



# NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS) and NPROVS+

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(IMSG)

A large, pixelated globe is centered in the background. The top half of the globe is light blue, and the bottom half is a darker blue. The globe has a white equator and is surrounded by a white border.

# Alternative Title:

## Standardized Validation at NOAA STAR



# Message

Science is hard enough!

Why bother going through the extra effort  
of re-inventing the validation datasets  
again and again?

NPROVS / NPROVS+ does it for you.

Lets all use them!



# Outline

- NPROVS
- NPROVS+
- Reference and Dedicated RAOB
- EDRs and SDRs
- Analytic Interface (EDGE)
- Collocation Strategy
- EDR Results
- “K” uncertainty Analysis
- GPSRO

# EDR VALIDATION

(hierarchical ... *Nalli et al, JGR 2014*)

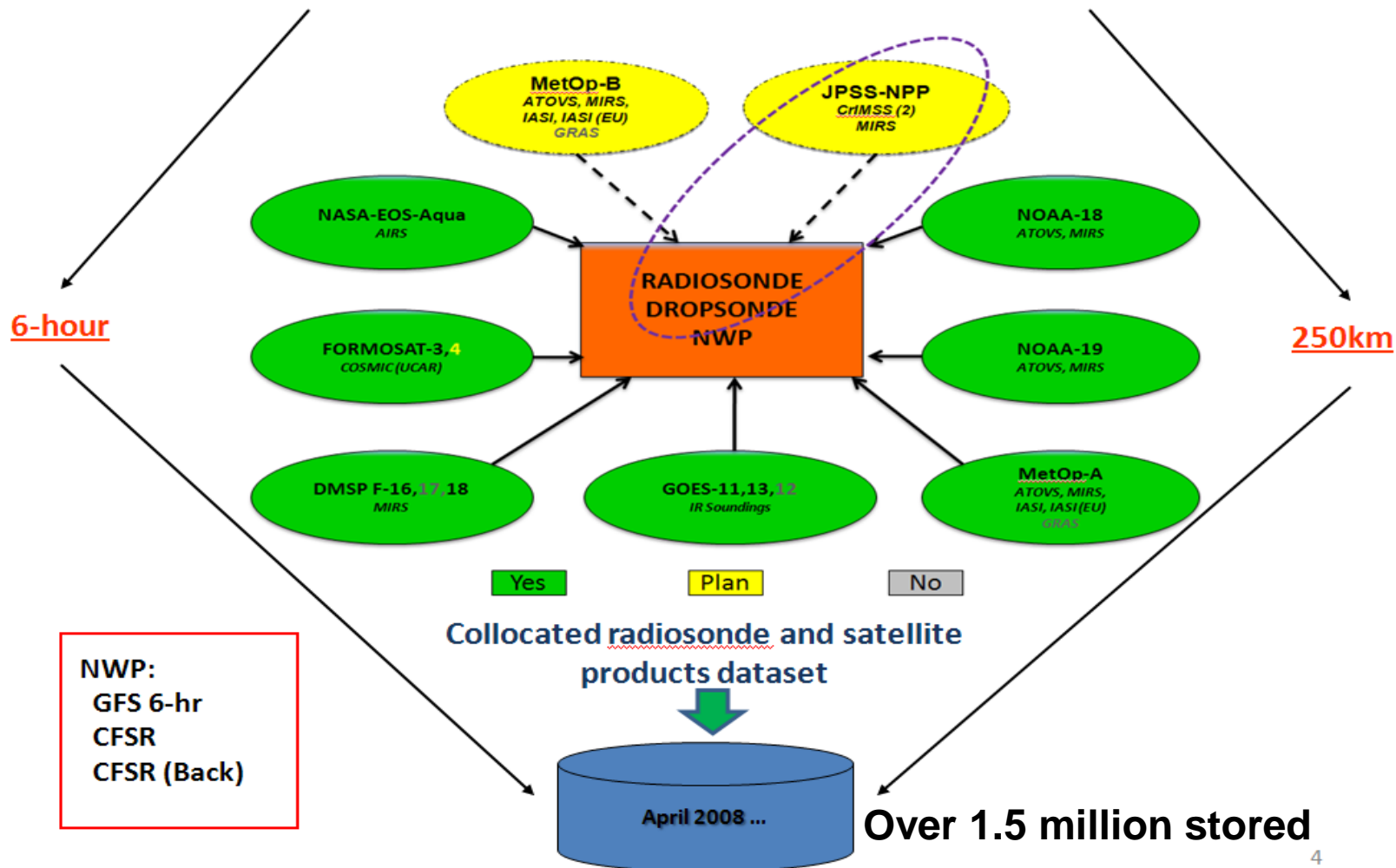
Dataset	Sampling	Characteristics
ECMWF/GFS	Global	±3 hour, model errors, select “Focus Days”
NUCAPS EDR	Global, exact match	NOAA Unique using CrIS/ATMS Significant diagnostic capability
AIRS EDR Products	Global, near exact	NOAA Unique / NASA v6 after April 2013; Orbits are aliased, 16d repeat, different instrument
IASI EDR Products	Global, not so exact (except polar)	NOAA Unique, 4 hour orbit difference, different instrument
GPSRO (COSMIC)	Global ~1000 daily; RAOB anchor	Non synchronous; UTLS (T and H <sub>2</sub> O) and Stratosphere (T up to 5mb); tropopause
Op. RAOB	~200 matchup/day	±3 hours, ±100 km, regional w.r.t. op.systems
Dedicated RAOB	~600 matchup/year	Only a handful of locations

CrIMSS EDR cal/val Team has maintained an “off-line” capability to provide reprocessing for these data sets on many systems (e.g., Mx5.3, 6.4, 6.6, 7.1) including individual changes made for each DR

- Allows demonstration of improvements on historical datasets
- Allows maximizing the impact of the investment in “truth” datasets (Barnet, PROV)

# NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

## Centralized Radiosonde and Collocation Processing



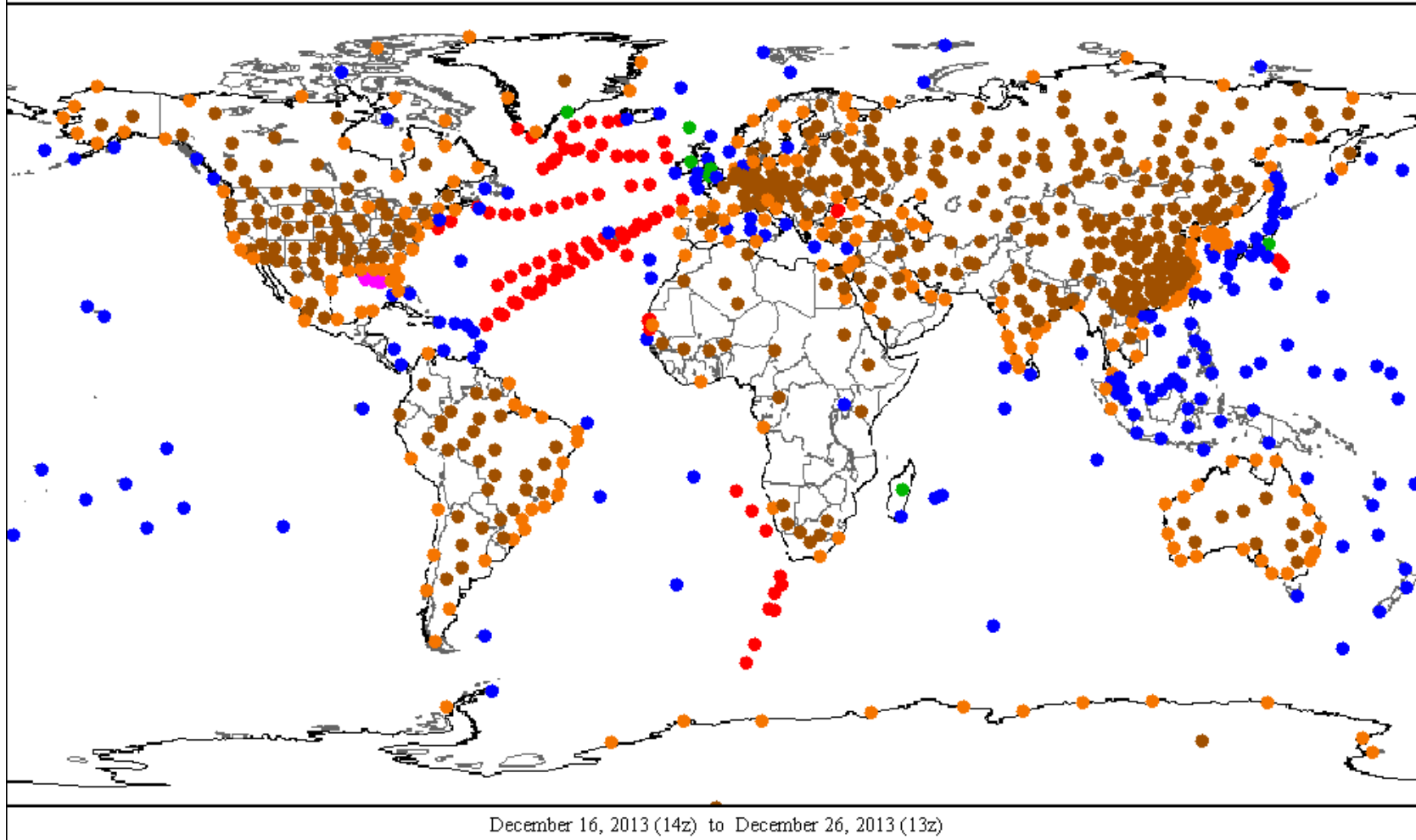
**Conventional RAOB  
Every Day !!**



NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

12335 (781) available out of 12335

CoastLandIsland (Coast)Island (Inland)ShipDropsonde



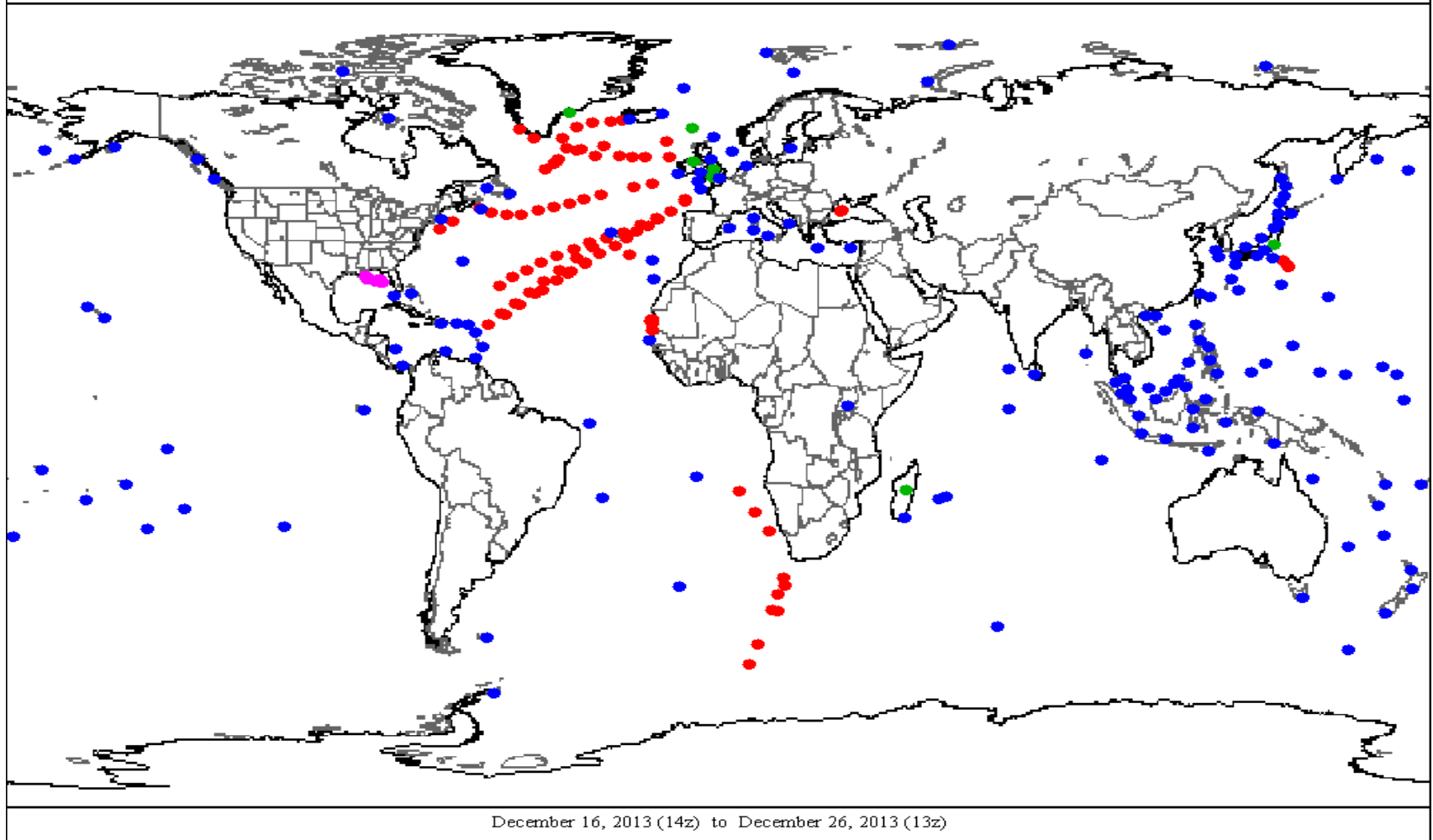
**NPROVS Collocations 12/16 to 12/26 2013 ... 12,335**



## NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

2700 (182) available out of 12335

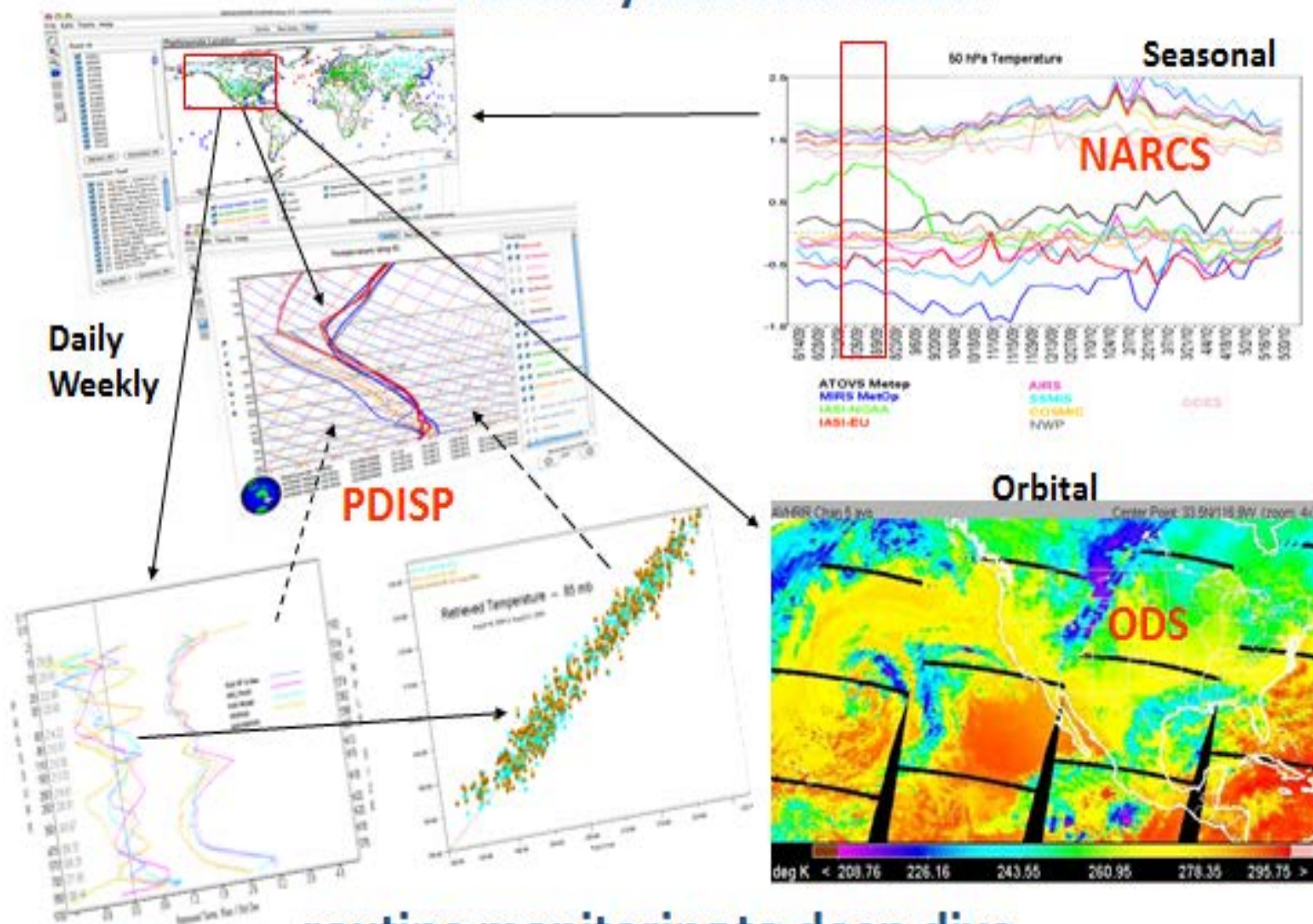
CoastLandIsland (Coast)Island (Inland)ShipDropsonde



Maritime Validation dataset ...



