

Links between stratospheric aerosols, polar stratospheric clouds and meteor smoke particles

Ottmar Möhler

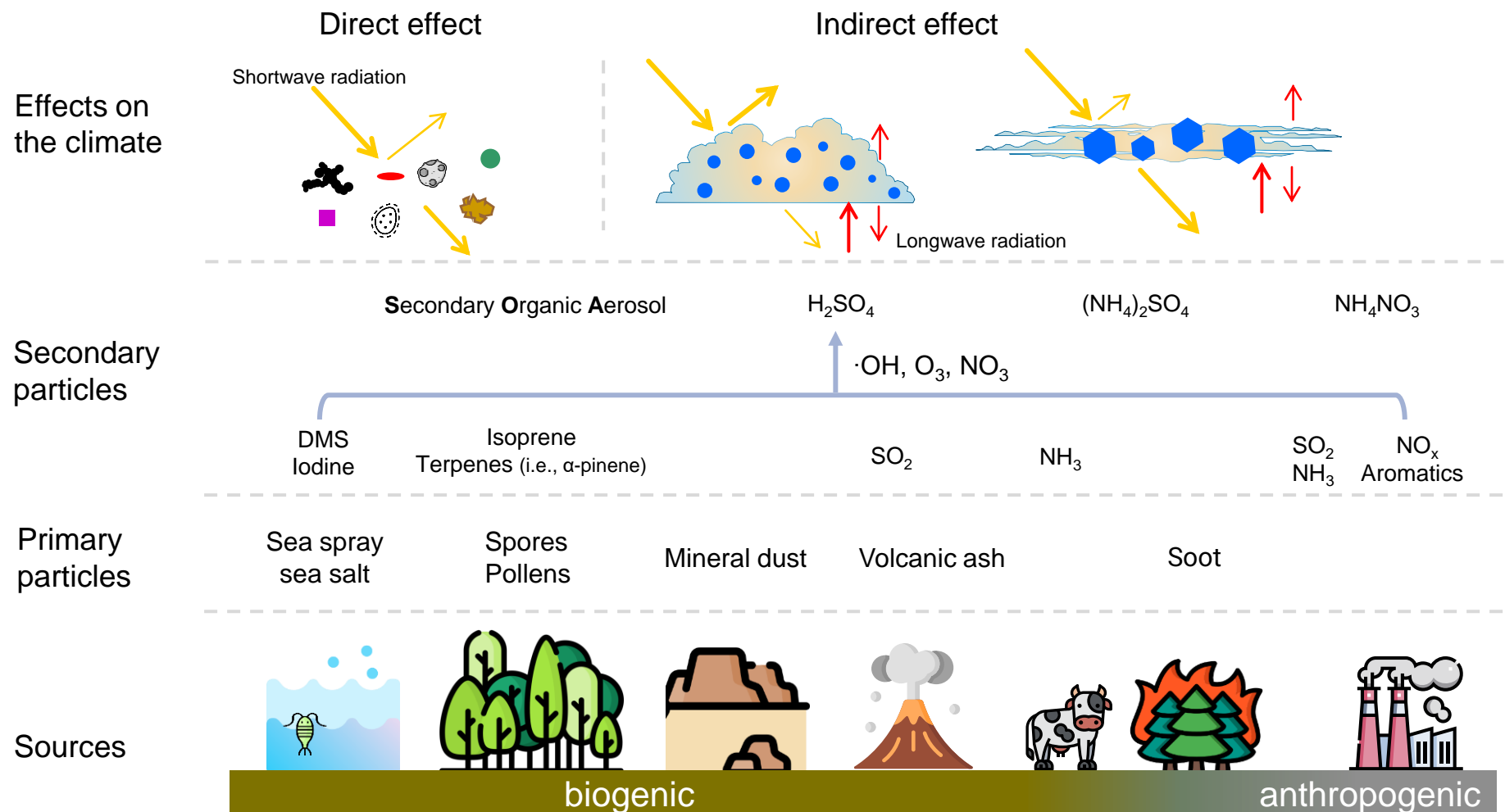
Institute of Meteorology and Climate Research, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe, Germany



