


Rim Fire Simulated in CESM/CARMA

A firefighter in full gear, including a yellow helmet and a large black backpack, stands with their back to the camera, looking towards a large, intense fire. The fire is bright orange and yellow, with thick smoke rising into the sky. The scene is set in a dry, brushy area.

Pengfei Yu¹, Owen Brian Toon¹, Charles Bardeen², Pablo Saide³
LARGE Team, AMS Team, HDSP2 Team, CRDS Team

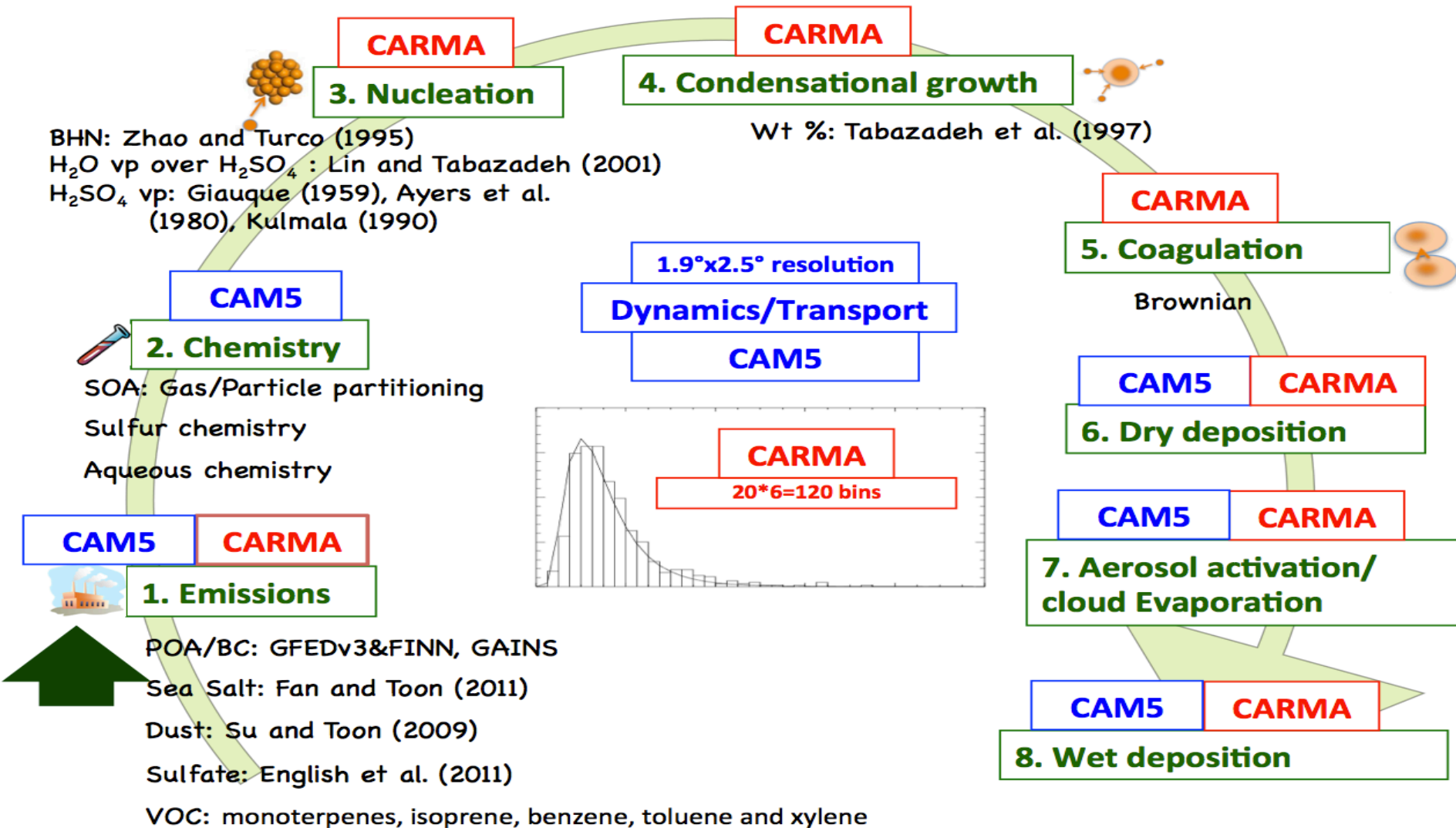
¹ATOC, LASP, University of Colorado at Boulder

