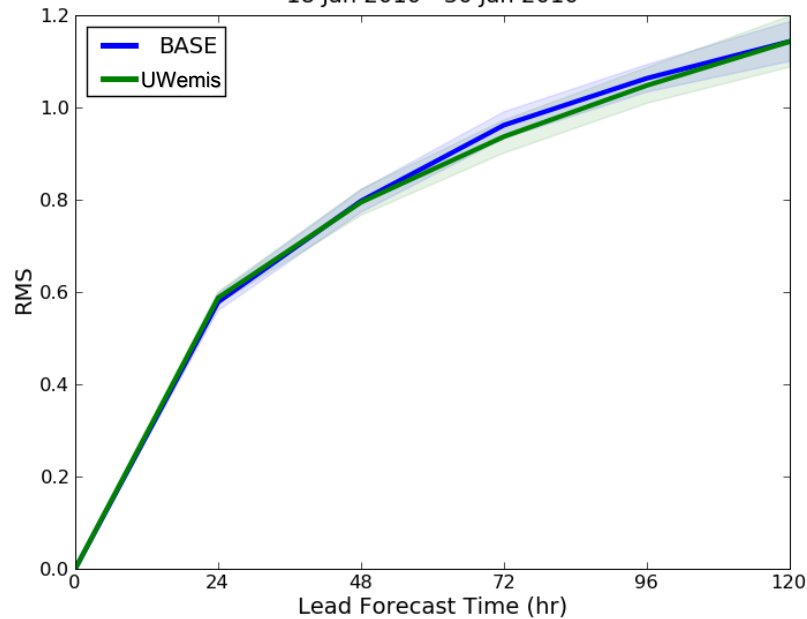


Again - none are statistically significant

Tropics 0850 mb Temp  
23 Jul 2009 - 1 Aug 2009



Tropics 0850 mb Temp  
18 Jan 2010 - 30 Jan 2010

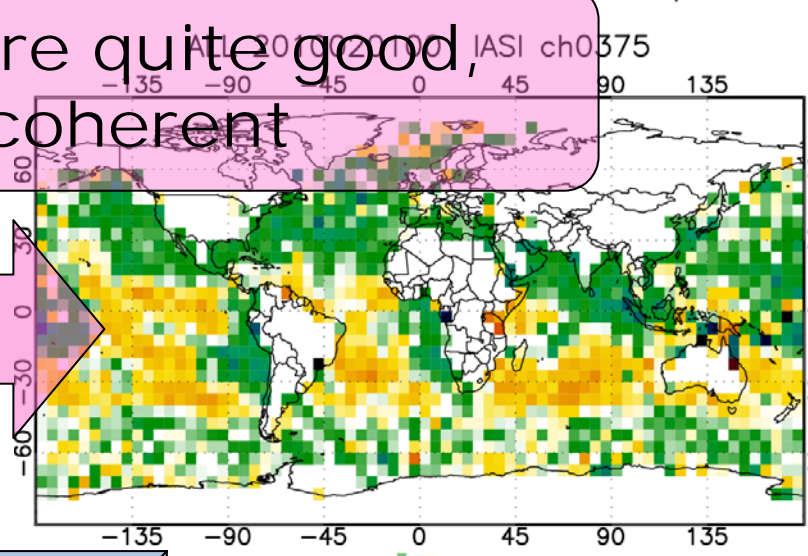
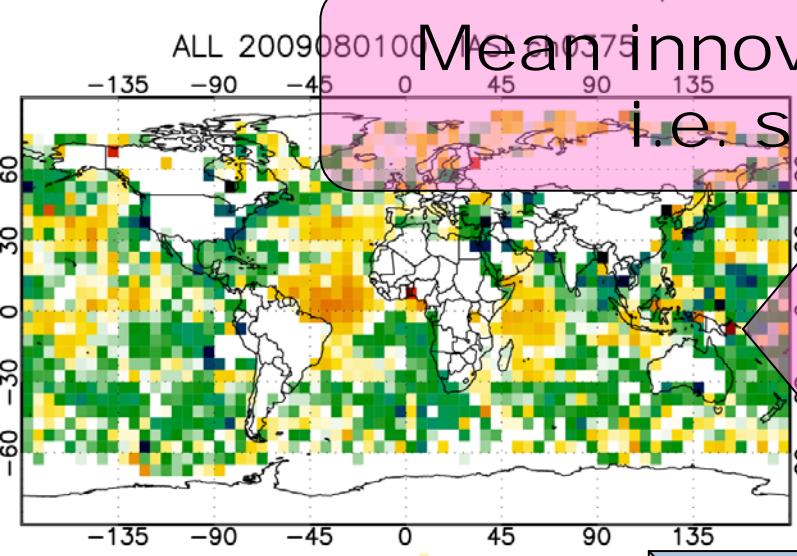


