

# Investigating Comparisons of Hyperspectral IR Sounders and RO in Radiance Space

Michelle Feltz<sup>1</sup>, Lori Borg<sup>1</sup>, Robert Knuteson<sup>1</sup>, Graeme Martin<sup>1</sup>, Hank Revercomb<sup>1</sup>,  
Joe Taylor<sup>1</sup>, Dave Tobin<sup>1</sup>, UW CrIS Team, Johannes Nielsen<sup>2</sup>

UW – Madison SSEC / CIMSS<sup>1</sup>

EUMETSAT ROM SAF<sup>2</sup>

31 Oct - 6 Nov 2019, Saint-Sauveur, Québec, Canada

International TOVS Study Conference XXII



- Background
  - RO, Previous Work
- Methods
- Uncertainties
- Case Study

*Answering the Question: “To what accuracy can we use the IR sounder measured radiances and radiative transfer to validate the atmospheric state temperature and water vapor (e.g from RO)??”*

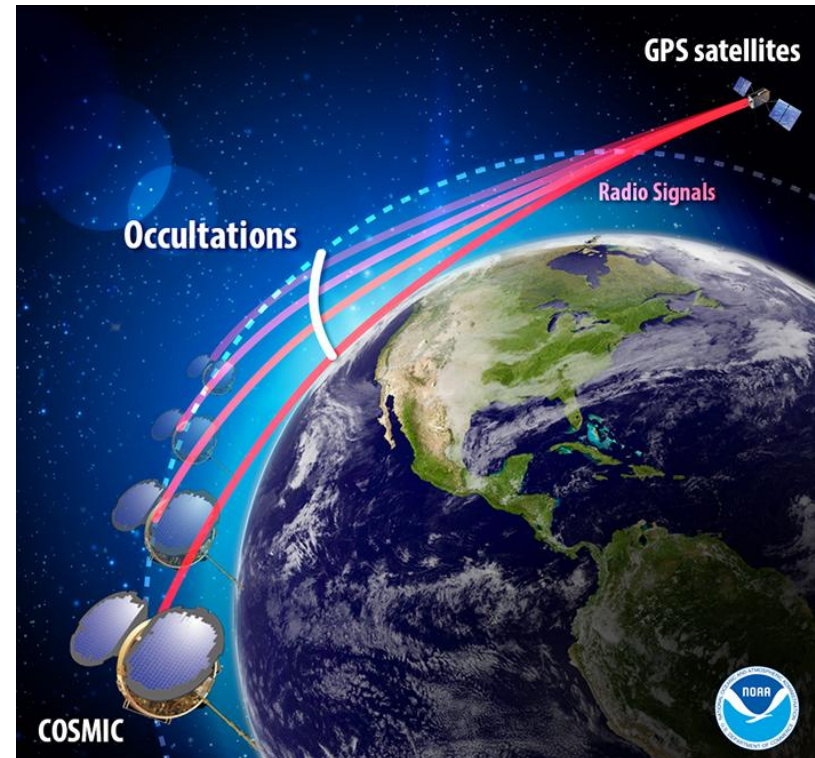
- Concluding Remarks

# Background



## GNSS Radio Occultation (RO)

- GNSS signals and LEO receivers measure atmospheric bending angle
- Bending Angle  $\rightarrow$  Refractivity  $\rightarrow$  WV, T
- High vertical resolution (0.5 – 2km)<sup>†</sup>
- Low horizontal resolution ( $\sim$ 300 km)<sup>†</sup>
- Temperature has high accuracy in UTLS (\*0.3 K stochastic error btwn 30-250 hPa)
- Technology struggles to retrieve in BL



<https://www.nesdis.noaa.gov/OPPA/cosmic2.php>

\*ROMSAF VS 33 Report: [http://www.romsaf.org/Publications/reports/romsaf\\_vs33\\_rep\\_v10.pdf](http://www.romsaf.org/Publications/reports/romsaf_vs33_rep_v10.pdf)

<sup>†</sup>Kursinski et al., (1997) Observing Earth's atmosphere with radio occultation measurements using the Global Positioning System, JGR, 102.

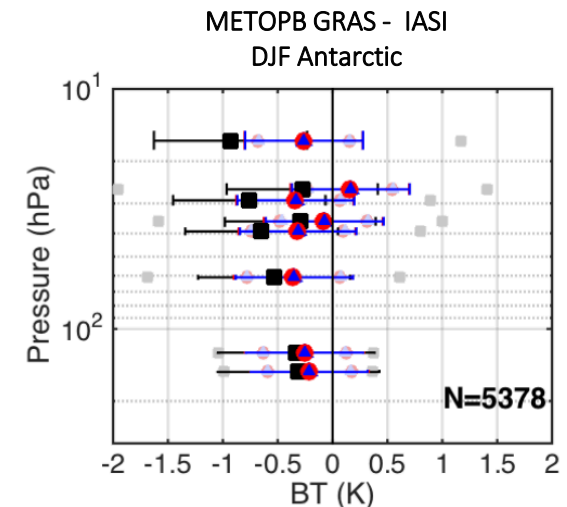
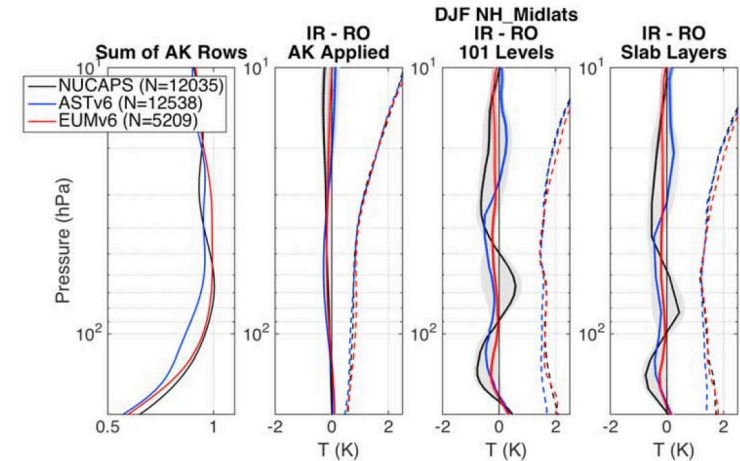
## Previous Work:

### 1] IR temperature retrieval assessment using RO as reference (focus on UTLS):

- Yunck et al., (2007), *Use of Radio Occultation to Evaluate Atmospheric Temperature Data from Spaceborne Infrared Sounders*, *Terr. Atmos. Ocean Sci.*, 20, doi: 10.3319/TAO.2007.12.08.01(F3C)
- Divakarla, et al. (2014), *The CrIMSS EDR algorithm: Characterization, optimization and validation*, *JGR Atmos.*, doi: 10.1002/2013JD020438.
- Feltz, et al. (2017), *Assessment of NOAA NUCAPS upper air temperature profiles using COSMIC GPS radio occultation and ARM radiosondes*, *JGR Atmos.*, 122, doi: 10.1002/2017JD026504.

