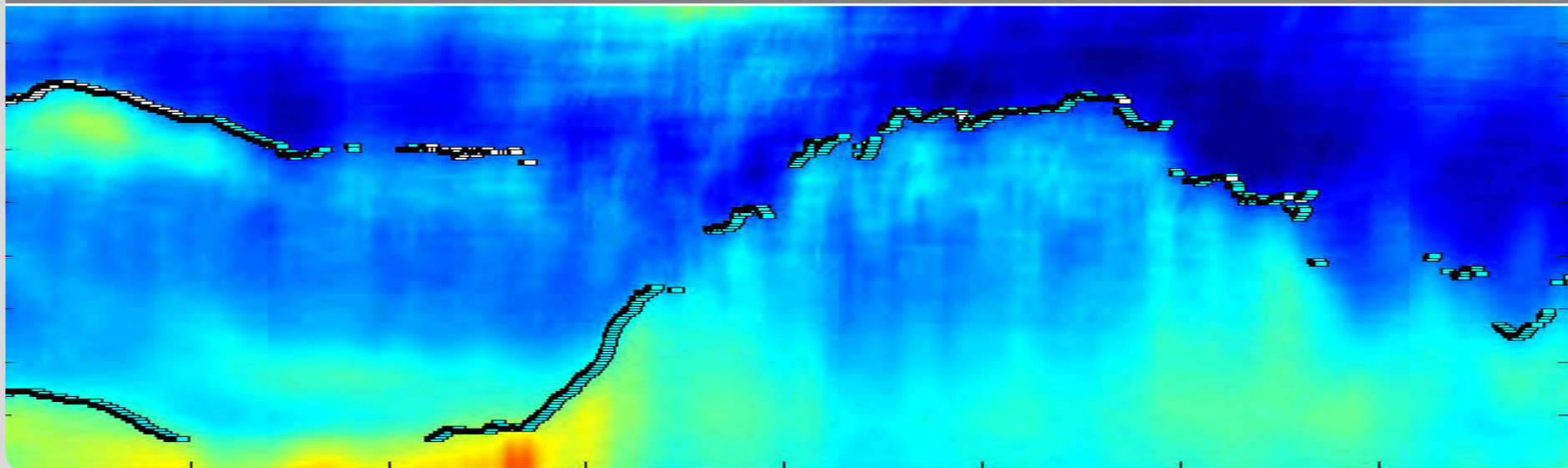


# Remote sensing of mixing-layer height at environmental monitoring stations

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**Institute of Meteorology and Climate Research  
(IMK-IFU)**

**Atmospheric Environmental Research**

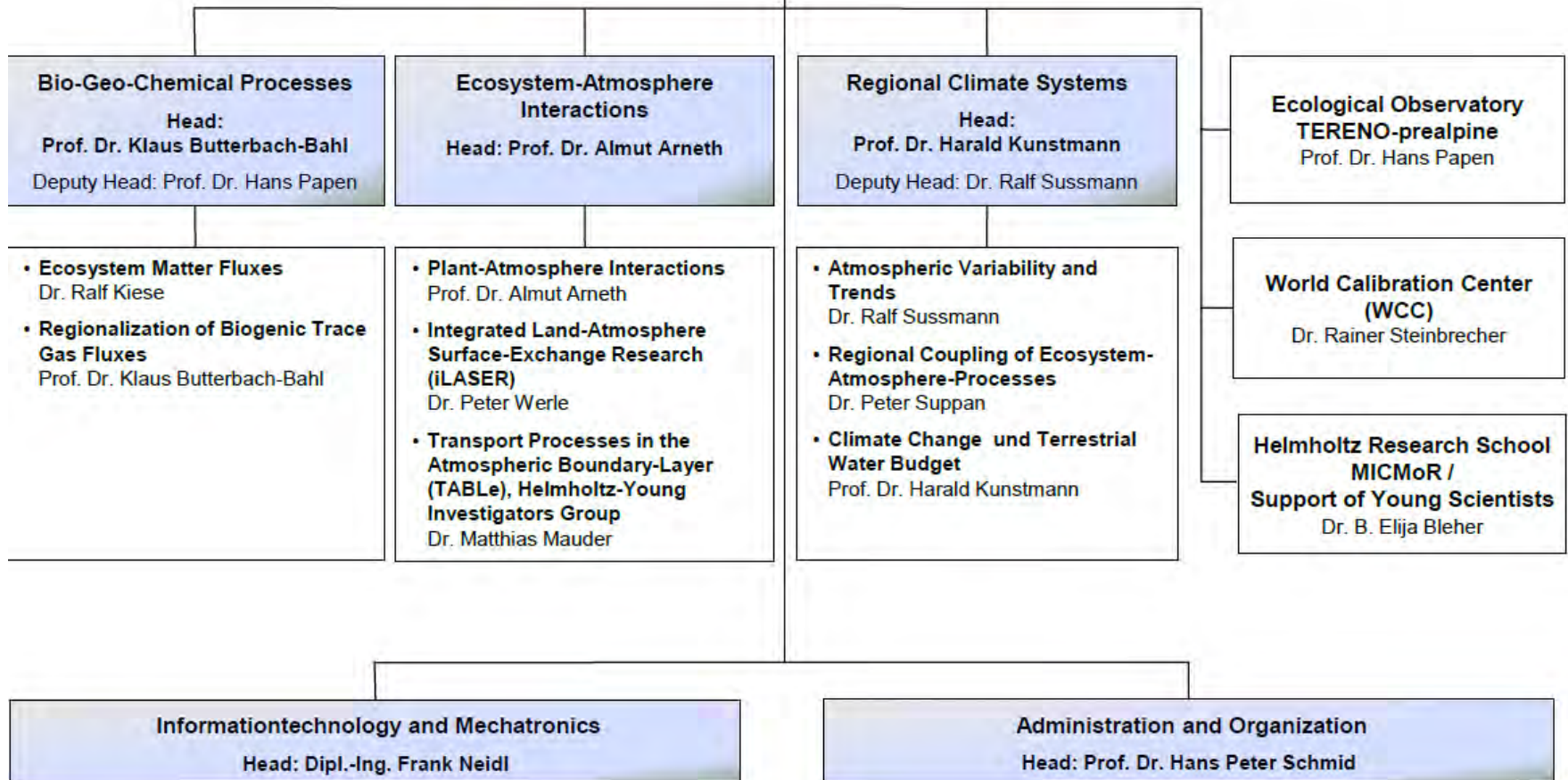
**Head: Prof. Dr. Hans Peter Schmid**

Deputy Head: Prof. Dr. Hans Papen

Kst. 5260

Specialist Officer at  
Establishment Level and  
Safety Officer:

Sifa	E. Langer
Sibe	St. Schmid
SSB	Prof. Dr. H. Papen
Laser	Dr. T. Trickl



# TERENO

TERRESTRIAL ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATORIES

## The Bavarian Prealpine Observatory

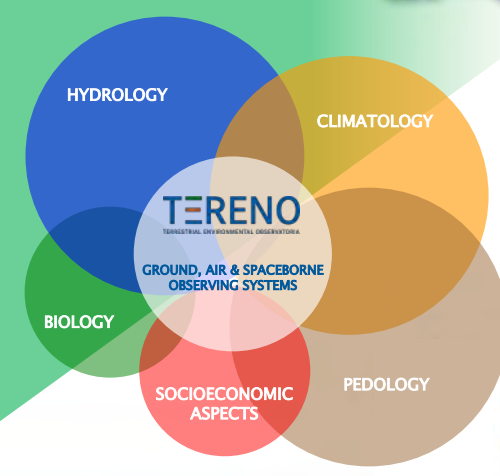
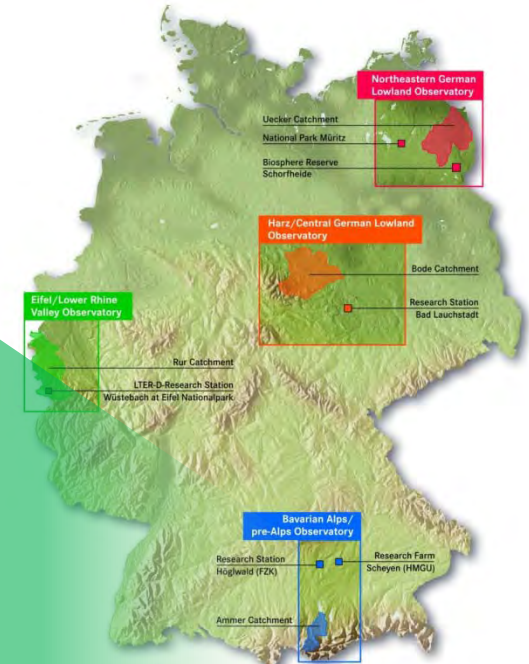
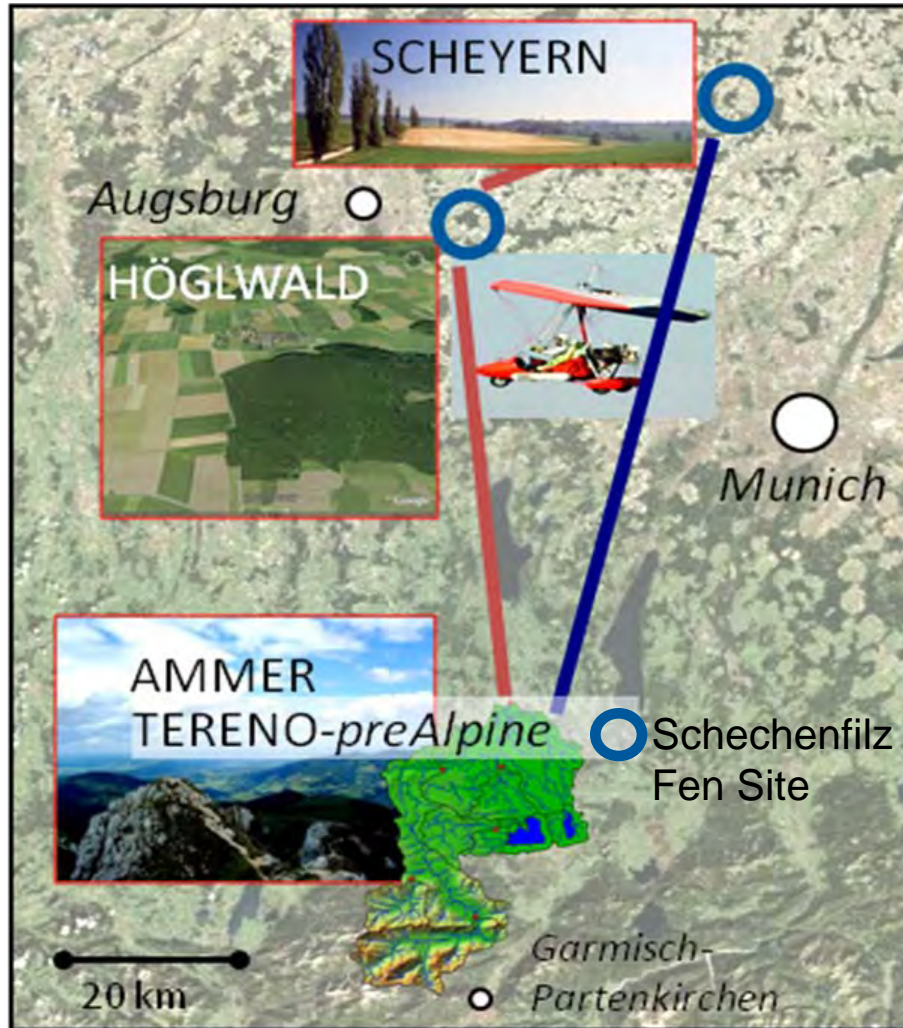
Hans Peter Schmid, Harald Kunstmann,  
Hans Papen, Jean Charles Munch,  
Eckart Priesack







# The Bavarian Prealpine Observatory



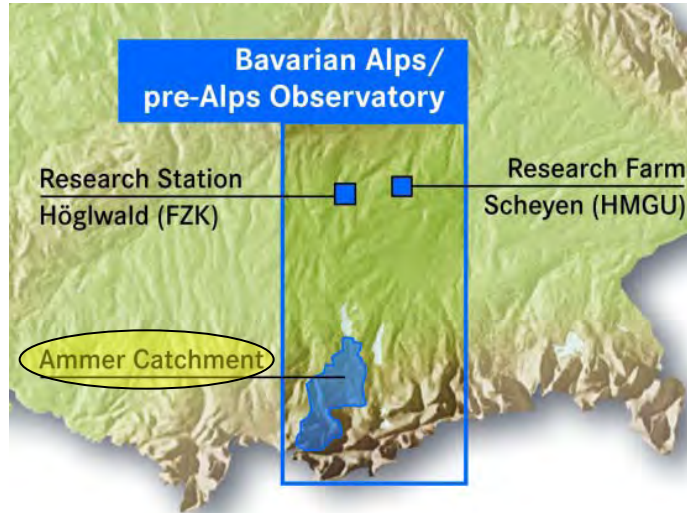


## “In House” Research Goals

- Long-Term **biosphere-atmosphere exchange** (greenhouse gases, energy balance)
- Coupled **C-/N-cycles** and C-/N-storage
- **Vegetation and microbial biodiversity** (temporal dynamics, relation to matter turnover)
- **Alpine watershed hydrology** (water budget, Karst related problems, precipitation variability, floods/droughts, seepage water quality/quantity, water retention capacity)
- **Nutrient deposition** and **land use/management** (wet grasslands/fens, forests and agricultural systems).
- **Methodology development** for micrometeorological observations in complex terrain
- (planned) ecosystem-atmosphere exchange in **urban areas**



# Ammer Catchment Observatory



- area of ~710 km<sup>2</sup> (601 km<sup>2</sup> above Weilheim)
- alpine and prealpine landscape with high spatial differentiation in geology and pedology
- elevations: from 533 m (a.s.l., Ammersee) to 2185 m (Kreuzspitze)
- two dominant landscape units: the prealpine hill country and moorland and the Swabian-Upper Bavarian foothills of the Alps.
- Dominant geology: lime-alpine zone (south), flysch zone (north)

## TERENO Infrastructure

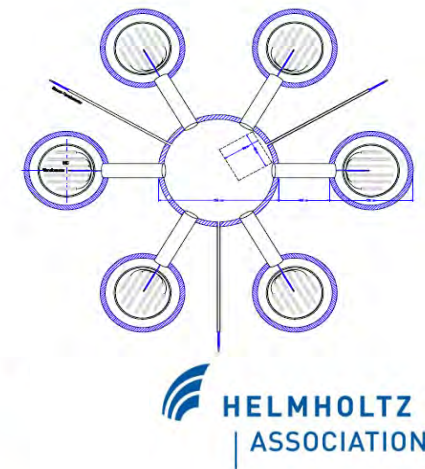
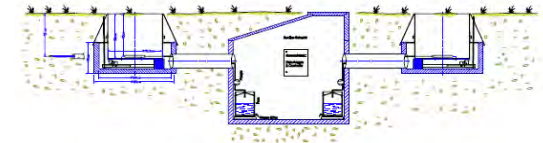
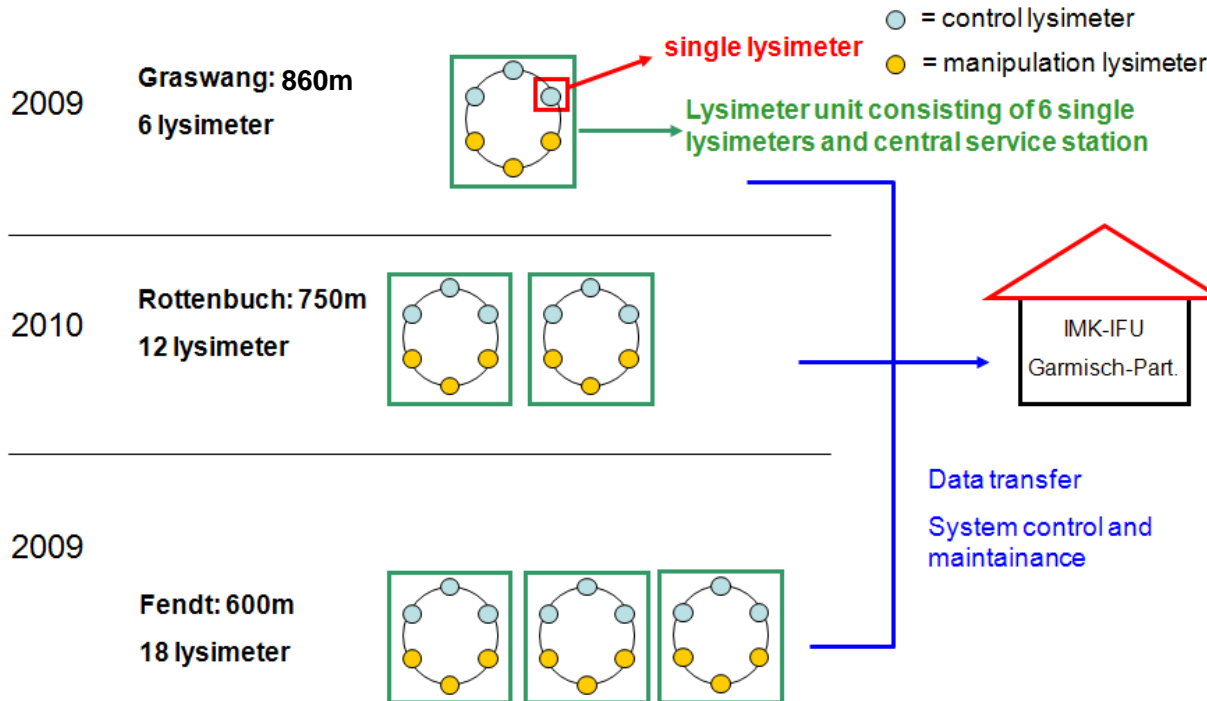
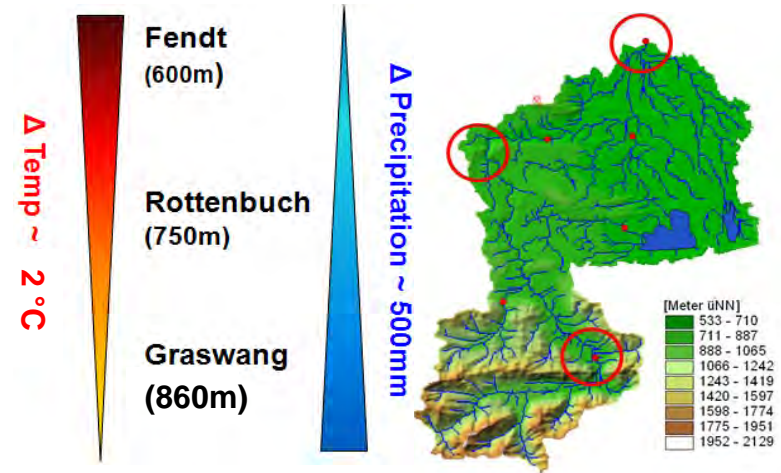
- **Graswang-, Rottenbuch-, Fendt Sites**
  - 3 EC towers: momentum, heat, H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, plus TERENO-ICOS: N<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>4</sub> fluxes
  - 36 Lysimeters: soil water balance, **3 ceilometers**
  - GHG (N<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>) measurements at lysimeters
- **Geigersau Site:** 1 X-Band precipitation radar
- **Sites to be determined:** 3 Climate stations
- **movable:** **1 Doppler wind lidar**





# Climasequence: how do grassland ecosystems adapt to climate change?

- grassland soil monoliths transplanted along the natural gradient in temperature and precipitation
- climate change effects on C/N cycles
- associated plant and microbial processes/populations/biodiversity
- terrestrial hydrology and water quality





