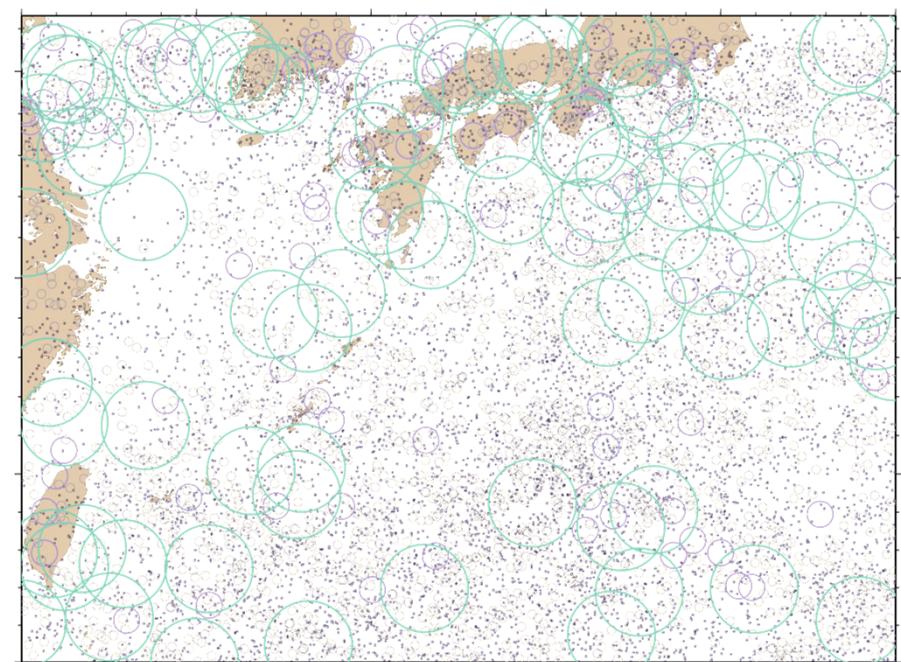


Evaluation of rainfall climatology from the long-term spaceborne radar data

Masafumi Hirose
Meijo Univ.



Introduction

Further understandings of local bias & unique features of the long-term spaceborne radar data are necessary to show and utilize dynamic precipitation climatology.



Accumulated
TRMM PR data

Quantitative evaluation
on rain estimates

Qualitative detection of
various rain features

More accurate
climatology
& its application



How robust? What is new?
What is the impact on other
databases and subjects?
How about substitutability?

Uncertainties in rain climatology
Local rain characteristics at fine scales

Evaluation of the long-term TRMM PR data & Development of better climatological uses

Research challenges:

1. External and internal VAL on retrieval properties
 - Uncertainties and advantages against ground truths
 - Correction on incidence angle dependency
2. Progress assessment of the precipitation climatology
 - Sampling performance at multi scales (e.g., Regional impact of rare but significant events)
 - Detection of fine-scale storm features
3. Other themes
 - Disclosure of research product and visual tools
 - Comparative verification of the GPM DPR data

Evaluation of the long-term TRMM PR data & Development of better climatological uses

Research challenges:

1. External and internal VAL on retrieval properties

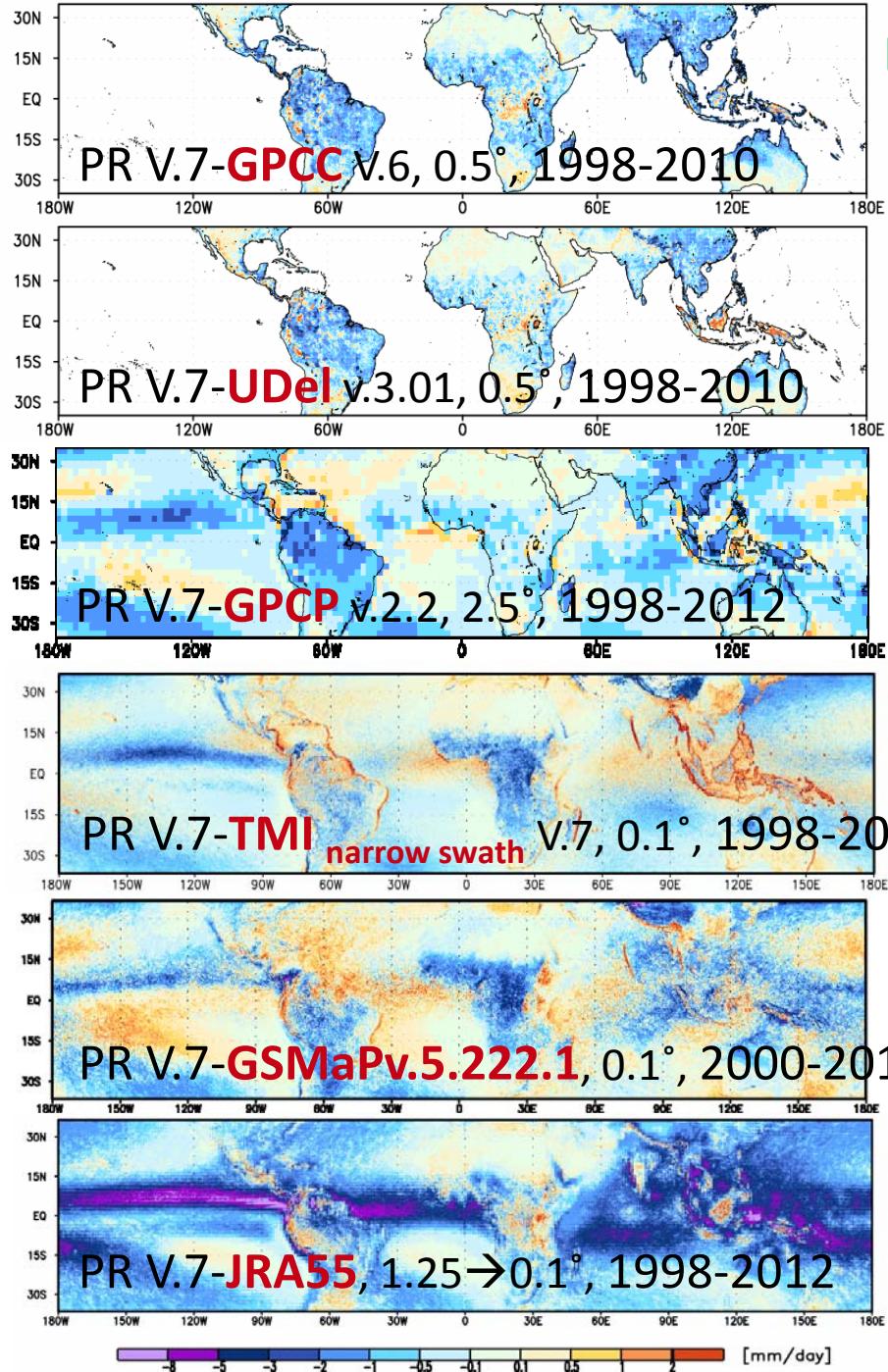
- Uncertainties and advantages against ground truths
- Correction on incidence angle dependency

2. Progress assessment of the precipitation climatology

- Sampling performance at multi scales (e.g., Regional impact of rare but significant events)
- Detection of fine-scale storm features

3. Other themes

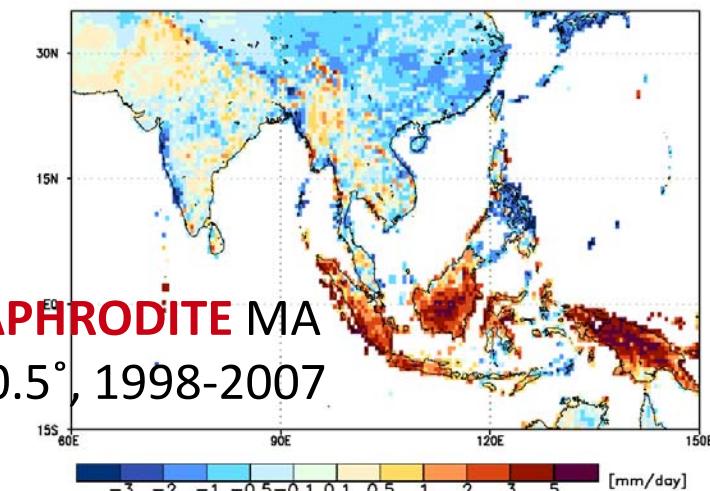
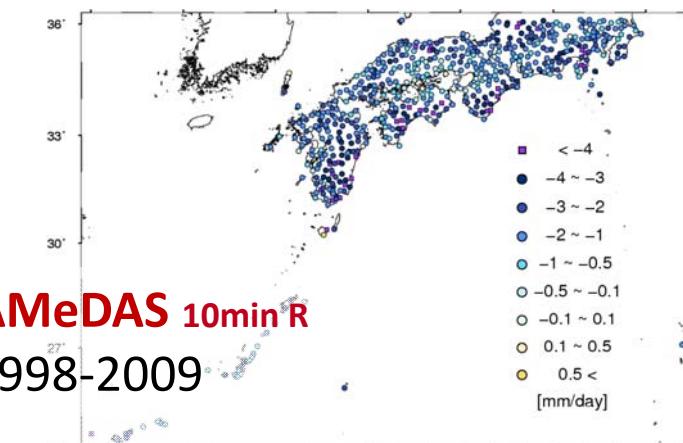
- Disclosure of research product and visual tools
- Comparative verification of the GPM DPR data



Uncertainties in rain climatology

Comparison with global rainfall datasets

PR Underestimates Overestimates



All datasets include local intrinsic biases.

Year-to-year variation

Corrected* (original)

TRMM PR v7

GPCP v2.2

JRA55 (①-400mm, ②-500mm)

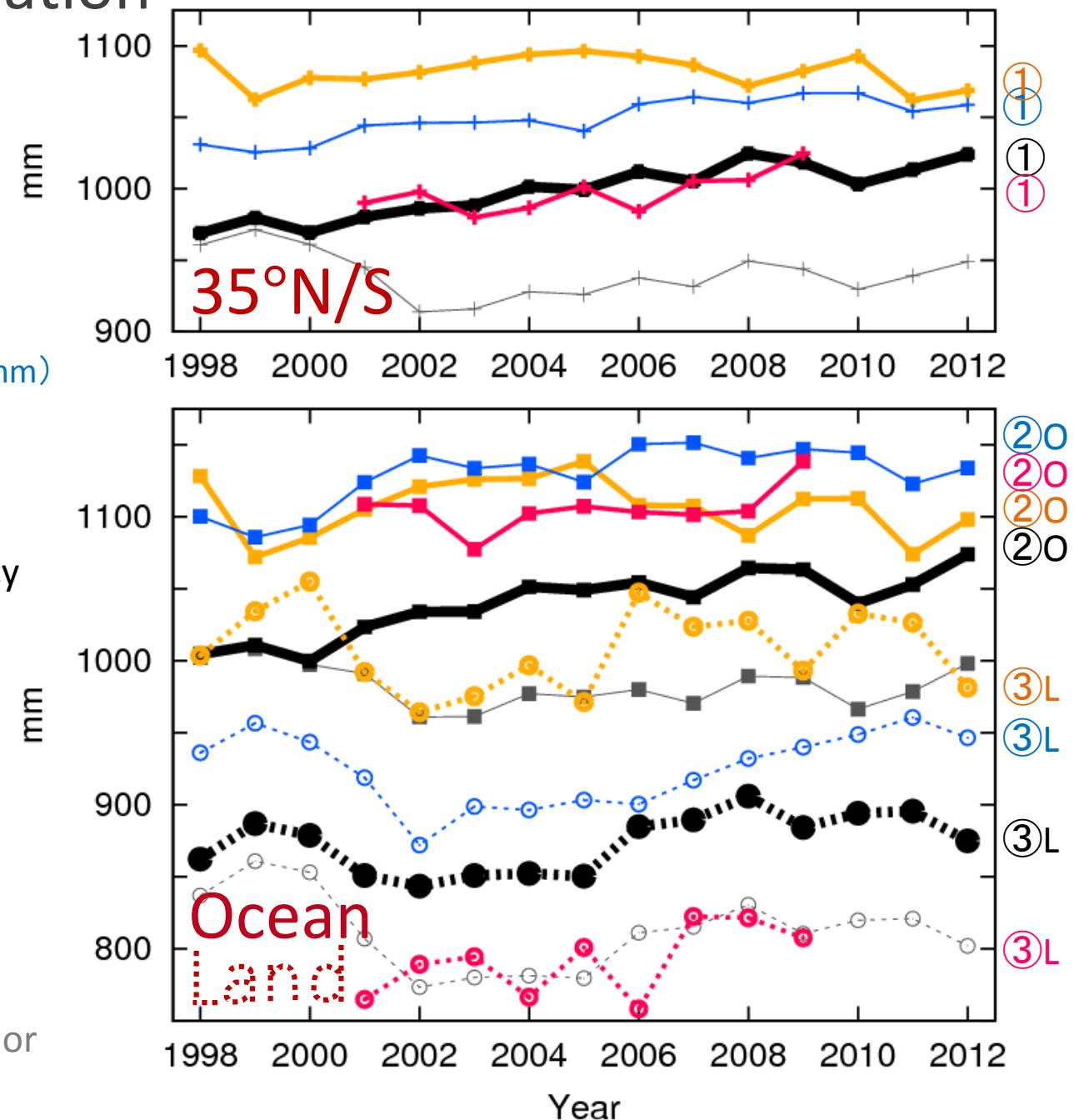
GSMaP v.5.222.1

* Incidence angle dependency
(Hirose et al. 2012)

