



## *Webex Agenda, 6 March 2014*




1. Access to Science Team Meeting Presentations
2. Update on Colorado logistics and schedule
3. Science Presentations: Chris Senff, Gail Tonnesen, and Patrick Reddy

**Presentations have been posted. Posters will be added soon. Please send your poster to Mary Kleb if you haven't already.**

**Presentations can be accessed from links on the main site and the data archive or directly at the following url:**

<https://www-air.larc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/DocView/DAQScienceMtgLaRC>



The screenshot shows the NASA Airborne Science Data website. At the top is the NASA logo and the text "NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION". Below this is a banner image of Earth from space with the text "Airborne Science Data for Atmospheric Composition". A navigation bar contains links for Home, Tools, Missions, Data, and Contact Us. A login box is present with the text "Login here to view documents", "User ID :", "Password :", and a "Login" button. Below the login box is a section titled "DISCOVER-AQ Science Team Meeting" with the dates "24-28 February 2014" and the location "H.J.E. Reid Conference Center, NASA Langley Research Center". At the bottom, there is a note "Documents are in PDF format" with a PDF icon, and a table header for "Monday (24 Feb) - Maryland" with columns for Time, Presenter, and Title.

The User ID is:

discoveraq

The password will be emailed separately.



## *FRAPPÉ Science Team Meeting*



The FRAPPÉ Science Team will be held in Boulder on 3-4 April.

We will not be travelling DISCOVER-AQ personnel to this meeting, but locals may wish to attend. Jim Crawford and Ken Pickering will also attend.

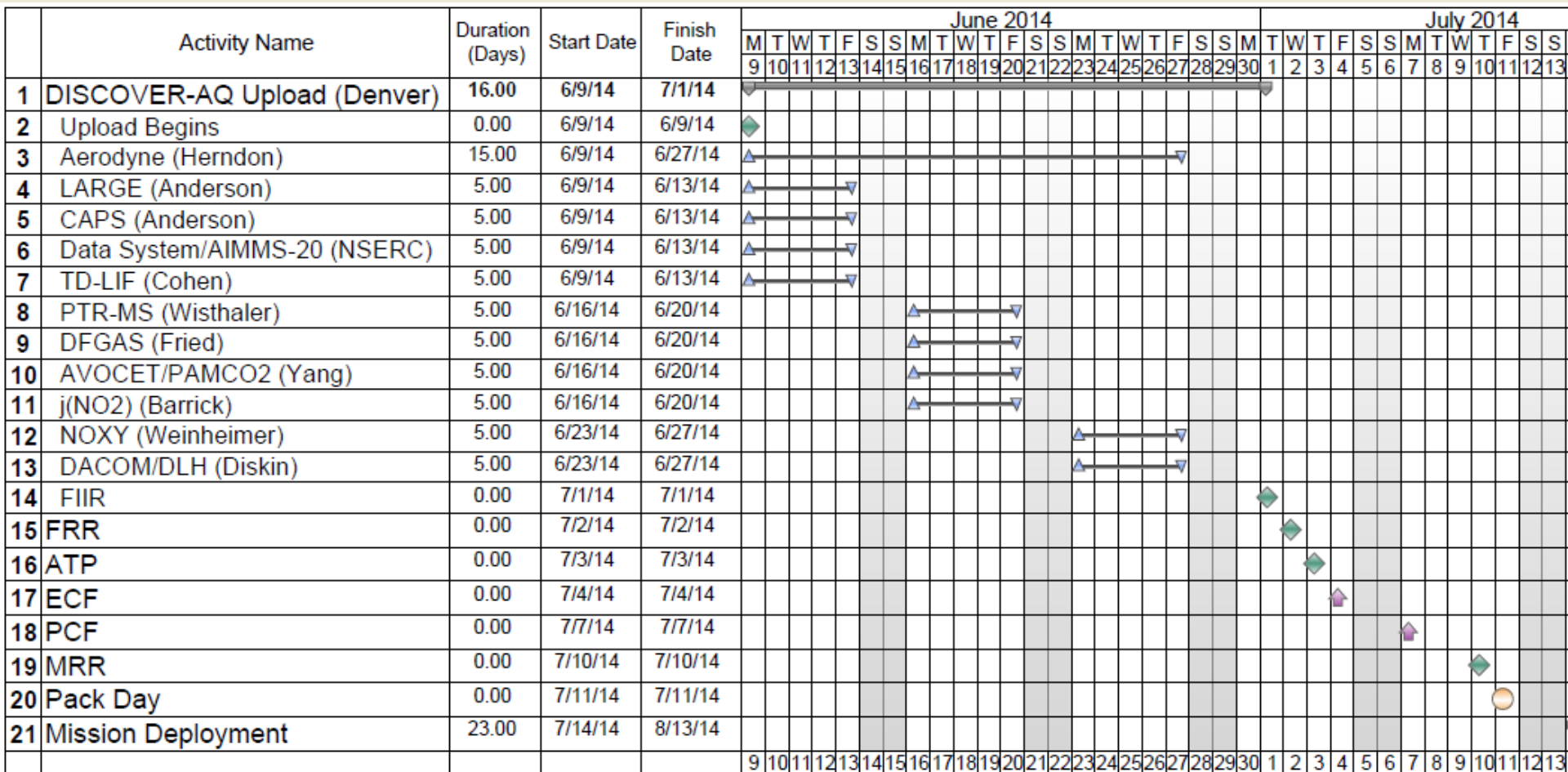
Remote access through webex will be provided for those who are interested. Instructions will be emailed to the DISCOVER-AQ mailing list.

### *FRAPPÉ /DISCOVER-AQ Media Day*

The media day has been scheduled for 14 July. This is the day after the transit of the NASA aircraft and the day before the first science flight.

This worked well in Houston and will give the public a heads up before science flights begin.

Martin Nowicki has produced a draft integration schedule. Don't make hard plans yet, since it might undergo one last tweak. I would like to consider the possibility of completed the check flight and packing by 3 July and release everyone until the transit. This would be possible with a slightly earlier start.





### Additional instructions for integration

The schedule reflects when racks will be uploaded (i.e. aircrew support). You are more than welcome to come early and work on your rack in the lab or stay and work on your rack once it is uploaded.

All windows will be installed in the first few days (before the racks block the windows). All windows should be at WFF 1 week prior to the start of integration.

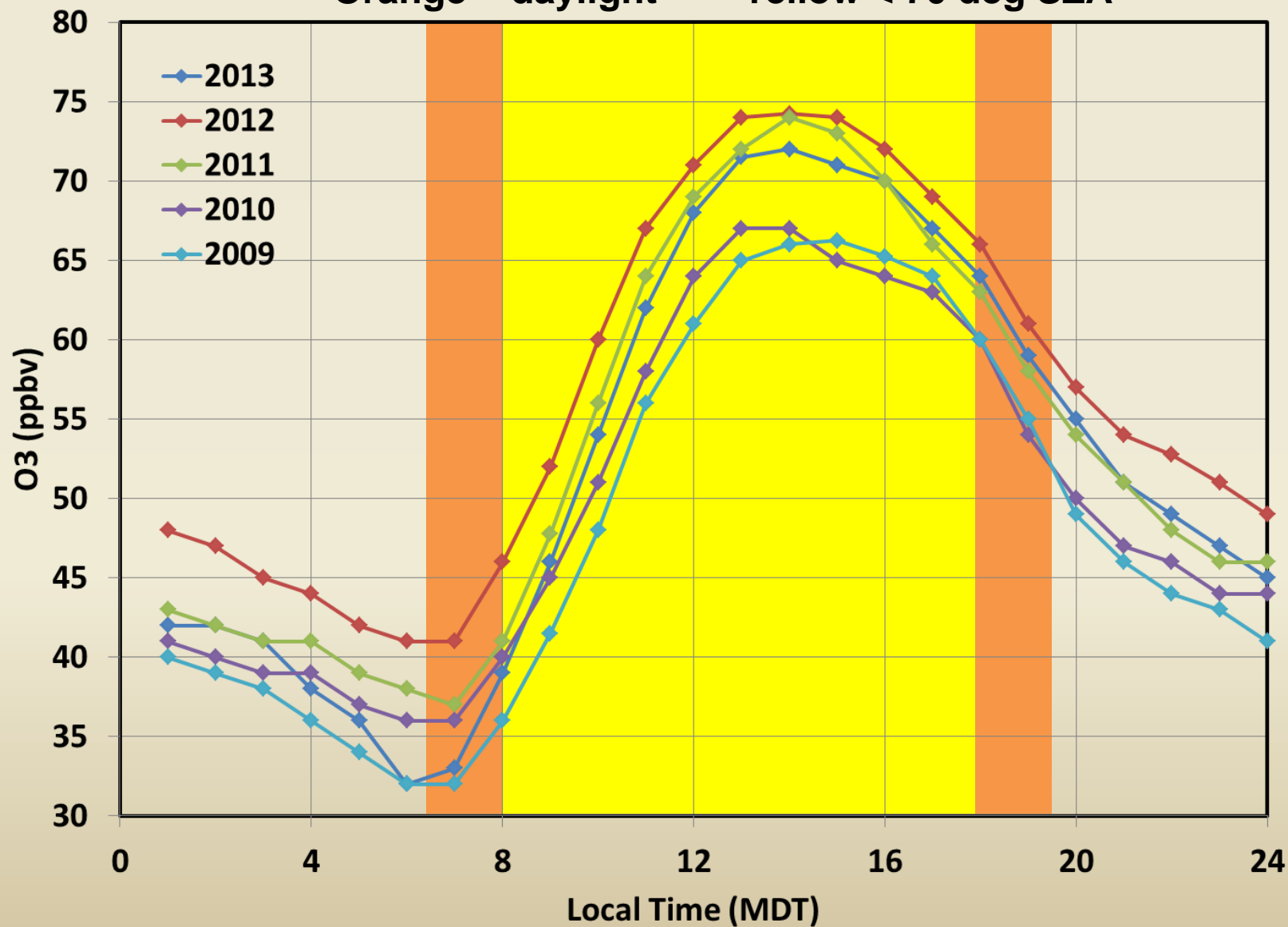
If we get ahead of schedule, racks may be uploaded earlier than scheduled. If you want to be present for the upload of your rack, plan to arrive a few days early or make special arrangements with Martin (i.e. rack brought on plane but not bolted down).

### Current status of download

Download of some instruments in Colorado (specifically, Weinheimer, Fried, and Cohen) will likely be feasible. Martin Nowicki is working out the details. Weinheimer will be easy, but Cohen and Fried will have to squeeze through some tight spots.

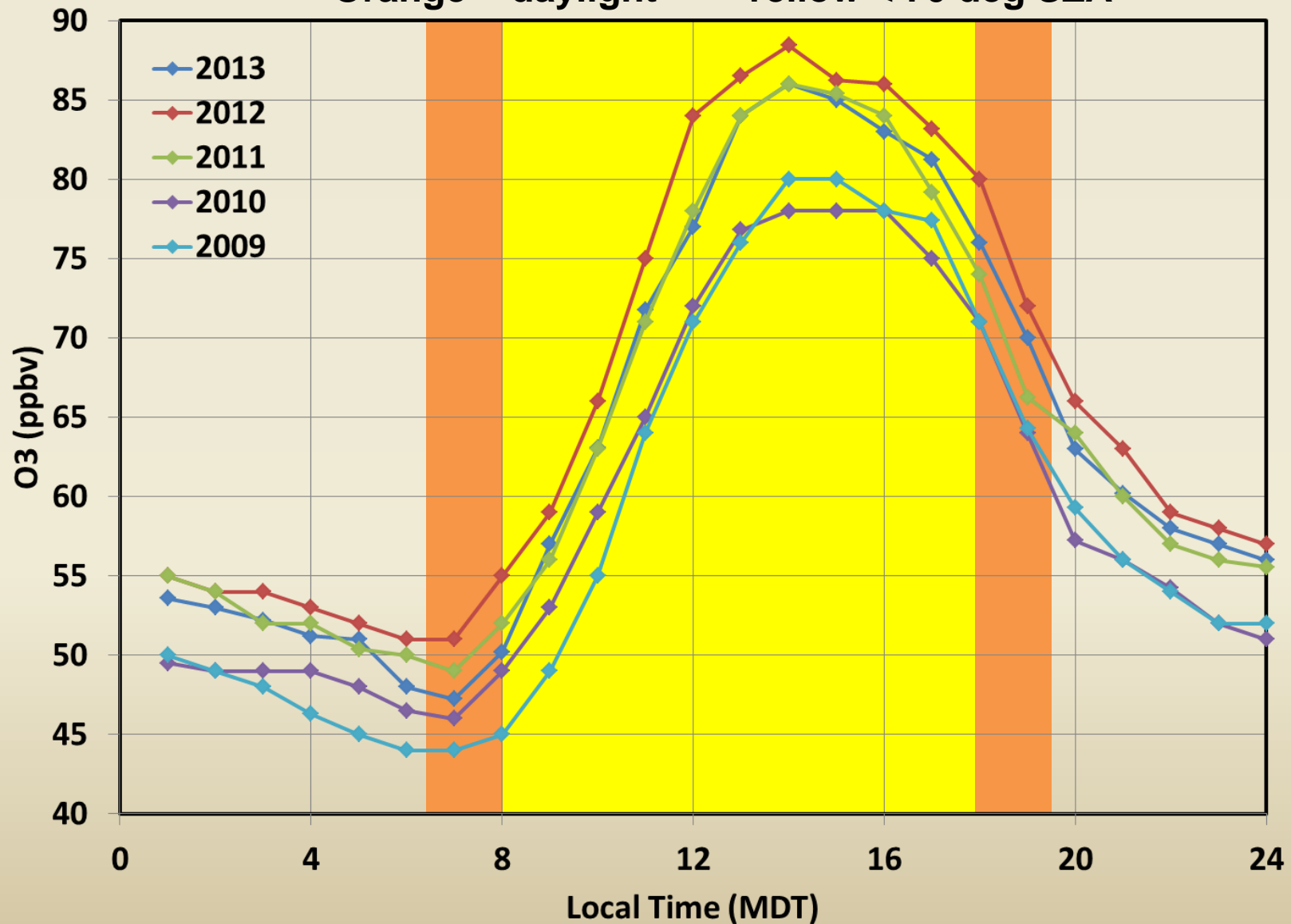
Orange = daylight

Yellow < 70 deg SZA



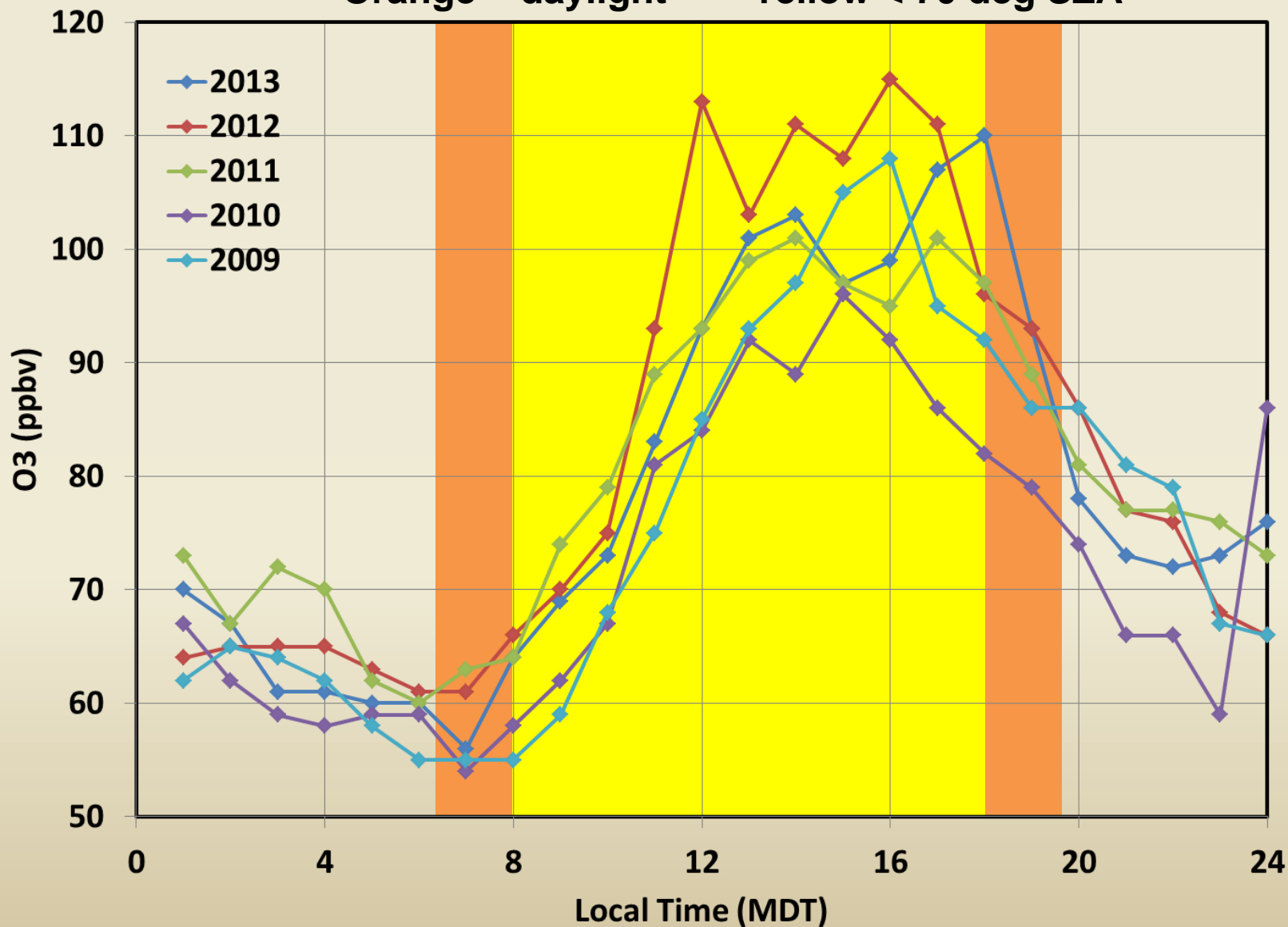
Orange = daylight

Yellow < 70 deg SZA

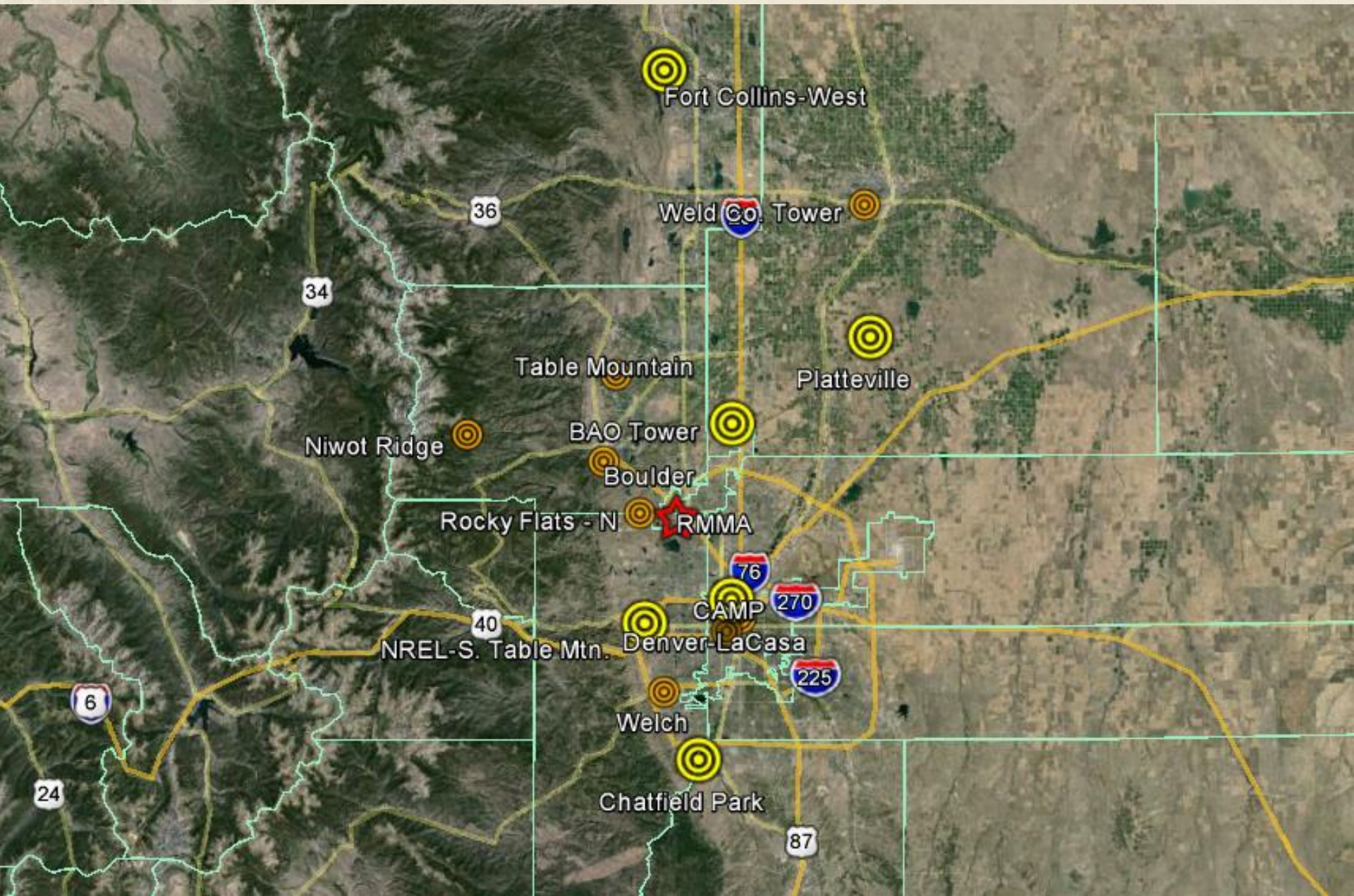


Orange = daylight

Yellow < 70 deg SZA



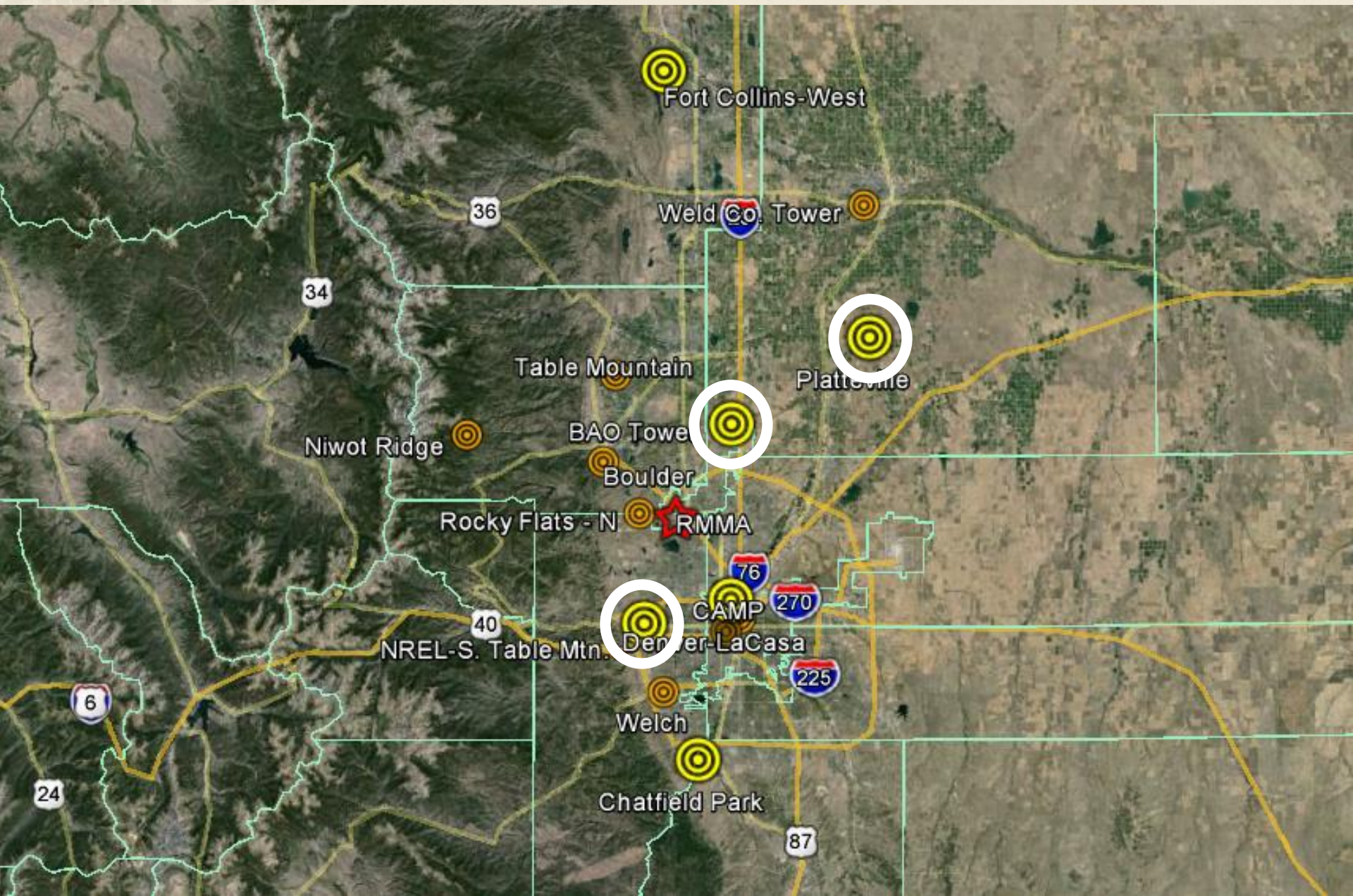






Name	Spiral	Overflight	Pandora	EPA NO2	Missed Approach	Lidars	Balloons	Comment
BAO Tower	X		2			NOAA TOPAZ and HRDL, UW HSRL		CSU, 3 mobile hookups (NEMA 14-50), small sensors on tower
Chatfield Park	X		1	X				
Denver-LaCasa Ncore	X		2	X				
Fort Collins-West	X		1	X	500 feet	TOLNet O3		
NREL-S. Table Mtn.	X		2	X		MPL, TOLNet O3, Leosphere Windcube	Tethersonde	Millersville also brings sodar, flux tower, nephelometer; Pandoras by EPA here, UMBC trailer, EPA ceilometer, port-a-pot
Platteville	X		1	X			Ozonesondes	NATIVE, NOAA Radiation, 3 mobile hookups (NEMA 14-50), Pandora by NATIVE here; Extra trailer, shed (sondes), port-a-pot
Boulder		X	1					Pandora already at this location
CAMP		X						small sensors either along street canyon or on building?
I-25 Denver			1	X				near-road NO2 monitor; EPA for sure here; AQMesh
Niwot Ridge			1					exact location TBD - prefer tundra location
Rocky Flats - N		X	1	?				
Table Mountain		X	1					possible ozone monitor
Welch		X	1					
Weld Co. Tower		X	1	?				remote sensors on county building
Greeley-Weld Co. Airport					X			Missed approach along BL run
Parkland Airport					500 feet			Missed approach with BAO spiral

Early installation desired for Pandora and Aeronet (as early as April). Can CDPHE accommodate this?





