




# The CALIPSO Lidar

**Brian Getzewich, Dave Winker, Mark Vaughan, Jason Tackett,  
Chip Trepte, Ron Verhappen, Sharon Rodier, Bill Hunt**

31<sup>st</sup> ILRC – Lidar Tutorial

23 June 2024

- 
- Mission Overview
  - Instrument
  - Calibration
  - Data Products & Algorithms

# Mission Overview

- **Cloud-Aerosol Lidar and Infrared Pathfinder Satellite Observations (CALIPSO)** was a partnership between NASA and the French Space Agency (CNES)
- Satellite comprised of three instruments
  - **Cloud-Aerosol LI**dar with **Orthogonal Polarization (CALIOP)**
  - **Imaging Infrared Radiometer (IIR)**; 8.65, 10.6, and 12.05  $\mu\text{m}$
  - **Wide Field Camera (WFC)**; 645 nm
- **Mission Science Objectives**
  - Provide a new ability to assess cloud feedback in the climate system, including the effects of thin cirrus, polar clouds, and multilayered cloud systems, all of which are poorly determined by passive sensors alone.
  - Provide a global suite of measurements from which the first *observationally-based* estimates of direct aerosol forcing, and its uncertainty, can be made.
  - Provide a dramatically improved empirical basis for global and regional assessments of indirect aerosol radiative forcing.
  - Improve the accuracy of satellite estimates of long-wave (LW) radiative fluxes at the surface of the Earth and within the atmosphere by a factor of 2.

# Mission Milestones

## **April 28, 2006**

- Launch, manifested along-side CloudSat, from Vandenberg, AFB in California.

## **June 13, 2006**

- Start of Science Mission as part of Afternoon Train (A-Train) international satellite constellation

## **November 2007**

- Off-nadir angle change from 0.3 to 3.0 degrees

## **February/March 2009**

- Switch from primary to backup laser

## **September 2018**

- A-Train exit, satellite lowered to its disposal orbit (AKA C-Train)

## **June 2023**

- Primary laser re-activation

## **July 1, 2023**

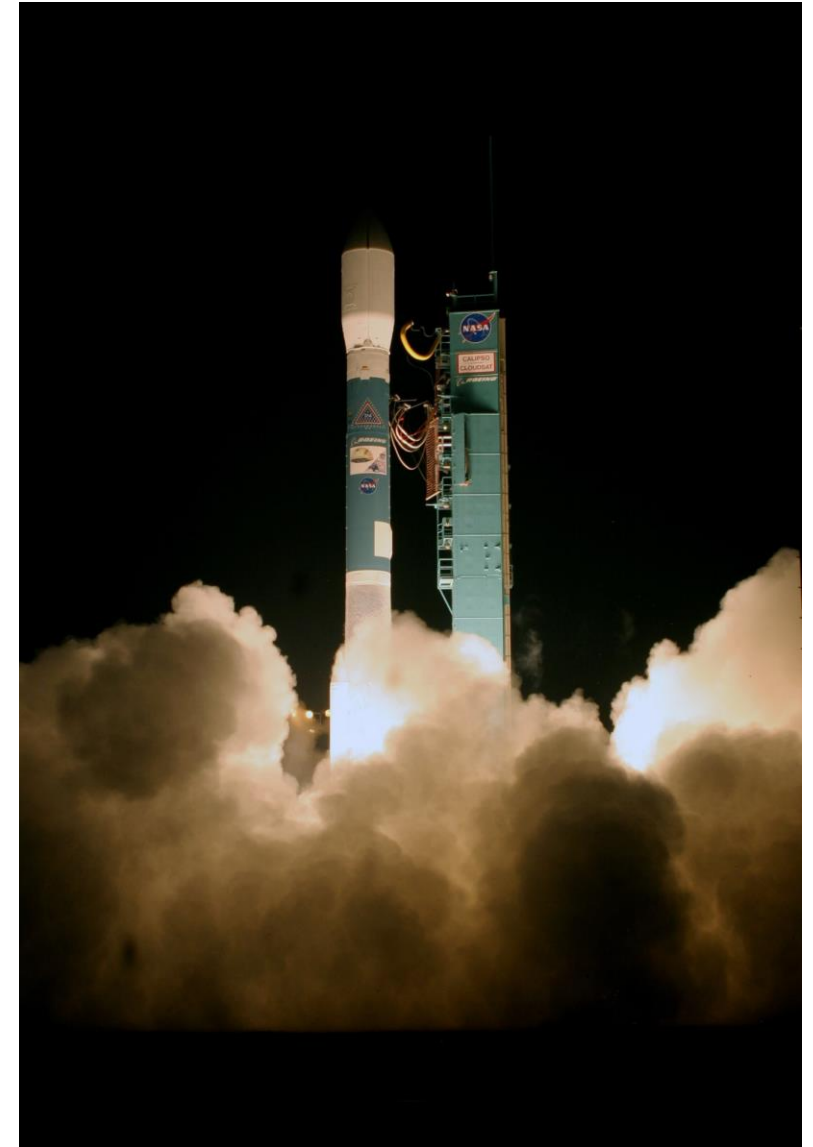
- Satellite Safe Hold Mode, end of science data collection

## **August 1, 2023**

- End of Science Mission

## **December 2023**

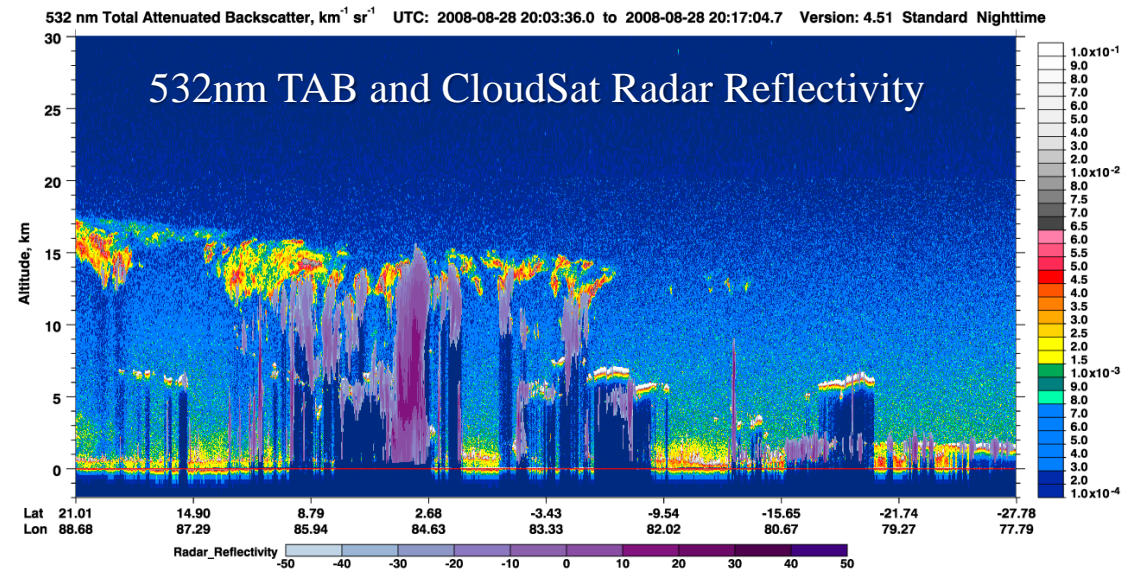
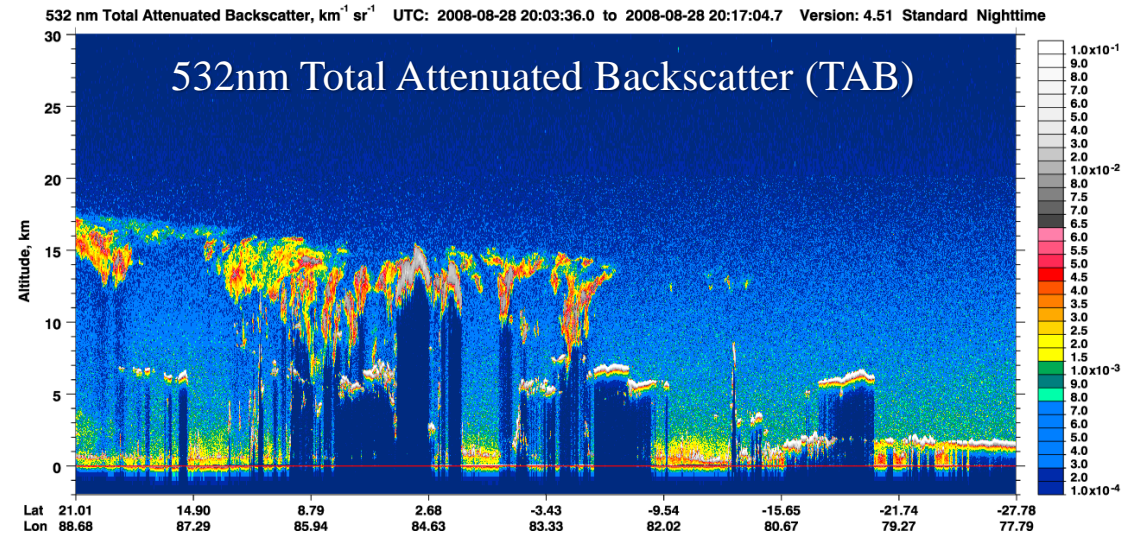
- Satellite/instrument pacification



*Launch of CALIPSO and CloudSat aboard a Delta-2 rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base*

# A-Train Formation Flying

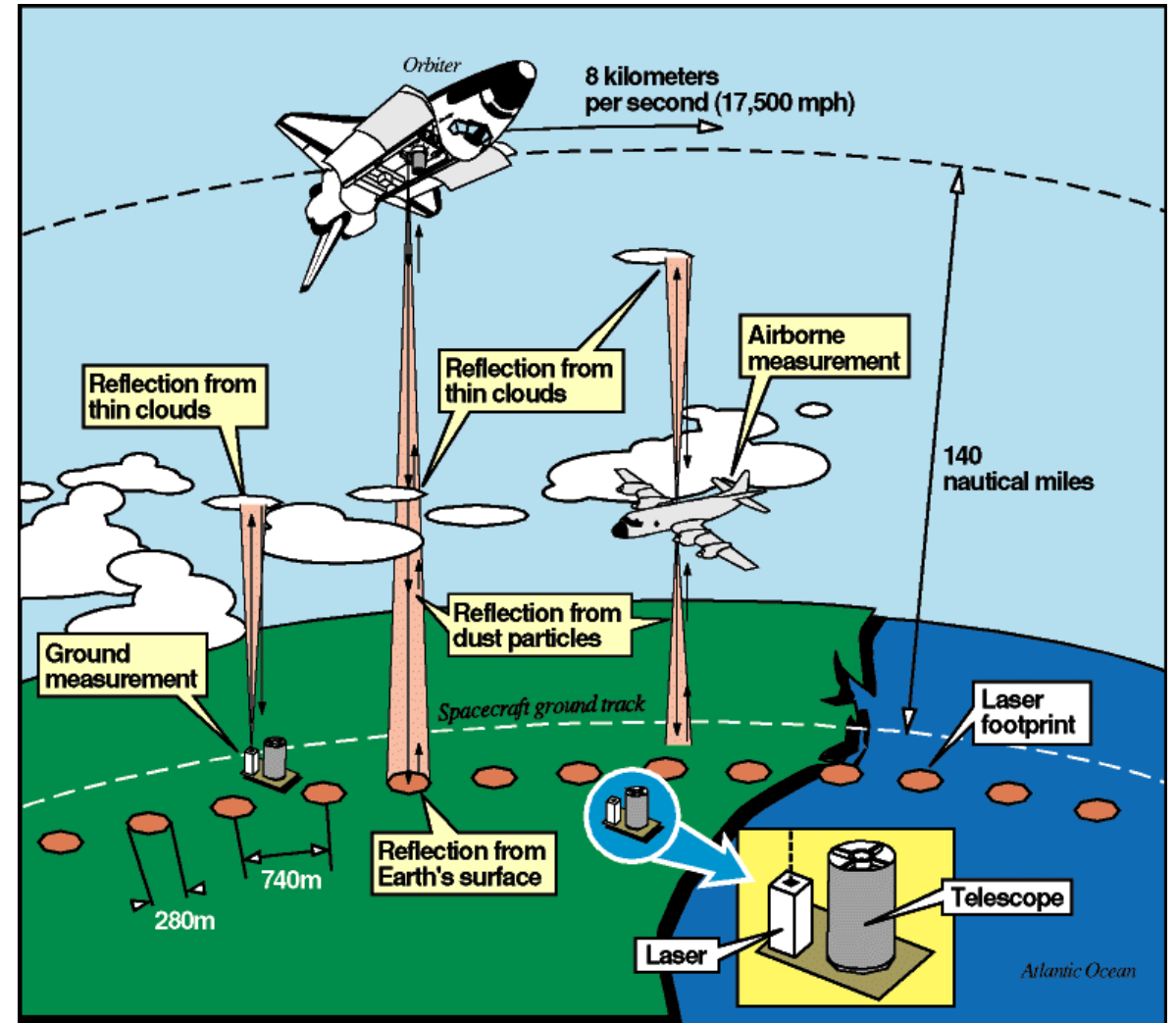
- CALIPSO flew in the international Afternoon Train (A-Train) constellation, acquiring coincident measurements with other satellites
  - Sun-synchronous orbit with equatorial crossing time of 1:30 PM, altitude of 705 km, and speed of  $\sim 7$  km/s
  - Yields multi-sensor synthesis with measurements from CloudSat, PARASOL, Aqua, Aura
- Lowered orbit from 705 km to 688 km starting on September 13, 2018, to resume formation flying with CloudSat as part of the 'C-Train'
  - Satellite disposal orbit



Images posted on CALIPSO Science Website; <https://www-calipso.larc.nasa.gov/>

# Heritage: The Lidar In-Space Technology Experiment (LITE)

- CALIOP relied on the experience gained from the Lidar In-Space Technology Experiment (LITE); Winker et al., 1996, doi:10.1109/5.482227
- Prime payload onboard Space Shuttle Discovery (STS-64) between September 9-20, 1994
- 3-channel elastic backscatter lidar operating at 355 nm, 532 nm, 1064 nm
- First operational Earth-observing lidar to fly in low Earth orbit (LEO)



Images and content provided from the NASA LaRC SD LITE Project Page: <https://science-data.larc.nasa.gov/LITE/>

# CALIOP Design Considerations

- Spacecraft imposed mass and power constraints on the payload
- Cost and the state (late 90's) of technology
- Two wavelength, polarization sensitive elastic backscatter lidar
  - Transmit laser light at 532 nm and 1064 nm
  - Separately detect parallel and perpendicular polarization components of the backscattered light at 532 nm
  - No polarization sensitivity at 1064 nm
  - No 355 nm channel given potential risk to laser life
- Maximizing Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR) largely drove instrument requirements (next slide)
- Data Downlink
  - ~25-hour solid state recorder
  - 1 science contact (S-Band) and multiple engineering (X-Band) contacts per 24 hours
- Downlink constraints resolved using on-board signal processing and data averaging
  - Maximize dynamic range of the signal
  - Minimize the telemetry data volume by use of altitude-varying spatial averaging

# CALIOP Design Requirements: Signal-to-Noise Ratio

Channel	Lighting	Target		Max Averaging Horizontal (km)	Max Averaging Vertical (km)	SNR Requirement
		Altitude (km)	Backscatter Coefficient ( $\text{km}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1}$ )			
532 nm Parallel	Night	30	$2.39 \times 10^{-5}$ (Rayleigh)	1500	5	50
532 nm Parallel	Day, Albedo = 0.15	1	$1.45 \times 10^{-3}$ (Rayleigh)	33	1	10
532 nm Perpendicular	Must satisfy the same SNR requirements as the 532 Parallel channel when illuminated with the same signal and background					
1064 nm	Day, Albedo = 0.15	1	$1.00 \times 10^{-3}$ (boundary layer aerosol)	50	1	5

Requirements specify the **minimum** signal-to-noise ratios (SNR) needed to ensure all four of the CALIPSO mission science requirements are fully met



