

Thermodynamic and Liquid Profiling Update

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Nowcasting Scientific Session

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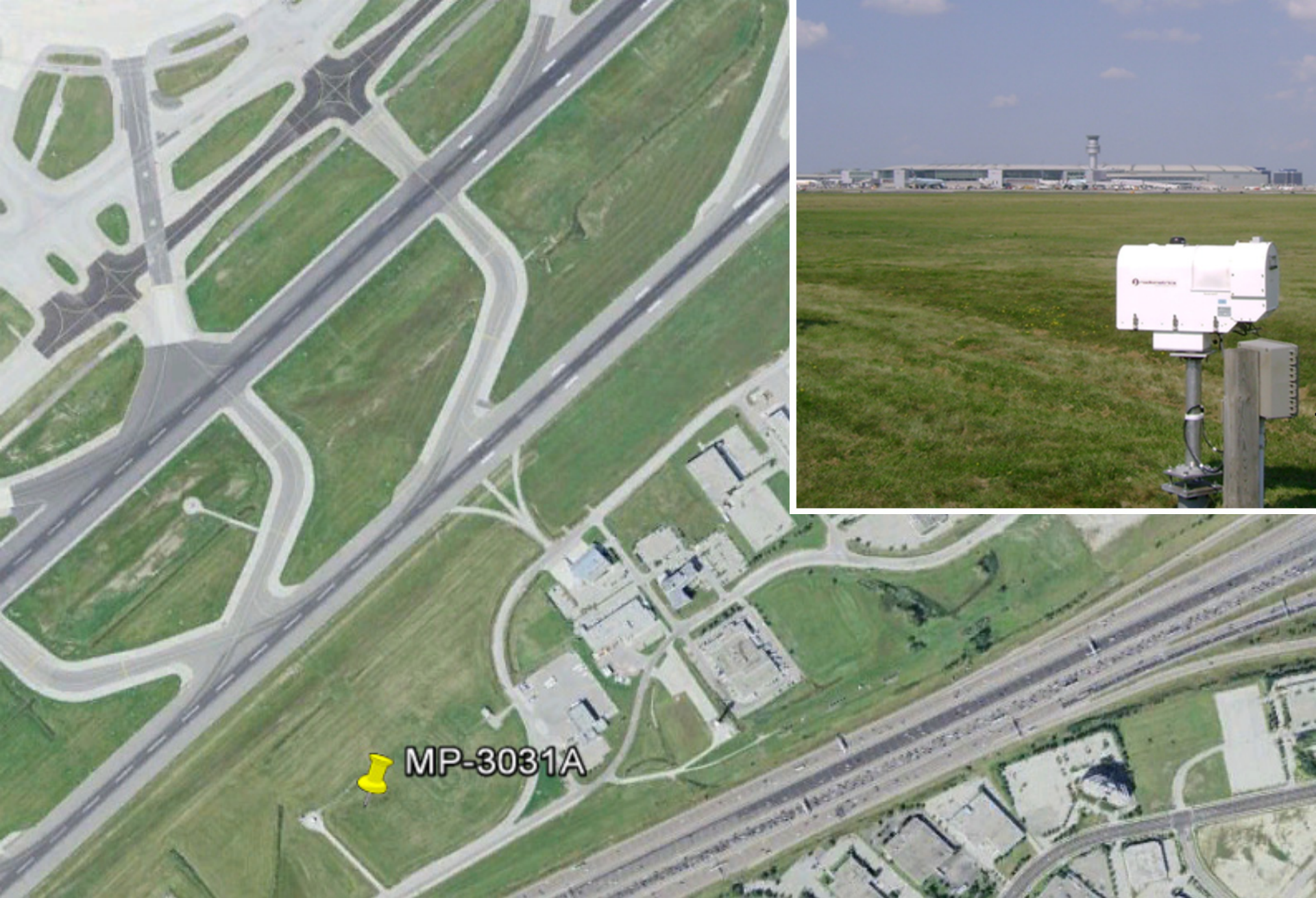
¹Radiometrics, ²NCAR, ³CIRES

⁴Environment Canada

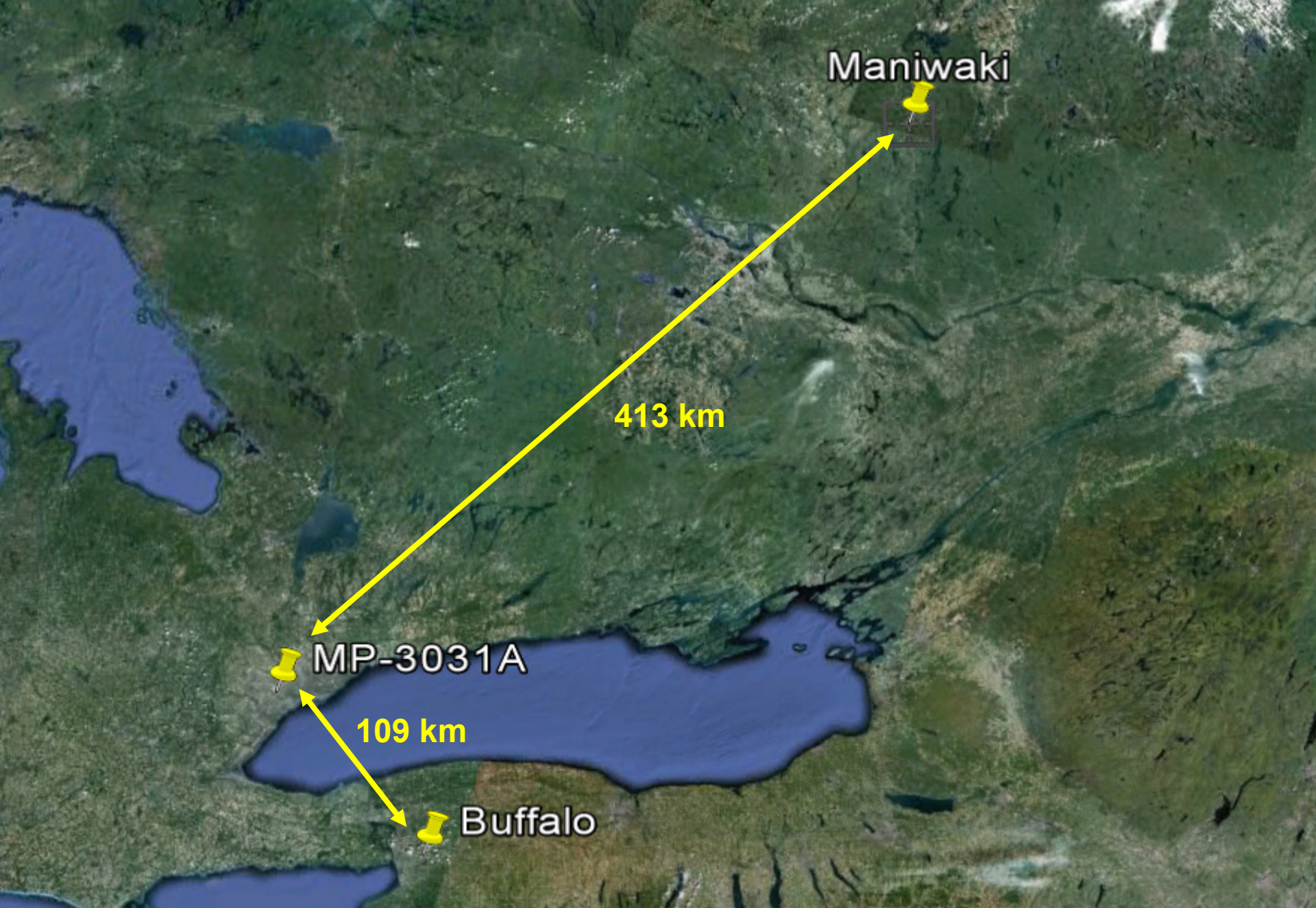
Presentation Summary

- Observations during heavy rain and fog at Pearson International Airport
- Radiosonde equivalent observation accuracy
- Radiometer and radiosonde liquid profile comparisons
- Thermodynamic profiling network roll out

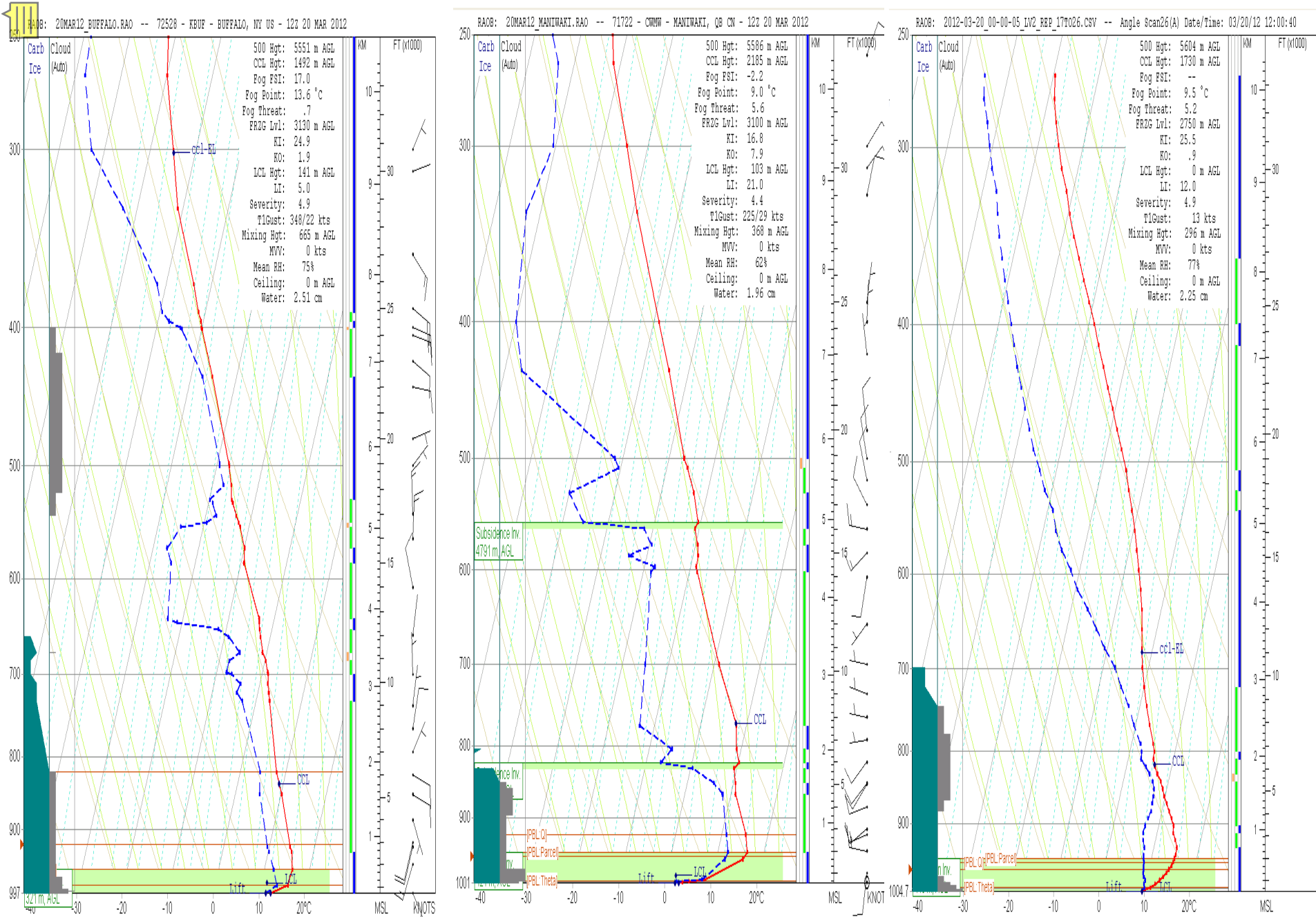
- Observations during heavy rain and fog at Pearson International Airport



