



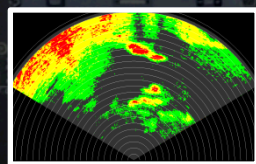
Description of the Data Collected, the Visualization Tools Utilized, and the Statistical Properties of the Radar Reflectivities Observed by the X-band, Airborne, Weather Radar during the 2014 HAIC-HIWC Flight Campaign
UPDATED – Oct 2015

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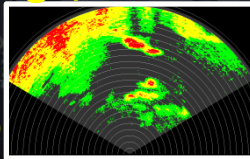
Fabien Dezitter and Alice Grandin
AIRBUS
Toulouse, FRANCE

HAIC-HIWC Science Team Meeting
09-13 November 2015



Description of the Data Collected, the Visualization Tools Utilized, and the Statistical Properties of the Radar Reflectivities Observed by the X-band, Airborne, Weather Radar during the 2014 HAIC-HIWC Flight Campaign

UPDATED – Oct 2015

- Many IKP values were updated (new version 4 was released updating existing values)
- Additional IKP data was added (lengthening some records and added whole days to others)
- Reflectivities did not change; however, reflectivity statistics were recomputed UPDATES focus on these  changed statistics and their implications
- New IKP data brought to light operations (data collection) during flight in high reflectivity (RED) conditions (atypical of commercial operations)

**HAIC-HIWC Science Team Meeting
09-13 November 2015**



Flight Summary Data Table

(hh:mm)

Red Times indicate Missing data – either a late start or early shutdown

Gray Times indicate Ferry Flight – no data required

YELLOW highlighted times indicate ADDITIONAL data

Flight Number	Date	Radar Data (UTC)		AC State Data (UTC)		IKP (UTC)	
		Start	Stop	Start	Stop	Start	Stop
fs140001	1/16/2014	2:10	5:09	1:22	5:24	1:22	5:11
fs140002	1/16/2014	21:25	0:10	21:03	0:30	21:03	0:24
fs140003	1/17/2014	2:30	4:50	2:07	5:15	1:59	5:10
fs140004	1/18/2014	21:51	0:40	21:18	0:50	21:34	0:46
fs140005	1/21/2014	4:34	5:39	4:12	7:25		
fs140006	1/23/2014	22:09	23:19	19:34	23:25	19:36	23:20
fs140007	1/24/2014	20:08	21:24	19:38	22:40	20:10	22:36
fs140008	1/27/2014	20:43	23:14	20:03	23:16	20:16	23:14
fs140009	1/28/2014	21:08	23:38	20:46	23:49	20:55	23:44
fs140010	1/29/2014	20:06	23:07	19:34	23:22	19:27	23:22
fs140011	1/30/2014	1:13	2:16	0:45	2:26	0:52	2:23
fs140012	2/2/2014	20:35	23:39	19:49	23:50	20:24	23:46
fs140013	2/3/2014	4:05	6:28	2:37	6:36	3:40	6:33
fs140014	2/4/2014	20:34	23:45	19:51	23:56	20:26	23:50
fs140015	2/5/2014	23:27	2:29	22:56	2:35	22:58	2:32
fs140016	2/7/2014	23:23	0:12	19:42	0:20	19:44	0:19
fs140017	2/8/2014			1:36	3:57	1:36	3:53
fs140018	2/8/2014	20:48	23:56	20:16	0:12	20:13	0:03
fs140019	2/9/2014	20:48	0:14	20:11	0:19	20:06	0:16
fs140020	2/10/2014	2:07	3:56	1:33	4:04	1:33	3:59
fs140021	2/17/2014	6:27	8:27	6:07	8:36	5:58	8:33
fs140022	2/17/2014	21:43	0:48	20:56	1:07	20:56	1:05
fs140023	2/18/2014	21:37	0:38	20:51	0:52	20:51	0:47



ANALYSES - CONSTRAINTS & DISCLAIMERS

UPDATED

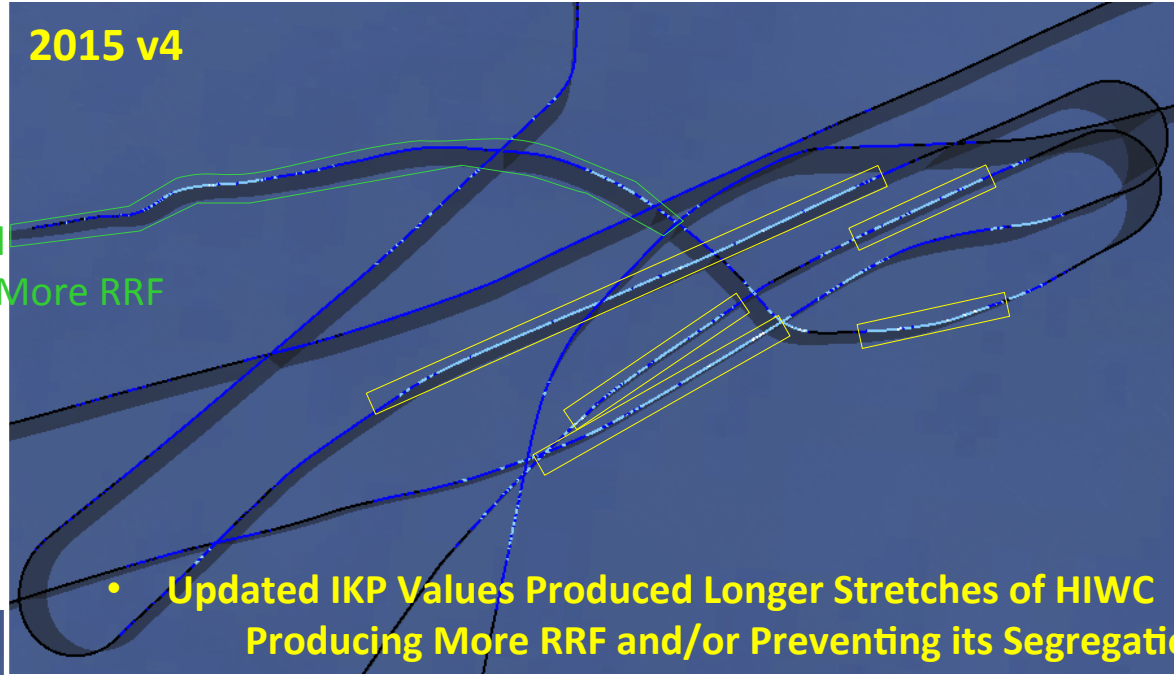
- A variety of analyses were conducted, both during the flight campaign (support flight ops) and post-flight to assess the radar properties of the HAIC atmospheric condition.
- Specific objectives were
 - use of radar’s variable gain
 - use of antenna tilt (look above and below flight level)
 - use/need for geo-referenced radar visualization
 - extraction/categorization of radar reflectivities, and
 - a statistical description of these reflectivities
- Remember only the radar display bus was recorded so our “data” (a color) represents a range of radar reflectivities. In order to account for these multi-valued data and still allow for variable gain compensation (1 dBZ resolution), a single radar measurement results in a “count” in several adjacent reflectivity bins. All statistical results account for this distributed data and results in the “blocky” nature of these distributions.
- These results are not preliminary but the reflectivities that go into our analyses depend upon other instruments (eg, IKP). So changes to IWC values or the addition of data (NEW files) does change what reflectivities are used in these statistical analyses.



How Does IKP Change the Reflectivity Statistics?

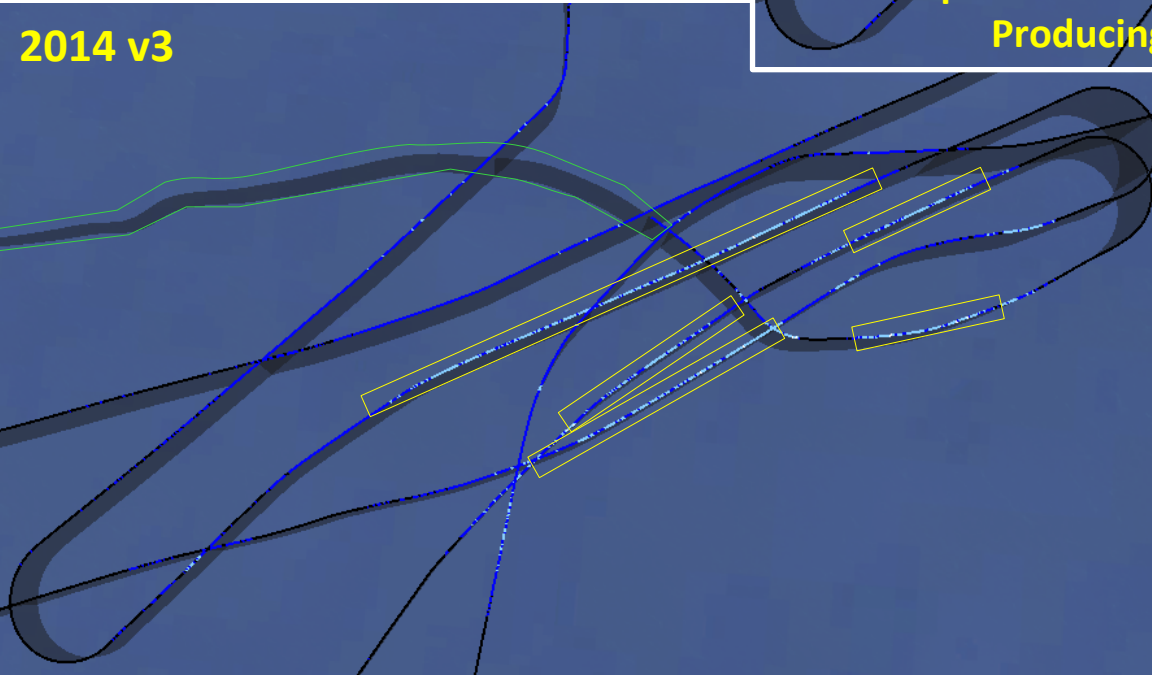
- NEW Data Added to the IKP Record Produces more HIWC Regions and More RRF

2015 v4

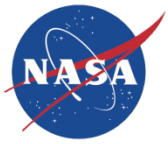


- Updated IKP Values Produced Longer Stretches of HIWC Producing More RRF and/or Preventing its Segregation

2014 v3

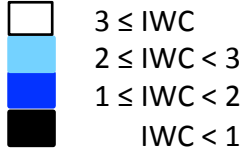


Flight Duration (s)			(g m ⁻³)
1 ≤ IWC < 2	2 ≤ IWC < 3	3 ≤ IWC	
17932	4214	478	v3
19381	4781	523	v4

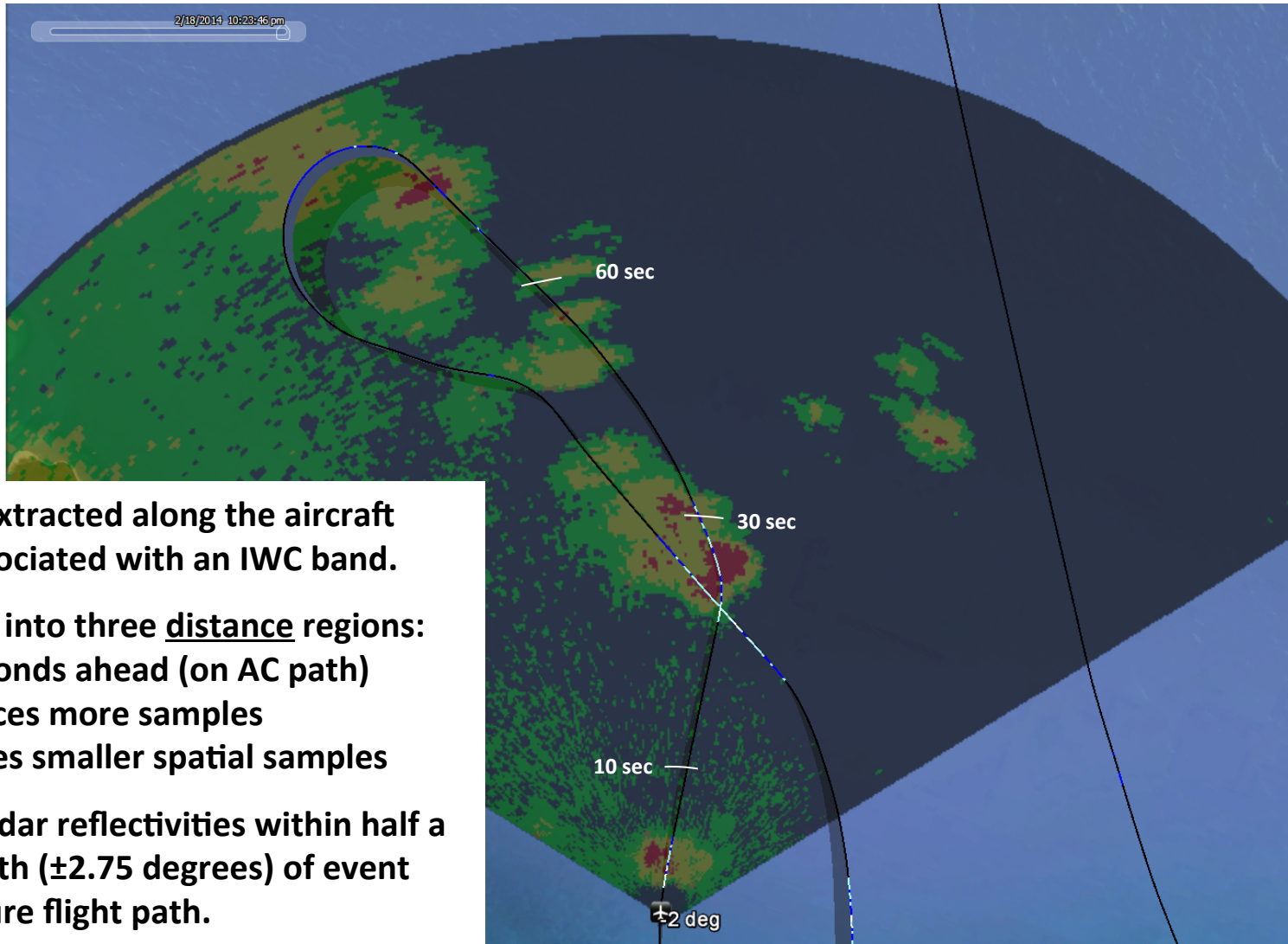
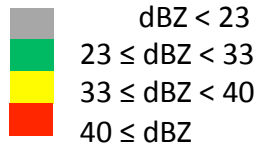


Gathering the Statistics

IKP Data (g/m^3)



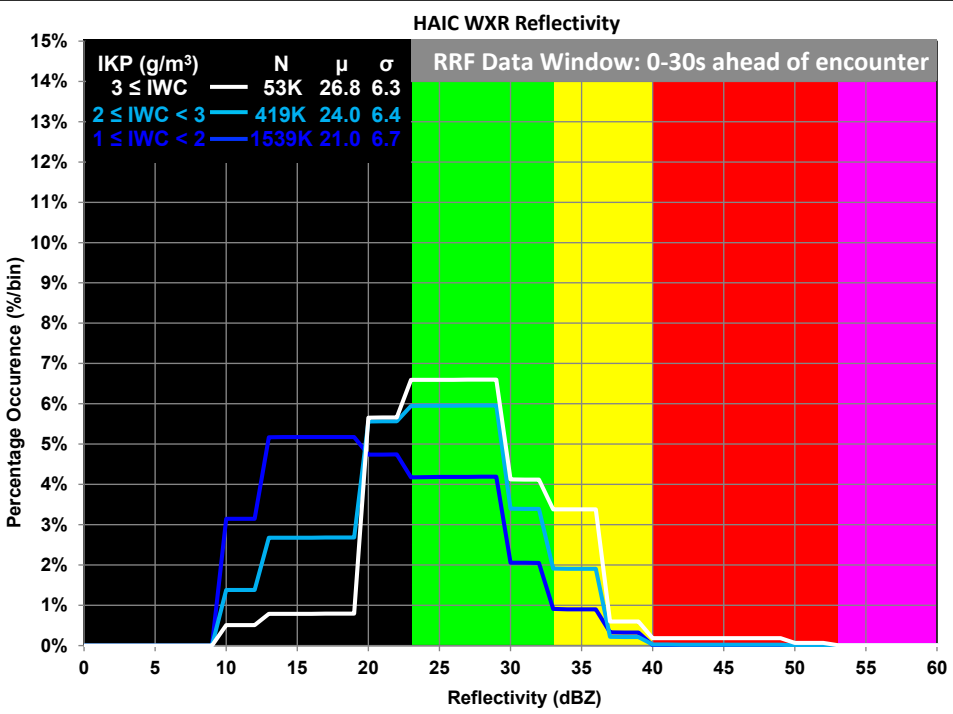
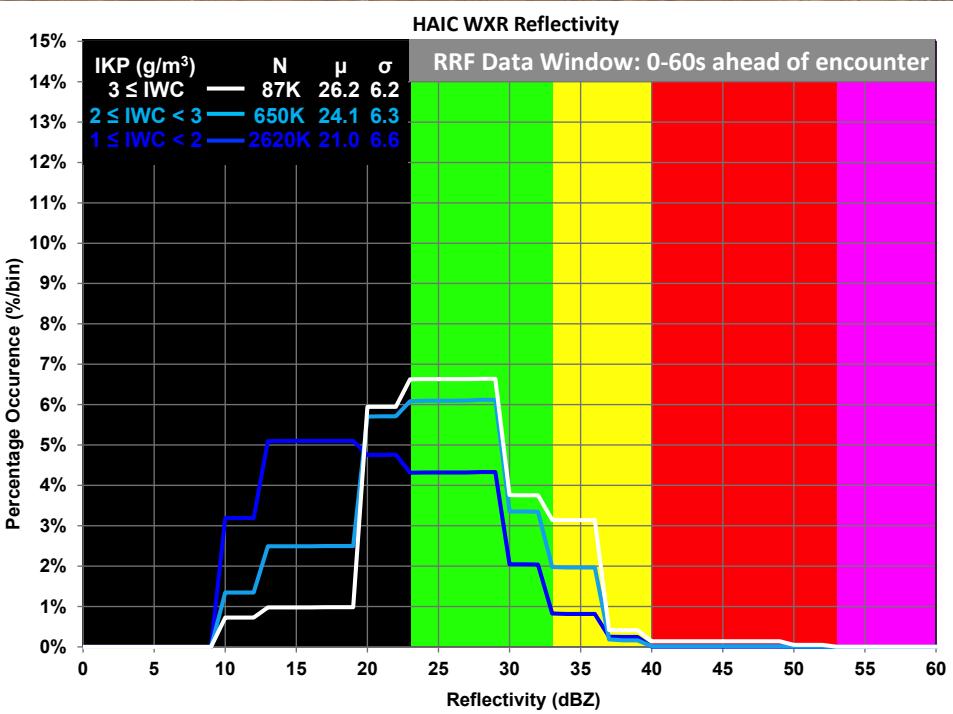
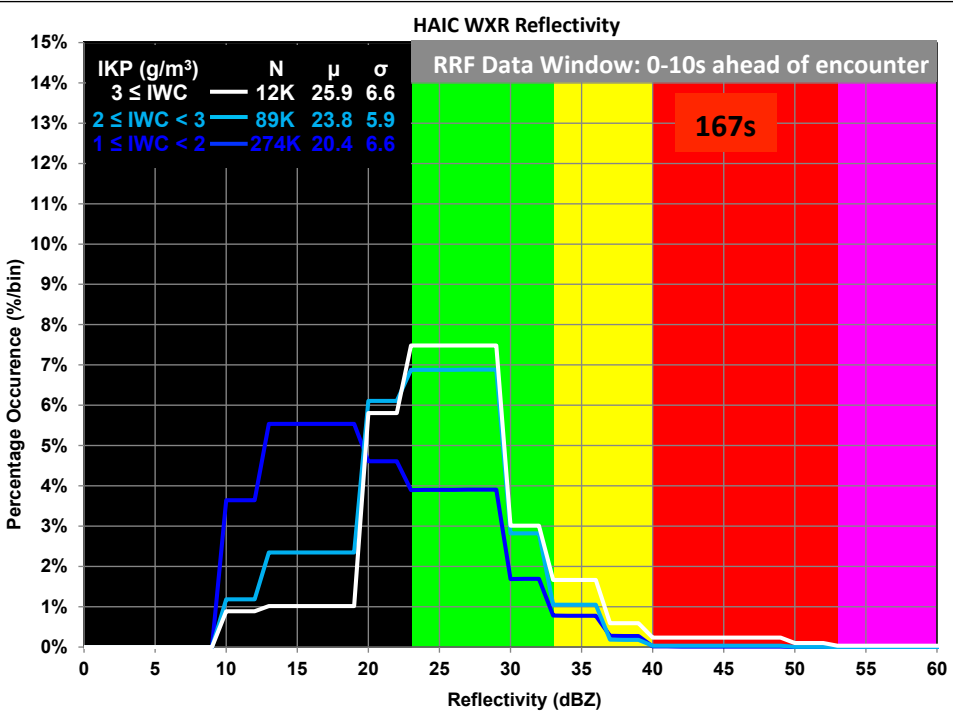
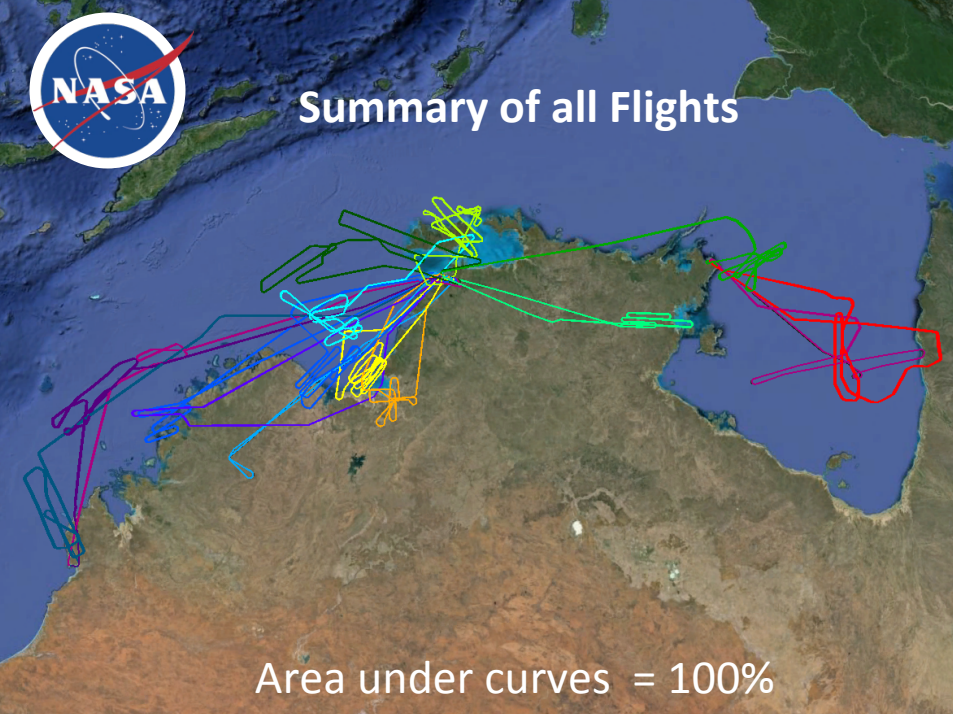
Radar Data

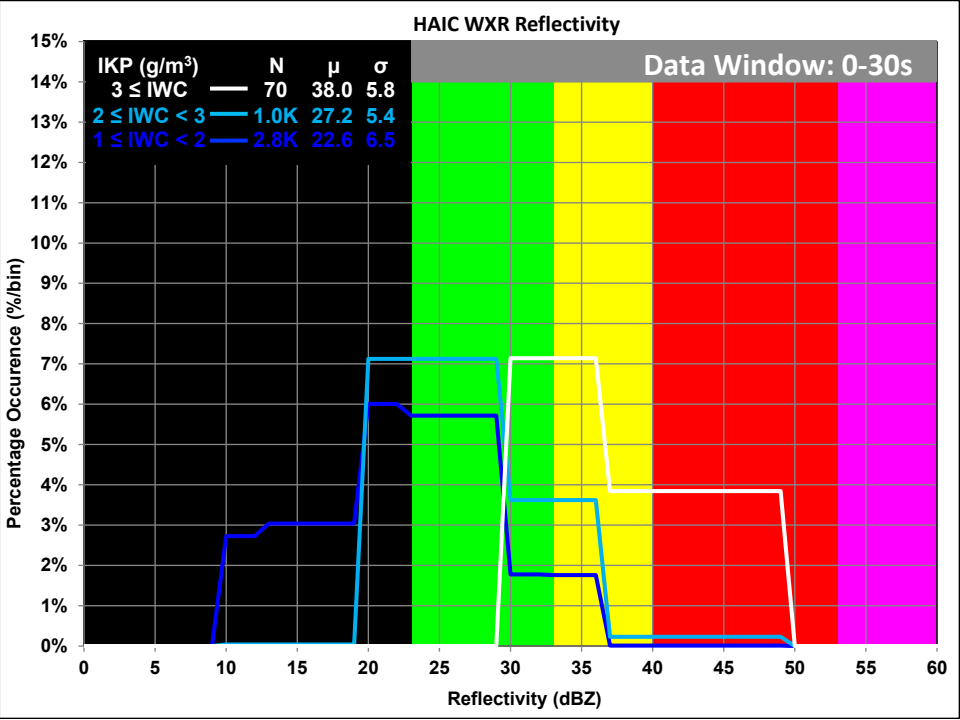
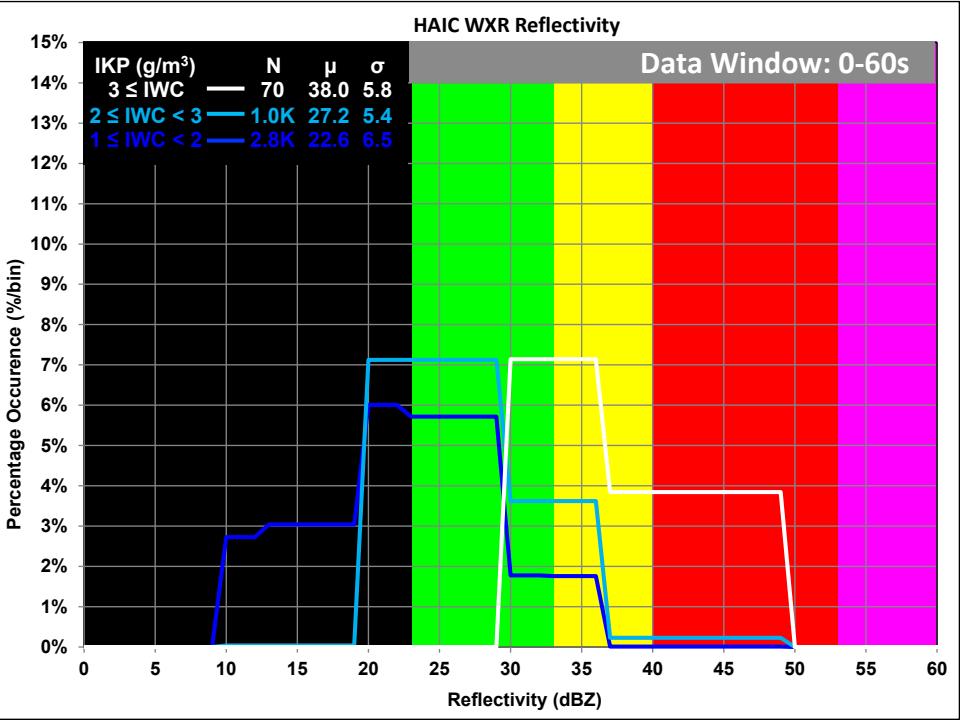
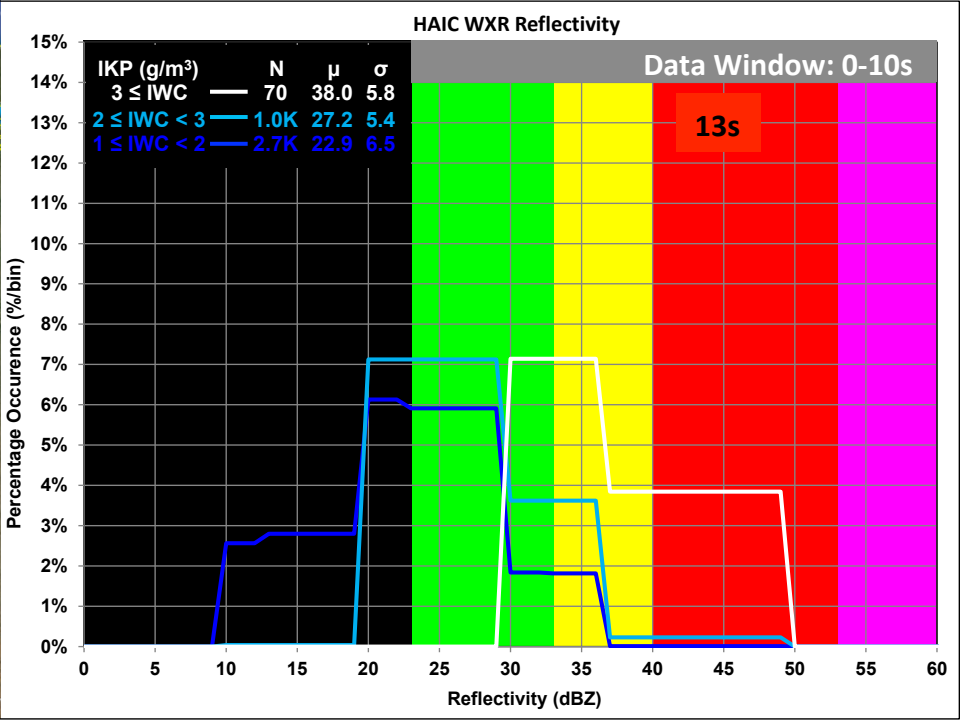
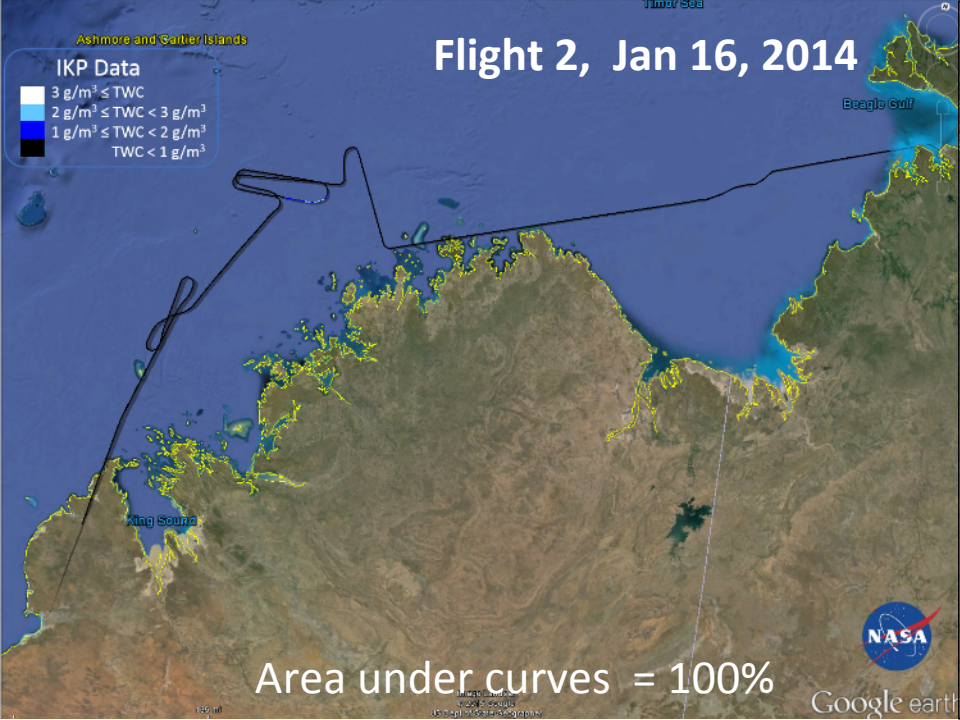


- Reflectivities are extracted along the aircraft flight path and associated with an IWC band.
- Data is segregated into three distance regions: 60, 30, and 10 seconds ahead (on AC path)
 - farther: produces more samples
 - closer: produces smaller spatial samples
- Extract multiple radar reflectivities within half a azimuth beam width (± 2.75 degrees) of event position along future flight path.
- Altitude of radar bin must be within $\pm 500'$ of IKP altitude