# Block Diagram

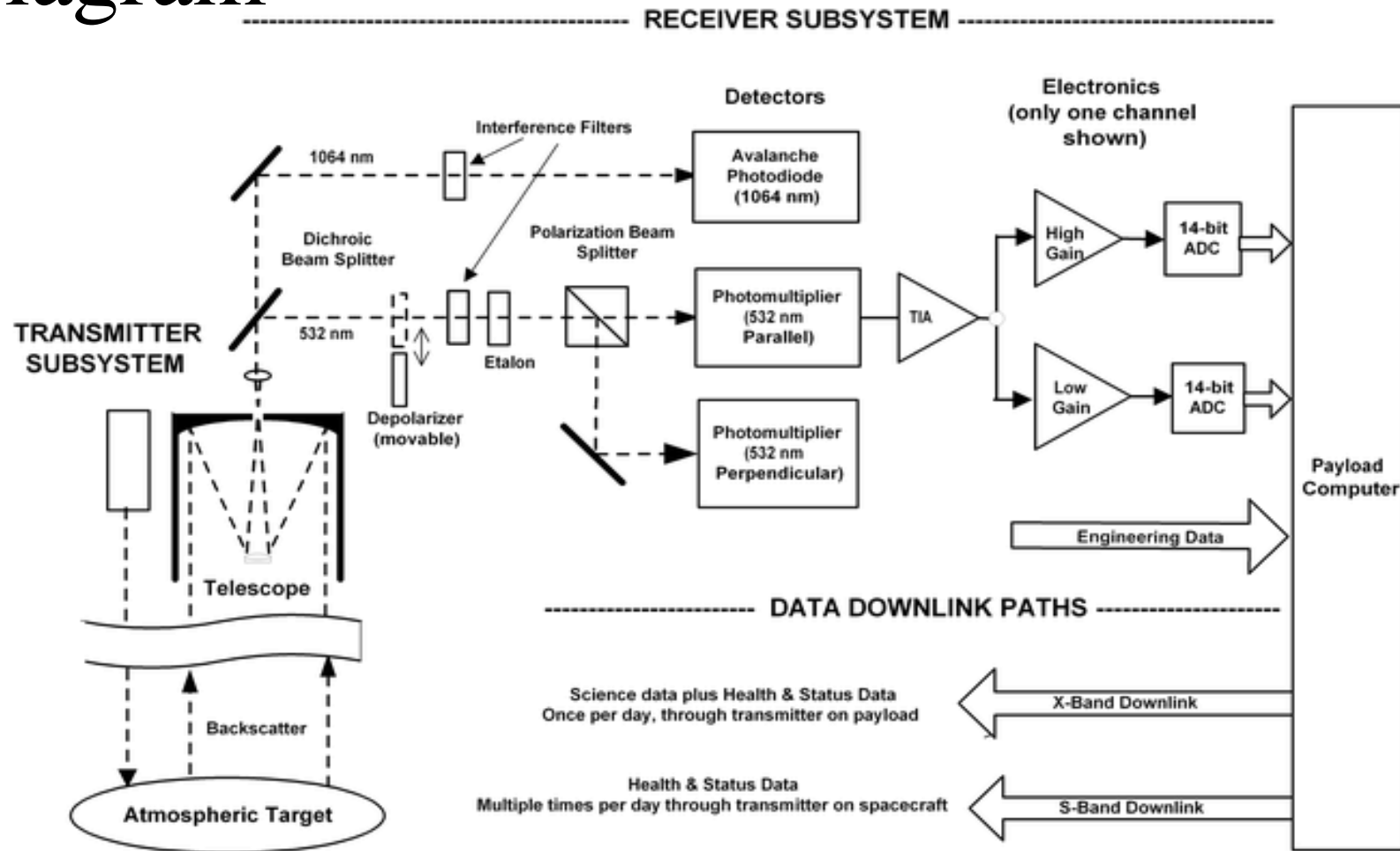
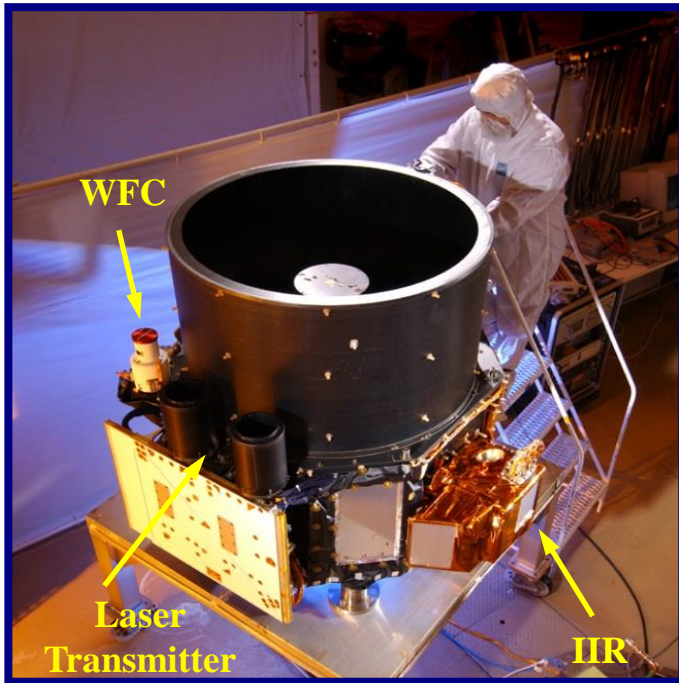


Figure 1 from Hunt et al, 2009. © American Meteorological Society. Used with permission.

Hunt, W. H, et al., 2009: "CALIPSO Lidar Description and Performance Assessment", *J. Atmos. Oceanic Technol.*, **26**, 1214-1228, <https://doi.org/10.1175/2009JTECHA1223.1>.

# Transmitter Subsystem



*CALIPSO payload in the clean room of Ball Aerospace Corporation in Boulder, Colorado*

Lasers	Diode-pumped Nd:YAG, 2x110 mJ
Pulse Energies	532 nm: 110 mJ 1064 nm: 110 mJ
Repetition Rate	20.25 Hz
Pulse Length	20 nsec
Boresight Range	+/- 1 degree, 1.6 $\mu$ rad steps
Laser Canisters (2)	18 psia, nitrogen

- Two Lasers (Primary & Backup) housed in separate pressured containers
- Laser pulse energy & repetition rate determined to maximize daytime SNR
- Available spacecraft power limited repetition rate to 20 Hz
- Bore-sighting capability to allow for routine alignment between the transmitter and receiver
  - Complete alignment achieved within a single nighttime orbit segment
  - On-orbit optimizations conducted every ~6 weeks

# Receiver Subsystem

Parameter		Value
Telescope diameter		1 m
Field of View (FOV)		130 $\mu$ rad
532 nm	Optical Filter Bandwidth	35 pm
	Detector Effective Quantum Efficiency	0.11
	Detector Dark Count Rate	$2.3 \times 10^3$
1064 nm	Optical Filter Bandwidth	400 pm
	Detector Effective Quantum Efficiency	0.40
	Detector Dark Count Rate	$2.0 \times 10^7$
Digitizer sample rate		10 MHz
Vertical sample spacing		15 m
Electronic bandwidth		2.0 MHz
Vertical resolution determined by bandwidth		30 m
Single digitizer resolution		14 bits
Merged digitizer dynamic range		$2.5 \times 10^6$ (>21 bits)

Due to payload mass constraints the telescope needed to be light. Beryllium selected due to cost, and the largest that could be built at the time was 1 meter.

FOV matched to laser divergence and optimized for daytime SNR. Small enough to reduce daytime background and large enough to capture laser footprint.

Optical filters selected to reject as much solar background as possible and include as much laser return energy. Larger dark noise at 1064nm allowed for a wider filter.

Fastest space-qualified ADCs at the time

Vertical sampling to enable cloud-aerosol separation with maximum retention of aerosol signals

Vertical resolution (30m) determined by electronic bandwidth and laser rep rate

Very large dynamic range needed for high altitude calibration while still measuring dense clouds without saturation; LITE ~  $1.0 \times 10^6$

# Receiver Subsystem

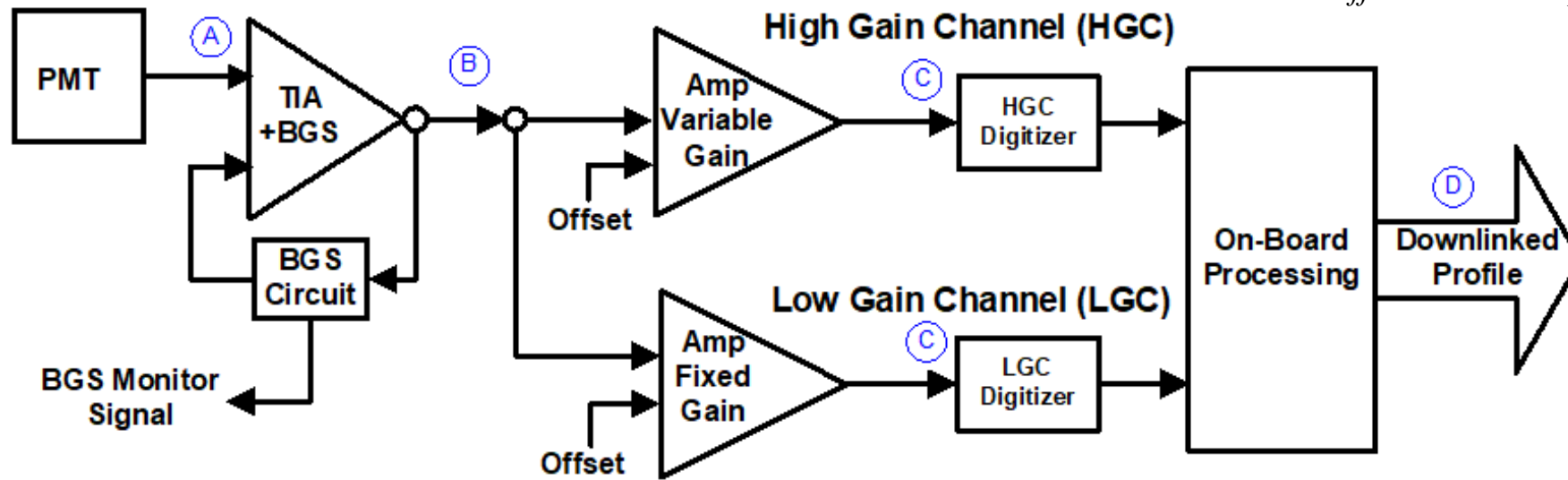
- Moveable pseudo-depolarizer
  - Used to derive the polarization gain ratio (PGR); when inserted into the optical path, this device completely depolarizes the incident light, causing equal optical intensities to be directed onto both the 532 nm parallel and 532 nm perpendicular detectors
  - Commanded instrument mode – not part of normal science data acquisition mode (DAQ)
- Filters
  - Additional filtering for 532nm required narrow etalon filter, matched to the laser linewidth. Determined to not be as advantageous (and more cost) to use etalon for the 1064nm channel.
- Detectors
  - Limited to the space-qualified options available in the previous millennium
  - Photomultiplier Tubes (PMTs) at 532 nm
    - Chosen due to low dark noise and large dynamic range
  - Linear Avalanche Photodiodes (APDs) at 1064 nm
    - Chosen because PMT quantum efficiencies at 1064 nm were too low
  - Analog detectors used because photon counting devices could not provide the required dynamic range on the high end

# Single Channel Signal Detection Electronics

TIA = Trans-Impedance Amplifiers (current to voltages)

BGS = Background Subtraction

Offset = Ensures positive signal after BGS



Backscatter Signals  
 $P_{532,\parallel}(r)$   
 $P_{532,\perp}(r)$   
 $P_{1064}(r)$

	Point A	Point B	Point C	Point D
Background Signal	Yes	No	No	No
Dark Current Signal	Yes	No	No	No
Backscatter Signal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Offset	No	No	Yes	No

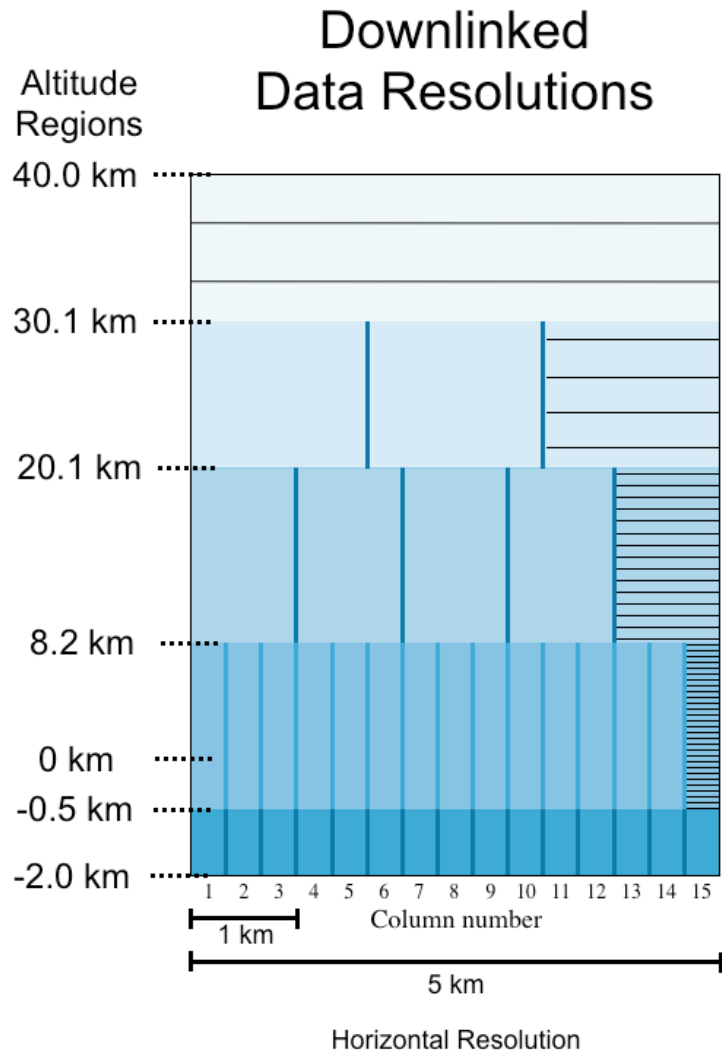
# Creating CALIOP Backscatter Signal Profiles

- Range determination
  - Uses on-board geoid model with GPS and orbital propagator to adjust laser pulse initiation and maintain accurate ranging to mean sea level at the laser footprint locations
- Sampling
  - Digitizers sample backscatter at 10 MHz (15 m bin resolution), from 115 km above mean sea level to -18.5 km
- Background subtraction
  - Mean background signal calculated between 112 and 97 km, where backscatter is negligible
  - Background removed electronically from signal prior to digitization
- Amplifiers and Digitizers
  - Full dynamic range achieved by splitting each channel into high gain and low gain channels (each 14-bit)
- Onboard Signal Merging and Scaling
  - For each laser pulse, *high gain and low gain measurements are merged onboard* to create a single combined profile (~22-bit dynamic range, resolution = 30 m vertical × 333 m horizontal)
- Averaging
  - Horizontal and vertical averaging of merged profiles reduces overall data volume downlink

# On-Board Averaging

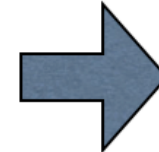
Altitude Range (km)	Bin #	Horizontal Ave (km)	532nm Vertical Ave (m)	1064 nm Vertical Ave (m)	Rationale
30.1 to 40.0	1-33	5	300	N/A	532 nm nighttime calibration regime. Aerosol scattering ratios assumed to be $1.01 \pm 0.01$ above 36 km.
20.2 to 30.1	34-88	5/3	180	180	More spatial homogeneity of atmospheric targets in mid-latitude and equatorial regions; sufficient resolution for characterizing polar stratospheric clouds
8.3 to 20.2	89-288	1	60	60	Resolution commensurate with the expected spatial variability of multiple targets in the upper troposphere, including thin cirrus and volcanic aerosol injections.
-0.5 to 8.3	289-578	1/3	30	60	Single shot resolution at 532 nm enables high resolution feature detection and cloud-clearing of aerosols in the planetary bound layer.
-2.0 to -0.5	579-583	1/3	300	300	Allow for monitoring of subsurface signal returns.

