

Stratospheric aerosols from volcanic eruptions and wildfires observed by EarthCARE/ATLID

**Sergey Khaykin¹, Oceane Soares¹, Eddy Poncet¹, Nicolas Kadygrov¹,
Michaël Sicard², Thierry Leblanc³, Gwenael Berthet⁴, Nikolay Balugin⁸, Tetsu Sakai⁵, Yoshitaka Jin⁶, Ben Liley⁷**

¹ LATMOS/IPSL, UVSQ Université Paris-Saclay, Sorbonne Université, CNRS, Guyancourt, France (sergey.khaykin@latmos.ipsl.fr)

² LACy, Laboratoire de l'Atmosphère et des Cyclones UMR 8105 CNRS, St Denis, France

³ Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Wrightwood, CA, USA

⁴ LPC2E, CNRS UMR 7328, Université d'Orléans, Orléans, France

⁵ Meteorological Research Institute (MRI-JMA), Tsukuba, Japan

⁶ National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Tsukuba, Japan

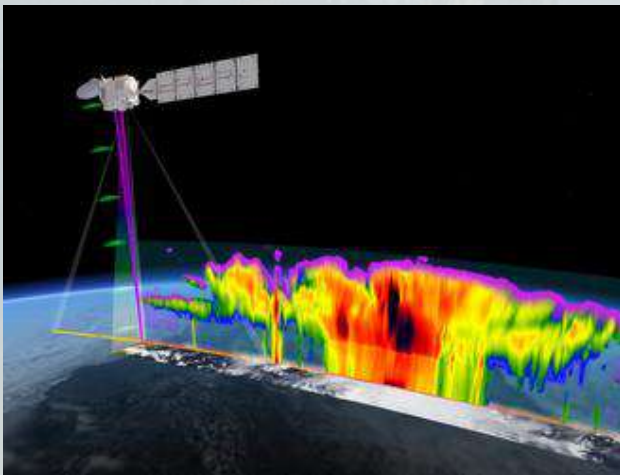
⁷ New Zealand Institute for Earth Science Limited, Lauder, New Zealand

⁸ Federal State Budgetary Institution Central Aerological Observatory, Russian Federation

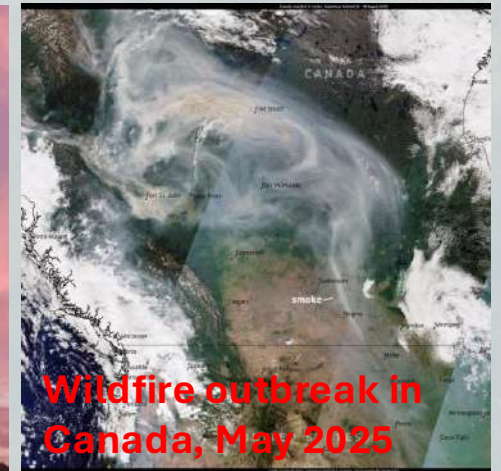


EarthCARE 2026 Science and Validation workshop

8–12 June 2026 | Rhodes House | Oxford, UK



**Ruang eruption, April
2024**



**Wildfire outbreak in
Canada, May 2025**



ATLID L1B (BA+)

Scattering Ratio (non-attenuated)

$$R = \frac{(\beta_{M,\parallel}^{\text{att}} + \beta_{M,\perp}^{\text{att}} + \beta_R^{\text{att}})}{\beta_R^{\text{att}}} = \frac{(\beta_M + \beta_R) T^2}{\beta_R T^2} = 1 + \frac{\beta_M}{\beta_R} \quad (1)$$

Mie backscatter coefficient (non-attenuated):

$$\beta_M = (R - 1)\beta_R$$

Stratospheric Aerosol Optical Depth

$$\tau_{\text{strato}} = S \int_{z_{\text{trop}+1}}^{z_{30}} \beta_M(z) dz.$$

S - lidar ratio from L2A EBD, stratospheric layer zonal mean

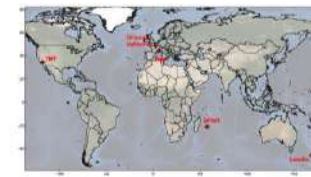
ATLID L2A EBD (BA)

Stratospheric features optical parameters:

- **AOD** (aerosol optical depth)
- **SR** (scattering ratio)
- **PLDR** (particle linear depolarization ratio)
- **LR** (lidar ratio)

Stratospheric aerosol lidars 355 nm (NDACC)

- **OHP** (Observatoire de Haute Provence)
- **OPAR** (Maido, La Reunion island)
- **TMF** (Table Mountain Facility, California)
- **Lauder** observatory (New Zealand) 532 nm

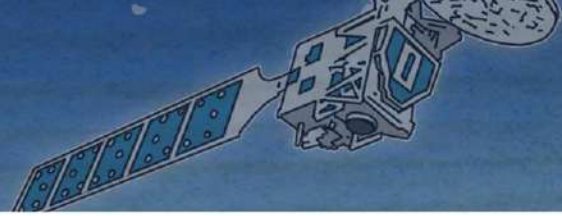


Suborbital balloon flights from Orleans

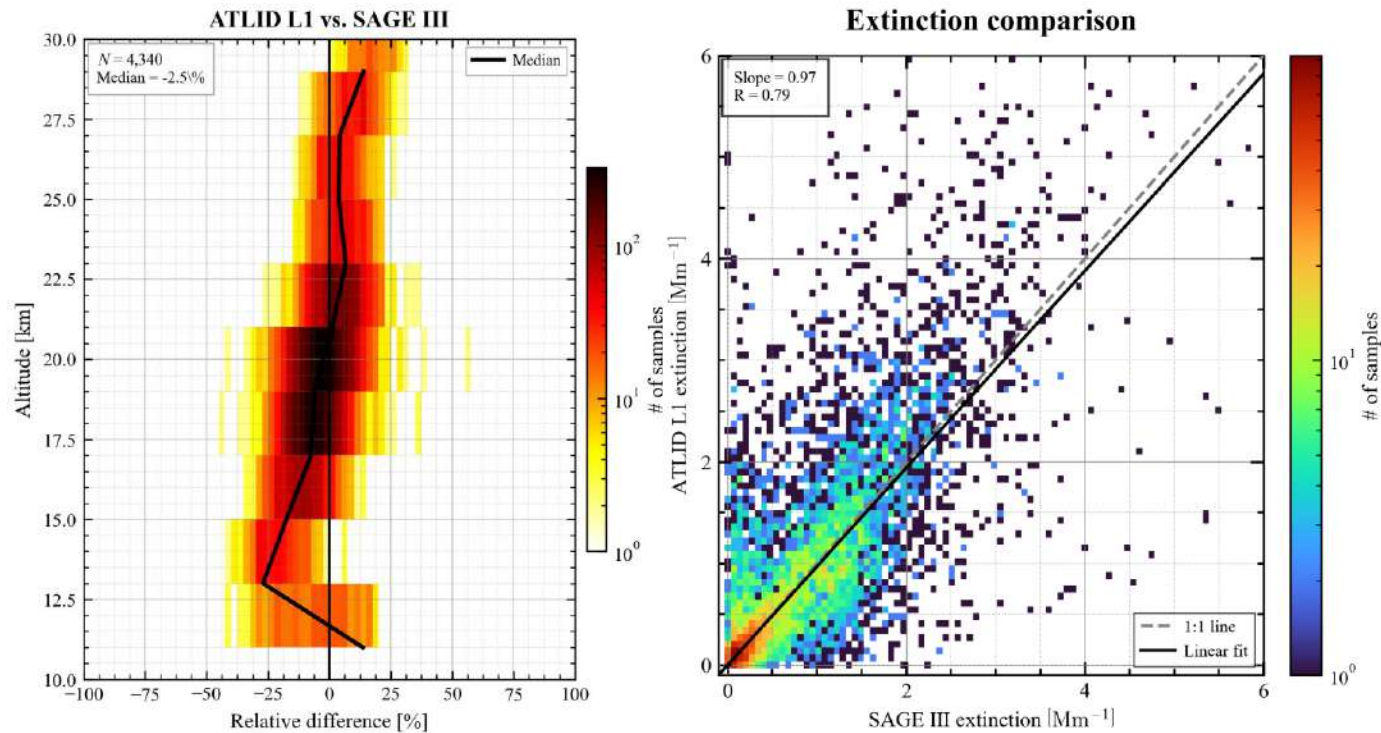
- **AZOR** aerosol backscatter sonde (528/940 nm)
- **POPS** optical particle counter



