

An aerial photograph taken from an aircraft window, showing a vast, arid landscape with mountains, valleys, and a large reservoir. The sky is clear and blue. The aircraft's wing and part of the fuselage are visible in the foreground.

# POlarimeter Definition EXperiment (PODEX) Level 1 comparisons

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ACE SWG Workshop, Greenbelt, MD  
June 10, 2014*



# PODEX: 3 polarimeters on the ER-2

**AirMSPI:** Airborne Multiangle SpectroPolarimetric Imager (JPL)

**PACS:** Passive Aerosol and Cloud Suite (UMBC/GSFC)

**RSP:** Research Scanning Polarimeter (GISS)

**Start with the basics:**

**how does instrument radiometry compare?**

- Help better understand retrieved product comparison
- Help differentiate algorithm vs measurement differences
- Help understand our instrument characteristics – Do they act as we expect?
- Optimal estimation algorithms need accurate measurement uncertainties

We don't have absolute measurements - no instrument is 'right' or 'wrong'. We can only tell if instruments agree as expected.



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PACS data are not available for comparison yet...



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## Instrument reflectance & polarization comparison

- Geolocation and wing flex
- Pixel to pixel matchup
- Comparison scenes
- Instrument uncertainty models
- Results
- Recommendations for future efforts



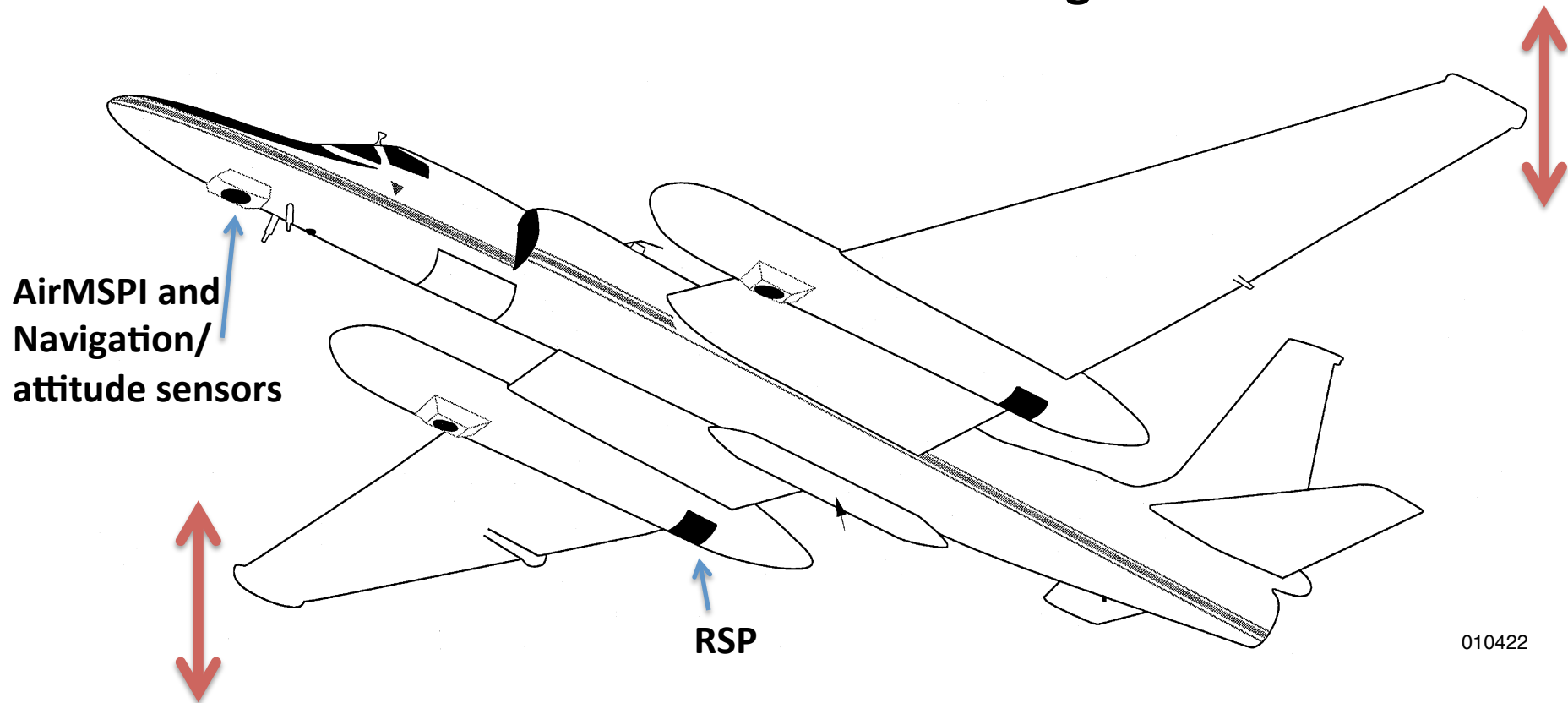
An aerial photograph of a desert landscape, showing a mix of brown and tan terrain with some green patches and a large, light-colored circular feature. A semi-transparent white text box is overlaid on the left and center of the image. In the top right corner, there is a small circular inset showing a close-up of a metallic surface with the number '5' on it.

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## Wing 'flex' may roll the RSP observations from attitude measurements in the fuselage



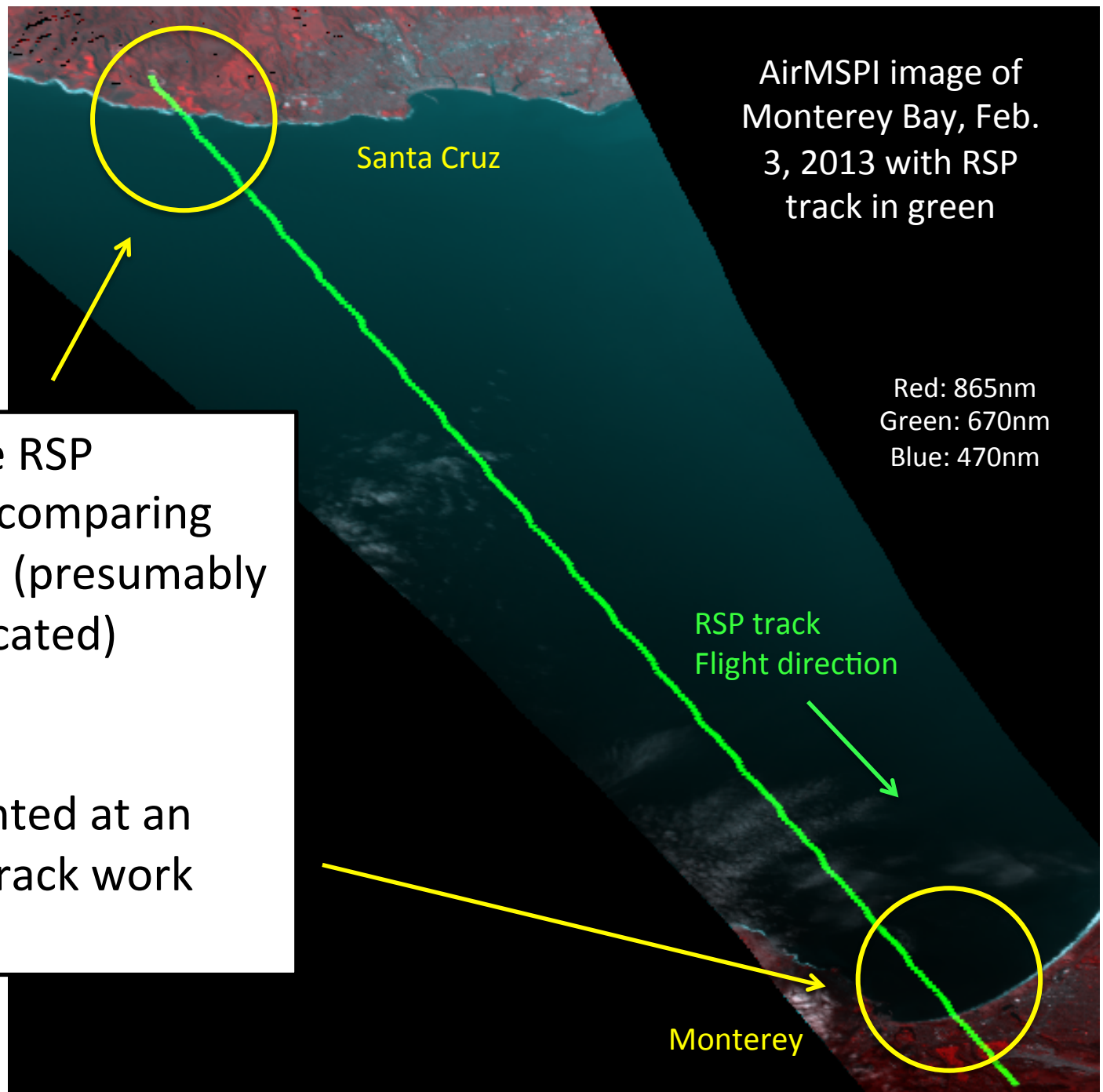
010422

Wing 'flex' varies with fuel load and payload.

**1° of pointing error at ER-2 cruising altitude is 350m on the ground**

(Attitude sensors were placed in wing pod for SEAC4RS)



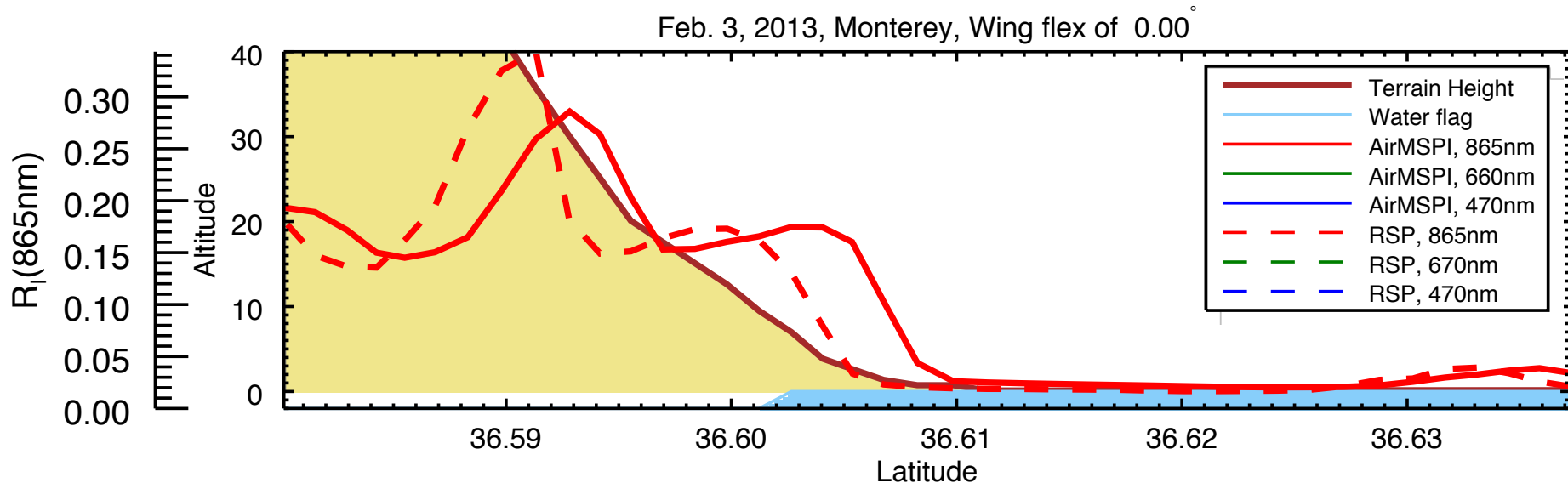


We can test the RSP geolocation by comparing observations to (presumably correctly geolocated) AirMSPI data.

Coastlines oriented at an angle to flight track work well for this

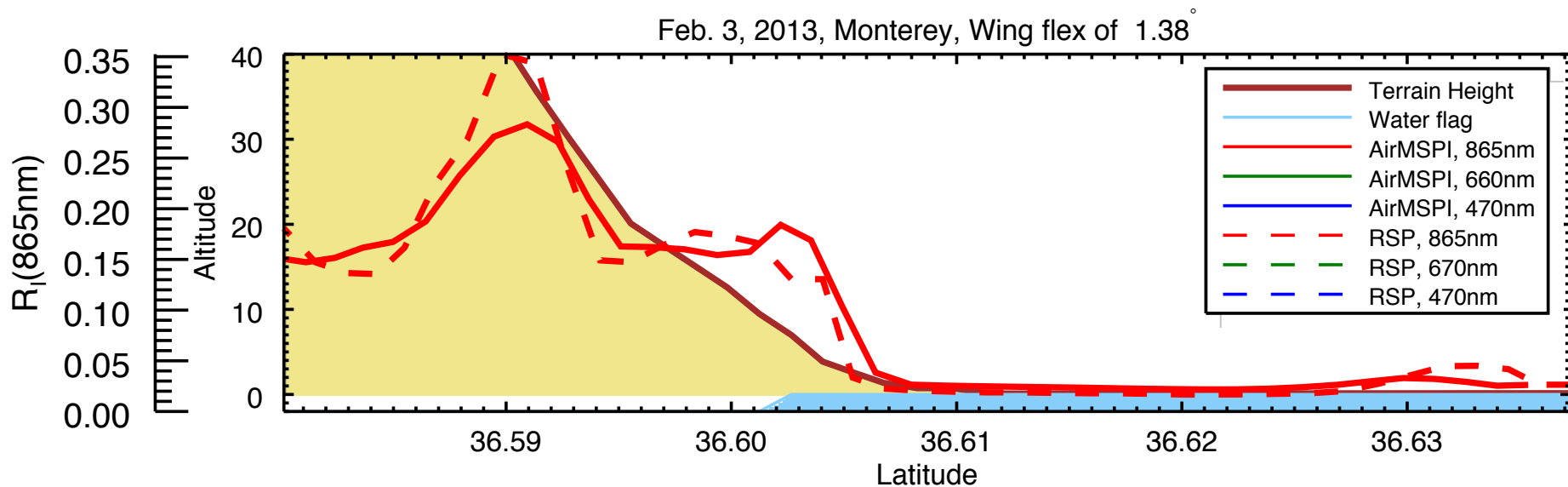


## Uncorrected for wing flex:



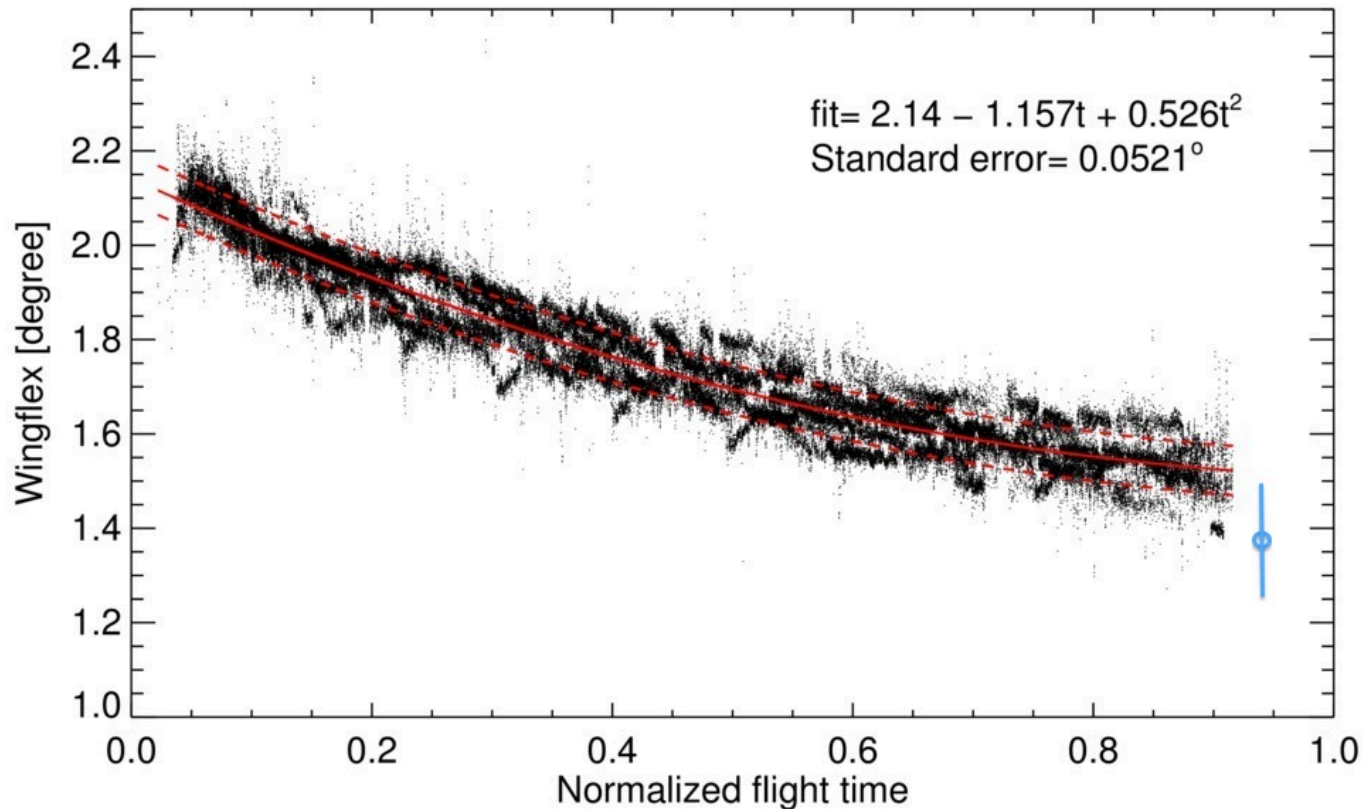
## Corrected for wing flex of 1.38°:

*(positive means counter-clockwise for the pilot)*



# SEAC4RS wing flex parameterization

Bastiaan van Dienenhoven, Rose Dominguez used the eMAS IMU files to determine a flight time based wing flex parameterization



We assume this also applies for PODEX...



