



## **Satellite and surface observations of rainfall characteristics in West Africa**

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TRMM has provided a relatively long record of precipitation observations in the climate region of West Africa. More recently, the NASA 10-cm polarimetric Doppler radar (NPOL) along with a high resolution rain gauge network was deployed in West Africa near the west coast of Senegal during the African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analyses (AMMA) field campaign (21 August - 30 September 2006). Precipitation was observed within the range of NPOL on the order of 20 days during the experiment. Also, there are ongoing efforts to develop a regional radar network in the African countries of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Senegal. Data from these regions have been used to develop a precipitation climatology. In the future, these data will be available in near real time to develop a long-term, extensive precipitation record in West Africa. A brief summary of the ongoing precipitation analysis will be discussed in the presentation.