

25 years of infrasound monitoring: achievements and new challenges

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Outline

Early story

The microbarography, first networks, atmospheric nuclear tests

CTBT verification : renaissance of infrasound technology

Network specifications

Detection and location predictions

Development of the IMS

New image of the atmosphere and disturbances

Effect of the stratospheric disturbances on infrasound propagation

Reducing uncertainties in simulations

Improving stratospheric observations

Infrasound inversions, gravity waves characterization, synergy with lidar systems

Infrasound observations and weather forecasting

Interest of infrasound observations for medium range weather forecasting

Scientific applications

Volcano remote monitoring



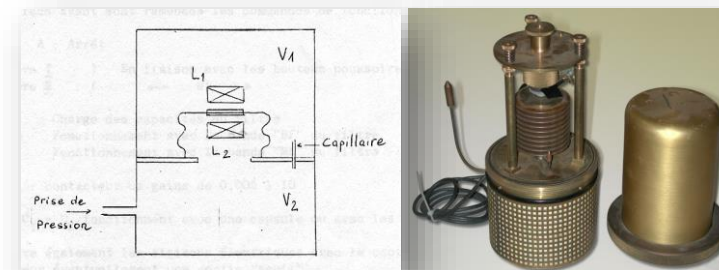
Early story: the microbarography, first networks, nuclear tests

1950-1970 : first microbarographs, first station networks

- Infrasound system Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (Columbia University USA) Rind and Balachandran
- Infrasounds system in France and French Polynesia (CEA/LDG, FR) Prof. Rocard
 - Signal catalogs (nuclear tests, volcanoes, explosions)
 - Pioneer work: detection, localisation, identification

1980-1991 : USA High Explosive (HE) Campaigns

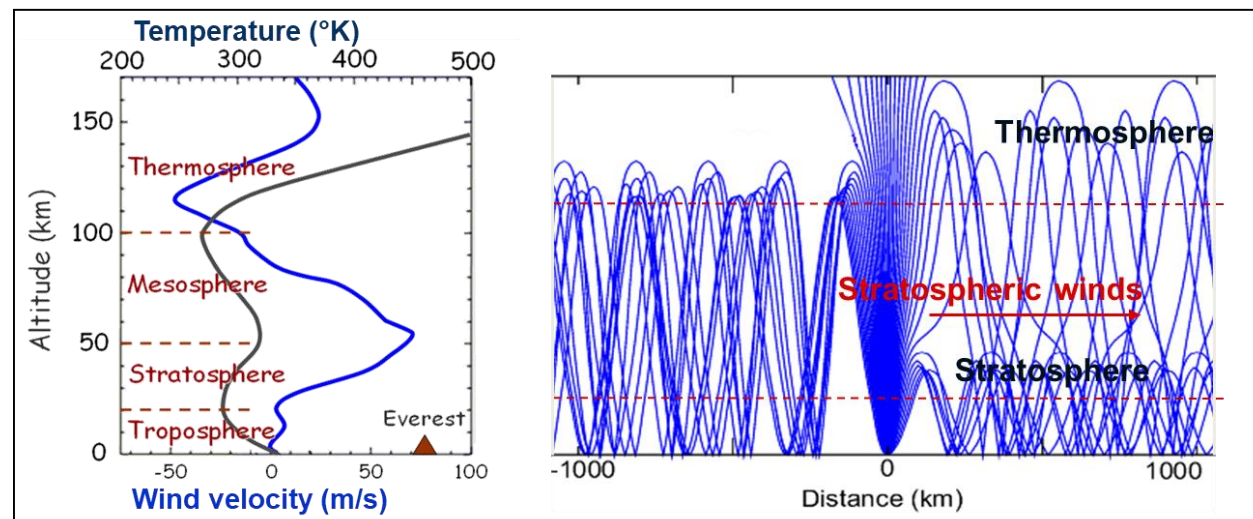
- At the end of nuclear atmospheric tests, HE tests for calibrations (LANL, USA)
 - Atmospheric profiles measured by rockets
 - ANFO explosions: 2 to 4 kt



First microbarometer in France 1956 (CEA, FR)

Infrasound: acoustic waves (10 Hz-0.01 Hz)

Infrasound long range propagation in the atmospheric wave guide formed by the temperature and wind variations in the different atmospheric layers.

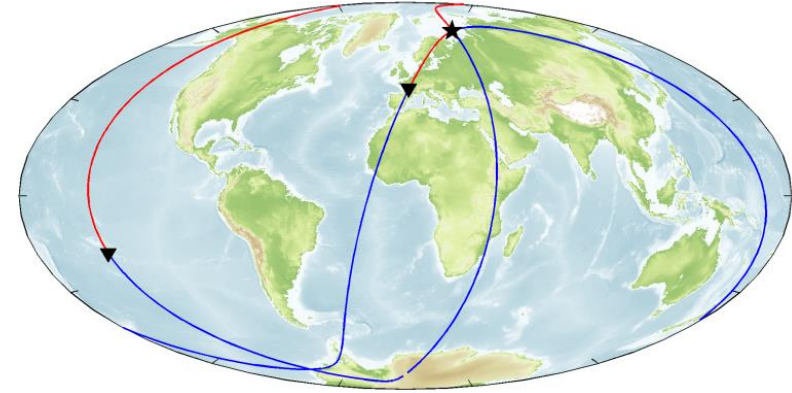
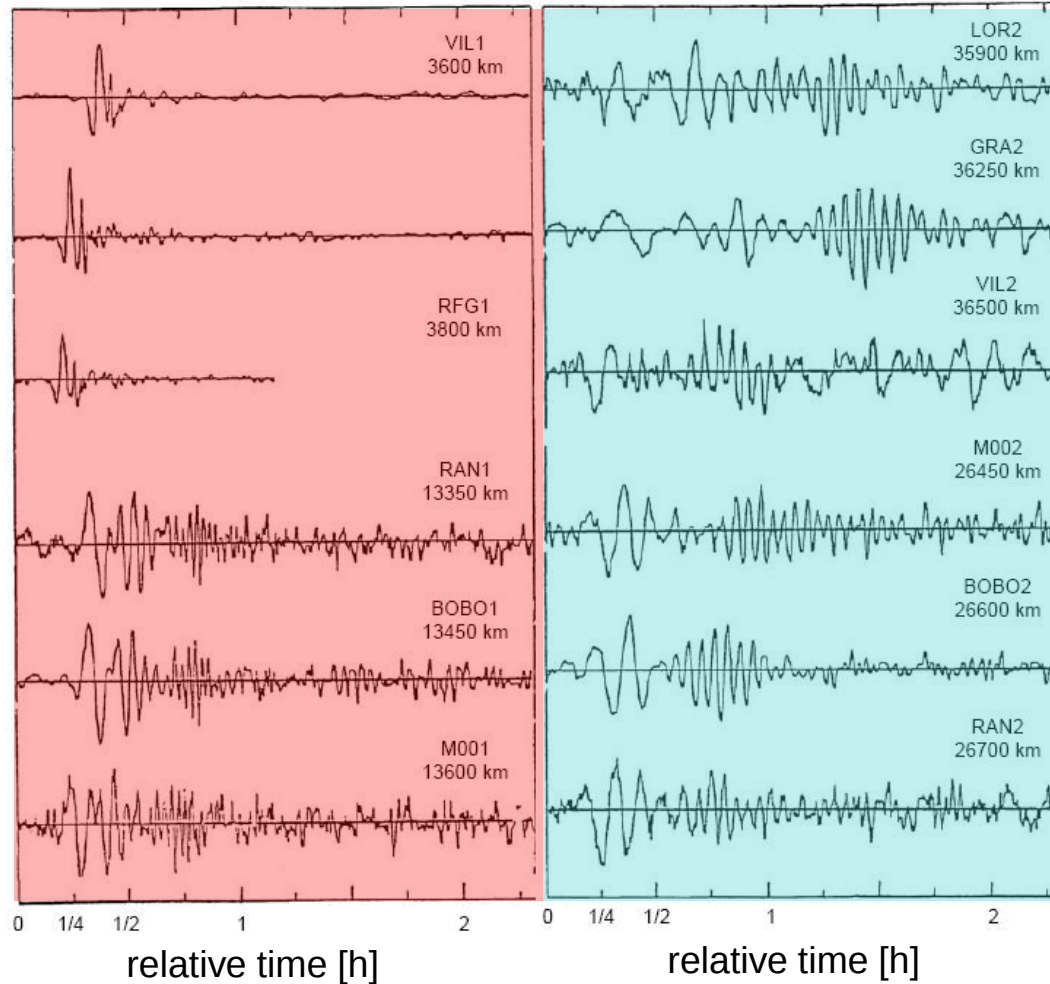


Observations of the atmospheric nuclear tests

>10 Mt in the Soviet Union

1962/09/27, USSR
Y > 10 Mt

short great-circle path **long**



- huge atmospheric nuclear explosions had generated strong pressure wave trains, dominated and headed by Lamb waves (period: >5mn) and followed by acoustic waves (infrasound ~0.01s to 100s)
- signals of such explosions were recorded several times in France and French Polynesia

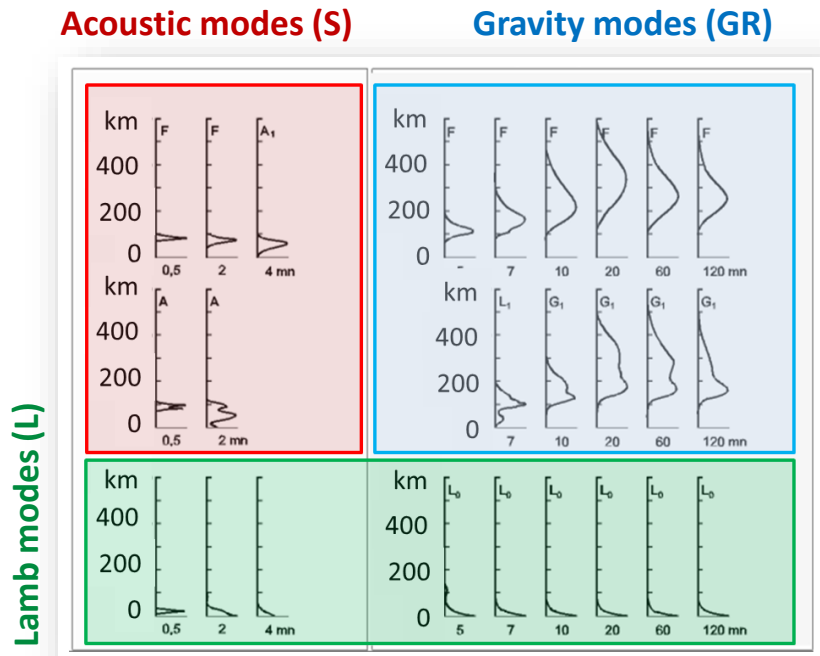
ISS 2009

Long range propagation of infrasound from nuclear explosions

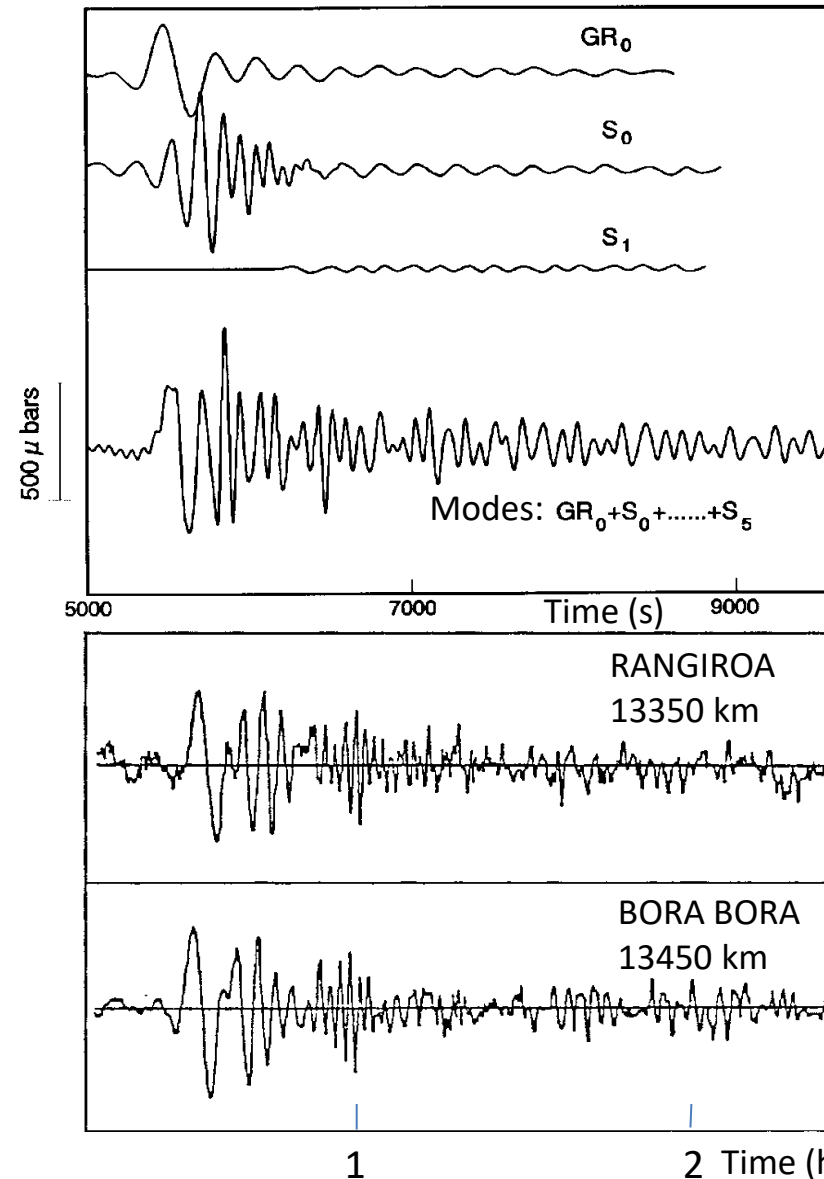
Theory

Modes ducted in the atmospheric wave guide

Effects of a 10Mt nuclear explosion at 10000 km
(Pierce and Posey, 1973)



(ref: Georges, Yeh and Liu, Francis, Kato, etc.)

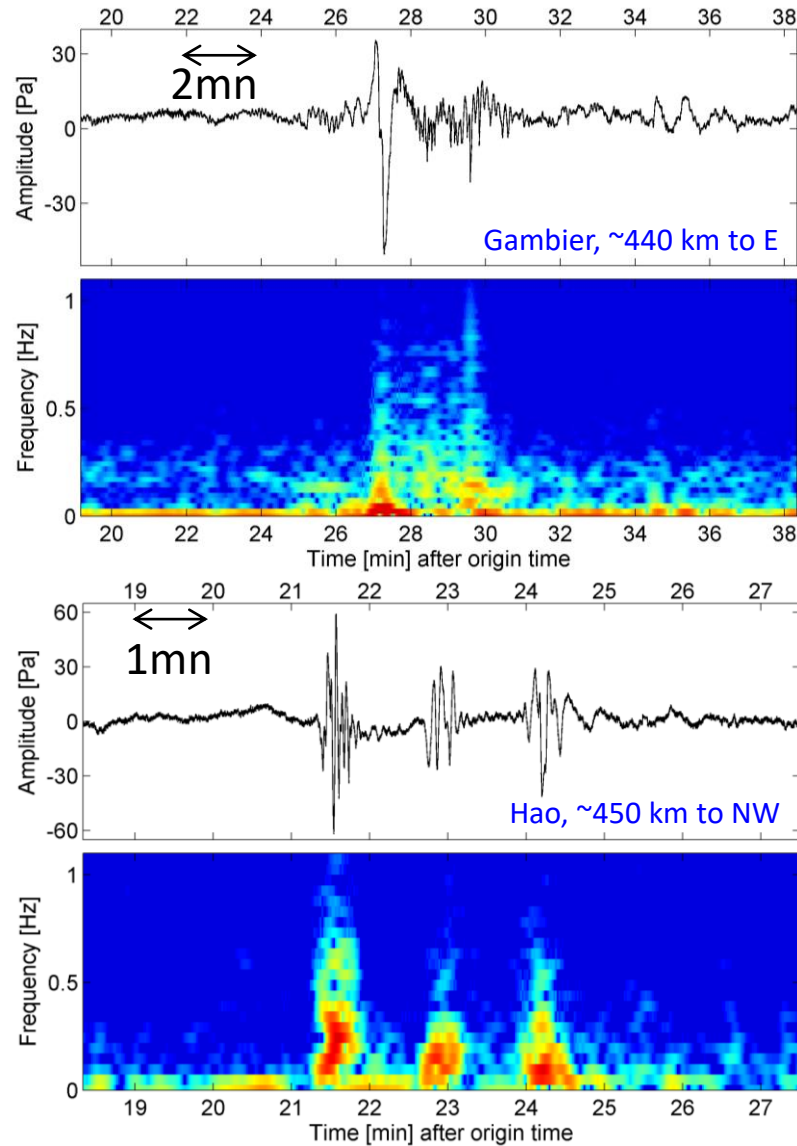


Observations

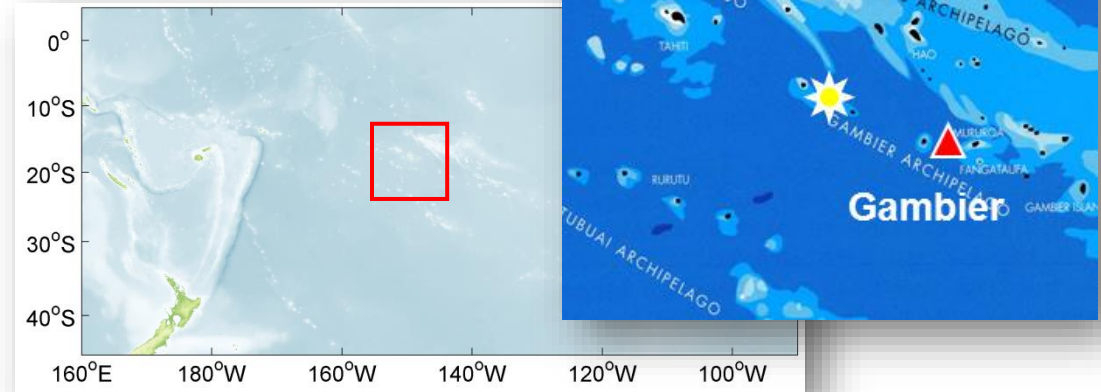
Examples of signals from a nuclear explosion
(CEA/LDG, FR)



Propagation complexity observed at shorter distances and lower yields



Few kt in French Polynesia



- infrasound propagation is directional both in regard of travel-time and dynamics
- dominating periods range from 30 to 2 s for a few kt explosion conducted near the surface

The 1990s: CTBT verification, renaissance of infrasound technology

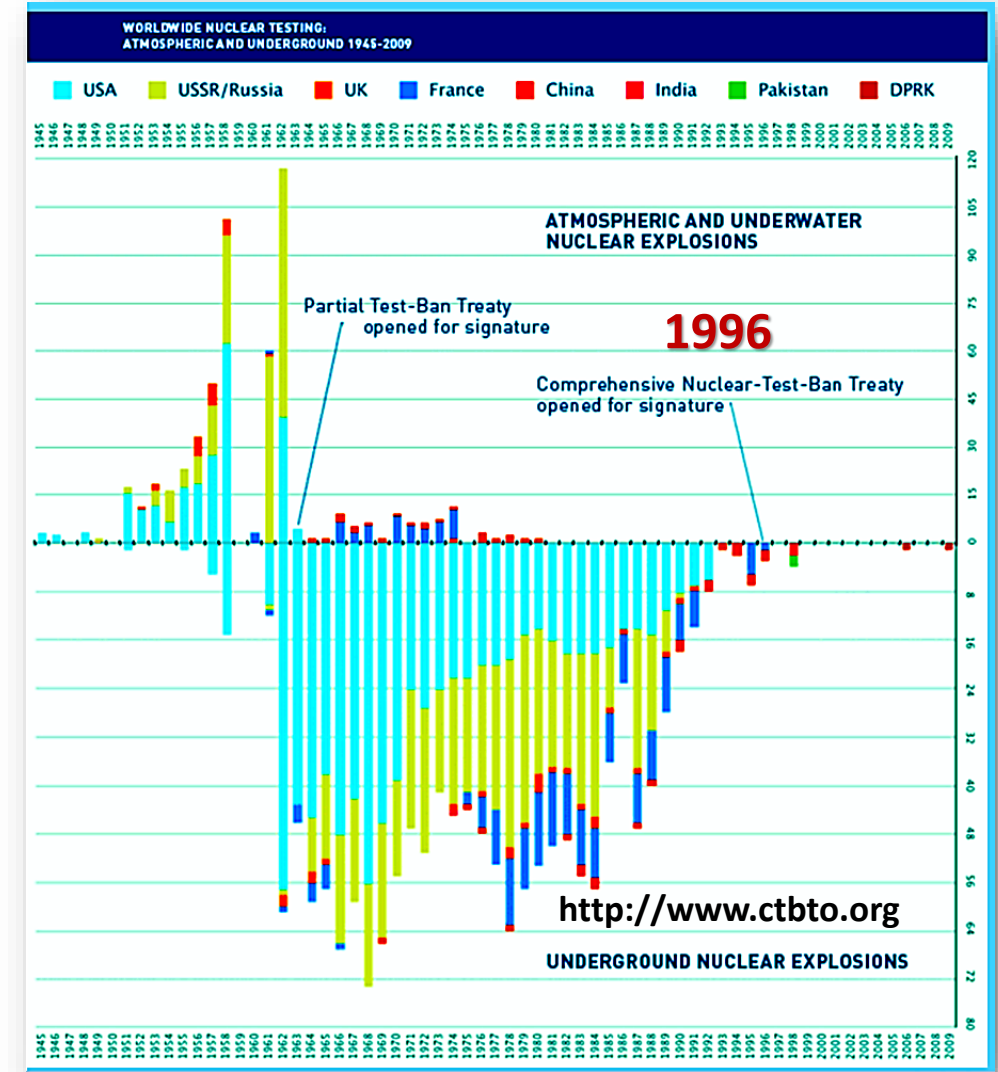
1993-96: Conferences on disarmament (Geneva)

- Would it be possible to **detect 1kt worldwide** with the infrasound technology?
- Which kind of signal?
- Which kind of stations?
- What about noise filtering?

1996: CTBT signature by 71 States Signatories

2001: First certified IMS station in Germany

The system specifications were determined based on the experience of different teams in nuclear explosion infrasound monitoring



First computations of the network detection capability

Method: determination for each point of the Earth the lower explosion yield able to be detected in different atmospheric conditions

- ❑ **Attenuation law of the nuclear/HE explosions amplitude versus range including:**

zonal stratospheric winds (climatological models)

$$\log P = 1.33 + 0.68 \times \log E - 1.36 \times \log R + 0.019 V_s$$

P: pressure amplitude (in Pa),

Whitaker, LANL, 1995

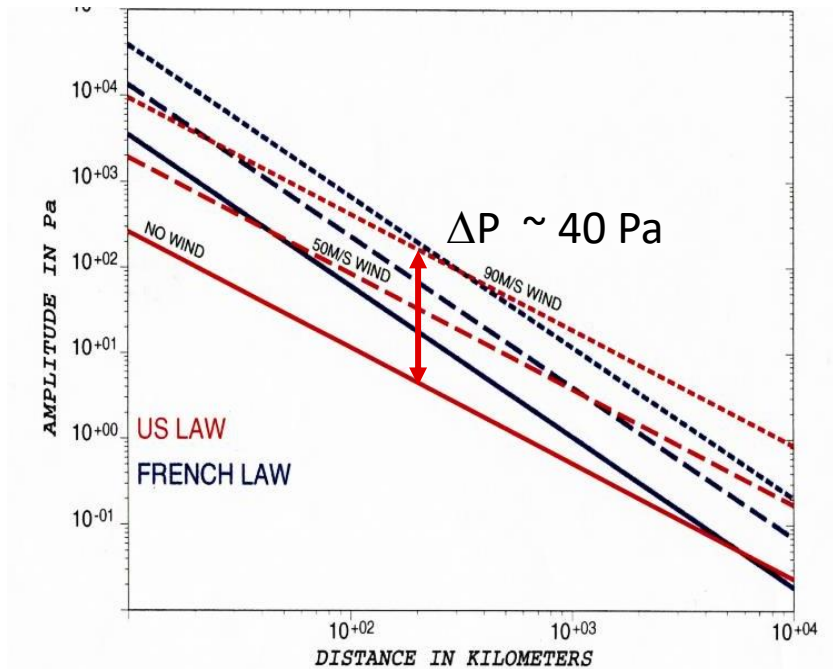
E yield (t TNT equivalent),

R: distance (in km),

V_s stratospheric wind speed at 50 km altitude (in m/s).

