

Fluxes of Heat, Water Vapour and CO₂ over the Northern Territory from airborne measurements during the TIPPEX Campaign



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- 2 research aircraft, based at Tipperary Station
- Team of ~10 people
- **VH-EOS: 41:05 mission hours;** VH-OBS: 55:40 mission hours; both: 96:45 mission hours
- **VH-EOS: 34:30 ferry hours;** VH-OBS: 34:30 ferry hours; both: 69:00 ferry hours
- Grand total: 165:45 hours flown

- Total amount of raw data: ~1TB

- **Atmospheric parameters (BAT with FUST, LiCor 7500, Meteolabor TP3)**
 - temperature, humidity, CO₂, 3D-wind, turbulence, pressure
- **Laser altimeters (Riegl LD90)**
- **IR surface temperature (Heimann KT15)**
- **Incoming and outgoing short- and long-wave radiation – radiation balance (Eppley PIR, PSP)**
- **Flux parameters (H, E, Cm)**
- **High accuracy CO₂ (modified LiCor 6262)**

- Full waveform lidar (Riegl Q560)
- Tri-spectral line scanner (AWI/ARA)
- Hyper-spectral scanner (SPECIM AISA+)
- 12Mpix camera (Canon EOS 1Ds)
- PLMR – soil moisture
- PodCams

- **Aircraft position and attitude (3 x OXTS RT4003/RT3120 GPS/IMU)**
- **GPS Base Station (Novatel)**

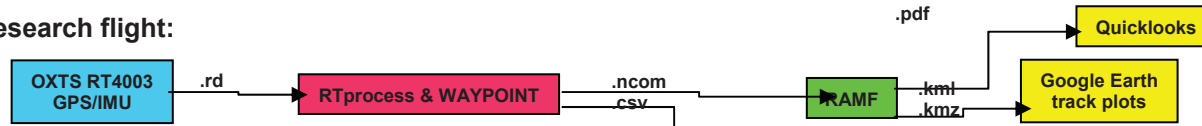


OVERVIEW

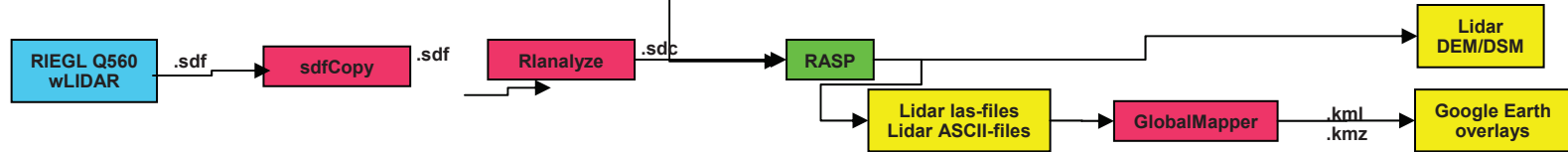


1hr of research flight:

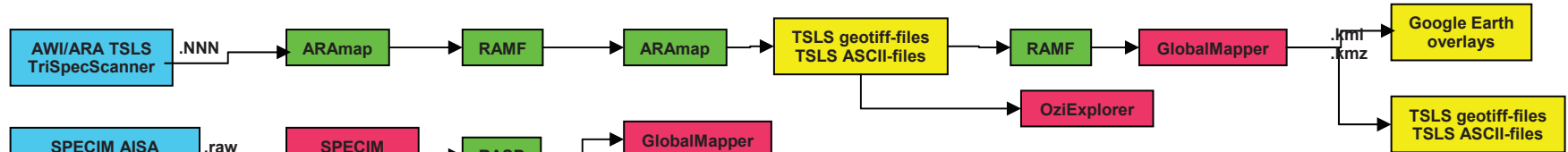
100Mb



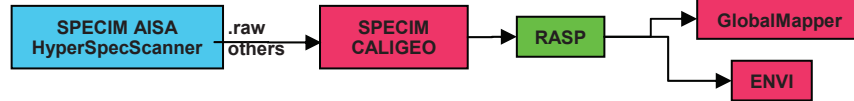
60Gb



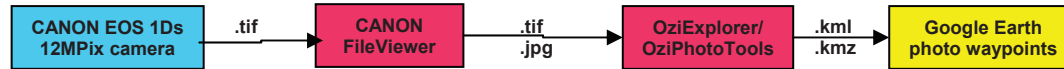
1Gb



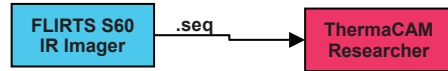
100Gb



10Gb



10Gb



Resources: 2.5 scientists,
no tech support
no IT support,
no admin support

PREP
pre-processor
for
RAMF & RASP

100Mb



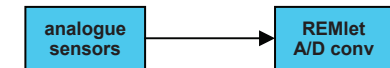
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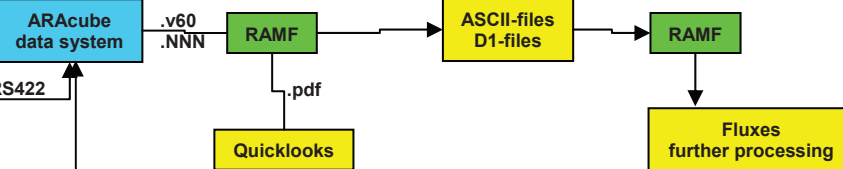
40Mb



100Mb



10Mb



Hardware

ARA software

Commercial software

Product

TIPPEX/SIOP Airborne Flux Measurements September 2008

Howard Springs Grid

Darwin

Fogg Dam Comparison Transects

Northern Transect

Budget Circles

Daly Comparison Transects

Daly Grids

Middle Transect

Dry River Grid

Southern Transect

Sturt Plains Grid



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© 2009 Cnes/Spot Image
© 2009 Europa Technologies

13°58'00.08" S 130°31'21.73" E elev 115 m

©2009 Google

Eye alt 605.16 km

181 km

DATE	EOS	OBS	FLUXES	BUDGET	LIDAR	TSLS	HYPER	CANON	PLMR	PODCAMS	OTHER
2 Sep		3:40			OS (1000m)		OS (1000m) OS (3000m)				
4 Sep	0:20	2:10	TP (test)		TP (cal@1100m)	TP (cal@1100m)	TP (cal@1100)				
5 Sep	5:25	6:10	ST(2), FC		MT (800m), ST (800m)	MT (800m), ST (800m), STG (1700m)	MT (800m), ST (800m), STG (1700m)				
6 Sep	4:25	5:10	MT(2), FC(2), DUC, DRG		MT (430m)	MT (430m), DUC (1350m), DRG (2000m)	MT (430m), DUC (1350m), DRG (2000m)				
7 Sep	0:25		TP, DD								
8 Sep	4:55	5:50	NT(2), HSG, FC	2 / 1 AC							
9 Sep	4:40	5:35		2 / 2 AC							
10 Sep	5:10	5:40		2 / 2 AC							
11 Sep		4:40									CO2
12 Sep	4:50	4:30	MT(2), DUC, DRG		MN (550m), DR (<400m)	MN (550m), DR (<400m)	MN (550m), DR (<400m)	MN (550m), DR (<400m)		MT (25m)	
13 Sep	6:20	6:10			MT (900m), ST (900m)	MT (900m), ST (900m)	MT (900m), ST (900m)	MT (900m), ST (900m)	MT (900m), ST (900m)	MT (900m), ST (900m)	
14 Sep	5:00	2:05	NT(2), HSG		RW (500m), Other (<500m)	RW (500m), Other (<500m)				NT (25m)	
15 Sep	3:35								NT (900m)	NT (900m)	
16 Sep		4:00			NT (600m), HSG (600m) AR (700m)	NT (600m), HSG (600m) AR (700m)	NT (600m), HSG (600m) AR (700m)	NT (600m), HSG (600m) AR (700m)			

OS: Owen Springs / Alice Springs
TP: Tipperary Station
MT: Middle Transect
NT: Northern Transect
ST: Southern Transect
DD: Douglas Daly area

FC: Flux Comparison runs
DUC: Daly Uncleared Grid
MN: Mount Nancarrow area
RW: Richard Weinman's area
CO2: Darwin CO2 profiles
BUDGET: Budget/flux circles near TP

HSG: Howard Springs Grid
DRG: Dry River Grid
STG: Sturt Plains Grid
DR: Daly River
AR: Adelaide River

VH-EOS: "Flux"-Dimona
VH-OBS: "Remote Sensing"
and "Budget"-Dimona



Fluxes what fluxes ?

How does one estimate fluxes from such a data set ?

- purpose ?
- validity ?
- diurnal course ?
- cloud ?
- other ? (“steps”)
- on what scale ?

Aircraft data is fundamentally different from tower data
It adds another dimension – spatial changes
That’s great, but it complicates data processing tremendously

In any case – one needs to process the data first (not the fluxes yet....) -

- tested two independent processing procedures – BN (10Hz) / JMH (20Hz) – very similar results

Then one can start to compute fluxes – and that’s where it becomes difficult -

- averaging length ? Steps ? Filtering ? - no established method (*perhaps there is none...*)

Then one might want to attempt an intercomparison with “something” -

- flux towers – “dumb” comparison normally not very useful, but one can start with that
- model estimates ?? What does it mean if there are large differences – or if it fits ??
- other estimates ??

Visualisation of fluxes is useful (except perhaps if flux estimates are only used for “dumb” model input) –
 (“simple” and probably not necessary for towers, because there are far less variables)

• why visualisation ?

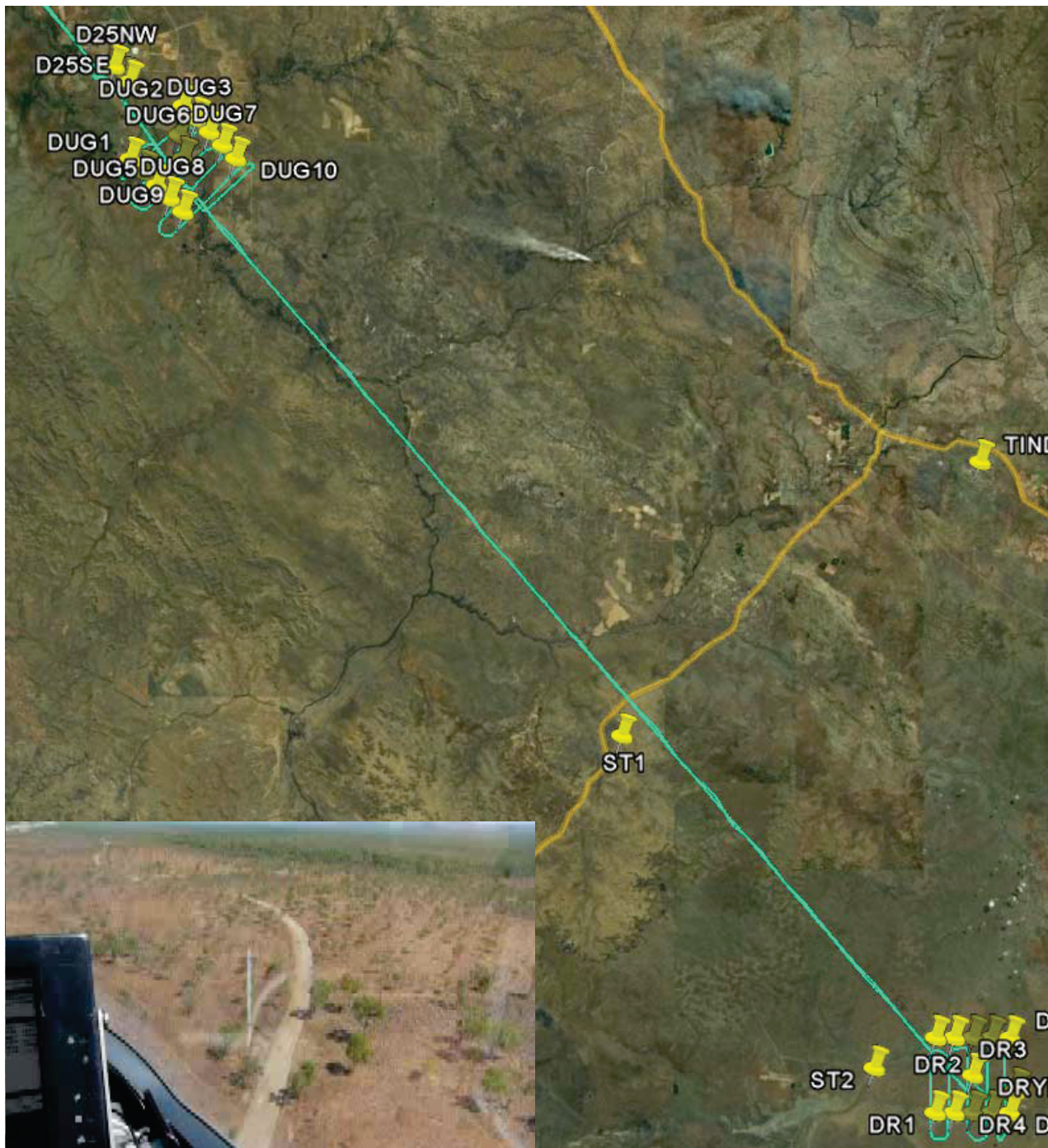
- to be able to link the estimates to features in the landscape
- to pick up problems
- to find interesting features
- more.....

