

# A suntracker at La Réunion Island for monitoring surface solar radiation under tropical maritime climate conditions: towards a new BSRN site?

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## A Research Unit of the University of Reunion Island

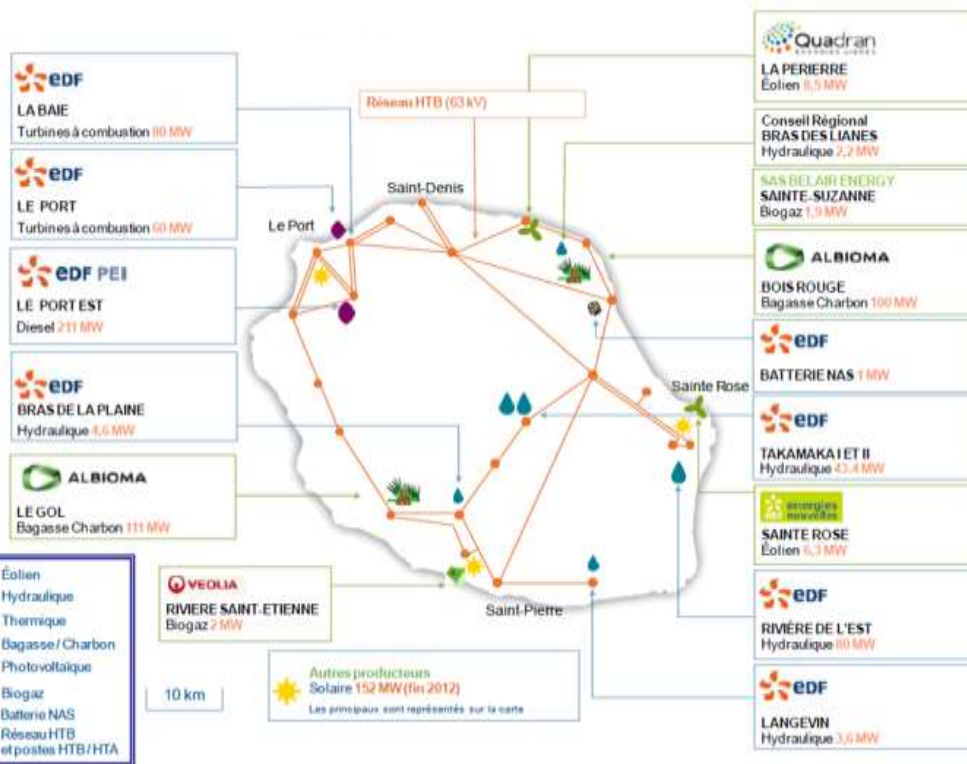
- Permanent Staff: 12,5  
12 (Pr. + Ass. Pr.) + 2.5 (Admin. + Eng. + Tech. Ass.)
- Non Permanent Staff (2015): 32  
18 (PhD Students) + 2 (Post-Doc) + 12 (Admin. + Eng. + Tech. Ass.)

