



Cloud tracked winds at the lower cloud level using Venus' night side observations at $2.28 \mu\text{m}$ with TNG/NICS

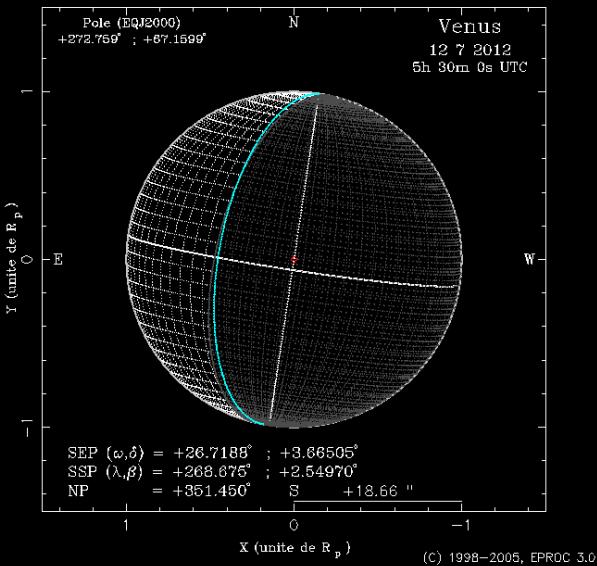


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TNG -telescope

Observations at 2.28μ
 (night side)



Current work



```

#
#      CONFIGURATIONS PHYSIQUES DES PLANETES & DES SATELLITES NATURELS
#
#
# > Corps : Venus
# > Rayon equatorial : +6051.80 km
# > Rayons des axes (a>b>=c) : +6051.80 x +6051.80 x +6051.80 km
# > Coordonnées équatoriales du pôle (J2000) : RAO = 272.760 deg. ; De0 = 67.160 deg.
# > Angle de rotation absolue à l'époque de ref. : W = 160.200 deg. ; sWp = -1.
#
#
#      Date UTC          SEP           SSP           NP        d pole     Mv   Phase   R.App     Dg     Dh   PAQ   Q      R.A.      Dec.
#      Long       Lat.   Long       Lat.   o   o   "   o   "   ua   ua   ua   o   "   h m s   d   "
#      h m s   o   o   o   o   "   o   "   ua   ua   ua   o   "   h m s   d   "
10 7 2012 6 30 0.0 22.95 3.62 263.68 2.51 351.12 19.22 -4.48 119.992 19.258524 0.433273E+00 0.728231E+00 256.12 28.895 4 36 45.670 +17 26 39.53
11 7 2012 6 30 0.0 24.86 3.64 265.74 2.53 351.28 18.92 -4.48 118.845 18.954572 0.440221E+00 0.728233E+00 256.37 28.099 4 38 33.993 +17 29 9.32
12 7 2012 6 30 0.0 26.80 3.67 268.80 2.55 351.46 18.62 -4.48 117.725 18.657065 0.447240E+00 0.728233E+00 256.64 27.337 4 40 28.703 +17 32 4.35
#
# > Repere geocentrique
# > Theorie planetaire INPOP10
# > Ephemeride astrometrique J2000
# > Format des donnees : (I2,Ix,I2,Ix,I5,Ix,I2,Ix,I2,Ix,F4.1,Ix,F6.2,Ix,F6.2,Ix,F6.2,Ix,F6.2,
# > Ix,F6.2,Ix,F6.2,Ix,F6.2,Ix,F7.3,Ix,F9.6,Ix,E12.6,Ix,E12.6,Ix,F6.2,
# > Ix,F7.3,Ix,E12.6,Ix,F6.3,Ix,A1,I2.2,Ix,I2,Ix,F5.2)
#
# (C) 1998-2005, EPROC 3.0

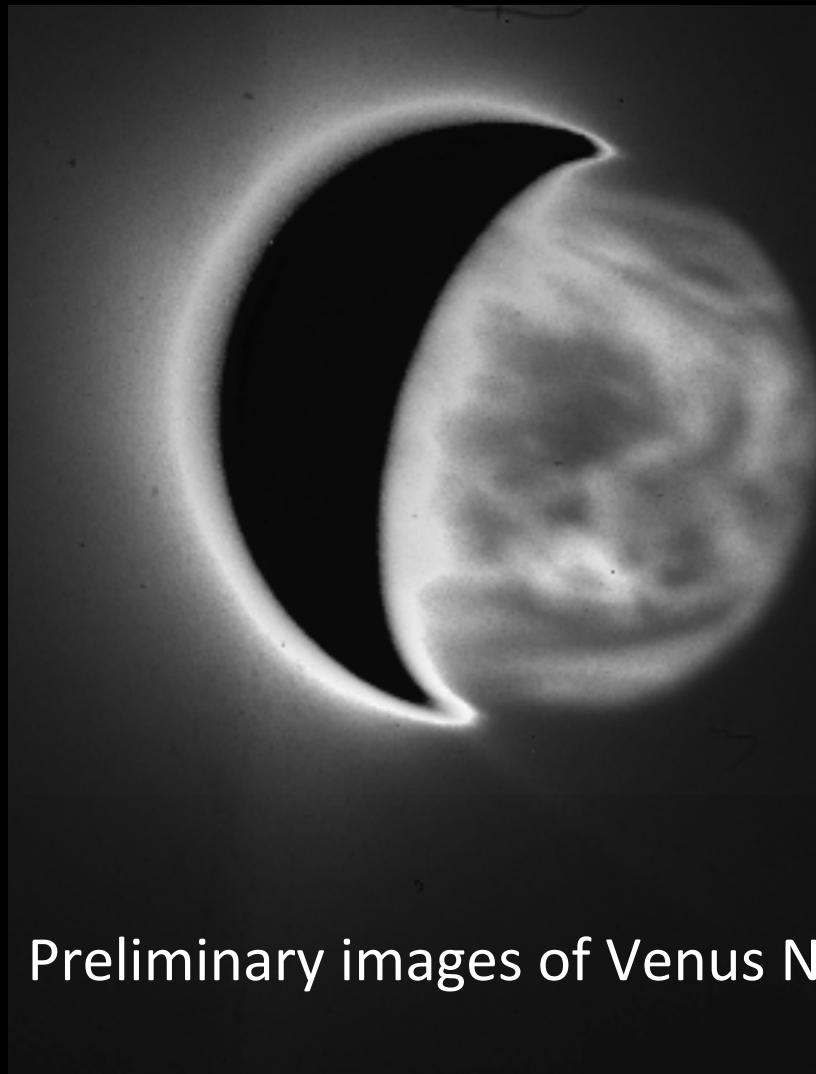
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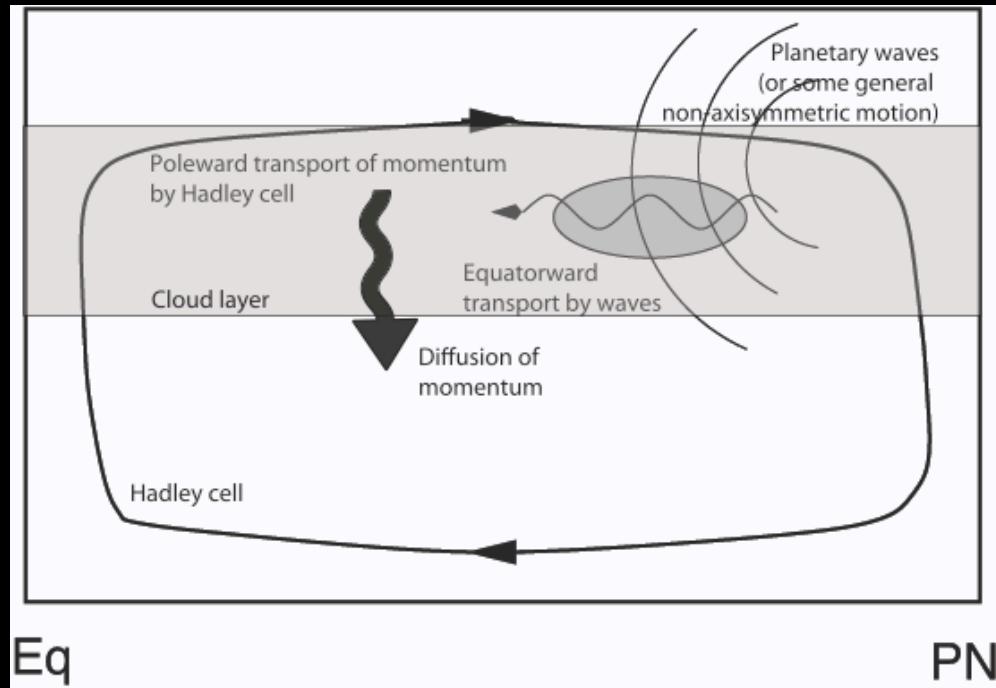
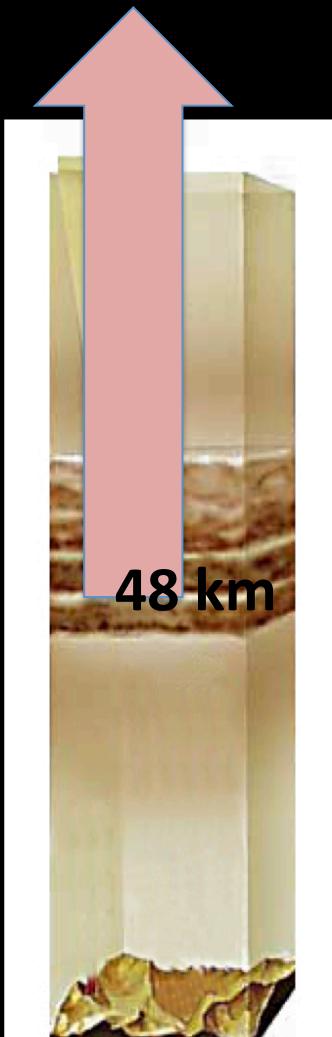
Cloud tracking in the near infrared (NIR).

The observational window in the night side of the continuum K to 2.28 microns allows monitoring of wind conditions in the lowest layer of clouds (60 km).

Ground-based observations are complementary to orbiter measurements, allowing direct, determination of the winds.