• how to visualise ?

- Google Earth is an attractive and relatively simple framework
- transect plots showing all parameters measured, including landscape parameters
- “re-fly” the transects – human eye and brain is most powerful tool to “see things”



Middle Transect



6 Sep – MT1&2

NW-SE: 12:30-13:30LT

SE-NW: 14:00-15:00LT

175km each way

Flying altitude: 25m AGL

Wind:

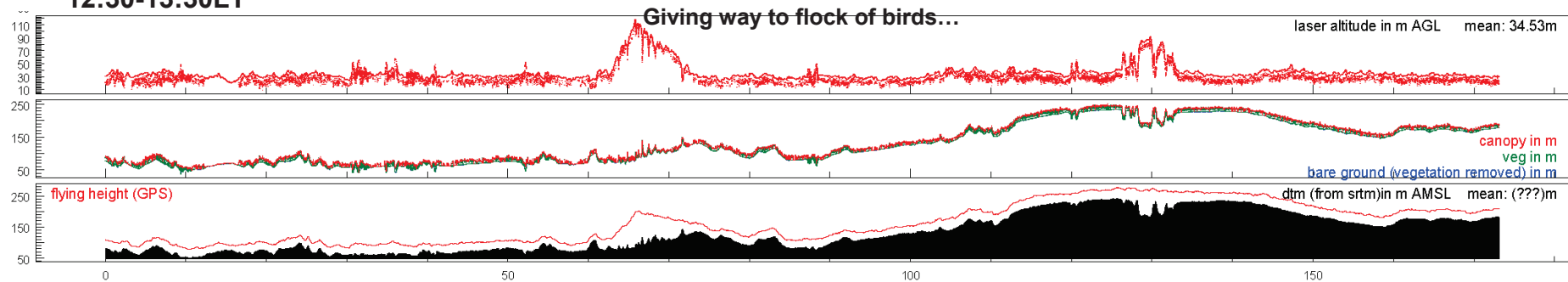
At first ~4m/s Easterlies,
later nearly no mean wind



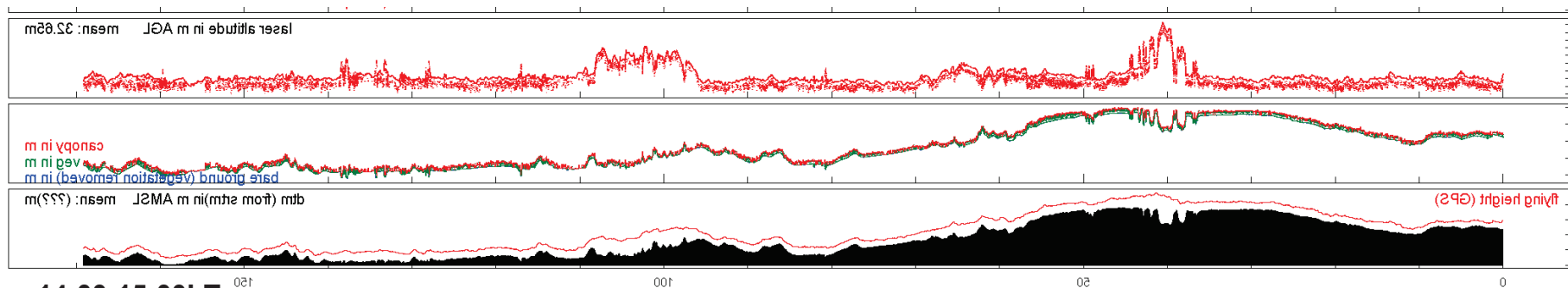
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6 Sep – MT1&2 175km

