

## **Convective and wave signatures in ozone profiles over the equatorial Americas: Views from TC4 (2007) and SHADOZ**

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### **Popular Summary**

During the months of July-August 2007 NASA conducted a research campaign called the Tropical Composition, Clouds and Climate Coupling (TC4) experiment. Vertical profiles of ozone were measured daily using an instrument known as an ozonesonde, which is attached to a weather balloon and launch to altitudes in excess of 30 km. These ozone profiles were measured over coastal Las Tablas, Panamá (7.8N, 80W) and several times per week at Alajuela, Costa Rica (10N, 84W). Meteorological systems in the form of waves, detected most prominently in 100-300 m thick ozone layer in the tropical tropopause layer, occurred in 50% (Las Tablas) and 40% (Alajuela) of the soundings. These layers, associated with vertical displacements and classified as gravity waves (“GW,” possibly Kelvin waves), occur with similar structure and frequency over the Paramaribo (5.8N, 55W) and San Cristóbal (0.92S, 90W) sites of the Southern Hemisphere Additional Ozonesondes (SHADOZ) network. The gravity wave labeled layers in individual soundings correspond to cloud outflow as indicated by the tracers measured from the NASA DC-8 and other aircraft data, confirming convective initiation of equatorial waves. Layers representing quasi-horizontal displacements, referred to as Rossby waves, are robust features in soundings from 23 July to 5 August. The features associated with Rossby waves correspond to extra-tropical influence, possibly stratospheric, and sometimes to pollution transport. Comparison of Las Tablas and Alajuela ozone budgets with 1999-2007 Paramaribo and San Cristóbal soundings shows that TC4 is typical of climatology for the equatorial Americas. Overall during TC4, convection and associated meteorological waves appear to dominate ozone transport in the tropical tropopause layer.

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**Convective and wave signatures in ozone profiles over the equatorial Americas: Views from TC4 (2007) and SHADOZ**

**Abstract.** During the TC4 (Tropical Composition, Clouds and Climate Coupling) campaign in July-August 2007, daily ozonesondes were launched over coastal Las Tablas, Panamá (7.8N, 80W) and several times per week at Alajuela, Costa Rica (10N, 84W). Wave activity, detected most prominently in 100-300 m thick ozone laminae in the tropical tropopause layer, occurred in 50% (Las Tablas) and 40% (Alajuela) of the soundings. These layers, associated with vertical displacements and classified as gravity waves (“GW,” possibly Kelvin waves) by laminar identification, occur with similar structure and frequency over the Paramaribo (5.8N, 55W) and San Cristóbal (0.92S, 90W) Southern Hemisphere Additional Ozonesondes (SHADOZ) sites. GW-labeled laminae in individual soundings correspond to cloud outflow as indicated by DC-8 tracers and other aircraft data, confirming convective initiation of equatorial waves. Layers representing quasi-horizontal displacements, referred to as Rossby waves by the laminar technique, are robust features in soundings from 23 July to 5 August. The features associated with Rossby waves correspond to extra-tropical influence, possibly stratospheric, and sometimes to pollution transport. Comparison of Las Tablas and Alajuela ozone budgets with 1999-2007 Paramaribo and San Cristóbal soundings shows that TC4 is typical of climatology for the equatorial Americas. Overall during TC4, convection and associated waves appear to dominate ozone transport in the tropical tropopause layer; intrusions from the extra-tropics occur throughout the free troposphere.

## 1. Introduction

Ozone in the tropical troposphere reflects an interaction of photochemical and dynamical factors. The marine atmosphere is usually unpolluted, largely because the boundary layer (BL; see Appendix for abbreviations) is a region of O<sub>3</sub> photochemical loss [Piotrowicz *et al.*, 1991]. This is a consequence of slow formation (low NO<sub>x</sub> conditions; Zafirou *et al.*, 1980; Thompson *et al.*, 1993) with loss by HO<sub>x</sub>, or occasionally by rapid O<sub>3</sub> destruction by halogens [Read *et al.*, 2008]. In the free troposphere mixed sources converge [Thompson *et al.*, 1996]. Advected pollution, stratospherically influenced air, and lightning add to O<sub>3</sub> formation, the latter at rates according to time since a lightning episode (Thompson *et al.*, 1997; see Cooper *et al.* [2006] and Bertram *et al.* [2007] for analyses of lightning influence in mid-latitudes). Extra-tropical ozone may also enrich ozone in the tropics [Randel *et al.*, 2007].

Examination of ozone profiles from sondes or aircraft over remote tropical sites reveals the free troposphere as a region of low O<sub>3</sub> (< 30 ppbv; Thompson *et al.*, 2003a) alternating with layers of elevated O<sub>3</sub> (sometimes > 100 ppbv; Newell *et al.*, 1999). From soundings taken through SHADOZ (Southern Hemisphere Additional Ozonesondes; Thompson *et al.*, 2003a,b; 2010; submitted article available as Supplemental Material), SOWER [Stratospheric Ozone and Water in Equatorial Regions; Hasebe *et al.*, 2007; Takashima and Shiotani, 2007] and related campaigns, much is known about the structure of O<sub>3</sub> in the tropical upper troposphere (UT) and lower stratosphere (LS). Stable pollution layers in the free troposphere are frequent over Réunion, Fiji, Samoa, San Cristóbal, and Ascension [Thompson *et al.*, 1996; 2003b; Oltmans *et al.*, 2001; 2004; Randriambelo *et al.*, 2003]. Reduced O<sub>3</sub> layers often characterize the UT and TTL (tropical tropopause layer, ~8-14 km; Fueglistaler *et al.*, 2009), where convective outflow of low-O<sub>3</sub> BL air occurs. If O<sub>3</sub> in the UT or TTL averages to lower concentrations than in the mid-troposphere, an “S-shape” profile results [Folkens *et al.*, 2000].

The laminar identification (LID) method, based on O<sub>3</sub> and potential temperature gradients [Teitelbaum *et al.*, 1994, 1996; Grant *et al.*, 1998; Thompson *et al.*, 2007a; 2008], interprets persistent O<sub>3</sub> layers in terms of two wave-types. In the tropics, Rossby waves (RW) represent horizontal displacement; these correspond to filaments of extra-tropical air or pollution from long-range transport. When SHADOZ profiles are analyzed with the LID technique, RW signatures appear in < 20% of the soundings [Loucks, 2007; Thompson *et al.*, 2010]. Signatures of convectively-generated gravity waves (GW) occur



89 in 40-90% of SHADOZ soundings, depending on location and season [*Thompson et al.*,  
90 2010a,b]. Near the tropopause, GW are usually identified with Kelvin waves. Transient  
91 Kelvin waves have been observed in O<sub>3</sub> over both eastern and western Pacific [*Fujiwara et*  
92 *al.*, 1998; 2001].

93 Wave activity over the equatorial Americas has received less attention. Robust GW  
94 and RW signals were noted during the Milagro/INTEX-B/IONS-o6 (Intercontinental  
95 Transport Experiment; INTEX Ozone-sonde Network Study) campaigns over Mexico City  
96 (19N, 99W) and Houston (30N, 95W) in March-May 2006 [*Thompson et al.*, 2008], two  
97 locations that are essentially sub-tropical when springtime air parcel flows link them to  
98 central America [*Fast et al.*, 2007]. The TC4 (Tropical Composition, Cloud, and Climate  
99 Coupling) mission in July-August 2007 offered an opportunity to characterize O<sub>3</sub> profiles  
100 closer to the equator than the IONS-o6 soundings. TC4 [*Toon et al.*, 2010] investigated  
101 chemical transformation in convective systems and the impacts of deep convection on  
102 constituent transport, dehydration and cirrus formation. Sampling from San Jose, Costa  
103 Rica, with NASA's DC-8, WB-57 and ER-2 aircraft, was well-suited for comparisons with  
104 observations from Las Tablas, Panamá (LTP, 7.8N, 80W), where daily soundings were  
105 made from the NATIVE (Nittany Atmospheric Trailer and Integrated Validation  
106 Experiment) mobile lab. Most TC4 flights were south of the Intertropical Convergence  
107 Zone (ITCZ), which was located at 12-13N during the experiment [*Toon et al.*, 2010].  
108 SHADOZ [*Thompson et al.*, 2003a] soundings from Costa Rica (Alajuela, 10N, 84W) were  
109 augmented with several launches per week from early July through 9 August 2007.

110 Five TC4 studies are devoted to analysis of ozone transport and wave activity. In  
111 *Selkirk et al.* [2010] temperature anomalies from four-times-daily radiosondes over  
112 Alajuela indicate equatorial waves in the TTL. Comparison of TC4 radiosondes and water  
113 vapor from cryogenic frost-point hygrometer readings suggests less convection than  
114 during the 2005 TCSP (Tropical Convective Systems and Processes) campaign in the  
115 same location and time of year. The free troposphere was drier in TC4 than TCSP, and O<sub>3</sub>  
116 in the mid-upper troposphere was ~35% higher in TC4 (Figures 1, 3 and 4 in *Selkirk et*  
117 *al.*, 2010). *Avery et al.* [2010] focus on the strong anti-correlation between ozone and  
118 condensed cloud water content measured during sampling in active convection, and  
119 generalize their findings on convective redistribution of ozone with tracer composites.  
120 Convective outflow as indicated by local O<sub>3</sub> minima and elevated lower tropospheric  
121 tracers appears to maximize at 10-11 km. *Avery et al.* [2010] argue that in the DC-8

sampling region near the ITCZ, there has been about 50% convective turnover below the TTL, with vertical transport from just above the boundary layer. In *Morris et al.* [2010] lower-mid tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> within a convectively active region over the Pacific southwest of the Las Tablas (LTP) launch site on 5 August 2007 is investigated in detail. The LTP sounding for that day was caught in a strongly convective cell that bounced the balloon package up and down between 2.5-5 km; the O<sub>3</sub> within this layer increased from 30 to 40 ppbv before the balloon ascended to the stratosphere. *Petropavlovskikh et al.* [2010], analyzing the 17 July 2007 DC-8 flight, find that influences on O<sub>3</sub> near the TTL are a mixture of convection and advection, the latter including extra-tropical air, some of it possibly of stratospheric origins. The lowest O<sub>3</sub> layer occurred at 9-11 km, but low-O<sub>3</sub> signatures were also recorded by the UV-DIAL instrument at 2-4 km and 13 km.

As insightful as the above investigations are, none systematically examines dynamic influences in ozone structure in the free troposphere and LS day-by-day during TC4. That is the purpose of the present study. Using the full record of Alajuela (ACR) and Las Tablas O<sub>3</sub> soundings (**Section 2**), the following analyses are performed:

1) Mean O<sub>3</sub> profiles are determined and day-to-day variability is examined in curtains of O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratio and in integrated O<sub>3</sub> column amounts.

2) Ozone budgets based on LID and expressed as amounts affected by GW and RW provide a consistent framework for examining dynamic influences over the course of TC4. The climatology of wave signatures at LTP and ACR is compared to those at Paramaribo (5.8N,55W) and San Cristóbal (0.92S,90W) sondes, long-term SHADOZ stations also in the equatorial Americas (**Section 3.1**).

3) Case studies of soundings and ancillary aircraft measurements are used to corroborate wave designations, with convection for GW and stratospheric influences or pollution for RW (**Section 3.2**). One episode is among those analyzed by *Avery et al.* [2010] and *Morris et al.* [2010]. Others were chosen to illustrate contrasting impacts.

4) In **Section 4** context for the TC4 observations is given by June-July-August (JJA) Costa Rican sondes in 2006, and the 9-year SHADOZ record [*Thompson et al.*, 2003a,b] at Paramaribo and San Cristóbal. Specifically we ask:

- > How does tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> over LTP and ACR in 2007 compare to JJA O<sub>3</sub> over Costa Rica (Heredia site near Alajuela) in 2006, when an El Niño affected the eastern Pacific [*Arguez*, 2007]? How do LTP and ACR O<sub>3</sub> during TC4 compare to O<sub>3</sub> over San Cristóbal in 2007?

> How does O<sub>3</sub> over the equatorial Americas in TC4 compare to the 1999-2006 record? Indices based on GW activity are used to quantify interannual variability.

## **2. Experimental. Observations and Methods of Analysis.**

### **2.1 Ground & Aircraft**

Continuous surface O<sub>3</sub> measurements at Las Tablas (7.8N,80W) were made during the period 13 July to 10 August 2007 from the NATIVE mobile lab that also included an ozonesonde ground station. The surface O<sub>3</sub> was measured with a TECO Model 49 C ozone analyzer, along with carbon monoxide (TECO Model 48CTL), NO and NO<sub>y</sub> (TECO Model 42CY), SO<sub>2</sub> (TECO Model 43C-TLE) and particle size distribution (Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer). All data can be viewed at <<http://ozone.met.psu.edu/NATIVE/measurements.html>>. Calibrations of O<sub>3</sub>, CO, and SO<sub>2</sub> were made prior to and directly after the campaign with instrument grade gases (Airgas, Inc.). Calibration of NO and NO<sub>y</sub> was performed daily with instrument grade NO (Airgas, Inc.). Catalytic conversion efficiency tested before and after TC4 remained close to 100%.

### **2.2 Ozone Profiles and P-T-U Profiles**

All ozone profile data analyzed here were taken with electrochemical concentration cell (ECC) instruments coupled with standard radiosondes, as described in *Thompson et al.* [2003; 2007a]. Coordinates of LTP, ACR and the SHADOZ sites referred to here appear in **Table 1**, along with details of the sondes used. At Las Tablas, the 0.5% KI buffered solution with ENSCI ozonesondes is a combination that optimizes tropospheric and stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> measurements [Smit *et al.*, 2007; Thompson *et al.*, 2007b; Deshler *et al.*, 2008]. Vaisala radiosondes, Model RS-80, were used to collect P-T-U data. For nine of the 25 LTP soundings during TC4 the humidity data are unreliable above ~300-500 hPa due to suspected sensor icing. Ozone profiles from LTP are viewable at <[http://ozone.met.psu.edu/Panama\\_Data/index.html](http://ozone.met.psu.edu/Panama_Data/index.html)>. Each ozonesonde is calibrated according to standard procedures prior to launch; all LTP sondes were also compared to the TECO O<sub>3</sub> for 5-10 minutes pre-launch; agreement is within the stated precision of each technique (5%; Figure 1 in Morris *et al.*, 2010).