Summary of all Flights

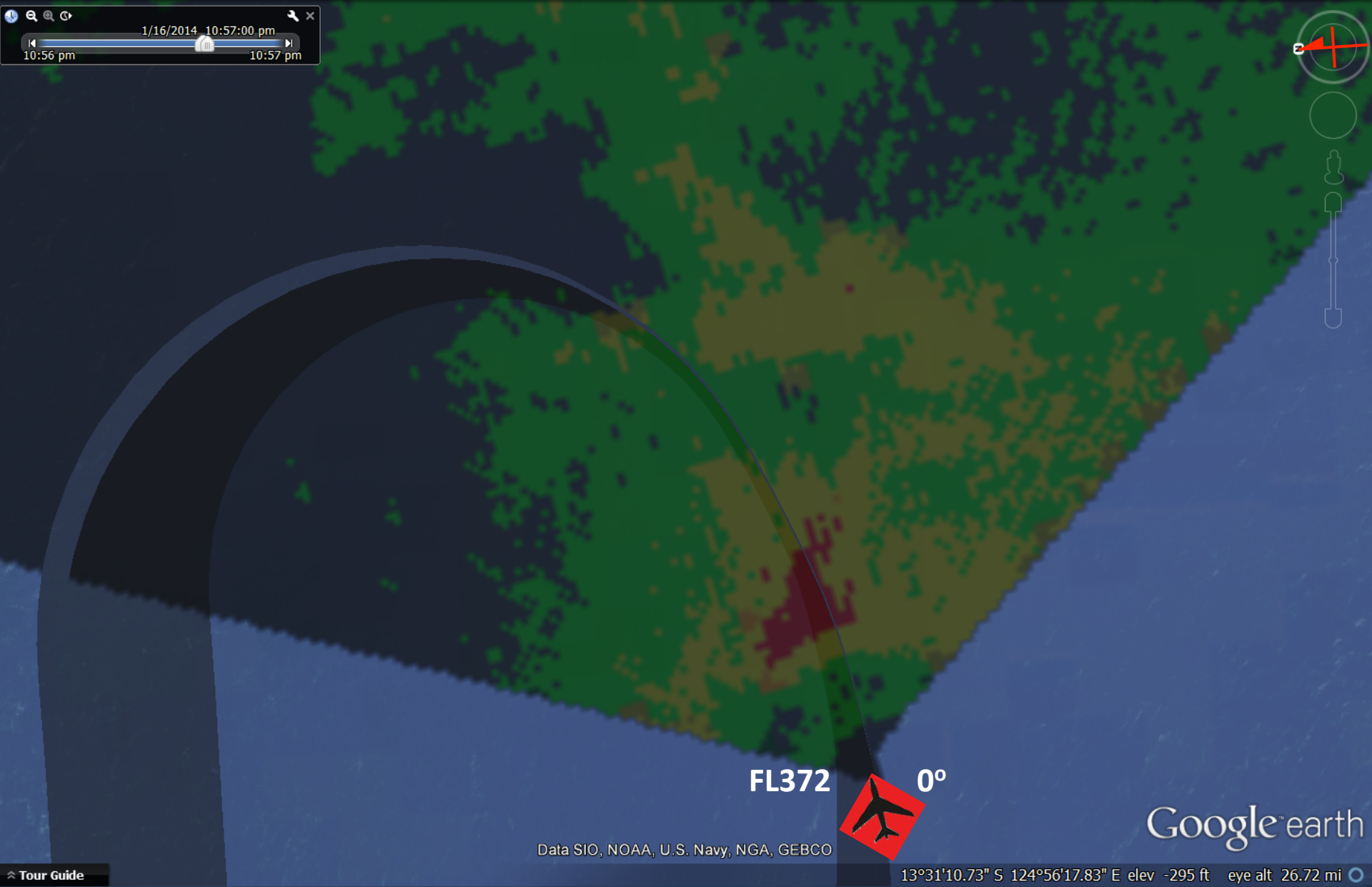






Radar Scan Just Prior to Entry into RED RRF 16 Jan 2014

1/16/2014 10:57:00 pm
10:56 pm 10:57 pm



FL372 0°



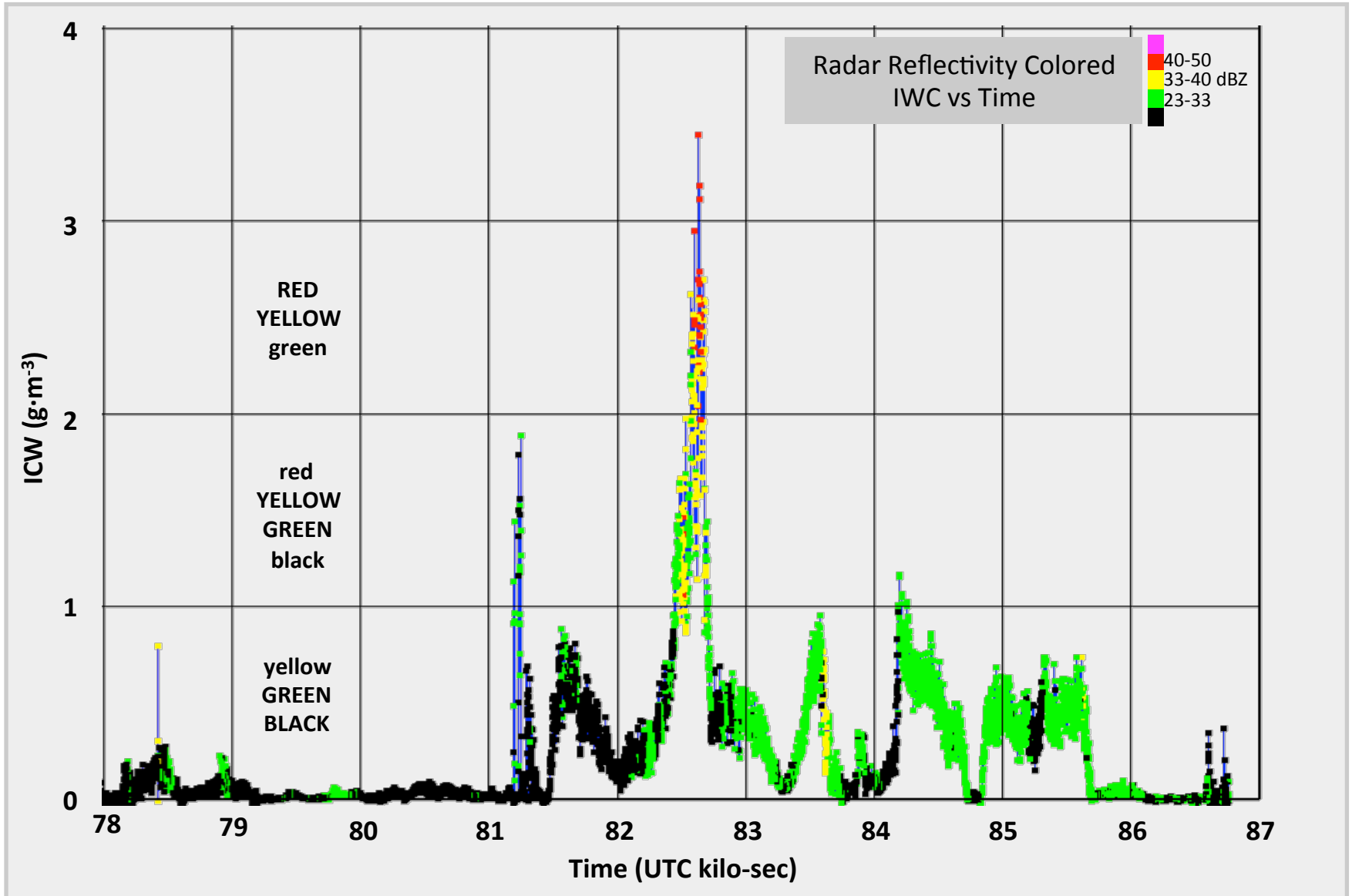
Google earth

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

13°31'10.73" S 124°56'17.83" E elev -295 ft eye alt 26.72 mi

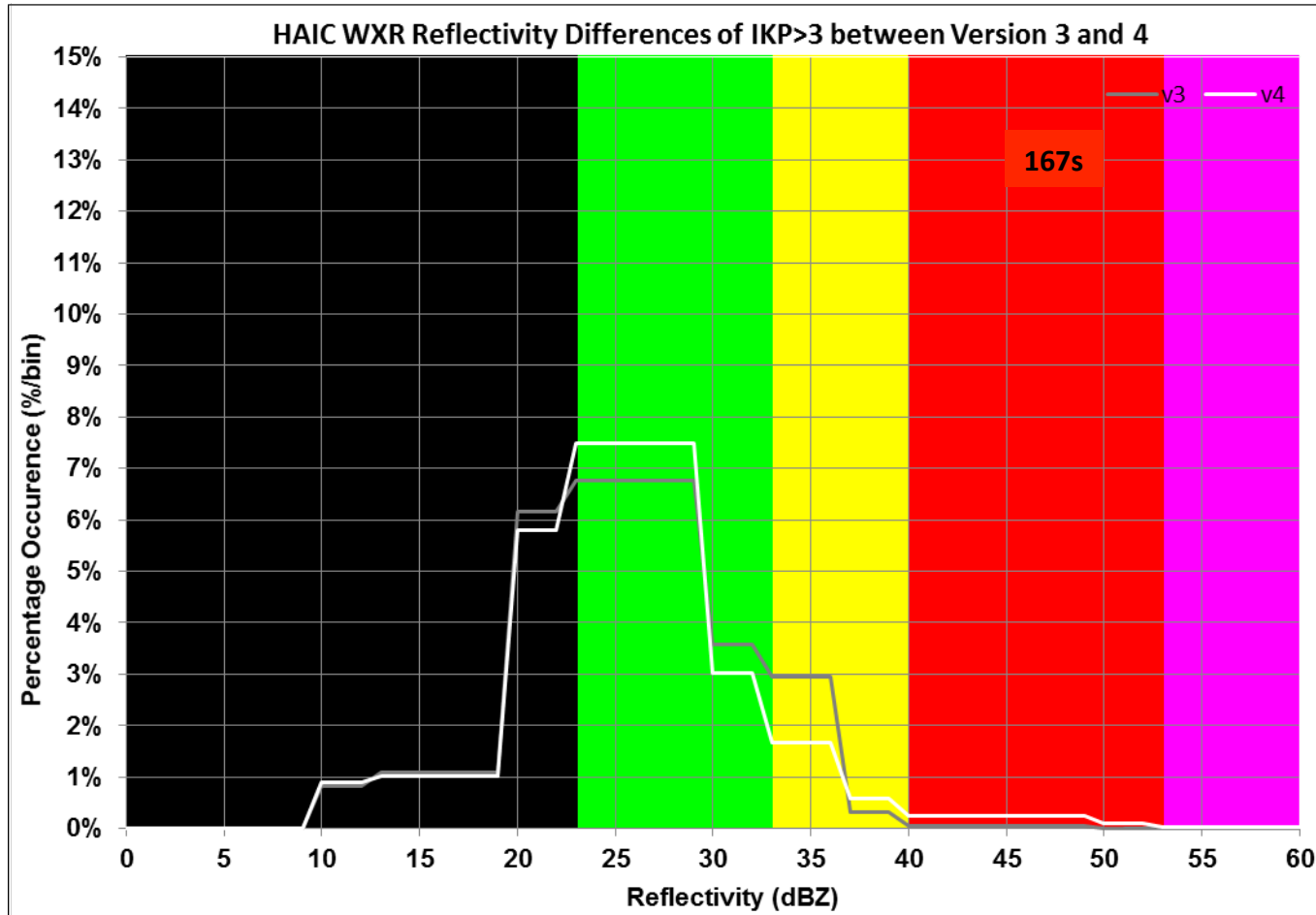


Data collected and results "so far"





Flight into RED Impact on Reflectivity Stats (Summary)



Note: minor increase in histogram's tail
produces negligible affect on mean
only slight increase in standard deviation

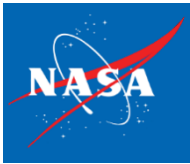


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UPDATED Conclusions (Additional)

- NEW IKP dataset - redefines the regions (flight path segments) which we call HAIC and which we use to calculate/correlate with radar reflectivity.
- As a consequence of these added flight segments and especially in light of flight segments within regions of higher reflectivity (YELLOW/RED):
 - now see statistics over a broader range of radar reflectivities (previous results suggested a reflectivity upper bound while in HAIC conditions (unrealistic)).
 - concern that higher reflectivities may bias stats – while stats for individual days were sometimes affected, the small amount of time in these conditions has not altered the summary statistics.
 - Rain Gauge effects (ie, reflectivity proportional to TWC) were observed (however it is still not dominant effect). The previous data suggested a more truncated PSD and a different meteorology in HIWC conditions than normal convective storms.
- Radar Reflectivity Dominated by PSD Shape (more so than Rain Gauge effect)
 - consequently Radar Reflectivity ALONE is insufficient to estimating IWC (unless Alain's hypothesis is correct and OAT can collapse the IWC variability).

HAIC-HIWC Science Team Meeting
09-13 November 2015

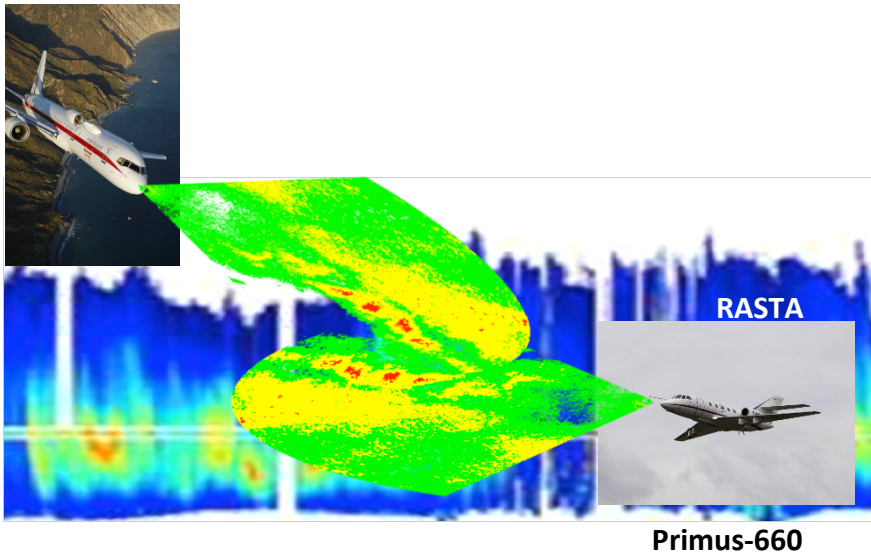


Future Work

Radar Reflectivity Comparison

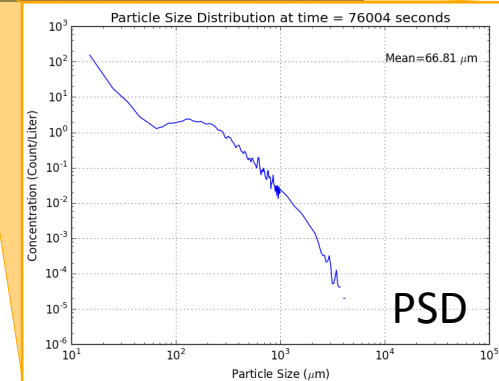
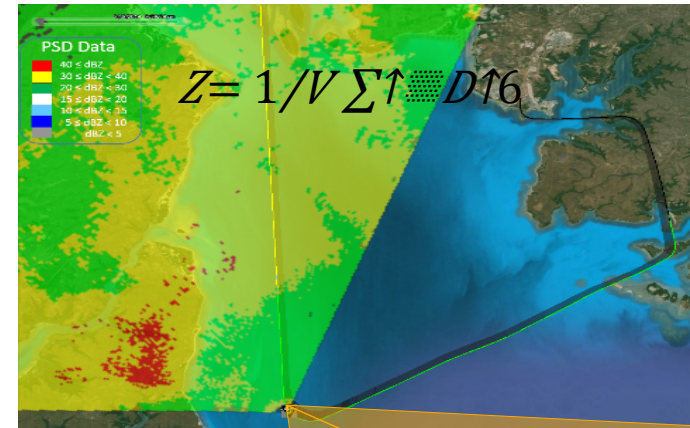
- Compare different radar data observations of the same HAIC event
- $Z_{F20} \vee Z_{757} \vee Z_{RASTA}$
- Spatial and temporal correlation
- Post process Recorded I&Q data
- Compute reflectivity + other signature

RDR info



Radar Comparison to Particle Data

- Compute theoretical radar reflectivity from particle size distributions
- $Z_X \vee Z_W \vee Z_{PSD}$
- Correlate with radar measurements



BACK-UP CHARTS

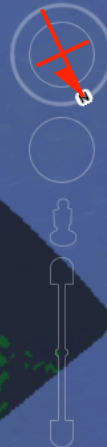
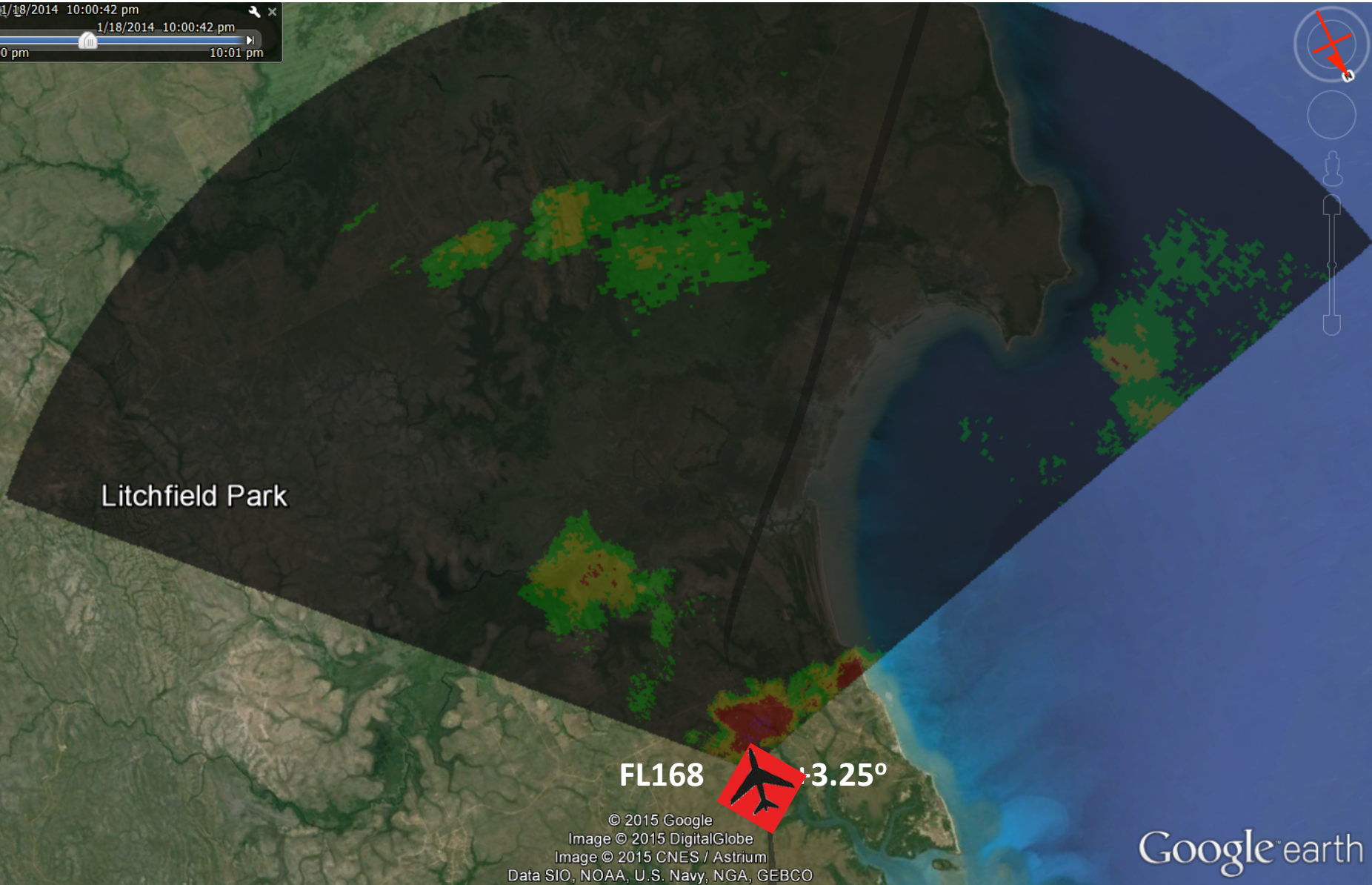
***INCLUDING:
DAY-BY-DAY STATS
&***

***CHARTS FROM PREVIOUS (PARIS)
HAIC-HIWC SCIENCE TEAM MEETING***



Radar Scan Just Prior to Entry in RED RRF 18 Jan 2014

1/18/2014 10:00:42 pm
1/18/2014 10:00:42 pm
10:00 pm 10:01 pm



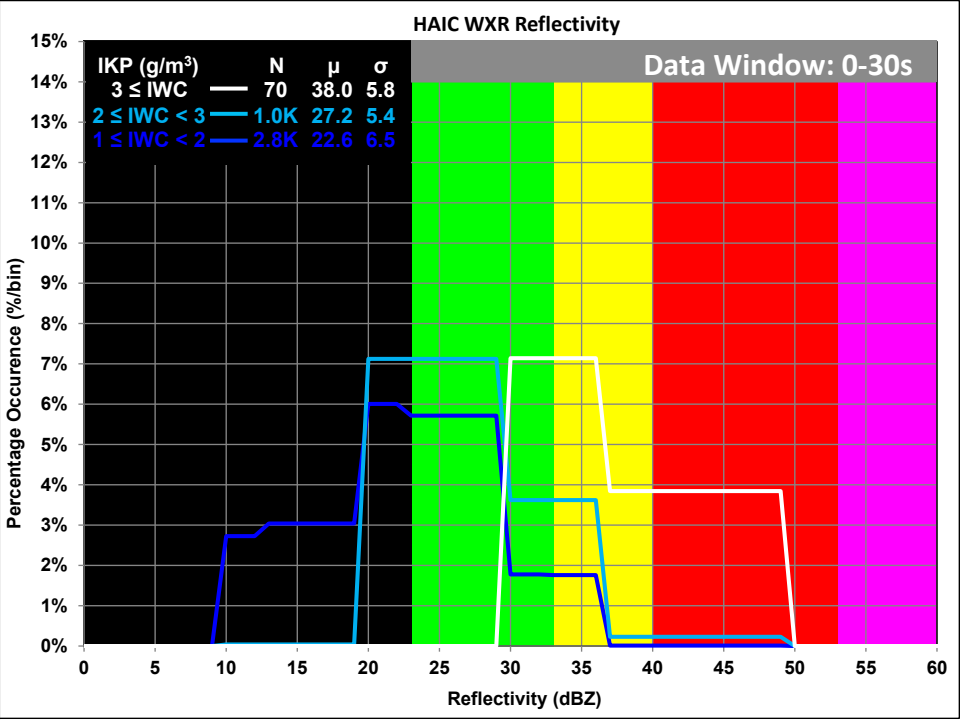
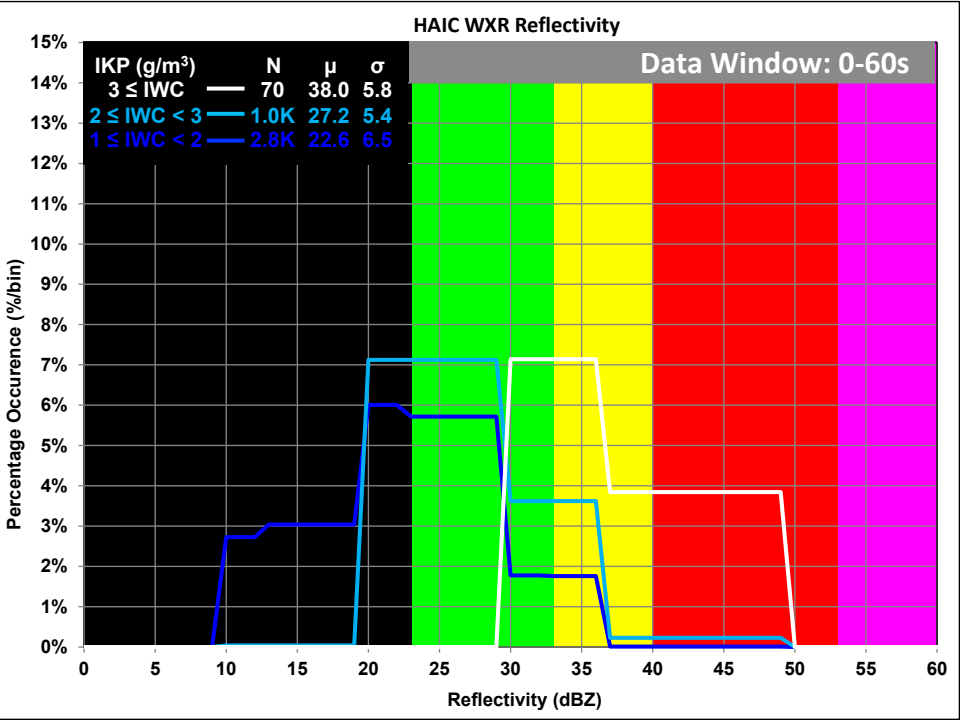
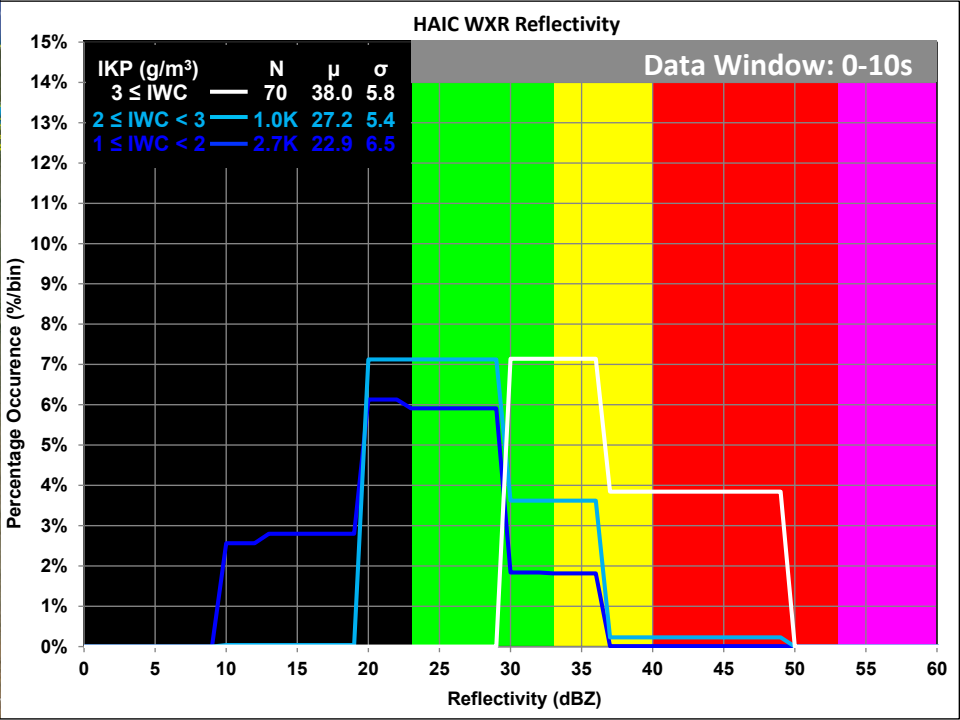
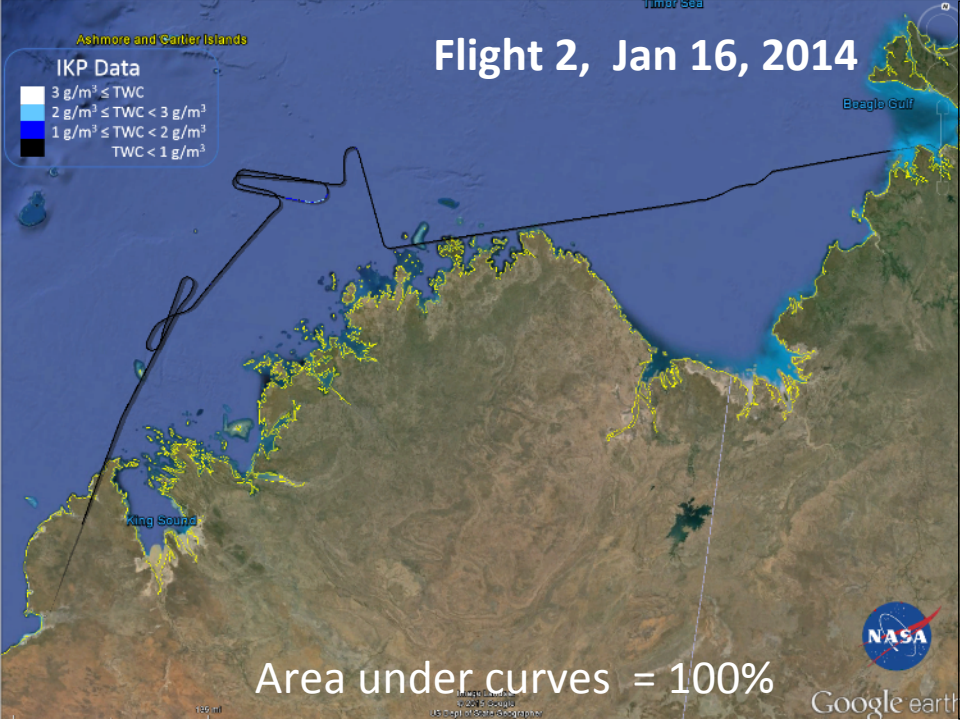
FL168

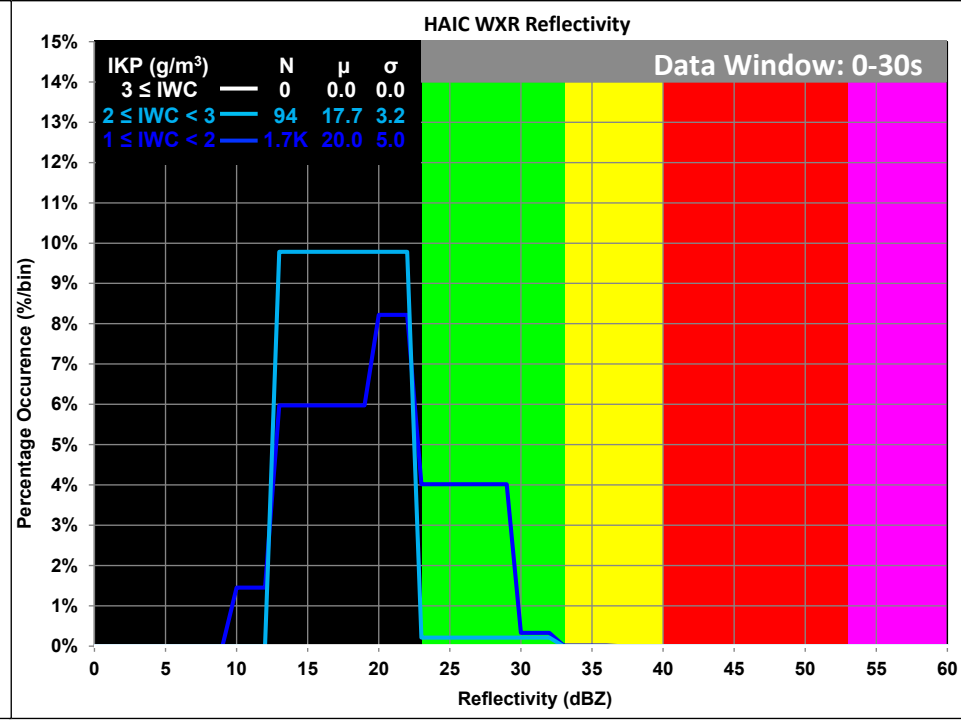
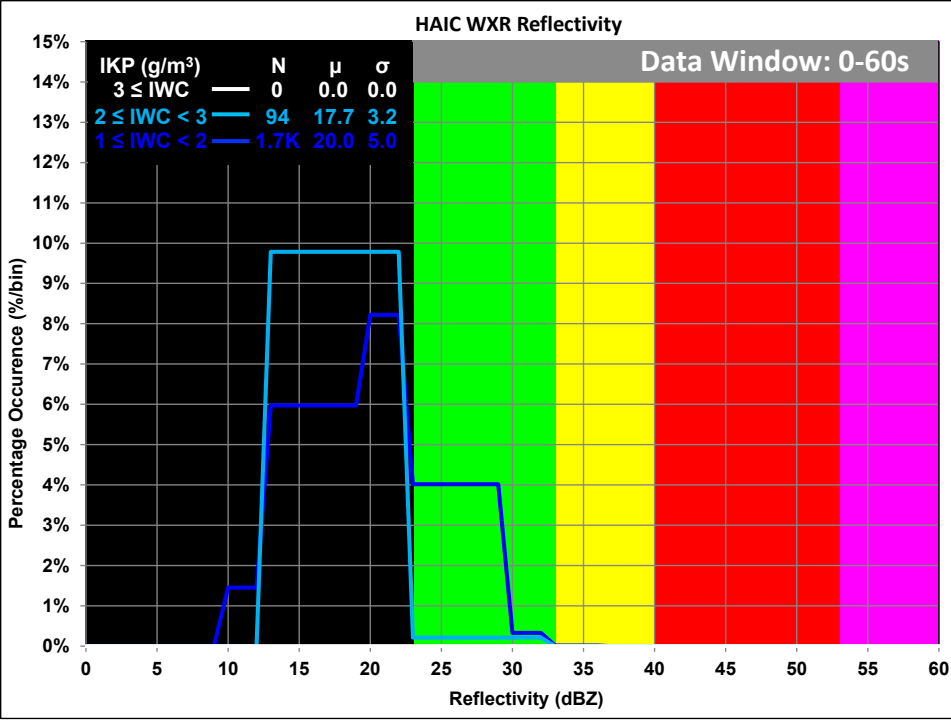
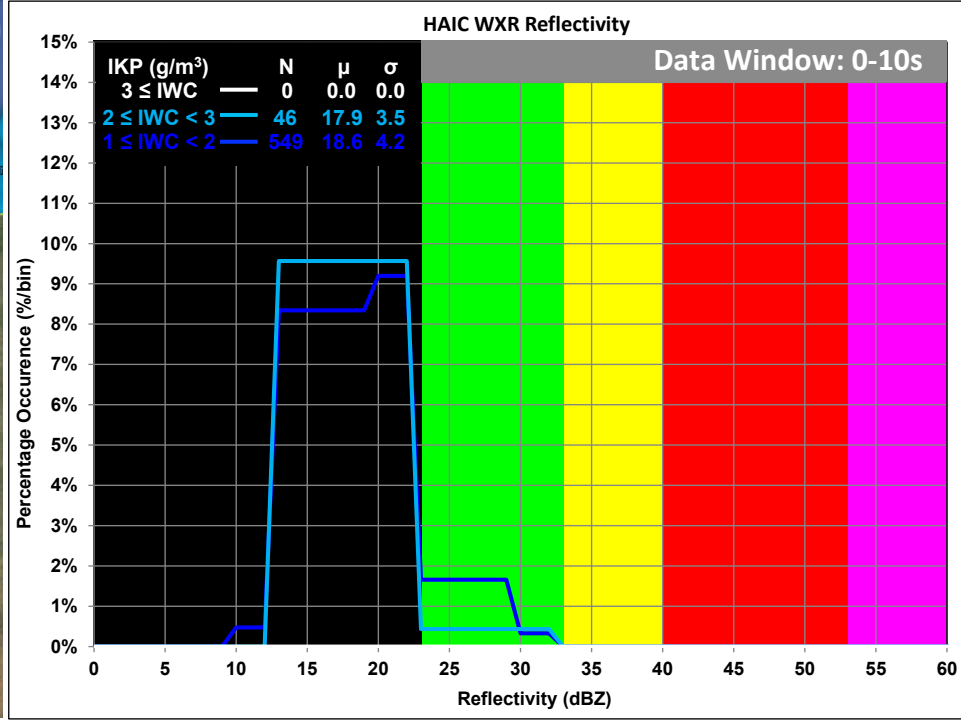
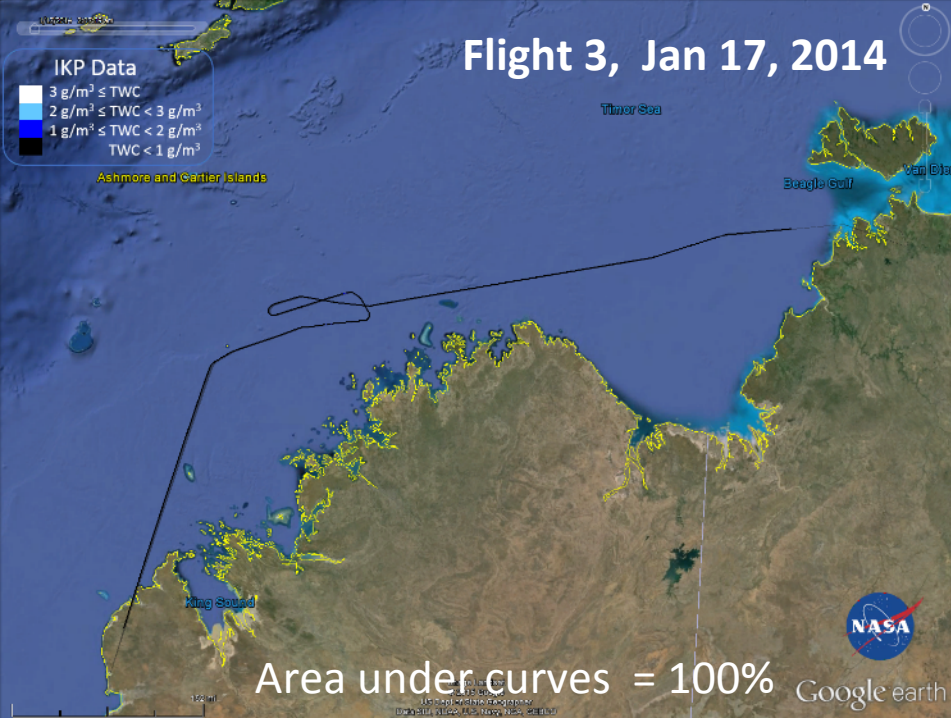


