

# Microwave Temperature Profiler and Sea Surface Temperature Measurements

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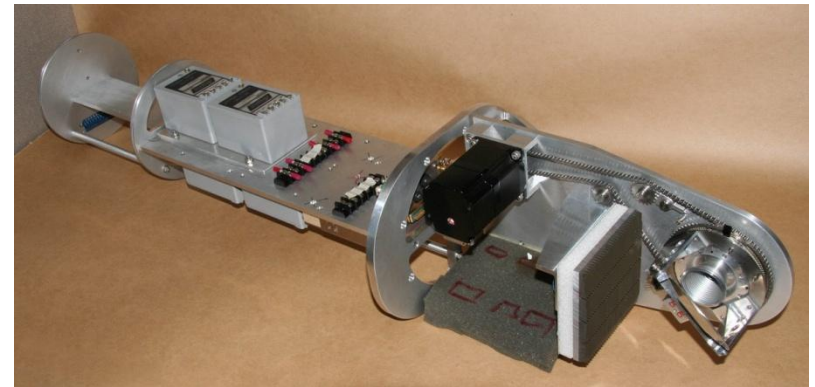
MJ Mahoney  
JPL

# Overview of Presentation

- Temperature Profiles from GV
  - MTP description
  - Retrieval method
  - Data set quality
  - Data examples
- Sea Surface Temperature from GV
  - KT-19 description and limitations
  - Altitude-induced errors
  - Correction method
  - Data example

# Microwave Temperature Profiler

- Measures radiance on three oxygen absorption lines
  - 56.363, 57.612, 58.363 GHz;
- Rotating mirror scans  $\pm 80^\circ$  from horizontal
  - 10 viewing angles
- Scan completed every 17 seconds
- Internal calibration system
  - heated blackbody target
  - in situ ambient temperature measurement
  - calculate gains



# Statistical Retrieval of Temperature Profiles from MTP Measurements

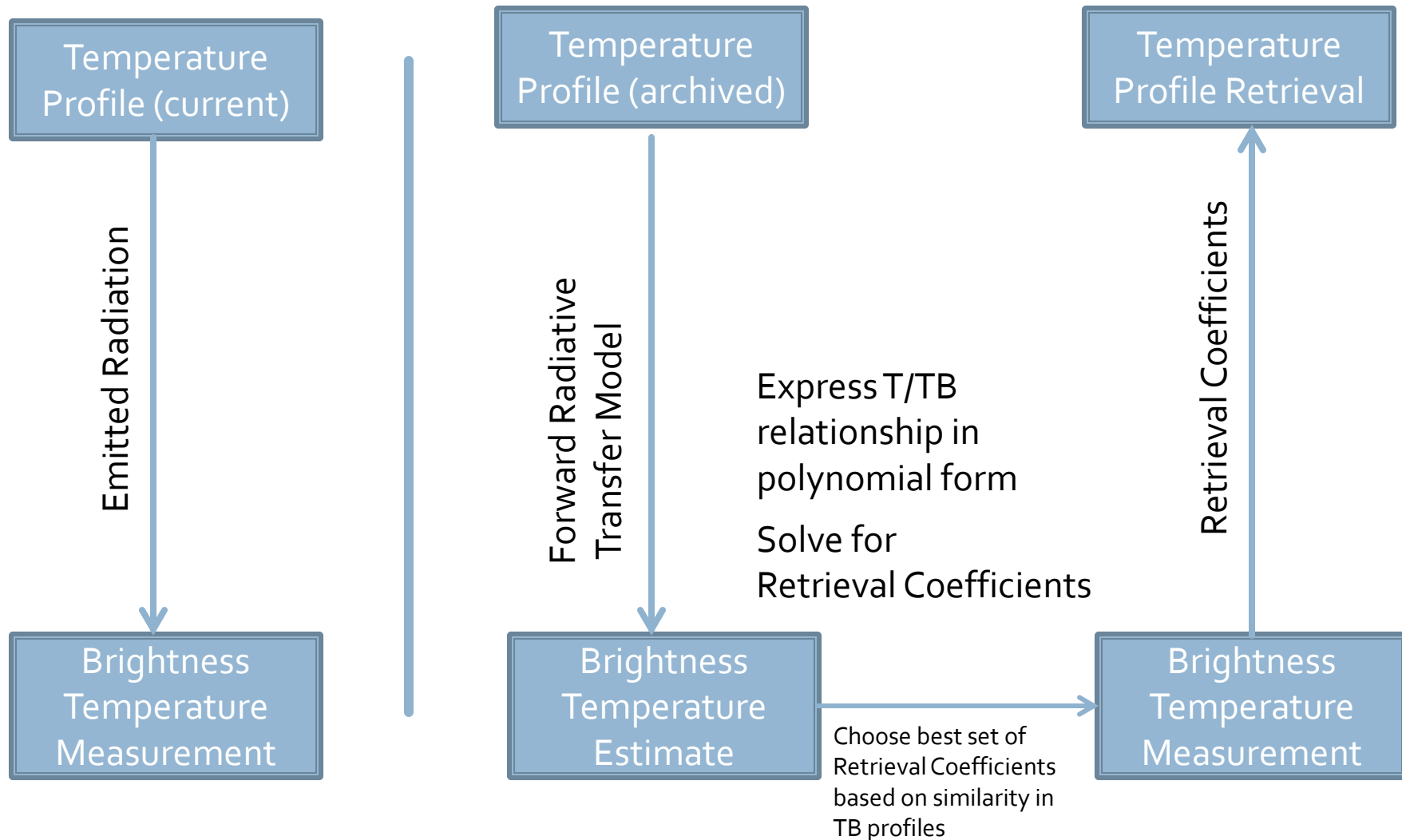
- MTP measures brightness temperature (TB) or radiance from thermal emission by oxygen molecules
- TB is related to T via the radiative transfer equation; TB does not have a one-to-one mapping to a physical temperature (T)
- Even in simplified form, the radiative transfer equation is underconstrained
- Retrieval problem is ill-posed unless we include constraints
- a priori statistics are commonly used to provide constraints on atmospheric behavior

