



Pulsed Lidar measurements of XCO₂ in the 2017 ASCENDS airborne campaign, & beyond ...



James B. Abshire¹, Jianping Mao^{1,2}, Haris Riris¹, Graham Allan¹, Bill Hasselbrack¹, Jeff Chen¹,
Randy Kawa², Josh DiGangi²

1- Science and Exploration Directorate, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

2- AVOCET/DIACOM DLH Team (NASA LaRC)



Support from NASA's:

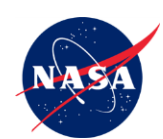
ASCENDS Pre-formulation Activity, ABoVE Science Investigation, Airborne Science Program



Overview & Summary

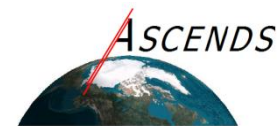


- A very successful airborne campaign - all instruments & aircraft worked well
 - Made IPDA lidar measurements in Arctic for the 1st time
 - 1st airborne campaigns with long (34–70 deg lat.) north/south flight lines
 - 40+ spirals allow comparisons of lidar vs. in-situ XCO₂ for a wide variety of locations & atmospheric conditions
- Will show samples of new results:
 - In situ measurements: CO₂ was lower & quite variable in Arctic
 - Arctic backscatter profile measurements: show considerable variability in haze, vertical & horizontal cloud structure
 - CO₂ Sounder lidar worked well – produced a large & rich data set !
- Path to space – made additional & significant progress

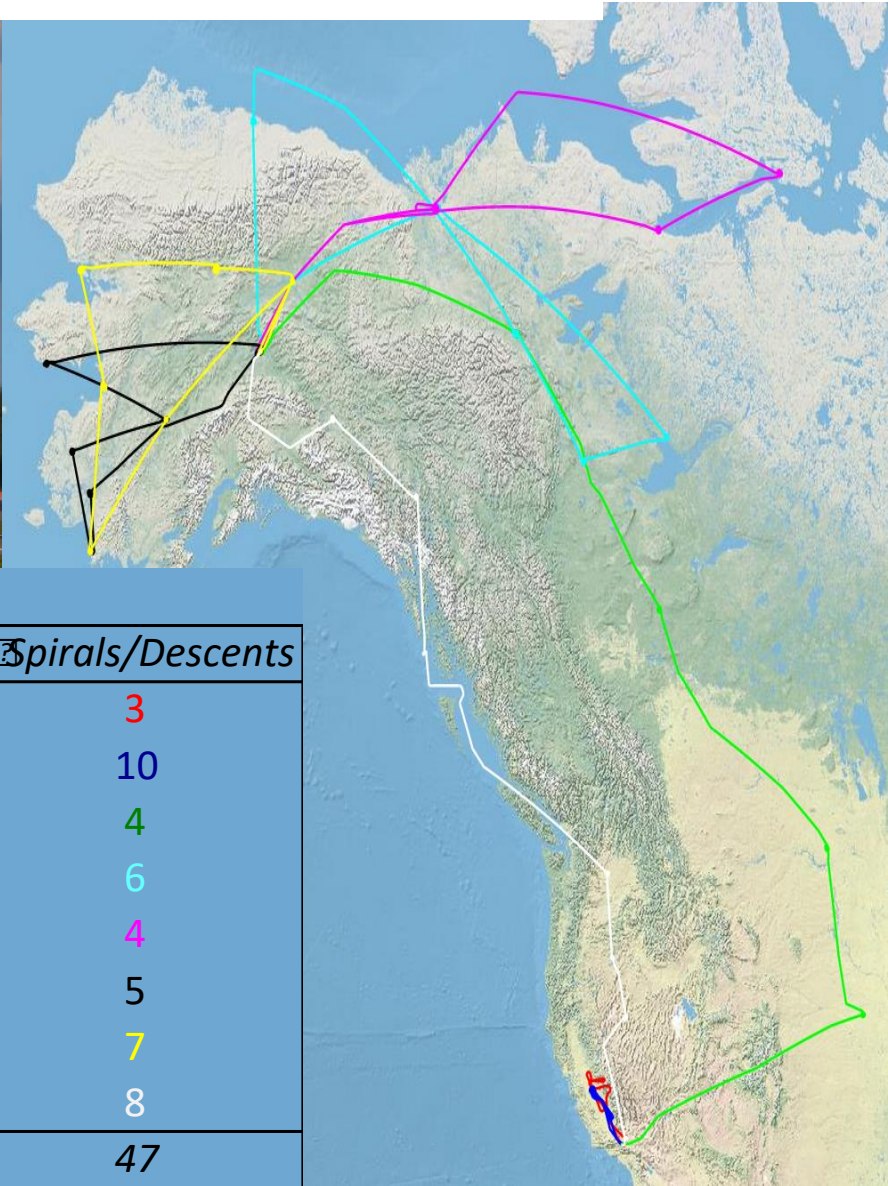


Overview - 2017 ASCENDS Airborne Campaign

Jul 20- Aug 8, 2017

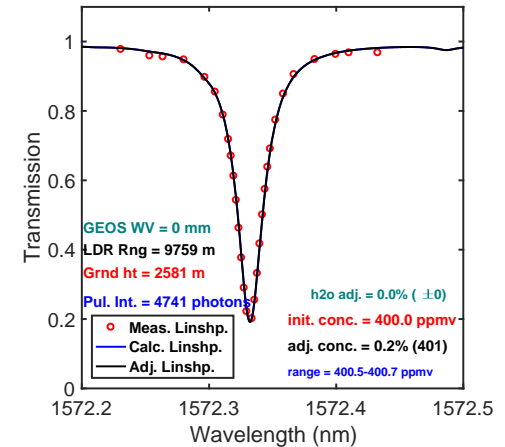
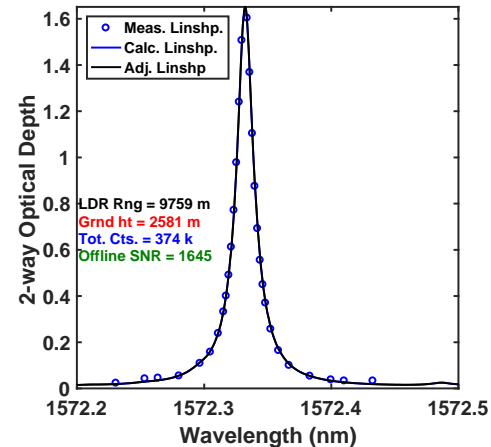
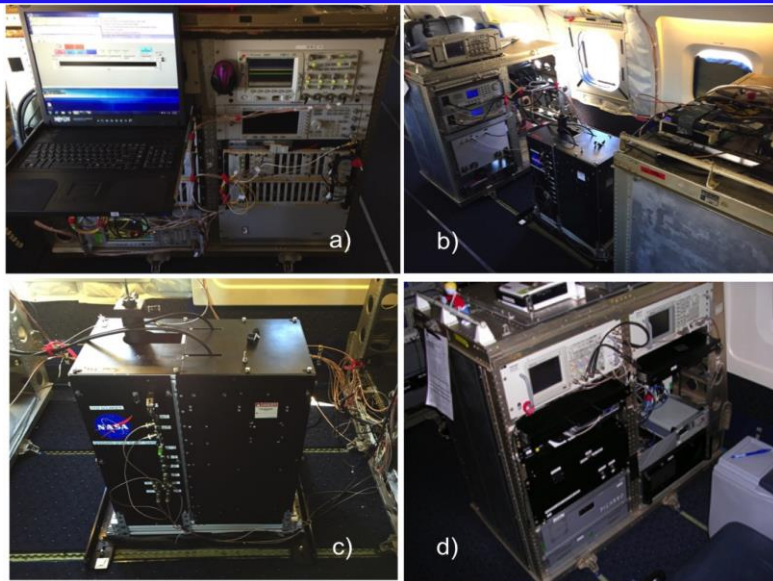


NASA DC-8 Landing at Fairbanks
Alaska on July 27



Flights & Legend:

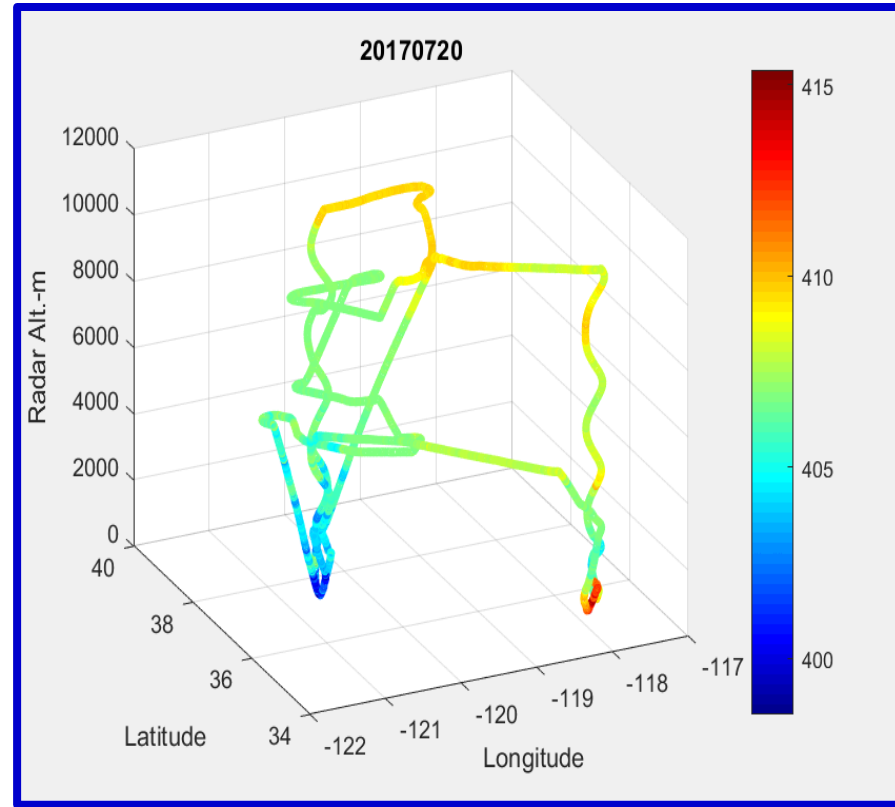
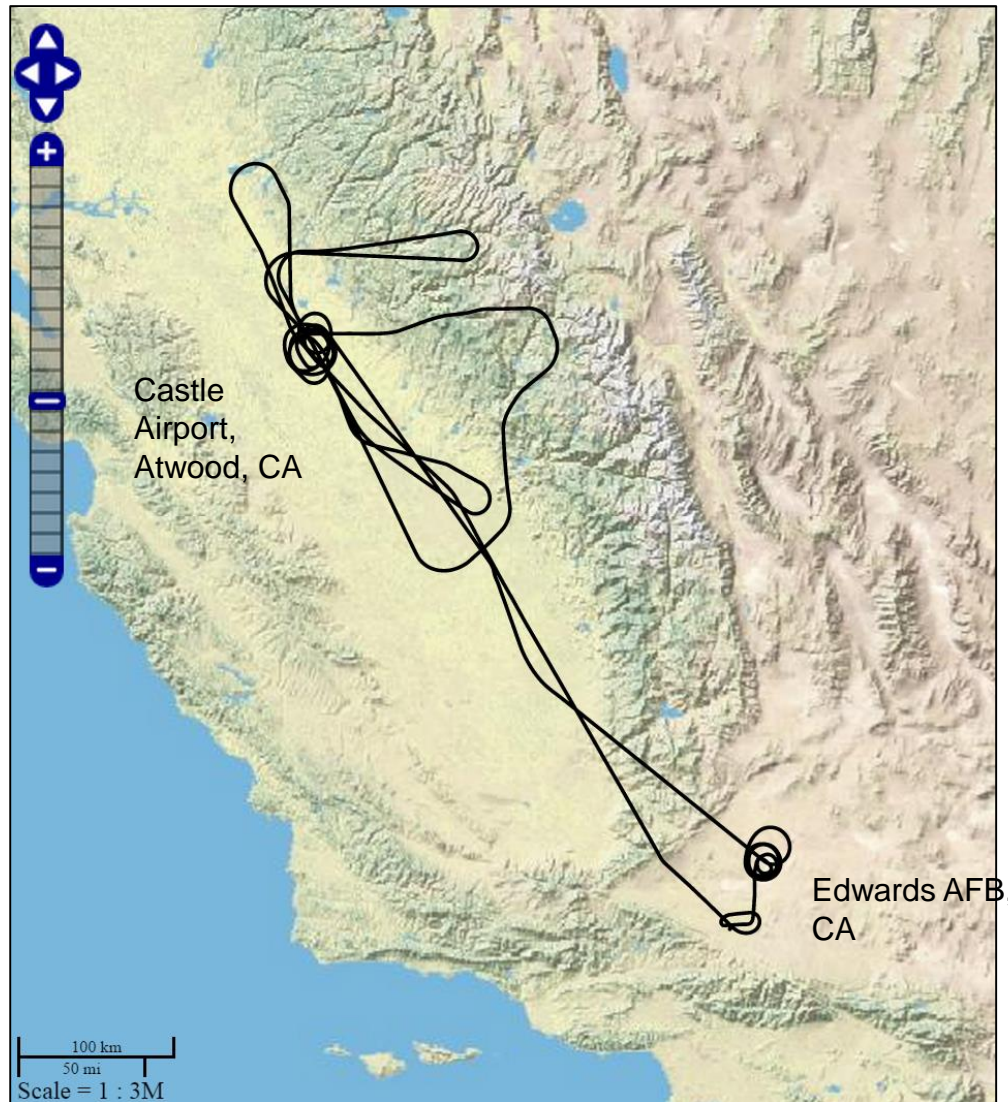
Dates	Name	Duration (hrs)	# Spirals/Descents
20-Jul	Engineering	4.4	3
21-Jul	Calibration	5.6	10
27-Jul	Northbound science/transit	9.4	4
31-Jul	Western NWT	8	6
2-Aug	Northern NWT	6.6	4
5-Aug	South-Central Alaska	6.2	5
6-Aug	Central Alaska	7	7
8-Aug	Southbound science/transit	8.1	8
8	Totals:	55.3	47