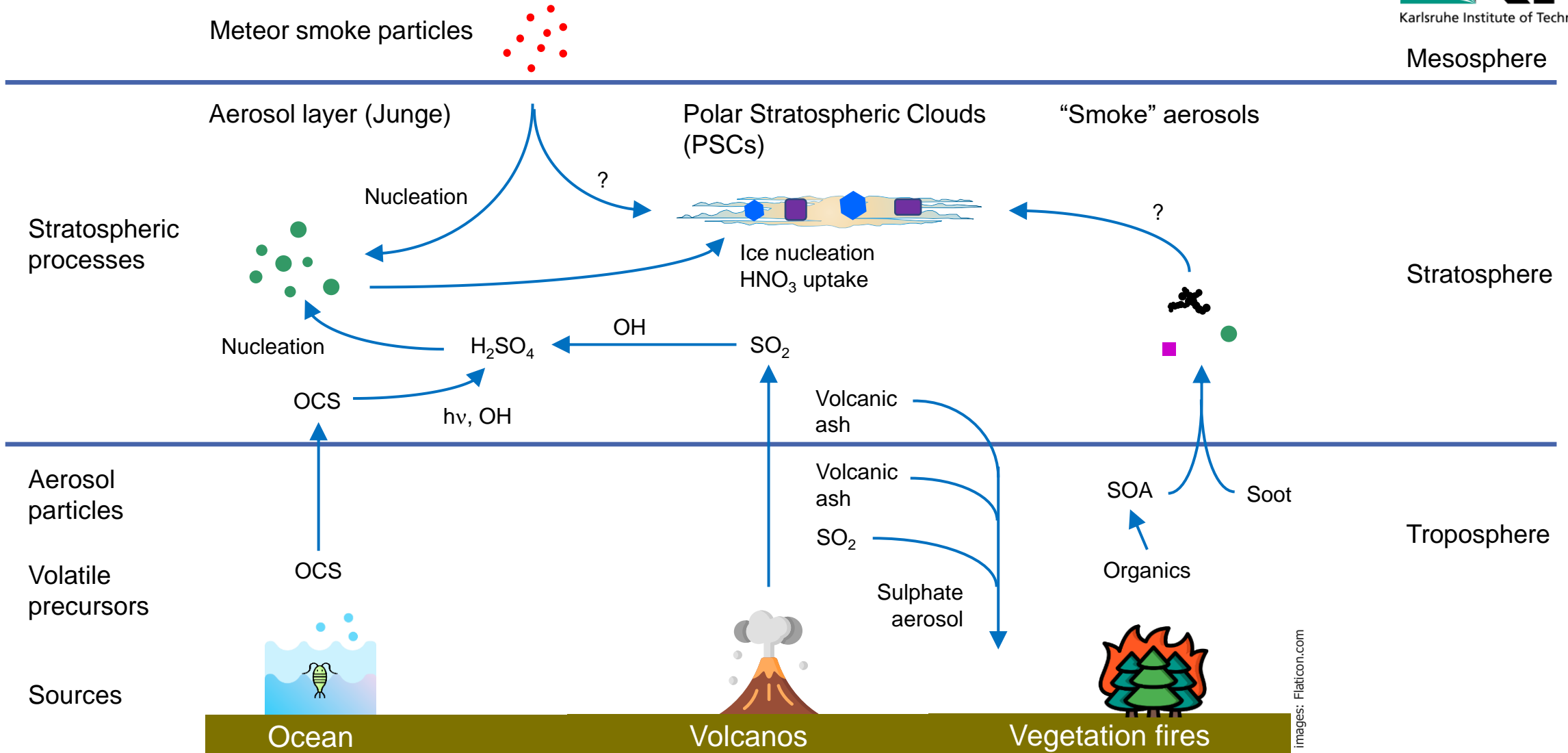
Talk outline

- Introduction to tropospheric and stratospheric aerosols
- The Junge aerosol layer in the stratosphere
- Formation and properties of Polar Stratospheric Clouds (PSCs)
- Detection and potential role of meteoric smoke particles
- Detection of tropospheric aerosol in the stratosphere

Introduction to tropospheric aerosols



Introduction to stratospheric aerosols



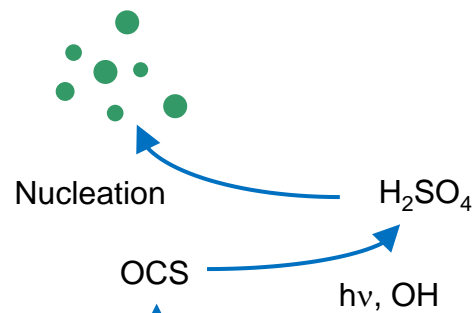
images: Flaticon.com

The stratospheric sulphuric acid aerosol layer

Mesosphere

Aerosol layer (Junge)

Stratospheric processes

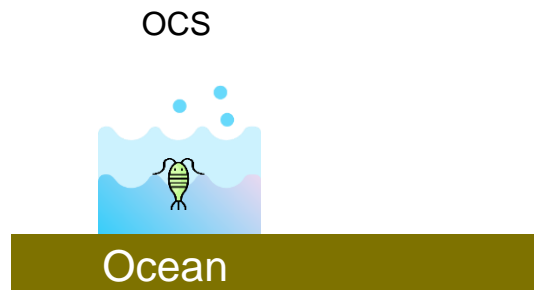


Stratosphere

Aerosol particles

Volatile precursors

Sources



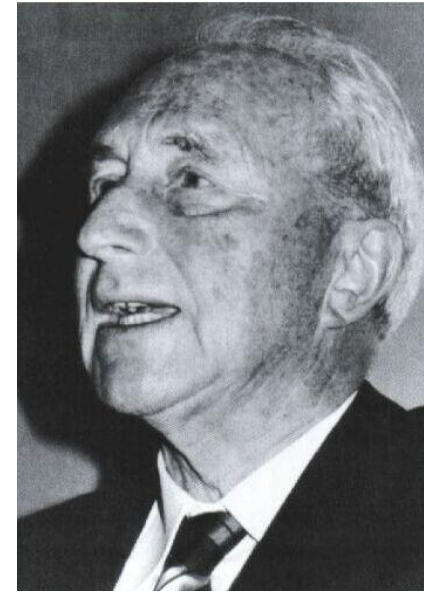
Troposphere

images: FlatIcon.com

The discovery of the stratospheric aerosol layer

Christian Junge (1912-1996)

1968 to 1979 Director of the newly established Department of Atmospheric Chemistry and Physical Chemistry of Isotopes at the Max-Planck-Institute for Chemistry in Mainz.



***Science*, 133, 1478-1479, 1961**

A World-wide Stratospheric Aerosol Layer

Christian E. Junge, Charles W. Chagnon, and James E. Manson

Atmospheric Circulations Laboratory, Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories, Bedford, Massachusetts

An aerosol layer has been identified by a stratospheric balloon and aircraft aerosol collection program. Measurements of horizontal extension and vertical distribution indicate that this layer is a world-wide phenomenon, displaying little variation with time and latitude. The particles in this layer range in size between 0.1 and 2 μm in radius, are water soluble, and contain sulfur as the predominant constituent. It is most likely that they are formed within the stratosphere.

Expansion chamber for measuring stratospheric aerosols

Junge, Cagnon, Manson, J. Meteorology, 18, 81, 1961.

