

Drones et instrumentation miniaturisée

Session 'Vecteurs et instrumentation embarquée'

**G. Roberts^{1,2}, G. Cayez³, R. Calmer¹, K. Sanchez², P. Crispel¹,
F. Lamroui¹, S. Barrau¹, F. Julien¹, S. Defoy¹, F. Burnet¹**

1. Centre National de Recherches Météorologiques, Toulouse, France

2. Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, CA, USA

3. École Nationale de la Météorologie, Toulouse, France



Motivation for using UAS

- **In-situ observations are needed**
 - to extend ground-based measurements
 - processes in the lower 5 km of the atmosphere
 - in remote or inaccessible locations
- **Long-term sampling / monitoring (seasonal cycles)**
- **Track complete life cycle of event (process studies)**
- **Formation flying (multi-dimensional observations)**
 - Simultaneous, mission-specific sampling
 - high-resolution spatial / temporal measurements



UAS Projects at CNRM

1. **VOLTIGE** (Vecteurs d'Observation de La Troposphère pour l'Investigation et la Gestion de l'Environnement), ANR, 2013 – 2015 • Feasibility of using multi-drone observations to study fog events
2. **BACCHUS** (Impact of Biogenic versus Anthropogenic emissions on Clouds and Climate: towards a Holistic UnderStanding), EU FP7, 2013 – 2018 • Reducing the uncertainty of aerosol-cloud interactions in climate change assessments
3. **SkyScanner**, RTRA-STAE, 2014 – 2017 • Develop a strategy for deploying a fleet of UAVs to study the evolution and entrainment mixing of clouds
4. **STRAP** (Synergie Transdisciplinaire pour Répondre aux Aléas liés aux Panaches volcaniques), ANR, 2014 – 2017 • Study the composition and evolution of aerosols and gases of volcanic plumes
5. **BACC+** (Basse Couche Campagne pour les études à fines échelles), Météo-France, 2015 – 2018 • Pilote phase project to study the development of the boundary layer and fog; toward an operational program.
6. **MIRIAD** (Mesures scientifiques de flux de surface en milieu maritime embarqué sur Drone), FEDER Région Midi-Pyrénées, 2015-2018 • Marine aerosol and energy fluxes from the surface to top of boundary layer
7. **NEPHELAE** (Network for studying Entrainment and microPhysics of clouds using Adaptive Exploration), ANR, 2018-2021 • Adaptive sampling using a fleet of UAVs to study the evolution of cloud life cycles.

UAV Fleet at CNRM

Operated by CNRM / ENM

Ultralight UAV (< 1 kg / payload ~ 300 g)

Electric motor
Endurance: 30 mn / 25 km
Altitude max: 1 km
Airspeed: 40 – 54 km/h



<http://paparazzi.enac.fr>

**VOLTIGE
BACC+
Skyscanner**



Agence Nationale de la Recherche
ANR

Lightweight UAV (< 2.5 & 5 kg / payload ~ 0.8 to 1.5 kg)

Electric motor
Endurance: 1.5 h / 75 km
Altitude max: 4 km
Airspeed: 50 - 90 km/h



**BACCHUS
STRAP**



Agence Nationale de la Recherche
ANR

Operated by Boréal SAS (previously AJS)

Mid-size UAV (< 25 kg / payload ~ 5 kg)

Gas engine
Endurance: 10 h / 1000 km
Altitude max: 5 km
Airspeed: 60-130 km/h

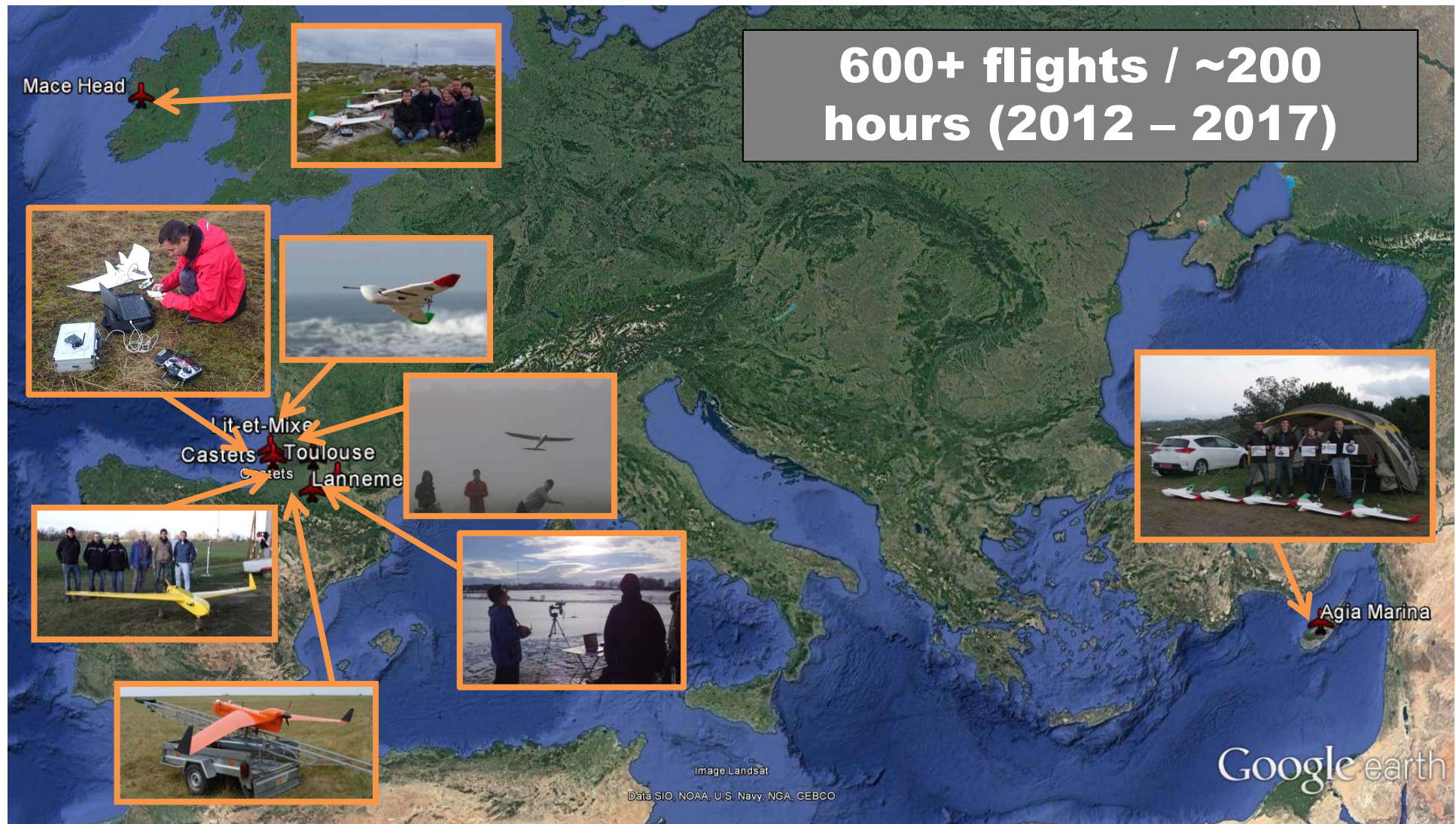


MIRIAD



Increase size, complexity, risk, cost

Summary of UAS Flights at CNRM



- 10 different types of platforms (all fixed-wing)
- Weather conditions: winds up to 17 m/s, snow, ice, rain, fog; up to 3350 m.agl

UAV payloads



charge sensor



Backscatter cloud sensor



aerosol inlet



5-hole probe



temperature, moisture,
pressure, airspeed



↑ & ↓ visible
SW flux



Video camera



aethelometer



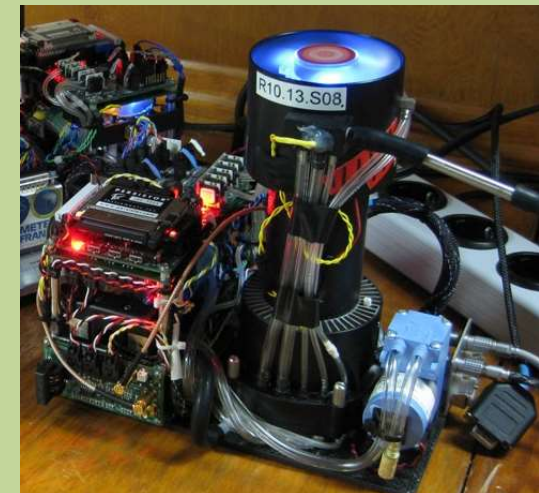
data acquisition



PPZ autopilot



optical particle
counter



mCCN counter

At research station

UAS Payloads at CNRM

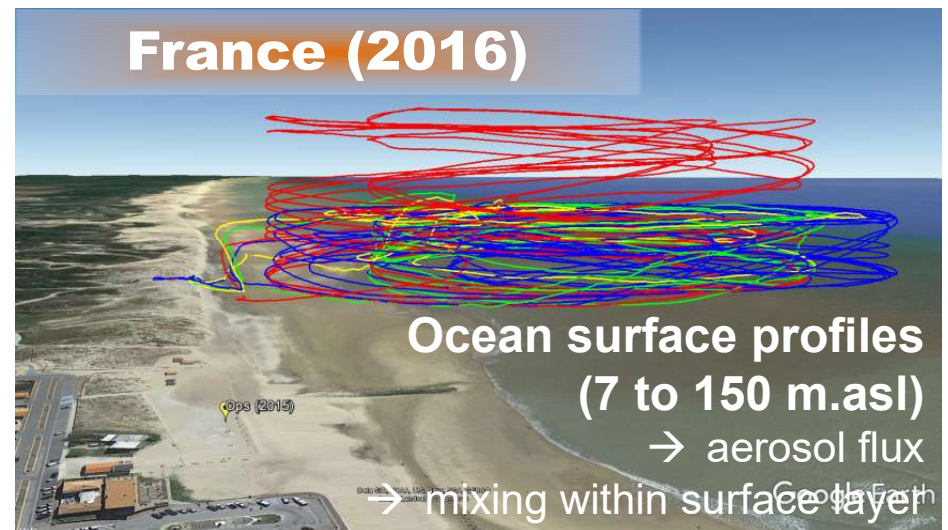
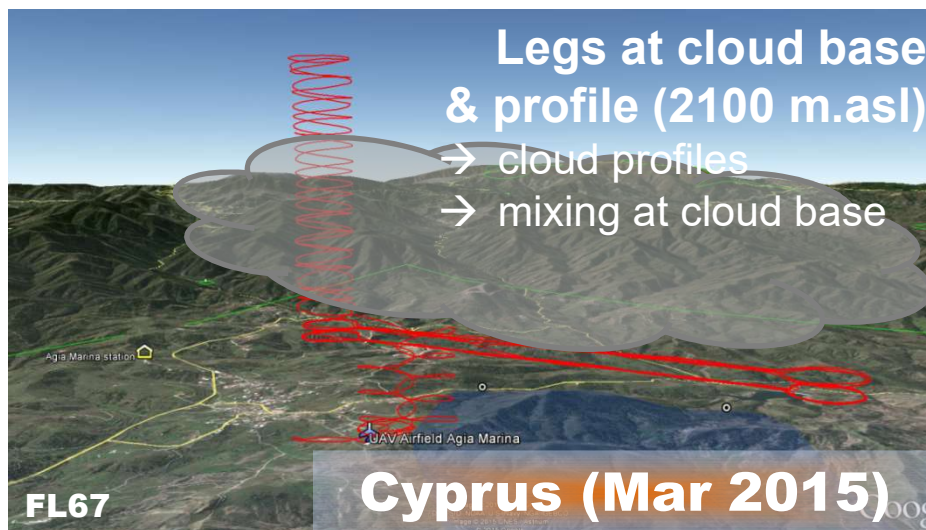
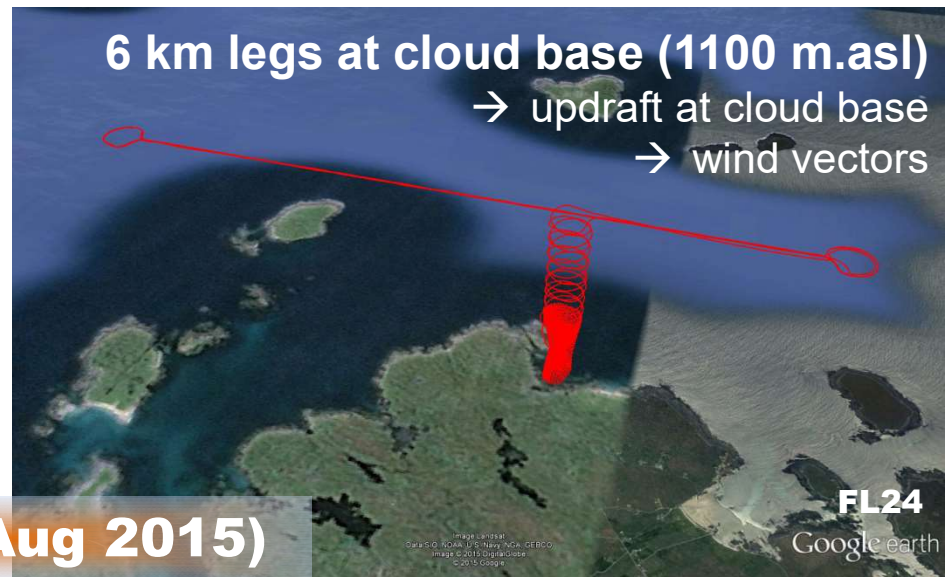
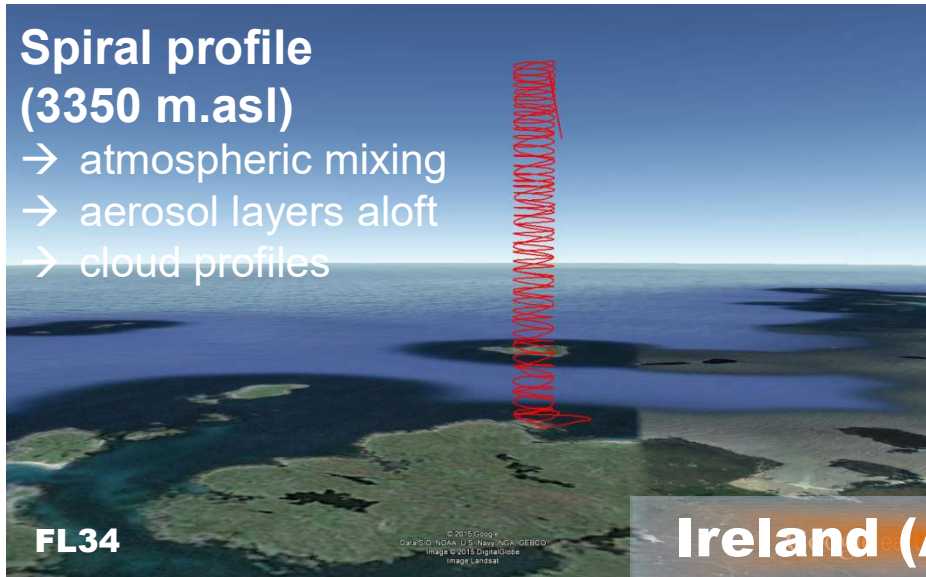


