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EarthCARE CPR validation using ACTRIS' ground-based radar network

Lukas Pfitzenmaier^{UoC} & Nathan Feuillard^{CNRS}, *Felipe Toledo Bittner*^{CNRS, IPSL}, & *ACTRIS CCRES & CLU*

^{UoC} University Of Cologne, Cologne, Germany, ^{CNRS} Laboratoire Atmospheres et Observations Spatiales, Guyancourt, France,
^{IPSL} Institut Pierre Simon Laplace, Palaiseau, France

ACTRIS network of cloud remote sensing sites



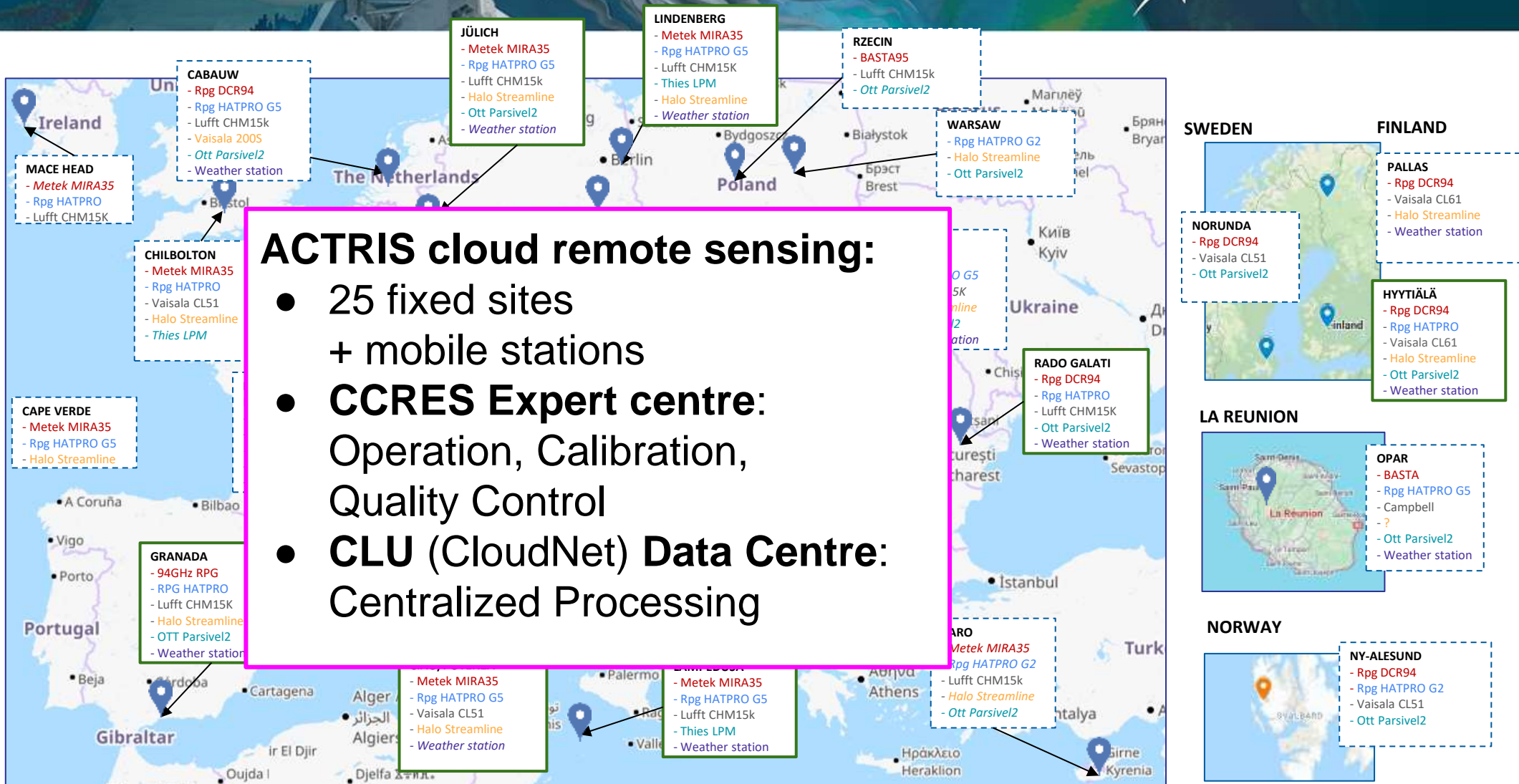
Legend
 Doppler Cloud
 Radar

Micro wave radiometer
 Ceilometer
 Doppler lidar
 Disdrometers
 Weather stations

In
 Progress/Operational

accepted for labelling step 1A

In progress for labelling step 1a



ACTRIS data quality control and products



ACTRIS cloud remote sensing network

- has good geographical coverage
 - automated data quality controlled and centrally processed
 - cloud radar calibration using reference radar & stability monitoring using disdrometer drop size distributions
 - cloud radar + microwave radiometer + backscatter lidar
- cloud target classification - “Cal/Val of L2 data ready”

Legend

Radar

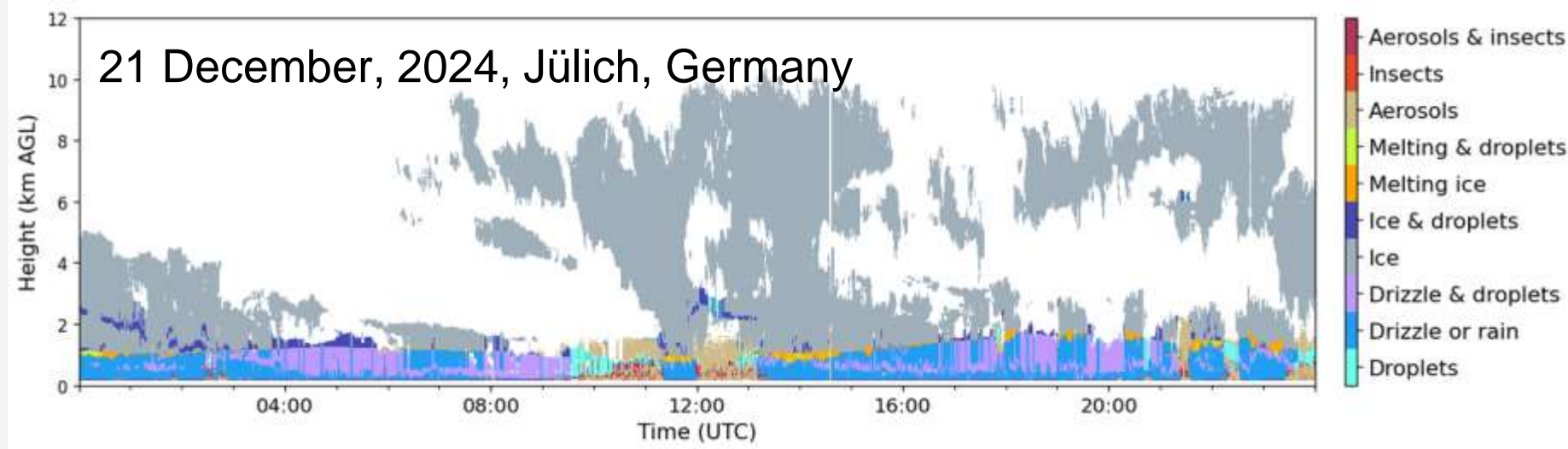
- Micro wave radiometer
- Ceilometer
- Doppler lidar
- Disdrometer
- Weather station

In Progress/Operational

- accepted for step 1A
- In progress for labelling step

CAPE VERDE

- Metek MIRA35
- Rpg HATPRO G5
- Halo Streamline



FINLAND

PALLAS

- Rpg DCR94
- Vaisala CL61
- Halo Streamline
- Weather station

HYTTIÄLÄ

- Rpg DCR94
- Rpg HATPRO
- Vaisala CL61
- Halo Streamline
- Ott Parsivel2
- Weather station

OPAR

- BASTA
- Rpg HATPRO G5
- Campbell
- ?
- Ott Parsivel2
- Weather station

NY-ALESUND

- Rpg DCR94
- Rpg HATPRO G2
- Vaisala CL51
- Ott Parsivel2

Data are available at: cloudnet.fmi.fi

ACTRIS data quality control and products



ACTRIS cloud remote sensing network

- has good geographical coverage
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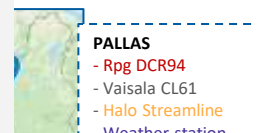
Data are available at: cloudnet.fmi.fi