12:30-13:30LT



14:00-15:00LT



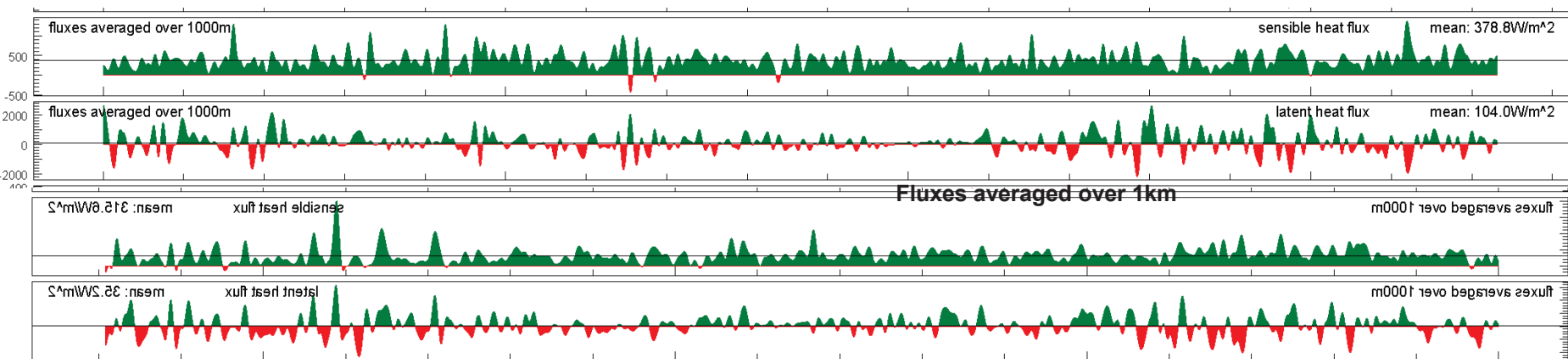
NE

SW

12:30-13:30LT

H: 379 W/m²

E: 104 W/m²



14:00-15:00LT

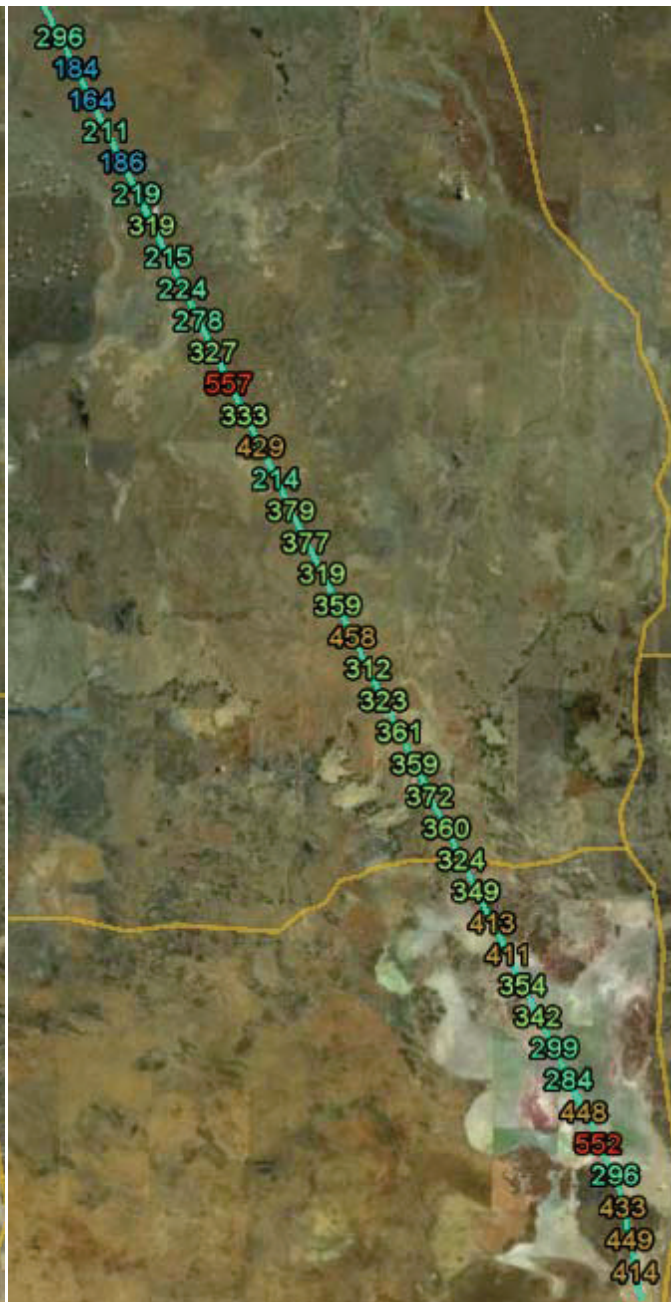
H: 316 W/m²

E: 35 W/m²





NW-SE: 12:00-13:30LT



SE-NW: 13:30-15:00LT

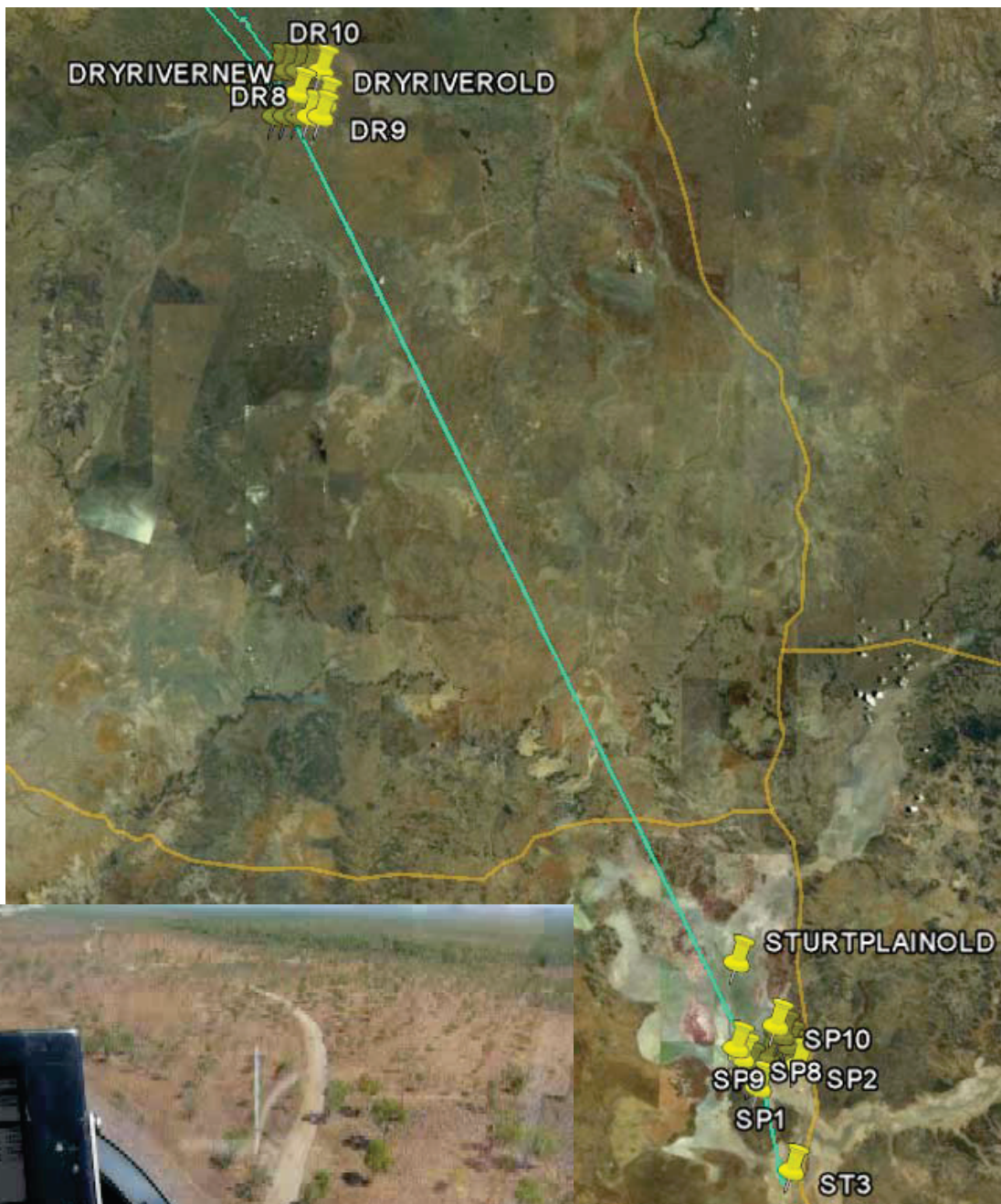
5 Sep – ST

Sensible Heat Flux
(W/m²)

10km averages



Southern Transect



5 Sep – ST1&2

NW-SE: 12:00-13:30LT

SE-NW: 13:30-15:00LT

275km each way

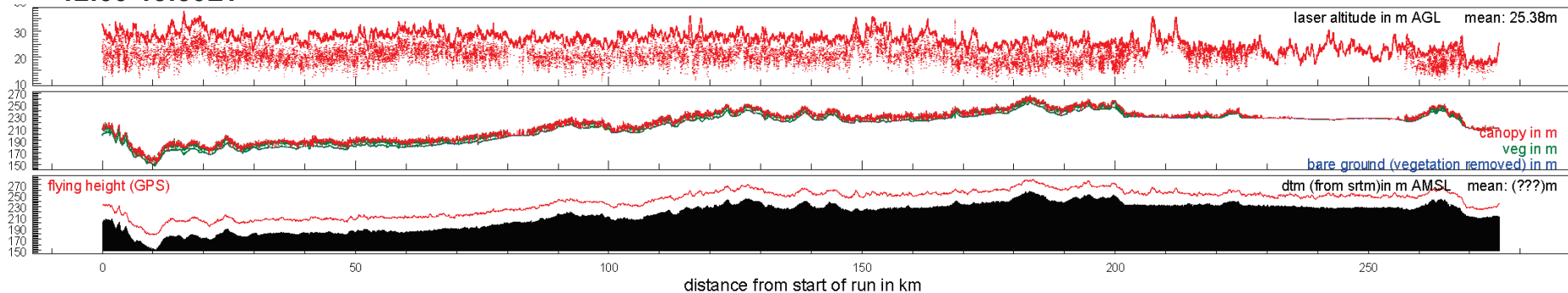
Flying altitude: 25m AGL

Low wind conditions
(~2m/s Easterlies)

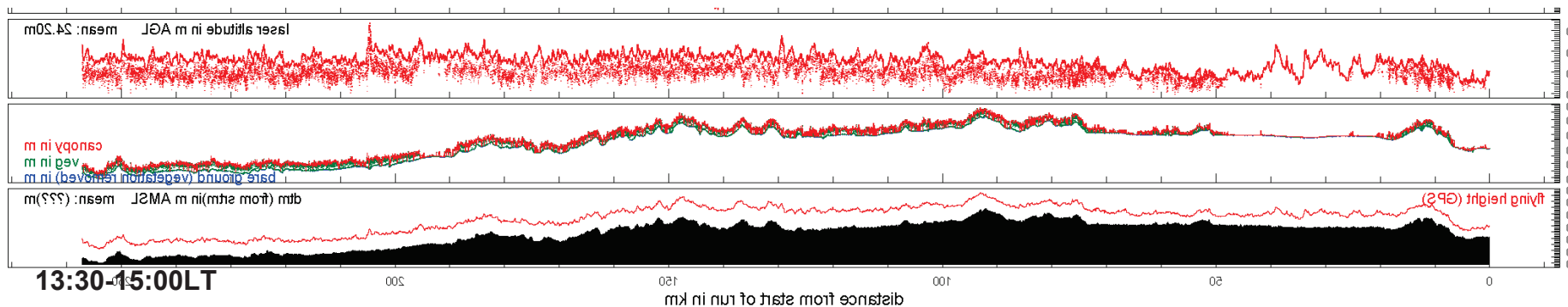


6 Sep – ST1&2 275km

12:00-13:30LT



13:30-15:00LT



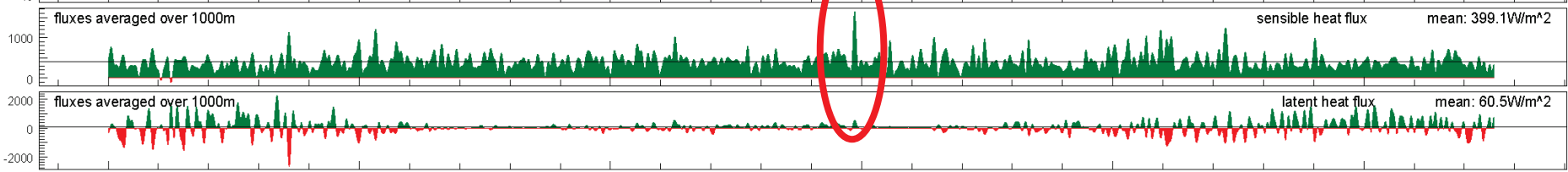
NE

12:00-13:30LT

H: 399 W/m²

E: 61 W/m²

What's that ? A spike in the data messing up the flux ?

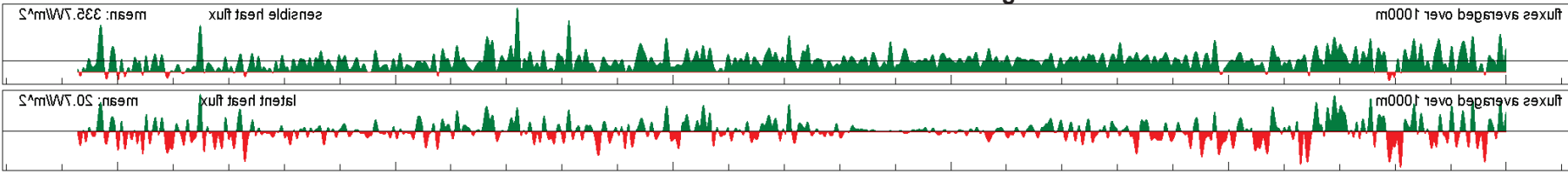


Fluxes averaged over 1km

13:30-15:00LT

H: 336 W/m²

E: 21 W/m²



6 Sep – MT

Sensible Heat Flux (W/m²)