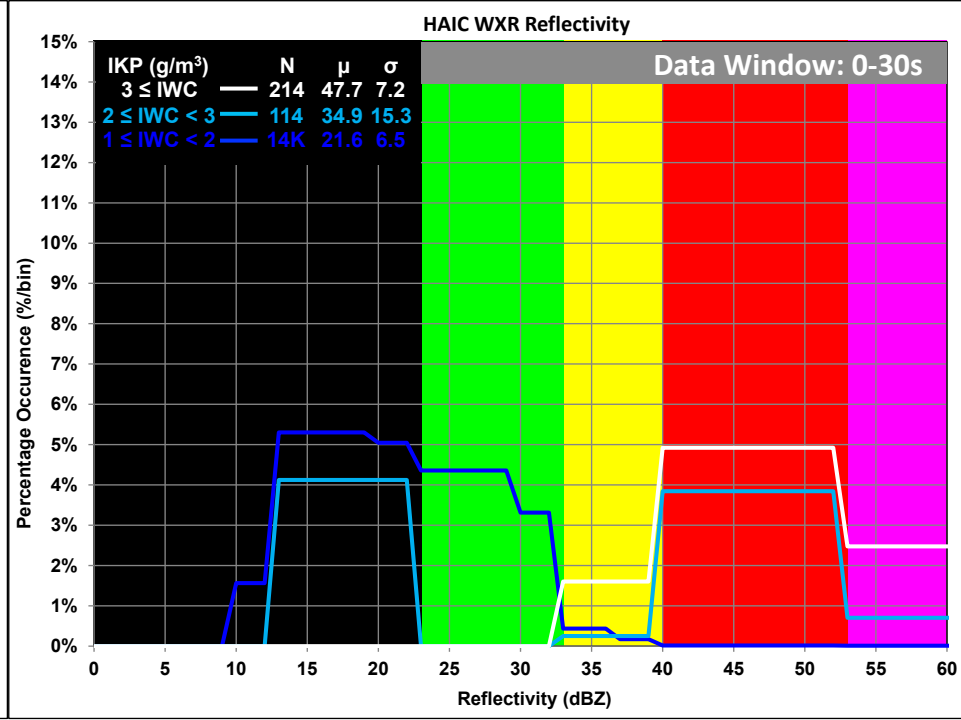
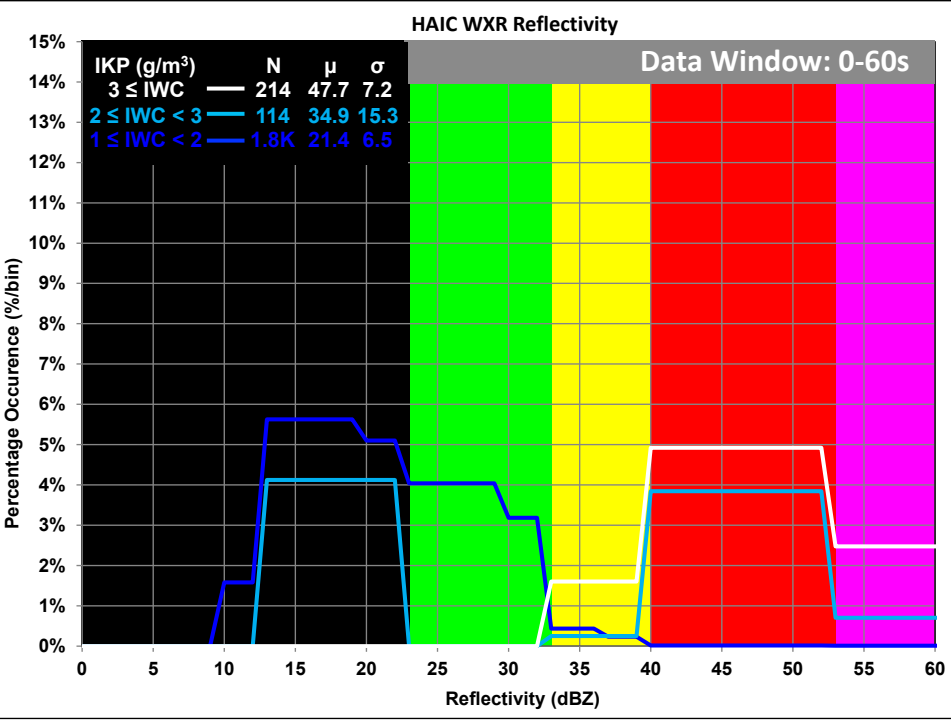
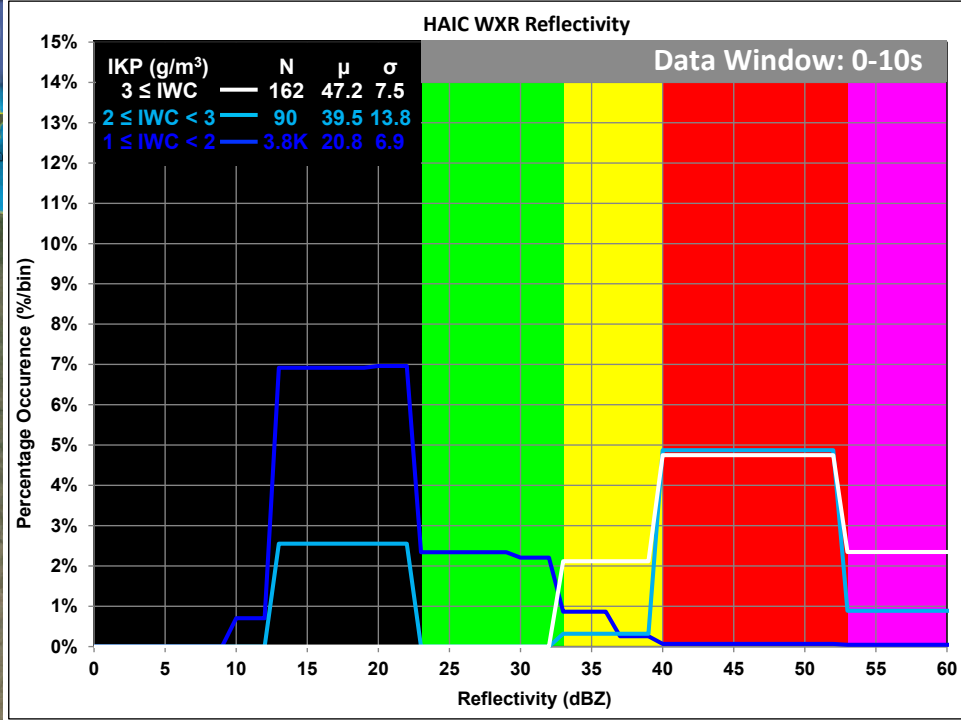
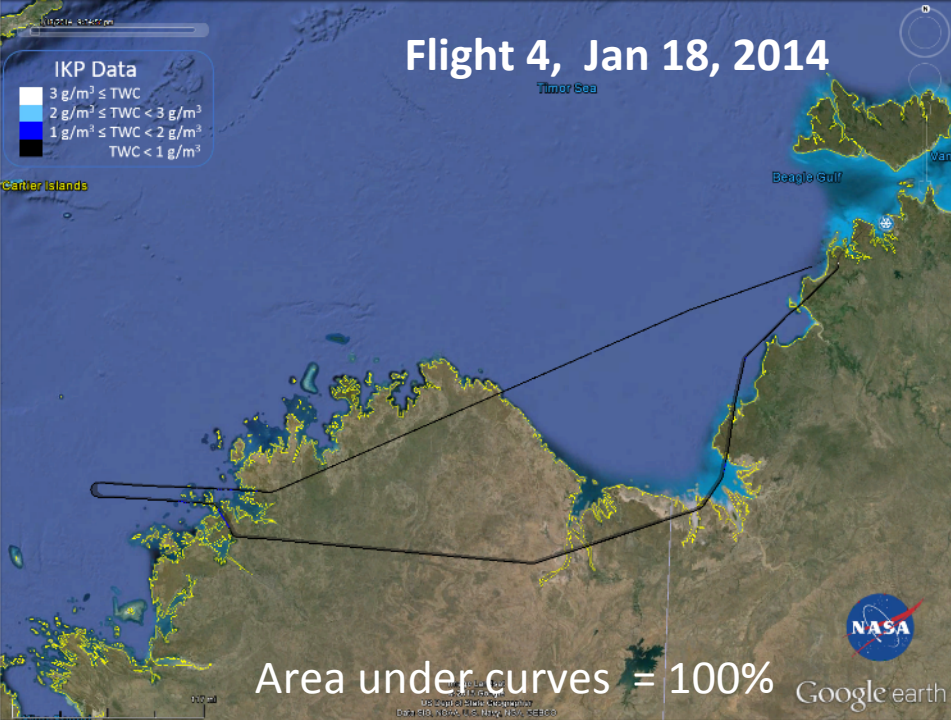
3.25°

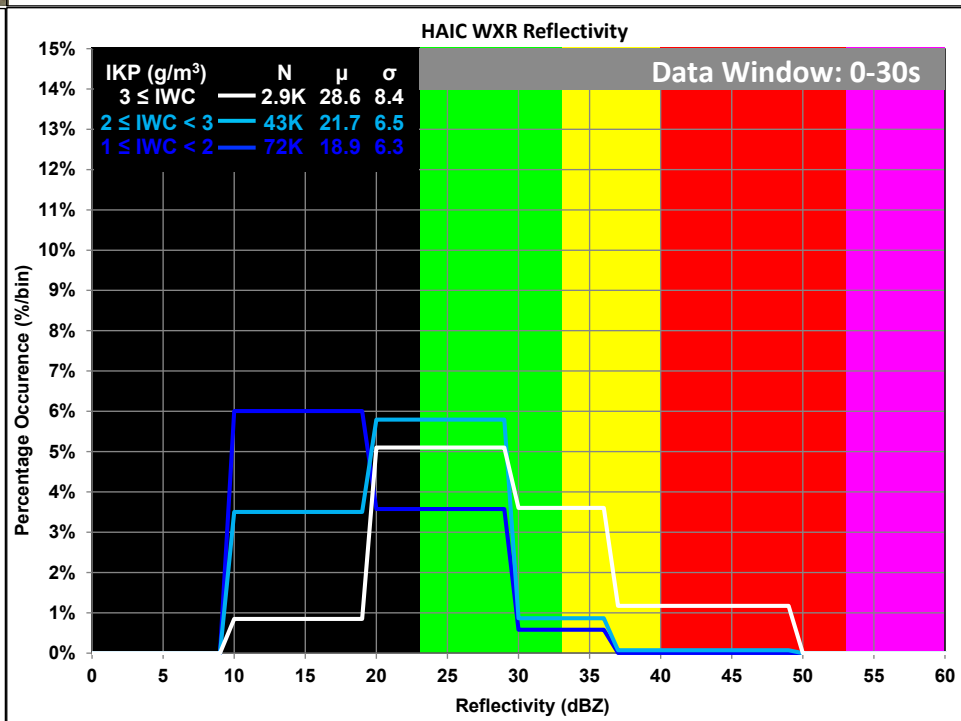
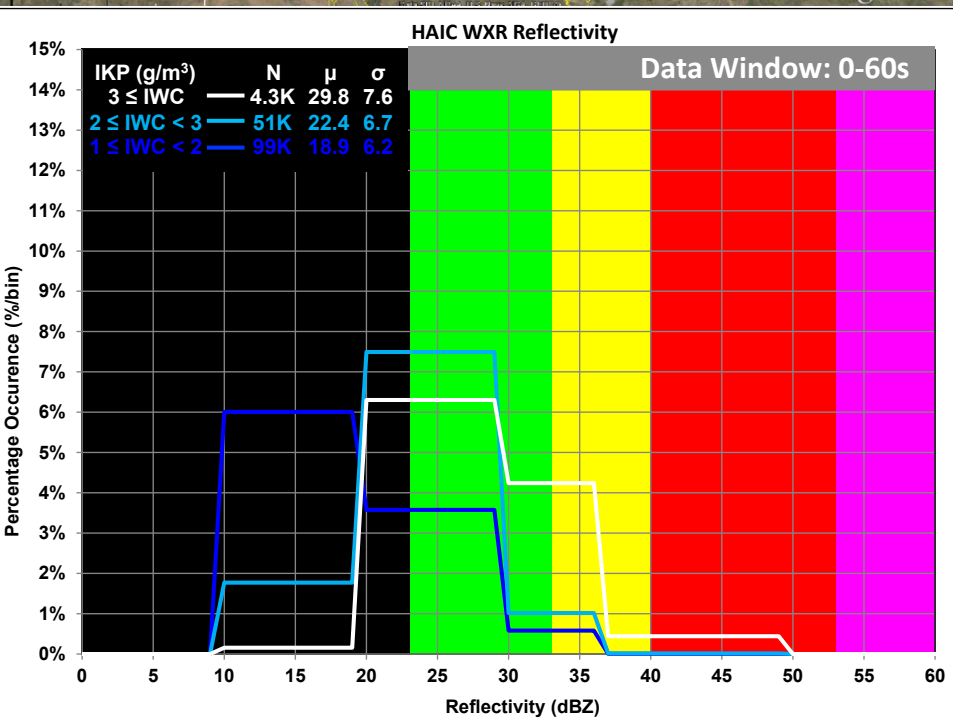
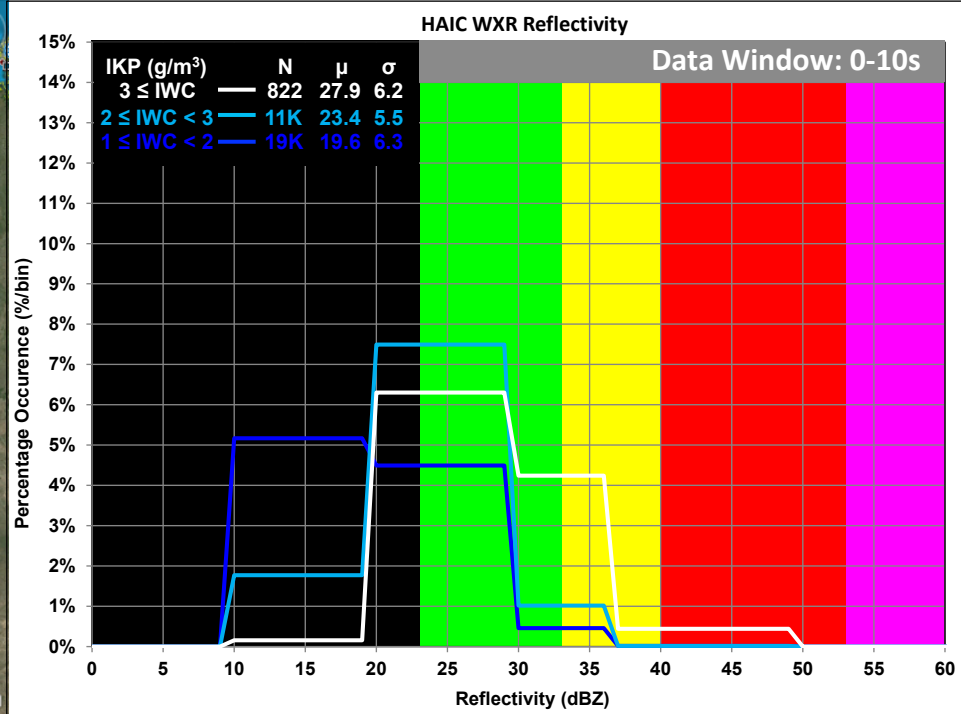
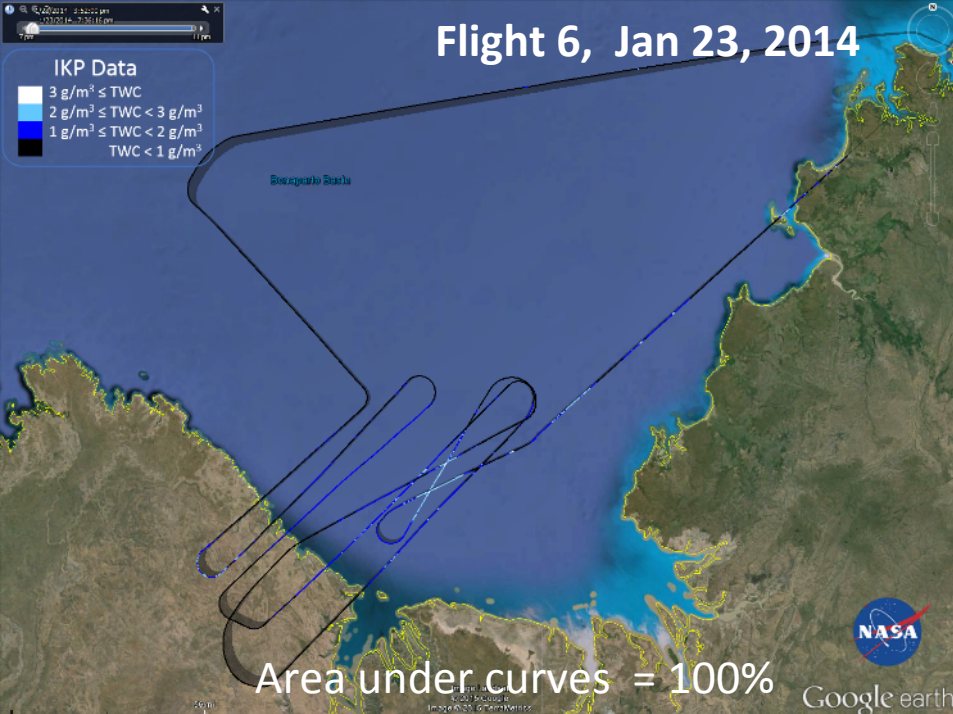
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Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

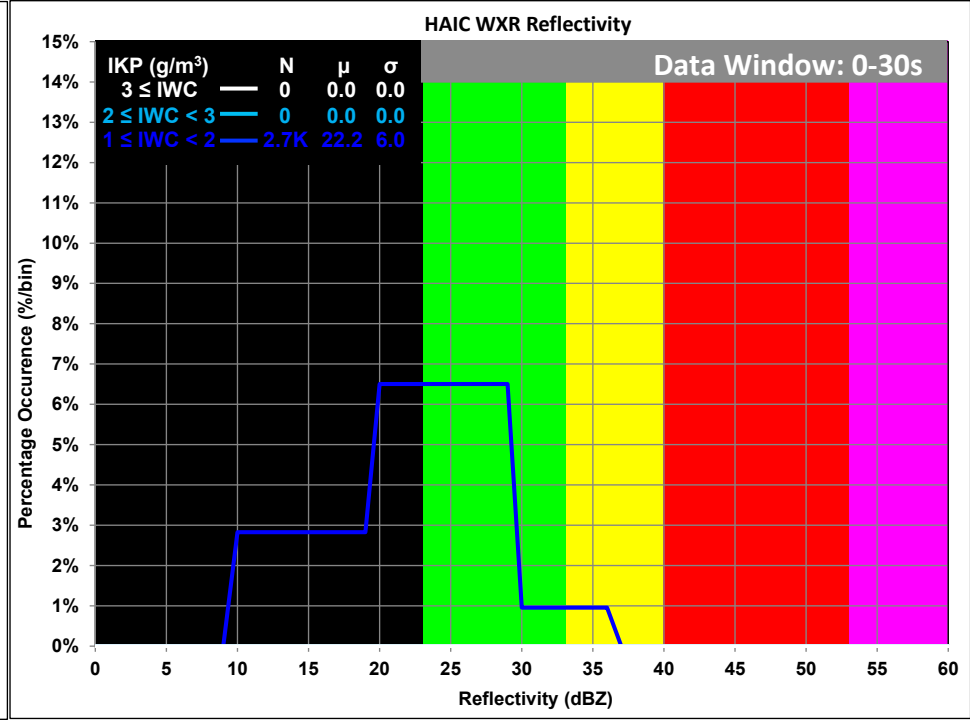
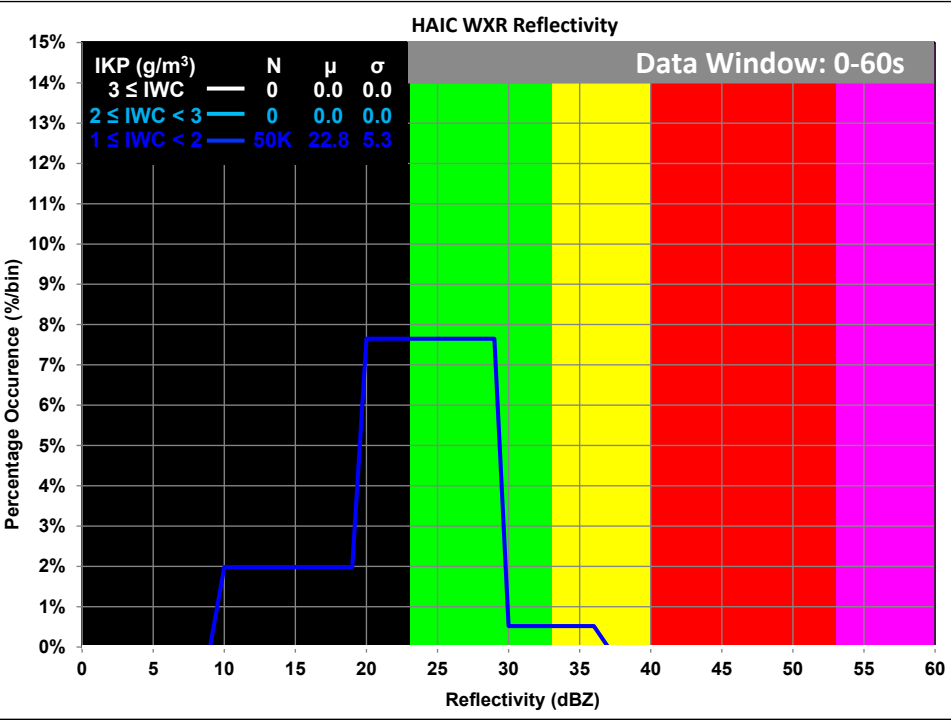
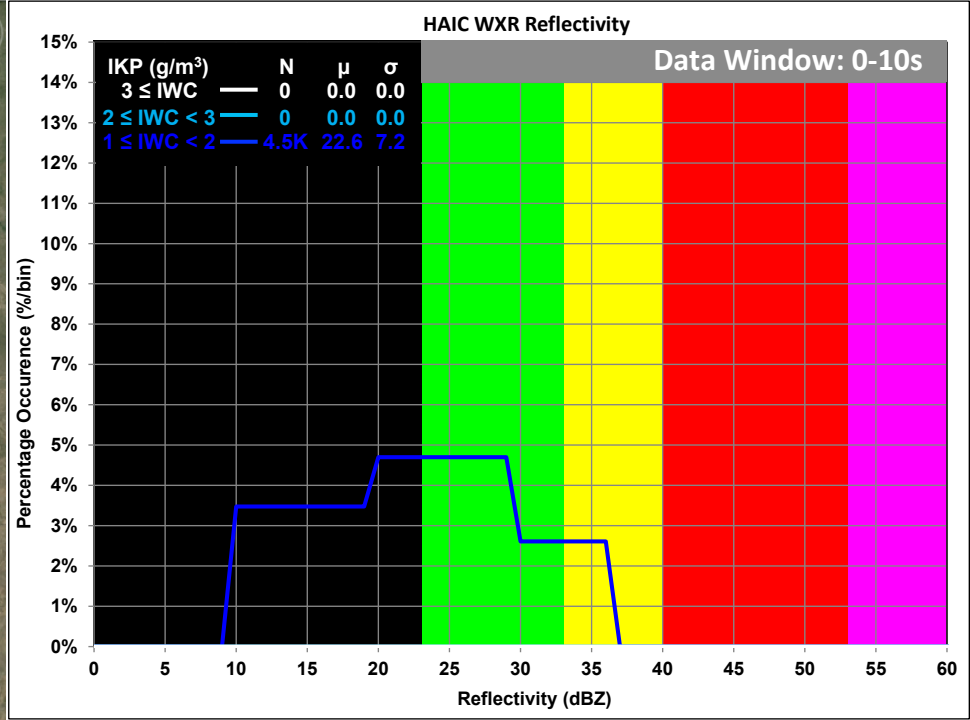
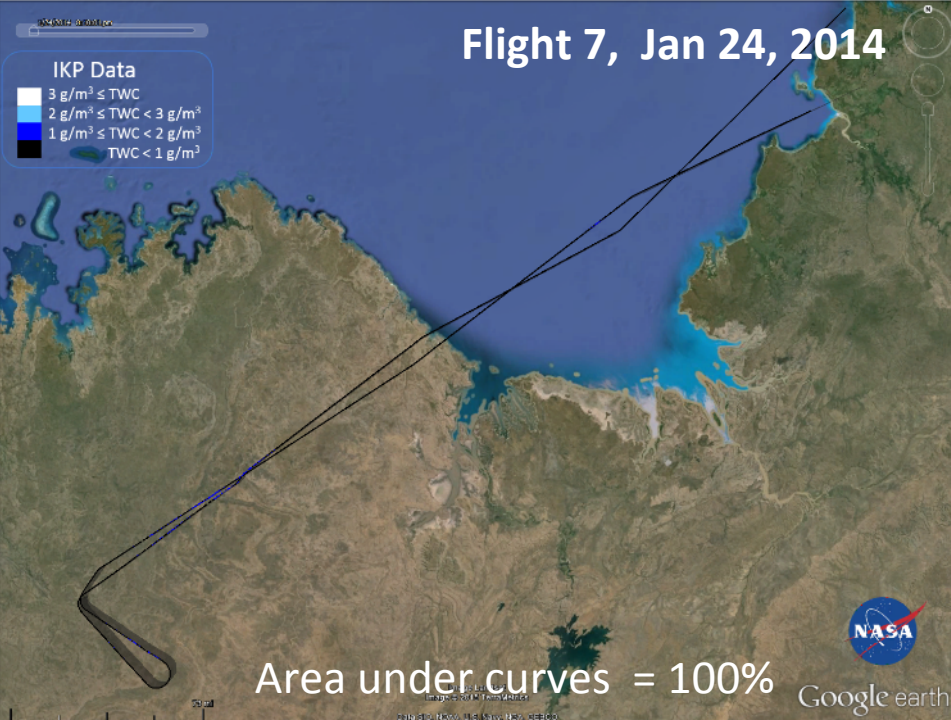
Google earth

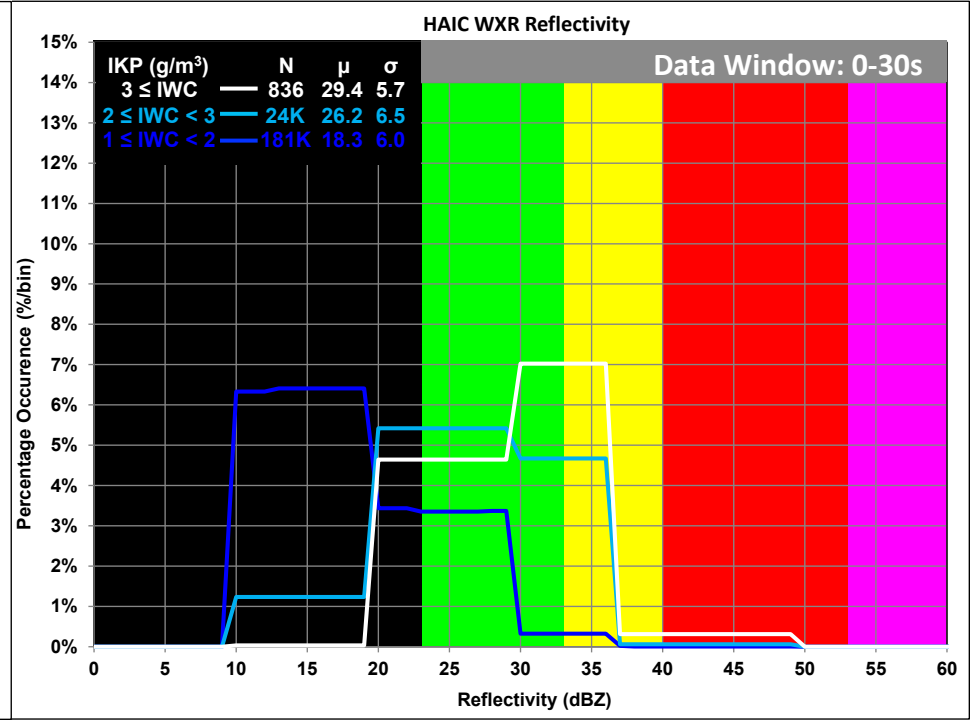
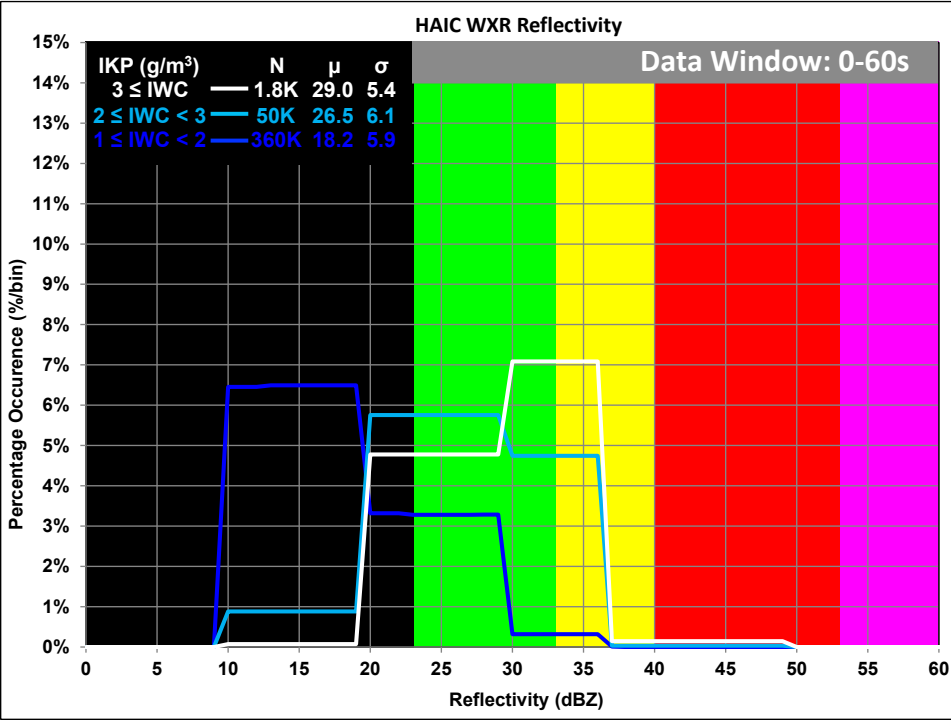
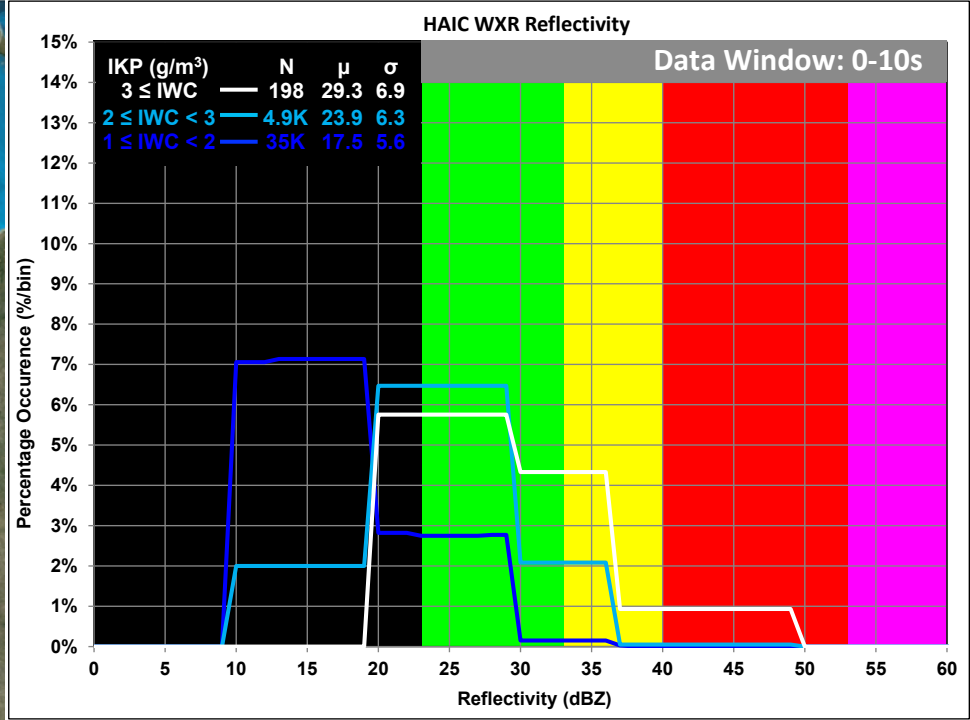
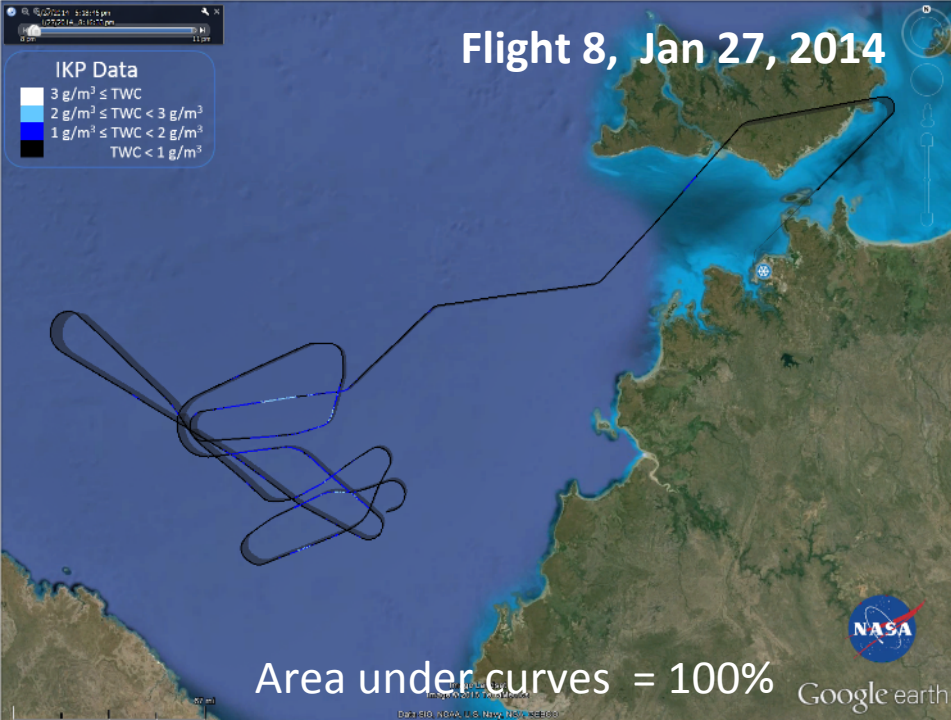