## EDGE Analytical Interface ...



... routine monitoring to deep dive



# STAR

Center for Satellite  
Applications and Research

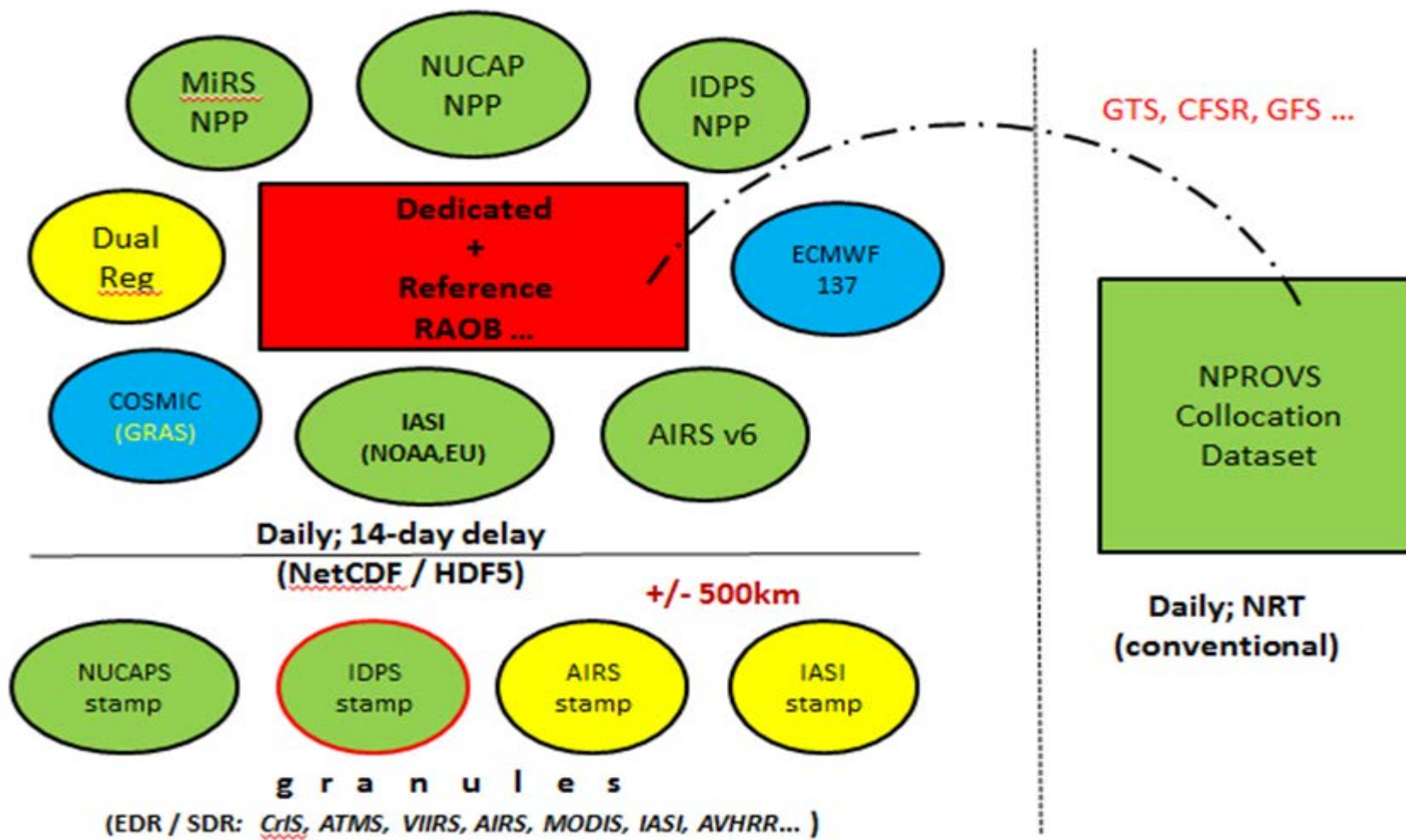
formerly ORA — Office of Research and Applications



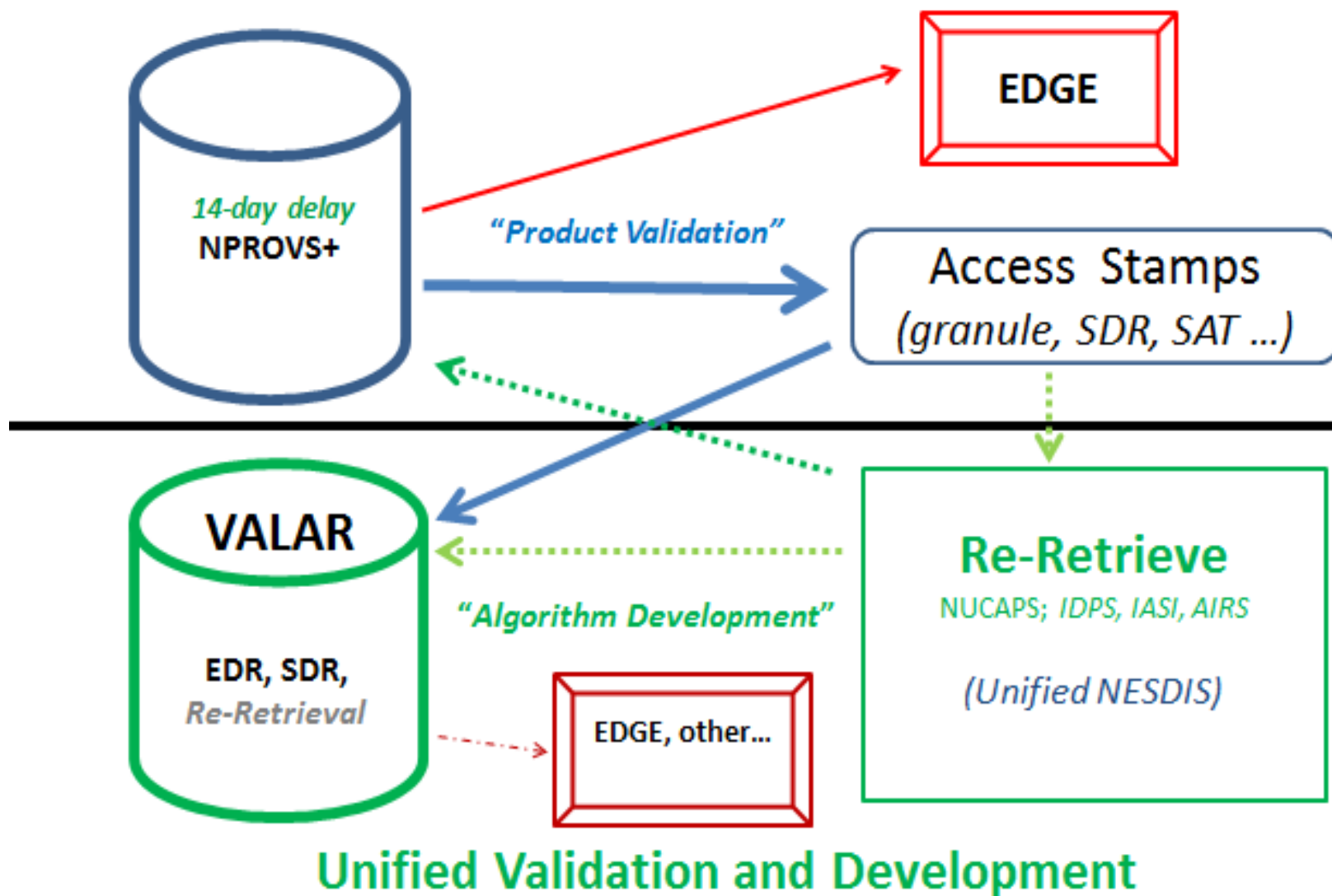
NPROVS web site provides  
summary statistics,  
validation datasets,  
graphical applets (JAVA)  
**PDISP** and **NARCS**

<http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/smcd/opdb/nprovs>

# NOAA Products Validation System + (NPROVS+)

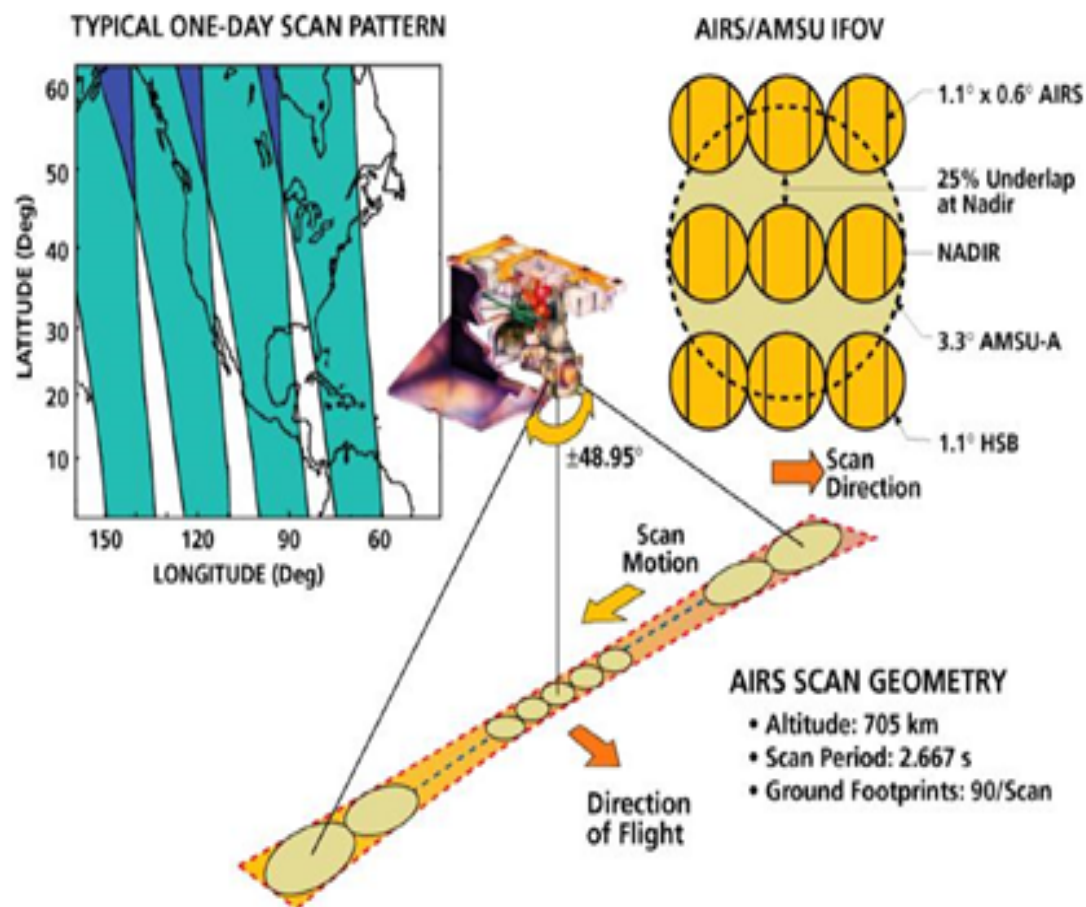


**Every Day !!**

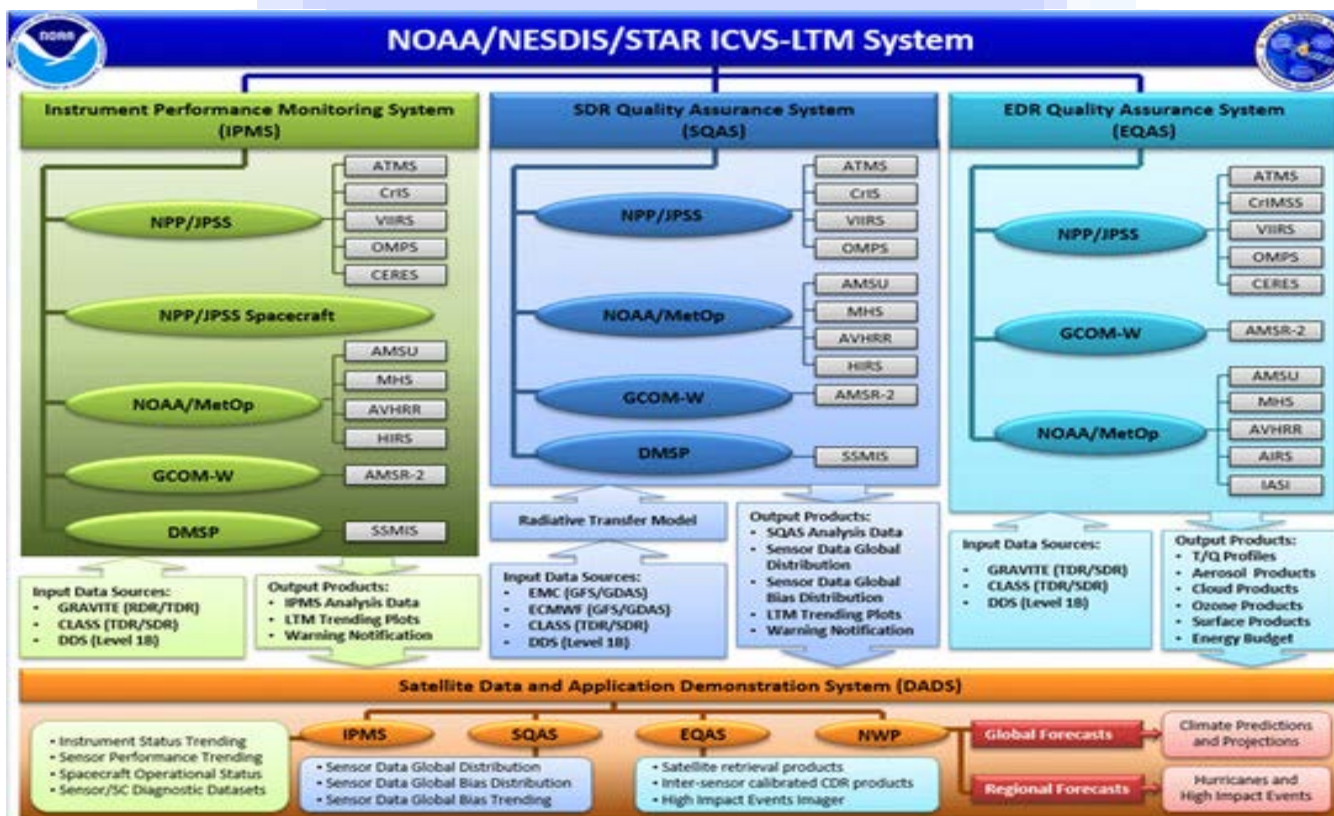




- Sounding is performed on 50 km field of regard (FOR).
- FOR is currently defined by the size of the microwave sounder footprint.
- IASI/AMSU has 4 IR FOV's per FOR
- AIRS/AMSU & CrIS/ATMS have 9 IR FOV's per FOR.
- ATMS is spatially over-sampled and can emulate an AMSU FOV.

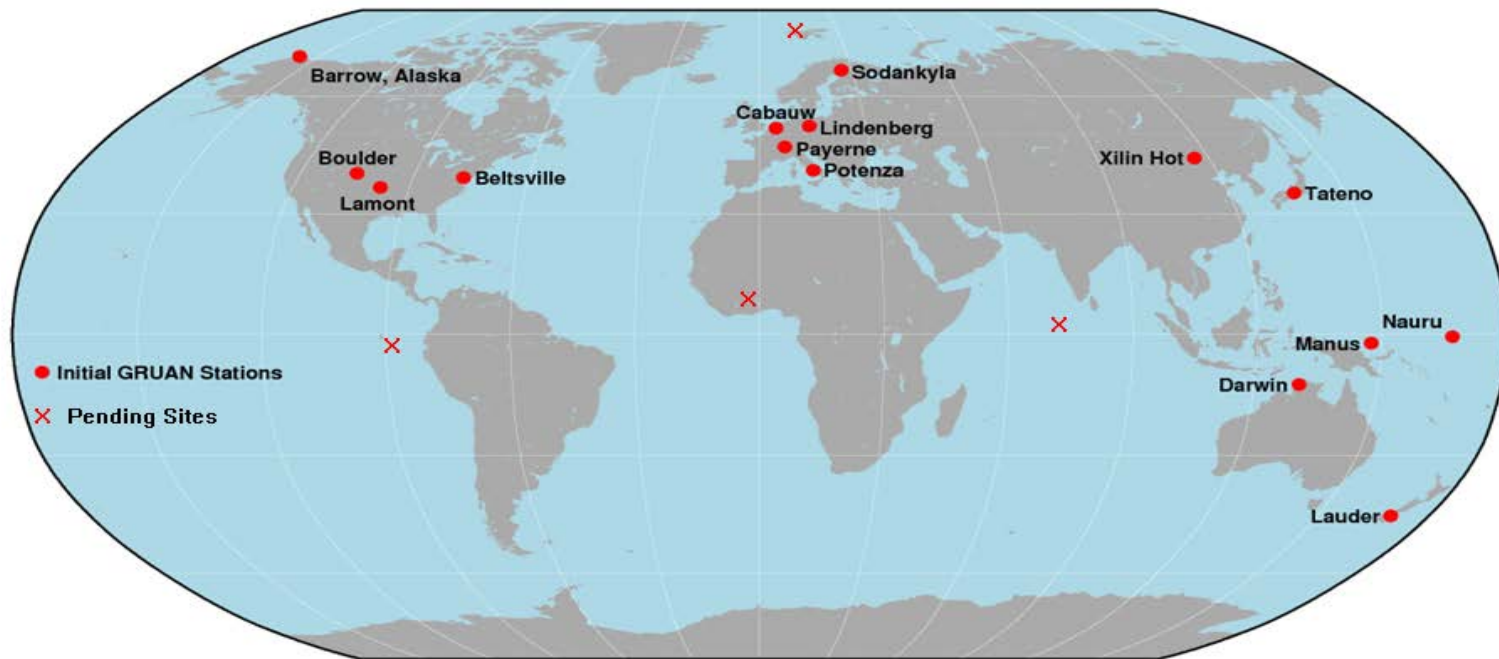


... additional stamp info (500km area centered at RAOB) supports development



ICVS: Long-Term Sensor Calibration/Validation Monitoring (SDR) from Space  
<http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/icvs/index.php>

# GCOS “Reference” Upper AIR Network (GRUAN)



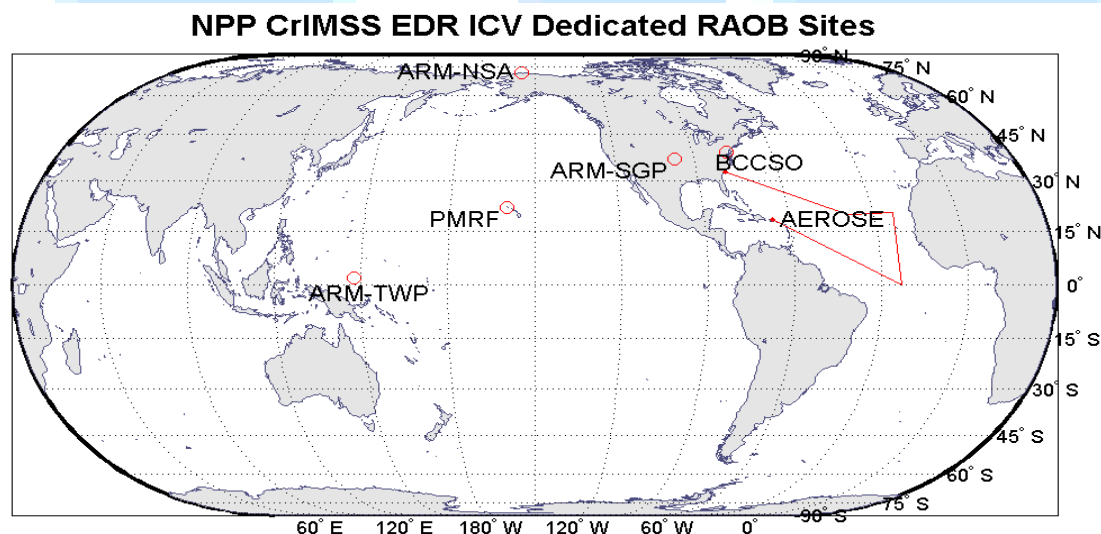
## GRUAN 6<sup>th</sup> International Coordination Meeting (ICM-6) March 10-14, GreenBelt ... special Tuesday session on satellite synergies