### 2] RO temperature assessment using IR radiances as reference (via RT):

- Feltz M., R. Knuteson, and H. Revercomb (2017), *Assessment of COSMIC radio occultation and AIRS hyperspectral IR sounder temperature products in the stratosphere using observed radiances*, *JGR Atmos.*, 122, doi: 10.1002/2017JD026704.
- EUMETSAT ROM SAF Visiting Scientist Project Report: *Assessment of Differences Between ROM SAF GRAS Derived Brightness Temperatures and Hyperspectral Infrared Brightness Temperature Observations*, SAF/ROM/DML/REP/VS/33, CDOP-2 VS No. 33. [http://www.romsaf.org/Publications/reports/romsaf\\_vs33\\_rep\\_v10.pdf](http://www.romsaf.org/Publications/reports/romsaf_vs33_rep_v10.pdf)

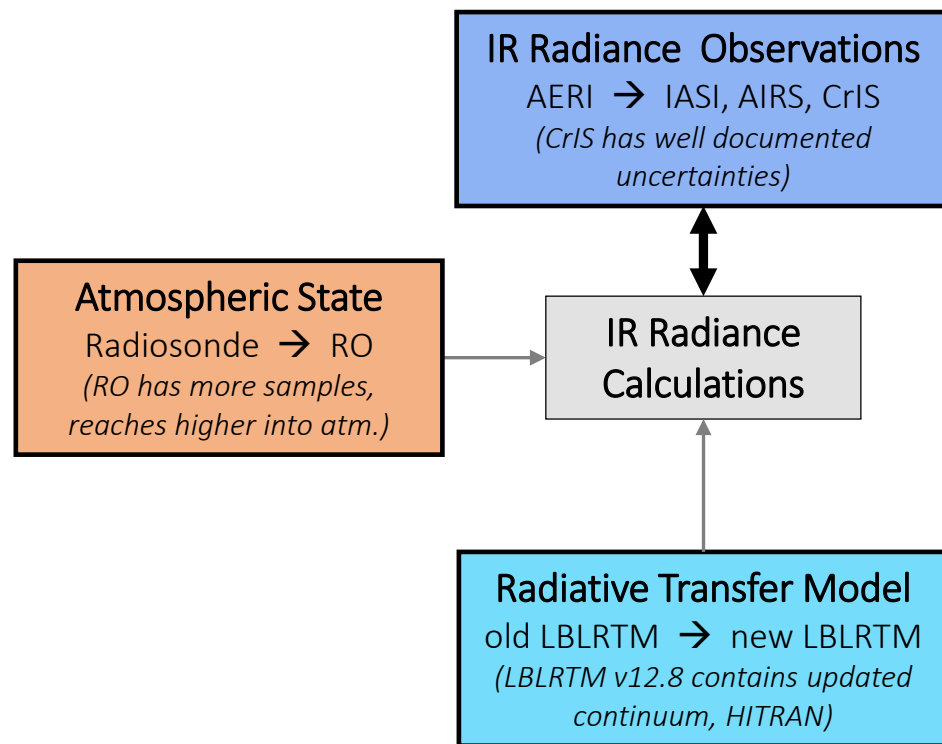


Other studies on RO and hyperspectral IR sounders:

- Discussed SI traceability of each system to each other, e.g. Cao et al. SPIE, 2018
- Used RO to assess Radiometric Accuracy of CrIS Radiances, e.g. Lynch et al., EUM Sat. Conf., 2018
- Shown advantages of combining IR sounder & RO in retrievals, e.g. Borbas et al. JGR 2003, JAMC 2008; Ho et al., JTECH, 2007; Lui et al., IEEE, 2015

## Additional Application: Infrared Radiance Closure Experiments

- Efforts in 90's enabled refinements of radiosonde humidity calibration & WV molecular absorption lines using the AERI instrument (*Turner et al., 2004*)
- Later work was similarly done using aircraft and satellite based hyperspectral IR sounder measurements as a validation reference for other atmospheric state and model parameters (e.g. *Strow et al., 2006; Tobin et al., 2006; Masiello et al., 2011, ...*)



Strow, L. L., (2006), Validation of the Atmospheric Infrared Sounder radiative transfer algorithm, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 111, D09S06, doi:[10.1029/2005JD006146](https://doi.org/10.1029/2005JD006146).

Tobin, D. C., (2006), Atmospheric Radiation Measurement site atmospheric state best estimates for Atmospheric Infrared Sounder temperature and water vapor retrieval validation, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 111, D09S14, doi:[10.1029/2005JD006103](https://doi.org/10.1029/2005JD006103).

Turner, D.D., (2004), The QME AERI LBLRTM: A Closure Experiment for Downwelling High Spectral Resolution Infrared Radiance, *J. Atmos. Sci.*, 61, 2657–2675, <https://doi.org/10.1175/JAS3300.1>

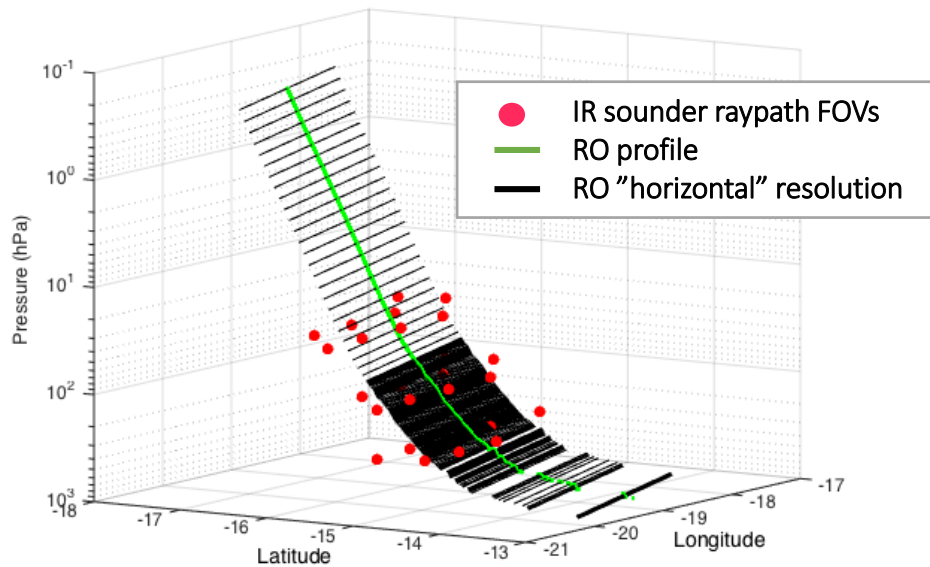
Masiello, G. et al. (2011), The use of IASI data to identify systematic errors in the ECMWF forecasts of temperature in the upper stratosphere, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 11, doi:[10.5194/acp-11-1009-2011](https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-11-1009-2011).

