

Aerosol retrieval using polarimetric observations: *THEORY and PRACTICE*

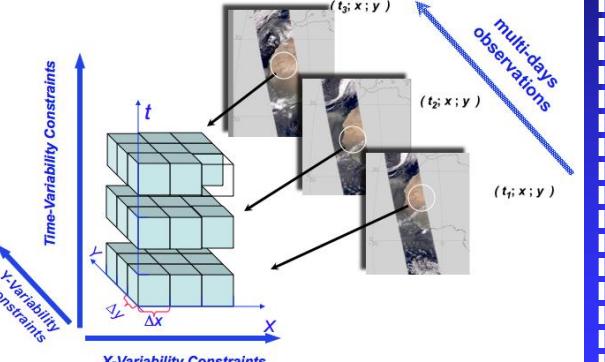
*What users should expect
from polarization?*



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- 
- ✓ Sensitivity of polarization to aerosol;
 - ✓ Advantages and possible challenges;
 - ✓ GRASP algorithm;
 - ✓ PARASOL retrievals – reality, potential

Available measurements of polarization:

POLDER



GLOBAL: every 2 days SPATIAL RESOLUTION: 5.3km × 6.2km

VIEWS: $N_\Theta = 16$: ($80^\circ \leq \Theta \leq 180^\circ$)

INTENSITY: $N_\lambda^I = 6$: (0.44, 0.49, 0.56, 0.67, 0.865, 1.02 μm)

POLARIZATION: $N_\lambda^P = 3$: (0.49, 0.67, 0.865 μm)

AERONET



New generation of Cimel multi-spectral polarimeters

VIEWS: $N_\Theta = \sim 30$: ($2^\circ \leq \Theta \leq 150^\circ$)

INTENSITY + POLARIZATION:

$N_\lambda = 8$: (0.34, 0.38, 0.44, 0.50, 0.67, 0.87, 1.02, 1.64 μm)

lidar



Multi-spectral backscattering and depolarization profiles

VIEWS: $N_\Theta = 1$: ($\Theta = 180^\circ$)

INTENSITY backscattering profiles : $N_\lambda^I = \sim 3$: (0.355, 0.532, 1.064 μm)

DEPOLARIZATION profiles : $N_\lambda^P = 1$: (0.532 μm)

What polarization may add ?

SINGLE SCATTERING

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_s \\ Q_s \\ U_s \\ V_s \end{pmatrix} \propto \begin{pmatrix} P_{11}(\Theta) & P_{12}(\Theta) & 0 & 0 \\ P_{12}(\Theta) & P_{22}(\Theta) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & P_{33}(\Theta) & P_{34}(\Theta) \\ 0 & 0 & -P_{34}(\Theta) & P_{44}(\Theta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I_i \\ Q_i \\ U_i \\ V_i \end{pmatrix}$$

**OPTIMISTIC
view**

P_{11} - characterizes **intensity**,

$P_{12}, P_{22}, P_{33}, P_{34}, P_{44}$ - characterize state of **polarization**



add sensitivity to all aerosol properties (size, shape, absorption, refraction)

MULTIPLE SCATTERING

1. Polarization of land surface is very weak, spectrally neutral and quite homogeneous;



add sensitivity to aerosol over bright land surfaces

2. Molecular scattering strongly polarizes scattered light and it vertically very stable;



add sensitivity to aerosol vertical distribution (in passive observations)

Accounting for polarization in radiation transmitted through the atmospheric

Total:

$$I(\Theta; \lambda) = \frac{\mu_0 (\exp(-\mu_0 \tau) - \exp(-\mu_1 \tau))}{\mu_0 + \mu_1} (\omega_0 \tau L_2 P(\Theta; \lambda) L_1 I_0 + \text{mult. scat.})$$

$$\mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} I \\ Q \\ U \\ V \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{- Stokes vector}$$

$L_1; L_2$ - rotation matrices

$F(\Theta; \lambda)$ = $\boxed{\begin{bmatrix} F_{11} & F_{12} & 0 & 0 \\ F_{12} & F_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & F_{33} & F_{34} \\ 0 & 0 & -F_{34} & F_{44} \end{bmatrix}}$

phase matrix !!!

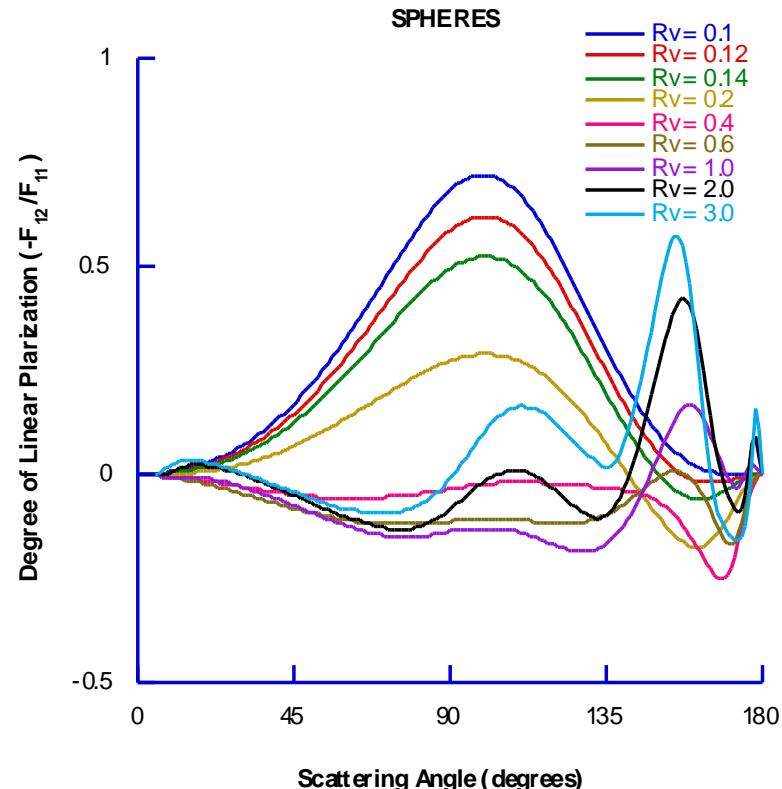
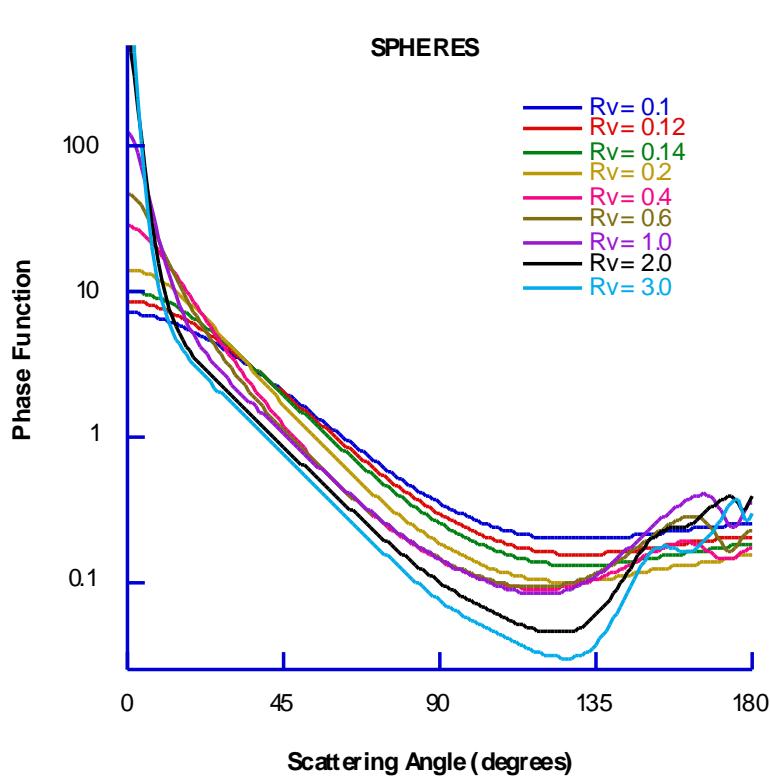
$$I_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$I(\Theta; \lambda) \sim (\omega_0 \tau F_{11}(\Theta; \lambda) + \text{mult. scat.})$ - Intensity

$P(\Theta; \lambda) \sim (-F_{12}(\Theta; \lambda)/F_{11}(\Theta; \lambda) + \text{mult. scat.})$ - Linear Polarization

Sensitivity of to particle size

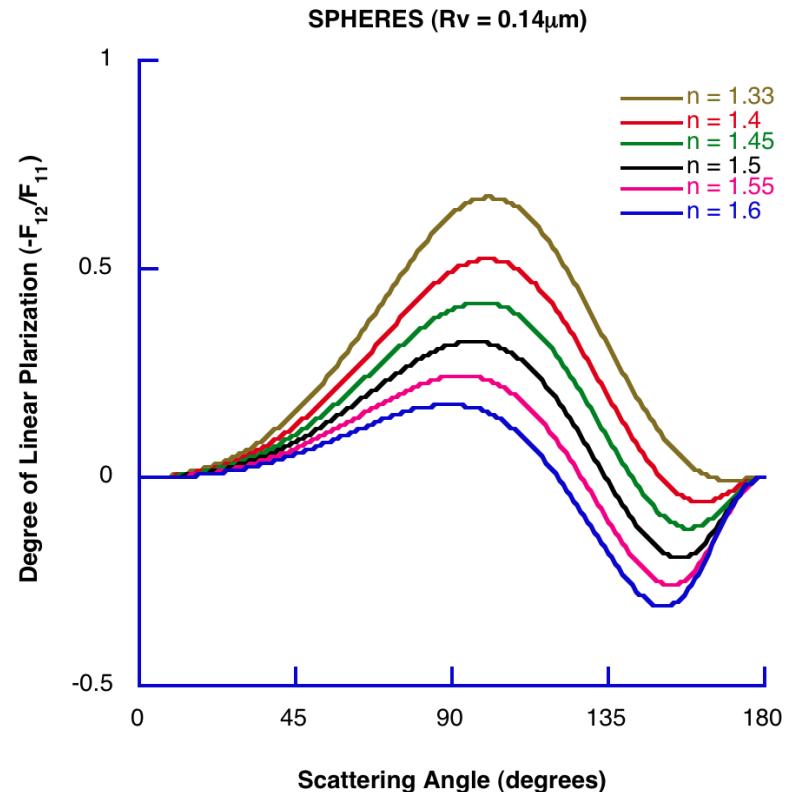
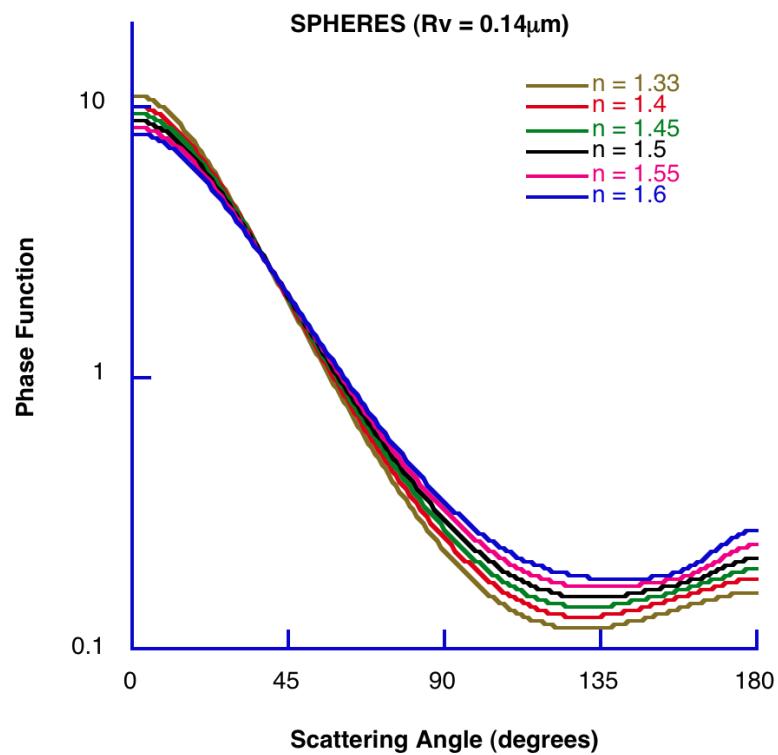
Log-normal monomodal $dV(r)/d\ln r : \sigma_v = 0.5$,
 $\mu = 0.44 \mu\text{m}$, $n = 1.4$, $k = 0.005$



Sensitivity to real part of refractive index for fine mode aerosol

Spheres

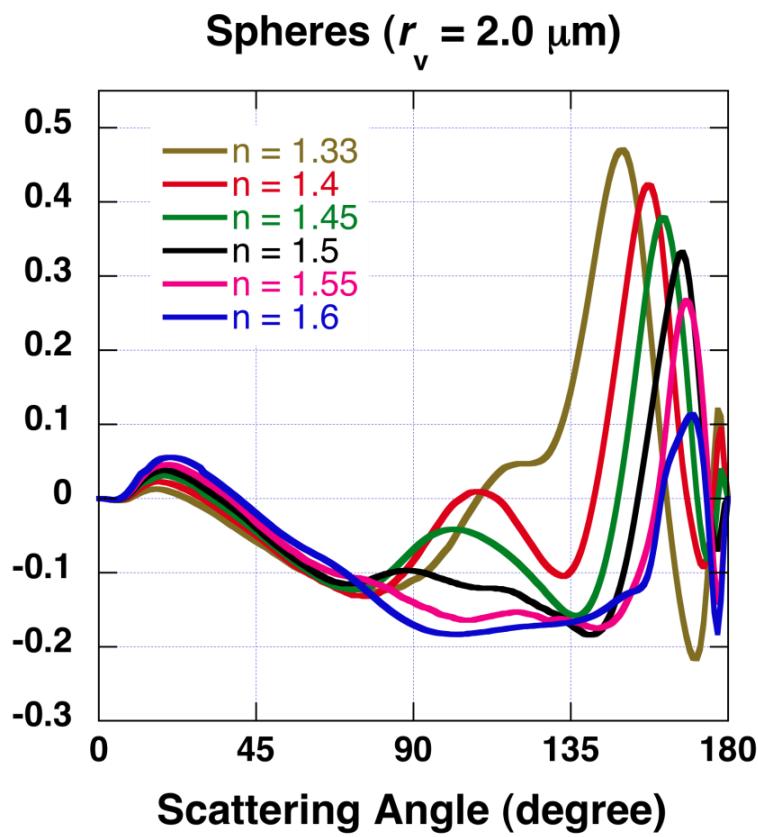
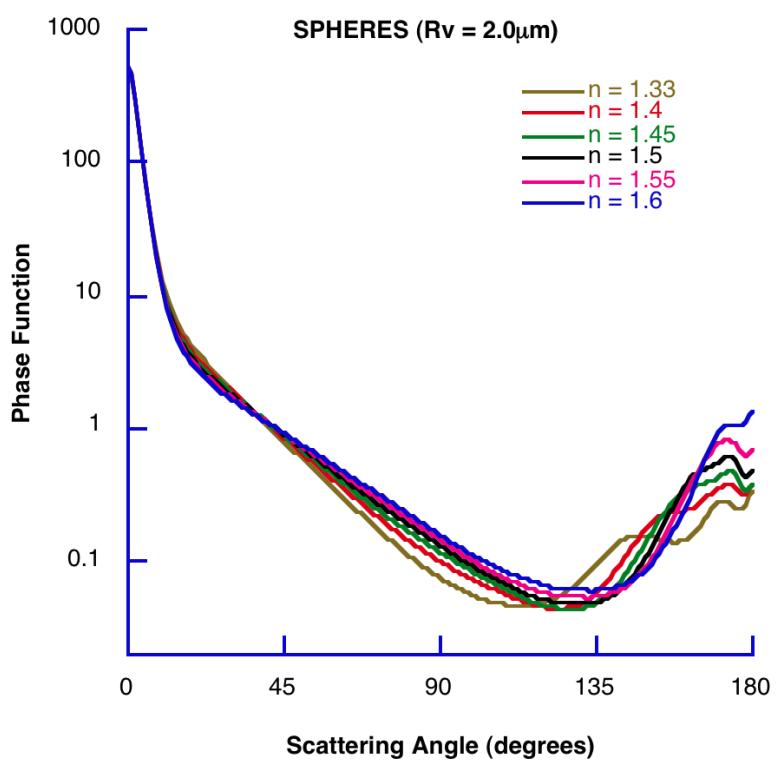
Log-normal monomodal $dV(r)/d\ln r : \sigma_v = 0.5, \mu = 0.44 \mu\text{m}, k = 0.005$



Sensitivity to to real part of refractive index for coarse mode aerosol

Spheres

Log-normal monomodal $dV(r)/d\ln r : \sigma_v = 0.5, \mu = 0.44 \mu\text{m}, k = 0.005$

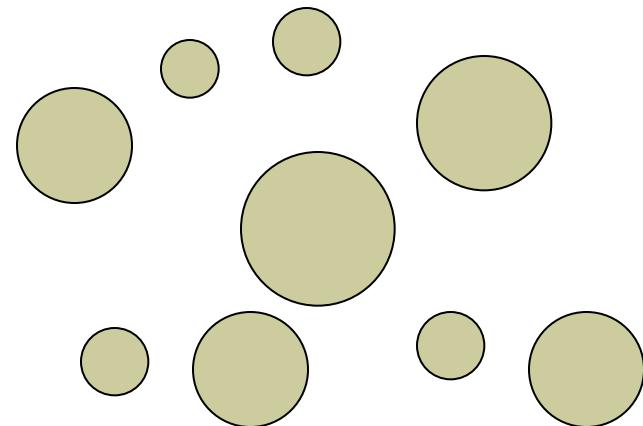


Real

aerosol

Modeled

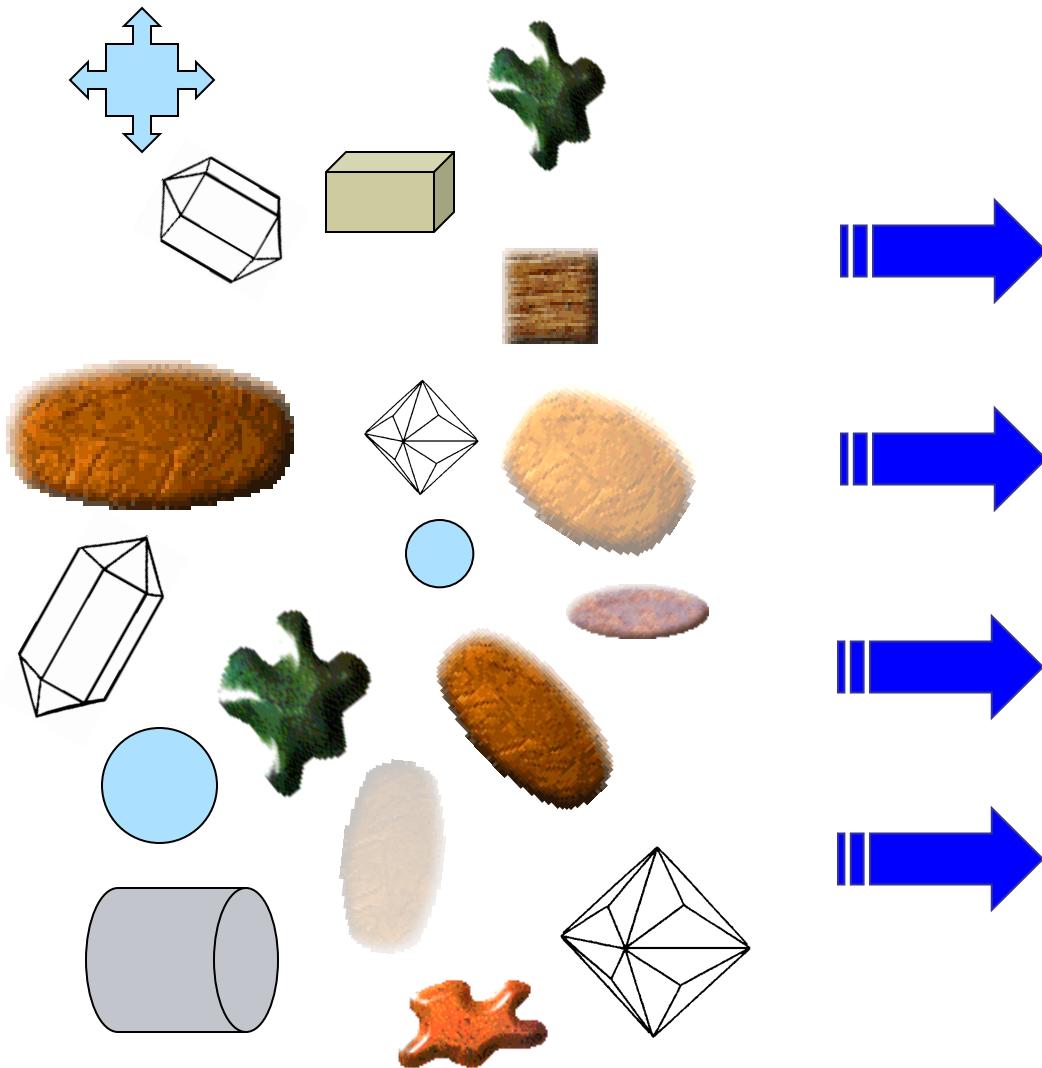
spherical:



*Randomly oriented
spheroids :*

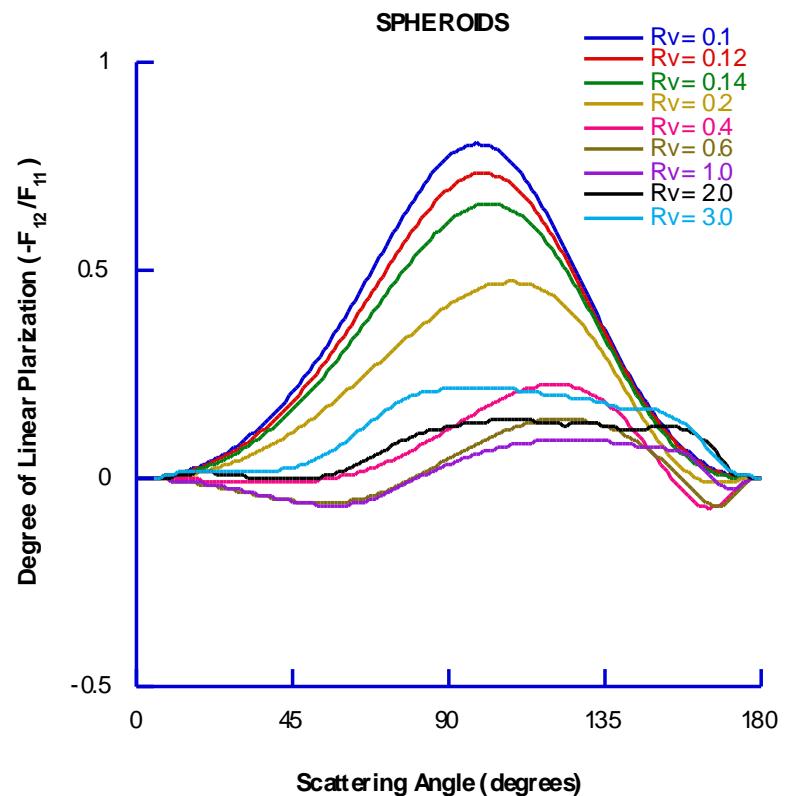
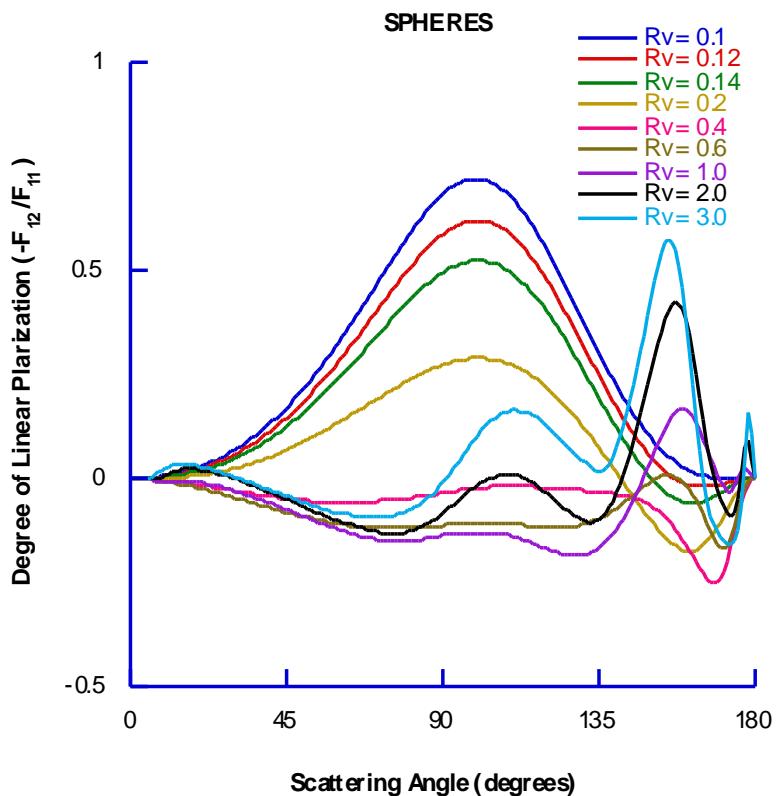


