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Experimental Design

GERS

- total, direct, and diffuse solar radiation above and below clouds
 - marine stratocumulus
 - marine fair weather cumulus
 - multiple spectral bands
- downwelling infrared radiation above and below
- three months (May through late August)

- enables the components of the radiation field to be plotted against cloud structural parameters
- works when there are cirrus above



Pico Optical Thickness

Pico from above Graciosa (photo: Mike Alsop)





Pico Optical Thickness

Pico Site



Pico-NARE Observatory University of Azores University of Colorado Michigan Technical University DOE ARM

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Clear at Pico—Cloudy at Graciosa





Cloudiness versus Optical Thickness





Loss of Sun's Disk at Optical Thickness ~8





Decomposition of Optical Thickness





Thanks!

- Analysis continuing
- Adding cloud geometry from cloud radar and other instruments
- Technique looks viable!