10km averages

SE-NW: 14:00-15:00LT

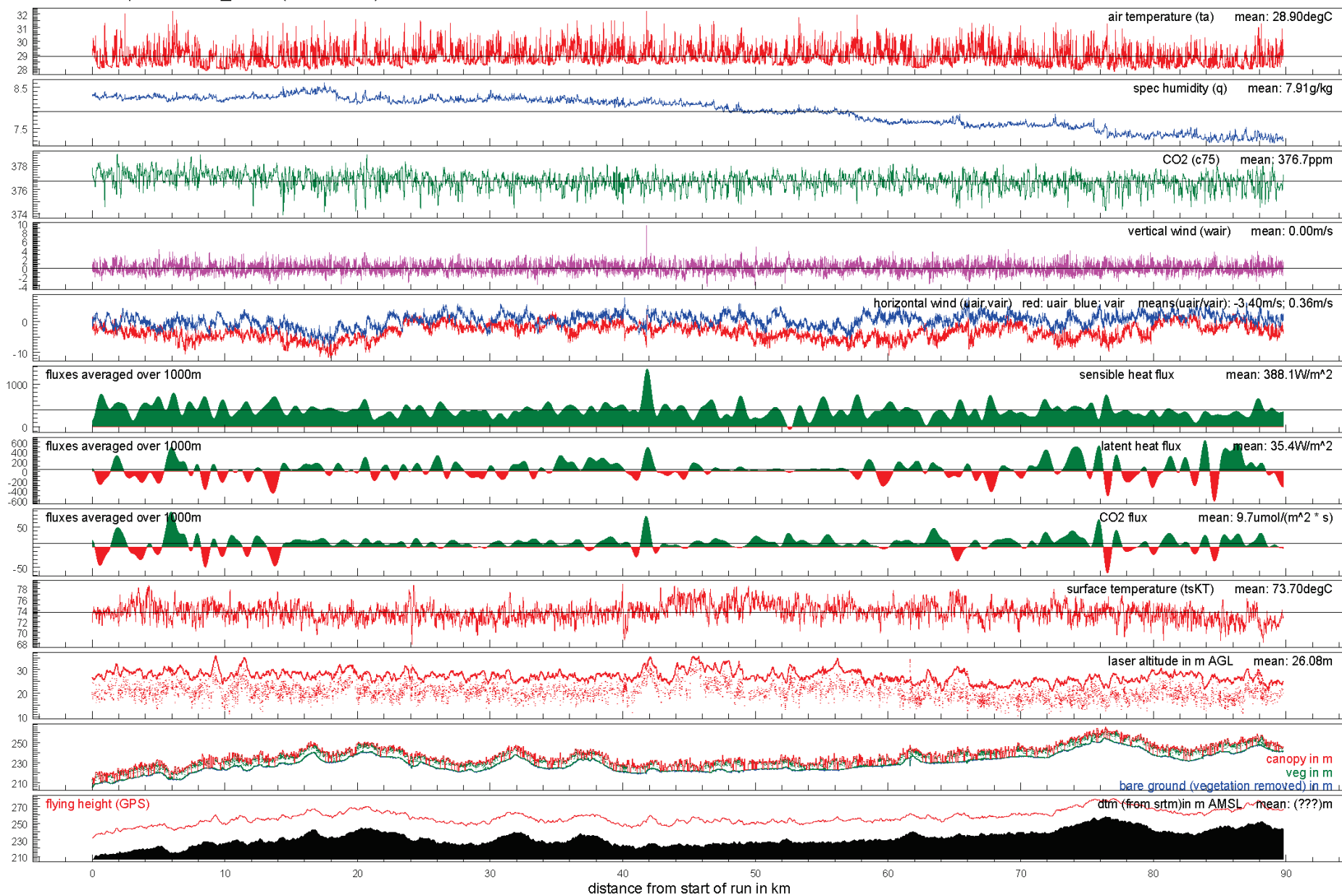


NW-SE: 12:30-13:30LT

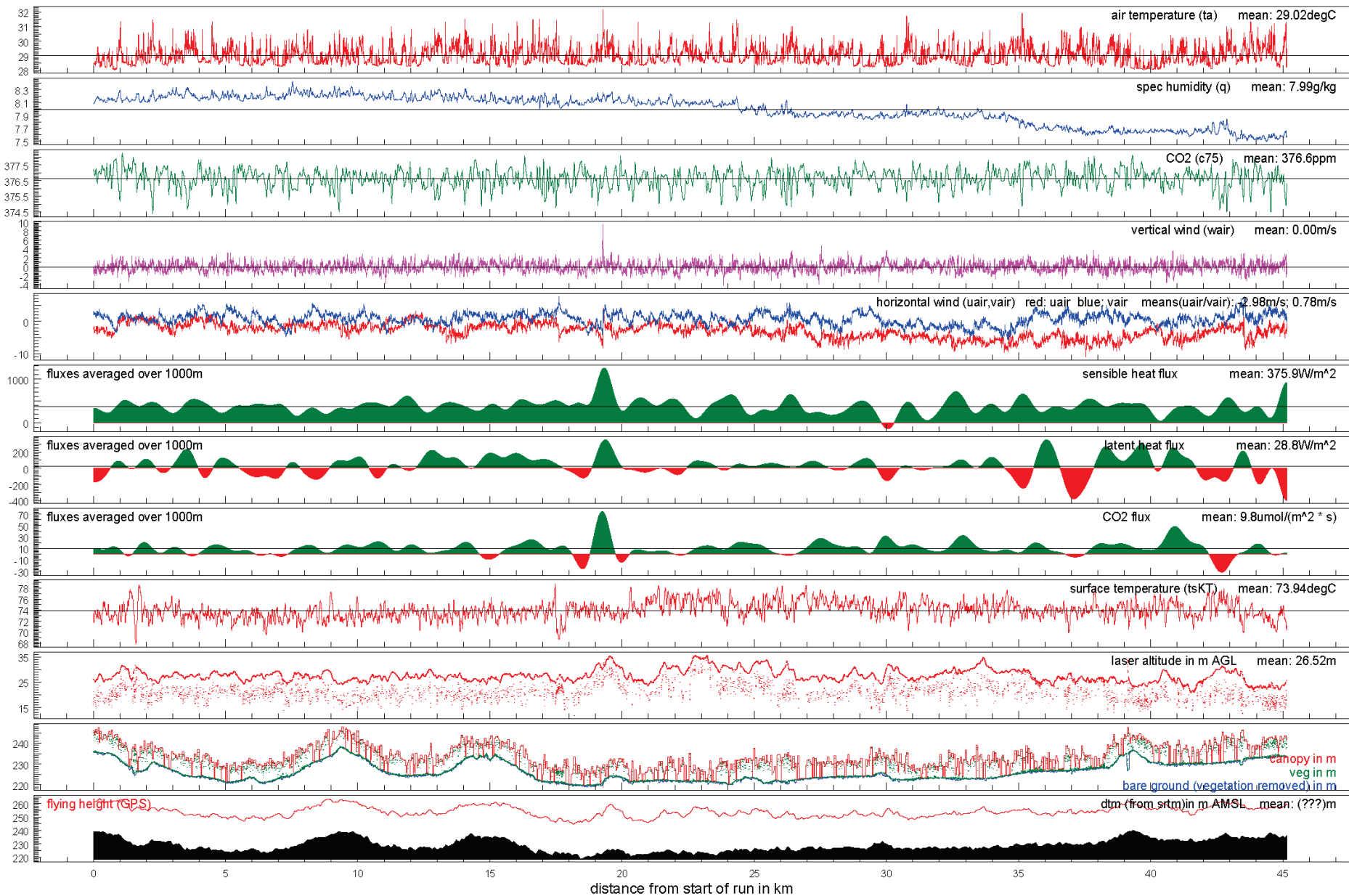


Southern Transect

Having a closer look...



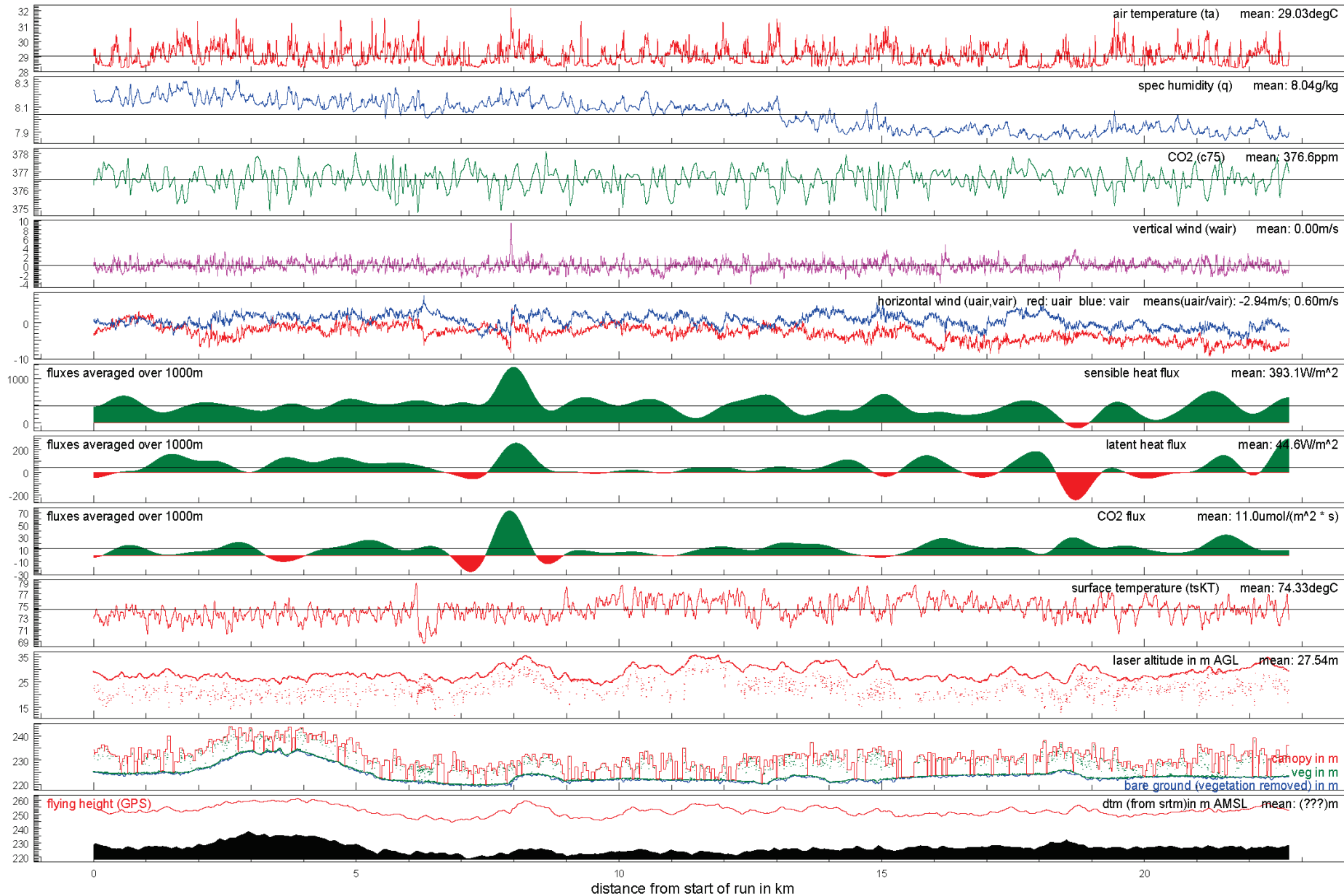
90km section



45km section

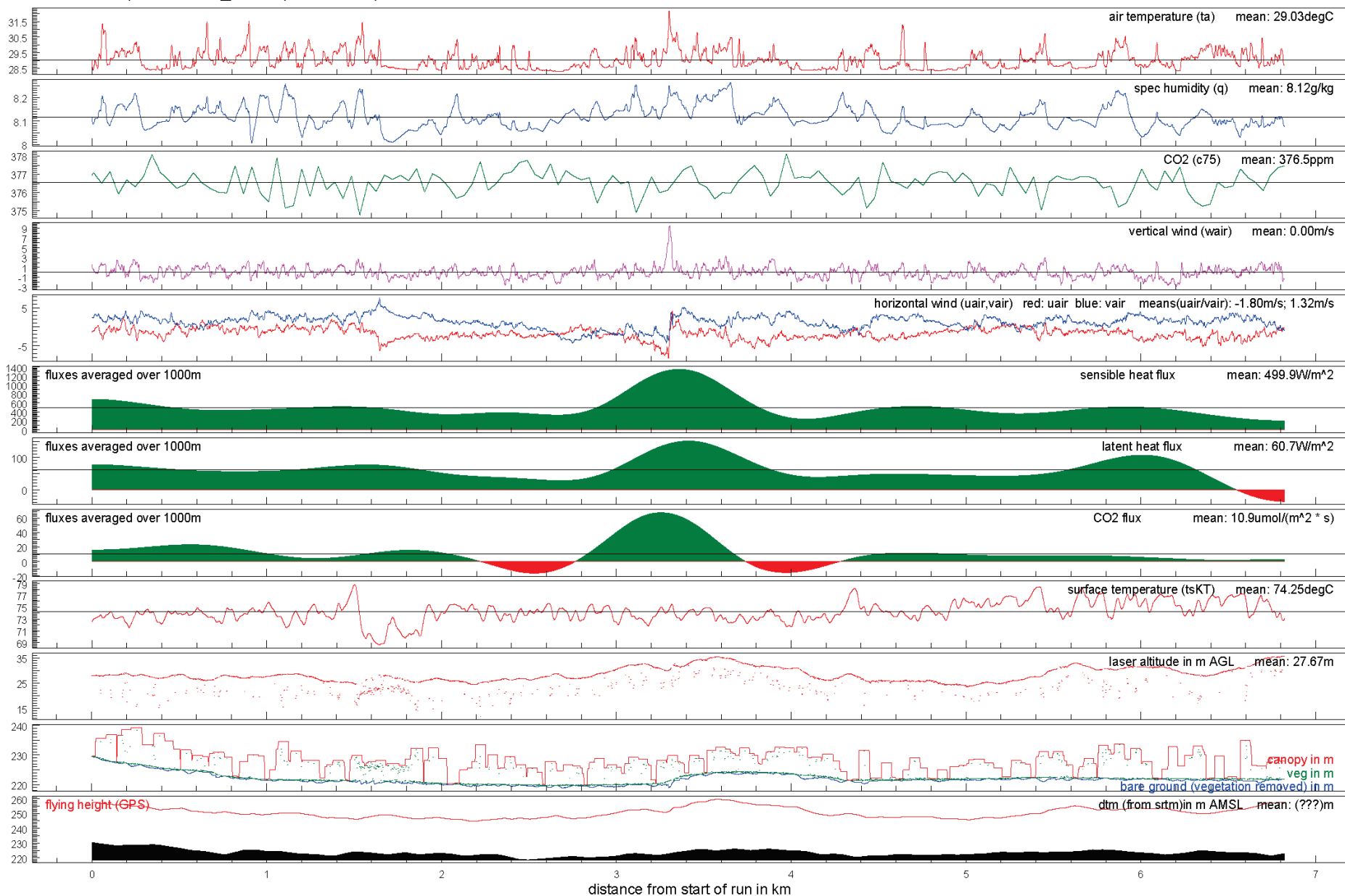


TIPPEX - Sep08 0905E_ST1x (12:45:50LT)