# Introduction

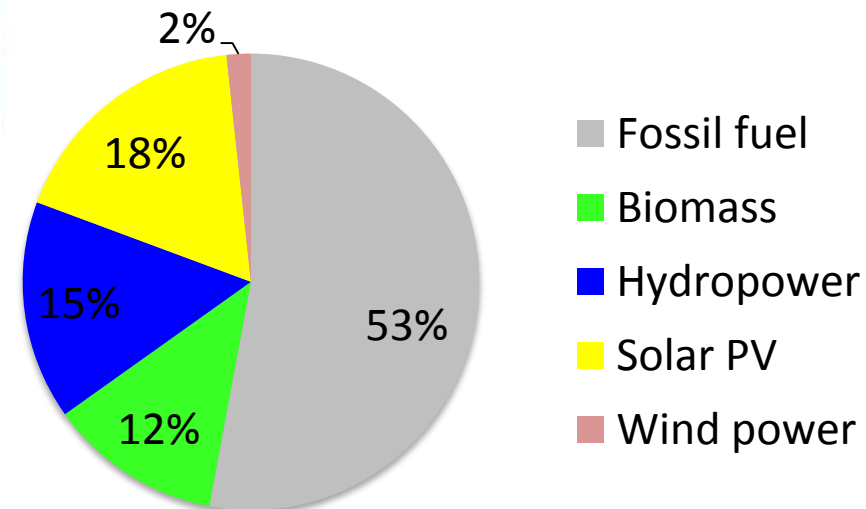


# Introduction

## Electricity distribution grid over Reunion



## Energy mix





# Smart management of solar energy

Topic 1 – Solar resource variability

Topic 2 – Energy conversion and storage

Topic 3 – Energy optimization

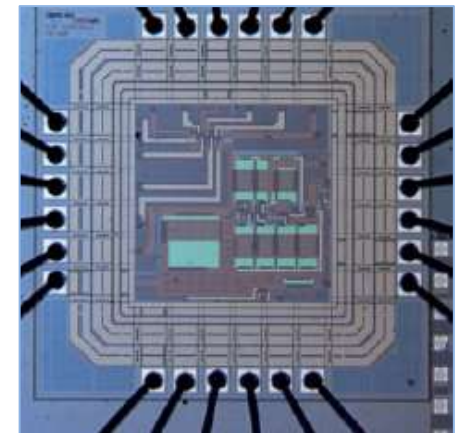
*radiative assessment*



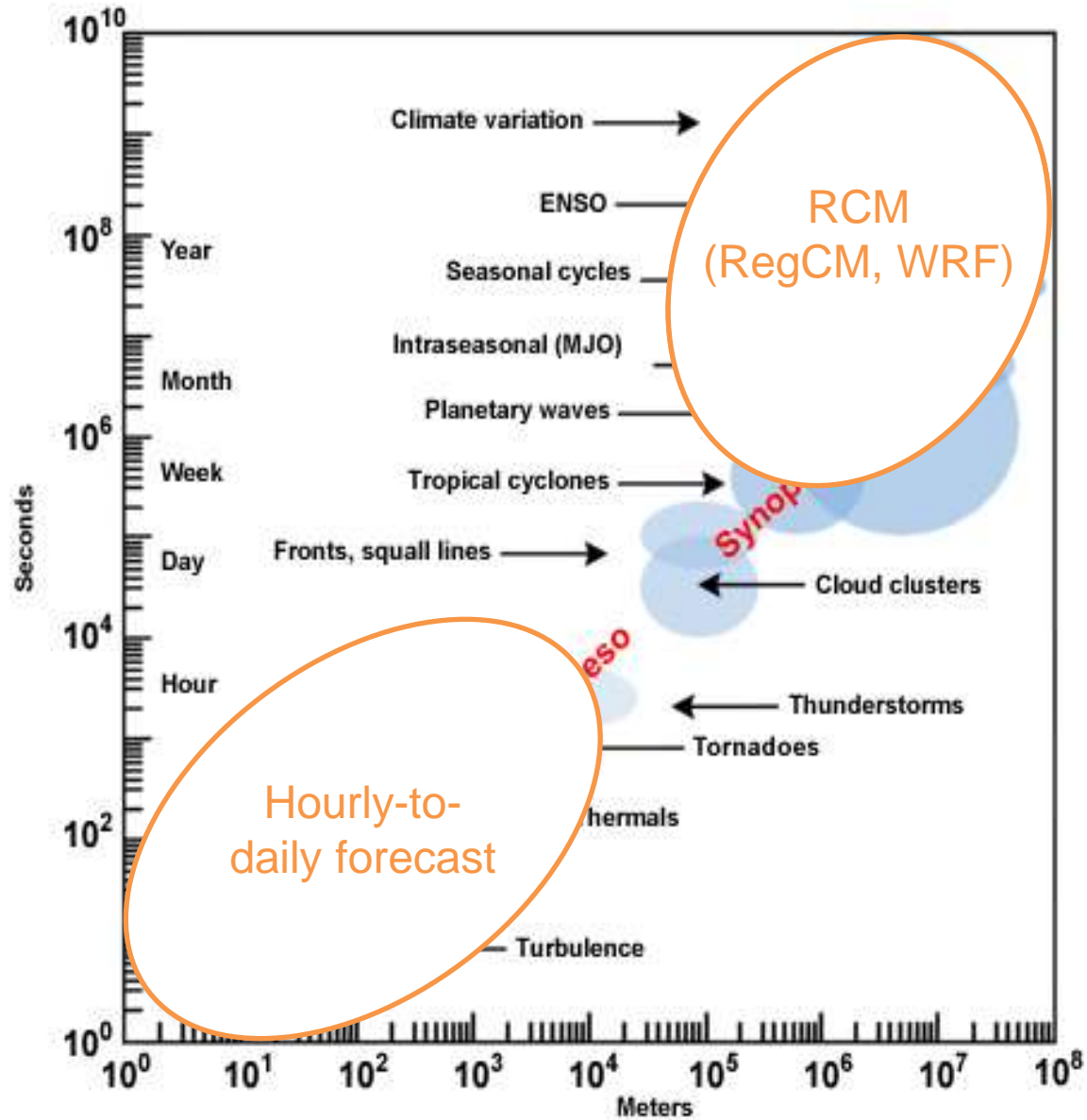
*fuel cell hybrid system*



WSN

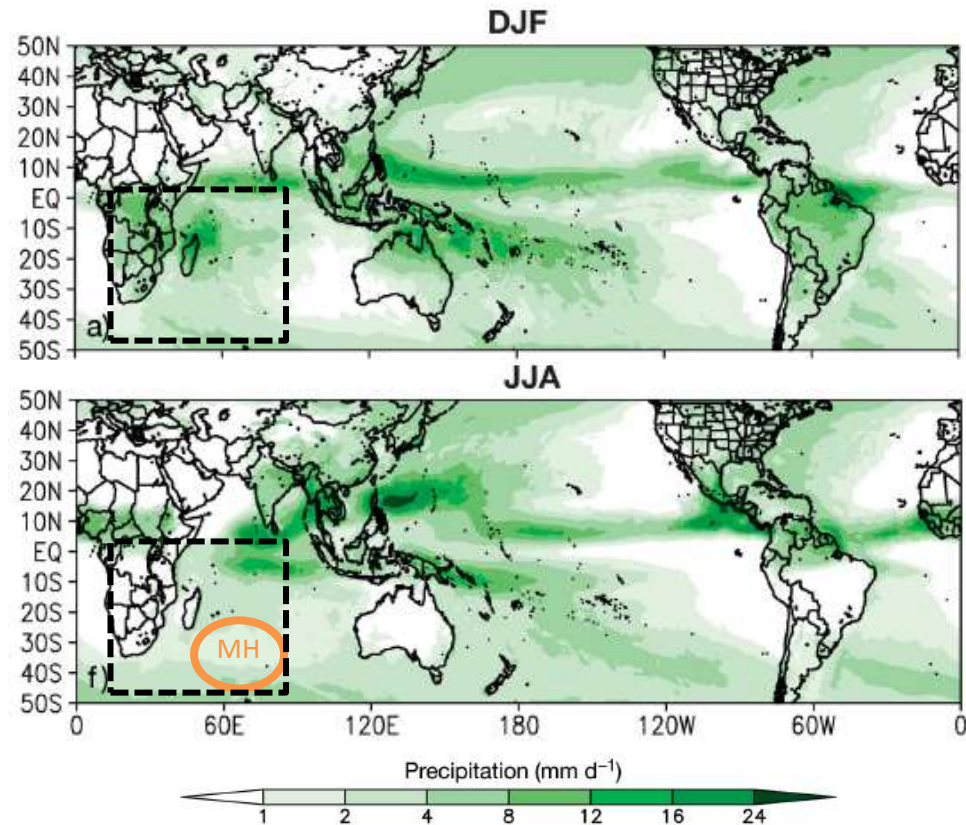


# Introduction



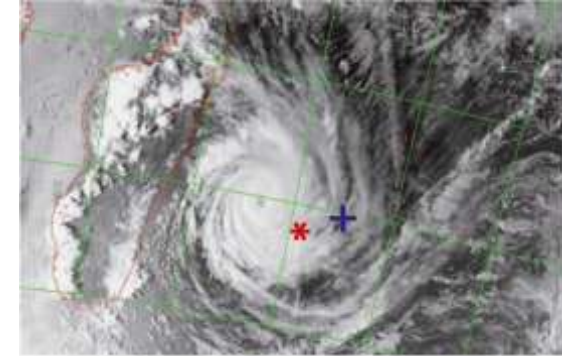
## Cloudiness variability: SWIO

– **Seasonal:** fluctuations of the location and intensity of the ITCZ and the trade winds