Other science instruments on ASCENDS 2017 campaign

- **Picarro** (Randy Kawa) – in situ CO₂ and WV
- **AVOCET** (Josh DiGangi/LaRC) – in situ CO₂, CH₄, CO
- **DLH** (Glenn Diskin/LaRC) – in situ WV
- **ACES** (Mike Obland/LaRC) – IPDA lidar to measure XCO₂ using a line near 1571 nm
 - Uses modulated CW lasers at 3 wavelengths

- Direct Detection IPDA lidar - emits 10 kHz train of laser pulses
- Measures column CO₂ absorption using 1572.33 nm line.
- Laser pulses - stepped in 30 wavelengths across line.
- Wavelengths are locked relative to CO₂ absorption line center
- Time resolved receiver uses HgCdTe APD detector
- Measures backscatter profile, range & samples of CO₂ line shape
- XCO₂ Retrievals:
 - Line shape samples, range to scattering surface
 - Atmospheric state (measurements or model)



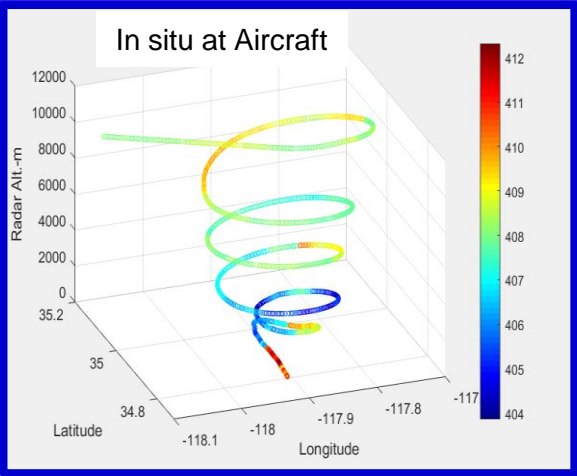
CO2 concentrations at the aircraft:

Color coded Picarro in-situ CO2 measurements made from the DC-8 aircraft during the flight



Engineering Flight July 20, 2017

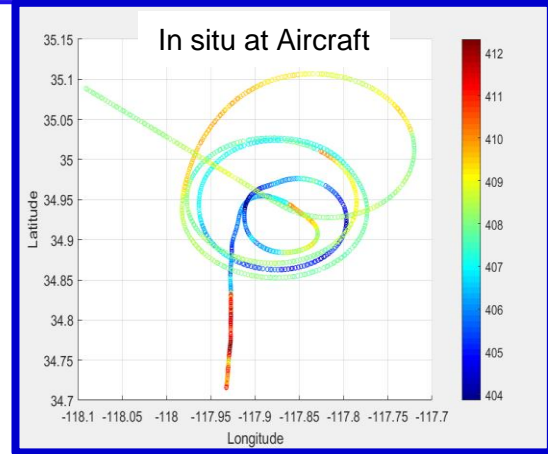
Spiral over Edwards CA: CO2 & XCO2 Retrievals



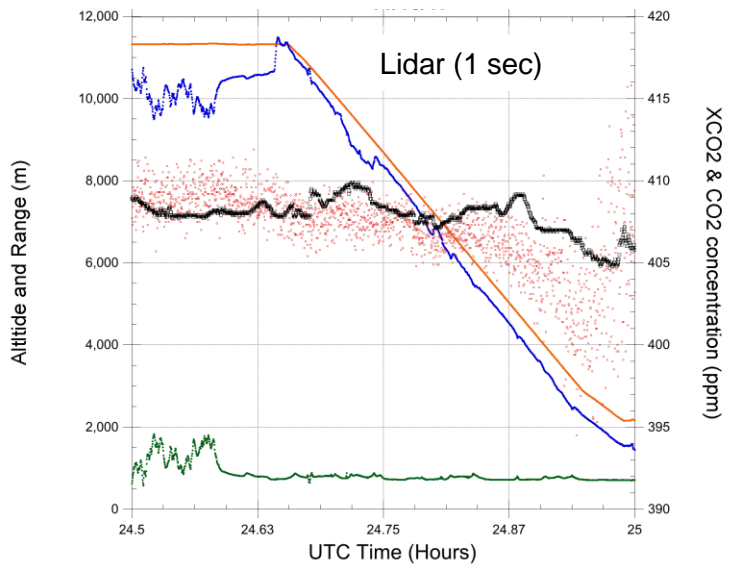
Picarro (in situ) CO2 measurements at aircraft made during spiral

<- Side view

Top view->



Red dots: XCO2 from CO2 Sounder Lidar
Black dots: CO2 (at altitude) from in situ
All XCO2 Retrievals use 1 second averaging time

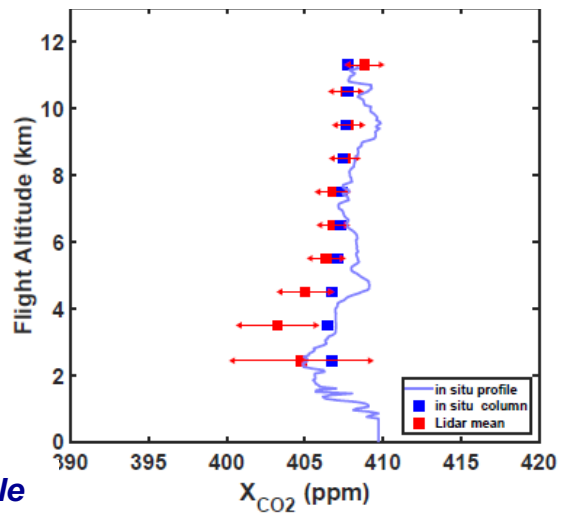


Reference atmosphere (LUT) for XCO2 retrievals based on:
 DC-8 T & P
 PICARRO H2O

Same format used for other sample results

Comparison of XCO2 measurements:

- Red – lidar*
- Blue dots - In situ, ave'd to surface*





ASCENDS 2017 Flight NWT Canada 1 - Monday July 31, 2017



The route went east from Fairbanks to Inuvik, then primarily south, east, then back north along the Mackenzie River, then out of the Arctic Ocean, over Deadhorse AK, then back to Fairbanks.

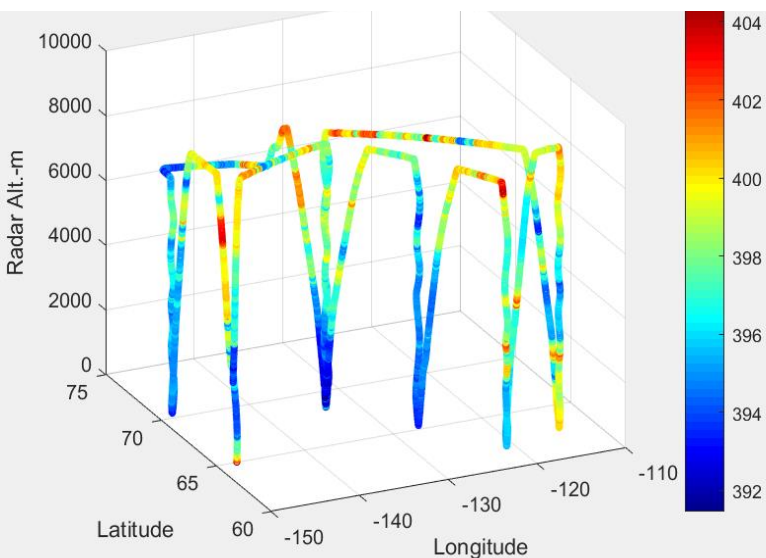
We used 6 spiral-down maneuvers to allow comparing the lidar measurements of XCO₂ against the in-situ measured CO₂



Flight on Monday July 31, based out of Fairbanks AK.

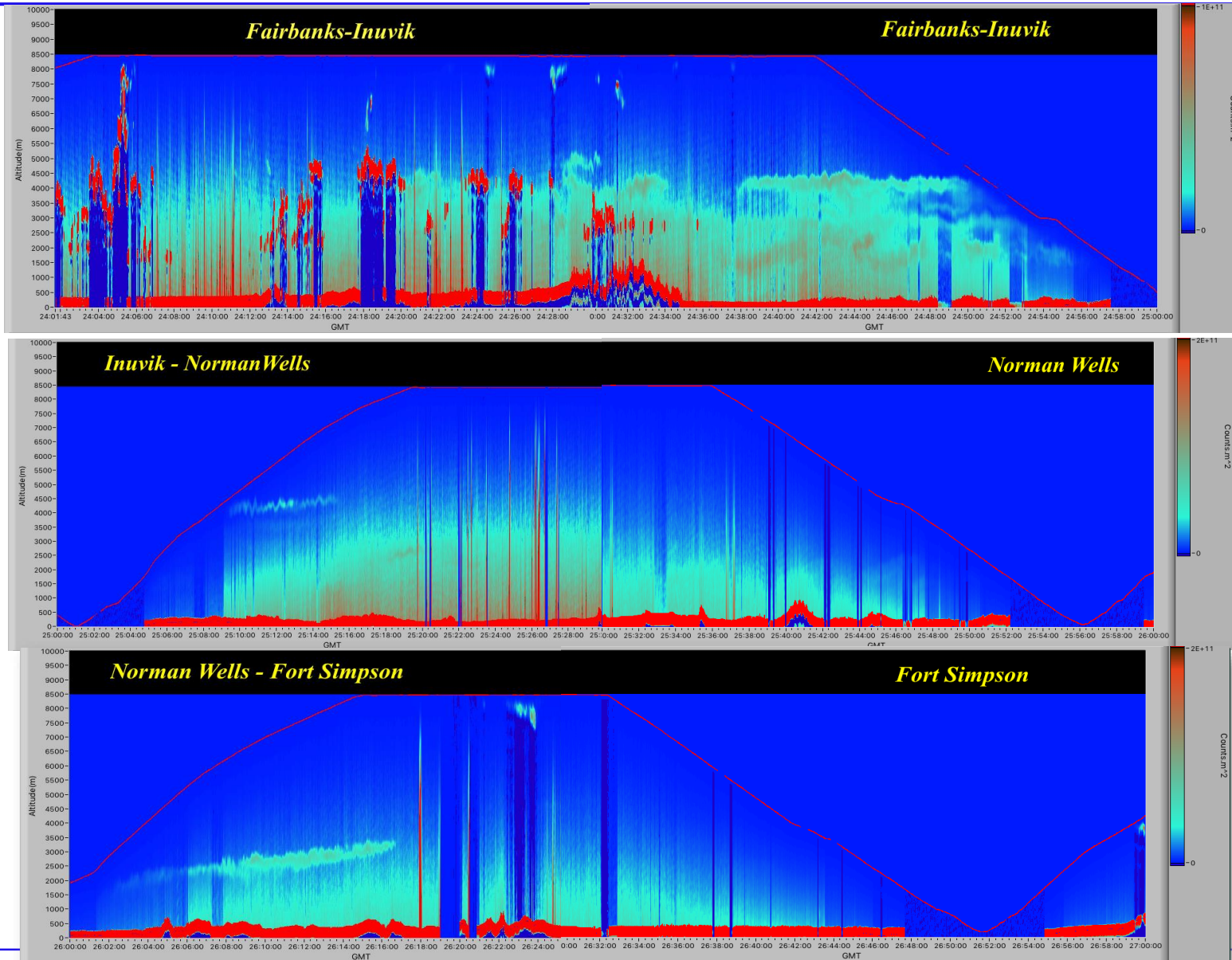
Takeoff time: 3:45pm local
Flight duration: 8 hours.

