

LASIC is interrogating the **absorbing-aerosols-above-low-cloud regime**: climatically-important, unprecedented data



AMF1 deployment June 1, 2016 - October 31, 2017
Ascension Island

Layered **A**tlantic **S**moke **I**nteractions w/ **C**louds



*aerosol
above
clouds*

fires

Paquita Zuidema, U of Miami
DOE ASR 17 mtg, BBA

August 13
rBC > 1700 ng m⁻³

objectives

- improve knowledge of BBA properties
- characterize aerosol-cloud vertical structure
- understand cloud adjustments to BBA



DOE AMF1 deployment
Layered Atlantic Smoke Interactions Campaign (LASIC)
June 1, 2016 - October 31, 2017

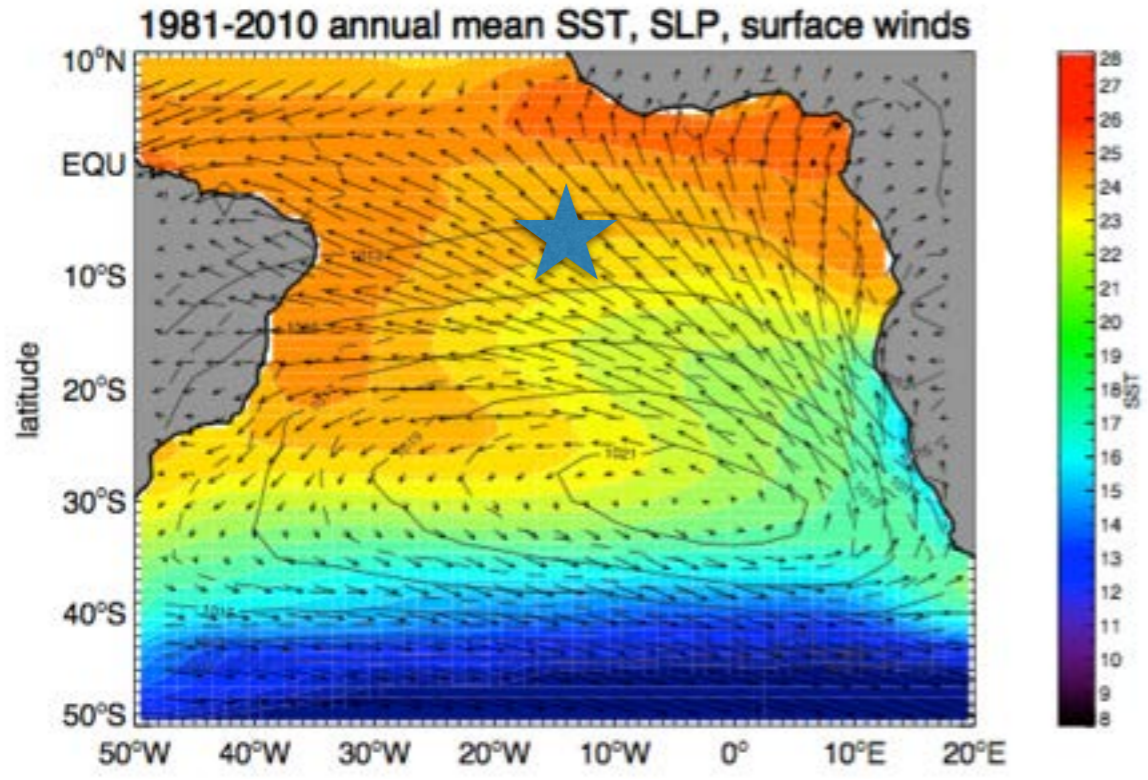
aerosol: sizes (UHSAS, SMPS), hygroscopicity (HTDMA), cloud nucleation activity (CCN, CPC, CPC2), carbon mass (SP2), scattering & absorption (PSAP, neph, aeth, humidigraph)

vertical structure: aerosol, cloud, precipitation (micro pulse lidar, ceilometer, 35 & 90 GHz zenith and scanning radars), thermodynamics & dynamics (radiosondes, 4-8x/daily, radar wind profiler)

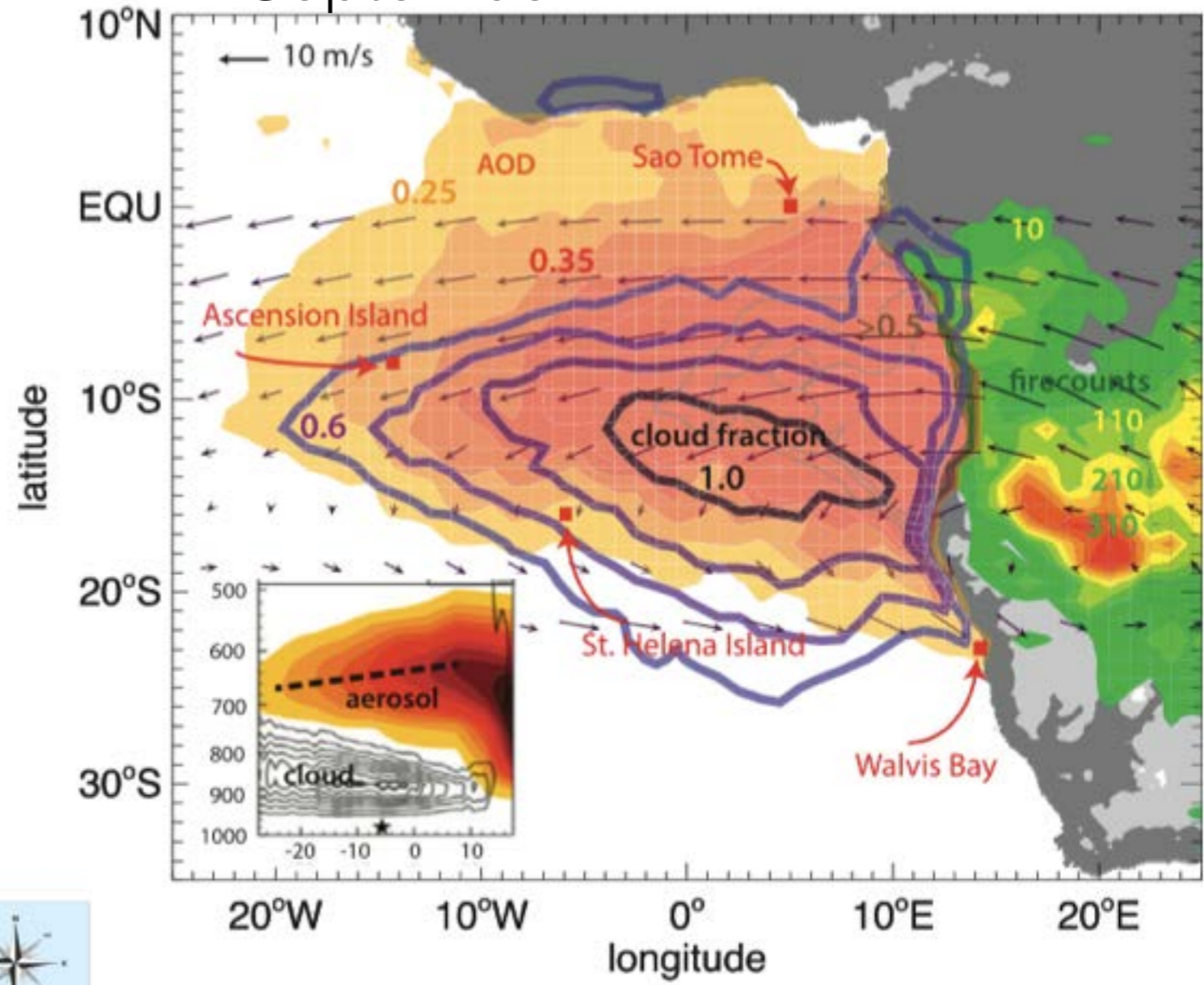
passive remote sensing: aerosol (MFRSR, sun photometer), cloud (AERI, MWR), radiation (SASHE, SASZE, NFOV)

