



Royal Netherlands  
Meteorological Institute  
*Ministry of Infrastructure and the  
Environment*

# Wind measurements from moving platforms and their impact on data assimilation

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# Motivation



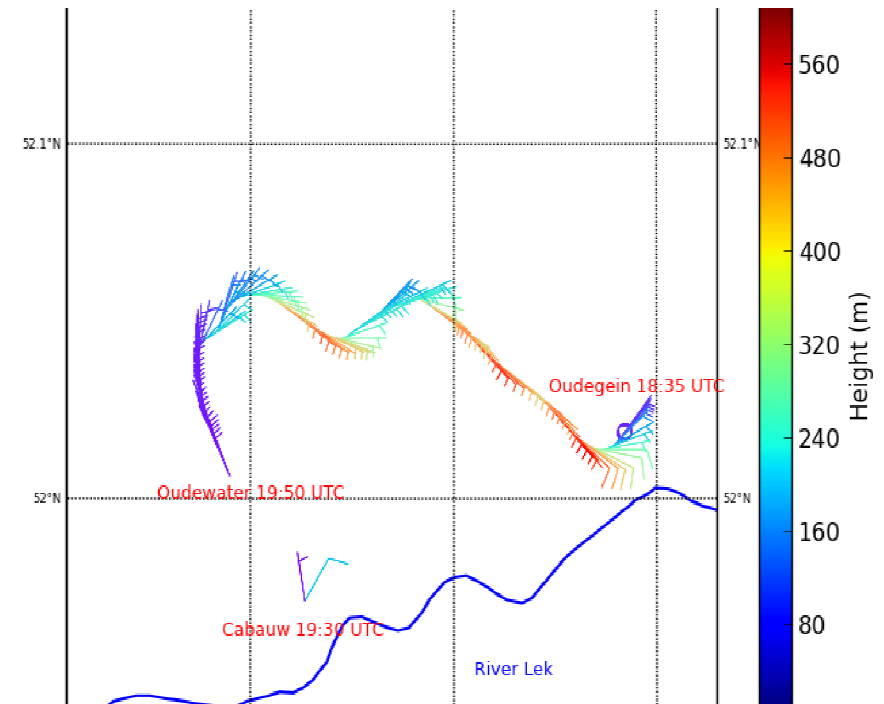
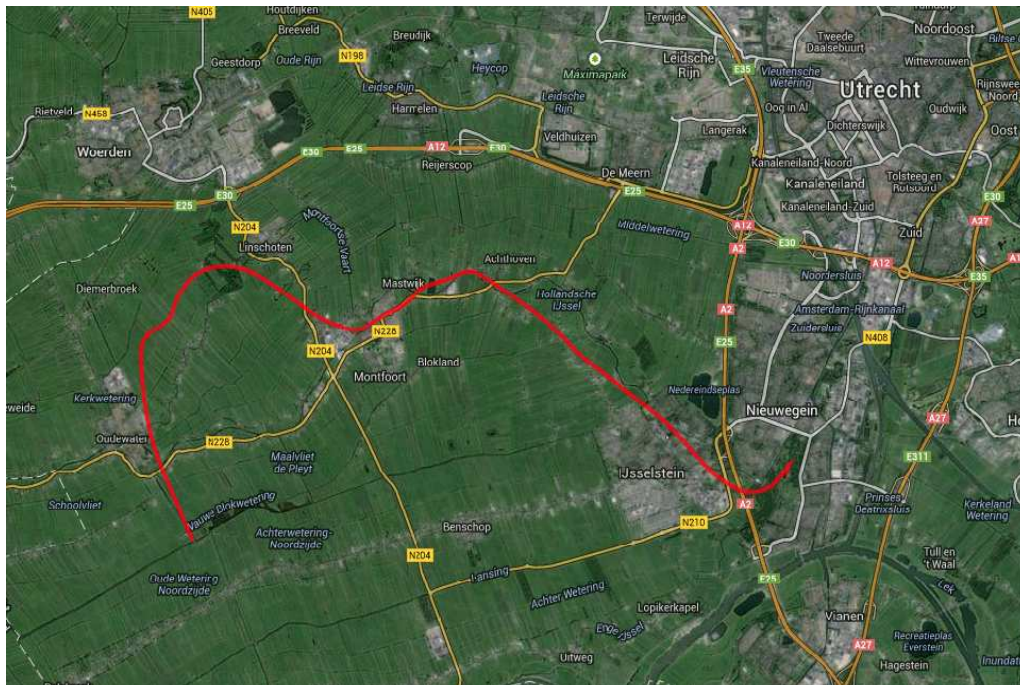
## Goals:

- 1) Improve HARMONIE with new upper air observations
- 2) Obtain extra wind information of the ABL for validation and process studies