In-situ CO₂ at the DC-8 (Picarro):





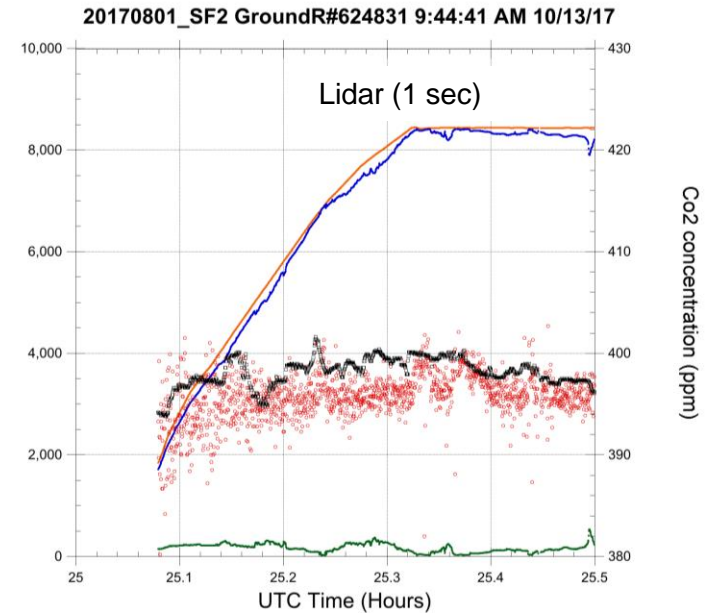
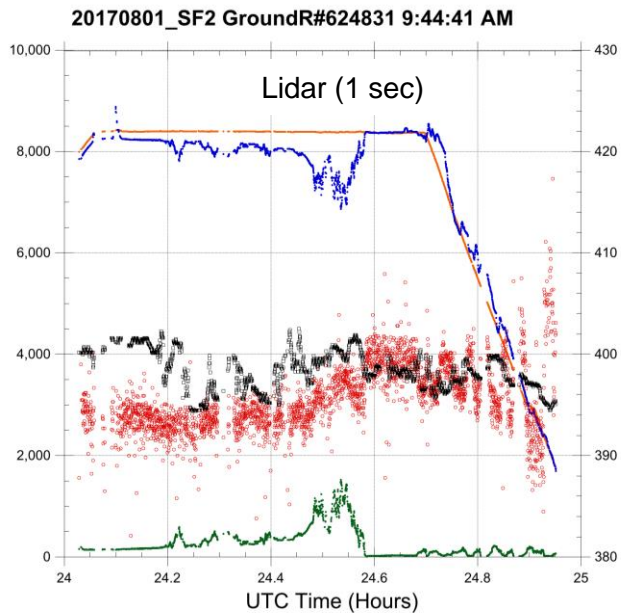
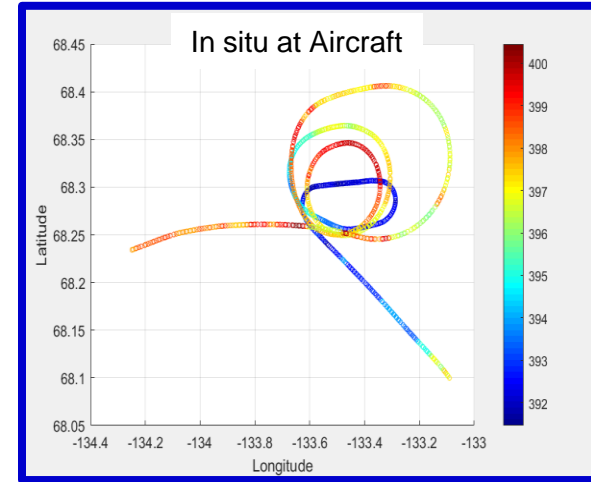
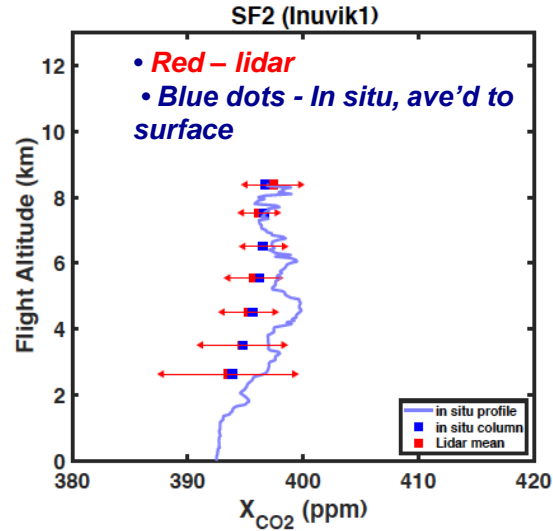
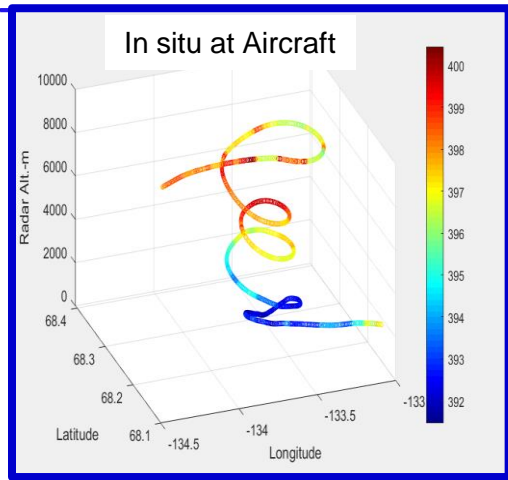
Lidar Measured Backscatter History - NWT Flight 1

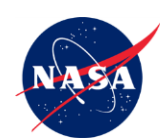




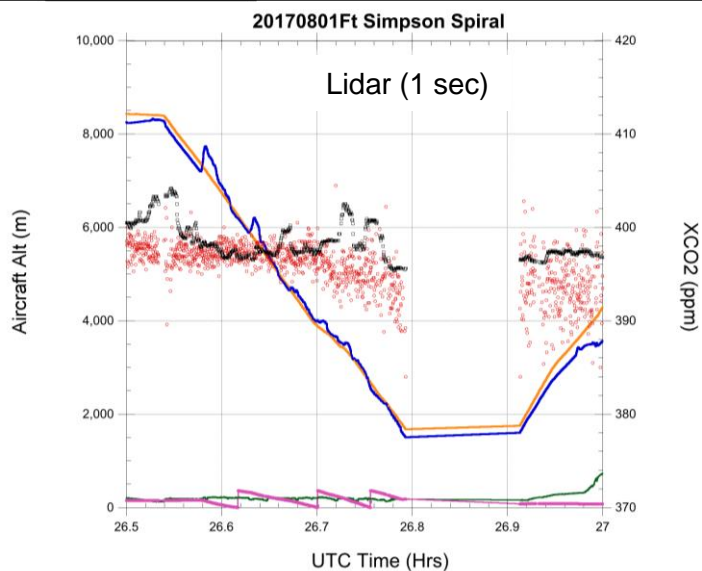
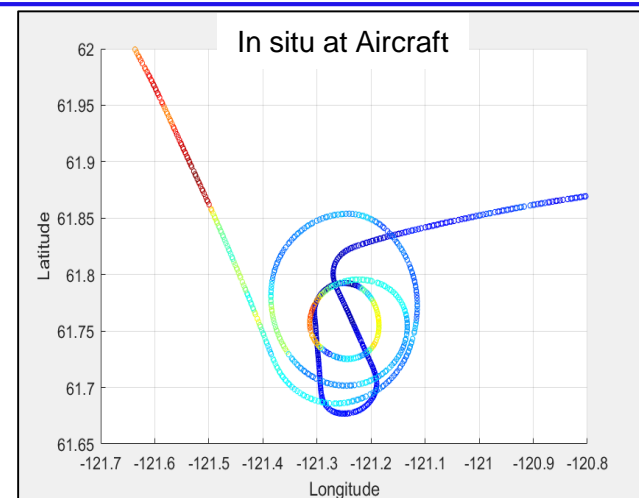
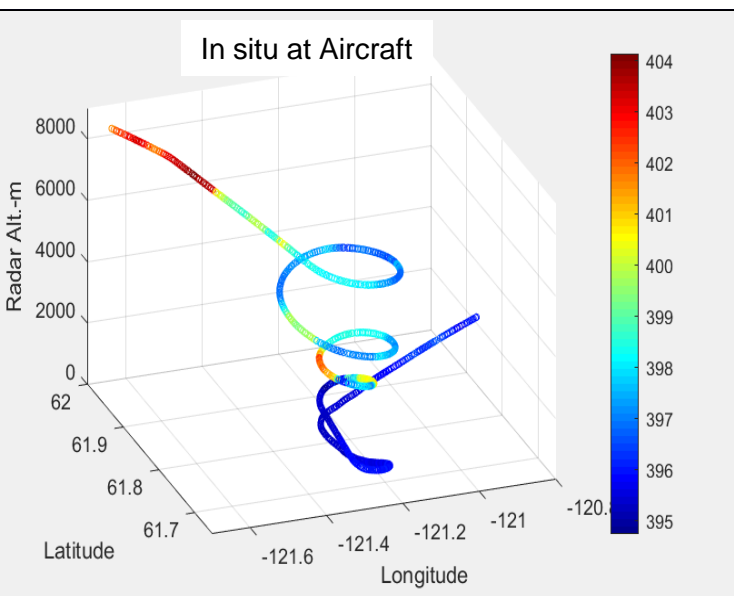
NWT Flight 1 - July 31, 2017

1st Spiral over Inuvik NWT

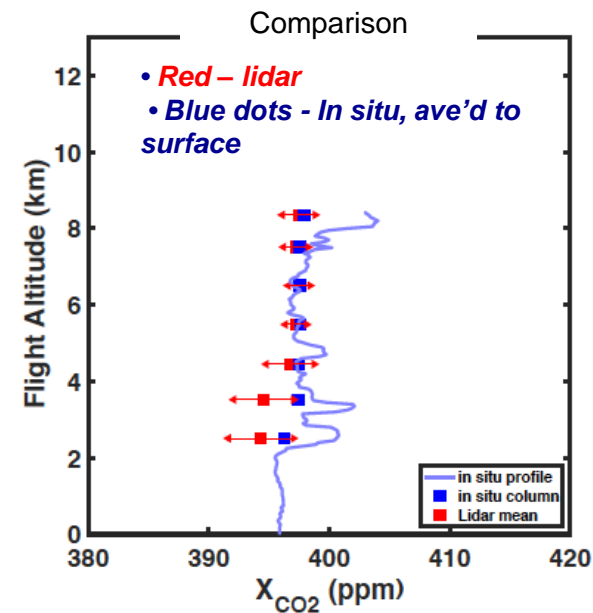




NWT1 Flight – 2nd Spiral: Fort Simpson NWT



Lidar XCO₂ & Picarro
8/1 02:30-03:00 UTC
Retrievals Based on REVEA
& PICARRO data