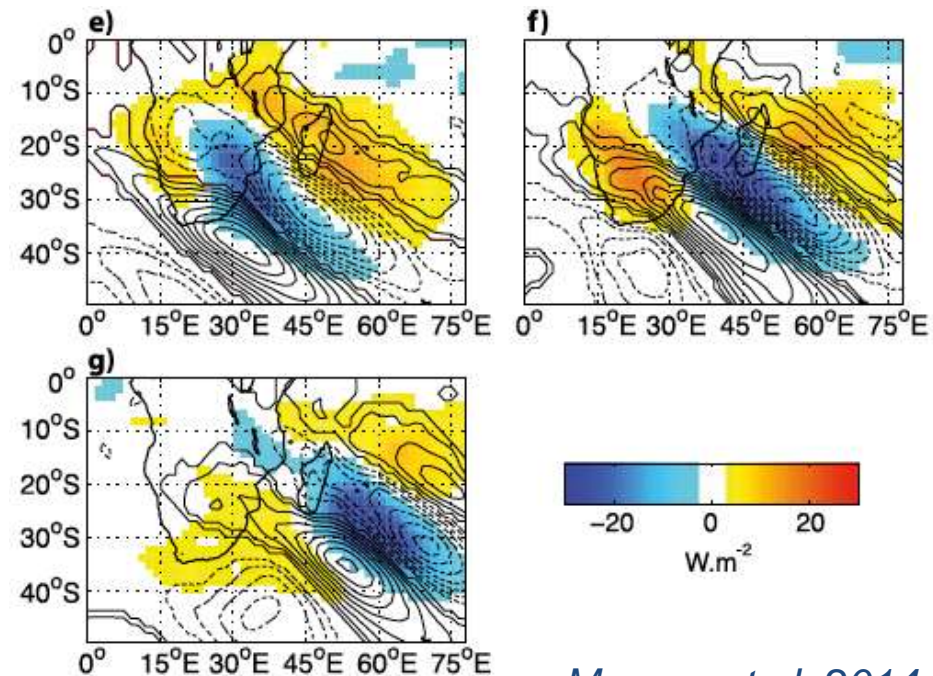


# Cloudiness variability: SWIO

- **Seasonal:** fluctuations of the location and intensity of the ITCZ and the trade winds
- **Synoptic:** tropical cyclone, tropical temperate trough



