



National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology  
Pasadena, California

# AIRS Validation

**Eric Fetzer and AIRS Validation Team**

**Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology  
Pasadena, CA**

## Approach

- **Put together a draft V5 validation report**
  - *Delivered no earlier than 1 Dec.*
  - *Based on manuscripts submitted / in prep.*
- **Today's talks will be loosely organized around this plan.**



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# Core Products

**Black = Not emphasized here**

**Red=Needed for Val Report**

	<i>Validation Status by Geophysical Conditions</i>					
	<i>Ocean</i>		<i>Land</i>			<i>Polar</i>
	<i>Low lat</i>	<i>High lat</i>	<i>Desert</i>	<i>Temperate</i>	<i>Frozen</i>	
<b>Core Products</b>						
<b>CC Rad</b>	Strow	Strow	Strow	Strow	Strow	Strow
<b>SST</b>	Aumann	Aumann	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>LST</b>	N/A	N/A	Hook	Hook	Hook	Walden?
<b>T(all)</b>						
<b>T (p&gt;700 hPa)</b>	Gambacorta, Irion, Teixeira	Gambacorta, Irion	No corr. data	Gambacorta, Irion	Gambacorta, Irion	Irion
<b>T (300&lt;p&lt;700 hPa)</b>	Gambacorta, Irion, Teixeira	Gambacorta, Irion	No corr. data	Gambacorta, Irion	Gambacorta, Irion	Irion
<b>T (100&lt;p&lt;300 hPa)</b>	Gambacorta, Irion, Teixeira	Gambacorta, Irion	No corr. data	Gambacorta, Irion	Gambacorta, Irion	Irion
<b>T (p&lt;100 hPa)</b>	Tian	Tian	Tian	Tian	Tian	Tian
<b>q(p&gt;700 hPa)</b>	Gambacorta, Irion, Teixeira	Gambacorta, Irion	No corr. data	Gambacorta, Irion	Gambacorta, Irion	Gambacorta, Irion
<b>q(300&lt;p&lt;700 hPa)</b>	Gambacorta, Irion, Teixeira	Gambacorta, Irion	No corr. data	Gambacorta, Irion	Gambacorta, Irion	Gambacorta, Irion
<b>q(p&lt;300 hPa)</b>	Gambacorta, Irion, Fetzer	Gambacorta, Irion, Fetzer	No corr. data	Gambacorta, Irion, Fetzer	Gambacorta, Irion, Fetzer	N/A
<b>TPW</b>	Fetzer	Fetzer	Knuteson, Granger,	Knuteson, Granger, Irion	Knuteson, Granger, Irion	Knuteson, Granger, Irion
<b>Cld Frc</b>	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn
<b>CTH</b>	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn
<b>CTT</b>	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn	Kahn



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## Radiosondes are key to T and q

- **Several locations and seasons: more than 900 independent/dedicated sondes matched to AIRS retrievals**
  - *Bill Irion is analyzing all sondes for T and q.*
  - *Antonia Gambacorta / Dave Tobin - ARM sites.*

*JPL AIRS team analyses: shown on 31 July; blue = progress*

- **High northern latitude T and q:** Hengchun Ye examining Siberia/Canada
- **Tropical upper trop water vapor (TICO, Vömel):** special cases of dedicated sondes.
- **Trade-wind boundary layer over ocean (RICO):** Joao Teixeira
- **Microwave-only water vapor profiles:** E. Fishbein will do HSB val study + MEaSURES
- **Tropopause properties:** Baijun Tian with GPS-met group.
- **Total water vapor in So. Cal. & Japan from ground-based GPS:** Stephanie Granger
- **Clouds:** Brian Kahn has completed several studies.
- **Ozone:** Bill Irion (intercomparisons and collaborating with Divakarla).



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## V5 Validation Report

- **Report to contain:**
  - *Summary of the literature on AIRS validation.*
  - *Summaries of dedicated sonde comparisons.*
  - *Summaries of other analyses, like ground-based GPS total water vapor, tropopause properties.*
- **Data sets and documentation:**
  - *Dedicated sondes + other matched, QC'd data.*
- **Paper drafts in the late fall time frame**
- **Aqua End of Prime Mission Review in early December**



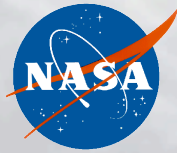
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# Validation of AIRS boundary layer structure in the trade-wind region

