

# PANEL DISCUSSION

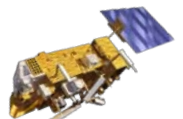
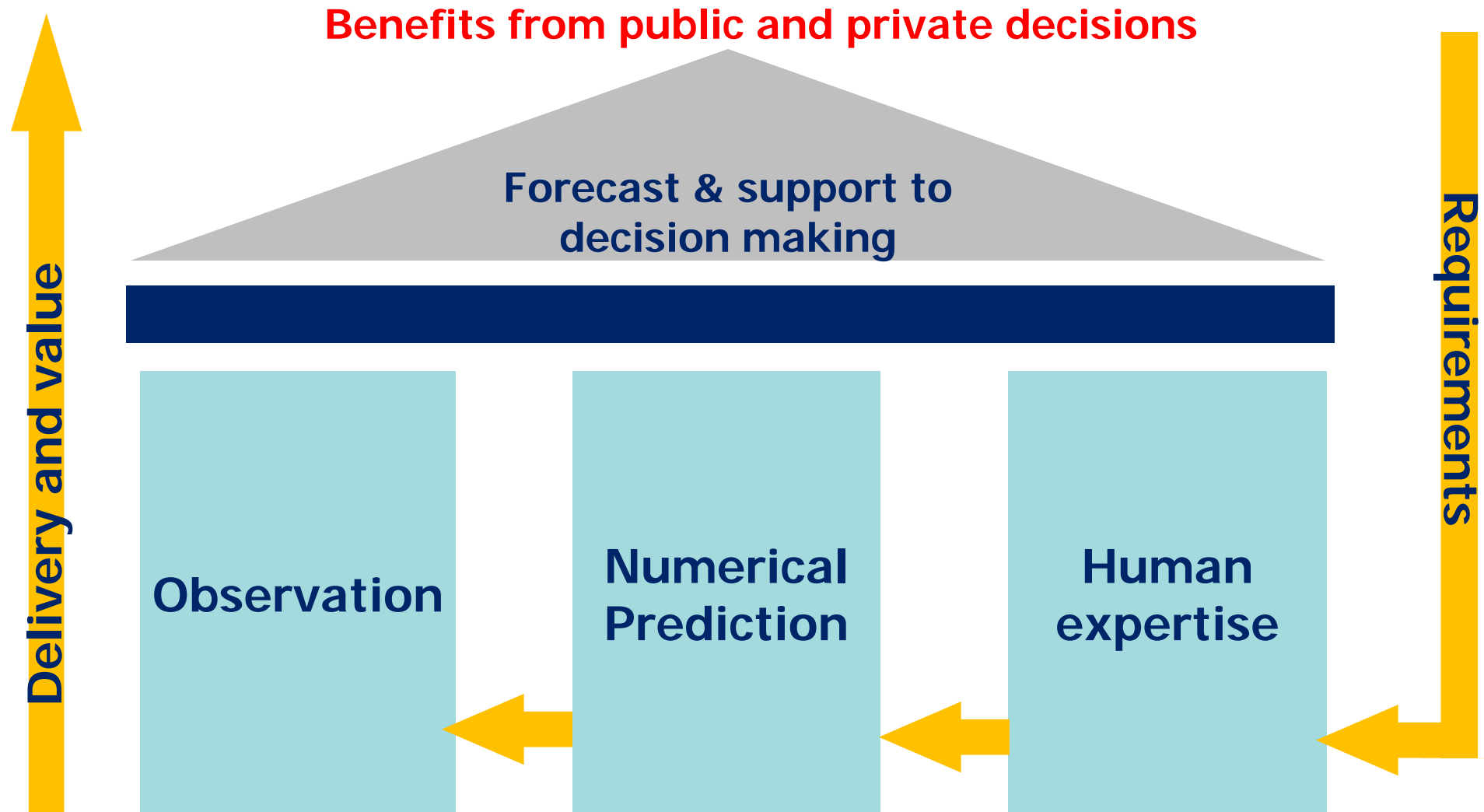
WHERE WOULD WE BE WITHOUT SATELLITES ?

