Particle measurements from a Lagrangian platform near the tropical tropopause: Results form the February 2010 pre-Concordiasi campaign

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- Wyoming Paticle Counter (WPC)
- pre Concordiasi campaign – Seychelles February 2001

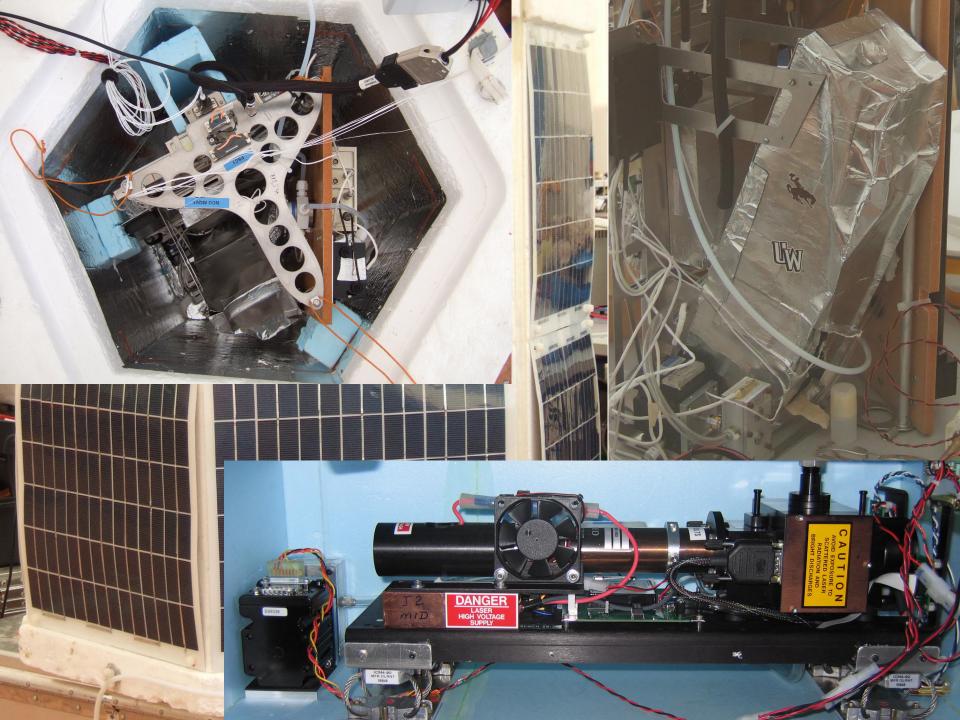
Air Seychelles 🛛

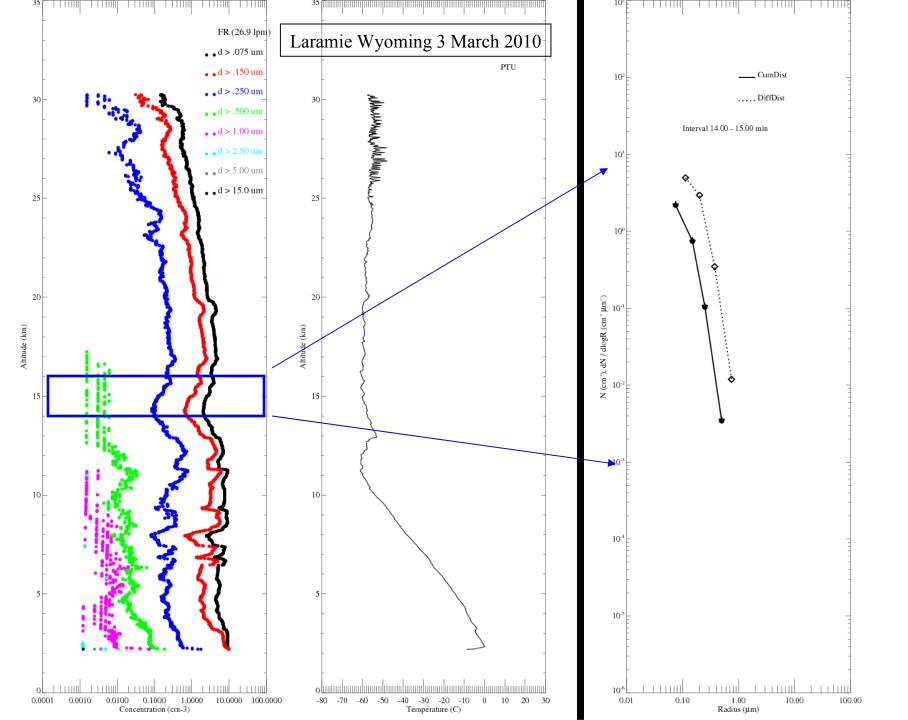
Concordiasi

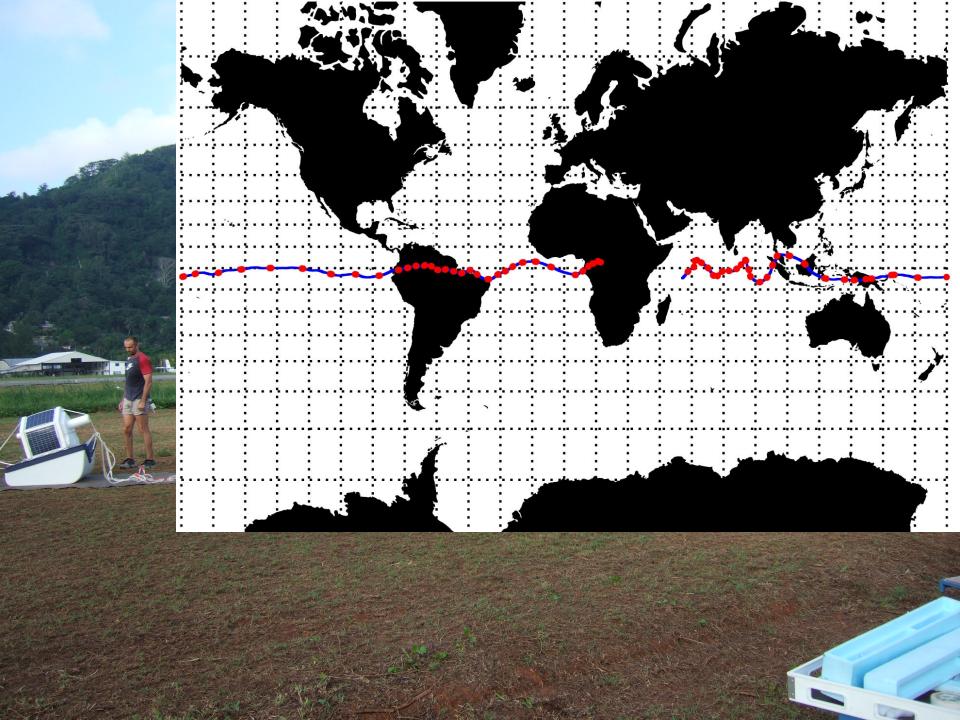
Conclusions

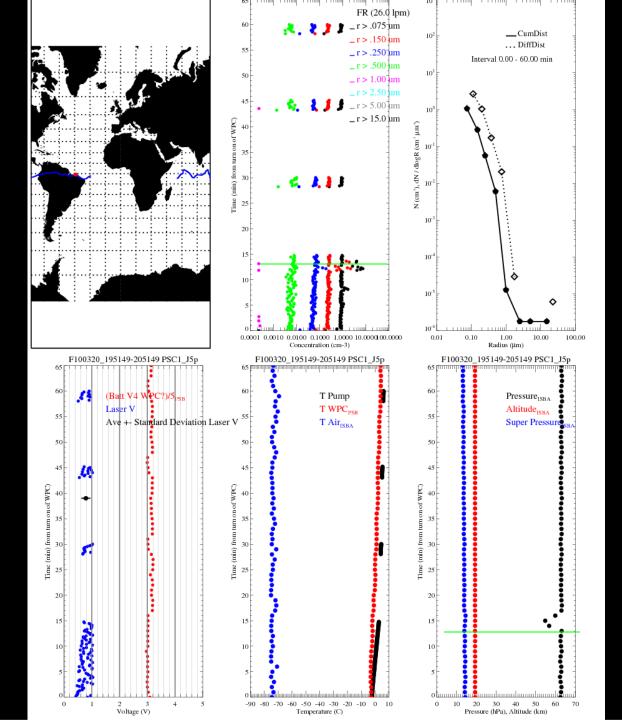
campaign – McMurdo August September 2010