References: Rodgers, 2000: Inverse Methods for Atmospheric Sounding  
Janssen, 1993: Atmospheric Remote Sensing by Microwave Radiometry  
Method Implemented by MJ Mahoney (JPL)

# Temperature Retrieval Overview

Measurement

Retrieval



# A Priori Statistics for MTP Retrievals

- Radiosonde profiles, together with a forward radiative transfer model, provide the a priori statistics
- Large database of representative radiosonde profiles acquired for each project
  - ~5000 profiles from region and season
  - South and Central American stations
  - Ticosondes and raobs from Hakuho Maru
- Radiosonde profiles close to flight track selected as template profiles
  - Database search for profiles similar to template
  - Similar groups of ~200 profiles are compiled
  - Provides information for numerical solution of retrieval coefficients

# MTP Data Attributes

- Best retrievals within  $\pm 6$  km of flight level
  - Provide data farther away when needed
- Temperature uncertainty range  $\sim 0.5$ - $1.5$  K
- Vertical resolution near aircraft  $\sim 100$  m
- Profiles retrieved at 17 sec intervals
- Limited retrievals during steep ascents/descents
- Tropopause height defined using WMO definition

# MTP Data Set from TORERO

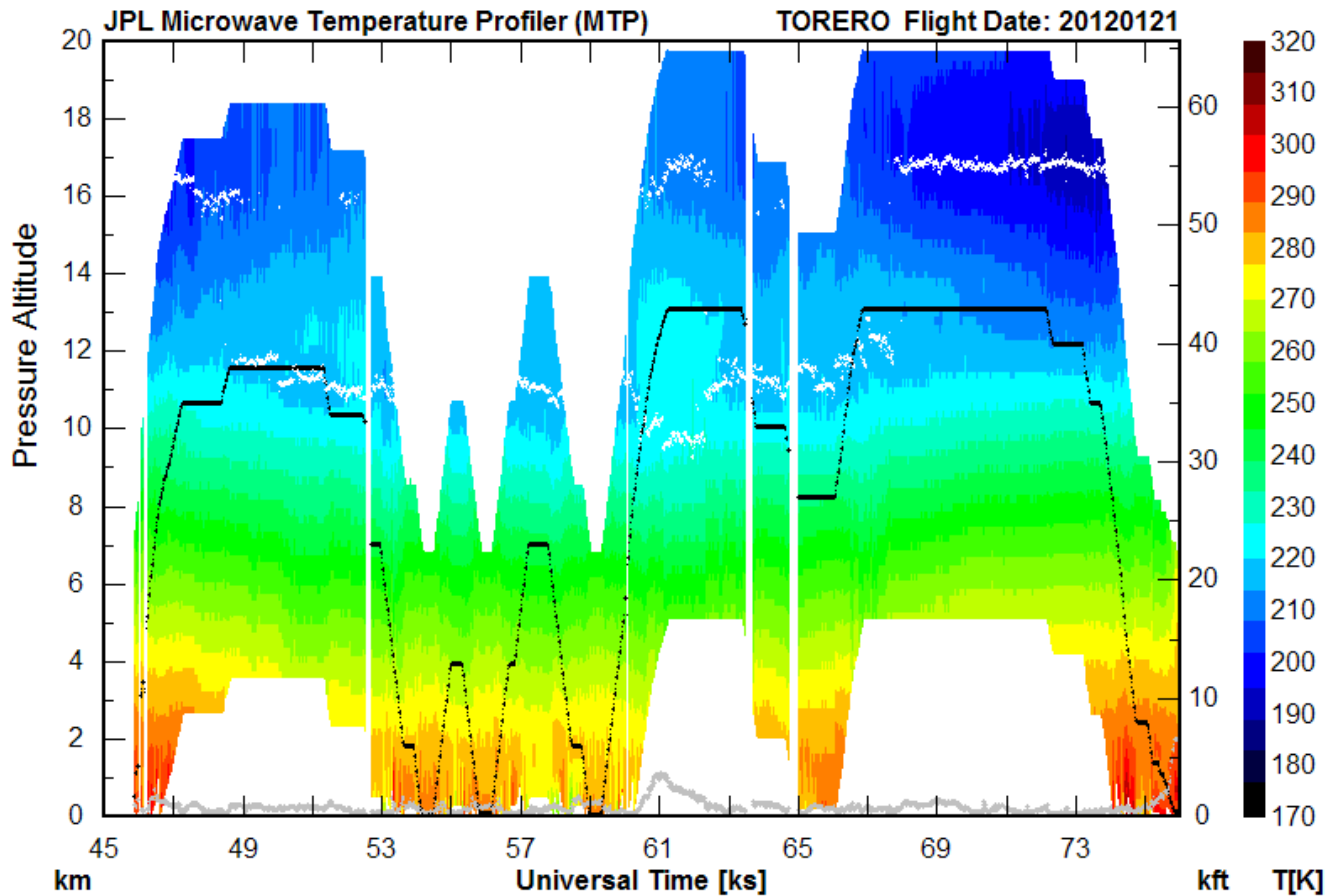
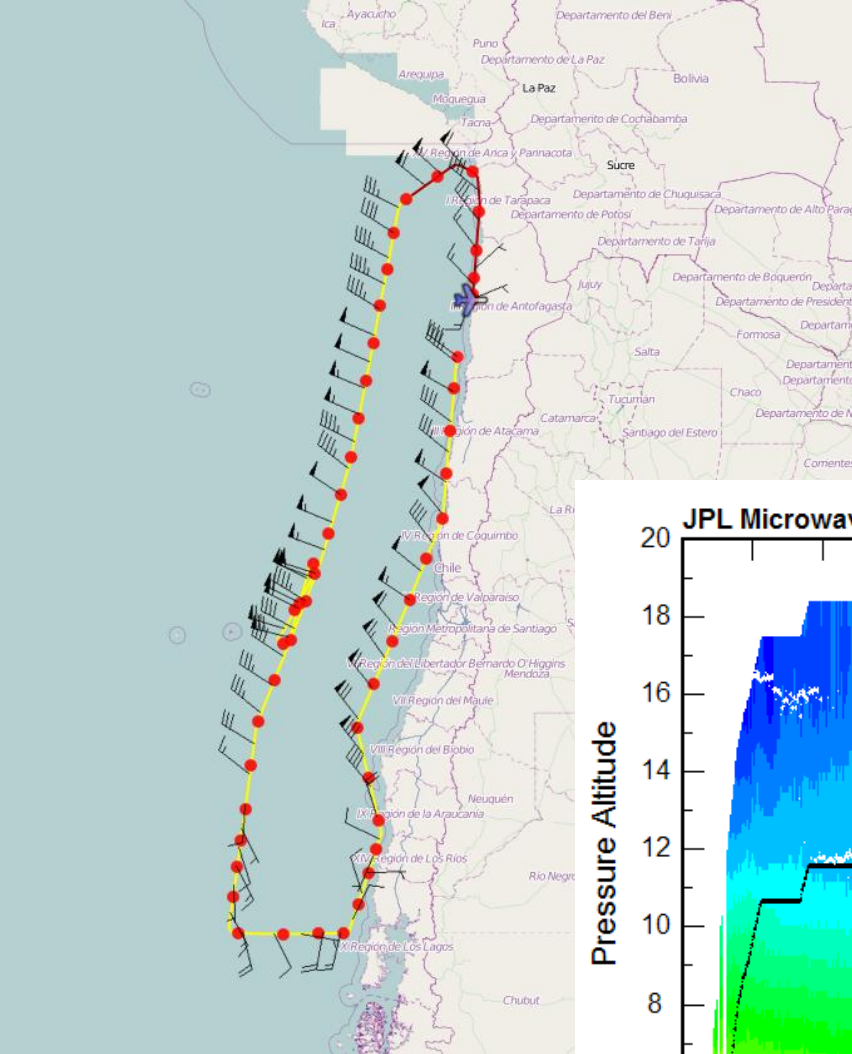
- Processed Data
  - RF01 -- problem with sensor configuration resulted in no useful data from this flight
  - RF02-RF17 -- good quality data
- Steep ascents/descents
  - Gain calculation assumes level flight for duration of scan
  - Data gaps during rapid altitude changes
  - Data preserved where consistent with level flight



