

# First results of the Land-Atmosphere Feedback Experiment (LAFE)

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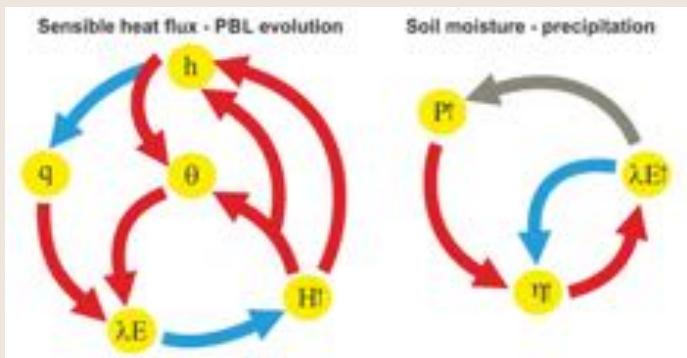
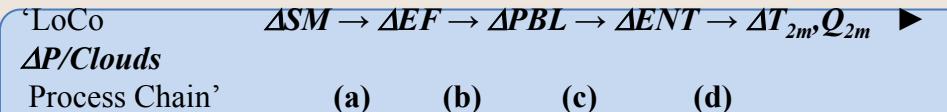
11: NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, USA

12: National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), Earth Observation Laboratory, Boulder, USA



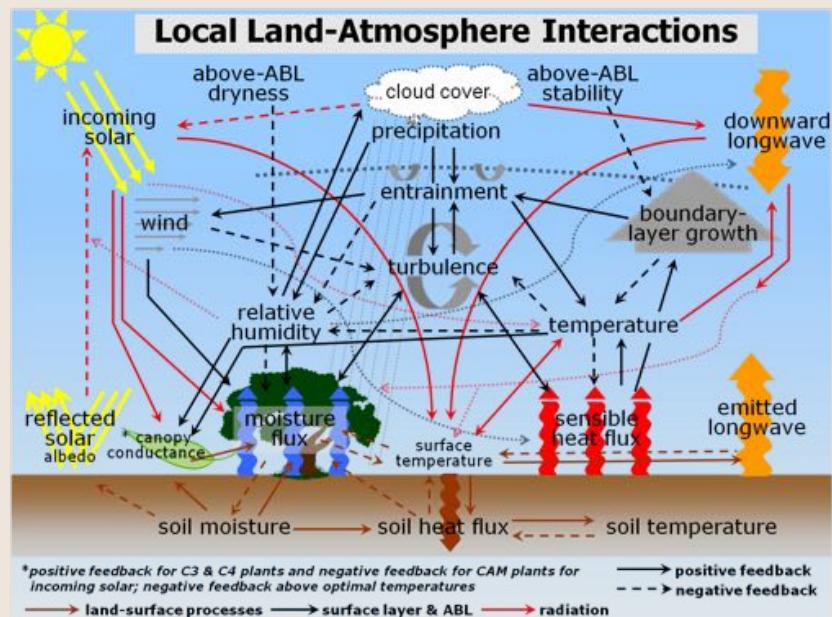
# Motivation

- The complexity of land-atmosphere (L-A) interactions can be synthesized into simple processes chain of **Local L-A Coupling ('LoCo')**:



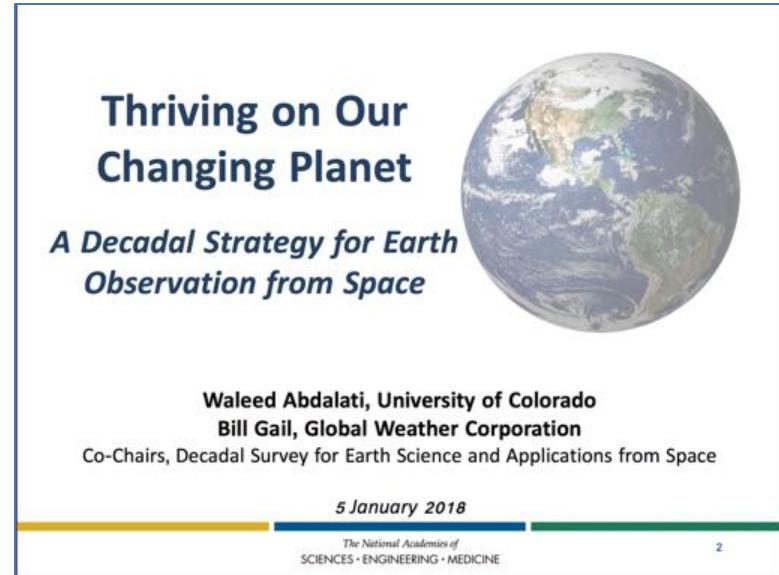
*Adopted from van Heerwaarden et al. QJRMS 2009 and Seneviratne et al. ESR 2010*

- Understanding of L-A feedback requires a comprehensive, synergistic observation of the soil-land cover-atmosphere system
- Southern Great Plains claimed as hotspot in L-A coupling (e.g., Dirmeyer GRL 2011)
- However, metrics depend on model physics and resolution (Hohenegger et al. JC 2009, Santanello et al. BAMS 2018)



# 2017 NAS Decadal Survey

- Released January 2018
- Multiple RFI white papers on PBL submitted by GEWEX-GLASS and LoCo
- Additional (independent) PBL submissions by broader community
- **2007 DS: PBL not mentioned as a target**
- **2017 DS: PBL mentioned 129 times(!)**
- Recommended as a high priority, incubator measurement
  - **'High priority'**: Cuts across nearly all panels (Weather, Climate, Hydrology, Ecosystems, Resource Mgmt) and Integrating Themes
    - Most important objective for Weather
  - **'Incubator'**: Measurement/mission approach not mature and needs work – hard problem!



# Land-Atmosphere Feedback Experiment (LAFE)

Models are only as good as the data that were used for development and verification.

Needed: Thermodynamic profiles, gradients, turbulent fluctuations  
from the surface to the PBL top.

Recently: Significant progress of remote sensing of thermodynamic variables in PBL.

