

# Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

## Outline

- Zugspitze/Garmisch instrumentation
- Interference errors and micro window selection
- Zugspitze FTIR profile retrieval
- Strategy for validation of FTIR total columns by sondes
- Optimized FTIR total column retrieval and its validation
- Summary and Outlook



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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

Triple NDACC Primary Station:  
FTIR, Aerosol, UV.

Permanent Ground-Truthing Facility  
Zugspitze/Garmisch according to the WMO  
requirements.

IMK-IFU Working Group  
„Variability and Trends“

**Scientists**

R. Sussmann

H.E. Scheel

T. Trickl

H. Vogelmann

**Engineers**

H. Giehl

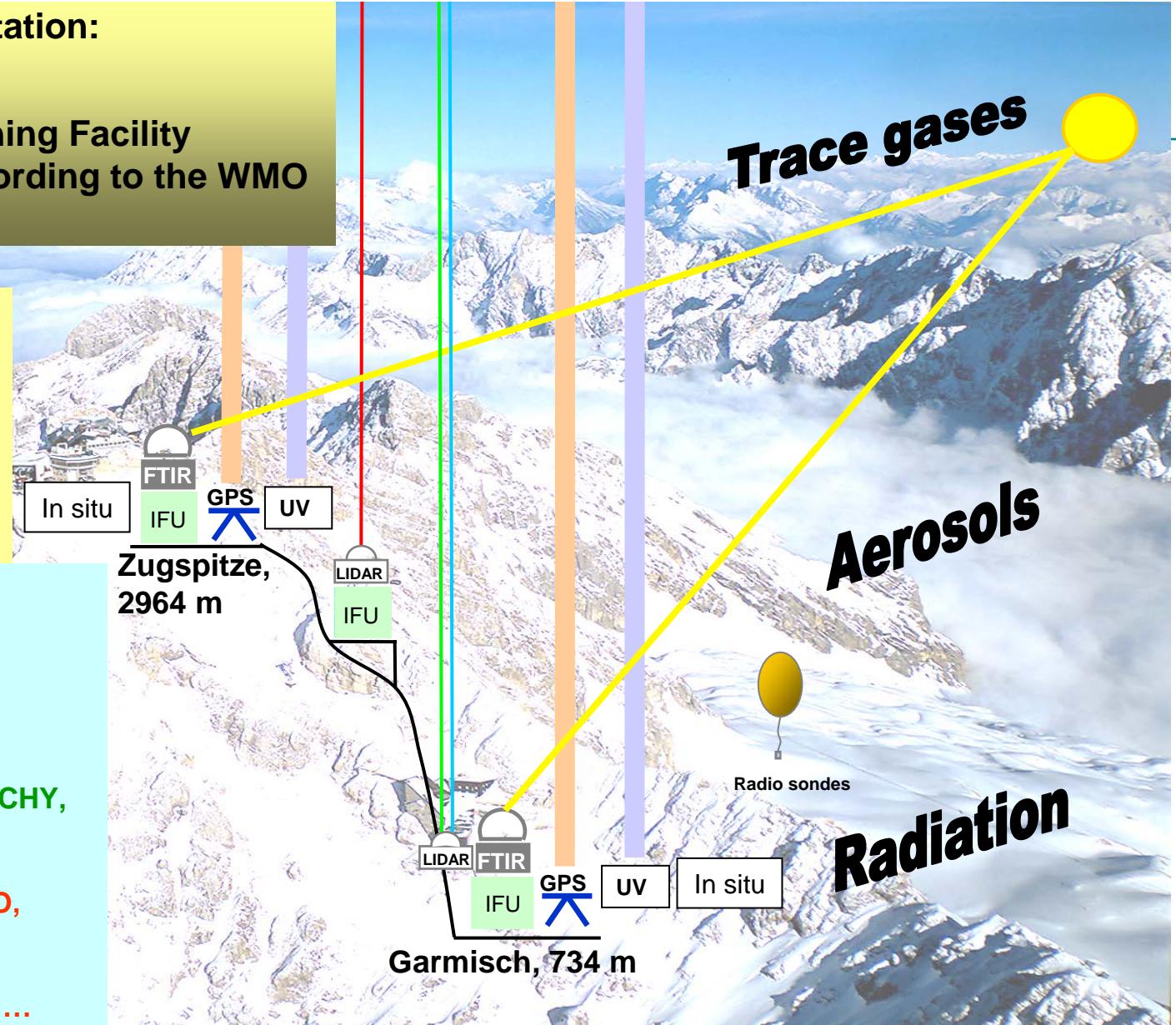
M. Rettinger

**PhD students**

T. Borsdorff

F. Forster

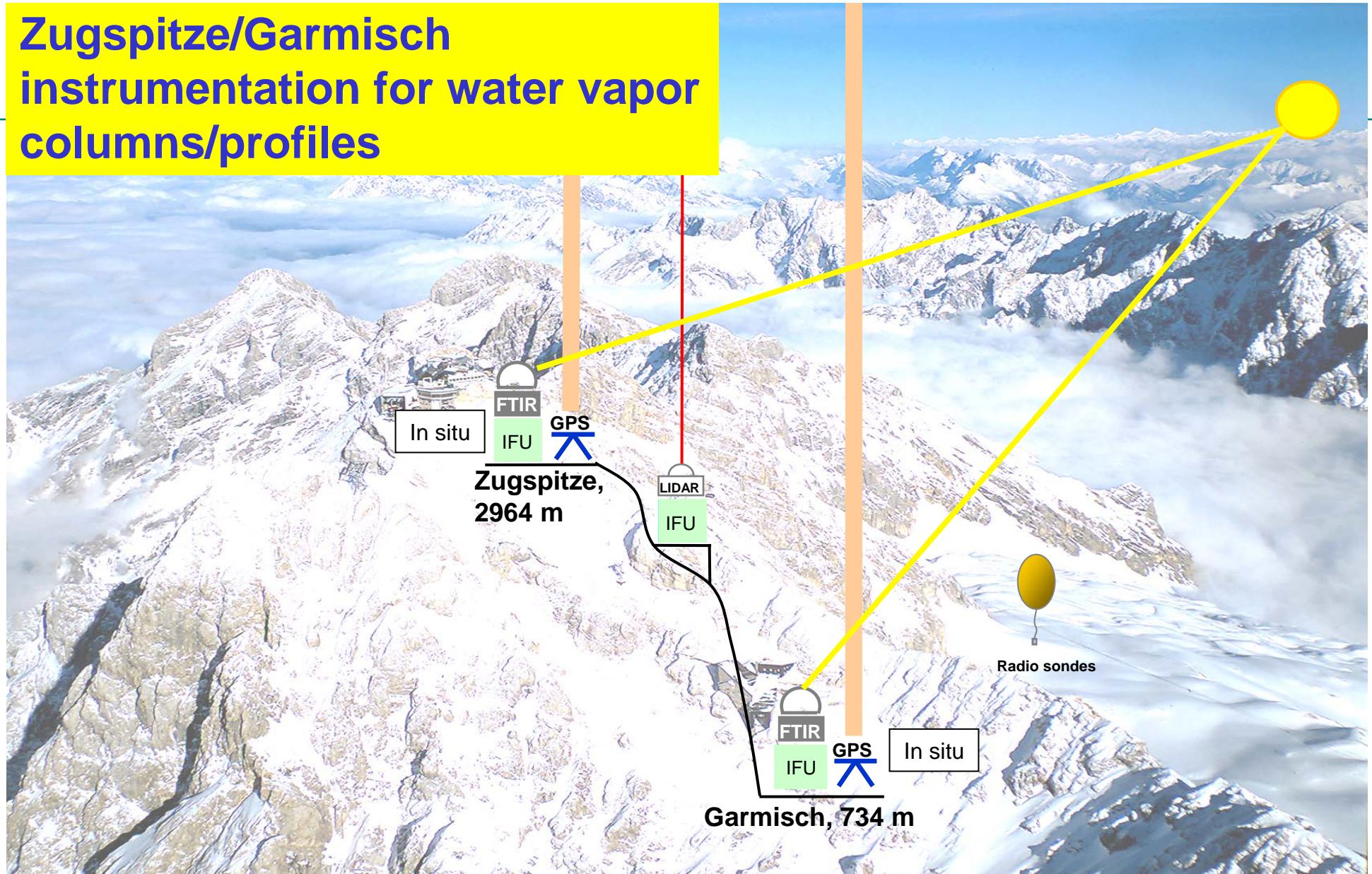
MAPS,  
CRISTA,  
MOPITT,  
SAGE,  
GOME,  
AIRS,  
SCIAMACHY,  
ACE,  
IASI,  
CALIPSO,  
OCO,  
TCCON,  
GOSAT, ...