THE CASE OF WEATHER FORECASTS

**ALAIN RATIER**

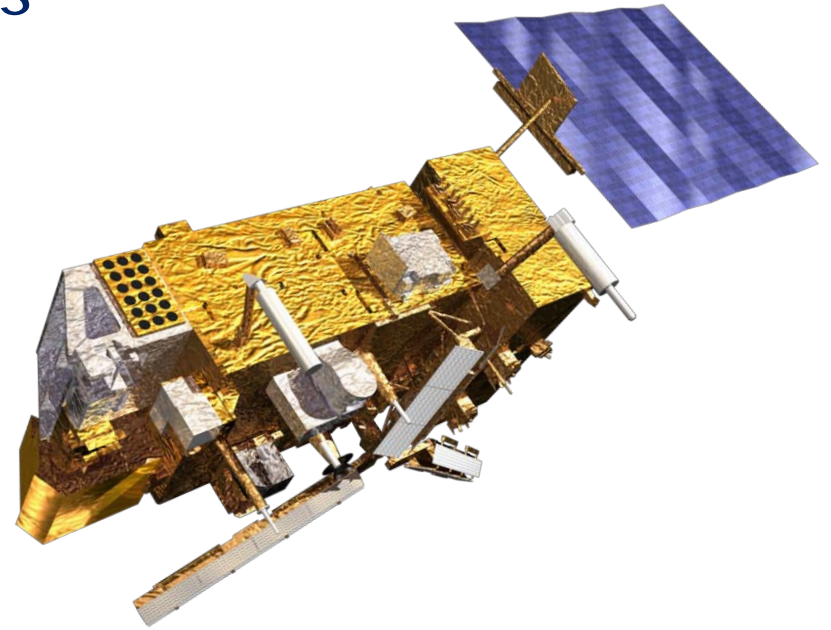
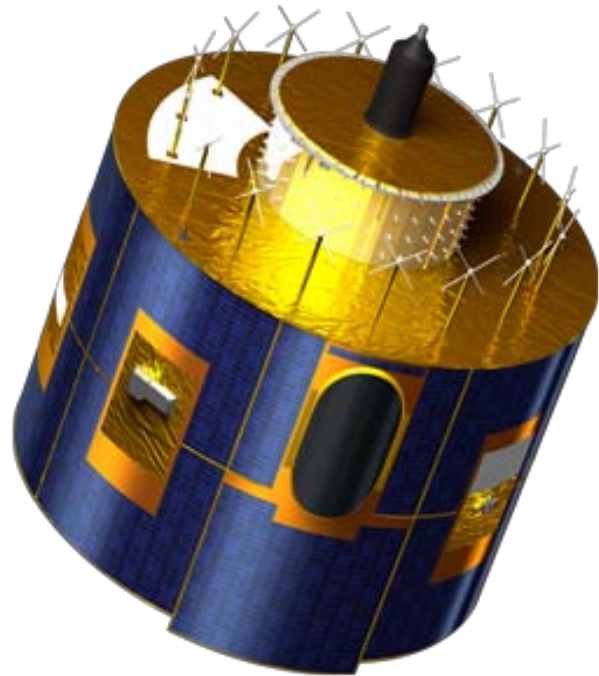
Director-General

# The three pillars of state-of-the art forecasting



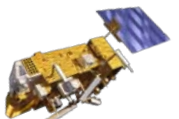
# Need for two types of meteorological satellites