UWemis is better

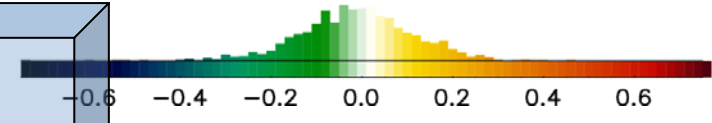
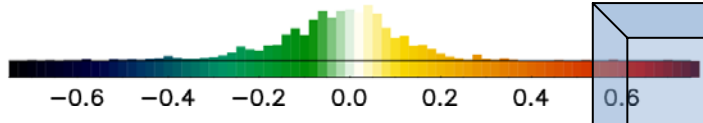
NAVDAS-AR Mean Bias Corrected Departure

NAVDAS-AR Mean Bias Corrected Departure

ALL 2009080100 IASI ch0375  
Mean innovations are quite good,  
i.e. spatially coherent



BASE

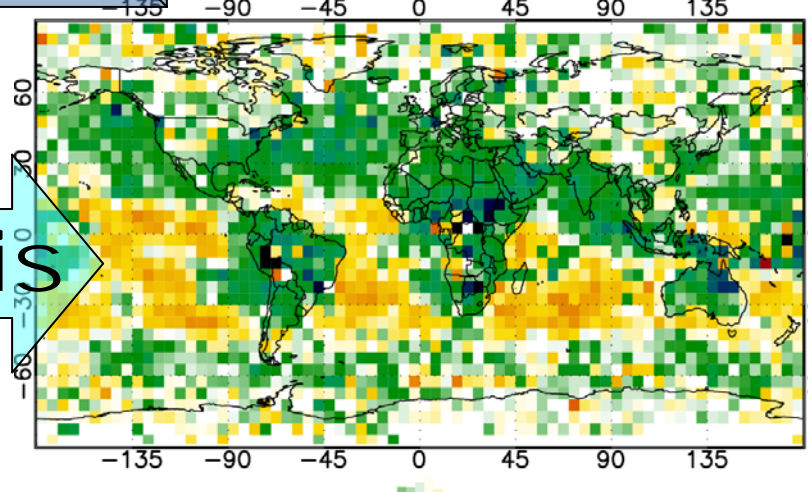
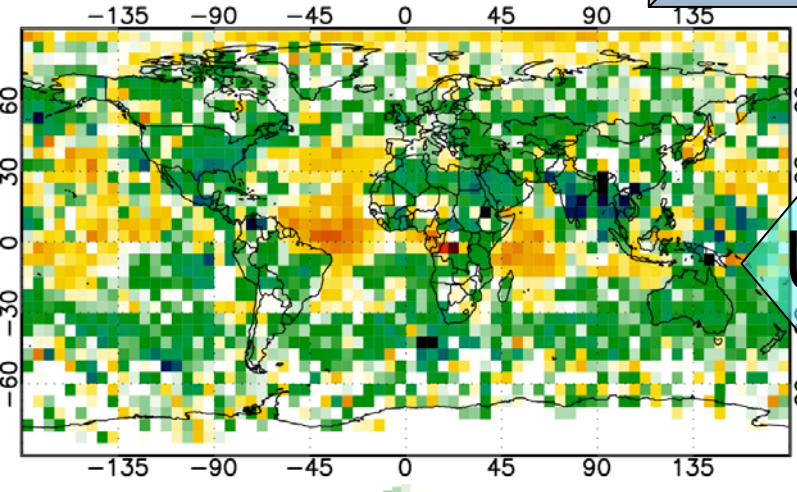