# Hot-air balloon

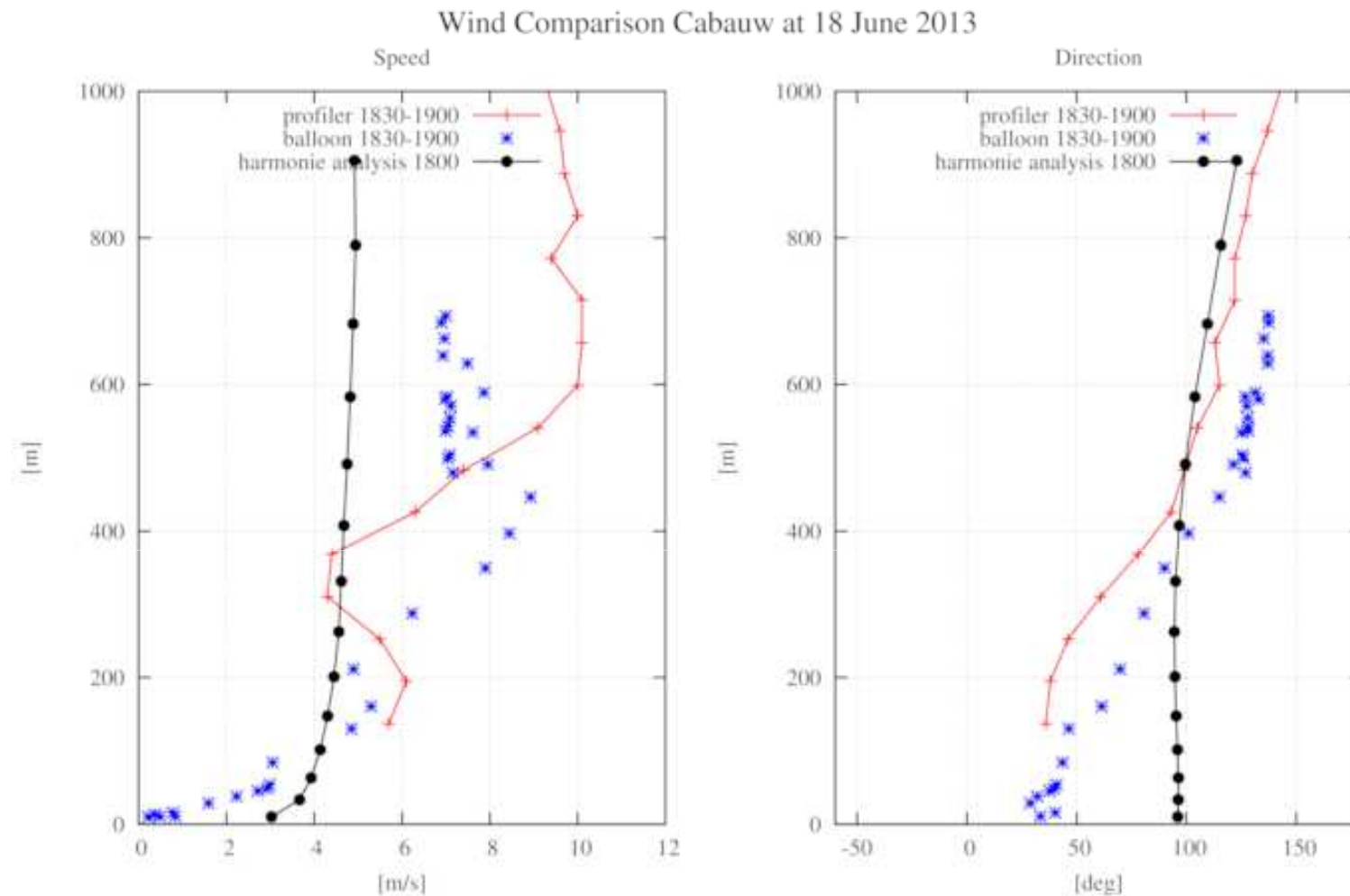


## Hot-Air balloon flight 18 June 2013 Incoming sea breeze



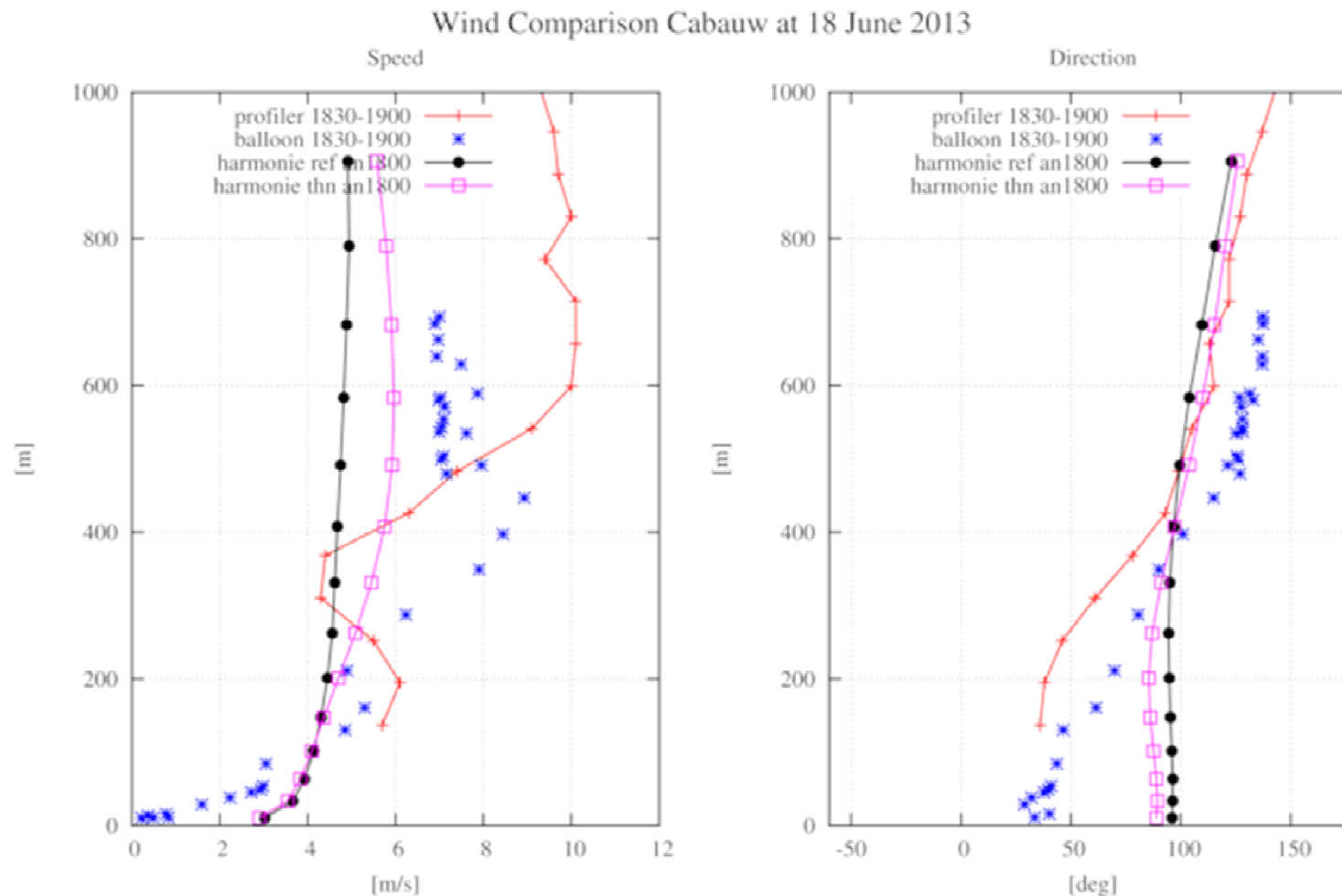


## WindProfiler/Balloon/HARMONIE





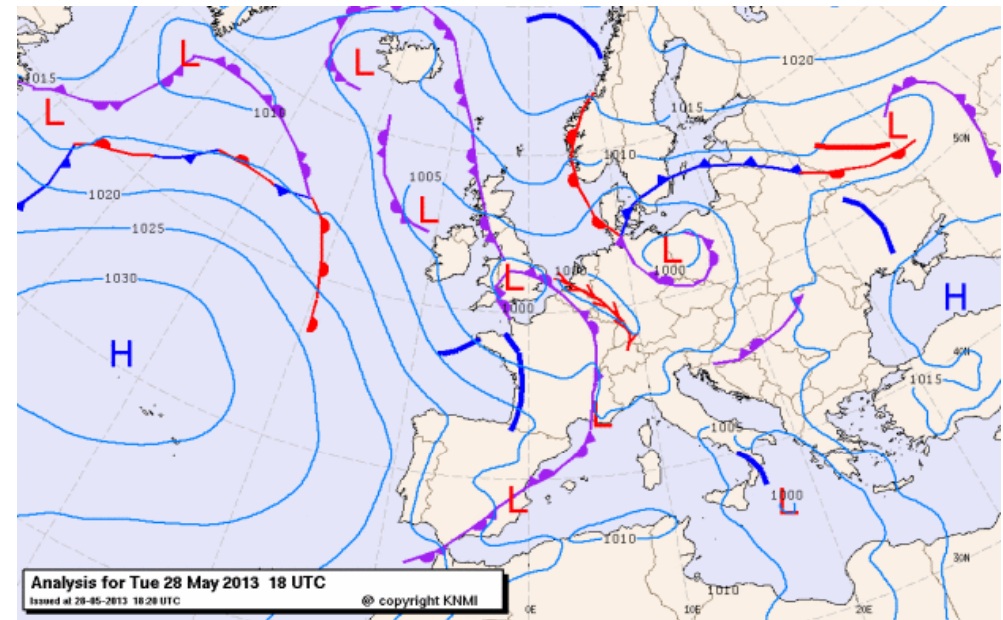
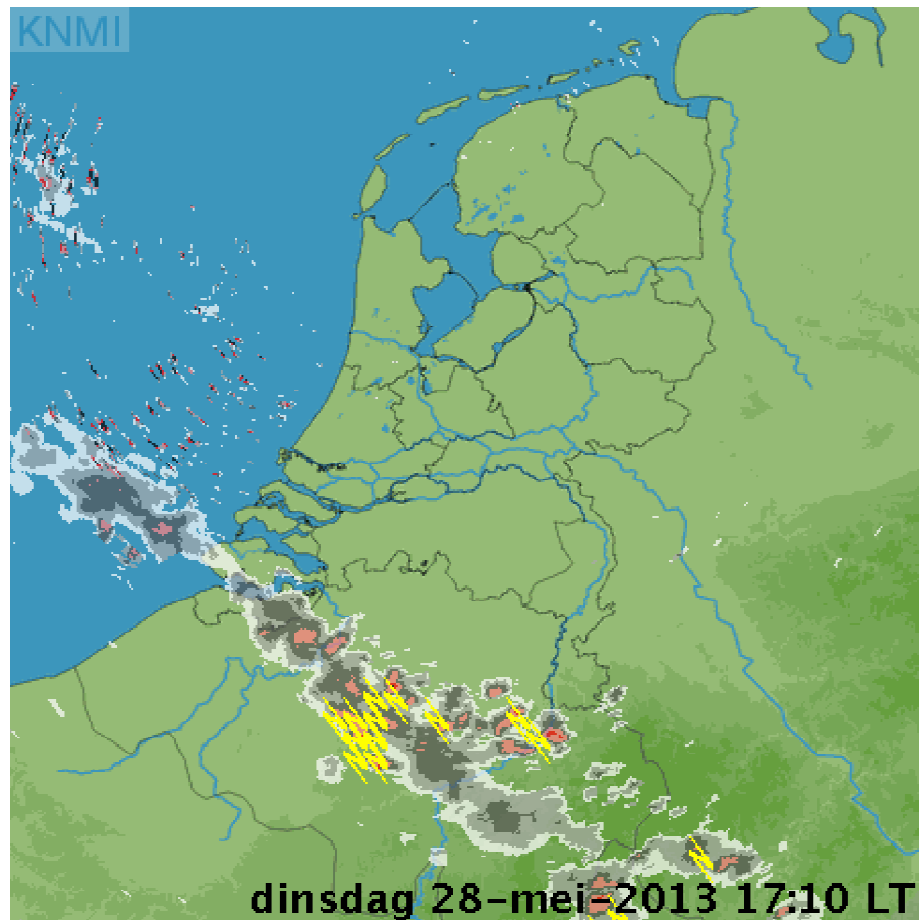
## Data assimilation in HARMONIE Impact on the wind profile