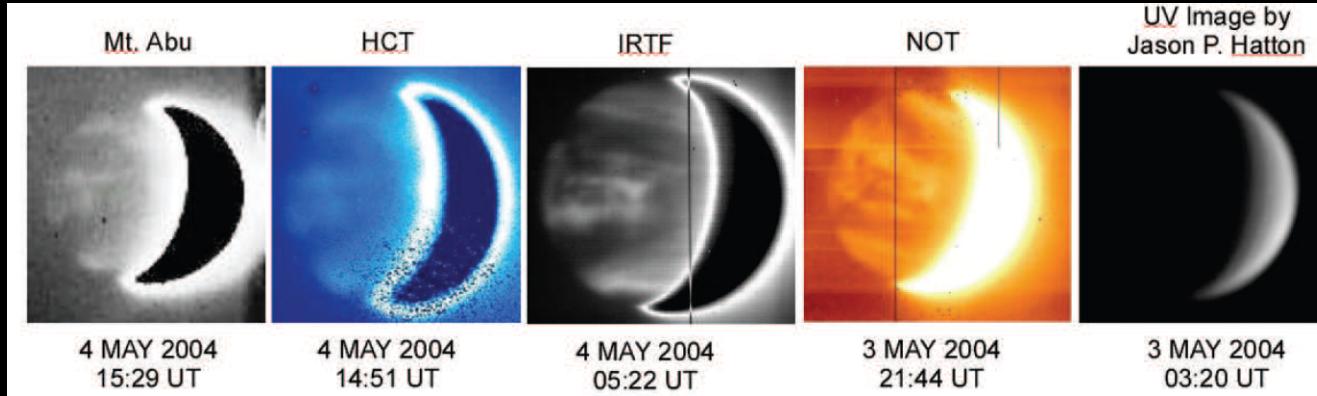
Preliminary images of Venus Night-side



The lower venusian atmosphere is a strong source of thermal radiation, with the gaseous CO₂ component allowing radiation to escape in windows at 1.74 and 2.28 μ . At these wavelengths radiation originates below 35 km, and unit opacity is reached at the lower cloud level, close to 48 km. Therefore, in these windows it is possible to observe the horizontal cloud structure, with thicker clouds seen silhouetted against the bright thermal background from the low atmosphere.

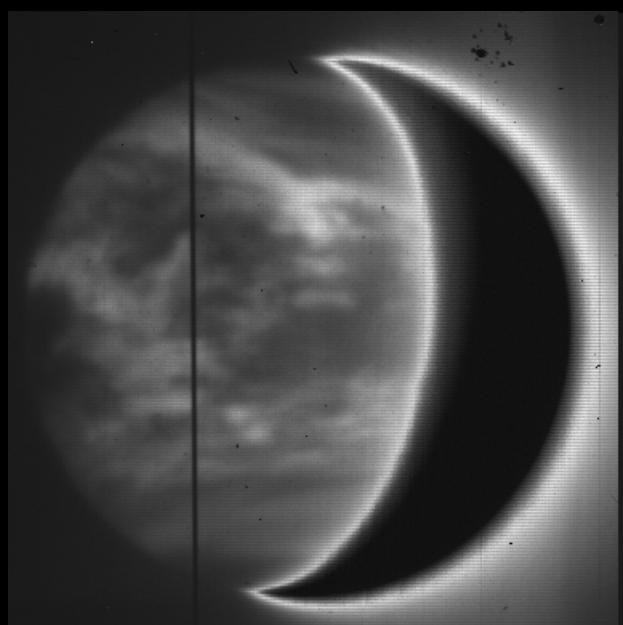
