



# NOAA Unique CrIS/ATMS Processing System (NUCAPS) Products Validation

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- **JPSS Sounder EDR Cal/Val Overview**

- JPSS EDR validation
  - NOAA-Unique CrIS/ATMS Processing System (NUCAPS)
  - JPSS Level 1 Requirements
- Validation Methodology
  - Validation Hierarchy
  - Statistical Metrics
- JPSS SNPP Validation Datasets
  - STAR Validation Archive (VALAR)
  - NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS/NPROVS+)

- **NUCAPS EDR Product Validation**

- Temperature and Moisture (AVTP and AVMP) EDR
- IR Ozone profile EDR
- Long-Term Monitoring (LTM)

- **Future Work**

- SNPP ICV and LTM



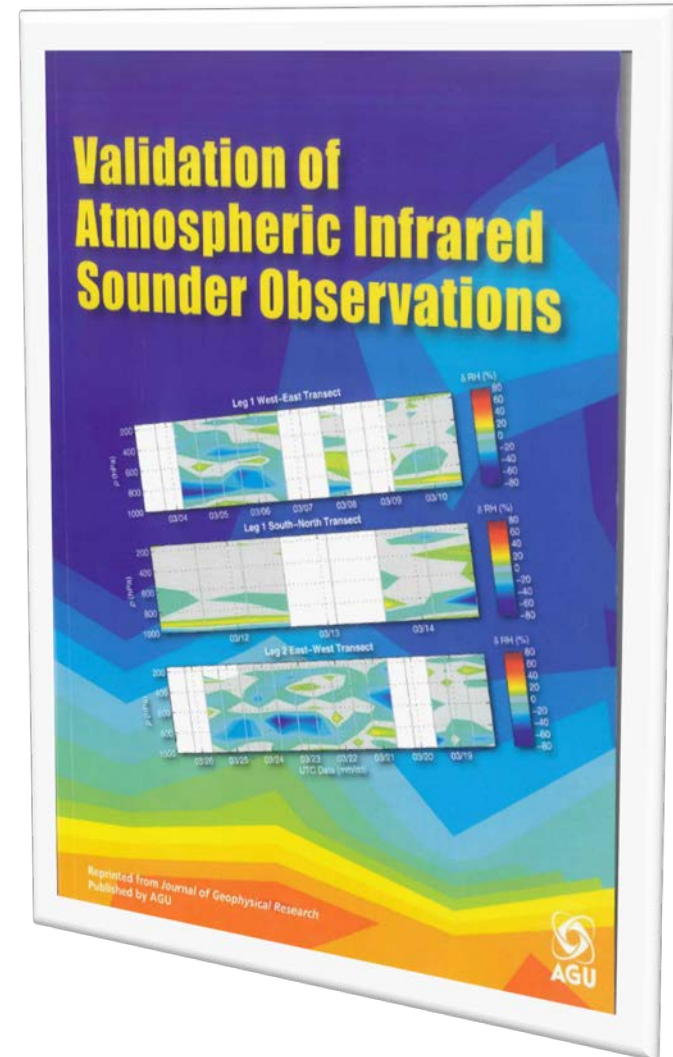
NUCAPS Products Validation

# JPSS SOUNDER EDR CAL/VAL OVERVIEW

# Intro: JPSS Sounder EDR Validation



- **Validation** is “the process of ascribing uncertainties to... radiances and retrieved quantities through comparison with correlative observations” (*Fetzer et al., 2003*).
  - Sounder EDR validation supports monitoring of sounder SDRs and cloud-cleared radiances (a Level 2 product shown to have positive impact on NWP; e.g., *Le Marshall et al., 2008*)
  - EDR validation enables development/improvement of algorithms



# SNPP/JPSS Program Cal/Val



- **JPSS Cal/Val Phases**

- Pre-Launch
- Early Orbit Checkout (EOC)
- **Intensive Cal/Val (ICV)**
  - Validation of EDRs against multiple correlative datasets
- **Long-Term Monitoring (LTM)**
  - Routine characterization of all EDR products and long-term demonstration of performance



- In accordance with the JPSS phased schedule, the **SNPP CrIS/ATMS EDR Cal/Val Plan** was devised to ensure the EDR would meet the mission **Level 1 requirements** (*Barnet, 2009*)
- The **EDR validation methodology** draws upon previous work with AIRS and IASI (*Nalli et al., 2013, JGR Special Section on SNPP Cal/Val*)
  - Classification of various approaches into a “Validation Methodology Hierarchy”
- The **J-1 CrIS/ATMS EDR Cal/Val Plan** was drafted during Jul–Aug 2015 and v1.0 was submitted on 20 August 2015

# CrIS/ATMS Sounder Operational EDR: NOAA Unique CrIS/ATMS Processing System (NUCAPS)

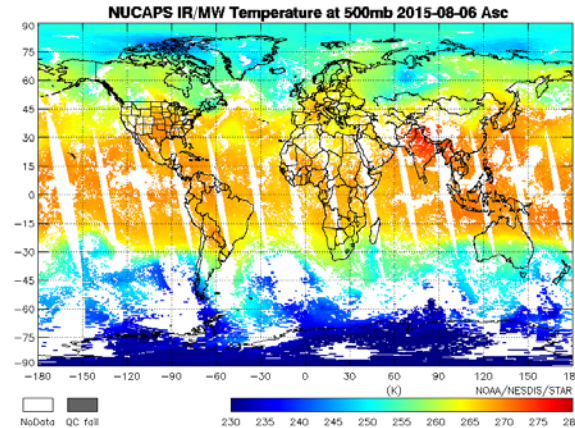


## NUCAPS Algorithm

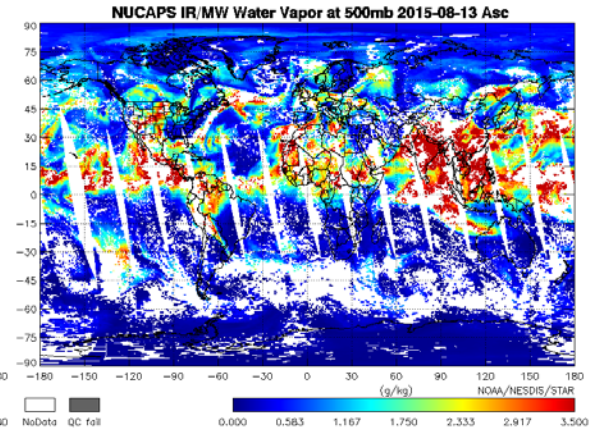
(Susskind, Barnet and Blaisdell, IEEE 2003;  
Gambacorta et al., 2014)

- **Operational algorithm**
  - Superseded original IDPS CrIMSS algorithm in Sep 2013
  - Unified Sounder Science Team (AIRS/IASI/CrIS) retrieval algorithm
  - Global non-precipitating conditions
  - Atmospheric Vertical Temperature, Moisture Profiles (**AVTP, AVMP**) and trace gas (**O<sub>3</sub>, CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>**)
  - **Stage-1 Validated Maturity achieved in Sep 2014**
    - Original IDPS CrIMSS EDR was validated through Beta and Provisional Maturities (Divakarla et al., 2014)
- **Users**
  - **Weather Forecast Offices (AWIPS)**
    - Nowcasting / severe weather
    - Alaska (cold core)
  - NOAA/CPC (OLR)
  - NOAA/ARL (IR ozone and trace gases)
  - TOAST (IR ozone)
  - Basic and applied science research (e.g., Pagano et al., 2014)
    - Via NOAA Data Centers (e.g., NGDC, CLASS)
    - Universities, peer-reviewed pubs

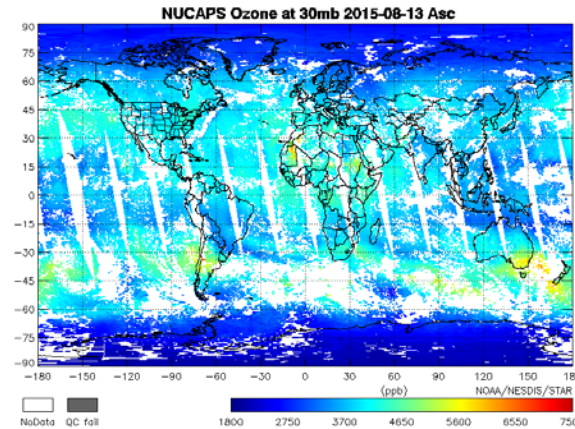
NUCAPS AVTP



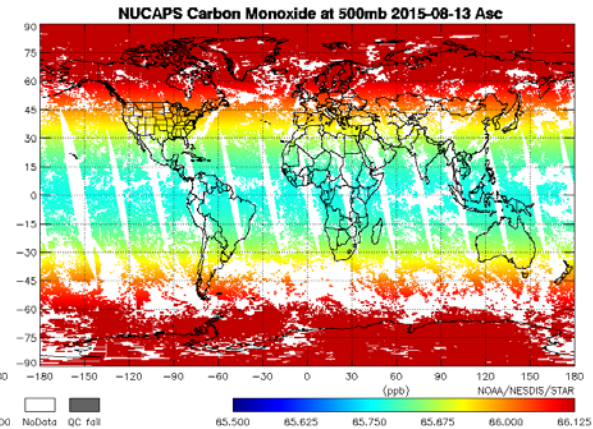
NUCAPS AVMP



NUCAPS O<sub>3</sub>



NUCAPS CO



## Long Term Monitoring

[http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/jps/EDRs/products\\_Soundings.php](http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/jps/EDRs/products_Soundings.php)

<http://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/atmosphere/soundings/nucaps/index.html>

# CrIS/ATMS Sounder EDR L1 Requirements



## AVTP and AVMP EDR

CrIS/ATMS Atmospheric Vertical Temperature Profile (AVTP) Measurement Uncertainty – Layer Average Temperature Error	
PARAMETER	THRESHOLD
AVTP, Cloud fraction < 50%, surface to 300 hPa	1.6 K / 1-km layer
AVTP, Cloud fraction < 50%, 300–30 hPa	1.5 K / 3-km layer
AVTP, Cloud fraction < 50%, 30–1 hPa	1.5 K / 5-km layer
AVTP, Cloud fraction < 50%, 1–0.5 hPa	3.5 K / 5-km layer
AVTP, Cloud fraction ≥ 50%, surface to 700 hPa	2.5 K / 1-km layer
AVTP, Cloud fraction ≥ 50%, 700–300 hPa	1.5 K / 1-km layer
AVTP, Cloud fraction ≥ 50%, 300–30 hPa	1.5 K / 3-km layer
AVTP, Cloud fraction ≥ 50%, 30–1 hPa	1.5 K / 5-km layer
AVTP, Cloud fraction ≥ 50%, 1–0.5 hPa	3.5 K / 5-km layer

CrIS/ATMS Atmospheric Vertical Moisture Profile (AVMP) Measurement Uncertainty – 2-km Layer Average Mixing Ratio % Error	
PARAMETER	THRESHOLD
AVMP, Cloud fraction < 50%, surface to 600 hPa	Greater of 20% or 0.2 g·kg <sup>-1</sup> / 2-km layer
AVMP, Cloud fraction < 50%, 600–300 hPa	Greater of 35% or 0.1 g·kg <sup>-1</sup> / 2-km layer
AVMP, Cloud fraction < 50%, 300–100 hPa	Greater of 35% or 0.1 g·kg <sup>-1</sup> / 2-km layer
AVMP, Cloud fraction ≥ 50%, surface to 600 hPa	Greater of 20% of 0.2 g·kg <sup>-1</sup> / 2-km layer
AVMP, Cloud fraction ≥ 50%, 600–400 hPa	Greater of 40% or 0.1 g·kg <sup>-1</sup> / 2-km layer
AVMP, Cloud fraction ≥ 50%, 400–100 hPa	Greater of 40% or 0.1 g·kg <sup>-1</sup> / 2-km layer

Source: L1RD (2014), pp. 41, 43

## Trace Gas EDR

CrIS Infrared Trace Gases Specification Performance Requirements	
PARAMETER	THRESHOLD
CO (Carbon Monoxide) Total Column Precision	35%, or full res mode 15%
CO (Carbon Monoxide) Total Column Accuracy	±25%, or full res mode ±5%
CO <sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide) Total Column Precision	0.5% (2 ppmv)
CO <sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide) Total Column Accuracy	±1% (4 ppmv)
CH <sub>4</sub> (Methane) Total Column Precision	1% (≈20 ppbv)
CH <sub>4</sub> (Methane) Total Column Accuracy	±4% (≈80 ppbv)
O <sub>3</sub> (Ozone) Profile Precision, 4–260 hPa (6 statistic layers)	20%
O <sub>3</sub> (Ozone) Profile Precision, 260 hPa to sfc (1 statistic layer)	20%
O <sub>3</sub> (Ozone) Profile Accuracy, 4–260 hPa (6 statistic layers)	±10%
O <sub>3</sub> (Ozone) Profile Accuracy, 260 hPa to sfc (1 statistic layer)	±10%
O <sub>3</sub> (Ozone) Profile Uncertainty, 4–260 hPa (6 statistic layers)	25%
O <sub>3</sub> (Ozone) Profile Uncertainty, 260 hPa to sfc (1 statistic layer)	25%

Source: L1RD (2014), pp. 45-49

Global requirements defined for lower and upper atmosphere subdivided into 1-km and 2-km layers for AVTP and AVMP, respectively.