# On-Board Averaging: Data Implications



Vertical Resolution	Horizontal Resolution	Profiles per 5 km	Bins per Profile Region
300 m	5000 m	1	33
180 m	1667 m	3	55
60 m	1000 m	5	200
30 m	333 m	15	290
300 m	333 m	15	5

L1 processing transfers to uniform horizontal grid. 15 x 583 (w x h)



Downlinked vertical resolution remains unchanged

## L1 Profiles Reported Resolution

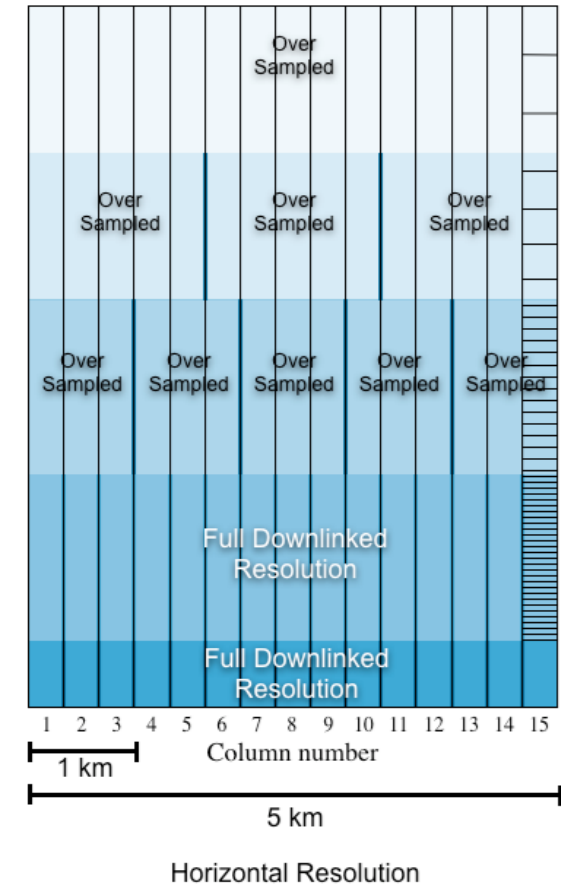


image source : [https://www-calipso.larc.nasa.gov/resources/calipso\\_users\\_guide/essential\\_reading/index.php#altitude\\_array](https://www-calipso.larc.nasa.gov/resources/calipso_users_guide/essential_reading/index.php#altitude_array)



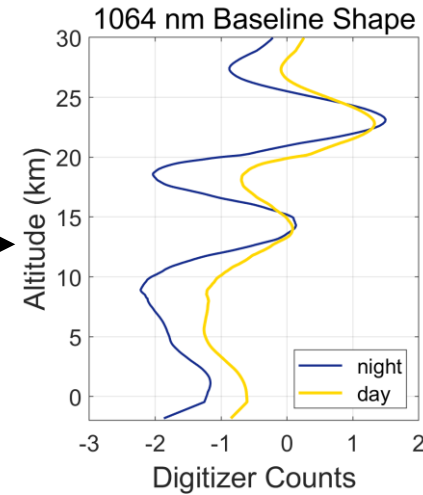
# Science Data Product Definitions

- **Level 0**
  - Unprocessed instrument data (counts, voltages, etc. ) at full downlinked resolutions
- **Level 1B**
  - Calibrated, geolocated, time-referenced lidar, altitude registered profiles
- **Level 2**
  - Derived Geophysical Variables (GVs; e.g., layer heights and optical depths) at multiple spatial resolutions
- **Expedited**
  - Expedited data products were created to support operational forecasting activities and have a latency of 12–24 hours from data downlink. This quick turnaround was achieved by using approximate geolocation information and meteorological data. CALIPSO expedited products should NEVER be used for rigorous science studies.
- **Standard**
  - Research quality data products having a longer time latency (e.g., several weeks). Standard products are derived using post-processed, highly accurate ephemeris and temporally matched MERRA2 meteorological data.

*L0-L2 definitions taken from <https://www.earthdata.nasa.gov/eosdis/science-system-description/eosdis-standard-products>*

# Converting Level 0 to Level 1

1. Convert raw engineering data from digitizer counts to engineering units
2. Apply instrument and signal corrections (e.g., baseline shape, baseline slope, day-night gain ratios, etc.)



*Baseline  
(shape/slope)  
corrections  
eliminate low  
level electronic  
artifacts*

3. For each altitude bin( $z$ ) and profile ( $k$ ), apply range squared correction ( $r^2$ ) to the raw signals ( $P(z,k)$ ) and normalize for electronic gain ( $G$ ) and laser energy ( $E$ )

$$\longrightarrow X(z, k) = \frac{r^2(z) P(z, k)}{G(k) E(k)}$$

4. Apply geolocation and altitude registration

$$5. \text{ Apply calibration coefficients } \longrightarrow \beta'_{532,\parallel}(z, k) = \left( \frac{X_{532,\parallel}(z, k)}{C_{532,\parallel}} \right) \quad \beta'_{532,\perp}(z, k) = \left( \frac{X_{532,\perp}(z, k)}{PGR \times C_{532,\parallel}} \right)$$

$$\beta'_{1064}(z, k) = \left( \frac{X_{1064}(z, k)}{C_{1064}} \right)$$

# Radiometric Calibration

**532 nm nighttime** uses molecular normalization between 36-39 km to minimize stratospheric aerosol loading; calibration coefficients calculated by ratioing the measured signals to the expected signals derived using an atmospheric model; requires temporal averaging over 11 consecutive nighttime orbit segments. All other radiometric calibrations are derived from the 532 nm nighttime calibration.

**532 nm daytime** assumes diurnally invariant aerosol loading in the lower stratosphere; calibration coefficients calculated by ratioing uncalibrated daytime “clear air” scattering ratios to calibrated nighttime “clear air” scattering ratios measured at the same latitude and altitude; requires temporal averaging over 165 consecutive daytime orbit segments

**1064 nm (nighttime and daytime)** assumes that both backscatter and extinction are spectrally invariant within dense cirrus clouds at 532 nm and 1064 nm; uses the calibrated 532 nm signals and the uncalibrated 1064 nm signals from “calibration quality” cirrus to compute 532-to-1064 calibration scale factors; requires temporal averaging over 165 consecutive orbit segments

## CALIOP Radiometric Calibration References

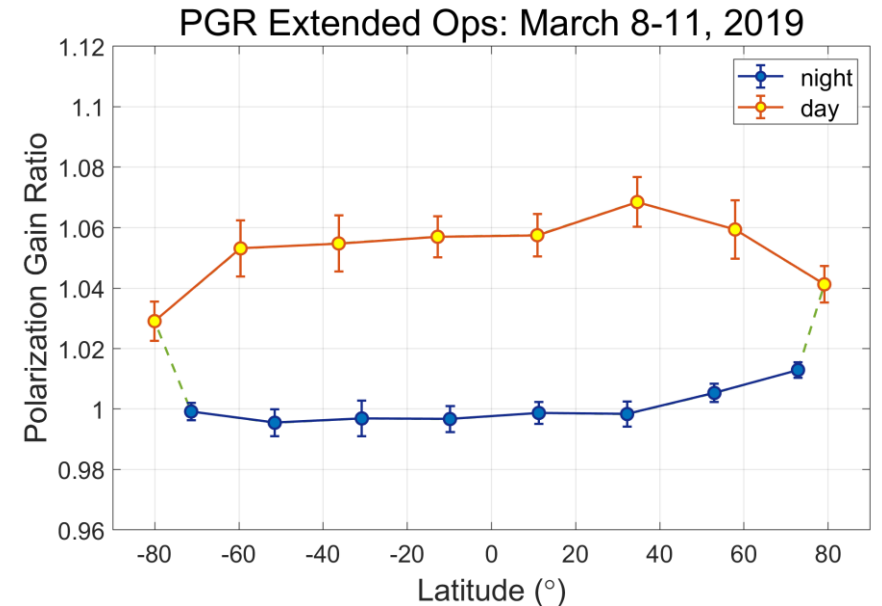
- Kar et al., 2018: CALIPSO Lidar Calibration at 532 nm: Version 4 Nighttime Algorithm, <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-11-1459-2018>
- Getzewich et al., 2018: CALIPSO Lidar Calibration at 532-nm: Version 4 Daytime Algorithm, <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-11-6309-2018>
- Vaughan et al., 2019: CALIPSO Lidar Calibration at 1064 nm: Version 4 Algorithm, <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-12-51-2019>

# Polarimetric Calibration

The polarization gain ratio (PGR) is an essential calibration coefficient required for computing both the total attenuated backscatter coefficients and the volume depolarization ratios.

Nighttime PGR measurements are obtained by inserting a pseudo-depolarizer into the 532 nm optical path. This device completely depolarizes the incident light, causing equal optical intensities to be directed on both the 532 nm parallel and 532 nm perpendicular detectors

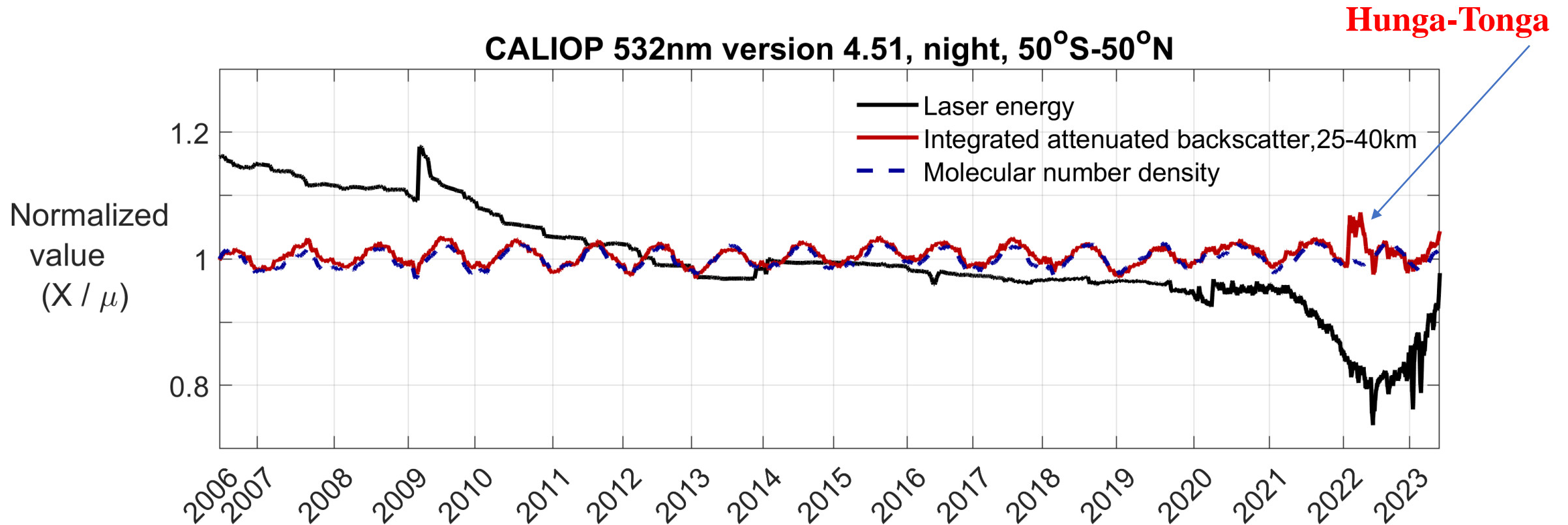
Because extended dwell time requirements prohibit routine use of the pseudo-depolarizer during daytime operations, daytime PGR measurements are estimated using solar background measurements acquired above opaque ice clouds.



## CALIOP Polarimetric Calibration References

- Liu et al., 2004: Validating lidar depolarization calibration using solar radiation scattered by ice clouds, <https://doi.org/10.1109/LGRS.2004.829613>
- Powell et al., 2009: CALIPSO Lidar Calibration Algorithms: Part I - Nighttime 532 nm Parallel Channel and 532 nm Perpendicular Channel, <https://doi.org/10.1175/2009JTECHA1242.1>
- Vaughan et al., 2023: Correcting CALIOP Polarization Gain Ratios for Diurnal Variations, [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-37818-8\\_89](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-37818-8_89)

