

Ozone in the Tropical Tropopause Layer

Geraint Vaughan

What determines the ozone concentration in the tropical upper troposphere?

Do we see extensive evidence of uplift from the boundary layer?





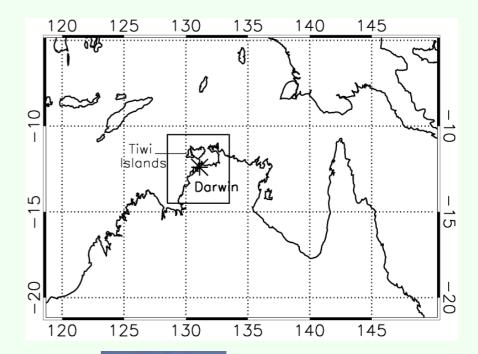
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Evidence from previous campaigns

TWP-ICE/SCOUT-O3/ ACTIVE campaign Darwin 2005-6



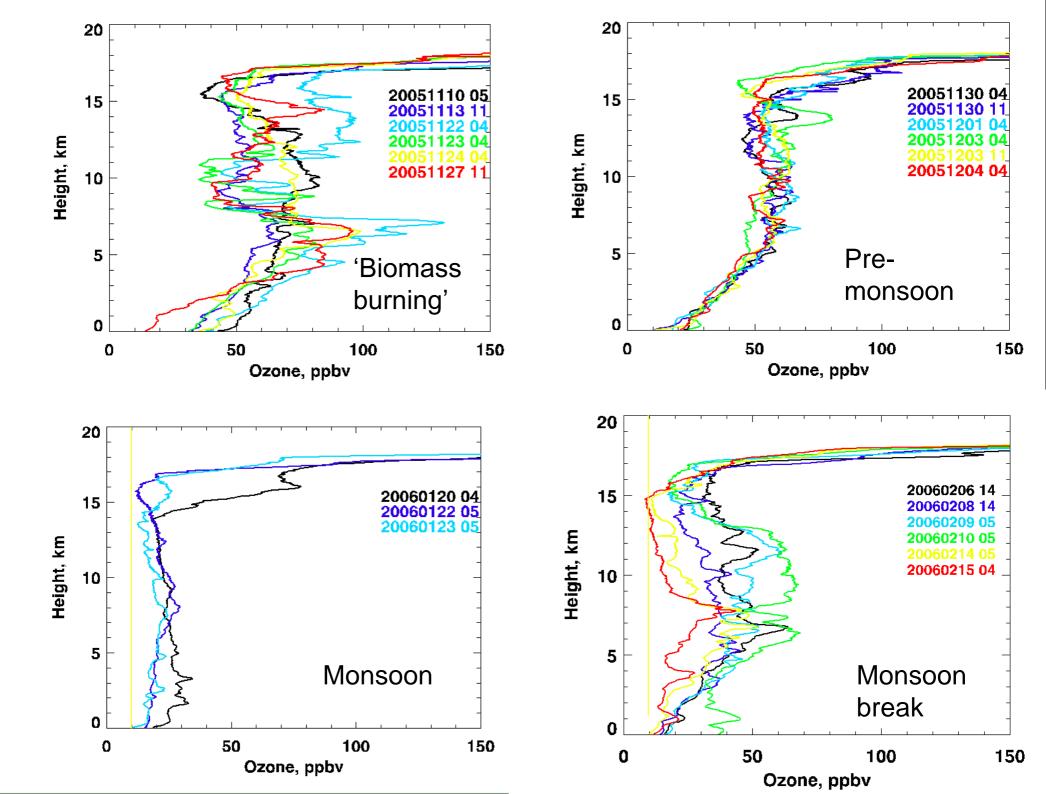


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First examine ozonesonde profiles (Heyes et al 2008) – 28 sondes over four months sampling different meteorological conditions

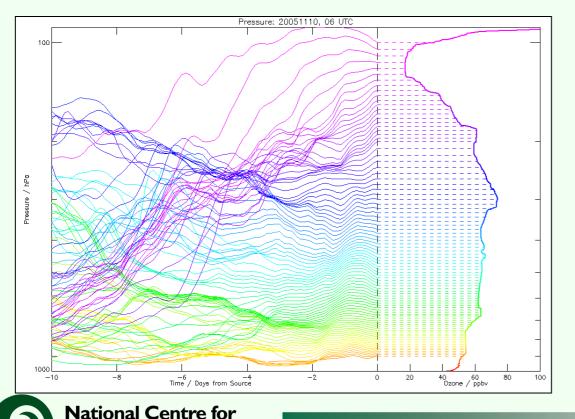






10-day back trajectories performed using ECMWF analyses
Performed for every ozone sounding (~30) at every 10 hPa between 900 and 200 hPa, and every 5 hPa between 200 and 100 hPa