# Methods

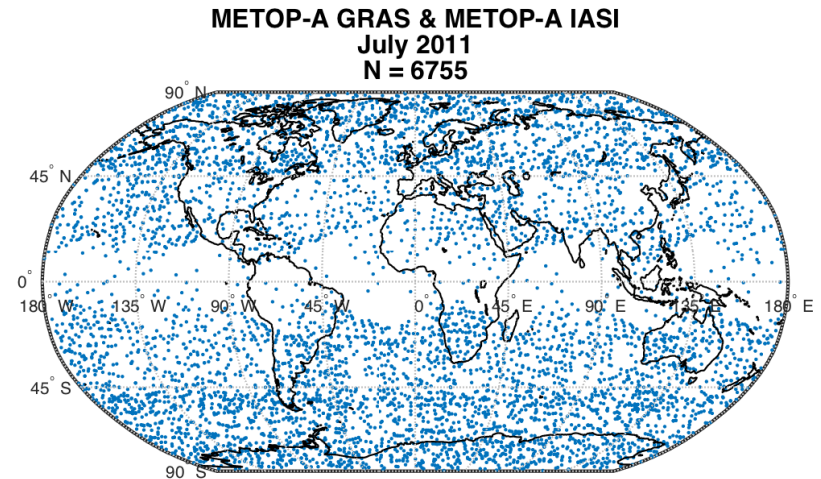


# Methods: Matchup Scheme

Individual Matchup Case



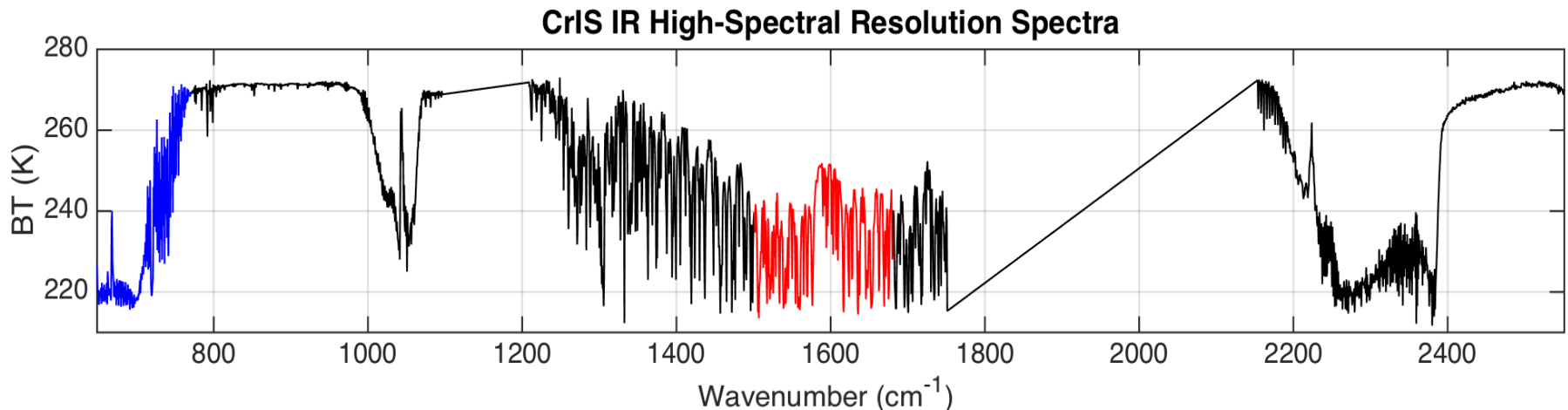
Example Matchup Distribution



- Use profile-to-profile matchup method
  - Accounts for the unique RO profile geometry and horizontal resolution
  - $<1$  hr time criterion
- Distribution and number of matchups depends on orbital mechanics
- Method applicable to data from different platforms/processing centers



- Optimal Spectral Sampling Radiative Transfer Fast Model
  - Atmospheric and Environmental Research (AER)
  - Model Input: ECMWF Reanalysis, NOAA ESRL CarbonTracker and heavy molecules, NASA CAMEL Land HSR Emissivity V002 or Nick Nalli's Ocean Emissivity module



OSS Reference: Moncet, et al., *Infrared Radiance Modeling by Optimal Spectral Sampling*. *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*, Vol. 65, 2008, <https://doi.org/10.1175/2008JAS2711.1>

LBLRTM Reference: Clough, et al., *Line-by-line calculation of atmospheric fluxes and cooling rates: Application to water vapor*. *Journal of Geophysical Reviews*, 97, 1992, <https://doi.org/10.1029/92JD01419>

HITRAN Reference: Rothman, et al., *The HITRAN2012 molecular spectroscopic database*. *Journal of Quantitative Spectroscopy & Radiative Transfer*, 130, 4-50, 2013, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jqsrt.2013.07.002>

# Uncertainties



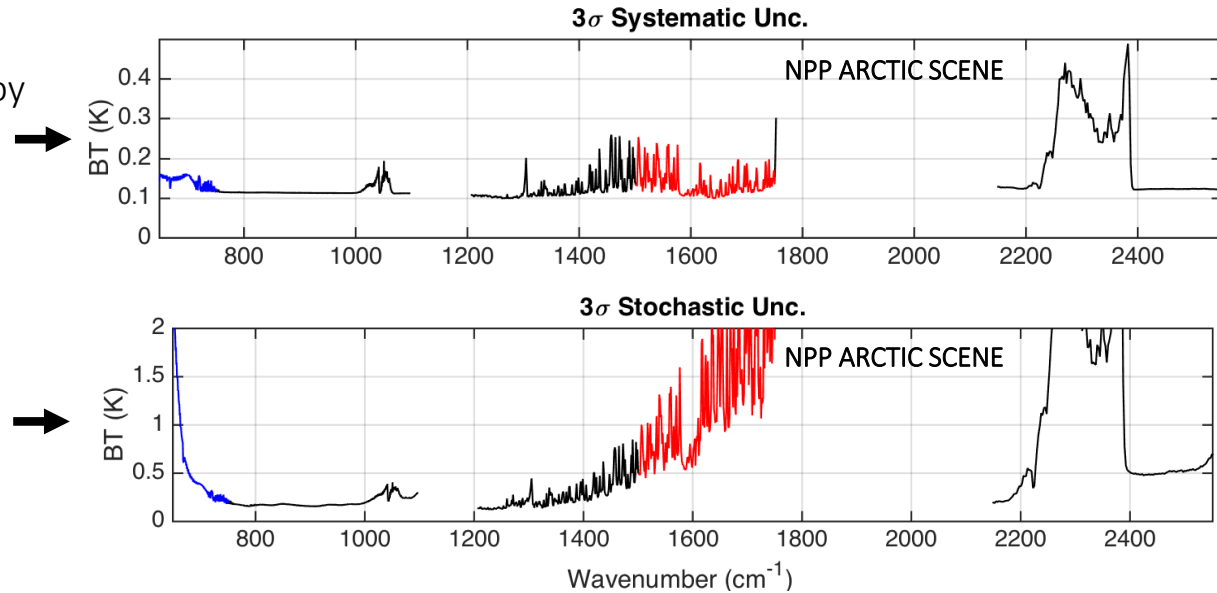
1. Observations
2. Atmospheric State
3. Radiative Transfer Model

# Uncertainties: CrIS Radiance Observations



-- Data provided by Joe Taylor of UW–Madison, SSEC --

- CrIS measurement uncertainty, for large data ensembles, is dominated by radiometric calibration
  - Estimates published for SNPP and created for NOAA-20 (Tobin et al., 2013)\*
- Single sample error/noise estimated as the standard deviation of the ICT views
- Reprocessed CrIS radiance products available from NASA GES DISC
  - Noise estimates on each granule
  - Version 3 will make radiometric uncertainty estimates available--provided as software and inputs



\*Tobin D. et al., *Suomi-NPP CrIS radiometric calibration uncertainty*, *JGR: Atmos.*, 118, 2013.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/jgrd.50809>

