

The Importance of CALIOP Data to Biomass Burning and Smoke Plume Injection Height

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Contributions from colleagues: Hyun Deok Choi, Roman Kowch, Jason Tackett, Duncan Fairlie and George Pouliot

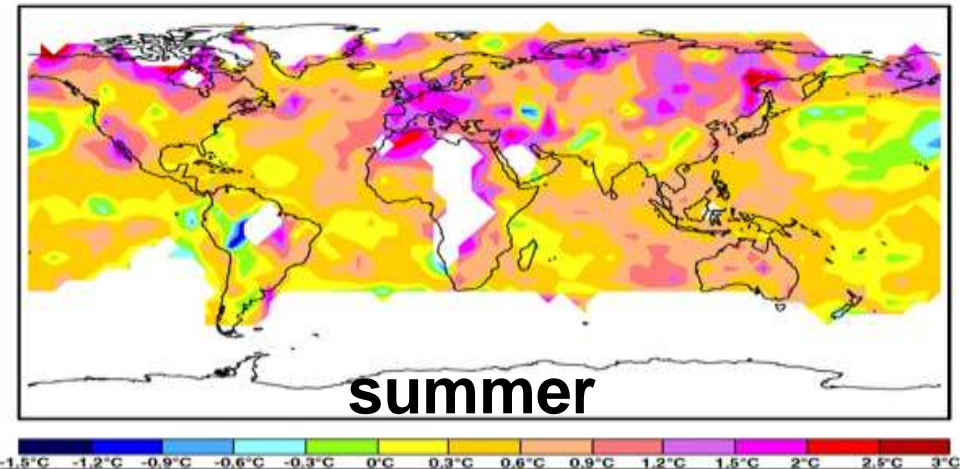
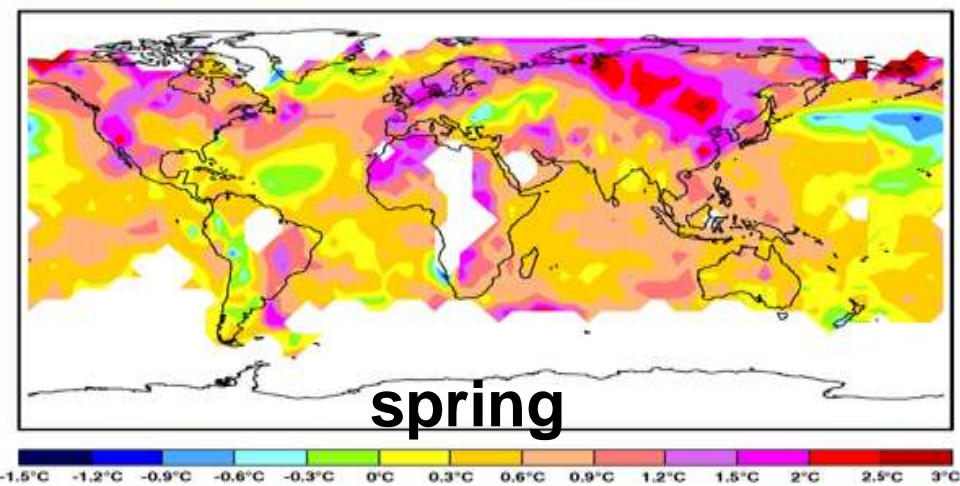
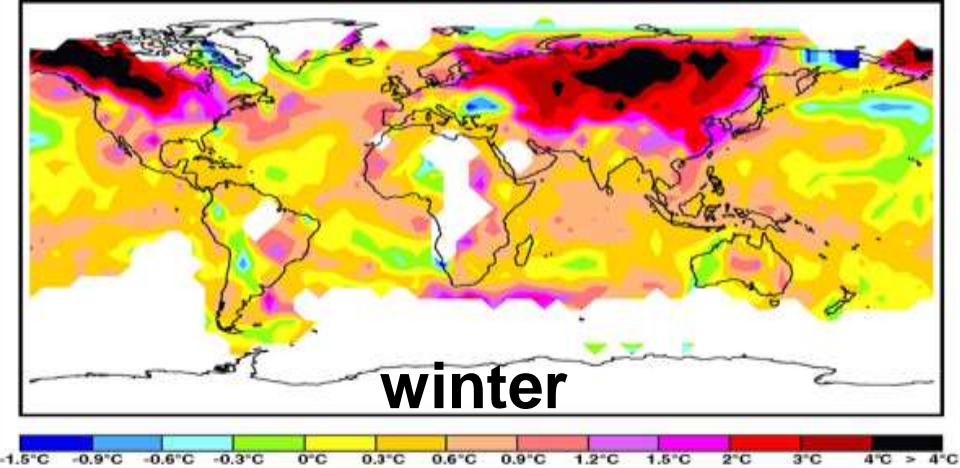
Photo courtesy of Brian Stocks



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Outline:

- **Brief introduction to the driving forces of fire
and smoke plume injection height**
- **Examples of the value and success of CALIPSO**
 - **General transport**
 - **Plume injection height and the application
of that information**
 - **General science questions**
- **Highlights**
- **Looking forward**



Mean seasonal temperature change.

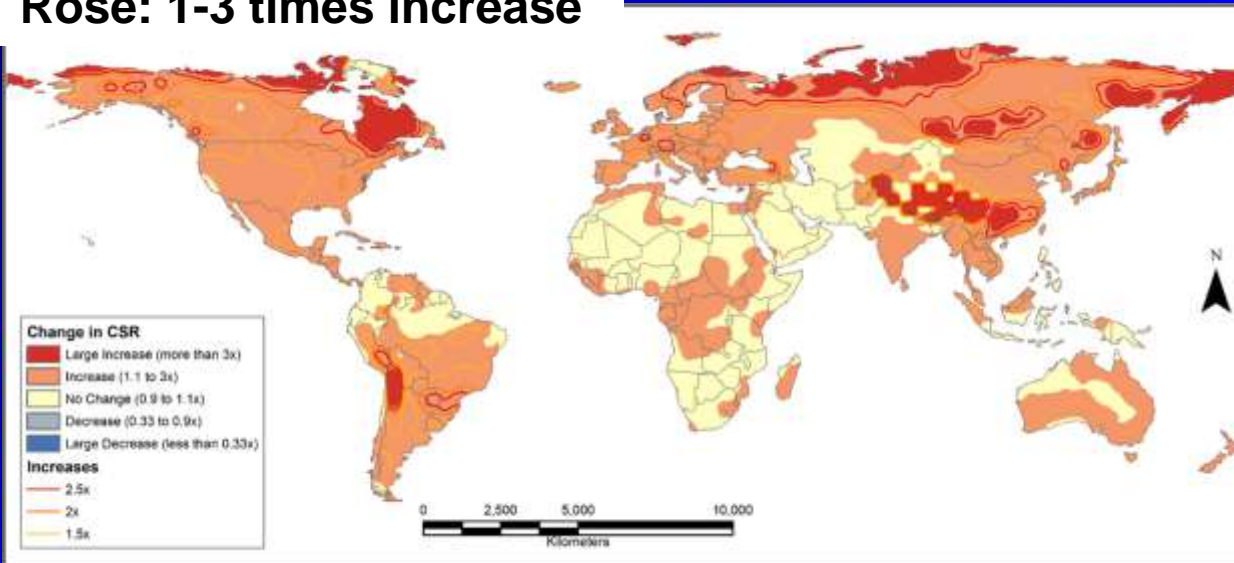
Temperatures are increasing, particularly in the Northern Hemisphere winter and spring, which leads to longer growing seasons, increased potential evapotranspiration and extreme fire weather.

It is time to get fire feedbacks integrated.

[Groisman et al., 2007; Jones and Moberg, 2003, updated]

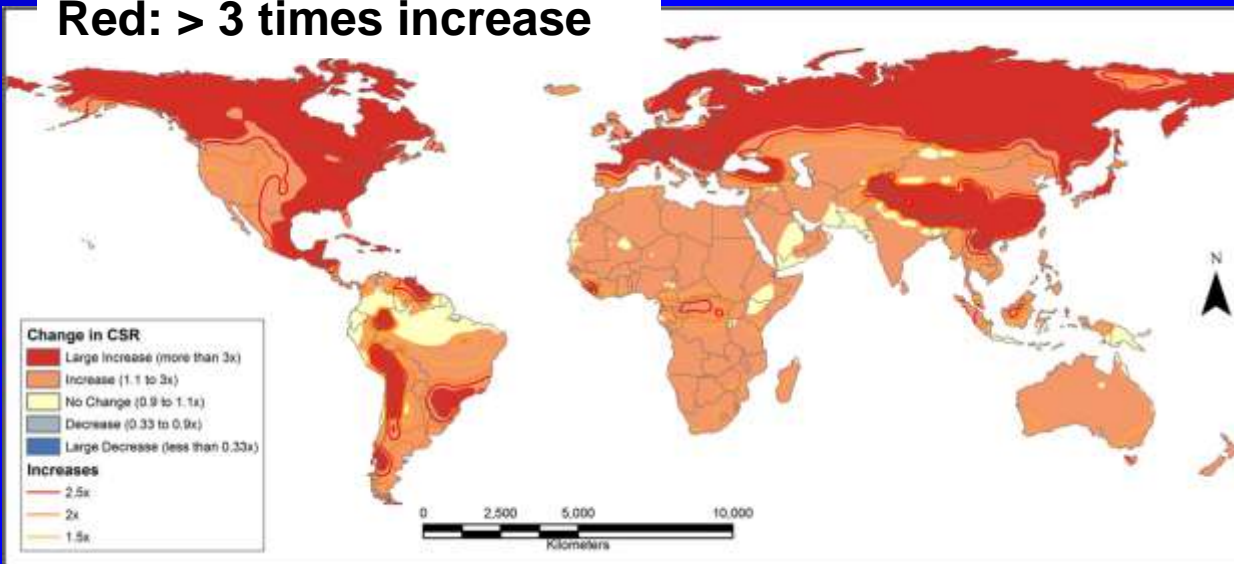
Predicted Cumulative Fire Severity Rating