Atmospheric dynamics	3D winds and solar fluxes	Absorbing Aerosol	Aerosol optical properties
5-hole probe	$w \rightarrow$ supersaturation $\rightarrow n_{D_f(CCN,SS)}$	Aethelometer	Aerosol absorption ($g\ m^{-3}\ BC$)
Pyranometer (up & down)	$\sigma_e \rightarrow n_D \times r^2 ; F_{\uparrow} / F_{\downarrow} \rightarrow$ Albedo	Pyranometer (up & down)	$\Delta F_{aerosol} \rightarrow W\ m^{-2}$
Aerosol / charge	Aerosol physical properties	Aerosol Inlet	$\sigma_e \rightarrow n_D \times r^2 ; F_{\uparrow} / F_{\downarrow} \rightarrow$ Albedo
		data download	
		Cloud / charge	Cloud microphysical properties
Optical Particle Counter	Number concentration ($D_p > 0.3\ \mu m$)	Cloud sensor (2-I / polarization)	$\sigma_e \rightarrow n_D \times r^2 ; R_{eff}$
Charge Sensor	Atmospheric charge	Charge sensor	Atmospheric charge
Aerosol Inlet	Size distribution ($0.3 < D_p < 3\ \mu m$)		

UAS Operations (Mace Head)



UAS Research Flights



→ Research flights probe atmosphere from surface to 5 km, in-clouds, BVLOS ←

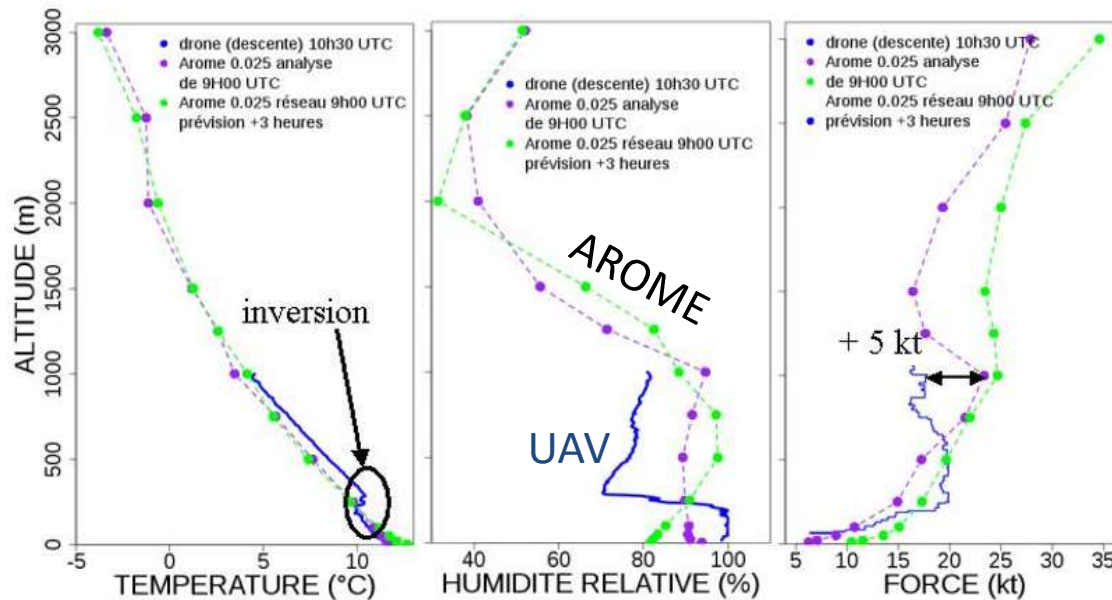
Each component must work ...



... to get to the science.

VOLTIGE

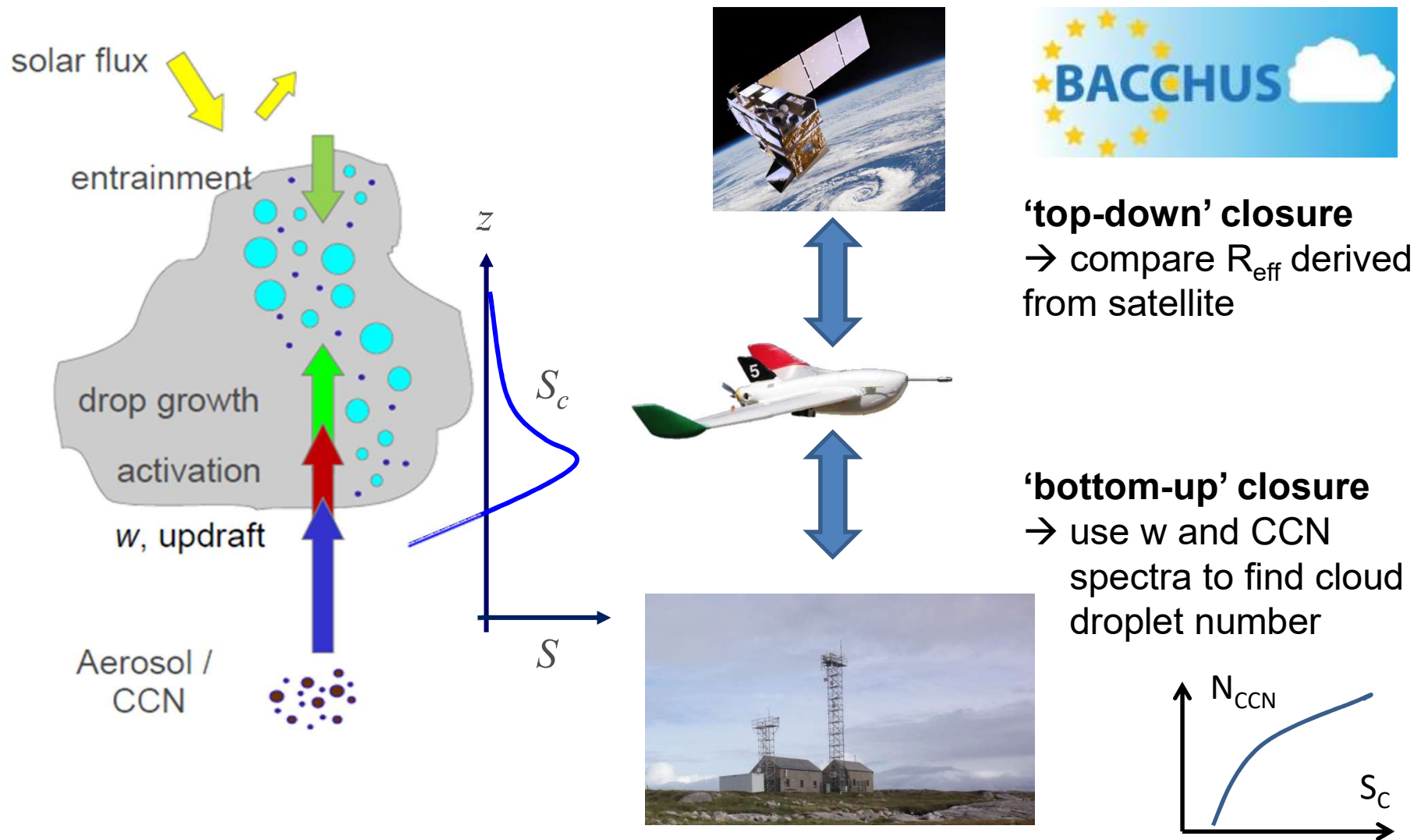
Vecteurs d'Observation de La Troposphère
pour l'Investigation et la Gestion de l'Environnement



Roberts et al., Météo et Climat, 2015.

- Deploying UAS to study the atmosphere (focus on fog)
- Temperature profiles in Les Landes generally well characterized by AROME 2.5km operational model
- In-situ profile profiles show strong inversion not captured in model.

Linking ground-based & satellite obs.

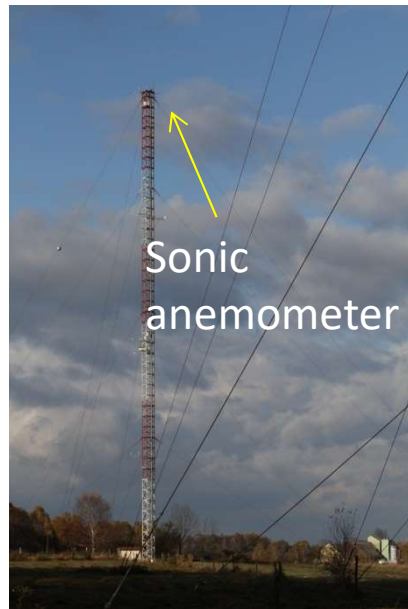


Related publications: [doi:10.1002/2015JD024595](https://doi.org/10.1002/2015JD024595); doi.org/10.5194/amt-2017-233; [doi: 10.1175/BAMS-D-15-00317](https://doi.org/10.1175/BAMS-D-15-00317); [doi: 10.1038/nature22806](https://doi.org/10.1038/nature22806)

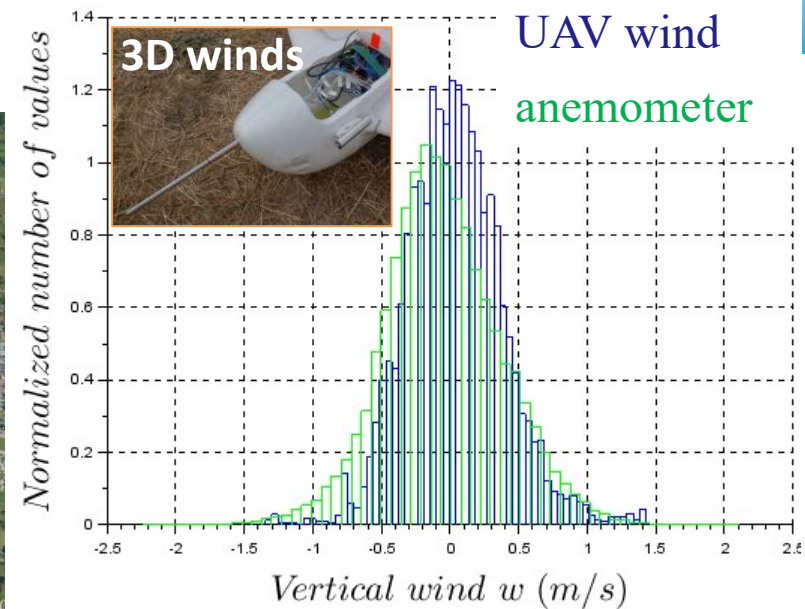
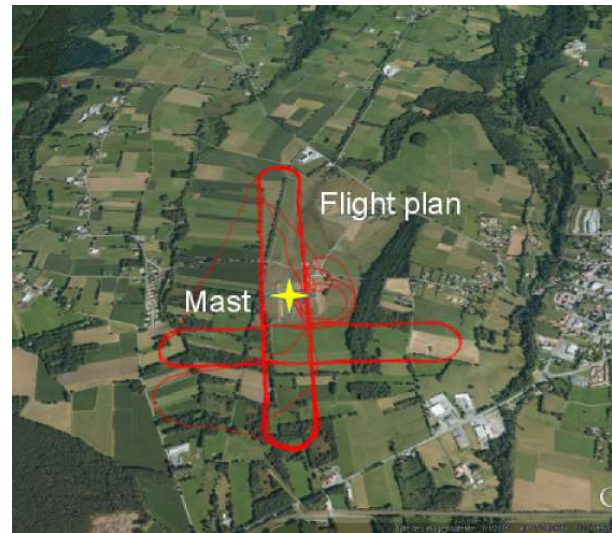
5-hole probe comparison with sonic anemometer



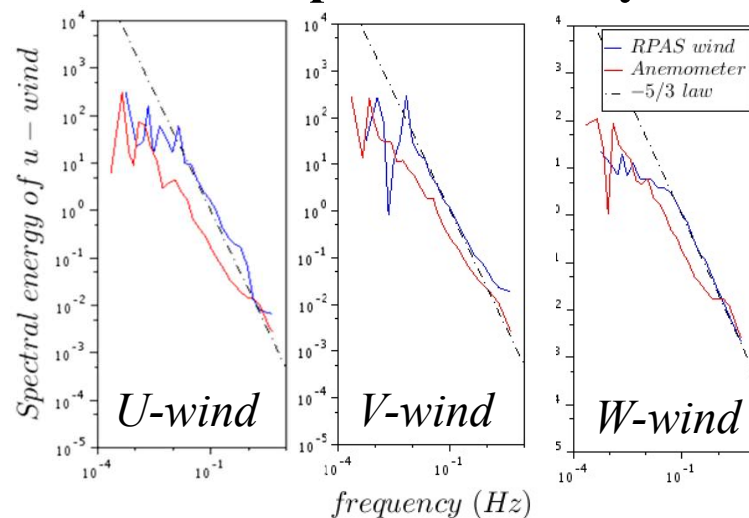
R. Calmer et al., AMTD, : doi.org/10.5194/amt-2017-233