*Morel et al. 2014*

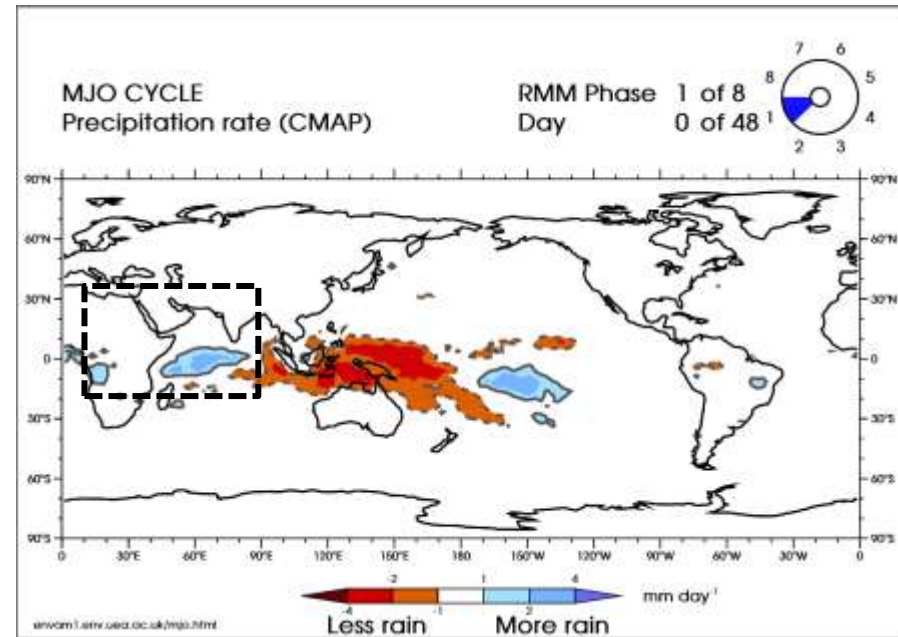


*Macron et al. 2014*



## Cloudiness variability: SWIO

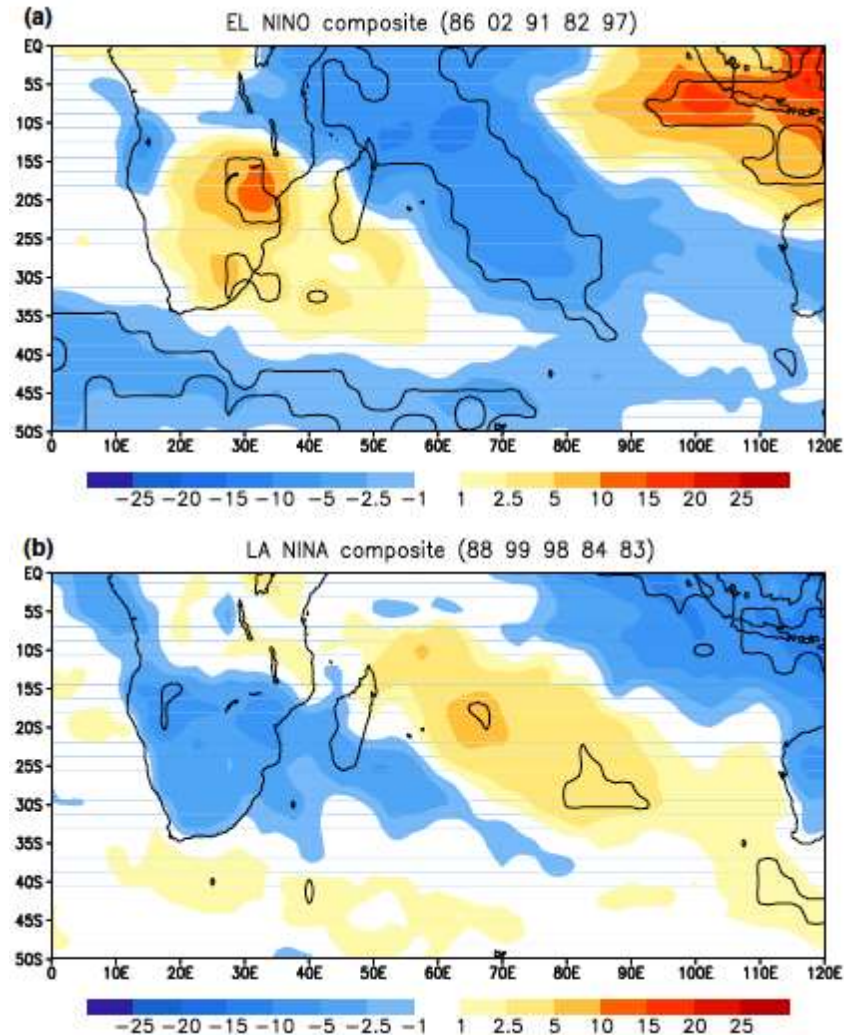
- **Seasonal:** fluctuations of the location and intensity of the ITCZ and the trade winds
- **Synoptic:** tropical cyclone, tropical temperate trough
- **Intraseasonal:** MJO



*MJO animation from Adrian Matthews*

# Cloudiness variability: SWIO

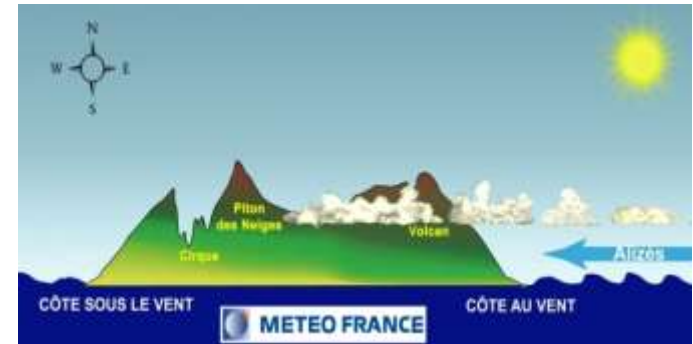
- **Seasonal:** fluctuations of the location and intensity of the ITCZ and the trade winds
- **Synoptic:** tropical cyclone, tropical temperate trough
- **Intraseasonal:** MJO
- **Interannual:** ENSO



# Cloudiness variability: Reunion

– meteorology driven by a combination of large/meso-scale and local-scale processes (land-sea breezes, slope winds, ...)

→ 3 typical weather situations  
1. dry trade-wind regime

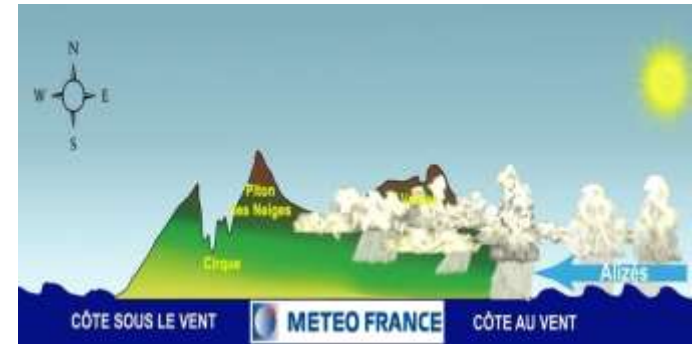


# Cloudiness variability: Reunion

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# Cloudiness variability: Reunion

– meteorology driven by a combination of large/meso-scale and local-scale processes (land-sea breezes, slope winds, ...)