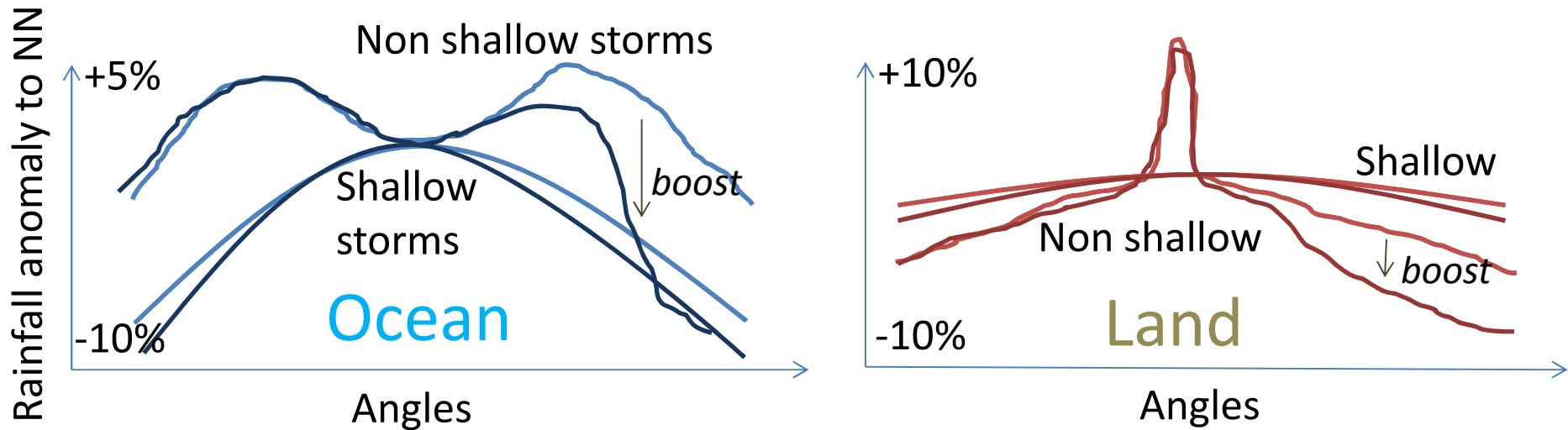
+ sensitivity degradation
(Kida et al. 2013)

e.g., correction factor
over land: +3 (+8) %
before (after) the boost

Systematic bias → key issues or
strength of PR climatology



Data integrity between incidence angles



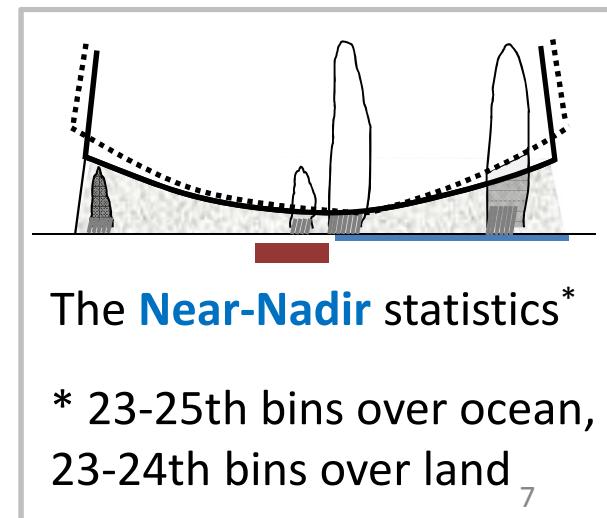
Potential biases on the near-surface rainfall at the invisible levels under the clutter-free bottom

A. Retrieval errors: **Low-level profile model**

B. Sampling errors: **Missing shallow storms**

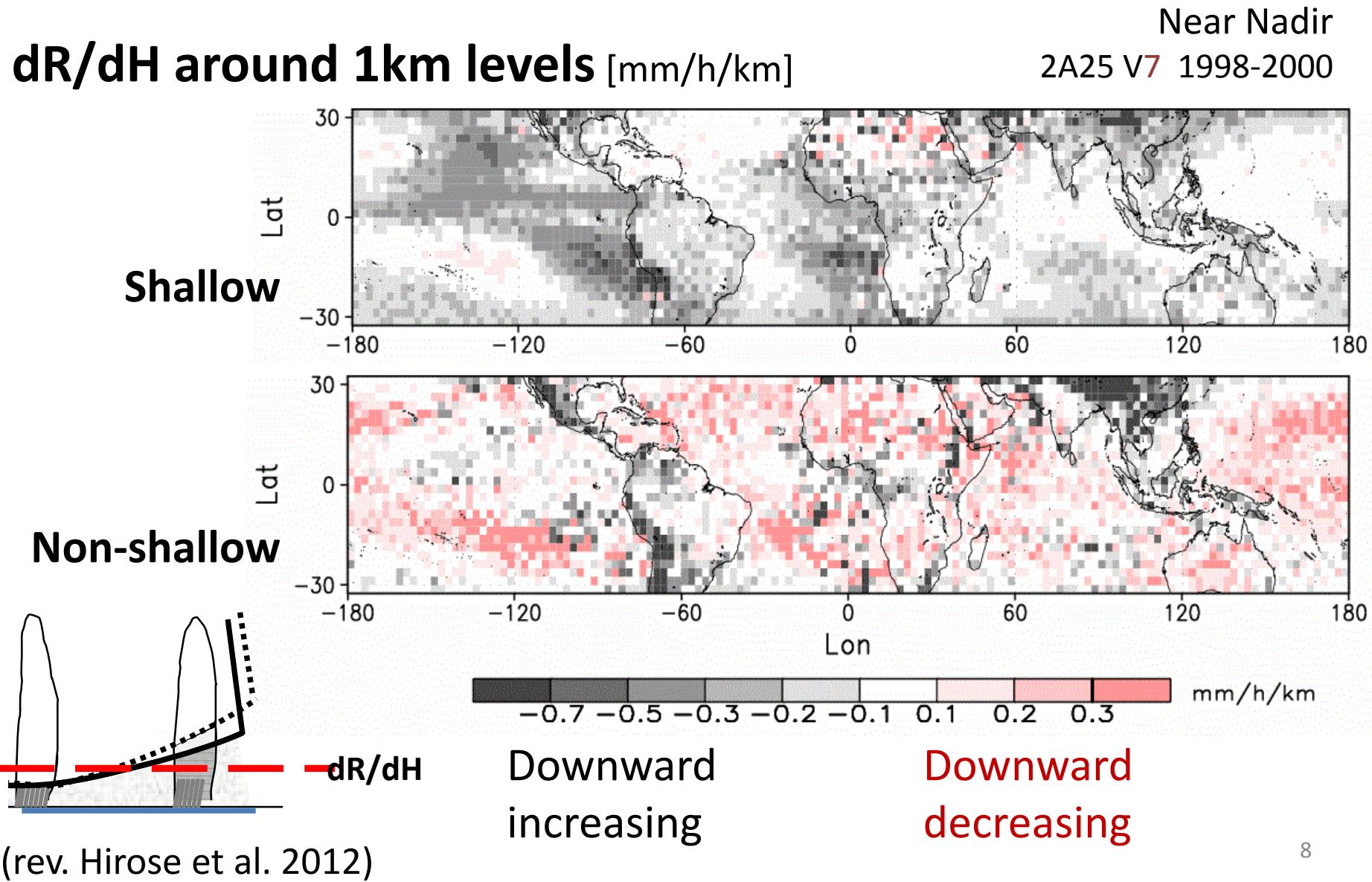
→ Utilization of the **near-nadir** statistics

Other major REs: Off-nadir overestimates over ocean,
Beam-mismatch issues, Peak at the nadir over land



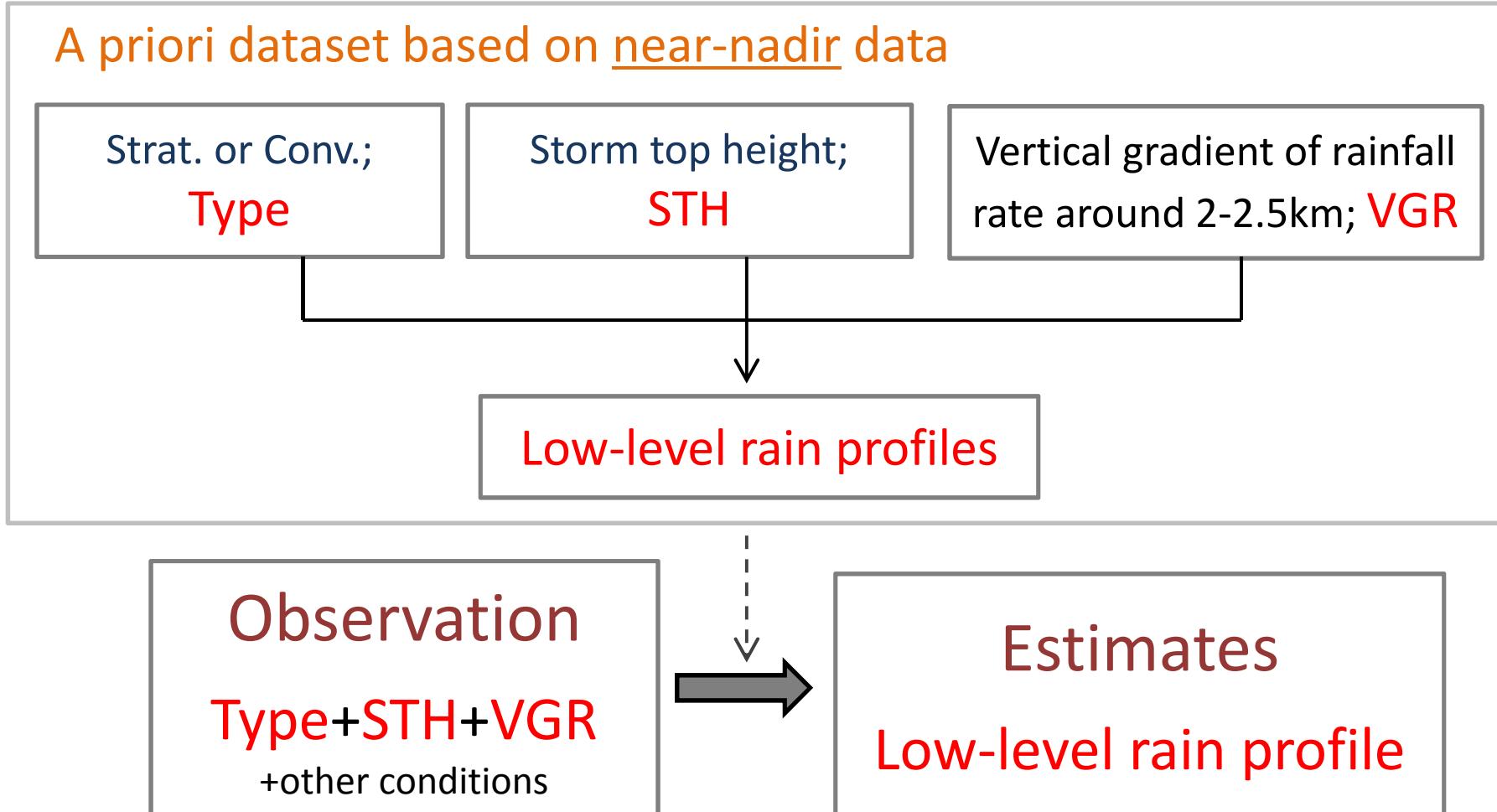
A. Retrieval errors: **Low-level profile model**

Vertical gradient of rainfall rate in the lower atmosphere



Estimates on the off-nadir rain profiles at the clutter levels

Reduction of internal inconsistency in view of the incidence angle dependency



Preliminary analysis:

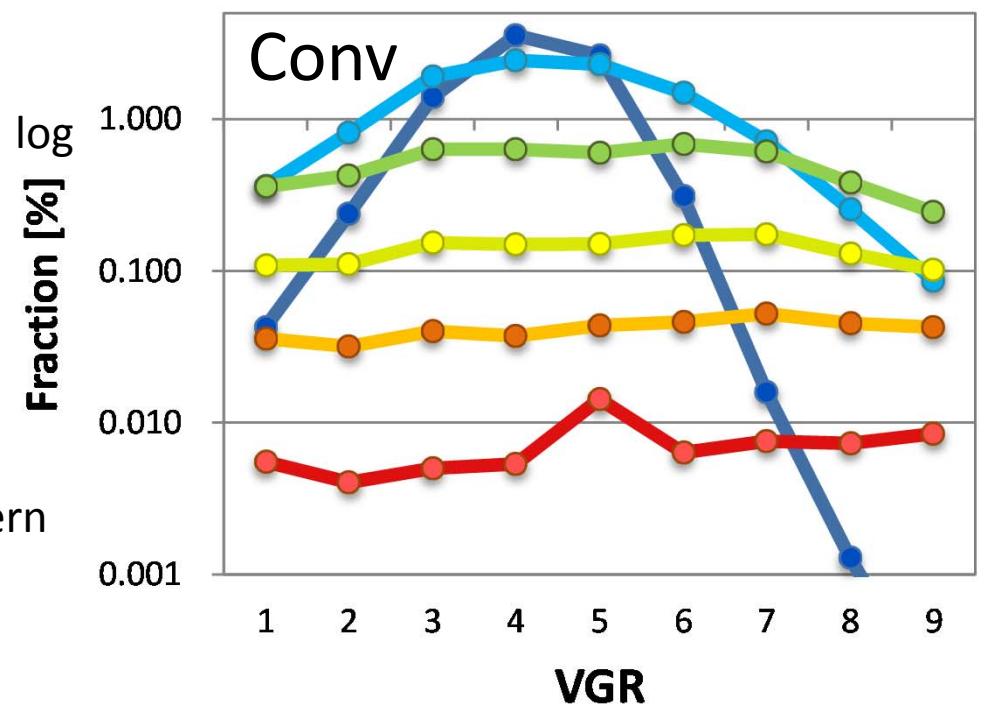
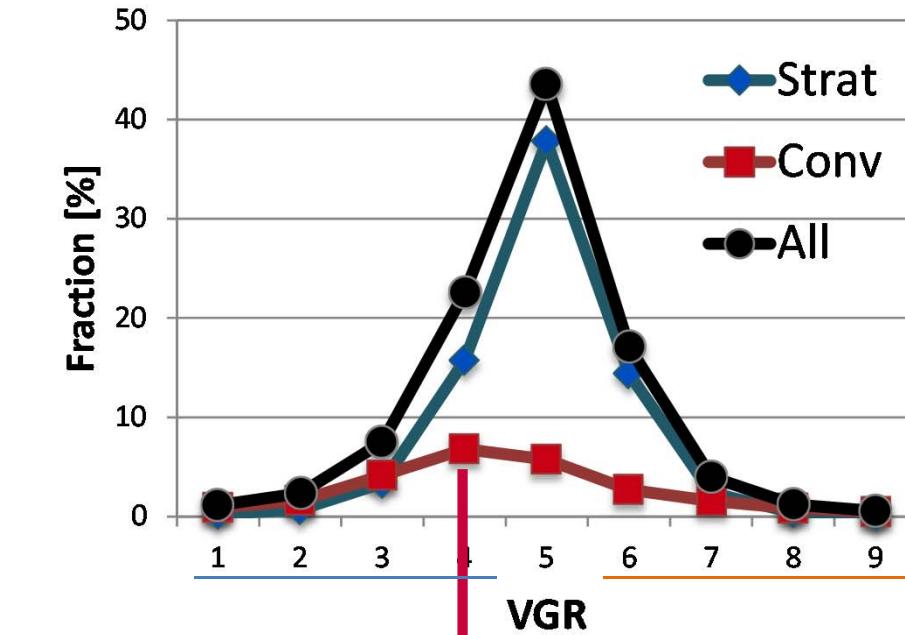
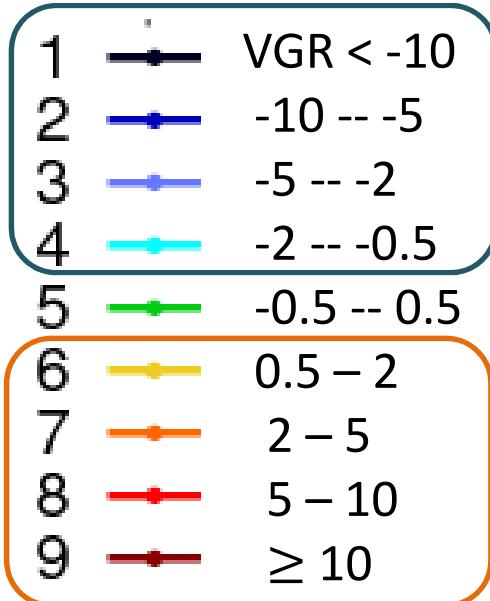
Target area: Asia 60-150E, 0-37N, Data: 2A25 v.7, 1998-2012 (c. Kondo)