**Joao Teixeira and AIRS Validation Team**

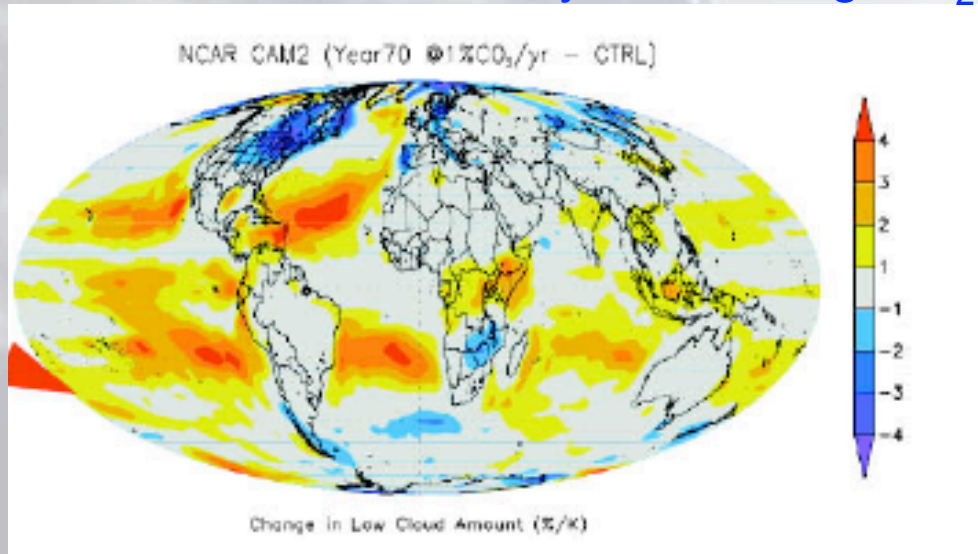
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## IPCC 2007: "Cloud feedbacks remain the largest source of uncertainty in climate prediction"

NCAR low cloud cover sensitivity to doubling  $\text{CO}_2$ :



Stephens, JCLI, 2005

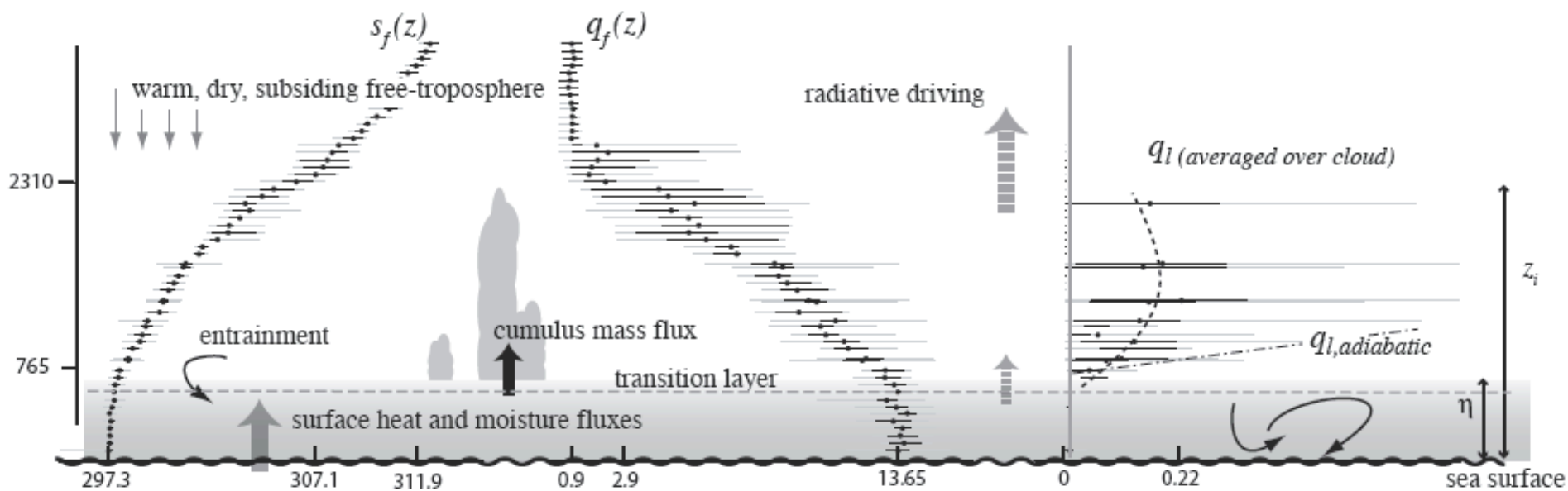
Large cloud sensitivity in the sub-tropics (trade-wind regions)

Clouds depend on temperature and water vapor ...  
But how does the vertical structure of T and q look like?