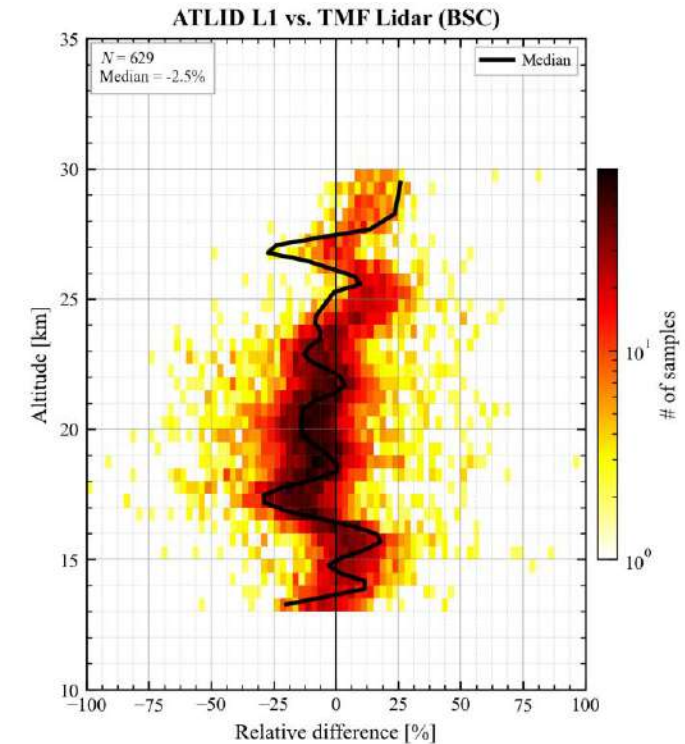
ISS SAGE III 384 nm
solar occultation extinction profiling



Comparison with ISS/SAGE III extinction ~900 collocations (50 km, 12 h)



Comparison with TMF lidar 47 collocations (50 km, 12 h)



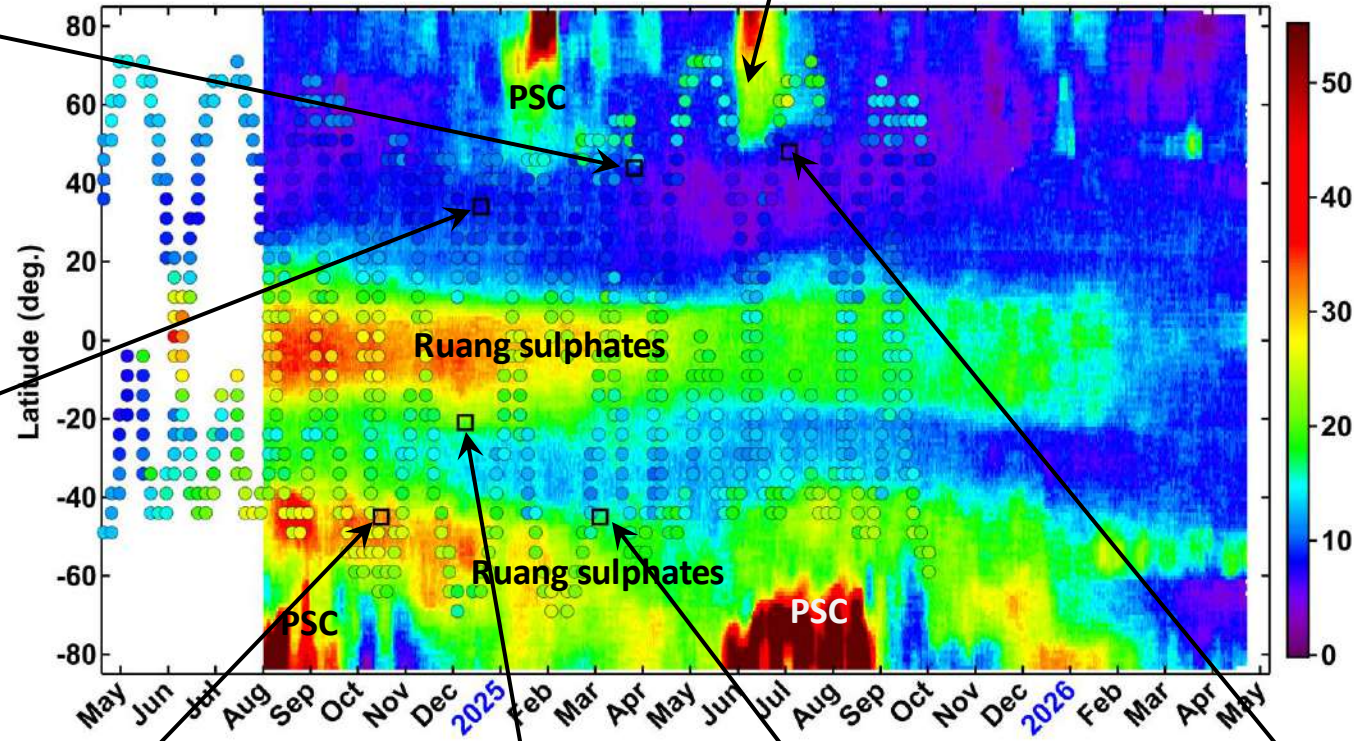
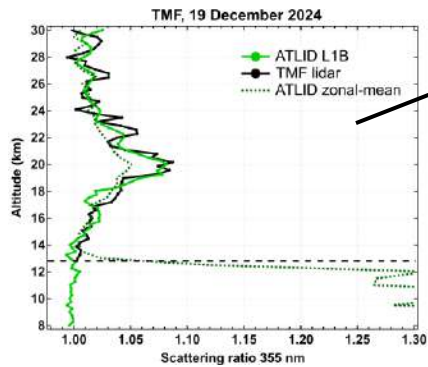
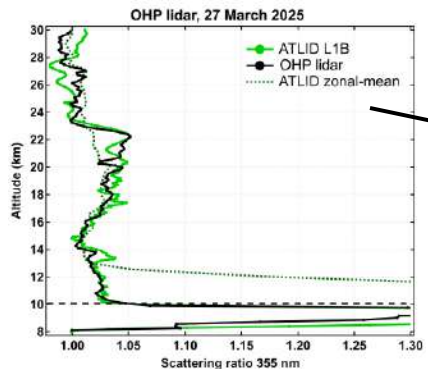
Poncet et al., in prep. for AMT