AERONET model



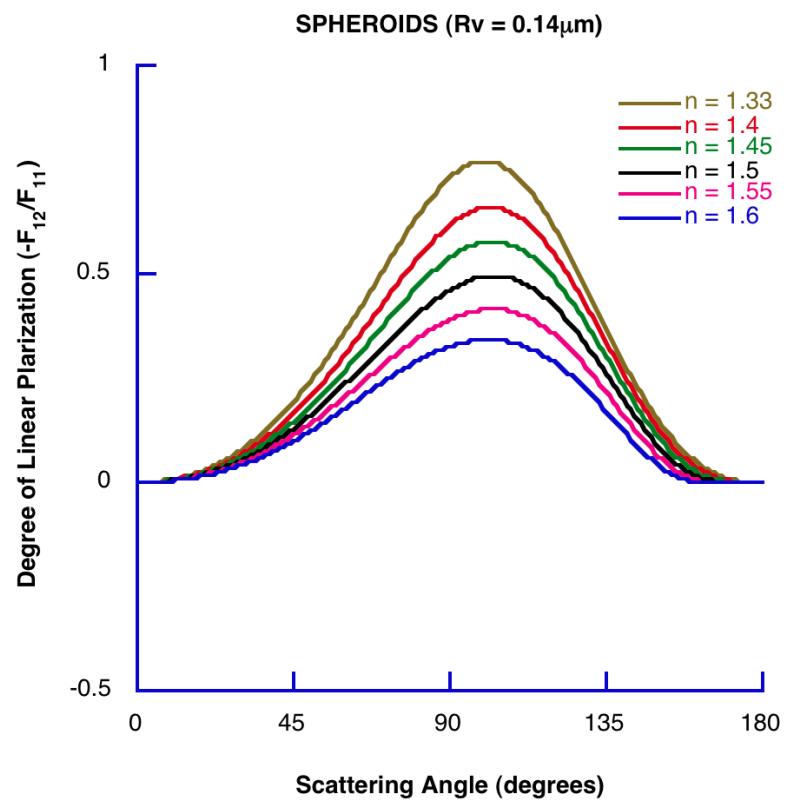
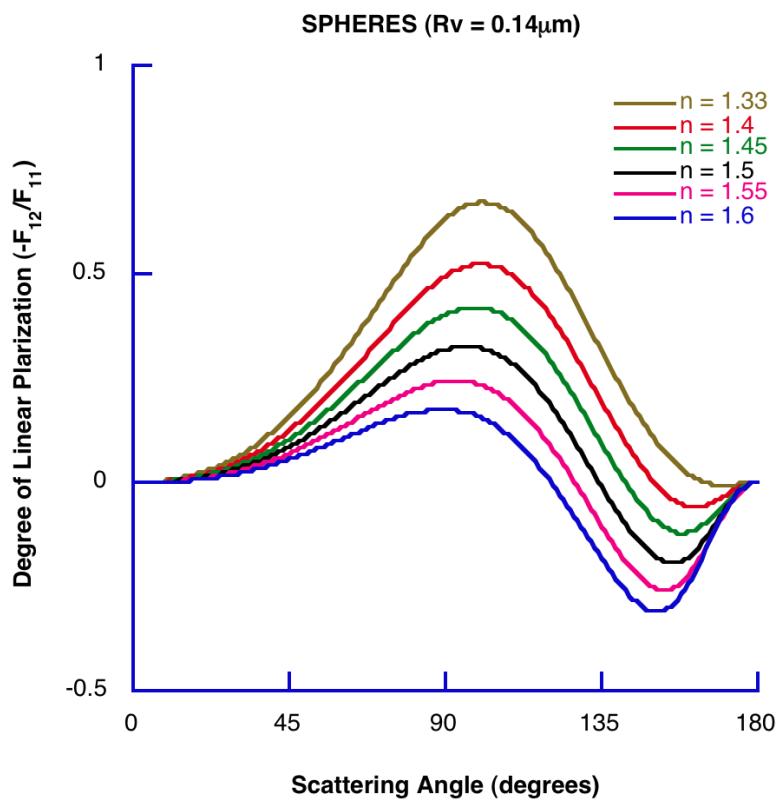
Sensitivity of Linear Polarization to particle size

Log-normal monomodal $dV(r)/d\ln r : \sigma_v = 0.5$,
 $\mu = 0.44 \mu\text{m}$, $n = 1.4$, $k = 0.005$



Sensitivity of Linear Polarization of fine mode aerosol to real part of refractive index

Log-normal monomodal $dV(r)/d\ln r : \sigma_v = 0.5, \mu = 0.44 \mu\text{m}, k = 0.005$

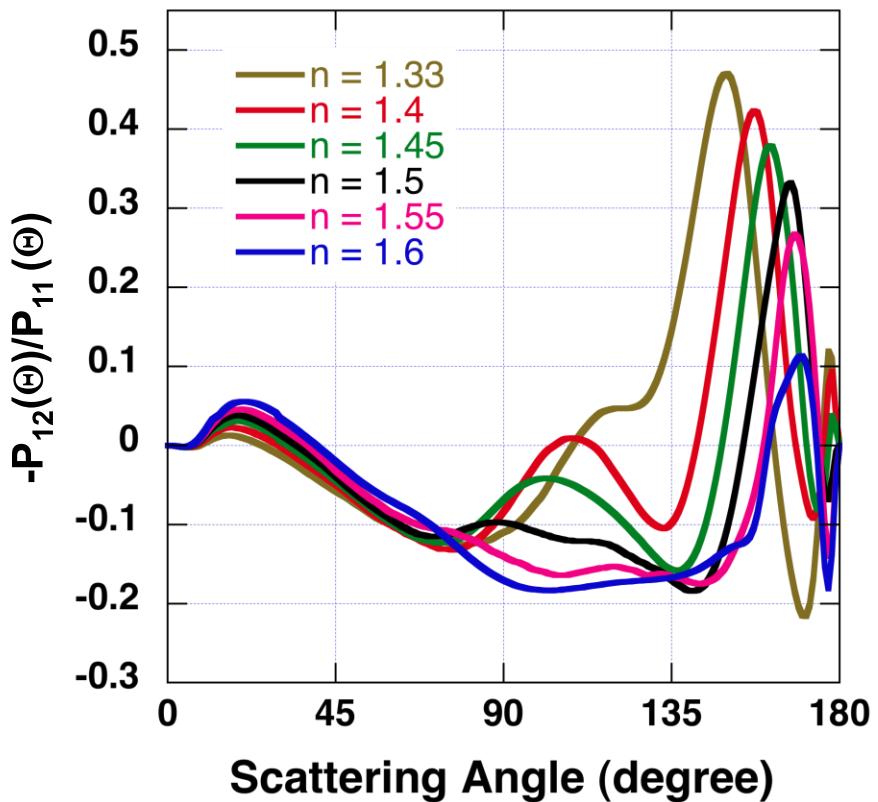


Sensitivity of polarization to particle shape

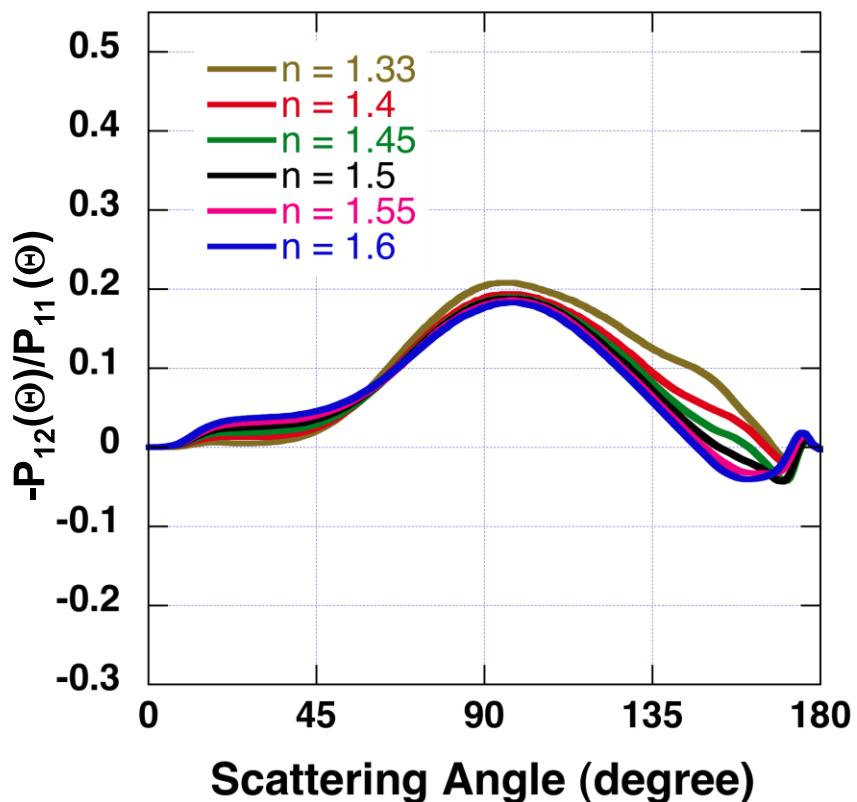
Coarse
aerosol



Spheres ($r_v = 2.0 \mu\text{m}$)



Spheroids ($r_v = 2.0 \mu\text{m}$)



What polarization may add ?

SINDLE SCATTERING

P_{12} - important for passive observation of **polarization**

REALISTIC view

add sensitivity to 

- particle shape and

- size distribution and real ref. index of small and large spherical particles

COMPLICATIONS:

particles can be *inhomogeneous*, and have very complex shape

MULTIPLE SCATTERING

1. Polarization of land surface is very weak, spectrally neutral and quite homogeneous;



add sensitivity to aerosol over bright land surfaces

COMPLICATIONS: accurate modeling of surface polarization is complicated

2. Molecular scattering strongly polarizes scattered light and it vertically very stable;



add sensitivity to aerosol vertical distribution (in passive observations)

COMPLICATIONS: accurate assumption of aerosol vertical properties is complicated

“independent” POLDER/PARASOL

measurements :



GLOBAL: every 2 days SPATIAL RESOLUTION: 5.3km × 6.2km

VIEWS: $N_\Theta = 16$ ($80^\circ \leq \Theta \leq 180^\circ$)

INTENSITY: $N_\lambda^t = 6$ ($0.44, 0.49, 0.56, 0.67, 0.865, 1.02 \mu m$)

POLARIZATION: $N_\lambda^P = 3$ ($0.49, 0.67, 0.865 \mu m$)

SINGLE OBSERVATION:

$$(N_\lambda^t + N_\lambda^P) \times N_\Theta = (6+3) \times 16 = 144$$

a lot !!! – as much as AERONET

Present aerosol retrieval from PARASOL:



Over Ocean (Herman et al., 2005):

- Uses look-up tables
- Fits both intensity and polarizations at 0.67 and 0.87 μm
- Retrieves: AOT of fine and coarse mode, size information, non-sphericity, some height information.
- Issues: does not always provide consistency with other channels

Over Land (Deuzé et al., 2001):

- Uses look-up tables
- Fits only polarizations at 0.67 and 0.87 μm using look-up tables
- Retrieves:
AOT of fine mode only , some size information
- Issues: quite limited

QUESTION:



*Why the PARASOL (2004 - ...) polarimeter
data did not result in a great aerosol
product until now?*

ALGORITHM is not
adequate ???



GRASP objectives: Accurate, Versatile and Fast

✓ Inversion scheme:

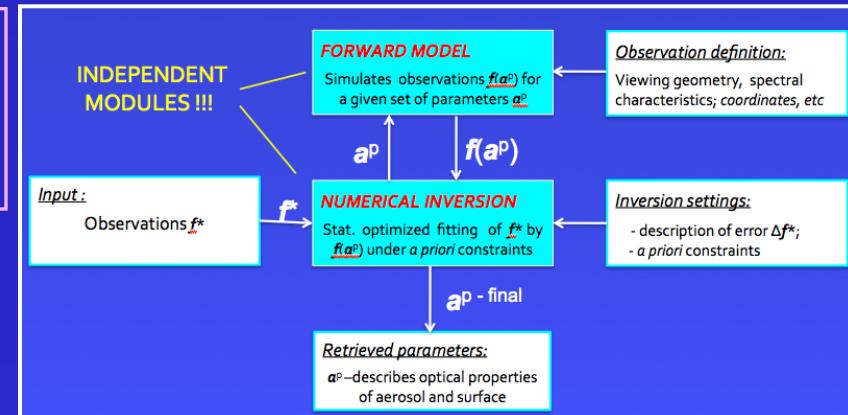
- search in continuous space of solution;
- optimization as Multi-term LSM;
- simultaneous multi-pixel retrieval;

✓ Forward model:

- applicable to diverse remote sensing observations;
- accurate modeling using direct “on-line” computations;

✓ Software implementation:

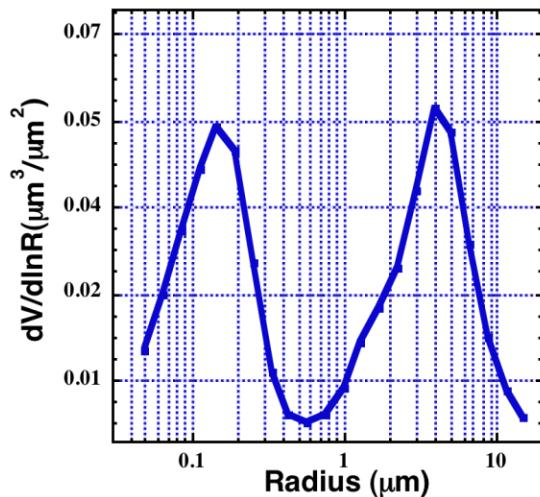
- advanced highly parallelized CPU and GPU programming;
- public, open source aerosol retrieval code; [_](#)



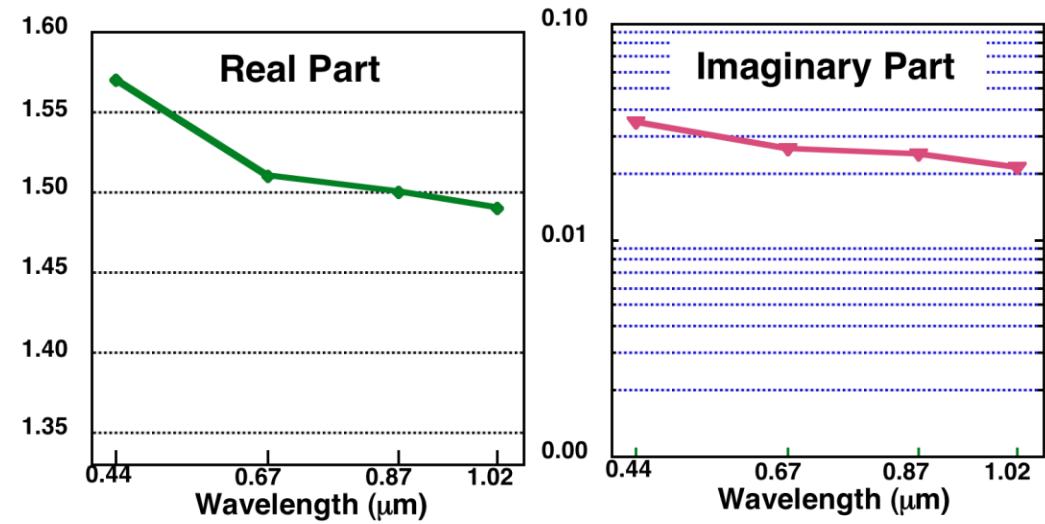
AERONET retrievals are driven by 31 variables : PARASOL: + surface BRDF+ aerosol height

$dV/\ln r$ - size distribution (22 values);
 $n(\lambda)$ and $k(\lambda)$ - ref. index (4 +4 values)
 $C_{\text{spher}} (\%)$ - spherical fraction (1 value)

Particle Size Distribution:
 $0.05 \mu\text{m} \leq R$ (22 bins) $\leq 15 \mu\text{m}$



Complex Refractive Index at
 $\lambda = 0.44; 0.67; 0.87; 1.02 \mu\text{m}$



Smoke

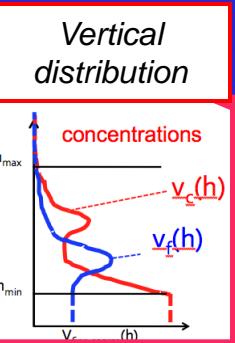
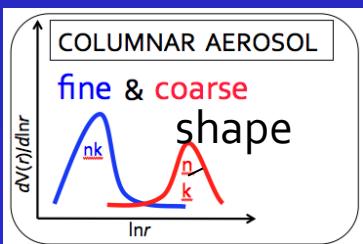


Desert Dust



Maritime

Forward Model



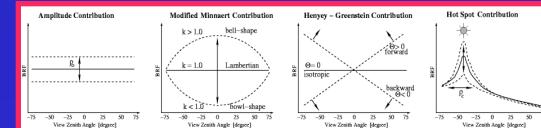
Vector of retrieved parameters :

a^{aer} - aerosol properties

a^{surf} - surface properties

a^{aer}

a^{surf}



Aerosol single scattering

$$\tau(\lambda, h), \omega_0(\lambda, h), P(\lambda, \Theta, h)$$

Surface reflectance

BRDF BPDF

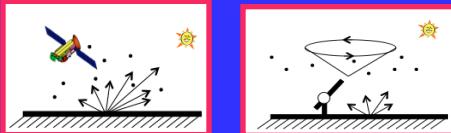


Multiple scattering effects

Radiative Transfer:

$$F(\lambda, \Theta, \square)$$

Simulated observations:



All calculations
are on line !!!

Statistically Optimized Minimization – Multi-Term LSM

Dubovik and King 2000, Dubovik 2004, Dubovik et al. 2011

Measurements:

$$\sum_{(\lambda,\theta)_i} \left(\frac{\varepsilon_0^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \right) (f_i^* - f_i(\mathbf{x}))^2 +$$

weighting

A priori restrictions

$$\sum_i \left(\frac{\varepsilon_0^2}{\varepsilon_i^2} \right) (f_i^a - f_i(\mathbf{x}))^2 \rightarrow (N_{\text{total}} - N_x) \hat{\varepsilon}_0^2$$

Lagrange multipliers

consistency
Indicator

Radiances (ground/plane/space);

- Pol. radiances (ground/plane/space);
- $\tau(\lambda)$ – (e.g. AERONET);
- $\beta(\lambda, h)$ □ lidar backscattering;

-*their covariances*

(should depend on λ and Θ)

-*lognormal error distributions*

Restrictions on derivatives of:

- size distr. Variability;
- n spectral variability;
- k spectral variability;

AERONET

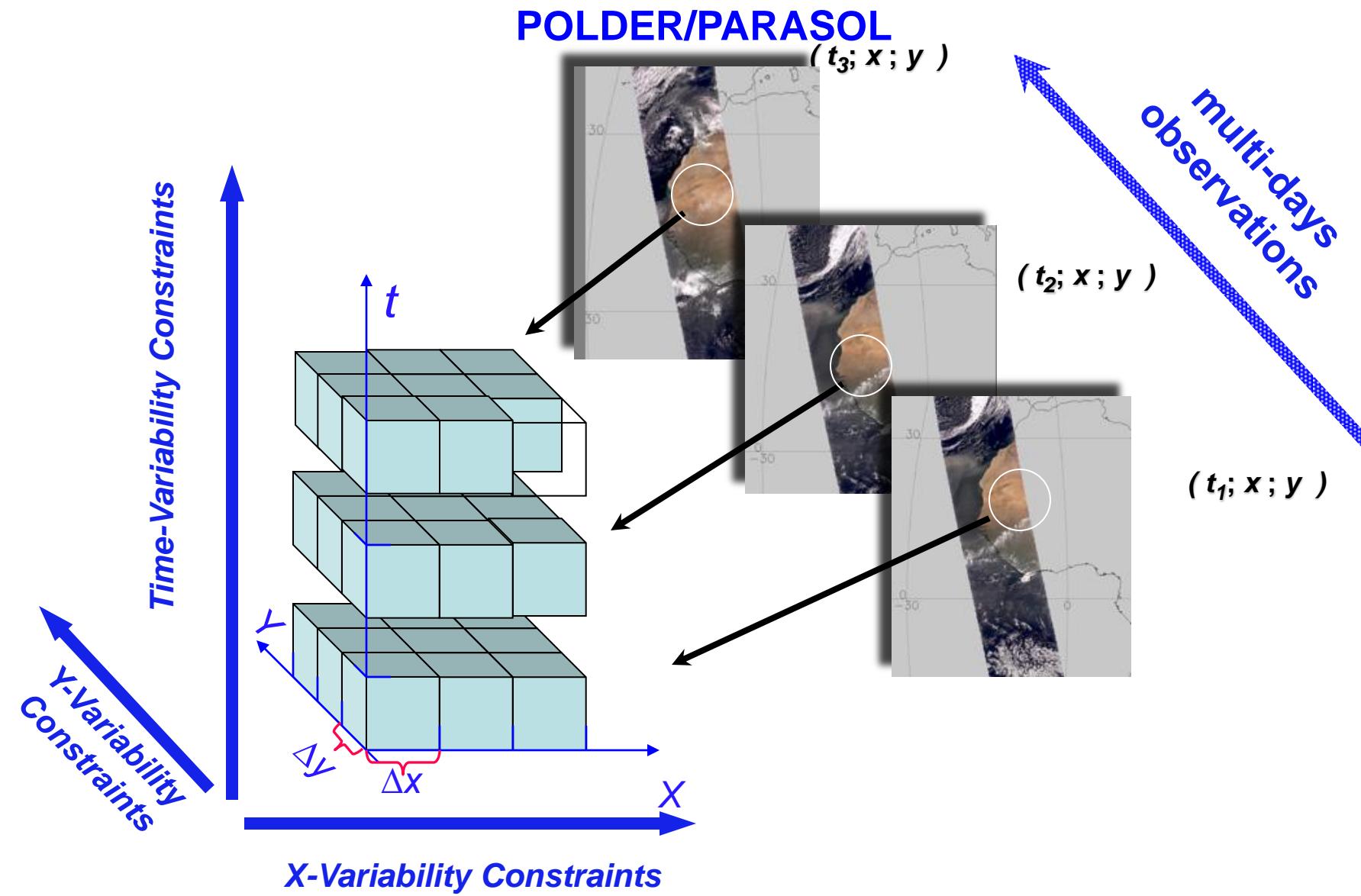
- BRDF and BPDF *spectral variability*;

- $C(h)$ *vertical variability*;