Polar orbit: critical for forecasts up to 10 days

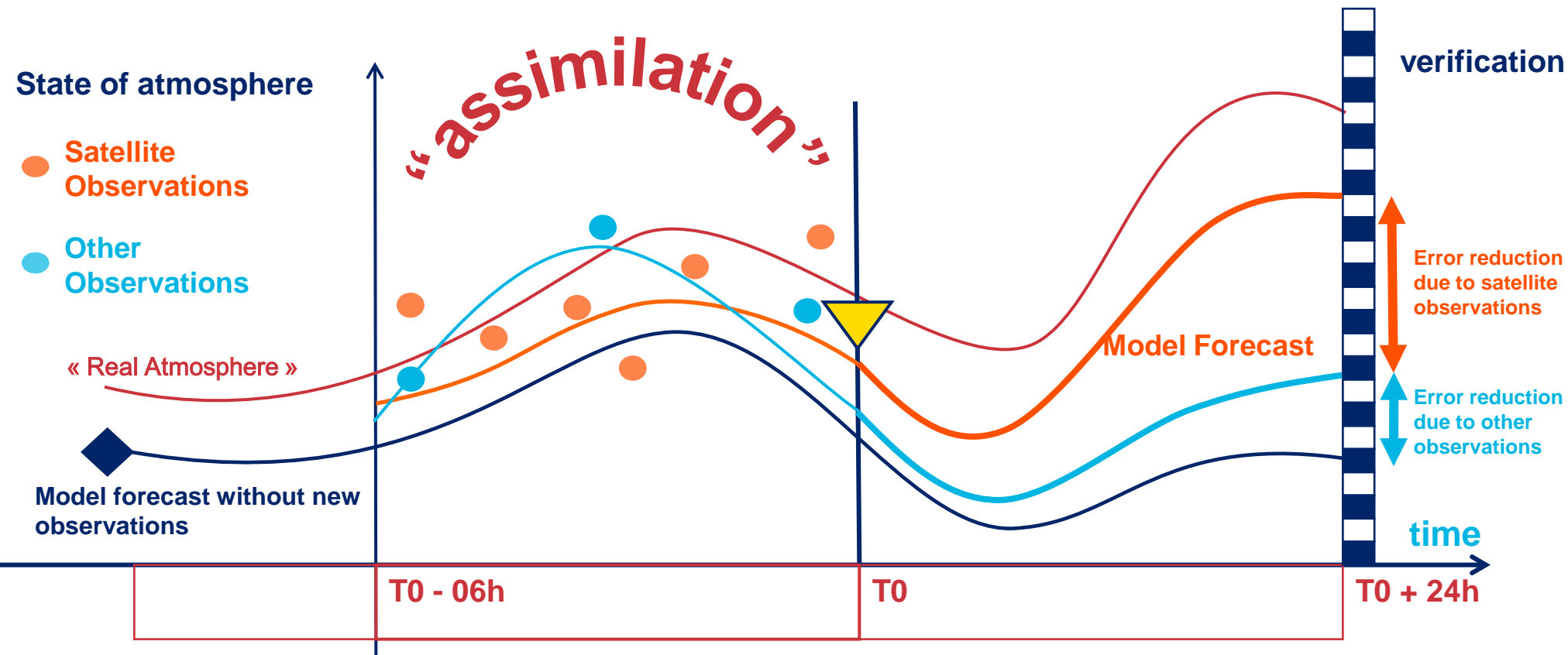


Geostationary orbit

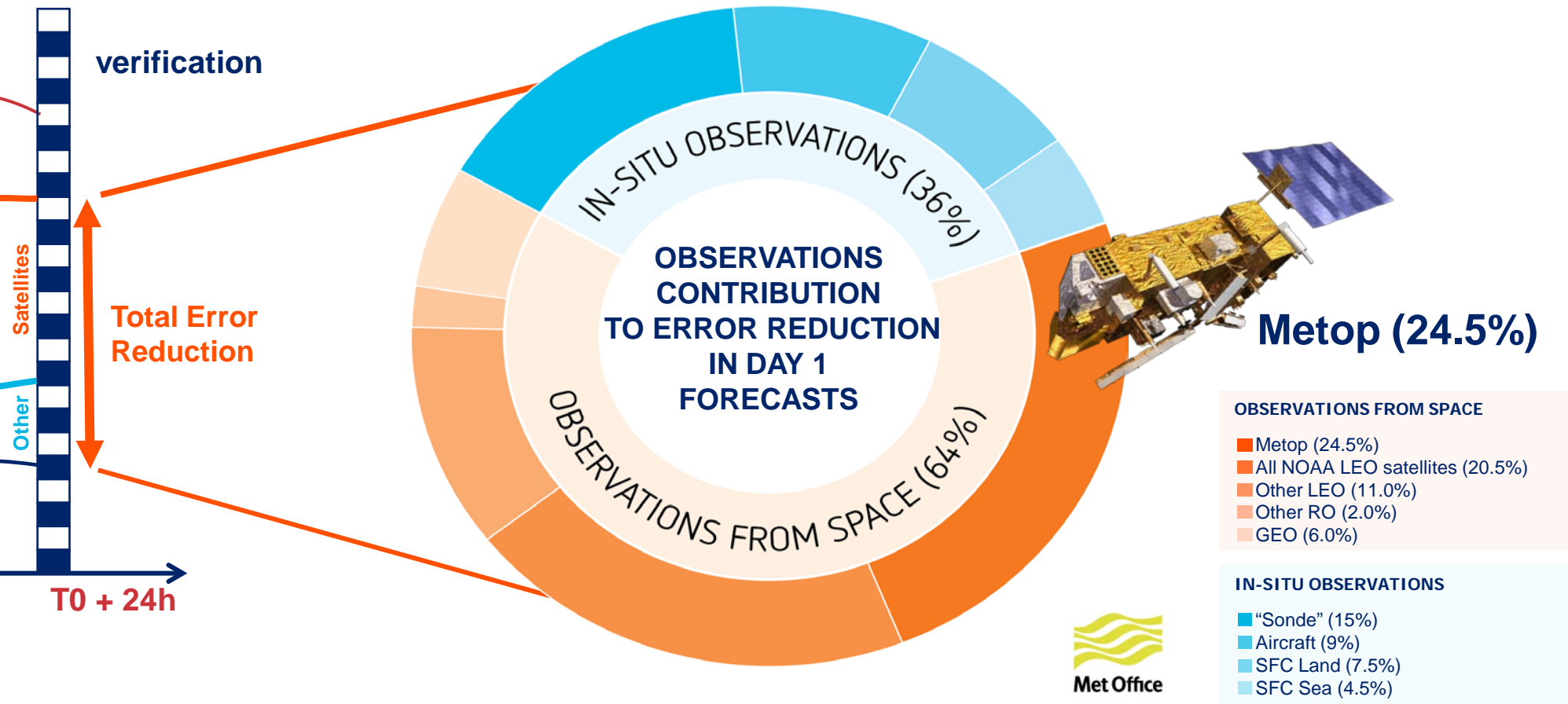