# Uncertainties: Atmospheric State



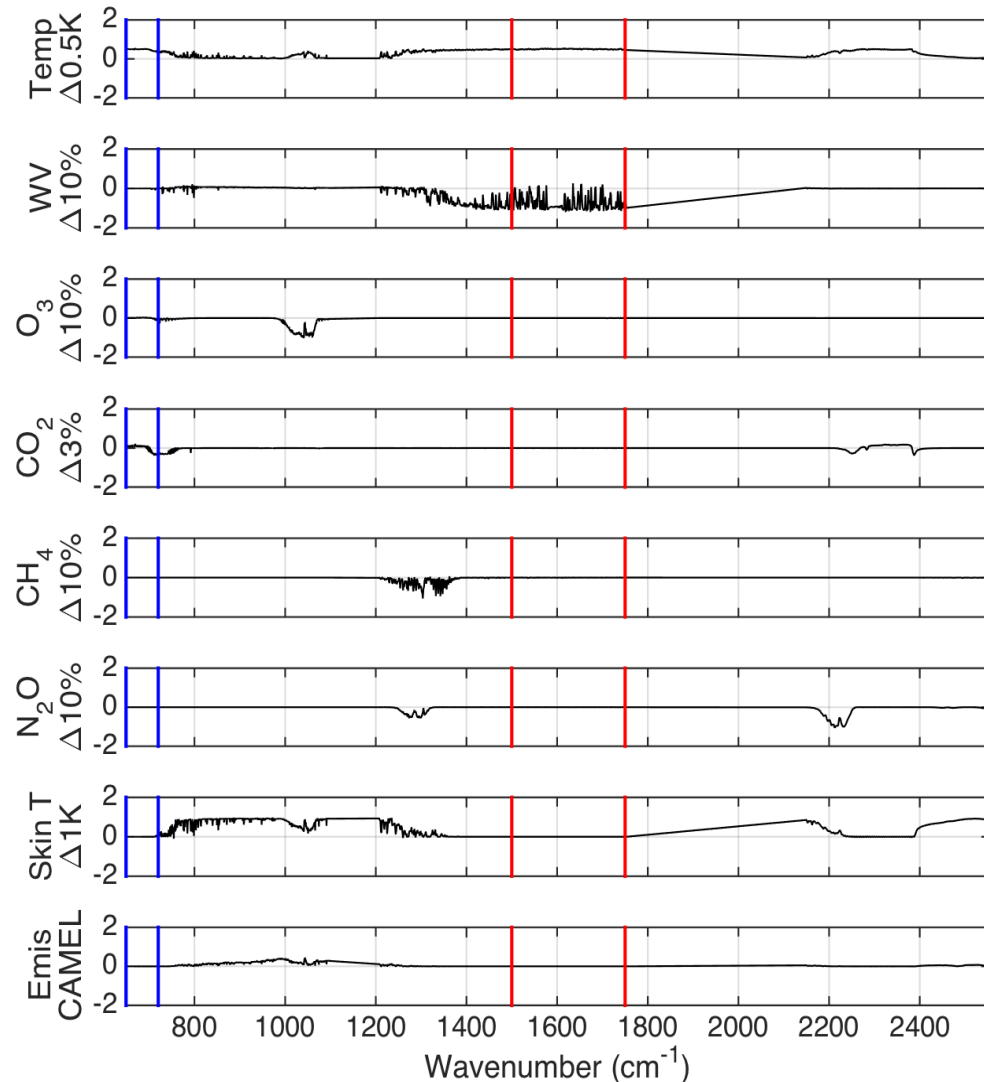
- Atmospheric state uncertainty estimation:

1] Calculate sensitivities →

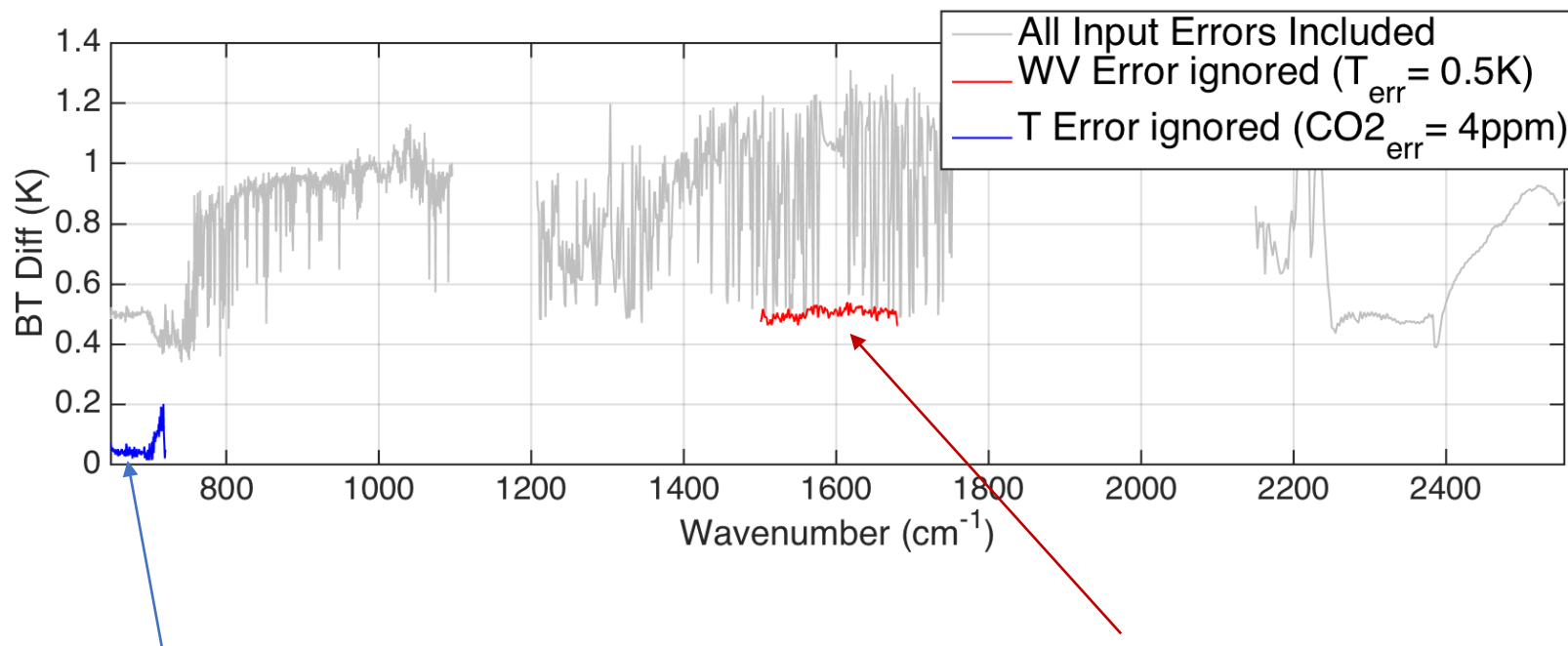
2] Scale sensitivities to error estimates:

- T: 0.5 K
- WV: 10 %
- CO<sub>2</sub>: 4 ppm
- O<sub>3</sub>: 10 %
- CH<sub>4</sub>: 10 %
- N<sub>2</sub>O: 10 %
- Skin T: 1 K
- Sfc Emis: CAMEL V002