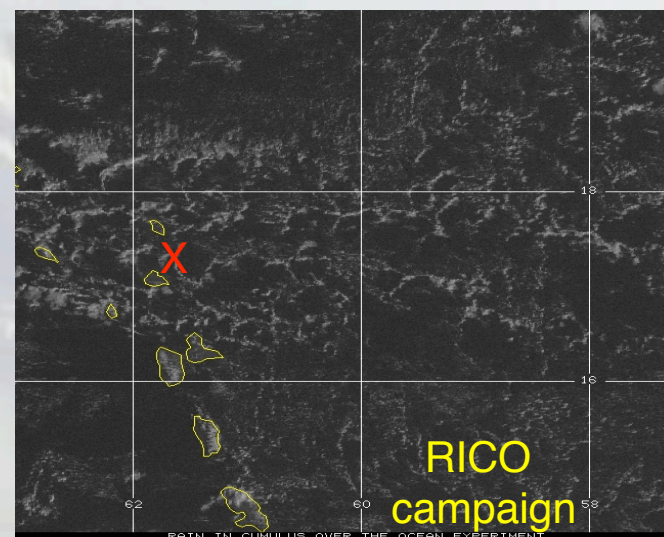
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# Trade-wind boundary layer vertical structure



Stevens (2006)

Small values of cloud cover ~ 5-30%



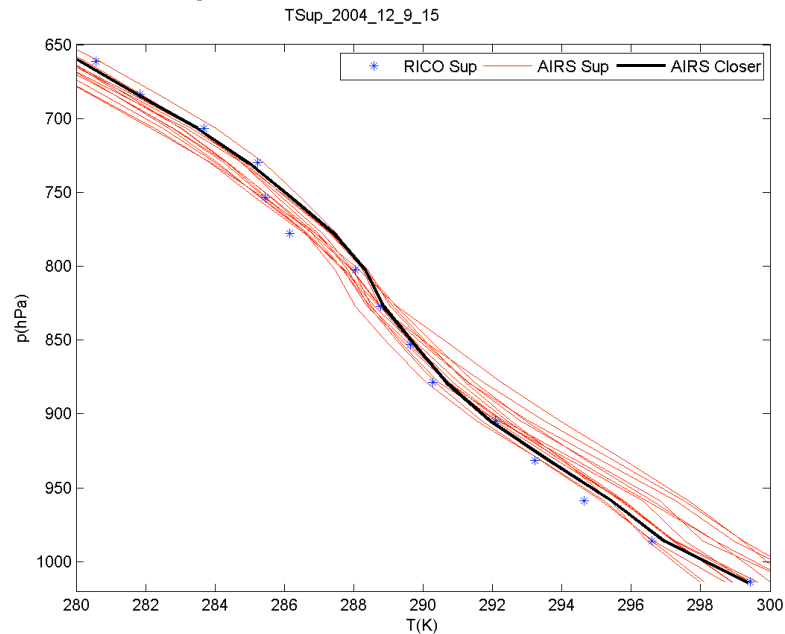


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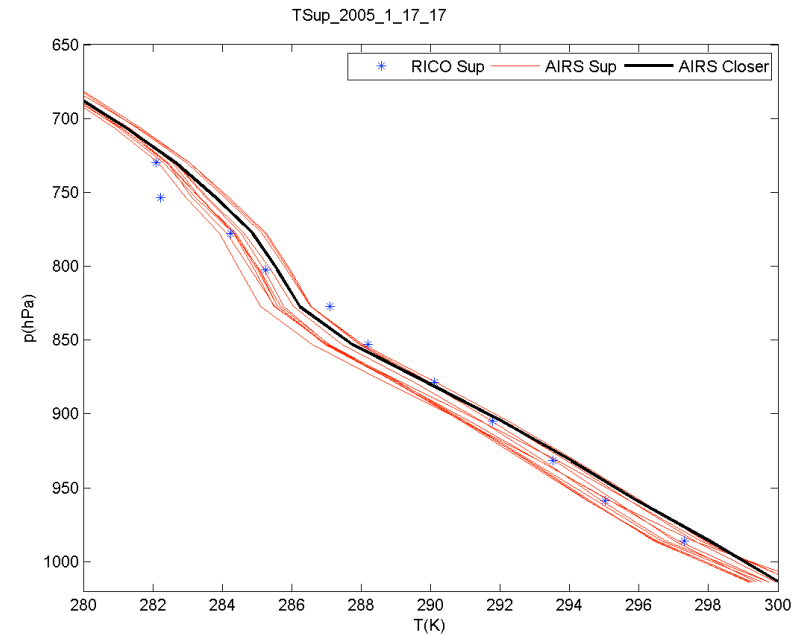
# AIRS boundary layer structure versus RICO sondes

Two profiles out of more than 30 radiosondes

## Temperature – 09/Dec/2004



## Temperature – 17/Jan/2005



Two good examples of realistic AIRS (support) temperature boundary layer profiles ... But not much vertical structure ...