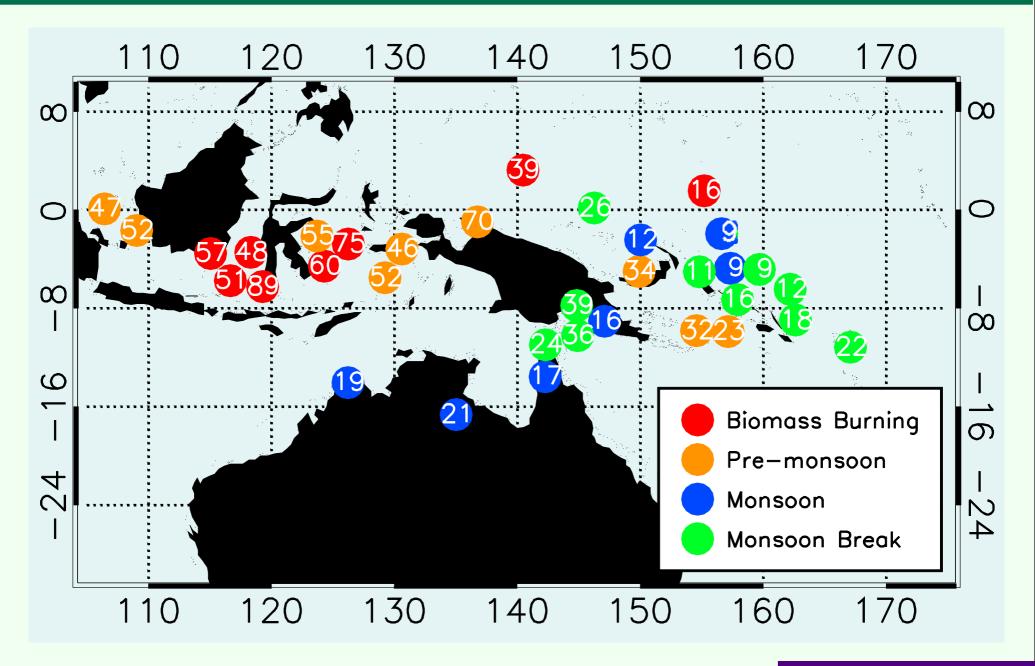
•Clustered trajectories were performed to check for consistency initially, with only the central trajectory used thereafter



Many of the trajectories ending in the TTL have ascended from low levels in the previous few days



Ozone Concentrations and locations where trajectories ascended through 500 mb



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- Origin of back-trajectories show a consistent and coherent pattern
- In general elevated ozone can be attributed to sources over Indonesia, with reduced concentrations observed from the remote maritime Pacific
- Suggests the TTL above Darwin is governed by the wider tropical warm pool region as opposed to transport from the local boundary layer





- Evidence from measurements in and near the anvils points to the mid-troposphere being the main source region for air lifted into the TTL by continental convection
- Uplifted boundary-layer air found at lower levels

Are these conclusions correct for large MCSs such as those found in the Tropical Warm Pool? Is this how air with very low ozone concentrations reached the TTL?





