

Satellite Constraints on Arctic-region Airborne Particles

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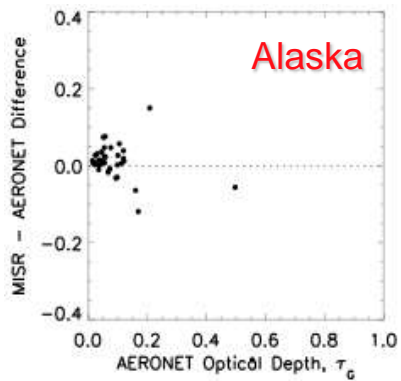


Sea of Okhotsk, MODIS image Feb. 6 , 2007, NASA Earth Observatory

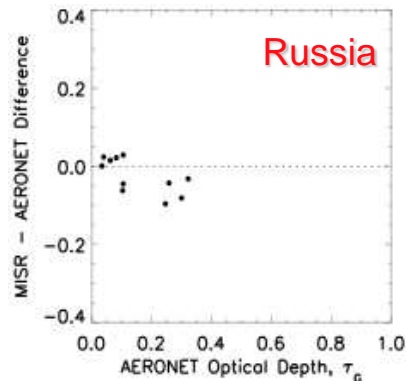
Arctic Aerosol Remote Sensing Overview

- Aerosol remote sensing is especially **challenging in the polar regions**, due to the combination of very bright surface, low sun angle, persistent cloud (including thin cirrus), and generally low aerosol optical depth (AOD). Some success in retrieving AOD over incomplete snow-covered surfaces has been achieved with passive imagers such as MISR.
- Despite limited coverage, **CALIPSO lidar** is by far the most sensitive and is the best available space-based source of total-column and height-resolved Arctic aerosol observations, especially at night, when signal/noise is highest. The **SAGE passive limb-sounders** also provide height-resolved aerosol extinction profiles in the stratosphere and upper troposphere, again with very limited sampling. But results tend to be **averaged** over space and time.
- **Passive imagers**, such as MODIS, MISR, and TOMS-OMI, provide broader spatial coverage on shorter timescales, making **event-resolved studies** possible. Such observations can be acquired reliably at lower latitudes, near the aerosol sources (mainly Boreal fires and pollution sites) where and when the surface is not snow-covered, and the AOD and sun elevation angle are higher. A promising approach to assessing high-latitude aerosol effects from passive imagers is to **constrain chemical transport models with satellite observations at lower latitudes**, and use the models to simulate conditions in the Arctic.
- Similarly, gas molecules such as **CO and SO₂**, mapped globally from space by AIRS, OMI, and other instruments, can serve as smoke and particle pollution tracers for constraining transport model simulations.
- Given the limitations of each approach, the **combination of active and passive satellite measurements, suborbital observations** for validation and additional detail, **and transport modeling** constrained by observations, is required to complete the Arctic aerosol picture.

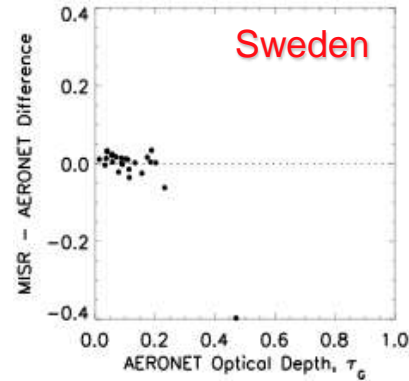
The Plusses and Minuses of Surface-based Sun Photometry



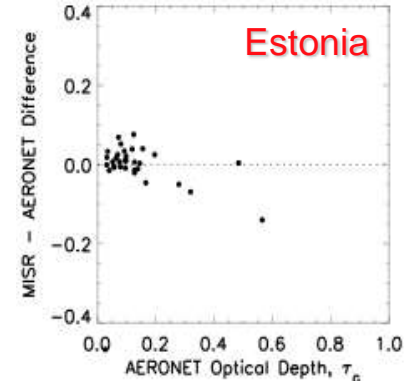
Bonanza Crk (64.7, -148.3)
7 years, 40 coincidences



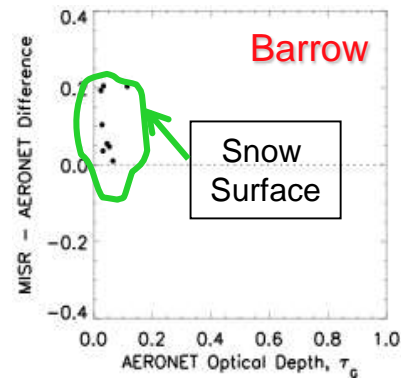
Yakutsk Ru (61.7, 129.4)
3 years, 12 coincidences



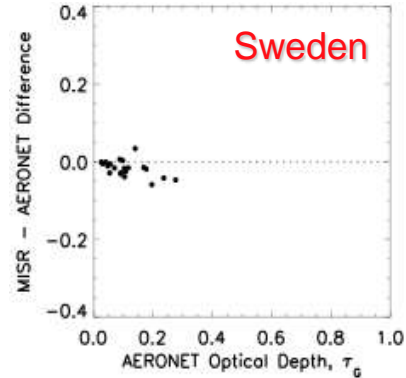
SMHI Swdn (58.6, 16.2)
3 years, 25 coincidences



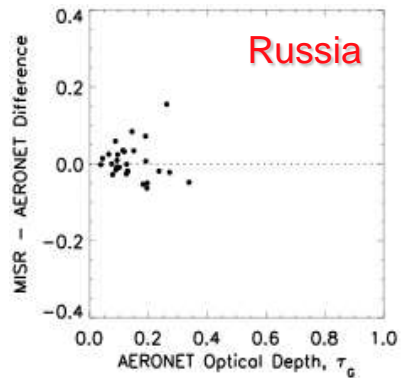
Toravere Estna (58.3, 26.5)
5 years, 34 coincidences



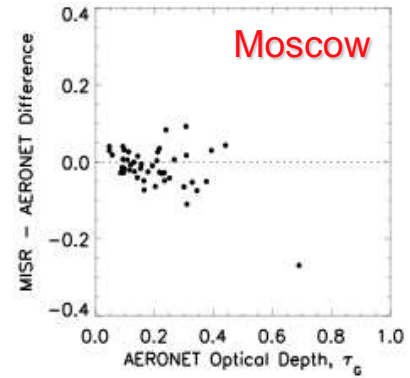
Barrow AK (71.3, -156.7)
5 years, 8 coincidences



Gotland Swdn (57.9, 19.0)
3 years, 21 coincidences



Tomsk Ru (56.5, 85.1.7)
5 years, 29 coincidences



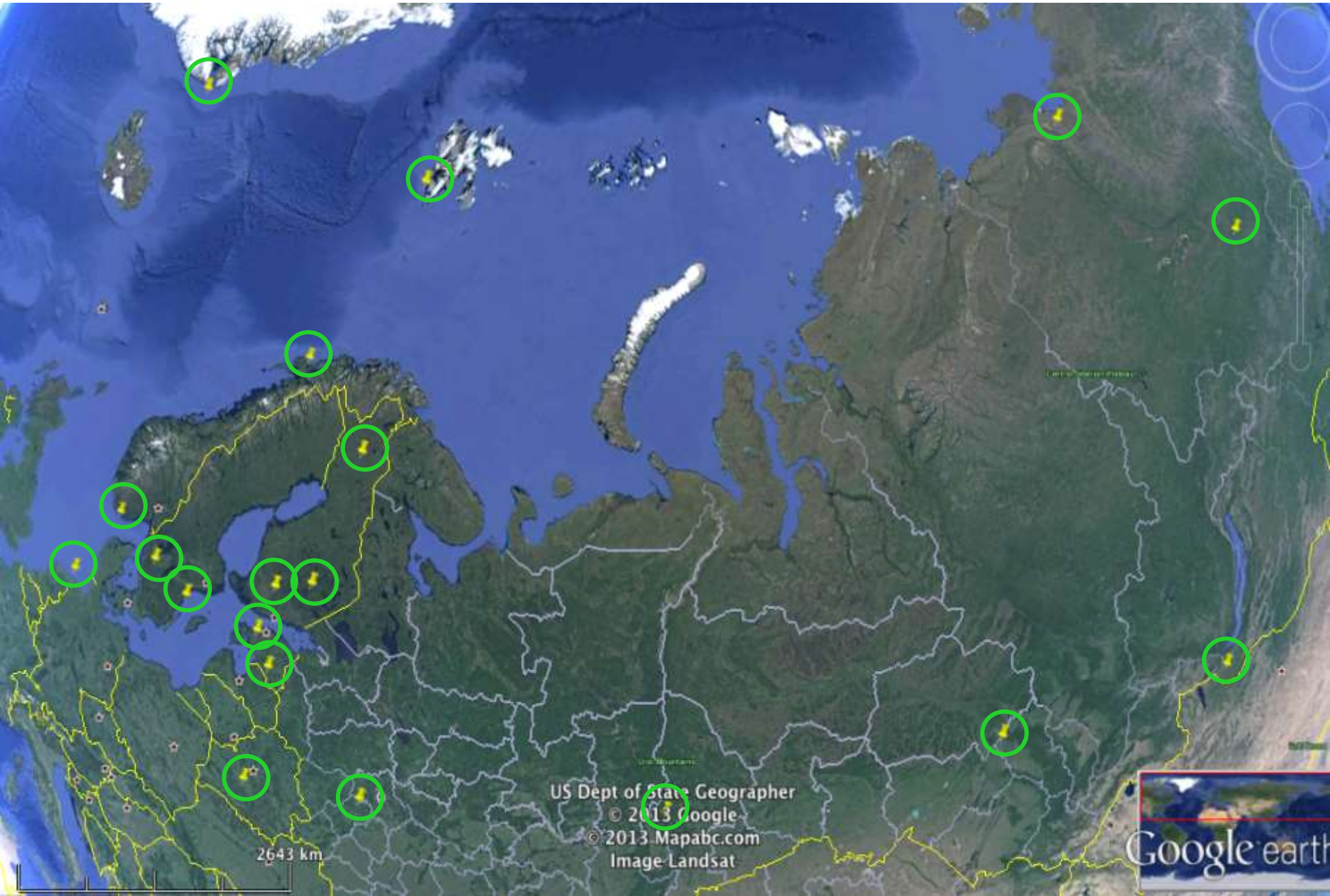
Moscow Ru (55.7, 37.5)
6 years, 46 coincidences