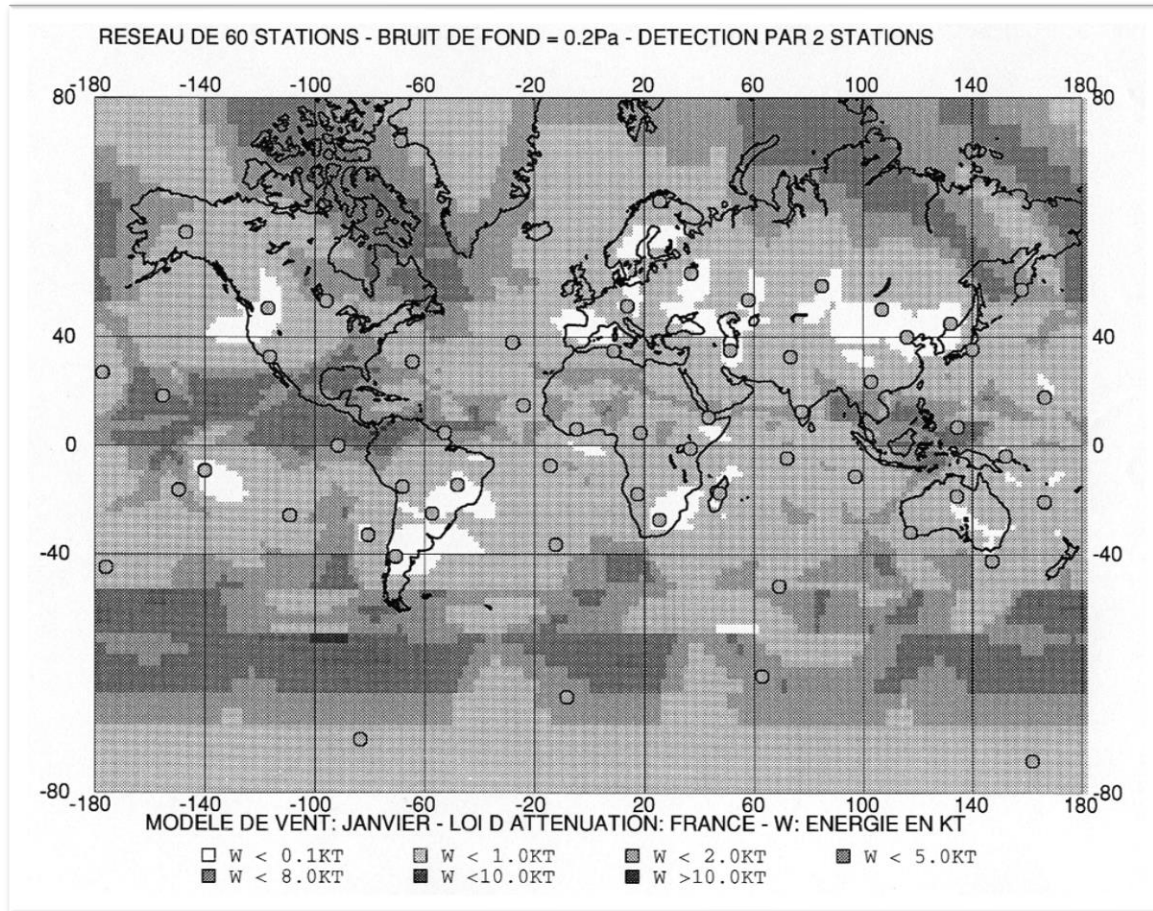
- ❑ **Noise level depending on the wind speed near the sensors, inducing wind turbulences**

surface winds (meteorological observations at the stations)

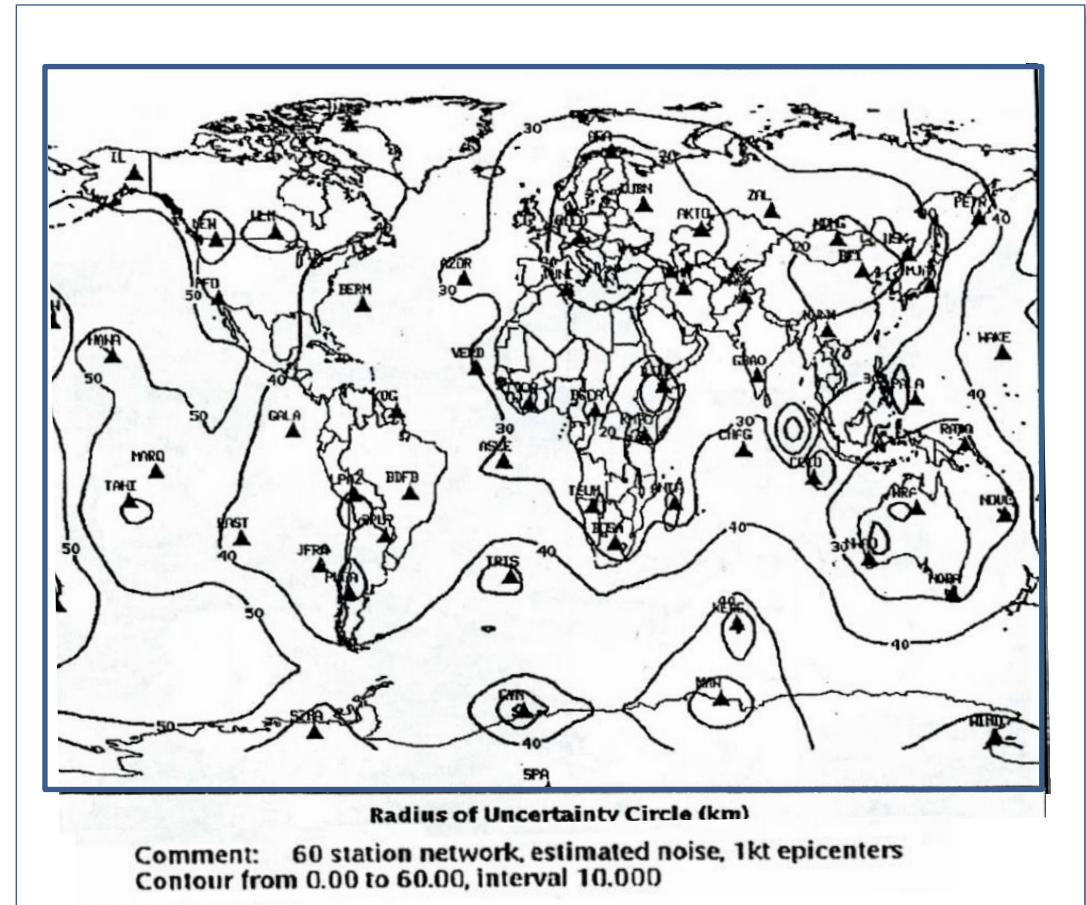


High variability of the signal amplitude, partly corrected by introducing stratospheric wind effects

First detection capability maps (60 stations system)



Deterministic approach (FR)



Probabilistic approach (USA)

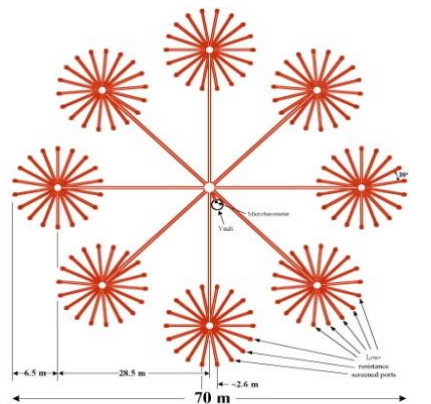
From the Report of the Infrasound Expert group to the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban Working Group on Verification (15 December 1995)

Renaissance of the infrasound technology

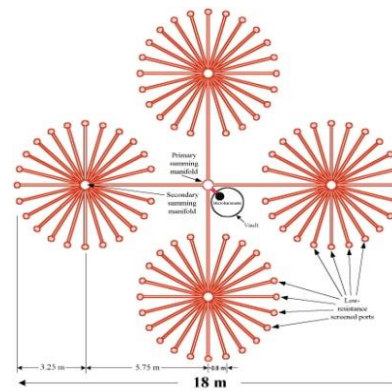
Examples of array element equipment



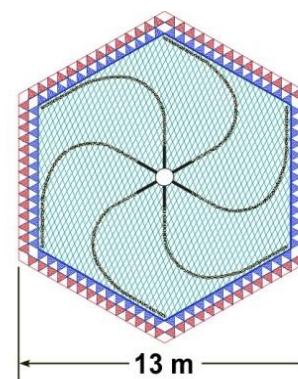
Noise reduction systems



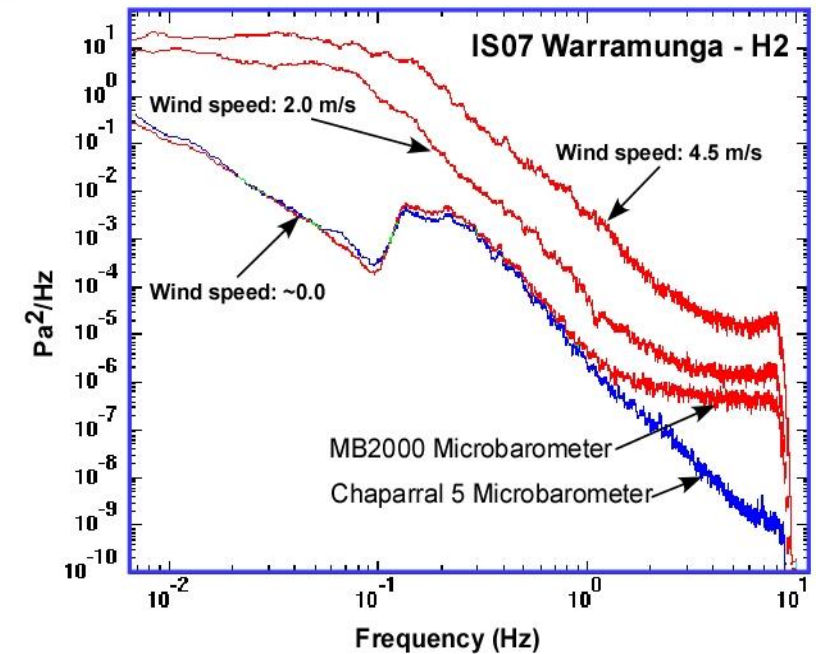
70-m diameter, 144 ports



18-m diameter, 96 ports



6 arm porous hose pipe+ + walls



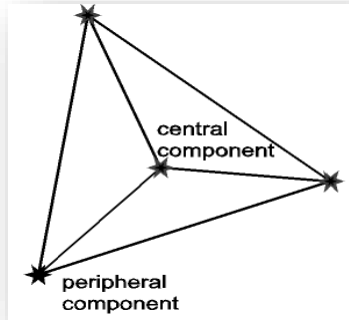
Examples of systems. Dimensions are increased in windy stations

Bowman, 2005, Christie, 2006, 2007, Alcoverro 2006

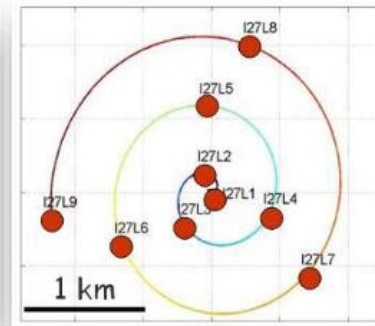
Infrasound Stations : Very sensitive acoustic antennas

■ Stations : mini-arrays

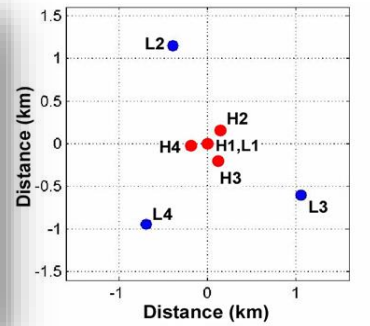
The sensor number is increased in stations where winds are strong



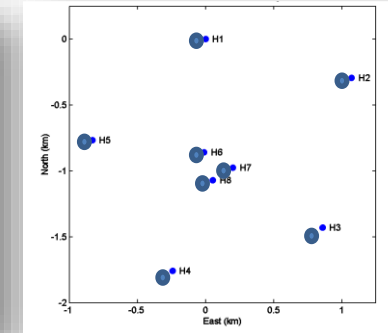
Basic configuration



I27DE (Antarctica)
Hartmann, 2003

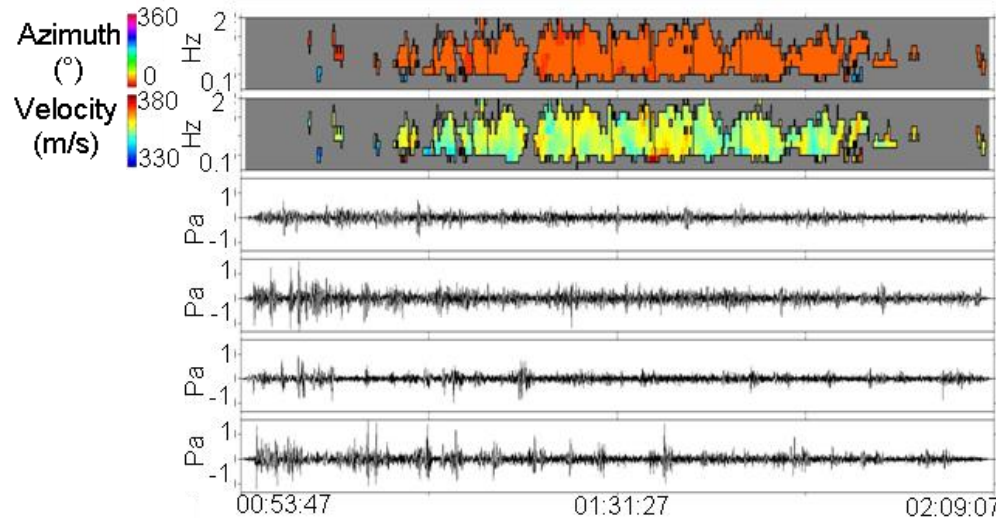


I07 (Australia)
Christie, 2007



I53US (Alaska)
Olson et al, 2002

■ Data processing methods, bulletins

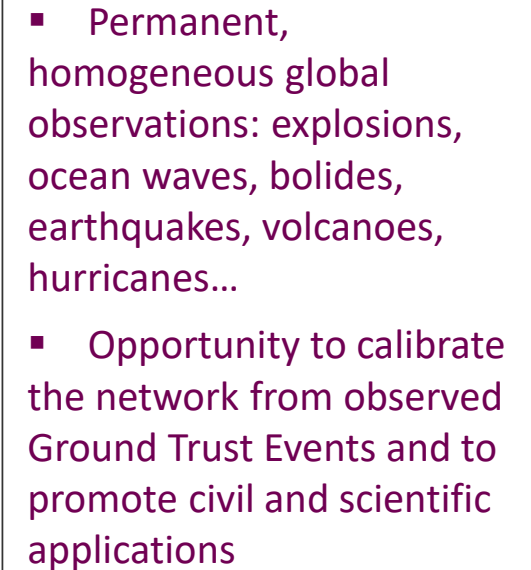


Progressive Multi Channel Correlation (PMCC) detections (*Cansi, 1995*)

Other method: F-detector (*Fisher, 1992*)

■ Measured parameters:

- azimuth,
- phase velocity
- amplitude
- wave frequency

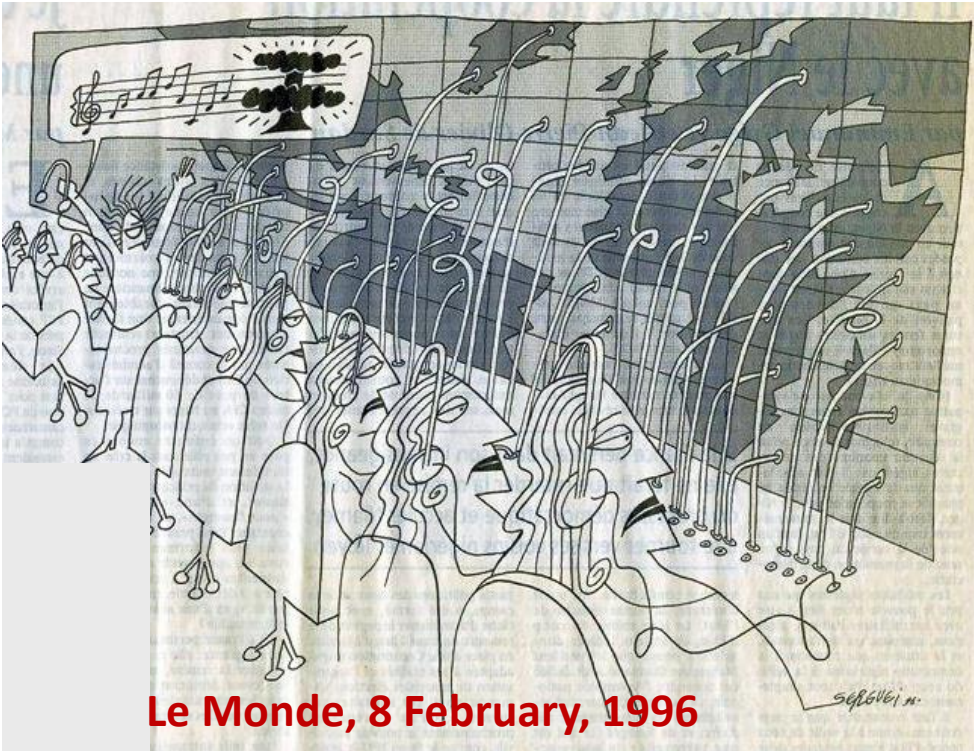


The IMS infrasound network (53 certified stations, 60 when completed) provides relevant global observations of most atmospheric disturbances

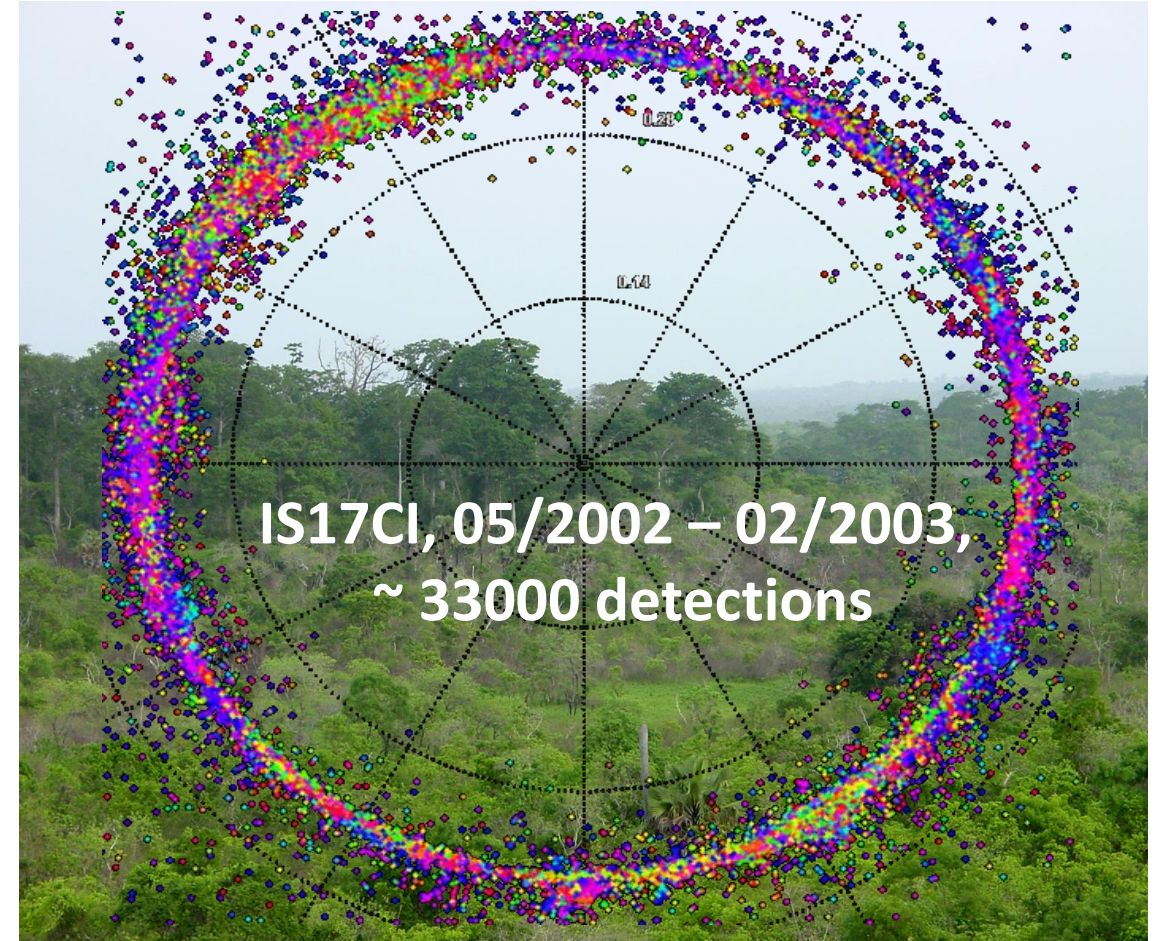
The 2000s: Development of the IMS infrasound network

2001: First certified station IS26 in Germany

2004: 17 certified stations



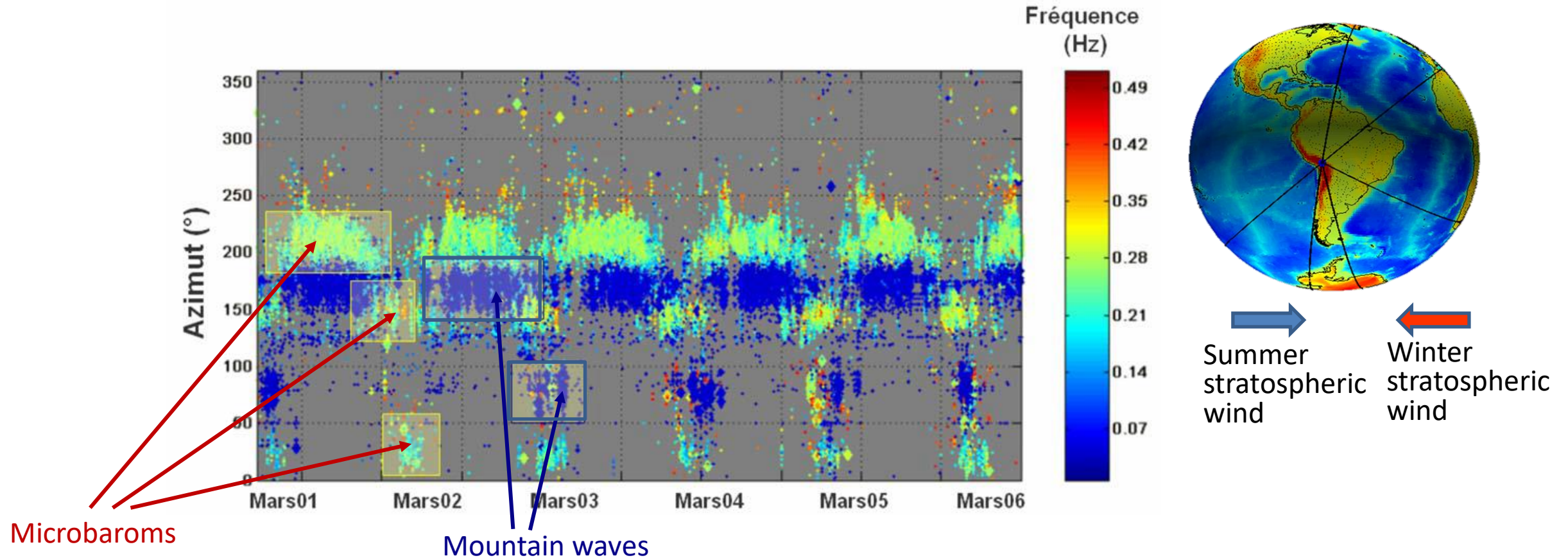
Le Monde, 8 February, 1996



Le Pichon, 2001

Challenge of the event identification and simulations of the infrasound propagation

Examples of detections in the Bolivia I08BO station

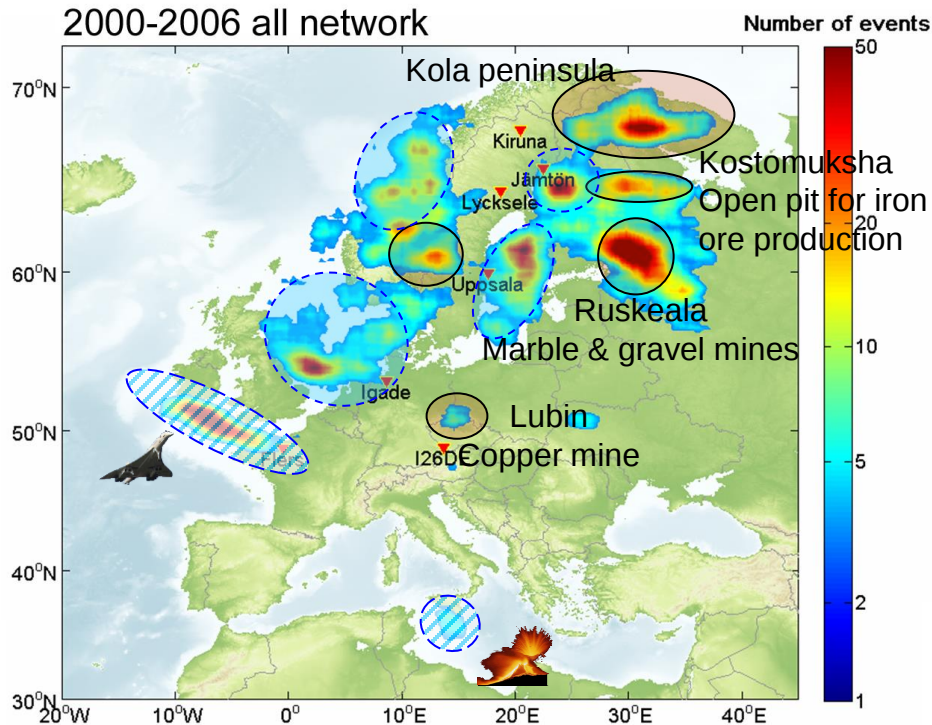


Two main events submitted to seasonal variations :

- Microbarom (green): from South Pacific (200-230°) during the austral winter and from the South Atlantic (130-180°) or North Atlantic (10-30°) during the austral summer.
- Mountain waves (blue): at longer periods (~ 20 s), generated over the Andes

