

1 **Multiwavelength fluorescence lidar observations of smoke plumes**

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10 **Abstract**

11 A five-channel fluorescence lidar was developed for the study of atmospheric aerosol.
12 The fluorescence spectrum induced by 355 nm laser emission is analyzed in five spectral
13 intervals using interference filters. Central wavelengths and the widths of these five interference
14 filters are respectively: 438/29, 472/32, 513/29, 560/40 and 614/54 nm. The relative calibration
15 of these channels has been performed using a tungsten-halogen lamp with color temperature
16 2800K. This new lidar system was operated during Summer – Autumn 2022, when strong forest
17 fires occurred in the Moscow region and generated a series of smoke plumes analyzed in this
18 study. Our results demonstrate that, for urban aerosol, the maximal fluorescence backscattering
19 is observed in 472 nm channel. For the smoke the maximum is shifted toward longer
20 wavelengths, and the fluorescence backscattering coefficients in 472 nm, 513 nm and 560 nm
21 channels have comparable value. Thus, from the analysis of the ratios of fluorescence
22 backscattering in available channels, we show that it is possible to identify smoke layers. The
23 particle classification based on single channel fluorescence capacity (ratio of the fluorescence
24 backscattering to elastic one), has limitations at high relative humidity (RH). The fluorescence
25 capacity is indeed decreasing when water uptake of particles enhances the elastic scattering.
26 However, the spectral variation of fluorescence backscattering does not exhibit any dependence
27 on RH and can be therefore applied for aerosol identification.

28

29 **1. Introduction**

30 The knowledge of the chemical composition of atmospheric aerosol is important for
31 characterization of its impact on the Earth radiation balance (Boucher et al., 2013; IPCC 2022).

32 The composition of aerosol, however, is strongly variable, and in practice, several general
33 aerosol types are considered usually based on their origin (Dubovik et al., 2002). The Mie-
34 Raman and high spectral resolution lidars provide the opportunity to derive vertical distribution
35 of the particle extinction and backscattering coefficients together with multispectral
36 depolarization ratio. The main aerosol types can be distinguished based on such observations
37 (Burton et al., 2012, 2013; Groß et al., 2013; Mamouri et al., 2017; Papagiannopoulos et al.,
38 2018; Nicolae et al., 2018; Hara et al., 2018; Wang et al., 2021; Mylonaki et al., 2021). However,
39 due to the variability of the aerosol parameters, the particle intensive properties (properties that
40 are independent of concentration), such as lidar ratios, depolarization ratios and Angstrom
41 exponents can vary in a wide range, even for aerosols from the same origin, which complicates
42 their identification.

43 The fluorescence measurements provide new independent information about aerosol
44 composition, which can be used for classification. (Veselovskii et al., 2022b). Being induced by
45 355 nm laser radiation the atmospheric fluorescence emission spreads in a wide spectral range
46 from approximately 380 nm to beyond 700 nm. The multianode photomultipliers combined with
47 spectrometer, in principle, allow the profiling of the full fluorescence spectrum (Sugimoto et al.,
48 2012; Saito et al., 2022; Reichardt et al., 2022). In a more simple approach a single fluorescence
49 channel has been integrated into existing multiwavelength Mie-Raman lidar (Veselovskii et al.,
50 2020), and a fraction of the fluorescence spectrum is selected by a wideband interference filter.
51 High transmittance of modern interference filters (above 95%), allows efficient detection of
52 fluorescence emission, and when combined with simultaneous depolarization measurements the
53 main aerosol types, such as dust, smoke, pollen and urban aerosols can be identified (Veselovskii
54 et al., 2022b). This classification scheme relies on the fluorescence capacity G_λ , which is the
55 ratio of fluorescence backscattering to elastic backscattering at laser wavelength. The
56 fluorescence capacity, however, depends on the relative humidity (RH), because enhanced elastic
57 backscattering leads to decrease of G_λ (Veselovskii et al., 2021). As a result, at high RH, we
58 cannot discern unambiguously whether the decrease of G_λ comes from water uptake or from
59 changes in the aerosol composition.

60 The water uptake increases the elastic backscattering but normally does not alter the
61 chemical components and consequently the total amount of fluorescent molecules within a
62 particle does not change. The illumination intensity distribution within a particle, as well as the

63 emission angular distribution can be altered by the change of particle size and refractive index
64 during the hygroscopic growth. However, this effect occurs for relatively big microspheres with
65 size parameter exceeding approximately 10 (Veselovskii et al., 2002). Thus, fluorescence of the
66 fine mode particles should be less influenced by the hygroscopic growth. Our existing lidar data-
67 base in well mixed boundary layer situations demonstrate that, at least, for urban and smoke
68 particles, the fluorescence backscattering coefficient did not change during water uptake. Thus,
69 we have good reason to expect, that fluorescence spectrum is not modified by the aerosol
70 hygroscopic growth, and several fluorescence channels should provide more reliable information
71 upon aerosol type.

72 Smoke is one of the most abundant aerosol types and it was intensively studied with Mie-
73 Raman lidars for decades (Adam et al., 2020 and references therein). Smoke is characterized also
74 by high fluorescence capacity (probably due to the presence of the organic carbon fraction), thus
75 fluorescence lidar measurements proved to be very efficient for smoke identification and analysis
76 (Hu et al., 2022, Veselovskii et al., 2022a,b). However, as mentioned, at high RH levels, the
77 classification of smoke, based on a single channel fluorescence may fail. The solution could be
78 the detection of fluorescence at several wavelengths. In July 2022 a new lidar system equipped
79 with five fluorescence channels, was assembled in Prokhorov General Physics Institute, Troitsk,
80 Moscow. The lidar was in operation during Summer and Autumn 2022, when strong forest fires
81 occurred in the Moscow region. In this paper we analyze the spectral dependence of the
82 fluorescence backscattering inside and outside the smoke plumes. The results demonstrate that
83 the hygroscopic growth does not affect the spectral dependence of fluorescence backscattering.

84

85 **2. Experimental setup**

86 The fluorescence lidar is based on a tripled Nd:YAG laser with pulse energy of 80 mJ at
87 355 nm and repetition rate of 20 Hz. Backscattered light is collected by a 40 cm aperture
88 Newtonian telescope and the lidar signals are digitized with Licel transient recorders with 7.5 m
89 range resolution, allowing simultaneous detection in the analog and photon counting modes. The
90 optical scheme of the receiving module is presented in Fig.1. The system is designed to detect
91 elastic backscattering at 355 nm, nitrogen Raman backscattering at 387 nm and fluorescence
92 backscattering in five spectral intervals. These intervals are separated with dichroic beamsplitters
93 and isolated by the interference filters manufactured by Alluxa. The central wavelengths and the

94 widths of transmission bands (FWHM) of these fluorescence channels are respectively: 438/29,
95 472/32, 513/29, 560/40 and 614/54 nm. The transmission of the filters exceeds 97%, while
96 suppression of optical signal out of band is above OD6. To improve the suppression of elastic
97 backscattering we installed two filters in tandem in every channel.