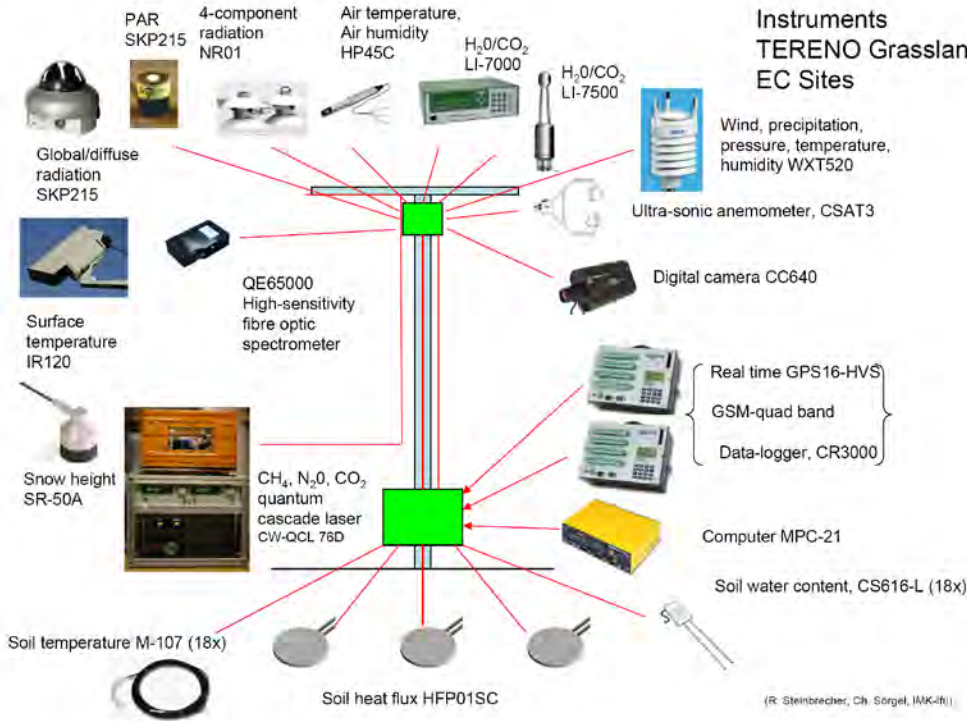
# TERENO Lysimeter experiment: construction phase





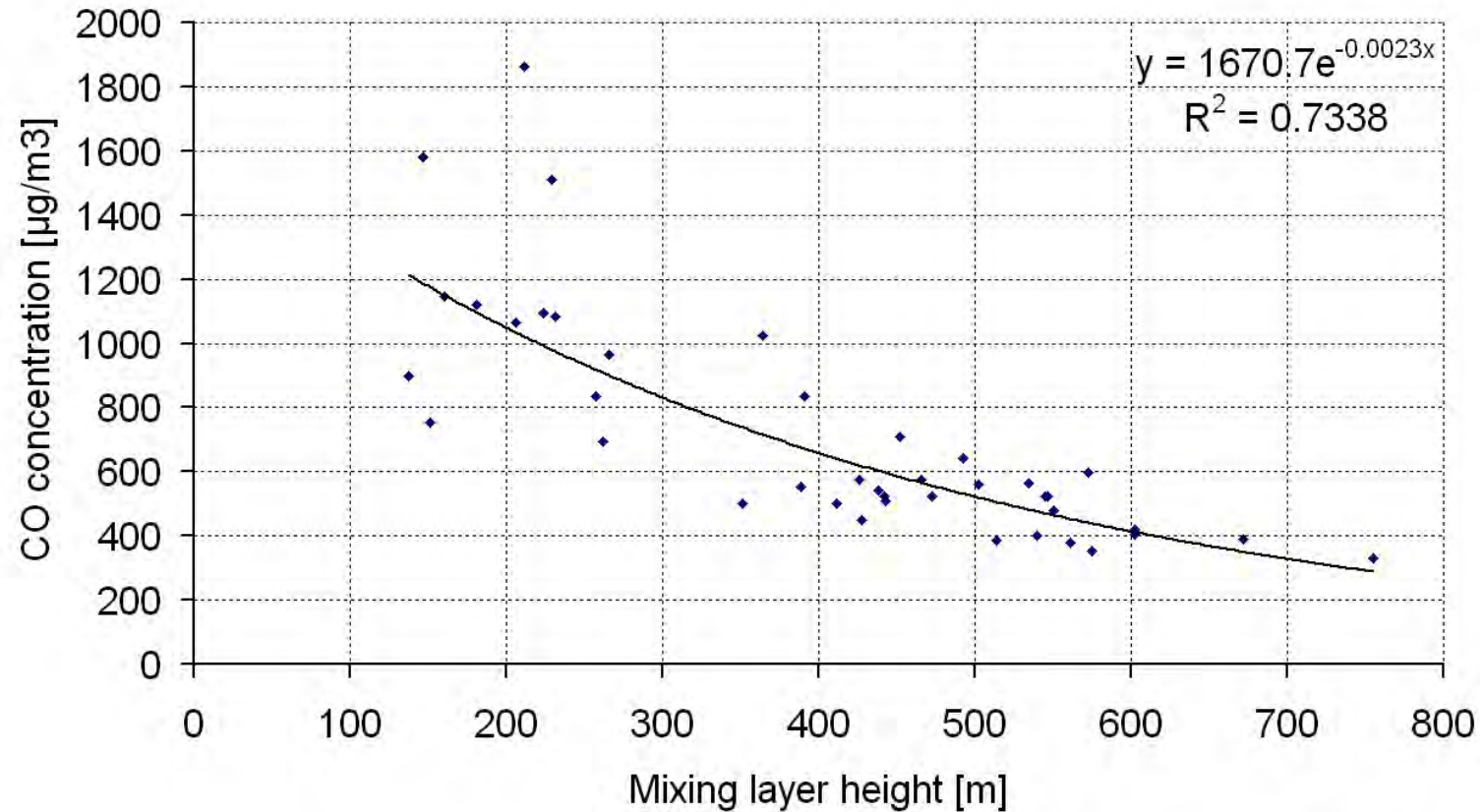


- ICOS mission: “To provide the long-term observations required to understand the present state and predict future behavior of the global carbon cycle and greenhouse gas emissions.”
- 5 EC-sites at TERENO-prealpine, -Harz, and –Eifel received additional funding to expand instrumentation to include fluxes of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O and upgrade to ICOS standard



# Motivation

correlation at street level pollutant - MLH



Schäfer, K., S. Emeis, H. Hoffmann, C. Jahn, 2006: Influence of mixing layer height upon air pollution in urban and sub-urban areas. Meteorol. Z., 15, 647-658.

# Remote sensing

## of the vertical structure of the atmospheric boundary layer



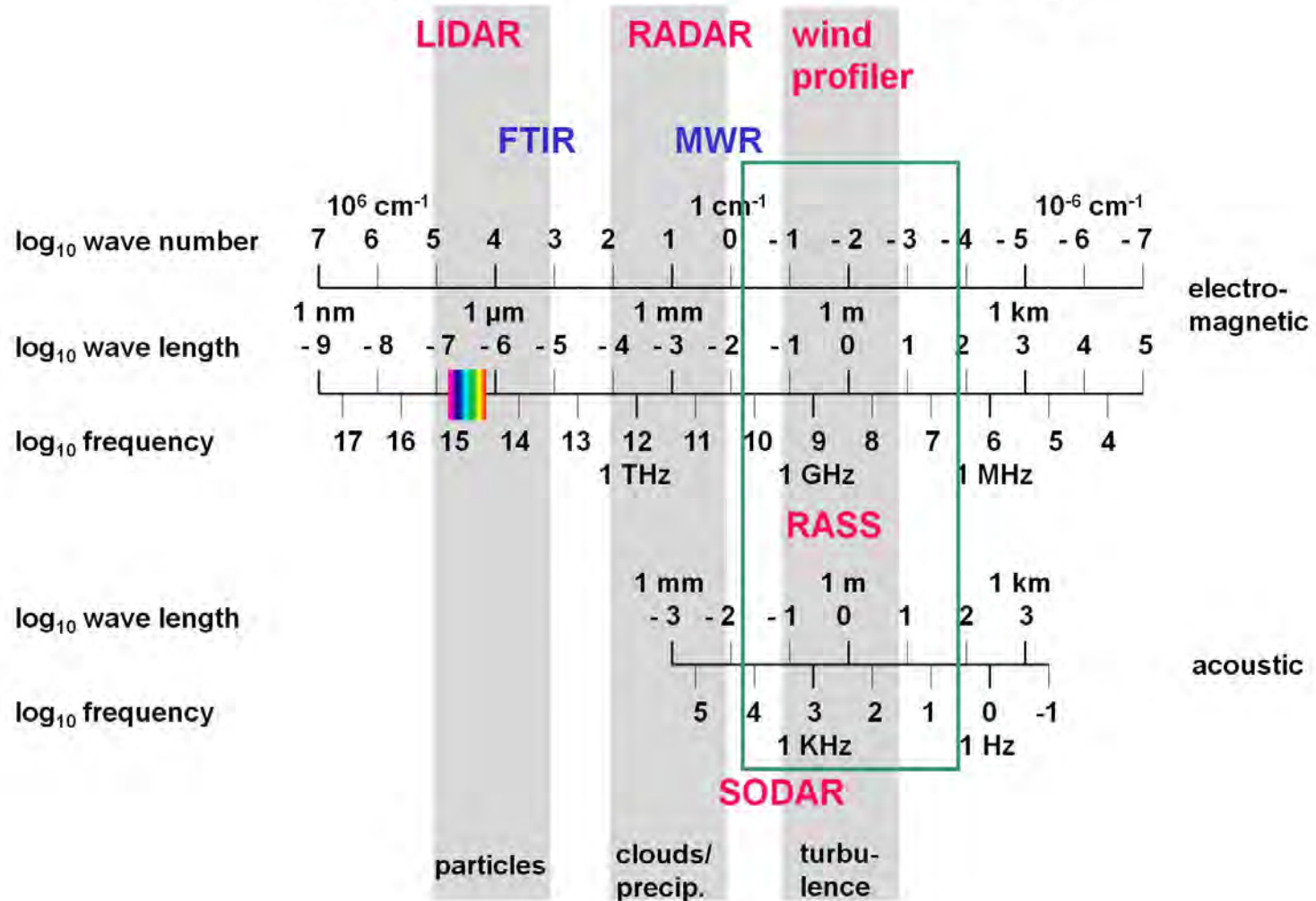
# Basic remote sensing techniques

name	principle	spatial resolution	direction	type
RADAR	backscatter, electro-magnetic pulses, fixed wave length	profiling	scanning, slanted	active, monostatic
SODAR	backscatter, acoustic pulses, fixed wave length	profiling	fixed, slanted, vertical	active, usually monostatic
LIDAR ceilometer	backscatter, optical pulses, fixed wave length(s)	profiling	scanning, fixed, horizontal, slanted, vertical	active, monostatic
RASS	backscatter, acoustic, electro-magnetic, fixed wave length	profiling	fixed, vertical	active, monostatic
	absorption, infrared, spectrum	path-averaging	fixed, horizontal, slanted	active, bistatic or passive
FTIR	emission, infrared, spectrum	path-averaging	fixed, horizontal, slanted	passive
DOAS	absorption, optical, fixed wave lengths	path-averaging	fixed, horizontal	active, bistatic
radiometry	electro-magnetic, fixed wave length(s)	averaging, profiling	fixed, scanning, slanted, vertical	passive
tomography	travel time, acoustic, fixed wave length	horizontal distribution	fixed, horizontal	active, multiple emitters and receivers

subject of this lecture

subject of this lecture

## Frequencies for atmospheric remote sensing



Emeis, S., 2010: Measurement Methods in Atmospheric Sciences - In situ and remote. Borntraeger, Stuttgart, 272 pp., 103 figs, 28 tables, ISBN 978-3-443-01066-9.

at IMK-IFU

**SODAR (Large system),**  
acoustic backscatter, Doppler  
shift analysis → wind, turbulence

**SODAR-RASS (Doppler-RASS),** acoustic,  
electro-magnetic backscatter, determines speed  
of sound → wind and temperature profiles



**Ceilometer,**  
backscatter, optical  
pulses, wave  
length ~ 0.9  $\mu\text{m}$   
→ aerosol profiles

**Wind-LIDAR,** optical backscatter, Doppler shift  
analysis, wave length ~ 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  → wind and  
aerosol profiles



image:  
Halo Photonics

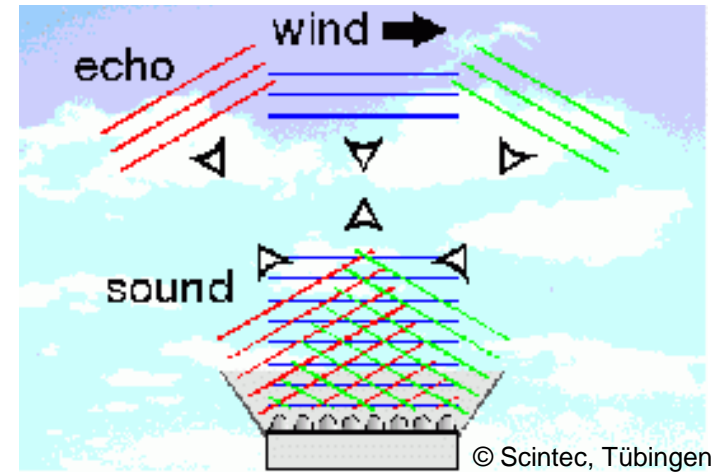
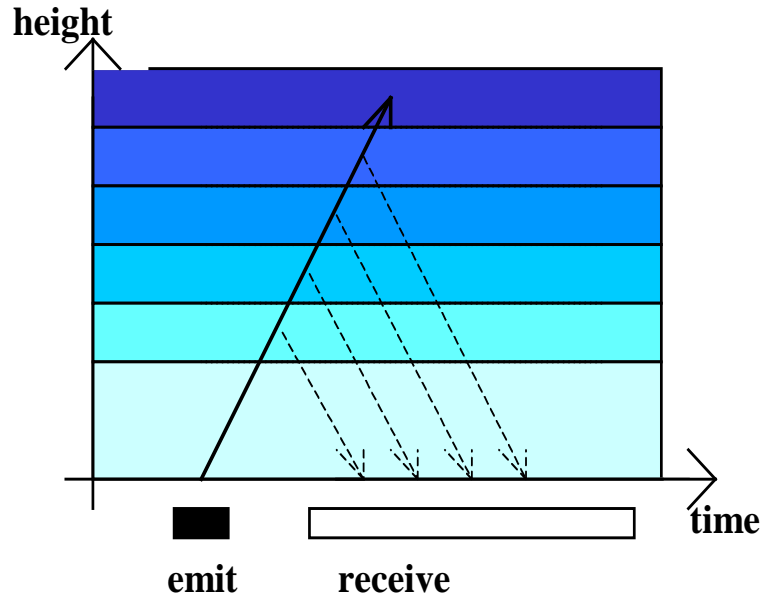


# SODAR

**algorithms for the determination of  
mixing-layer height**

**and low-level jet observations**

# monostatic SODAR: measuring principles



deduction:

sound travel time	=	height
backscatter intensity	=	turbulence
Doppler-shift	=	wind speed

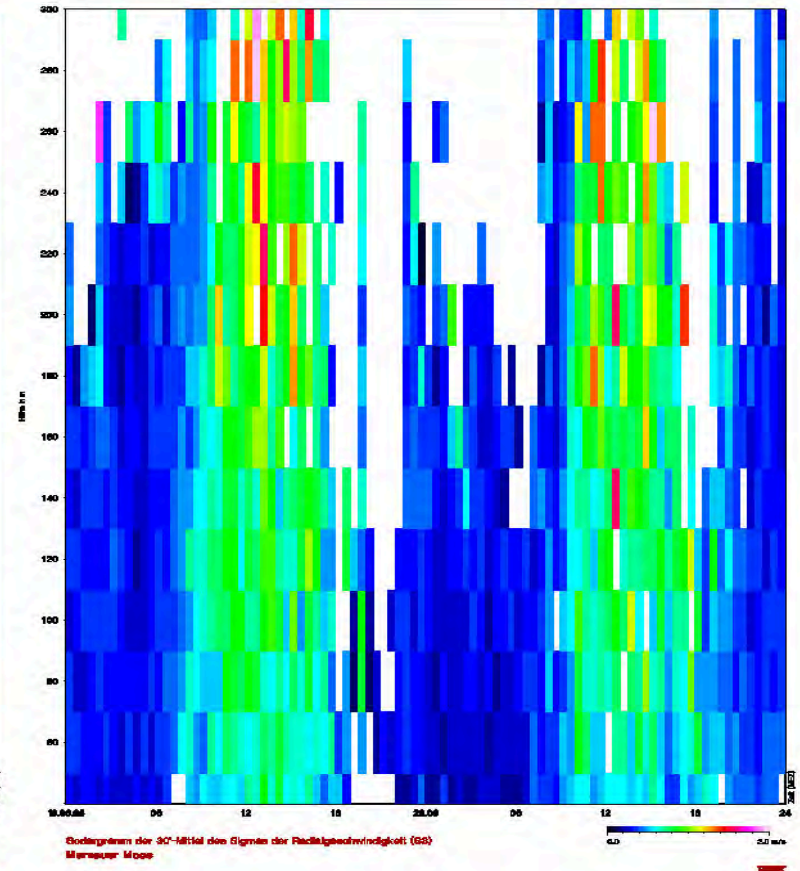
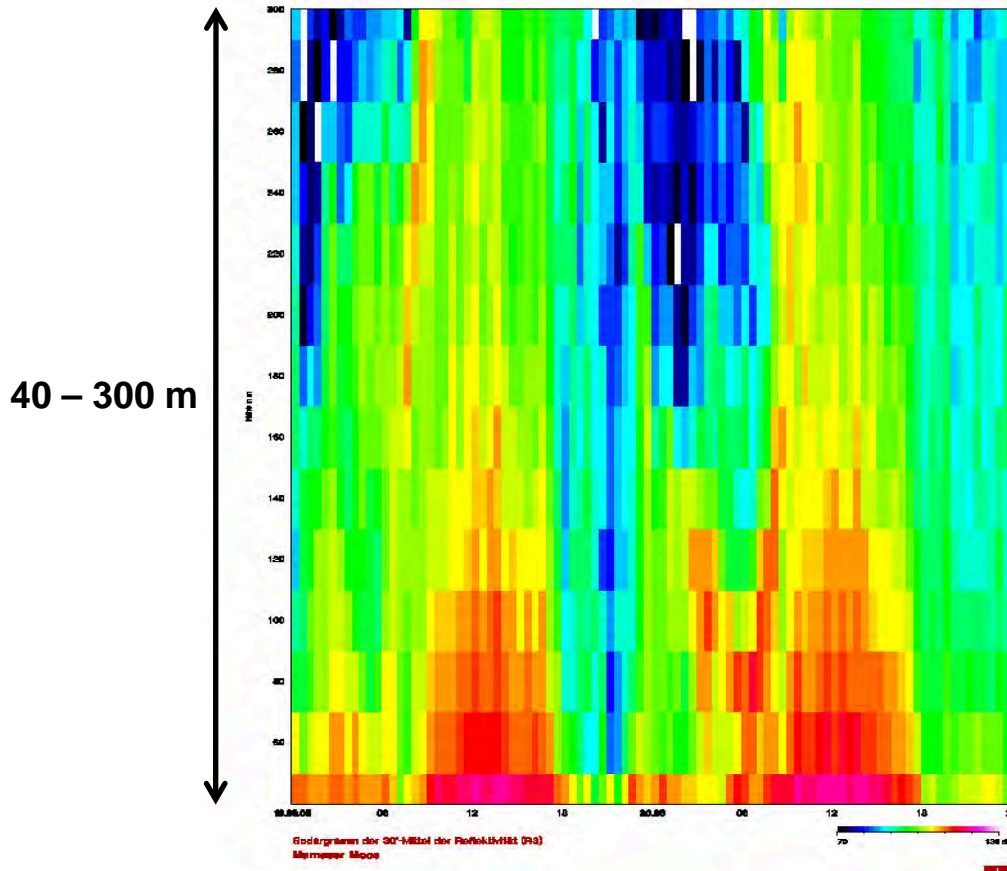
Emission of sound waves  
into three directions:

in order to measure all three  
components of the wind  
(horizontal and vertical)