# MTP Data Set from TORERO

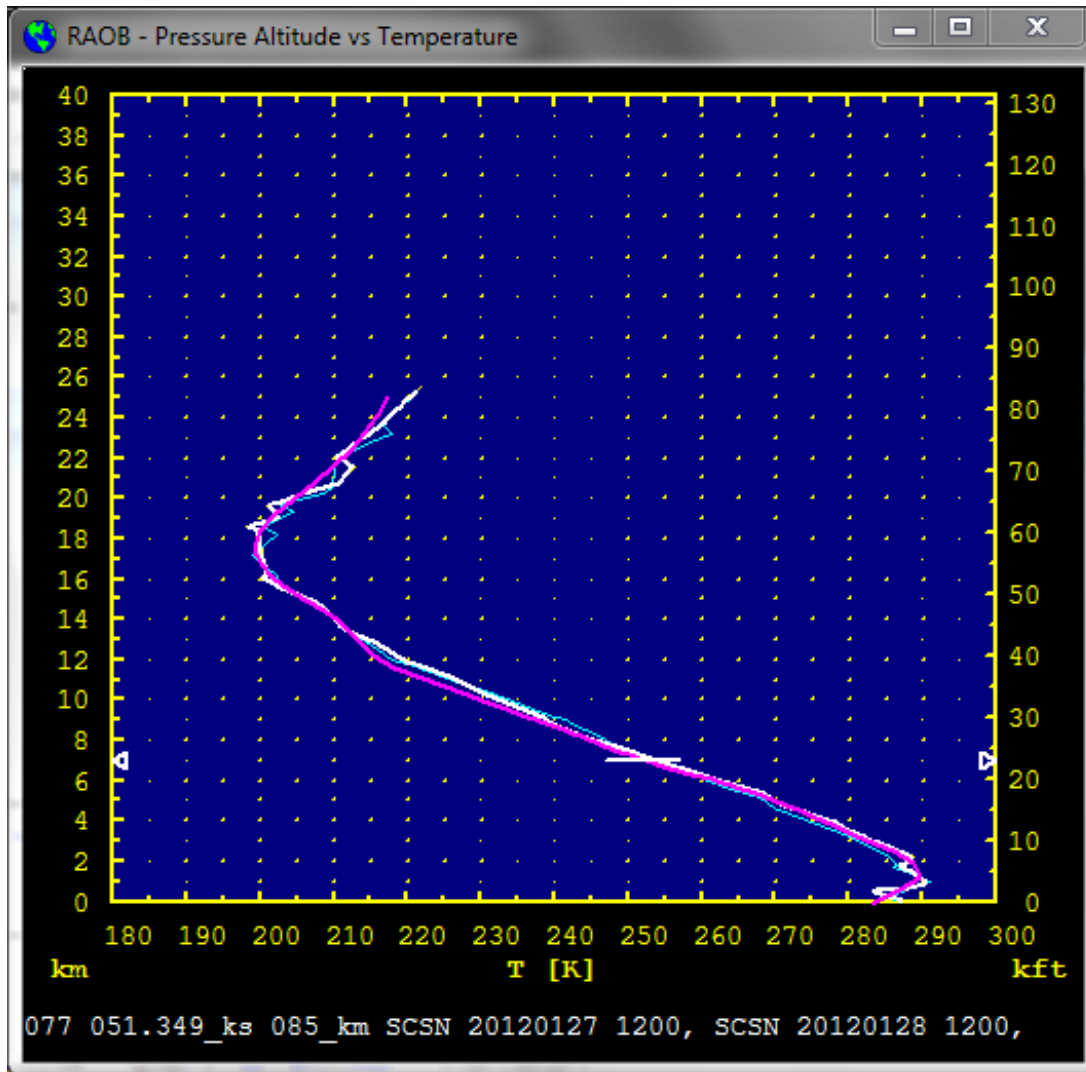
- Surface inversion layer
  - Detected by MTP in Antofagasta flights
  - Not represented in a priori data, so retrieval coefficients are not optimal to resolve this feature
  - Surface emissivity not accounted for in retrievals
- Data files
  - NASA Ames format
  - Available via CODIAC
- Website summarizes data quality and shows quicklook images
  - <http://mtp.mjmahoney.net/www/missions/torero/torero.html>