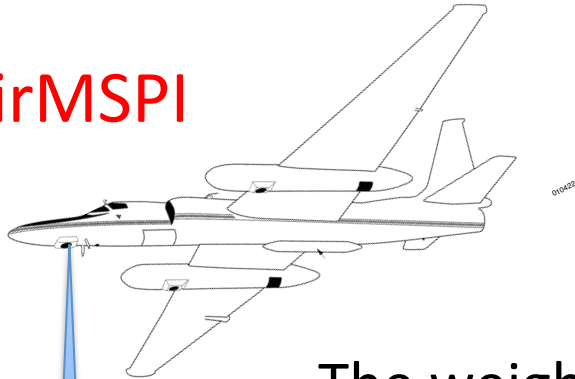
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# Pixel to pixel matchup

## Spatial scale considerations

AirMSPI

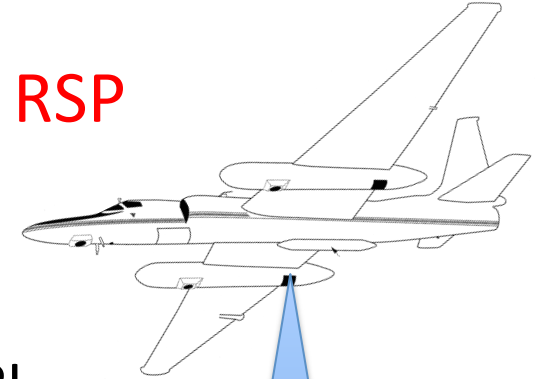


7m nadir footprint,  
9m along track  
'smear'

The weighted mean of all AirMSPI data within the RSP footprint + 'smear' are extracted for comparison

AirMSPI random error estimates are reduced by  $1/\sqrt{n}$ , where  $n$  is the number of original samples

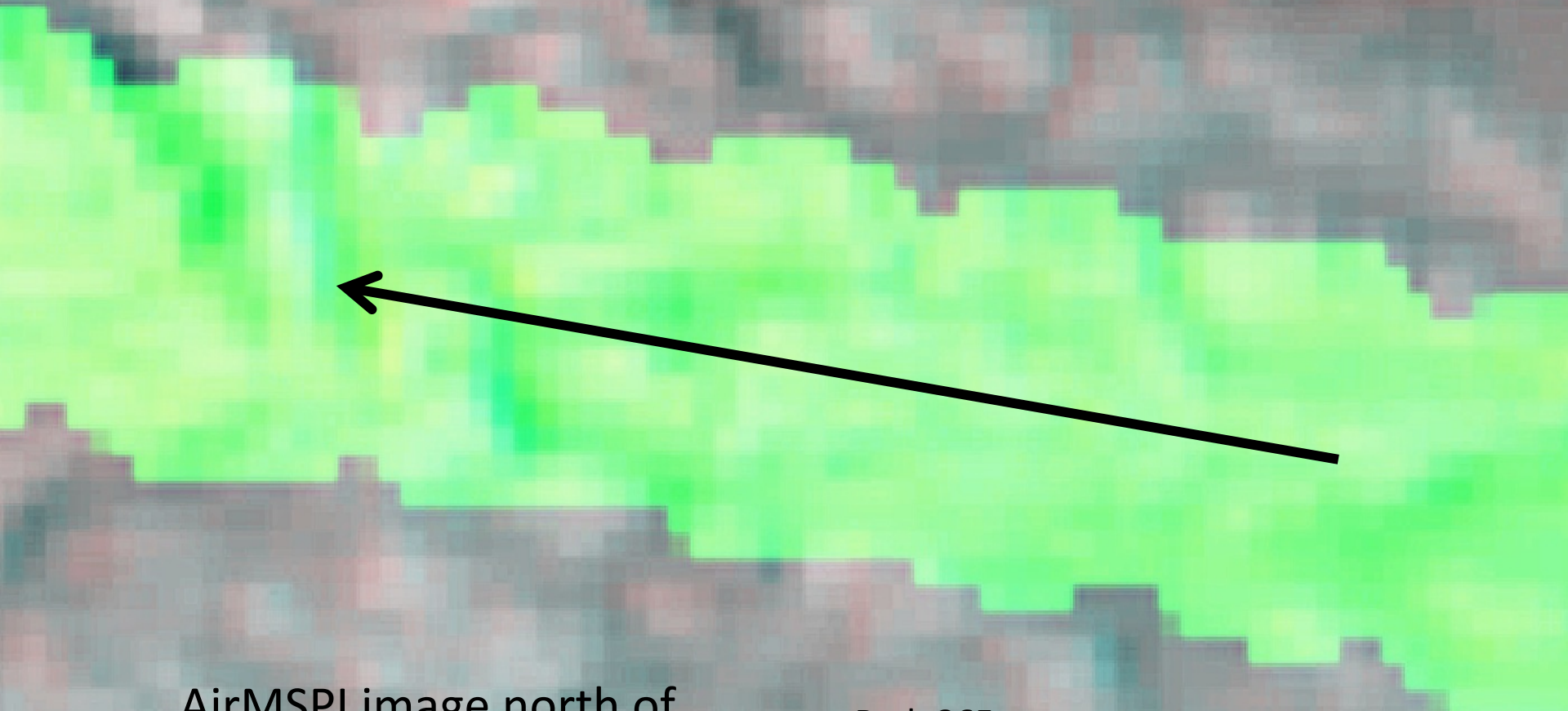
RSP



277m nadir footprint, 277m along track 'smear'



# Pixel to pixel matchup

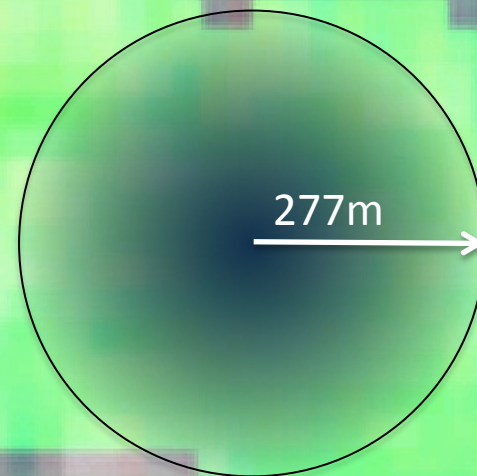


AirMSPI image north of  
Rosamond Lake, Feb. 6, 2013  
with RSP track in green

Red: 865nm  
Green: 670nm  
Blue: 470nm

# Pixel to pixel matchup

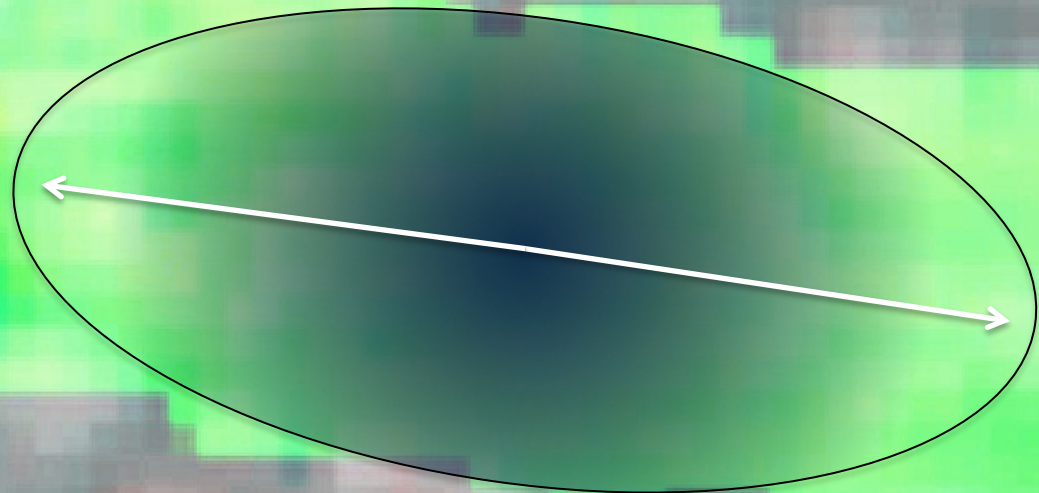
For each RSP location,  
create a center weighted  
mask for the AirMSPI image





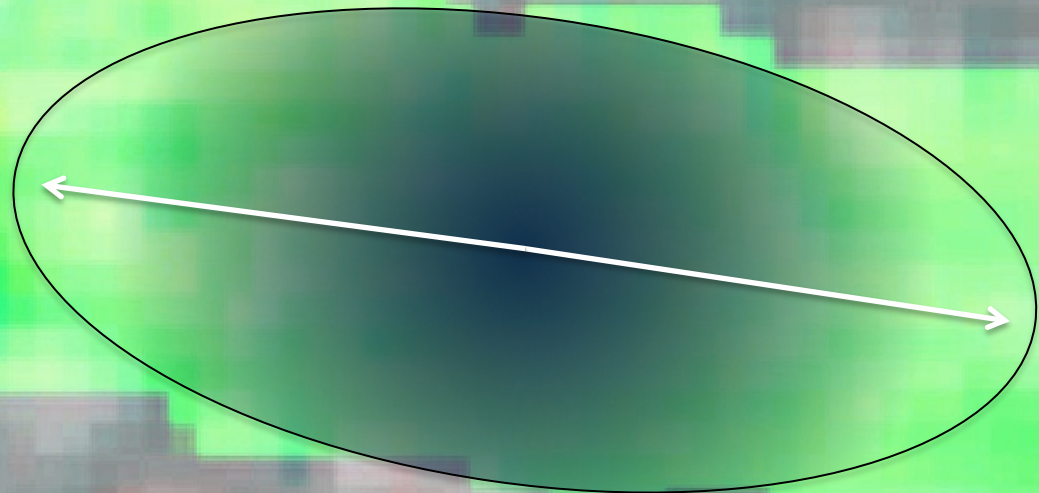
# Pixel to pixel matchup

'smear' in the  
along track  
direction



# Pixel to pixel matchup

'smear' in the  
along track  
direction



Update and apply this mask for  
all RSP pixels for comparison  
(also account for data quality)

AirMSPI nadir views,  
closest match for RSP  
viewing geometry

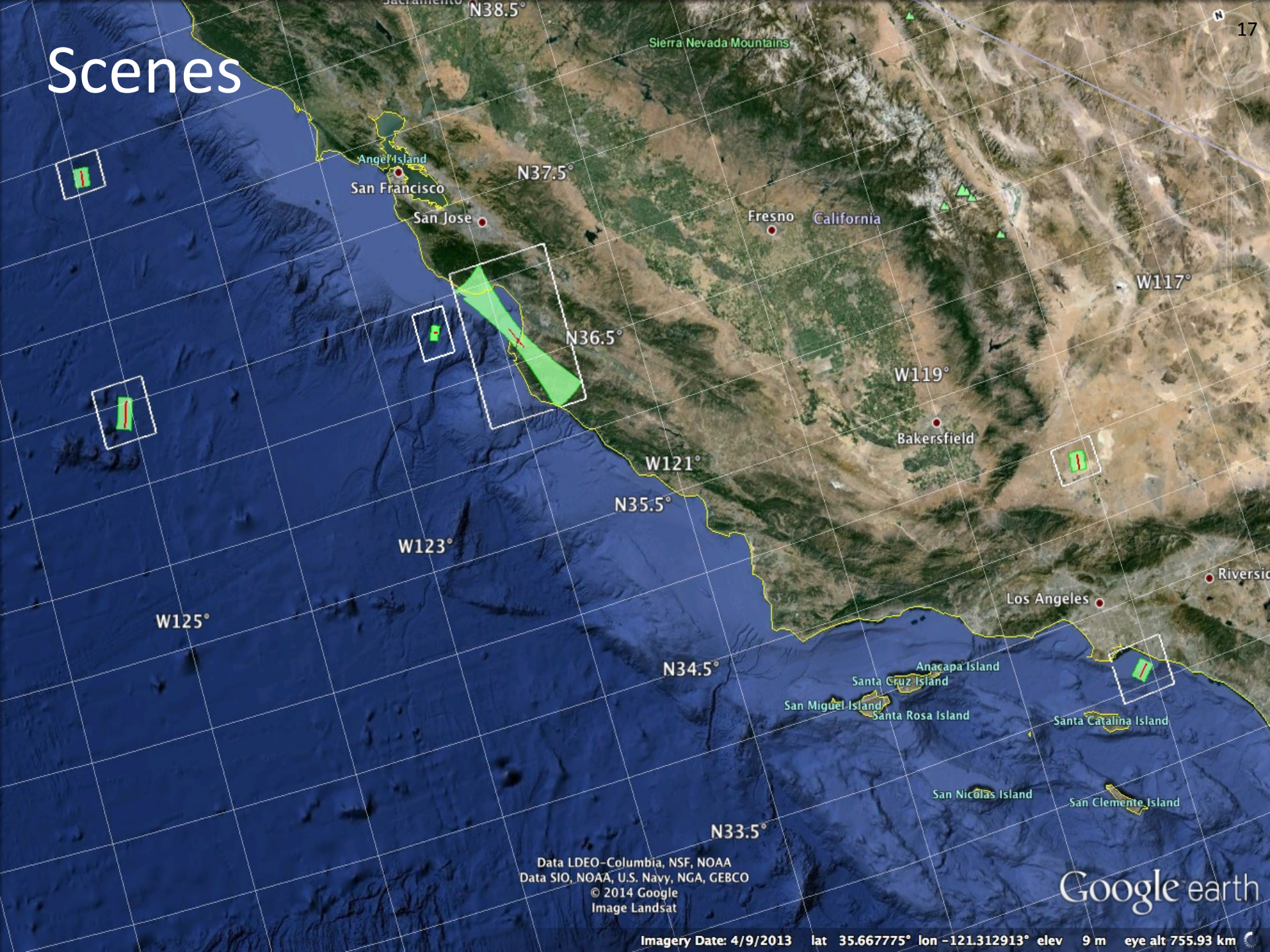


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# Scenes

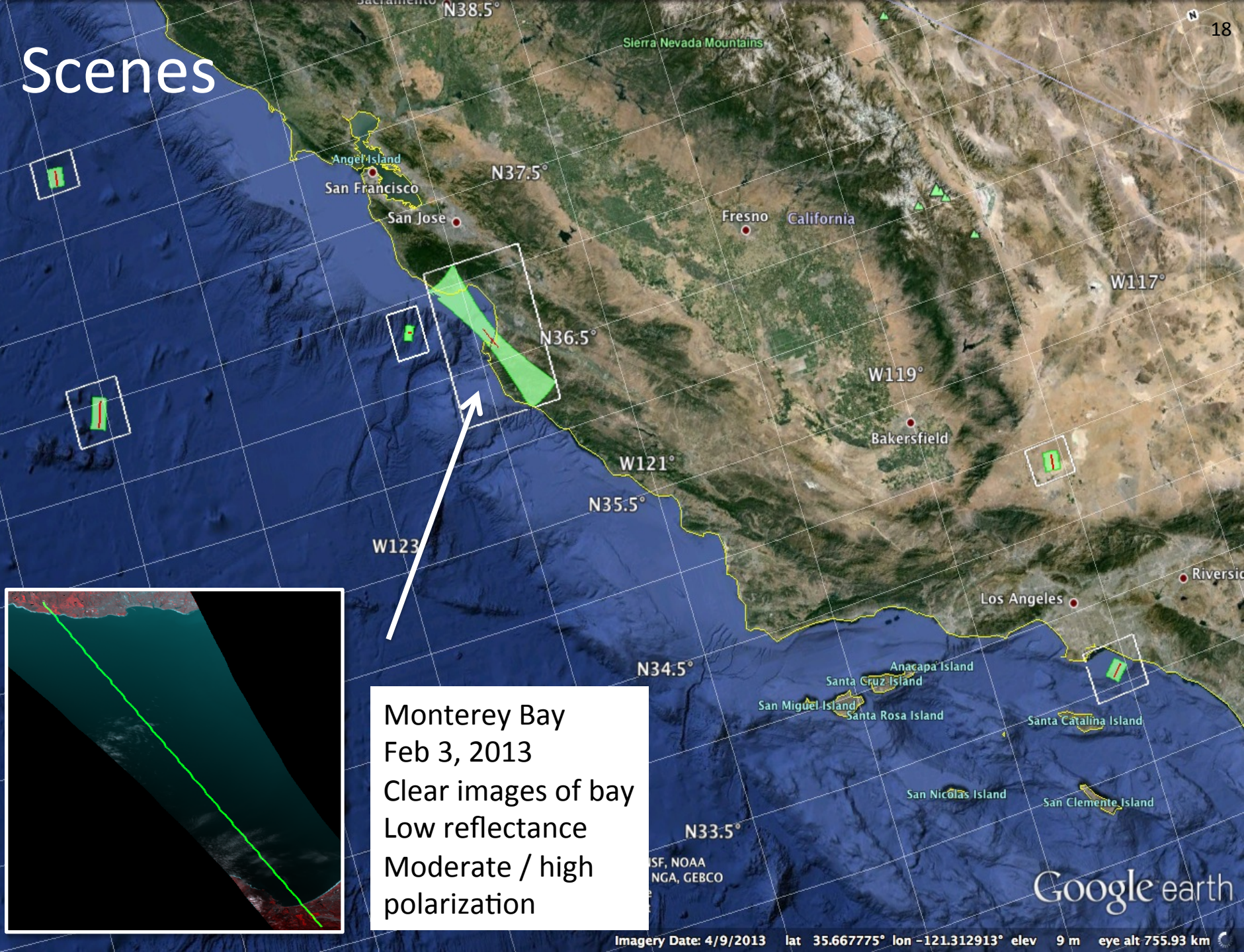


Data LDEO-Columbia, NSF, NOAA  
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
© 2014 Google  
Image Landsat