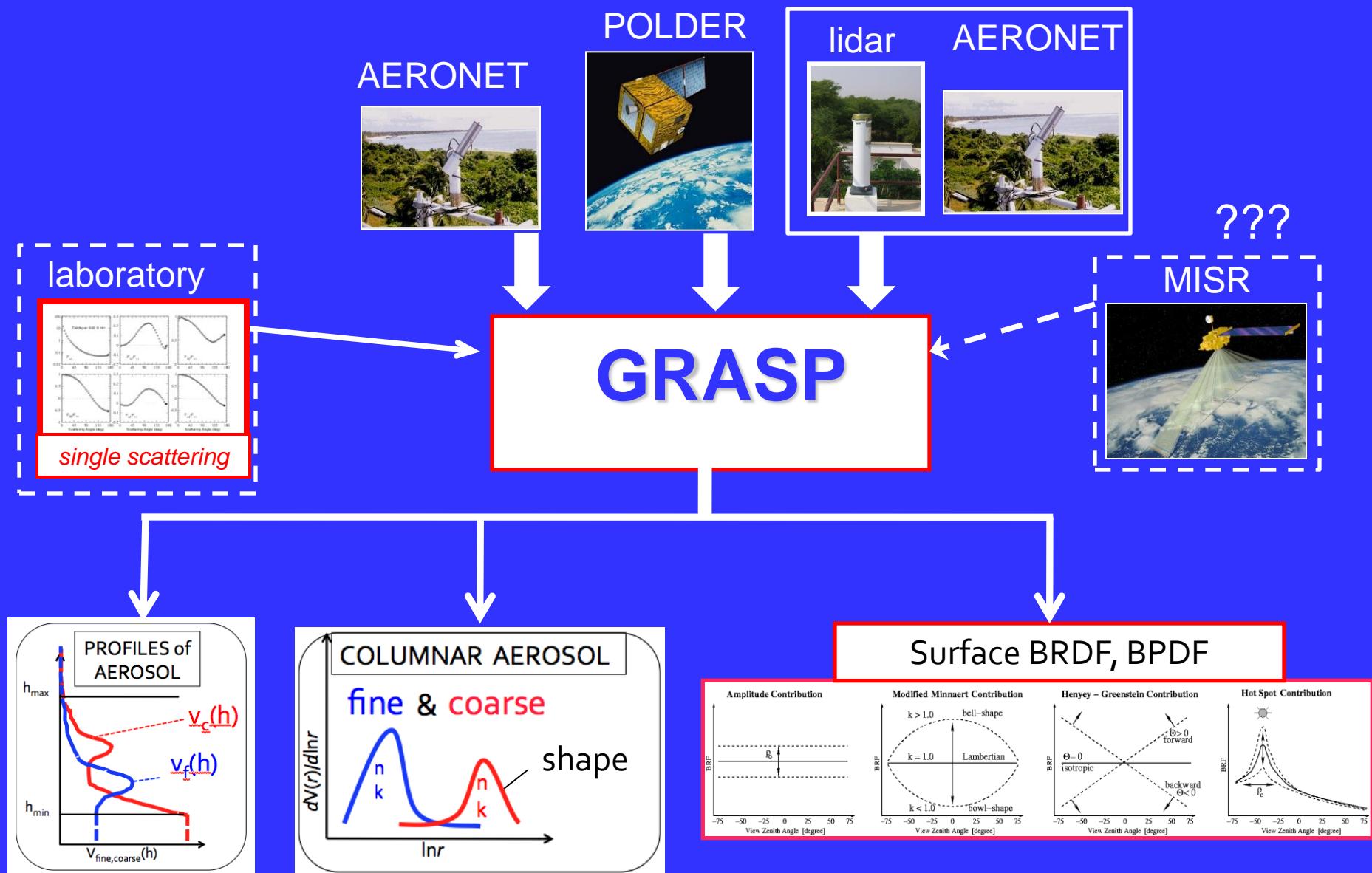
Lidar

Surface

The concept of multi-pixel retrieval



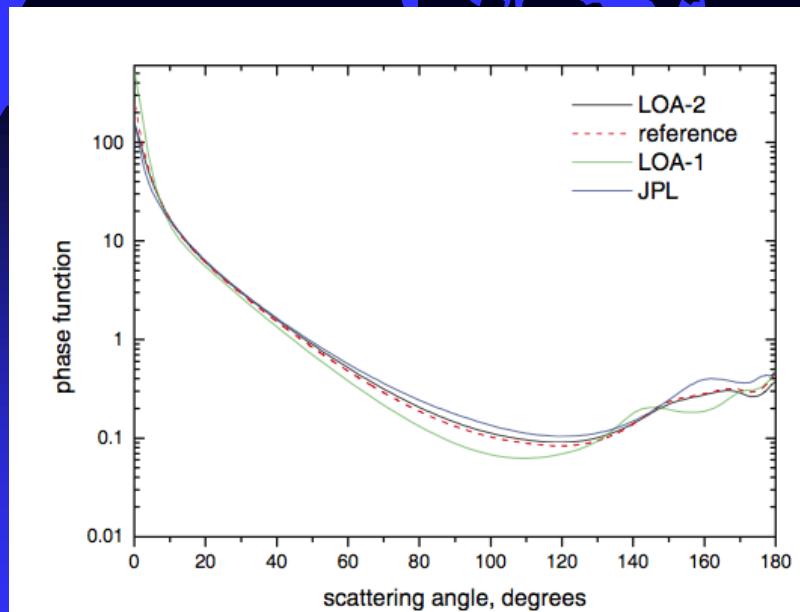
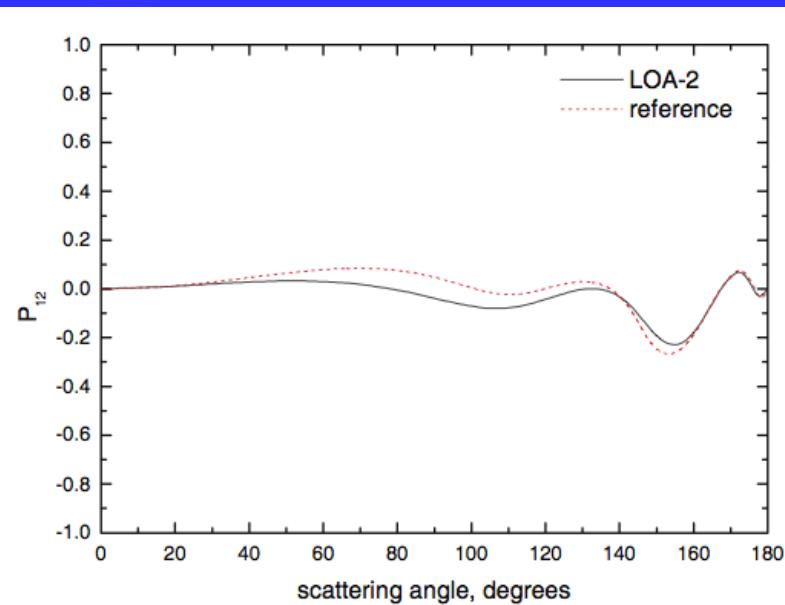
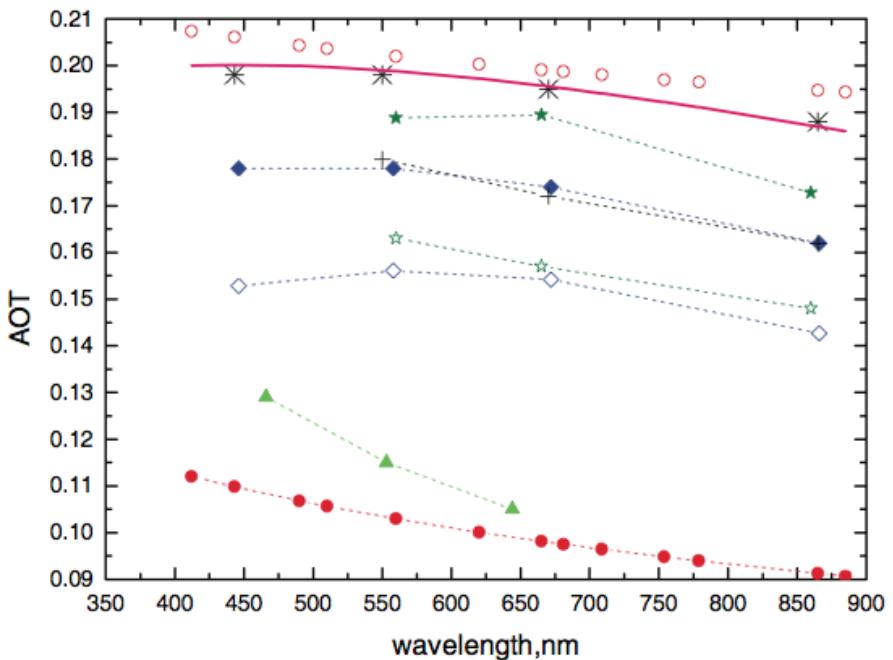
GRASP: Generalized Retrieval of Aerosol and Surface Properties



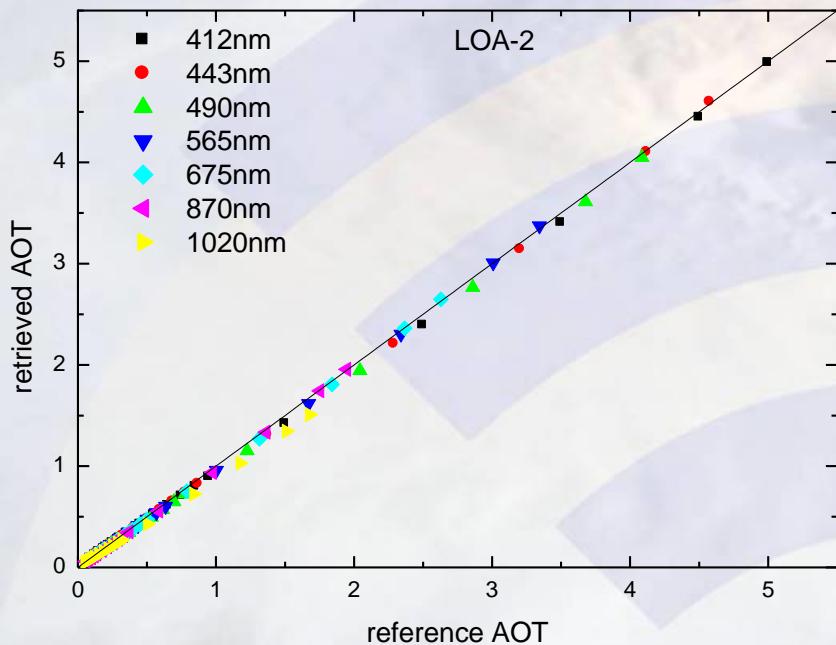
Tests over dark surface (« *Blind* » Test)

Kokhanovsky, et al, The inter-comparison of major satellite aerosol retrieval, Atmos. Meas. Tech., 3, 909–932, 2010.

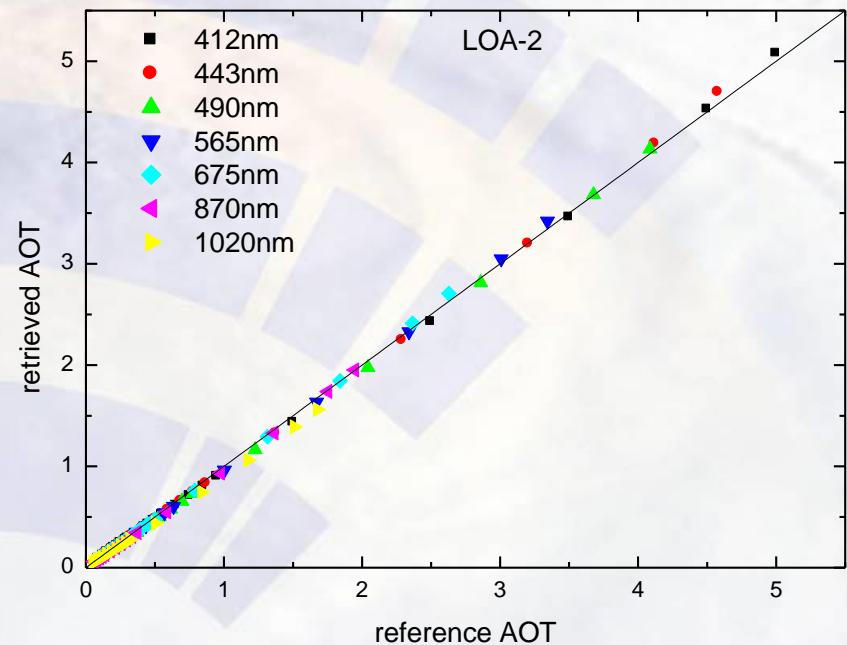
- MERIS/NASB-1
- MERIS/NASB-2
- ▲ MODIS/NASA
- ◇ MISR/PSI
- ◆ MISR/JPL
- + POLDER/LOA-1
- * POLDER/LOA-2
- ★ AATSR/SU
- ★ AATSR/OU



POLDER: LOA-2(Dubovik) algorithm (BRDF)



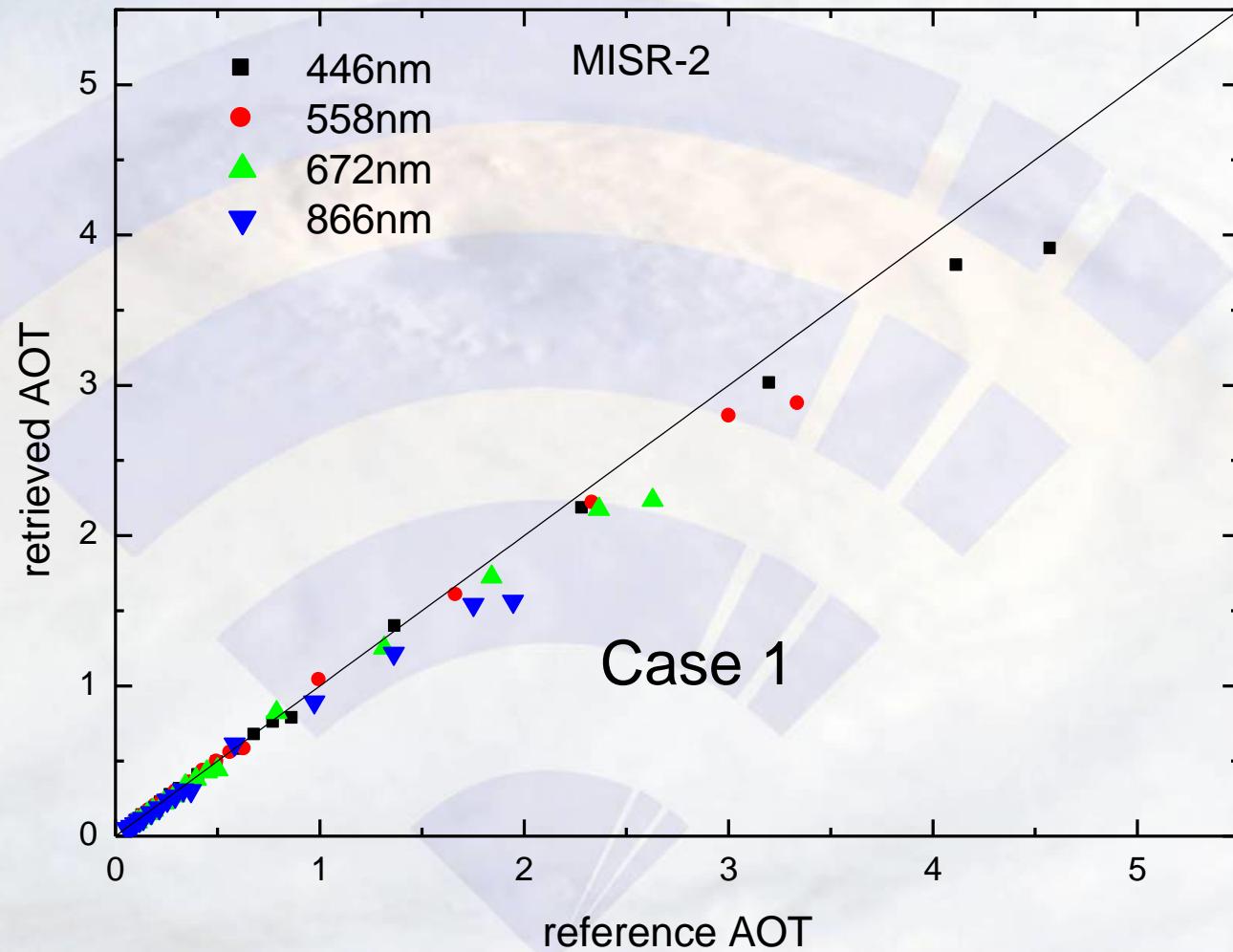
Case 1



Case 2

MSPI (JPL): I+Q

Lambertian unknown surface



Conclusion from the numerical retrieval tests:

Positive: GRASP provides rather accurate aerosol retrievals;

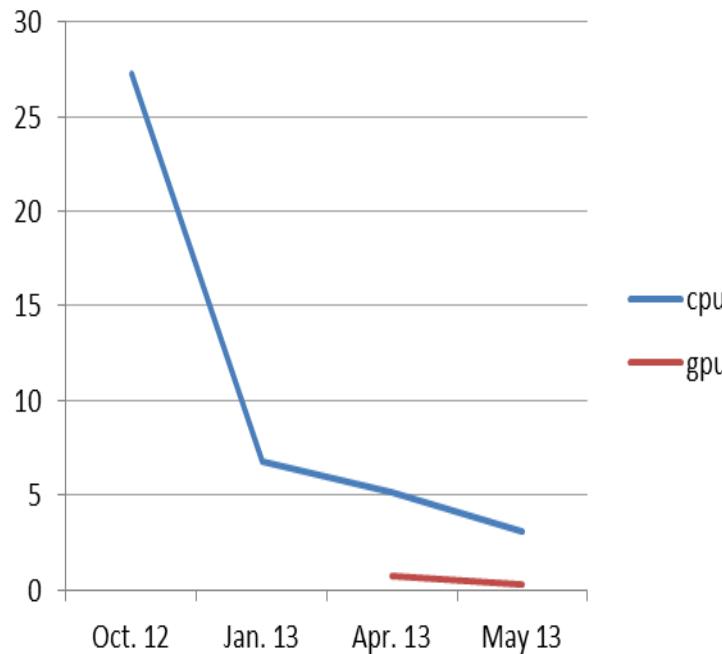
*Negative: GRASP is essentially slower than traditional aerosol algorithms;
(originally ~ 10 sec per pixel)*

GRASP – is too slow ?

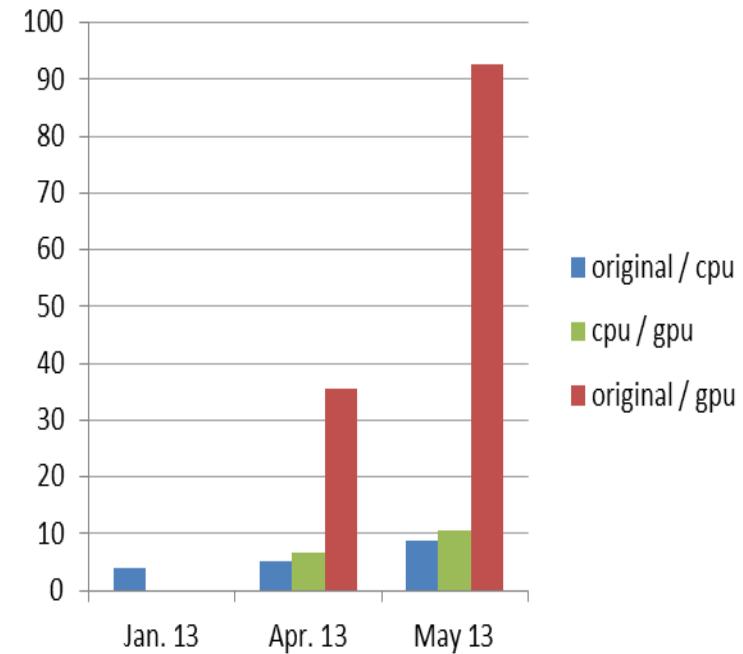
Acceleration using GPU

Overall Timing Trends

Time[s] per Pixel



Speedup per Pixel



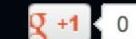
Now: ~ 0.1 sec per pixel, it is not over...



GRASP – Open Source Code distributed via web

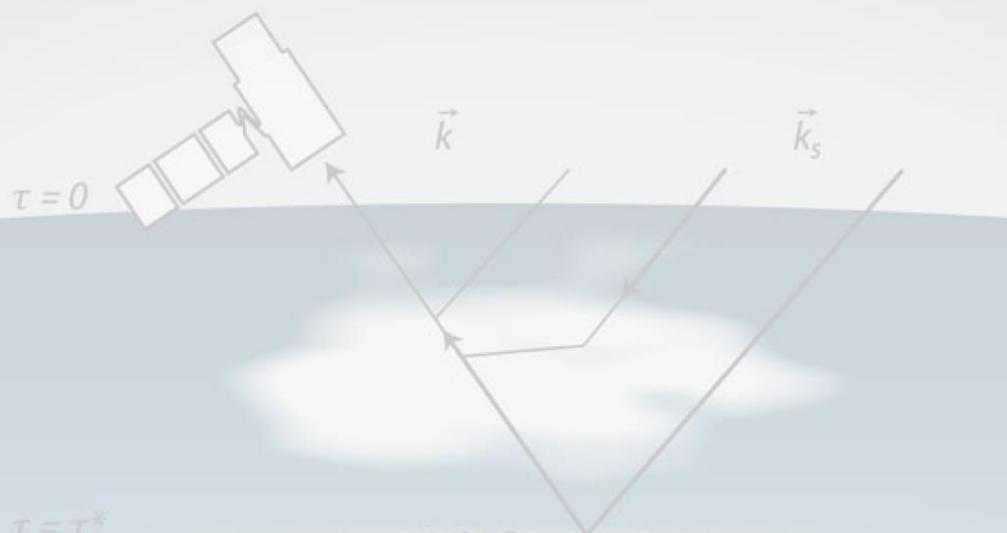


Social Media Sharing



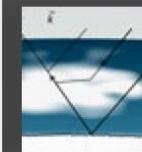
Generalized Retrieval of Aerosol & Surface Properties

GRASP is a highly accurate aerosol retrieval algorithm that processes properties of aerosol- and land-surface-reflectance in cloud free environments. It infers nearly 50 aerosol and surface parameters including particle size distribution, the spectral index of refraction, the degree of sphericity and absorption. The algorithm is designed for the enhanced characterization of aerosol properties from spectral, multiangular polarimetric remote sensing observations. GRASP works under different conditions, including bright surfaces like deserts, where the reflectance overwhelms the signal of aerosols. GRASP is highly versatile and allows input from a wide variety of satellite and surface measurements. [Catch the latest news on GRASP →](#)



GRASP

GRASP is a highly accurate aerosol retrieval algorithm, developed by LOA and Catalysts.



What are Aerosols?

What are the sources of aerosols and what effects do they have?



Smarter Parallelization

Catalysts achieves an enormous speedup on complex Algorithms—primarily due to parallelization.



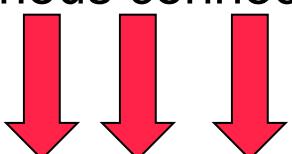
Aerosol Retrieval LEGO ?

Game principles:

- “basic blocs” are solid, easy to use, replaceable, can be connected in different combinations;
- final construction is reliable.

Benefits:

- variety of applications;
- different designs are possible;
- testing of alternative “basic blocks”;
- testing various connections



Results are better !!!

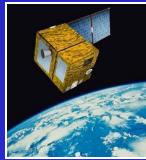
Progress is faster !!!

Game is fun !!!





