

The DYNAMO/AMIE International Field Campaign: Cloud Population of the Madden-Julian Oscillation

Scott W. Powell, University of Washington, Seattle, U.S.A.
and

Primary Investigators: C. Zhang, R. A. Houze, Jr., S. A. Rutledge, R. H. Johnson, C. N. Long, S. A. McFarlane, C. Schumacher, M. Katsumata, N. Viltard, S.-S. Chen, and K. Yoneyama

Radar experiment goal

→ Characteristics and evolution of the MJO cloud population in the region where the disturbance builds up

→ Role of clouds in humidification of troposphere prior to MJO onset

Radar experiment goal

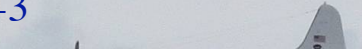
- Characteristics and evolution of the MJO cloud population in the region where the disturbance builds up
- **Role of clouds in humidification of troposphere prior to MJO onset**

S-PolKa



AMF2

P-3



Sounding Network

The map displays the Sounding Network across the globe. A red rectangle highlights the Indian Ocean region, and a yellow rectangle highlights the South Atlantic Ocean region. A white star is located in the Indian Ocean near the East African coast.

LAKSHADWEEP (INDIA)

Laccadive Sea

Colombo SRI LANKA

Male MALDIVES

Addu Atoll

British Indian Ocean Territory (U.K.)