“Clear to Partly-Cloudy” (Cloud Fraction < 50%) ↔ IR retrieval  
 “Cloudy” (Cloud Fraction ≥ 50%) ↔ MW-only retrieval



# Validation Methodology Hierarchy

(e.g., Nalli et al., JGR Special Section, 2013)



## 1. Numerical Model (e.g., ECMWF, NCEP/GFS) Global Comparisons

- Large, truly global samples acquired from Focus Days
- Useful for sanity checks, bias tuning and regression
- Limitation: *Not* independent truth data

## 2. Satellite Sounder EDR (e.g., AIRS, ATOVS, COSMIC) Intercomparisons

- Global samples acquired from Focus Days (e.g., AIRS)
- Consistency checks; merits of different retrieval algorithms
- Limitation: Similar error characteristics; must take rigorous account of averaging kernels of both systems (e.g., Rodgers and Connor, 2003)

## 3. Conventional RAOB Matchup Assessments

- WMO/GTS operational sondes launched ~2/day for NWP
- Representation of global zones, long-term monitoring
- Large samples after a couple months (e.g., Divakarla et al., 2006; Reale et al. 2012)
- Limitations:
  - Skewed distribution toward NH-continent
  - Mismatch errors, potentially systematic at individual sites
  - Non-uniform, less-accurate and poorly characterized radiosondes
  - RAOBs assimilated, by definition, into numerical models

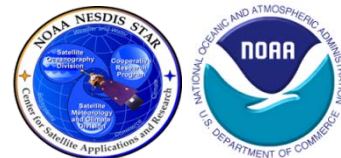
## 4. Dedicated/Reference RAOB Matchup Assessments

- *Dedicated* for the purpose of satellite validation
  - Known measurement uncertainty and optimal accuracy
  - Minimal mismatch errors
  - Atmospheric state “best estimates” or “merged soundings”
- Reference sondes: CFH, **GRUAN** corrected RS92/RS41
  - Traceable measurement
  - Uncertainty estimates
- Limitation: Small sample sizes and limited geographic coverage
- E.g., **ARM sites** (e.g., Tobin et al., 2006), **AEROSE**, **CalWater/ACAPEX**, **BCCSO**, **PMRF**

## 5. Intensive Field Campaign Dissections

- Include dedicated RAOBs, some *not* assimilated into NWP models
- Include ancillary datasets (e.g., ozonesondes, lidar, M-AERI, MWR, sunphotometer, etc.)
- Ideally include funded aircraft campaign using IR sounder (e.g., NAST-I, S-HIS)
- Detailed performance specification; state specification; SDR cal/val
- E.g., **SNAP**, **SNPP-1,-2**, **AEROSE**, **CalWater/ACAPEX**, **JAIVEX**, **WAVES**, **AWEX-G**, **EAQUATE**

# JPSS SNPP Validation Datasets and Tools



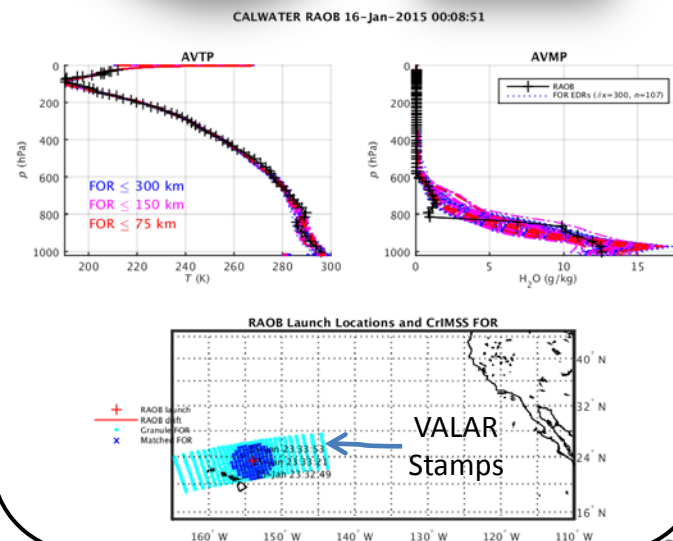
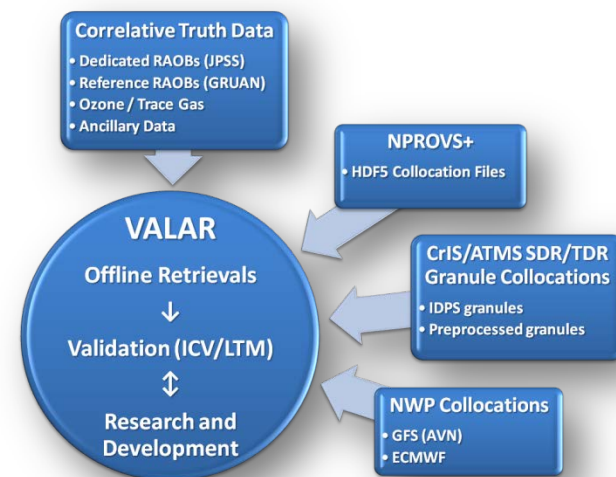
- **STAR Validation Archive (VALAR)**

- Low-level research data archive designed to meet needs of Cal/Val Plan
- Dedicated/reference and intensive campaign RAOBs
- SDR/TDR granule-based collocations (“stamps”) within 500 km radius acquired off SCDR (past 90 days) or CLASS (older than 90 days)
- Trace Gas EDR validation
- Offline retrievals / retrospective reprocessing
- MATLAB and IDL statistical codes and visualization software tools for monitoring
- Rigorous coarse-layer (1-km, 2-km) product performance measures based on statistical metrics corresponding to Level 1 Requirements detailed in *Nalli et al. (2013)*

- **NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)** (*Reale et al., 2012*)

- Conventional RAOBs (NPROVS+ dedicated/reference), “single closest FOR” collocations
- HDF5-formatted Collocation Files facilitates GRUAN RAOB matchups within VALAR
- NRT monitoring capability
- Satellite EDR intercomparison capability
- Java based graphical user interface tools for monitoring
  - Profile Display (PDISP)
  - NPROVS Archive Summary (NARCS)