Histogram of VGR

VGR [mm/h/km]

2-2.5km

Downward **increasing** pattern



STH

- 0-3km
- 3-6km
- 6-9km
- 9-12km
- 12-15km
- 15-20km

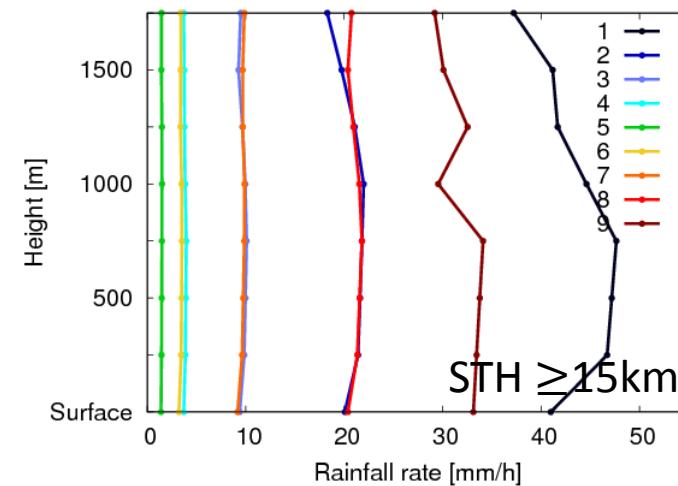
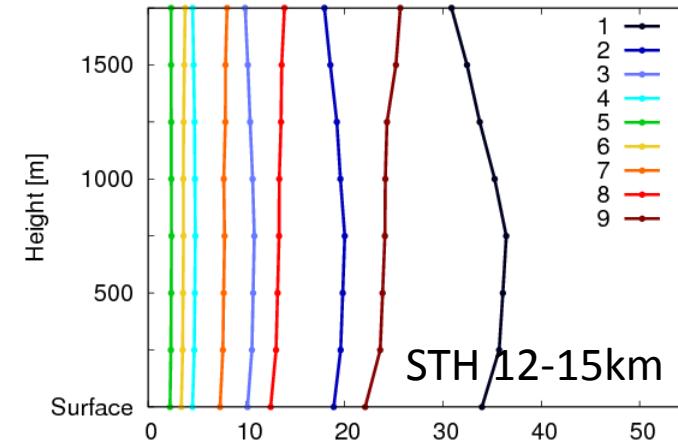
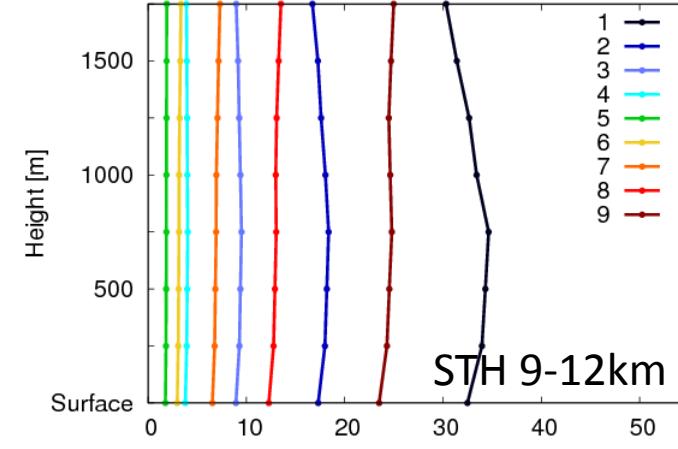
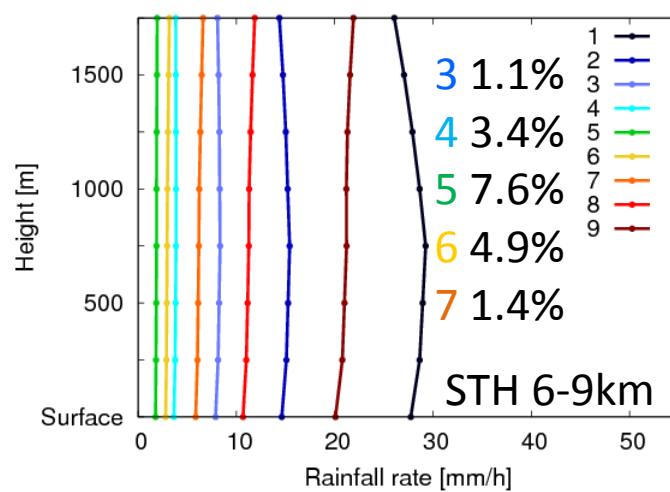
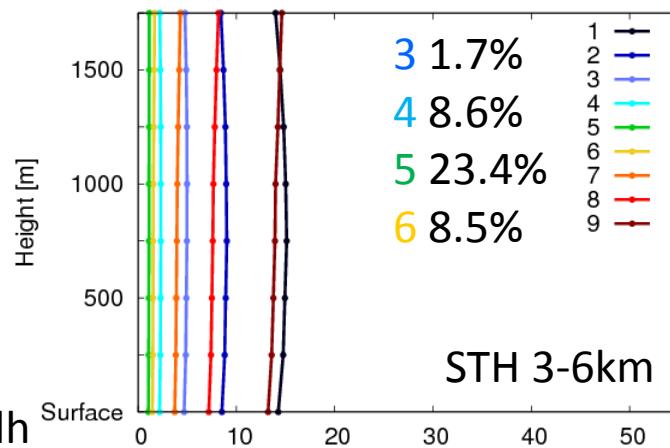
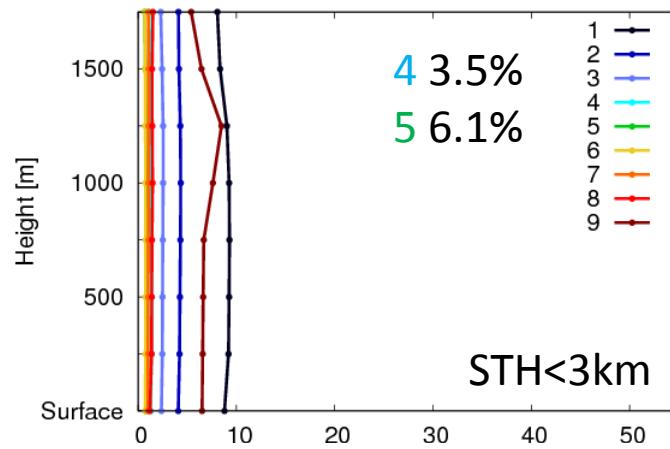
Near-surface rain profiles at near nadir

Stratiform rain

Sorted by STH and VGR

VGR [mm/h/km] dR/dh

- 1 — VGR < -10
- 2 — -10 -- -5
- 3 — -5 -- -2
- 4 — -2 -- -0.5
- 5 — -0.5 -- 0.5
- 6 — 0.5 -- 2
- 7 — 2 -- 5
- 8 — 5 -- 10
- 9 — ≥ 10



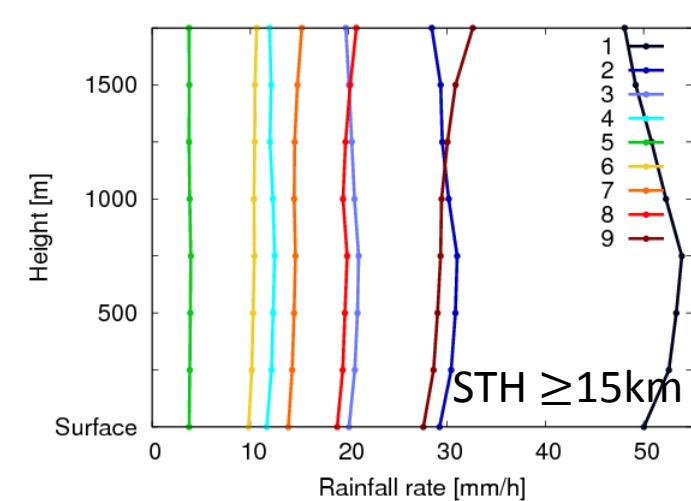
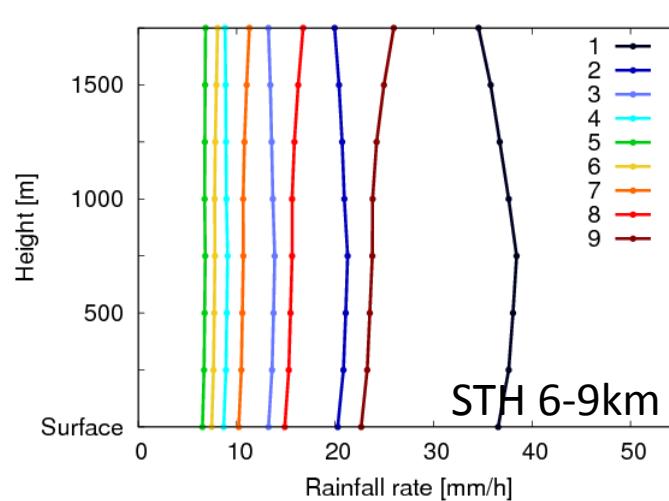
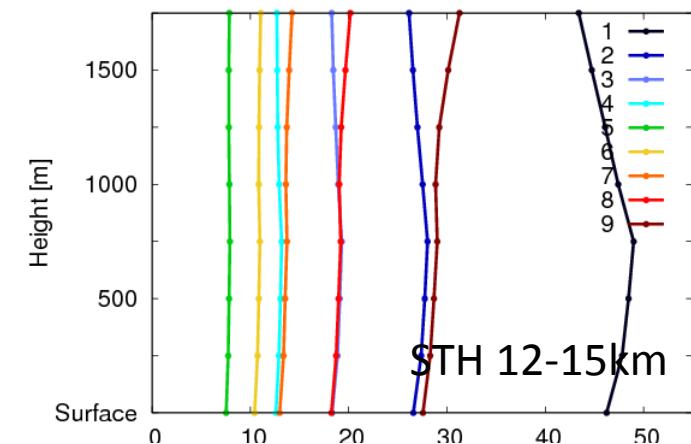
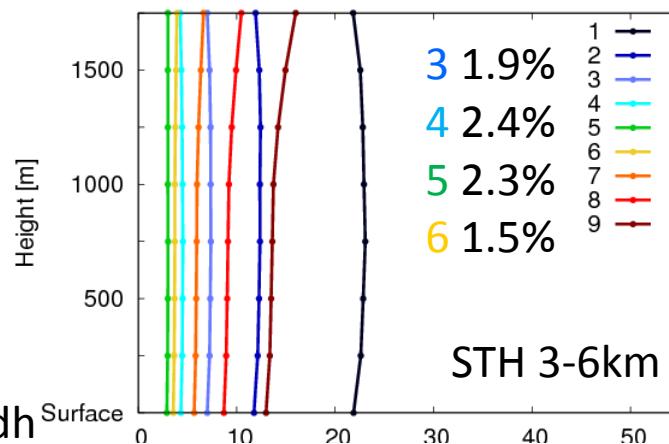
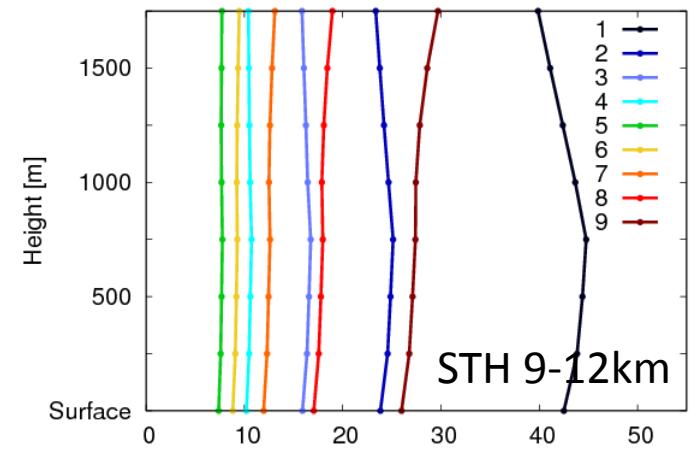
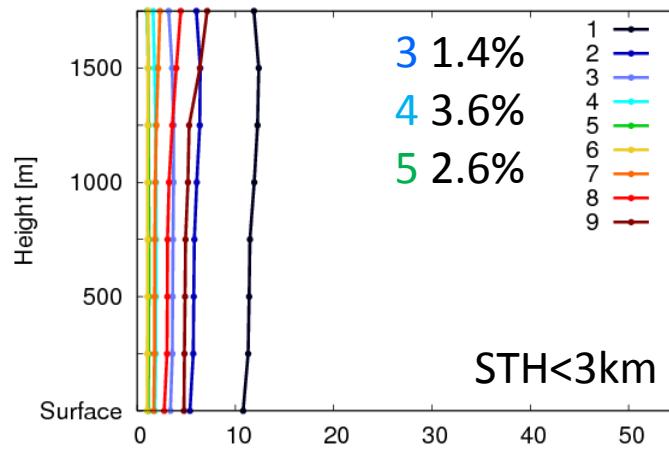
Near-surface rain profiles at near nadir