Diego Garcia

Mirai

250 km

Slide courtesy C. Zhang

Slide courtesy C. Zhang

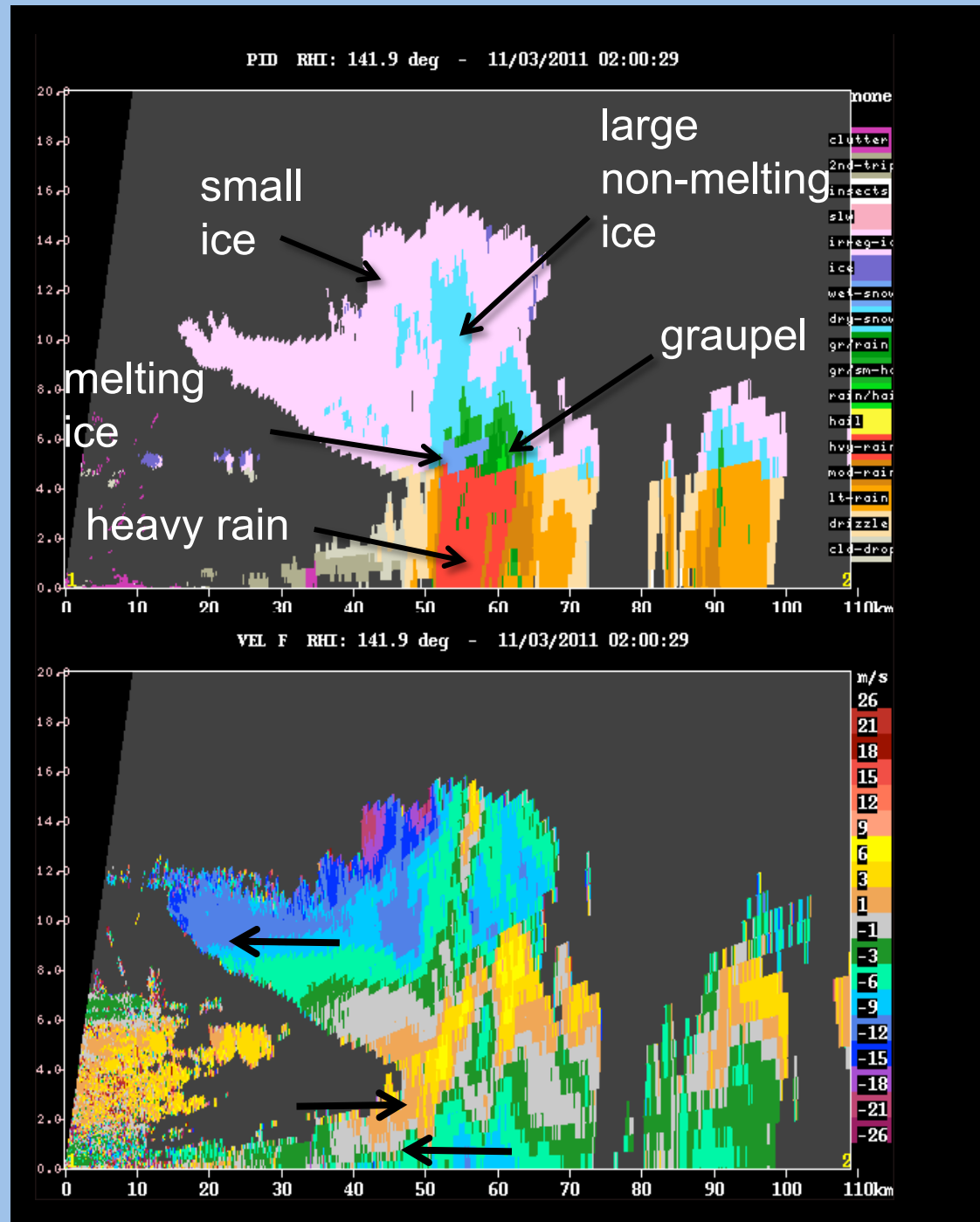
R/V R. Revelle



R/V Mirai

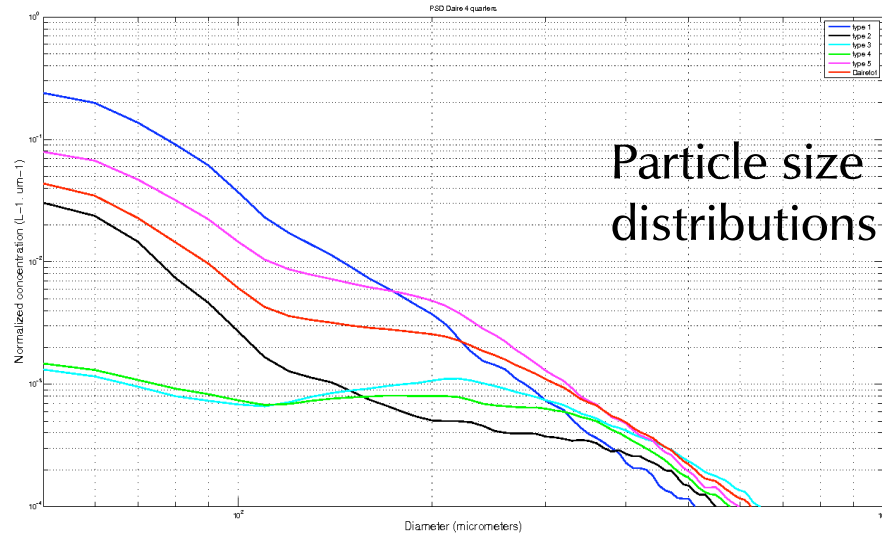
S-PolKa: Moderate cumulonimbus

Hydrometeor type

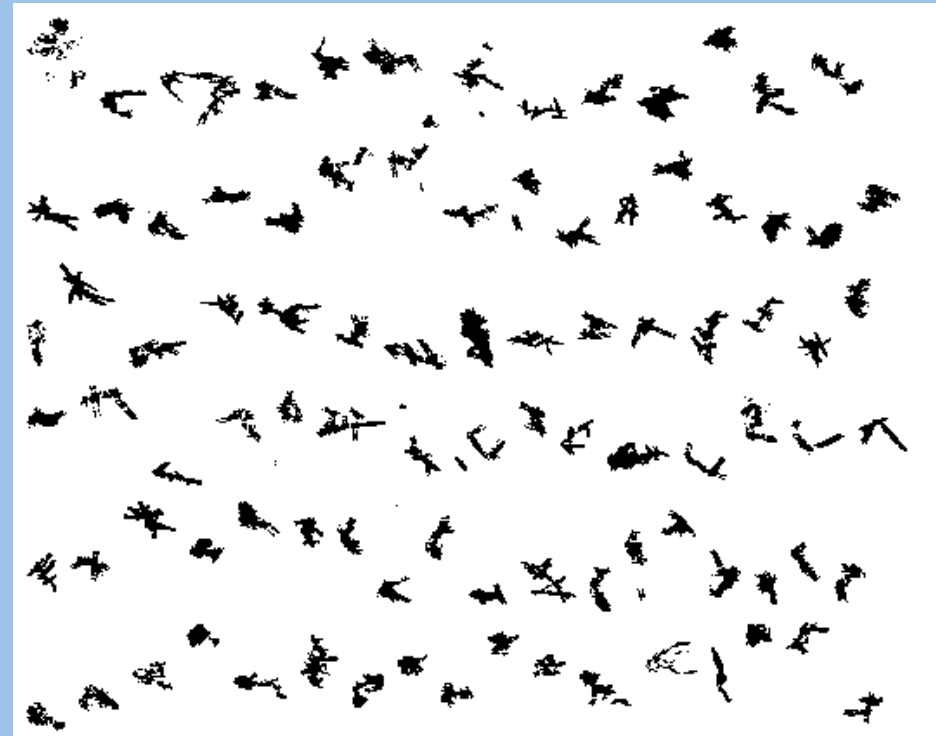


Doppler velocity:
range folding
corrected

Falcon (F-20) microphysical data

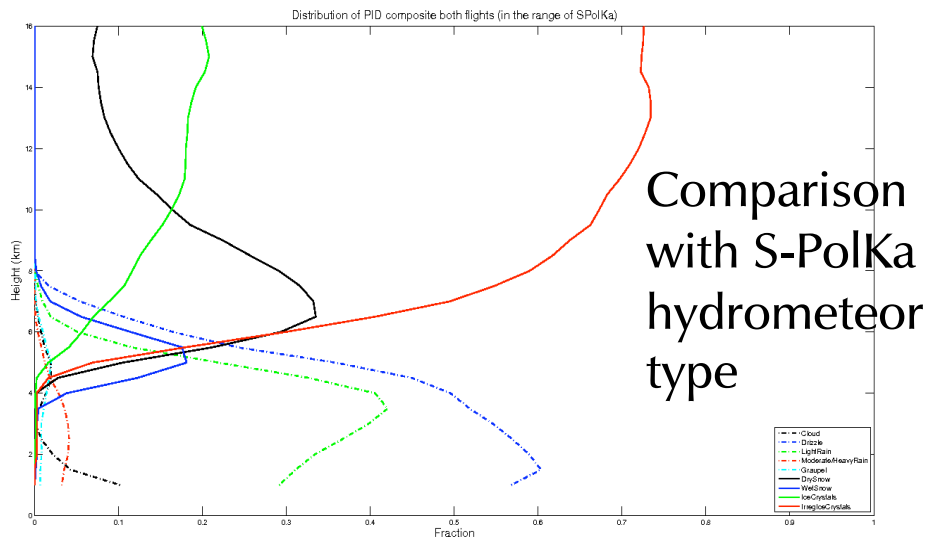


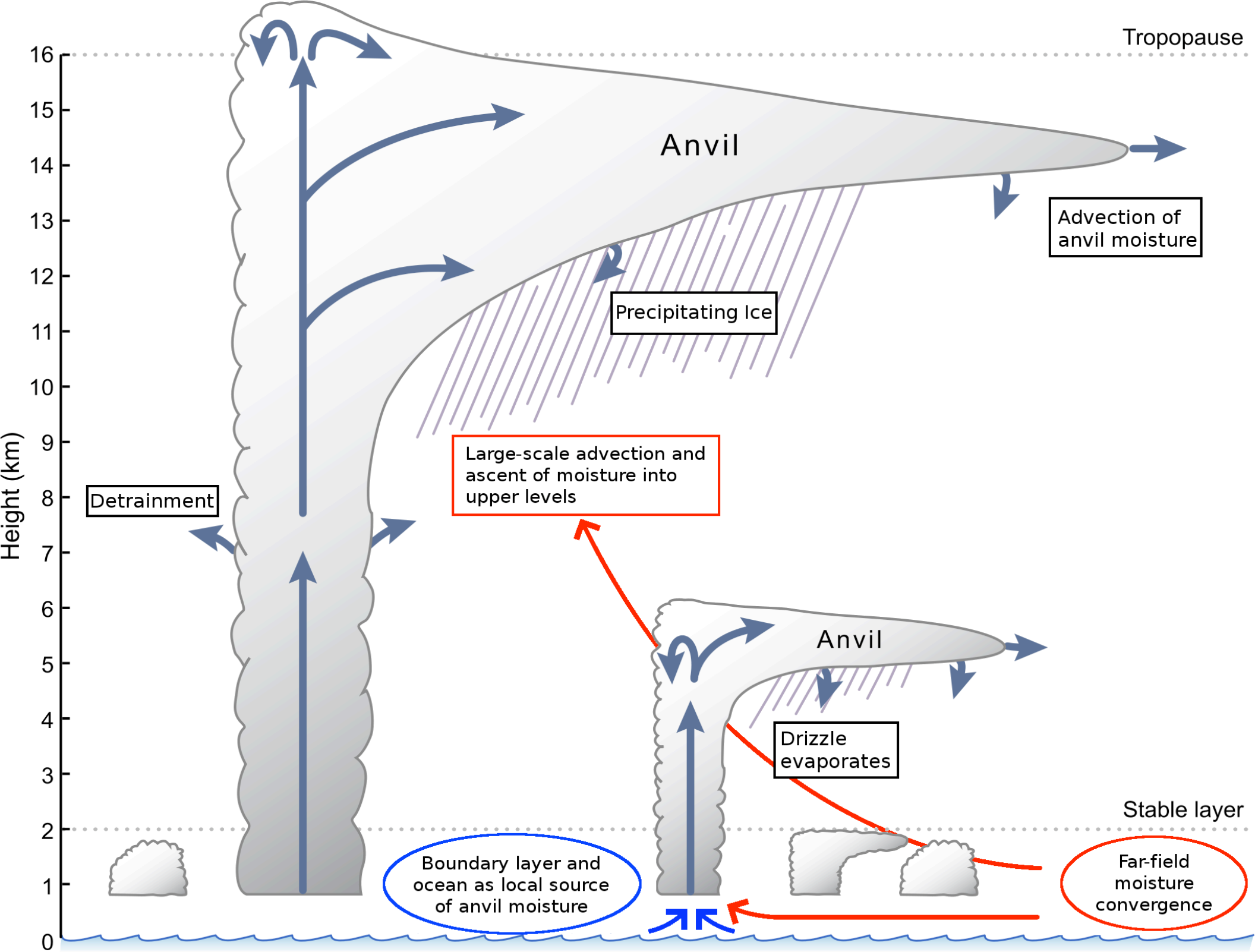
Particle Images



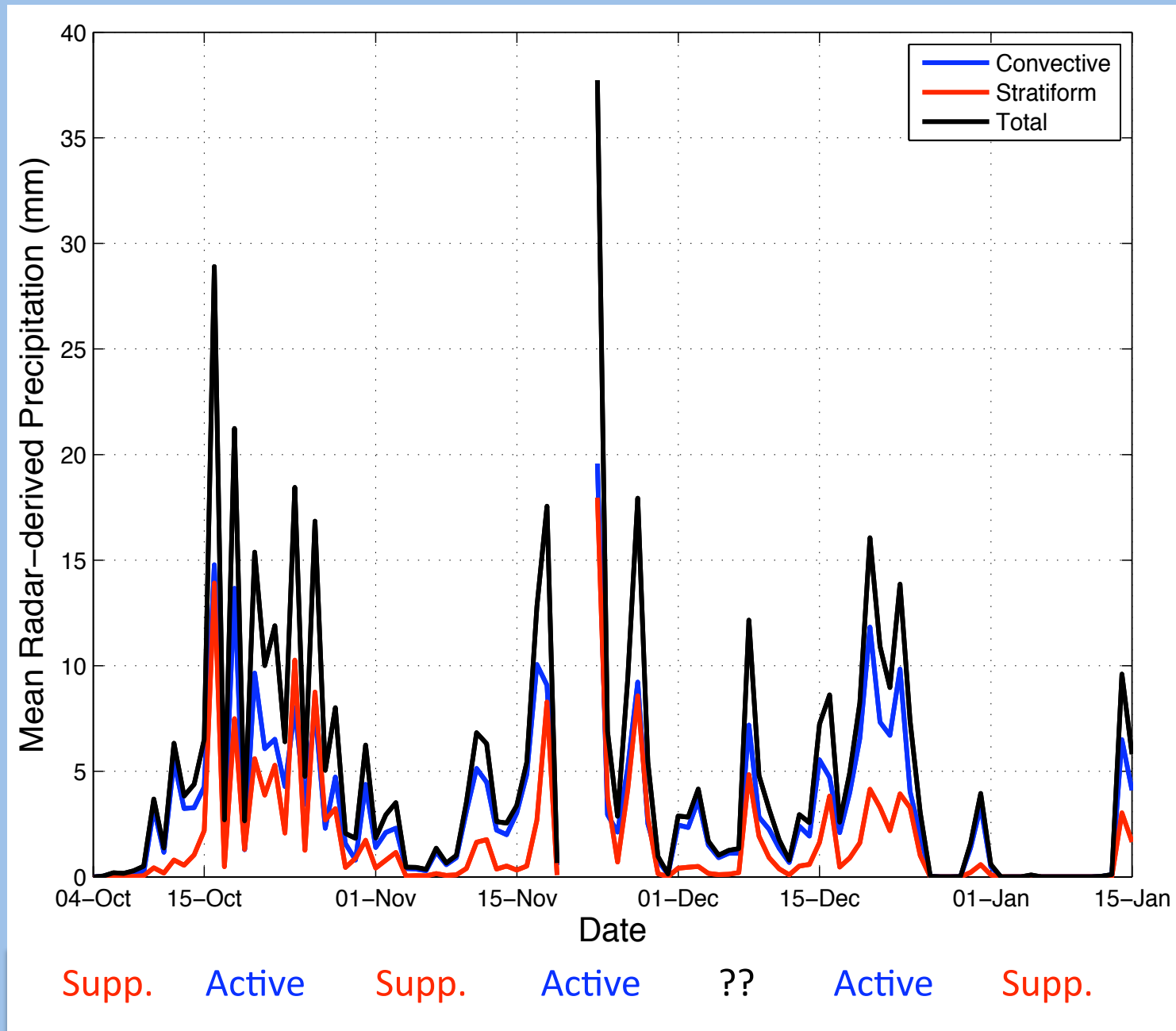
Figures courtesy D. Coppin

See Talks 3.1-6 (Friday, 9:45AM) and 3.2-5 (Friday at 11:30AM) in HS9.