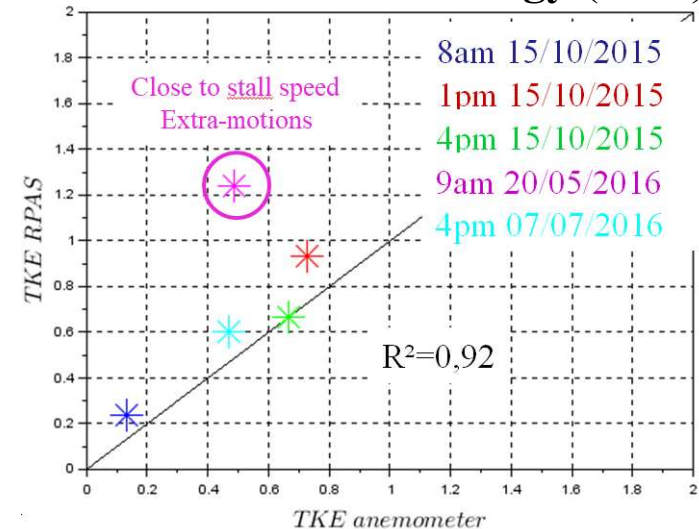
Lannemezan, France



Power spectral density



Turbulent Kinetic Energy (TKE)



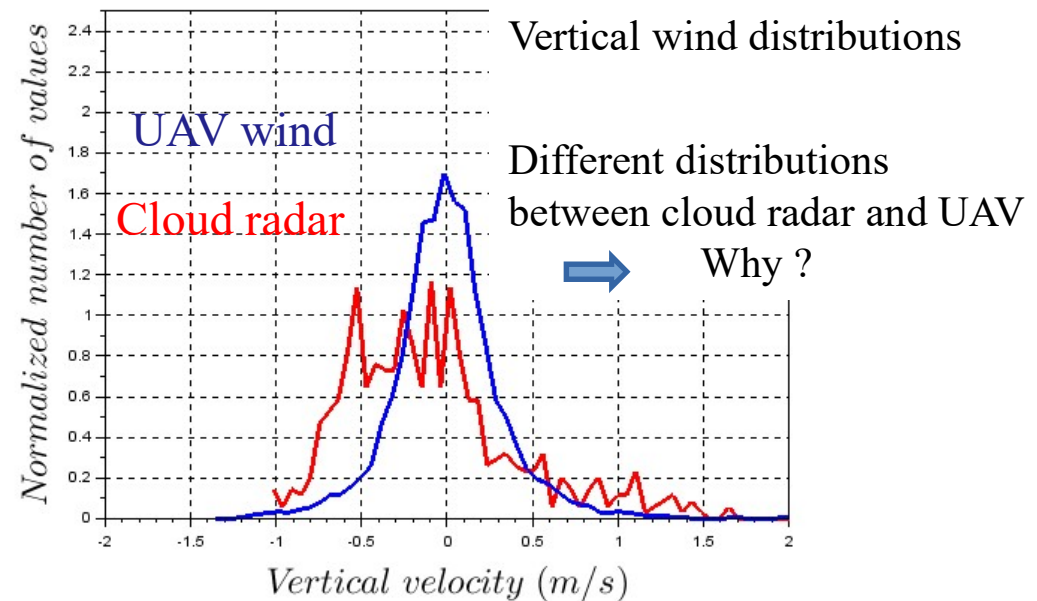
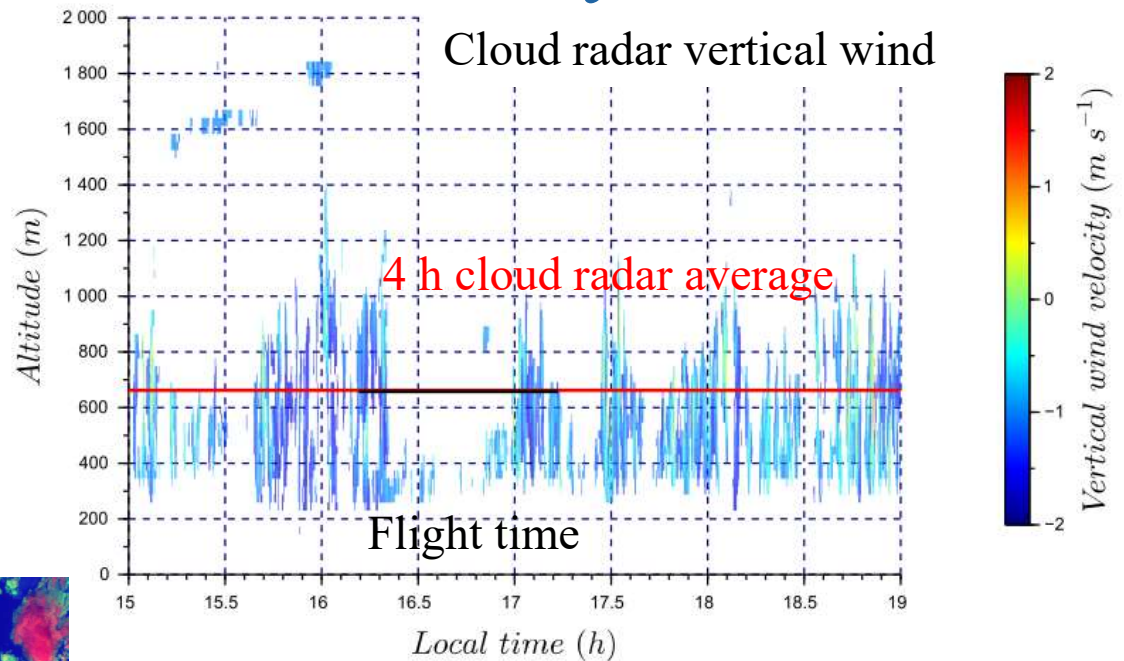
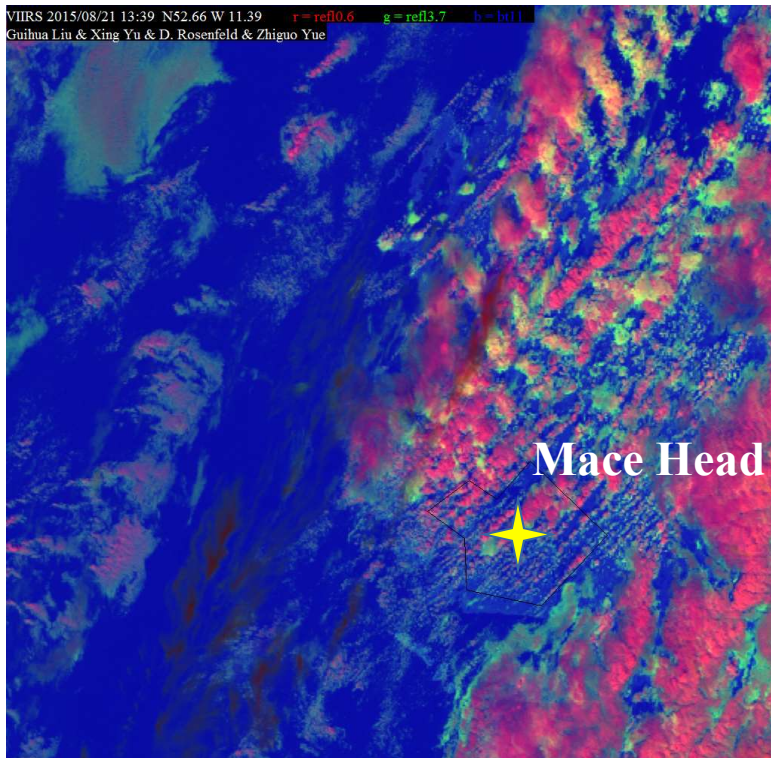
Mace Head case study

08/21/2015 Flight 38

UAV within clouds
(660 m asl)

Different clouds above land
and ocean

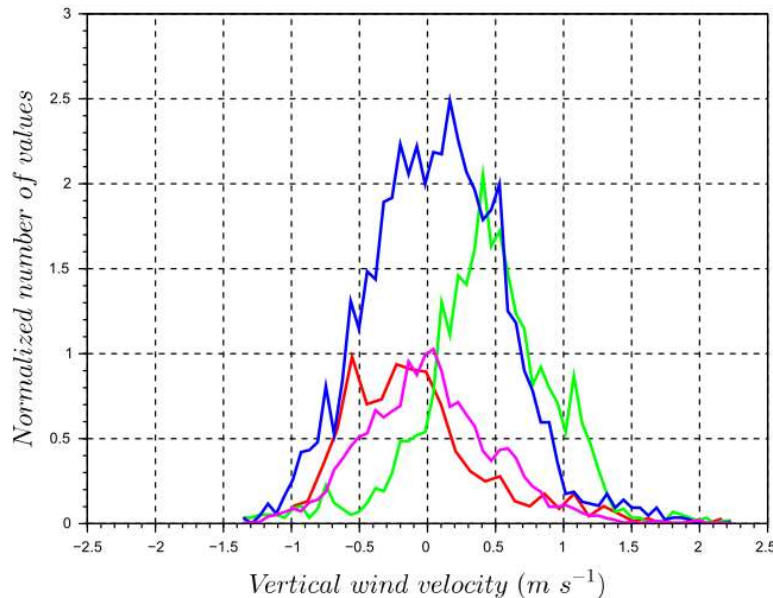
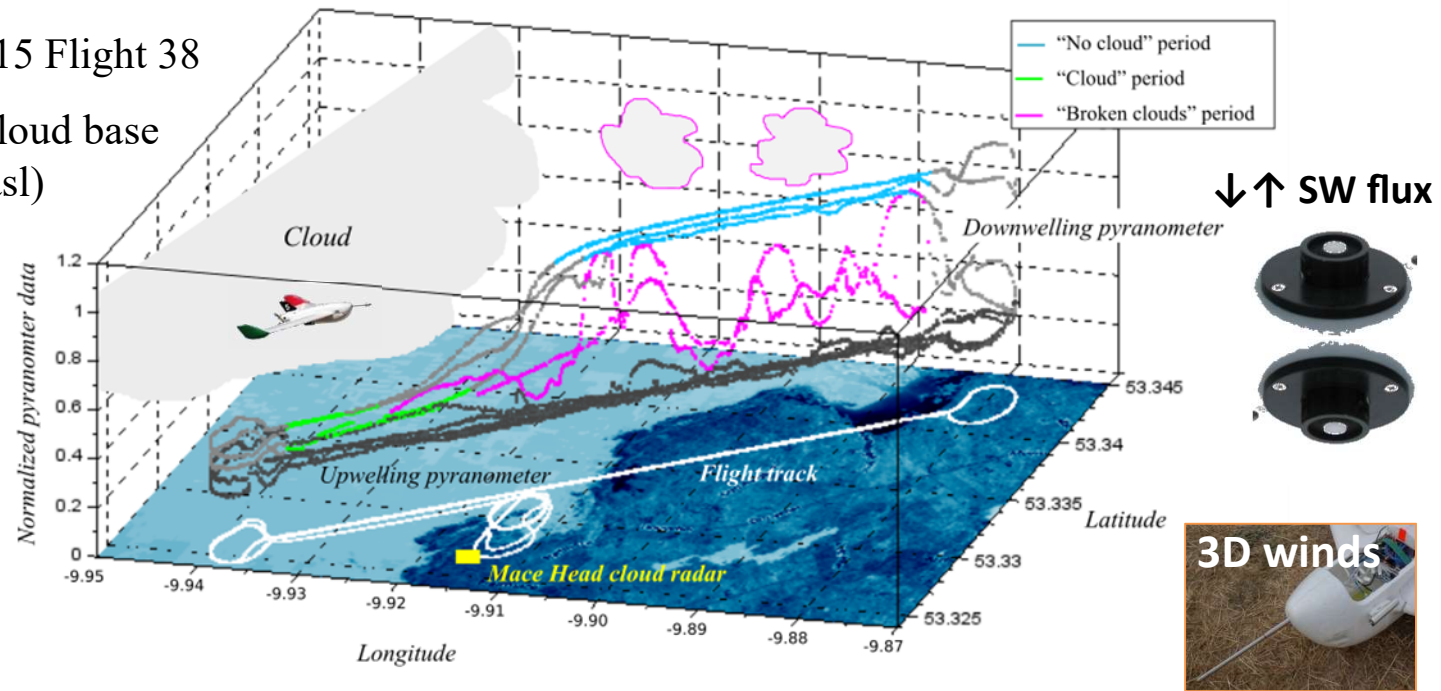
Satellite NPP Suomi