# Temperature Curtain Plot Costal Upwelling Flight 21 Jan 2012 - RF02



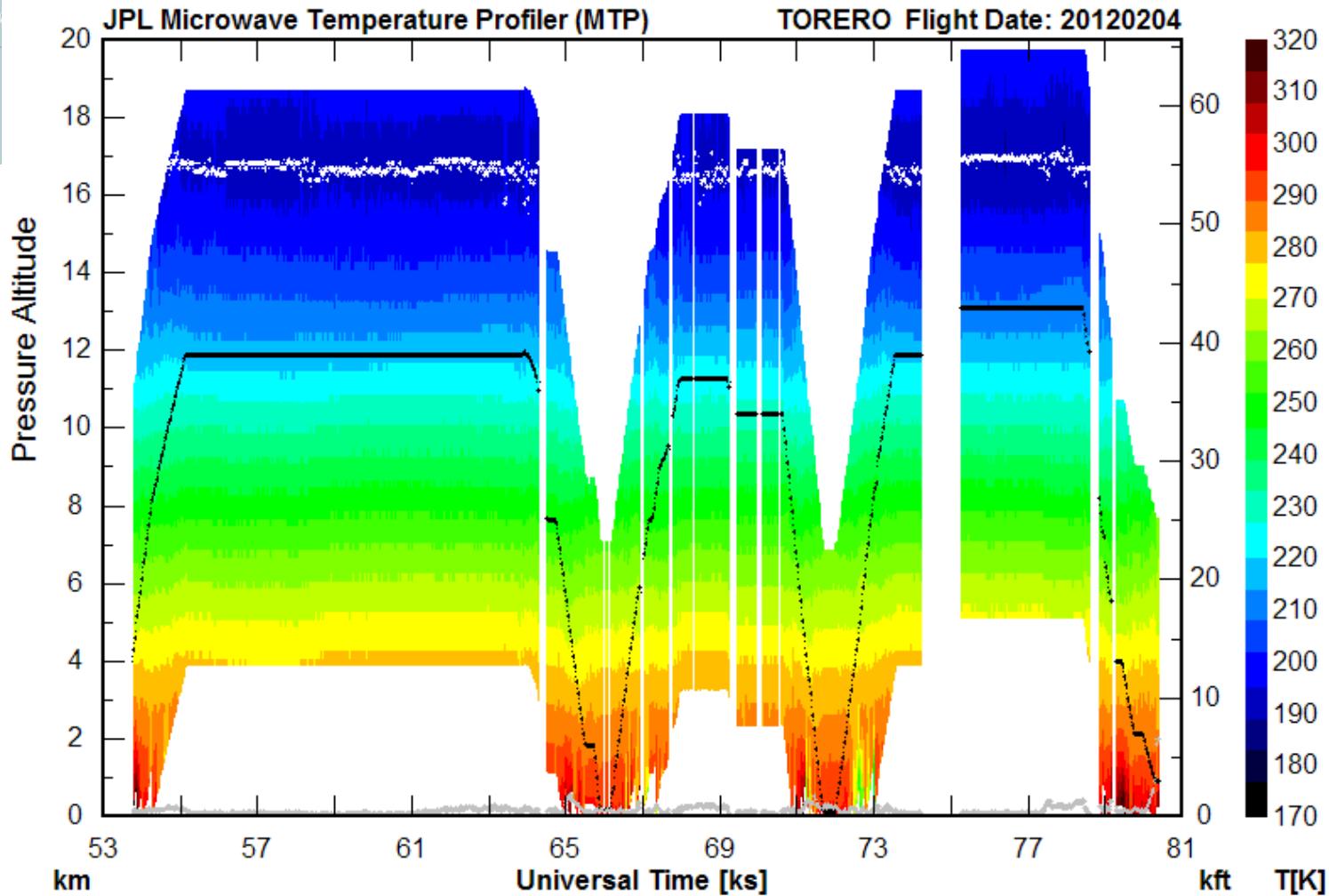
# Single Profile Retrieval

## 27 Jan 2012 – RFO4

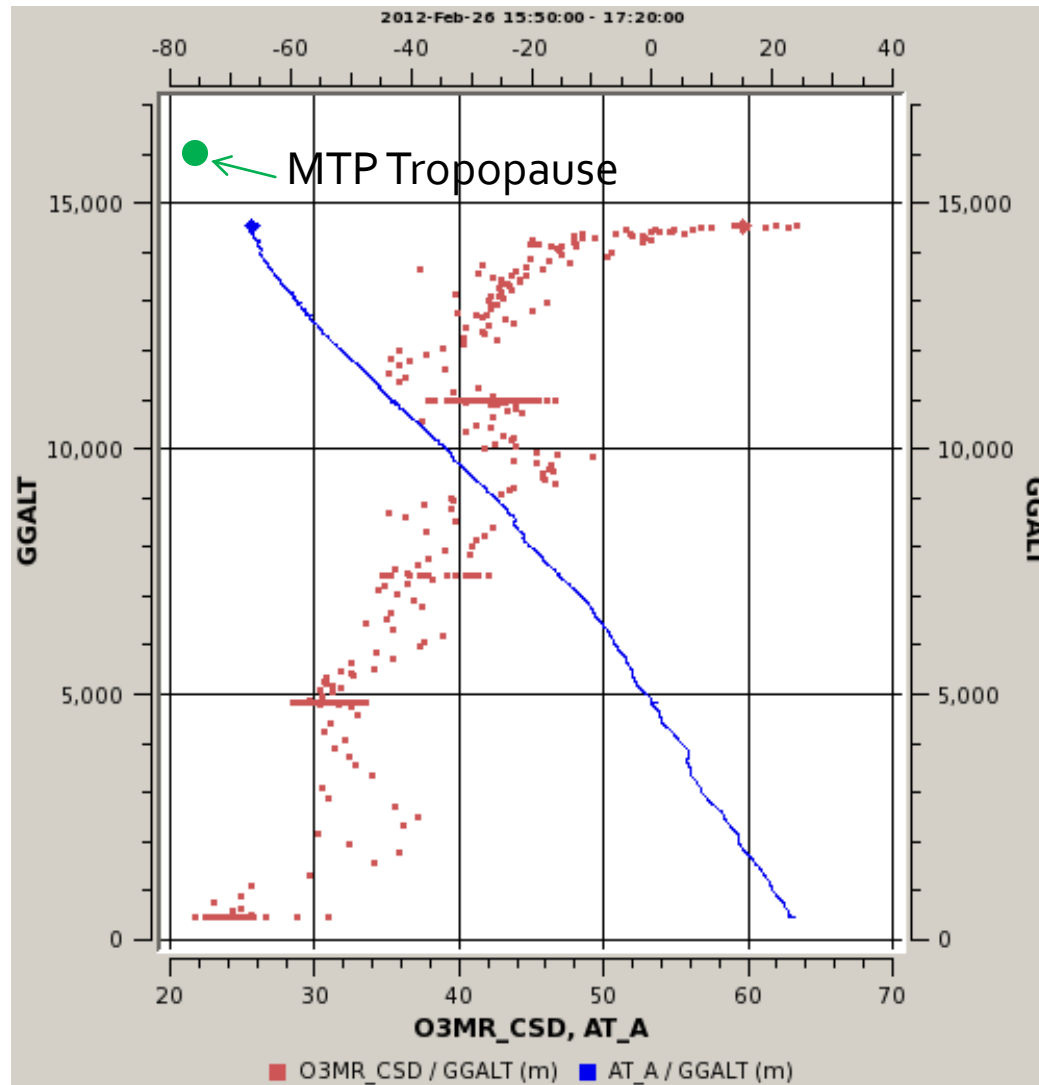


- MTP profile vs. Santo Domingo radiosondes
- Separation
  - 2+ hours later
  - aircraft 85 km west

# Tropical Convective Flight 4 Feb 2012 – RFo8 Hakuho Maru overpass



# O<sub>3</sub> Mixing Ratio and Temperature Profiles – 26 Feb 2012 (RF17)



Preliminary ozone data shown (R. Gao)