Rose: 1-3 times increase



**Anomalies for
2041–2050,
relative to 1971–2000
base period.**

Red: > 3 times increase

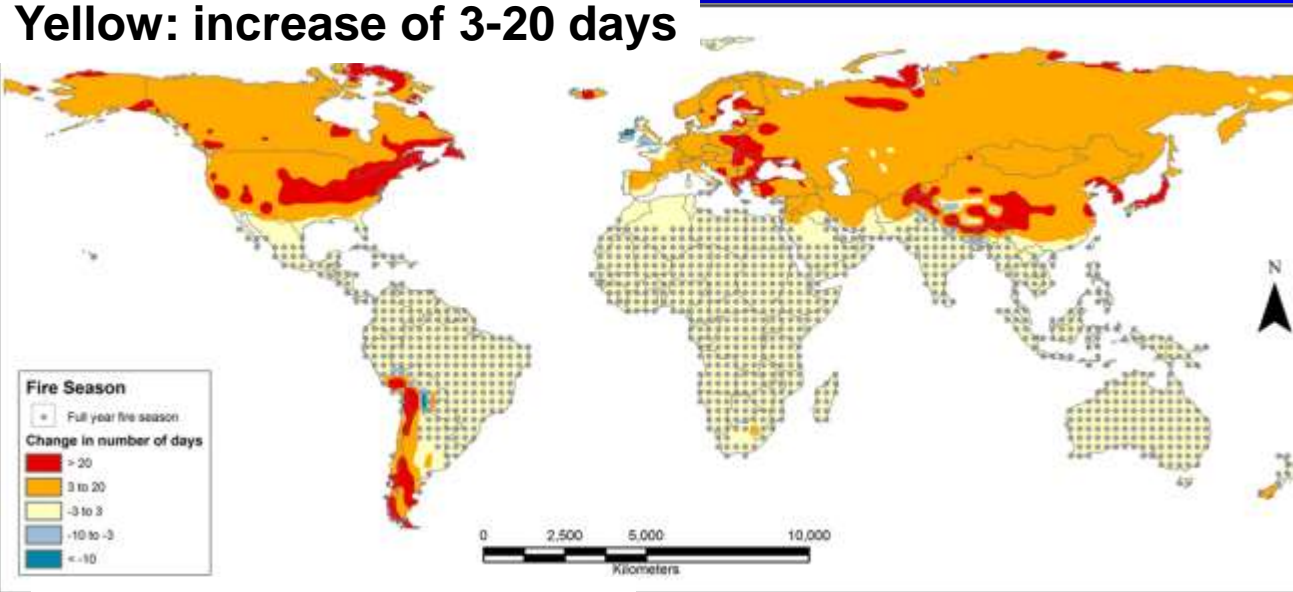


**Anomalies for
2091–2100,
relative to 1971–2000
base period.**

Flannigan et al., 2013 Modeled based on French IPSL-CM4 A2 scenario

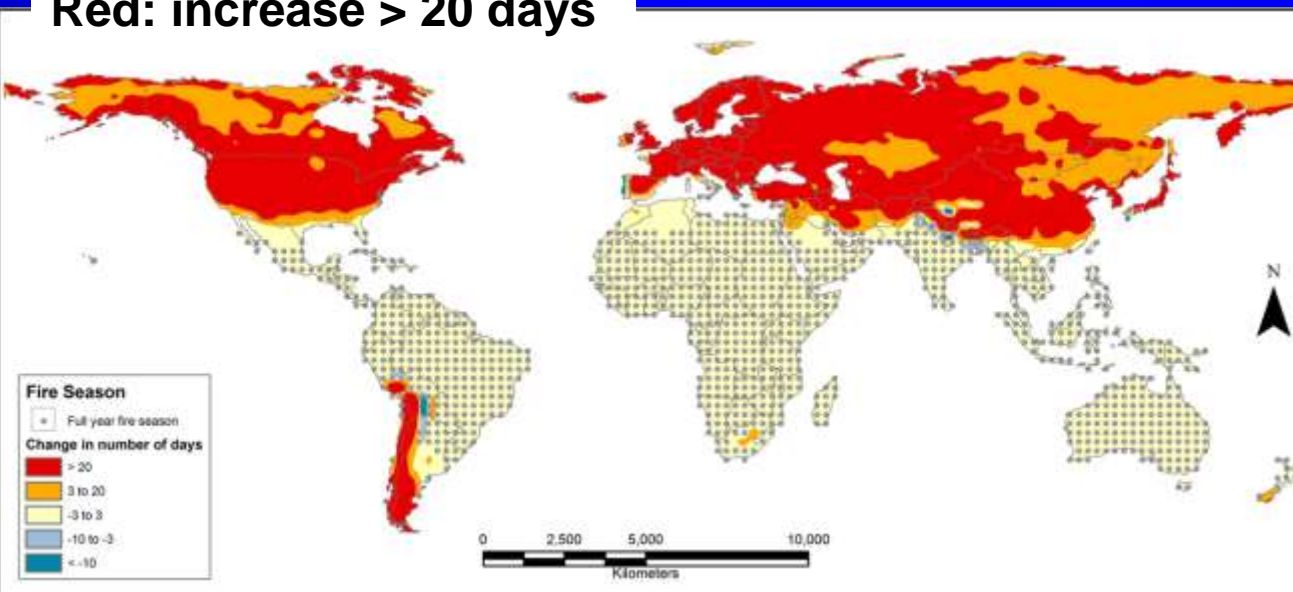
Predicted Fire Season Length

Yellow: increase of 3-20 days



**Anomaly for
2041–2050,
relative to 1971–2000
base period.**

Red: increase > 20 days



**Anomaly for
2091–2100 relative
to 1971–2000
base period.**

Flannigan et al., 2013 Modeled based on Hadley CM3 B1 scenario

If we don't get injection height correct, the transport of pollutants will be incorrectly modeled and tracked.

Climate Feedbacks

*** Smoke alters the Earth's radiation balance and feeds back to climate systems [e.g., patterns of precipitation (cloud condensation nuclei), change in Earth's reflectance - albedo (vegetation change, clouds, black carbon on snow and ice)].**

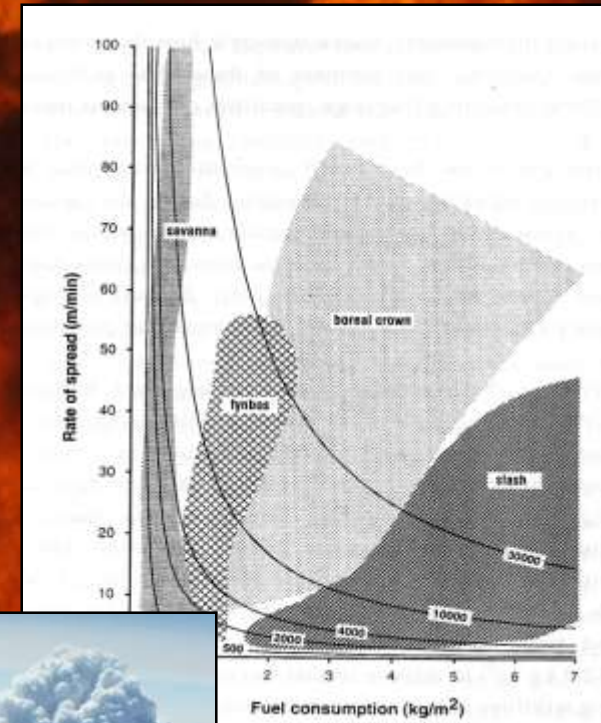
Air Quality

*** A mis-informed public (air quality reports), which could adversely affect human health;**

*** In the U.S., inability to quickly and accurately assess the Exceptional Events Rule (72 FR 13560, March 22, 2007).**

Fire Intensity-Energy Release-Plume Height

- ❖ Combine rate of spread/fuel consumption/heat of combustion to determine fire intensity ($I = HWR$) = resistance to control
- ❖ Savanna Fires:
 - 10-12 t/ha
 - 500-10,000 kW/m
 - Lower convection columns
- ❖ Boreal/Temperate Forest Fires:
 - 25-50 t/ha
 - 100-100,000 kW/m
 - > fuel consumption & intensity
 - Towering convection columns reaching UTLS



A typical high-intensity boreal crown fire convection column viewed from an altitude of ~10 km (*photo courtesy Mr. Todo, JAL*)

Driving force:
Fire Weather and Fuel

Fire Regimes Vary Widely: **Fuel & conditions; time of day**




Photo:
Conard



What burns and how dry are the fuels does matter.

**** Peak late afternoon when the fuels are most available:**

**Hot, Dry,
Low
Relative
Humidity**

**Fires
lay down
at night**

**Photos:
Stocks and
Soja**



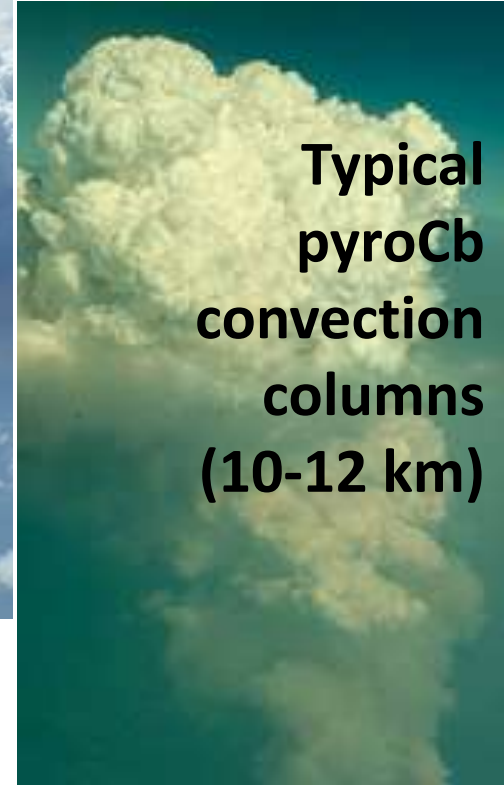
5-6 km

30 June 2008

ARCTAS: Photos courtesy P3 group



Typical
pyroCb
convection
columns
(10-12 km)



5-7 km

Air and smoke travel faster at higher altitudes

Climate → Weather →

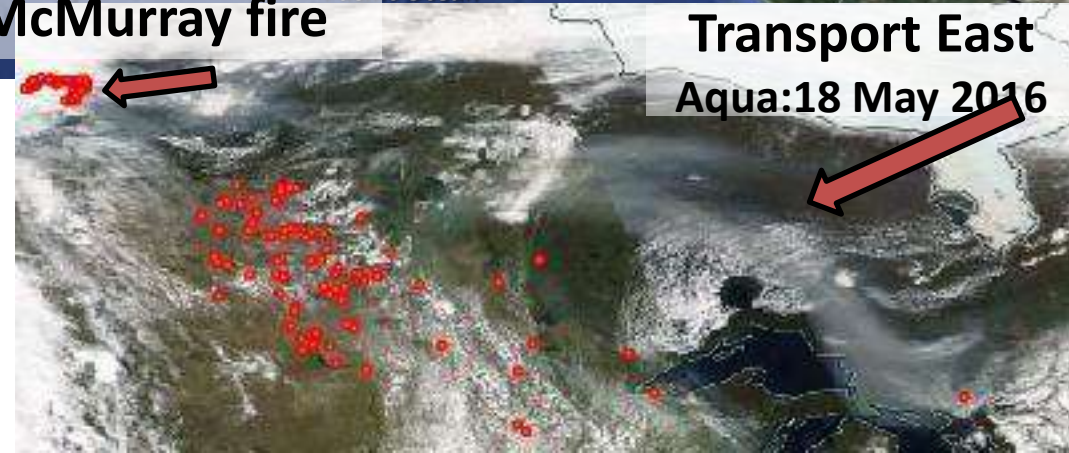
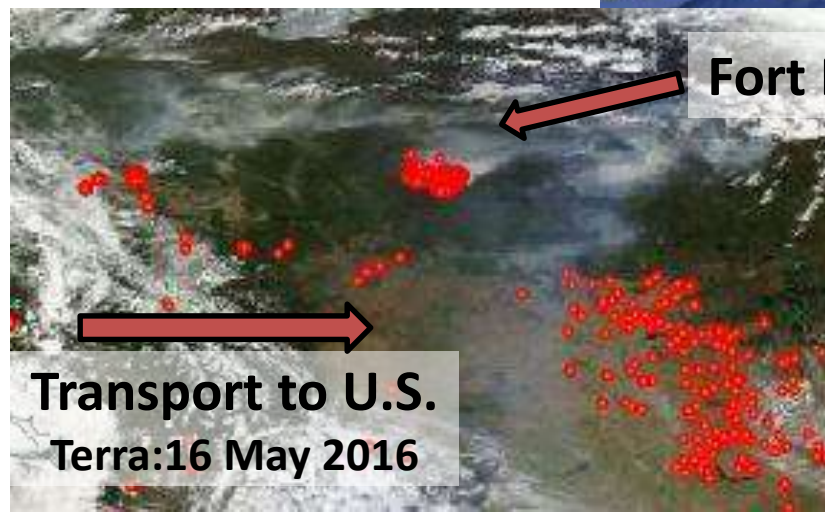
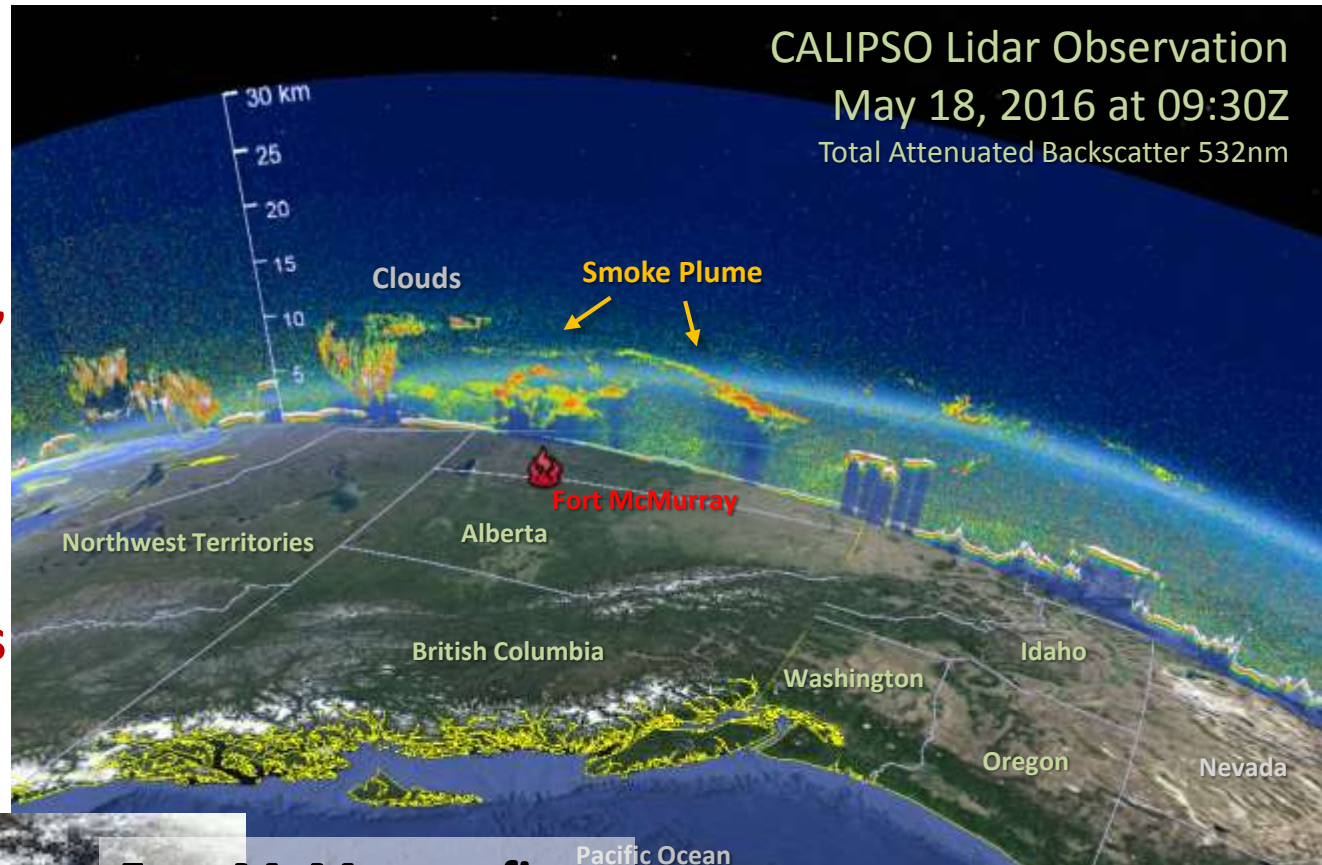
Available Fuel → Injection height



CALIPSO Value: Fort McMurray fire, still burning in Alberta CAN

Numerous CALIOP images have traced smoke aerosol trails, distant from the fires, south to the U.S. and east to Europe, then across Siberia.