²NCAR, ³University of Iowa

June 2015, CESM Workshop

CARMA is a Sectional Aerosol Microphysics/ radiation model coupled with CAM5

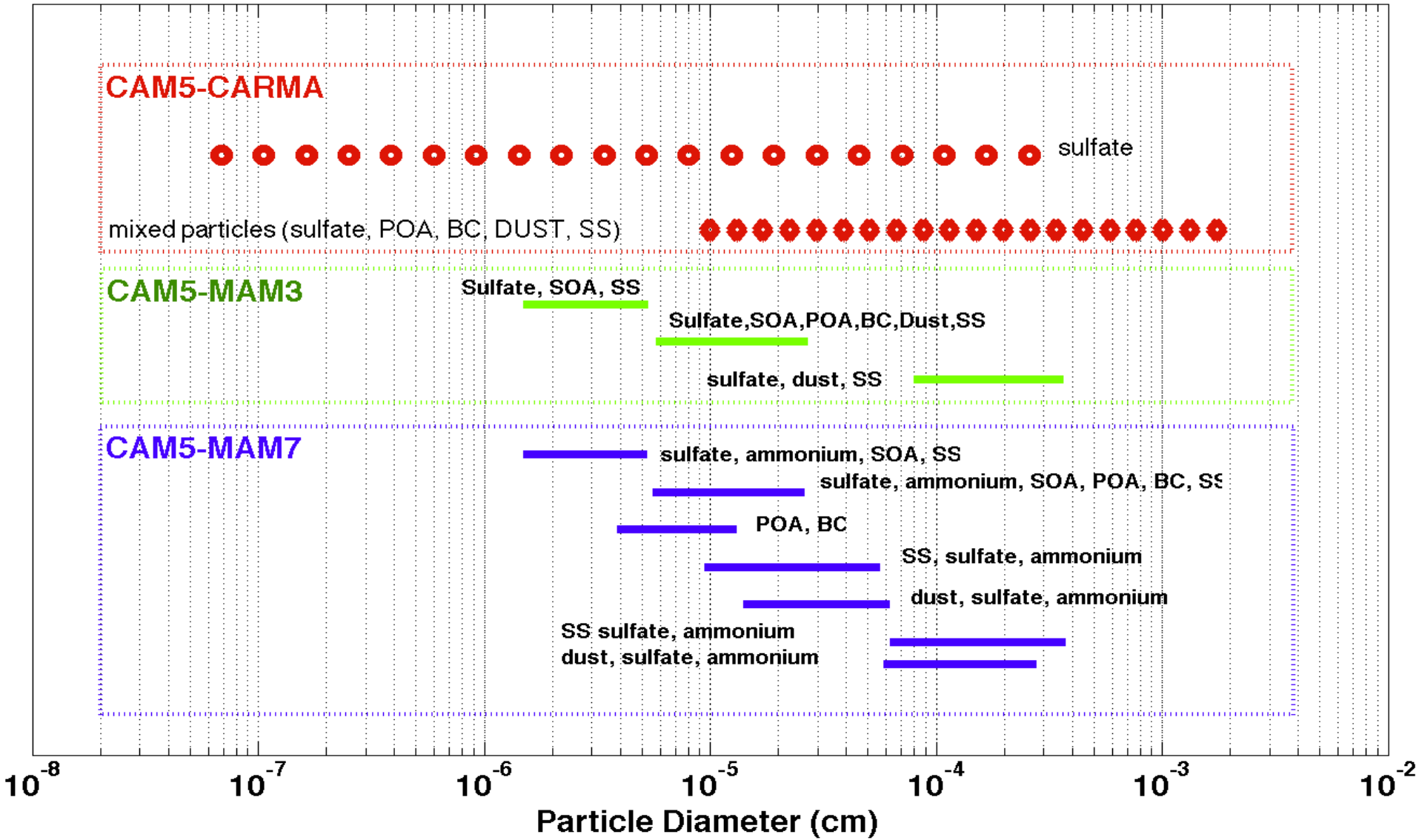
CAM5/CARMA Model



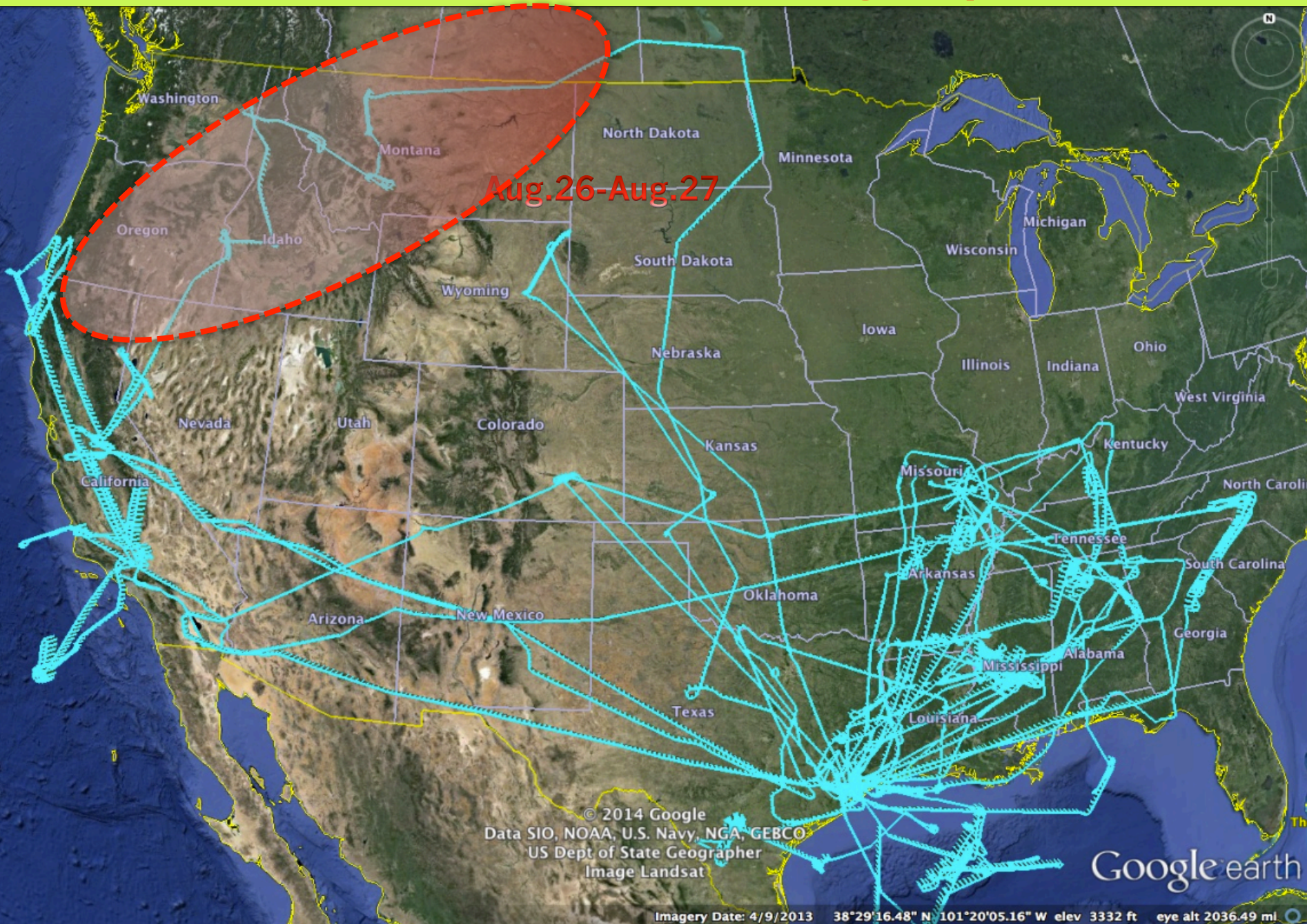
CARMA is coupled with CAM5 by Charles Bardeen, ACD, NCAR

CARMA has wider size range of aerosols than MAM

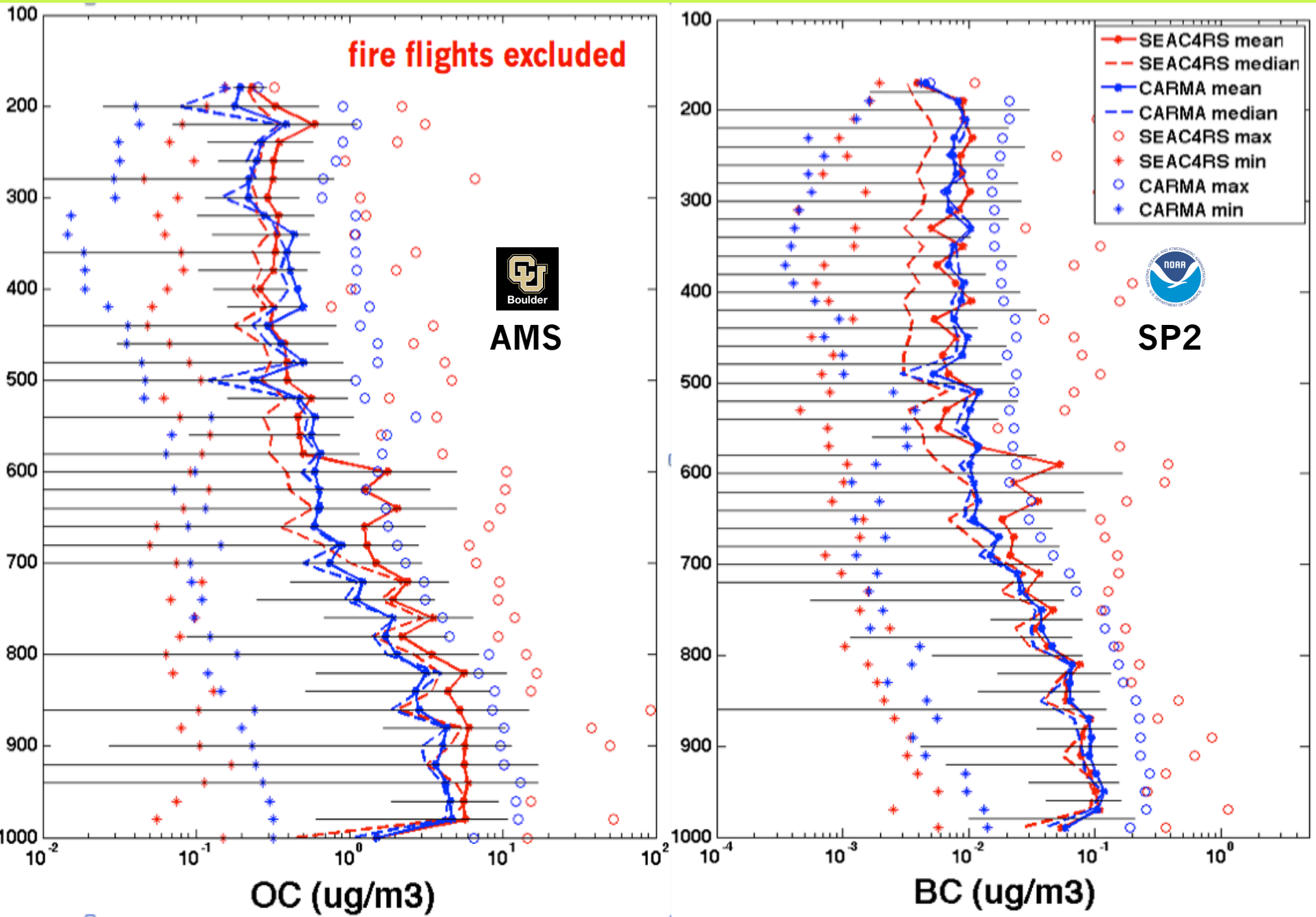
POA includes biomass burning organics, anthropogenic organics, marine organics and biological particles.