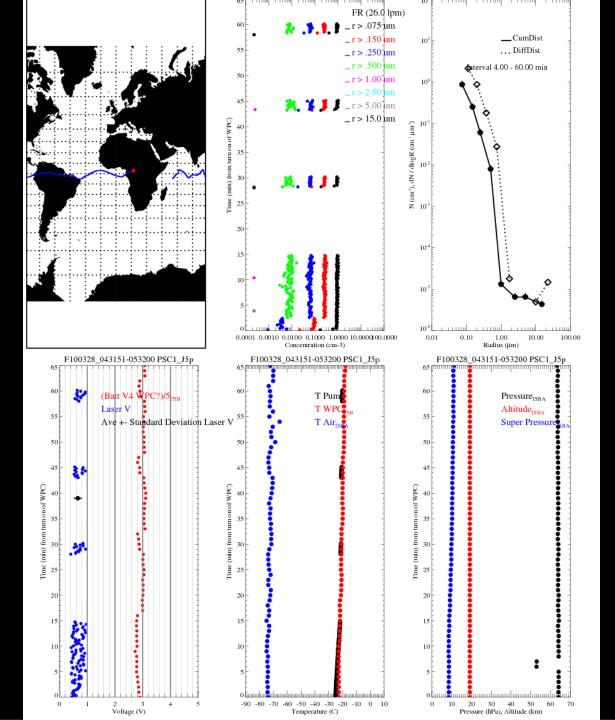
Operational requirements

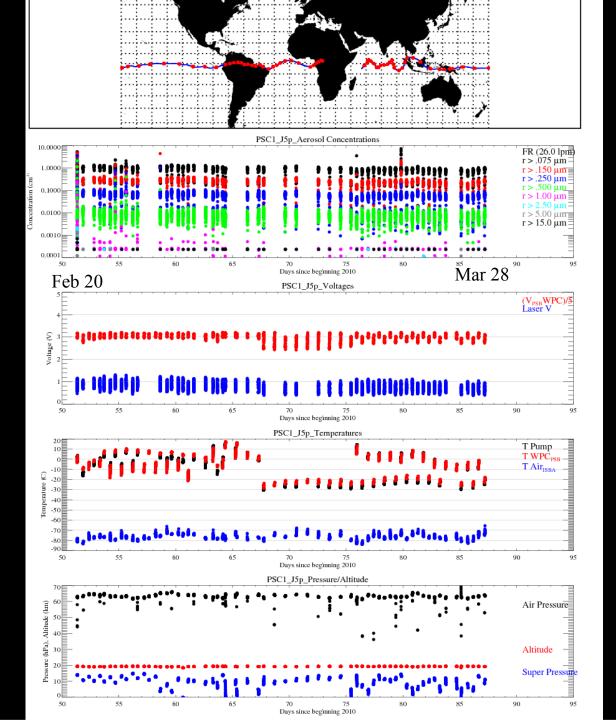












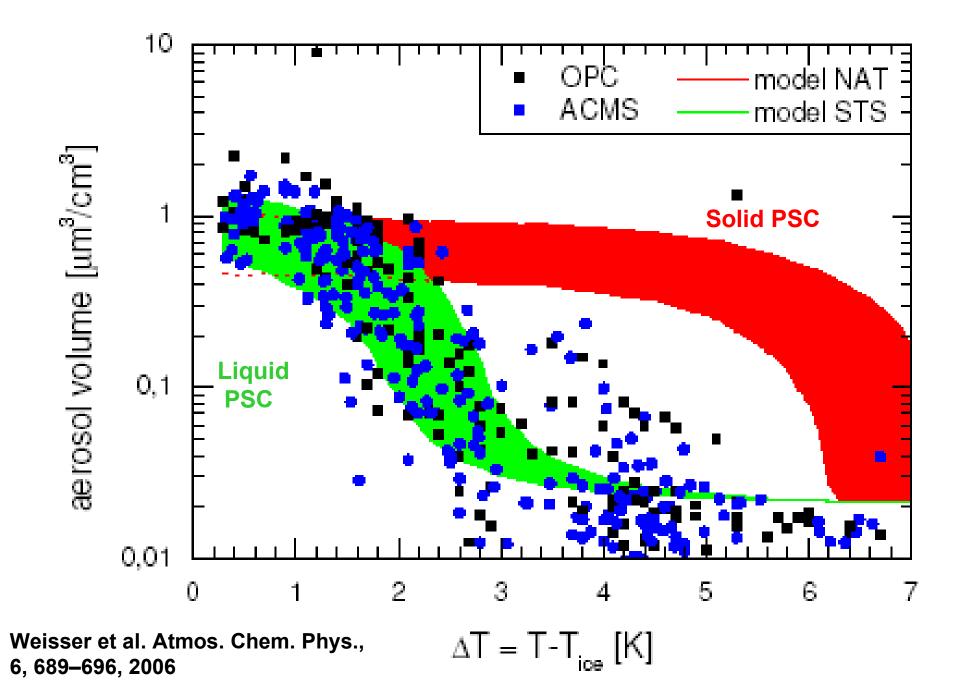
Quasi-Lagrangian measurements of polar stratospheric cloud particle development from long-duration balloon platforms – NSF-OPP proposal

• Goal

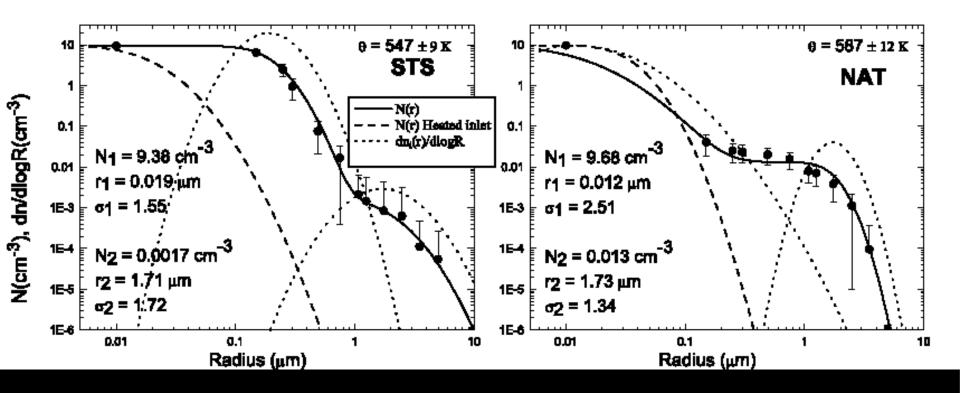
- Capture the processes of particle growth during formation and dissolution of polar stratospheric clouds (PSCs) as instruments pass into and out of temperature regimes favorable for PSC development.
- Particle and Temperature measurements provide observations of threshold temperatures for PSC particle condensation forming:
 - Liquid cloud particles, including some estimates of their growth rate
 - Solid nitric acid trihydrate (NAT) particles, including estimates of their nucleation threshold.
- The question of solid PSC (NAT) nucleation is one of the major unanswered questions concerning PSC particle development.