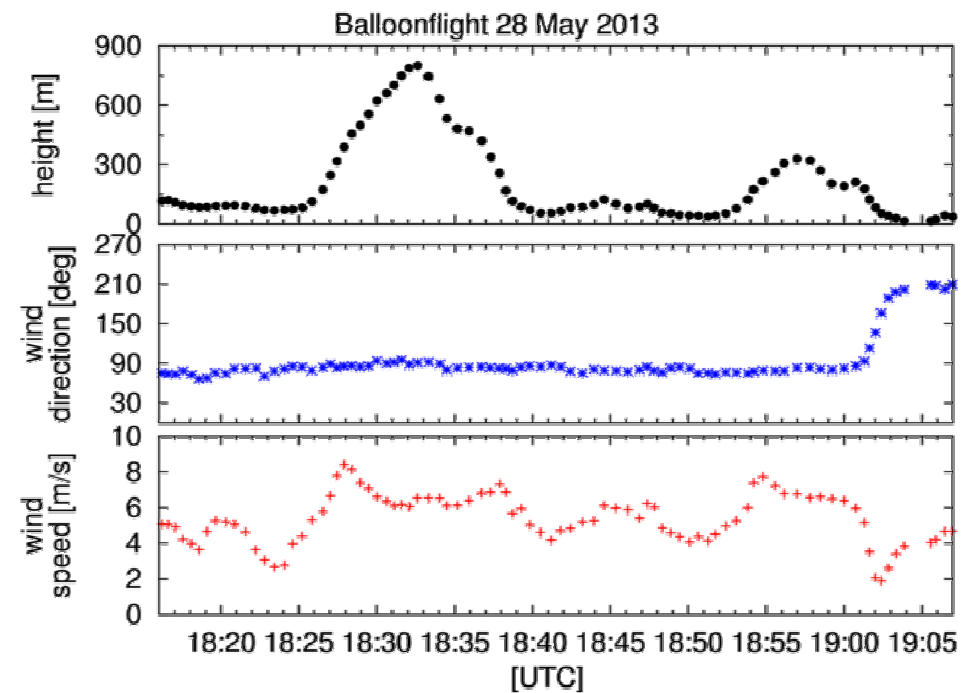
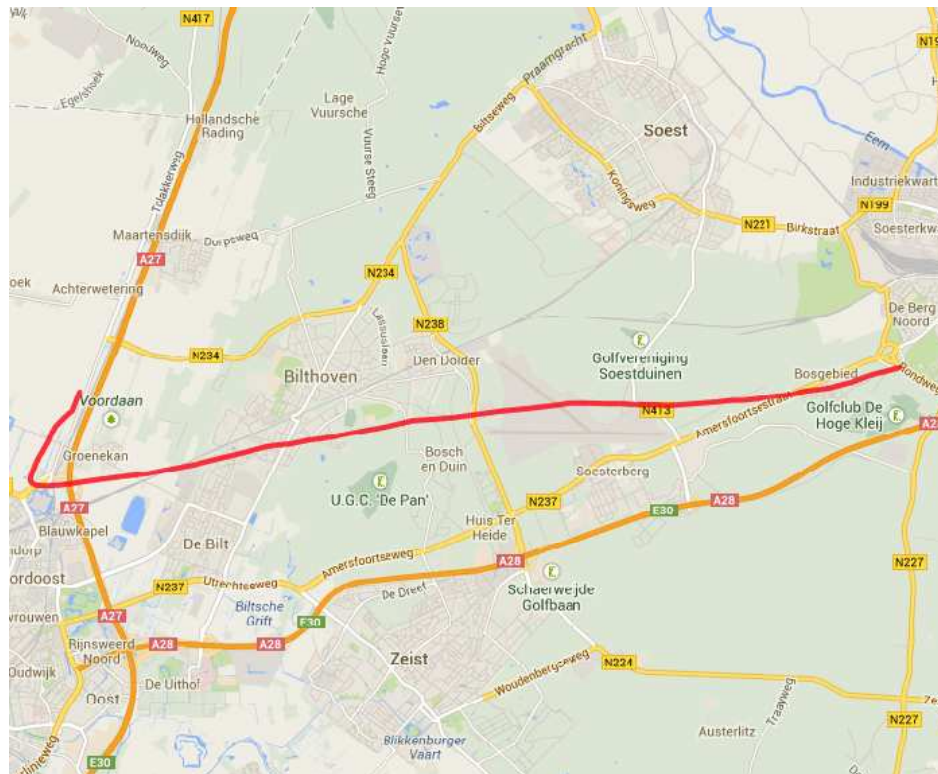