Gate →

← Vacant Building  
(no access)



Team	Footprint	Power
NATIVE	24'x8.5' trailer	Double pole circuit breaker (4 leads; 2x120V, neutral, and ground); Maximum load of 100A Need 220V for cooling system
NOAA SurfRad	12'x6' for trailer 30' dia. for tower	15A, 120V
LARGE	30'x10' mobile lab	50A, 220V, NEMA 14-50 receptacle
NOAA CSD		NEMA 14-50 receptacle
Aerodyne		NEMA 14-50 receptacle

## Additional requirements:

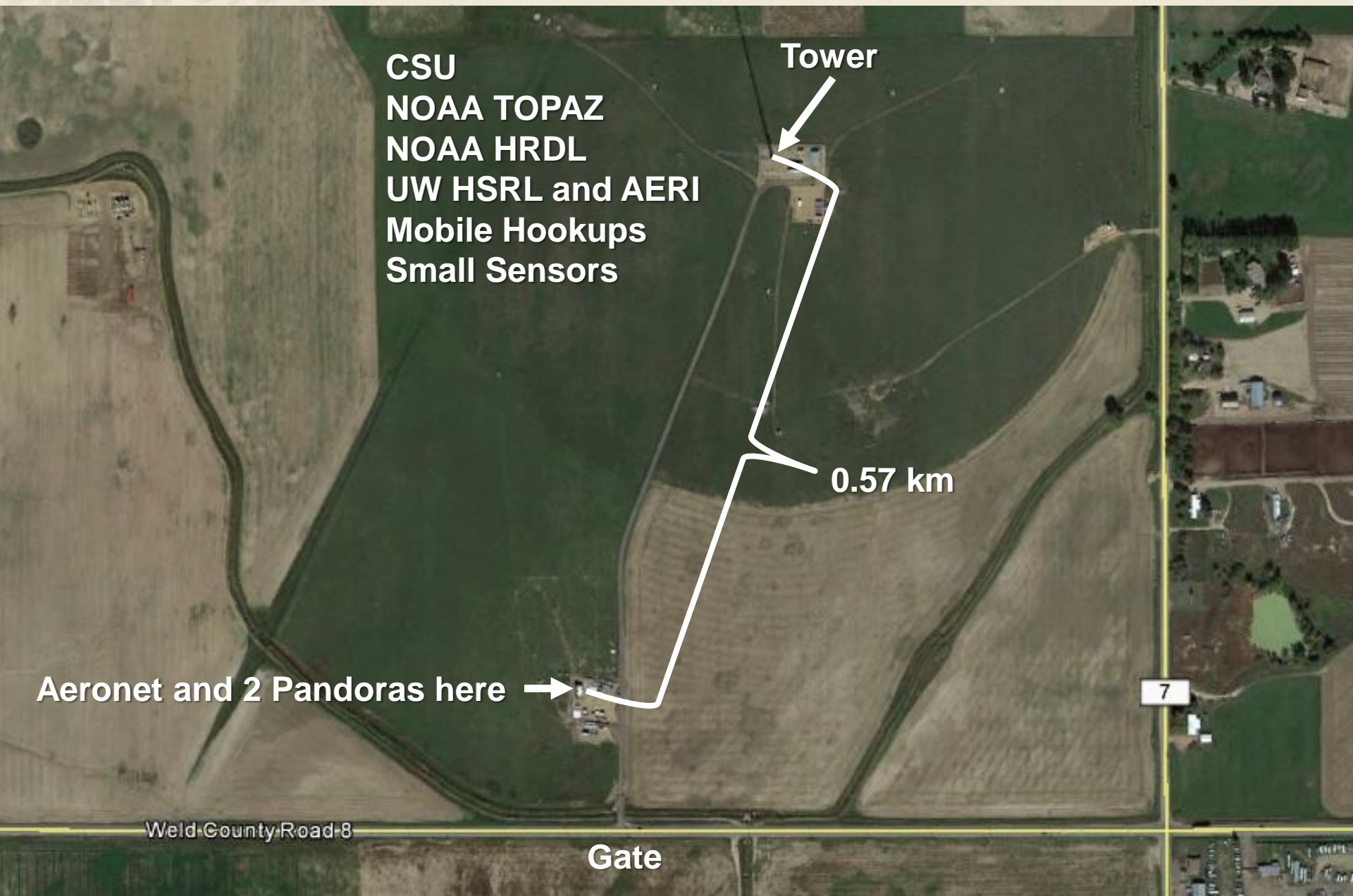
Second trailer for work space

25'x25' storage space for sonde prep

Portable latrine

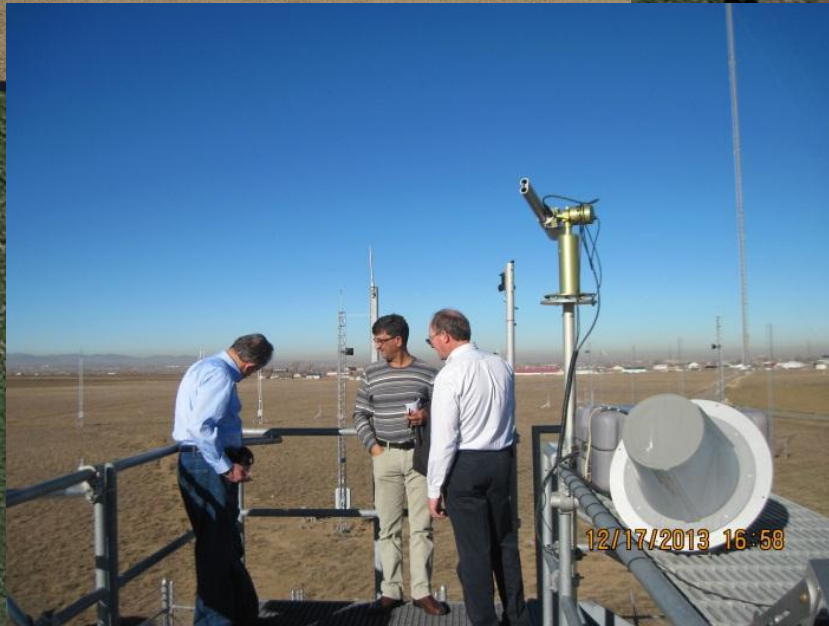




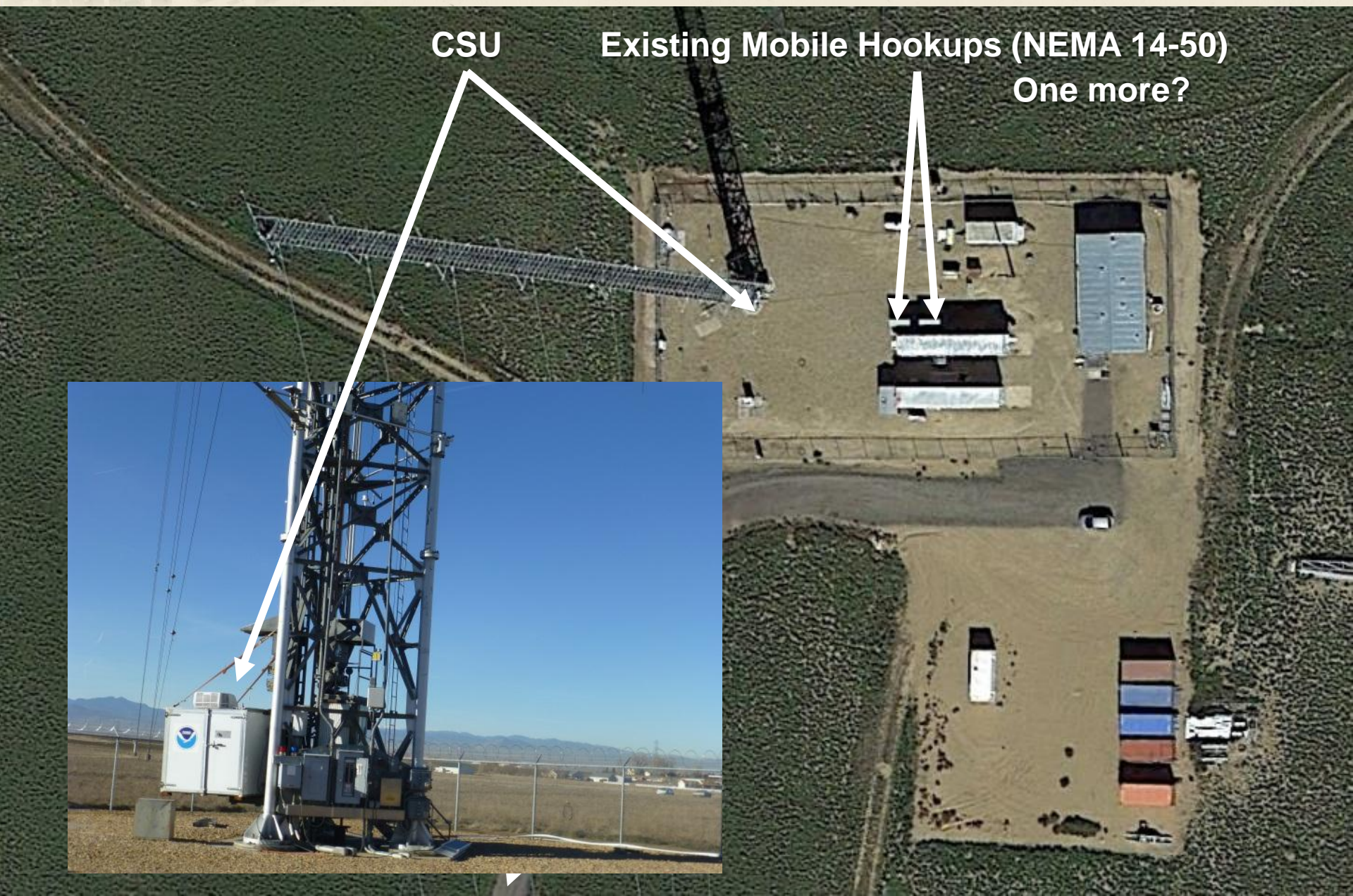




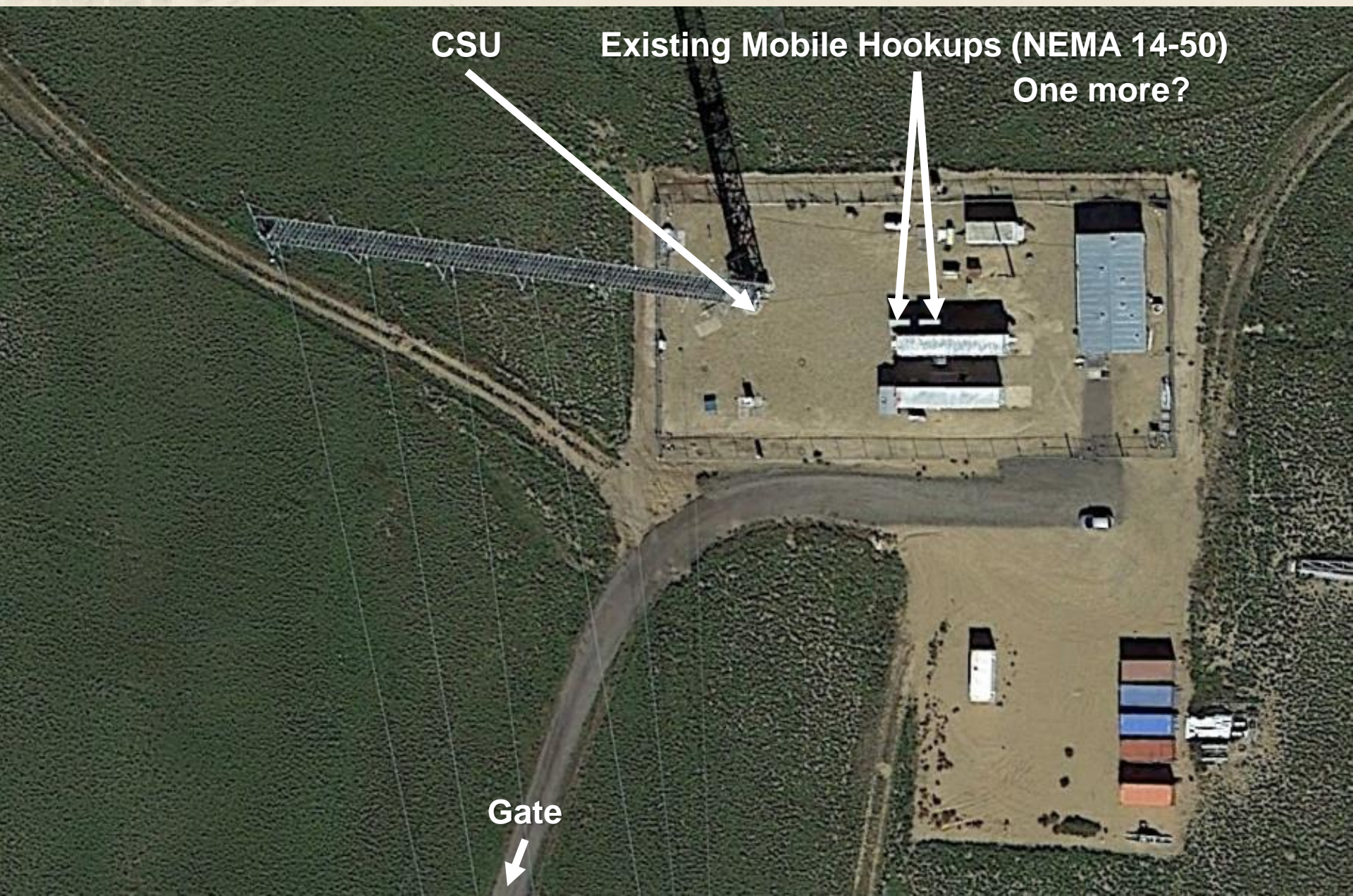
Aeronet and 2 Pandoras here?













Group	Power	Space	Comment
NOAA-TOPAZ	120/240 VAC; 50 Amps 10 kW	27' x 15'	The plug that we currently use to power the lidar is a Hubble brand 60 A, 125/250 VAC, 3 pole, 4 wire, watertight pin and sleeve connector part number HBL460P12W. We suggest to install the matching receptacle for this plug which is Hubble part number HBL460R12W.
NOAA-HRDL			
UW-HSRL and AERI	120/240 VAC; 60 amps	35' x 13'	We use the same HBL460P12W connector that the NOAA-TOPAZ group. For maximum safety we typically deliver for installation ahead of SPARC arrival a fused circuit interlock box to provide power, but we are certainly able to plug into a Hubble HBL460R12W if that is already available. Power requirement is listed as 60 amps, but 50 amps would be fine as well. The power inlet is at the front of our trailer and we carry a 100' #4 AWG power cord with the Hubbell connectors. Unit is 50' when including both truck and trailer.
CSU			Installation on the tower carriage; working with Steve Brown
Pandora (2)	Standard 120V receptacle 300W each	3' x 3' each	Prefer to mount telescope on a rooftop railing (can also be tripod mounted) and place instrument inside the trailer/structure.
Aeronet	Standard 120V receptacle	3' x 3'	Prefer to mount telescope on a rooftop railing (can also be tripod mounted) and place instrument on roof of trailer/structure.
CairTub units	Self powered/battery		A number of units would be mounted on the tower at various heights
AQMesh units	Self powered/battery	N/A	A number of units would be mounted on the tower at various heights
Mobile hookups (3)			NEMA 14-50 receptacles. Mobile labs would come and go, but need space for up to three during comparison periods
LARGE Mobile Lab	220V; 50 Amps		
Aerodyne Mobile Lab			
NOAA Mobile Lab			

Others expected at this site:

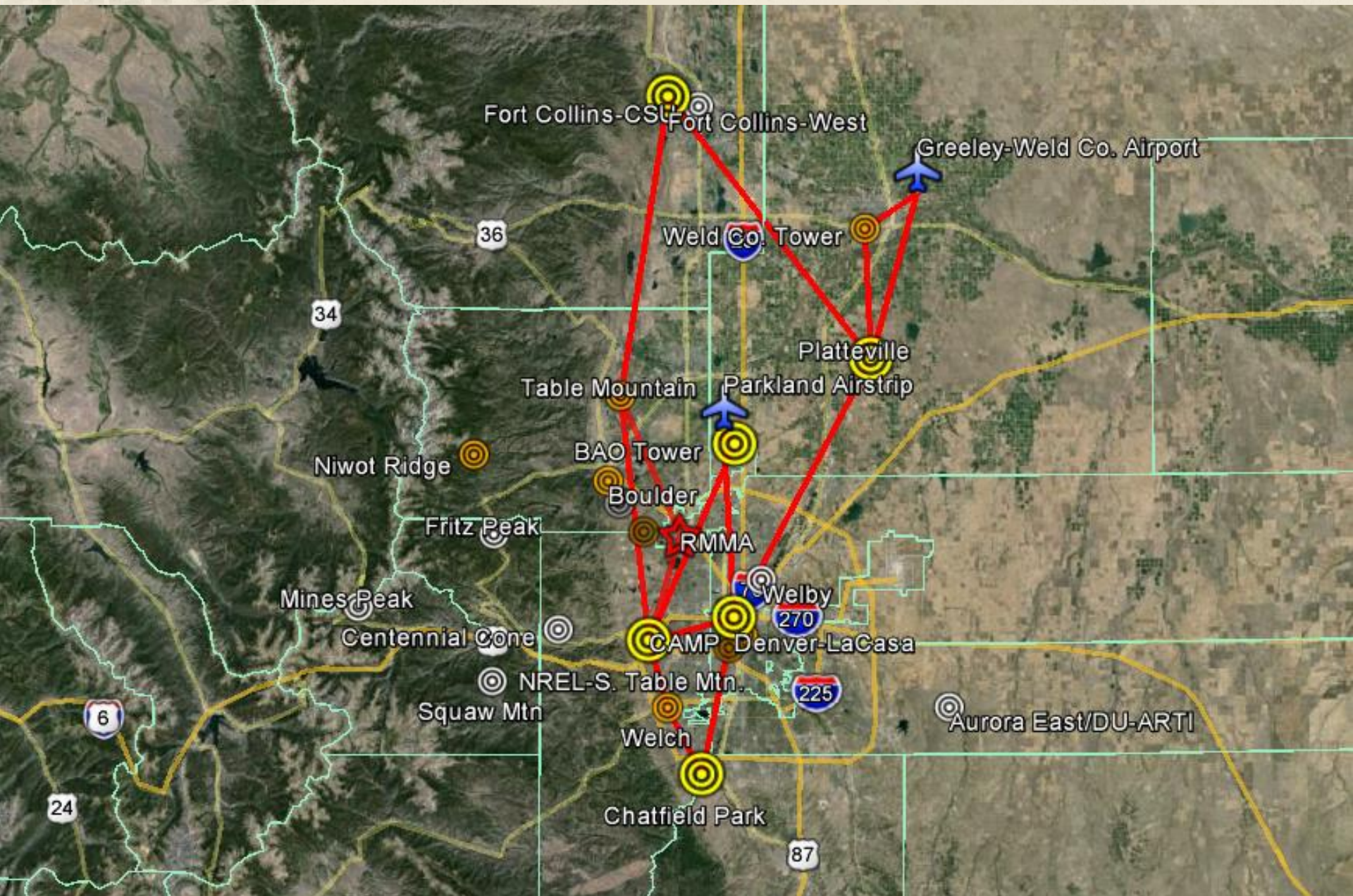
TOLNet O3

UMBC trailer and Leosphere Windcube

EPA (in CDPHE shelter)





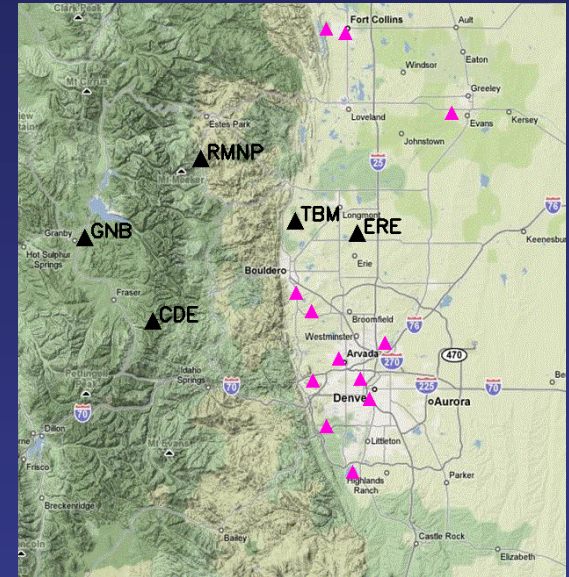
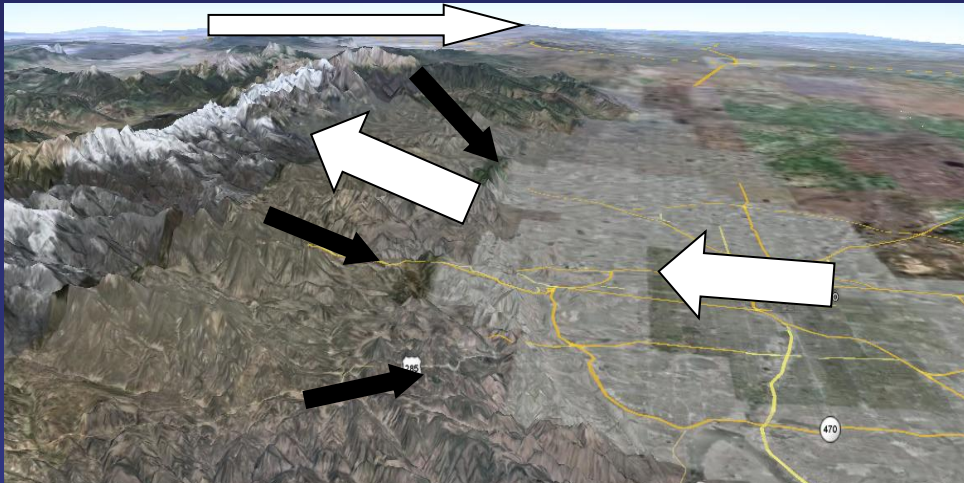


1. The normal schedule will not work for the next two months due to FRAPPE meeting April and Korea meeting in May
2. With integration starting in June, opportunities are few
3. Suggest more frequent telecons (still on Thursdays at 3pm) to provide updates and track progress

Suggested dates: 27 March, 17 April, 8 May, and 29 May



# Front Range Air Quality Study: July 2008



## Objectives

- Investigate role of mountainous terrain west of Denver on pollutant transport and distribution
- Evaluate WRF/FLEXPART model performance in/near complex terrain
- Pilot study for 2010 CALNEX air quality study

## Instrumentation

- NOAA O<sub>3</sub> lidar flown on Twin Otter aircraft
- 3 boundary layer wind profilers and a meteorological surface station

# TOPAZ: NOAA's Ozone/Aerosol Lidar

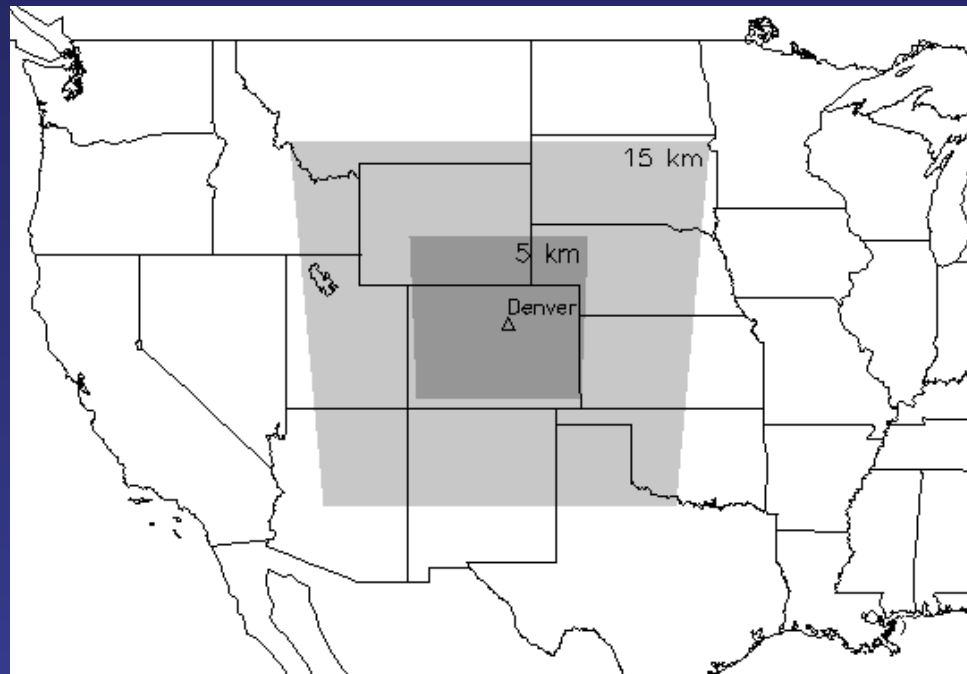
(TOPAZ = Tunable Optical Profiler for Aerosols and oZone)

- Ozone and aerosol backscatter profiles from near the surface to ~3 km AGL
- Resolution: 90 m vertical, 600 m horizontal
- Precision ( $O_3$ ): 3-15 ppb