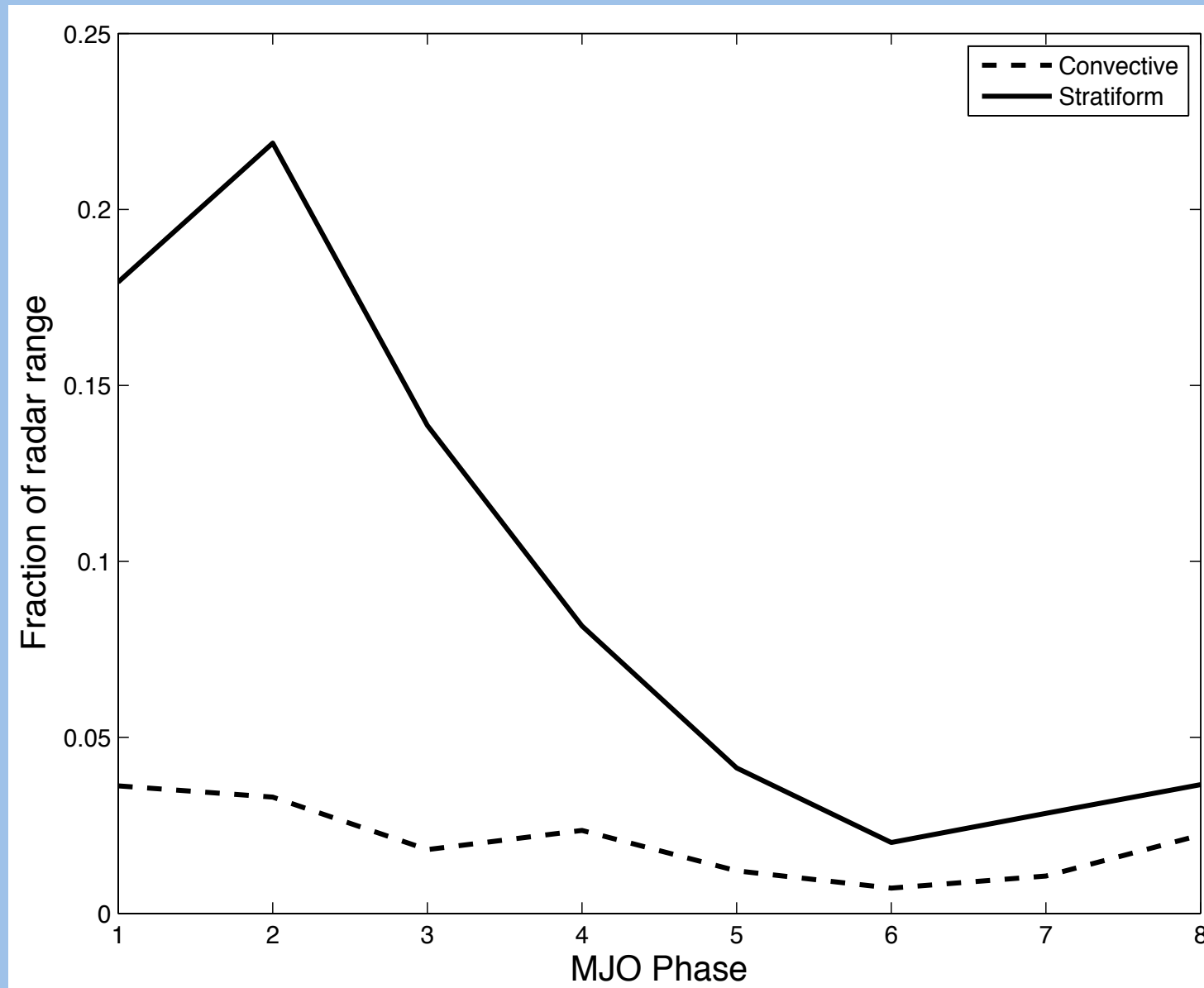


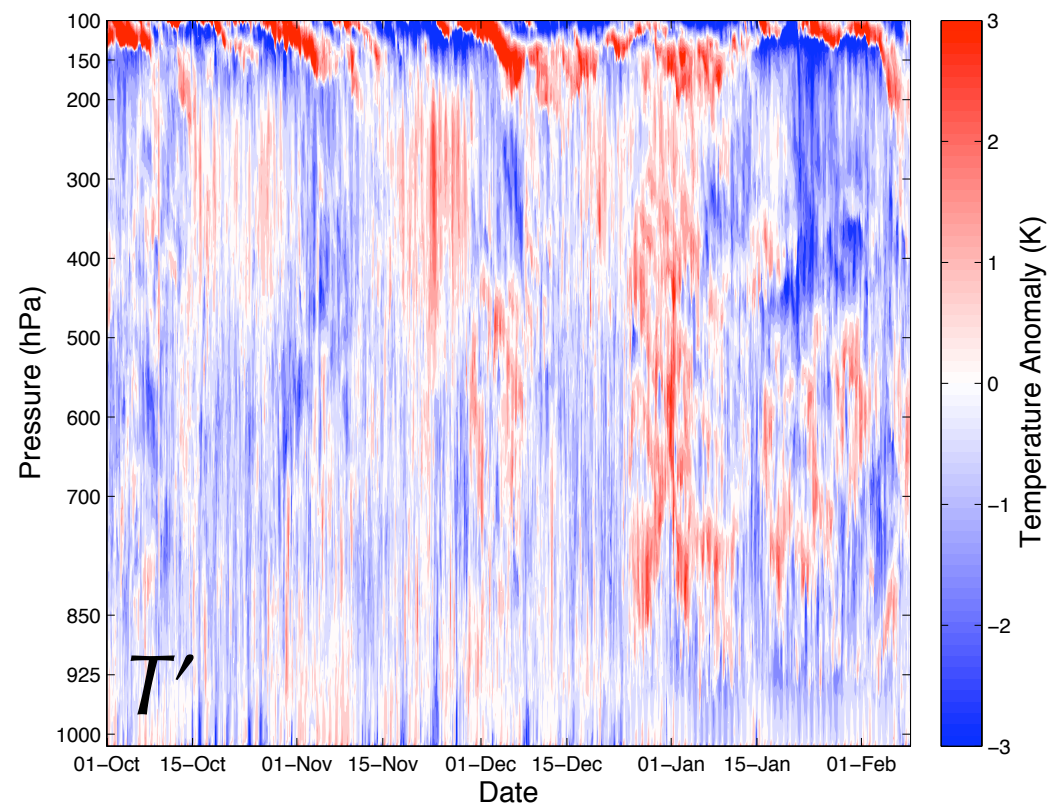
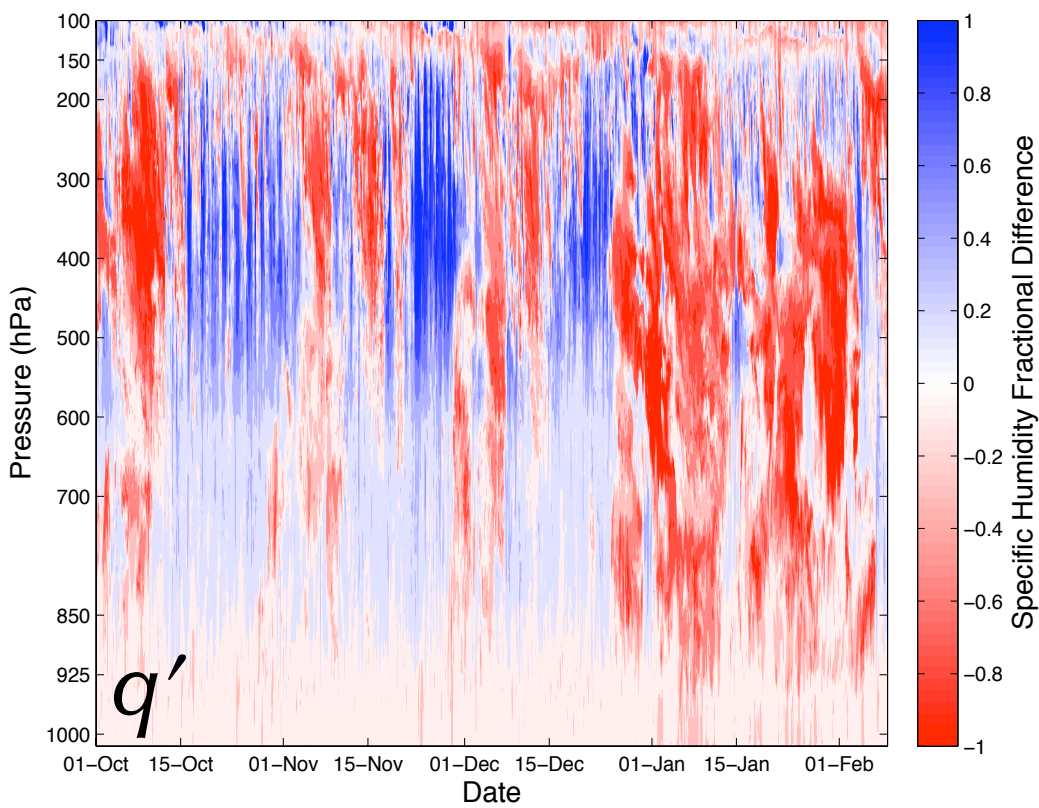
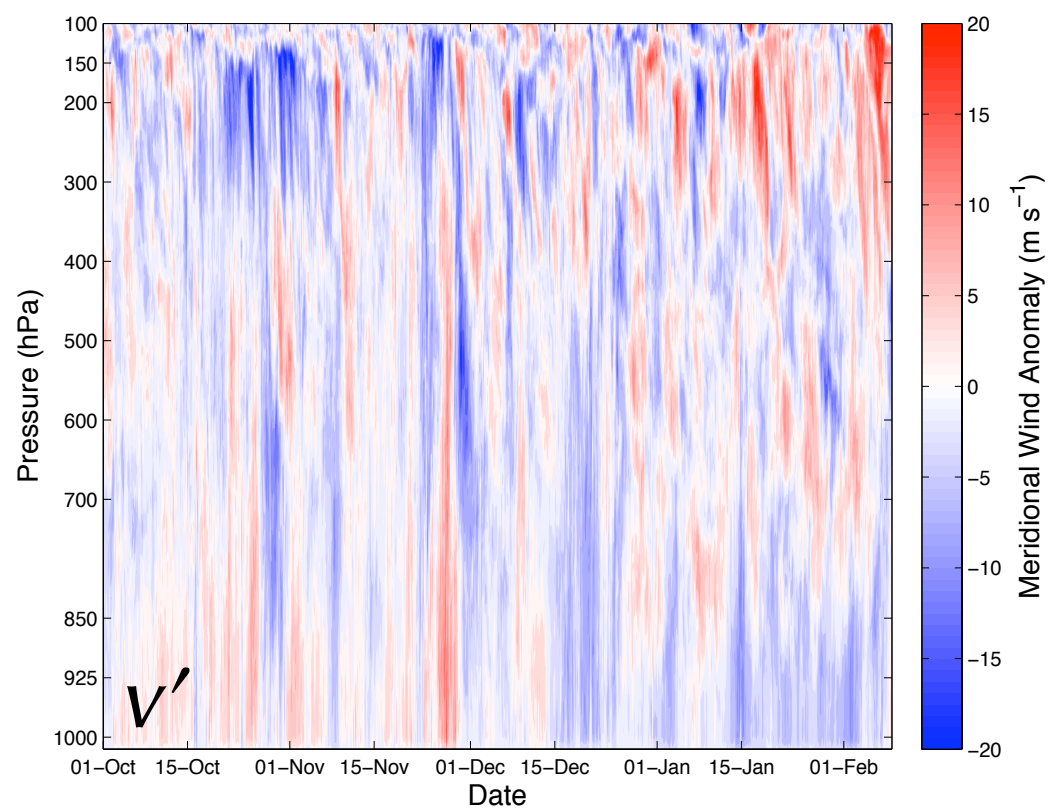
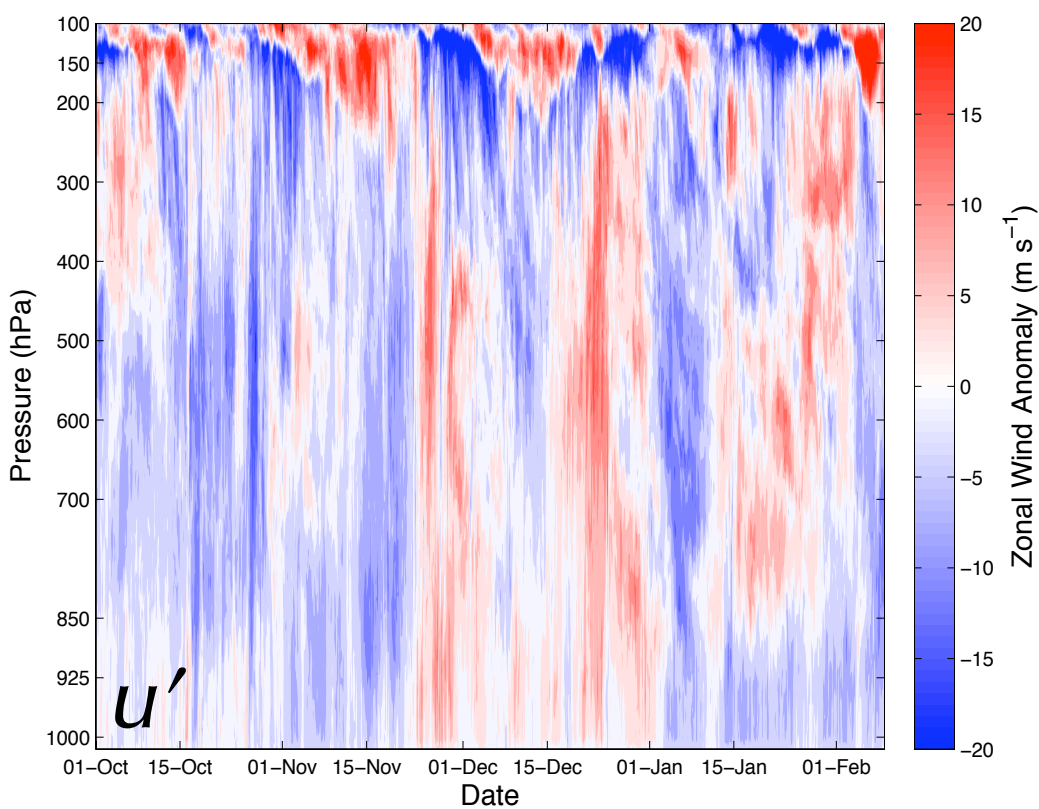