... let's look at potential temperature



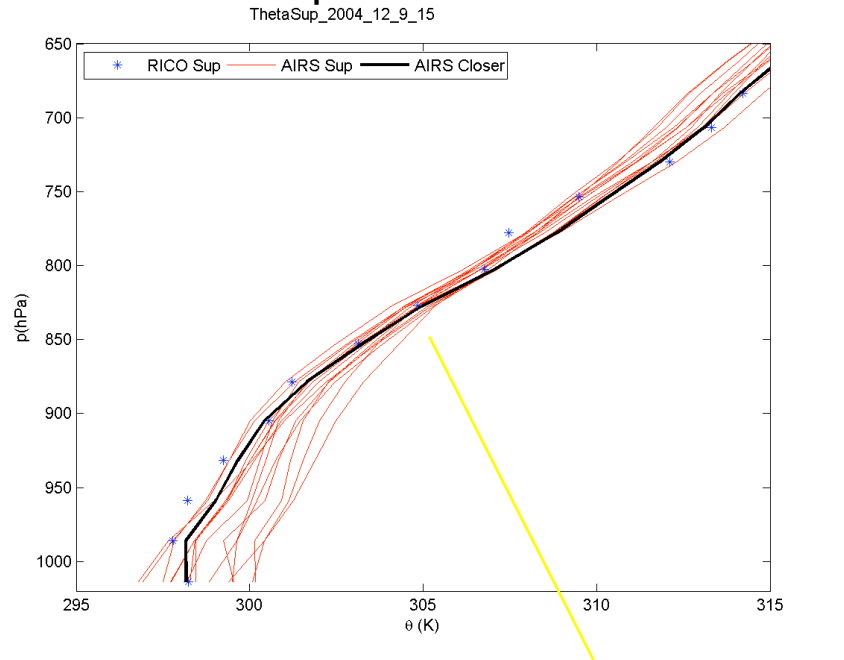


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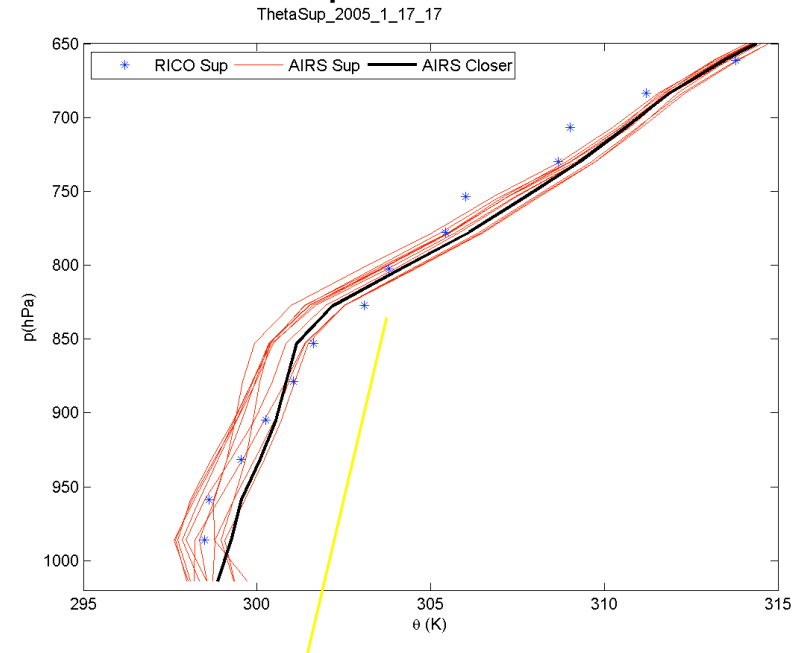
# AIRS boundary layer structure versus RICO sondes

Two profiles out of more than 30 radiosondes

Potential temperature – 09/Dec/2004



Potential temperature – 17/Jan/2005



Boundary layer inversion is well captured

Two good examples of realistic structure of AIRS (support) potential temperature boundary layer profiles