Vital for forecasts up to a few hours



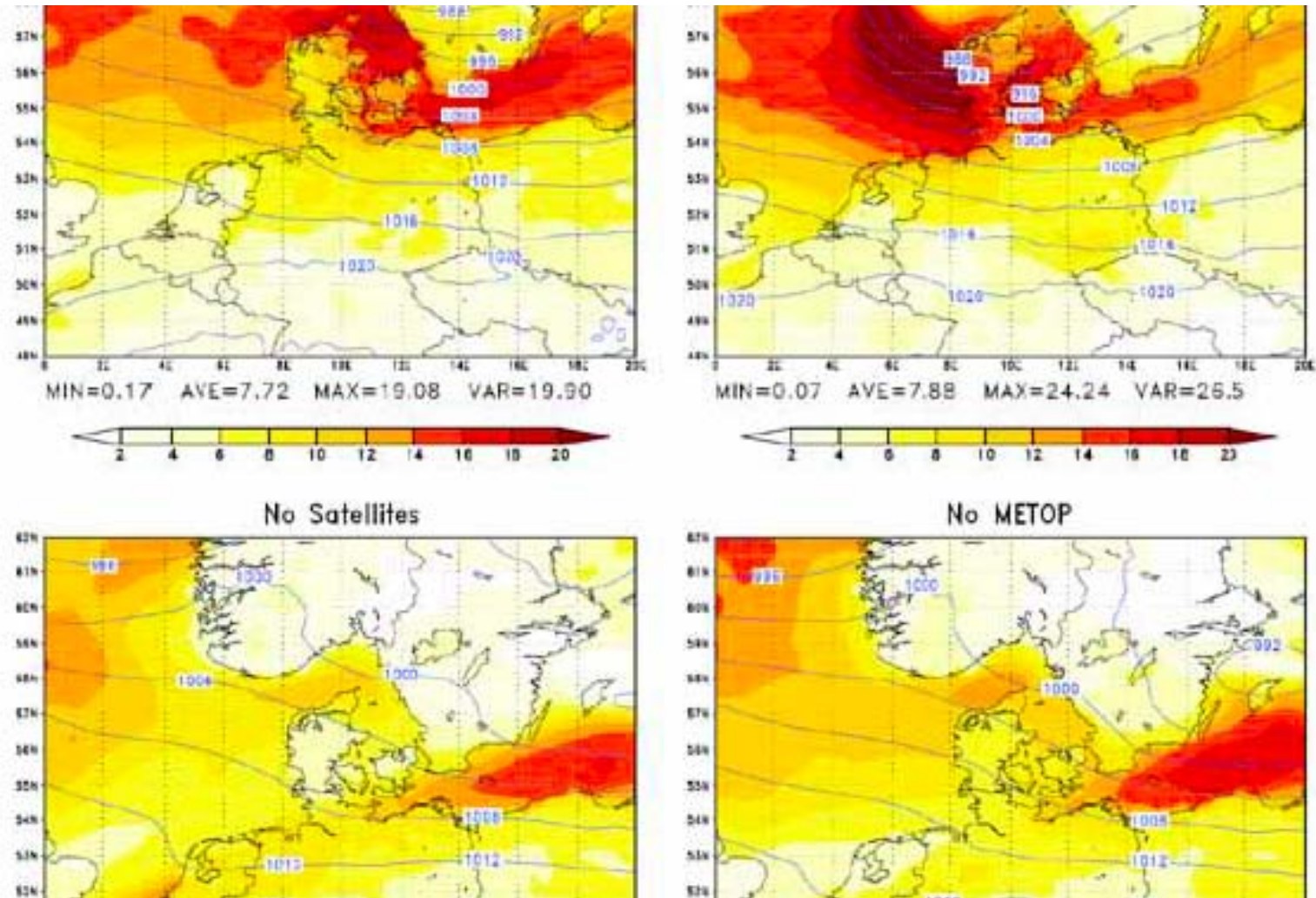
# Constrain the “initial trajectory” of the forecast model