Convective rain

Sorted by STH and VGR

VGR [mm/h/km] dR/dh

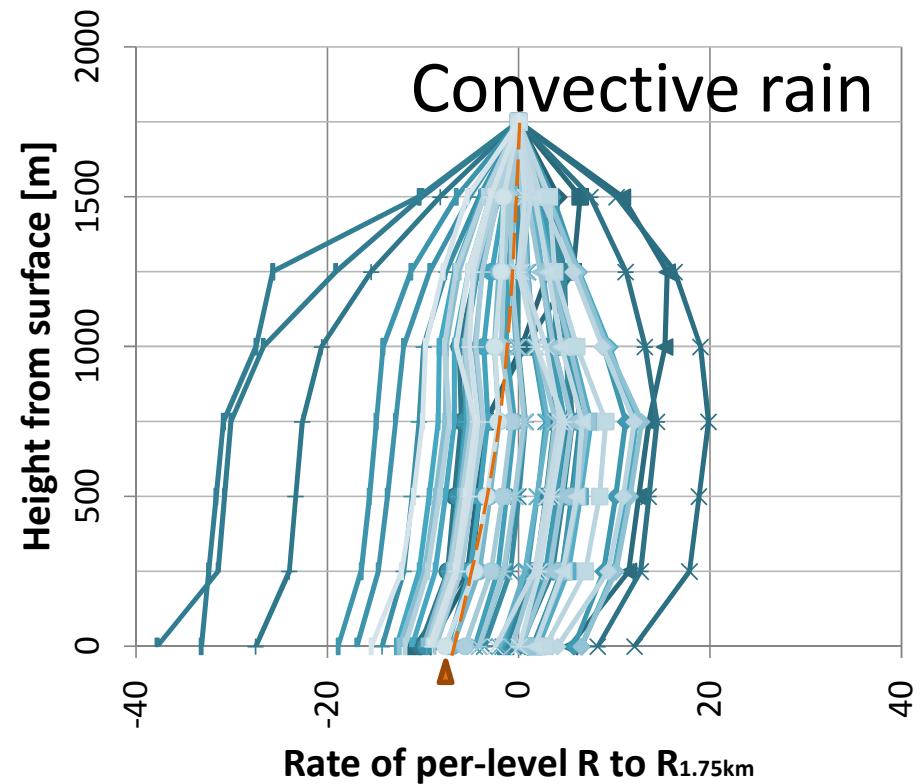
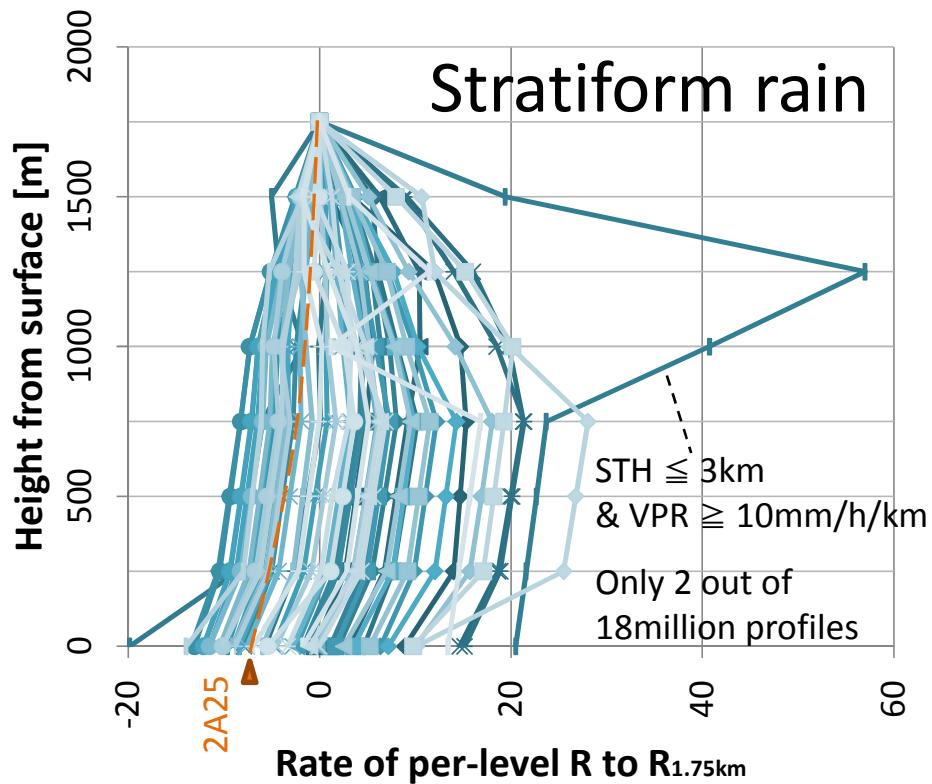
- 1 VGR < -10
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- 7 2 -- 5
- 8 5 -- 10
- 9 ≥ 10



A near-surface rain profile dataset

This example is calculated for the case with the clutter free bottom is 1.75 km

STH 6types
dR/dh 9types

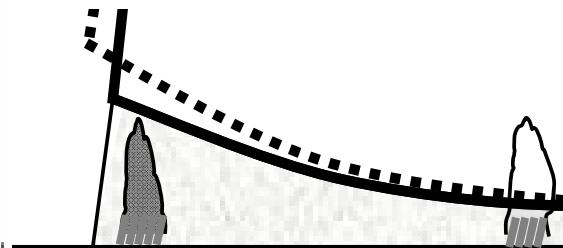
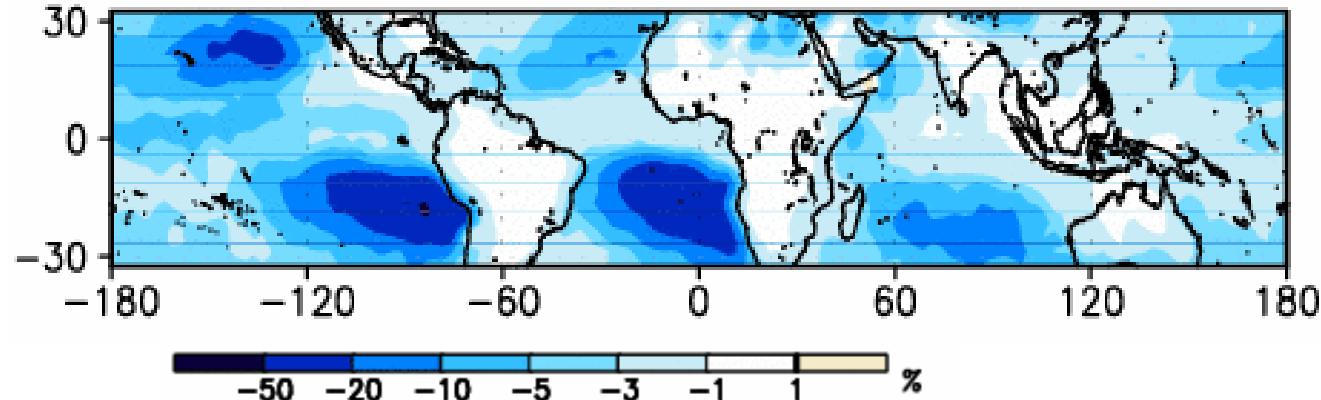


- Next Step:
- Asia → Globe. Further classification for Ocean/Land, Rain/Snow, etc.
 - Seamless and robust connection between obs. and model
 - VAL on consistency of rain between angles and the boost effect
 - Specify the remaining bias

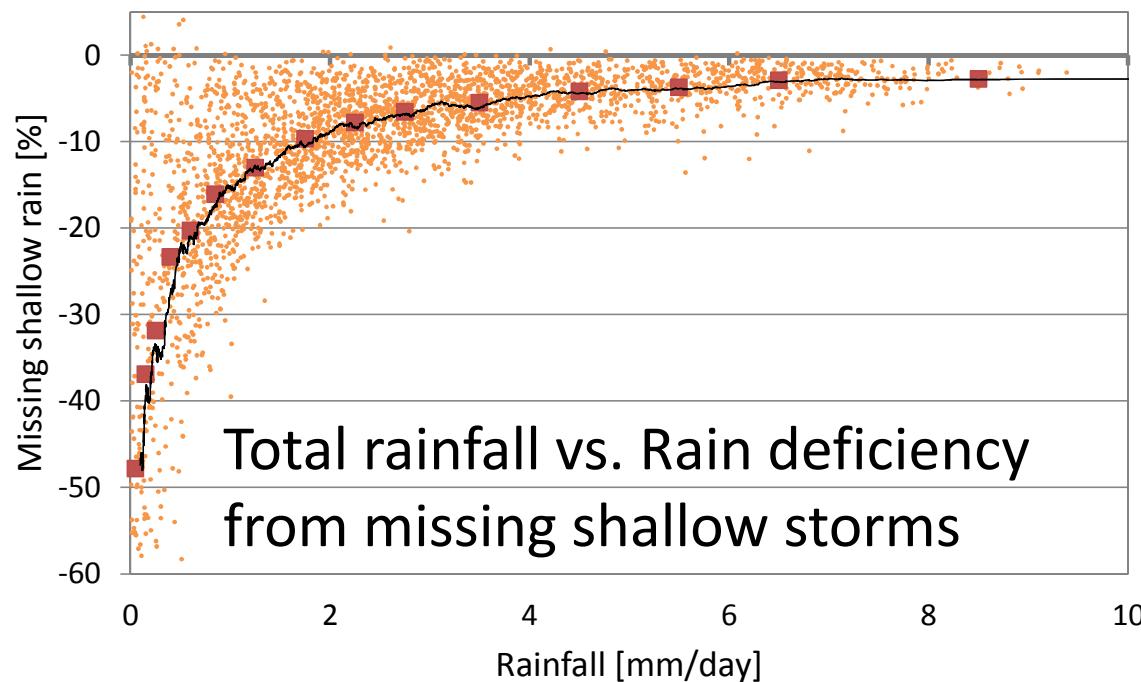
B. Sampling errors: Missing shallow storms

Uncertainty estimate on detection of shallow storms

Bias due to the undetected number of shallow storms between angles 1998-2000

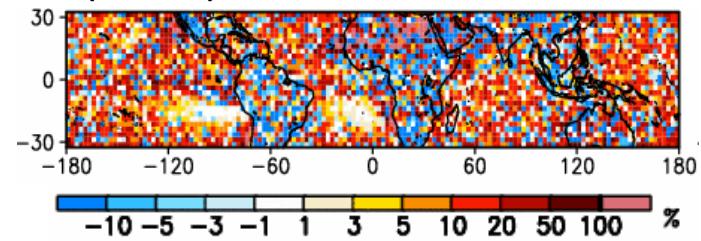


Underestimates



Total rainfall vs. Rain deficiency
from missing shallow storms

Bias for detectable systems



Overestimates

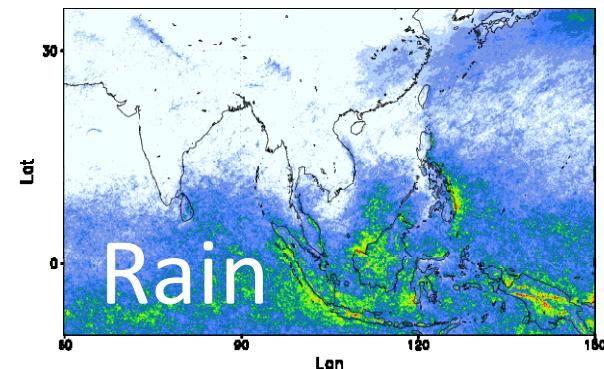
+ Further evaluation on
the local residual bias

How about for snow detectability?

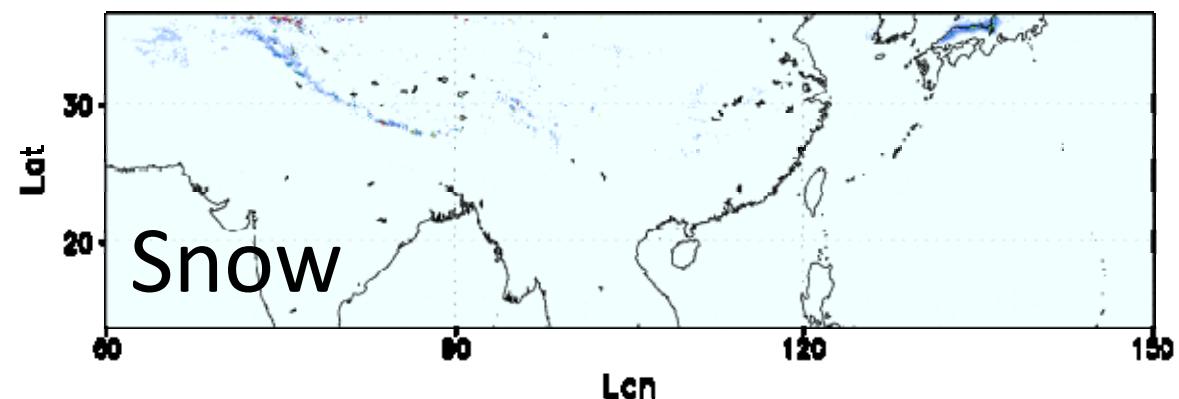
Orographic rain? (c. Kondo)

Rain/Snow by 1.5°C at surf

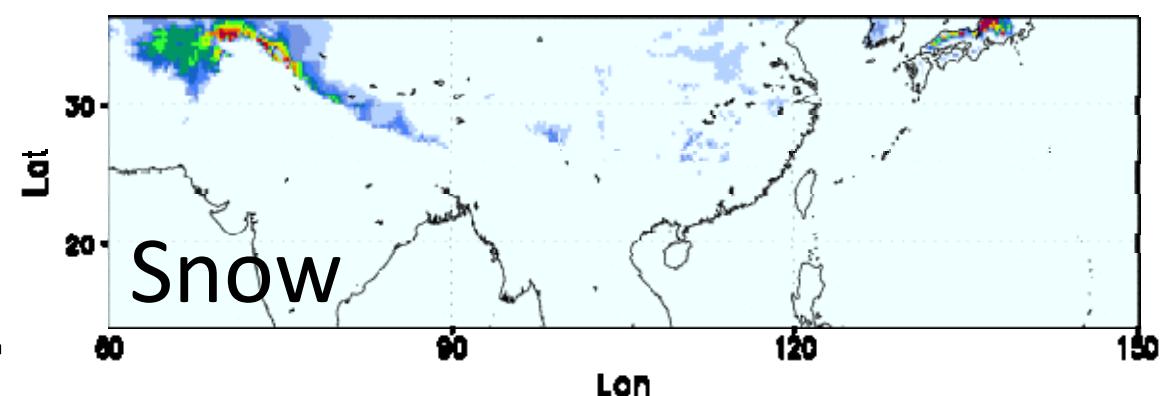
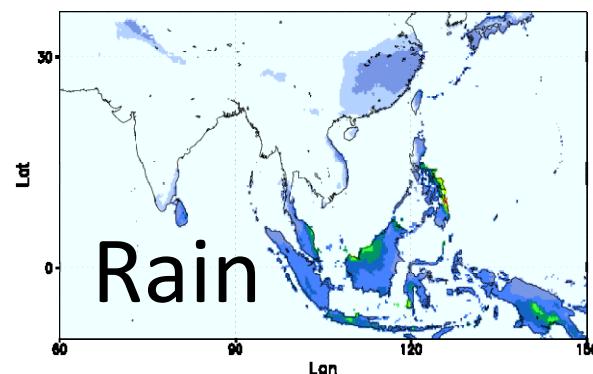
TRMM PR v.7