- Mid-visible **AOT's are generally <0.4**, and most are $\lesssim 0.2$
- Most AERONET sites are **snow-free** during operation; **only eight sites** north of 70°N (in 2013)
- Persistent **cloudiness** limits coverage frequency (coincidences with MISR are shown)
- At latitudes **above around 70°N** , **low sun angle** is an issue

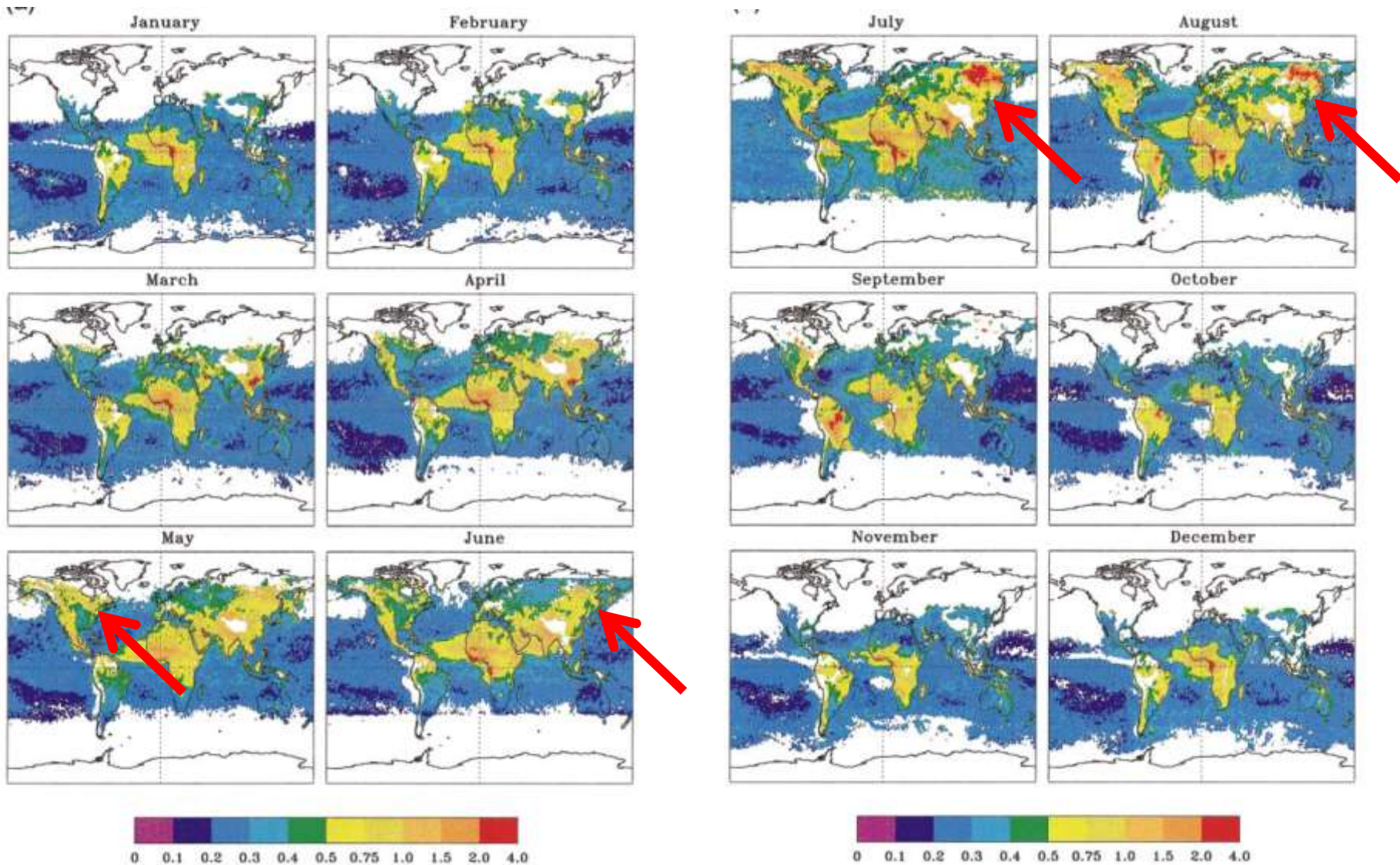
AERONET Arctic Sites Reporting *Any* Data in 2013 (Approximate)



AERONET Arctic Sites Reporting *Any* Data in 2013 (Approximate)



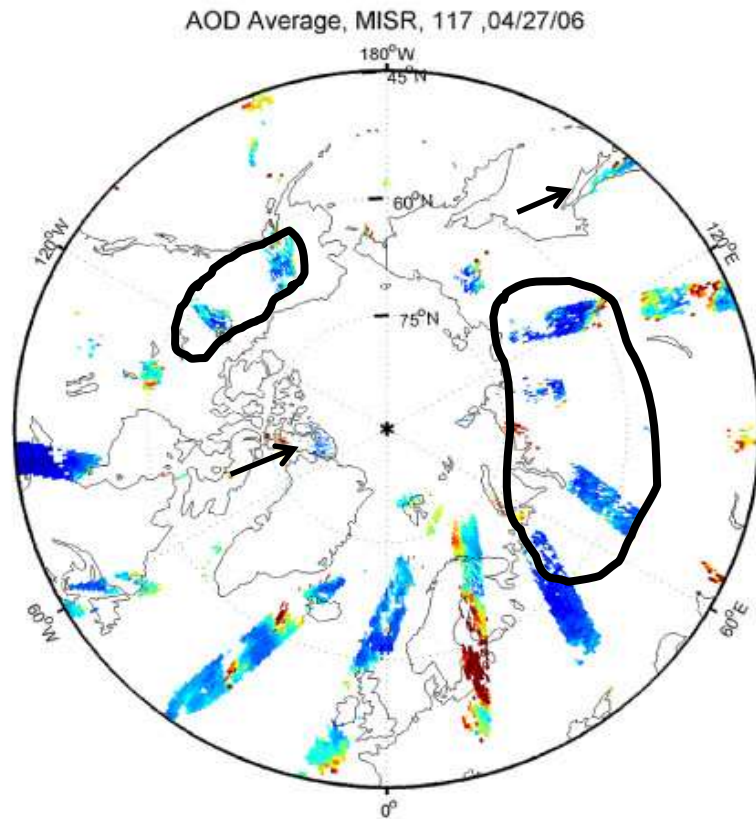
1979-1991 Monthly Average Nimbus 7 TOMS Mid-visible AOD