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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

# Zugspitze/Garmisch instrumentation for water vapor columns/profiles

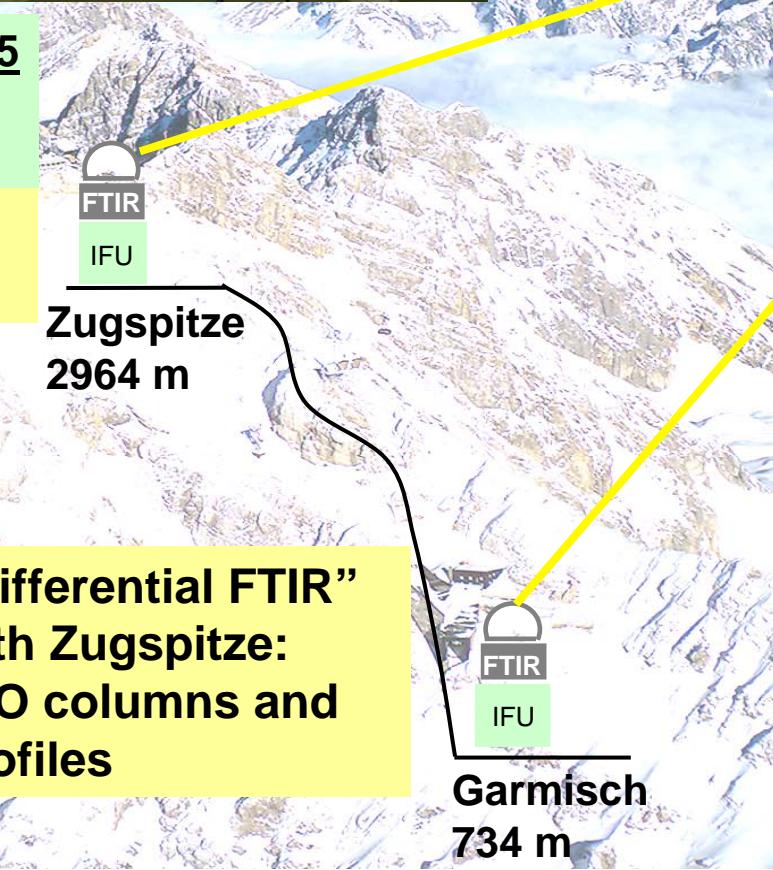


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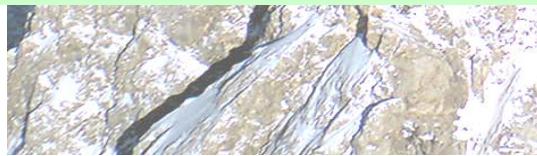
Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements



Zugspitze operational since 1995  
typ. 130-140 measurement  
days per year



Garmisch operational  
since 2004  
typ. 130-140 measurement  
days per year

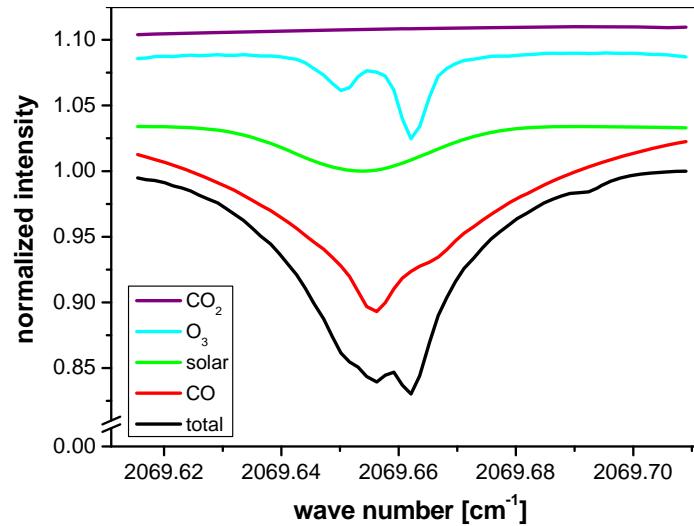
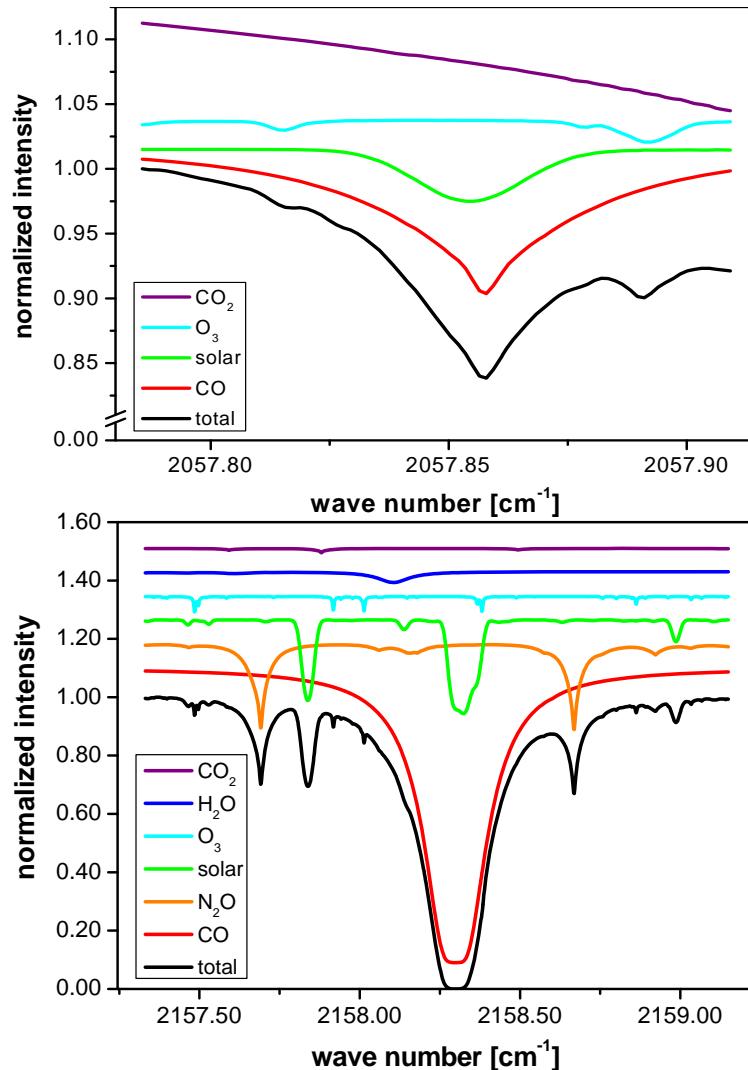