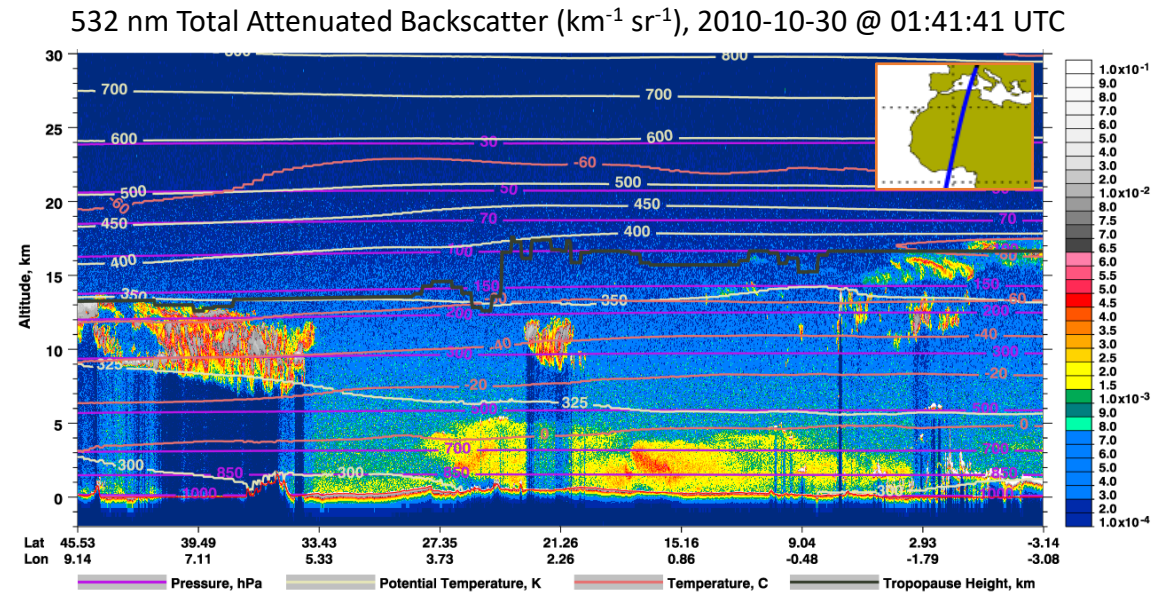
# Calibration Stability



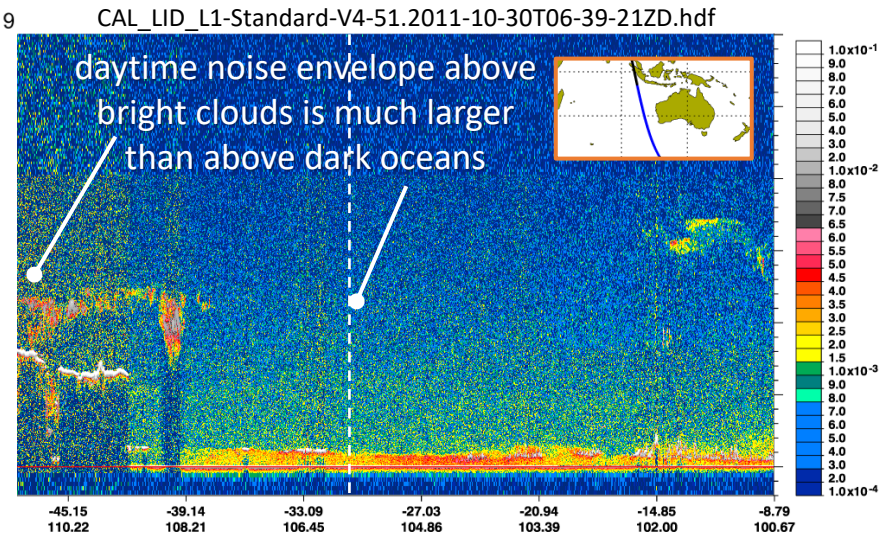
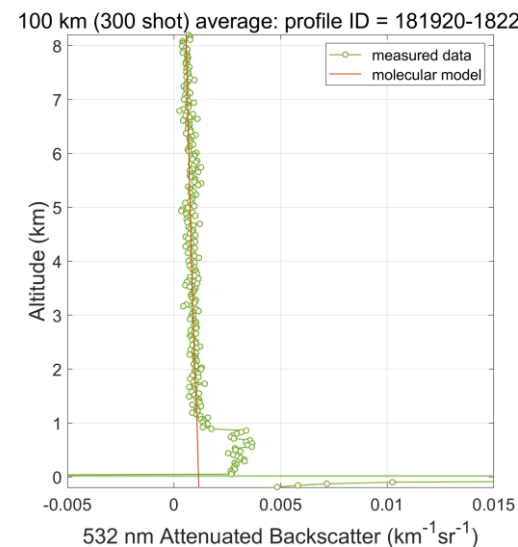
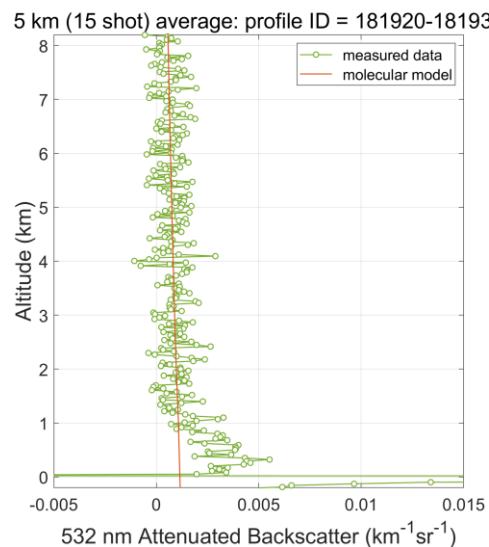
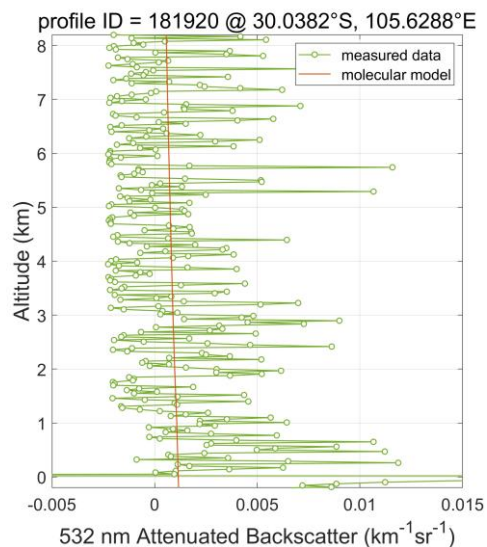
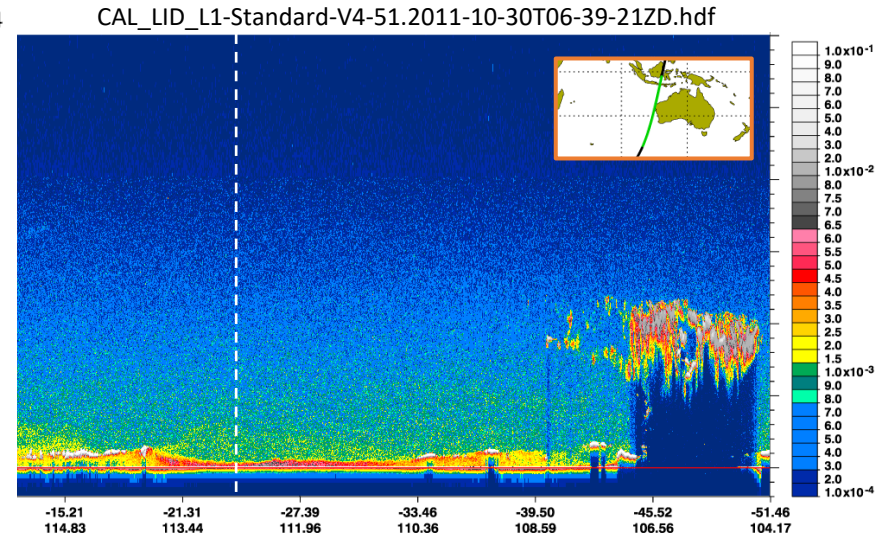
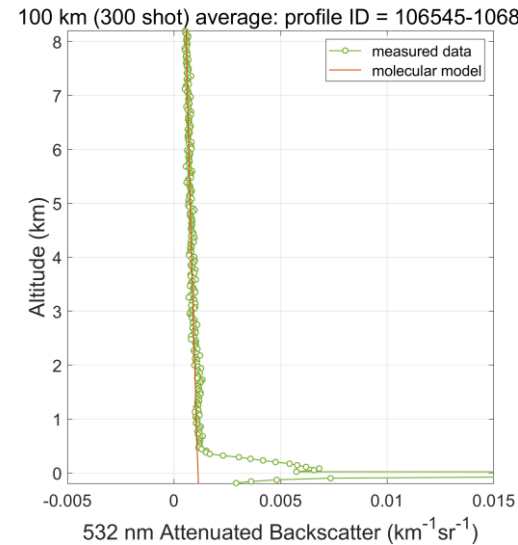
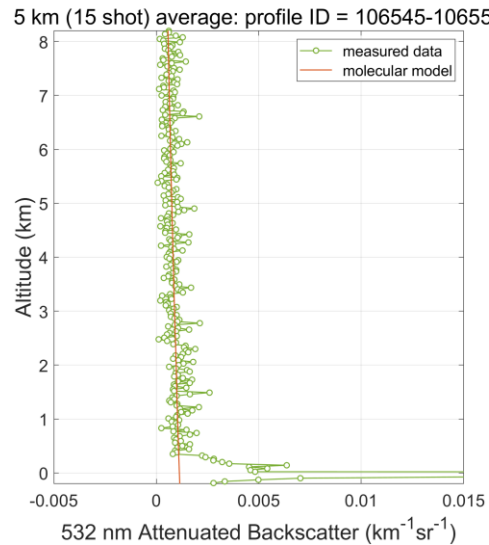
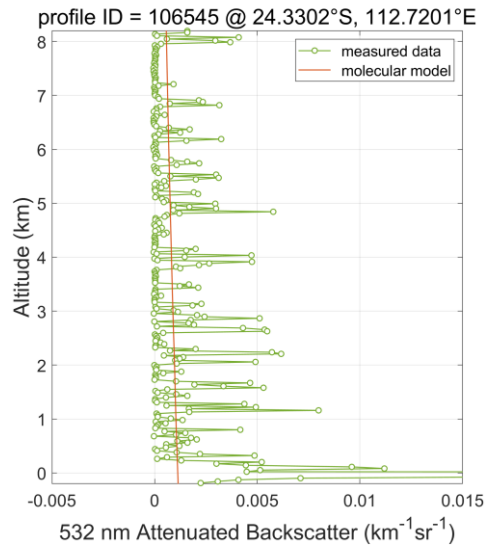
The stability of CALIOP measurements and robustness of calibration procedures is evidenced by the time series of global 532 nm integrated attenuated backscatter (IAB) from 25-40 km over the course of the mission. In this largely aerosol-free region of the atmosphere, the seasonal trend in IAB tracks that of molecular number density as expected. Despite the reduction in 532 nm laser energy and increased occurrence of low energy shots within the South Atlantic Anomaly (SAA) since 2017, the IAB remains well behaved.

# Primary Level 1 Output Parameters

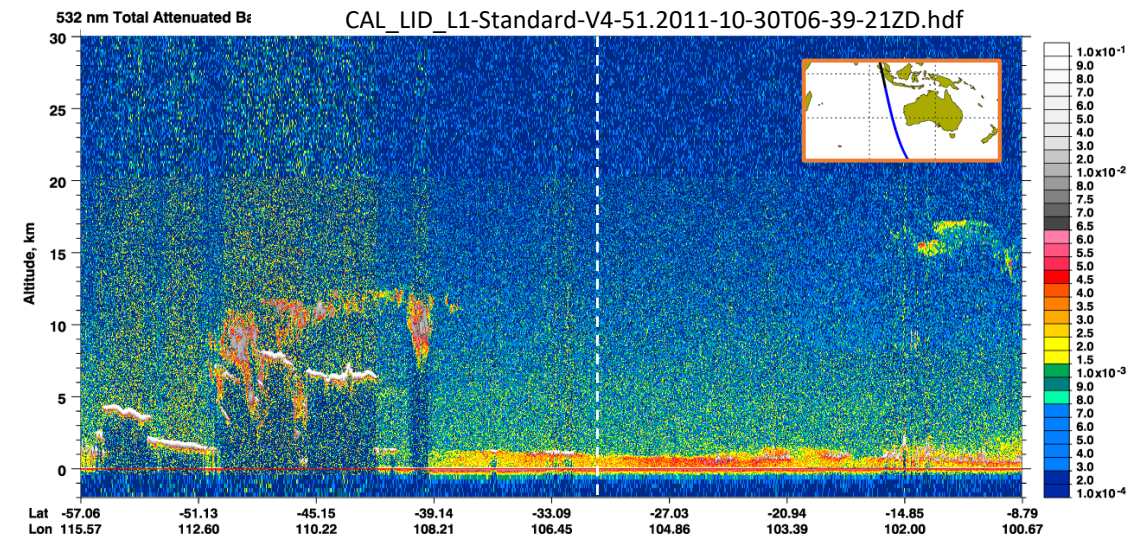
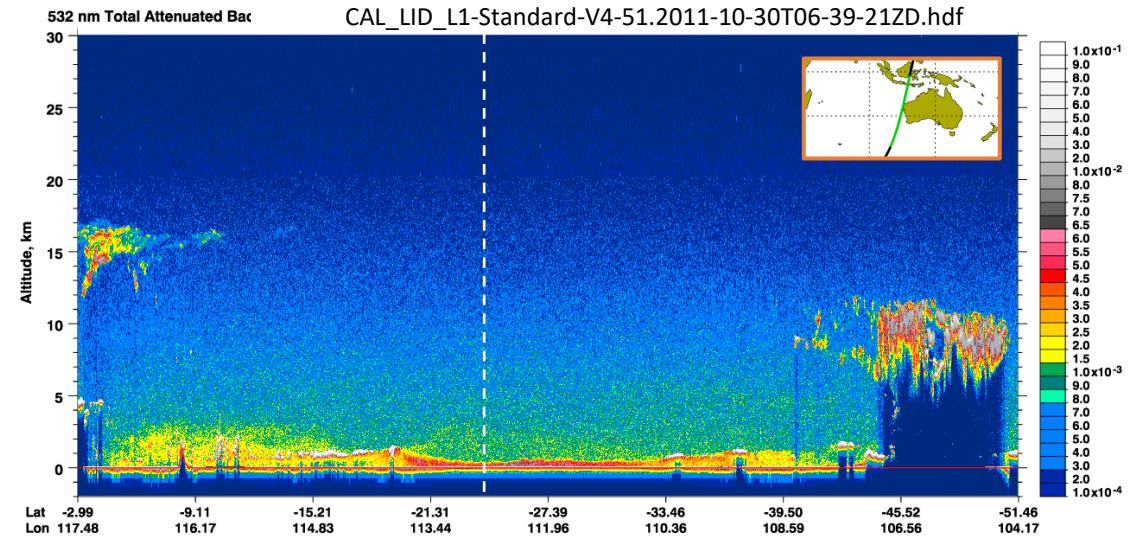
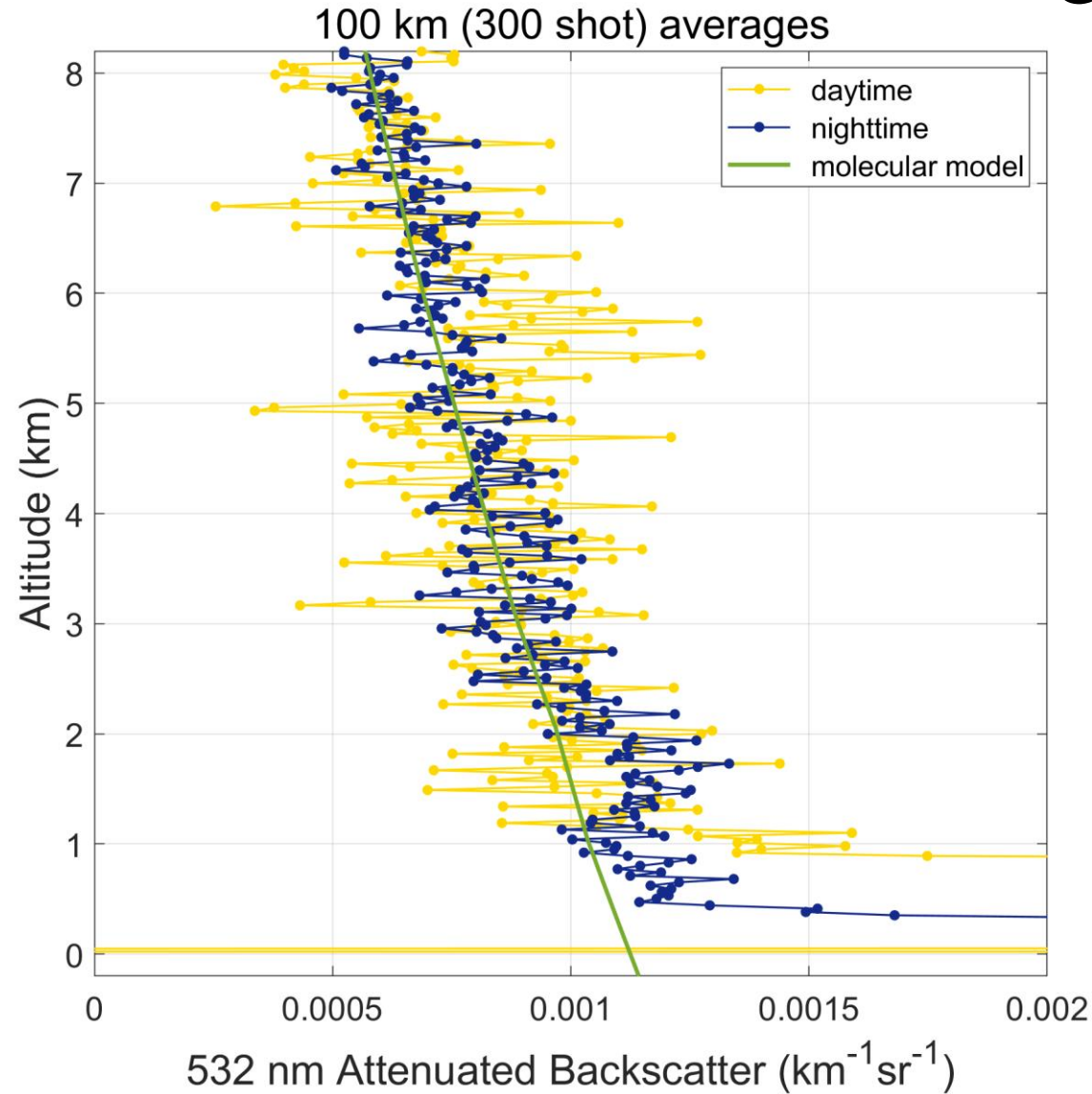
- 532 nm Total Attenuated Backscatter –  $\beta'_{532,\text{total}}(z) = \beta'_{532,\parallel}(z) + \beta'_{532,\perp}(z)$
- 532 nm Perpendicular Attenuated Backscatter –  $\beta'_{532,\perp}(z)$
- 1064 nm Total Attenuated Backscatter –  $\beta'_{1064}(z)$
- 532 nm Polarization Gain Ratio
- Calibration Coefficients and Uncertainties
- Laser Energy and Instrument Characterization Parameters
- Quality Flags
- Ancillary Meteorological Data



# Random Noise: CALIOP Nighttime vs. Daytime

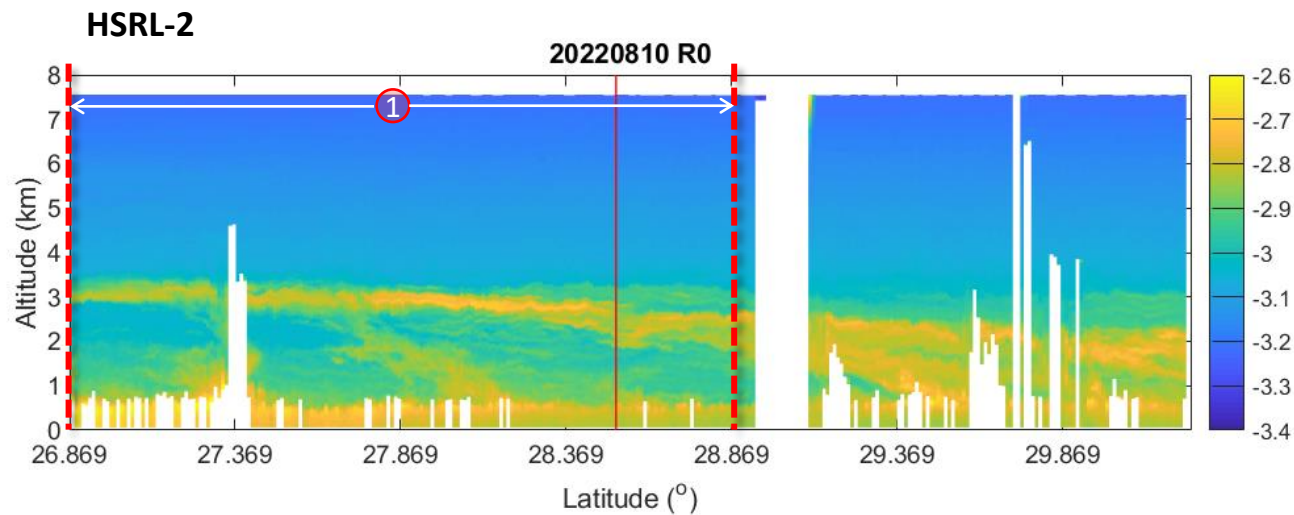
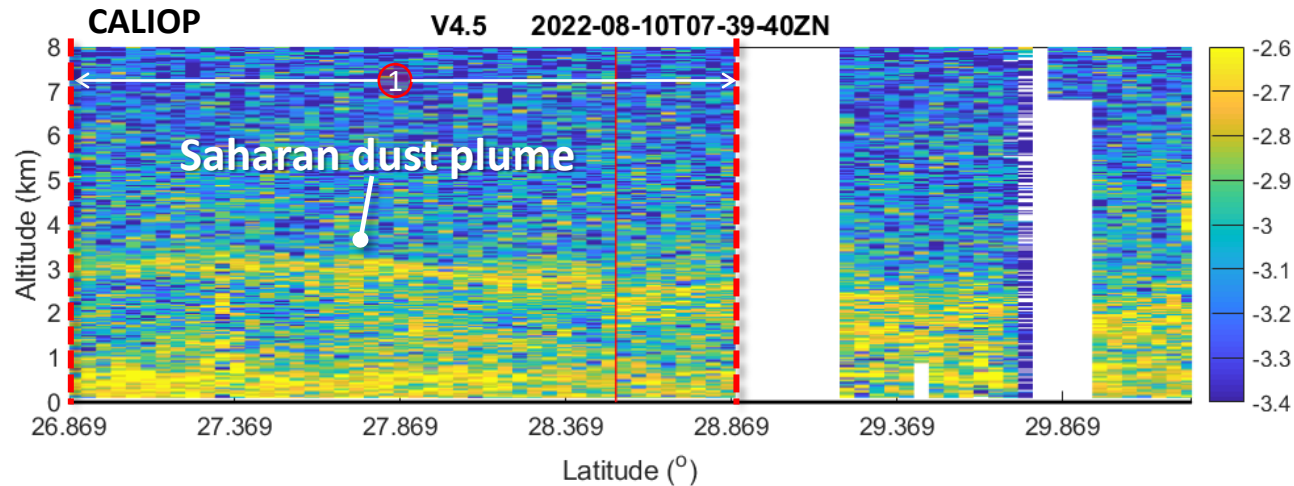