ATLID observations of stratospheric aerosols and cal/val

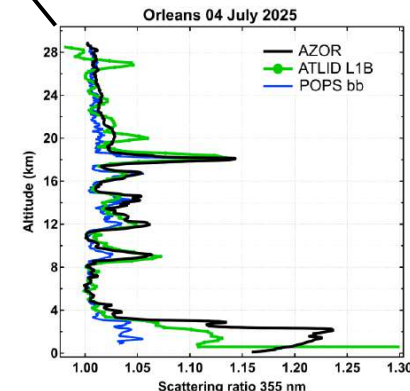
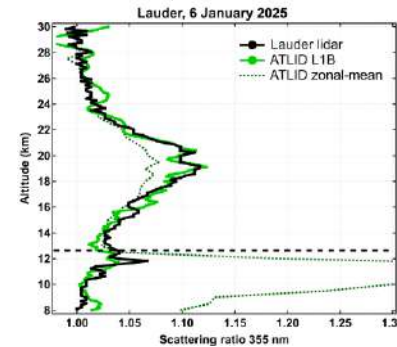
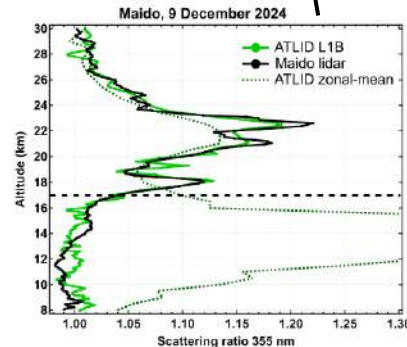
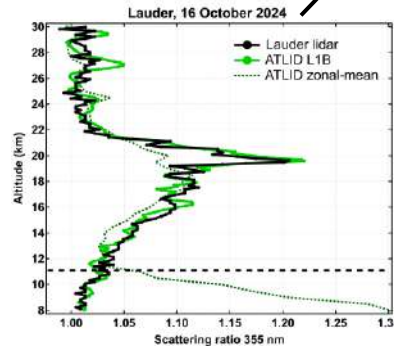
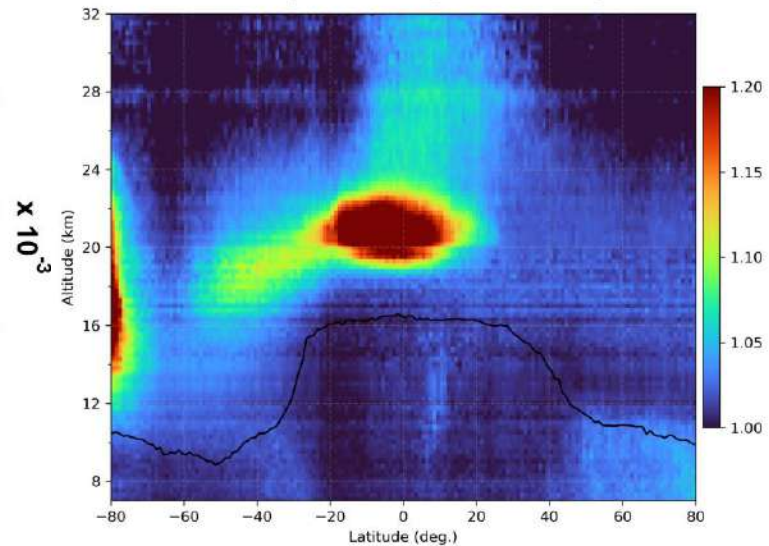
Khaykin et al., ACP, 2026

Panboreal wildfire outbreak
(PWO-2025)

EarthCARE/ATLID L1 and ISS/SAGE III, sAOD 355 nm non-attenuated



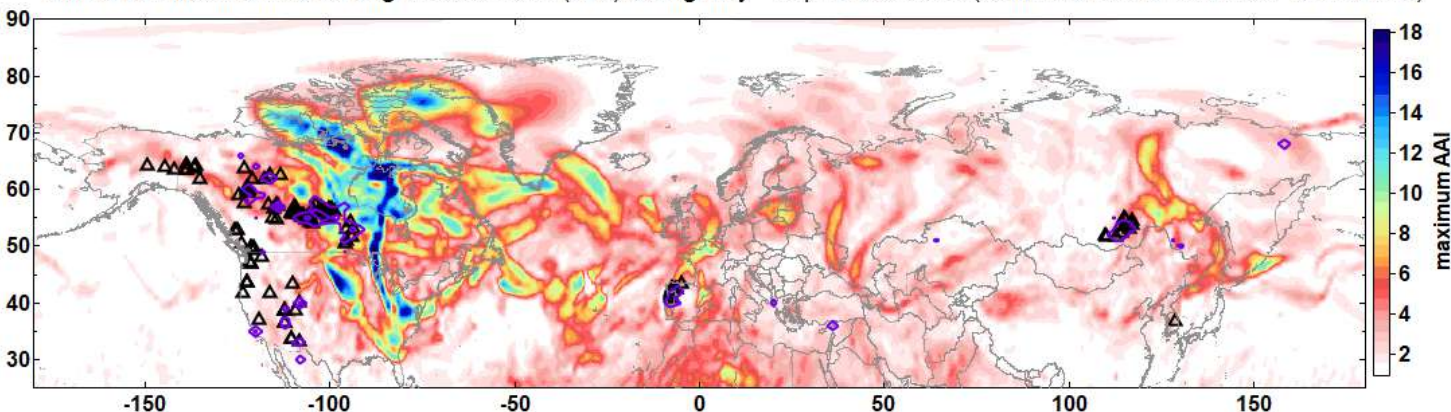
EarthCARE ATLID | L2 scattering ratio 5 - 11 August 2024



Panboreal wildfire outbreak (PWO-25)

2025 Boreal wildfire hotspots

OMPS-NM Maximum absorbing aerosol index (AAI) during May - September 2025 (contours: GFAS FRPmax > 10 MW m⁻²)