TOPAZ on NOAA  
Twin Otter

# Coupled WRF/FLEXPART model

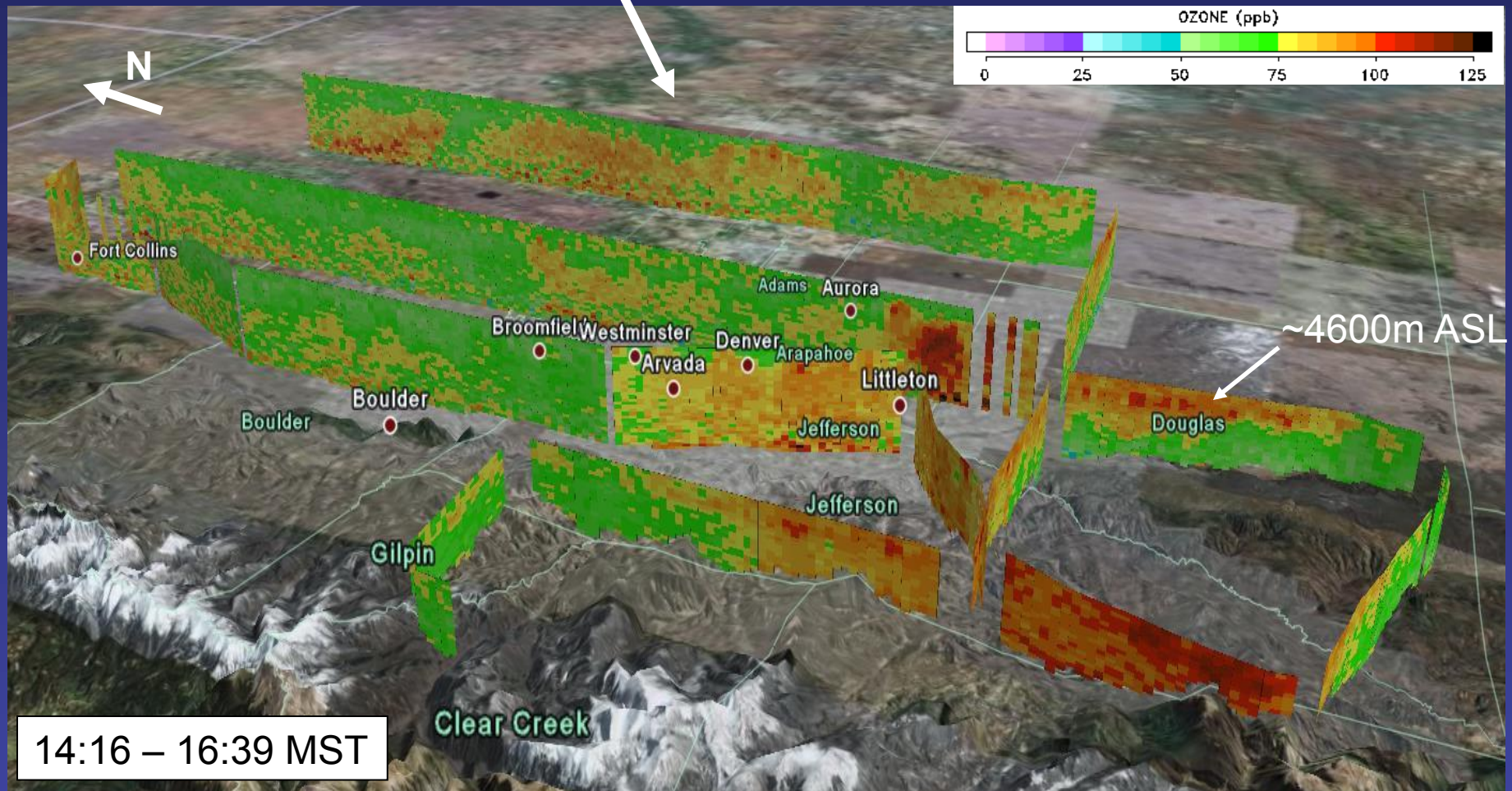


- FLEXPART (Lagrangian particle dispersion model) uses U.S. EPA emission inventory data and is driven by WRF meteorological fields
- WRF is run on a nested grid and initialized at the boundary every 3 hours with the NCEP GFS global model
- WRF/FLEXPART provides CO and NO<sub>x</sub> fields at 1.7 km resolution



27 July 2008

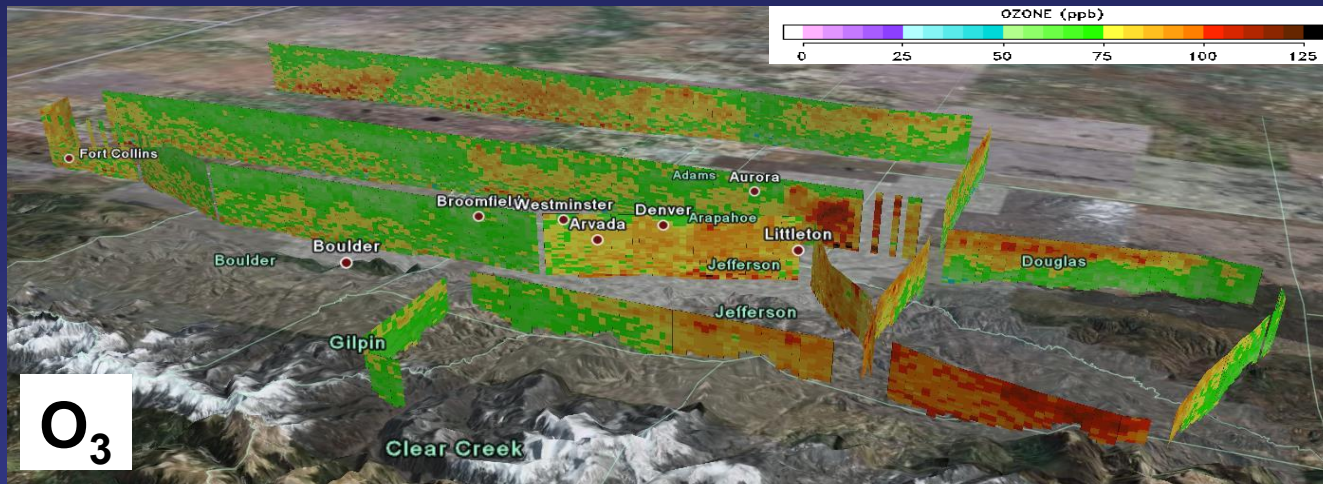
NE wind



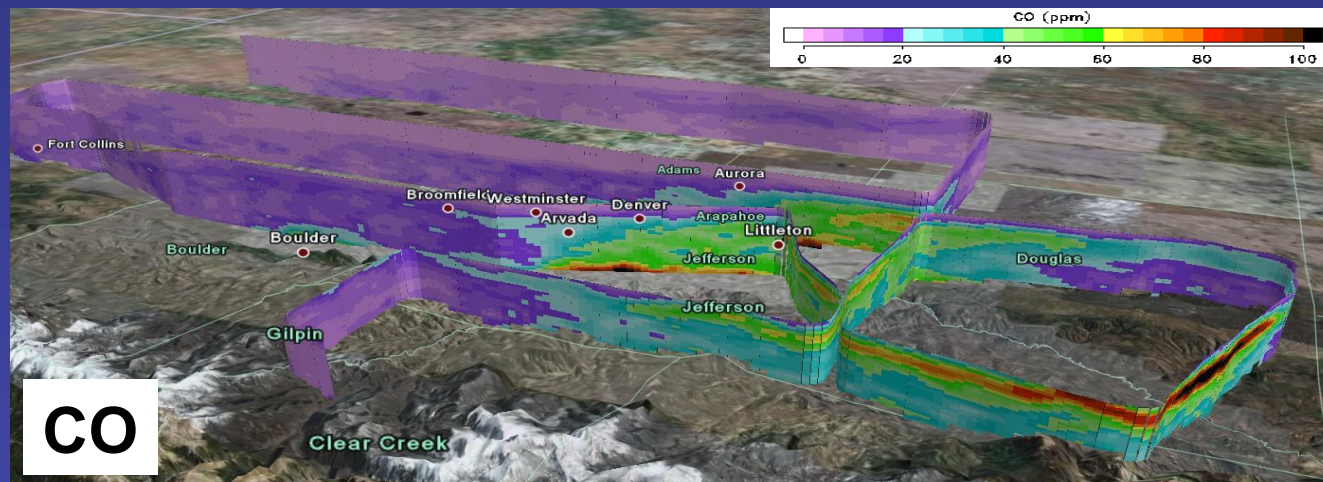
3-d distribution of  $O_3$  from TOPAZ lidar



27 July 2008



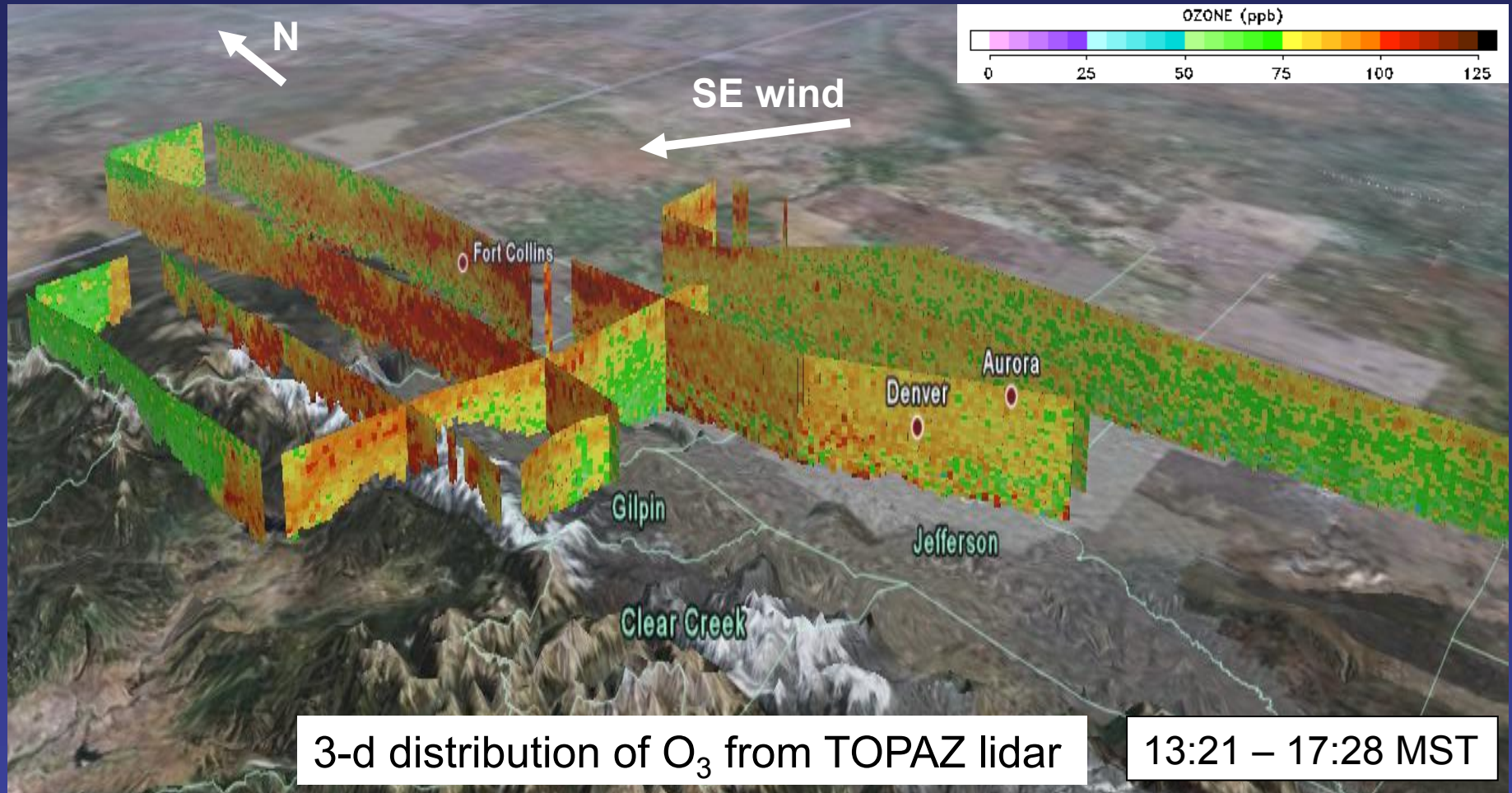
TOPAZ lidar measurement



WRF-FLEXPART model results

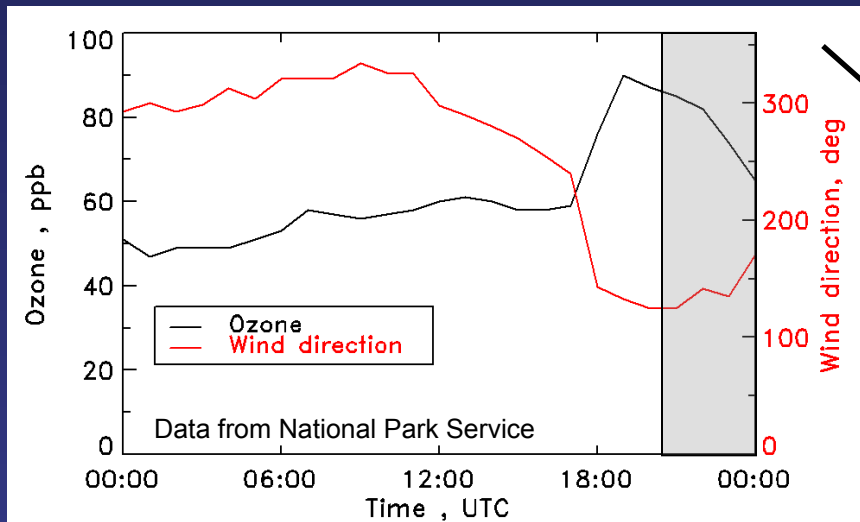


# 31 July 2008

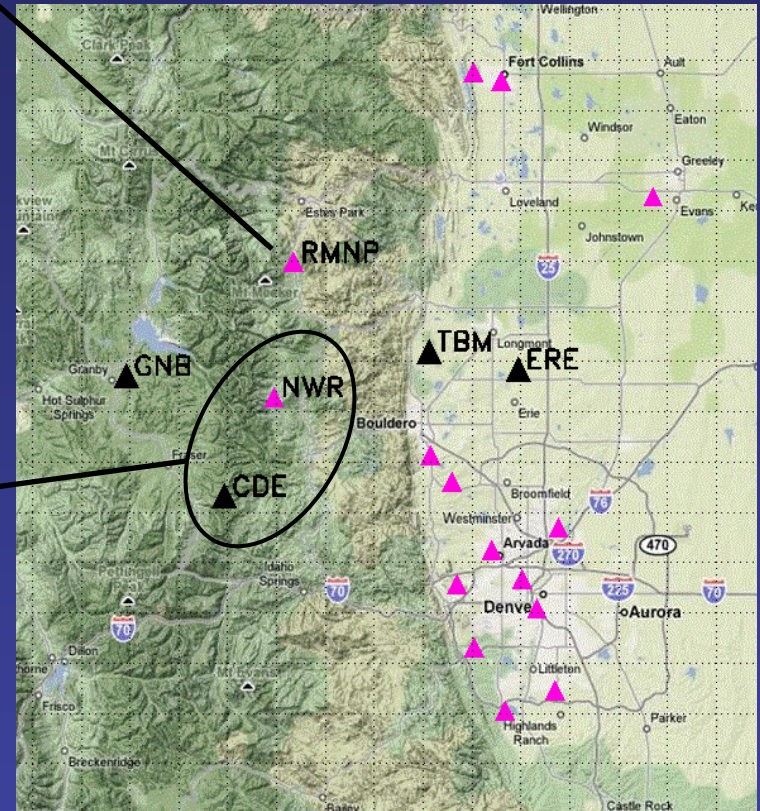
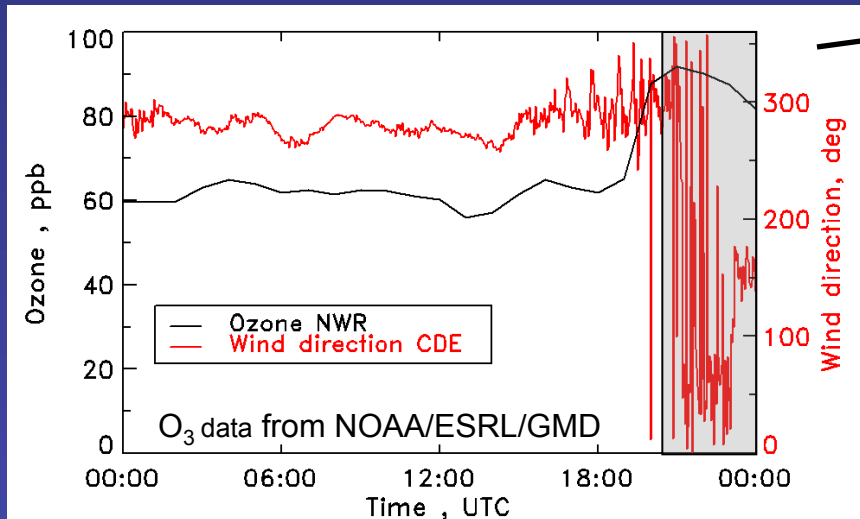


- $O_3$  from the greater Denver area is transported up the eastern slope of the Front Range Mountains and across the Divide into Jackson and Grand Counties.
- High levels of  $O_3$  were observed over Rocky Mountain National Park.