Ozone over Alajuela was measured by ENSCI ECC sondes with 1% KI with reduced (0.1%) buffer (**Table 1**); RS-80 radiosondes with a cryogenic frost-point hygrometer were used for P-T-U. At both ACR and LTP, most launches took place in early afternoon local time to capture Aura [Schoeberl *et al.*, 2006], Aqua and CALIPSO satellite overpasses



[Toon *et al.*, 2010]. Images and data for all Costa Rican (late 2005 start), Paramaribo (1999-present) and San Cristóbal (1999-present) ozonesonde and P-T-U profiles are available at <<http://croc.gsfc.nasa.gov/shadoz>> and at the World Ozone and Ultraviolet Data Centre, <<http://woudc.org>>.

Aircraft data used most often in analysis of the soundings are: O<sub>3</sub> from the FASTOZ *in-situ* instrument [Avery *et al.*, 2010], uv-DIAL and DACOM CO on the DC-8; the Cloud Physics Lidar (CPL) and Cloud Radar System (CRS) on the ER-2 [McGill *et al.*, 2004; Hlavka *et al.*, 2010]. Regional cloud and convective information comes from meteorological analyses and GOES imagery, as archived by Toon *et al.* [2010].

### 2.3 Ancillary Data

As for IONS-04 [Thompson *et al.*, 2007a] and IONS-06 [Thompson *et al.*, 2008], tracers for O<sub>3</sub> origins include: (1) RH from the radiosonde P-T-U profiles; (2) Ertel's potential vorticity (pv;  $1 \text{ pvu} = 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-1}/\text{K}$ ) computed from the Goddard Earth Observing System Assimilation Model (GEOS-version 4; Bloom *et al.*, 2005); (3) forward and backward air-parcel trajectories for each launch location and date, calculated with the kinematic version of the GSFC trajectory model [Schoeberl and Sparling, 1995] using GEOS meteorological fields at a 1x1-degree grid. Lightning imagery is also used to describe potential O<sub>3</sub> influences, as are absorbing aerosol data from OMI, trajectory-enhanced aerosol-exposure images and OMI NO<sub>2</sub> amounts. All back-trajectories in the TC4 region, aerosol and lightning data and trajectory-mapped exposure products are at the GSFC TC4 website: <<http://croc.gsfc.nasa.gov/tc4>>. In selected cases, additional trajectories were run with the NOAA Hysplit model (Draxler and Rolph, 2003).

### 2.4 Analysis for Wave Influences

In the LID (Laminar Identification; Thompson *et al.*, 2007a; 2008) technique, O<sub>3</sub> and potential temperature ( $\theta$ ) laminae, as described in Teitelbaum *et al.* [1994; 1996] and Pierce and Grant [1998] are used to identify RW and GW signatures as illustrated in

**Figure 1.** The method is described as follows:

- 1) For each sounding, the O<sub>3</sub> and  $\theta$  laminae are isolated through normalization to running means. A boxcar smoothing over 2.5 km is used to isolate each lamina. Larger and smaller ranges (from 0.5 to 2.5 km) have been tested with little difference in laminar statistics. Normalized O<sub>3</sub> is the solid line in **Figure 1**; the  $\theta$  deviations are signified by the dotted line. Because the ozone mixing ratio



precision is 5% in most of the region of interest, only laminae representing a deviation of  $\geq 10\%$  are included in the analysis (red vertical lines in **Figure 1**).  
2): Correlations between  $O_3$  and  $\theta$  gradients are compared to identify GW and RW. Where the correlations (as in dashed line, **Figure 1**) exceed 0.7 GW (light green) is defined, based on the reasoning that such correlation between the two quantities signifies a vertical disturbance. Conversely, when horizontal motion affects  $O_3$ , it is poorly correlated with  $\theta$  and RW is specified. We adopt the practice of *Pierce and Grant* [1998] and *Teitelbaum et al.*, 1994], setting the RW limit for anti-correlation at  $\pm 0.3$ , corresponding to light blue sections in **Figure 1**. This is a fairly conservative criterion; see *Thompson et al.* [2007a] for sensitivity studies.

Two analyses are performed with the LID results. First, for an ensemble of soundings, wave frequencies at a given altitude are calculated from the percentage within a sample set that have laminae designated as RW or GW. Second, for each sounding, the contributions of RW and GW above the boundary layer (BL) to the tropopause or to 20 km are computed by integrating the amount of  $O_3$  within a given layer and adding up all the RW and GW segments. Thus, “tropospheric ozone” amounts in this paper are actually free tropospheric column amounts, above a BL top that varies from 1.2 km (San Cristóbal) to 1.8 km (Paramaribo). The BL top is determined by taking the most negative second derivative of  $\theta$  with respect to altitude, between 0.4 and 2.5 km [*Yorks et al.*, 2009]. Dobson Units (DU) are used; one DU =  $2.69 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ . The amount of  $O_3$  within the column not identified with RW or GW is labeled “other” in the budgets.

For determination of tropospheric LID  $O_3$  budgets (**Section 3**), an ozonopause definition of tropopause is employed (white dots, **Figure 2**; using the method of *Browell et al.*, 1996). This technique, in which  $O_3$  gradients are approached from the stratosphere, falls closer to the cold-point tropopause than the ozonopause of *Selkirk et al.* (2010; their Figure 2, from Alajuela soundings). *Thompson et al.* [2007a] showed that tropospheric  $O_3$  columns can differ significantly under certain conditions, depending on the use of  $O_3$  or thermal tropopause. Such occurrences are infrequent in mid-latitudes ( $< 10\%$  in IONS-04 or IONS-06 soundings) and are negligible in TC4, where *Selkirk et al.* (2010) showed that the thermal tropopause and chemical tropopause, based on either water vapor from frost-point hygrometry or  $O_3$  mixing ratios, was consistently at 350-355 K (147 hPa, 14.2 km);

the cold-point tropopause was always 370-378K (16-17 km). For a 1-2 km difference in thermal tropopause and the higher ozonopause, the O<sub>3</sub> budget might vary 2-3 DU.

### **3. Results and Discussion: July-August 2007**

#### **3.1. Overview of Ozone Profiles over LTP and ACR**

From time-series of O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratio over Las Tablas and Alajuela (**Figure 2**) the following features emerge: (1) Roughly 10% more O<sub>3</sub> is found in the LTP BL than at ACR due to pollution from Panamá City and occasionally from South American biomass fires. (2) The TTL extends lower over LTP than over ACR. It is customary to assume that when the free tropospheric segment of an ozone profile resembles BL concentrations that convective redistribution has taken place [Kley *et al.* 1996; Thompson *et al.*, 1997; Newell *et al.*, 1999, Folkins *et al.*, 2006]. Given typical BL concentrations of 20-25 ppbv at the two sites, **Figure 2** suggests that there are fewer episodes of high-altitude convection over LTP than ACR (blue shade, 12-14 km), although that inference may be an artifact of LTP having more samples. Consequently, there is less O<sub>3</sub> in the ACR mean O<sub>3</sub> profile between 11-14 km (**Figure 3a**) than LTP (**Figure 3b**; cf Figure 13 in Avery *et al.*, 2010), giving a slight “S” shape in the ACR O<sub>3</sub> profile. The “S” is similar to Pacific SHADOZ profiles (Folkins *et al.*, 2000; 2006; cf Kley *et al.*, [1996]) and to IONS-06 soundings (<<http://croc.gsfc.nasa.gov/intexb/ionso6.html>>) over Mexico City (19N, 99W) that detected the highest O<sub>3</sub> at 8-9 km and minimum O<sub>3</sub> at 12-14 km (Thompson *et al.*, 2008; Fig 5).

Convective signatures in DC-8 sampling, registered as locally minimum ozone in profiles from the FASTOZ instrument, were concentrated between 10 and 11 km [Avery *et al.*, 2010]. Elevated lower tropospheric tracers such as methyl hydrogen peroxide and organic bromine-containing constituents (Figures 13-15 in Avery *et al.*, 2010) occur coincidentally with the lower ozone. Mean DC-8 O<sub>3</sub> profiles and the soundings (**Figure 3a**) are somewhat divergent. This is not surprising given that the sondes are at fixed locations whereas the DC-8 deliberately sampled in the vicinity of active convection.

#### **3.2 Overview of Wave Signatures in the Sondes**

**Figure 4a** shows that the O<sub>3</sub> labeled GW is concentrated throughout the TTL and lower stratosphere over both LTP and ACR, with frequencies similar to those at the Paramaribo and San Cristóbal SHADOZ sites (**Figure 4b**). The latter depicts wave frequencies averaged for 1999-2007, which are nearly identical to June-July-August statistics. The waves in **Figures 4a,b** are similar to other SHADOZ tropical [Thompson *et al.*, 2010a,b] and northern hemisphere subtropical locations (Figure 4 in Thompson *et al.*, 2008). As in Thompson *et al.* [2010a,b], the GW signal in the TTL is more frequent at



the station that is closer to the equator (Las Tablas and San Cristóbal, respectively, in **Figures 4a** and **4b**). However, ACR has a higher GW frequency at 3 and 6 km, where convective outflow often occurs (**Section 3.3**). Ozone associated with GW is 15-20% of the tropospheric column (**Table 2**). In half the days with TC4 soundings at both LTP and ACR, LTP O<sub>3</sub> at 3-6 km is 40-50 ppbv vs ~30 ppbv over ACR (cf **Figure 3** mean O<sub>3</sub> profiles). Thus, column tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> is ~30% higher over LTP than ACR (**Table 2**).

### 3.3 Case Studies with Varying Convective and Wave Influence

Days with coincident launches at LTP and ACR (**Figure 5a**) offer an opportunity to compare ozone profiles at the two sites and to use TC4 aircraft data, satellite imagery and meteorological products to interpret convective and wave influences. On all dates illustrated in **Figure 5a** the profiles display convective signatures typically with >10 DU of column O<sub>3</sub> to 20 km designated as GW. The TC4 period started with a phase characterized by active convection over the Costa Rica-Panamá region and the adjacent Pacific (**Section 3.3.1**); this corresponds to the left-most section relative to the vertical dashed line in **Figures 5b,c**. This is corroborated by satellite and aircraft imagery in flights through 22 July 2007 [Toon *et al.*, 2010]. In a second phase, from 23 July through 2 August (**Section 3.3.2**), between the two dashed lines in **Figures 5b,c**, TC4 aircraft continued to sample convection but it was less active at ACR and LTP. The fraction of total O<sub>3</sub> designated GW declined in most soundings (**Figures 5b,c**), as the GW-affected segments in O<sub>3</sub> profiles retreated from the troposphere to above 17 km. The amount of column O<sub>3</sub> affected by RW increased compared to the pre-24 July period. More active convection resumed in a third phase (**Section 3.3.3**) after 2 August, when targeted sampling by the ER-2, DC-8 and WB-57 took place [Toon *et al.*, 2010]. In the following sections episodes illustrative of the three phases are examined to verify the link between the GW designation and convective activity and the relationship of RW to extra-tropical and/or pollution influences.

#### 3.3.1 13-22 July 2007: Active Convection and Elevated GW

**13 July.** Convective activity at LTP and ACR, as given by GW amount to 20 km, is similar (**Figure 5a**). The fraction of FT O<sub>3</sub> influenced by GW is similar in both cases (~20%; **Figures 5b,c**). A typical pair of profiles (**Figure 6a**) shows that the ACR O<sub>3</sub> concentration averages ~40 ppbv from the surface to the tropopause (14-15 km), whereas O<sub>3</sub> in the upper troposphere over LTP exceeds 50 ppbv. BL O<sub>3</sub> at LTP is less than at ACR. The RH profiles have considerable structure, with moister air over LTP than ACR.

Evidence for convection over ACR comes from the DC-8 flight from California to San Jose, Costa Rica, on 13 July 2007. The last 100-150 km of the flight encompassed a descent near ACR at ~2100 UTC, after the aircraft had crossed the ITCZ. The DC-8 uv-DIAL image of O<sub>3</sub> (**Figure 6b**) captures the morphology of convective impact throughout the FT and TTL. North of the ITCZ (northern edge at 13N), the FT was penetrated by pollution O<sub>3</sub> (>80 ppbv) and aerosols traced to biomass fires interacting with convection. South of the ITCZ, just before descent, FT O<sub>3</sub> dropped to 40-50 ppbv, except for a localized O<sub>3</sub> minimum (< 30 ppbv) around 10 km (**Figure 6b**), similar to FT O<sub>3</sub> structure over ACR (**Figure 6a**), and to the DC-8 FASTOZ O<sub>3</sub> during descent. Note a very thin layer of low ozone at 13 km in the uv-DIAL image, corresponding to an altitude with low O<sub>3</sub> over ACR. A similar low-O<sub>3</sub> “bubble” sampled on 17 July 2007 is discussed by *Petropavlovskikh et al.*, 2010s. The uv-DIAL aerosols (not shown) corresponding to **Figure 6b** indicate a “clean” FT south of the ITCZ except for thin cirrus at the tropopause, consistent with the soundings. Convective indicators, elevated CO, methyl-hydrogen peroxide, lightning NO, ultrafine particles (not shown; see flight report at <<http://espo.nasa.gov/tc4/docs>>), penetrated south of the ITCZ. These pollutants came from north of the ITCZ. Interhemispheric transport during convection is well known over the Atlantic [*Jonquière et al.*, 1998; *Thompson et al.*, 2000; *Edwards et al.*, 2003].

On 13 July (**Figure 5b,c**) about half the tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> over both LTP and ACR corresponds to RW. The corresponding segments in the ACR profile (**Figure 6a**) are locally enhanced in O<sub>3</sub> and reduced in RH, suggesting extra-tropical influence. This is a good example of a sounding that captures both advective and convective signals.

**22 July.** On this day there is more O<sub>3</sub> in the TTL and LS identified as GW over LTP than ACR (**Figures 5a, 7a**). There is relatively little tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> associated with GW over either one (**Figures 5b,c**). A convective contrast between LTP and ACR is evident in satellite imagery (see ER-2 flight report for 22 July 07 at <<http://espo.nasa.gov/tc4/docs>>). When the ER-2 sampled near LTP on 22 July, the cloud and precipitation CPL-CRS imagery (**Figure 7b**) indicated several levels of convective outflow. For example, there is cirrus with a 13.5-14 km cloud top, coinciding with a GW-labeled segment in the LTP sounding, right above a localized O<sub>3</sub> minimum (black profile, **Figure 7a**). The CPL-CRS indicates another cloud outflow layer at 4 km. This region is not designated as GW although there is a local O<sub>3</sub> minimum at 4 km and relatively high RH. From 2-5 km the designation is RW; O<sub>3</sub> is 60% greater than at the surface, suggesting possible pollution transport. Surface ozone at LTP, measured in NATIVE on 22 July,



averaged 15 ppbv (**Figure 8a**) but the moderately high CO mixing ratio, 135 ppbv, supports an interpretation of pollution (**Figure 8b**).

