



# Water vapour inter-comparison effort in the frame of the Convective and Orographically-induced Precipitation Study

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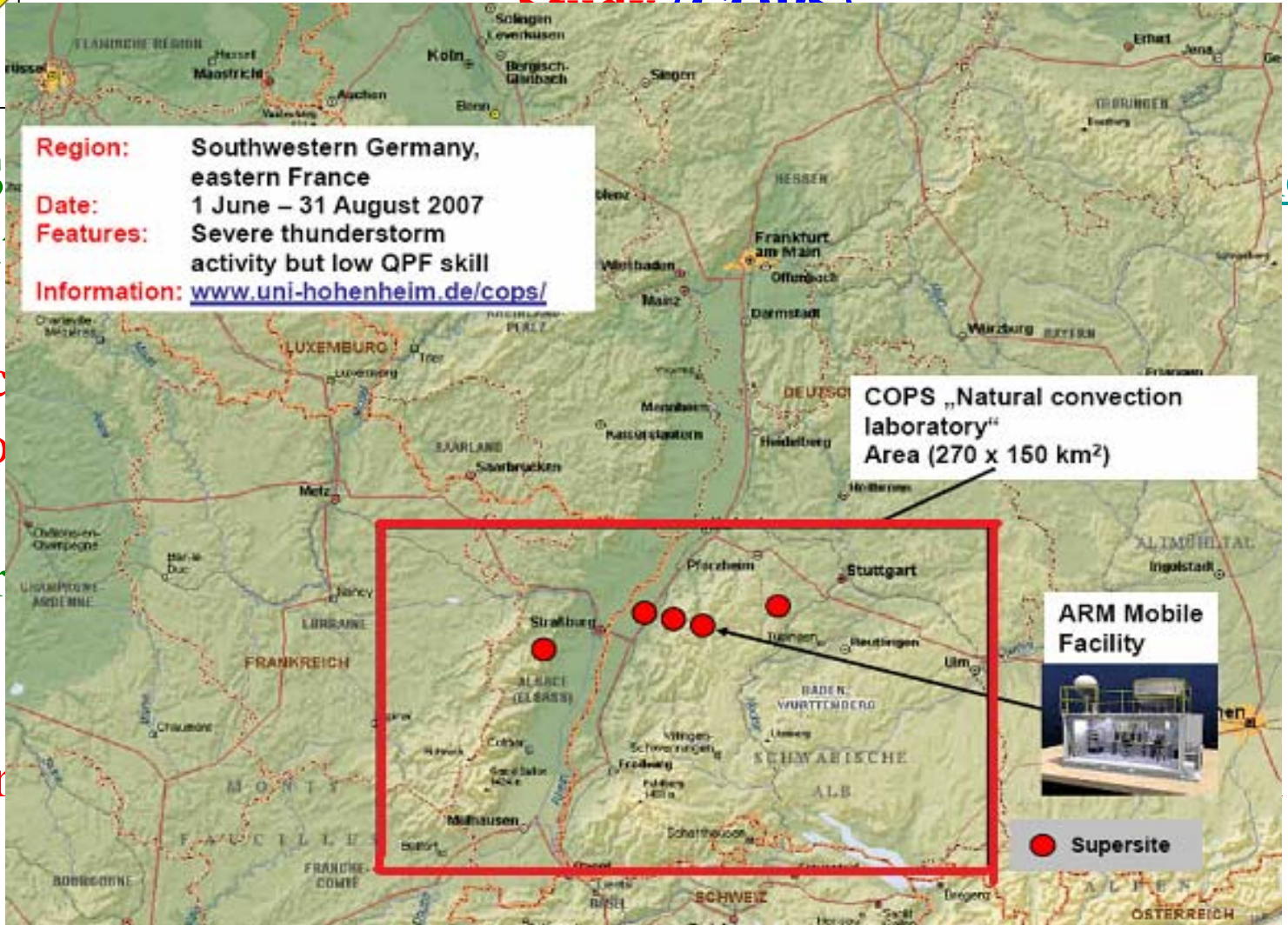
# Convective and Orographically-induced Precipitation Study (COPS)

➤ COPS  
3 months

➤ Objectives  
response

➤ Synergies  
were

➤ Observations



to the formation and development and decay of precipitation

# Water vapour inter-comparison effort

main objective

error estimates for the different water vapour profiling/integrated column sensors based on an intensive inter-comparison effort.

Different Instruments

- airborne and ground-based water vapour lidar systems
- Radiosondes
- GPS
- MW radiometers

Simultaneous and co-located data

to compute relative bias and root-mean square (RMS) deviations










Need

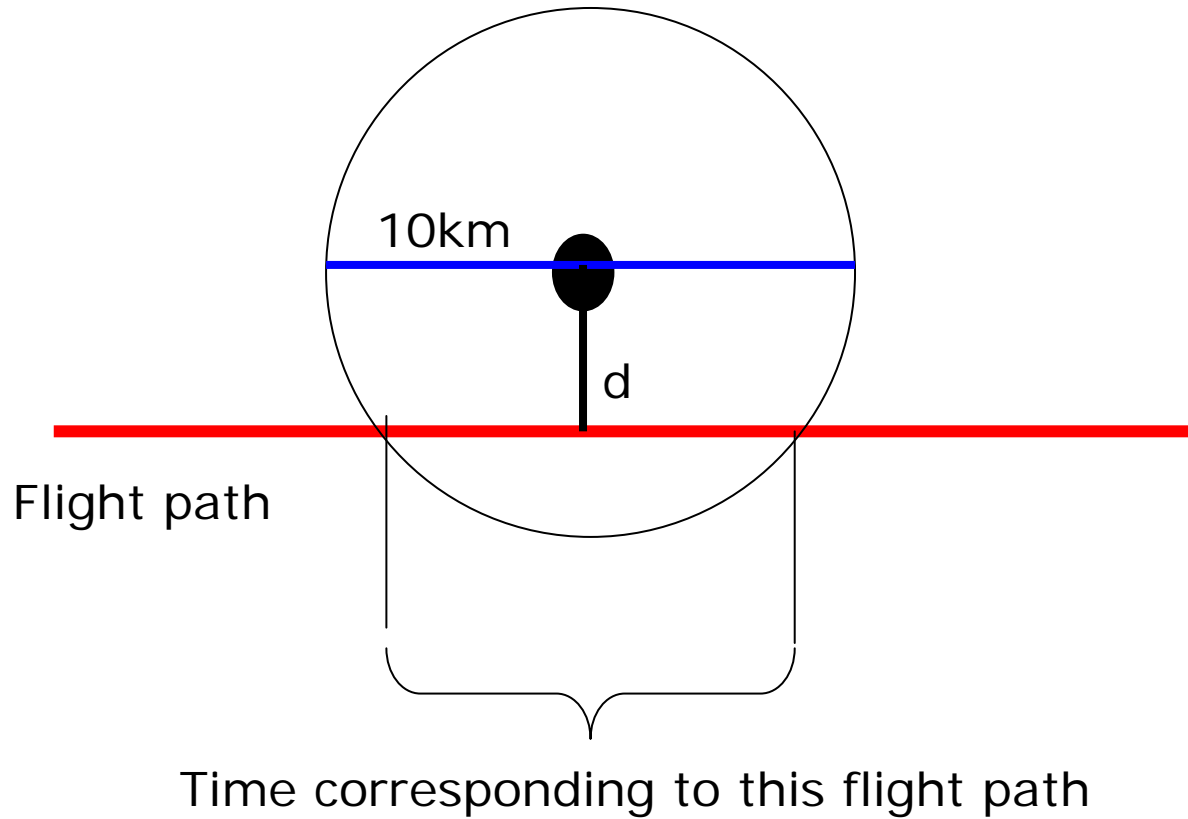
complete and comprehensive inter-comparison table