## thunderstorm / convergence line, 28 may 2013





## 28 May 2013 Wind shift of 120 degrees

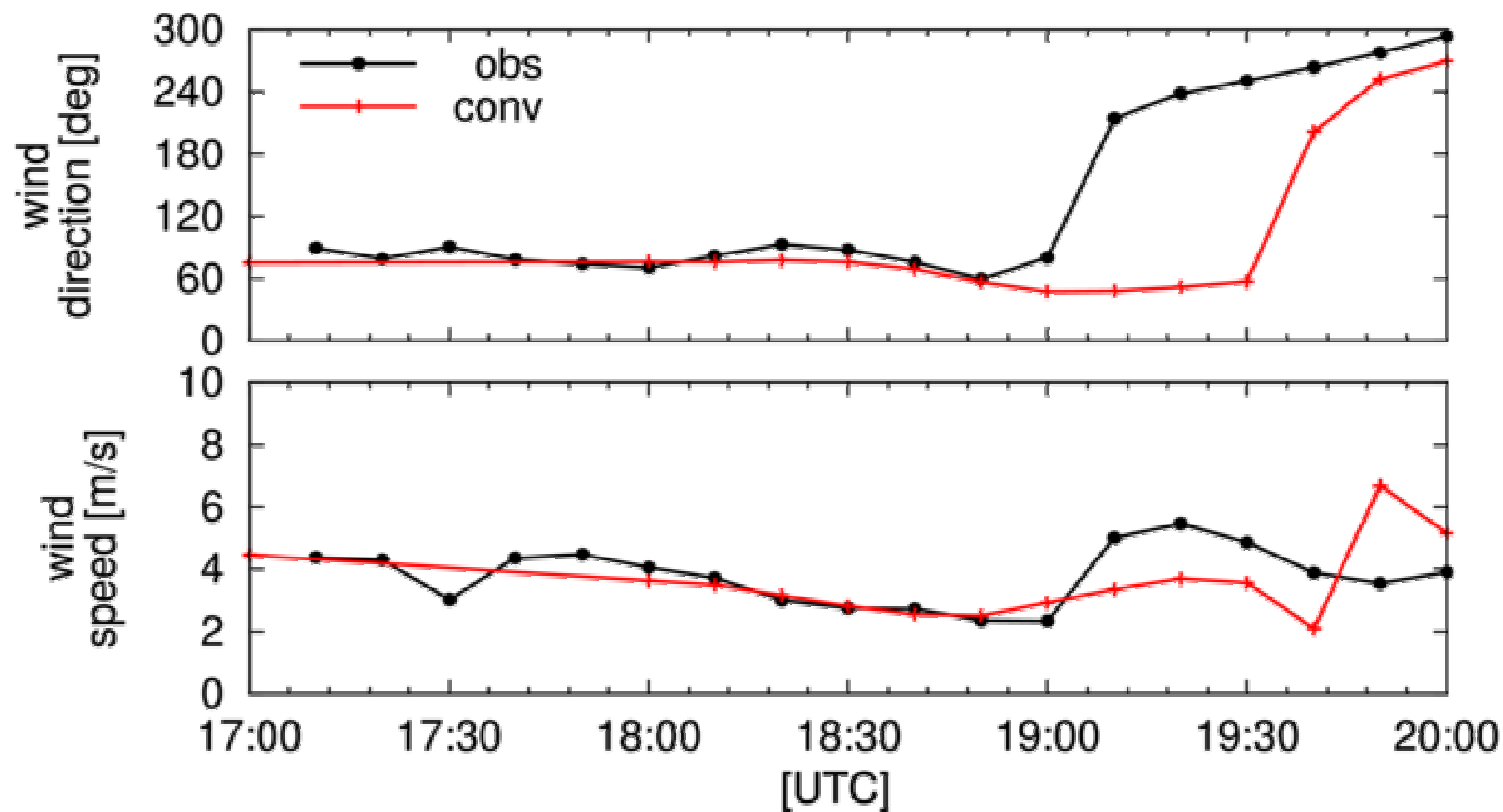






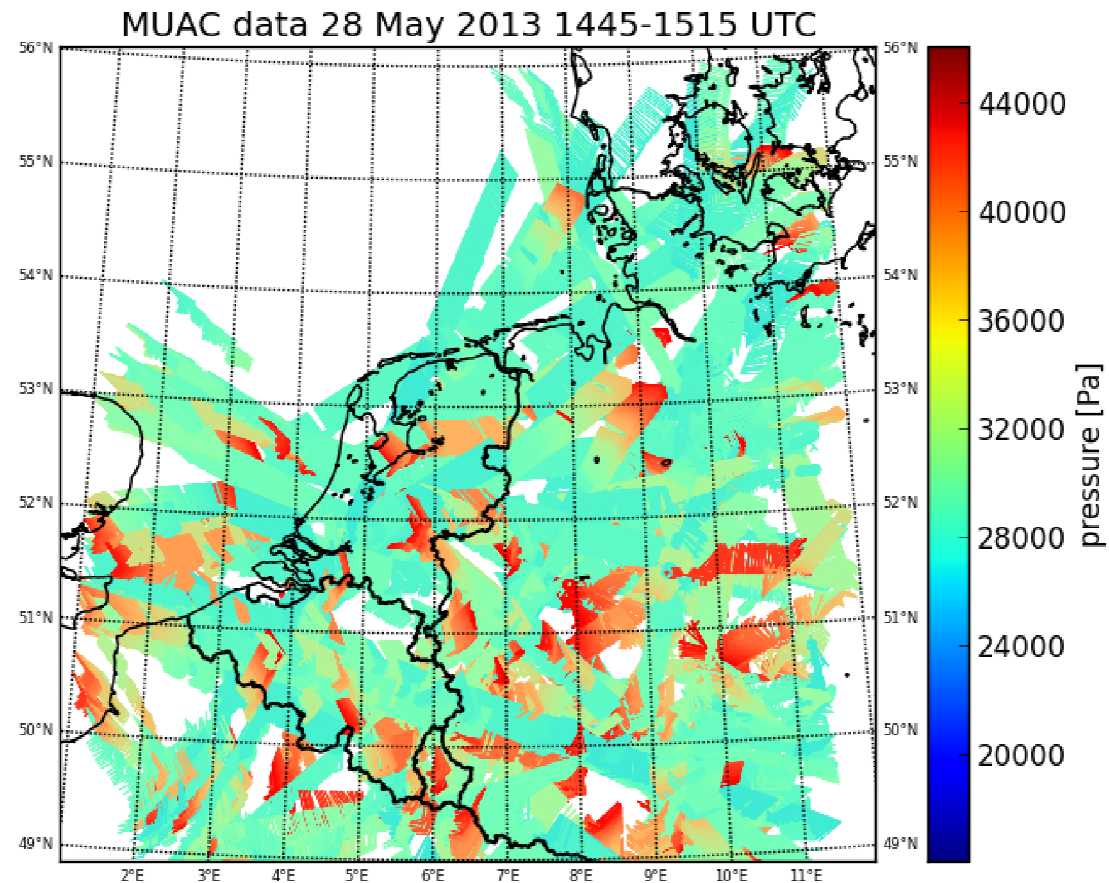
## Model too late, how to improve?