**“Differential FTIR”**  
with Zugspitze:  
H<sub>2</sub>O columns and  
profiles

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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measure

## Interference errors and micro window selection: Interference errors (I)

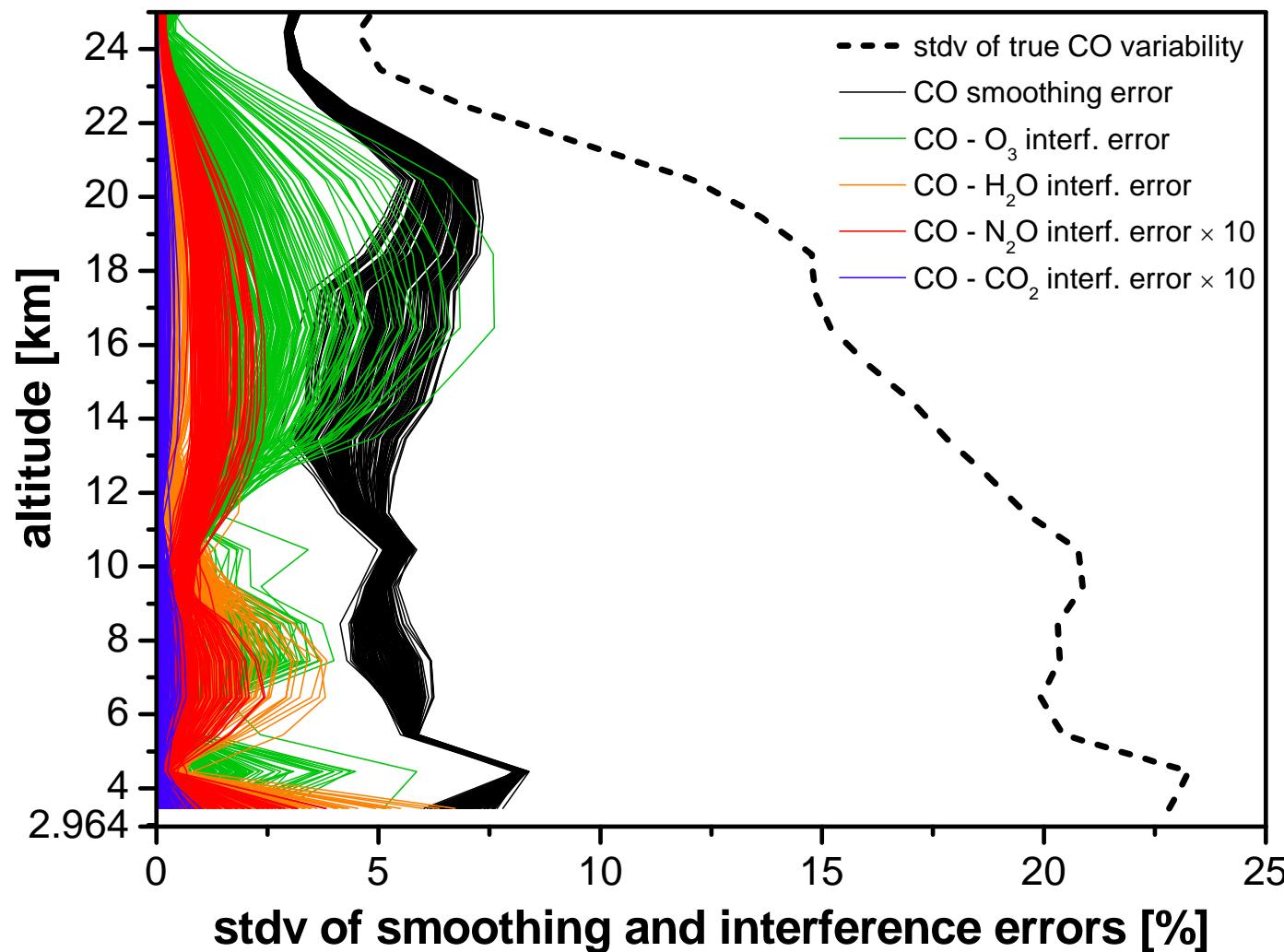


**Example CO retrieval:**  
**interfering species**  
**O<sub>3</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O**

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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

## Interference errors and micro window selection: Interference errors (II)



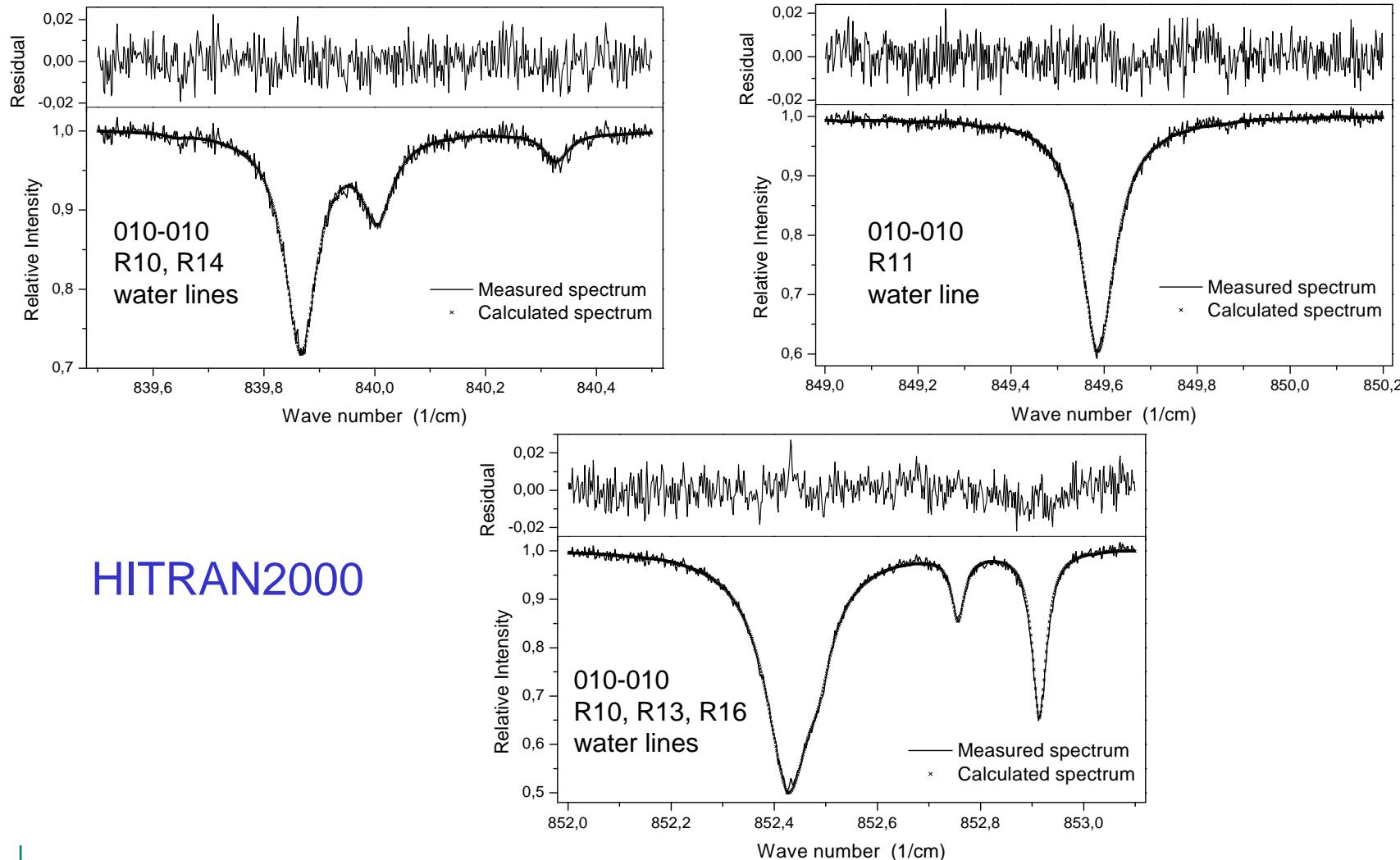
### Example CO retrieval

taken from:  
Sussmann, R. and Borsdorff, T:  
Technical note: Interference errors in  
infrared remote sounding of the  
atmosphere,  
Atmos. Chem. Phys., 7, 3537-3557,  
2007.