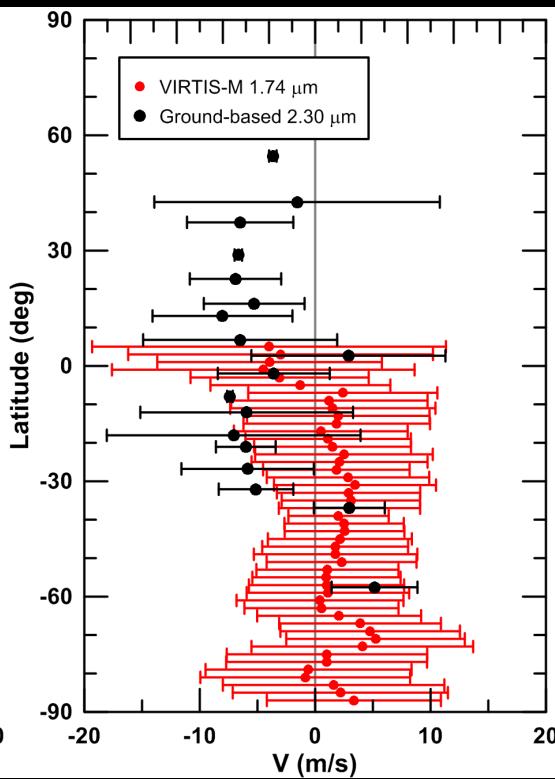
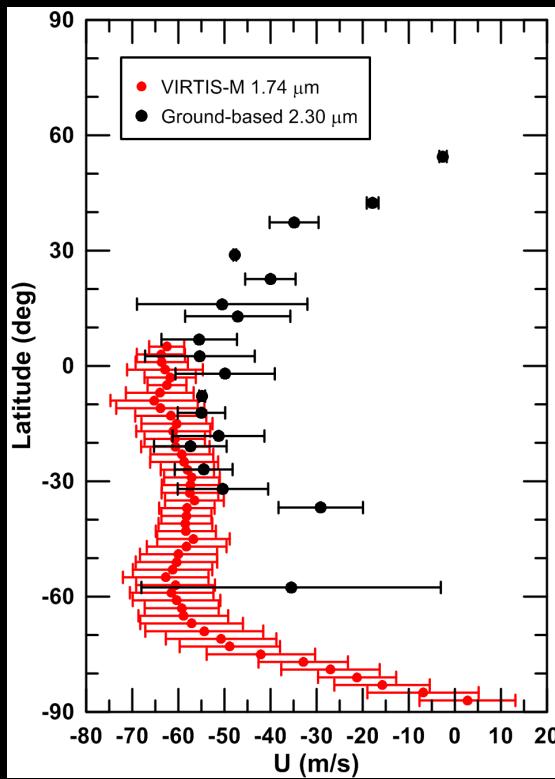
Left:
Gierasch-Rossow
mechanism for
maintaining
superrotation

Ground-based observations: cloud tracking results



COMPARISON:

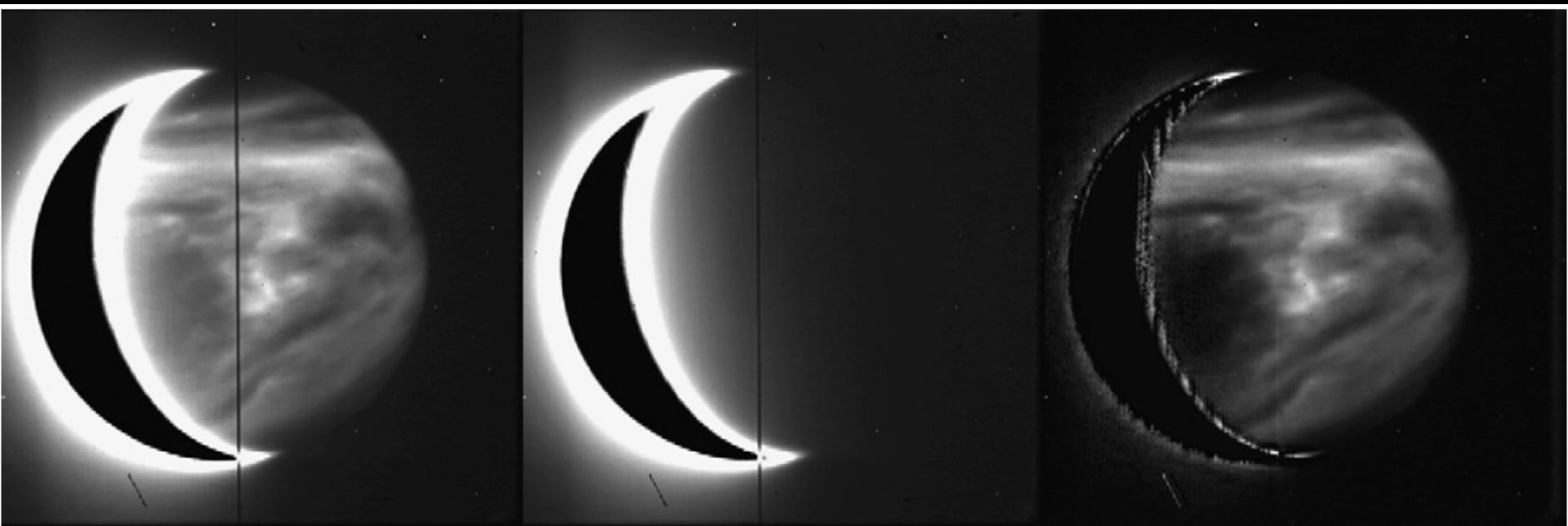
- 2.30 μm images (Limaye 2006)
- 1.74 μm images (Hueso 2012)



Kcont filter

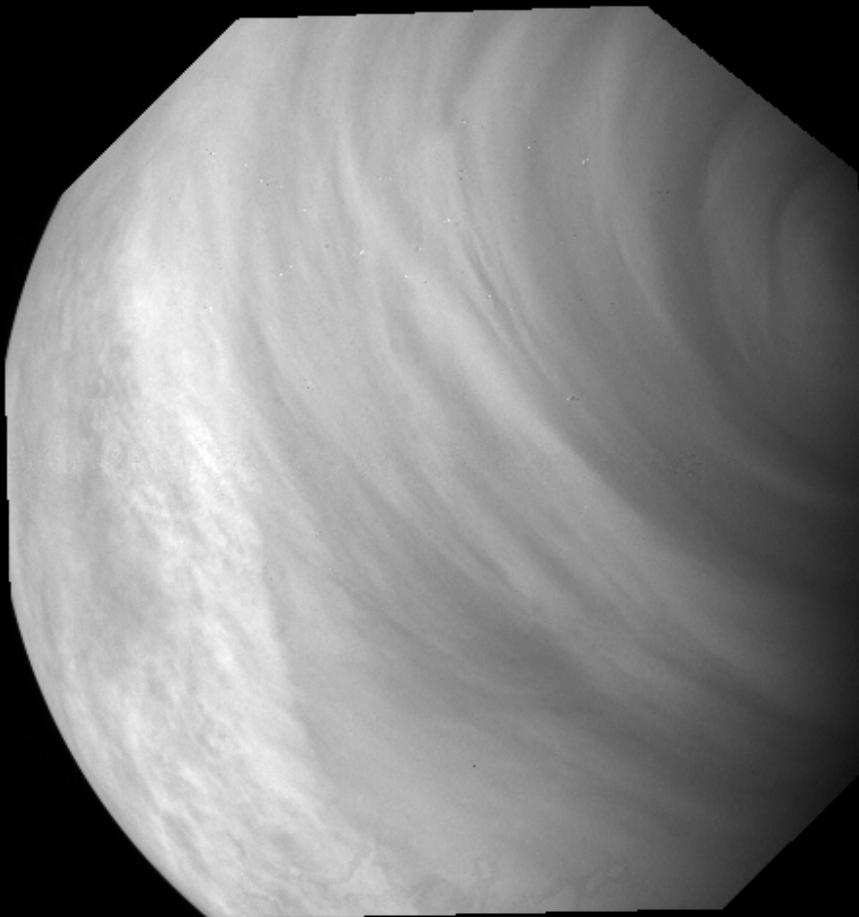
Bracket Y filter

Image subtraction



(Tavenner et al., 2009):

Coordinated Space-based and Ground-based observations



Venus Express orbits:

- 2272
- 2273
- 2274
- 2275

TNG – observations

- 11 July 2012
- 12 July 2012
- 13 July 2012