# Possible lidar-to-lidar intercomparisons for H<sub>2</sub>O

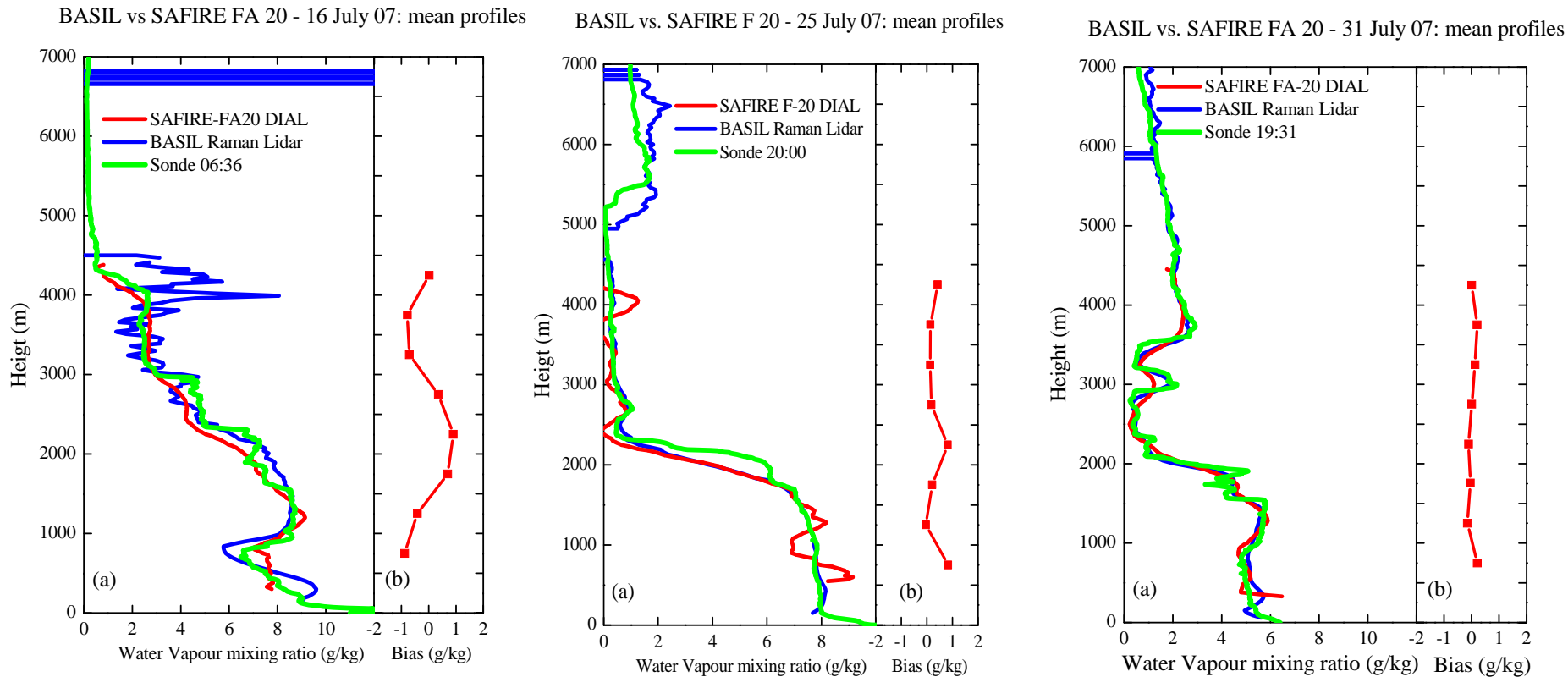
BASIL Raman Lidar (Site R) vs SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL		25 comparisons
BASIL Raman Lidar (Site R) vs DLR DIAL		10 comparisons (only 3)
UHOH DIAL (Site H) vs SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL		16 Comparisons (only 12)
UHOH DIAL (Site H) vs DLR DIAL		11 comparisons
Bertha IFT (Site M) vs SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL		6 comparisons
Bertha IFT (Site M) vs DLR DIAL		9 comparisons
IGN Raman Lidar (Site V) vs SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL		7 comparisons (only 6)
IGN Raman Lidar (Site V) vs DLR DIAL		1 comparisons
SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL vs DLR DIAL		14 comparisons (only 5)



# SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL vs BASIL Raman Lidar – EUFAR Experiment

- SAFIRE-FA20 flights in the frame of the EUFAR Project H2OLidar were performed on 16 July, 25 July and 31 July.
- Each flight had a duration of 3 hours for a total of 9 hours.
- In order to reduce statistical fluctuations, we considered for the SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL an integration time of 80 sec, corresponding to an horizontal integration length of 12-15 km. The integration time for BASIL was taken to be 1 min.
- The vertical step of the measurements is 25 m for the SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL, while it is 30 m for BASIL. Vertical resolution is 250 m and 150 m, respectively.
- Previous studies (Behrendt, 2007a,b) revealed that comparison of airborne and ground-based lidars are possible if distance between the aircraft footprint and the ground-based system is not exceeding 10 km. Thus, in our analysis we considered only DIAL profiles within 10 km from BASIL.
- The number of considered comparisons between SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL and BASIL is 18, 6 on each day.

# Comparison between *BASIL* and *SAFIRE-FA20* DIAL on 16, 25 and 31 July 07 expressed in terms of mean daily profiles



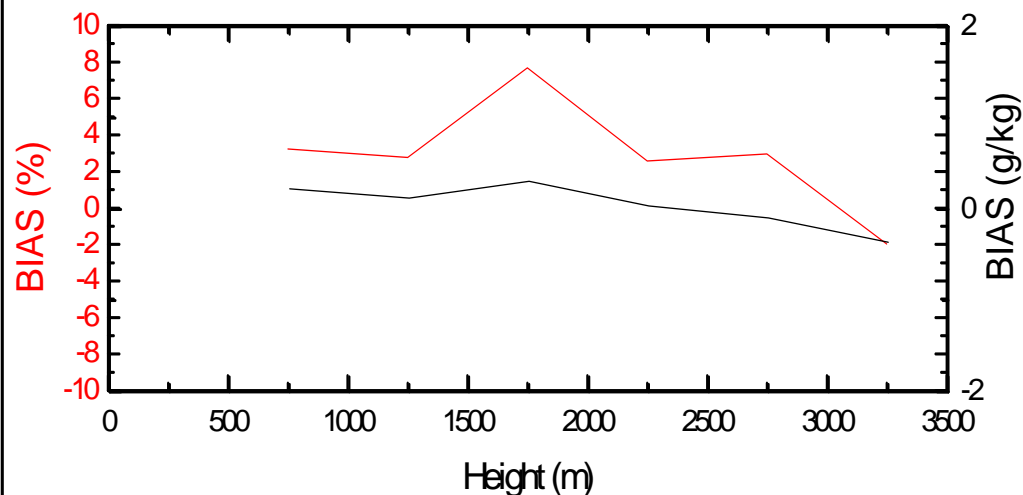
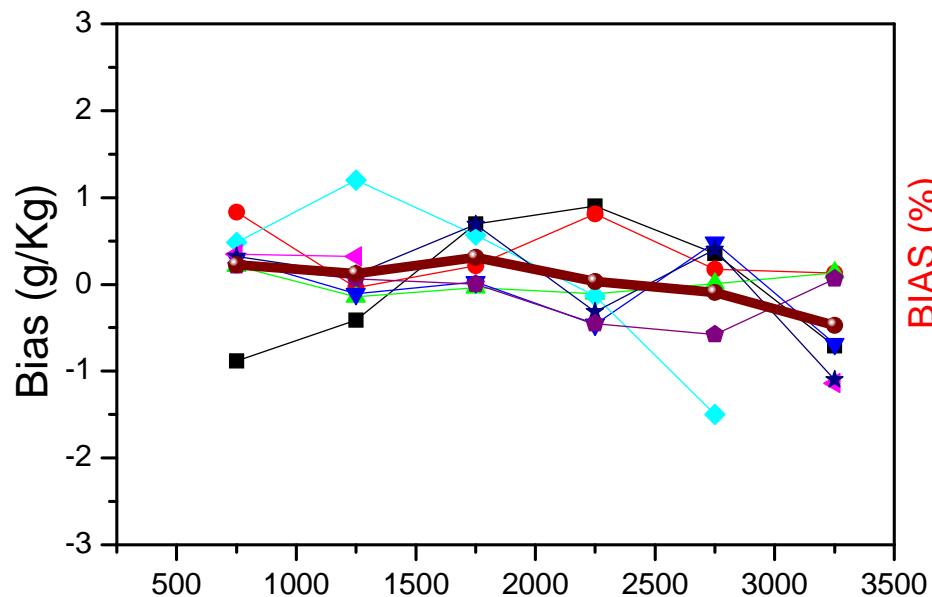
Larger deviations between the two instruments are found at the top of the boundary layer, where the effect of inhomogeneities may be larger.