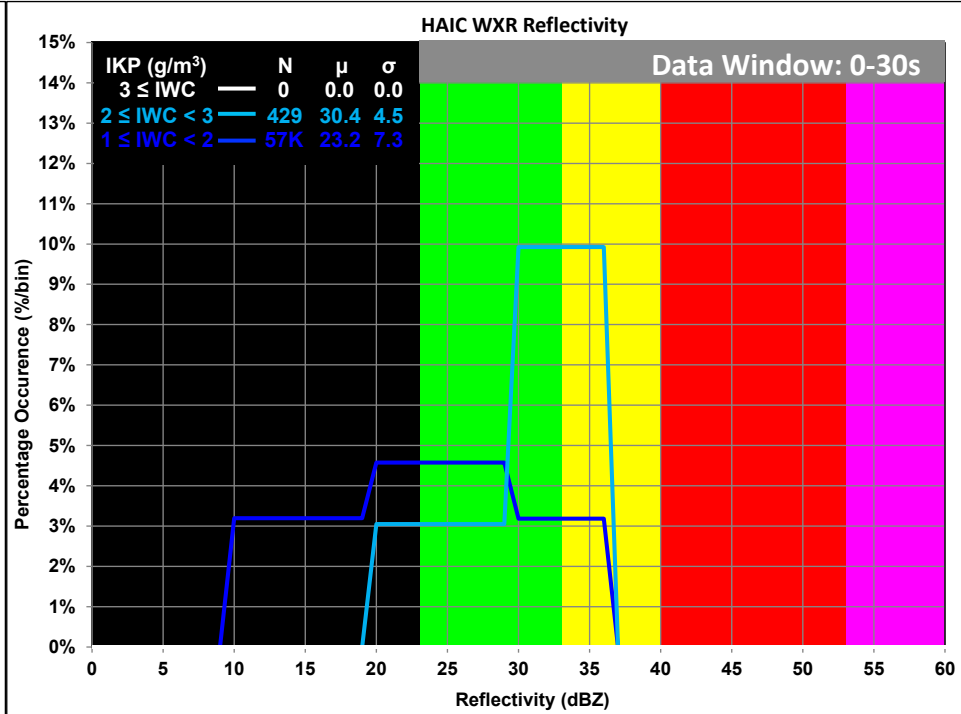
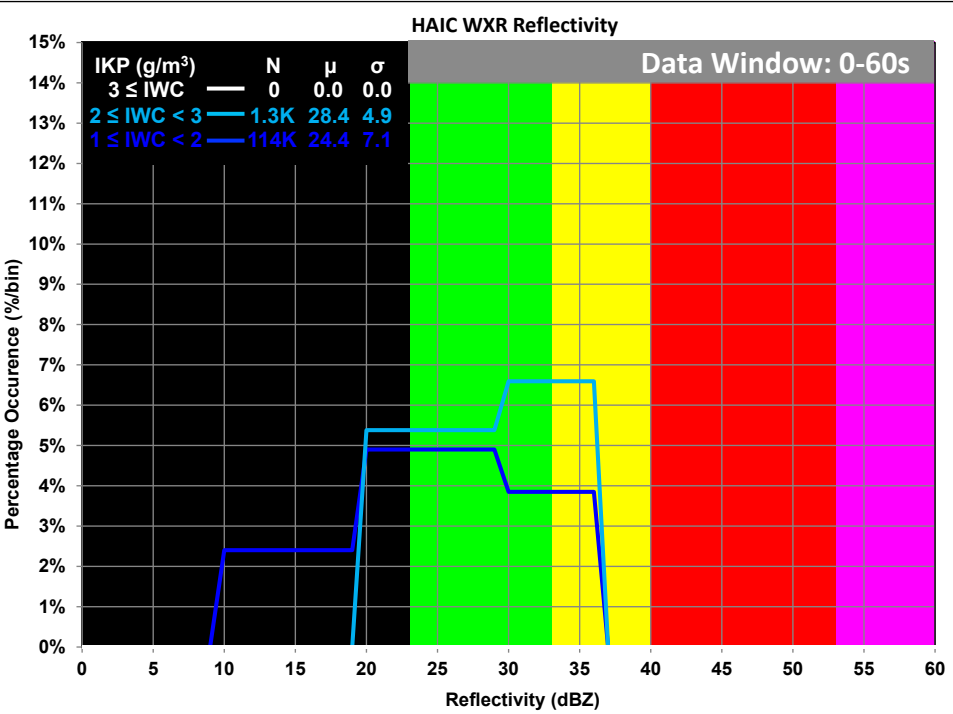
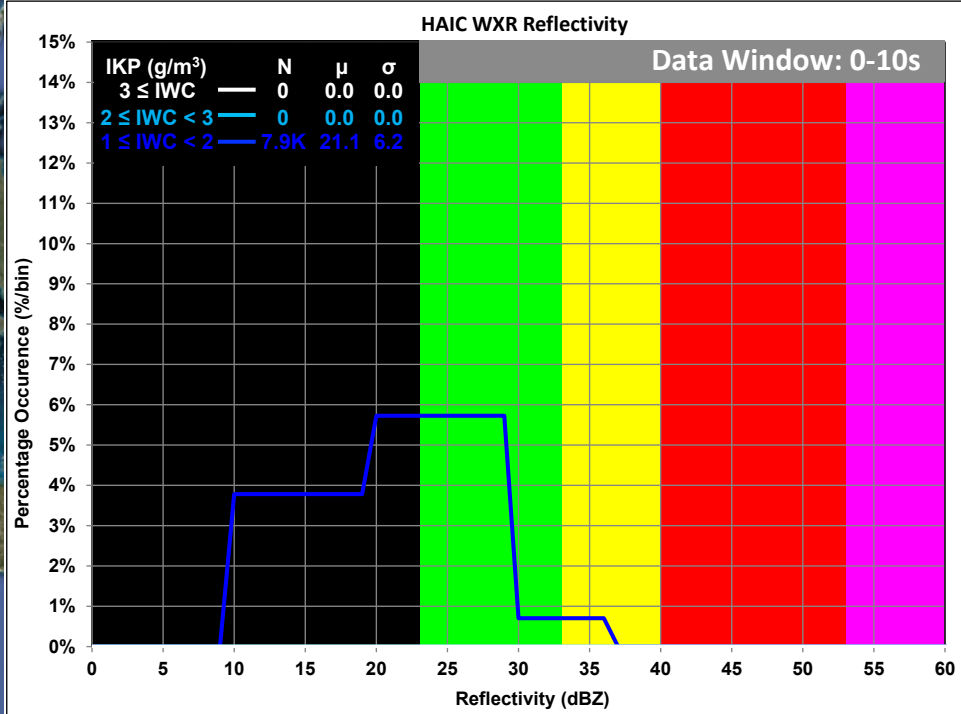
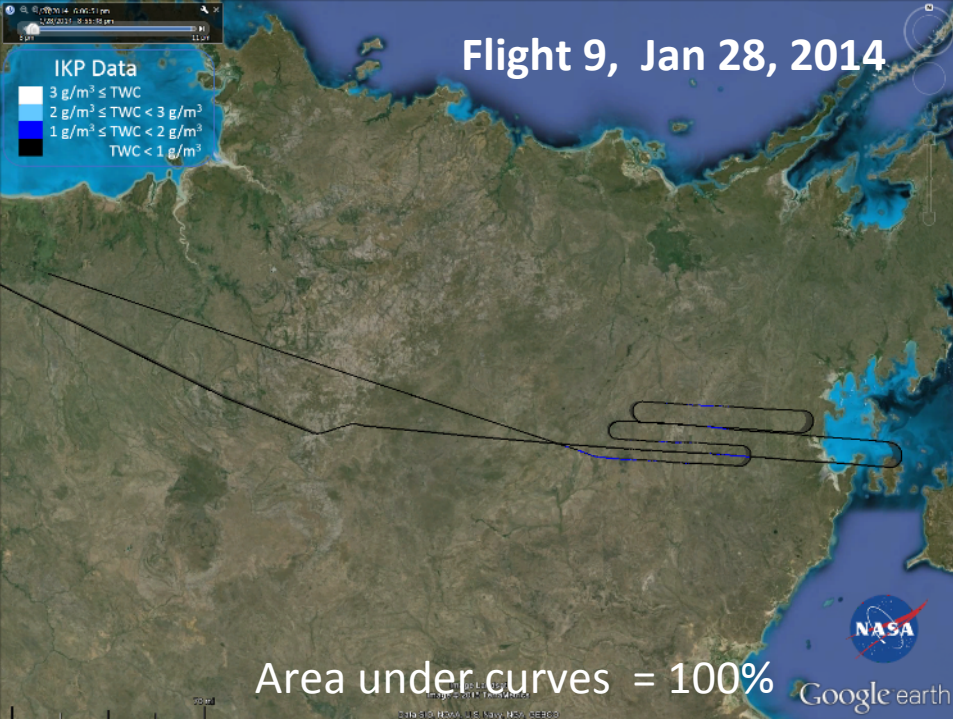




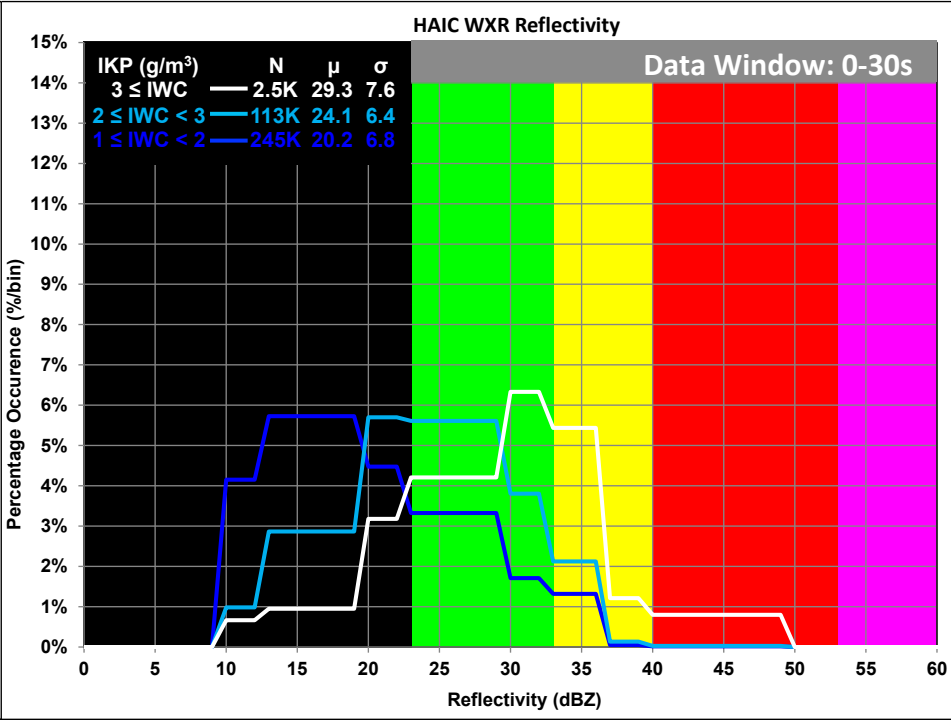
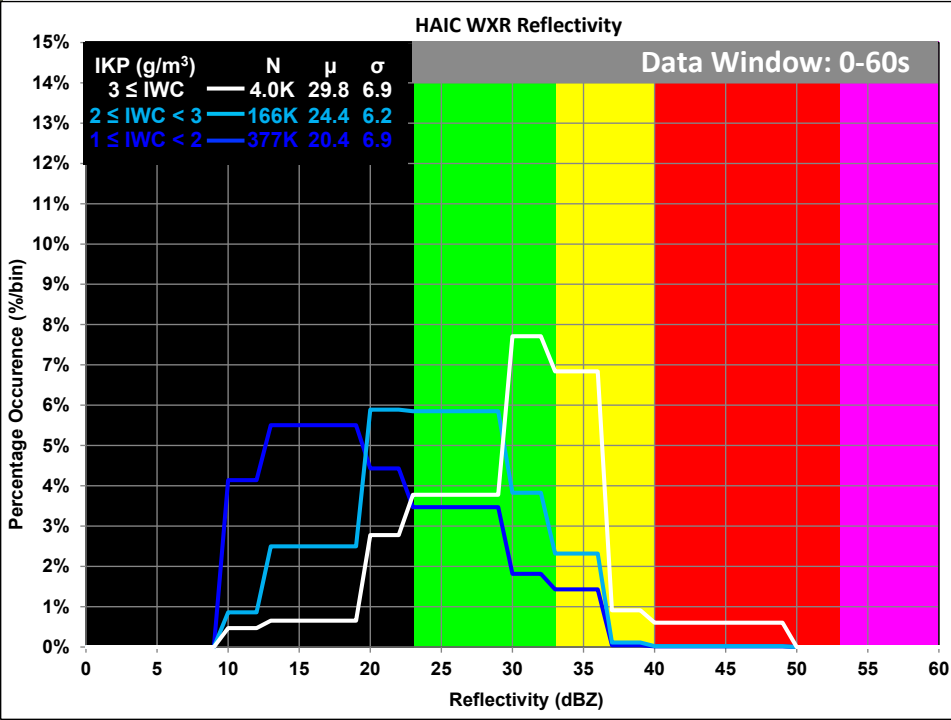
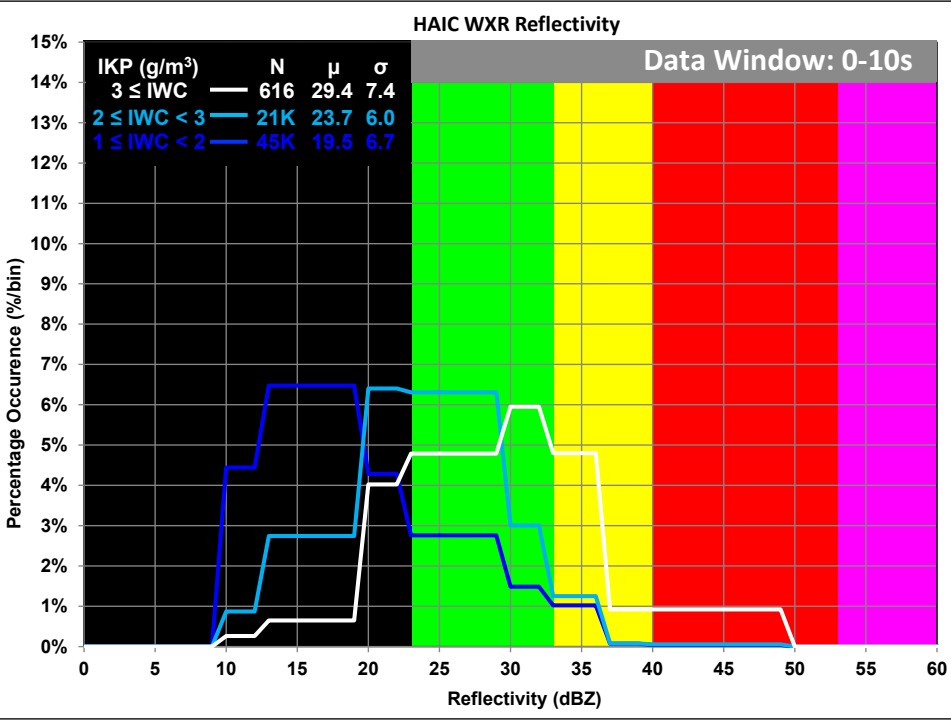
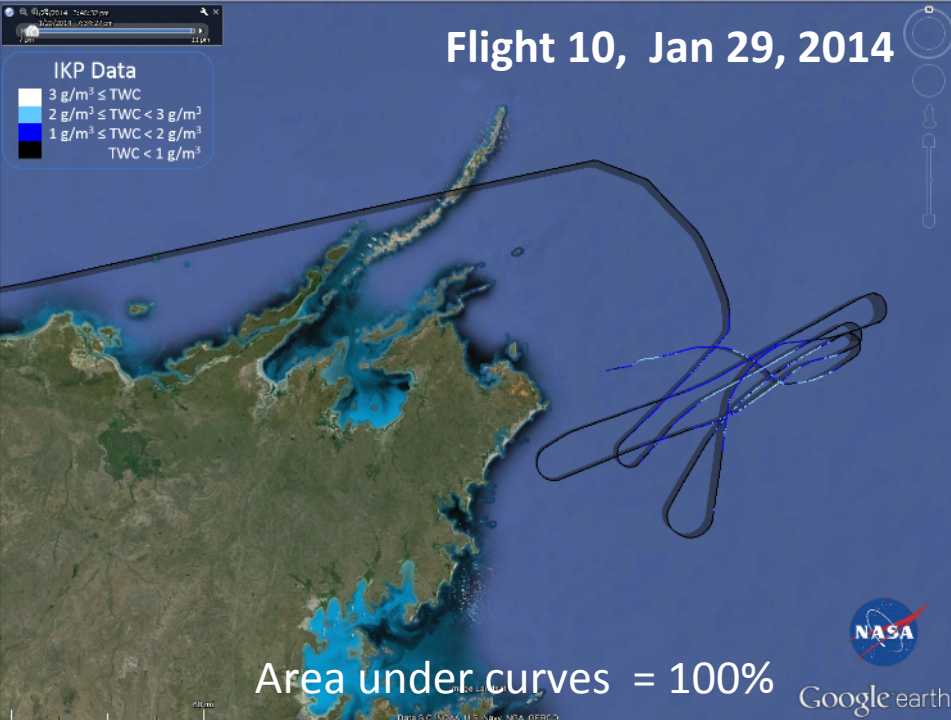


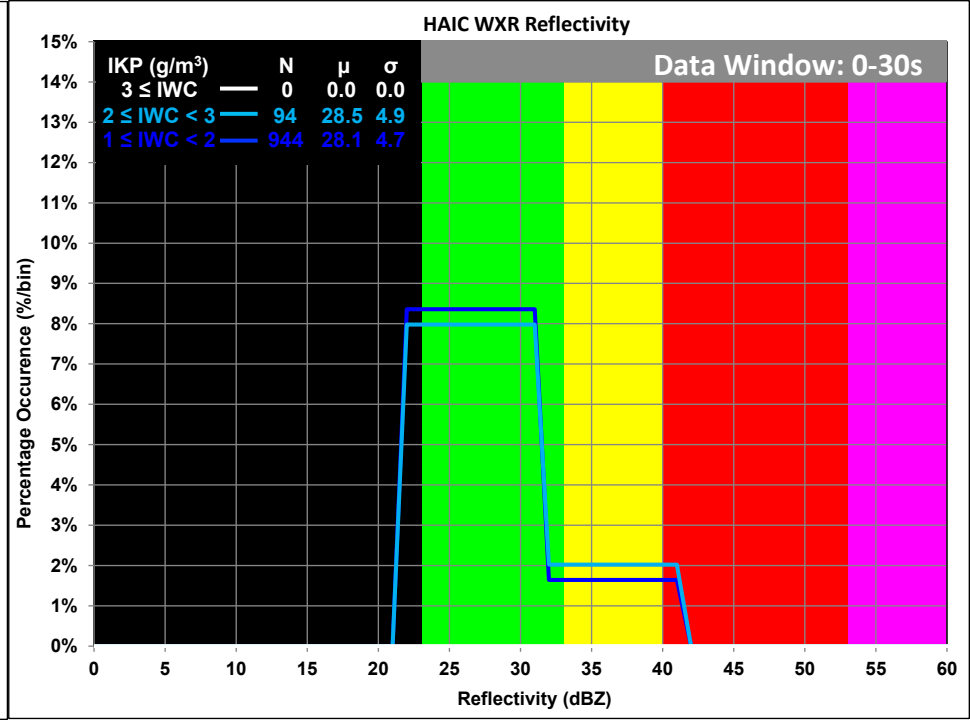
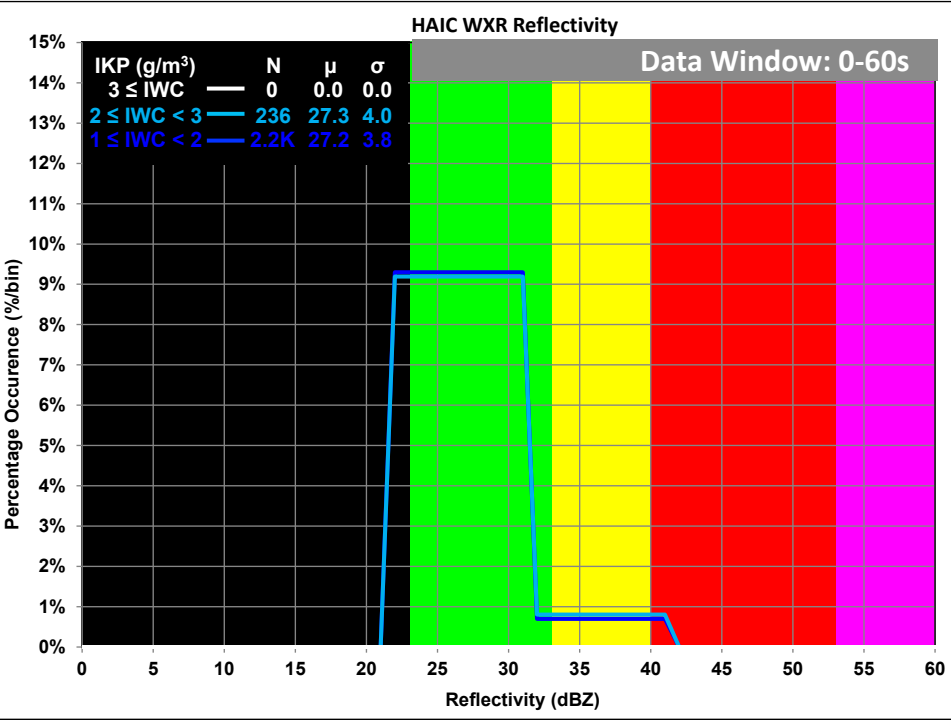
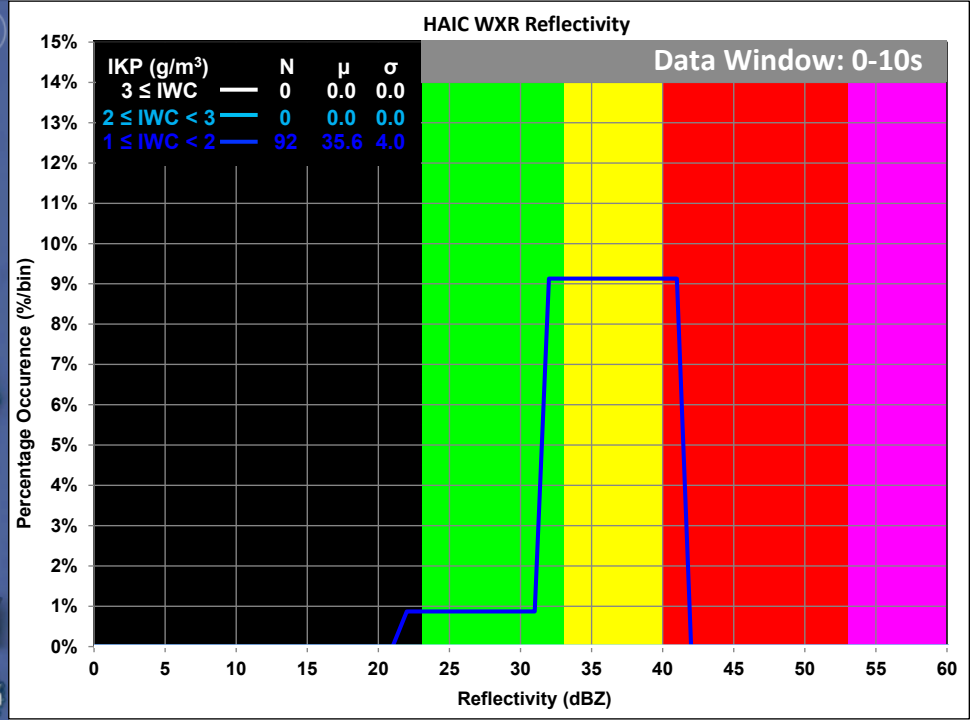
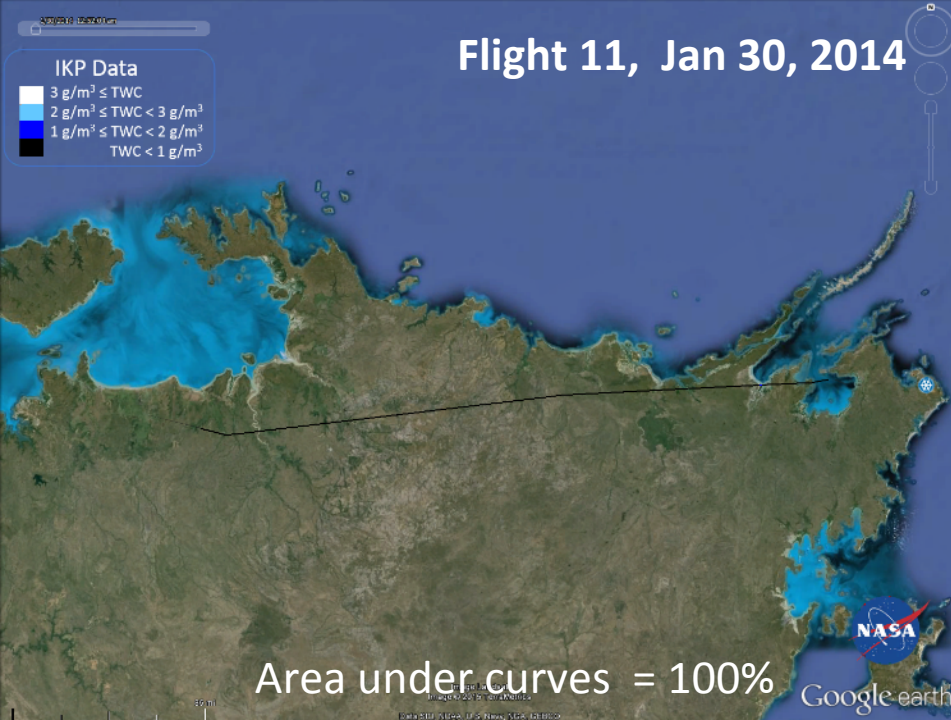




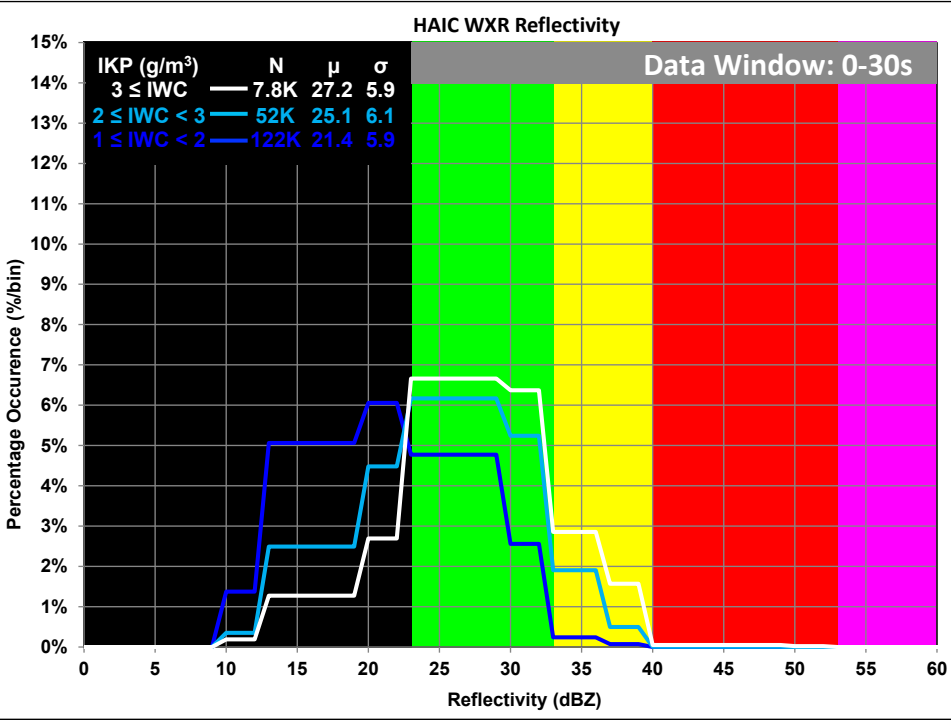
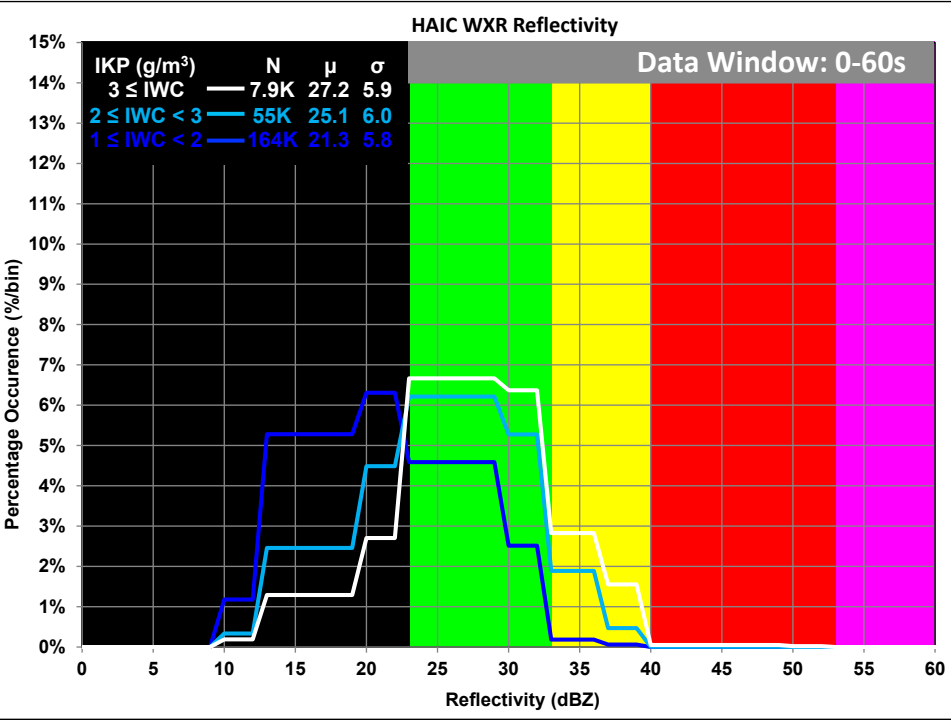
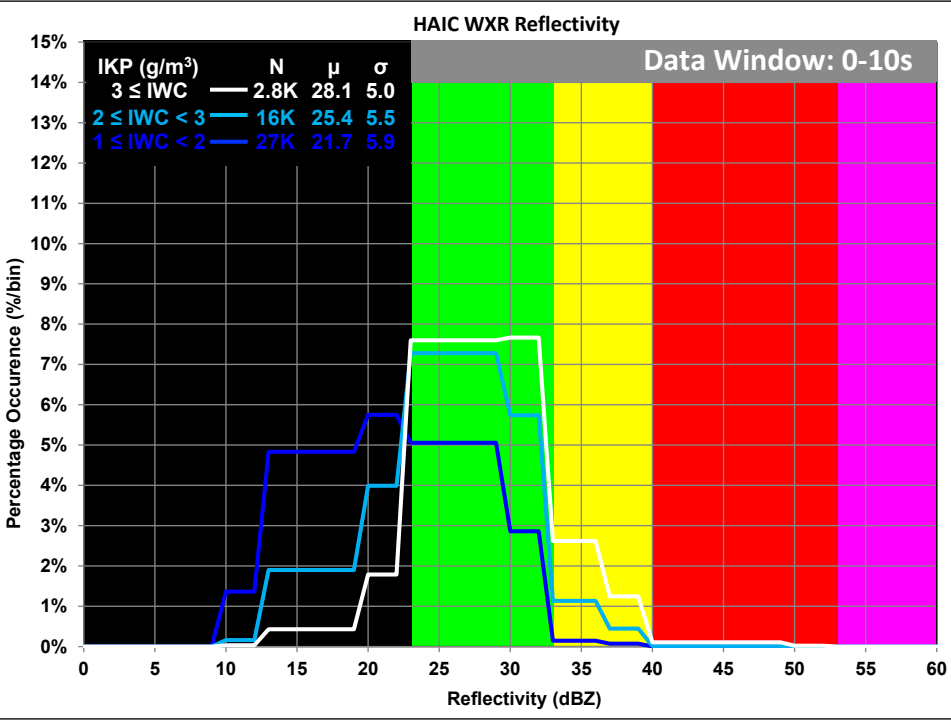
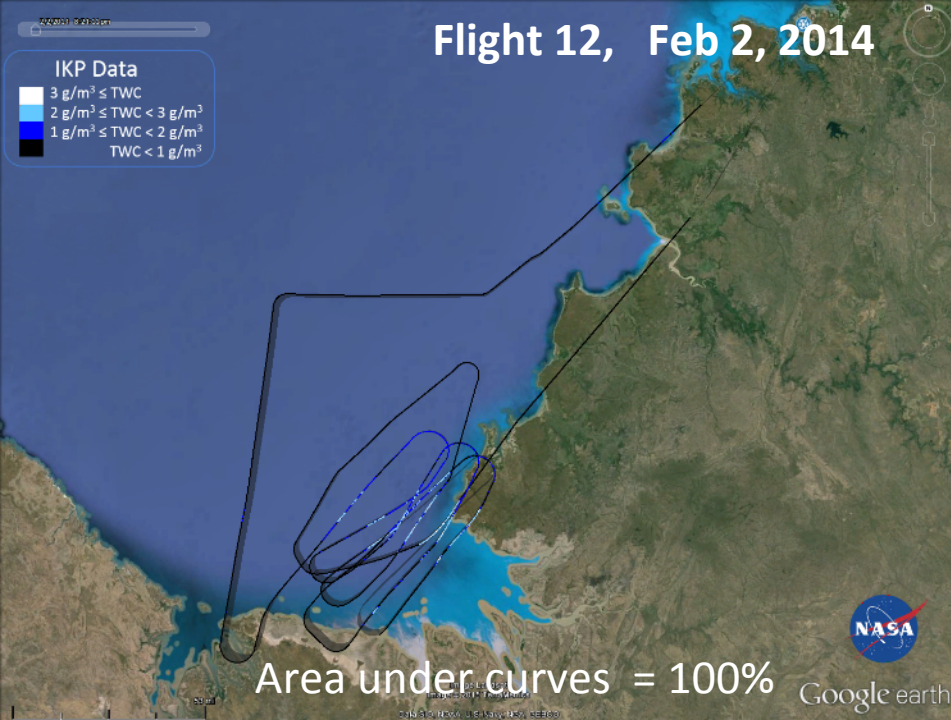