# SODAR sample plot (daytime convective BL)

acoustic backscatter intensity

sigma w



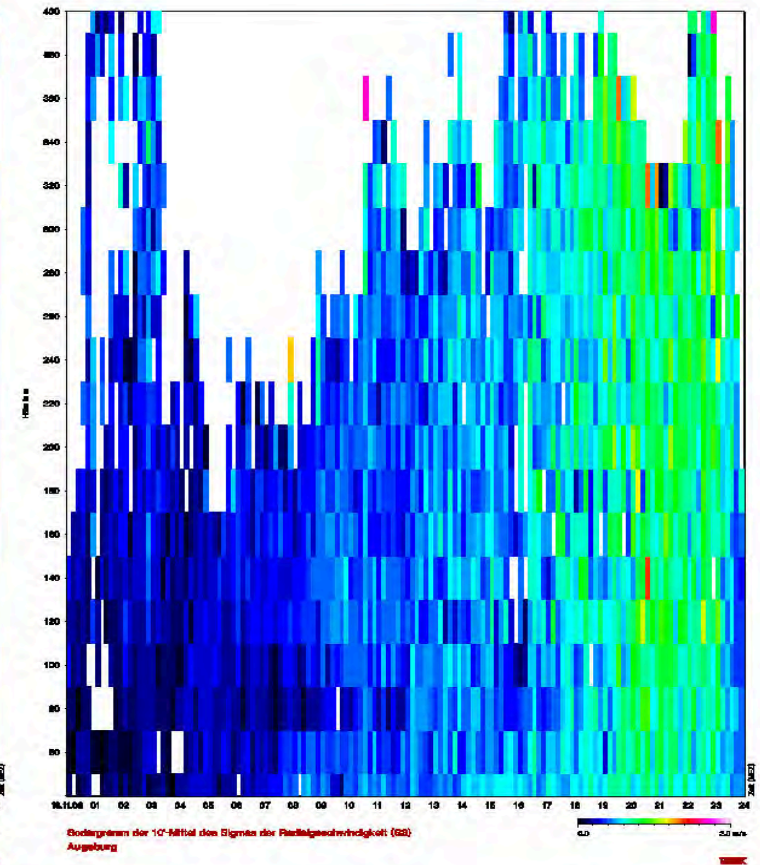
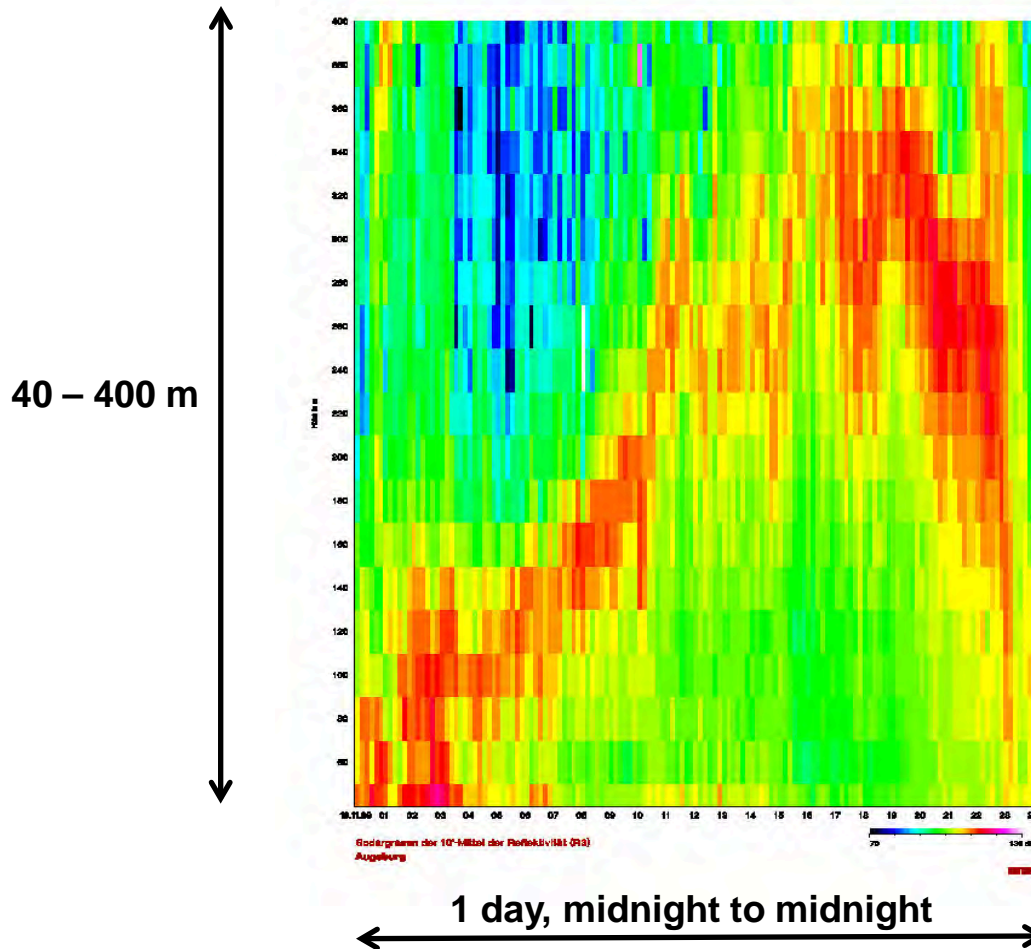
2 days, midnight to midnight



# SODAR sample plot (lifted inversion)

acoustic backscatter intensity

sigma w

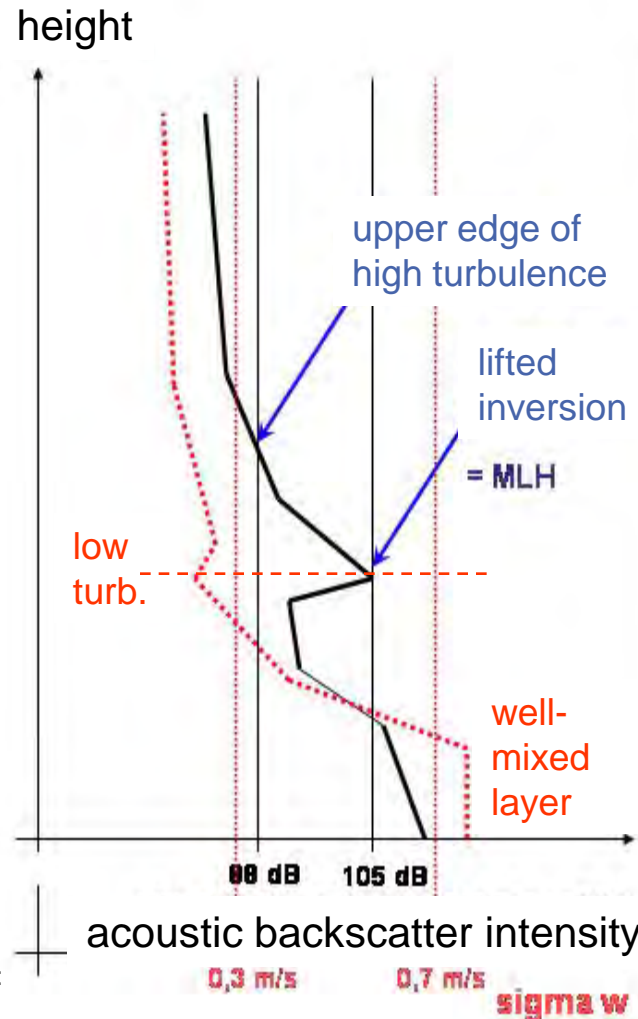


# Algorithms to detect MLH from SODAR data

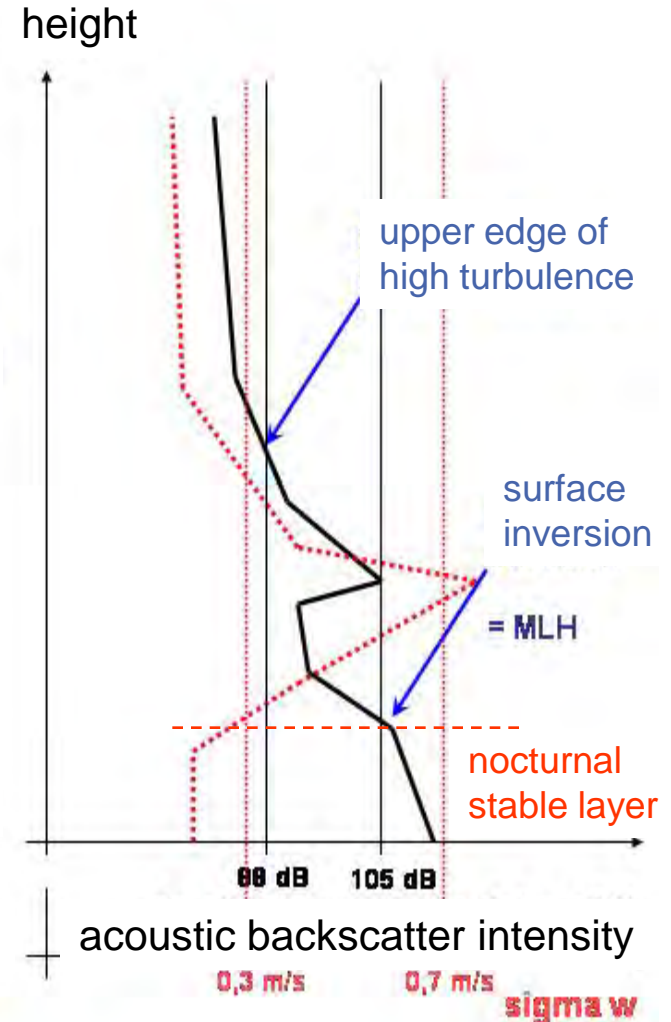
**criterion 1:**  
 upper edge  
 of high  
 turbulence

**criterion 2:**  
 surface and  
 lifted  
 inversions

MLH = Min (C1, C2)



example 1: daytime



example 2: night-time

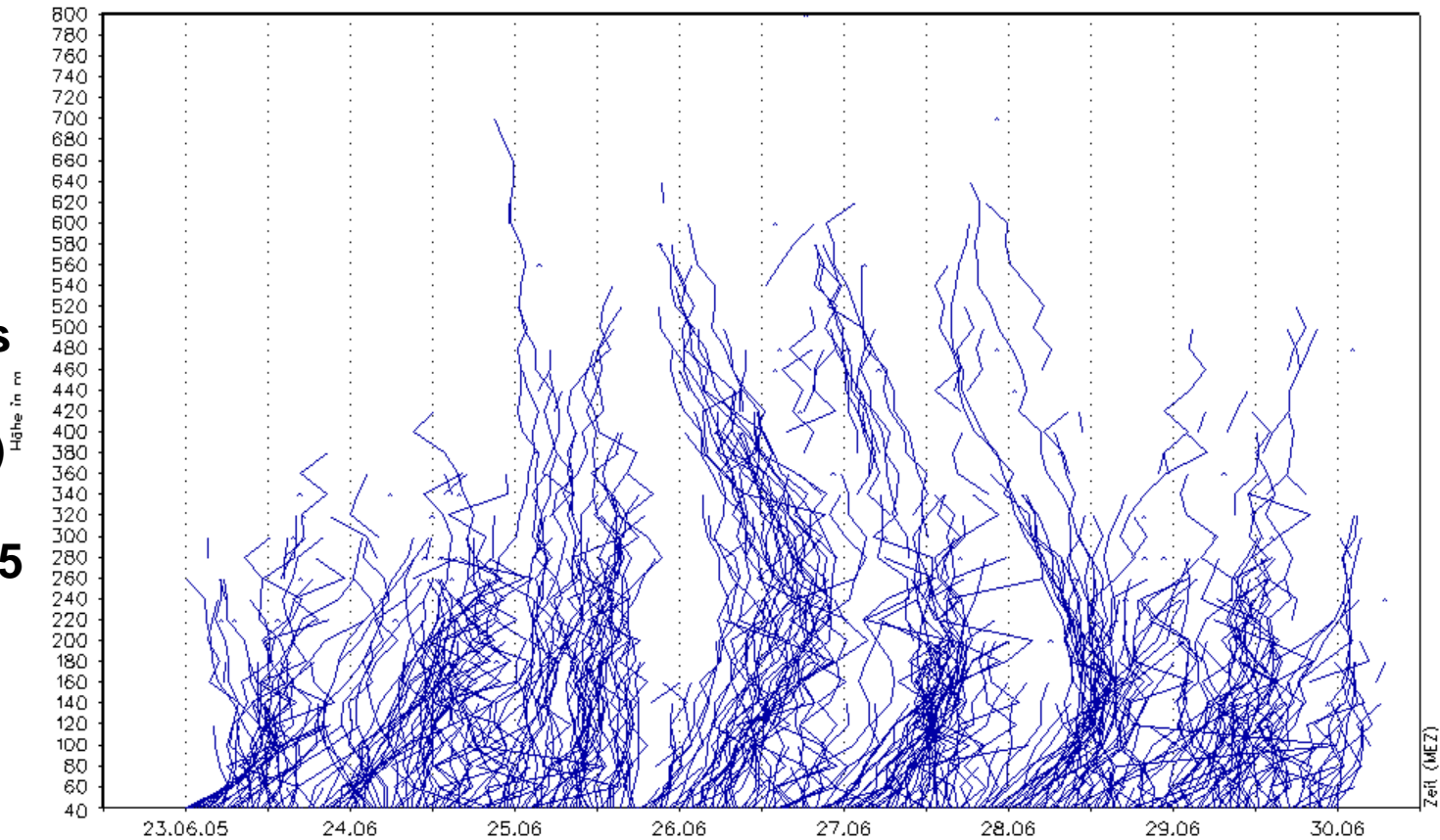
Emeis, S., K. Schäfer, C. Münkel, 2008:  
 Surface-based remote sensing of the  
 mixing-layer height – a review.  
 Meteorol. Z., 17, 621-630.

# examples for low-level jet observations with SODAR

vertical profiles  
of wind speed  
(30 min means)