ONLY with lidar is this verification possible.



CALIPSO value: Fort McMurray fire, still burning in Alberta CAN

Started May 01 2016; Update June 6, 70% contained - expected to burn to fall; 581,696 ha burned (984 km perimeter); 2400 homes; 2804 fire fighters now, still extreme burning

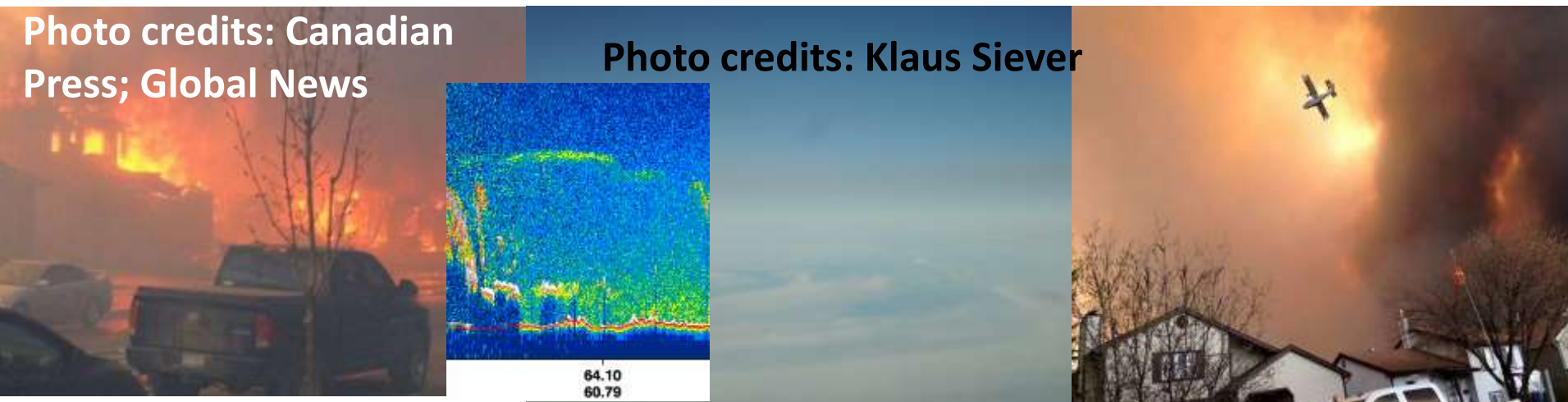


Quickly found over a dozen CALIOP images from the pyroCb forum – a global group that analyzes all large fires using CALIOP and other data.

2016 (to 05 May) 5 pyroCb documented; 68 in 2015; 64 in 2014

Photo credits: Canadian Press; Global News

Photo credits: Klaus Siever





1 year after burn

History: Plume height modeling

Based on the pioneering work of G.A. Briggs [1969; 1971] and verified with limited field data [Clements et al., 2007].

We have an increasing number of ground-based lidar and aircraft verification measures.

There are currently 2 satellites that can provide the statistics necessary to understand and verify plume height.

I. MISR - Multi-angle Imaging SpectroRadiometer

II. CALIPSO - Cloud-Aerosol Lidar and Infrared Pathfinder Satellite Observation

CALIPSO

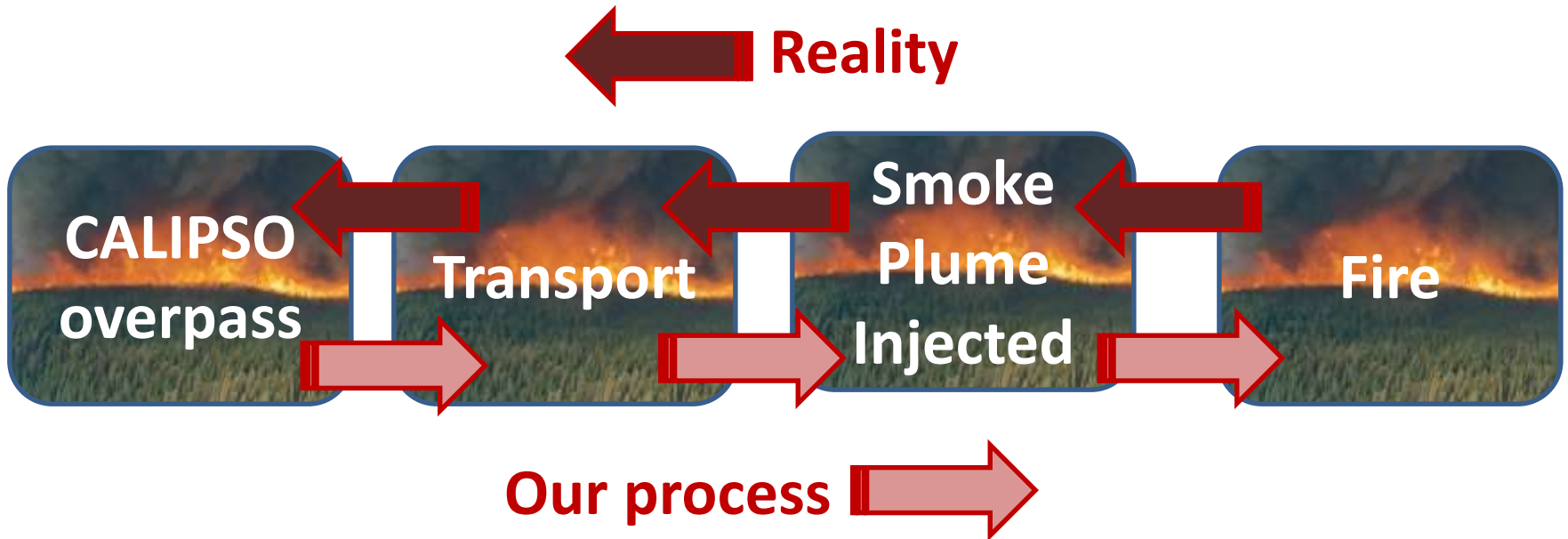
- * Increased capability of detecting optically thin smoke layers at a finer vertical resolution;*
- * Able to identify plume heights from extensive smoke fields;*
- * Paired with back trajectories, smoke plume identification are temporally random, representing the entire temporal range of fire plumes.*

MISR

- * needs abrupt well-defined columns - relies on multi-view angles to estimate the stereo height of distinct features;*
- * substantially larger swath width than CALIPSO which results in a greater opportunity to capture smoke plumes [Kahn et al., 2007]; &*
- * morning overpasses do not capture the natural temporal fire pattern.*

Sensor (spacecraft)	Product	Spatial Resolution	Satellite Overpass	Temporal Availability
MISR (Terra)	AOD, aerosol plume height	1.1 km horizontal x 500 m vertical	10:30 a.m.	~ Once every 7 days
CALIOP (CALIPSO)	extinction profile	100 m diameter x 30 m vertical	1:40 p.m.	Once every 16 days

Methodology



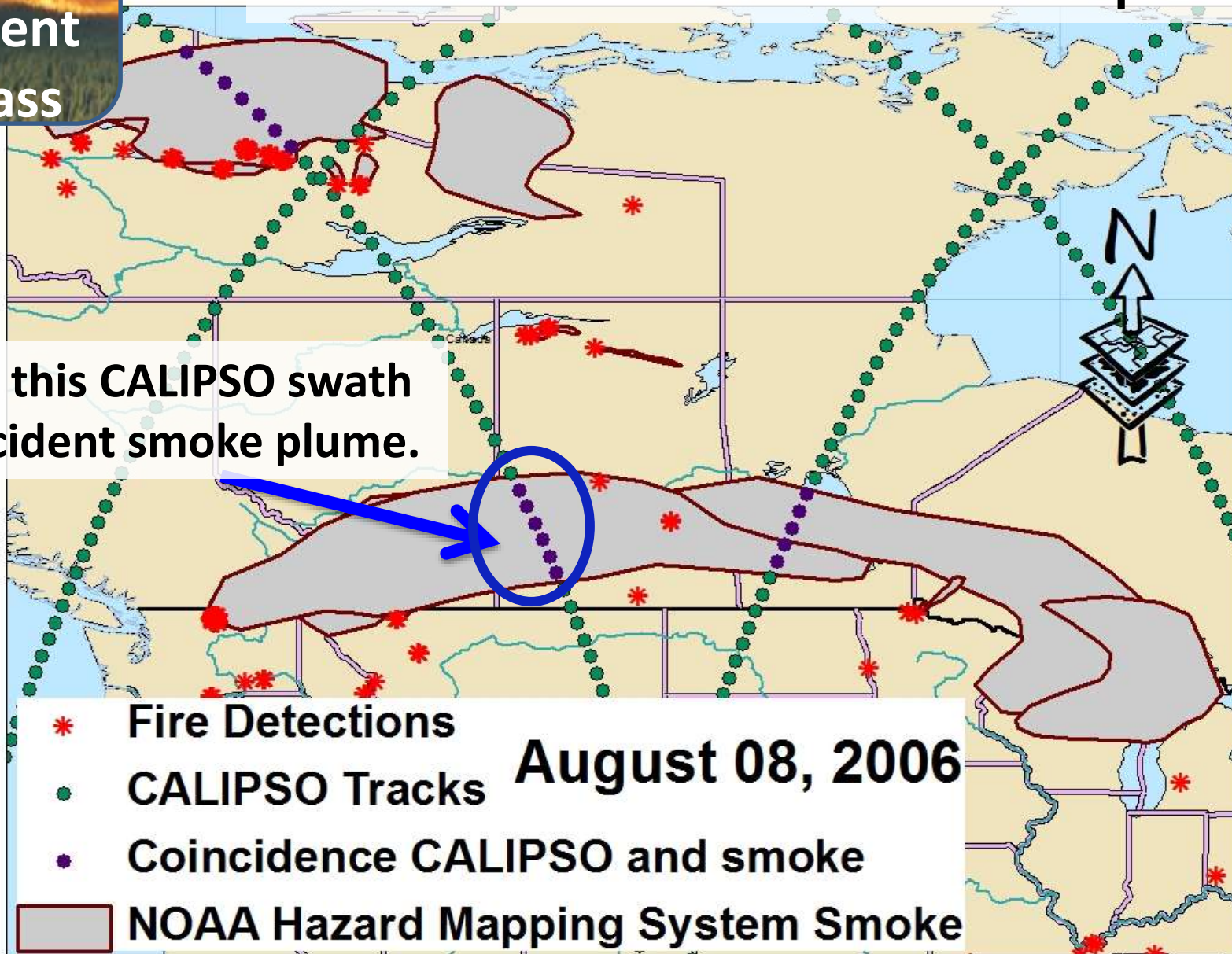
- Coincidence in CALIPSO tracks & NOAA Hazard Mapping System (HMS) smoke plume data;
- LaRC trajectory model (backwards);
- Coincidence with MODIS fire detection.

All in 3-dimensional space and time

**Plume and
CALIPSO
Coincident
Overpass**

**Coincident NOAA HMS smoke plume,
and CALIPSO overpass.**

**Focus on this CALIPSO swath
and coincident smoke plume.**

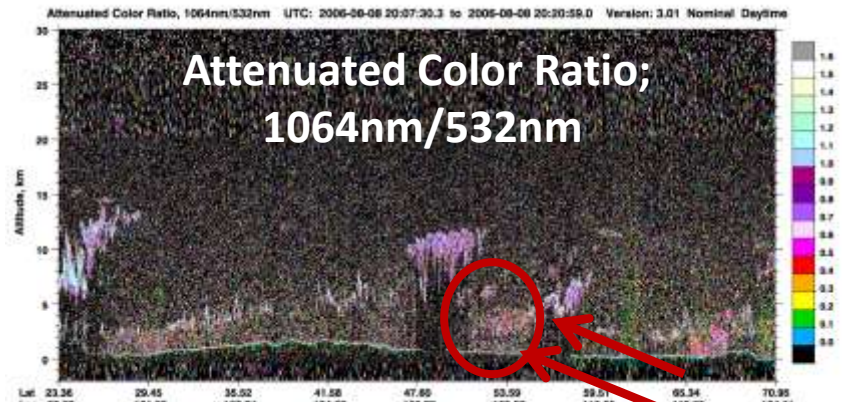
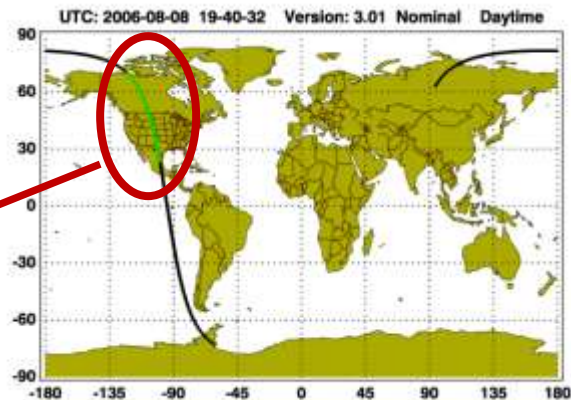