08 26 2016

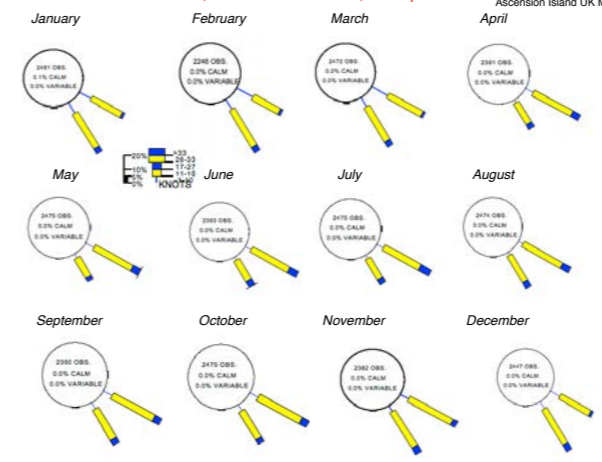
background



September



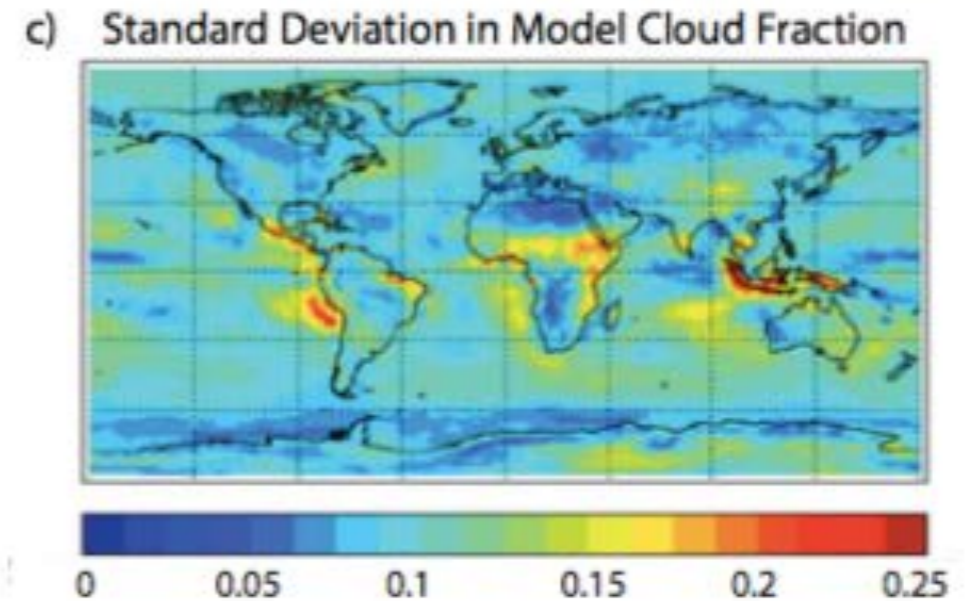
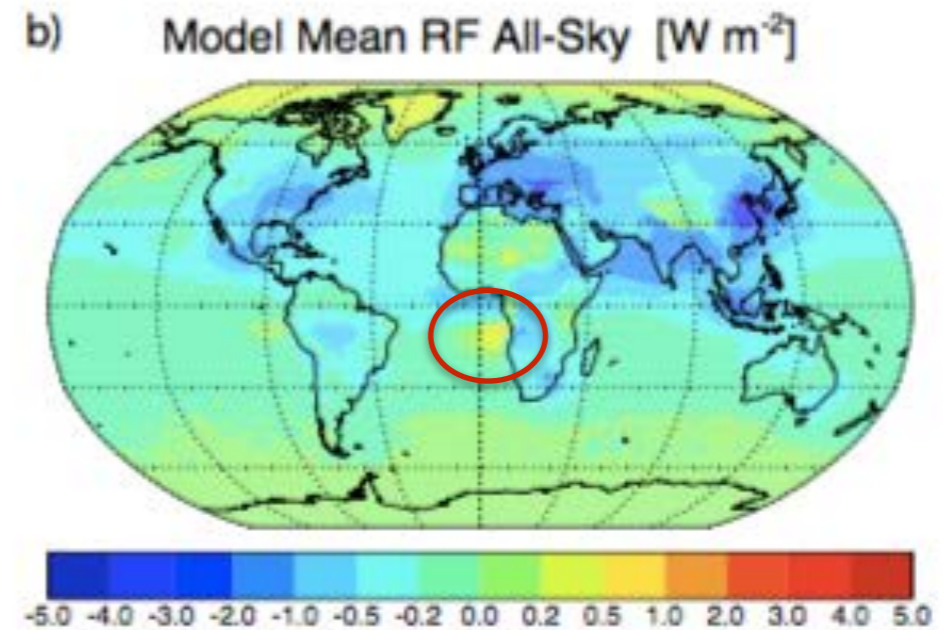
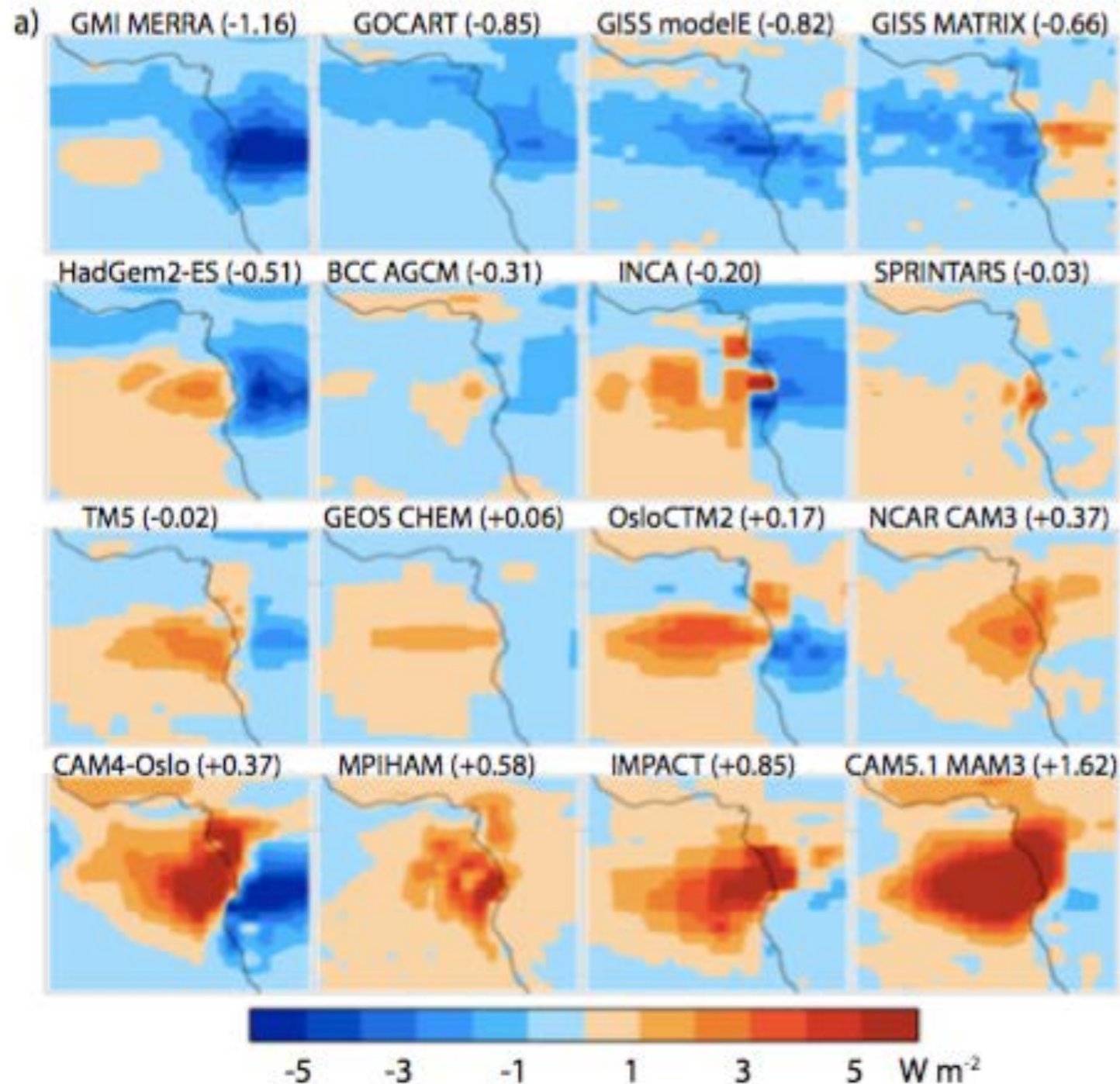
UK Met Office* monthly-mean surface wind roses, 2005-2014
*Simon Fox, Ascension Island UK Met Office



global aerosol models highlight southeast Atlantic direct radiative warming, but estimates vary significantly