98 Laser radiation at 532 nm can induce additional aerosol fluorescence which will
99 contaminate long-wave channels. To remove this potential contamination, the emissions at 532
100 nm and 1064 nm are separated with dichroic mirrors and redirected to an optical dump.
101 Therefore, the laser beam sent into the atmosphere has only one wavelength - 355 nm. As
102 follows from Fig.1, the 532 nm radiation is out of the transmission band of the filters, which
103 prevents the leaking of residual 532 nm component to the fluorescence channels. We should
104 mention, that the vibrational overtone of N₂ Raman scattering at 424.4 nm is within the
105 transmission band of 438 nm channel. In accordance with results of Knippers et al. (1985),
106 Raman intensity of this overtone is about three orders lower than intensity of N₂ fundamental
107 vibration (for 488 nm laser wavelength). Based on our measurements, contribution of N₂
108 overtone to fluorescence signal from urban aerosol (with backscattering coefficient of 1.0 Mm⁻¹
109 sr⁻¹ at 355 nm and $G_{438}=0.3\times 10^{-4}$) is estimated to be below 5% at 1000 m height. In all the
110 channels the PMTs R9880U-01 were used, except in the 614 nm channel, where R9880-20 PMT
111 was installed, due to its higher sensitivity in the red spectral region. The strong sunlight
112 background at daytime restricts the fluorescence observations to only nighttime. All the
113 observations presented in this study were performed at 45 degree angle to horizon.

114 The aerosol extinction coefficient at 355 nm (α_{355}) was calculated from Raman
115 observations as described in Ansmann et al., (1992). For the calculation of the backscattering
116 coefficient β_{355} in the presence of clouds, we used approach described in Veselovskii et al.
117 (2022b). Additional information about atmospheric properties was available from radiosonde
118 measurements at Dolgoprudnyi station, located about 50 km away from the observation site. It
119 should be mentioned that the current lidar configuration does not allow measurement of the
120 depolarization ratio.

121 The fluorescence backscattering coefficient $\beta_{F\lambda}$ is calculated from the ratio of
122 fluorescence signal to 387 nm nitrogen Raman signal with correction for differential Raleigh and
123 aerosol extinction, as described in Veselovskii et al. (2020). The atmospheric transmission of
124 fluorescence signal is calculated for the wavelengths corresponding to the center of the filter

125 transmission band. The error due to the neglect of spectral dependence of the Raleigh extinction
126 inside the filter transmission band is the largest for the shortwave channel (438 nm).
127 Computations show that at height of 4000 m corresponding error of β_{F438} is below 4%. For
128 correction of errors provided by the aerosol differential extinction we need to make an
129 assumption about the value of the extinction Angstrom exponent (EAE). In particular, for the
130 aged smoke the EAE for 355/532 nm wavelengths is about 1.0 (Hu et al., 2022) and this value
131 was used in the data analysis in our study. The uncertainties, due to possible deviation of EAE
132 from 1.0 value are analyzed in section 3.1 of this paper.

133 For calculation of $\beta_{F\lambda}$ one needs to know the differential cross section of nitrogen Raman
134 scattering, σ_R , and the relative sensitivity of the nitrogen and fluorescence detection channels.
135 The value $\sigma_R=2.744*10^{-30}$ cm²sr⁻¹ at 355 nm was taken from Venable et al. (2011). Sensitivity of
136 R9880U-01 photocathode in the 387 nm - 438 nm range varies for less than 10%, so we neglect
137 this variation and calculate relative sensitivity of the PMTs as described in Veselovskii et al.
138 (2020). The relative sensitivity of the rest of the fluorescence channels in respect to the 438 nm
139 one, was calculated from laboratory measurements using a tungsten-halogen lamp Thorlabs
140 QTH10/M with color temperature 2800K as a source, assuming this source follows the Planck
141 blackbody emission. For calibration, the telescope is installed horizontally and the lamp is placed
142 at a distance of 4 m from the entrance. The screen, installed in front of the telescope, selected the
143 central part of the lamp radiation of 50 mm diameter, which was used for calibration. This
144 procedure was performed once a week and variations of the calibration coefficients during
145 August-September 2022 period were below 15% for the 614 nm channel and below 10% for the
146 rest of the channels. Thus, the uncertainties of $\beta_{F\lambda}$ calculation include the systematical errors of
147 calibration procedure (ϵ_{cal}), the errors due to indeterminacy of the choice of the Angstrom
148 exponent (ϵ_A), and the statistical errors of the measurements (ϵ_{st}). For the vertical profiles of the
149 fluorescence backscattering in section 3, we do not provide the systematical errors of the
150 calibration, however, ϵ_{cal} are considered, when the spectra of the fluorescence backscattering are
151 analyzed.

152 One should note that $\beta_{F\lambda}$ is the integral of fluorescence backscattering over the filter
153 transmission band D_λ . To compare $\beta_{F\lambda}$ at different fluorescence channels we compute the mean
154 backscattering coefficients per elementary spectral interval, $B_\lambda = \frac{\beta_{F\lambda}}{D_\lambda}$, denoted as “fluorescence

155 spectral backscattering coefficient". The fluorescence capacity G_λ , which is the ratio of the
156 fluorescence backscattering to the elastic one, in principle, can be calculated for any laser
157 wavelength. In our previous studies we calculated G_λ with respect to β_{532} , however, in this work,
158 it was calculated with respect to 355 nm $G_\lambda = \frac{\beta_{F\lambda}}{\beta_{355}}$, since 532 nm wavelength was not available.
159 All $\beta_{F\lambda}$, G_λ and B_λ profiles presented in this work were smoothed with the Savitzky – Golay
160 method, using a second order polynomial with 7 points in the window.

161

162 **3. Measurements and analysis**

163 In August 2022 numerous smoke layers originating from the forest fires in Ryazan region
164 (about 160 km South – East of Moscow) were detected over the lidar station. The travel time of
165 the layers was less than two days, thus smoke can be considered as fresh. The previous
166 fluorescence studies of smoke plumes transported over Atlantic and including 466/44 nm
167 fluorescence measurements revealed that fluorescence capacity (calculated for β_{532}), in the
168 absence of hygroscopic growth, varied within the range $(2.5-5.0)\times 10^{-4}$ (Veselovskii et al., 2021,
169 2022a,b; Hu et al., 2022). The Backscattering Angstrom Exponent (BAE) of smoke for 355/532
170 nm wavelengths, is about 2.0, and fluorescence capacity G_{472} in 472/32 nm channel (calculated
171 for β_{355} from past studies) is expected to be in the range $(0.8-1.6)\times 10^{-4}$. Here and below the
172 fluorescence capacity will be provided for 472 nm, because in most of the cases the fluorescence
173 in this channel was maximal.