Main RHI Scan Direction of LAFE

UHOH WVDIAL

# LAFE Measurement Synergy and Concept

Southern Great Plains Site, USA, 1 – 31 August 2017

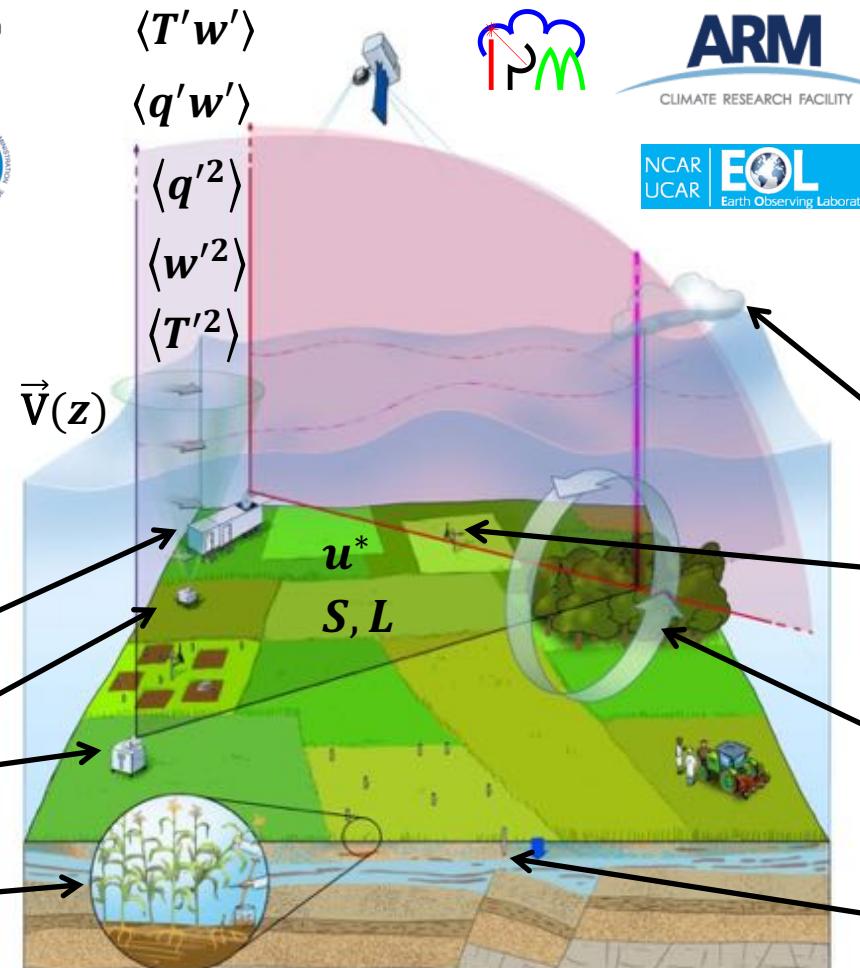


[www.arm.gov/  
research/campaigns/  
sgp2017lafe](http://www.arm.gov/research/campaigns/sgp2017lafe)

Scanning Doppler, WV  
and T lidar systems

Scanning Doppler lidar

LAI, albedo, root  
water uptake



Planetary boundary  
layer top

Surface energy  
balance

Mesoscale  
vortex

Soil moisture and  
temperature

Novel scanning sensor synergy employed at ARM-SGP site.

Now, it is possible to measure surface and entrainment fluxes simultaneously!

# LAFE Objectives and Realization

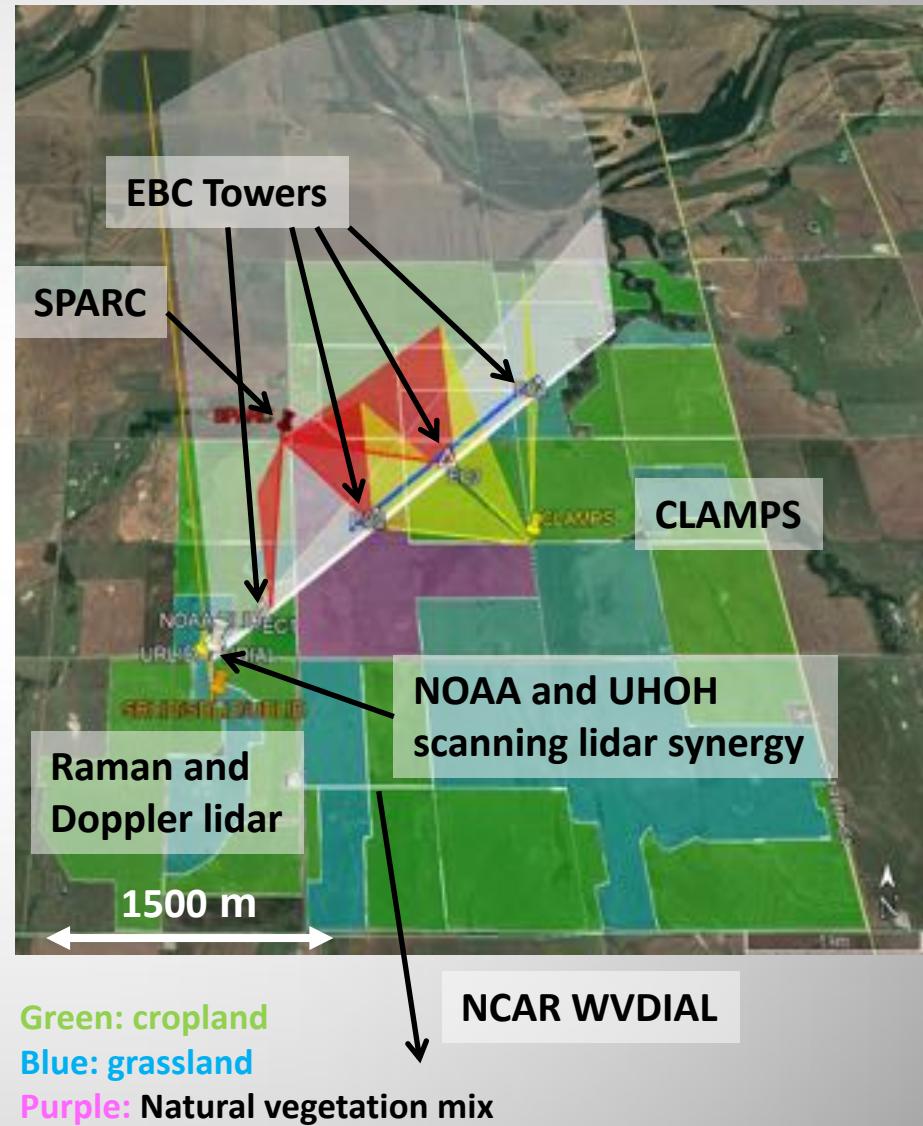
Wulfmeyer et al., BAMS, 2018.

## Objectives:

- I. Determine turbulence profiles and investigate new relationships among gradients, variances, and fluxes
- II. Map surface momentum, sensible heat, and latent heat fluxes using a synergy of scanning wind, humidity, and temperature lidar systems
- III. Characterize land-atmosphere feedback and the moisture budget
- IV. Verify large-eddy simulation model runs and improve turbulence representations in mesoscale models.