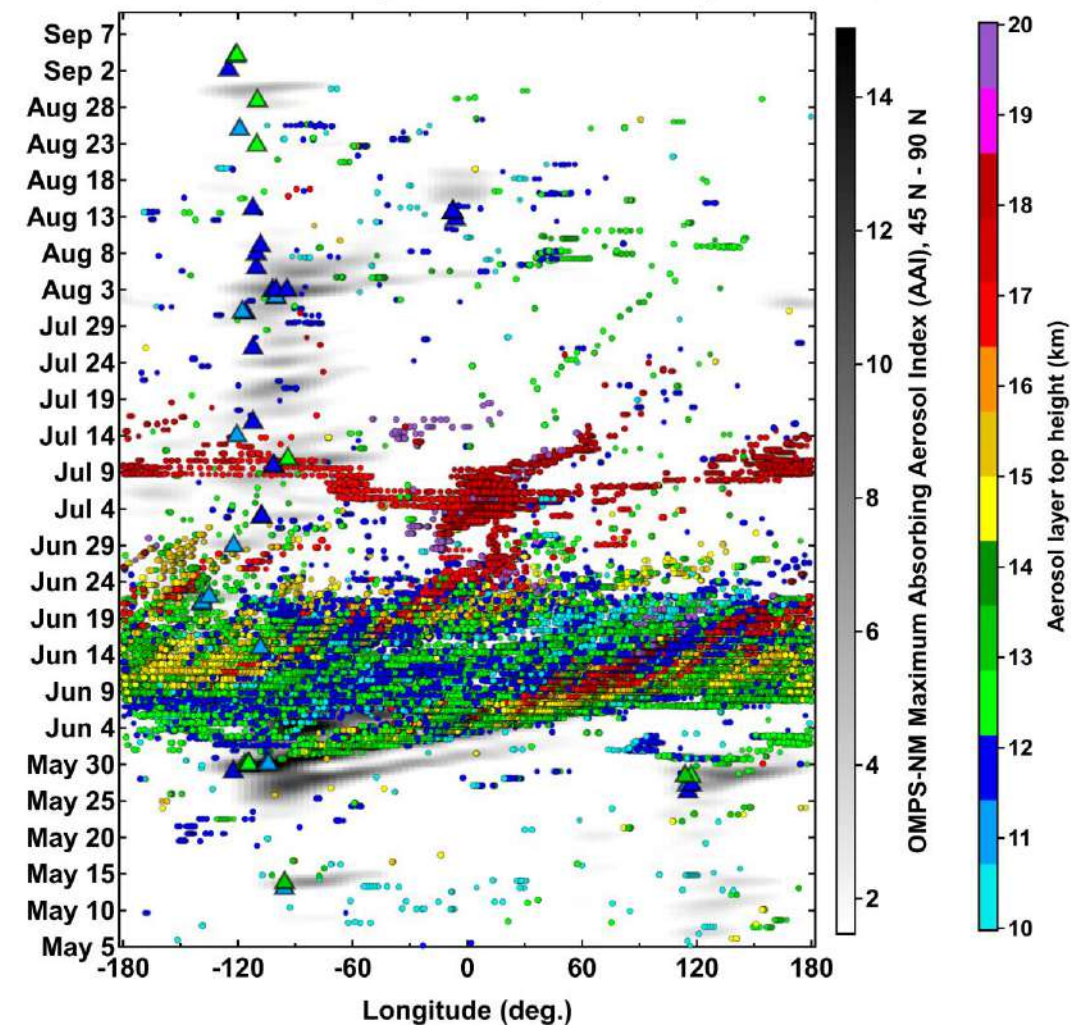


123 confirmed pyroCbs of which 77 in Canada, 11 in Russia

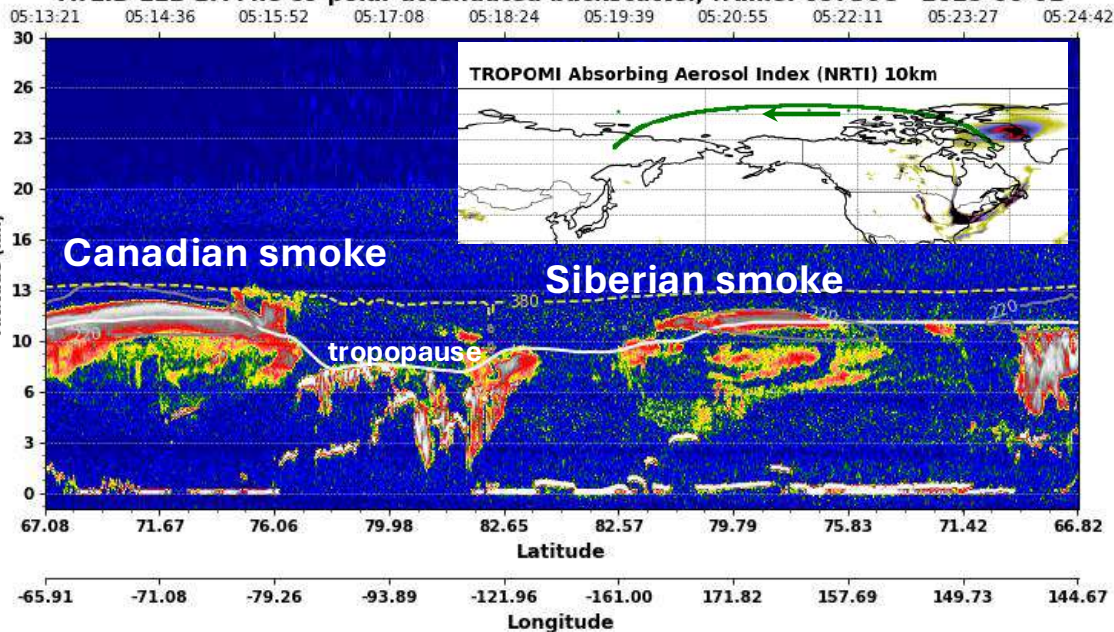
(Servanckx and Fromm, personal communication)