... sites provide reference radiosonde (RS92) plus ancillary ground (lidar, MWR, FTIR ...) observations, adherence to best measurement practices GRUAN Manual and Measurement Guideline documents) including specification of “**Measurement Uncertainty**” with plans for up to 40 sites (5+ years)



	ARM-TWP	ARM-SGP	ARM-NSA		ARM-TWP	ARM-SGP	ARM-NSA	PMRF	BCCSO	NOAA AEROSE
Location	Manus Island, Papua New Guinea	Ponca City, Oklahoma, USA	Barrow, Alaska, USA	Location	Manus Island, Papua New Guinea	Ponca City, Oklahoma, USA	Barrow, Alaska, USA	Kauai, Hawaii, USA	Beltsville, Maryland, USA	Tropical North Atlantic Ocean
Regime	Tropical Pacific Warm Pool, Island	Midlatitude Continent, Rural	Polar Continent	Regime	Tropical Pacific Warm Pool, Island	Midlatitude Continent, Rural	Polar Continent	Tropical Pacific, Island	Midlatitude Continent, Urban	Tropical Atlantic, Ship
Planned $N$	90	180	180	Planned $N$	90	180	180	40	—	≈ 60–120
Launched $n_1$	42	92	93	Launched $n_1$	42	92	93	40	23	2
Launched $n_2$	—	88	90	Launched $n_2$	—	88	90	—	—	0
Time Frame	Aug–present	Jul–present	Jul–present	Time Frame	Aug–present	Jul–present	Jul–present	May, Sep	Jun–Jul, Sep–present	Jan–Feb 2013

## Dedicated S-NPP RS92 RAOB funded by JPSS CrIMSS Project

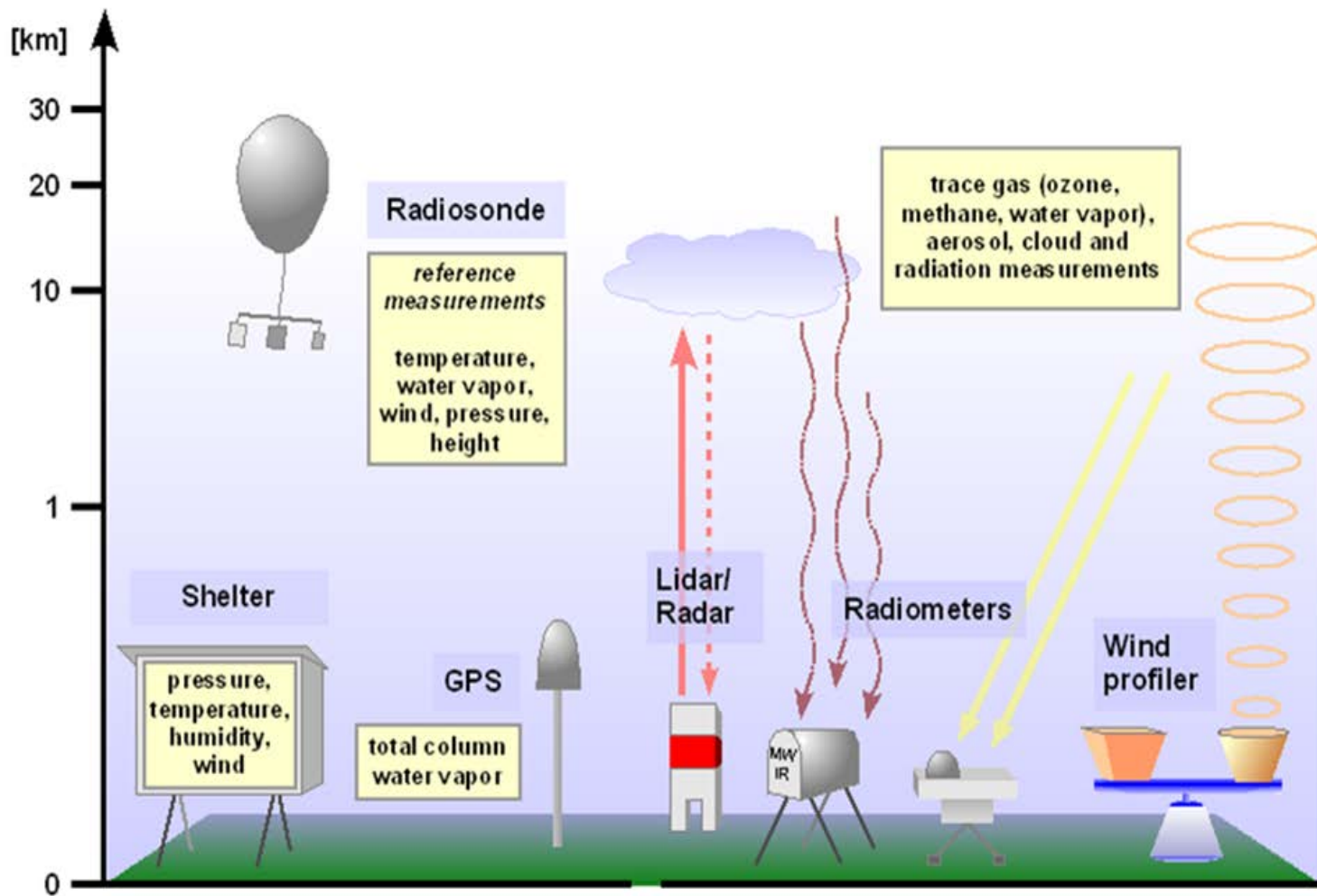


... ongoing re-structure of ARM scheduling to provide “sustained” year round coverage per 3 days ... Borg, Tobin, Mather ...



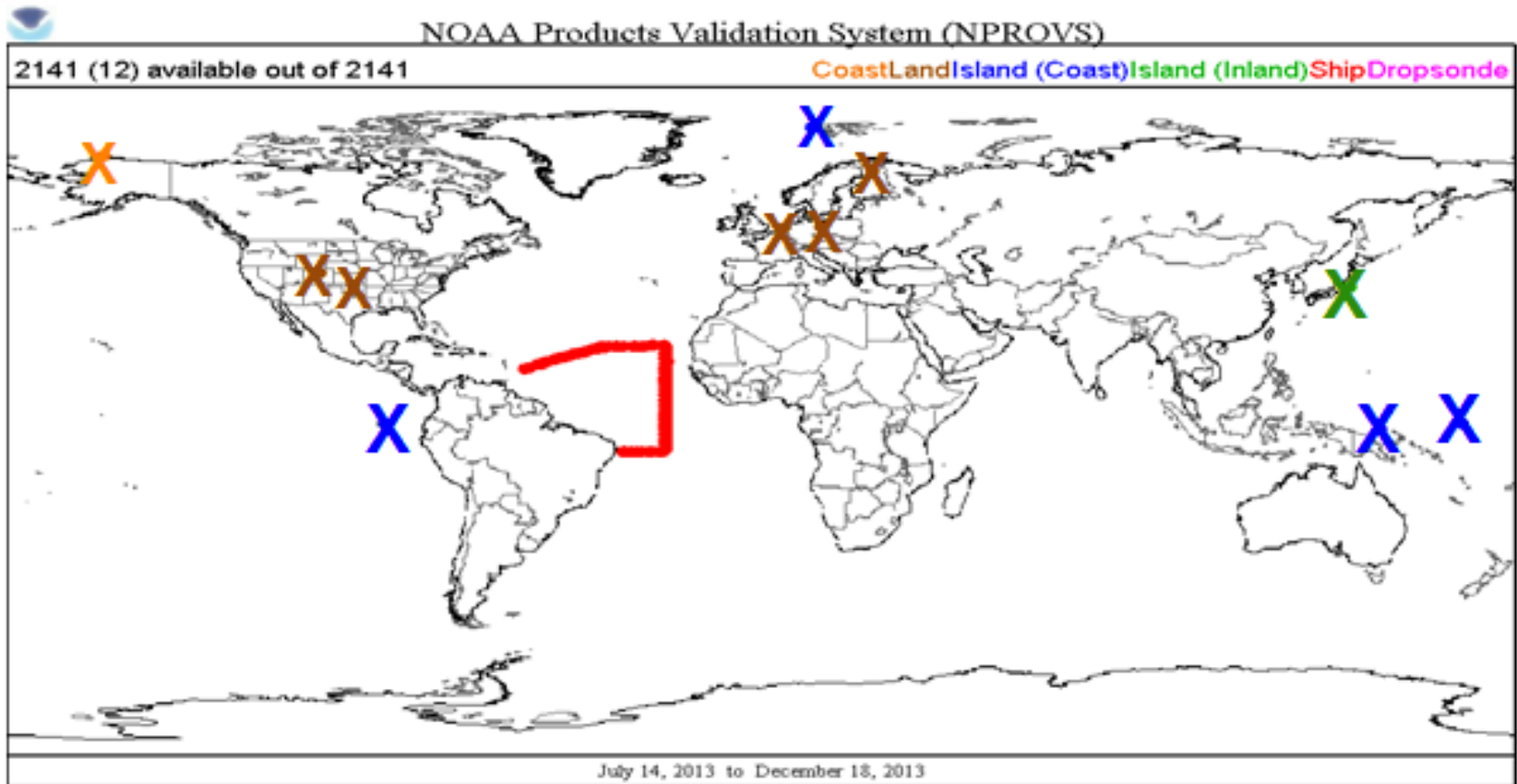
A large, pixelated globe is centered in the background. The top half of the globe is light blue, and the bottom half is a slightly darker blue. The globe has a jagged, pixelated edge.

**GRUAN Processed  
Dedicated RAOB !!**



Characterization of atmospheric column well suited to assess satellite product

# NPROVS+



**2050 collocations (350 Dedicated, 1700 GRUAN) ... 5mos**  
 (3600 collocations and 1000 dedicated as of mid-April ...)



# Collocation Strategy

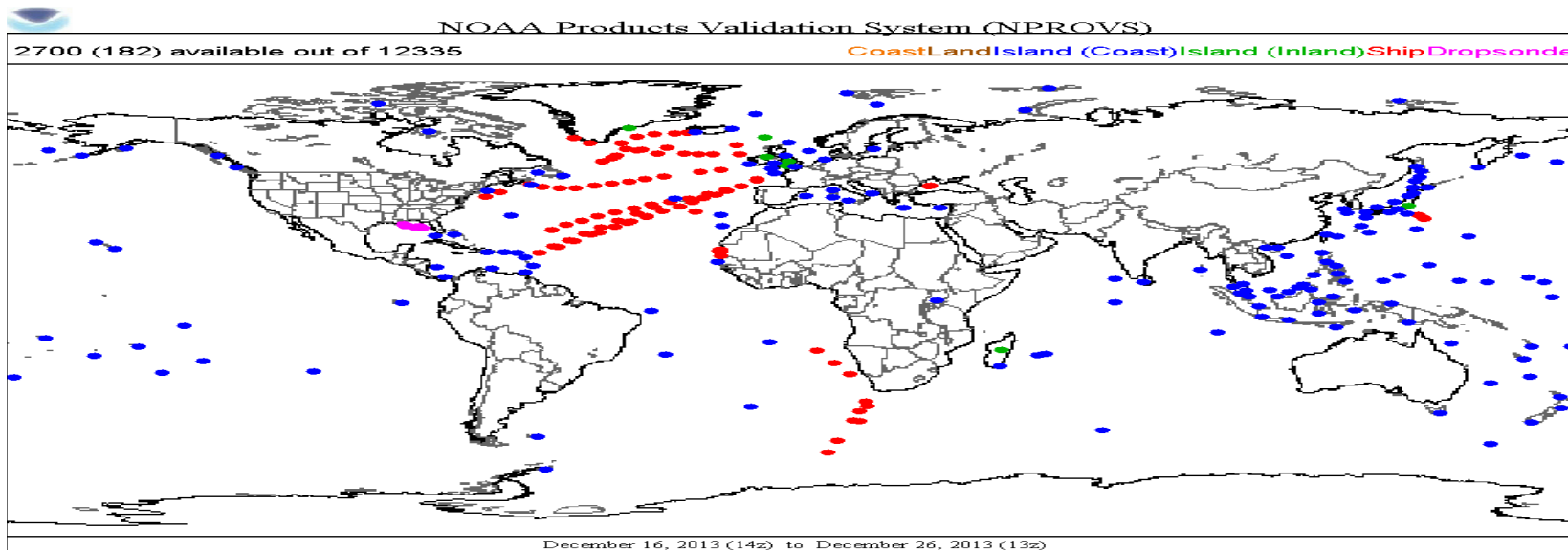
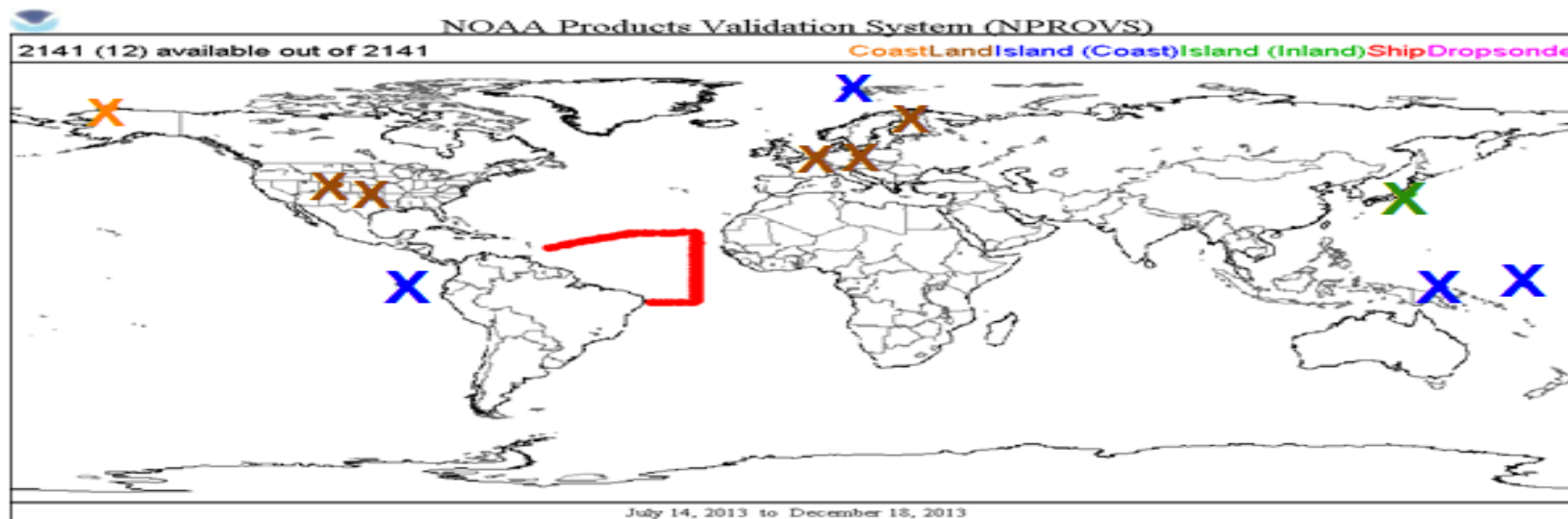
- Reference/dedicated RAOB (RS92) is anchor
- Digicora, GRUAN, GTS ... (3 flavors)
- Append Ancillary (lidar, etc as available, retrospective ...)
- Compress to 1km layers (also retain original hi-density)
- **Single closest satellite EDR within +/- 6hr and 150km (250km for COSMIC)**
- NWP (GFS 6-hr, CFSR and ECMWF Anal ... )
- For hyperspectral (S-NPP, MeTop, Aqua) append all EDRs within 500km of RAOB ... **VALAR**
- Append associated SDR (traceable to ICVS) ... **VALAR**

## Results

- NUCAPS Validation
  - IR+MW
  - MW-only including MiRS
  - Trends
  - Yield, QC flag
- Integrating GRUAN Uncertainty
  - “K” statistics
  - AIRS v6 uncertainty analysis
- GPSRO
  - RAOB Radiation Correct

## NPROVS+

## PDISP



## NPROVS Maritime

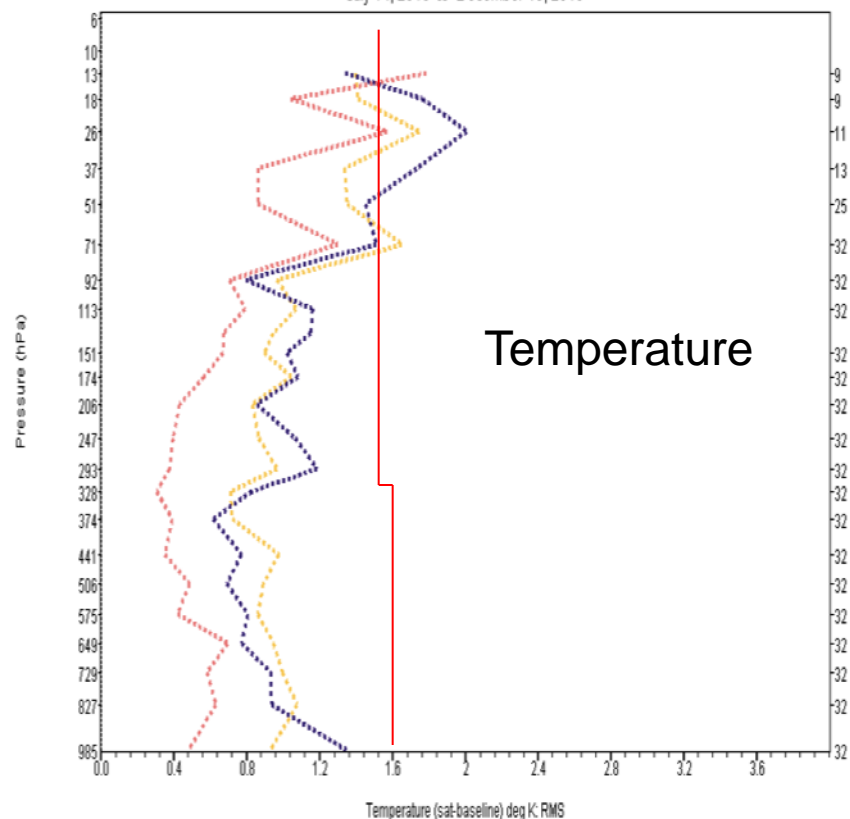


## SAT-minus-RAOB Vertical Statistic (PDISP)



NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

July 14, 2013 to December 18, 2013



Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

CRIMSS NPP Infrared (IP)