## Realization:

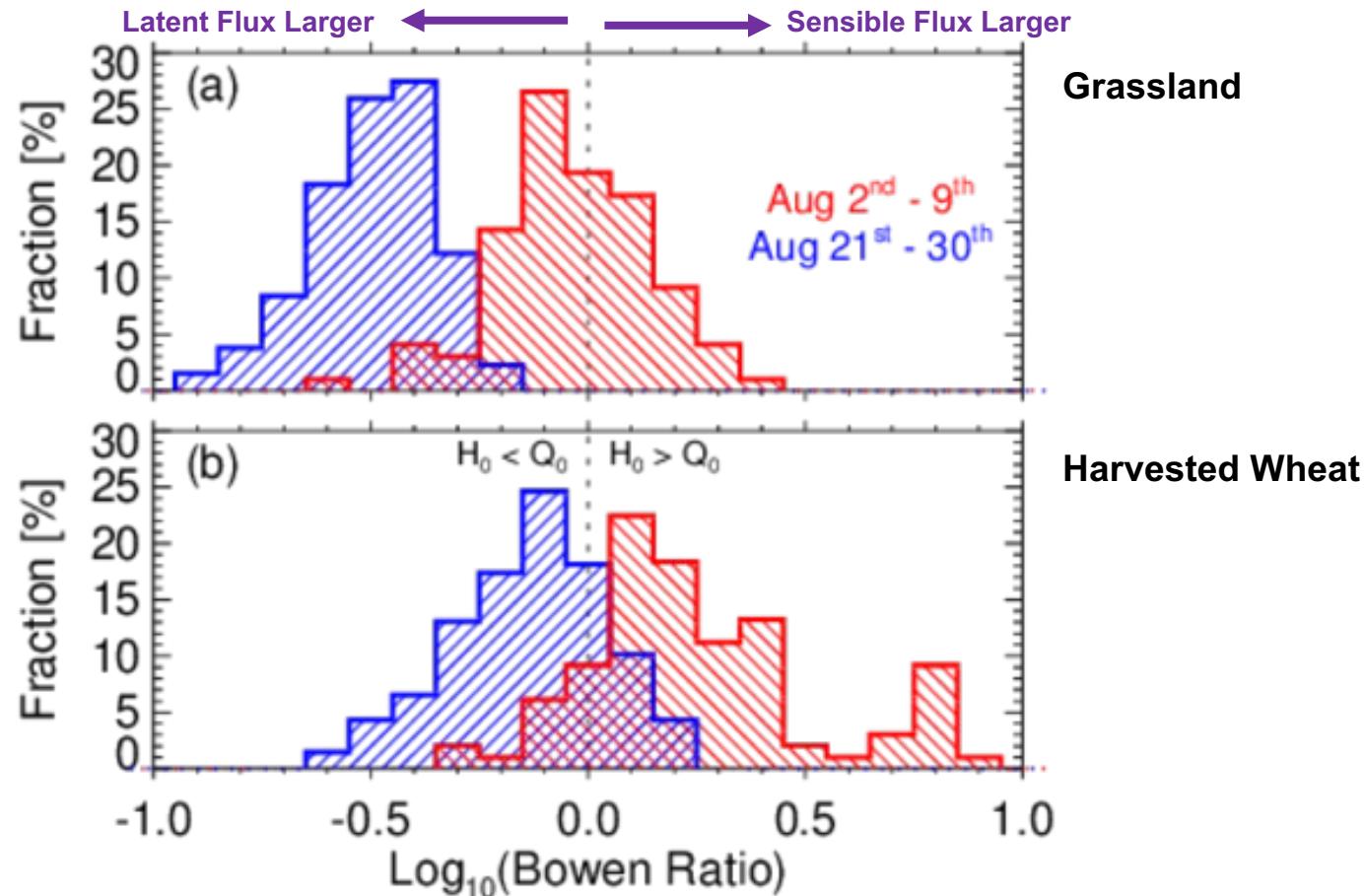
ARM SGP Site, OK, USA, August 2017  
8 lidars with synchronized scans  
(& more around...)





# Wide Range of Sfc Conditions

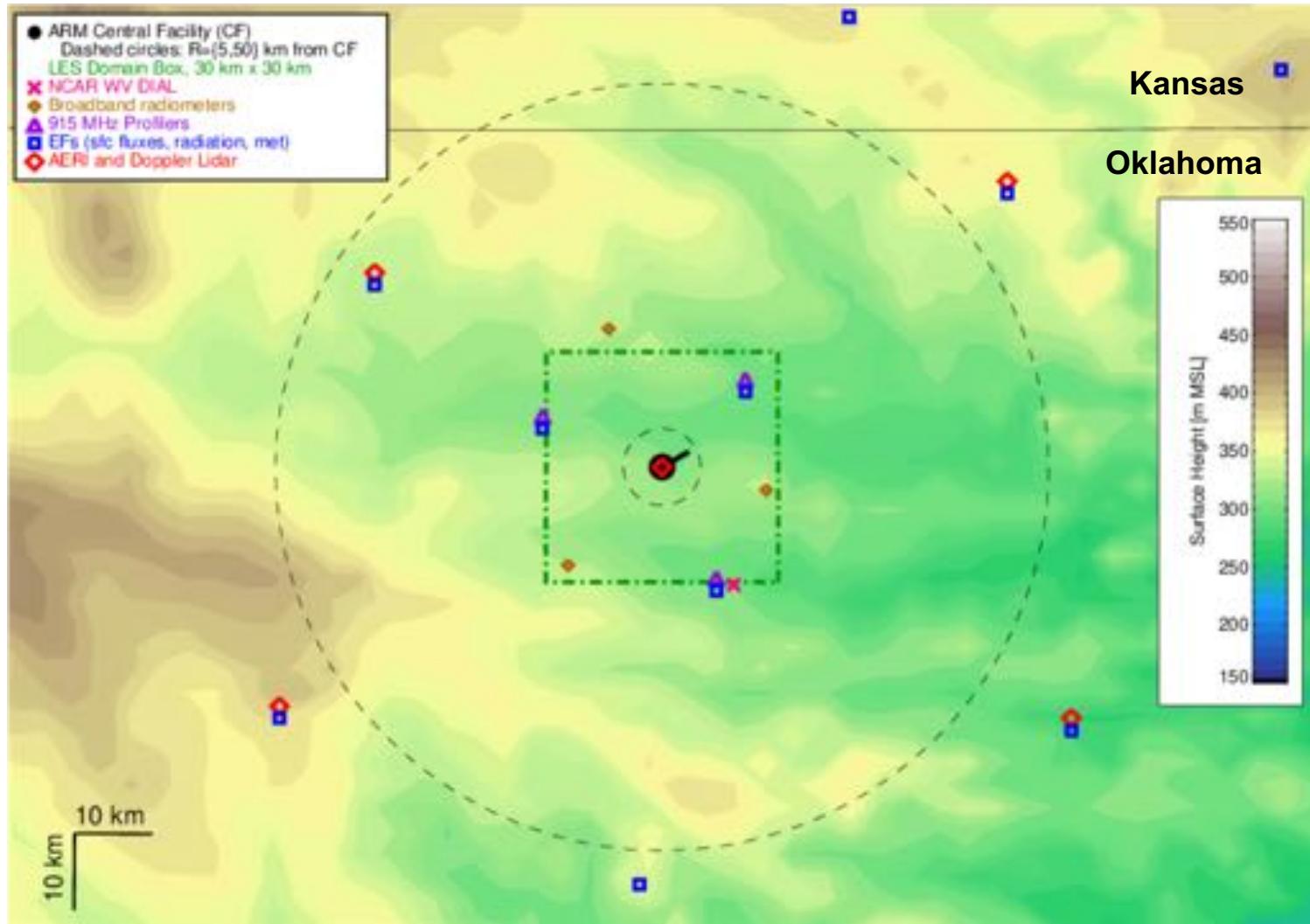
$$\text{Bowen Ratio} = \frac{\text{Sensible Heat Flux}}{\text{Latent Heat Flux}}$$



Courtesy Dave Turner, NOAA, ESRL



# Large Scale Instrument Setup



# Three Amigos - Scanning Along Main RHI



NOAA / ESRL / CSD Scanning Doppler Lidar

UHOH Scanning Temperature Raman Lidar

UHOH Scanning Water Vapor Differential Absorption Lidar (DIAL)