Synergy with seismology: Identification of human activity across Europe

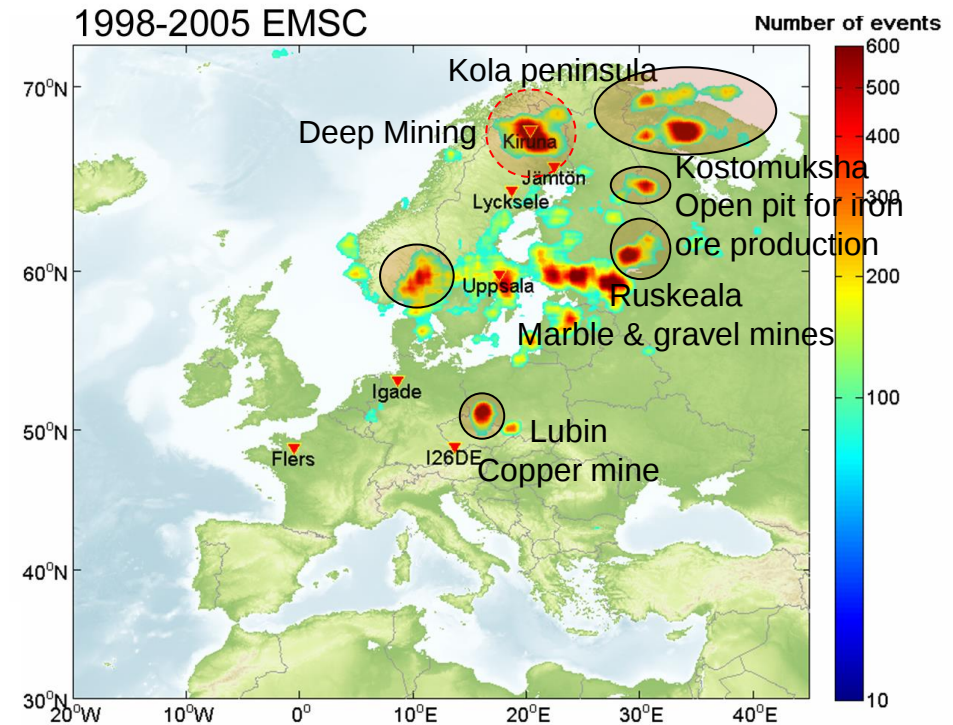
Le Pichon et al. 2008



Infrasound-bulletin (2000-2006)

4 874 events

Godey et al. 2006

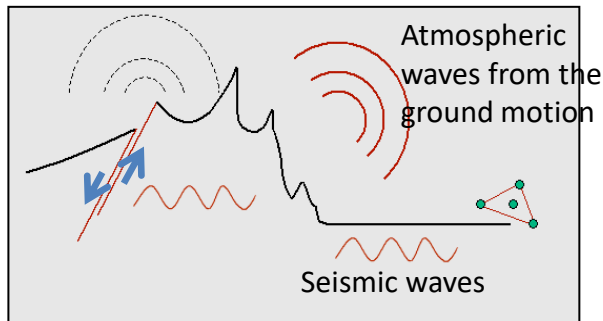
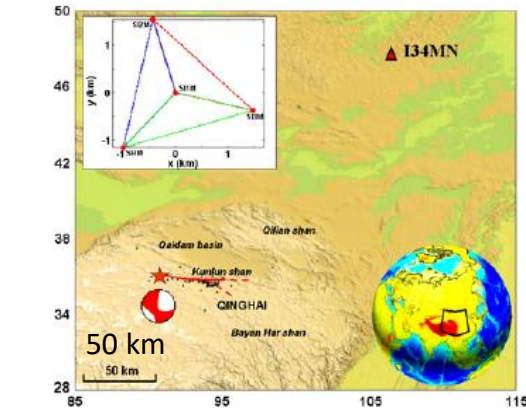


EMSC-bulletin(1998-2005)
artificial events

18 160 events

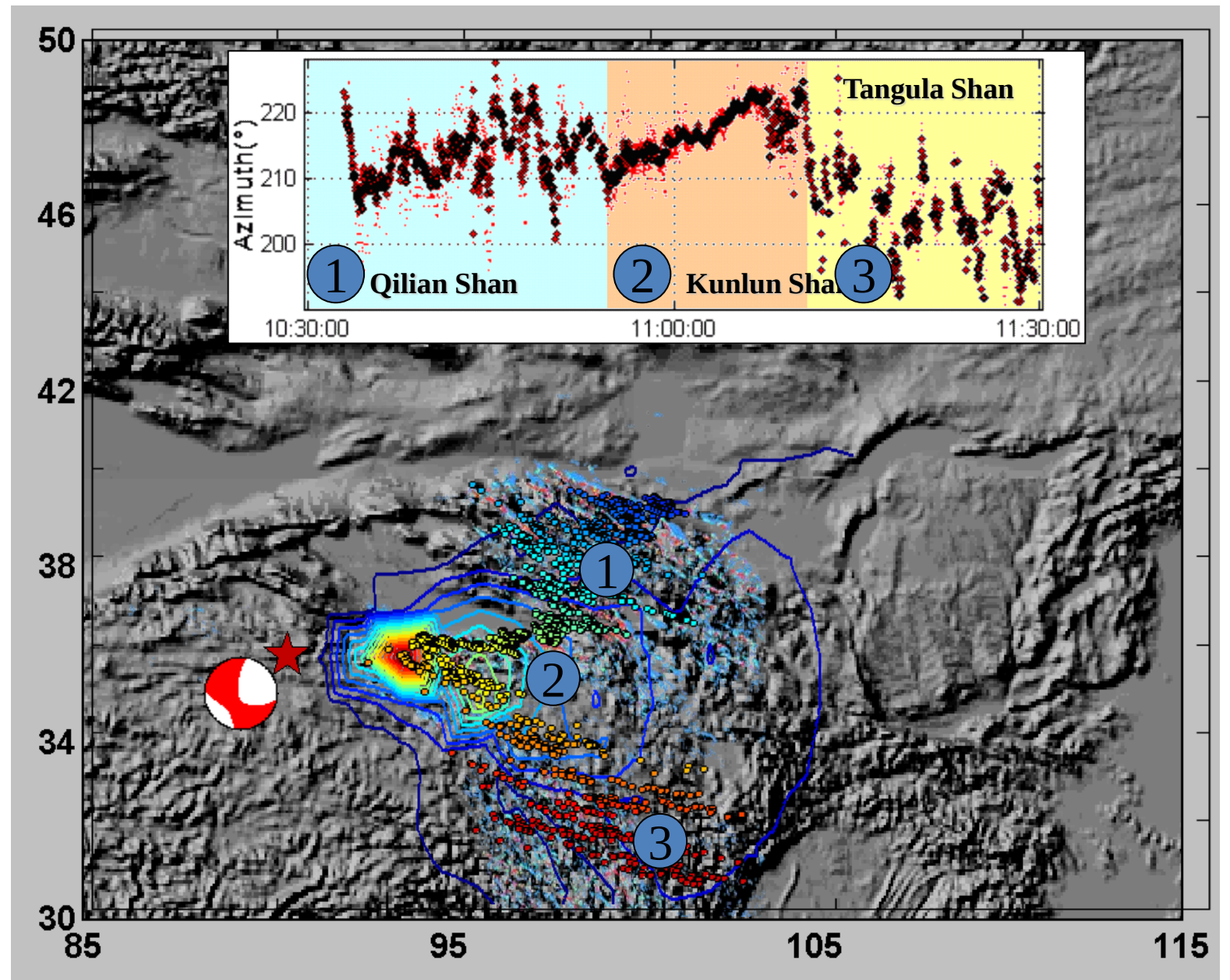
Infrasound generated by Earthquakes

M7.8 China earthquake, 2001/11/14
observed in Mongolia



Earth-atmosphere coupling

Le Pichon et al., 2002

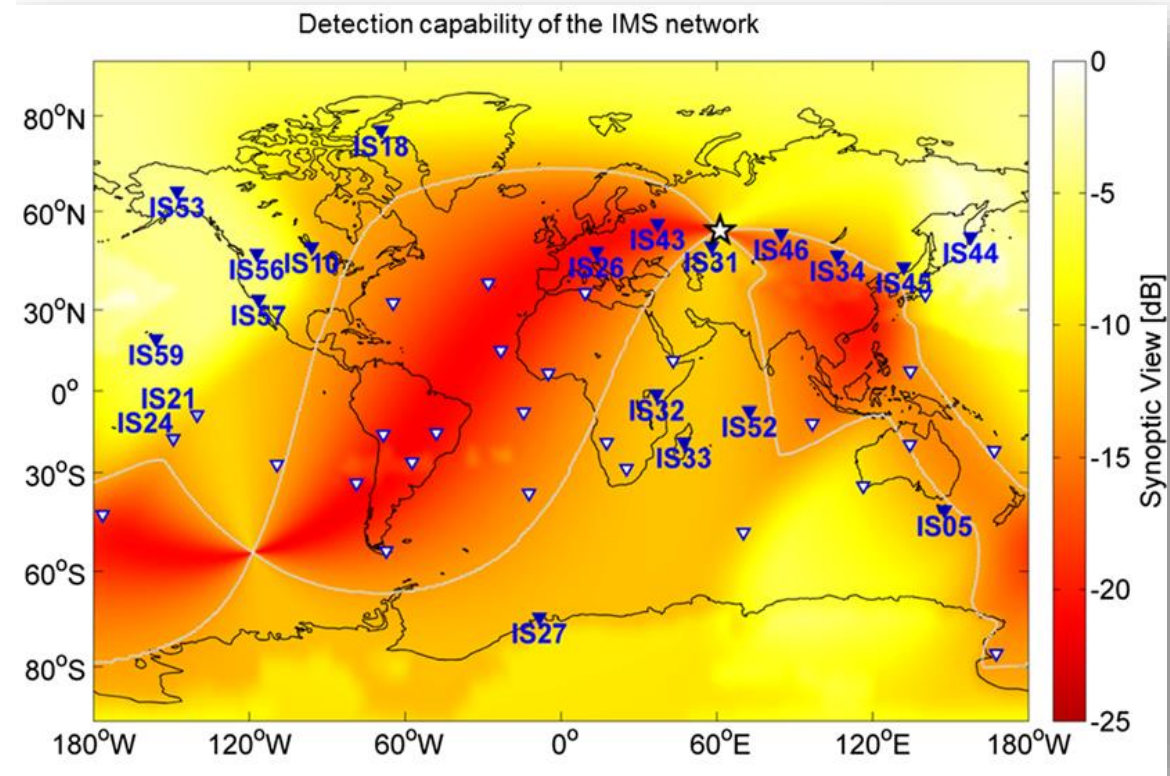
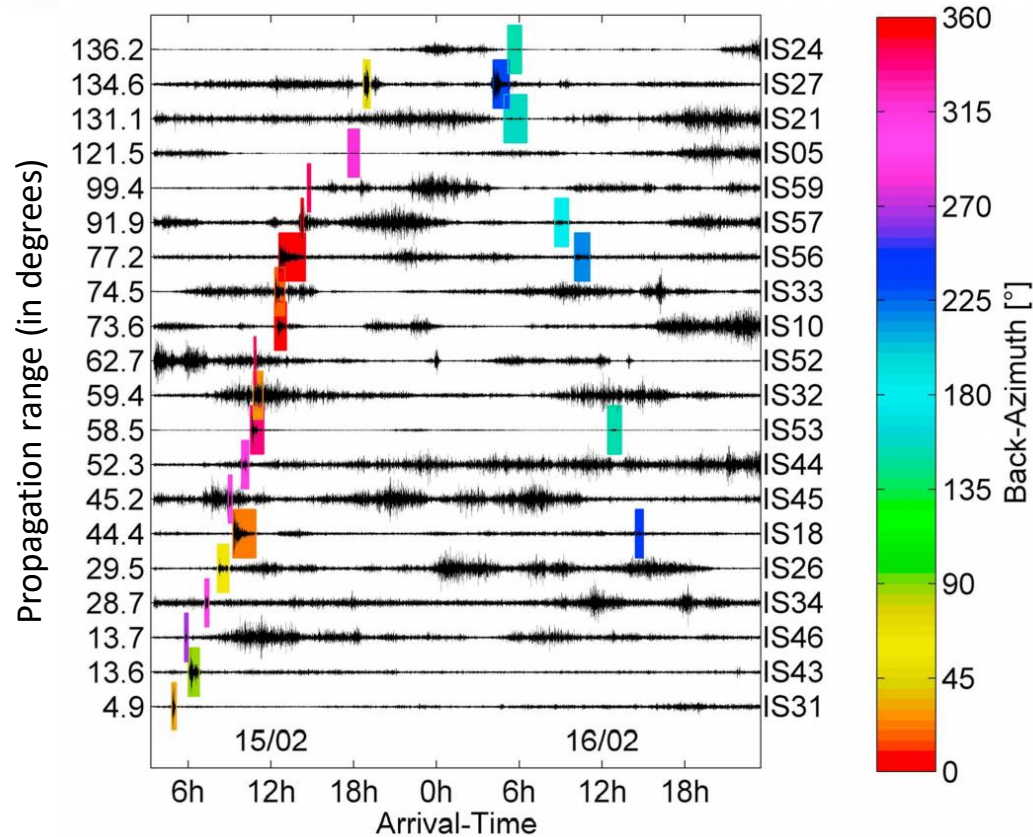




Chelyabinsk meteorite (15 Feb 2013)



Detection capability of the IMS network



PMCC detections with color-coded back azimuths.

Le Pichon et al. 2013

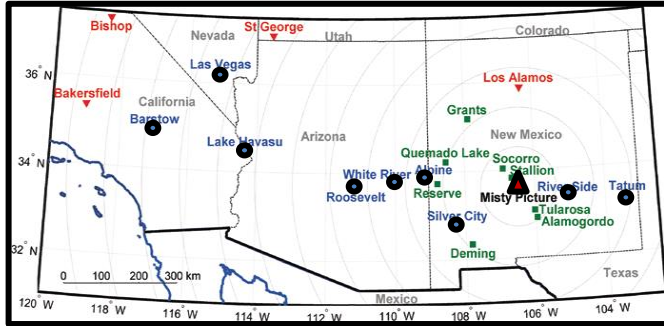
Pilger et al. 2015

The most energetic event recorded by the infrasound IMS, globally detected by 20 out of 42 operational stations.

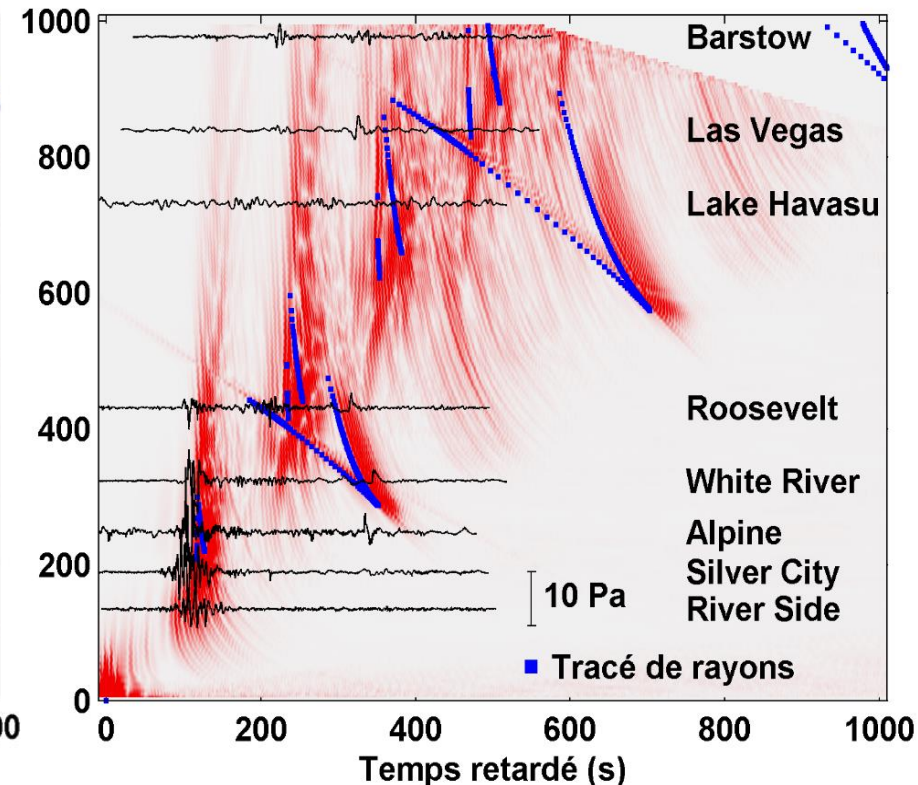
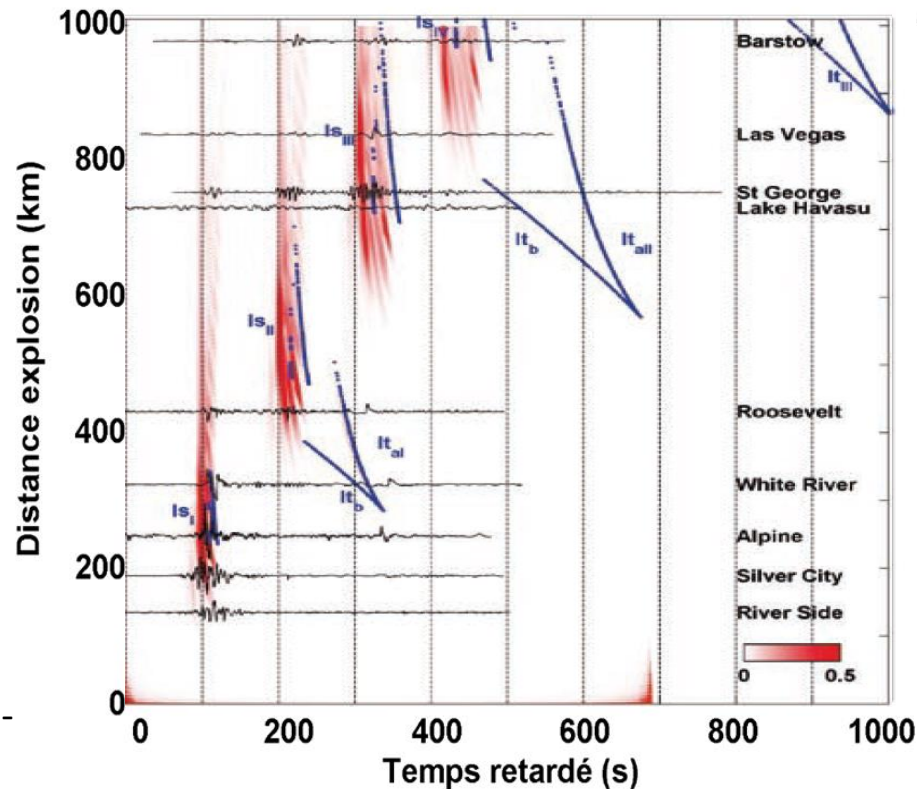
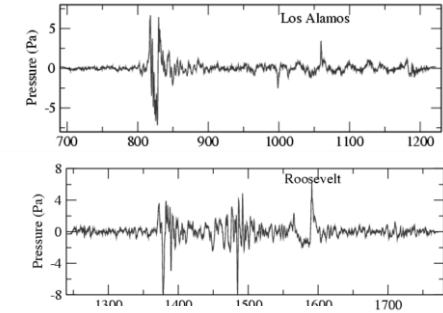
- Period : 20-80 s, Max distance : 86,600 km
- **Explosive Yield : ~450 kt of TNT**
- Diameter : ~20 m, mass : ~10,000 t
- Expected to occur every 100 years

Brown et al., 2013

Calibration of infrasound propagation models: Misty Picture



Misty Picture : 14 May 1987 (USA) 4685 tons ANFO. Sandia National Lab. (*Reed et al 1987*), LANL (*Whitaker, et al, 1990*), CEA (*Blanc et al., 1987*). Rocket atmospheric profiles up to 70 km.



Gainville et al. 2005, 2010,
Despres et al., 2006

■ HPC-TGCC (CEA)
3D Euler simulations

Calibration of different propagation models performed at CEA, using Misty Picture signals recorded up to 1000 km.

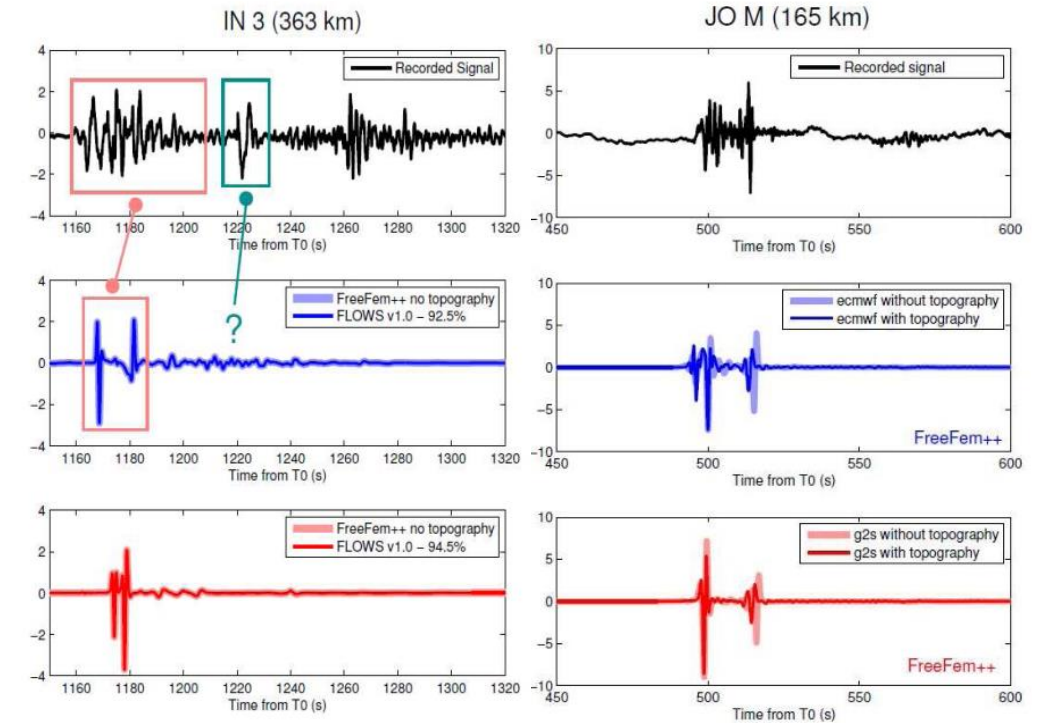
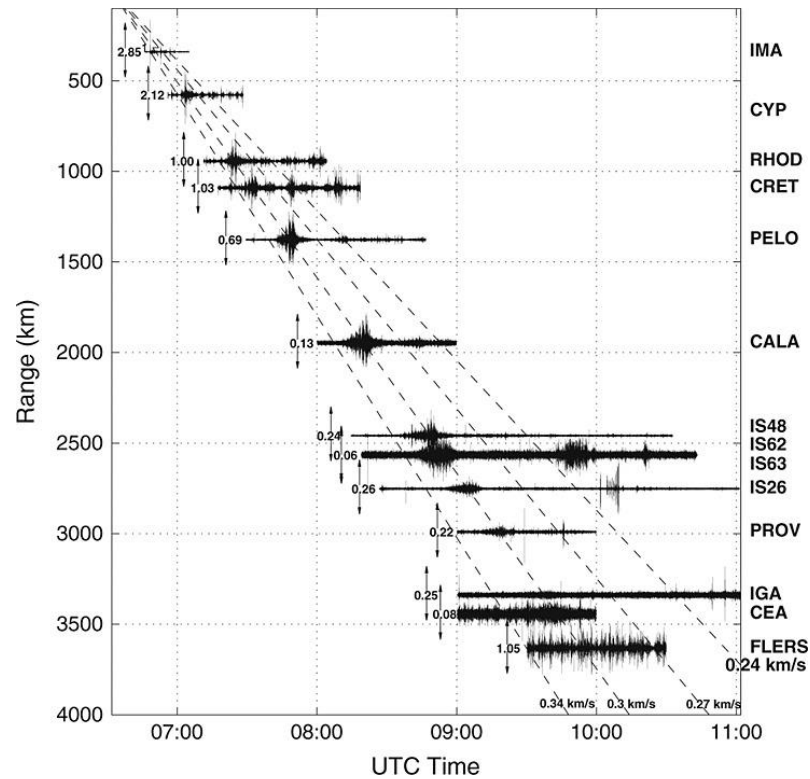
Comparison
between :

- ray tracing ●
- parabolic -
- observations -

Calibration specific experiments: Sayarim 2009-2011

Supports: University of Mississippi, Weston Geophysical, Israel
NDC, Geophysical Institute of Israel
18 portable infrasound arrays deployed by CTBTO

26 August 2009 (96t), 24 January 2011 (7t), 26 January 2011 (77t)
Sayarim Military Range, Israel.
Infrasound is detected out to and ~6300 km in 2011