174

175 **3.1. Fluorescence measurements during smoke episode**

176 ***27-28 August 2022***

177 Two-day backward trajectories from the NOAA HYSPLIT model for the air mass reaching
178 Moscow on 28 August at 00:00 UTC are shown in Fig.2. Air masses observed at 1500 m, passed
179 over the fire region, close to the ground, and should thus contain biomass burning aerosols. The
180 relative humidity measured by the radiosonde, at 00:00 UTC, was about 35% at 1000 m and
181 increased with height up to 70% at 3000 m. Temporal evolution of the aerosol backscattering
182 coefficient, β_{355} , fluorescence backscattering, β_{F472} , and fluorescence capacity, G_{472} , are shown in
183 Fig.3. Aerosols are localized mainly below 3000 m, while above 4000 m cloud layers can be
184 seen. The highest fluorescence backscattering values were encountered before 20:30 UTC inside

185 the boundary layer. The fluorescence capacity exceeds 2.5×10^{-4} , which is the highest G_{472}
186 observed in our measurements. After 20:30 G_{472} decreases but remains above 1.0×10^{-4} , which, in
187 principle, can be due to mixing of smoke with urban aerosol.

188 Vertical profiles of the fluorescence spectral backscattering coefficients B_λ are shown in
189 Fig.4a for the period that exhibited the highest fluorescence capacity (19:00-20:00 UTC). The
190 profiles of B_{472} , B_{513} , B_{560} are similar, and the ratios B_{472}/B_{513} , B_{472}/B_{560} in Fig.4b are close to 1.0..
191 The fluorescence capacity G_{472} is above 2.0×10^{-4} , in 1.0 km – 2.5 km height range, where β_{355}
192 and B_λ are maximal. To quantify the uncertainty due to indeterminacy of the EAE choice, the
193 Fig.4c shows profiles of B_{472} , B_{614} and the ratios B_{472}/B_{513} , B_{472}/B_{614} calculated for values of EAE
194 $A=0.5$, 1.0, 1.5. The optical depth at 355 nm exceeded 0.55 at 3000 m height. The aerosol
195 differential extinction provides the largest effect to B_{614} , and the difference between values
196 obtained with $A=1.0$ and 1.5 at 3000 m is about 6.5%. For B_{472} this difference is lower, about
197 5%. However, for the ratios of fluorescence backscattering, the influence of aerosol is lower: for
198 both B_{472}/B_{513} and B_{472}/B_{614} corresponding difference is below 2.0%.

199 Fluorescence spectra of two distinct temporal intervals can be seen in Fig.5. In the interval
200 corresponding to high fluorescence capacity (19:00-20:00 UTC), the maximum fluorescence
201 backscattering is observed in 513 nm channel, which agrees with the spectrum of smoke
202 fluorescence provided by Reichard et al. (2022). In the second interval (23:00-01:00 UTC), when
203 fluorescence capacity is lower, the fluorescence is maximal at 472 nm and at longer wavelengths
204 it decreases fast. The lidar ratios (S_{355}) for both time intervals are shown in the same figure. For
205 the first interval (with maximum G_{472}) S_{355} is about 60 sr, while for the second interval S_{355}
206 decreases to about 40 sr. The highest spectral fluorescence capacity of smoke (capacity per
207 elementary spectral interval), reported by Reichard et al. (2022) for 455–535 nm range is about
208 $8 \times 10^{-6} \text{ nm}^{-1}$. This is very comparable with our value ($11 \times 10^{-6} \text{ nm}^{-1}$) calculated from data plotted
209 in Fig.4 and 5 at 472 nm in the 19:00-20:00 UTC time interval.

210 The variation of the fluorescence spectra is revealed by the ratio of the fluorescence
211 backscattering coefficients at different wavelengths (e.g. B_{472}/B_λ). In particular, inside the aerosol
212 plume in Fig.3 B_λ does not change significantly in 472 – 560 nm range, and the ratios B_{472}/B_{513} ,
213 B_{472}/B_{560} are close to 1.0. Spatio-temporal evolution of these ratios is shown in the right column
214 in Fig.3. The intervals with the maximum G_{472} are well distinguished by minimum B_{472}/B_{513} and
215 B_{472}/B_{560} ratios. At the same time, ratio B_{472}/B_{438} appears to be less sensitive to G_{472} changes.

216 Actually, this ratio even increases inside the aerosol plume. Thus, the analysis of Fig.3 reveals
217 two types of the particles. The first type having a high fluorescence capacity ($G_{472} > 2.0 \times 10^{-4}$) and
218 a lidar ratio close to 60 sr can be classified as “pure” smoke. The second type, with lower
219 fluorescence capacity ($G_{472} \sim 1 \times 10^{-4}$) and a smaller lidar ratio, can be a mixture of smoke and
220 urban aerosol.

221 Forest fires stopped in the beginning of September, so during September – October the
222 urban aerosols were predominant. Fig.6 shows corresponding fluorescence spectra, normalized
223 to B_{472} . Measurements were performed during 07:00-09:00 UTC and averaged within the
224 boundary layer between 500 m and 1000 m. For urban aerosols, fluorescence at wavelengths
225 larger than 472 nm decreases fast. Presence of remaining smoke, however, may lead to some
226 increase of B_λ in the 513 – 614 nm interval. For urban aerosol particles the fluorescence capacity
227 G_{472} for urban particles varied within $(0.1-0.4) \times 10^{-4}$ and the lidar ratios within 30-50 sr interval.
228 Thus, mixing of smoke and urban particles can explain the variability observed in fluorescence
229 spectrum on Fig.5.

230

231 *17 August 2022*

232 The spatio – temporal intervals with high fluorescence capacity were observed also for
233 other days. On August 17-18, 2022 between 18:00 – 19:00 UTC, fluorescence capacity at 472
234 nm, the G_{472} , within the aerosol plume increased above 1.0×10^{-4} (Fig.7). Simultaneously, the
235 ratio B_{472}/B_{560} decreases to less than 0.8. Outside the plume, the fluorescence capacity is $(0.4-$
236 $0.7) \times 10^{-4}$ and the ratio B_{472}/B_{560} increases up to 1.2. Corresponding fluorescence spectra are
237 shown in Fig.8. Inside the plume the fluorescence is maximal in the 560 nm channel, while
238 outside the maximum is shifted to 472 nm. Similarly to the 27-28 August event (Fig.5), the lidar
239 ratio S_{355} is about 60 sr inside the plume and decreases down to about 30 sr outside the plume.
240 Thus, again, we conclude that in the interval having the highest G_{472} , smoke particles are
241 predominant, while outside we very likely addressed a mixture of smoke and urban aerosol.