CALIPSO overpass

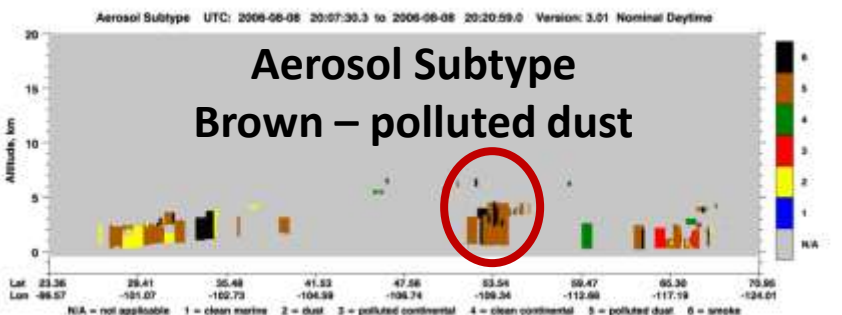
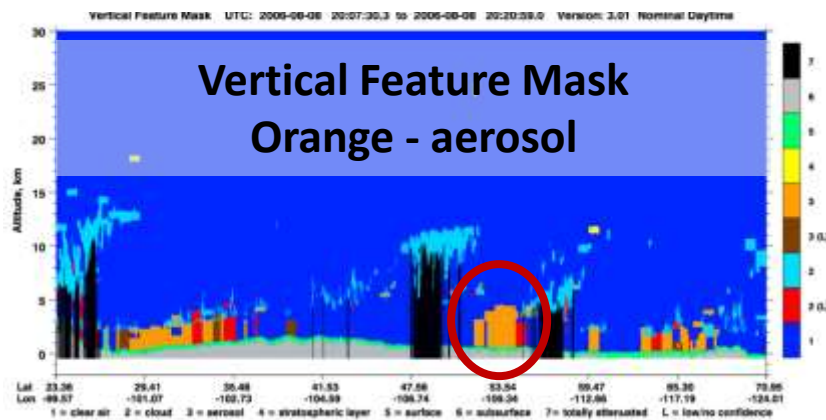
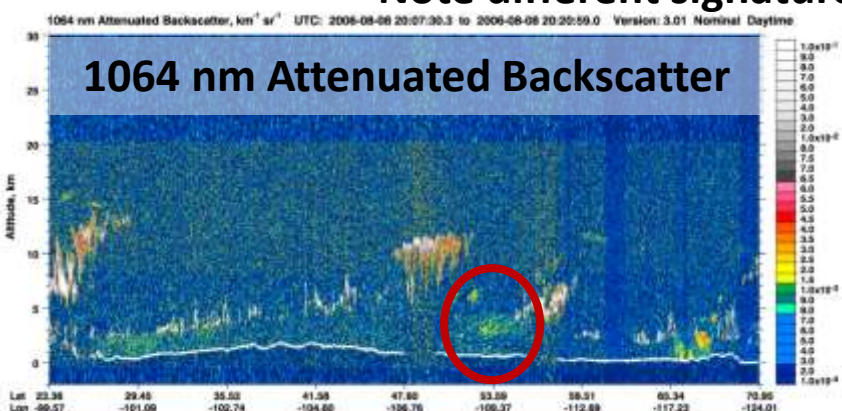
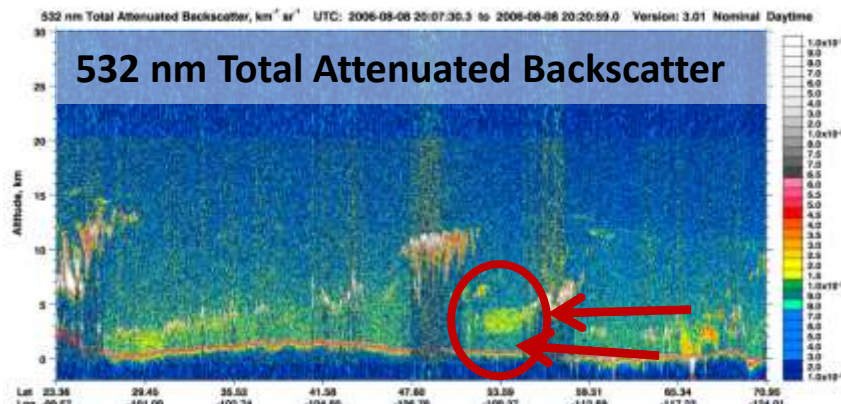
CALIPSO Curtains 08 Aug 2006 (v3)

Swath
from
south to
north

20:07
to
20:20



Note different signature



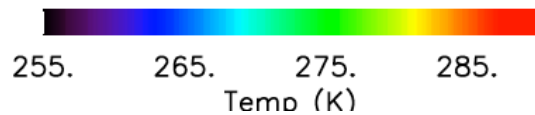
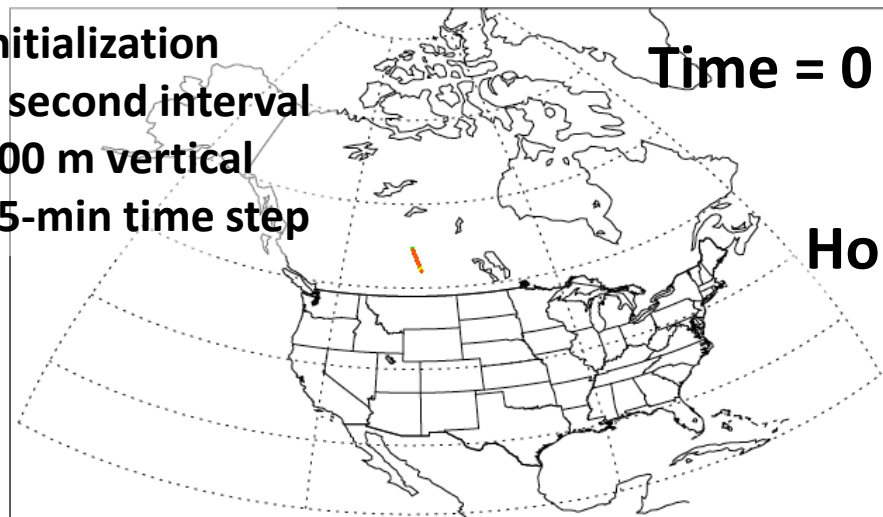
Langley Trajectory Model (LaTM)

Initialization

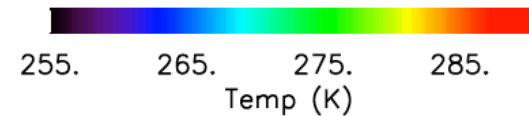
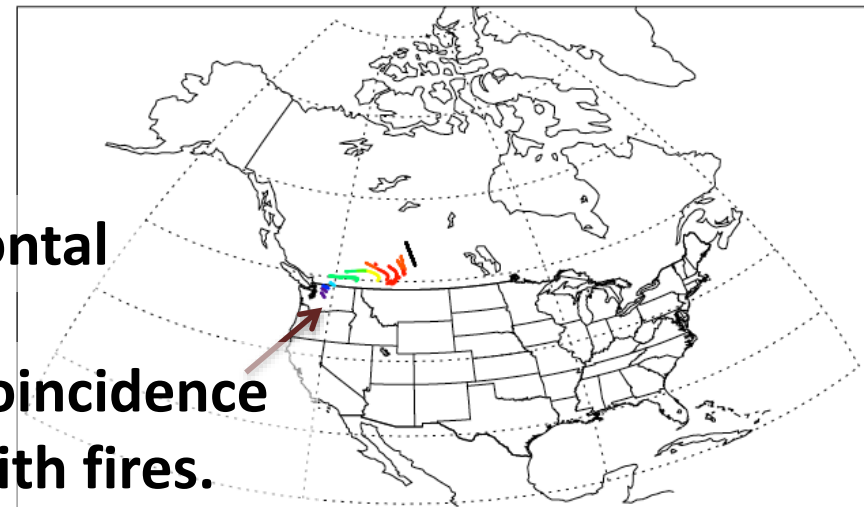
1 second interval