Google earth



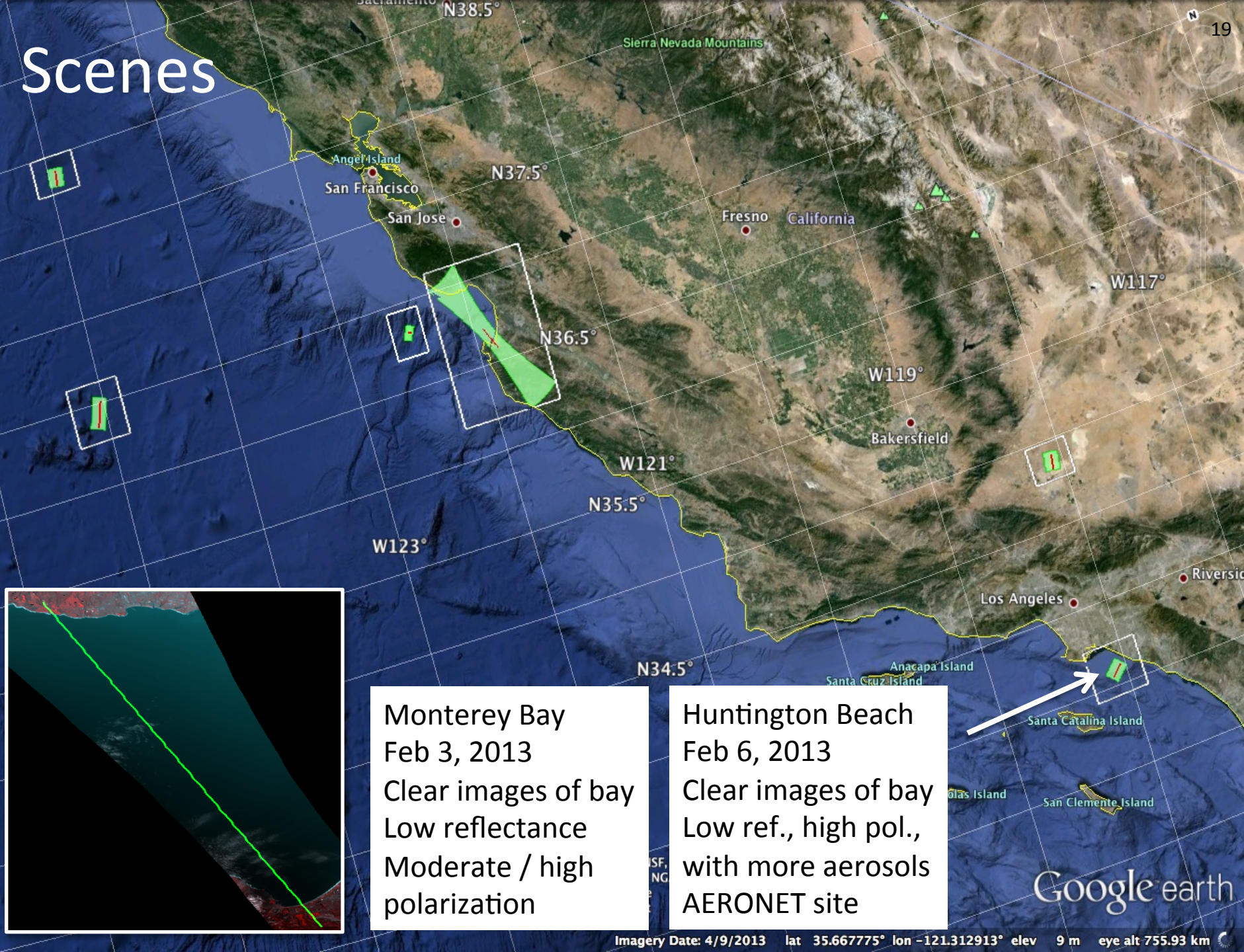
# Scenes



Monterey Bay  
Feb 3, 2013  
Clear images of bay  
Low reflectance  
Moderate / high  
polarization



# Scenes

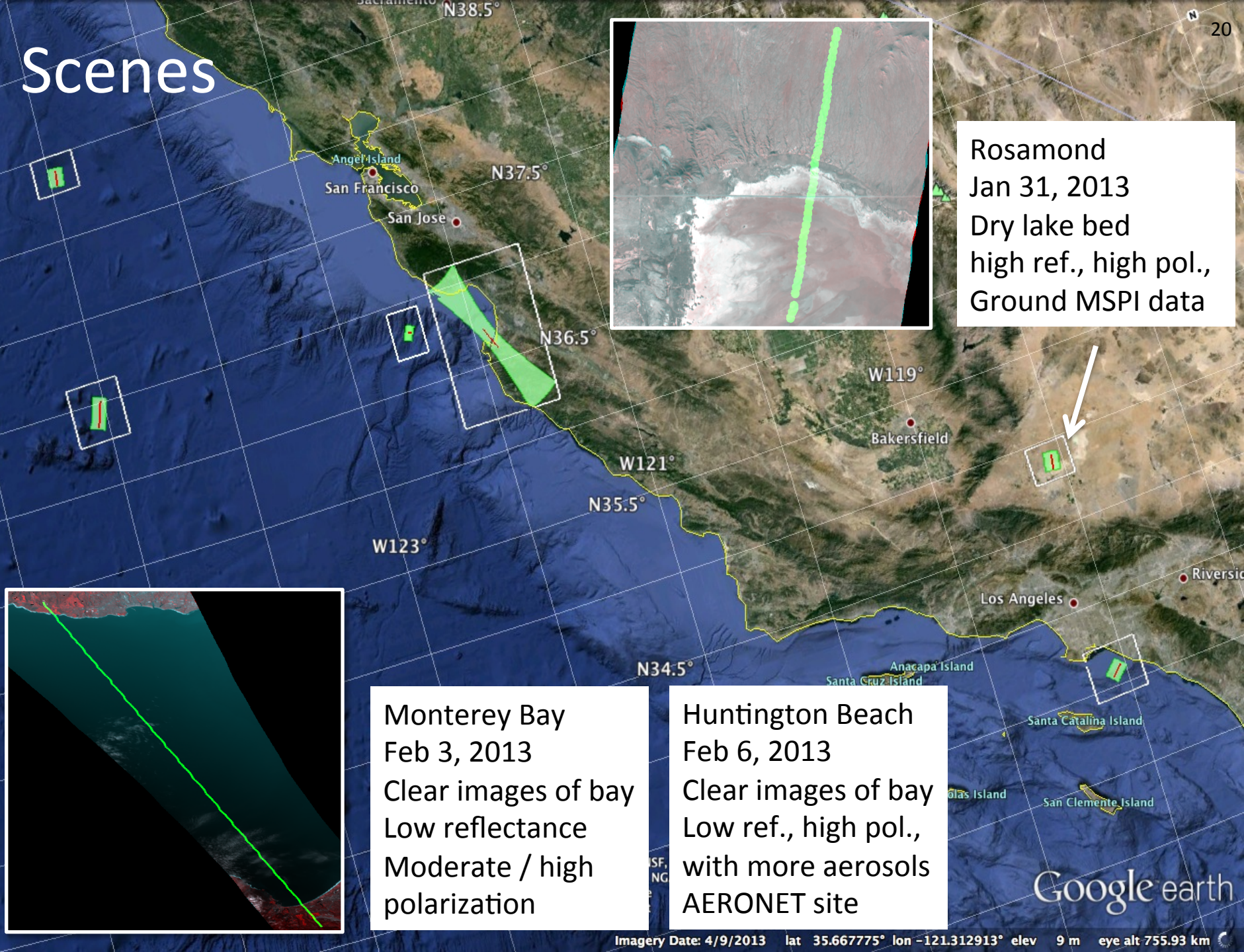


Monterey Bay  
Feb 3, 2013  
Clear images of bay  
Low reflectance  
Moderate / high  
polarization

Huntington Beach  
Feb 6, 2013  
Clear images of bay  
Low ref., high pol.,  
with more aerosols  
AERONET site



# Scenes



Rosamond  
Jan 31, 2013  
Dry lake bed  
high ref., high pol.,  
Ground MSPI data

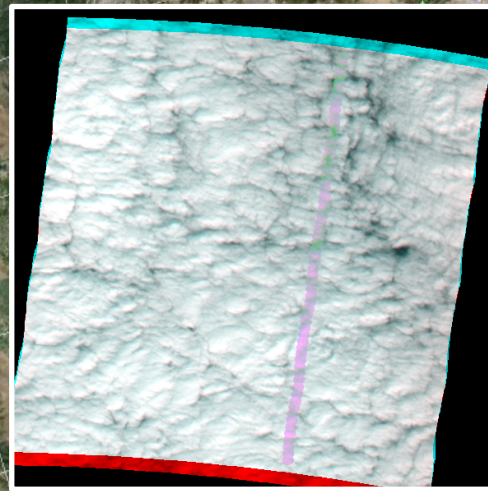
Monterey Bay  
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polarization

Huntington Beach  
Feb 6, 2013  
Clear images of bay  
Low ref., high pol.,  
with more aerosols  
AERONET site

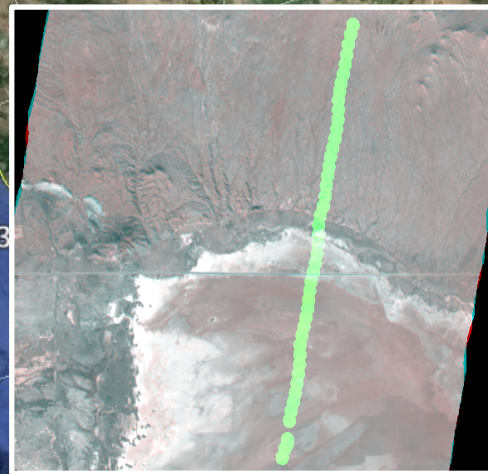


# Scenes

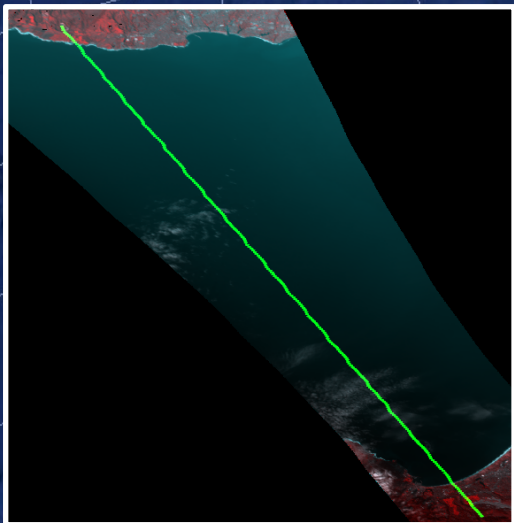
Marine stratocumulus  
Feb 3, 2013  
high ref., low pol.



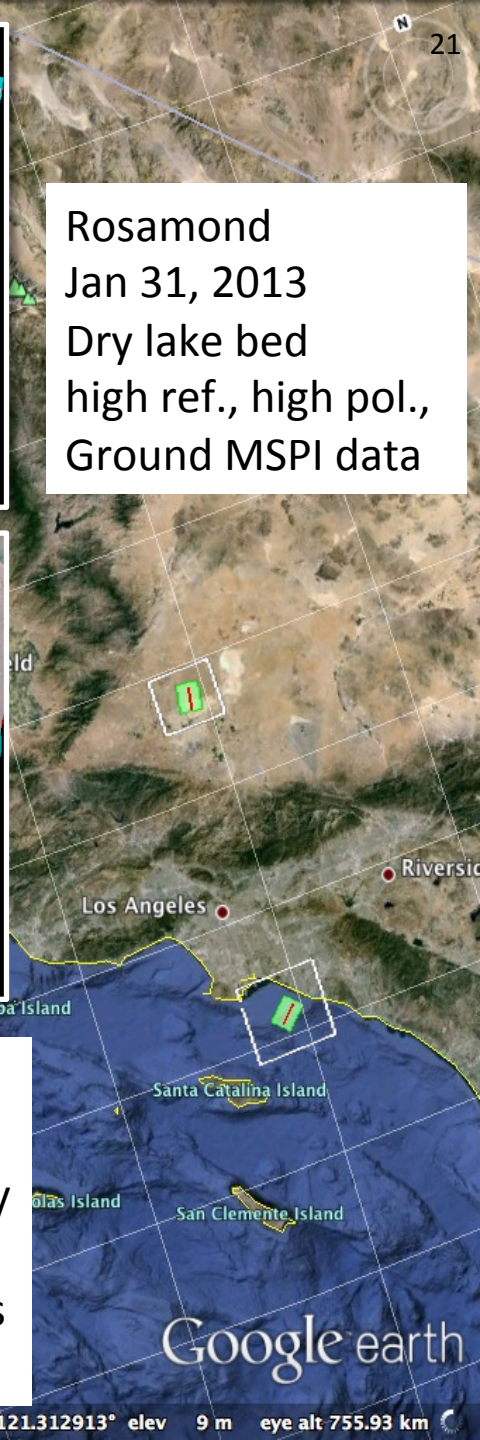
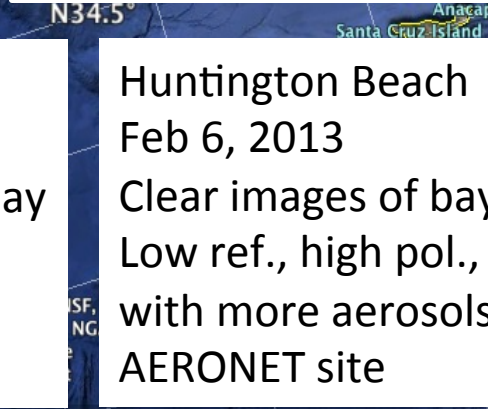
Rosamond  
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AERONET site