**Mean relative bias: 3.9 %** (0.08 g/kg) in the altitude region 0–4.5 km a.g.l.

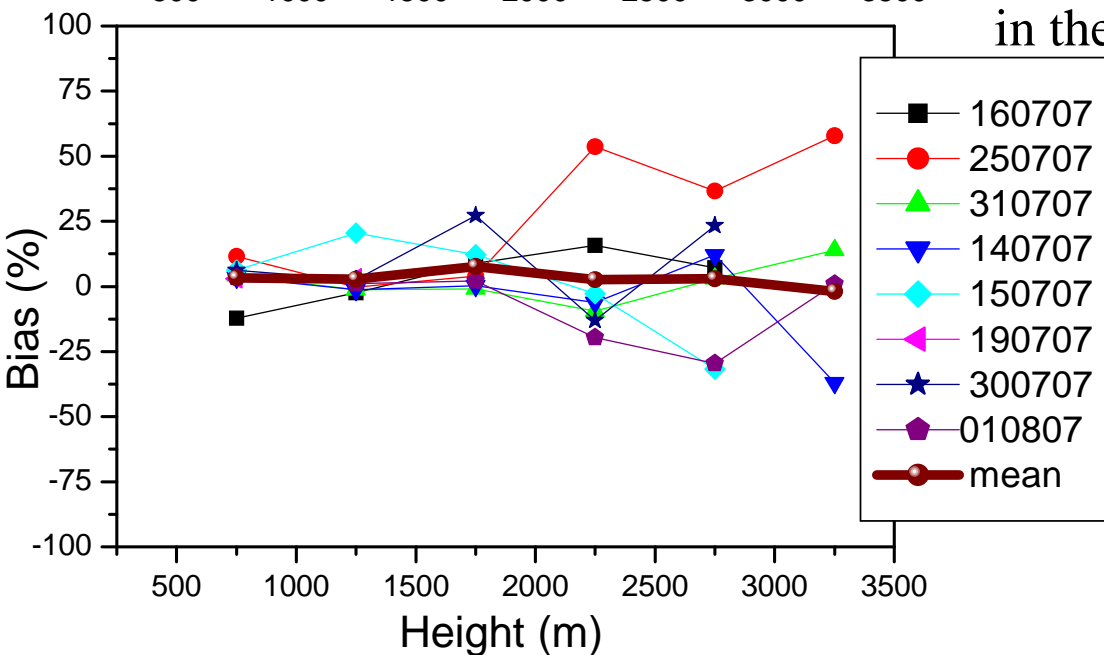
**Mean RMS: 13.7 %** (0.97 g/kg)



# Bias intercomparison BASIL Raman Lidar vs. SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL including all possible flights (EUFAR+COPS)



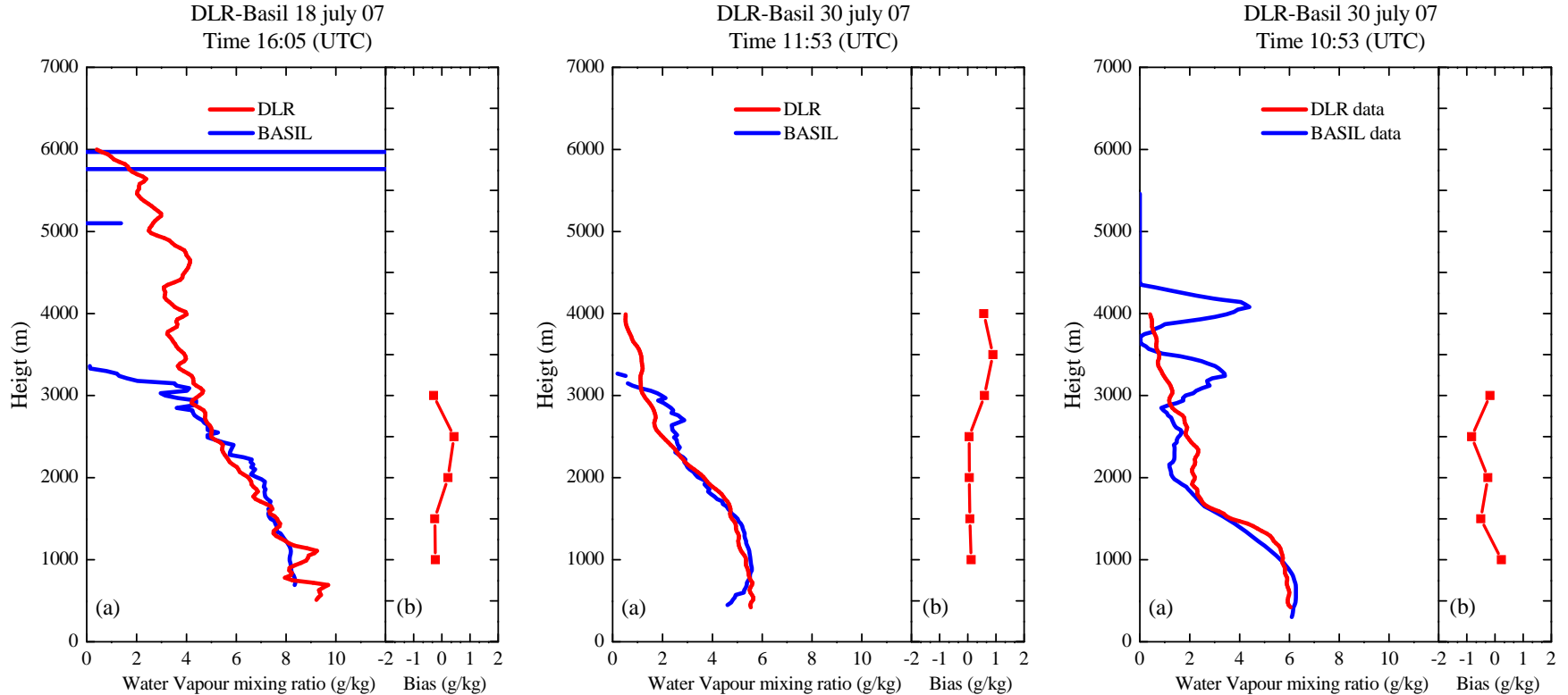
**Mean relative bias: 2.1 % (0.12 g/kg)**  
in the altitude region 0–3.5 km a.g.l.



$$\text{Bias}_{t,\text{absolute}}(z_1, z_2) = \frac{\sum_{z=z_1}^{z_2} [q_1(z) - q_2(z)]}{N_z}$$

$$\text{Bias}_{t,\text{relative}}(z_1, z_2) = \frac{2 \sum_{z=z_1}^{z_2} [q_1(z) - q_2(z)]}{\sum_{z=z_1}^{z_2} [q_1(z) + q_2(z)]}$$