# 31 July 2008



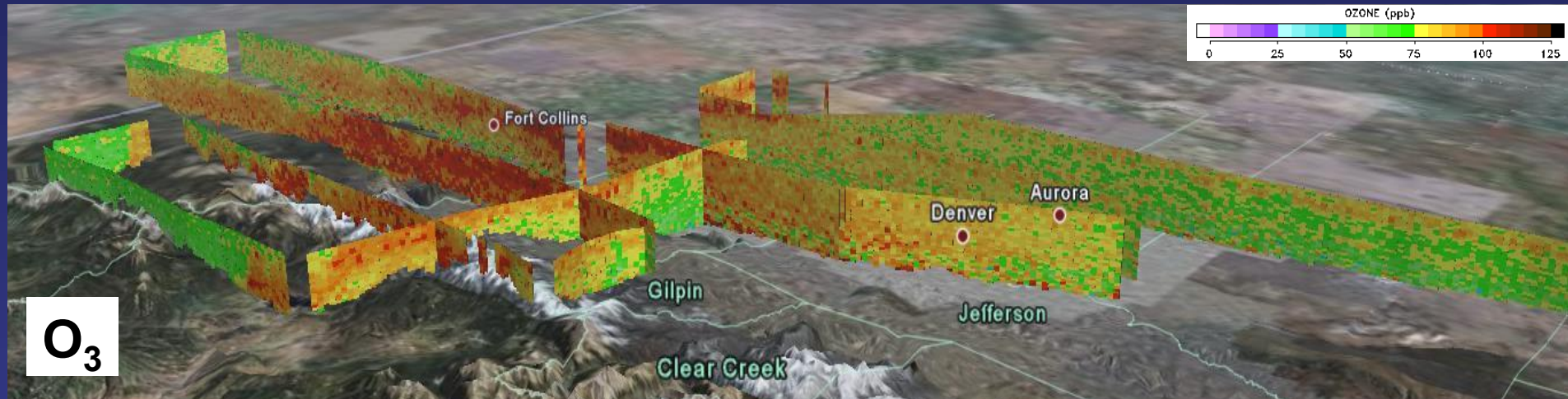
RMNP Longs Peak site – 2743 m ASL



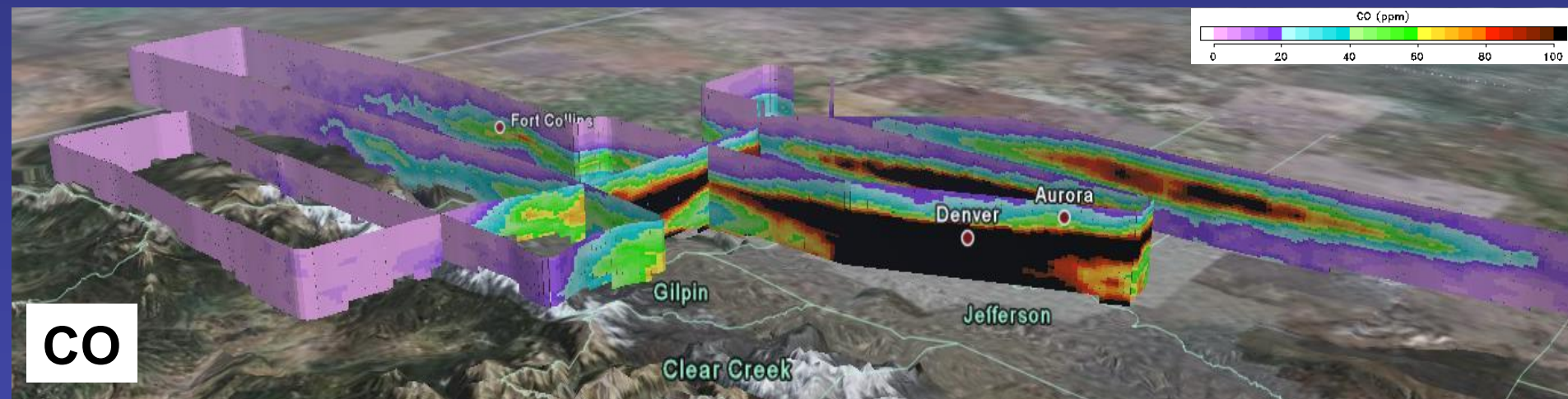
CDE – 3700 m ASL / NWR – 3538 m ASL



31 July 2008

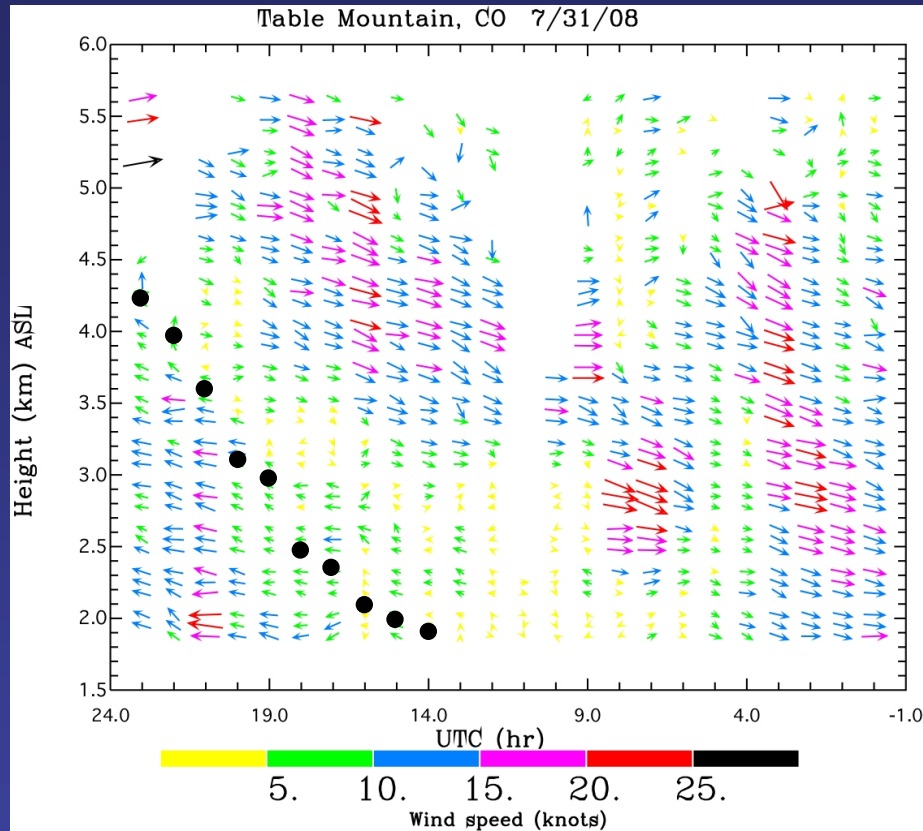


TOPAZ lidar measurement

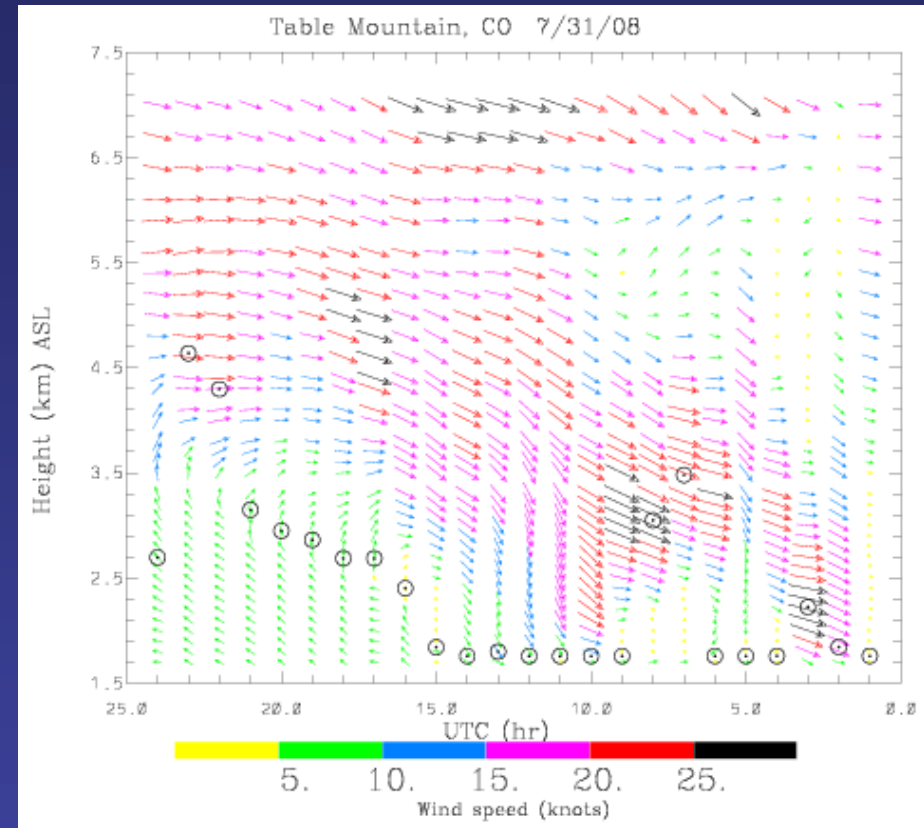


WRF-FLEXPART model results

# 31 July 2008



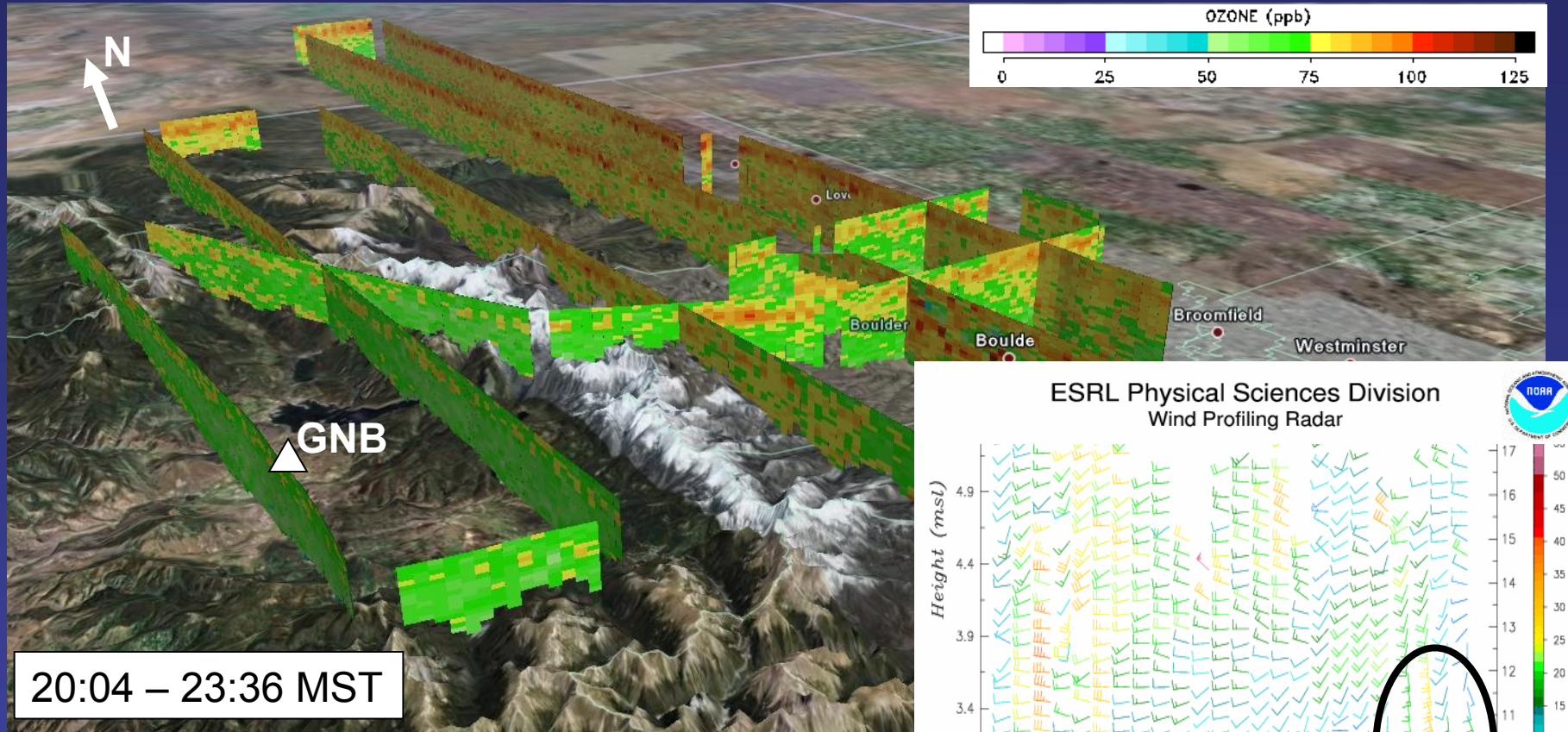
TBM radar wind profiler data



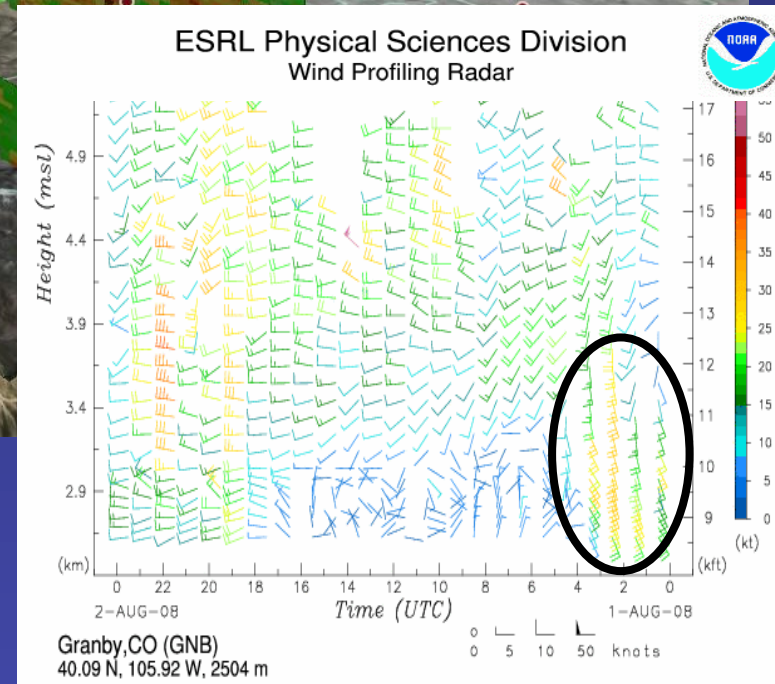
WRF/FLEXPART wind profiles  
at TBM site



# 31 July 2008 (TOPAZ evening flight)



3-d distribution of O<sub>3</sub> from TOPAZ lidar



GNB radar wind profiler data

# Summary

- Prevailing easterly boundary layer winds transported pollutants from the Denver area towards and into the mountains.
- Highest ozone values were typically found along the eastern slope of the mountains.
- One case of transport of the Denver ozone plume across the Divide.
- WRF/FLEXPART model reproduced pollutant distribution quite well, but did not capture transport across the Divide due to an underestimation of boundary layer wind speeds and mixing heights.

## Acknowledgements

Coauthors: R. J. Alvarez II, J. Brioude, S. A. McKeen, A. M. Weickmann, W. A. Brewer, S. P. Sandberg, A. B. White, W. M. Angevine

National Park Service Air Resources Division

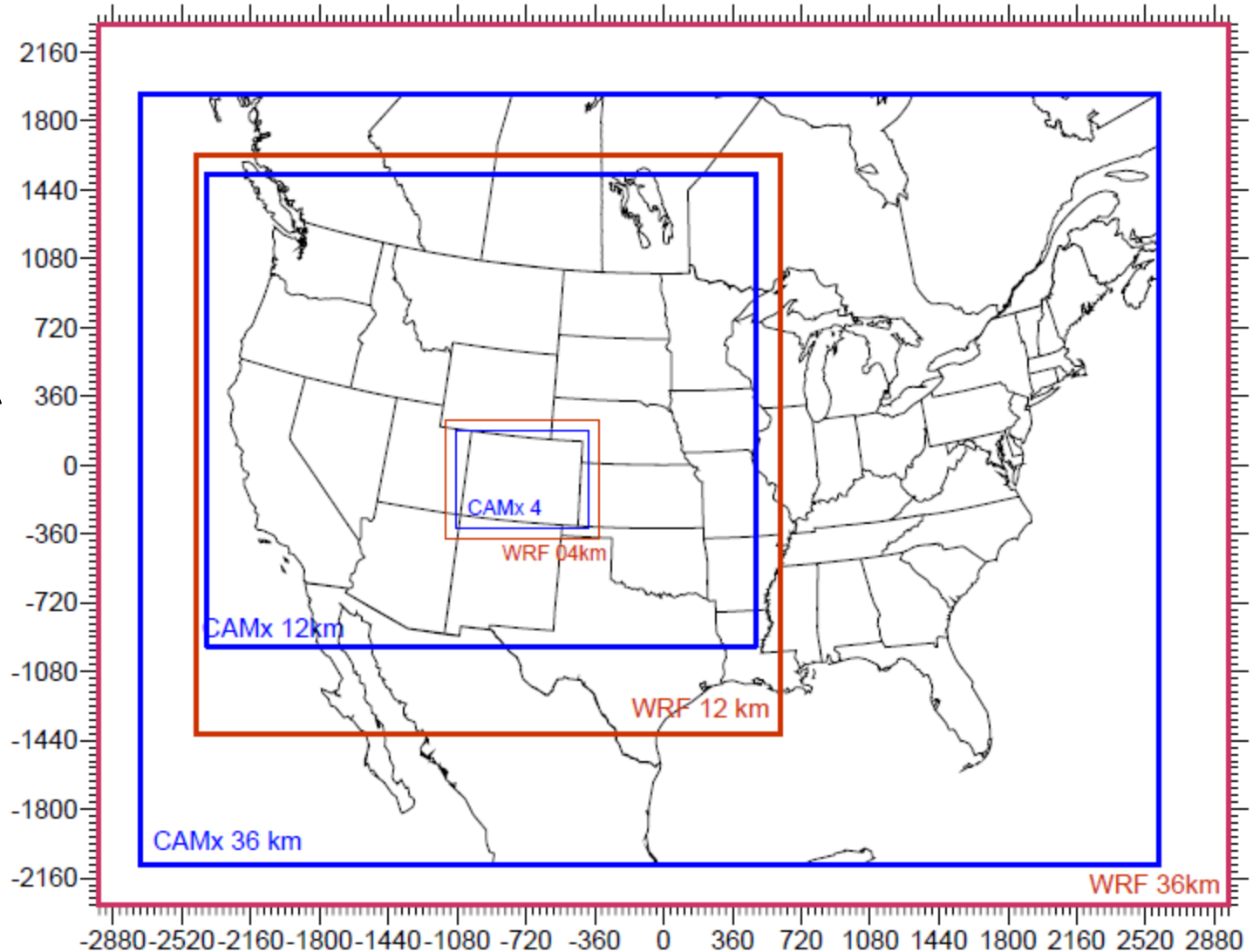


# Background Ozone Sources in the Denver/Northern Front Range

Gail Tonnesen, EPA Region 8

# Nested 36/12/4-km WRF/CAMx Domains

Lateral BC  
from NCAR  
MOZART





37-layer WRF, with  
layer collapsing to  
25 layer CAMx

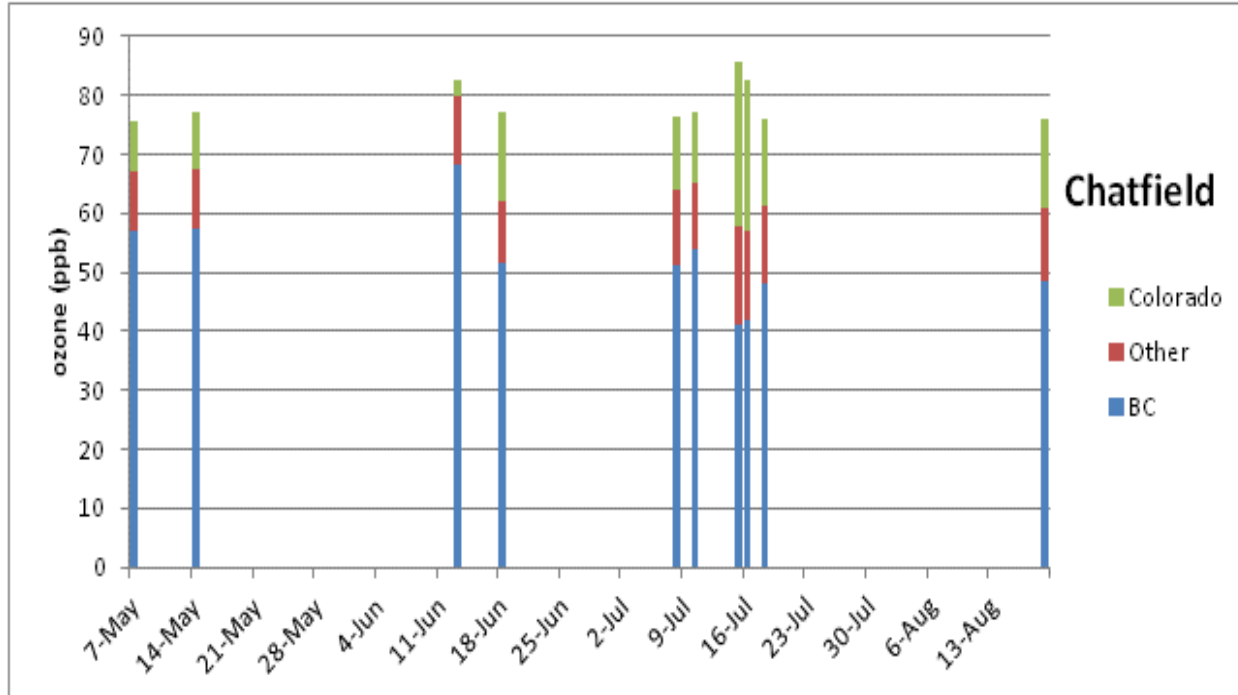
L25: 15-19 km  
L21: 5.8-7.4 km  
L15: 2.1-2.5 km  
L1: 24 meters

Table 4-3. Vertical layer definition for WRF simulations (left most columns), and approximating CAMx layers by collapsing multiple WRF layers (right columns).

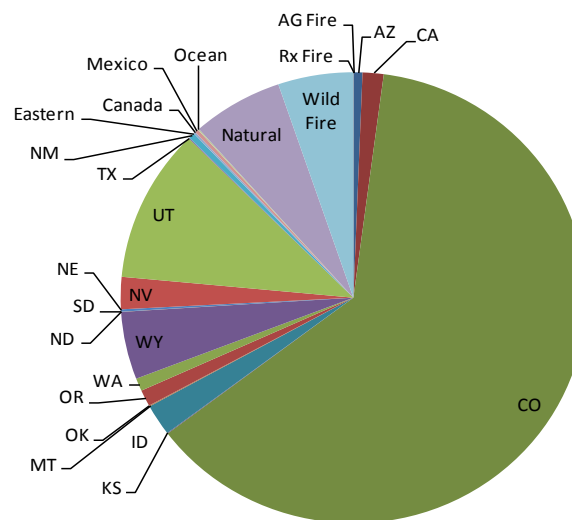
WRF Meteorological Model					CAMx Air Quality Model		
WRF Layer	Sigma	Pressure (mb)	Height (m)	Thickness (m)	CAMx Layer	Height (m)	Thickness (m)
37	0.0000	50.00	19260	2055	25	19260.0	3904.9
36	0.0270	75.65	17205	1850			
35	0.0600	107.00	15355	1725	24	15355.1	3425.4
34	0.1000	145.00	13630	1701			
33	0.1500	192.50	11930	1389	23	11929.7	2569.6
32	0.2000	240.00	10541	1181			
31	0.2500	287.50	9360	1032	22	9360.1	1952.2
30	0.3000	335.00	8328	920			
29	0.3500	382.50	7408	832	21	7407.9	1591.8
28	0.4000	430.00	6576	760			
27	0.4500	477.50	5816	701	20	5816.1	1352.9
26	0.5000	525.00	5115	652			
25	0.5500	572.50	4463	609	19	4463.3	609.2
24	0.6000	620.00	3854	461	18	3854.1	460.7
23	0.6400	658.00	3393	440	17	3393.4	439.6
22	0.6800	696.00	2954	421	16	2953.7	420.6
21	0.7200	734.00	2533	403	15	2533.1	403.3
20	0.7600	772.00	2130	388	14	2129.7	387.6
19	0.8000	810.00	1742	373	13	1742.2	373.1
18	0.8400	848.00	1369	271	12	1369.1	271.1
17	0.8700	876.50	1098	177	11	1098.0	176.8
16	0.8900	895.50	921	174	10	921.2	173.8
15	0.9100	914.50	747	171	9	747.5	170.9
14	0.9300	933.50	577	84	8	576.6	168.1
13	0.9400	943.00	492	84			
12	0.9500	952.50	409	83	7	408.6	83.0
11	0.9600	962.00	326	82	6	325.6	82.4
10	0.9700	971.50	243	82	5	243.2	81.7
9	0.9800	981.00	162	41	4	161.5	64.9
8	0.9850	985.75	121	24			
7	0.9880	988.60	97	24	3	96.6	40.4
6	0.9910	991.45	72	16			
5	0.9930	993.35	56	16	2	56.2	32.2
4	0.9950	995.25	40	16			
3	0.9970	997.15	24	12	1	24.1	24.1
2	0.9985	998.58	12	12			

# CAMx O3 Source Apportionment

Ten highest 2008 modeled ozone days, 12-km grid



## Contributions to MDA8 Ozone [ppb]



Site: CO\_Douglas0004

Rank: 1 - 15 Jul, 2008

Total Ozone = 85.7 ppb

BC Ozone = 41.1 ppb (47.9%)

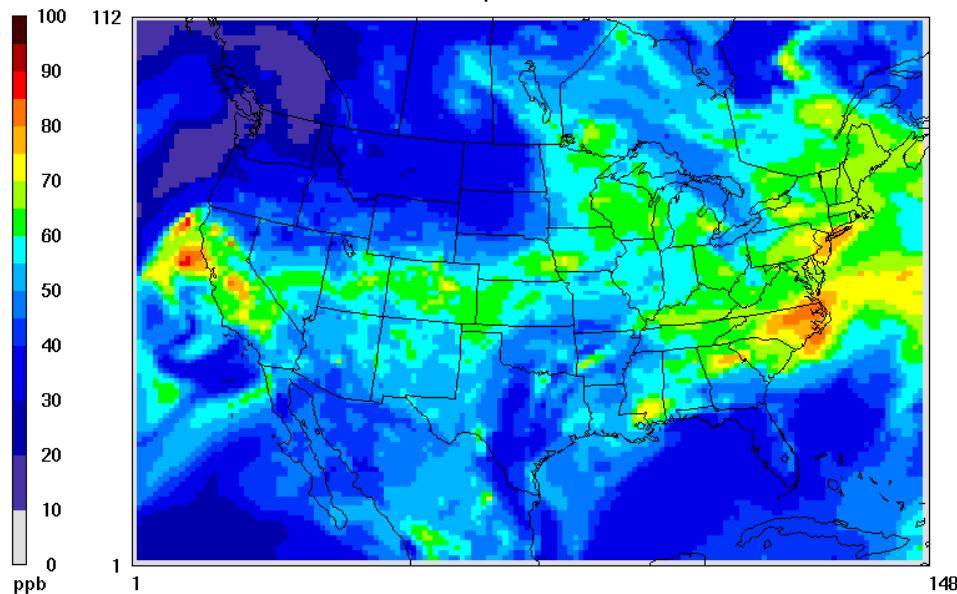
AZ	AZ (0.28 ppb, 0.33%)
CA	CA (0.65 ppb, 0.76%)
CO	CO (27.95 ppb, 32.61%)
KS	KS (0.02 ppb, 0.02%)
ID	ID (1.00 ppb, 1.17%)
MT	MT (0.02 ppb, 0.03%)
OK	OK (0.00 ppb, 0.01%)
OR	OR (0.53 ppb, 0.62%)
WA	WA (0.41 ppb, 0.48%)
WY	WY (2.16 ppb, 2.52%)
ND	ND (0.00 ppb, 0.00%)
SD	SD (0.07 ppb, 0.09%)
NE	NE (1.03 ppb, 1.20%)
NV	NV (4.91 ppb, 5.74%)
UT	UT (0.03 ppb, 0.03%)
TX	TX (0.19 ppb, 0.22%)
NM	NM (0.06 ppb, 0.07%)
Canada	Canada (0.11 ppb, 0.13%)
Mexico	Mexico (0.04 ppb, 0.04%)
Ocean	Ocean (2.82 ppb, 3.29%)
Natural	Natural (2.33 ppb, 2.7)
Wild Fire	Wild Fire (0.00 ppb, 0.00%)
Rx Fire	Rx Fire (0.00 ppb, 0.00%)
AG Fire	AG Fire (0.00 ppb, 0.00%)



June 27: A band of high ozone in the free troposphere extends into the PBL fro CA to KS, and also extends into the PBL in NC

Layer 15 1000\*O3a

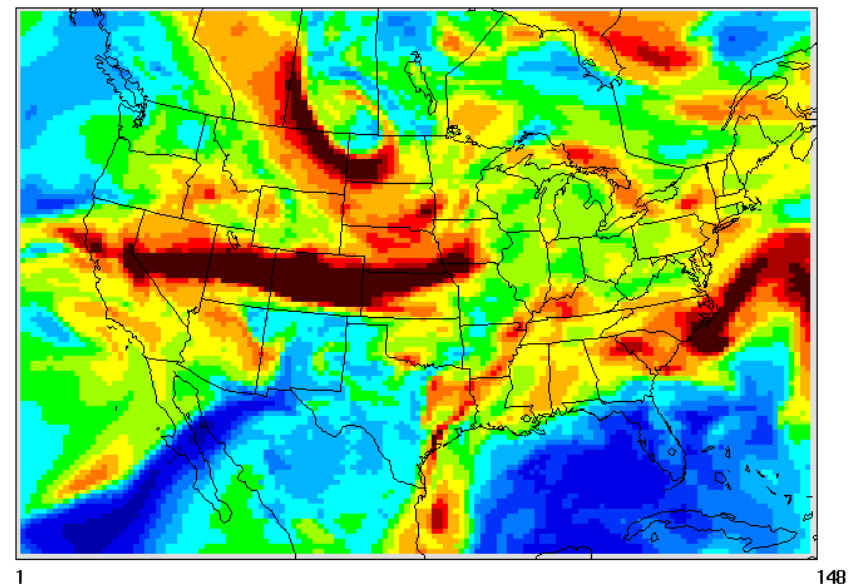
CAMx v5.41 Mech6 CF westjump.3612K.25L.base08b  
a=epa.36km.chain



June 27, 2008 21:00:00  
Min= 0 at (1,1), Max= 89 at (11,70)

Layer 21 1000\*O3a

CAMx v5.41 Mech6 CF westjump.3612K.25L.base08b  
a=epa.36km.chain



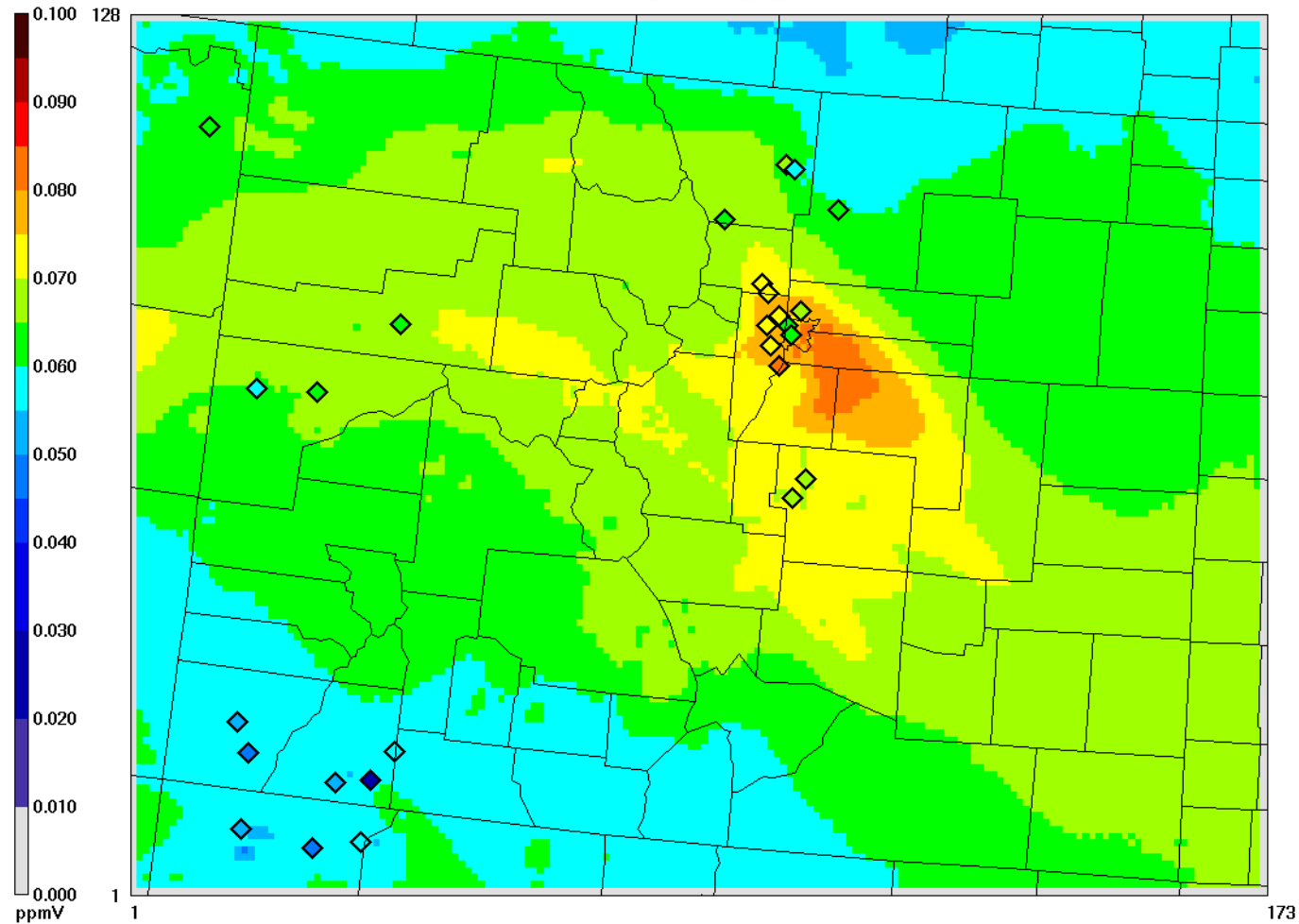
June 27, 2008 21:00:00  
Min= 0 at (1,1), Max= 196 at (54,55)