# Random Noise: CALIOP Nighttime vs. Daytime





# Random Noise: CALIOP vs. HSRL-2

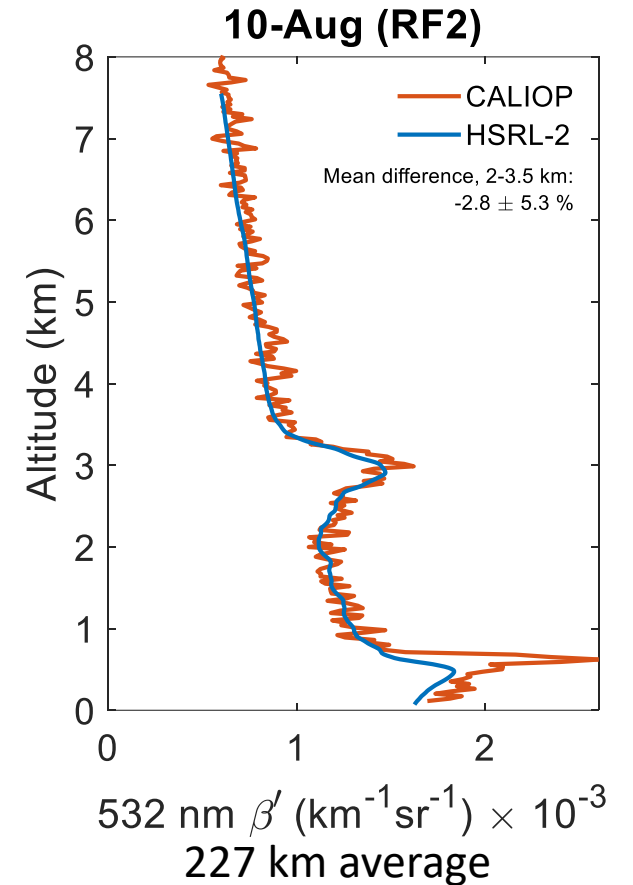


CALIOP Resolution

- 30 m vertical
- 5 km horizontal

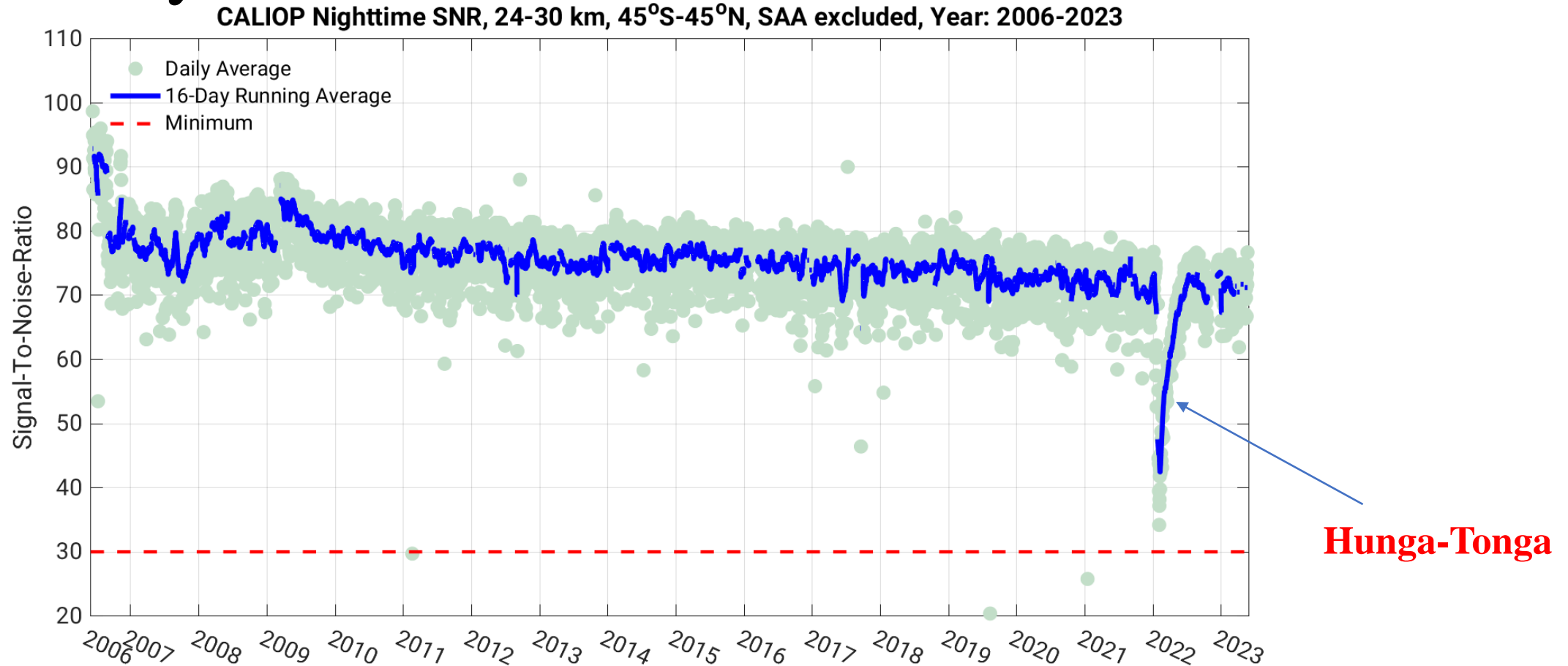
HSRL Resolution

- 15 m vertical
- 1 km horizontal



Campaign Data Available at [https://asdc.larc.nasa.gov/project/CALIPSO-NVF/CALIPSO-NVF\\_HSRL2\\_KingAir\\_Data\\_1](https://asdc.larc.nasa.gov/project/CALIPSO-NVF/CALIPSO-NVF_HSRL2_KingAir_Data_1)

# SNR Stability



Measured 532 nm channel nighttime signal-to-noise (SNR) computed from the nighttime total attenuated backscatter coefficients between 24 km and 30 km and 45° N to 45° S with a horizontal averaging of 1500 km along track. No noise filtering is applied to the data, meaning that radiation-induced noise and low energy laser shots are included in the SNR calculations.

# Level 2 Data Products

## Lidar Level 2 Profile Products

*CAL\_LID\_L2\_05kmCPro; Cloud*

*CAL\_LID\_L2\_05kmAPro; Aerosol*

Profile products report profiles of extinction, backscatter and depolarization (*derived/built from level 2 extinction algorithm*) at a uniform vertical and horizontal spatial resolution.

## Lidar Level 2 Layer Products

*CAL\_LID\_L2\_333mMLay; 333m Merged*

*CAL\_LID\_L2\_01kmCLay; 1km Cloud*

*CAL\_LID\_L2\_05kmCLay; 5km Cloud*

*CAL\_LID\_L2\_05kmALay; 5km Aerosol*

*CAL\_LID\_L2\_05kmMLay; 5km Merged*

Layer products report vertical locations of layer boundaries and the integrated optical properties of each layer.

## Lidar Level 2 Vertical Feature Mask Product

*CAL\_LID\_L2\_VFM*

Vertical Feature Mask product describes the vertical and horizontal distribution of cloud and aerosol layers observed. Bit-mapped values report feature type, subtype, phase(cloud) or type(aerosol), horizontal averaging, and associated quality assessment (QA) flags.

### Profile Products

Particulate Backscatter Coefficients Profiles;  $\beta_{532}$ ,  $\beta_{1064}$

Particulate Extinction Coefficient Profiles;  $\sigma_{532}$ ,  $\sigma_{1064}$

Particulate Depolarization Profiles;  $\delta_p$

Column Optical Properties;  $\tau$

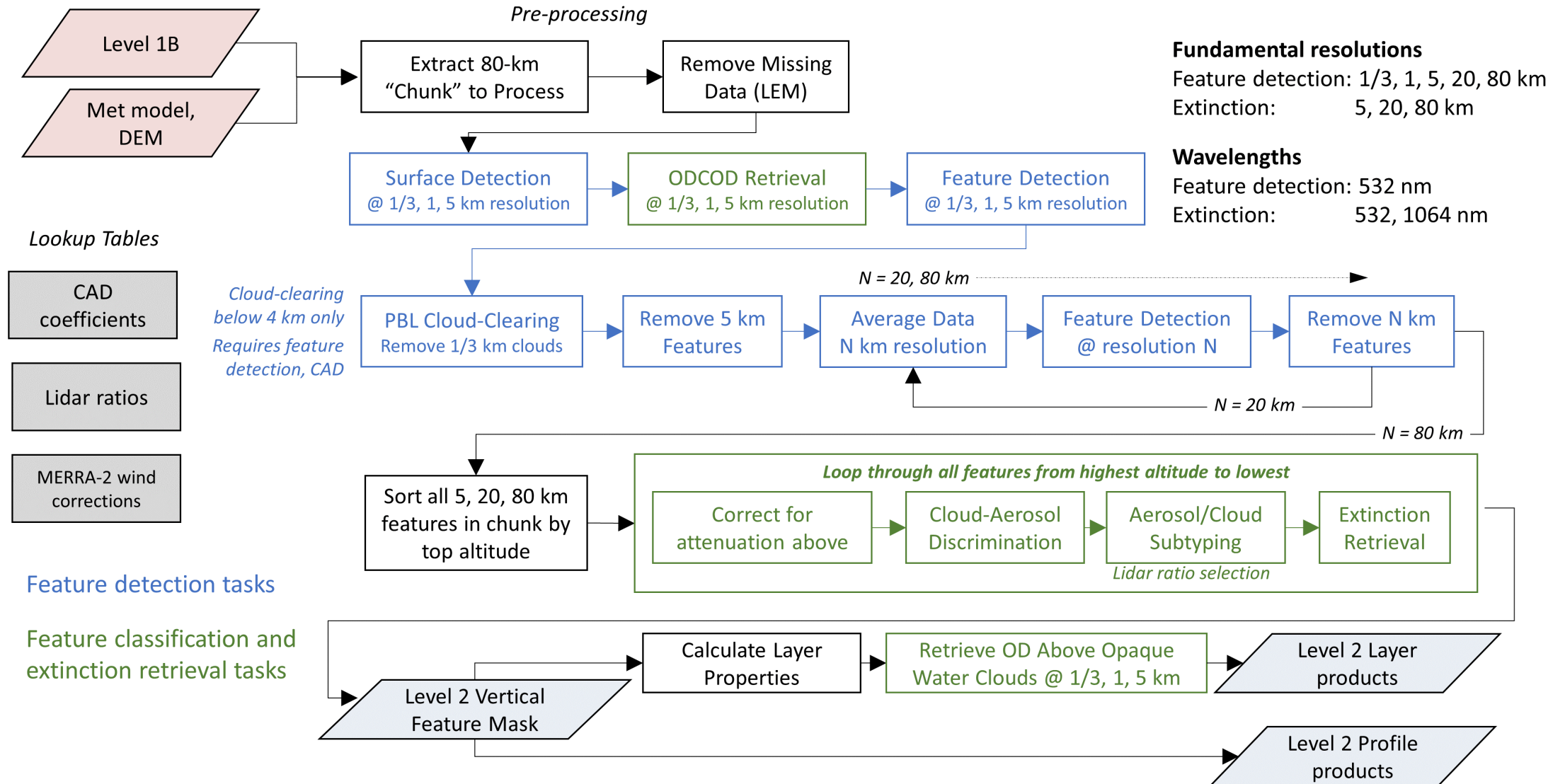
### Layer Products

Layer Spatial Properties; Top, Base, Type and Subtype

Layer Measured Optical Properties;  $\gamma'_{532}$ ,  $\gamma'_{1064}$ ,  $\delta_v$ ,  $\chi'$

Layer Derived Optical Properties;  $\tau$ ,  $\delta_p$ ,  $\chi_p$

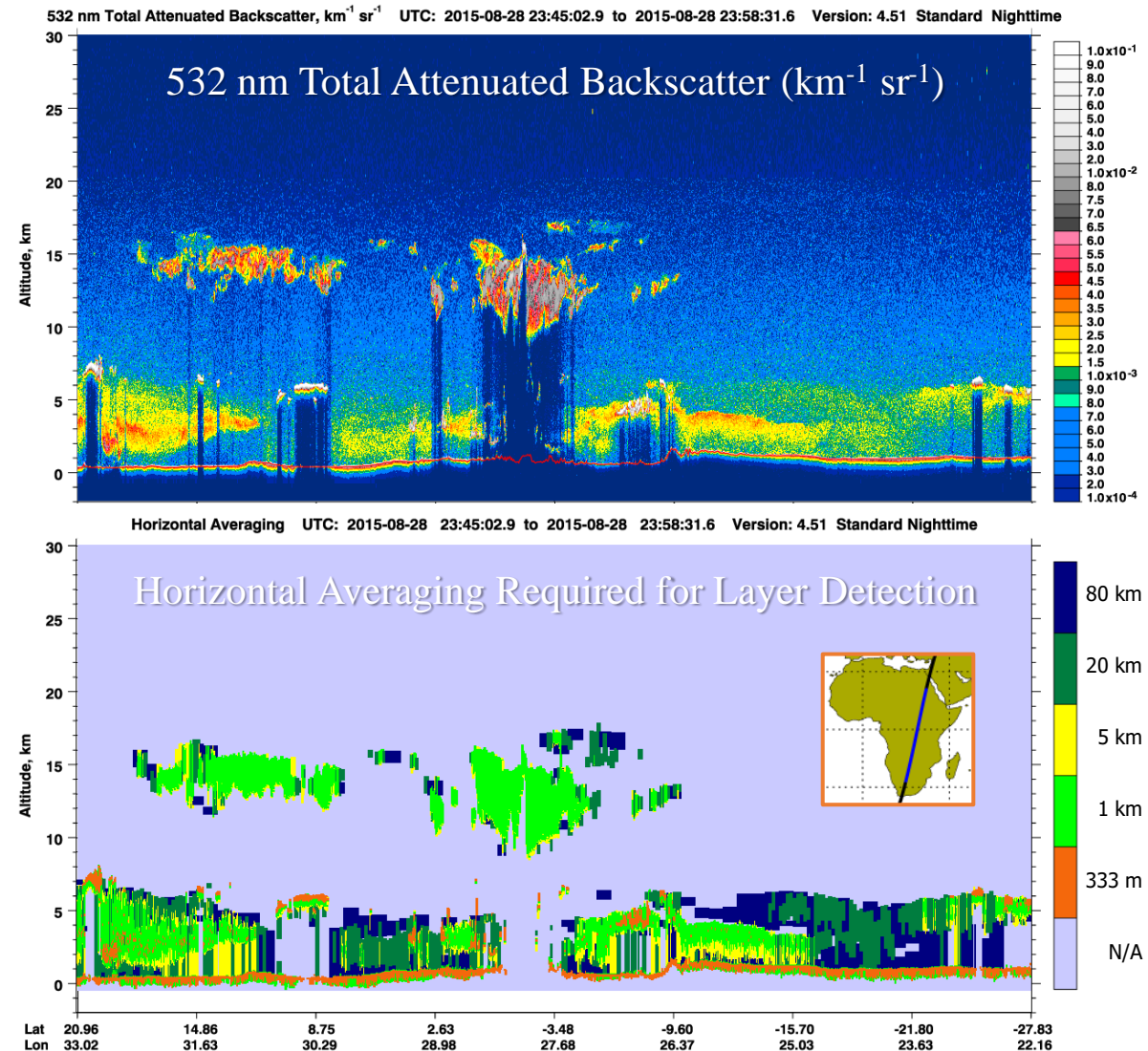
# Level 2 Algorithm Overview



# Level 2 Algorithm - Feature Detection

- A data-aware profile scanning algorithm is fused with an iterated, multi-resolution data averaging engine to detect atmospheric features at horizontal resolutions of 333 m, 1 km, 5 km, 20 km, and 80 km
- The profile scanner uses MERRA2 meteorological data and CALIOP measurements of background noise to construct altitude-dependent thresholds that account for the CALIOP onboard averaging scheme
- An integrated cloud-aerosol discrimination algorithm identifies clouds detected in the boundary layer at single shot resolution. These clouds are removed, and the surrounding data is reaveraged to coarser spatial resolutions to search for boundary layer aerosols.