DJF 1998-2012



APHRO_MA_V1101R2



Rain



[mm/day]

Snow

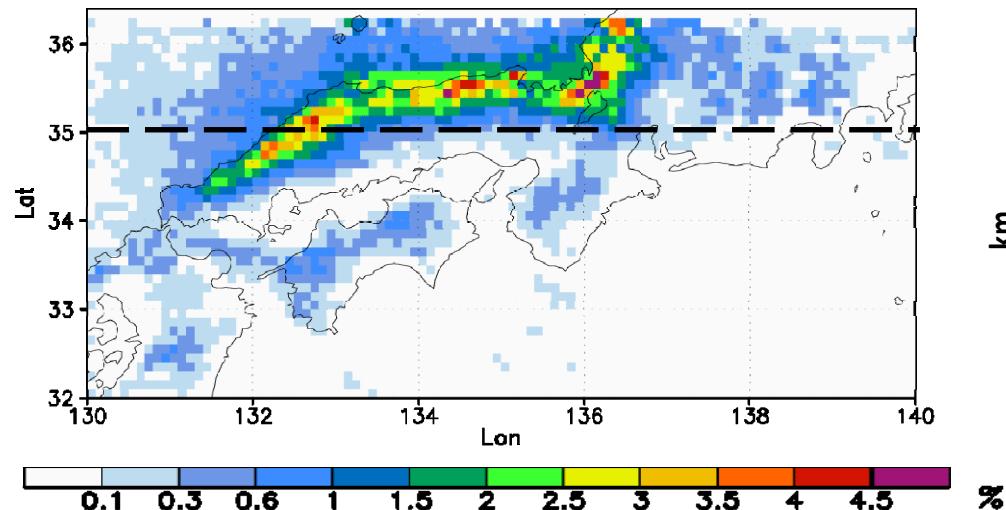


15

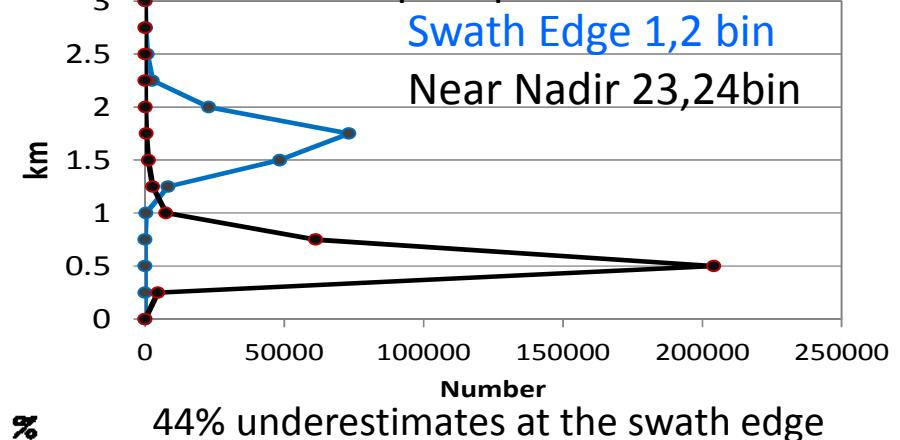
Undetectable precipitation due to the main-lobe clutter

Target: Japan 128-150E, 30-35N, DJF for 15 years

Occurrence frequency of snow

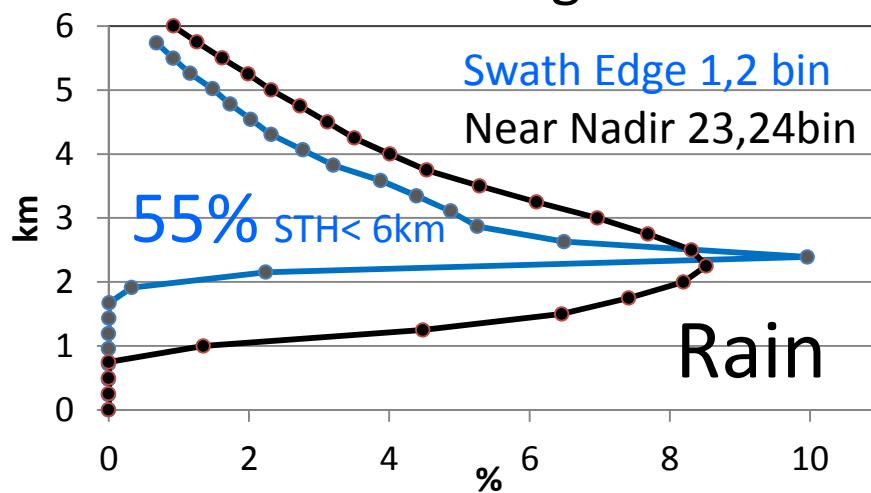


Histogram of Clutter free bottom conditioned on precipitation

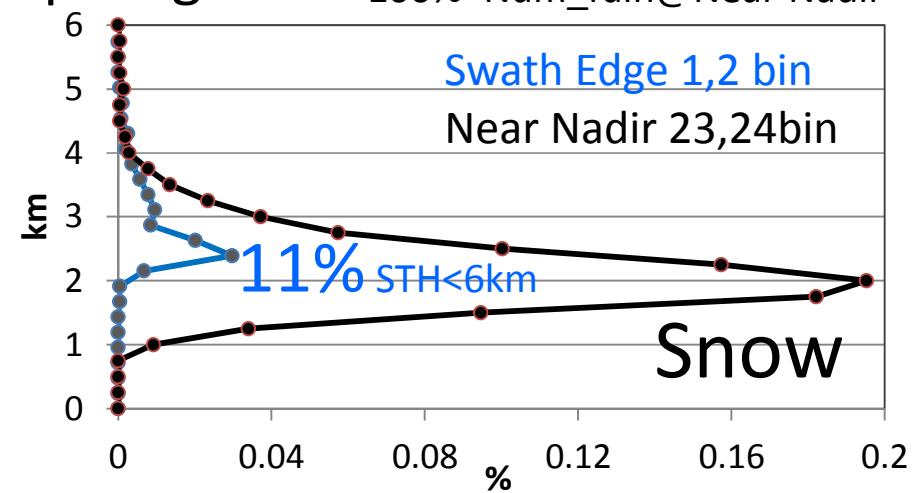


44% underestimates at the swath edge

Histogram of storm top height



100% = Num_rain@Near Nadir



Snow

Evaluation of the long-term TRMM PR data & Development of better climatological uses

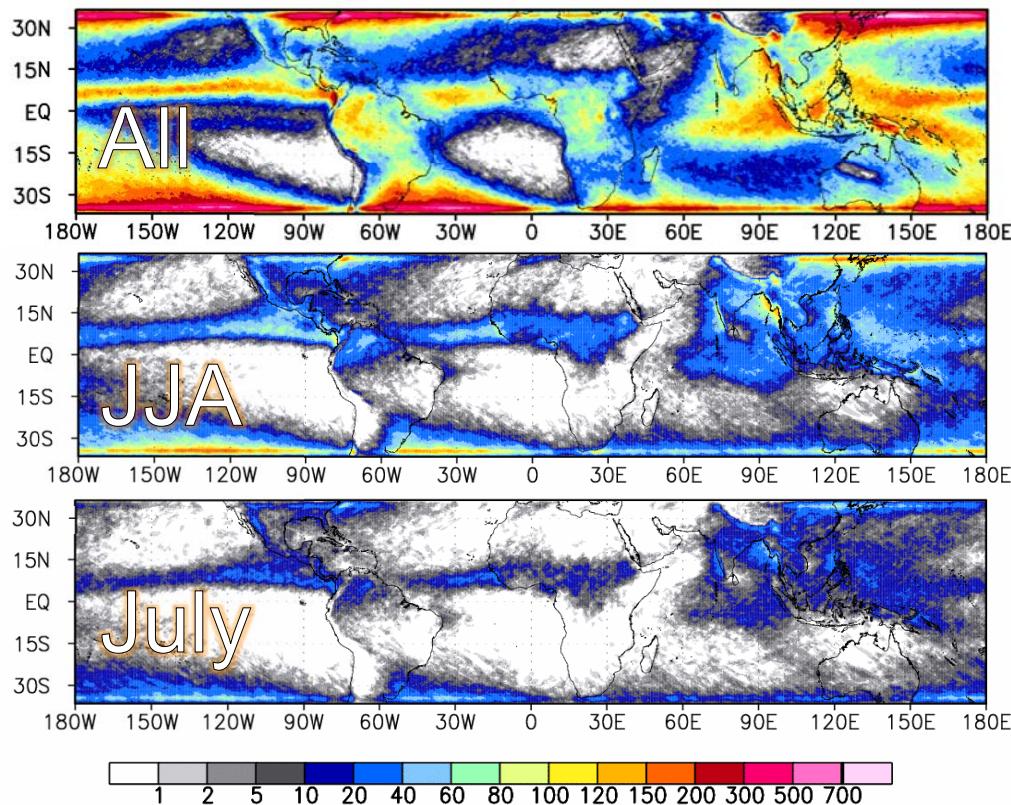
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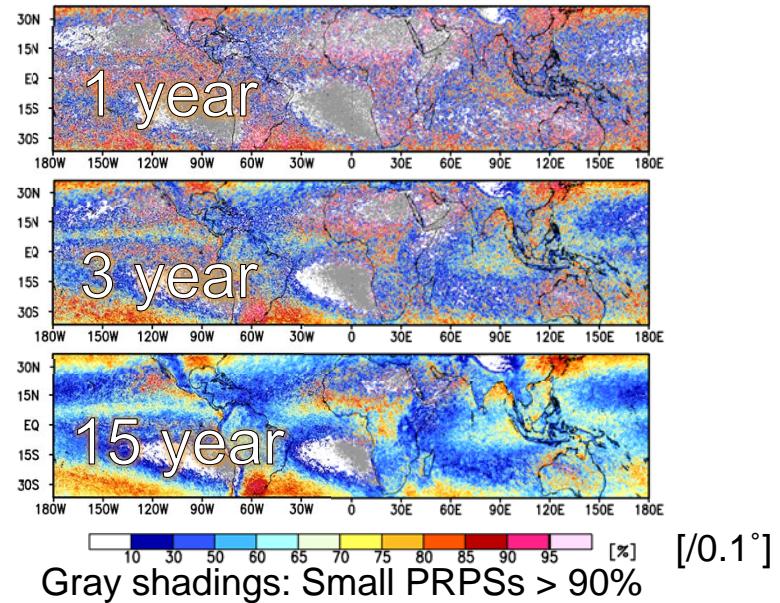
Impact of the long-term data accumulation

of high-impact systems (Large PRPSs) for 15 years [/ 0.1°]

a proxy of sampling sufficiency

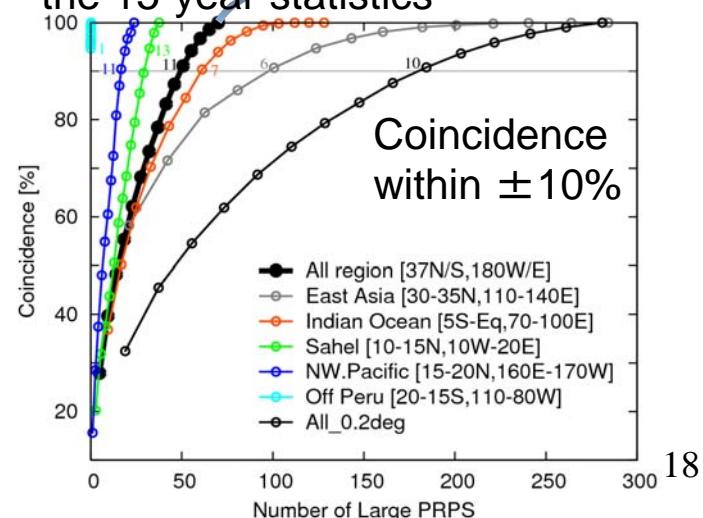


Rain fraction of Large PRPSs during 1998, 1998-2000, and 1998-2012



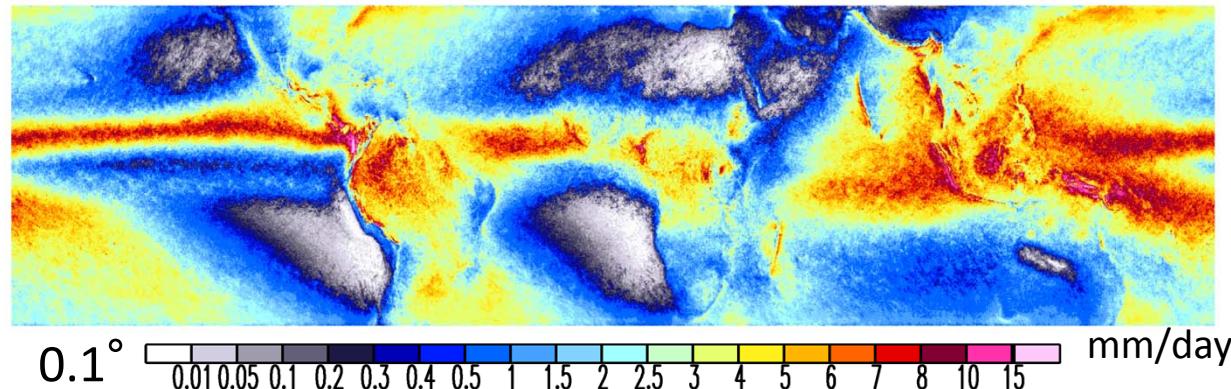
Gray shadings: Small PRPSs > 90%

Coincidence ratio of the L-system rain fraction by integrated years against the 15-year statistics