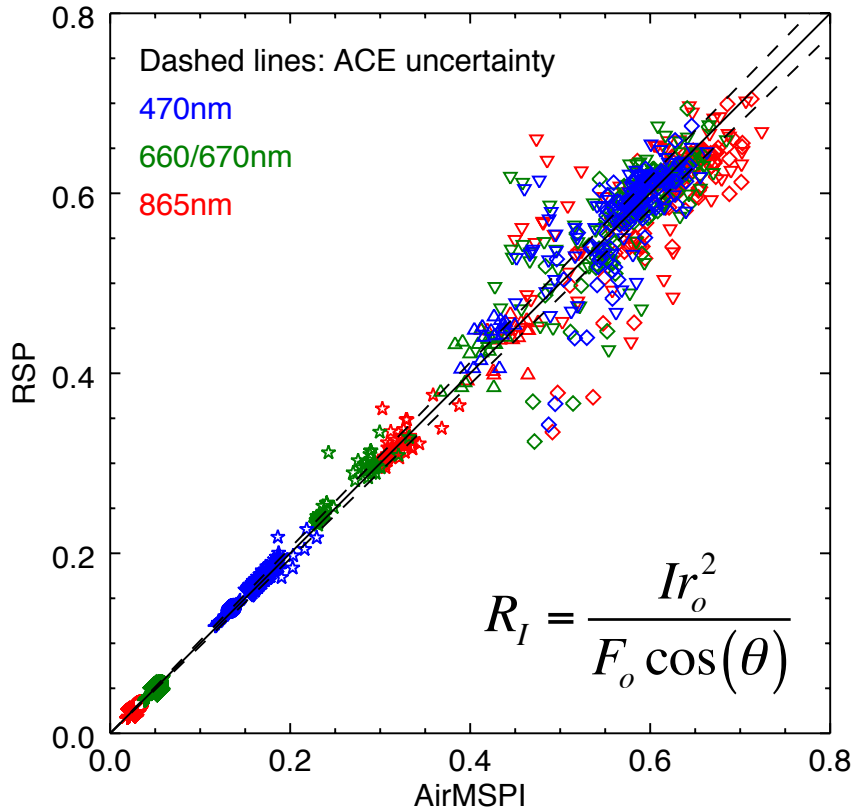




# Direct comparison

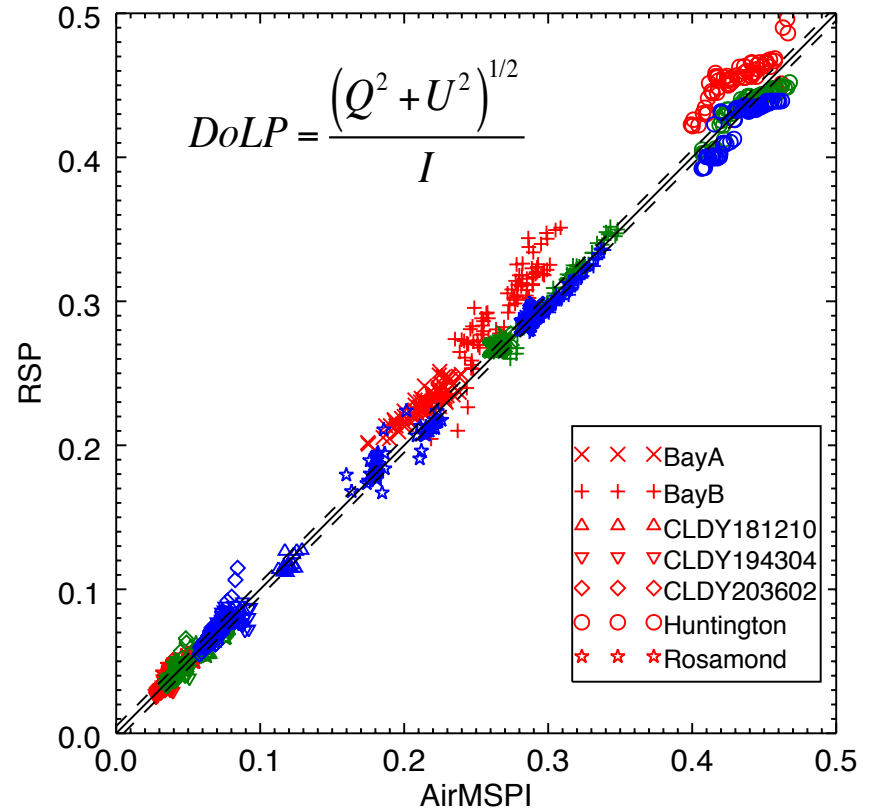
$R_I$ : Reflectance

$I(865\text{nm})$



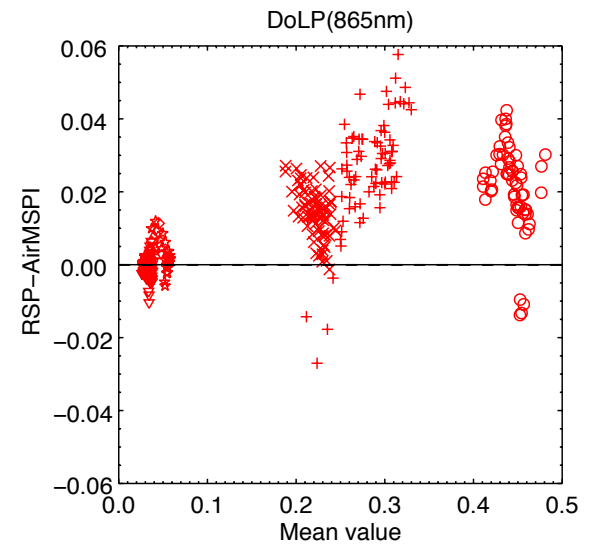
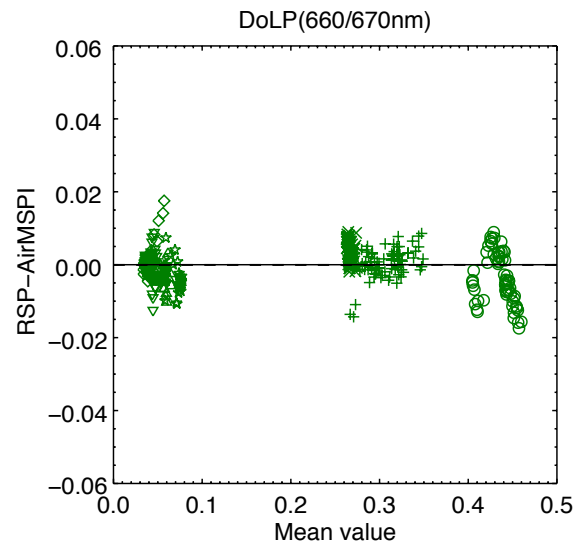
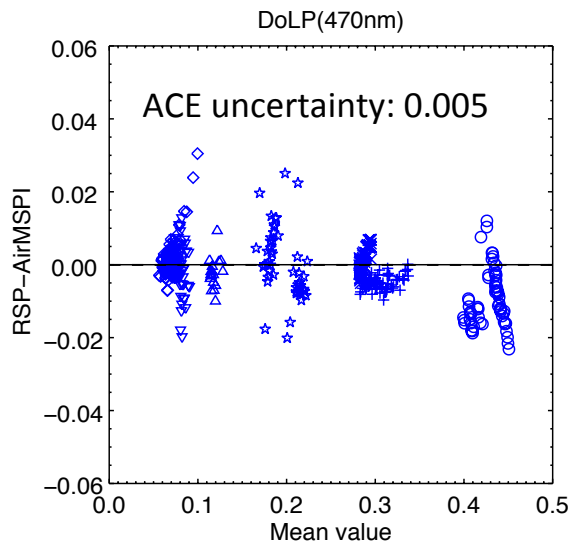
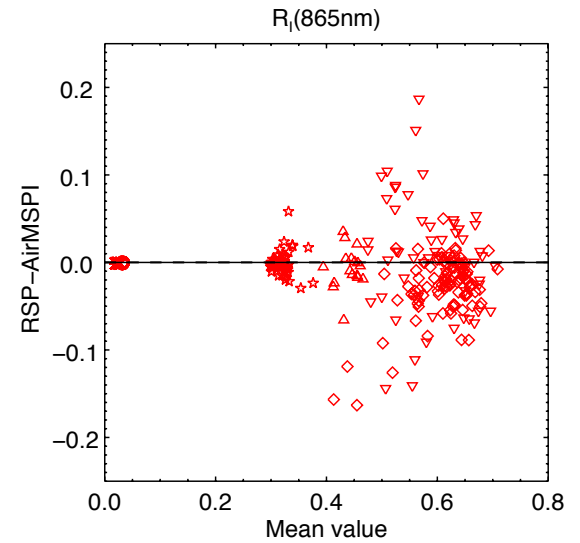
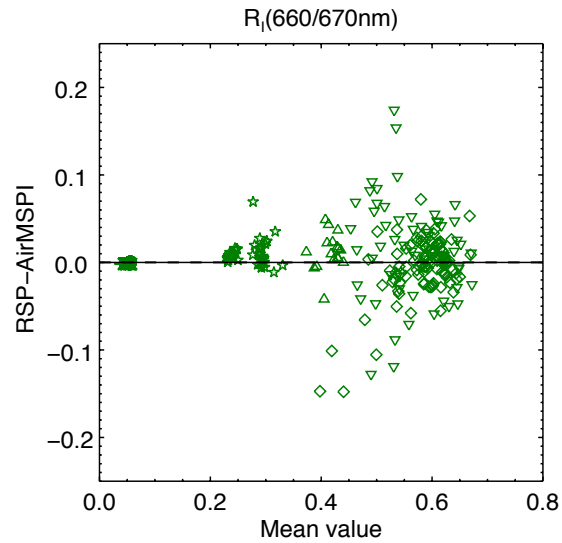
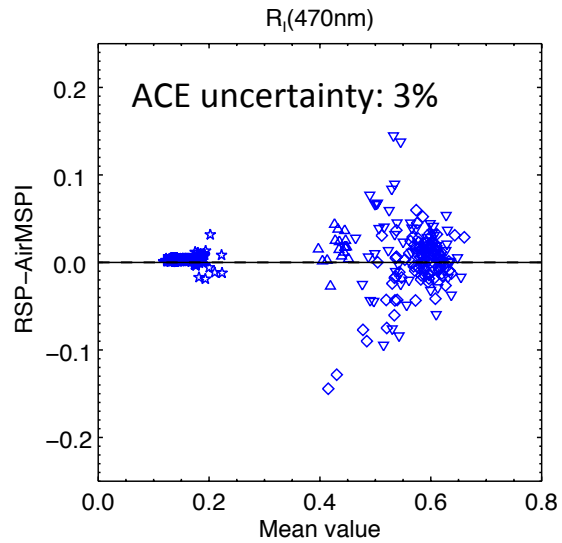
DoLP: Degree of Linear Polarization

DoLP(865nm)



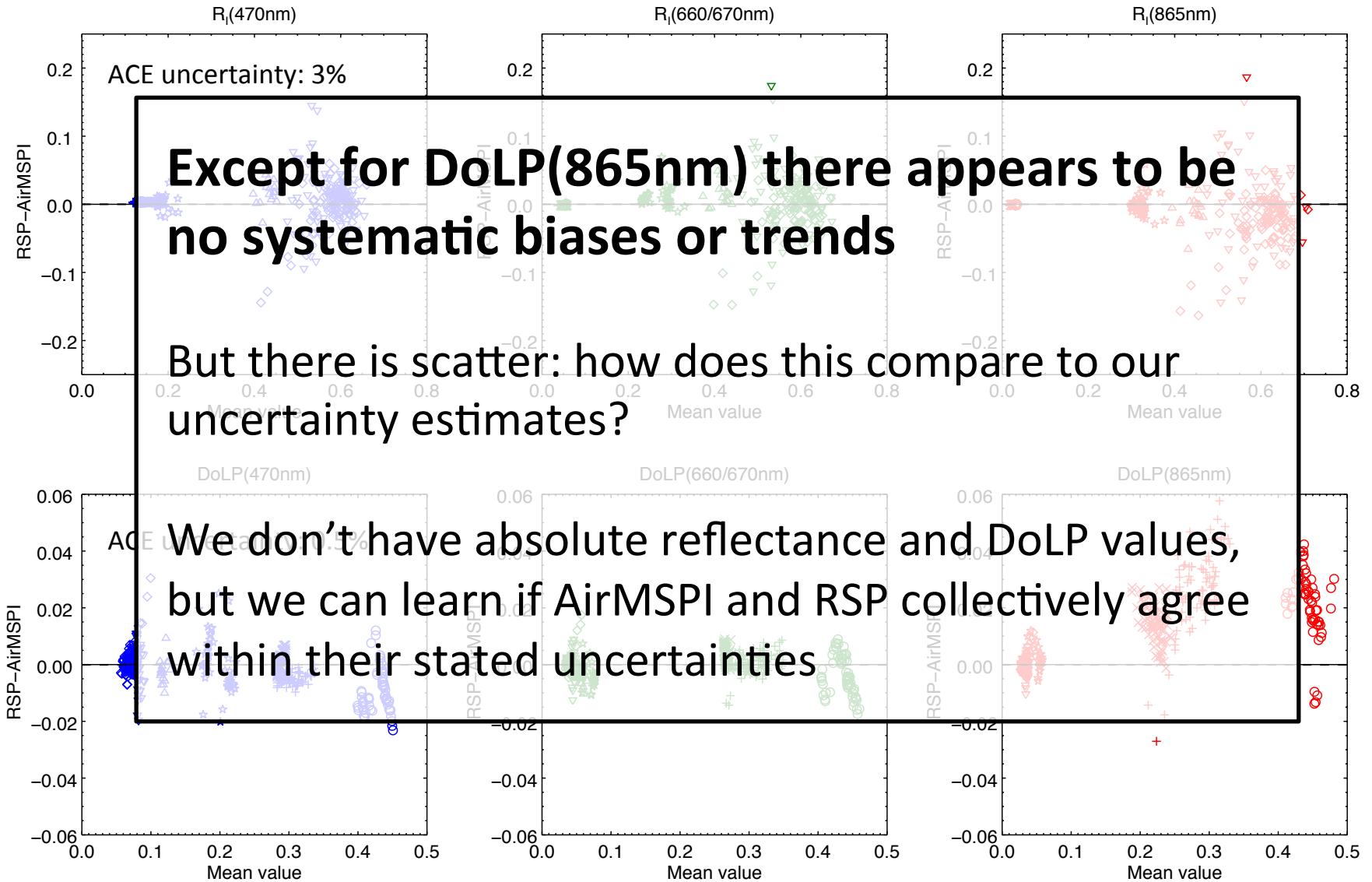
$r_o$  – solar distance in AU;  $\theta$  – Solar Zenith Angle;  $F_o$  – Solar constant.

# Direct comparison





# Direct comparison



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# Instrument uncertainty

(models are complicated and fully described in appendix)

**AirMSPI**

$$\sigma_{R_I}^2 = f(R_I)$$

$$\sigma_{DoLP}^2 = f(R_I)$$

**RSP**

$$\sigma_{R_I}^2 = f(R_I, DoLP)$$

$$\sigma_{DoLP}^2 = f(R_I, DoLP, \chi)$$

Adjustment for pixel averaging is addressed by multiplying by

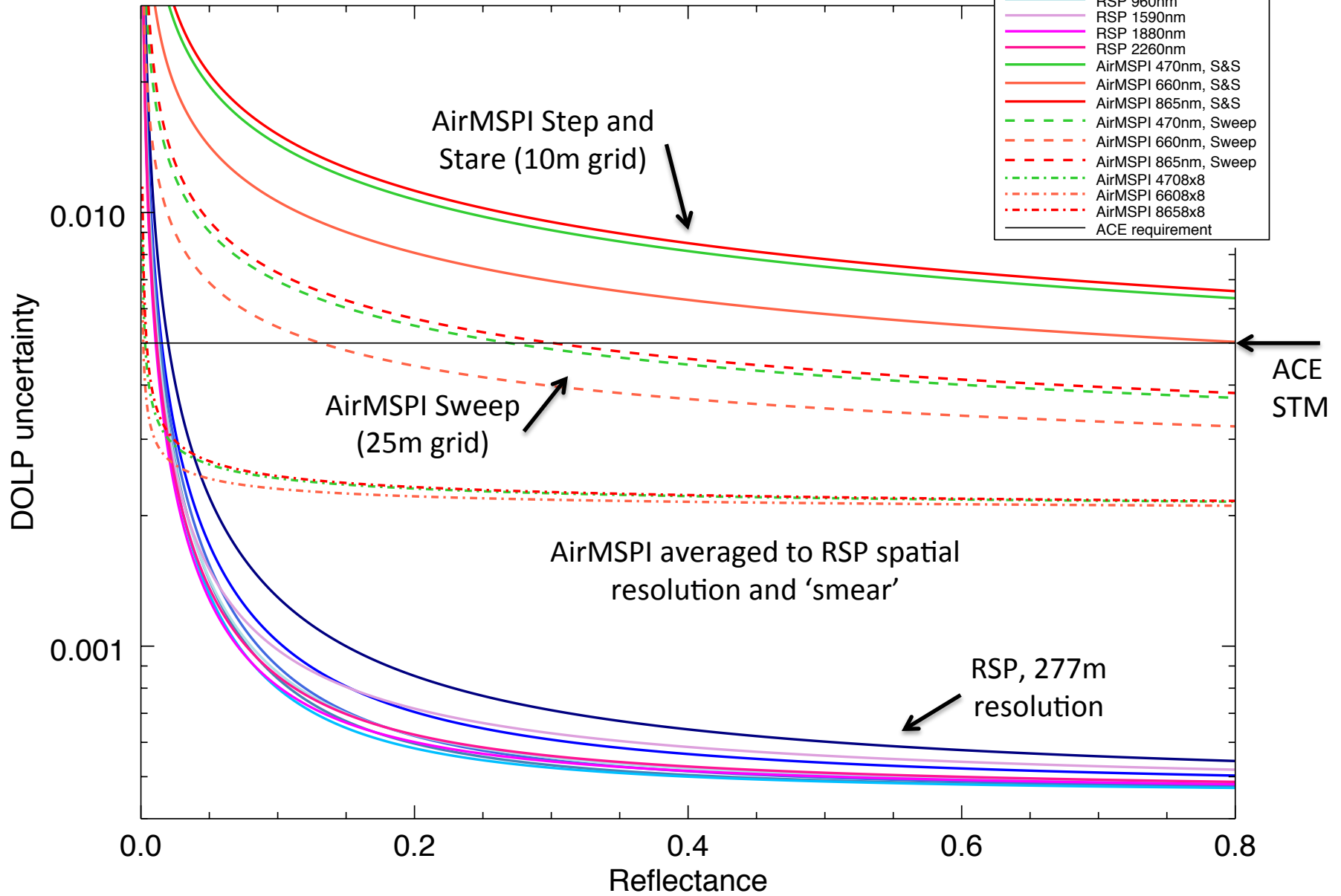
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

(this is relevant for high spatial resolution AirMSPI)





### Degree of Linear Polarization (DoLP)



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# Normalize difference by uncertainty

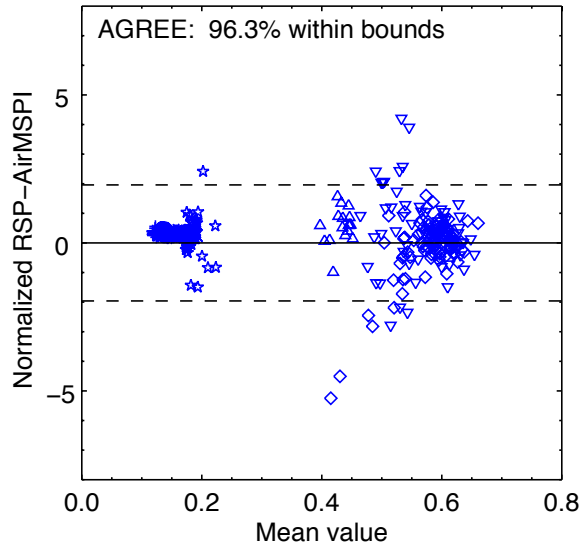
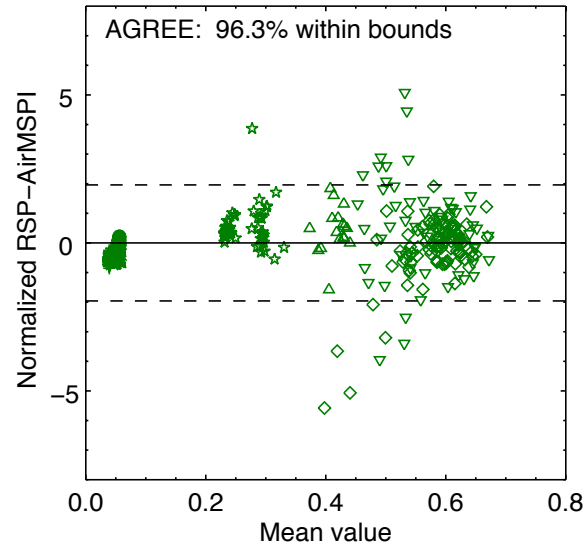
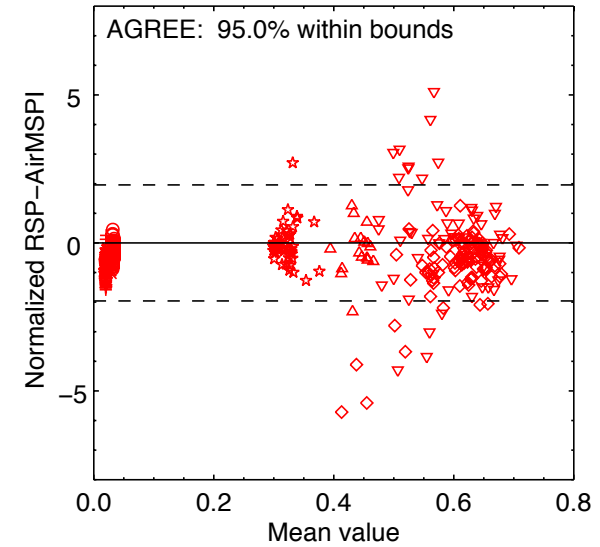
We put results into an uncertainty context...