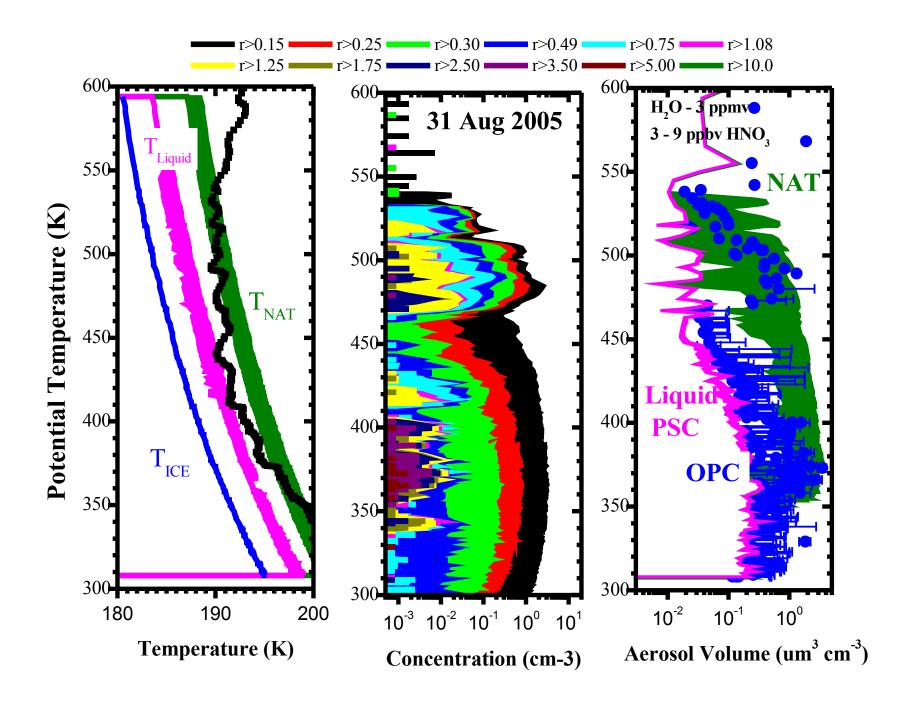
Importance

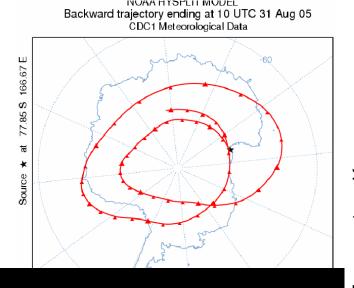
- Nucleation thresholds for solid PSC hydrates are necessary for incorporation of more realistic PSC models into current ozone loss models. At what temperature should models form PSCs?
 - T (PSC_{solid}) ~ T (PSC_{liquid}) + 3 K ~ T (PSC_{ice}) + 7 K
- Laboratory nucleation thresholds (~T_{ice}-2K) appear too cold based on limited field observations.

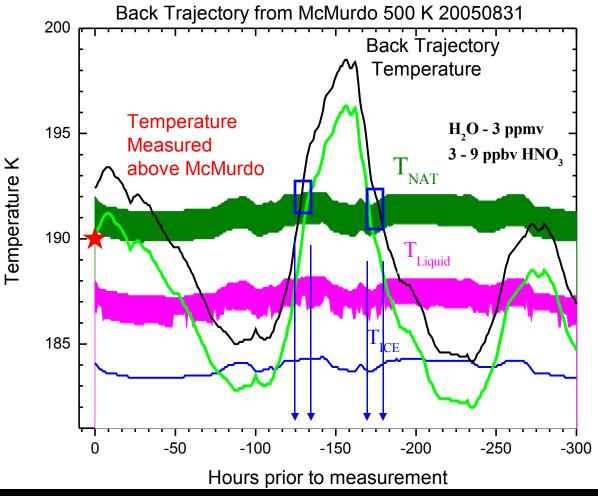


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Conclusions

- Field measurements coupled with back trajectories suggest NAT nucleation temperatures are warmer than laboratory estimates.
- Field estimates are uncertain because of:
 - Uncertainties in back trajectory histories
 - Uncertainties in the model analyzed temperatures
 - No estimates of particle growth rate along air parcel tracks.
- Lagrangian in situ microphysical measurements would reduce uncertainties in:
 - air parcel history
 - temperature accuracy
 - particle type and growth
- The successes of the pre-Concordiasi campaign are very promising indications for completing the planned measurements from McMurdo in 2010!!!