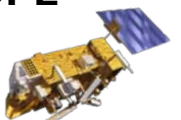
# Major impact of Metop-A on Day 1 forecast (average)



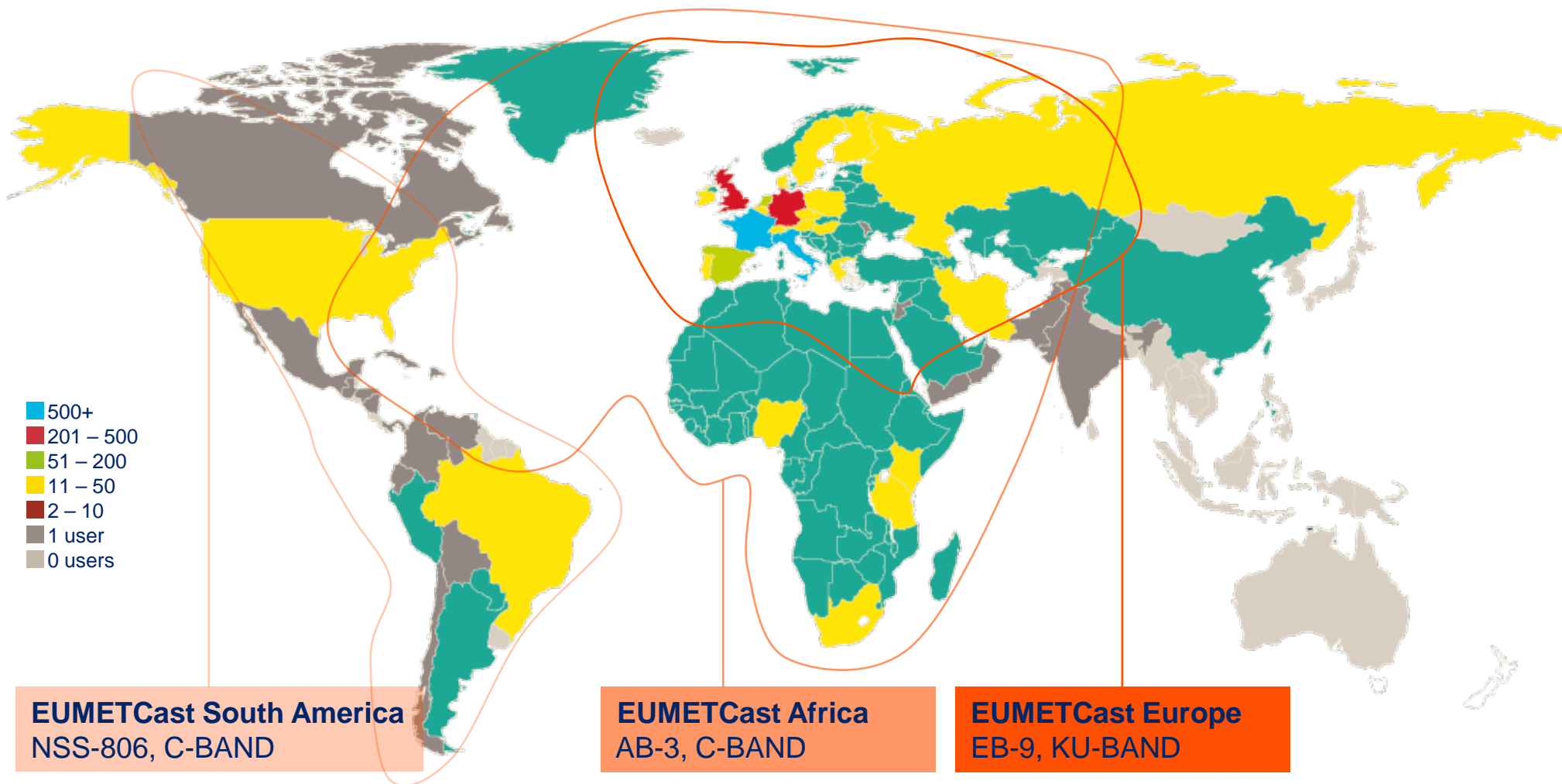
# CASE STUDY – A WINTER STORM OVER EUROPE



## IMPACT OF METOP DATA ON THE FORECASTING OF A WINTER STORM OVER EUROPE



# Delivering to users worldwide



**3,163 users worldwide, end 2011**