individual model set-ups

*AEROCOM model assessment
- fixed aerosol radiative properties*



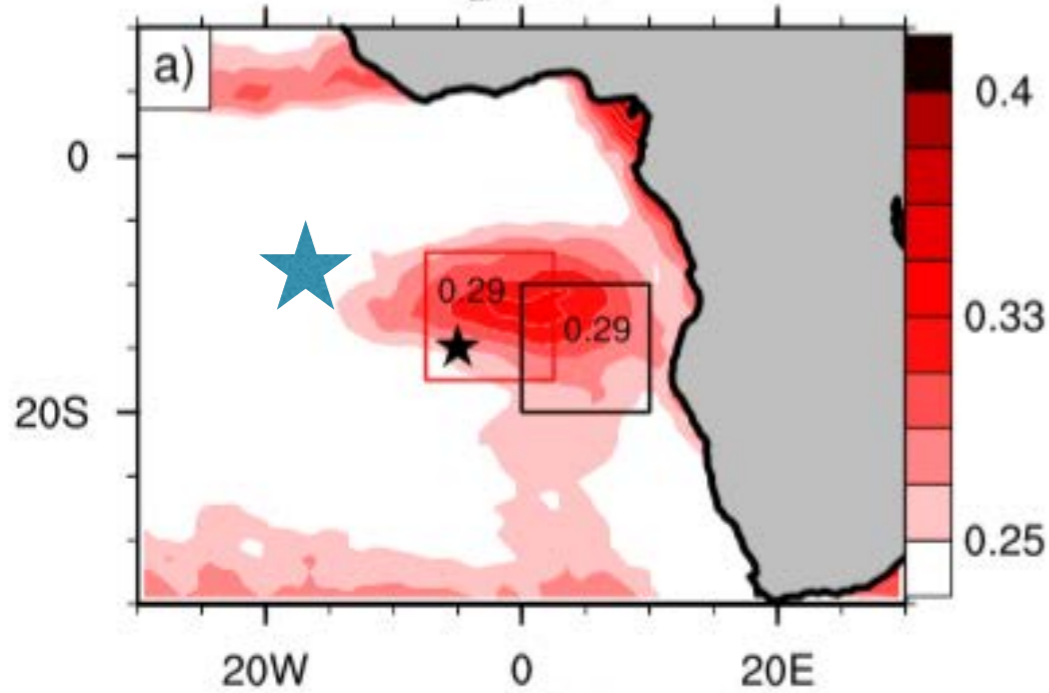
adapted from Stier et al., 2013

highly sensitive to SSA value

also conceivable semi-direct radiative effect
may exceed direct radiative effect

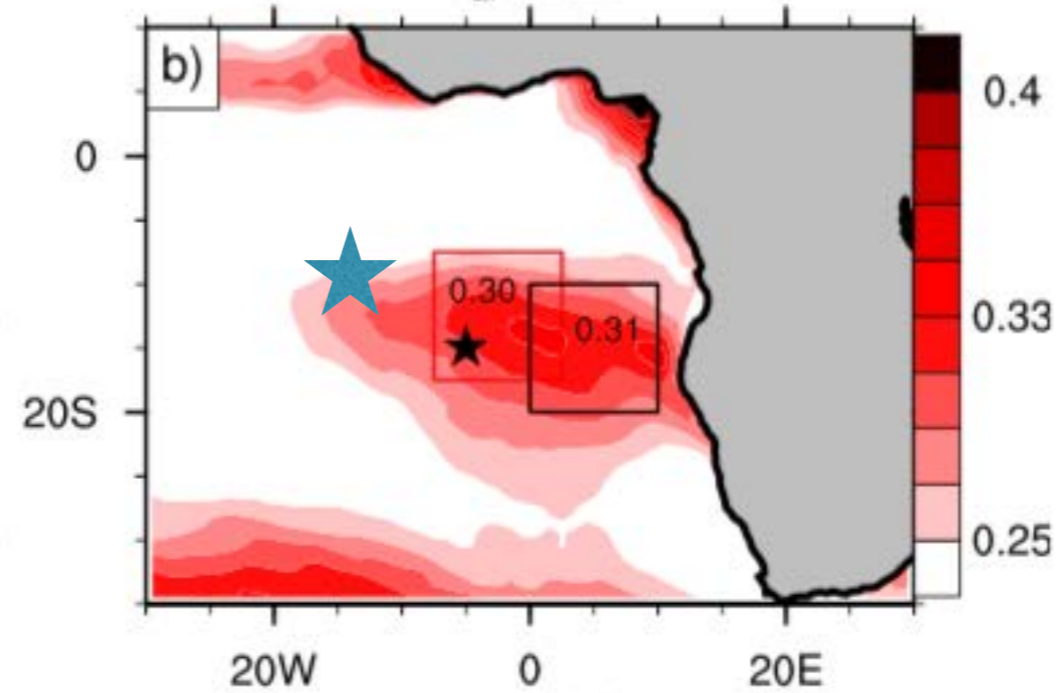
pristine

$\tau_{af} \leq 0.1$



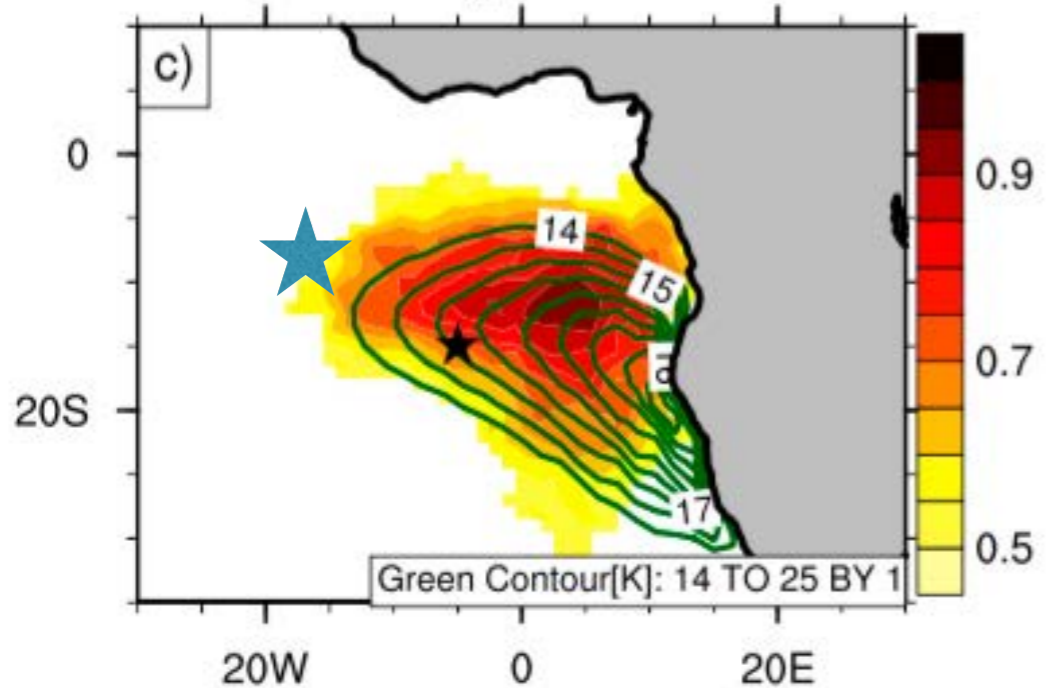
$\tau_{af} > 0.2$

polluted

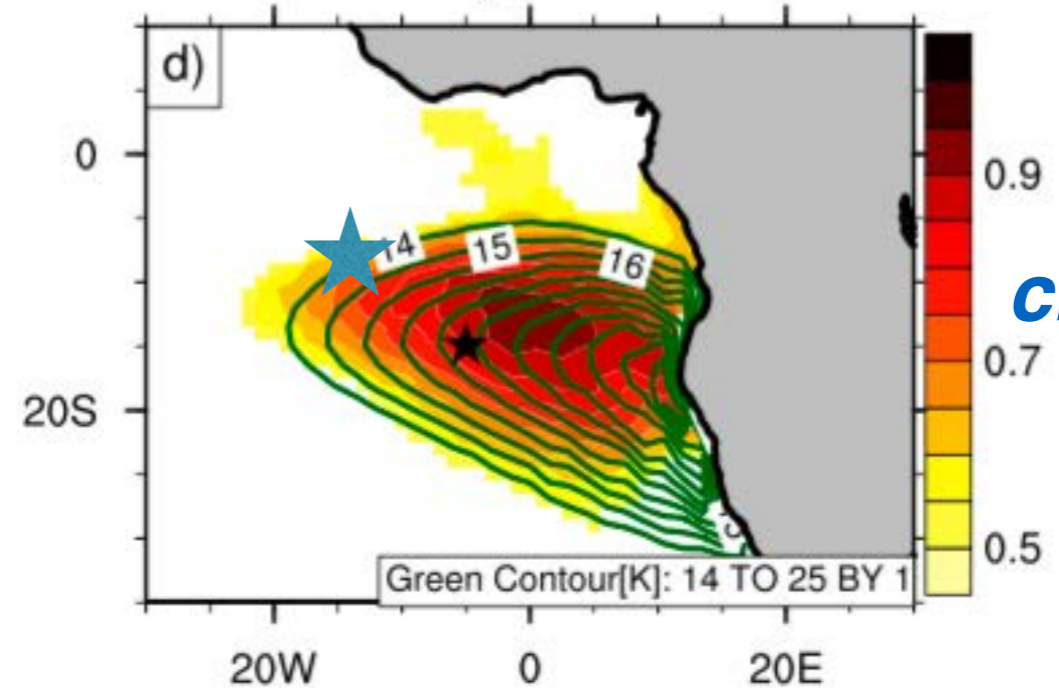


**CERES
all-sky
albedo**

$\tau_{af} \leq 0.1$



$\tau_{af} > 0.2$



**MODIS
cloud fraction,
ERA-I LTS**

pre-deployment thinking: most aerosol, cloud in September

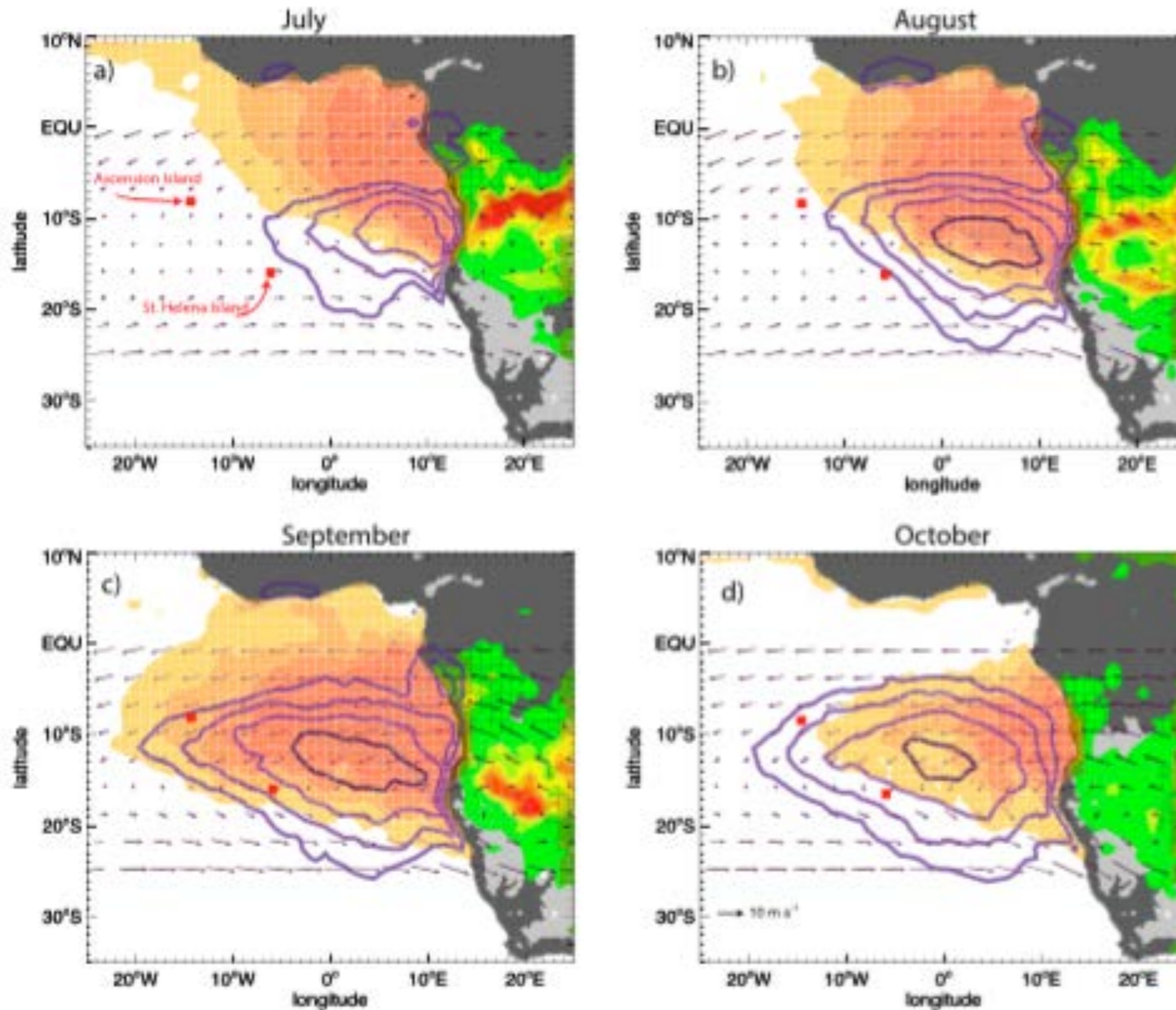
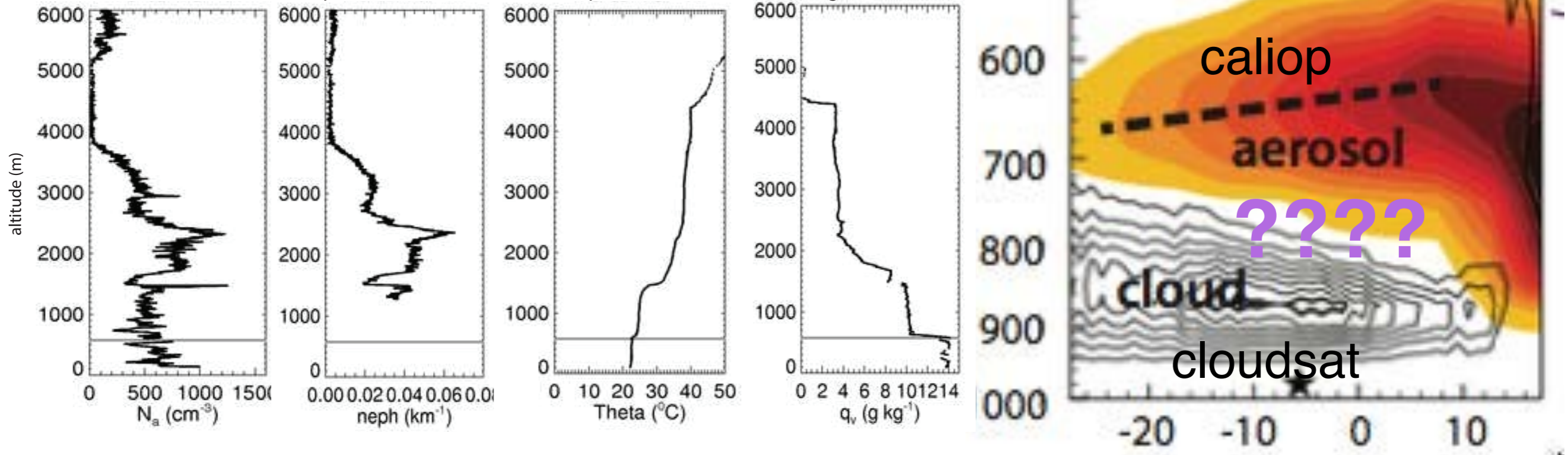


FIG. 5. (a) July, (b) August, (c) September, and (d) October MODIS mean 2002–12 cloud fraction (blue to black contours, 0.6–1.0 increments of 0.1), fine-mode aerosol optical depth (yellow-red shading indicates 0.25–0.45 in increments of 0.05 and very light black contour lines indicate 0.5–0.7 in increments of 0.1), fire pixel counts (green-red shading, 10–510 in increments of 50), and ERA-Interim 2002–12 monthly-mean 600-hPa winds. Red squares indicate Ascension Island and St. Helena Island.