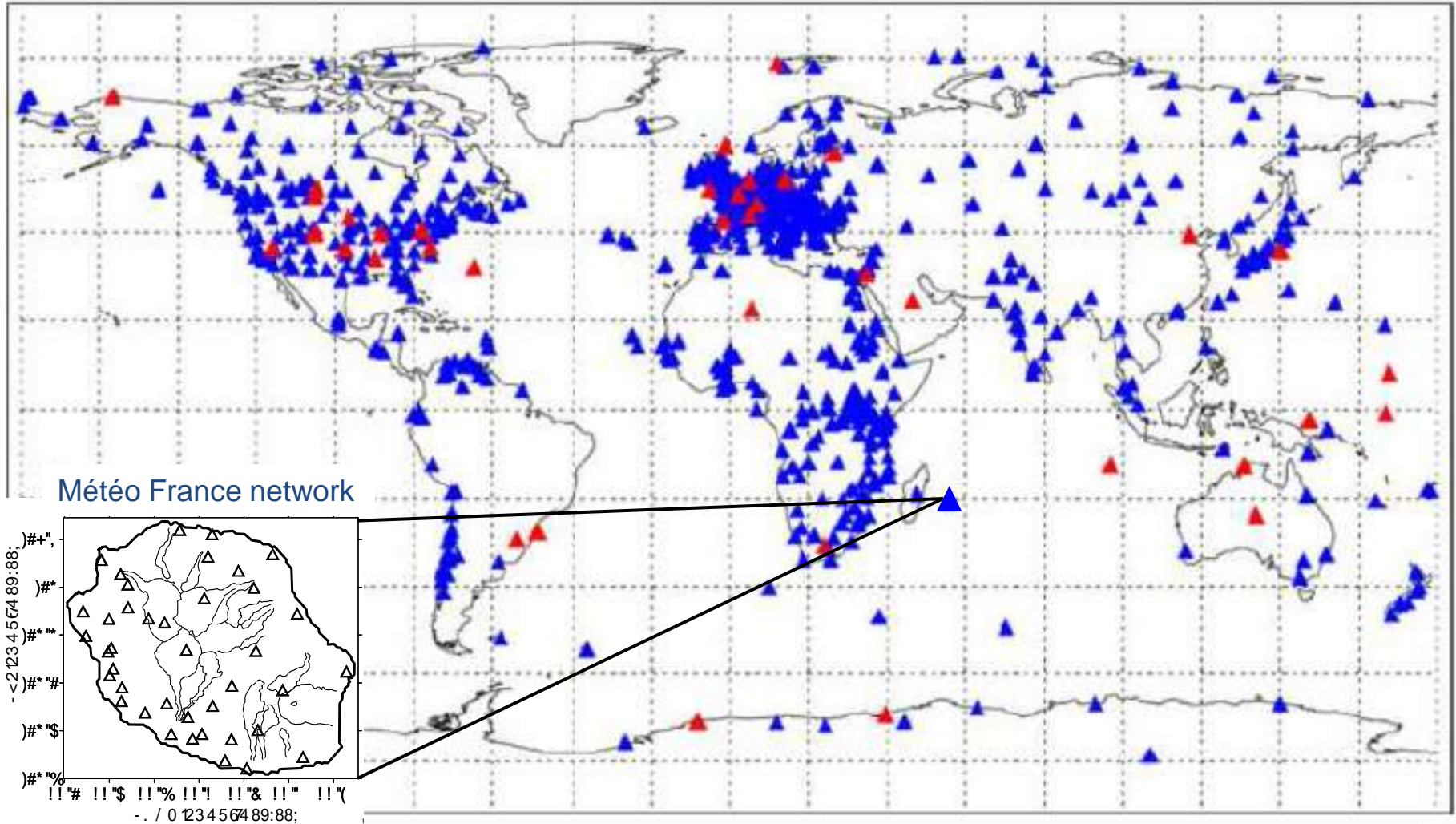
→ 3 typical weather situations

1. dry trade-wind regime
2. humid trade-wind regime
3. convection over the topography



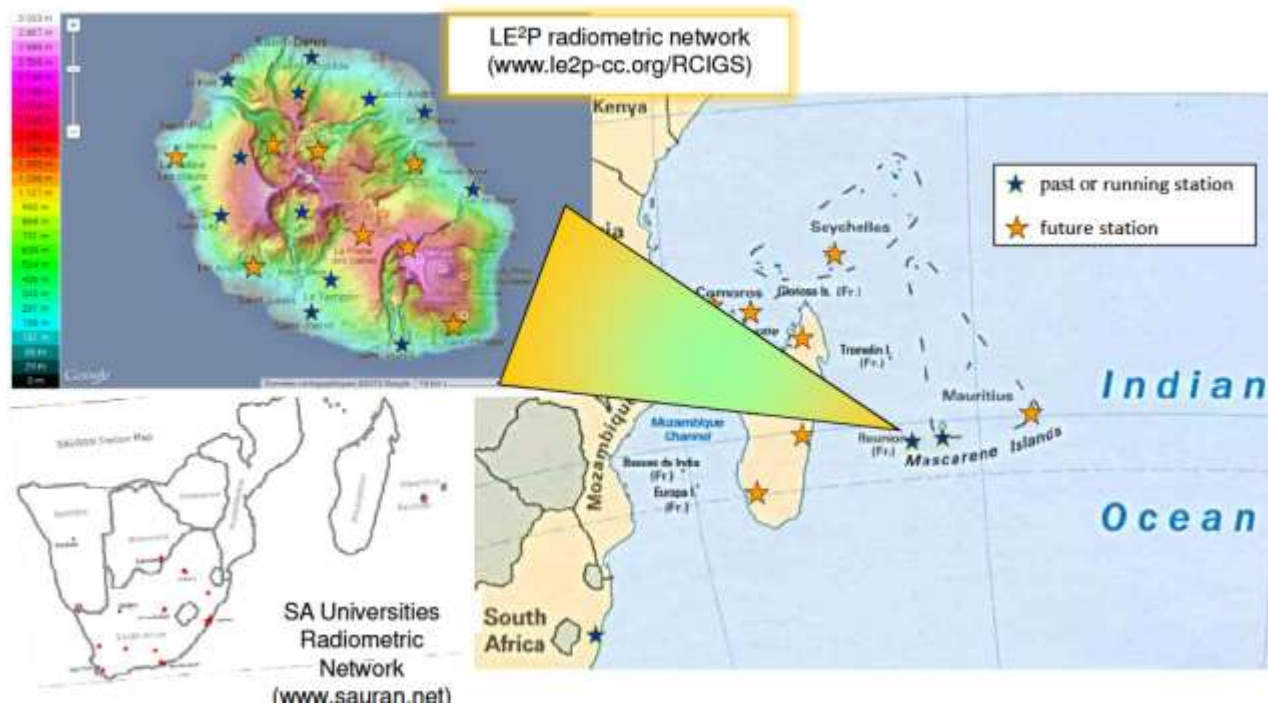
# Surface radiative fluxes observations

GEBA and BSRN observation sites (Wild et al. 2013)