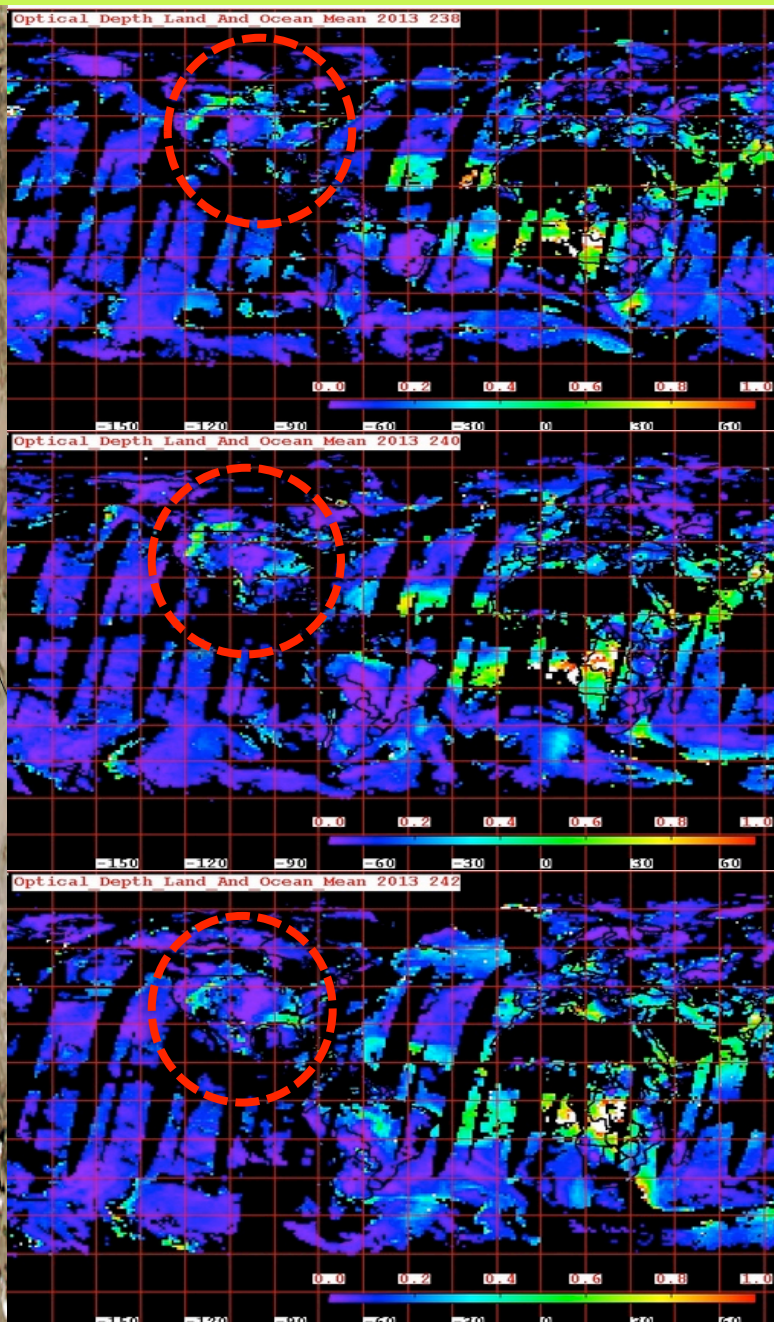
SEAC⁴RS - Southeast US: Aug-Sep, 2013



Model captures OC/BC in troposphere



MODIS shows Rim Fire plumes, Aug.2013



Aug.26

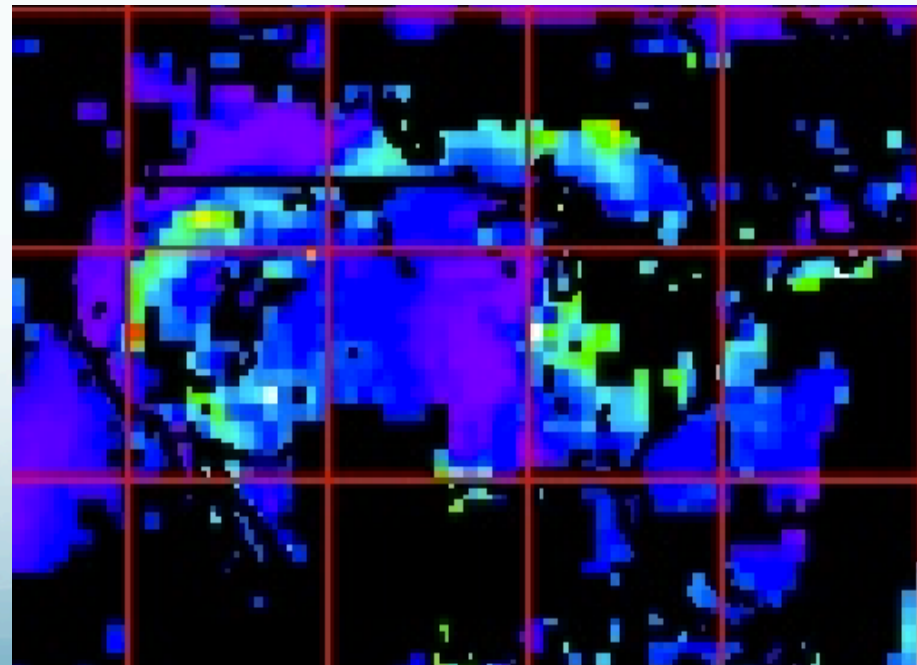
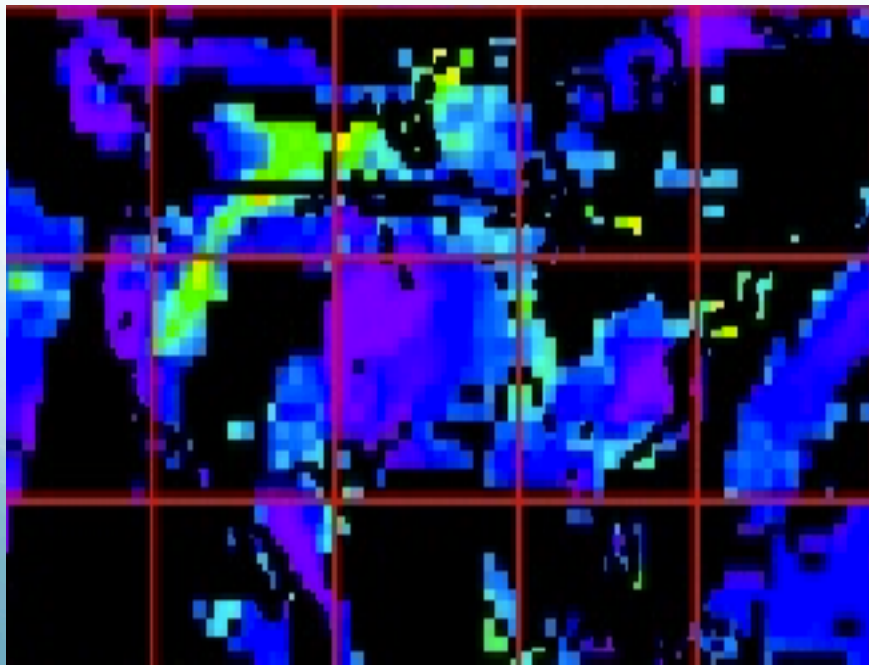
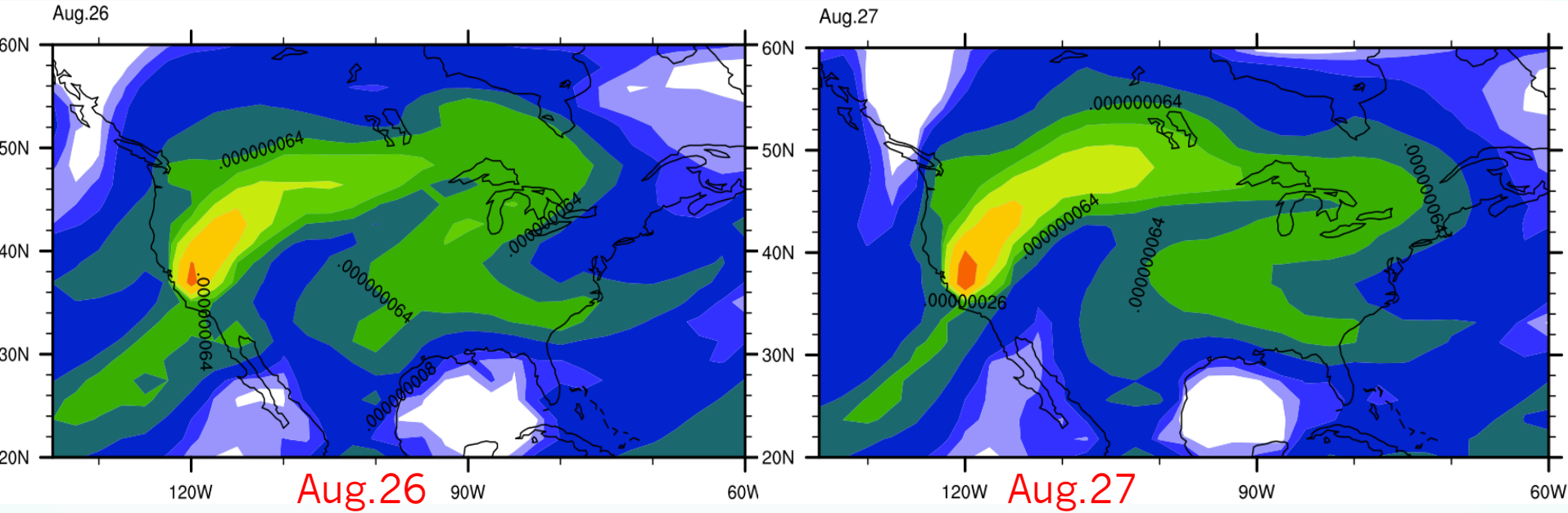
Aug.28