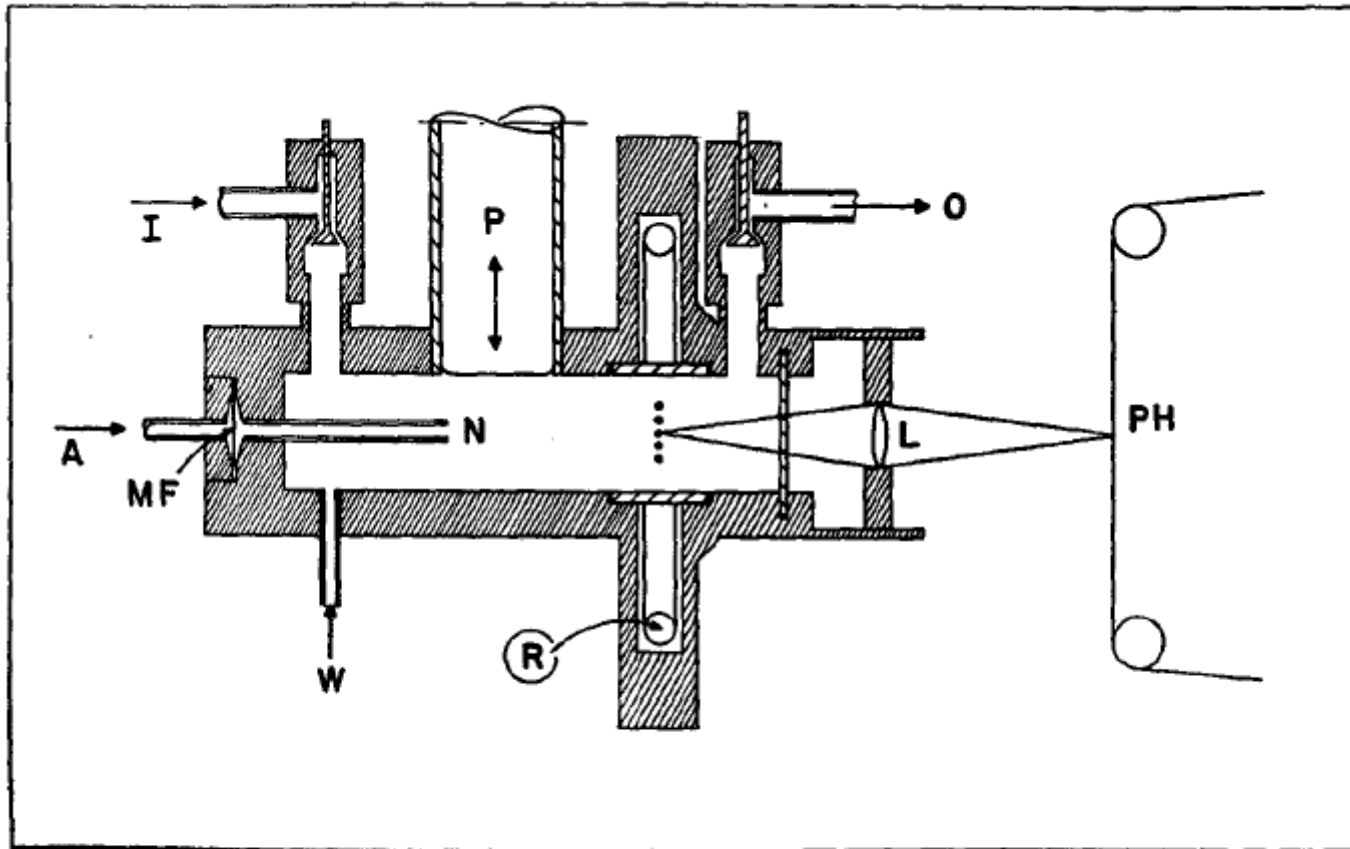


FIG. 8. Schematic diagram of the automatic recording Aitken Nuclei Counter. *I* = inlet tube for sample. *O* = outlet tube to pump. *P* = expansion piston. *A* = inlet for air injection. *MF* = millipore filter. *N* = nozzle to facilitate good mixing in chamber. *R* = ring flashlight. *L* = lens. *PH* = photographic film. *W* = water injector.

Latest development: Mobile and automated expansion-type cloud chamber PINE for measuring ice nucleation and Ice-Nucleating Particles (Möhler et al., AMT, 2021)



<https://www.noell.bilfinger.com/pine/#c167514>

https://www.imk-aaf.kit.edu/PINE_INP_monitoring.php

First height profiles of stratospheric aerosols (Junge et al., 1961)