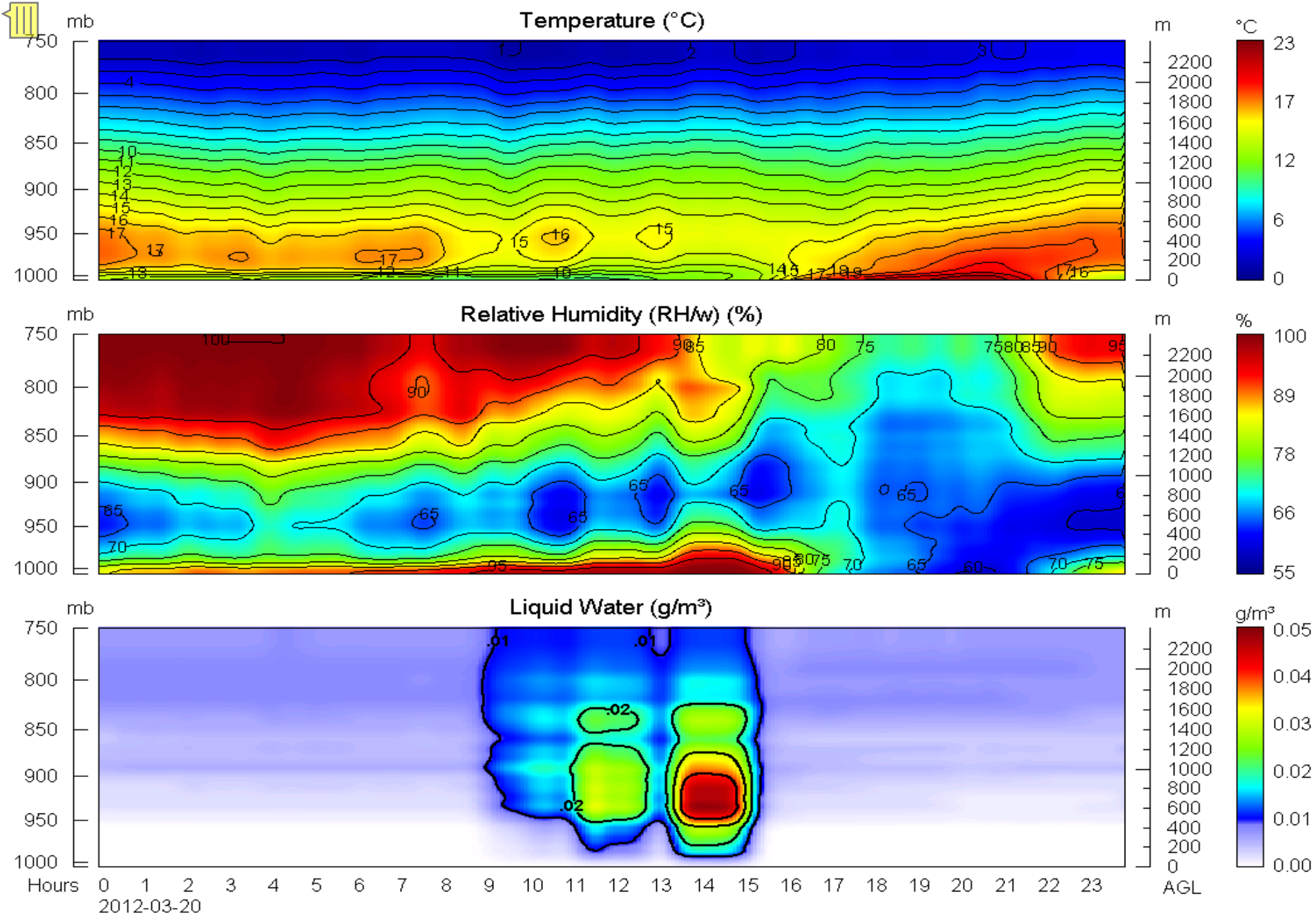
Microwave Profiler (MP-3031A) located <75 m from rain gauges



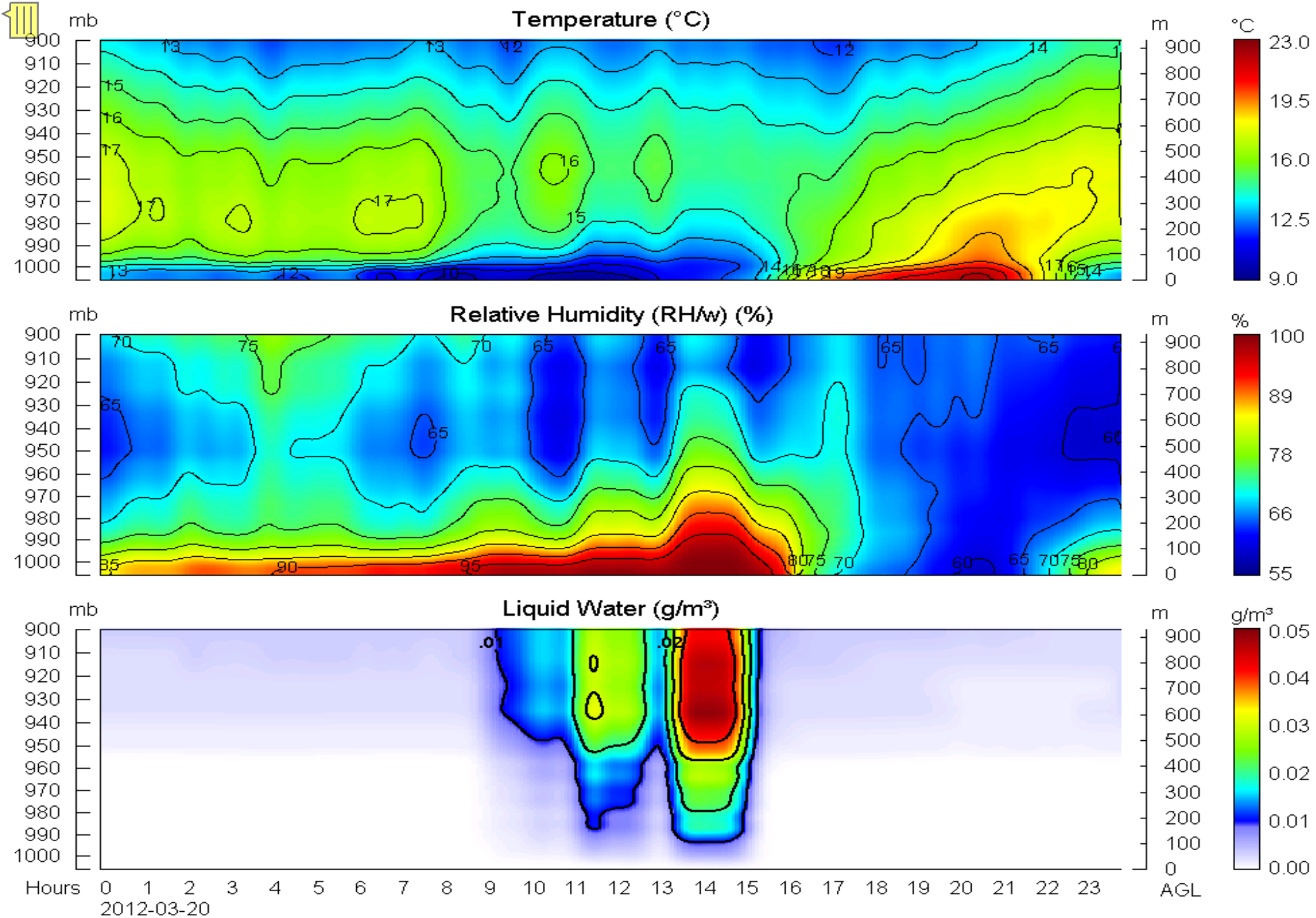
Maniwaki and Buffalo (radiosondes) and Pearson (radiometer)



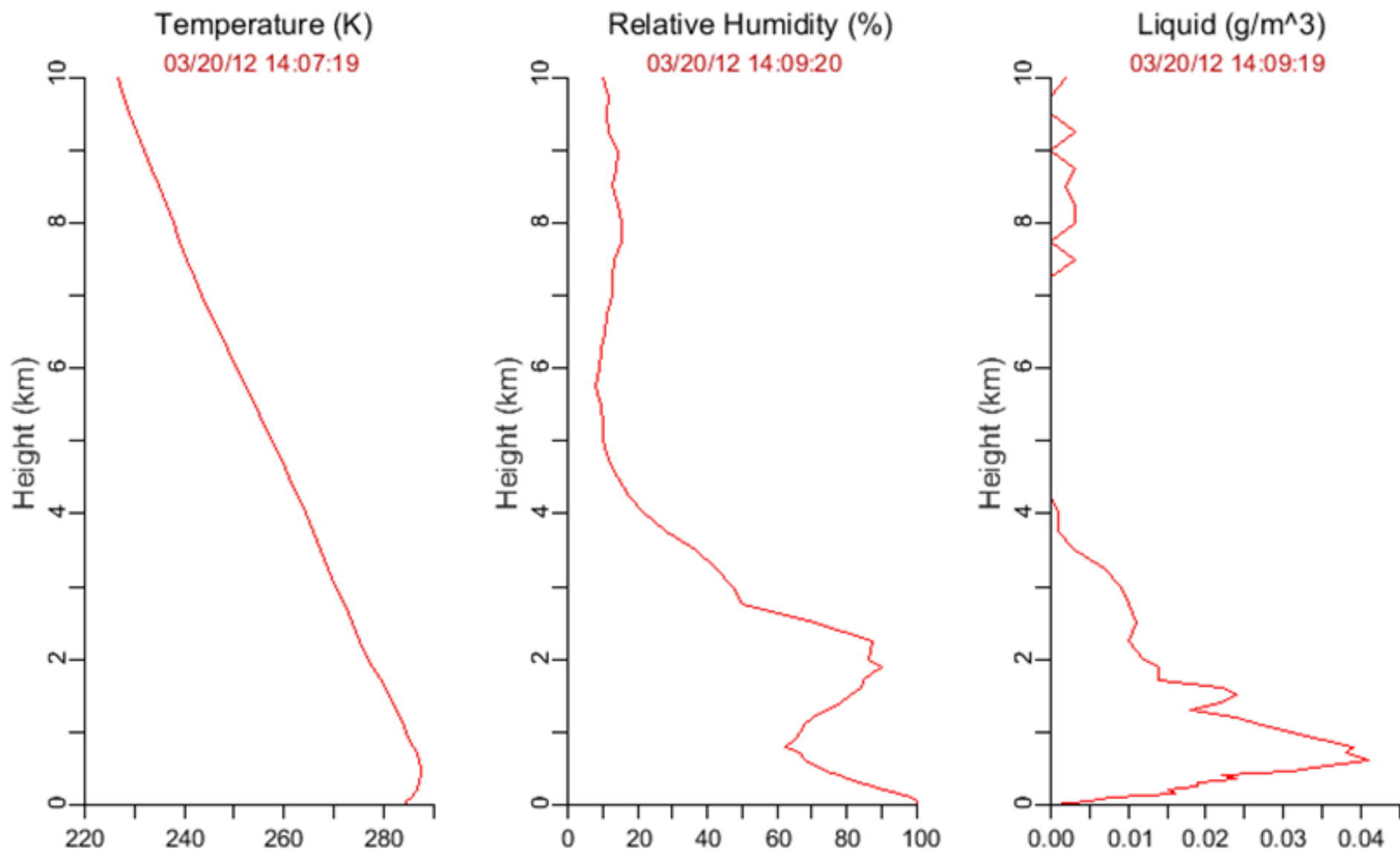
Buffalo and Maniwaki (radiosondes) and Pearson (radiometer) soundings



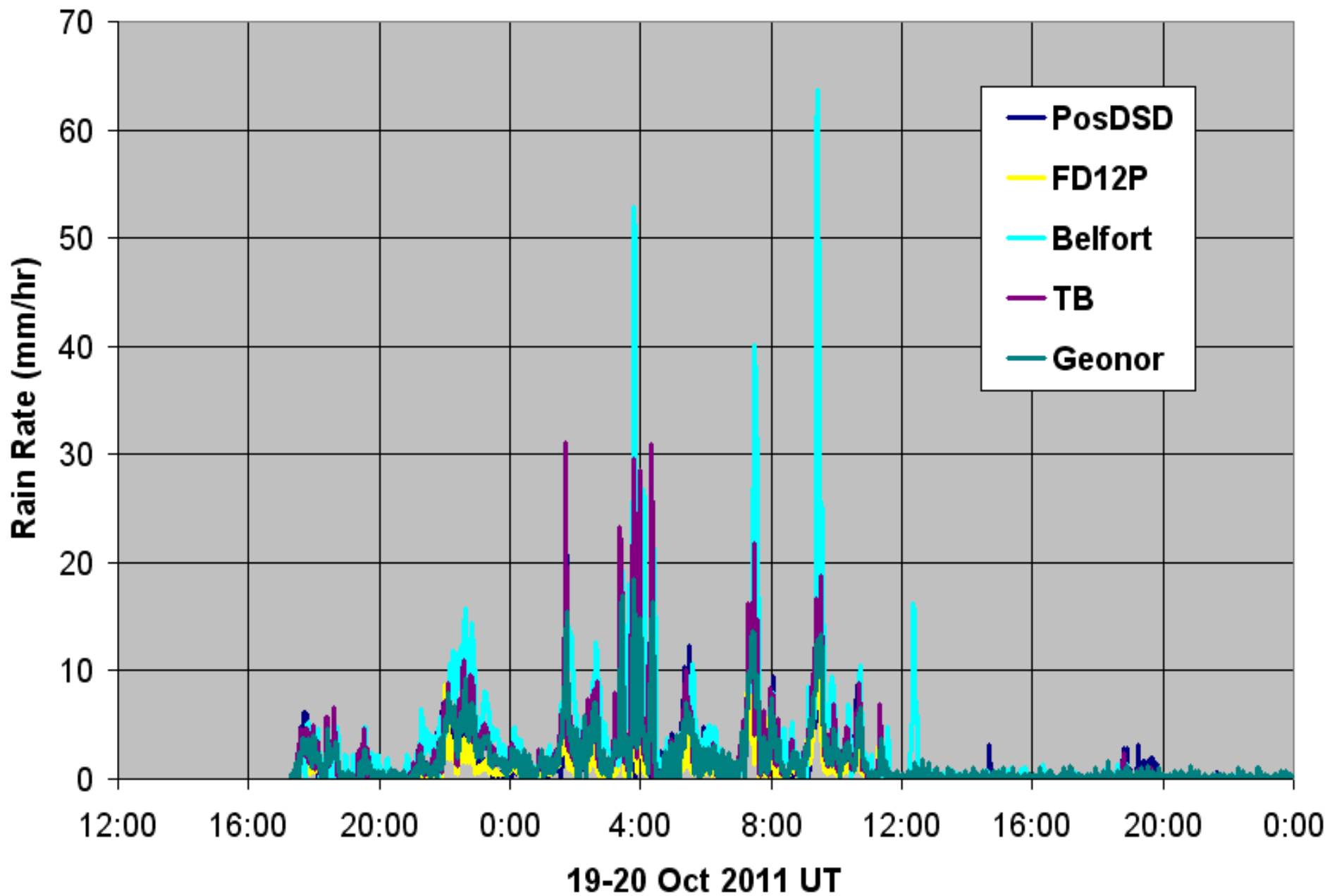
Thermodynamic and liquid soundings to 2400 m during fog event