CAST measurements, Manus Is, PNG, February 2014



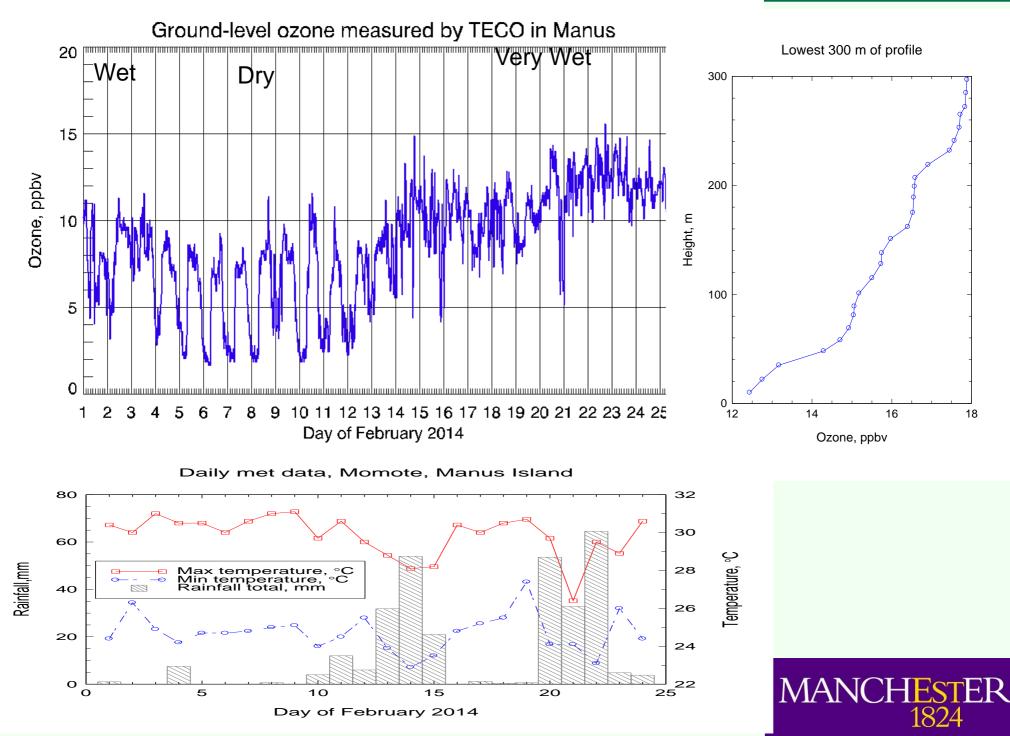


Manus chosen because of **support from the US ARM programme** in this Tropical Warm Pool site

39 ozonesondes launched in February 2014, 35 of them produced good profiles



Ground-level ozone



Ongoing issue: background current

Ozonesonde measures CURRENT from cell. To derive ozone conc we have to subtract a background current measured during prep. Background current is a vexed problem with ozonesondes. It should be around 50 nA

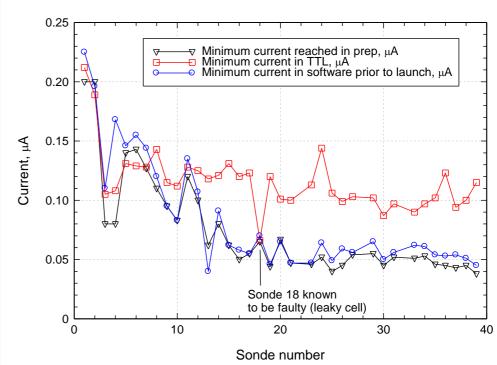
First dozen sondes had higher background current BUT minimum current in the TTL hardly changed after the first two. Problem with contamination (see poster by Richard Newton)

Uncontaminated sondes – use constant background current as measured just before launch

Contaminated sondes analysed using a hybrid background current $I_b = I_{b0} + (I_{bm} - I_{b0})p/p0$ if $I_{bm} > I_{b0}$ $I_b = I_{bm}$ otherwise

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Atmospheric Science



Ozonesonde raw currents

I_b = background current used in analysis

 $I_{b0} = 50 \text{ nA} \text{ (arbitrary)}$

I_{bm} = background current measured just before launch

P = pressure; p0 = surface pressure



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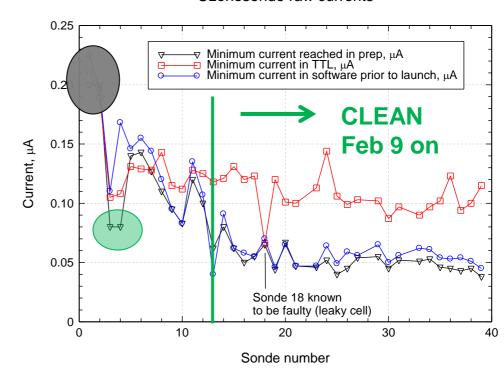
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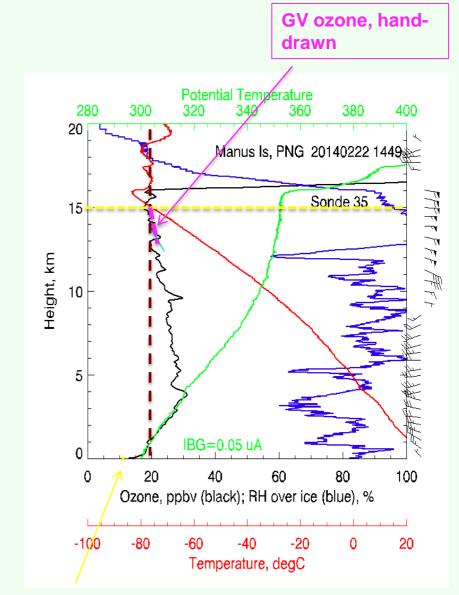