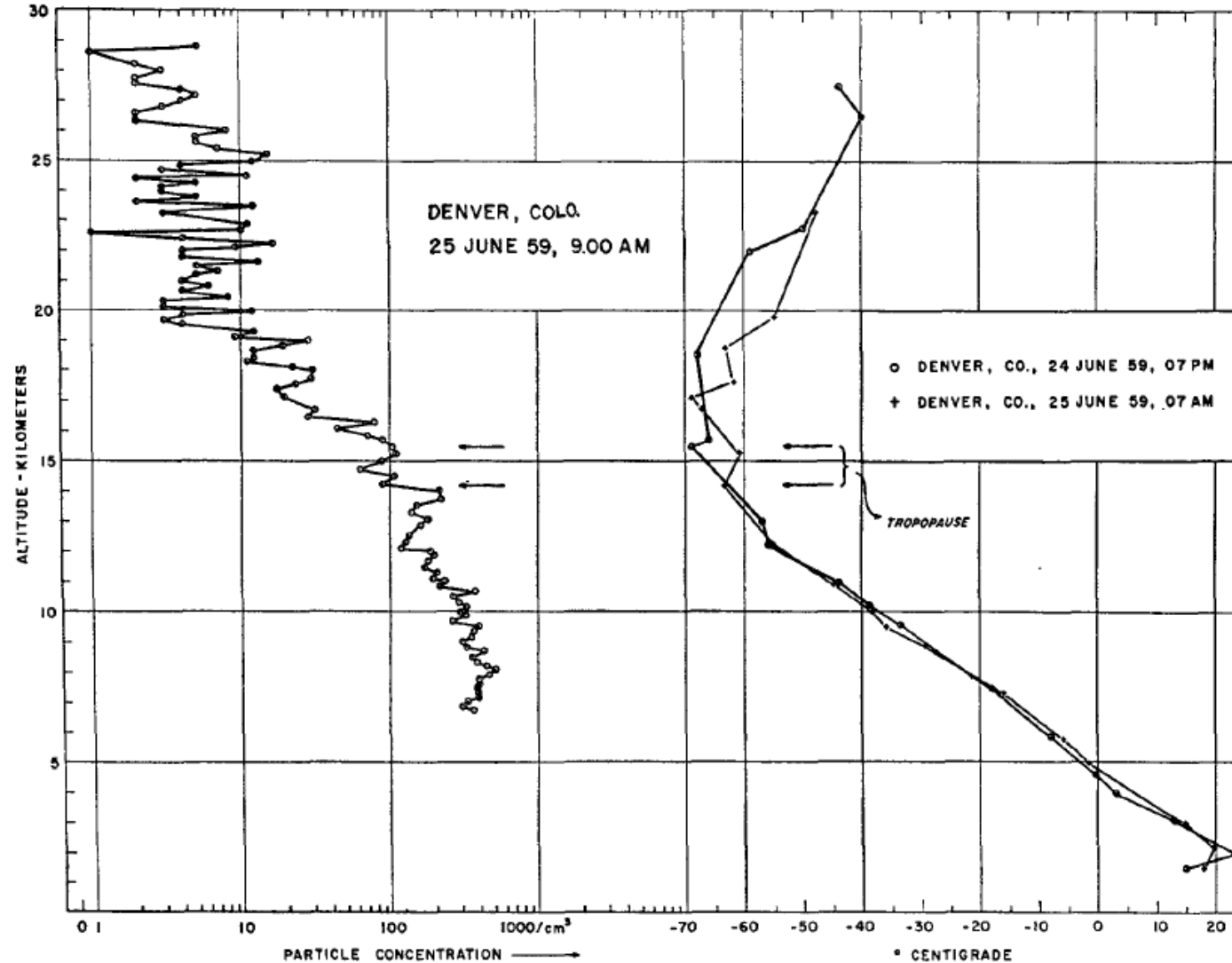


FIG. 10. Measured vertical profiles of Aitken nuclei and the available temperature soundings closest in space and time.

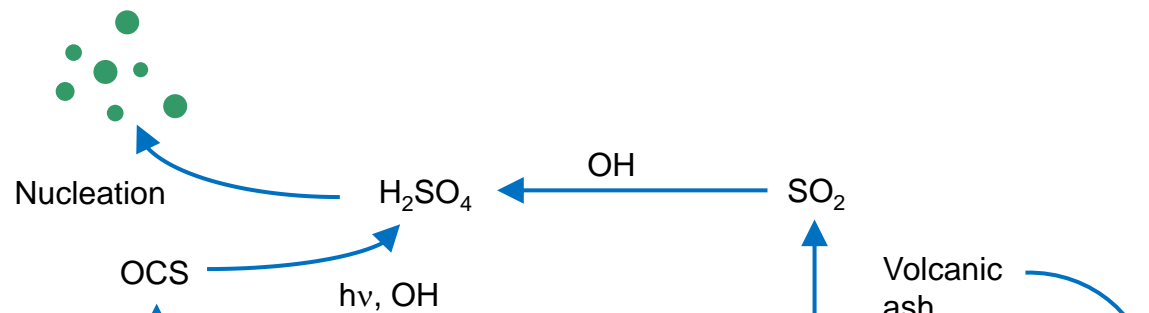
Volcanic aerosols

Mesosphere

Aerosol layer (Junge)

Stratospheric processes

Stratosphere

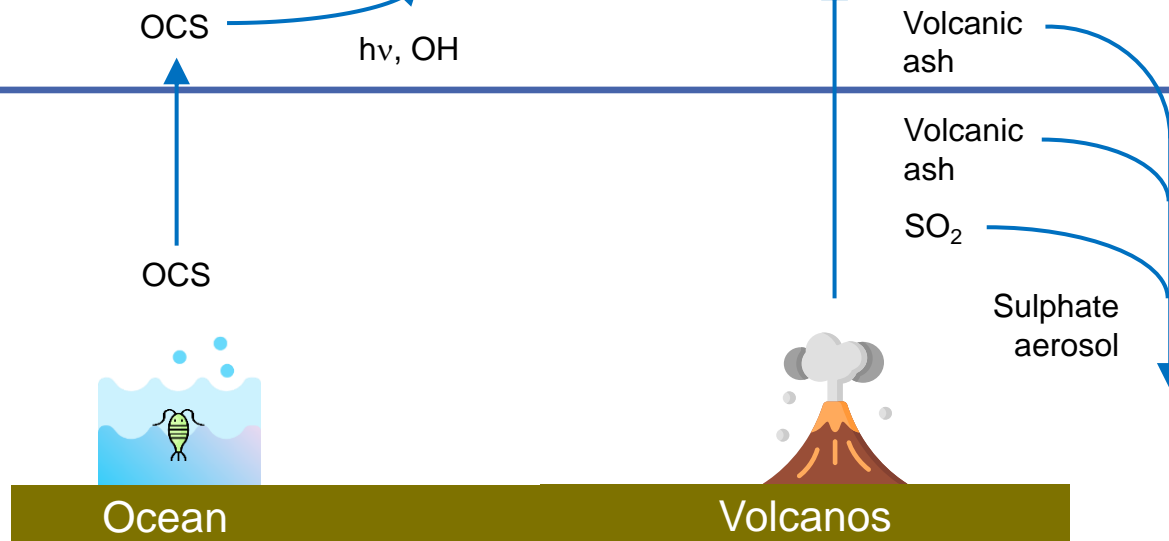


Aerosol particles

Troposphere

Volatile precursors

Sources

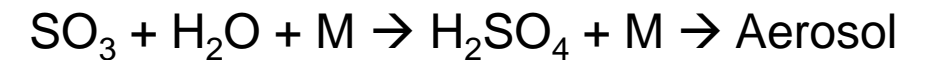


images: Flaticon.com

Volcanic aerosols: Major eruptions

Direct emission of SO₂ into the stratosphere

- Conversion to H₂SO₄
- Nucleation/condensation to aerosol particles
- Periodic enhancement of aerosol volume
- Enhanced light scattering and radiation cooling