Diverse applications of GRASP

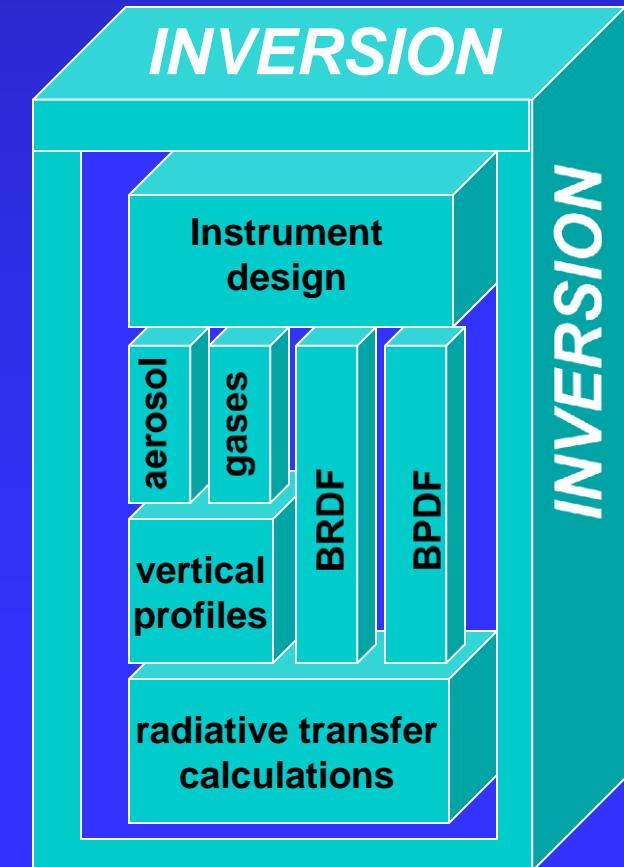
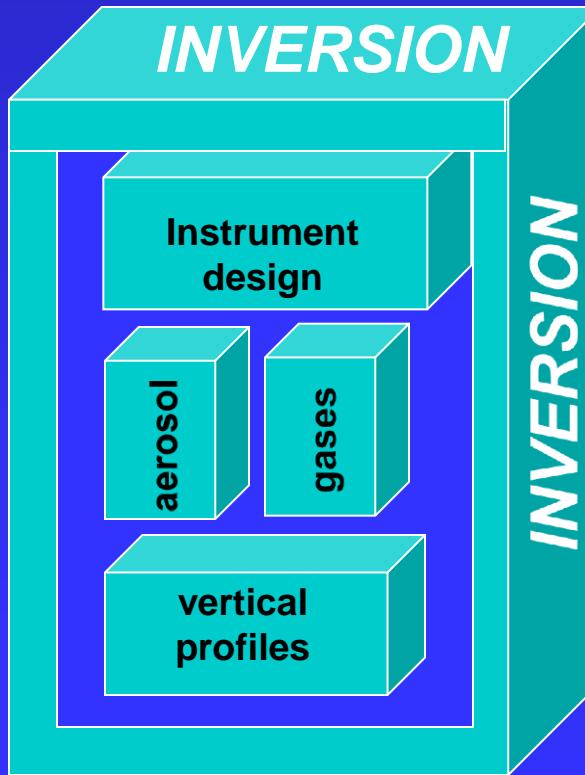
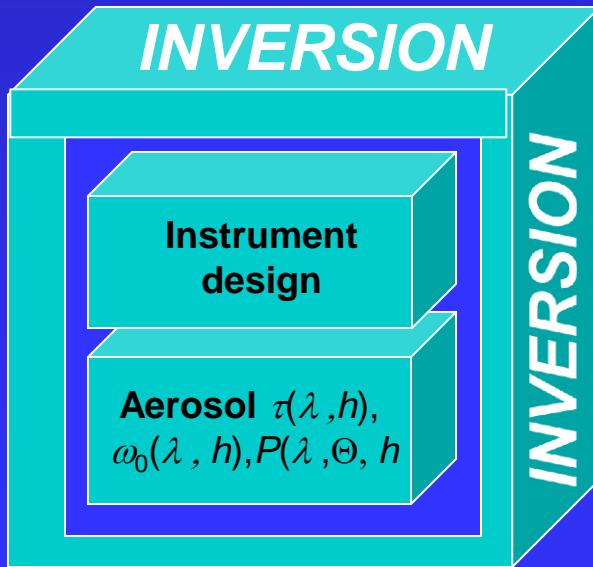
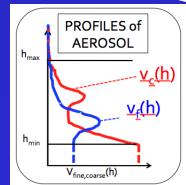


Nephelometer

Sun-photometer

Lidar

AERONET
PARASOL



All modules are
fully consistent !!!



GRASP applications:

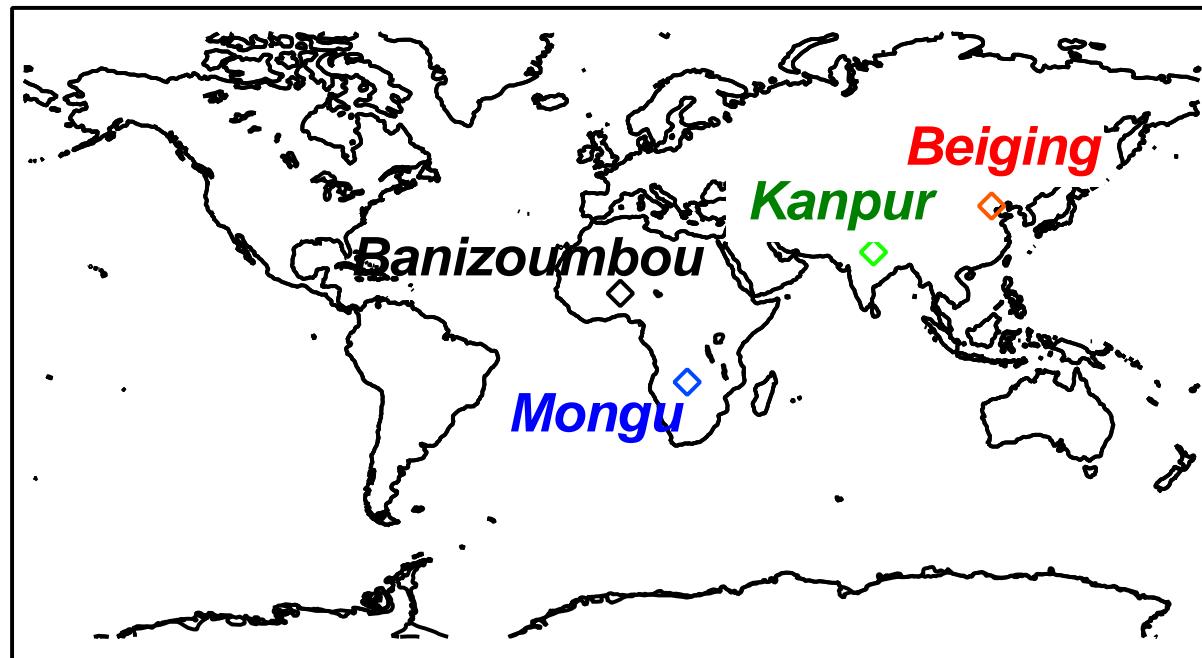
Real Data:

- PARASOL over land and ocean (**CNES, ESA**);
- MERIS over land (**ESA**);
- *AERONET+ lidar* (**FP-7 Europe**)
- airborne nephelometer (**UMBC**)
- polar polarimeter
- polar radiometer
- *ground-based*
- *airborne*

Numerical test with “perfect” observations:

- 3MI / EPS-SG ;
- *Sentinel – 4* (**GOCI real data – ESA**);
- *MERIS, AATSR* (**ESA**);
- *MISR*;
- **GICOM project (JAXA)**;
- CHINA “GLORY + 3MI” project
- polar polarimeter
- geostationary radiometer
- polar radiometer
- polar radiometer
- polar bi-viewing polarimeter
- polar polarimeter

Comparison of PARASOL with AERONET



In cooperation with
ESA - CCI

Banizoumbou: January, February, 2008

Surface: Grassland.

Aerosol: Coarse mode is dominated.

Mongu: August, September, 2008

Surface: Savanna.

Aerosol: Fine mode is dominated.

Beijing: April, December, 2008

Surface: Urban.

Aerosol: Mixture of Fine and Coarse

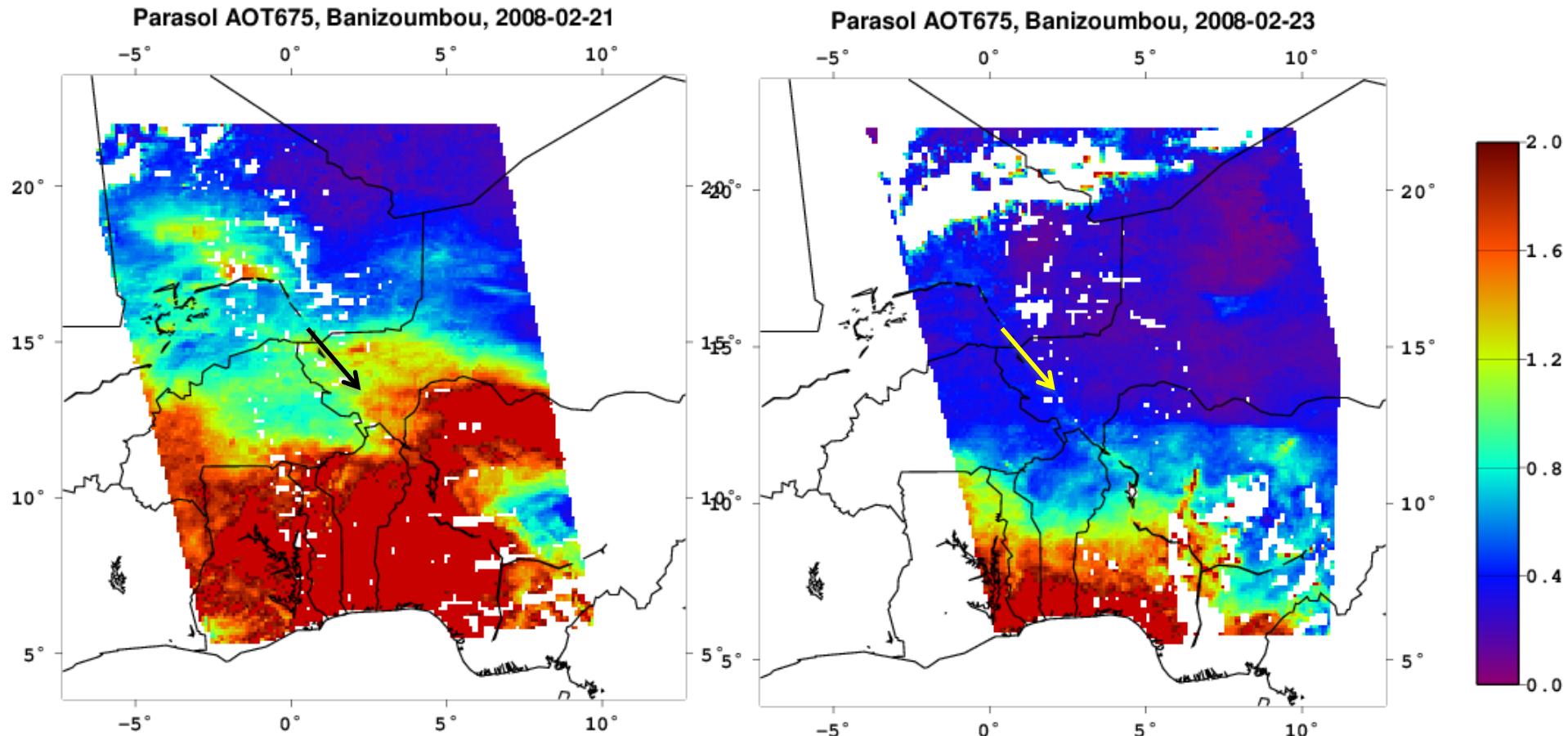
Kanpur: October-December, 2008

Surface: Urban.

Aerosol: Mixture of Fine and Coarse

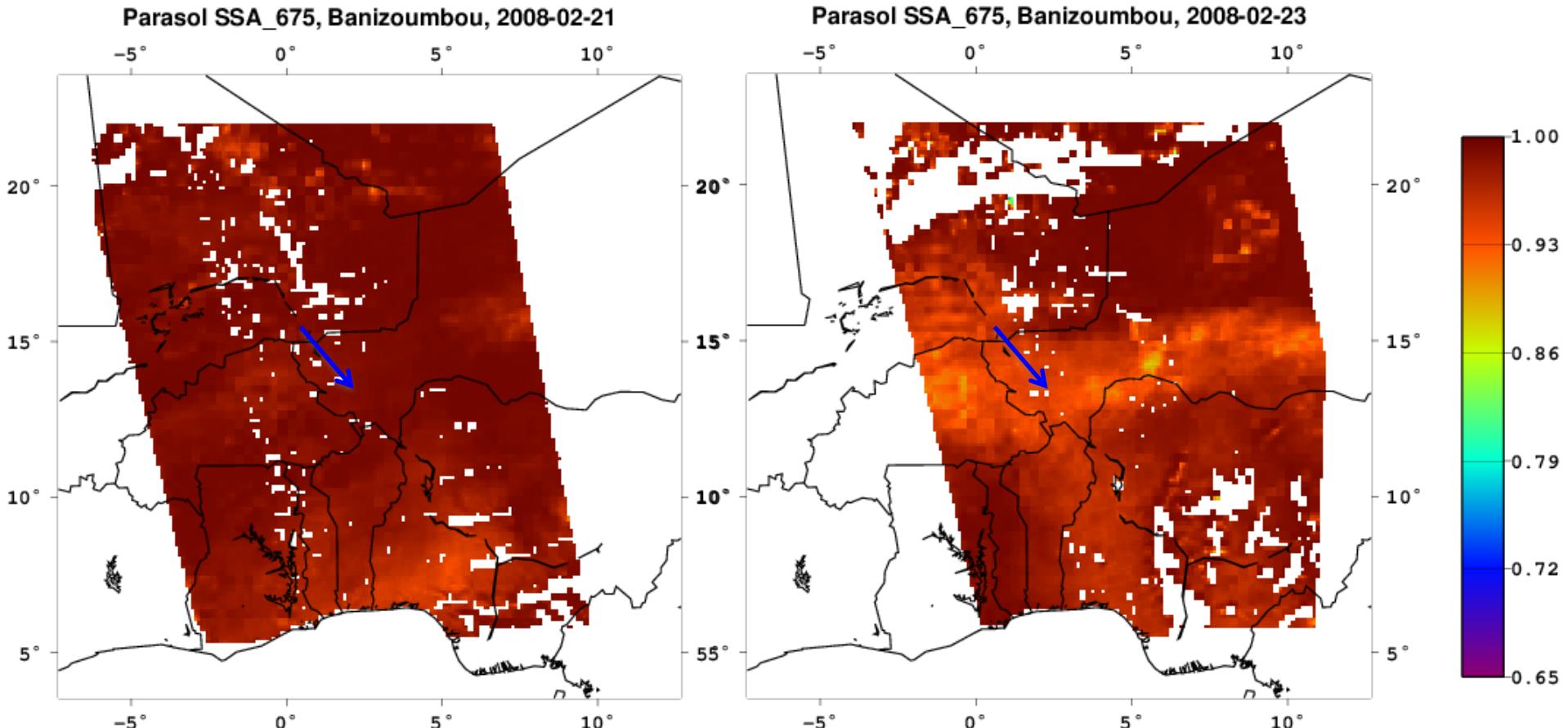
The IGBP (International Geosphere Biosphere Program) land type specification was used

Regional maps (1800 x 1800 km). Banizoumbou, AOD 670 nm



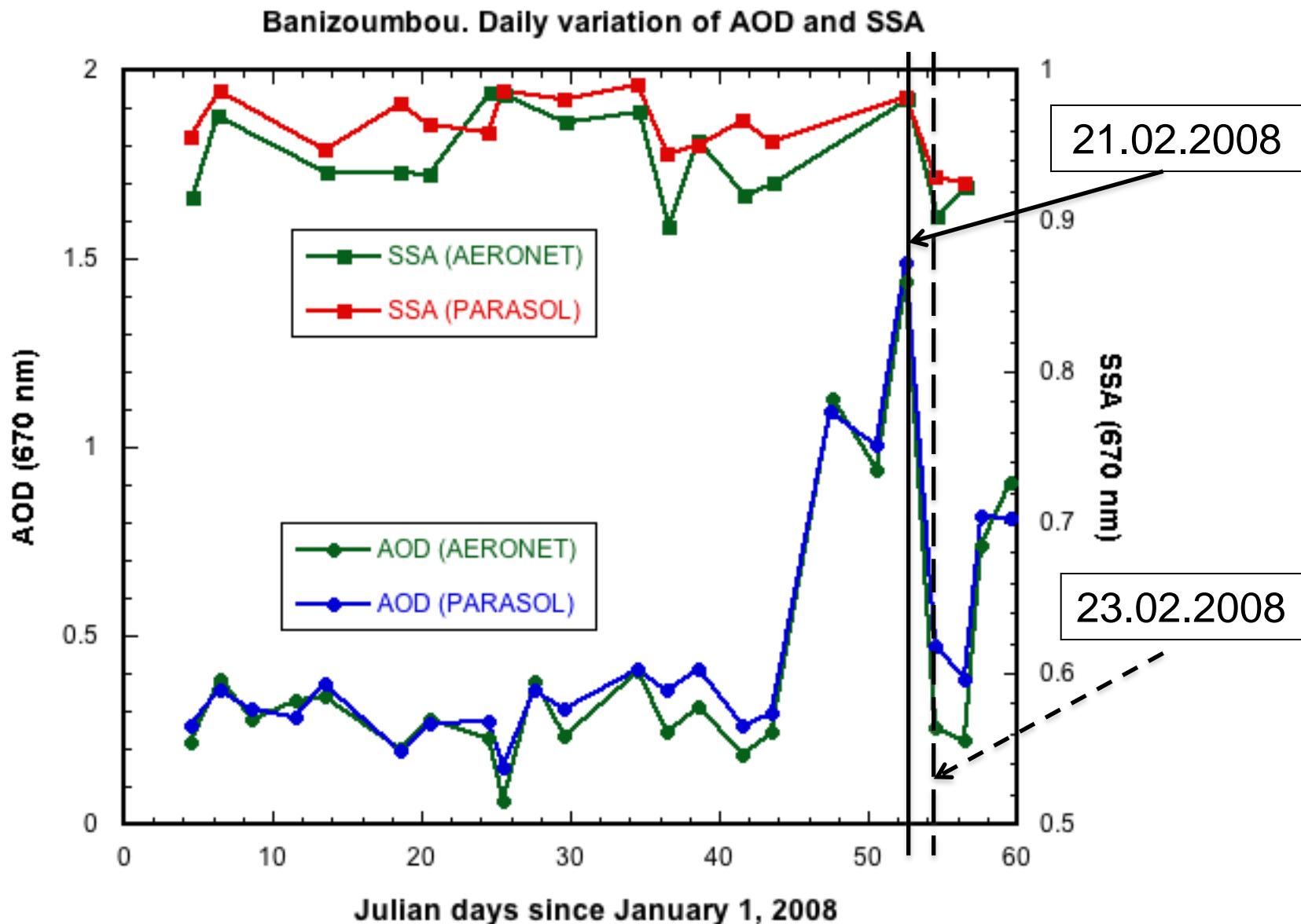
Strong spatial and temporal variation of AOD

Regional maps (1800 x 1800 km). Banizoumbou, SSA 670 nm

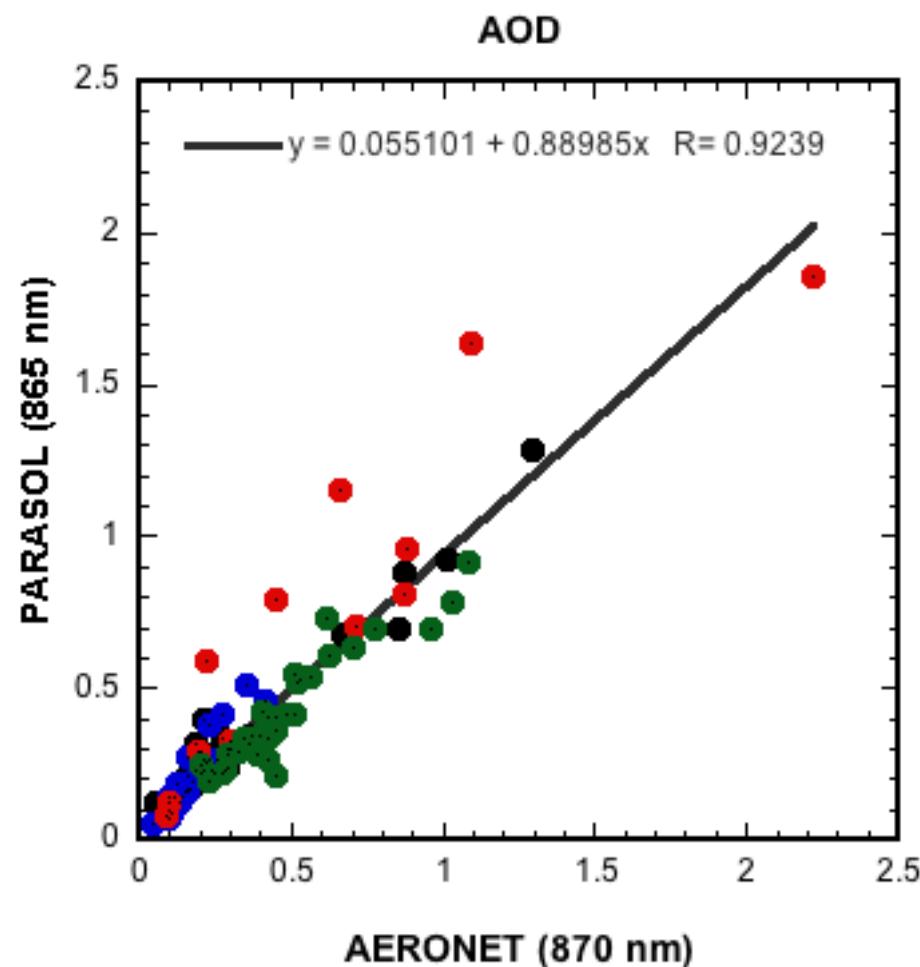
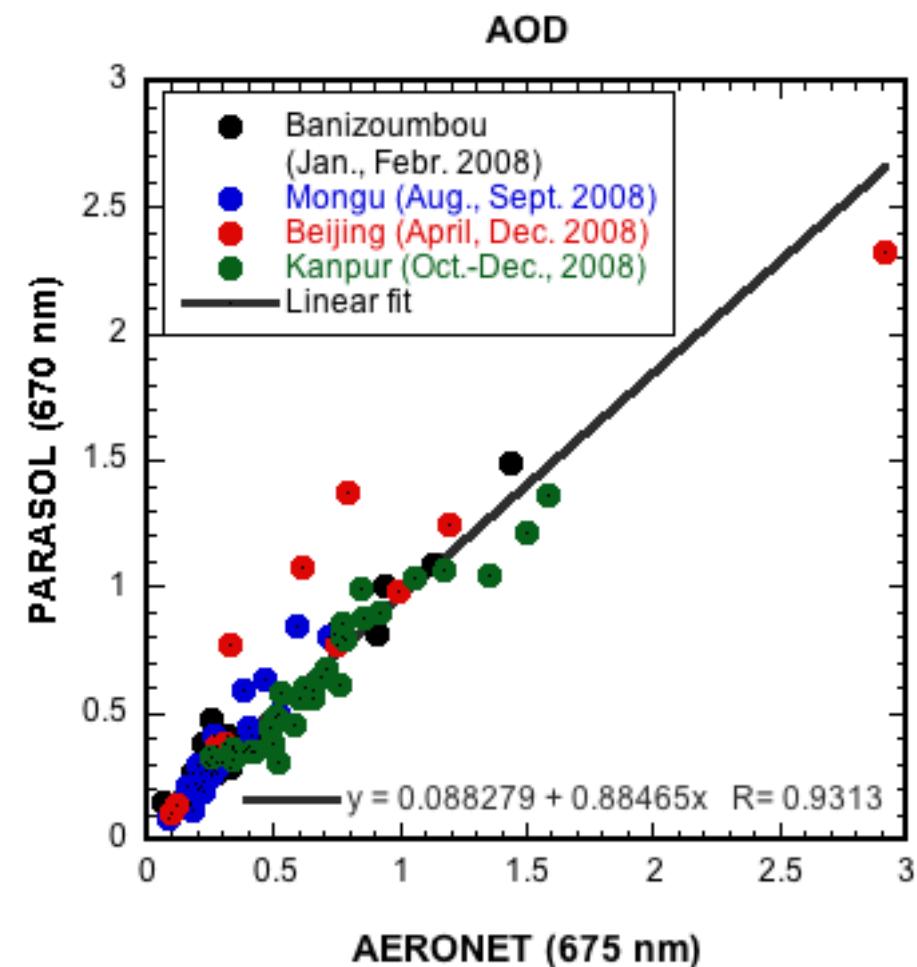


Essential temporal variation of SSA

Daily variation of AOD and SSA at 670 nm. Banizoumbou (Jan., Febr. 2008).