# June 27 Surface Layer O3

## MD8

Layer 1 O3b

b=aconc\_L1O3-8HR\_TS\_MAX

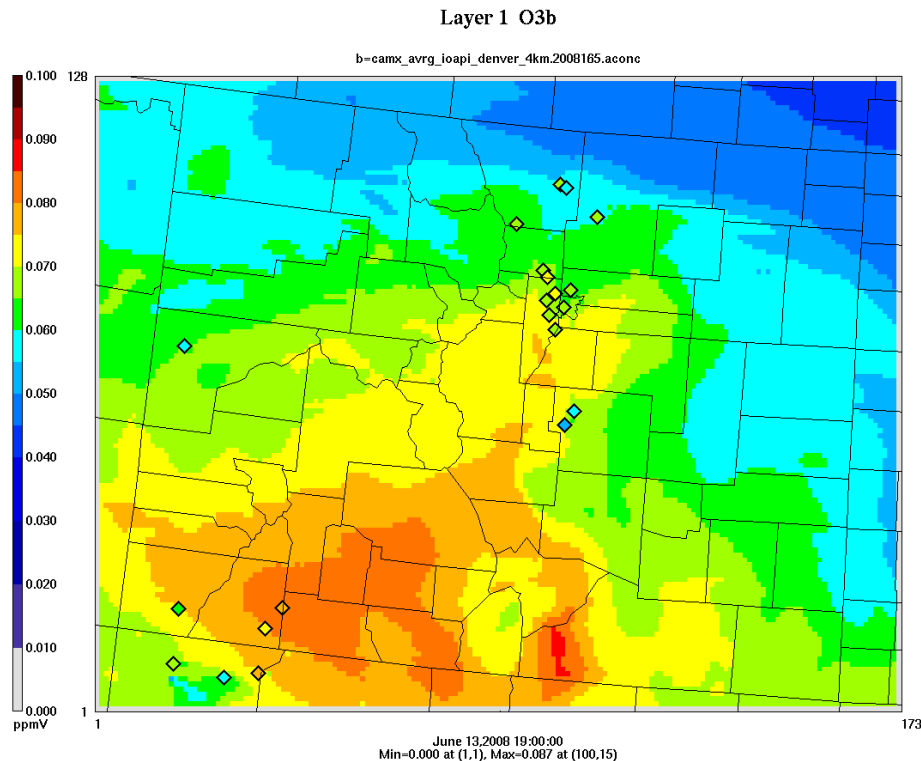


June 27, 2008 0:00:00  
Min=0.000 at (1,1), Max=0.084 at (108,79)

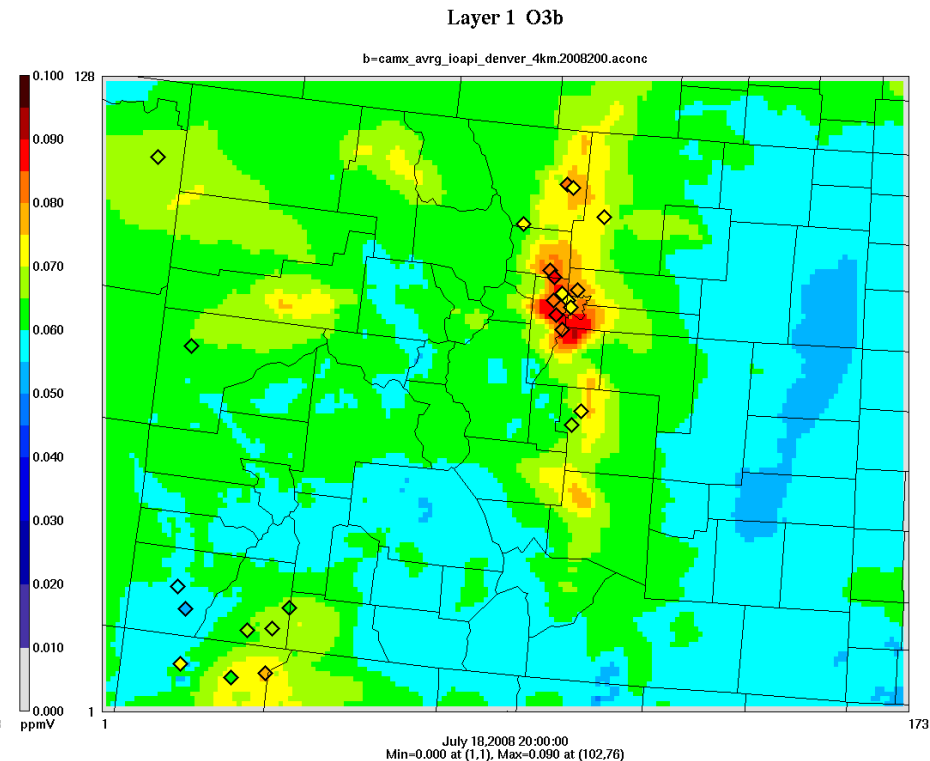


# Ozone during SI and smog events

June 13: high ozone across large region including rural areas

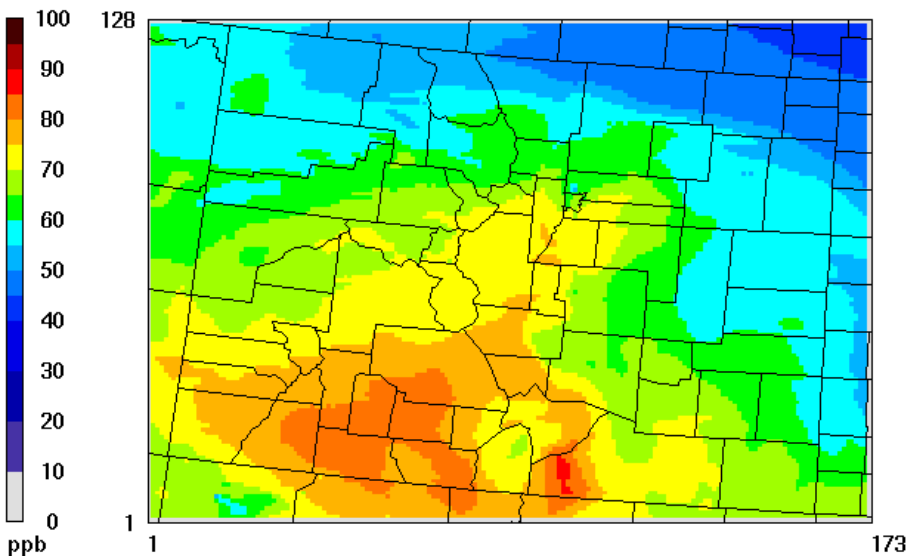


July 18: high ozone in urban areas and areas with precursor emissions



O3

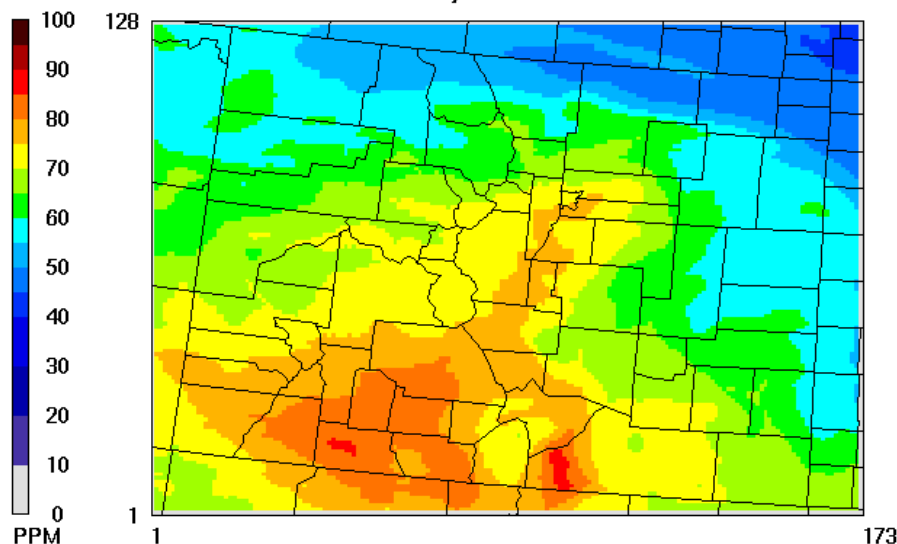
CAMx 5.40 Mech7 CF denver.04K.25L.rev\_base\_fix



June 13, 2008 19:00:00  
Min= 0 at (1,1), Max= 87 at (100,15)

**Total Oxidant**

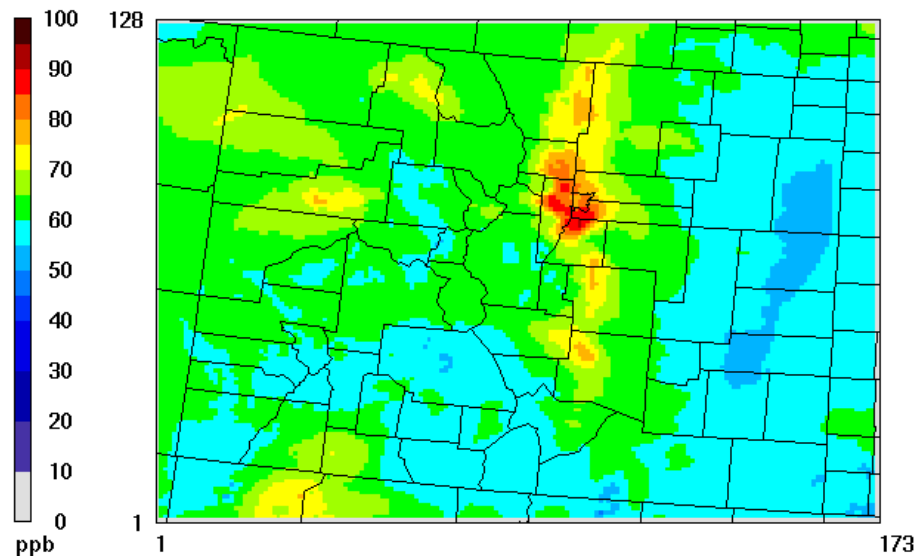
CAMx 5.40 Mech7 CF denver.04K.25L.rev\_base\_fix  
a=camx.lay1.2008.05.4km.chain



June 13, 2008 19:00:00  
Min= 0 at (1,1), Max= 88 at (100,15)

O3

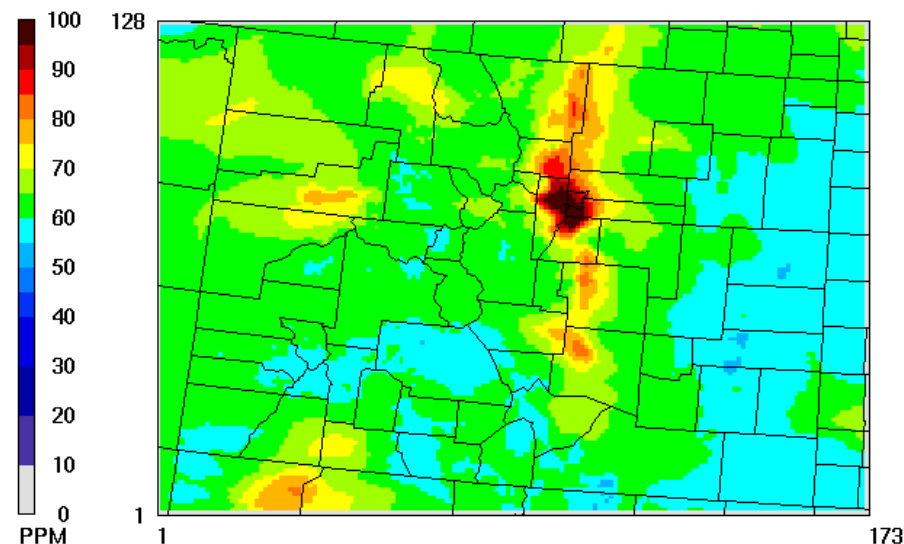
CAMx 5.40 Mech7 CF denver.04K.25L.rev\_base\_fix



July 18, 2008 20:00:00  
Min= 0 at (1,1), Max= 90 at (102,76)

**Total Oxidant**

CAMx 5.40 Mech7 CF denver.04K.25L.rev\_base\_fix



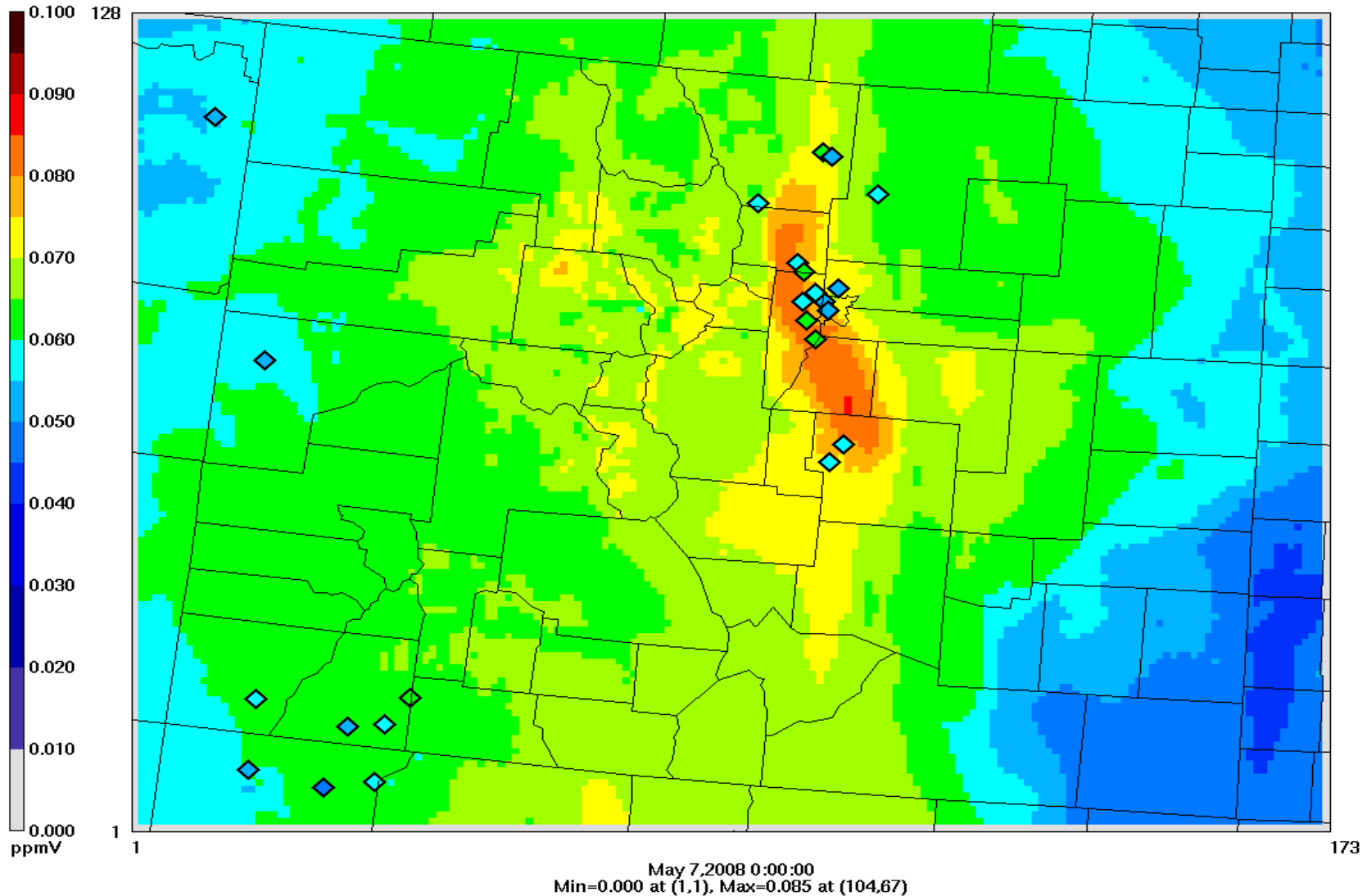
July 18, 2008 20:00:00  
Min= 0 at (1,1), Max= 103 at (102,78)



# May 7: Model biased high for background O3

Layer 1 O3b

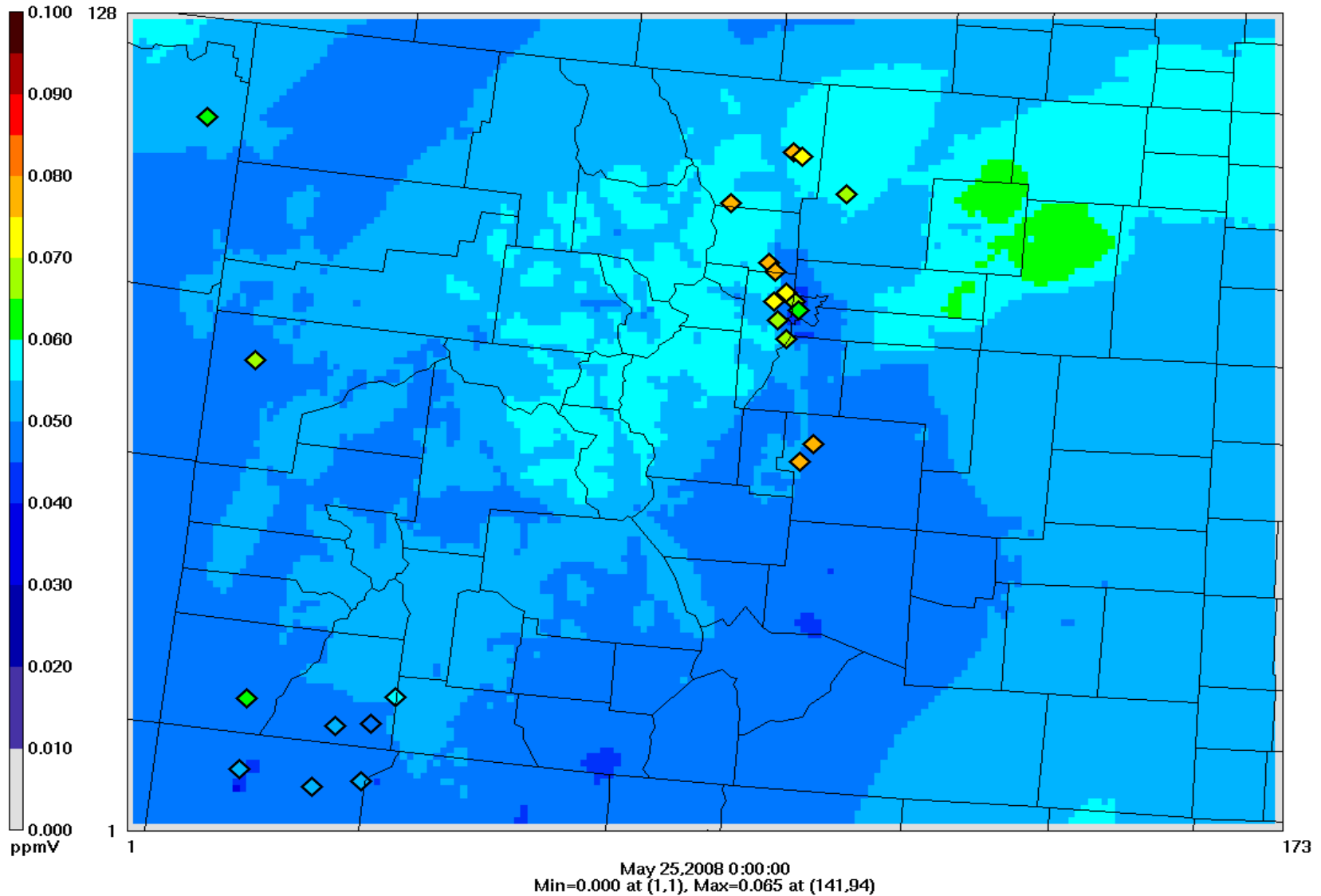
b=aconc\_L1O3-8HR\_TS\_MAX



# May 25: Model Biased low for background O3

Layer 1 O3b

b=aconc\_L1O3-8HR\_TS\_MAX





# SI and Background O<sub>3</sub> Research Needs

- Background and transported ozone is highly variable in both space and time.
- Important to accurately model background O<sub>3</sub>:
  - transported O<sub>3</sub> can cause exceedances of the NAAQS.
  - background O<sub>3</sub> level also affects the reactivity of the VOC-NO<sub>x</sub> mixture.
- What type of monitoring network is needed to characterize background ozone?
  - surface monitors; lidar profiles; ozonesondes; satellite data; research grade CO, RH, met data; urban, rural and high elevation sites.

# Relationships between July Mean Daily Maximum Surface Ozone and Satellite NO<sub>2</sub> and Meteorological Variables For Sites in Colorado and the Western United States

Patrick J. Reddy

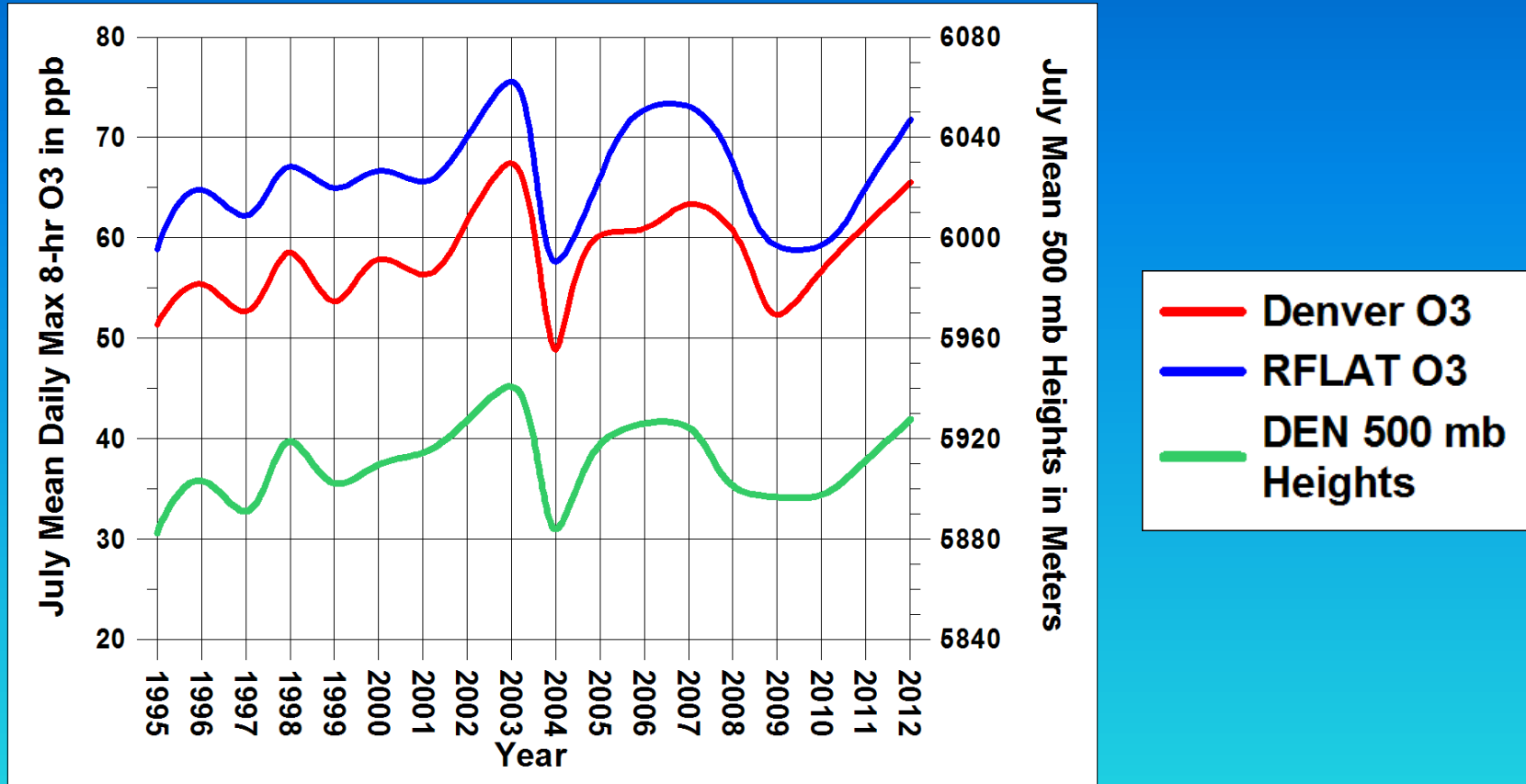
Air Pollution Control Division

Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment,  
[patrick.reddy@state.co.us](mailto:patrick.reddy@state.co.us)



- There is a very strong relationship between July mean 500 mb heights and July DMAX 8-hr O3 in Colorado and other western states.
- Under the influence of an upper high, skies are often clear, temperatures are elevated, and westerlies are reduced in strength.
- These conditions promote the formation of mountain-plains solenoid circulations and westward propagating density currents along the Colorado Front Range and in the mountainous terrain of central Colorado.
- Mid-day PBL typically extends to 6 to 8 km levels over Front Range and mountains to the West.
- These circulations appear to enhance O3 and NO2 and lead to the highest concentration events.

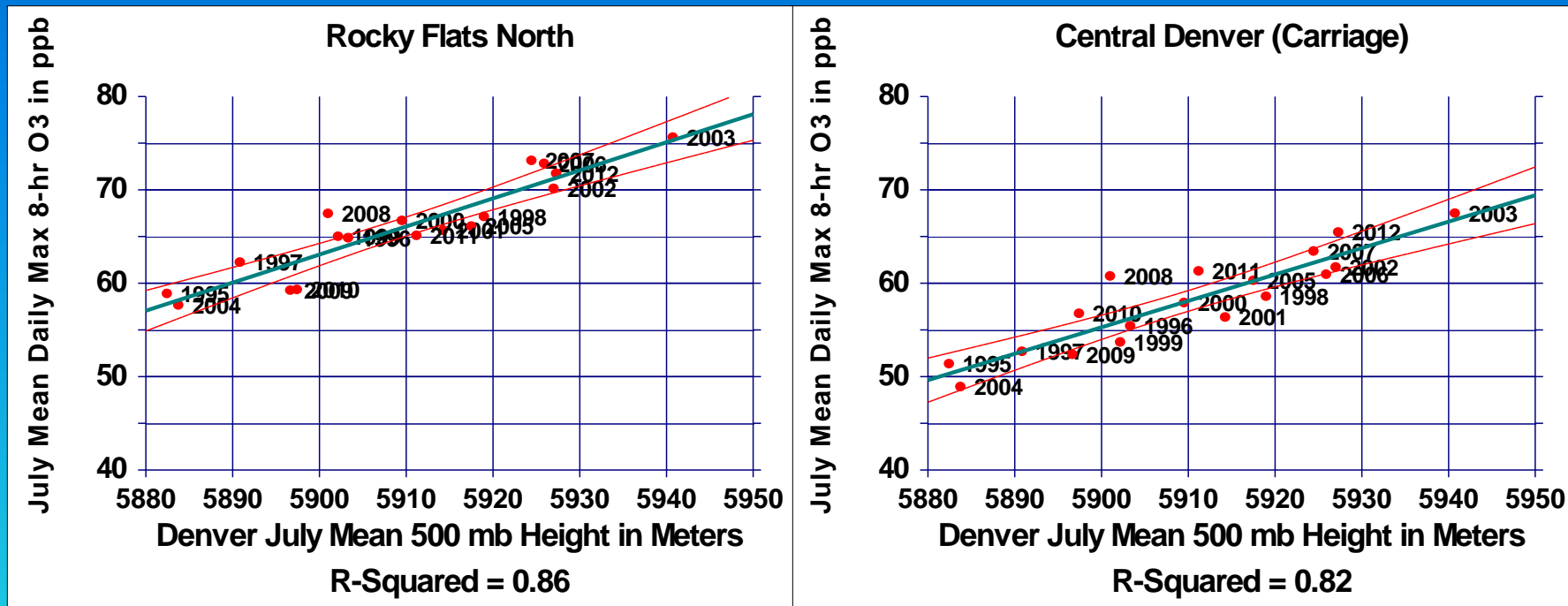
## Mean July Daily Max O3 Tracks with Mean July 500 mb Heights



Large decline in surface O3 in 2004 after worst O3 in decades in 2003. Exploration of ~ 100 variables (time scales 1 day to 1 month) showed that mean July 500 mb heights had the greatest predictive power, followed by July 700 mb temperatures and July surface temperatures.