May 7, 2018

GEWEX Science Conference, Canmore, Alberta, Canada



# IPM 3D Temperature- and Water-Vapor-Raman Lidar



**3D scanning, active remote systems with extraordinary turbulence resolution and accuracy.**

*Radlach et al. ACP 2008,  
Wulfmeyer et al. BLM 2010,  
Hammann et al. ACP 2015,  
Behrendt et al. ACP 2015,  
Wulfmeyer et al. JAS 2016*

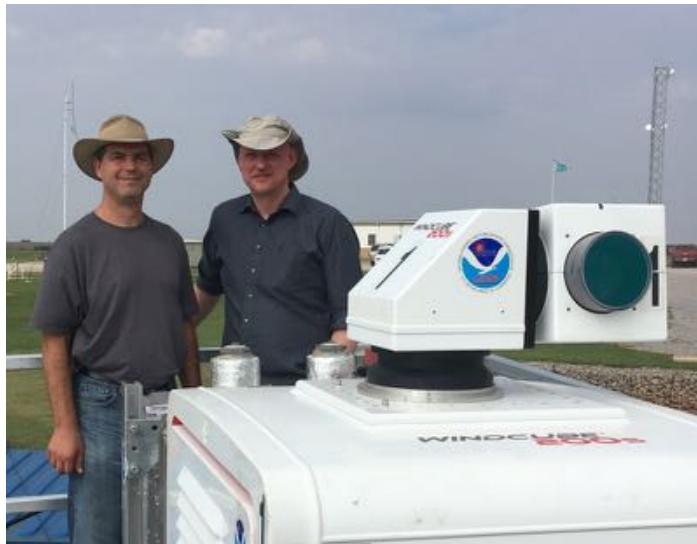
## IPM 3D Water-Vapor Differential Absorption Lidar



*Wagner et al. AO 2011, 2013; Späth et al. AMT 2016;  
Muppa et al. BLM 2016*



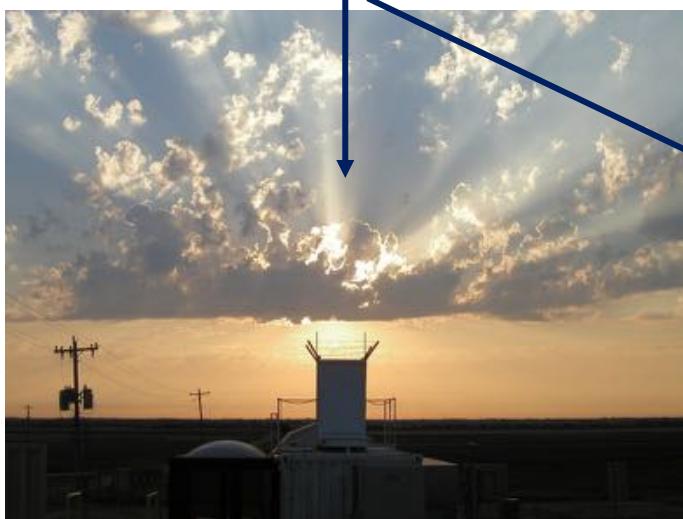
## NOAA CSD Doppler Lidar



## CLAMPS, University of Oklahoma



## SGP Raman Lidar



## UHOH and SGP Doppler Lidars



## EBC Station



## 3 Scanning Lidars in Action



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## SGP Site

Also important  
installations...

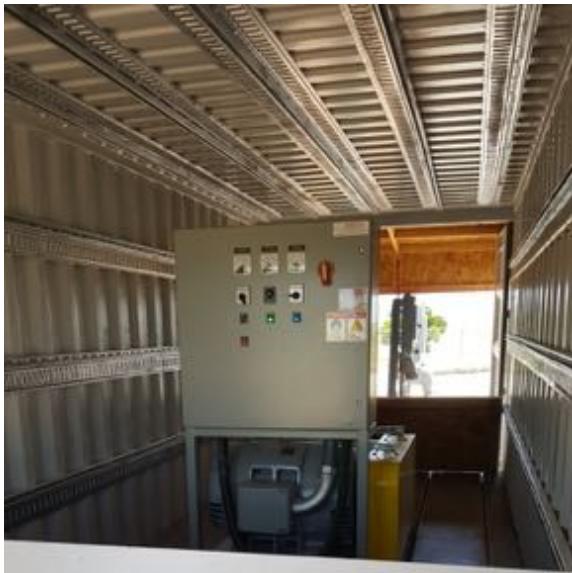
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## Barbecue Grill