# BASIL Raman Lidar vs DLR DIAL

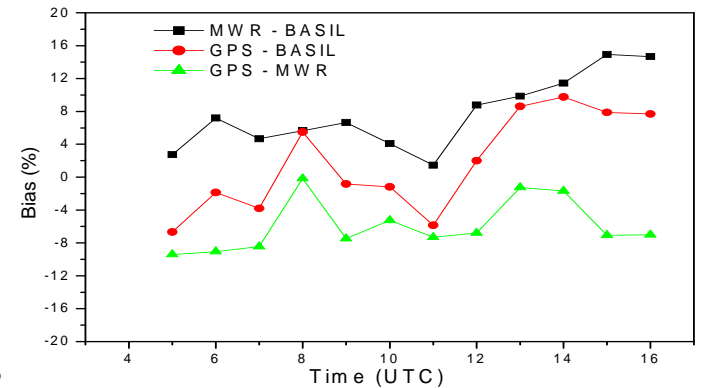
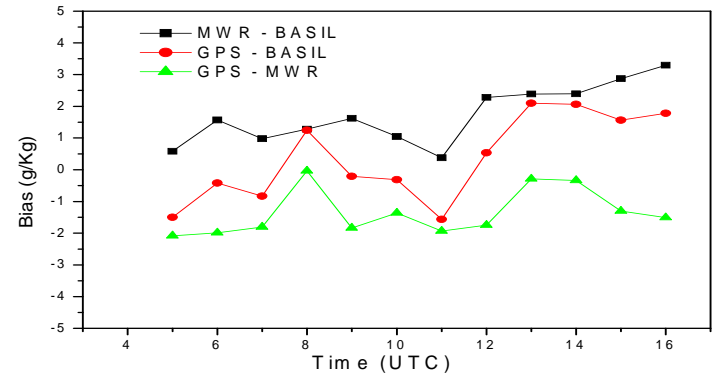
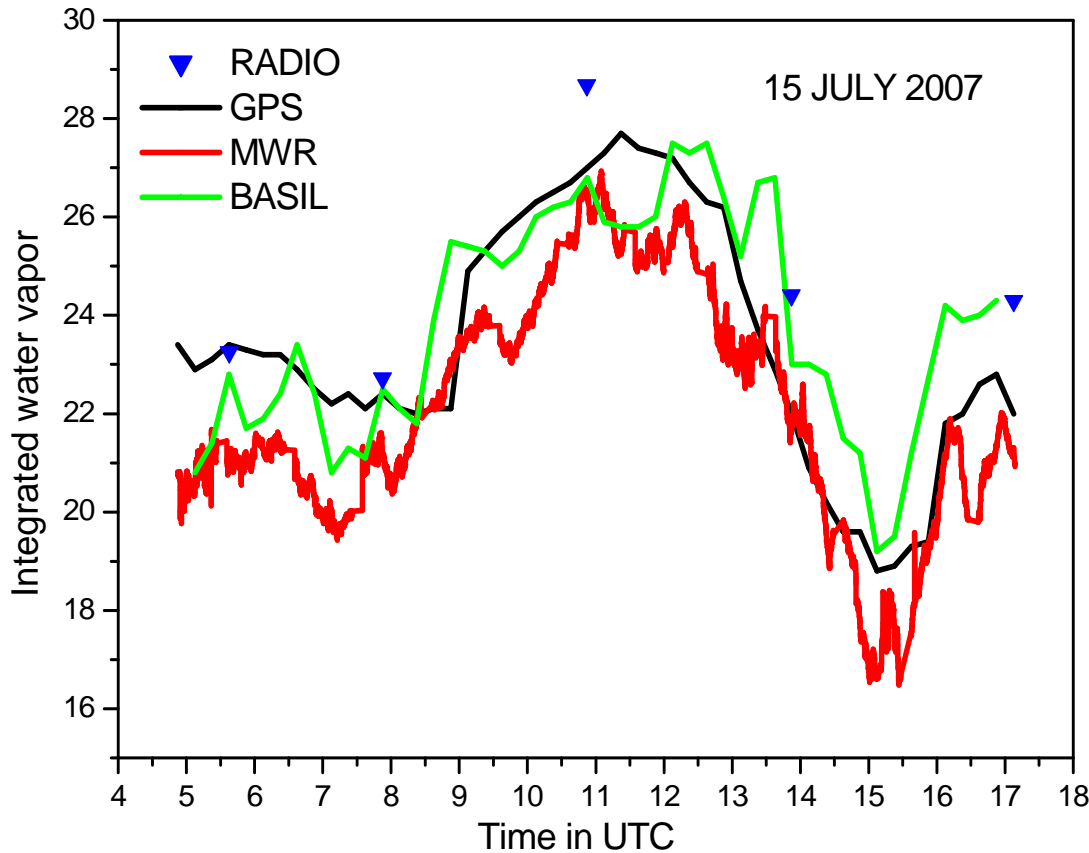


Mean relative bias:  $-3.5\%$  ( $-0.24$  g/kg) in the altitude region 0–3 km a.g.l.

Mean RMS:  $13\%$  ( $0.45$  g/kg)

# Integrated Water vapour inter-comparison

## BASIL Raman Lidar vs. MWR, GPS and Radiosonde



BASIL – MWR : 7.6% (1.7g/Kg) , **BASIL – GPS : 1.7 % (0.3g/Kg)**

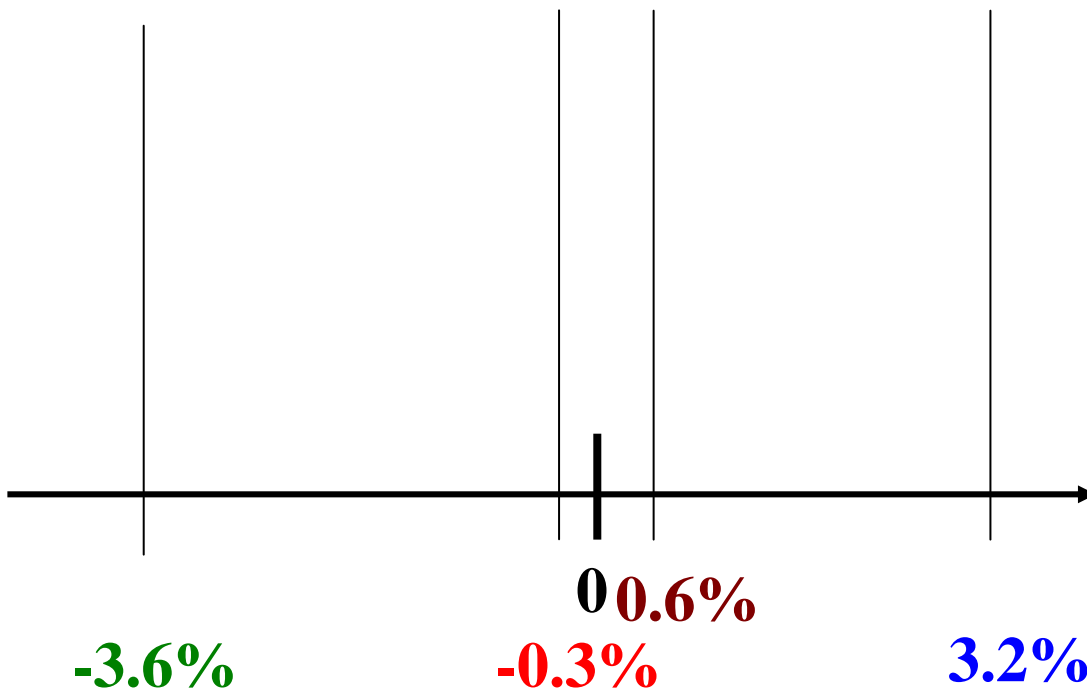
**GPS – MWR: -5.9 % (-1.3g/Kg)**

**SAFIRE**

**BASIL**

**GPS**

**DLR**



Putting equal weight on the data reliability of each instrument, results in bias values of