3] Combine scaled sensitivities via RSS



# Uncertainties: Atmospheric State



- 15  $\mu\text{m}$  more sensitive to typical T errors than typical CO<sub>2</sub> errors
- Uncertainty in blue ignores T error and is dominated by contribution from 4 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> error  $\rightarrow$  is  $\sim 0.05$  K for  $< 700$  cm<sup>-1</sup>
- 6  $\mu\text{m}$  sensitive to both T & WV – ambiguity implies we can only validate WV to the degree we know T
- Uncertainty in red ignores WV error and is primarily due to T  $\rightarrow$  is  $\sim 0.5$  K

# Uncertainties: Radiative Transfer Model



- HITRAN database provides “uncertainty codes” which describe uncertainty in the molecular line position and air pressure-induced line shift parameters, as well as the line intensity and broadening parameters (Rothman et al., 2005)
- 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region absorption features have very small uncertainties (<1% on coefficients)
- 1600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region known to a lesser degree

A screenshot of the HITRANonline website. The header is orange with the text 'HITRANonline' in white. To the right of the header are links for 'Login' and 'Register'. Below the header is a navigation bar with orange tabs for 'Home', 'Data Access', 'Documentation', 'Conferences', 'Links', and 'About'. The main content area has a grey background with the title 'Uncertainty codes' and three icons (gear, clock, person) on the right.

The uncertainty codes used by the HITRAN database are described in Table 5 of the HITRAN2004 paper [1], which is reproduced here. There are two types of uncertainty code corresponding to absolute uncertainty in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (used for the line position and air pressure-induced line shift parameters) and relative uncertainty in % (used for the line intensity and broadening parameters).

Code	Absolute Uncertainty range	Code	Relative Uncertainty range
0	$\geq 1$ or Unreported	0	Unreported or unavailable
1	$\geq 0.1$ and $< 1$	1	Default or constant
2	$\geq 0.01$ and $< 0.1$	2	Average or estimate
3	$\geq 0.001$ and $< 0.01$	3	$\geq 20$ %
4	$\geq 0.0001$ and $< 0.001$	4	$\geq 10$ % and $< 20$ %
5	$\geq 0.00001$ and $< 0.0001$	5	$\geq 5$ % and $< 10$ %
6	$\geq 0.000001$ and $< 0.00001$	6	$\geq 2$ % and $< 5$ %
7	$\geq 0.0000001$ and $< 0.000001$	7	$\geq 1$ % and $< 2$ %
8	$\geq 0.00000001$ and $< 0.0000001$	8	$< 1$ %
9	$\geq 0.000000001$ and $< 0.00000001$		

## References

[1] L. S. Rothman, et al., "The HITRAN 2004 molecular spectroscopic database", *J. Quant. Spectrosc. Radiat. Transfer* **96**, 139-204 (2005). [\[link to article\]](#) [\[ADS\]](#)

<https://hitran.org/docs/uncertainties/>

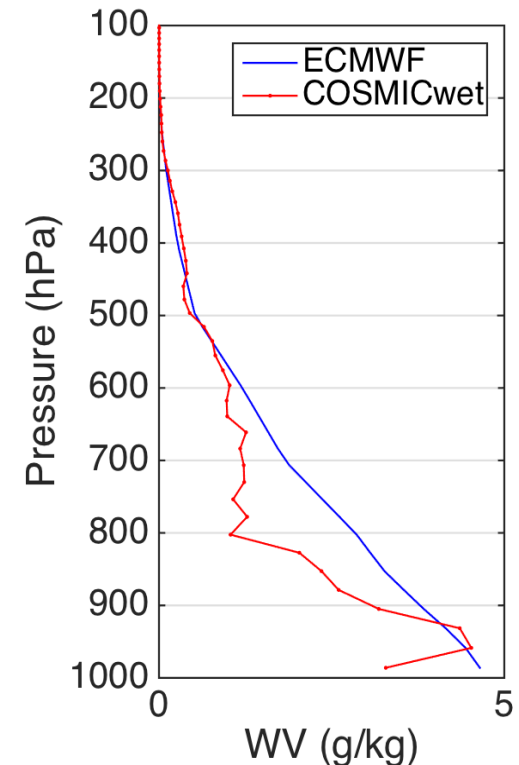
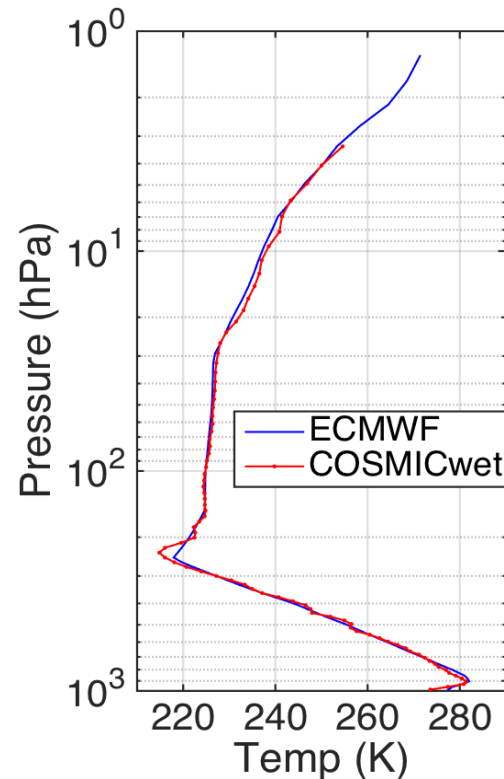
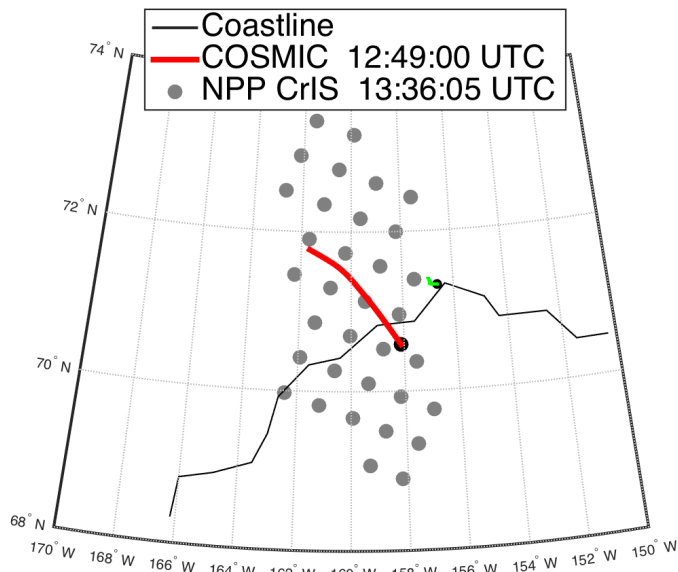
# Case Study