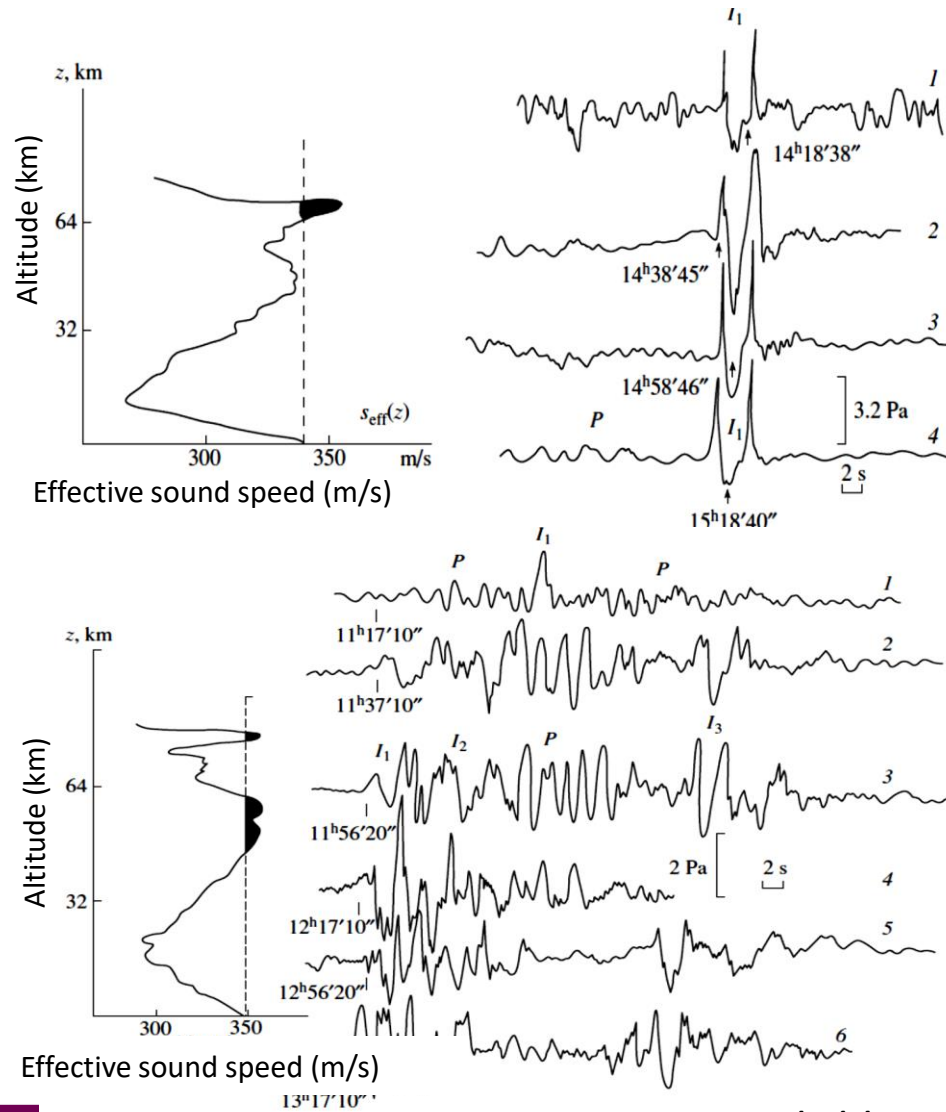


Ribstein et al., 2016

Fee et al., 2013

- ☐ Observations are well explained at a first order
- ☐ Differences come from fine structures in wind profiles not represented by models

Calibrations using repetitive sources (explosions) and rocket atmospheric pro

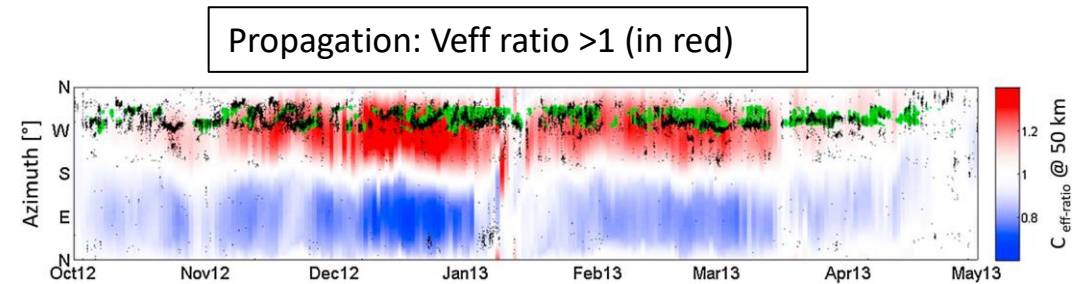


Calibrations using successive explosions showed a large variability in the detected signals, produced by fluctuations in the atmospheric profile

Such fluctuations are not fully described by the models. Improving their representation is needed for accurate infrasound simulations

V_{eff} ratio = ratio between the effective sound speed at 30 to 50 km altitude and the sound speed at the ground level

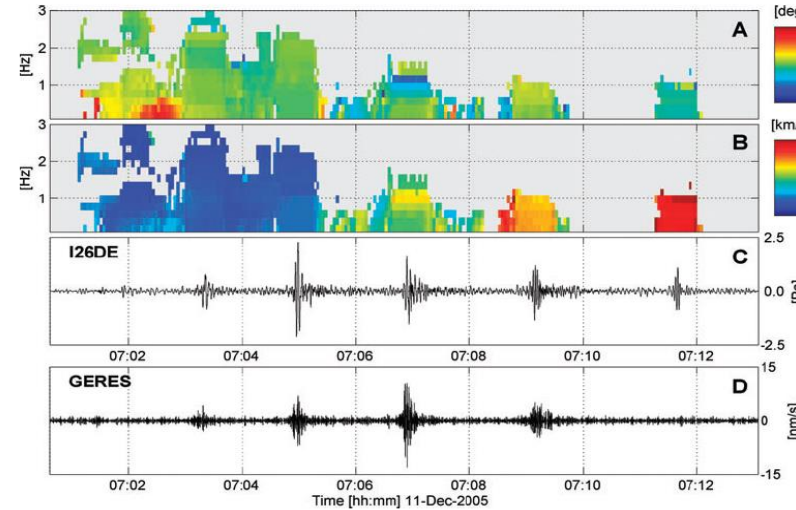
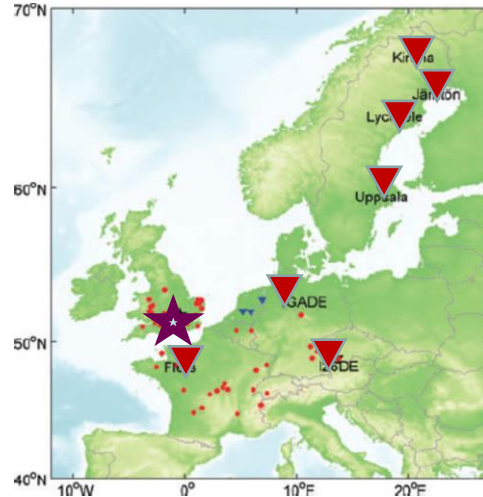
Veff ratio: used as criterion to characterize the infrasound propagation in routine processing and many infrasound studies



Le Pichon et al., 2015

Kulichkov et al., 2004, 2010

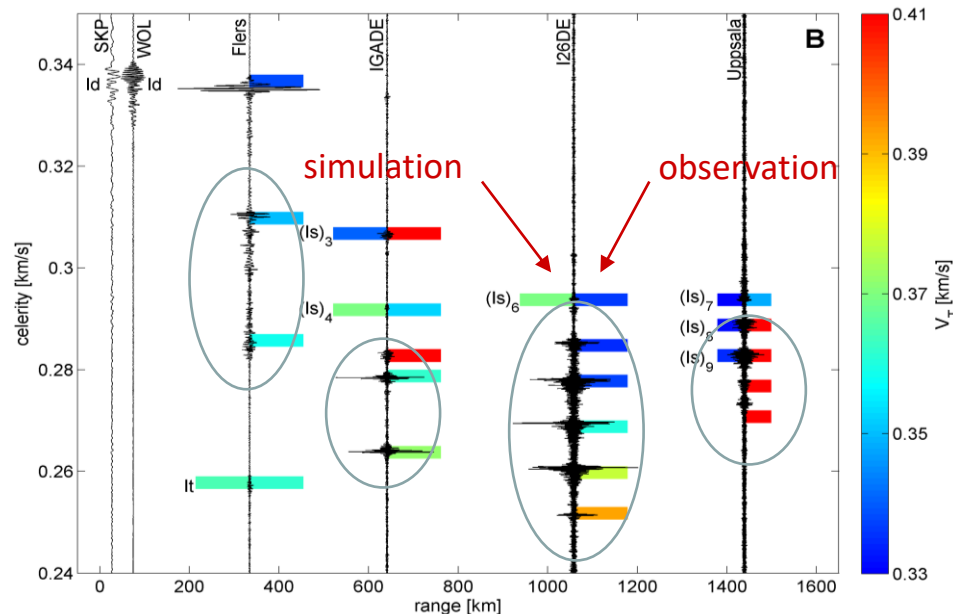
Calibration by using the Buncefield accidental explosion



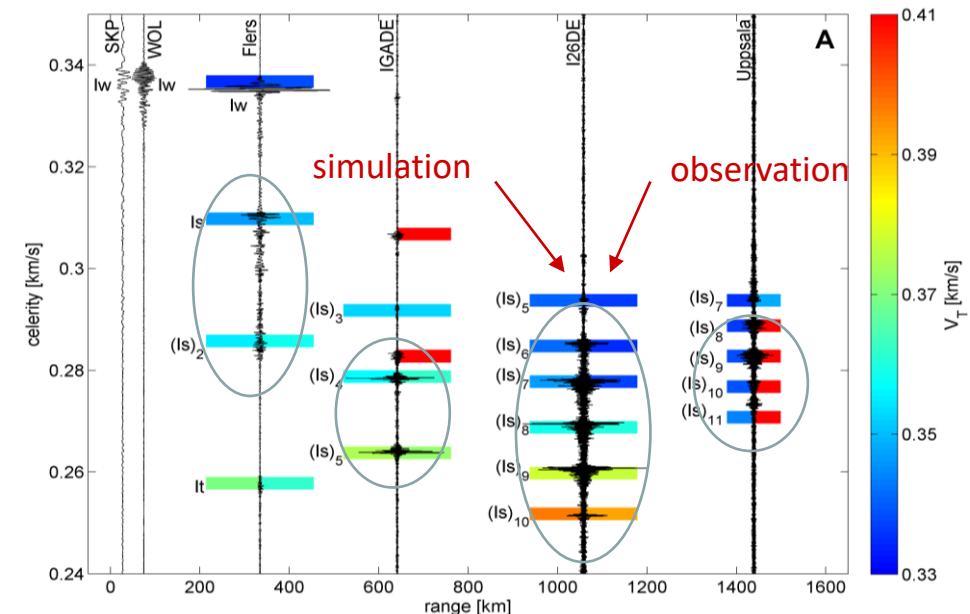
2005 December 11
~300 t petrol in UK

Role of the atmospheric models
in the representation of the
observations

Le Pichon et al., ITW, 2006
Ceranna et al., JGI, 2009

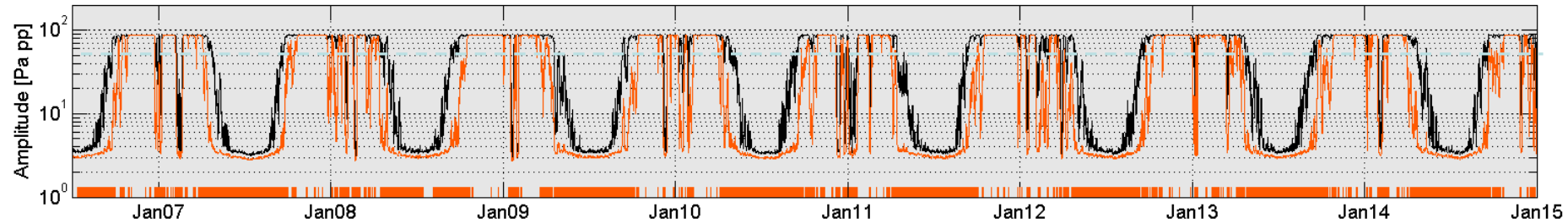


Semi-empirical climatology **Horizontal Wind Model**
model: HWM-93 (Hedin et al., 1996)

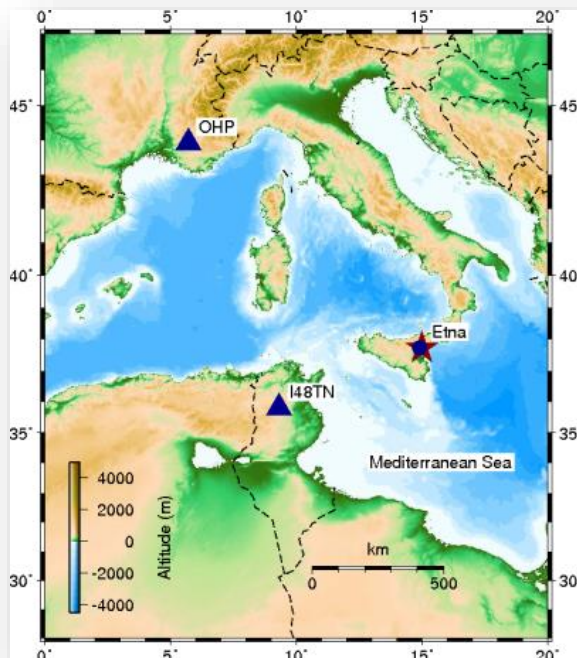


Semi-empirical **NRL-Ground to Space (NRL-G2S) model**
(Drob et al., 2003)

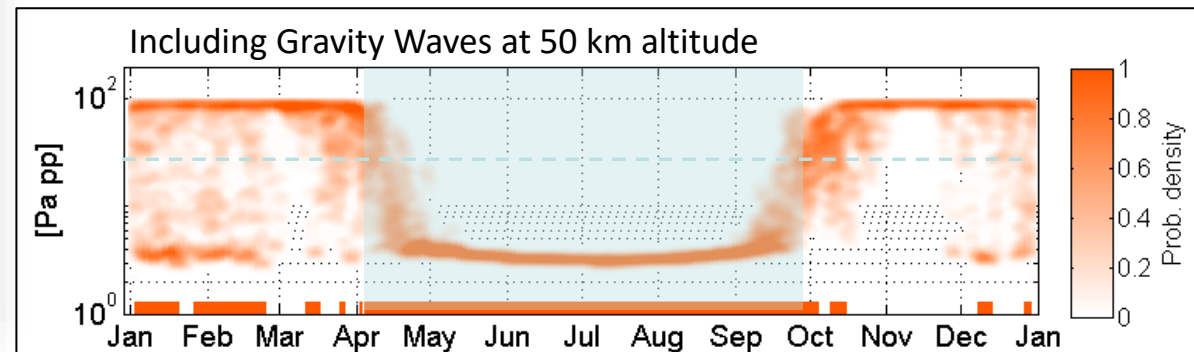
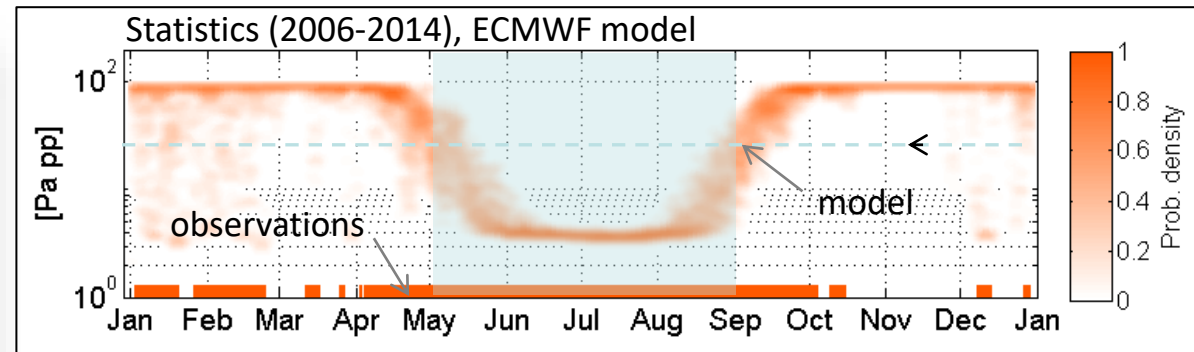
Incomporing gravity waves in infrasound simulations using Etna volcano



Probabilistic predictions using empirical attenuation relation and atmospheric uncertainty estimates



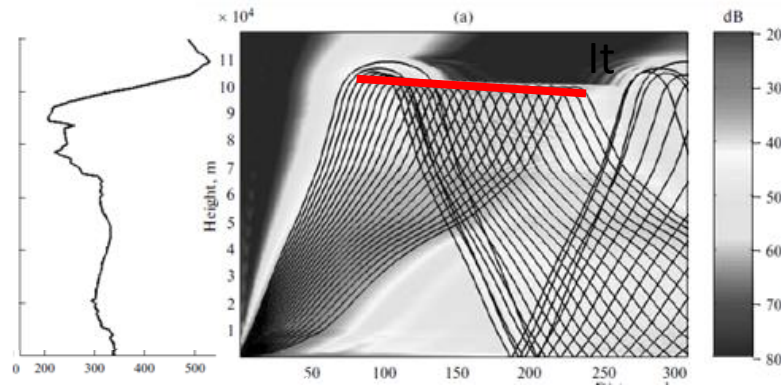
Etna detected in Tunisia at 550 km



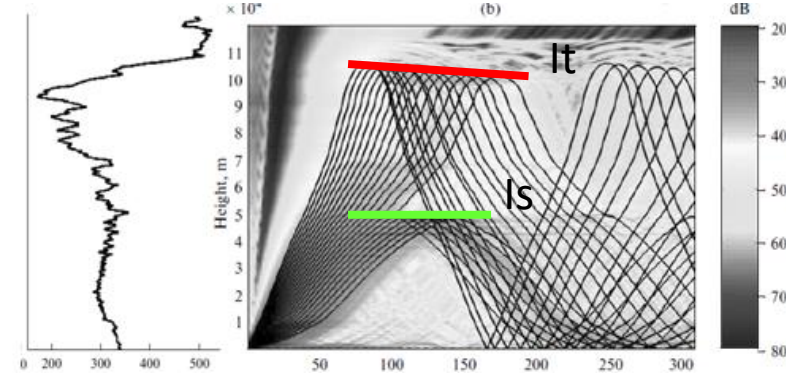
Gravity waves in the stratosphere induce quasi continuously fluctuations in stratospheric wind and temperature profiles, at the origin of partial reflections and increasing the number of detected signals

Including gravity waves in the infrasound attenuation laws

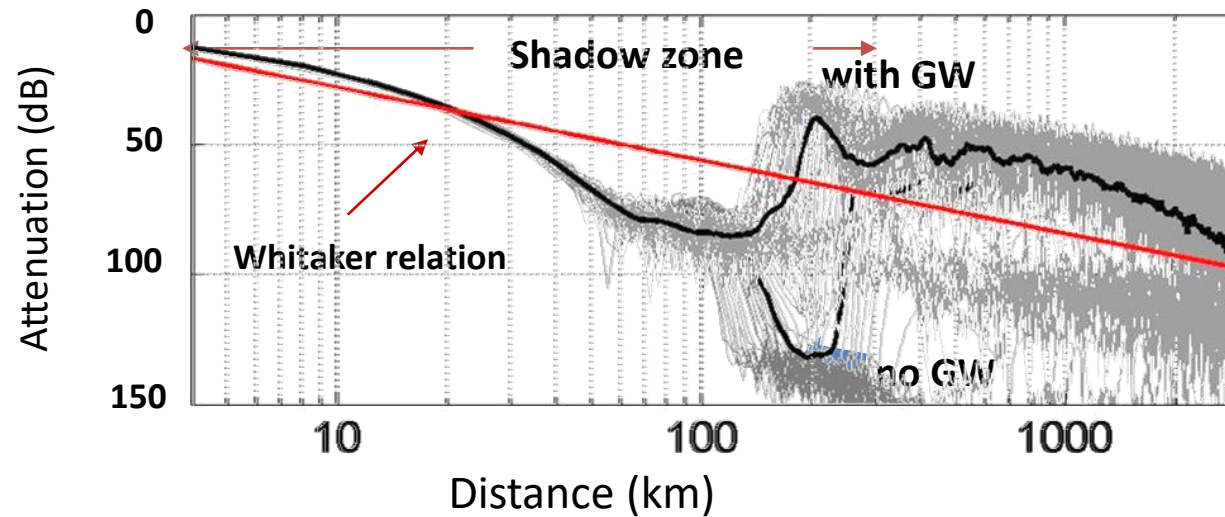
Standard mean profile



Partial reflections from gravity waves



*Kulichkov
et al., 2010*



*Ceranna
et al., 2011
Le Pichon
et al, 2012*

Attenuation law versus distance with and without gravity waves

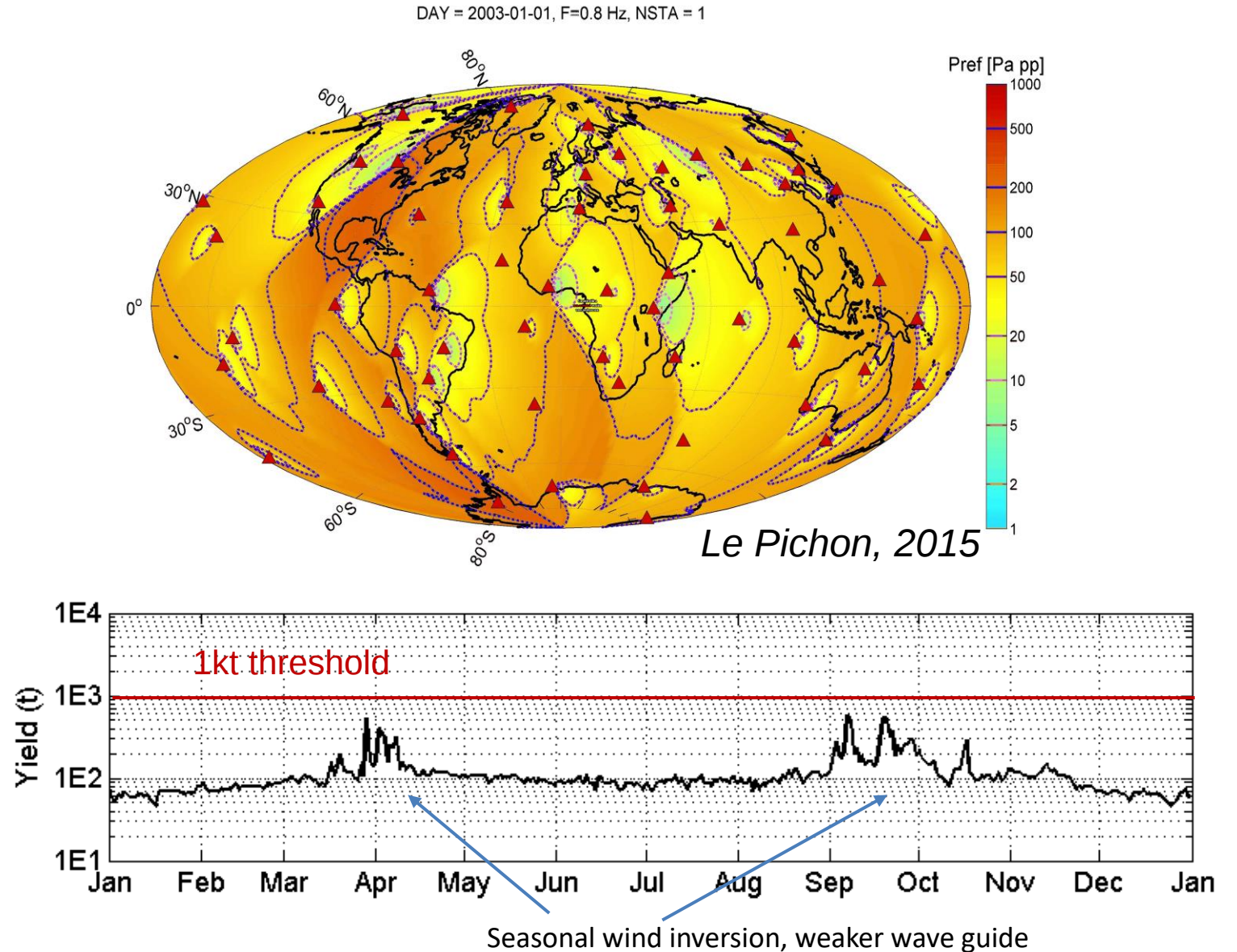
Performances of the verification technologies as computed 25 years later

Quantification of detection capability thresholds in space and time :

- ☐ New attenuation laws
- ☐ Meteorological routine models
- ☐ Noise in the stations (Brown et al, 2014)
- ☐ ARISE disturbances (gravity waves)

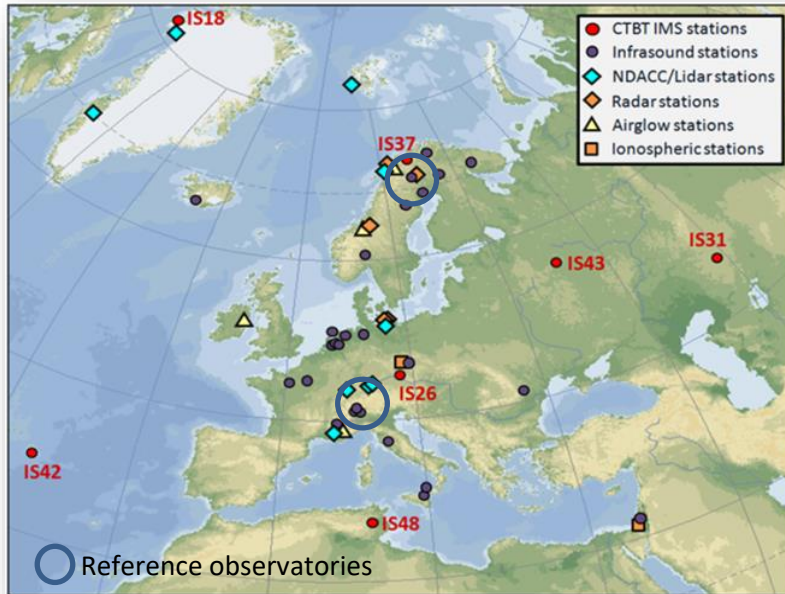
Validation by using observations of large scale events (meteors, explosions, volcanoes)

- ➔ Implemented in automatic procedures: daily maps
- ➔ Operational products at IDC