23-30 June 2005

AdP Ch d G



30'-Mittel der Windgeschwindigkeit (V)  
vertical wind profiles

ΔV = 4 m/s

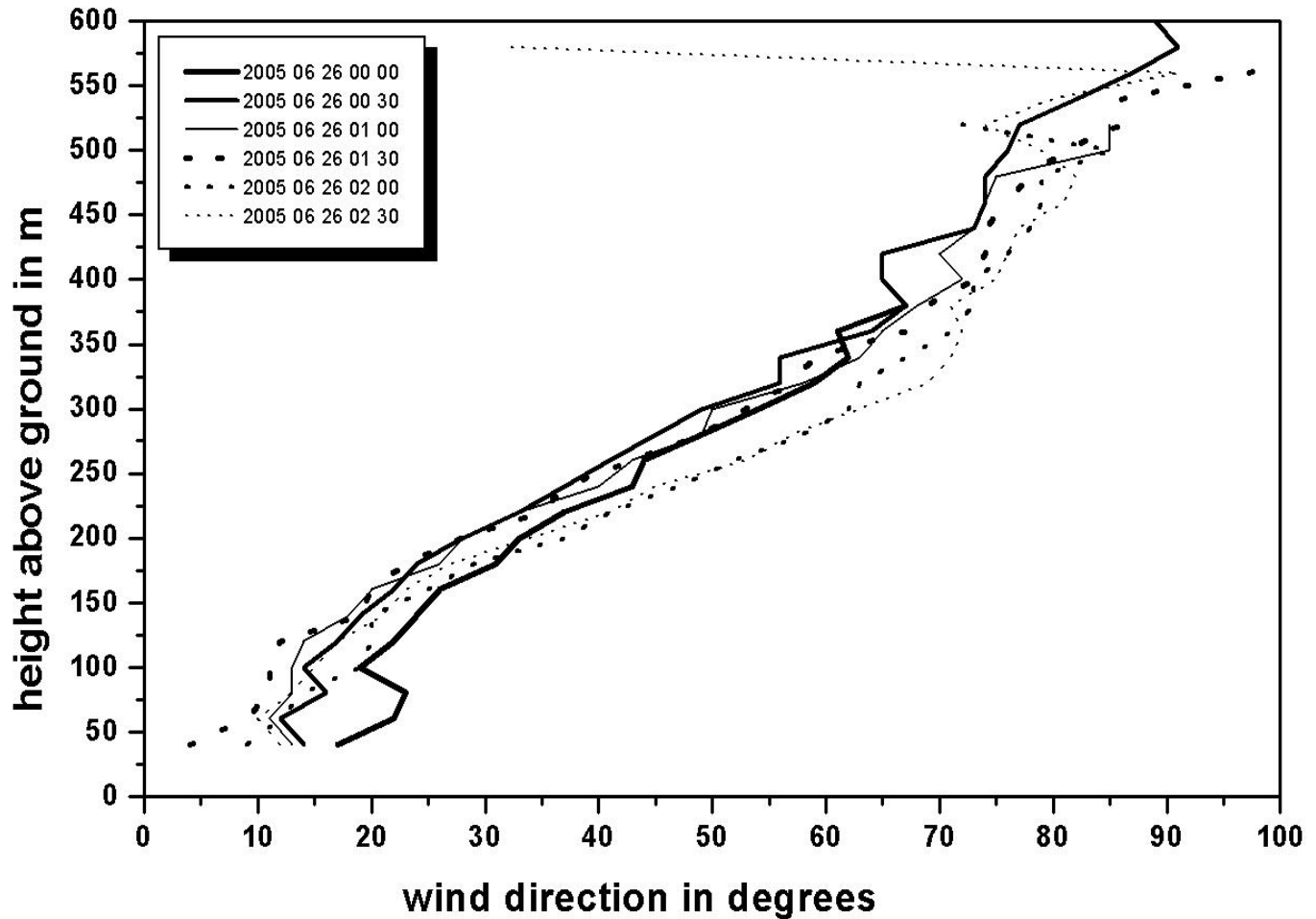
METEK



vertical profiles  
of wind direction

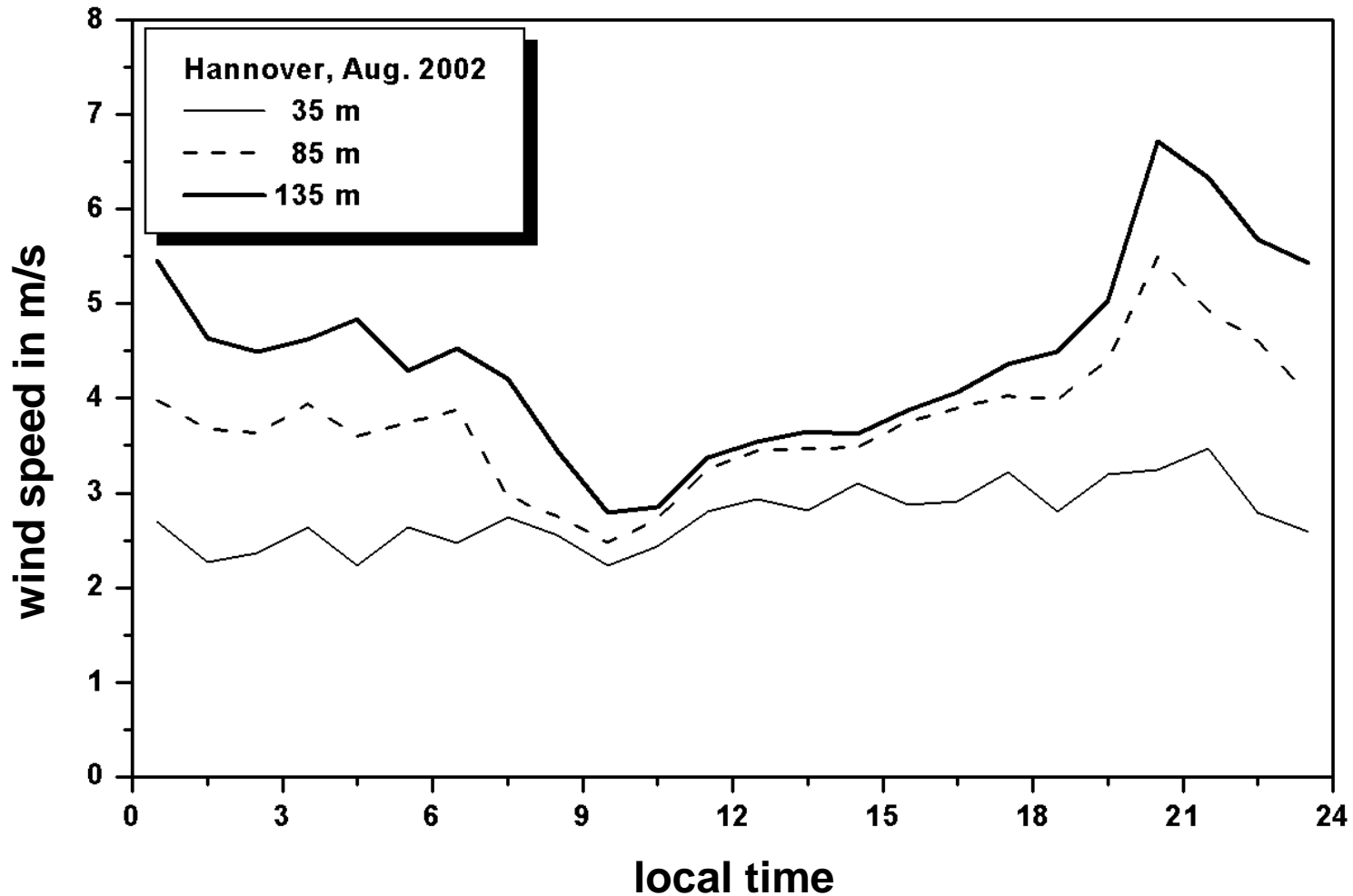
26 June 2005

AdP Ch d G

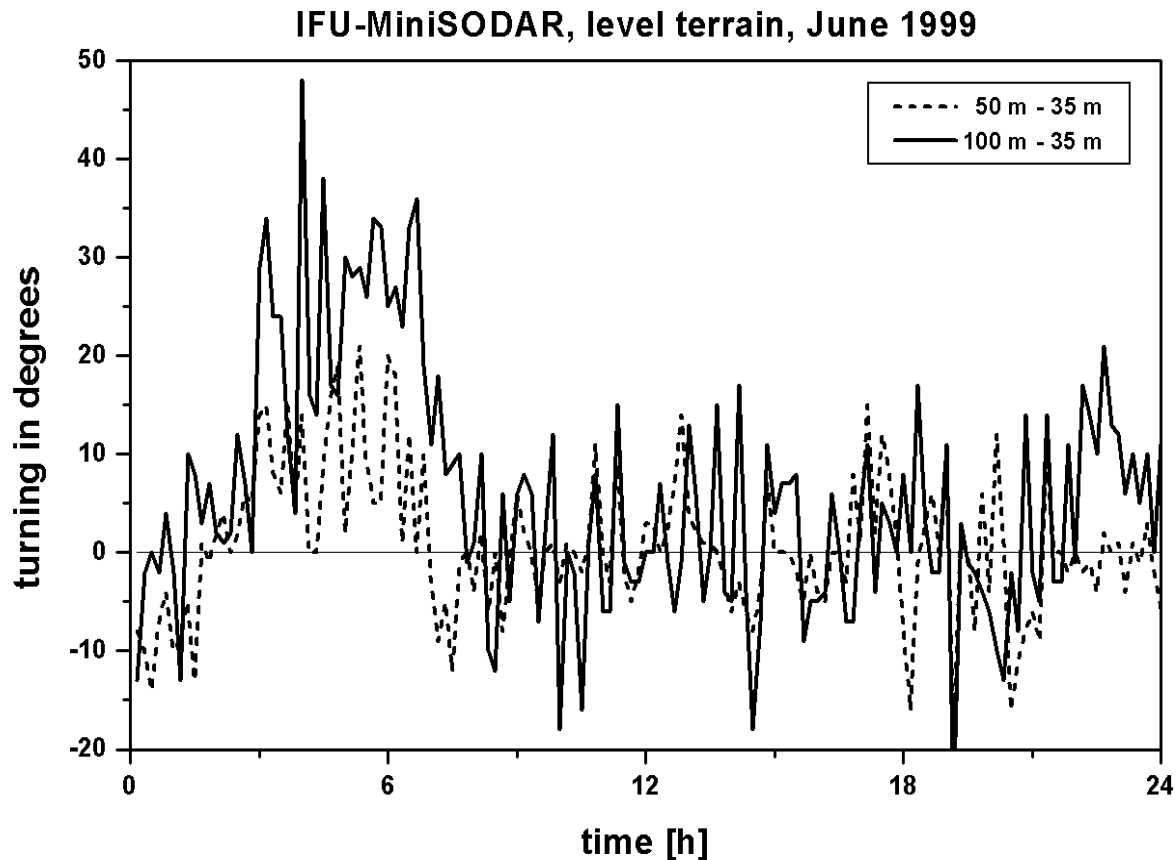


# Monthly mean diurnal course of wind speed

## August 2002, 17 nights with LLJ



## Mean diurnal variation of the turning of wind direction with height



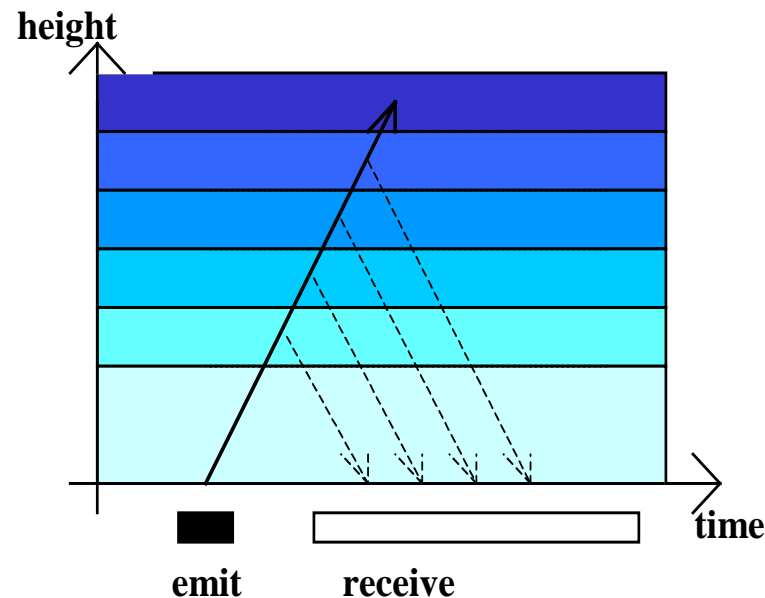
Emeis, S., 2001: Vertical variation of frequency distributions of wind speed in and above the surface layer observed by sodar. *Meteorol. Z.*, **10**, 141-149.



# Ceilometer

## algorithms for the determination of mixing-layer height

## Ceilometer/LIDAR measuring principle

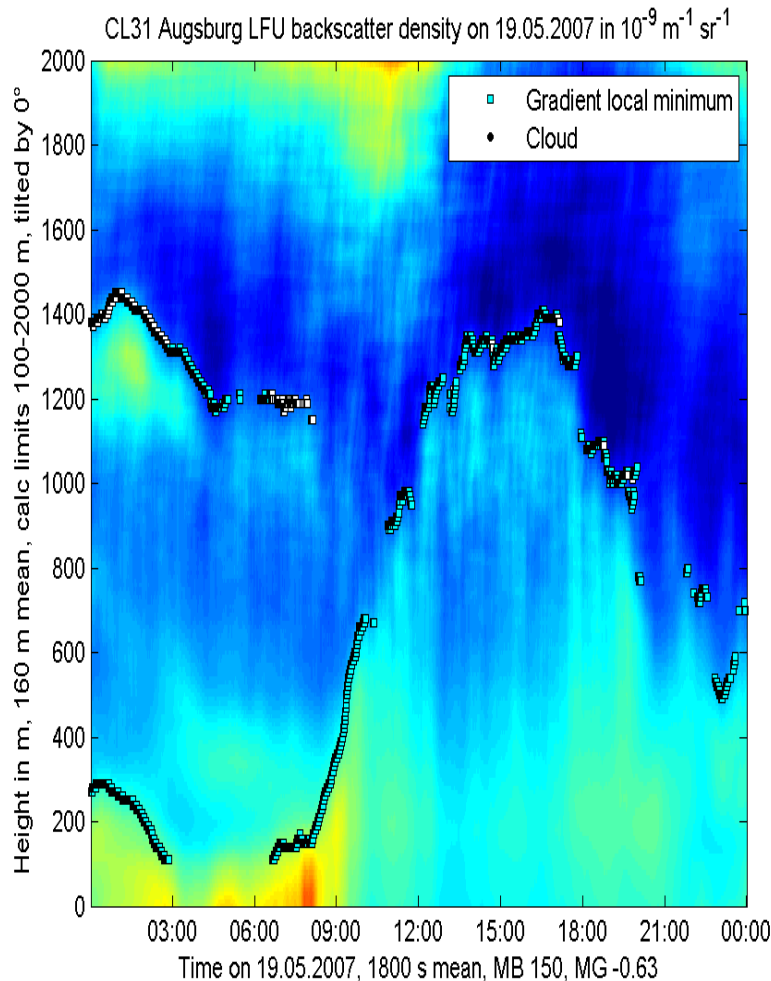


detection:

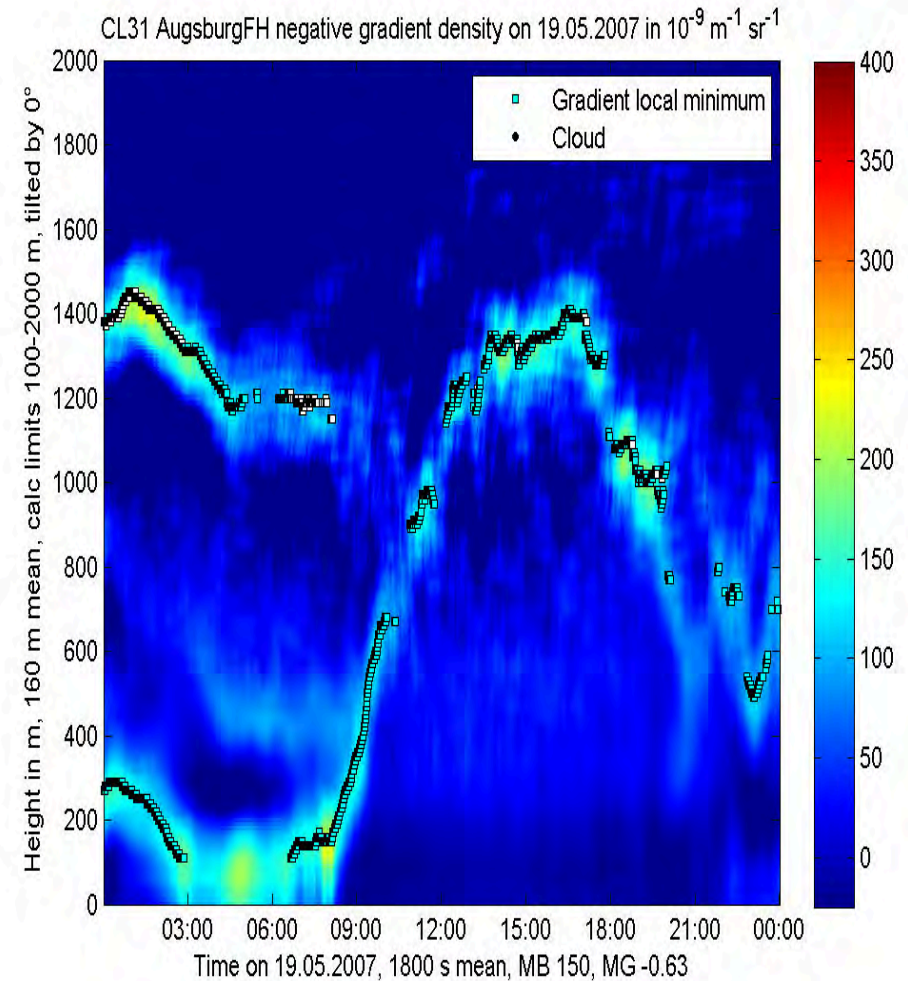
travel time of signal	= height
backscatter intensity	= particle size and number distribution
Doppler-shift	= cannot be analyzed from ceilometer data
	(available only from a Wind-LIDAR: velocity component in line of sight)

# ceilometer sample plot (daytime convective BL)

## optical backscatter intensity



## negative vertical gradient of optical backscatter intensity

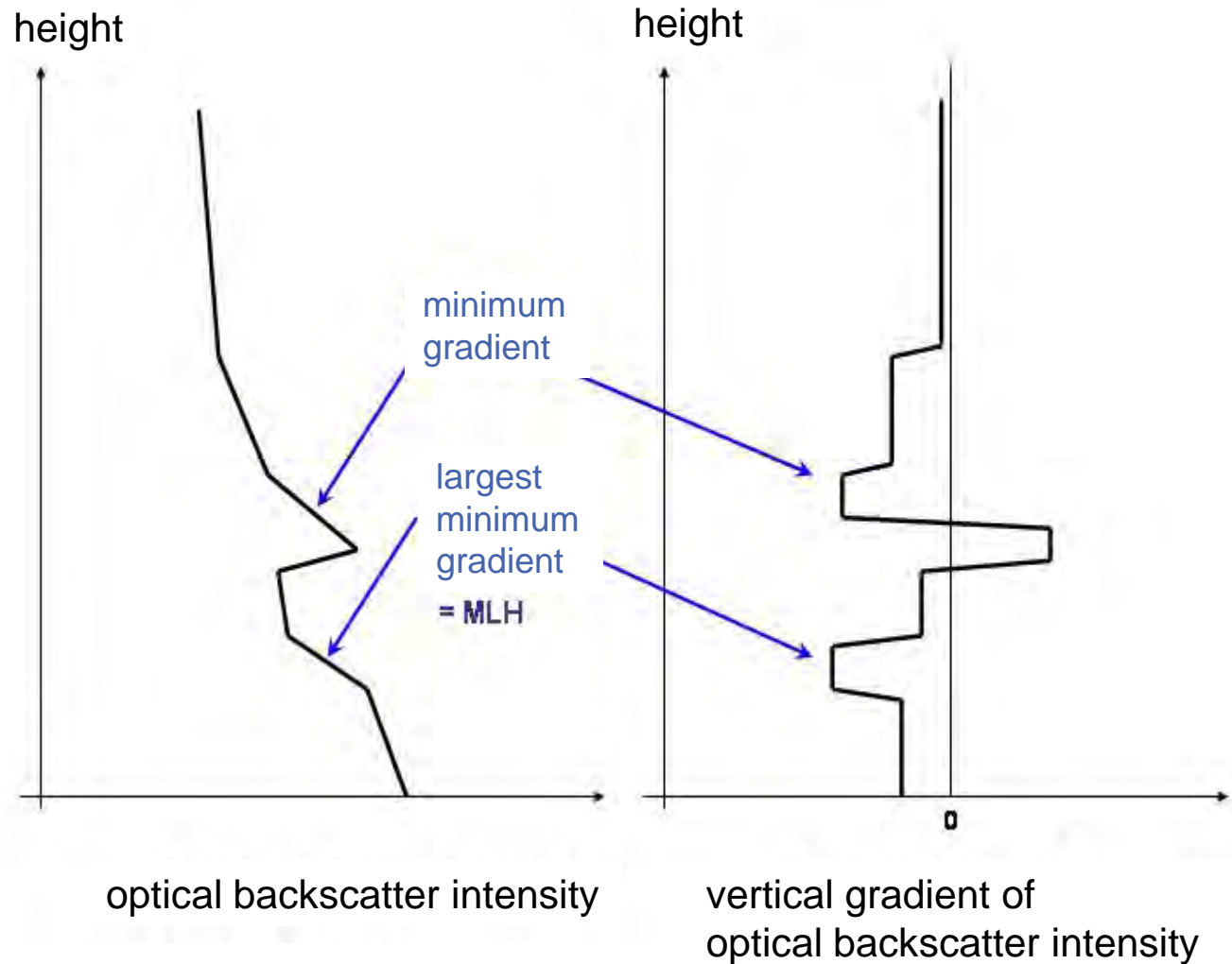




# Algorithm to detect MLH from Ceilometer-Daten

critterion

minimal vertical  
gradient of backscatter  
intensity (the most  
negative gradient)

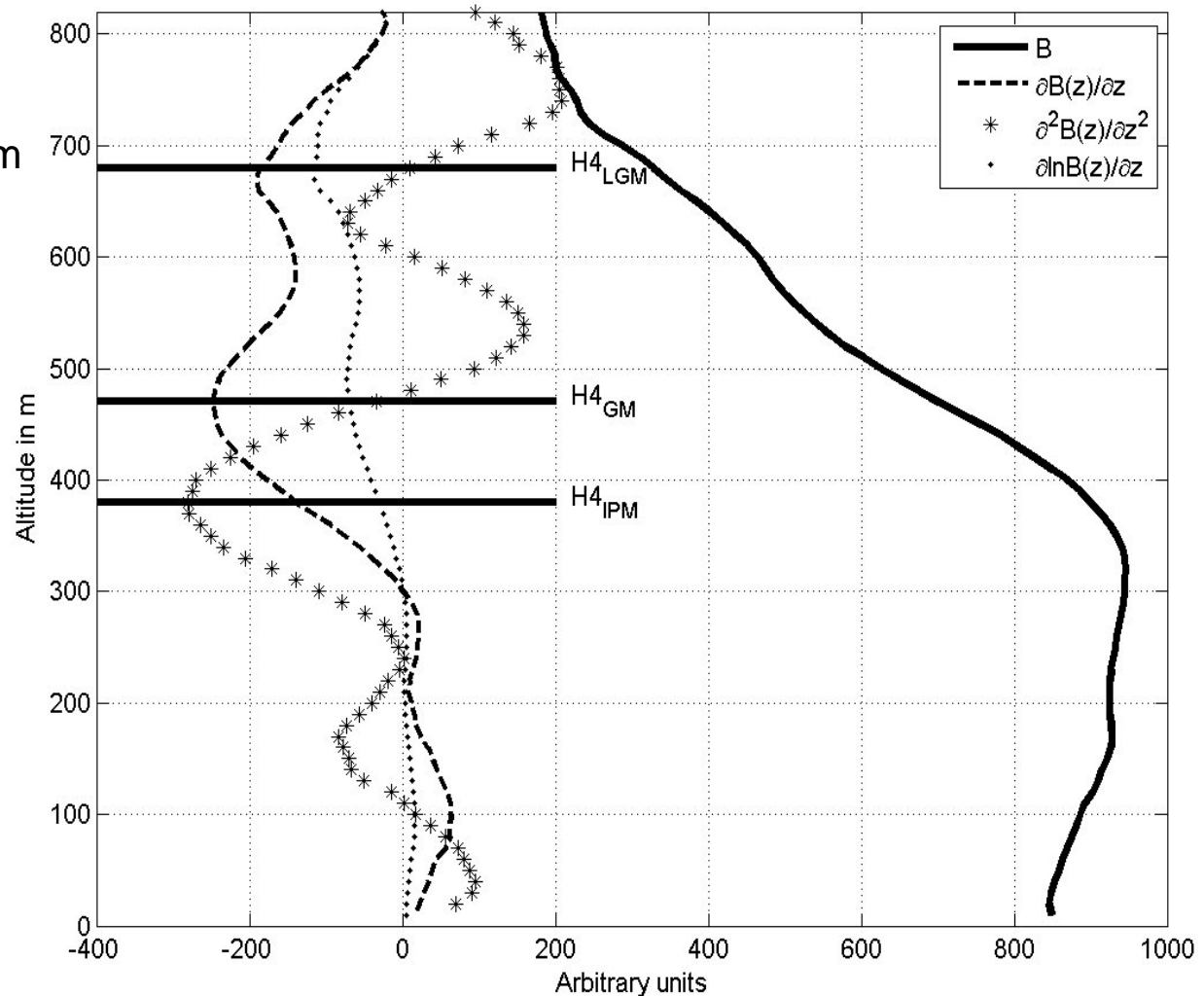


# Different gradient methods (see Sicard et al. 2006, BLM 119, 135-157)

logarithmic gradient minimum

gradient minimum

inflection point method  
(minimum of 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative)