Aug.30

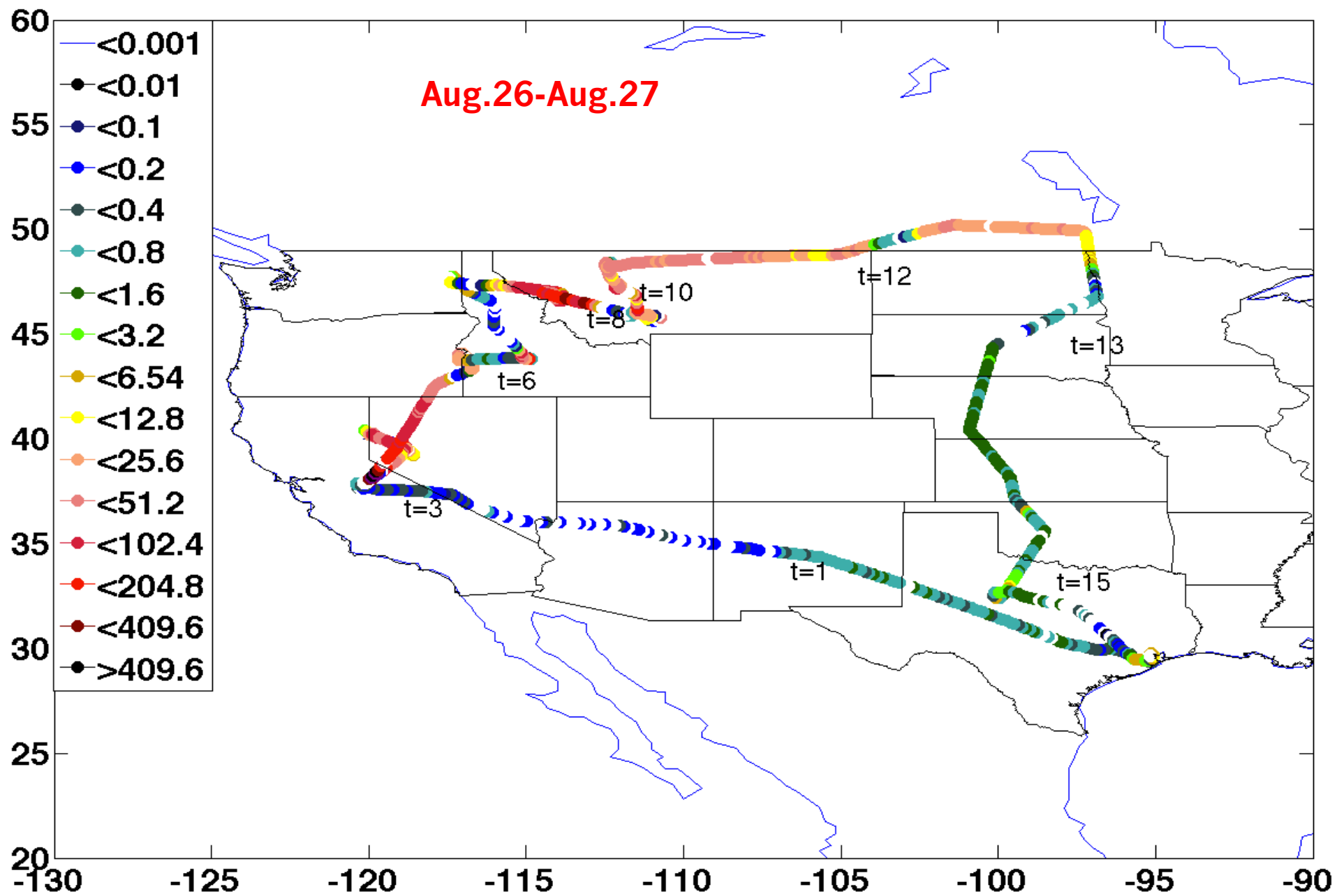
Conclusions in this Talk

- **Injecting** Rim Fire emission at 600-700 mb;
- CARMA predicts Rim Fire Aerosol **Mass** within data variability;
- CARMA predicts Rim Fire Aerosol **Number** within data variability;
- Rim Fire Aerosol is roughly 0.1-0.2 μm in **Radius**;
- CARMA predicts Rim Fire Aerosol **Surface Area** and **Volume** within data variability;
- CARMA underestimates Rim Fire **Extinction** by a factor of 5;
- POA **Aging** Process is not modeled.

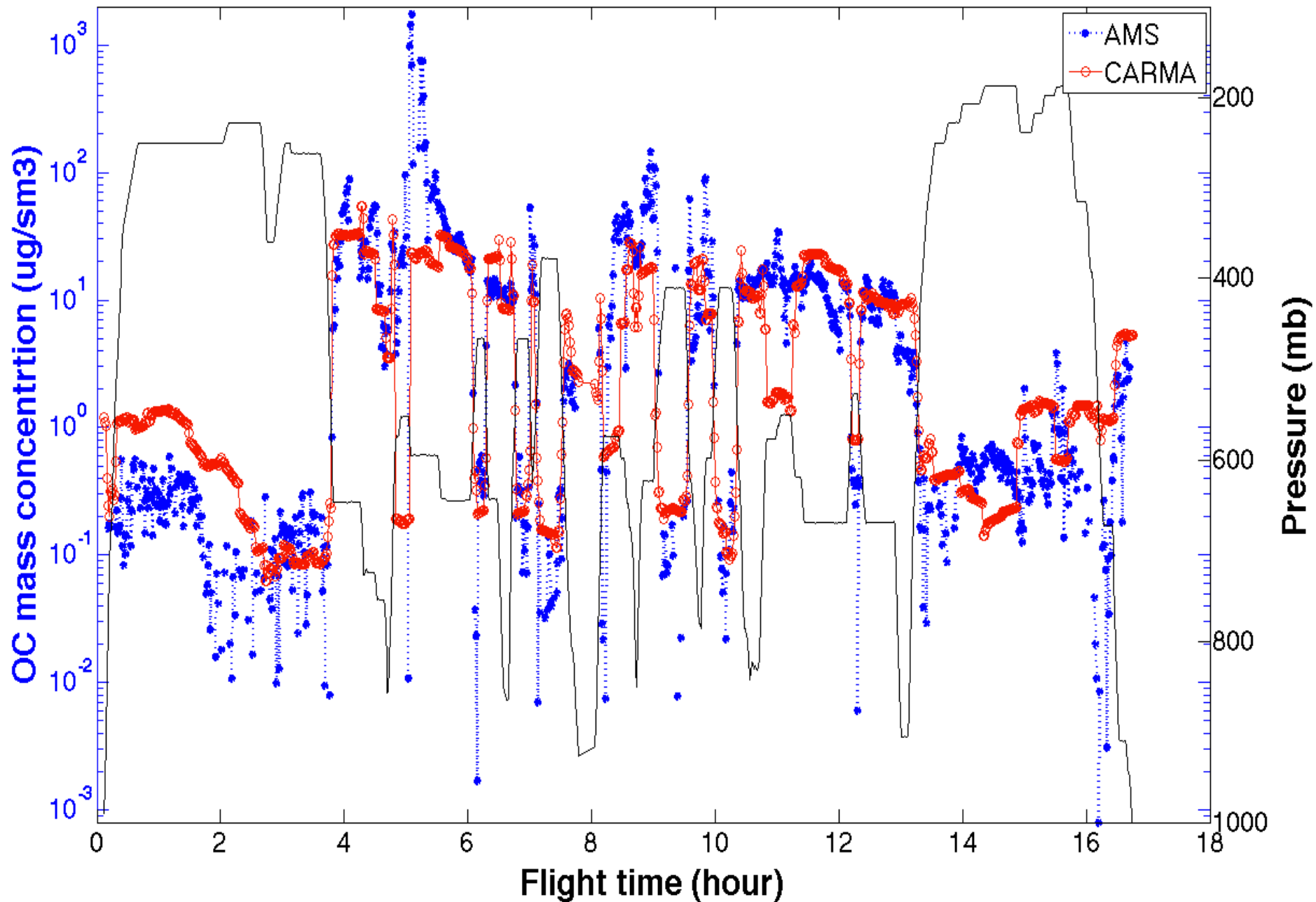
CARMA shows transport of Rim fire smoke



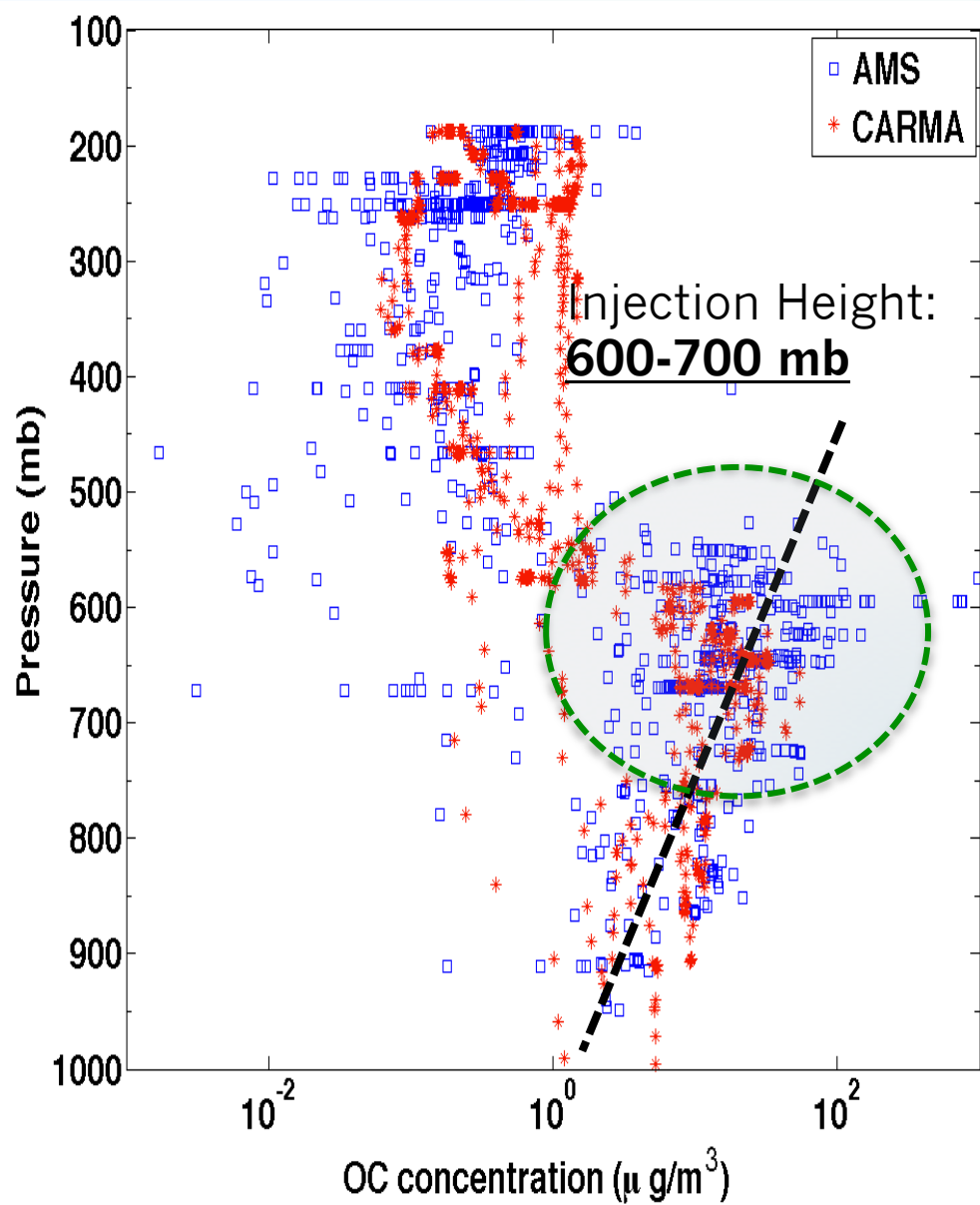
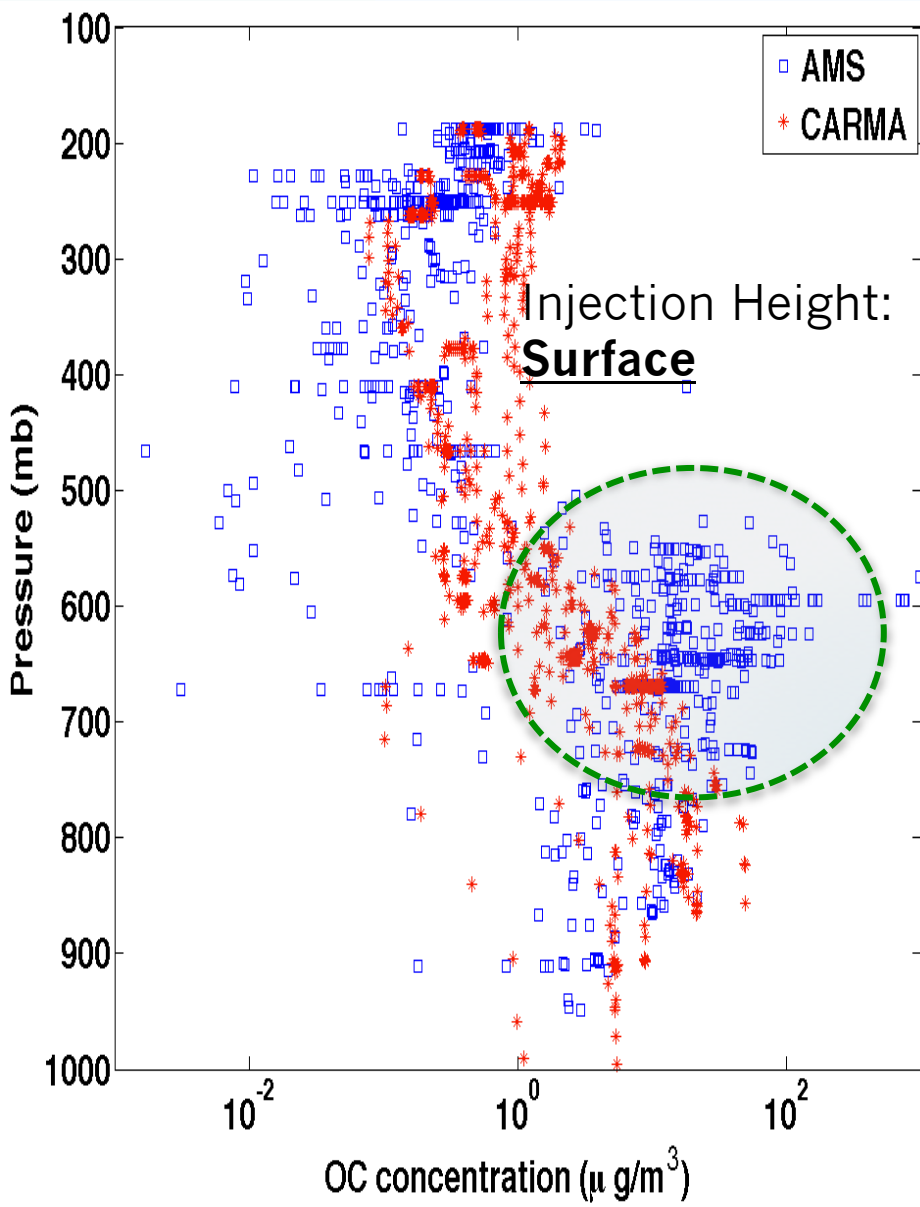
Flight tracks and OC concentrations