10 m height validation De Bilt 28 May 2013





# Apply Mode-EHS observations !!





HARMONIE cycle 38h1.2

800 x 800

3DVAR

3h cycling interval

SYNOP, TEMP, SHIP, BUOY, AMDAR

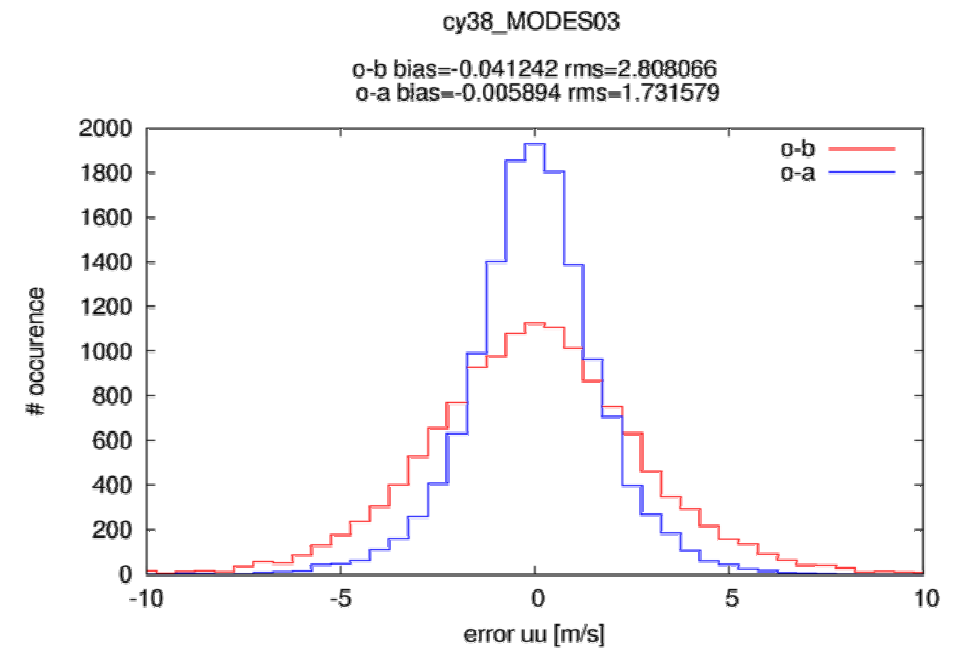
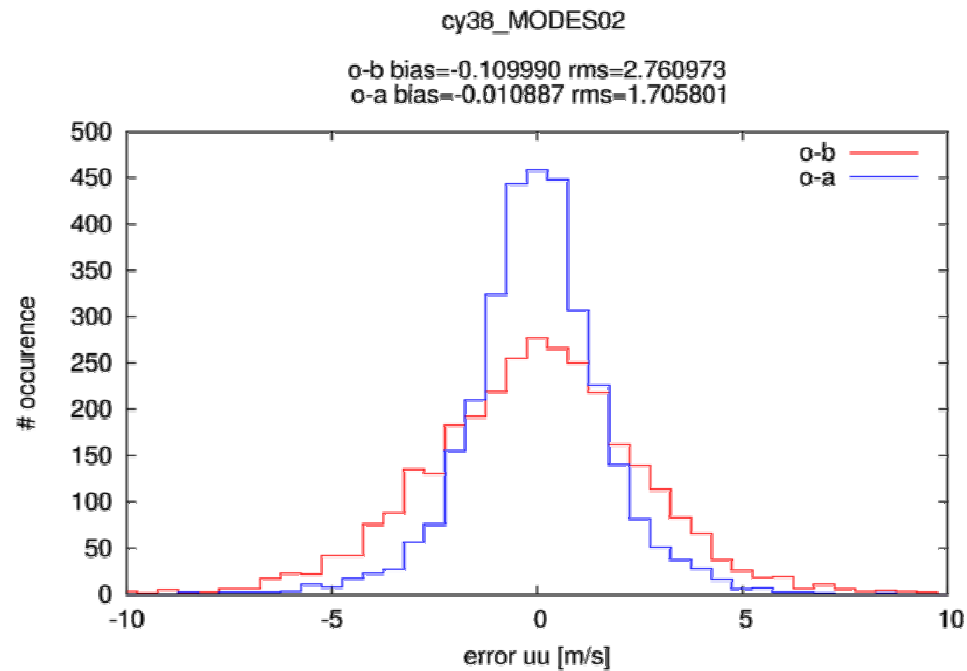
Mode-S EHS data (from Air Traffic Control)