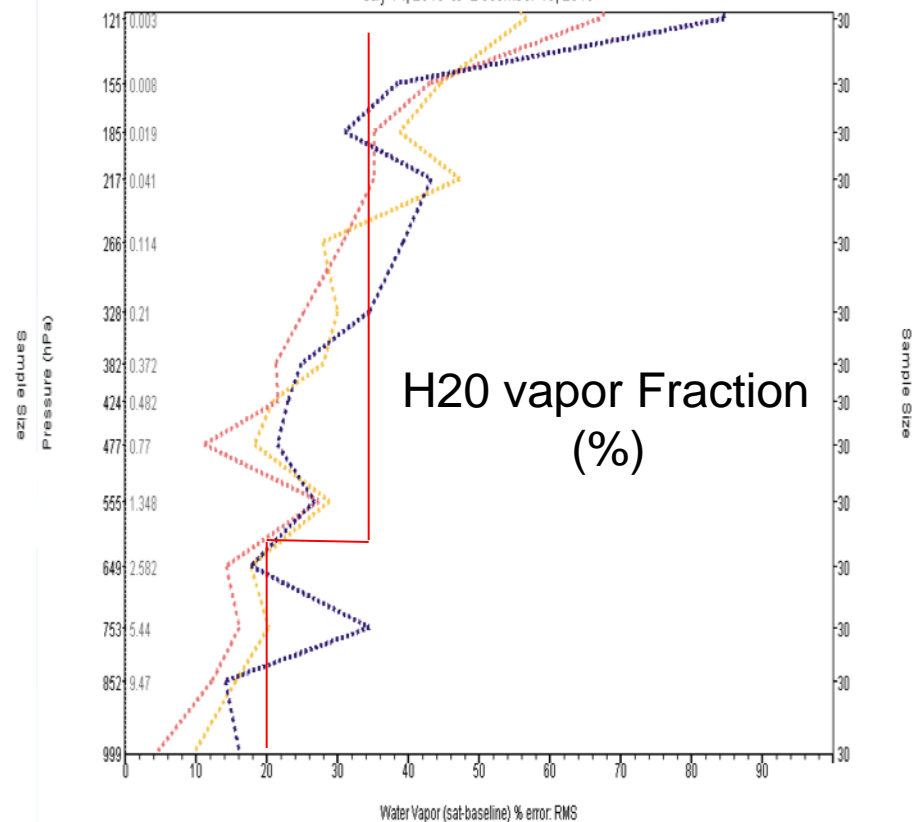
ECMWF ANALYSIS

NUCAPS NPP TEST



NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

July 14, 2013 to December 18, 2013



Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

CRIMSS NPP Infrared (IP)

ECMWF ANALYSIS

NUCAPS NPP TEST

IR + MW Pass QC ... AEROSOL only  
NPROVS+

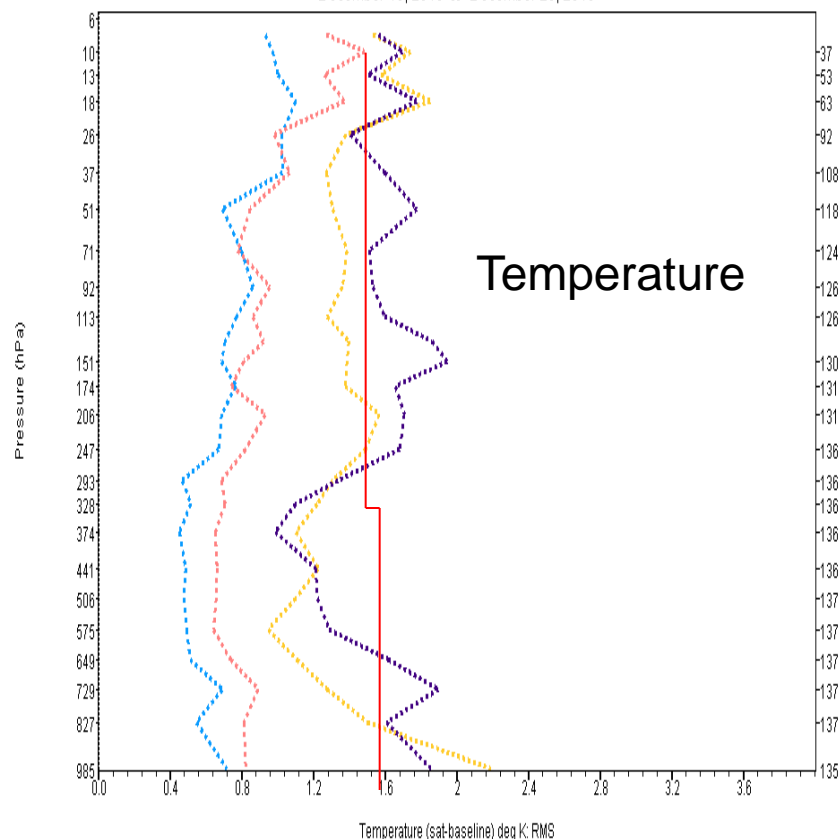




## SAT-minus-RAOB Vertical Statistic

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

December 16, 2013 to December 26, 2013



Baseline: Radiosonde Radiosonde

Radiosonde GFS 6 Hour

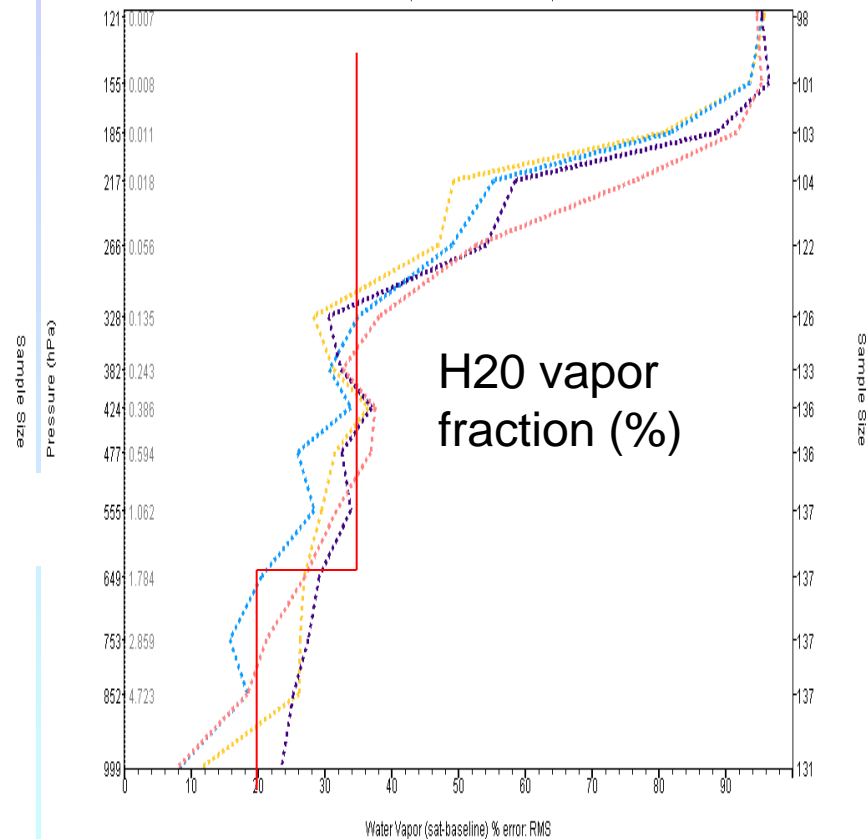
CRIMSS NPP Infrared (IP)

ECMWF ANALYSIS

NUCAPS NPP

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

December 16, 2013 to December 26, 2013



Baseline: Radiosonde Radiosonde

Radiosonde GFS 6 Hour

CRIMSS NPP Infrared (IP)

ECMWF ANALYSIS

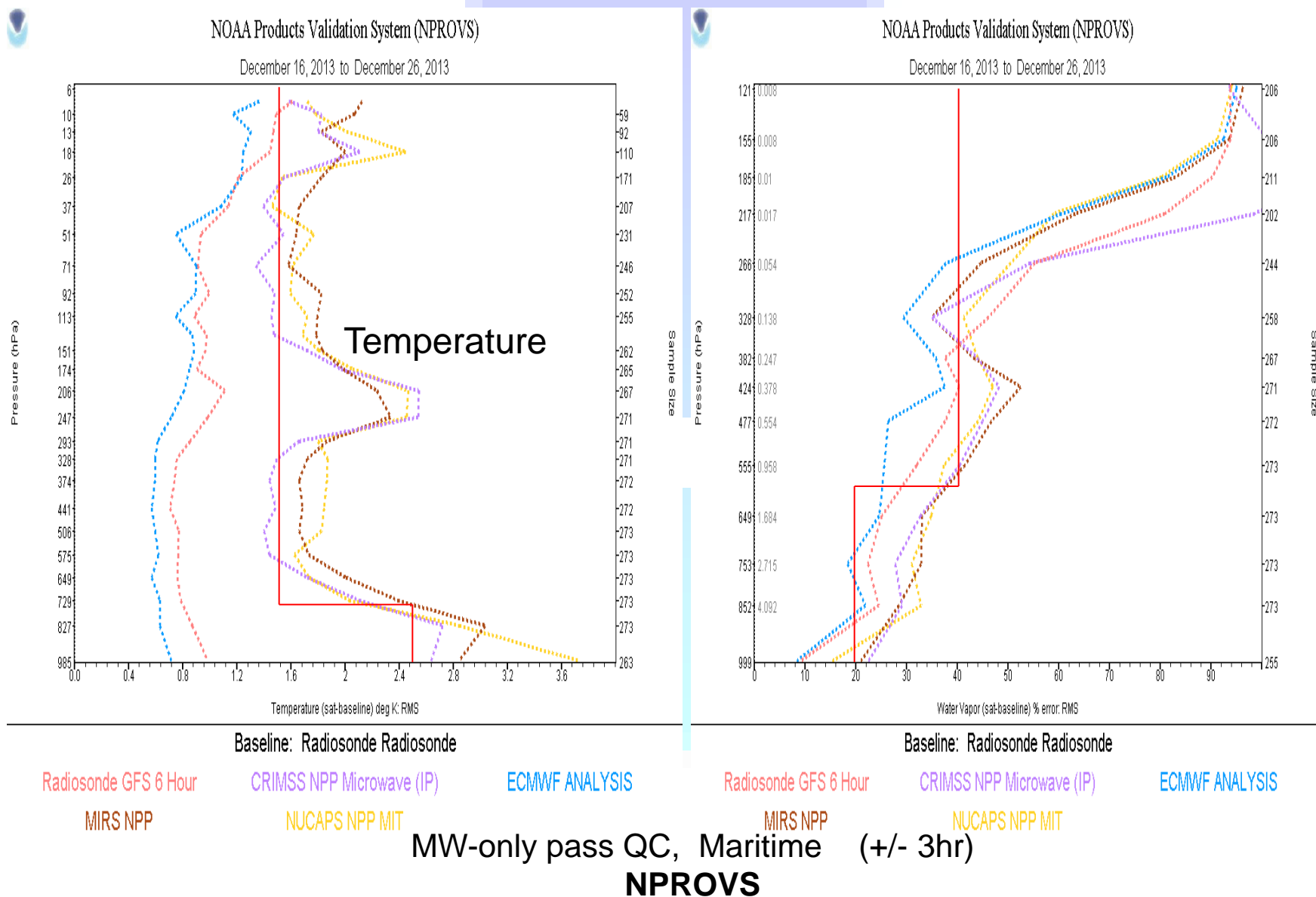
NUCAPS NPP

IR + MW pass QC, Maritime, +/- 3hr  
**NPROVS**





## SAT-minus-RAOB Vertical Statistic





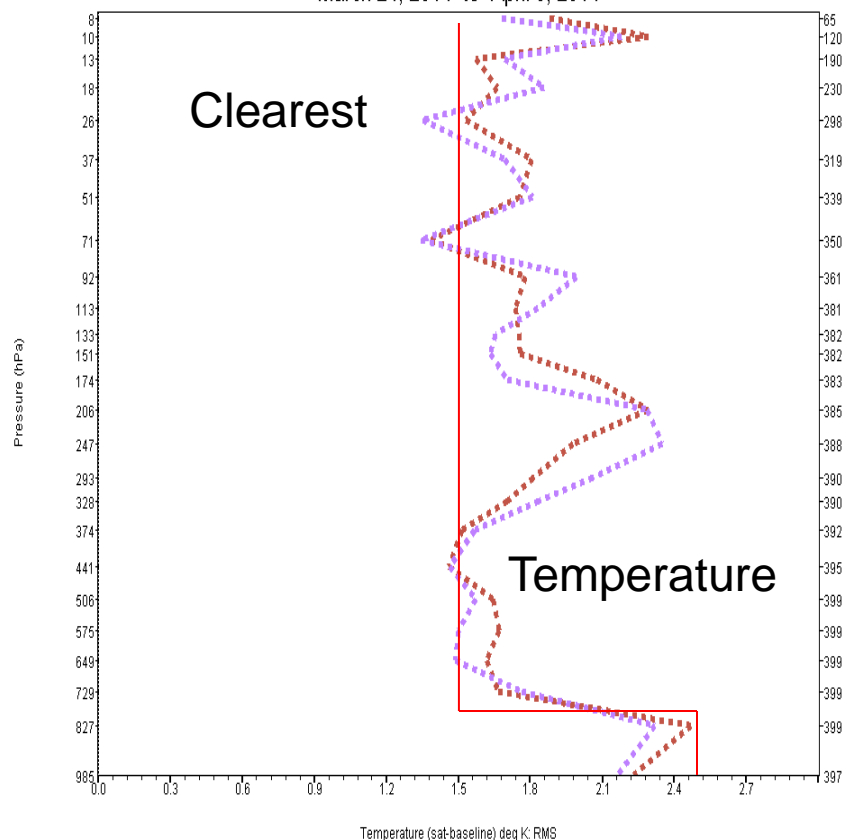
## SAT-minus-RAOB Vertical Statistic

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

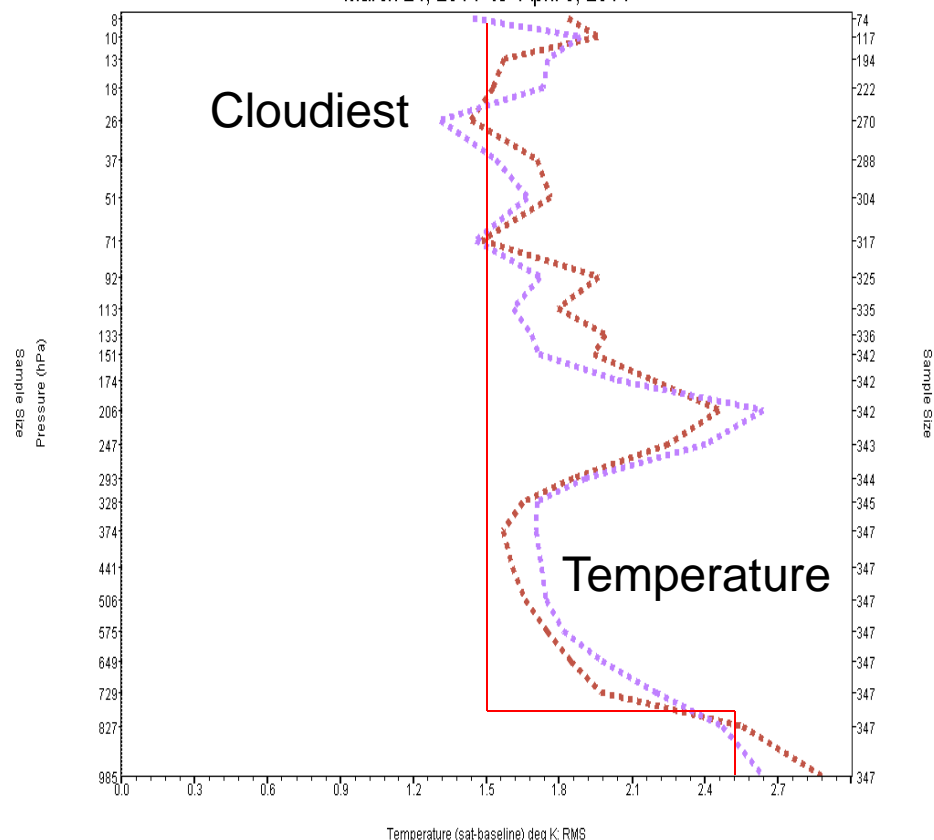
NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

March 24, 2014 to April 3, 2014

March 24, 2014 to April 3, 2014



Baseline: Radiosonde Radiosonde



Baseline: Radiosonde Radiosonde

CRIMSS NPP Microwave (IP)

MIRS NPP

CRIMSS NPP Microwave (IP)