$$Difference = \frac{RSP - AirMSPI}{\sigma_{RSP} + \sigma_{AirMSPI}}$$

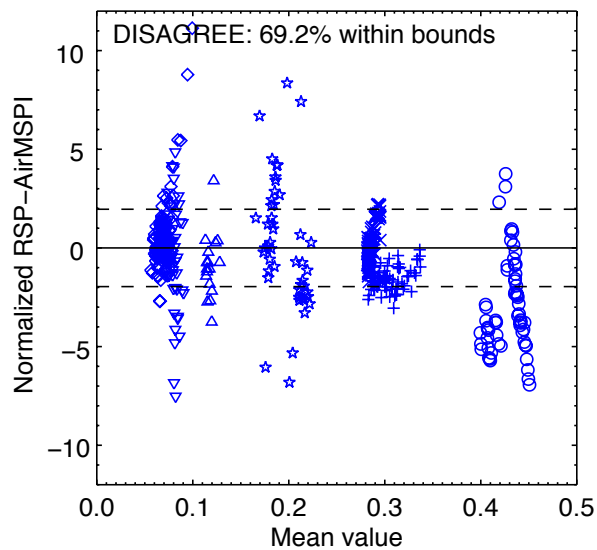
...so that differences are expressed in terms of measurement uncertainty

“1” means a pair of measurements are different by  
1 sigma RSP + 1 sigma AirMSPI

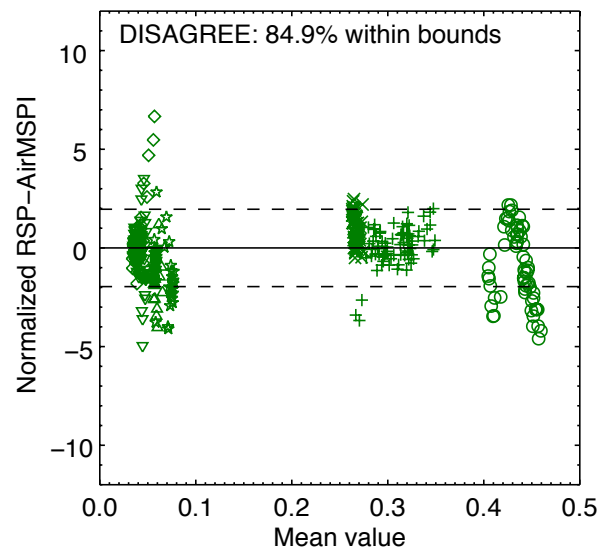
# Comparison normalized by uncertainty

 $R_i(470\text{nm})$  $R_i(660/670\text{nm})$  $R_i(865\text{nm})$ 

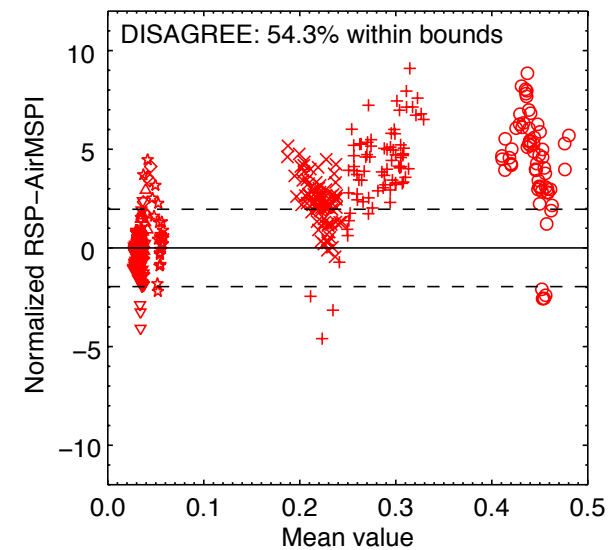
DoLP(470nm)



DoLP(660/670nm)



DoLP(865nm)



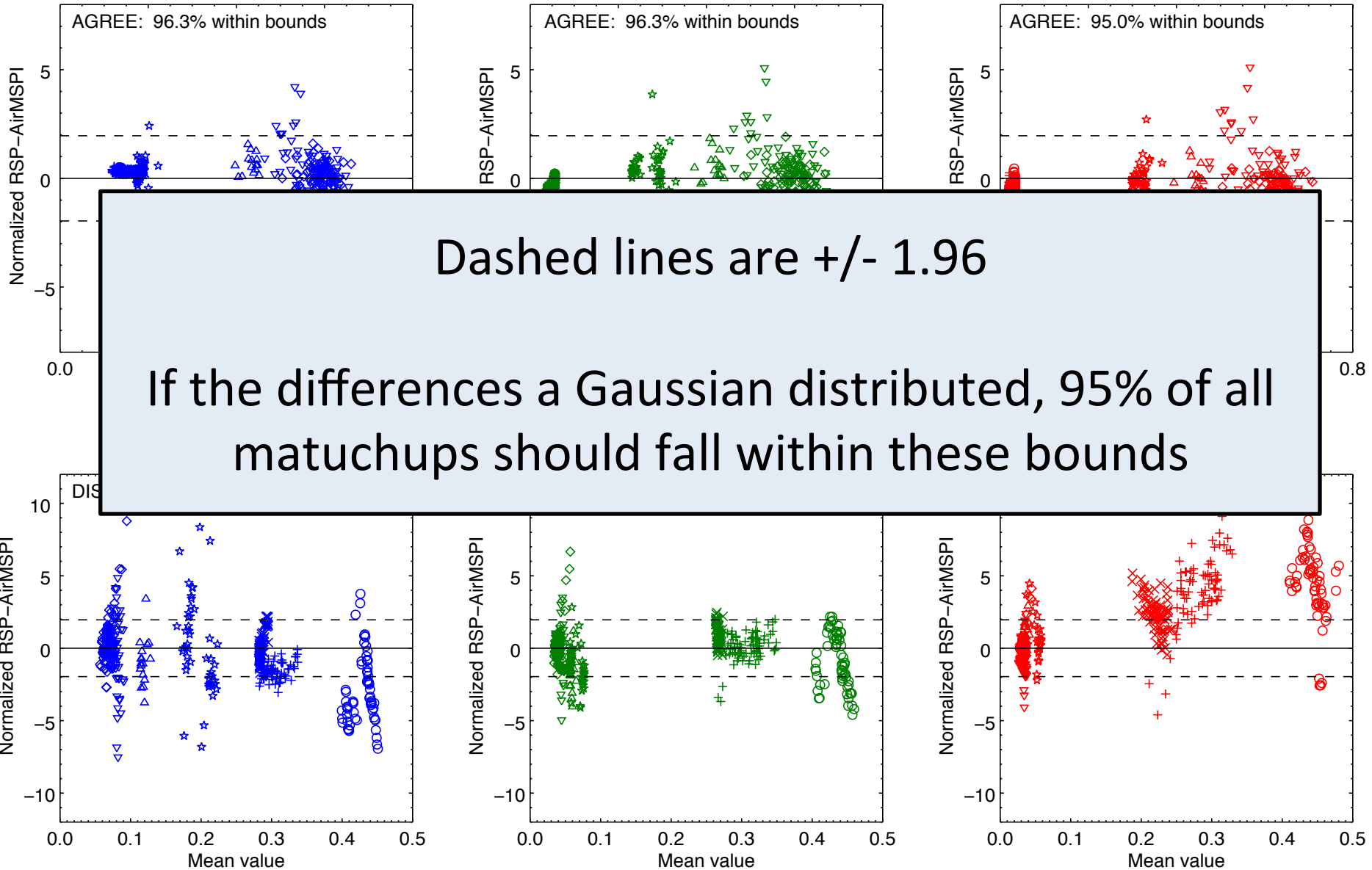


# Comparison normalized by uncertainty

$R_i(470\text{nm})$

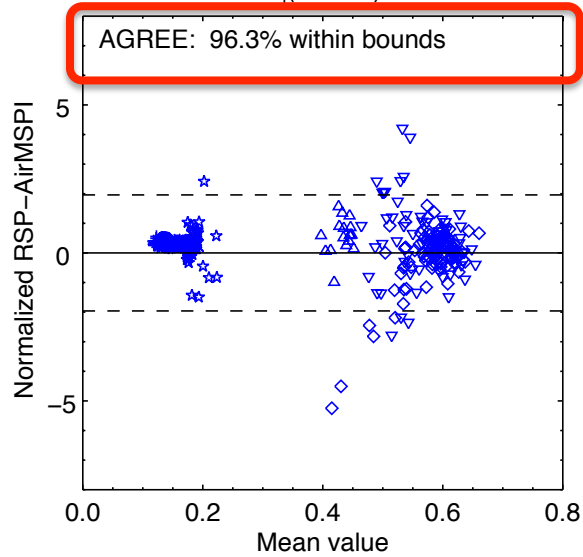
$R_i(660/670\text{nm})$

$R_i(865\text{nm})$

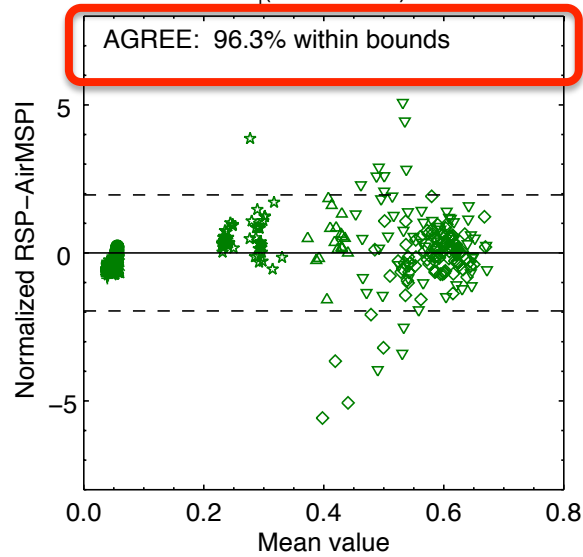


# Reflectances agree as expected...

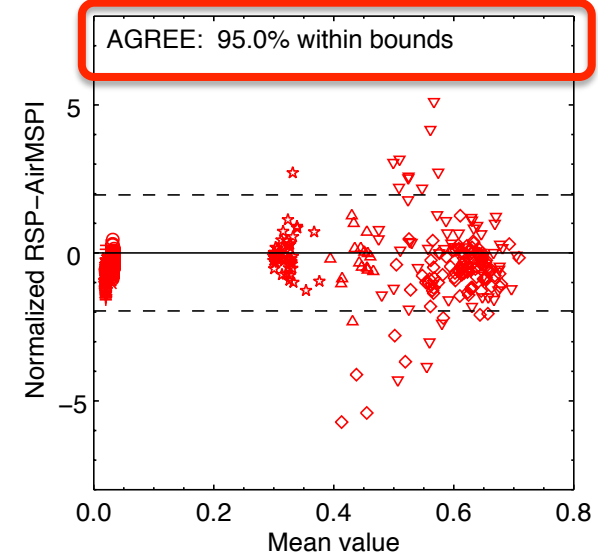
$R_i(470\text{nm})$



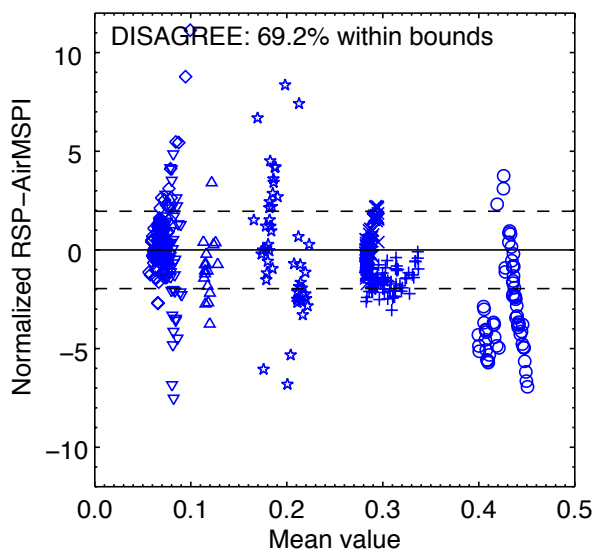
$R_i(660/670\text{nm})$



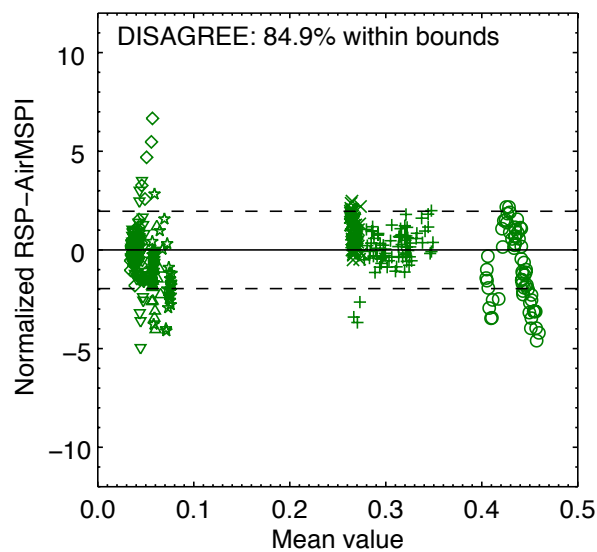
$R_i(865\text{nm})$



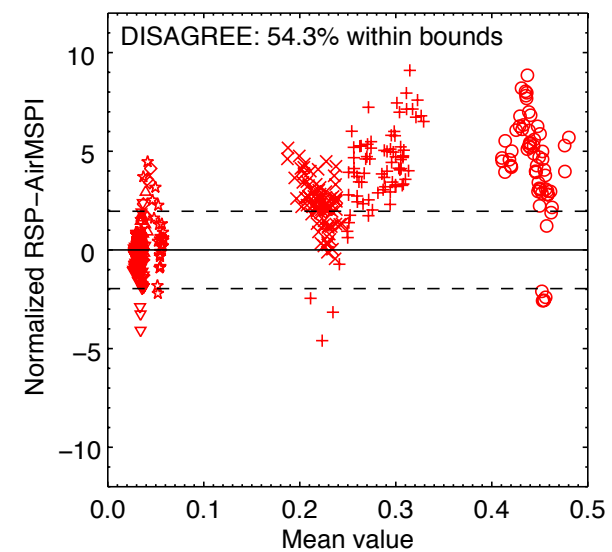
DoLP(470nm)



DoLP(660/670nm)

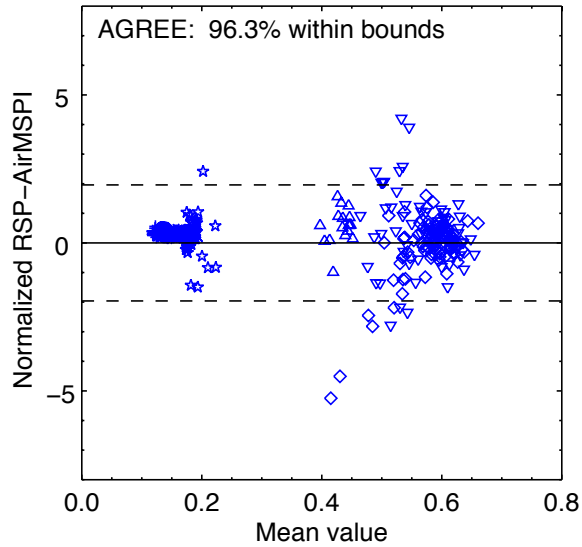
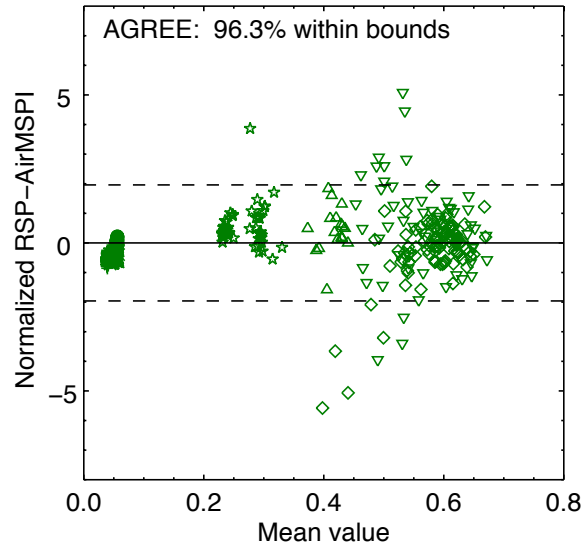
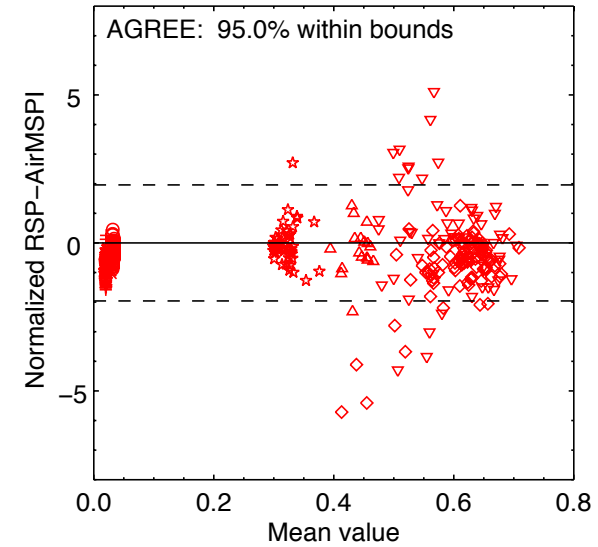