Thinned in time +/-15 min around analysis time

Thinned in space RFINN\_AIREP=15 km



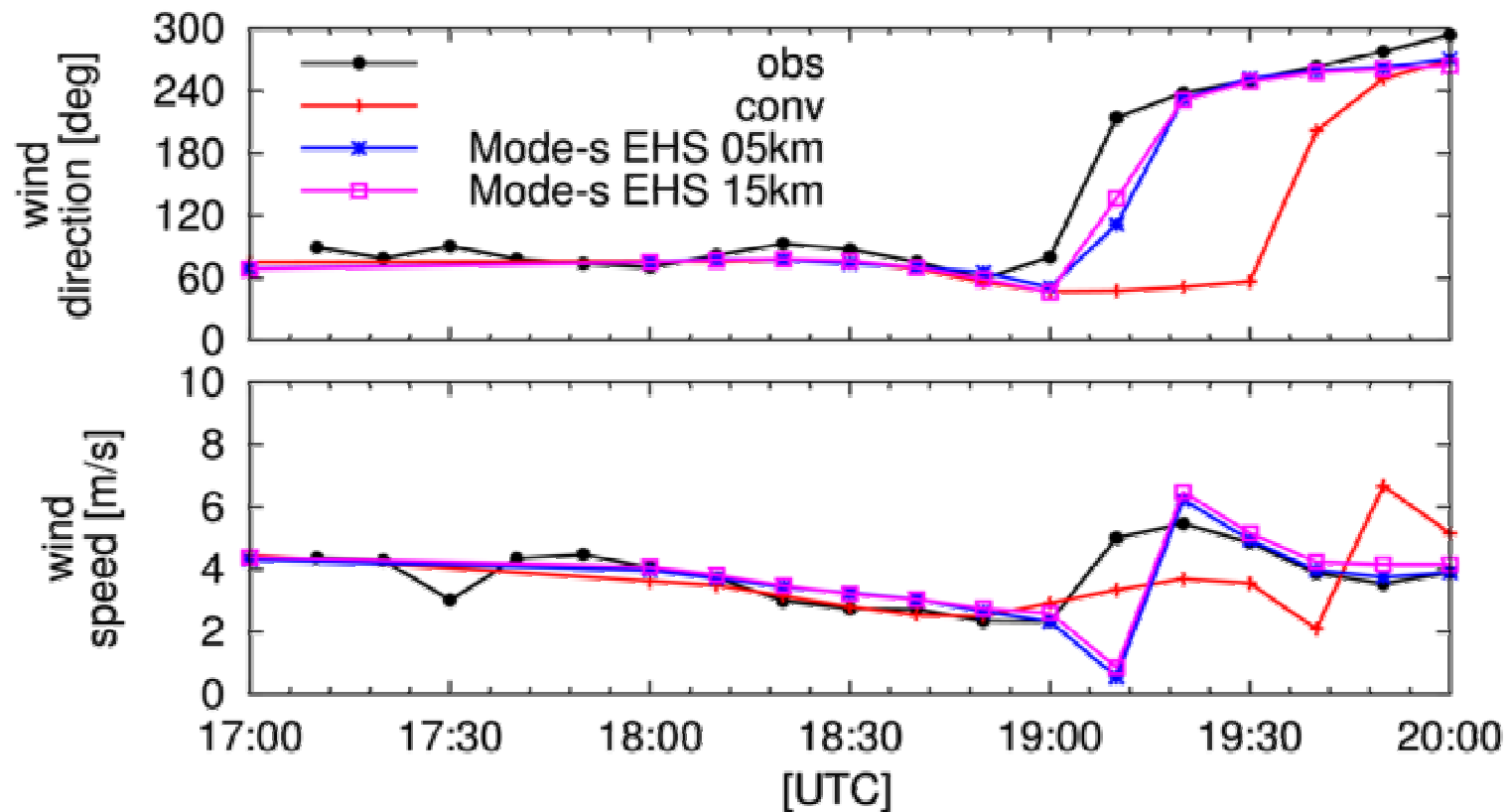
## Departure statistics



# Mode-S EHS data



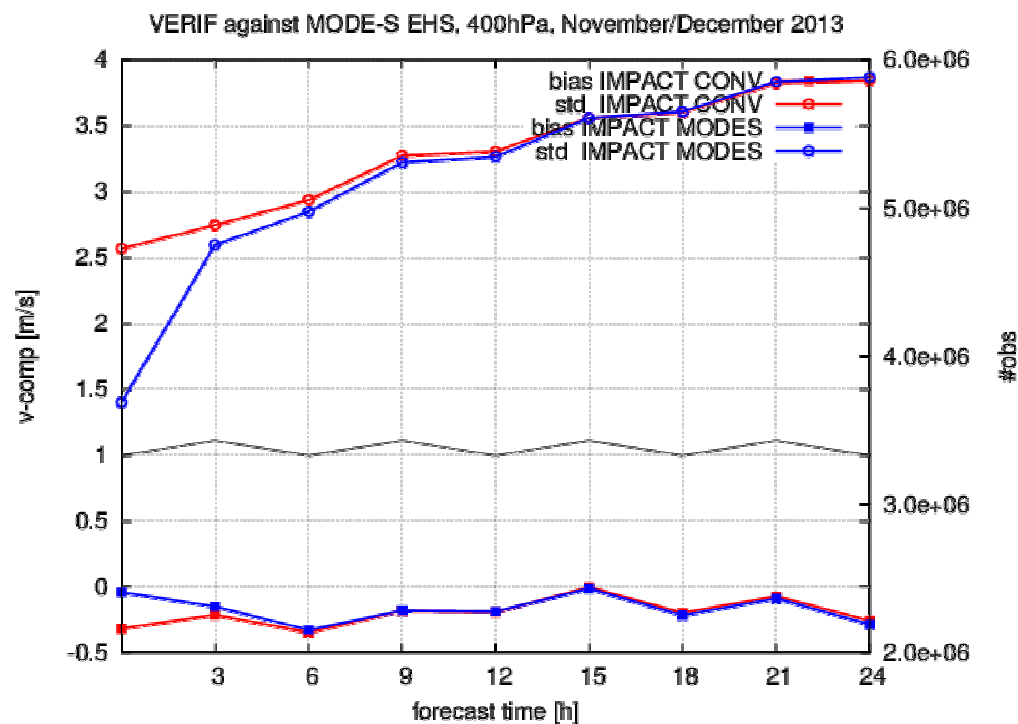
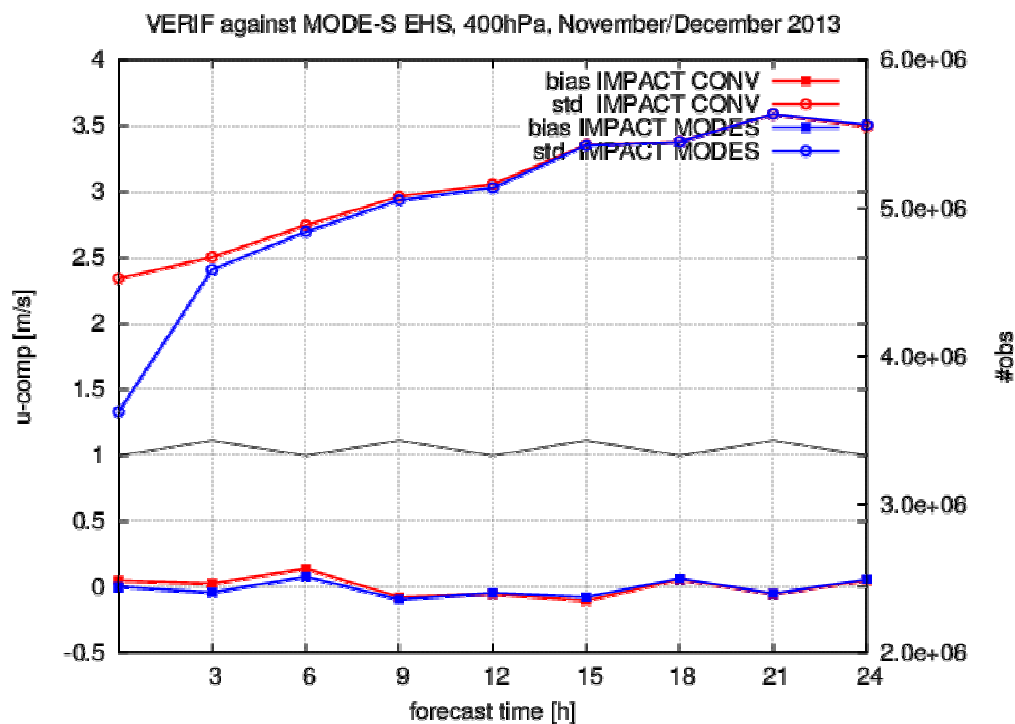
10 m height validation De Bilt 28 May 2013







## Verification 18 Nov – 31 Dec 2013





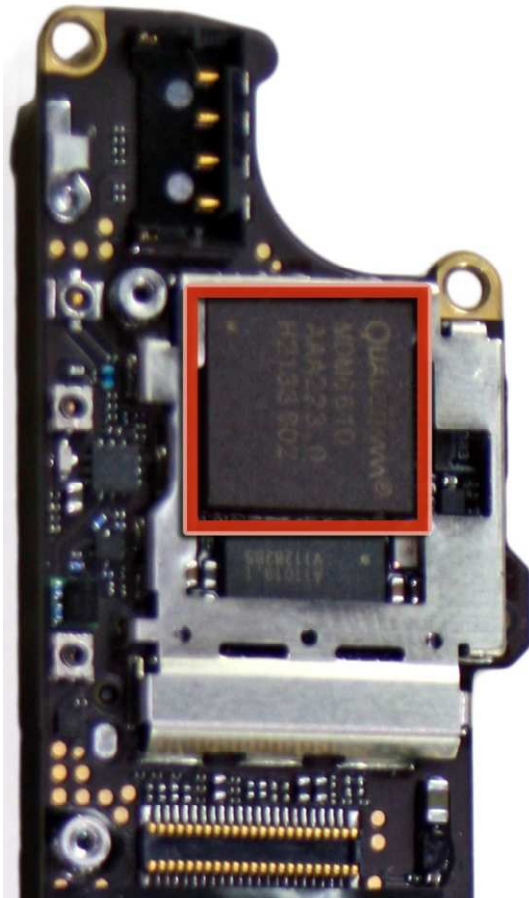
Balloon tracks were obtained by collecting GPS-navigation data afterwards

Can we collect them automatically?

- Transponder via Air Traffic Control (difficult)
- Smartphones (easier)



## App on smart-phone



●●○○ hollandsnieuwe 3G 11:54

Current Latitude: +52.096422  
Current Longitude: +5.186733  
Hor. Accuracy (m): +1610.000000  
Altitude: -0.685932  
Ver. Accuracy (m): +14.987607  
Distance from start: 2.757972

[Reset Distance](#)

Magnetic heading: 165.826599  
True heading: 166.785019  
Acceleration X: 0.07g  
Acceleration Y: -0.54g  
Acceleration Z: -0.87g

[Upload Current File](#)

Upload Status: Succes!

