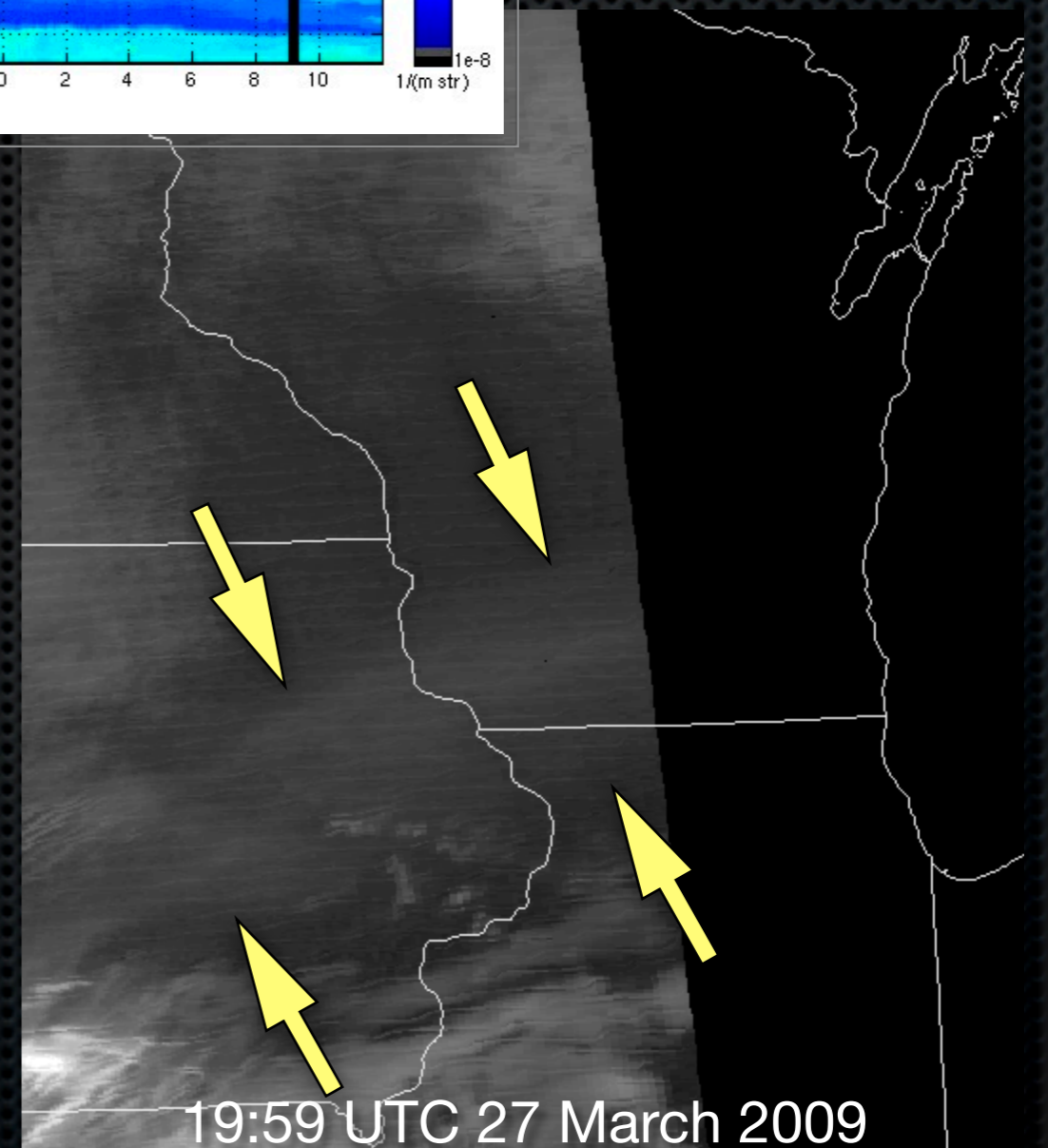
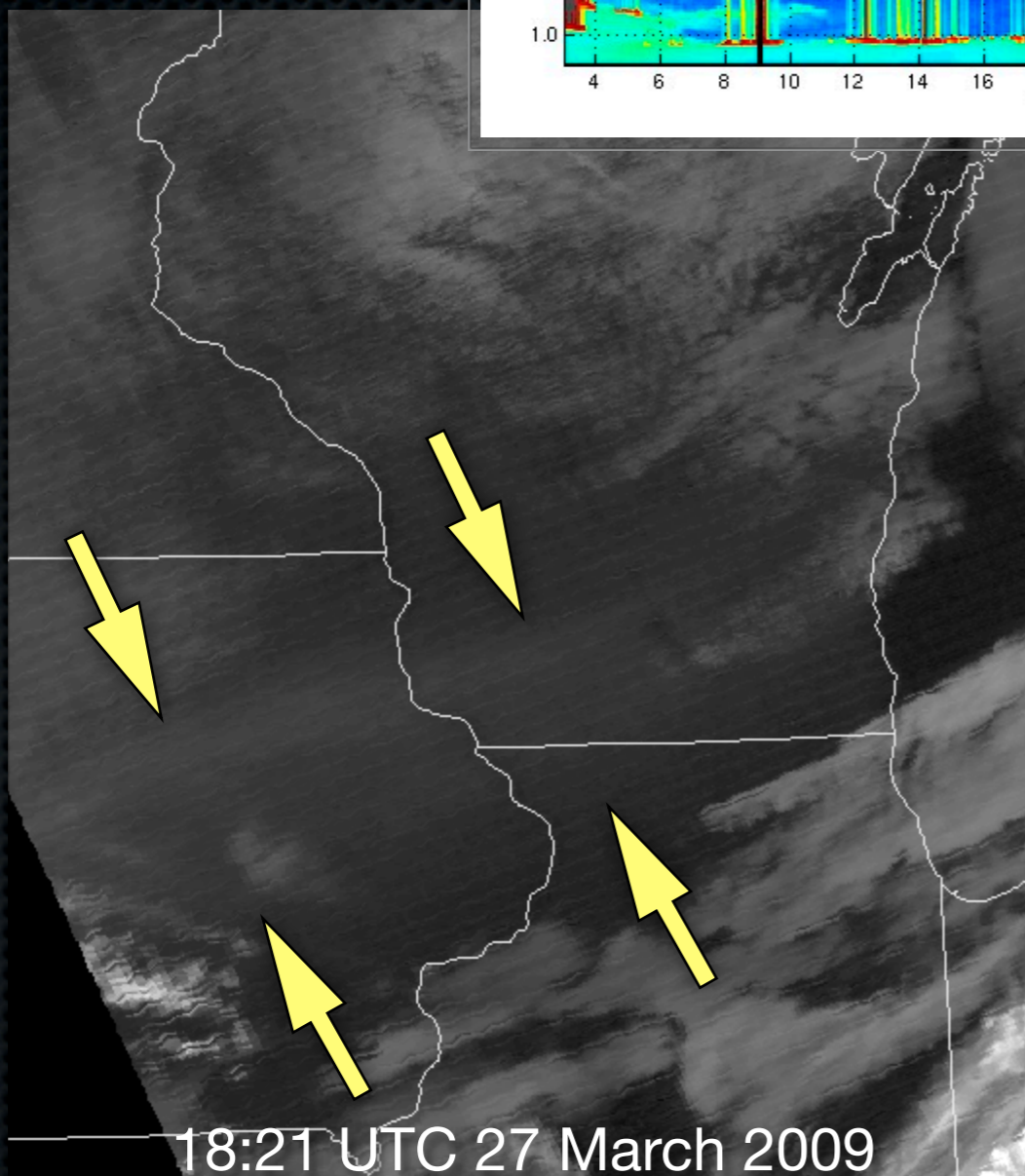


Ground-based lidar
aerosol backscatter
(SSEC / UW-Madison)



AWIPS images of MODIS Band 26 (1.3 μm) "Cirrus detection" channel

MODIS Band 26 near-IR (1.3 μm) data can be used to detect particles that are good scatterers of light (such as cirrus ice crystals, airborne dust/haze/ash, etc) -- such scattering particles will exhibit a slightly brighter signal on greyscale MODIS "cirrus detection channel" images. On 2 consecutive overpasses of the MODIS instrument (on Terra at 18:21 UTC, and on Aqua at 19:59 UTC) there was a subtle signal of an elevated volcanic plume that was oriented SW-NE across Iowa, Wisconsin, and Illinois during the day on 27 March 2009 -- this plume originated from one of the eruptions of the Redoubt volcano in Alaska a few days earlier. Ground-based lidar at the Space Science and Engineering Center (University of Wisconsin - Madison) depicted enhanced aerosol backscatter aloft, with multiple layers seen between 11-13 km around the time of the 2 MODIS images.