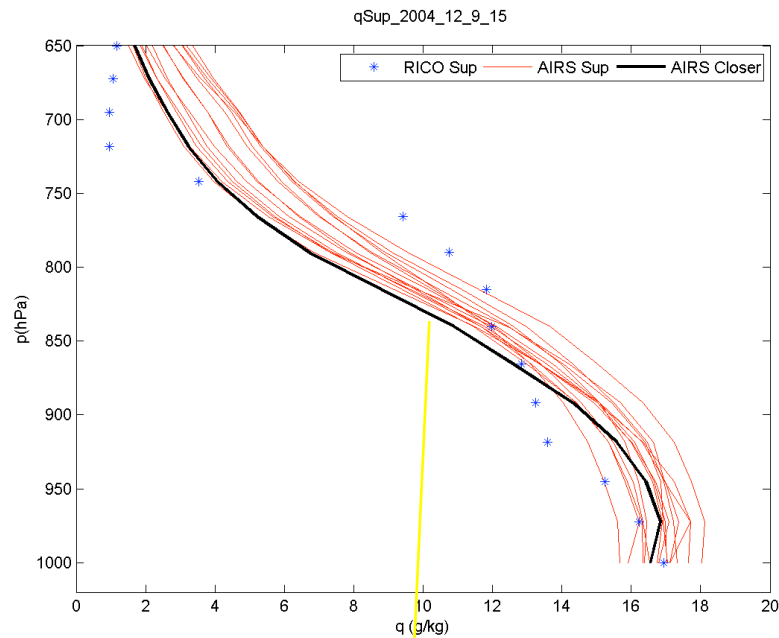


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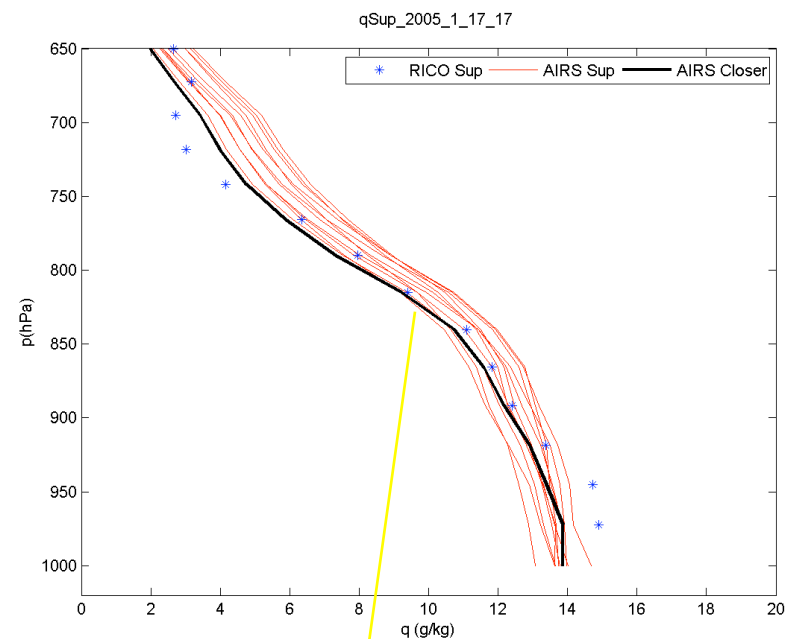
# AIRS boundary layer structure versus RICO sondes

Two profiles out of more than 30 radiosondes

Water vapor – 09/Dec/2004



Water vapor – 17/Jan/2005



This discrepancy could be an issue with sonde

AIRS (support) water vapor in boundary layer can be very realistic

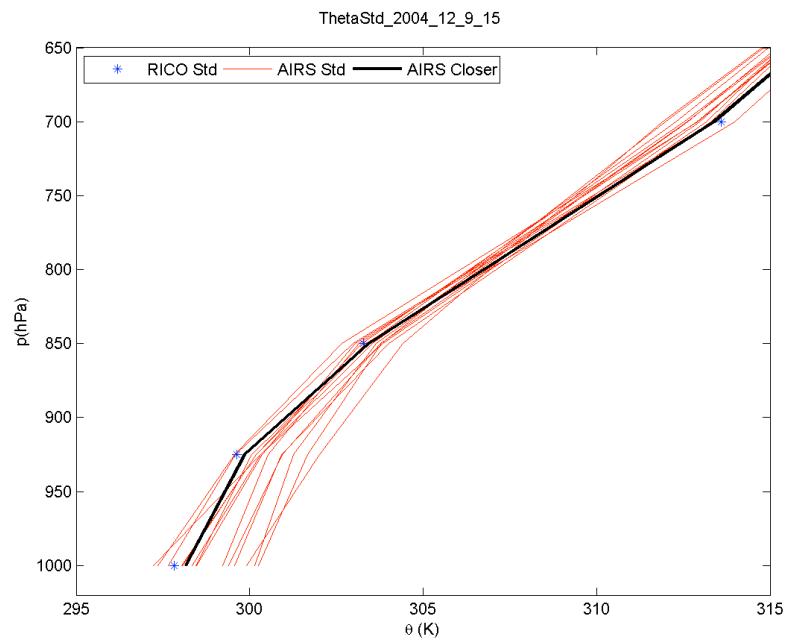


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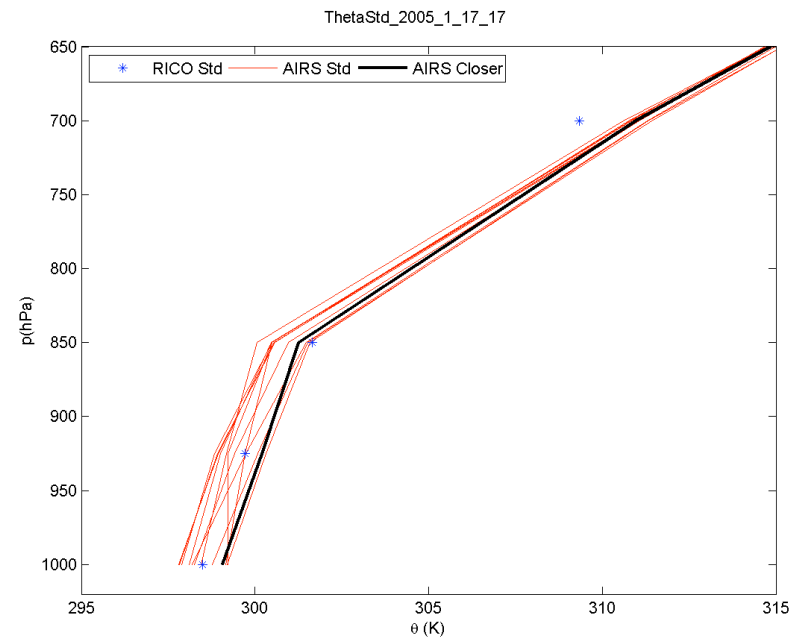
# AIRS boundary layer structure versus RICO sondes