## VALAR Concept and Objectives



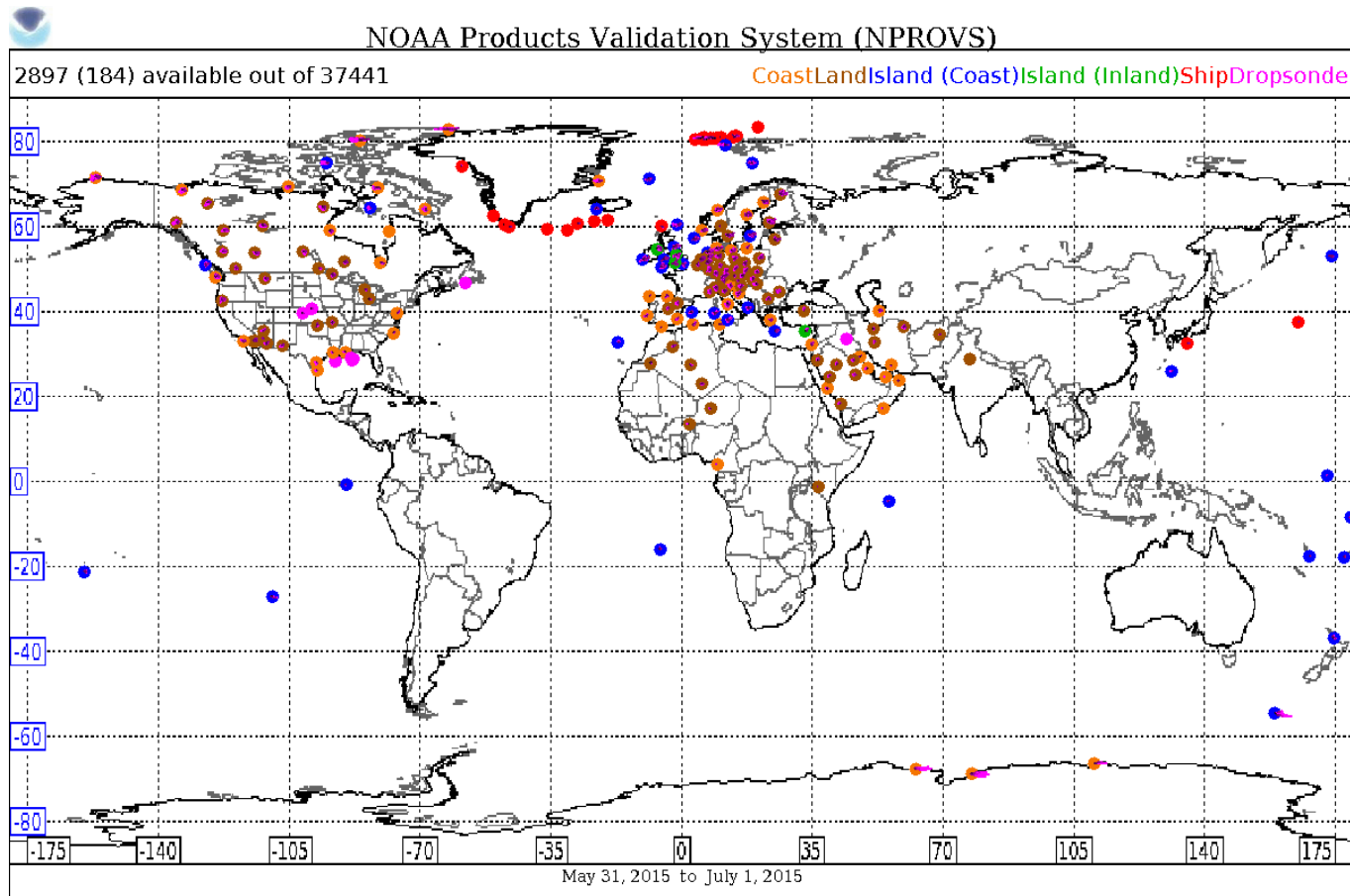


NUCAPS Products Validation

# NUCAPS EDR PRODUCT VALIDATION

# NPROVS Conventional RAOB Collocation Sample

## Single Closest FOR



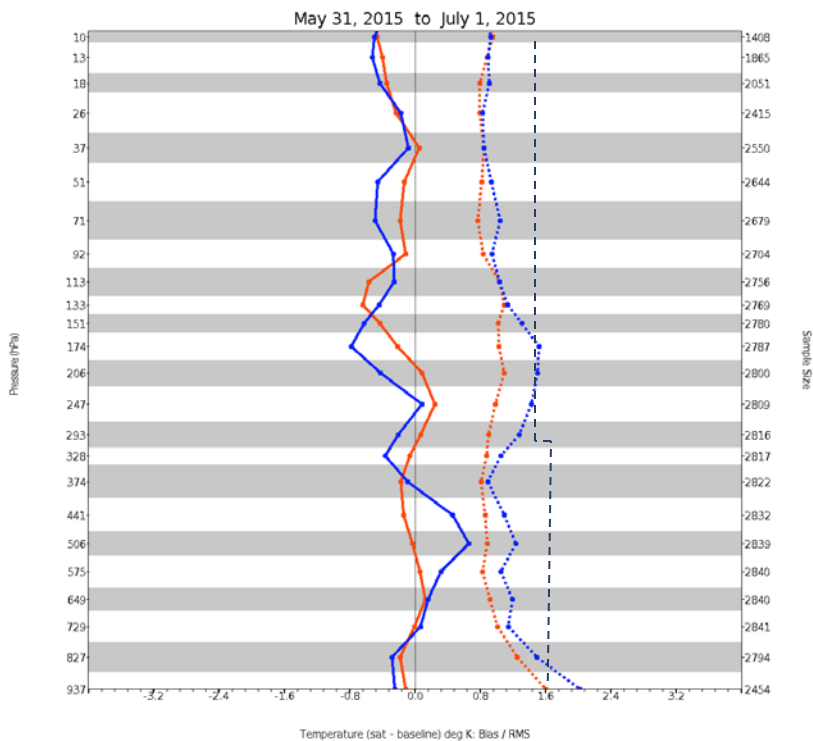
- June 2015
- RS92 and RS41 sondes
- Single-closest FOR
- Space-time window [1]
  - $\pm 3$  h before/after overpass
  - 75 km
- Sample size [1]  
 **$N = 2897$**

# NUCAPS OPS-EDR and AIRS versus NPROVS Collocated Conventional RAOB



## AVTP (BIAS and RMS)

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)



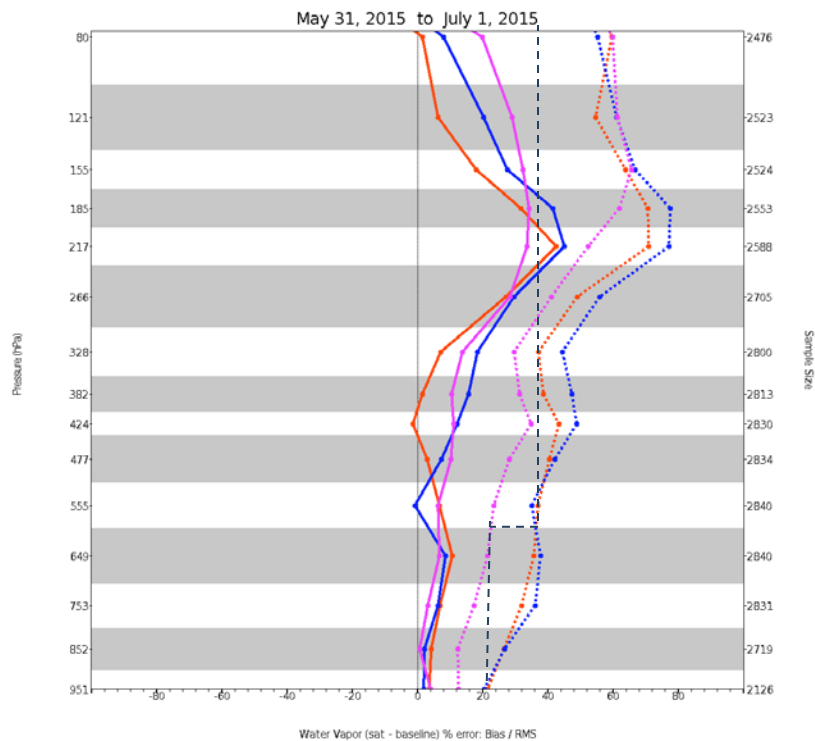
Baseline: RAOB Radiosonde

NUCAPS NPP

AIRS AQUA

## AVMP (BIAS and RMS)

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)



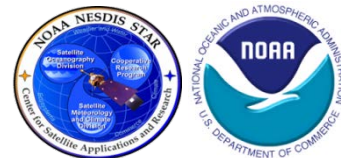
Baseline: RAOB Radiosonde

ECMWF ANALYSIS

NUCAPS NPP

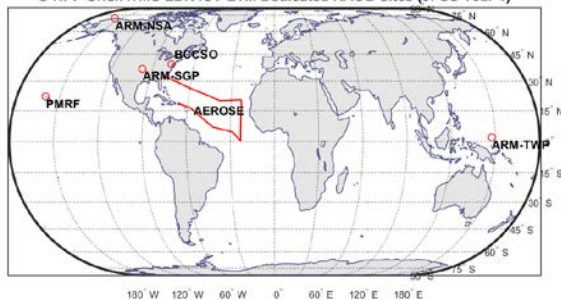
AIRS AQUA

# VALAR/NPROVS+ SNPP Dedicated and Reference RAOBs

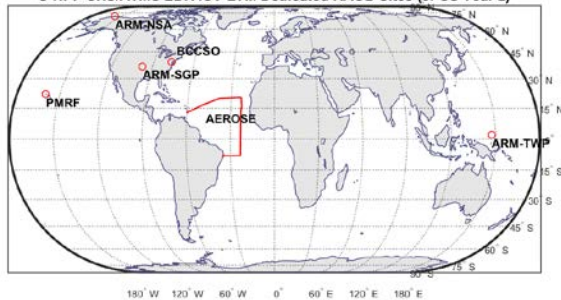


## JPSS SNPP Dedicated Years 1–2 (2012–2014)

S-NPP CrIS/ATMS EDR ICV-LTM Dedicated RAOB Sites (JPSS Year 1)

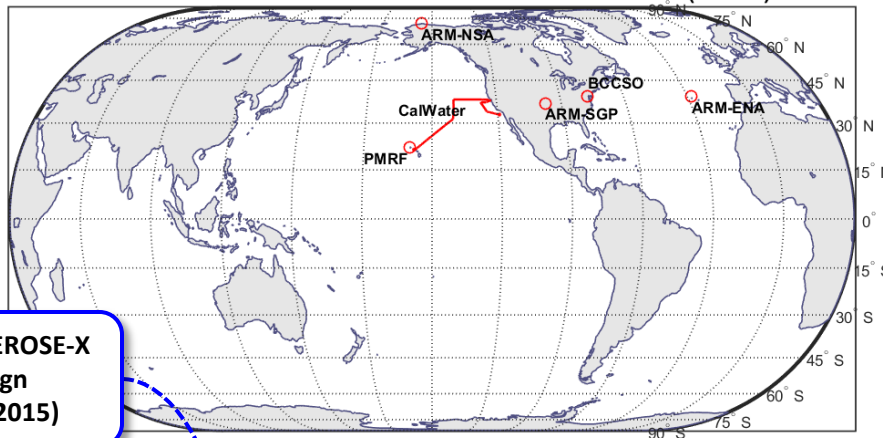


S-NPP CrIS/ATMS EDR ICV-LTM Dedicated RAOB Sites (JPSS Year 2)



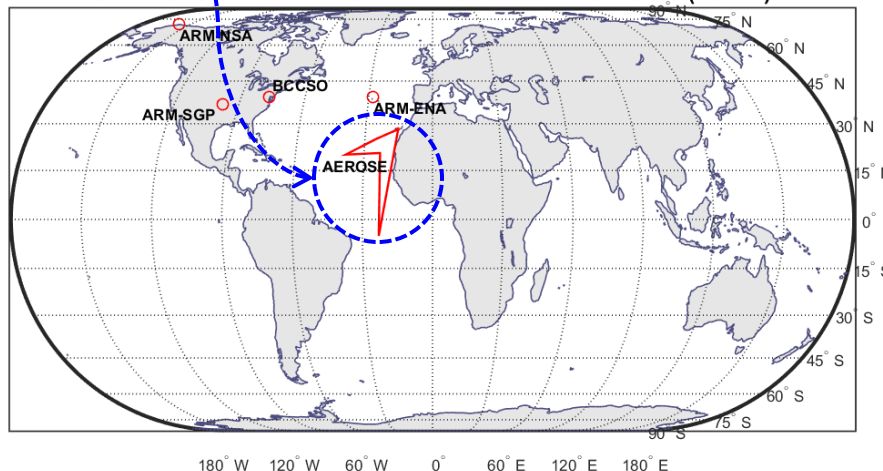
## JPSS SNPP Dedicated Years 3–4 (2014–2016)

SNPP CrIS/ATMS EDR ICV-LTM Dedicated RAOB Sites (Year 3)



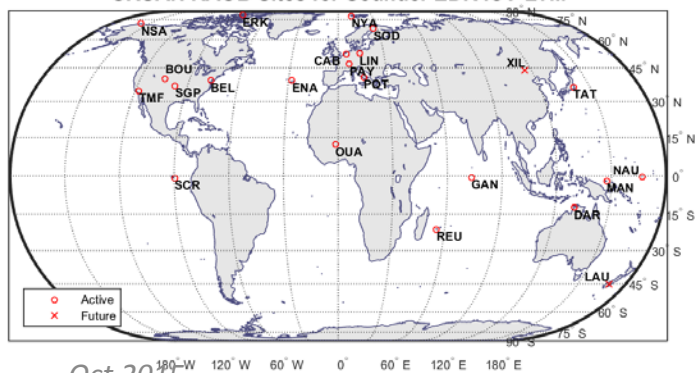
2015 PNE/AEROSE-X Campaign (Nov-Dec 2015)

SNPP CrIS/ATMS EDR ICV-LTM Dedicated RAOB Sites (Year 4)