242

243 **3.2. Analysis of fluorescence profiles observed in the presence of hygroscopic** 244 **growth of aerosol.**

245 Our previous studies with a single channel fluorescence lidar revealed, that the
246 hygroscopic growth of aerosol particles decreases the fluorescence capacity, but does not affect

247 the fluorescence backscattering coefficient (Veselovskii et al., 2021). Thus, when fluorescence
248 spectra are available, one can expect that spectral dependence of fluorescence backscattering
249 coefficients will preserve information about particle type (will not be influenced by water
250 uptake). Below, we provide interpretation of the measurements performed during the nights
251 August 21-22 and 23-24 2022. In both cases, RH increased with altitude and the hygroscopic
252 growth is one possible contributor to the observed increase of particle backscattering coefficient.
253 Our results show, that on August 21-22 the shape of the fluorescence spectrum (the set of B_λ/B_{472}
254 ratios) did not exhibit any change with altitude, whereas, conversely, on August 23-24 the shape
255 of the fluorescence spectrum has changed with altitude, indicating possible change of aerosol
256 composition with height.

257 Fig.9. shows vertical profiles of the fluorescence spectral backscattering coefficients, B_λ ,
258 together with backscattering β_{355} coefficient, fluorescence capacity G_{472} , and B_{472}/B_{438} , B_{472}/B_{513} ,
259 B_{472}/B_{560} ratios on August 21 2022. Profiles of B_{472}/B_{614} ratio are noisier and not used for
260 analysis. The profile of relative humidity measured by a radiosonde at Dolgoprudnyi station,
261 shows increase of RH with altitude from 30% to 80% within 1000-4500 interval. Inside 3000-
262 4000 m range, the fluorescence backscattering does not demonstrate significant variations while
263 elastic backscattering increases by two orders of magnitude (from approximately $1 \text{ Mm}^{-1}\text{sr}^{-1}$ to
264 $100 \text{ Mm}^{-1}\text{sr}^{-1}$), which should be attributed to aerosol hygroscopic growth. The fluorescence
265 capacity, G_{472} , decreases to less than 0.01×10^{-4} at 4000 m, however, the ratios B_{472}/B_{438} ,
266 B_{472}/B_{513} , B_{472}/B_{560} do not change with altitude, meaning that i) the spectrum (its shape) is not
267 affected by water uptake process and that ii) aerosol composition remains constant.

268 Temporal evolution of the particle parameters on the August 23-24 night is presented in
269 Fig.10. The relative humidity increases with height and during 18:00-20:00 time interval a cloud
270 was formed at ~ 3000 m. After 20:00 the fluorescence capacity inside 2000-3000 m height range
271 is low (below 0.2×10^{-4}), however low values of G_{472} can also be explained by particle
272 hygroscopic growth, thus one can not yet conclude that aerosol composition has changed,
273 because the two effects (RH + aerosol changes) can occur simultaneously. Meanwhile, B_{472}/B_{560}
274 ratio decreases above 2000 m, which can be an indication of aerosol composition change.
275 Profiles of aerosol properties for the time interval 20:30-23:30 are shown in Fig.11. In
276 accordance with the radiosonde measurements the relative humidity reaches 80% at 3000 m at
277 00:00 UTC. At 1000 m height, where RH is low ($\sim 35\%$), G_{472} is about 0.4×10^{-4} , hence, urban

278 aerosol type is predominant. Both B_{472}/B_{513} and B_{472}/B_{560} ratios decrease above 2000 m, while
279 B_{472}/B_{438} increases. As mentioned above, such behavior can be an indication that contribution of
280 smoke rises with height.

281 Normalized fluorescence spectra for two height intervals, 1000-1500 m and 2500-3000 m
282 are shown in Fig.11c. In the second interval, the spectrum is shifted towards longer wavelengths,
283 which corroborates that smoke fraction in the aerosol mixture increases above 2000 m. Thus, the
284 analysis of this episode demonstrates that multi-spectral fluorescence backscattering provides
285 opportunity for particle identification even in the presence of hygroscopic growth.

286

287 **Conclusions and perspectives**

288 Observations performed with a five-channel fluorescence lidar allow estimation of
289 atmospheric aerosol fluorescence spectrum. For urban aerosol type the maximum of fluorescence
290 is observed at 472 nm. However, for smoke particles, the maximum is shifted toward longer
291 wavelengths and the fluorescence backscattering coefficients in the 472 nm, 513 nm and 560 nm
292 channels are comparable. Hence, the ratios B_{472}/B_{513} or B_{472}/B_{560} , allow identification of the
293 smoke layers because, for smoke, these ratios are smaller than for urban particles.

294 During strong forest fires in August 2022 we regularly observed over Moscow aerosol
295 plumes, characterized by high fluorescence capacity ($G_{472} > 1.0 \times 10^{-4}$). Inside these plumes, lidar
296 ratio S_{355} increased up to 60 sr simultaneously with a shift of the fluorescence maximum to 513
297 nm or 560 nm. Particles inside plume are very likely composed of “pure” smoke, while outside
298 the plume, a smoke/urban mixture is probable. Classification of aerosol particles based on single
299 channel fluorescence measurements has limitations at high RH because the fluorescence capacity
300 is decreasing due to water uptake. However, our experimental database of fluorescence
301 backscattering ratios does not show noticeable dependence with RH, which means these ratios
302 allow us to identify smoke layers even in the presence of hygroscopic growth.

303 In our measurements, the laser emitted only 355 nm radiation. However, such
304 configuration is not optimum for aerosol characterization: it is important to use dual-wavelength
305 (355, 532 nm) depolarization and lidar ratio measurements together with the fluorescence
306 observations. Such Laser Induced Fluorescence Exploratory instrument (LIFE) is currently under
307 construction and will start operation in 2023, at LOA, ATOLL platform (France), in the frame of
308 the OBS4CLIM project and AGORA-Lab research and development activities. More generally,

309 it seems promising to upgrade widely-used multiwavelength Mie-Raman high performance lidars
310 with a couple of fluorescence channels. According to our results, at least for smoke, the 472 nm
311 and 513 nm channels can be considered. The wavelengths of anti-Stokes components of
312 nitrogen and oxygen stimulated by 532 nm radiation are 473 nm and 491 nm respectively. The
313 oxygen component is blocked by the filter, while the nitrogen one is inside the transmission band
314 of the 472 nm channel. The power of anti-Stokes scattering increases with temperature, but even
315 at 30C⁰ its contribution to the fluorescence signal is insignificant. Estimations show that for
316 backscattering coefficient $\beta_{355}=1.0 \text{ Mm}^{-1}\text{sr}^{-1}$ and $\beta_{F513}=0.2\times 10^{-4} \text{ Mm}^{-1}\text{sr}^{-1}$ (urban aerosol), the
317 relative contribution of the nitrogen anti-Stokes component to the fluorescence (the fraction of
318 β_{F472}) at 1000 m height is below 4×10^{-4} .

319 The results presented in this study are preliminary. We focused mainly on the fresh
320 smoke analysis. However, smoke particle fluorescence properties depend on its chemical
321 composition, in particular, on its organic carbon fraction. In addition, smoke fluorescence may
322 be influenced by the burning process and transportation conditions. More observation
323 campaigns, at different locations, are needed to clarify this. In the coming Spring – Summer
324 period analysis of fluorescence spectra of different aerosol types, in particular, the pollens, is
325 planned. At present, the system used in this study is being modified to include depolarization
326 capability.