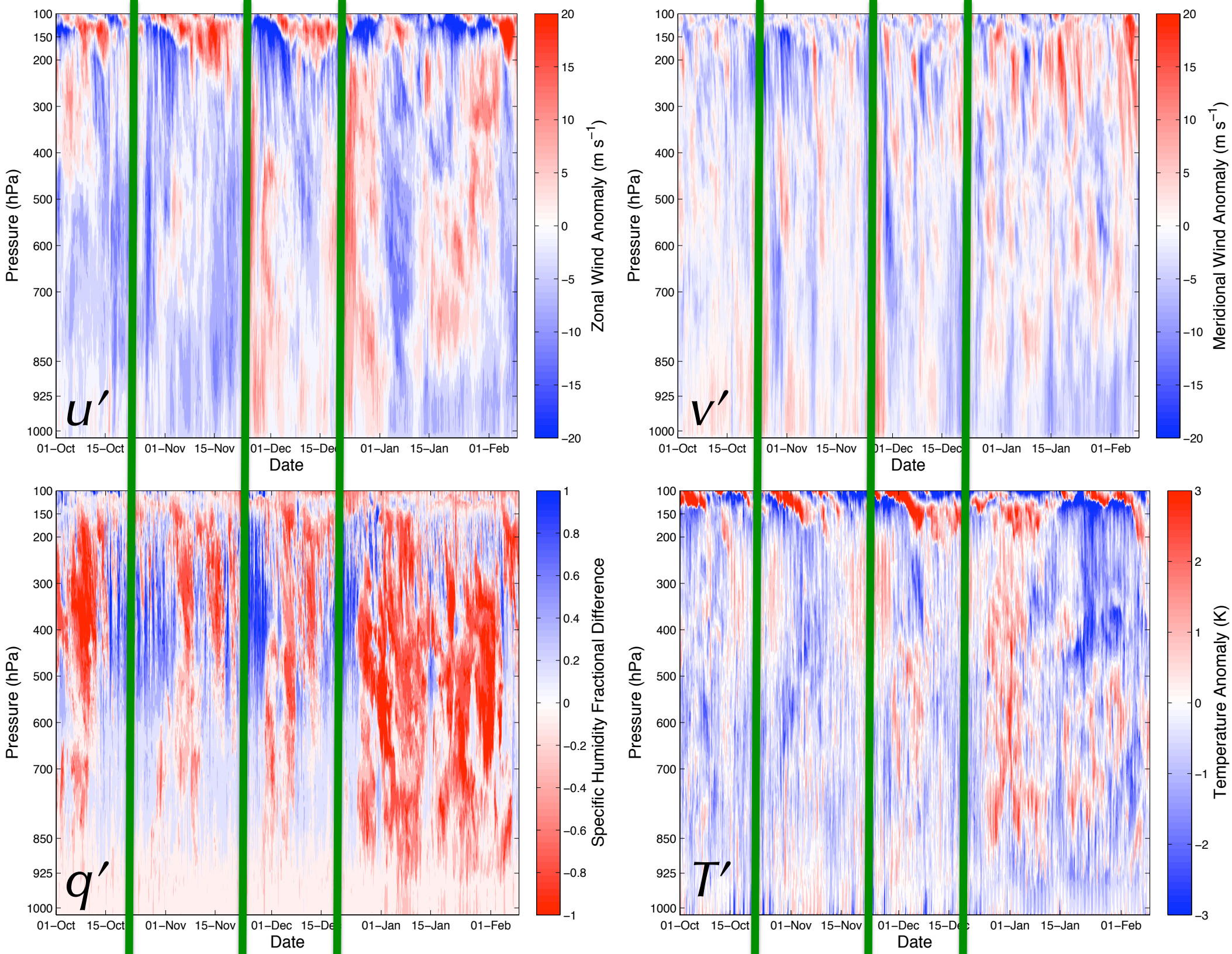
Precipitation at Addu



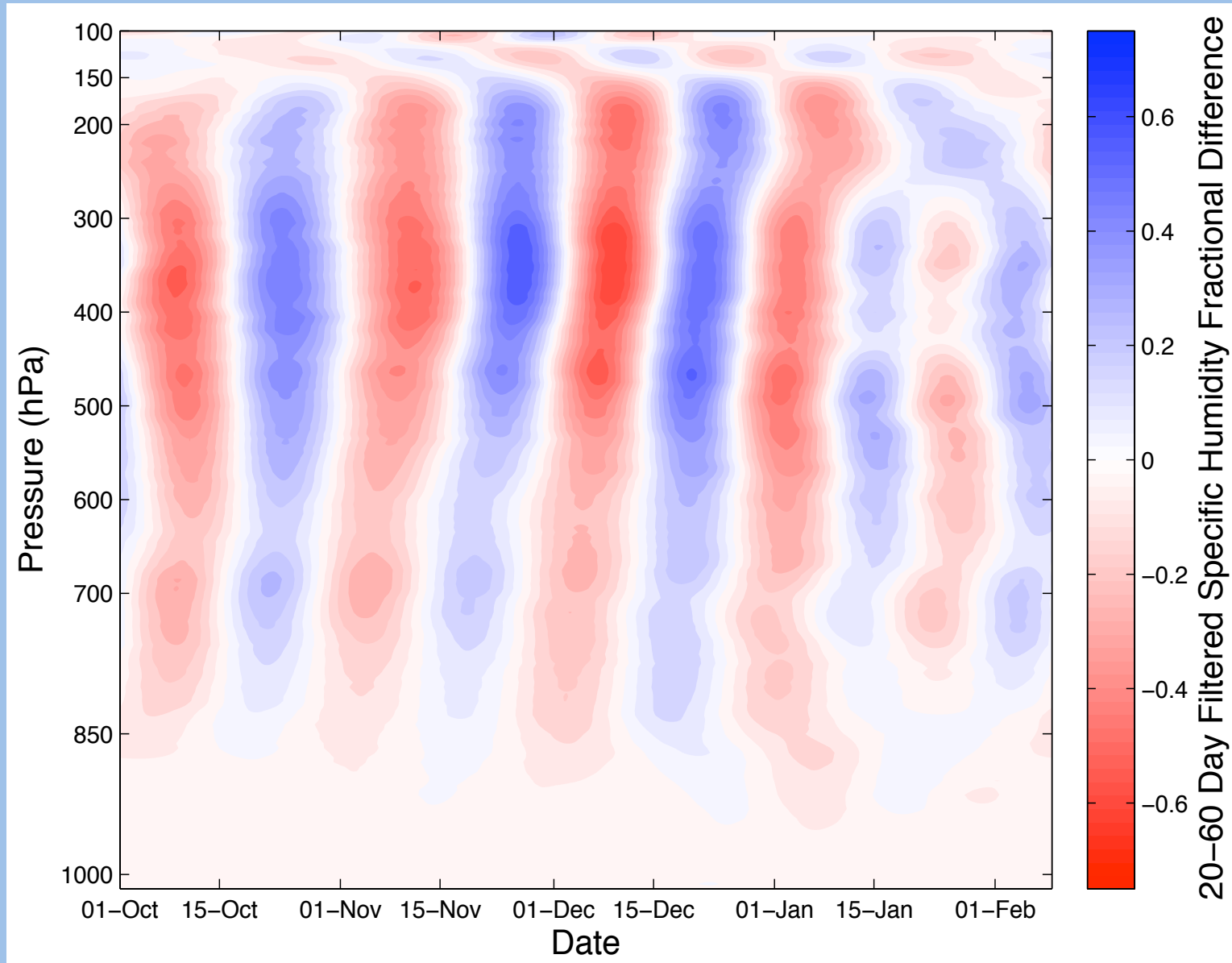
Convective and stratiform observed by S-PolKa



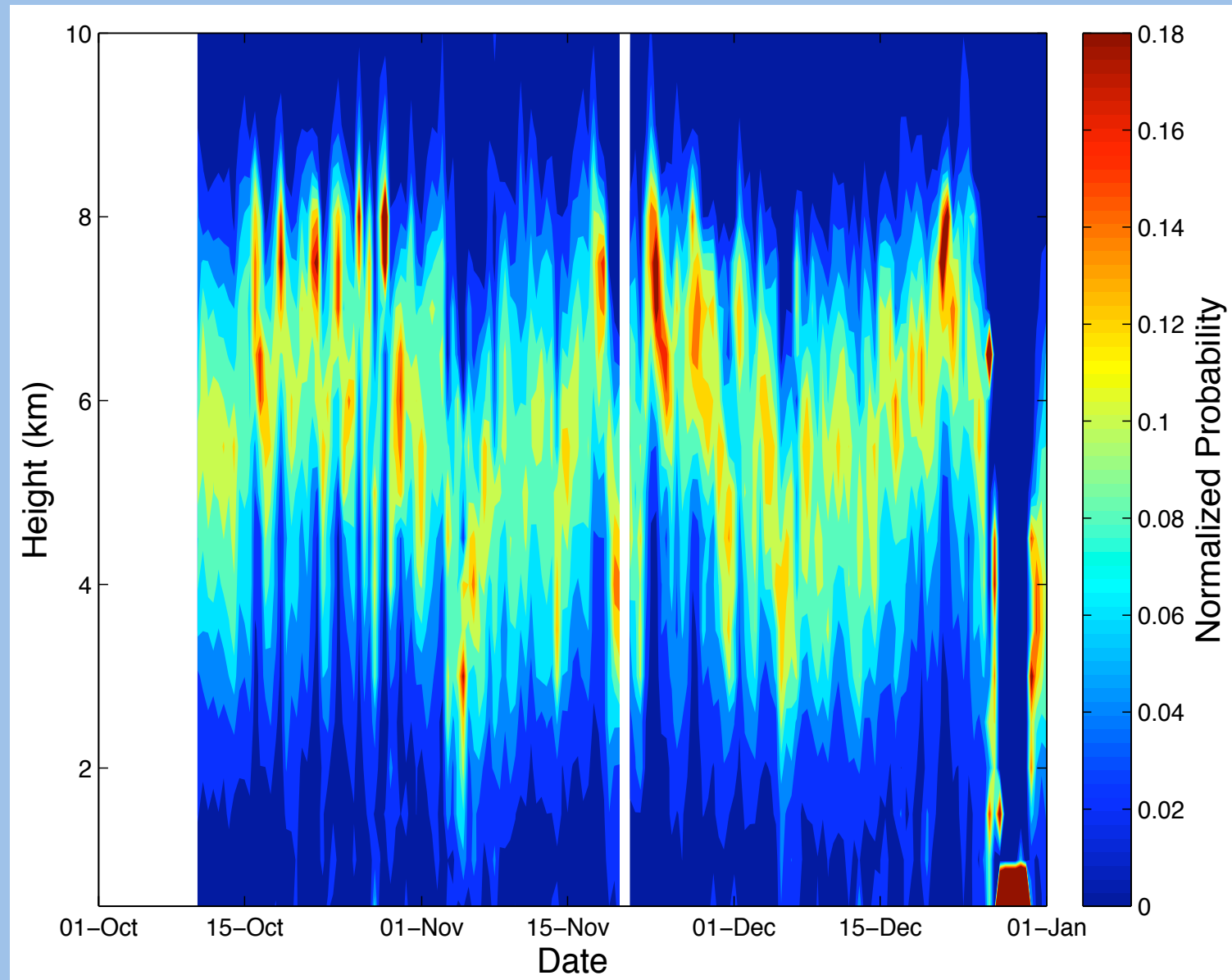




Filtered specific humidity anomalies

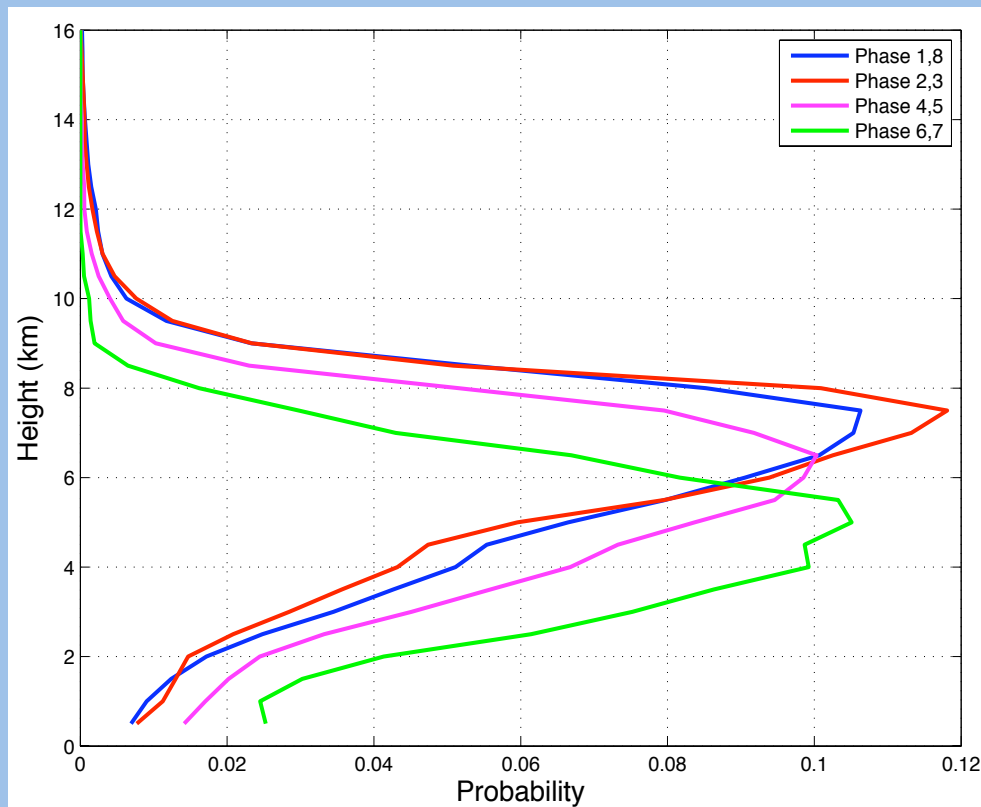


Convective echotops observed by S-PolKa

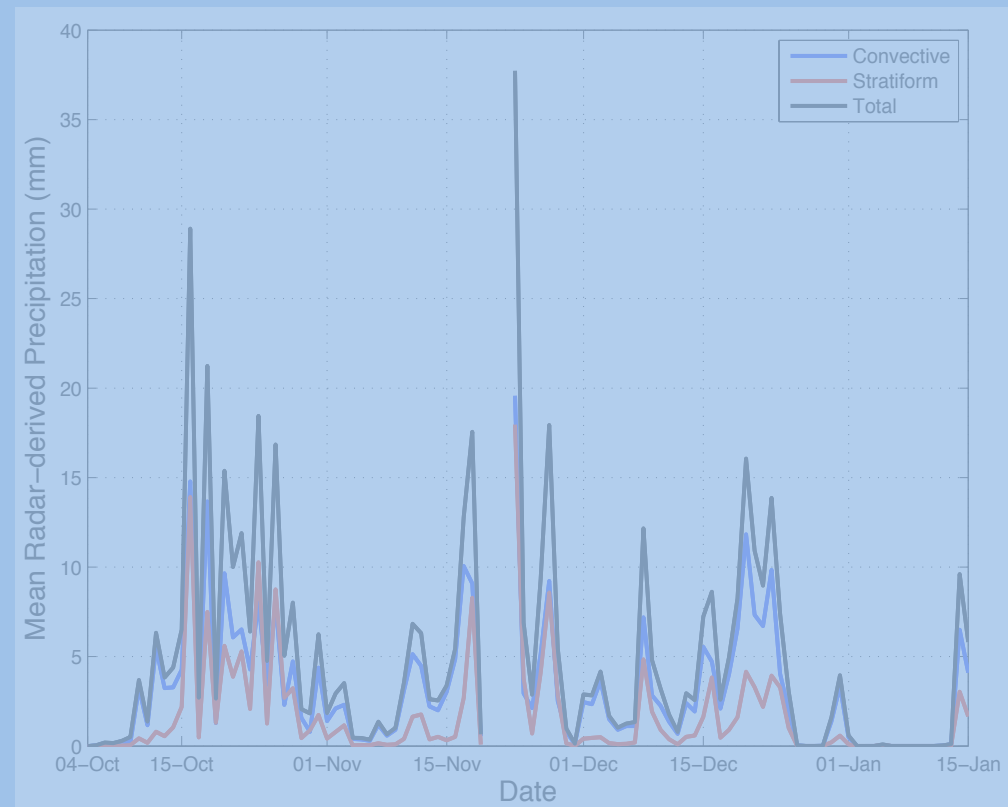


Convective echotops observed by S-PolKa

Echotop PDFs grouped by “bi-phase”