### 3.3.2. 23 July-2 August: Elevated RW

During the period 23-28 July most sonde launches were at LTP. At both sites, the soundings from 23 July to 2 August displayed fractionally higher RW O<sub>3</sub> segments in the troposphere (**Figure 5b,c**). An example appears in **Figure 9a**. The RW signal over LTP extends from 2 to 17 km on 2 August, except for a 2-km region, and there is no GW segment. ACR displays convective influence in terms of GW only from 11-15 km. An RW segment from 5-10 km coincides with a dry layer from 4-9 km; this is suggestive of air from the extra-tropics. Even though convection picks up on 3 August, remnants of the RW feature persist over both sites on that day (**Figure 9b**).

During the period of greater RW, there were also changes in surface O<sub>3</sub> and CO at Las Tablas (see NATIVE data in **Figure 8**). On 23 July a normal diurnal O<sub>3</sub> cycle was observed, with a near-zero nocturnal minimum. LID analysis for the 23 July sounding at LTP was not valid, indicating active transition and no stable layers. However, on 24 July the O<sub>3</sub> minimum rises to ~15 ppbv. This causes daily mean O<sub>3</sub> to increase from 17 ppbv on 23 July to 25 ppbv on 24 July. At this time, CO dropped below 90 ppbv (**Figure 8b**), one of the lowest values at NATIVE during TC4.

### 3.3.3 3-10 August: Return of Active Convection. Elevated GW

**3 August.** The fractions of GW and RW tropospheric segments over Las Tablas and Alajuela are nearly the same (**Figures 5b,c**) and the wave structures are similar (**Figure 9b**). Over LTP the GW signal that was absent on 2 August returns at 13-20 km (**Figure 9b**). The DC-8 and ER-2 sampled not far from LTP near active convection (refer to GOES image with flight tracks for all three aircraft on 3 August; Figure 16 in *Toon et al.* [2010]). The DC-8 profiles in **Figure 10a** were taken over NATIVE from 1705-1735 UTC during the convective period that was sampled less than 50 km away by the ER-2; the LTP launch took place at 1741 UTC. The upper of two O<sub>3</sub> minima over LTP (10-15 km, **Figure 9b**), corresponds to cloud outflow recorded by satellite imagery (not shown) and to cirrus in the ER-2 CPL-CRS product (**Figure 10b**) at 13-15 km. A second O<sub>3</sub> minimum with elevated CO at 5-6 km (**Figure 10a**) is also located at a cloud outflow layer (lower **bar** arrow in **Figure 10b**). Over ACR, O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios averaged > 80 ppbv in the 6-13 km segment (**Figure 9b**). Above 8 km, the RH drops off sharply, suggesting extra-tropical air. The elevated O<sub>3</sub> coincides with a mostly RW segment that brackets the tropopause, which is 1.5 km higher over LTP than ACR (**Figure 2**).

**5 August.** During the period 3-5 August there was a sharp transition in the LTP and ACR profiles that is reflected in the O<sub>3</sub> budgets (**Figures 5a-c**); the GW O<sub>3</sub> budgets to 20 km are nearly identical over the two stations on 4 August (**Figure 5a**). The upper tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios decline over both sites, from a mean of ~75 ppbv on 3 August to 45 ppbv on 5 August (**Figures 9b,c**); during the transition, LTP free tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> declines to 22 DU on 4 August, the lowest O<sub>3</sub> column in the TC4 period (**Figure 5b**). From 4 to 5 August there are further transitions in vertical O<sub>3</sub> structures over ACR and LTP (**Figure 9c**). The GW signal that starts over LTP (ACR) at 12 km (11 km) on 4 August (not shown) retreats to 15 km on 5 August. Over Las Tablas a several-km thick layer that is 20 ppbv above background coincides with RW (**Figure 9c**; also **Figure 1**). DC-8 aircraft sampling near LTP on 5 August confirmed the possibility of extra-tropical origins at 8-10 km, where O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios were 50-70 ppbv in a relatively dry layer [Avery *et al.*, 2010]. However, just above this layer, at 11 km, the DC-8 noted cleaner than usual conditions, signifying convective outflow of marine boundary layer air (upper outflow on **Figure 10c**). Near the surface, the DC-8 detected pollution due to biomass fires (Flight notes at <<http://www.espo.nasa.gov/tc4/flightDocs.php>>).

The 5 August ozonesonde launch at LTP (1505 UTC) was timed for nearby DC-8 spiral (~1540 UTC) and ER-2 sampling of convective cells to the southwest (**Figure 10c**; cf Figure 19 in Toon *et al.*, 2010). Between 2.5 km and 5.1 km, the sonde bounced up and down five times within a convective cell while O<sub>3</sub> concentrations increased by ~10 ppbv. Morris *et al.* [2010] use satellite imagery, lightning data, radar and OMI NO<sub>2</sub> maps, along with DC-8 measurements to demonstrate that lightning NO production is responsible for much of the increase. The lower outflows in **Figure 10c** correspond to the region of the bouncing sonde. The profile in **Figure 9c** is based on the final sonde ascent from 2.5 to 5.1 km; the GW signal is not detected.

#### **4. Waves in the Equatorial Americas: 1999-2007. TC4 in Context.**

A perspective for interpreting convective influence over LTP and ACR is provided by wave frequencies over Paramaribo and San Cristóbal (**Figure 4b**), SHADOZ sites operating since 1999 [Thompson *et al.*, 2003a,b]. The amplitudes of individual layers and wave structure at Paramaribo and San Cristóbal resemble those for LTP and ACR (**Figure 1**) as do the structure of the GW frequencies at LTP and ACR (**Figures 4a,b**). Similar GW structure appears over equatorial Indian Ocean sites, eg Watukosek, Kuala Lumpur, that display the highest annually averaged GW frequency, ~60% [Thompson *et al.*, 2010a]. The higher GW frequency at San Cristóbal leads to a larger GW fraction of tropospheric O<sub>3</sub>



(**Figure 11**). Although the tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> column averaged 25 DU in 2007, compared to 28 DU for LTP, 25% of O<sub>3</sub> is GW-affected at San Cristóbal compared to 15% at LTP (**Table 2**). TC4 was timed for the onset of the sub-tropical convective season and the North American monsoon. **Figure 4c**, a summary of monthly averaged GW over Paramaribo, shows that JJA has about half the maximum GW frequency, typically a December occurrence.

An interannual view of ozone budgets and convective influence appears in **Figure 11**, where the mean JJA tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> column (with segments for RW and GW) is displayed for Costa Rica (2006 only), Paramaribo and San Cristóbal from 1999-2007. At San Cristóbal, 2006 is a low-O<sub>3</sub> year compared to the six others, possibly due to a moderate El Niño [Arguez, 2007]. In the eastern Pacific, El Niño tends to enhance convective activity, mixing lower O<sub>3</sub> air from the BL throughout the troposphere. [Logan et al., 2008]. The GW-affected tropospheric ozone amount in 2006 is only slightly lower than normal over San Cristóbal but the total tropospheric column dropped from a mean 22-23 DU (1999-2005; **Figure 11**) to 18 DU so the GW fraction is magnified. At Heredia (20 km away) 2006 tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> is lower than over ACR in 2007 (**Figure 11**).

General meteorological conditions at Paramaribo (6N), Panamá (8N), and Alajuela (10N) are similar, with the ITCZ migrating over each. The SHADOZ wave climatology [Loucks, 2007; Thompson et al., 2010] shows GW frequency diminishing with increasing latitude. A GWI (Gravity Wave Index; **Figure 12**), based on the fraction of the O<sub>3</sub> column to 20 km denoted as GW, provides a quantitative comparison of site-to-site and interannual variability. GWI is larger at San Cristóbal than Paramaribo until 2004 when data gaps at San Cristóbal compromise the record. The gaps also preclude conclusive linkage of GWI to signals associated with an El Niño.

## **5. Summary**

During TC4, in July and early August 2007, ozonesondes and radiosondes were launched several times/week at Alajuela, Costa Rica (10N,84W) to characterize convective influences in the tropical tropopause layer (TTL). At Las Tablas, Panamá (7.8N, 80W), a coastal site 300 km southwest of Panamá City, O<sub>3</sub> profiles from daily sondes, surface O<sub>3</sub>, CO and other tracers are analyzed. Laminar identification provides a systematic approach to classifying wave signatures in sounding data, giving a statistical perspective on the TC4 period and the longer-term SHADOZ sounding record at Paramaribo and San Cristóbal. The findings are summarized:

- GW influences, possibly due to semi-permanent Kelvin waves in the TTL and lower stratosphere (cf *Grant et al.*, 1998; *Thompson et al.*, 2010a) appeared in 50% (40%) of Las Tablas (Alajuela) sondes. The GW structure and frequency are similar to those over SHADOZ stations at San Cristóbal and Paramaribo.
- On average there is 35-40% more tropospheric column  $O_3$  at LTP than ACR during TC4 and 20% more at LTP than at San Cristóbal, a remote marine station, 1400 km southwest of LTP.
- June-July-August  $O_3$  budgets at Paramaribo and San Cristóbal suggest that 2007 was a “typical” year in terms of tropical equatorial  $O_3$  amount and convective activity expressed in GW frequency. During 1999-2006, Paramaribo and San Cristóbal display  $O_3$  column amounts and convective influence that bracket the TC4 ACR and LTP values.

Classification of wave types through LID is validated through case studies in which aircraft observations support interpretation of convective influences (with the GW designation) and extra-tropical impact, corresponding to RW. Laminae of low- $O_3$  surface air convectively injected into the free troposphere are detected by LID, frequently interleaved with the richer- $O_3$  layers; subtle day-to-day variations are captured. The pattern of convection inferred from LID is consistent with the meteorological evolution of the campaign [*Toon et al.*, 2010]. The early part of TC4, to 22 July 2007, was characterized by persistent GW throughout the free troposphere and TTL. After a less active period, from 23 July until approximately 2 August, with lower GW signals and greater RW, GW increased in frequency along with convection.

Sonde and aircraft data established further the convection-GW linkage and demonstrated the prevalence of extra-tropical laminae interleaved with layers from convective outflow throughout the equatorial Americas. In terms of TC4 objectives, our analysis of ozone structure strengthens the case for convection as a dominant mechanism for water vapor transport and cirrus formation in the TTL. The persistence of higher- $O_3$  laminae in the troposphere requires further investigation to determine the extent to which these layers are remnants of extra-tropical filaments or associated with localized equatorial waves.

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## APPENDIX. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACP= Alajuela, Costa Rica (10N, 84W)  
 BL = Boundary Layer, here determined from radiosondes (*Yorks et al.* 2009)  
 CALIPSO = Cloud-Aerosol Lidar and Infrared Pathfinder Satellite Observation  
 CPL = Cloud Physics Lidar (ER-2 instrument)  
 CRS = Cloud Radar System (ER-2 instrument)  
 DU = Dobson Unit (1 DU =  $2.69 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )  
 ECC = Electrochemical Concentration Cell (ozonesonde type)  
 FT = Free Troposphere  
 GOES = Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites  
 GSFC = Goddard Space Flight Center  
 GWI = Gravity Wave Index  
 INTEX = Intercontinental Transport Experiment (-A, 2004; B, 2006)  
 IONS = INTEX Ozonesonde Network Study <<http://croc.gsfc.nasa.gov/intex/ions.html>; ...  
 intexb/ionso6>  
 ITCZ = Intertropical Convergence Zone  
 JJA = June-July-August  
 LTP = Las Tablas, Panamá (7.8N, 80W)  
 NASA = National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
 OMI = Ozone Monitoring Instrument  
 P-T-U = Pressure-Temperature-Humidity  
 RH = Relative Humidity  
 RWI = Rossby Wave Index  
 SHADOZ = Southern Hemisphere Additional Ozonesondes  
 <<http://croc.gsfc.nasa.gov/shadoz>>  
 SOWER = Stratospheric Ozone and Water Vapor in Equatorial Regions  
 TC4 = Tropical Composition, Clouds and Climate Coupling (2007)  
 <<http://espo.nasa.gov/tc4>>  
 TCSP = Tropical Convective Systems and Processes (Costa Rica, 2005)  
 TTL = Tropical Tropopause Layer (sometimes tropopause transition layer)  
 UV-DIAL = Ultraviolet Differential Airborne Lidar [Laser Detection and Ranging]

**Table 1.** Stations for which data are used. Further technical details given in Table A-1 in *Thompson et al.* (2003a) and in *Thompson et al.* (2007b).

Station	Latitude,	Instrument Type,	Radiosonde	Co-Investigator/
	Longitude	Sensing Solution		Sponsor
Las Tablas	7.8N, 80W	ENSCI, 0.5% KI, buffered	RS-80-15N	G. A. Morris, A. M. Thompson
Heredia/Alajuela,	10.0N, 84 W	ENSCI, 1% KI, buffered	RS-80&	H. Vömel; J. Valverde Canossa
			Cryogenic Frost-point hygrometer	
San Cristóbal	0.92S, 89.6W	ENSCI 2% unbuffered	RS-80	H. Vömel. INAMHI (National
		to 2006; 1%, reduced		Inst. of Hydrology and
		buffer, 2006-		Meteorology of Ecuador), M. V. A.
				Reyes [ <i>Johnson et al.</i> , 2002; <i>Thompson et al.</i> , 2007b]
Paramaribo	5.8N, 55W	SPC, 1% KI buffered	RS-80 to 2005	G. Verver & Met. Service
			RS-92, 2005-	Suriname [ <i>Peters et al.</i> ,
				2003; <i>Fortuin et al.</i> , 2006]

**Table 2.** Free tropospheric ozone columns during June-July-August 2007. ACR mean omits 28 July sounding where data ended below the tropopause.

Station	GW O <sub>3</sub>	RW O <sub>3</sub>	Other O <sub>3</sub>	Total
ACR - DU	2.9	8.2	9.3	20.4
ACR - %	14	40	46	100
LTP - DU	3.94	13.2	10.8	28
LTP - %	15	47	38	100
San Cris.- DU	5.5	7.5	12	25
San Cris.- %	24	28	48	100

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#### FIGURE CAPTIONS -

Fig 1

Application of laminar identification (LID) method to typical sounding from Panamá. Illustrated are normalized  $O_3$  (solid line), potential temperature (dotted line) and correlation between the two quantities (dashed). Correlation criteria for Rossby waves (RW) are within vertical lines between -0.3 and +0.3 (light blue). The latter designation is used in discussion of profiles and budgets. Gravity wave (GW) criterion of *Pierce and Grant* (1998; see their Figure 1) and *Thompson et al.* (2007a; Figure 3) calls for normalized  $O_3$  and  $\theta$  correlation to reach 0.7 (vertical line; light green for budgets). For

computation of the GW Index, a more restrictive criterion is used, namely, the corresponding  $O_3$  layer amplitude must exceed 0.1 (10%), as in the darker green. An RW Index, not used here, is based on counting only ozone within dark blue.