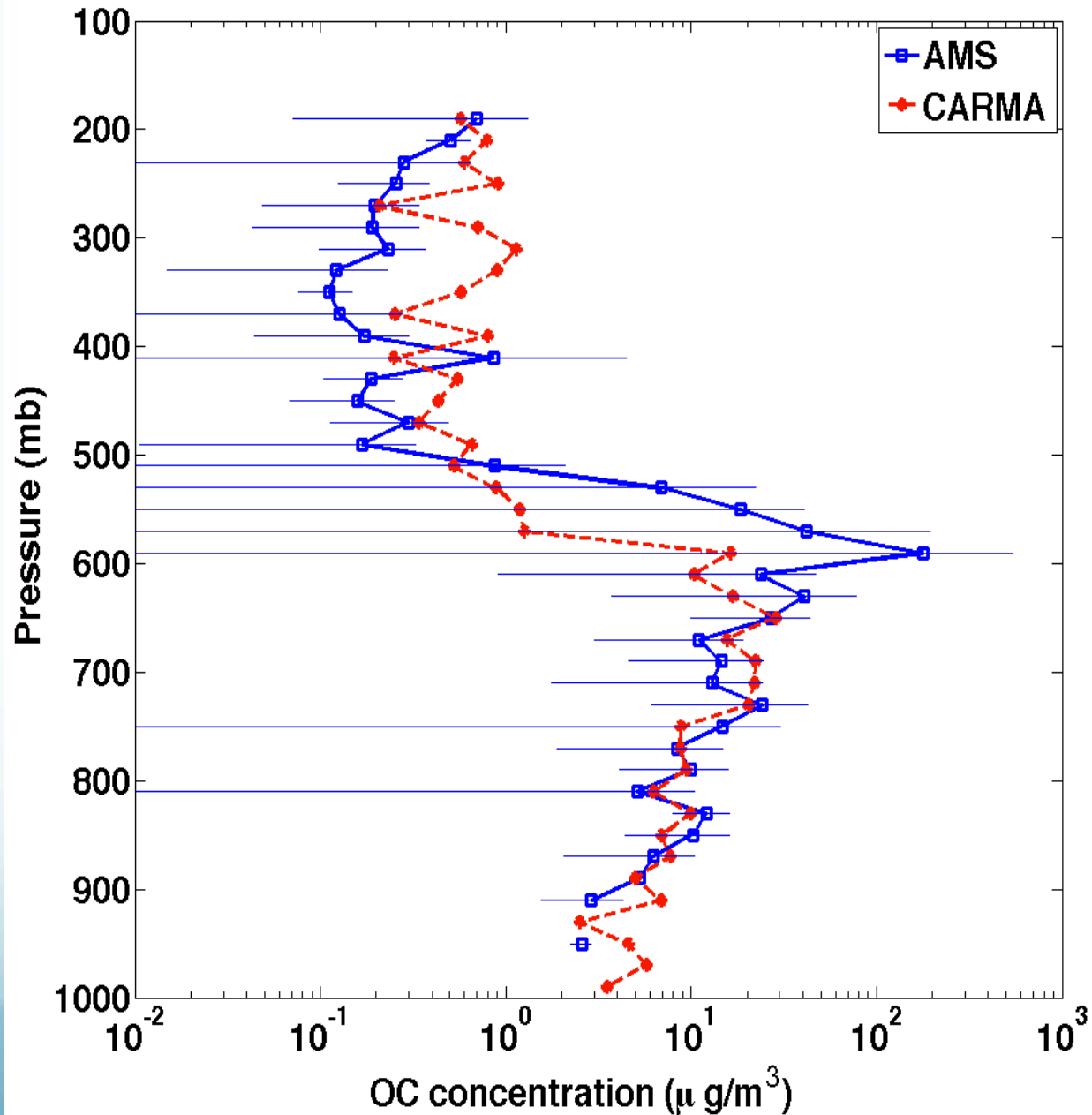
CARMA missed extreme values of organics



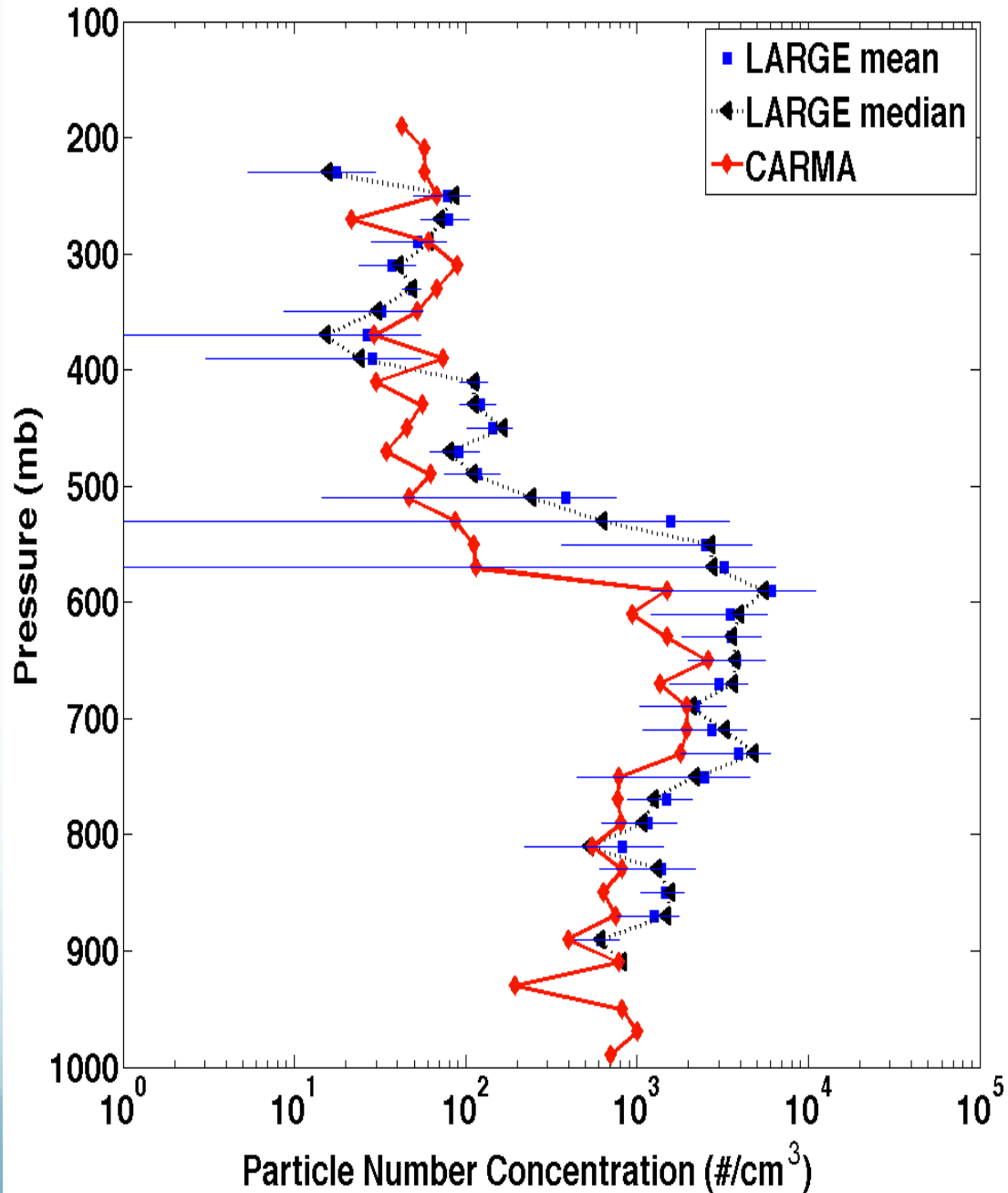
Putting fire emission into 600-700 mb gives better performance