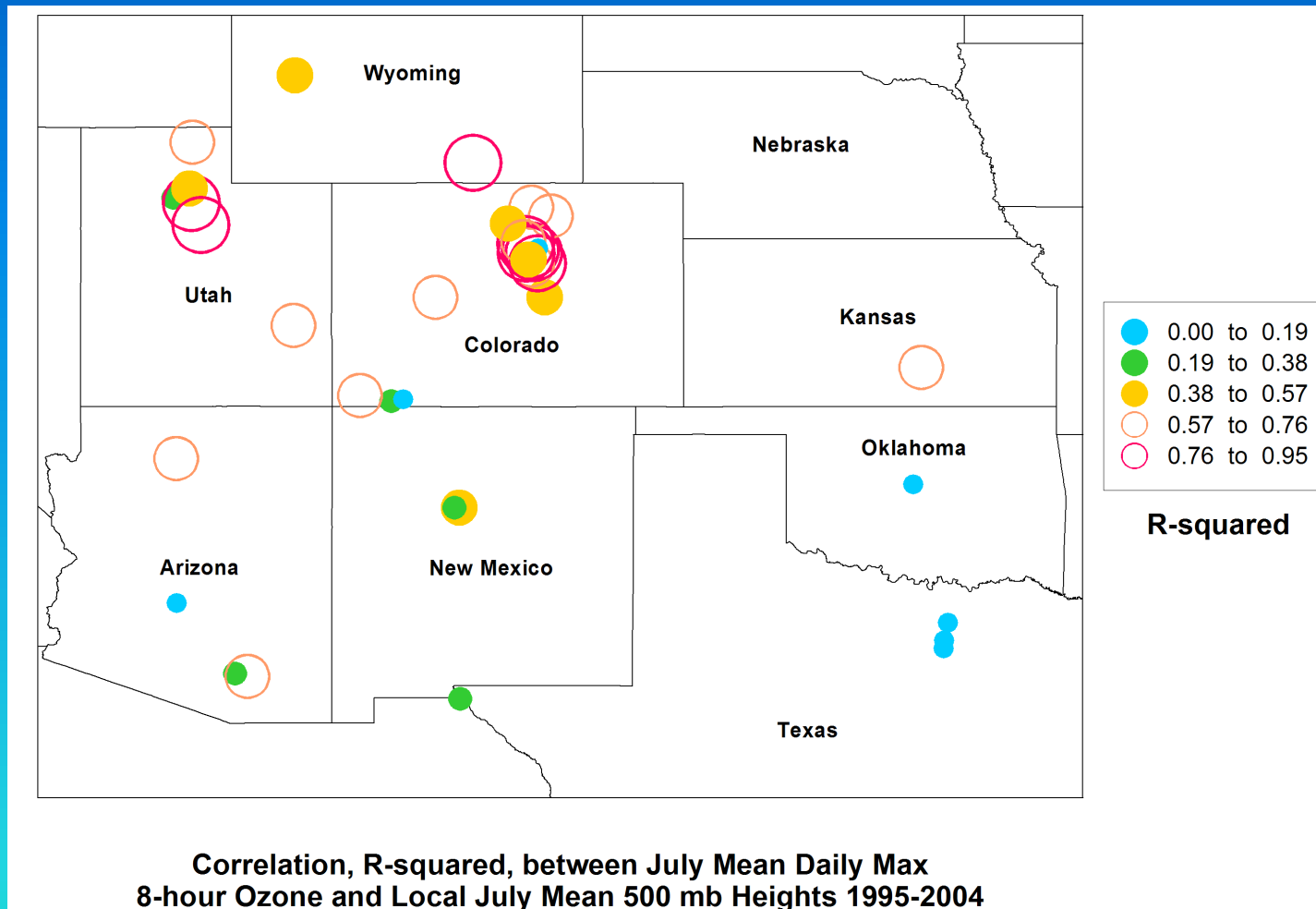
## Very High Correlations Between July Means for Daily Max O3 and 500 mb Heights



Linear regressions: Rocky Flats and Carriage July mean daily max 8-hour O3 and July mean 500-mb heights. **Rocky Flats is a high-concentration site; Carriage is a low-concentration site west of downtown Denver.**

500-mb heights from the NCAR/NCEP Reanalysis data set (Kalnay et al. 1996)

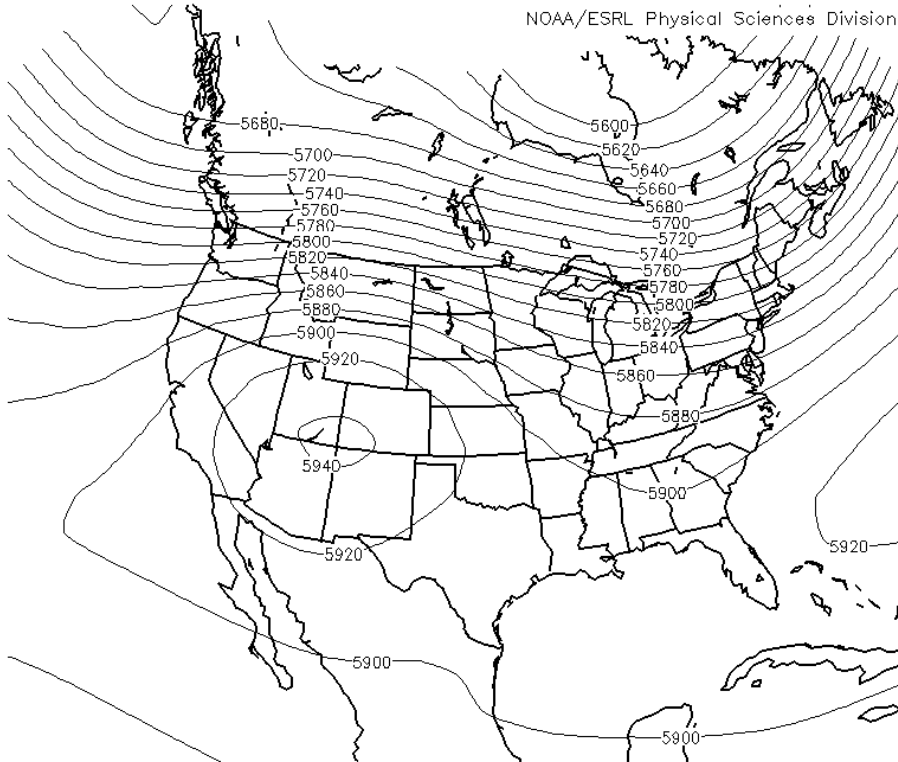
## Analyses for Many Sites in CO, UT, AZ, WY, & NM Show Similar Correlation.



Relationship between July mean daily max O<sub>3</sub> and 500-mb heights is strongest in Utah and Front Range of Colorado, and in NM, AZ, and WY. 500 mb heights have much weaker influence in LA and Houston.

NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis  
500mb Geopotential Height (m) Composite Mean

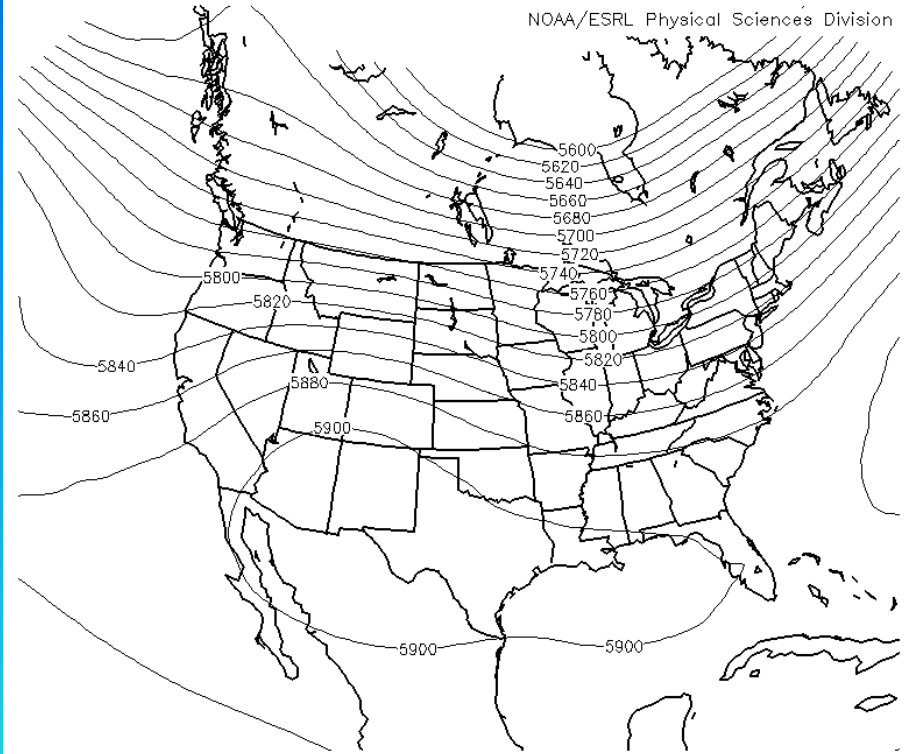
NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division



Jul 2003,2002

NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis  
500mb Geopotential Height (m) Composite Mean

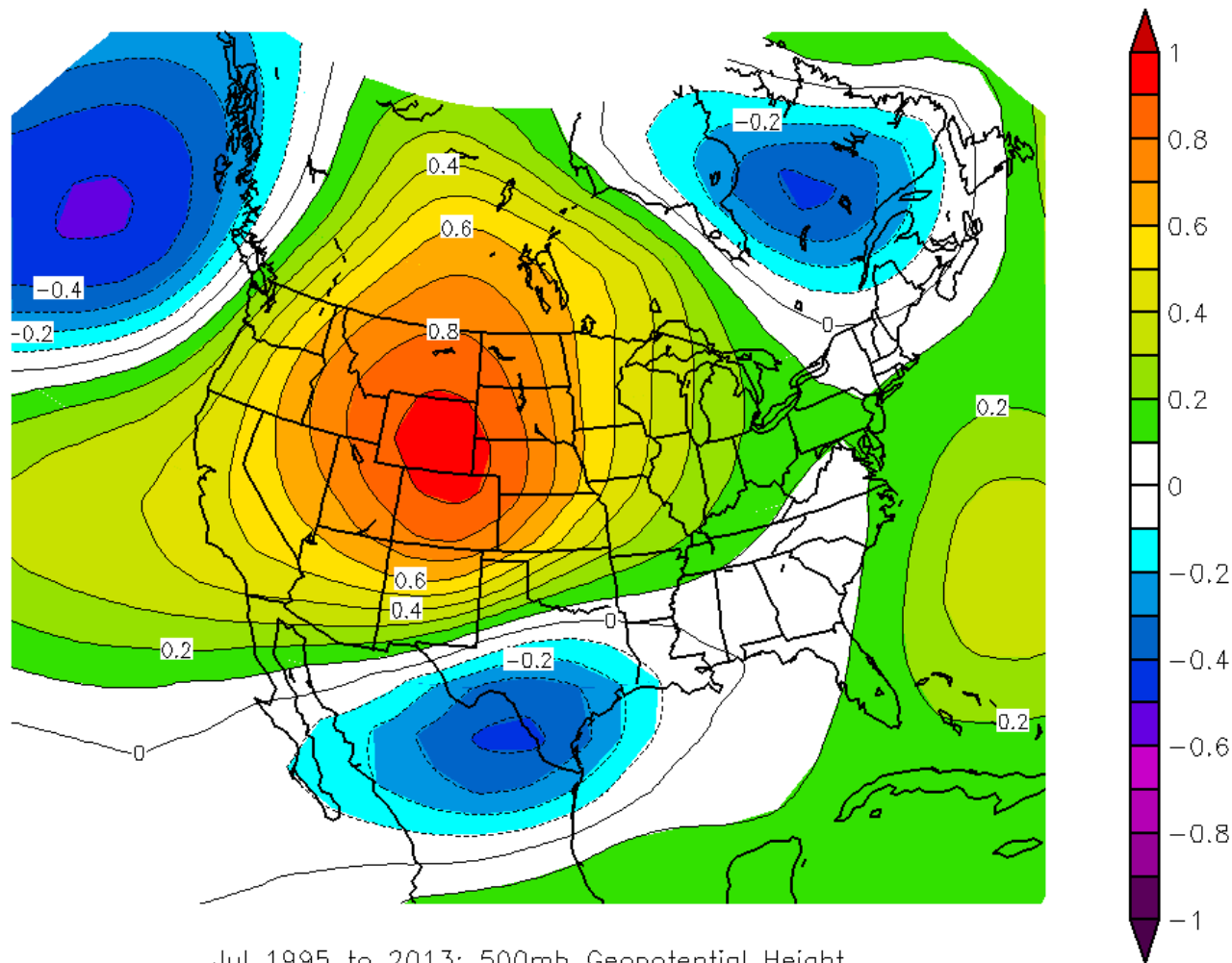
NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division



Jul 1995,2004

July mean NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis 500 mb heights in 2002 & 2003, high O3 years **left**, and 1995 & 2004, low O3 years **right**, showing a northward intensification in 2002 & 2003 and the establishment of Four Corners high in 2002 & 2003.





Jul 1995 to 2013: 500mb Geopotential Height  
Seasonal Correlation w/ Jul rflatsO395to13b.txt  
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

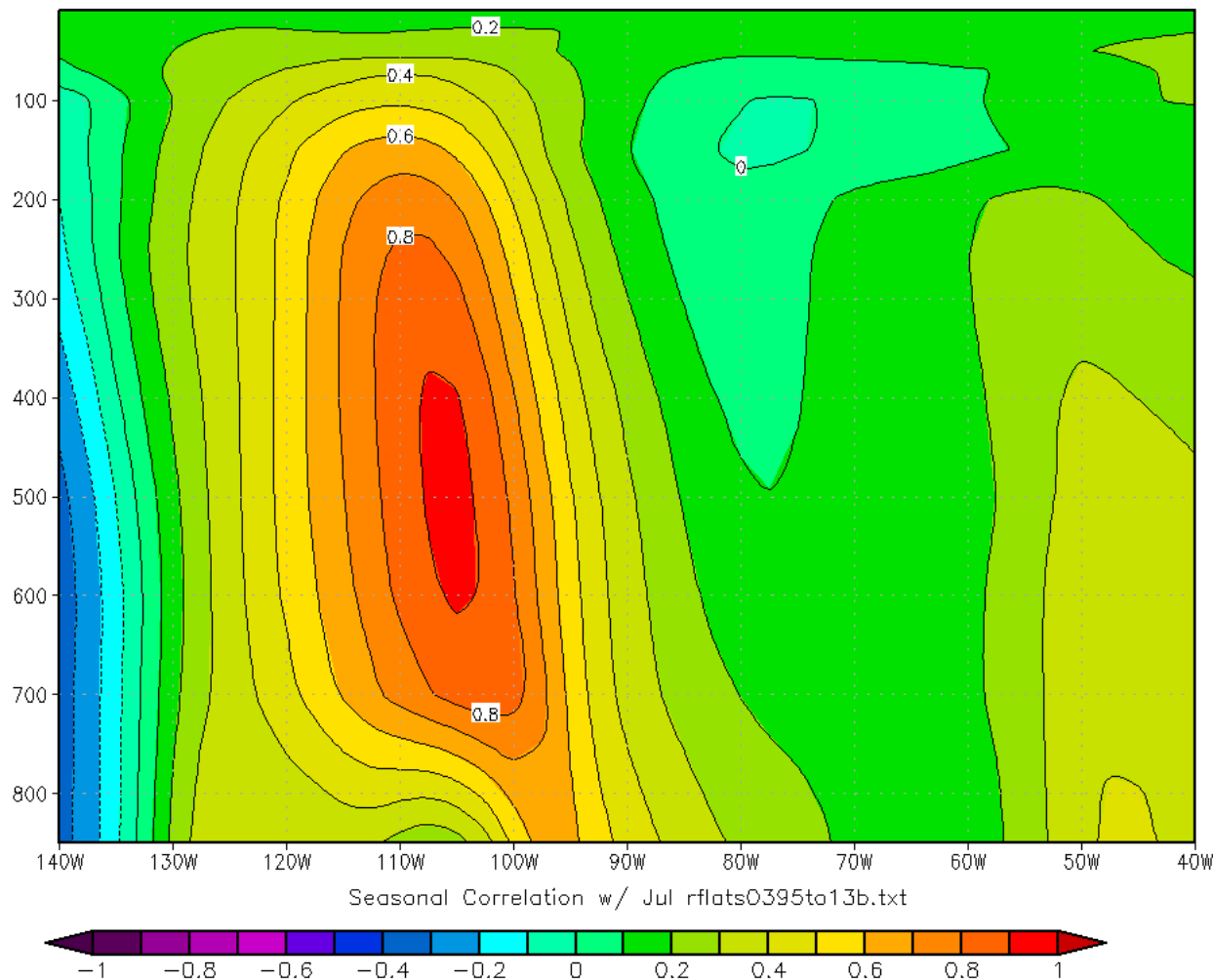
NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division

Based on 1995-2013 July mean NCEP/NCAR reanalysis data: Rocky Flats July mean DMAX 8-hr O3 is sensitive to an increase in heights in WY and northern CO.

This is consistent with a northward expansion of ridge and a build-up of high pressure at 500 mb in the 4 Corners states.

NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

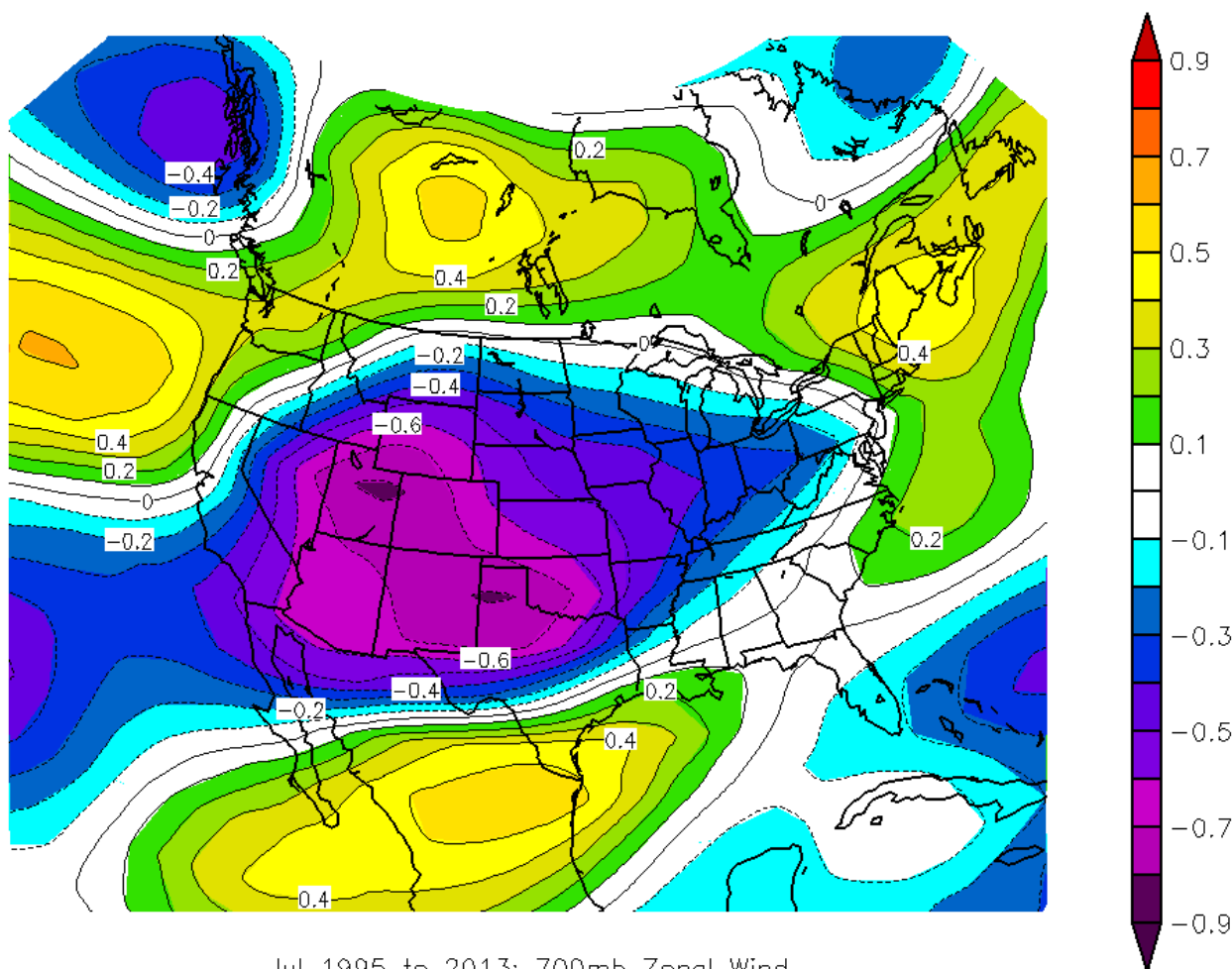
Jul 1995 to 2013: 40N to 40.N Geopotential Height



NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division

A west-east cross section of correlations from 140W to 40W shows the response of RFLAT O3 to geopotential heights based on 1995-2013 July mean data.

RFLATS O3 is most Sensitive to increases in heights between 600 and 400 mb.



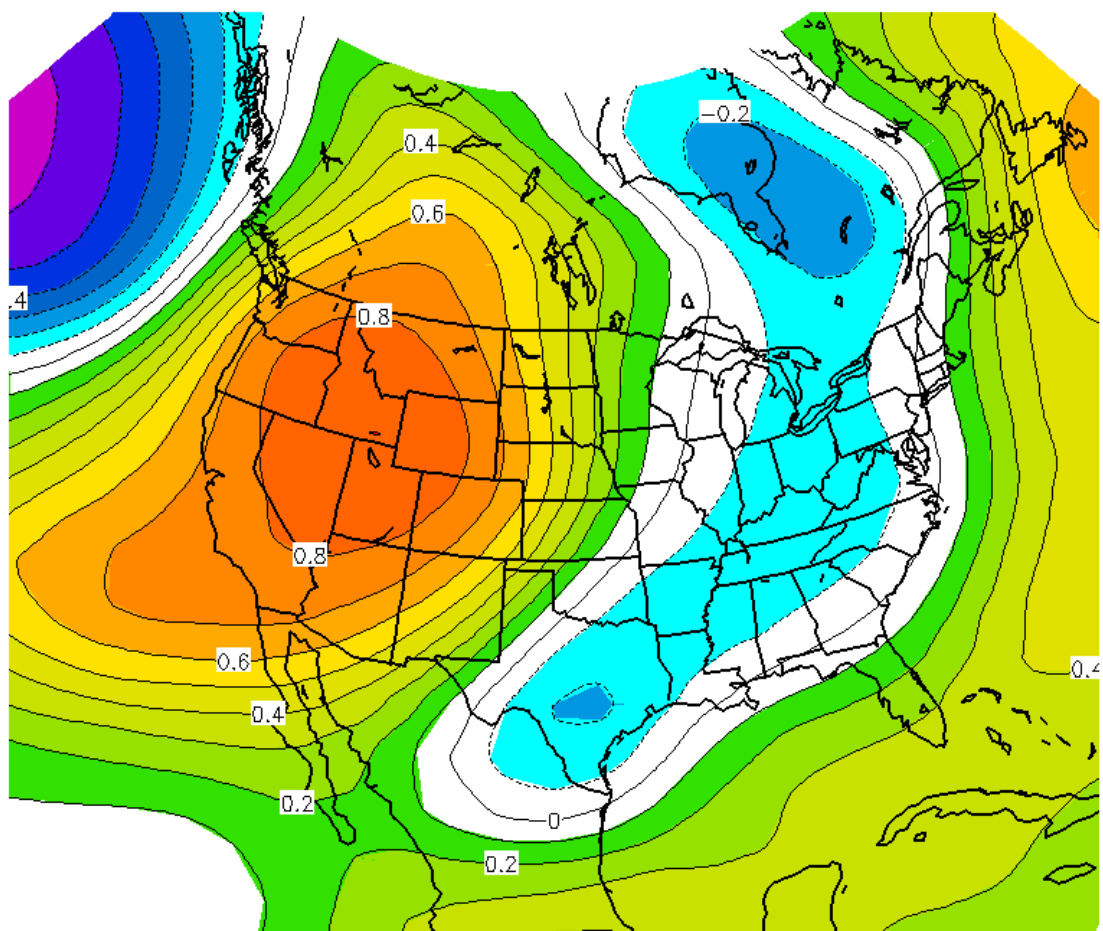
Jul 1995 to 2013: 700mb Zonal Wind  
Seasonal Correlation w/ Jul rflatsO395to13b.txt  
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division

Based on 1995-2013 July mean NCEP/NCAR reanalysis data: Rocky Flats July mean DMAX 8-hr O<sub>3</sub> is anti-correlated with 700 mb zonal flow in 4 corners states.

This is consistent with a northward expansion of ridge and a build-up of high pressure at 500 mb in the 4 Corners states.

