Regional Representation

Are local measurements useful for the evaluation of large-gridded global models?

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Scaling



Issue:

– How good do local measurements characterize regional properties?

Goals:

- 1.choice: find sites that represent surrounding regions
- 2.choice: find sites with a constant bias over the year

How?

- Use spatial information from satellites (satellite retrievals do not necessarily need to be accurate)
- Compare averages at different spatial scales around each tested site

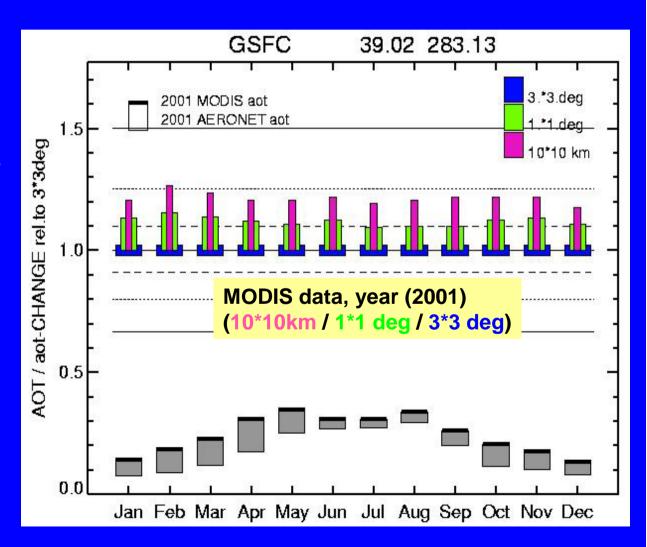
Regional Representation (1)



- Satellite scaling indicates
 - urban polluted sites usually have larger optical depth than their regional average

⇒correction of bias required, if comparing to GCM data!

(1/1.2 for GSFC)



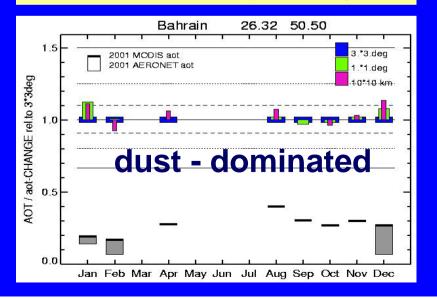
Regional Representation (2)

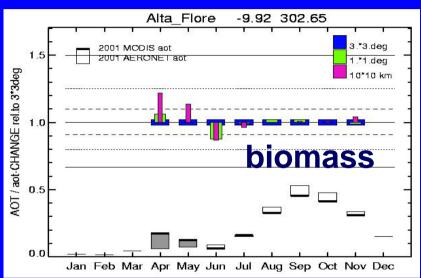


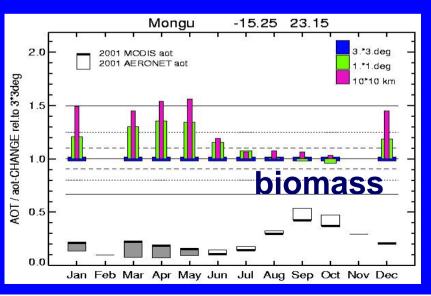
- Satellite scaling indicates
 - biomass and dust type sites usually represent regionally

(... if aot is large > 0.3)

MODIS data, year (2001) (10*10km / 1*1 deg / 3*3 deg)

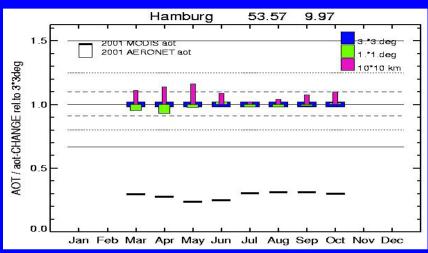


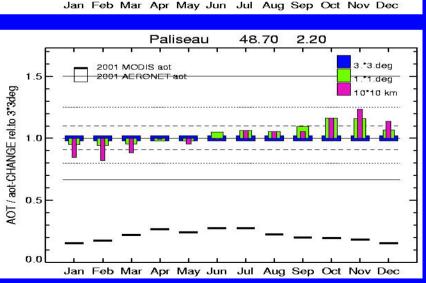


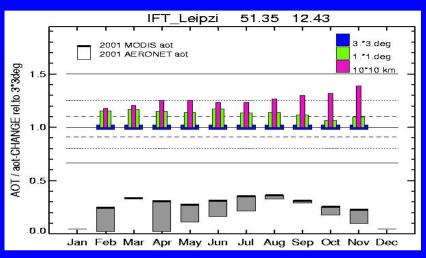


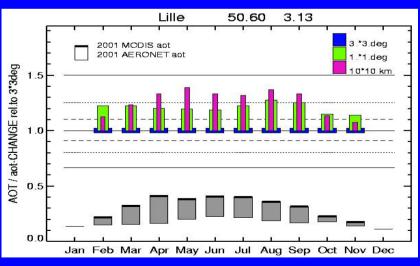
Regional Representation (3) sites of local interest









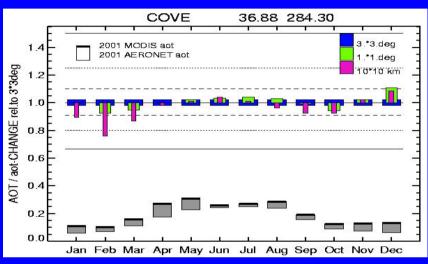


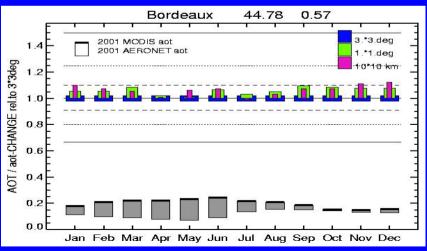
these sites are not so bad

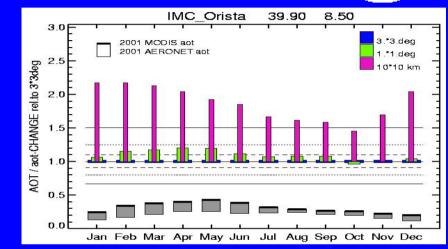
complicated - not so good

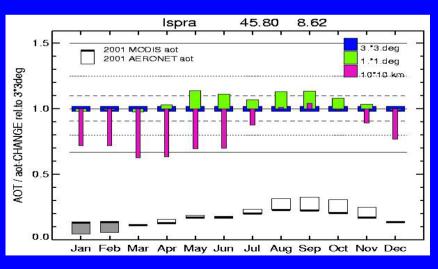
Regional Representation (4) the good and the bad











the good

the bad

SUMMARY



- initial tests were just done for one (MODIS) year
 - statistics is often poor and data lack over dust regions
- tests will now be repeated based on 3 (MO/MI) years
 - better statistics (more years)
 - dust regions data (MISR)
- currently I am collecting lat/lon sites on which this scaling will be performed - please forward your locations of interest to me to be included in the test
- GOAL: identify the few good sites that are useful for model evaluations