pre-deployment thinking:

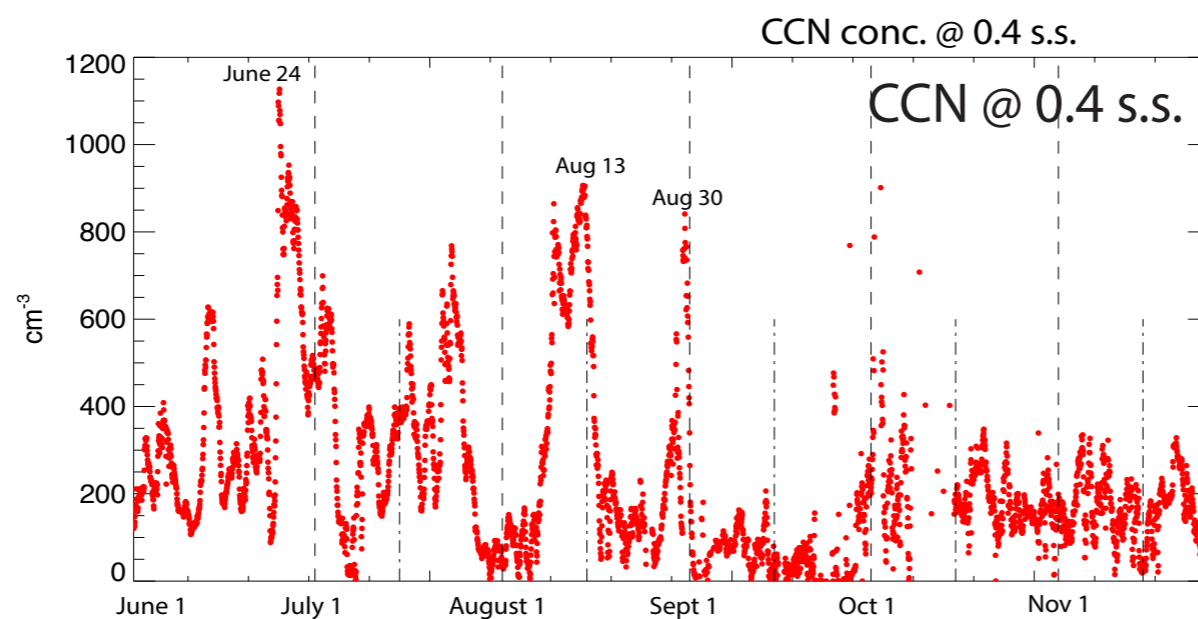
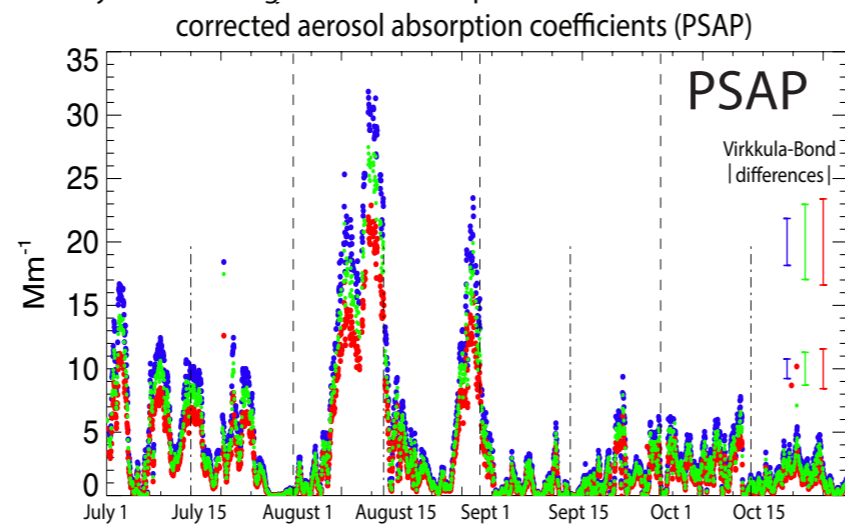
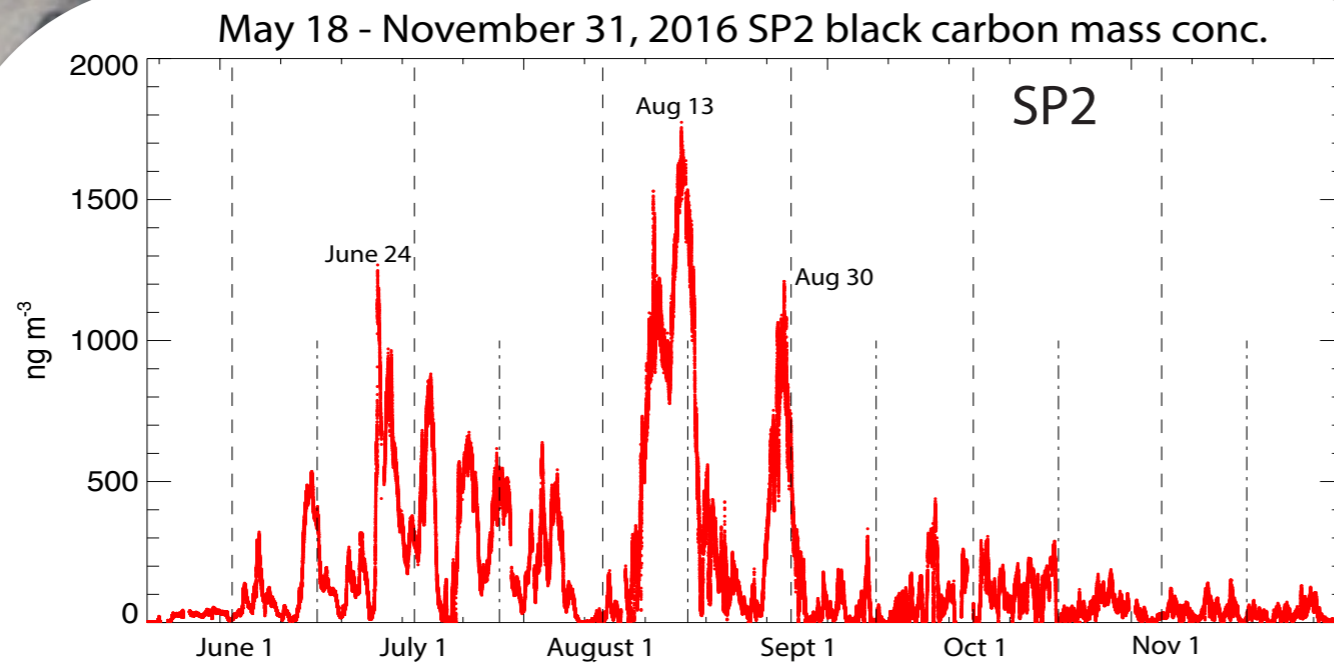
only one known documentation of aerosol mixing down to surface. how often does this happen?