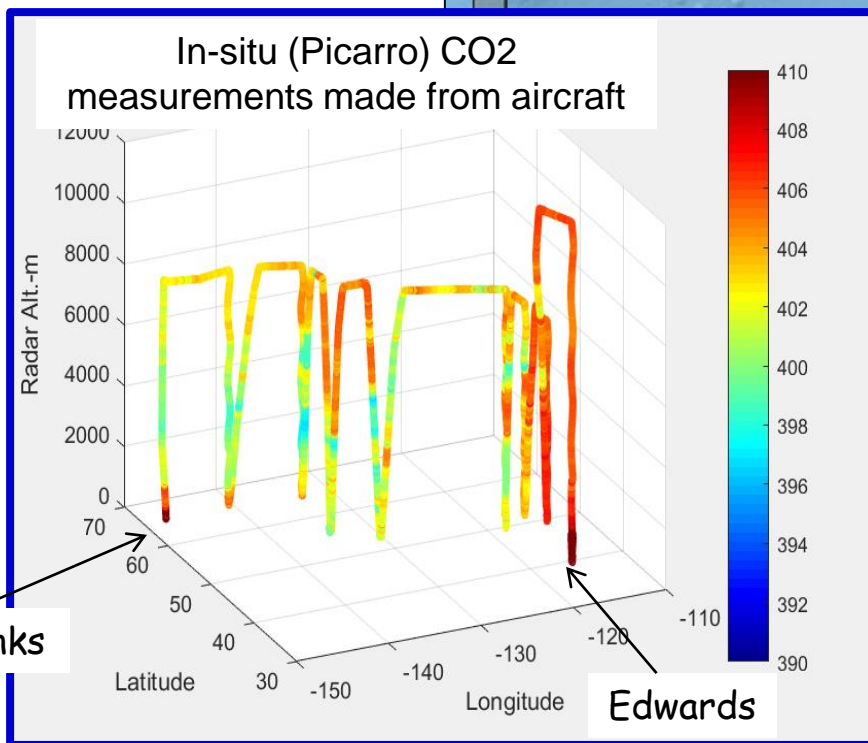
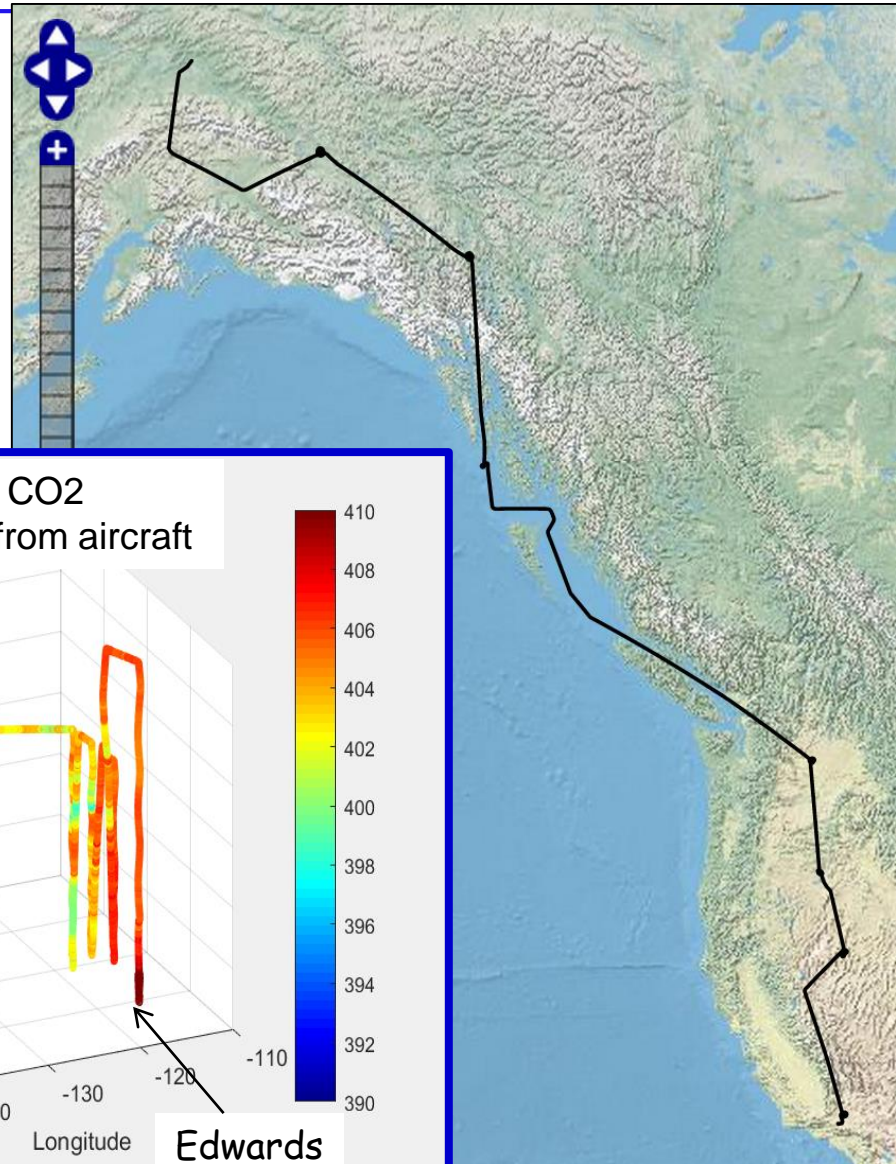


Takeoff time: 8:15 am local

Duration: 8.1 hours

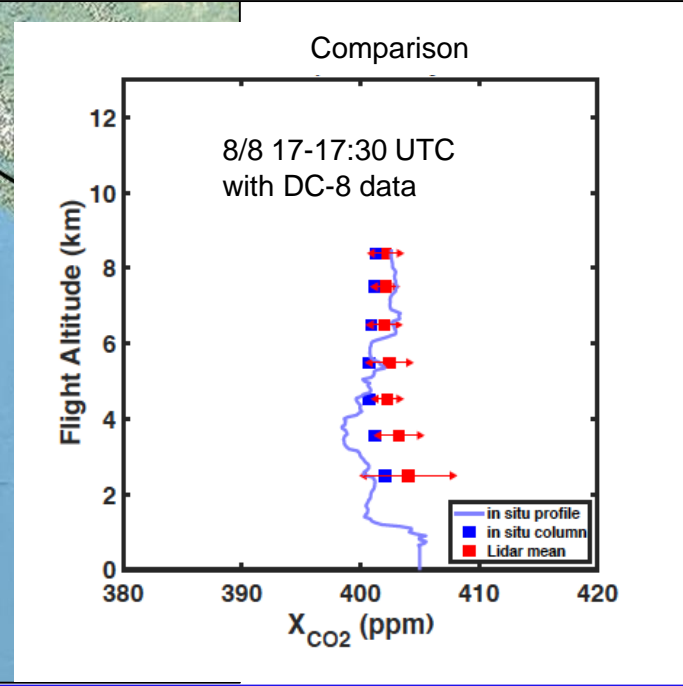
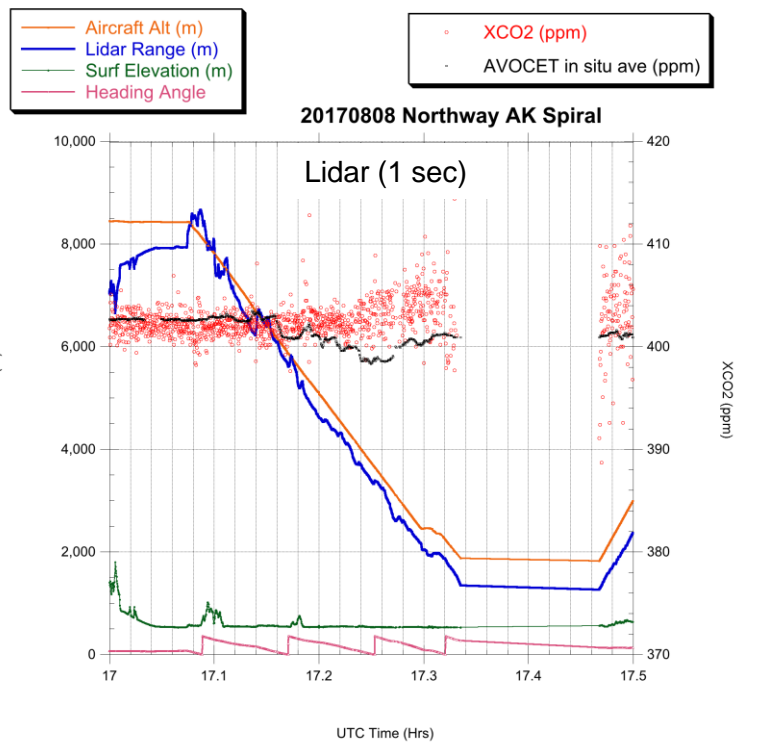
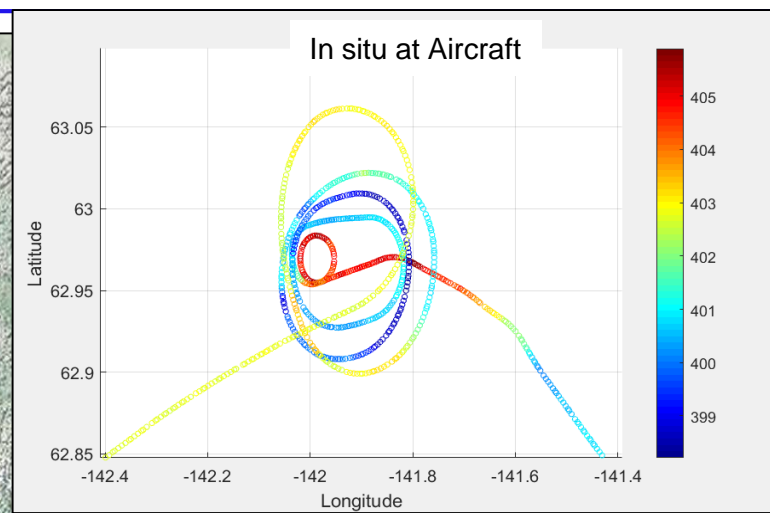
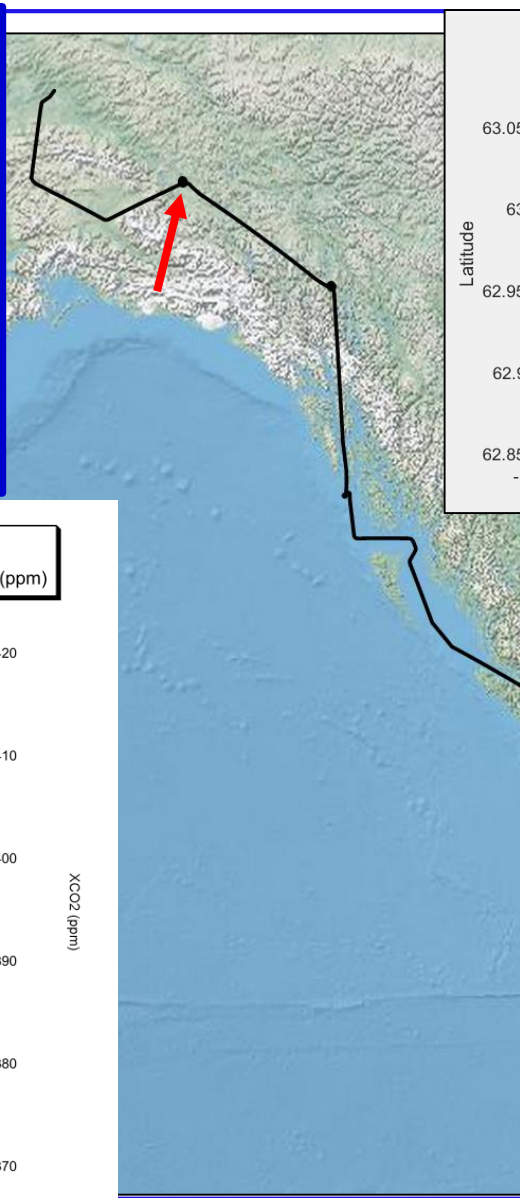
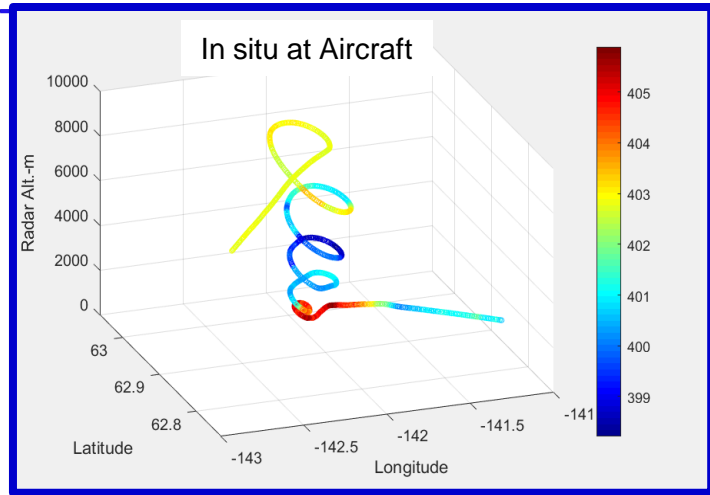
Flight Events:

- Spiral - Northway Airport AK
- Spiral - Whitehorse Airport YU
- Flew due south over part of inner passage of British Columbia
- 2 in-line descent-ascents over cloud-free areas of ocean (in inner passage)
- Spiral - Moses Lake, WA
- Spiral - Wildhorse Airport, OR
- Spiral - Winnemucca, NV
- Increased altitude to 38Kft
- Spiral at Edwards AFB, CA



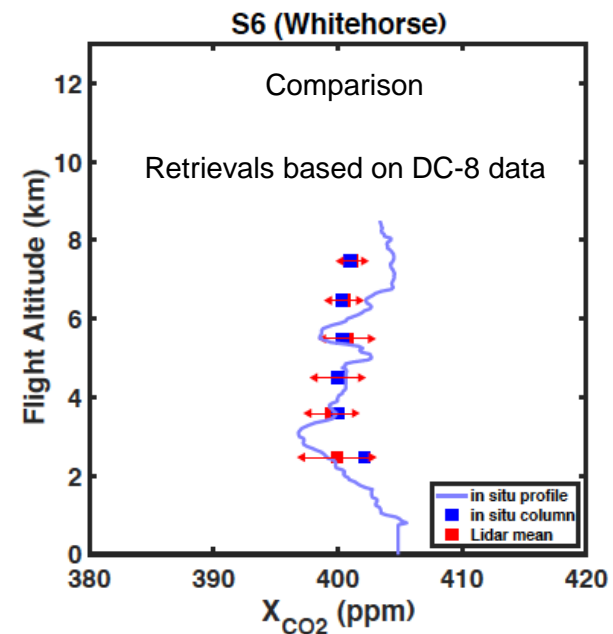
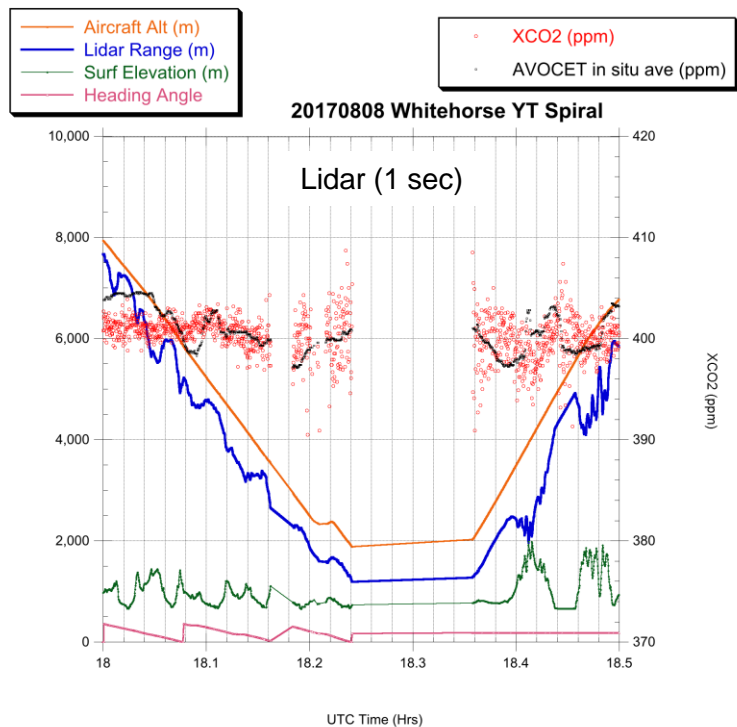
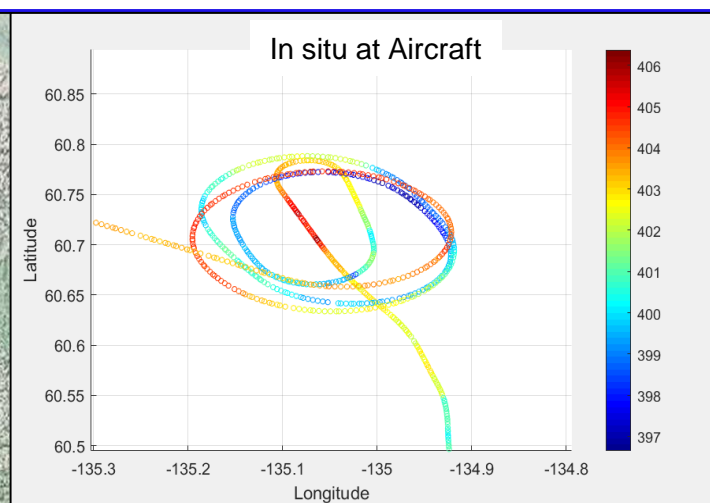
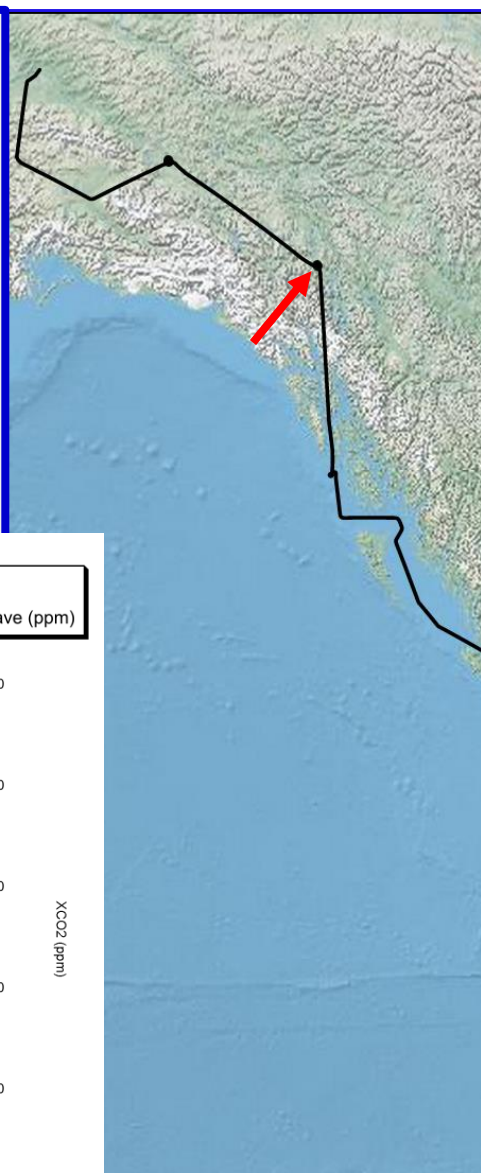
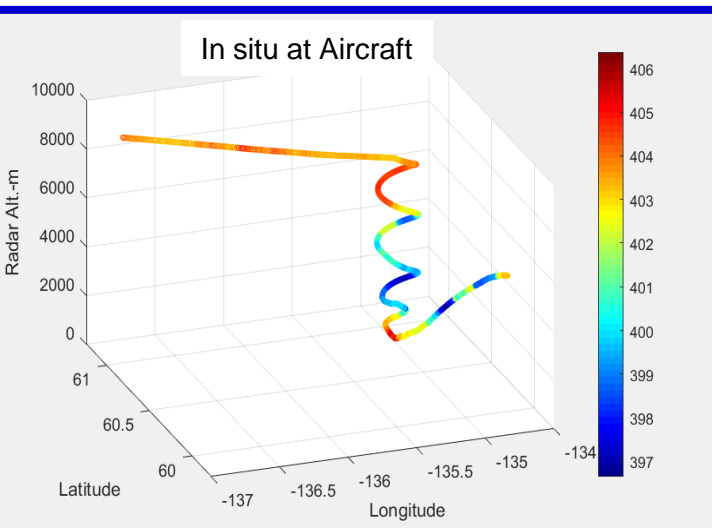


Aug 8 Flight – 1st Spiral – Northway Junction AK





Aug 8 return Flight – 2nd Spiral – Whitehorse YT

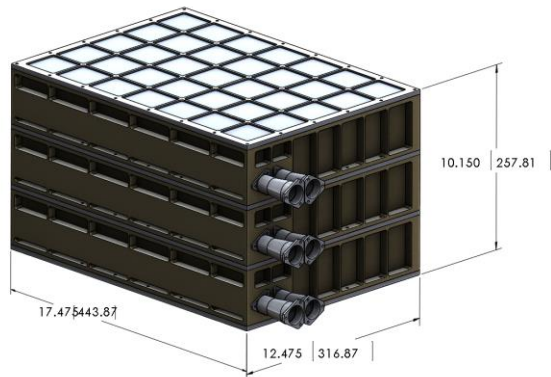




Key progress toward moving the CO₂ Sounder Lidar to Space

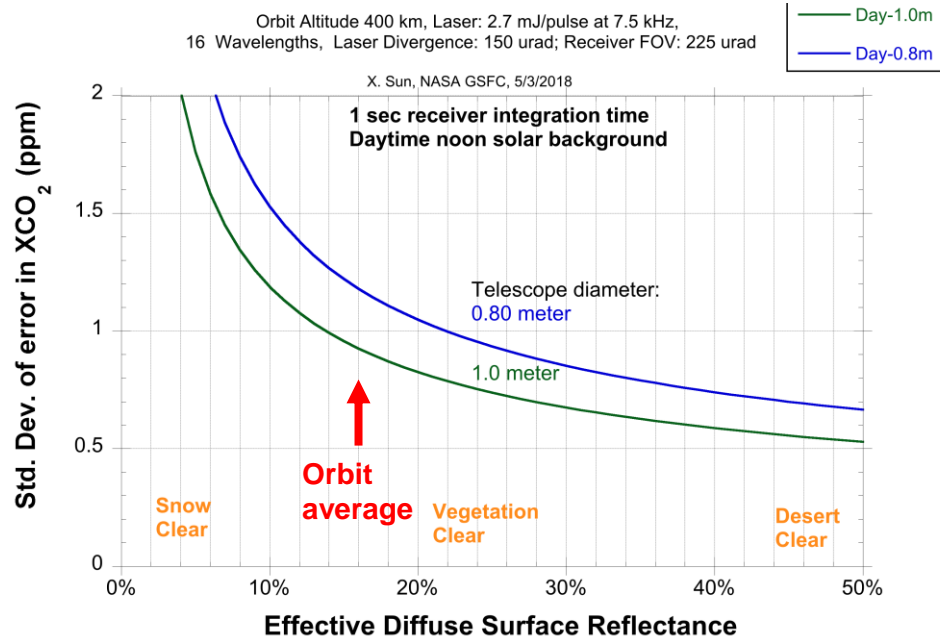


1. **Laser** with space needed performance in testing: TRL-6 by October 2018

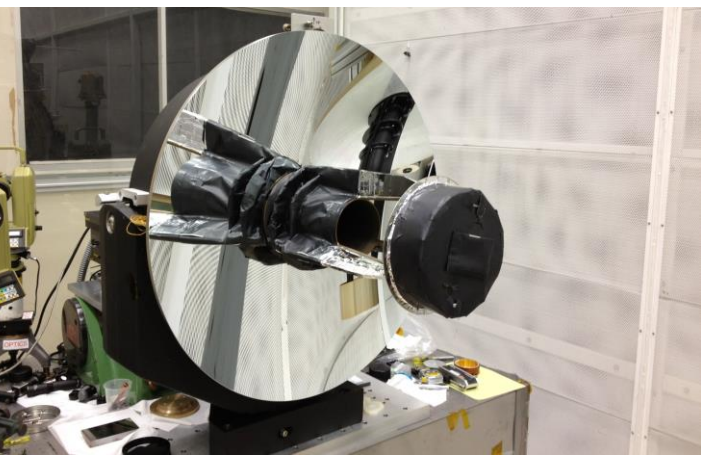


3. Measurement model

For space shows < 1 ppm random error



2. **Receiver telescope:** 80 & 100 cm diameter telescopes: affordable & flight proven



4. Detector:

Highly sensitive HgCdTe APD detector in cryocooler - passed space radiation & environ. tests



Why a space lidar for XCO₂ ?