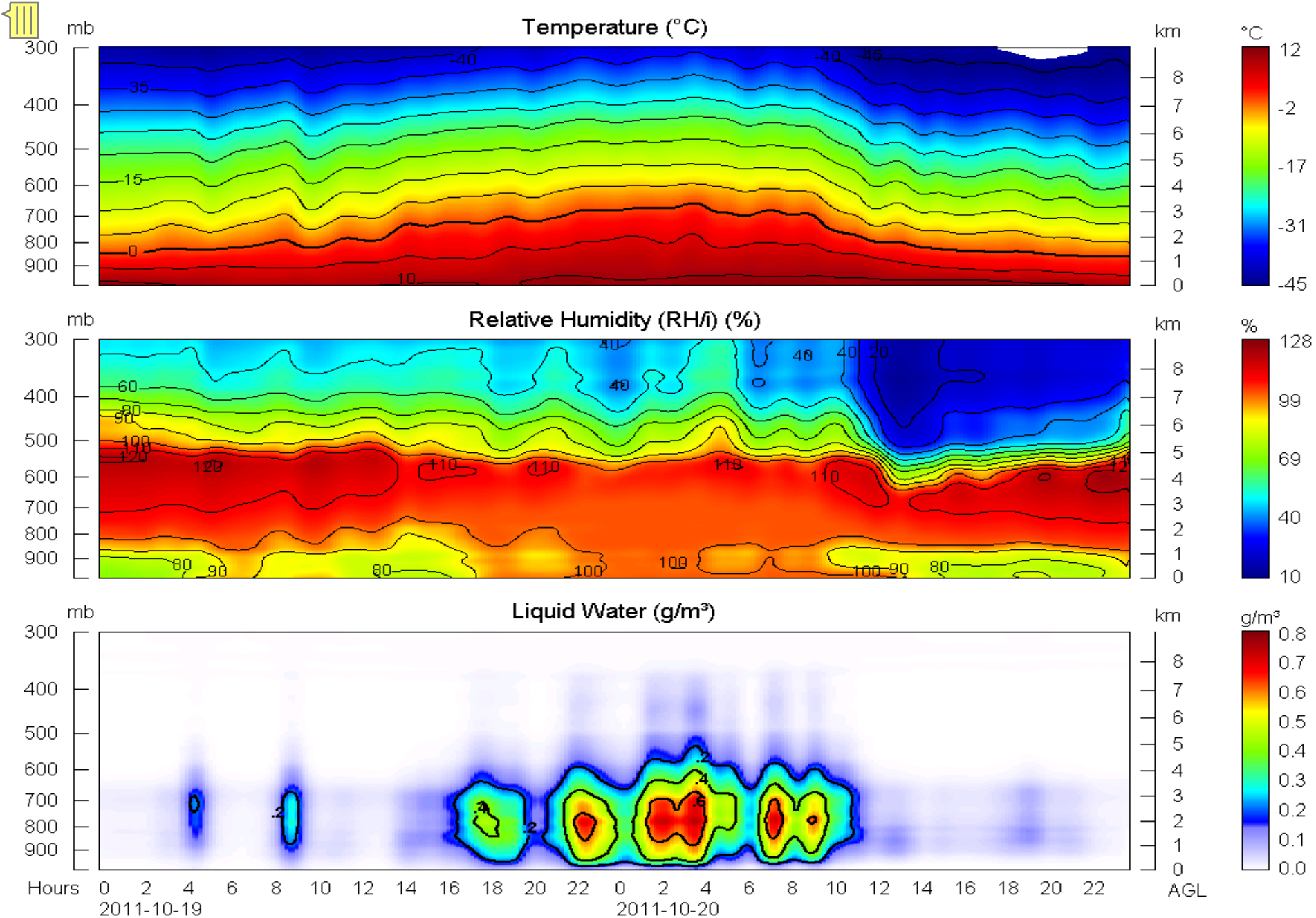
Same as previous to 900 m height



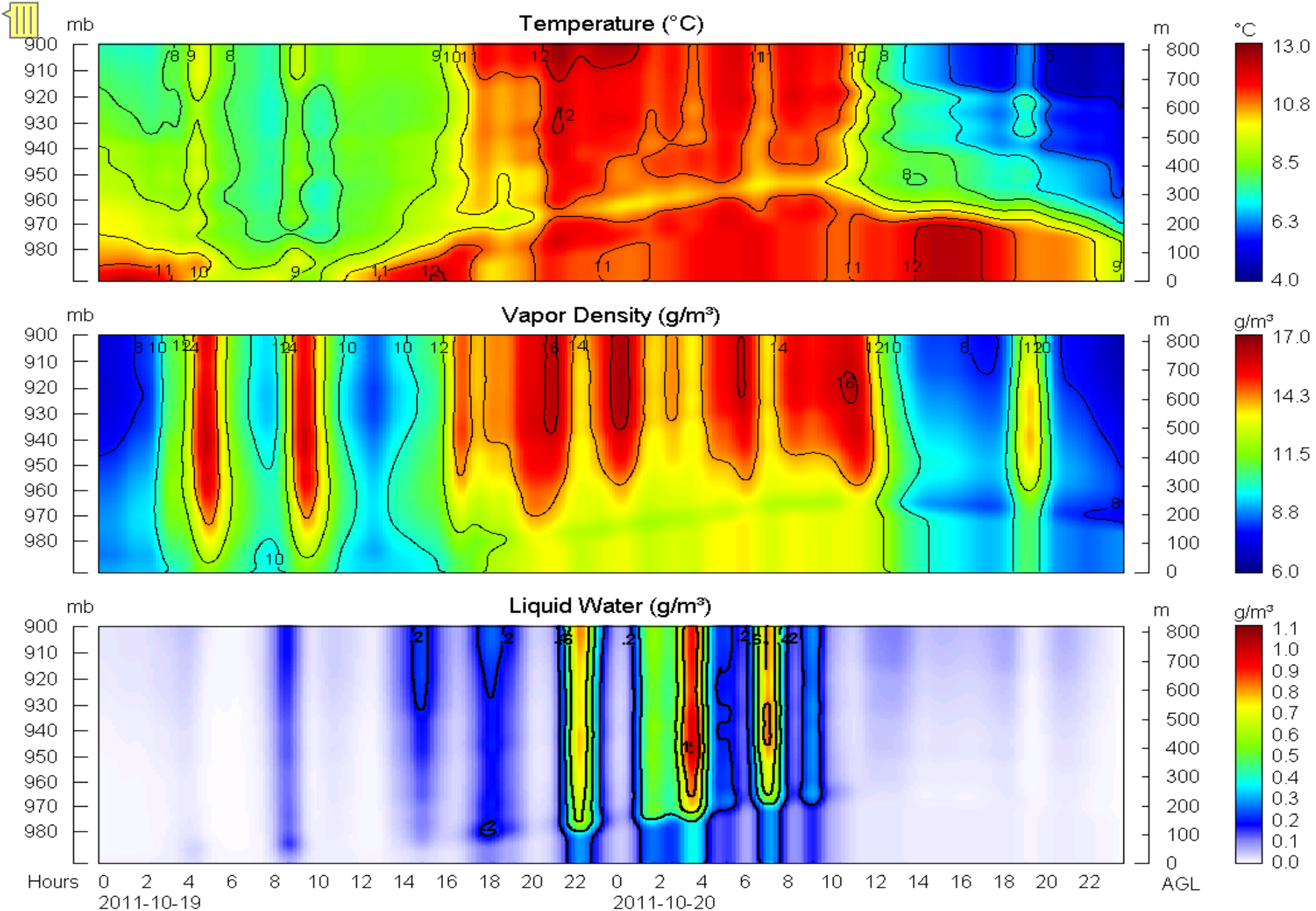
Temperature, humidity and liquid profiles during 20 Mar 2012 fog event



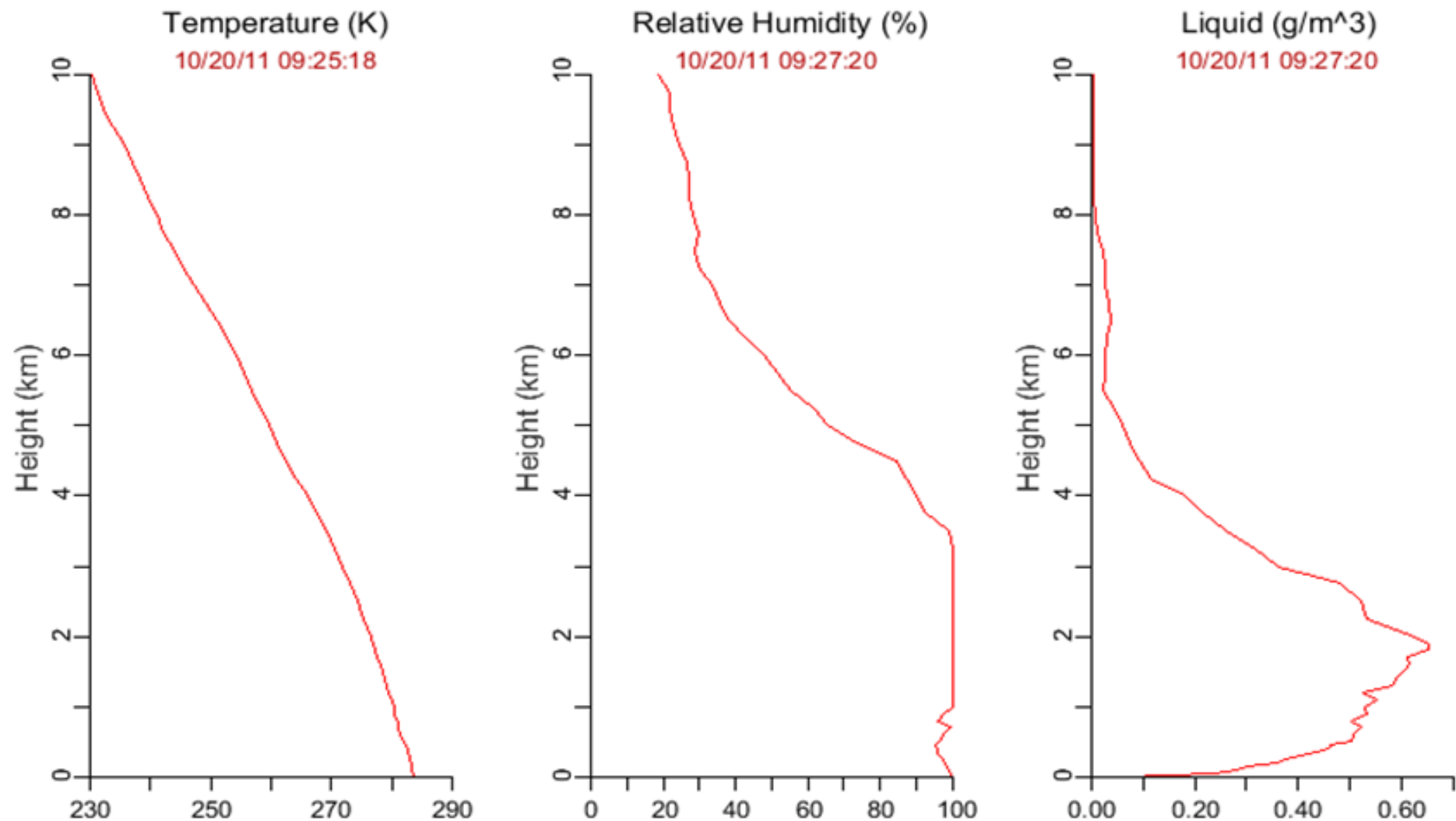
Collocated (<75 m) radiometer and rain gauge measurements at Pearson Airport