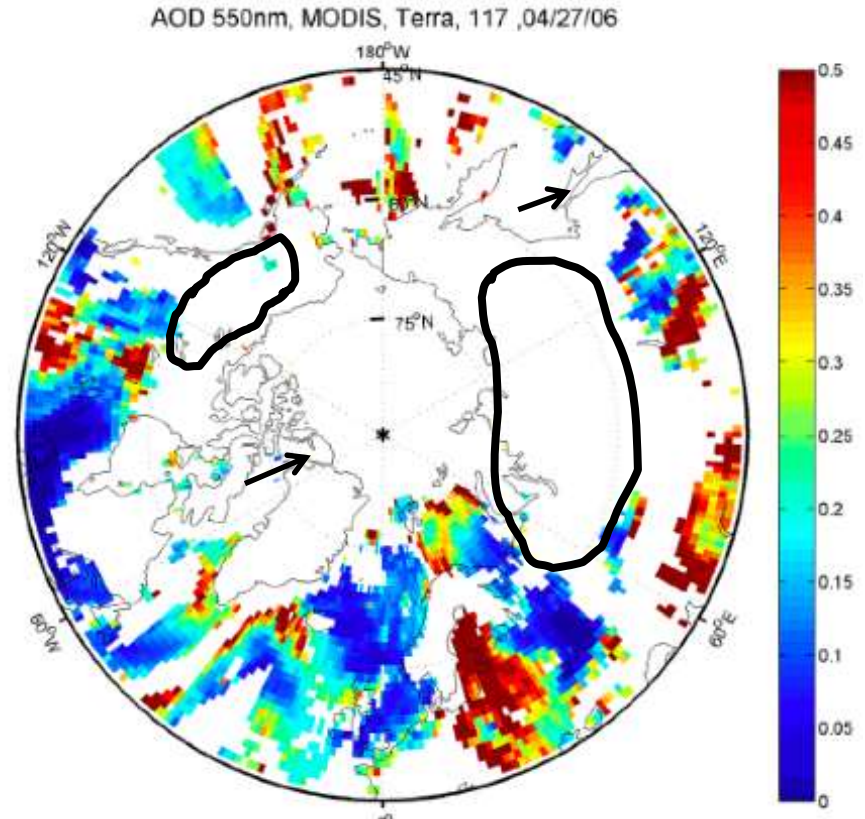
Passive Remote sensing (UV) constrains *Sub-Arctic aerosol sources* (wildfires, pollution)

MISR & MODIS High-latitude Aerosol Optical Depth Maps

Single-day mid-visible AOT observations *April 27, 2006*



MISR



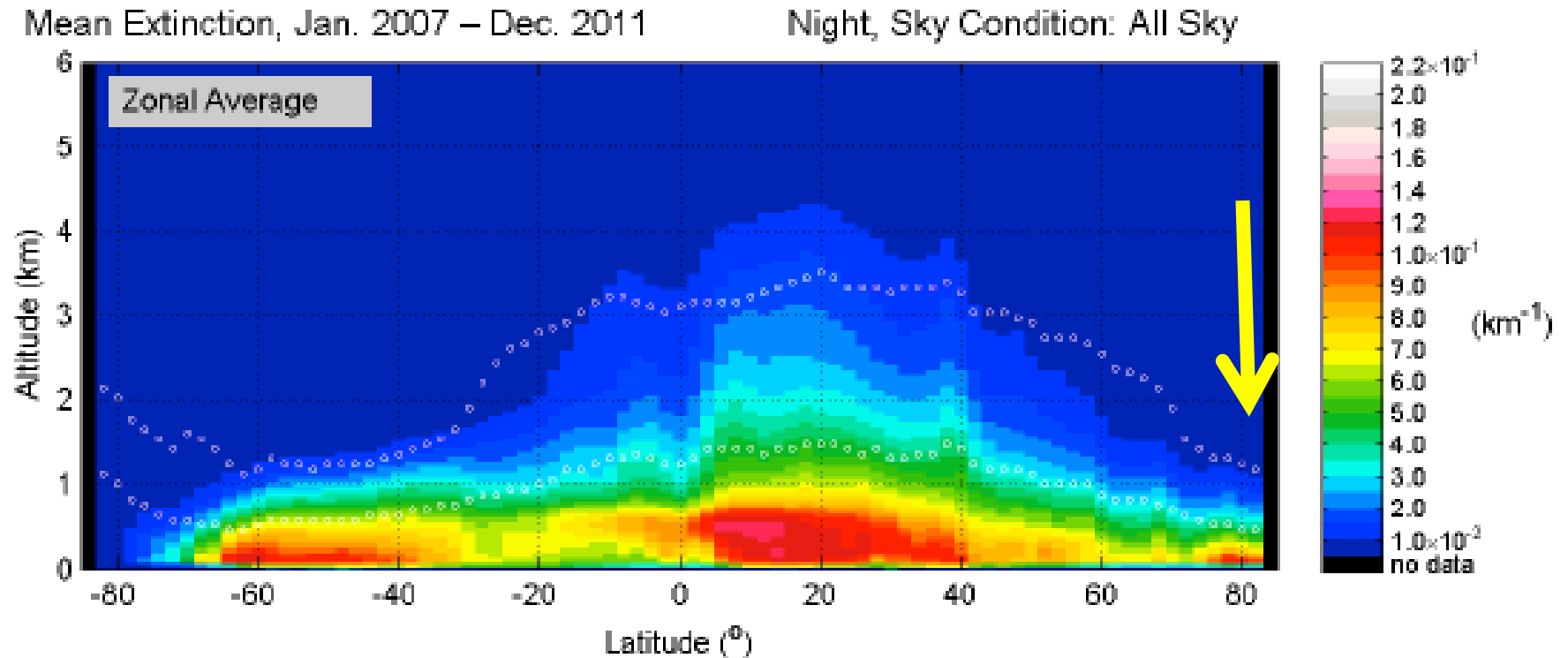
MODIS

Complementary Observations:

MODIS provides large-swath **Coverage**

MISR fills in cloud-free **Continents, Nadir Glint** over water, some **Snow surfaces**

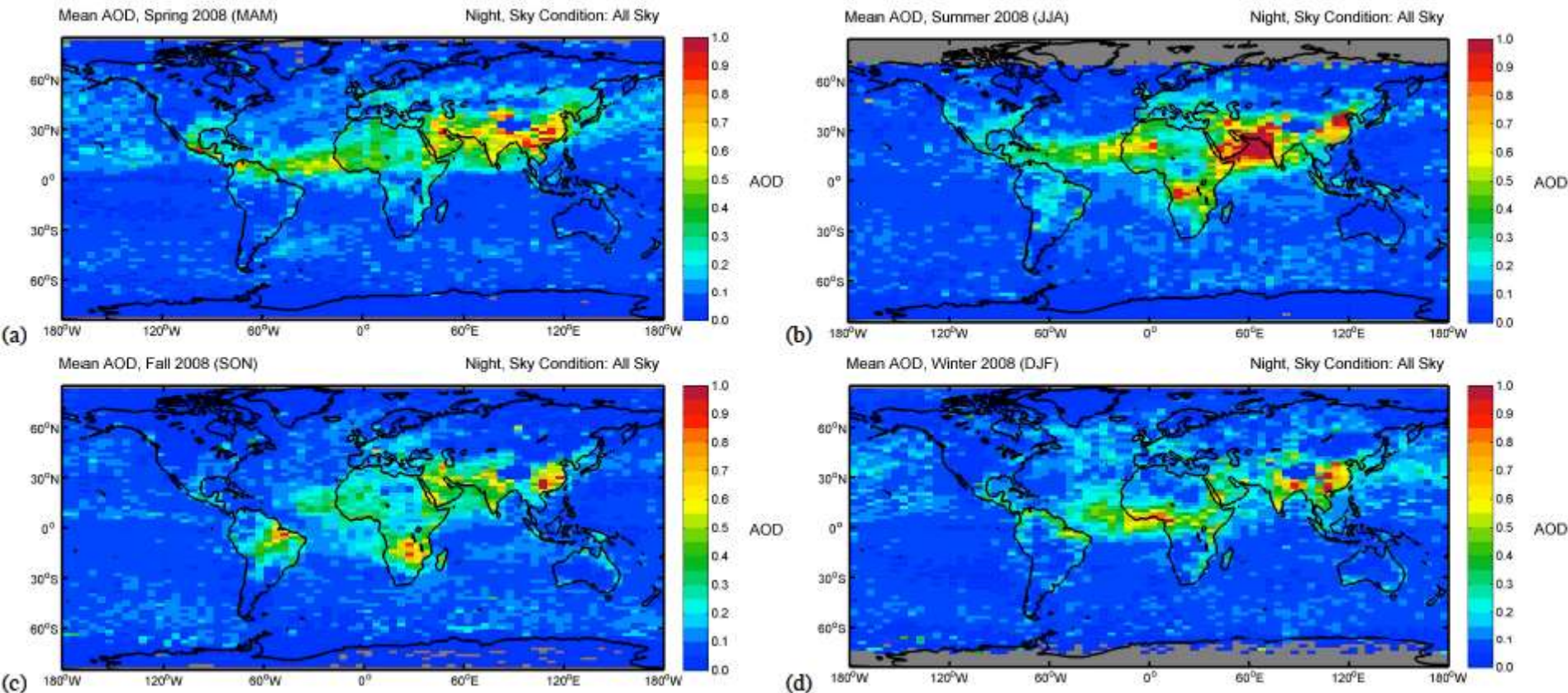
Five-year, Zonal average CALIPSO 532 nm Aerosol Extinction



Arctic: On average, aerosol is concentrated *Very Near-surface* (~ 200 m)

- Due to low sampling frequency, *much averaging* is required
- For all but major aerosol events, need *high nighttime signal/noise*

Seasonal 2008 CALIPSO 532 nm Mean Aerosol Optical Depth



Arctic: Generally *Low AOD* (< 0.1)