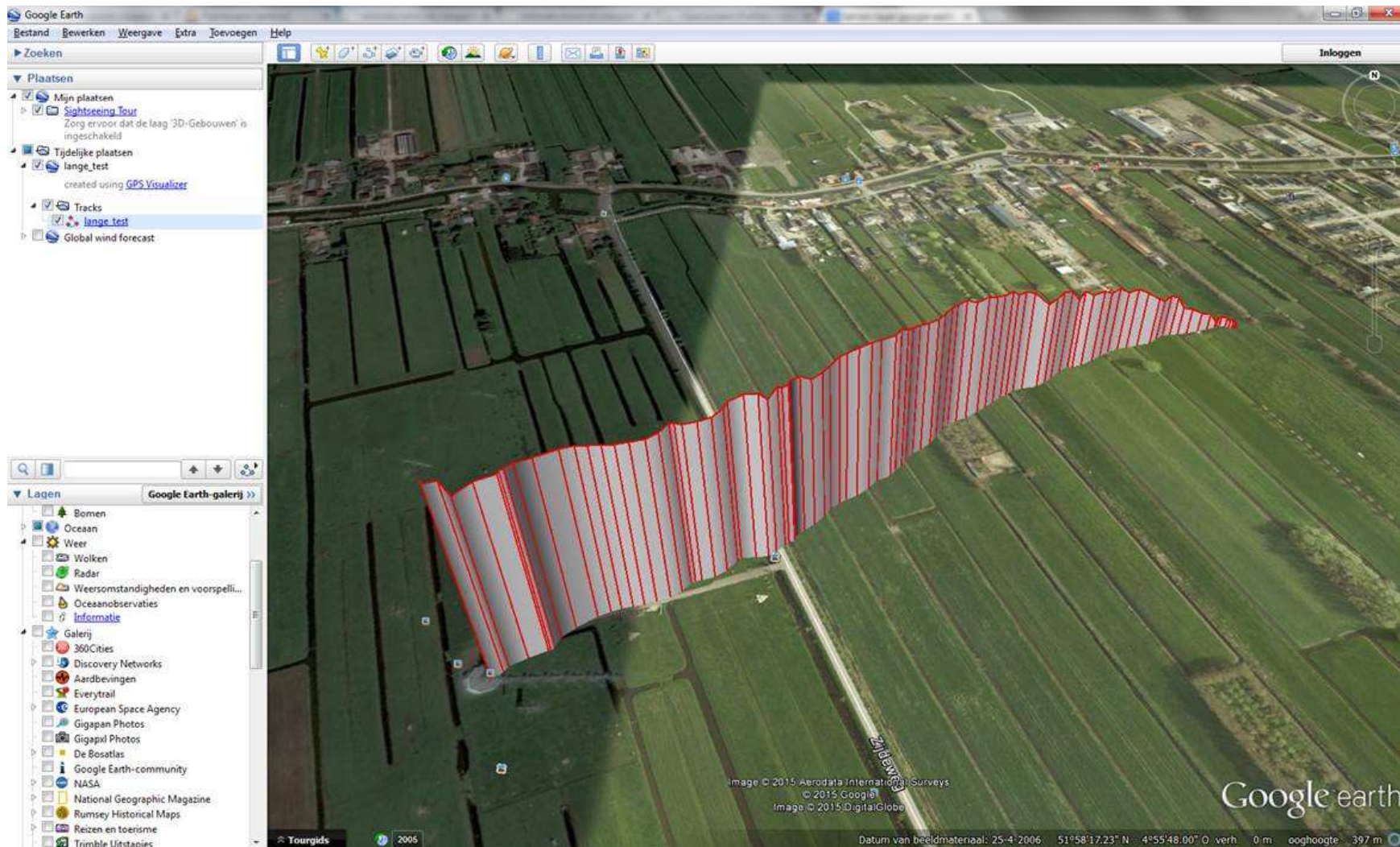


## SMART-PHONE with parachute launched





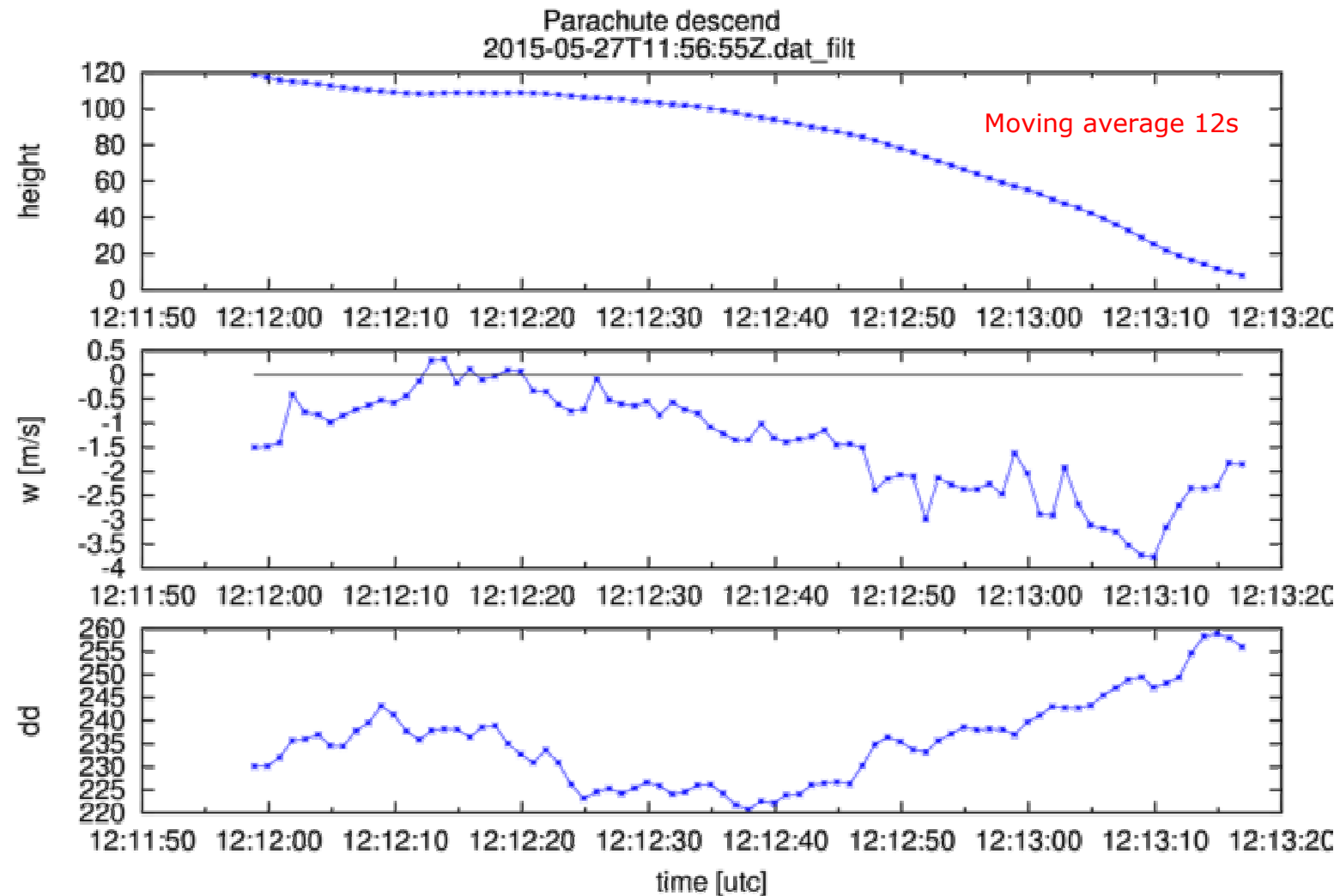
## 3d trajectory of the parachute descend