Ozonesonde profile validation: 22 Feb 2014

Google earth

Gulfstream V flypass of Manus Island



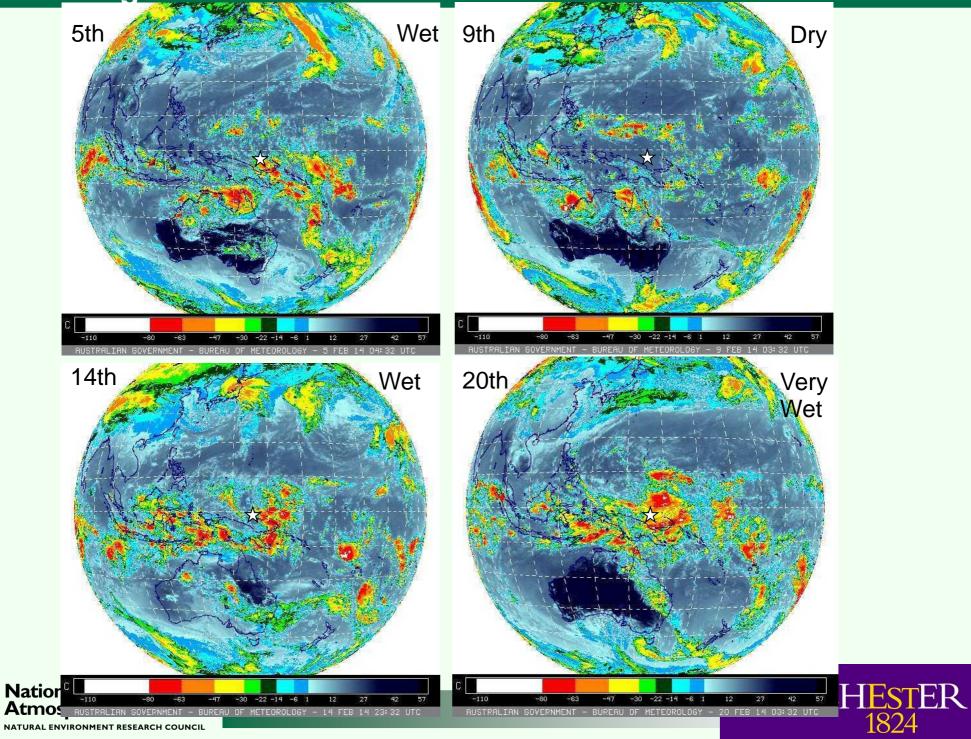


TECO ground-based ozone

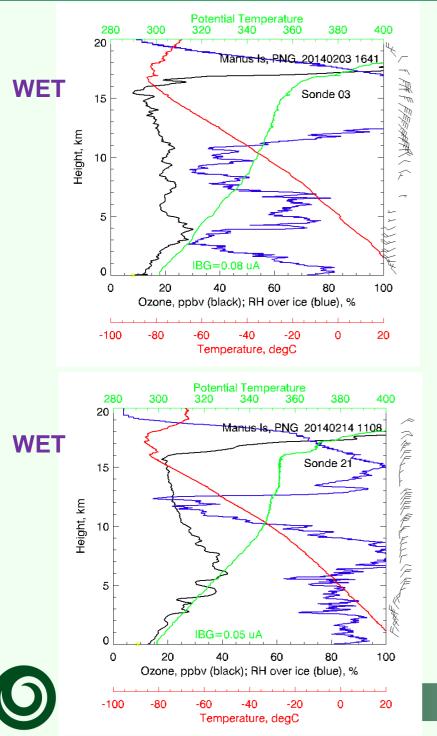


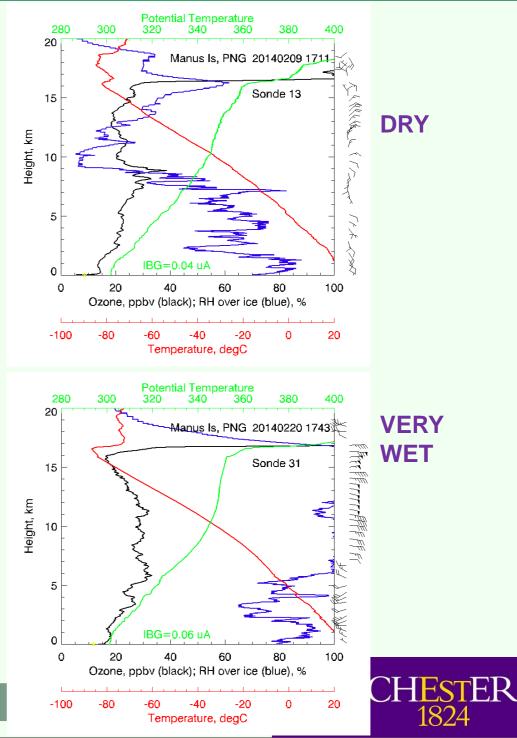
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Satellite images