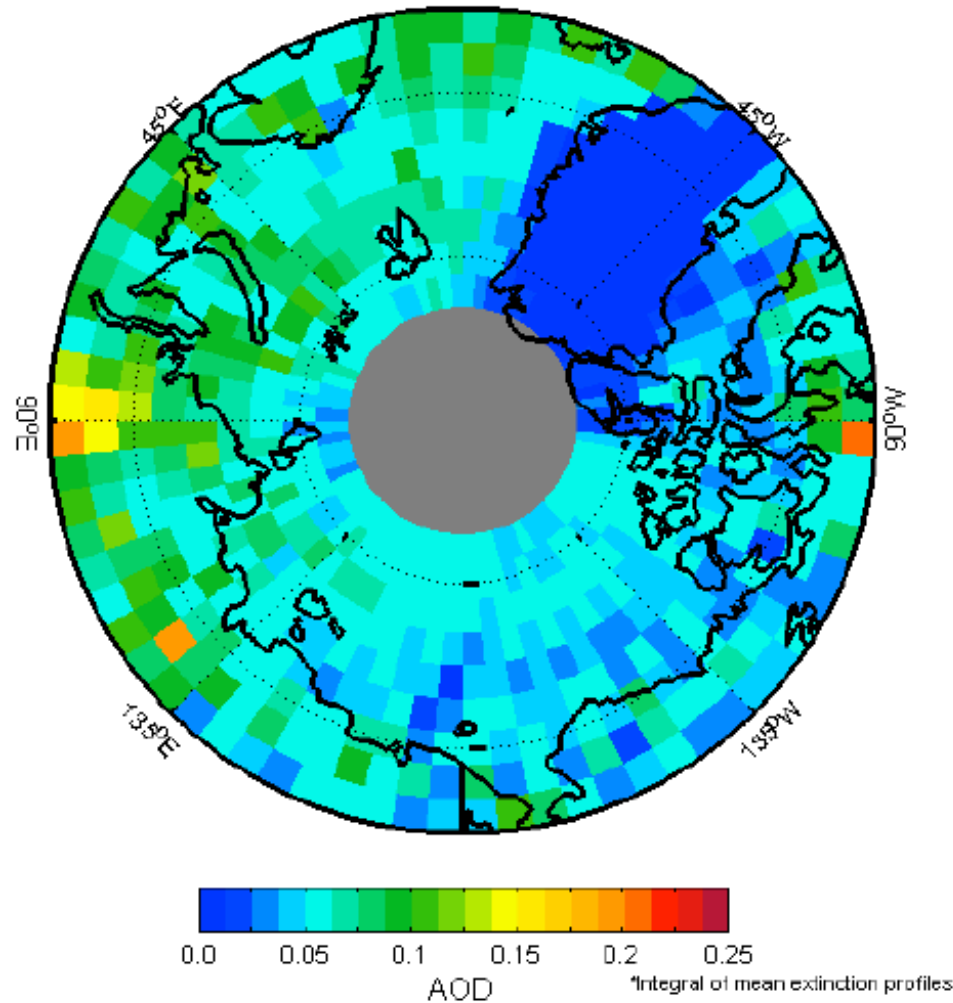
High Arctic peak AOD *Dec-March*; Low Arctic ($60-70^{\circ}\text{N}$) peak AOD in *Summer*

High signal/noise at night [but no nighttime data during local summer]

Winter 2007-2011 CALIPSO 532 nm Aerosol Optical Depth

Mean AOD*, Winter 2007 – 2011

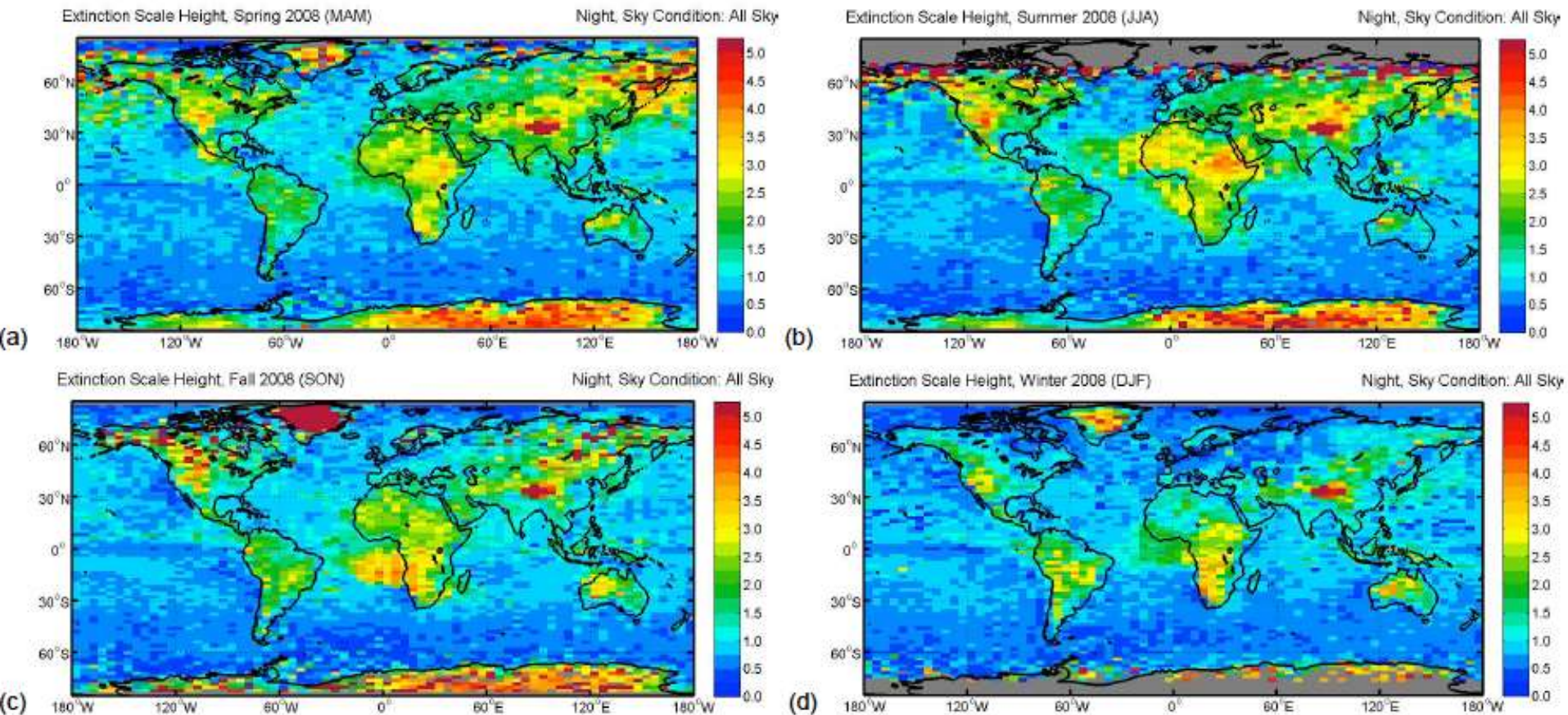
Night, Sky Condition: All Sky



Arctic AOD: *Lowest over Greenland* (< 0.02)

Highest over Russia (~0.2)