# Sea Surface Temperature

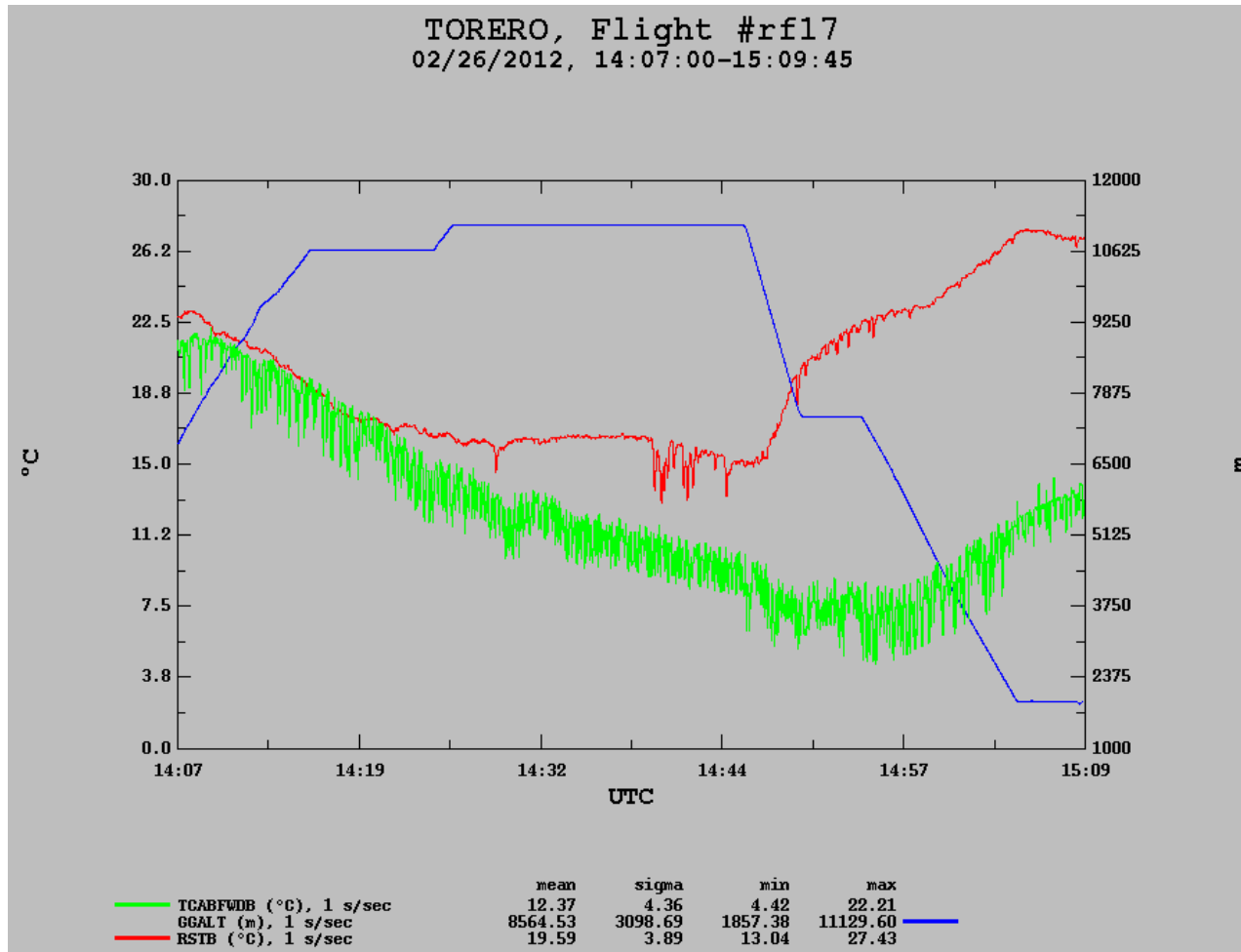
- Heitronics KT19.85 infrared pyrometer
- Spectral range 9.6 – 11.5  $\mu\text{m}$
- Field of view  $2^\circ$
- Sampling rate 5 Hz
- Specified accuracy 0.5 K plus a term dependent on difference between scene temperature and sensor housing temperature
- Temperature variations in sensor housing may be large
- Emission by water vapor in the column also contributes to uncertainty



## GV Installation

- Mounted on downward facing aperture plate
- Vertical orientation
- Not heated

# Altitude-Induced Variation in SST Measurement



# Method to Remove Water Vapor Emission Signal

- Radiative transfer model runs over a range of hypothetical surface temperatures
- Temperature and humidity profiles from aircraft ascents/descents used as input
- Clear scenes
- Difference between brightness temperature at top of layer and input surface temperature gives the correction
- Generate look-up table of corrections dependent on altitude and measured brightness temperature

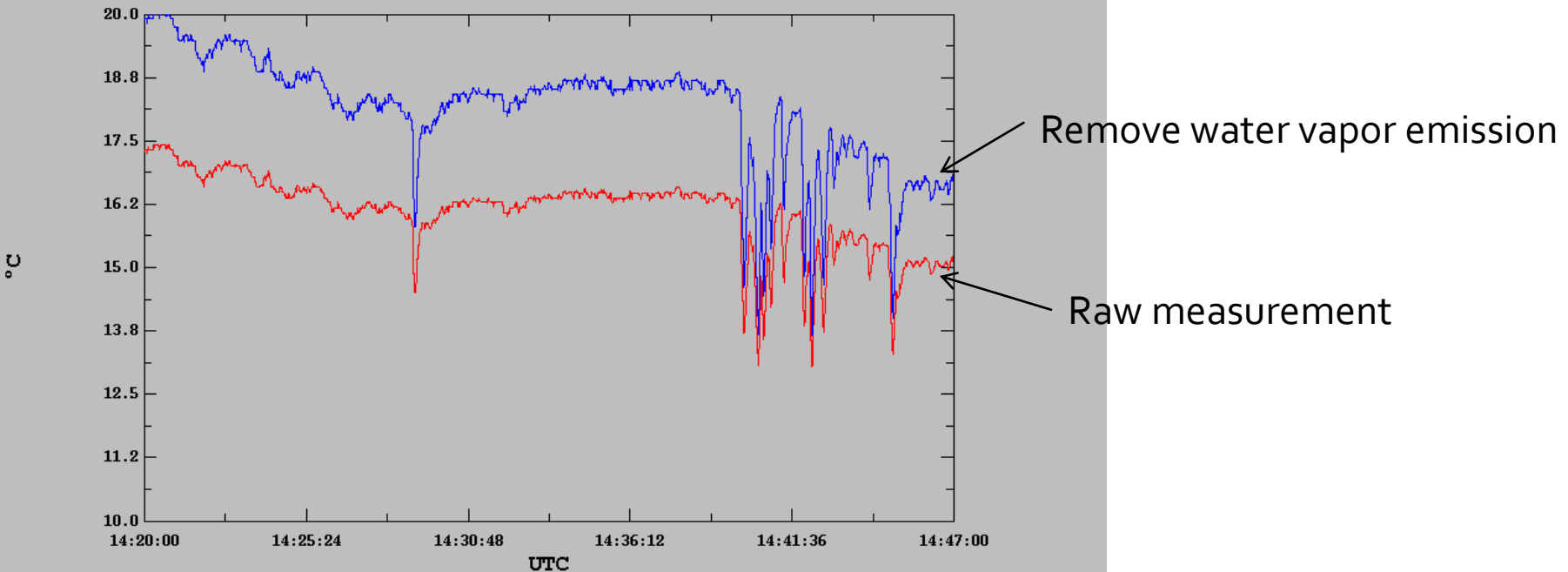


# Corrected Data Example

## 26 Feb 2012 – RF17

TORERO, Flight #rf17  
02/26/2012, 14:20:00–14:47:00

This plot contains preliminary data



	mean	sigma	min	max
— USER1 (Unknown), 1 s/sec	18.13	1.10	13.65	20.08
— RSTB (°C), 1 s/sec	16.10	0.75	13.04	17.43