Thermodynamic and liquid profiles to 9 km height during >60 mm/hr rain



Same as previous to 800 m height



Thermodynamic and liquid profiles during rain rate >60 mm/hr

- Radiosonde equivalent observation accuracy

LAPS
1547 m



LAPS
679 m



Radiosonde
659 m



4.4 km, 117 m



Radiometer
776 m

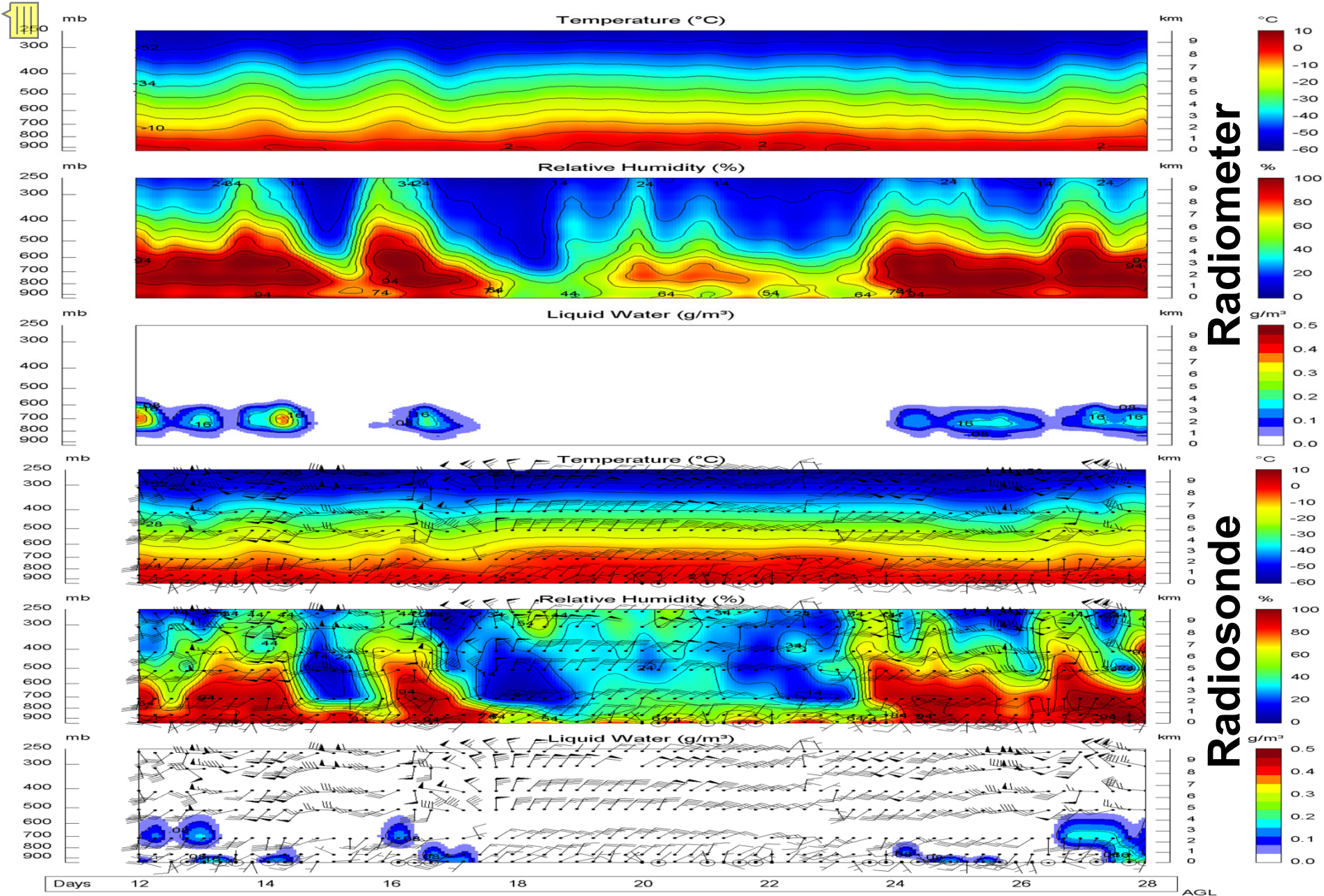
LAPS
700 m



LAPS
1243 m

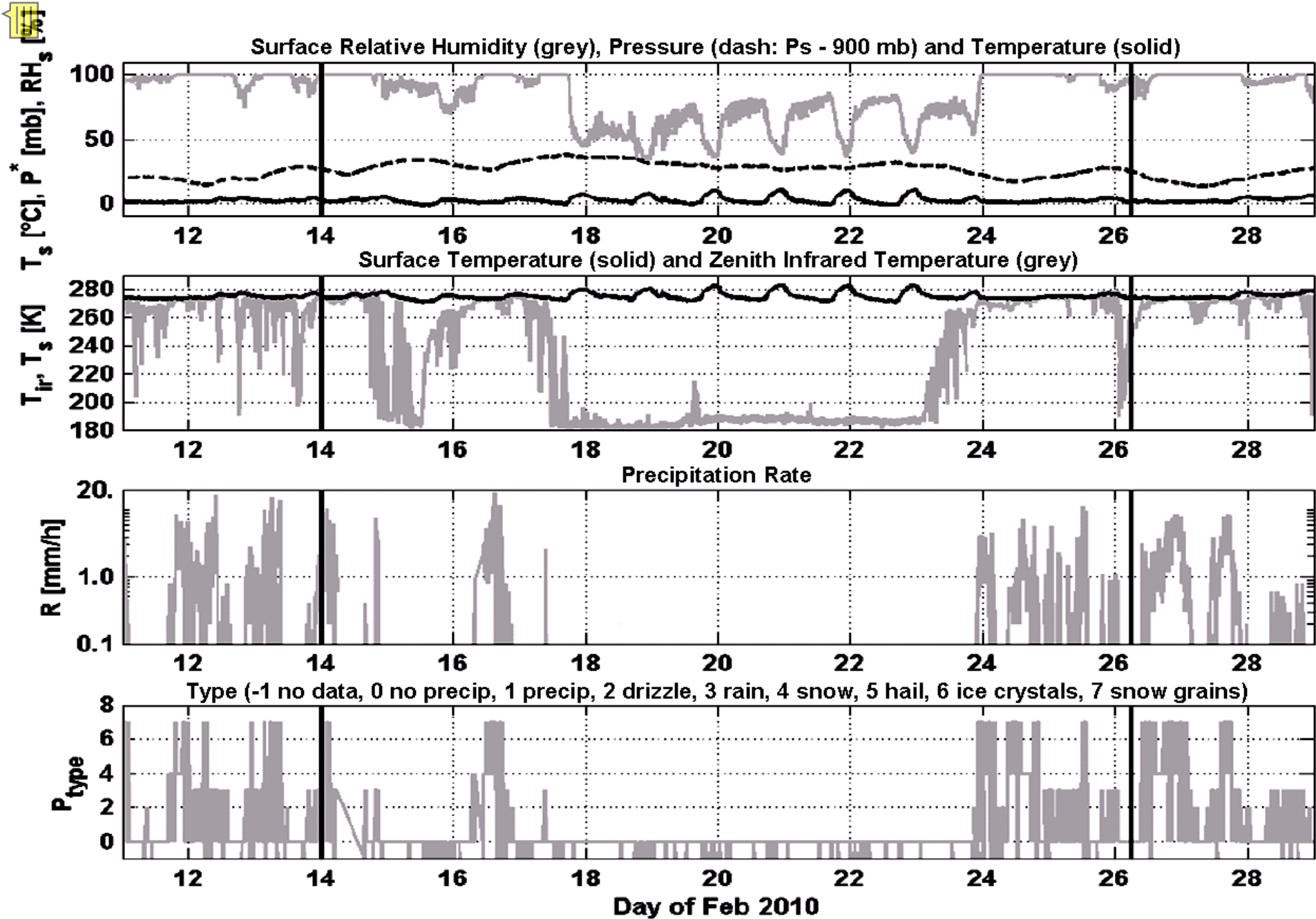


Radiometer, radiosonde and LAPS grid point locations and altitudes

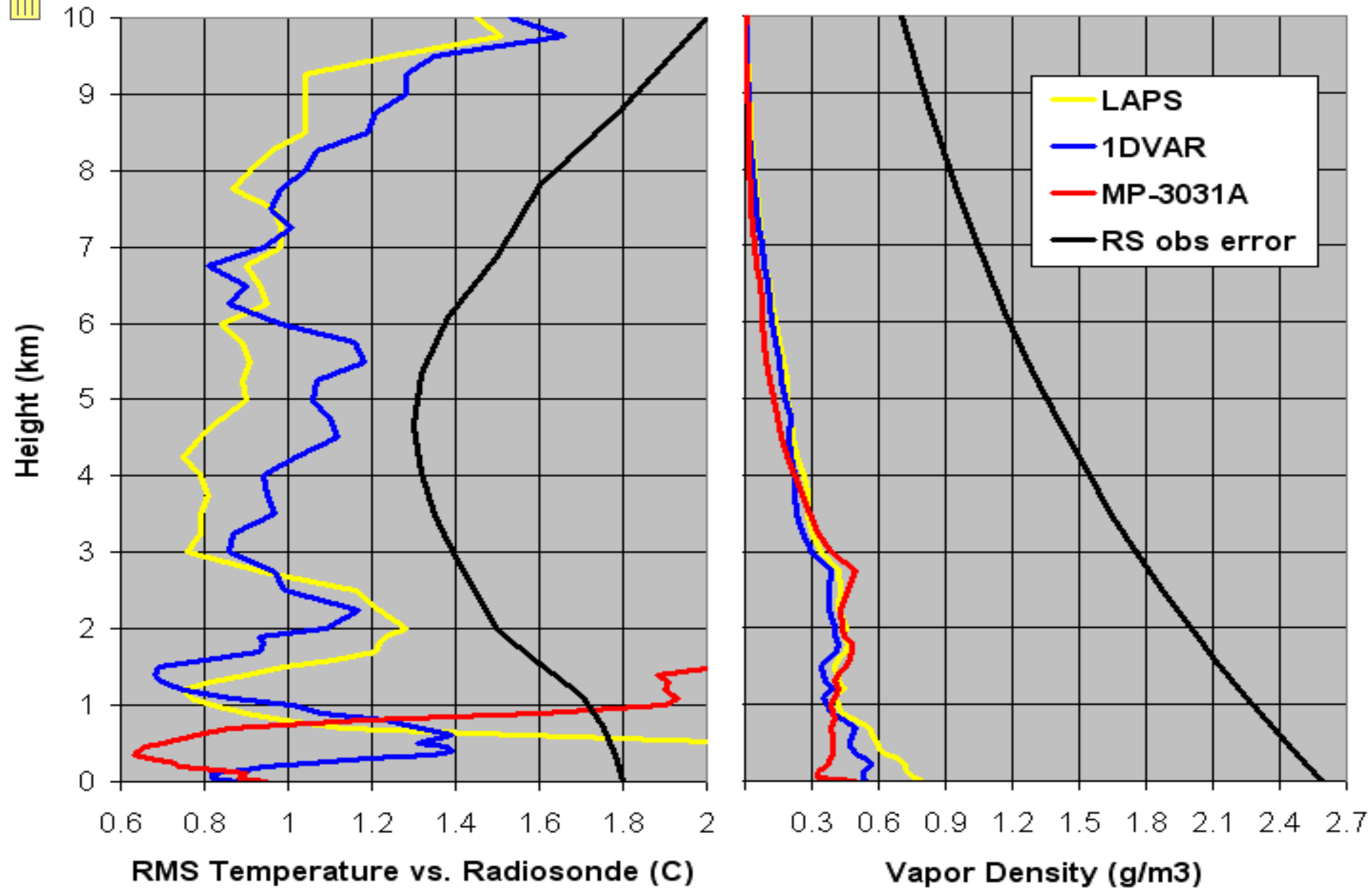


Sounding comparisons ([Ware, Campos, Joe, Cober, TECO 2010](#))