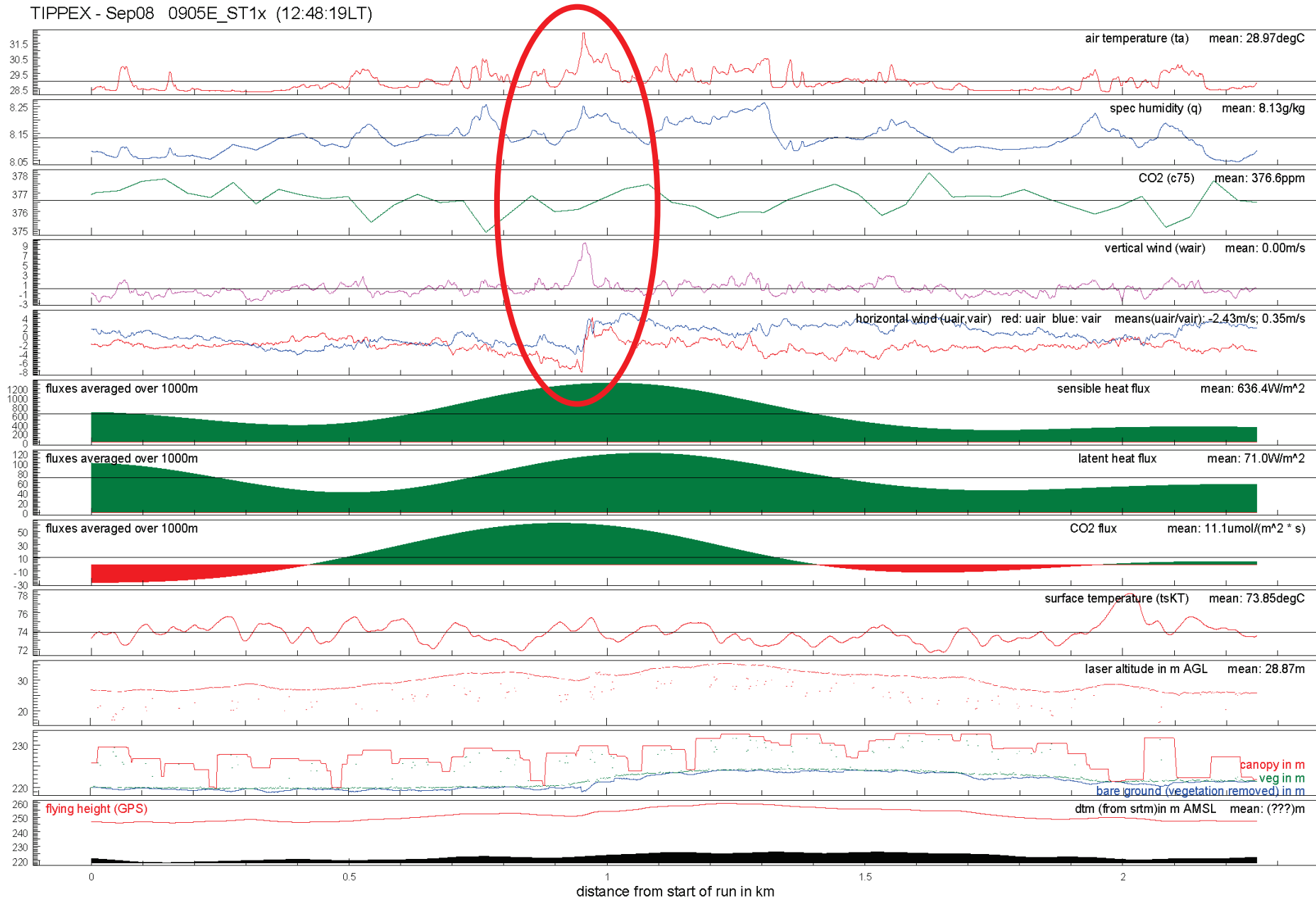
22km section





7km section

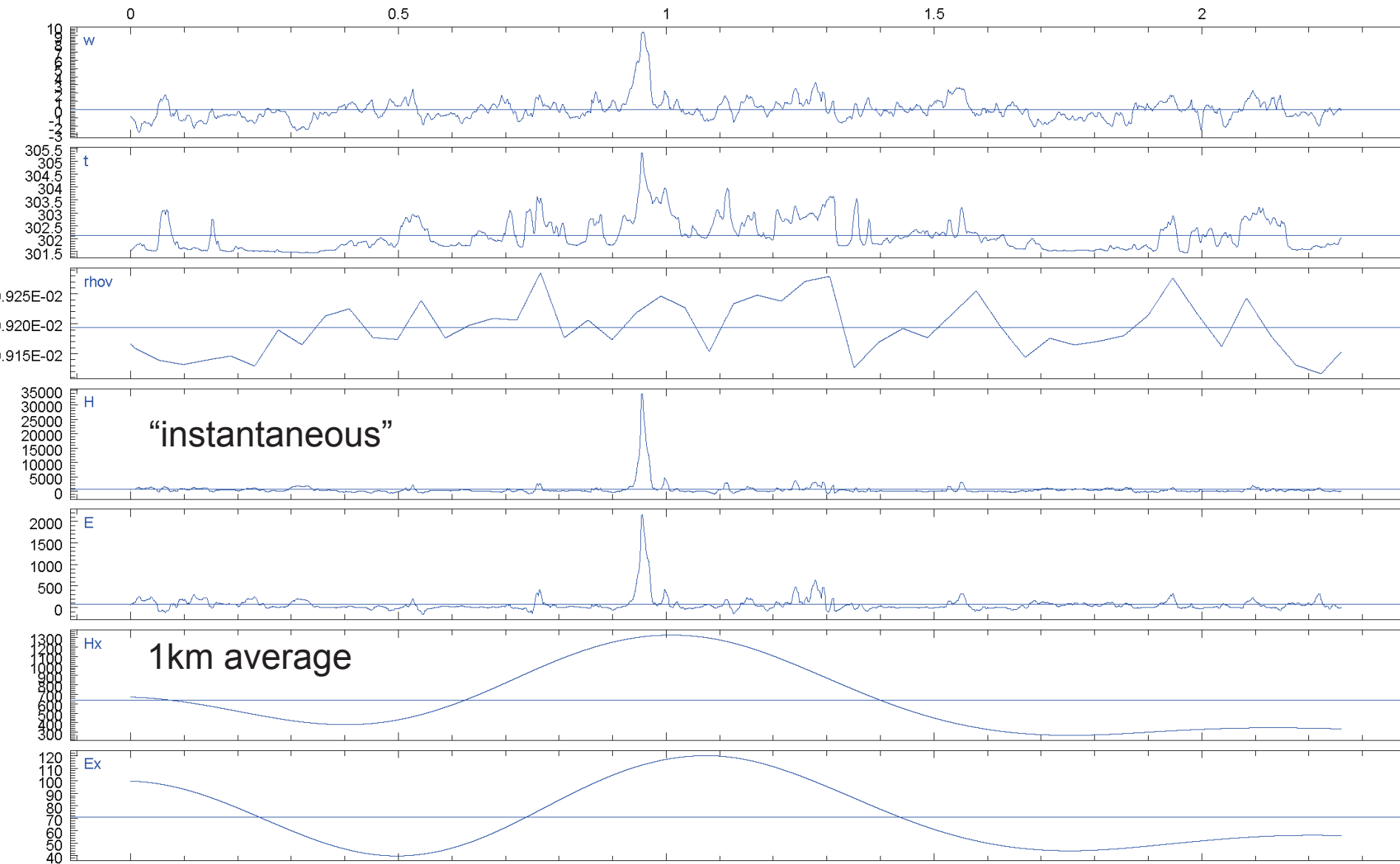




2km section

Very strong thermal – more that **3-times** higher vertical velocity then second strongest one;
max w=9m/s (at z=30mAGL!!); horizontal gust >10m/s; diameter ~70m; delta T: >3deg





2km section

"it was quite a bump...."



Tower Comparison
“dumb” ones at this stage

NORTHERN TRANSECT 14 Sep Aircraft: 5km averages at tower location

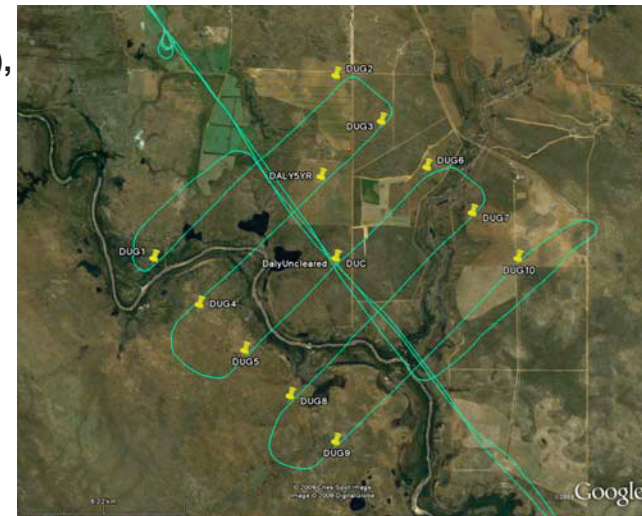
	UTC	LT	LT	H	H	H	LE	LE	LE	Cm	Cm	Cm
				W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	umol/m2/s	umol/m2/s	umol/m2/s
		aircraft	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower
HOWARD SPRINGS												
14/09/2008												
	03:00	12:30	12:30	250		267	200		49			
	03:21	12:51	13:00	300		269	150		131			
FOGG DAM												
14/09/2008												
	03:15	12:45	12:30	212		294	250		187			
			13:00			243			95			
ADELAIDE RIVER												
14/09/2008												
	02:30	12:00	12:00	375		314	126		71			
	02:30	12:00	12:00	434		314	105		71			
	04:35	14:05	14:00	310		312	156		108			
	04:35	14:05	14:00	495		312	-88		108			
DALY 5YR												
14/09/2008												
	01:25	10:45	10:30	290		241	200		42			
			11:00			276			45			
	05:30	15:00	15:00	200		173	360		41			
DALY UNCLEARED												
14/09/2008												
	01:25	10:45	10:30	300		240	55		144			
			11:00			222			54			
	05:30	15:00	15:00	200		244	350		56			



Daly Uncleared Grid 6 Sep

	UTC	LT	LT	H	H	H	LE	LE	LE	Cm	Cm	Cm
				W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	umol/m2/s	umol/m2/s	umol/m2/s
		aircraft	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower
DALY UNCLEARED												
6/09/2008												
		11:49		420			146					
		11:54		320			-39					
		11:58		380			66					
		12:04		323			128					
		12:09		401			123					
		12:15		305			135					
		12:20		323			38					
		12:25		392			92					
		12:27		328			111					
		11:49-12:27	12:00	355		369	89		239			
			12:30			418			141			

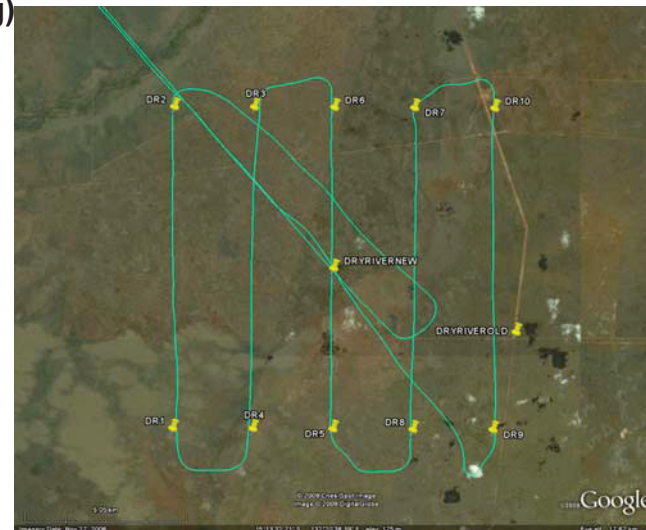
Aircraft: averages over individual transects of grid (10km – 2.5km lateral spacing), averages over 1km around tower site and average over all transects