# LE2P radiometric network

## A typical station

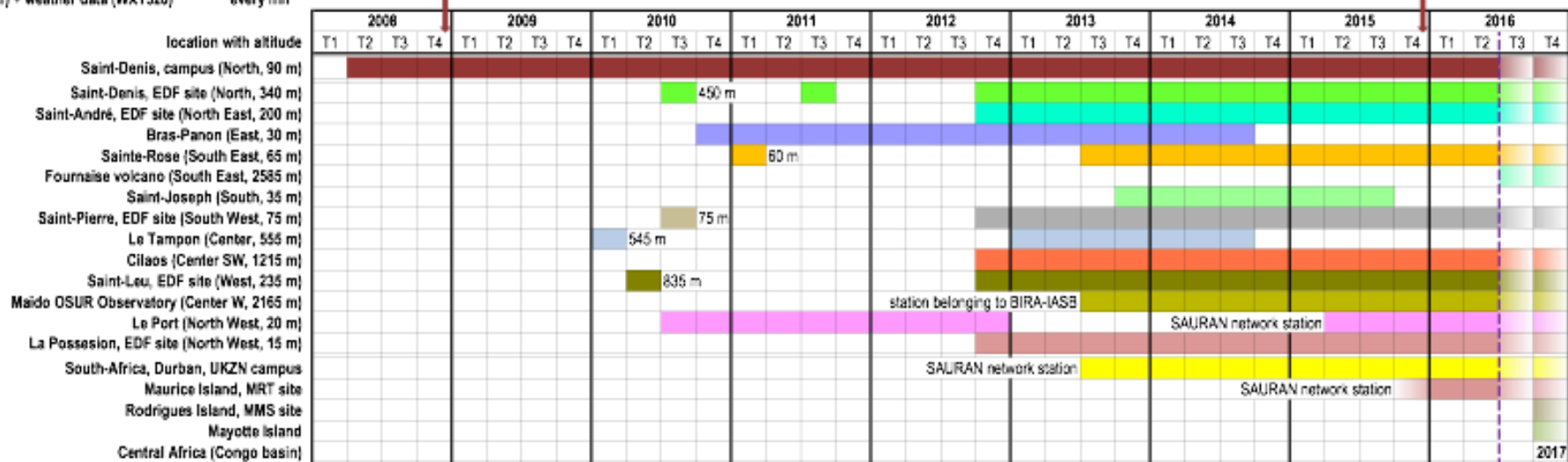


basic station: global and diffuse solar irradiances (SPN1) + weather data (WXT520) every mn

set-up of 1<sup>st</sup> SPN1

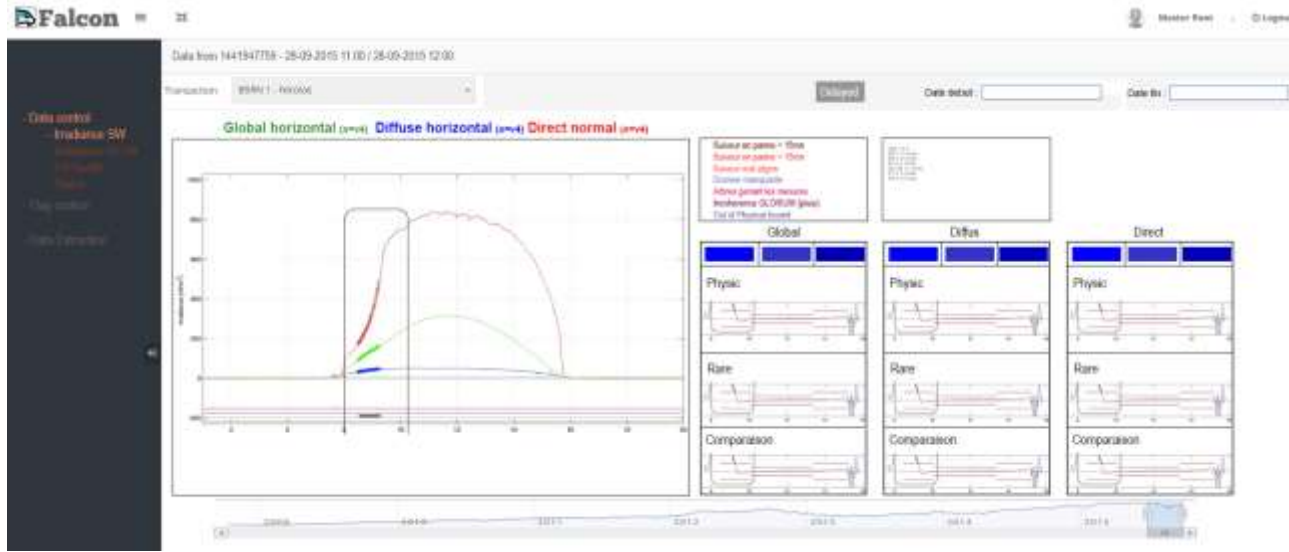
## LE<sup>2</sup>P ground-based solar stations