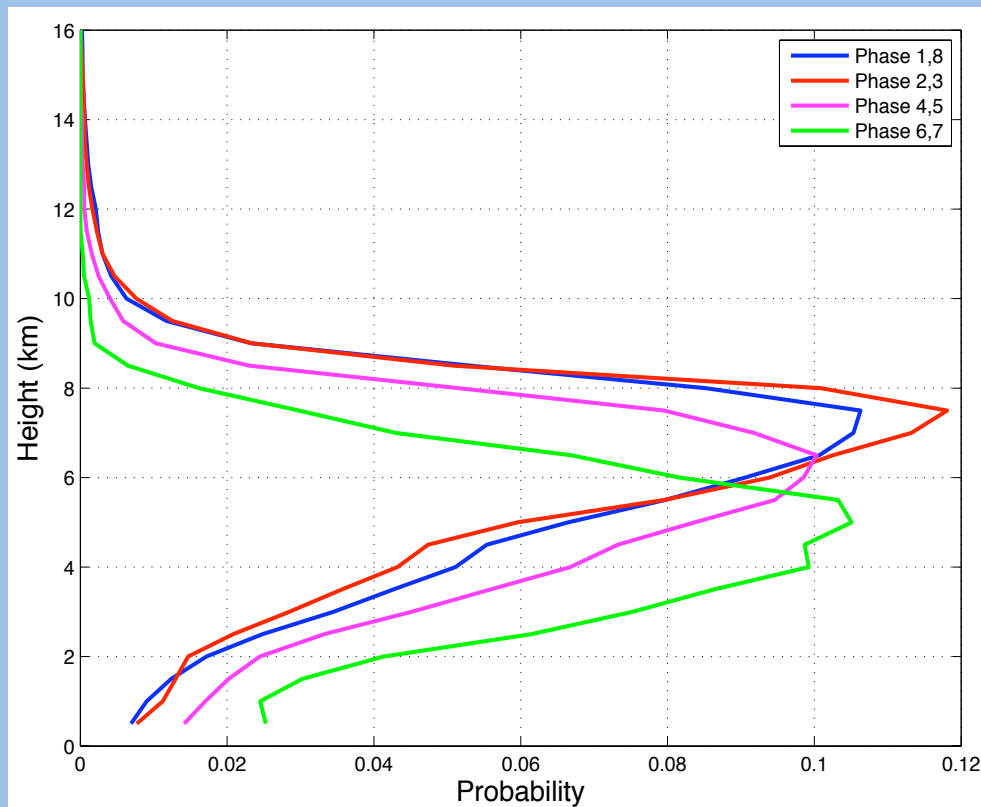


Echotop PDFs during “wet” and “dry” days of active phases

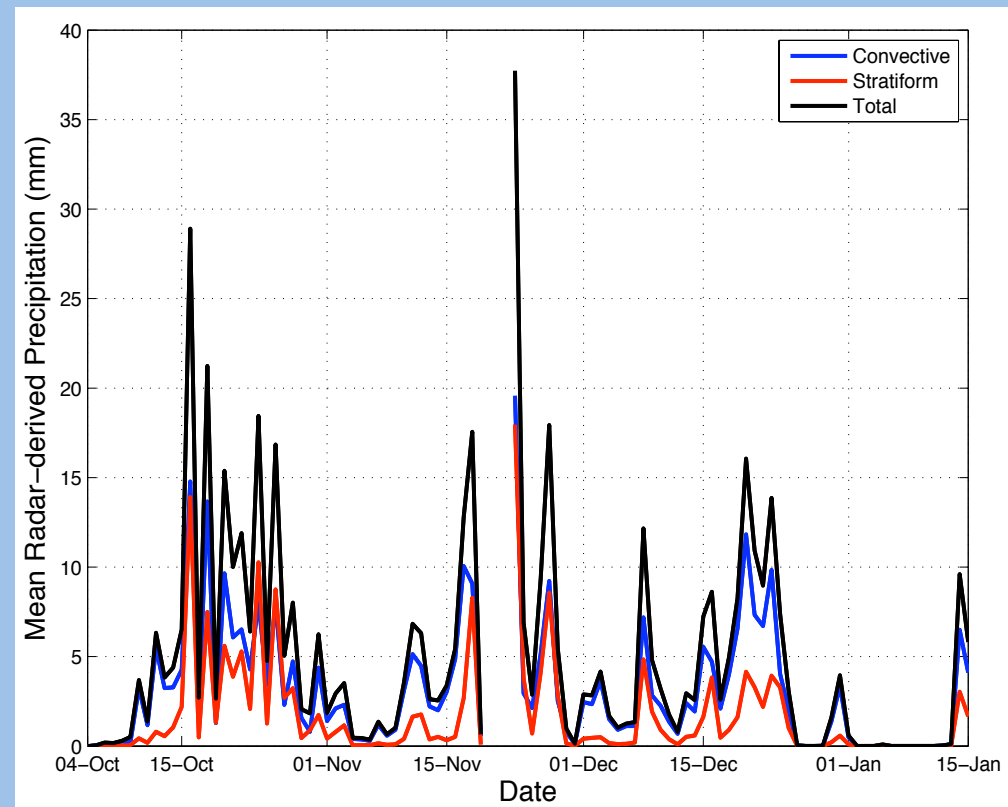


Convective echotops observed by S-PolKa

Echotop PDFs grouped by “bi-phase”