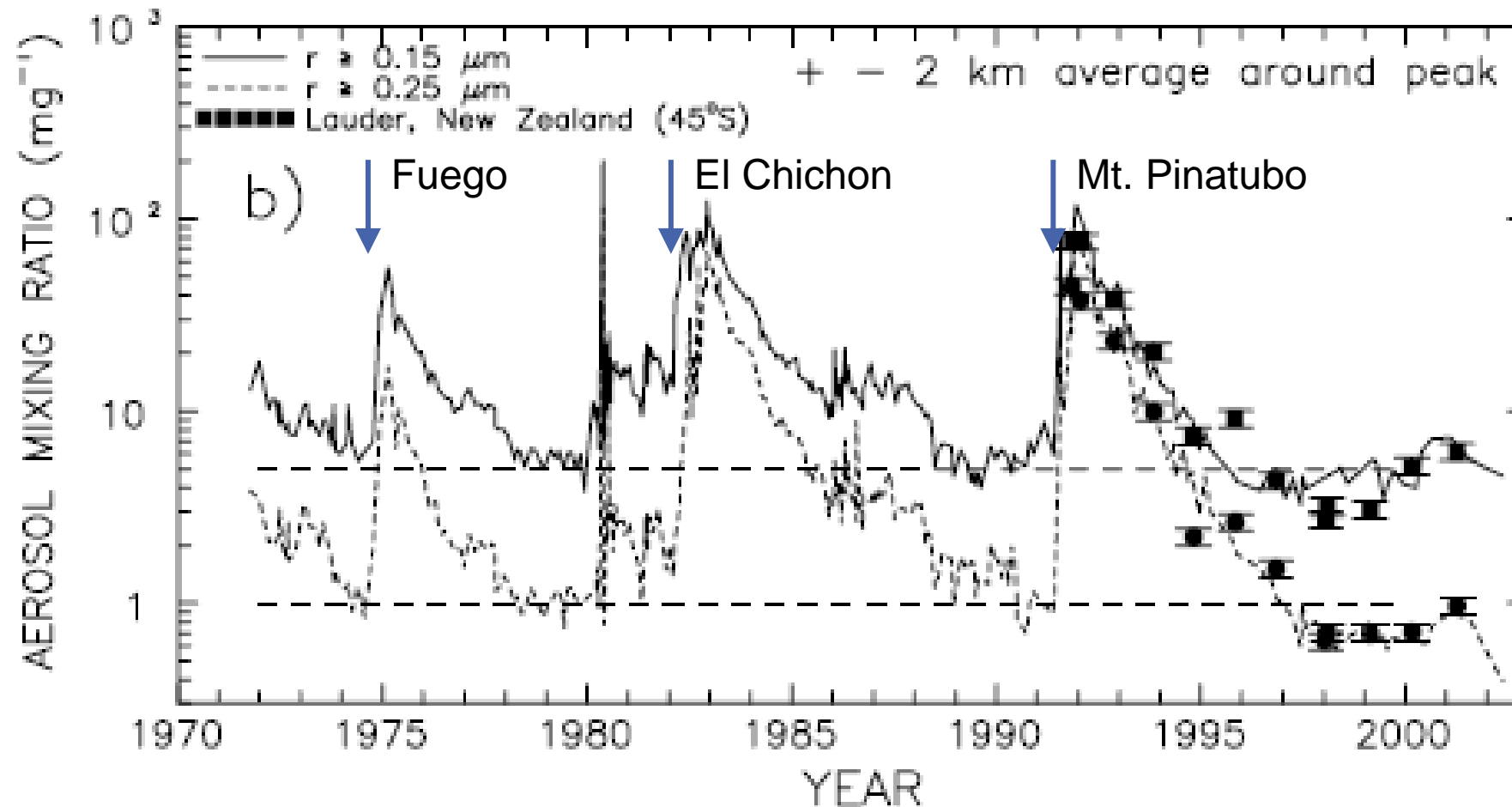


Volcano	Eruption date	Stratospheric aerosol impact (Tg)
Background	1979	< 1
Katmai	June 1912	20
Agung	March 1963	16-30
Fuego	October 1974	3-6
El Chichon	April 1982	12
Mt. Pinatubo	June 1991	30
Cerro Hudson	August 1991	3



Volcanic aerosols: Impact on stratospheric aerosols

Balloon borne OPC (Optical Particle Counter) measurements over Laramie, Wyoming (lines) and New Zealand (symbols)



Deshler et al., 2003

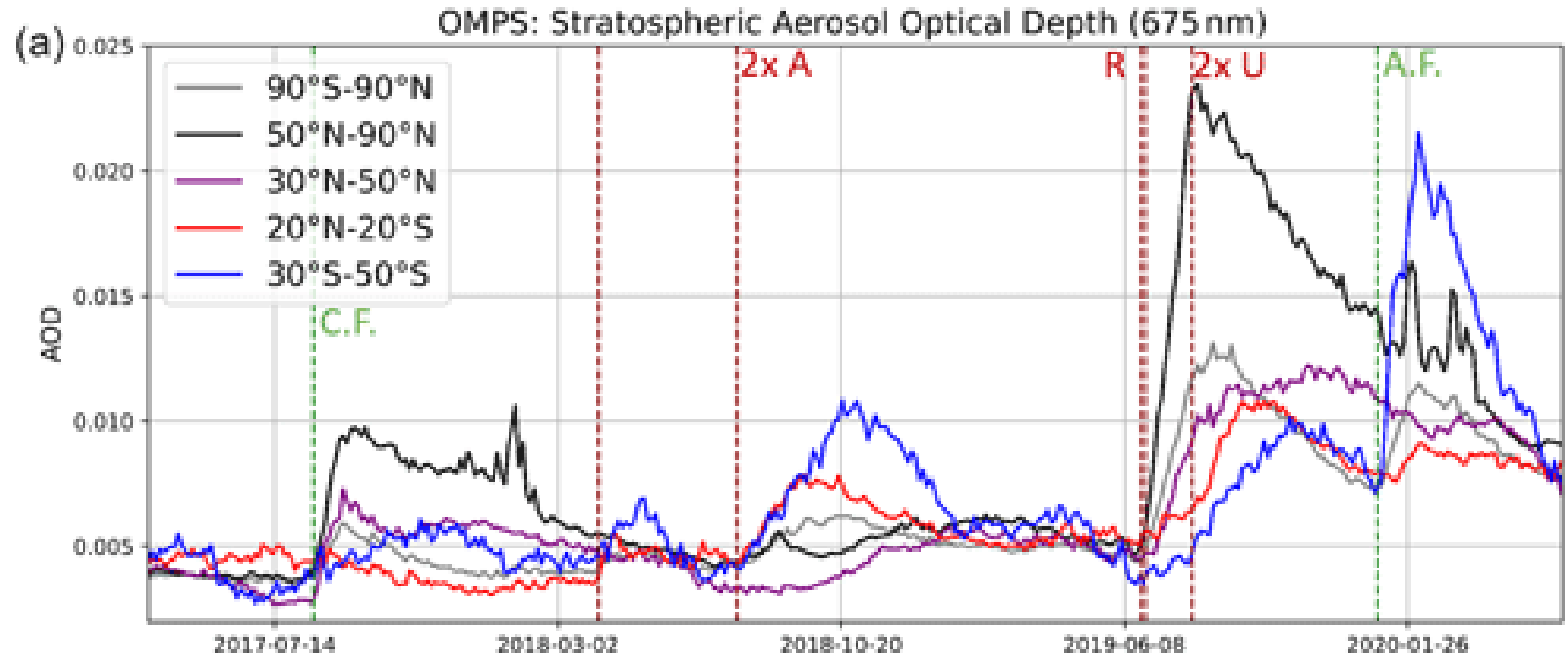
Volcanic aerosols: Impact on stratospheric aerosols