Cal/Val of ACTRIS sites: statistical comparison

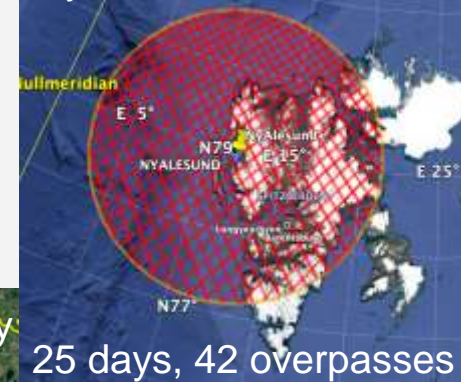
- **method:** Protat et al., 2009 & modified method
- sample **all overpasses $\pm 200\text{km}$** from the site
- **zenith observations $\pm 1\text{h}$ around the overpass**
- + good geographical coverage, growing network
- + homogeneous data sets and products

Legend	Dop
Radar	
Micro wave radiometer	
Ceilometer	
Doppler lidar	
Disdrometer	
Weather station	
In Progress/Operational	
accepted for step 1A	
In progress for labelling step	
CAPE VERDE	
- Metek MIRA35	
- Rpg HATPRO G5	
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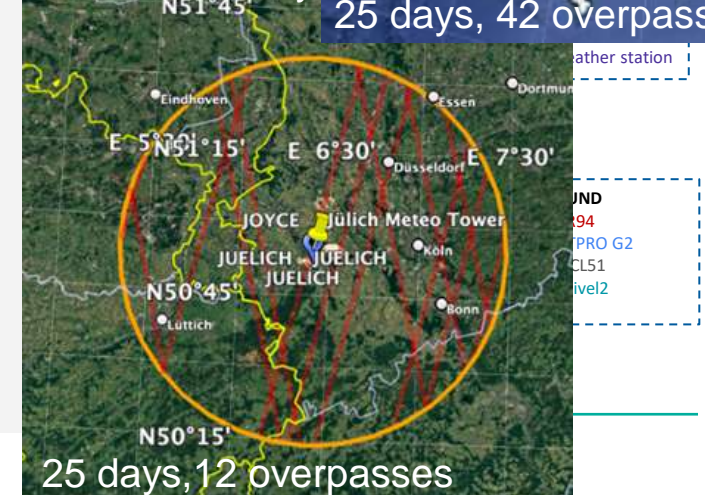
FINLAND



NyÅlesund, Svalbard



Jülich, Germany





Reflectivity validation

Reflectivity Cal/Val – Method: statistical comparison

Period used for the comparisons: 08-2024/11-2024 ~ 3 months

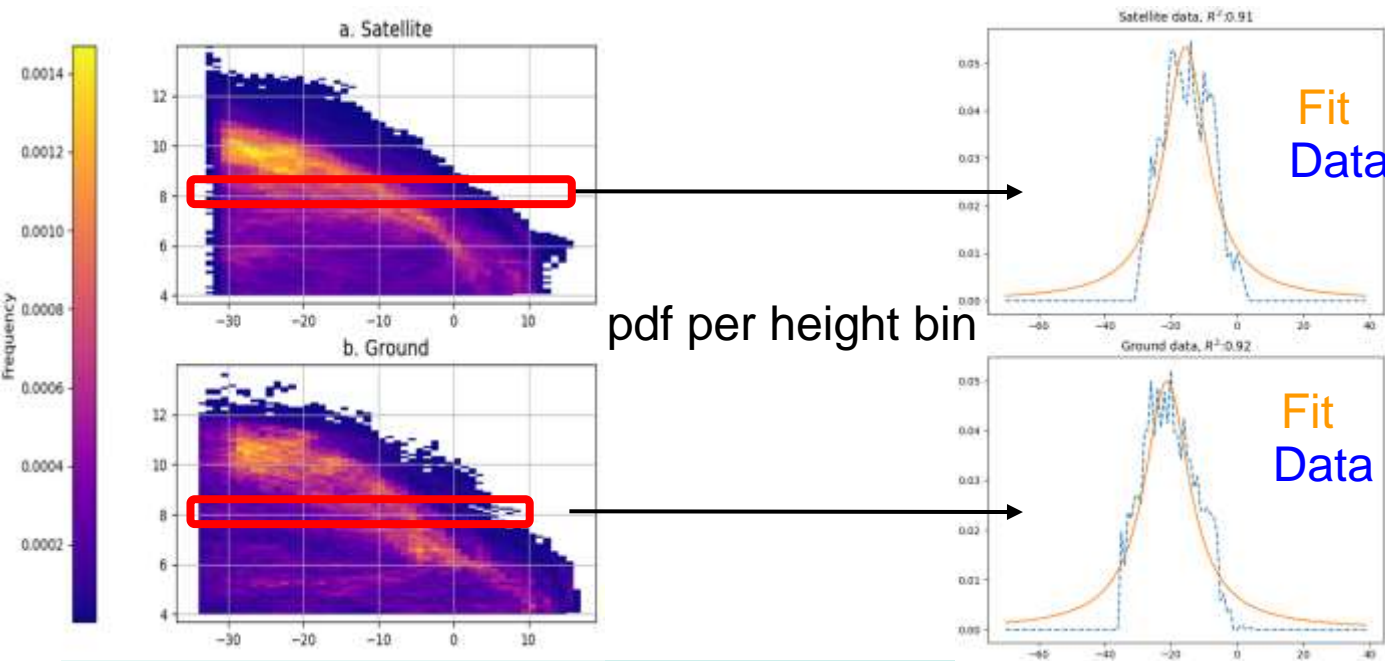
Data used: BA and BB baselines, L1 data only.

Filter out liquid clouds because of attenuation of the ground radar

- CPR : filter out data below 1 km above the 0°C isotherm → waiting for L2 products

- GROUND : using the classification from CloudNet

Modified statistical method :



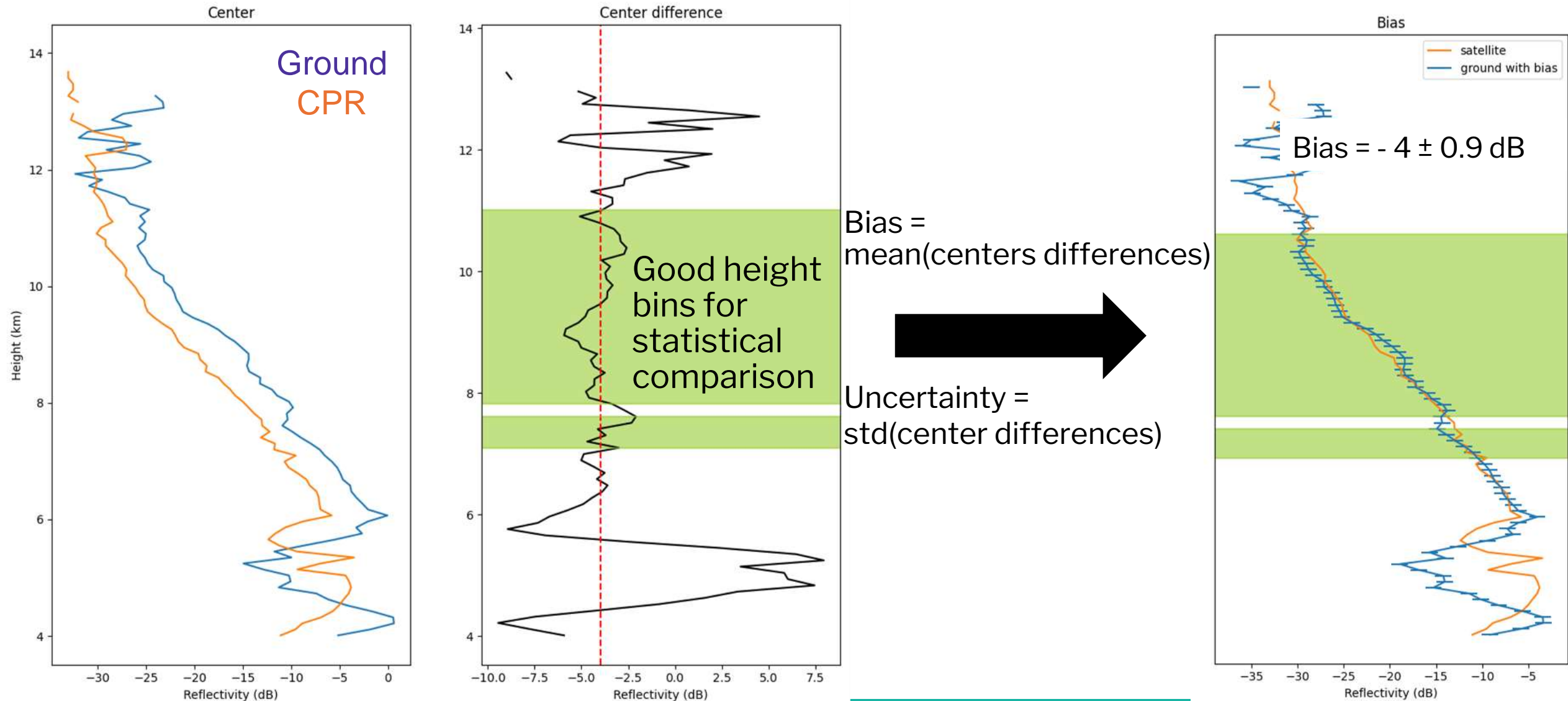
Fit with a Lorentzian model to sort data (threshold based)