Calipso Mission Image
courtesy of D. Winker/ NASA LaRC

It uniquely provides:

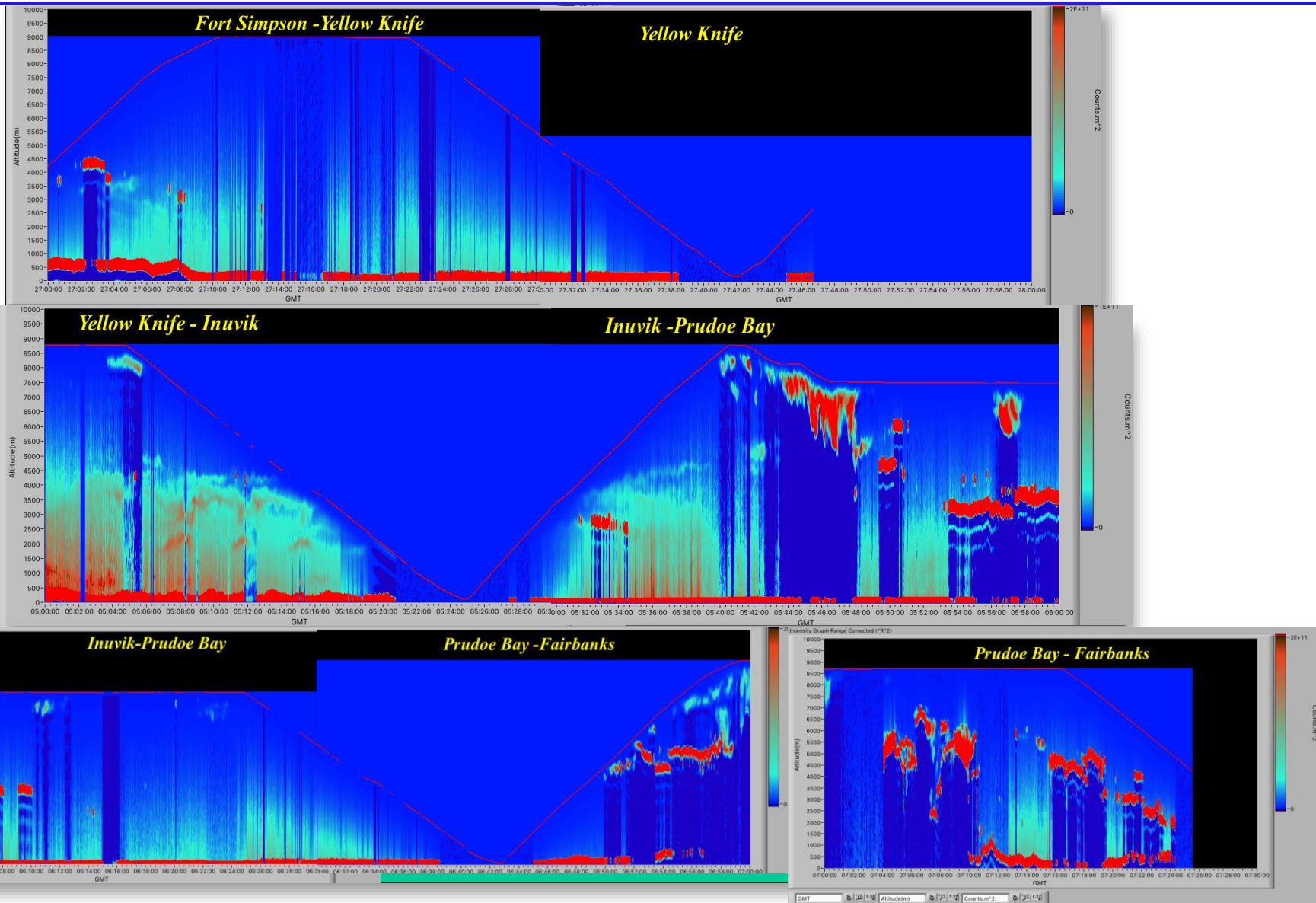
- Measurements at night & high latitudes
- High spatial resolution (small footprint)
- Using consistent vertical path
- Accurate knowledge of path length
 - Enables measurements to cloud tops
- Uses 1 line – much simpler spectroscopy
- *Multiple wavelengths on gas line shape:*
 - *Allows solving for potential biases*

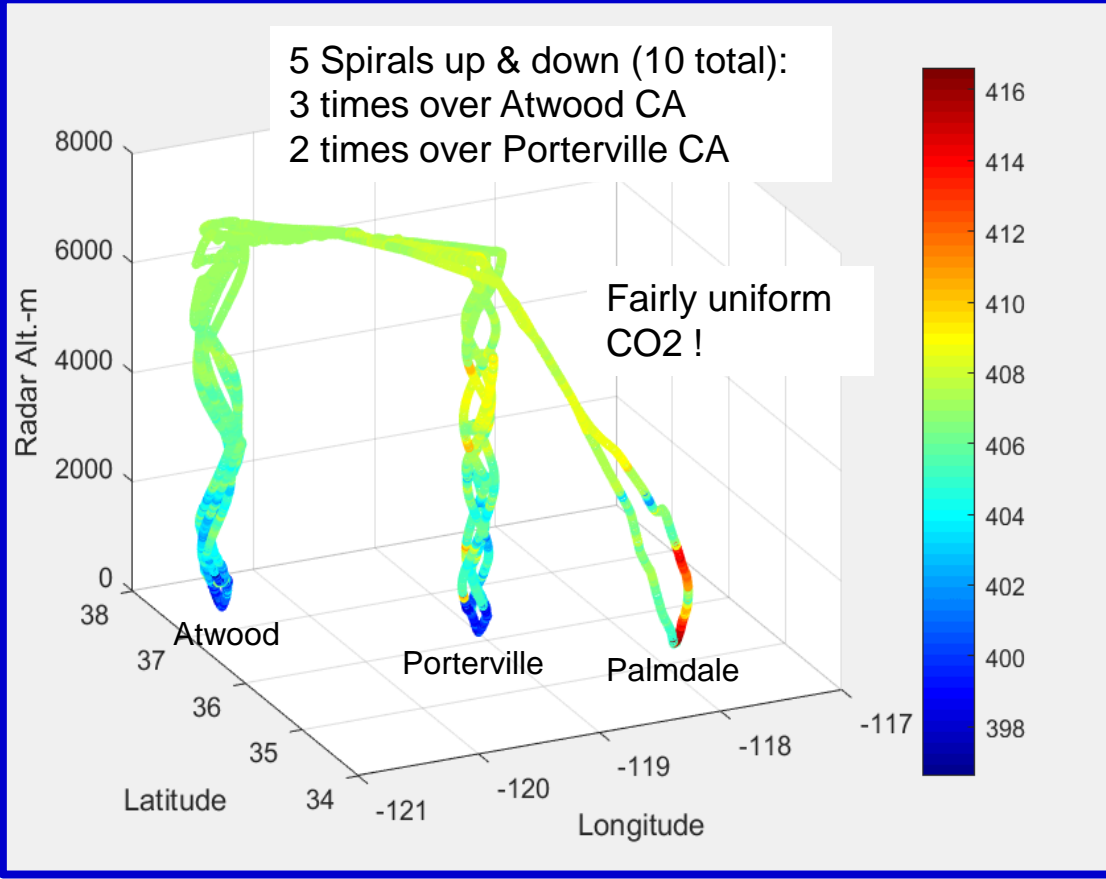
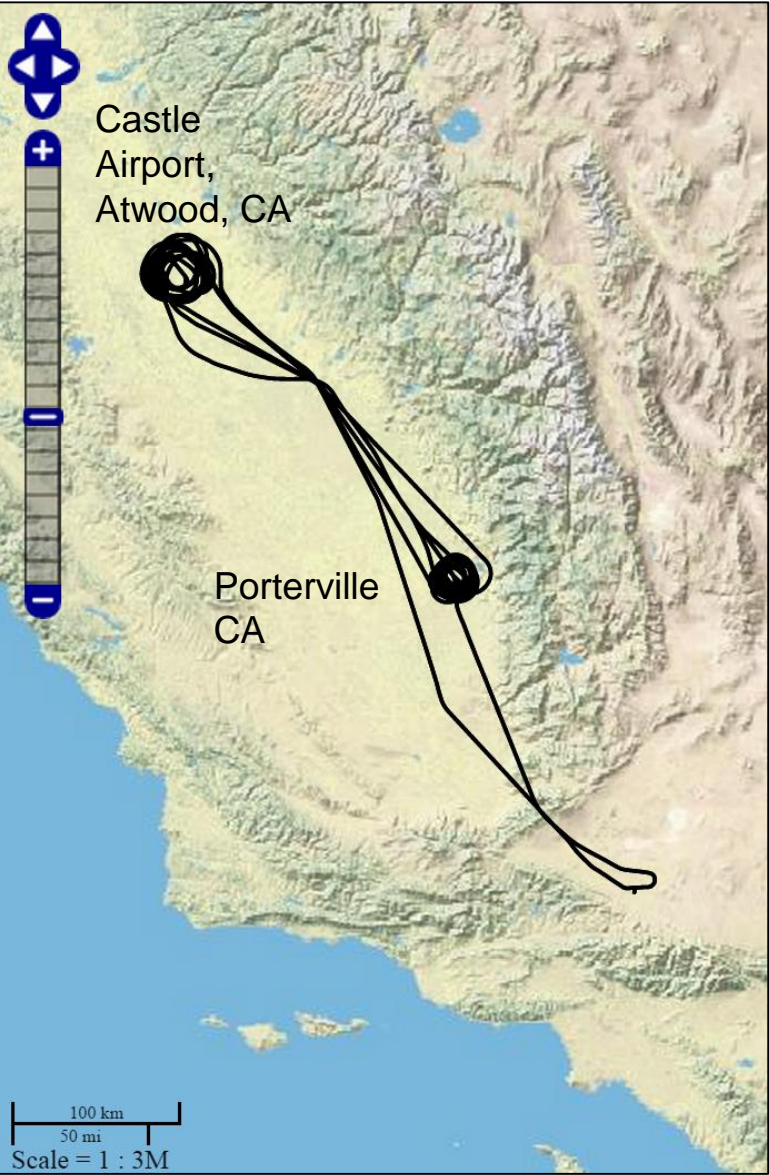


Backup



Lidar Measured Backscatter History - NWT Flight 1





CO2 concentrations at the aircraft:

Color coded Picarro in-situ CO2 measurements made from DC-8 aircraft during the flight