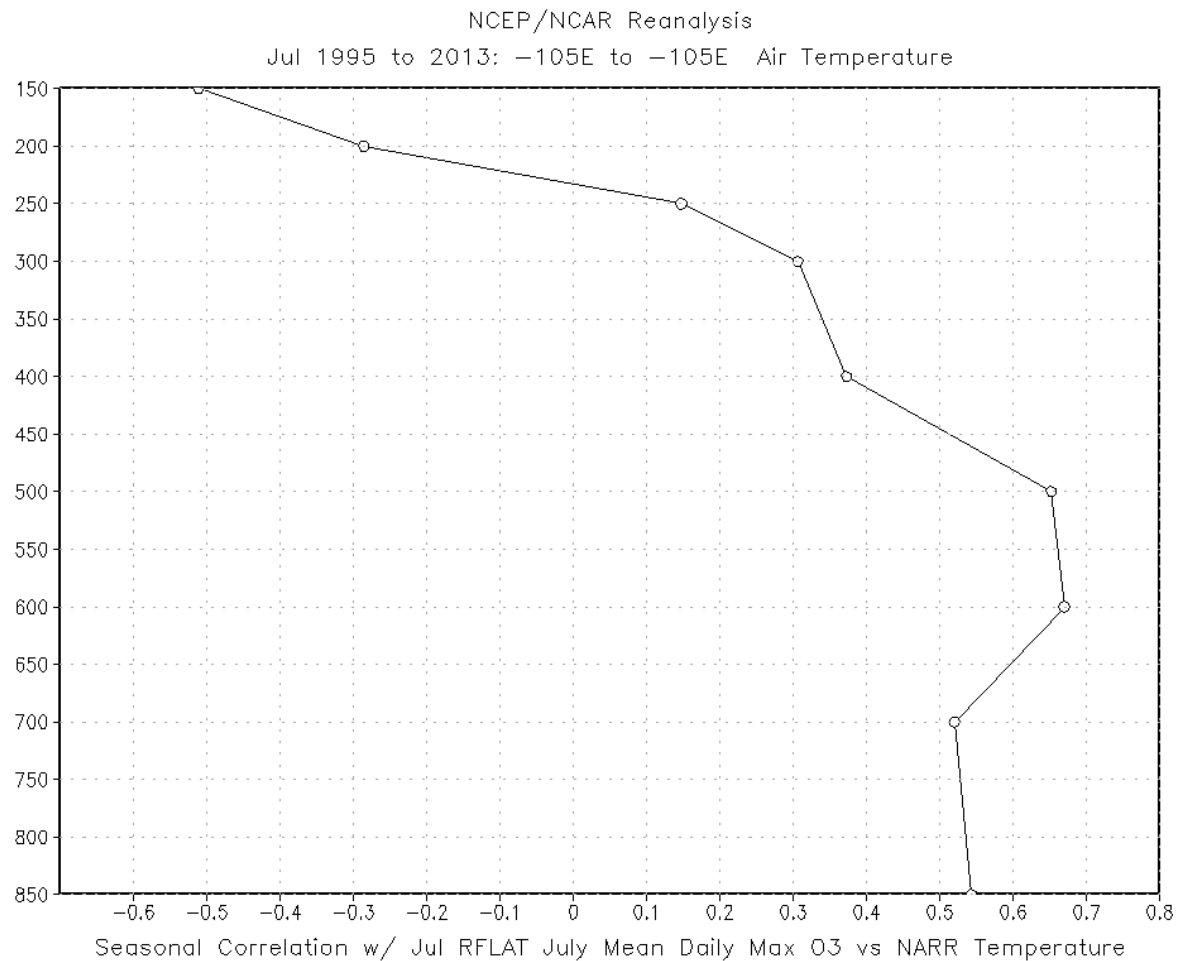




Jul 1995 to 2011: 500mb Geopotential Height  
Seasonal Correlation w/ Jul cottonwoodO395to11b.txt  
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

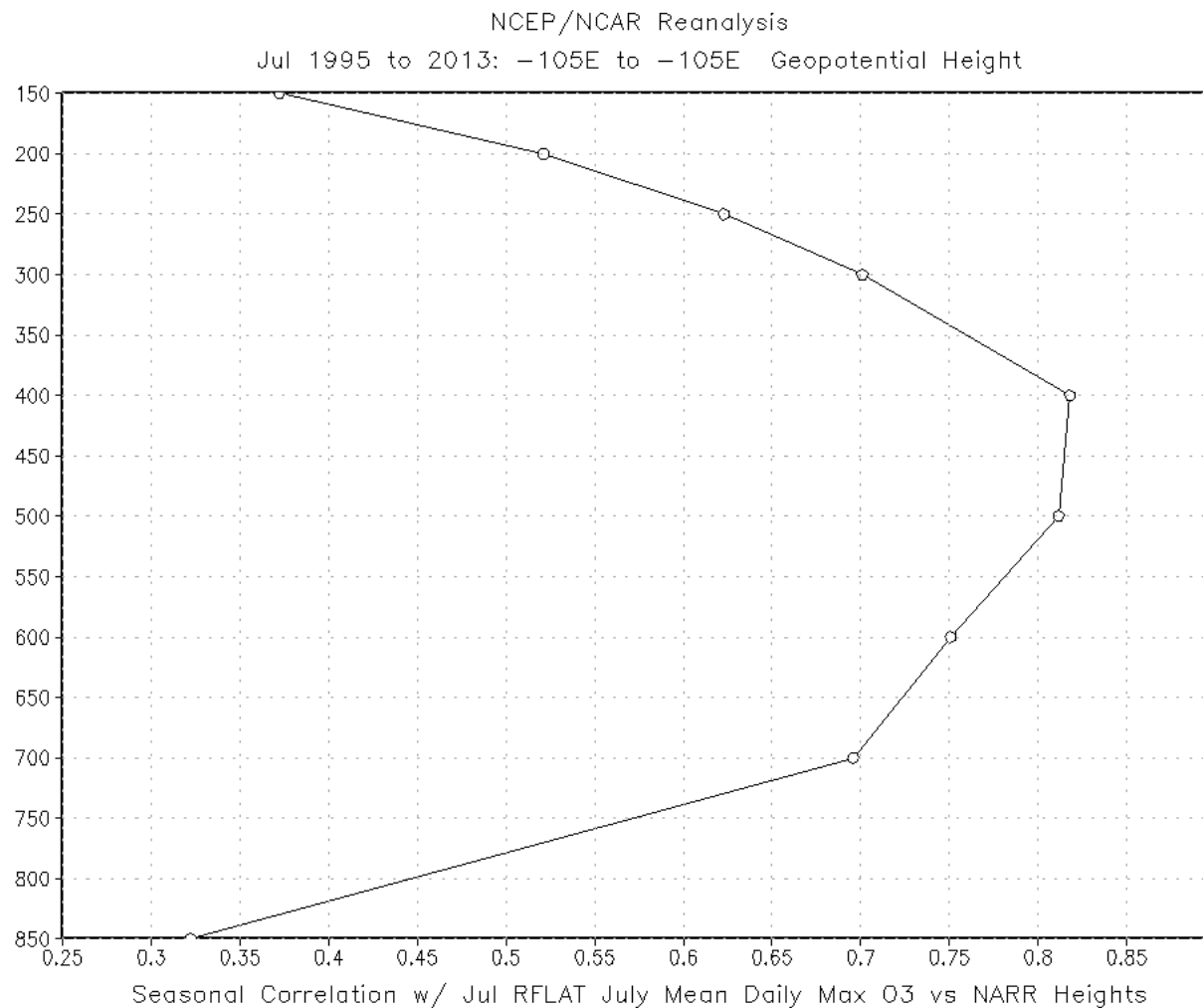
NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division

A similar relationship between 500 mb heights and O3 can be seen at the Cottonwood site in SLC in Utah for 1995-2011.



NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division

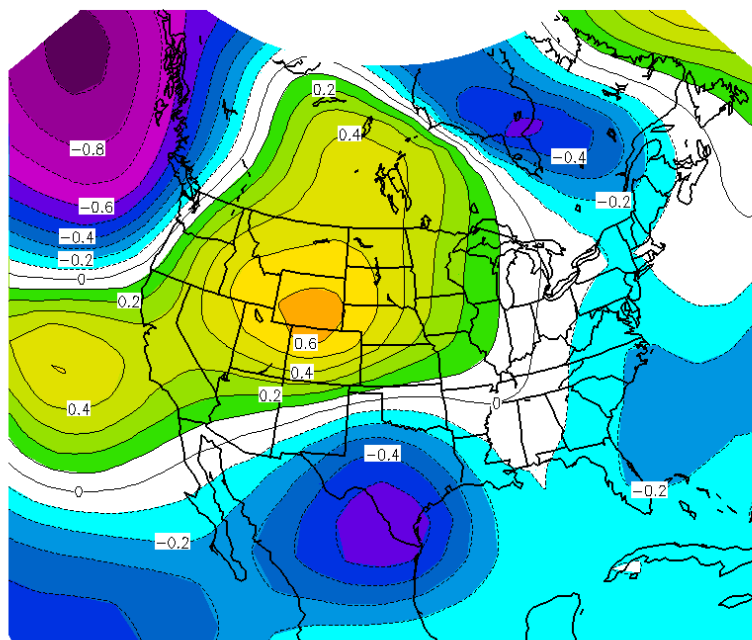
Correlation: 1995-2013 RFLAT July mean DMAX 8-hr O3 versus temperature in the vertical (850 to 150 mb levels).



NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division

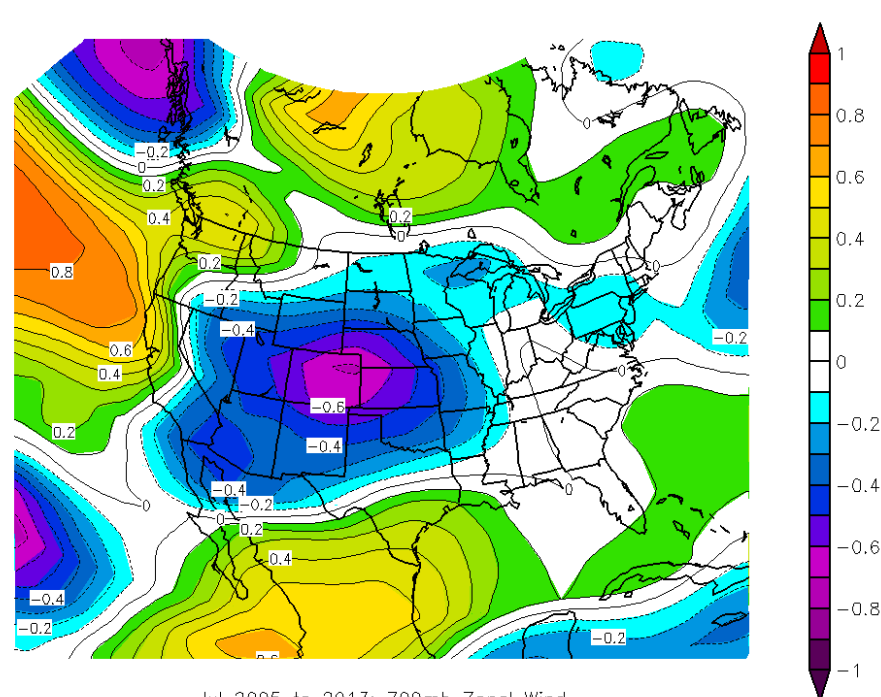
**Correlation: 1995-2013 RFLAT July mean DMAX 8-hr O3 versus heights in the vertical (850 to 150 mb levels).**





Jul 2005 to 2013: 500mb Geopotential Height  
Seasonal Correlation w/ Jul rflatsOMINO205to13b.txt  
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

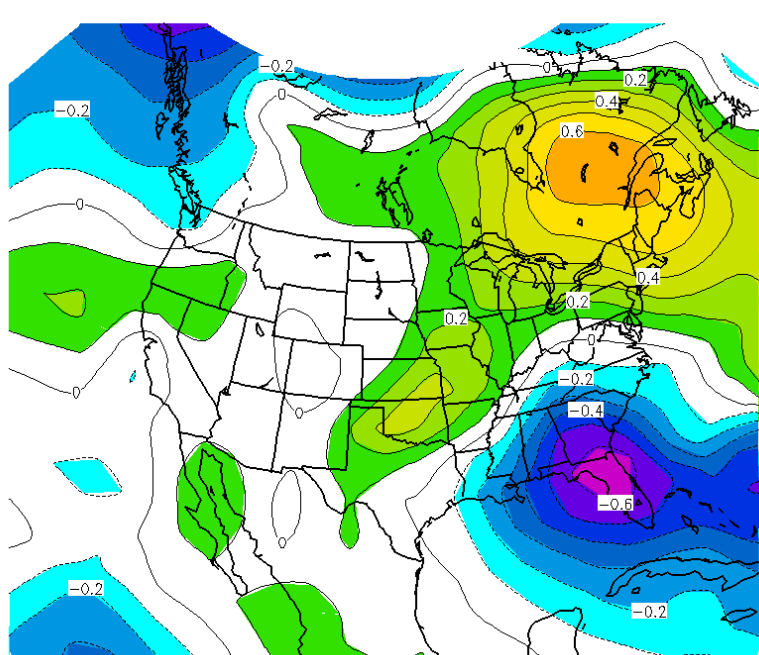
NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division



Jul 2005 to 2013: 700mb Zonal Wind  
Seasonal Correlation w/ Jul rflatsOMINO205to13b.txt  
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

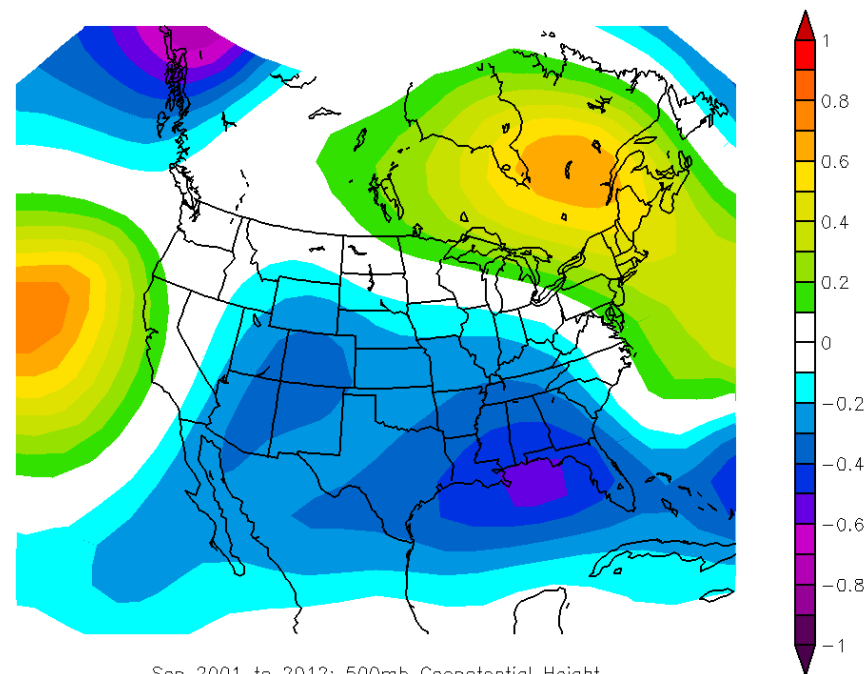
NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division

July mean RFLATs OMI level 3 tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub>, like O<sub>3</sub>, is strongly sensitive to increase in 500 mb heights in Colorado and Wyoming and strongly anti-correlated with zonal flow at 700 mb over Colorado.



Sep 2001 to 2012: Surface Pressure  
Seasonal Correlation w/ Sep Manvel Croix Pk TX MSLP  
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division

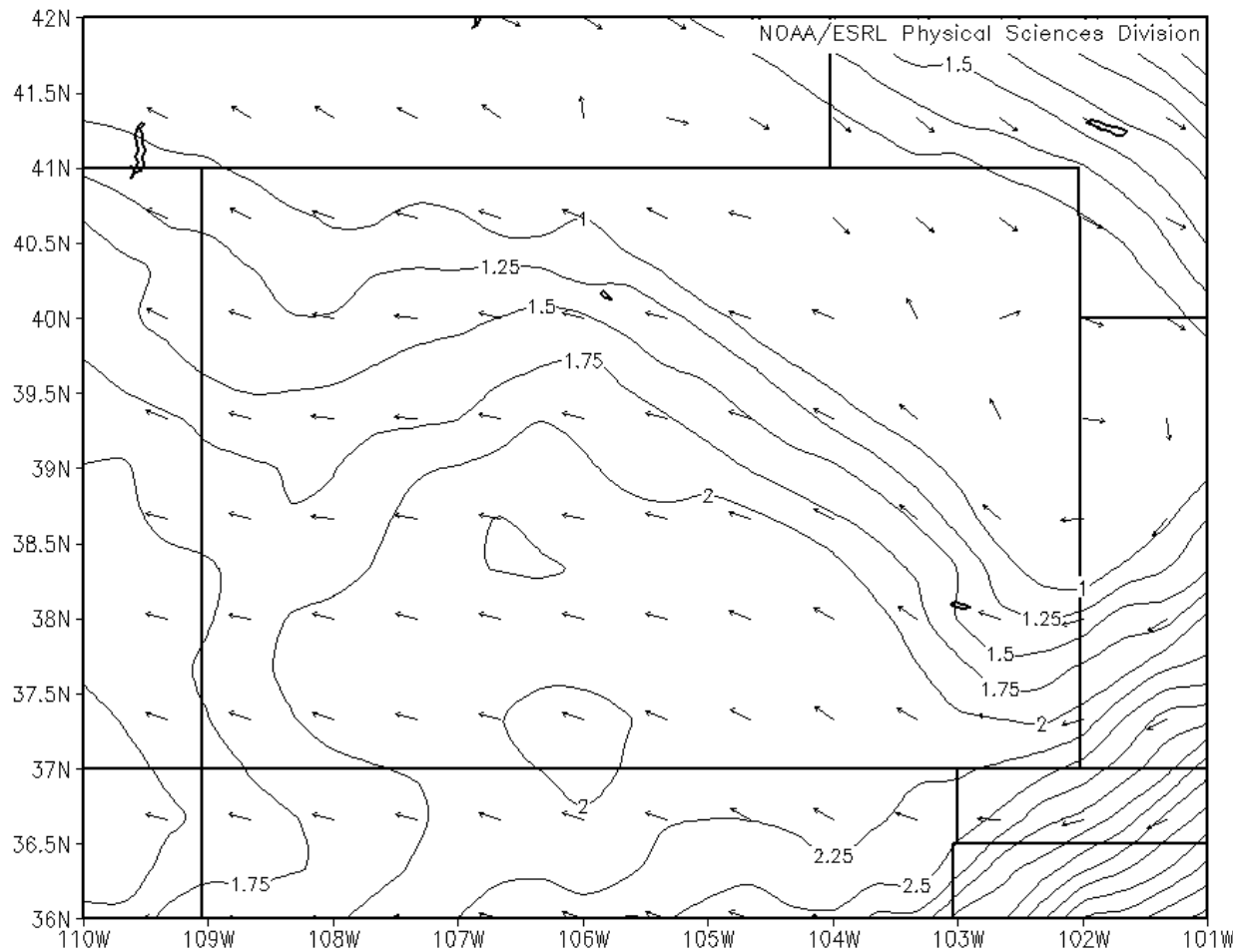


Sep 2001 to 2012: 500mb Geopotential Height  
Seasonal Correlation w/ Sep Manvel Croix Pk TX 500 mb heights  
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

NOAA/ESRL Physical Sciences Division

In places like Houston and LA, things are quite different. Few strong correlations are found with mid and upper level variables. September mean Manville Croix Park (near Houston) DMAX 8-hour O<sub>3</sub> is anti-correlated with the strength of the Bermuda High (at the surface [left plot] and 500 mb [right plot]) for 2001-2012. Reduced synoptic scale on-shore flow leads to enhanced sea breeze, lighter winds, and increased O<sub>3</sub>?

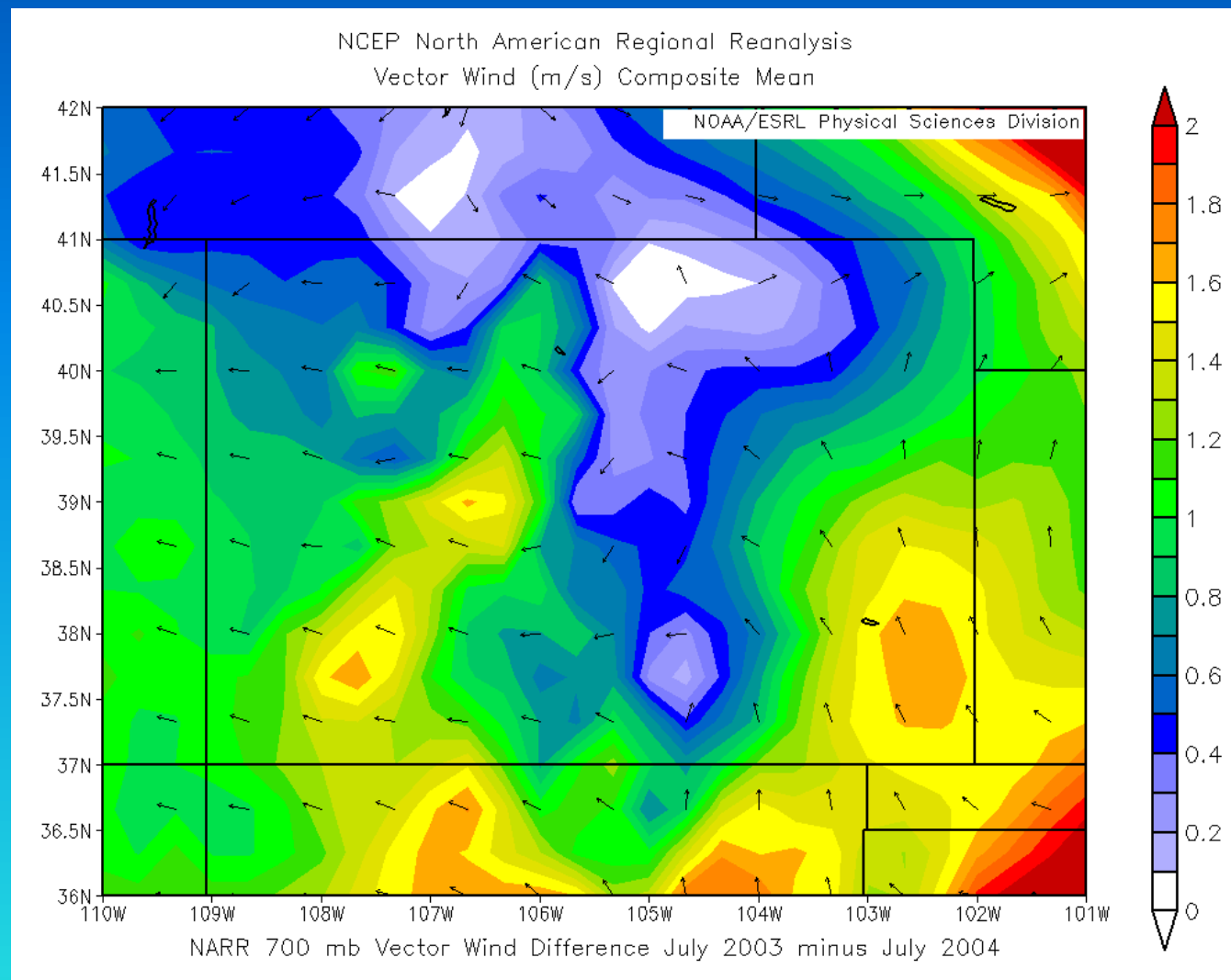
NCEP North American Regional Reanalysis  
Vector Wind (m/s) Composite Mean



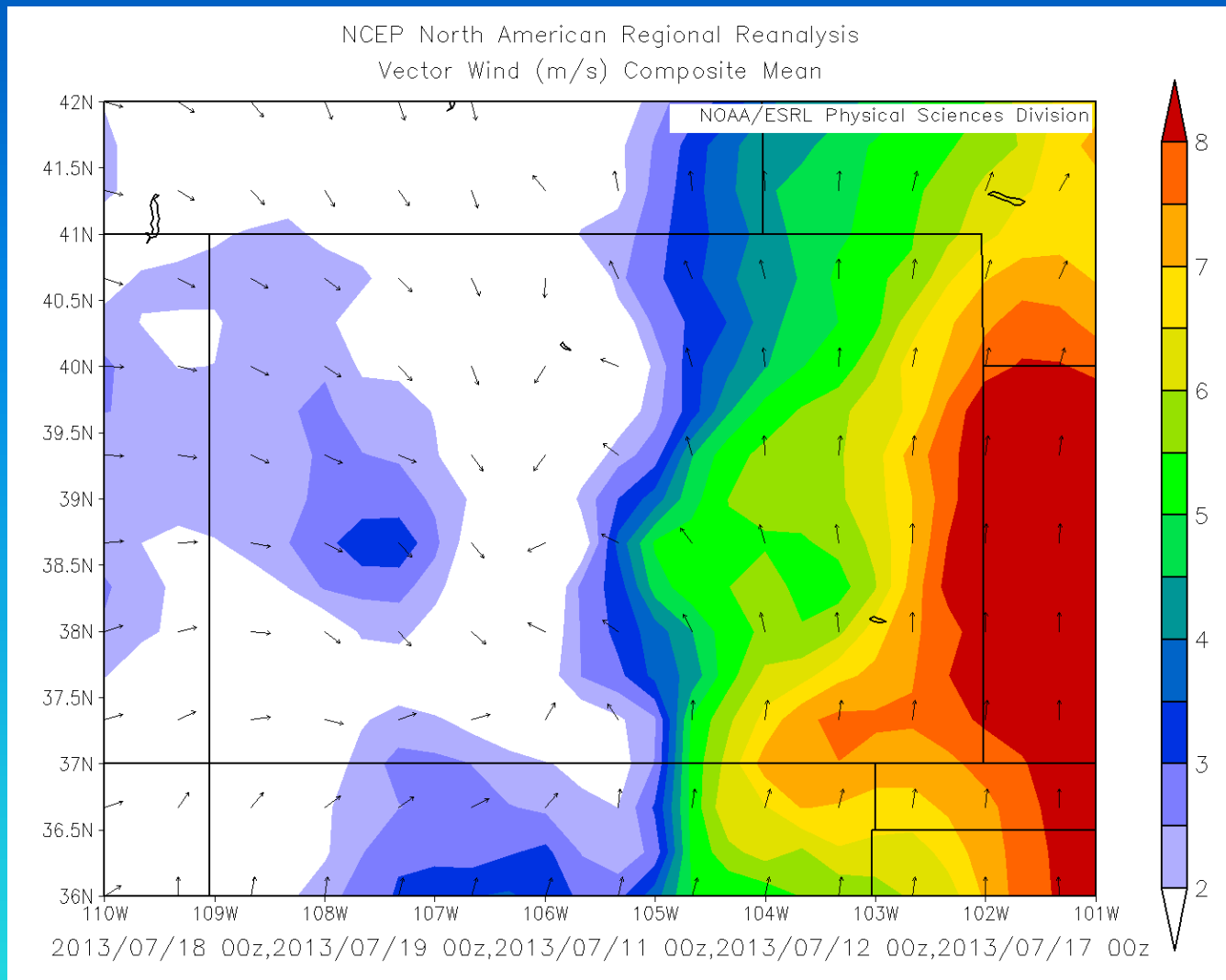
What does a 4 Corners high have to do with winds in Colorado?