Mace Head case study

08/21/2015 Flight 38

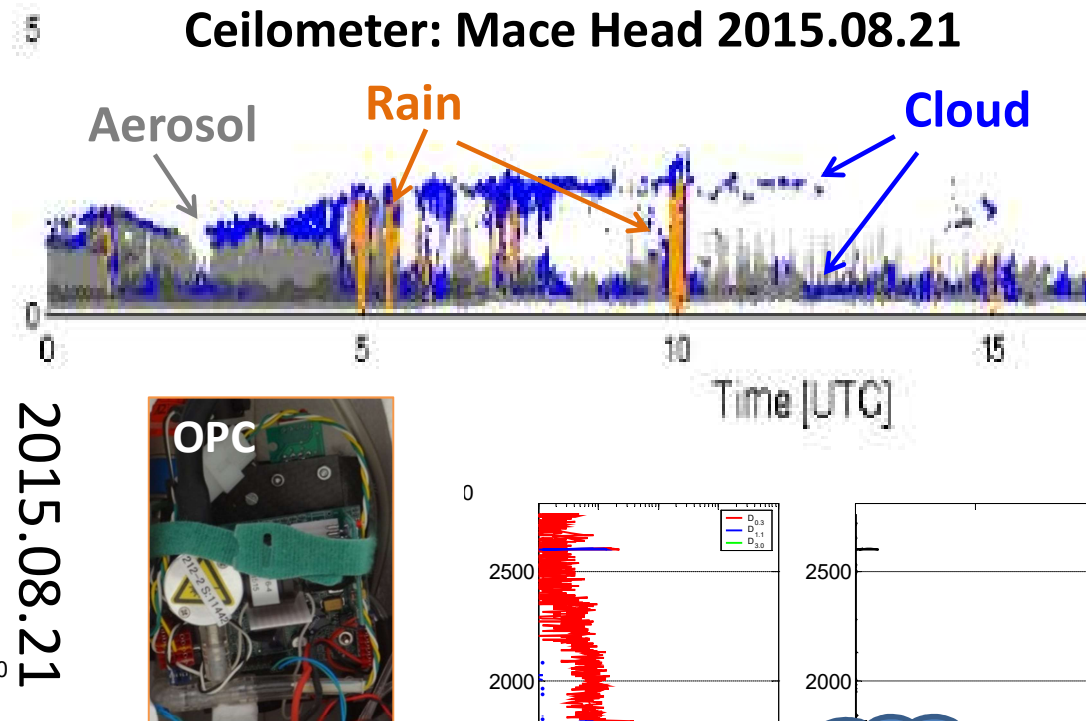
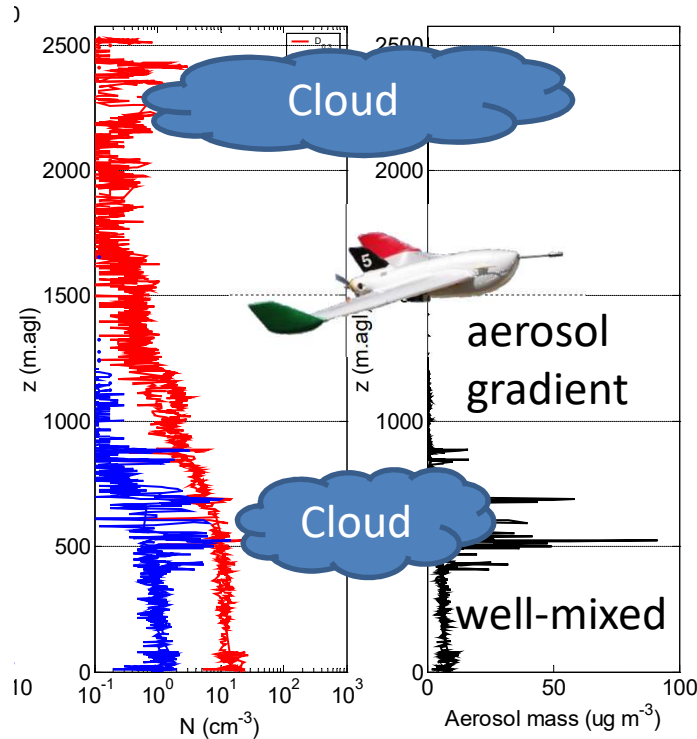
UAV at cloud base
(660 m asl)



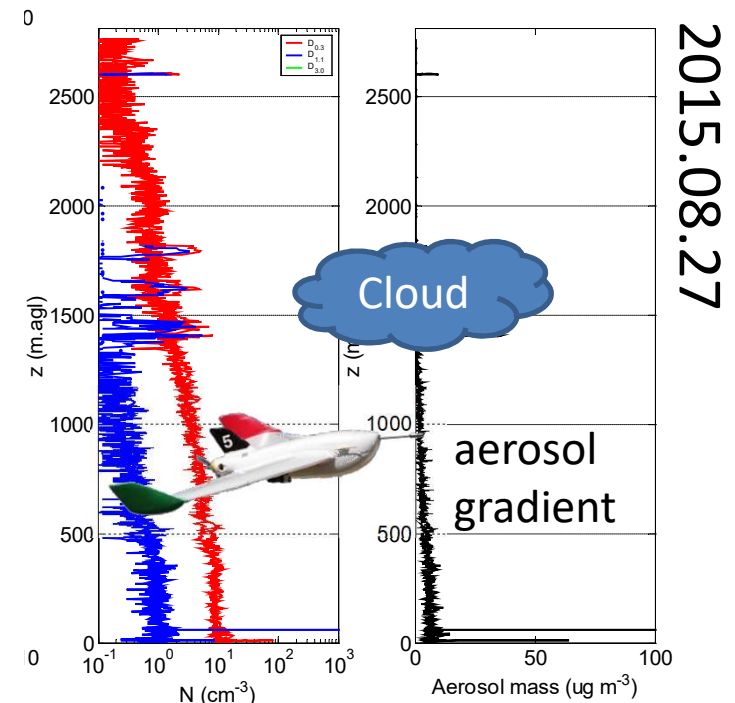
Cloud
No cloud
Broken clouds
Cloud radar

- Updrafts change in/out of clouds and with atmospheric conditions
- UAV and cloud radar similar for broken clouds (conditions over land)

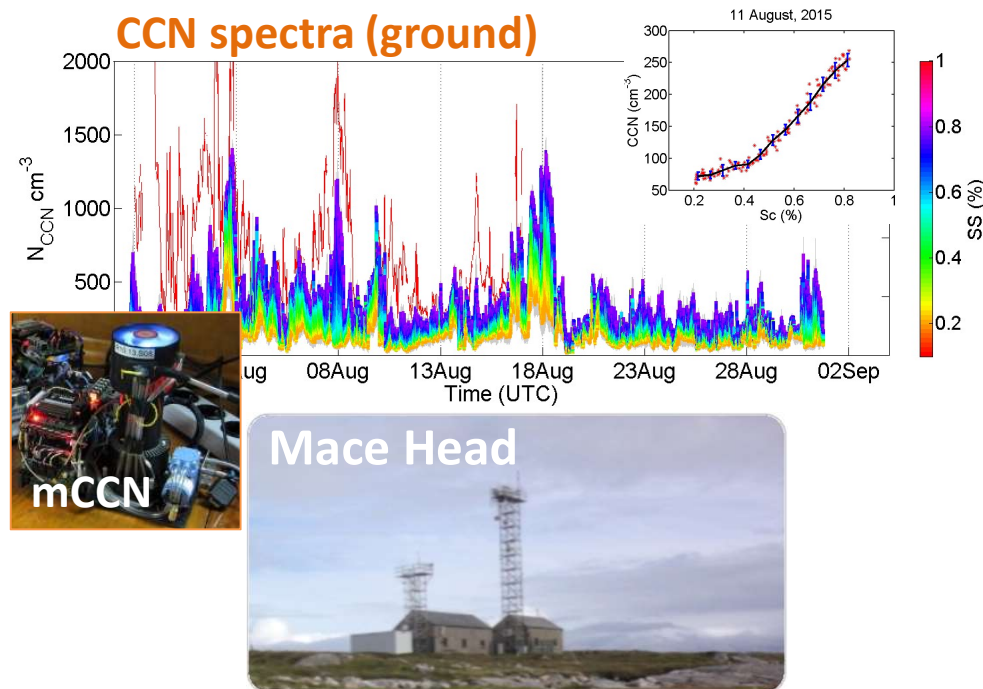
Mixing of aerosol in MBL



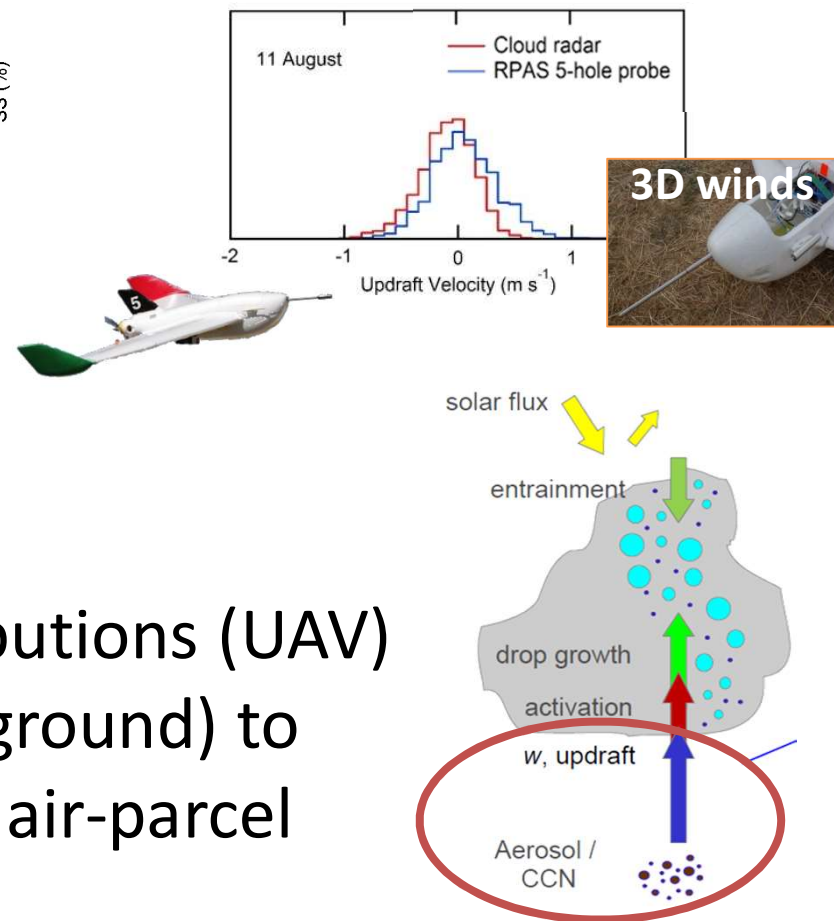
- Cloud layers often at ~ 400 and above 2000 m at Mace Head
- Aerosol not always well mixed in lower MBL; rarely mixed to upper level clouds at 2000 m



Cloud base updrafts / CCN spectra

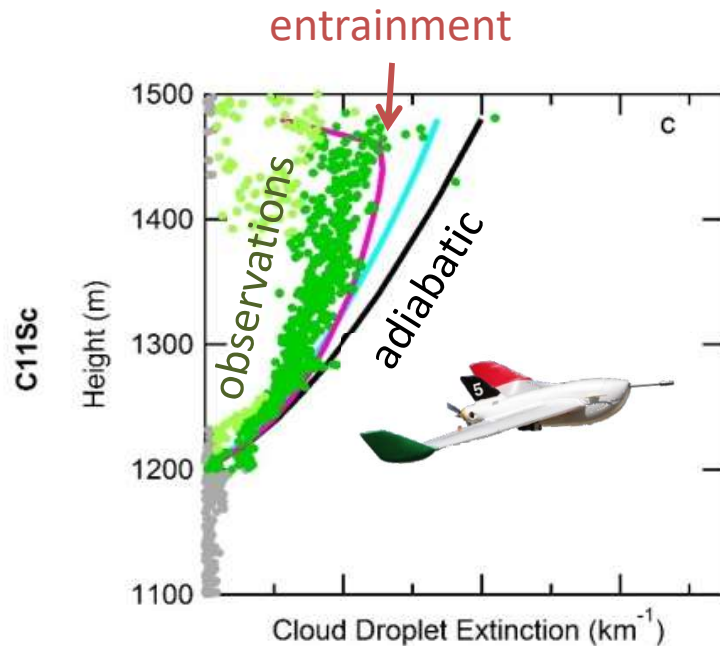


Vertical velocity distributions (UAV and cloud radar)

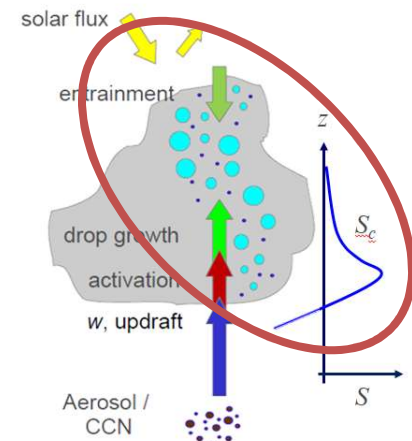


Combine vertical velocity distributions (UAV) and cloud active aerosol (CCN; ground) to derive cloud properties with an air-parcel model (Russell et al., 1998).