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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

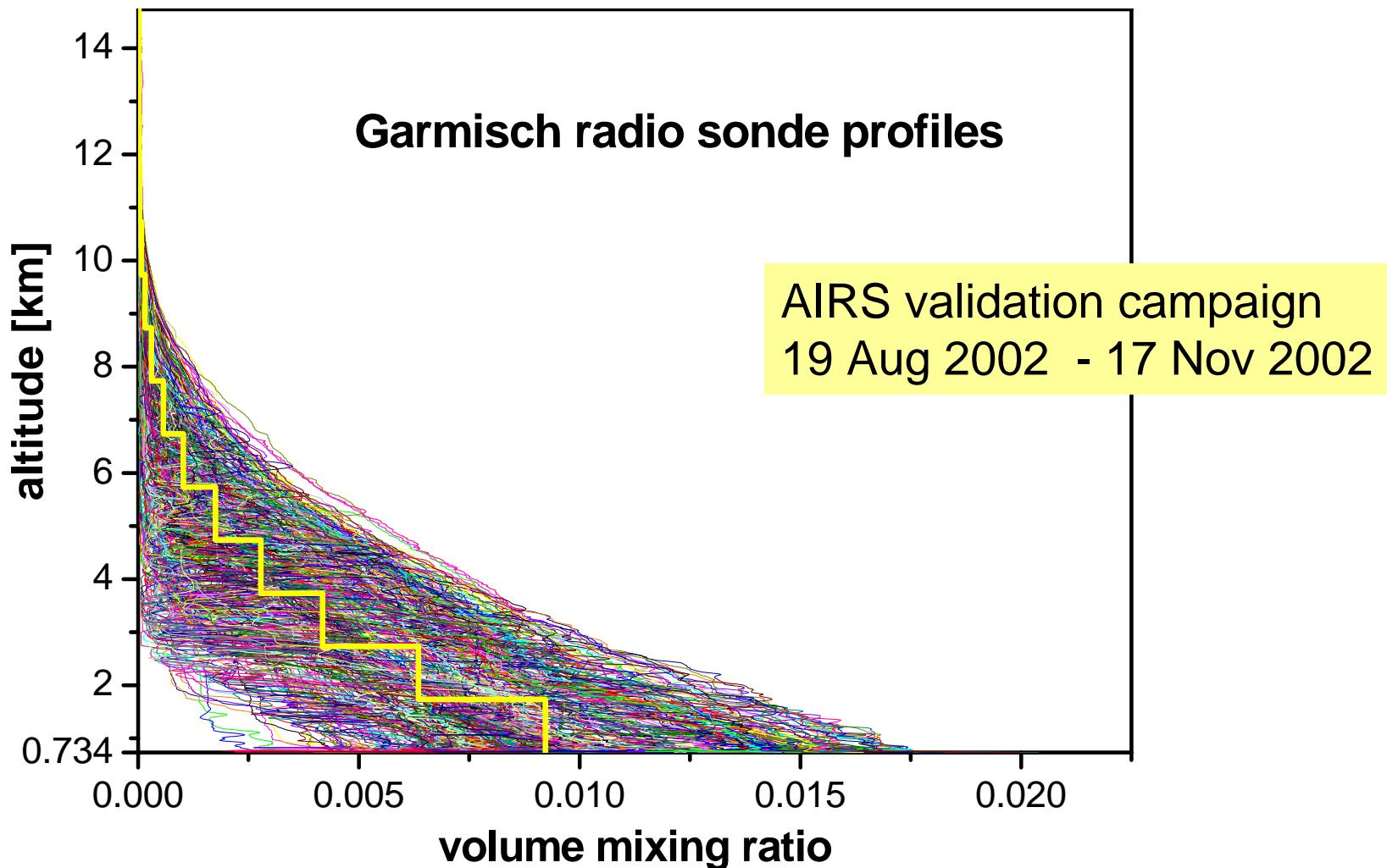
# Zugspitze FTIR water vapor profile retrieval: [Interference-free micro windows](#)



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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

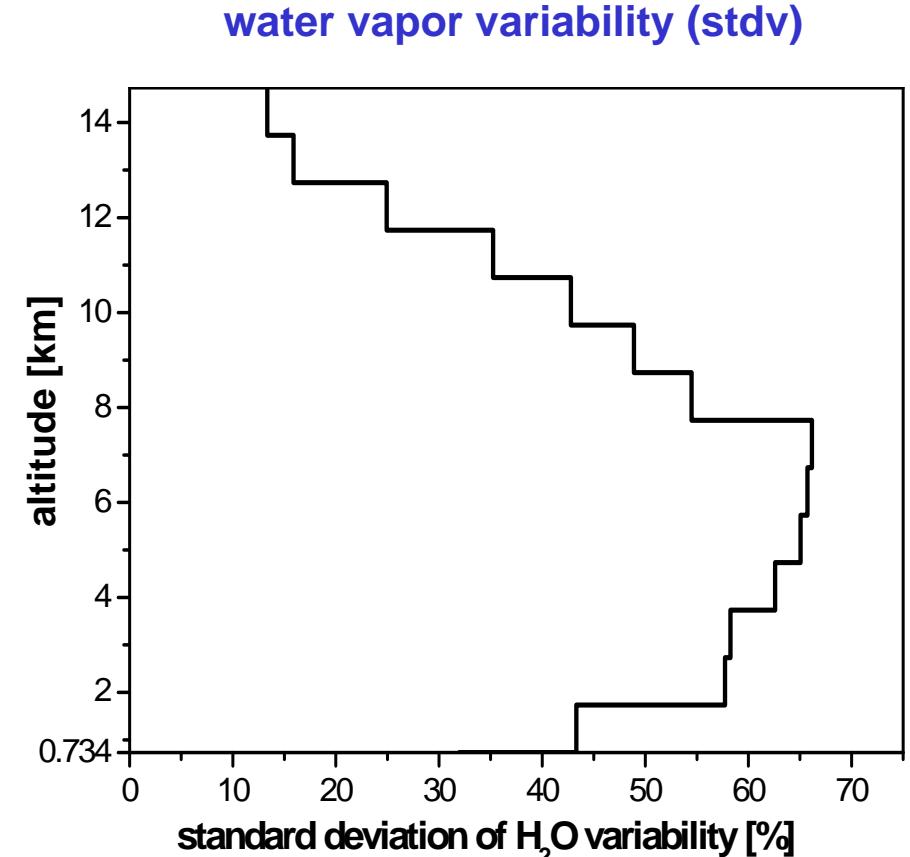
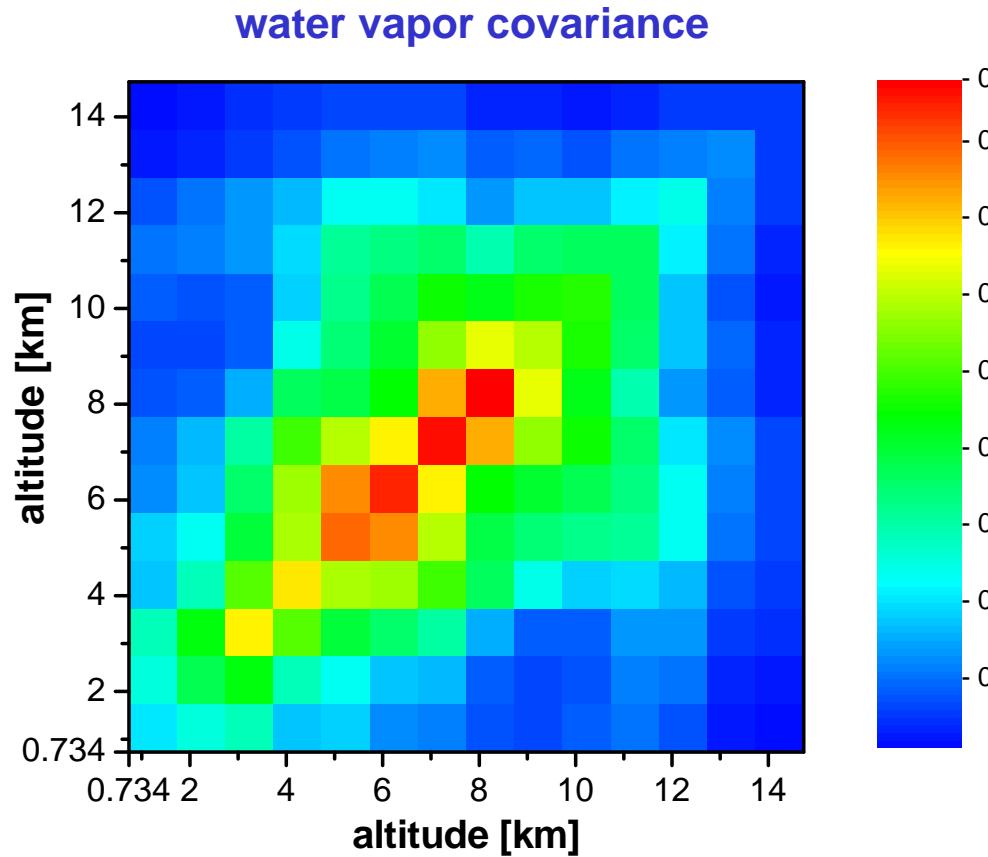
# Zugspitze FTIR water vapor profile retrieval: A priori information used (I)