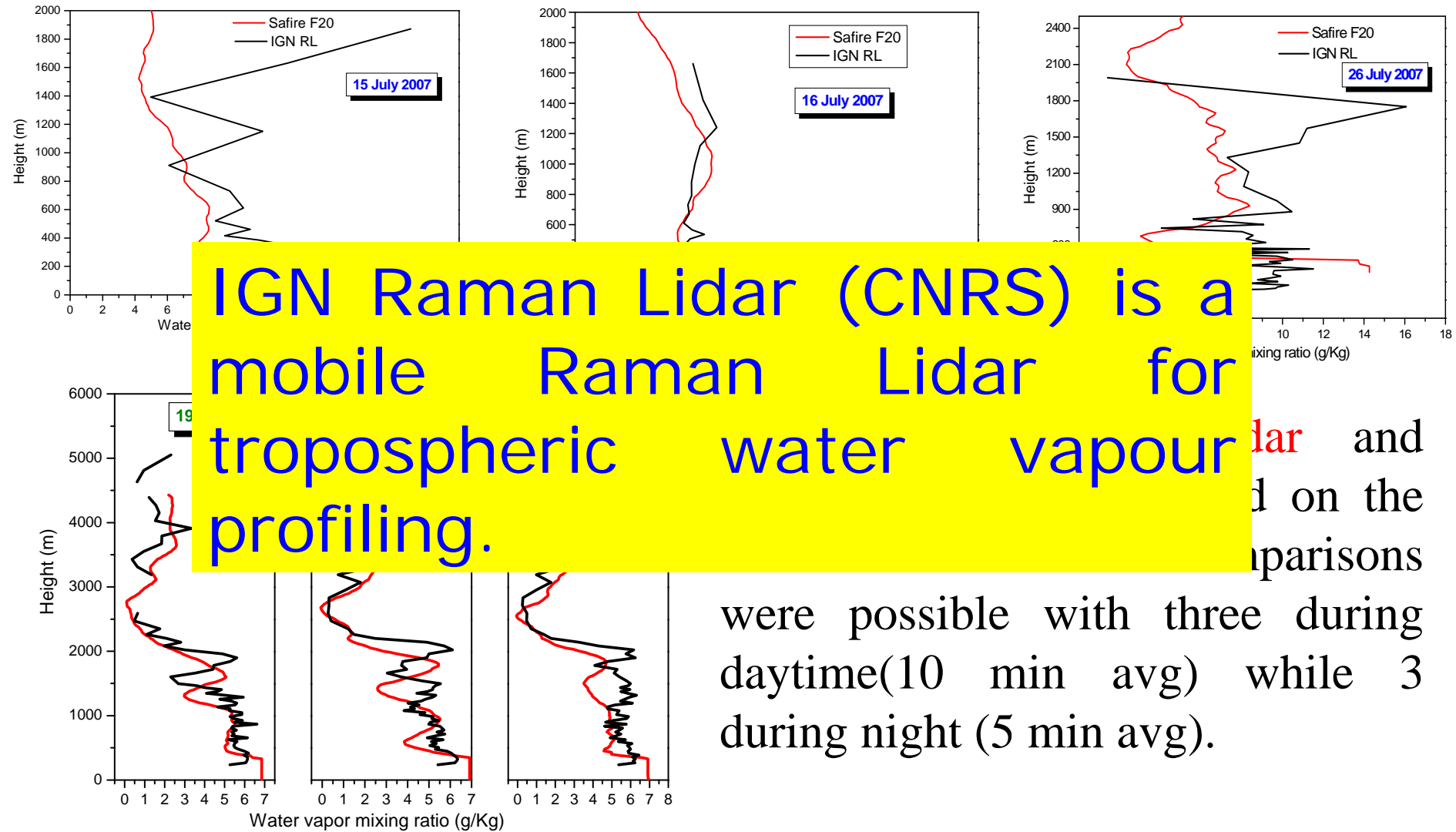
**BASIL RL**      **-0.3 %**

**DLR DIAL**      **3.2 %**

**SAFIRE-FA20**   **-3.6 %**

**GPS**              **0.6%**

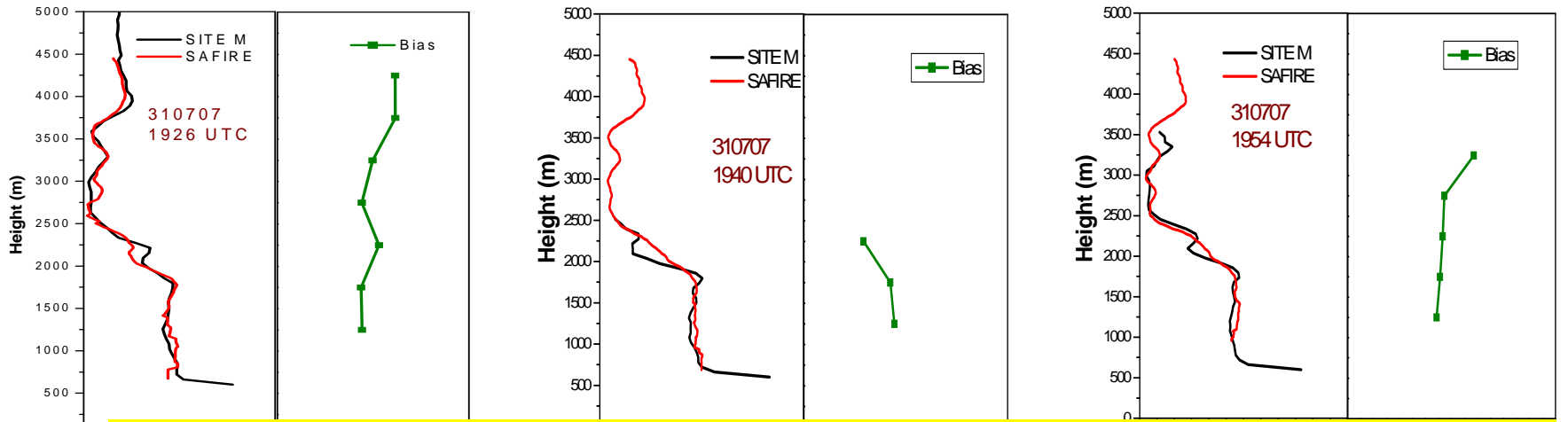
# IGN Raman Lidar (Site V) vs SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL



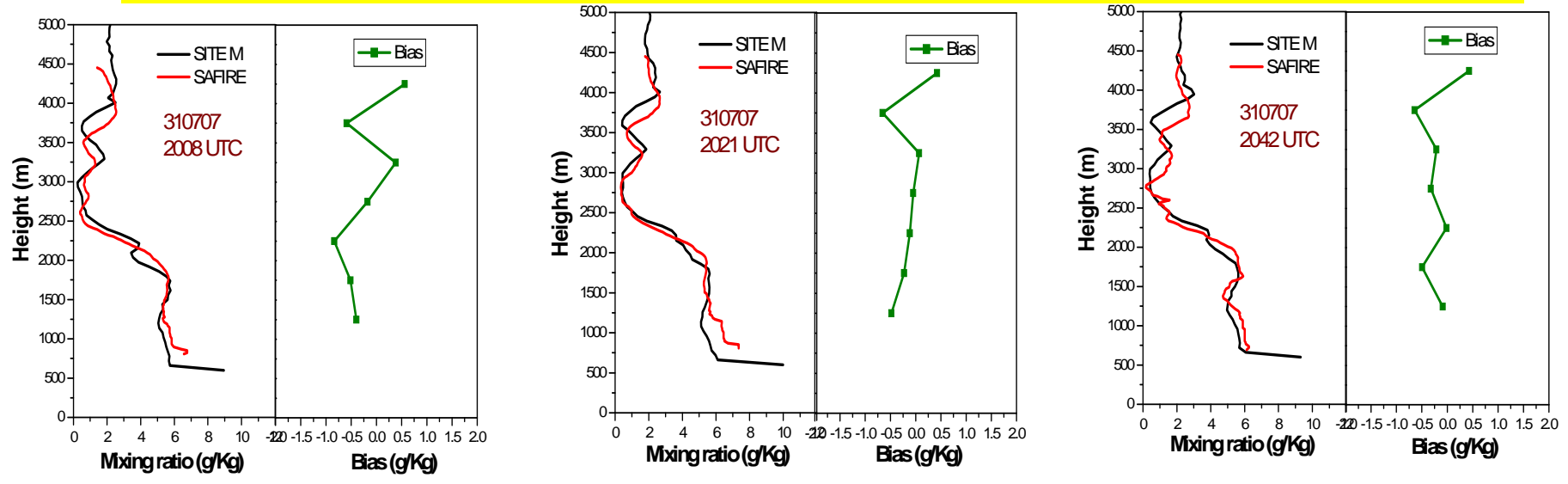
comparisons were possible with three during daytime (10 min avg) while 3 during night (5 min avg).