Preliminary pyroCb inventory

OMPS-NM absorbing aerosol index (maxAAI) 45 N - 90 N, 2025



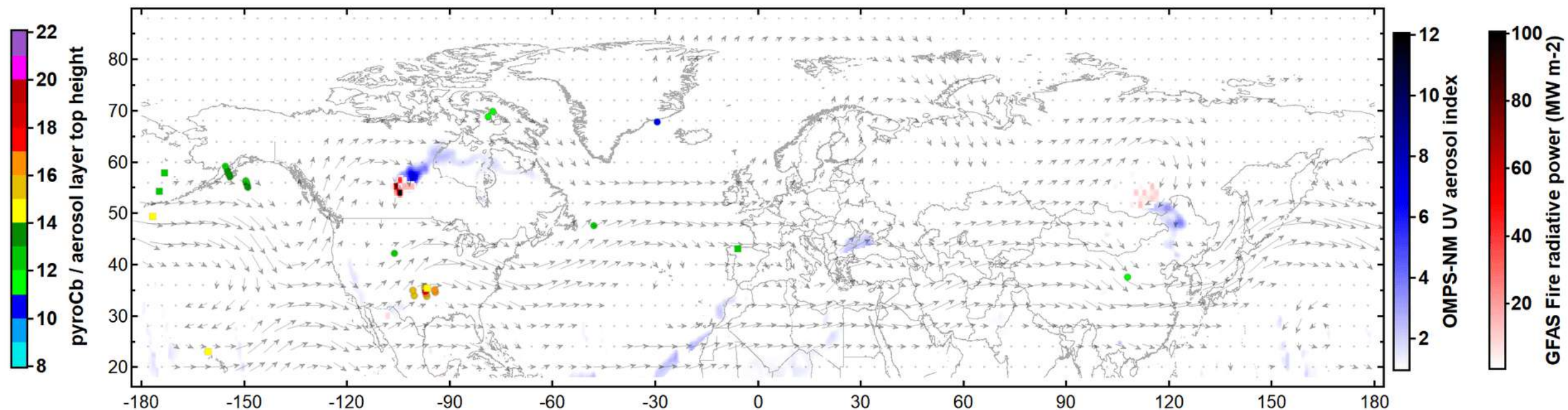
ATLID L1B BA Mie co-polar attenuated backscatter, frame: 05730C 2025-06-01



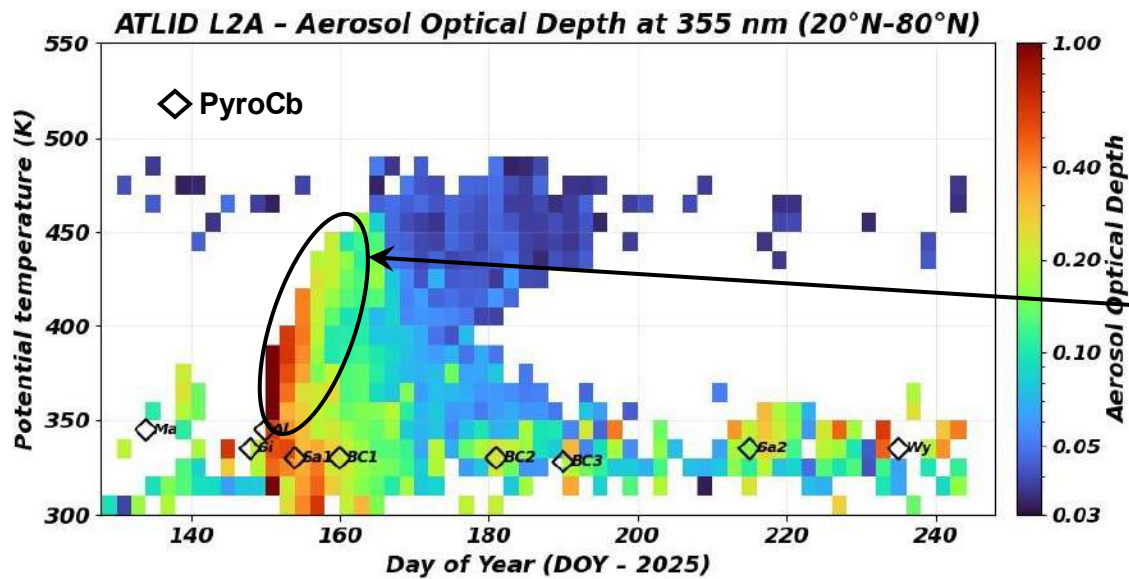
Spatiotemporal evolution of stratospheric smoke

2025 05 25 DOY145

● OMPS-LP SALD ■ ATLID SALD ◆ SAGE III SALD ▲ pyroCb



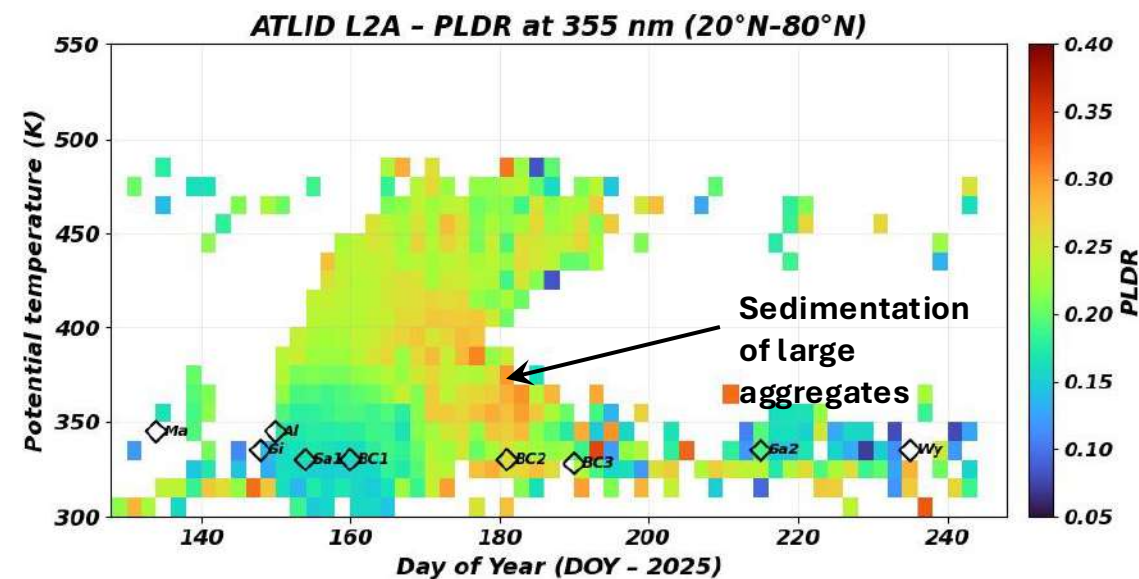
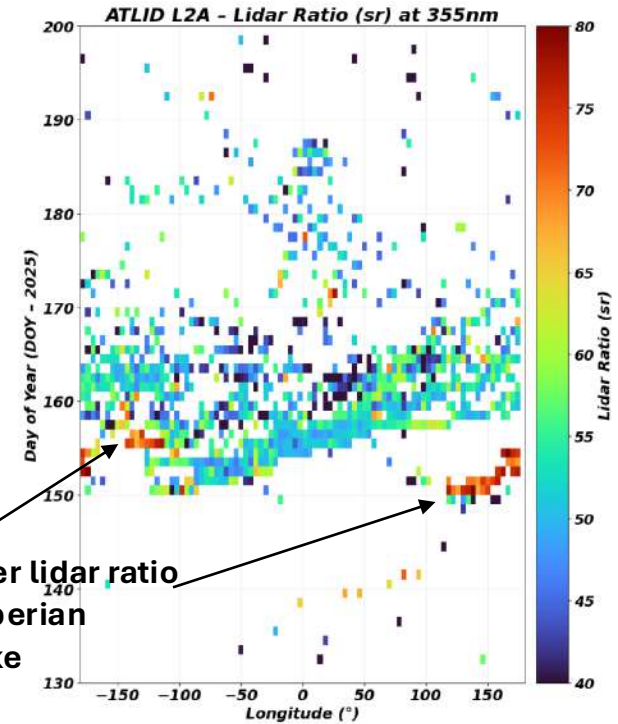
Evolution of smoke plumes' optical properties from ATLID