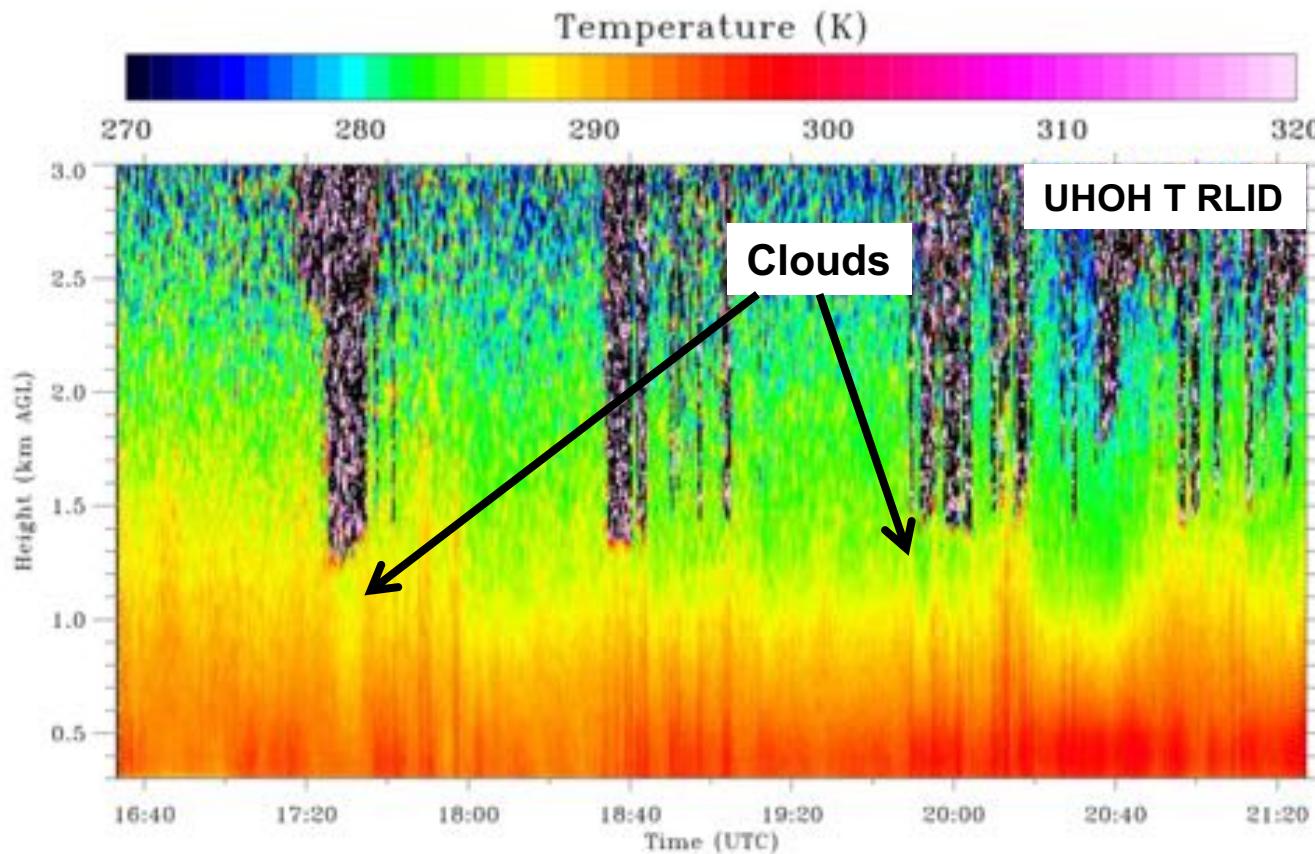
## Power Converter



# First Highlights:

## I) High resolution T, q, w profiles

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SOP2 staring vertically for entire afternoon, August 26, 2017. All resolutions: 10 s, 60 m

Resolutions sufficient for studying mean profiles, gradients, flux profiles, and higher-order moments of turbulent fluctuations.

# Evaluation of Turbulence Parameterizations (TP)

Yonsei University (YSU) non-local TP (*Hong, Noh and Dudhia MWR 2006*):

$$Q_{YSU}(z) = -K_h(z) \frac{\partial q(z)}{\partial z} + \langle w' q' \rangle_I \left( \frac{z}{z_i} \right)^3$$

Total latent heat flux      CBL height      Eddy diffusivity for momentum

$$K_h(z) = \frac{K_p(z)}{\text{Pr}(z)}; \quad K_p(z) = -\kappa w^* z \left( 1 - \frac{z}{z_i} \right)^2$$

Eddy diffusivity for  $q$  and  $T$       Mixed-layer velocity scale      Von Karman constant = 0.4

$$\text{Pr}(z) = 1 + (\text{Pr}_0 - 1) \exp \left[ -3 \frac{(z - 0.1 z_i)^2}{z_i^2} \right]$$

Prantl number,  
depends on  $z$  in YSU (!)      ...at top of SL      Turbulent latent heat flux at the inversion layer

$$\text{Pr}_0 = \frac{\phi_m}{\phi_h} + c; \quad \langle w' q' \rangle_I = - \frac{d \langle w' \theta' \rangle_0}{\Delta \theta|_I} \Delta q|_I$$

Profile functions  
according to  
MO similarity;  
same for I and SL      Proportionality factor      Turbulent sensible heat flux at the top of the SL      Gradients at the inversion layer

# Evaluation of Turbulence Parameterizations (TP)

YSU non-local TP (*Hong et al. MWR 2006*):

$$Q_{YSU}(z) = -K_h(z) \frac{\partial q(z)}{\partial z} + \langle w' q' \rangle_I \left( \frac{z}{z_i} \right)^3$$
$$K_h(z) = \frac{K_p(z)}{\text{Pr}(z)}, \quad K_p(z) = -\kappa w^* z \left( 1 - \frac{z}{z_i} \right)^2$$
$$\text{Pr}(z) = 1 + (\text{Pr}_0 - 1) \exp \left[ -3 \frac{(z - 0.1 z_i)^2}{z_i^2} \right]$$
$$\text{Pr}_0 = \frac{\phi_m}{\phi_h} - c; \quad \langle w' q' \rangle_I = - \frac{d \langle w' \theta' \rangle_c}{\Delta \theta|_I} \Delta q|_I$$

from lidar

from EBC systems

deduced

Simultaneous measurements of fluxes and gradients of T, WV, and wind provide unique data for advanced process studies, model verification, and studies of turbulence parameterizations.



# Evaluation of Turbulence Parameterizations

MYNN local parameterization with TKE ( $e^2$ ) closure (*Nakanishi and H. Niino, JMSJ 2009*):

$$\frac{\partial e^2}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[ \overline{w' \left( e^2 + 2 \frac{p'}{\rho_0} \right)} \right] - 2 \overline{u' w'} \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z} - 2 \overline{v' w'} \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial z} + 2 \frac{g}{\theta_0} \overline{w' \theta'_v} - 2 \varepsilon \longrightarrow \varepsilon = \frac{e^3}{B_1 l}$$

$$\overline{u' w'} = -K_m \frac{\partial \bar{U}}{\partial z}$$

$$\overline{v' w'} = -K_m \frac{\partial \bar{V}}{\partial z}$$

$$K_m = leS_m$$

$$\overline{w' \theta'} = -K_h \frac{\partial \bar{\theta}}{\partial z}$$

$$K_h = leS_h$$

$$l_t = 0.23 \frac{\int_0^\infty e z dz}{e dz}$$

$$\frac{1}{l} = \frac{1}{l_s} + \frac{1}{l_t} + \frac{1}{l_b}$$

$$S_h = \alpha_c A_2 \frac{\Phi_2 - 3C_1 \Phi_5}{D}$$

$$G_H = -\frac{l^2}{e^2} \frac{g}{\theta_0} \frac{\partial \theta_v}{\partial z}$$

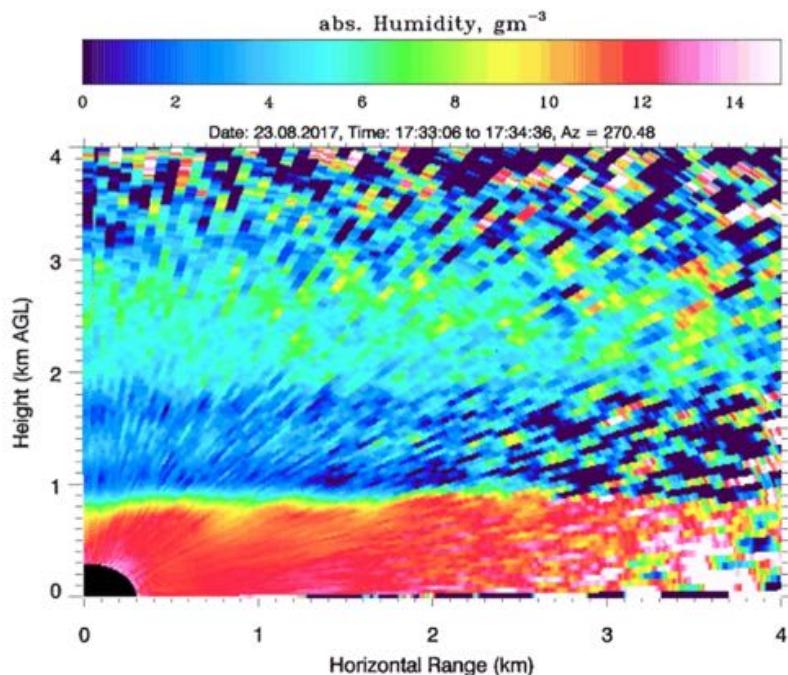
$$G_M = \frac{l^2}{e^2} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial z} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\Phi_2 = 1 - 9\alpha_c^2 A_1 A_2 (1 - C_2) G_H$$