Fig 2 Curtain plots of  $O_3$  mixing ratio to 18 km during TC4 over (a) Alajuela, Costa Rica (ACR); (b) Las Tablas, Panamá (LTP). White dots refer to the ozonopause as described in the text.

Fig 3 Mean profiles of ozone, temperature, relative humidity (RH) from surface to 20 km for: (a) Alajuela, Costa Rica (ACR); eight  $O_3$  profiles with slight interference from volcanic  $SO_2$  have been smoothed at 3 km. For comparison, mean DC-8 profiles from the FASTOZ ozone instrument (green dots) are displayed. The profiles include landing and takeoffs from San Jose airport near Alajuela. (b) Las Tablas, Panamá. In the latter case, seven questionable RH profile segments are omitted from mean.

Fig 4 (a) Frequency of GW occurrence over LTP, ACR during July-August 2007 TC4 sampling; (b) mean GW frequency over Paramaribo and San Cristóbal, based on all 1999-2007 profiles. For (b) J-J-A and full year means are virtually the same because J-J-A frequencies fall about halfway between the annual maximum and minimum frequencies. Paramaribo did not launch during TC4; (c) annual GW frequency at Paramaribo. The latter is typical of near-equatorial SHADOZ sites [Thompson *et al.*, 2010a].

Fig 5 (a) Amounts of  $O_3$  (in DU) from top of the BL to 20 km, affected by GW, RW determined by LID [Thompson *et al.*, 2007a] based on  $O_3$  and P-T-U soundings from days with both Las Tablas (LTP) and Alajuela (ACR) launches during TC4. (b) Same as (a) except for free tropospheric  $O_3$  segment of all LTP soundings during TC4. The free troposphere is defined from the top of the BL to the ozonopause, as illustrated in Figure 2; (c) same as (b) for  $O_3$  over ACR. The vertical dashed line distinguishes phases of convective activity (greater before 23 July 2007 and after 2 August, diminished in between), as detected in the sondes.

Fig 6 (a) Ozone, RH, temperature profiles at ACR and LTP for 13 July 2007. Vertical bars refer to RW (blue) and GW (green) as described in **Figure 1**. (b) Uv-DIAL image of ozone from DC-8 flight from California to Costa Rica. Ozone < 40 ppbv, purple, is near surface and also at cloud outflow level, ~ 10 km, south of the ITCZ; the latter is the cloudy region at 1945 UTC. Note a thin cloud-outflow ozone lamina at 13 km.

Fig 7 (a) Ozone, RH, temperature profiles at ACR and LTP for 22 July 2007. (b) convective cells with outflow layers denoted by arrows on 22 July 2007 near LTP from ER-2 Cloud Physics Lidar and Cloud Radar System composite image [Hlavka *et al.*, 2010].

Fig 8 Daily mean mixing ratios of (a)  $O_3$ ; (b) CO, from NATIVE in Las Tablas, Panamá (7.8N,80.0N). NATIVE CO readings are higher than the median DC-8 profile data (Figure 2 in Avery *et*



- Fig 9 *al.*, 2010), although NATIVE NO/NO<sub>y</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> suggest that pollution is infrequent, Profiles from August 2007 TC4 sampling (a) 2 August 2007; (b) 3 August; (c) 5 August. Labels as in Figure 6a. For 5 August, the DC-8 O<sub>3</sub> measurement from profiling near LTP displayed a high-O<sub>3</sub>, low-CO layer [Avery *et al.*, 2010] at 8-10 km. Also on 5 August, the ozonesonde package, caught in dissipating convection, was buffeted in updrafts and downdrafts between 2 and 5 km, presumably due to balloon icing [Morris *et al.*, 2010]. Only the final ascent profile appears in (c), so a GW signal indicating convection does not appear below 7 km. However, the RW segment may denote ozone from pollution.
- Fig 10 (a) Ozone, CO from DC-8 spiral on 3 August 2007 at 1505-1535 UTC, suggests extra-tropical influence at 6-8 km, with convection at 5 km and above 8 km. (b) 3 Aug 2007 ER-2 sampling produced composite CPL-CRS image with convective cells (outflow at horizontal arrows) at 7.5N, 80.5W. Vertical arrows mark LTP sonde launch. (c) Same as (b) except for 5 August.
- Fig 11 Averaged ozone amounts (in DU) in the free troposphere affected by GW, RW determined by the laminar method using all O<sub>3</sub> and P-T-U sounding from J-J-A 1999-2007 for San Cristóbal, Galapagos (0.89S,90W) and Paramaribo, Suriname (5.8N,55E) and, since 2005, for two Costa Rican launch sites near San Jose (Heredia in 2005-2006; Alajuela, ~20 km distant, in 2007). The 2007 data at Las Tablas, Panamá, are from TC4. BL O<sub>3</sub> amounts (not shown) are 2 DU at San Cristóbal, 3.5 DU at Paramaribo and the Costa Rican sites.
- Fig 12 Gravity wave Indices (GWI) based on O<sub>3</sub> and P-T-U soundings from the Paramaribo and San Cristóbal SHADOZ sites.

# Las Tablas, Panama Laminae: 5 August 2007 15Z

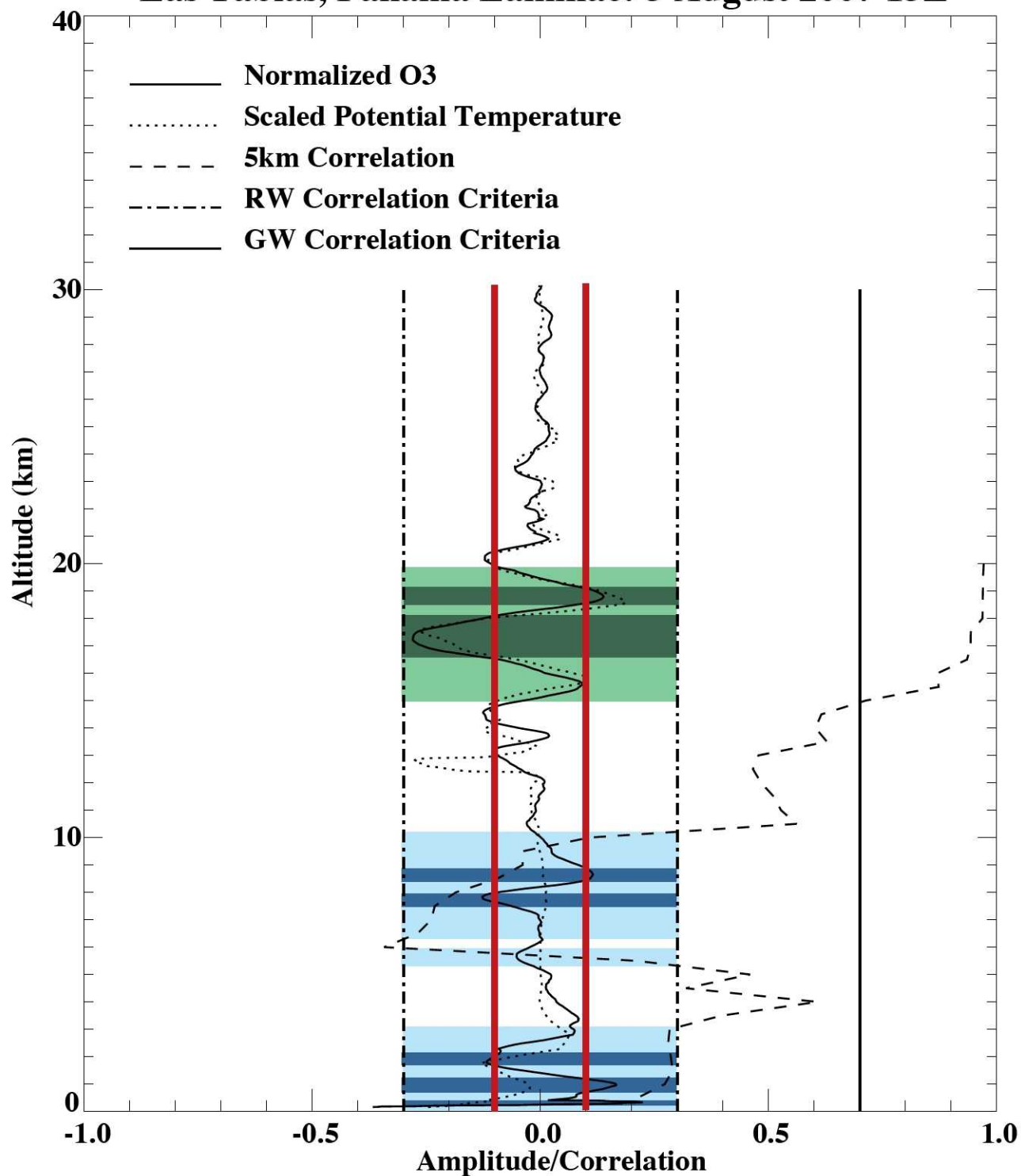
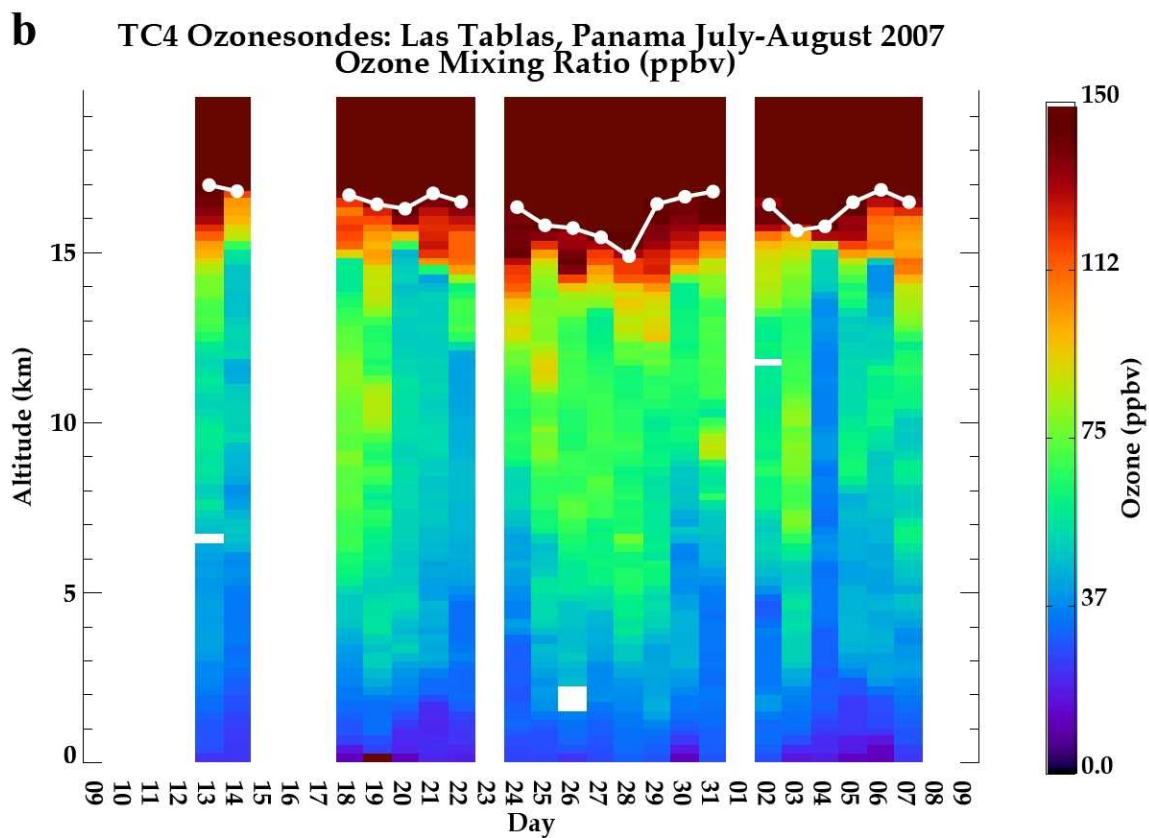
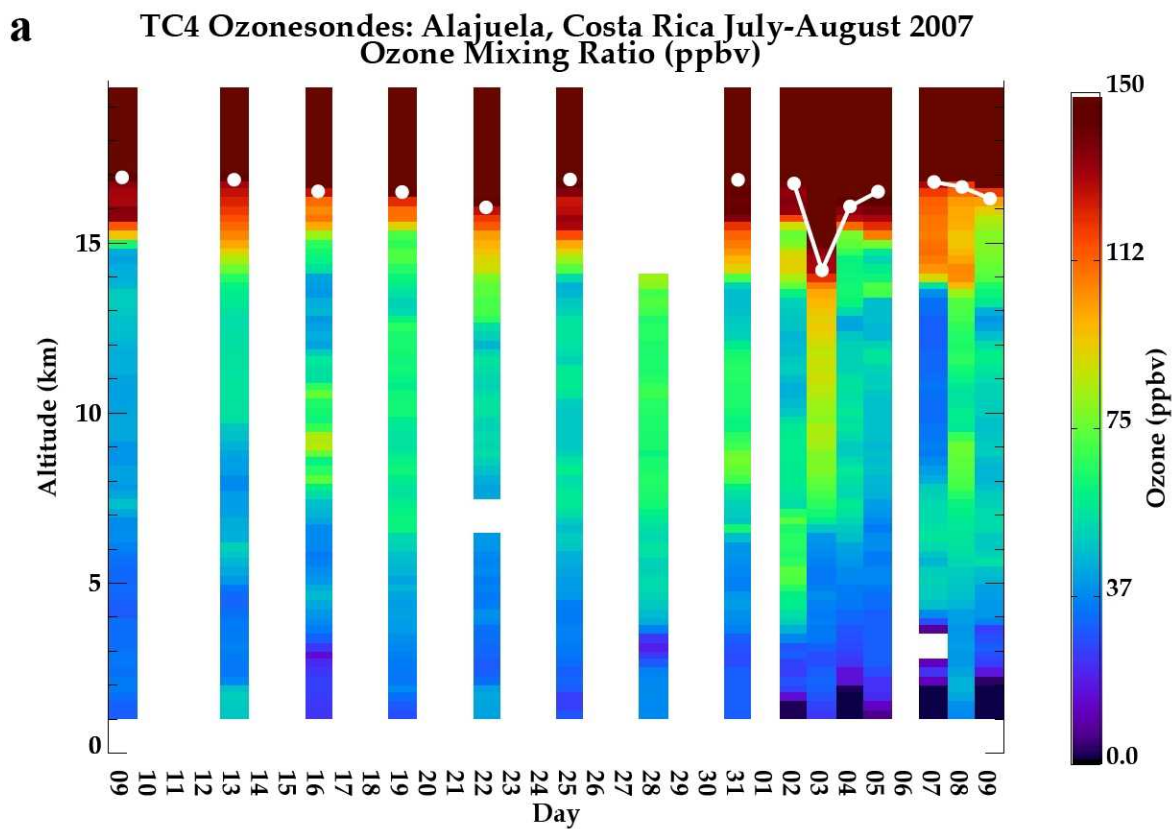
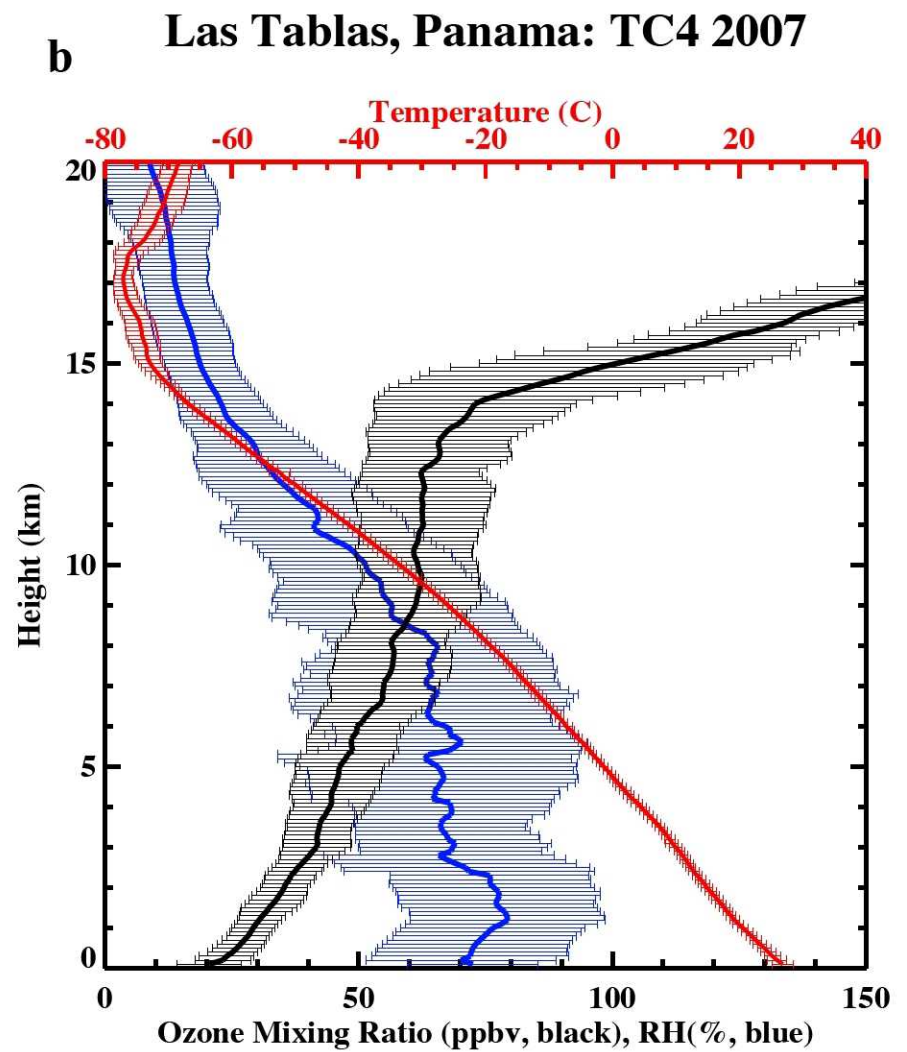
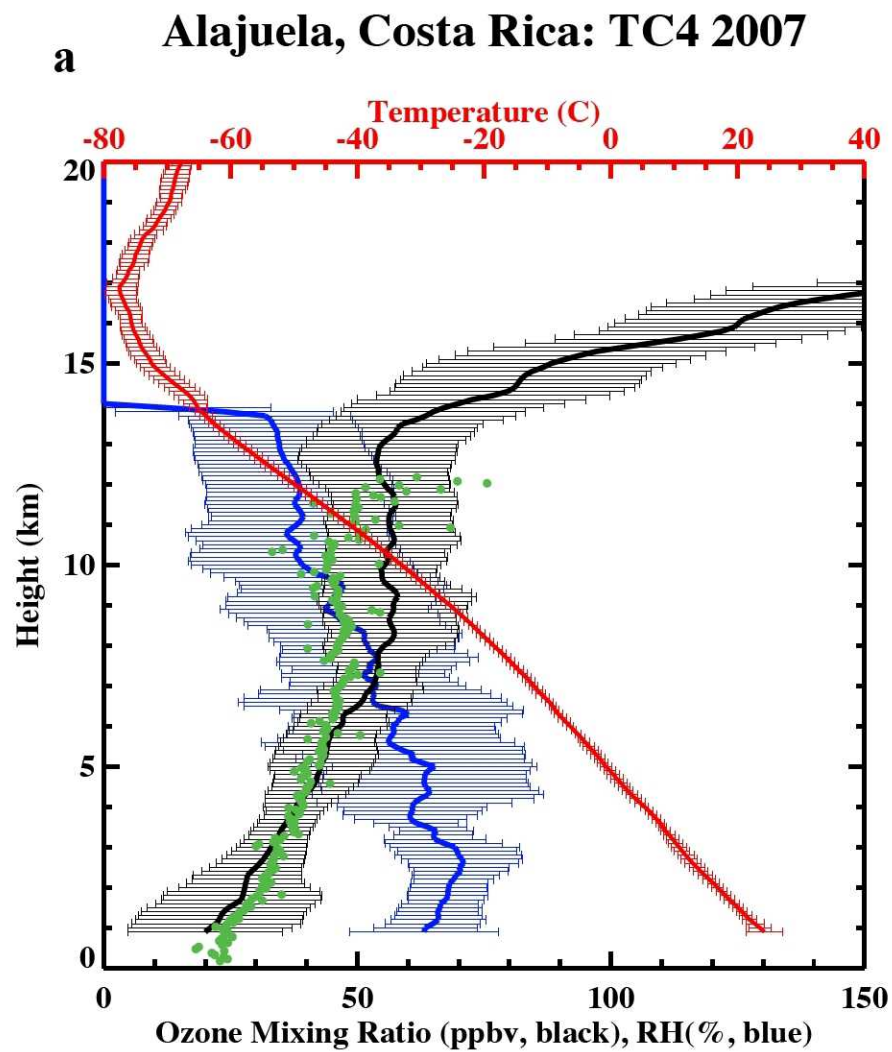