327

328 **Data availability.** Lidar measurements are available upon request
329 (philippe.goloub@univ-lille.fr).

330

331 **Author contributions.** IV assembled the lidar and wrote the paper. NK and MK performed the
332 measurements. QH, and PG analyzed data and helped with paper preparation. TP helped with
333 lidar design, DL participated in paper preparation.

334 .

335 **Competing interests.** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interests.

336

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344

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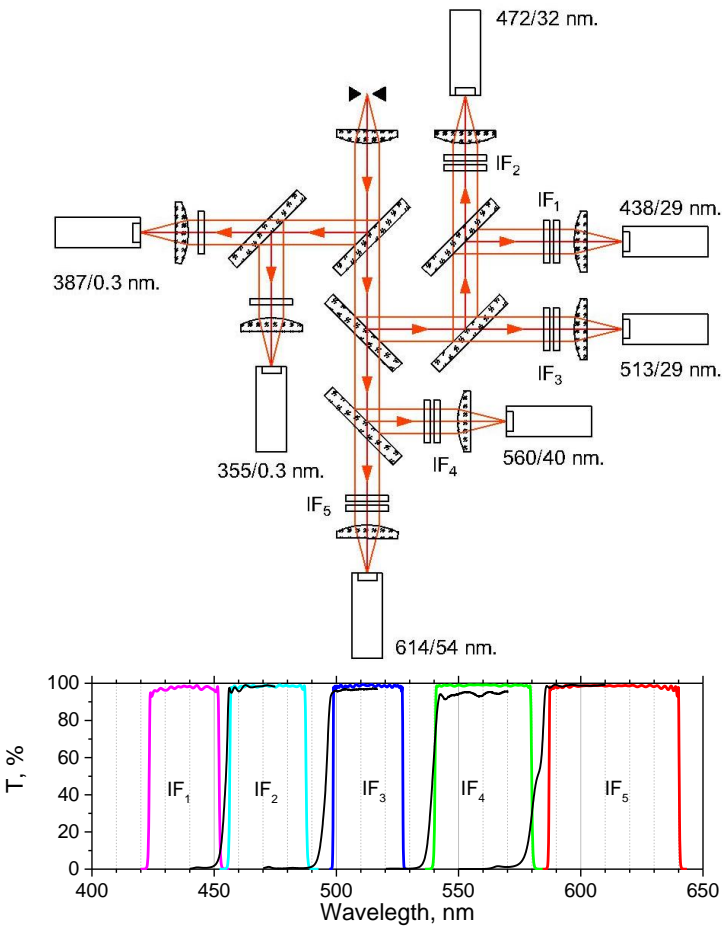
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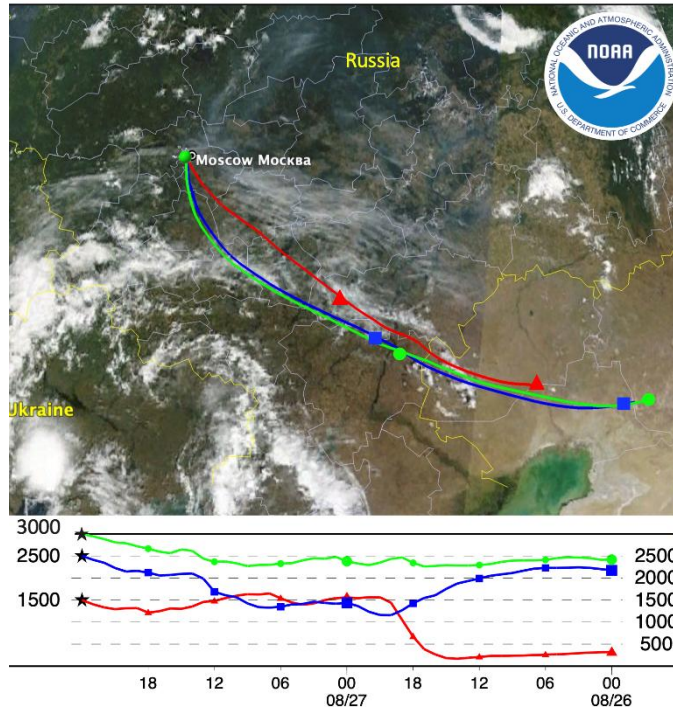
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437 Fig.1. Optical scheme of the receiving module of the lidar together with transmissions of
 438 interference filters IF₁-IF₅ in the fluorescence channels. Black lines show the transmissions of the
 439 45 degree dichroic beam splitters used for separation of fluorescence spectral components.

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NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectories ending at 0000 UTC 28 Aug 22
GFSQ Meteorological Data



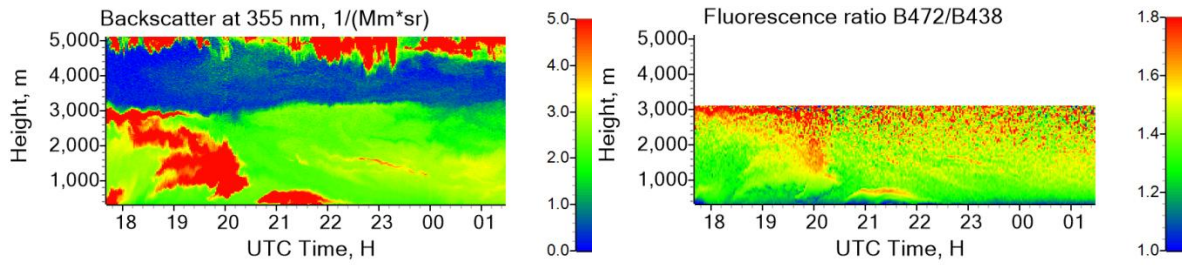
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Fig.2. Two-day backward trajectories from the NOAA HYSPLIT model for the air mass in Moscow on 28 August at 00:00 UTC. The basemap is the Earth's true color image observed by MODIS Terra for the same period.