Image pairs of VIRTIS – M observations with cloud features tracers

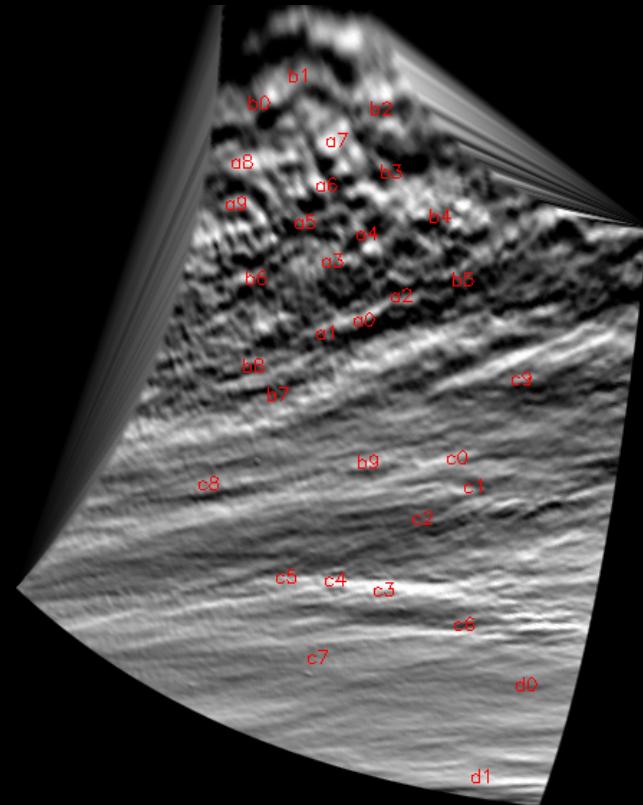
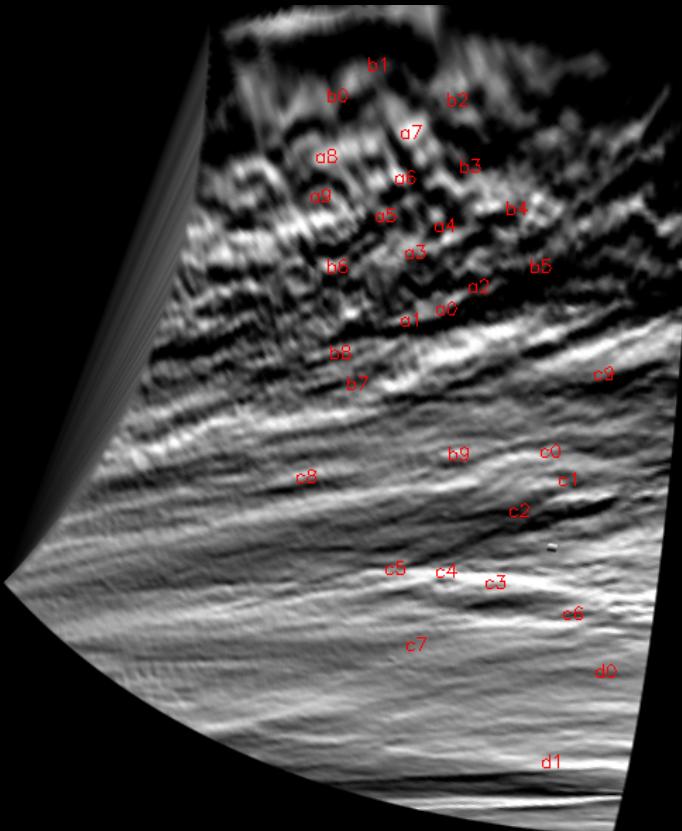
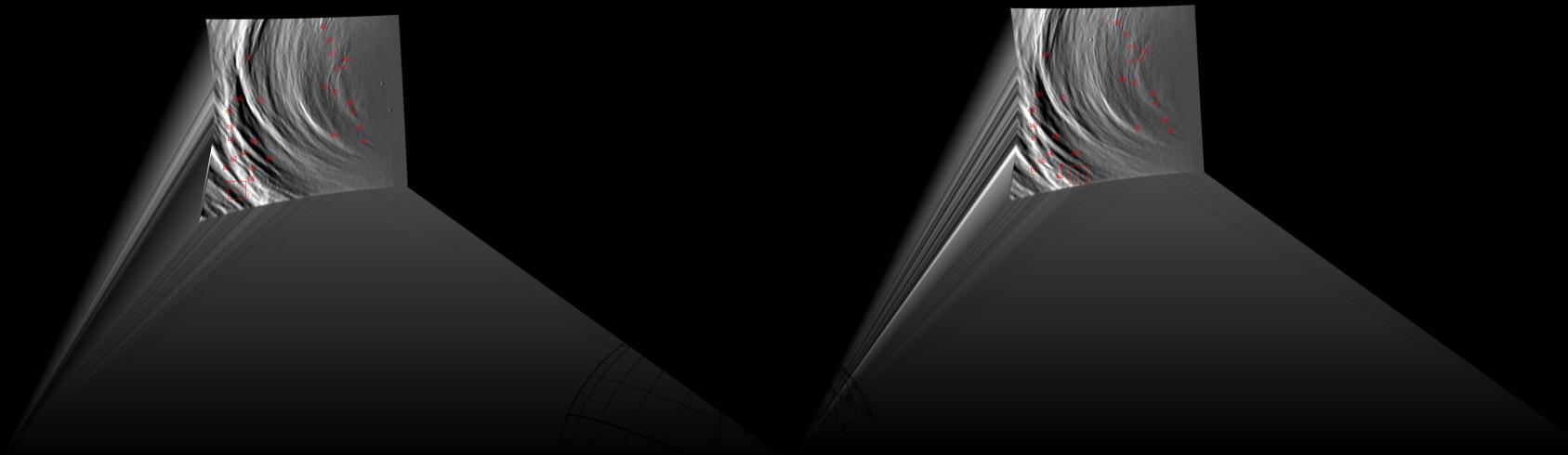
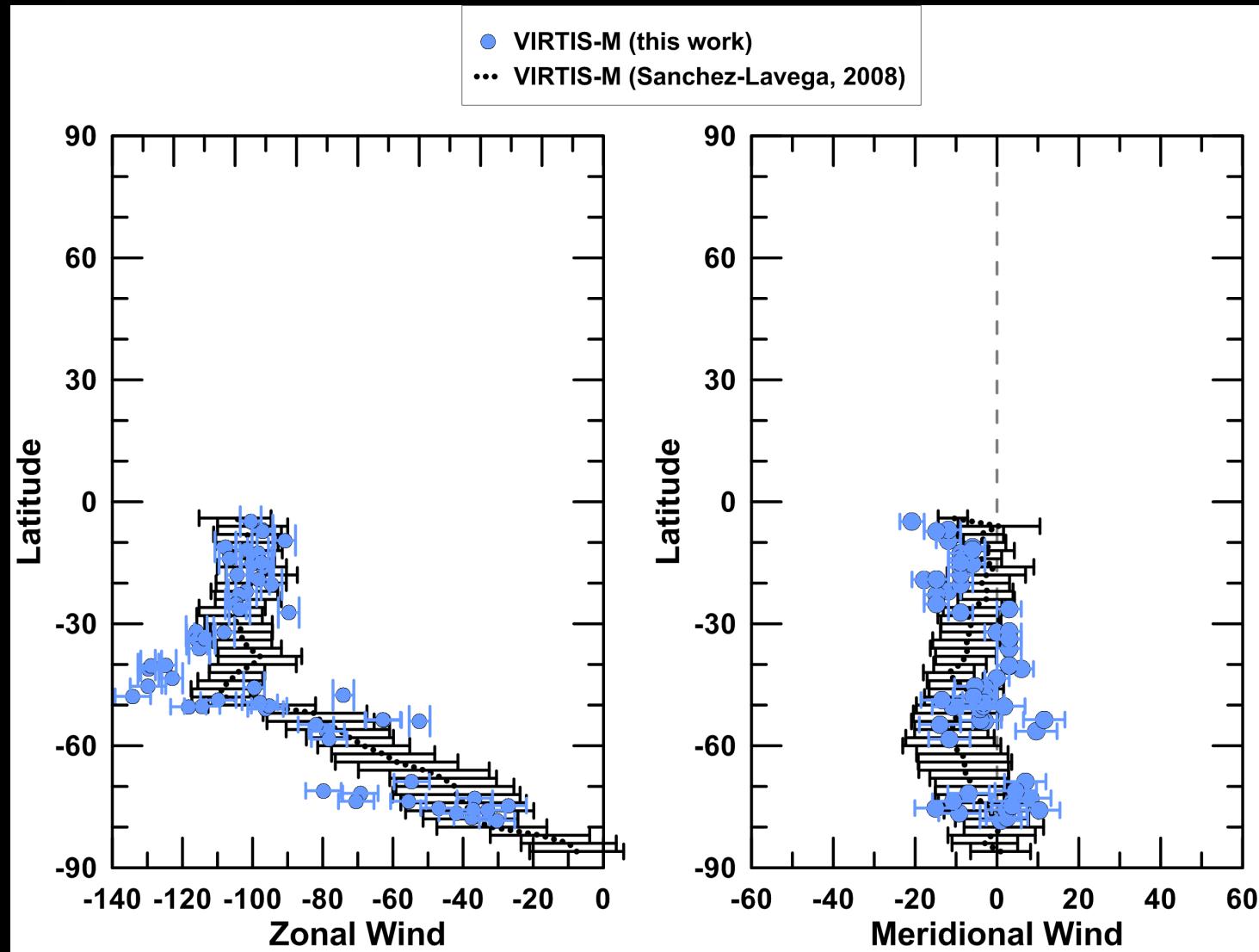
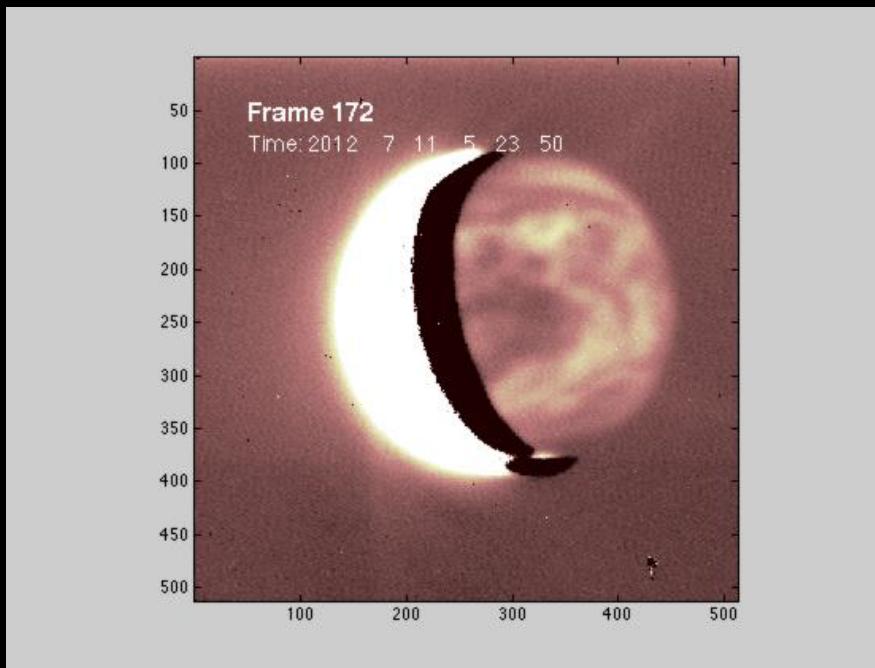


Image pairs of VIRTIS – M observations with cloud features tracers

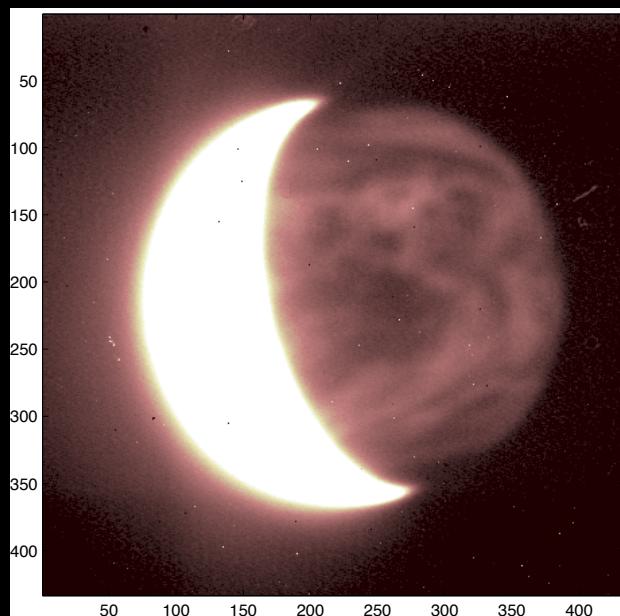




Ground-based observations (TNG): Preliminary Venus' images



Kcont filter



Bracket Y filter

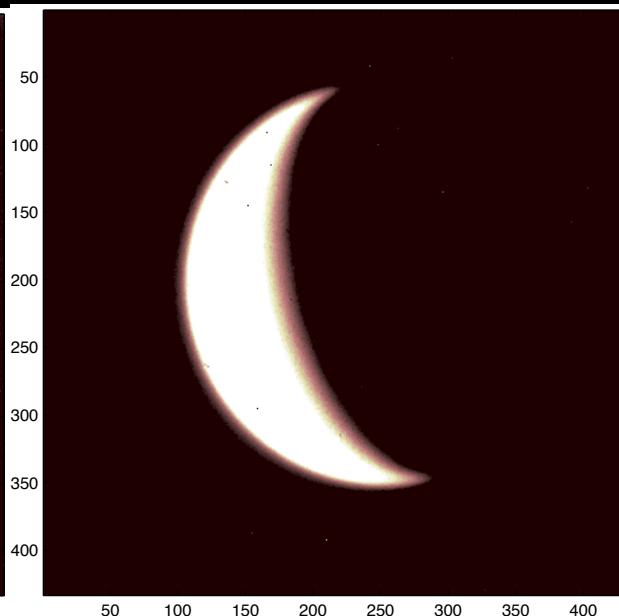


Image subtraction

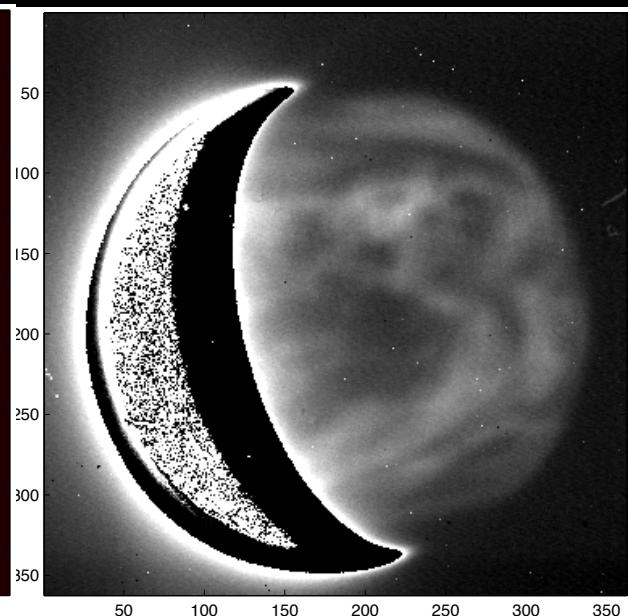
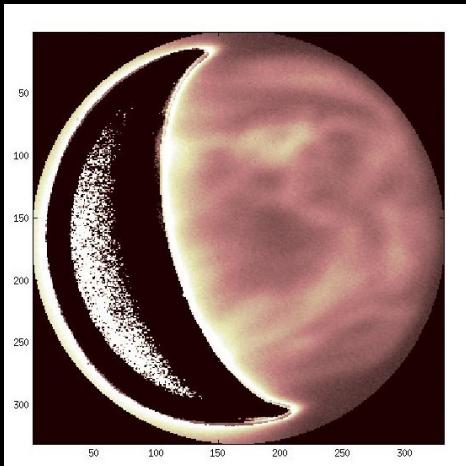
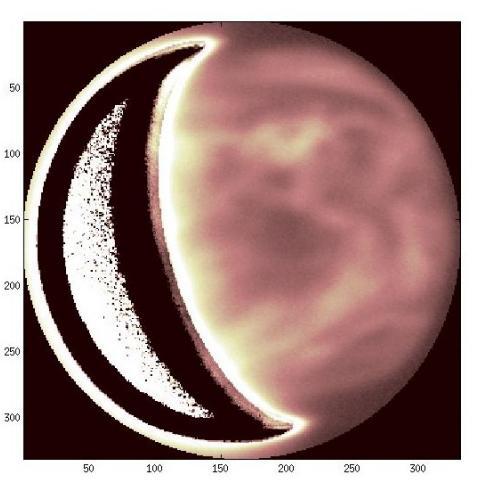