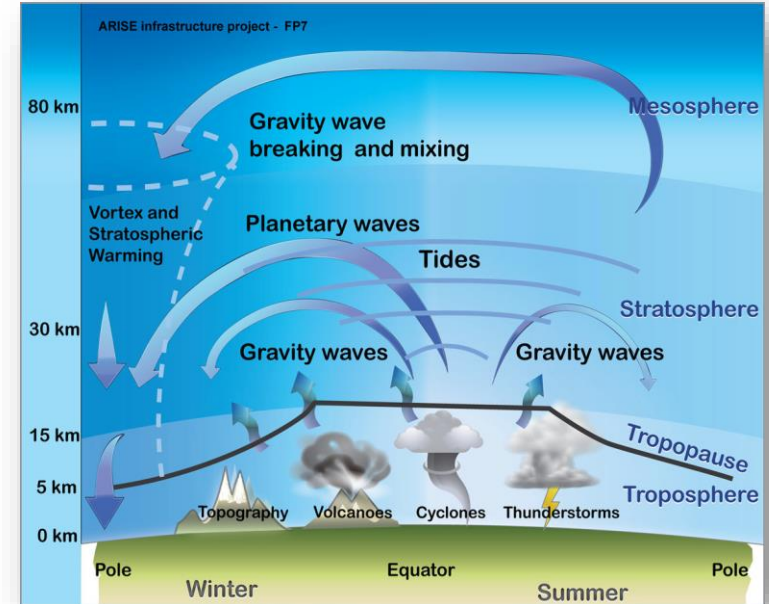


Reducing model uncertainties by improving the knowledge of stratospheric dynamics

ARISE station network



Dynamics processes



Complementary observation systems:

- IMS infrasound network
- Network for the Detection of Atmospheric Composition Change (NDACC) lidar stratospheric winds & temperature
- Mesospheric observations by OH spectrometers, Meteor radars, spectroradiometer

The ARISE (**A**tmospheric dynamics **R**esearch **I**nfra**S**tructure in **E**urope) project combines complementary observations with theoretical and modelling studies to better understand and describe the dynamics of the middle and upper atmosphere



ARISE was funded by the European Union's 7th and H2020 Framework Programmes

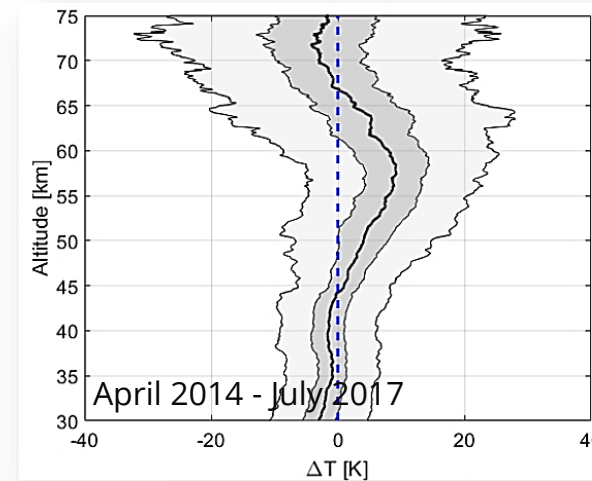
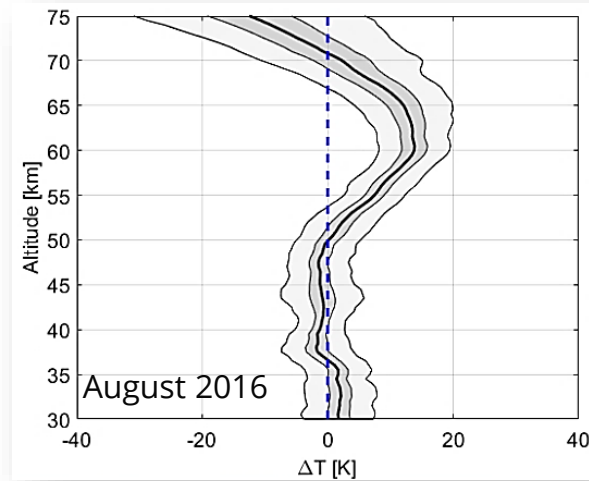
Comparison between observations and ECMWF*

European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts



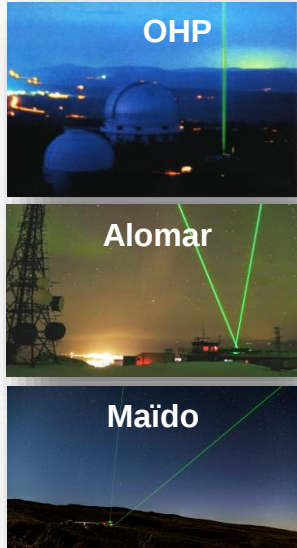
Norway (Andøya, 69.3 16.E)

France (OHP, 43.9N 5.7E)



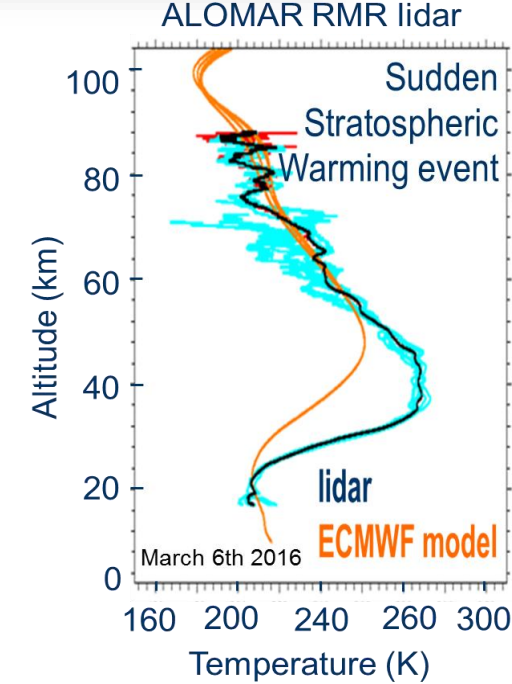
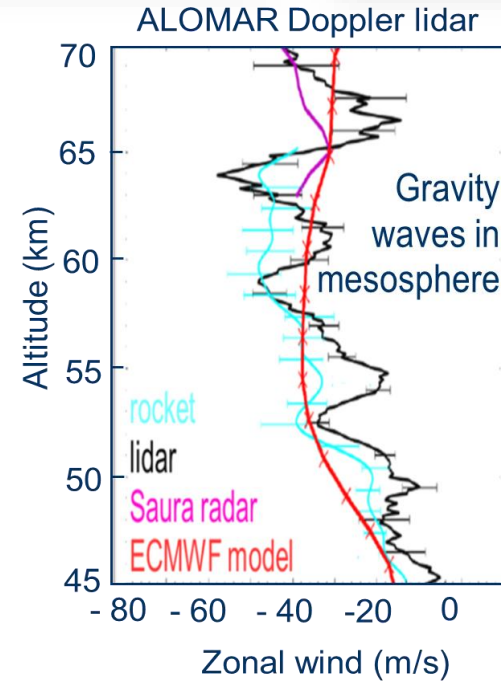
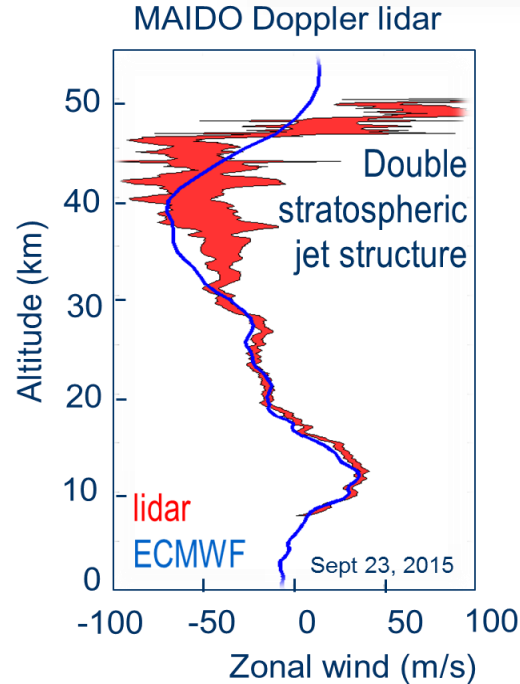
Differences between lidar observations and ECMWF temperature profiles exceeds 10K in the stratosphere and mesosphere.

Le Pichon et al, 2018



- ❑ The models do not integrate short time scales (< few days) disturbances
- ❑ Interest of lidar observations associated to infrasound stations for routine processing

Hauchecorne, 2016



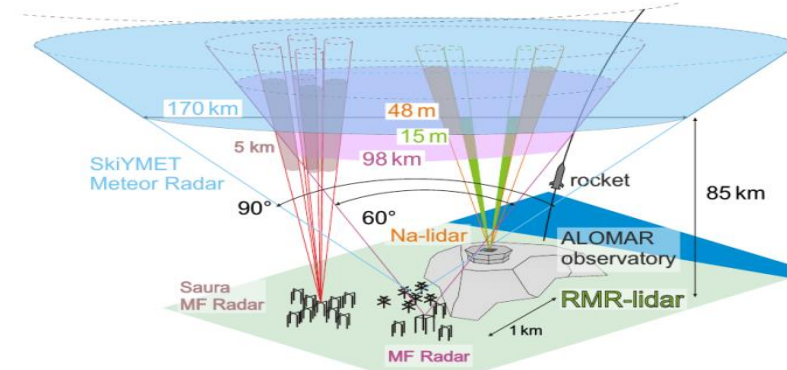
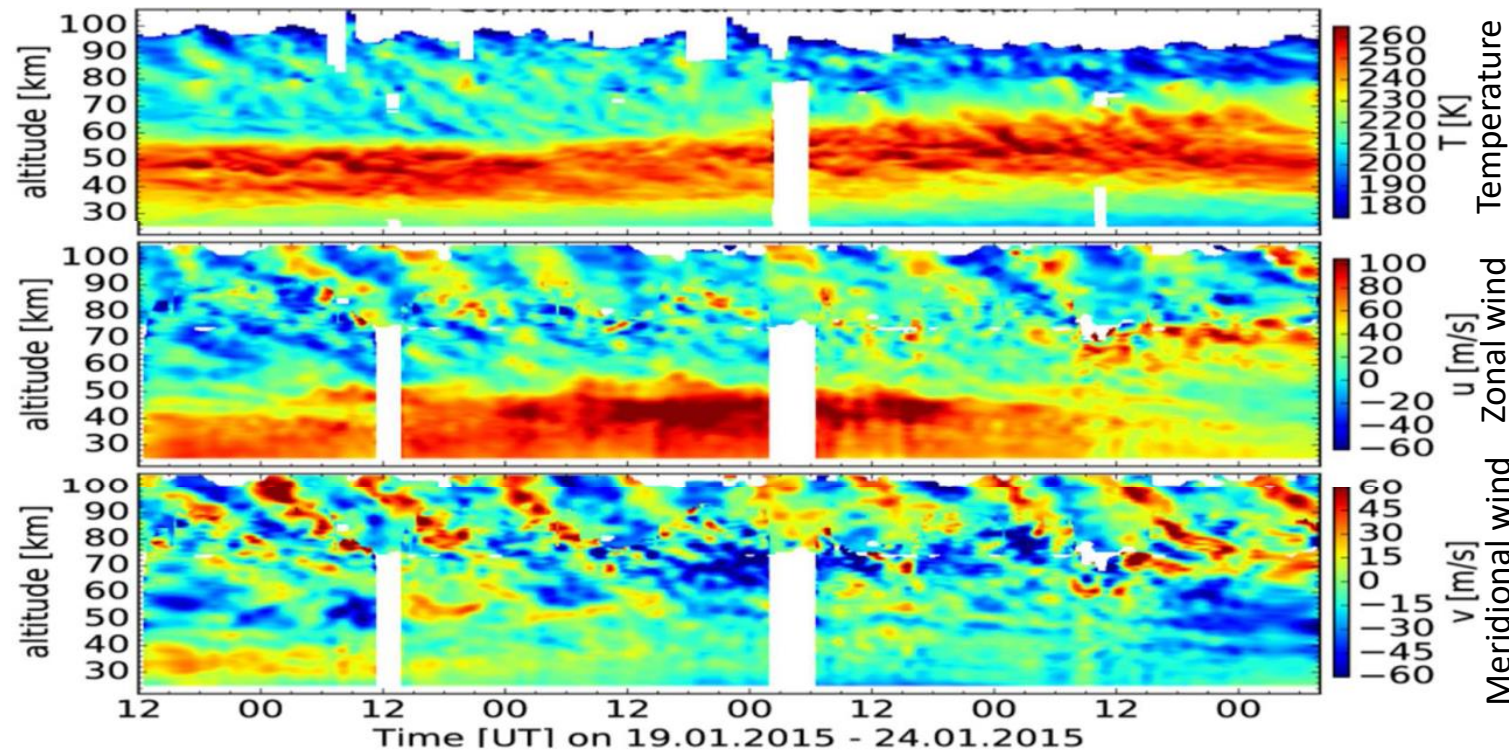
Baumgarten, 2014, 2016

Challenge: How to accurately determine the fluctuations in the atmospheric profile?

High resolution combined temperature and wind observations by lidars and meteor radar in ALOMAR

Unique multi instrument campaign continuously during several days: full temperature and wind profile, in altitude and time revealing dynamical complex structures (gravity waves and solar tides)

Lidar and radar observations



- ALOMAR Rayleigh/Mie/Raman lidar,
- Mobile iron resonance lidar,
- Andenes meteor radar.

Baumgarten, Stuber, Höffner, 2016

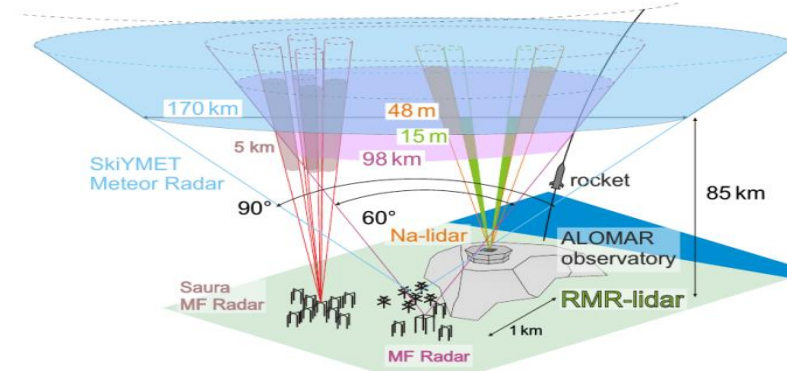
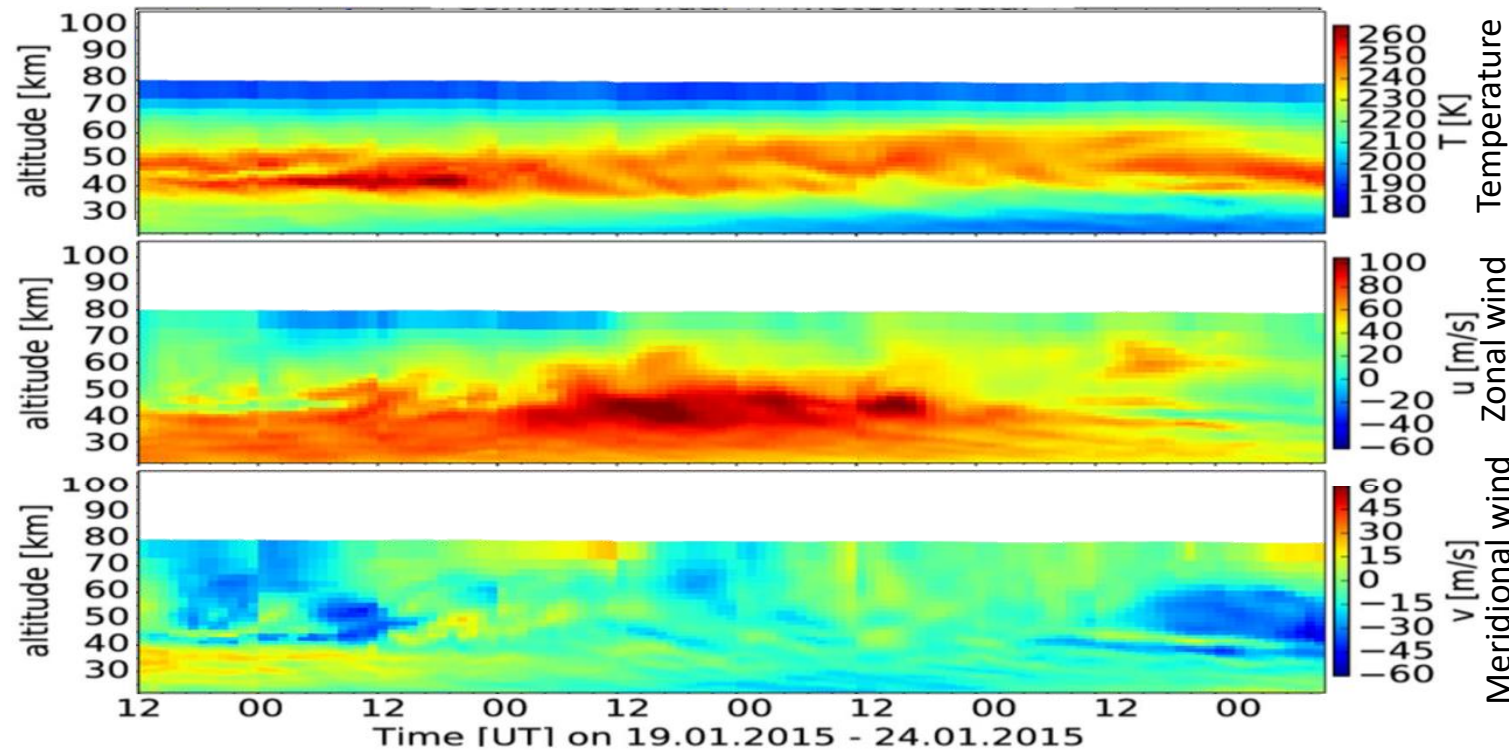
Remarkable agreements between observations and models but also large differences: observed gravity waves and tidal signatures are not reproduced in the ECMWF estimates, neither in temperature nor in winds

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ECMWFIFS forecast Andenes



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Baumgarten, Stuber, Höffner, 2016

Remarkable agreements between observations and models but also large differences: observed GW and tidal signatures are not reproduced in the ECMWF estimates, neither in temperature nor in winds

Need of lidar routine observations: OHP observations

Difficulty of routine lidar observations

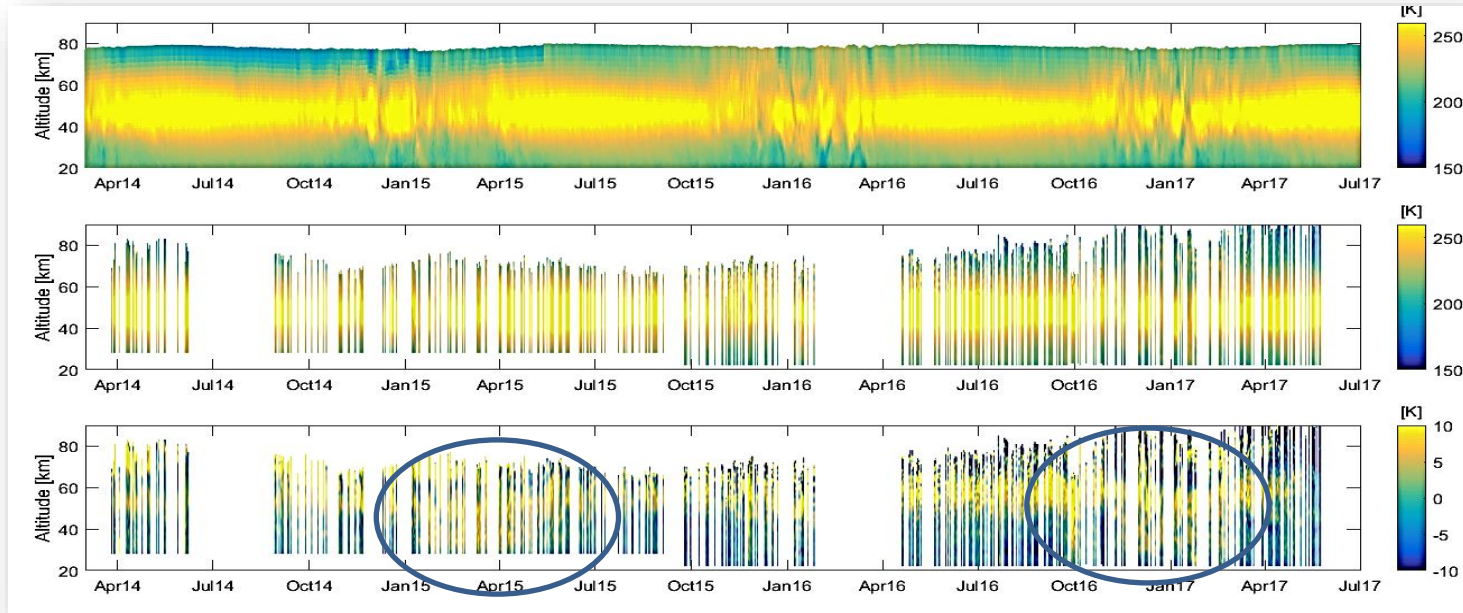
Improvement of observation duration and altitude range during the ARISE project



ECMWF (IFS)
cycle 38r2

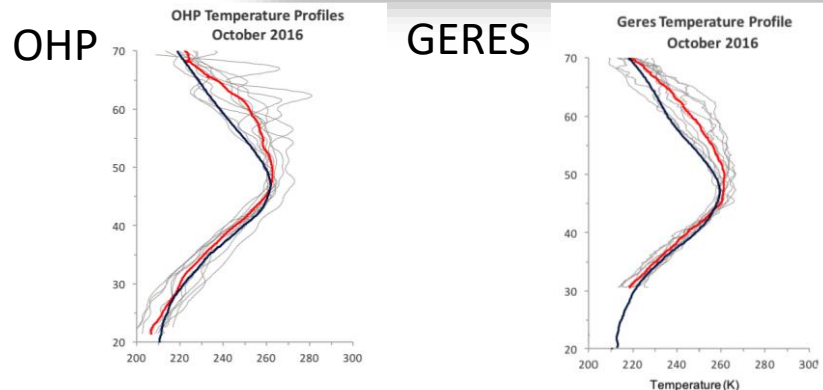
Lidar
(450 profiles)

Lidar-ECMWF
difference



Nightly averaged lidar profiles routinely performed at the Observatoire Haute Provence (OHP)

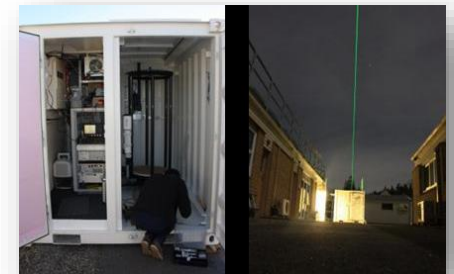
*Le Pichon et al., 2018,
Keckhut, Hauchecorne 2018*



Compact Rayleigh Autonomous Lidar (Coral) at Geres station

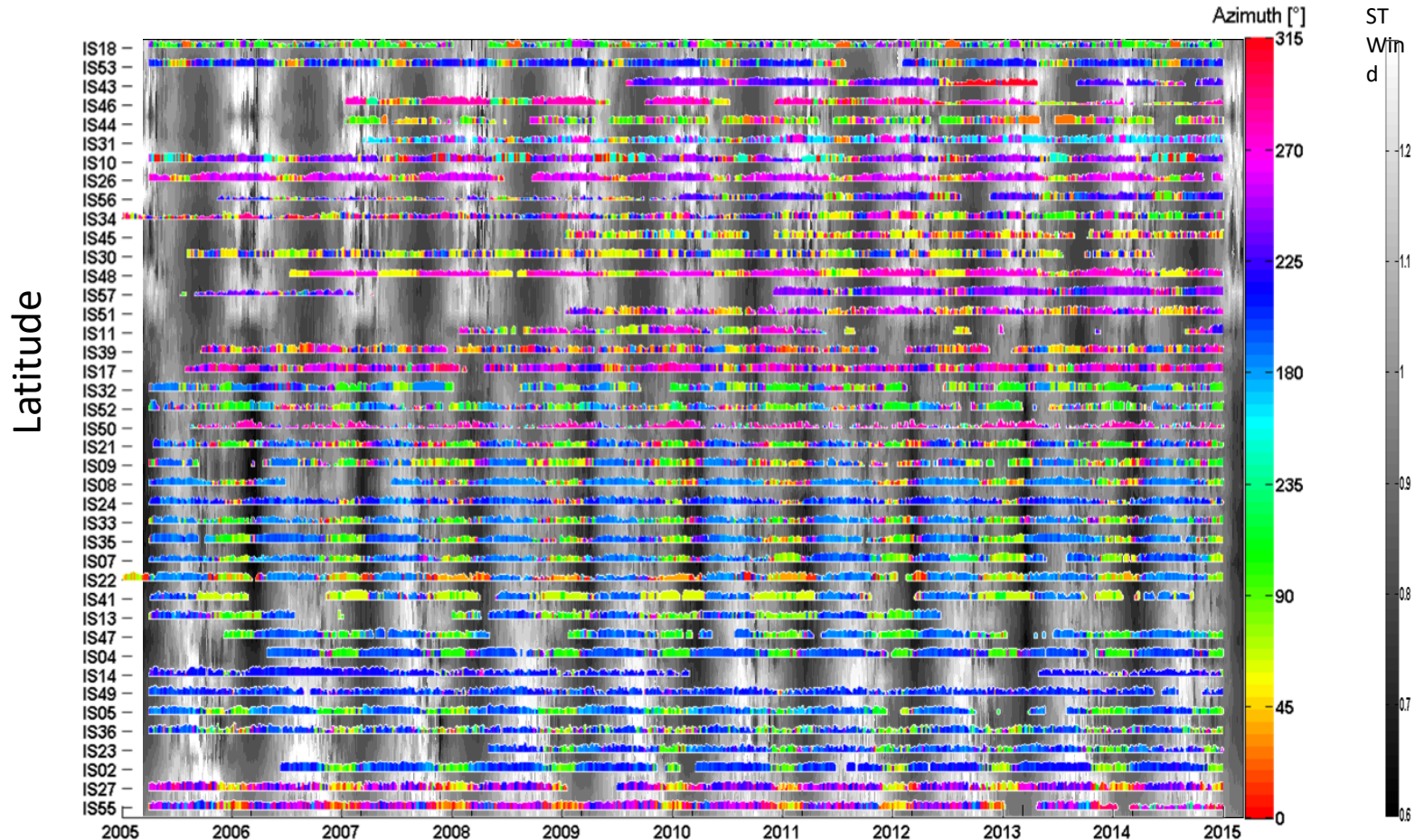
Automatic high-resolution observations facilitating routine observations campaigns and synergy with infrasound observations