DoLP(865nm)

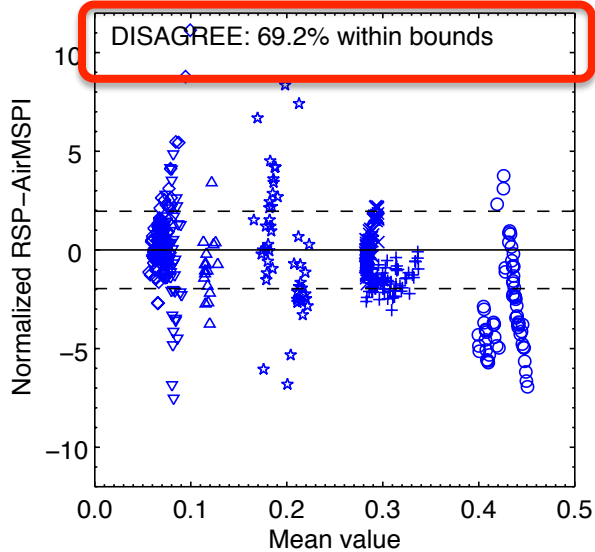




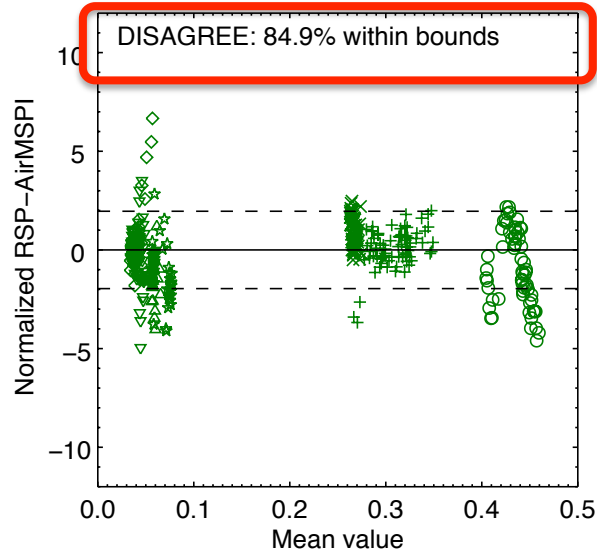
# DoLP does not agree as expected

 $R_i(470\text{nm})$  $R_i(660/670\text{nm})$  $R_i(865\text{nm})$ 

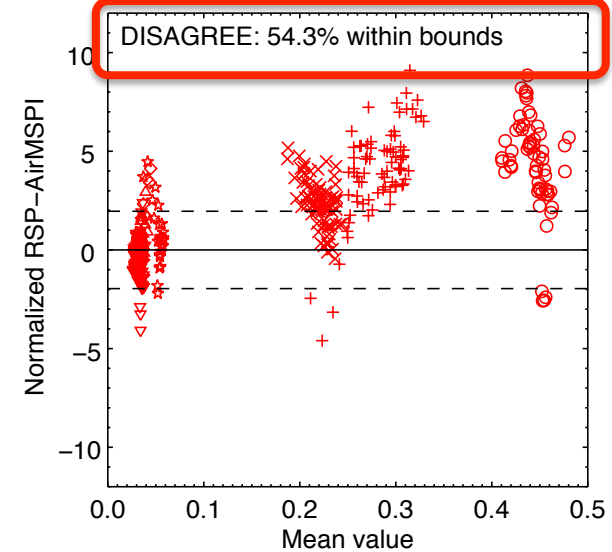
DoLP(470nm)



DoLP(660/670nm)

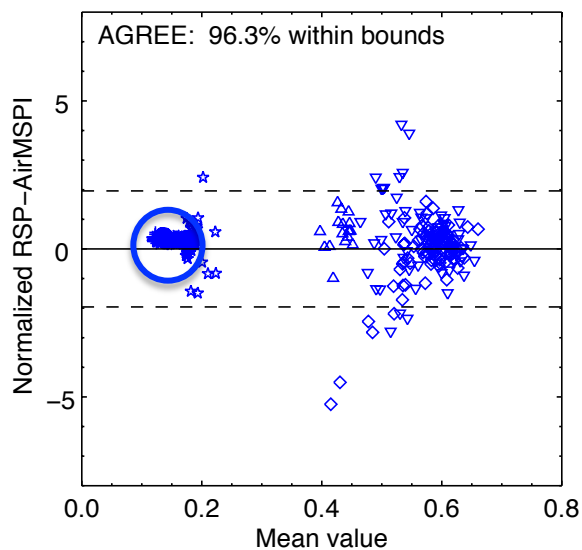


DoLP(865nm)

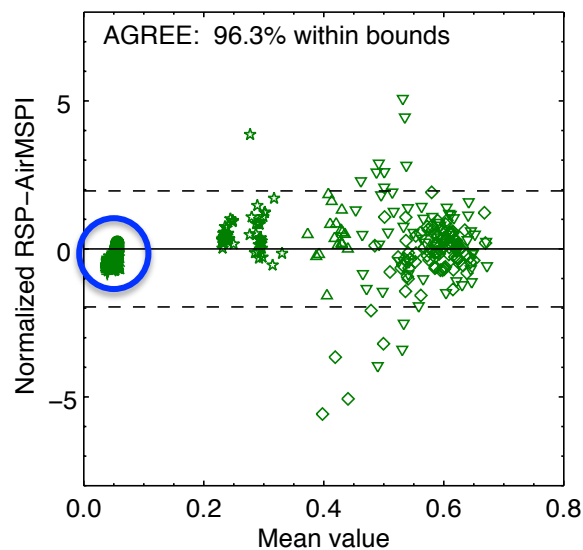


# Water

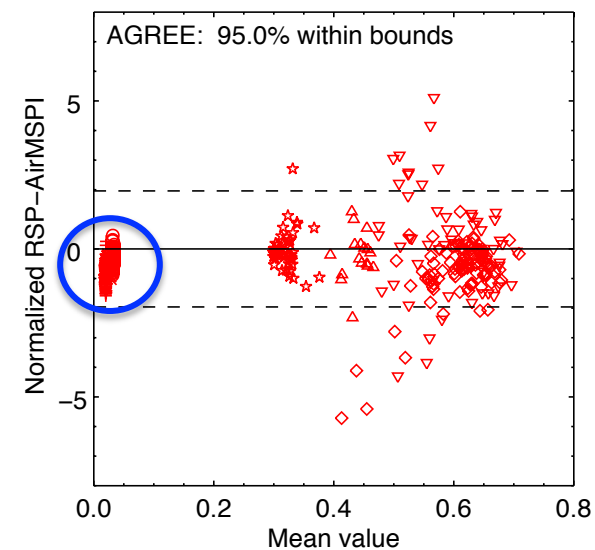
$R_i(470\text{nm})$



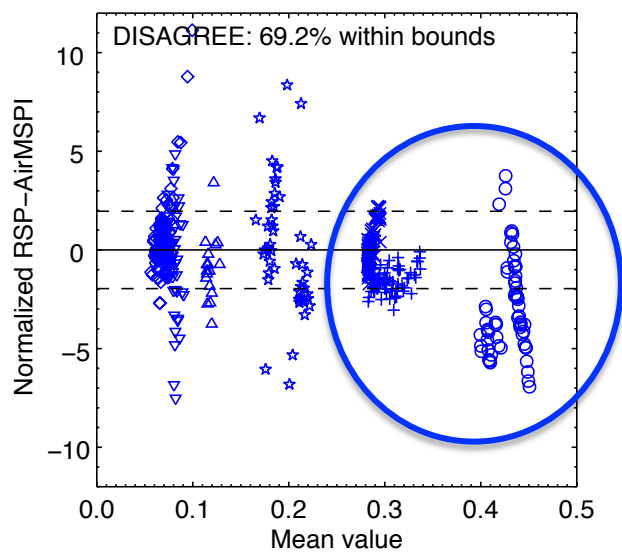
$R_i(660/670\text{nm})$



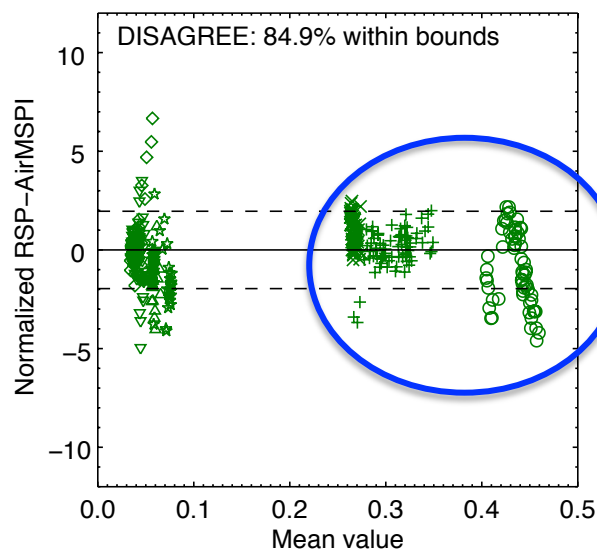
$R_i(865\text{nm})$



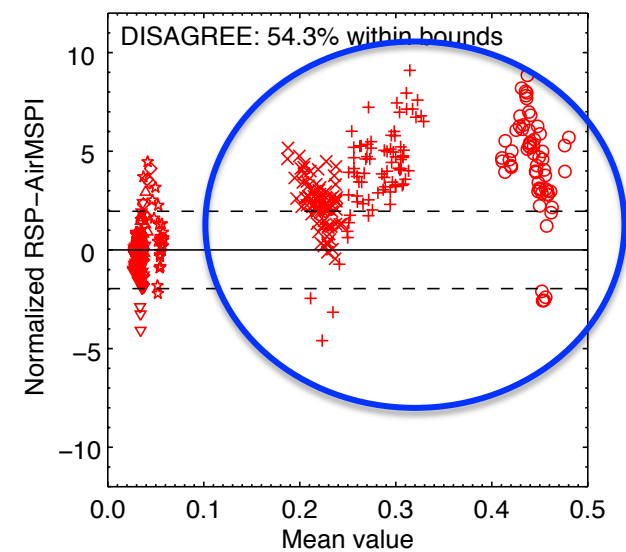
DoLP(470nm)



DoLP(660/670nm)



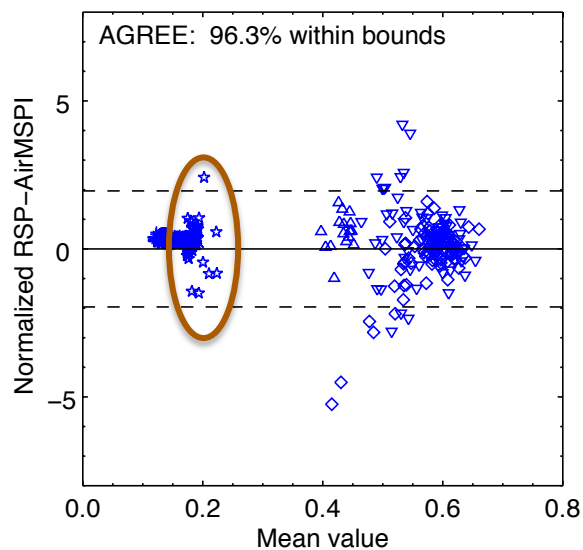
DoLP(865nm)



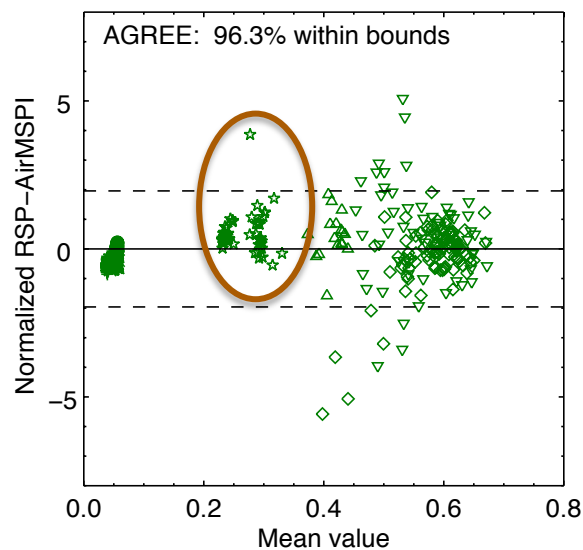


# Land

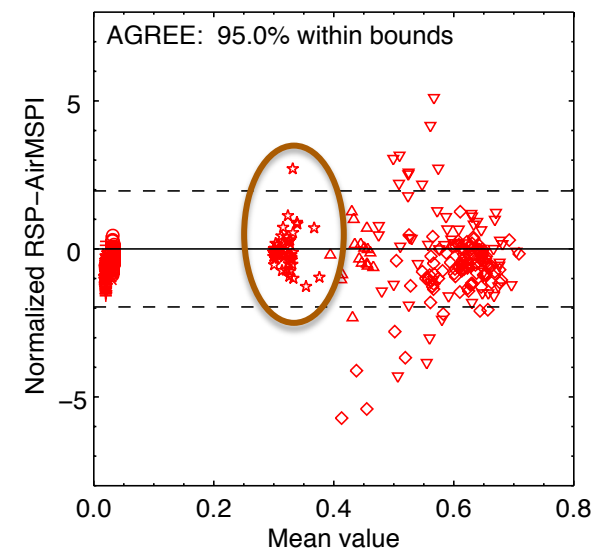
$R_i(470\text{nm})$



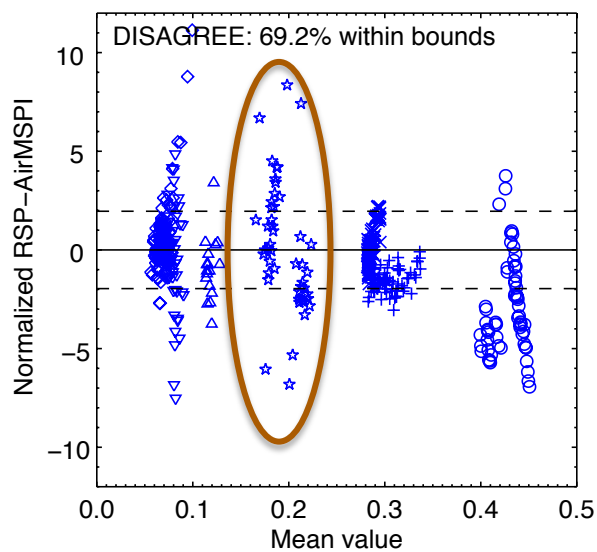
$R_i(660/670\text{nm})$



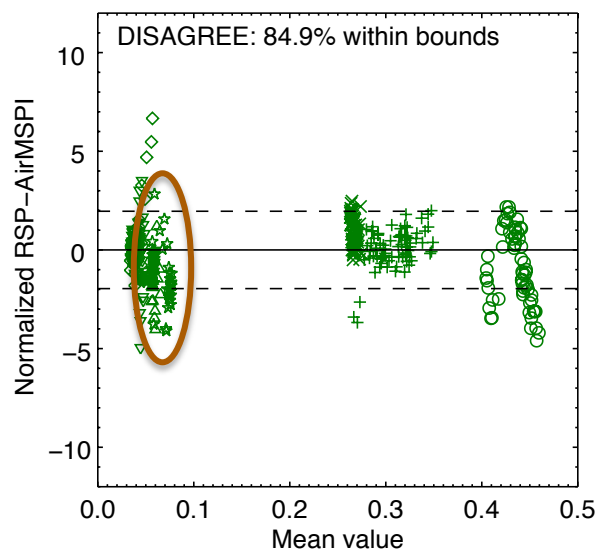
$R_i(865\text{nm})$



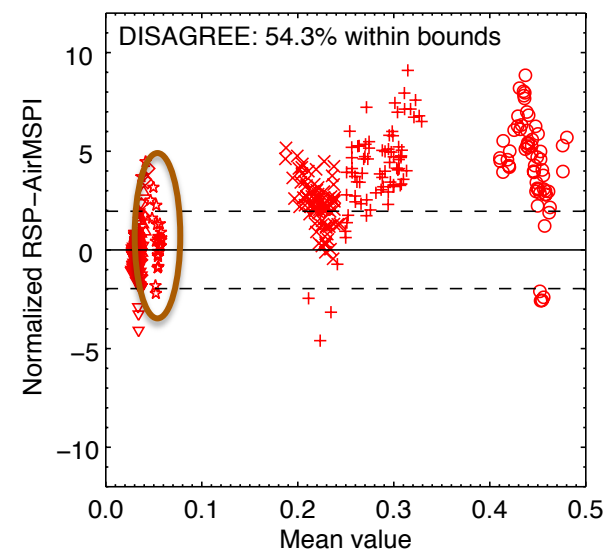
DoLP(470nm)



DoLP(660/670nm)

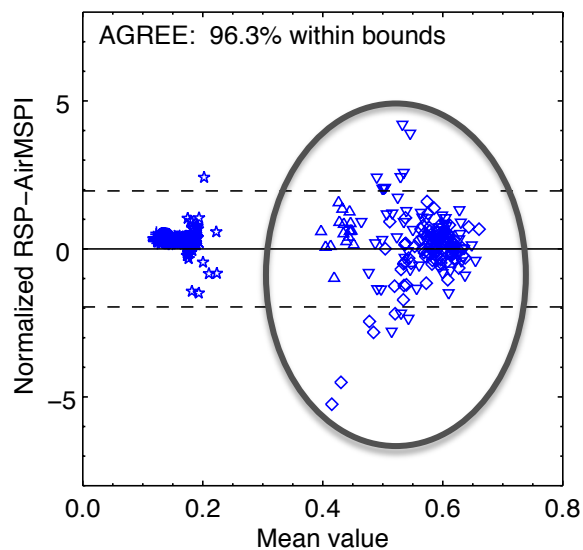


DoLP(865nm)