500 m vertical

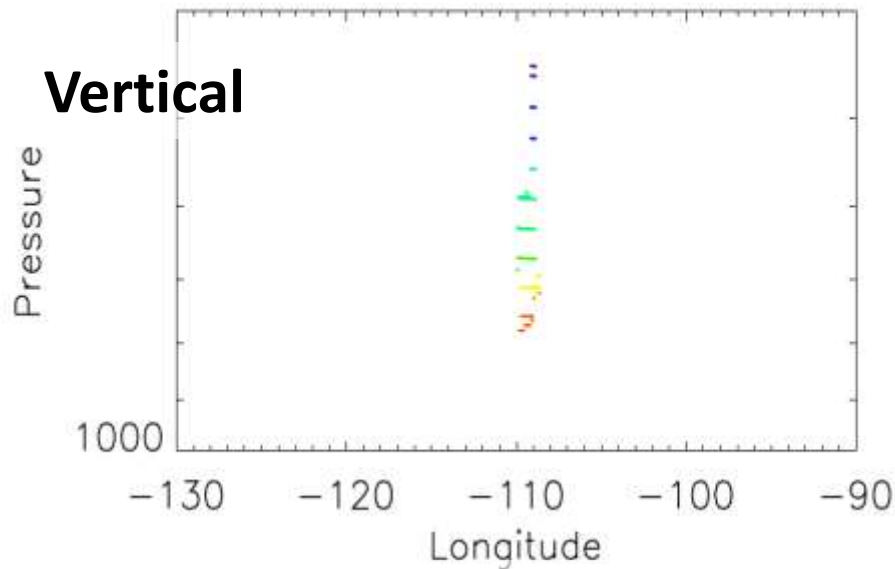
15-min time step



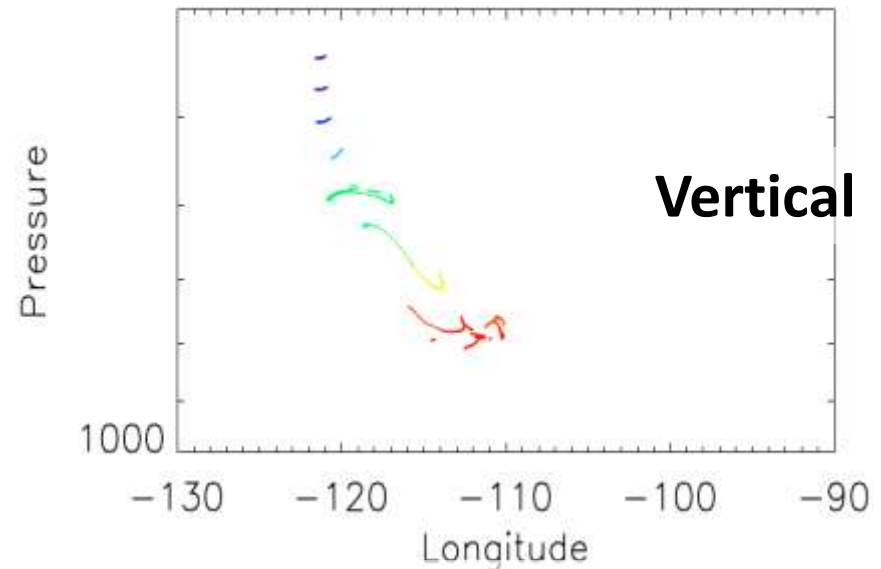
Time = 24 hrs



Vertical

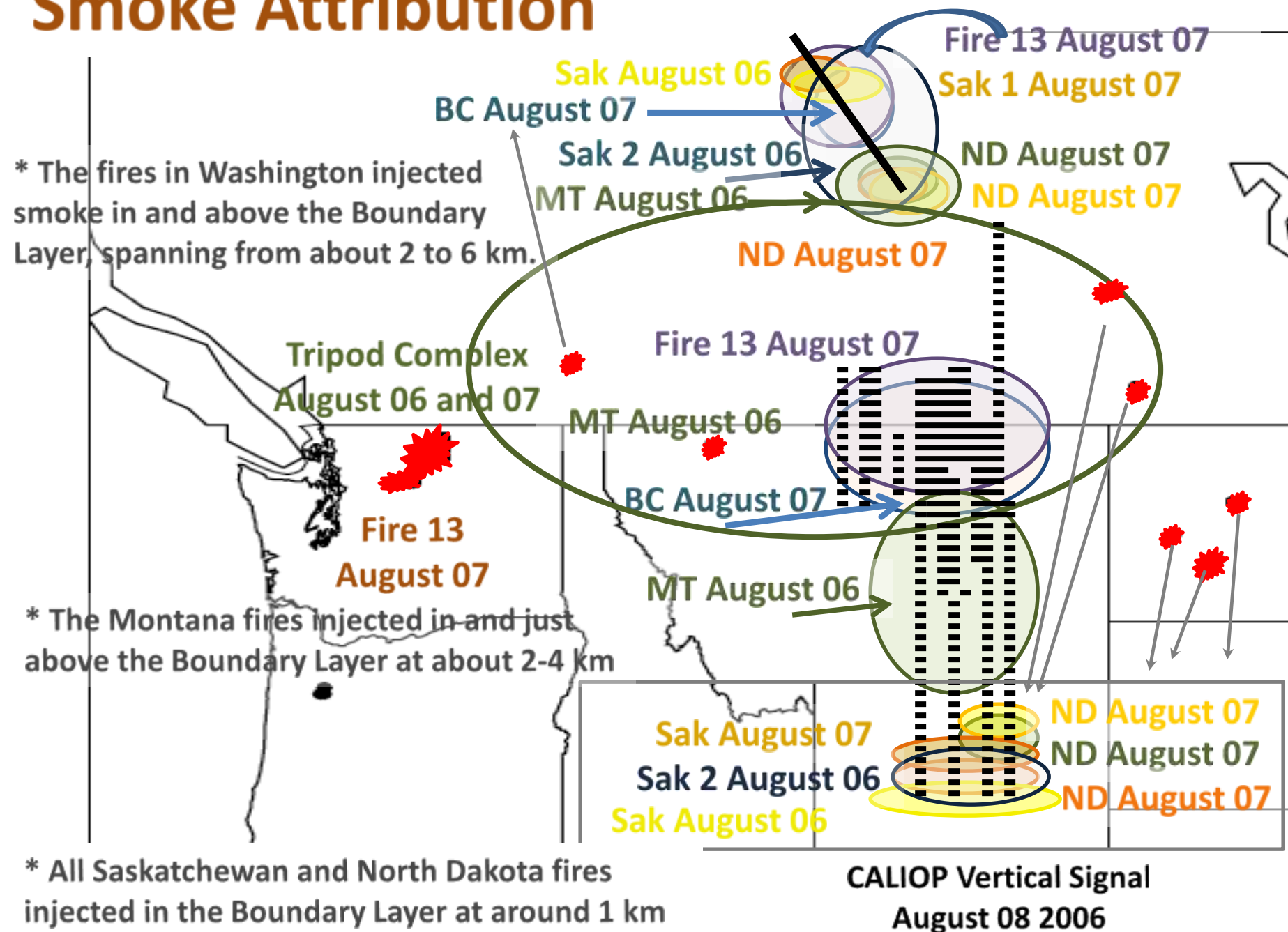


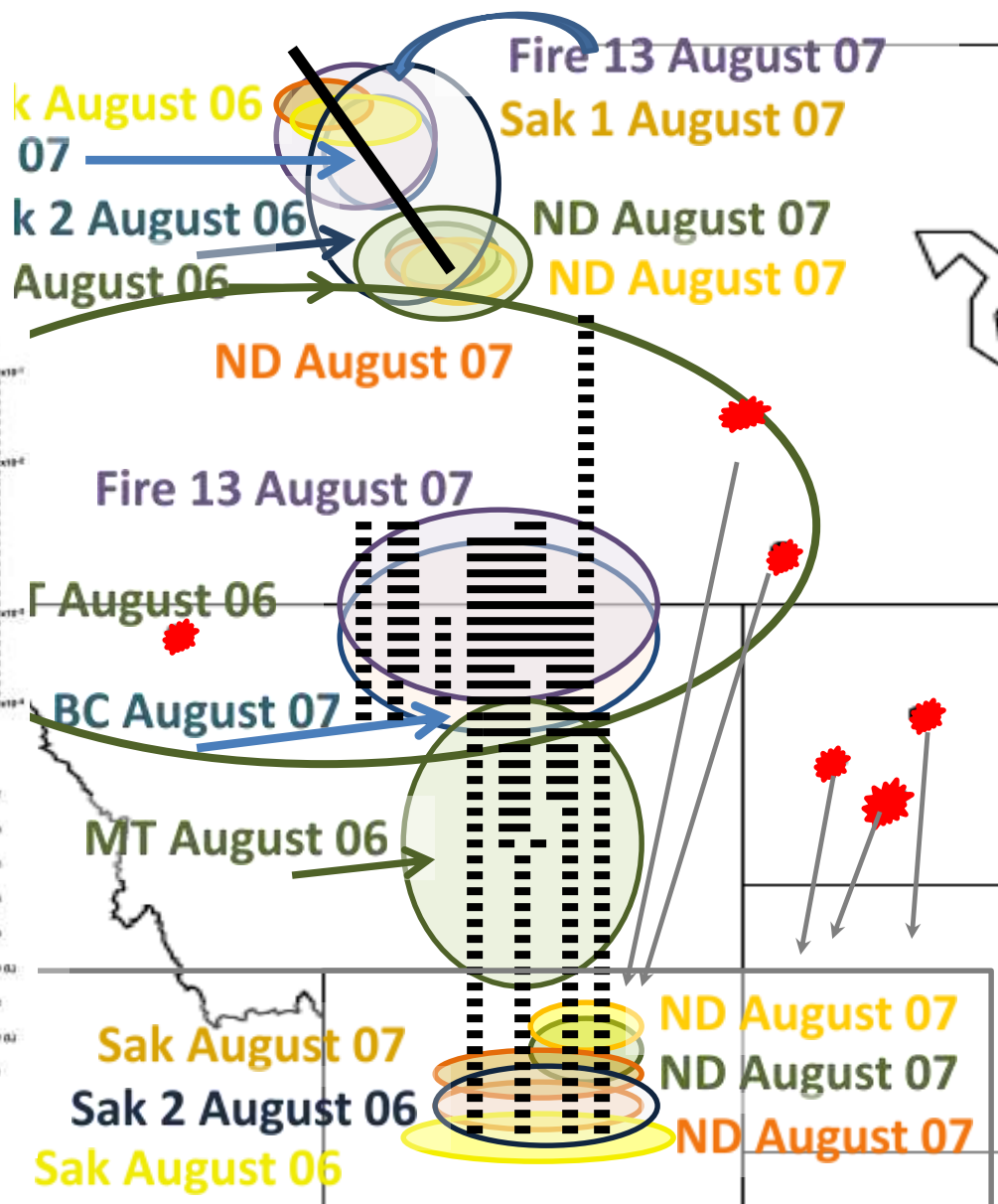
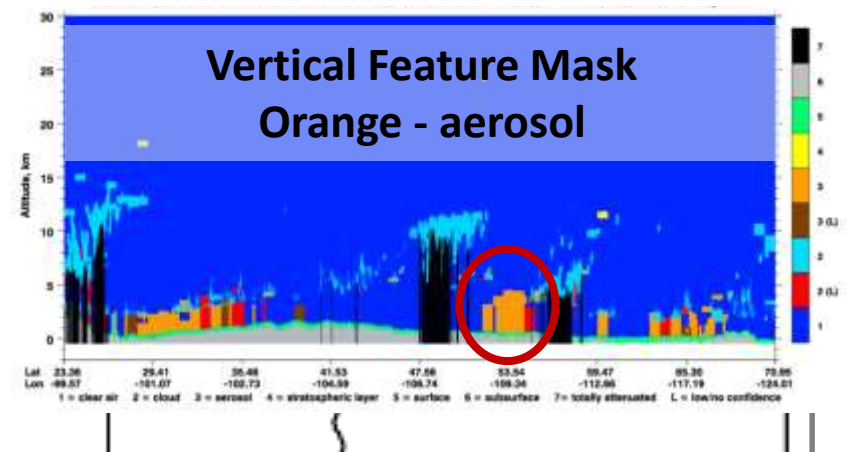
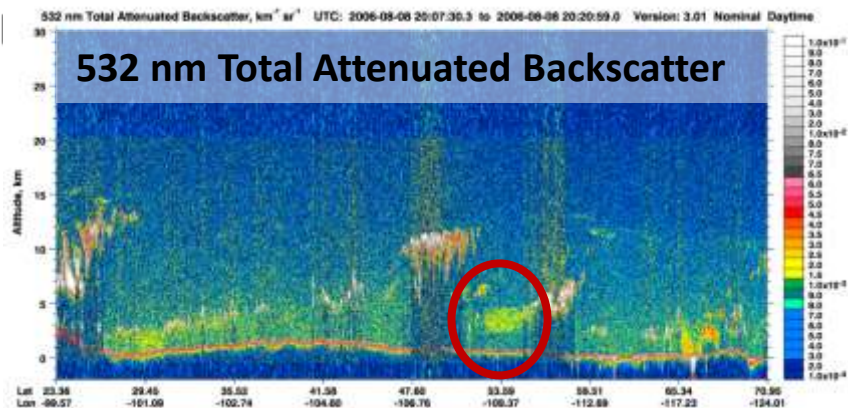
Vertical



Extracted smoke segment along CALIOP & transport path.

Smoke Attribution





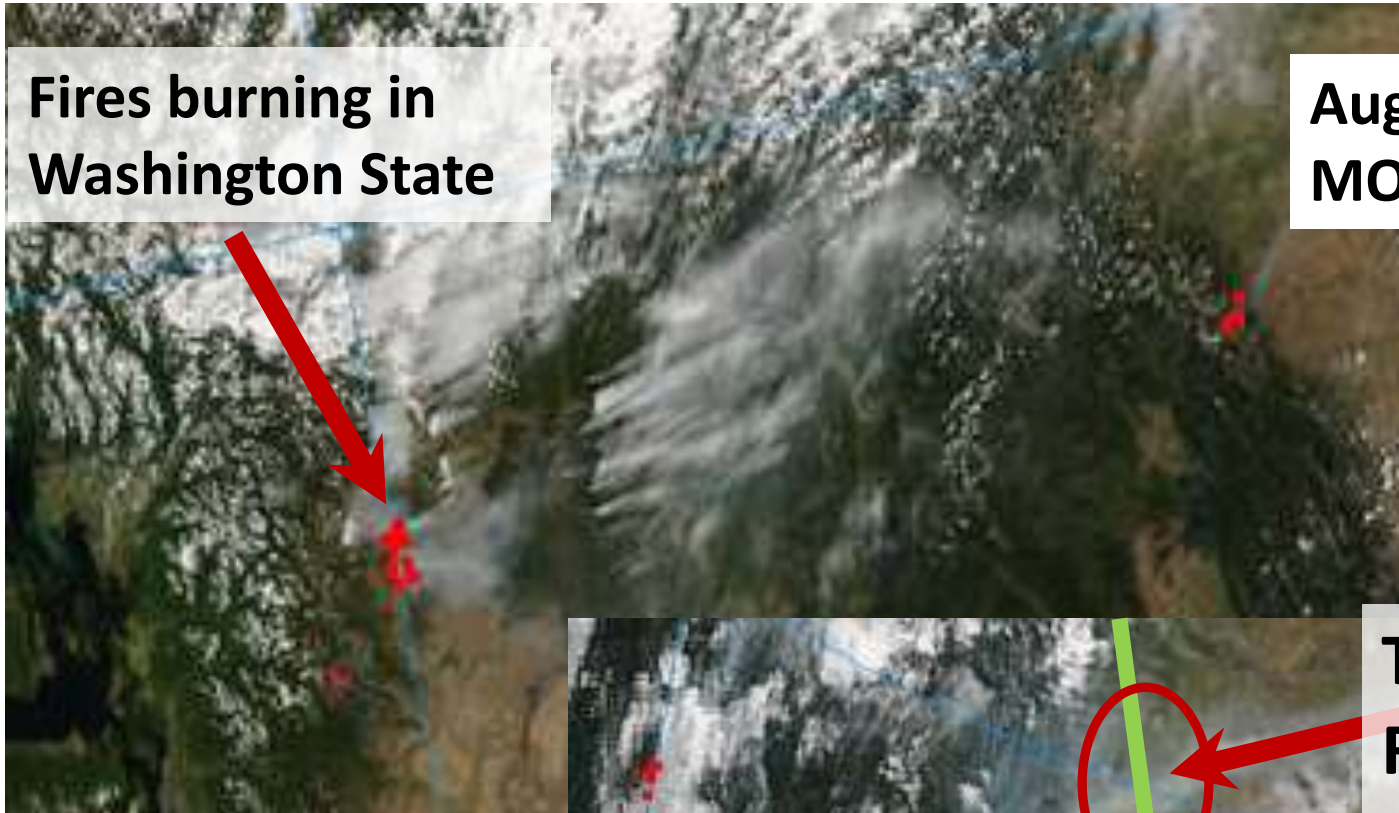
* All Saskatchewan and North Dakota fires injected in the Boundary Layer at around 1 km