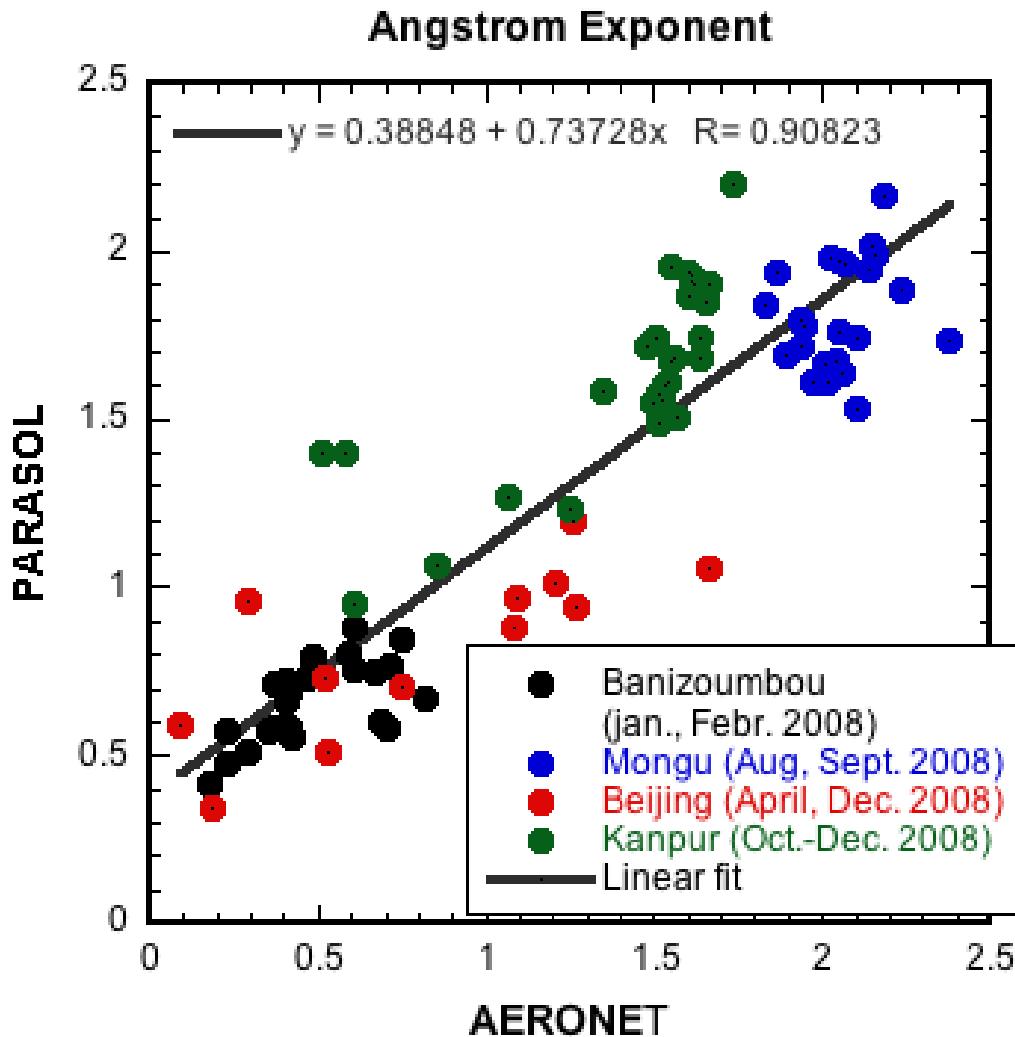


AOD. POLDER/AERONET

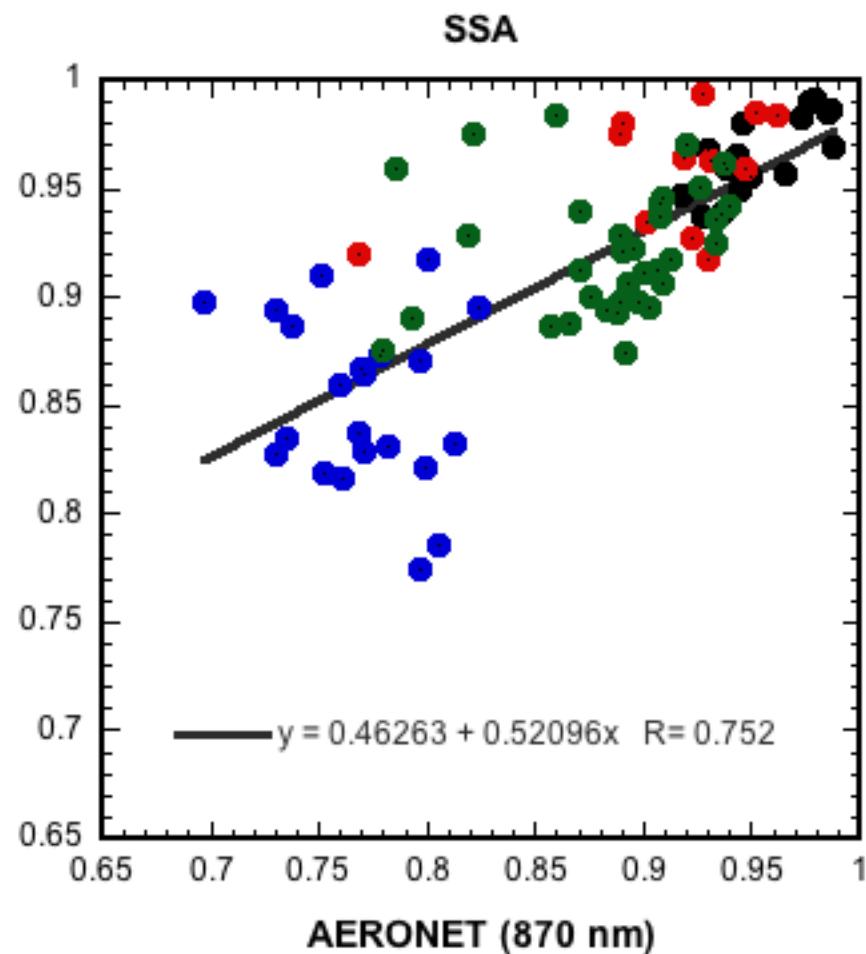
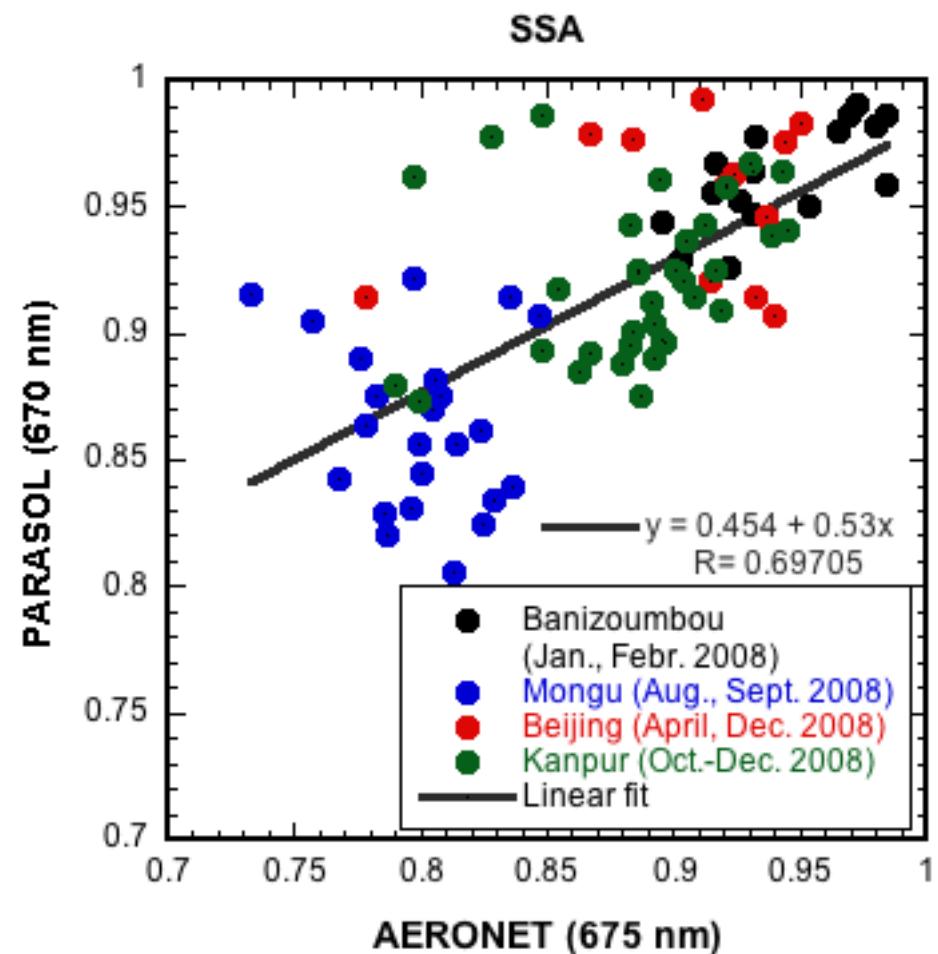


Angstrom Exponent.

POLDER/AERONET



SSA. POLDER/AERONET



Importance of Polarization ?

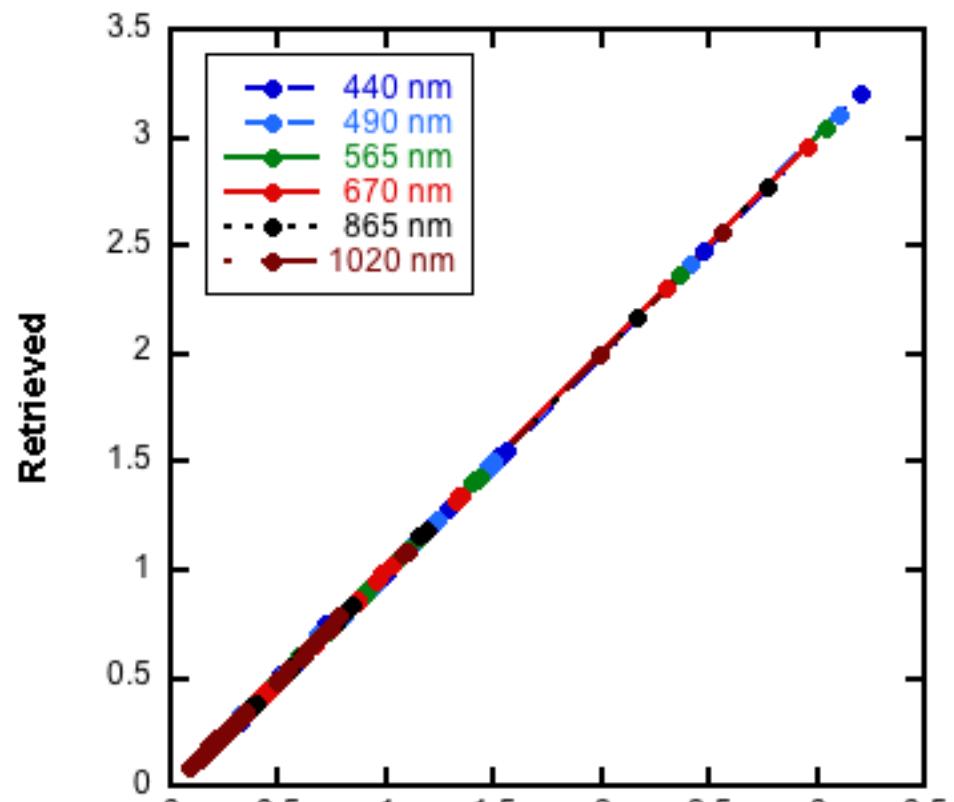
Synthetic measurements simulation

- We simulated **2 months of PARASOL measurements**
- **Aerosol and surface** properties and **aerosol concentration** are taken from the retrieval of PARASOL measurements over Banizoumbou in January, February 2008.

Inversion of synthetic measurements

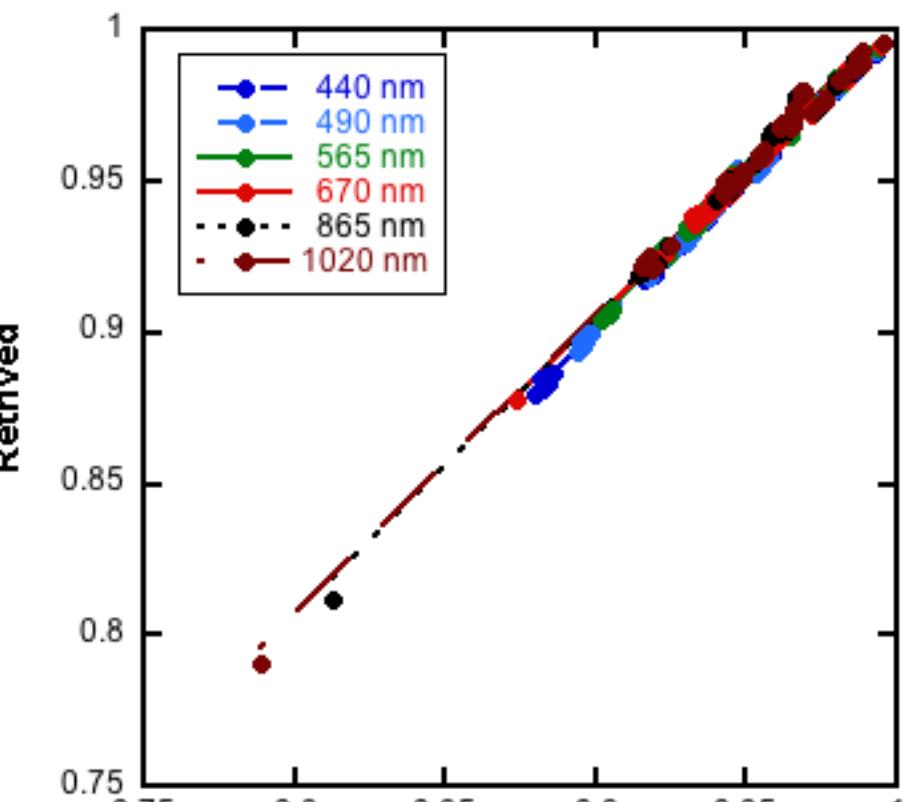
Intensity + Polarization
 (I, Q, U)

**AOD (Retrieved: I, Q, U -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



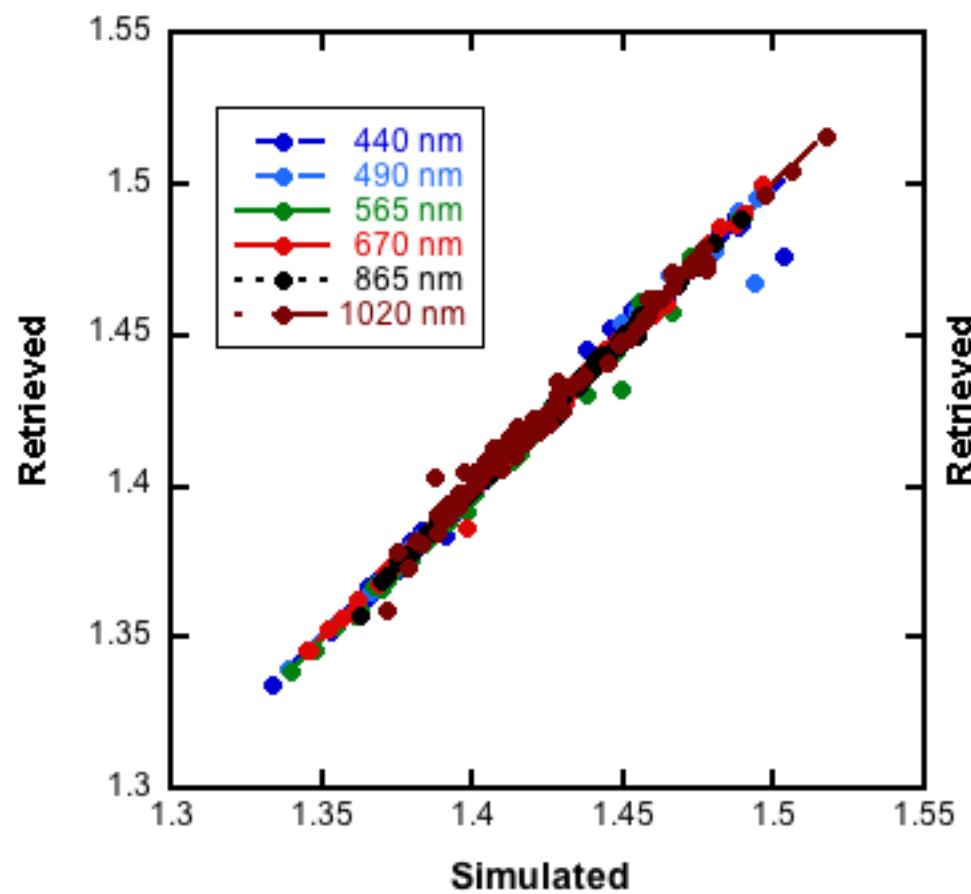
— $y = -0.0043839 + 1.0023x$ R= 0.99995
 — $y = -0.0045597 + 1.0029x$ R= 0.99996
 — $y = -0.0056832 + 1.0029x$ R= 0.99997
 — $y = -0.0052555 + 1.0031x$ R= 0.99998
 ··· · $y = -0.0057708 + 1.0041x$ R= 0.99998
 - · $y = -0.0053979 + 1.0049x$ R= 0.99996

**SSA (Retrieved: I, Q, U -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**

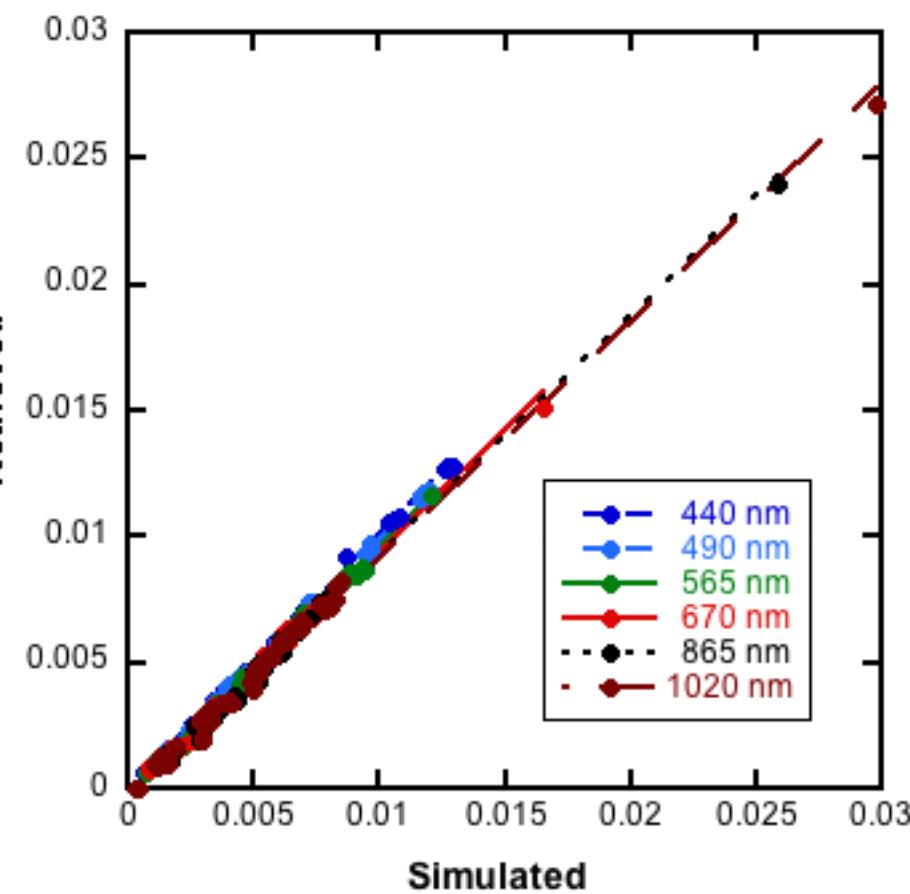


— $y = -0.0029473 + 1.0043x$ R= 0.99908
 — $y = 0.0052418 + 0.99605x$ R= 0.99862
 — $y = 0.017893 + 0.9843x$ R= 0.99775
 — $y = 0.031334 + 0.97052x$ R= 0.99709
 ··· · $y = 0.016615 + 0.98672x$ R= 0.99583
 - · $y = 0.019672 + 0.9836x$ R= 0.99633

**Re(m) (Retrieved: I, Q, U -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



**Im(m) (Retrieved: I, Q, U -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



Simulated

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{--- } y = 0.02697 + 0.98023x \quad R= 0.99402 \\ & \text{--- } y = 0.014274 + 0.98951x \quad R= 0.99594 \\ & \text{--- } y = -0.010894 + 1.0066x \quad R= 0.99717 \\ & \text{--- } y = -0.010484 + 1.0072x \quad R= 0.99895 \\ & \cdots \cdots y = -0.0038963 + 1.0023x \quad R= 0.99925 \\ & \text{--- } y = 0.014557 + 0.99005x \quad R= 0.99476 \end{aligned}$$

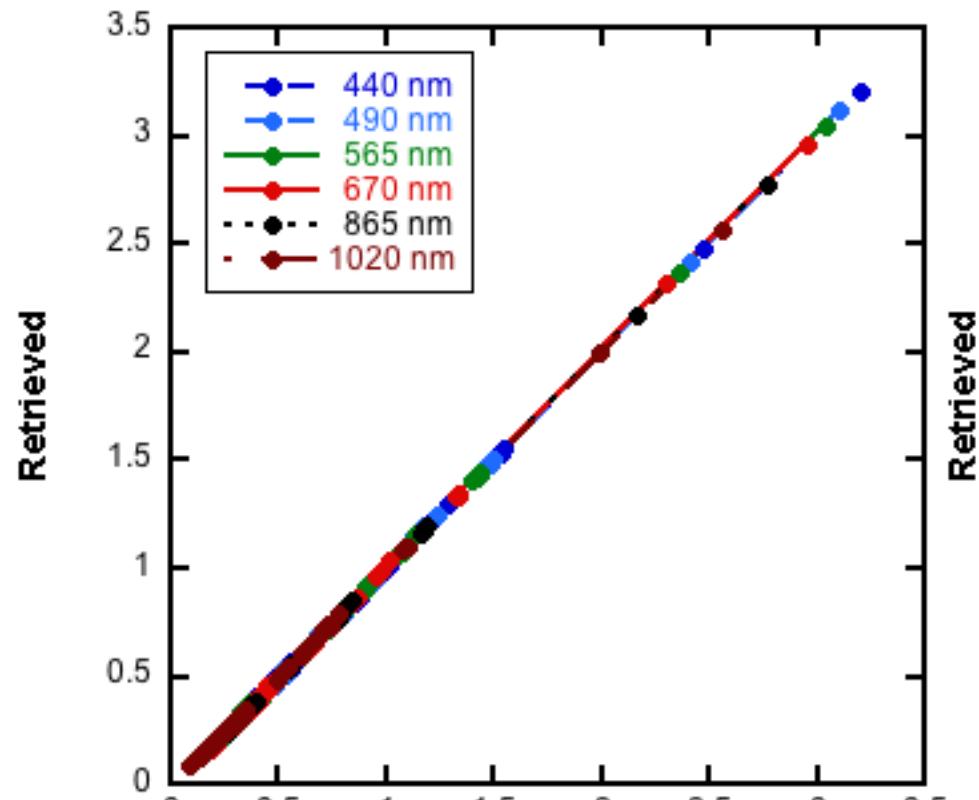
Simulated

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{--- } y = -0.00011281 + 1.0118x \quad R= 0.99928 \\ & \text{--- } y = -0.00010855 + 1.0028x \quad R= 0.99909 \\ & \text{--- } y = -0.00017203 + 0.97747x \quad R= 0.99852 \\ & \text{--- } y = -0.00013111 + 0.96086x \quad R= 0.99782 \\ & \cdots \cdots y = -0.00021565 + 0.95096x \quad R= 0.99732 \\ & \text{--- } y = -0.0001892 + 0.93962x \quad R= 0.99711 \end{aligned}$$

Inversion of synthetic measurements

Intensity only (I)

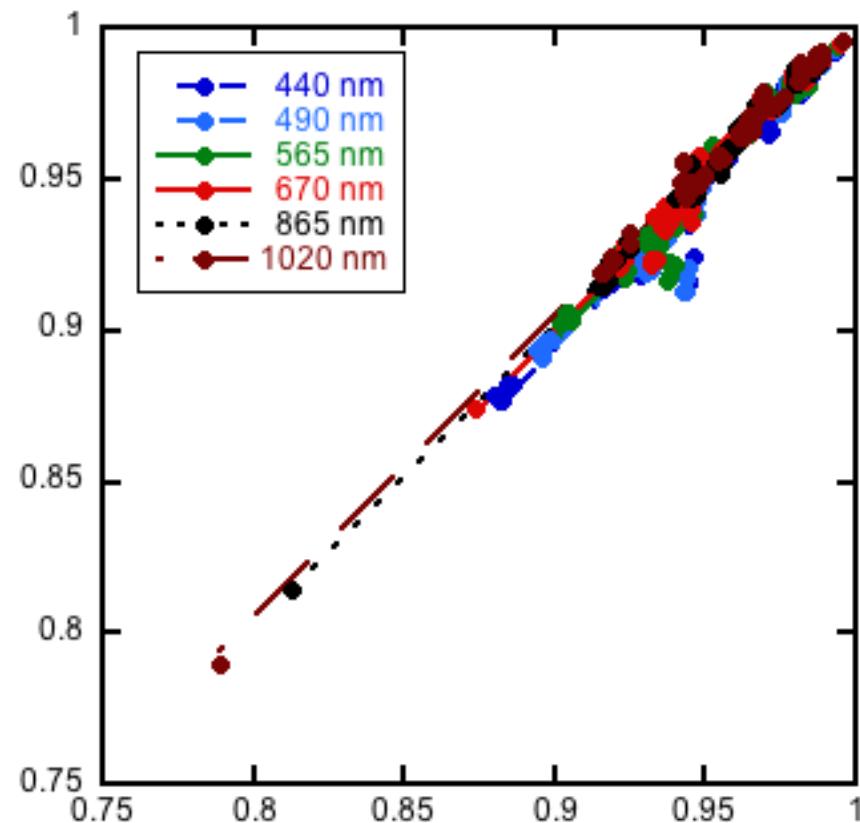
**AOD (Retrieved: I -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