Enhanced stratospheric aerosol optical depth (from OMPS aerosol extinction) after

- Raikoke eruption, June 2019
- Ulawun eruptions June and August, 2019

Signatures from fire plumes are also visible:

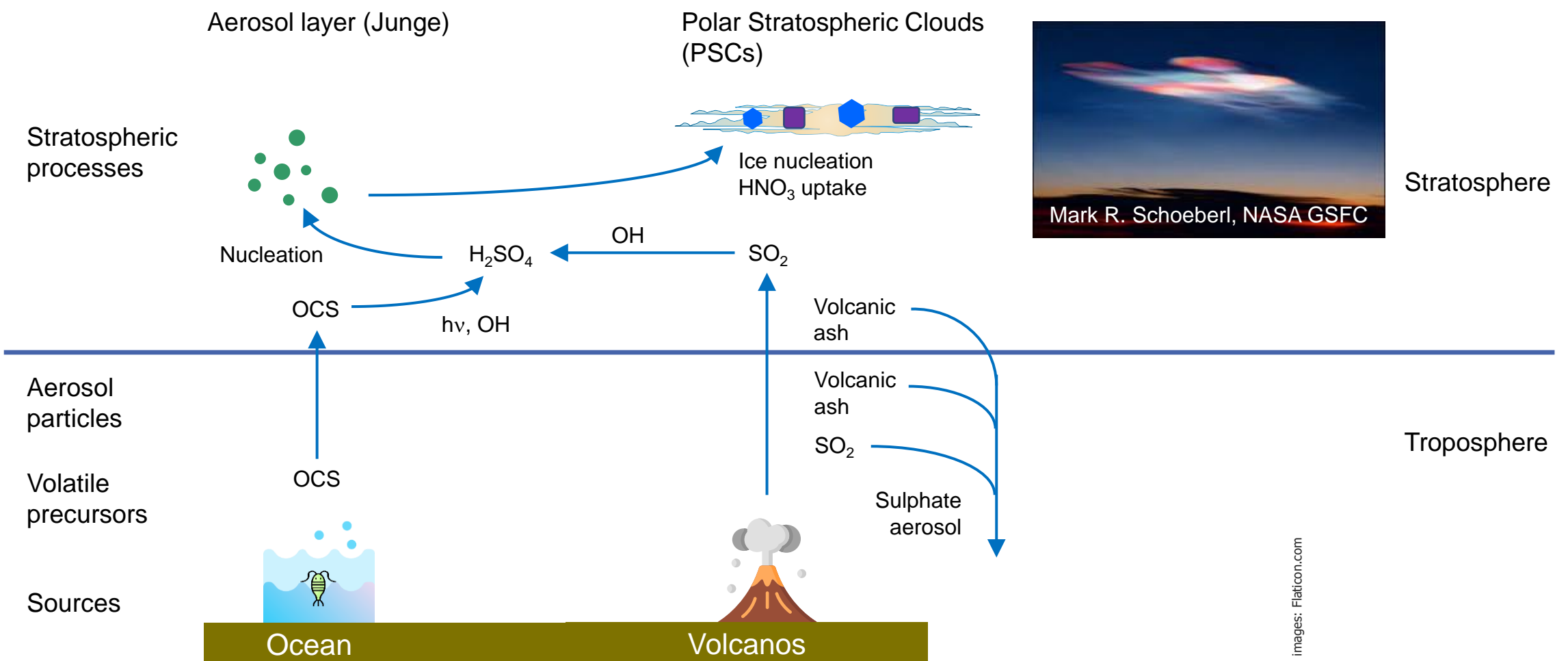
- Canadian fires 2017
- Australian fires 2020