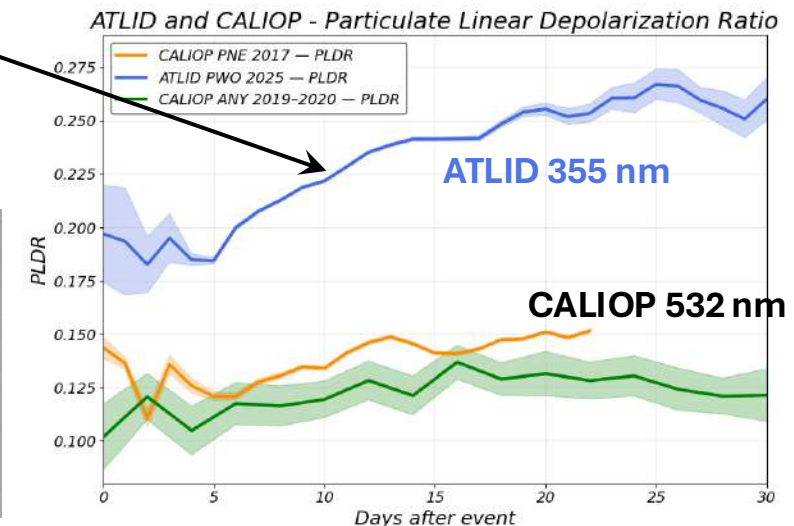
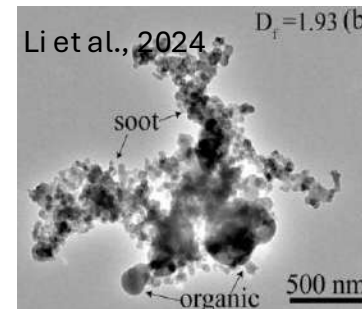
EBD data on stratospheric layers

- ✓ Filtering on AOD>0.03, SR>2 and quality flag
- ✓ Aggregation into 1 day/500 m bins
- ✓ Correction of -16% applied to daytime PLDR

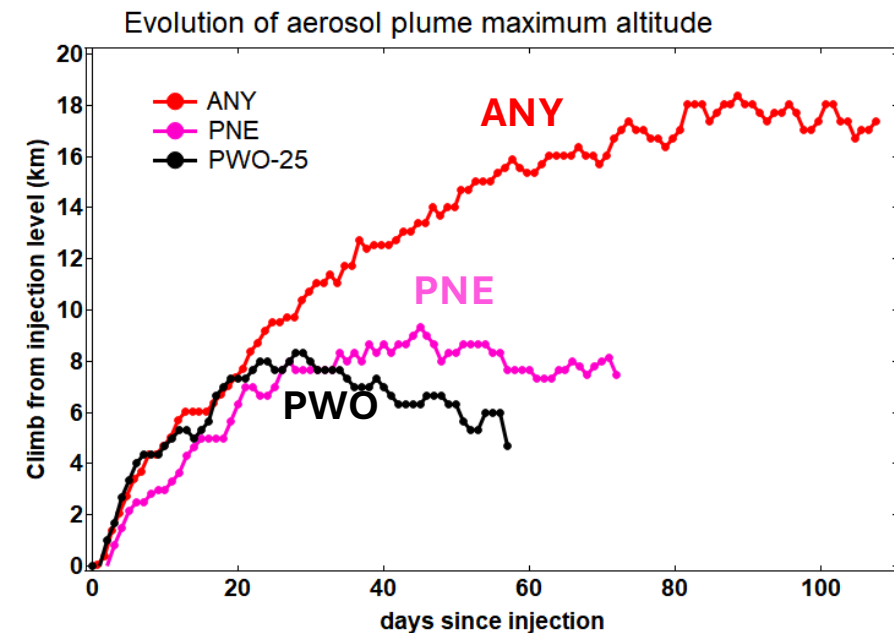
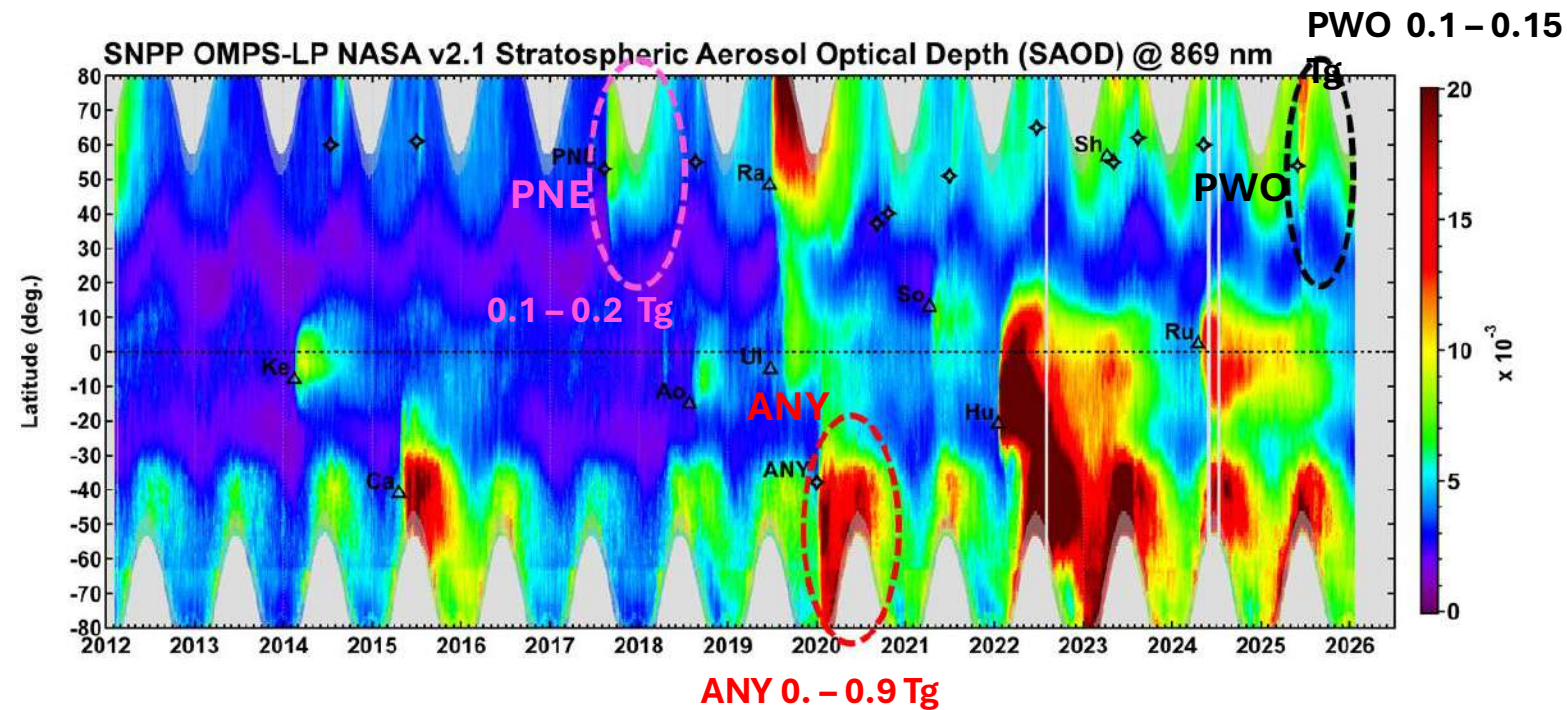
Self-lofting of high-concentrated plume up to 22 km