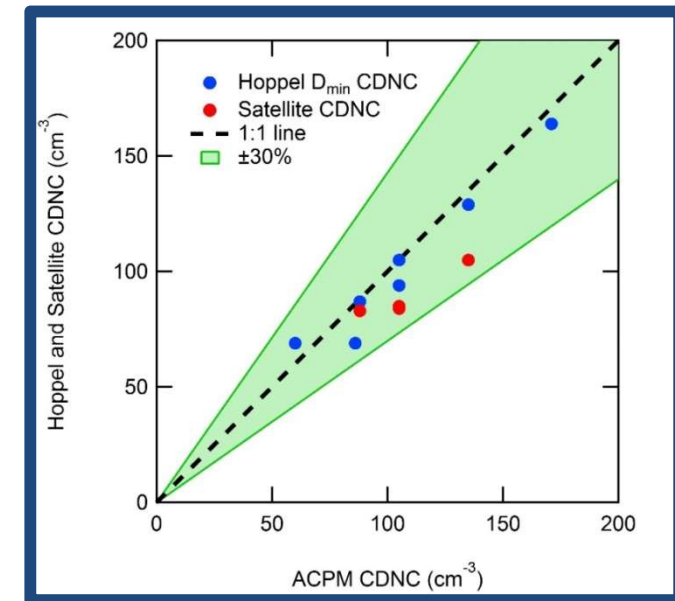
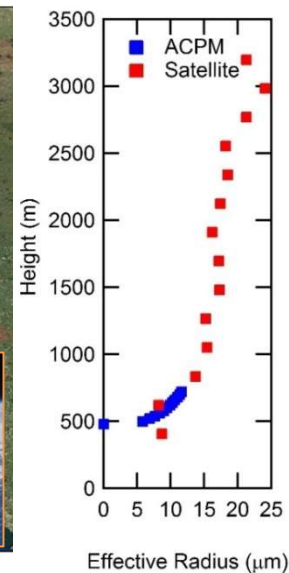
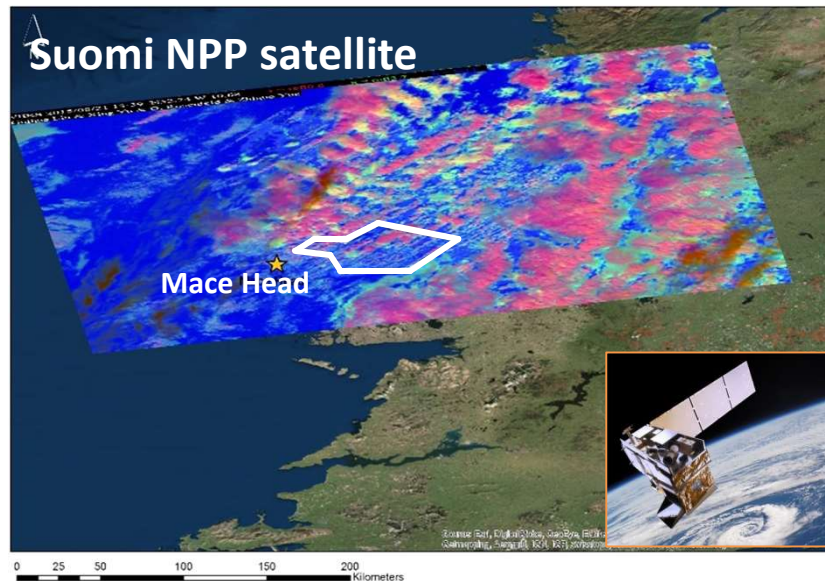
Comparing models and observations of cloud properties



- In-situ measurement of cloud extinction by UAV
- Difference between modelled and observed cloud properties often related to entrainment or decoupling in the atmosphere.
- Simulations overestimate cloud radiative fluxes (up to $\sim 90 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ in our cases in Ireland)

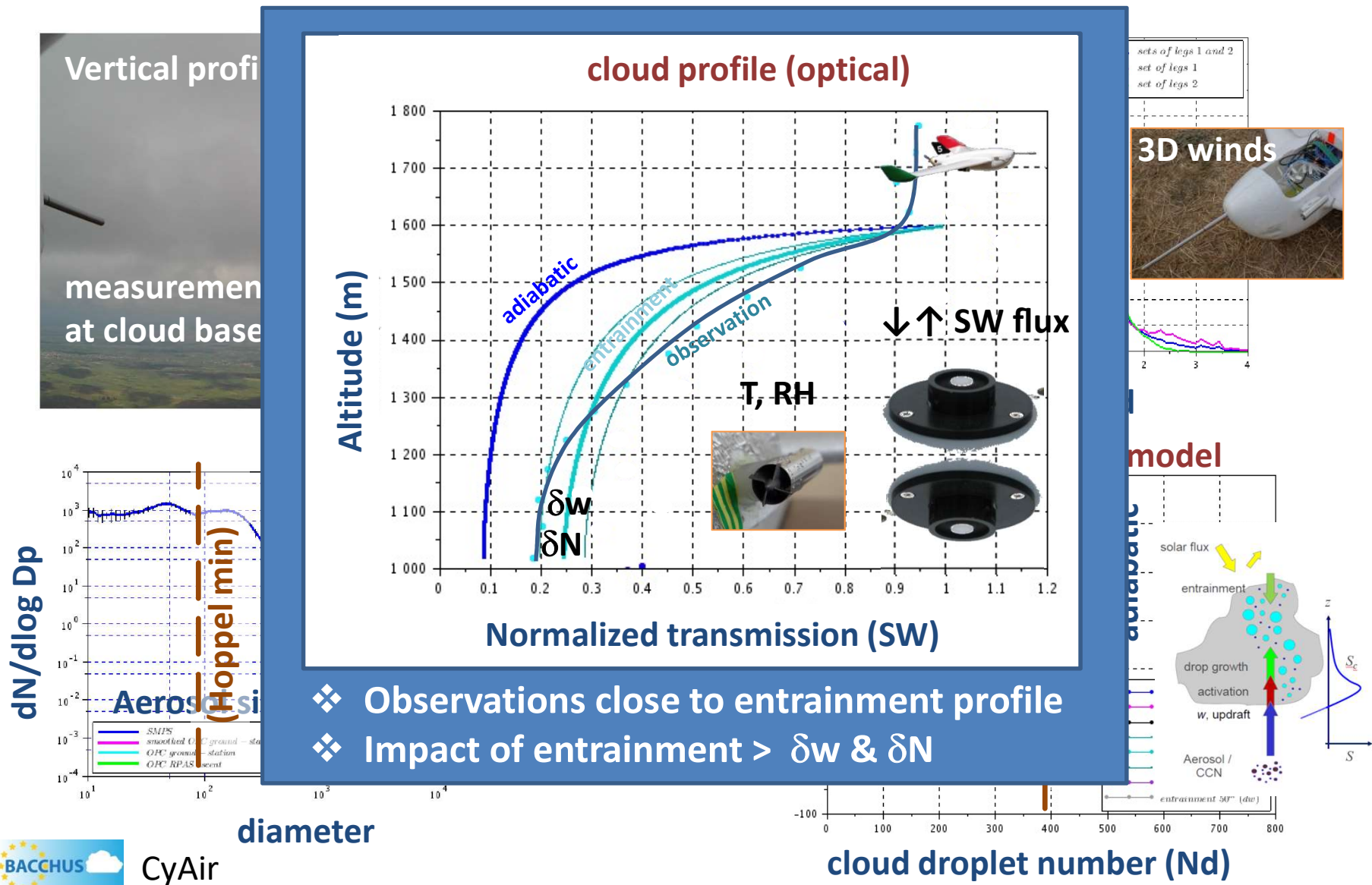


Satellite – in-situ comparison of cloud properties

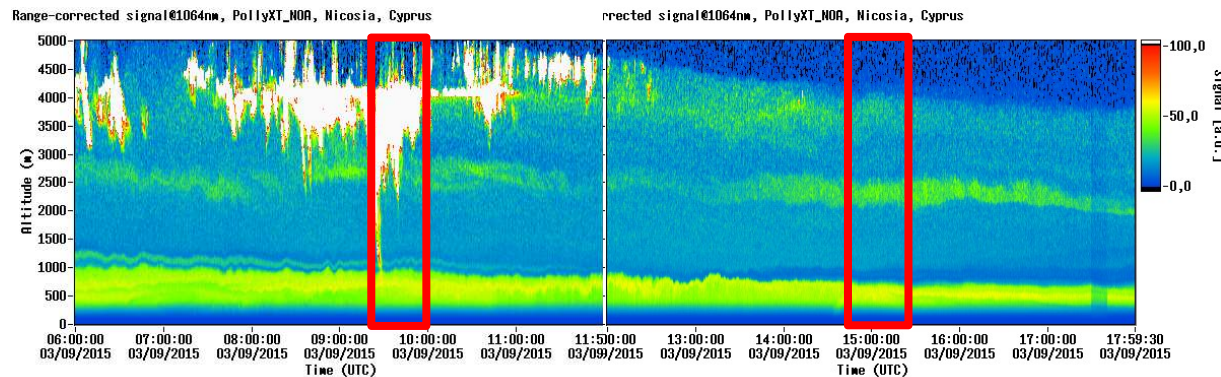
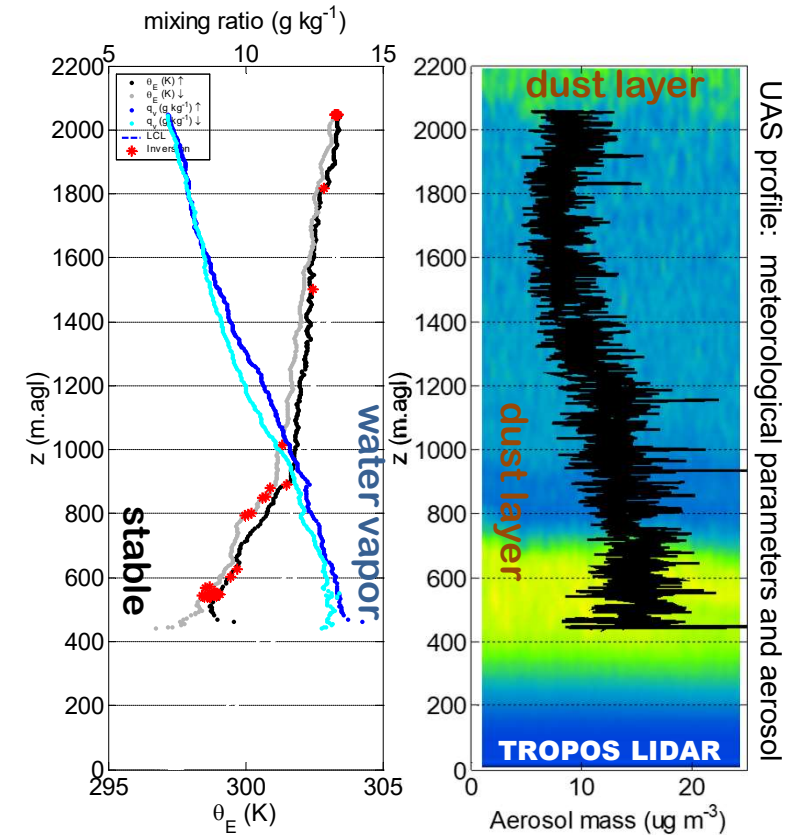
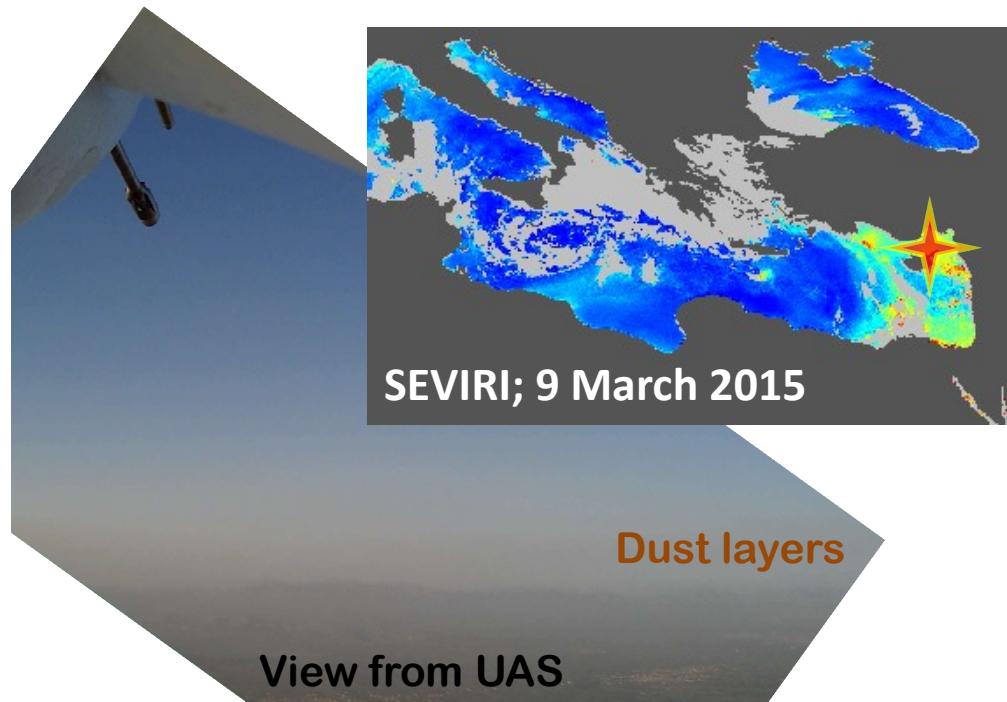


- Effective radius profiles show relatively good agreement between satellite and simulation
- Cloud droplet concentrations derived from Hoppel-minimum diameter and NPP satellite within 30% of model

Aerosol-cloud closure (Cyprus)