Northbound Transit & Science Flight July 27, 2017 - Palmdale to Fairbanks Alaska



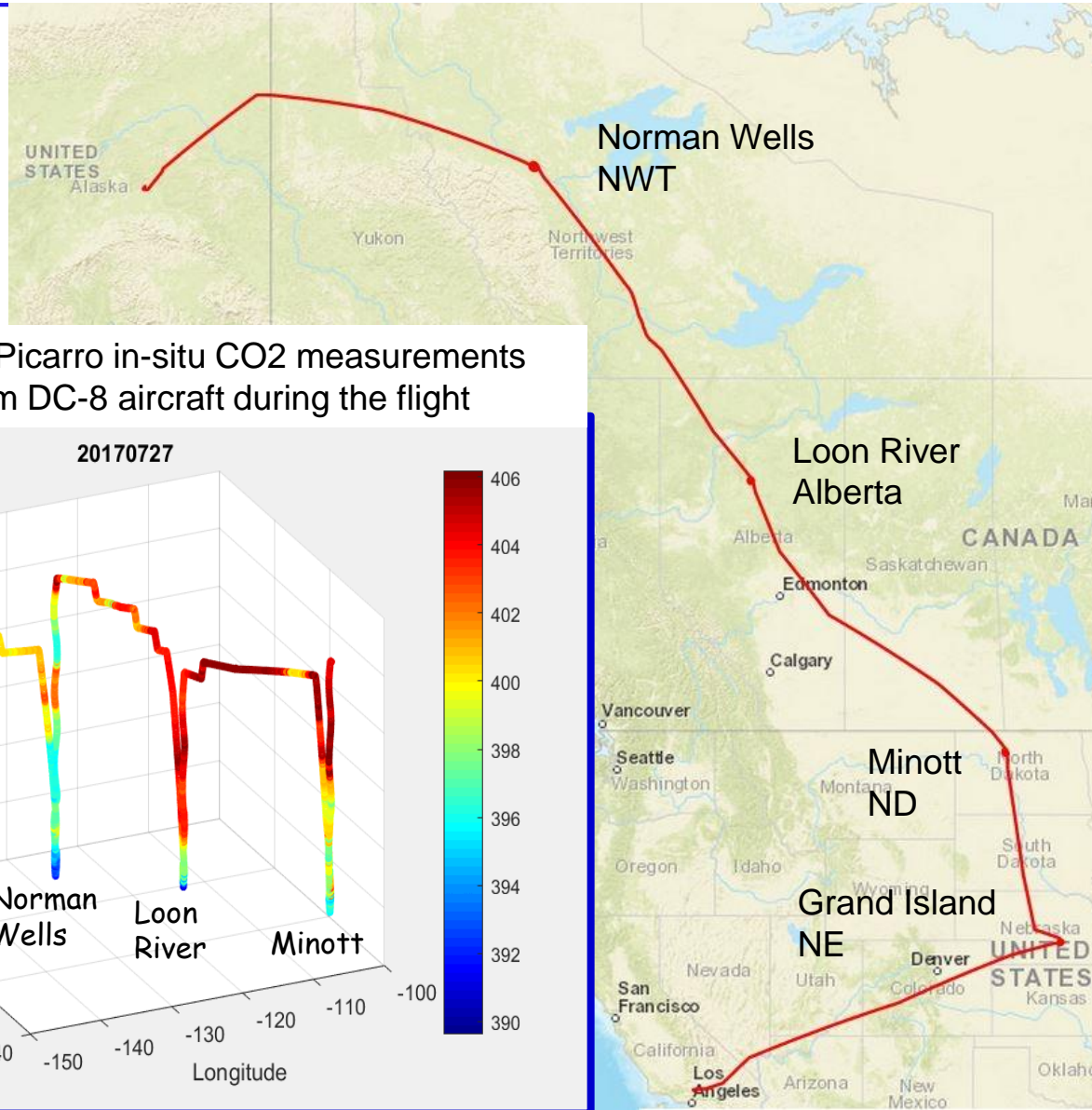
The campaign's long south-to-north science flight occurred on July 27

Takeoff time: 9 am local
Flight duration: 9.4 hrs.

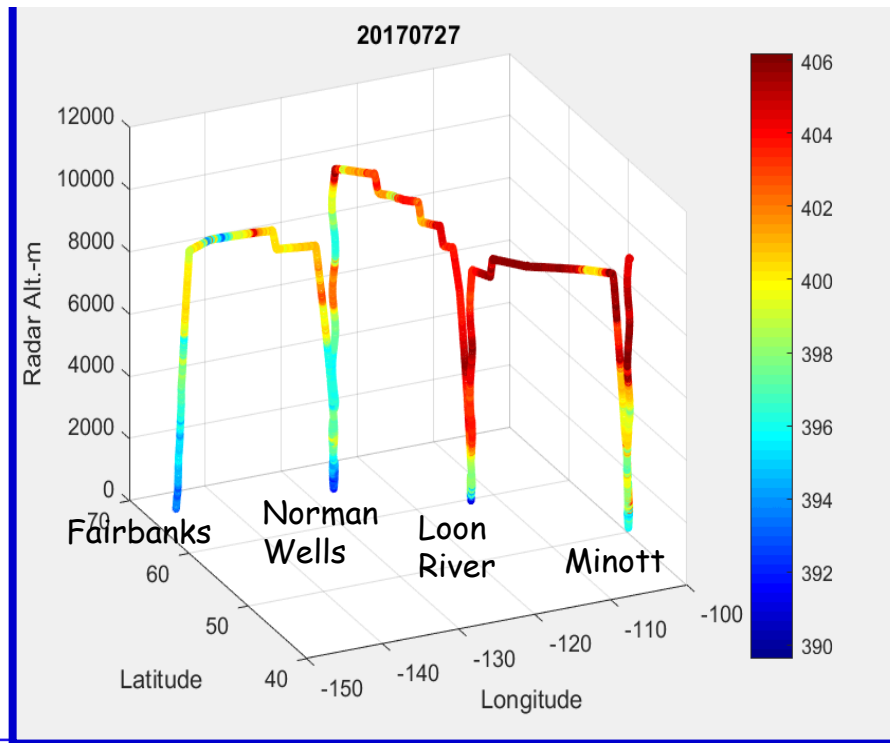
Eastward path to avoid mountains and clouds

Spiral down maneuvers at:

- Grand Island, NE
- Minott, ND
- Loon River, Alberta
- Norman Wells, NWT



Color coded Picarro in-situ CO2 measurements made from DC-8 aircraft during the flight





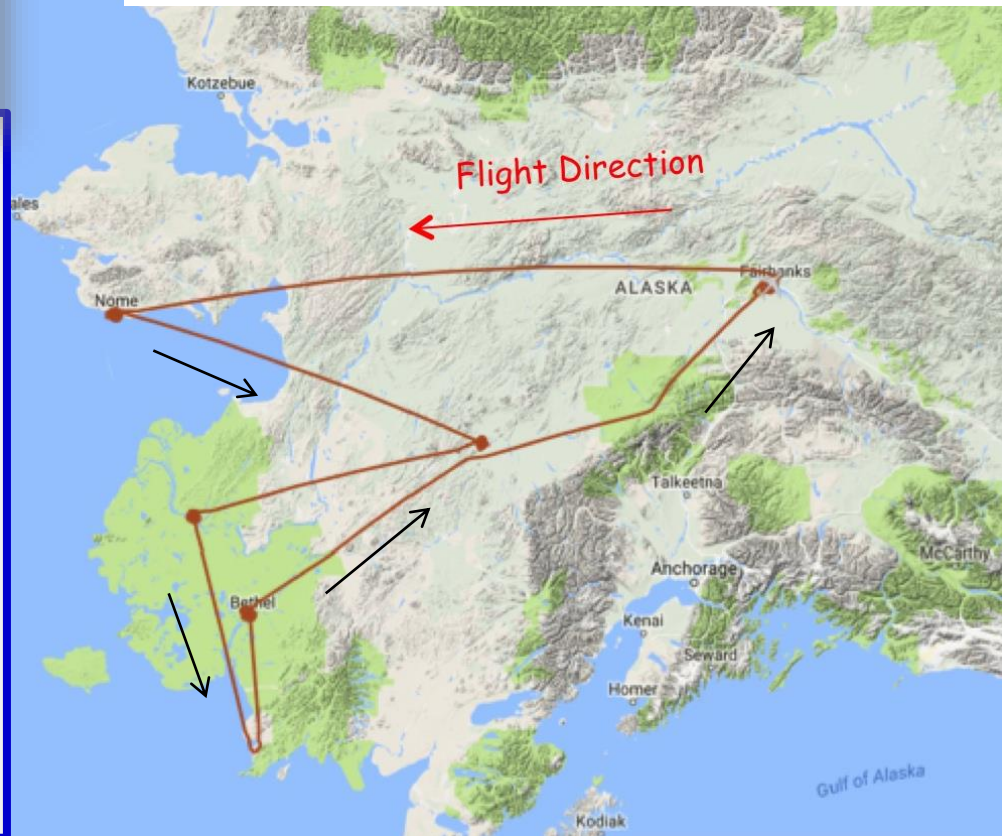
ASCENDS Flight - Saturday Aug 5, 2017

1st Alaska Flight - South-Central Alaska

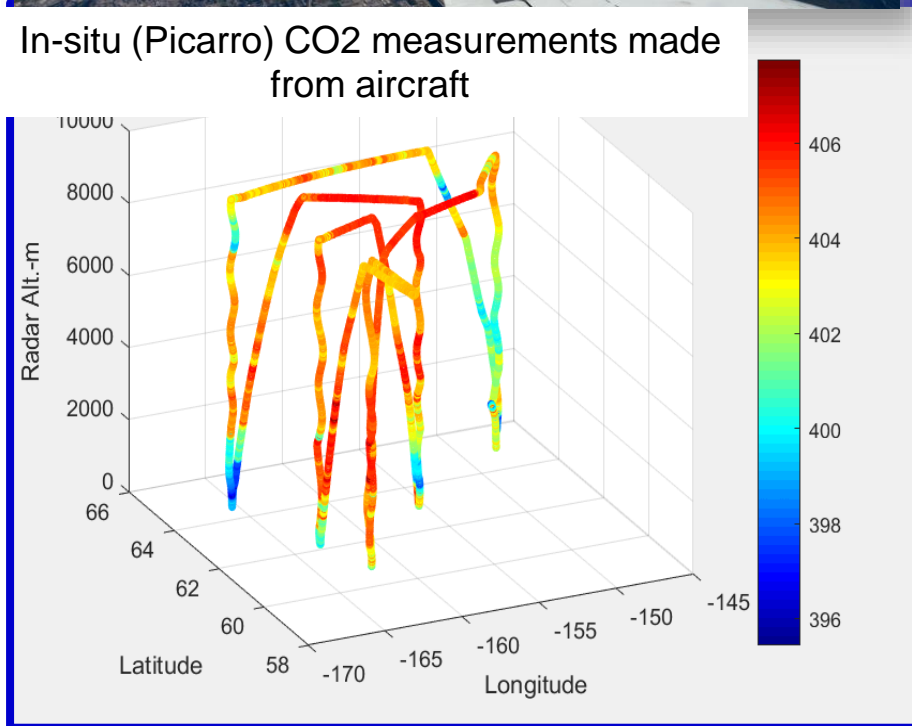


22:45:49
Fairbanks looking south
during descent

The takeoff time: 9 am local
Flight duration was 6.2 hours.
Spiral-downs at:
Nome, McGrath, Saint Mary's, Bethel, Fairbanks.
A planned spiral at southernmost point of route (Platinum) not possible - cloud cover.