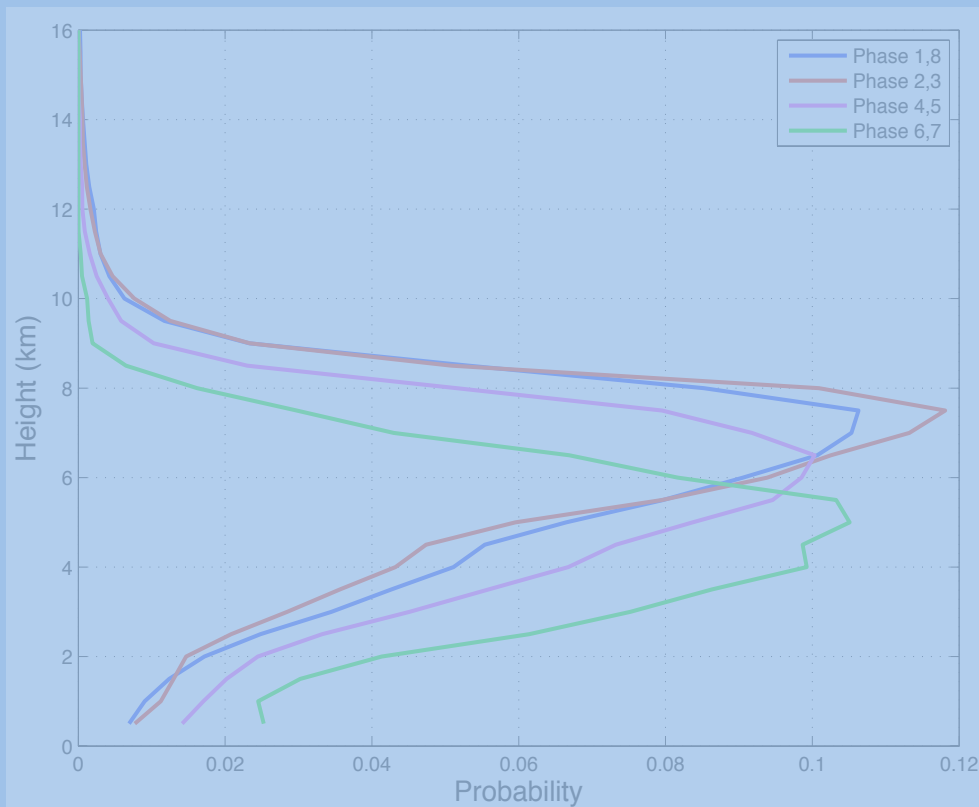


Echotop PDFs during “wet” and “dry” days of active phases

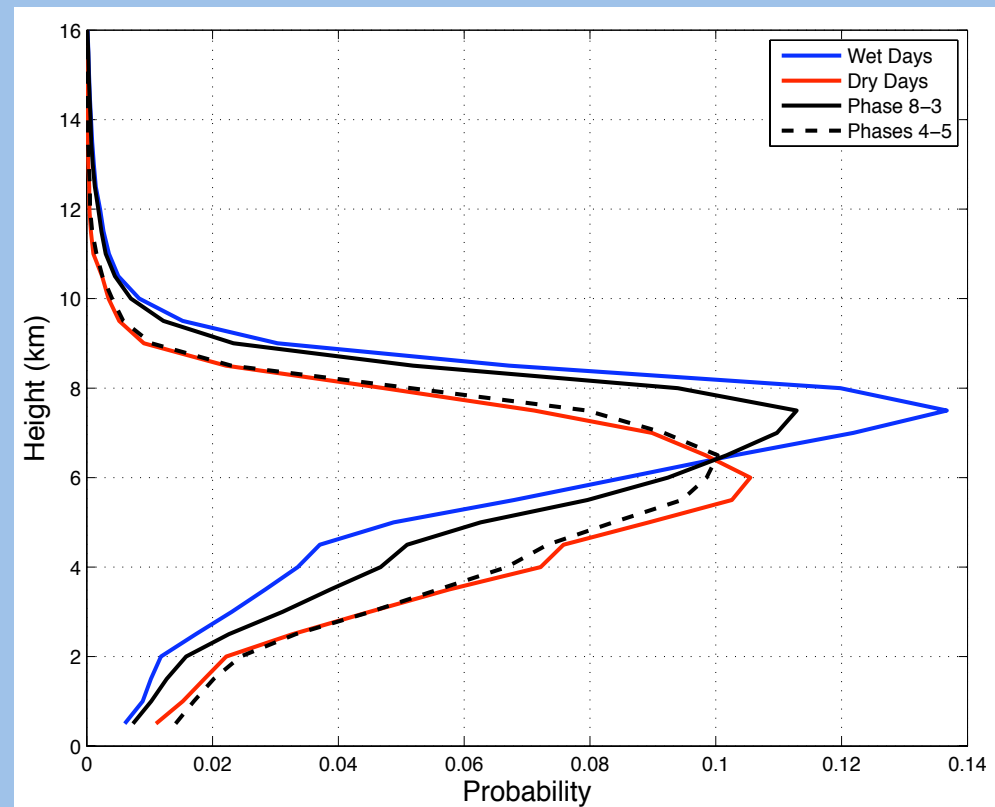


Convective echotops observed by S-PolKa

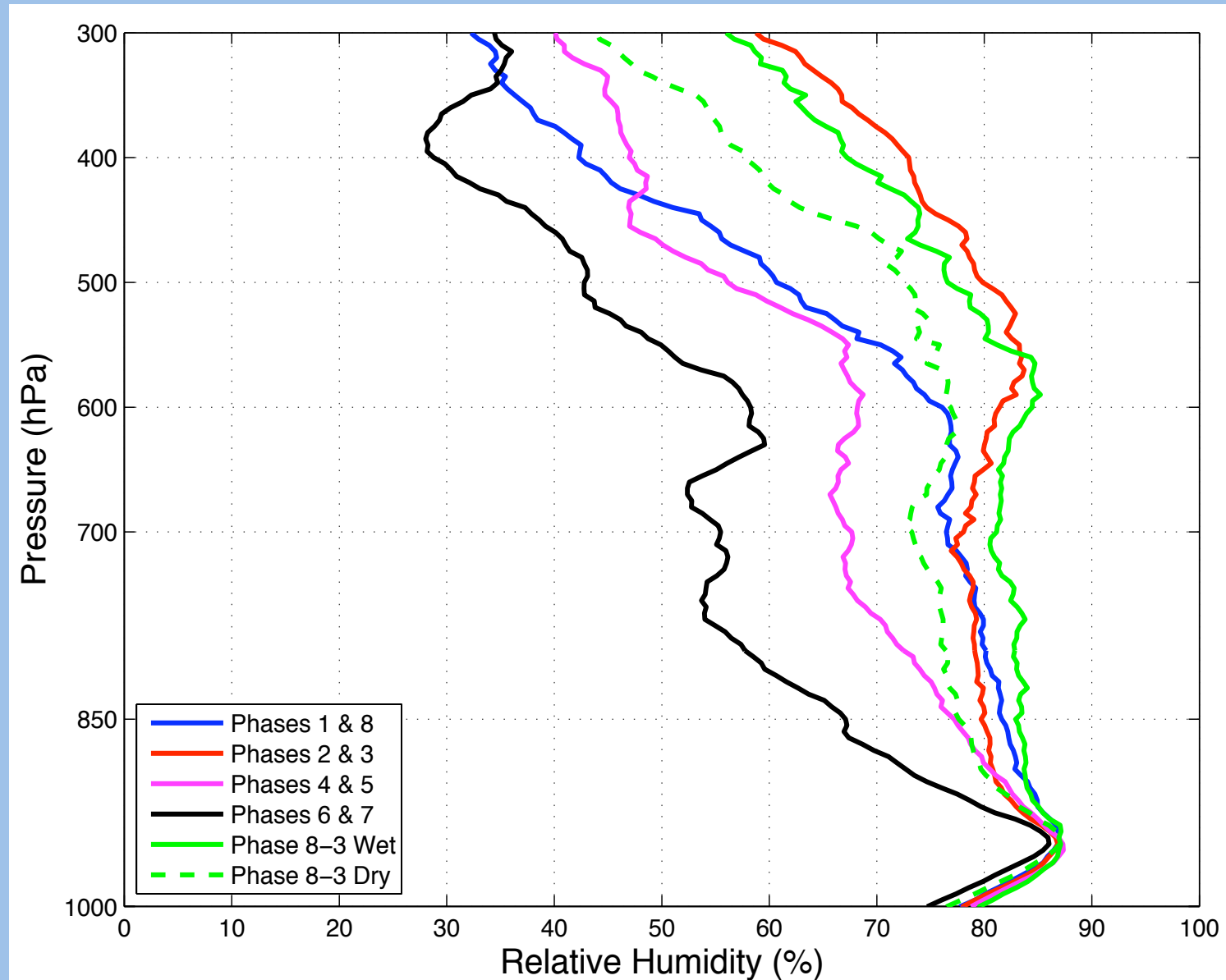
Echotop PDFs grouped by “bi-phase”



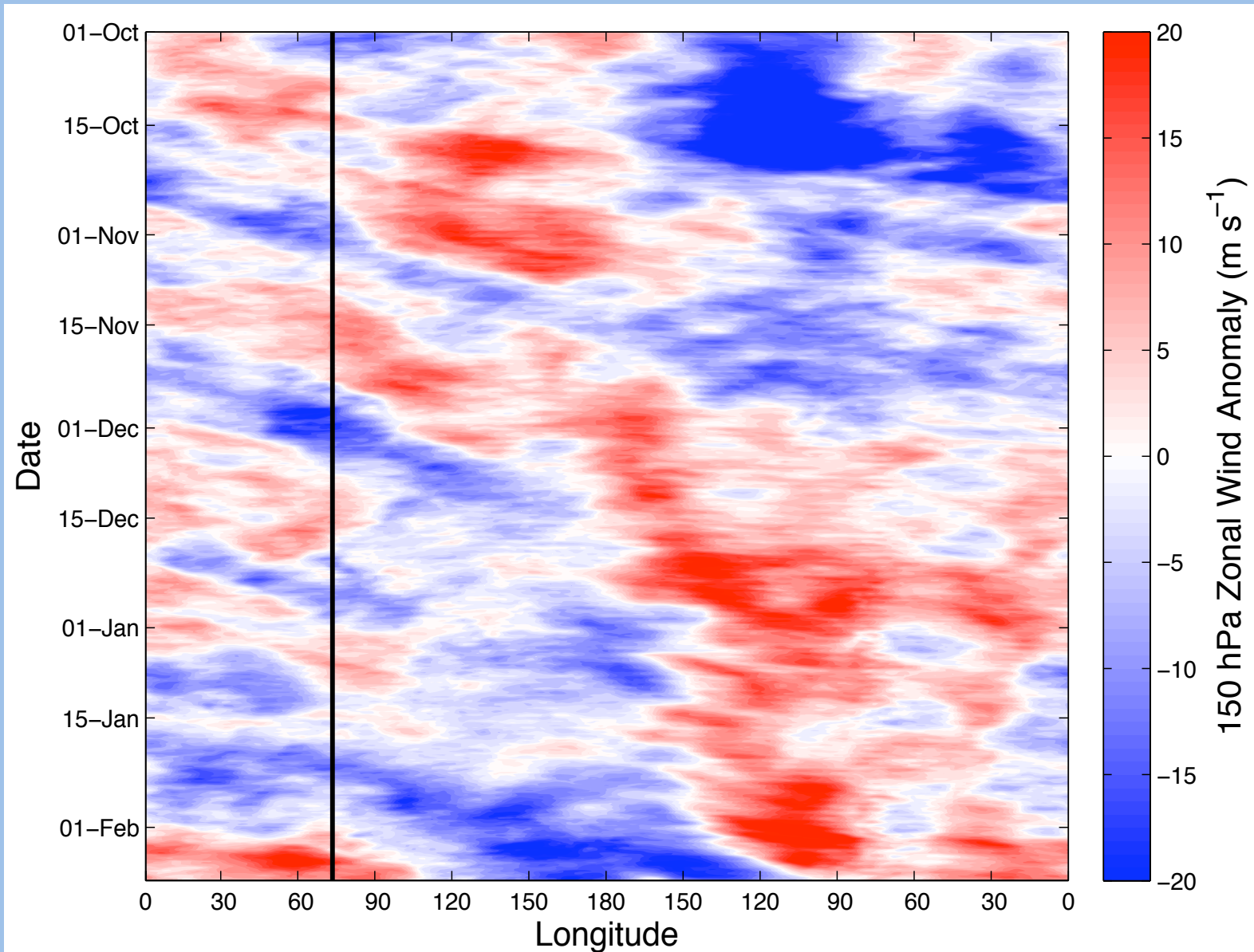
Echotop PDFs during “wet” and “dry” days of active phases



Relative Humidity profile comparison by phase



150 hPa zonal wind anomalies in ERA-I



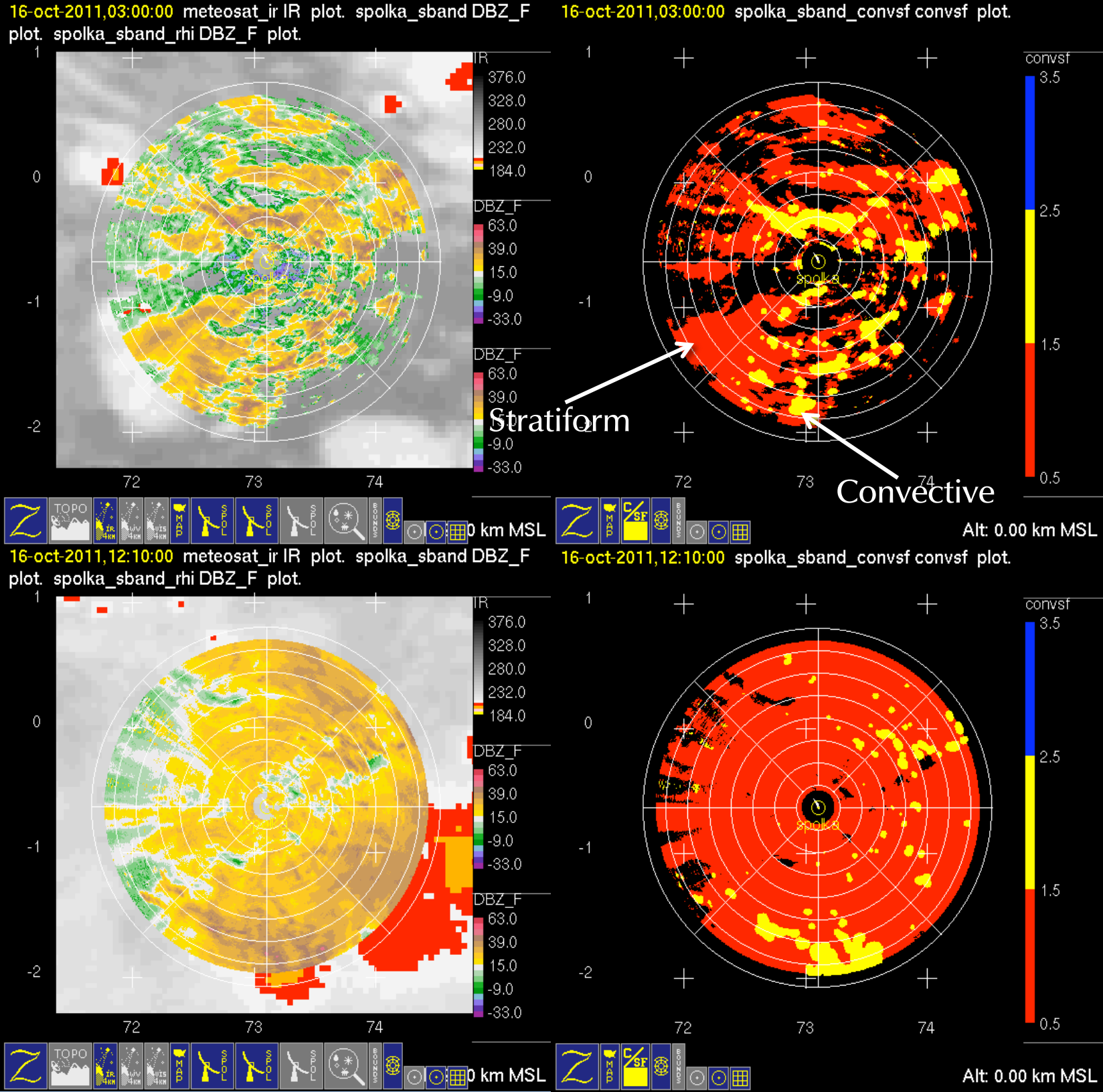
Conclusions

- Successful field campaign with an enormous radar and radiosonde dataset over the Indian Ocean
- Clouds of all depths are present during all MJO phases.
- Variability in MJO clouds dominated by changes in stratiform frequency
- Stratiform clouds likely contribute greatly to moistening prior to MJO onset.
- Environmental humidity is not the only factor that controls depth of convection.
- DYNAMO MJO cases strongly linked to 150 hPa zonal wind anomaly