- If fit fulfill certain criteria data used for comparison
- Otherwise height bin filtered out

Lorentzian model criteria:

- Amplitude of the distribution
- Maximum of the distribution
- Width of the distribution
- R^2 of the fit

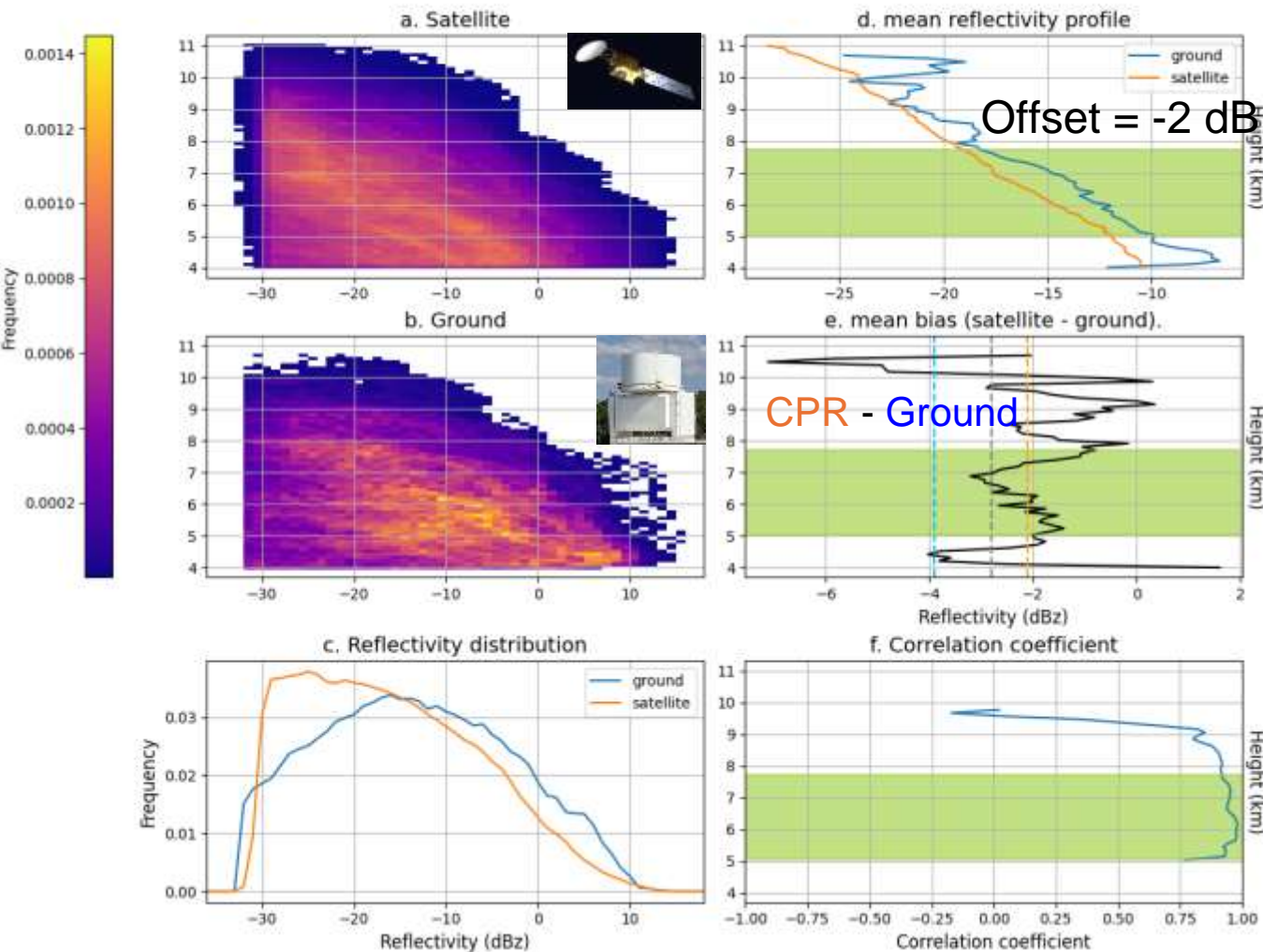
Reflectivity Cal/Val - Method: statistical comparison



Reflectivity Cal/Val – Result: Ny-Ålesund



CloudNet and EarthCARE comparison for Ny-Ålesund for the period: 2024-08-02--2024-11-19
Total overpasses: 186, Valid overpasses: 176
Profiles: satellite: 49855, ground: 7248



< Ny-Alesund site: most northern site.
(Site with the most overpasses)

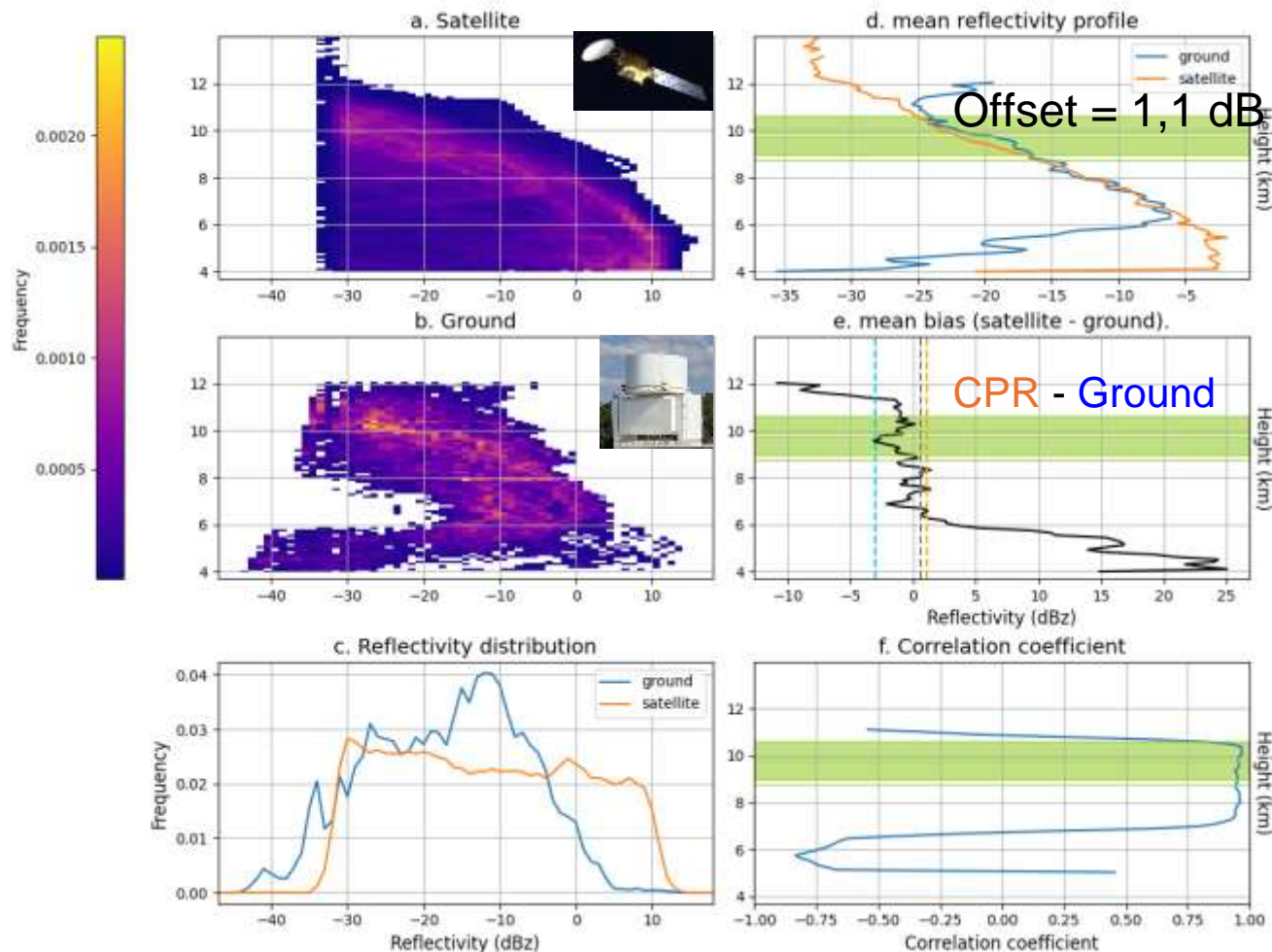
In general we observe:

- Mean profiles and reflectivity distributions similarities.
- 3 months is enough data for comparisons for most sites → more data will only improve comparisons.
- The modified statistical method helps in assessing the goodness of the comparisons.

Reflectivity Cal/Val - Comparisons limitation



CloudNet and EarthCARE comparison for Jülich for the period: 2024-08-02--2024-11-19
Total overpasses: 45, Valid overpasses: 43
Profiles: satellite: 7356, ground:941



< Jülich site: mid latitude site.
(Site calibrated by ACTRIS)

Limitations come from:

- Liquid water events not well filtered for the satellite.
- Not enough overpasses.
- Too many rain events.
- No statistical similarities.

Reflectivity Cal/Val – Results overview ACTRIS



Number of overpasses

Site	Ze (Protat et al., 2009)	Ze (ACTRIS)	Comments Ze
NyAlesund	-2	-3,9 ± 1,2	Calibration monitored by ACTRIS
Hyytiälä	x	x	No ground echo: mirroring ground echo
Lindenberg	0	-3 ± 1,2	To be calibrated by ACTRIS (2025) & monitoring CloudSat to EarthCARE within 4.5 dBZ
Cabauw	0,25	x	No height bins selected for comparison
Jülich	1,1	-3 ± 2	Calibrated by ACTRIS (2024) + monitoring
Palaiseau	1,1	-3 ± 1	Calibrated by ACTRIS (2024) + monitoring CloudSat to EarthCARE within 4 dBZ
Munich	-0,6	-1,6 ± 1,7	
Galati	-2,8	-4,6 ± 3,3	Calibration monitored by ACTRIS
Bucharest	4,7	4,3 ± 0,4	Calibration monitored by ACTRIS
Potenza	1,7	-4 ± 1,8	Calibration monitored by ACTRIS
Granada	5,9	x	Calibration monitored by ACTRIS Low number of overpasses
Mindelo	14,6	x	Low number of overpasses

- Work in progress.
- CloudSat to EarthCARE within expected range for test sites.
- Similar offset for sites calibrated by ACTRIS.
- Few sites with low number of overpasses.
- Expect improvements using L2 CPR data.



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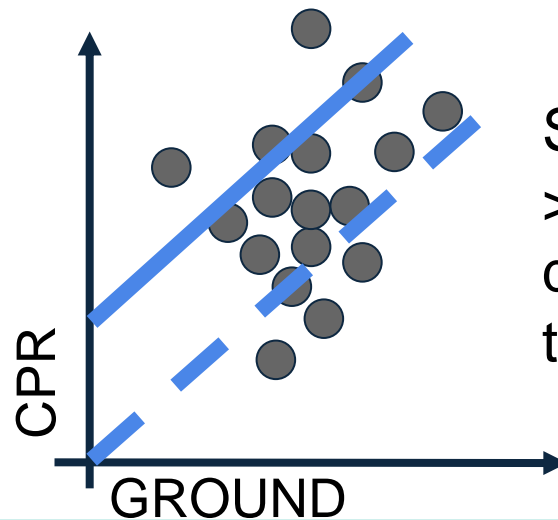


Doppler velocity validation



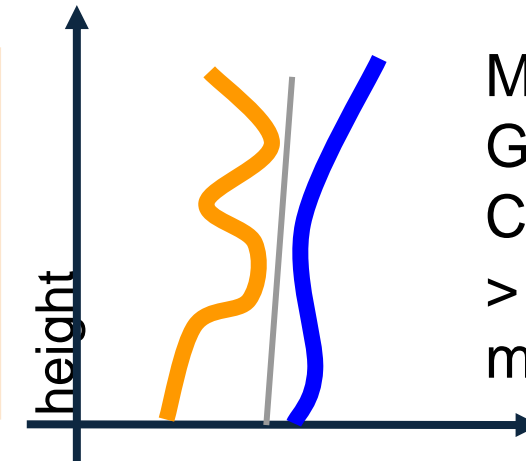
- **CPR:** sample **all overpasses $\pm 100\text{km}$** distance to the site
- **GROUND:** **zenith observations $\pm 1\text{h}$** around the overpass
- compare only where
 - **$Ze_{\text{CPR}}/Ze_{\text{GROUND}} > -15\text{ dBZ}$**
 - **3.5km and higher from ground**
- use CPR baseline **BA** and **BB** data
- **CPR L2 is planned in the future**

CASE study



Scatterplot:
> estimate the
difference to
the 1:1 line

Statistics over
several
overpasses



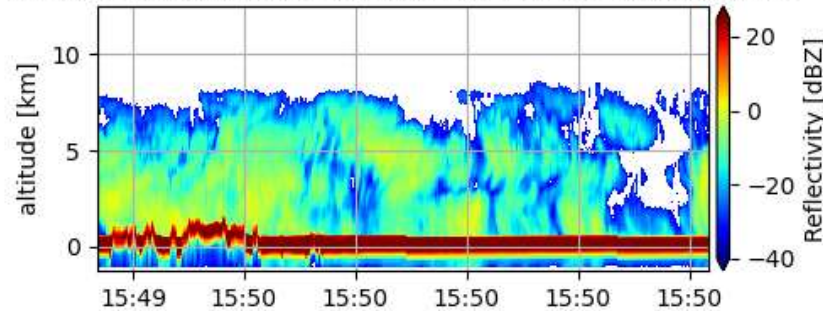
Mean of
GROUND and
CPR data set
> estimate the
mean bias

Doppler velocity Cal/Val – Single overpass Ny Ålesund

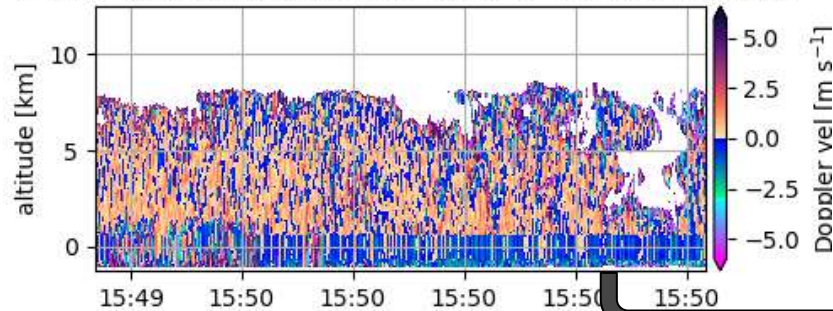


CASE study: Single overpass, 23 Oct 2024 Ny Ålesund, baseline, BA

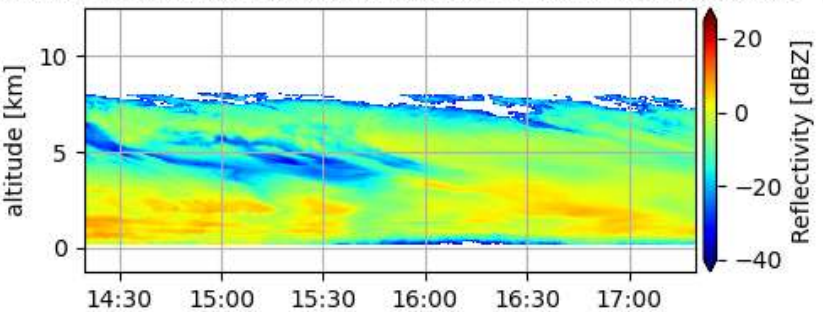
CPR Ze - CPR_NOM_1B_20241023T154213Z_20241121T072339Z_02298C