**Mean relative bias: -8.7 % (0.17 g/Kg) in the altitude region 0–3 km a.g.l.**

# IFT Lidar (Site M) vs SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL

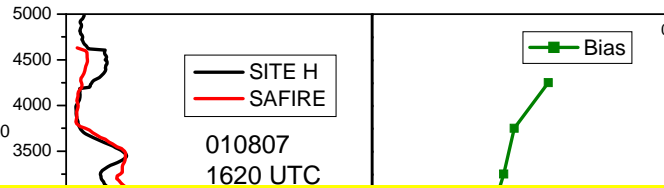
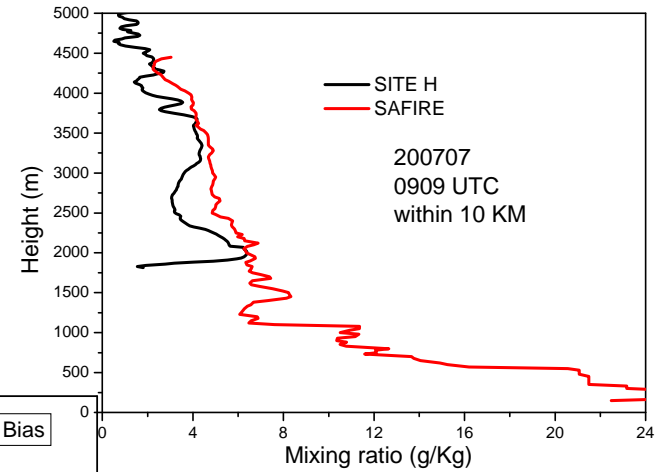
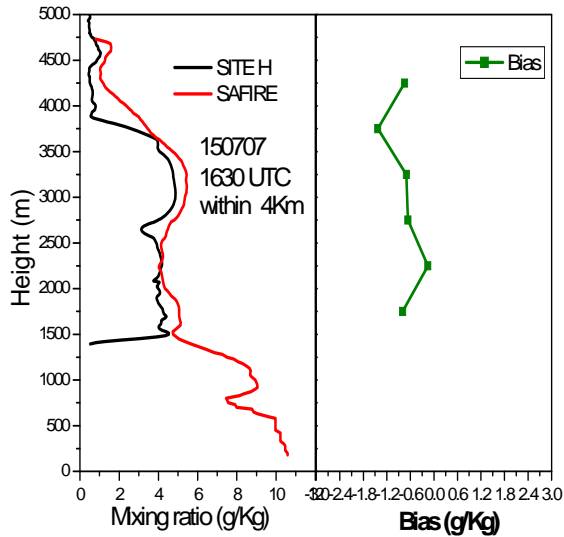


Mean relative bias is -5.6% (0.57 g/Kg)

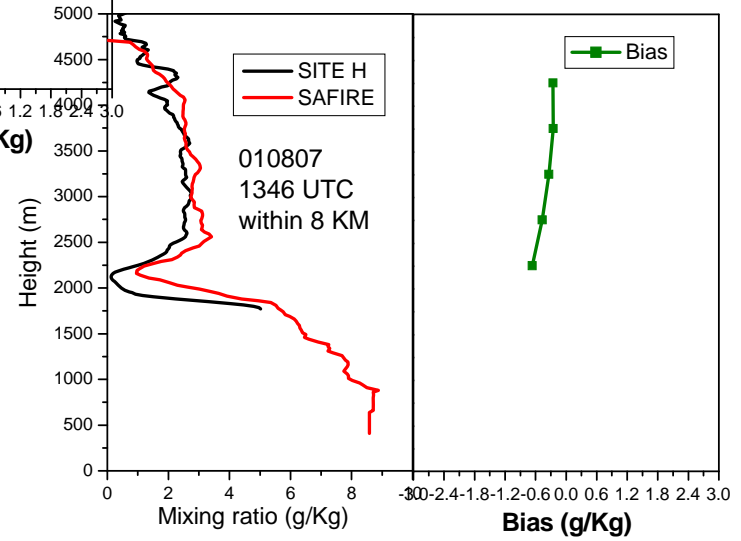
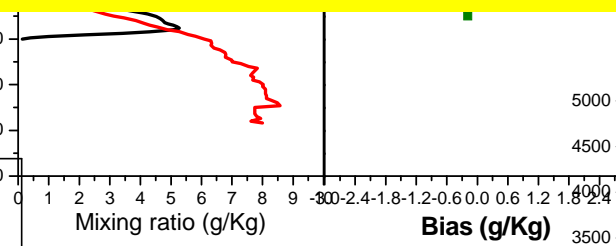
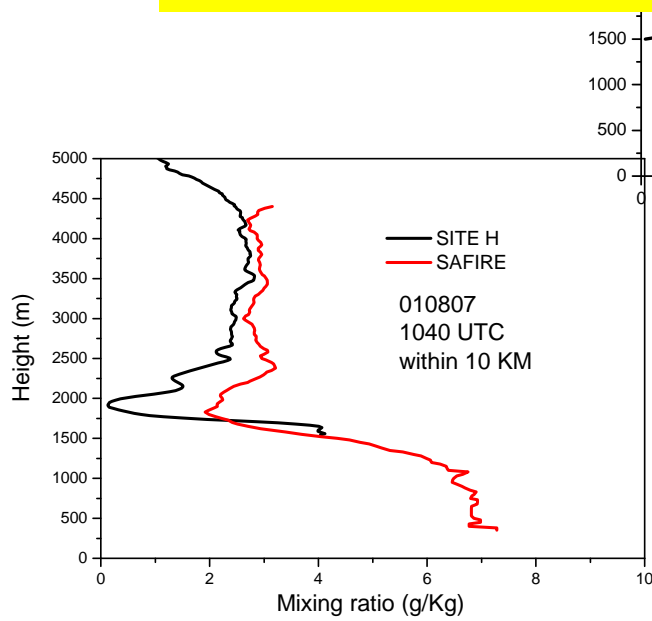




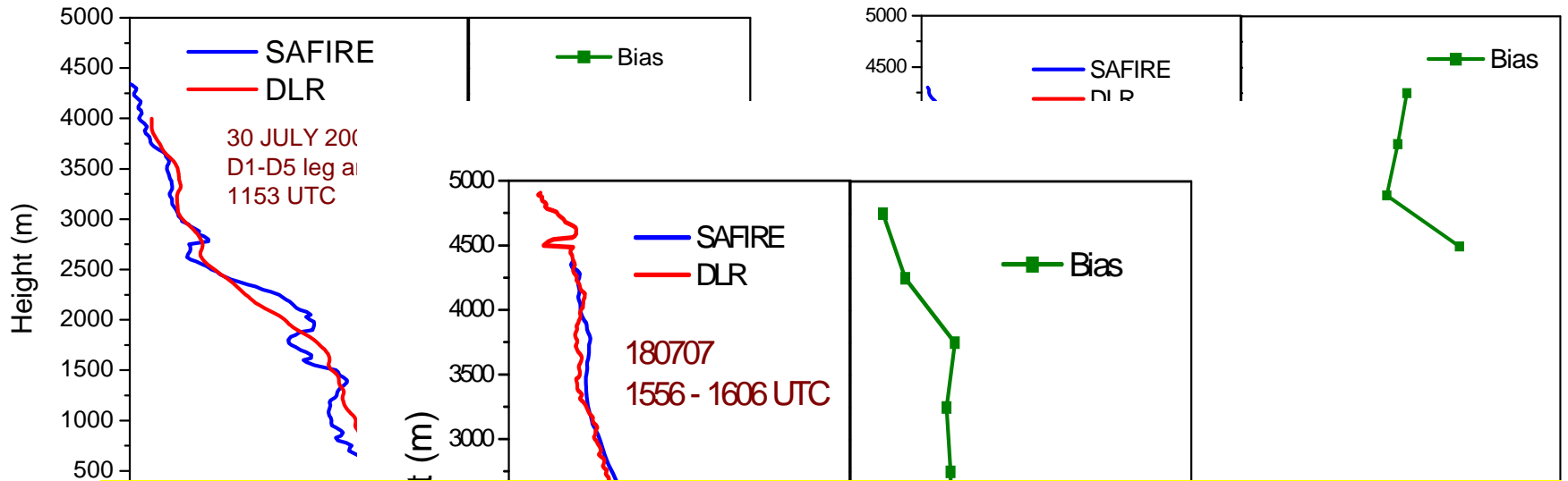
# UHOH DIAL(Site H) vs SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL



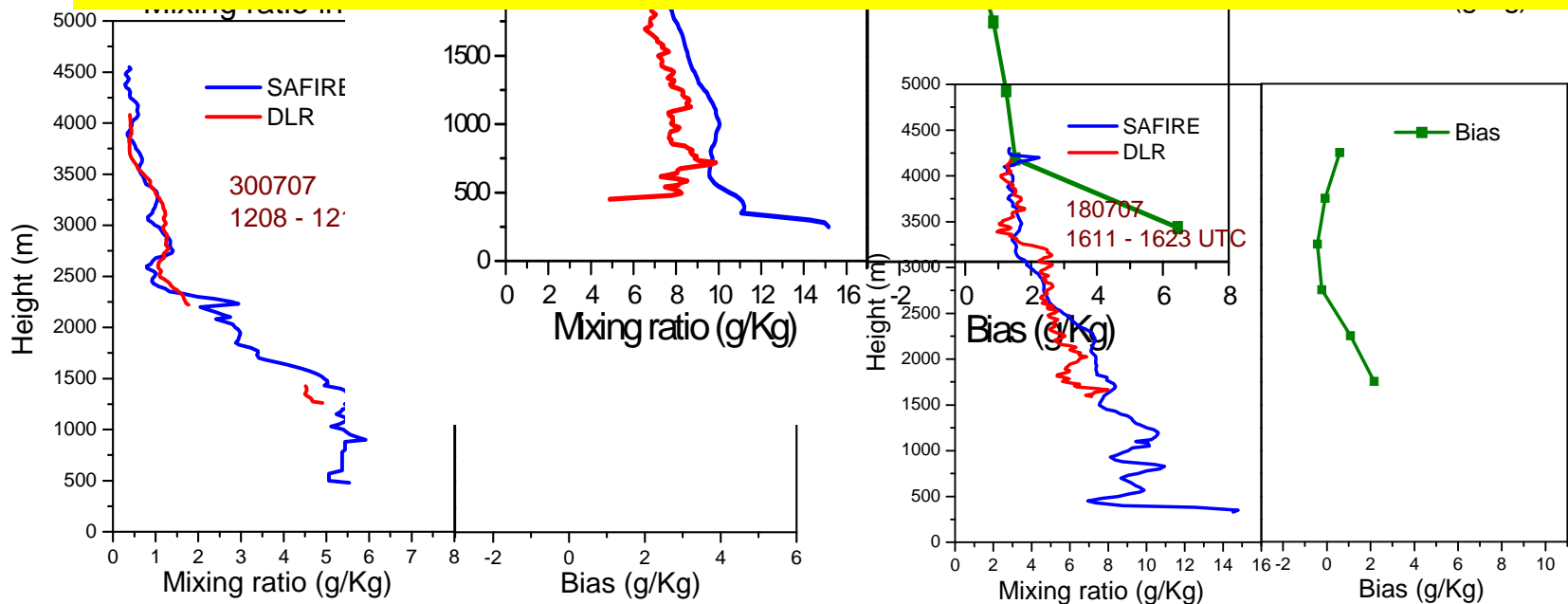
Mean relative bias is -20.3% (-0.48 g/Kg)



# SAFIRE-FA20 DIAL vs DLR DIAL



Mean relative bias is 3.73% (0.168 g/Kg)



## Radiosonde inter-comparison on July 13th

226 radiosondes launched in Supersite R during COPS

Sondes with different humidity sensors: Vaisala RS92, RS80-A and RS80-H

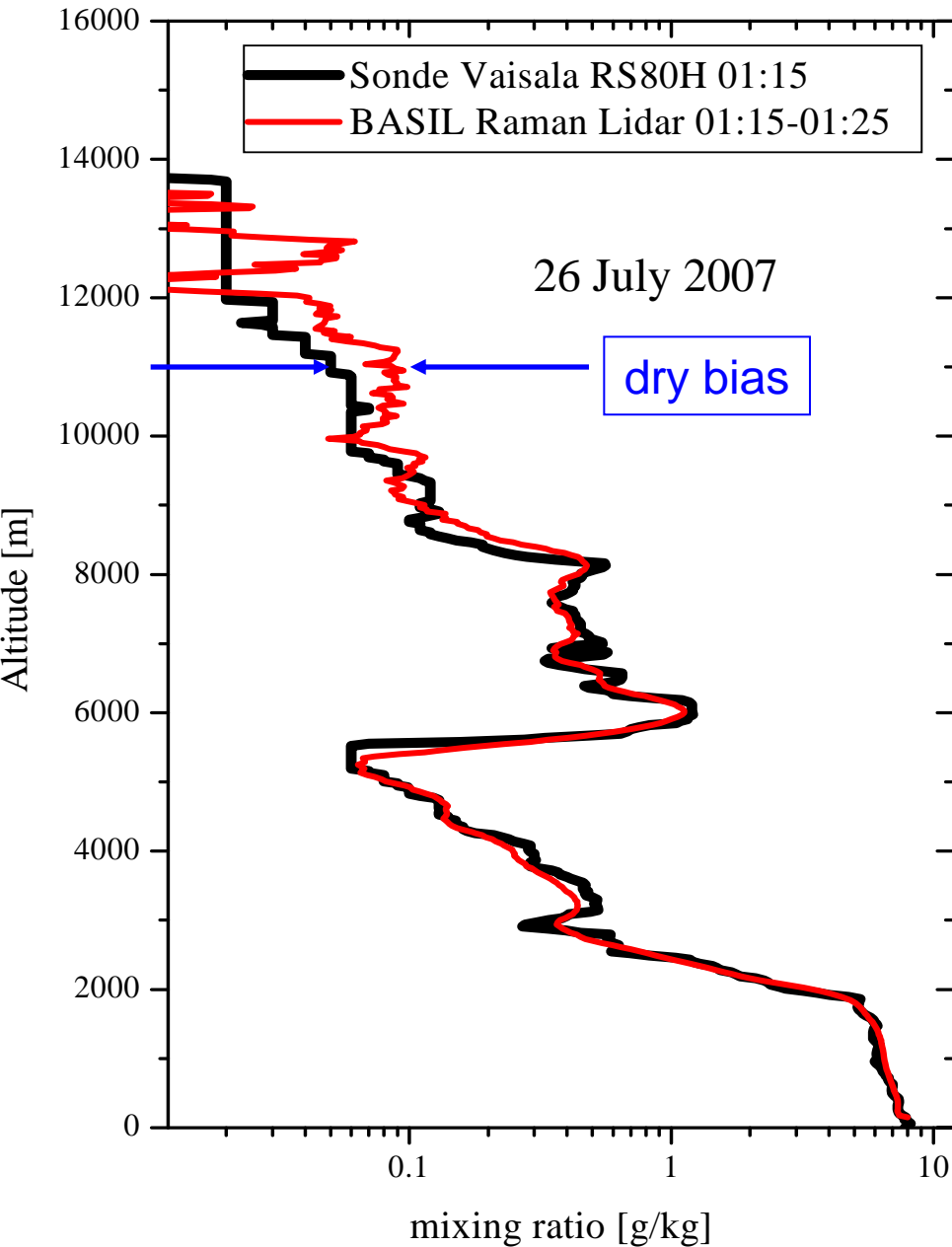
95 sondes RS92 – 13 July through 2 August, 21-30 August

RS 80 launched in all other periods (88 RS80-A and 43 RS80-H).