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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

# Zugspitze FTIR water vapor profile retrieval: A priori information used (II)



Unit: covariances of VMR-layer scaling factors

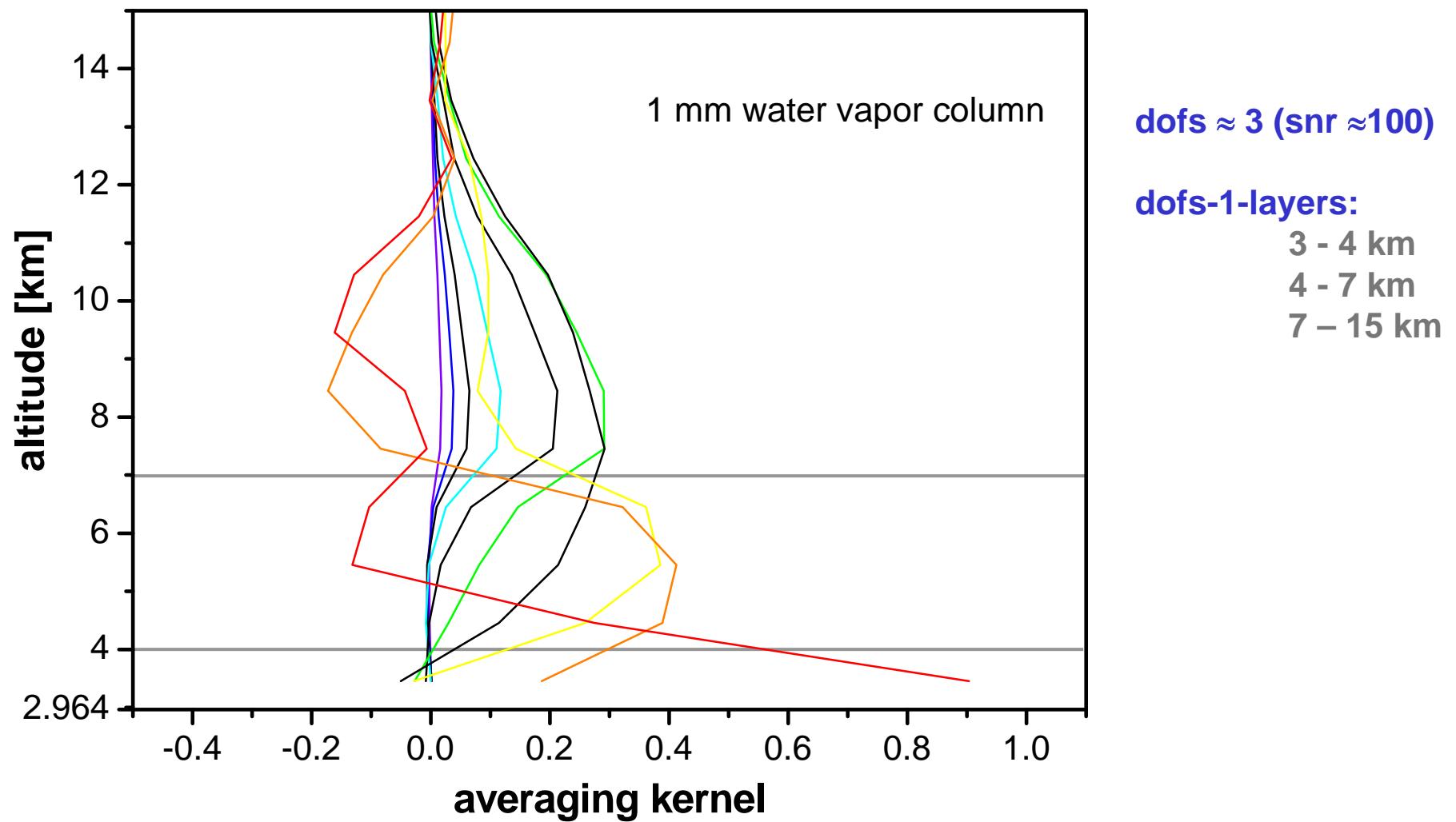
VMR

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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