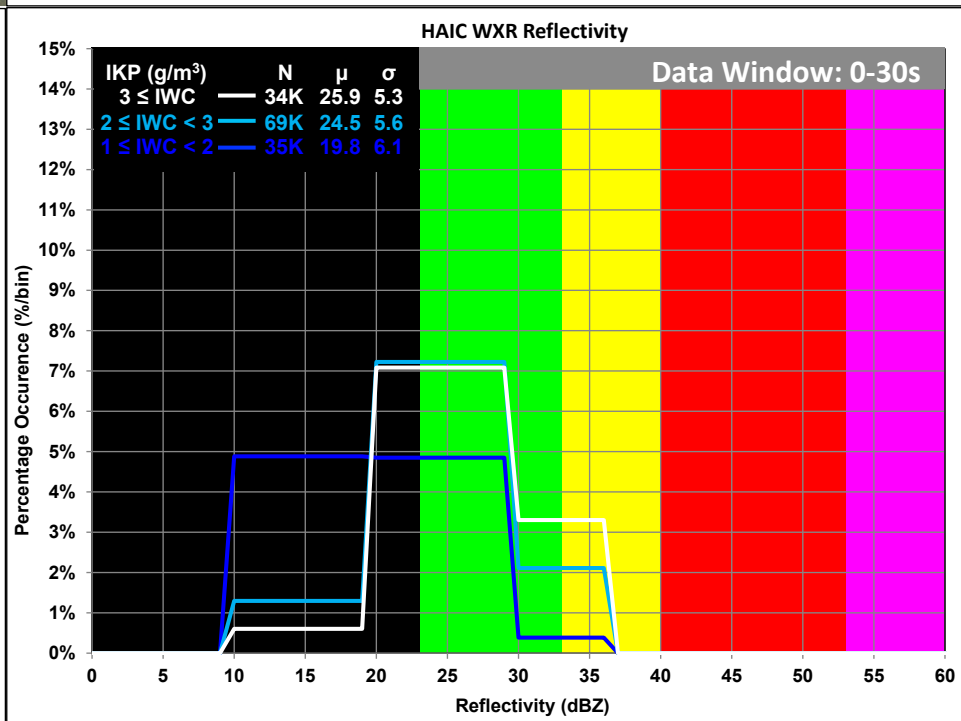
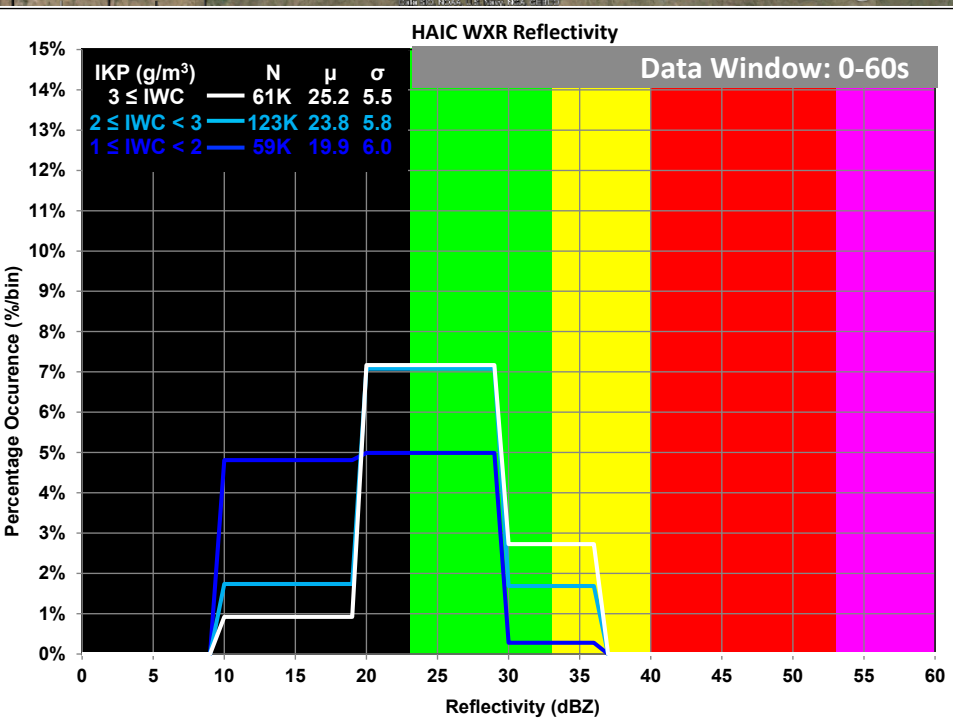
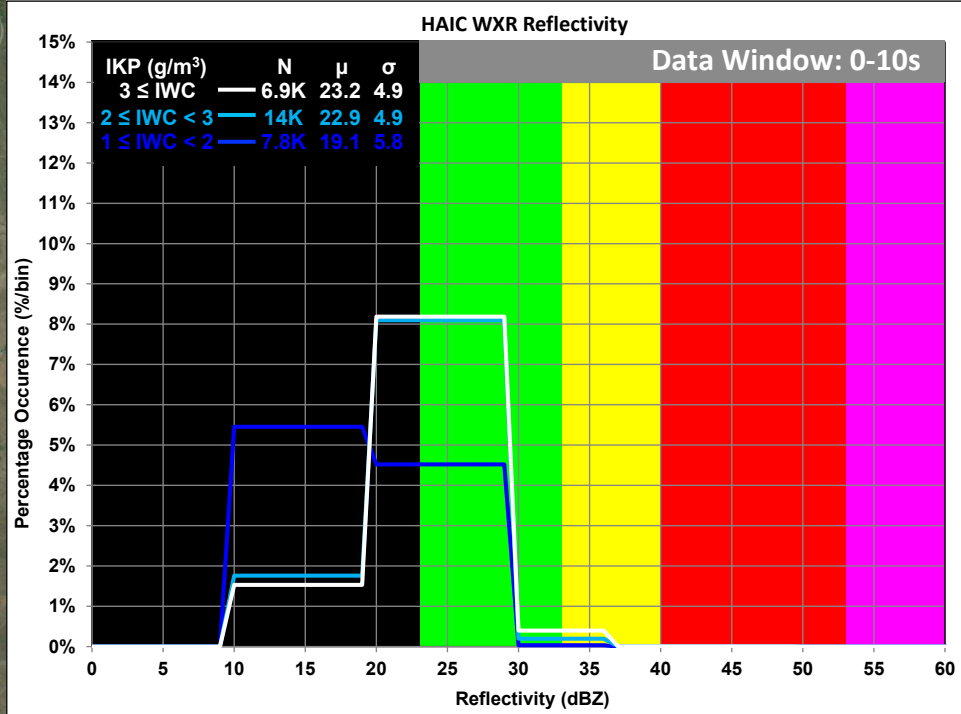
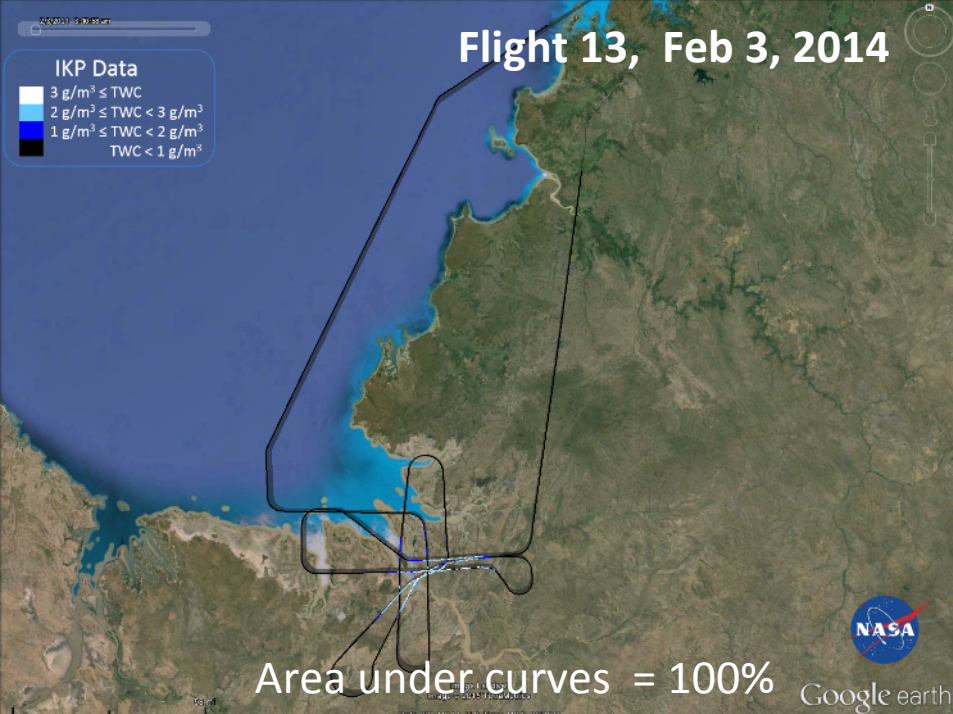
Flight 10, Jan 29, 2014

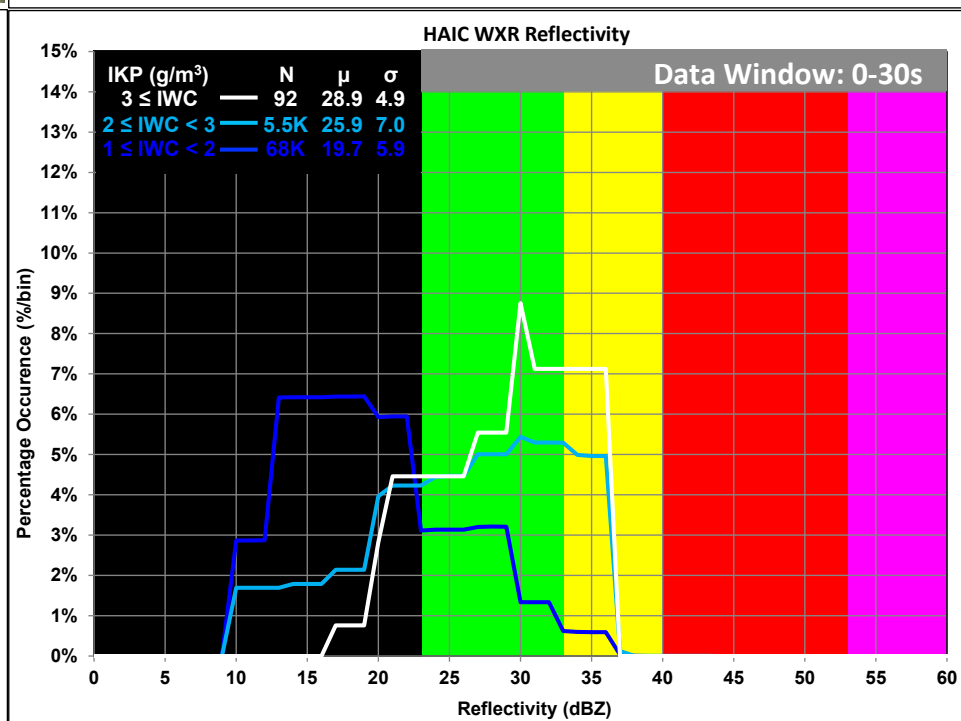
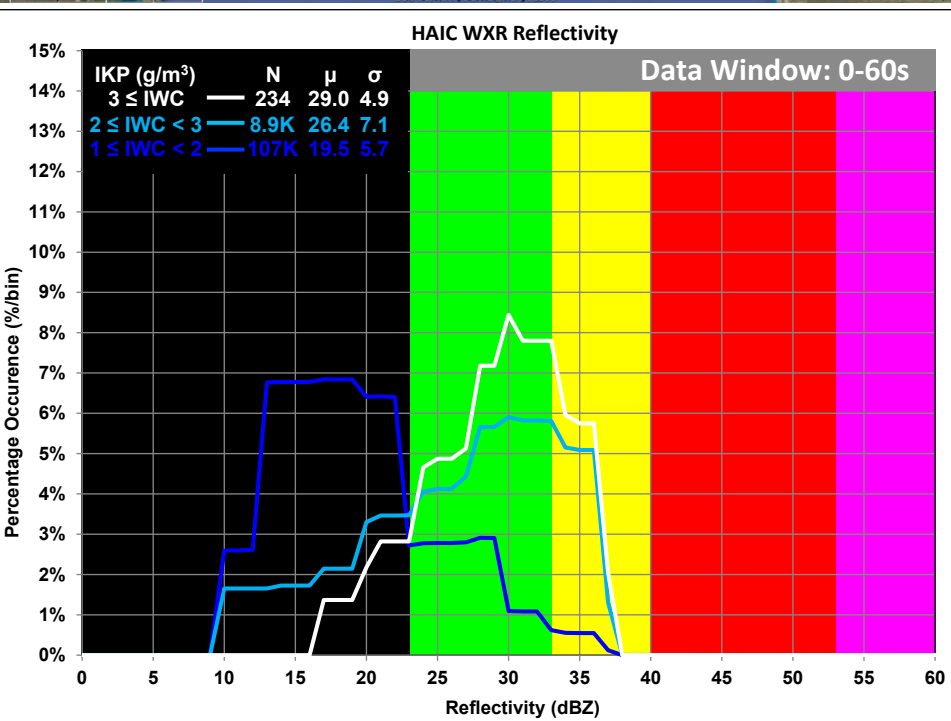
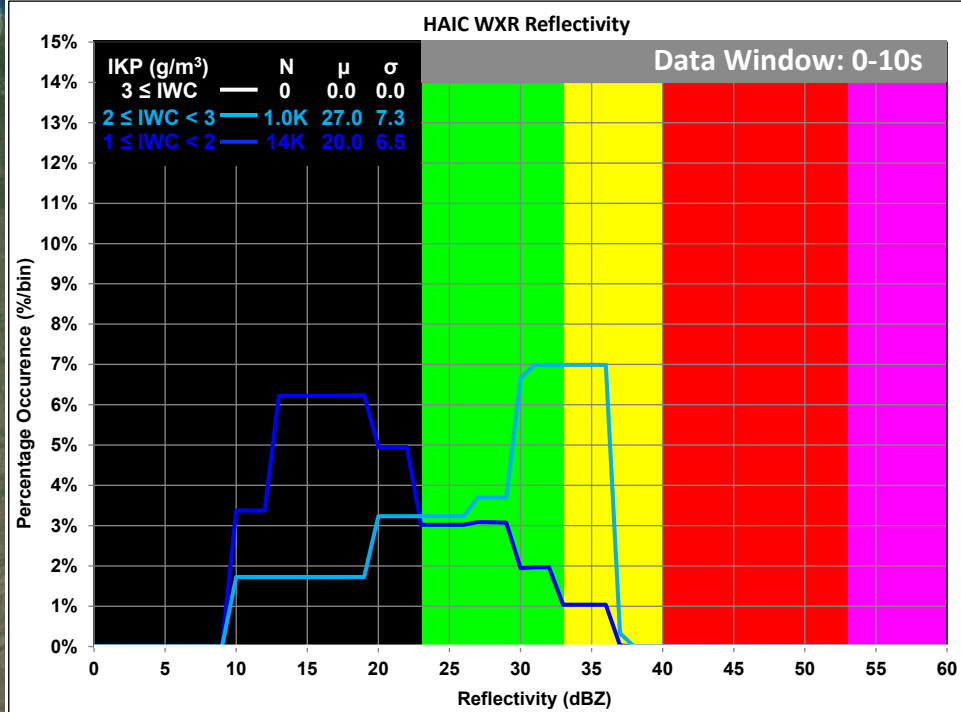
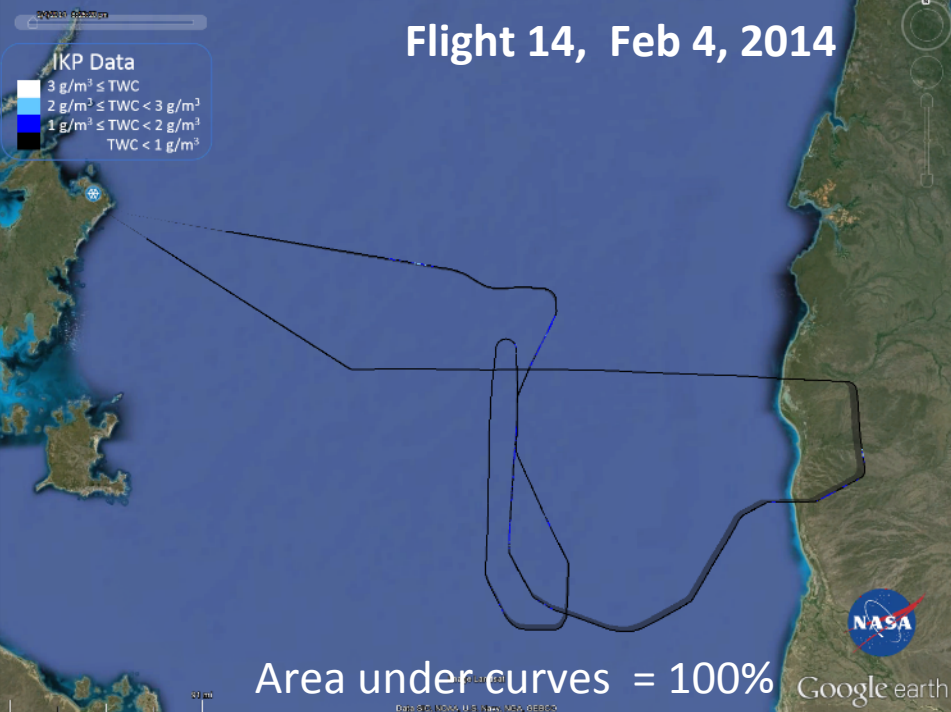


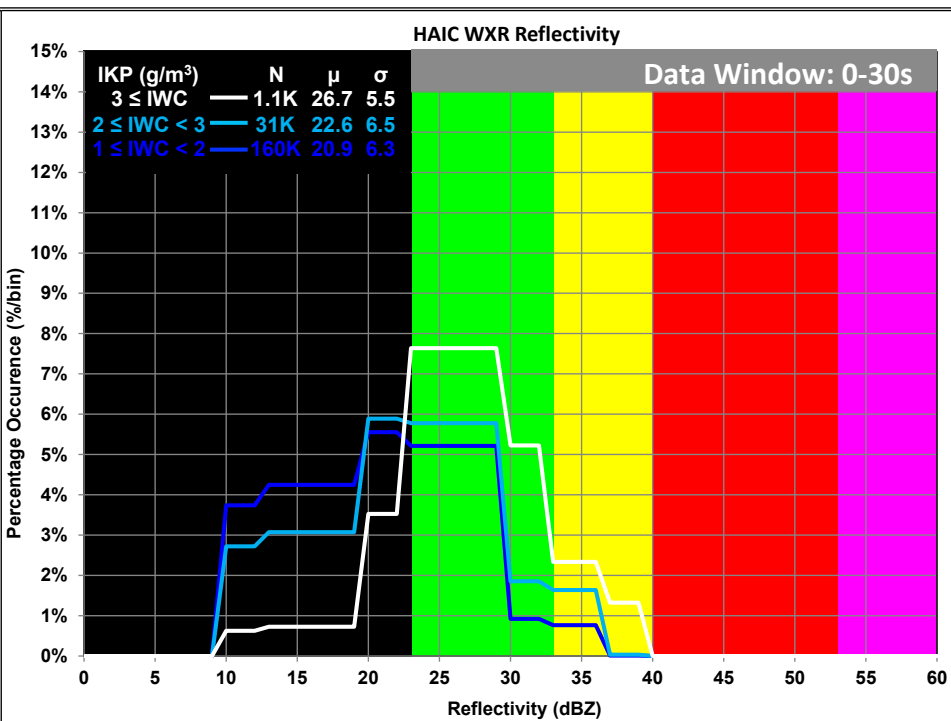
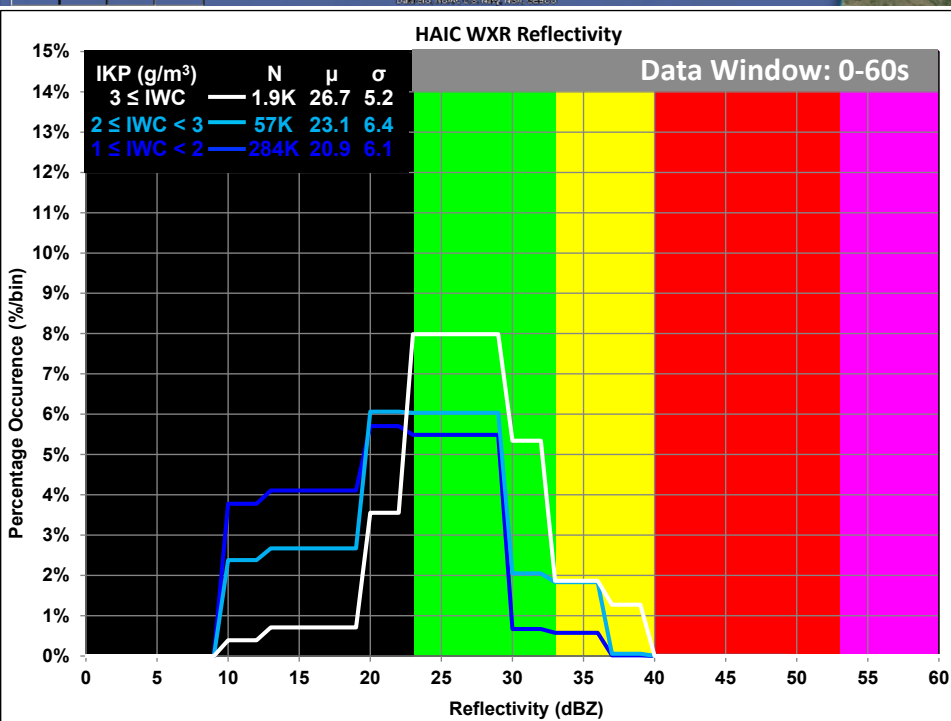
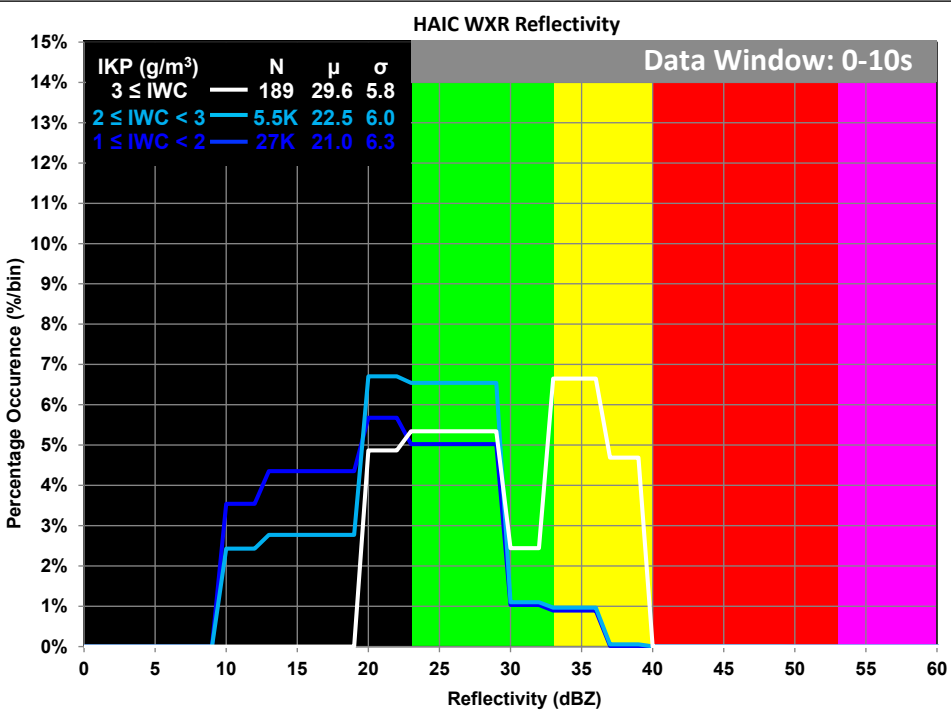
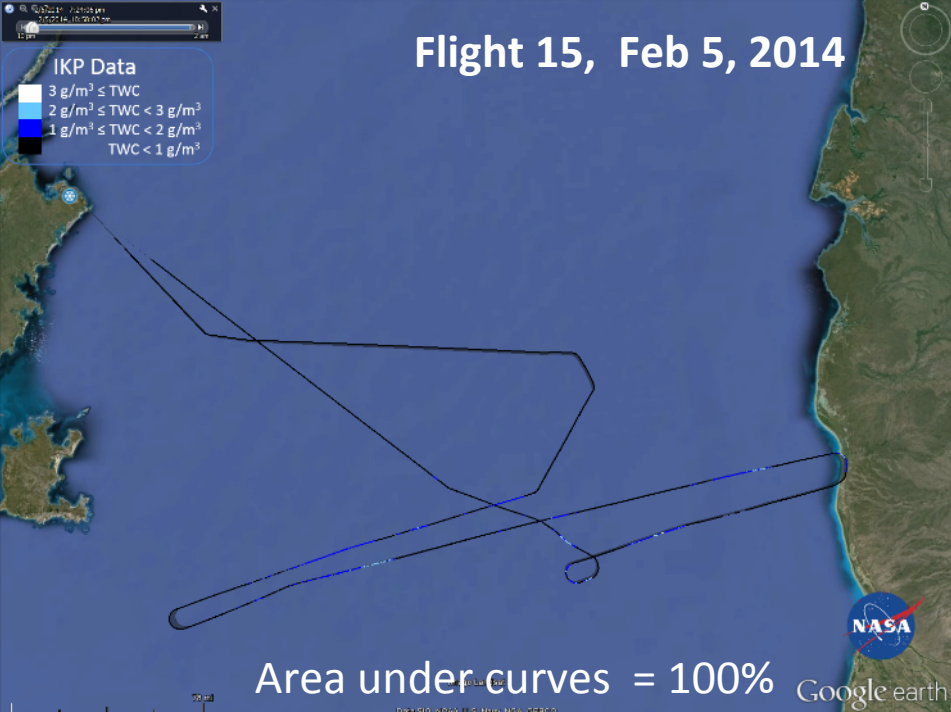


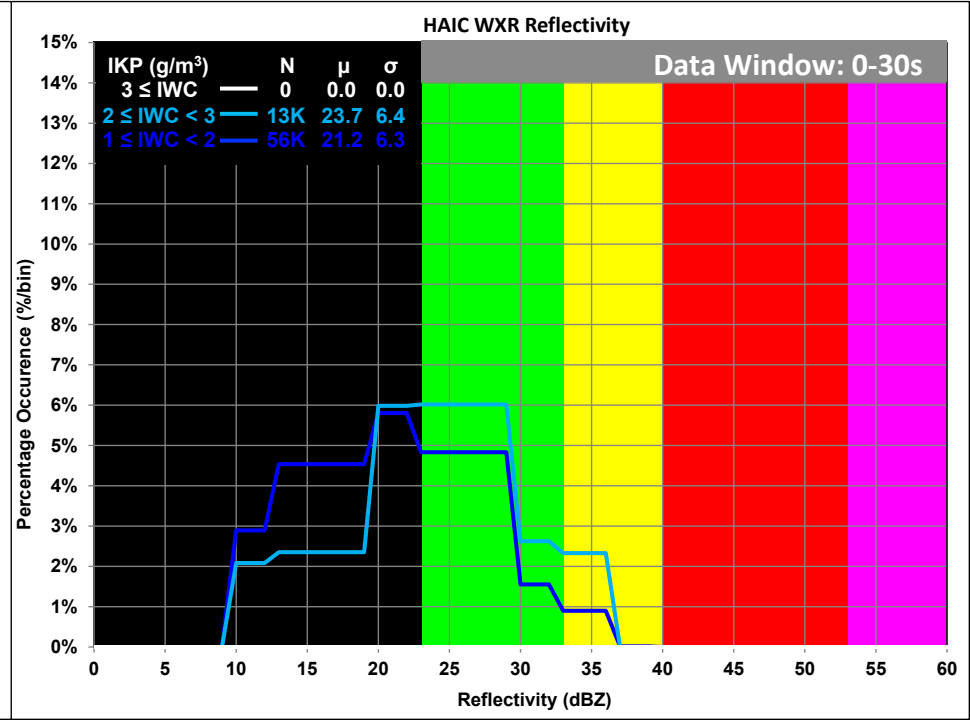
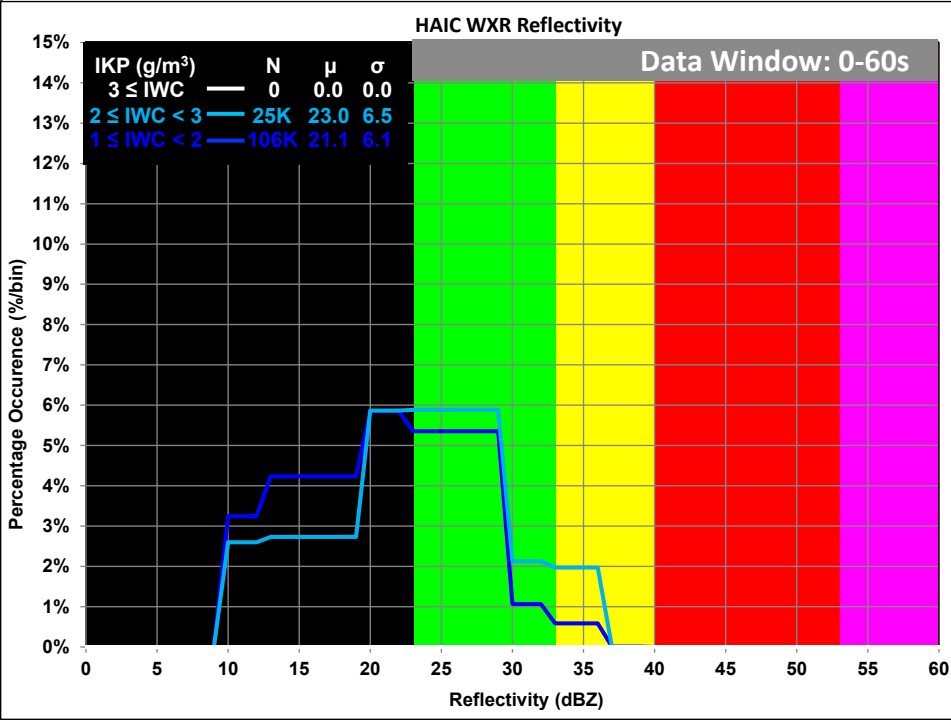
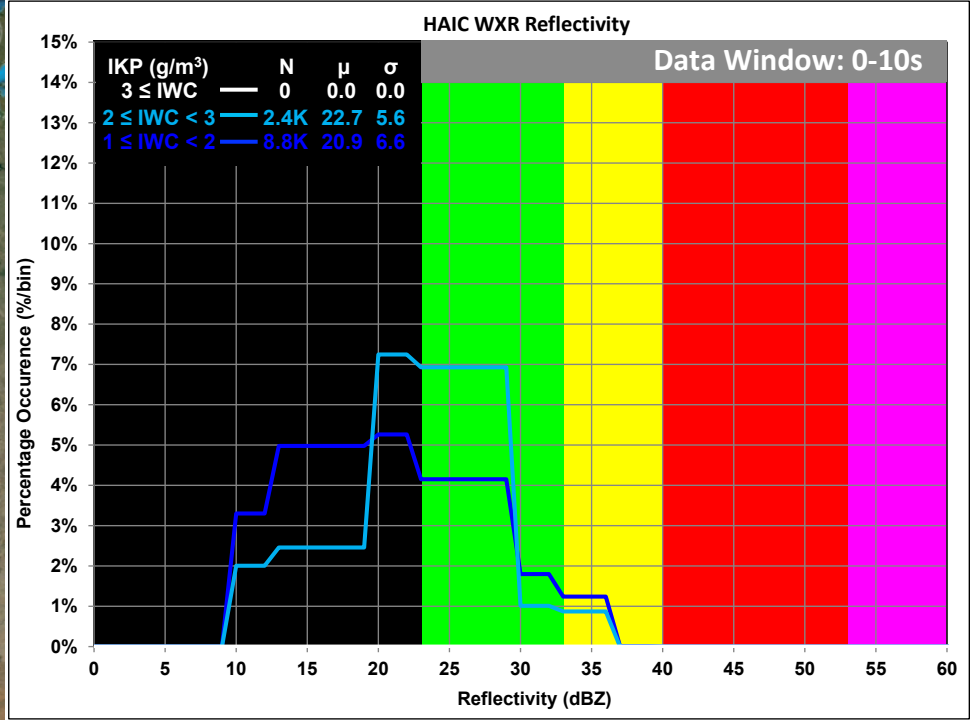
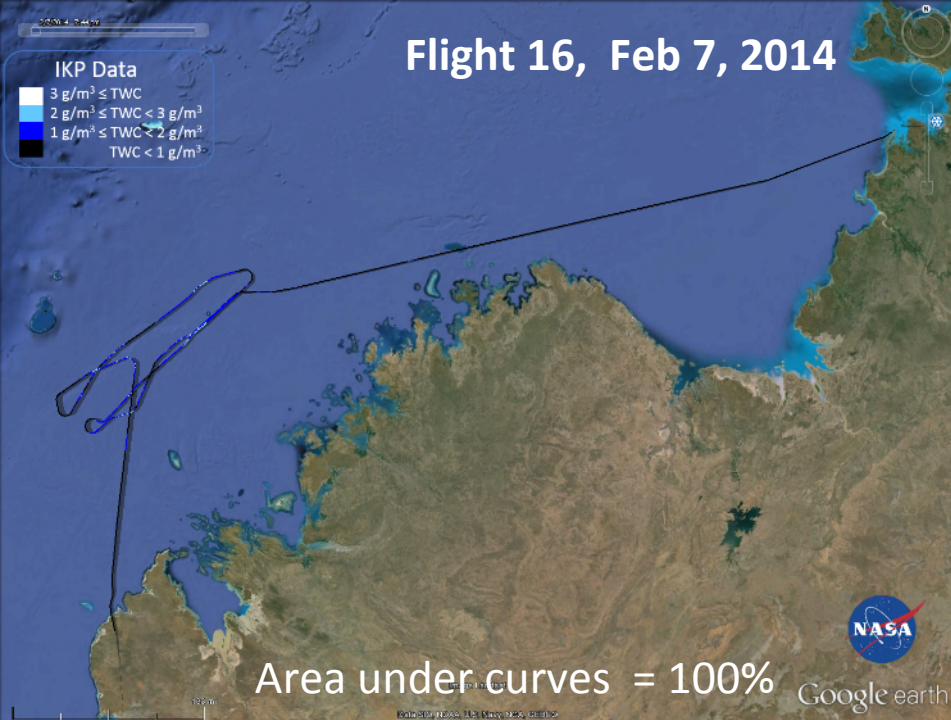
Flight 12, Feb 2, 2014