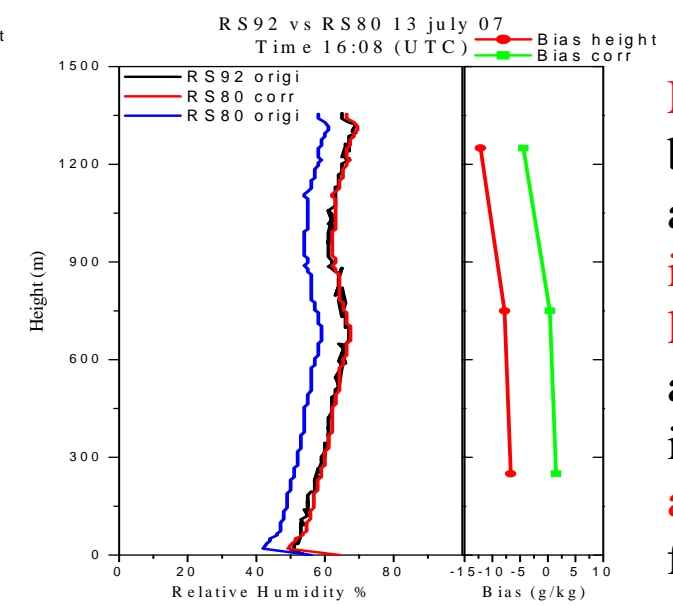
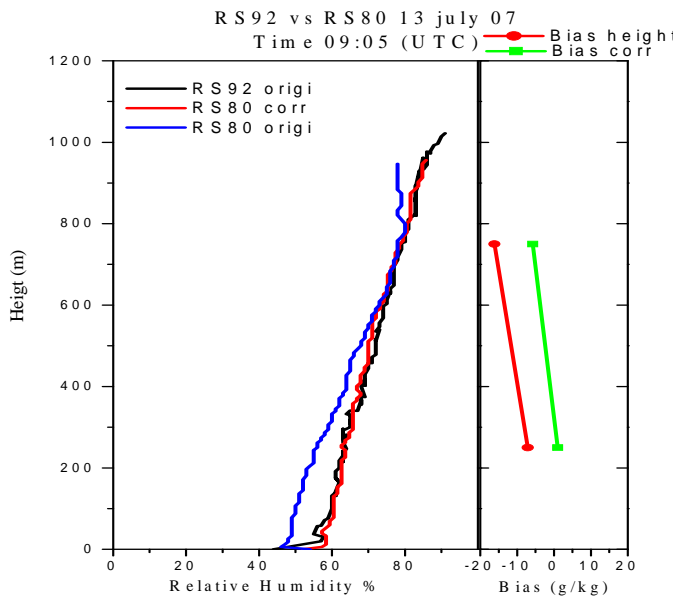
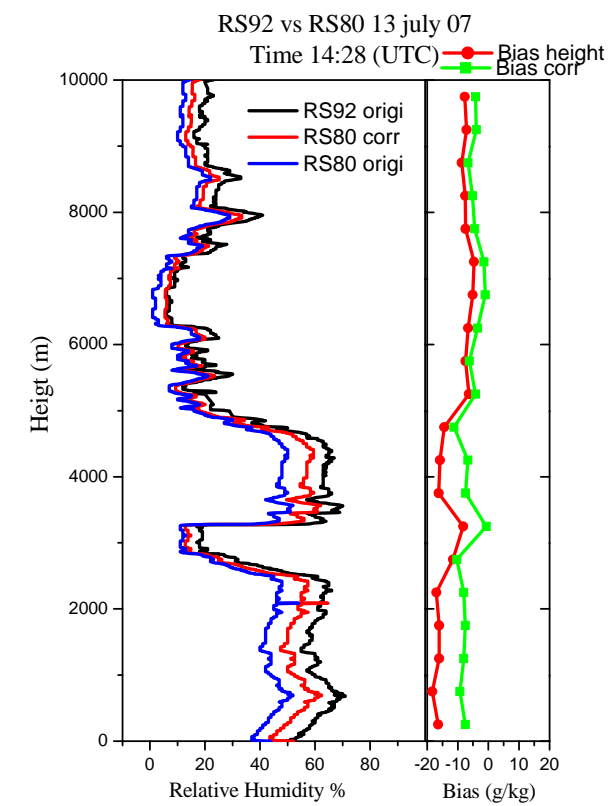
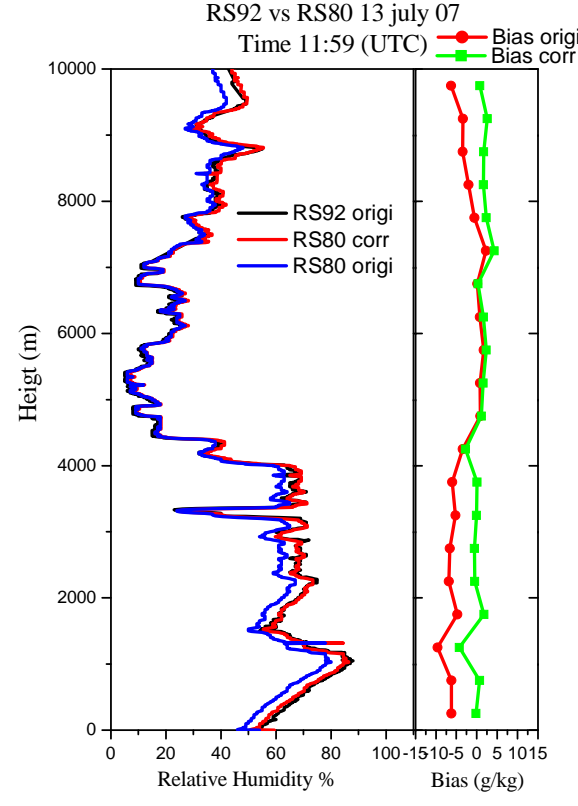
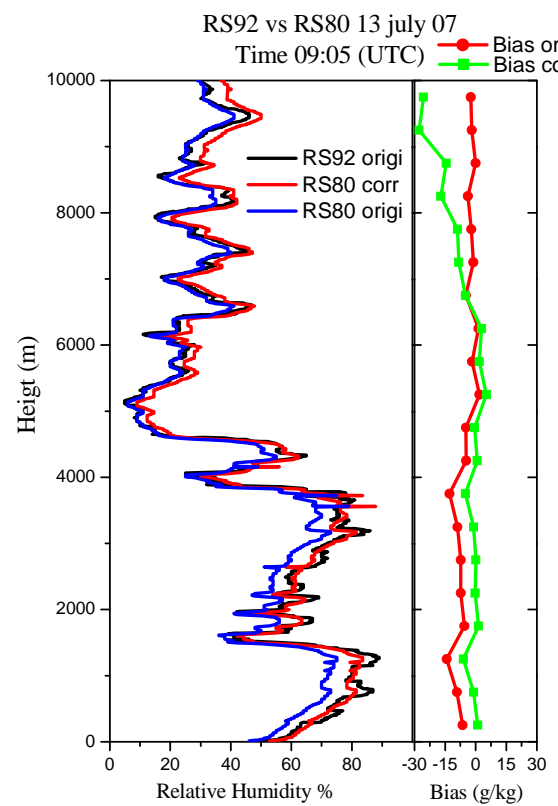
- ❖ Vaisala RS92, RS80-A and RS80-H were launched on July 13<sup>th</sup> for the Radiosonde inter-comparison effort.
  
- ❖ The known different types of systematic errors for the RS80-A and H
  - 1) Chemical Contamination error
  - 2) Temperature dependence error
  - 3) Basic calibration model error
  - 4) Sensor-arm-heating error
  - 5) Ground-check errors

Wang et al., 2002,  
Miloshevich et al., 2004,  
Vomel et al., 2007,
  
- ❖ The RS92 is also known to be affected by the solar radiation which induces a dry bias in the relative humidity measured by the sensor.

# BASIL Raman Lidar vs RS80H (with advanced humicap sensor)



Example of temperature dependent error leading to a radiosonde dry bias in the upper troposphere



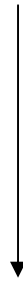
Mean relative bias  
between RS80 (A&H)  
and RS92 for all five  
inter-comparison  
launches on 13 July 07 -  
after correction of RS80 -  
is found to be  
approximately -4.5 %  
from -12 %

## Future work

Extend the inter-comparison to  
**all possible couples of water  
vapour sensors**



to get an accurate error estimates  
for the different water vapour  
profiling/integrated column  
sensors



We need to come to an **assessment** of **bias** between **different  
sensors** with **respect to a reference sensor**  
**The DIAL!!!!**