# Case Study



NORTH SLOPE OF ALASKA ARM SITE  
AUGUST 14TH, 2014





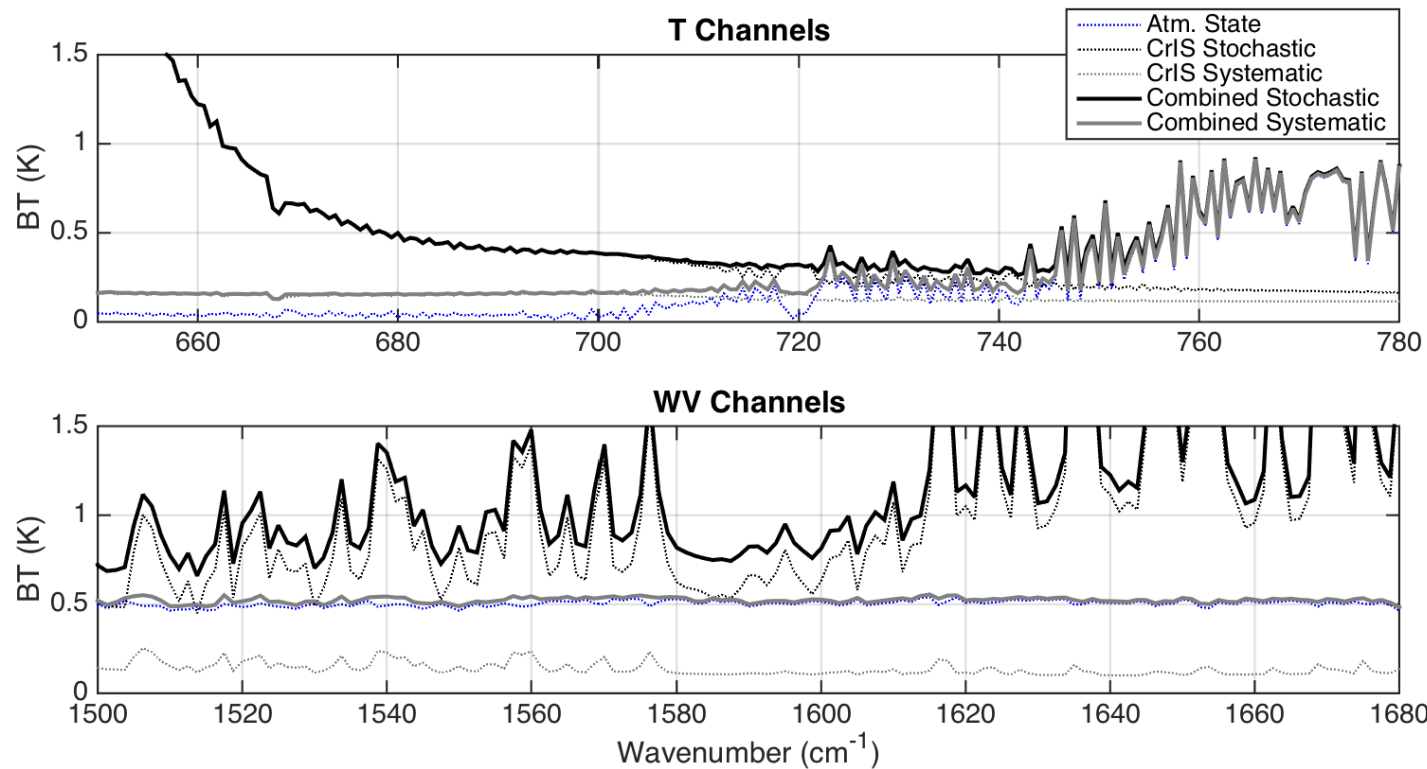
# Case Study



NORTH SLOPE OF ALASKA ARM SITE  
AUGUST 14TH, 2014

## CALC-OBS COMBINED $3\sigma$ UNCERTAINTY

- Combined **systematic** between 0.13-0.18 K at  $< 700\text{cm}^{-1}$
- Combined stochastic under 0.5 K between  $680\text{-}740\text{ cm}^{-1}$



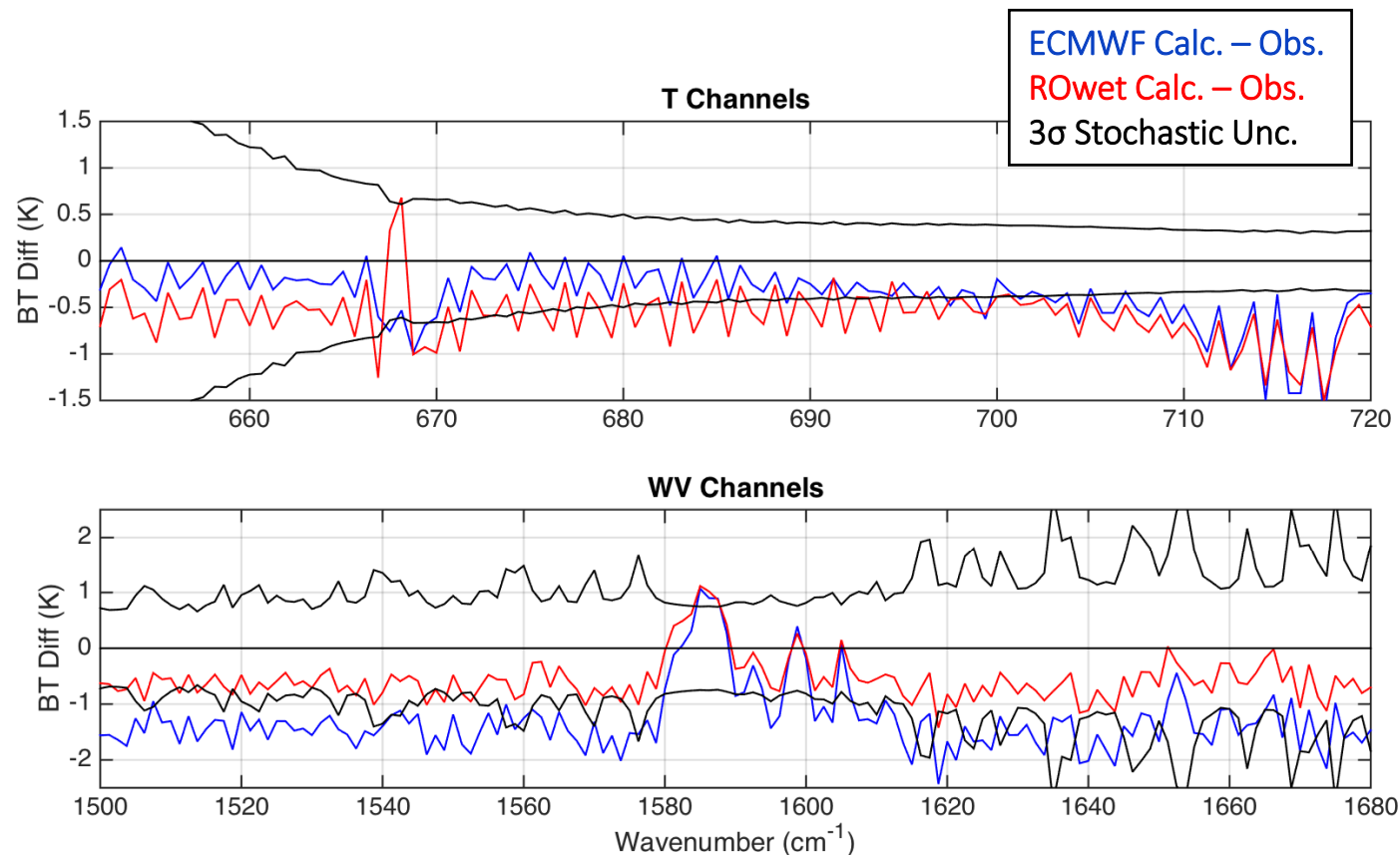
- Combined **systematic**  $\sim 0.5\text{ K}$
- Combined stochastic under 1-2 K