Two profiles out of more than 30 radiosondes

Potential T (standard) – 09/Dec/2004



Potential T (standard) – 17/Jan/2005



AIRS standard product is also realistic ... but lacks vertical structure

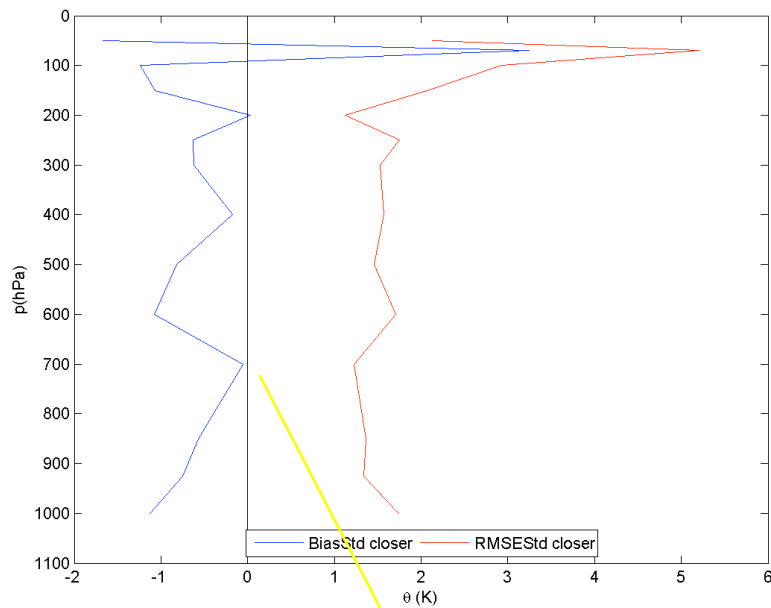


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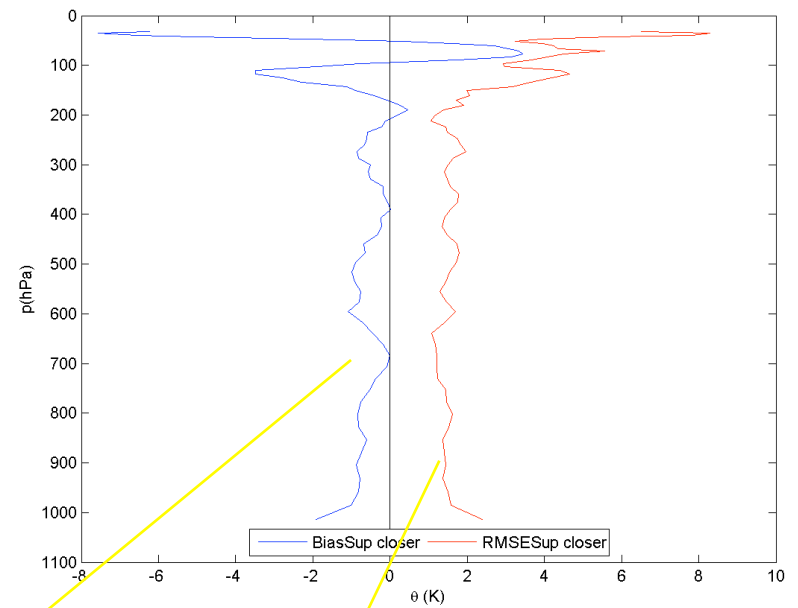
# AIRS boundary layer structure versus RICO sondes

## Error statistics for about 30 radiosondes

### Potential temp. (**standard**) – Bias/RMSE



### Potential temp. (**support**) – Bias/RMSE



Error minimum: too high to be related to inversion?