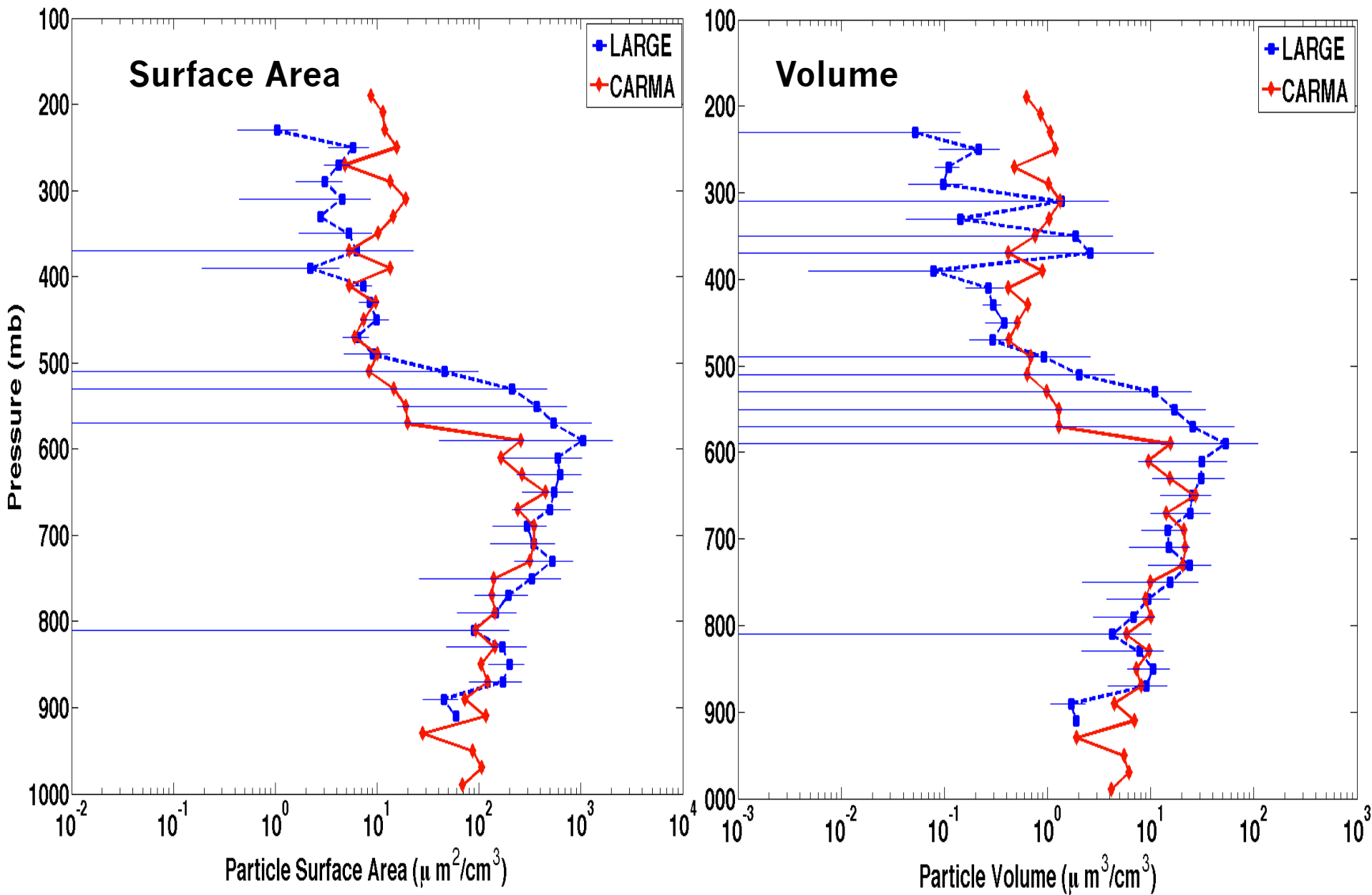
Putting fire emission into 600-700 mb gives better performance



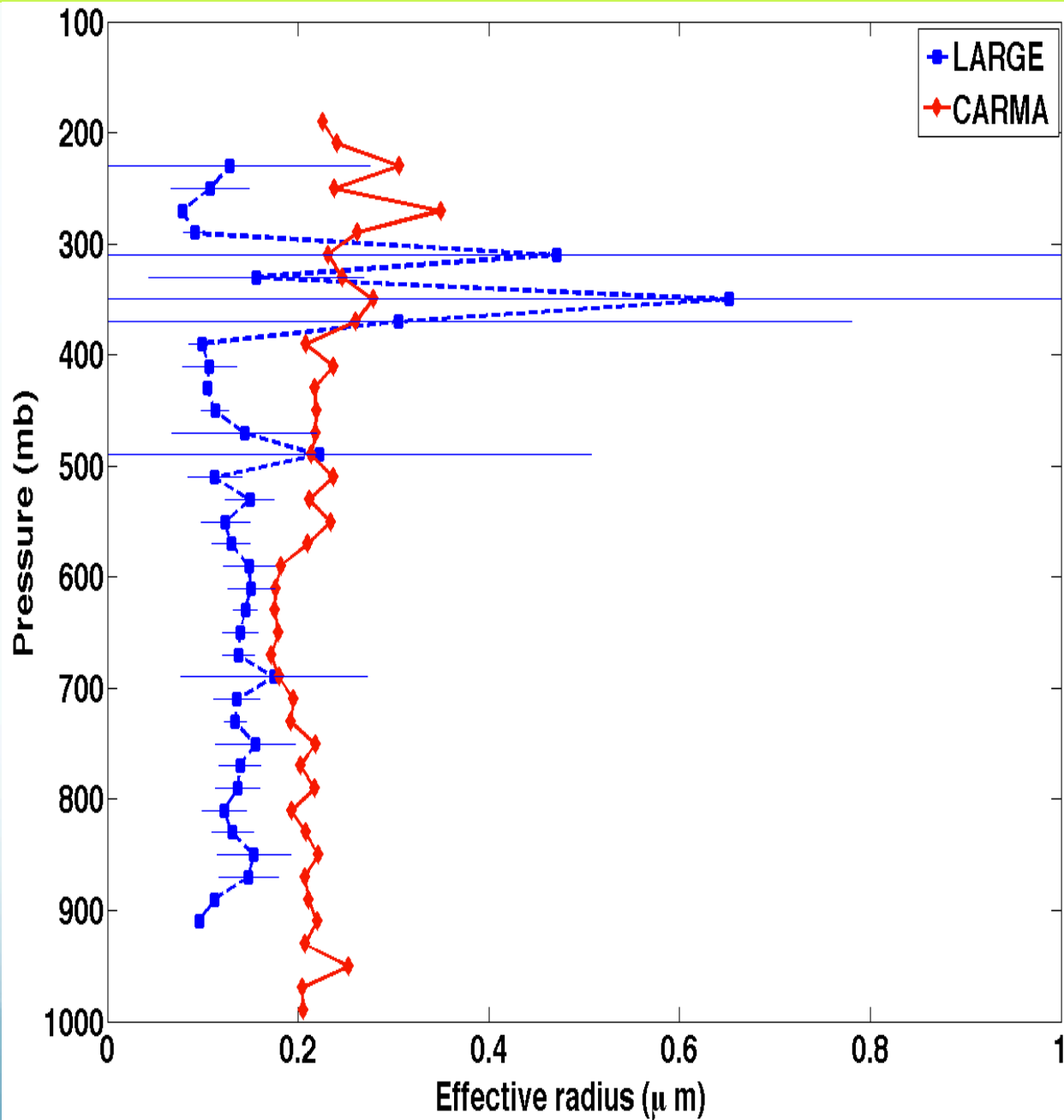
Model Captures Particle Number Concentration