set-up of suntracker

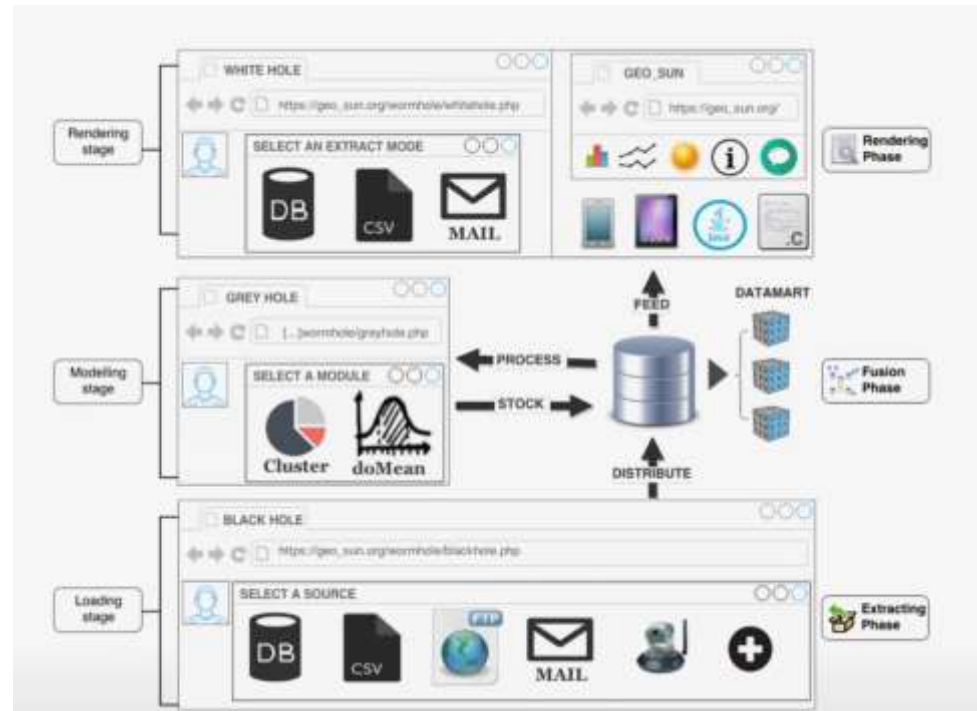




# Quality Control



## DWH



## Calibration



9060/9846/9847/17025



Indoor calibration



Outdoor calibration







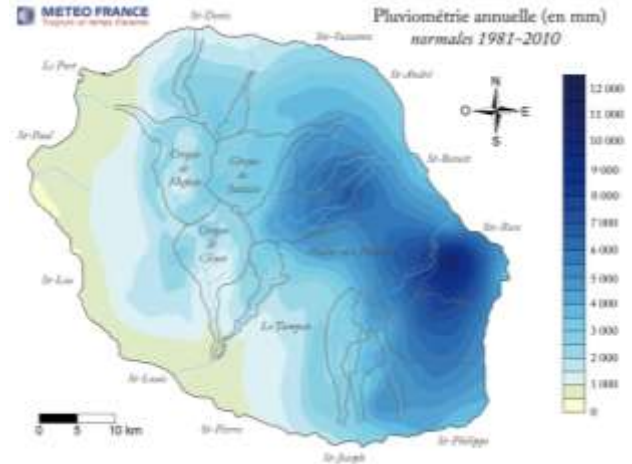
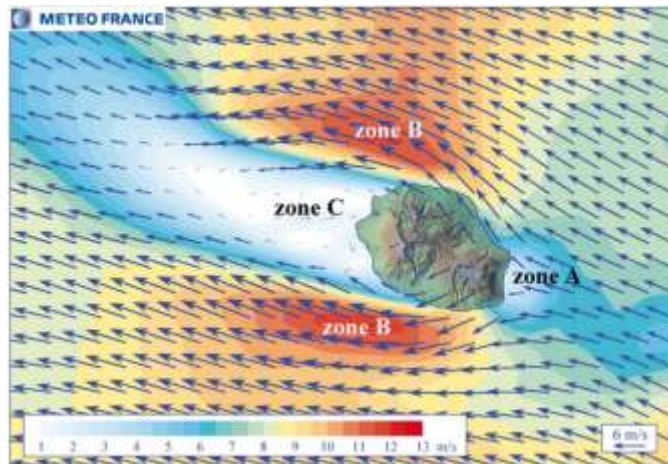
SOLYS Gear Drive





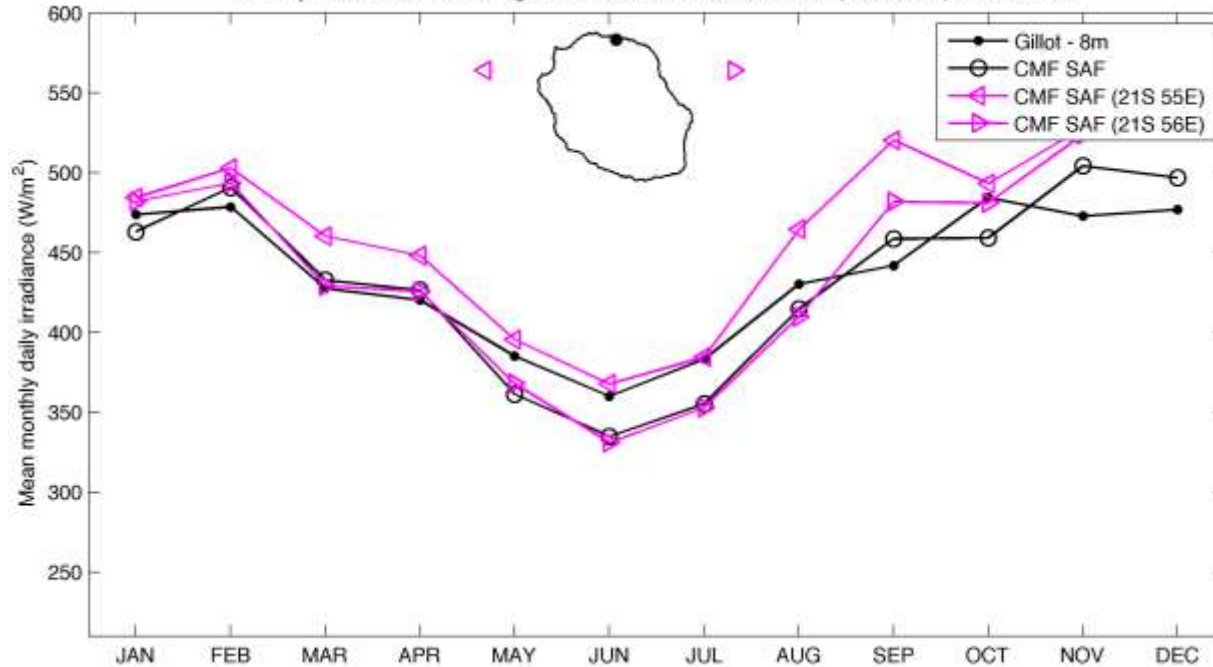


# New BSRN site proposal

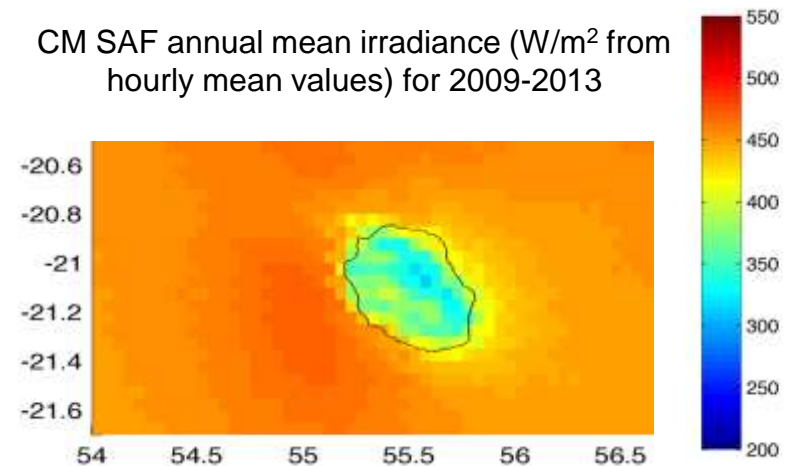


# New BSRN site proposal

Monthly mean irradiance from ground measurements vs CM SAF (2009-2013) at Gillot - 8m