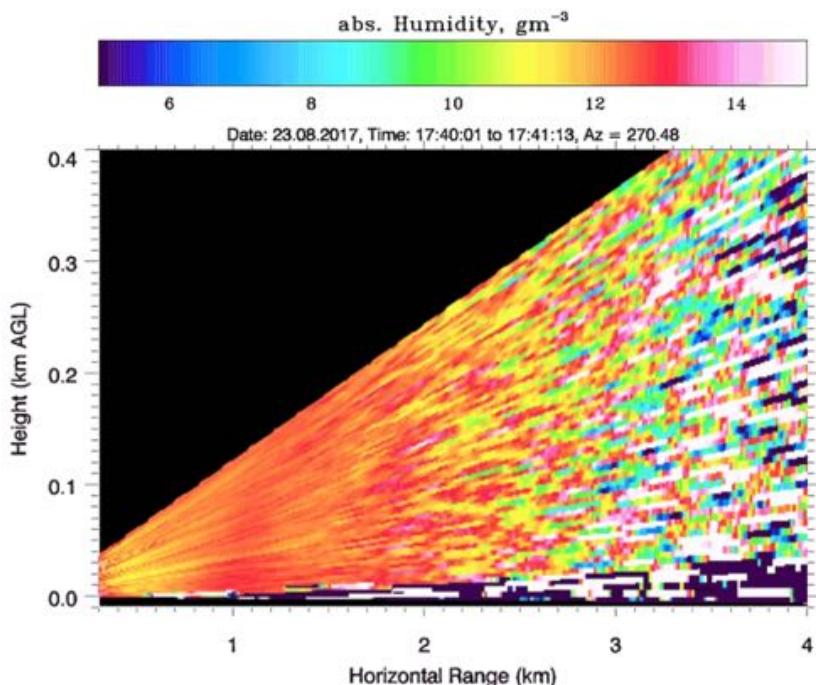
$$\Phi_5 = 6\alpha_c^2 A_1^2 G_M$$

Simultaneous measurements of fluxes, TKE, and gradients of T, WV, and wind provide unique data for studying and deriving turbulence parameterizations.

# II) Evening transition, IOP11, Aug. 23, 2017



10-Minute Boundary Layer  
Scans, 0 to 90°



50-Minute Surface Layer  
Scans, 0 to 7°

Observations question the validity of Monin-Obukhov theory in complex terrain. Development of new parameterizations of surface fluxes in heterogeneous terrain may be necessary.

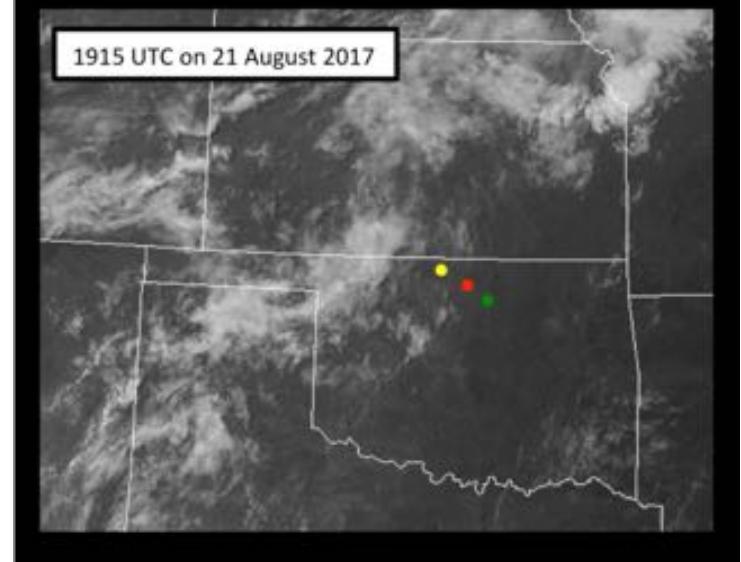
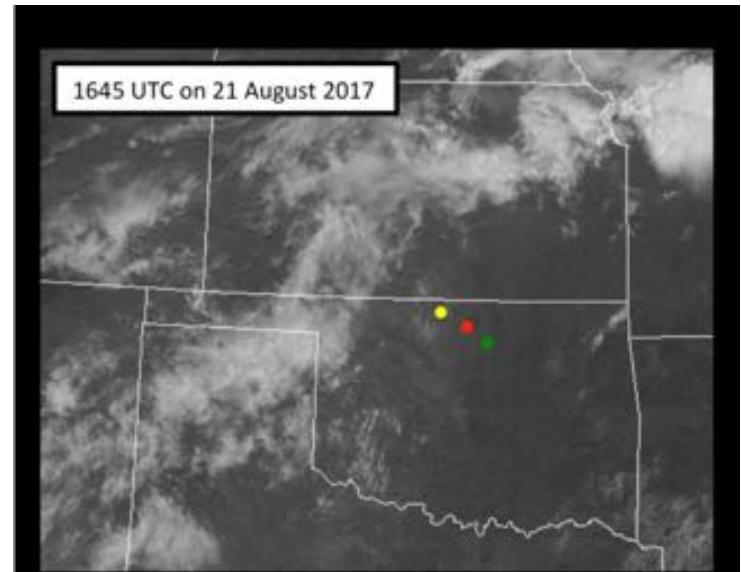
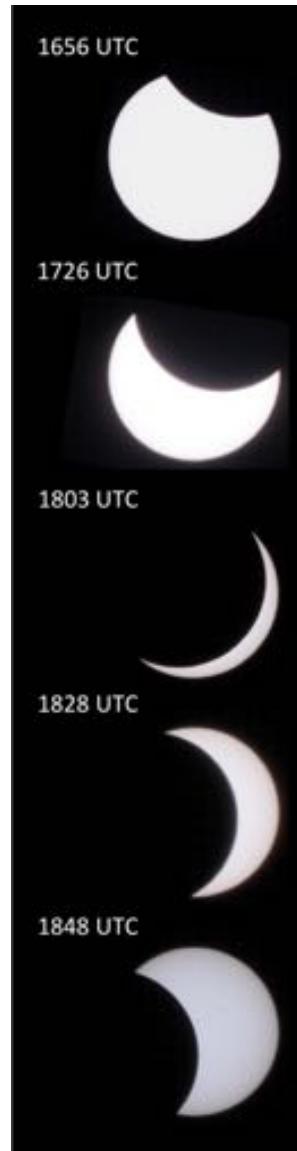
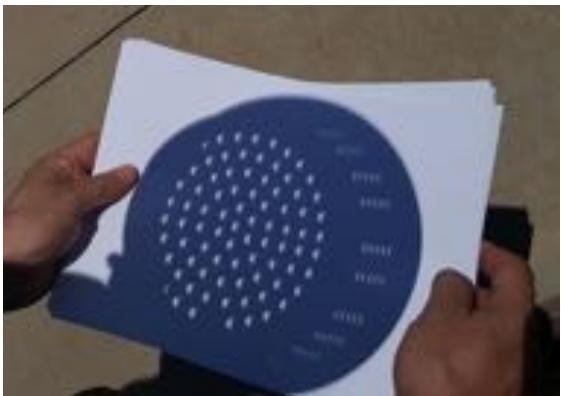