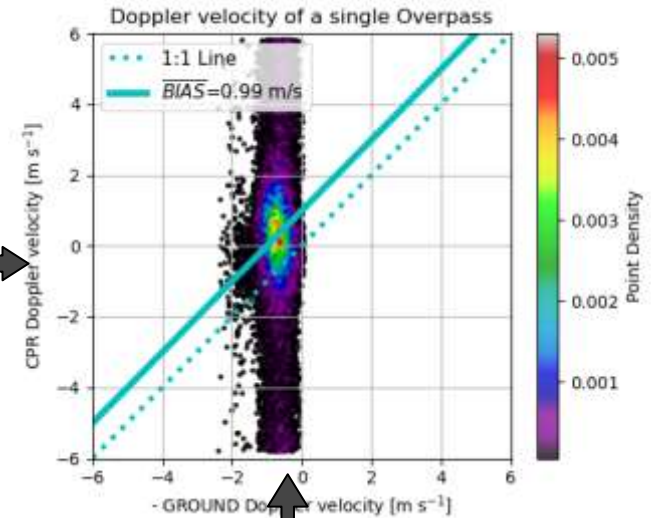
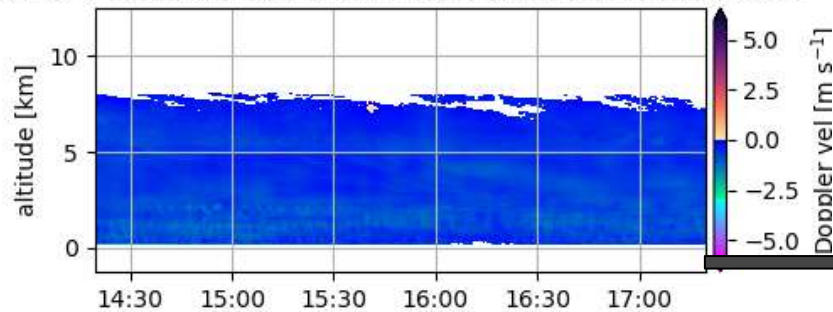
CPR V - CPR_NOM_1B_20241023T154213Z_20241121T072339Z_02298C



ground Ze - CPR_NOM_1B_20241023T154213Z_20241121T072339Z_02298C



ground V - CPR_NOM_1B_20241023T154213Z_20241121T072339Z_02298C



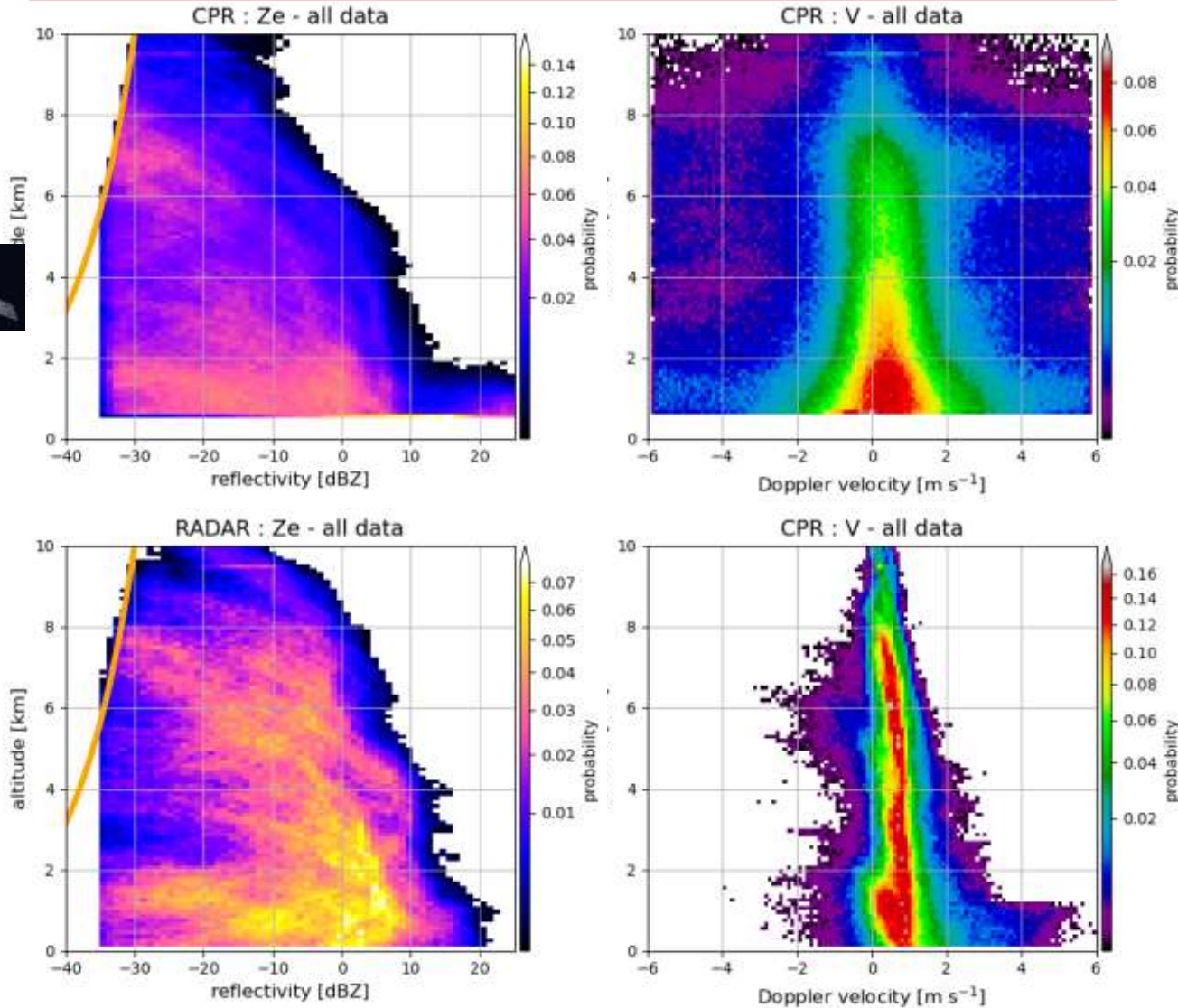
- Some 'golden' cases can be used for validation
- CPR antenna problems in the data → different values for different cases
- Data filtering: high vm noise for Ze > -15 dBZ
- → filtering improves results
- → Make statistics over several overpasses for a site