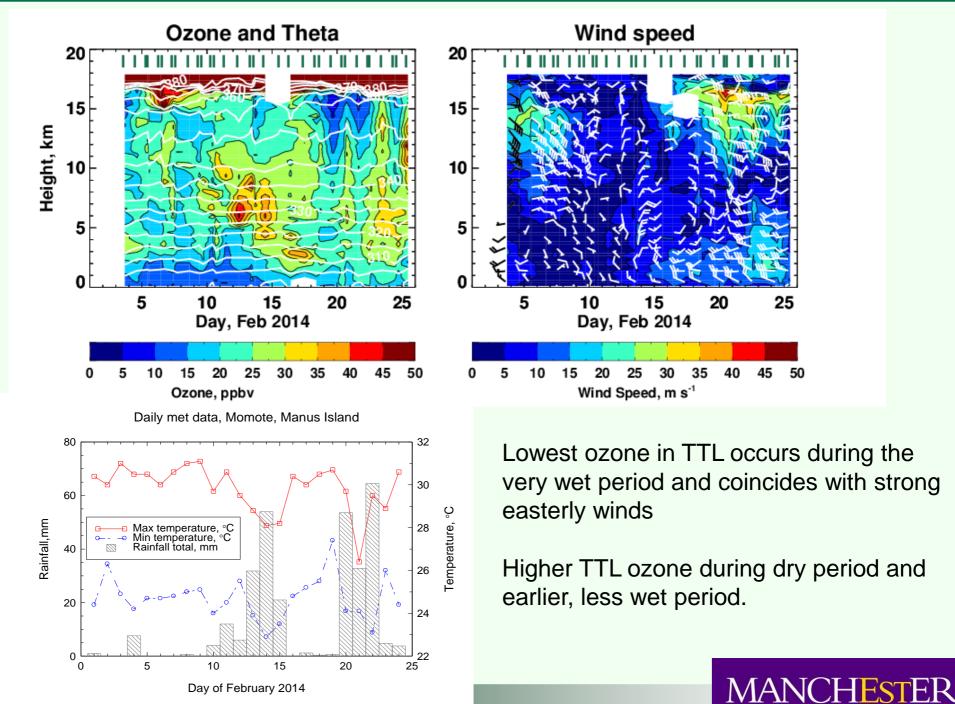


Profiles under different conditions





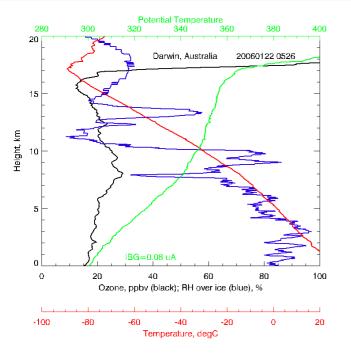
Summary of measurements



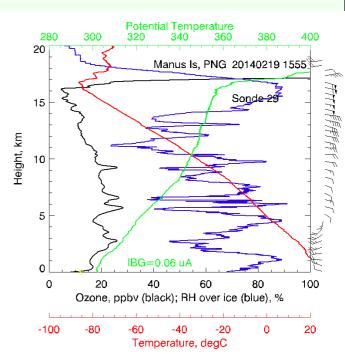
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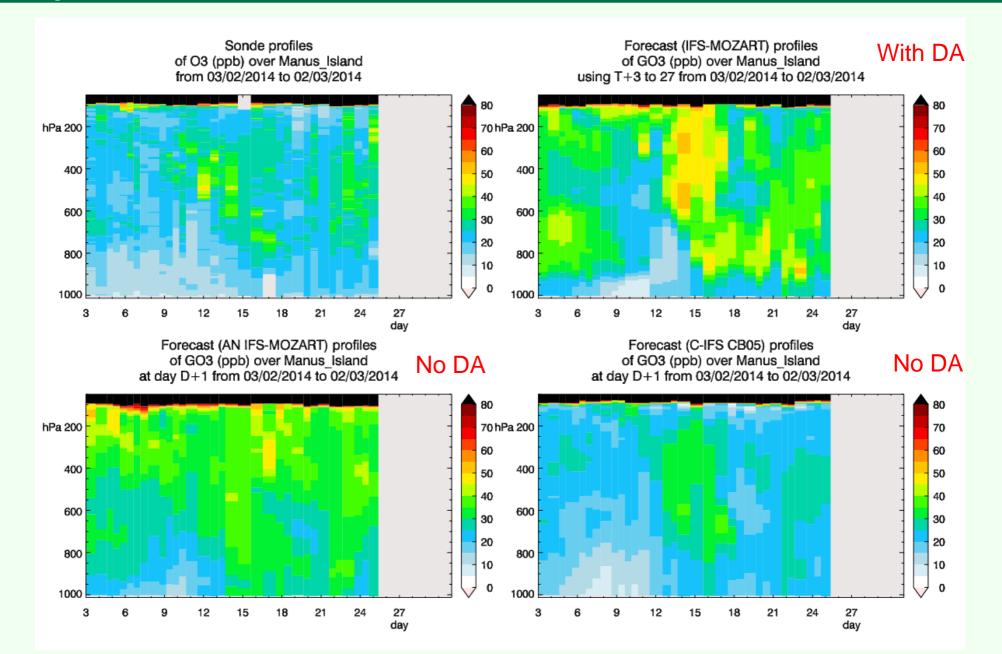
- Excellent agreement between sondes and Gulfstream, as well as good low-level agreement with TECO.
- Very low surface ozone confined to the very lowest layers of the profile