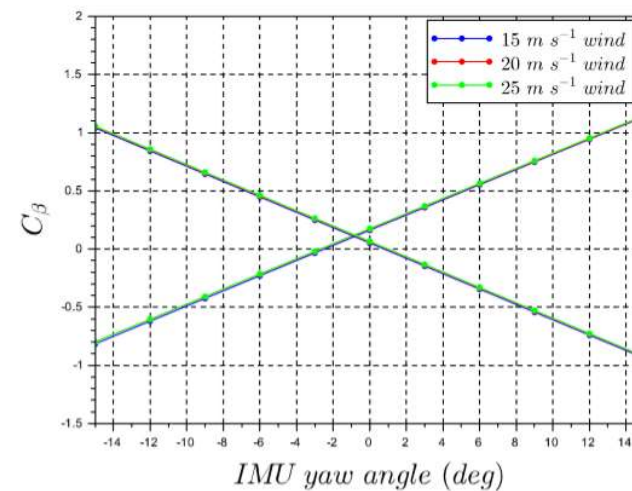
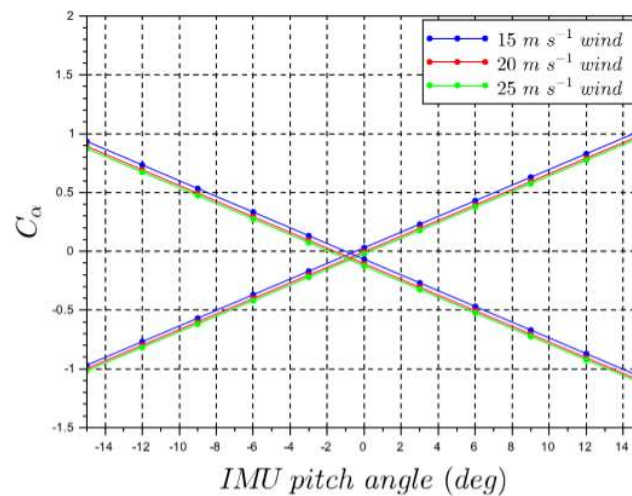
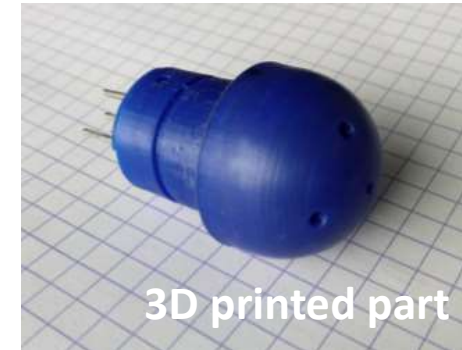
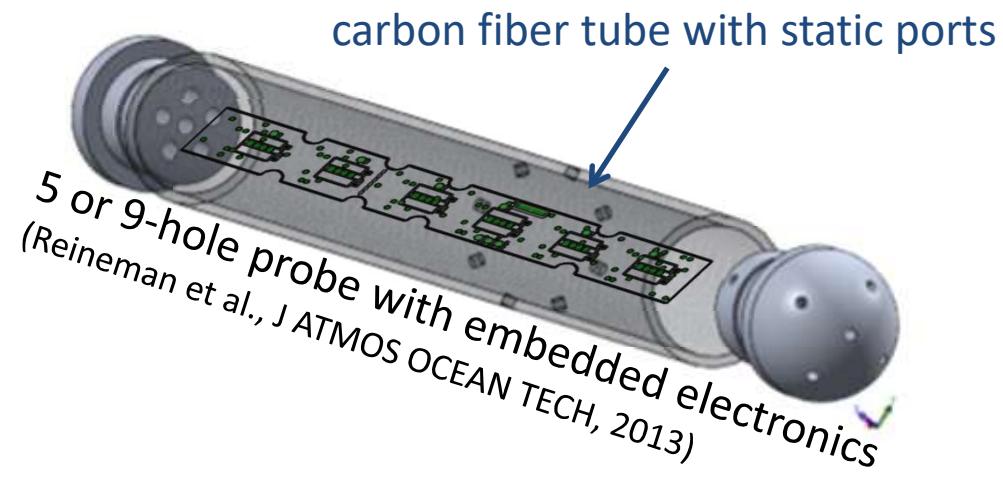


Dust Transport Over Cyprus



Multiple layers of dust transport from Arabian Peninsula and Sahara Desert

turbulence probe (new design)



Stage: Axel Roy

Calibration shows higher sensitivity compared to Aeroprobe

MIRIAD: système de Mesures scientifiques de flux de surface en milieu maritime embarqué sur Drone



1. Identifier les sources et les puits des aérosols marins
2. Caractériser la structure verticale de l'atmosphère et d'évaluer le mélange vertical des aérosols dans la couche limite marine.
3. Vols rasants très proche à la surface (< 10 m; couplage d'un radar altimétrique avec l'autopilote)

Greg Roberts (CNRM/GMEI/MNPCA), **Fredéric Burnet** (CNRM/GMEI/MNPCA),
Sébastien Barrau (CNRM/GMEI), **Patrice Medina** (LA), **Pierre Durand** (LA), **Michel Gavart** (Boréal)



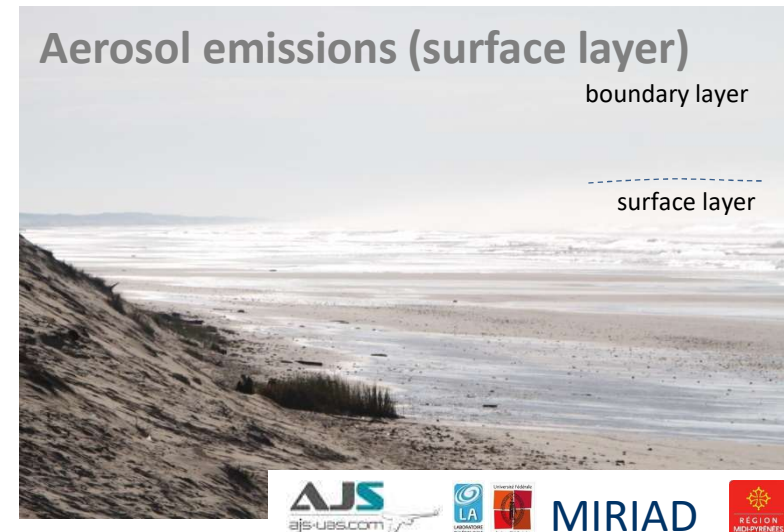
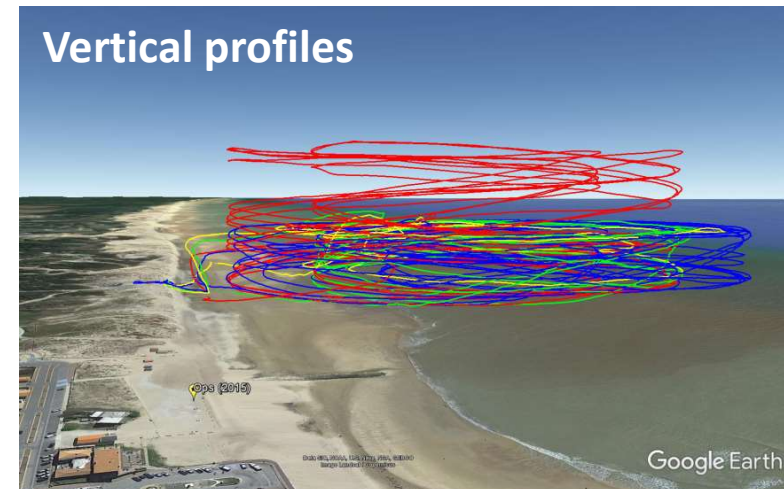
MIRIAD

FEDER Région Midi-Pyrénées 2015-2018

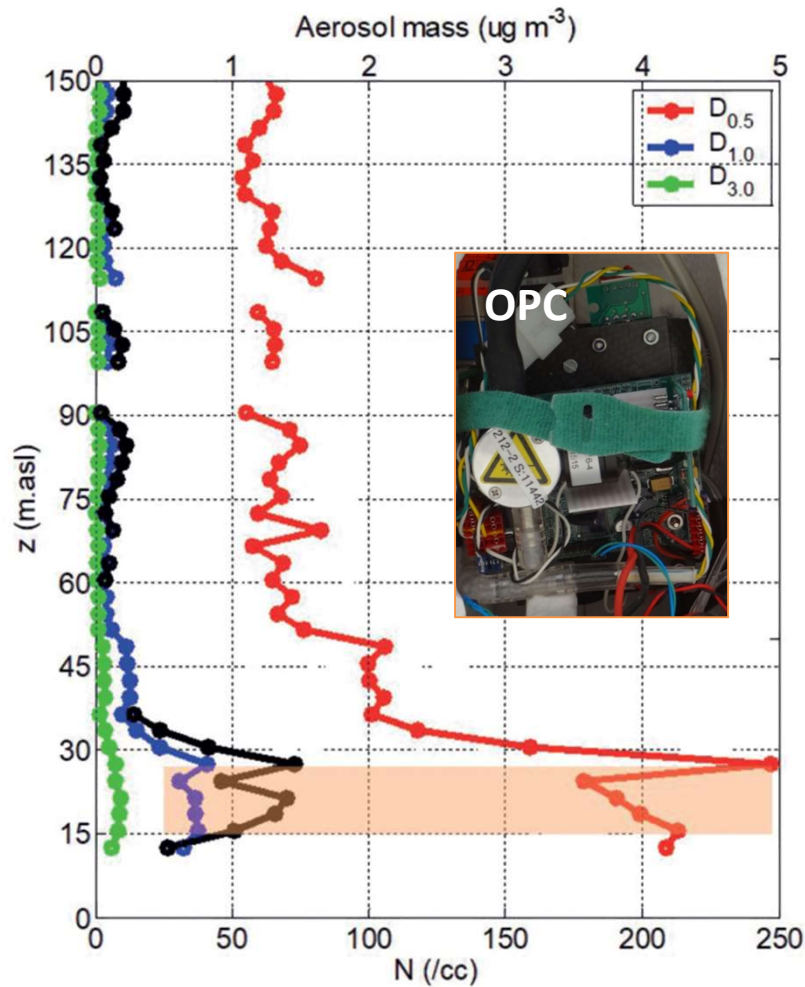


Primary marine aerosol in surf zone

- Transects across surf zone (Montalivet)
- Spiral vertical profiles from ~ 7 to 150 m.asl
- Aerosol size distribution ($0.5 < D_p < 10 \mu\text{m}$; $RH < 40\%$), PTU



Sea salt emissions (surf zone)



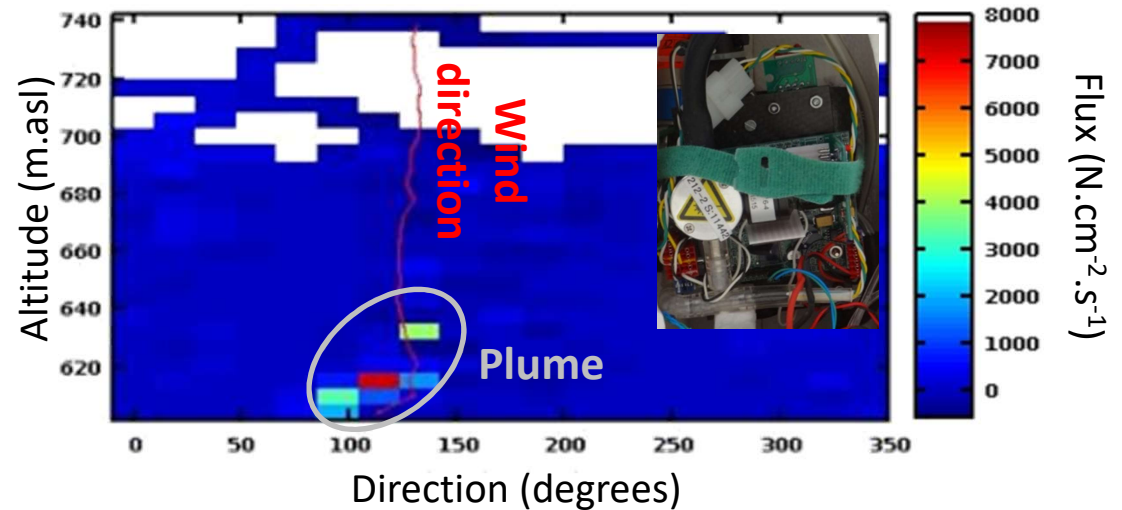
Roberts et al., La Météorologie,
doi : 10.4267/2042/62453

- Steep gradient in aerosol concentration < 30 m.asl
- Number concentrations ($D_p > 0.5 \mu\text{m}$; red): $\sim 200 / \text{cc}$ in surface layer; $\sim 60 / \text{cc}$ in boundary layer
- Aerosol mass (black): $\sim 1.5 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ surface layer; $< 0.2 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ in boundary layer

Flux estimate: $F = D (dC / dz)$
 $:: \rho \sim 2 \text{ g/cm}^3; D \sim 10^{-2} \text{ m}^2 / \text{s}$

$\rightarrow F \sim 1 \text{ ng} / \text{m}^2.\text{s}$ (PMA surf zone)
(note: not all mass measured
– see next slide)

Flux Measurements Using UAS



$$\text{Flux (N}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}) = \text{Speed (m/s)} * \text{Concentration (N/m}^3)$$

Wind (GPS)

Particle Counter (OPC)