Error in boundary layer is similar to free-troposphere

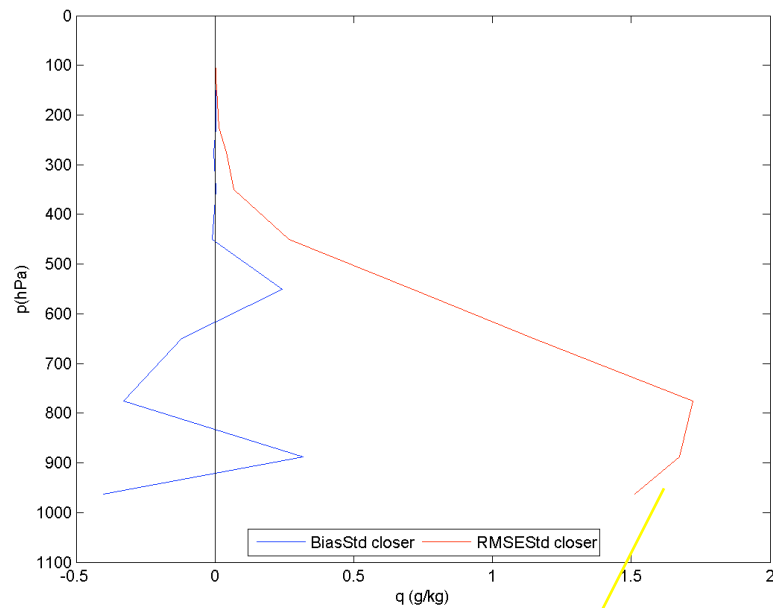


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# AIRS boundary layer structure versus RICO sondes

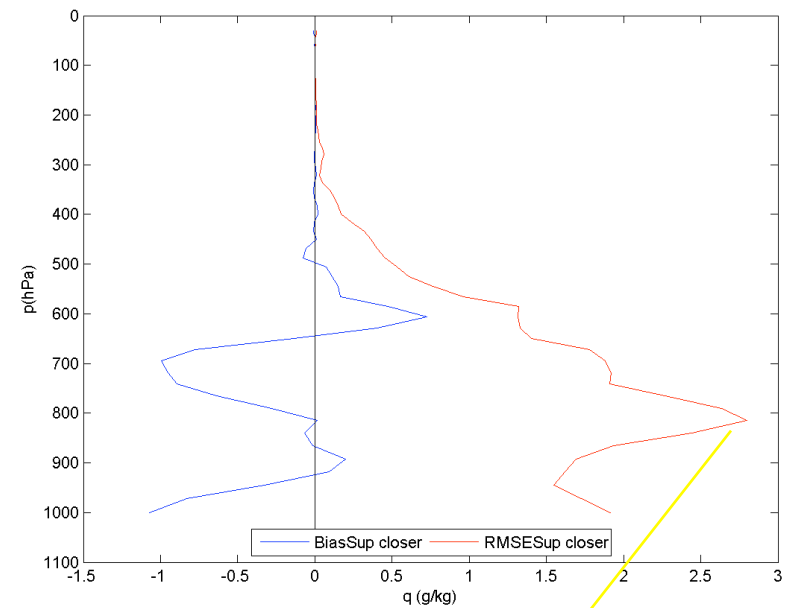
## Error statistics for about 30 radiosondes

### Water vapor (**standard**) – Bias/RMSE



Errors are around 10-20%

### Water vapor (**support**) – Bias/RMSE



Large RMSE due to high variability of boundary layer depth



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## Summary

- **Trade-wind boundary layer is essential to understand and predict cloud-climate feedbacks**
- **In order to do this we need observations of temperature and water vapor vertical structure**
- **AIRS is able to produce realistic profiles of temperature and water vapor within the trade-wind boundary layer**
- **AIRS/RICO validation - Future work:**
  - i) **study dependency on clouds, precipitation;**
  - ii) **study more structural measures of boundary layer – e.g. boundary layer height and strength.**

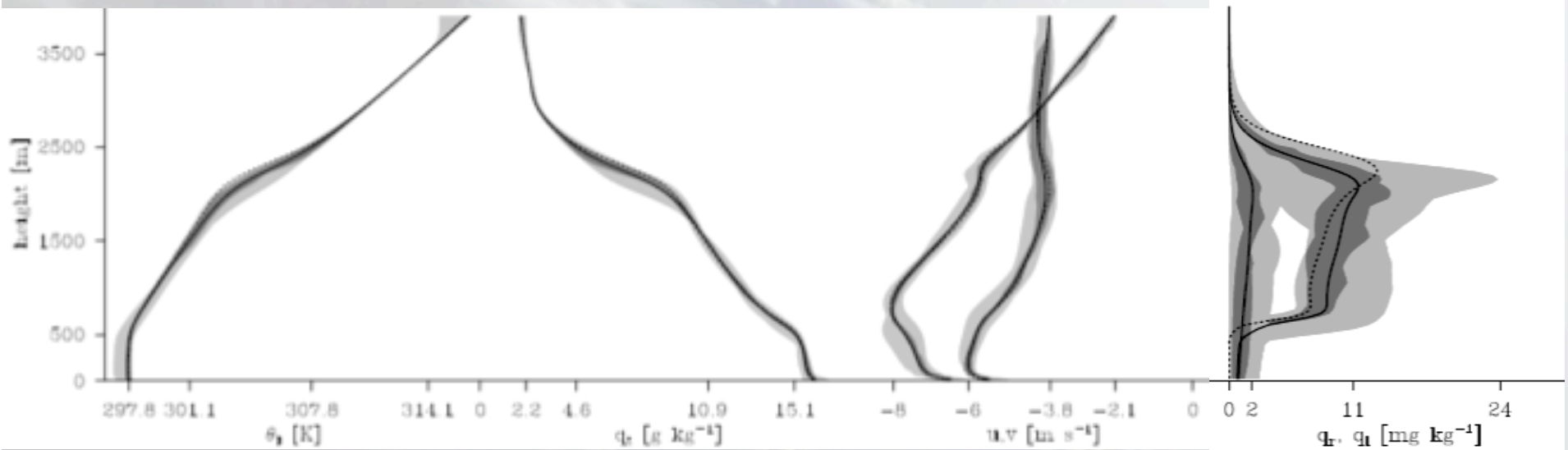
**AIRS has the potential to produce a realistic global analysis of trade-wind boundary layer properties**