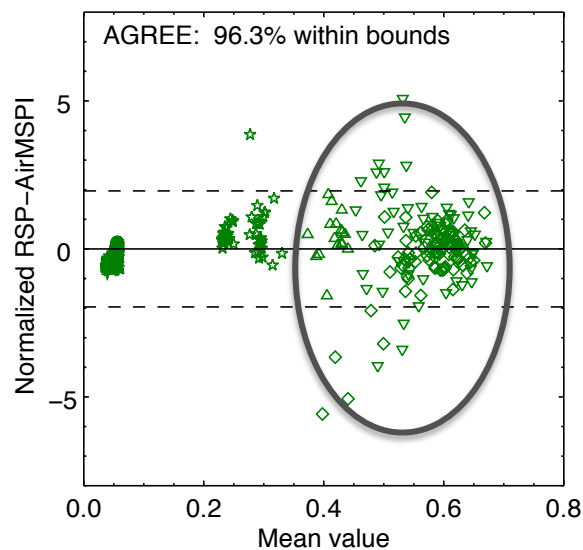


# Cloud

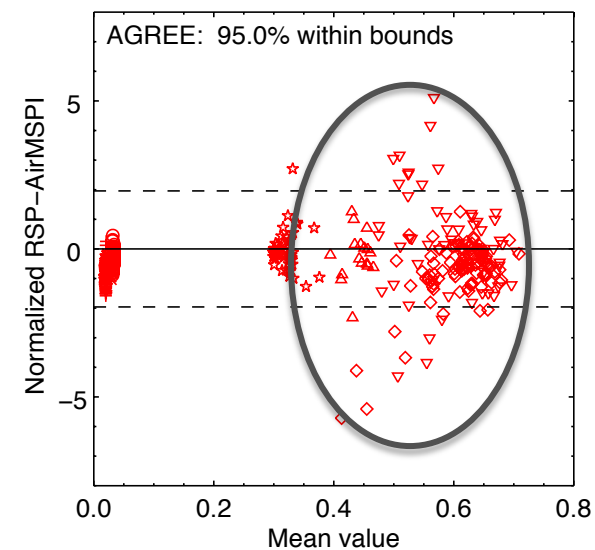
$R_i(470\text{nm})$



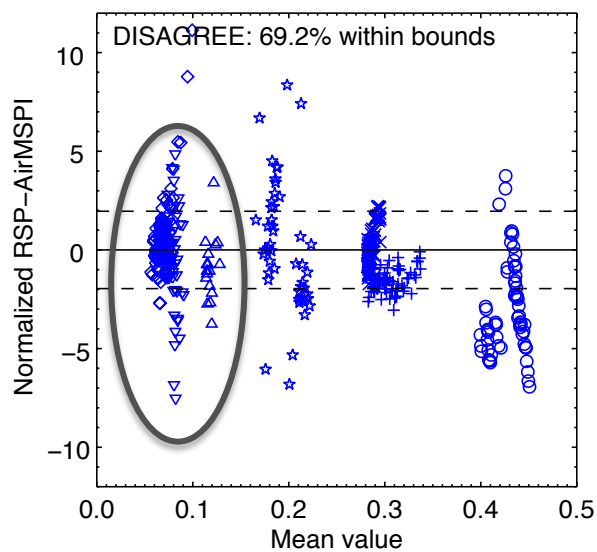
$R_i(660/670\text{nm})$



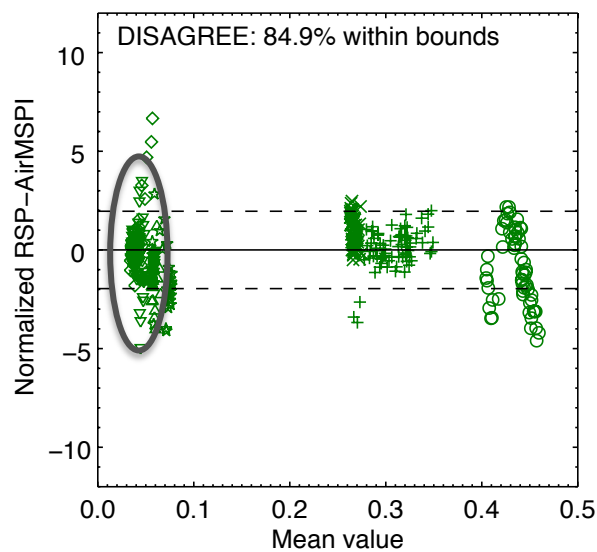
$R_i(865\text{nm})$



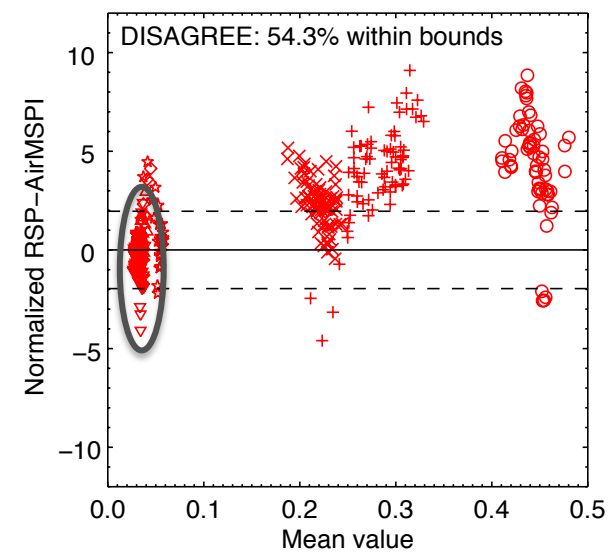
DoLP(470nm)



DoLP(660/670nm)



DoLP(865nm)





This comparison

**CAN NOT**

Indicate which instrument is  
'right' – only that they disagree  
(for DoLP) greater than their  
uncertainty estimates

# Instrument reflectance & polarization comparison

- Geolocation and wing flex
- Pixel to pixel matchup
- Comparison scenes
- Instrument uncertainty models
- Results
- **Recommendations for future efforts**

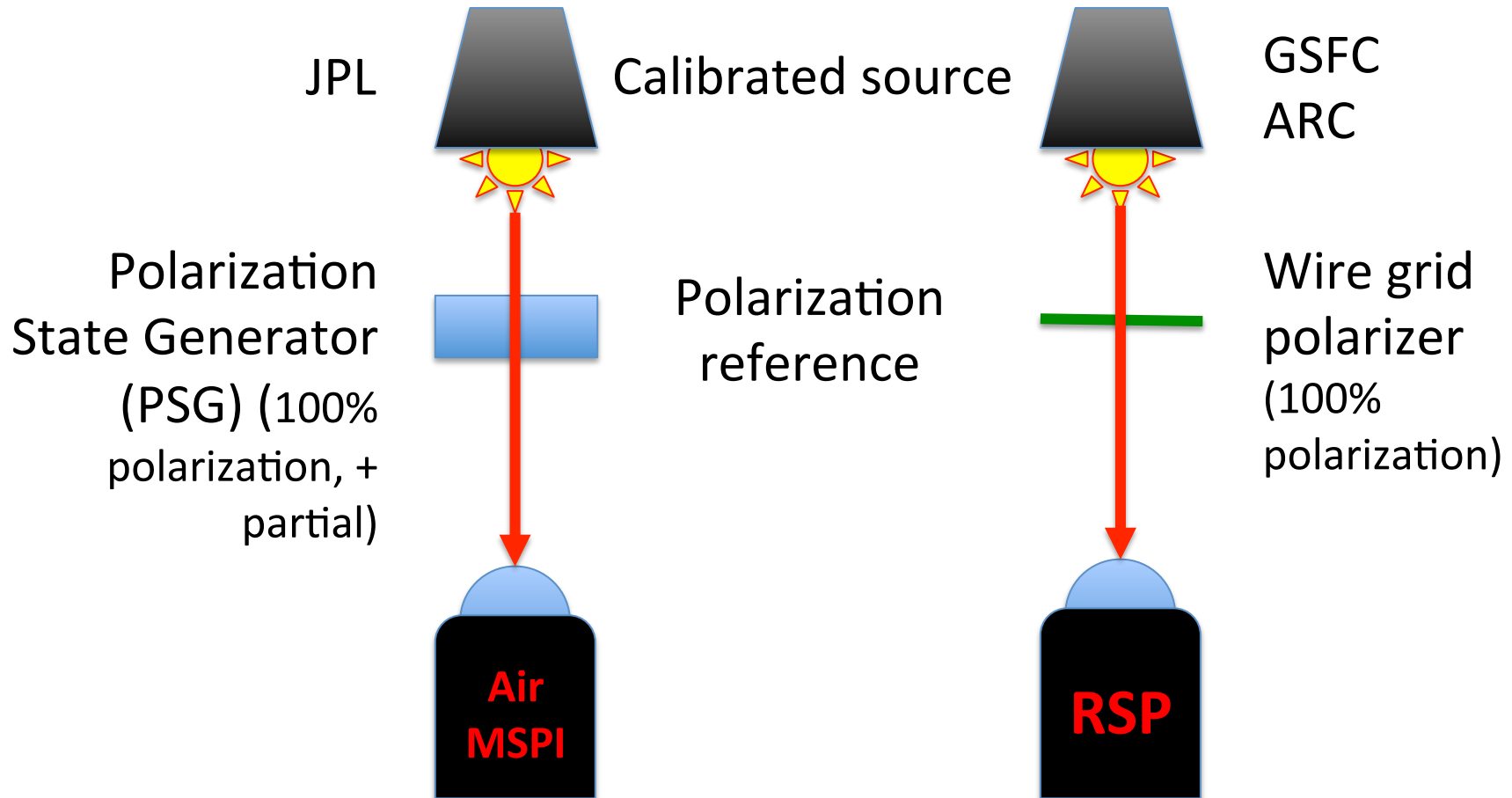


# Continued analysis

- Incorporate PACS!
- Post-PODEX field campaigns:
  - SEAC4RS (AirMSPI + RSP)
  - HypsIRI (AirMSPI and sometimes RSP?)
  - For continued monitoring – how can we ensure that polarimeters are regularly deployed together?
- Suggestions of scenes and scene types?



# Calibration technique



Diner, D. J., Davis, A., Hancock, B., Geier, S., Rheingans, B., Jovanovic, V., Bull, M., Rider, D. M., Chipman, R. A., Mahler, A. B., and others, 2010: First results from a dual photoelastic-modulator-based polarimetric camera. *Appl. Opt.*, 49 (15), 2929--2946.

Cairns, B., Russell, E.E., and Travis, L.D., 1999: Research Scanning Polarimeter: Calibration and Ground-based Measurements. *Proc. SPIE*.



# Calibration

Should we be performing calibration comparisons?

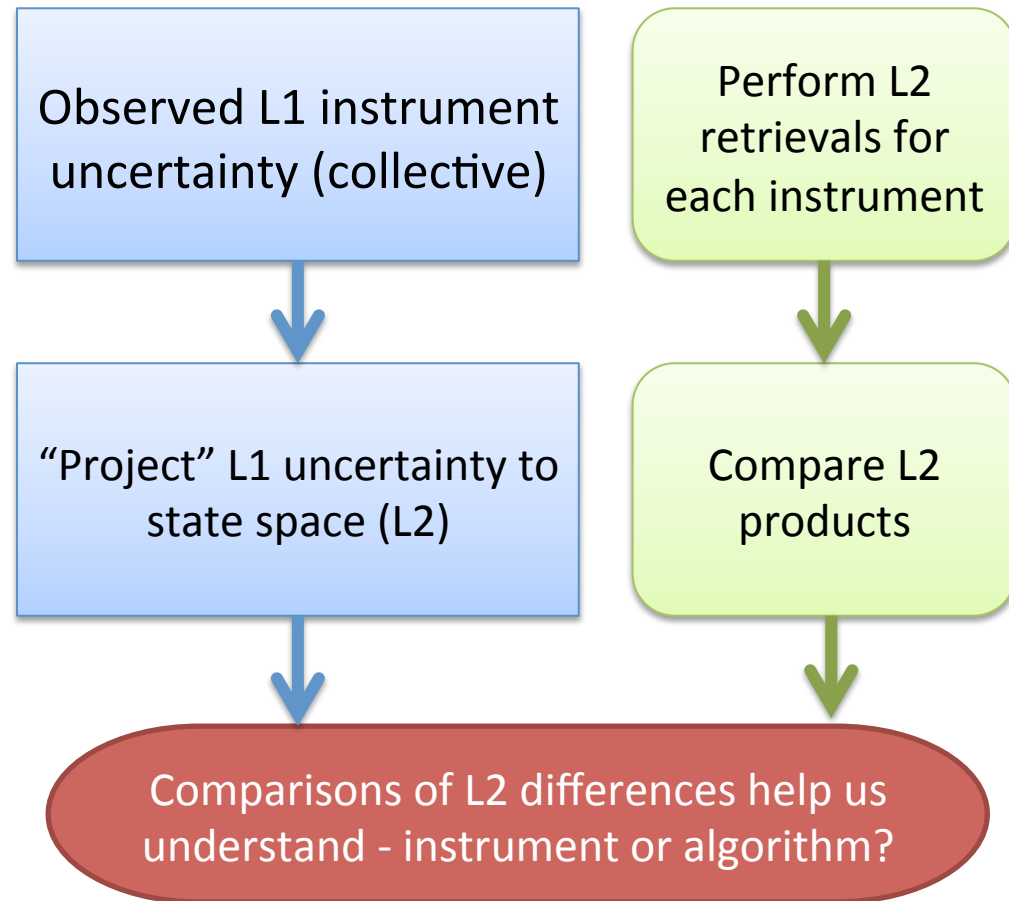
If so, what do we need to consider that is polarization specific?

Should we consider viewing angle dependence?

Can we unify the instrument uncertainty models? Are we accounting for the same sources of uncertainty in an appropriate way?

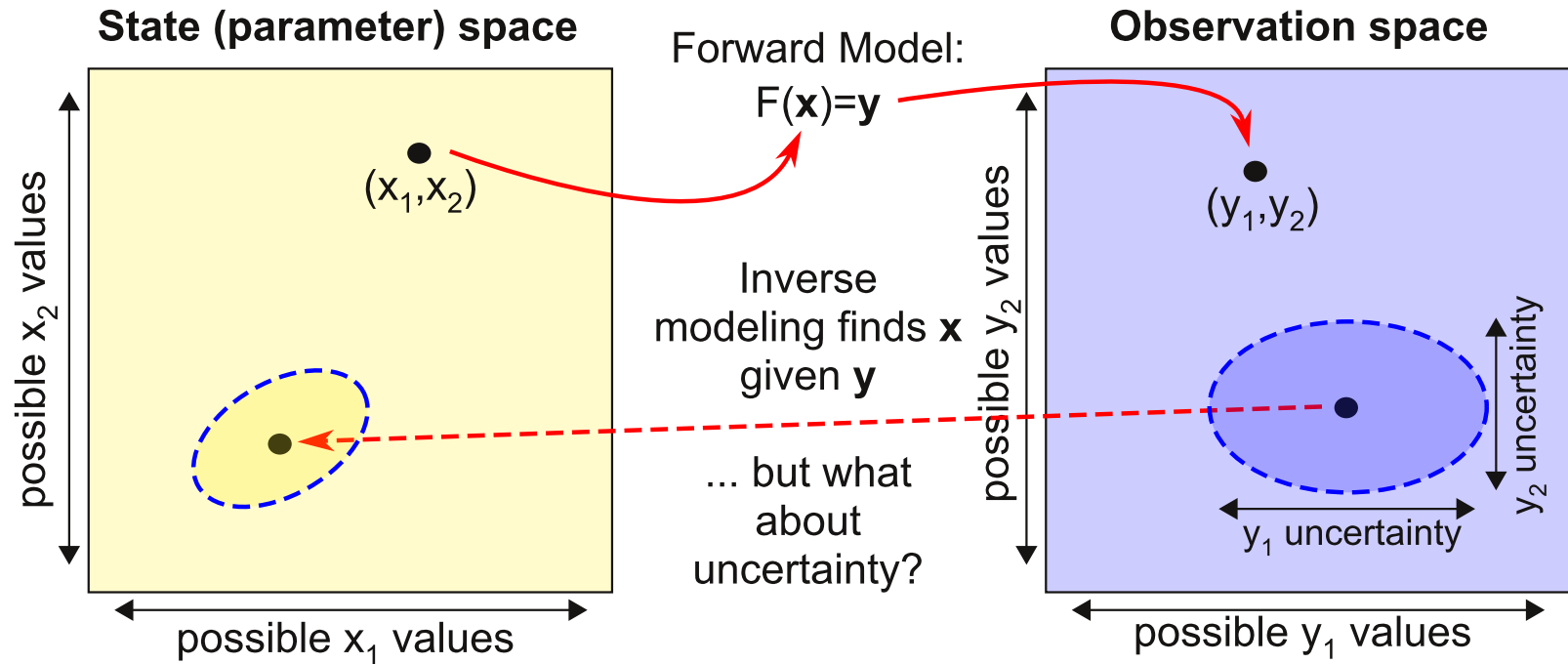
# Moving from Level 1 to Level 2

- Perform Level 2 (parameter) retrievals on comparison scenes
- Compare differences in above to information content / error propagation analysis



**Goal:** understand if differences are due primarily to radiometry or algorithms?

# “Error propagation”



## Analysis of fine-mode aerosol retrieval capabilities by different passive remote sensing instrument designs

Kirk Knobelspiesse,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Brian Cairns,<sup>1</sup> Michael Mishchenko,<sup>1</sup> Jacek Chowdhary,<sup>3,1</sup> Kostas Tsigaridis,<sup>3,1</sup> Bastiaan van Dierenhoven,<sup>3,1</sup> William Martin,<sup>3,1</sup> Matteo Ottaviani,<sup>1,4</sup> and Mikhail Alexandrov<sup>3,1</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>NASA Postdoctoral Program fellow, USA

<sup>3</sup>Columbia University, 2880 Broadway, New York, New York 10025, USA

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\*[kirk.knobelspiesse@nasa.gov](mailto:kirk.knobelspiesse@nasa.gov)

Knobelspiesse, K., Cairns, B., Mishchenko, M., Chowdhary, J., Tsigaridis, K., van Dierenhoven, B., Martin, W., Ottaviani, M., and Alexandrov, M., 2012: Analysis of fine-mode aerosol retrieval capabilities by different passive remote sensing instrument designs. *Opt. Express*, 20 (19), 21457-21484.