Image processing with similar strategy than
Young et al. 2008 and Tavenner et al. 2009

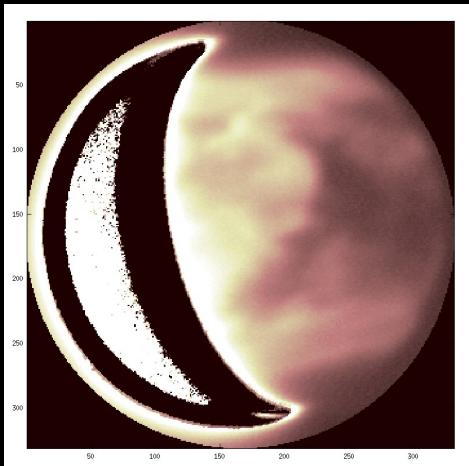


A



B

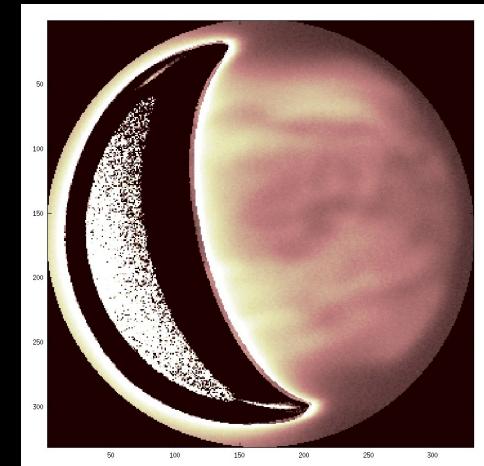
11 July 2012



A



B

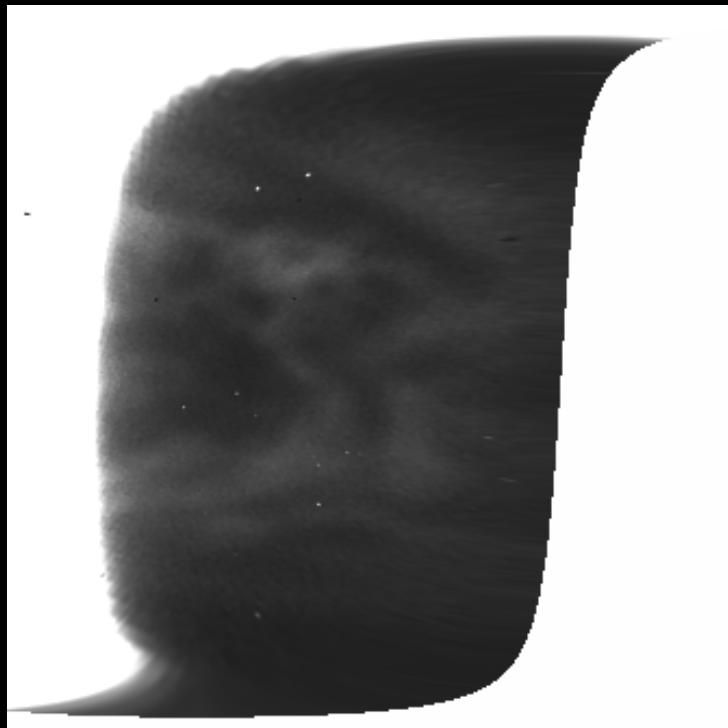


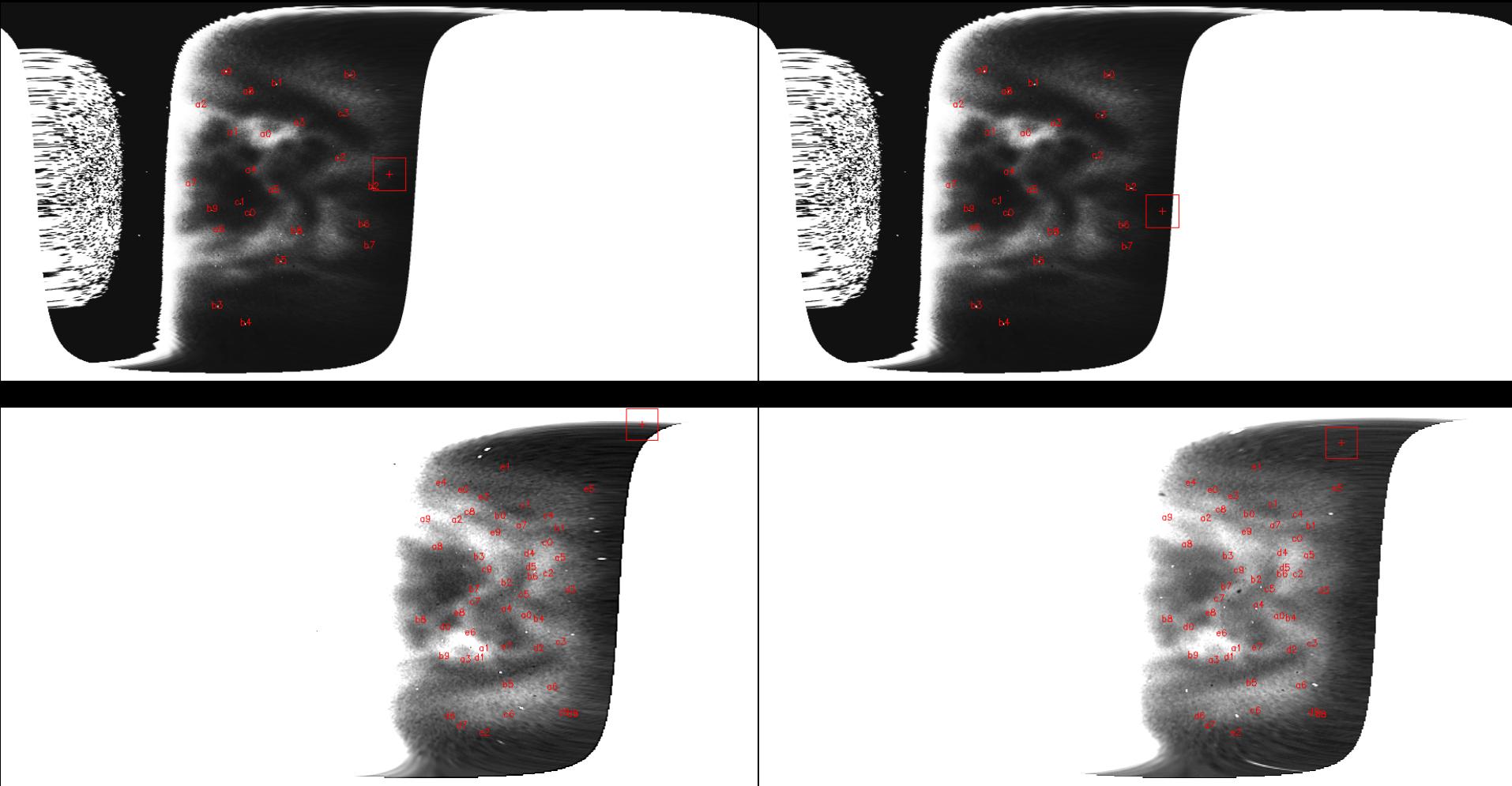
A

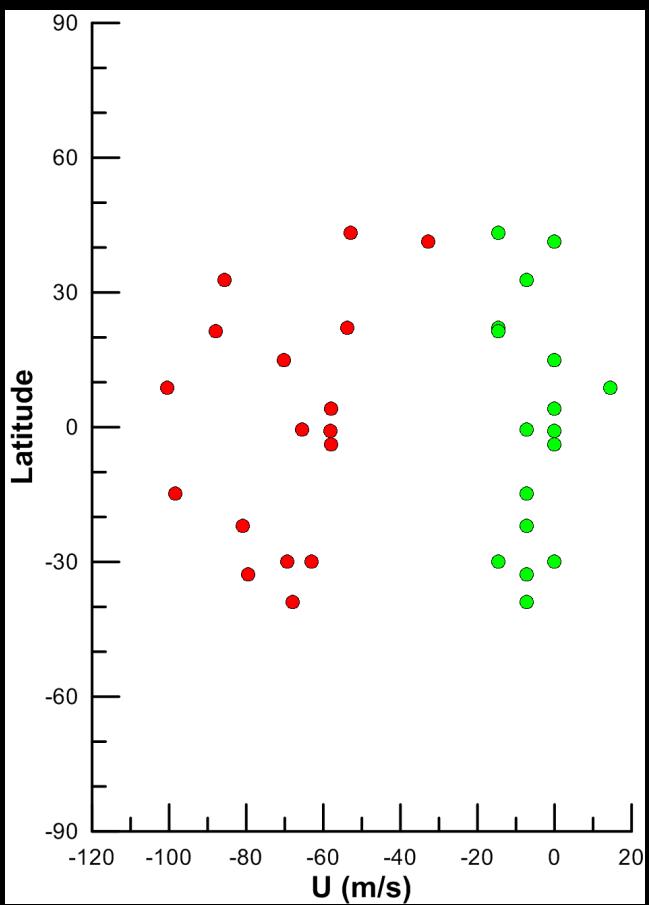


B

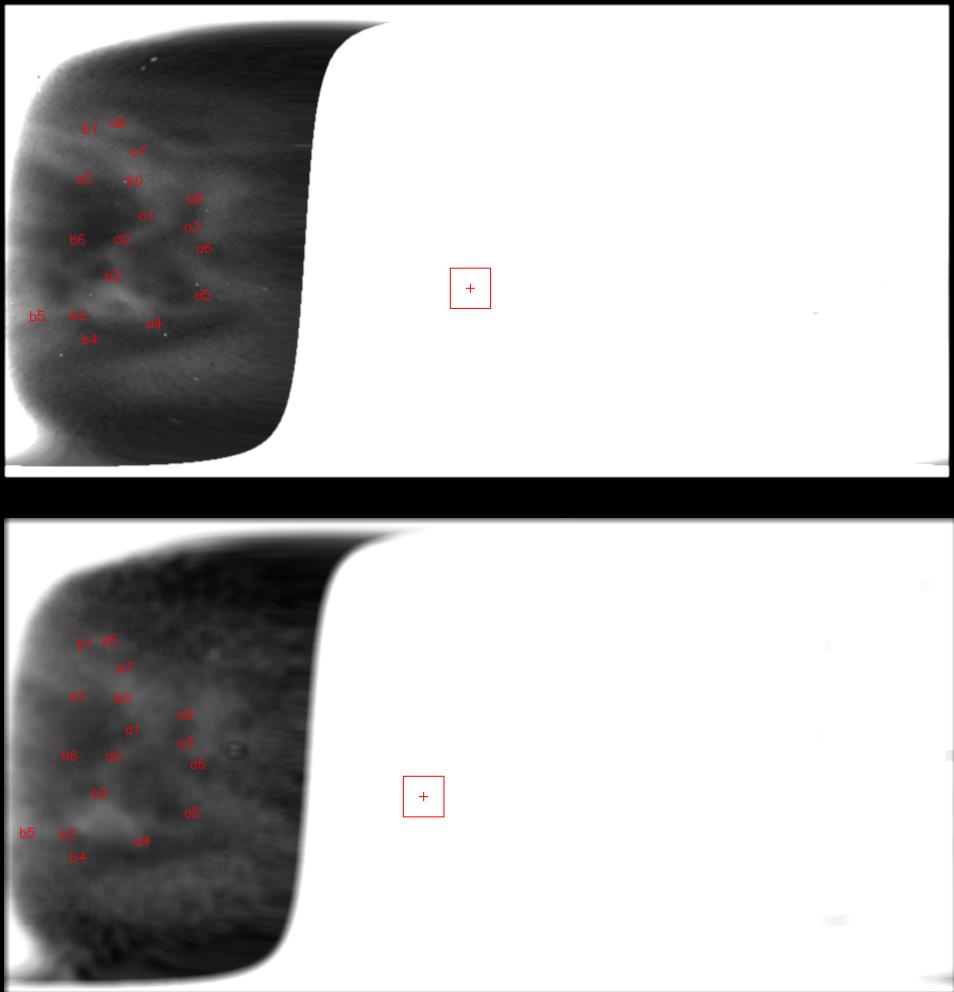
Images' cylindrical projections

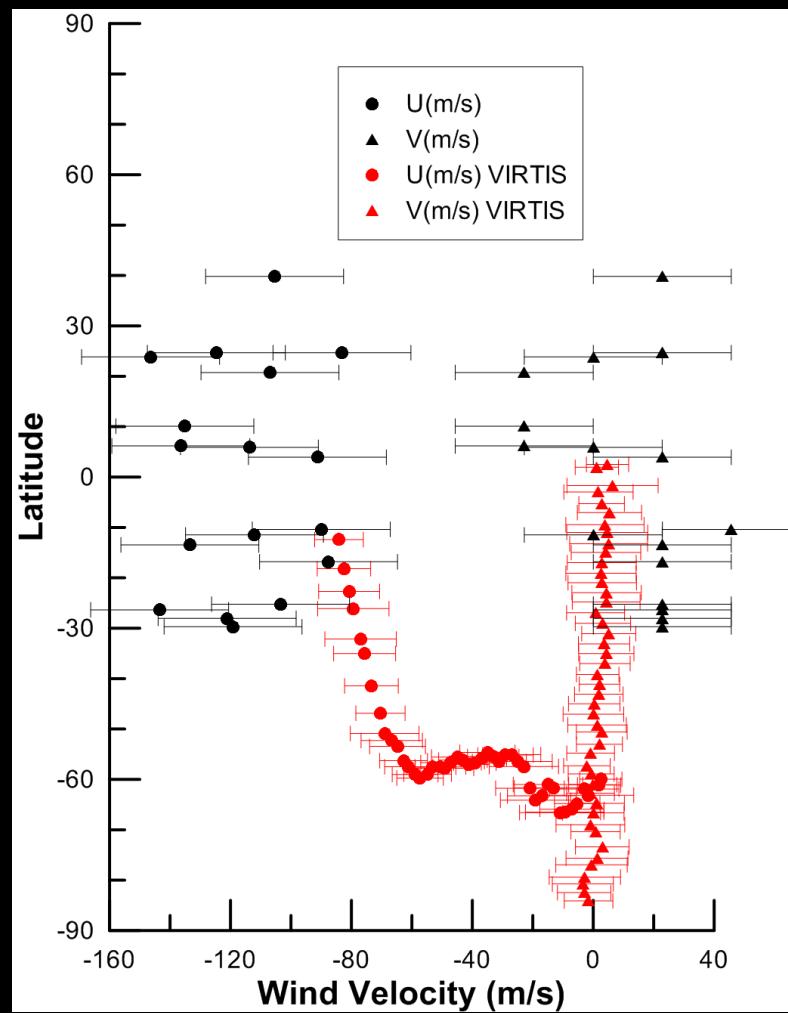


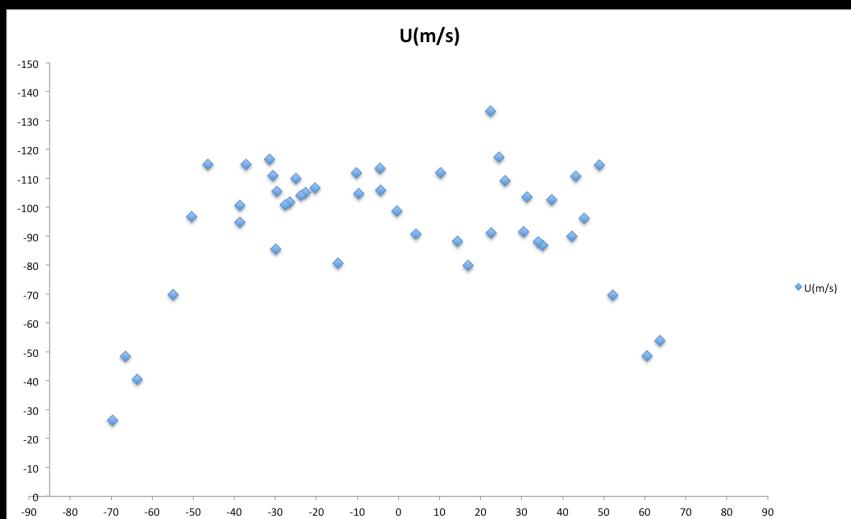




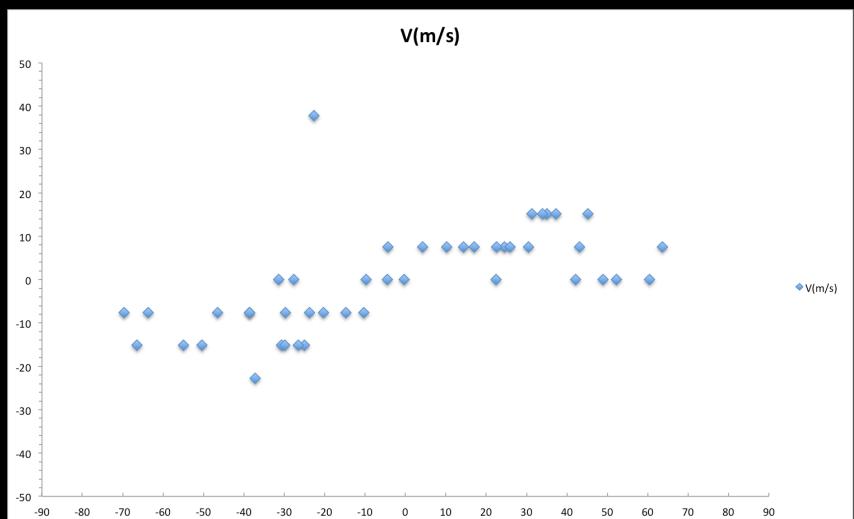
Red: Zonal Wind
Green: Meridional Wind