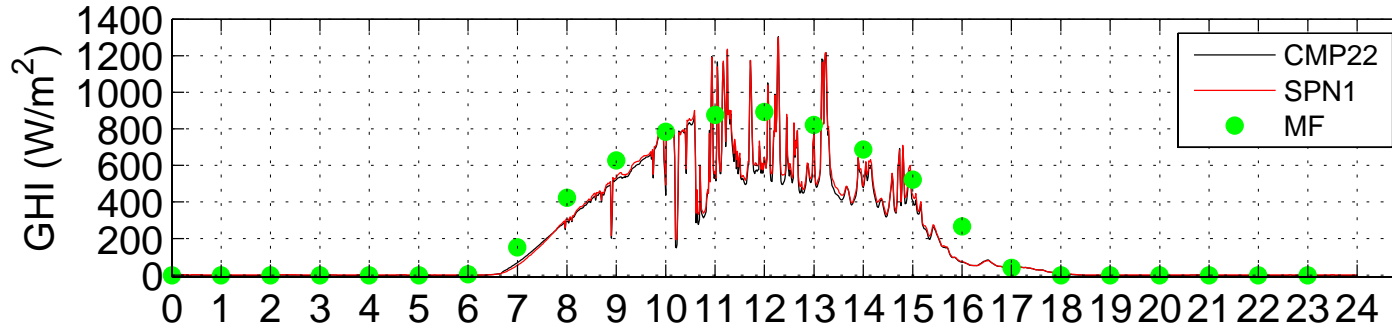
CM SAF annual mean irradiance ( $W/m^2$  from hourly mean values) for 2009-2013



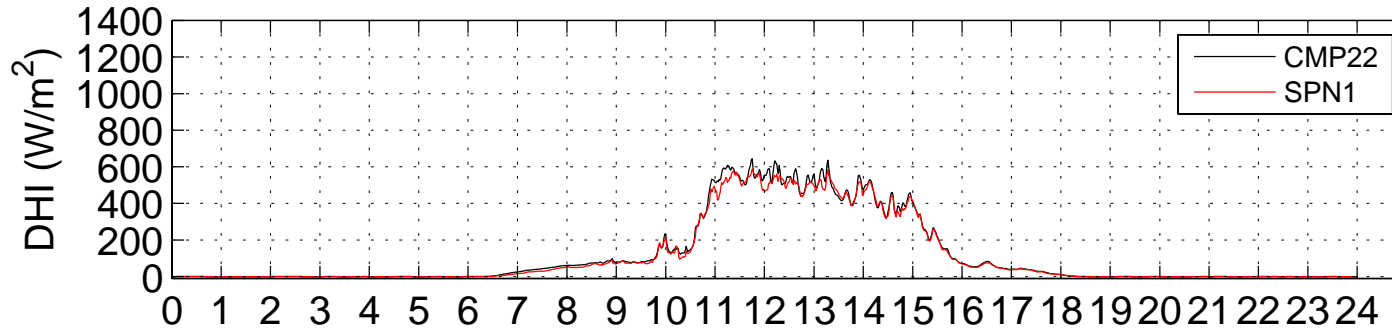


# Very first measurements...

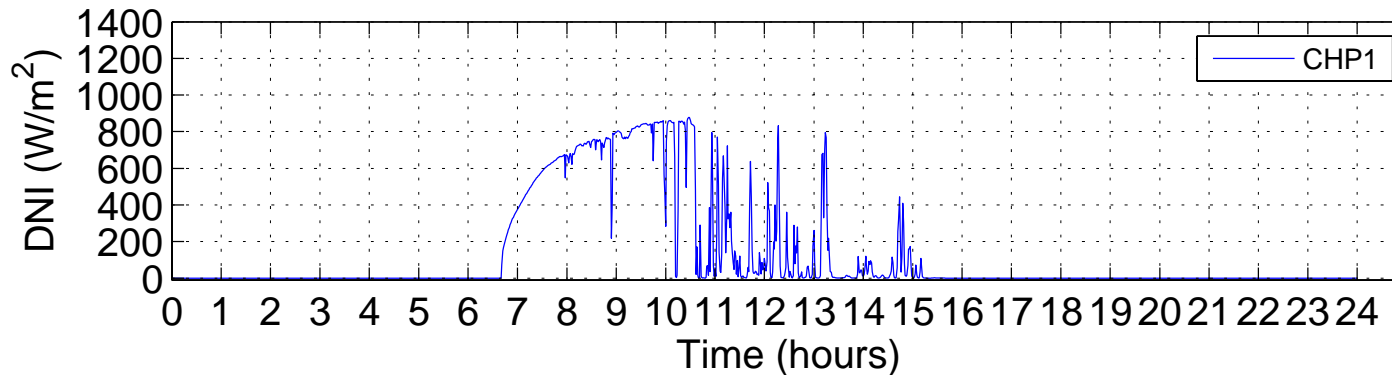
April 11, 2016



*mean bias = -3.6%*



*mean bias = +5.2%*



- Proposed measurement site at (21°8S;55.5°E) in a climatic zone not covered by existing operational sites
- Proposed measurement site collocated with routine upper-air soundings and basic meteorological instrumentation (OPAR – Météo France)
- Very first measurements performed that need to be carried on; installation of CGR4
- Extension of the station? European Regional Development Fund project BSRN@Reunion