Dry River Grid 6 Sep

	UTC	LT	LT	H	H	H	LE	LE	LE	Cm	Cm	Cm
				W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	umol/m2/s	umol/m2/s	umol/m2/s
		aircraft	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower
DRY RIVER												
6/09/2008												
		13:28		469			114			-3.2		
		13:35		377			82			-2.2		
		13:40		400			89			-6.1		
		13:45		384			63			-5.6		
		13:50		419			78			-2.3		
		13:55		424			99			-2.9		
		14:00		326			83			-4.2		
		14:05		332			63			-4.8		
		13:28-14:05	13:30	391		402	84		91	-3.9		-4.3
			14:00			312			58			-3.5

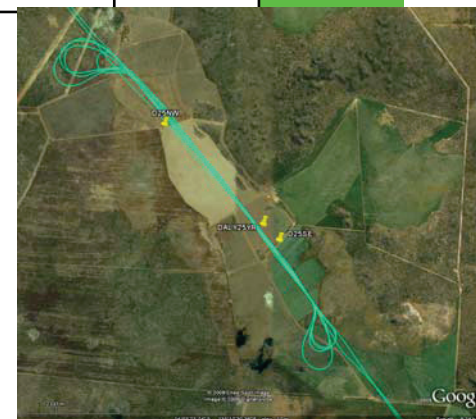
Aircraft: averages over individual transects of grid (10km – 2.5km lateral spacing)
averages over 1km around tower site and average over all transects

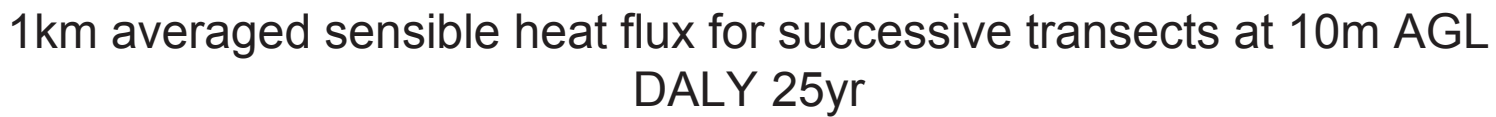


Daly 25Yr Intercomparison Transects 6 Sep

	UTC	LT	LT	H	H	H	LE	LE	LE	Cm	Cm	Cm
				W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	W/m2	umol/m2/s	umol/m2/s	umol/m2/s
		aircraft	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower	aircraft	a/c 1km	tower
DALY 25YR												
6/09/2008												
		11:33		447	375		64	226		4.8	18	
		11:36		382	479		13	3		9.5	21	
		11:39		420	635		35	152		11.7	13	
		11:42		359	300		-5	68			5	
		11:45		439	567		-21	-30			12	
		11:33-11:45	11:30	409	471	296	17	84	10		14	0.924
		15:07		200			35					
		15:10		116			18					
		15:13		138			-2					
		15:17		145			9					
		15:20		119			18					
		15:07-15:20	15:00	144		167	16		16			
			15:30			134			7			

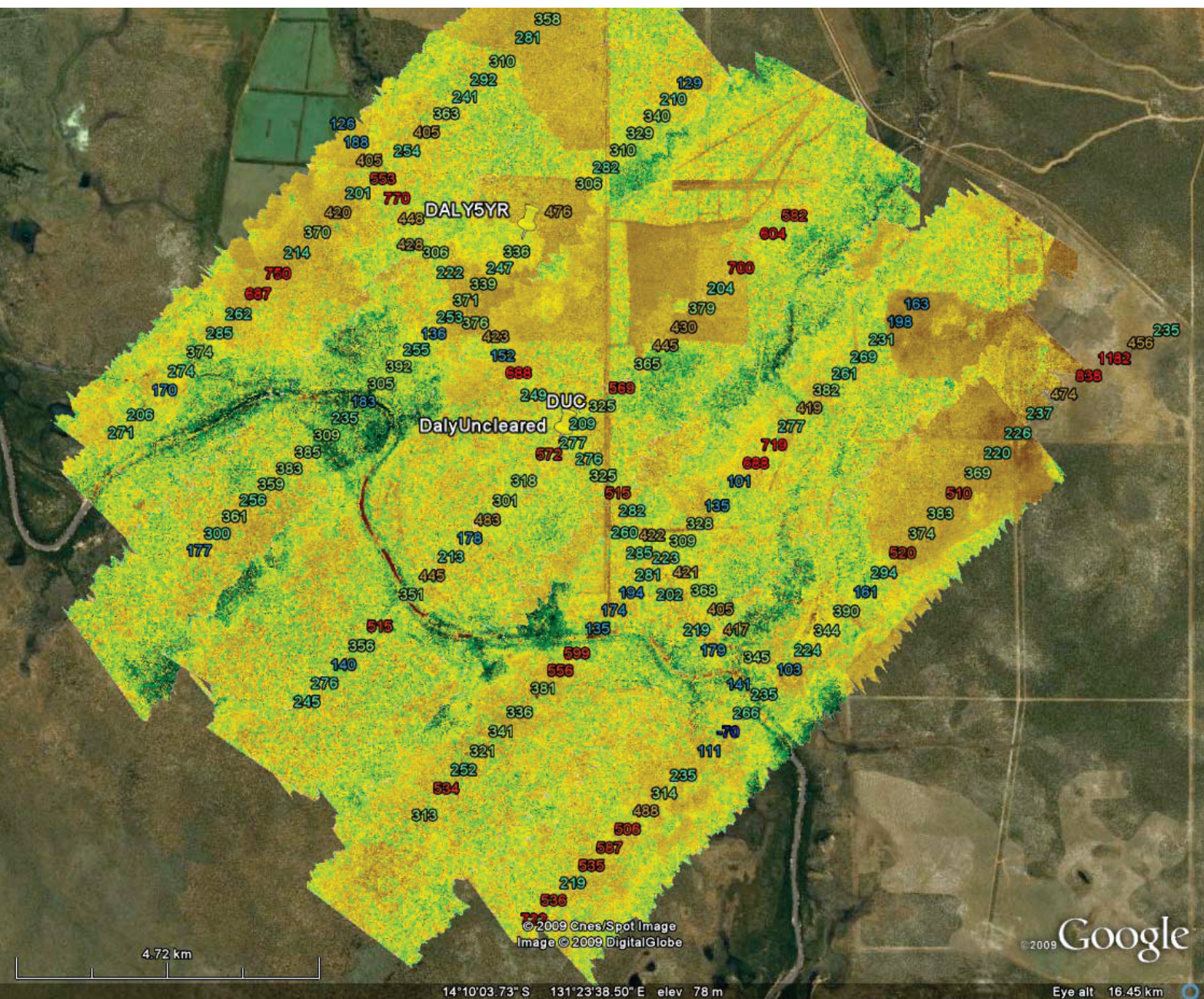
Aircraft: averages over individual transects along same track (5km),
averages over 1km around tower site and average over all transects





Grids

1km averaged sensible heat flux for DALY GRID (6 Sep – 11:50-12:30LT)

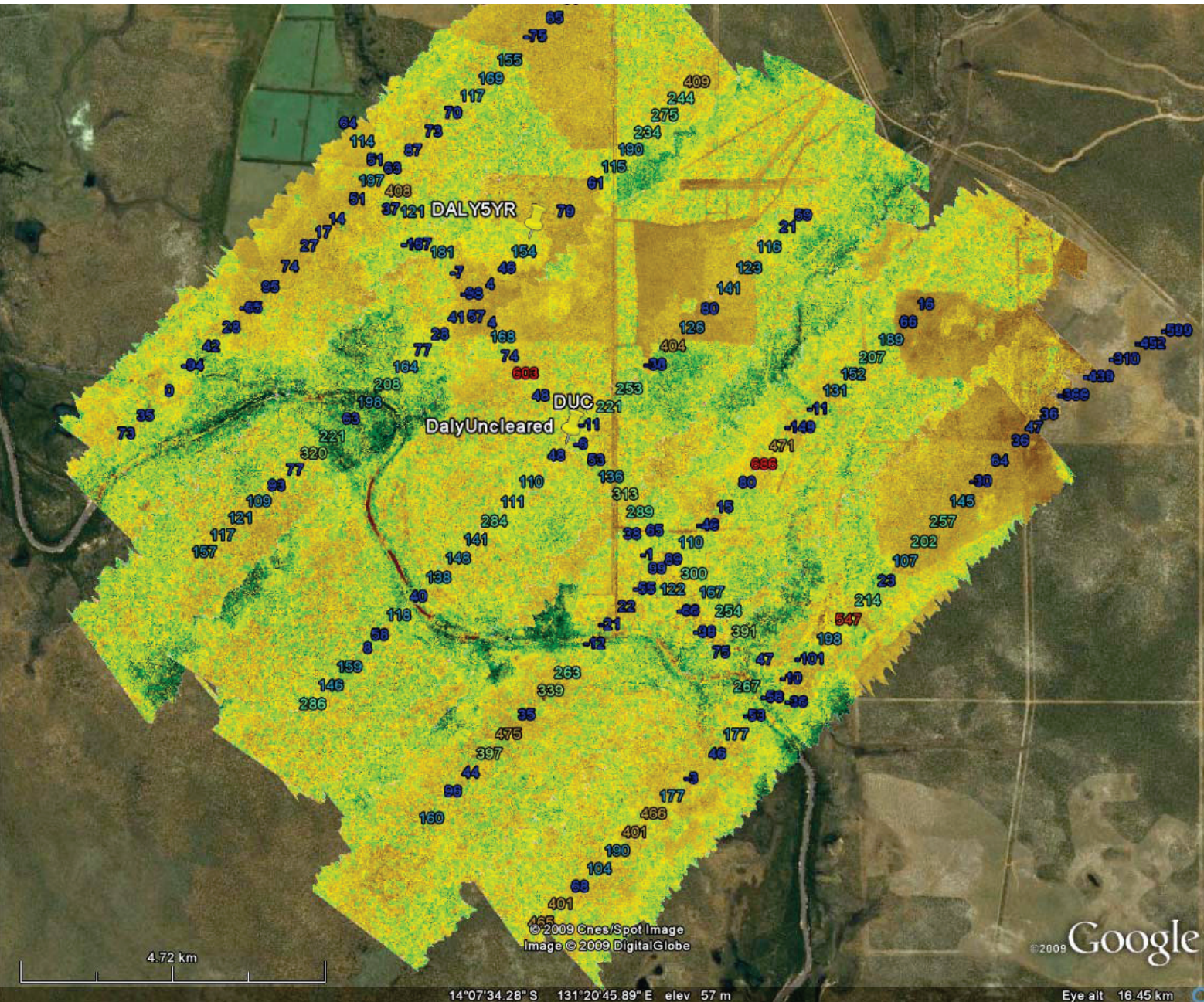


H in W/m2

ndvi



1km averaged latent heat flux for DALY GRID (6 Sep – 11:50-12:30LT)