# comparison of two different ceilometers

## LD40

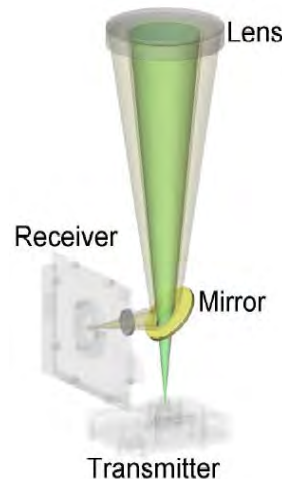
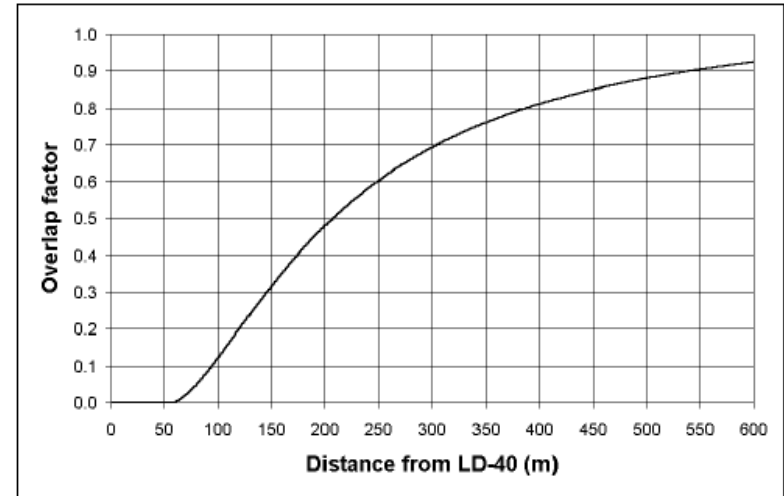
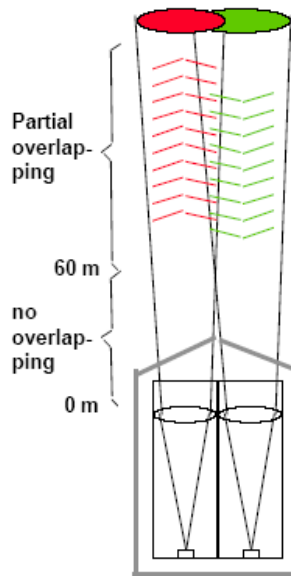
two optical axes

wave length: 855 nm  
height resolution: 7.5 m  
max. range: 13000 m

## CL31 / CL51

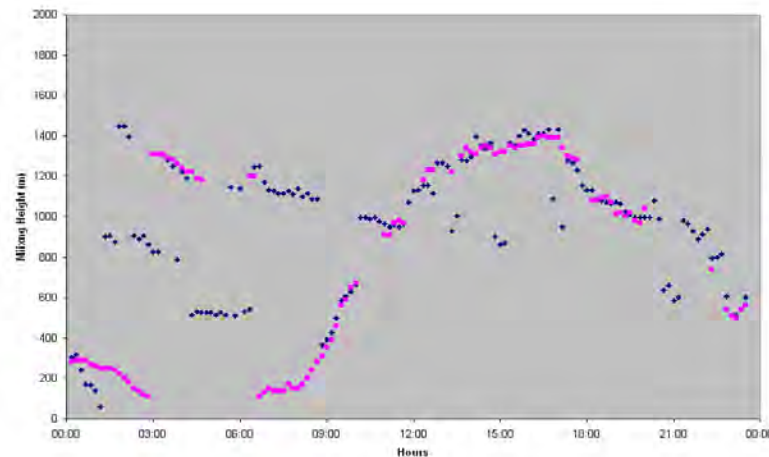
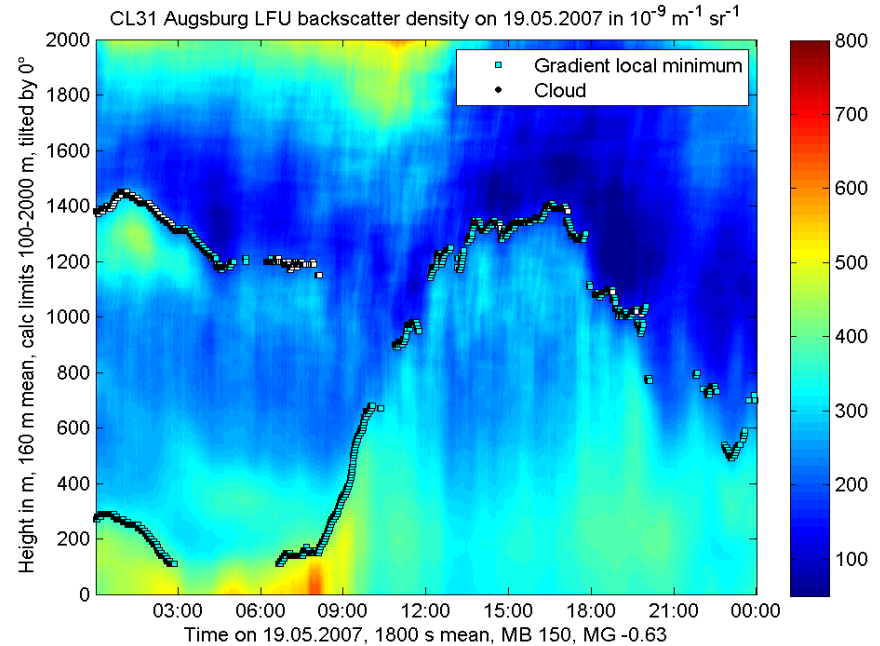
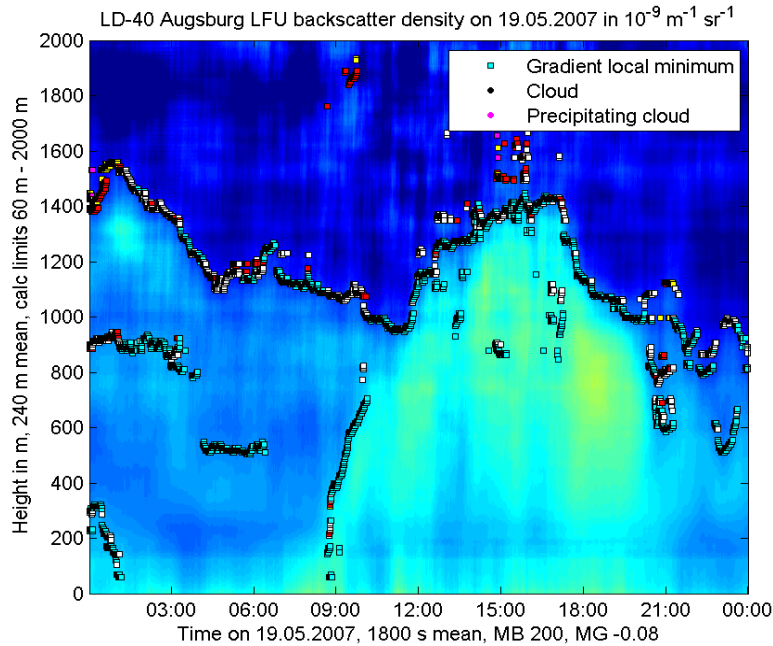
one optical axis

wave length: 905 nm  
height resolution: 5 m  
max. range: 7500 m





# comparison of LD40 and CL31

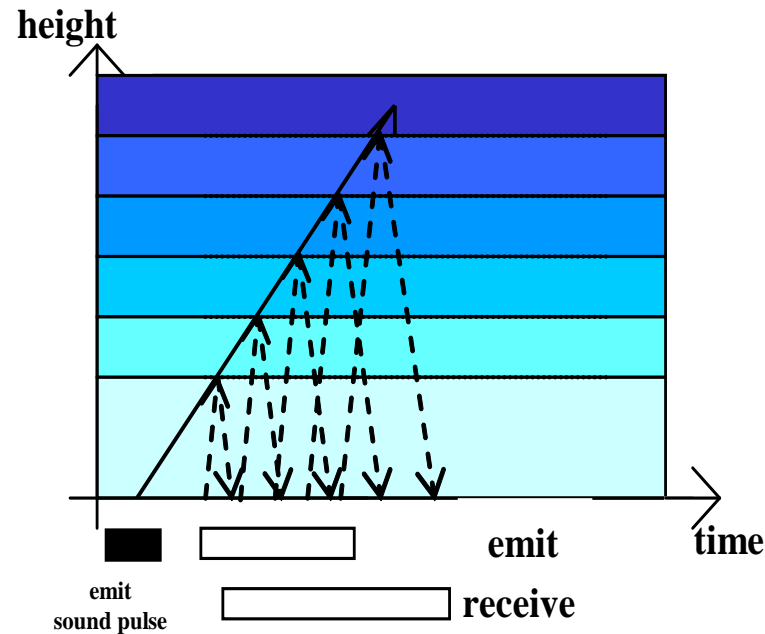


# RASS

**principles of operation**

**examples**

## RASS measuring principle



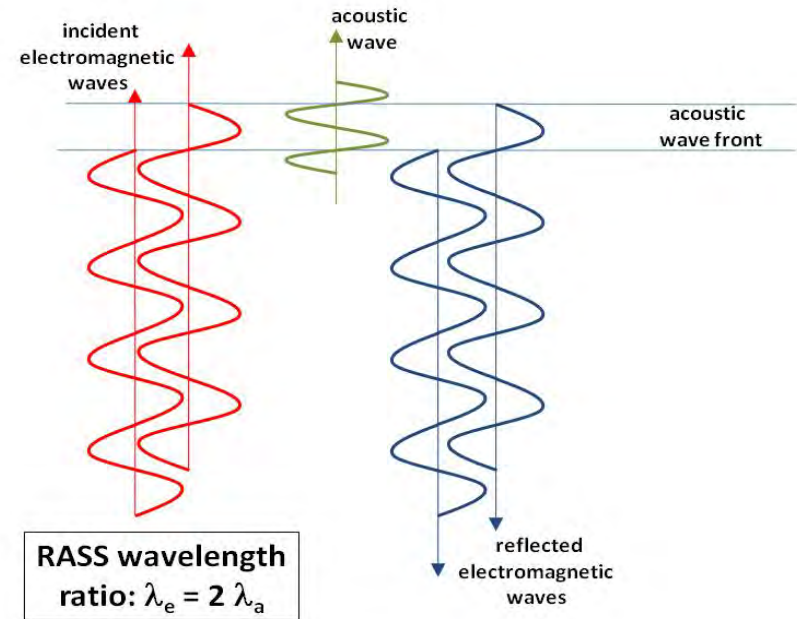
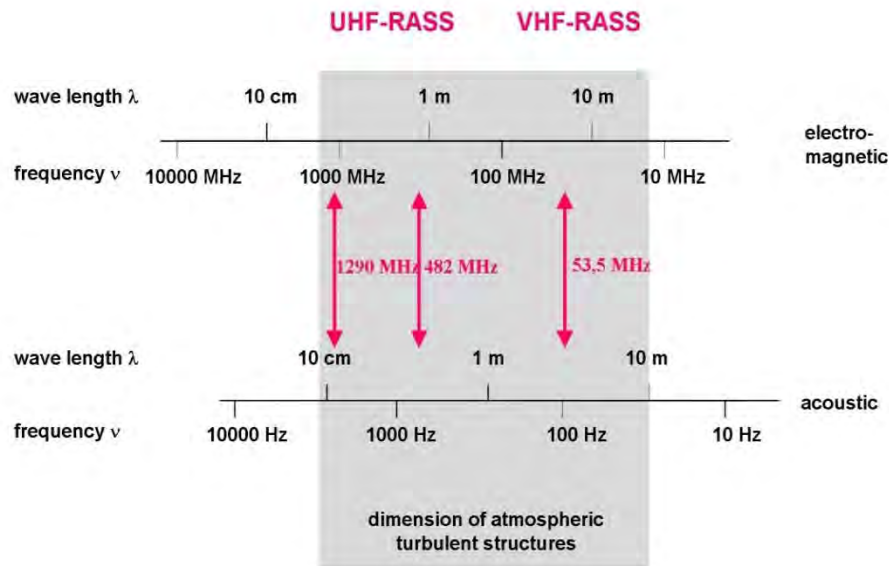
detection:

travel time of em./ac. signal	= height	
ac. backscatter intensity	= turbulence	(identical to SODAR)
ac. Doppler-shift	= line-of-sight wind speed	(identical to SODAR)
em. Doppler shift	= sound speed → temperature	

# RASS: frequencies

**Bragg condition:  
acoustic wavelength = 1/2 electro-magnetic wavelength**

electro-magnetic - acoustic frequency pairs for RASS devices



Emeis, S., 2010: Measurement Methods in Atmospheric Sciences - In situ and remote. Borntraeger, Stuttgart, 272 pp., 103 figs, 28 tables, ISBN 978-3-443-01066-9.





## SODAR-RASS (Doppler-RASS)

(METEK)

acoustic frequ.: 1077 Hz

radio frequ.: 474 MHz

resolution: 20 m

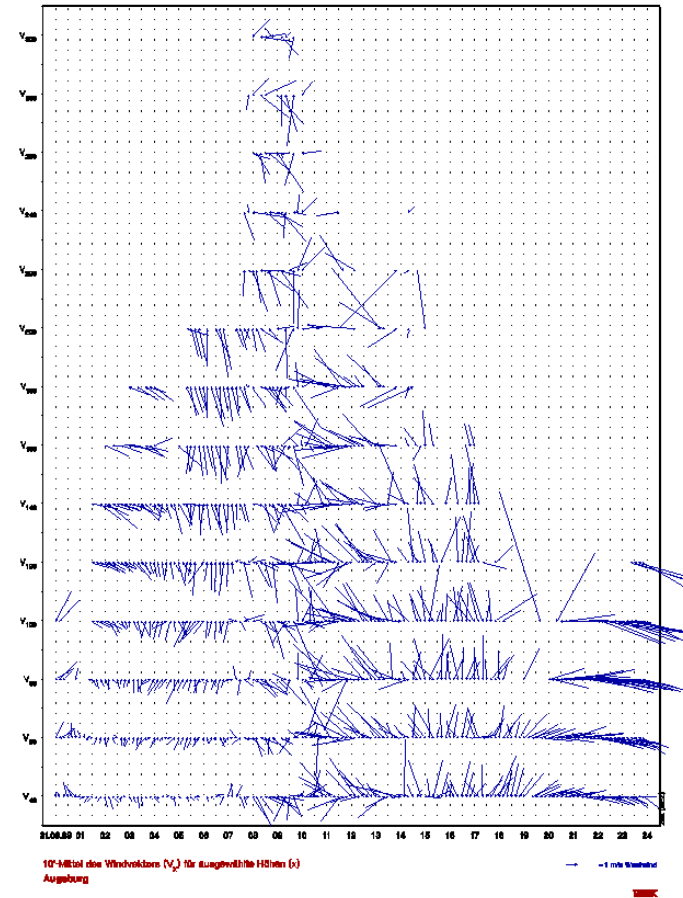
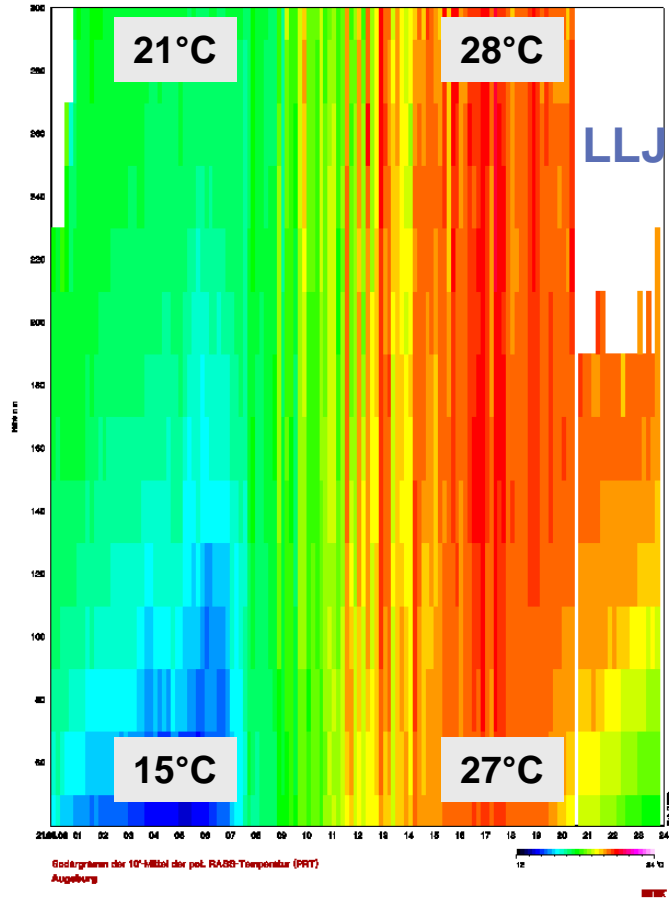
lowest