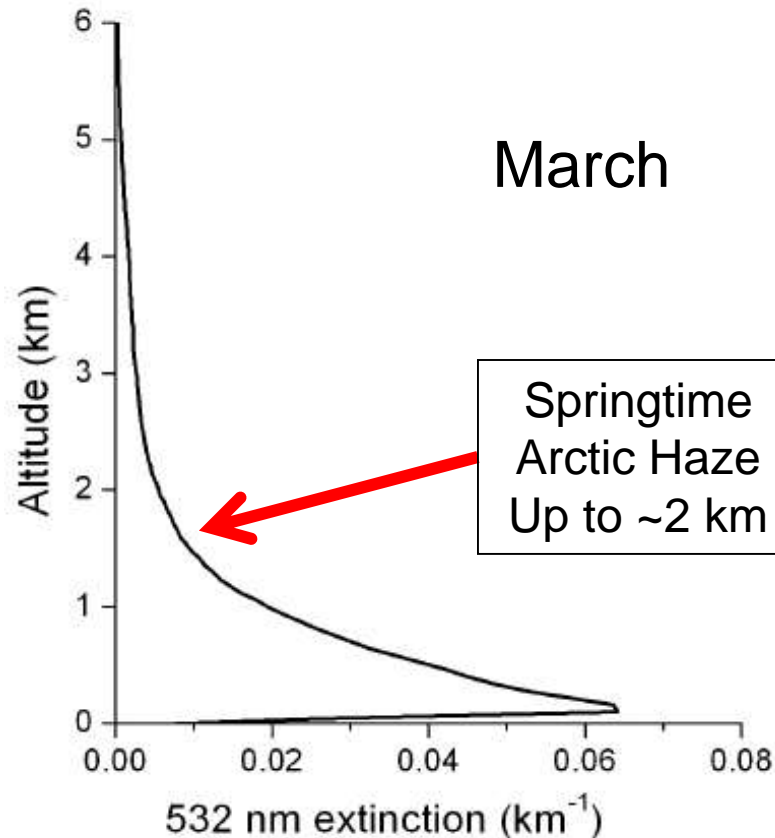
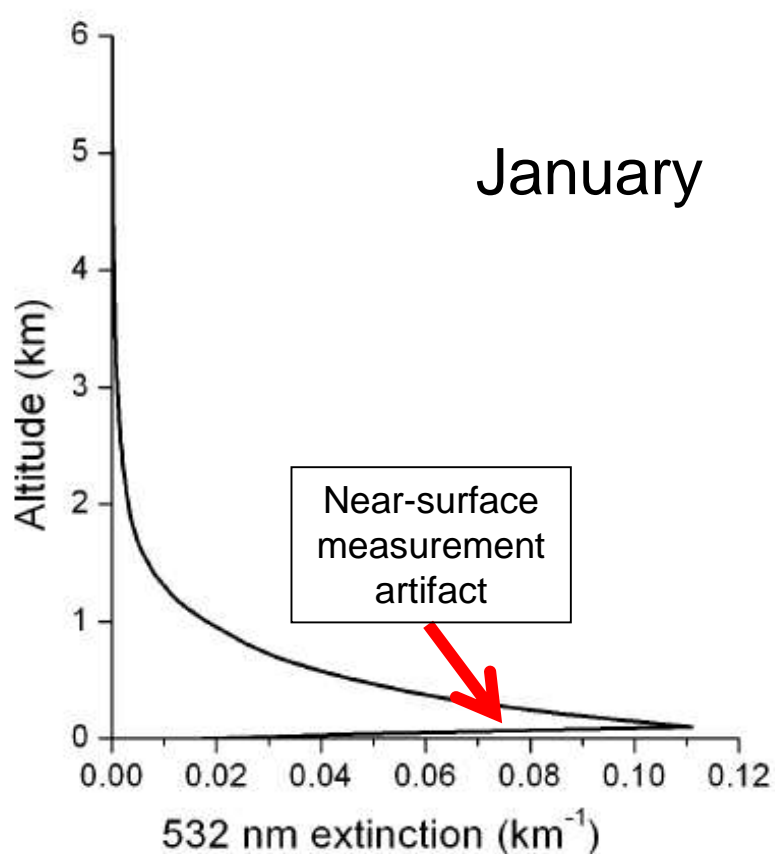
Seasonal 2008 CALIPSO Aerosol Extinction Scale Height



Arctic: *Small* scale-height (near-surface) over ocean; *Larger* scale-height over land
(Transport pathways play a role in this.)

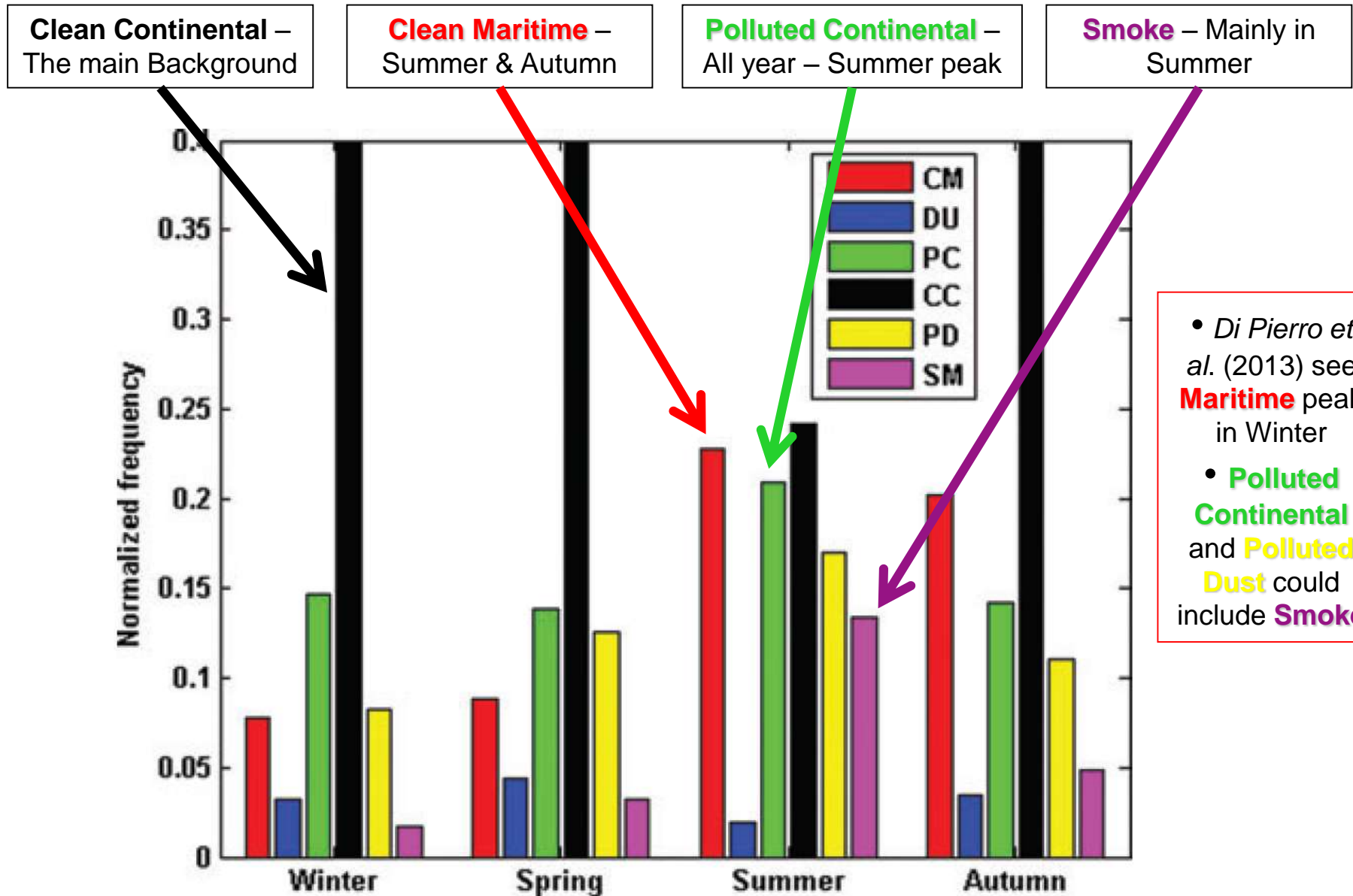
CALIPSO Mean 532 nm Aerosol Extinction Profile 2007-2011

61-82° N

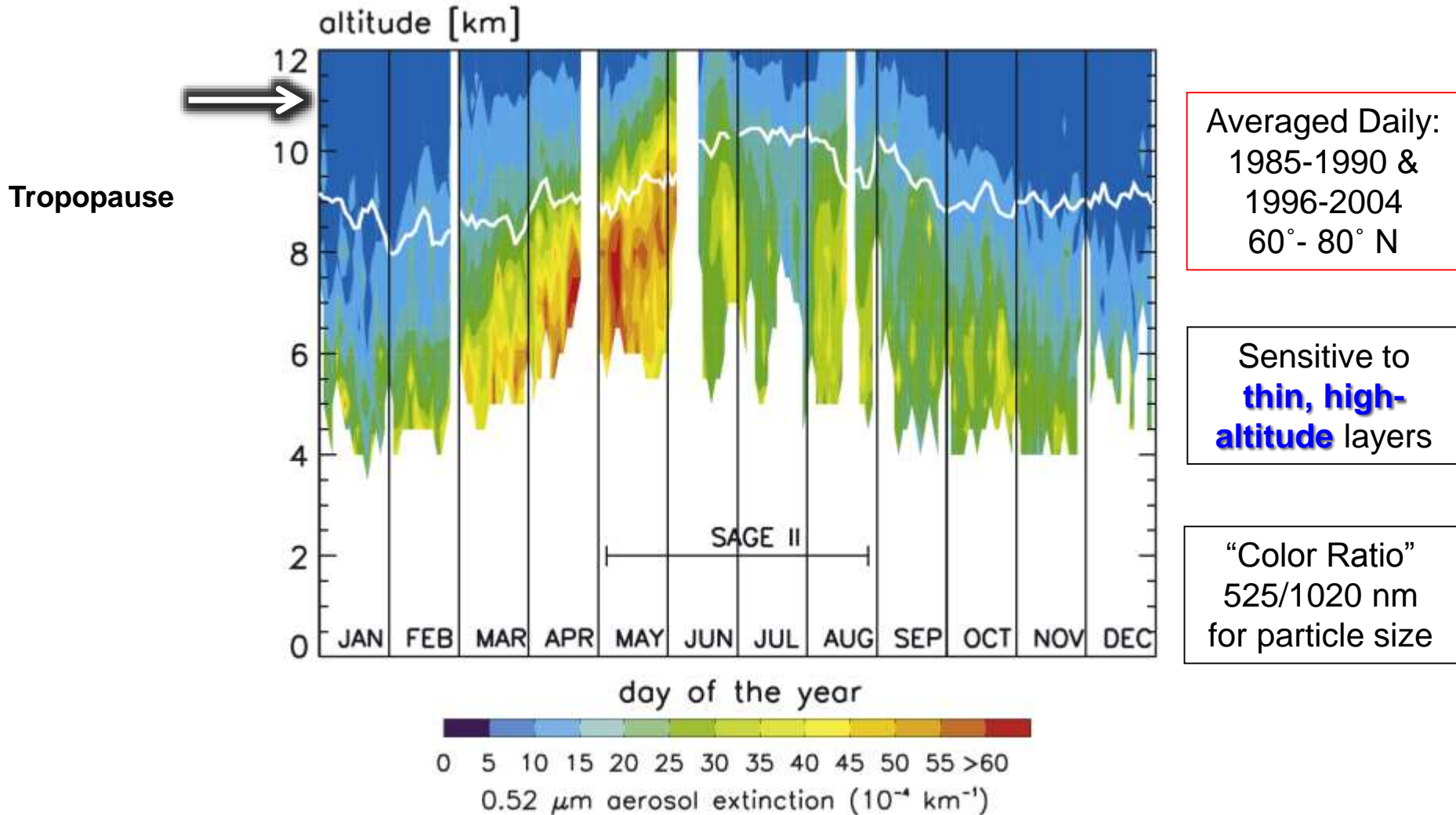


Arctic: On average, aerosol is concentrated *Very Near-surface* (< 1 km)