Ascension Island profile data from SAFARI-UK September 2, 2000 research flight

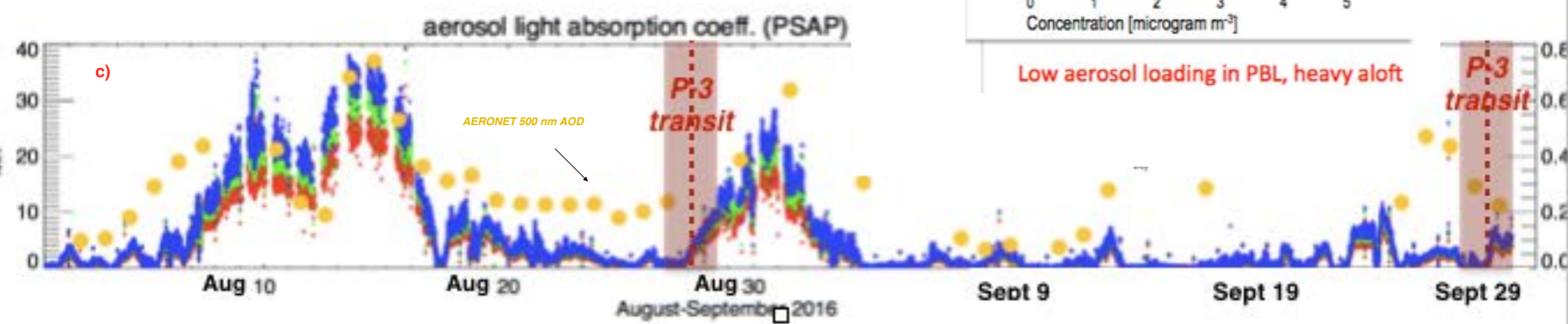
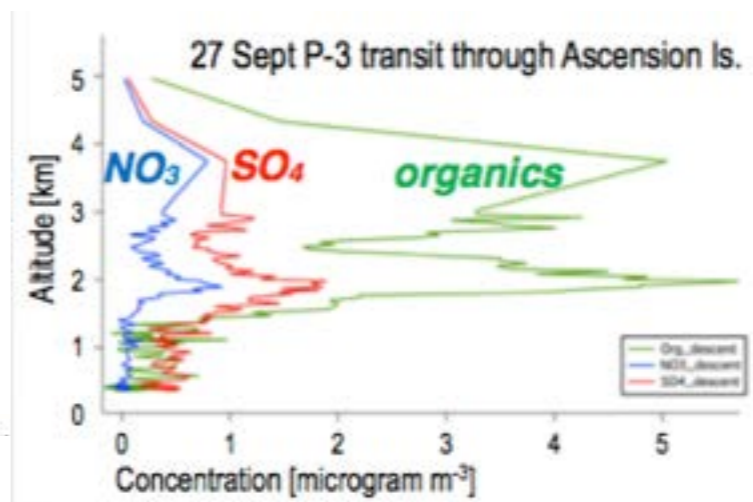
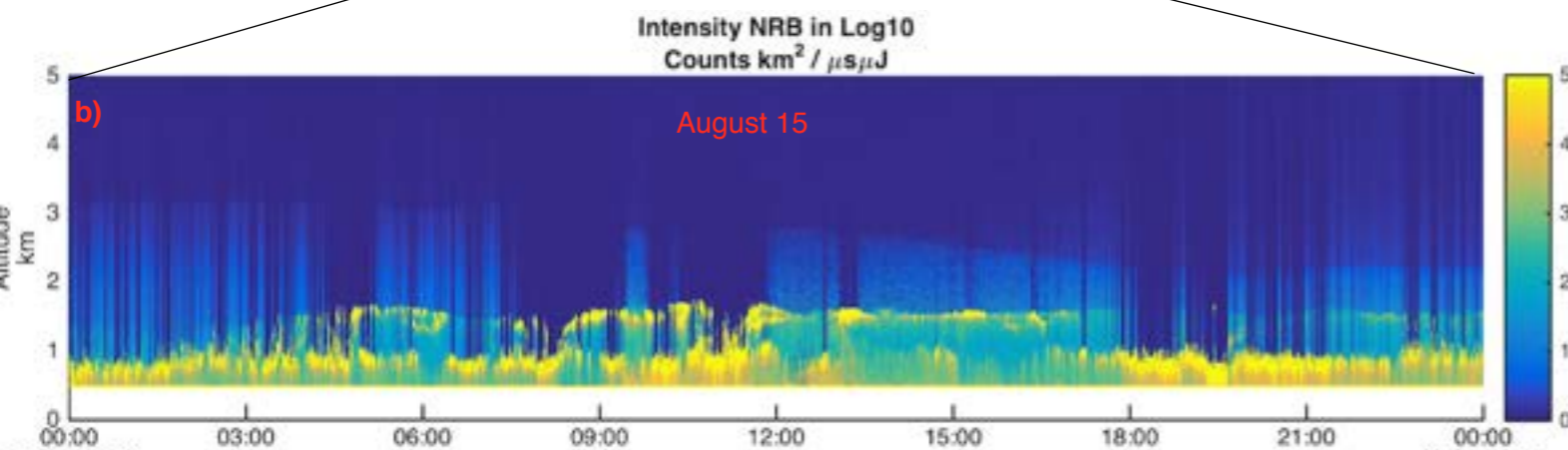
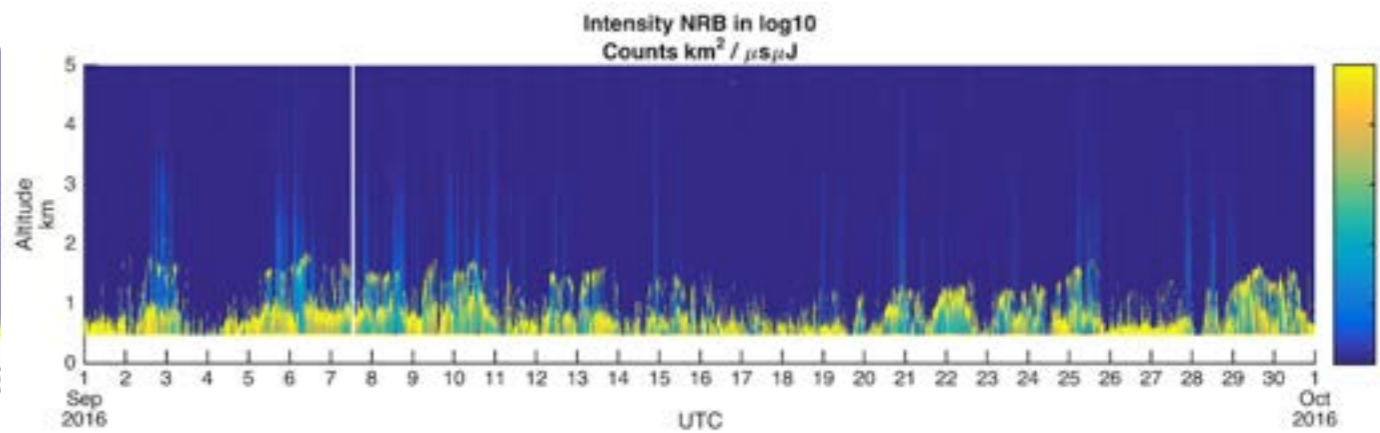
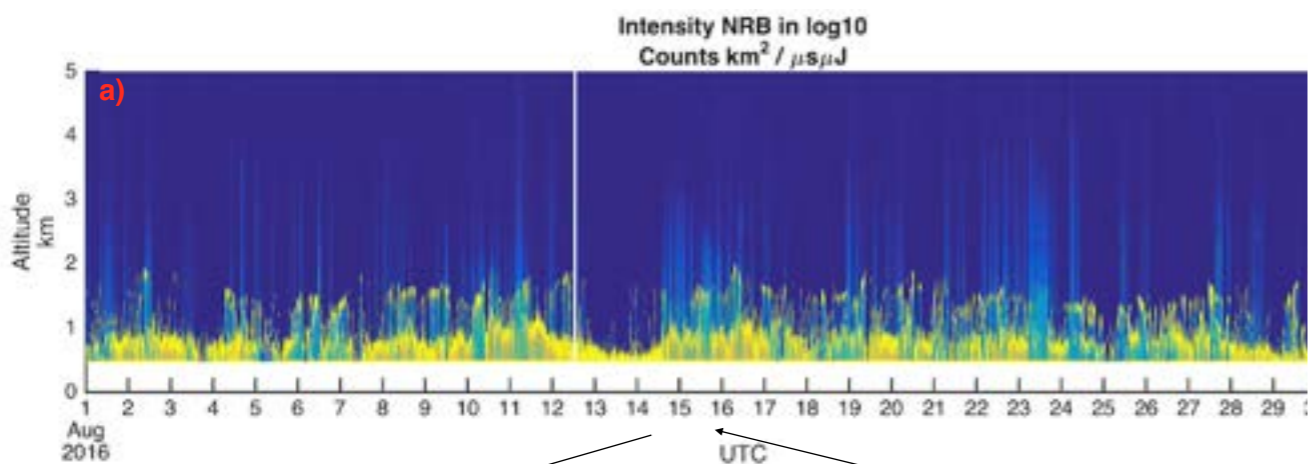


answer:often

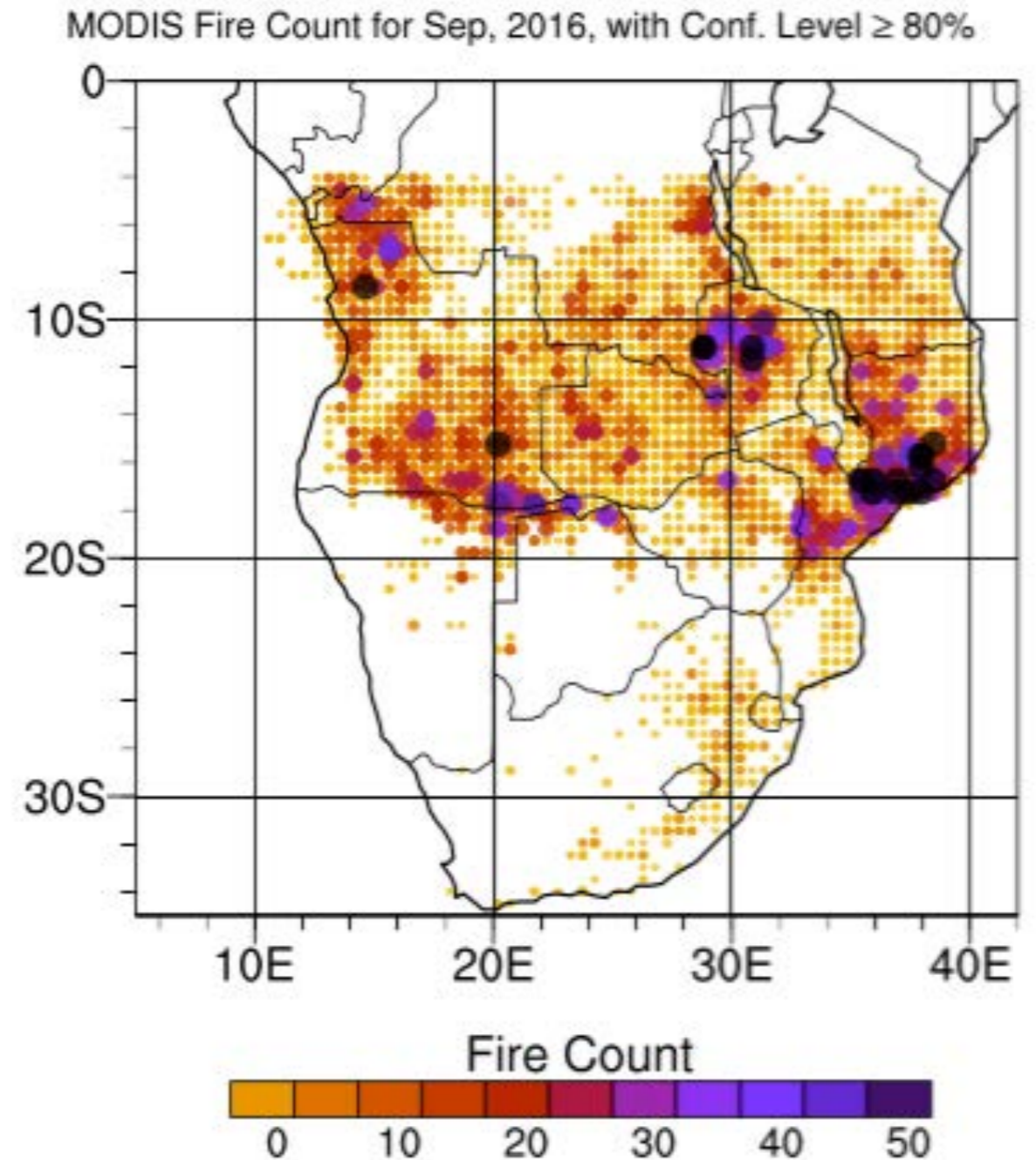
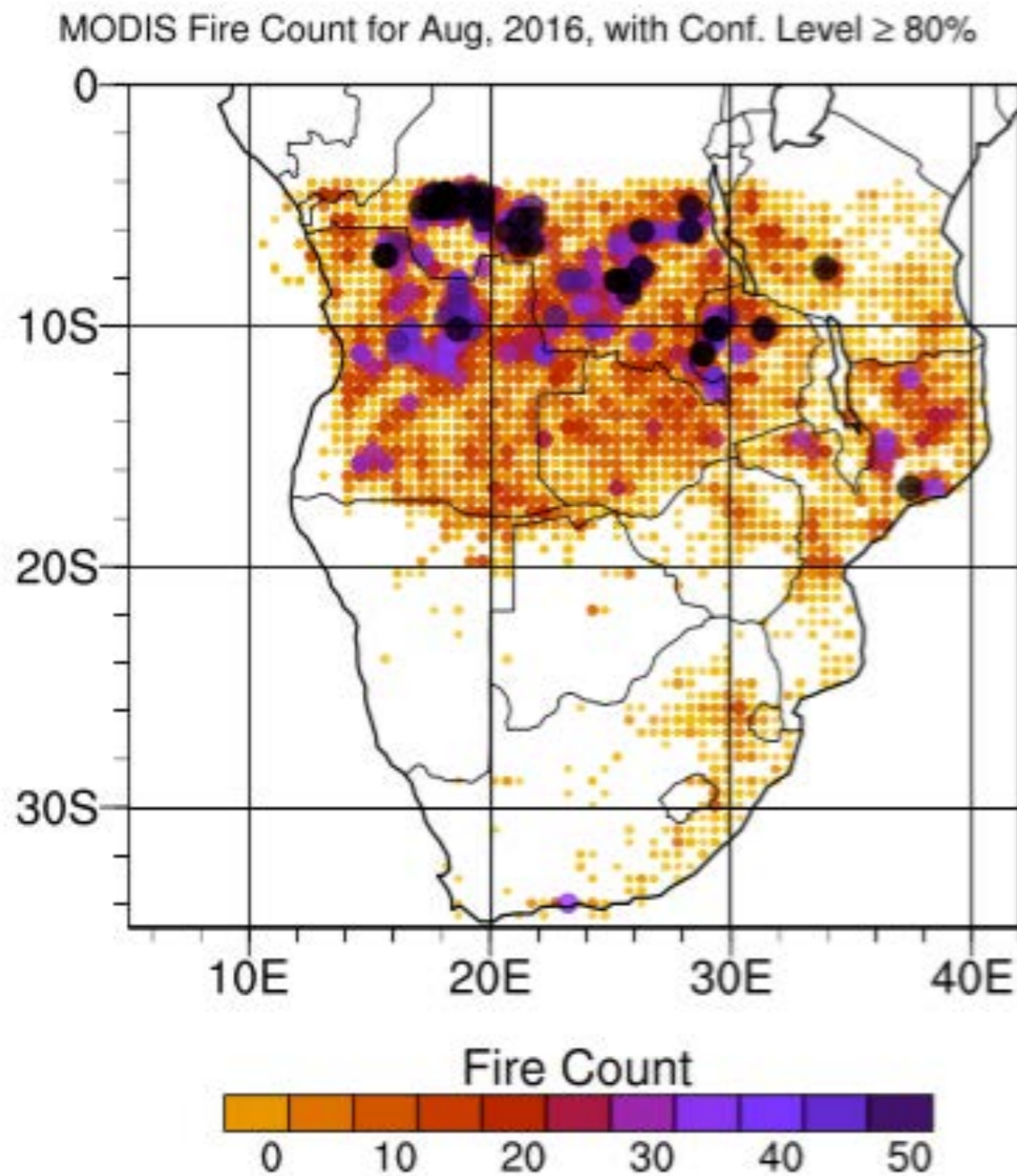
August 13
rBC > 1700 ng m⁻³



most mixing to surface in August, little in cloudy September
information on free-tropospheric aerosol in September still a challenge