# Case Study



NORTH SLOPE OF ALASKA ARM SITE  
AUGUST 14TH, 2014

CALC-OBS DIFFERENCE

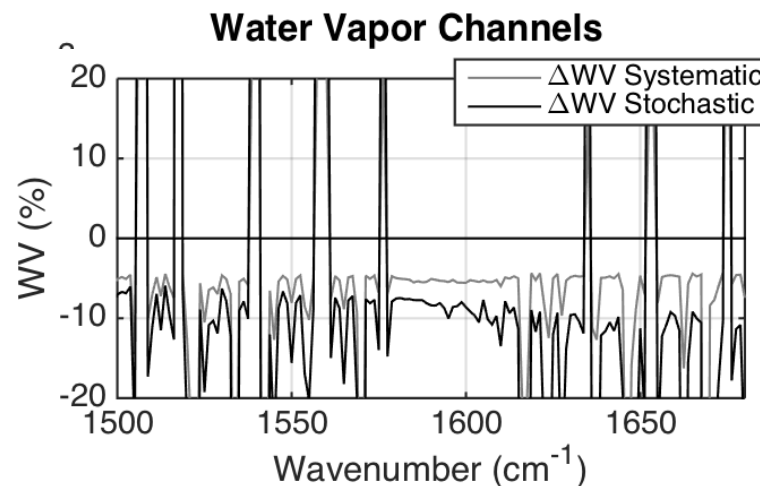
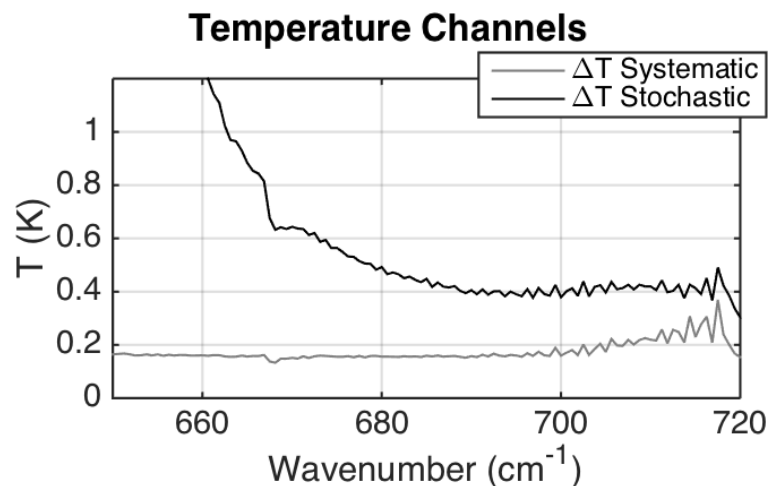


- Spectral regions exist where the calculations do and do not agree with the observations
- Suggests the uncertainties are small enough for us to be able to learn something from these comparisons

# Case Study: Broad Conclusions



*Question: To what accuracy can we use the IR sounder radiances and radiative transfer to validate the atmospheric state temperature and water vapor (e.g. from RO)??*



- Minimum detectable upper-trop/lower-strat T
  - bias is  $\sim 0.2$  K
  - single sample error is  $\sim 0.45$  K(Based off of 4ppm  $\text{CO}_2$  error & CrIS obs unc)

- Minimum detectable tropospheric WV
  - bias is  $\sim 6\%$
  - single sample error is  $\sim 10\%$(Based off 0.5 K T error & CrIS obs unc)

# Concluding Remarks



# Concluding Remarks



- Applications of RO and hyperspectral IR sounder comparisons:
  - IR T retrieval validation
  - RO T product validation
  - Radiative transfer closure experiments
- A radiance closure experiment using CrIS radiances as a validation reference showed:
  - The **single sample** minimum detectable
    - stratospheric T error is  $\sim 0.45$  K
    - tropospheric WV error is  $\sim 10\%$
  - The **ensemble mean** minimum detectable
    - stratospheric T bias is  $\sim 0.2$  K,
    - tropospheric WV bias is  $\sim 6\%$
- Future work:
  - COSMIC-2 operational wet profiles assessment using coincident observations from the operational NOAA-20 CrIS

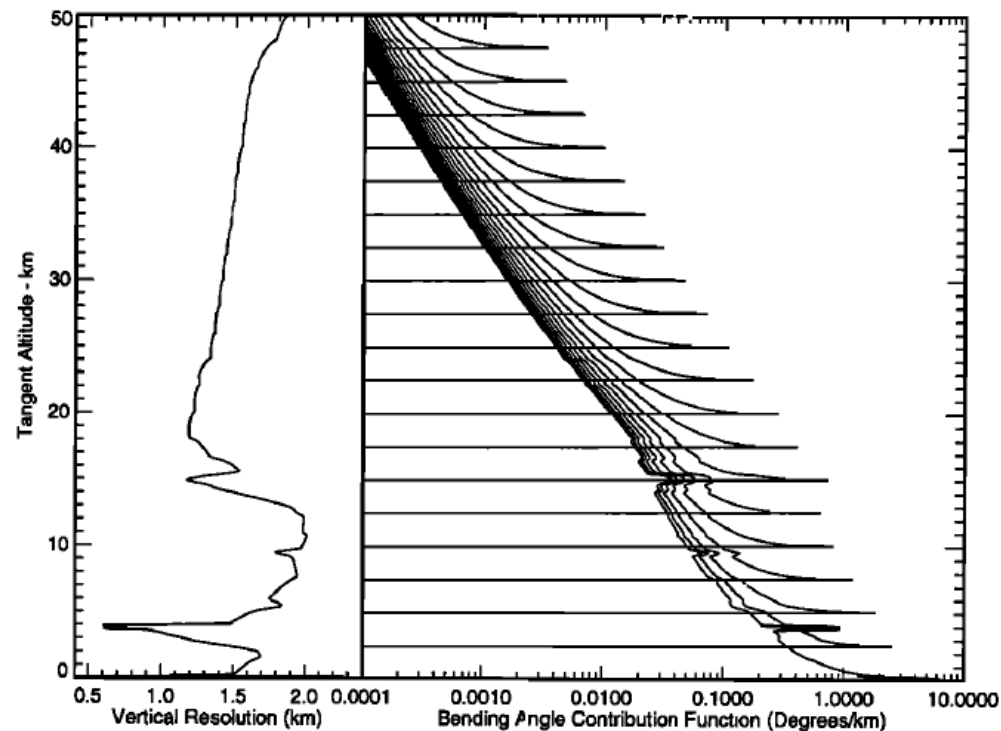
[michelle.feltz@ssec.wisc.edu](mailto:michelle.feltz@ssec.wisc.edu)





# RO Vertical Resolution

- Taken from Kursinski et al., Observing Earth's atmosphere with radio occultation measurements using the Global Positioning System, JGR, 102, 1997.  
(<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1029/97JD01569>)