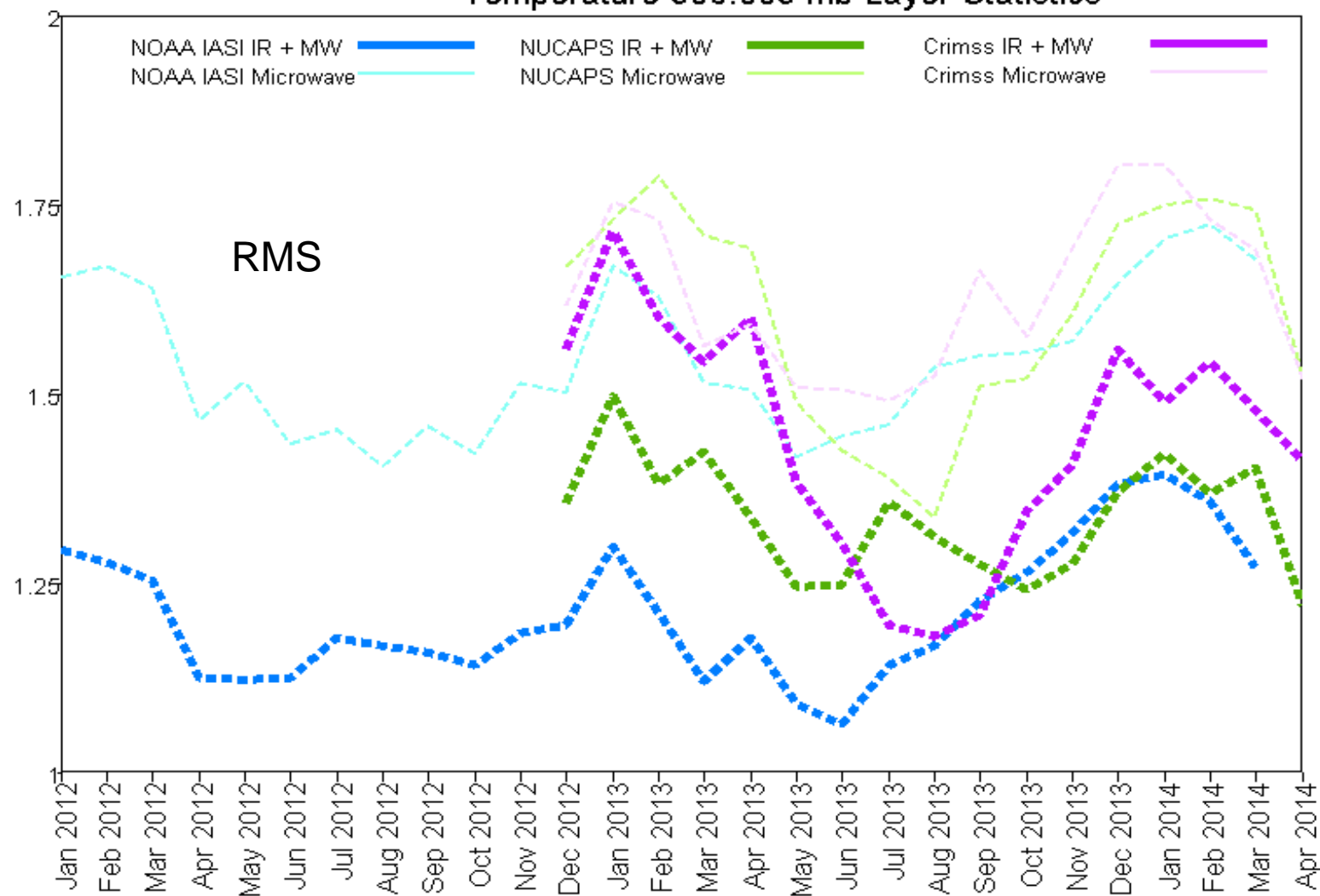
MIRS NPP

MW-only pass QC, Maritime (Sea-only retrieval)  
**NPROVS**



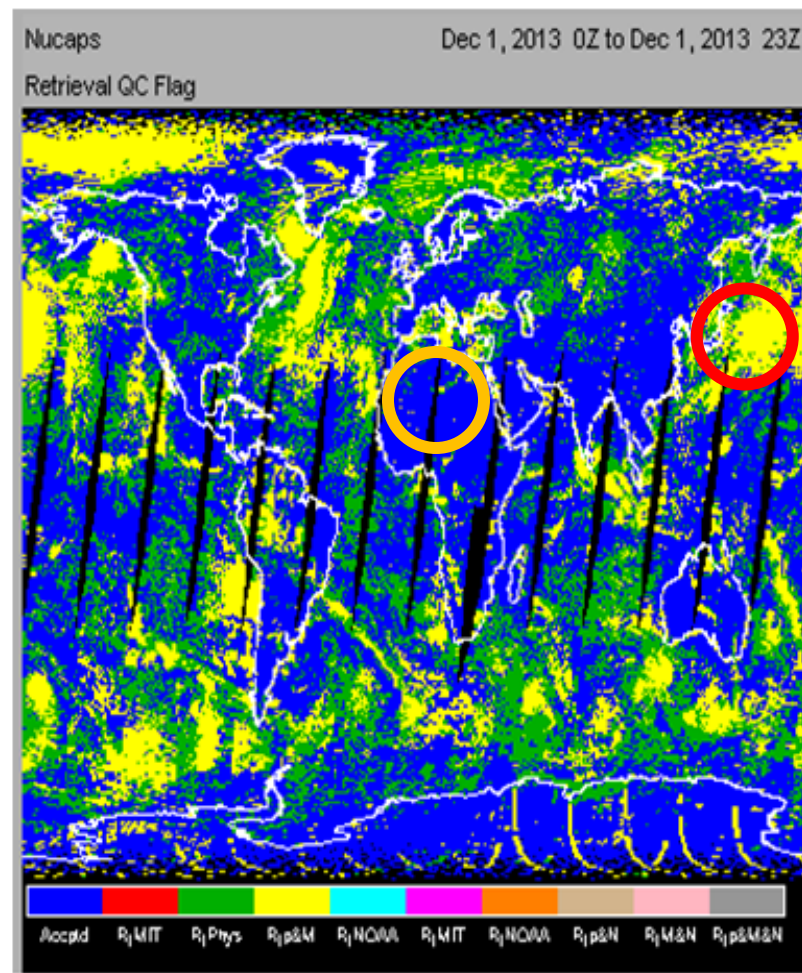
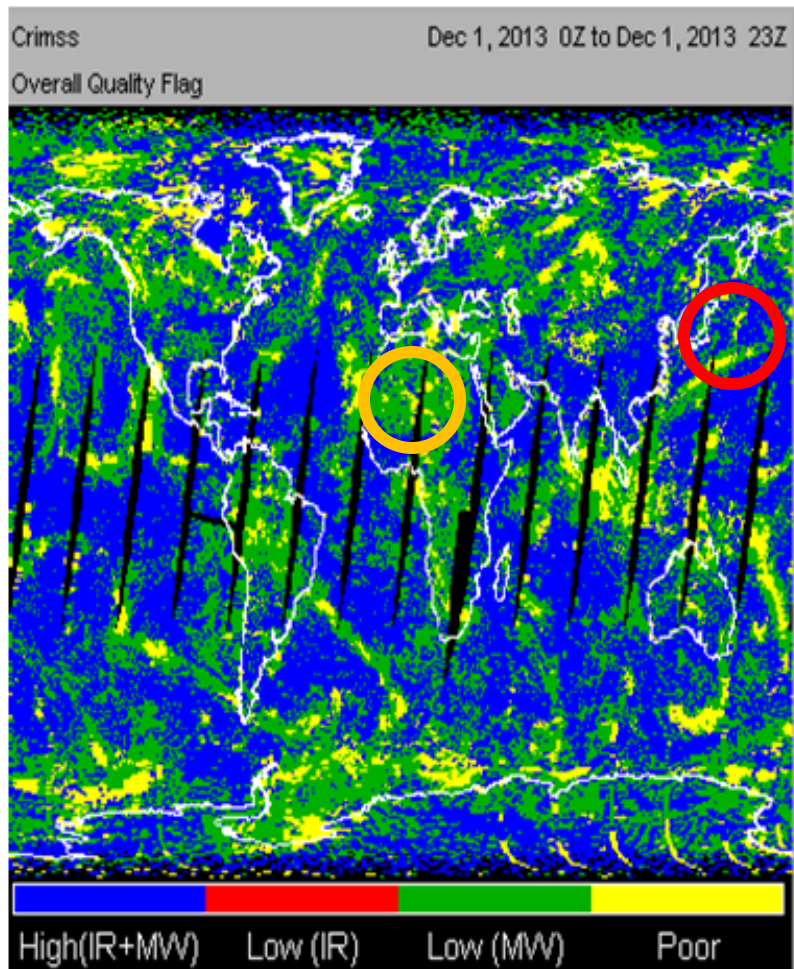
## NARCS

### Temperature 506.009 mb Layer Statistics



**ODS**

## IDPS vs NUCAPS QC flag Analysis



**Blue:** IR+MW pass

**Green:** MW-only pass

**Yellow:** Both fail

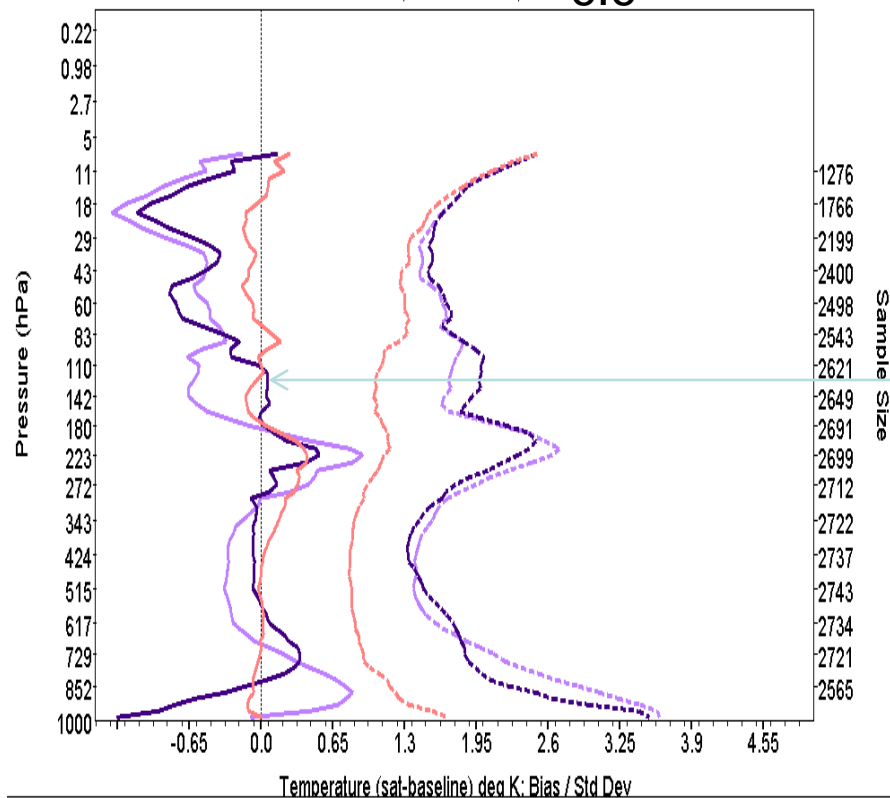




## CrIMSS IDPS v7.1 IR+MW polar stratosphere problem

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

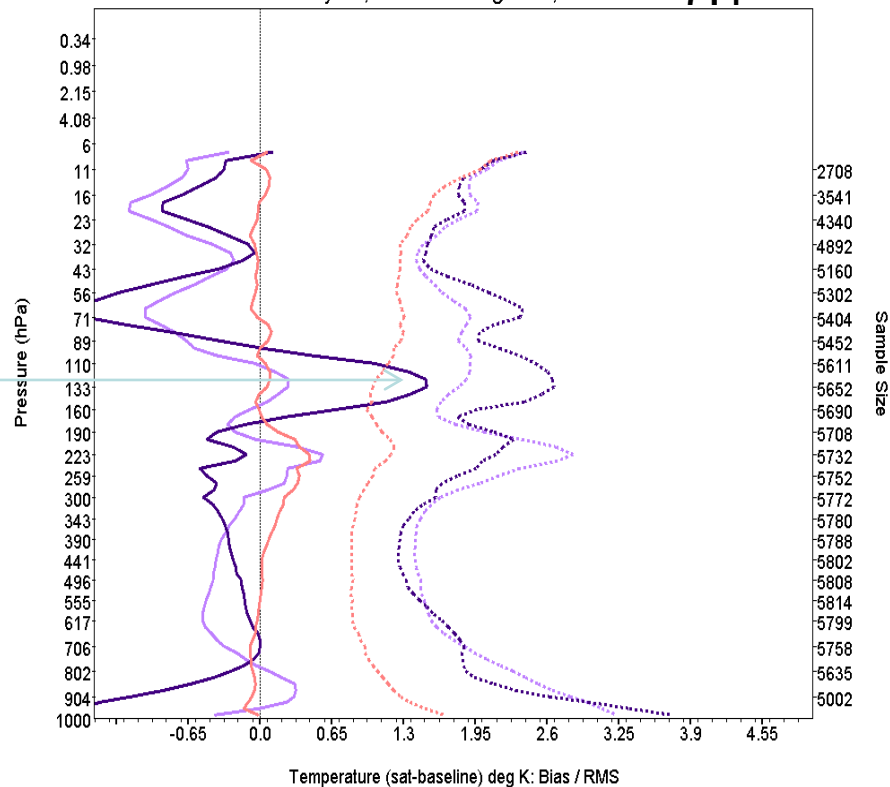
June 10, 2013 to June 20, 2013 **6.6**



Baseline: Radiosonde Radiosonde

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

July 22, 2013 to August 1, 2013 **7.1**



Baseline: Radiosonde Radiosonde

Radiosonde GFS 6 Hour

CRIMSS NPP Infrared (IP)

CRIMSS NPP Microwave (IP)

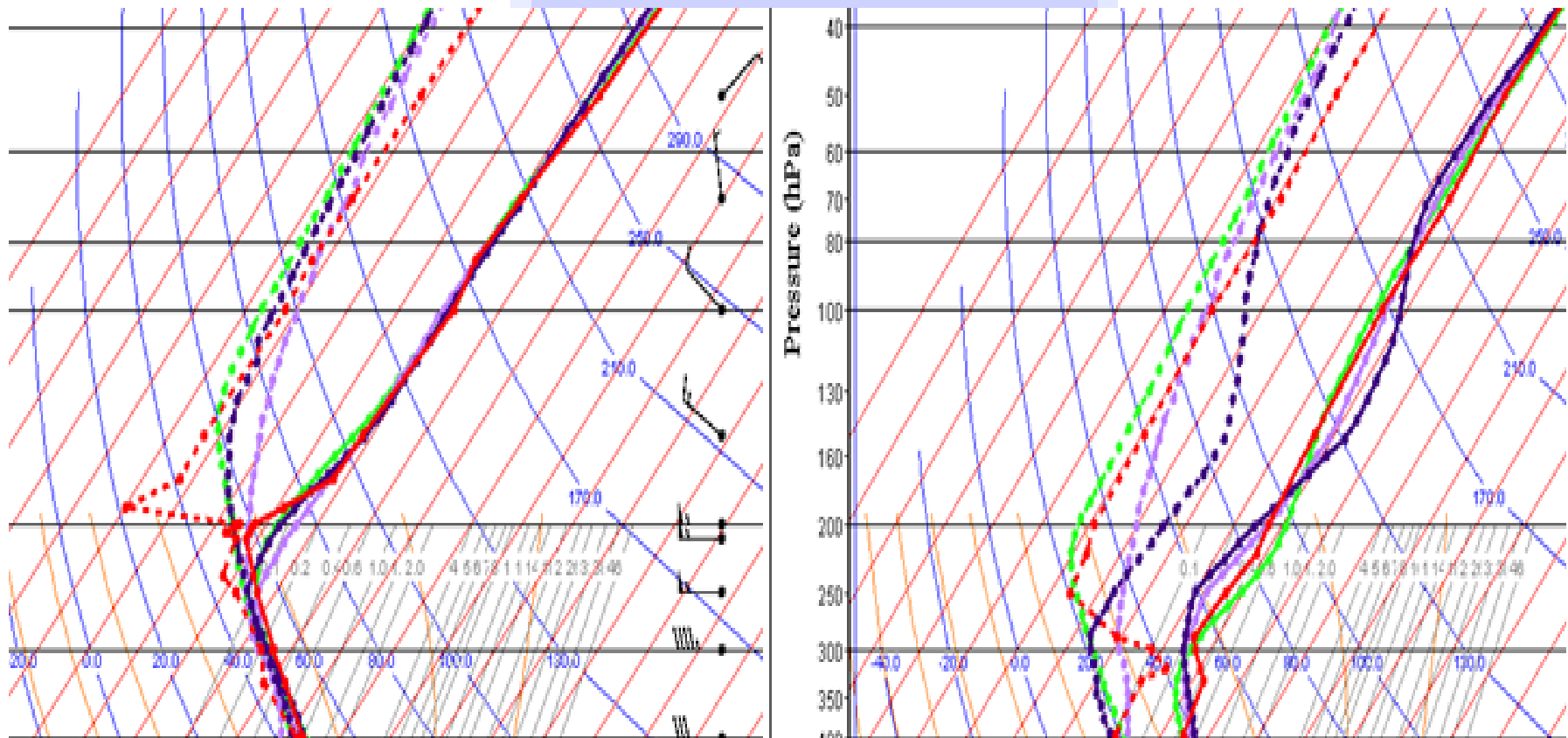
Radiosonde GFS 6 Hour

CRIMSS NPP Infrared (IP)

CRIMSS NPP Microwave (IP)

**IR + MW pass, global, NPROVS**

## CrIMSS IDPS v7.1 IR+MW polar stratosphere problem



NUCAPS (IR+MW)

IDPS (IR + MW)

IDPS (MW)

# GRUAN Reference Measurement Principles

Given RAOB uncertainty ( $u_2$ ) and product uncertainty ( $u_1$ )

Given the variability ( $\sigma$ ) of a variables ( $m$ ) in time and space from measurement (RAOB) or model (Retr), then

Two observations on different platforms are **consistent** if:

$$|m_1 - m_2| < k \sqrt{\sigma^2 + u_1^2 + u_2^2}$$

---

... at this preliminary stage:

$$K = \text{ABS}(X - \text{GRUAN}) / u_2$$

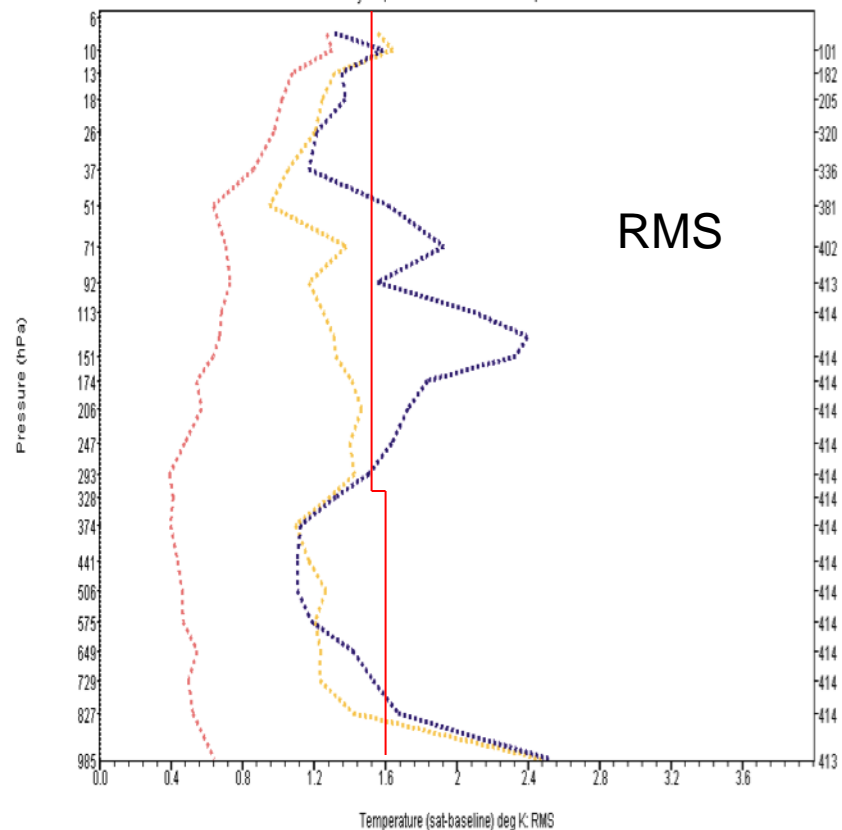
where “X” either SAT or NWP

**“need uncertainty estimates for EDR” !!**

# PDISP – NPROVS+

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

July 14, 2013 to December 18, 2013



Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

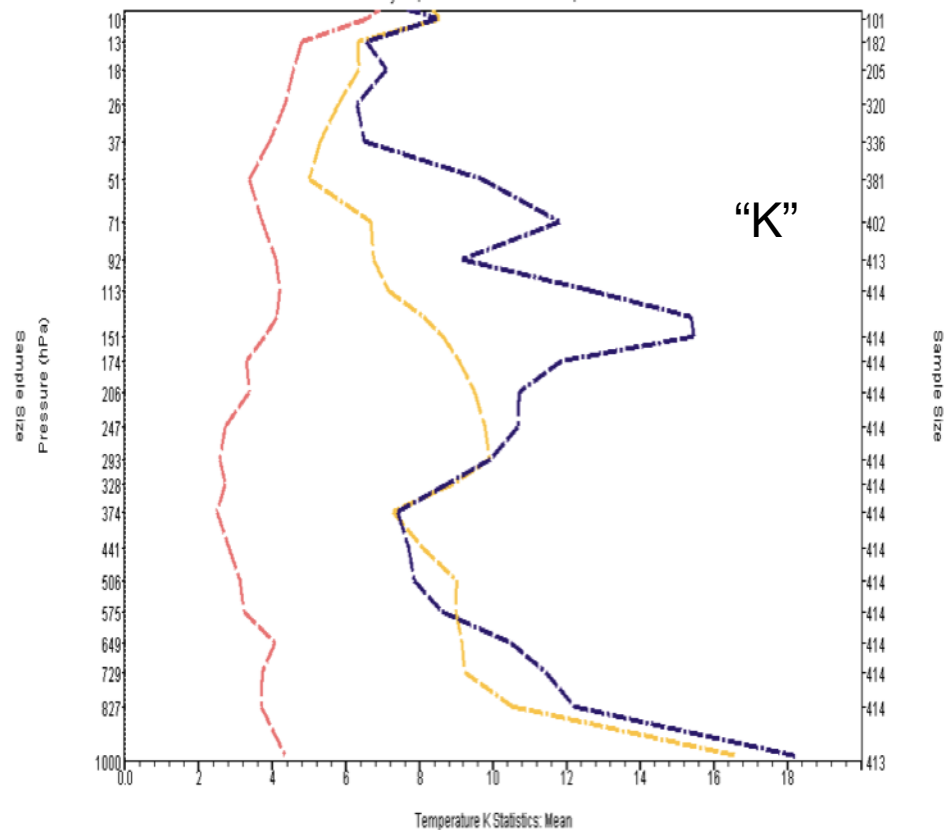
CRIMSS NPP Infrared (IP)