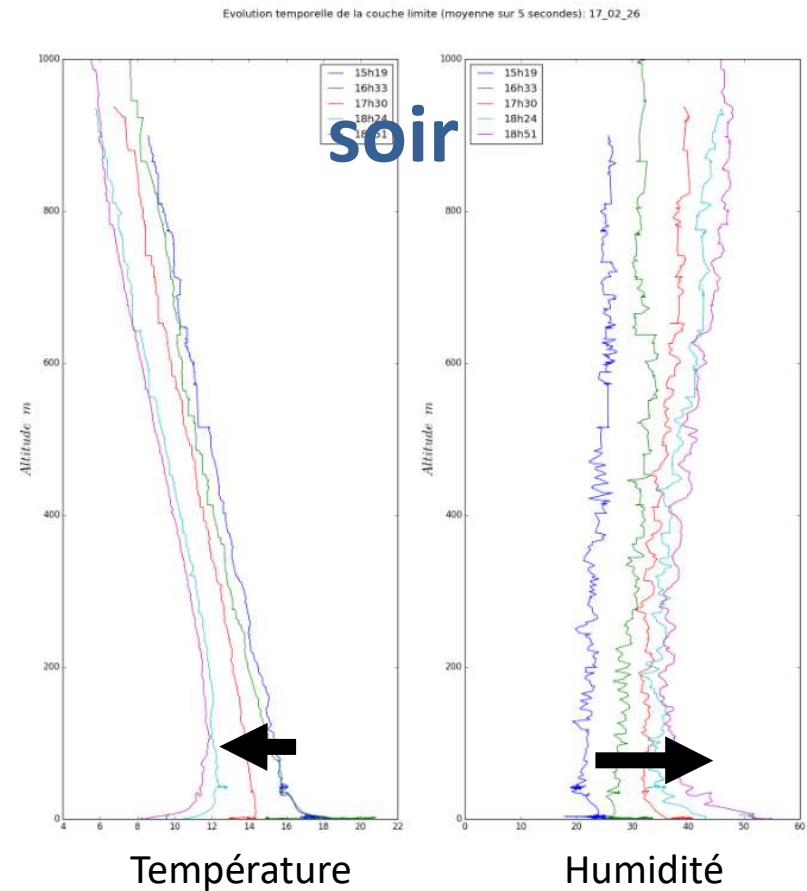
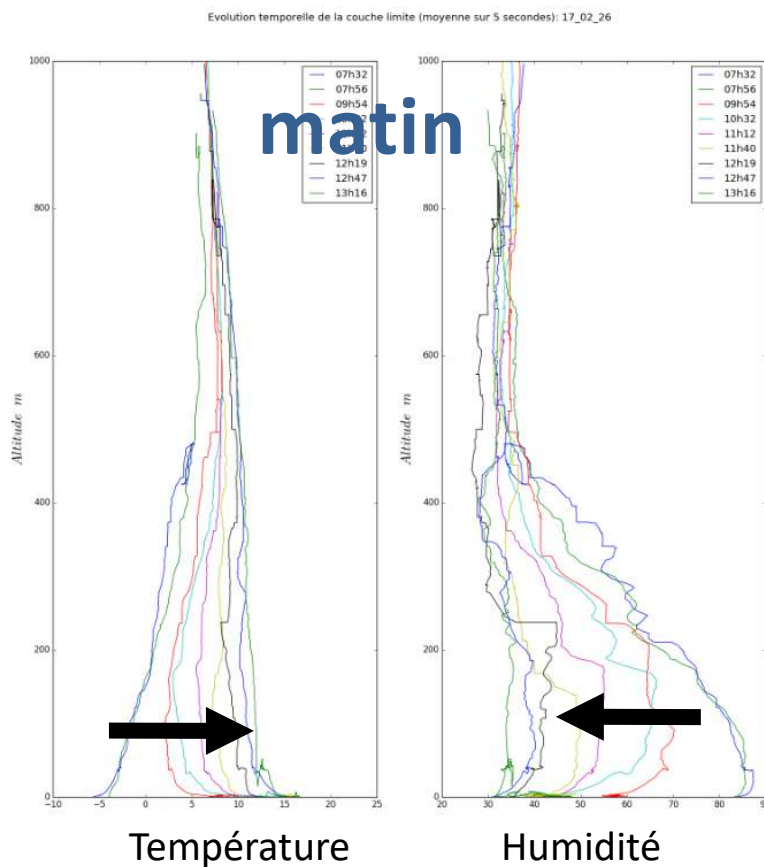
- Cylindrical flight around source (1 hour up to 150 m.agl; vertical res. ~ 5 m; horizontal res. ~ 15 m)
- Measured aerosol concentration and wind vector;
- Subtract background to calculate particle flux

STRAP : Stage – Antoine Hubans



Campagne à Cerdagne :

- vols jusqu'à 1000m/sol (tous les 20 min)
- étudier l'évolution de la couche limite

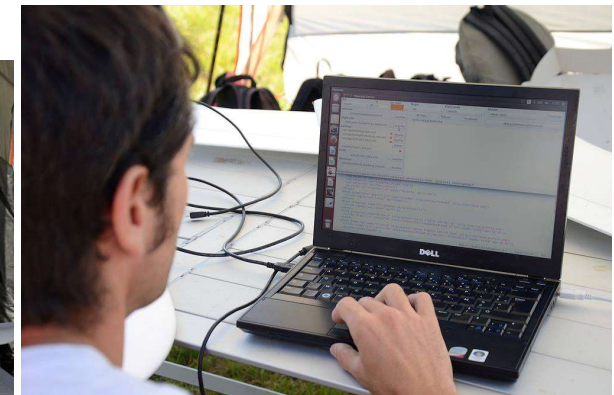


Project BACC+

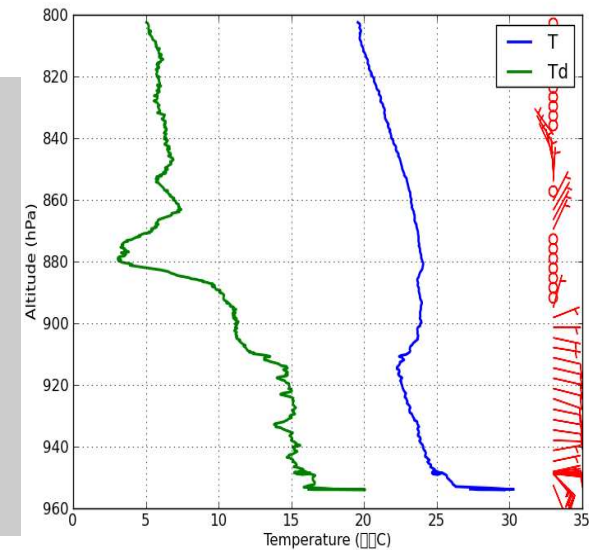
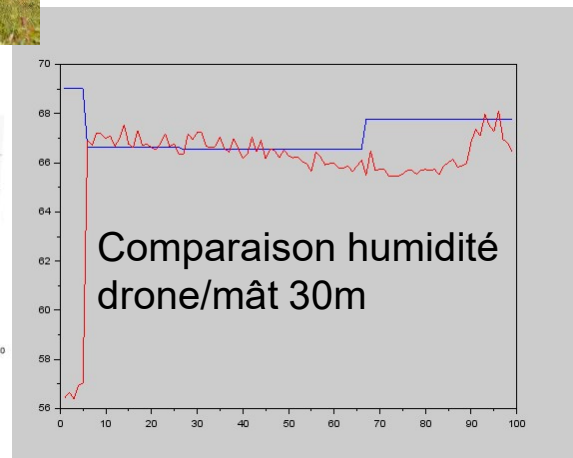
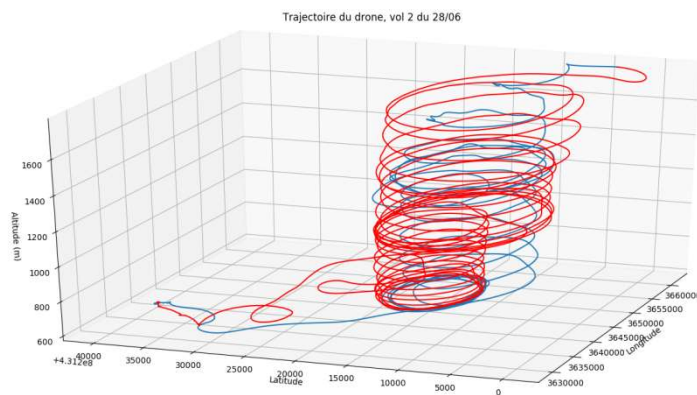
TP ENM : vols et traitement de données

P2OA CRA, Lannemezan

G. Cayez, F. Lohou (ENM et Université de Tarbes)



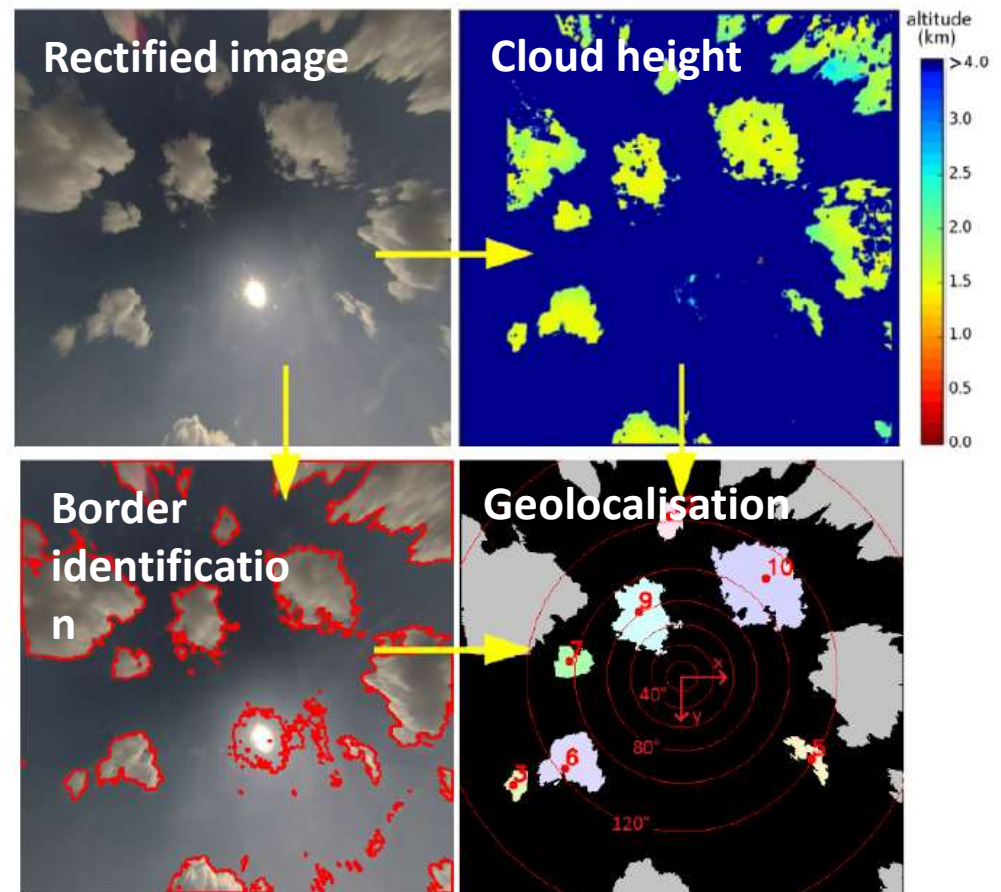
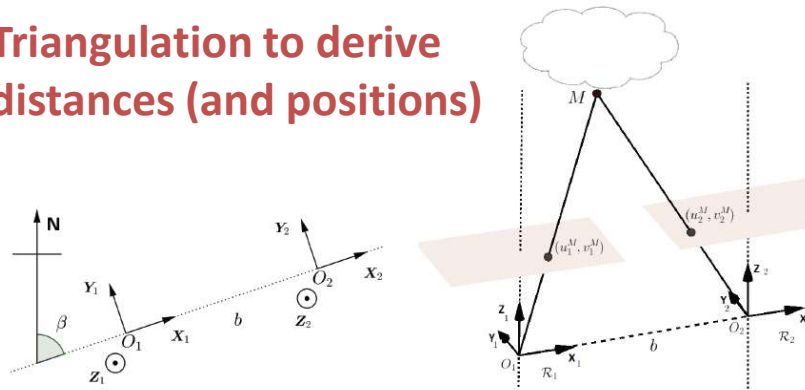
Profil vertical du vol de 12h28 le 04/07/17



All-sky photogrammetry techniques to georeference a cloud field

P. Crispel, G. Roberts, (*AMTD*, doi.org/10.5194/amt-2017-203)

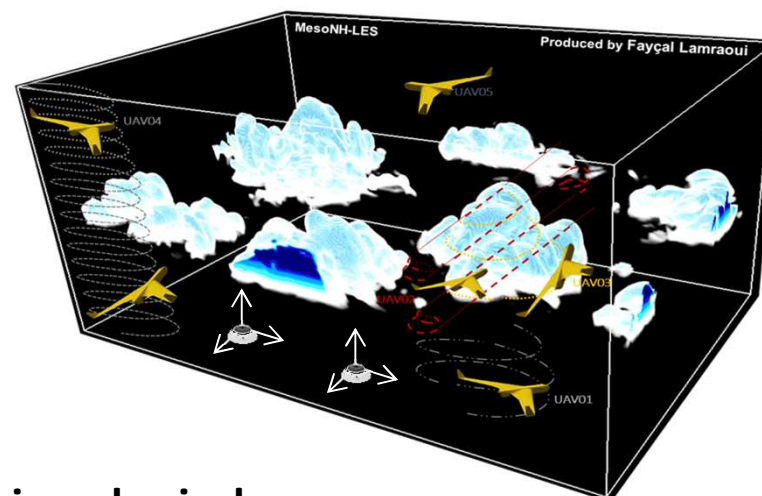
Triangulation to derive distances (and positions)



NEPHELAE

NEPHELAE: Network for studying
Entrainment and microPHysics of cLOUDs
using Adaptive Exploration

ANR 2017
01/2018 – 06/2021



Atmospheric science driven with focus on cloud microphysical processes

- Identify dominant entrainment mechanism and timescale of cloud development and onset of precipitation
- Assess impact of aerosol on entrainment and precipitation as well as feedback mechanisms

NEPHELAE aims to develop a UAS fleet with decentralized cooperative sampling

- inter-UAV communication
- Adaptively plan and control fleet to maximize utility of gathered data