# Zugspitze FTIR water vapor profile retrieval: [Averaging kernels](#)

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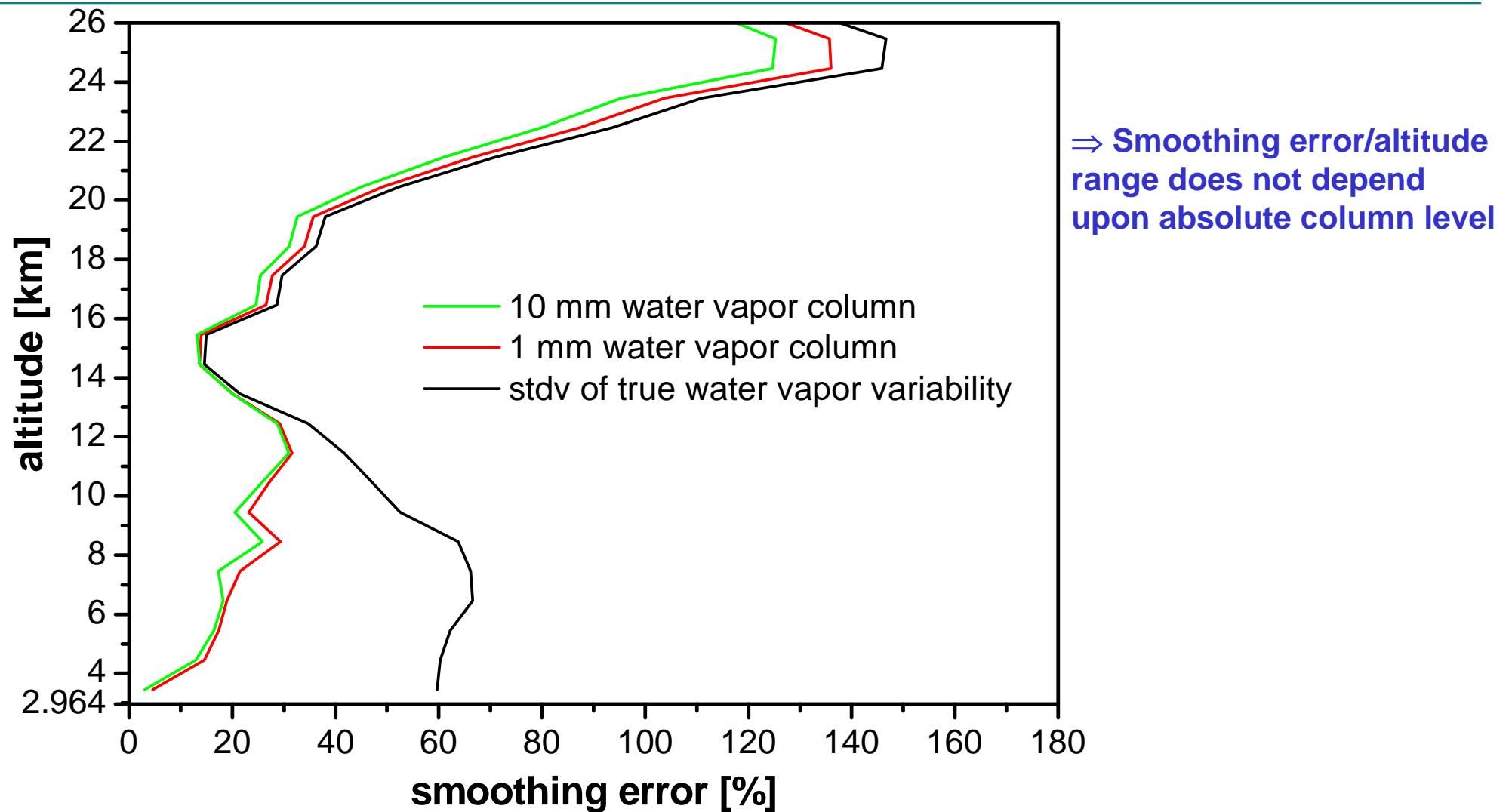


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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

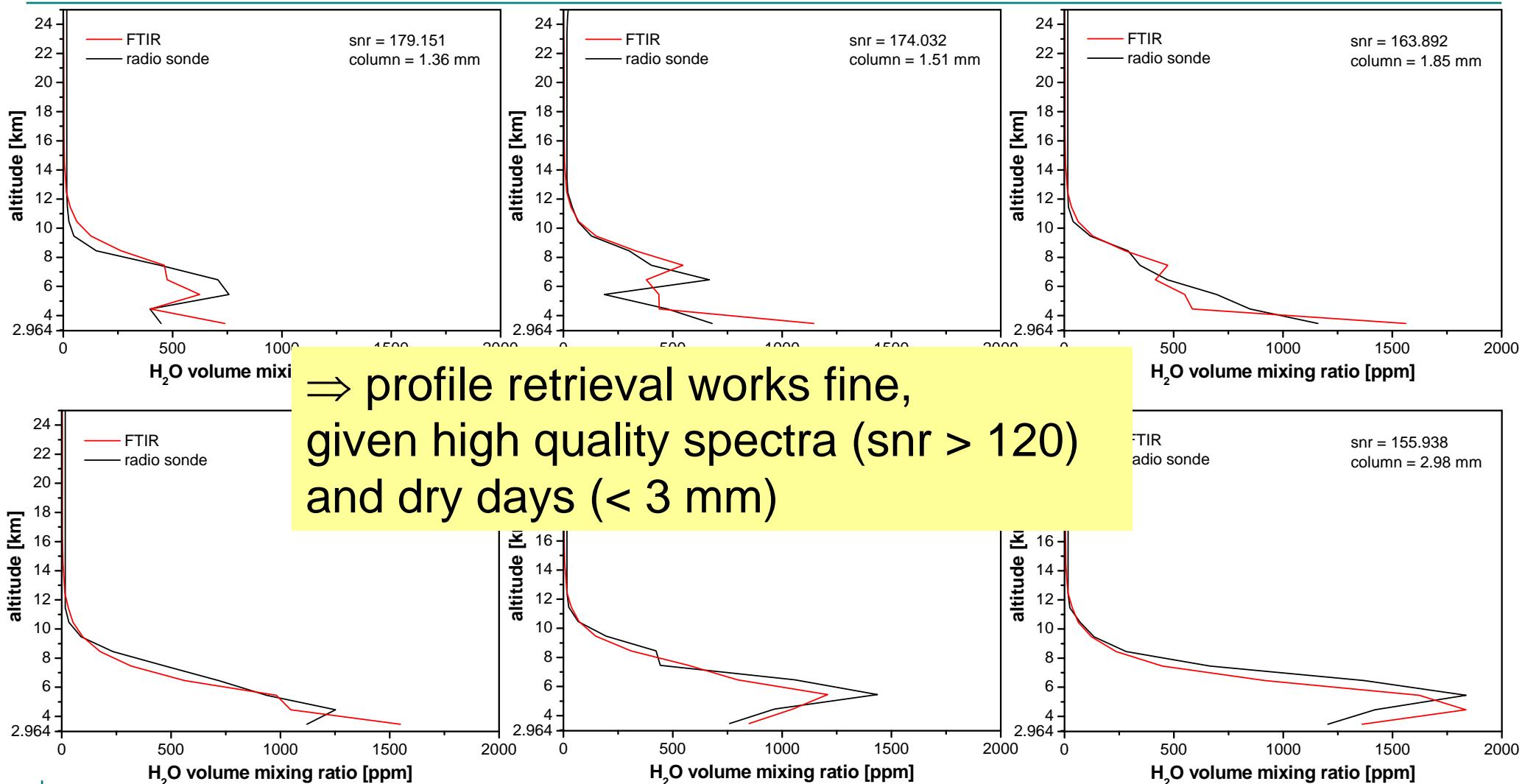
# Zugspitze FTIR water vapor profile retrieval: Smoothing error



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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

# Zugspitze FTIR water vapor profile retrieval: Retrieved profile versus sonde



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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

## Strategy for validation of FTIR total water vapor columns by sondes: Tobin-Sondes

Sonde 1 launched **1h before** overpass

Sonde 2 launched **5 min before** overpass

AIRS validation campaign  
19 Aug 2002 - 17 Nov 2002

Vaisala RS 80-30 **G** sondes

TOTEX-800-g balloons

**2 x Digicora III (Marvin 21, SPS220G)**



### TOBIN-Inter-/Extrapolation between both soundings:

$$q_{\text{Tobin}}(z, t_{\text{op}}) = q_{\text{sonde}}(z, t_0) + (dq(z)/dt) (t_{\text{op}} - t_0)$$

Tobin, D., W. Feltz, B. Knuteson, H. Revercomb, "ARM T/q Best Estimate Profiles for AIRS validation", 1 March 2000