## GRUAN Reference Sites

GRUAN RAOB Sites for Sounder EDR ICV-LTM



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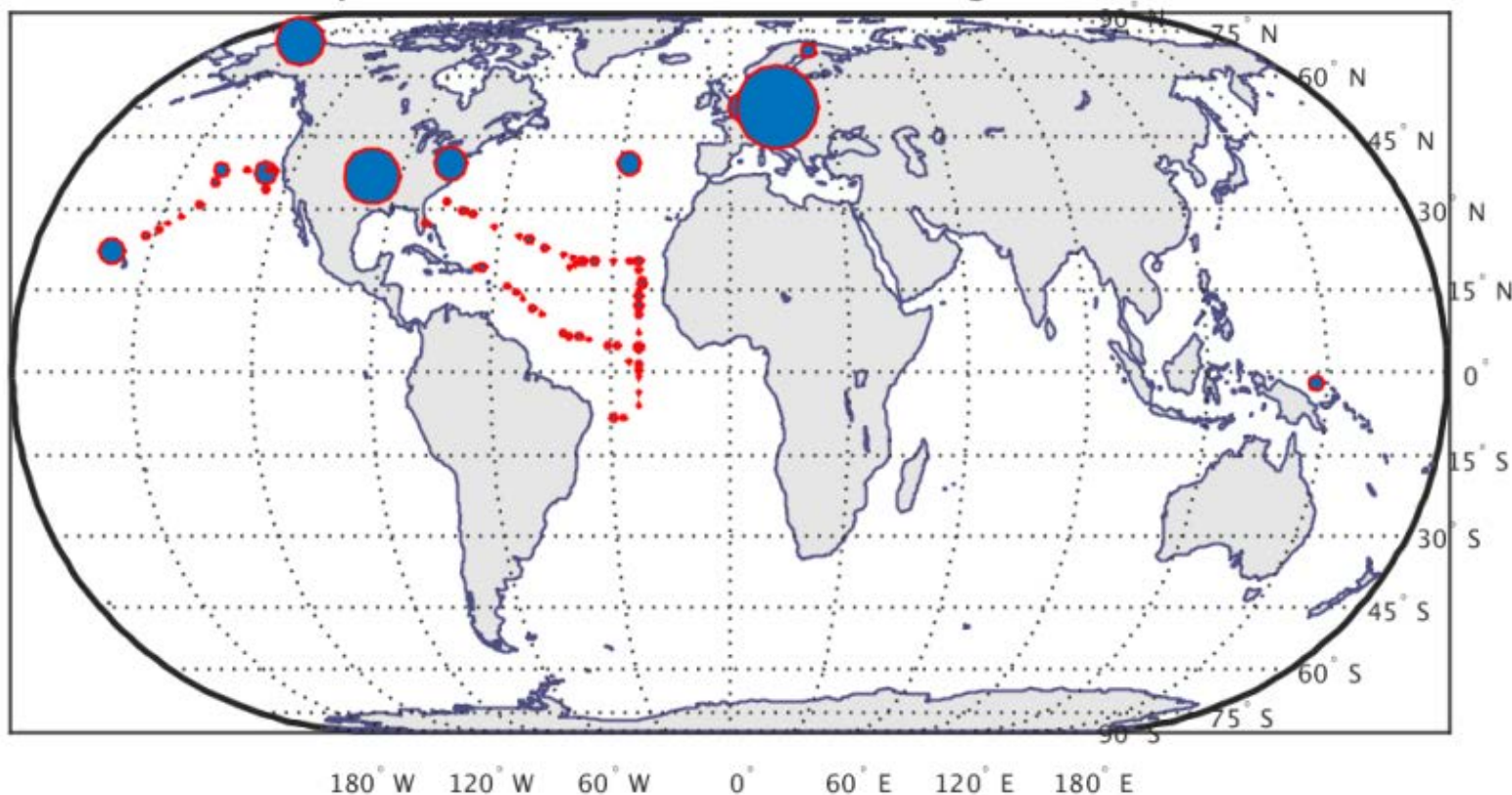
# VALAR Dedicated/Reference RAOB-FOR Collocation Sample ( $n = 1864$ )



## Geographic Histogram (Equal Area)

FOR Collocation Criteria:  $\delta x \leq 50$  km,  $-75 < \delta t < 0$  min

valar\_nucaps\_offline\_v15\_collocation\_file\_merged\_20150916.mat



# NUCAPS Offline (v1.5) EDR Coarse-Layer Statistics

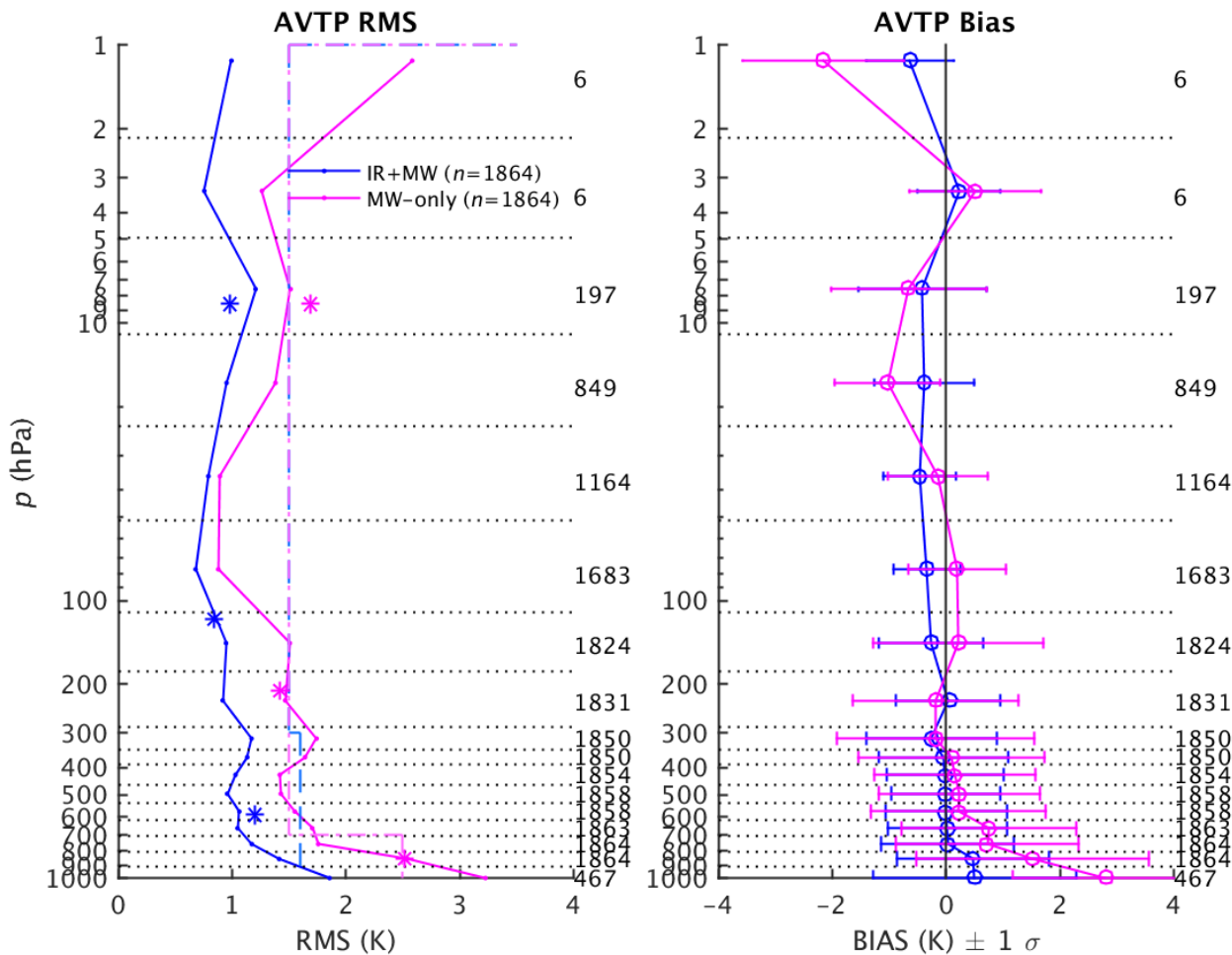
## VALAR Dedicated/Reference RAOB Collocation Sample (1/4)



### AVTP Versus RAOB

\* \* "Coarse Coarse-Layer" Stats (Per JPSS Level 1 Requirements)

IR+MW  
MW-Only





# NUCAPS Offline (v1.5) EDR Coarse-Layer Statistics

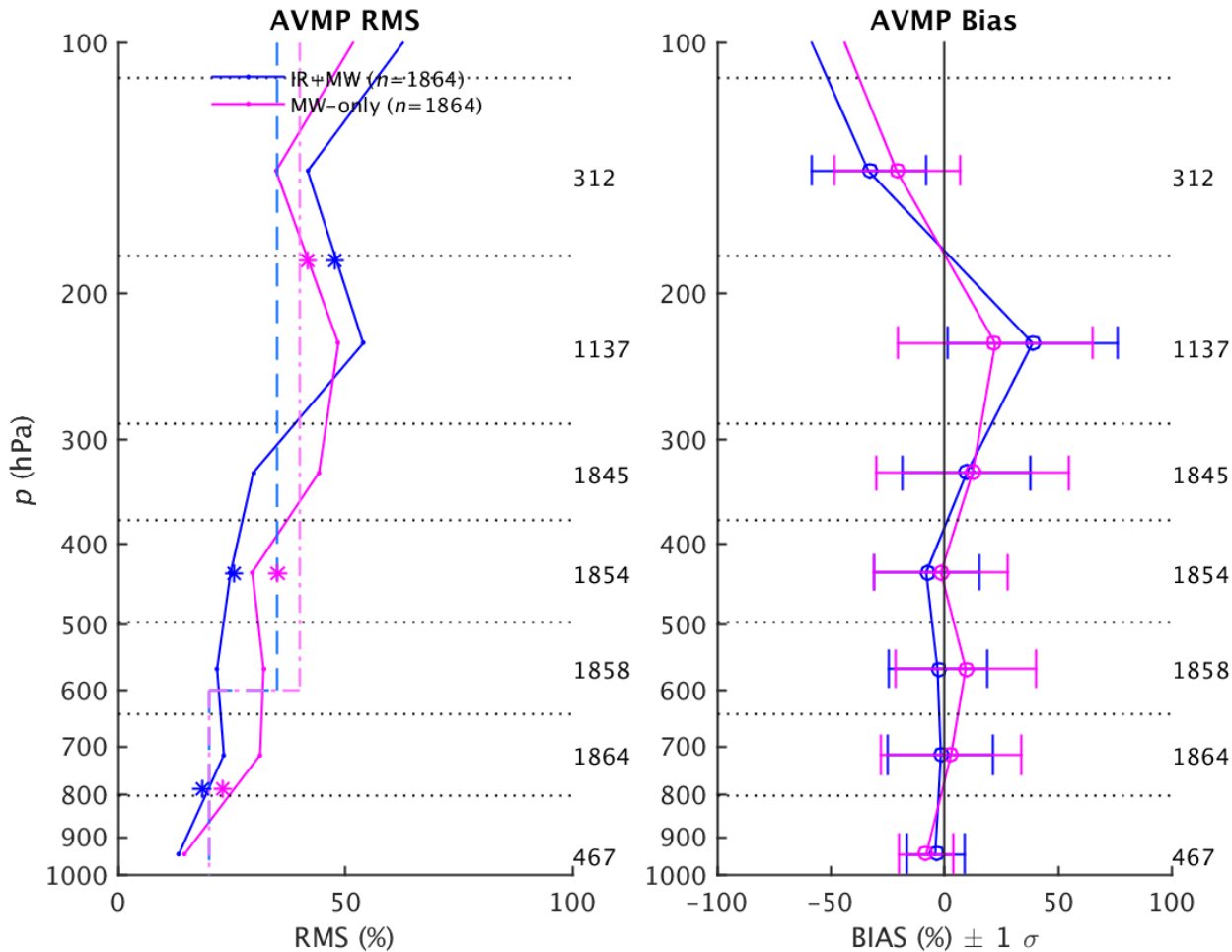
## VALAR Dedicated/Reference RAOB Collocation Sample (2/4)



### AVMP Versus RAOB

\* \* "Coarse Coarse-Layer" Stats (Per JPSS Level 1 Requirements)