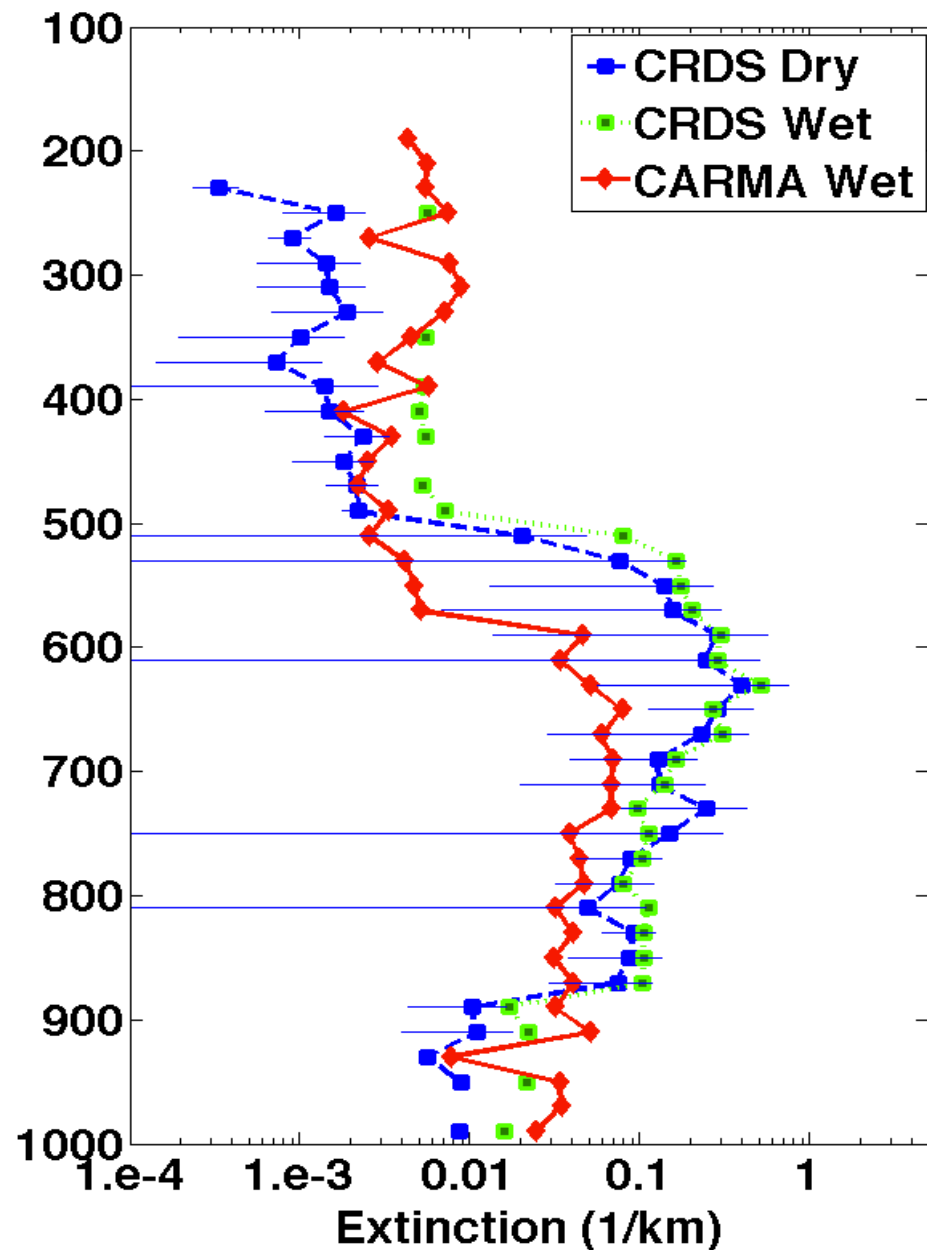
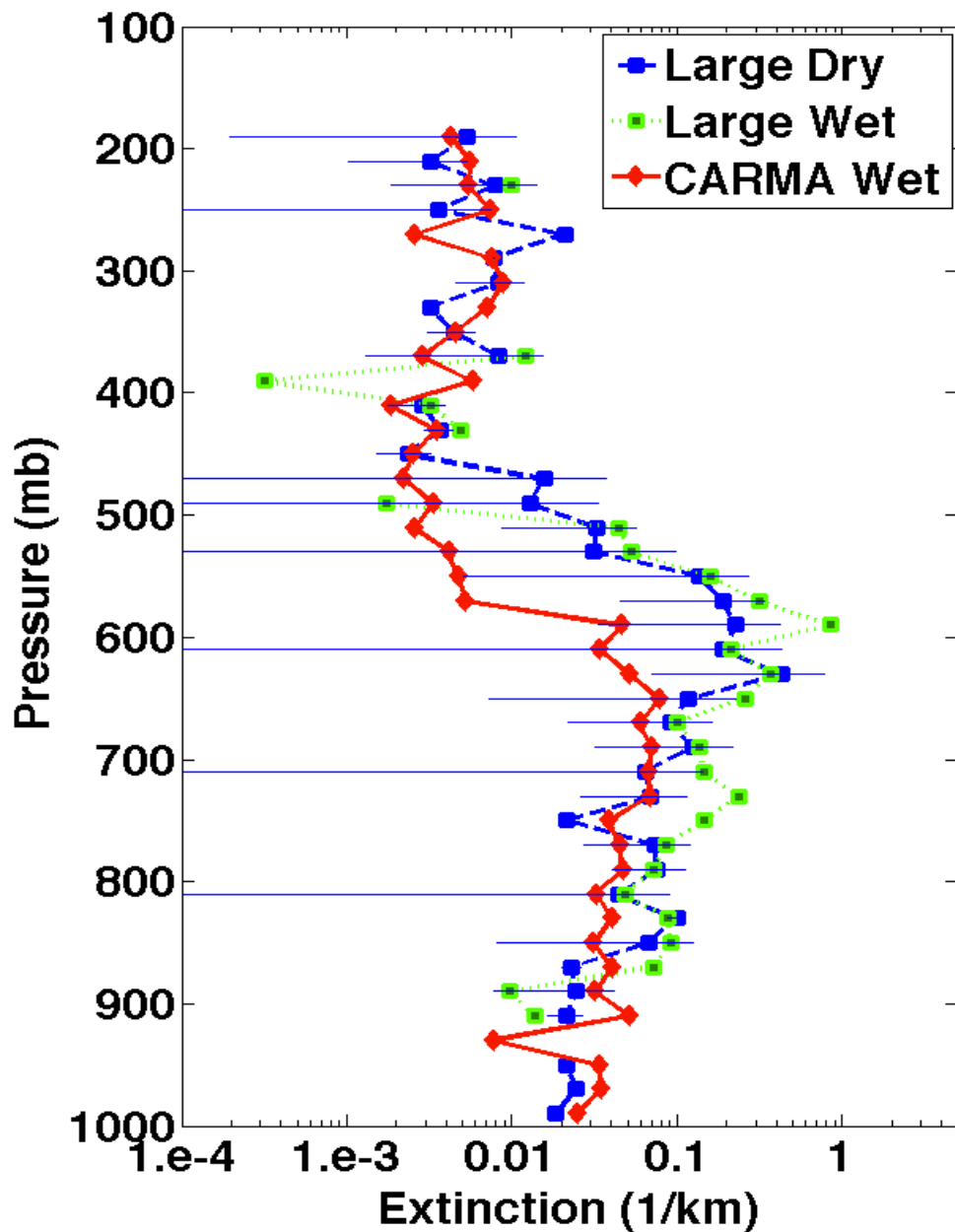
Model Captures Particle Surface Area and Volume Density