Simulated

- $y = -0.0071561 + 1.008x$ R= 0.99987
- $y = -0.007389 + 1.0073x$ R= 0.99986
- $y = -0.0088212 + 1.0087x$ R= 0.99985
- $y = -0.0092578 + 1.0092x$ R= 0.99987
- $y = -0.0072864 + 1.0071x$ R= 0.99989
- $y = -0.005577 + 1.0055x$ R= 0.99989

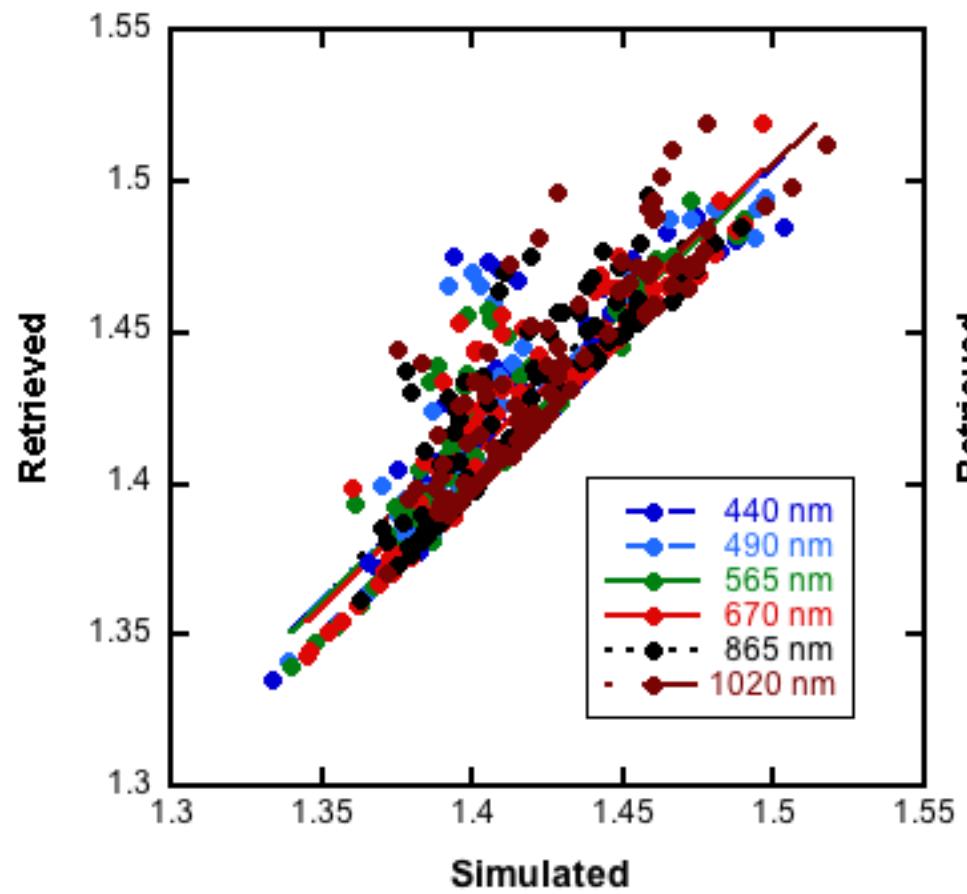
**SSA (Retrieved: I -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



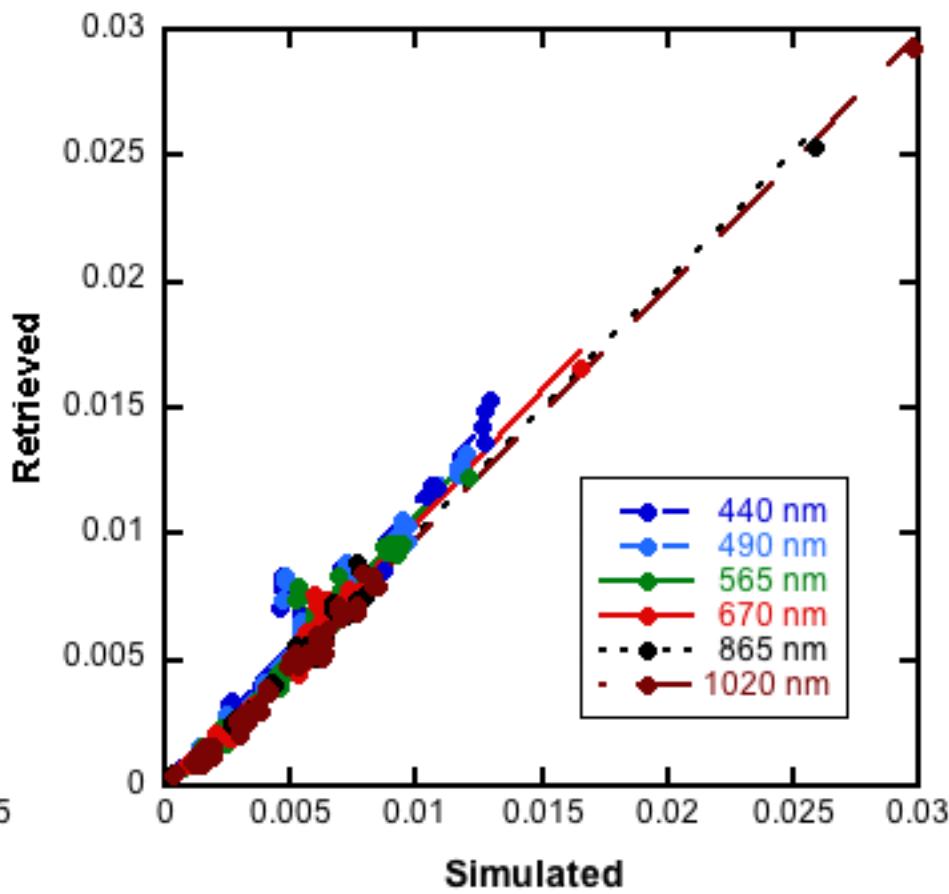
Simulated

- $y = -0.060718 + 1.0609x$ R= 0.98367
- $y = -0.065772 + 1.0666x$ R= 0.97889
- $y = -0.058311 + 1.0604x$ R= 0.9817
- $y = -0.036232 + 1.0388x$ R= 0.98726
- $y = -0.00051278 + 1.0029x$ R= 0.99568
- $y = 0.014386 + 0.98835x$ R= 0.99588

**Re(m) (Retrieved: I -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



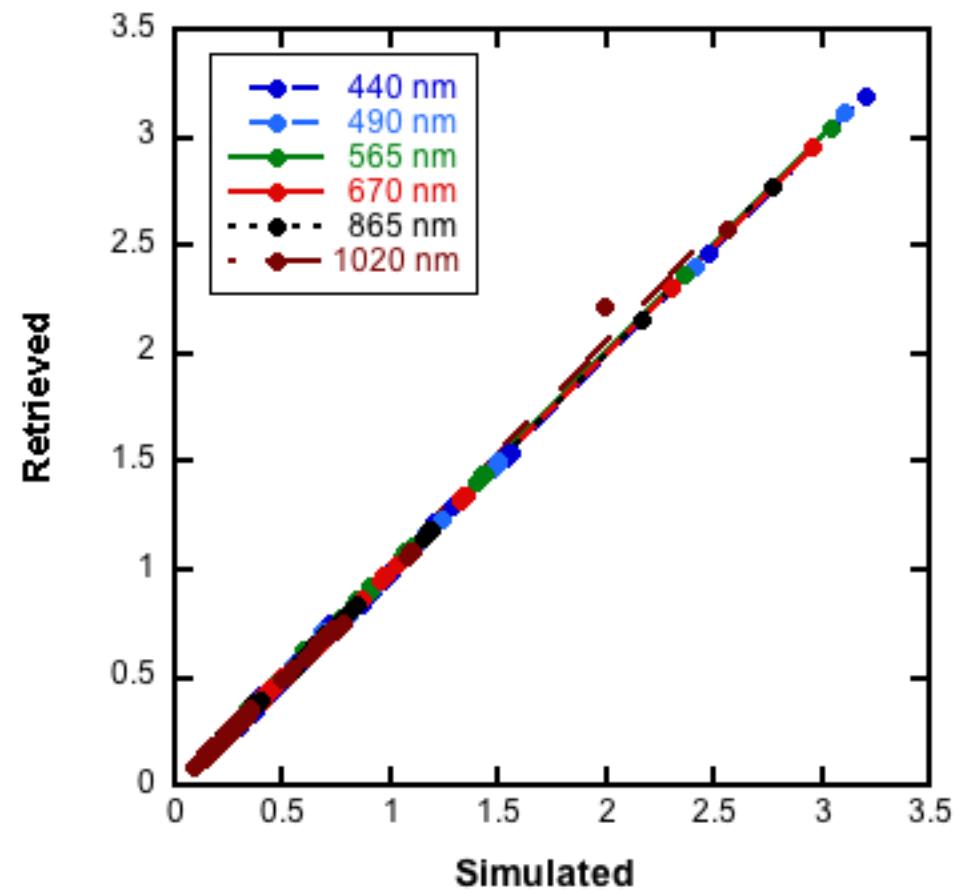
**Im(m) (Retrieved: I -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



Inversion of synthetic measurements

Polarization only (Q, U)

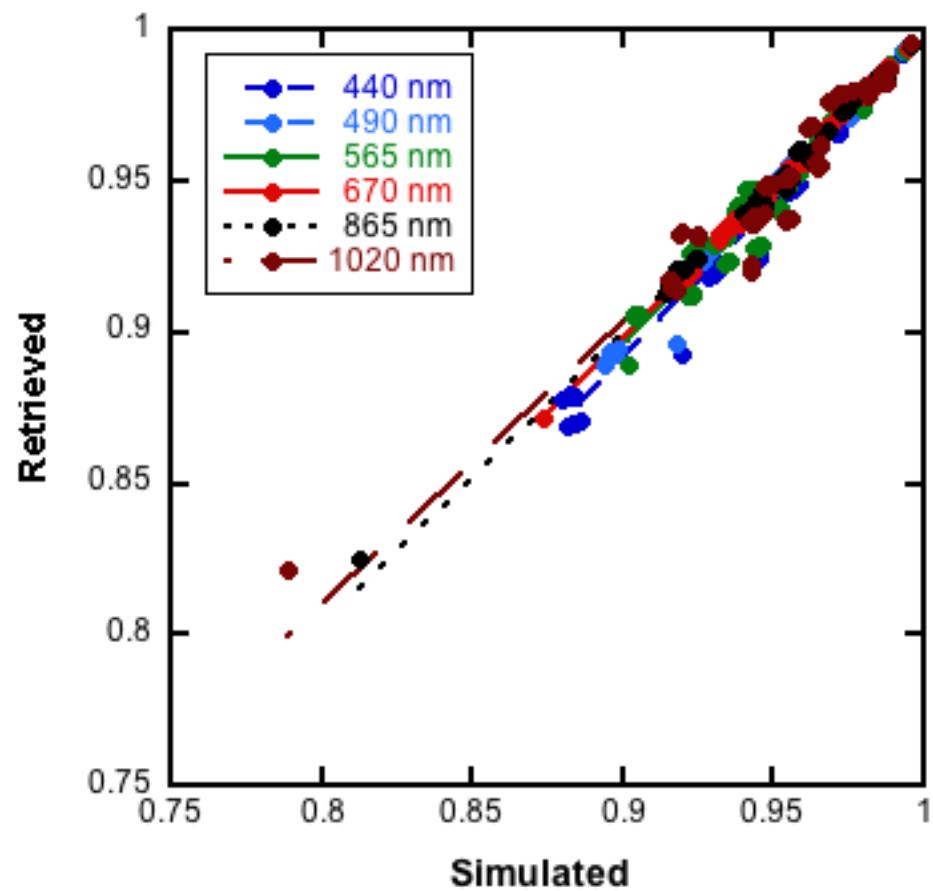
**AOD (Retrieved: Q, U -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



Simulated

- $y = -0.0052906 + 1.0007x$ $R= 0.99986$
- $y = 0.0010661 + 1.0003x$ $R= 0.99995$
- $y = 0.00096879 + 1.0044x$ $R= 0.99991$
- $y = 0.0012797 + 0.99963x$ $R= 0.99997$
- $y = 0.0016497 + 0.99921x$ $R= 0.99997$
- $y = -0.011559 + 1.0302x$ $R= 0.99806$

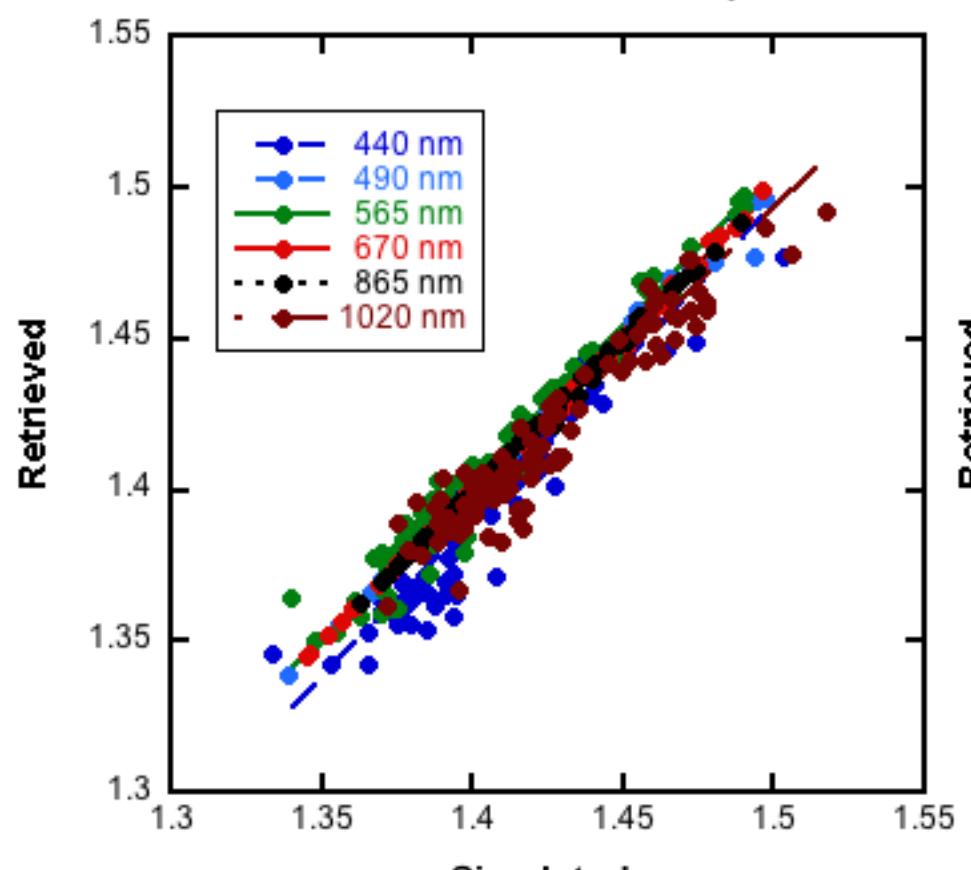
**SSA (Retrieved: Q, U -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



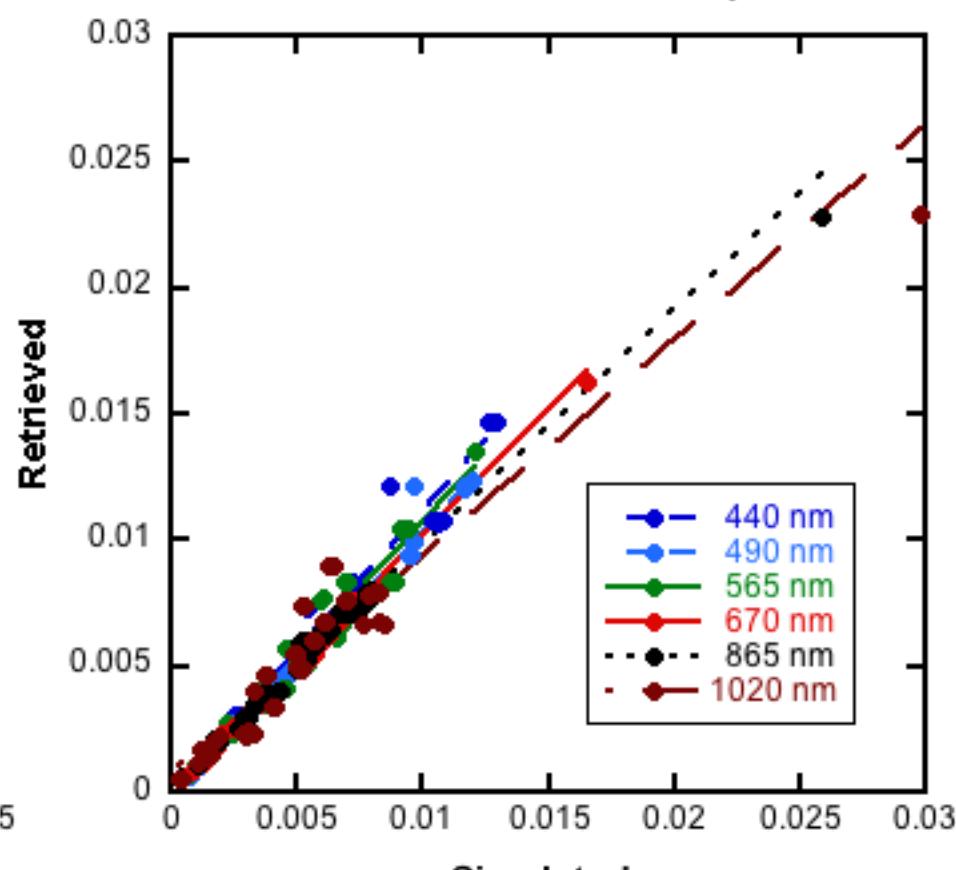
Simulated

- $y = -0.084303 + 1.0834x$ $R= 0.98944$
- $y = -0.035547 + 1.0356x$ $R= 0.99707$
- $y = -0.040899 + 1.04x$ $R= 0.98086$
- $y = -0.022387 + 1.0219x$ $R= 0.9984$
- $y = 0.023316 + 0.9743x$ $R= 0.99565$
- $y = 0.067708 + 0.92724x$ $R= 0.95841$

**Re(m) (Retrieved: Q, U -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



**Im(m) (Retrieved: Q, U -retrieval.
Simulation: I, Q, U)**



Inversion of REAL PARASOL measurements

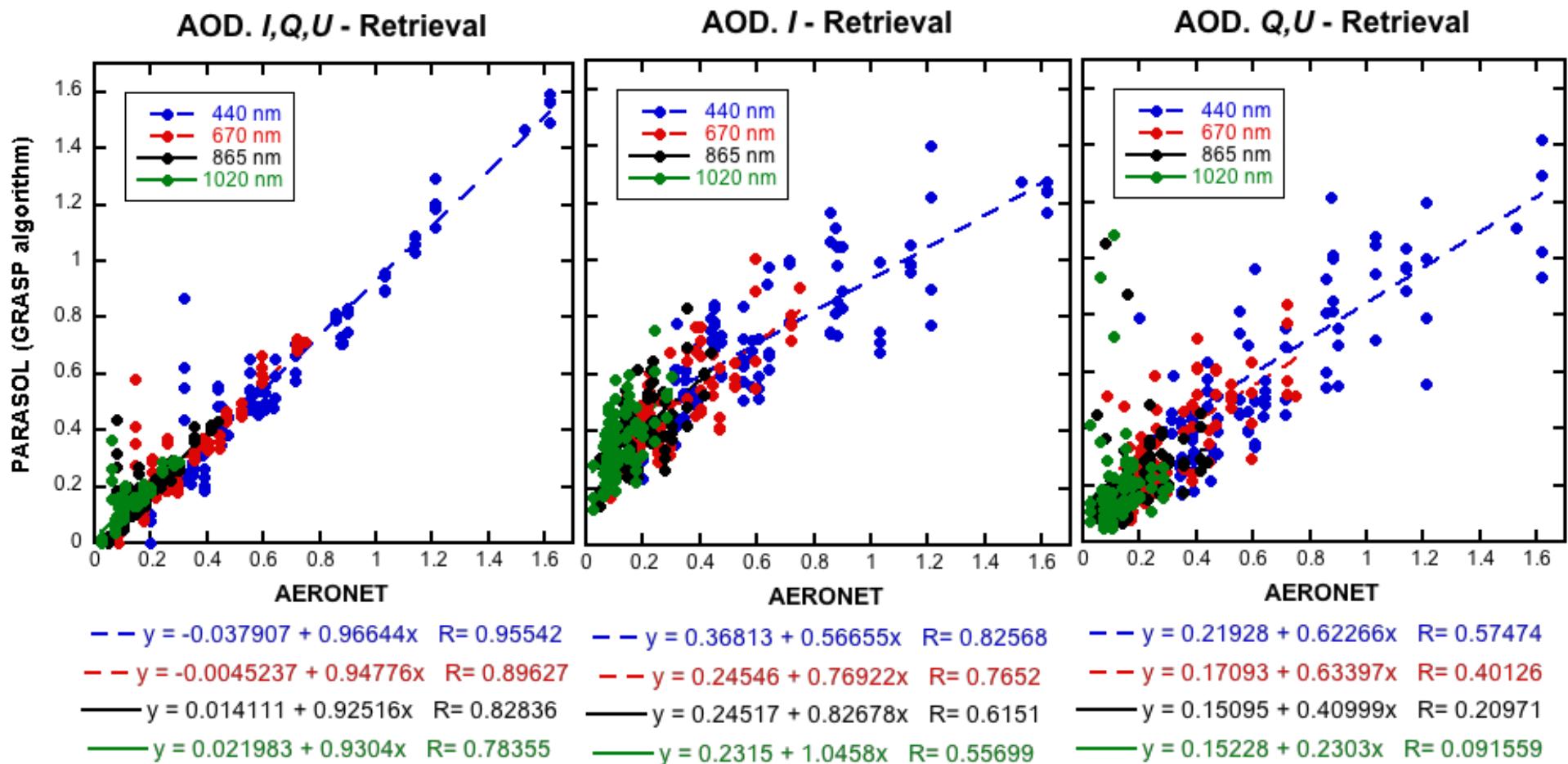
Different Scenarios:

I+Q+U;