*Sensor heating/cooling  
effect not yet addressed*

# Summary

- MTP production data files now available
- SST data processing continues

Convection over the Andes, near San Pedro de Atacama



# Radiative Transfer Equation:

Discrete approximation

Microwave radiative transfer in the atmosphere

- Non-scattering at these wavelengths (several millimeters)
- Neglect surface emission
- Remaining terms from atmospheric emission:

$$TB(\nu, \theta) = \sec \theta \int_{z_1}^{z_2} T(z) \cdot \alpha(\nu, z) \cdot \exp((- \tau(z_1) - \tau(z_2) \sec \theta)) dz$$

- Integral can be approximated by a sum:

$$TB(\nu, \theta) = \sum_{i=0}^N Ki(\nu, \theta) \cdot T(z_i) + \varepsilon$$

- Residual error,  $\varepsilon$ , denotes quadrature error and can account for instrument noise, etc.

# Polynomial Representation

- Alternatively,  $T$  can be written as a polynomial in terms of TB

$$T(z) = \sum_{i=1}^N a_i \cdot TB(v, \theta) + \varepsilon$$

- Then we must estimate the coefficients,  $a_i$ , using a priori information

# Generating Retrieval Coefficients

For each of  $N = 200$  raobs, at a given altitude:

- Express  $T_{\text{raob}}$  as a linear combination of  $TB_{\text{raob}}$

$$T_{\text{raob}} = a_1 TB_{\text{raob}_1} + a_2 TB_{\text{raob}_2} + \dots + a_{30} TB_{\text{raob}_{30}}$$

- Using a system of  $N$  equations in  $M=30$  unknowns, solve for  $a_m$  at each vertical level  $L$ .

Obtain a set of *Retrieval Coefficients* at each vertical level associated with a single template.

Repeat process for all template profiles (usually 20-40 sets).

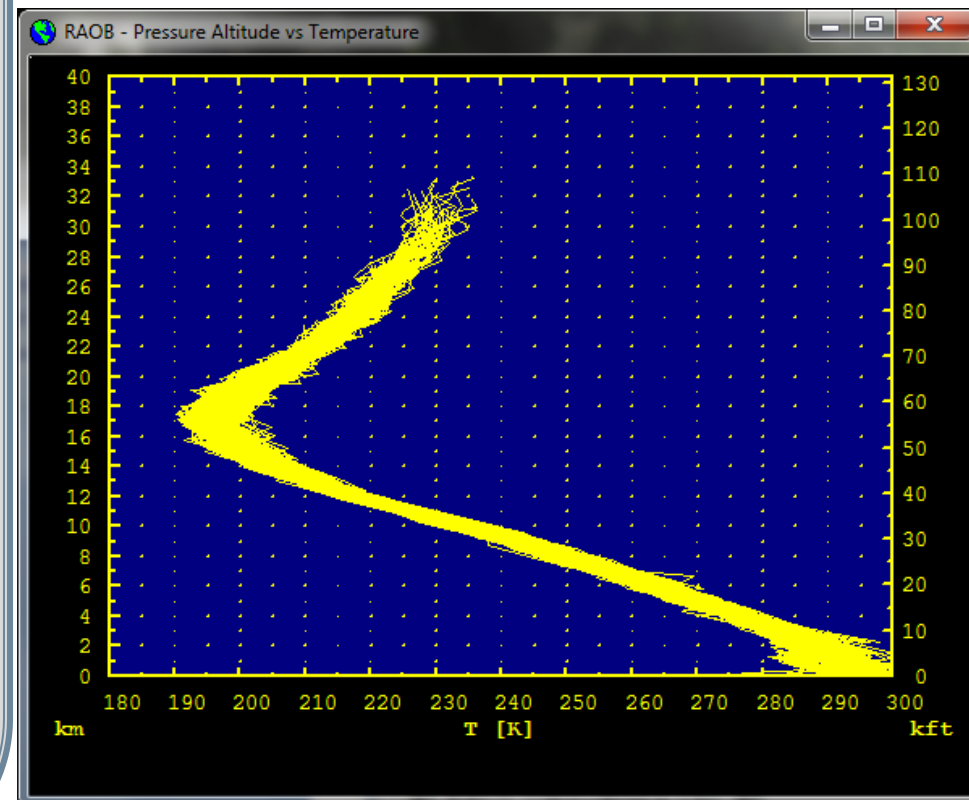
# Relate Temperature to Brightness Temperature

For each template raob, at each frequency (3), at each viewing angle (10), at common flight altitudes



Repeat for ~200 similar raob profiles → Regression on results gives a linear polynomial relationship between T and TB