RAOB software
www.raob.com



Surface met and precipitation (>20 mm/hr) at the radiometer site

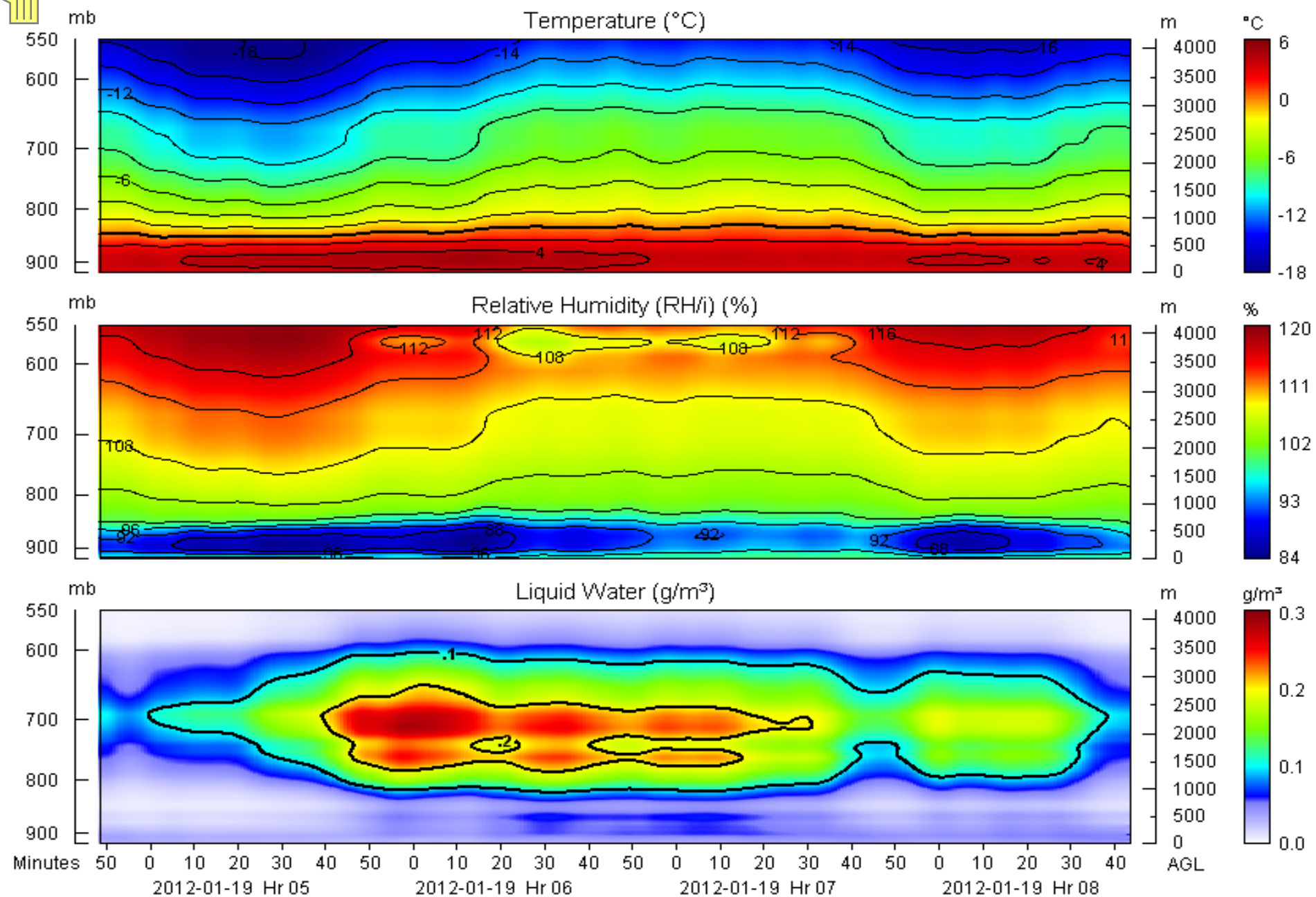


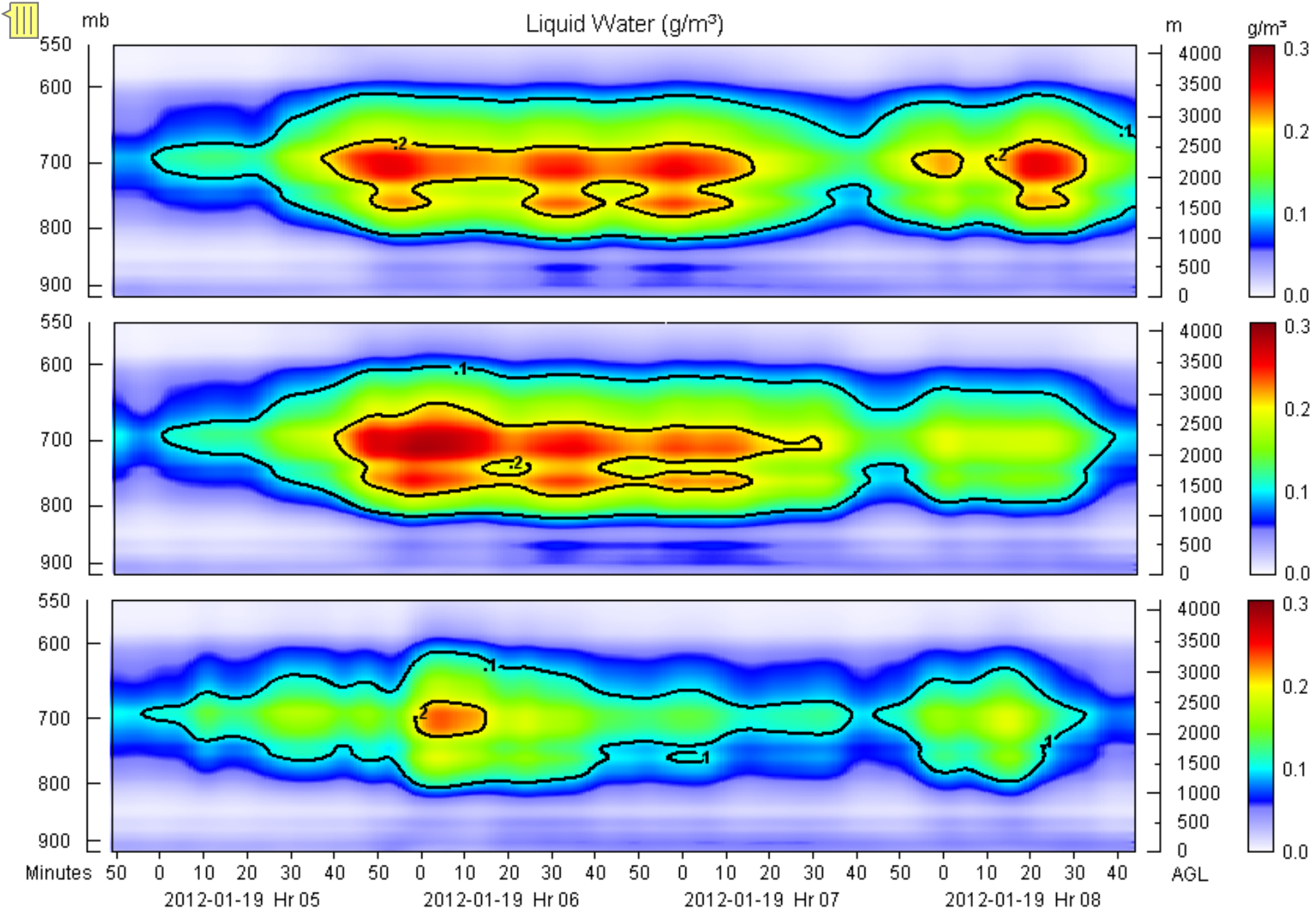
Radiosonde equivalent observation accuracy for 1DVAR retrievals during 2010 Winter Olympics ([Cimini et al, TGRS, 2011](#))

- Radiometer and radiosonde liquid profile comparisons

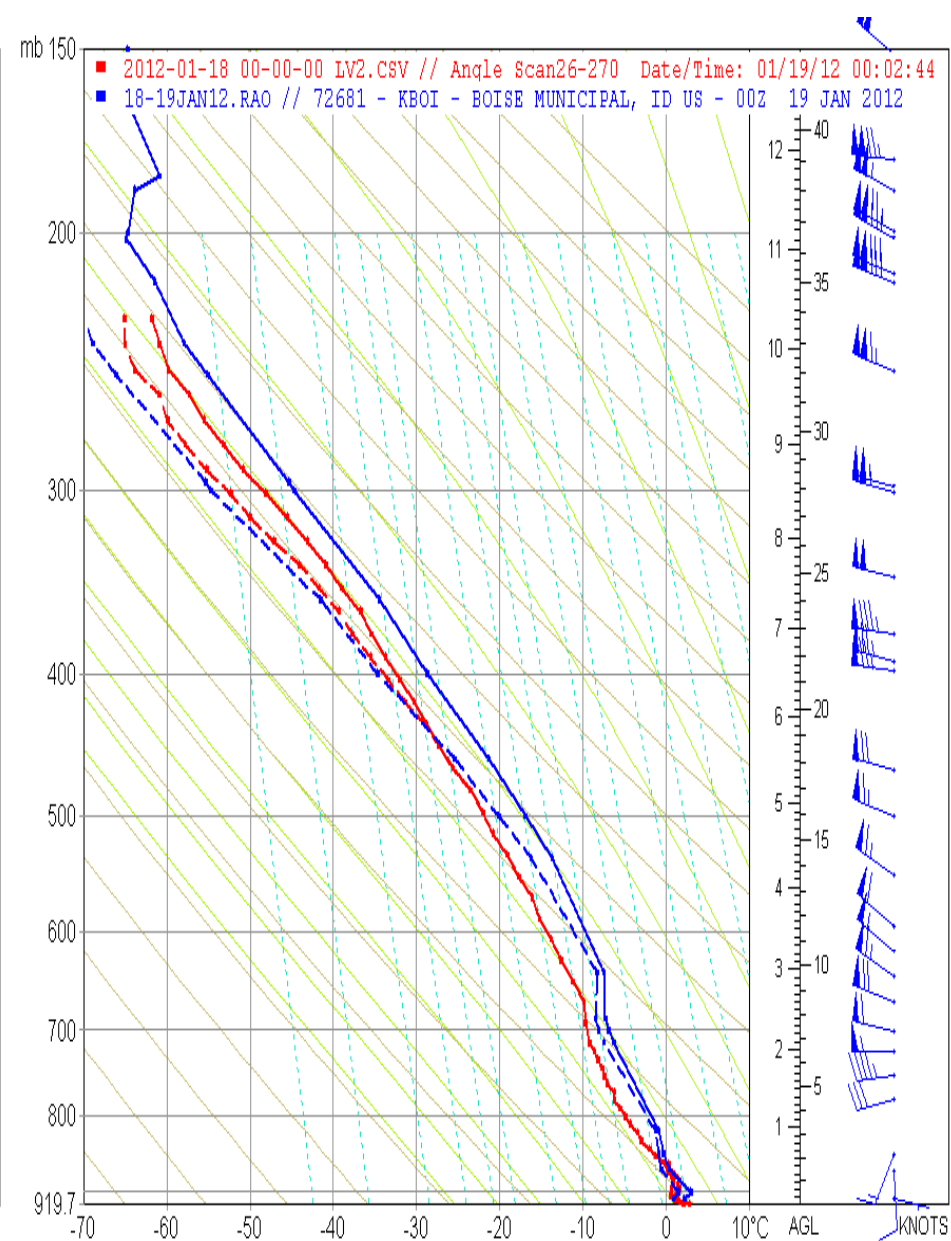
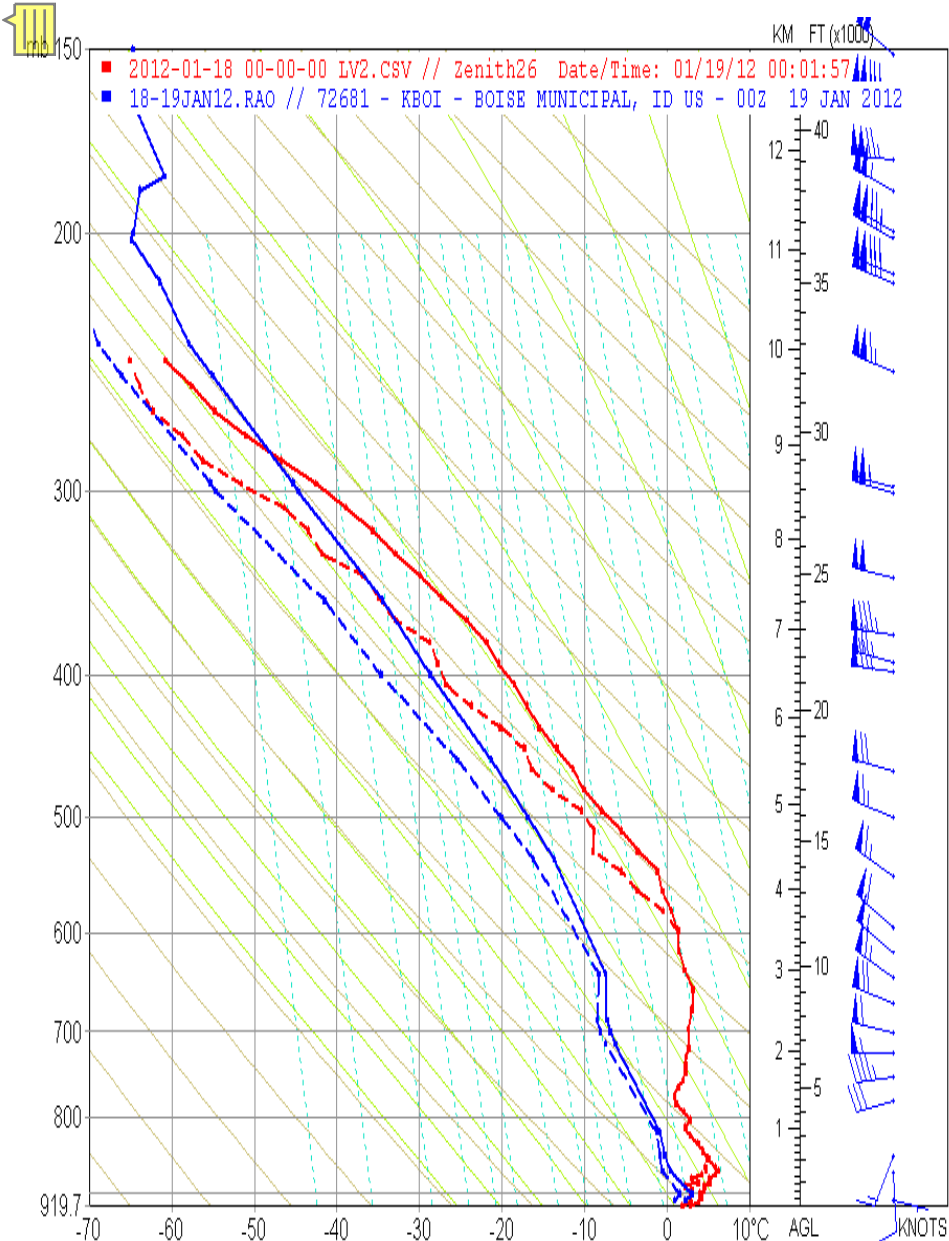