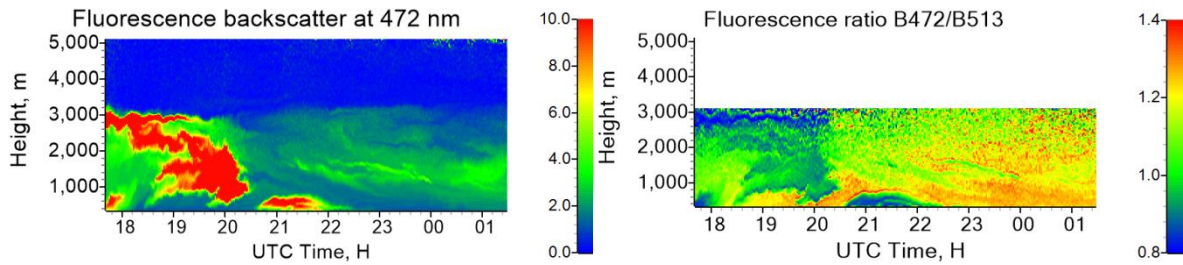
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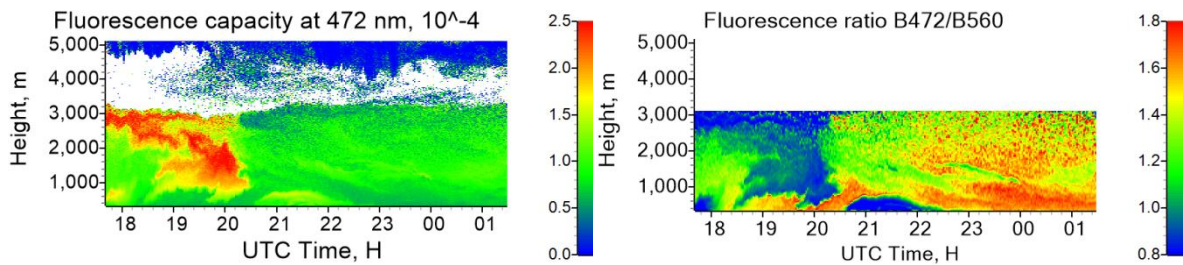
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455 Fig.3. Spatio – temporal distribution of particle parameters on the night 27-28 August 2022. (left

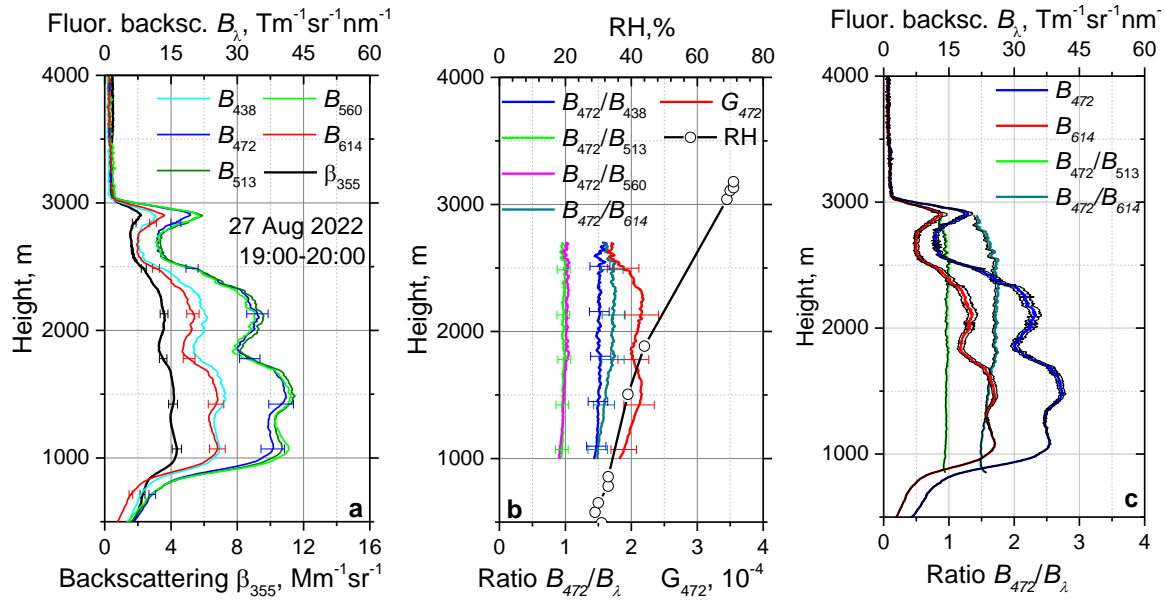
456 column) Aerosol backscattering coefficient β_{355} , fluorescence backscattering β_{F472} (in 10^{-4} Mm^{-1}

457 sr^{-1}), fluorescence capacity G_{472} . (right column) Ratios of fluorescence spectral backscattering

458 coefficients B_{472}/B_{438} , B_{472}/B_{513} , B_{472}/B_{560} .

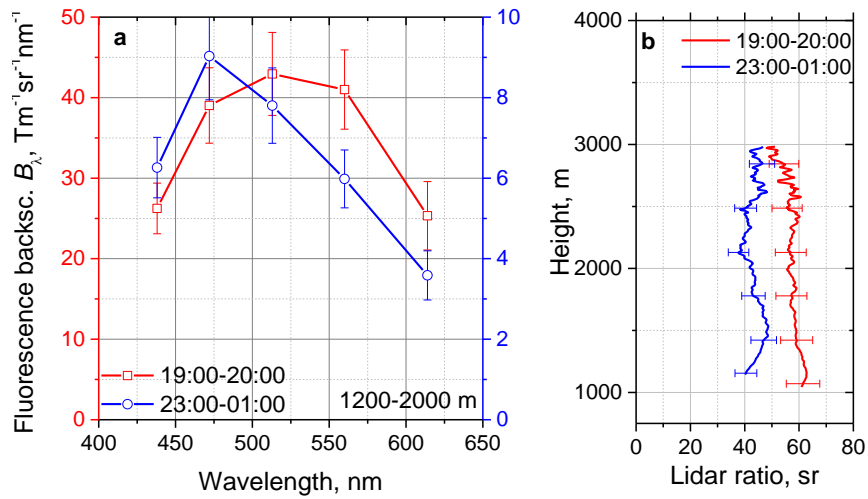
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 462 Fig.4. Observations on 27 August 2022 for period 19:00-20:00 UTC. (a) Fluorescence spectral
 463 backscattering coefficients B_λ at 438, 472, 513, 560, 614 nm and the aerosol backscattering
 464 coefficient β_{355} . (b) The ratios B_{472}/B_{438} , B_{472}/B_{513} , B_{472}/B_{560} , B_{472}/B_{614} and the fluorescence
 465 capacity G_{472} . Symbols show the relative humidity measured by a radiosonde at 00:00 UTC on
 466 28 August. (c) Fluorescence spectral backscattering coefficients B_λ at 472, 614 nm wavelengths
 467 and the ratios B_{472}/B_{513} , B_{472}/B_{614} calculated for the Angstrom exponent values $A=0.5, 1, 1.5$.
 468 Results for $A=0.5, 1.5$ are shown with thin black lines, the increase of A decreases the B_λ . The
 469 profiles at plots (a, b) are calculated for $A=1$.
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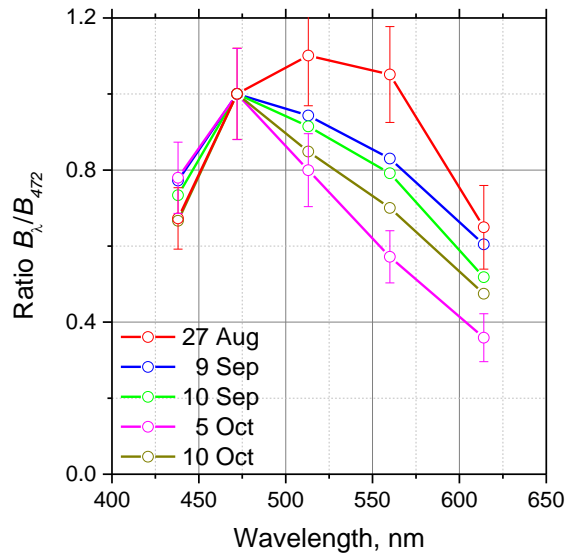
473 Fig.5. (a) Spectrum of fluorescence backscattering B_λ on the night 27-28 August 2022 for 19:00-

474 20:00 and 23:00-01:00 UTC intervals. Results are averaged inside 1200-2000 m height range. (b)

475 Profiles of lidar ratios at 355 nm for the same temporal intervals.

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479 Fig.6. Fluorescence spectra measured in September - October 2022, when forest fires were over.