738.50 cm<sup>-1</sup>  
13.541 μm  
Tjac peak 800hPa

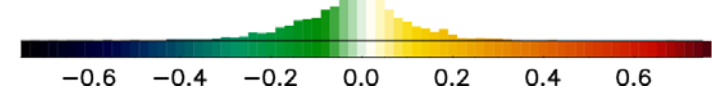
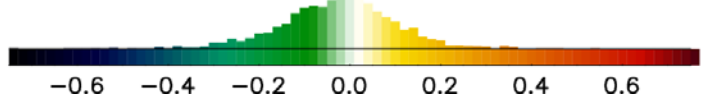
NAVDAS-AR Mean Bias Corrected Departure

NAVDAS-AR Mean Bias Corrected Departure

ALL 2010020100 IASI ch0375



UWemis



# Vertical Axis - IASI Channel

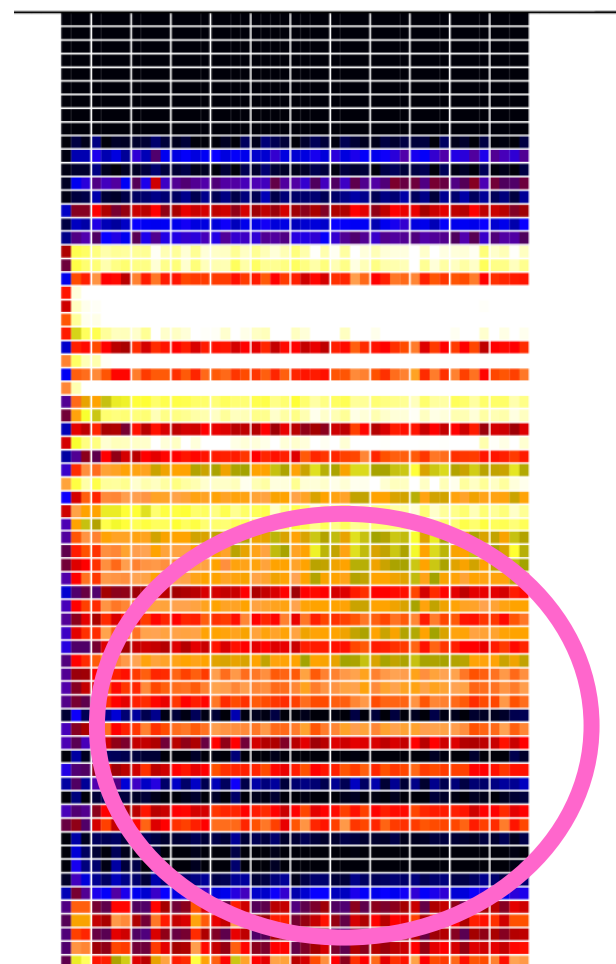
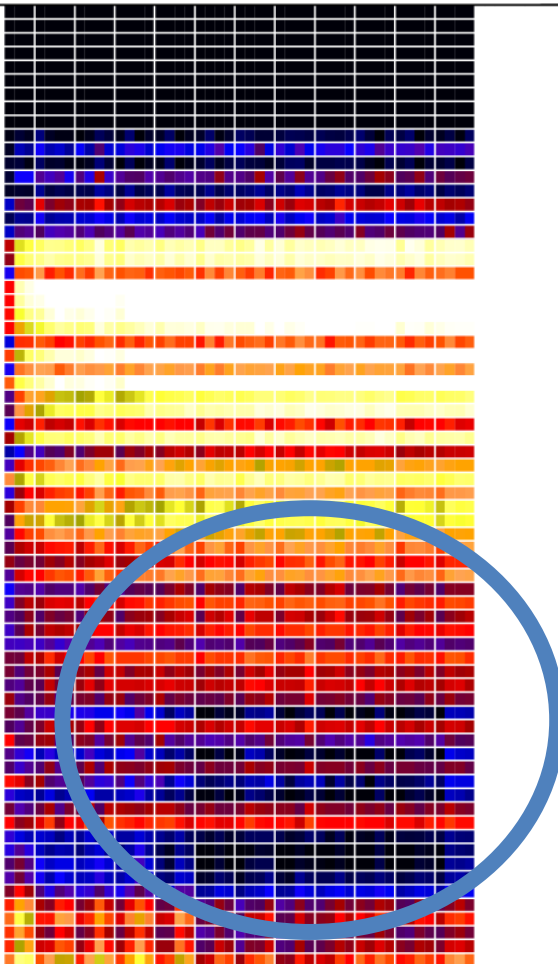
## Horizontal Axis - 6hr update cycle