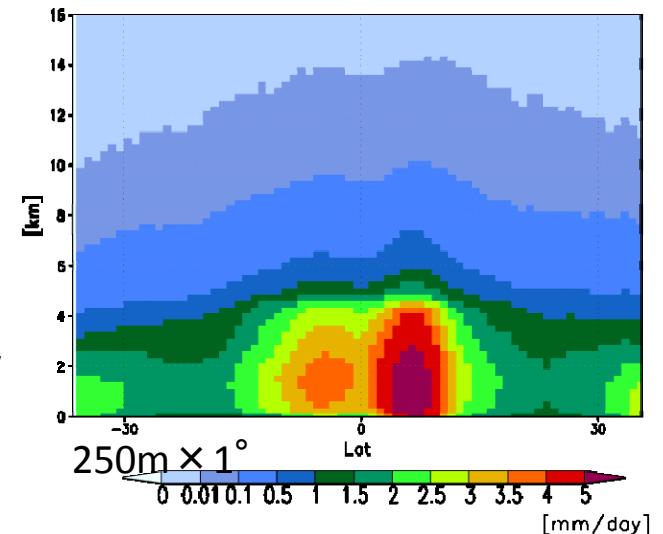
Fine-scale precipitation system climatology

Rain climatology 1998-2012



1.8 (38) billion of rain samples (all samples)

Latitudinal cross section



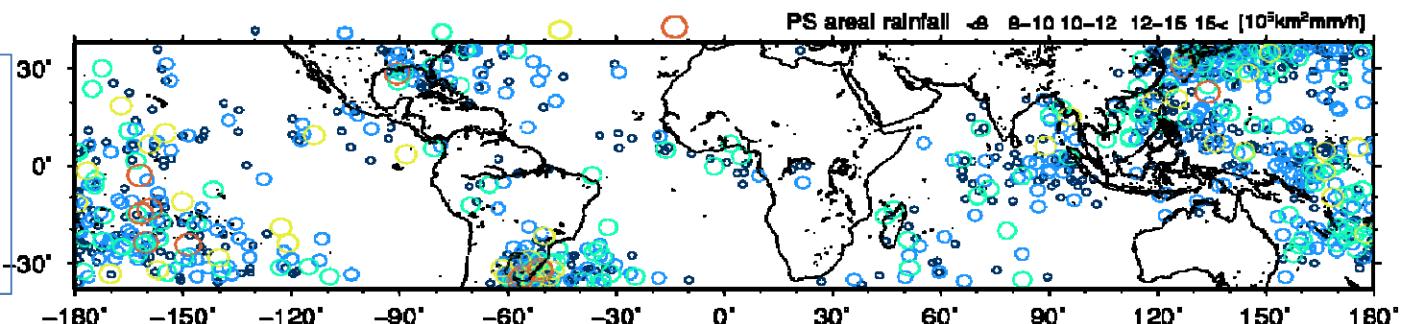
PR captured Precipitation Systems; PRPS

(Hirose et al. 2009)

104 million PRPSs for 15 years

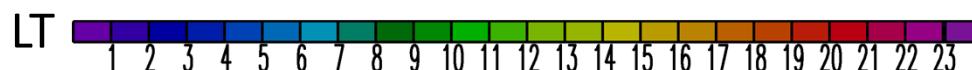
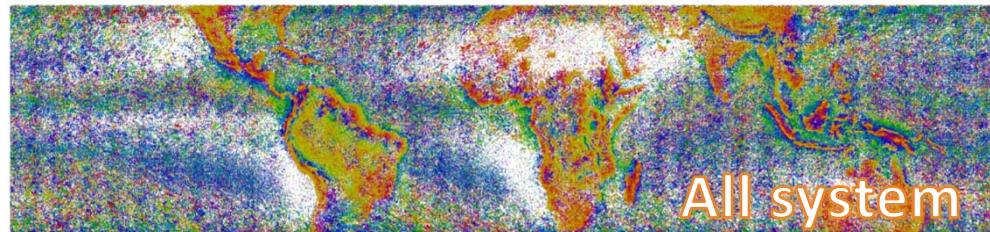
Top 1000 PRPSs sorted by Areal rainfall [$\text{km}^2\text{mm/h}$] 15yrs

Small PRPSs: < 10 km
Medium PRPSs: S-L
Large PRPSs: > 100 km

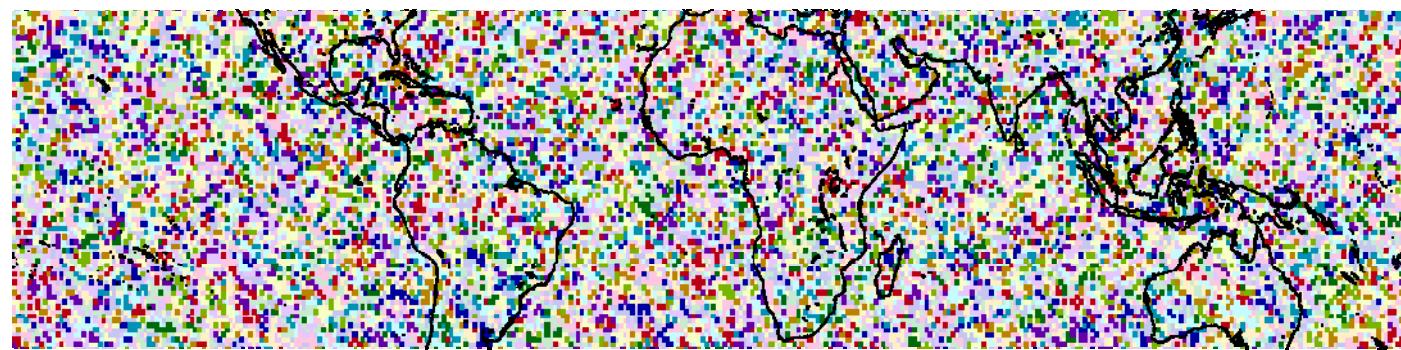


Temporal variation of local rainfall

Diurnal variation



Weekly variation?



D_Rmax ≠ D_Rmax3
D_Rmax = D_Rmax3



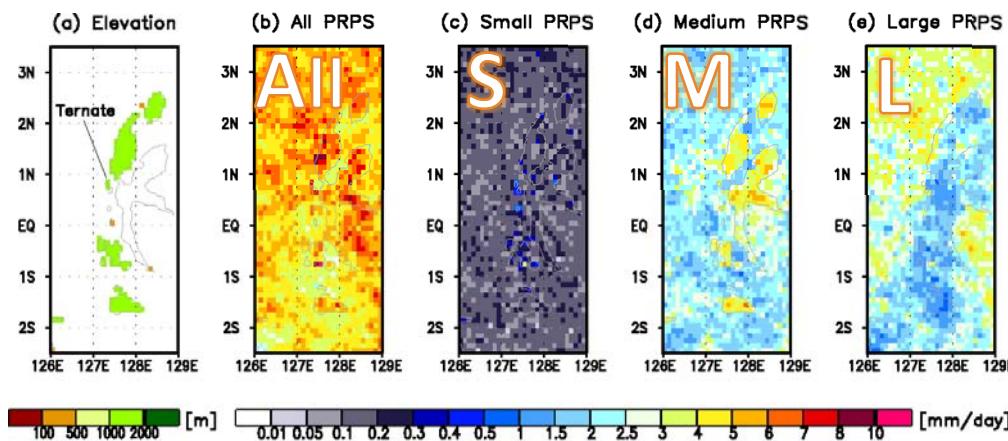
Fine-scale features

Rainfall of scale-based PRPSs over 468 small islands

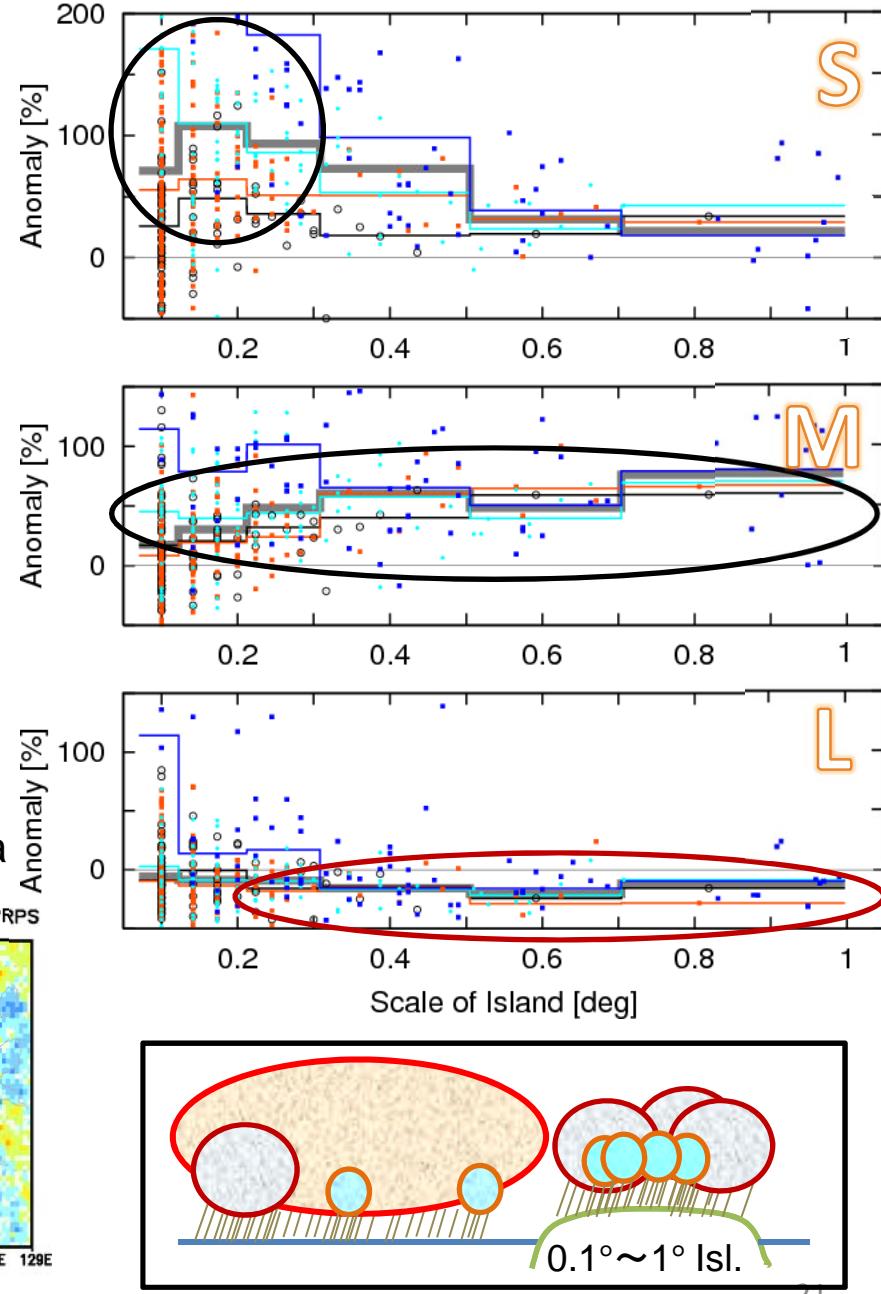


Even for flat 0.1° islands, rainfall was 26% increased for S systems. Larger islands had positive RE by M systems. In contrast, L systems brought negative anomaly.

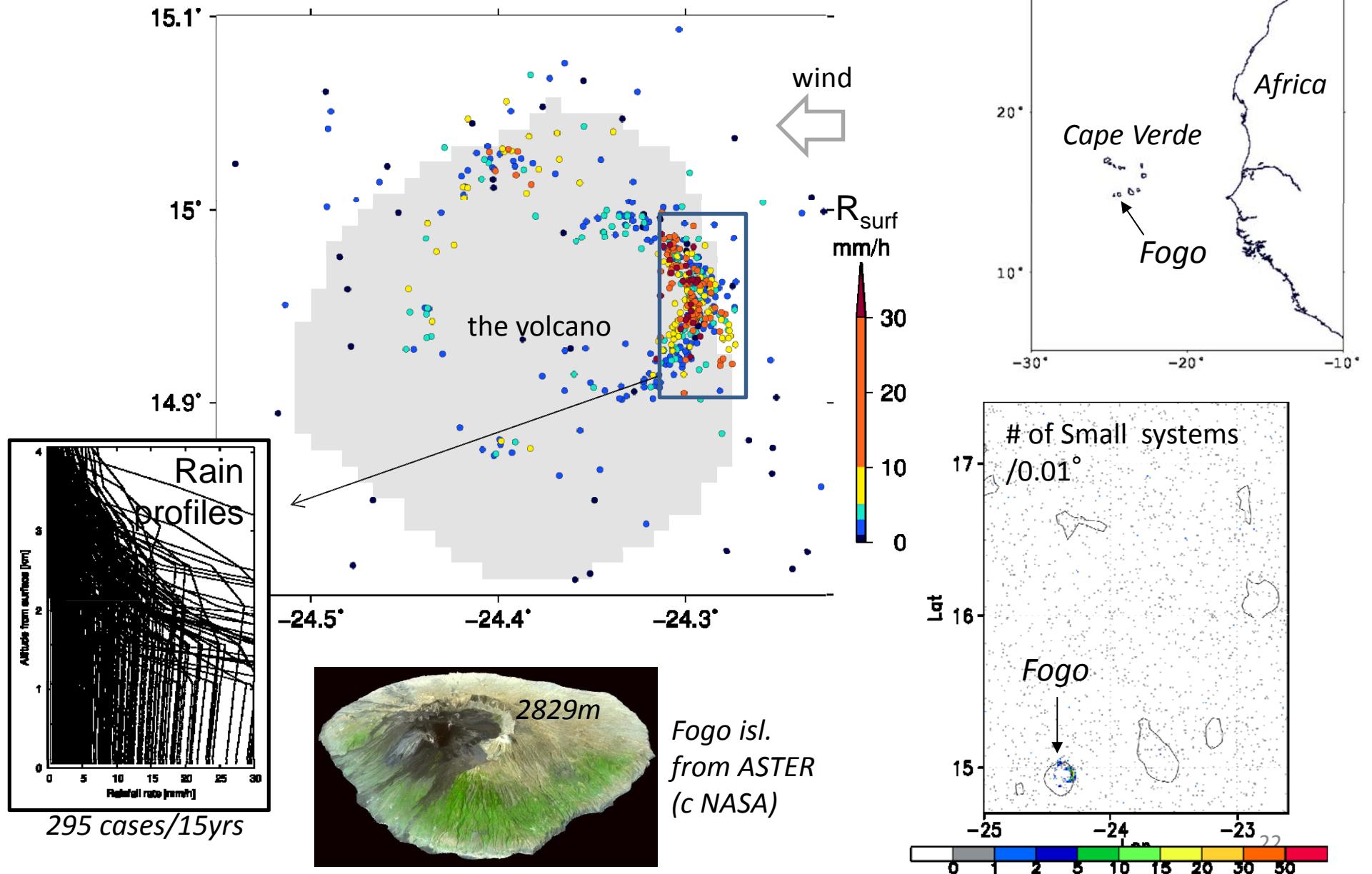
Rain sorted by scale-based PRPSs over Indonesia