May 7, 2018

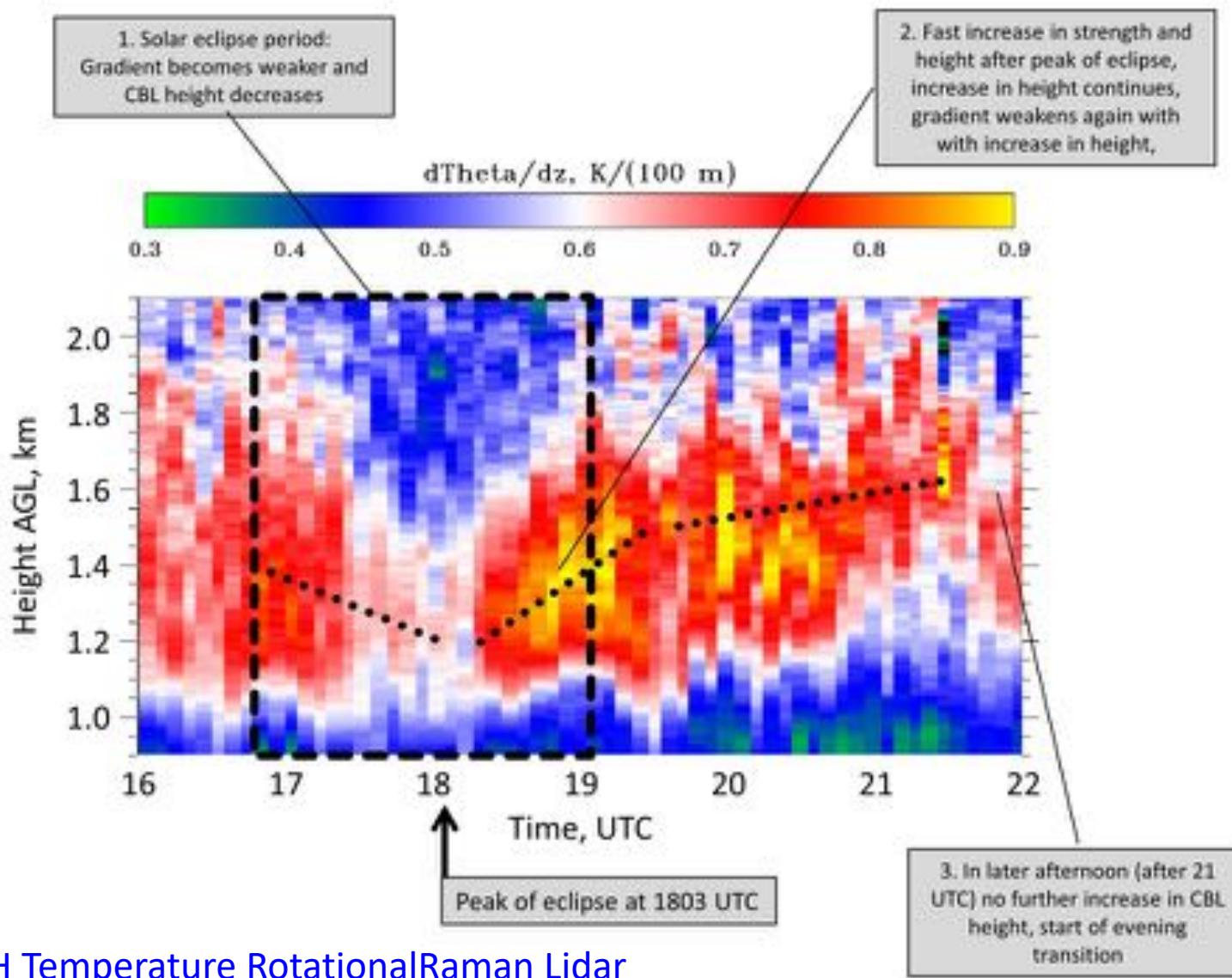
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# III) Solar Eclipse, August 21, 2017, Some Impressions

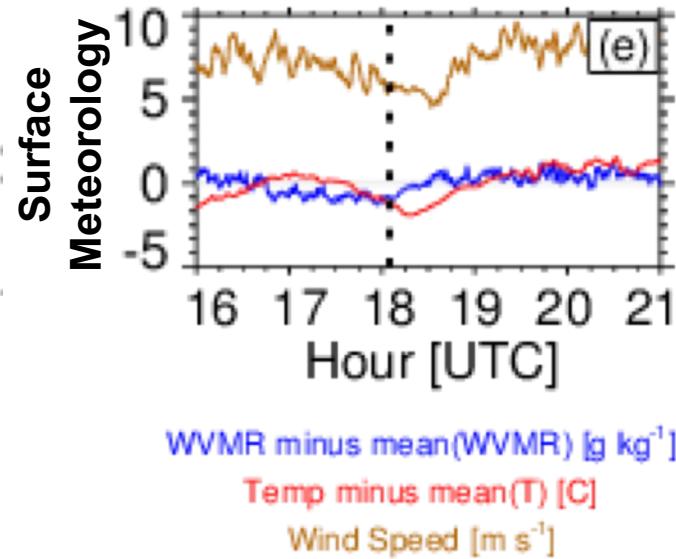
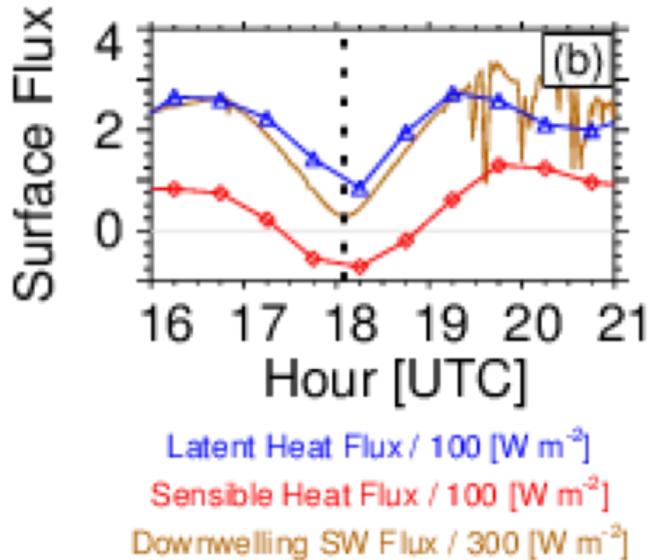