Template and associated radiosondes from Antofagasta



# Retrieval Procedure

- For each MTP scan, match (measured)  $TB_{mtp}$  profile with most similar (modeled)  $TB_{raob}$  profile
- Assume similar TB profiles will have similar relationships to T profiles
- Apply the associated set of RCs to  $TB_{mtp}$
- Calculate  $T_{mtp}$  at altitude  $z$ :

$$T_{mtp}(z) = \overline{T_{raob}} + \sum_{m=1}^{30} RC(z, m) TB_{mtp}(m)$$

↑  
measurement

File Format View Help

Pgm Setup	ABCDE	I/WG1	Cts/Track	CTS	MUX/NAV	IBs	Gain	TB Fit	T/PT	Spare	COM In	
Channel 1	Channel 2	Channel 3	Stats			1	Ret Avg and RMS	Obs Avg, RMS and InP				
210.71	214.65	217.37	AVG	RMS		1.1	1.7	1.5	0.5	0.42	6	TA012
214.15	215.72	218.32	DT [s]	0	4.248			1.9	1.2	0.60		TB012
215.64	216.96	218.62	MRI	0.395	0.371			7.7	1.9	2.11		TC012
217.58	218.53	219.26	Current MRI	0.11				4.1	3.9	1.51		TD012
218.88	219.60	219.76	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use Total Error for MRI					9.4	2.6	2.59		TE012
220.97	220.97	220.97	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show Archive Avg					10.4	3.2	2.91		TF012
223.36	222.08	221.68	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show Only Good Scans					10.9	2.9	3.00		TG012
225.60	223.65	222.59	<input type="checkbox"/> Use Original MRI					6.1	1.3	1.68		TH012
227.74	224.76	224.07	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove OB bias					3.2	1.5	0.94		TI012
229.68	226.68	225.28	<input type="checkbox"/> Restore OB bias					2.0	0.4	0.55	1	TJ012
			<input type="checkbox"/> Apply S matrix					0.9	1.3	0.42	37	TK012
			<input type="checkbox"/> Write ATP to Immediate					1.1	1.4	0.47	45	TL012
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show Flight Level					2.0	1.4	0.65		TM012
			<input type="checkbox"/> OAT MTP Corr 0.11					2.9	1.4	0.87		TN012
								1.6	0.9	0.48	7	TO012
								0.4	0.7	0.22	33	TP012

205  AA Bias 030 M 235

UTsec pALT gALT Lat Lon Hdg Pitch Roll OAT\_K  
48773 11.9 12.5 -25.37 -76.77 263 3.6 -0.2 220.0

Position ■■■■■

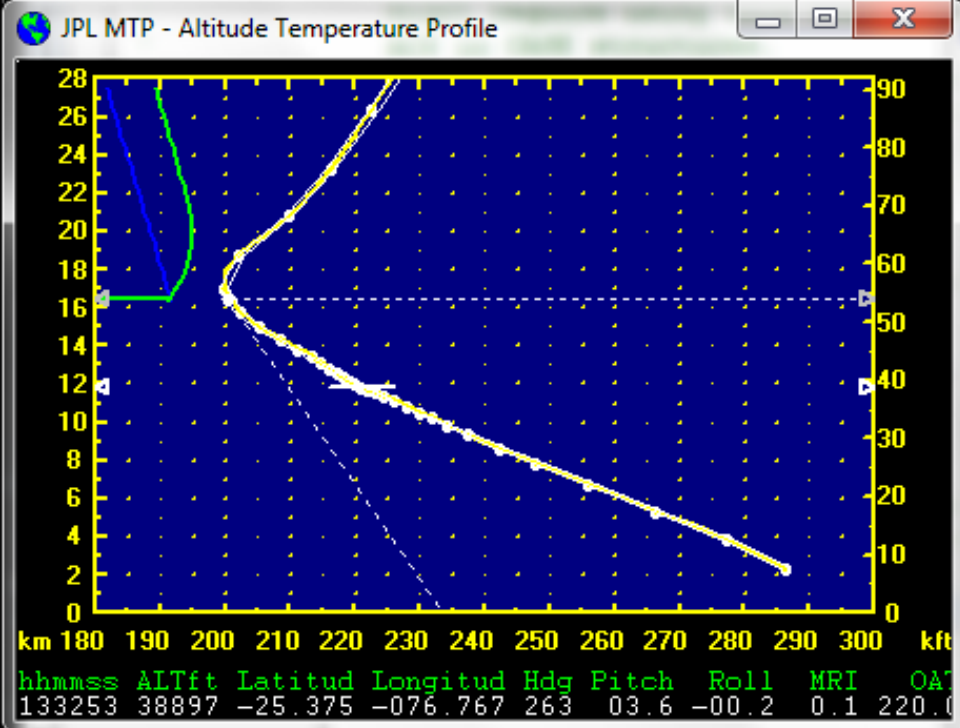
Write ELTINFO  
Open Next Flight

Current Cycle 187  
Bad Cycles 0  
Total Cycles 1656

Go To Record  
Rec No  GO

Universal Time  ks

Back Continue Fwd Scan Trop Exit



FLTINFO Summary for NG/TORERO/20120124

File Help

Flight	View	Words	Trops	History	RCs	Ad Hoc	Gain
RC Files							
0	TA012	3	6	12	TM012	3	
1	TB012	3		13	TN012	3	
2	TC012	3		14	TO012	3	7
3	TD012	3		15	TP012	3	33
4	TE012	3		16	TQ012	3	
5	TF012	3		17	TR012	3	
6	TG012	3		18	TS012	3	
7	TH012	3		19	TT012	3	
8	TI012	3		20	TU012	3	
9	TJ012	3	1	21	TV012	3	
10	TK012	3	37	22	TW012	3	57
11	TL012	3	45	23	TX012	3	
				24	TY012	3	
				25	TZ012	3	
				26	UA012	3	1
				27			
				28			
				29			
				30			
				31			
				32			
				33			
				34			
				35			

Clear All  
Pack  
Below 50