IR+MW  
MW-Only

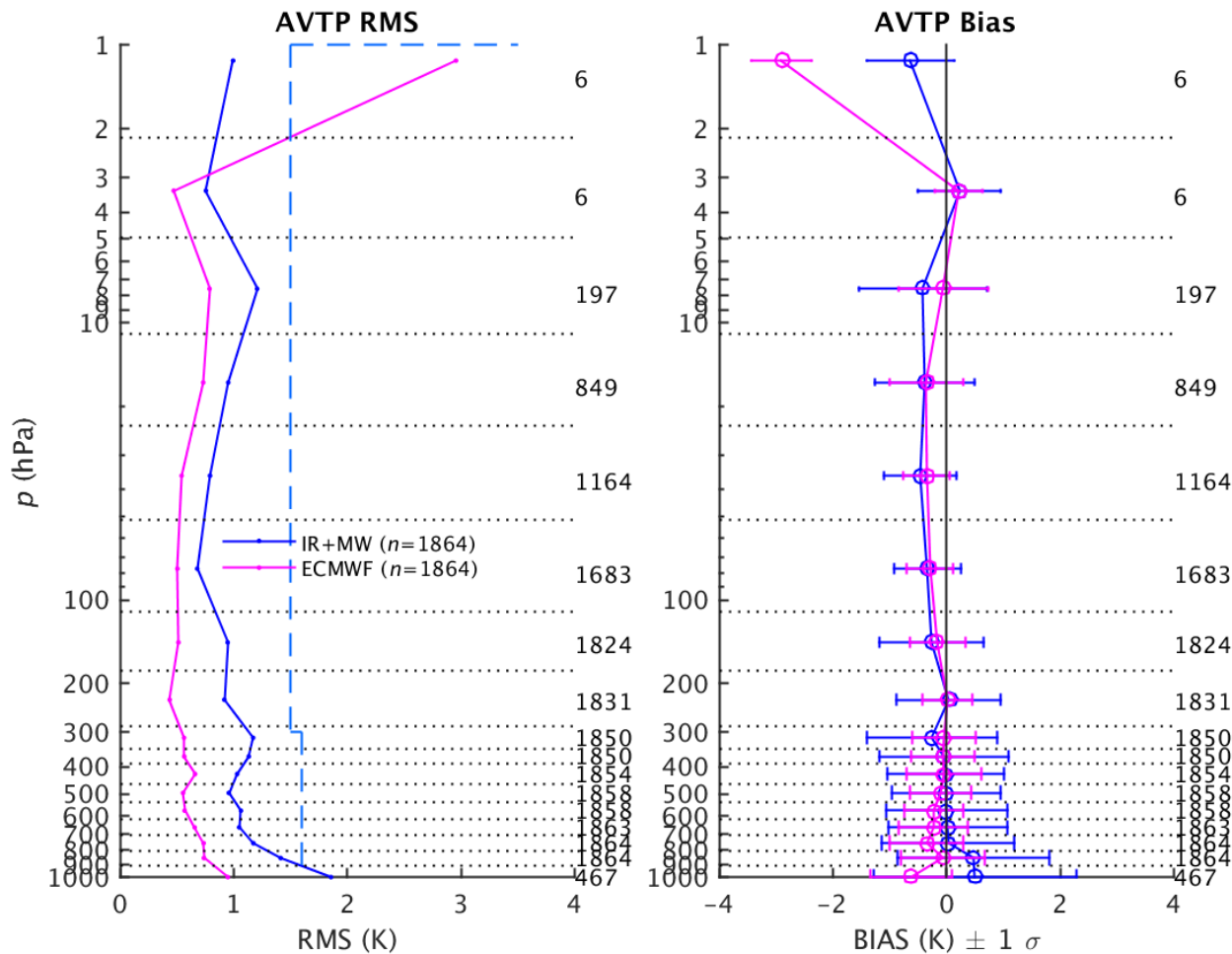


# NUCAPS Offline (v1.5) EDR Coarse-Layer Statistics

## VALAR Dedicated/Reference RAOB Collocation Sample (3/4)



### IR+MW AVTP and ECMWF Versus RAOB

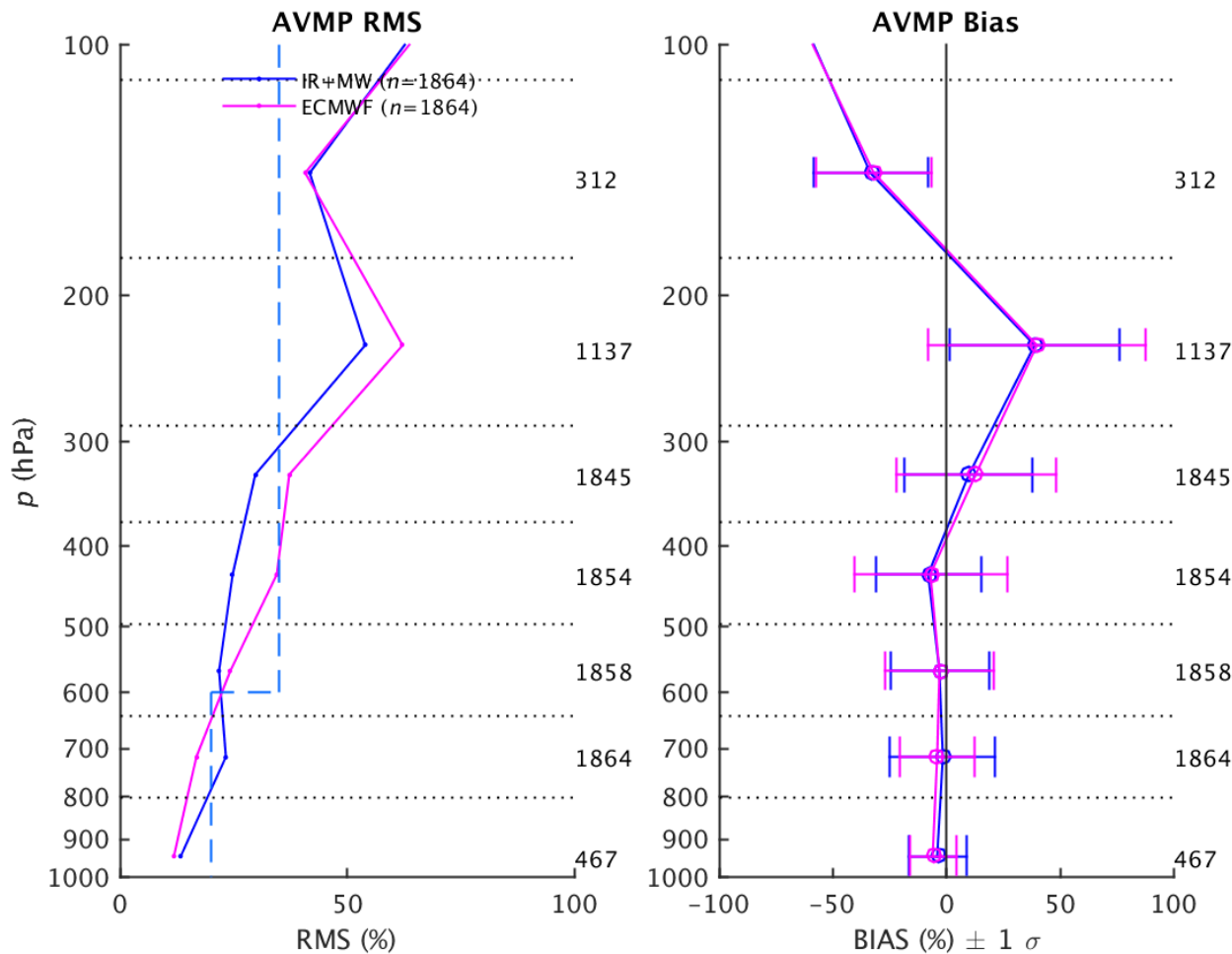


# NUCAPS Offline (v1.5) EDR Coarse-Layer Statistics

## VALAR Dedicated/Reference RAOB Collocation Sample (4/4)



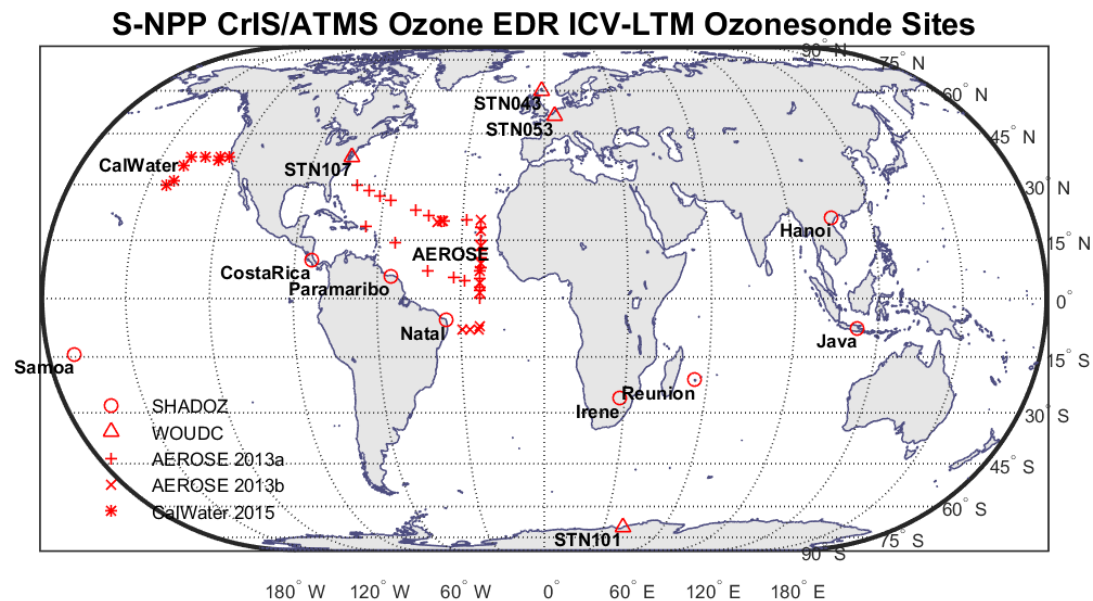
### IR+MW AVMP and ECMWF Versus RAOB



# NUCAPS IR Ozone Profile Validation *In Situ* Truth Datasets



- Collocated ozonesondes for O<sub>3</sub> (ozone) profile EDR
  - Dedicated Ozonesondes
    - NOAA AEROSE (*Nalli et al. 2011*)
    - CalWater/ACAPEX 2015
  - Sites of Opportunity
    - SHADOZ
      - Costa Rica
      - Hanoi
      - Irene
      - Java
      - Natal
      - Paramaribo
      - Reunion
      - American Samoa
    - WOUDC
      - STN043
      - STN053
      - STN107
      - STN101