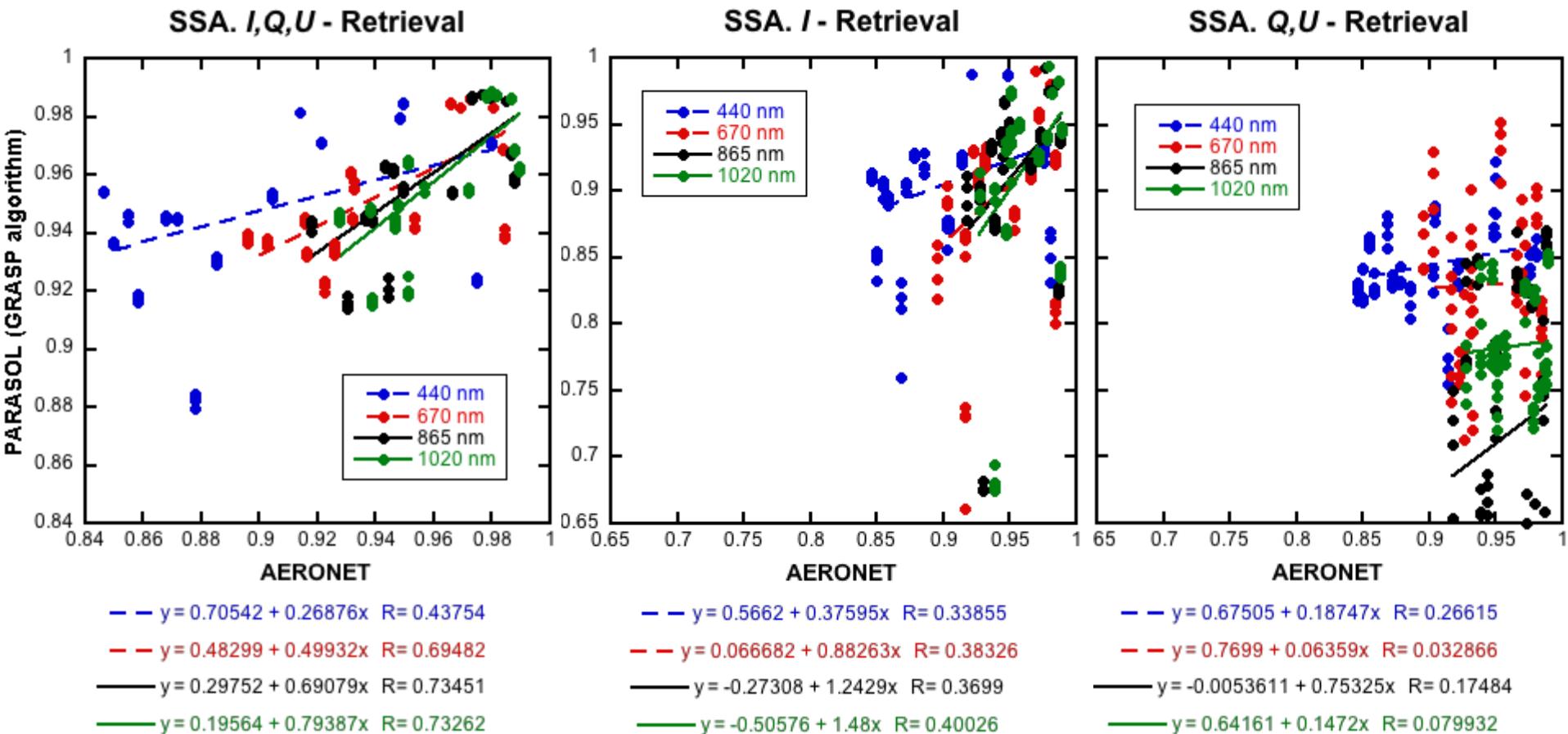
I;

Q+U

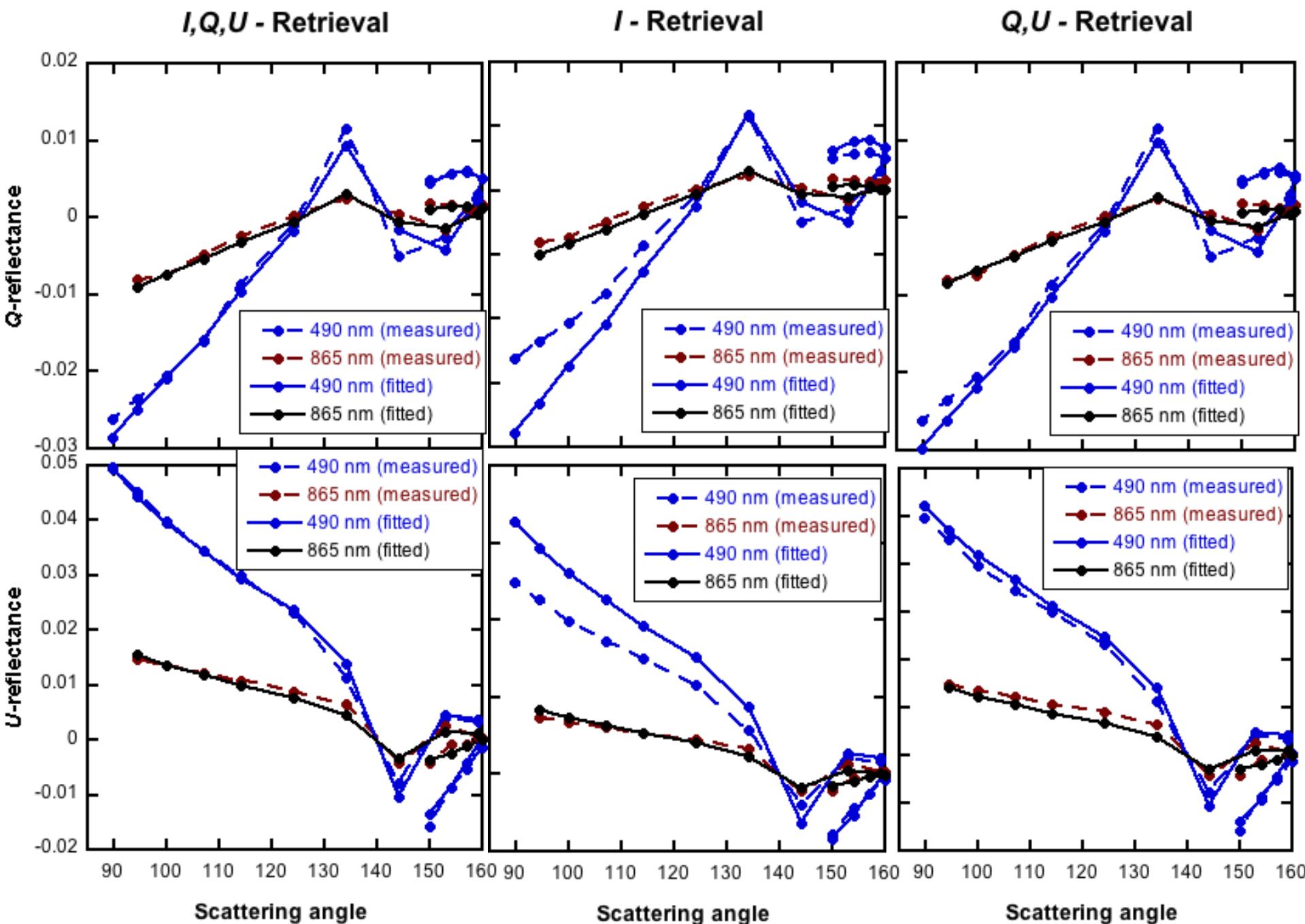
I,Q,U retrieval vs *I*-retrieval and *Q,U*-retrieval: AOD (Mongu. August, September 2008)



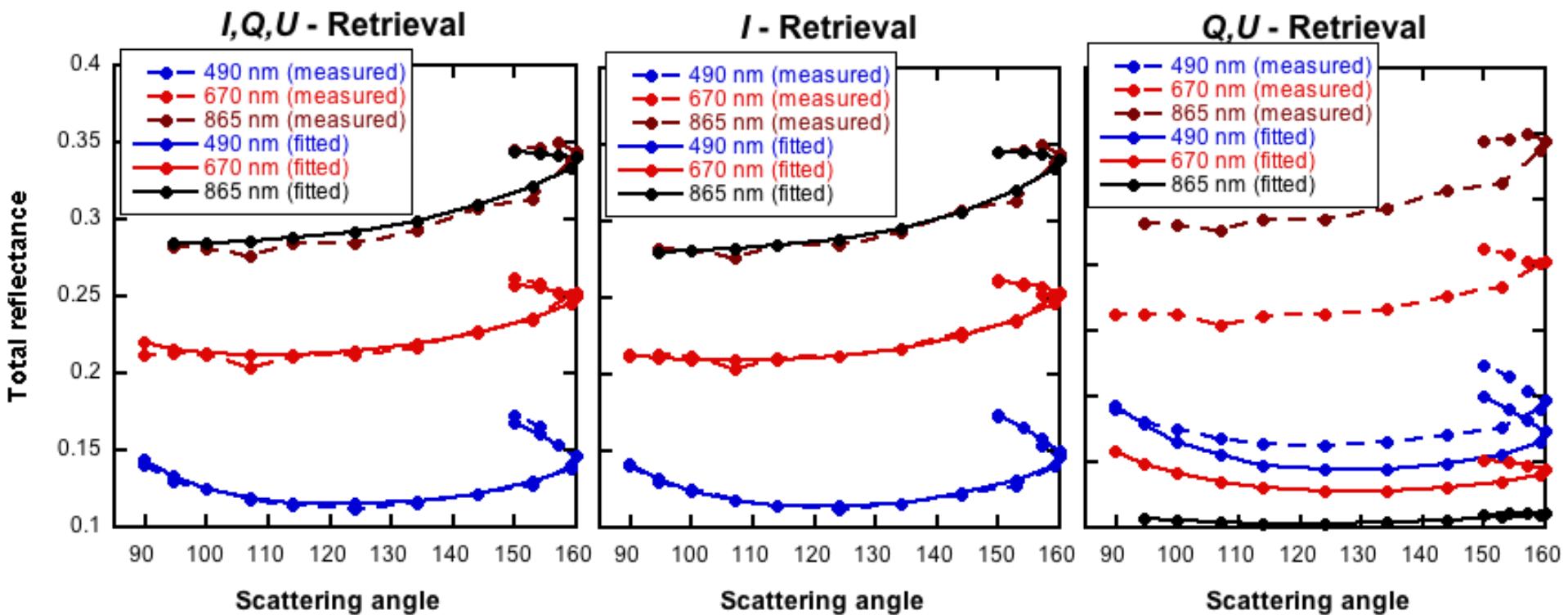
I, Q, U retrieval vs I -retrieval and Q, U -retrieval: SSA (Banizoumbou)



I, Q, U retrieval vs I -retrieval and Q, U -retrieval



I, Q, U retrieval vs I -retrieval and Q, U -retrieval: total reflectance fits



Conclusion from the tests:

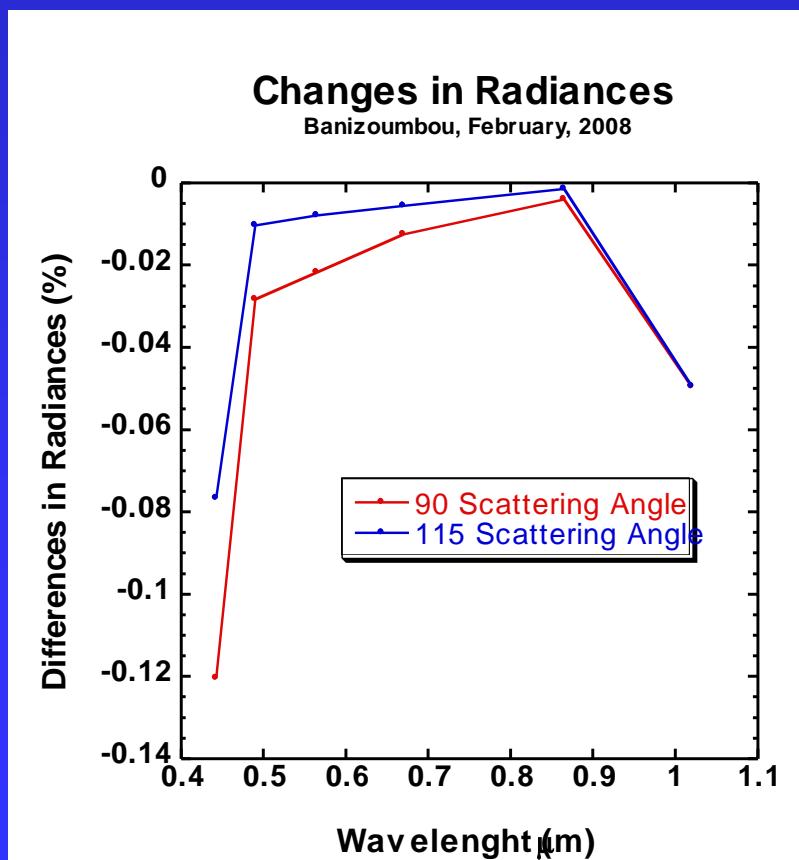
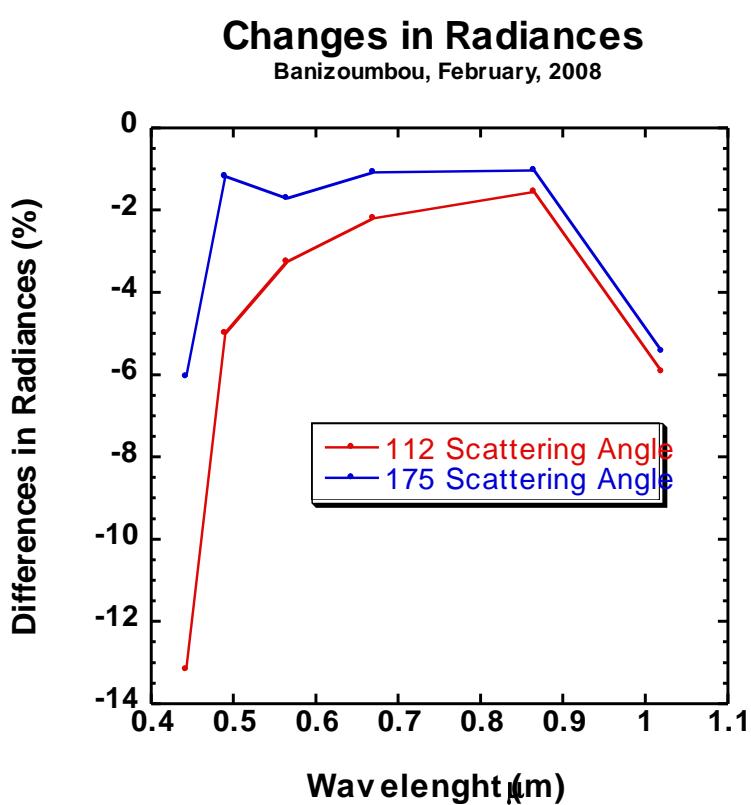
*Polarization is a great addition to
multi-angular intensity
observations*

PARASOL observations under correction by CNES now

Spectral changes in radiances

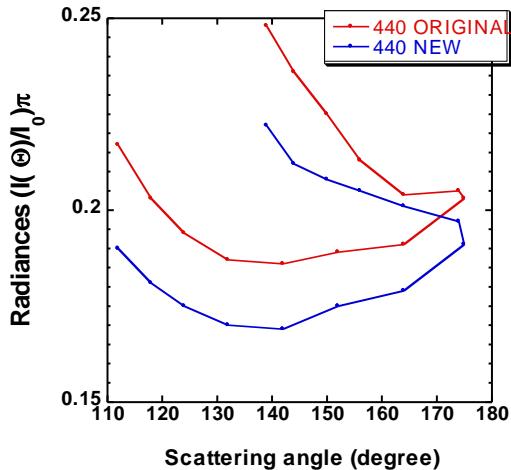
Banizoumbou

Mongu

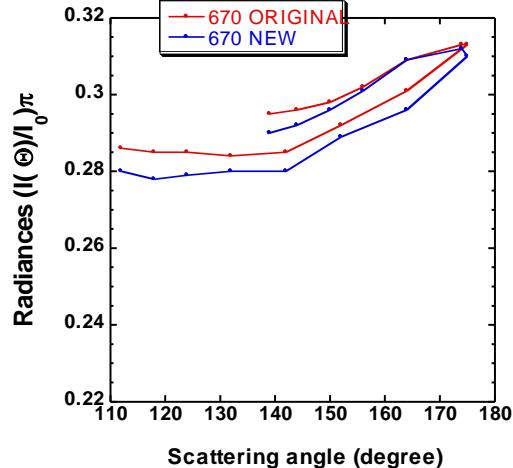


Changes in radiances

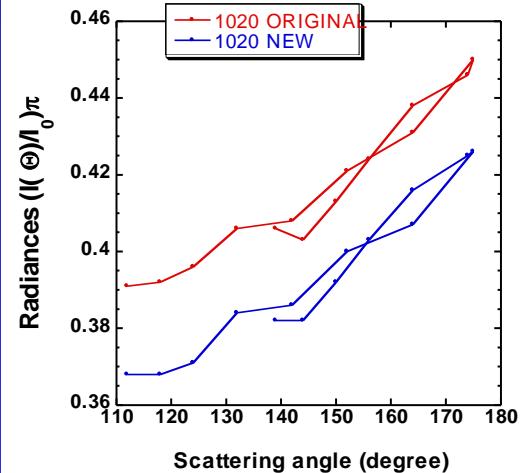
PARASOL Spectral Radiances
Banizoumbou, February, 2008



PARASOL Spectral Radiances
Banizoumbou, February, 2008

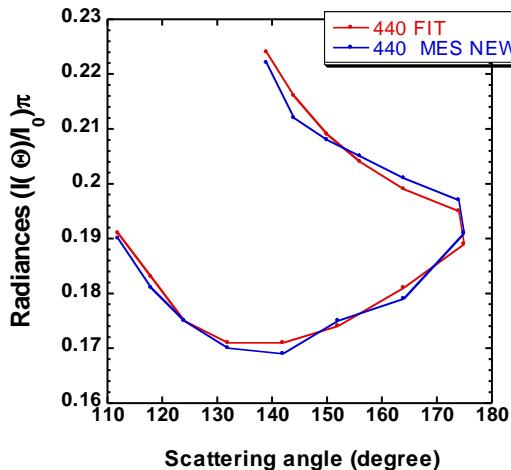


PARASOL Spectral Radiances
Banizoumbou, February, 2008

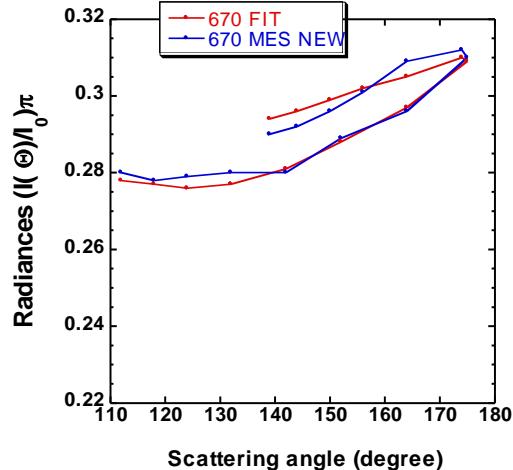


Fit of new radiances

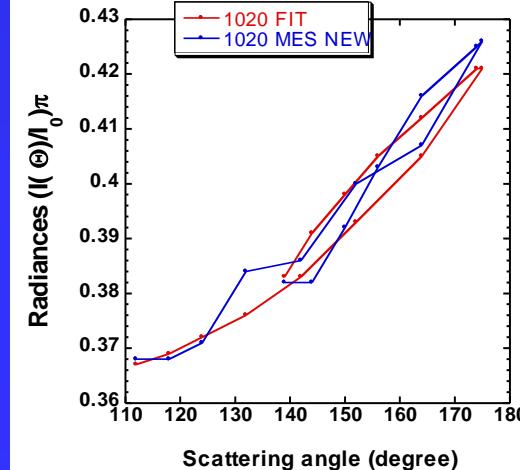
PARASOL Spectral Radiances
Banizoumbou, February, 2008



PARASOL Spectral Radiances
Banizoumbou, February, 2008

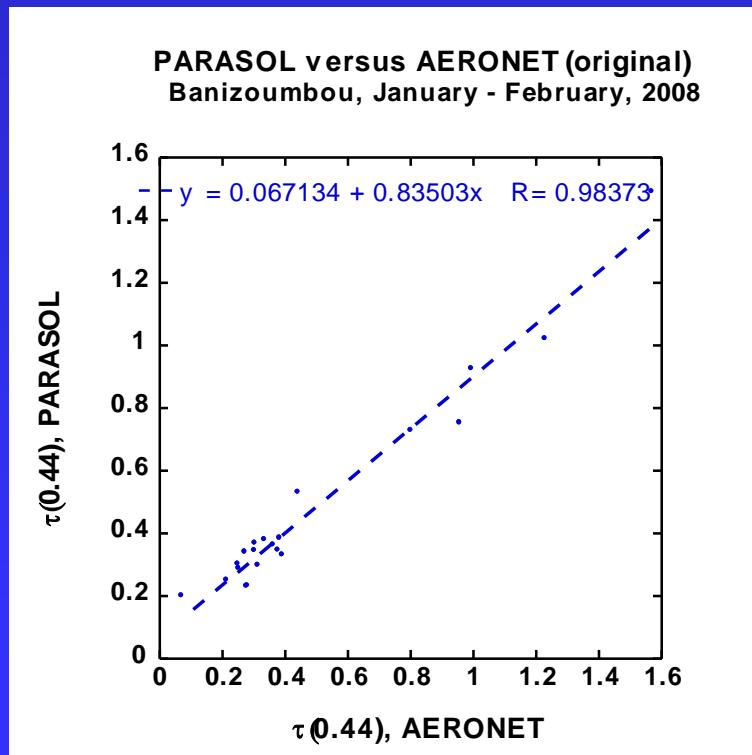


PARASOL Spectral Radiances
Banizoumbou, February, 2008

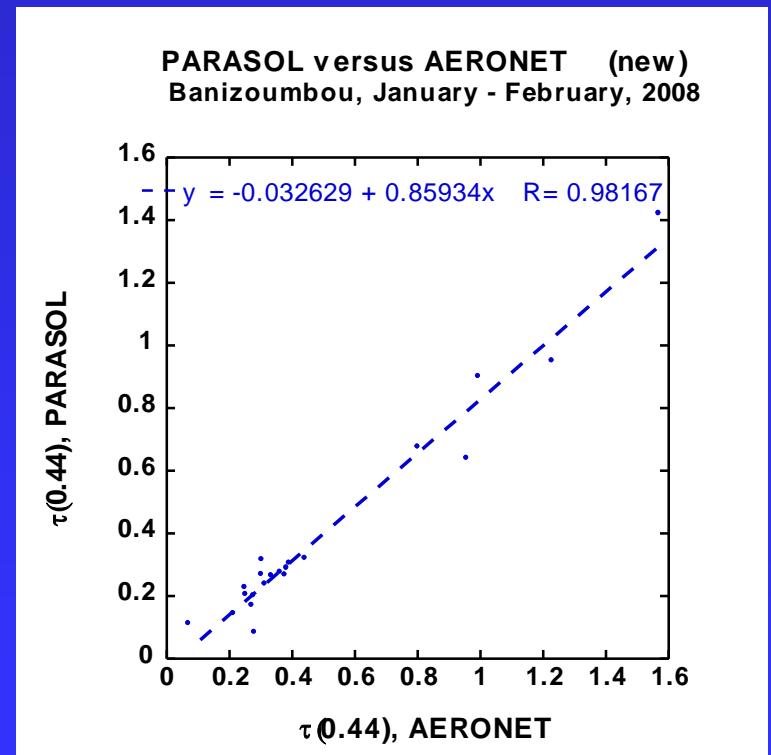


Changes in retrieved AOD (440) - DUST

Banizoumbou
(original)



Banizoumbou
(new)

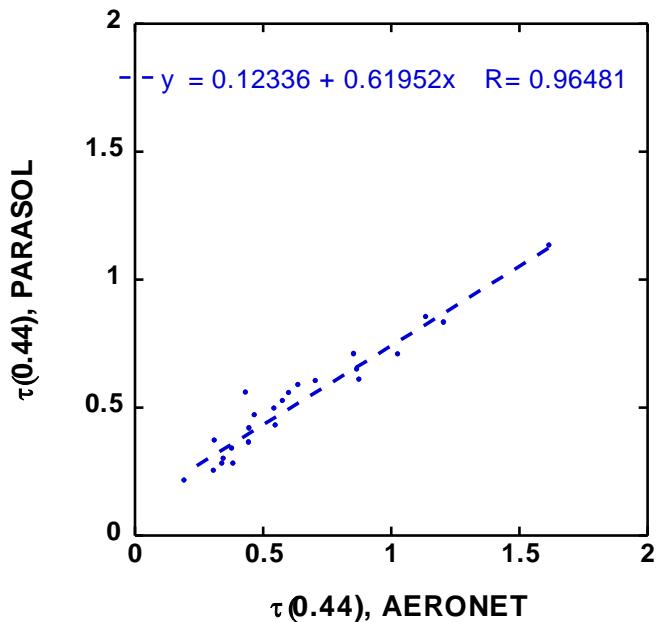


Changes in retrieved AOD (440) (high loading)

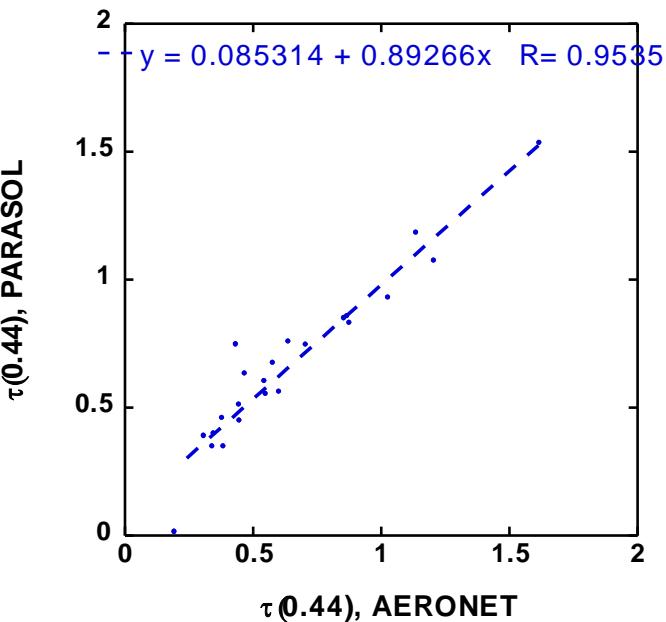
Mongu
(original)