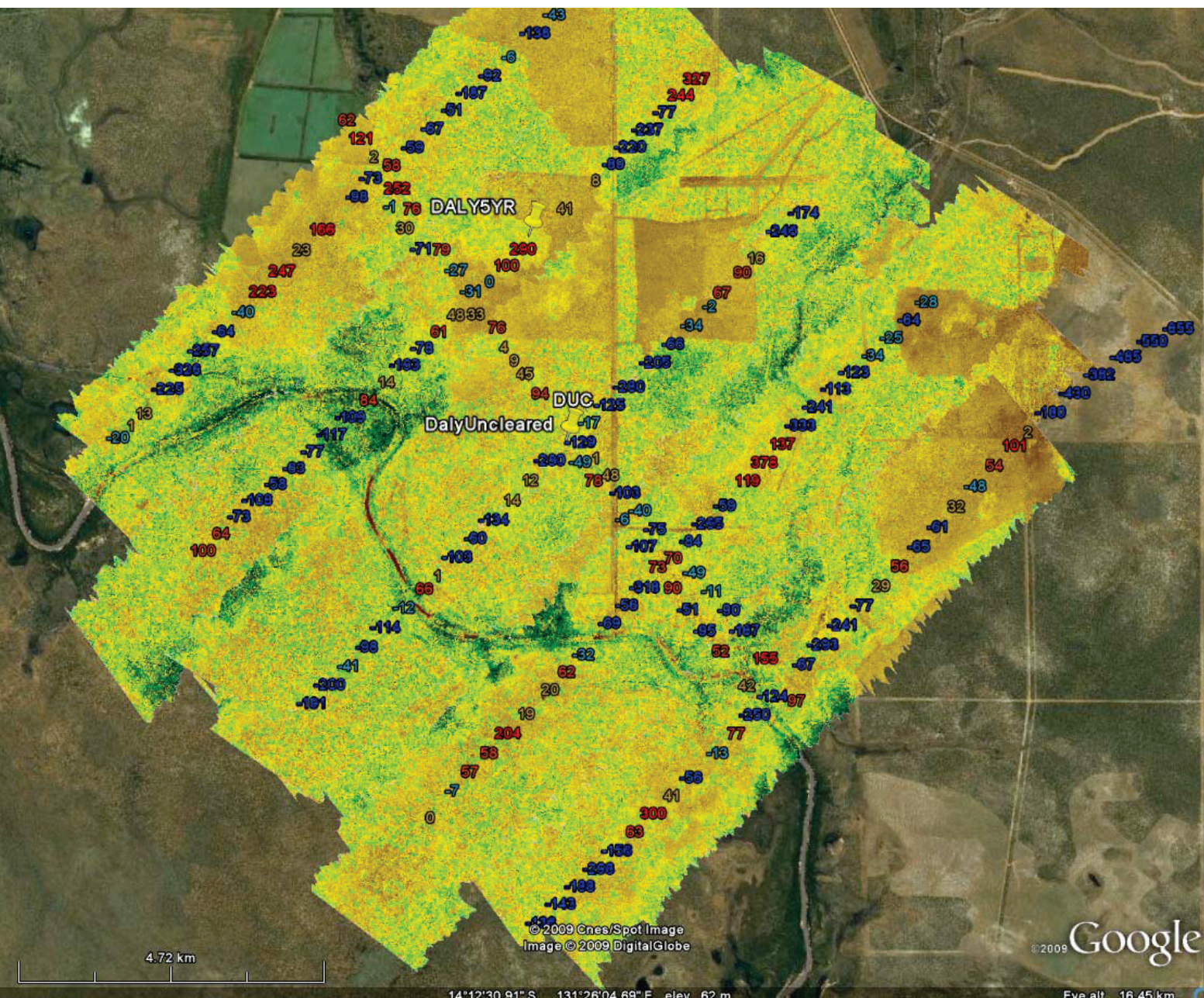


E in W/m2

ndvi



1km averaged CO2 flux for DALY GRID (6 Sep – 11:50-12:30LT)

