A Look Back at CALIPSO

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Key Dates

... CALIPSO started with LITE (September 1994 on STS-64) proof of concept for CALIOP critical information on lidar performance requirements development of follow-on started immediately after

- Proposal selected by NASA ESSP (& CNES): 1998
- Launch: 28 April 2006
- First light: 7 June 2006
- Primary laser: June 2006 February 2009
- Backup laser: March 2009 June 2023
 - Formal science mission ends tomorrow
- Engineering experiments: July 2023
 - (Clayton's test of the primary laser)
- End of payload operations: August 2023







Our first look: LITE (1994)





492 739 985 1232 1478 1725 1971 2217 2464 2710 2957 3203 3450







A 0 246





CALIPSO will fly in the A-train, providing observations to improve:

- Our understanding of the role of aerosols and clouds in the processes that govern climate responses and feedbacks
 - Direct and indirect aerosol effects
 - Cloud forcing and feedbacks





- The representation of aerosols and clouds in models of climate, air quality, weather, etc.
- Validation of other A-train sensors



Major Early CALIPSO Decisions

CENTRE NATIONAL D'ÉTUDES SPATIALES

- Much wider receiver dynamic range (1:10⁶) than LITE
- Dropped 355 nm channel
 - A risk to laser life, at the time
- Add cross-polarized receiver channel for depolarization
 - Depol not widely used in the 90's
 - Intended for discrimination of cloud ice-liquid phase
 - Proved useful for:
 - Identification of desert dust
 - Retrieval of dust extinction in regions with mixed aerosol types
 - Correction of multiple scattering effects in water clouds \rightarrow constrained AOD retrievals
- Fly with EOS Aqua at 705 km
 - Higher than desired but enabled many synergies
- A need to add passive sensors (in case of Aqua launch failure)
 - LITE flew by itself, showed the need for observation of a small swath
 - WFC: a modified Ball star sensor (smaller, cheaper, ...)
 - IIR: a French contribution based on a microbolometer array
- Development of autonomous processing software necessary for an extended mission
 - Development effort began ~2000
 - In the end, took 10 years to develop a fully functional processing system with good retrieval performance











In 2006, the vertical distribution of aerosol varied widely between global aerosol models. Until CALIOP there were no global observations of vertical profiles





Zonal mean aerosol mass concentration from 6 global aerosol models

For the first time, CALIOP provided global observations of the vertical distribution of aerosols:





Aerosol Transport



Sahara dust outbreak, Aug 2007



Zonal mean distribution of aerosol types, June through August



60E

120E

Above-cloud case

120W



Below-cloud case



(Oikawa et al. 2018)



Stratospheric Aerosol Product

• CALIOP nighttime 532 nm stratospheric profiles are averaged on a 5° by 20° lat-long grid





Zonally averaged CALIOP extinction coefficient profiles for data acquired between 30°N and 30°S compared to data from SAGE III-ISS, OMPS, and OSIRIS (Kar et al. 2019)



Evolution of the average SR profile, 10 km to 35 km



Time-height cross sections of CALIOP stratospheric aerosol extinction, Jan 2007 to Dec 2017 (Kar et al., 2019)



CALIPSO Weekly Performance (Laser # 1)

June 15, 2023 Laser #1 Shots On-Orbit: 8.46 Billion Total Laser Shots On-Orbit: 10.07 Billion Total Light Emitted: 201.44s





Laser #1: 532 nm and 1064 nm pulse energy





532 nm SNR time series: 2006-2018





Stable calibration over 15-years





Normalized trends of mid-stratosphere 532 nm IAB and molecular number density (averaged over the same altitude range) and laser total pulse energy



Laser Canister Pressure History







Frequency of Low Energy Laser Shots









Synergies!



CALIPSO & CloudSat teamed in mid-90's and originally planned to fly with Aqua (MODIS & CERES) ... and then the A-train happened







Synergies: lidar shows "what you're looking at"



532 nm Total Attenuated Backscatter, km⁻¹ sr⁻¹ UTC: 2023-04-22 08:37:44.7 to 2023-04-22 09:00:03.2 Version: 3.41 Expedited



... and provides very precise cloud boundaries:

-0.001 0.000 0.001 0.002 0.003 0.004 0.005 0.006 Attenuated Backscatter Coefficients (1/km·sr)





- Passive retrievals of cirrus involve assumptions
 which are poorly constrained
- CALIOP observations are used to improve accuracy of:
 - R_m : measured radiance
 - R_{ref} : radiance observed in cloud-free columns
 - R_{Tcloud}: radiance observed from cloud at temperature T