Mongu
(new)

PARASOL versus AERONET (original)
Mongu, August - September, 2008

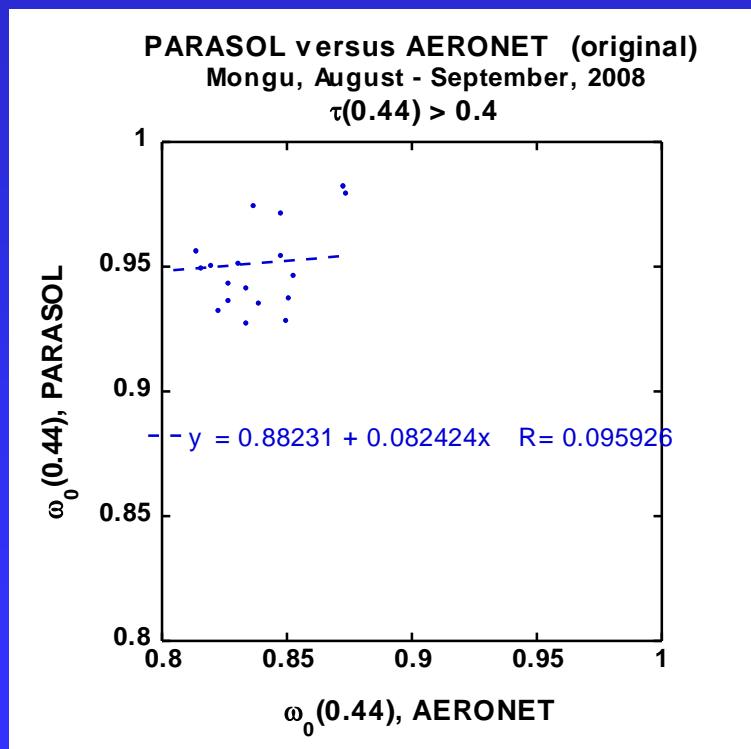


PARASOL versus AERONET (original)
Mongu, August - September, 2008

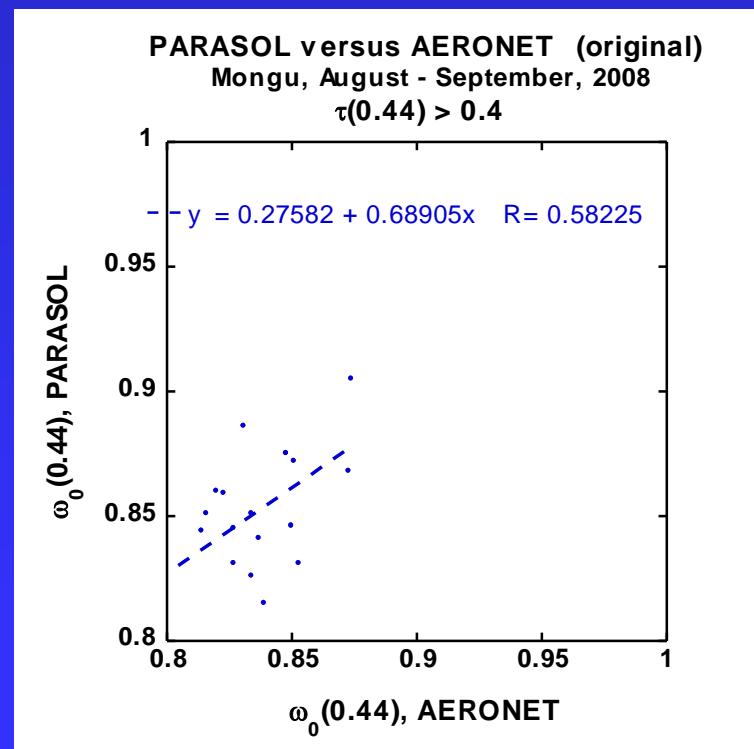


Changes in retrieved SSA (440) – BIOMAS BURNING (high loading)

Mongu
(original)



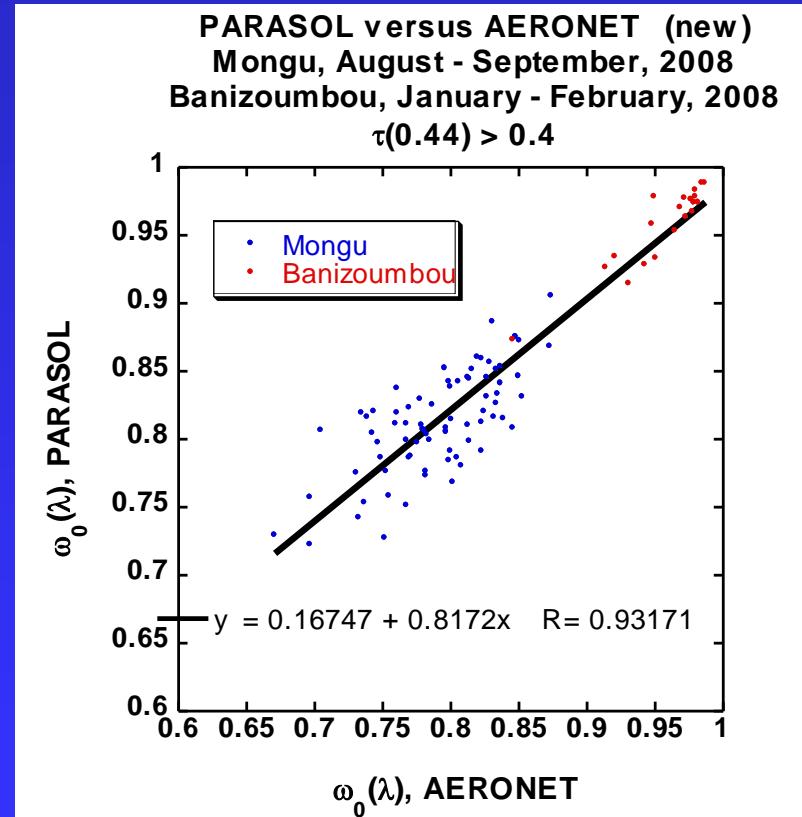
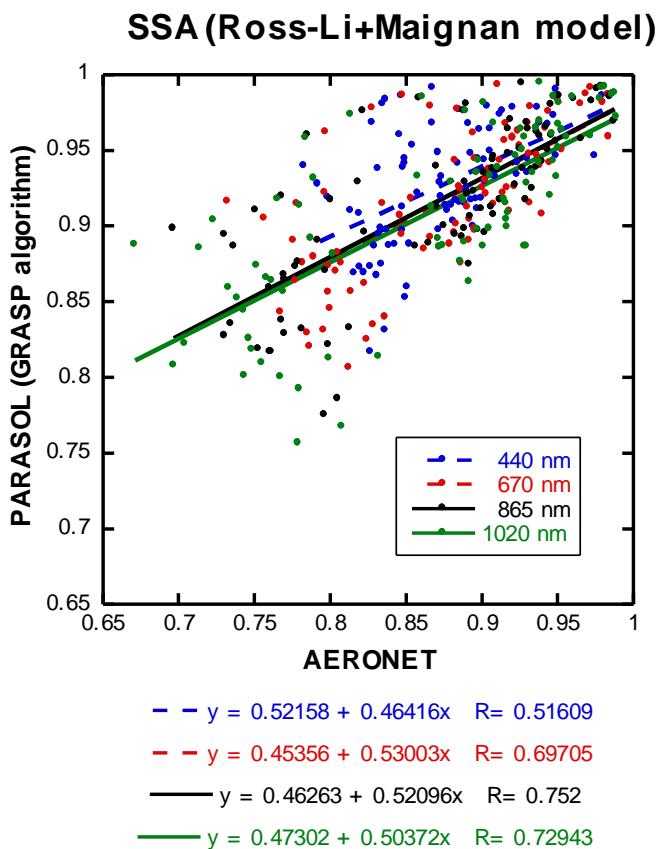
Mongu
(new)



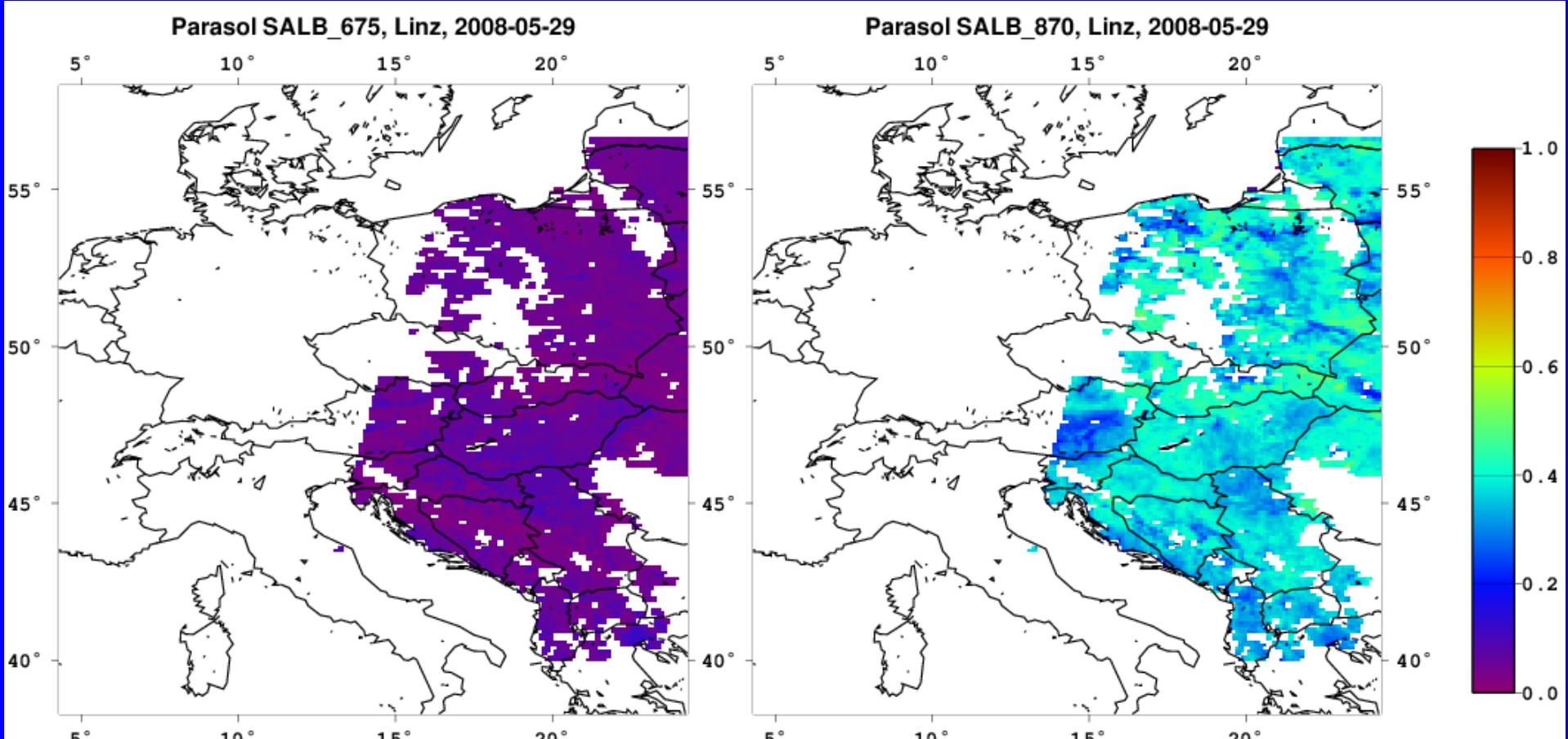
Changes in retrieved SSA (4wl) (high loading)

4 sites
(original)

Mongu + Banizoumbou
(new)

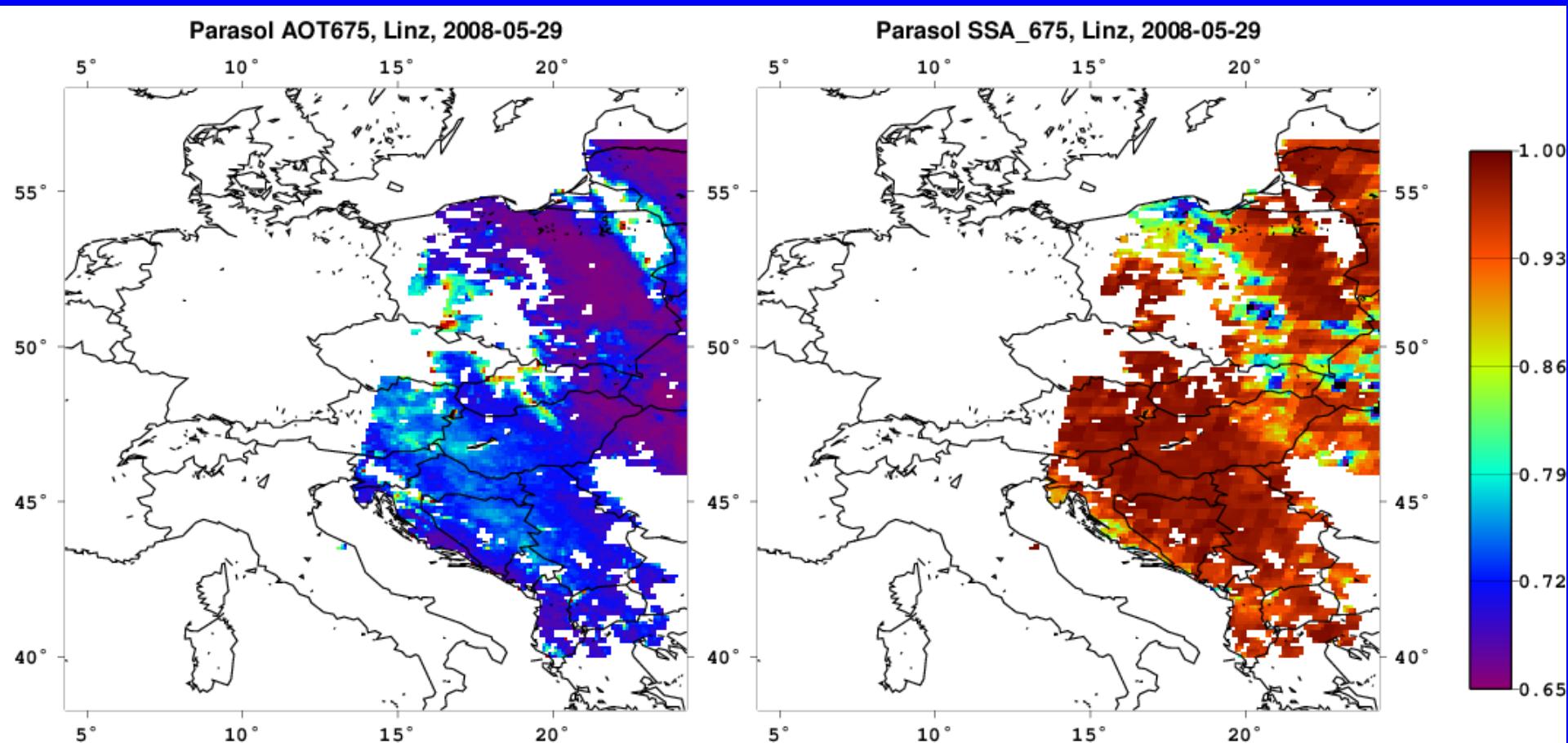


GRASP retrieval. Regional maps (1800 x 1800 km). Europe, SALB 670 and 865 nm



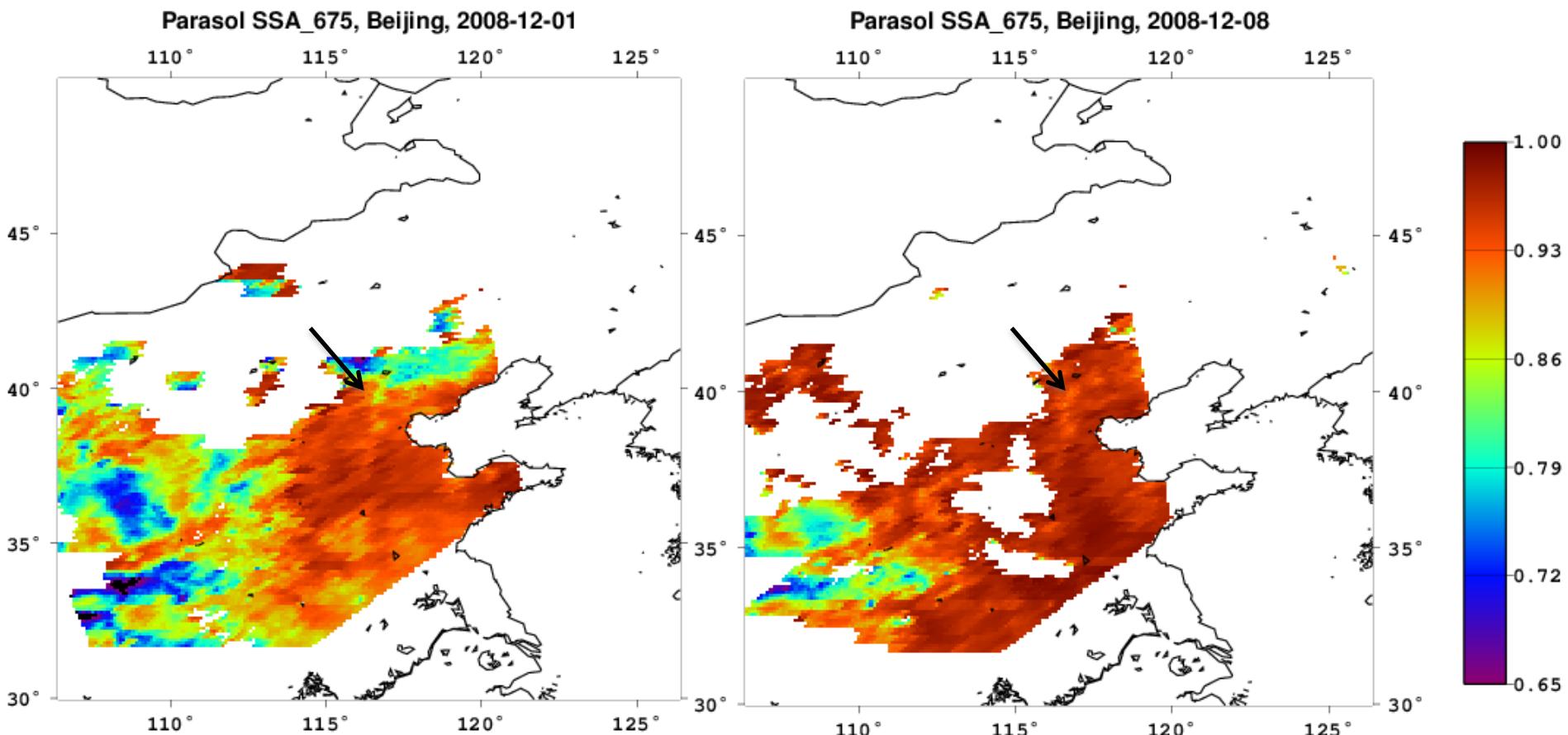
Big contrast between 670 and 865 nm because
of vegetation!!!

GRASP retrieval. Regional maps (1800 x 1800 km). Europe, AOD and SSA 670 nm



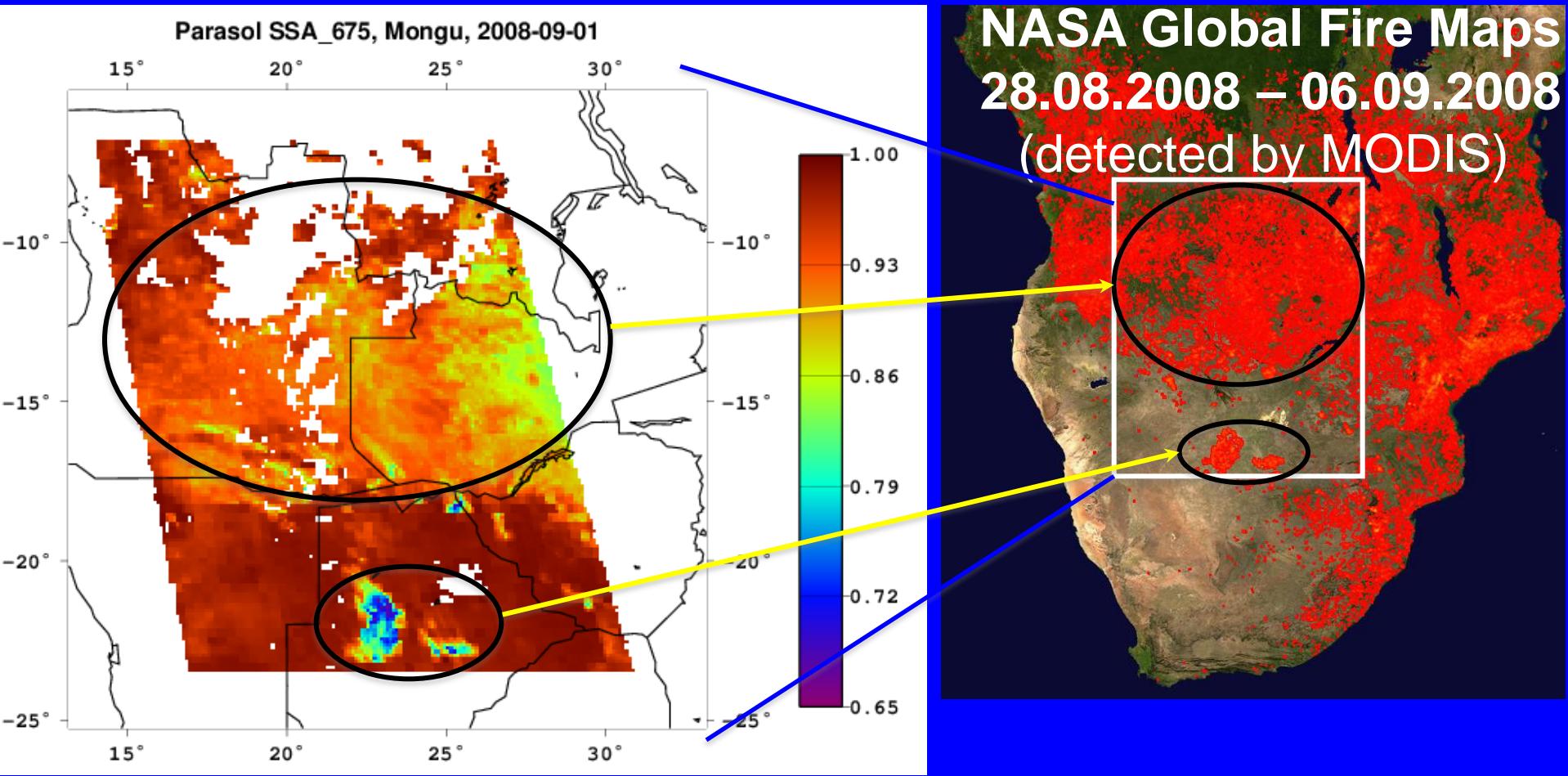
Strong spatial variation of AOD and SSA

GRASP retrieval. Regional maps (1800 x 1800 km). *Beijing, SSA 670 nm*



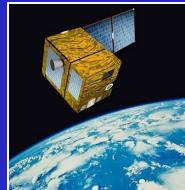
Strong spatial and temporal variation of SSA

GRASP retrieval. Regional maps (1800 x 1800 km). Mongu, SSA 670 nm



Small SSA correspond to biomass burning!

GRASP Status:



Core Algorithm is developed and performs well:

- uses very elaborated aerosol and RT models;
- inversion is based on rigorous statistical optimization;
- *performs well in numerical test* (Dubovik et al. 2011, Kokhanovsky et al. 2010);
- *has a lot of flexibility*
- GRASP is under acceleration on GPU;
- Cloud retrieval is to be integrated into GRASP;

Promises:

- Operational PARASOL aerosol product (SSA, etc.) in 2014;
- Open Source GRASP code is to be available to a wide community;
- Using GRASP for other sensors has some potential