CALIOP Vertical Signal
August 08 2006

A River of Smoke

**Fires burning in
Washington State**

**Aug 04 2006,
MODIS Aqua**

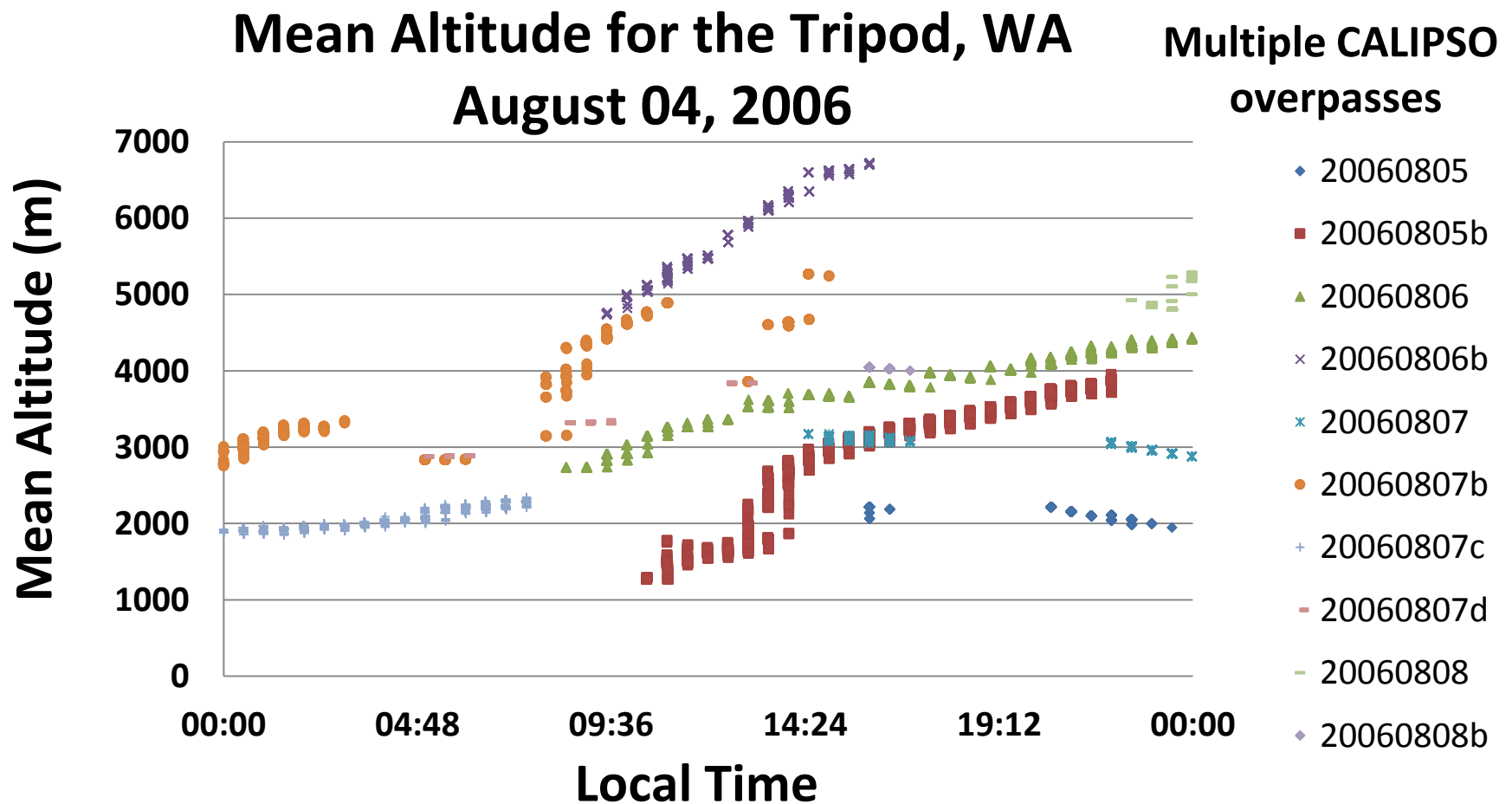


**Transported
River of Smoke
captured by
CALIOP**



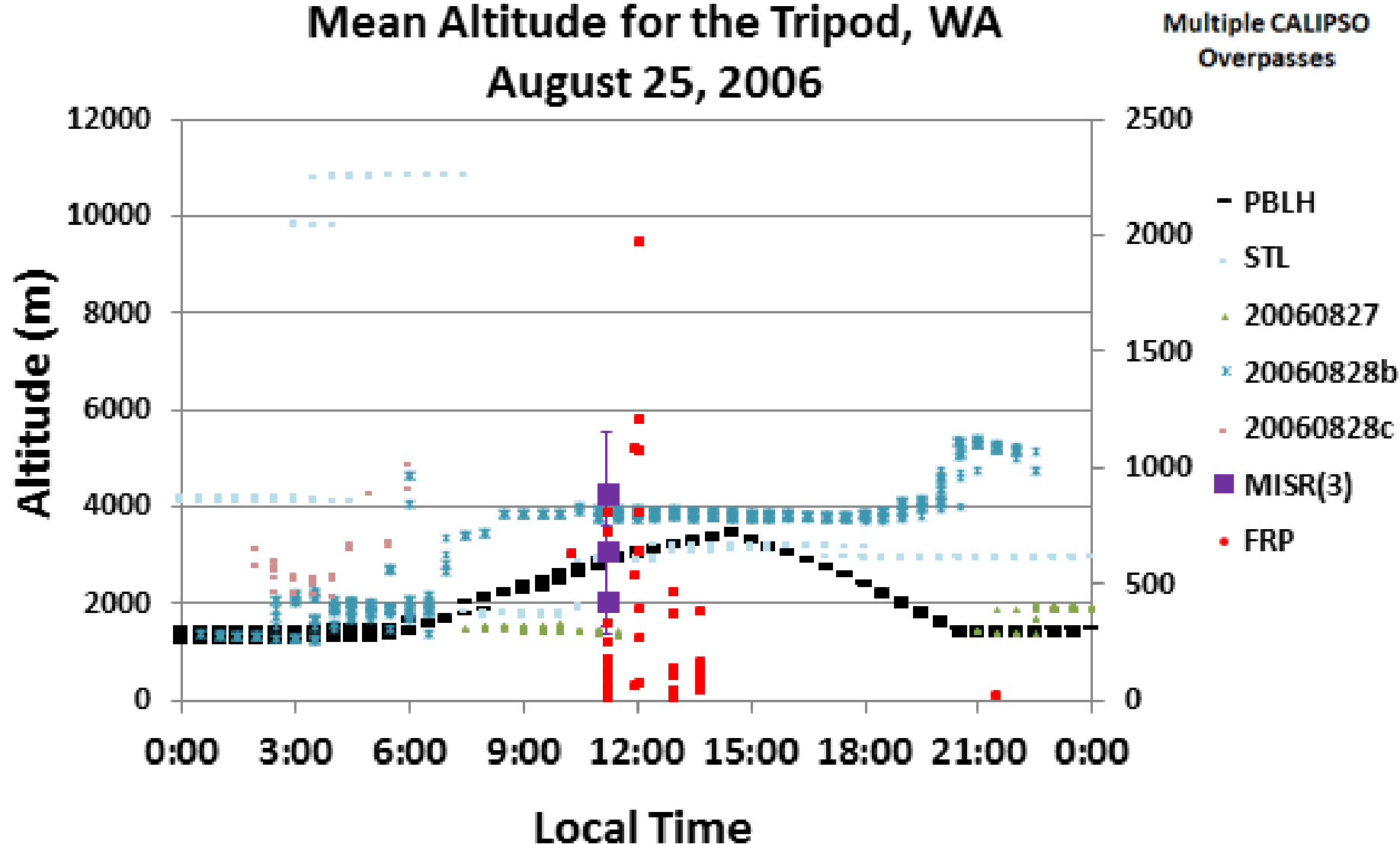
**August 08 2006
MODIS Terra;
CALIPSO
overpasses**

**Using multiple CALIPSO overpasses (w/ LaTM),
the evolution of a smoke plume can be defined.
This is unique and a new application.**



Mean Altitude of the Tripod Fire: CALIOP and MISR data compare well

Mean Altitude for the Tripod, WA
August 25, 2006

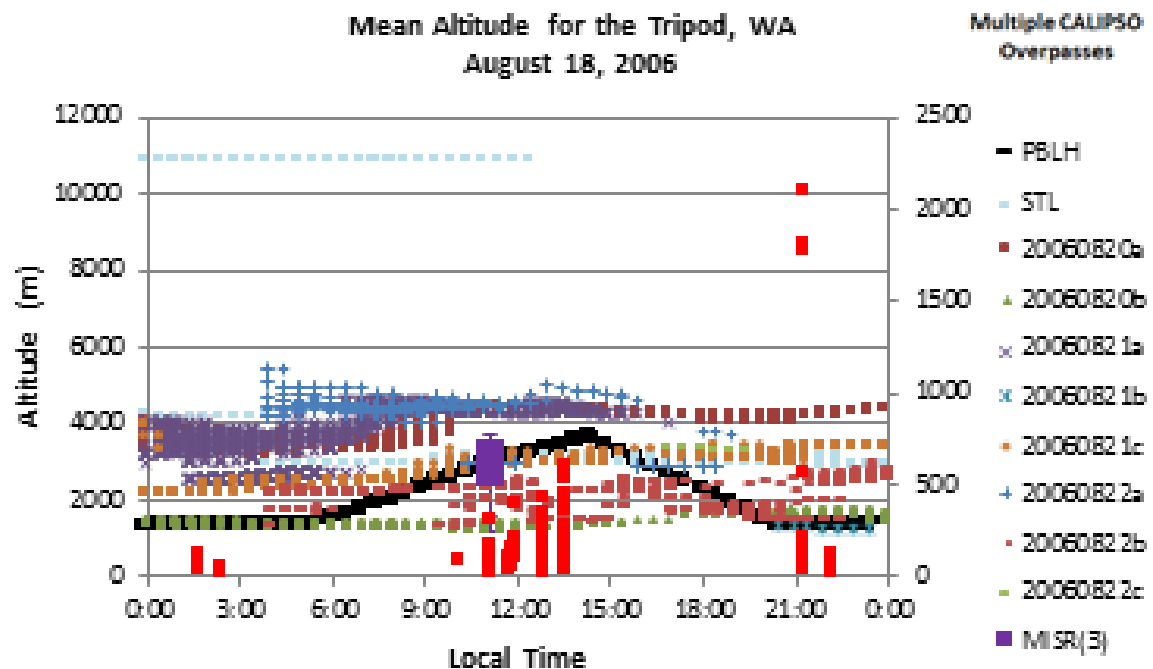
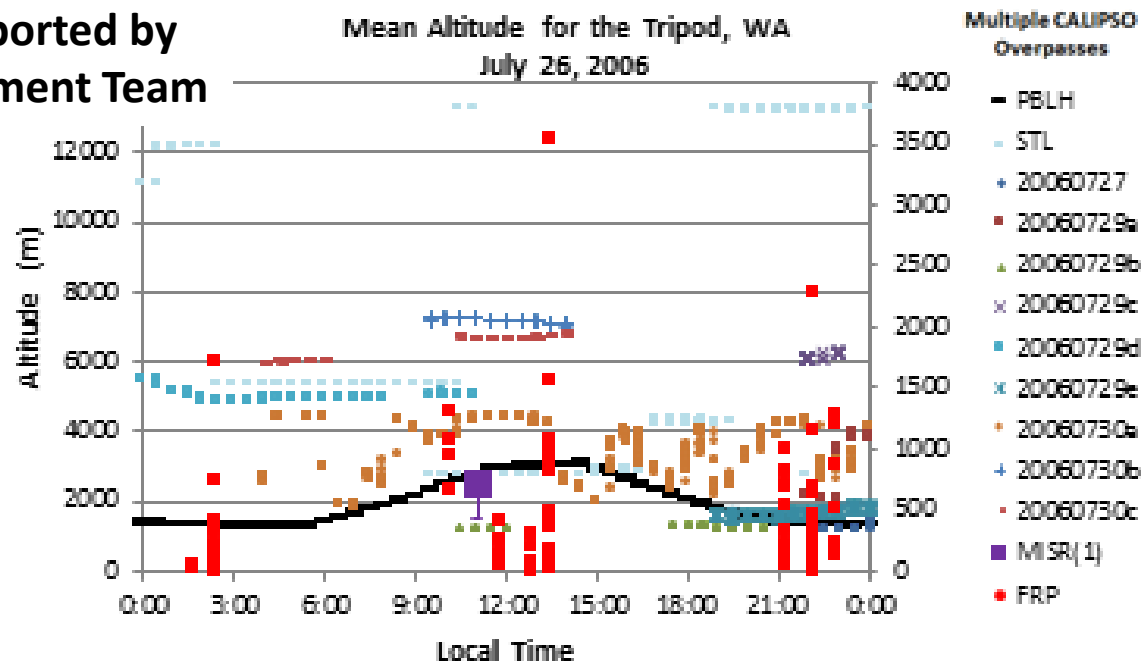


6700 – 7600 m reported by
Incident Management Team

CALIOP data are used
to define the daily
smoke plume
evolution of the
Tripod Complex from
July 26th through
August 29th 2006.

MISR data capture
morning overpasses
for 3 days in this
range.

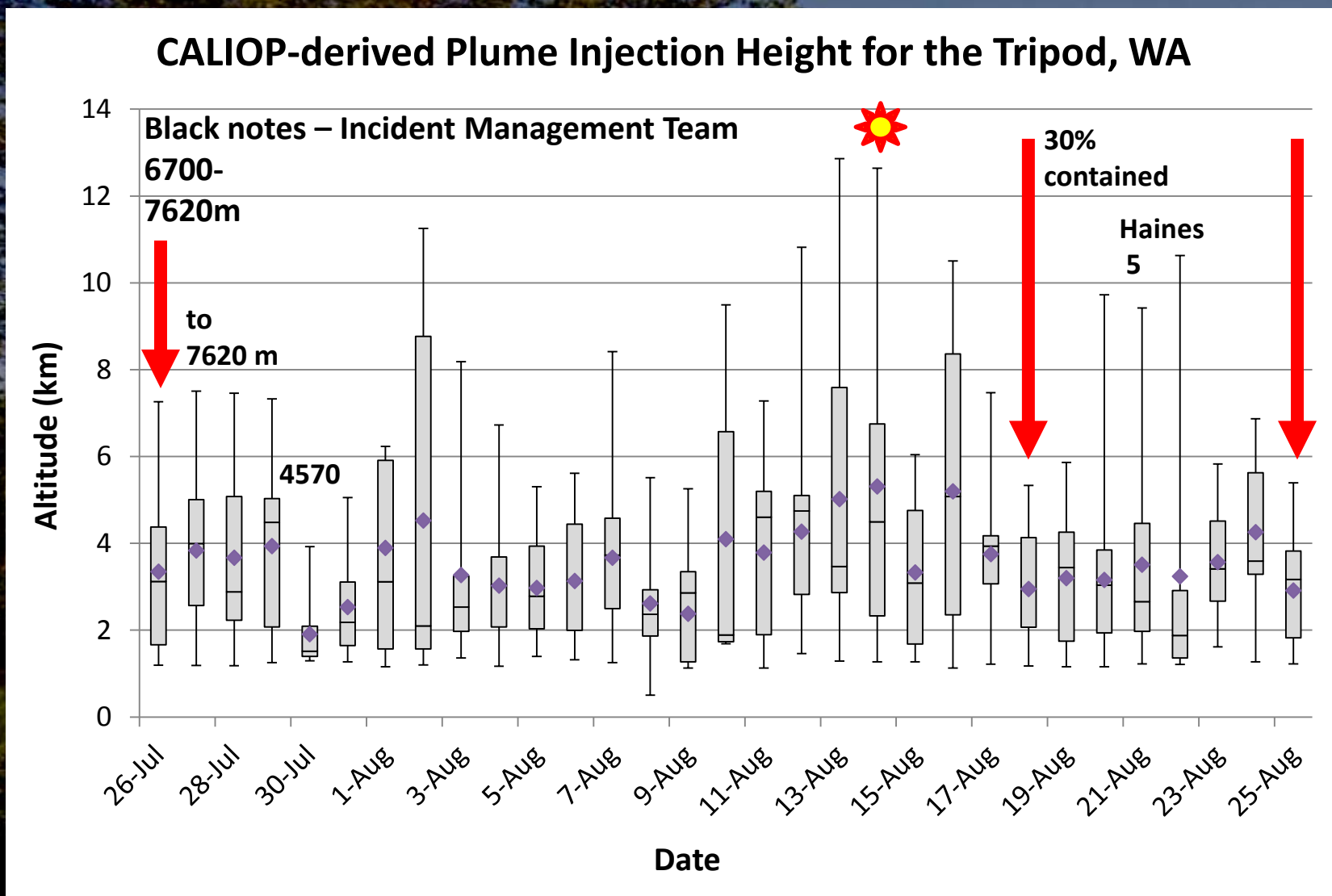
MISR low biased for
all large plumes.