range gate: ca. 40 m

vertical range: 540 m

# example RASS data: summer day potential temperature (left), horizontal wind (right)

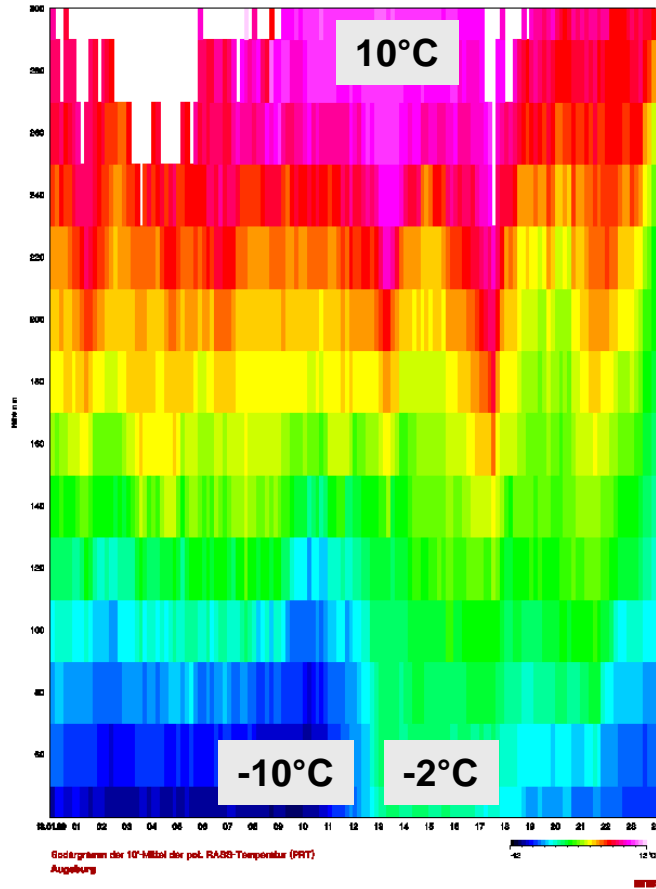
300 m



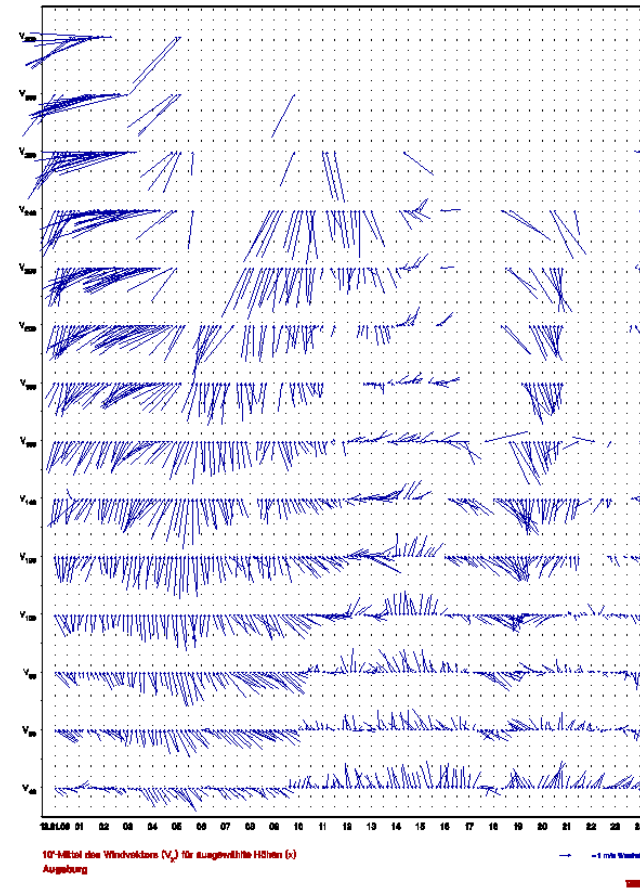
40 m

# example RASS data: winter day potential temperature (left), horizontal wind (right)

300 m

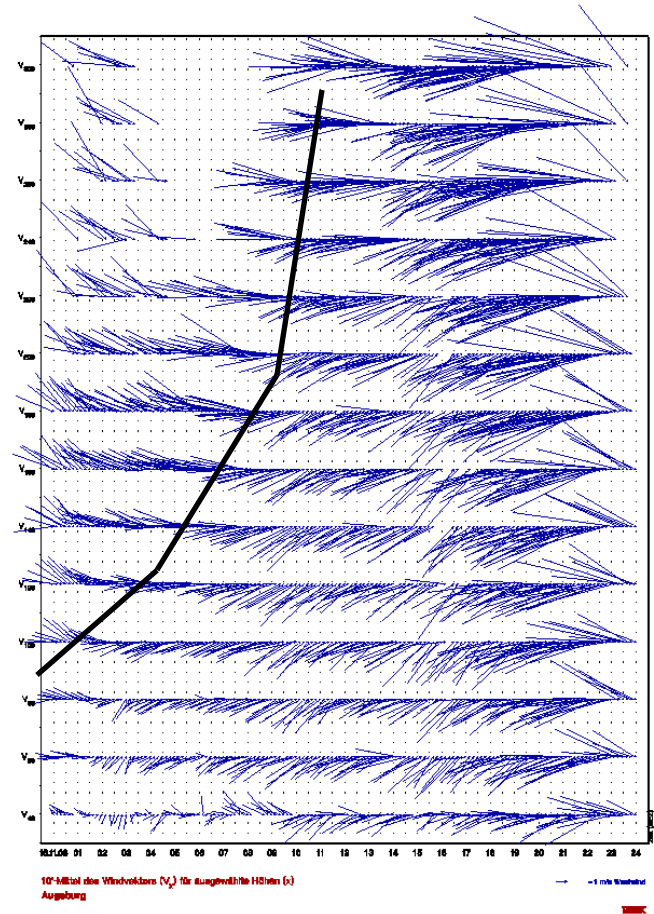
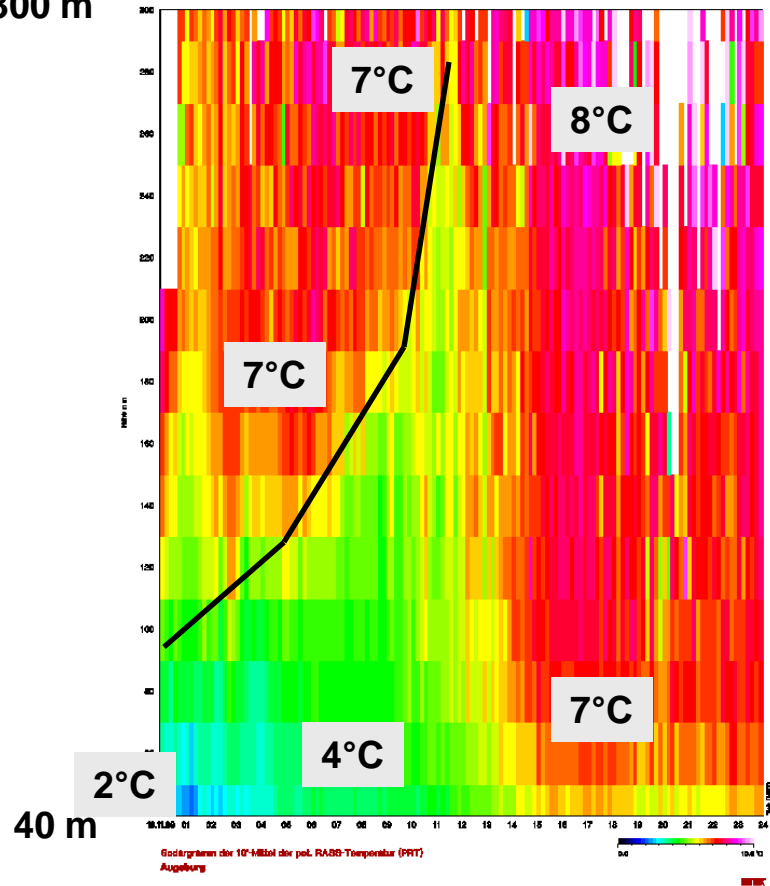


40 m



# example RASS data: inversion potential temperature (left), horizontal wind (right)

300 m

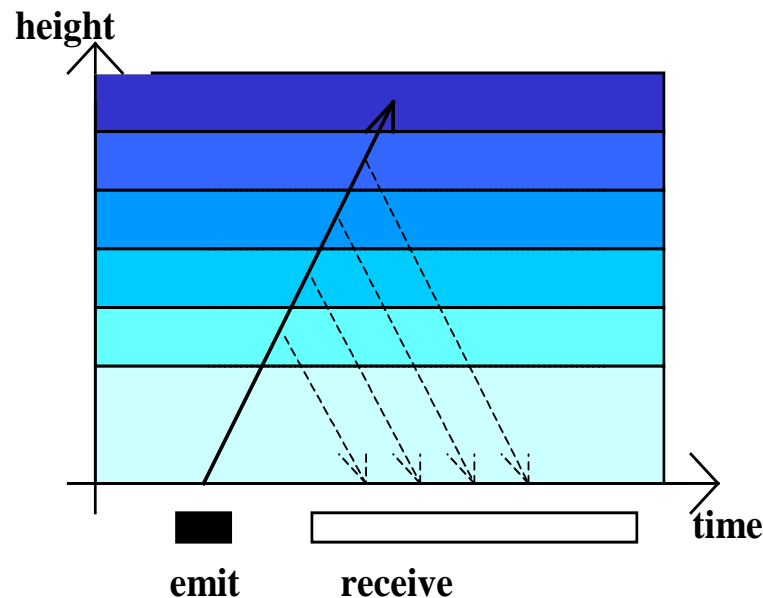




# Doppler windlidar

**wind, turbulence, aerosol detection,  
mixing-layer height, low-level jet**

## Doppler windlidar measuring principle



detection:

travel time of signal	= height
backscatter intensity	= particle size and number distribution
depolarisation	= particle shape
Doppler-shift	= wind speed in the line of sight

## mobile Doppler windlidar from Halo Photonics



sample data from  
windlidar

April 16, 2010

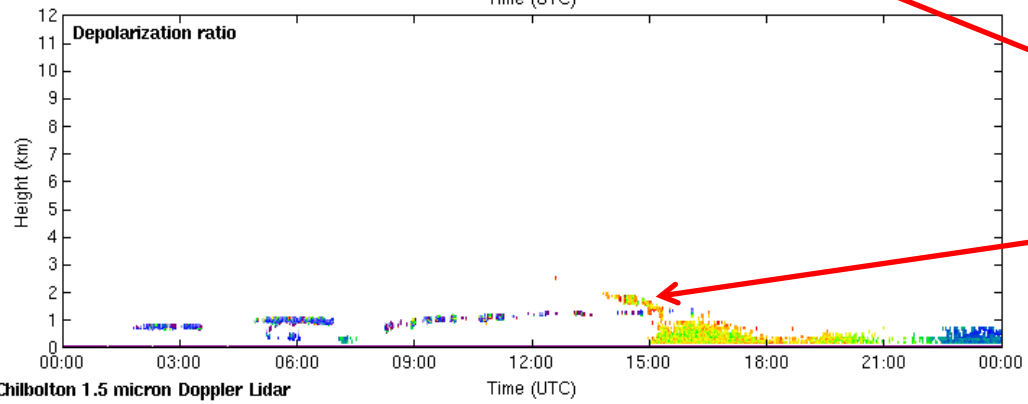
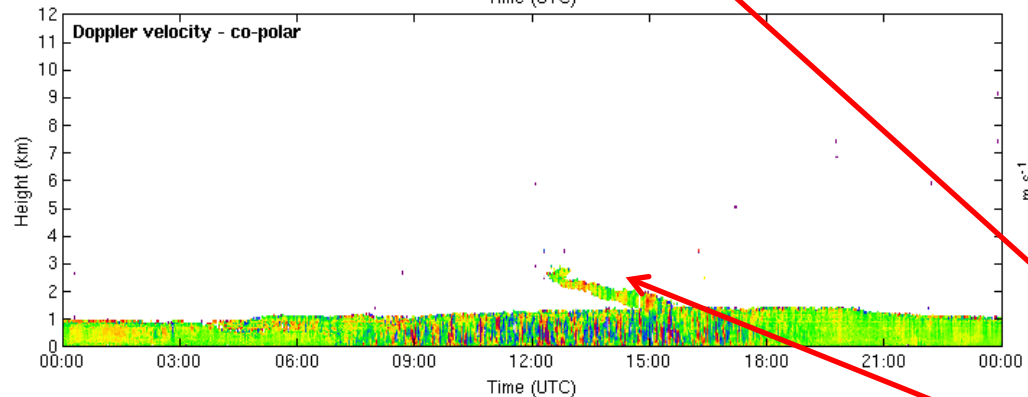
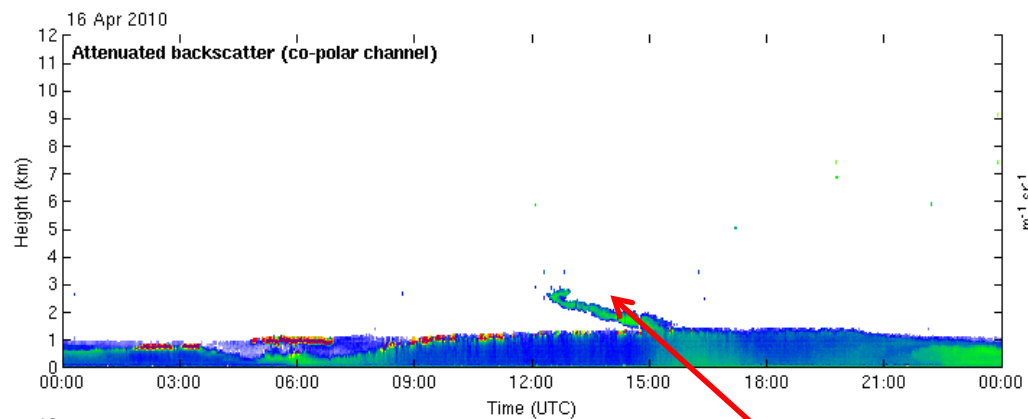
by  
Univ. of Reading

taken at

Chilbolton, UK

[http://www.met.reading.ac.uk/radar/realtime/archive/doppler-lidar/20100416\\_chilbolton\\_halo-doppler-lidar.png](http://www.met.reading.ac.uk/radar/realtime/archive/doppler-lidar/20100416_chilbolton_halo-doppler-lidar.png)

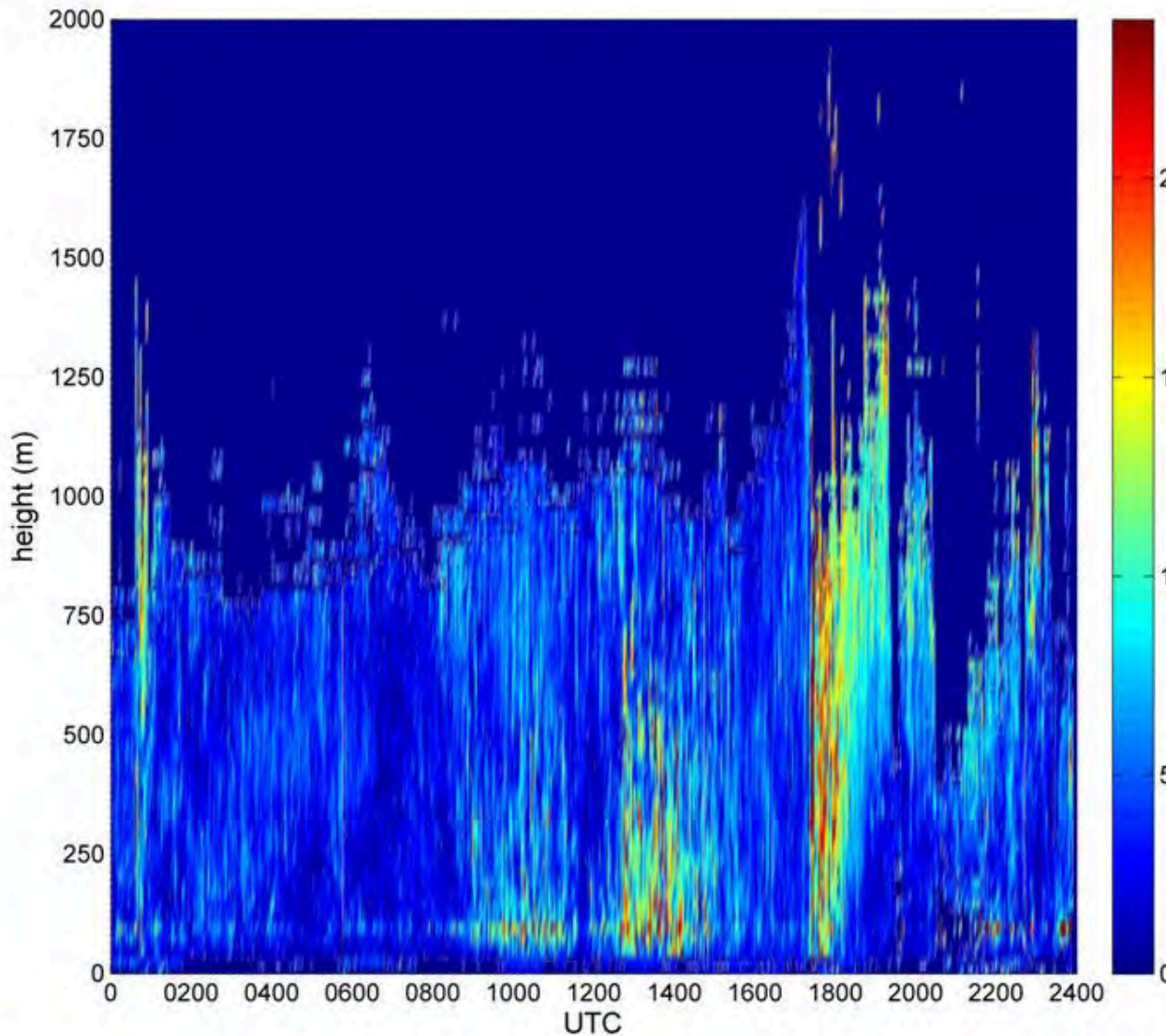
**volcanic ash  
from  
Eyjafjallajokull**