FIGURE 1



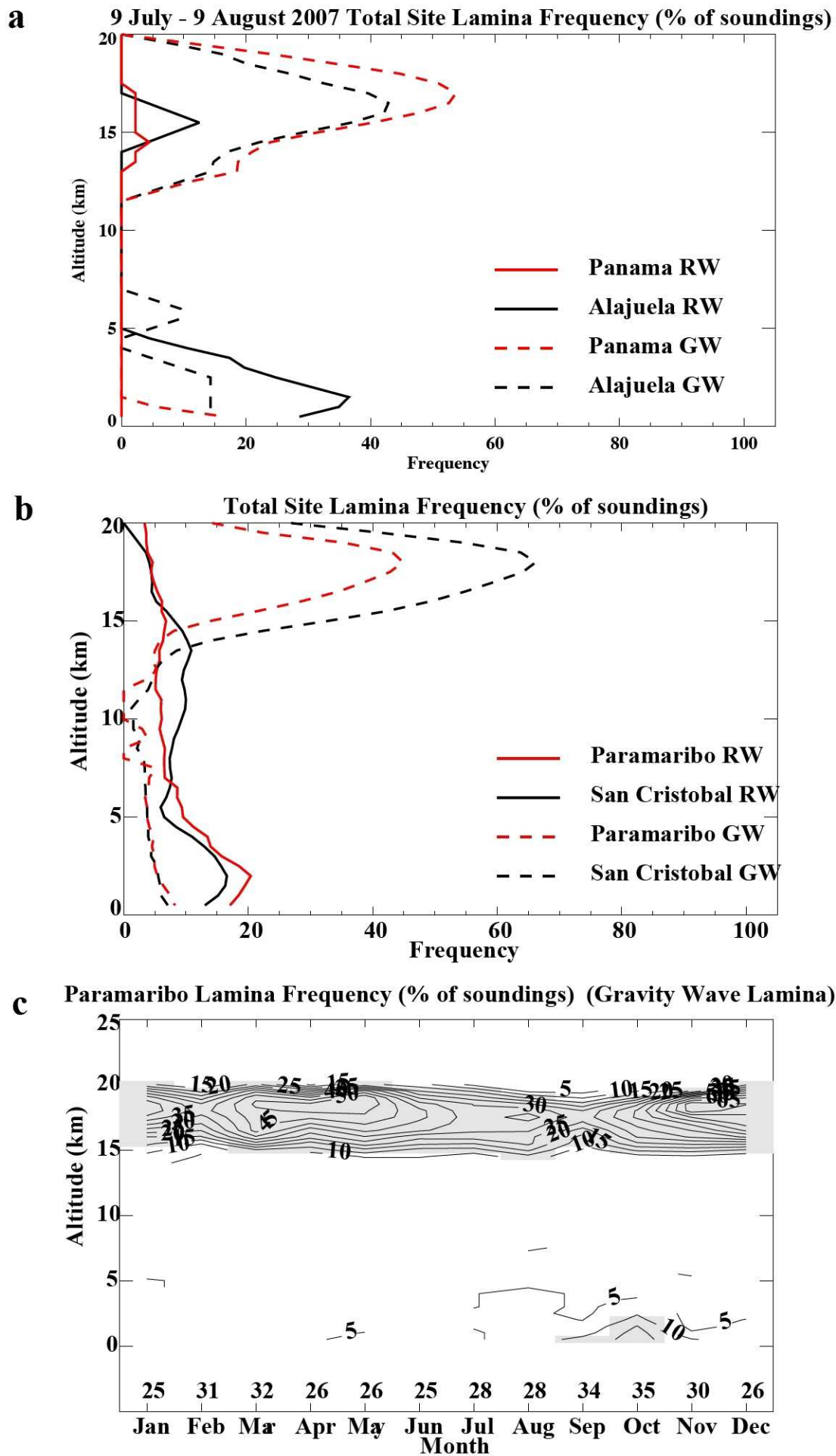


**FIGURE 2**



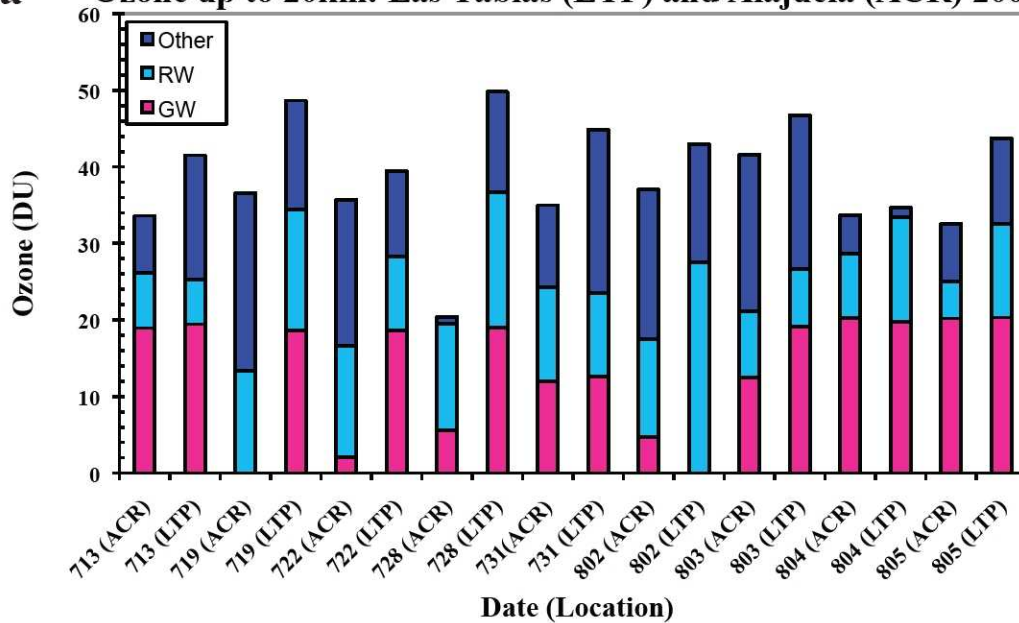
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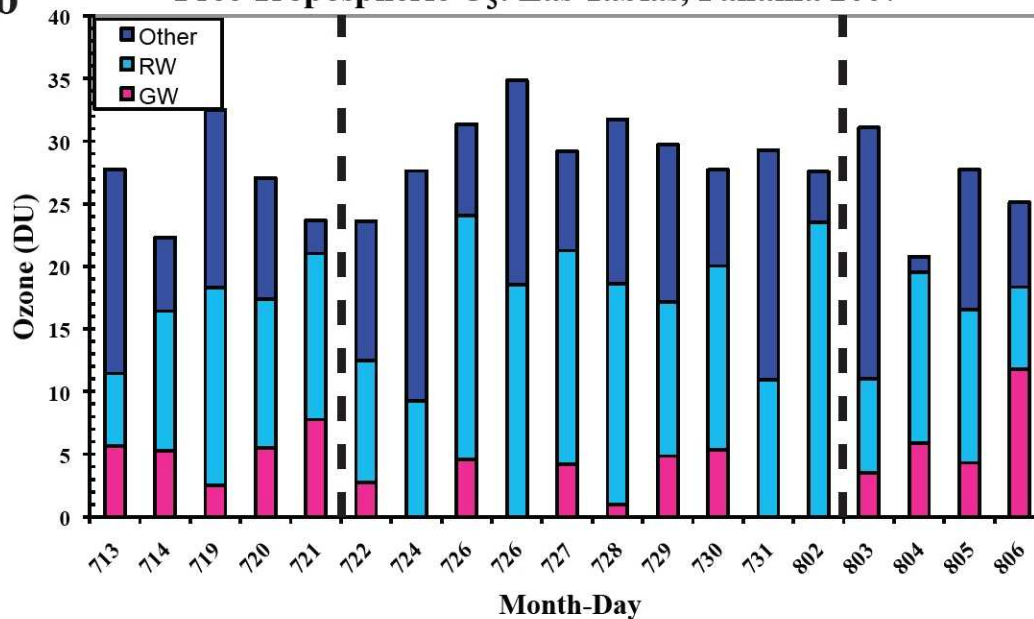