Daily Smoke Plume Injection: Tripod Complex 2006

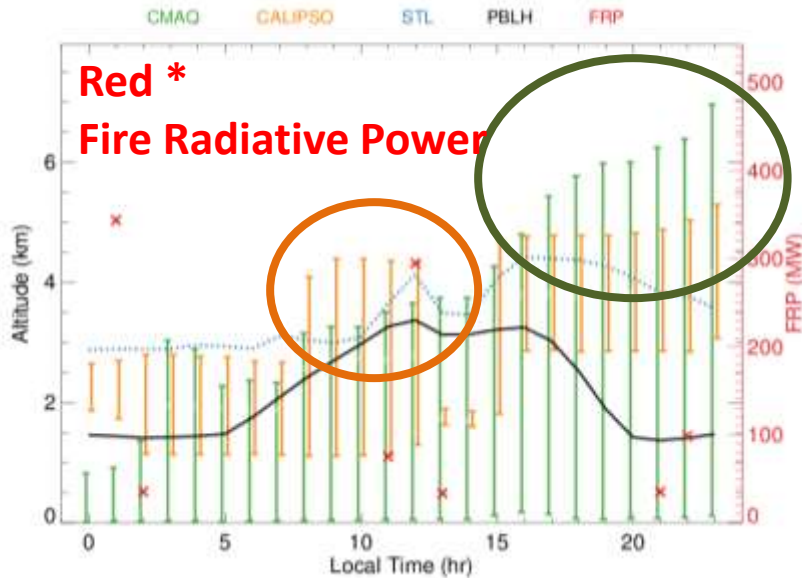
Daily statistics (minimum, mean, median and maximum)

Three coincident MISR days

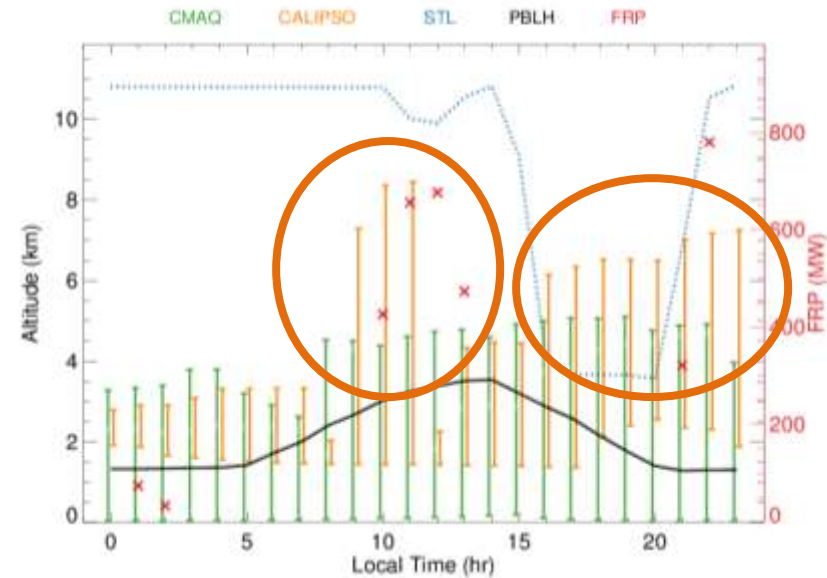


Comparing CALIOP and CMAQ modeled Injection Height

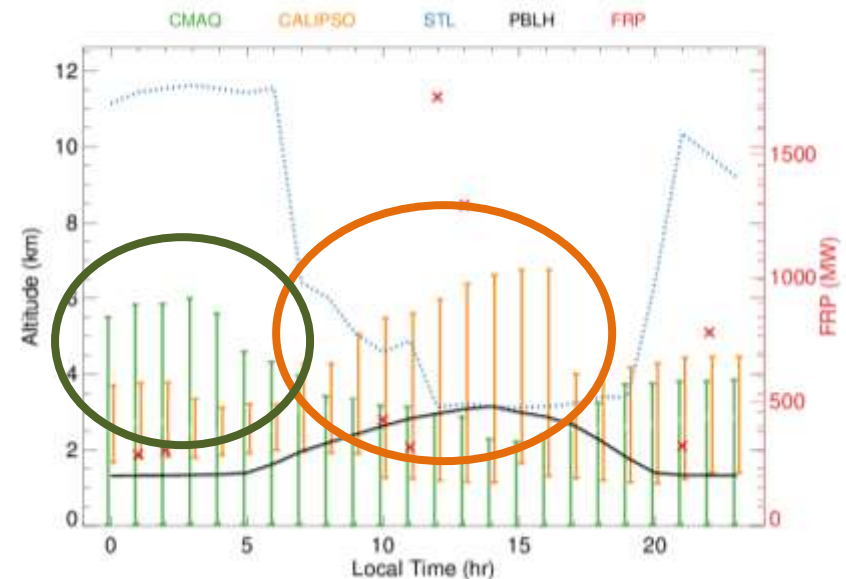
CMAQ vs. CALIPSO Plume Injection Height on 0731, 2006



CMAQ vs. CALIPSO Plume Injection Height on 0803, 2006



CMAQ vs. CALIPSO Plume Injection Height on 0804, 2006

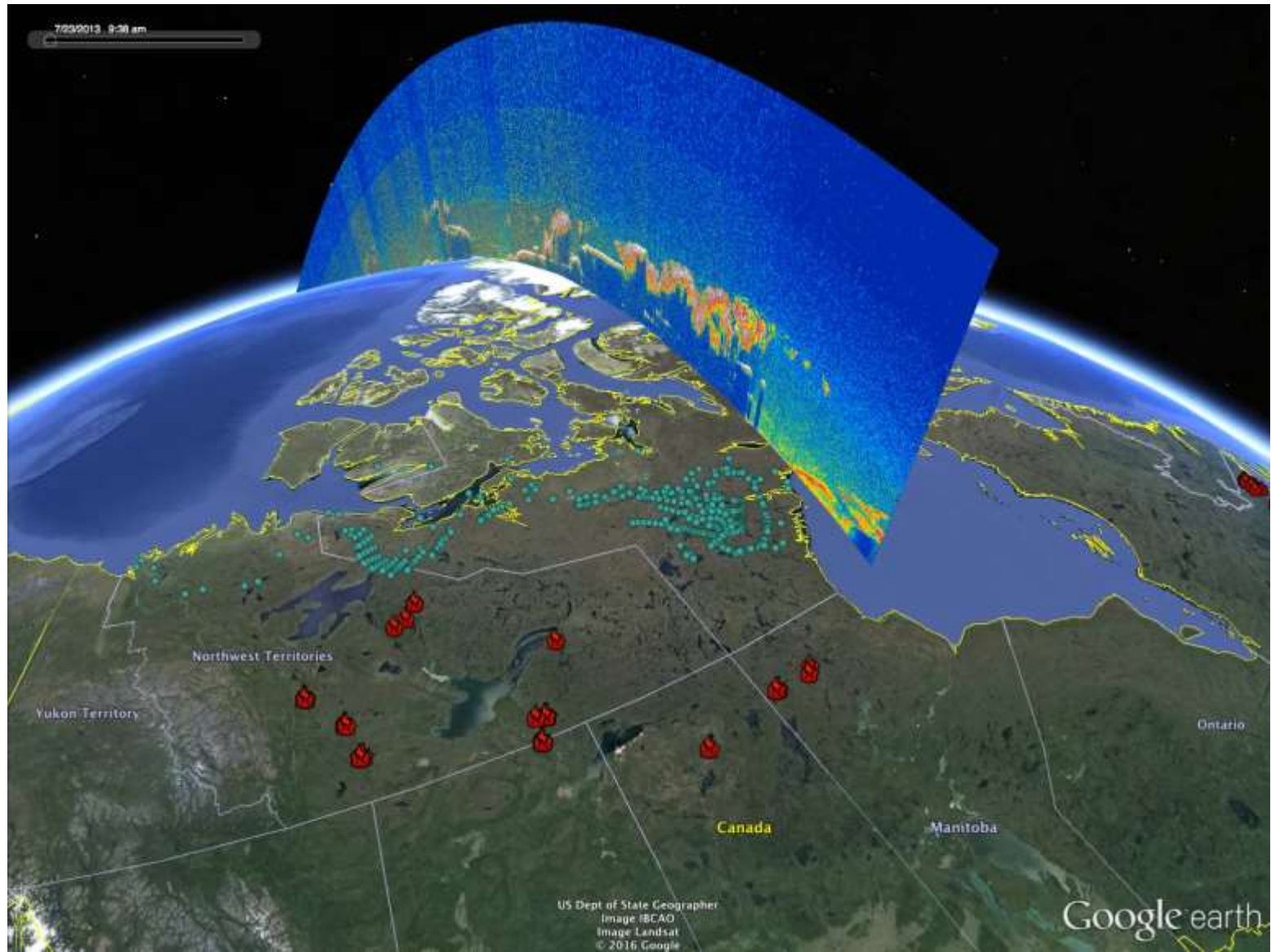


**Comparing CMAQ and CALIOP:
Initial Analysis**

**CMAQ tends to underestimate
when the fires are burning the
hottest (FRP) and;**

**CMAQ tends to overestimate late
and early when the FRP is lowest.**

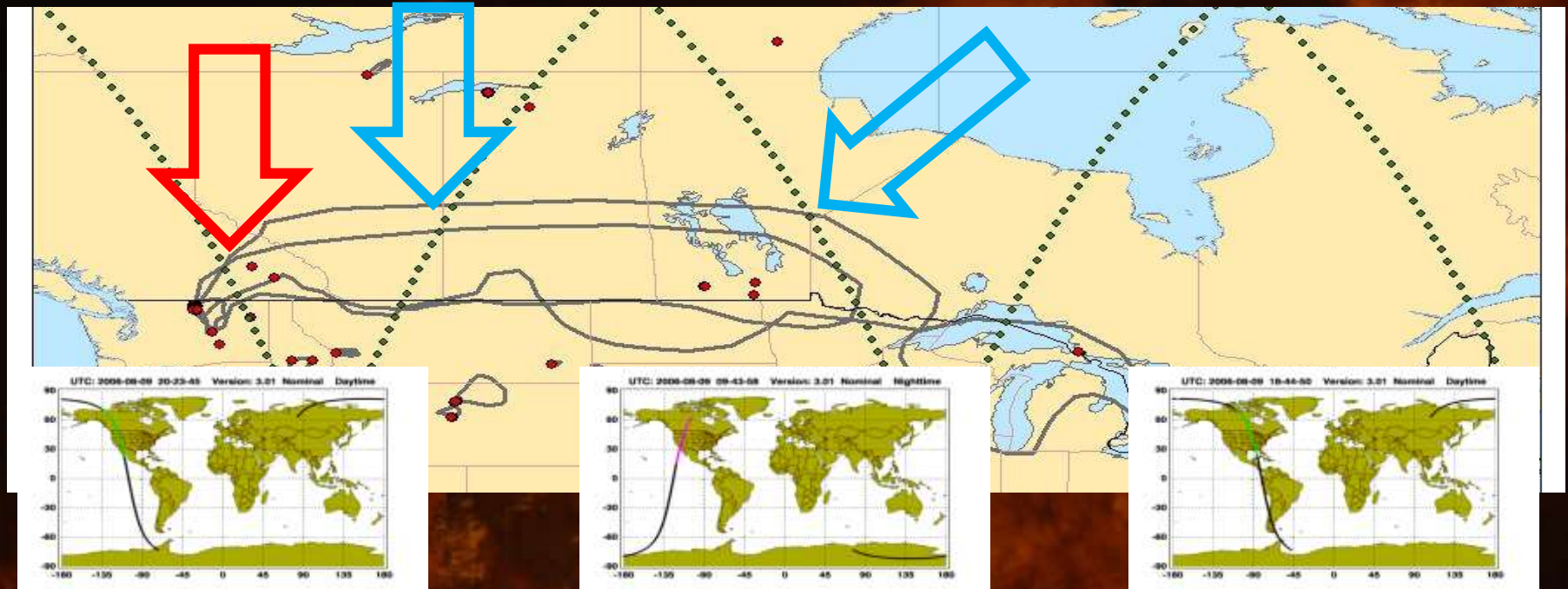
Discovering the science we didn't know. Using the LaTM, FD, samples taken from pits, and CALIOP data, we can tease apart feedbacks to climate. Specifically, preliminary analysis shows, it is not the amount of fire that burns that is directly related to deposition, rather a complicated pattern of fire, smoke transport, storms and snowfall.