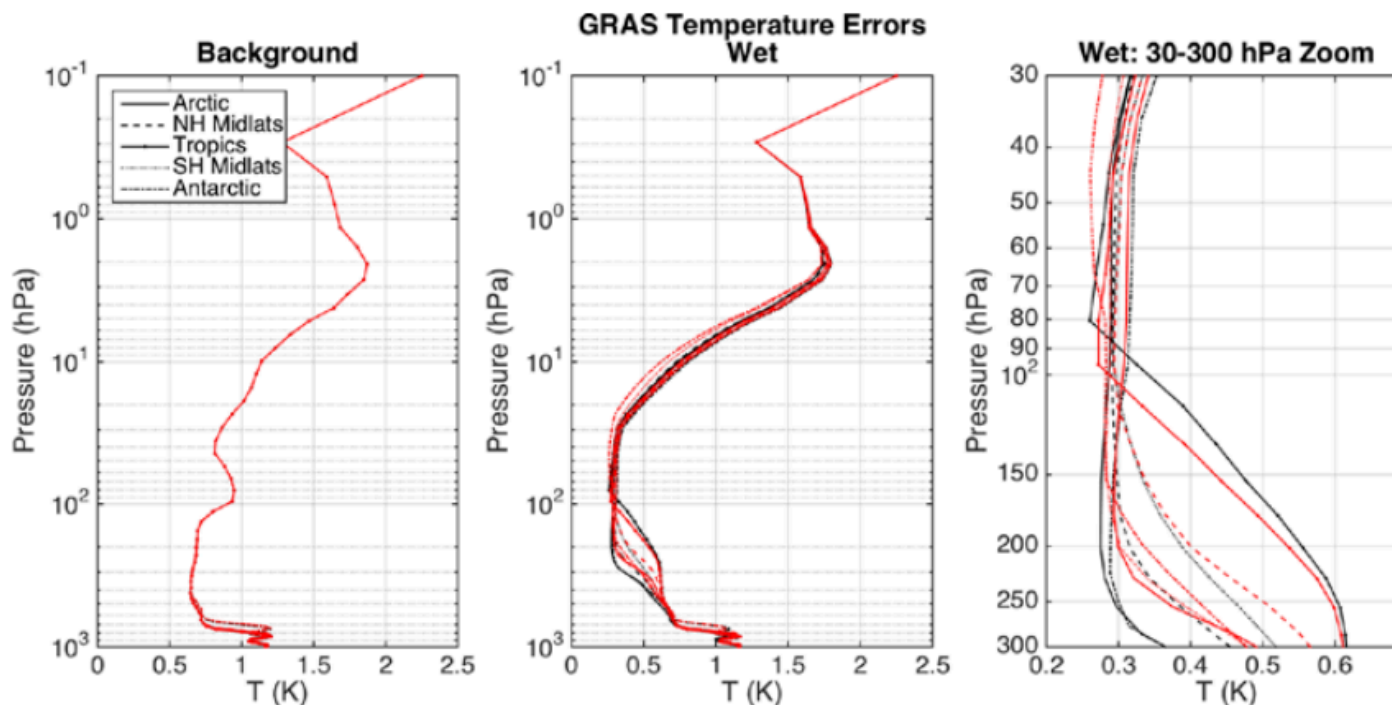


**Figure 5.** Bending contribution functions on the right and vertical resolution profile on the left for individual radio occultation bending angle measurements plotted as a function of altitude. Resolution is defined here as the vertical interval between the ray path tangent height and the height at which half of the total bending has been accumulated. These curves are calculated for a refractivity profile derived from radiosonde temperature and humidity profiles, assuming spherical symmetry. Radiosonde 1200 UT, July 11, 1991, Hilo, Hawaii.



# RO Temperature Uncertainties

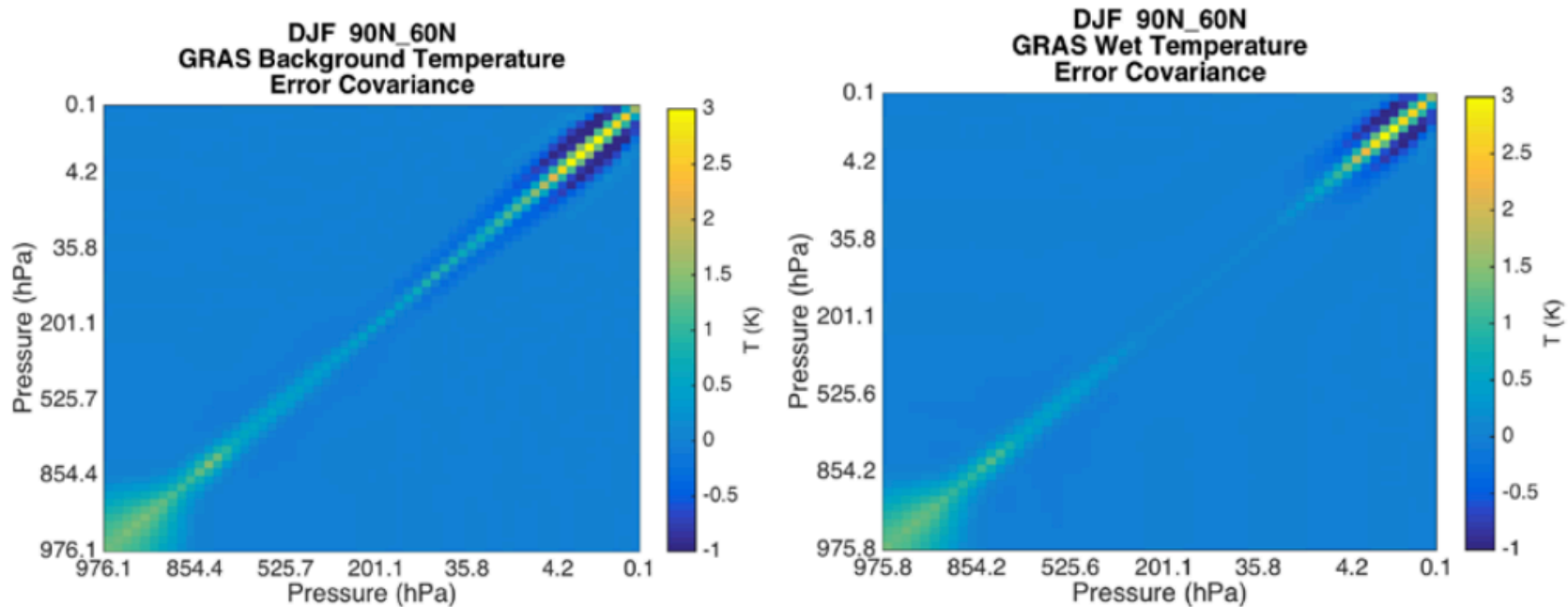
- Figure from EUMETSAT ROM SAF Visiting Scientist Report # 33:  
[http://www.romsaf.org/Publications/reports/romsaf\\_vs33\\_rep\\_v10.pdf](http://www.romsaf.org/Publications/reports/romsaf_vs33_rep_v10.pdf)



**Figure 5.4** GRAS background (left), and wet (middle, and right zoomed) stochastic temperature error profiles for each of the 5 zones overlaid for the DJF (black) and JJA (red) seasons.

# RO Temperature Uncertainties

- Figure from EUMETSAT ROM SAF Visiting Scientist Report # 33:  
[http://www.romsaf.org/Publications/reports/romsaf\\_vs33\\_rep\\_v10.pdf](http://www.romsaf.org/Publications/reports/romsaf_vs33_rep_v10.pdf)



**Figure 5.3** GRAS global, annual background temperature error covariance matrix plotted on pressures corresponding to the DJF Arctic (left), and the GRAS DJF Arctic representative wet temperature error covariance (right) in temperature space.