- Lowest TTL ozone, 10-15 ppbv, coincides with widespread convective conditions around Manus



Results verify the hypothesis that low ozone concentrations ARE lifted to the TTL by widespread MCS convection in the warm pool region around the Solomon Islands



Comparison with ECMWF model at 100 km resolution

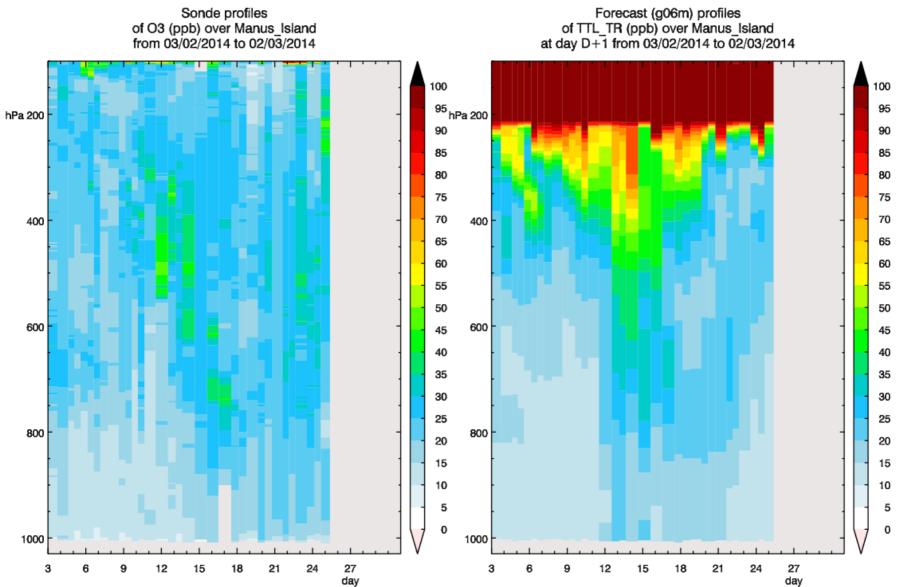


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With thanks to Johannes Flemming

