



Wind characteristics over Sua Pan, Botswana: Observations from DO4Models

Richard Washington, Giles Wiggs, James King, David Thomas, Kasten Haustein, and Harriet Moorhouse
University of Oxford, Oxford University Centre for the Environment, Oxford, United Kingdom
(richard.washington@ouce.ox.ac.uk)

Dust Observations for Models (DO4Models) is a project designed to gather data from source regions at a scale appropriate to climate model grid box resolution. During the southern winter of 2011 and 2012 an array of automatic weather stations and dust monitoring instruments were deployed across Sua Pan in Botswana. Surface characteristics were also quantified in detail. This paper evaluates the characteristics of the measured wind-field across the pan. The seasonal evolution of the wind and its diurnal signature are analysed. The extent to which synoptic forcing is responsible for key deflation events is analysed and the characteristics of the winds during these events is determined.