Kaifler B and N, 2019



CORAL lidar

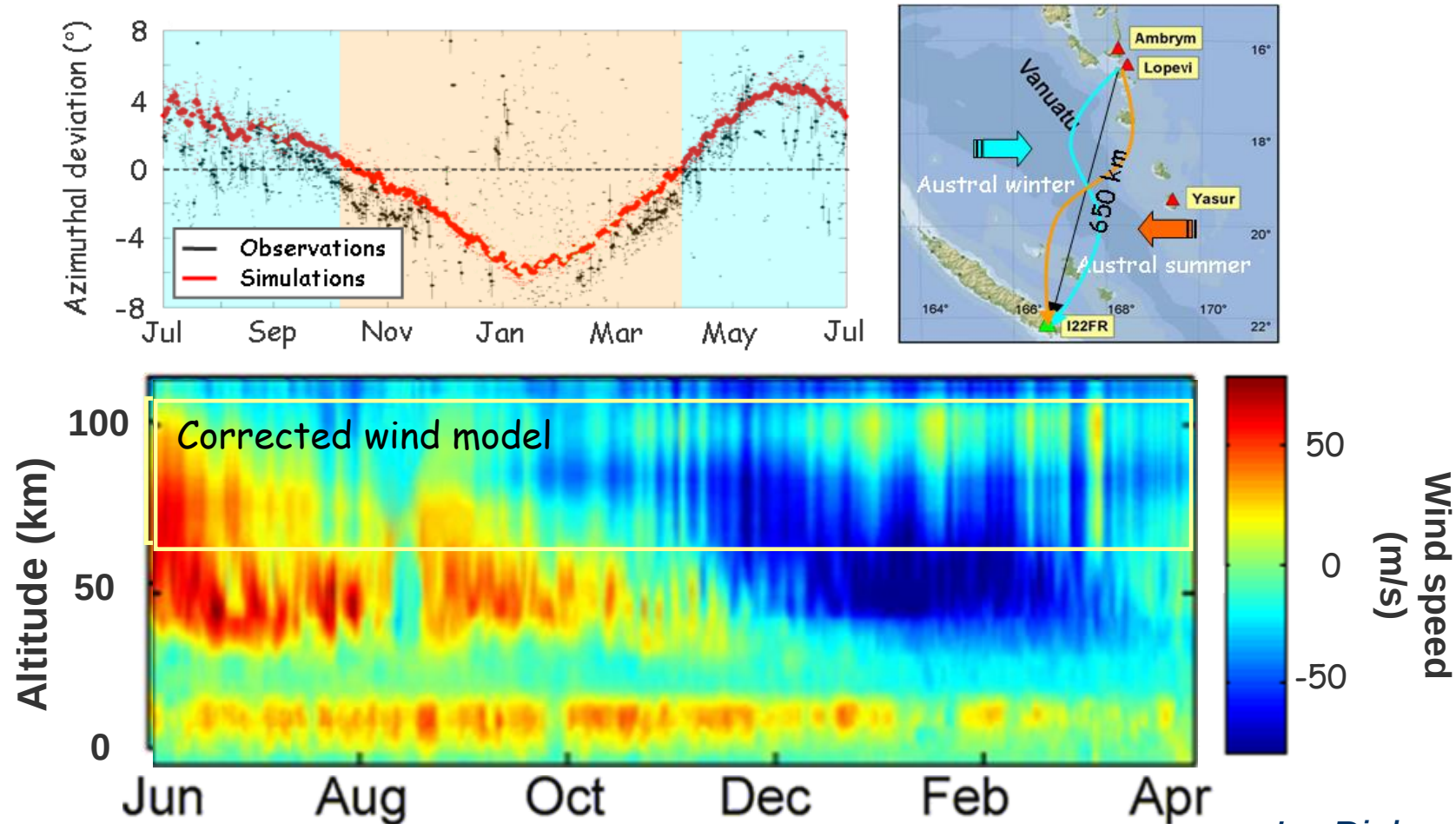
IMS infrasound global observations for determining the stratospheric dynamical structure



- ☐ 15 years of data in many infrasound stations
- ☐ The observed microbarom signals are submitted to seasonal variations controlled by the stratospheric winds
- ☐ A large potential for the improvement of stratospheric winds difficult to be determined in the stratosphere

Infrasound propagation in the atmospheric wave guide is strongly controlled by the stratospheric zonal wind

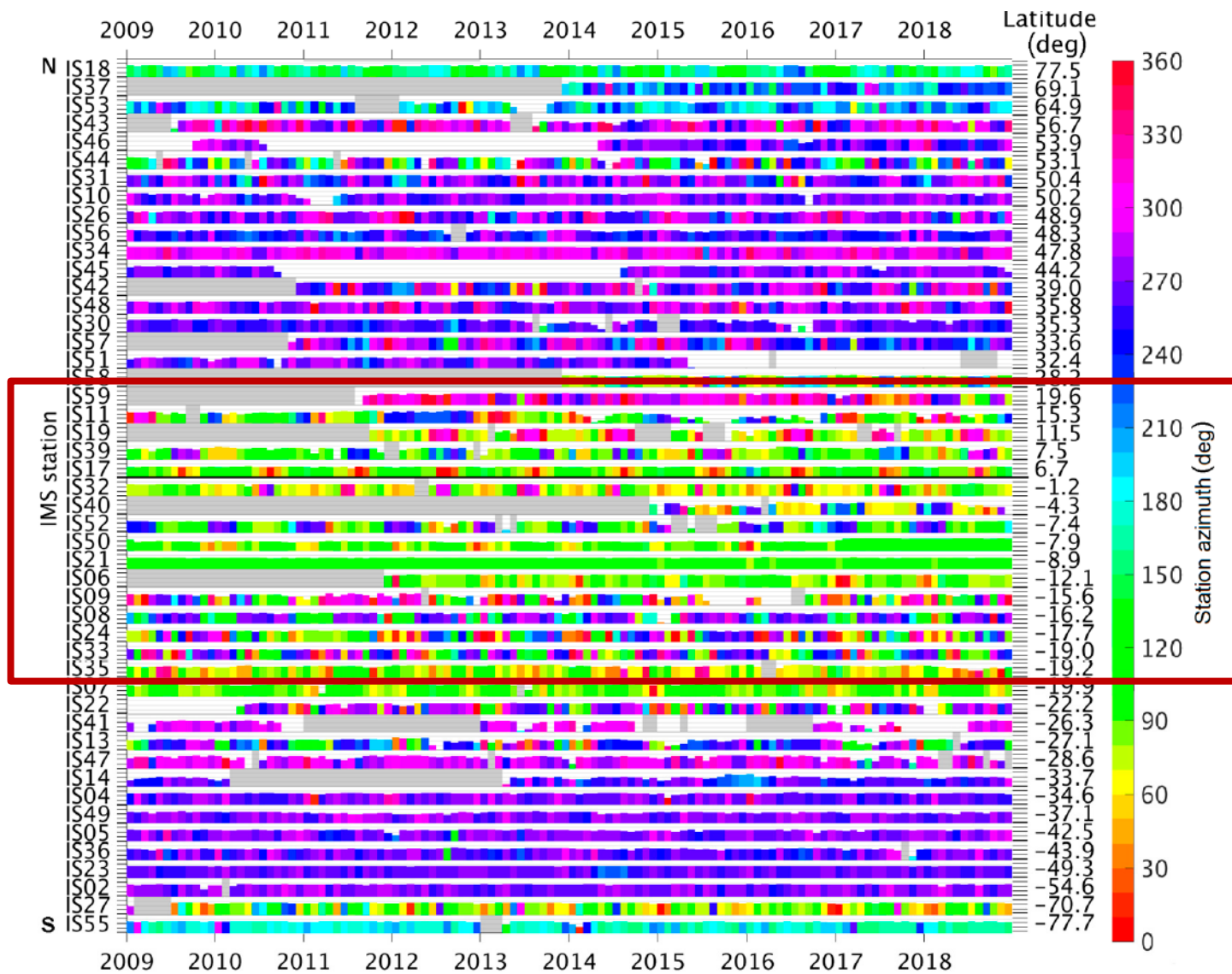
Probing high altitude winds by using infrasound repetitive sources



Le Pichon et al., 2005a,b

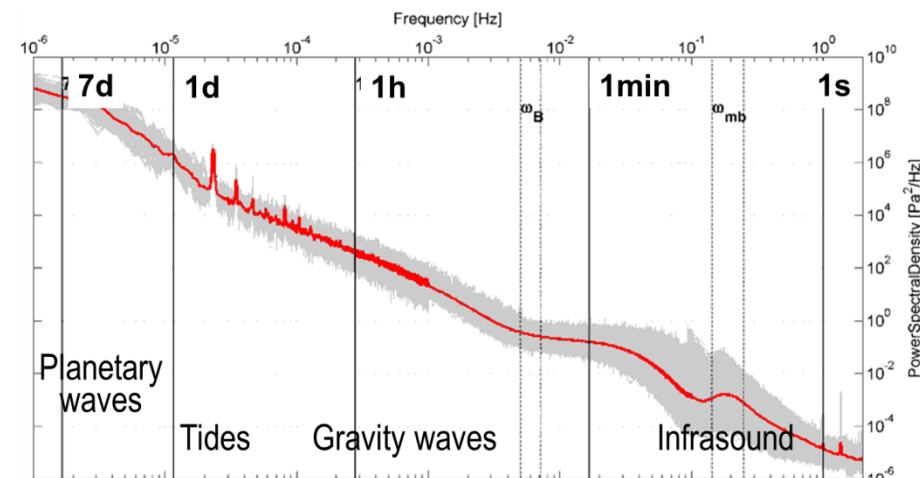
- The observed azimuth deviation is larger than explained by models
- This indicates that the wind effect is stronger than expected.
- Relevant atmospheric parameters can be extracted from infrasound monitoring when the source is well identified

Gravity waves globally observed with the IMS infrasound network

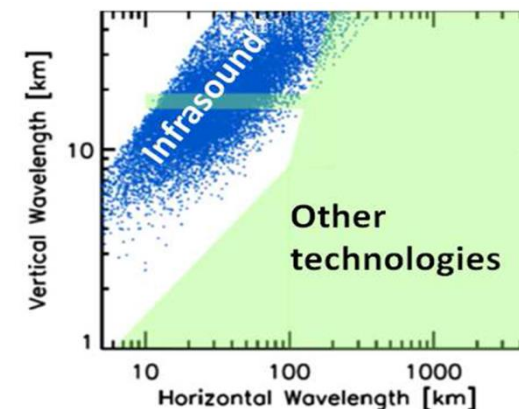


Hupe et al., 2019

Direct observations in the lower part of the observation spectrum

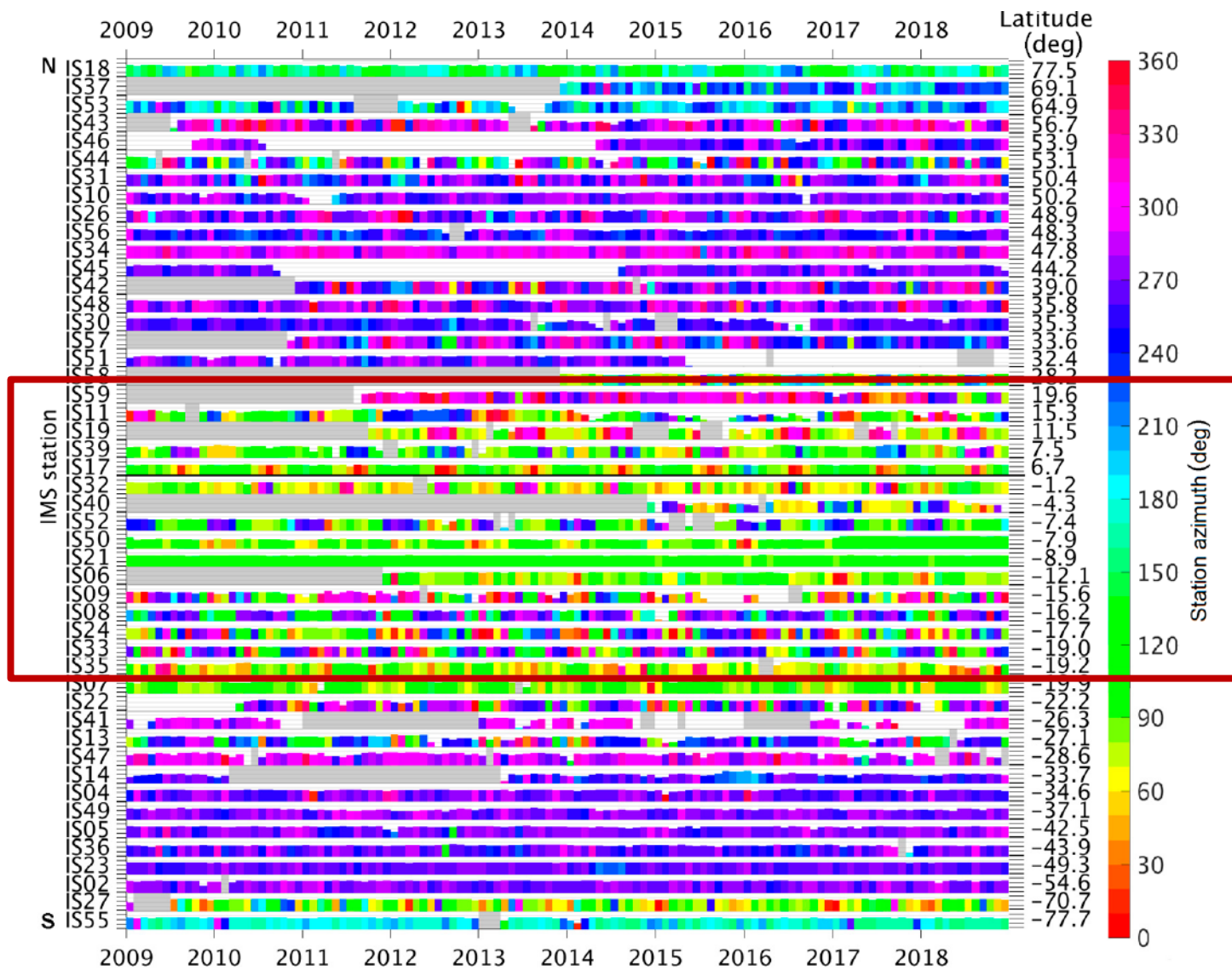


Hupe, Ceranna, 2016, 2018

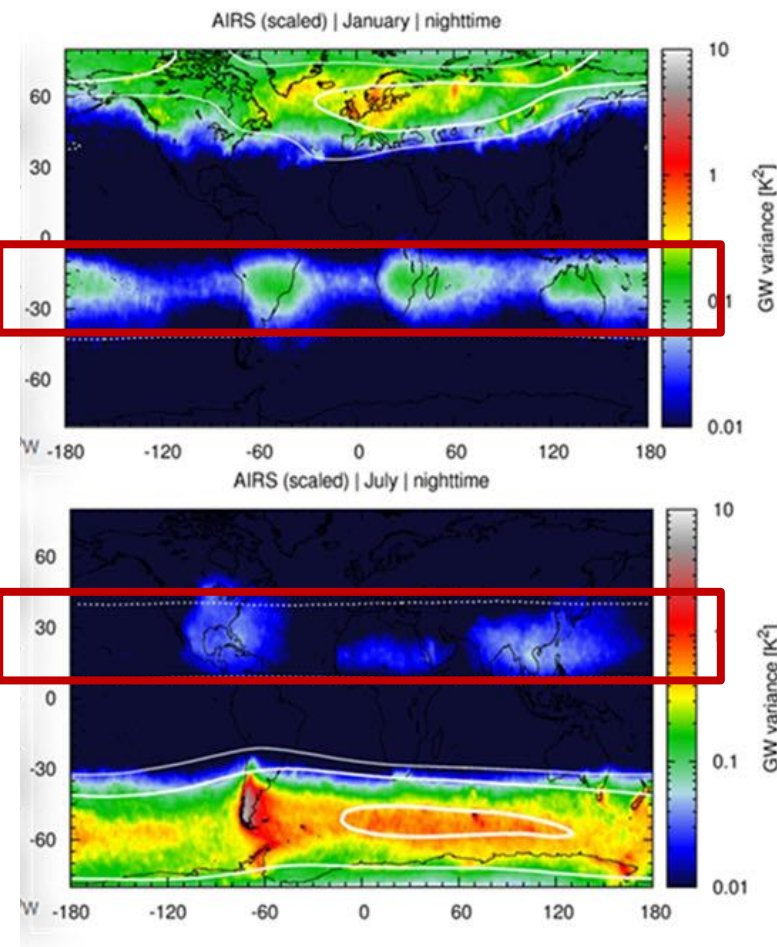


Charlton Perez et al., 2014

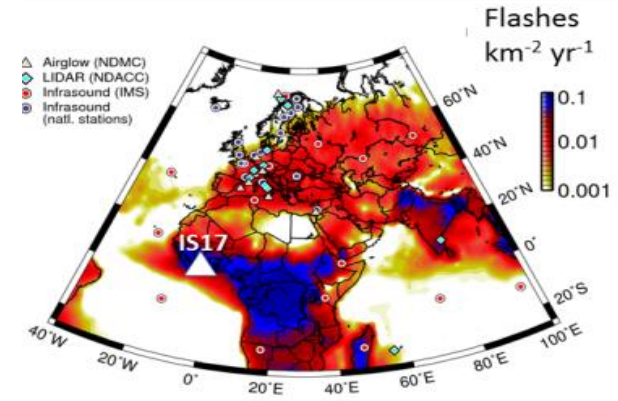
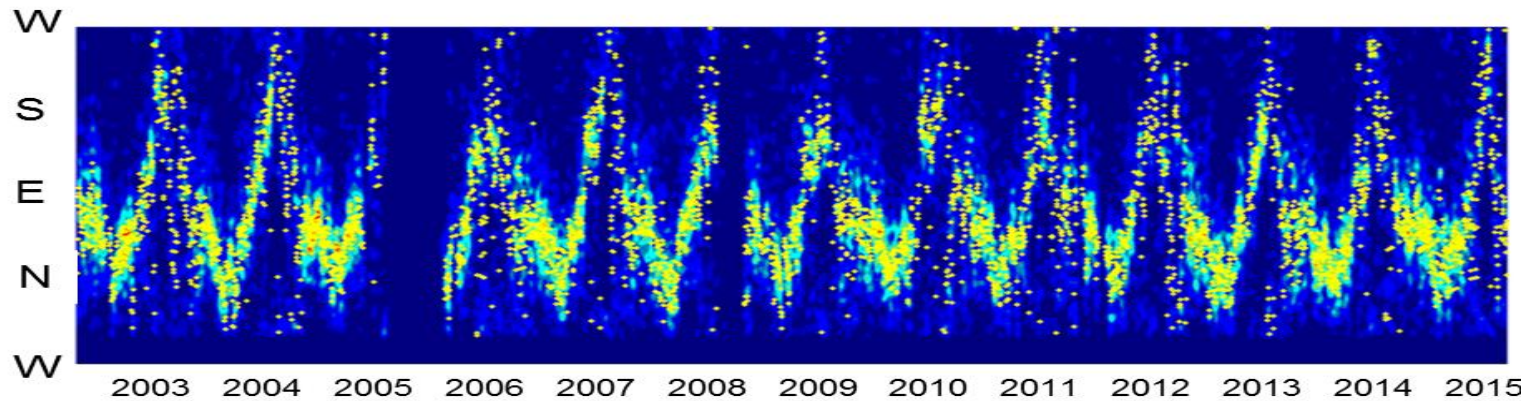
Gravity waves observed with the global IMS infrasound network



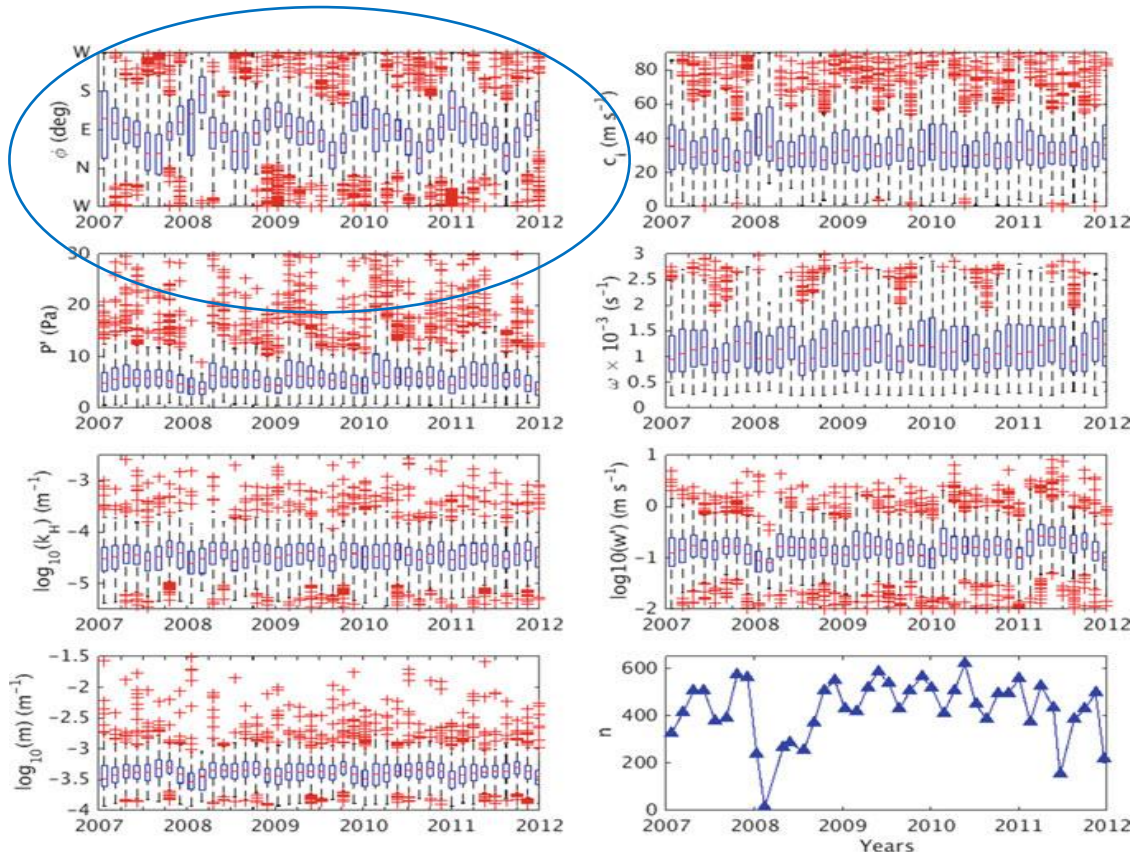
Main gravity wave origins : deep convection in tropics or mountain waves



Gravity waves from convection observed in I17CI (Ivory Coast)



Blanc et al., 2014



Seasonal variation related to the motion of the Intertropical convergence zone of the winds, which drive thunderstorms, precipitations and convection seasonal motion.