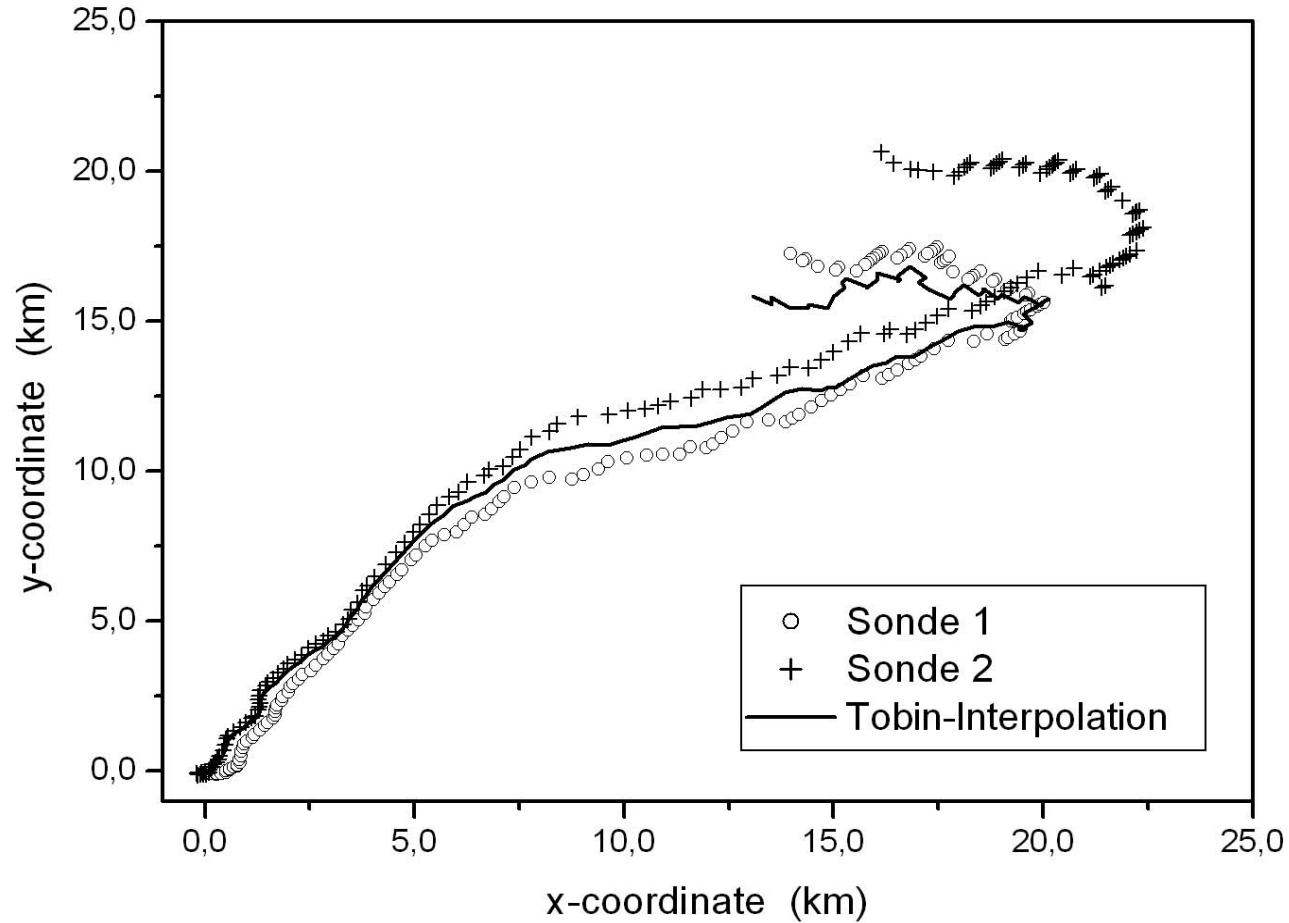


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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

## Strategy for validation of FTIR total water vapor columns by sondes: Tobin-Sondes

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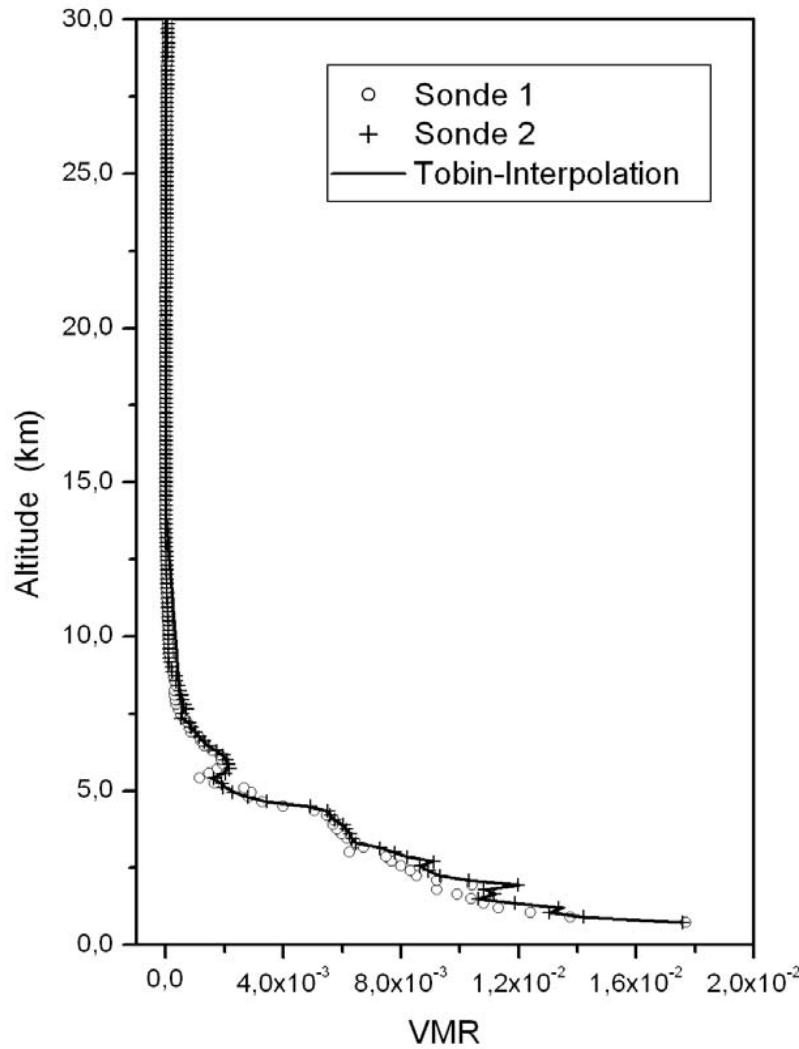


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# Strategy for validation of FTIR total water vapor columns by sondes: Tobin-Sondes

