



Ground validation of GPM products in Southern Africa

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Since 2004 the South African Weather Service (SAWS) has, in collaboration with the University of KwaZulu-Natal, posted a detailed spatial estimate of the previous 24 hours' rainfall on their web-site on a daily basis. This product is a merging of the automatic raingauge, C-band radar and METEOSAT-7 estimates of rainfall over the region and the spatial resolution is 1 minute of arc (about 1.7 km). The gauge-radar part of the product has potential usefulness for validation of hazardous storm estimation, particularly as the radar scan protocol adopted by SAWS produces CAPPIS up to 18 km above radar level at 5 minute intervals and the estimates of rainfall at ground level are conditioned where possible to the gauge measurements. The presentation highlights recent improvements made to the algorithms, primarily to accommodate the switch-over to METEOSAT-8 transmissions from February 2006 and gives an indication of the precision that is likely to be obtained in the GV framework.