Kloss et al., ACP, 2021

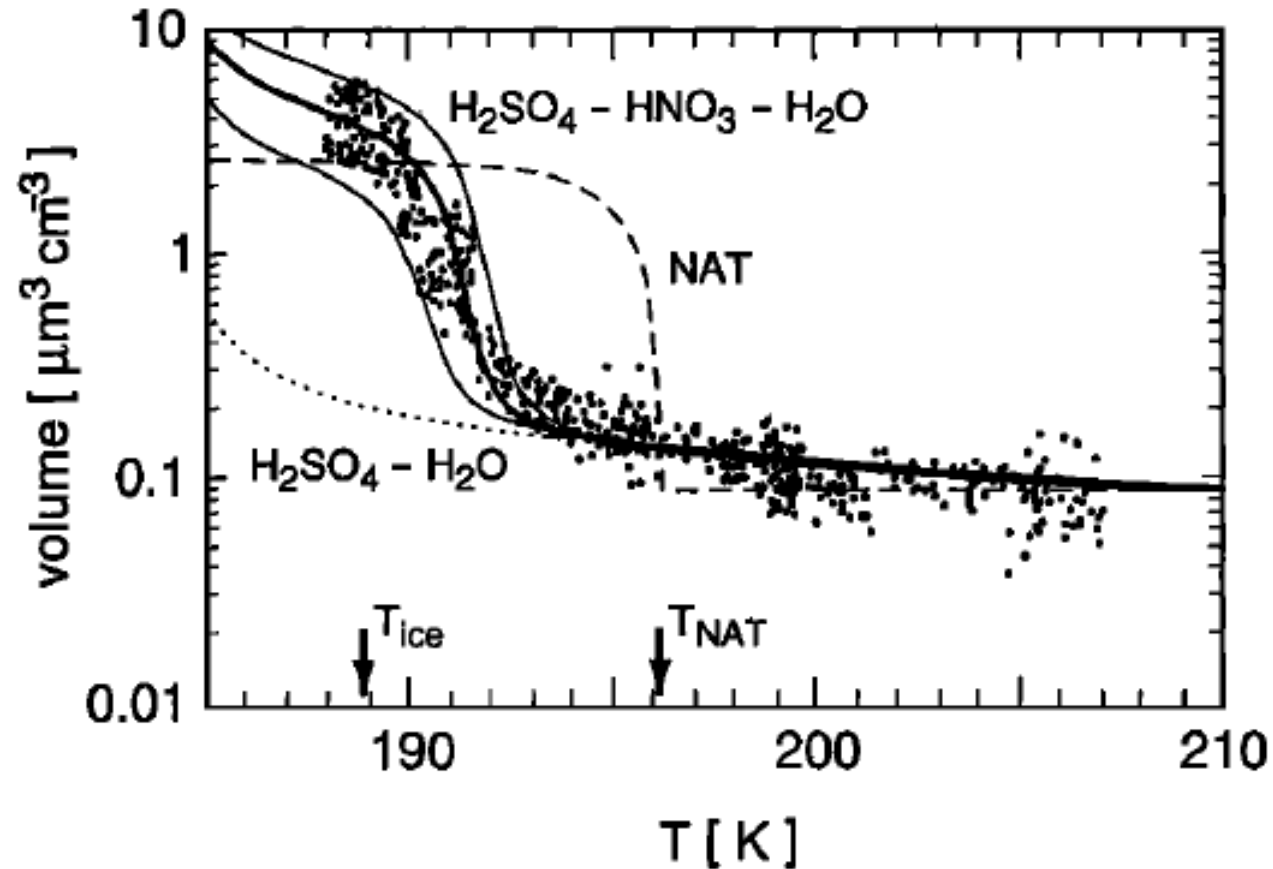
Polar Stratospheric Clouds (PSCs)

Mesosphere



PSC: Formation of ternary solution particles (STS)

STS = Stratospheric Ternary Solution particles



Carslaw et al., Modeling the composition of liquid stratospheric aerosols, *Rev. Geophys.*, 35, 125-154, 1997.

Figure 1. Particle volume measurements of *Dye et al.* [1992] (January 24, 1989) compared with model calculations for the growth of different types of stratospheric particles [*Carslaw et al.*, 1994]: dotted line, liquid $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4\text{-H}_2\text{O}$ droplets; dashed line, nitric acid trihydrate (NAT; $\text{HNO}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$) particles [*Hanson and Mauersberger*, 1988]; solid line, $\text{HNO}_3\text{-H}_2\text{SO}_4\text{-H}_2\text{O}$ droplets. Calculated volumes are for 55 mbar altitude, with 5 ppmv H_2O and 10 ppbv total HNO_3 (thin solid lines correspond to 5 and 15 ppbv HNO_3). Further details of the calculation are given by *Carslaw et al.* [1994]. Similar calculations have been made by *Drdla et al.* [1994] and *Tabazadeh et al.* [1994a].

PSC – MIPAS result (from EU project POSTA)

MIPAS-B on CNES balloon flight
along edge of polar vortex
(unpublished result)