ECMWF ANALYSIS

NUCAPS NPP TEST

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

July 14, 2013 to December 18, 2013



Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

CRIMSS NPP Infrared (IP)

ECMWF ANALYSIS

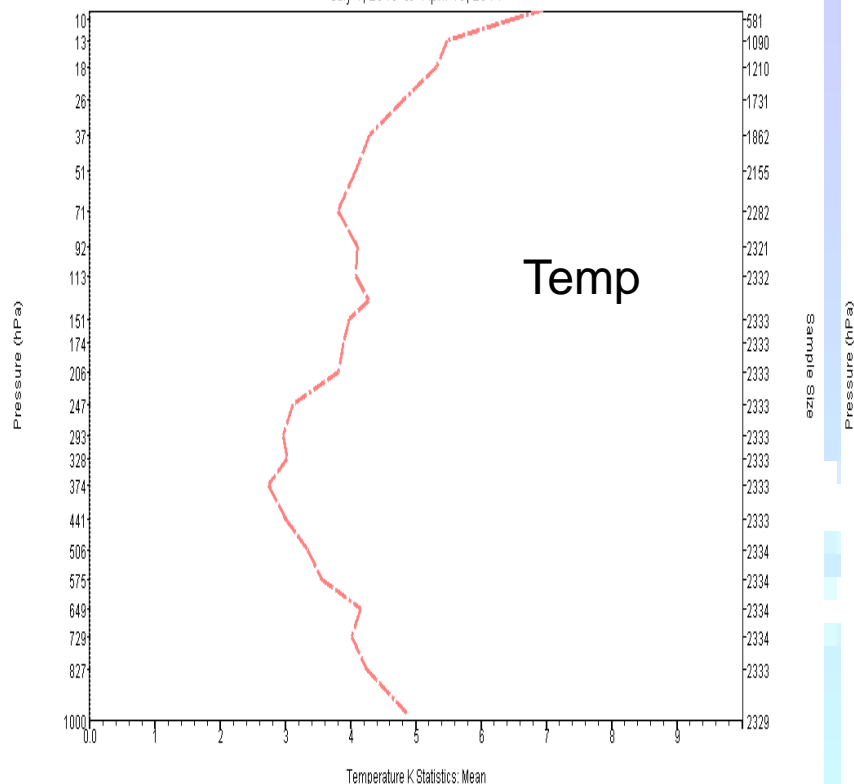
NUCAPS NPP TEST

GRUAN only ... Include Uncertainty Estimates ... “K” Profiles



NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

July 1, 2013 to April 16, 2014

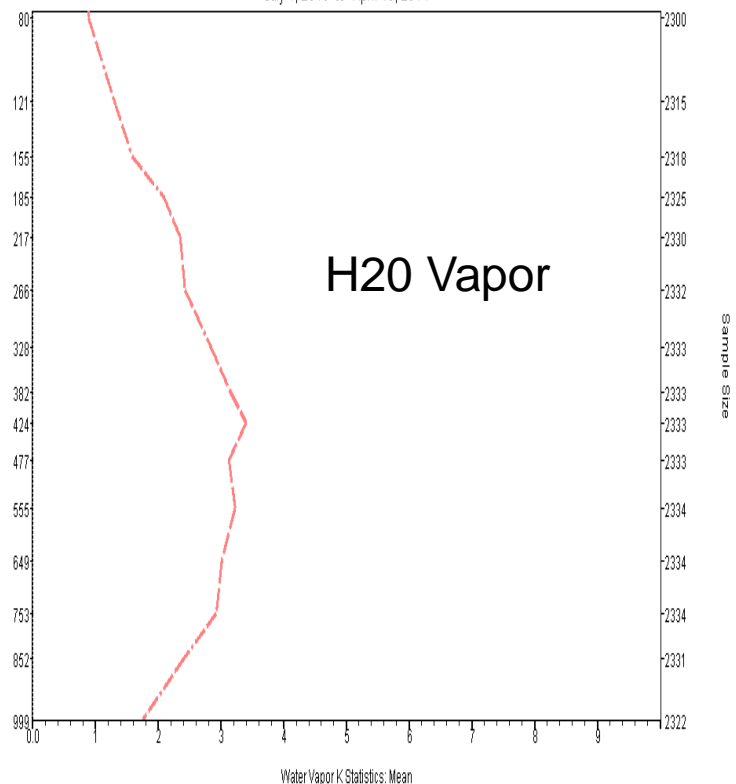


Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

ECMWF ANALYSIS

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

July 1, 2013 to April 16, 2014



Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

ECMWF ANALYSIS

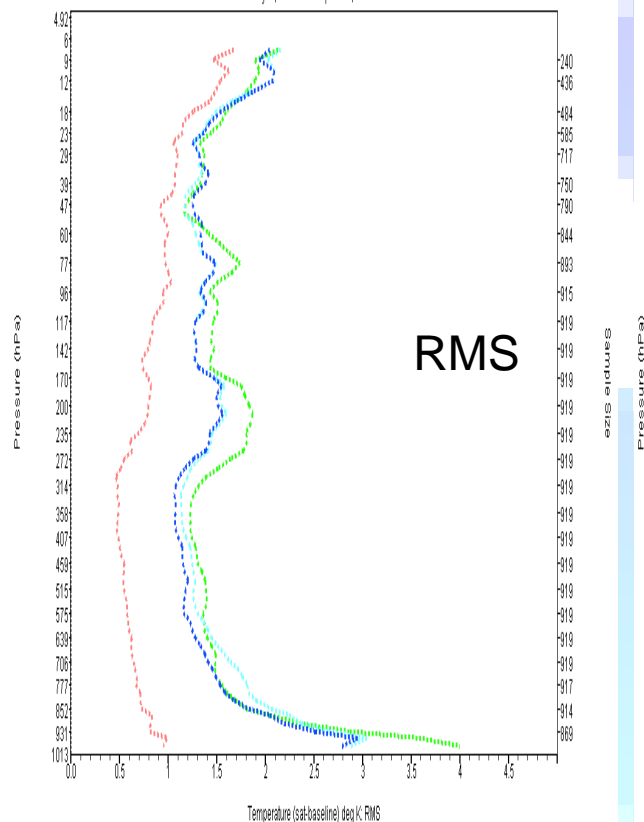
## K analysis

**Raobs better at measuring Temp than Moisture**

# Temperature

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

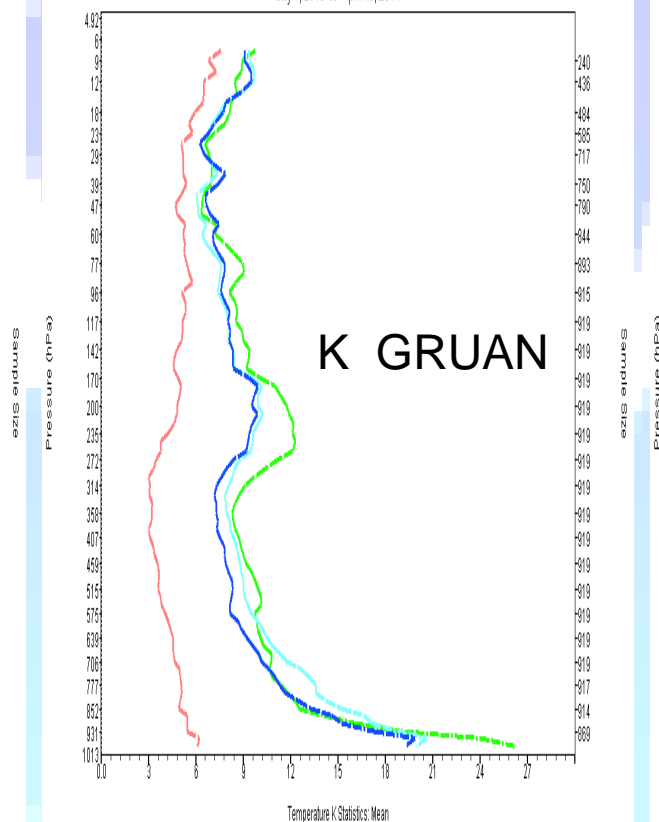
July 1, 2013 to April 16, 2014



Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

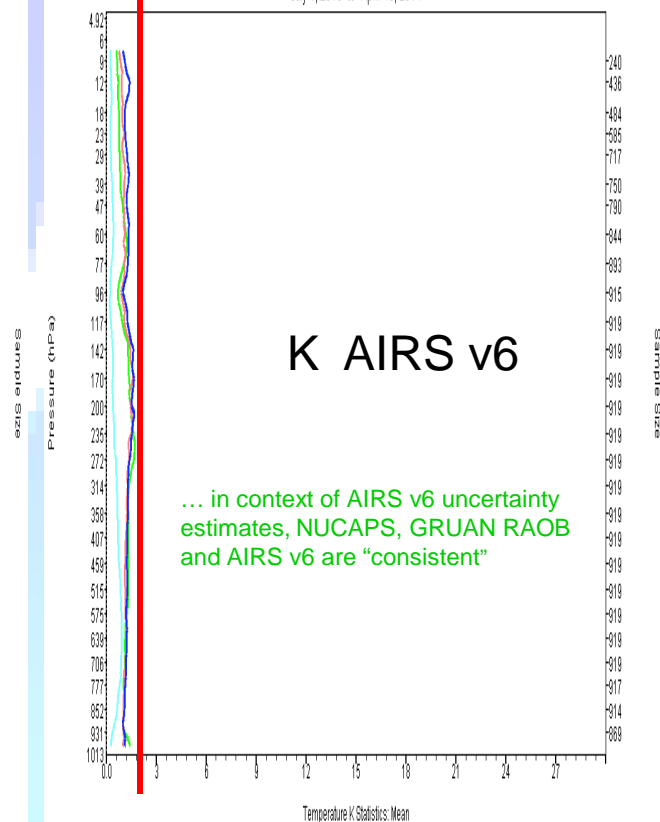
July 1, 2013 to April 16, 2014



Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

July 1, 2013 to April 16, 2014



Baseline: AIRS AQUA

AIRS AQUA  
AIRS AQUA First Guess  
ECMWF ANALYSIS  
NUCAPS NPP TEST

AIRS AQUA  
AIRS AQUA First Guess  
ECMWF ANALYSIS  
NUCAPS NPP TEST

REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB  
AIRS AQUA First Guess  
ECMWF ANALYSIS  
NUCAPS NPP TEST

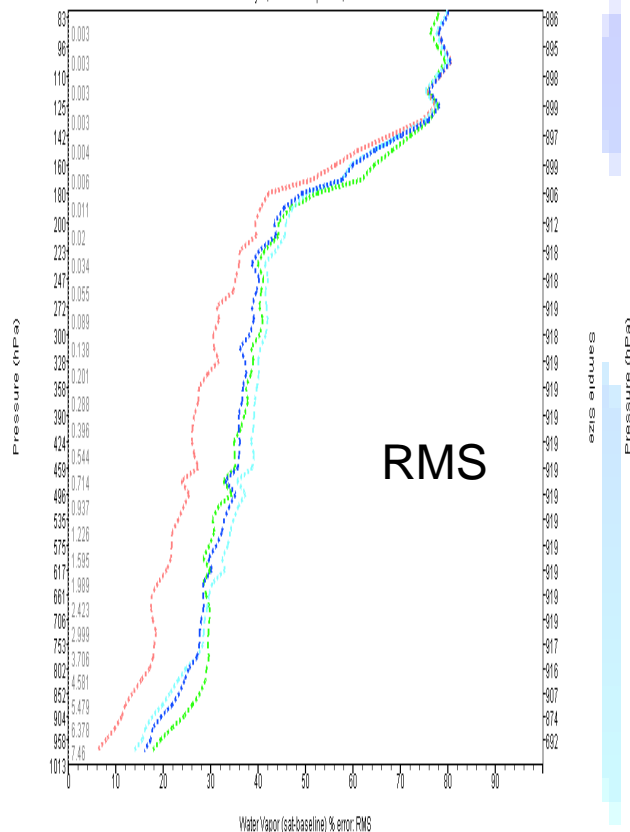
AIRS AIRS FG NUCAPS ECMWF

(GRUAN RAOB)