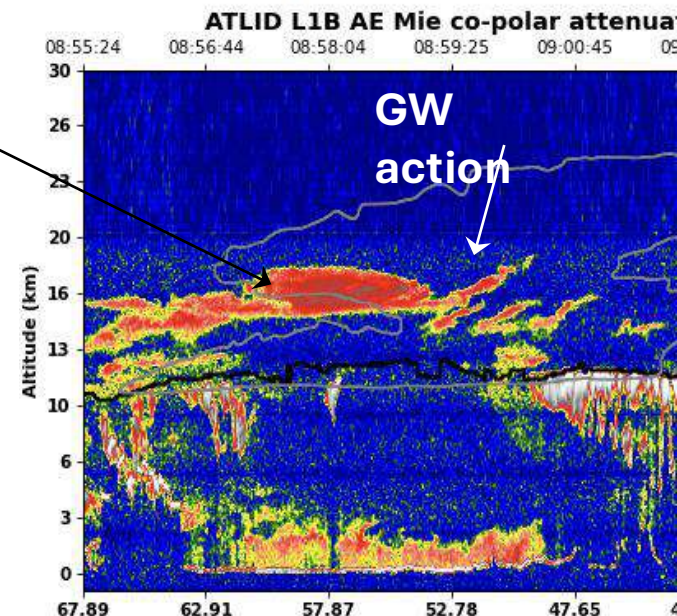
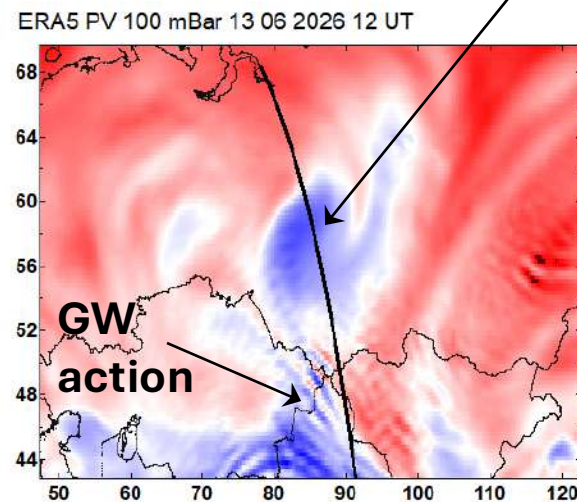
Depolarization growth due to aggregation



Large-scale impact and self-lofting of PWO-25 smoke



- PWO-25: among the three largest wildfire-induced stratospheric perturbation
- Formation of smoke-charged vortex (SCV) is the key condition for self-lofting
- SCV lifetime likely reduced by gravity wave activity



Summary

Image: Burned forest near Candle Lake, Saskatchewan. © S. Khaykin

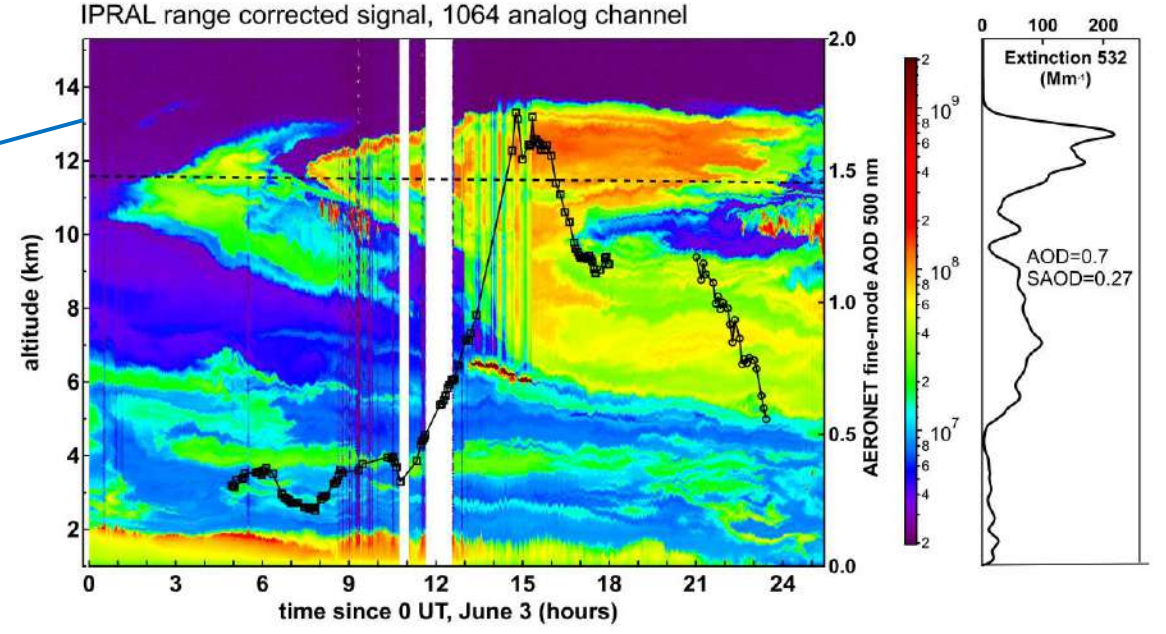
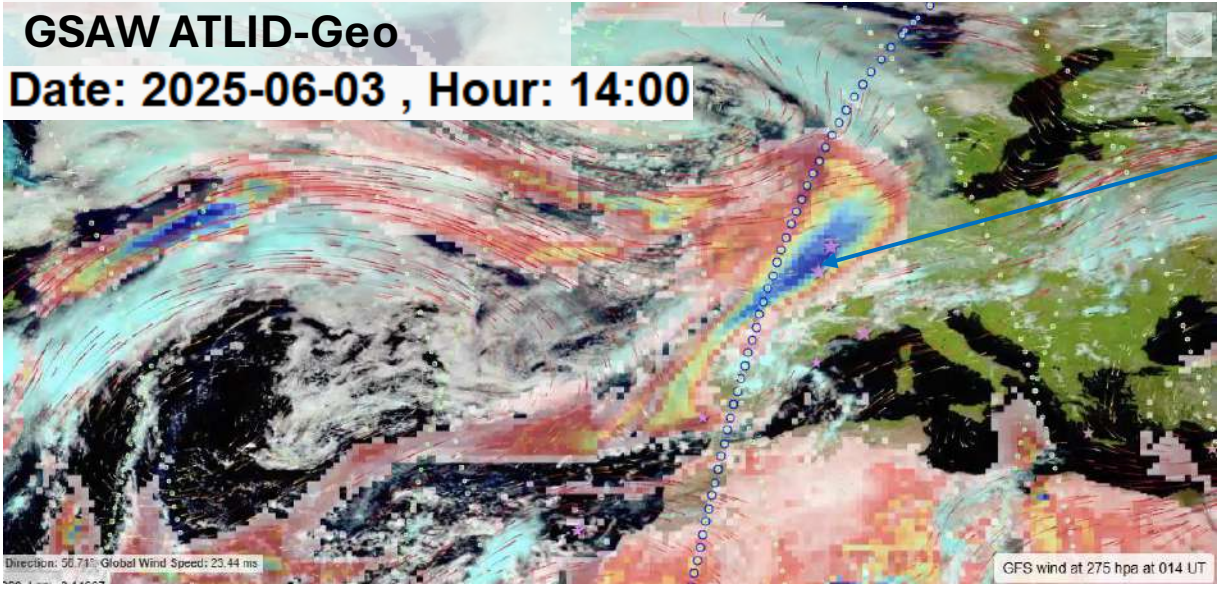
- **ATLID shows excellent performance in the stratosphere** as inferred from comparison with suborbital GB lidars, balloon soundings and passive satellite instruments
- **ATLID has witnessed two significant stratospheric aerosol perturbations: 2024 Ruang eruption and 2025 Panboreal wildfire outbreak**
- **PWO-25 is among the three largest wildfire outbreak in terms of stratospheric impact**
- **ATLID provided new and exclusive information on stratospheric smoke properties and their rapid evolution**