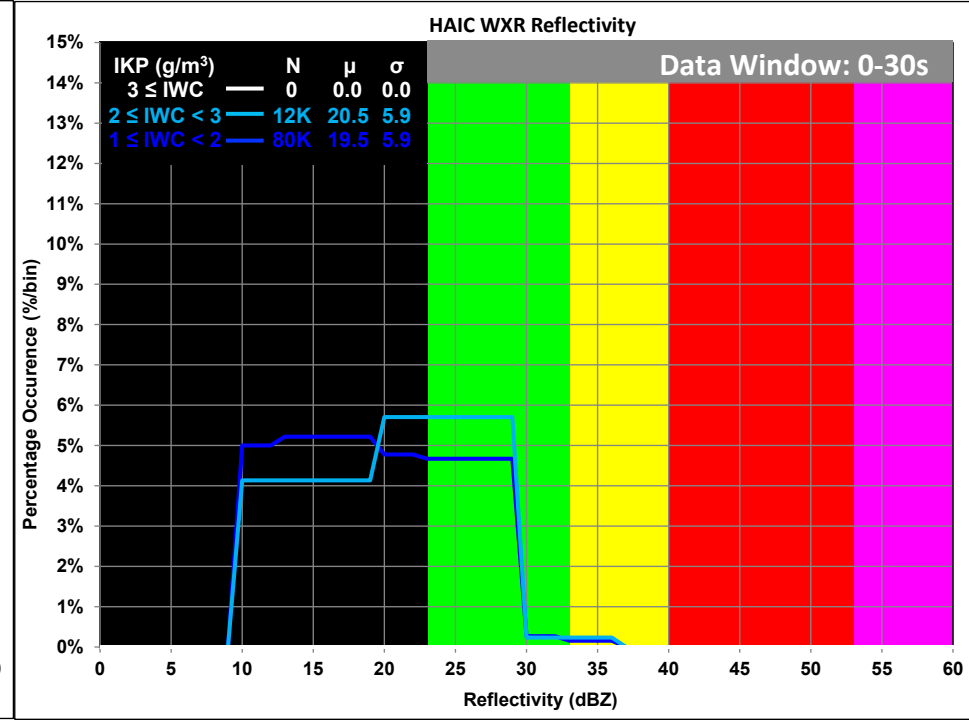
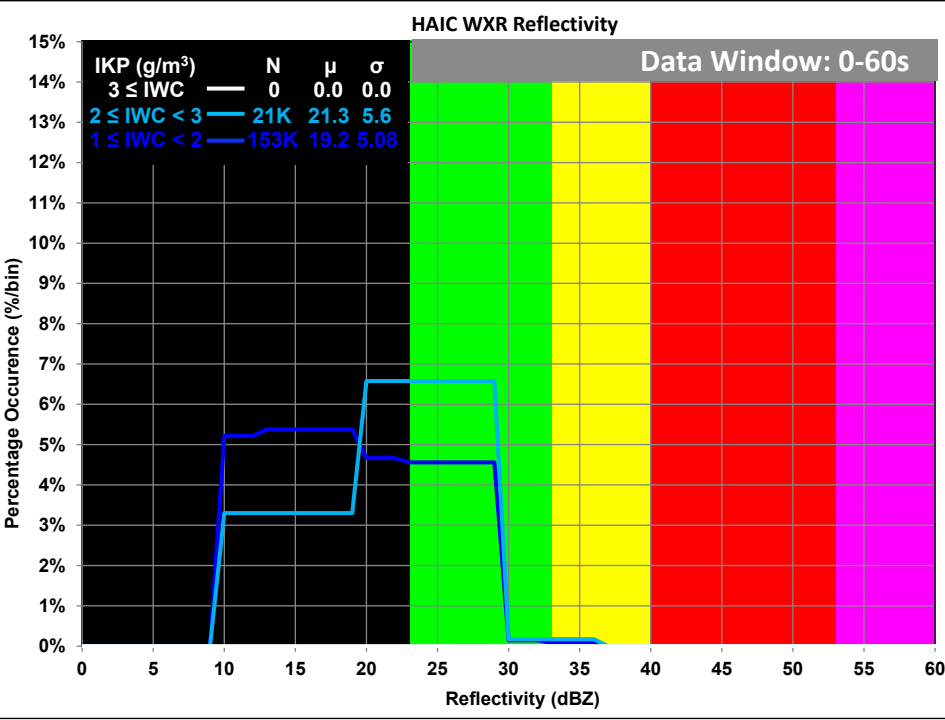
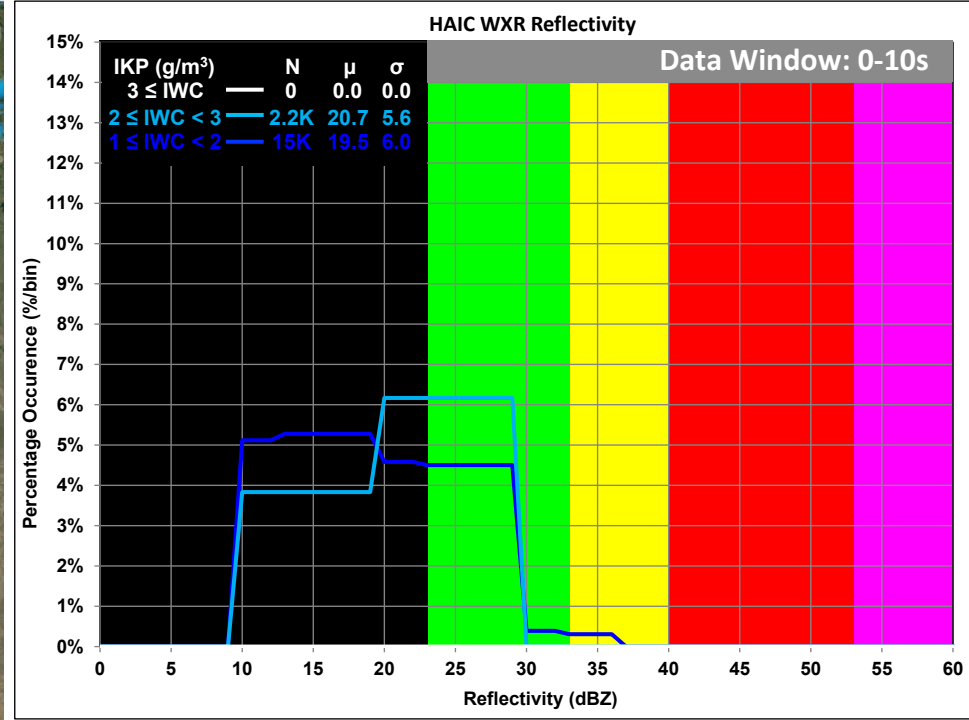
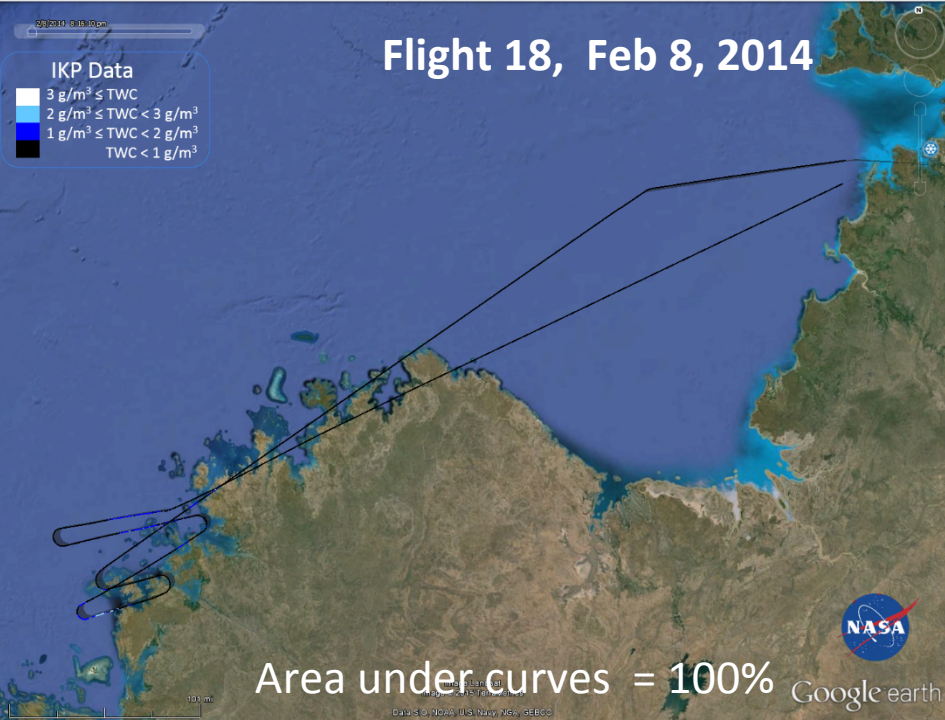


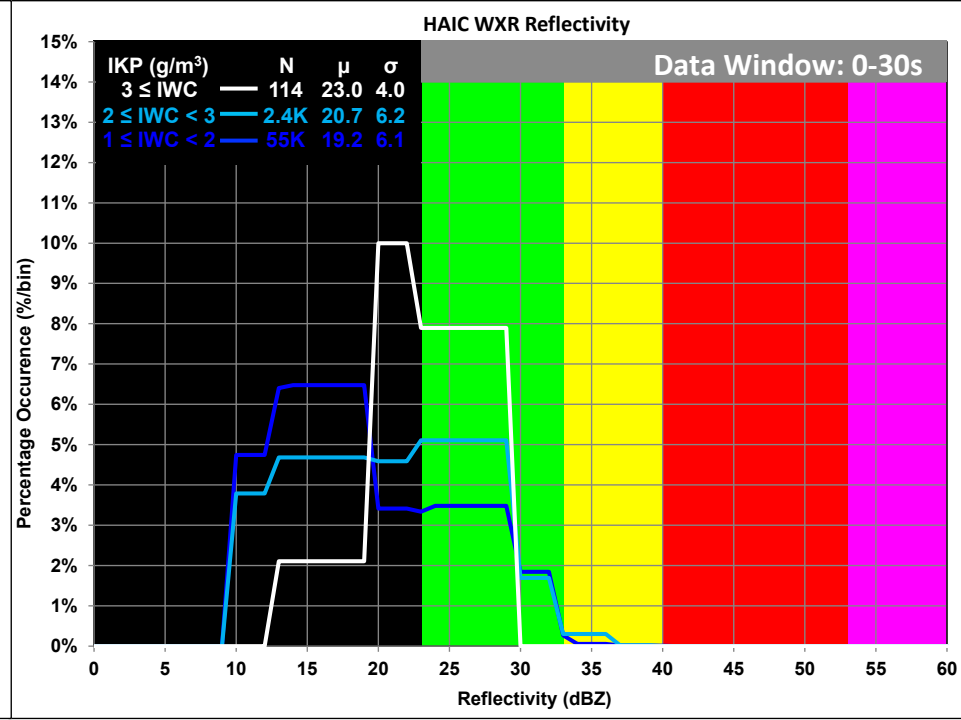
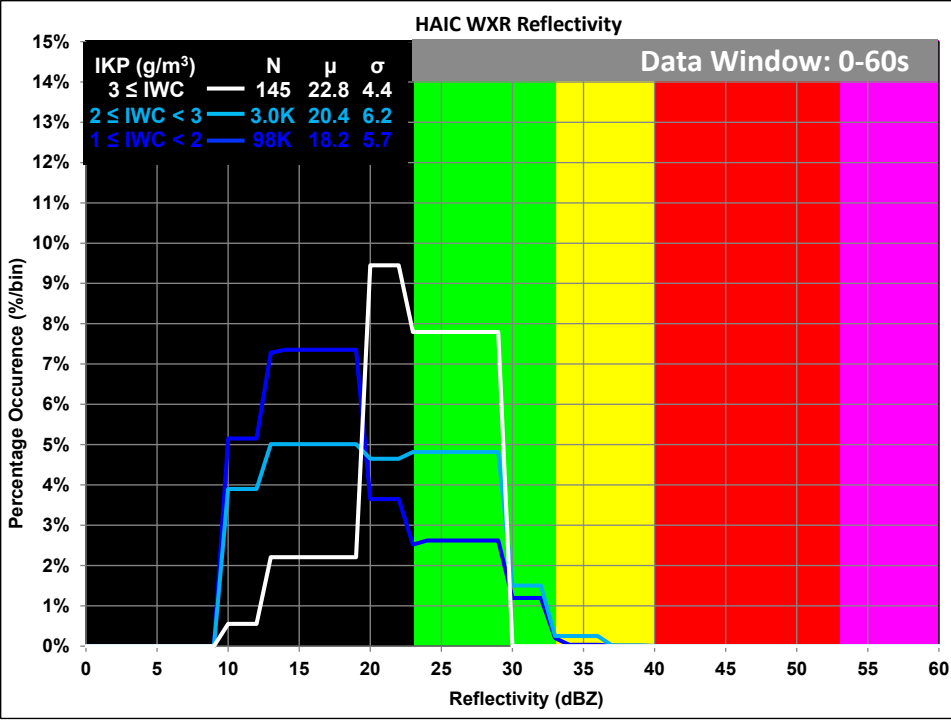
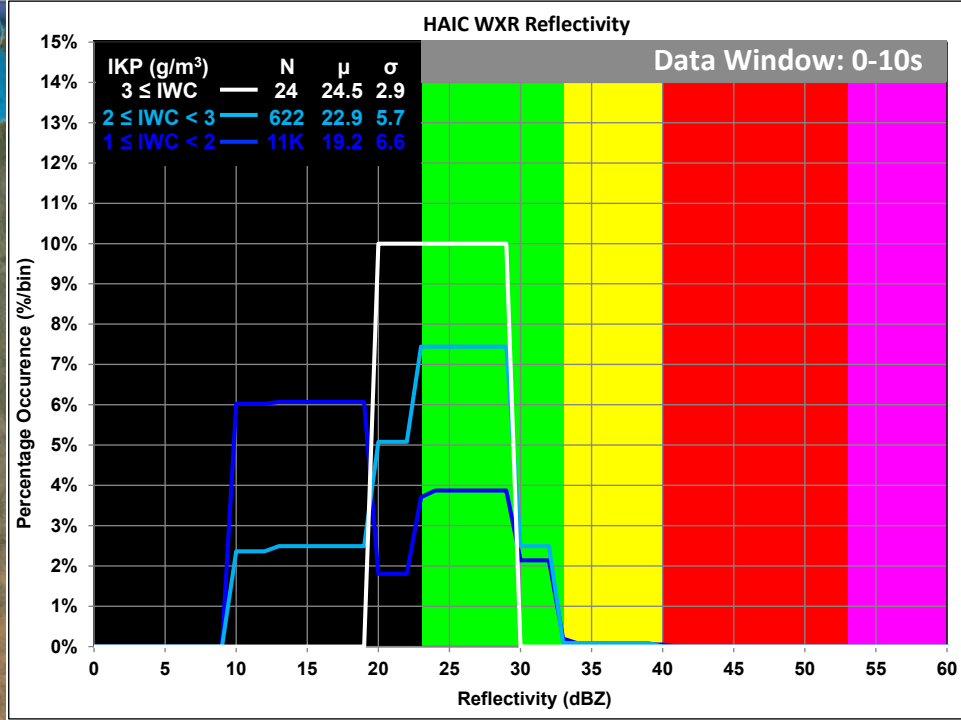
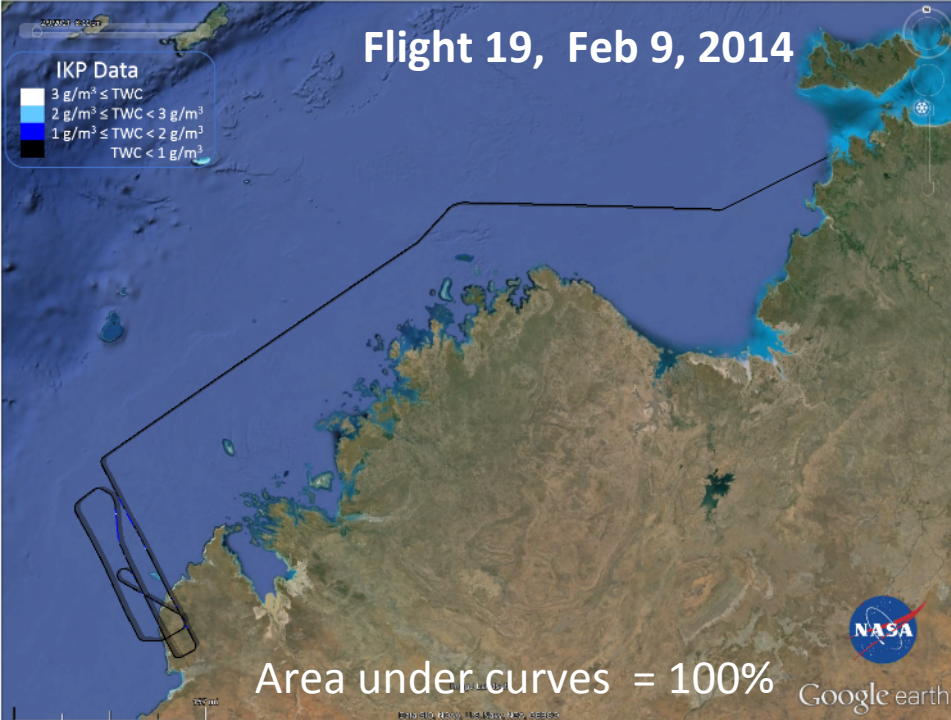




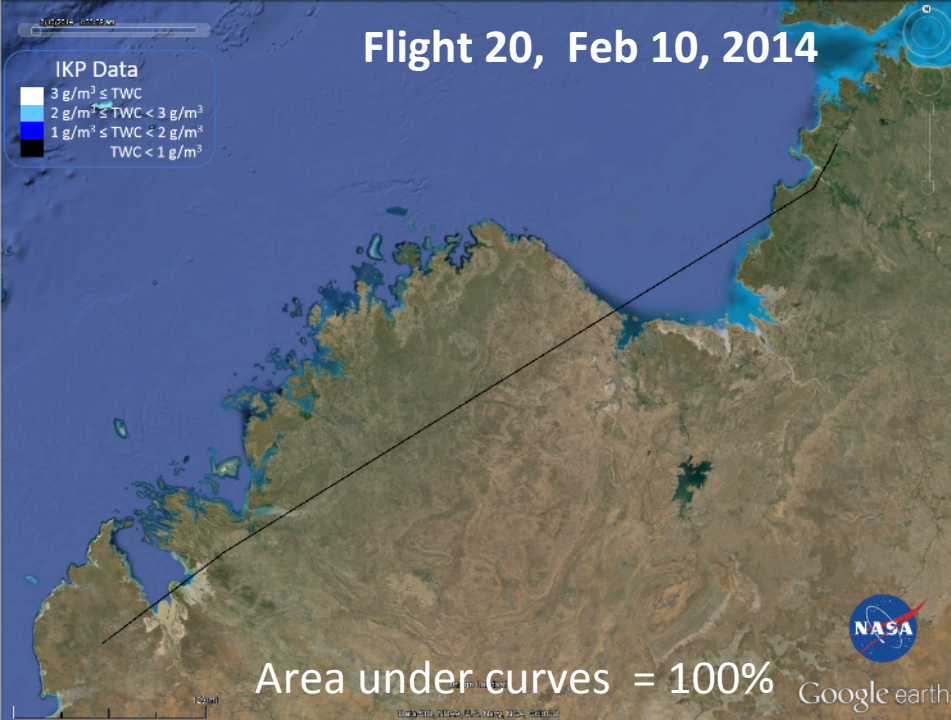






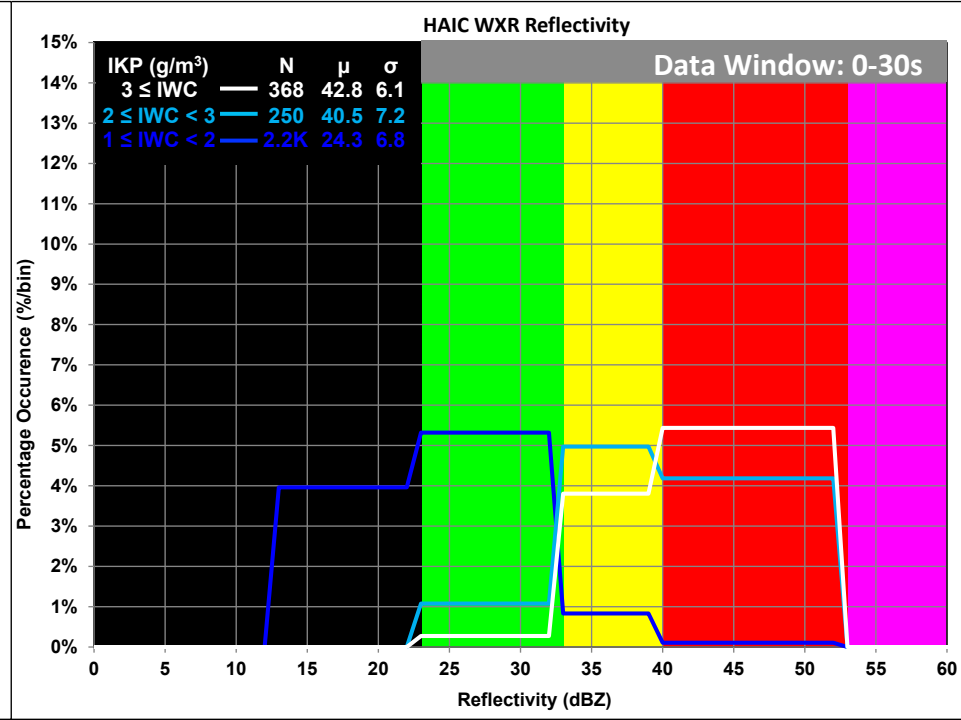
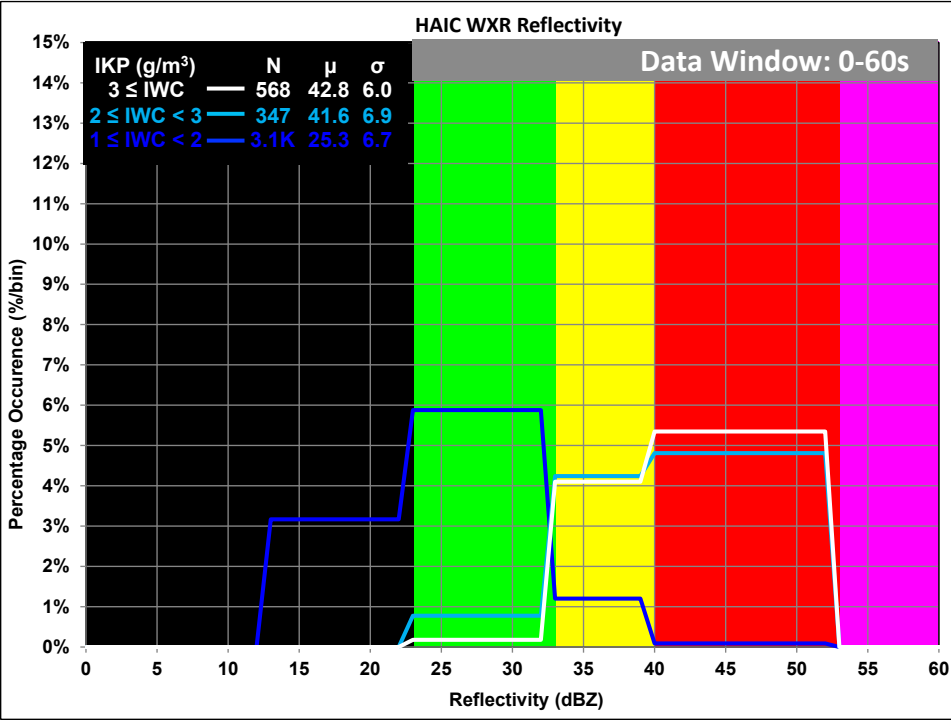
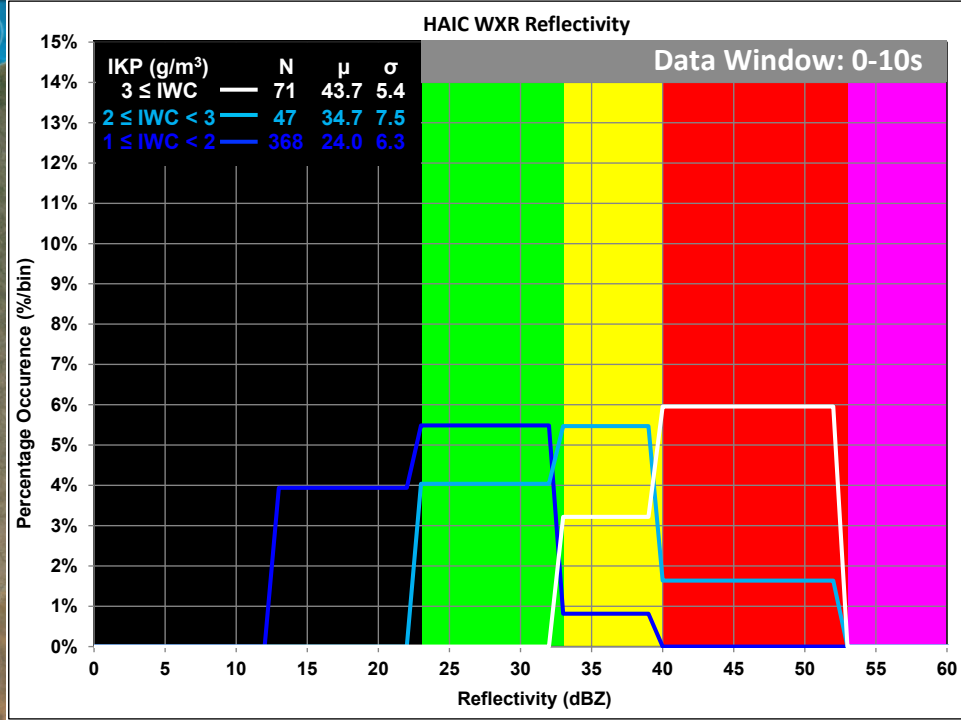