Doppler velocity Cal/Val – Results whole data set



All overpass from baseline BA, NyÅlesund ~ 60 overpasses

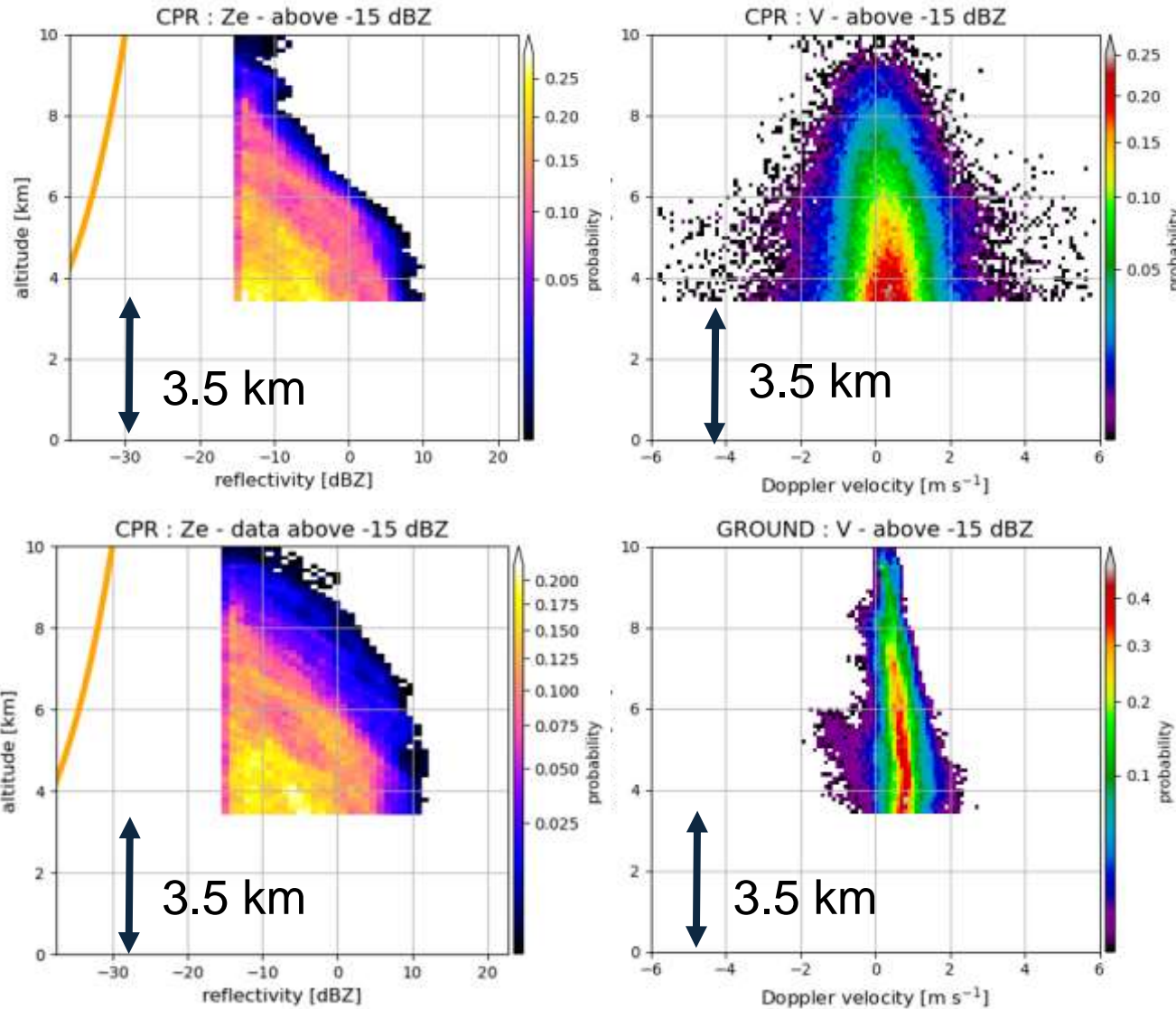
- Applying ground based radar SNR to filter CPR



Doppler velocity Cal/Val – Results whole data set



All overpass from baseline BA, NyÅlesund ~ 60 overpasses



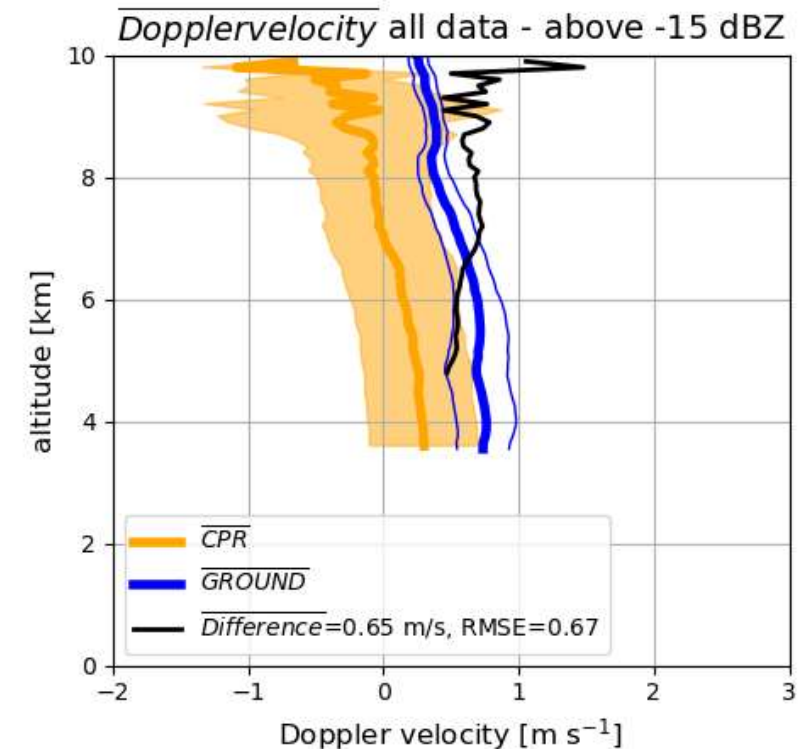
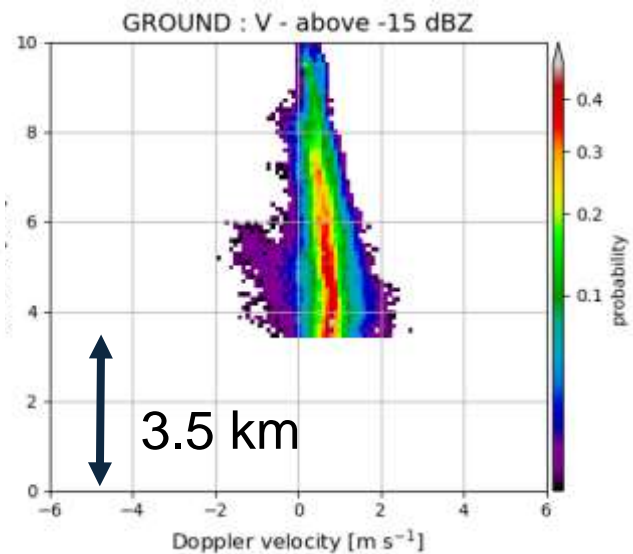
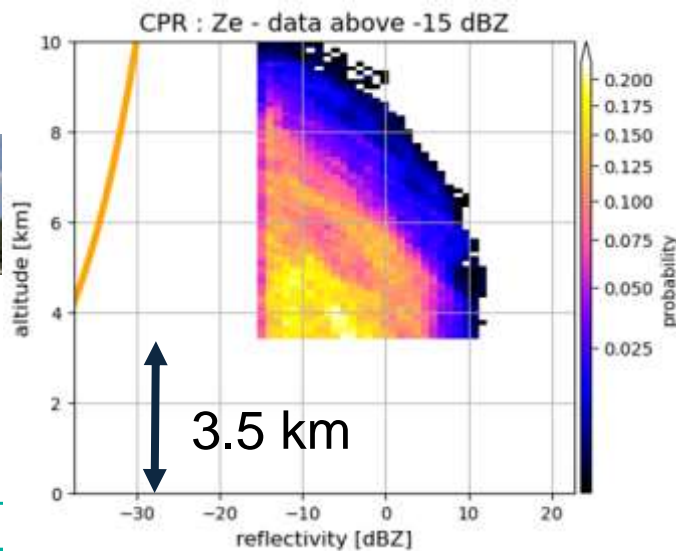
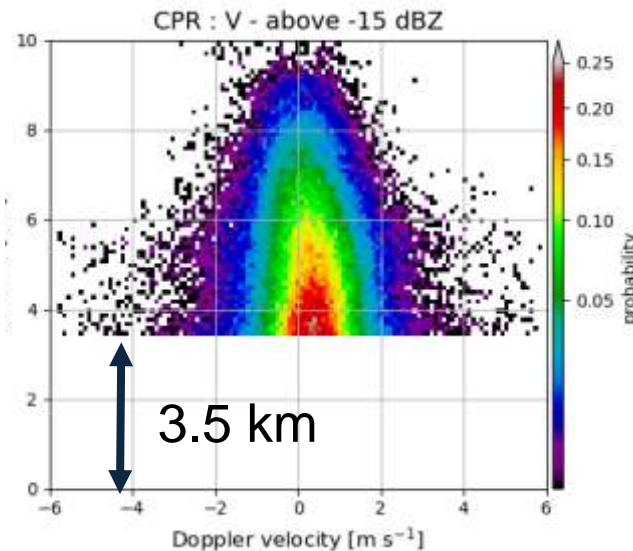
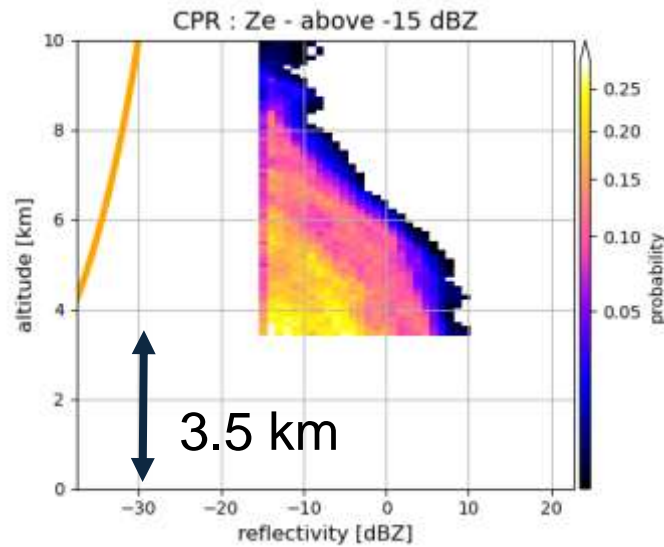
- Applying ground based radar SNR to filter CPR
- Better Doppler velocity data
 - Vm only above -15 dBZ
 - Site dependent height clipping
 - Suppress the influence of folding in data set