# Conclusions

- Wing flex: use SEAC4RS parameterization, coastline matching.
- Comparisons of AirMSPI and RSP **reflectances agree within uncertainties.**
- Comparisons of AirMSPI and RSP **DoLP do not agree** within uncertainties. 865nm is worst, 660/670nm is best.
- Results **DO NOT** indicate which instrument is 'right'.
- Results call for a **discussion of polarimetric calibration techniques**, and possible **cross-calibration**.
- Results call for **unified** ways of describing instrument uncertainty
- **This will be much better with PACS!!!**

# Thank You

Results, file locations, uncertainty model can be found here (starting in July):

<http://geo.arc.nasa.gov/sgg/ACEPWG/>



Shameless Fall AGU session plug:

**Advanced remote sensing techniques and  
innovative retrieval approaches for  
characterization of aerosol and cloud properties**

Bastiaan van Dierenhoven, Olga Kalashnikova, Kirk Knobelspiesse

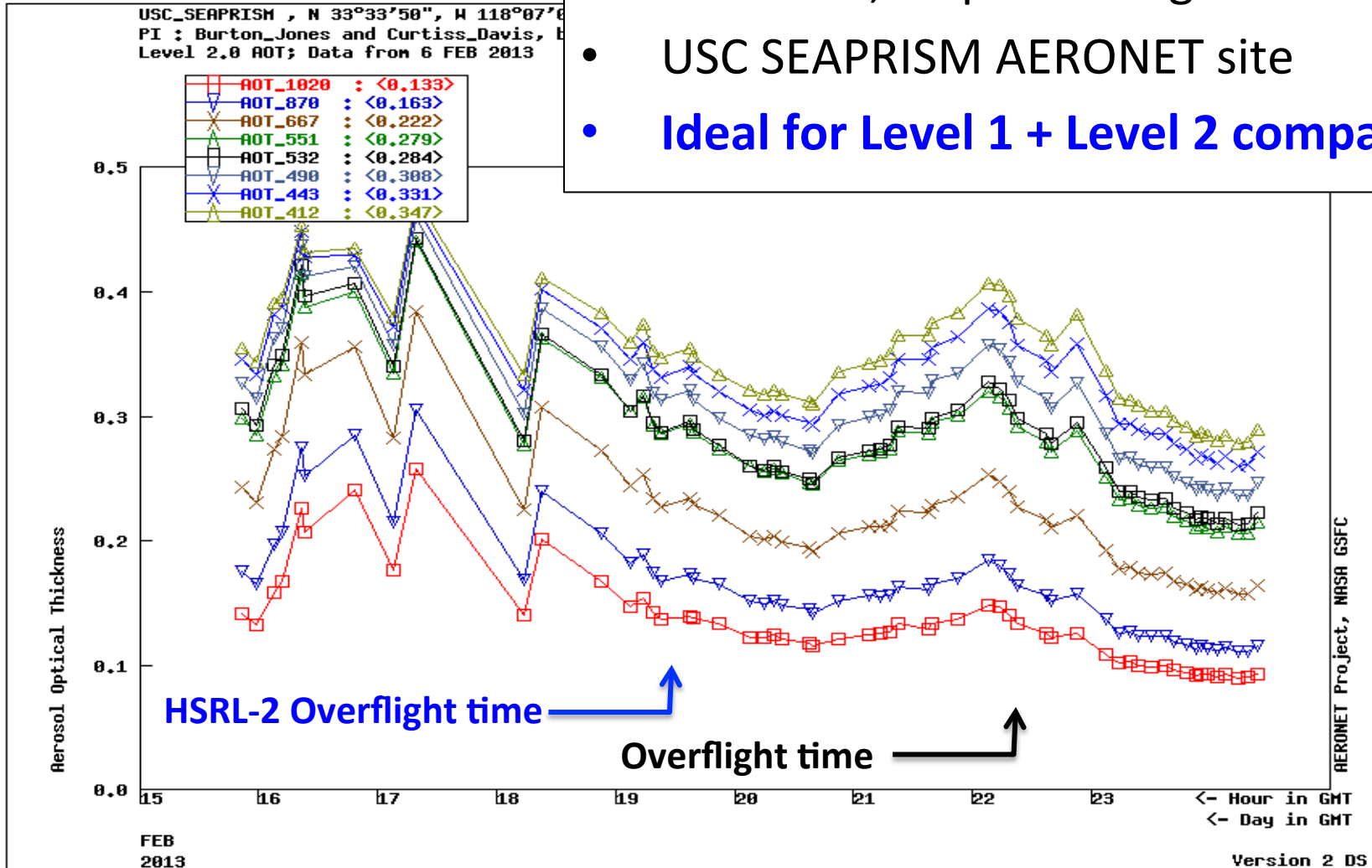
Abstracts due August 6th



# Huntington Beach scene

Feb. 6 Huntington Beach image:

- no clouds, LA pollution gradient
- USC SEAPRISM AERONET site
- **Ideal for Level 1 + Level 2 comparison**



# Backup slides

# RSP uncertainty model

$$\sigma_{R_I}^2 = \left( \frac{r^2 \sigma'_{floor}}{\mu_s} \right)^2 + \frac{a' R_I r^2}{2\mu_s} + \frac{\sigma_{\ln K}^2 R_P^2}{16} + \sigma_{\alpha_c}^2 R_I^2$$

$$\sigma_{DoLP}^2 = 4 \left( 1 + \frac{DoLP^2}{2} \right) \left( \frac{r^2 \sigma'_{floor}}{\mu_s R_I} \right) + 2 \left( 1 - \frac{DoLP^2}{2} \right) \frac{a' r^2}{\mu_s R_I} + \frac{\sigma_{\ln K}^2}{2} \left[ 1 - DoLP^2 + \frac{DoLP^4}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{\sin^2 4\chi}{2} \right) \right] + \sigma_{\ln \alpha}^2 DoLP^2$$

$r$	solar distance in AU
$\sigma'_{floor}$	detector noise floor
$\mu_s$	cosine of Solar Zenith Angle
$a'$	shot noise parameter
$\sigma_{\ln K}$	relative gain coefficient characterization uncertainty
$\sigma_{\alpha_c}$	absolute radiometric characterization uncertainty
$\sigma_{\ln \alpha}$	Polarimetric calibration uncertainty



# AirMSPI uncertainty Model

$$SNR = \frac{S}{(1.25S + r^2 f)^{1/2}}$$

$$S = \frac{1.408 \times 10^{18} \xi \eta \Lambda}{\lambda^4 e^{\left(\frac{2489.7}{\lambda} - 1\right)}}$$

$$\sigma_{R_I}^2 = R_I^2 \left( \sigma_{Rcal}^2 + SNR^{-2} \right)$$

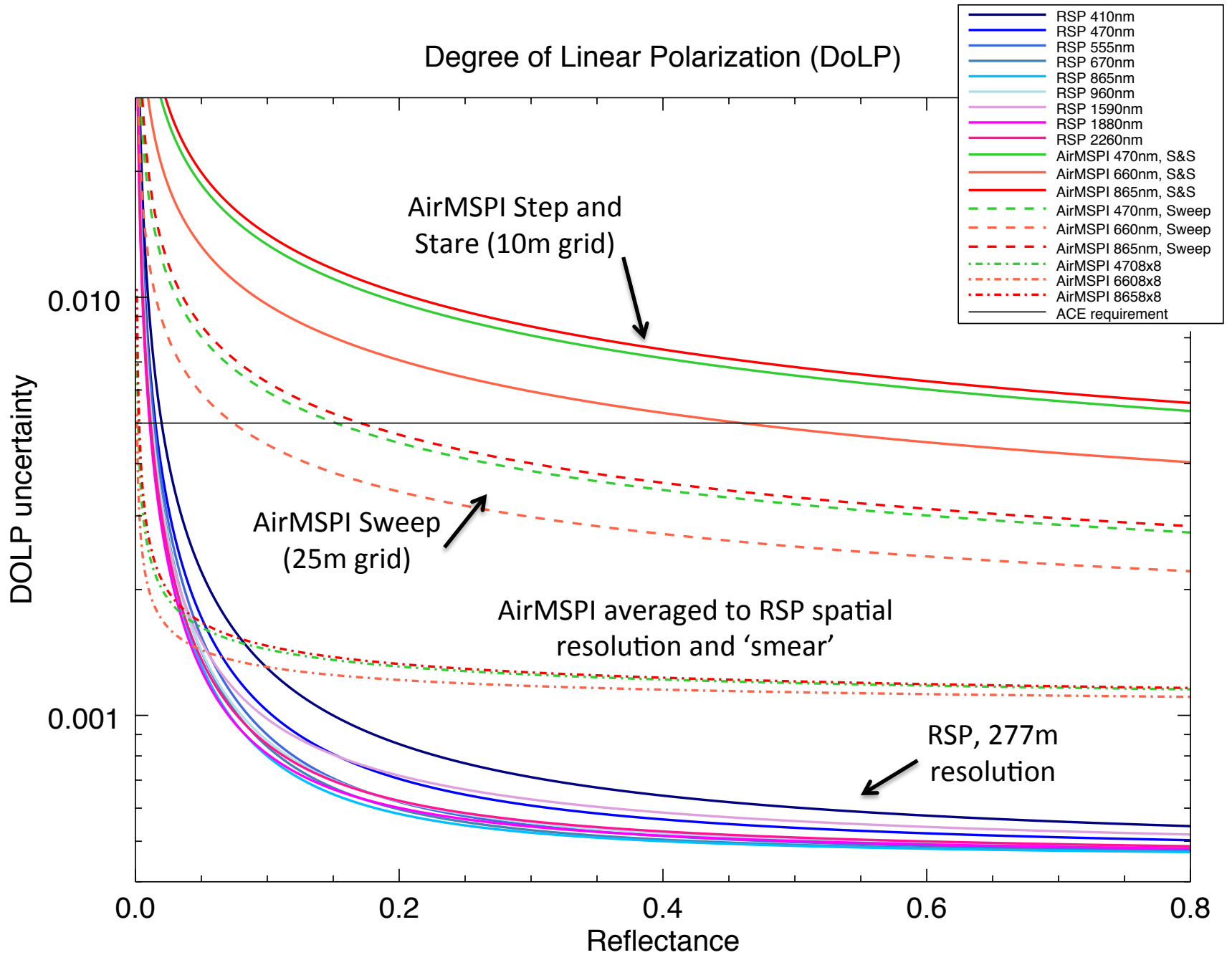
$$\sigma_{DoLP}^2 = \sigma_{PolCal}^2 + s^2 SNR^{-2}$$

SNR	signal to noise ratio
S	signal in electrons
r	read noise (9 electrons)
f	# subframes / image (23)
$\xi$	optical throughput
$\eta$	detector quantum efficiency
$\Lambda$	bandpass
$\lambda$	band center wavelength
$\sigma$	Radiometric calib. uncertainty
$\sigma$	Polarimetric calib. uncertainty

Diner, D.J., A. Davis, B. Hancock, G. Gutt, R.A. Chipman, and B. Cairns (2007). Dual-photoelastic-modulator-based polarimetric imaging concept for aerosol remote sensing. *Appl. Opt.* **46**, 8428-8445.

Diner, D.J., F. Xu, M.J. Garay, J.V. Martonchik, B.E. Rheingans, S. Geier, A. Davis, B.R. Hancock, V.M. Jovanovic, M.A. Bull, K. Capraro, R.A. Chipman, and S.C. McClain (2013). The Airborne Multiangle SpectroPolarimetric Imager (AirMSPI): a new tool for aerosol and cloud remote sensing": *AMT* **6**, 2007-2025.

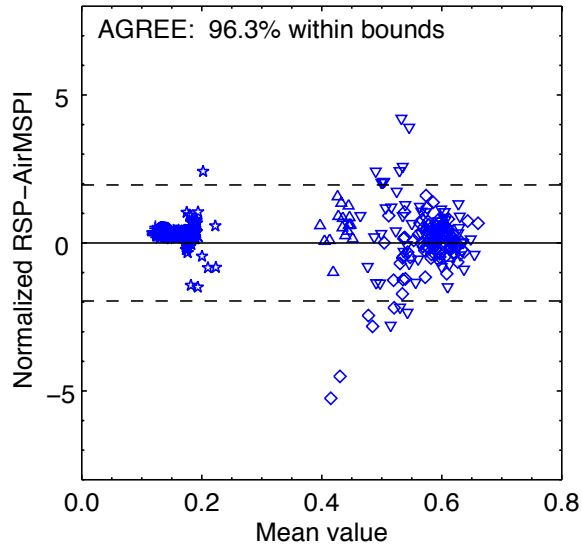
If AirMSPI calibration uncertainty is  
0.001, not 0.002...



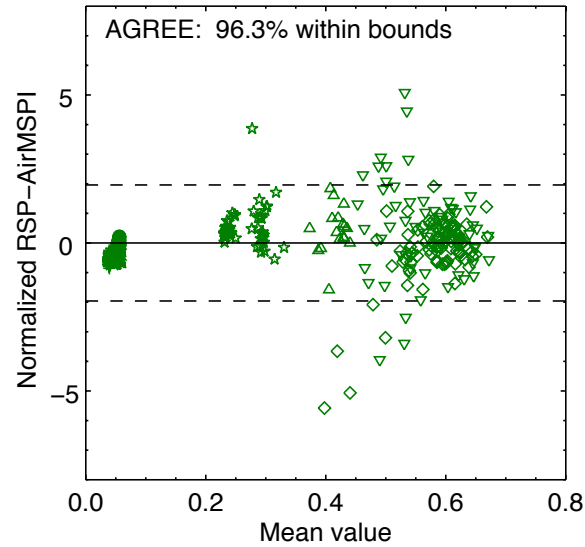


# Comparison normalized by uncertainty

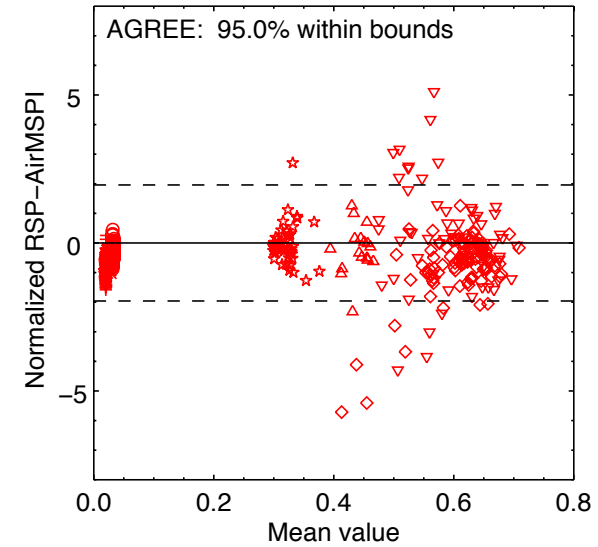
$R_I(470\text{nm})$



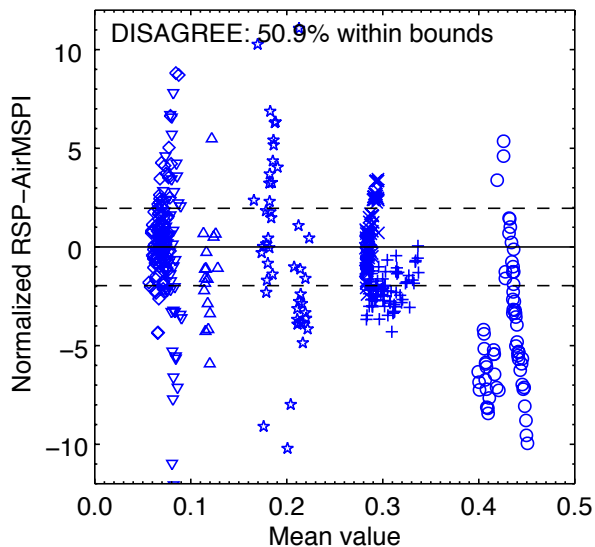
$R_I(660/670\text{nm})$



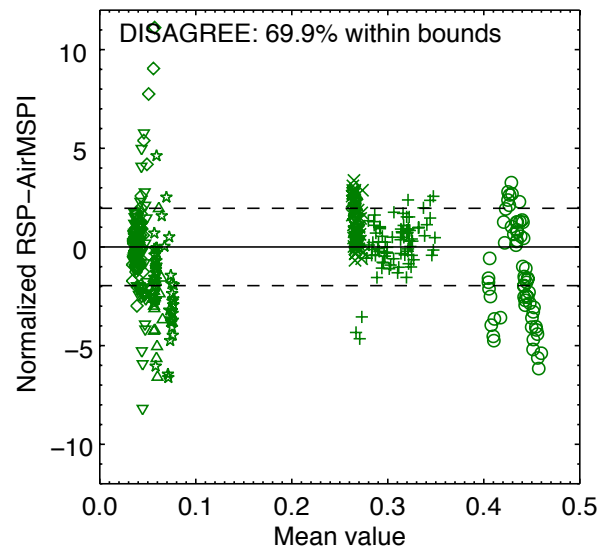
$R_I(865\text{nm})$



DoLP(470nm)



DoLP(660/670nm)



DoLP(865nm)