Unique global GW observations relevant for global GW climatologies and parameterization in models

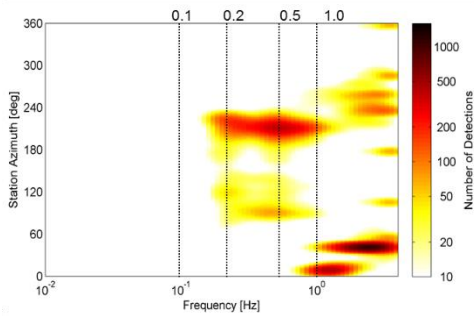
Gravity wave climatology

New parameters calculated for ECMWF needs by combining this infrasound data with meteorological data recorded at the array

Marlton et al., Springer book, 2019

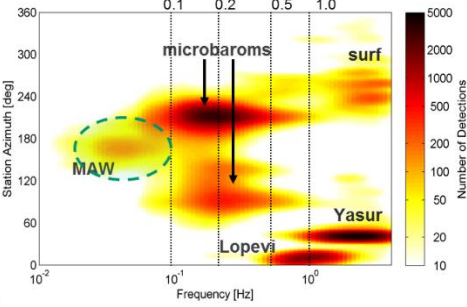
Mountain Acoustic Waves: new information about the GW sources

Previous observations



IS22 (New Caledonia)

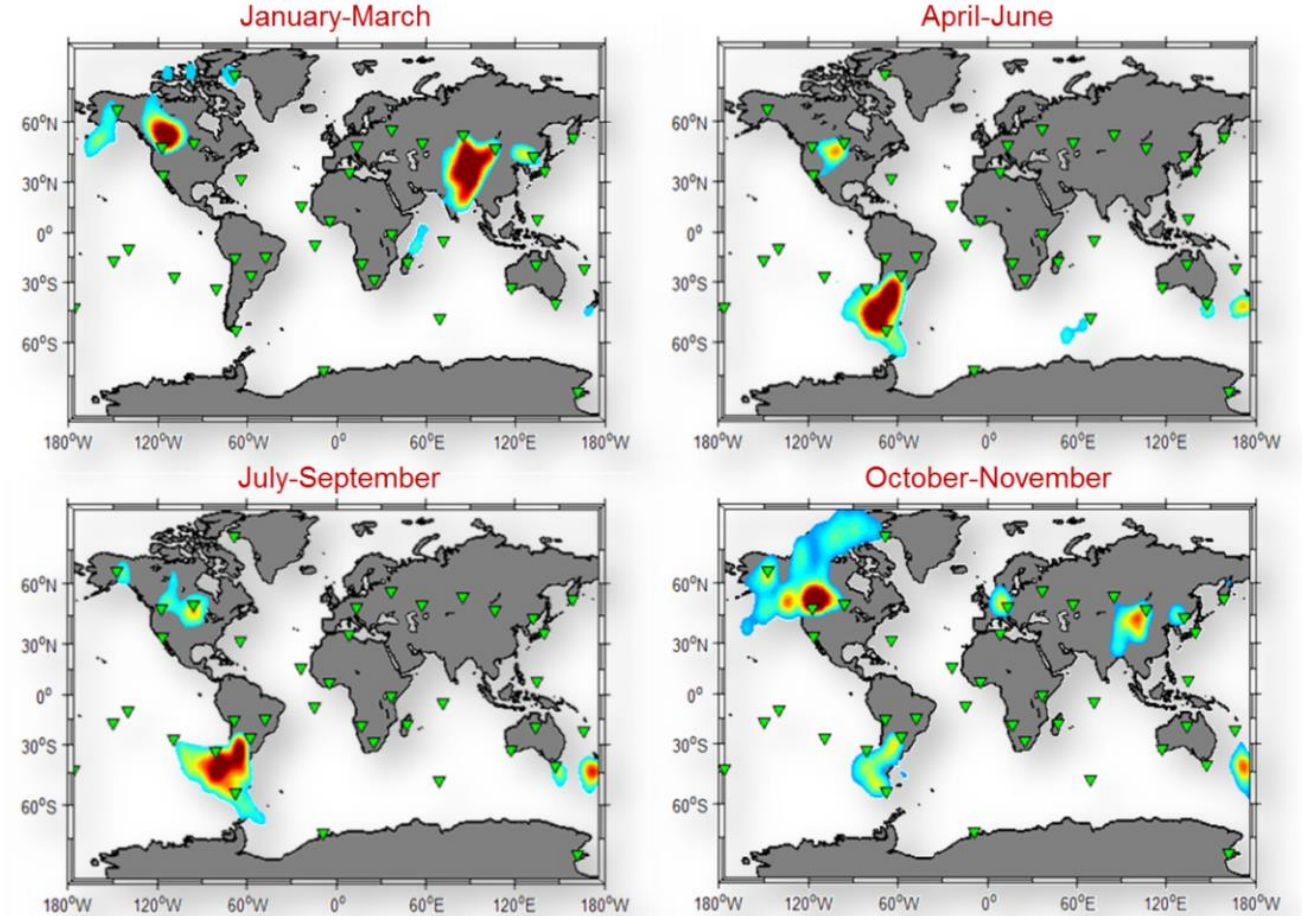
New processing (logarithmic)



Broadband PMCC processing provides a better description of the detected waves for a better source identification

Le Pichon et al., 2015, Hupe et al., 2021

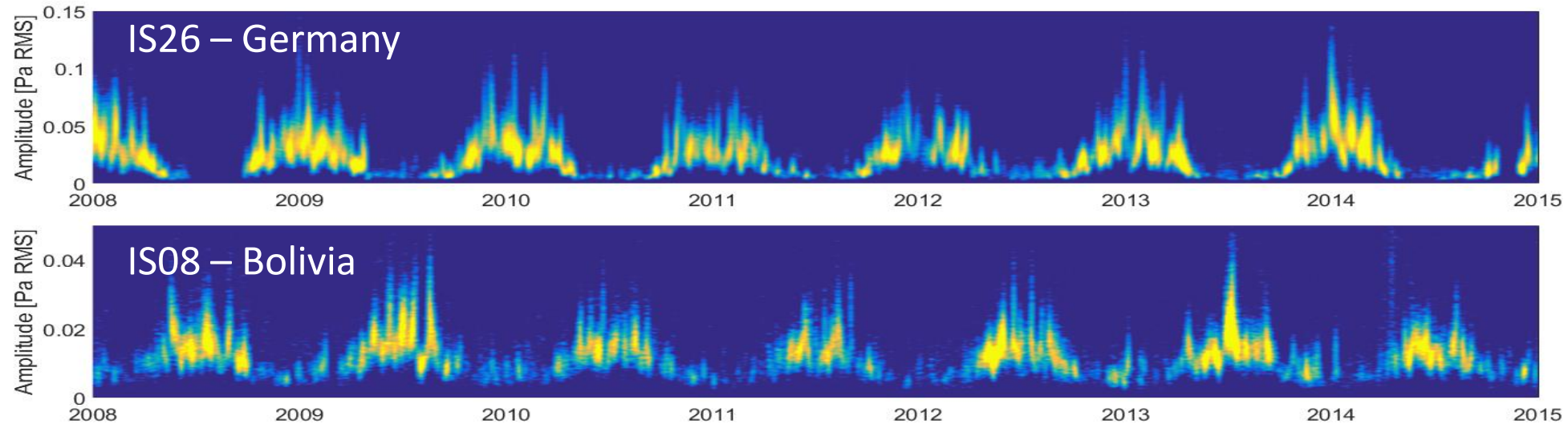
- ☐ Mountain Acoustic Waves are detected and localized from infrasound originating from mountain areas.
- ☐ They are related to mountain gravity waves
- ☐ They need to be accurately described for improving the atmospheric models
- ☐ The identification of the wave origin is more difficult with other technologies



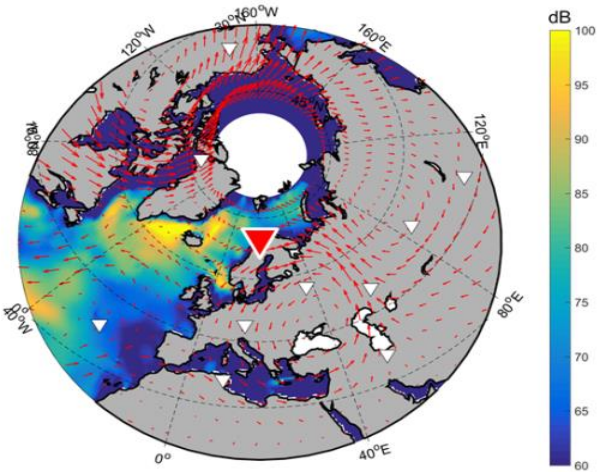
A global view of MAW activity @20-50 s

Hupe et al, 2019

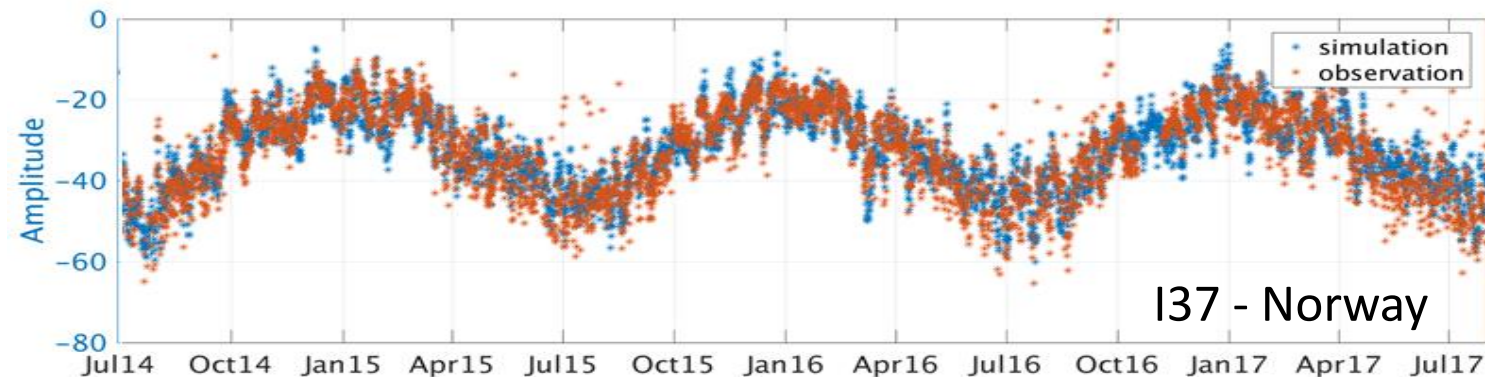
Perspective: Using microbaroms for retrieving atmospheric parameters



Seven years microbarom observations. Planetary waves modulate the atmospheric wave guide and then the microbarom amplitude



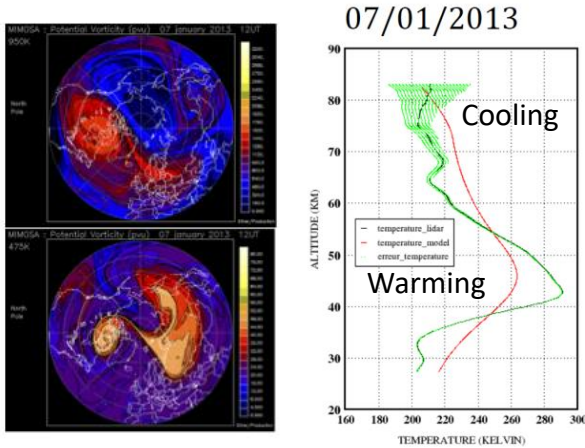
Microbarom source (IFREMER ocean wave action model) Arduin et al., 2013



- ❑ Build of a global reference catalog of continuous infrasound ambient noise
- ❑ Combine global microbarom source and propagation model to predict directional and amplitude information
- ❑ Develop metrics to assess NWP models

Le Pichon et al., 2018, De Carlo, 2020, Näsholm, 2020

Effets of Sudden Stratospheric Warming (SSW) events in infrasound monitoring



Hauchecorne et al, 2014

Sudden Stratospheric Warming events(SSW) are major atmospheric events producing polar vortex breaking, stratospheric warming, mesospheric cooling, inversion of the zonal stratospheric wind.

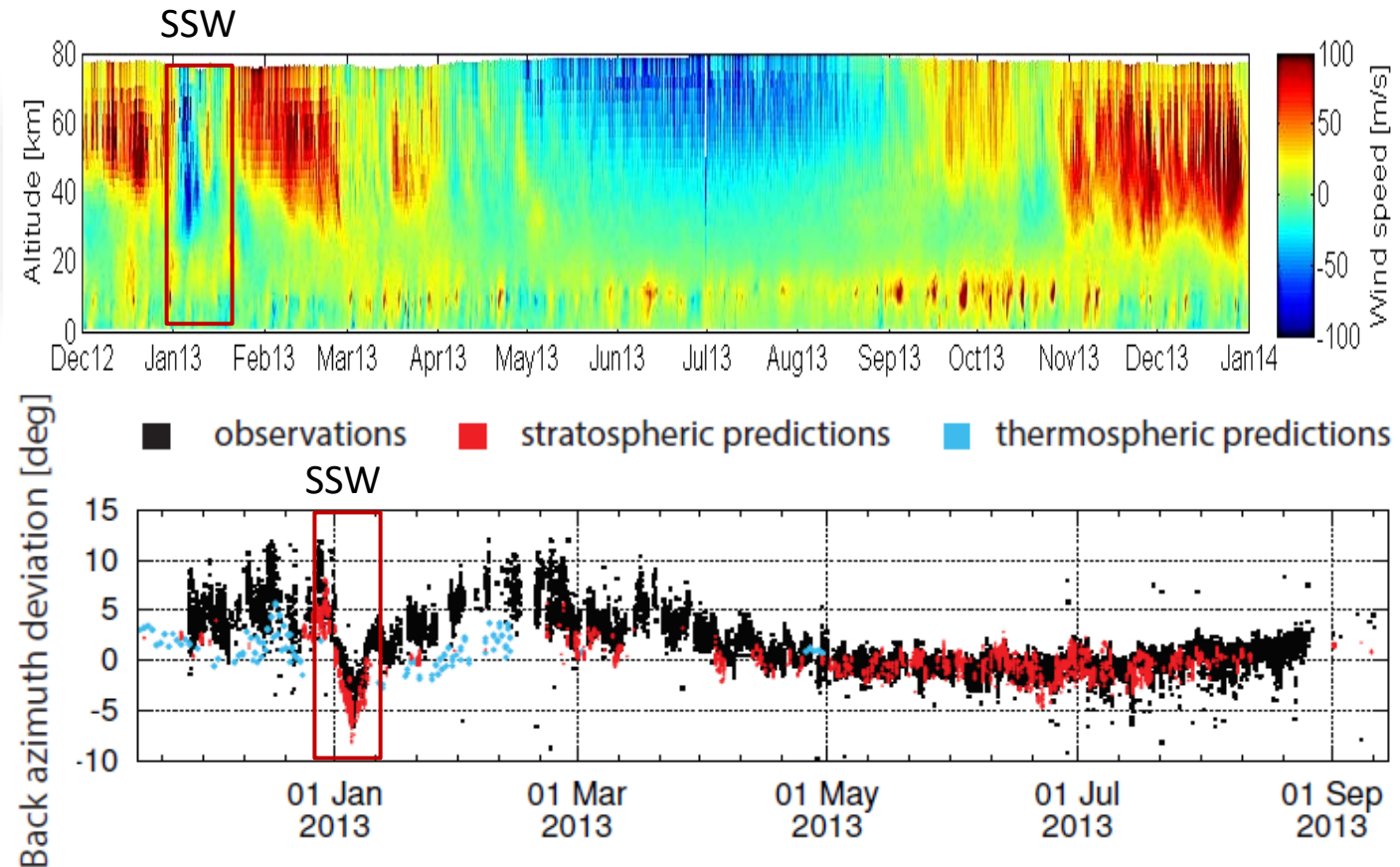


Volcano Mount Tolbachik (Kamchatka)

Quasi continuous infrasound detections at IS44 from the Mt. Tolbachik eruptions.

The infrasound azimuth deviations represent the wind variations. During the SSW are inverted, changing the direction of the wave guide.

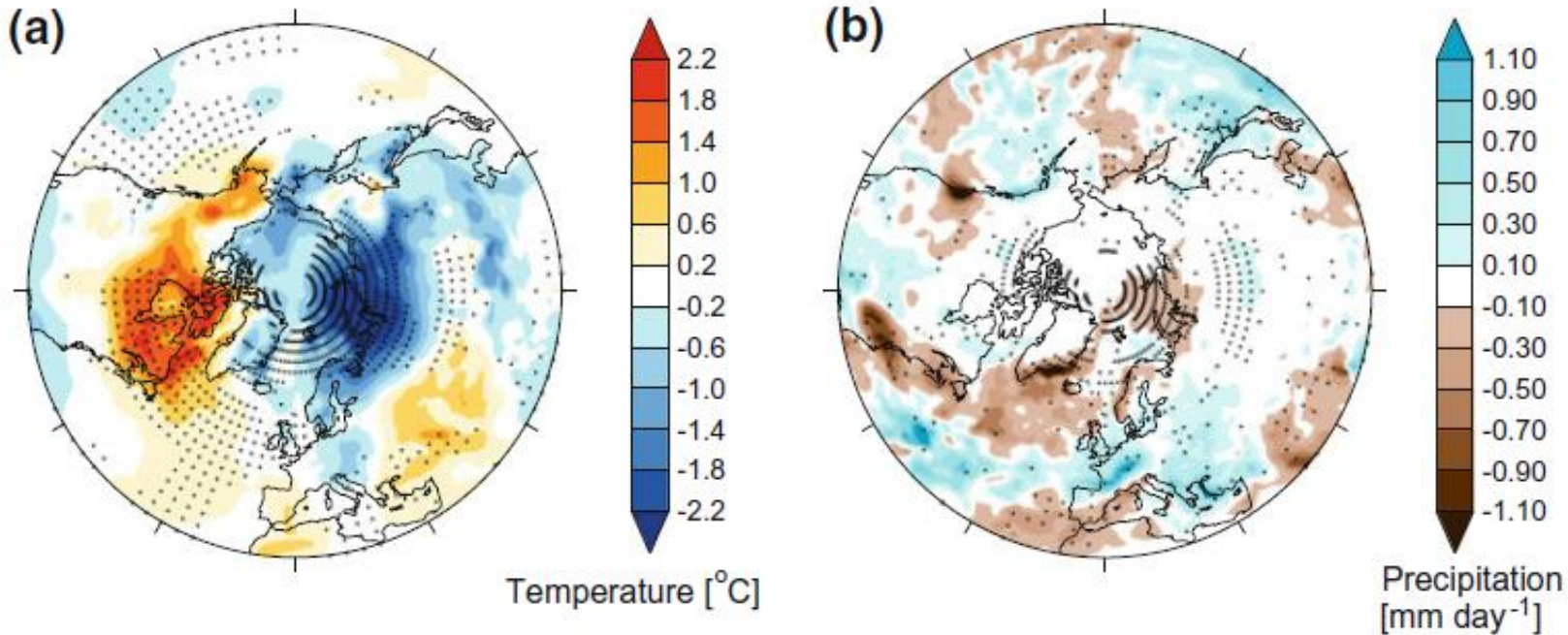
Deviations of several degrees are observed between simulations and observations during and after this event. Persisting effects are not represented in predictions



Smets, et al., JGR, 2016

Sudden Stratospheric Warming events: effects of weather predictions

Surface temperature and precipitation anomalies
over 15-30 days forecasts for 15 SSW



Average anomalies of (a) surface temperature, (b) precipitation, 15 - 60 days after the onset of 15 SSWs in a 50-year unconstrained climate run of the HadGEM2 Unified Model.

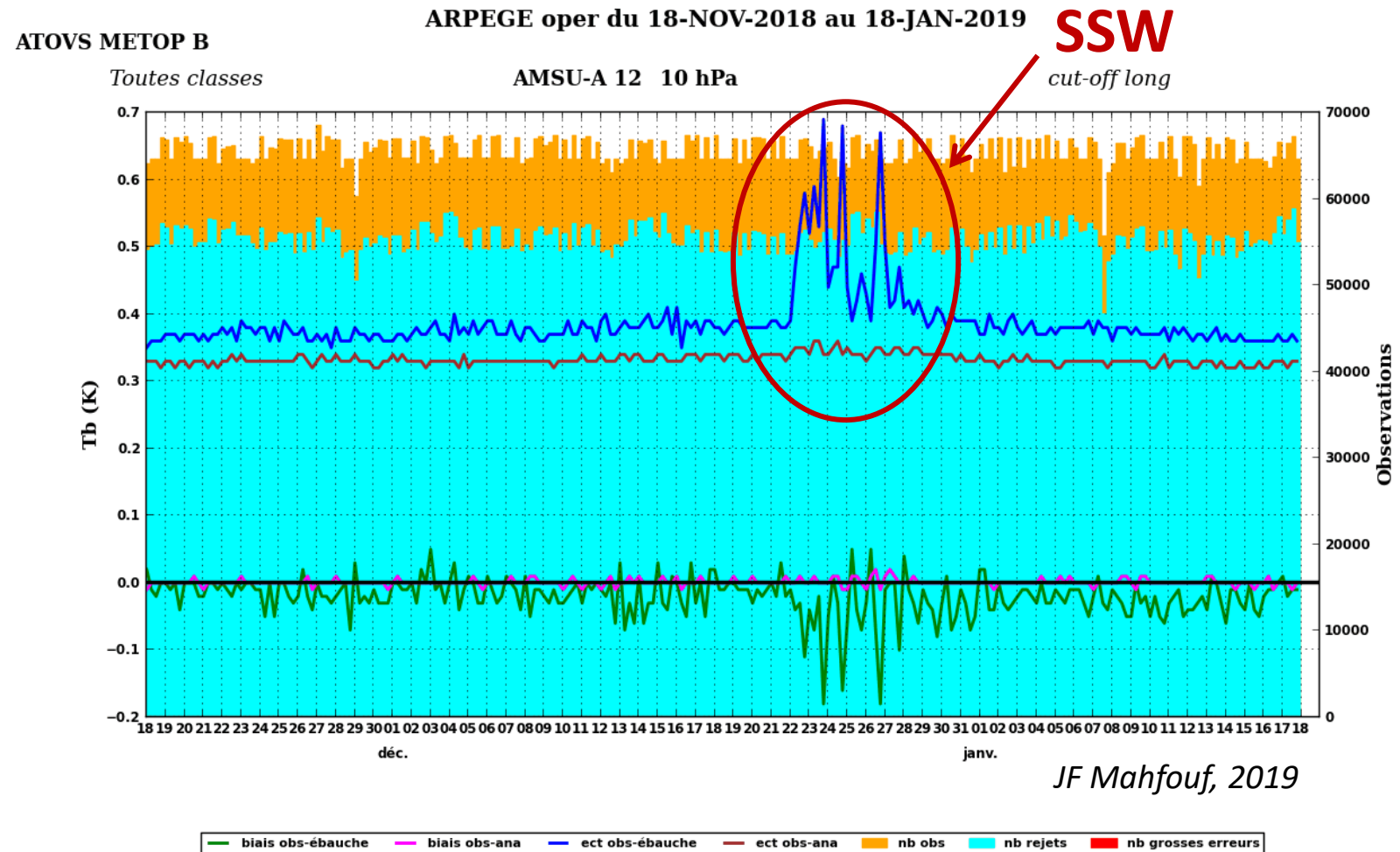
An abrupt shift in temperatures high up disturbed the jet stream and weather patterns, allowing cold air to seep southwards into parts of Europe



Major SSW events can be followed by cold weather that can affect Europe for several weeks

Lee et al., 2019

Perspective: providing diagnostics for Numerical Weather Prediction models



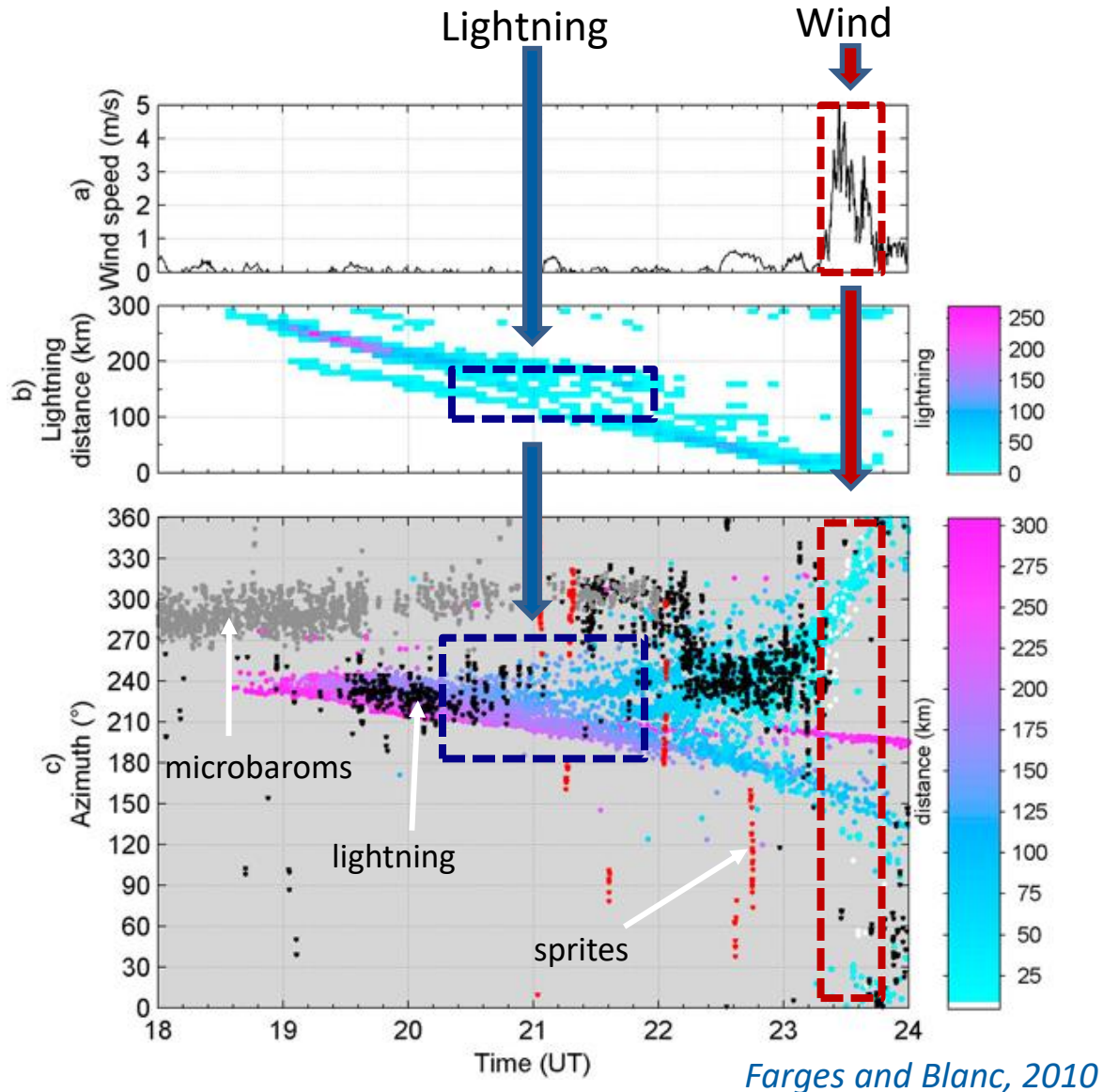
- During Sudden Stratospheric warming, large anomalies in the prediction model appear.
- The number of available routine observations of winds in the stratosphere is very small for assimilations in models.
- Other requested data concern low latitudes, and high altitudes (above the stratosphere) and other disturbances

ARISE data are relevant for providing complementary relevant data in the framework of the ARISE project. Near real time diagnostics are developed for assimilation in models