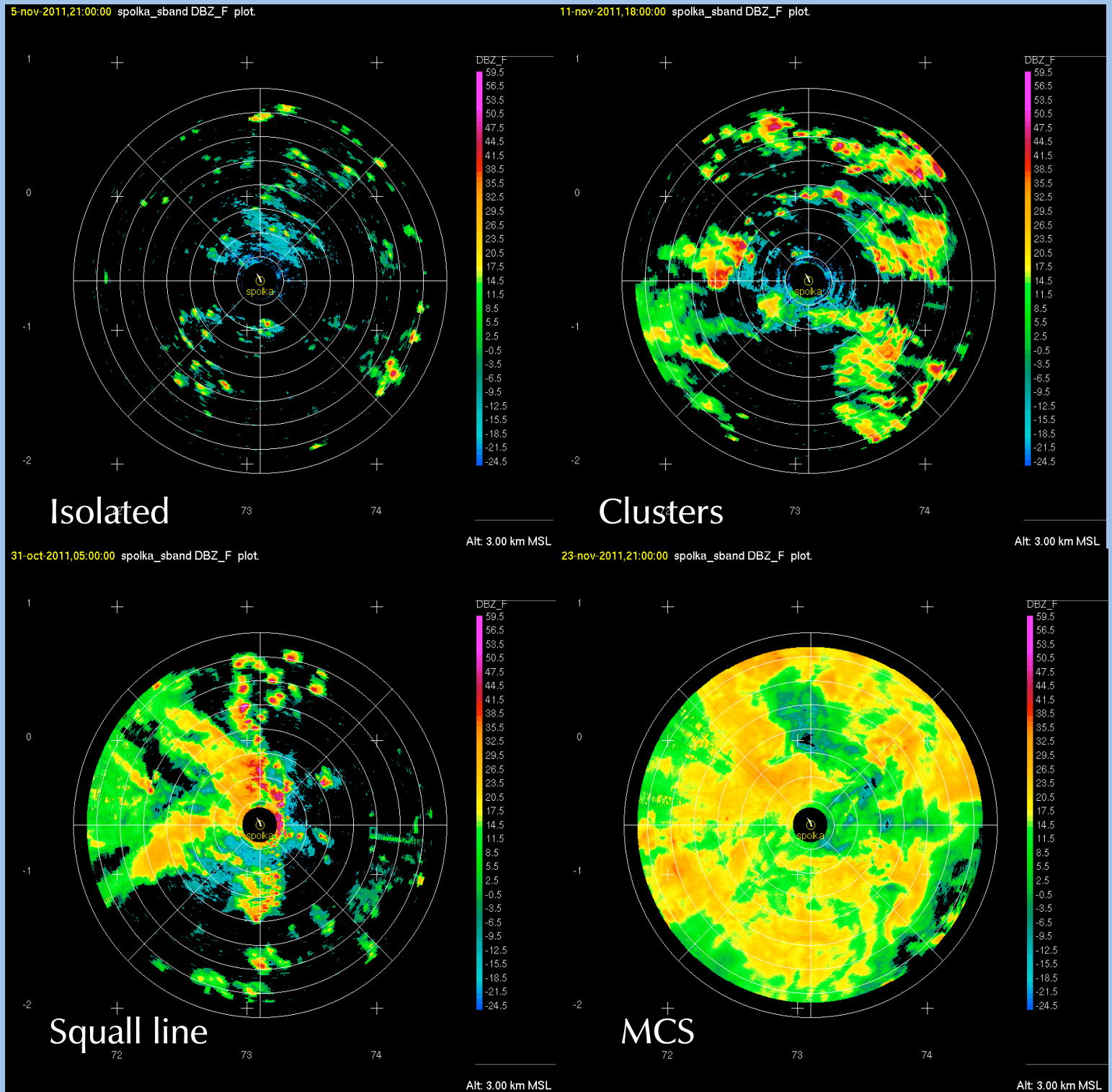


End
End

Large mesoscale system

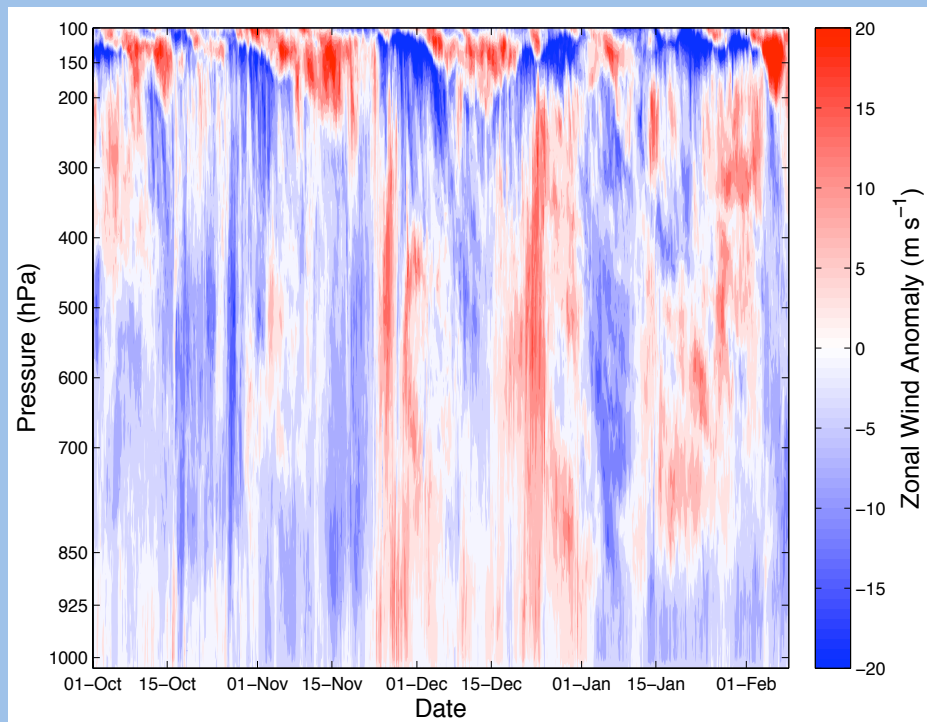


Organization of convection

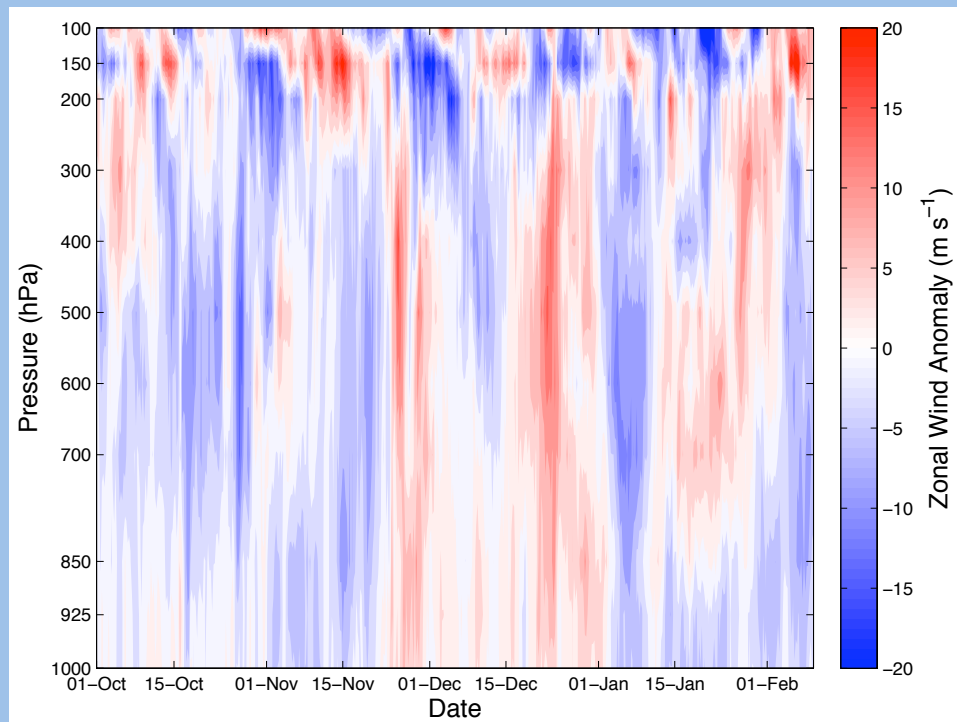


Radiosondes

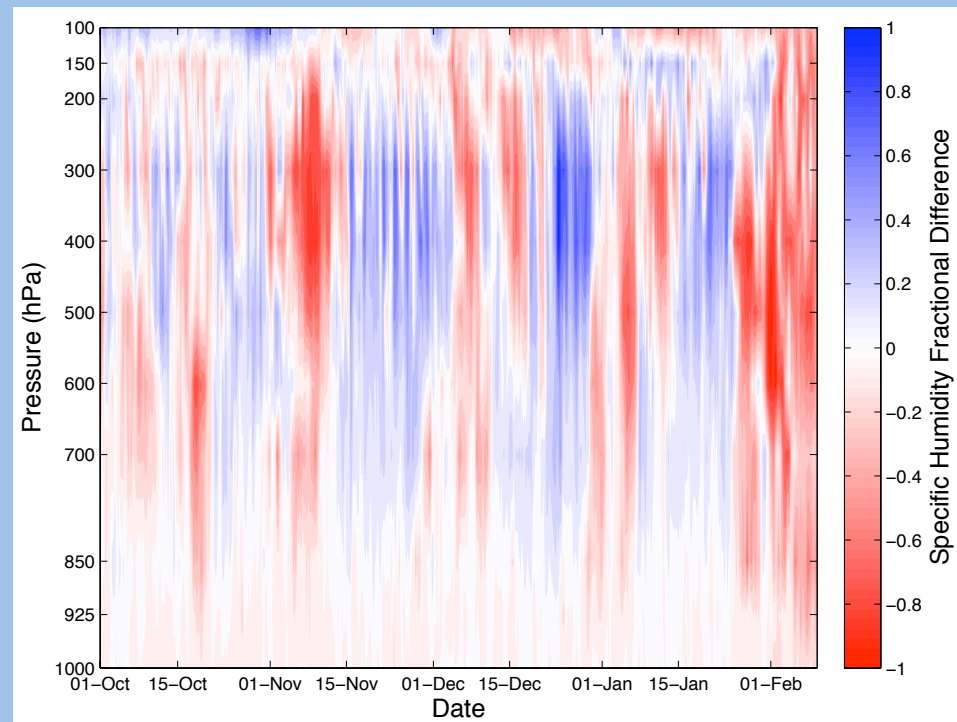
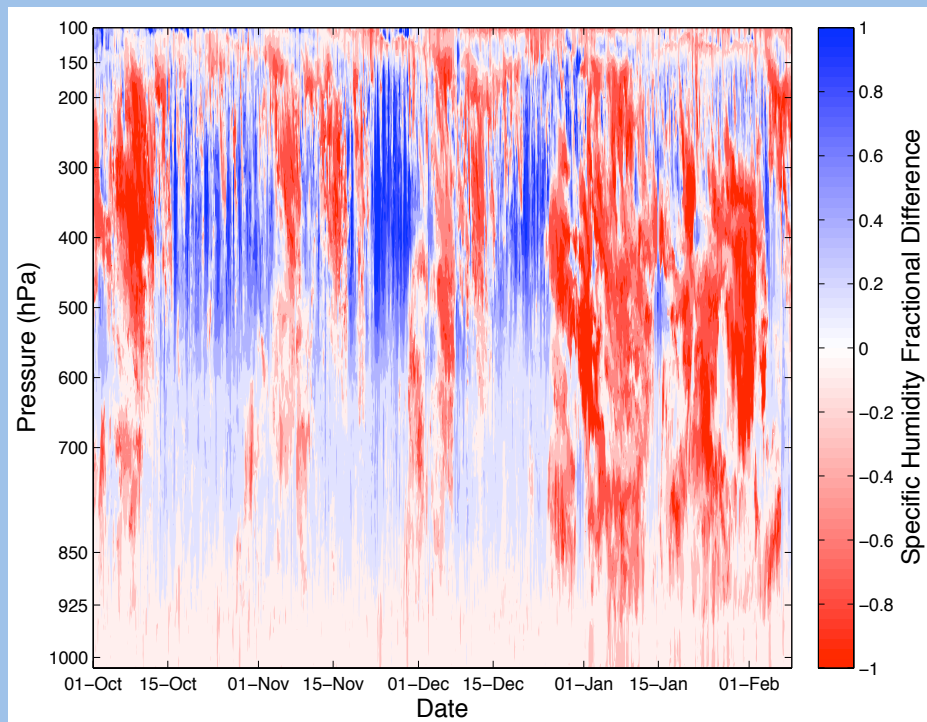
u'