CALIPSO Aerosol "Types" by Season June 2006- May 2010

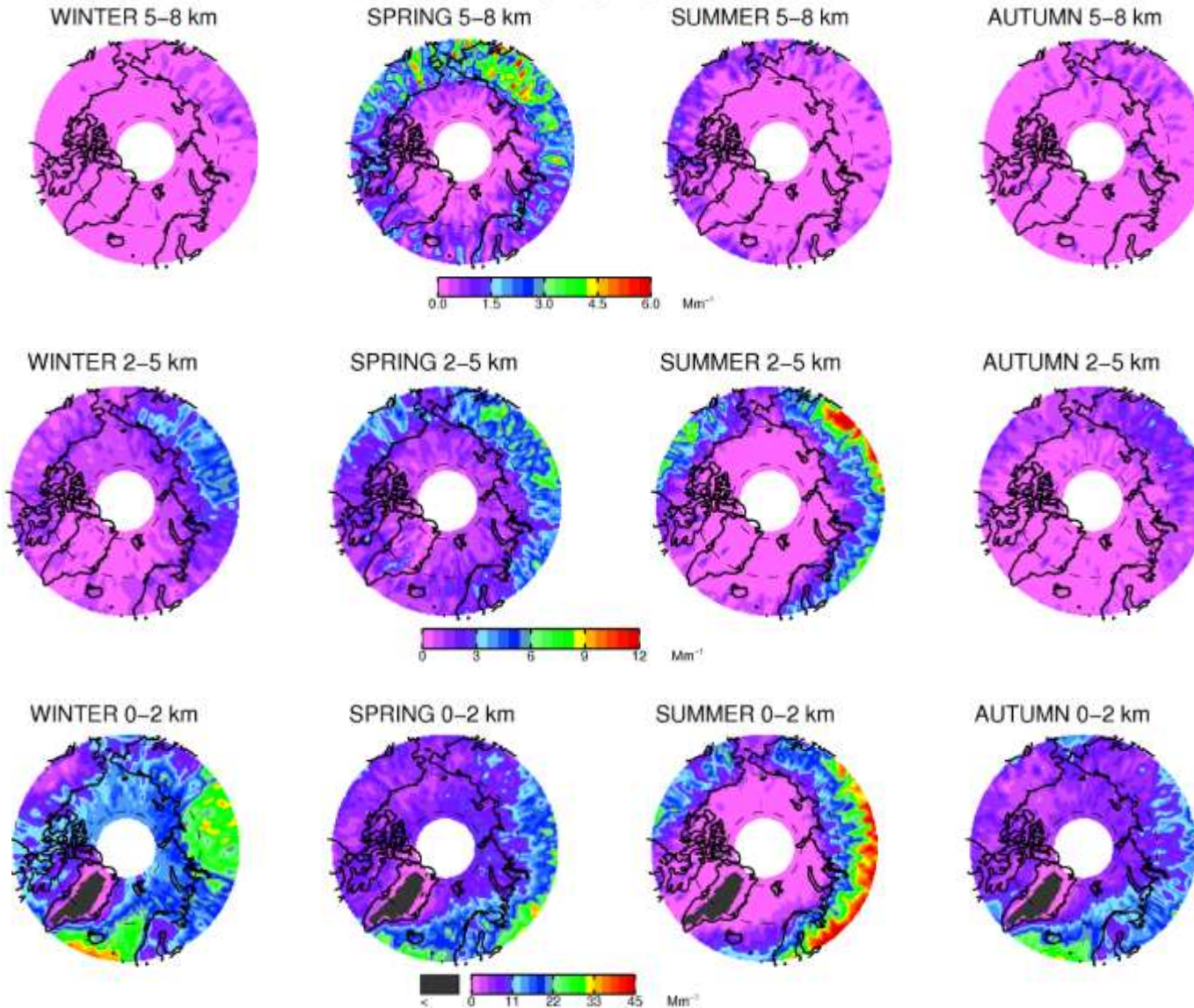


Fifteen-year, Regional average SAGE 525 nm Aerosol Extinction



Spring & Summer, & above ~4-6 km only; Extinction peak at the end of **Spring**
Particle size decreases from ~0.35 to ~0.25 micron [Spring \rightarrow Summer]

CALIPSO Layer-Resolved Seasonal Aerosol Extinction 2006-2012



Springtime high-altitude transport of Asian pollution & maybe dust (?)
 [But removal more rapid than in Winter]

N Am & Siberia boreal **fire smoke at mid-low altitude** in Summer; annual low-Arctic AOD peak

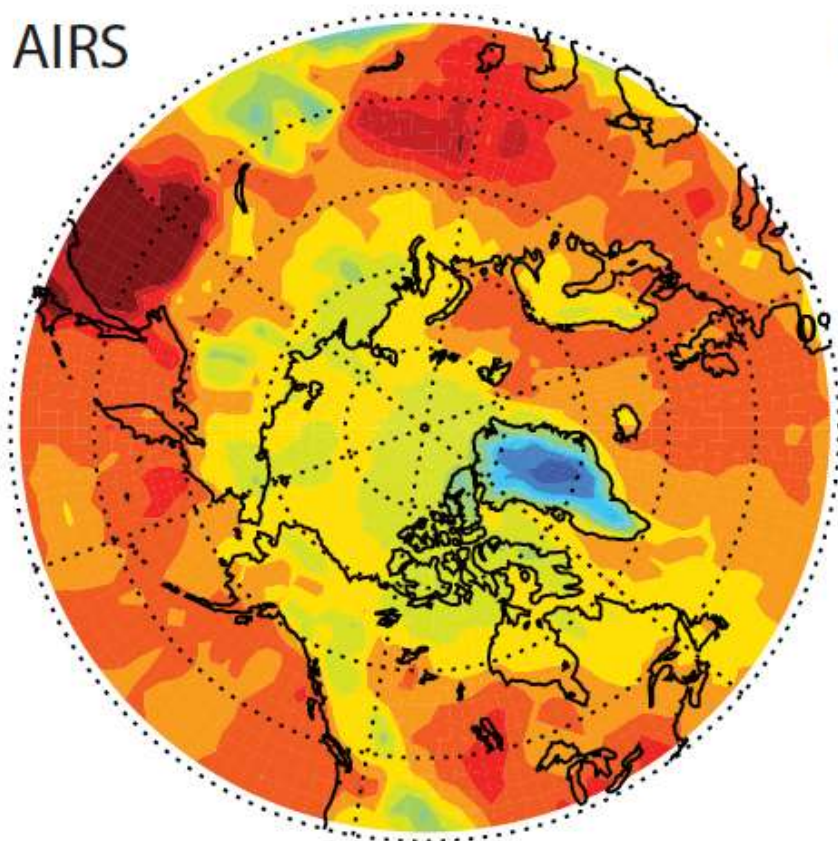
Most high-Arctic transport is at low-altitude, in **Winter**, and from Europe, W Siberia, N Atlantic [along isentropes]

Also, *inter-annual* transport increases with positive **NAO** phase

CO Column Abundance, April 2008

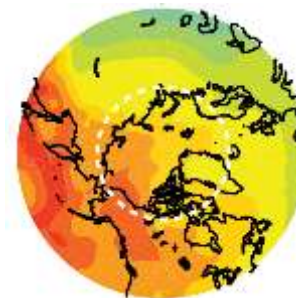
AIRS (IR) & GEOS-Chem Model

AIRS

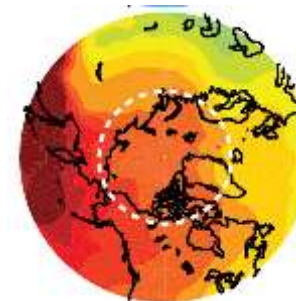


0.80 1.30 1.80 2.30 2.80
 10^{18} molec/cm²

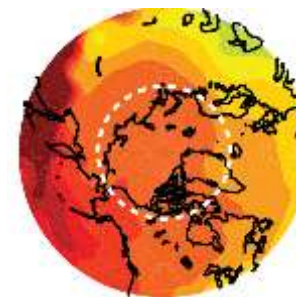
GEOS-Chem
Asian
Anthropogenic
Contribution to
Arctic CO