Idaho Power radiometer (site and observation directions) and radiosonde site





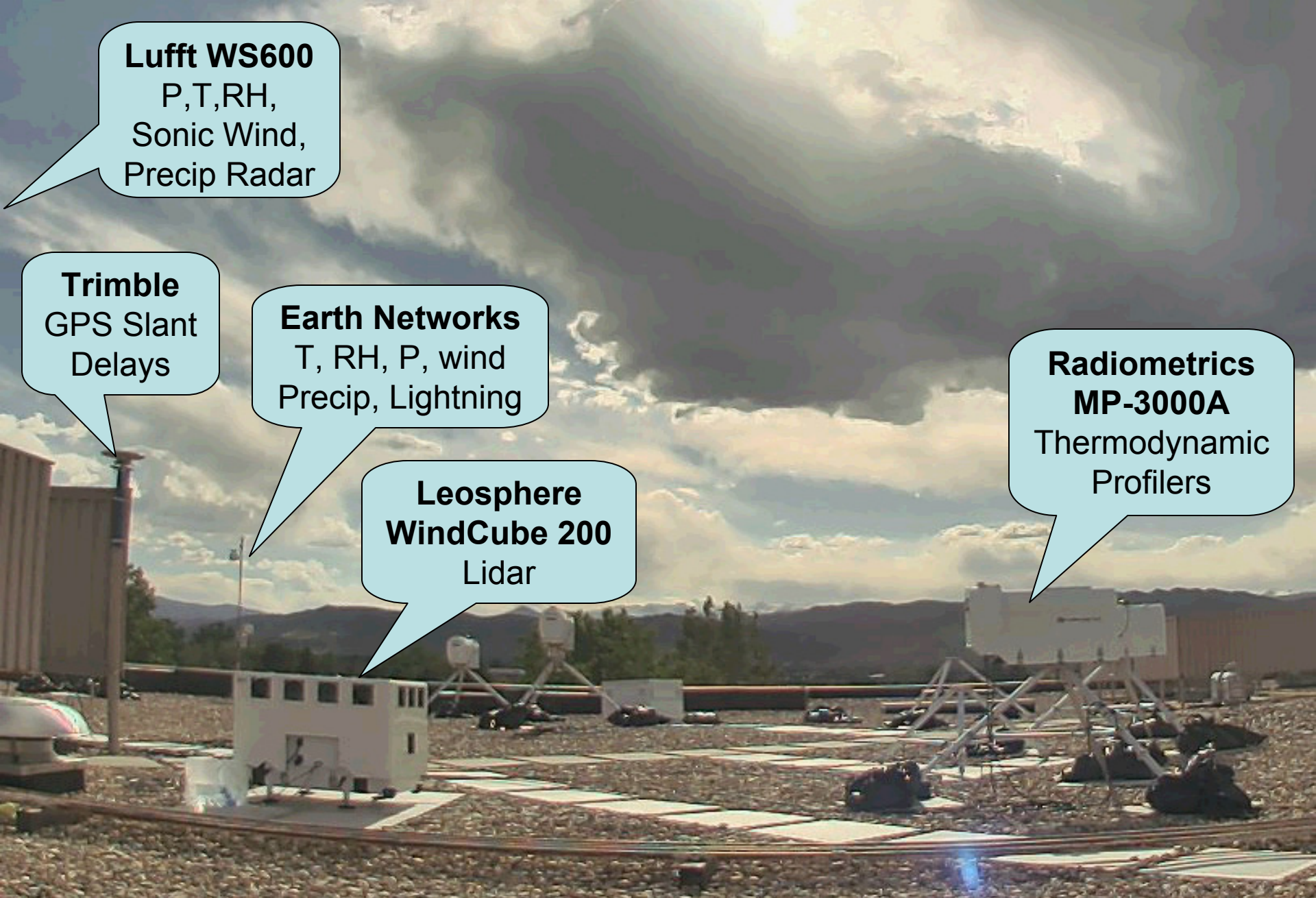
Liquid profiles at 315°, 270°, 225° azimuth, 15° elevation



Radiometer (red) and radiosonde (blue) profiles; off-zenith retrieval (right) is accurate during heavy precipitation, off-zenith (left) is degraded.



NCAR and NOAA staff launch radiosonde including supercooled liquid sensor



Lufft WS600
P,T,RH,
Sonic Wind,
Precip Radar

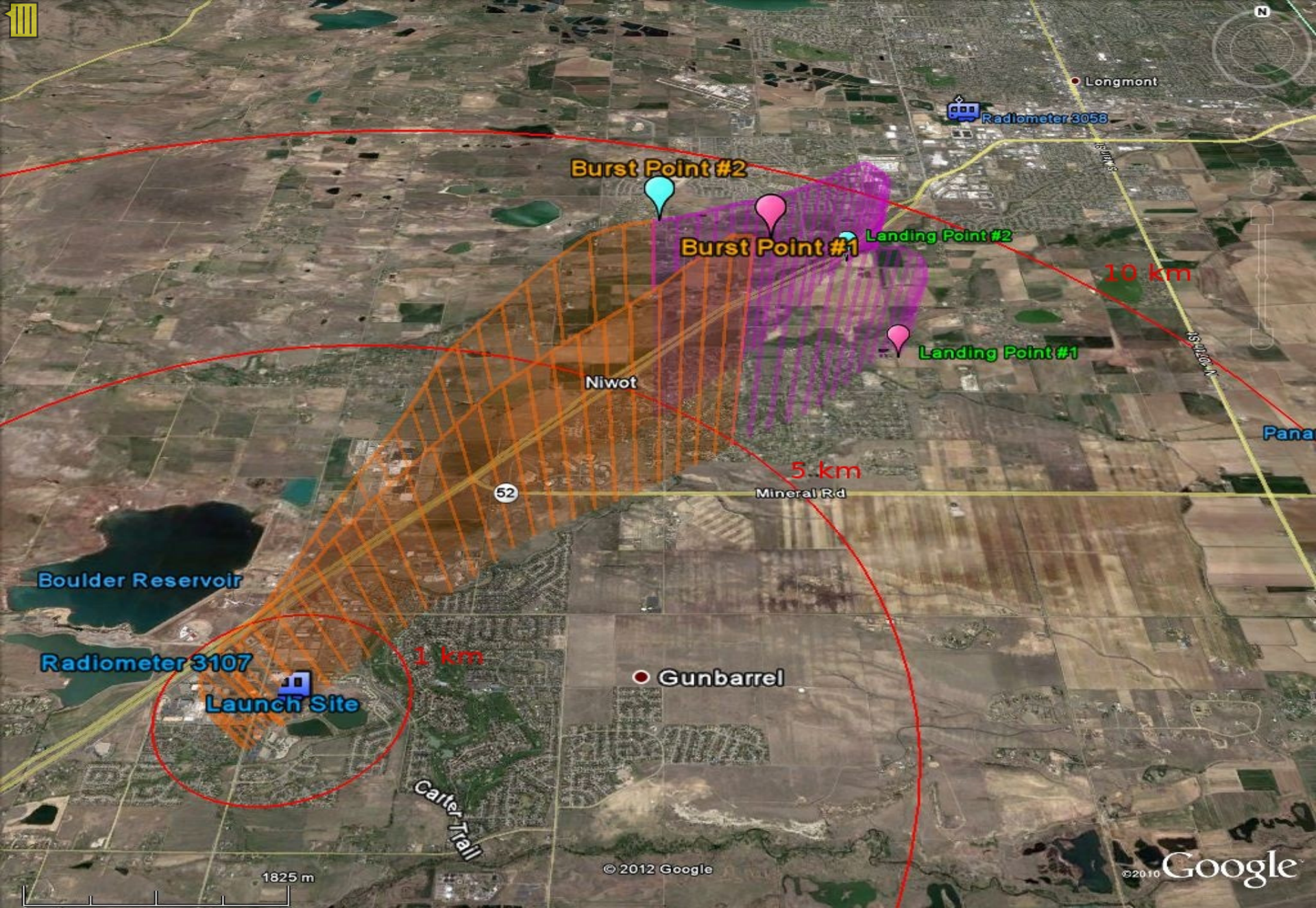
Trimble
GPS Slant
Delays

Earth Networks
T, RH, P, wind
Precip, Lightning

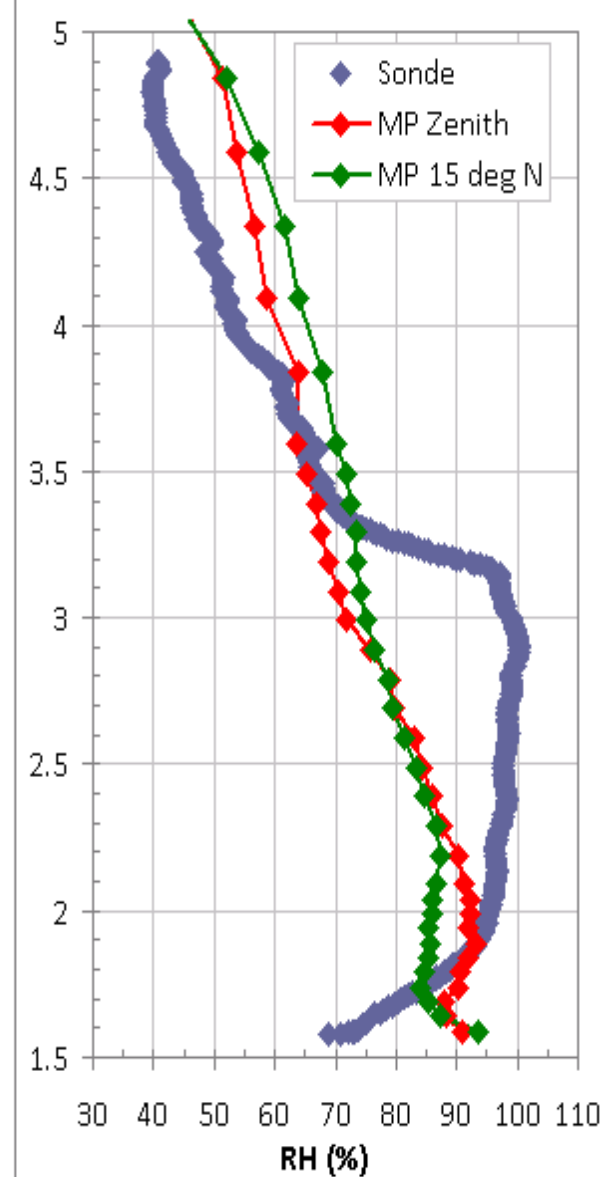
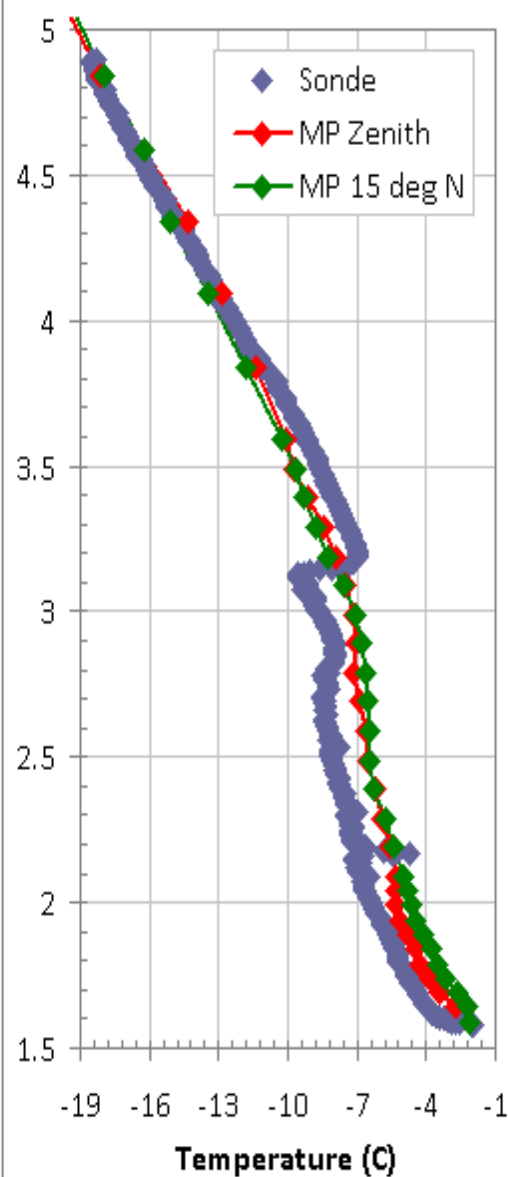
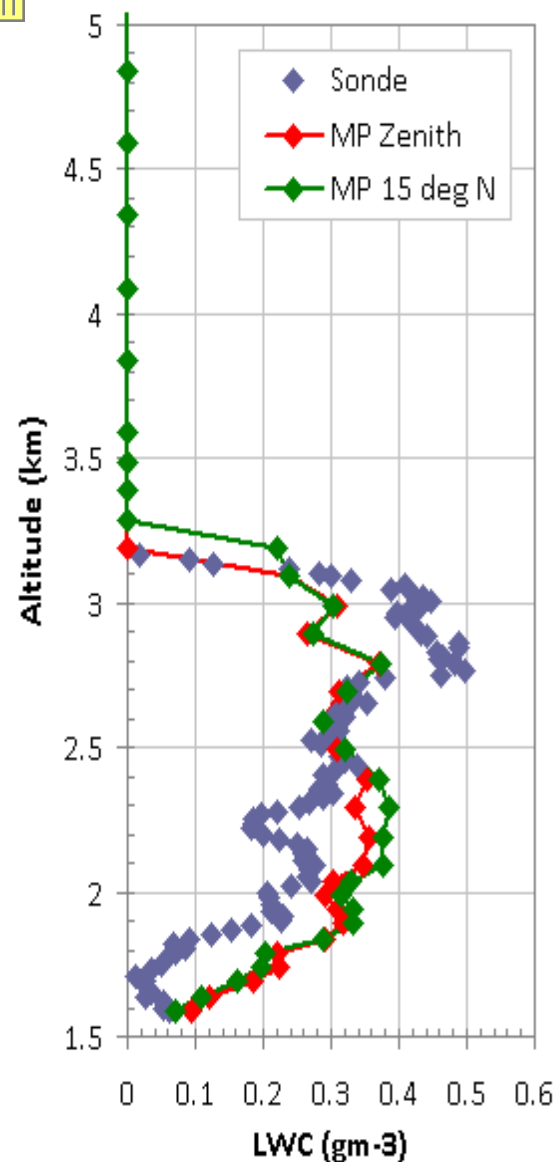
Leosphere
WindCube 200
Lidar