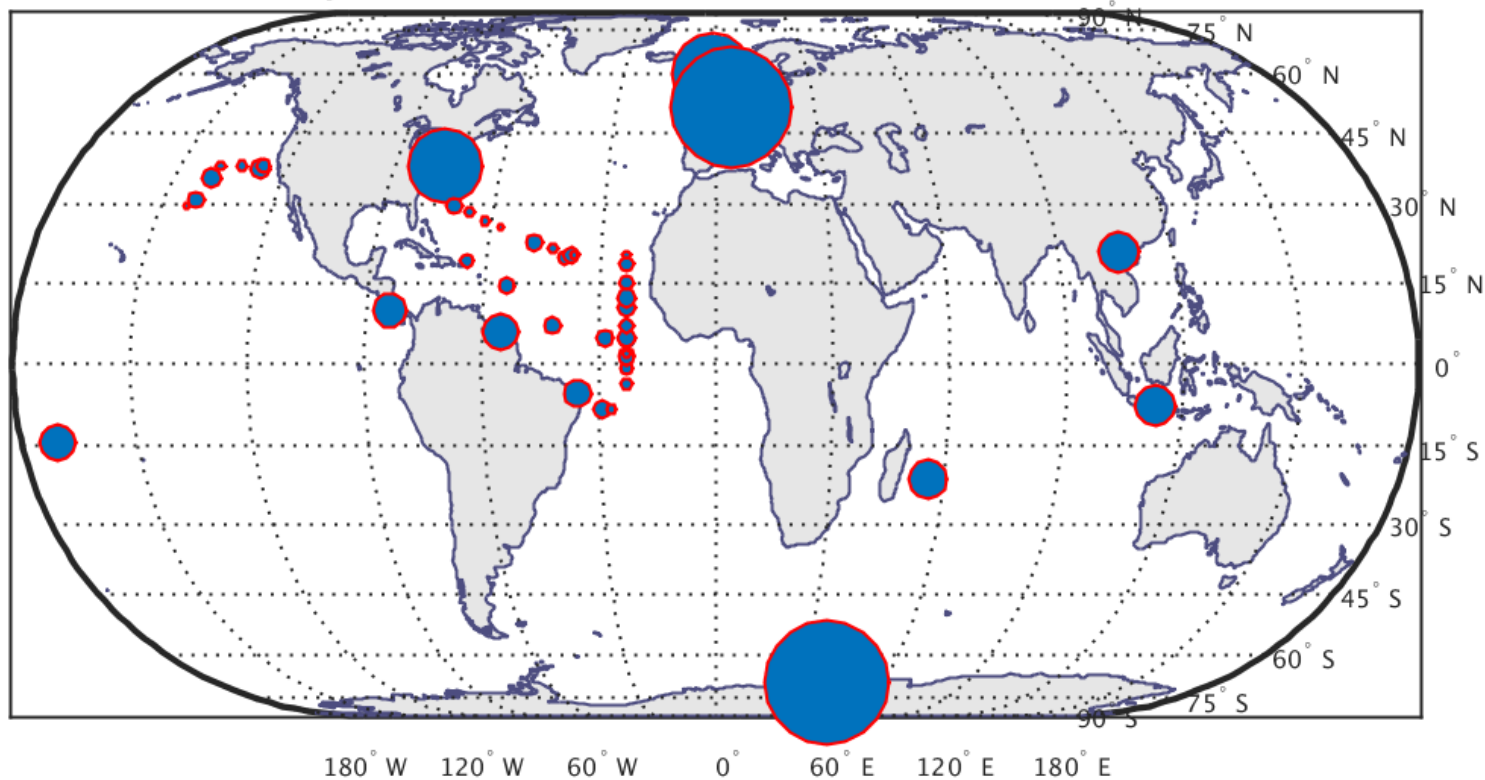
# VALAR Ozonesonde-FOR Collocation Sample ( $n = 5824$ )



## Geographic Histogram (Equal Area)

FOR Collocation Criteria:  $\delta x \leq 125$  km,  $-240 < \delta t < +120$  min