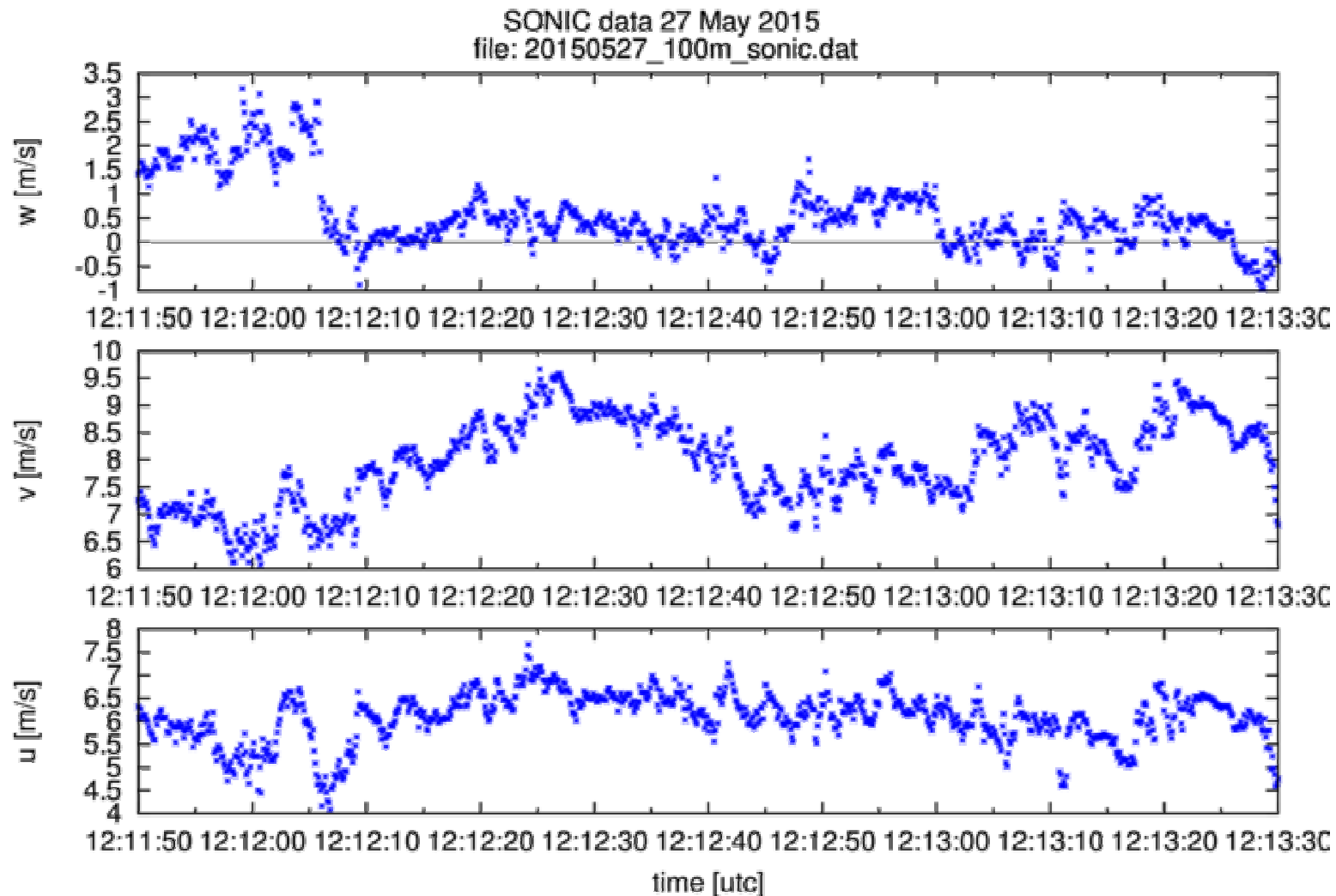


## Why did this descend last so long?





## SONIC Anemometer at 100m in Cabauw tower

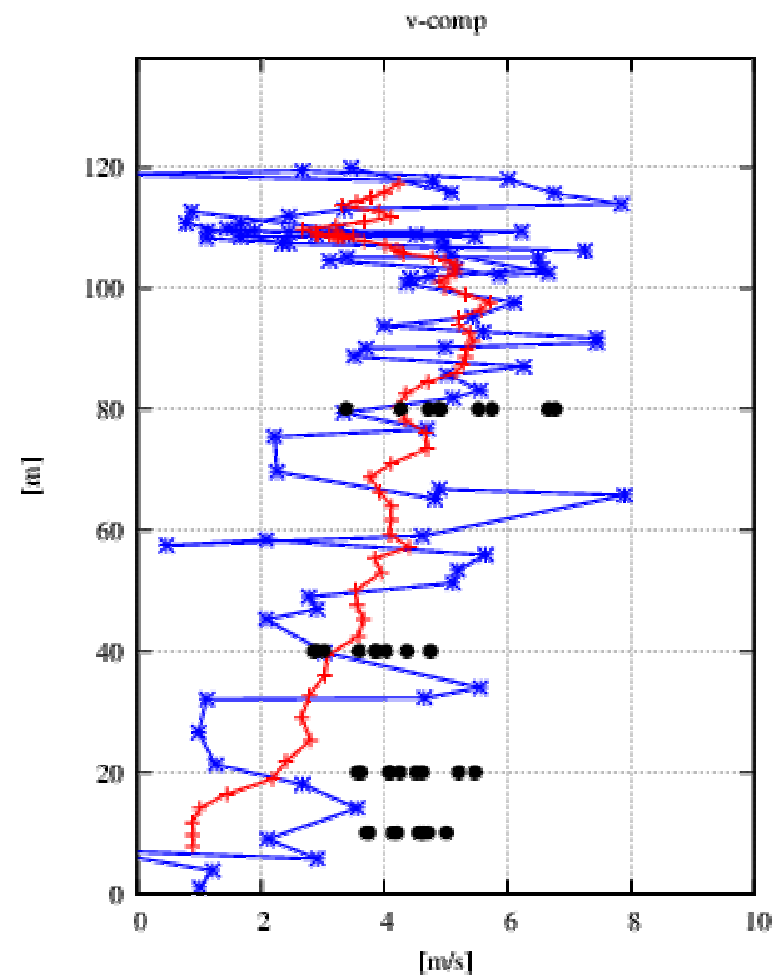
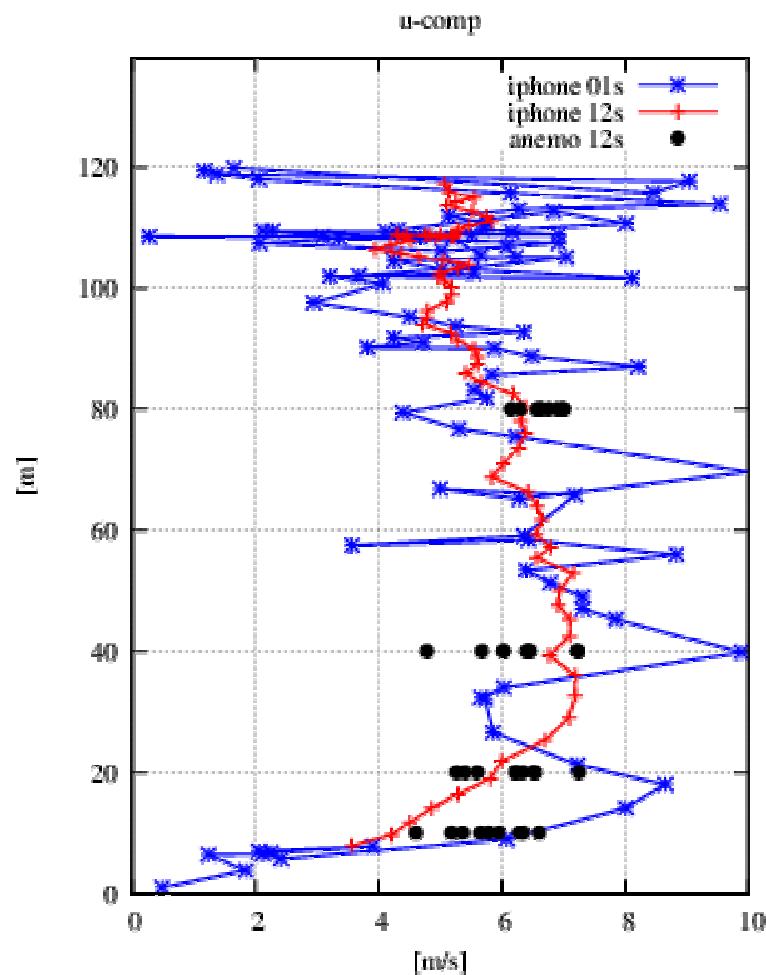




## Validation

parachute wind Cabauw at 27 May 2015  
T12:11:5-12:13:22

Moving average 12s



# Conclusions



- Smart-phones on moving platforms can be used to collect wind information
- Parachute descends reveal very local wind effects like vertical updrafts
- Hot-air balloon tracks contain valuable wind information in the ABL
- Mode-S EHS observations reduce wind shift timing errors and improve the scores

## Outlook

- Mode-S EHS data in 4D VAR data assimilation
- Test smart-phone during Hot-air Balloon flight