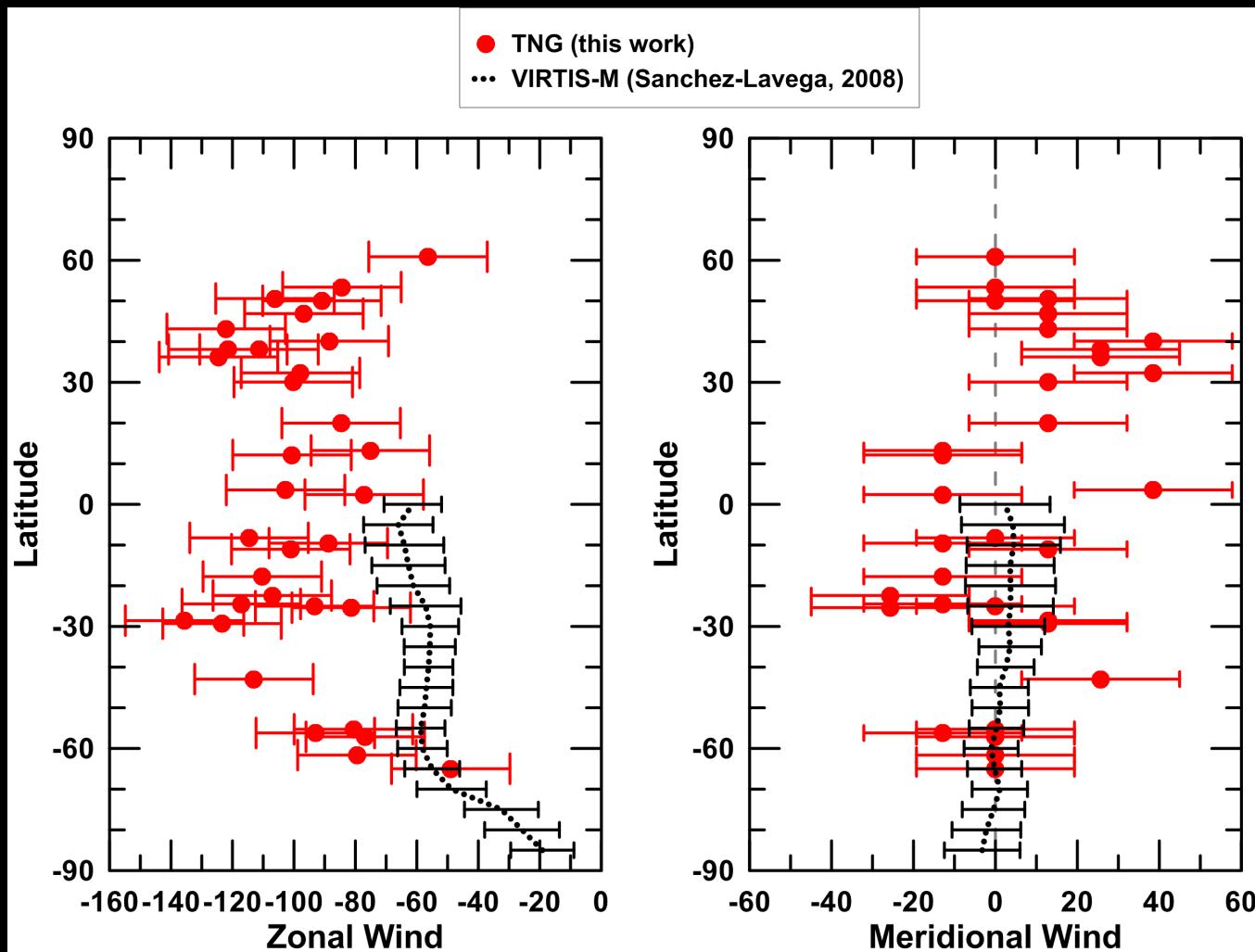


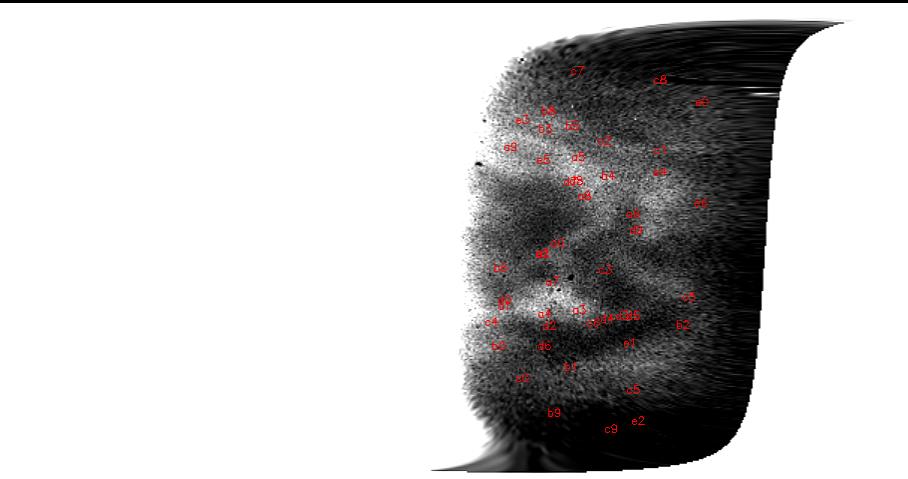
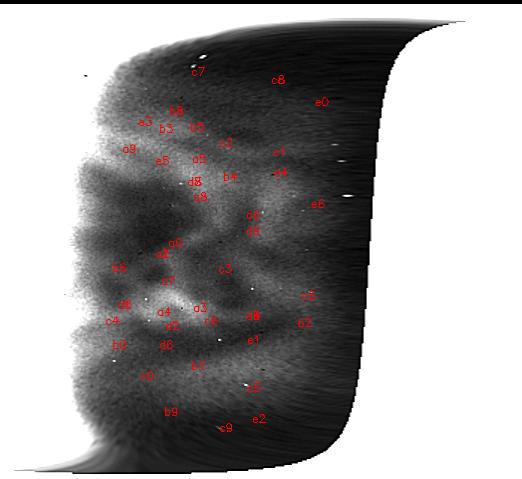
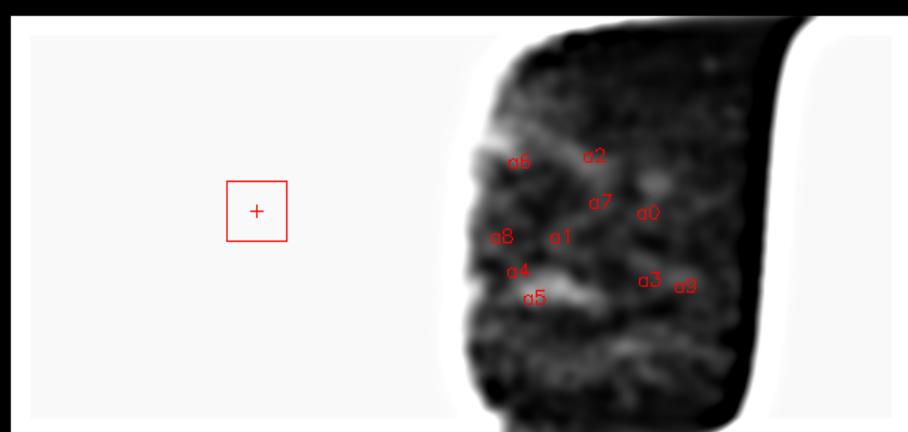
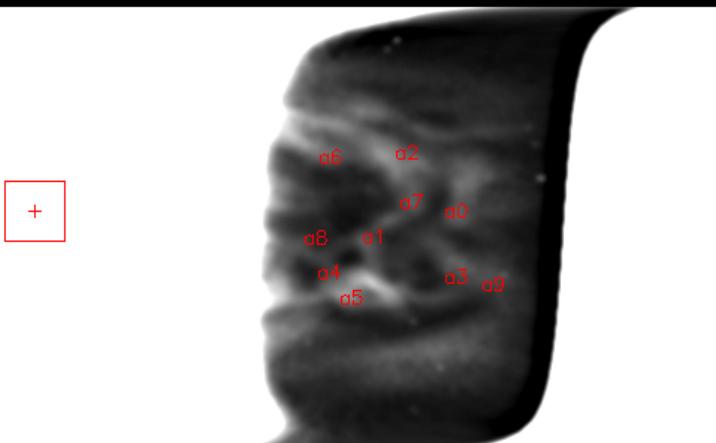


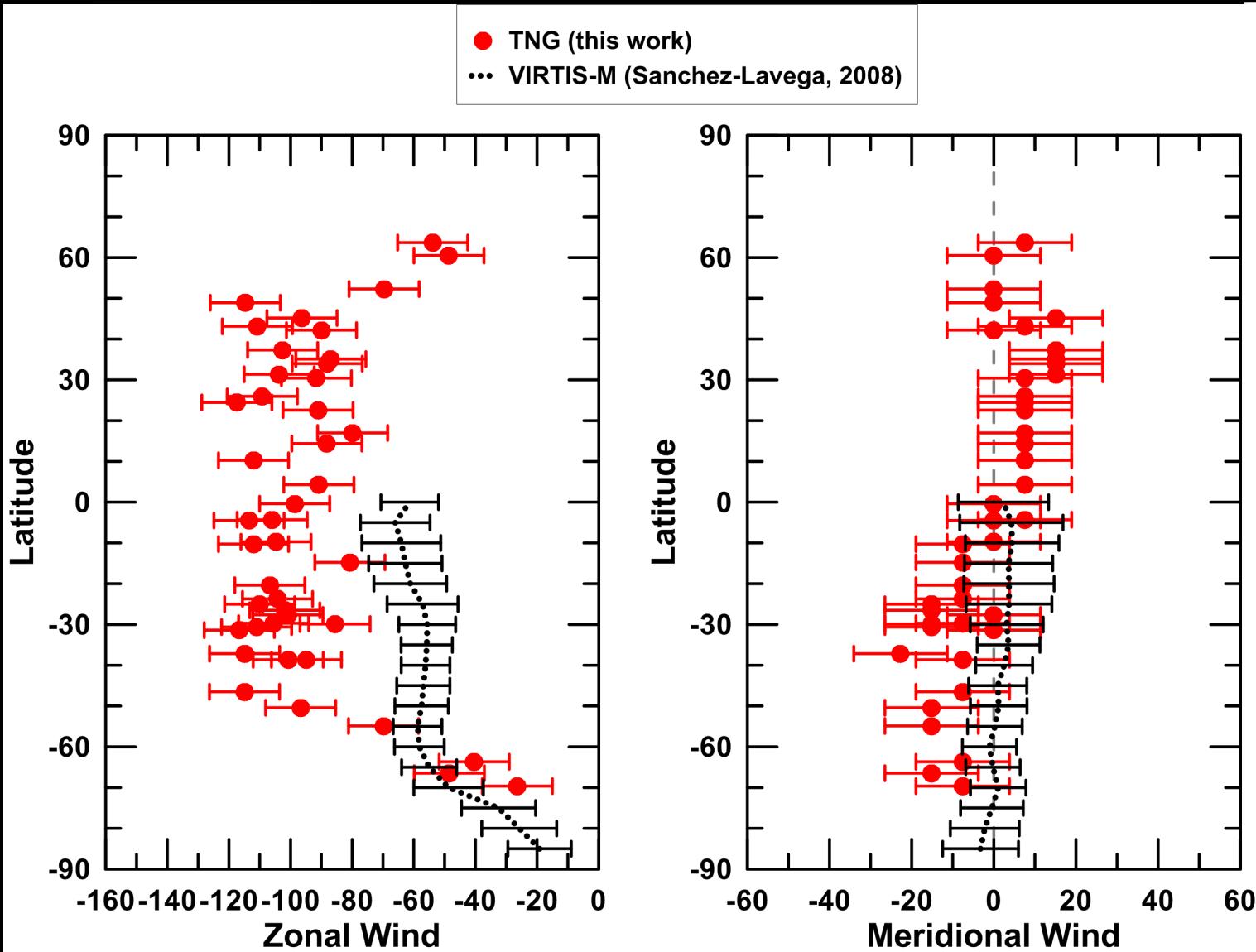
Zonal Wind

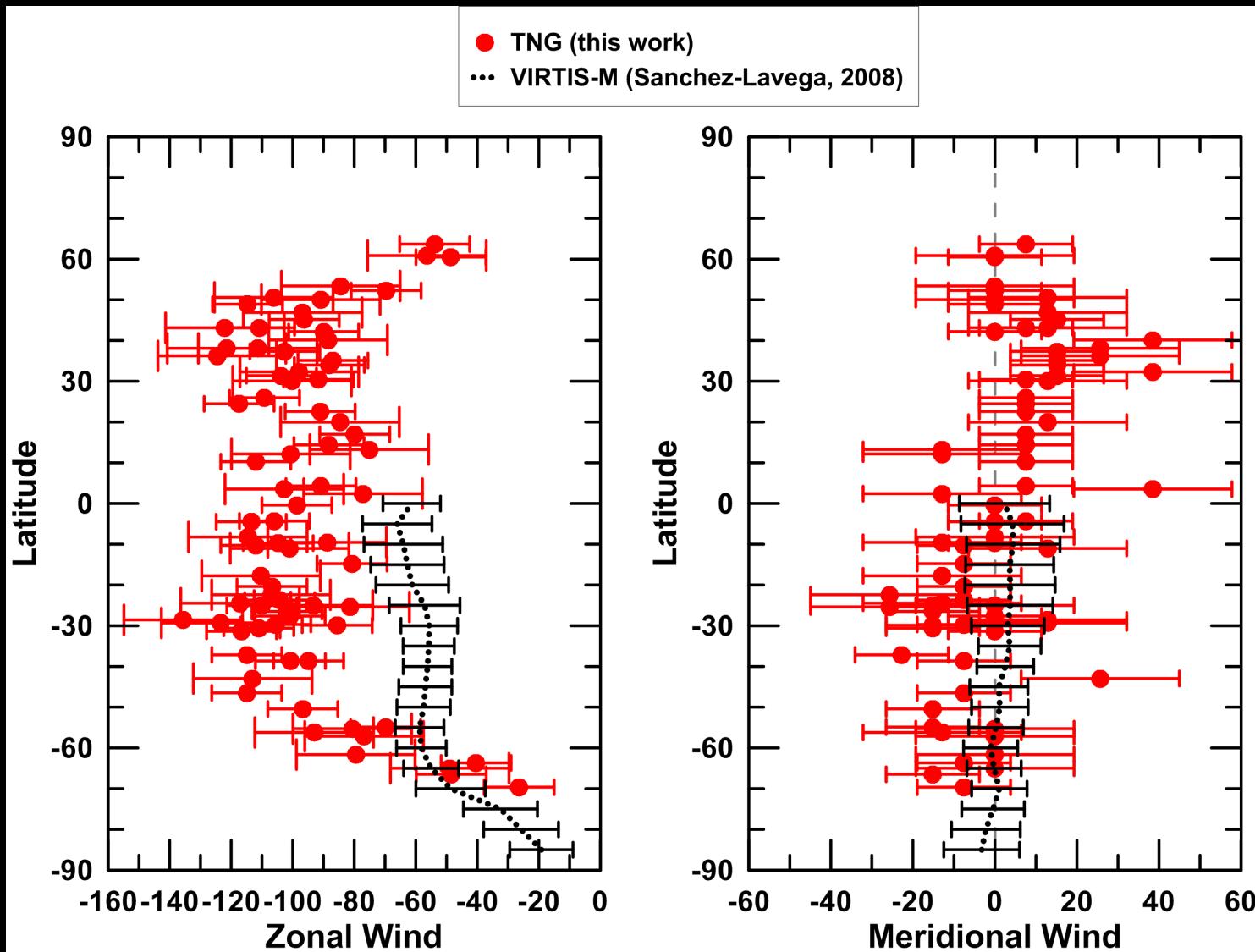


Meridional Wind

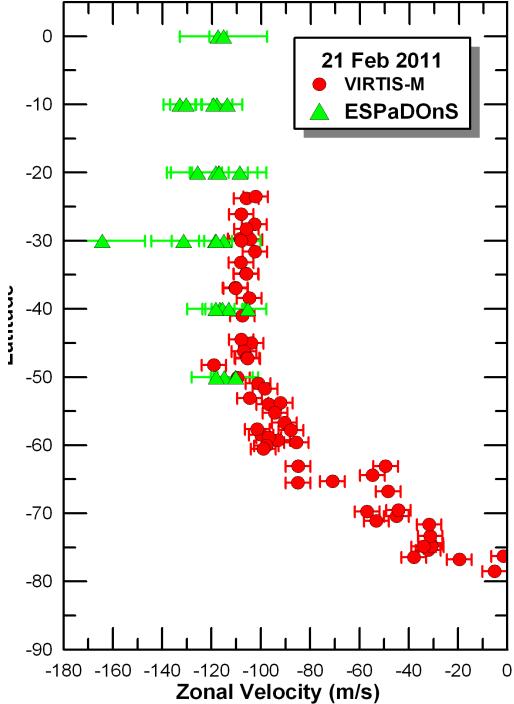
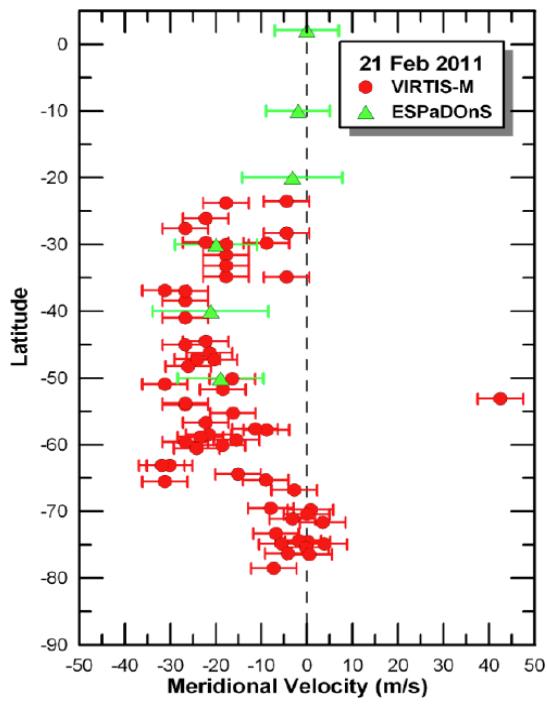
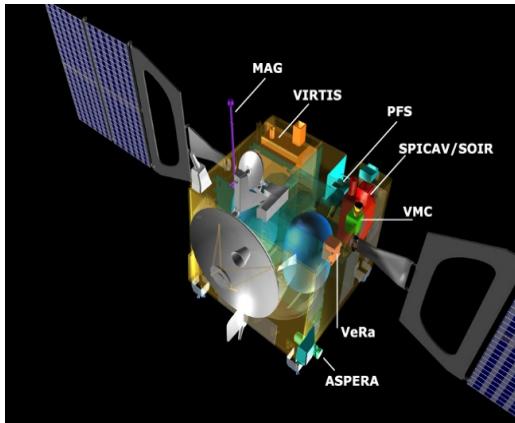






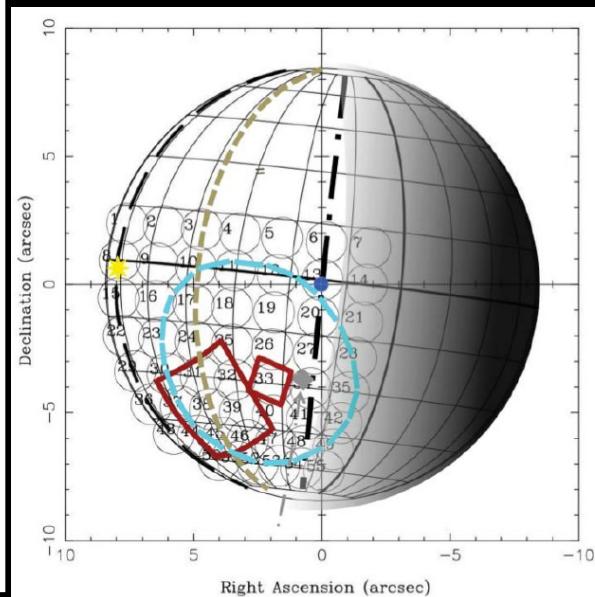


Ground-based observations: Doppler results

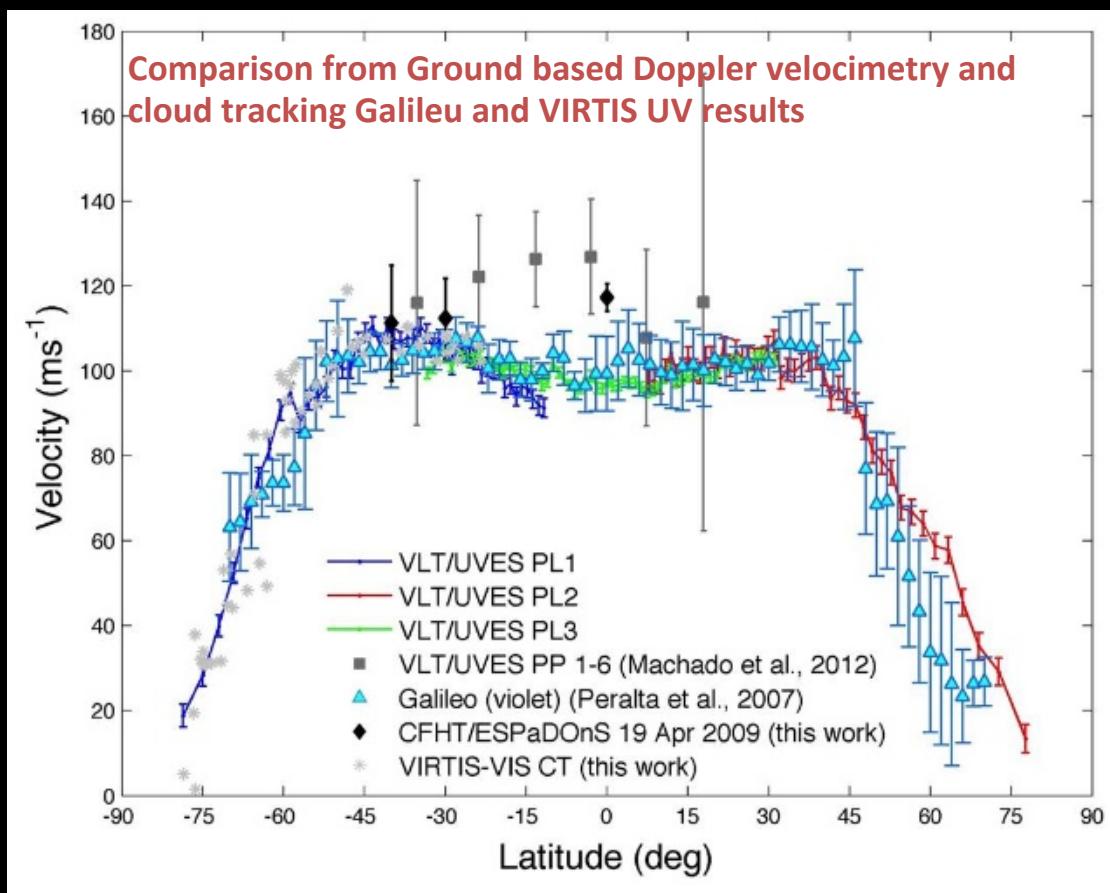


COMPARISON:

- 480 nm images (Peralta 2007)