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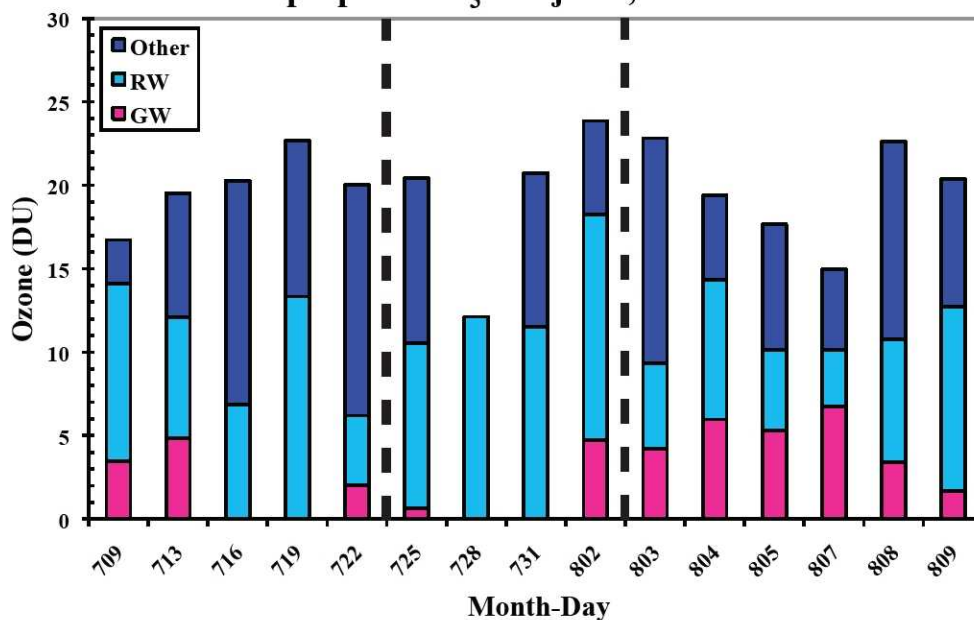
**a** Ozone up to 20km: Las Tablas (LTP) and Alajuela (ACR) 2007



**b** Free Tropospheric O<sub>3</sub>: Las Tablas, Panama 2007

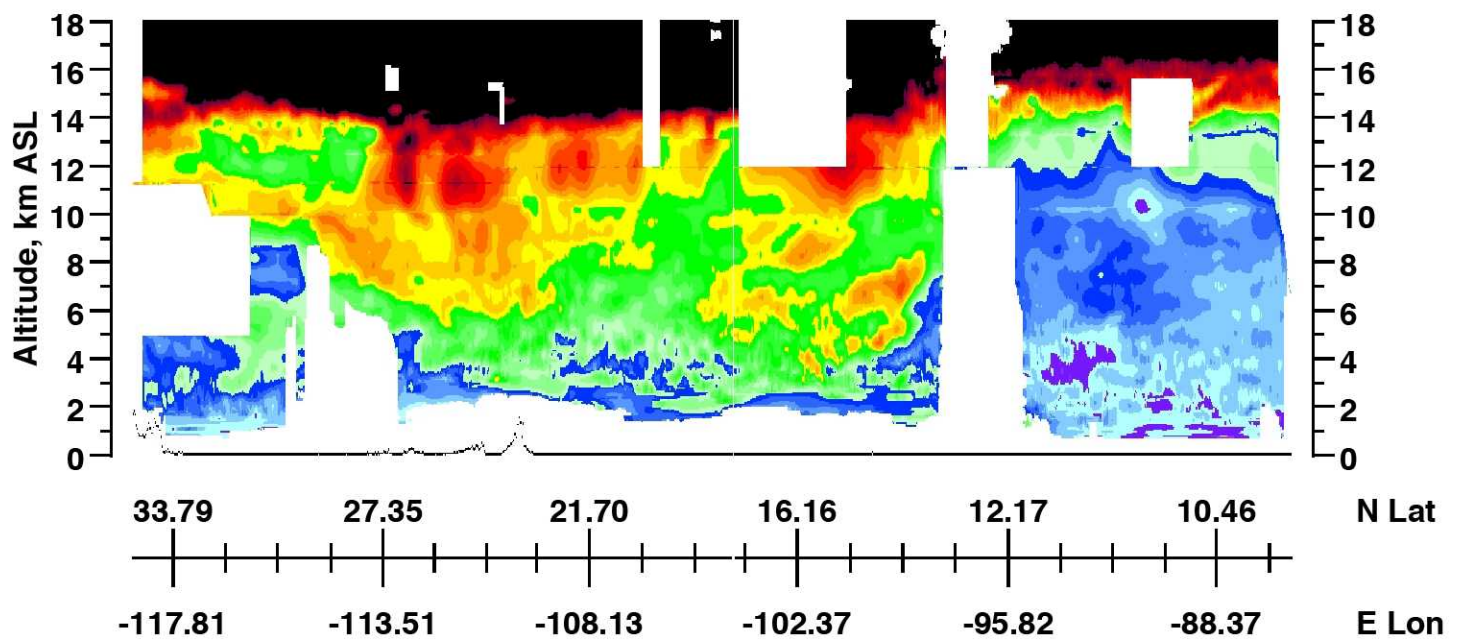
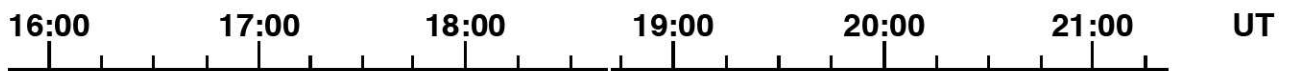
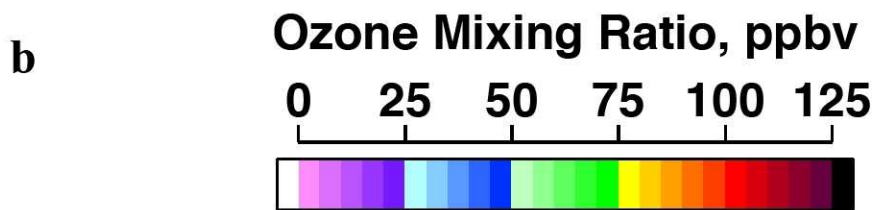
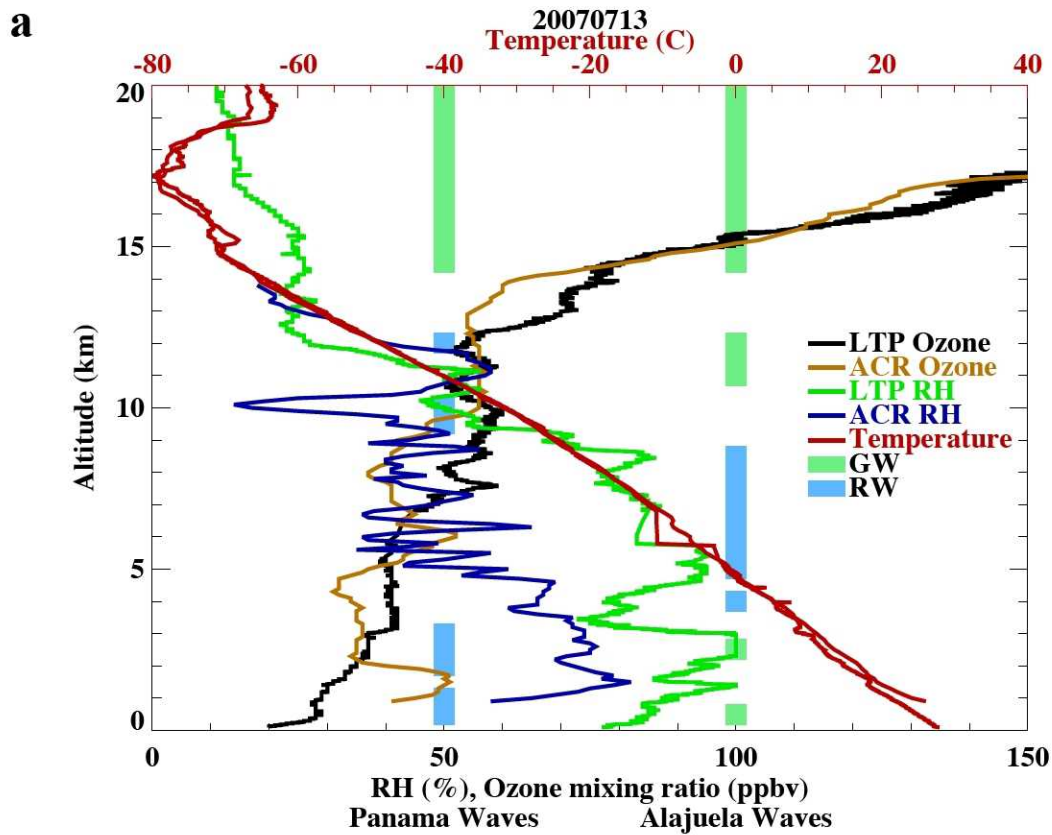


**c** Free Tropospheric O<sub>3</sub>: Alajuela, Costa Rica 2007

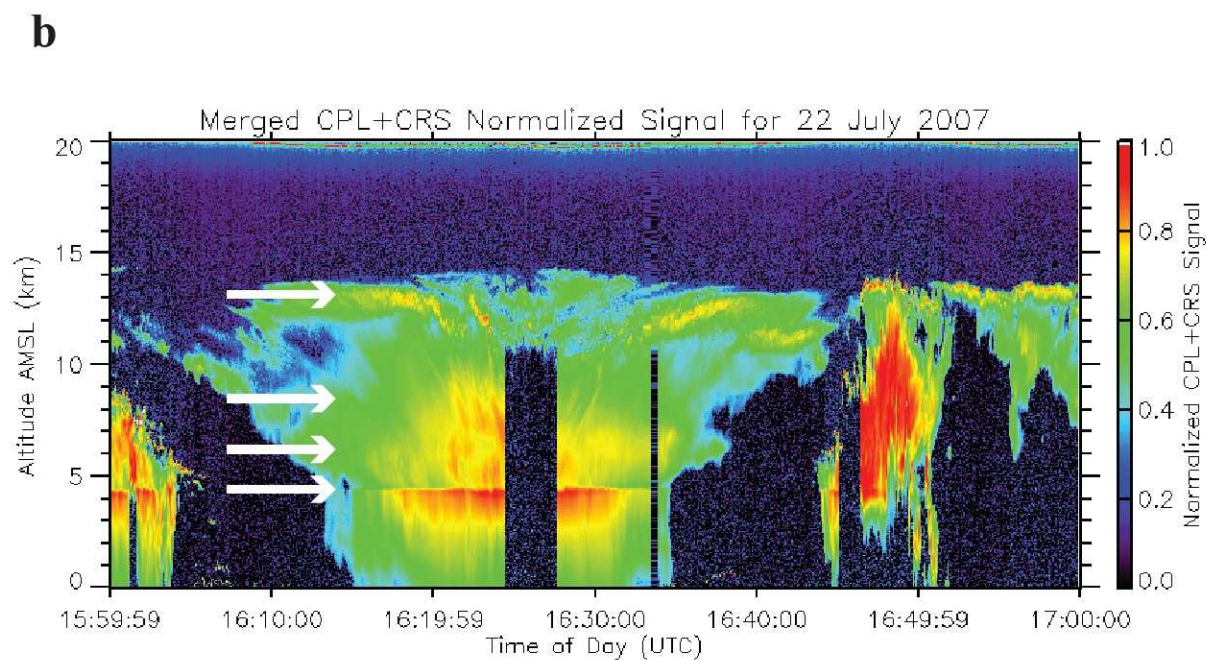
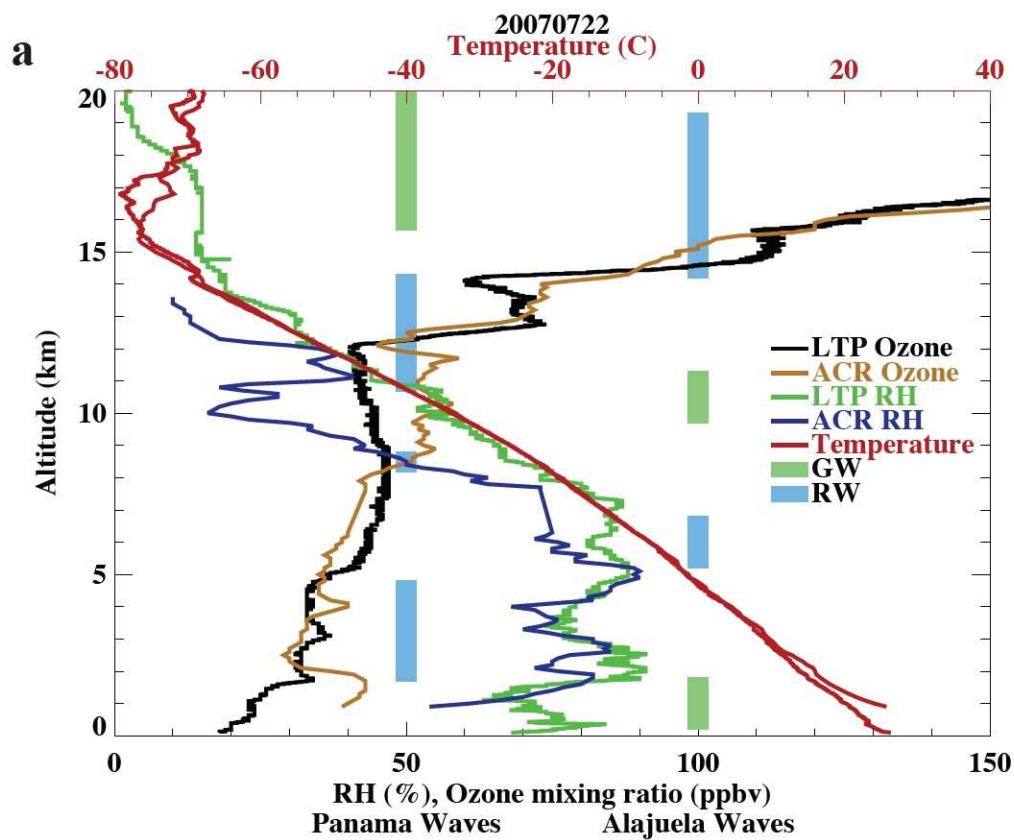