Radiometrics
MP-3000A
Thermodynamic
Profilers

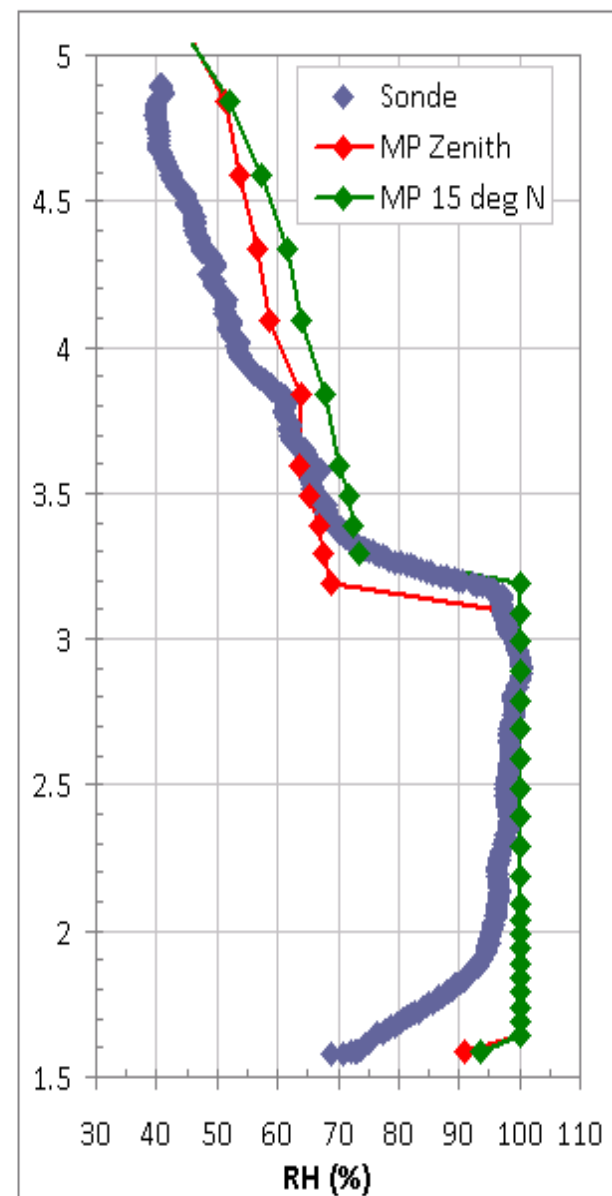
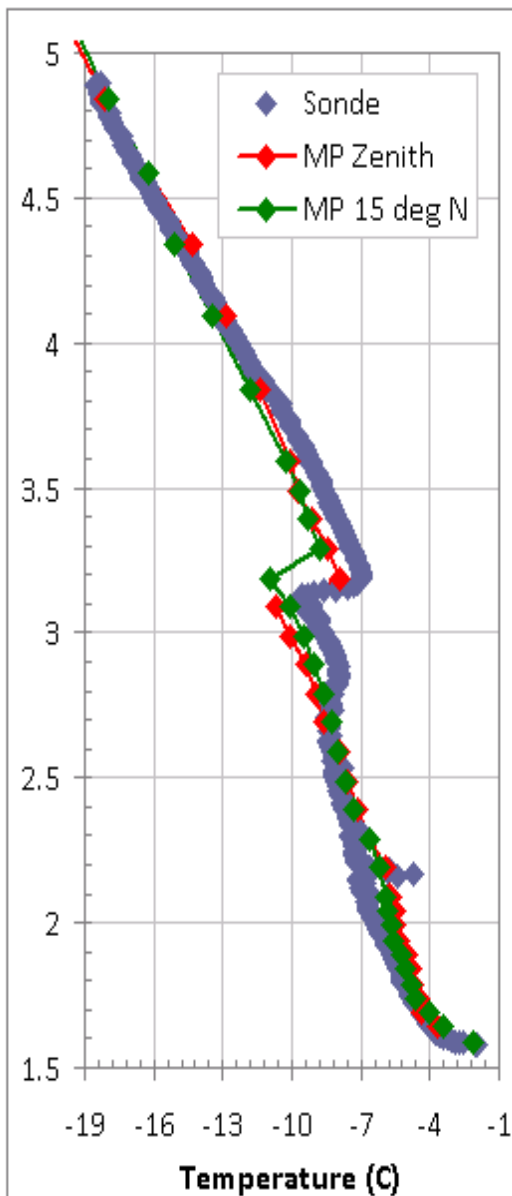
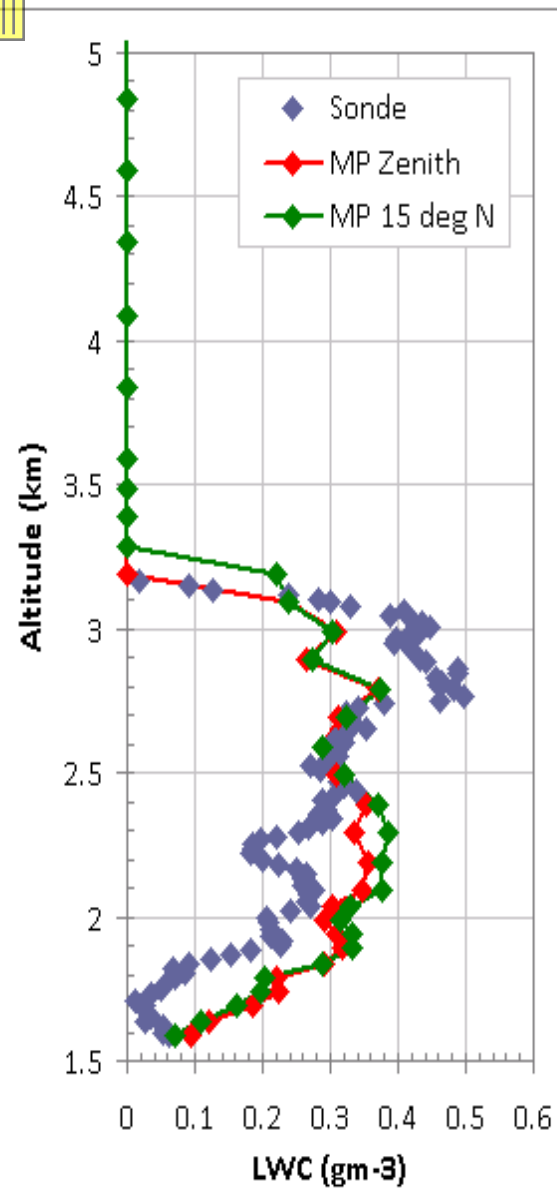
Atmospheric Observatory at Radiometrics (Boulder, CO)



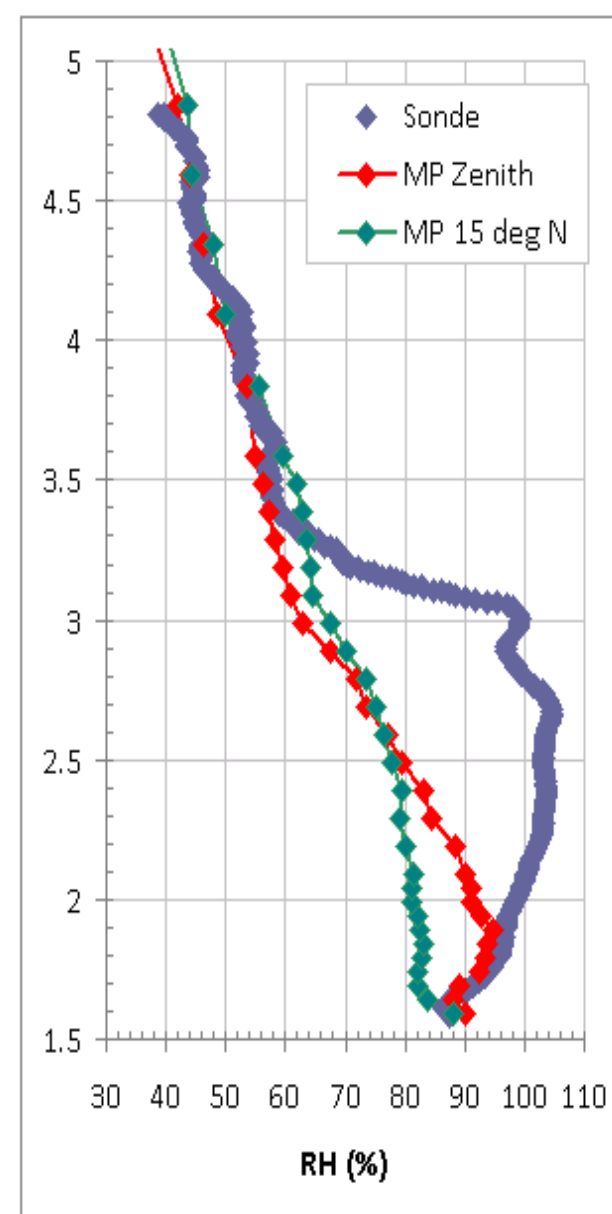
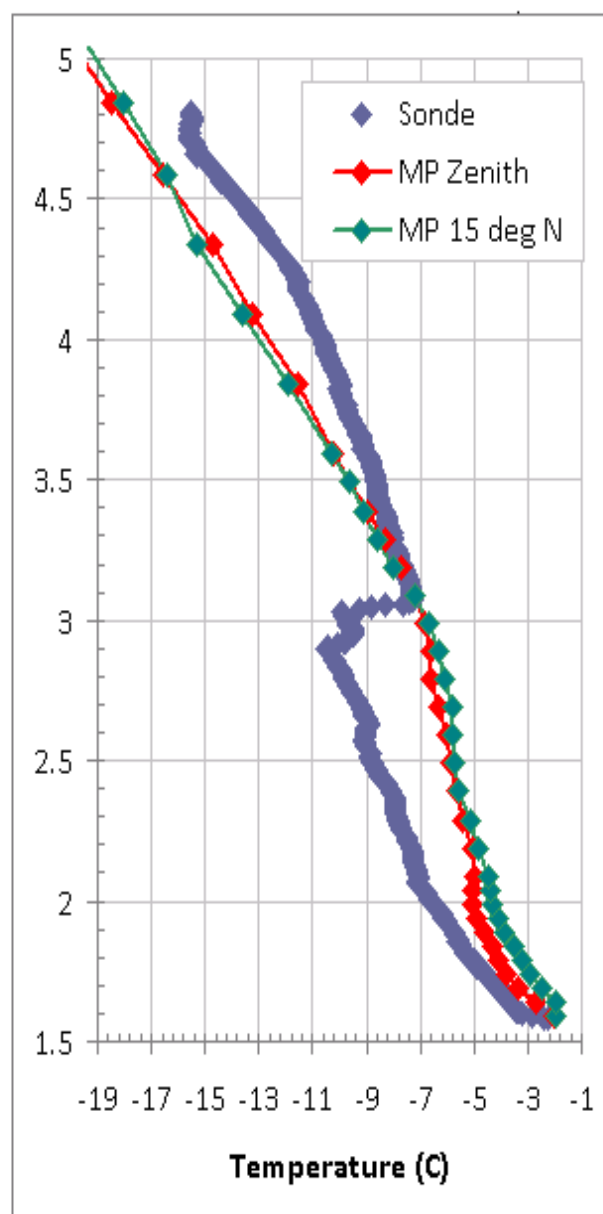
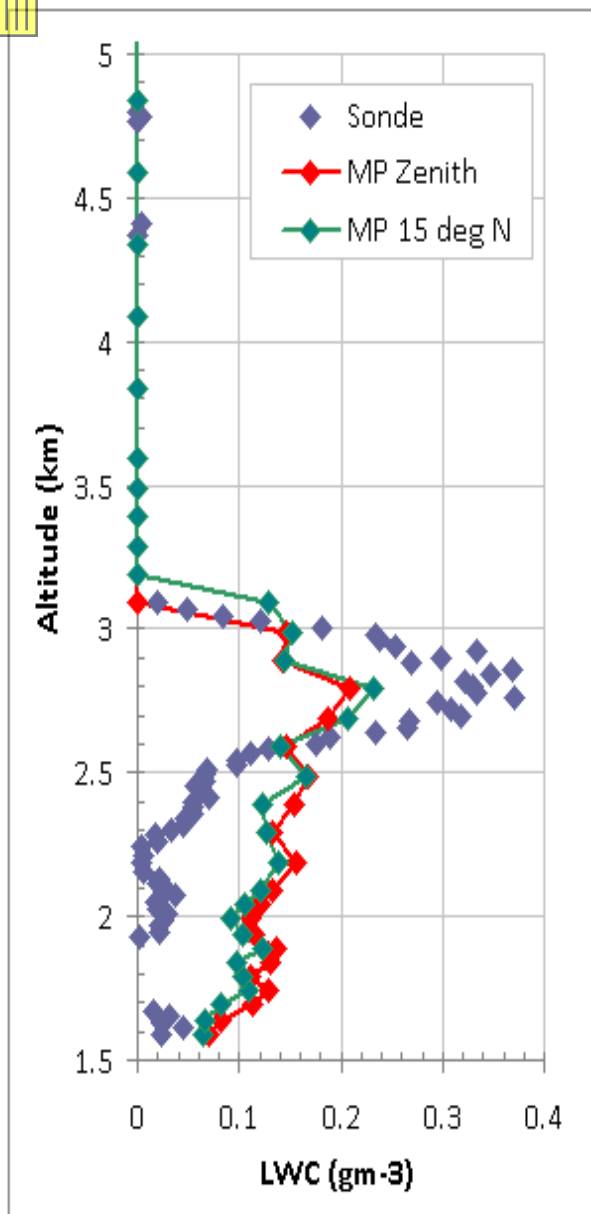
Radiosonde trajectories (launch #1 and #2)