valar\_nucaps\_offline\_v15\_collocation\_file\_o3-raob\_20150812.mat

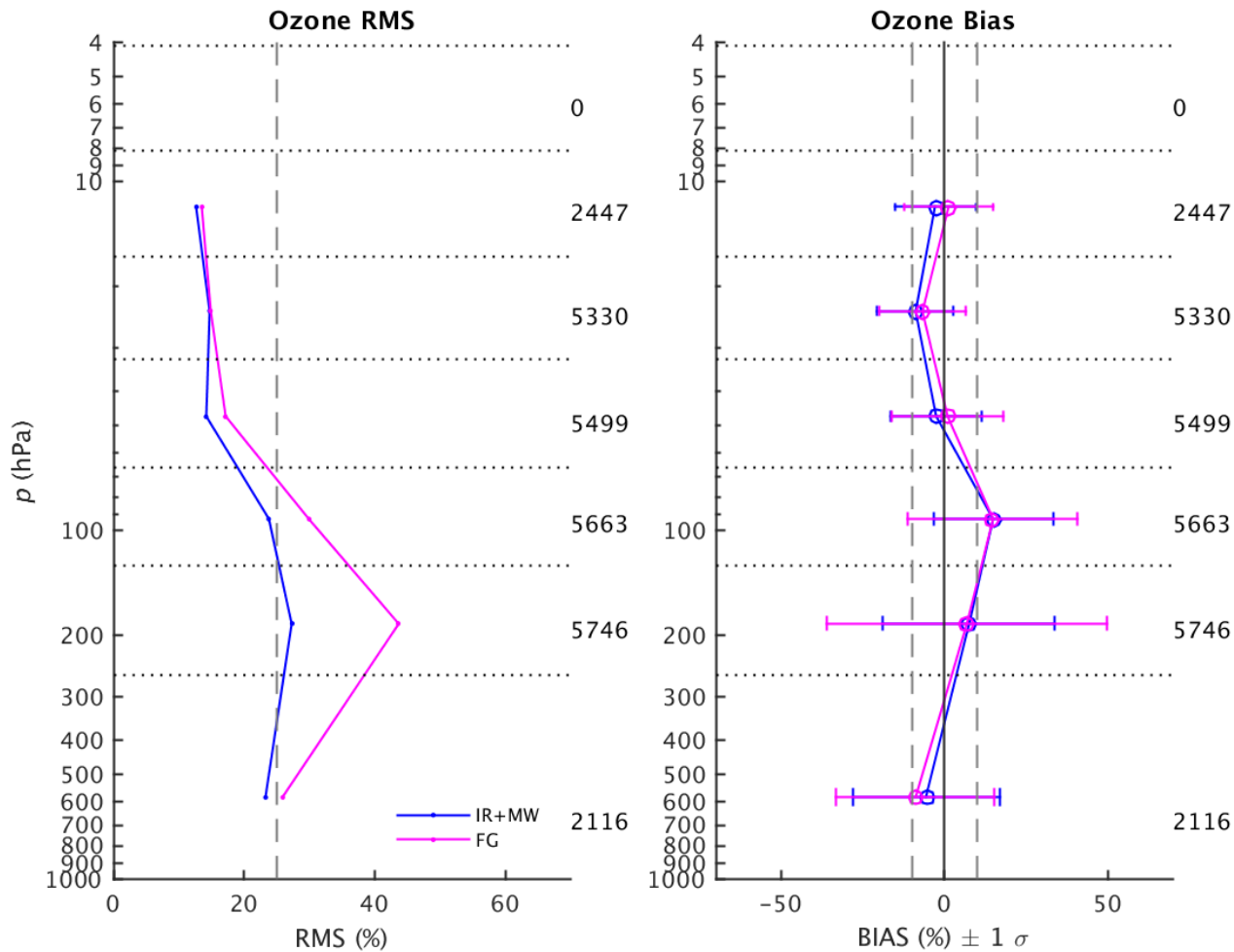


# Stage-2 Ozone Profile Validation (1/3)

## NUCAPS Offline (v1.5) EDR versus Global Ozonesondes



### Retrieval and *A Priori* First Guess

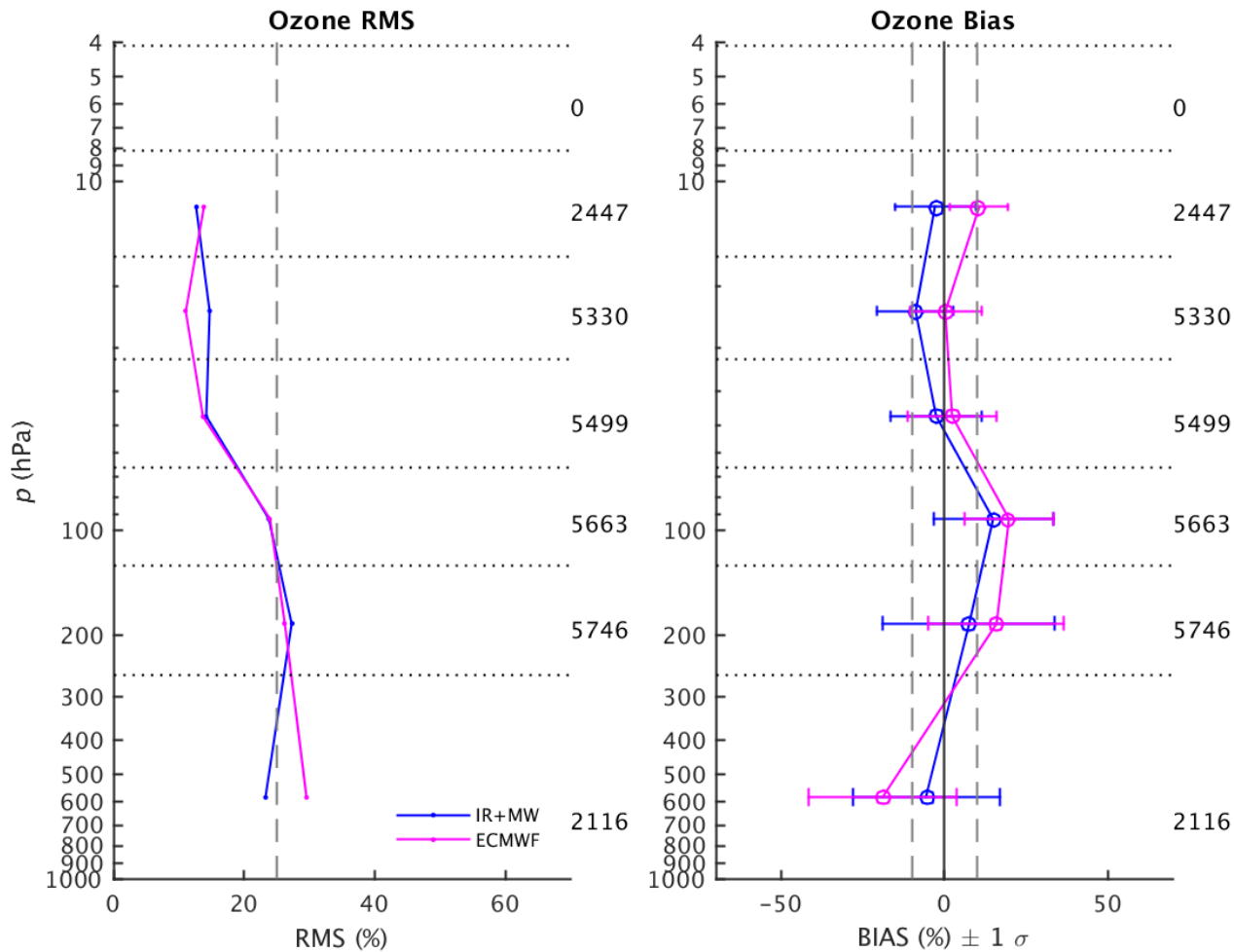


# Stage-2 Ozone Profile Validation (2/3)

## NUCAPS Offline (v1.5) EDR versus Global Ozonesondes



### Retrieval and ECMWF

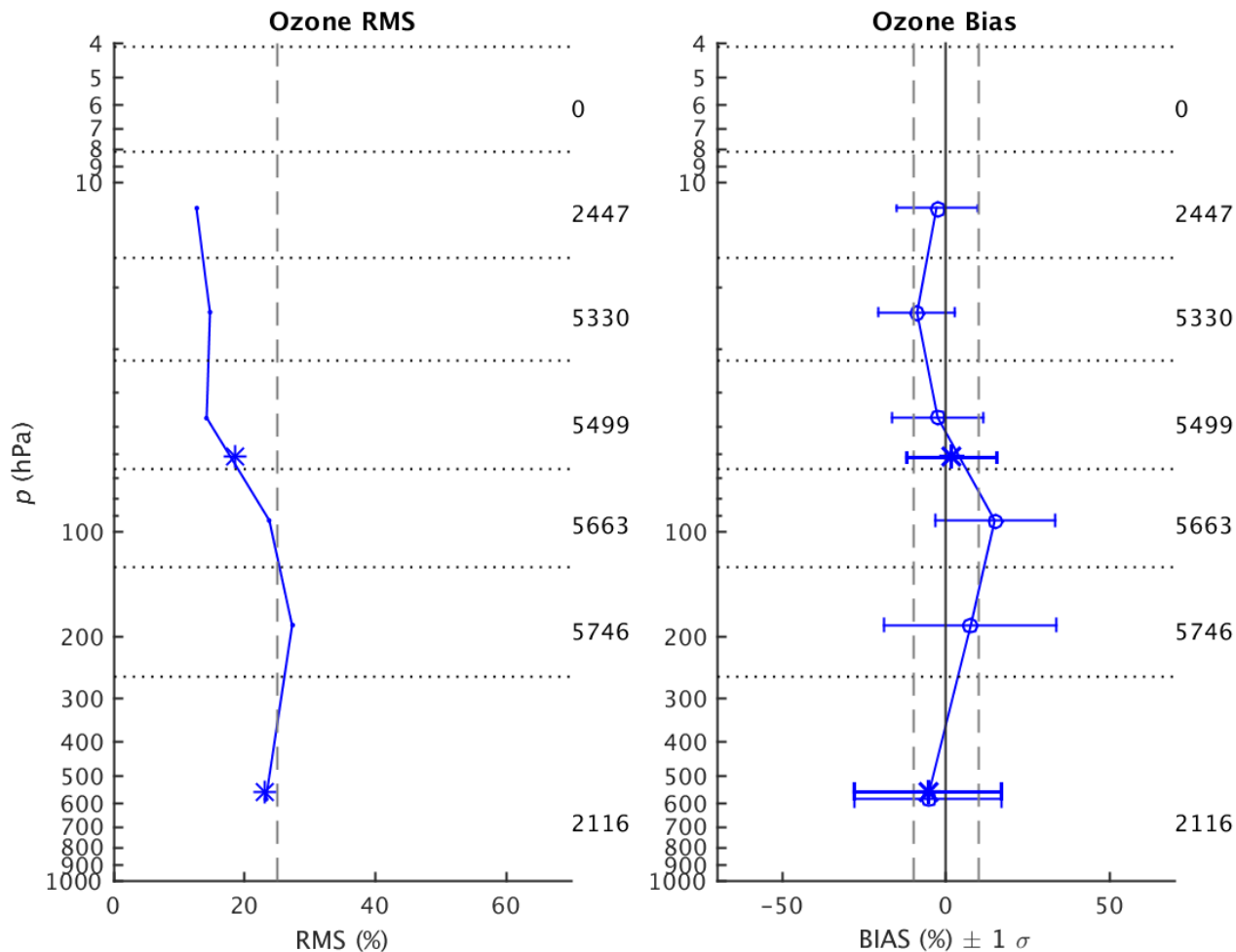


# Stage-2 Ozone Profile Validation (3/3)

## NUCAPS Offline (v1.5) EDR versus Global Ozonesondes



### \* "Coarse Coarse-Layer" Statistics (Per JPSS Level 1 Requirements)





- **NUCAPS Stages 3-4 Validated Maturities, Long-Term Monitoring**
  - AVTP/AVMP, IR O<sub>3</sub> validation for operational and offline code versions
    - Apply averaging kernels in NUCAPS error analyses, including ozone profile EDR
  - Carbon Trace Gas validation
    - Acquire truth data suitable for carbon product CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>
      - NOAA AEROSE Campaigns
      - MOZAIC aircraft (CO)
      - NOAA ESRL flask data (CO)
      - Satellite data (MLS, OCO-2, etc.)
  - VALAR expansion, development and enhancements
    - Support **AEROSE-X campaign (Atlantic Ocean, Nov-Dec 2015)**
    - Continue support of ARM dedicated RAOBs (including dual-launches, “best estimates”)
    - Continue leveraging GRUAN reference RAOBs
    - **GRUAN reprocessing** of RS92 RAOB data (viz., entire AEROSE data record)
  - Support short- and long-term NUCAPS EDR algorithm development, updates, improvements
  
- **Other Related Work**
  - Collocation uncertainty estimates
  - calc – obs analyses (CRTM, LBLRTM, SARTA, etc.)
  - Support skin SST EDR validation
  - Support EDR applications (AWIPS, AR/SAL, atmospheric chemistry users)



NUCAPS Products Validation

# EXTRA SLIDES

# Assessment Methodology: Reducing Truth to Correlative Layers



- The **measurement equation** (e.g., *Taylor and Kuyatt, 1994*) for retrieval includes forward and inverse operators (*Rodgers, 1990*) to estimate the measurand,  $\mathbf{x}$ , on forward model layers:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = I[F(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{b}), \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}]$$

- **Rigorous validation** therefore requires high-resolution truth measurements (e.g., dedicated RAOB) be **reduced to correlative RTA layers** (*Nalli et al., 2013, JGR Special Section on SNPP Cal/Val*)
- **Radiative transfer approach** is to integrate quantities over the atmospheric path (e.g., number densities  $\rightarrow$  column abundances), interpolate to RTA (arbitrary) levels, then compute RTA layer quantities, e.g.,

$$\sum_x(z) = \int_{z_t}^z N_x(z') dz'$$

# Assessment Methodology: Use of Averaging Kernels (AKs)



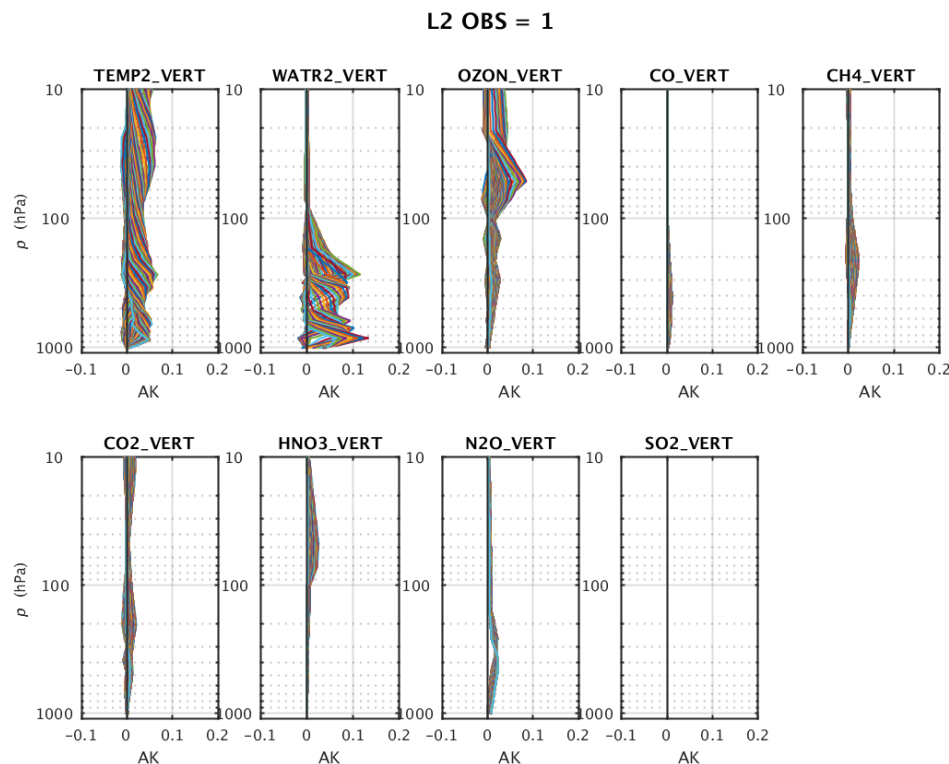
## NUCAPS Effective Averaging Kernels, $A_e$ (Maddy and Barnett 2008) AEROSE 16-Nov-13

- **AKs** define the **vertical sensitivity** of the sounder measurement system

$$\mathbf{A} \equiv \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{x}}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$

- Facilitates intercomparisons of profiles obtained by two different observing systems
- Retrieval AKs can be used to “smooth” correlative truth (RAOBs reduced to RTA layers), thereby **removing null-space errors** otherwise present

$$\mathbf{x}_s = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) + \mathbf{x}_0$$



# Assessment Methodology: Statistical Metrics



- Level 1 AVTP and AVMP accuracy requirements are defined over **coarse layers**, roughly 1–5 km for tropospheric AVTP and 2 km for AVMP (Table, Slide 6).
- We have recently introduced rigorous **zonal/land/sea surface area weighting** capabilities to these schemes for dedicated/reference RAOB samples

## AVTP

$$\text{RMS}(\Delta T_{\mathcal{L}}) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n_j} \sum_{j=1}^{n_j} (\Delta T_{\mathcal{L},j})^2} \quad \text{BIAS}(\Delta T_{\mathcal{L}}) \equiv \overline{\Delta T_{\mathcal{L}}} = \frac{1}{n_j} \sum_{j=1}^{n_j} \Delta T_{\mathcal{L},j}$$

$$\text{STD}(\Delta T_{\mathcal{L}}) \equiv \sigma(\Delta T_{\mathcal{L}}) = \sqrt{[\text{RMS}(\Delta T_{\mathcal{L}})]^2 - [\text{BIAS}(\Delta T_{\mathcal{L}})]^2}$$

## AVMP and O<sub>3</sub>

- W2 weighting was used in determining Level 1 Requirements
- To allow compatible STD calculation, W2 weighting should be consistently used for both RMS and BIAS

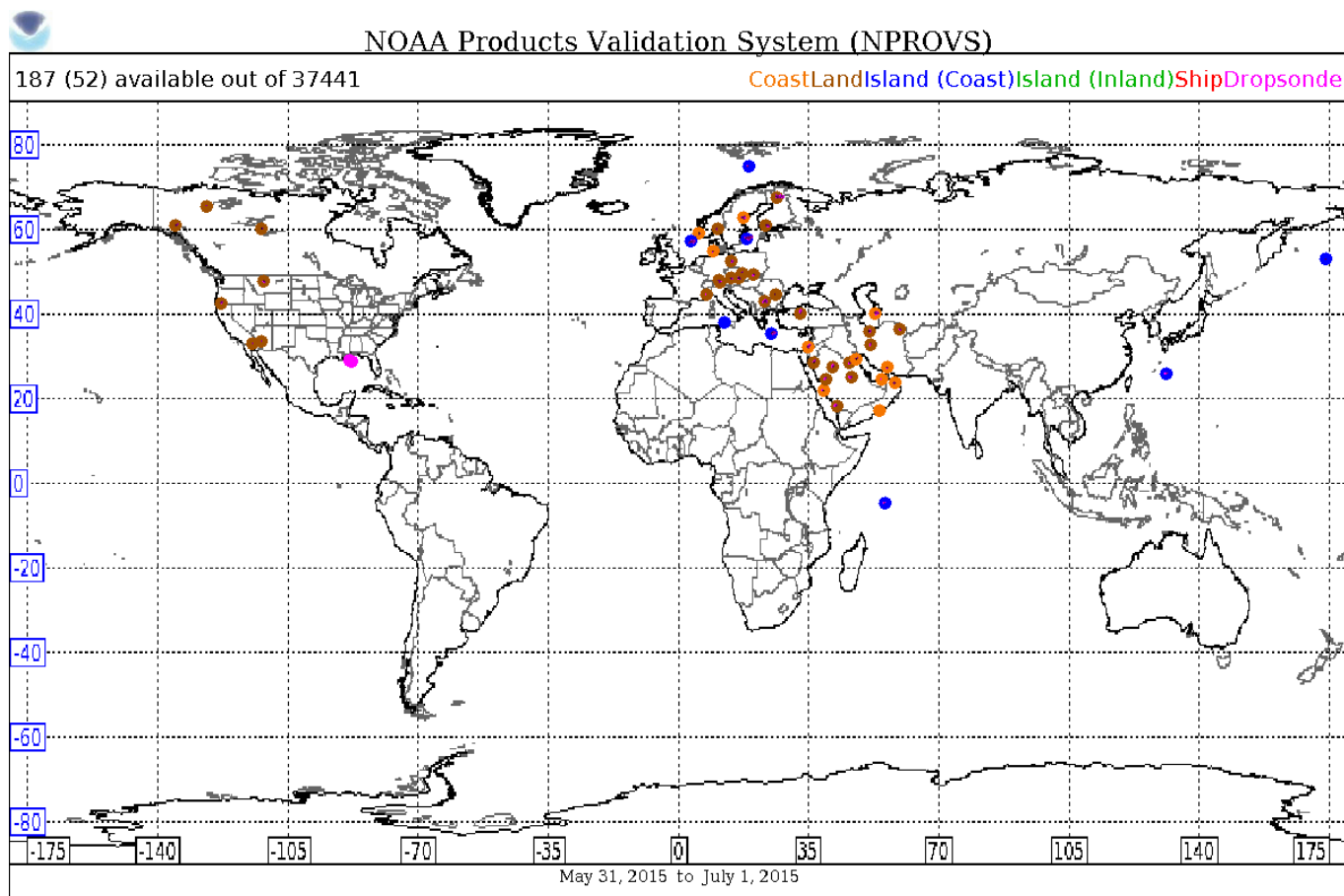
$$\Delta q_{\mathcal{L},j} \equiv \frac{\hat{q}_{\mathcal{L},j} - q_{\mathcal{L},j}}{q_{\mathcal{L},j}} \quad \text{RMS}(\Delta q_{\mathcal{L}}) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{j=1}^{n_j} W_{\mathcal{L},j} (\Delta q_{\mathcal{L},j})^2}{\sum_{j=1}^{n_j} W_{\mathcal{L},j}}}, \quad \text{water vapor weighting factor, } W_{\mathcal{L},j},$$