Vaughan et al, 2009: Fully Automated Detection of Cloud and Aerosol Layers in the CALIPSO Lidar Measurements, *J. Atmos. Oceanic Technol.*, **26**, 2034–2050, <https://doi.org/10.1175/2009JTECHA1228.1>.



# Level 2 Algorithm – Cloud Typing & Phase

- Cloud type based on meteorological cloud definitions developed by the International Satellite Cloud Climatology Project (ISCCP)
  - Layer top pressure, Cloud opacity, and cloud cover fraction
- Cloud phase (Water, HOI, and ROI) and QA confidence are derived based primarily on the relationship between layer integrated volume depolarization ratio ( $\delta_v$ ) and 532 nm integrated attenuated backscatter ( $\gamma'_{532}$ ) (Hu et al., 2009).

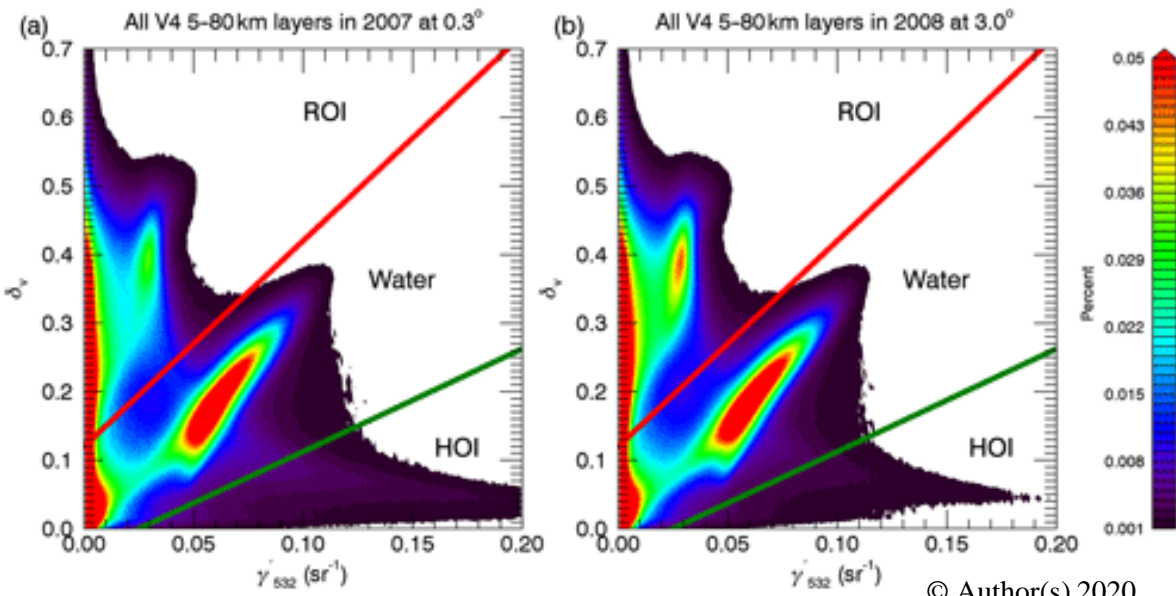
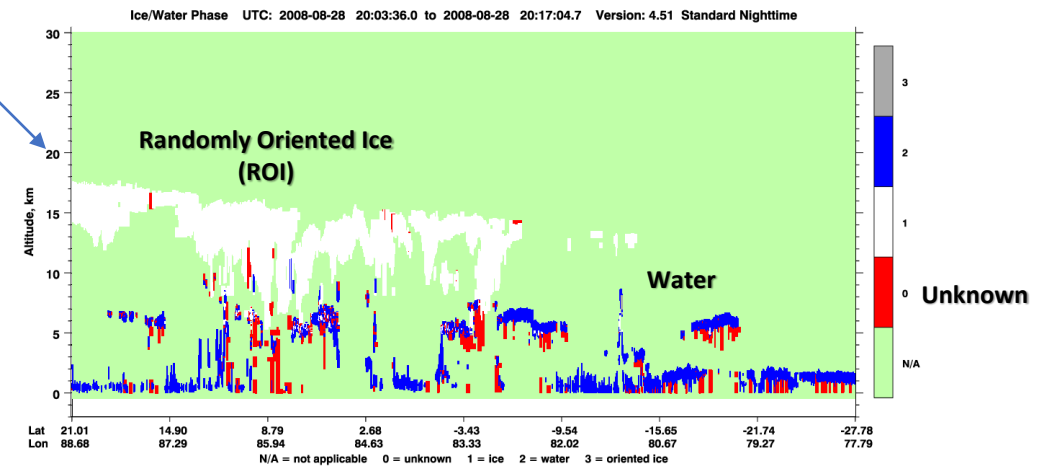
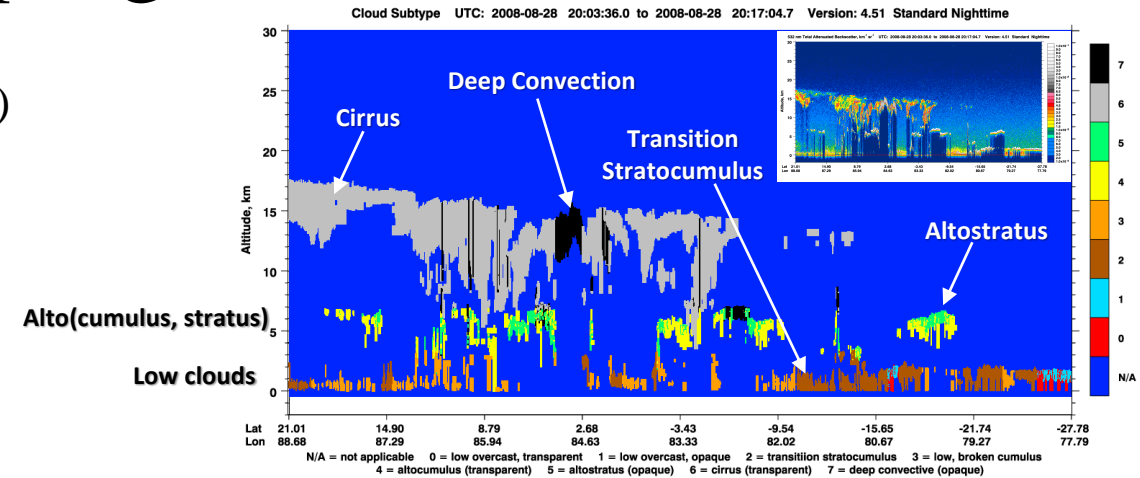


Figure 1 from Avery et al., 2020

© Author(s) 2020  
CC BY 4.0

Avery et al., 2020: CALIOP V4 cloud thermodynamic phase assignment and the impact of near-nadir viewing angles, *Atmos. Meas. Tech.*, **13**, 4539–4563, <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-13-4539-2020>

# Level 2 Algorithm – Cloud-Aerosol Discrimination

- Cloud-Aerosol Discrimination (CAD) based on five-dimensional probability density function (PDF)
  - Layer mean 532 nm attenuated backscatter ( $\langle \beta'_{532} \rangle$ )
  - Layer averaged attenuated color ratio ( $\chi'$ )
  - Layer integrated volume depolarization ratio ( $\delta_v$ )
  - Mid-layer altitude
  - Latitude
- CAD scores reported in the data products provide both type identification and a discrimination confidence estimate
  - Cloud:  $0 \leq \text{CAD Score} \leq 100$
  - Aerosol:  $-100 \leq \text{CAD Score} < 0$
  - Classification confidence =  $|\text{CAD Score}|$
  - CAD scores outside for  $\pm 100$  for 'special' cases

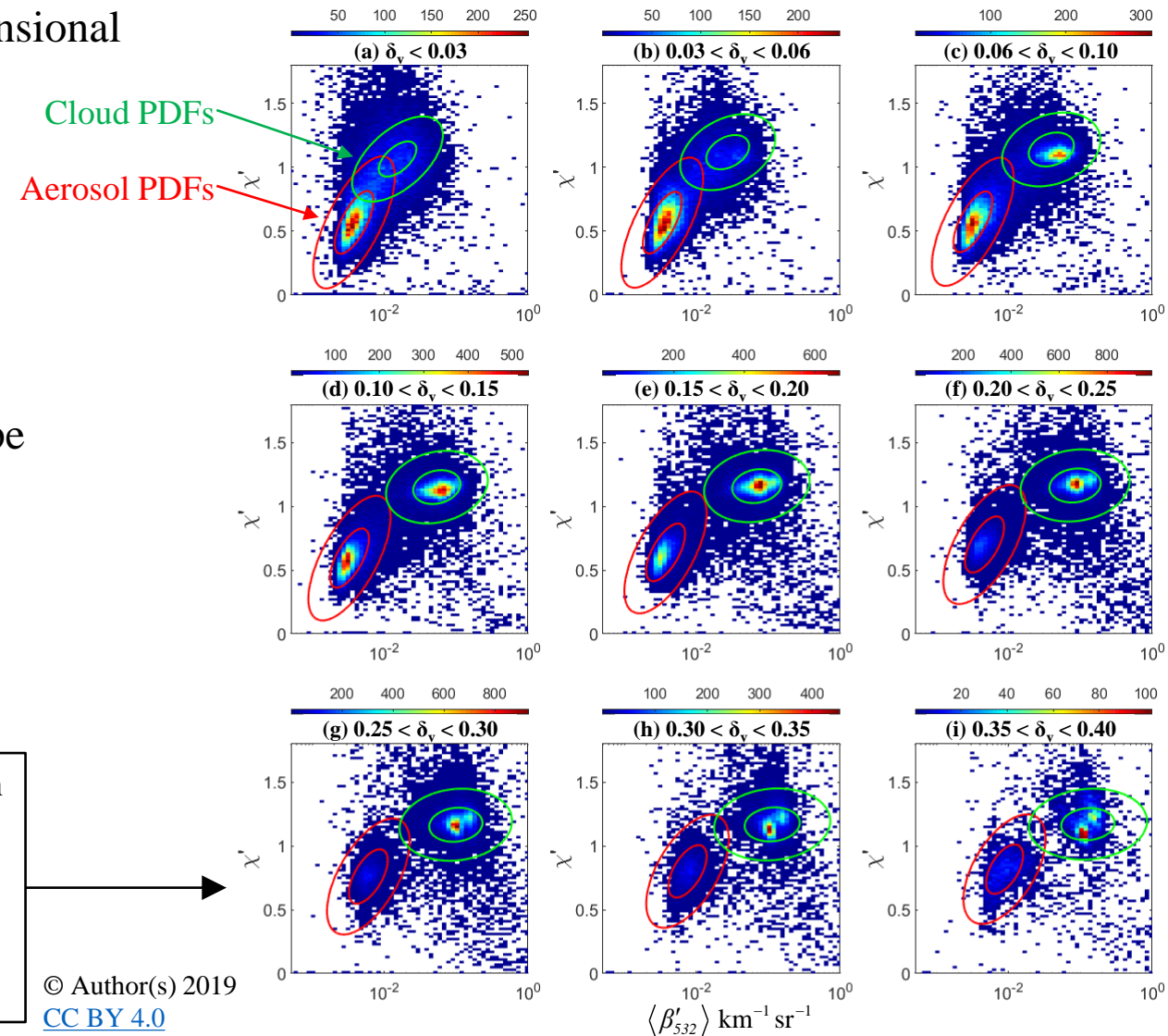
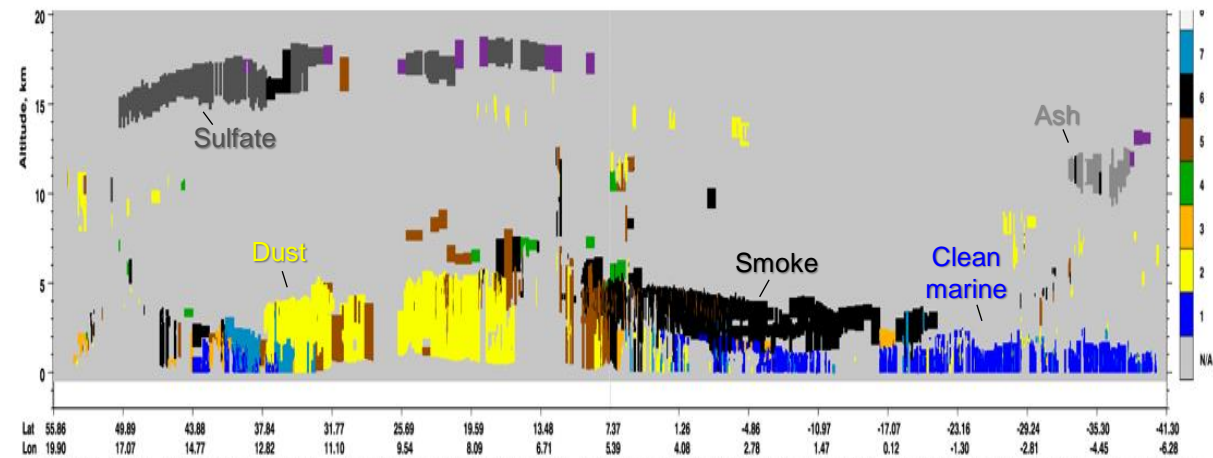
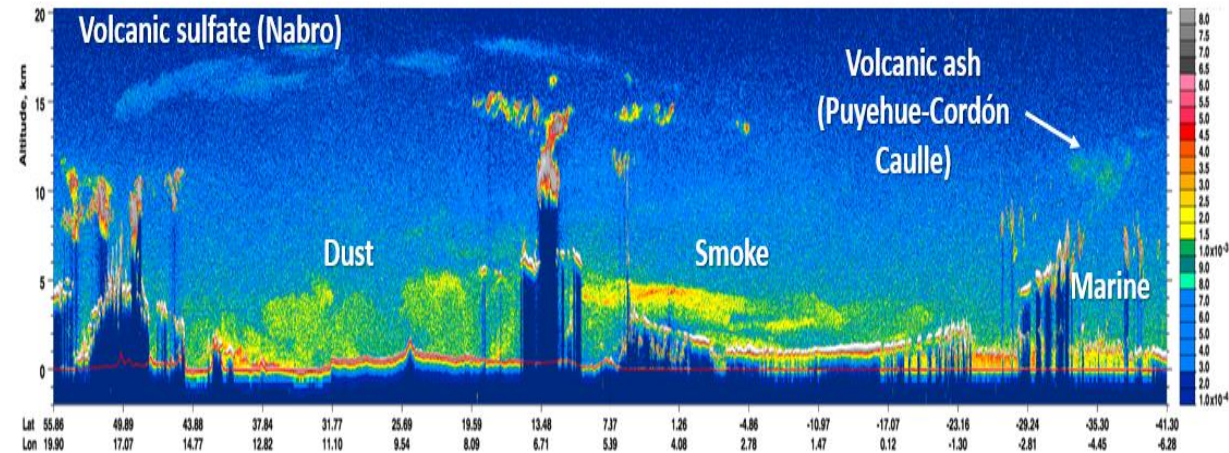


Image adapted from figure 2 (a – i) in Liu et al., 2019: Discriminating between clouds and aerosols in the CALIOP version 4.1 data products, <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-12-703-2019>; individual panels show cloud and aerosol PDFs for features having mid-layer altitudes between 1 km and 2 km detected between 20° N and 30° N for 9 different ranges of layer-integrated volume depolarization ratios.