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# Large-Eddy Simulation

- prescribe varying wind profiles, precipitation efficiency
- domain: 12.8 x 12.8 x 4 km (100m x 100m x 40m)
  - fixed / interactive surface fluxes



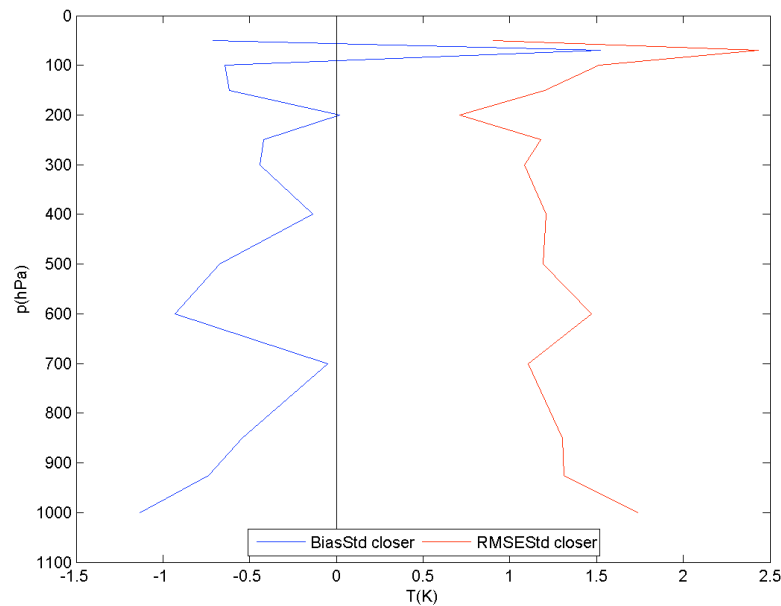


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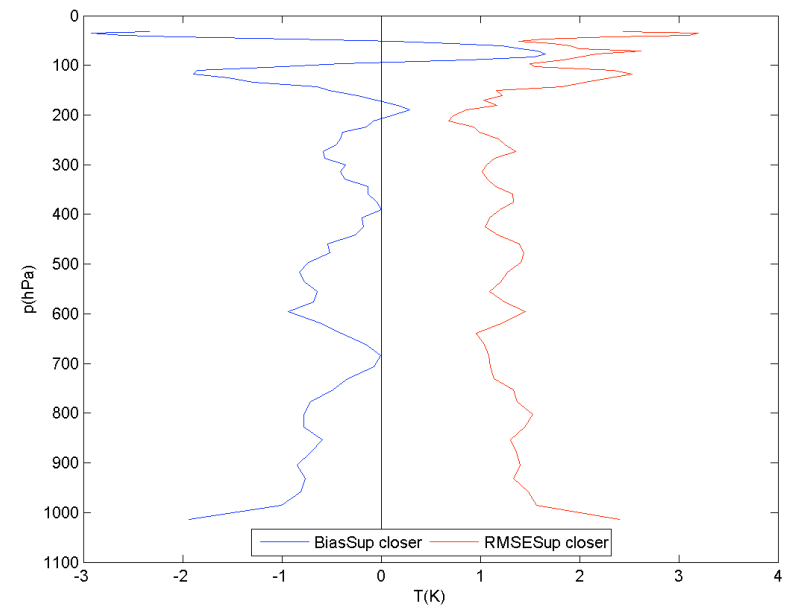
# AIRS boundary layer structure versus RICO sondes

Error statistics for about 30 radiosondes

Temperature (**standard**) – Bias/RMSE



Temperature (**support**) – Bias/RMSE



Error structure is similar between  
temperature and potential temperature