5-10 km



2-5 km



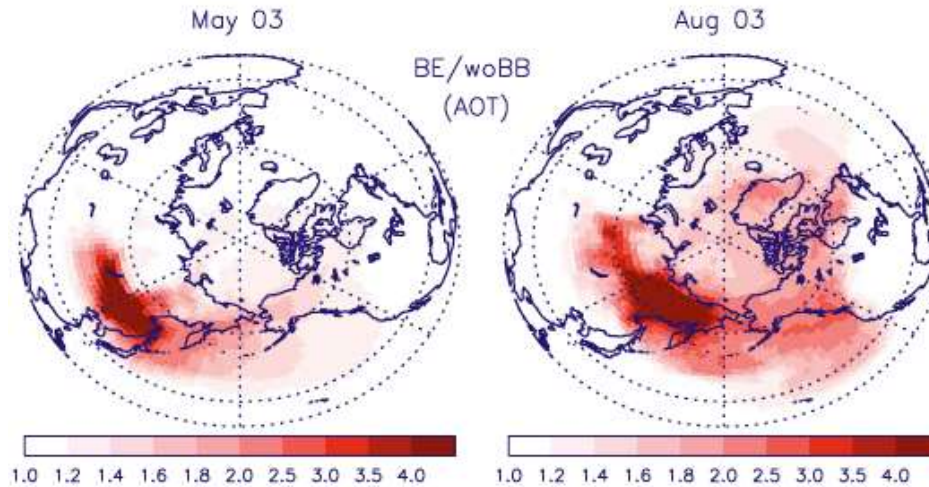
0-2 km

SE Asia is significant source of CO to the Arctic in Spring, a smoke/pollution tracer

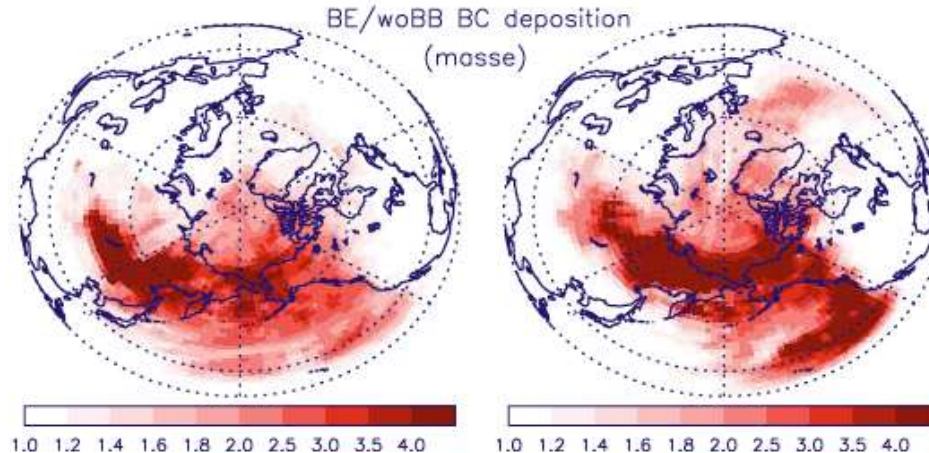
Russian Biomass Burning Contribution Summer 2003

GEOS-Chem Model Constrained by Satellites

Monthly Mean
Fractional AOD₅₅₀
from Russian BB



Monthly Mean
Black Carbon
Wet Deposition
Enhancement

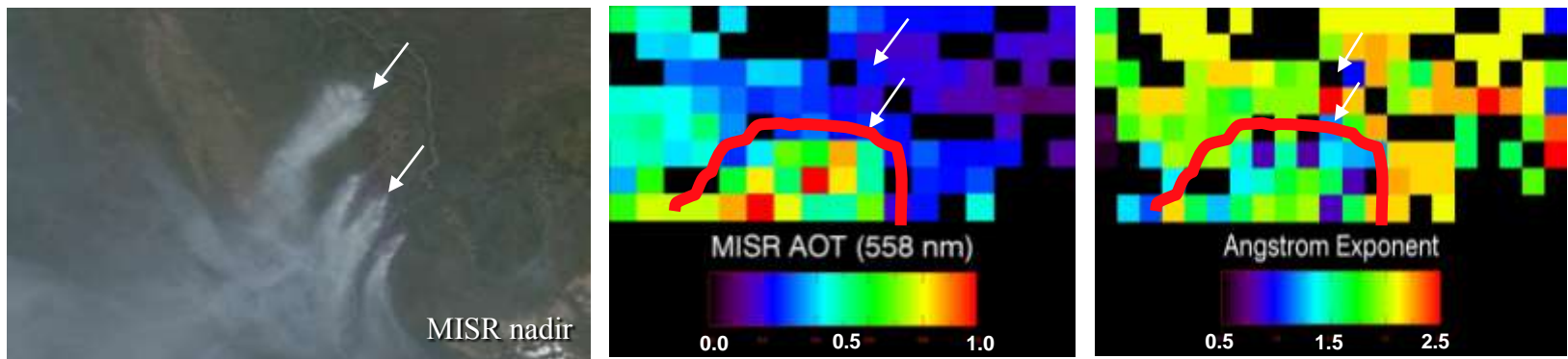


MOPITT CO
POLDER AOD
MODIS AOD
used to tune
the model

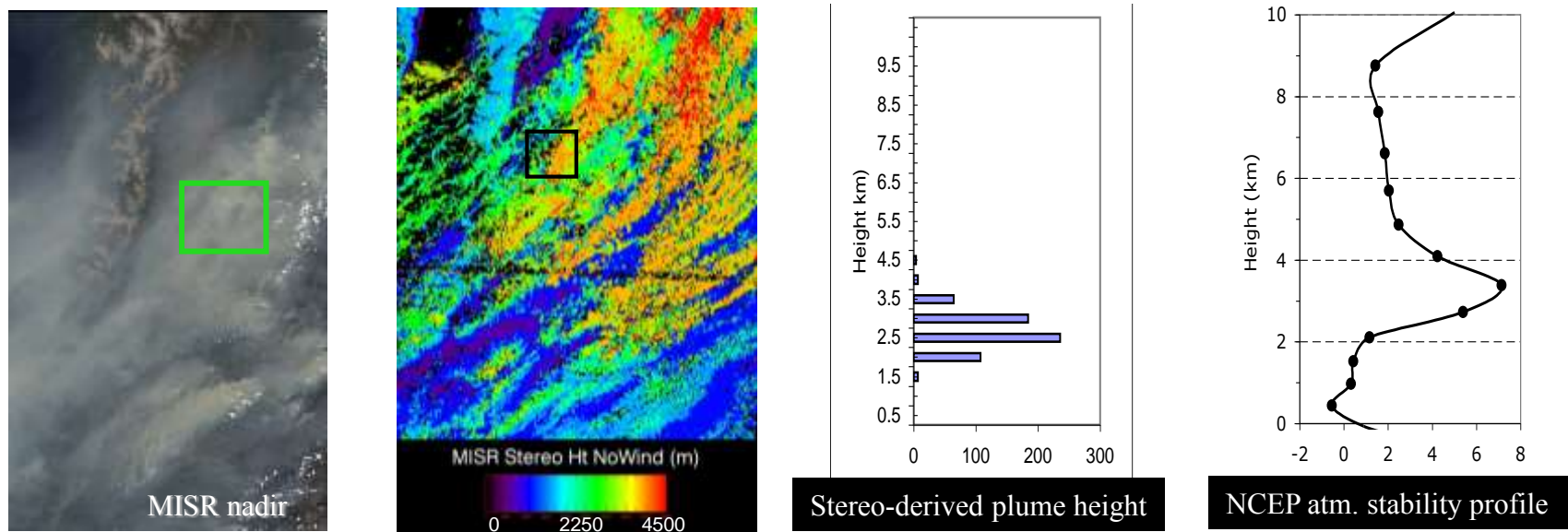
Model sources must be prescribed on a *daily* basis; *injection height* is key
-- *Passive Sensors* are needed to provide adequate coverage