- 380 nm images (Machado 2014)
- UV/VIS spectra (Machado 2012; Machado 2014)



Ground-based observations: Doppler results



COMPARISON:

- 480 nm images (Peralta 2007)
- 380 nm images (Machado 2014)
- UV/VIS spectra (Machado 2012; Machado 2014)



VIRTIS-M cloud top tracking

$$v_{eq} = -(102 \pm 10) \text{ m/s}$$

(Sánchez-Lavega et al., 2008)

$$V_{eq} = -(112 \pm 5.8) \text{ m/s}$$

(Machado et al. 2014)

Ground-based Doppler - sequential

2-4 Jul. 2007 :

$$v_{eq} = -(104 \pm 10) \text{ m/s}$$

(Widemann et al., 2008)

19-21 Feb. 2011

$$v_{eq} = -(117 \pm 14) \text{ m/s}$$

(Machado et al. 2014)

Ground-based Doppler – long slit

May 2007 :

$$v_{eq} = -(106 \pm 21) \text{ m/s}$$

$$\text{to } -(127 \pm 14) \text{ m/s}$$

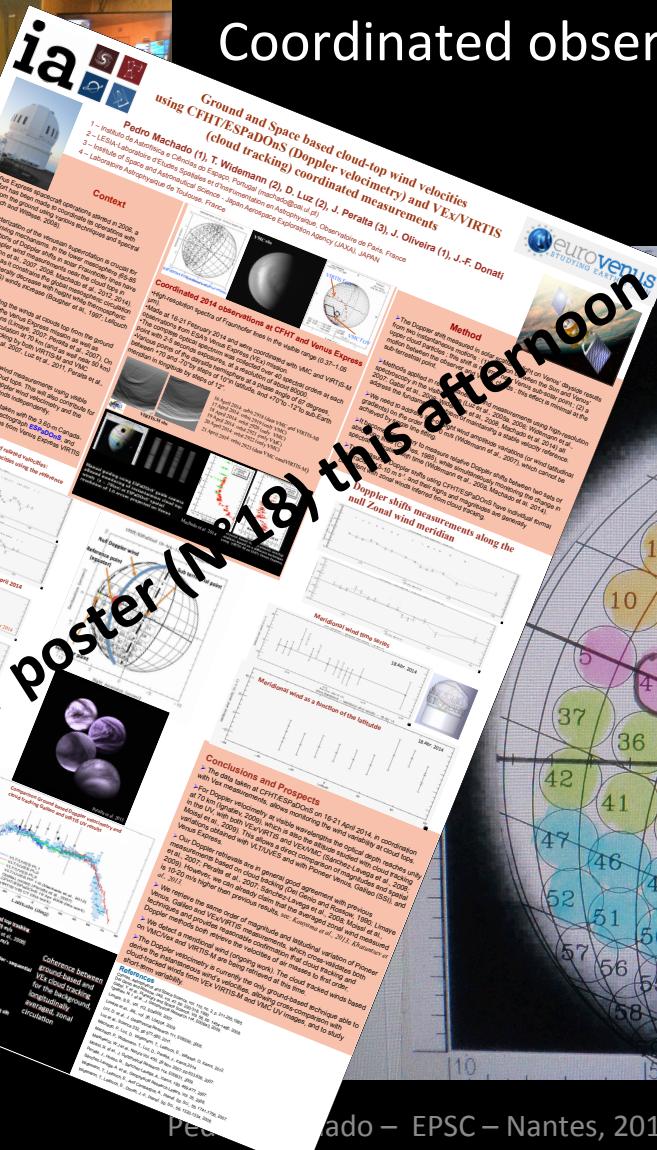
(Machado et al., 2012)

Coherence between
ground-based and
VEx cloud tracking
for the background,
longitudinally
averaged, zonal
circulation

CFHT/ESPaDOnS

and VIRTIS/Vex

Coordinated observations



This March (24-29) CFHT observations will be coordinated with simultaneous IRTF observations in order to study the possible coupling of the winds and chemical species that are dynamical tracers.

See also our poster ([#18](#)) this afternoon





Thank you for your attention