$$\text{BIAS}(\Delta q_{\mathcal{L}}) = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{n_j} W_{\mathcal{L},j} \Delta q_{\mathcal{L},j}}{\sum_{j=1}^{n_j} W_{\mathcal{L},j}}, \quad W_{\mathcal{L},j} = \begin{cases} 1 & , W^0 \\ q_{\mathcal{L},j} & , W^1 \\ (q_{\mathcal{L},j})^2 & , W^2 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{STD}(\Delta q_{\mathcal{L}}) = \sqrt{[\text{RMS}(\Delta q_{\mathcal{L}})]^2 - [\text{BIAS}(\Delta q_{\mathcal{L}})]^2}$$

# NPROVS Conventional RAOB Collocations

## Single Closest FOR



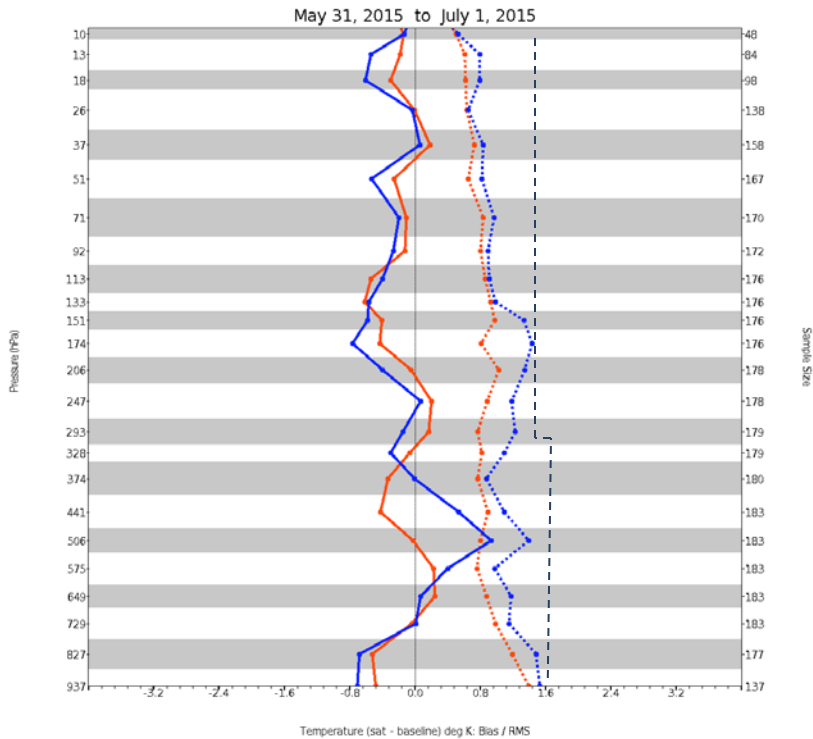
- June 2015
- RS92 and RS41 sondes
- Single-closest FOR
- Space-time window [2]
  - -2 to +0.5 h before/after overpass
  - 75 km
- Sample size [2]  
 **$N = 187$**

# NUCAPS OPS-EDR and AIRS versus NPROVS Collocated Conventional RAOB: Sample [2]



## AVTP (BIAS and RMS)

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)



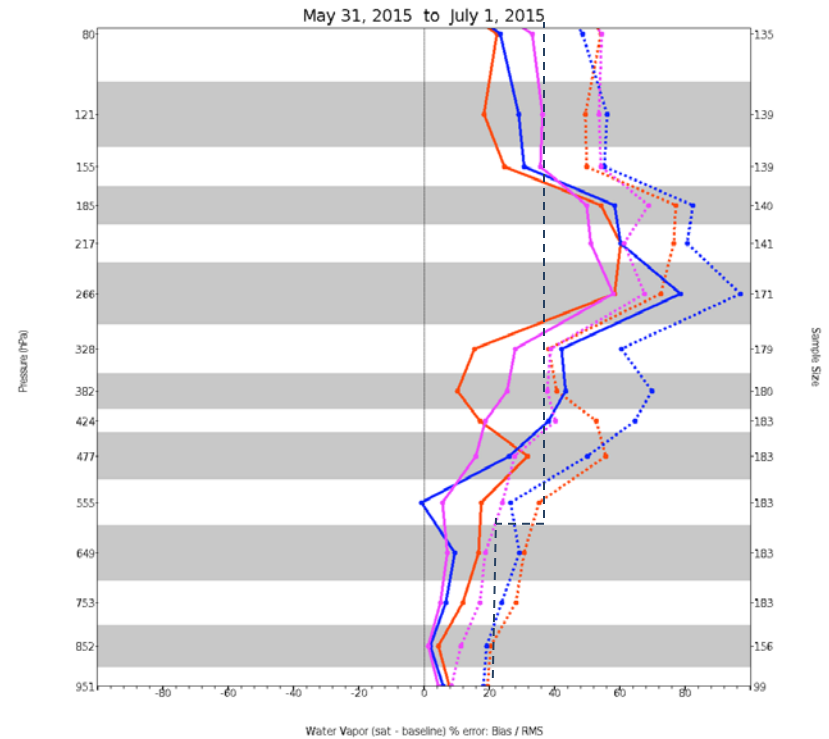
Baseline: RAOB Radiosonde

NUCAPS NPP

AIRS AQUA

## AVMP (BIAS and RMS)

NOAA Products Validation System (NPROVS)



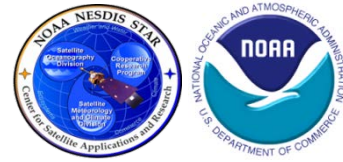
Baseline: RAOB Radiosonde

ECMWF ANALYSIS

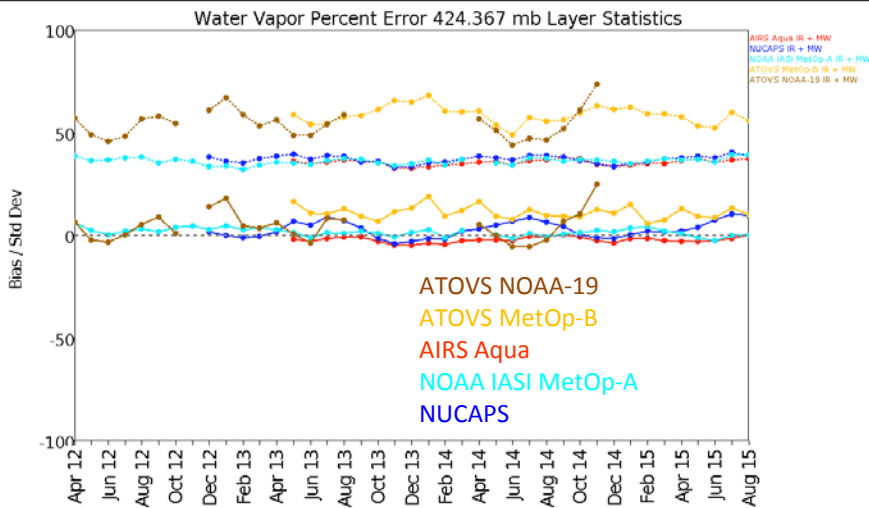
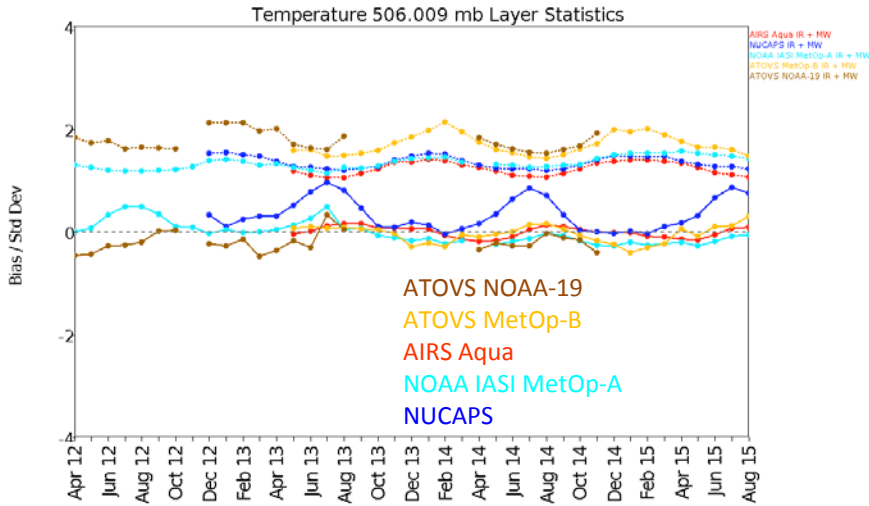
NUCAPS NPP

AIRS AQUA

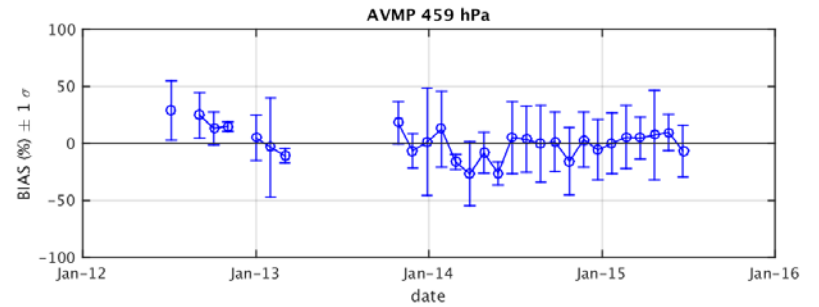
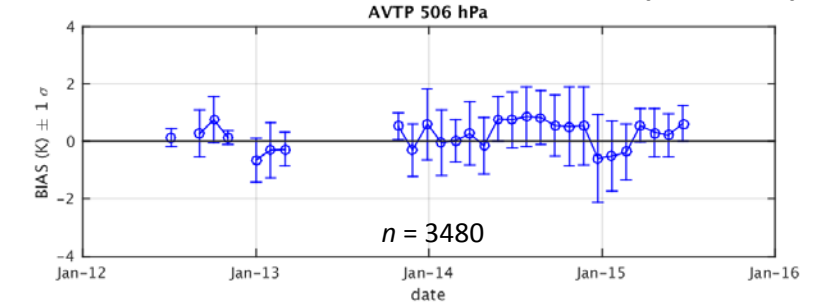
# Long-Term Monitoring (LTM)



## NPROVS NARCS Conventional RAOB Collocation (OPS-EDR)



## VALAR Dedicated/GRUAN Collocation (OPS-EDR)



## VALAR Ozonesonde Collocation (Offline v1.5)