Flight 20, Feb 10, 2014

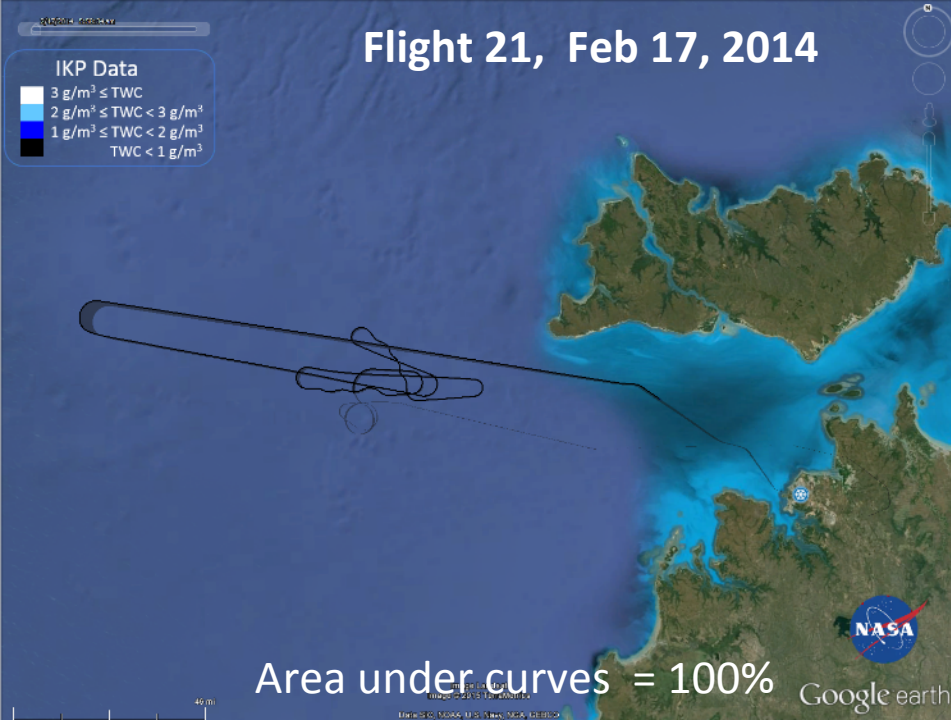


IKP Data

3 g/m ³ ≤ TWC
2 g/m ³ ≤ TWC < 3 g/m ³
1 g/m ³ ≤ TWC < 2 g/m ³
TWC < 1 g/m ³



Flight 21, Feb 17, 2014

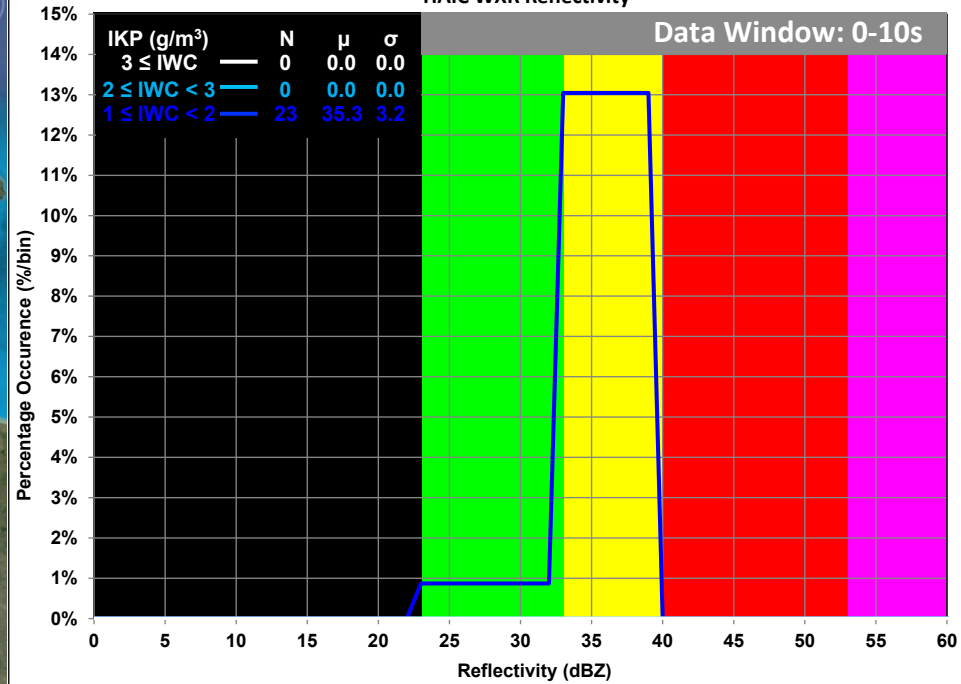


Area under curves = 100%

Google earth

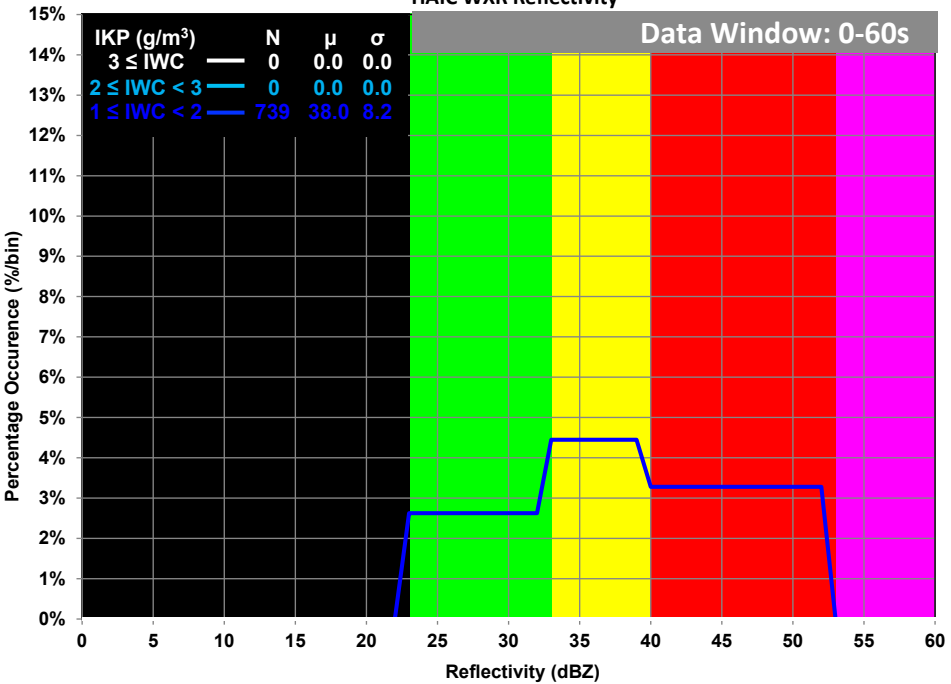
HAIC WXR Reflectivity

Data Window: 0-10s



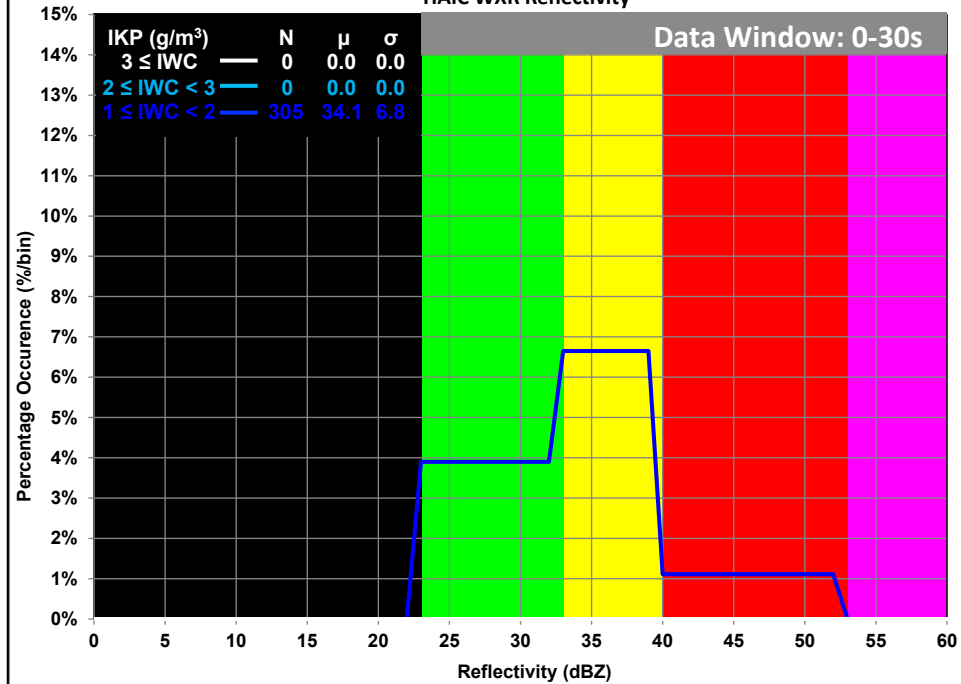
HAIC WXR Reflectivity

Data Window: 0-60s

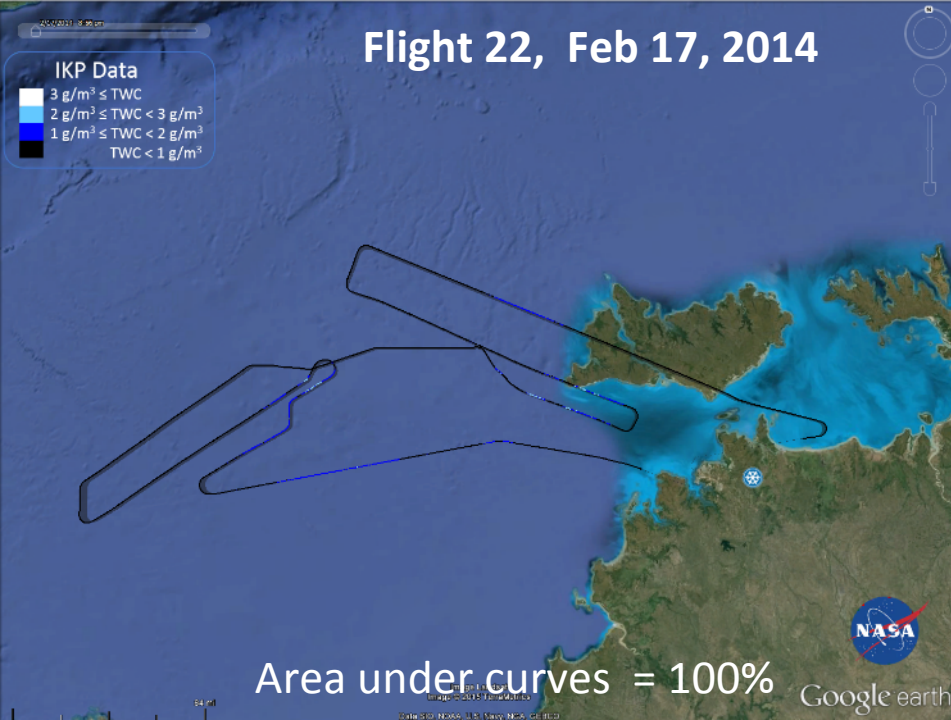


HAIC WXR Reflectivity

Data Window: 0-30s

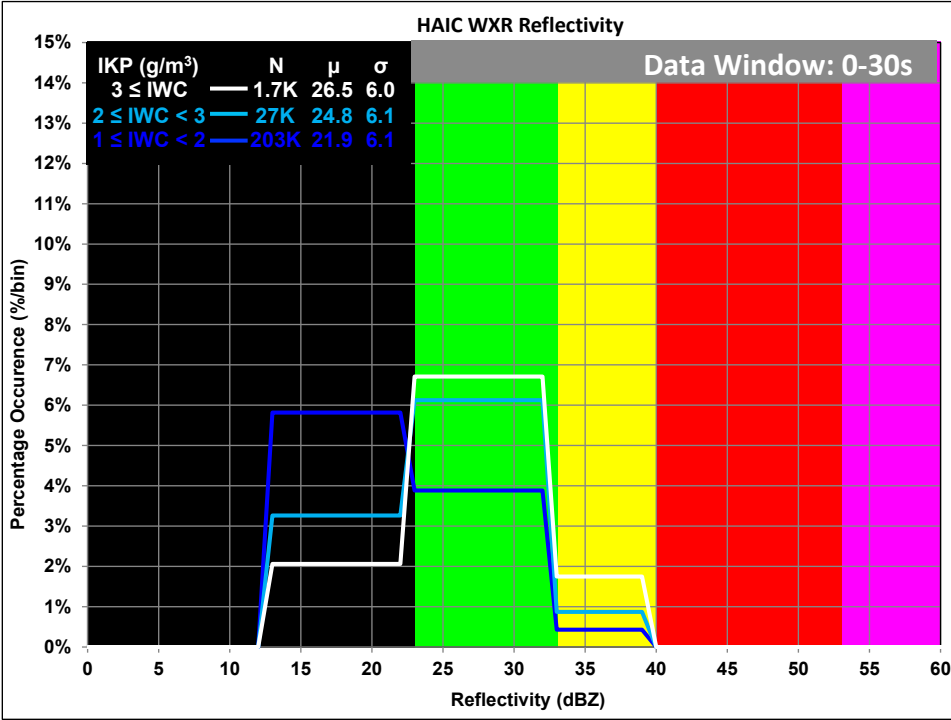
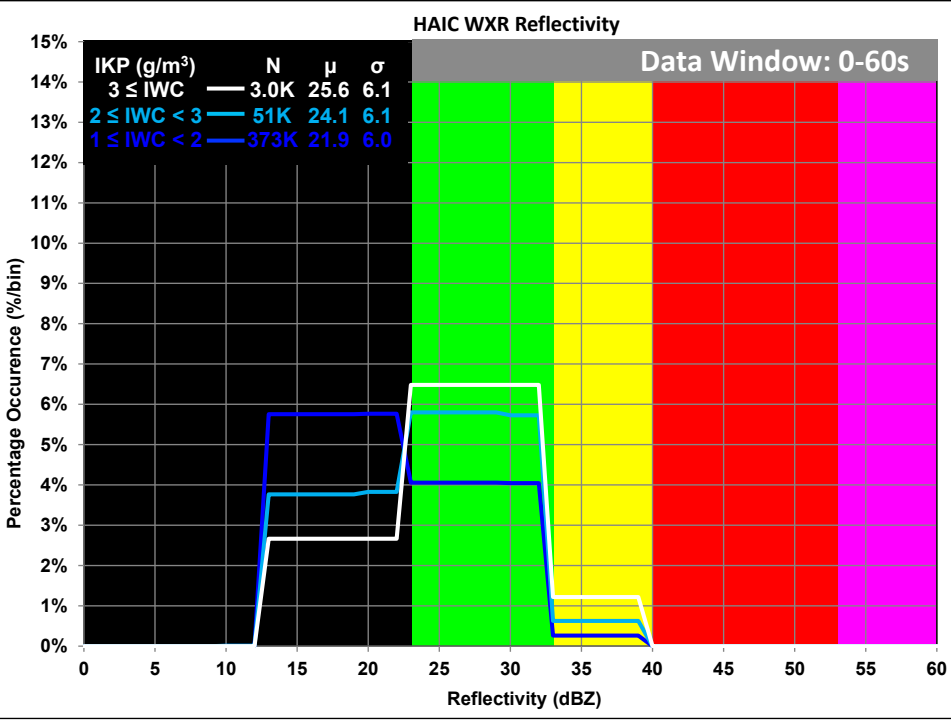
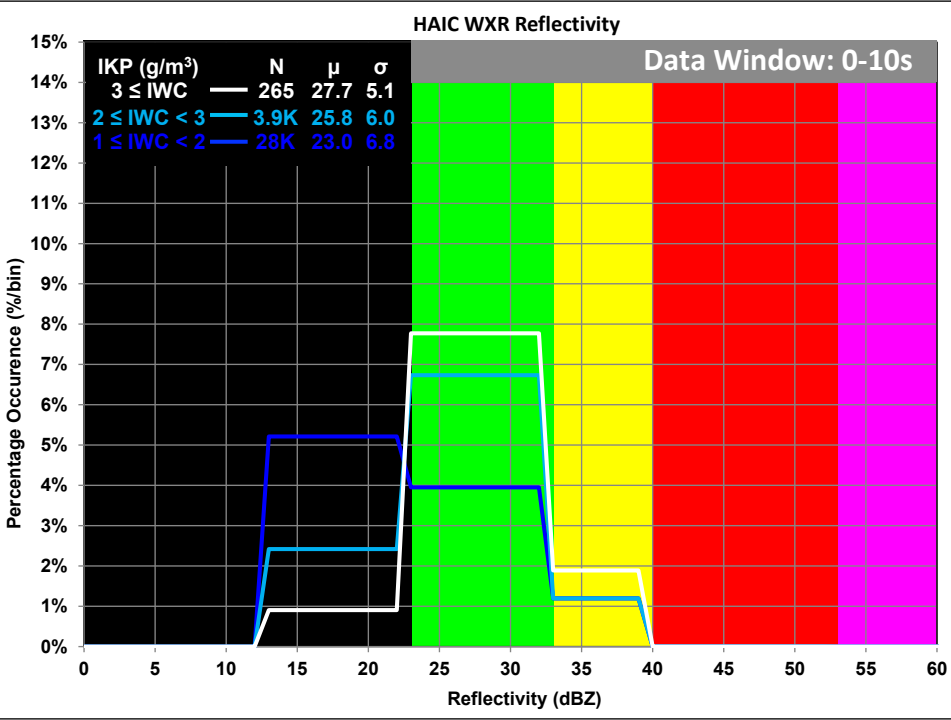


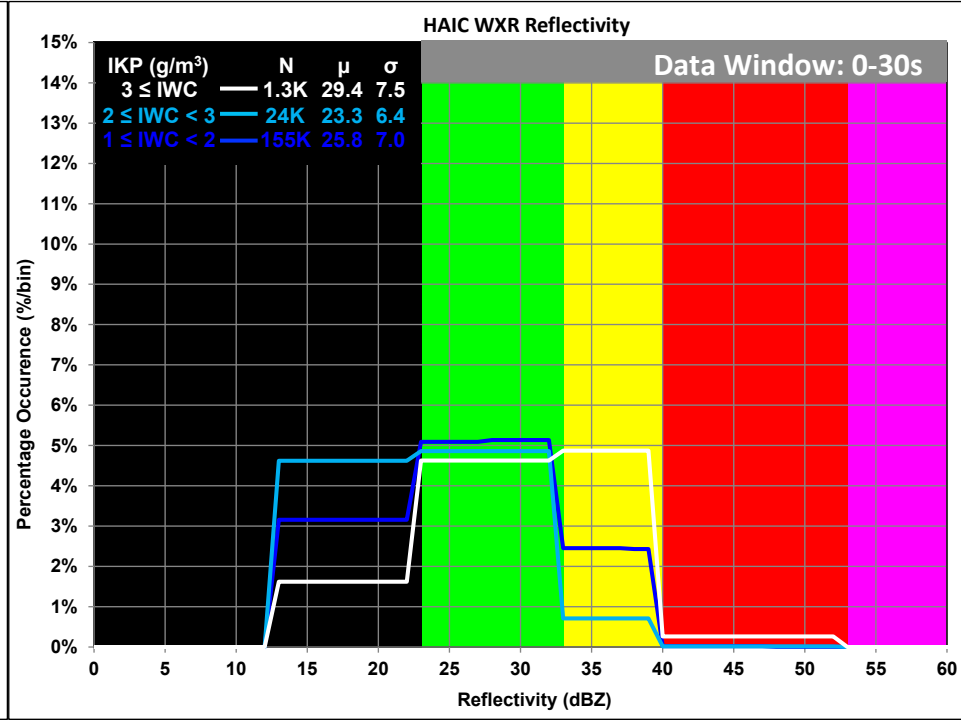
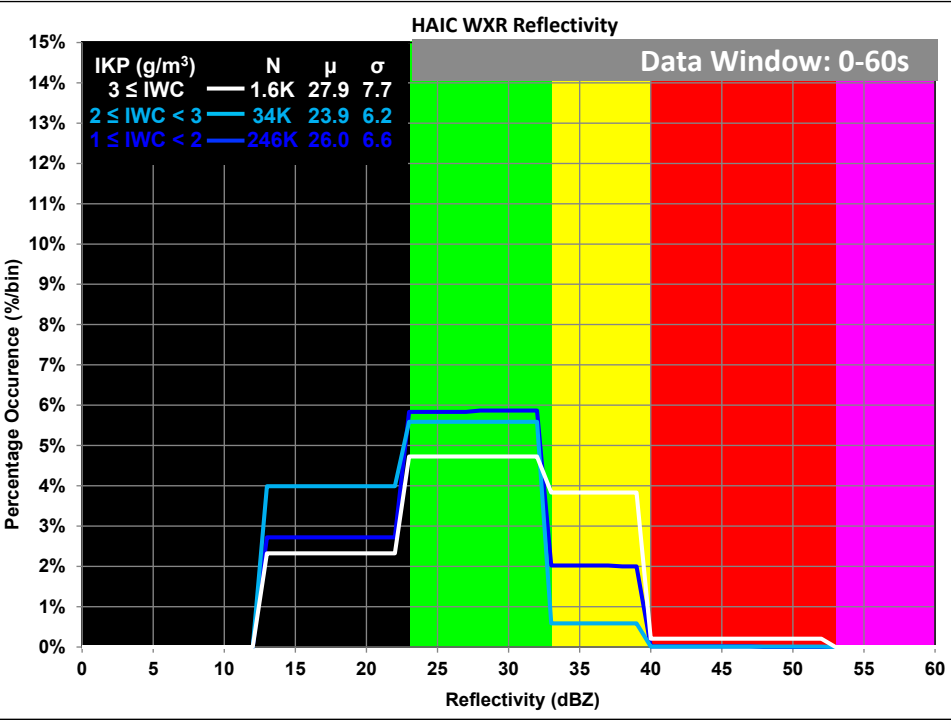
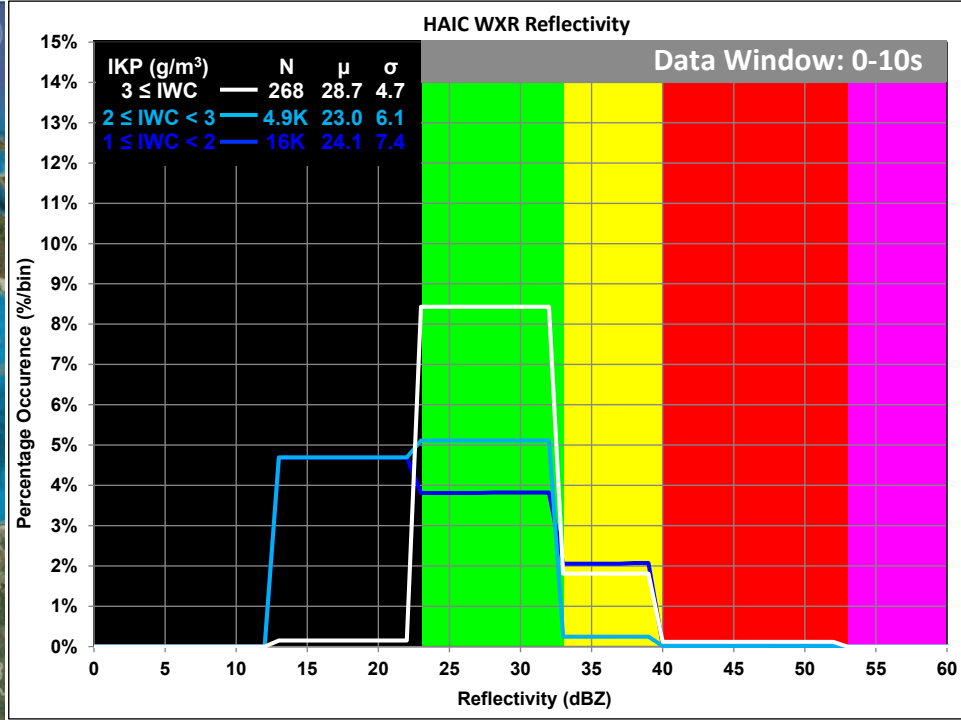
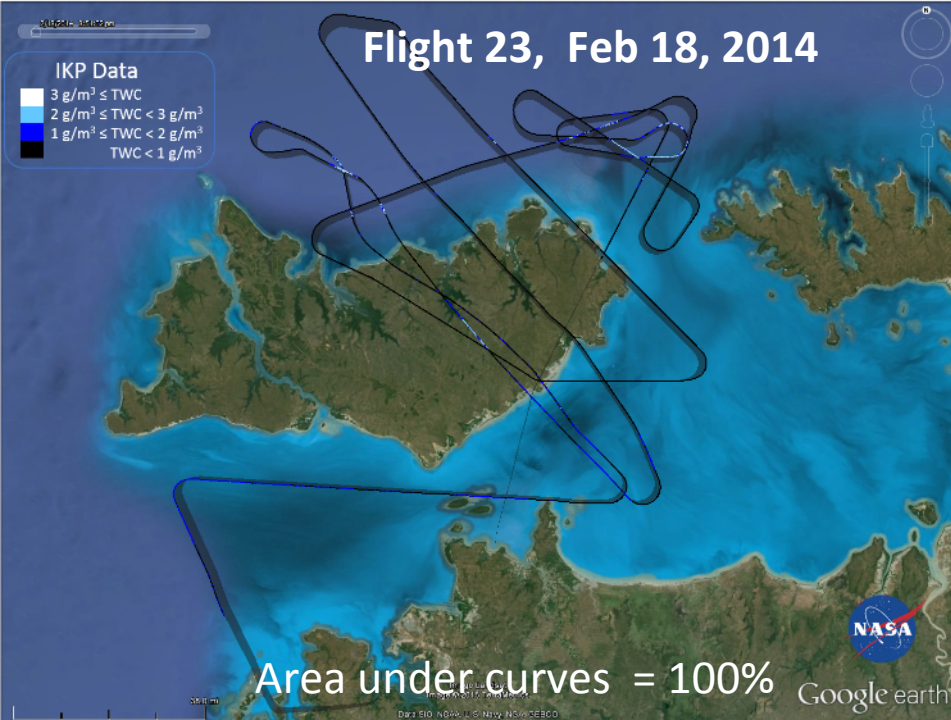
Flight 22, Feb 17, 2014



IKP Data

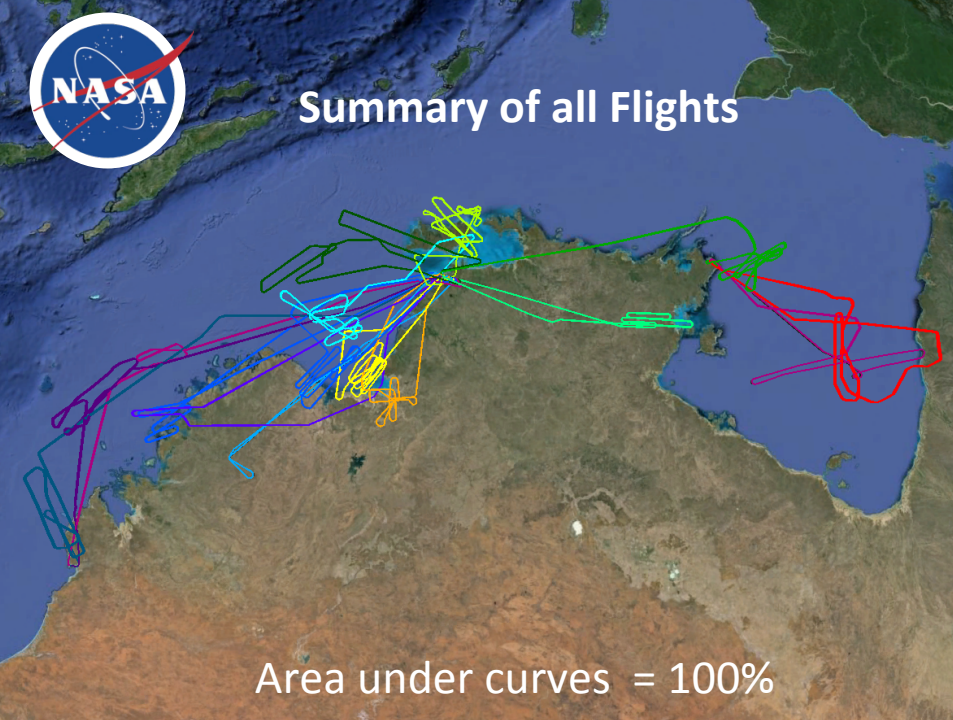
- $3 \text{ g/m}^3 \leq \text{TWC}$
- $2 \text{ g/m}^3 \leq \text{TWC} < 3 \text{ g/m}^3$
- $1 \text{ g/m}^3 \leq \text{TWC} < 2 \text{ g/m}^3$
- $\text{TWC} < 1 \text{ g/m}^3$



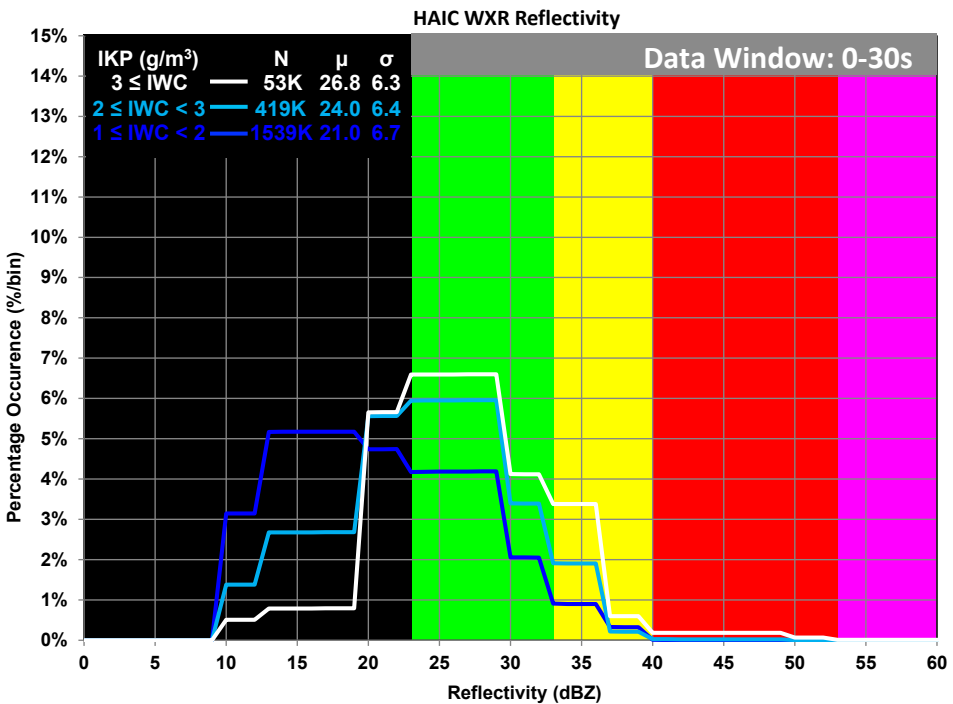
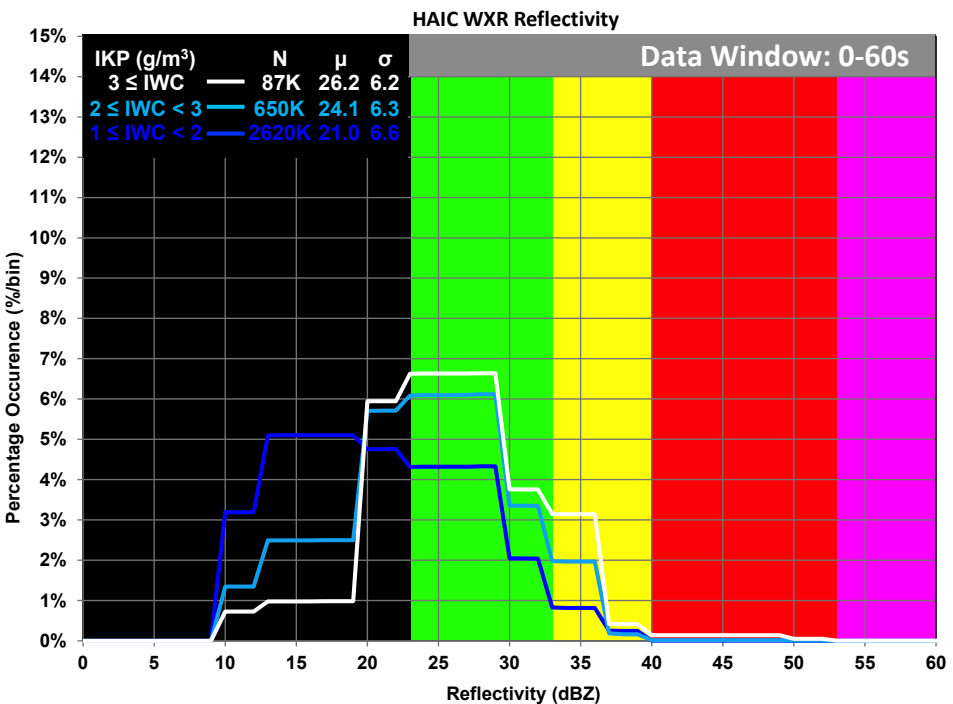
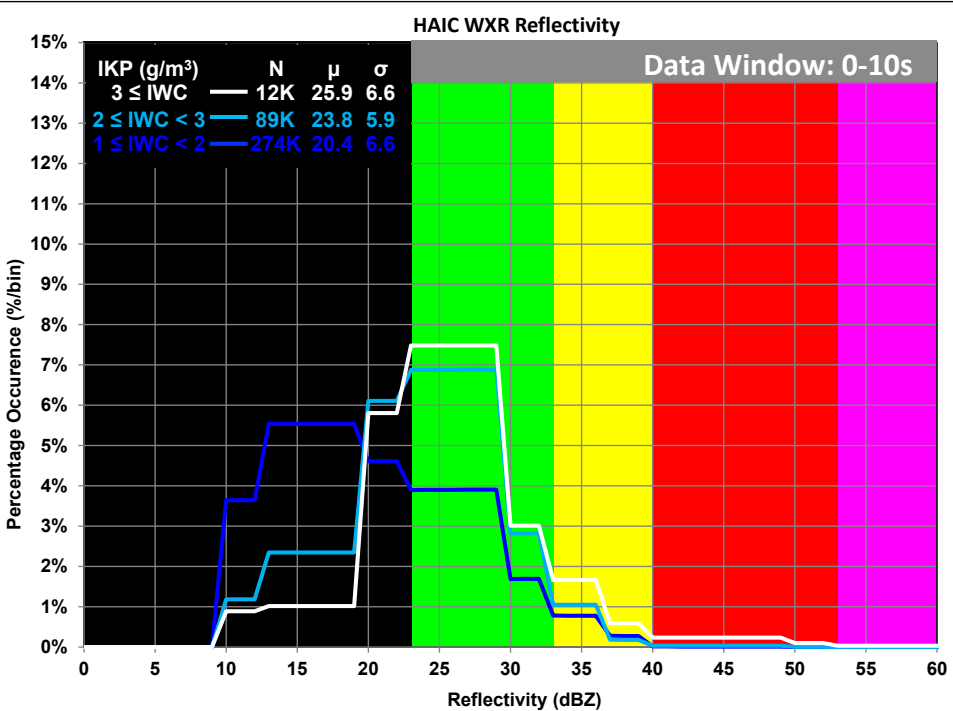




Summary of all Flights



Area under curves = 100%



BACK-UP CHARTS

INCLUDING:

DAY-BY-DAY STATS

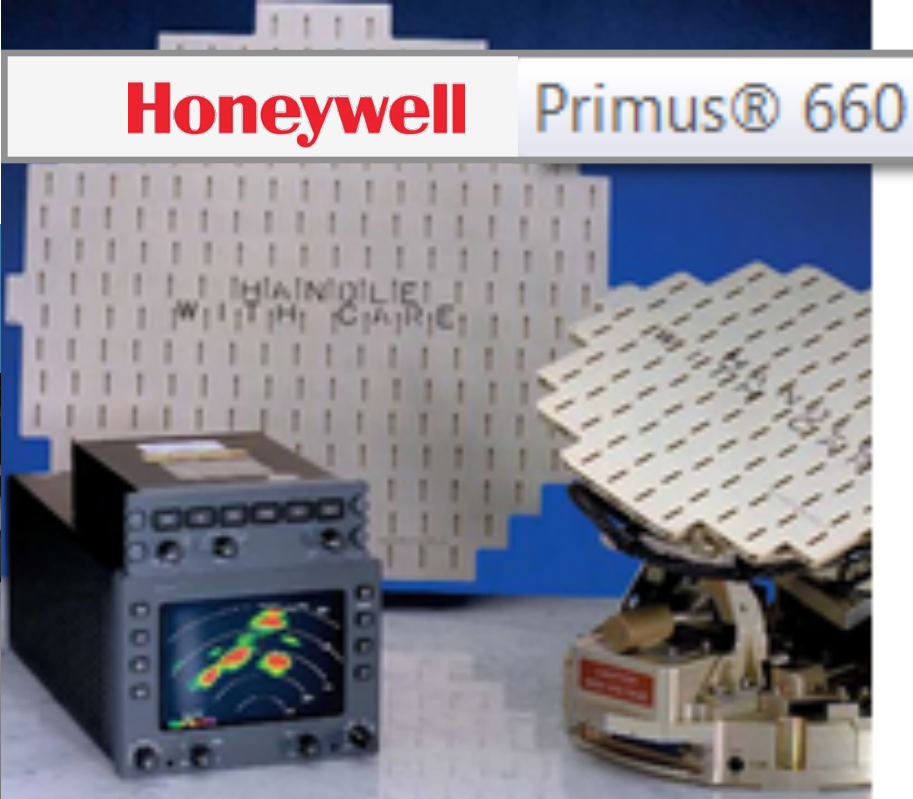
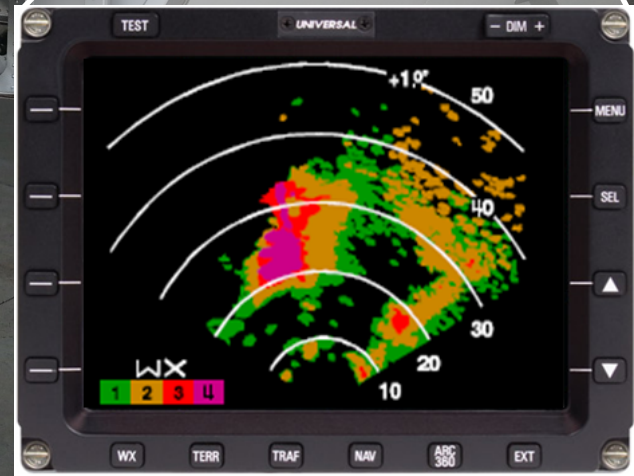
&

***CHARTS FROM PREVIOUS (PARIS)
HAIC-HIWC SCIENCE TEAM MEETING***



2014 HAIC-HIWC International Field Campaign

Radar Data is Recorded from Display Bus of Honeywell Primus 660 Weather Radar



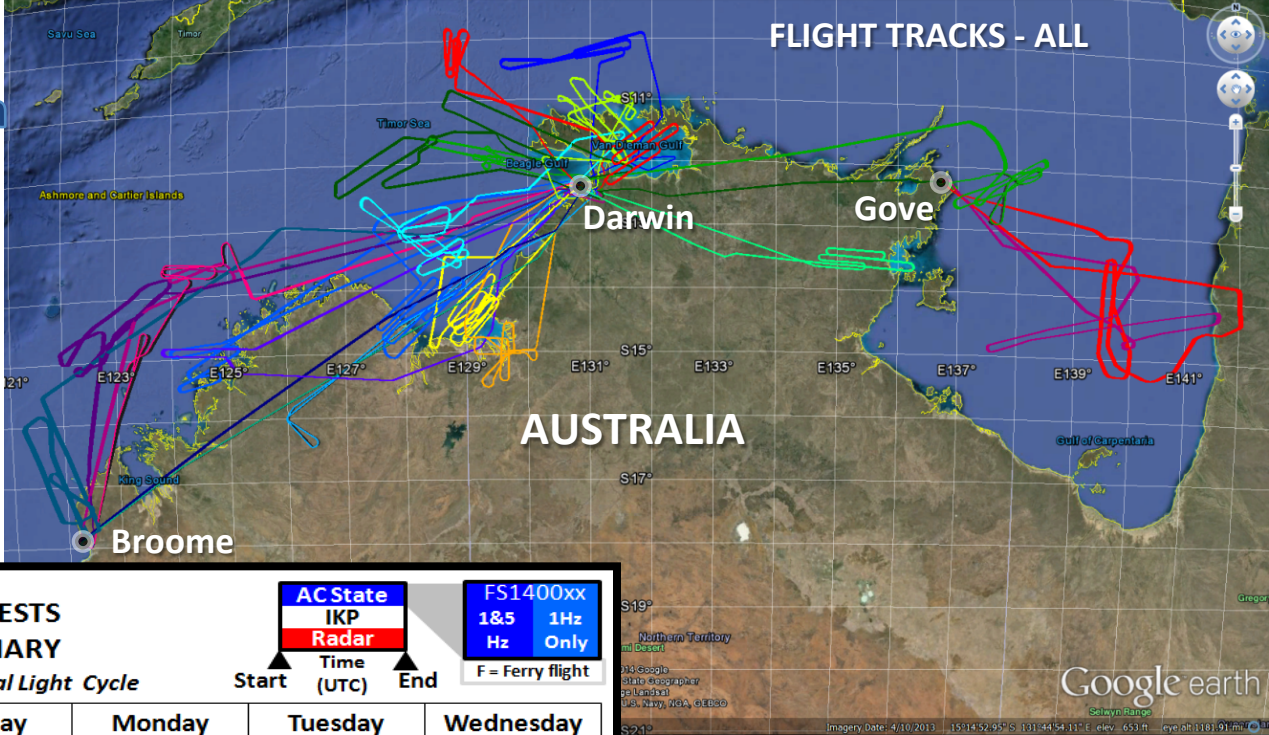
- Radar data consists of pilot's display only
- 5 color labels:

$53 \leq$	magenta	}	dBZ	
$40 \leq$	red			< 53
$33 \leq$	yellow			< 40
$23 \leq$	green			< 33
	black			< 23
- Variable Gain
 - +3 to -15 dB
 - CAL setting (0 dB gain with gnd_filter)
- GPS time (1 Hz)
 - Used to synchronize all files



2014 HAIC-HIWC International Field Campaign

- AC Deployed to Darwin
- Darwin Served as Base
- Australian BoM provided:
 - General Met Support
 - Office/Meeting Facilities
 - Gnd Radar (multiple sites)
- Emphasis - oceanic storms



2014 HAIC FLIGHT TESTS FLIGHT DATA SUMMARY

Date Format dd/mm
UTC Dates/Time but Local Diurnal Light Cycle

AC State
IKP
Radar
 Time (UTC)

FS1400xx
 1&5 Hz Only
 F = Ferry flight

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
16/01 01 █	17/01 02 █ 03 █	18/01	19/01 04 █	20/01	21/01 05 █	22/01
23/01	24/01 06 █	25/01	26/01	27/01	28/01 08 █	29/01 09 █ 10 █
30/01 11 █ F	31/01	01/02	02/02	03/02 12 █ 13 █	04/02	05/02 14 █
06/02 15 █	07/02	08/02	09/02	10/02 19 █ 20 █ F	11/02	12/02
13/02	14/02	15/02 16 █ 17 █ F	16/02	17/02 21 █	18/02 22 █	19/02 23 █