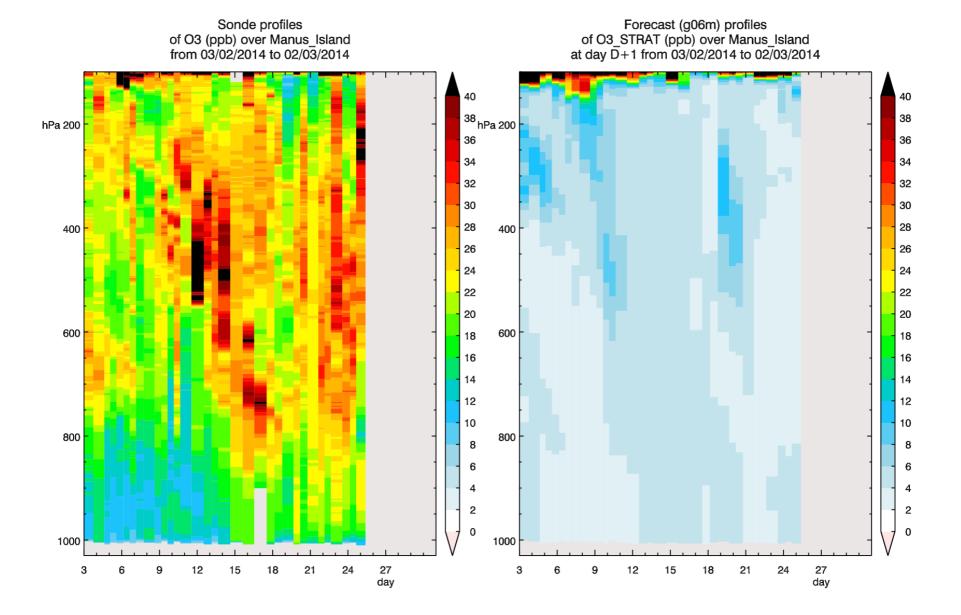


TTL tracer



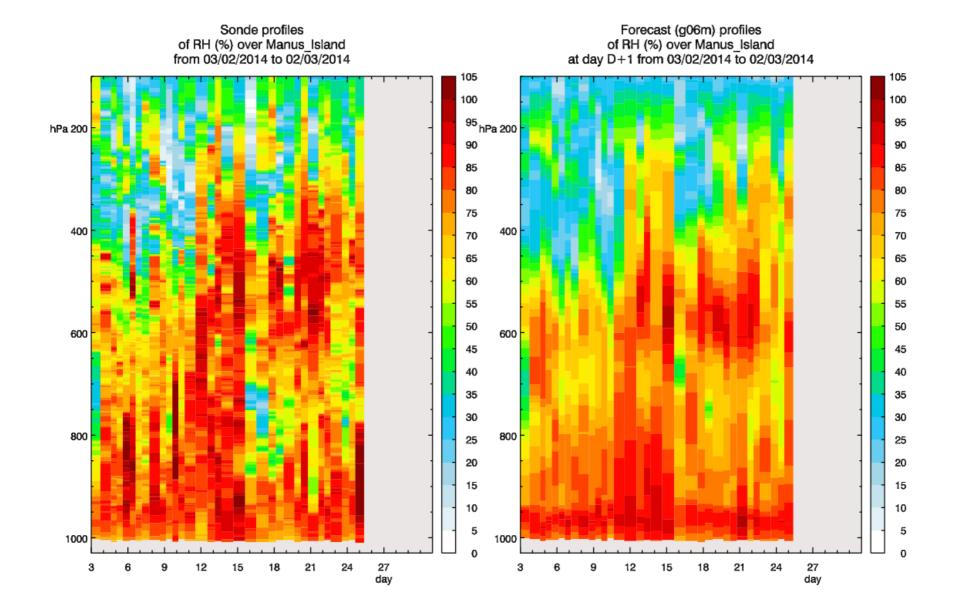
Forecast (g06m) profiles of TTL_TR (ppb) over Manus_Island at day D+1 from 03/02/2014 to 02/03/2014

Stratospheric tracer



R

Relative humidity



R