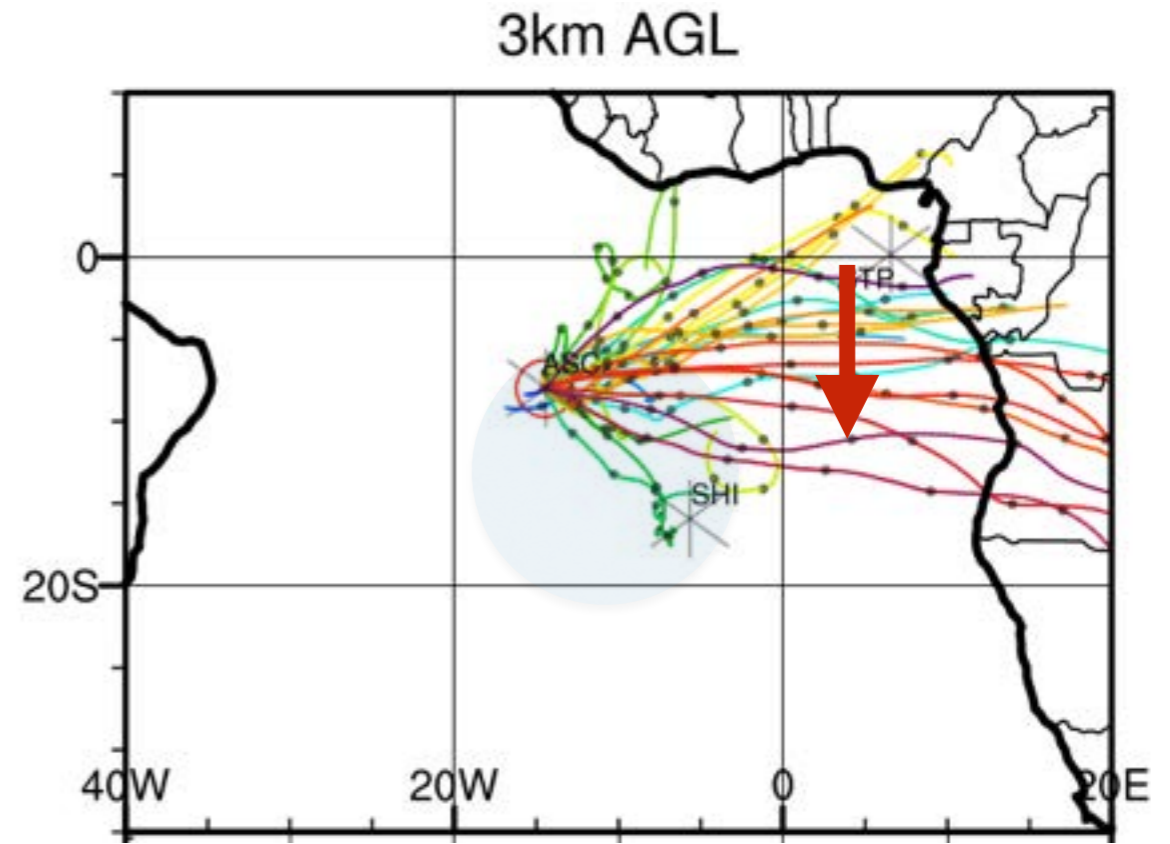


significant shift in fire spatial distribution between August to September (2016)

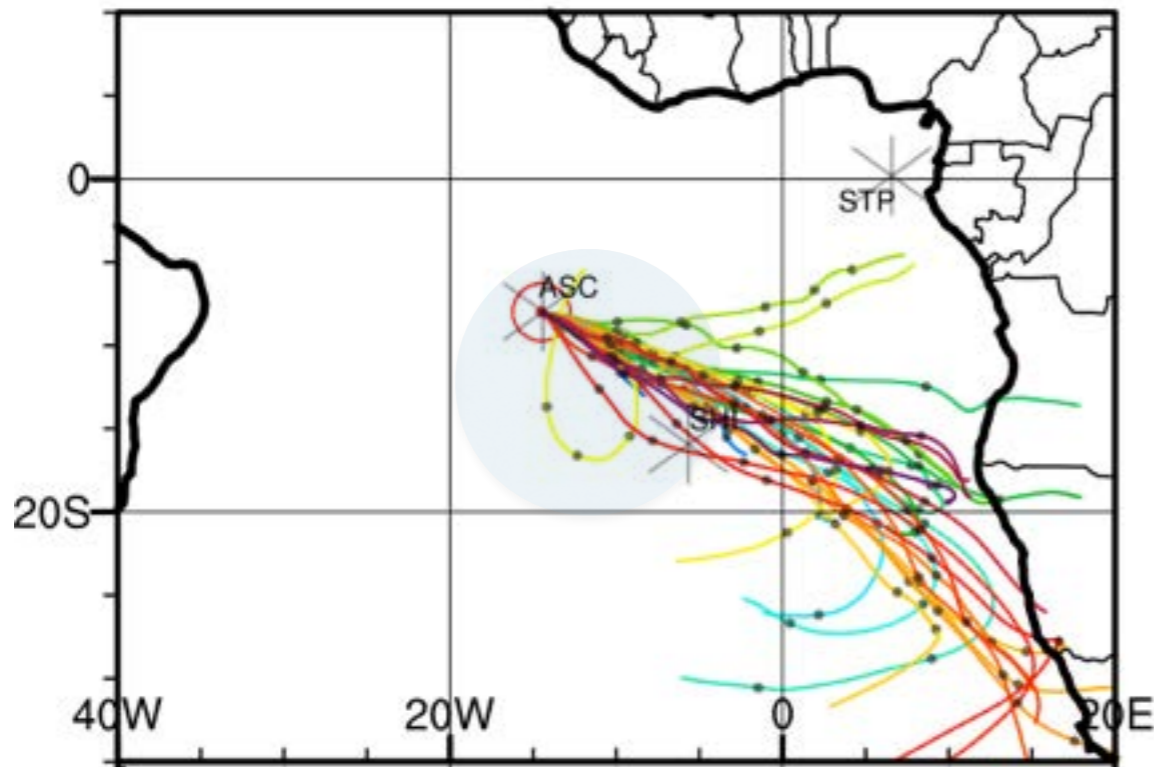


6-day HYSPLIT back trajectories
from Ascension show:

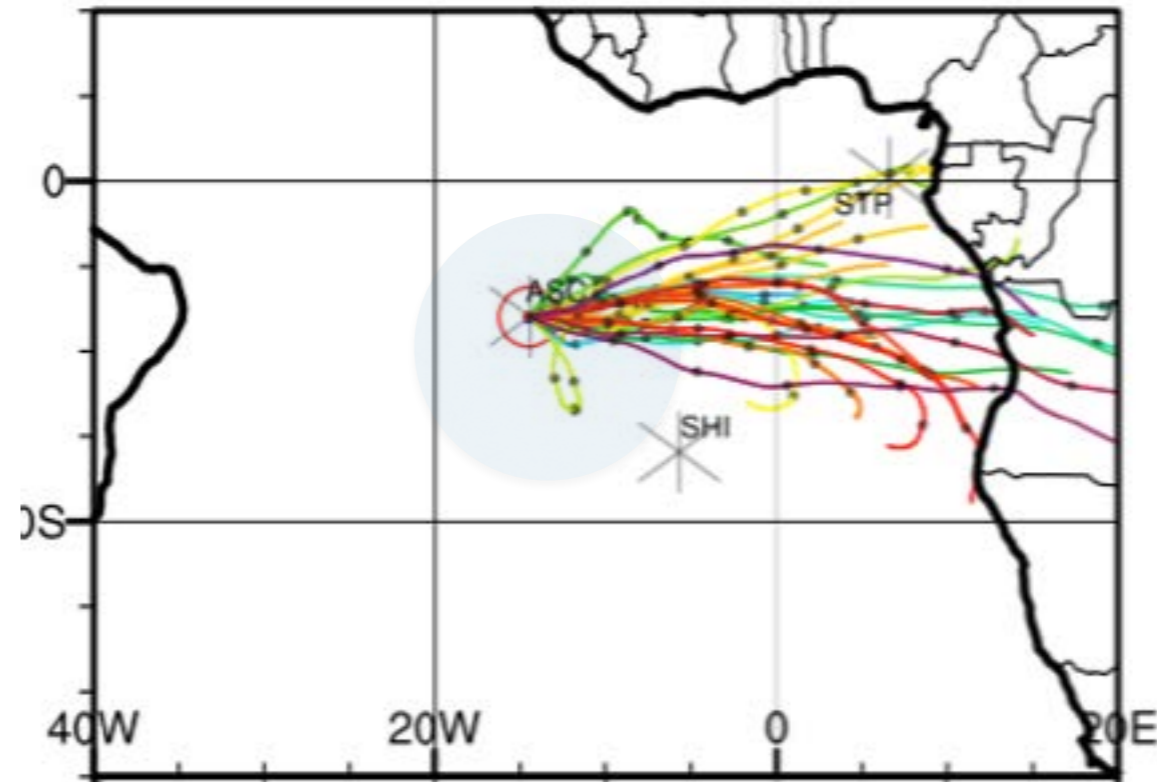
- North to South progression
in 3km back trajectories
during August
- local recirculation at 1-3 km
in mid-August