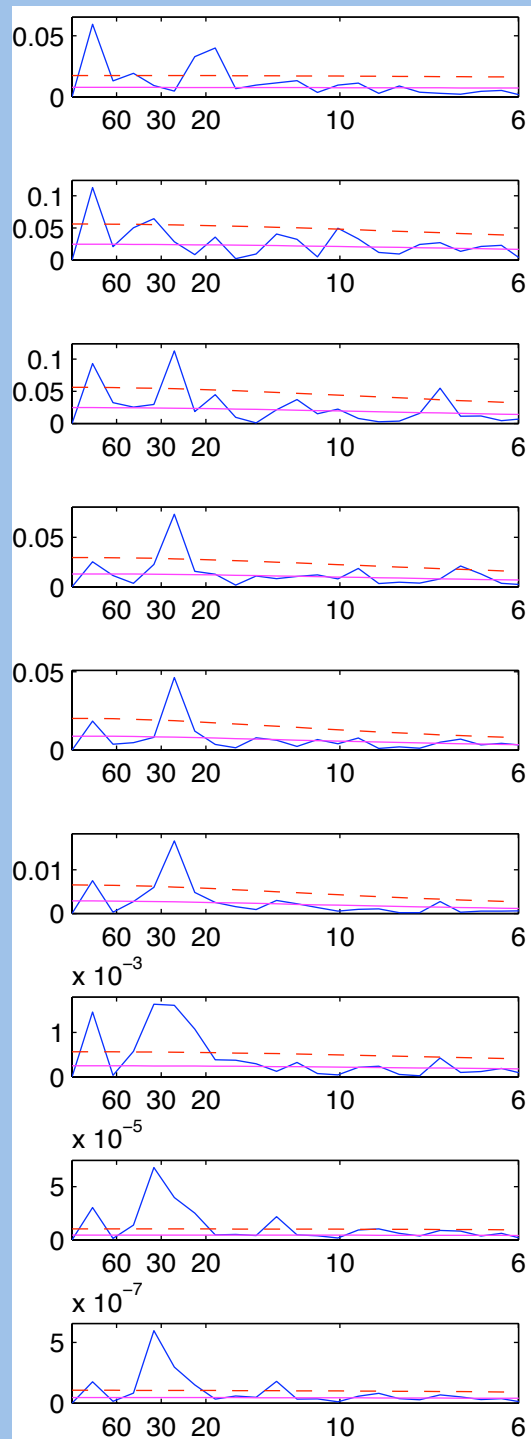


ERA-I

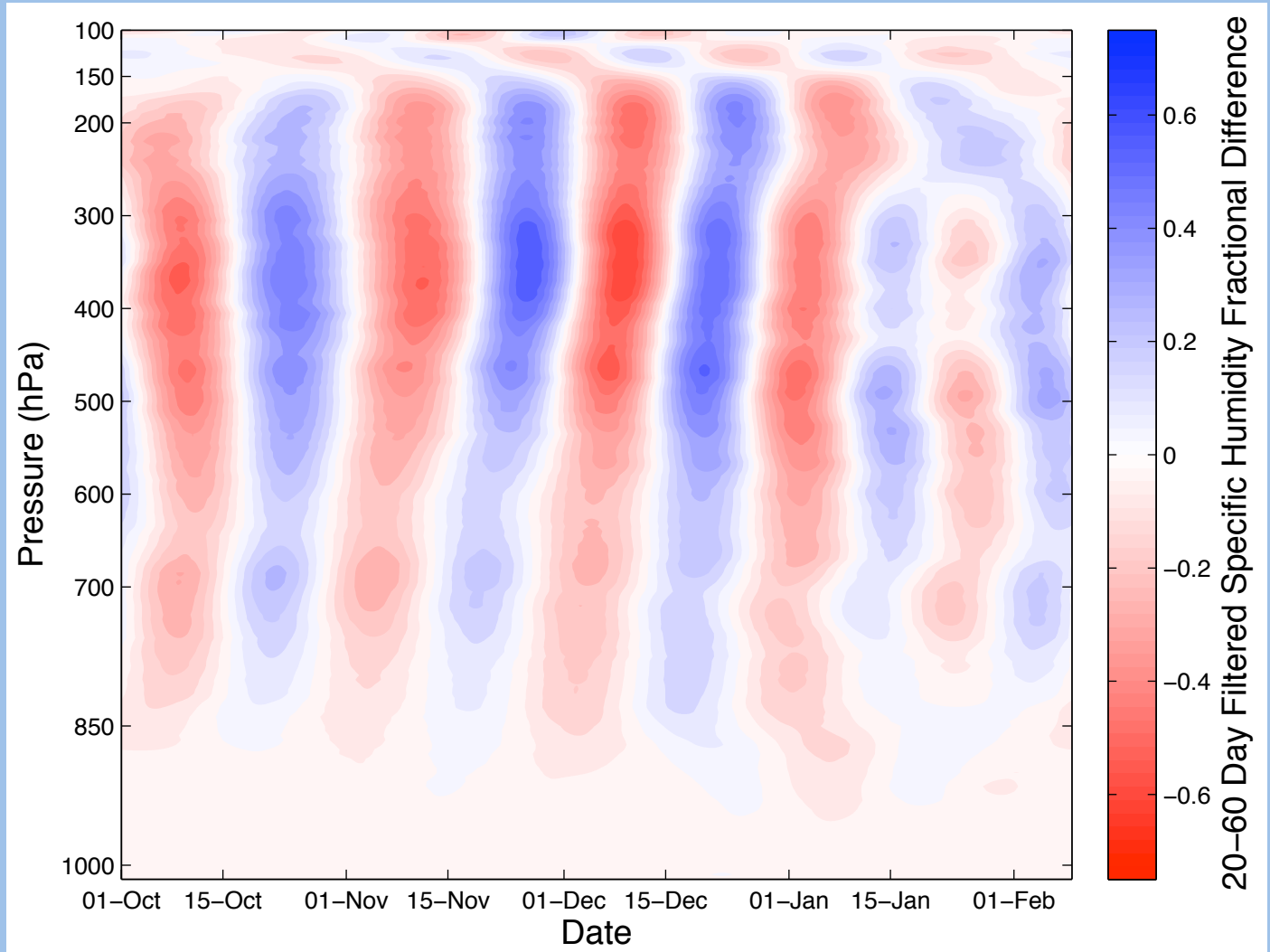


q'





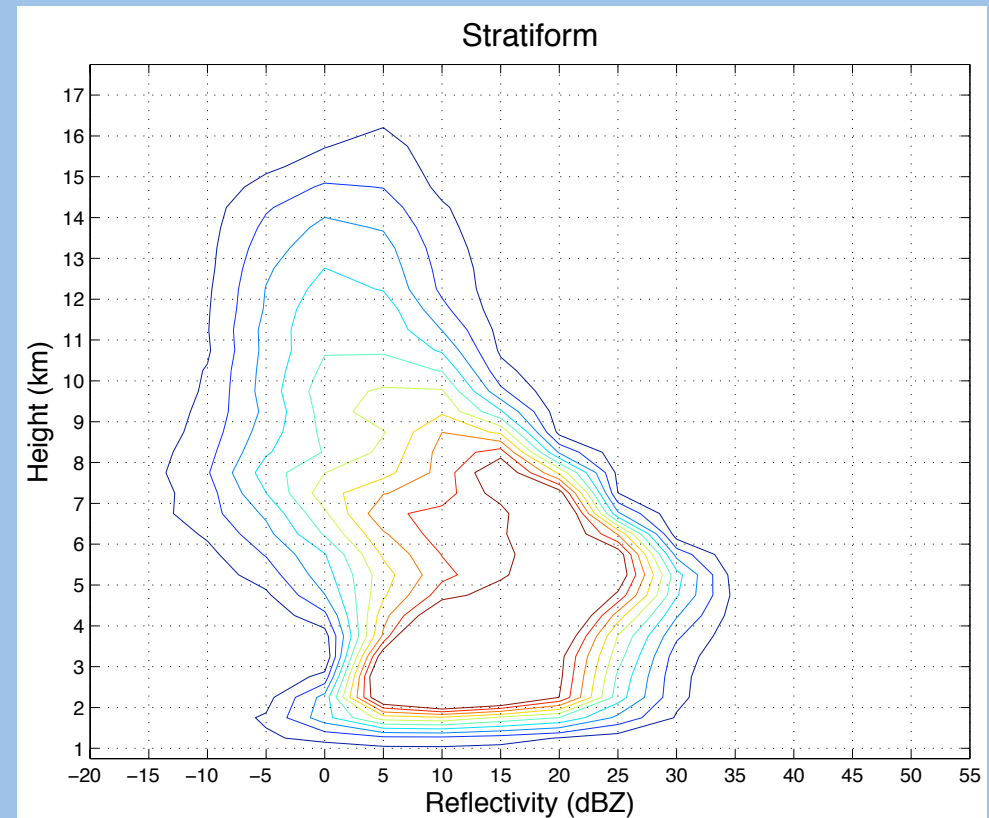
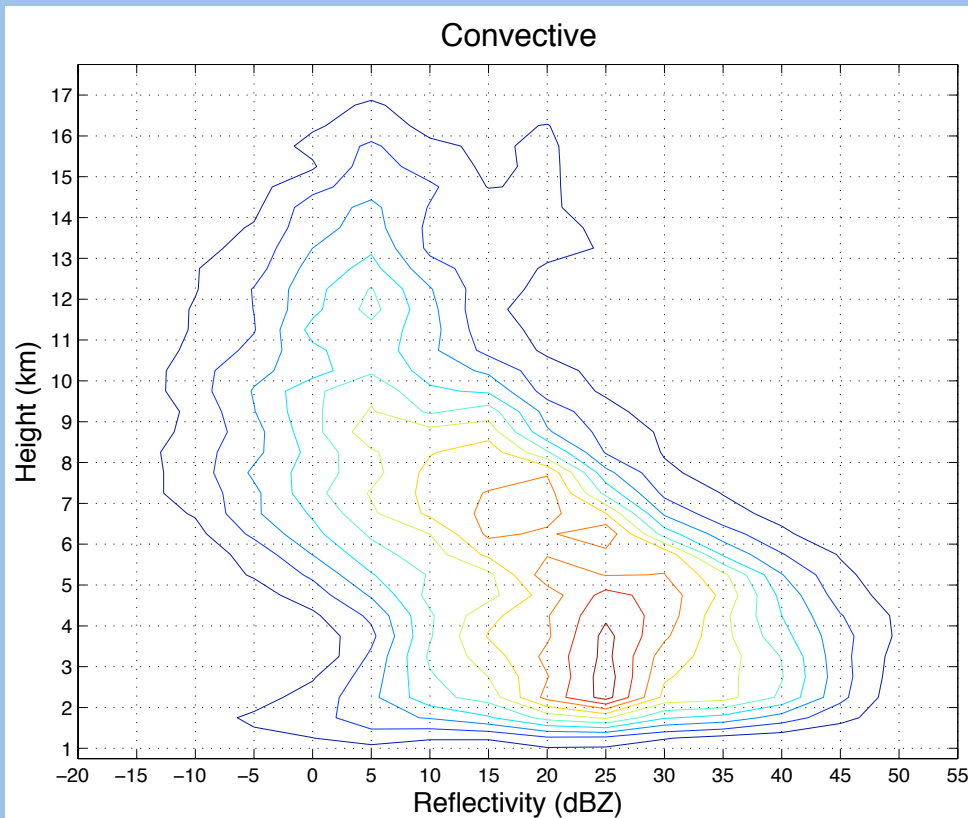
2 August 2012



S.W. Powell: Convection during DYNAMO

15

Reflectivity structure of precipitating clouds



Conclusions

- **Successful field campaign with an enormous radar and radiosonde dataset over the Indian Ocean**
- Clouds of all depths are present during all MJO phases.
- Variability in MJO clouds dominated by changes in stratiform frequency
- Stratiform clouds likely contribute greatly to moistening prior to MJO onset.
- Environmental humidity is not the only factor that controls depth of convection.
- DYNAMO MJO cases strongly linked to 150 hPa zonal wind anomaly

Conclusions

- **Successful field campaign with an enormous radar and radiosonde dataset over the Indian Ocean**
- **Clouds of all depths are present during all MJO phases.**
- Variability in MJO clouds dominated by changes in stratiform frequency
- Stratiform clouds likely contribute greatly to moistening prior to MJO onset.
- Environmental humidity is not the only factor that controls depth of convection.
- DYNAMO MJO cases strongly linked to 150 hPa zonal wind anomaly

Conclusions

- **Successful field campaign with an enormous radar and radiosonde dataset over the Indian Ocean**
- **Clouds of all depths are present during all MJO phases.**
- **Variability in MJO clouds dominated by changes in stratiform frequency**
- Stratiform clouds likely contribute greatly to moistening prior to MJO onset.
- Environmental humidity is not the only factor that controls depth of convection.
- DYNAMO MJO cases strongly linked to 150 hPa zonal wind anomaly

Conclusions

- Successful field campaign with an enormous radar and radiosonde dataset over the Indian Ocean
- Clouds of all depths are present during all MJO phases.
- Variability in MJO clouds dominated by changes in stratiform frequency
- Stratiform clouds likely contribute greatly to moistening prior to MJO onset.
- Environmental humidity is not the only factor that controls depth of convection.
- DYNAMO MJO cases strongly linked to 150 hPa zonal wind anomaly

Conclusions

- Successful field campaign with an enormous radar and radiosonde dataset over the Indian Ocean
- Clouds of all depths are present during all MJO phases.
- Variability in MJO clouds dominated by changes in stratiform frequency
- Stratiform clouds likely contribute greatly to moistening prior to MJO onset.
- Environmental humidity is not the only factor that controls depth of convection.
- DYNAMO MJO cases strongly linked to 150 hPa zonal wind anomaly