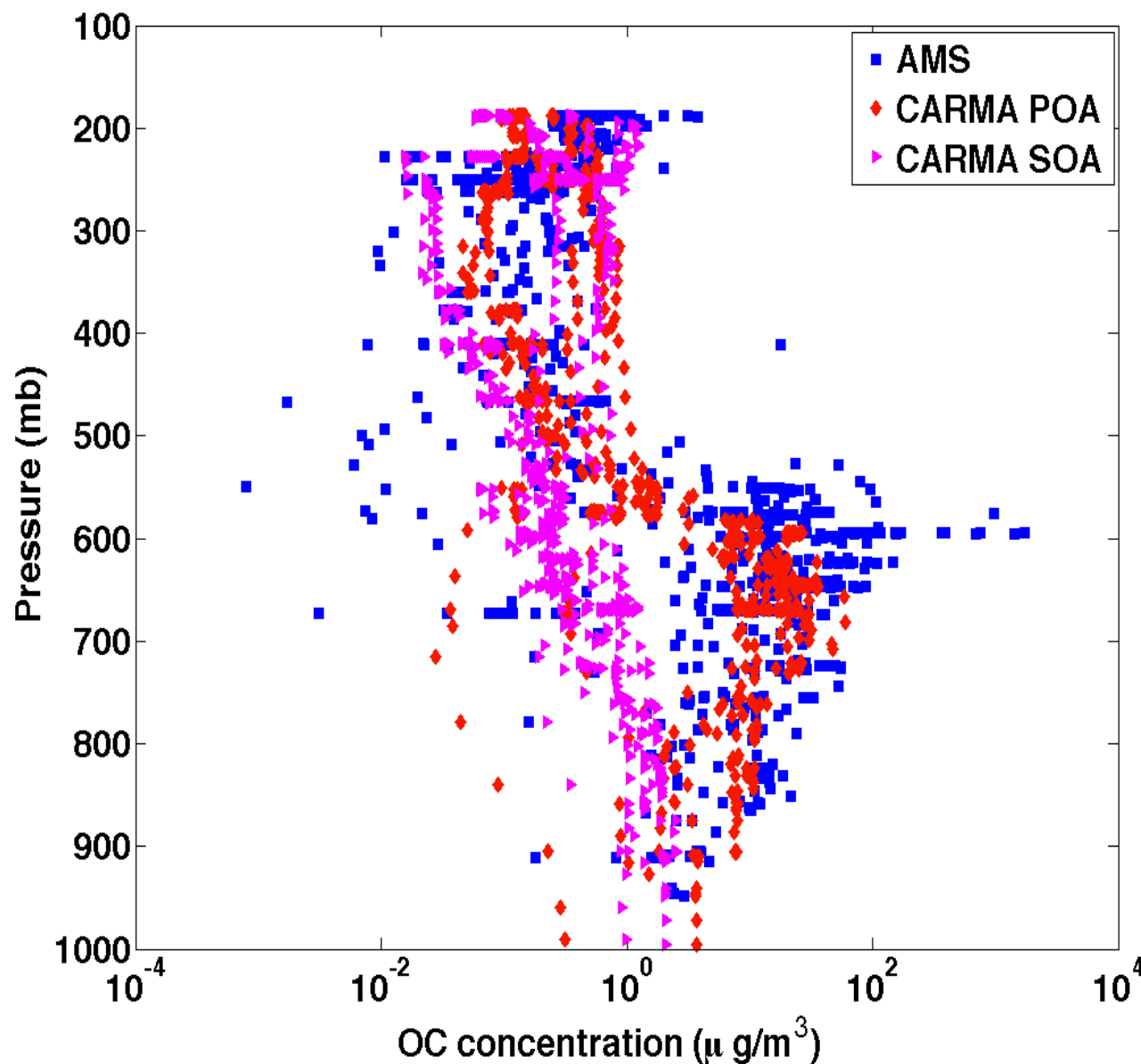
Effective radius of Rim Fire Smoke is 0.1-0.2 μm



Model underestimates Aerosol Extinction at 600-700 mb from NASA LARGE and NOAA CRDS



SOA contributes to ~1% of Rim Fire Smoke by mass; SOA dominates in Upper Troposphere



CARMA only consider SOA partitioning

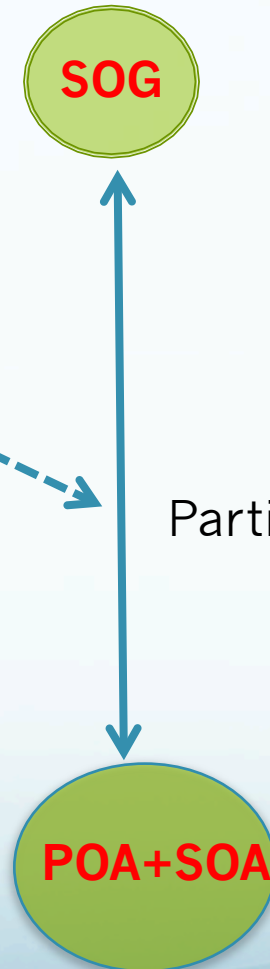
Type I

CARMA NO



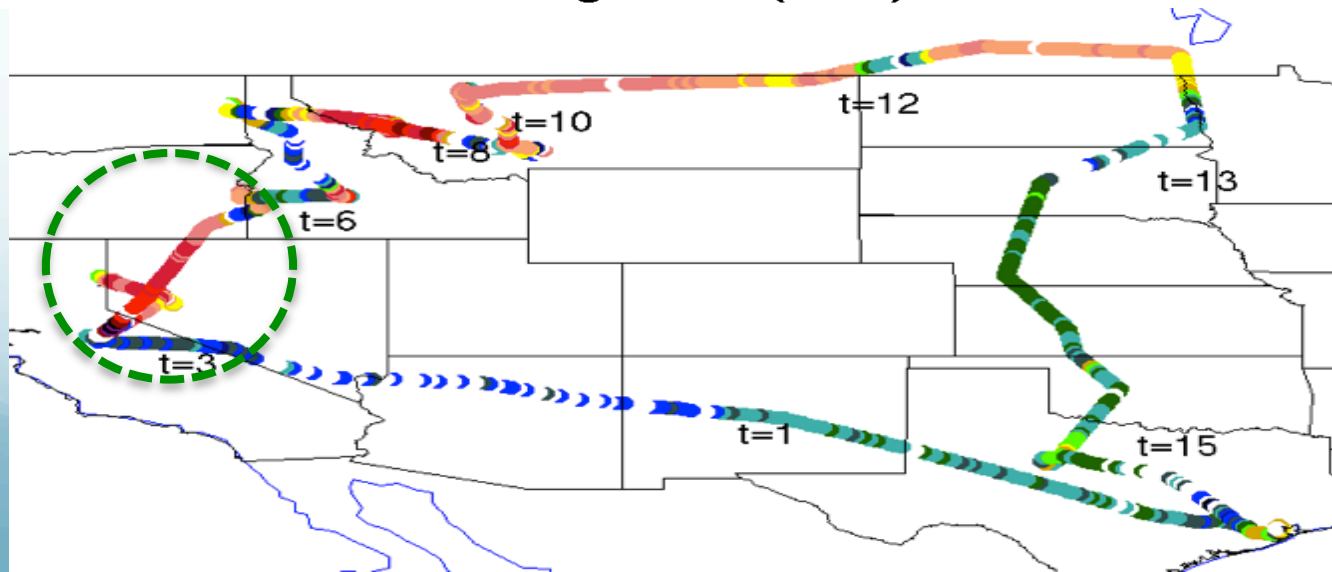
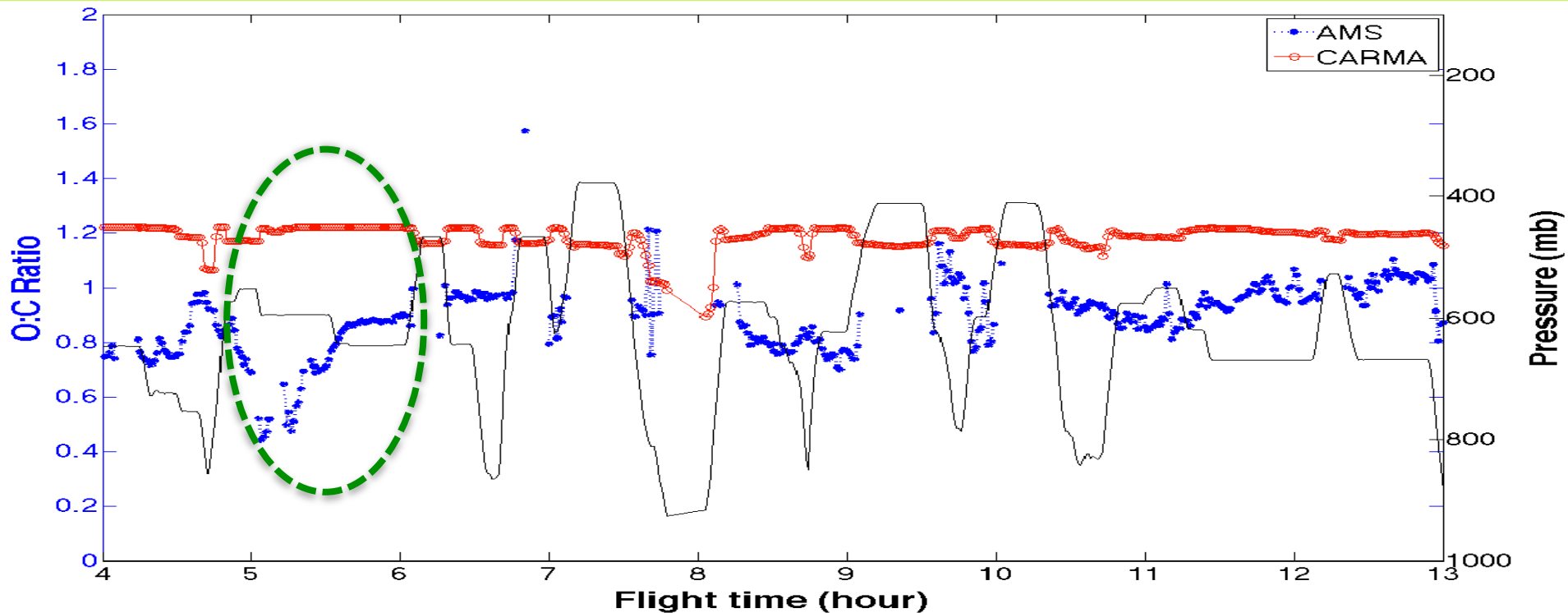
Type II

CARMA YES



Robinson et al., 2007, Science

Model injected Aged Smoke



Conclusions

- **CARMA can reproduce aerosol mass and number concentrations of rim fires with data's variability;**
- **Putting smoke emission in 600-700 mb gives better model performance.**
- **CARMA underestimates aerosol extinction coefficients;**
- **CARMA reproduces aerosol surface area and volume; the effective radius is 0.1-0.2 μm .**
- **CARMA does show regional transport of smoke as observed by MODIS**
- **CARMA injected aged smoke.**



THANKS

Contact Info:



Pengfei Yu

pengfei.yu@colorado.edu

University of Colorado, Boulder



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Christine Wiedinmyer (NCAR)

Yellowstone (NSF&NCAR)

@ Houston, SEAC⁴RS, Sep.2013



Putting fire emission into 600-700 mb gives better performance