**FIGURE 5**



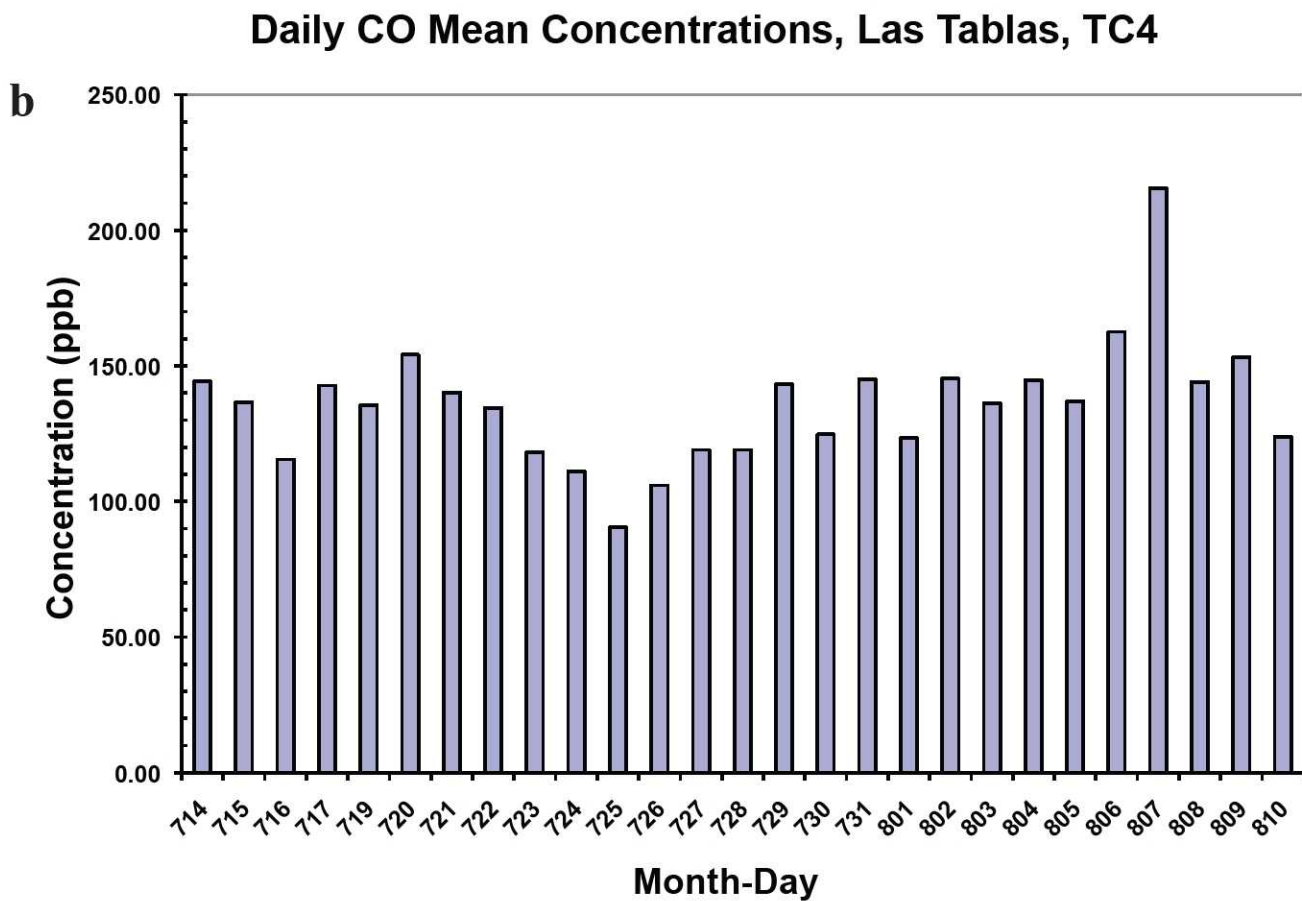
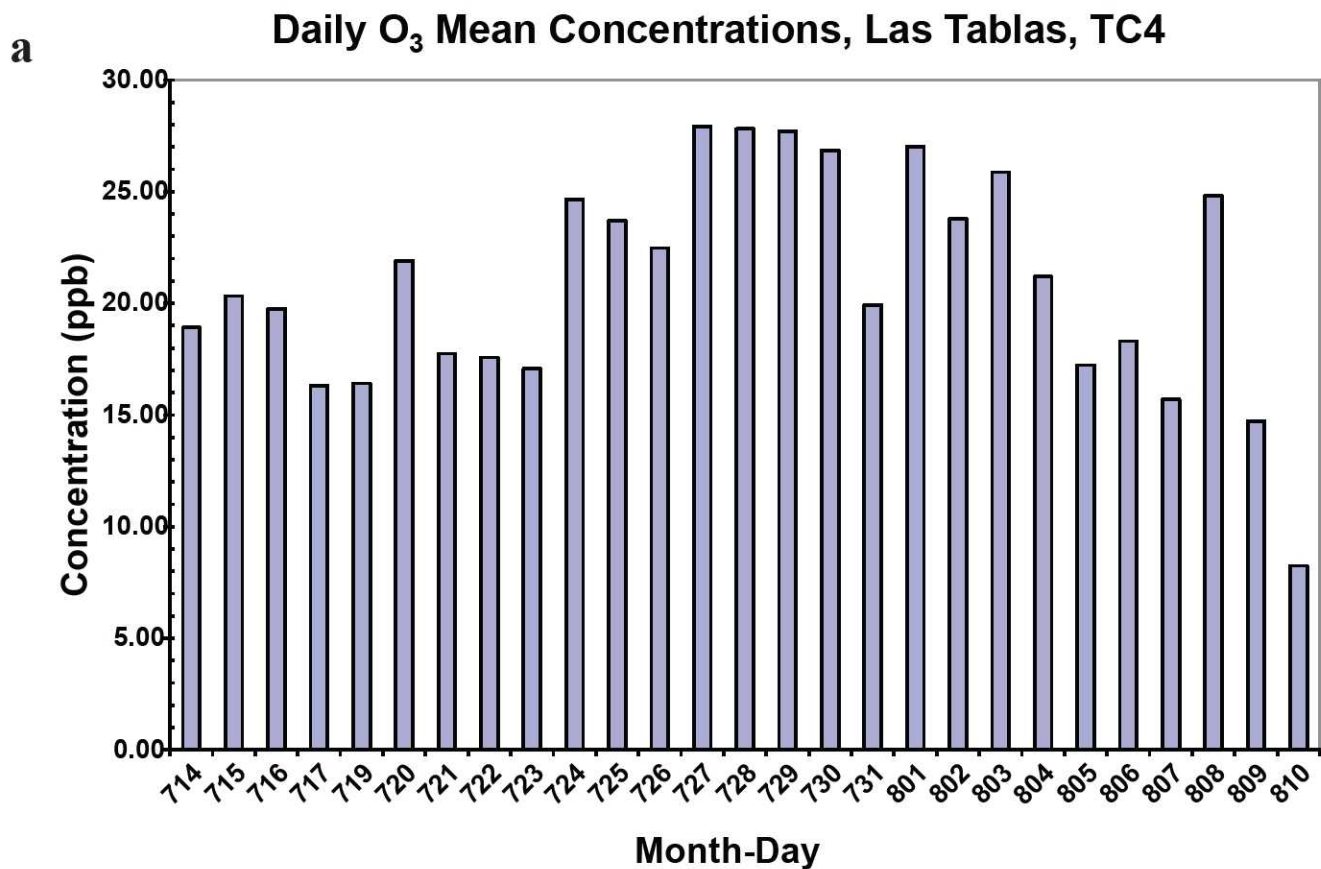


**FIGURE 6**

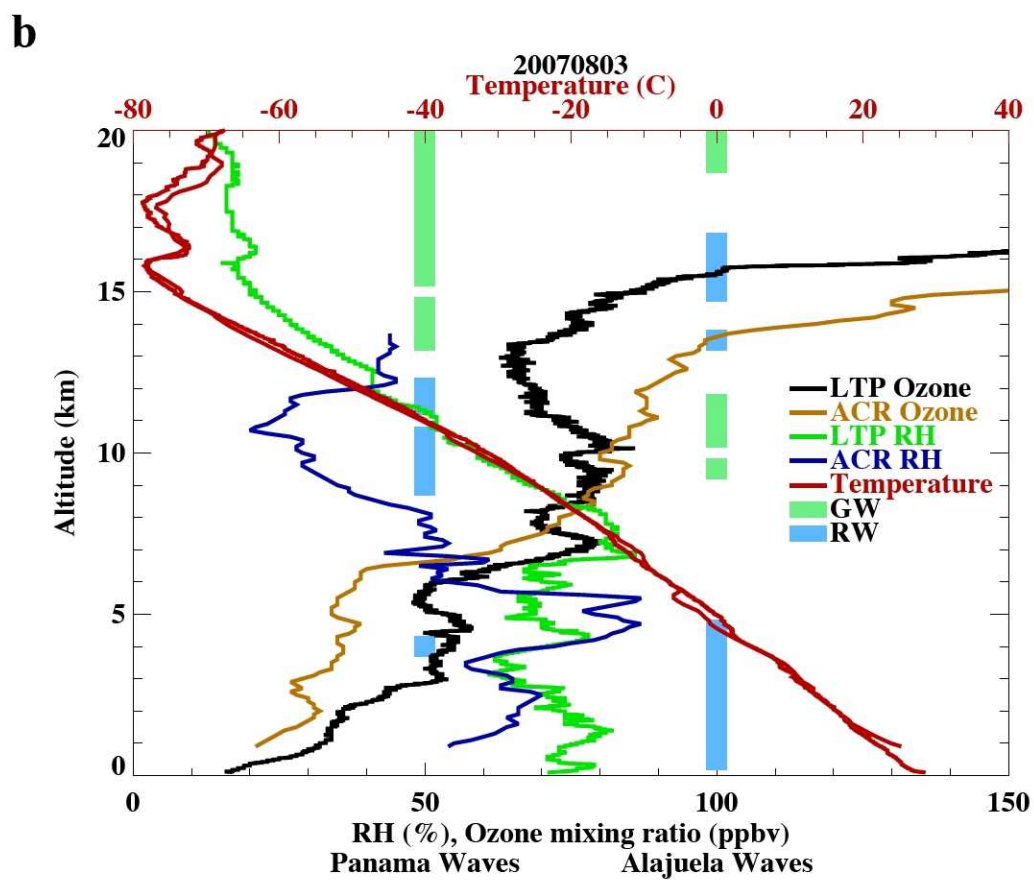
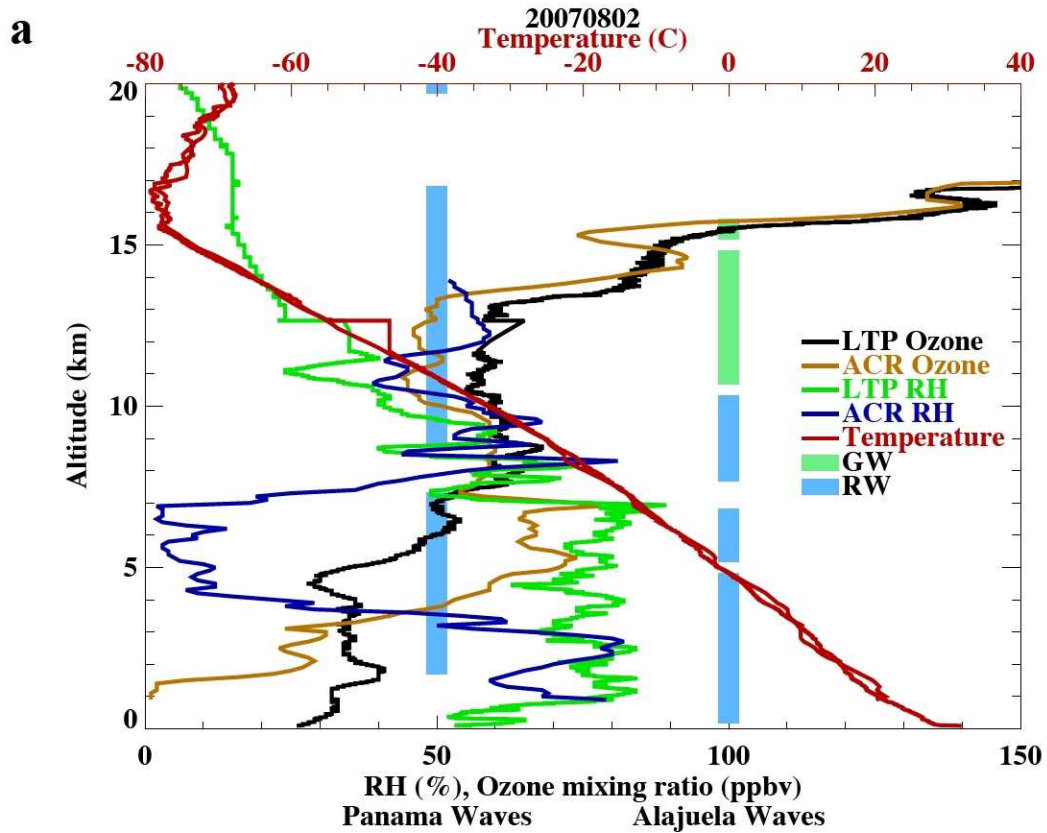