## H2O Vapor

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

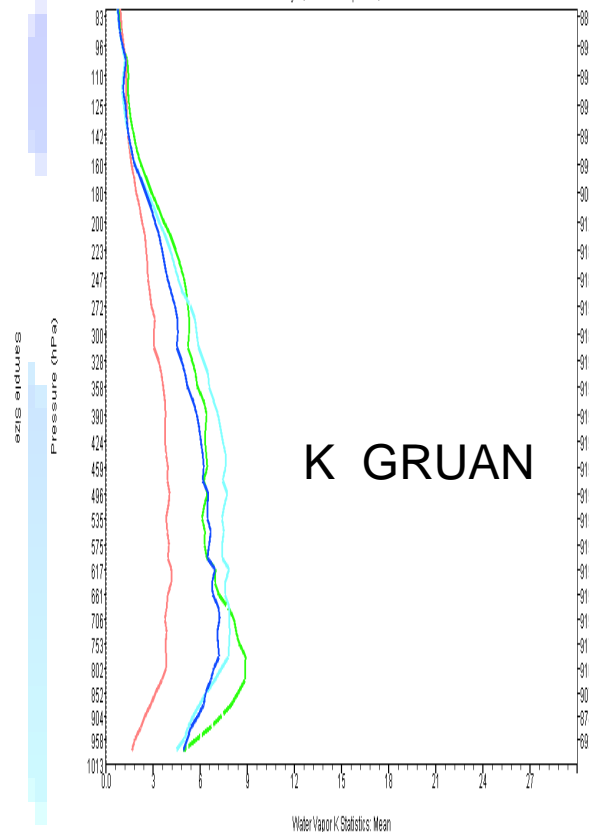
July 1, 2013 to April 16, 2014



Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

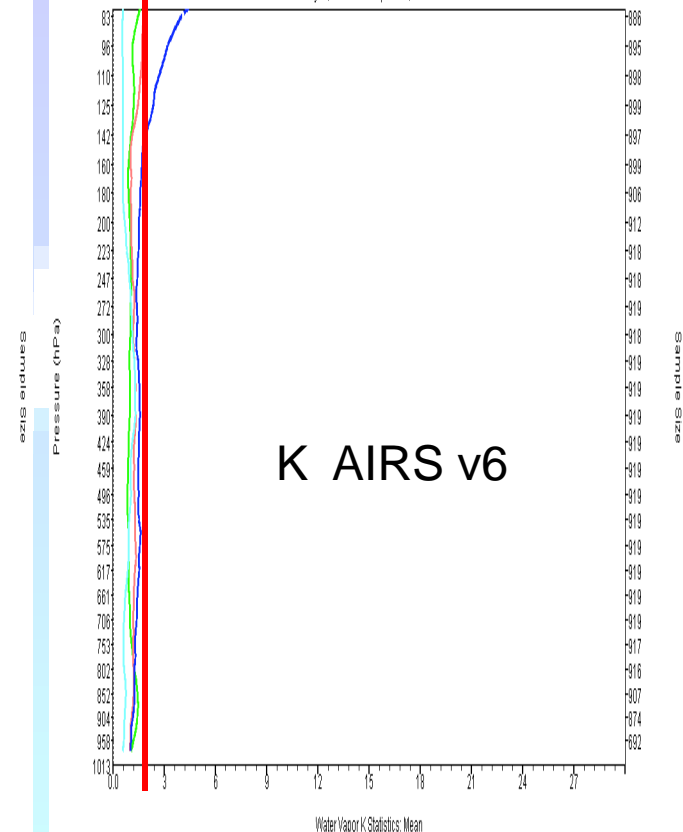
July 1, 2013 to April 16, 2014



Baseline: REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

July 1, 2013 to April 16, 2014



Baseline: AIRS AQUA

AIRS AQUA

AIRS AQUA First Guess

ECMWF ANALYSIS

AIRS AQUA

AIRS AQUA First Guess

ECMWF ANALYSIS

REFERENCE SONDE GRUAN RAOB

AIRS AQUA First Guess

ECMWF ANALYSIS

NUCAPS NPP TEST

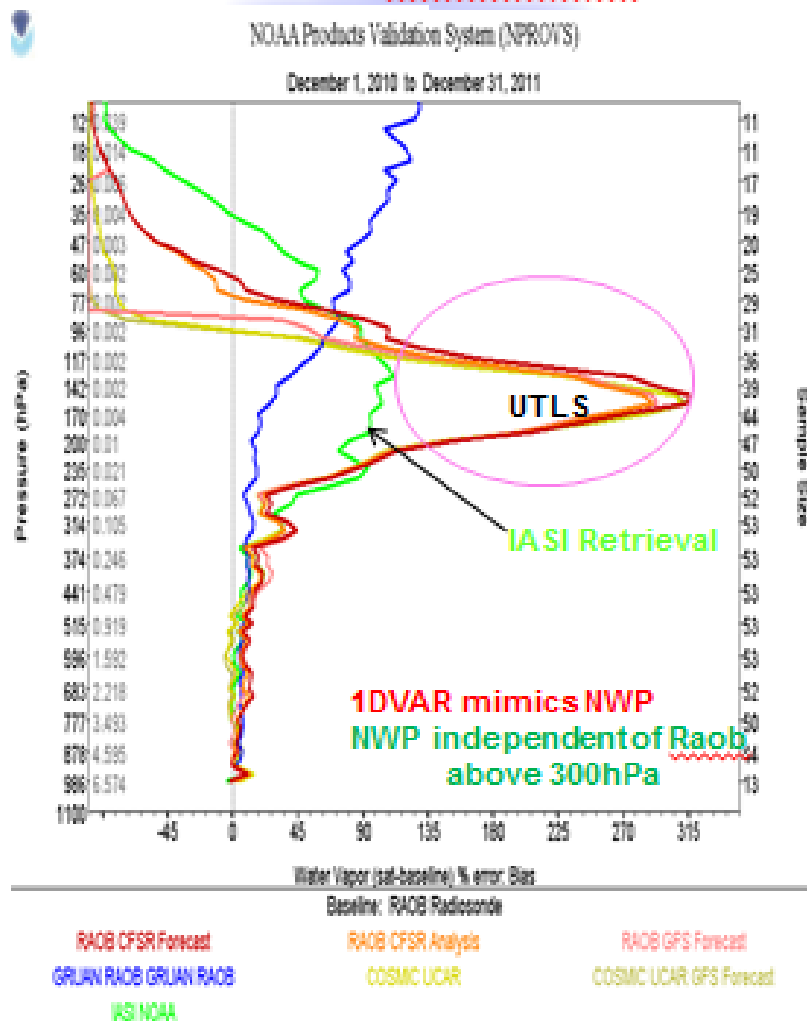
NUCAPS NPP TEST

NUCAPS NPP TEST

**AIRS AIRS FG NUCAPS ECMWF**

**(GRUAN RAOB)**

## Mainly Vicinity of Lindenberg, Germany



GRUAN Sonde, NWP and COSMIC, respectively, -minus-GTS Sonde  
NPROVS+

# COSMIC / GRAS (Stratosphere Reference Temp from Space ...)

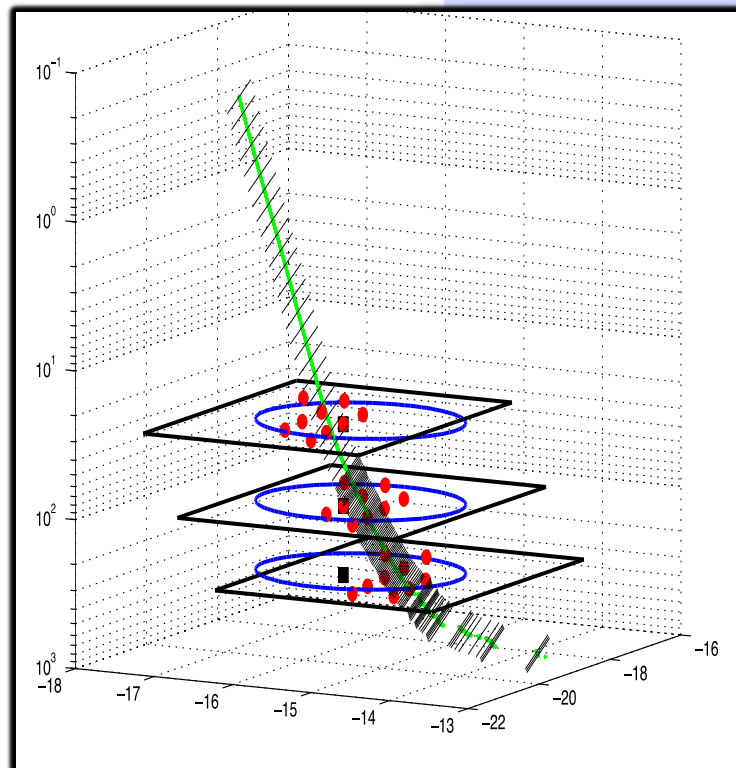
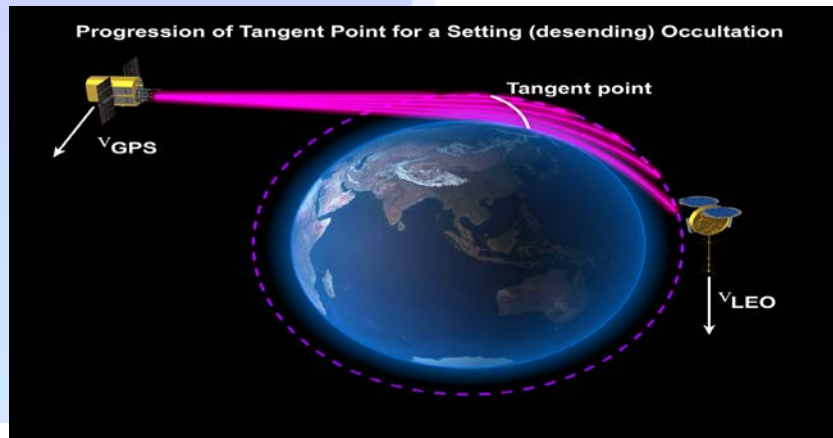
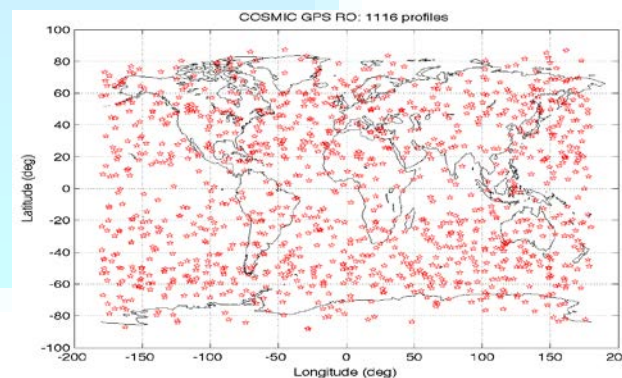


Illustration of the closest (black square), circular (blue circle), and ray path (red dots) methods for a single GPS profile (green) for the circle centered at the GPS RO level of 100 hPa

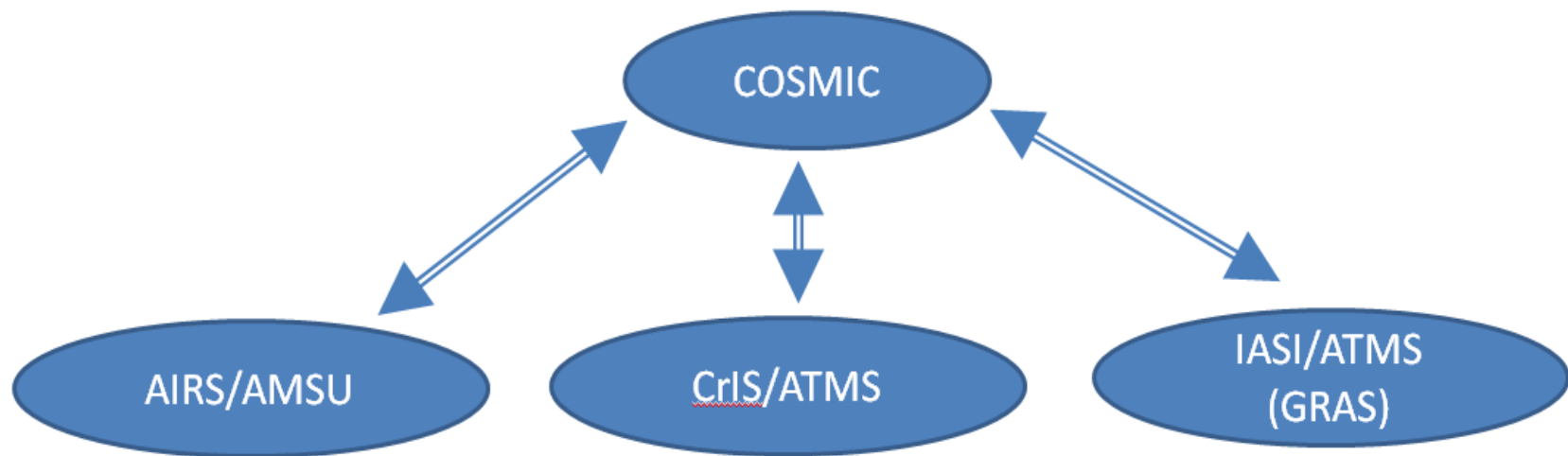


[http://www.cosmic.ucar.edu/launch/GPS\\_RO\\_cartoon.jpg](http://www.cosmic.ucar.edu/launch/GPS_RO_cartoon.jpg)



One Day of COSMIC Profiles

courtesy Knuteson / Feltz CIMSS



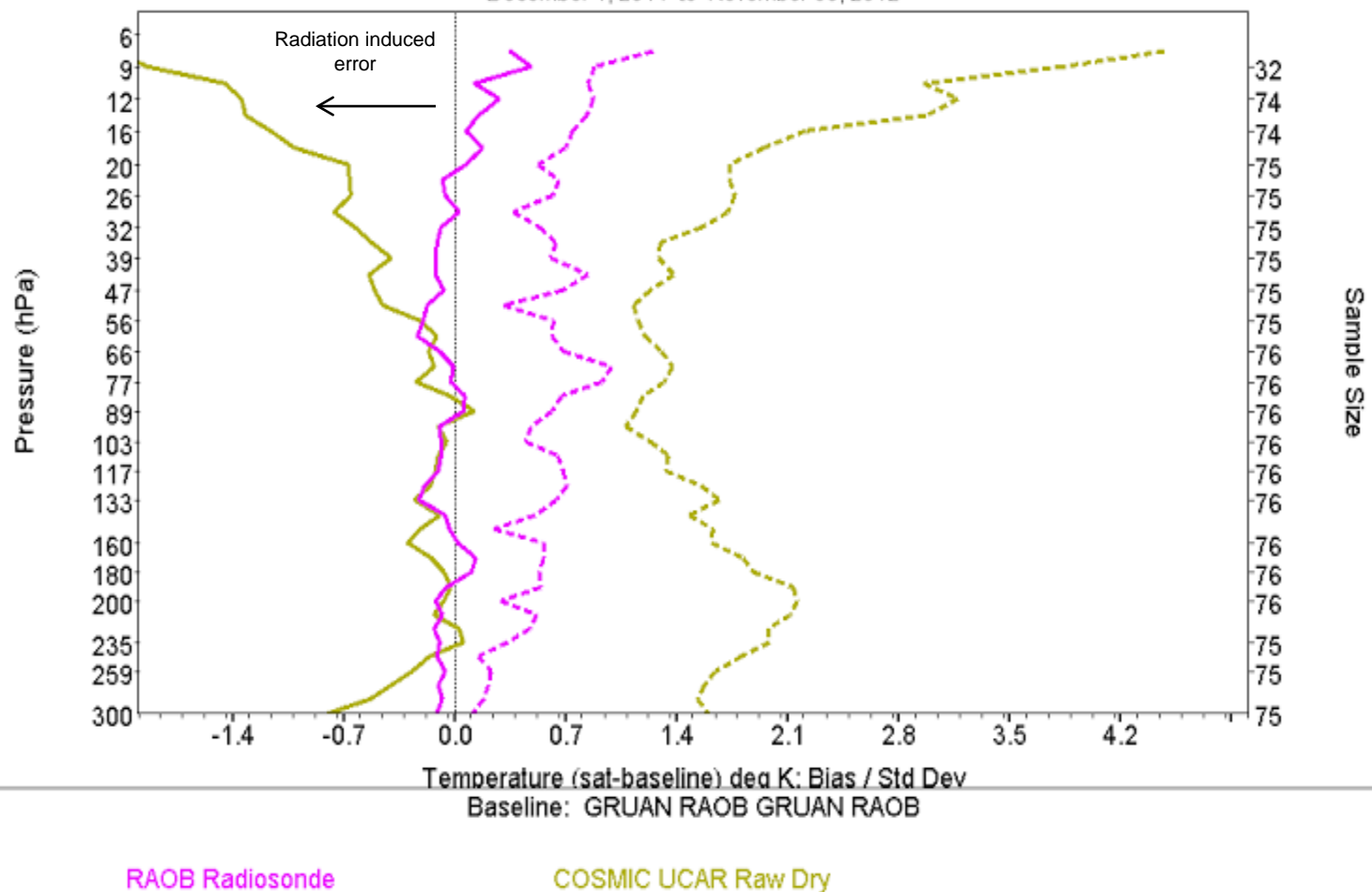
## GPSRO Anchored Collocation

- Integrate STAR (Weng, Reale) and CIMSS (Knuteson / Feltz) approaches
- EDR and SDR
- GPS RO provides Reference for EDR, SDR and RTM

### Lindenberg, Germany; 12Z (daytime)

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

December 1, 2011 to November 30, 2012



(COSMIC Tdry)-minus-(GRUAN RAOB) ... NPROVS+





# STAR

## Center for Satellite Applications and Research

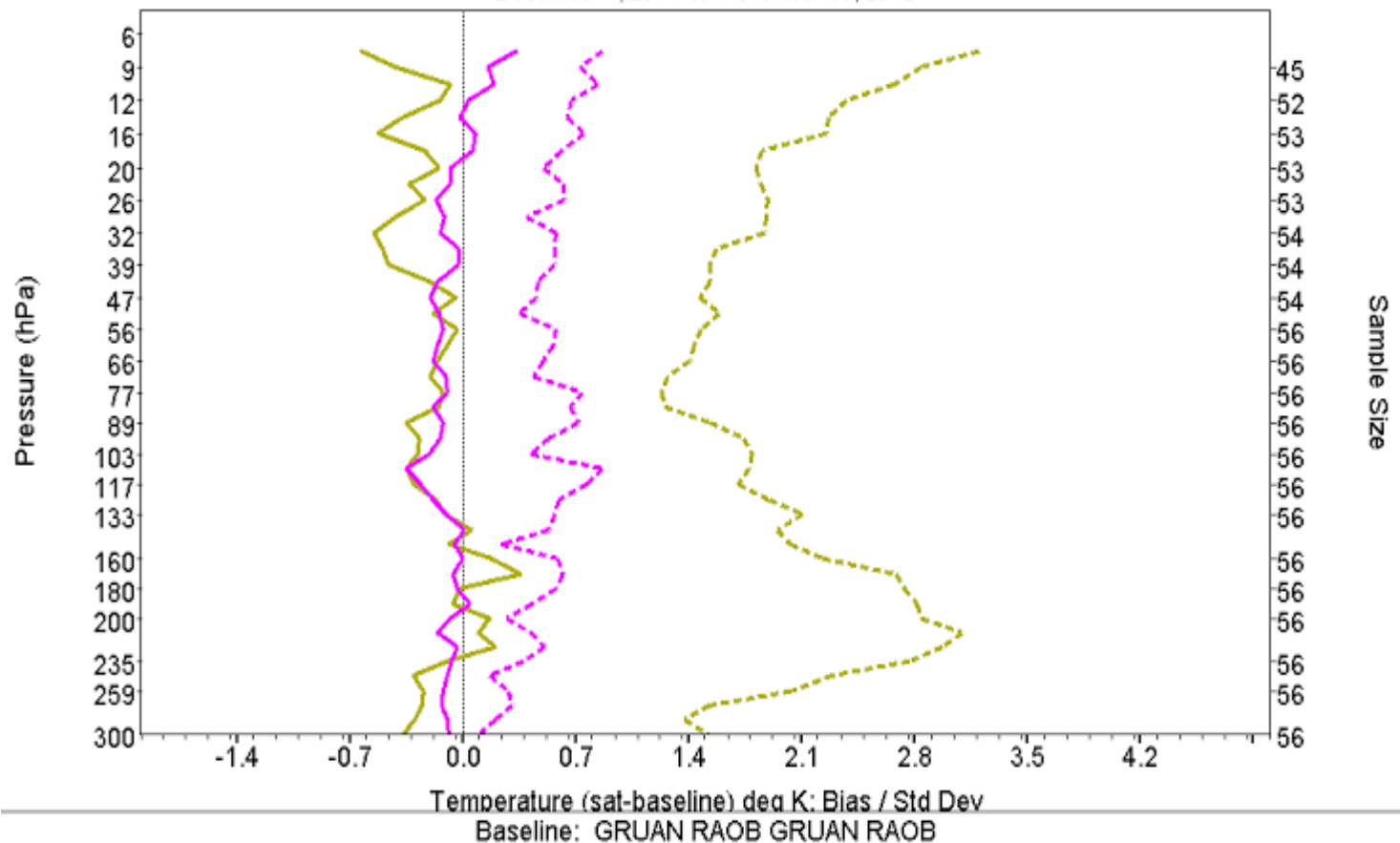
formerly ORA — Office of Research and Applications



### Lindenberg, Germany; 00Z (night)

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

December 1, 2011 to November 30, 2012



RAOB Radiosonde

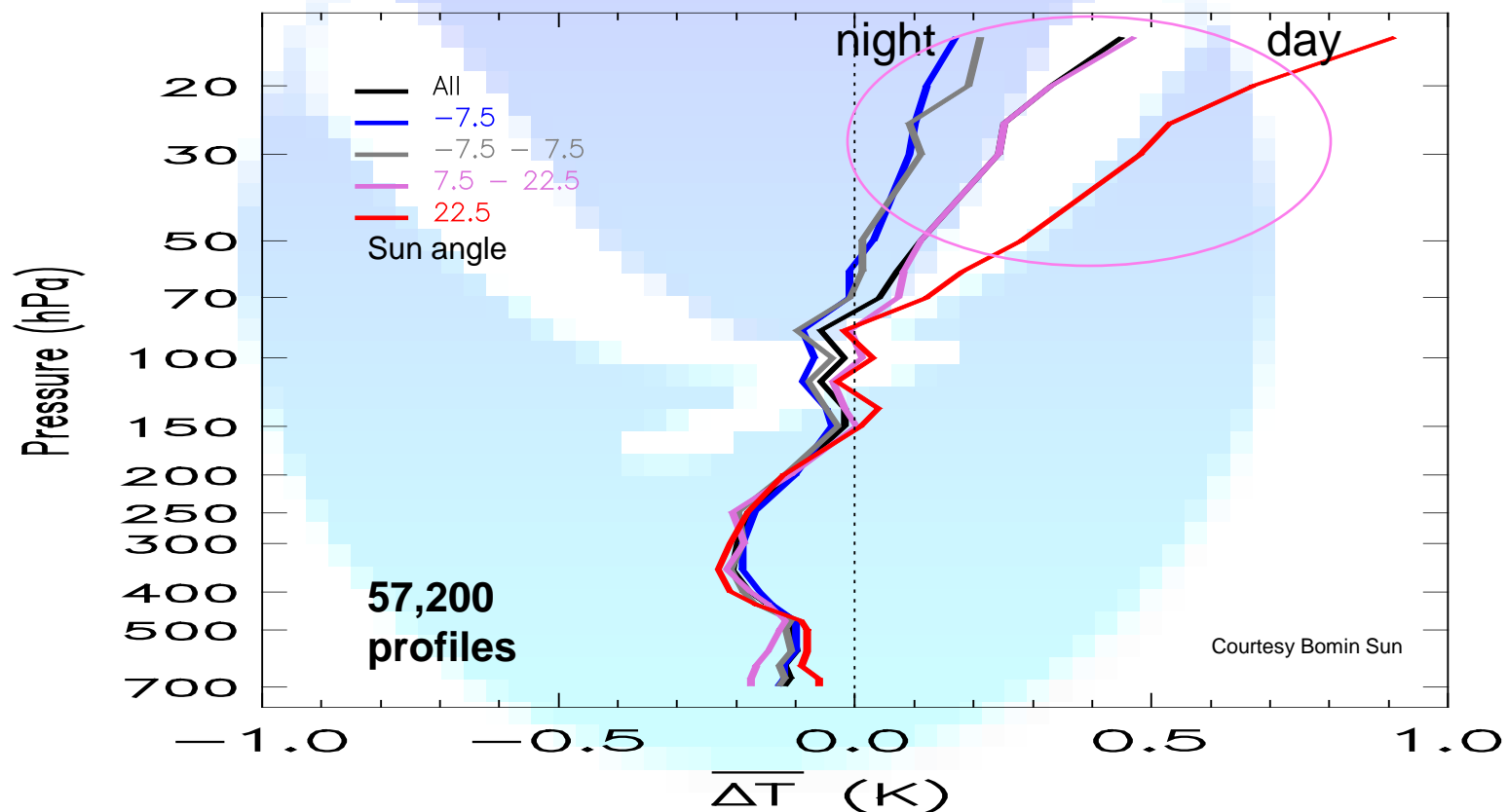
COSMIC UCAR Raw Dry

COSMIC Tdry-minus-GRUAN RAOB ... NPROVS+





# Vaisala RS92 (radiation induced error) (Conv Raob)-minus-(COSMIC Tdry) ... NPROVS



Sun, B., A. Reale, S. Schroeder, D. Seidel, and B. Ballish, "Toward improved corrections for radiation-induced biases in radiosonde temperature observations".  
Journal of Geophysical Research, 2013, 118, doi:10.1002/jgrd.50369.