Doppler velocity Cal/Val – Results whole data set



All overpass from baseline BA, NyÅlesund ~ 60 overpasses

- Applying ground based radar SNR to filter CPR
- Better Doppler velocity data
 - Vm only above -15 dBZ
 - Site dependent height clipping
- Mean profiles of overpass vs ground



Doppler velocity Cal/Val – Results overview ACTRIS



North
Number of overpasses

Site	Vm bias/ RMSE (BA)	Vm bias (BB)	
Ny Ålesund	0.65 / 0.67 ms ⁻¹	no ground data	BA overpasses (91)
Hyytiälä	0.40 / 0.42 ms ⁻¹	0.25 ms ⁻¹	mirroring ground echo BA overpasses (34)
Lindenberg	0.59 / 0.61 ms ⁻¹	0.43 ms ⁻¹	BA overpasses (20)
Cabauw	0.65 / 0.70 ms ⁻¹	0.33 ms ⁻¹	BA overpasses (19)
Jülich	0.29 / 0.86 ms ⁻¹	Not enough data	BA overpasses (29) BB not enough data
Palaiseau	0.53 / 0.72 ms ⁻¹	0.47 ms ⁻¹	
Munich			No analyzed
Galati	0.49 / 0.52 ms ⁻¹	0.34 ms ⁻¹	BA overpasses (20)
Bucharest	0.71 / 0.77 ms ⁻¹	0.46 ms ⁻¹	BA overpasses (16)
Potenza			No analyzed
Granada	0.44 / 0.53 ms ⁻¹	not enough data	BA overpasses (23)
Mindelo			No analyzed
Neumayer	0.18 / 0.32 ms ⁻¹	0.42 ms ⁻¹	BA overpasses (41)

- Work in progress
- Used L1 data:
 - NUBF not corrected
 - Doppler velocity unfolded
- Expect improvements using L2 CPR data

Tendency of the L1 data is:

- Overestimation of ground- based Doppler velocity
- Outliers are not dramatic
- Mean range: 0.50 ms⁻¹
- Other Doppler velocity validation results to compare is missing

Overview results and conclusion:



Number of overpasses

North

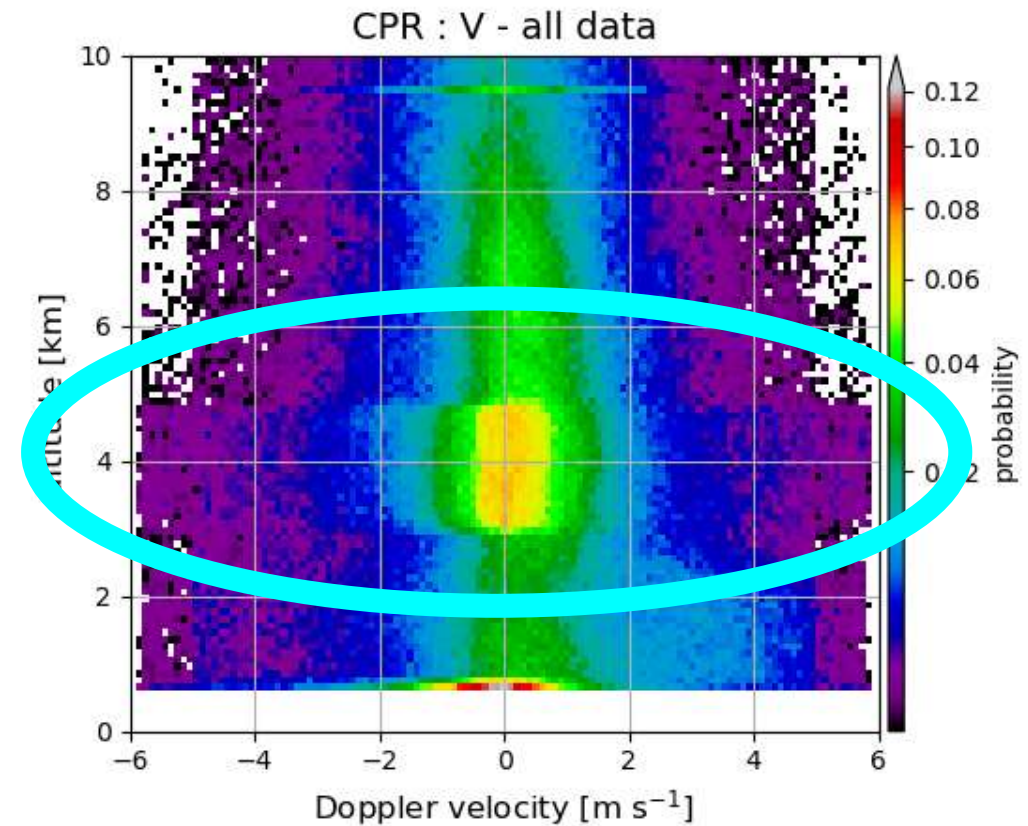
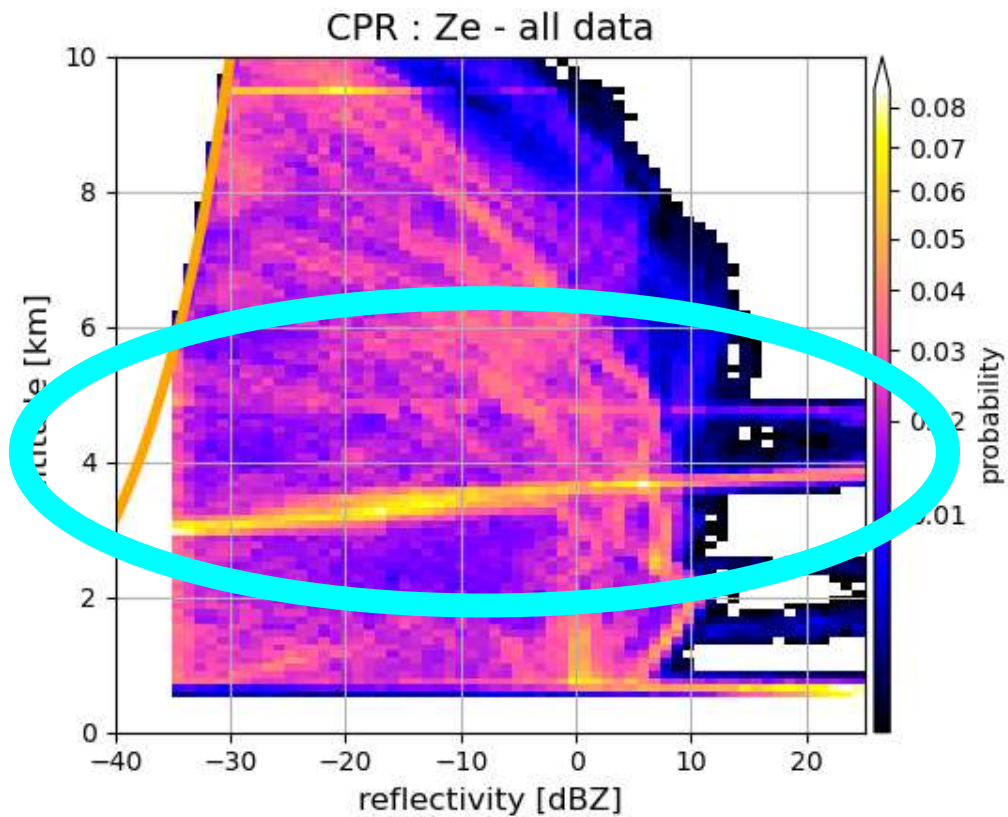
Site	Ze (Protat 2009)	Ze (ACTRIS)	Vm (BA)	Vm (BB)	Comments Vm
Ny Ålesund	-2	-3,9 ± 1,2	0.65 ms ⁻¹	no ground	Calibration monitored by ACTRIS
Hyytiälä			0.48 ms ⁻¹	0.25 ms ⁻¹	mirroring ground echo in the data
Lindenberg	0	-3 ± 1,2	0.59 ms ⁻¹	0.43 ms ⁻¹	To be calibrated by ACTRIS (2025) & monitoring CloudSat to EarthCARE within 4.5 dBZ
Cabauw	0,25		0.65 ms ⁻¹	0.33 ms ⁻¹	No height bins selected for comparison
Jülich	1,1	-3 ± 2	0.49 ms ⁻¹	To low data	Calibrated by ACTRIS (2024) + monitoring
Palaiseau	1,1	-2,3 ± 1,8	0.53 ms ⁻¹	0.47 ms ⁻¹	Calibrated by ACTRIS (2024) + monitoring CloudSat to EarthCARE within 4 dBZ
Munich	-0,6	-1,6 ± 1,7			
Galati	-2,8	-4,6 ± 3,3	0.56 ms ⁻¹	0.34 ms ⁻¹	Calibration monitored by ACTRIS
Bucharest	4,7	4,3 ± 0,4	0.78 ms ⁻¹	0.46 ms ⁻¹	Calibration monitored by ACTRIS
Potenza	1,7	-4 ± 1,8			Calibration monitored by ACTRIS
Granada	5,9		0.75 ms ⁻¹	To low data	Calibration monitored by ACTRIS Low number of overpasses
Mindelo	14,6				Low number of overpasses
Neymayer			0.18 ms ⁻¹	0.46 ms ⁻¹	