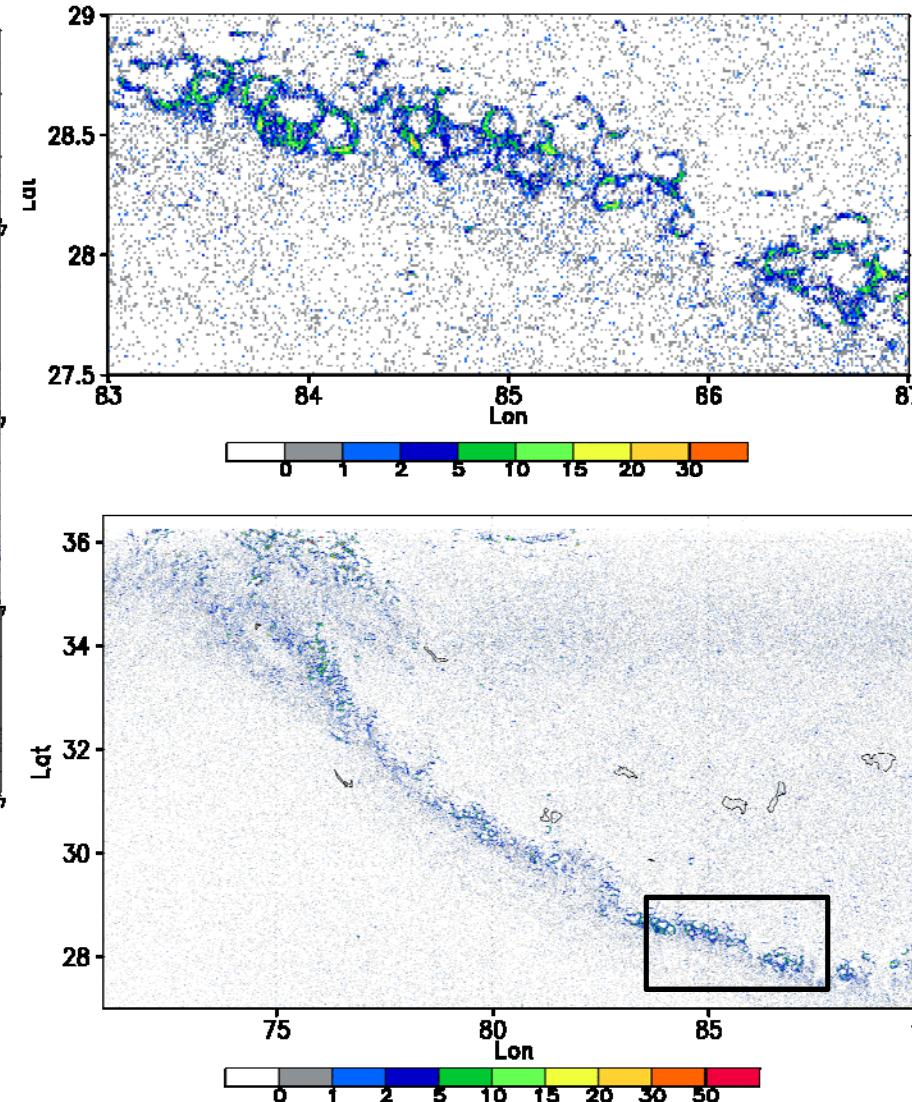
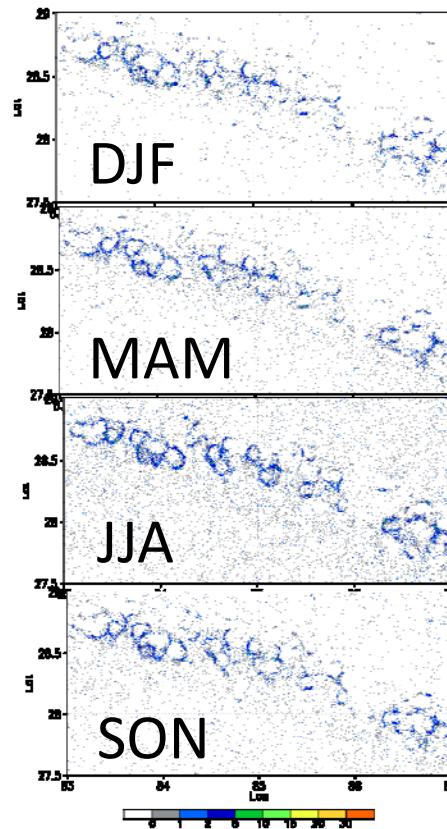
Rain anomaly against the surrounding ocean



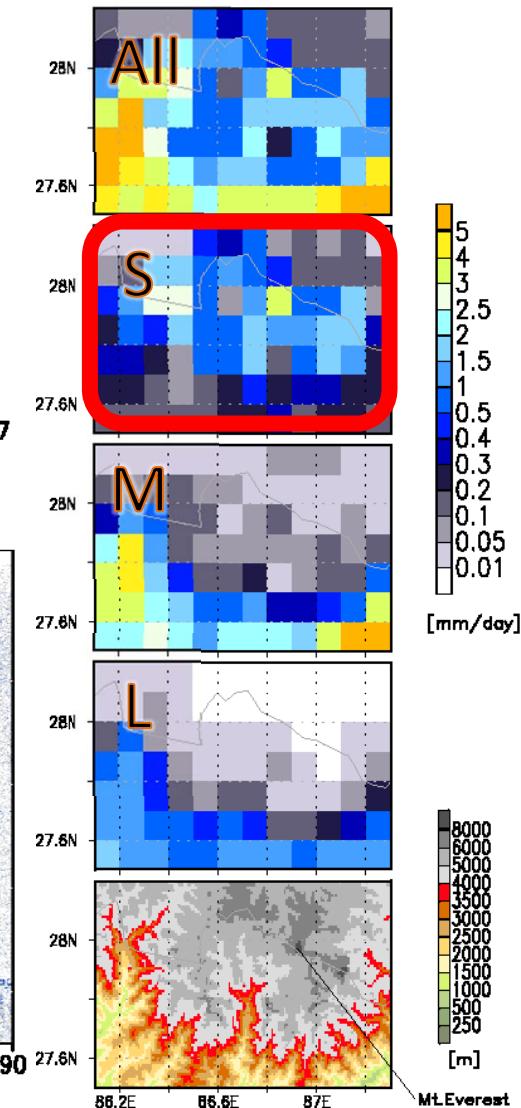
Locations of the centroid of instantaneous Small PRPSs around the Fogo island, Cape Verde



Number of small PRPSs over the Himalayas



Rain from scale-based PRPSs around the Everest



Evaluation of the long-term TRMM PR data & Development of better climatological uses

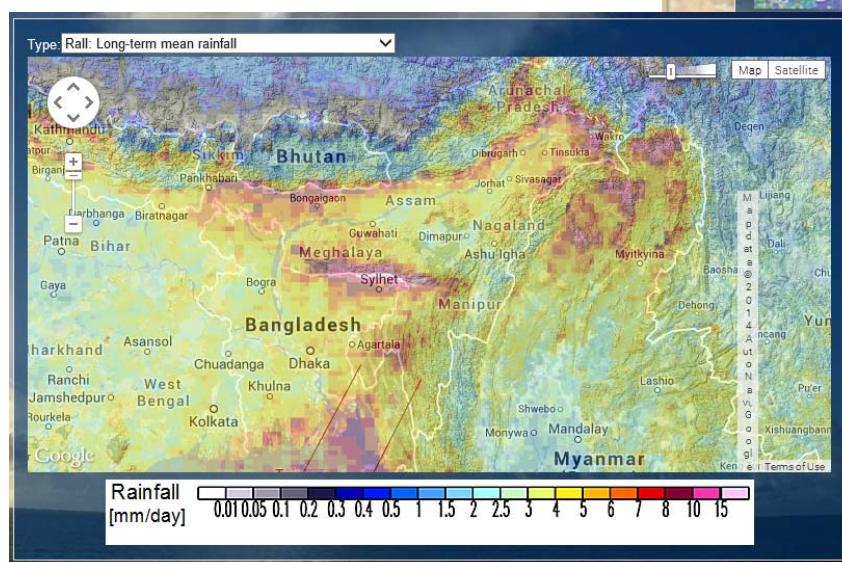
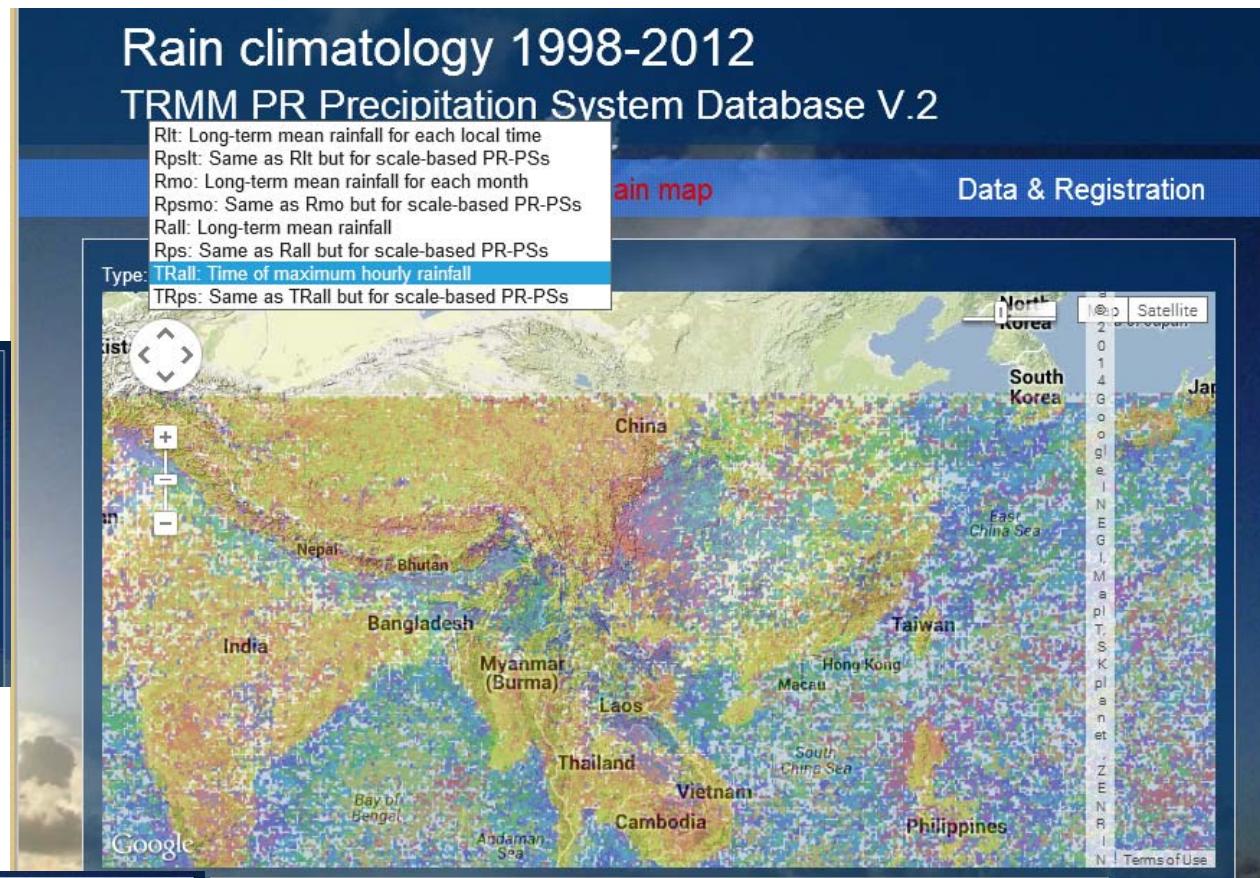
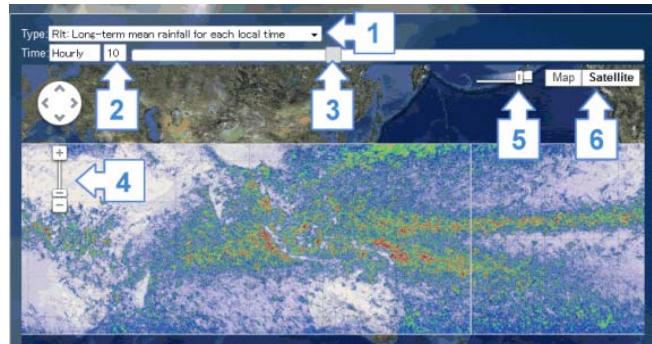
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Web site

V1 → V2

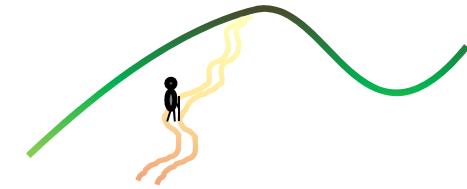
Still prerelease...