Näsholm 2018

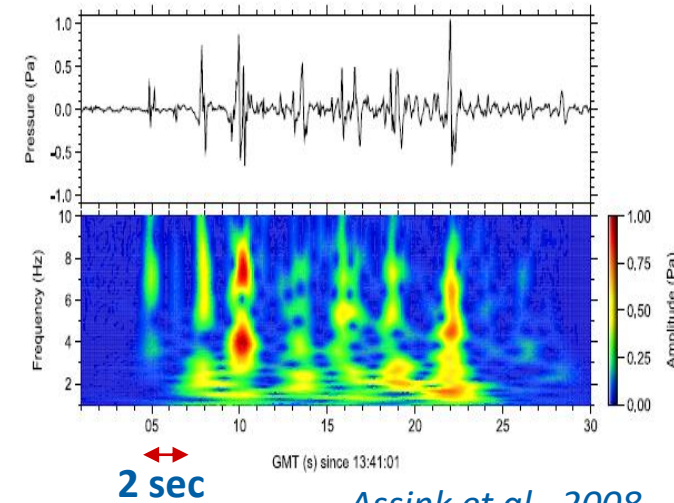
Statistics: observations minus models: in blue standard deviation with all observations, in brown with assimilated observations

Thunderstorms: from local noise to lightning characterization

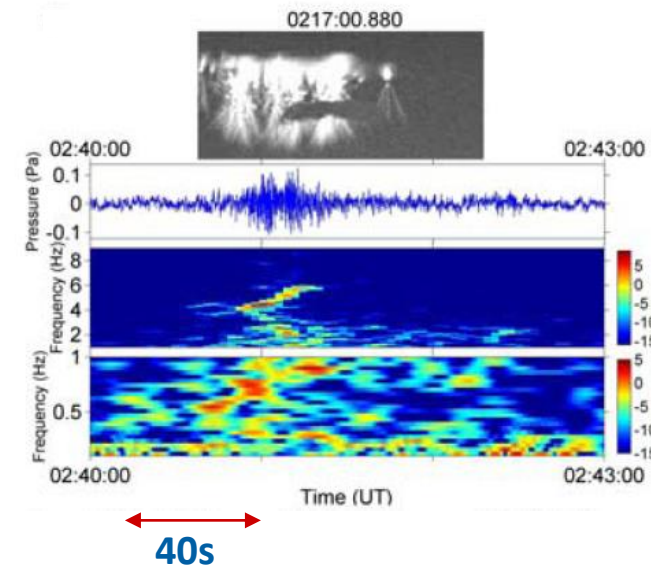


Thunderstorms noise is significant at distances lower than 60 km

Infrasound lightning



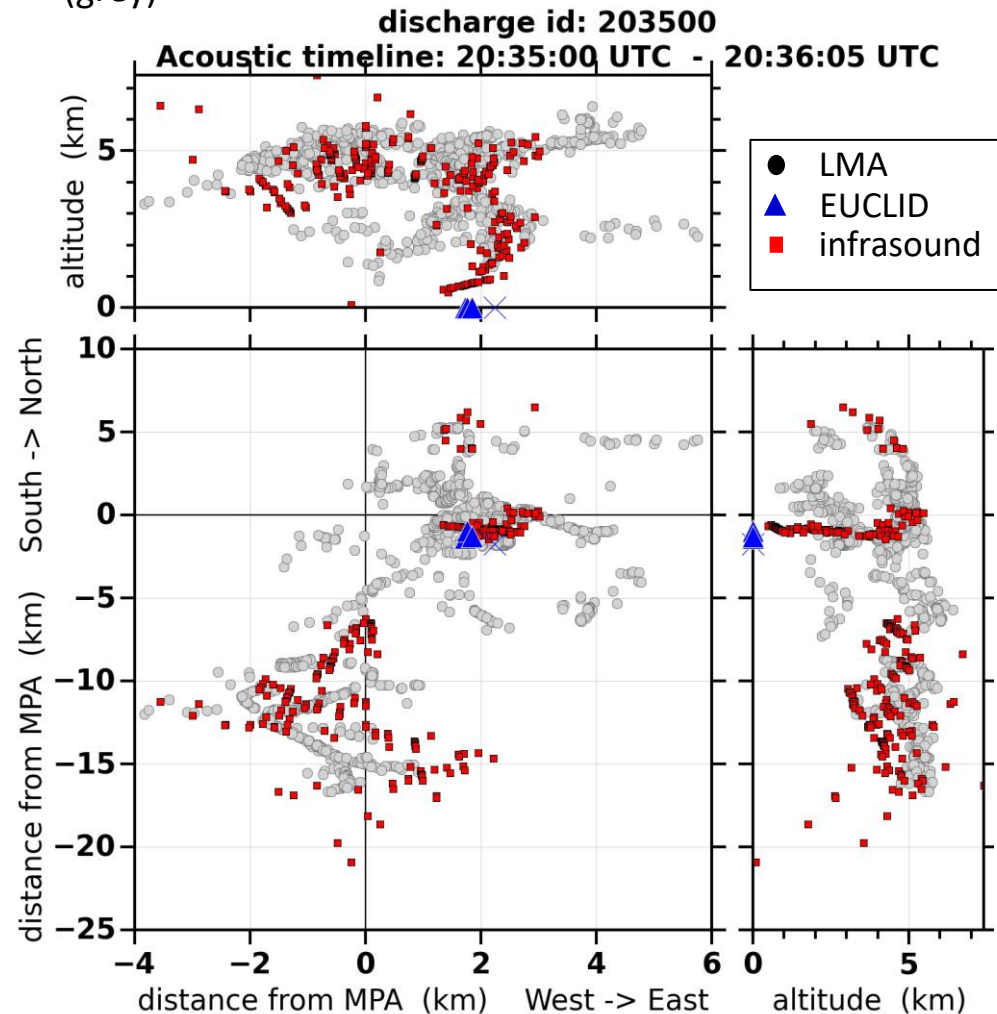
Infrasound sprite



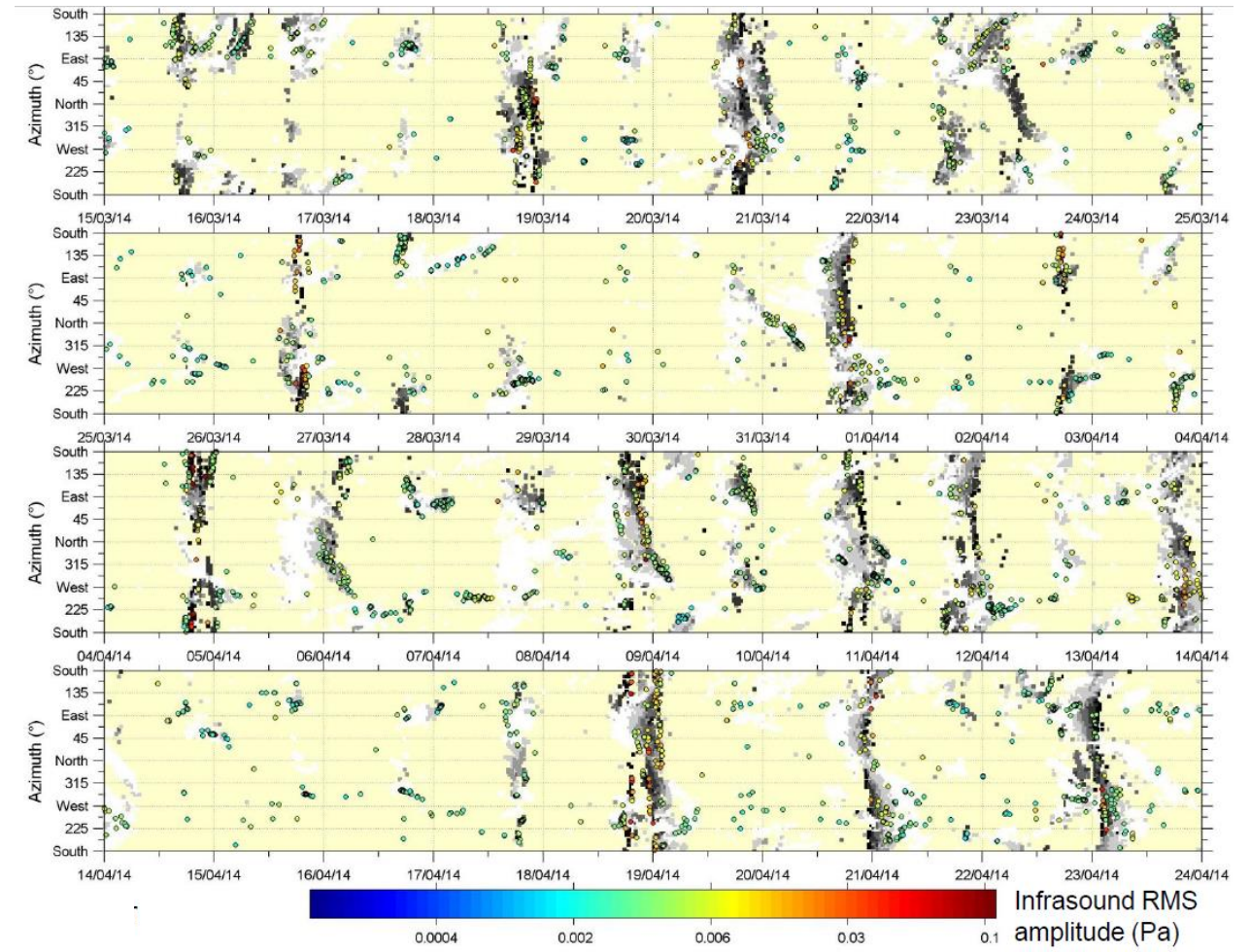
Perspective: providing new lightning parameters

Innovative method for lightning and sprite studies

Individual structure of a lightning from infrasound detections (red) compared with Lightning Mapping Array LMA (grey)



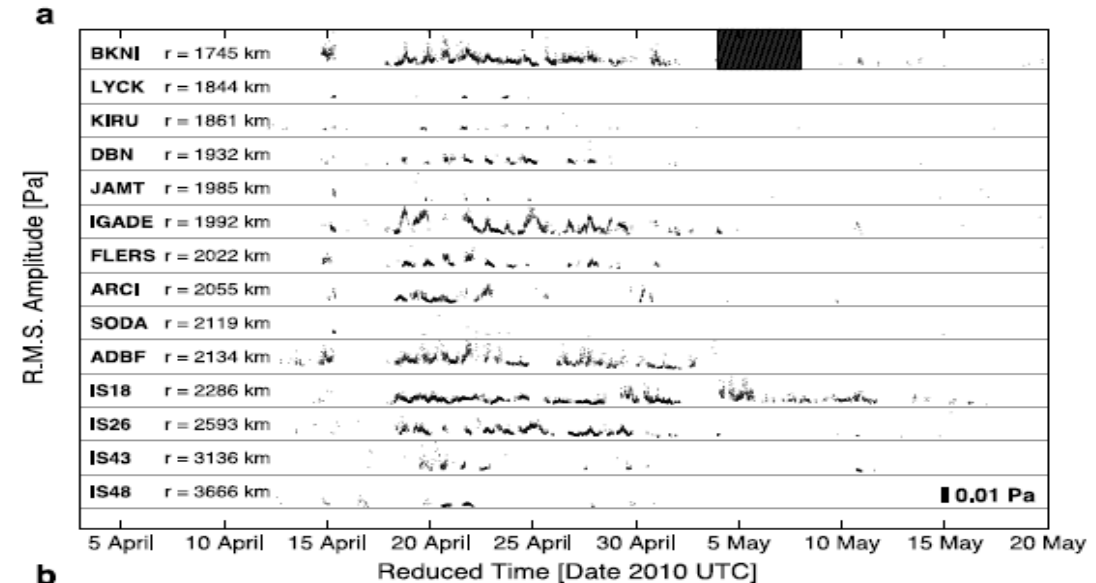
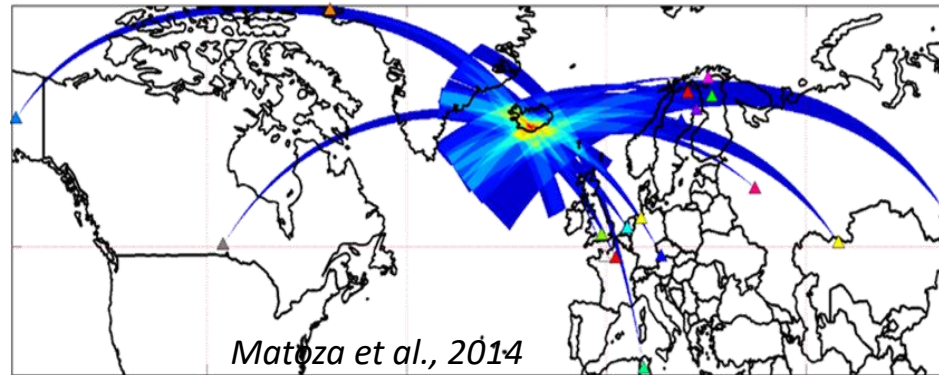
Infrasound lightning monitoring during 40 days
2014/15/03 to 2014/24/04



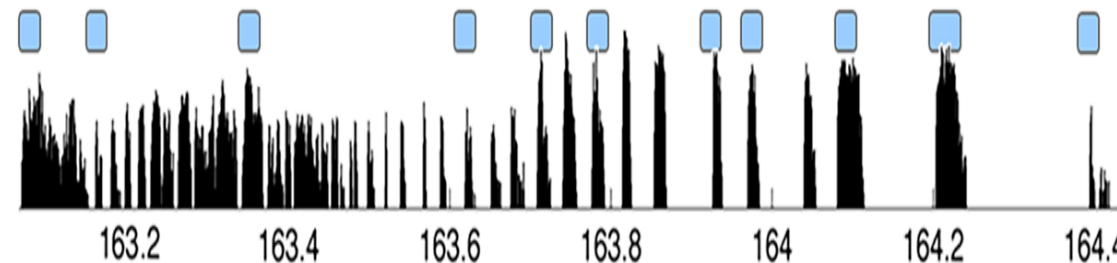
Example of societal application: Remote monitoring of volcanoes



Long range observation of the infrasound produced by the Eyjafjallajökull eruption 2011



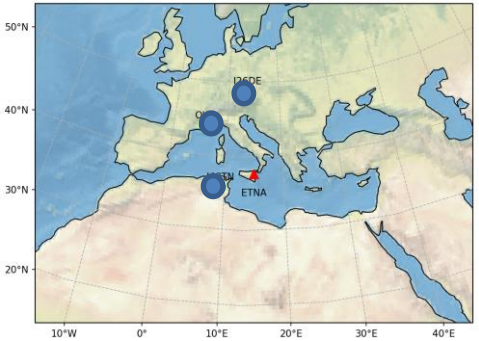
Infrasound observations (IS44, black) provide relevant observations in complement to satellite observations (SVERT, blue)



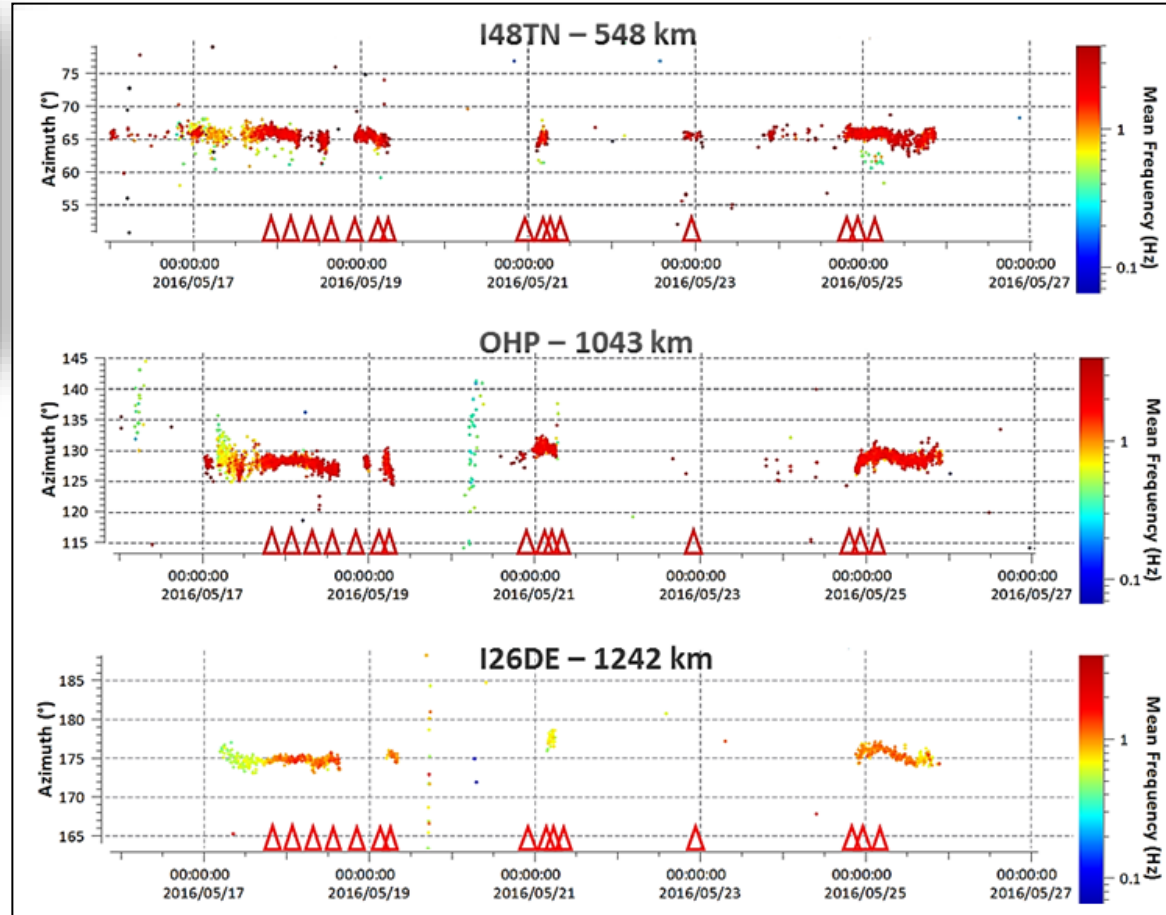
Eruption of the Sarychev Peak (june 2009)

Matoza et al., 2014

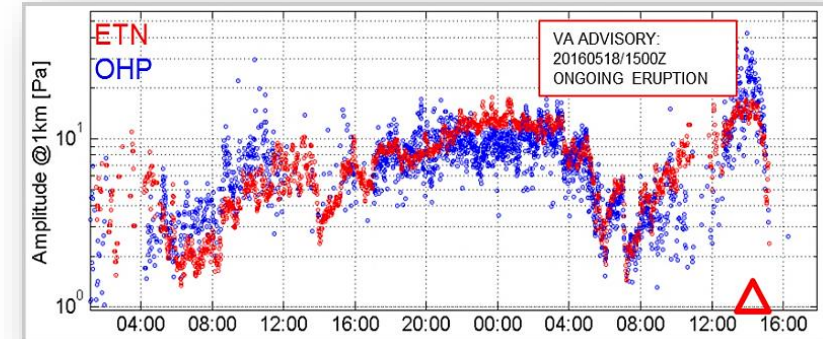
Remote volcano monitoring



Example of infrasound signals from Etna eruption, recorded at IS48 (Tunisia), OHP (France) and IS26 (Germany) arrays for the period between May 15 and May 27, 2016.



△ Toulouse VAAC alerts



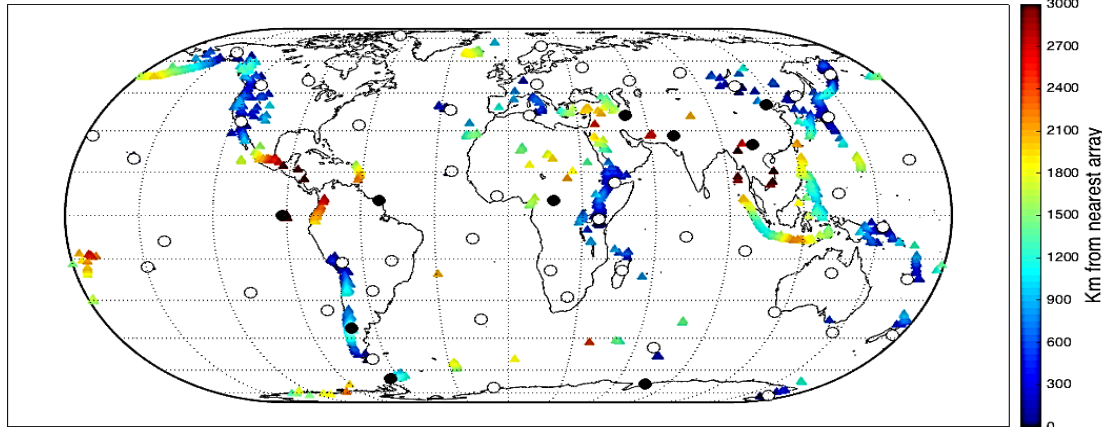
The eruption signature is similar at Etna and OHP stations, which shows the possibility to retrieve source characteristics at large distances.

*Marchetti et al, 2018,
Le Pichon, Brachet, 2018,
Mialle, Hereil (2018)*



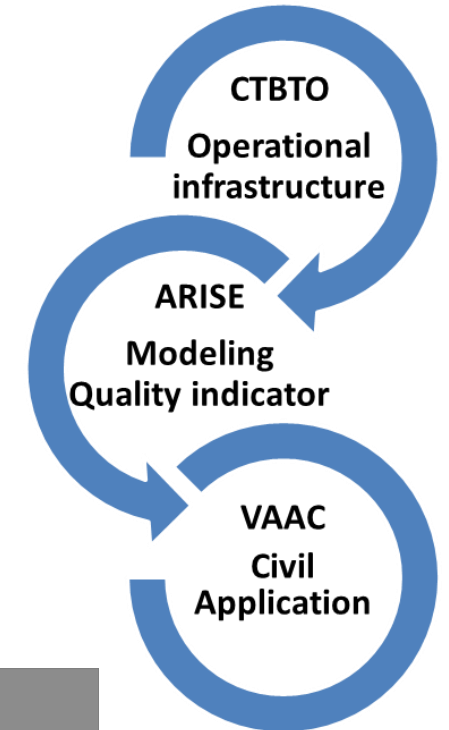
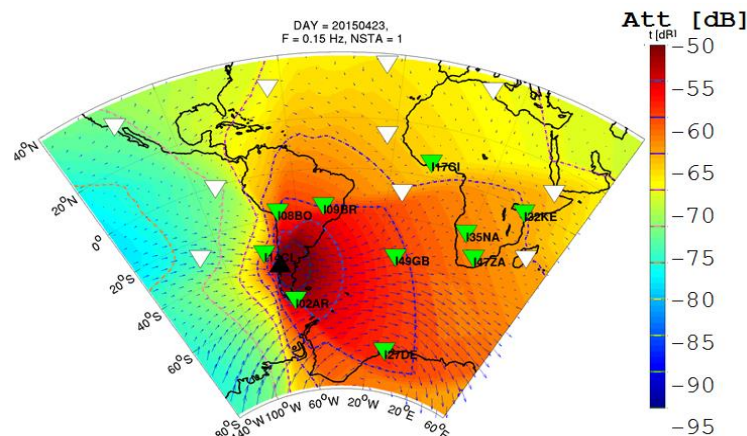
Towards a Volcanic Information System (VIS) using Infrasound Data

in support of the VAACs in the Framework of ARISE Project



IMS stations and volcanic activity. Volcanoes are color-coded according to the distance from the IMS infrasound stations.

ARISE advanced products provide parametrization of distant volcanic eruptions in support of the civil aviation (Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre VAACs) in relation with the CTBTO (operational monitoring)

**CALBUCO VOLCANO, CHILE (22-23/04/2015)**

Confidence index map



VOLCANO NOTIFICATION TO VAAC

Volcanic Information System v2018.2

Notification

ID : CABU2015112

ISSUED : 2018/08/20 09:27:59 UTC

REVISION : 6

ISSUED BY : CEA (ARISE)

RECIPIENT : VAAC TOULOUSE (METEO FRANCE)

Volcano

NAME : CABULCO

ID : 358020

LATITUDE : -41.33

LONGITUDE : -72.61

ELEVATION : 1974 m

Summary

START TIME : 2015/04/22 21:34:34 UTC

END TIME : 2015/04/23 09:35:08 UTC

STATUS : ENDED

STATION	DISTANCE (km)	NB DETECTIONS	MAX AMPLITUDE (Pa)	EST. AMPLITUDE (Pa)
I14CL	1011	1	0.03849	1217
I02AR	1524	9	0.1496	1030
I08BO	2809	175	0.09947	2796
I09BR	3698	181	0.09148	10681

SOURCE AMPLITUDE : 10681 Pa

*Le Pichon, Mialle,
Husson, Brachet, 2019
Marchetti, 2019*

Conclusion

- ❑ The infrasound IMS is unique. It provides a description of most atmospheric disturbances in broad scales in space and time.
 - ❑ Progress in the understanding of atmospheric processes improve the detection capability of the network by better event identification and propagation modeling
 - ❑ The atmosphere is a highly variable environment. The IMS infrasound network provides unique global observations of atmospheric fluctuations such as gravity waves, both by direct observations in the lower frequency part and by remote sensing using volcanoes and other sources such as ocean swell in future.
 - ❑ Such disturbances control infrasound propagation and need to be integrated in routine monitoring tools. However, they are poorly represented in models, inducing uncertainties in simulations.
 - ❑ Challenge: near-real time processing of co-localized lidar and infrasound stations (pilot stations) for model assessment and future assimilation in medium range weather prediction models and routine infrasound simulations
-
- ❑ The infrasound network is relevant for civil applications as monitoring of volcanoes (aviation safety) or other events (meteorites, thunderstorms, hurricanes ...)
 - ❑ It will also becomes very quickly essential for studies of atmospheric dynamics for improving weather forecasting and climate studies

Thanks to my colleagues and the ARISE partners