In Colorado, 2003 was a high O<sub>3</sub> and high heights year. 2004 was a low O<sub>3</sub> and low heights year. The 2003 minus 2004 vector difference in 600 mb winds shows a peak reduction in westerlies of 2 m/s over central CO.

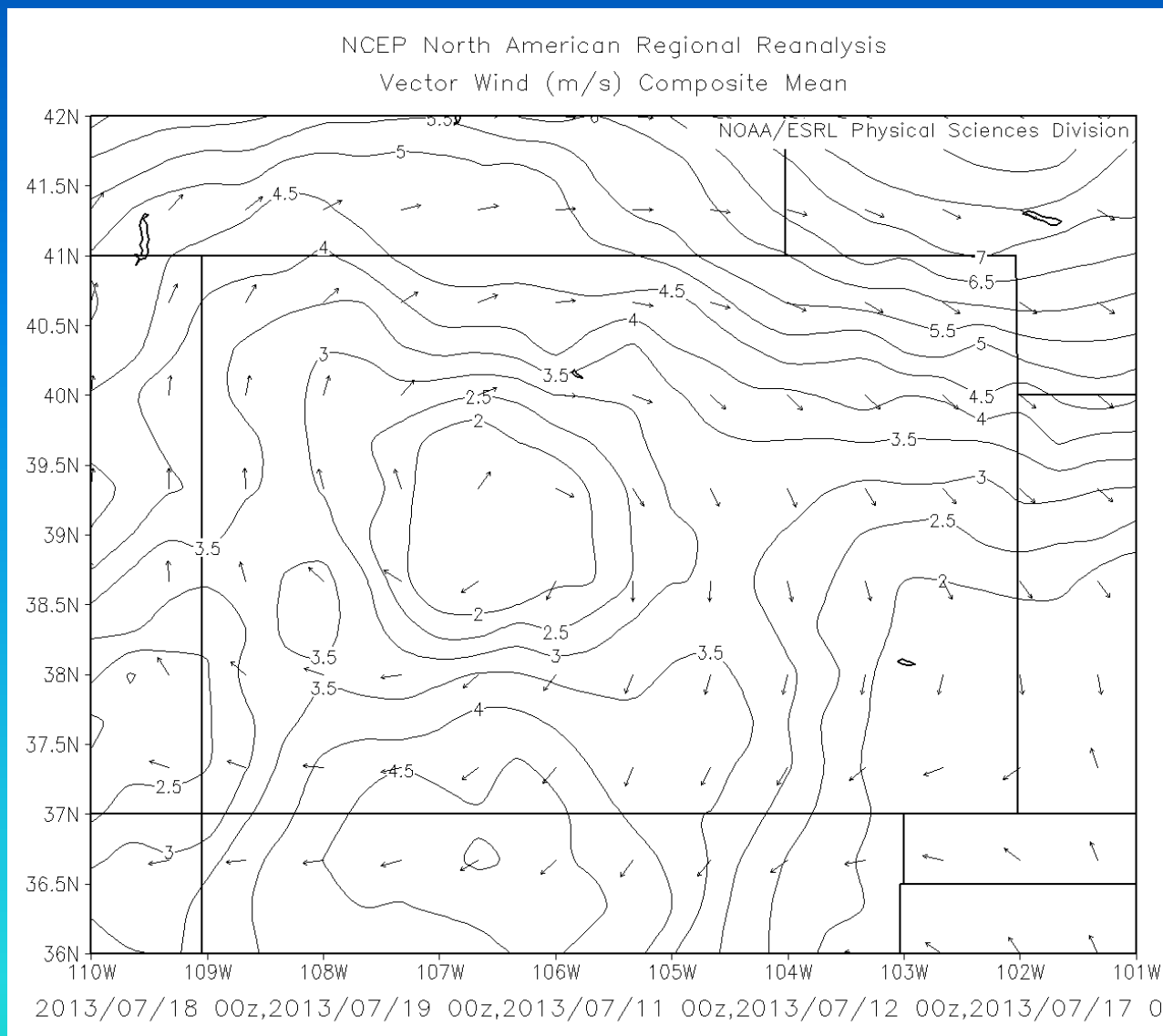




The 2003 minus 2004 vector difference in 700 mb winds shows a peak reduction in westerlies or increase in easterlies of ~2 m/s over mountains. The pattern suggests that the solenoid circulation is present in both years, with further westward extent during high-height, high-ozone 2003.



A composite of reanalysis data for 6 PM MST on 5 high O3 days in 2013 shows easterly flow at 700 mb as far west as Leadville CO, data for later times show easterly flow as far west as Aspen and Gothic CO.



A composite of reanalysis data for 6 PM MST on 5 high O<sub>3</sub> days in 2013 shows clockwise circulation at 500 mb over west-central Colorado.



# NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL PARTICLE CROSS-SECTIONS PARTICLE POSITIONS AT 13 00 18 Jul 03

3/4/2014

This HYSPLIT dispersion model animation for the O3 episode of July 18 through 20, 2013, shows transport deep into the mountains, easterly flow at low levels, weak westerlies aloft, mixing to 3.5 km above ground and a mountain plains solenoid keeping particles “trapped” in looping flow along the Front Range.

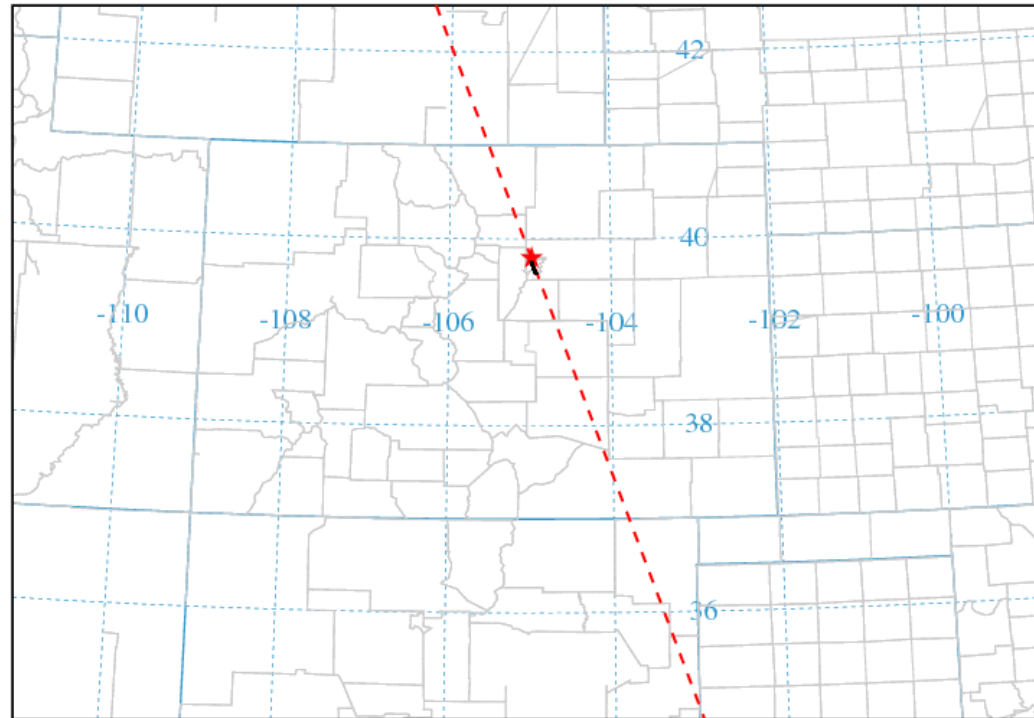
Upper level high pressure favors the development of this kind of recirculation. 5950m high over UT on July 18

Does satellite NO2 tell us anything about the spatial extent of this pattern?

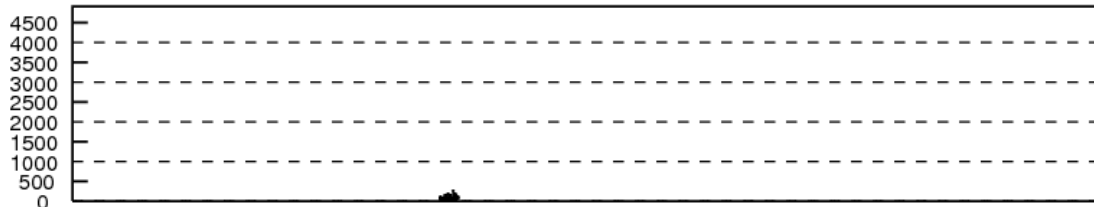
7/18: 84 ppb CHAT, 83 ppb AFA  
7/19: 75 ppb CHAT  
7/20: 75 ppb NREL & RFLAT

Patrick J. Reddy CDPHE - do not cite 51

Height AGL (m)

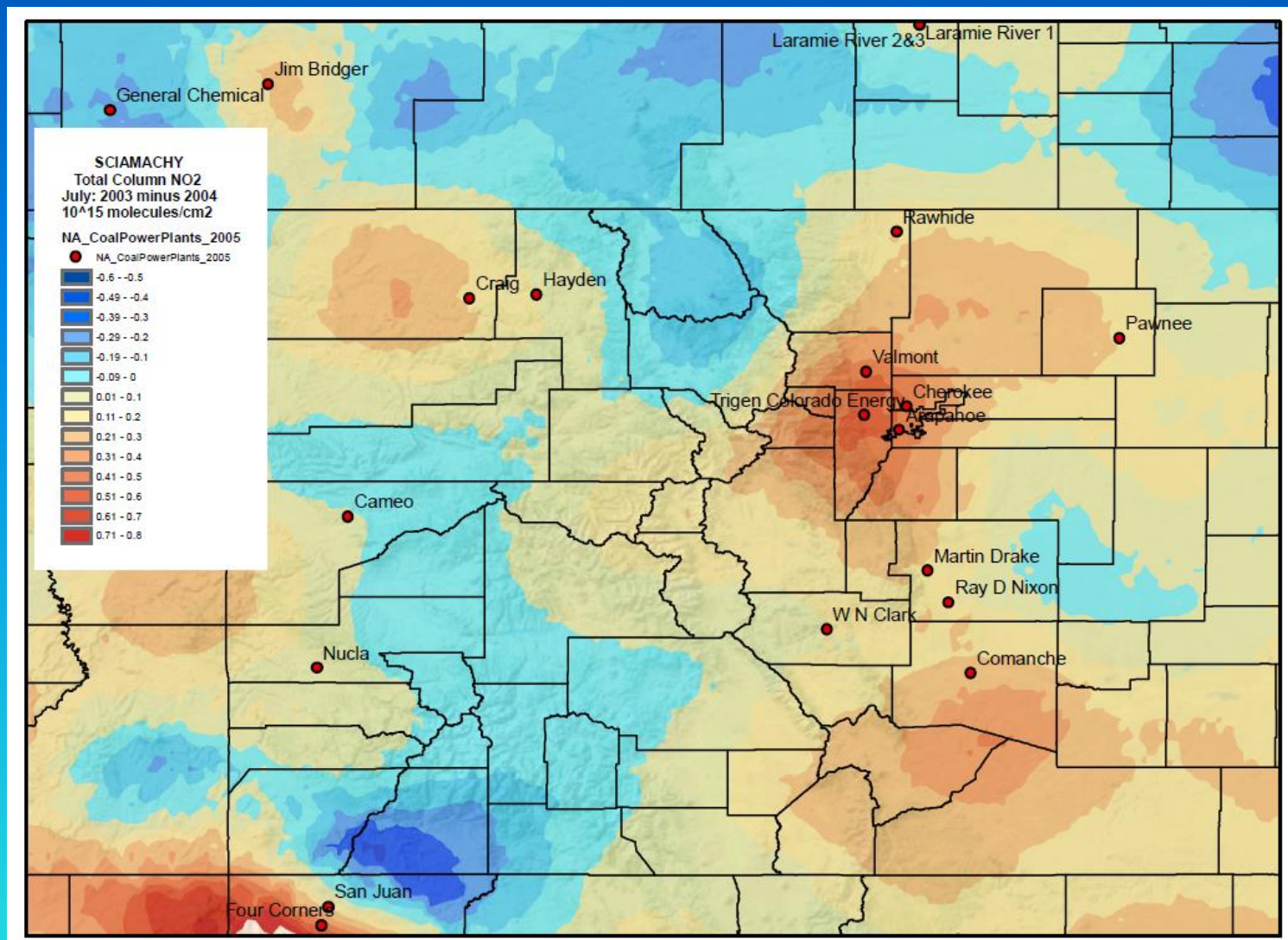


LAYER (m): < 1000 < 2000 < 3000 < 4000 < 5000



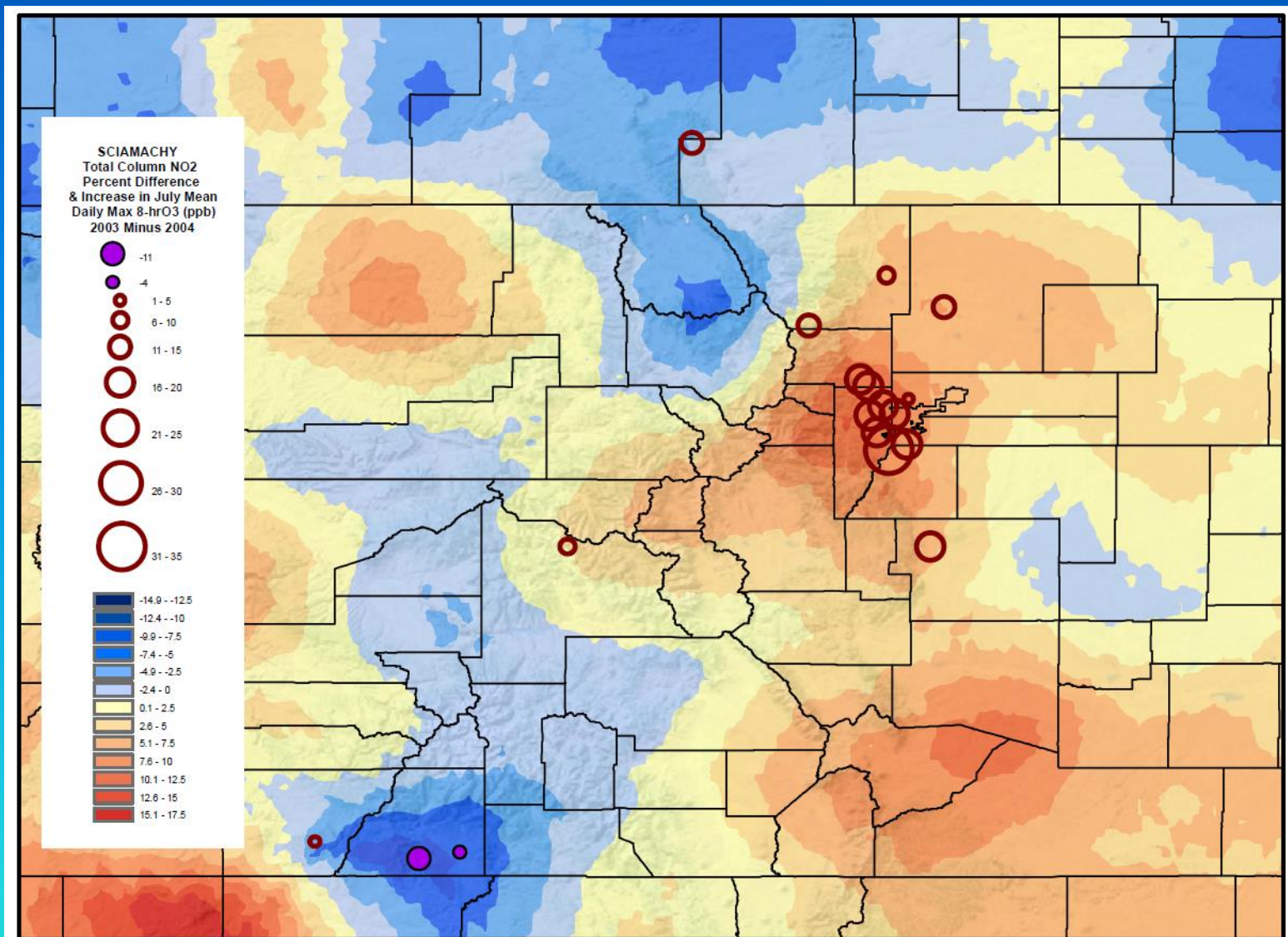
NUMBER OF PARTICLES ON GRID: 84

Job ID: 29420 Job Start: Tue Feb 11 21:13:57 UTC 2014  
Release: lat.: 39.802900 lon.: -104.983900 Hgt: 0 to 50 m  
Pollutant: - Unspecified  
Release Quantity: 1 mass Start: 03 07 18 12 0 Duration: 48 hrs, 0 min  
Pollutant Averaging/Integration Period: 1 hrs and 0 min  
Dry Deposition rate: 0 cm/s Wet Removal: None #Part: 4000  
Meteorology: 0000Z 1 Jul 2003 - reanalysis  
This is not a NOAA product. It was produced by: unknown



The difference between SCIAMACHY July mean total column NO<sub>2</sub> (2003 minus 2004) gives us an idea of where NO<sub>2</sub> increases and decreases when mean upper level high pressure is strong. NO<sub>2</sub> penetration deep to the southwest, enhancements along the Platte River to the northeast of Denver. At 10 MST thermally-driven upslope has typically not crossed the Divide.



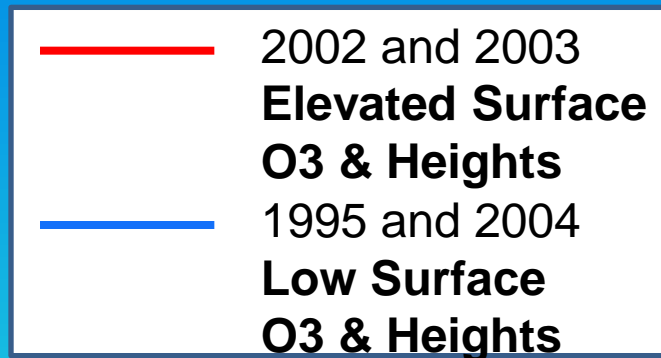
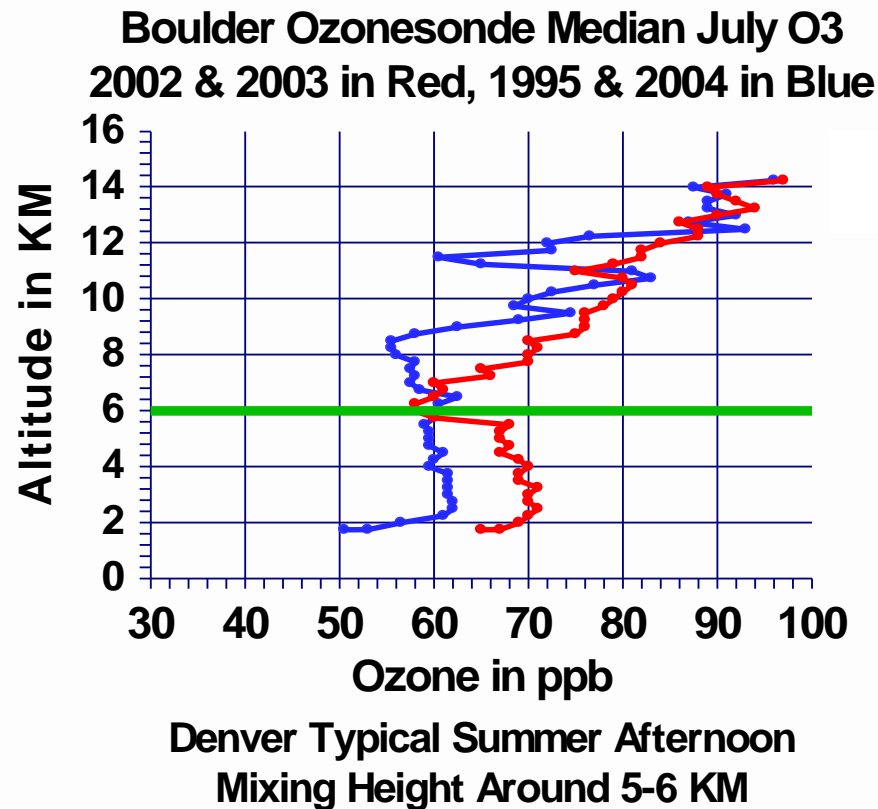


Circles show increases or decreases in July DMAX 8-hr O3 (2003 minus 2004) along with SCIAMACHY NO2 (2003 minus 2004). Increases in NO2 in central Colorado likely represent NO2 emissions from previous day(s).



## Is flight path still current?

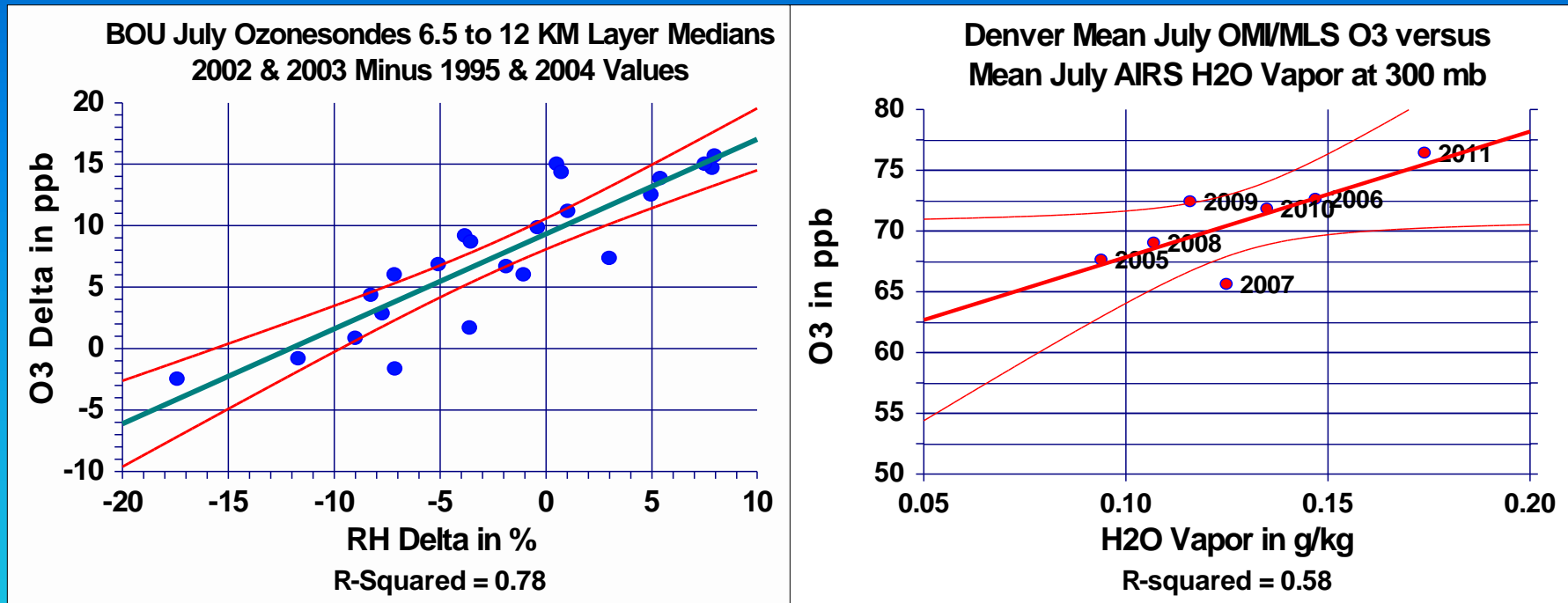
Comparison of Median Boulder Ozonesonde Profiles for 2002/2003 and 1995/2004 (high O<sub>3</sub>/height, low O<sub>3</sub>/height years) show decoupling of Upper Troposphere and PBL. Potential Influence of Lightning NO<sub>x</sub>?



Ozonesonde data courtesy of NOAA ESRL GMD:  
<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/ftpdata.html>

Typical afternoon mixing height ~ 5 - 6 km MSL. 2002 & 2003 show variable O<sub>3</sub> increases in 6.5 to 12 km layer in free troposphere. Does residual lightning NO<sub>x</sub> account for differences in free troposphere?

Higher Upper Tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> in 2002/2003 Strongly Correlated With Higher RH.  
DEN OMI/MLS Mean July Trop. O<sub>3</sub> Correlated with Aqua AIRS 300 mb H<sub>2</sub>O Vapor.



Ozonesonde differences in free troposphere O<sub>3</sub> strongly correlated with increases in RH.

DEN Mean July OMI/MLS Trop. O<sub>3</sub> increases With AIRS H<sub>2</sub>O Vapor for Upper Troposphere.

Does relationship between H<sub>2</sub>O vapor and O<sub>3</sub> in the upper troposphere support a residual lightning NO<sub>x</sub> hypothesis, injection of PBL air, thunderstorm impacts, or point to other processes or retrieval issues?

Data courtesy of NASA GSFC, Ziemke et al 2011, and KNMI: <http://www.temis.nl/airpollution/no2.html>



## Conclusions

- There is a very strong relationship between July mean 500 mb heights and July DMAX 8-hr O3 in Colorado and other western states.
- Under the influence of an upper high, skies are often clear, temperatures are elevated, and westerlies are reduced in strength.
- These conditions promote the formation of mountain-plains solenoid circulations and westward propagating density currents along the Colorado Front Range and in the mountainous terrain of central Colorado.
- These circulations appear to enhance O3 and NO2 and lead to the highest concentration events.
- Deep mixing and terrain-driven circulations set this region apart from low-altitude and coastal areas. (A fraction of high O3 events do have shallow PBL heights below the 3 km level with brisk westerlies aloft).
- Satellite NO2 and HYSPLIT runs provide evidence for extensive and persistent re-circulations of Front Range emissions under strong ridging aloft.