**FIGURE 7**





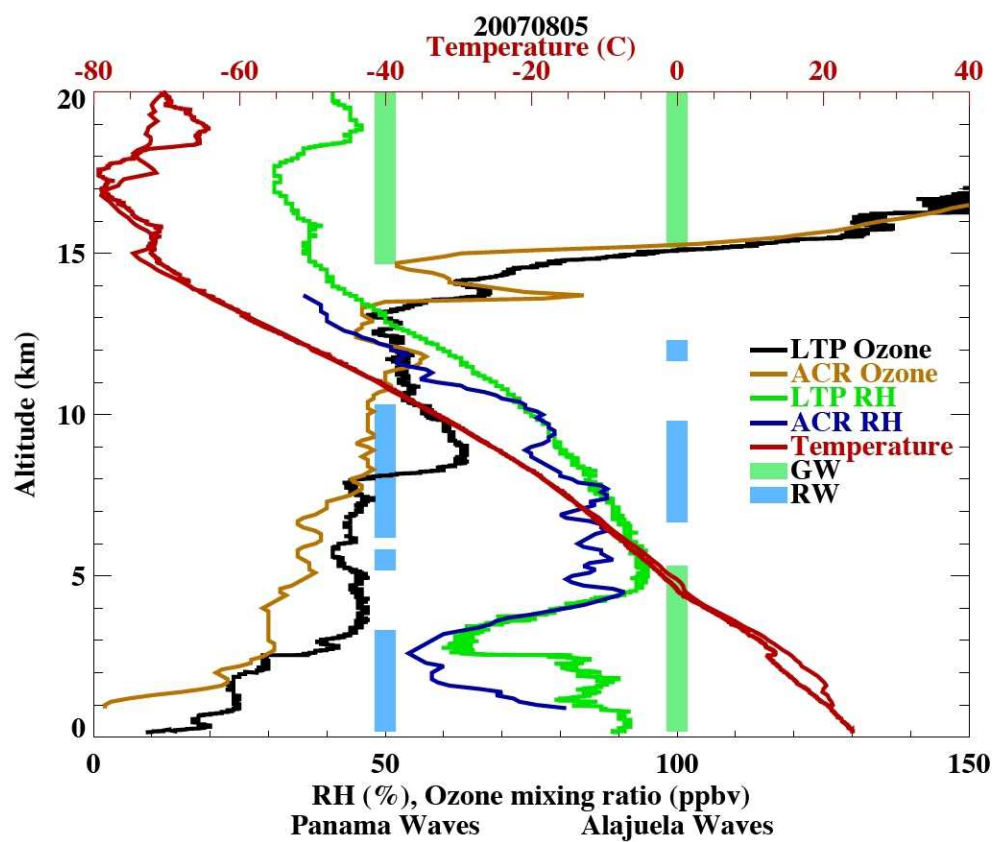
**FIGURE 8**



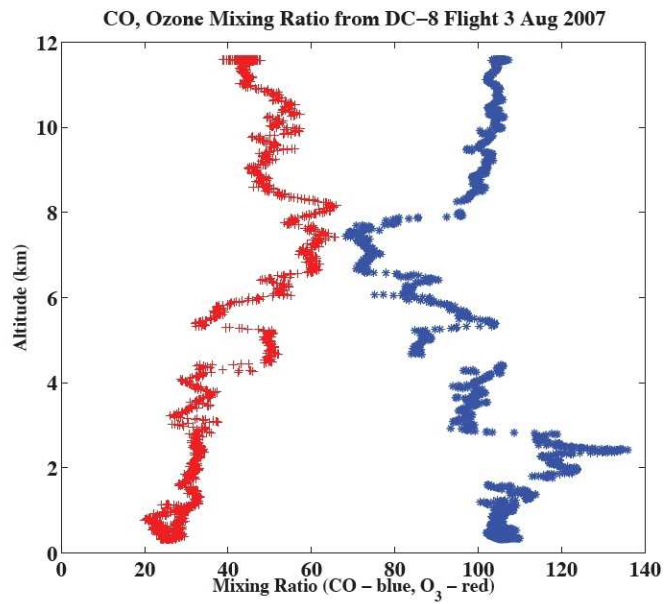
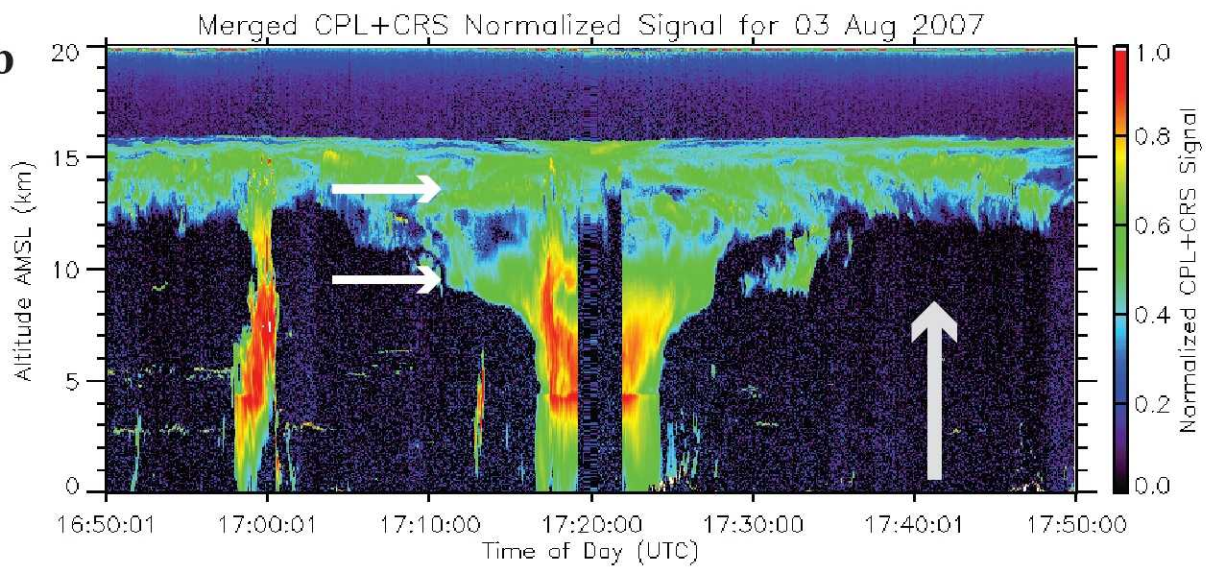
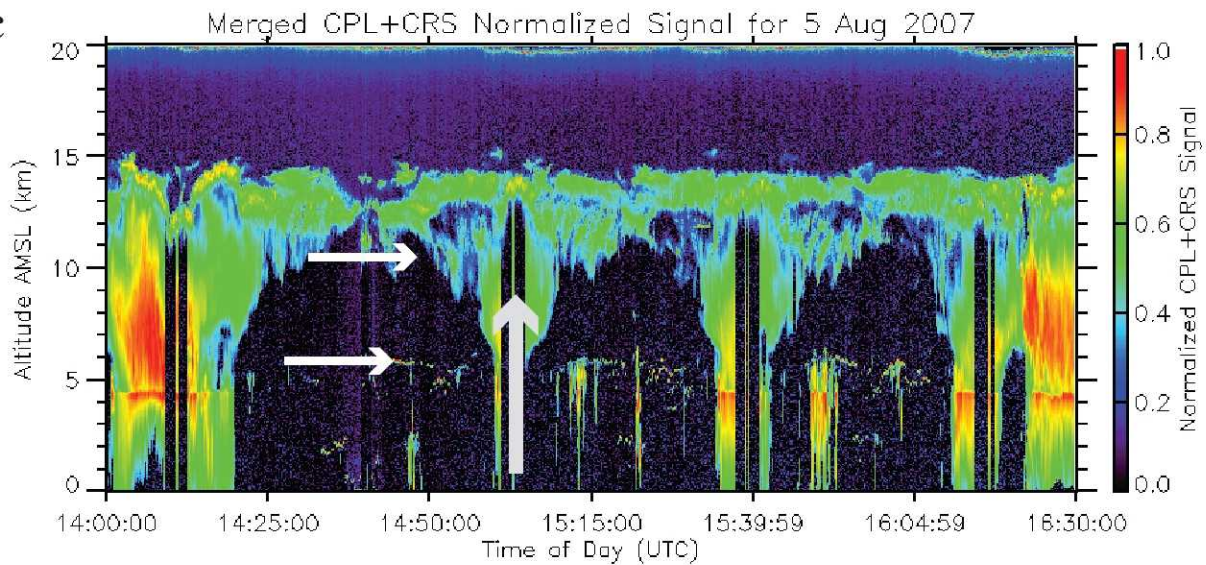
**FIGURE 9**



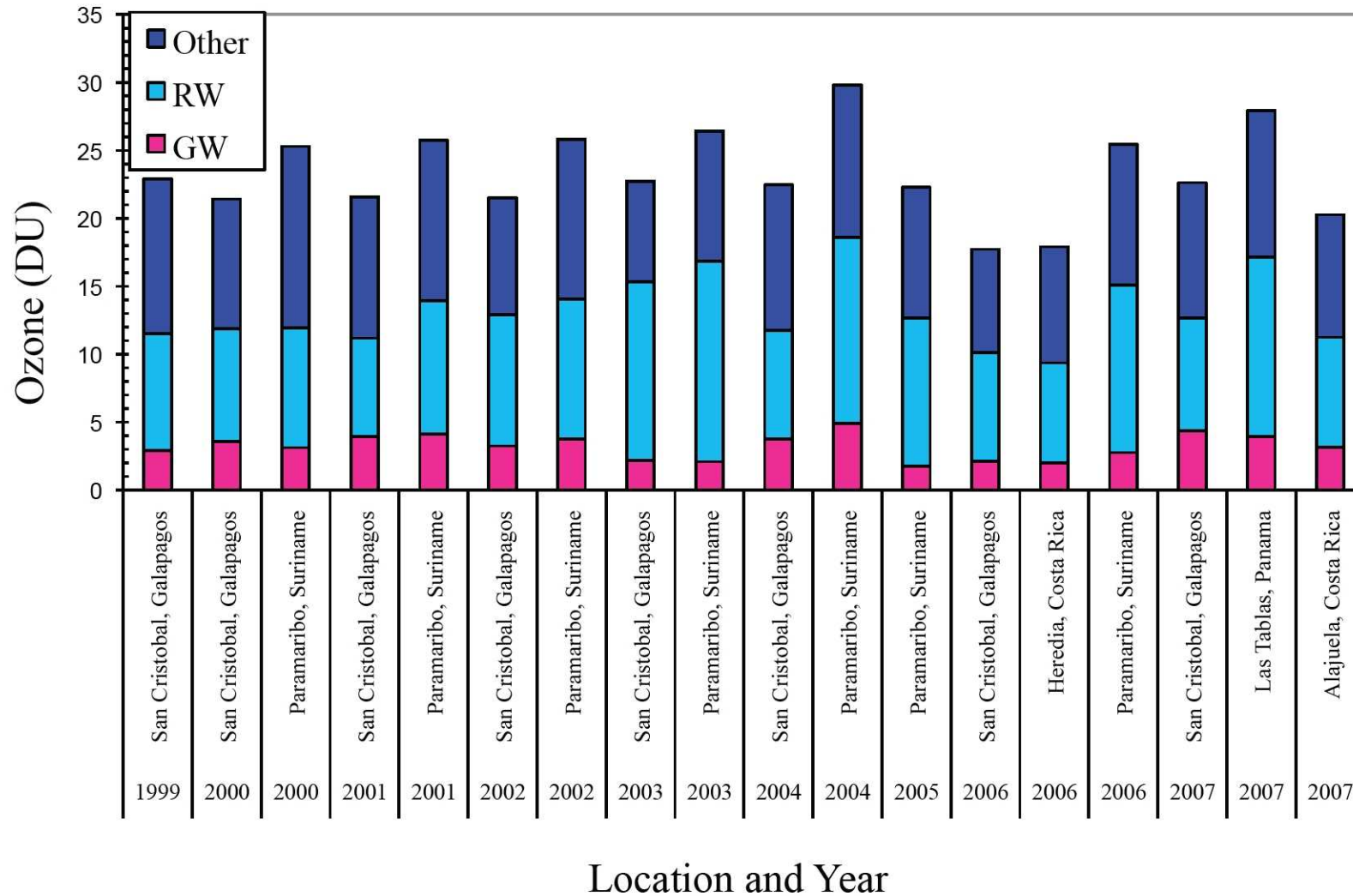
**C**



**FIGURE 9 (continued)**

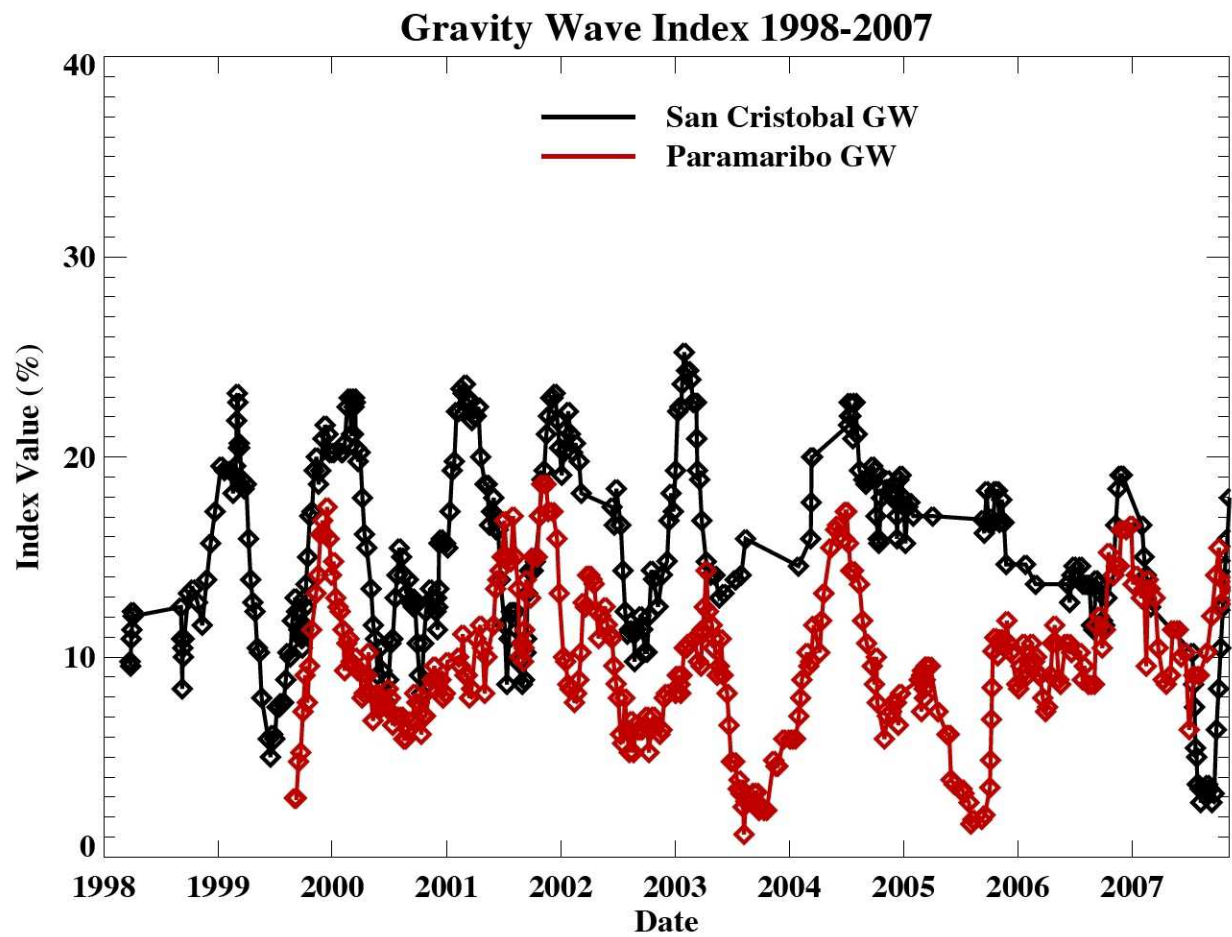
**a****b****c****FIGURE 10**

## Mean J-J-A Free Tropospheric Ozone



**FIGURE 11**





**FIGURE 12**