Global Stratospheric Aerosol Watch (GSAW)

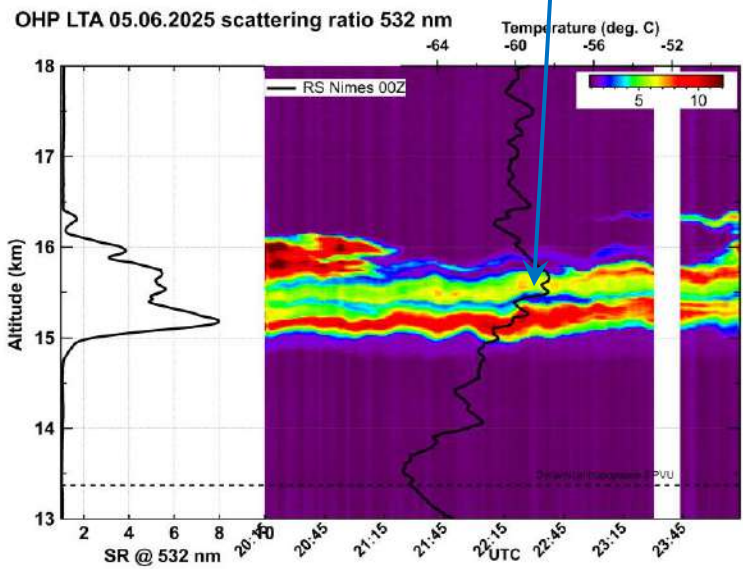
<https://aerosolstrato.projet.latmos.ipsl.fr>

See online poster P066 by Kadygrov and Khaykin

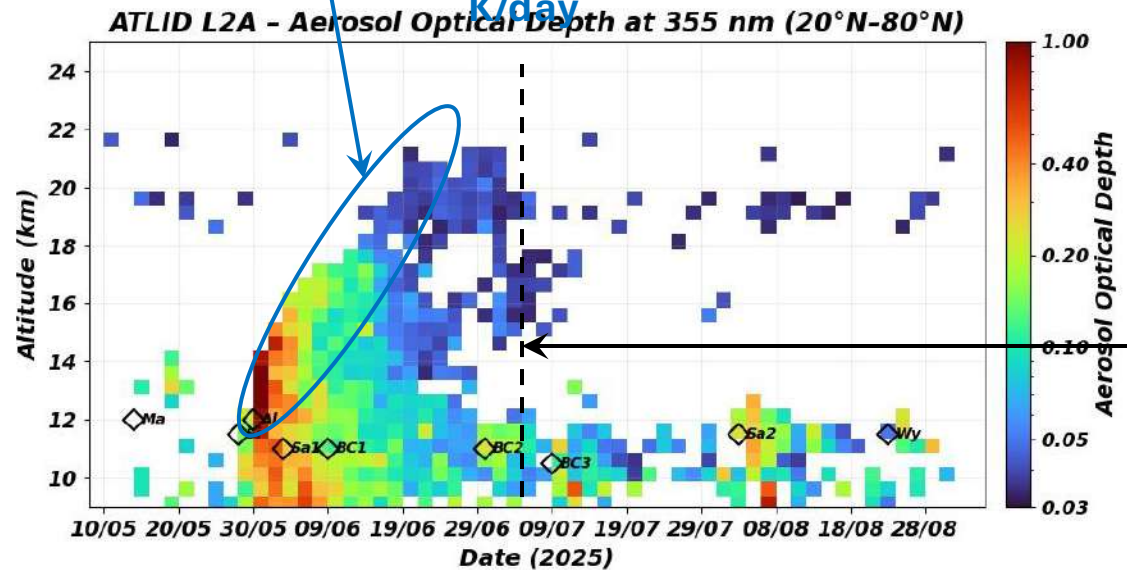
Lidar observations of Alberta smoke



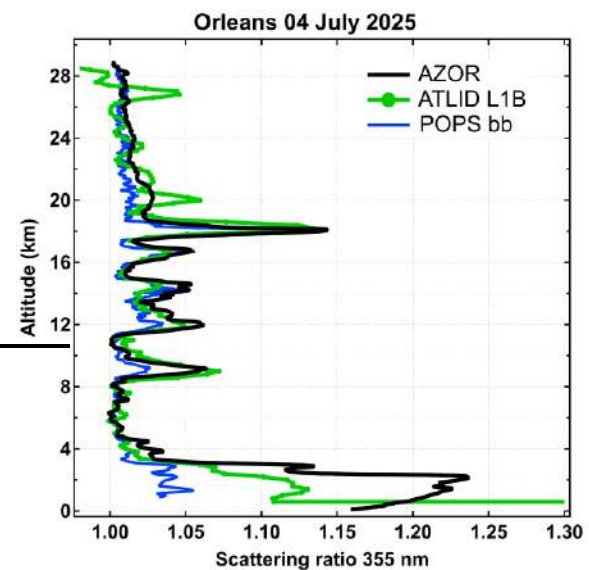
Internal heating of the plume



Self-lofting at ~400 m/day or 5 K/day



Multiple layers throughout LS



Examples of ATLID vs SAGE III intercomparison

(Poncet et al., in prep.)