Chilbolton 1.5 micron Doppler Lidar

realtime data: <http://www.chilbolton.rl.ac.uk/weather/lidar.htm>





**sample data from  
windlidar**

**wind speeds in m/s  
(colour bar)**

**June 22, 2011**

**by IMK-IFU**

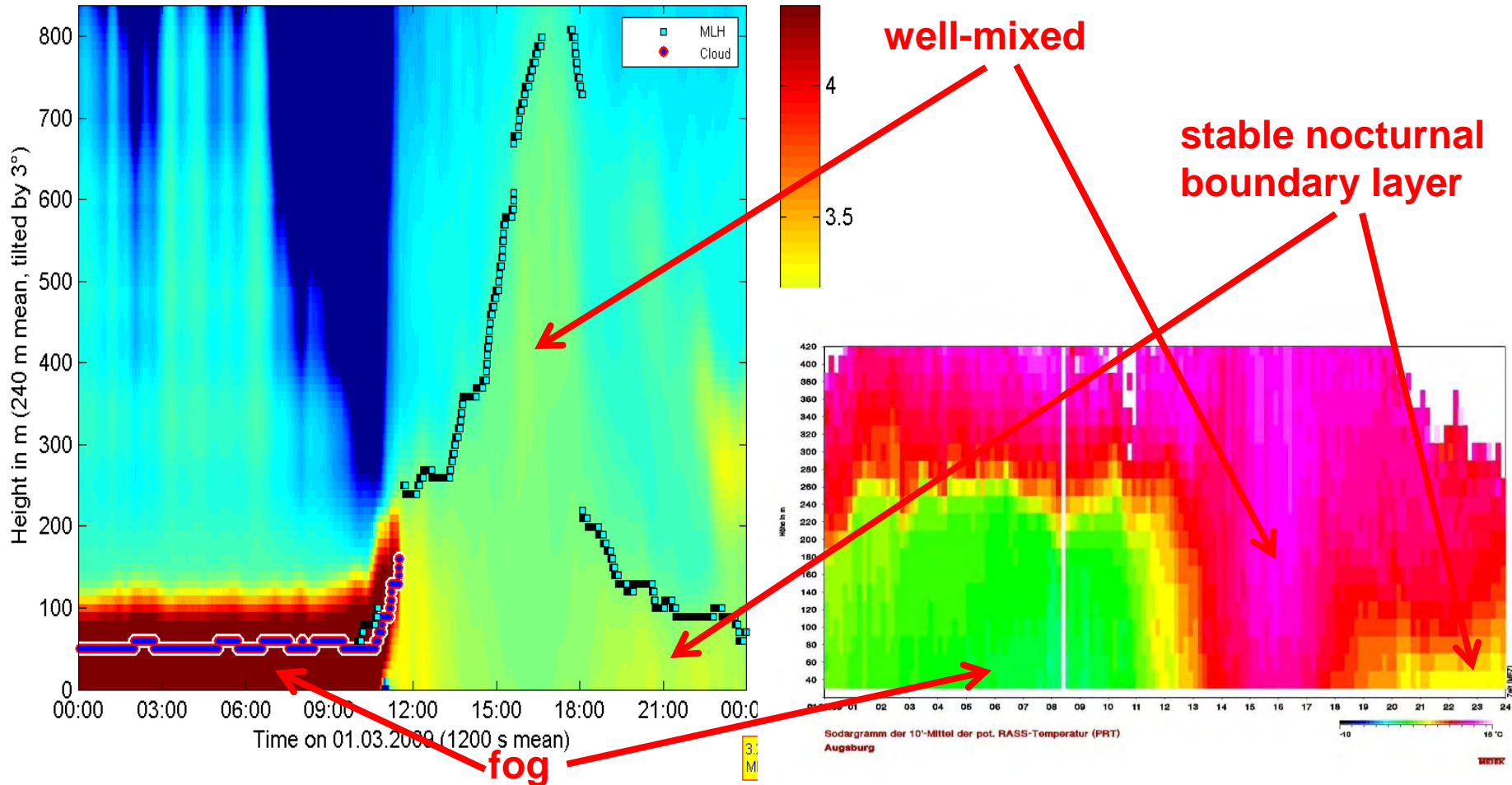
**taken at**

**Garmisch-Partenk.,  
Germany**

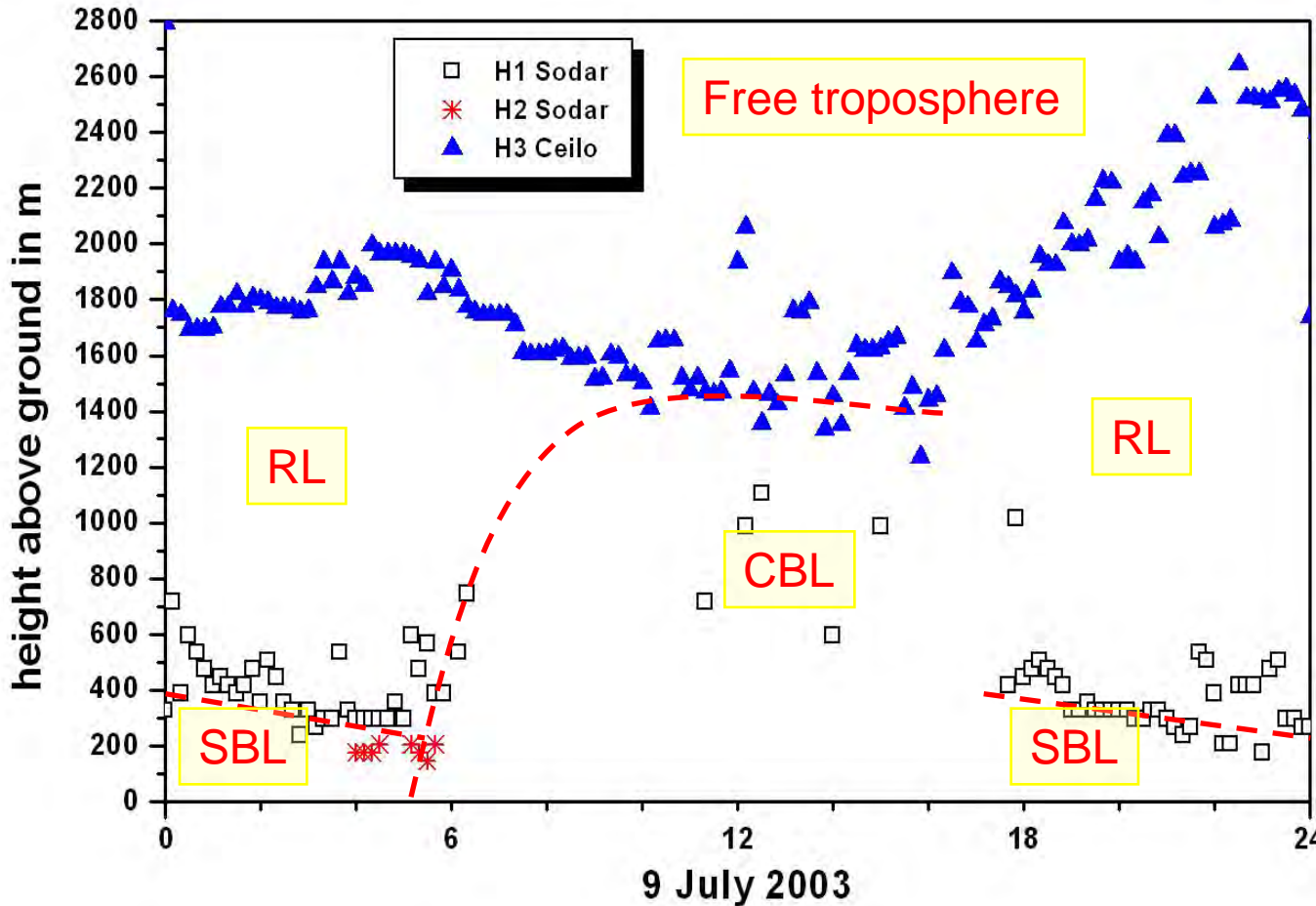
# Comparisons between different instruments

## comparison of RASS data (potential temperature, right) with aerosol backscatter from a ceilometer (left)

CL31 Augsburg AVA log<sub>10</sub> of backscatter with MLH on 01.03.2009 in 10<sup>-9</sup> m<sup>-1</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup>



# Detection of the diurnal variation of PBL structure from SODAR and Ceilometer data taken in Budapest



SBL:

stable boundary layer (usually at night and in winter)

CBL:

convective boundary layer (usually at daytime due to strong insolation)

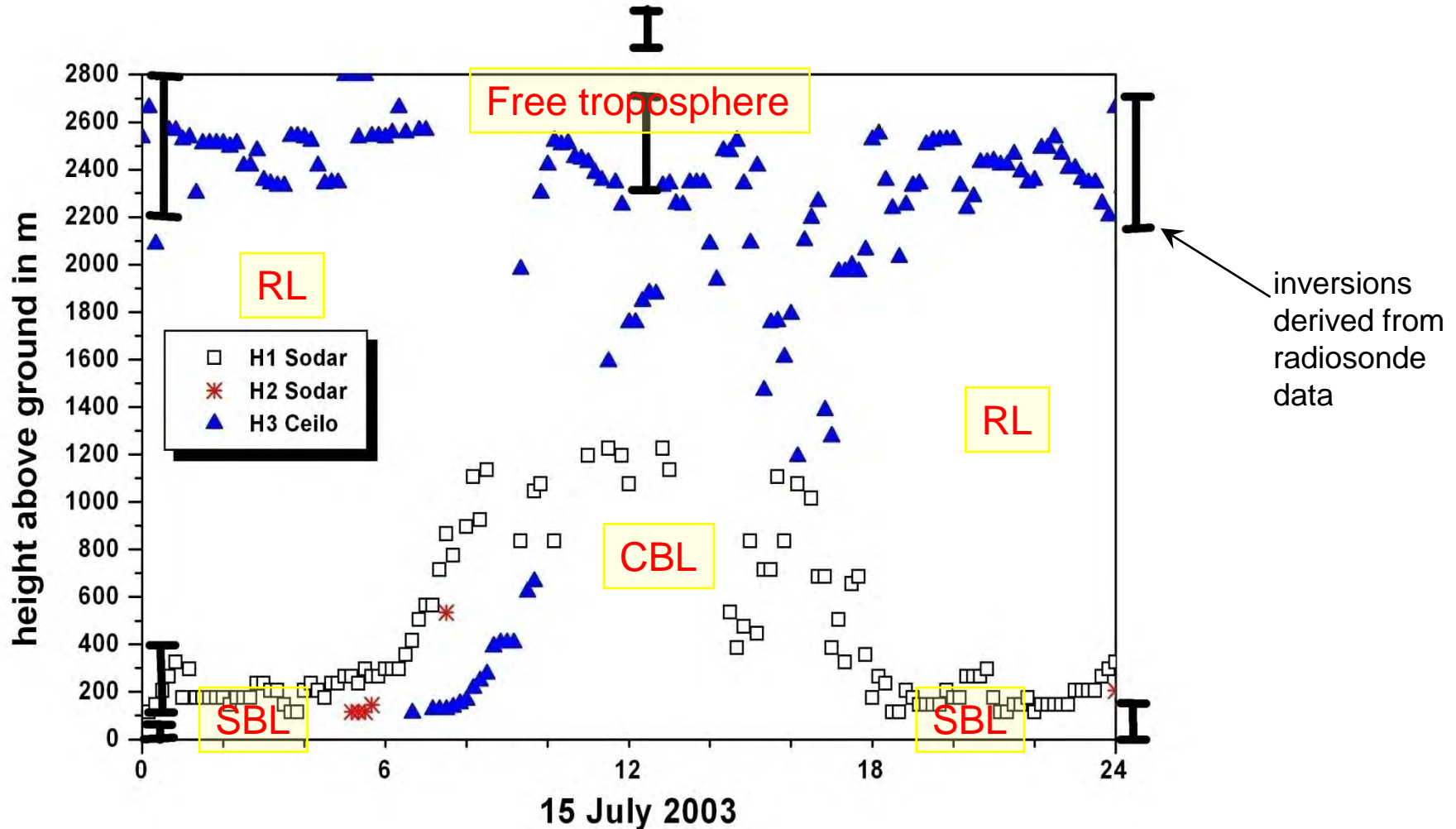
RL:

residual layer (usually at night-time)

Emeis, S., K. Schäfer, 2006: Remote sensing methods to investigate boundary-layer structures relevant to air pollution in cities. *Bound.-Lay Meteorol.*, 121, 377-385,



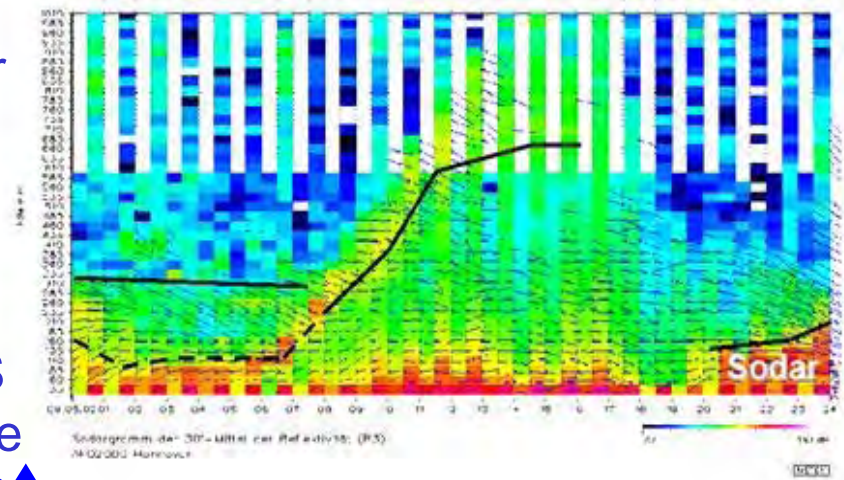
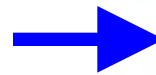
# Differences in MLH detection from SODAR and Ceilometer data taken in Budapest



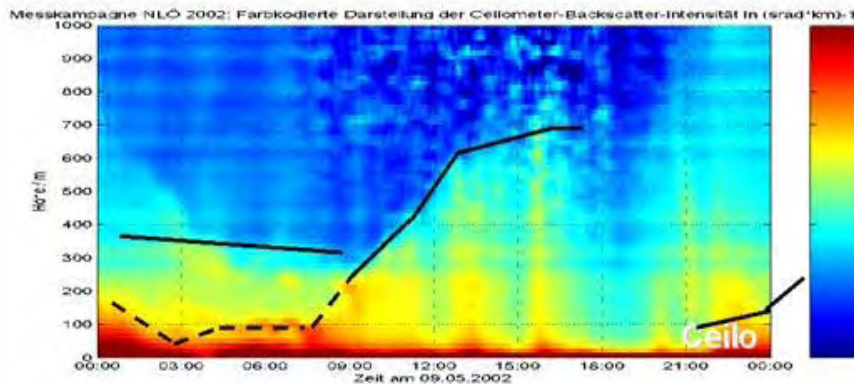
Emeis, S., K. Schäfer, 2006: Remote sensing methods to investigate boundary-layer structures relevant to air pollution in cities. *Bound.-Lay Meteorol.*, 121, 377-385,

# Comparison of MLH retrievals with three different remote sensing techniques

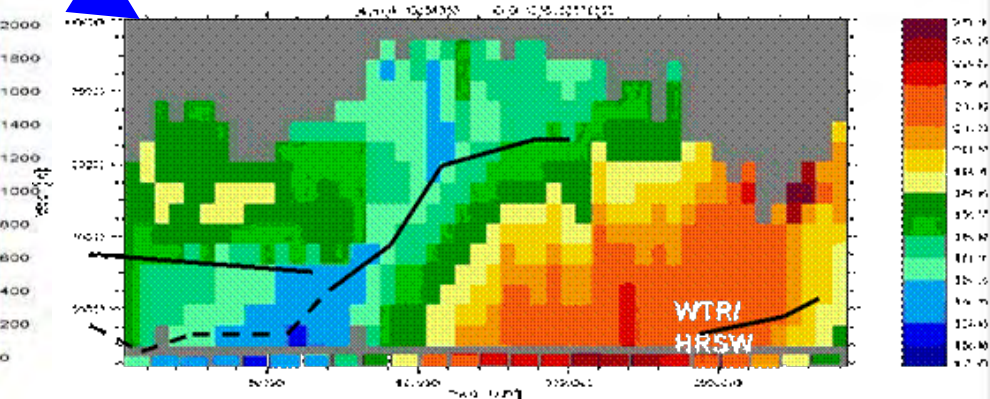
SODAR  
acoustic backscatter



ceilometer  
optical backscatter



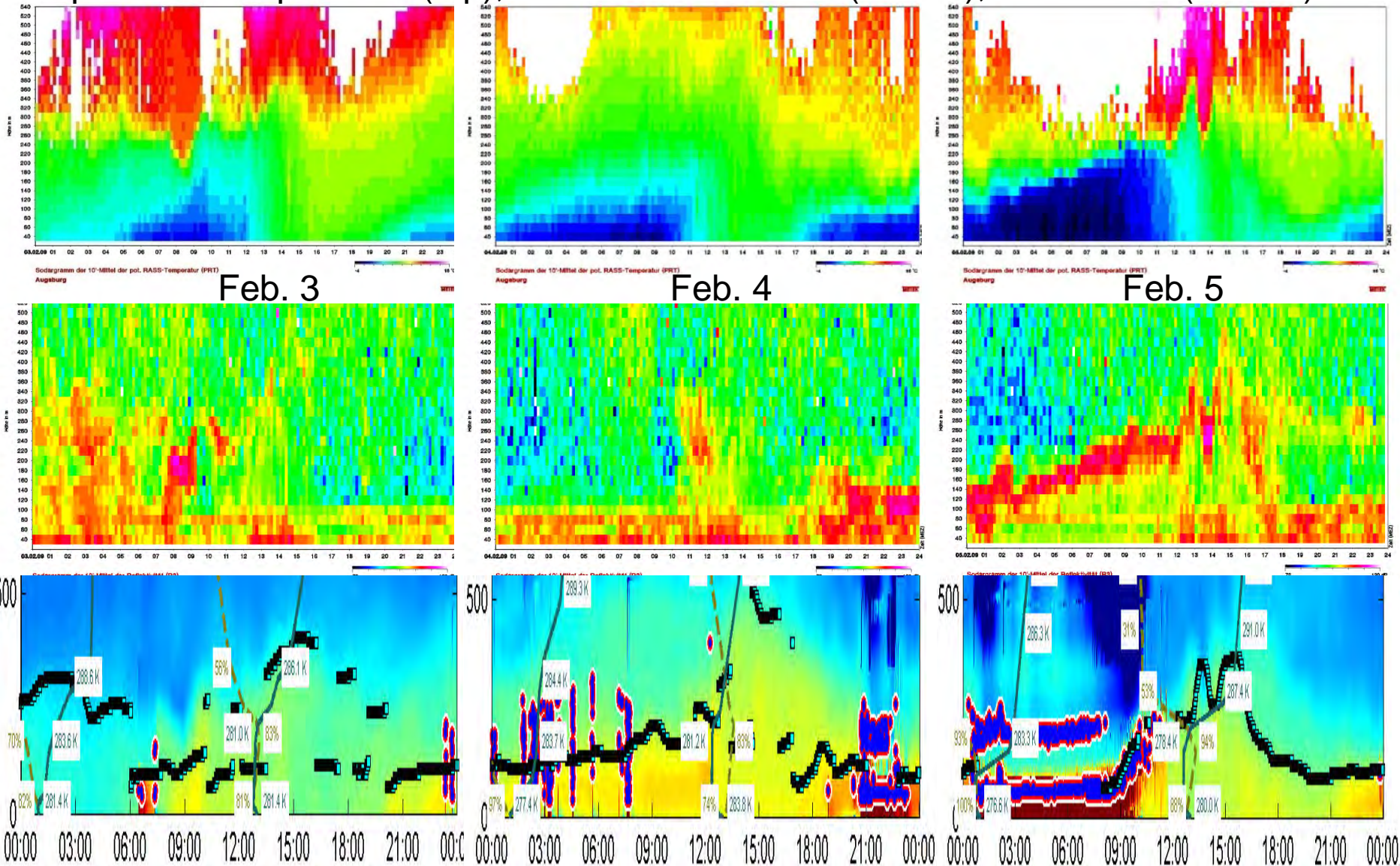
RASS  
temperature



Emeis, S., Chr. Münkel, S. Vogt, W.J. Müller, K. Schäfer, 2004: Atmospheric boundary-layer structure from simultaneous SODAR, RASS, and ceilometer measurements. *Atmos. Environ.*, 38, 273-286.