480 Fluorescence backscattering coefficients B_λ were averaged inside 500 – 1000 m height range and

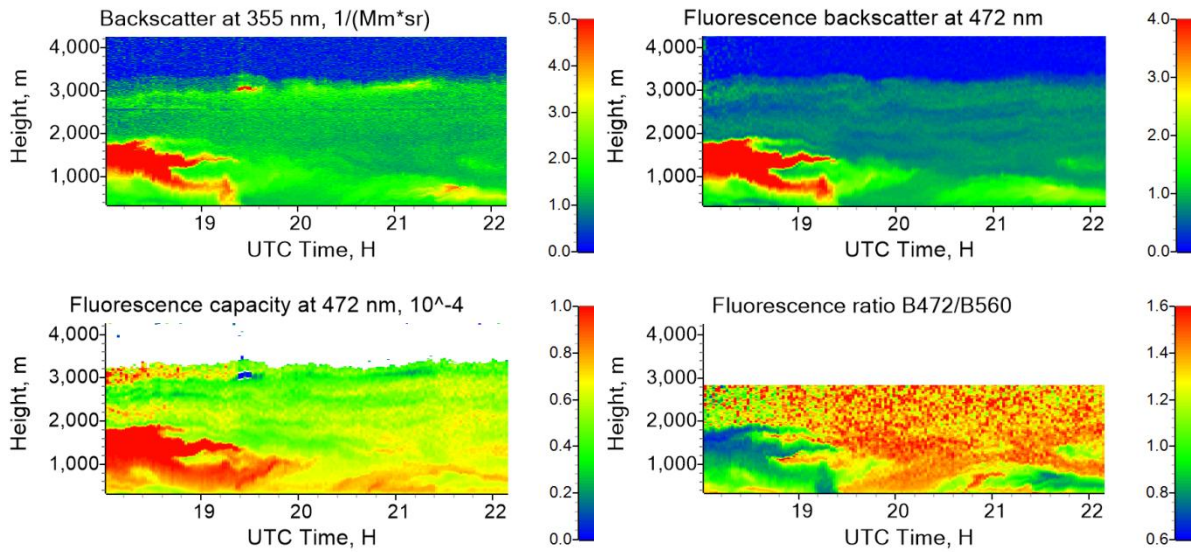
481 normalized on B_{472} . For comparison, the fluorescence spectrum in smoke plume on 27 August

482 from Fig.5 is also presented.

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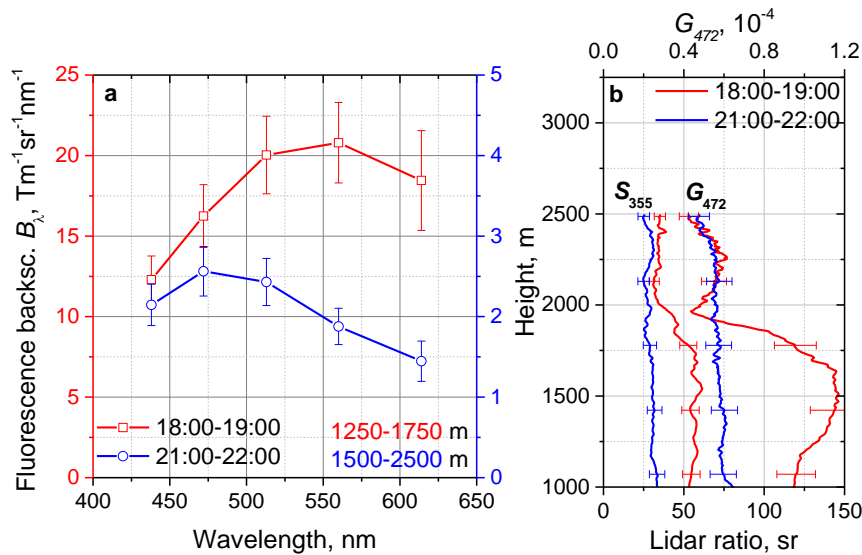


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488 Fig.7. Observations on 17 August 2022. (left column) Aerosol backscattering coefficient β_{355}
 489 and fluorescence capacity G_{472} . (right column) Fluorescence backscattering coefficient β_{F472} (in
 490 $10^{-4} \text{ Mm}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$) and the ratio of fluorescence spectral backscattering coefficients B_{472}/B_{560} .

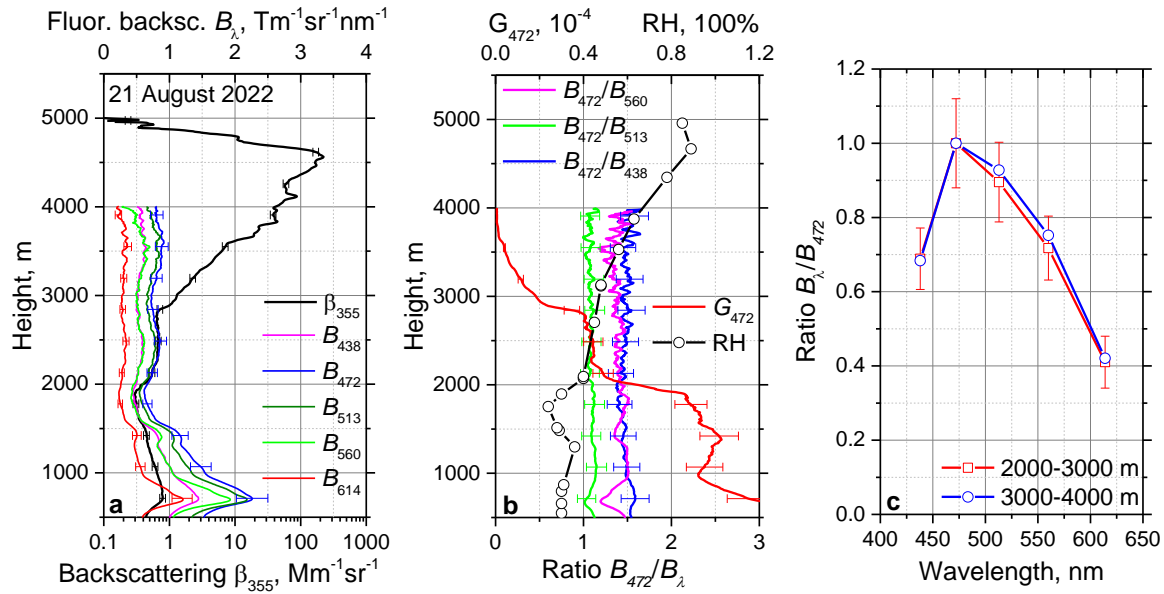
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493 Fig.8. (a) Spectra of fluorescence backscattering B_{λ} on 17 August 2022 for 18:00-19:00 UTC and
 494 21:00-22:00 UTC periods. Results are averaged within 1250-1750 m and 1500-2500 m height
 495 ranges respectively. (b) Profiles of lidar ratio S_{355} and fluorescence capacity G_{472} for the same
 496 temporal periods.