Upgrades

- Revision of database and 144 figures from 13-year V6 to 15-year V7
- New 8 maps (Ave. and Time of max Rain)
- Improvements in the batched process

→ FY2014



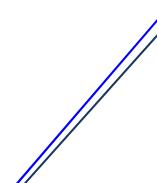
Ongoing efforts toward the robust estimate & advancing climate research

Search for a self-consistent TRMM PR data as the current best estimate

Dynamic correction of systematic biases

- A better understanding of remaining local uncertainties between observational data incl. DPR
- Further clarification of strengths/limitation of the spaceborne radar data

+Timely initial evaluation of the DPR data

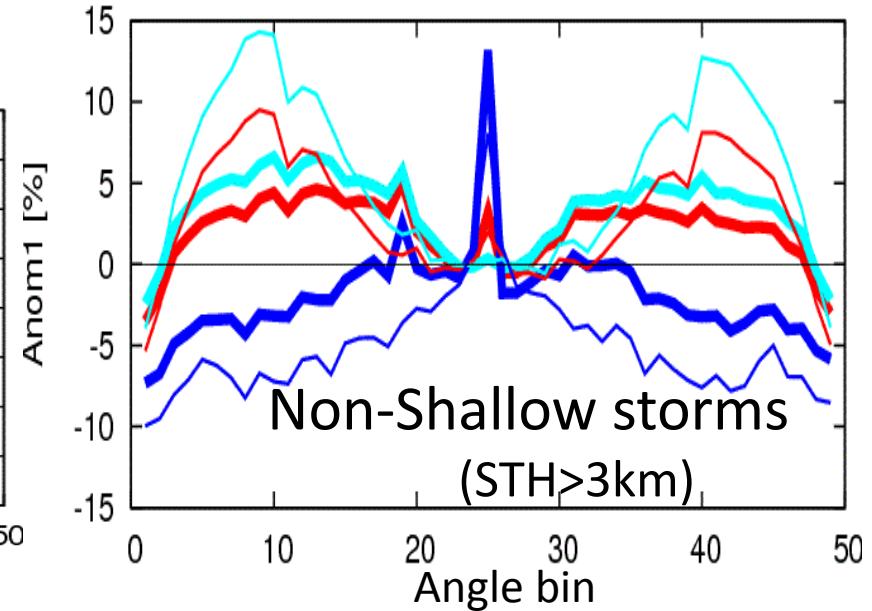
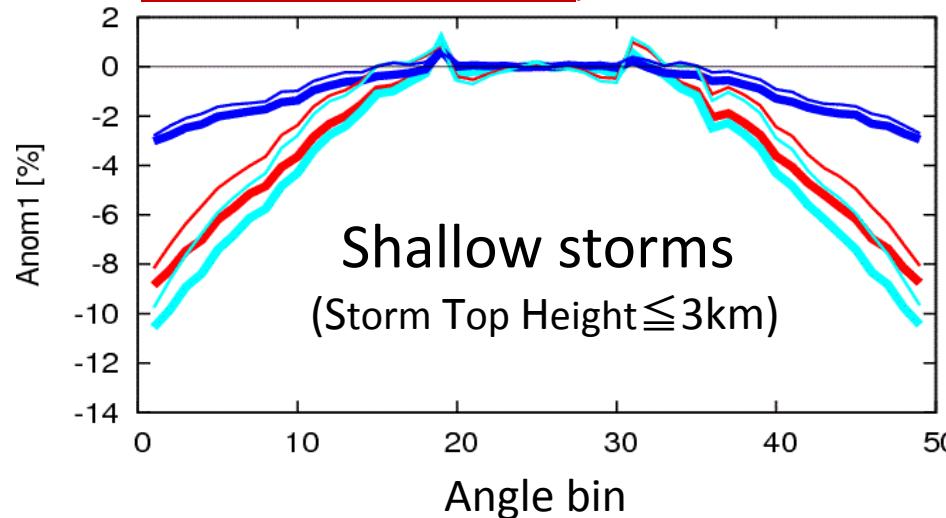


Backup slides

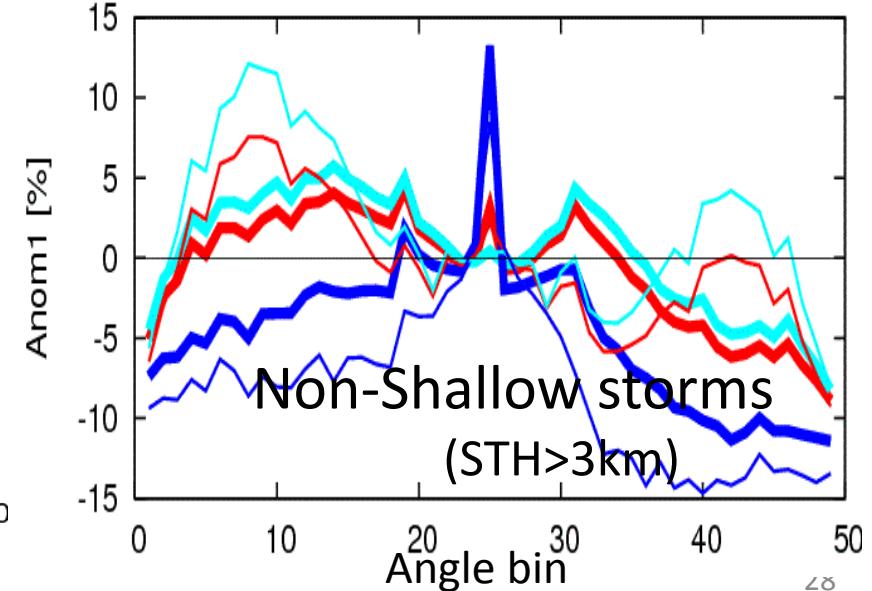
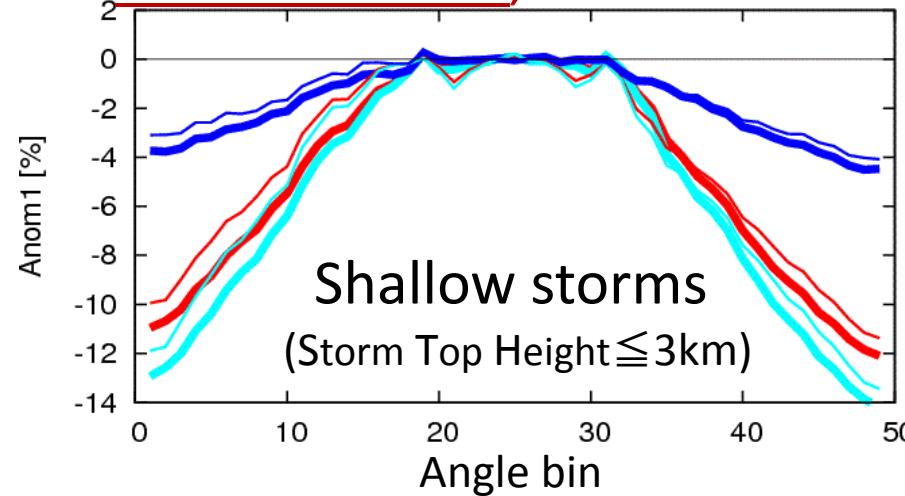
Anomaly of each-angle rainfall against the near-nadir statistics

All (35°N/S), Ocean、Land, Thick (thin) lines : V7 (V6)

Before the boost, 1998-2000

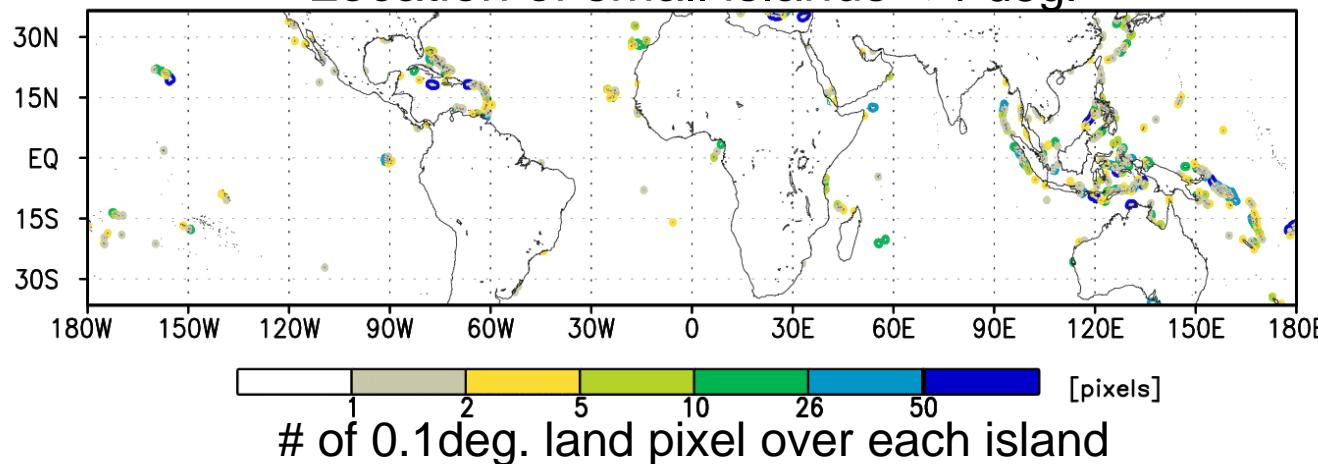


After the boost, 2002-2004

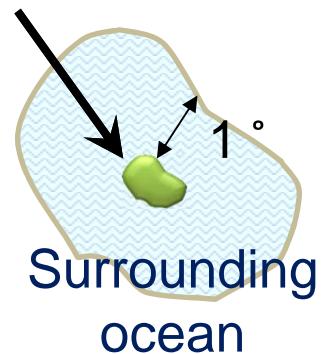


Rainfall over small islands

Location of small islands < 1 deg.

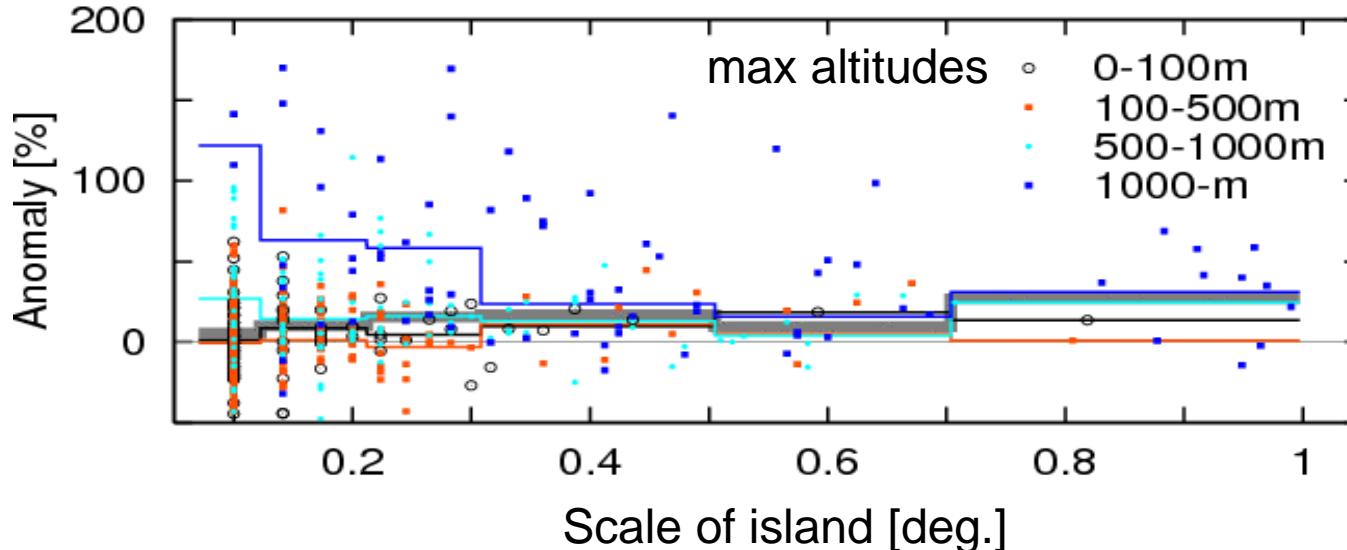


Small island
with area-equivalent
diameter $< 1^\circ$



468 small islands
over 36° N/S

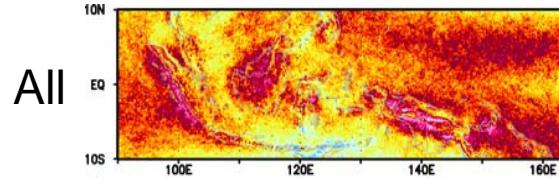
Rain enhancement (RE) against the surrounding ocean,
sorted by the horizontal scale & max altitude of islands



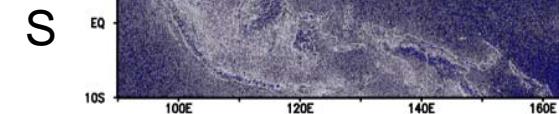
Even for very
small islands
(0.1 °),
particularly with
high mountains,
RE was detected.

Scale-based PRPSs over the Maritime continent

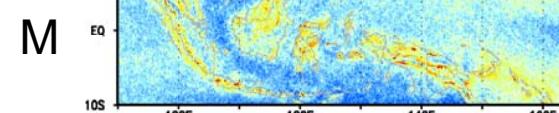
Rainfall amount



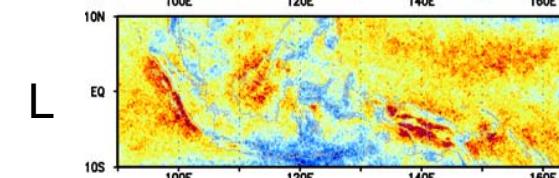
All



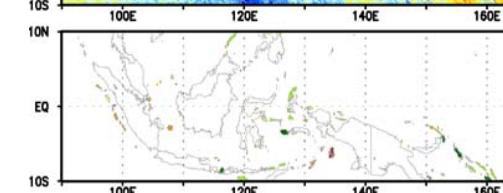
S



M

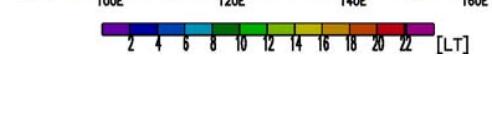
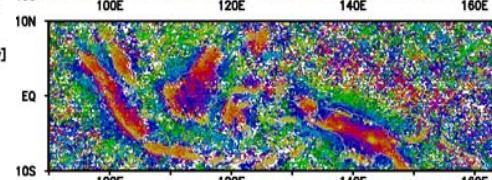
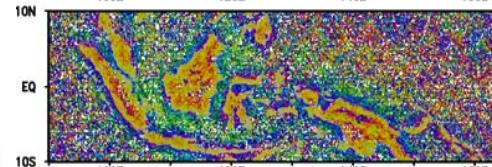
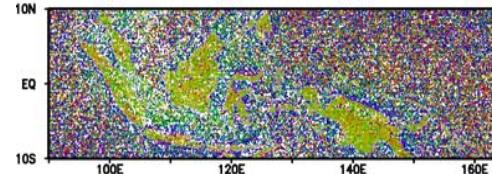
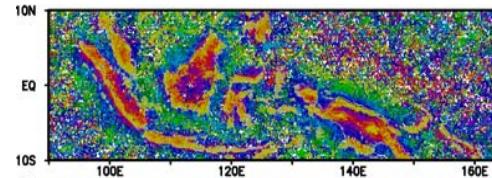


L

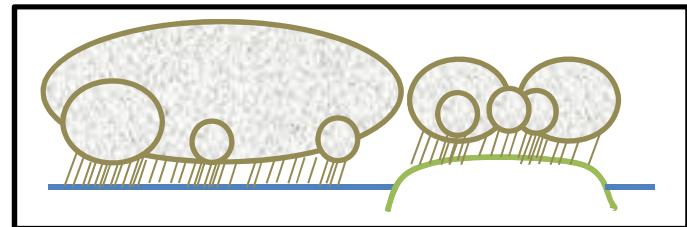


Max altitude of small islands

Time of maximum rainfall



Storm features around small island ($0.1^\circ \sim 1^\circ$ scale)



Small systems < 10 km
Early afternoon



Medium systems 10-100 km



Large systems > 100 km