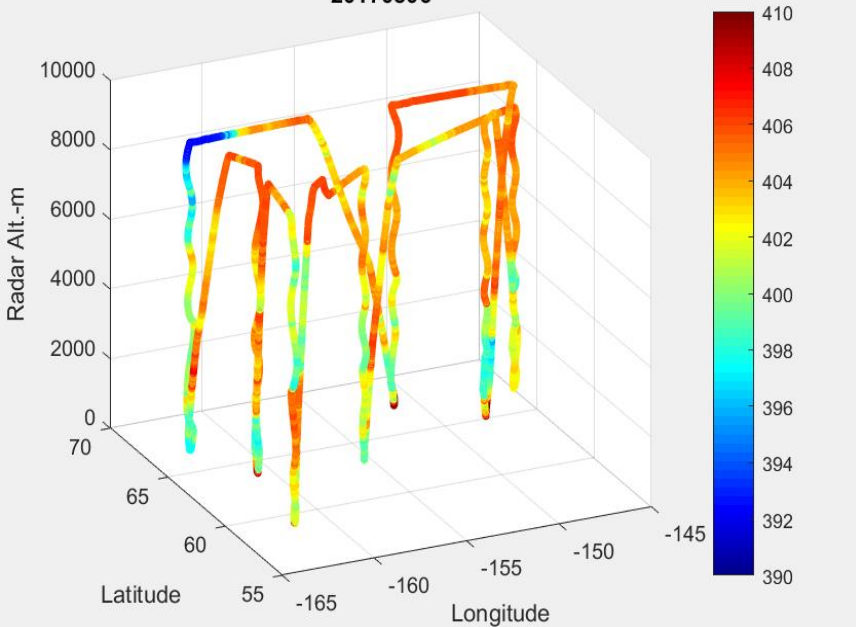
In-situ (Picarro) CO₂ measurements made from aircraft



Yukon River & Fort Yukon
Photo: Peter Griffith



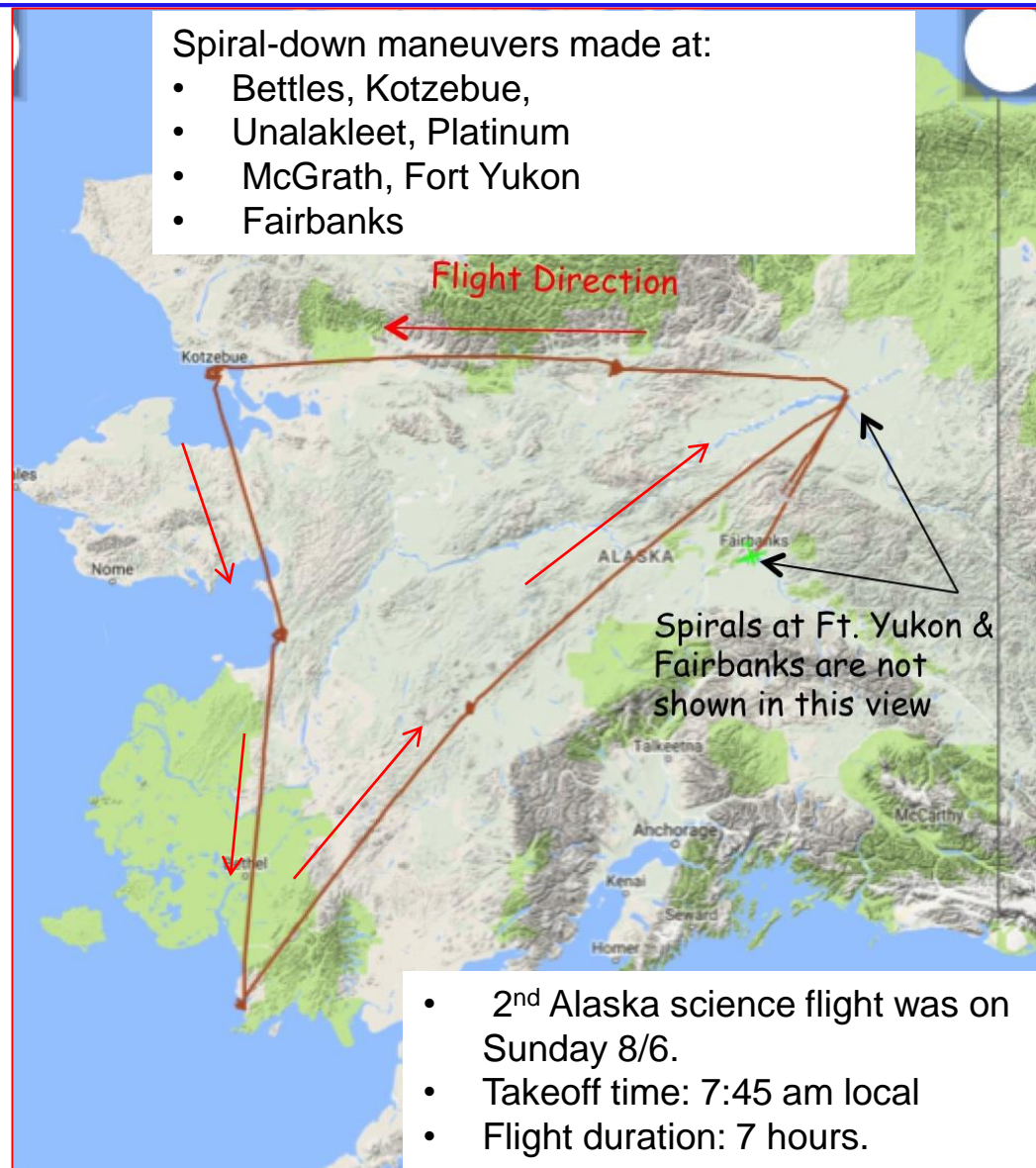
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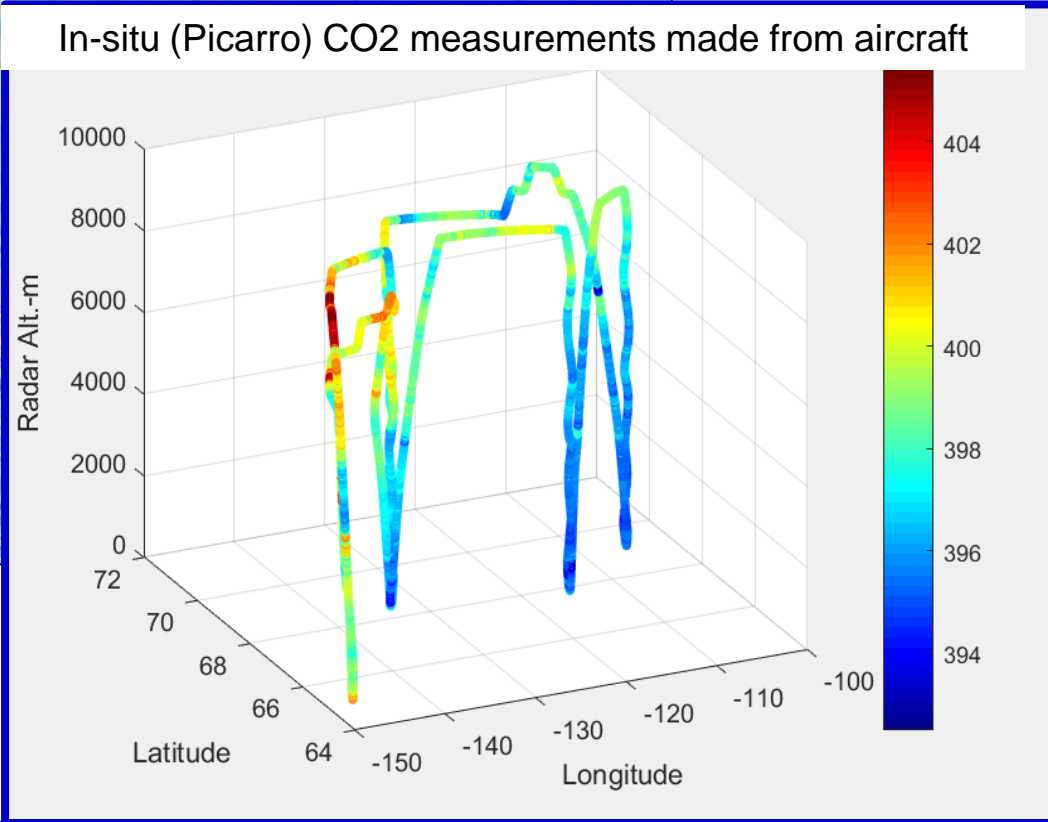
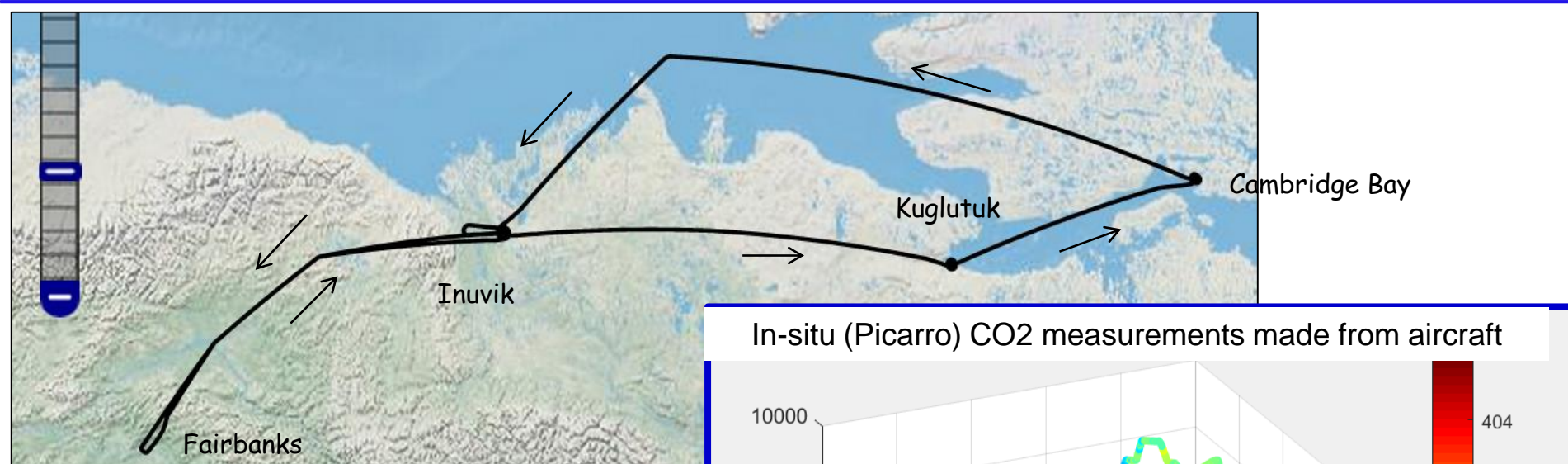
In-situ (Picarro) CO₂ measurements made from aircraft

Spiral-down maneuvers made at:

- Bettles, Kotzebue,
- Unalakleet, Platinum
- McGrath, Fort Yukon
- Fairbanks



- 2nd Alaska science flight was on Sunday 8/6.
- Takeoff time: 7:45 am local
- Flight duration: 7 hours.



Takeoff time: 4:46 pm local
Flight duration: 6.6 hours.

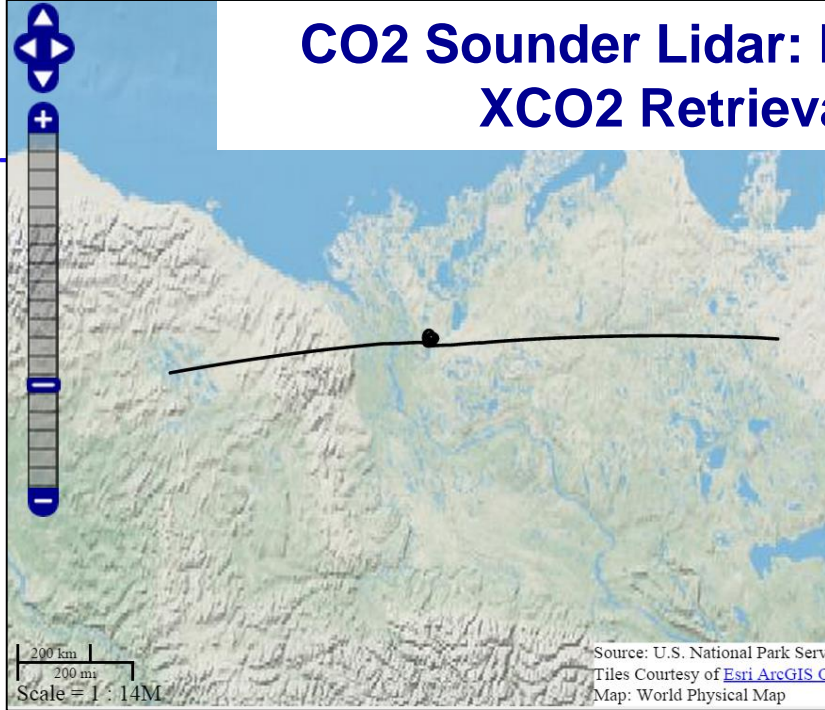
Spiral down maneuvers at:

- Inuvik NWT
- Kugluktuk NWT
- Cambridge Bay NU
- Inuvik again

Return west and south Fairbanks.

CO2 Sounder Lidar: NWT Flight 2 - August 3, 2017

XCO2 Retrievals for 1st Inuvik Spiral



Initial L2a Retrievals for 1st Inuvik Spiral on August 3, 2017

Preliminary

Reference atmosphere (LUT) based on:
Inuvik OZ radiosonde

CO2 (ppm) measured at aircraft

