



The estimation of cloudiness and Solar surface irradiance in Latvia by using satellite data

Z. Avotniece (1,2), L. Lizuma (1,2), and A. Vīksna (1)

(1) Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre, 165 Maskavas str., Riga, LV-1019, Latvia, e-mail: zanita.avotniece@gmail.com, (2) Faculty of Geography and Earth Sciences, University of Latvia, Raiņa blvd. 19, LV- 1586, Rīga, Latvia

Satellite data have become an essential tool in climate monitoring, that can provide information in sites not covered by the surface observation network. The spatial coverage and timeliness of the satellite data makes it possible to assess past and current climate in order to understand the climate system and assess the possible trends and changes in the essential climate variables, and assess the impacts of their changes. In this study The Satellite Application Facility on Climate Monitoring (CM SAF) data sets on the fractional cloud cover and Solar surface irradiance were used to estimate the climatic characteristics of these parameters in Latvia.