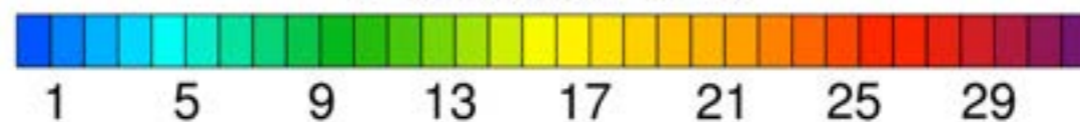
1km AGL



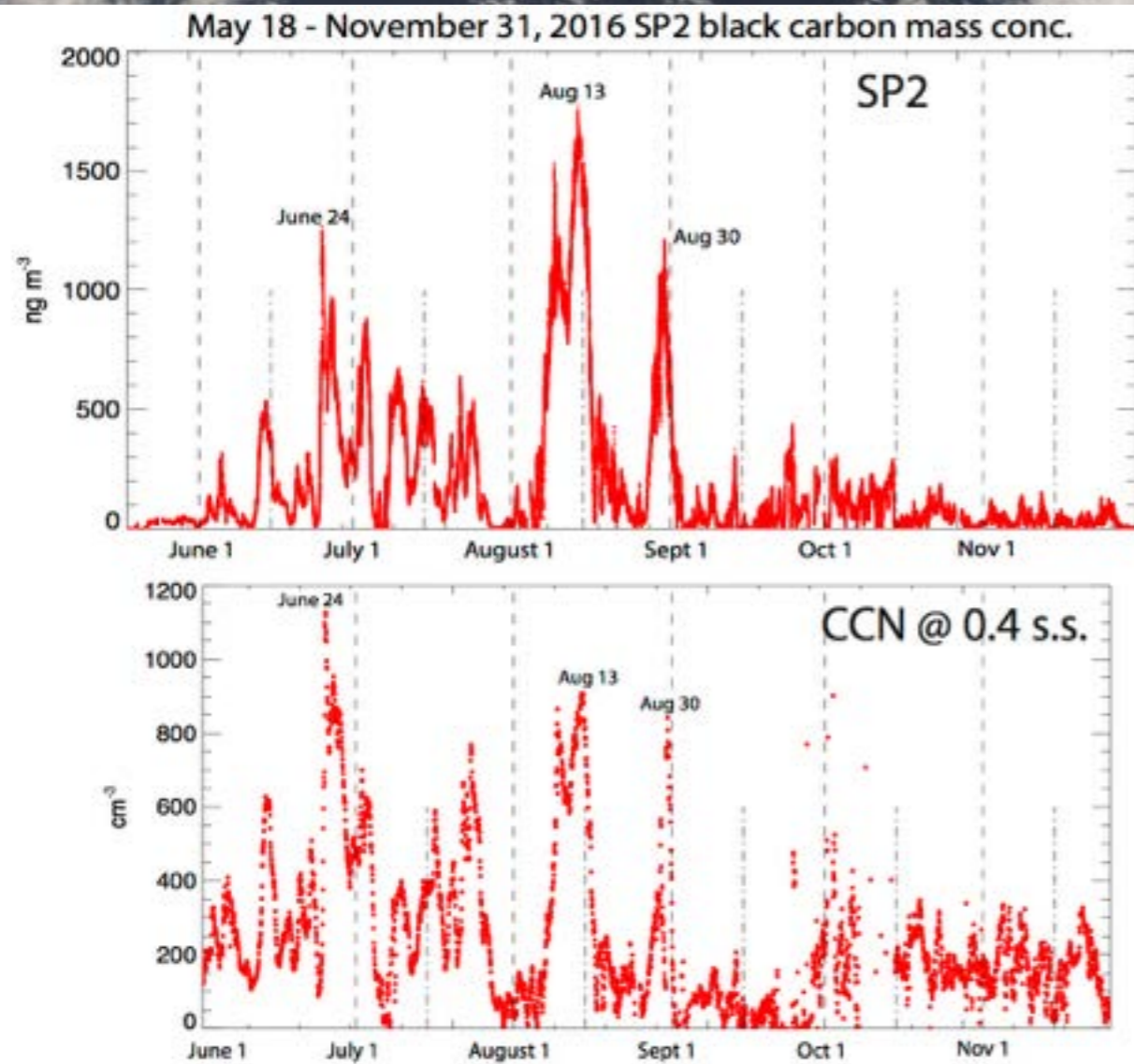
2km AGL



Days (Aug, 2016)

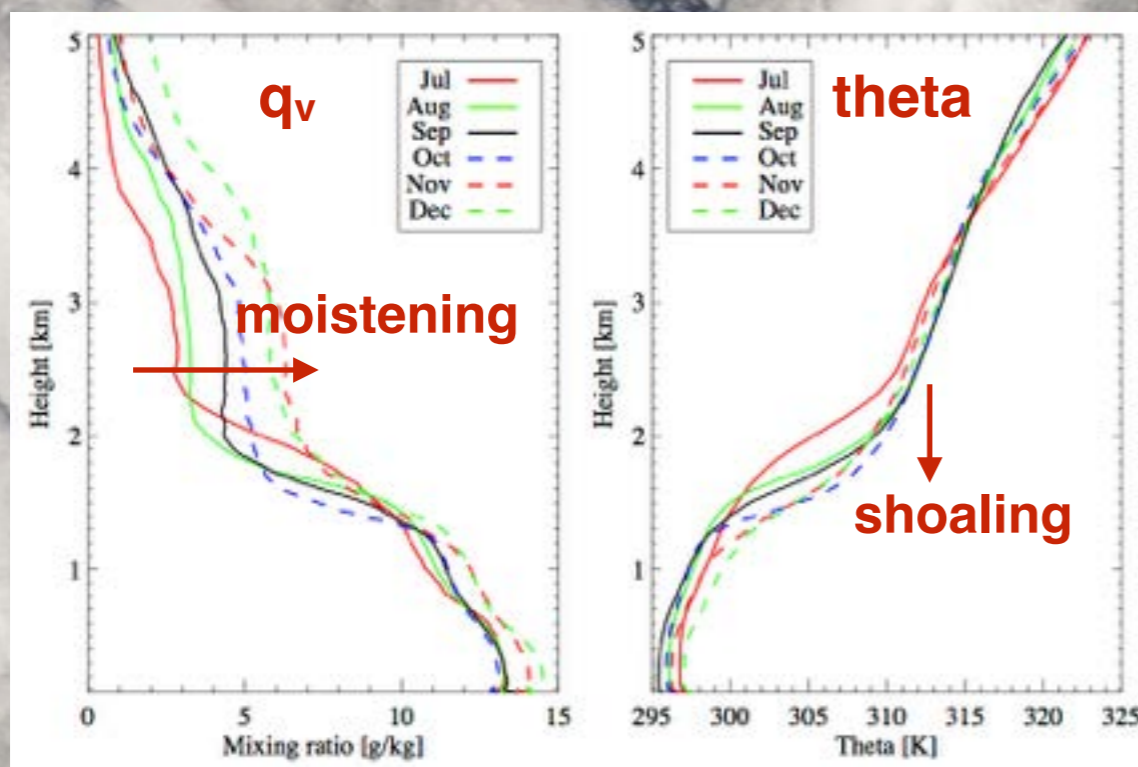
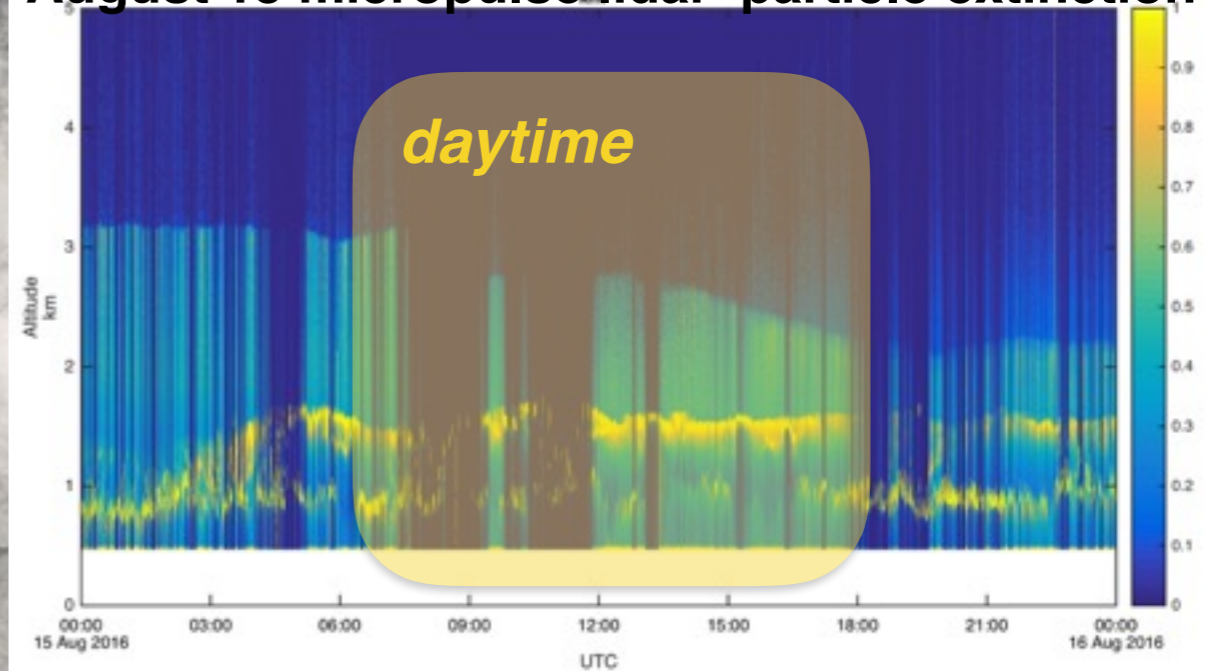


August 13
 $rBC > 1700 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$



- objectives
- improve knowledge of BBA properties
 - characterize aerosol-cloud vertical structure
 - understand cloud adjustments to BBA