Infrared retrieval of effective emissivity and optical depth:

$$\varepsilon_{eff} = \frac{R_m - R_{ref}}{R_{Tcloud} - R_{ref}}$$
$$OD_{eff} = -\ln(1 - \varepsilon_{eff})$$



IIR retrievals of cirrus OD are constrained by cloud boundaries from CALIOP

IIR cirrus OD retrievals vs CALIOP "constrained" retrievals





IR-Lidar Synergy



- Inconsistency of cirrus OD between MODIS C5 and CALIOP V3 led to changes in both the C6 and V4 algorithms
- IIR used to constrain CALIOP cirrus lidar ratio in Version 4 retrievals



MODIS C5 vs CALIOP V3 single layer ice clouds, daytime, January 2010 (±60° latitude)



MODIS C6 vs CALIOP V4

(Holz et al., ACP 2016)







(Kato et al. 2019)

Our first true view of cloud vertical distribution





- Cloud climatologies from passive sensors are 'top-heavy'
 - Passive sensors only view tops of deep clouds
 - View of lower clouds blocked by upper clouds

- This leads to large errors in estimates of atmospheric heating from clouds
- Important for coupling of clouds and atmospheric circulation



Synergistic Radar-Lidar Products



• Many data products combining CALIOP and CloudSat have been developed

Data Product	Description	Developers
SODA	Synergized Optical Depths of Aerosols derived from simultaneous ocean surface echoes measured by CALIPSO and CloudSat; http://www.icare.univ-lille1.fr/projects/soda/	NASA-LaRC, LATMOS/IPSL, and AERIS/ICARE (France)
DARDAR	Feature mask and cloud properties derived using a variational algorithm from collocated raDAR (CloudSat) and liDAR (CALIPSO) measurements; http://www.icare.univ-lille1.fr/projects/dardar/	University of Reading (UK) and LATMOS/IPSL (France)
СЗМ	Integrated CERES-CALIPSO-CloudSat-MODIS data set; http://ceres.larc.nasa.gov/products.php?product=CCCM	CERES science and data product teams
2B-FLXHR-LIDAR	CloudSat, CALIPSO and MODIS data combined to generate estimates of broadband fluxes and heating rates; heating rates; http://www.cloudsat.cira.colostate.edu/dataSpecs.php?prodid=80	
GEOPROF-LIDAR	vertical occurrence and classification of hydrometeors derived by combining the CALIPSO VFM and the CloudSat cloud mask; http://www.cloudsat.cira.colostate.edu/dataSpecs.php?prodid=10	CloudSat Data Processing Center at Colorado State University's Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRES)
2C-ICE	Ice water content, effective radius and extinction coefficients derived from the synthesis of CALIPSO and CloudSat data; http://www.cloudsat.cira.colostate.edu/dataSpecs.php?prodid=112	



CALIPSO-CloudSat Highlighted in IPCC AR5 (2013)



"Active sensors show more clearly that low clouds are prevalent in nearly all types of convective systems, and are often underestimated by models.

Cloud layers at different levels overlap less often than typically assumed in General Circulation Models ... New observations have led to revised treatments of overlap in some models, which significantly affects cloud radiative effects."

"Active sensors have also been useful in ... improving our ability to test climate model simulations of the interaction between sea ice loss and cloud cover."

Figure 7.5 (a) Annual mean cloud fractional occurrence (CloudSat/CALIPSO 2B-GEOPROF-LIDAR data set for 2006–2011). (b) Annual zonal mean liquid water path (microwave radiometer data for 1988–2005) and ice water path (from CloudSat 2C-ICE data set for 2006–2011 from Deng et al. (2010)). (c–d) latitude-height sections of annual zonal mean cloud occurrence and precipitation occurrence; (2B-GEOPROF-LIDAR data set). (IPCC, 5th Assessment Report, 2013)



Looking Ahead





EarthCARE is now on orbit! ... ATLID first light in a few weeks

What's left to do?



Aerosols



We require more accurate AOD, aerosol extinction (especially near surface) to:

- Quantify climate forcing of aerosols
- Improve representation of aerosol in models





(Sayer et al. 2018)

(Koffi et al. 2012)





... and many thanks to the CALIPSO development team:

A cast of hundreds at NASA LaRC, CNES (Toulouse), Ball Aerospace (Boulder), SODERN (Paris), Alcatel (Cannes), and NASA GSFC



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