## OUTREACH (NPROVS+):

- Copernicus, European Earth Observation Program (3.8 billion, 6 yrs)
- GEWEX Water Vapor Assessment (G-VAP)
- GCOS Reference Upper Air Network (GRUAN)
- GSICS/GRUAN/GNSSRO WIGOS Workshop (May, 2014, Geneva)



# Summary

- NPROVS and NPROVS+ (to) provide standardized EDR sounding product validation *and oversight at STAR*
- JPSS funded dedicated RAOB sustained through March 2015 ...
- NUCAPS troubleshooting and deployment of NESDIS Unique Retrieval across CrIS, IASI and AIRS (and AMSU/ATMS) main goals
- Integration of GRUAN Uncertainty (K) analysis ... *requires sounding EDR uncertainty estimates (recommended for all EDR's)*
- GPSRO as a reference from space
- **Validation datasets routinely available and recommended for distribution and use internal, external and international**

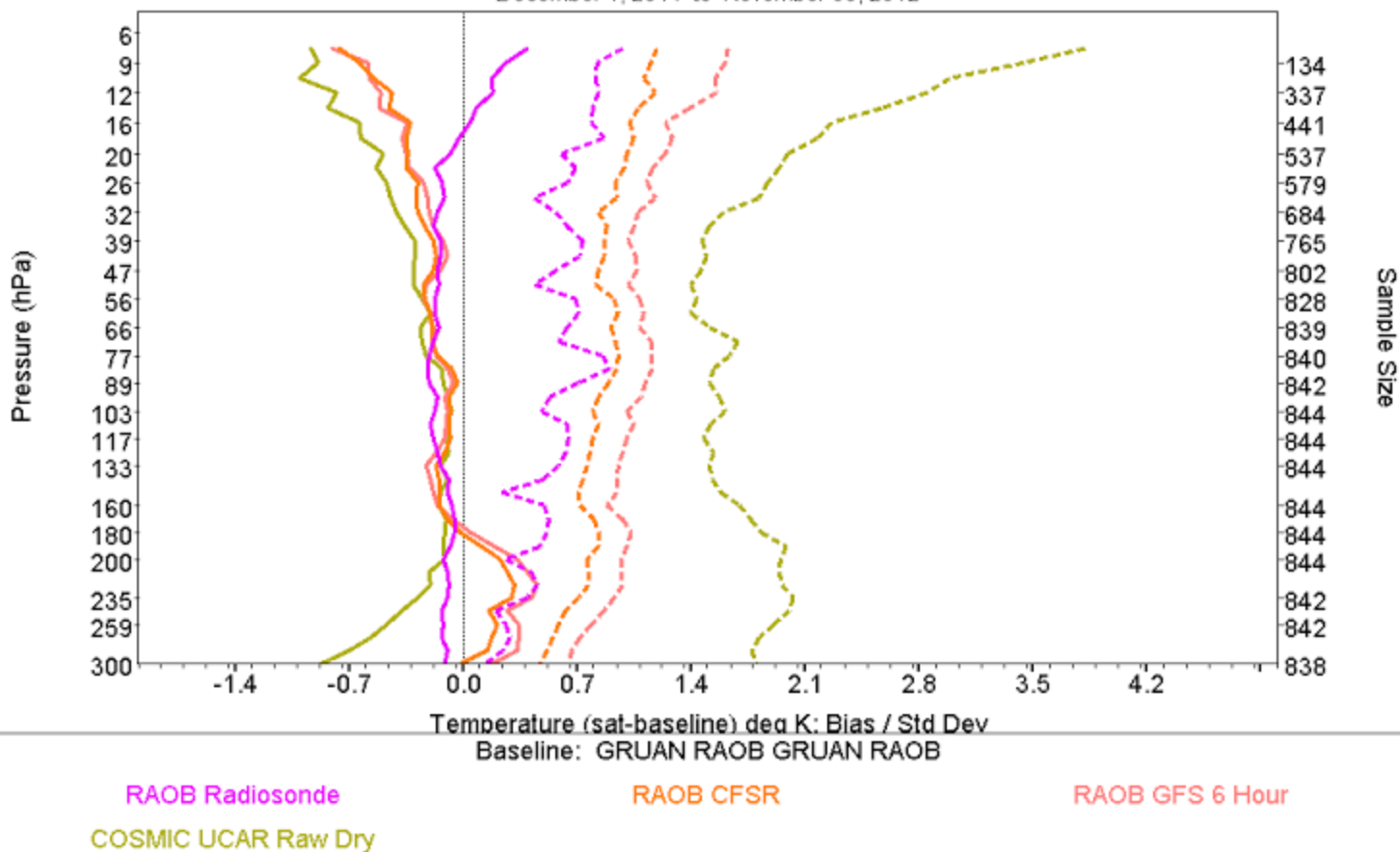
A large, pixelated globe is centered on the slide. The globe is composed of many small squares in various shades of blue and white. The word "Extras" is written in the center of the globe in a black, sans-serif font.

Extras



NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

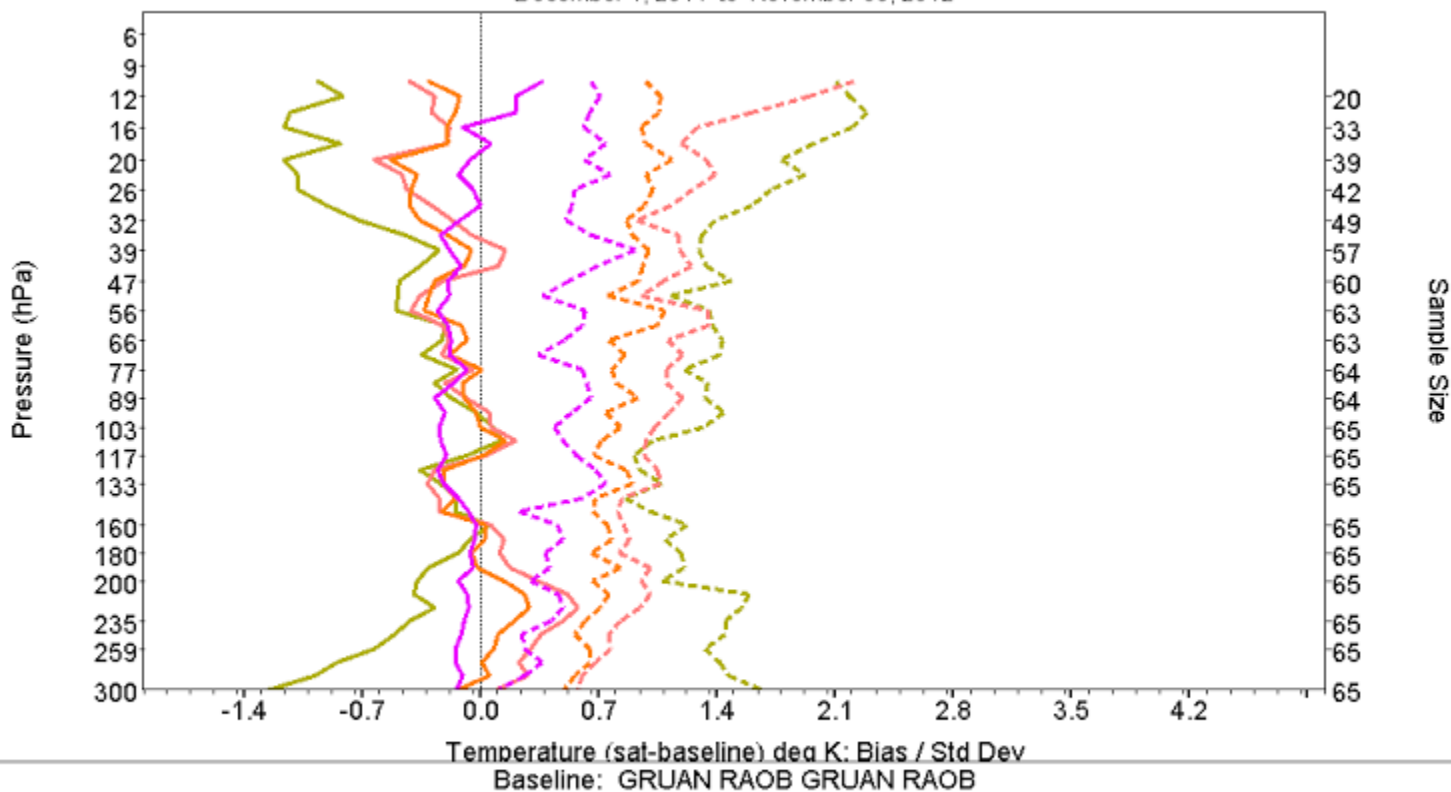
December 1, 2011 to November 30, 2012



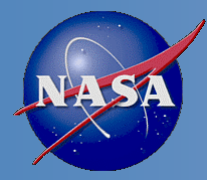


NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)

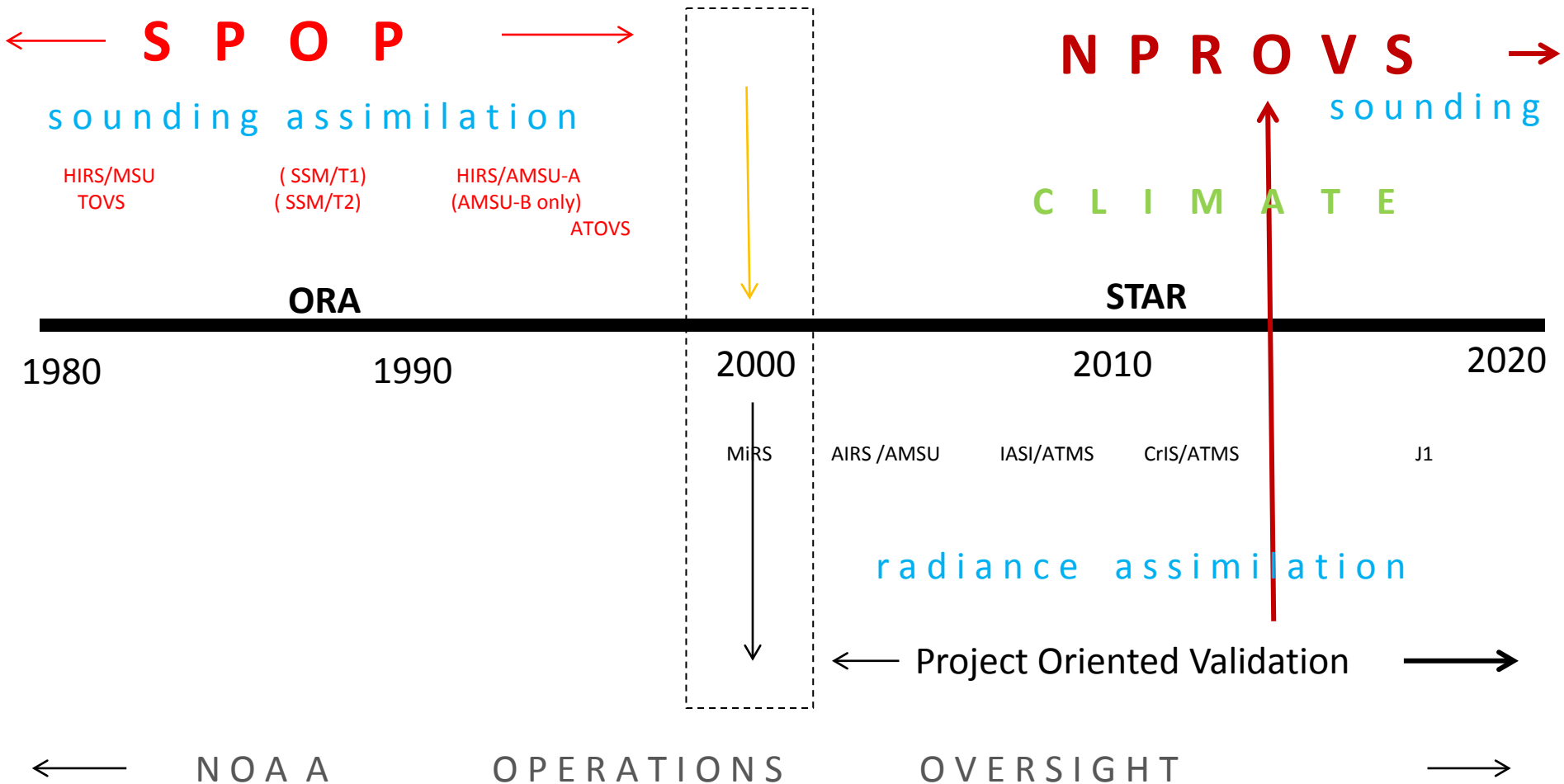
December 1, 2011 to November 30, 2012



+/- 3 hr / 150km

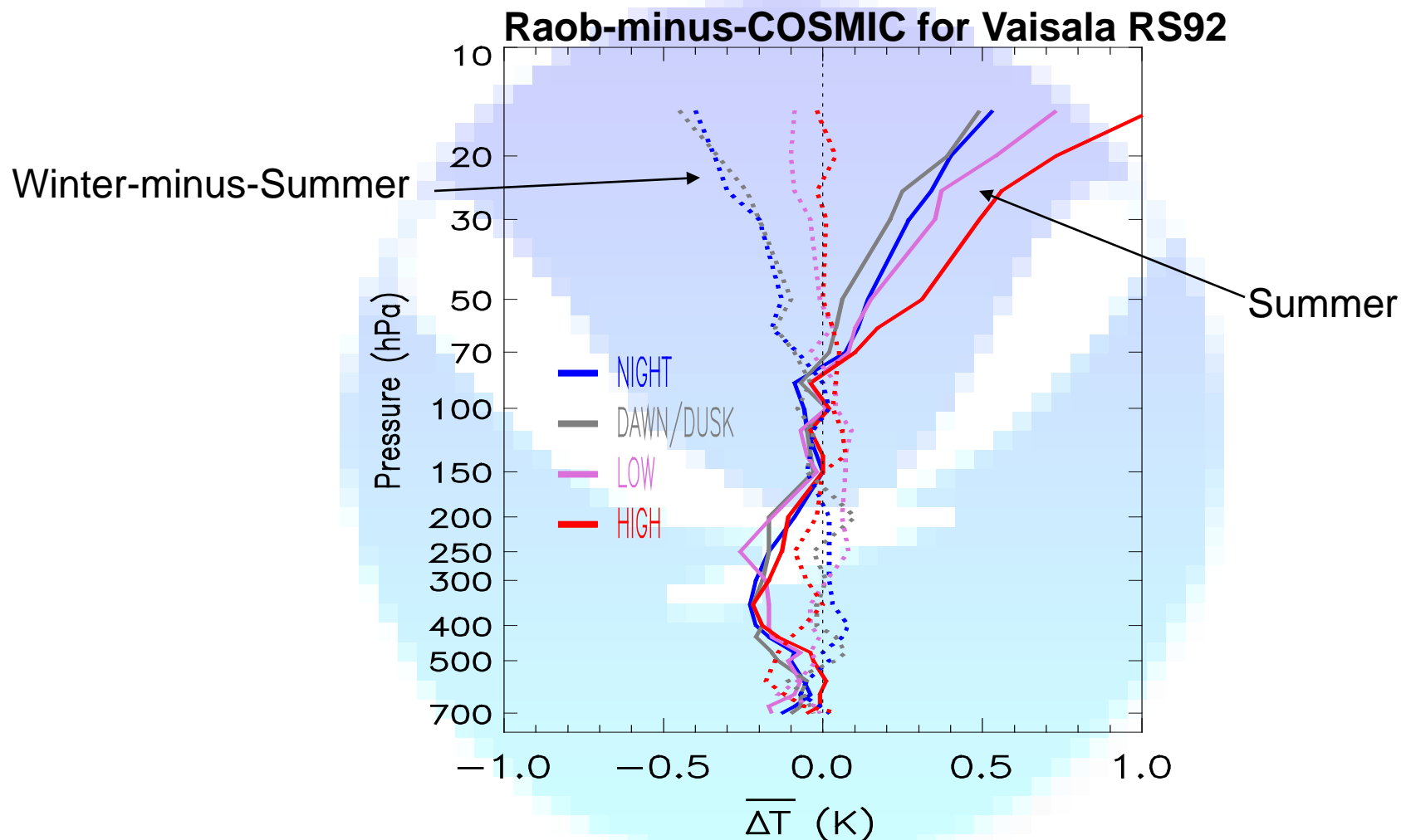


# Brief History NOAA Program for Soundings



Restore Project Independent **NOAA PROduct OVerSight**





Seasonal variation in bias is bigger at nighttime:  
Summer relatively warmer than winter at night  
(NPROVS)