August 15 micropulse lidar particle extinction

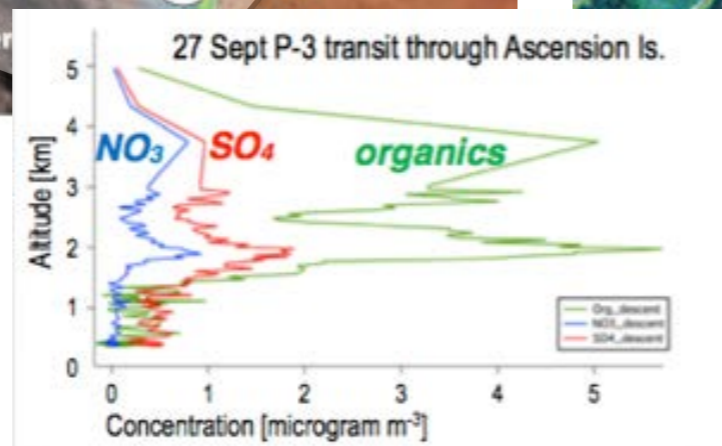
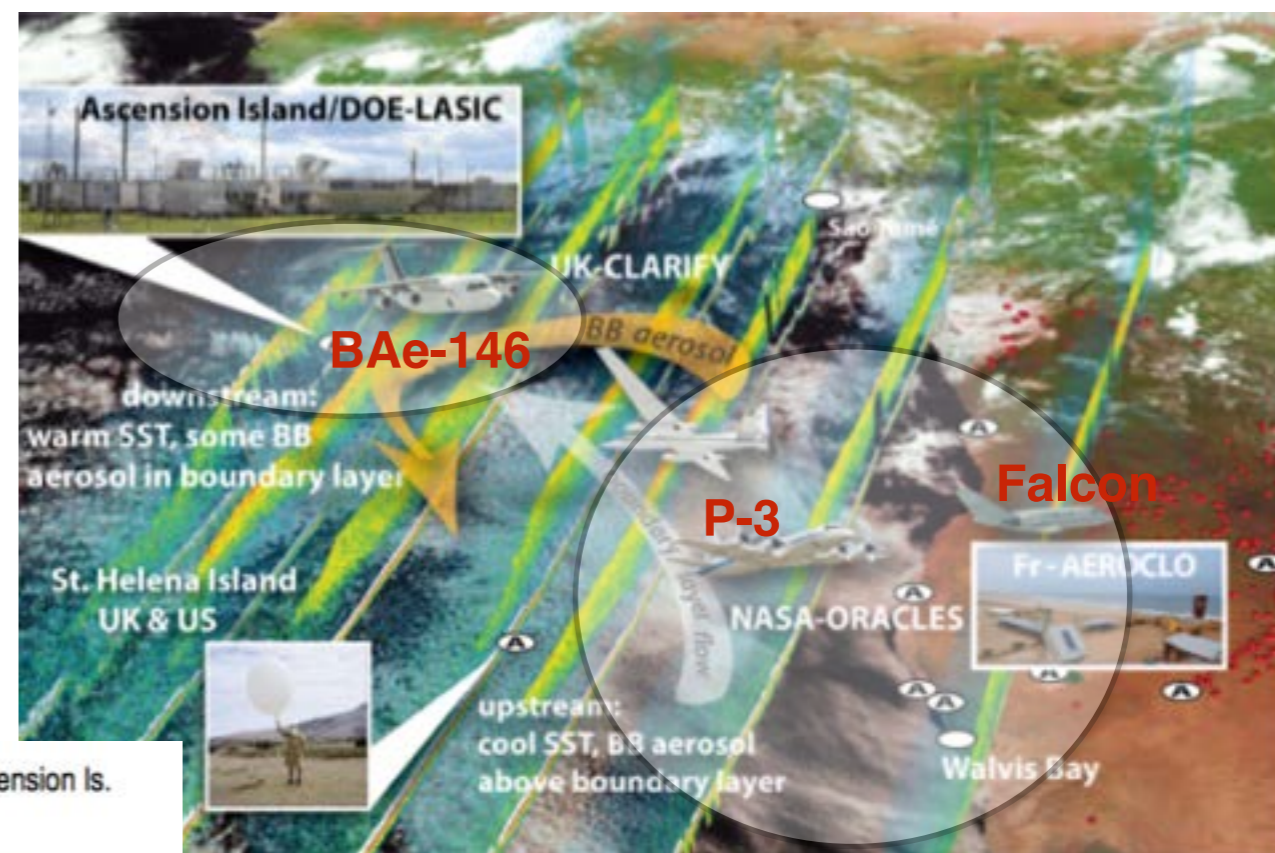
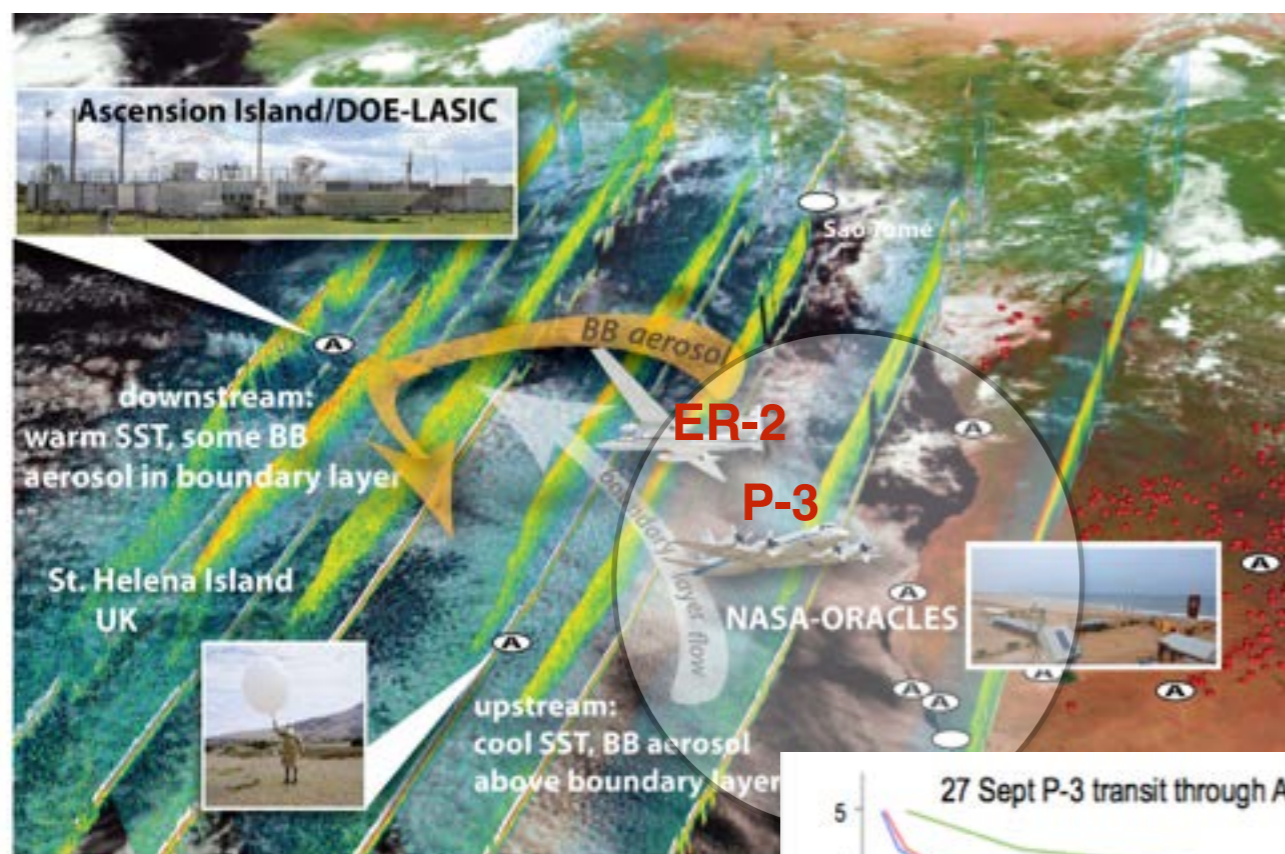


complementary aircraft measurements

September, 2016: NASA
based at Walvis Bay, Namibia

August-September, 2017: UK
based at Ascension

August-Sept 2017: NASA, French
plan to base at Walvis Bay, Namibia



Low aerosol loading in PBL, heavy aloft

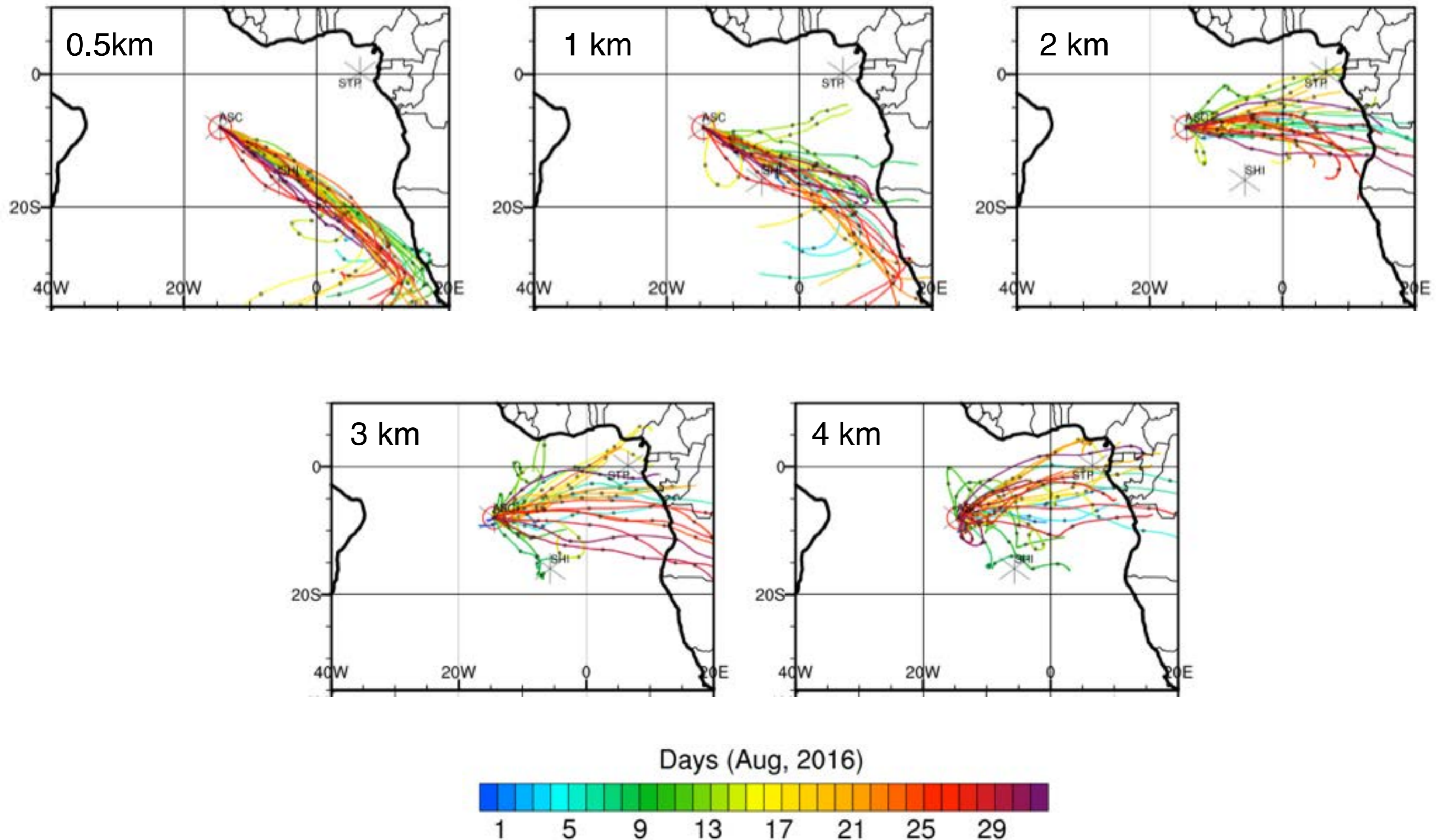
how can the DOE ASR/ARM community contribute?

- what is the best-estimate SSA? can we explain it?
- does the SSA evolve with time?
- how well can we describe the relative aerosol-cloud vertical structure, and how do models compare?
- how do we best set up process model studies using the ARM data?

- extra slides

where is the smoke coming from?

6-day HYSPLIT back trajectories from Ascension



does the diurnal cycle hold clues?