© Author(s) 2019  
CC BY 4.0

# Level 2 Algorithm – Aerosol Typing

- Tropospheric and stratospheric aerosol typing reported in data products
  - Height of centroid of 532nm backscatter compared with location of tropopause
- Separate subtyping algorithms for the two aerosol types based on decision-based flow chart
- Tropospheric sub-typing scheme
  - Kim et al., 2018, doi: amt-11-6107-2018
  - Function of  $\gamma'_{532}$ ,  $\delta_p$ , Top, Base, Surface Type (land/ocean)
- Stratospheric sub-typing scheme
  - Tackett et al., 2023, doi: 10.5194/amt-16-745-2023
  - Function of  $\gamma'_{532}$ ,  $\delta_p$ , Mid-Layer Temperature, Season (latitude & month)
  - Thresholding algorithms determined by CALIPSO observations tuned to well documented stratospheric aerosol, volcanic, and smoke events



July 1, 2011 (2011-07-01T01-13-31ZN) orbit crossing continental Africa

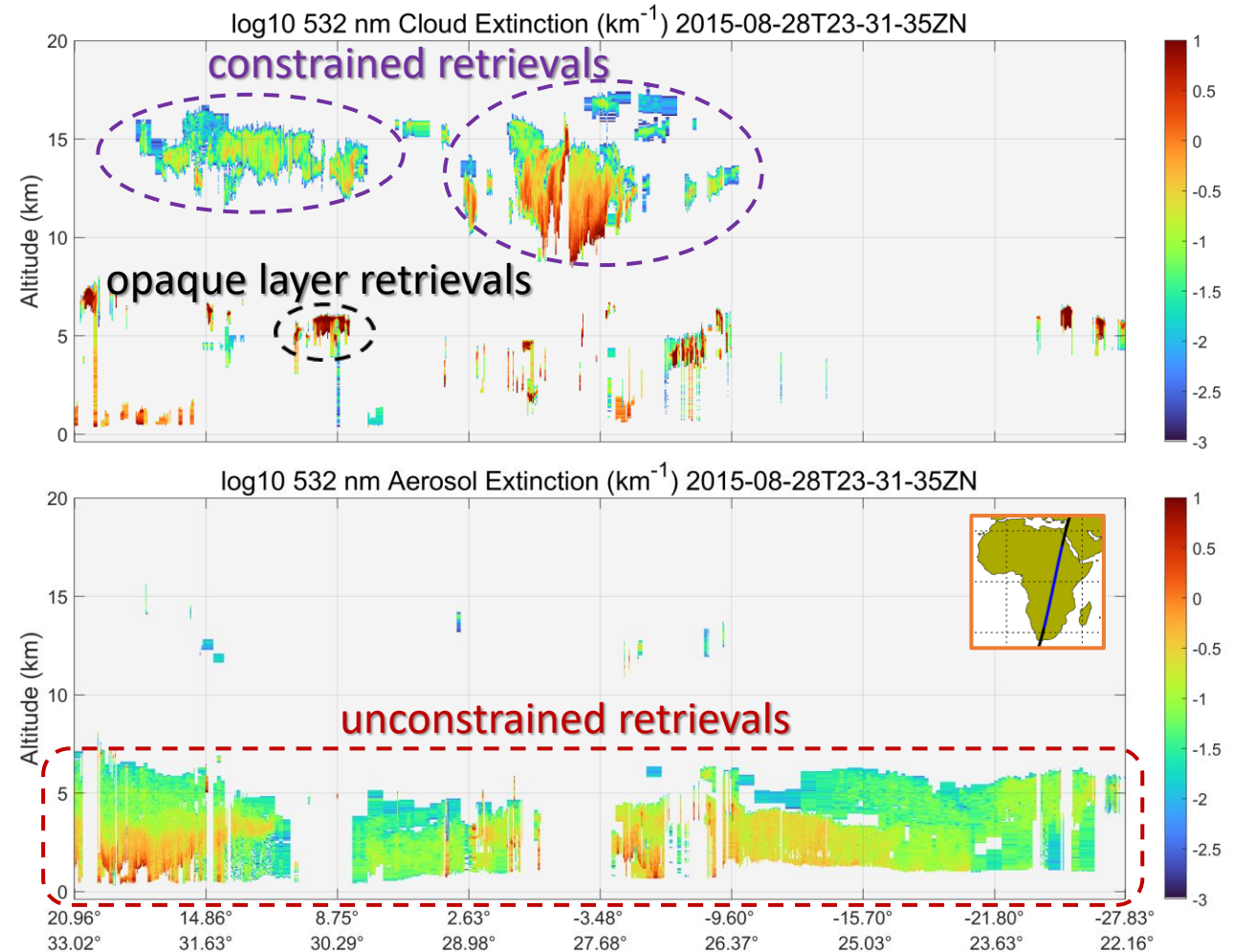
Mediterranean

Southern Atlantic



# Level 2 Algorithm – Extinction

- *constrained retrievals* use measurements of two-way transmittance derived from clear skies above and below a cloud or aerosol layer to compute a matching extinction profile and lidar ratio
- *unconstrained retrievals* derive extinction profiles using type-dependent initial estimates of the layer lidar ratio ( $S$ ) and multiple scattering factor ( $\eta$ )
- *opaque layer retrievals* calculate extinction coefficients and lidar ratios constrained by Platt's equation:  $\gamma' = (2 \eta S)^{-1}$
- all retrievals report range-resolved uncertainty estimates and assign an extinction QC flag to characterize retrieval quality



Young et al, 2018: Extinction and Optical Depth Retrievals for CALIPSO's Version 4 Data Release, *Atmos. Meas. Tech.*, **11**, 5701–5727, <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-11-5701-2018>.

## Initial Lidar Ratios (S), CALIOP Version 4.51

<u>Feature Type</u>	<u>532 nm</u>	<u>1064 nm</u>	<u>References</u>
water cloud	day: $18.8 \pm 2.8$ sr night: $17.7 \pm 2.7$ sr	N/A	
ice cloud	$S_c = f(T_{\text{centroid}}) \pm 25\%$	N/A	1, 2
unknown phase cloud	$22 \pm 11$ sr	N/A	
unknown tropospheric aerosol	$35 \pm 14$ sr	$35 \pm 14$ sr	
marine aerosol	$23 \pm 5$ sr	$23 \pm 5$ sr	3
desert dust aerosol	$44 \pm 9$ sr	$44 \pm 13$ sr	4, 5
polluted continental/smoke aerosol	$70 \pm 25$ sr	$30 \pm 14$ sr	6
clean continental aerosol	$53 \pm 24$ sr	$30 \pm 17$ sr	7
polluted dust aerosol	$55 \pm 22$ sr	$48 \pm 24$ sr	8
elevated smoke aerosol	$70 \pm 16$ sr	$30 \pm 18$ sr	4
dusty marine aerosol	$37 \pm 15$ sr	$37 \pm 15$ sr	9
undetermined stratospheric aerosol	$50 \pm 20$ sr	$50 \pm 20$ sr	
polar stratospheric aerosol	$50 \pm 20$ sr	$25 \pm 10$ sr	10
stratospheric volcanic ash	$61 \pm 17$ sr	$44 \pm 13$ sr	11
stratospheric sulfate	$50 \pm 18$ sr	$30 \pm 14$ sr	12
stratospheric smoke	$70 \pm 16$ sr	$30 \pm 18$ sr	4
unclassified stratospheric aerosol	$50 \pm 18$ sr	$30 \pm 14$ sr	13

## References

1. Young et al., 2018; [https://doi.org/ 10.5194/amt-11-5701-2018](https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-11-5701-2018)
2. Garnier et al., 2016; [https://doi.org/ 10.5194/amt-8-2759-2015](https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-8-2759-2015)
3. HSRL measurements in multiple field campaigns; e.g., Burton et al., 2012; [https://doi.org/ 10.5194/amt-5-73-2012](https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-5-73-2012)
4. Liu et al., 2014; [https://doi.org/ 10.1007/s13351-014-3051-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13351-014-3051-5)
5. HRSL measurements of transported Saharan dust; e.g., Burton et al., 2014; <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-7-419-2014>
6. Omar et al., 2010; [https://doi.org/ 10.1029/2010JD014223](https://doi.org/10.1029/2010JD014223)
7. Rogers et al., 2014; [https://doi.org/ 10.5194/amt-7-4317-2014](https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-7-4317-2014)
8. Omar et al., 2010; [https://doi.org/ 10.1029/2010JD014223](https://doi.org/10.1029/2010JD014223)
9. Kim et al., 2018; [https://doi.org/ 10.5194/amt-11-6107-2018](https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-11-6107-2018)
10. Kim et al., 2018; [https://doi.org/ 10.5194/amt-11-6107-2018](https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-11-6107-2018)
11. Tackett et al., 2023; [https://doi.org/ 10.5194/amt-16-745-2023](https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-16-745-2023)
12. Kim et al., 2018; [https://doi.org/ 10.5194/amt-11-6107-2018](https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-11-6107-2018)
13. Tackett et al., 2023; [https://doi.org/ 10.5194/amt-16-745-2023](https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-16-745-2023)

# Resources & Tools

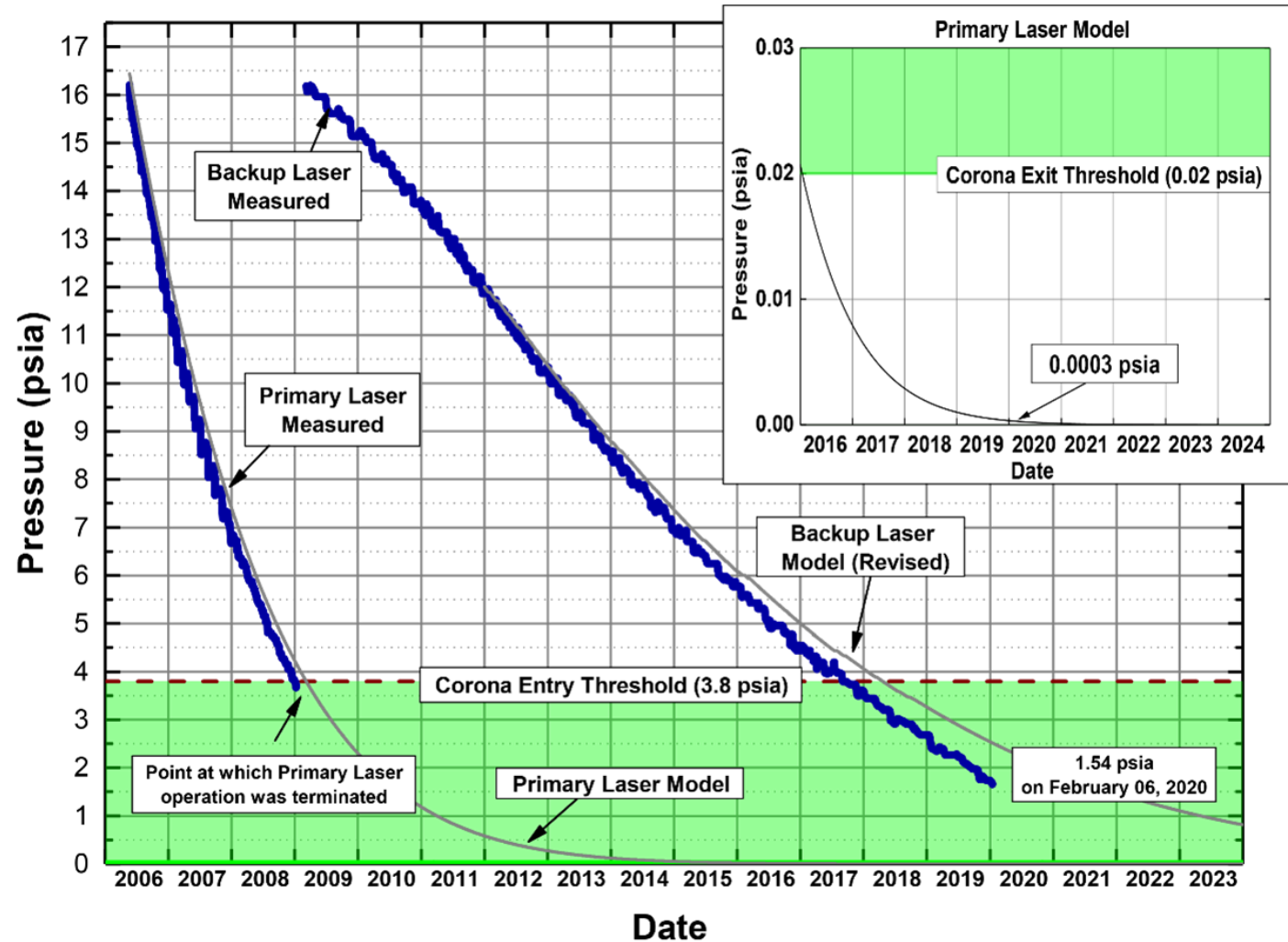
- CALIPSO Science Site
  - <https://www-calipso.larc.nasa.gov>
- NASA LaRC Atmospheric Science Data Center (ASDC)
  - Order Tool: <https://asdc.larc.nasa.gov/project/CALIPSO>
  - Data Pool (OpenDAP): <https://opendap.larc.nasa.gov/opendap/hyrax/CALIPSO/>
- Cloud-Aerosol-Water-Radiation-Interactions (ICARE) Data and Services Center
  - <https://www.icare.univ-lille.fr/>
- CALIPSO Search/Sub-setter Tool
  - <https://subset.larc.nasa.gov/calipso>
- CALIPSO Data Availability Tool
  - [https://www-calipso.larc.nasa.gov/tools/data\\_avail/](https://www-calipso.larc.nasa.gov/tools/data_avail/)
- CALIPSO Browse Images
  - [https://www-calipso.larc.nasa.gov/products/lidar/browse\\_images/production/](https://www-calipso.larc.nasa.gov/products/lidar/browse_images/production/)



Questions?