NRL METOPA IASI NAVDAS-AR Radiance Monitor  
 StdDev Un-Corrected Departure Area: GLOBAL Ru: uwemis

-AR Radiance Monitor  
 Area: GLOBAL Ru: uwbase

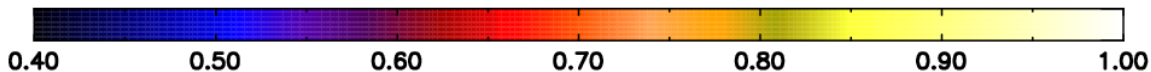
6317  
6213  
6209  
6205  
6187  
6174  
6161  
6158  
6146  
434  
432  
428  
428  
410  
407  
404  
381  
378  
377  
375  
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371  
366  
360  
356  
354  
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207  
205  
196  
183  
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185  
173  
167  
161  
159  
154  
148  
146

UWemis  
 unbiased corrected  
 STDV(Ob-Bk)  
 lower than BASE



2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31  
 JAN FEB  
 2010 2010

7 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31  
 FEB  
 2010



# Conclusions (cont.)

## NAVDAS-AR: Summary of forecast sensitivity tests

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- The University of Wisconsin Emissivity Database (UWemis) provides estimates of infrared emissivity for all IASI and AIRS land, snow covered and sea-ice radiances.
- The innovations (observations – background) are spatially coherent passing from ocean to land.
- The standard deviation of the unbiased corrected innovations are lower for many of the sounding channels using UWemis.
- Forecast sensitivity results using 500hPa anomaly correlation metrics and 850hPa winds do not produce statistically significant differences.

# Conclusions

## Evaluation with IASI and SEVIRI

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- Globally the UWiremis database decreases the BT differences over the RTTOV default values.
- The bias was reduced by 1.5 - 3.5 K at 4 and 8.7  $\mu\text{m}$  region and by 0.5 - 2 K between 9.5 and 13.2  $\mu\text{m}$ .
- The most significant impact occurs over very dry (sand) e.g. the Sahara region. The bias was reduced 5 - 12 K at 4 and 8.7  $\mu\text{m}$  region.
- Systematic bias across all surface sensitive channels can be attributed to bias error in model LST.
- SW error in daytime is caused by the uncertainty in the solar radiation component in the RTM.
- The biases have been significantly reduced across all seasons by use of the UWiremis RTTOV module.

International TOVS Study Conference, 17<sup>th</sup>, ITSC-17, Monterey, CA, 14-20 April 2010.  
Madison, WI, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Space Science and Engineering Center,  
Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies, 2011.