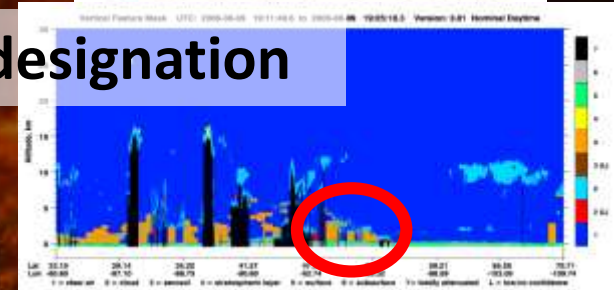
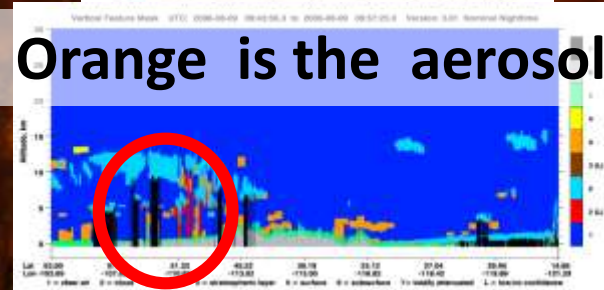
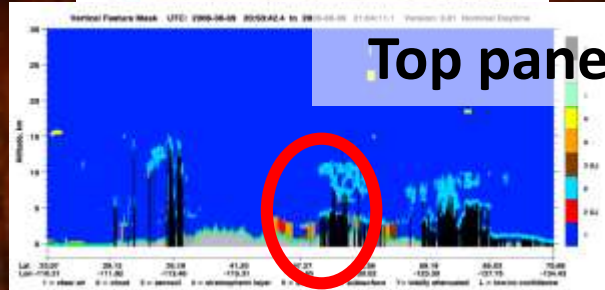
Highlights: Value of CALIOP space-based lidar.

- ❖ CALIPSO data provide a spatially & temporally random view of fire plume data, one not limited to particular fire types or time of day.
- ❖ CALIOP data have been used to confirm pyroCb and to show pyro-cumulous are not as random as had been previously thought.
- ❖ CALIOP data are used to trace widespread global smoke transport.
- ❖ CALIOP data have been used to tease apart scientific concepts about which we had not thought (e.g., Ice sheet aerosol distribution).
- ❖ One CALIOP swath can be representative of a complicated 3-D temporal and spatial story that incorporates several days, several fire events and a range of fire types from agricultural to large wildfires.
- ❖ CALIOP data can define the evolution of smoke over a day, which is **an unprecedented process and result.**
- ❖ CALIOP data can be used to verify many application processes that define plume injection height for air quality, chemical transport models and feedbacks to climate change.

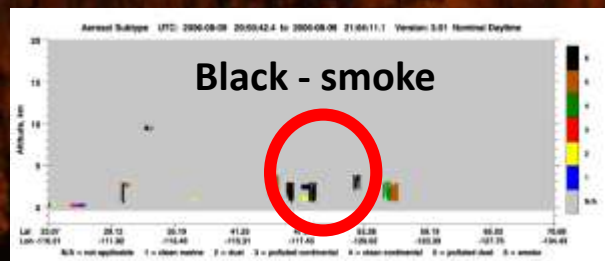
Looking Forward: Potential improvement



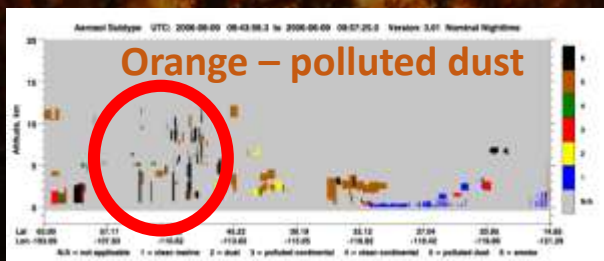
Top panel: Orange is the aerosol designation



Black - smoke

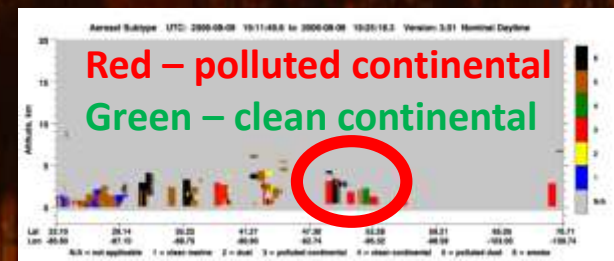


Orange – polluted dust



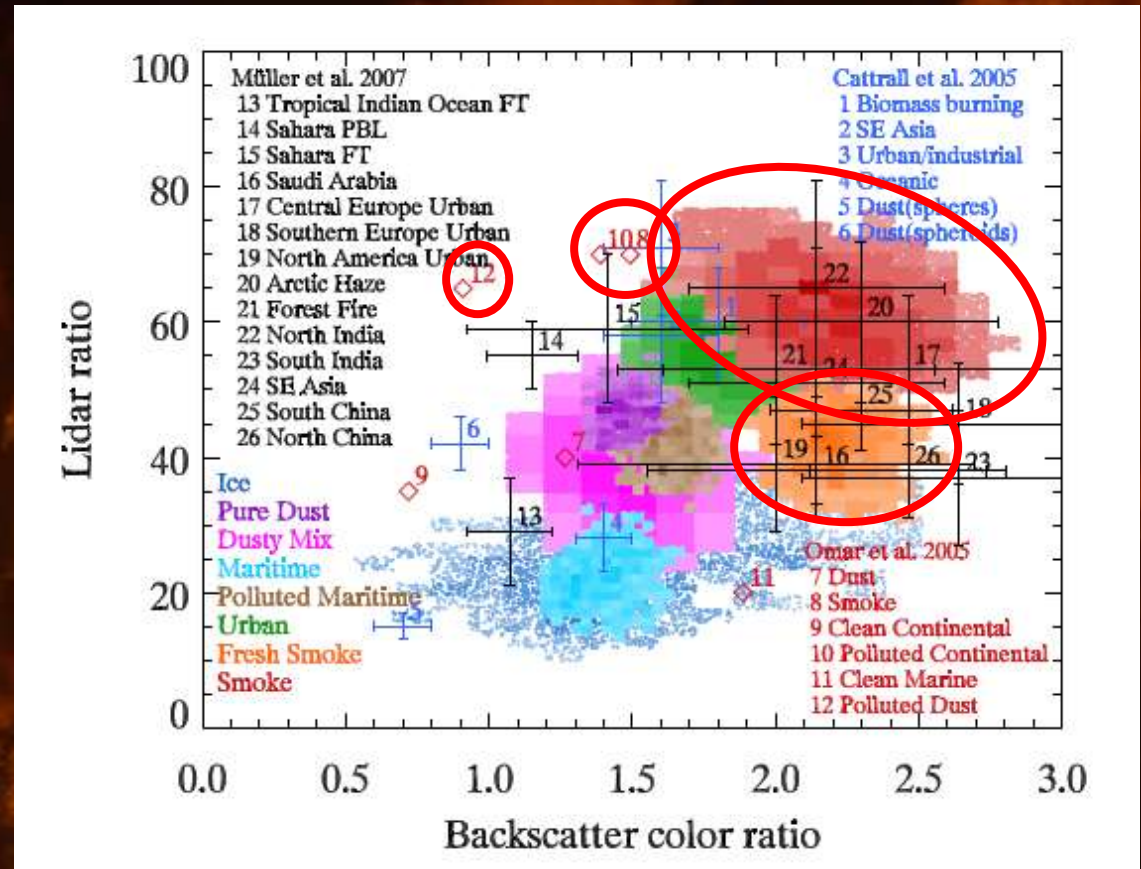
Red – polluted continental

Green – clean continental



Looking Forward

Burton et al., 2012



CALIOP on CALIPSO holds tremendous and unique value to both science and the application of these data, highlighting the need for continued and enhanced space-based lidar.

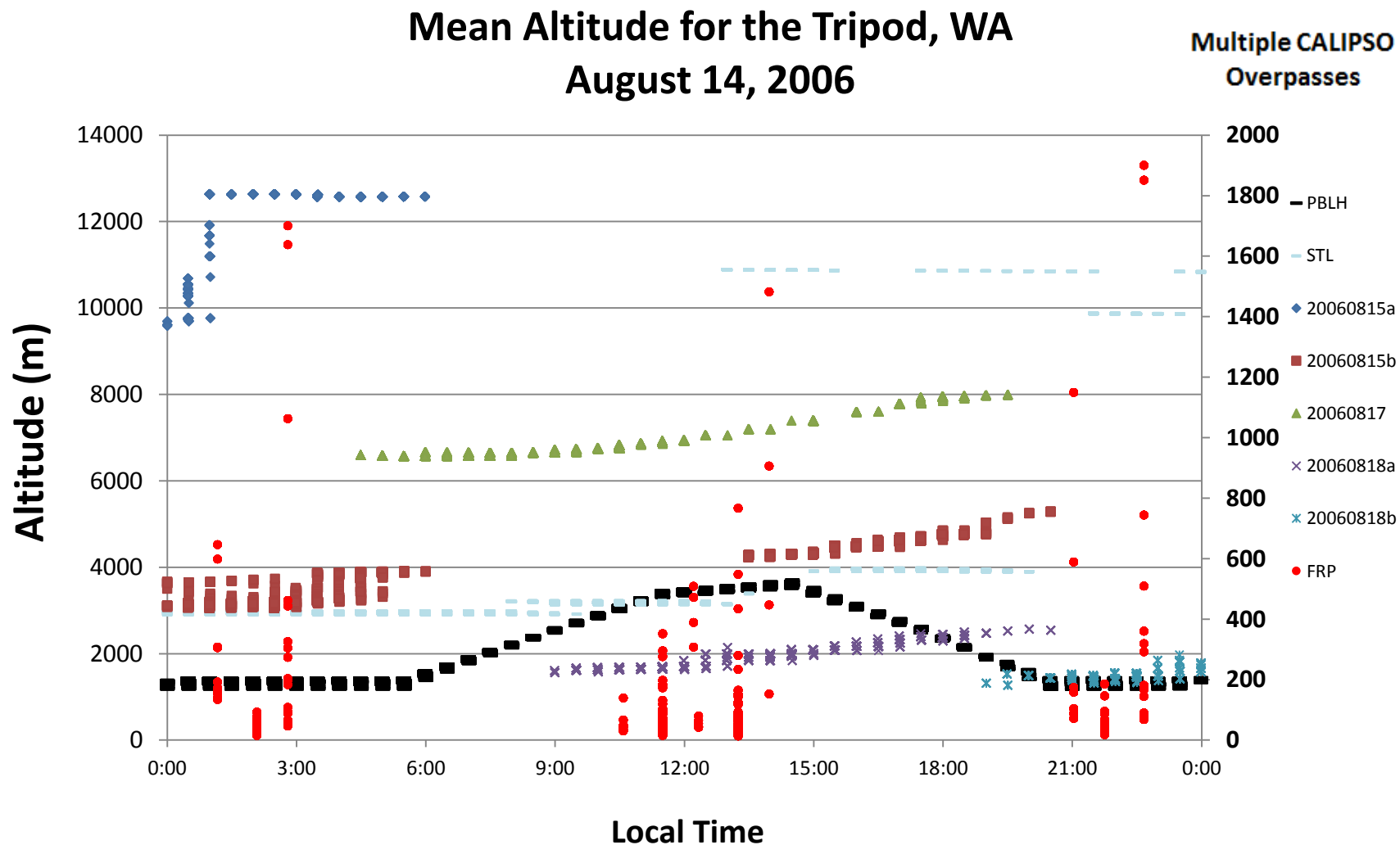
Merci beaucoup!
Thank-you for listening!


and thanks for conversations with individuals and communities: the CALIPSO Science Team, USDA Forest Service, Environmental Protection Agency, ARCTAS/ARCPAC science teams, LARGE Team, NOAA HMS team, Brian Stocks, Louis Giglio, Charles Ichoku, Ralph Kahn, Mark Ruminski and many others.

Questions?

And a special thanks to NASA CALIPSO for this invitation and the opportunity to attend this workshop and the 10-year celebration!

High Fire Radiative Power and coincident smoke injection





This plume can be attributed to 9 separate fires, burning on different days (12 fire-event-days):

Washington - large fire

August 6th (~ 3400 m);

August 7th (mean 3300 m, range 1900 – 6300 m);

Washington - medium-sized fire

August 7th (range 2200 – 4400 m)

British Columbia

August 7th about 3400 m

Montana fires – 2 of them

August 6th – mean 1980 m

Saskatchewan (2 fires)

August 6th and 7th ~ 1000 m

North Dakota (2 fires) August 7th ~ 2000 m

Each CALIOP air parcel is associated with the following related parameters:

Fire

Number of active Fire Detections
(MODIS Terra and Aqua)
Fire Radiative Power

Land

IGBP vegetation 1km MODIS
Elevation
Available fuel

Langley Trajectory Model (LaTM)

Air parcel counts, mean range

Meteorological

Relative Humidity (2m, 10m)
Temperature (2m, 10m)
Wind speed and direction
Precipitation
Fire weather
Time of day
Planetary Boundary Layer
Stable Layer

Location

Latitude/longitude
fire location and plume
Fire name