1st

- Limitations when low number of overpasses.
- Expect improvement using L2 CPR data.
- Reflectivity comparison CloudSat to EarthCARE within expected range
- More comparison time is needed to consolidate the results.
- Similar approaches for L2 products.
- Doppler velocity comparison ongoing - looks promising
- Implementation at CLU planned - make it operational



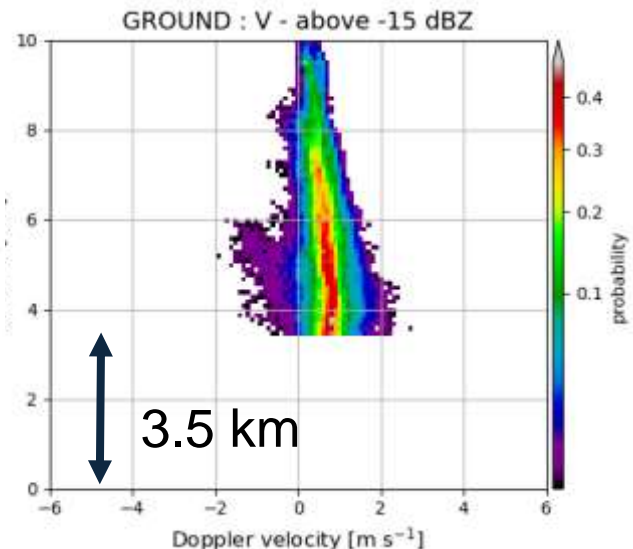
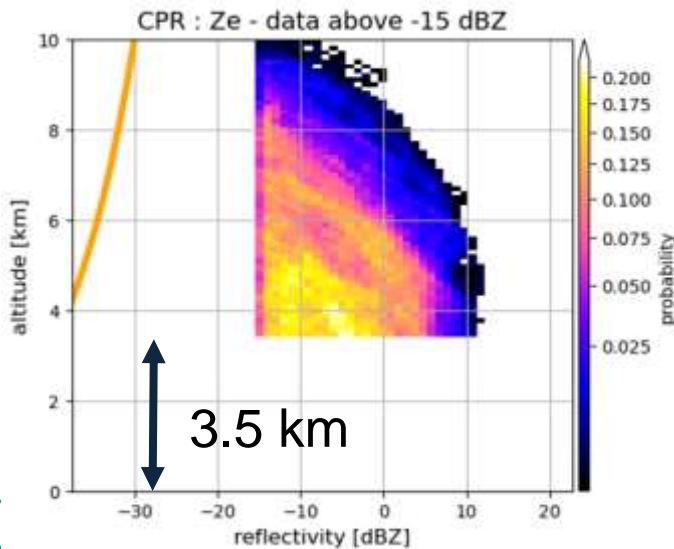
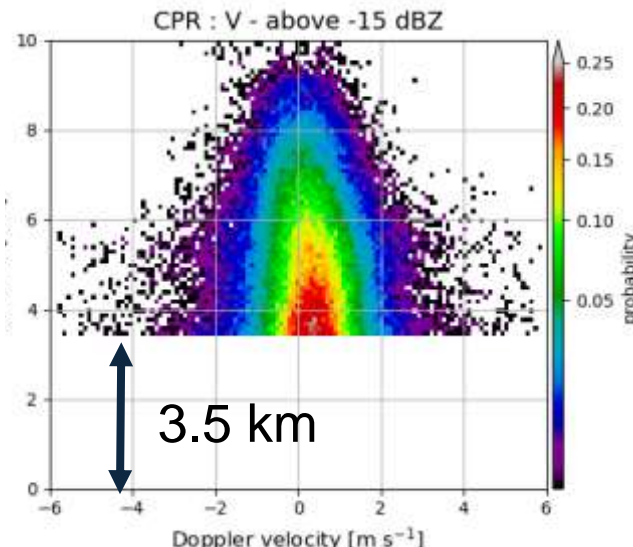
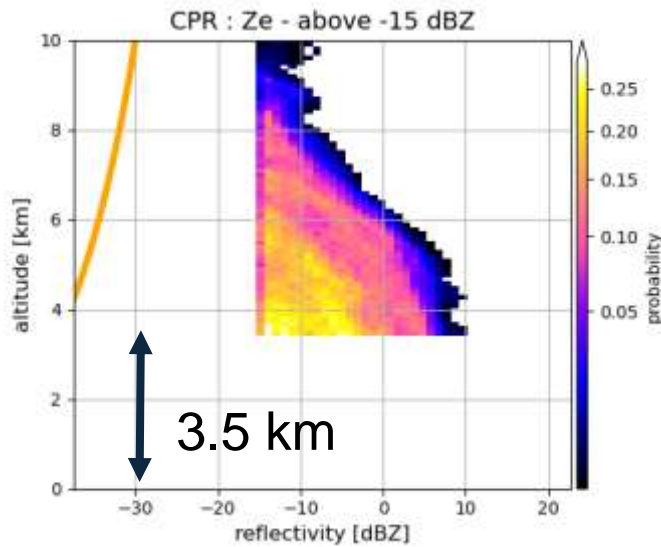
Hyytiälä - ground echo in baseline BA



Doppler velocity Cal/Val – Results whole data set



All overpass from baseline BA, NyÅlesund ~ 60 overpasses



- Applying ground based radar SNR to filter CPR
- Better Doppler velocity data
 - Vm only above -15 dBZ
 - Site dependent height clipping
- Scatterplot of data - bias calculation