# Solar Eclipse, 21 August 2017

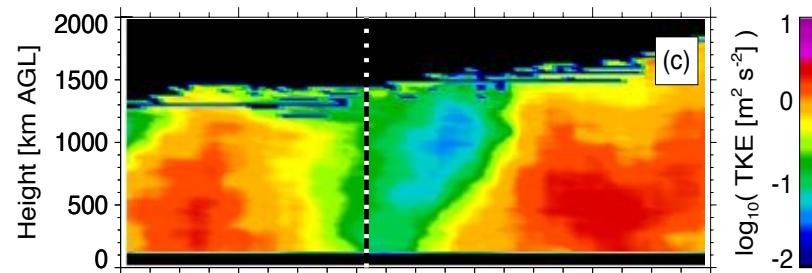
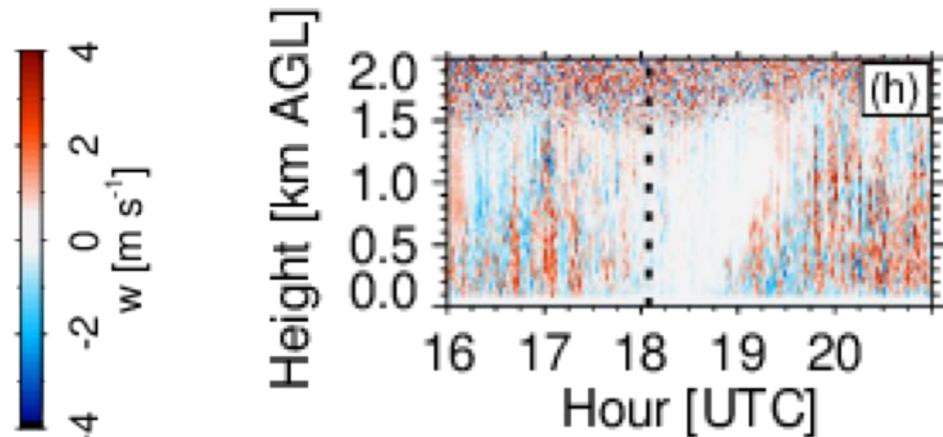


UHOH Temperature Rotational Raman Lidar

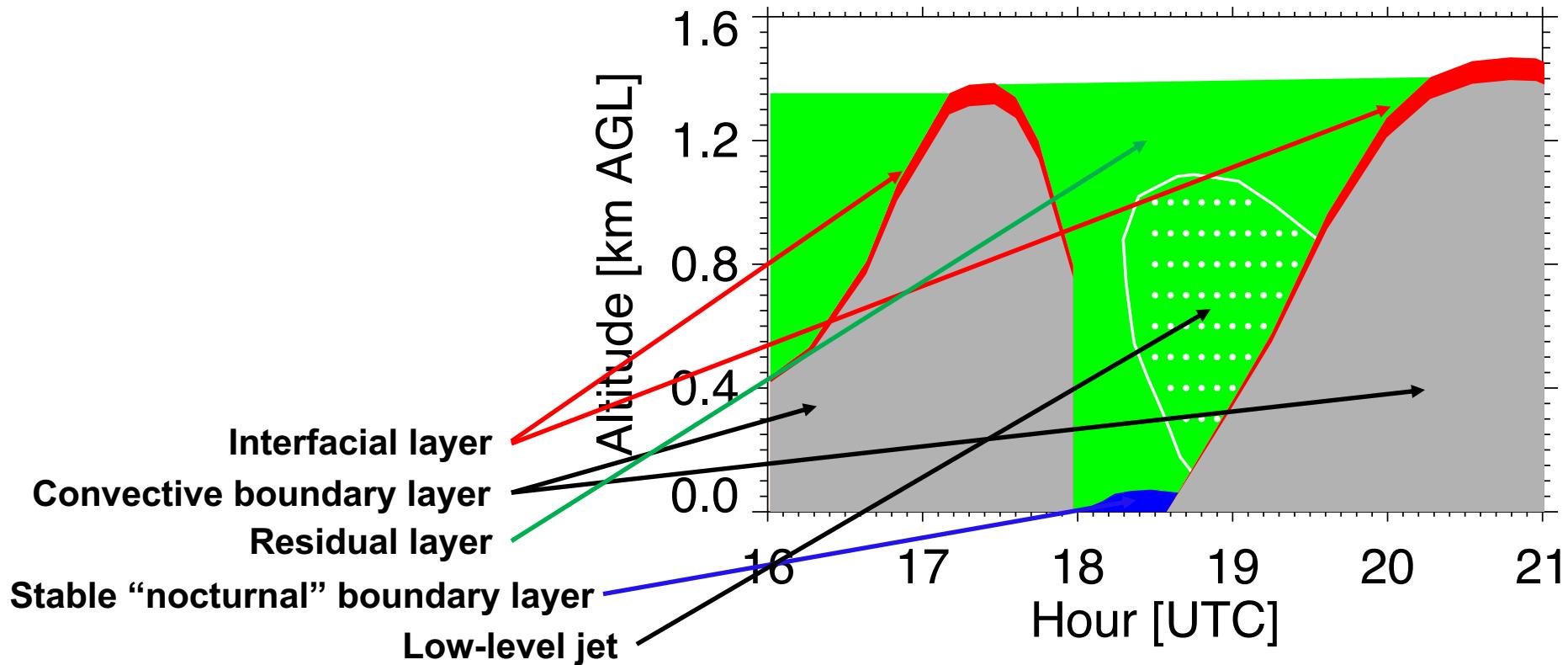
# The Input and the Surface Response



## The PBL's Response



# Evolution of PBL during the Eclipse



Turner, D.D., V. Wulfmeyer, A. Behrendt, T.A. Bonin, A. Choukulkar, R.K. Newsom, W.A. Brewer, and D.R. Cook, 2017: Response of the land-atmosphere system over north-central Oklahoma during the 2017 eclipse. *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, DOI:10.1002/2017GL076908.

# LAFE Modelling Activities

Model	Configuration	Horizontal grid increments	Turbulence parameterizations	Land-surface and vegetation parameterization	Research center and reference
WRF-NOAH-MP	LAM driven by ECMWF analysis with data assimilation	Mesoscale to turbulence permitting (100 m)	MYNN, YSU in the outer domains, NA in the inner domain	MOST; Jarvis and Ball-Berry schemes	UHOH [Schwitzaila et al. 2017]
WRF-NOAH	LAM driven by analyses	Mesoscale to turbulence permitting (50 m)	e.g., MYNN, YSU in the outer domains, NA in the inner domain	MOST; Jarvis and Ball-Berry schemes	ARM LASSO project <sup>7</sup>
PALM	Periodic LAM driven by ECMWF analyses	1-50 m	NA	TESSER scheme from ECMWF; MOST or surface layer fully resolved	University of Hannover [Maronga et al. 2015]
DALES	Periodic LAM driven by ARM variational analysis	5-100 m	1.5-order TKE	MOST	Cleveland State University [Heus et al. 2010]
COMMAS	Periodic or specified boundaries from analyses	50-500 m	NA	MOST	NOAA ARL
ICON-LES	Global with grid refinement	500 m	NA	MOST; plant type parameterization	to be confirmed



# Summary

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- LAFE provides a unique data set for studying L-A feedback and model verification
- Excellent performance of all instruments by far exceeding expectations
- 13 IOPs, from which two contain an evening transition (IOPs 11 and 13) and one includes the solar eclipse (IOP10)
- Several special obs. testing vertical pointing and PPI scanning modes
- Highlights:
  - First 2D measurements of water-vapor and temperature fields from the surface to the lower troposphere
  - New operation modes of Doppler lidars
  - New synergetic data sets for surface profile and flux derivations
  - Solar eclipse natural feedback experiment
- Great opportunity for process studies and collaborations merging observationalists and modelers. Data available from March 1, 2018!

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