- Over 5 weeks (Jan 16 – Feb 19, 2014)
- 20 Flight Days (Dawn – Midday)
- Total of 23 flights (incl. 3 ferry/cal flights)
- Radar Data (sweep recording)
- Aircraft Data (1 and 5 Hz)
- IKP Data



Weather Radar Viewer Application (708 Display)

- Delivered for Flt Ops
- Replicates pilot display
- Playback recorded radar reflectivity

Radar Settings

Radar Parameters
 Azimuth = 57.13
 Tilt = -2.50
 Min Range(nm) = 0.00
 Gain = Cal

Tilt

Display Settings

Date Time

Display Parameters
 Date = 2014-02-18
 Time = 22:22:21
 Total Range(nm) = 25
 Rings(nm) = 1

Lat Lon Alt

Aircraft Parameters
 Lat = -11.2812
 Long = 130.7810
 Alt(ft) = 23179.8
 A/S(knots) = --
 Heading = 328.0

AC Settings

Recorded Gain

Number & Spacing of Range Rings

AC Heading

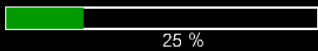
-60°

+60°

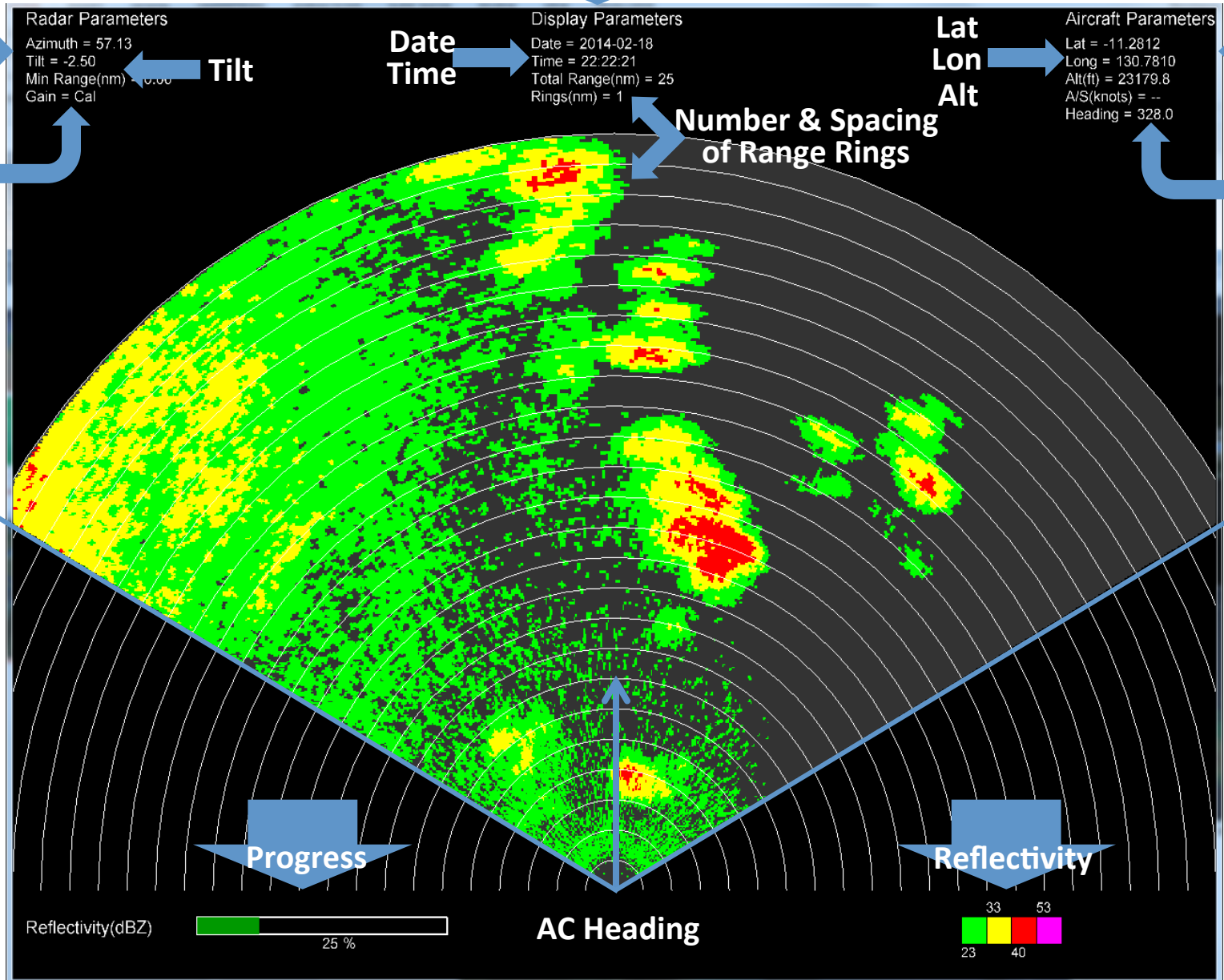
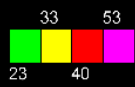
Progress

Reflectivity

Reflectivity(dBZ)



AC Heading





DATA COLLECTION – SUMMARY

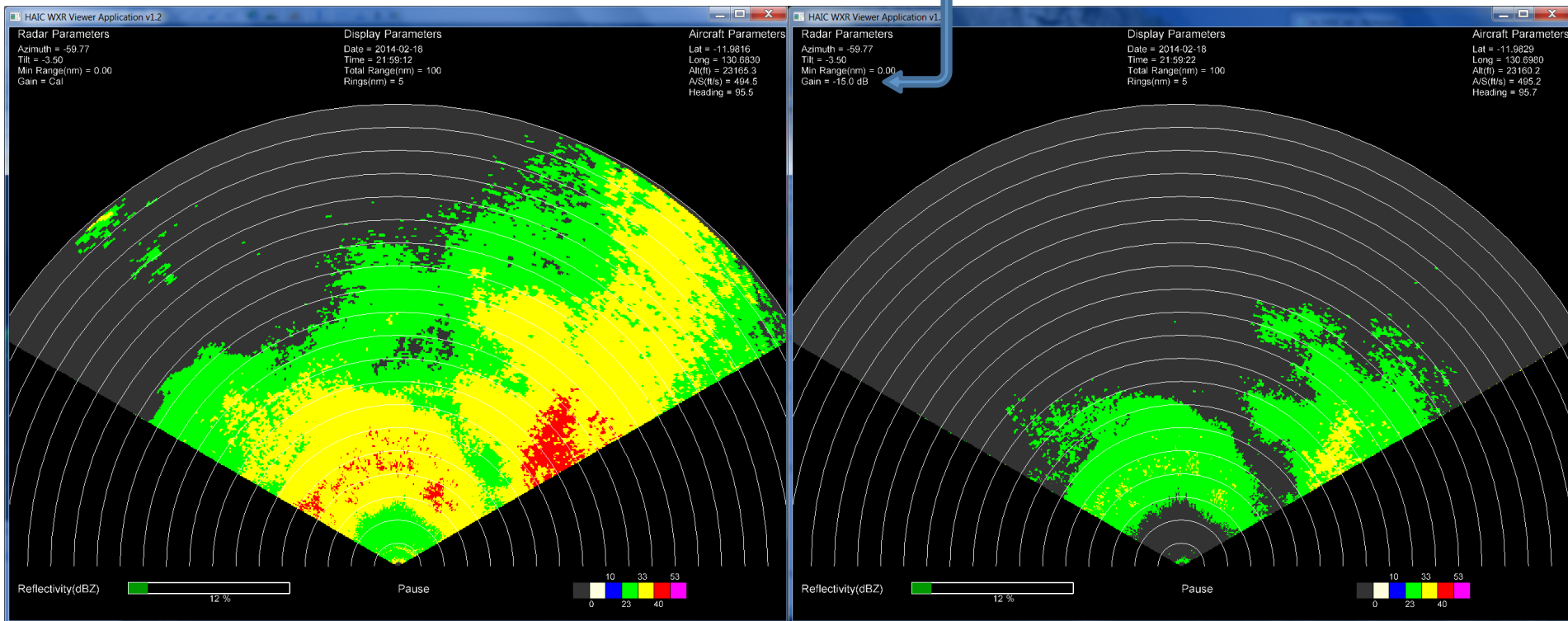
- We have received almost 4GB of Recorded Radar Data – THANK YOU !!!
Representing ~52.5hrs of flight time (more than 90% of the flight time)
- Missing data (FS140006, 23/01/2014) appears to contain one of the BETTER IKP events
- Recording Color rather than Reflectivity ONLY Limits Precision of Results
– Limited Scientific Value but Results Do Confirm Pilot Observations (now & past)
- NASA-supplied Radar Visualization Tool enable post-flight review of:
 - pilot observations
 - radar operational procedures
 - some idea of HAIC event characteristics (GOOD DATA BEING COLLECTED)
- Pilot's Use of GAIN did NOT help/hurt Flt Ops or Analyses
 - MAX GAIN is only +3 dB, if this value had been greater then GAIN might have helped
 - Use of MIN GAIN (-15dB), while sizeable, would be counter-productive
 - Radar GAIN Setting was recorded thereby allowing compensation
 - Published GAIN values were confirmed (not assumed)
- Pilot's Use of Tilt Un-Covered Higher Reflectivities Below Flight Altitude
but questions about ground/sea-clutter must also be considered



Why care about the GAIN setting? Difference between CAL and Minimum Gain

These two sequential images are of the same scene with the same antenna tilt

Note reduction in reflectivity appearance but GAIN value shows why this is produced



Gain = 0dB (CAL)
Sweep ending at 21:59:12

Gain = **-15 dB** Counter-Productive
Sweep ending at 21:59:22 for seeing
low reflectivity targets

Flight 23 02/18/2014

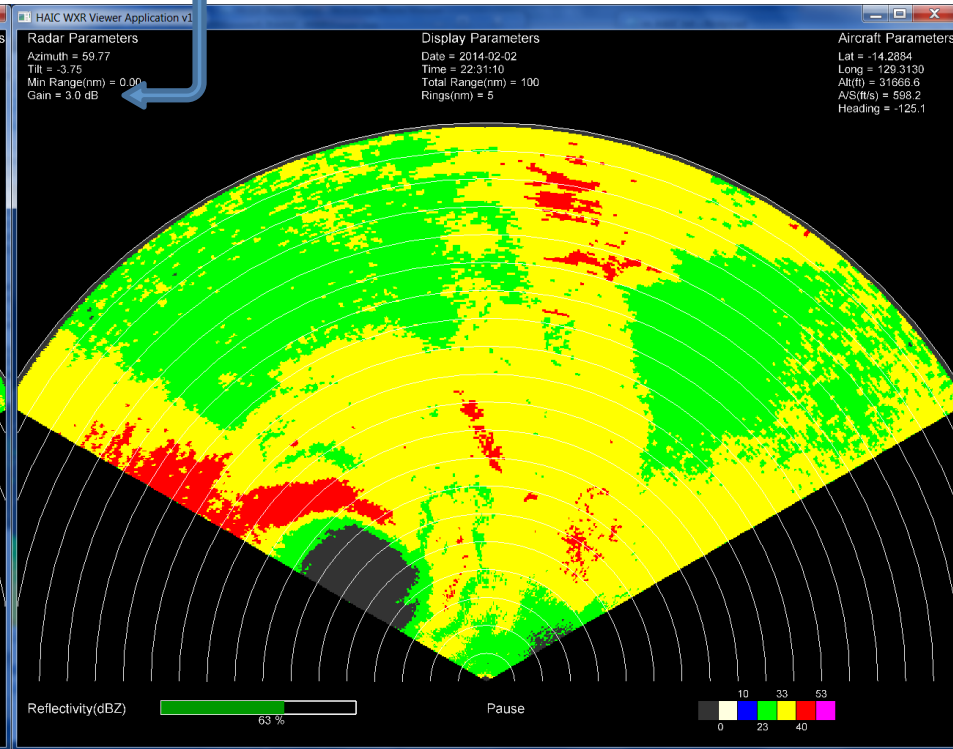
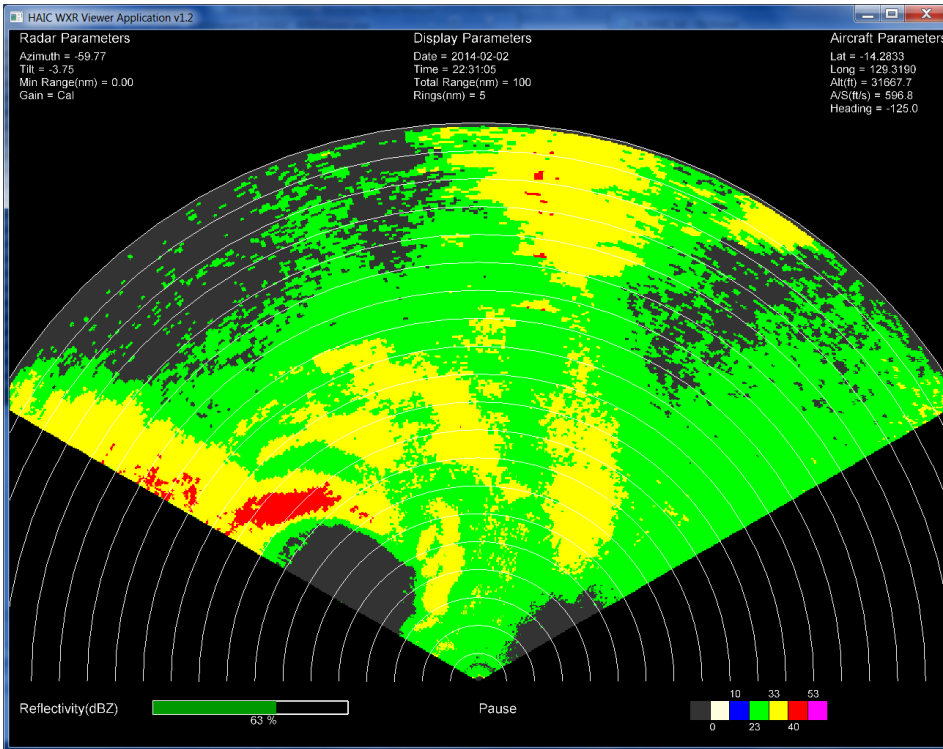
POC: Steven.D.Harrah@NASA.gov



Why care about the GAIN setting? Difference between CAL and Maximum Gain

These two sequential images are of the same scene with the same antenna tilt

Note small increases in reflectivity appearance but GAIN value shows why this is produced



Gain = 0dB (CAL)
Sweep ending at 22:31:05

Gain = **+3 dB** Not enough help seeing
low-reflectivity targets
causes confusion
regarding flt ops

Flight 12 02/02/2014

POC: Steven.D.Harrah@NASA.gov

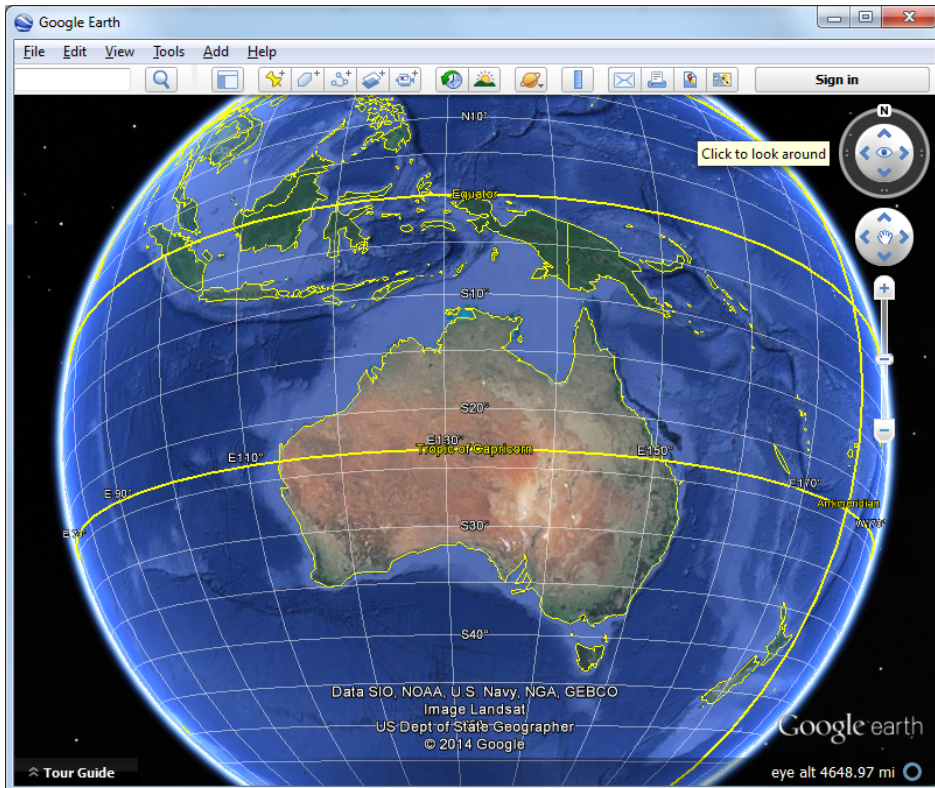


Geospatial Visualization of Flight Data

Utilizing Google®Earth as the Graphics Engine

Data Representations

- Aircraft Flight Path
 - Graphical 4-D Track
 - Latitude, Longitude, Altitude, Time
- Aircraft and Radar Parameters
 - Text-based Pop-up Box
- Radar Reflectivity
 - Color-coded Imagery
 - Position, Orientation, Scale, Time
- IKP Data
 - Total Water Content (TWC)
 - Color-coded 3-D Track



Visualization Engine

Google™ earth

- Freely Available
- <http://www.google.com/earth/>
- Abundant Documentation & Tutorials
- Active User & Developer Communities
- External Data Import
 - Via Keyhole Markup Language (KML)
- Feature Rich GUI
 - View Control
- Animation Support
 - Timeline controls

POC: Steven.D.Harrah@NASA.gov



Visualizing aircraft, radar, and IKP data in Google®Earth

- Open KMZ files – typically one IKP (whole day) and one (or more) WXR files (each ~15min)
- Compress Start-Stop indicators (see detail below) till only one WXR sweep is shown

The screenshot shows the Google Earth interface with a flight path and radar data overlaid on a map. A detailed view of the 'Display Window' is shown, which includes a timeline with a 'PLAY' button and 'Start' and 'Stop' markers. A 'Tilt Angle' callout points to the map's tilt. A data popup for a waypoint is also visible, showing coordinates and other flight data.

Zoom

Preferences

PLAY

Start

Stop

Display Window

Tilt Angle

-2

2014-02-18
22:22:27 UTC
Latitude = -11.27 deg
Longitude = 130.78 deg
Altitude = 7.07 km
Range = 48.61 km
Heading = 328.30 deg
Tilt = -2.50 deg

Directions: [To here](#) - [From here](#)

Click waypoint icon to display data

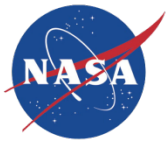
- Expand the KMZ entries on the side bar
- Turn ON/OFF setting to match those shown
- Press PLAY

Image © 2014 TerraMetrics
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image © 2014 DigitalGlobe
© 2014 Cnes/Spot Image

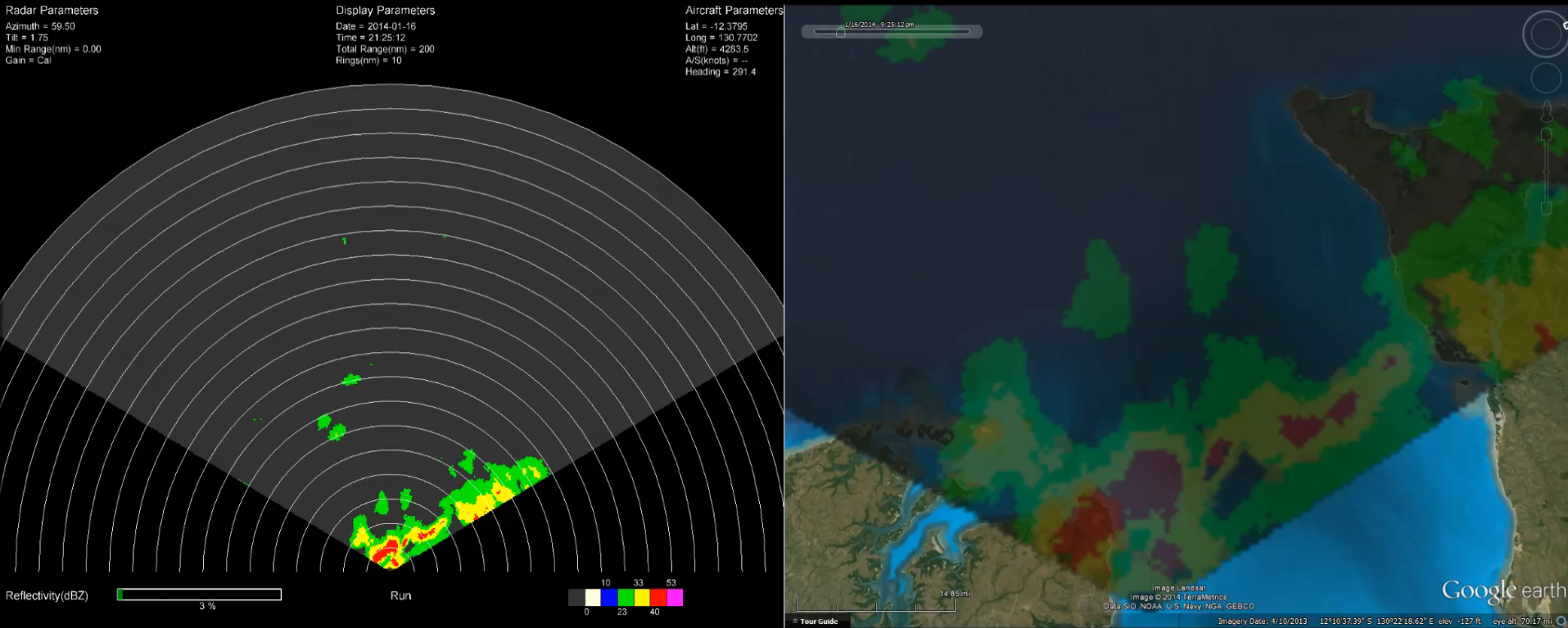
Google earth

POC: Steven.D.Harrish@NASA.gov

11°22'39.87" S 130°10'04.91" E elev -18 ft eye alt 40.10 mi

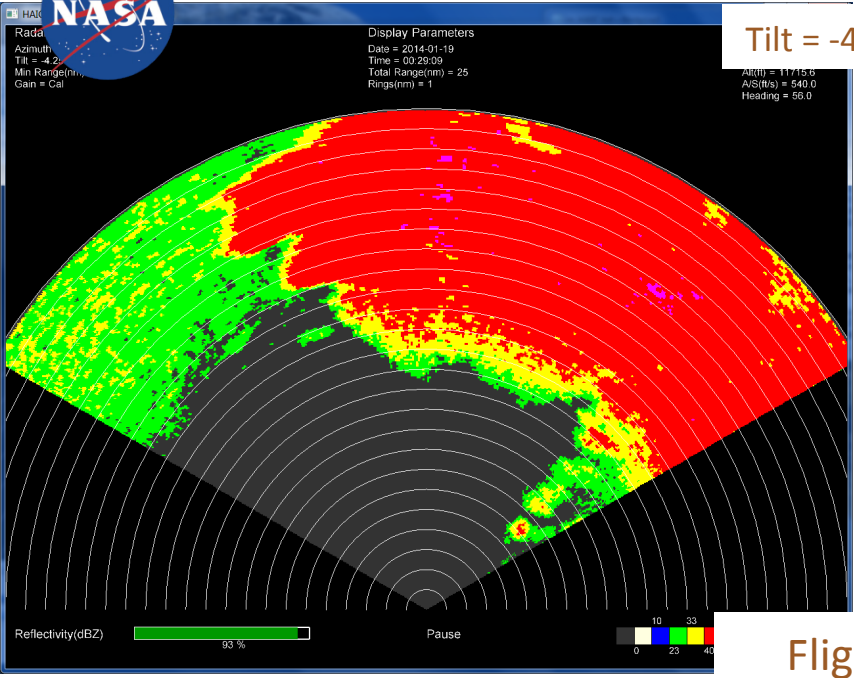


Video of side by side comparison of 708 with Google® Earth

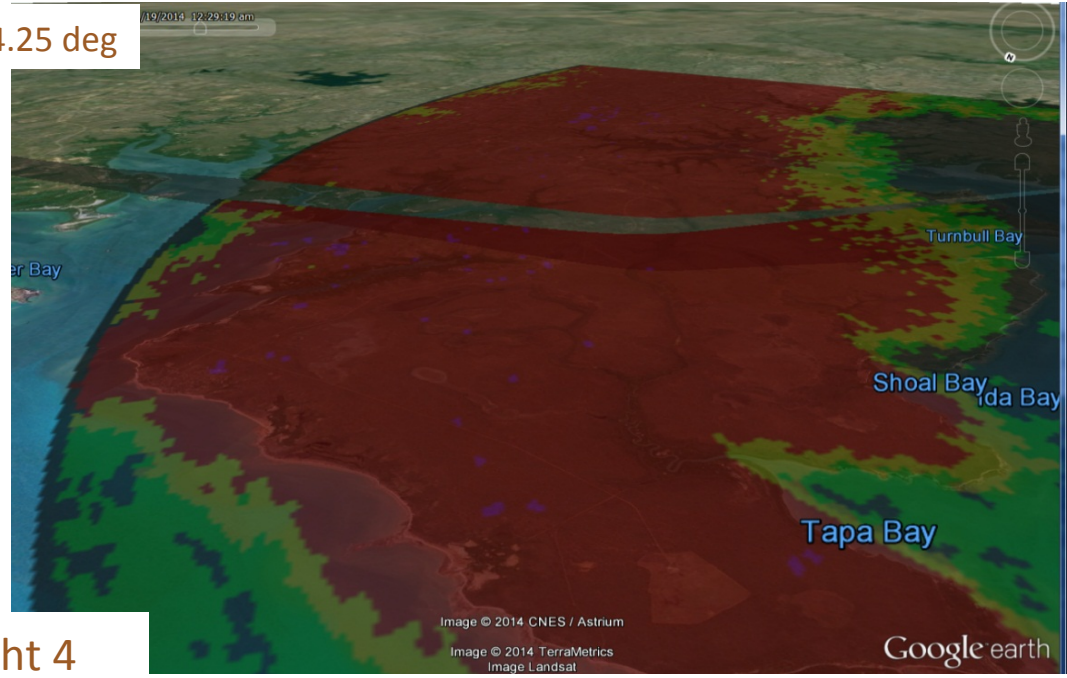


- **Google® Earth provides more intuitive presentation**
 - Pilot changes (radar range, antenna tilt, & aircraft heading)
 - Ground clutter identification & feature localization/correlation

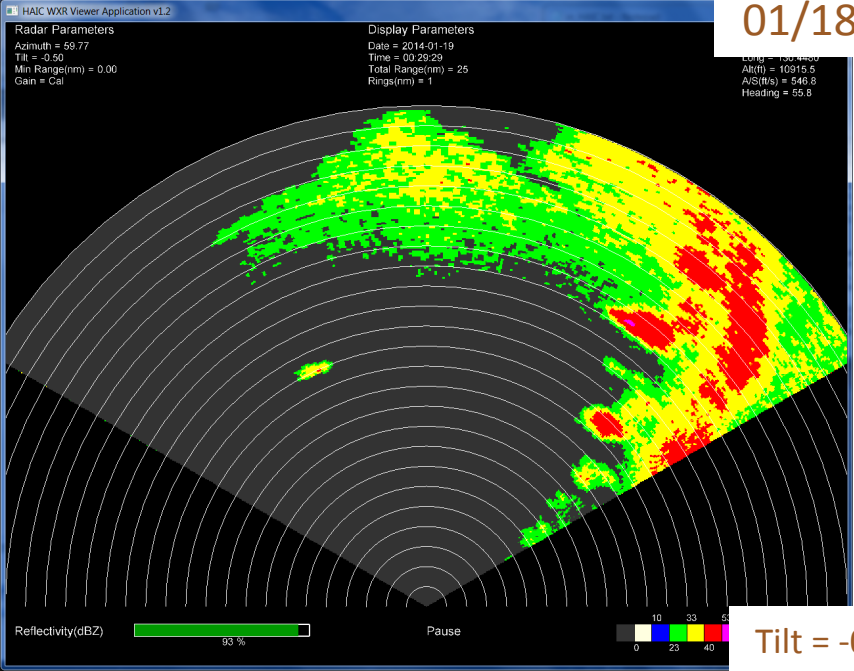
Tilt Change not Gain change comparison with 708 and Google Earth



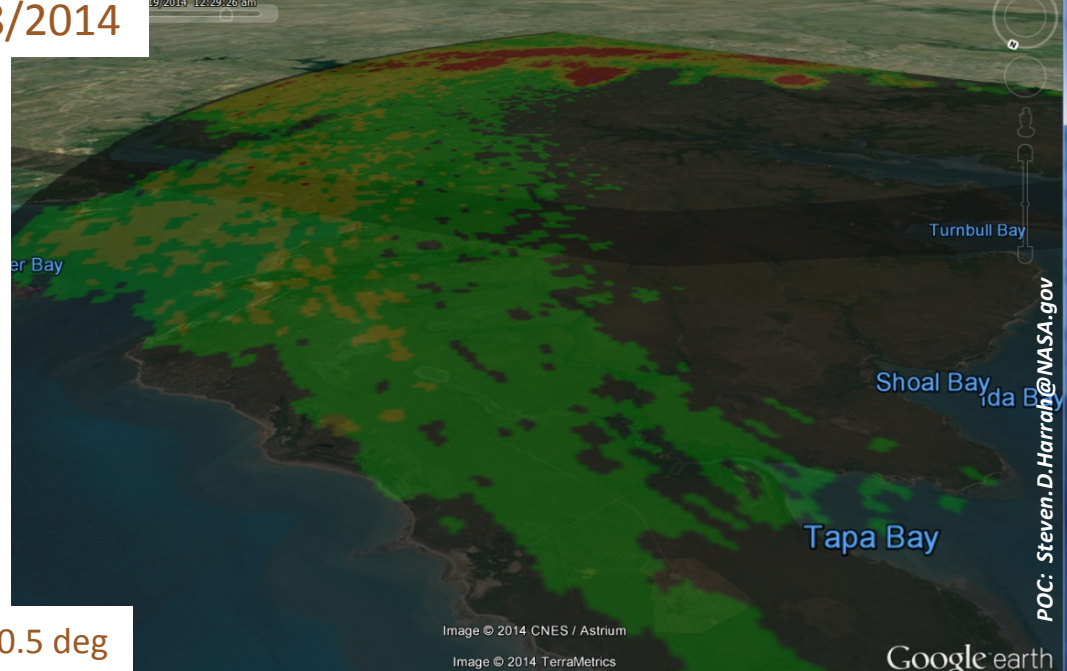
Tilt = -4.25 deg



Flight 4
01/18/2014

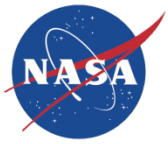


Tilt = -0.5 deg



POC: Steven.D.Harrish@NASA.gov

Google earth



Event Definitions

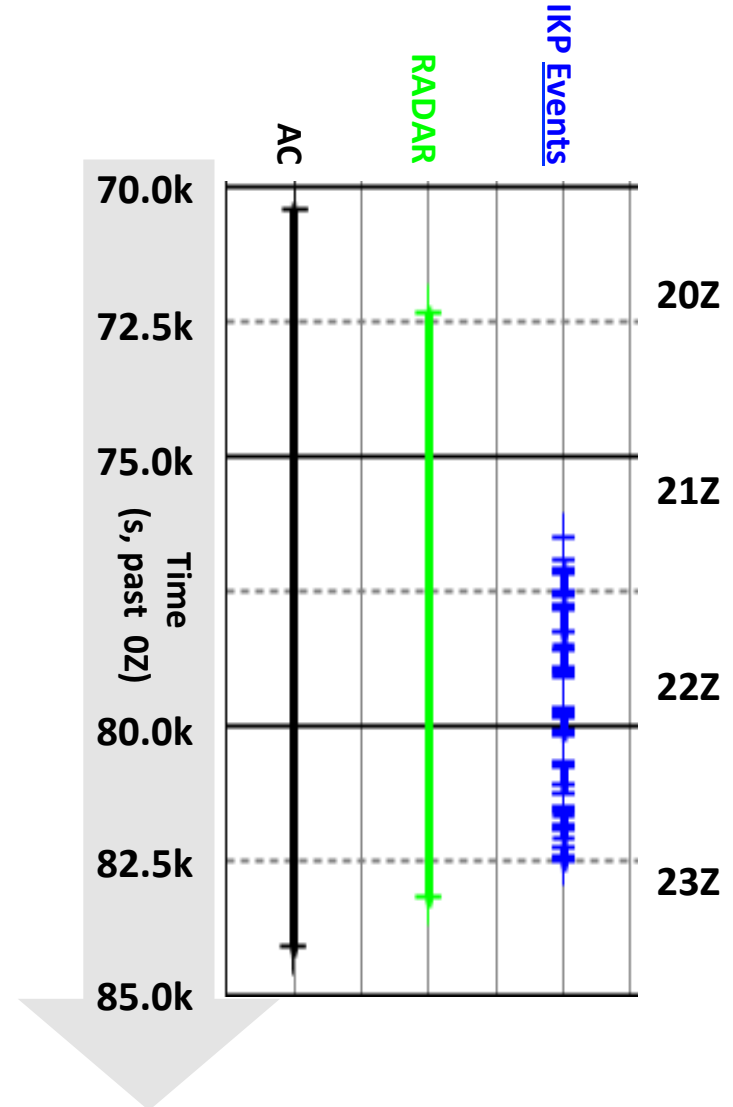
Event duration ≥ 1 second (more than one sample)
Use radar reflectivity to create statistics

IKP Events

- 3 different Levels for events
 - $1 \leq \text{IKP value} < 2$
 - $2 \leq \text{IKP value} < 3$
 - $3 \leq \text{IKP value}$

} $\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$
- Total # events **788**
- No Radar data for **96** events
- Need IKP and Radar data resulting in **692** usable events

Strip Chart FS140010





For More Information

- NASA Technical Memorandum has been prepared and will be released soon. This report summarizes these analyses, provides additional results, and discusses more aspects of these analyses/results than could be expressed in this single briefing.
- All KMZ files (viewable in Google®Earth) showing aircraft track, preliminary IKP values, and all the weather radar scans (as seen in flight) are being provided to NCAR for archiving.
- Additional weather radar results will be produced as part of the NASA 2015 HIWC Flight Campaign – August 2015 expected to be conducted in the vicinity of Puerto Rico utilizing the NASA DC-8 aircraft.

NASA/TM-2014-XXXXXX



X-band, Airborne, Weather Radar Observations from the 2014 HAIC Flight Campaign

**A Description of the Data Collected, the Visualization Tools Utilized, and
the Statistical Properties of the Radar Reflectivities Observed**

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Analytical Mechanics Associates, Inc.
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