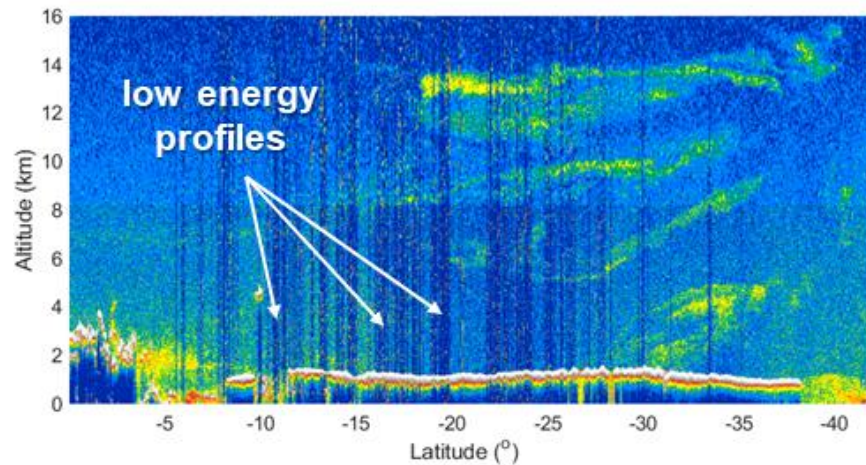
# Laser Canister Pressure

## Primary and Backup Laser Pressure Trends

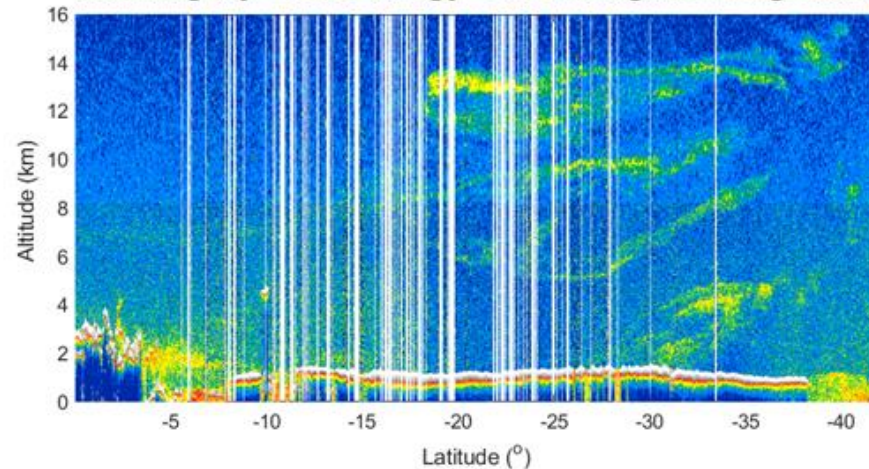


# Laser Energy Mitigation Effort

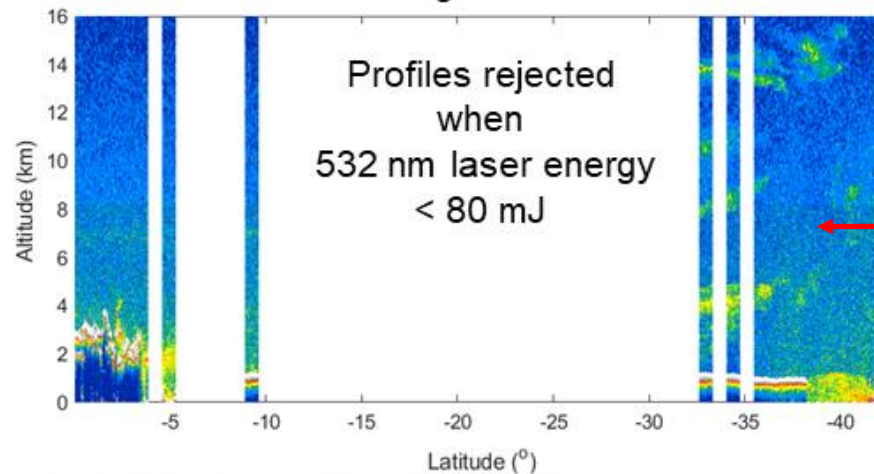
Current Version



Filtering by Low-Energy Shot Mitigation algorithm

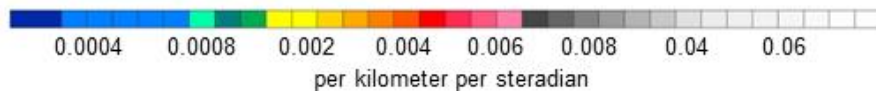


Current Filtering Recommendation

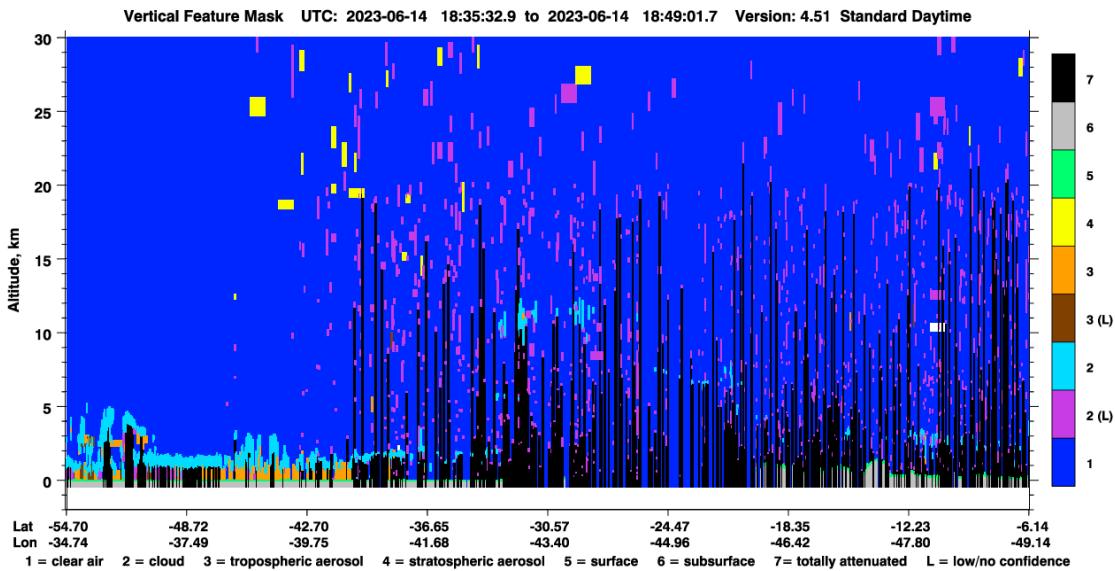
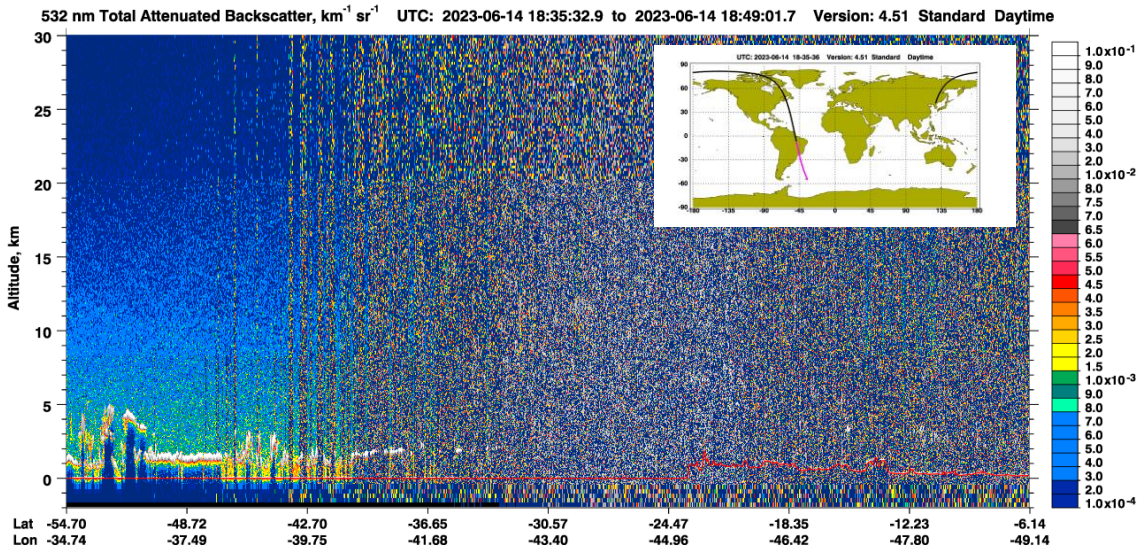


Suggested filtering provided to data users for older version of the data product (V4)

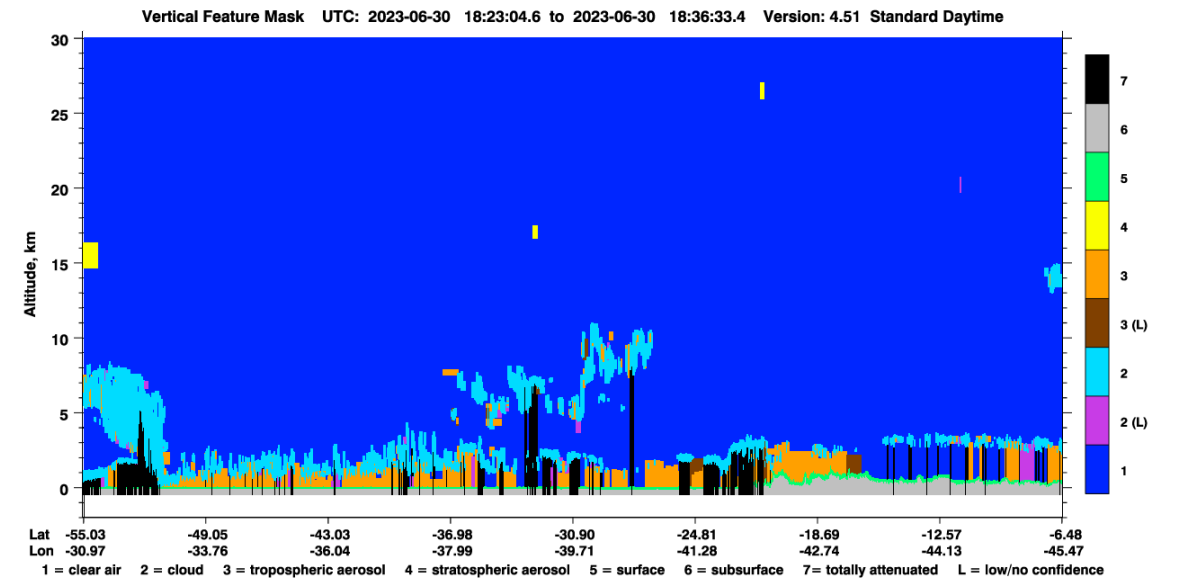
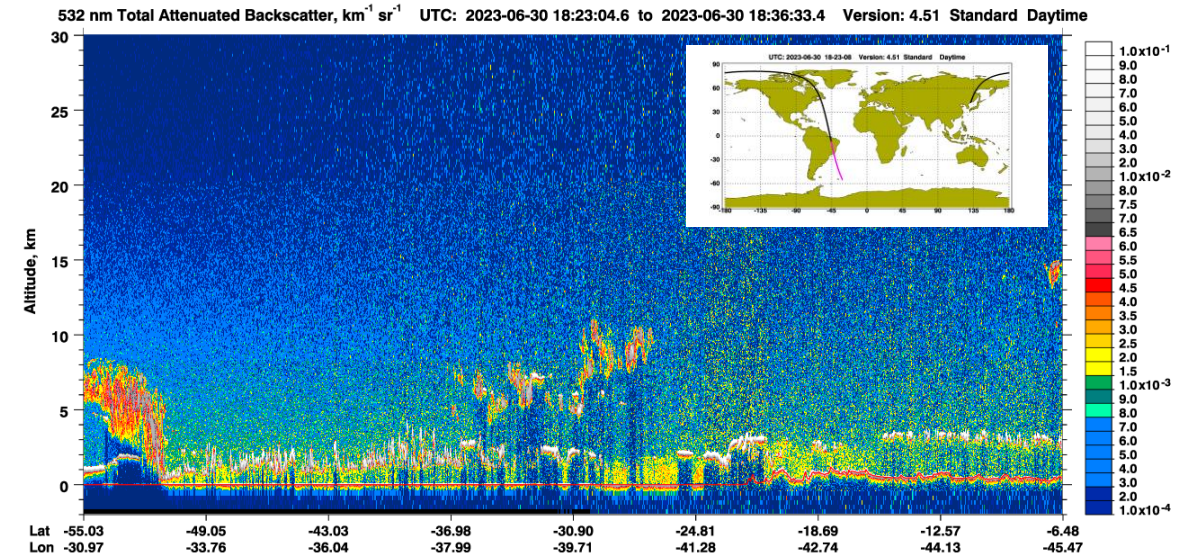
New Lidar Level 2 algorithm (LEM) to filter data based on on-board averaging considerations. Will be implemented for final release of the data product.



# Backup Laser

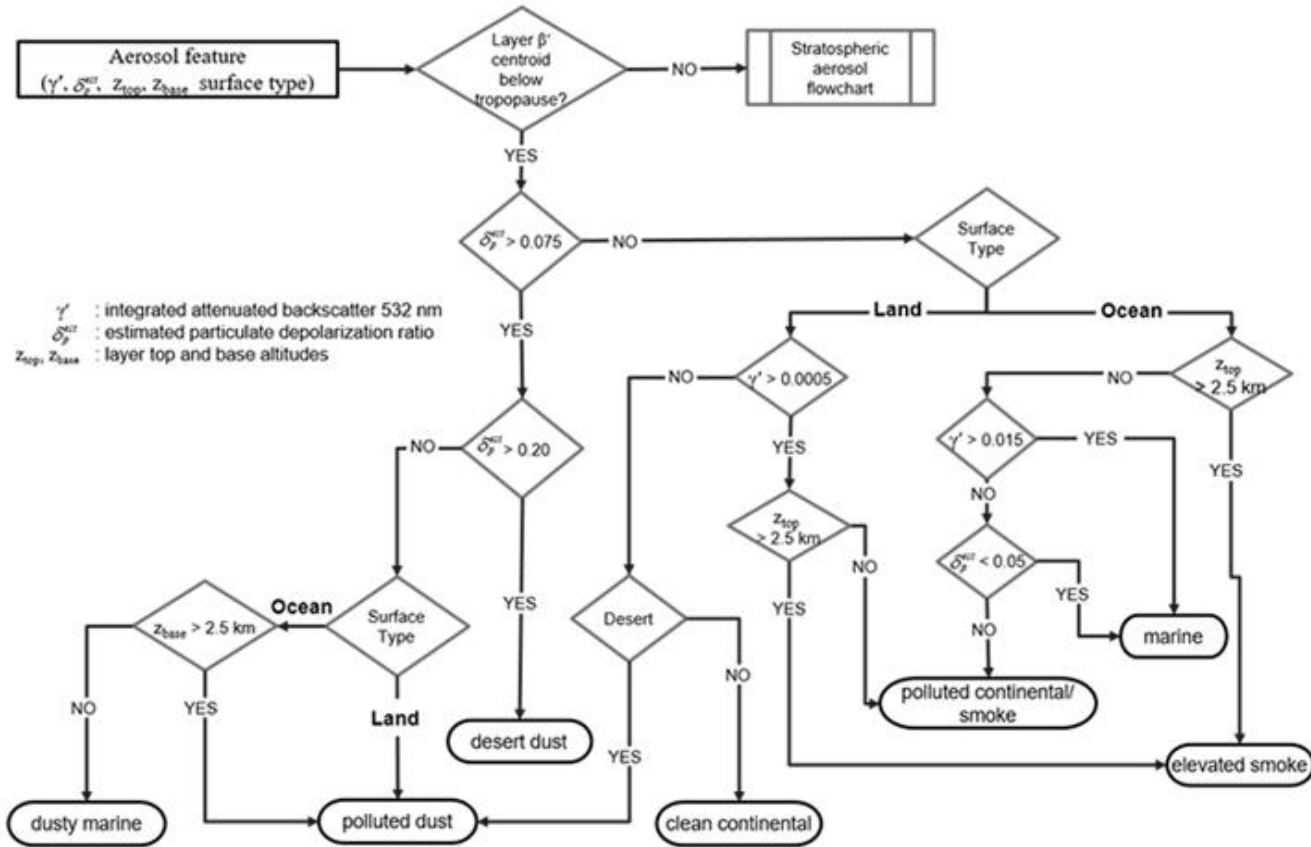


# Primary Laser (after 172-month hibernation)

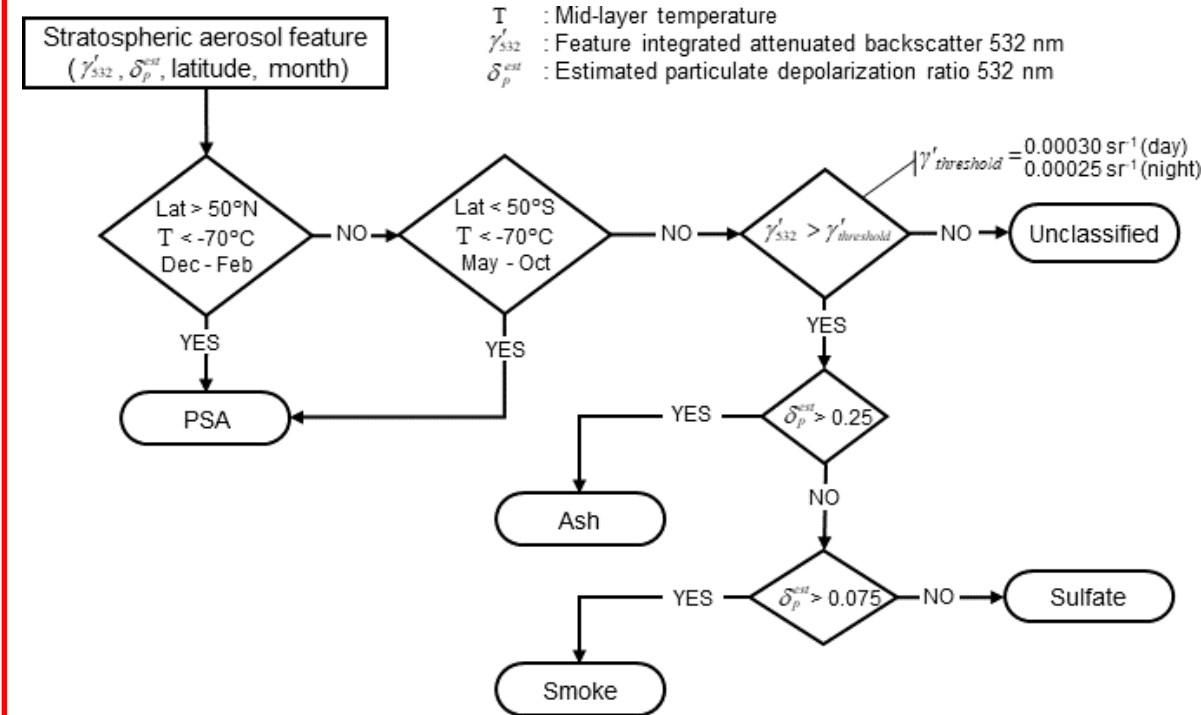


# Level 2 Algorithm – Aerosol Subtyping

## Tropospheric Algorithm



## Stratospheric Algorithm



Flow charts posted on CALIPSO Science Website; <https://www-calipso.larc.nasa.gov/>