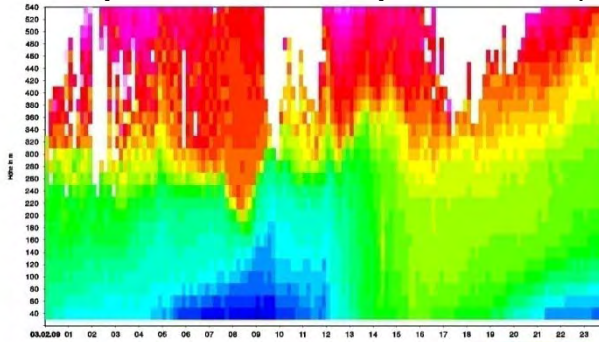


potential temperature (top), backscatter SODAR (middle), Ceilometer (bottom)

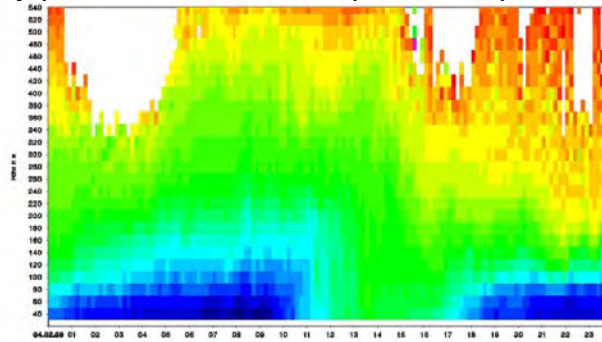




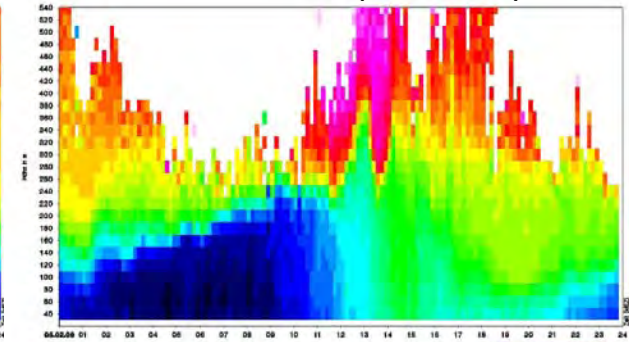
potential temperature (top), MLH RASS (middle), MHL SODAR/Ceilo (bottom)



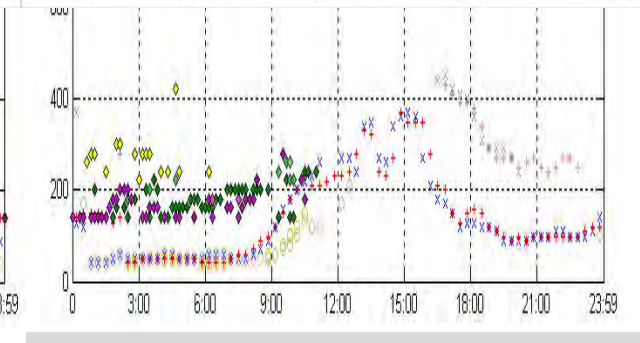
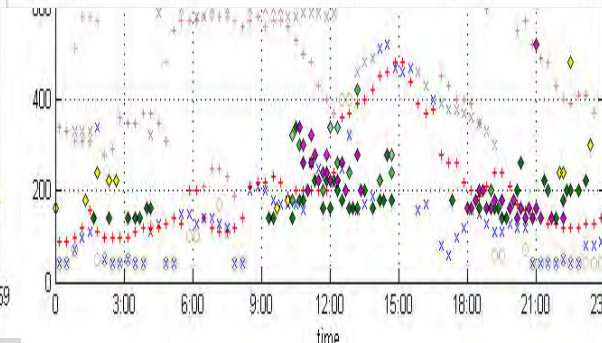
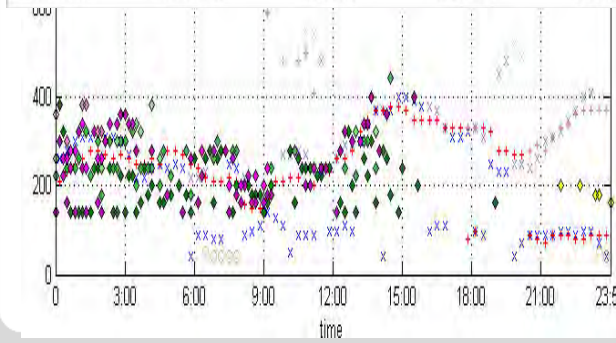
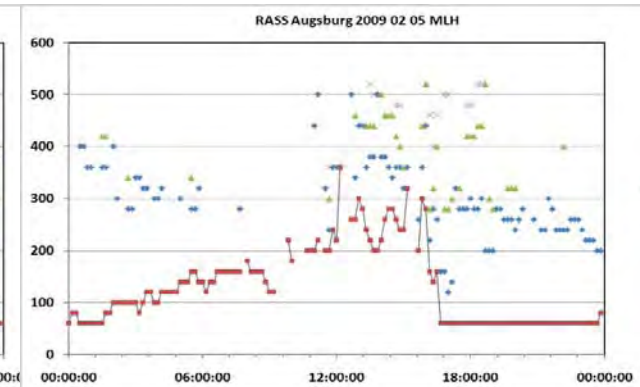
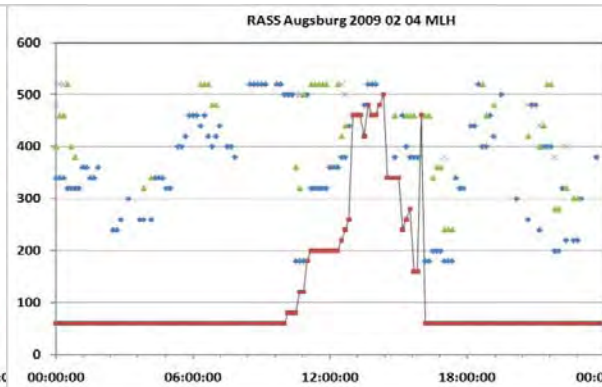
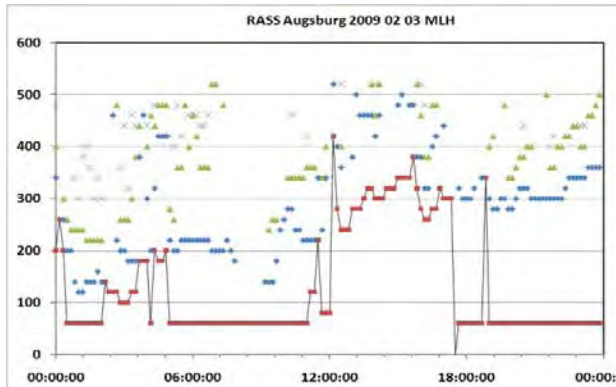
Feb. 3



Feb. 4



Feb. 5



# Application of MLH information for regional emission flux estimates



## Determination of regional surface emission fluxes of a substance $e$

### Assumptions:

- horizontal homogeneity
- no fluxes through the upper boundary (inversion)
- no sources and sinks within the volume of interest

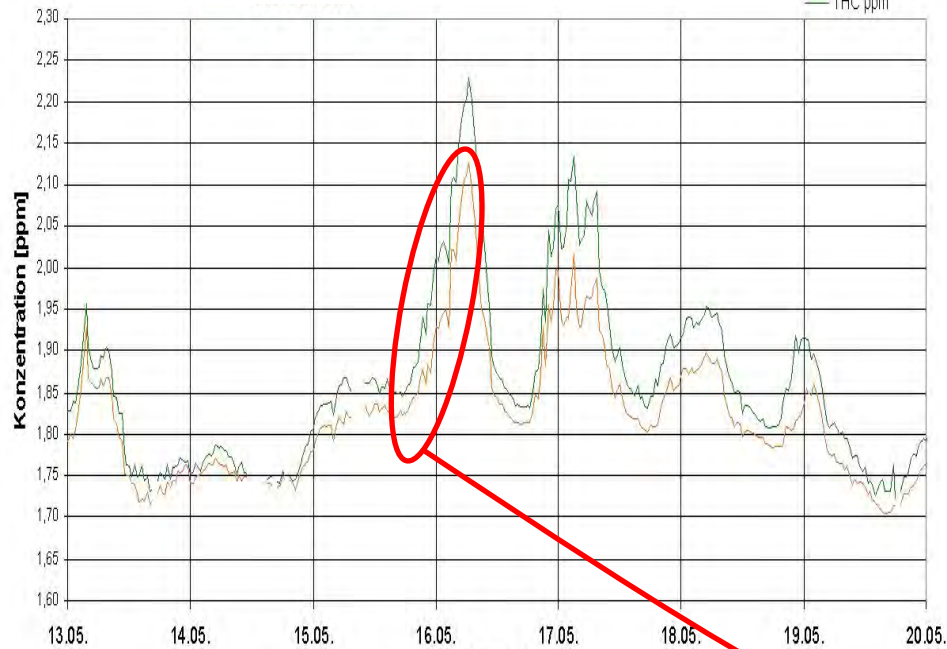
$$\int_{S_{surf}} \overline{e'w'} \cdot dS = \int_V \frac{de}{dt} dV$$

# simultaneous measurement of concentration and MLH

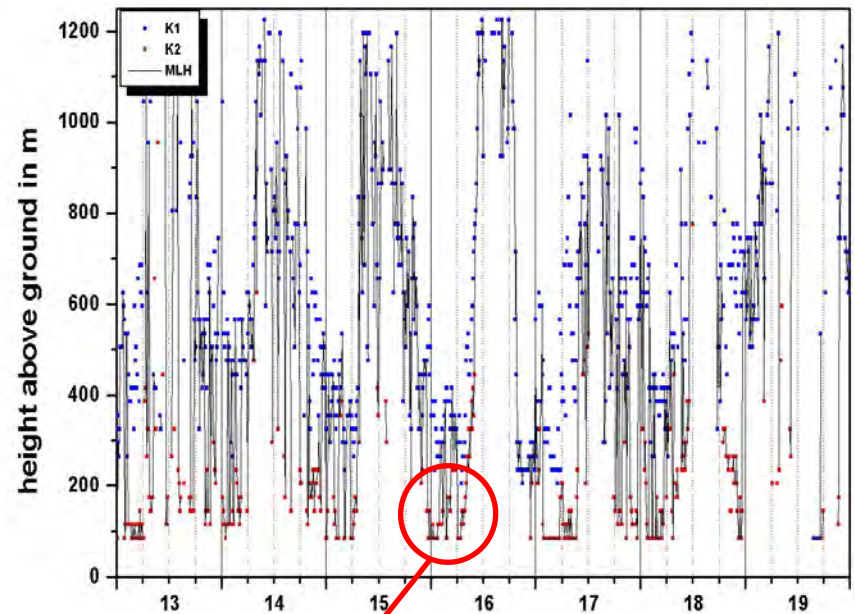
(inverse method)

## $C_{CH4}$

— CH4 ppm  
— NMHC ppm  
— THC ppm



## MLH



**13.-19.05.2003**

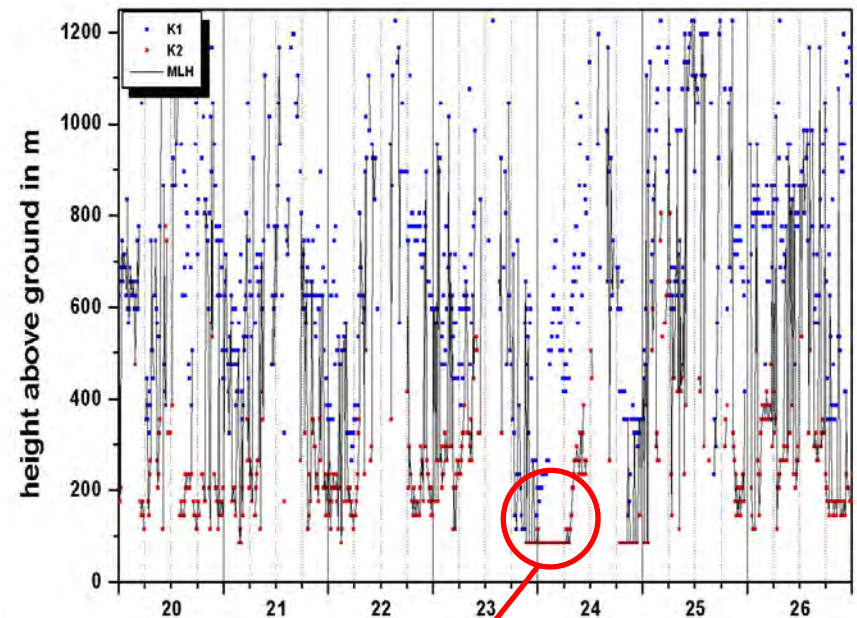
# simultaneous measurement of concentration and MLH

(inverse method)

## $C_{CH_4}$

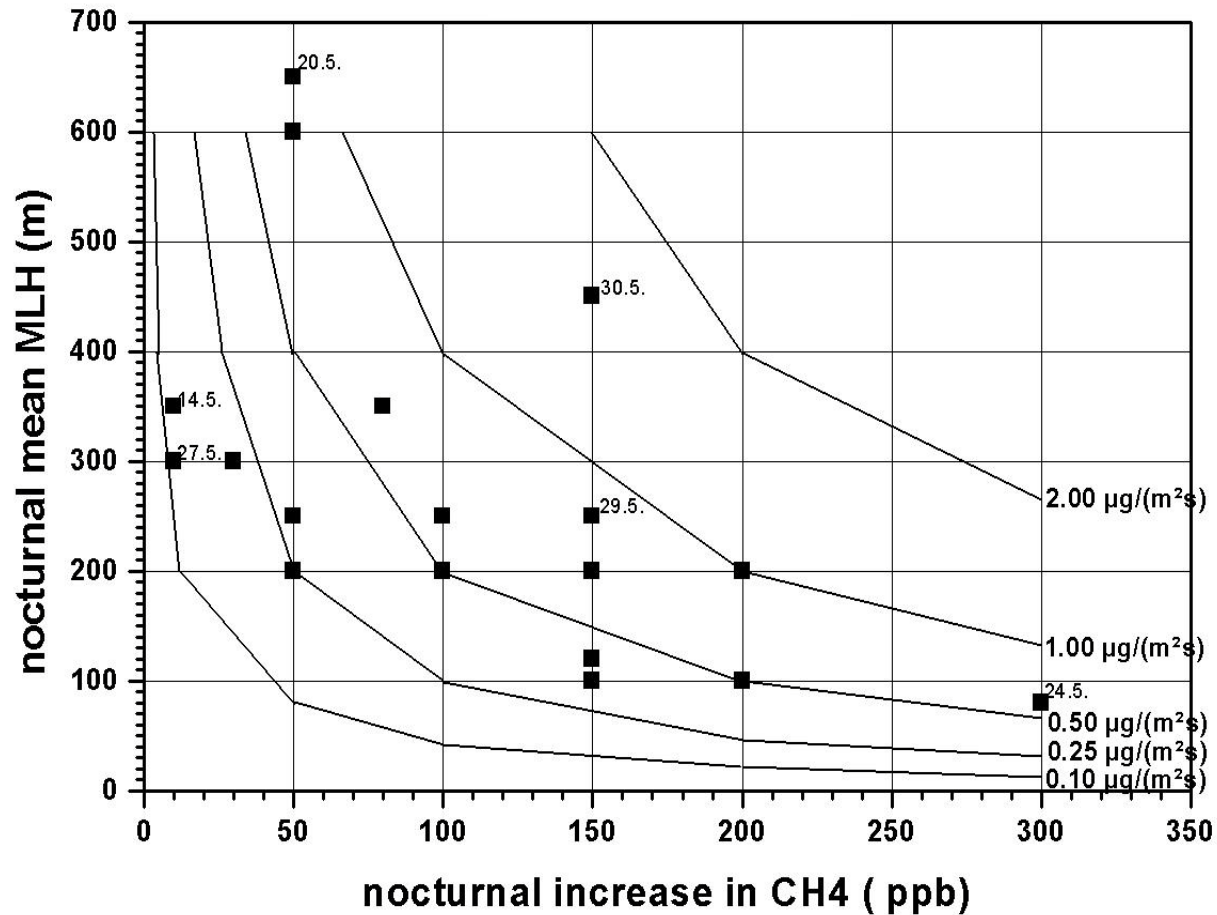


## MLH



**20.-26.05.2003**

# determination of regional $[C_{CH_4} 'w']_{surf}$ (curves) from concentration changes (x-axis) and MLH (y-axis)



# determination of regional $[C_{CH_4}^w]_{surf}$ (curves) from concentration changes and remotely sensed MLH

## methane emissions:

typical values obtained here:

span:	0.10 to 2.00 $\mu\text{g}/(\text{m}^2 \text{ s})$
mean value:	0.50 $\mu\text{g}/(\text{m}^2 \text{ s})$

average values from national reporting (Kyoto protocol):

for entire Germany:	0.20 $\mu\text{g}/(\text{m}^2 \text{ s})$
among this from agriculture:	0.13 $\mu\text{g}/(\text{m}^2 \text{ s})$



# Summary

☺ ☺ ☺ ☹️\* **RASS** delivers temperature profiles, wind profiles are additionally available.  
**MLH directly from temperature profiles. LLJ from wind profiles.**  
Does not work properly under high wind speeds. Restricted range.

☺ ☺ ☺ ☹️\* **wind lidar** detects wind profiles, aerosol distribution and water droplets.  
 It has to be assumed that the aerosol follows the thermal structure of the atmosphere and the wind.  
**MLH from aerosol backscatter, wind speed variance, LLJ from wind profiles.**  
Does not work properly in extreme clear (aerosol-free) air and during precipitation events and fog.

☺ ☺ ☹️\*☹️\* **Ceilometer** detects aerosol distribution and water droplets. It has to be assumed that the aerosol follows the thermal structure of the atmosphere.  
**MLH indirectly from aerosol backscatter using a MLH algorithm.**  
Does not work properly in extreme clear (aerosol-free) air and during precipitation events and fog.

☺ ☹️\*☹️\*☹️\* **SODAR** detects wind profiles, temperature fluctuations and gradients, but no absolute temperature.  
**MLH indirectly from acoustic backscatter (MLH algorithm). LLJ from wind profiles.**  
Does not work properly under perfectly neutral stratification, with very high wind speeds, and during stronger precipitation events. Restricted range.

# Literature

Asimakopoulos, D.N., C.G. Helmis, J. Michopoulos, 2004: Evaluation of SODAR methods for the determination of the atmospheric boundary layer mixing height. - Meteor. Atmos. Phys. 85, 85–92.

Beyrich, F., 1997: Mixing height estimation from sodar data – a critical discussion. - Atmos. Environ. 31, 3941–3953.

### **Ceilometer:**

Schäfer, K., S.M. Emeis, A. Rauch, C. Münkel, S. Vogt, 2004: Determination of mixing-layer heights from ceilometer data. In: Remote Sensing of Clouds and the Atmosphere IX. Schäfer, K., A. Comeron, M. Carleer, R.H. Picard, N. Sifakis (Eds.), Proc. SPIE, Bellingham, WA, USA, Vol. 5571, 248–259.

Sicard, M., C. Pérez, F. Rocadenbosch, J.M. Baldasano, D. García-Vizcaino, 2006: Mixed-Layer Depth Determination in the Barcelona Coastal Area From Regular Lidar Measurements: Methods, Results and Limitations. - Bound.-Lay. Meteor. 119, 135–157.

### **RASS:**

Engelbart, D.A.M., J. Bange, 2002: Determination of boundary-layer parameters using wind profiler/RASS and sodar/RASS in the frame of the LITFASS project. Theor. Appl. Climatol. 73, 53–65.

Emeis, S., K. Schäfer, C. Münkel, 2009: Observation of the structure of the urban boundary layer with different ceilometers and validation by RASS data. Meteorol. Z., 18, 149-154. **(Open access, freely available from <http://dx.doi.org/10.1127/0941-2948/2009/0365>)**

Emeis, S., K. Schäfer, C. Münkel, R. Friedl, P. Suppan, 2011: Evaluation of the interpretation of ceilometer data with RASS and radiosonde data. Bound.-Lay. Meteorol., online April 5, 2011. DOI: [10.1007/s10546-011-9604-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10546-011-9604-6)

### **Windlidar:**

Emeis, S., M. Harris, R.M. Banta, 2007: Boundary-layer anemometry by optical remote sensing for wind energy applications. - Meteorol. Z., 16, 337-347.

### Reginal budget studies:

Emeis, S., 2008: Examples for the determination of turbulent (sub-synoptic) fluxes with inverse methods. Meteorol. Z., 17, 3-11. DOI: 10.1127/0941-2948/2008/0265

### Reviews:

Emeis, S., K. Schäfer, C. Münkel, 2008: Surface-based remote sensing of the mixing-layer height – a review. - Meteorol. Z., 17, 621-630. (Open access, freely available from <http://dx.doi.org/10.1127/0941-2948/2008/0312>)

### Books:

#### boundary-layer remote sensing with application examples:

Emeis, S., 2011: Surface-Based Remote Sensing of the Atmospheric Boundary Layer. Series: Atmospheric and Oceanographic Sciences Library, Vol. 40. Springer Heidelberg etc., X+174 pp. 114 illus., 57 in color., H/C. ISBN: 978-90-481-9339-4, DOI: 10.1007/978-90-481-9340-0

#### overview on the entire range of meteorological measurement methods:

Emeis, S., 2010: Measurement Methods in Atmospheric Sciences. In situ and remote. Series: Quantifying the Environment Vol. 1. Borntraeger Stuttgart. XIV+257 pp., 103 Figs, 28 Tab. ISBN 978-3-443-01066-9.



**Thank you very  
much for your  
attention**