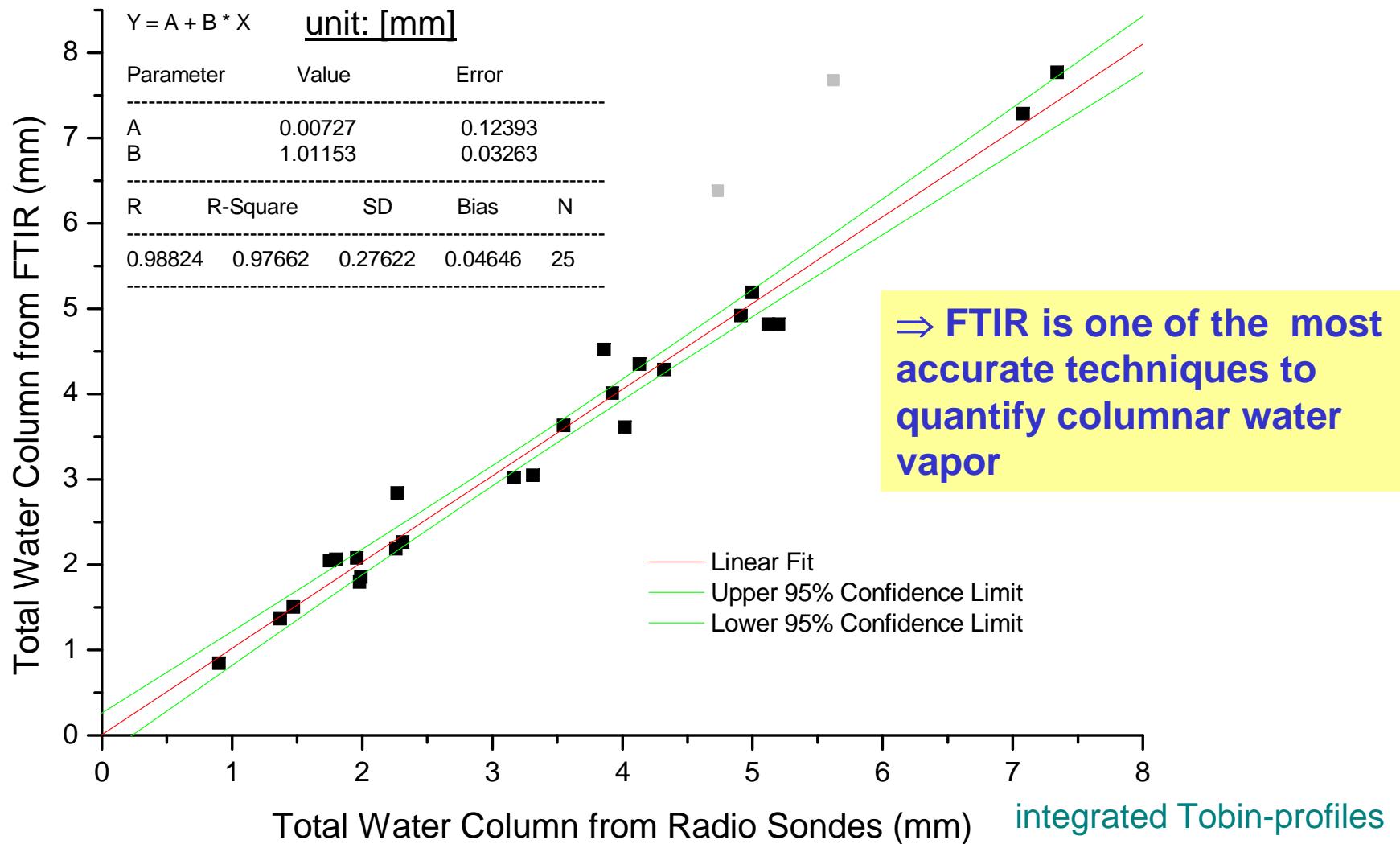


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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

# Optimized FTIR total water vapor column retrieval and its validation

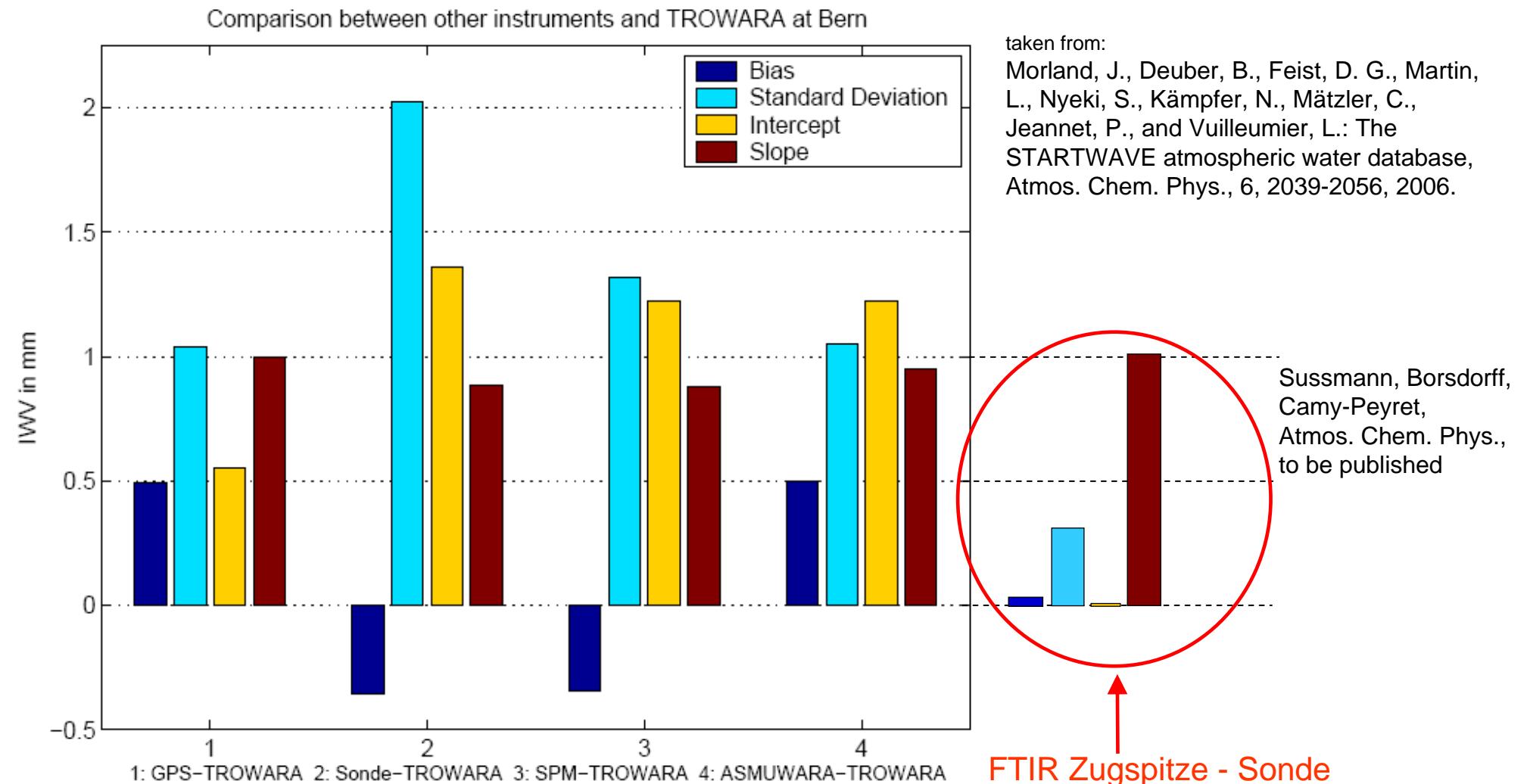
Columns  
above  
Zugspitze,  
2964 m  
2-h-mean  
values



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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

# Optimized FTIR total water vapor column retrieval and its validation



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Water vapor retrieval from Zugspitze FTIR measurements

## Summary

- found interference-free micro-window set
- profile retrieval
  - OE with climatological a priori covariance from sondes:  
dofs  $\approx$  3, i.e., layers 3 - 4 km, 4 - 7 km, 7 – 15 km
  - smoothing error/altitude range does not depend on absolute water column
  - FTIR profiles reproduce sonde fine structure well, given high quality spectra ( $\text{snr} > 120$ ) and dry days (< 3 mm)
- FTIR is the most accurate technique for total columns (?):  
validation against sondes (Tobin):  $R^2 = 0.98$ , slope = 1.01,  
stdv < 0.3 mm, intercept < 0.01 mm, bias < 0.05 mm

## Outlook

- validation against lidar / synergetic combination with lidar
- investigate “differential FTIR” (Garmisch – Zugspitze column)



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