MISR maps of Boreal Fire Plume Height, Optical Depth, and Smoke Type

Alaska Wildfire July 02, 2004

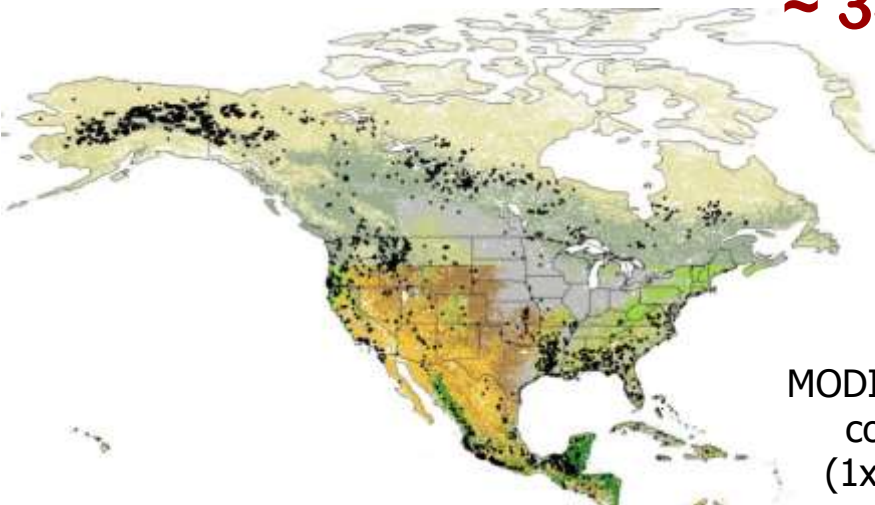


Siberian Wildfire June 11, 2003

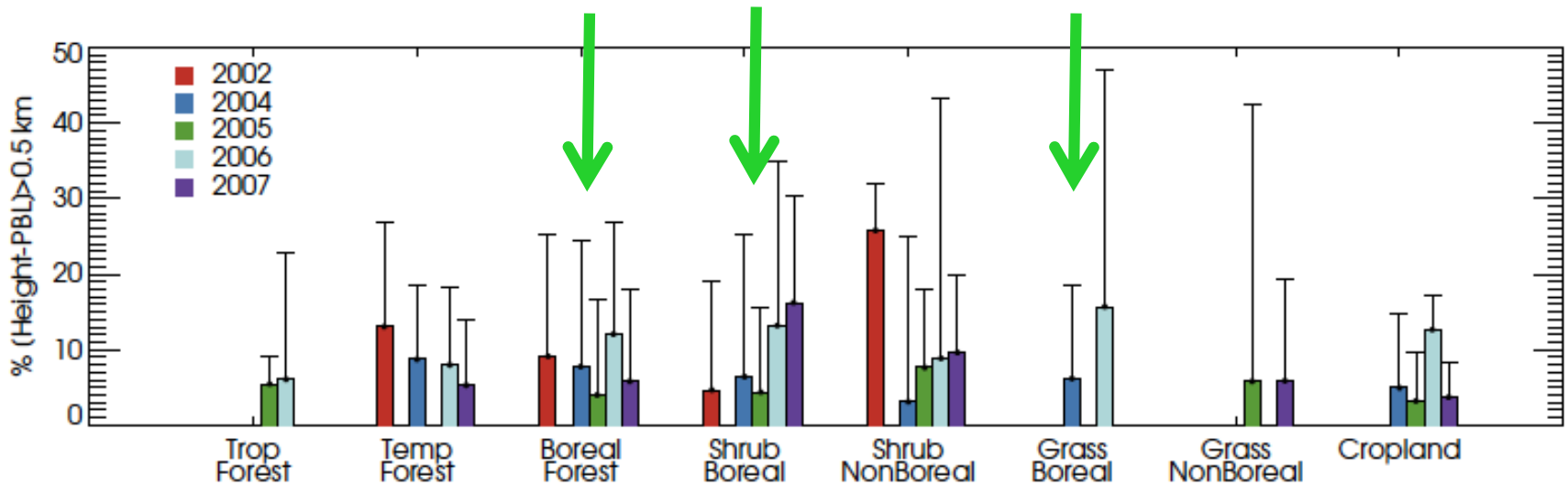
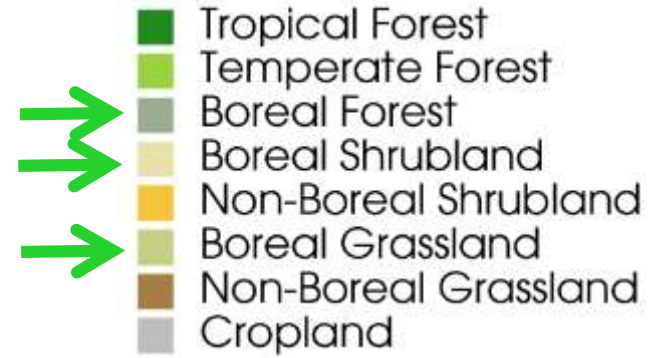


MISR N. America Plume *Injection Height* Climatology

~ 3400 plumes digitized over North America for 2002, 2004-2007



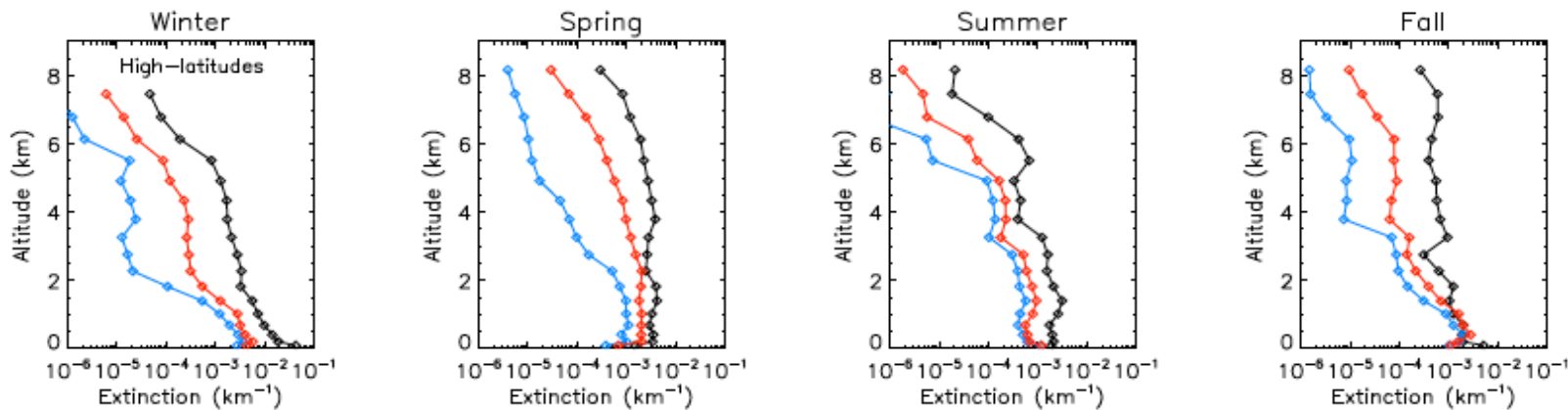
MODIS IGBP land cover map (1x1 Km res)



Percent of plumes >0.5 km *above BL*, stratified by year and vegetation type

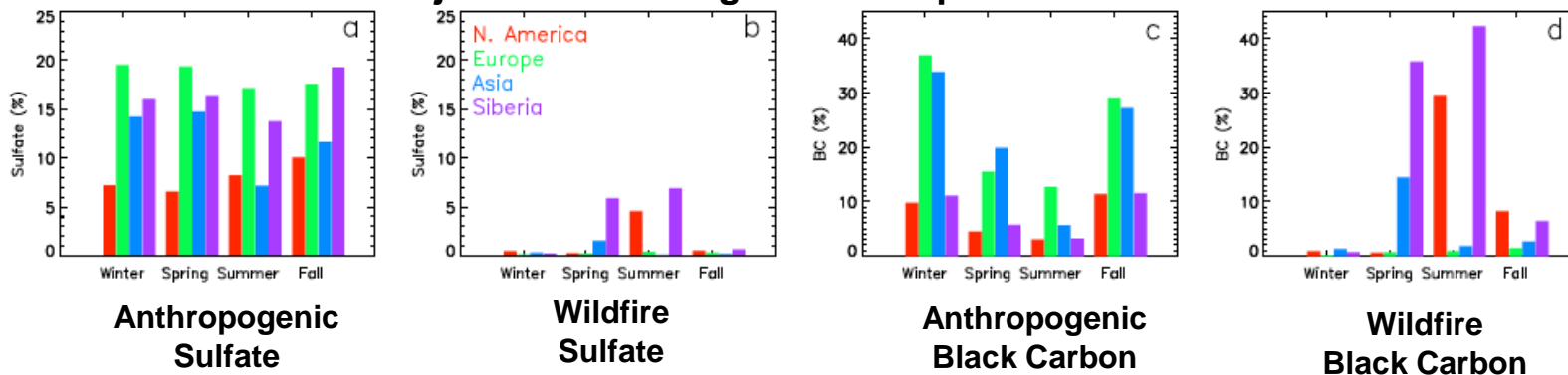
Aerosol Transport to the Arctic

ECHAM5 *Model* Constrained by *Satellite* + *Suborbital* Measurements



High-Latitude Vertical Profiles: CALIPSO Lidar; **Blue Model**; **Adjusted Model**

Adjusted Model Regional Transports to Arctic



CALIPSO AOD + ARCTAS field data (BC, SO₂, SO₄²⁻, CO)
constraints reduce *aerosol wet scavenging* in the model