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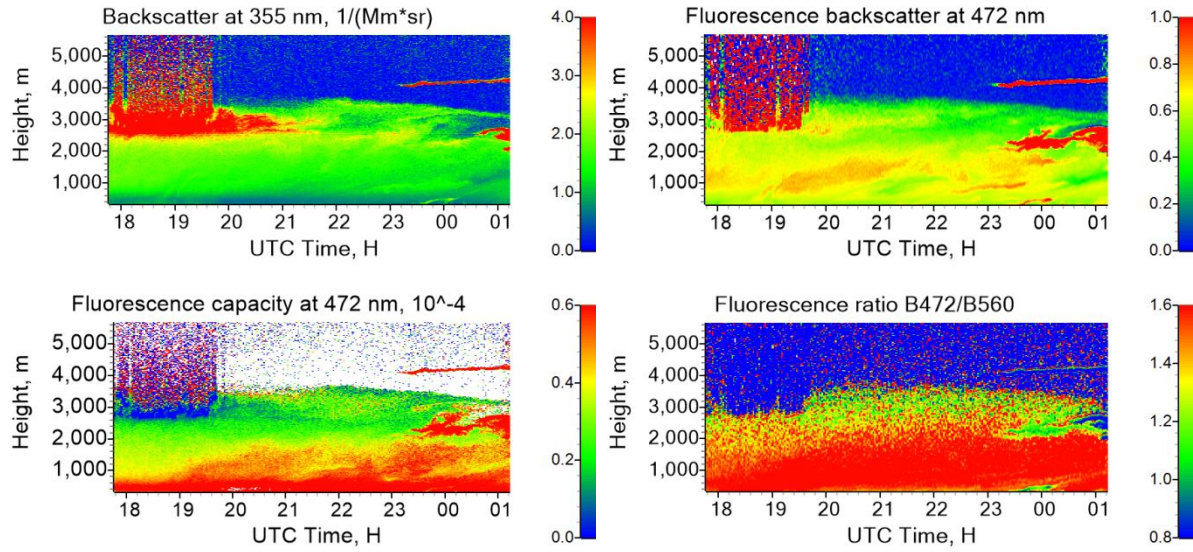
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499 Fig.9. Vertical profiles of the particle parameters on 21 August 2022 for period 22:00-24:00
 500 UTC. (a) The fluorescence spectral backscattering coefficients B_λ at 438, 472, 513, 560, 614 nm
 501 and the aerosol backscattering coefficient β_{355} . (b) The ratios B_{472}/B_{438} , B_{472}/B_{513} , B_{472}/B_{560} and
 502 the fluorescence capacity G_{472} . Symbols show the relative humidity measured by a radiosonde at
 503 00:00 UTC on 22 August. (c) Spectrum of the fluorescence backscattering coefficient B_λ for
 504 height intervals 2000-3000 m and 3000-4000 m. Values of B_λ are normalized on B_{472} .

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509 Fig.10. Spatio-temporal distributions of the particle parameters on the night 23-24 August 2022.

510 (left column) The aerosol backscattering coefficient β_{355} together with the fluorescence capacity

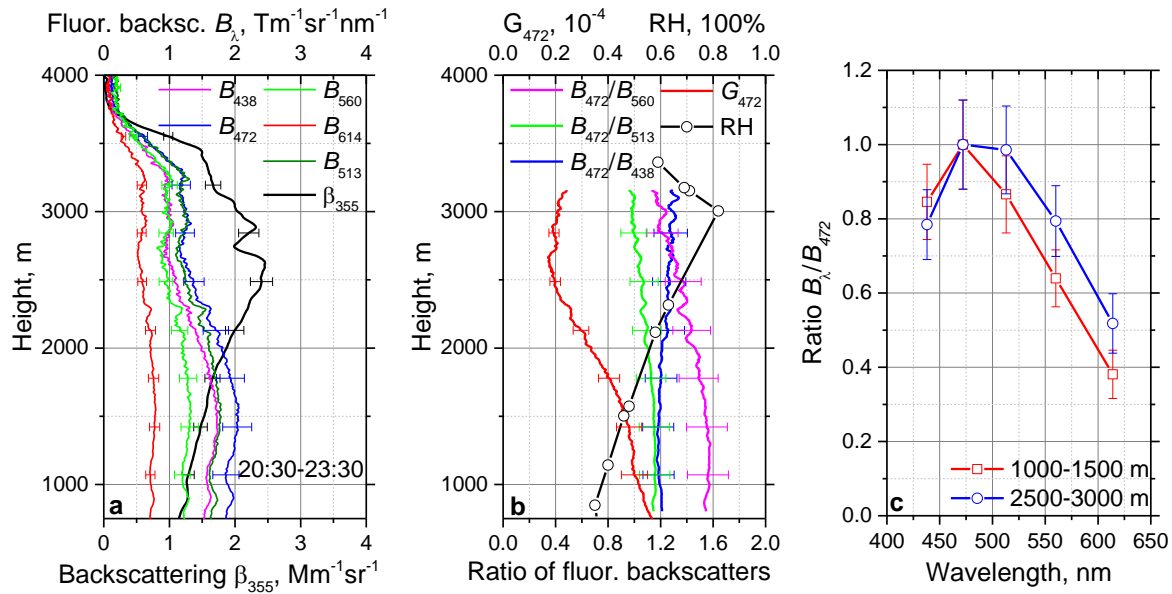
511 G_{472} . (right column) The fluorescence backscattering coefficient β_{F472} (in $10^{-4} \text{ Mm}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$) and the

512 ratio B_{472}/B_{560} .

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518 Fig.11. Vertical profiles of the particle parameters on 23 August 2022 for period 20:30-23:30

519 UTC. (a) The fluorescence spectral backscattering coefficients B_λ at 438, 472, 513, 560, 614 nm

520 and the aerosol backscattering coefficient β_{355} . (b) The ratios B_{472}/B_{438} , B_{472}/B_{513} , B_{472}/B_{560} and

521 the fluorescence capacity G_{472} . Symbols show the relative humidity measured by a radiosonde at

522 00:00 UTC on 24 August. (c) Spectrum of the fluorescence backscattering coefficient B_λ for

523 height intervals 1000-1500 m and 2500-3000 m. Values of B_λ are normalized on B_{472} .

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