ISARRA 2018

9 – 12 July

Boulder, CO, USA

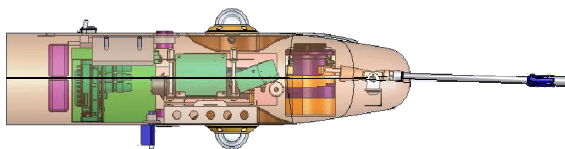


International Society for Atmospheric Research using
Remotely piloted Aircraft



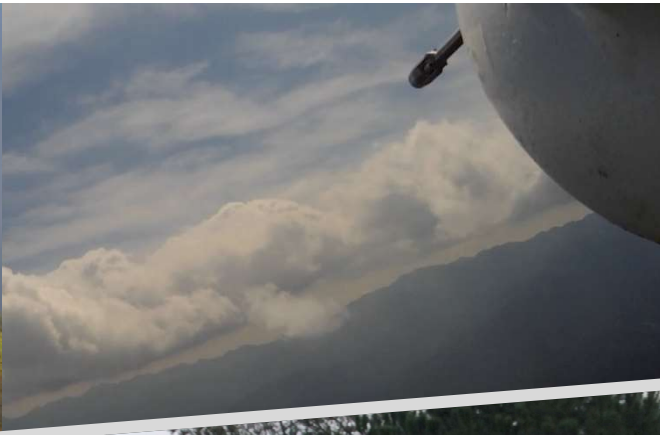
Take Aways

- Modular UAV payloads for science missions to study aerosol, clouds, atmospheric state
- Aerosol-cloud studies using UAVs to measure aerosols, 3D winds and cloud microphysical properties → quantify effect of entrainment on cloud optical properties
- Sea salt fluxes estimated from near-surface UAV flights.
- High resolution (temporal and spatial) vertical profiles to study evolution of boundary layer
- Next steps: Sea salt fluxes, volcano emissions, UAV fleet to study evolution of clouds



acknowledgements



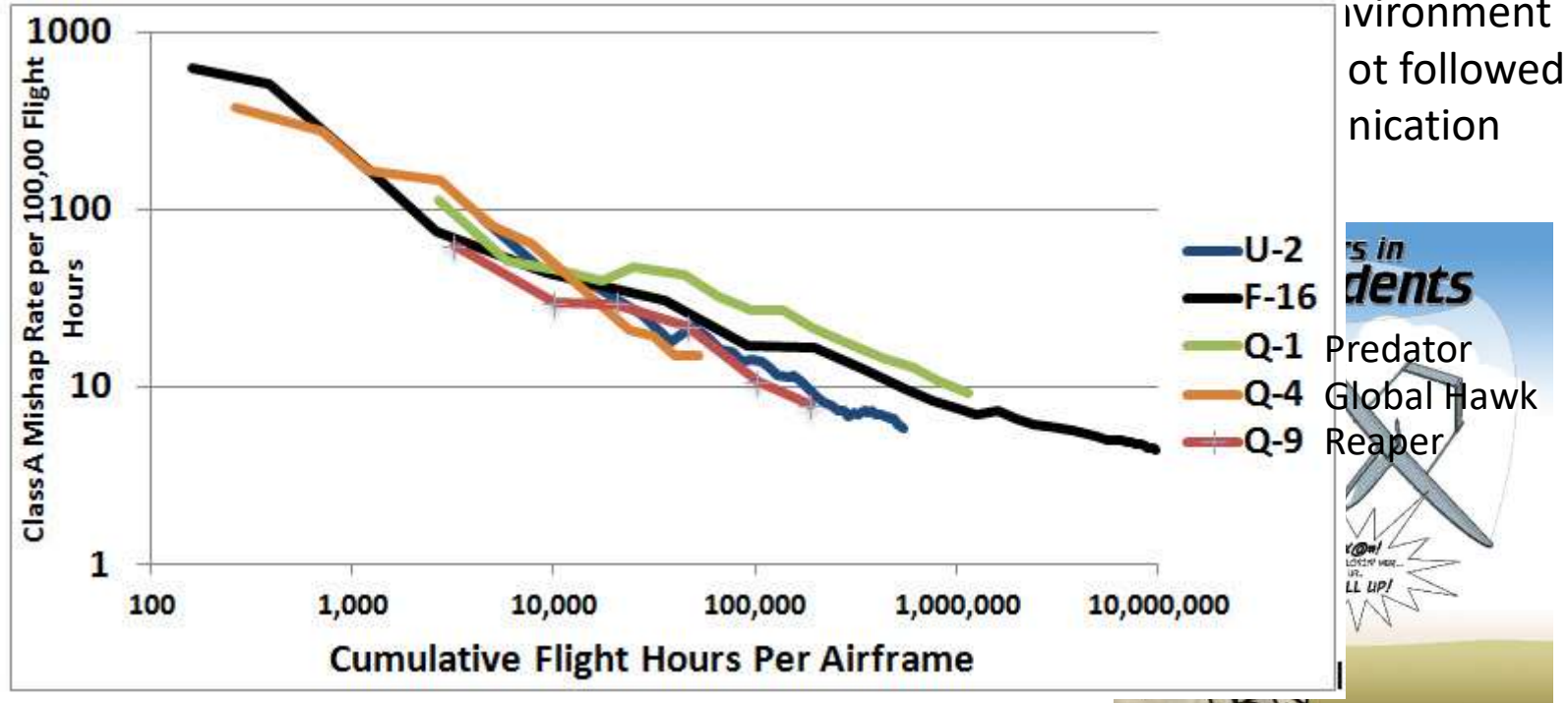


with special thanks to the Cyprus Institute for their logistical support.

UAS Accidents

Class A mishaps (fatal or destruction of aircraft) ➤ Stress

UAS Accident Causes (2001 – 2006)



<http://www.auvsi.org/SafetyStatisticsofFlyingUASforUSAF>

- Reducing accidents a result of **experience and continuous improvements**
 - Predator first mass-use UAS; higher accident rate (dangerous situations)
 - Global Hawk and Reaper are on par with manned airframes (U-2 and F-16)
- UAS attain accident rates similar to manned airframes without risk to crew

Risk Assessment

In aviation, not possible to eliminate all risks (ICAO Safety Course)

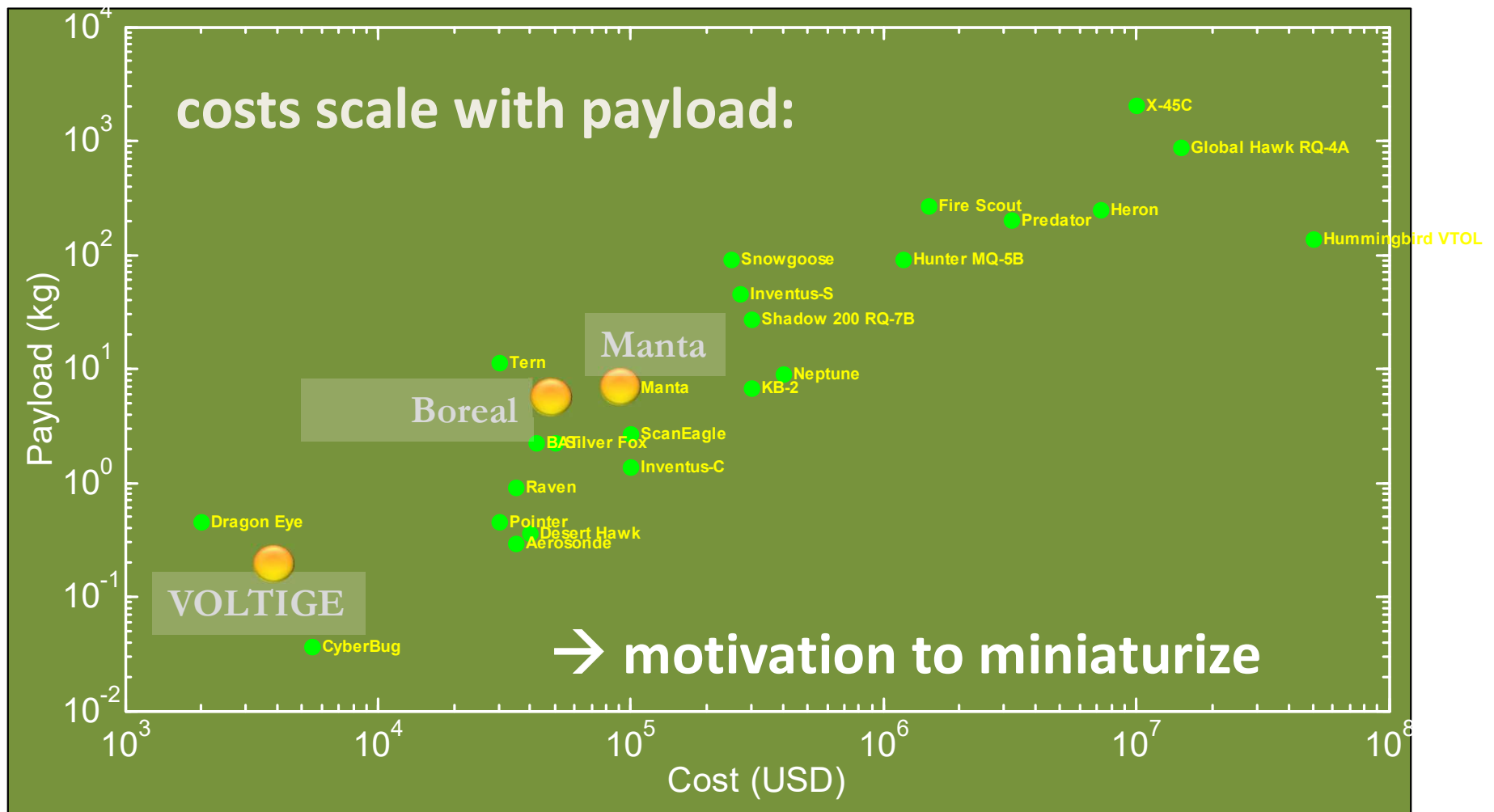
Severity						
Catastrophic	5	5 Review	10 Unacceptable	15 Unacceptable	20 Unacceptable	25 Unacceptable
Hazardous	4	4 Acceptable	8 Review	12 Unacceptable	16 Unacceptable	20 Unacceptable
Major	3	3 Acceptable	6 Review	9 Review	12 Unacceptable	15 Unacceptable
Minor	2	2 Acceptable	3 Acceptable	6 Review	8 Review	10 Unacceptable
Negligible	1	1 Acceptable	2 Acceptable	3 Acceptable	4 Acceptable	5 Review
		Extremely improbable	Improbable	Remote	Occasional	Frequent
		1	2	3	4	5
		Probability				

Example:

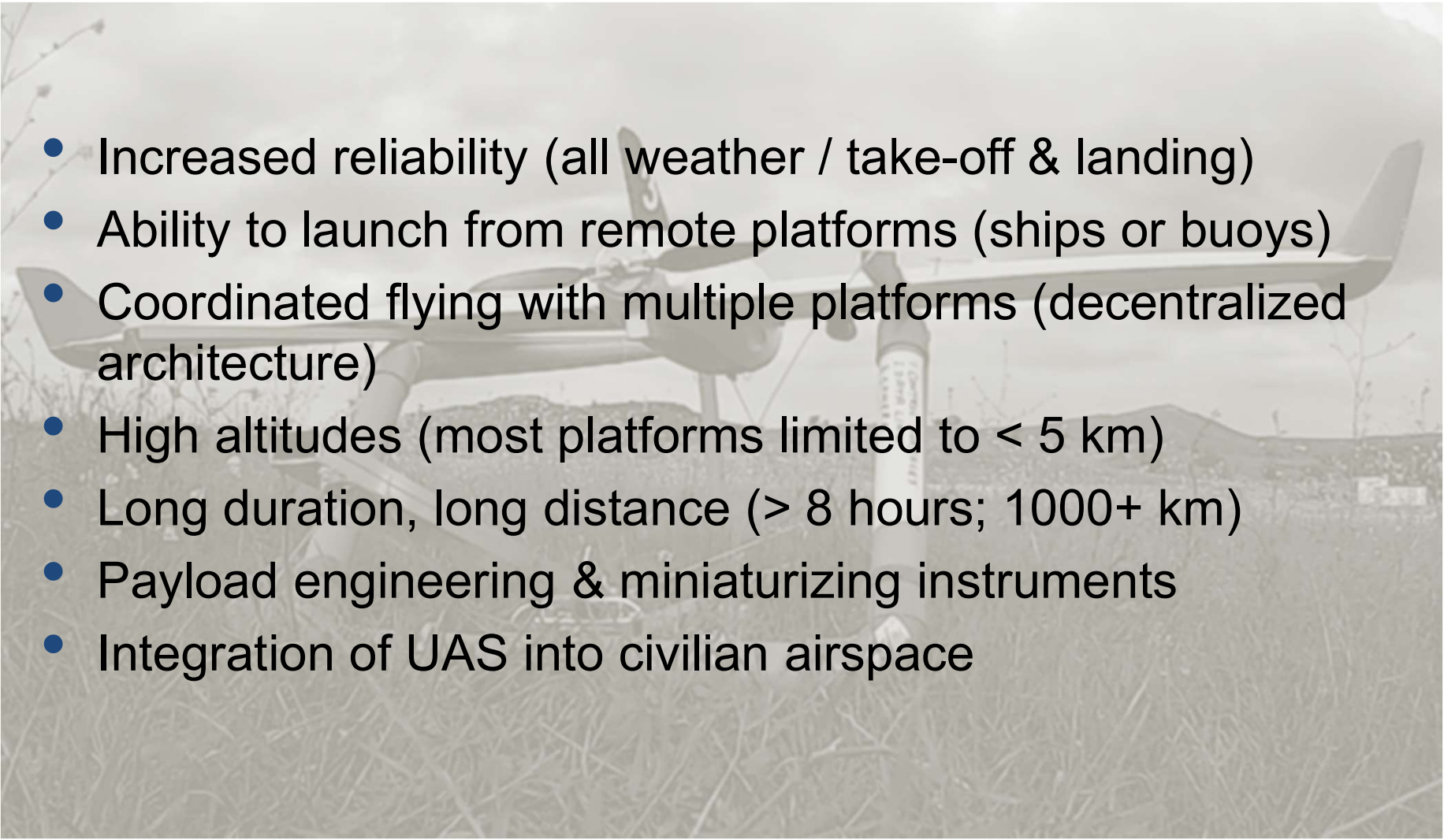
- Assess risk during RPAS flights (straight and level) over a road at Lannemezan; Severity of Consequence → Major to Hazardous
- Probability of RPAS impact on road (infrequent traffic) → $\sim 10^{-5}$ (Improbable);
(7 m road / 1600 m leg) x (27 legs / flight) x (2 failures / 500 flights) x (1 vehicle / 30 s)

+ Adapt check lists and flight procedures to mitigate risk to acceptable level

UAS Cost Comparison



Future for UAS in atmospheric science

- 
- Increased reliability (all weather / take-off & landing)
 - Ability to launch from remote platforms (ships or buoys)
 - Coordinated flying with multiple platforms (decentralized architecture)
 - High altitudes (most platforms limited to < 5 km)
 - Long duration, long distance (> 8 hours; 1000+ km)
 - Payload engineering & miniaturizing instruments
 - Integration of UAS into civilian airspace