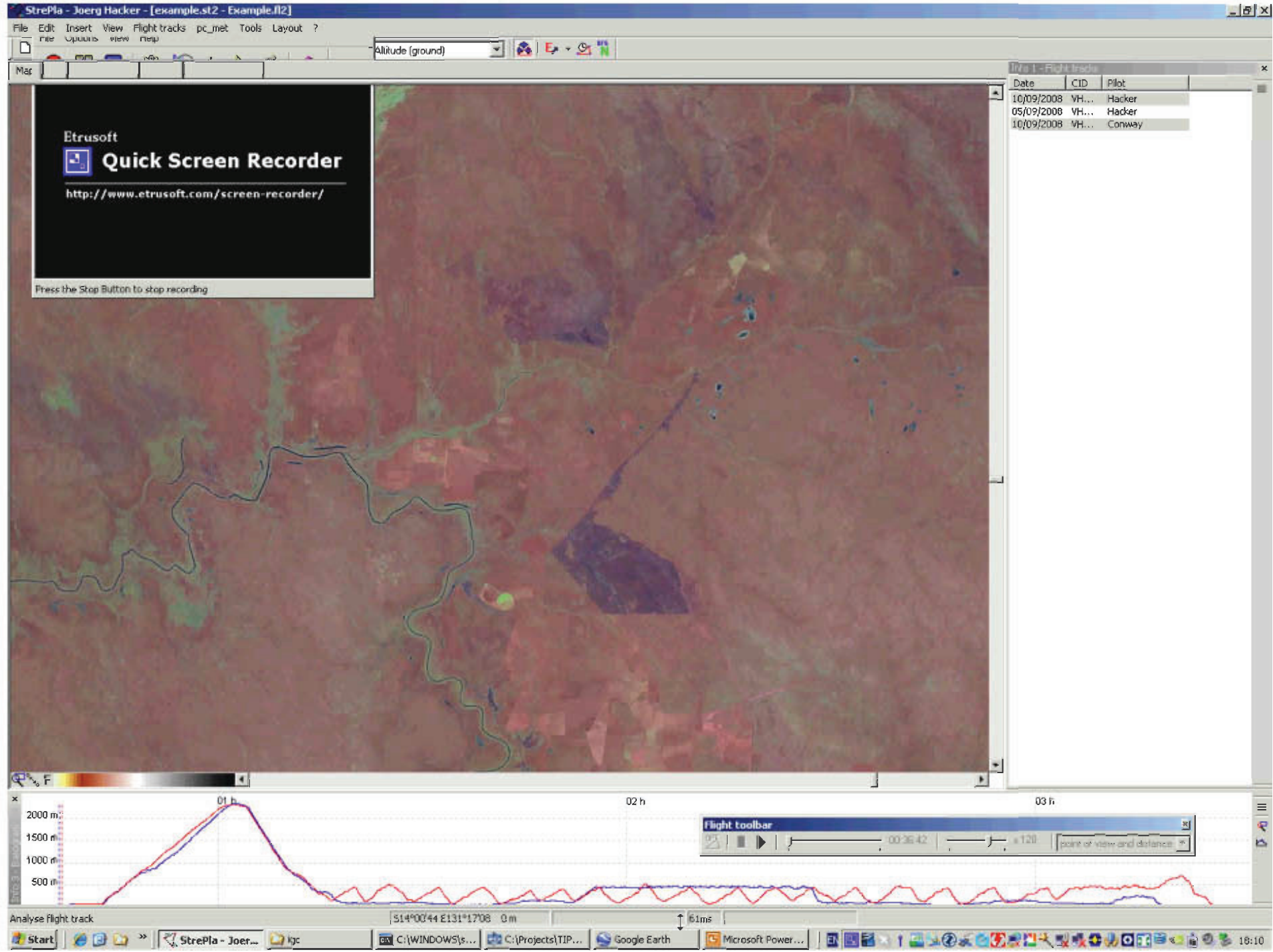


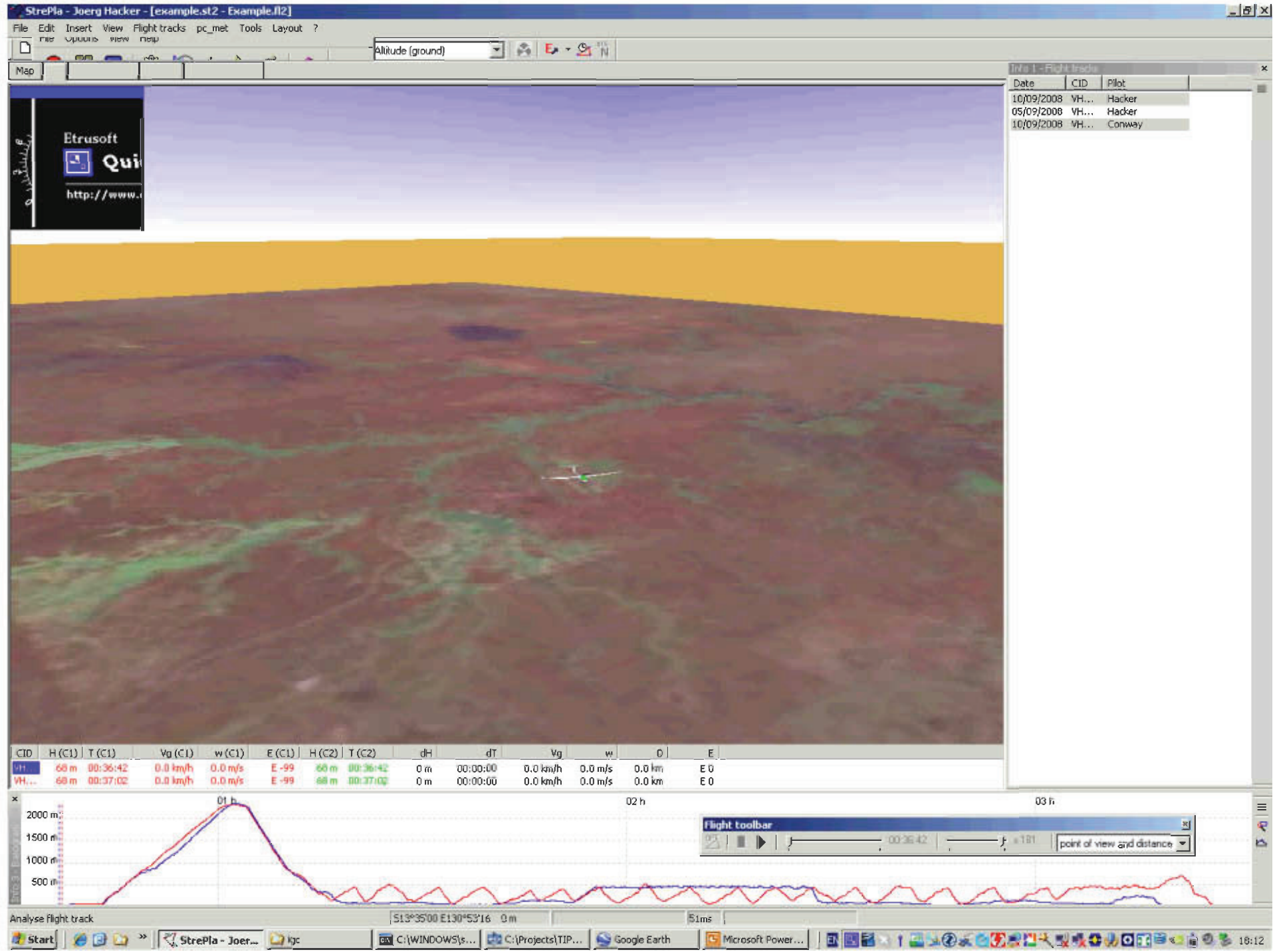
Cm in
10umol/m2/s

ndvi



Budget Circles



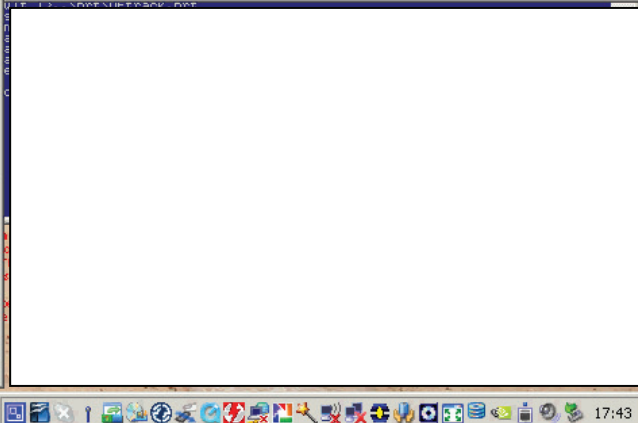
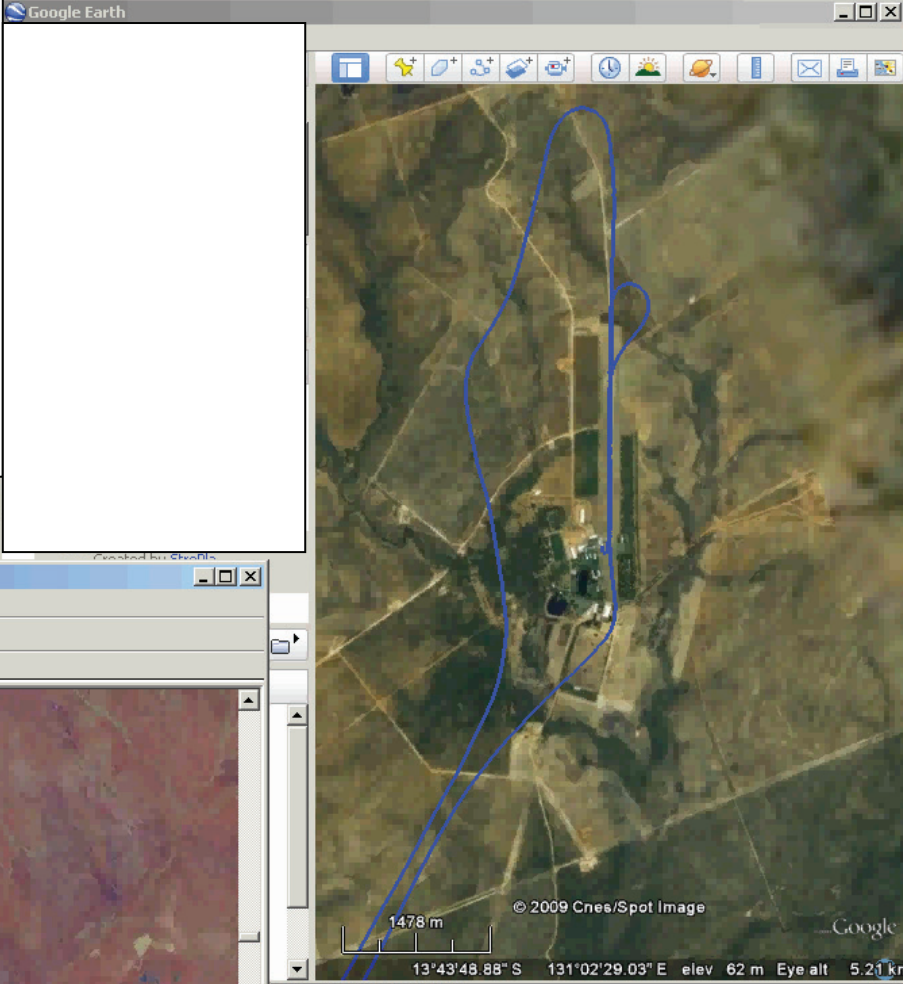
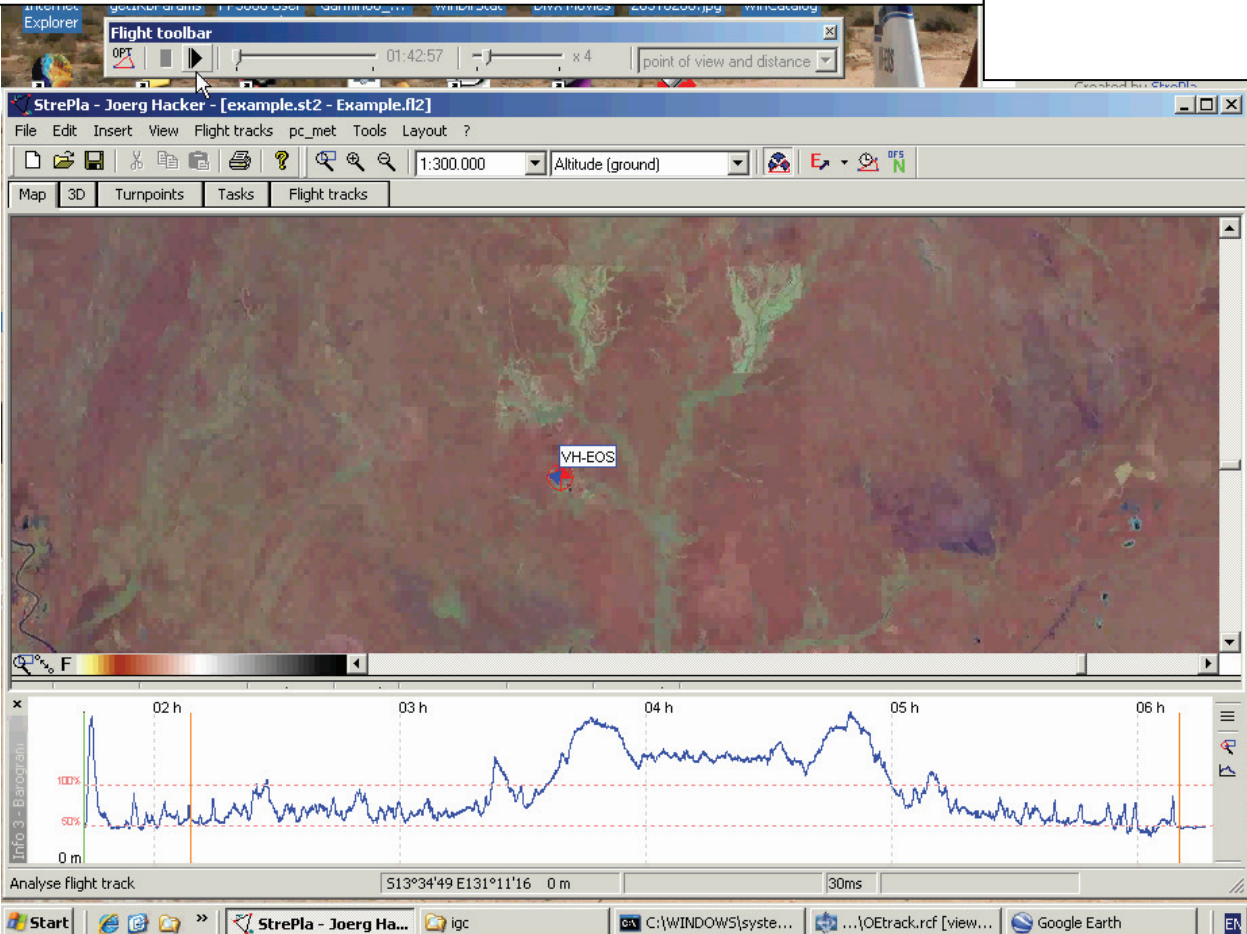


“Re-flying” the patterns

“Re-flying” the pattern using a combination of:

- Google Earth and
- StrePla (gliding software) –
to be modified to display measured and derived parameters,
such as fluxes (currently only showing altitude);
also use lidar/tri-spectral/hyper-spectral/other
as background maps

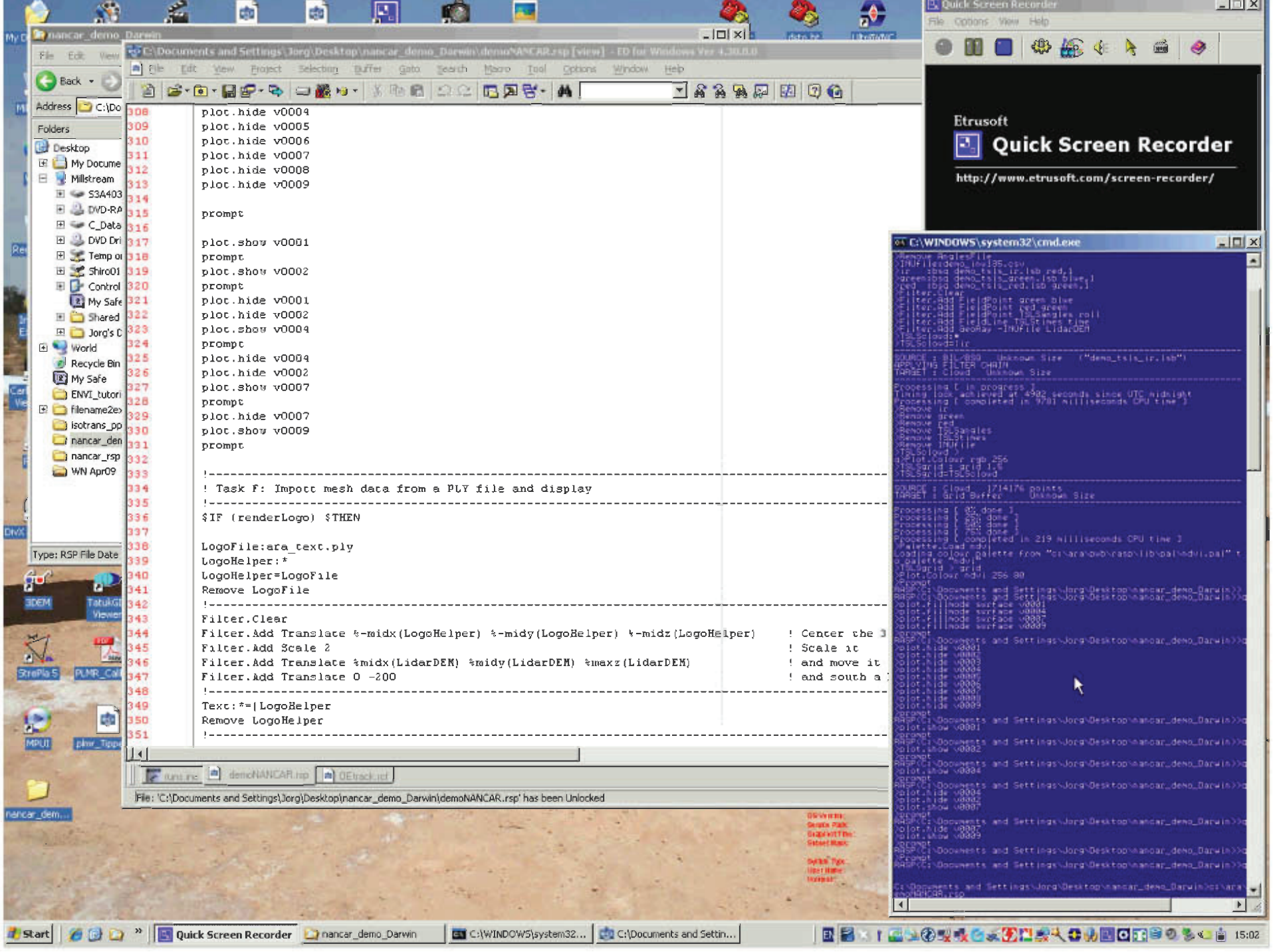
Non-aircraft-derived parameters could also be included



RASP

Data from less than 5 mins of flight in Sep 09 over the Daly River:

- **wLIDAR**
- **Tri-spectral scanner**
- **hyper-spectral scanner**
- **hi-res digital photography**



RASP

Open Source

Written in Free Pascal

Runs under Windows, Linux, MacOS, others

**Paired with ARA's two other opens source packages (RAMF/R12 and PPREP)
It offers a totally integrated system to process and combine all ARA aircraft data
To a stage, where “scientific” processing can start (and beyond)**

**Batch/script-driven
Rudimentary GUI**

Conclusions

- Aircraft-derived flux measurements are very different to tower-based ones
- need to inspect every transect and make subjective decision about validity
- there is no “standard” method to compute fluxes
- needs to be tied to landscape parameters – visualisation essential – interactive process
- great potential to study “convective processes in the landscape”
- no other flux tool can do that
- especially in combination with other measurements derived simultaneously
 - laser altimeter; lidar; tri/hyper-spectral scanners; micro-wave scanners
 - complex processing – no standards available
- change of turbulence structure depending on landscape parameters

In summary: There is a lot more that ****CAN**** be done with this data than is being done !!