Launch #1 (blue) and radiometer (red, green) soundings including liquid cutoff < -11 C (arbitrary constraint) and raw radiometer T and RH retrievals



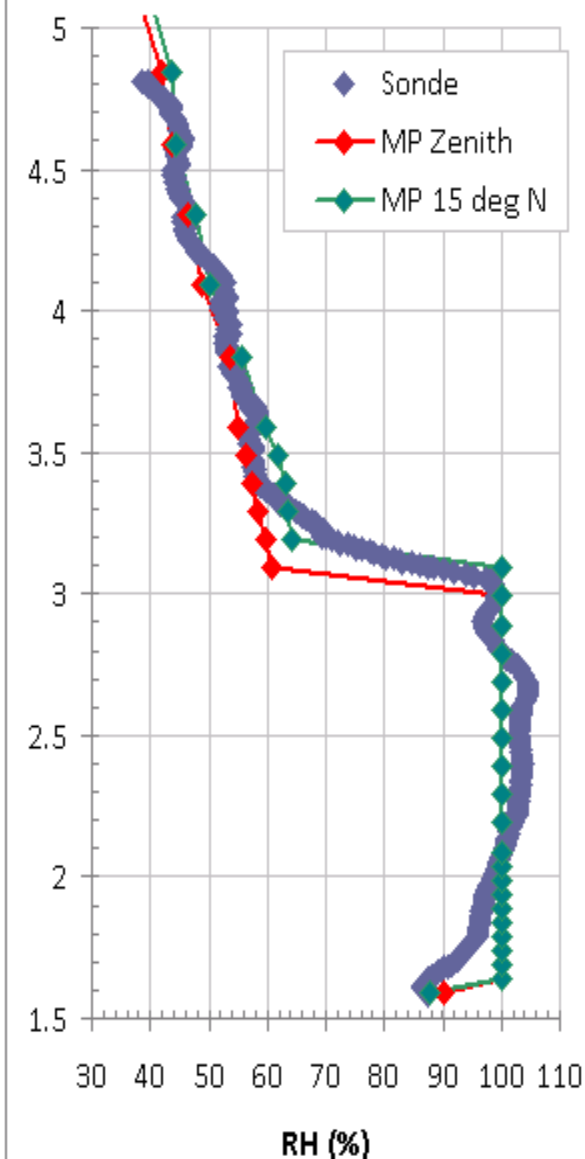
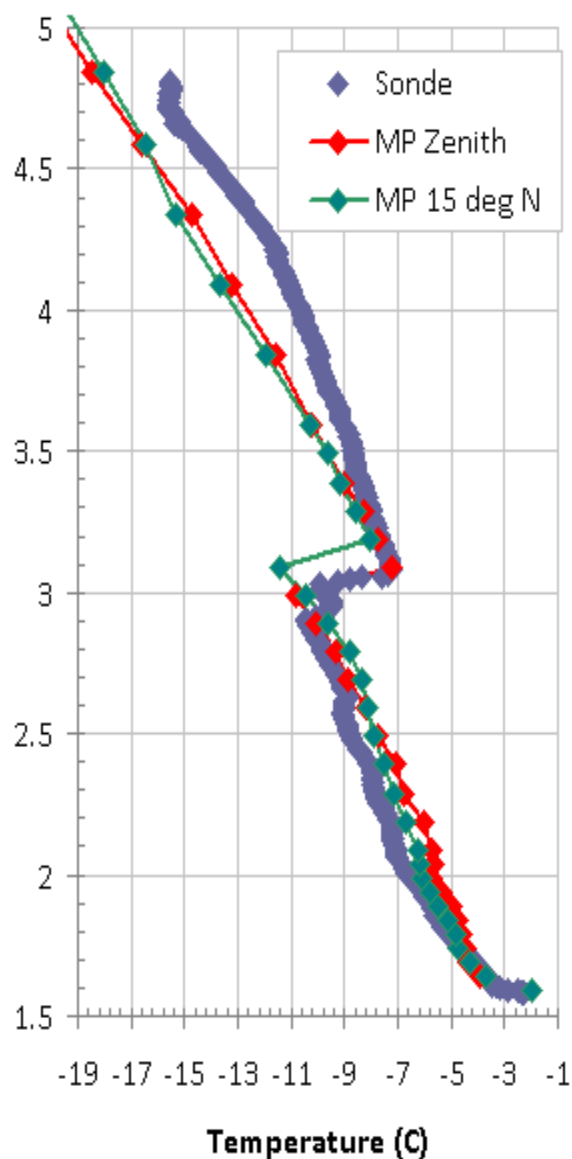
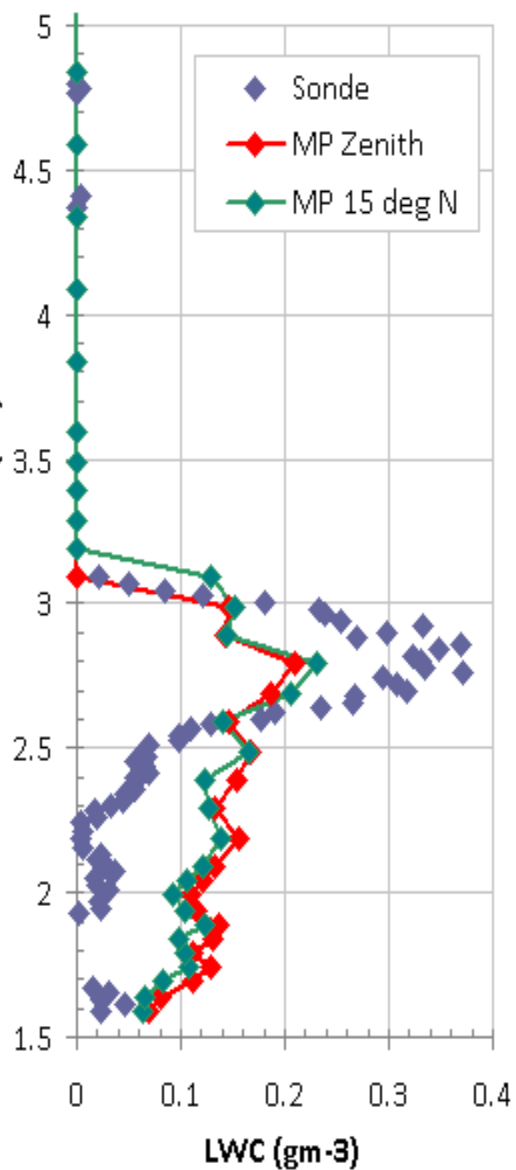
Launch #1 (blue) and radiometer (red, green) soundings including liquid cutoff < -11 C (arbitrary constraint) and T adjusted to saturate RH



Launch #2 (blue) and radiometer (red, green) soundings including liquid cutoff < -11 C (arbitrary constraint) and raw radiometer T and RH retrievals



Altitude (km)



Launch #2 (blue) and radiometer (red, green) soundings including liquid cutoff < -11 C (arbitrary constraint) and T adjusted to saturate RH

- Thermodynamic profiling network roll out

Introducing the Boundary Layer Network

Real-time Profiles of the Atmosphere's Most Turbulent Layer

Real-time & Continuous Observations

Temperature, humidity and liquid profiles of the boundary layer and above are updated every six minutes. The BLN's increased update frequency over existing radiosonde networks, which typically release balloons just twice a day, improves model accuracy and operational decision-making.

➤ Data for Improved Local
Forecasts & Decision-Making

➤ Initial Deployment in
California, Spring 2012

➤ 100 Radiometers Across the
U.S. in the Next 3 Years



Utilities



Wind



Solar



Aviation



Air Quality



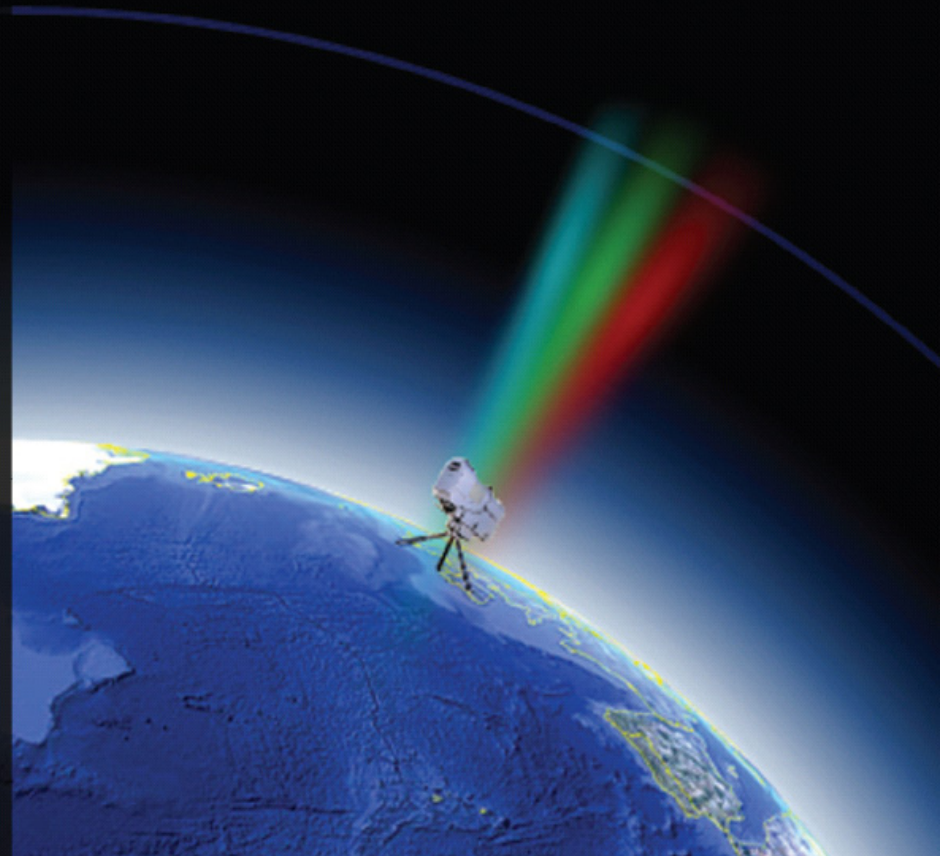
Water
Management

Earlier Warning of High-Impact, Local Weather

Improved information about the instability of the atmosphere enables advanced notification of convective initiation that leads to severe thunderstorms and tornadoes. The BLN is a critical tool in the battle to increase the speed and accuracy of severe weather warnings.

Better Forecasts, Better Decisions

Continuous observations of the boundary layer from fixed locations feed mesoscale models hungry for real-time, localized data. The result is improved forecasts and better decision-making across numerous industries including utilities, wind, solar, aviation, air quality and water management.



Utilities



Wind



Solar



Aviation



Air Quality



Water Management