January 11, 2001



Courtesy of Hermann Oehlhaf, IMK-ASF

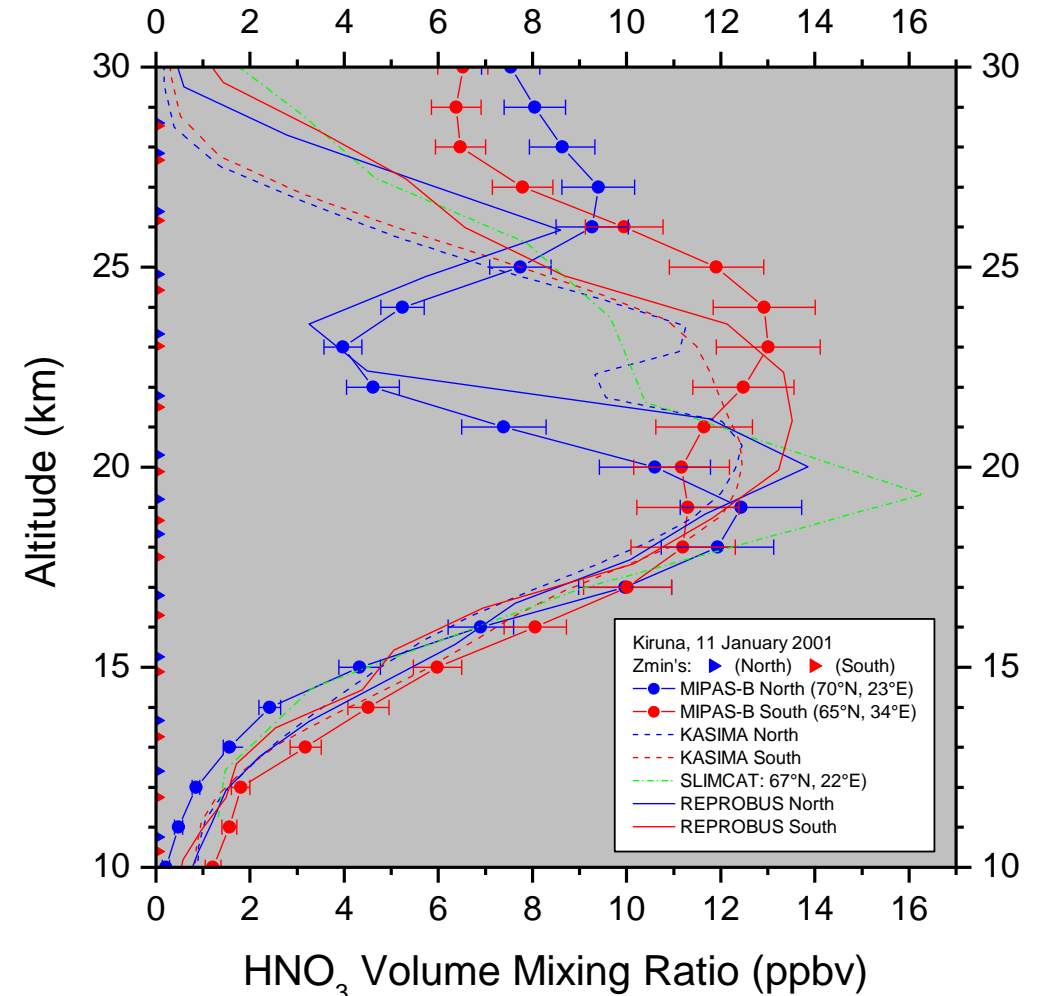
PSC – MIPAS result (from EU project POSTA)

MIPAS-B on CNES balloon flight
along edge of polar vortex
(unpublished result)

January 11, 2001

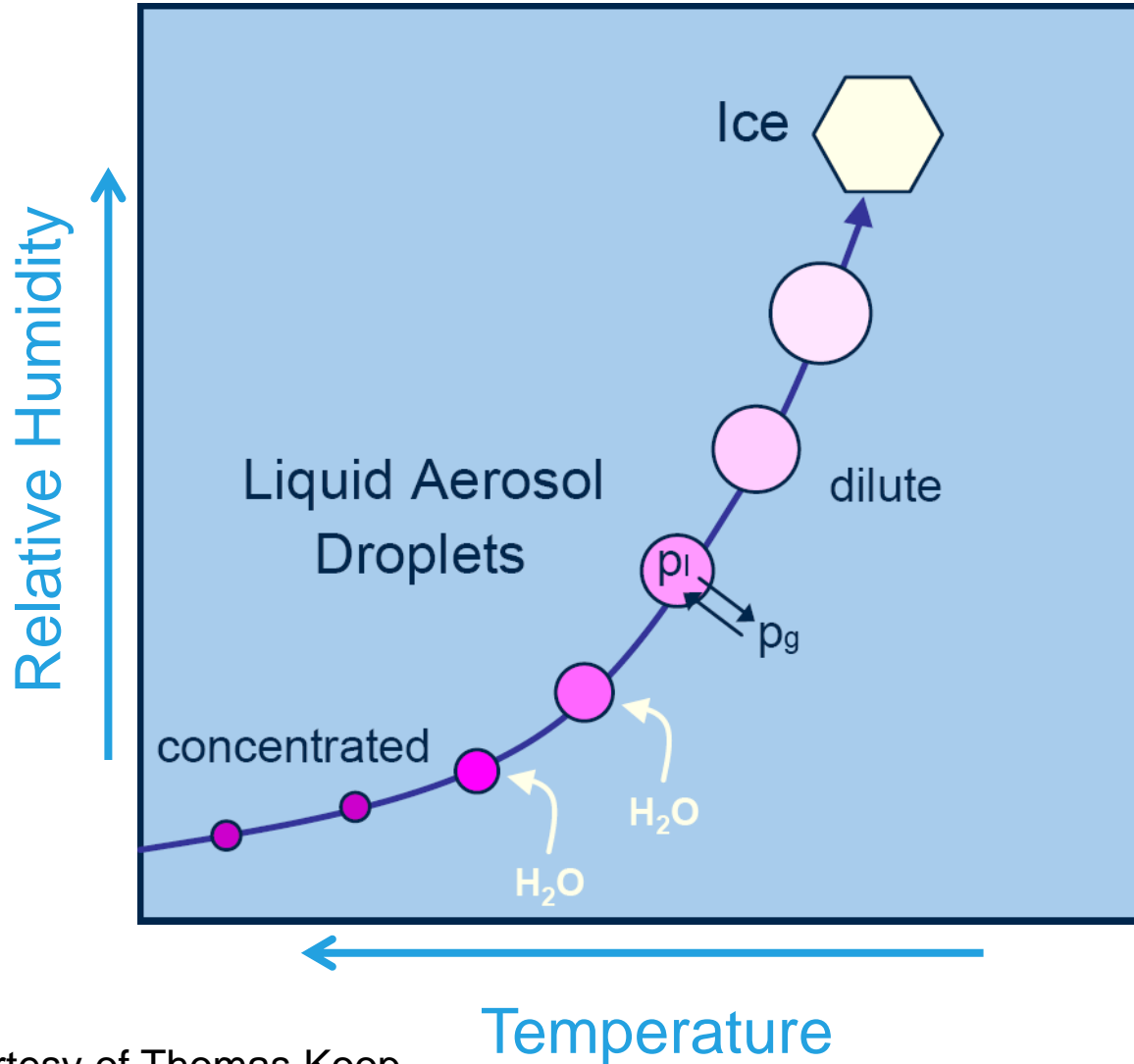
Various HNO₃ height profiles from measurements
(symbols) and
models (solid and dashed lines)

- Red: outside vortex → regular profile
- Blue: inside vortex → depleted by uptake into STS



Courtesy of Hermann Oehlhaf, IMK-ASF

PSC: Ice formation



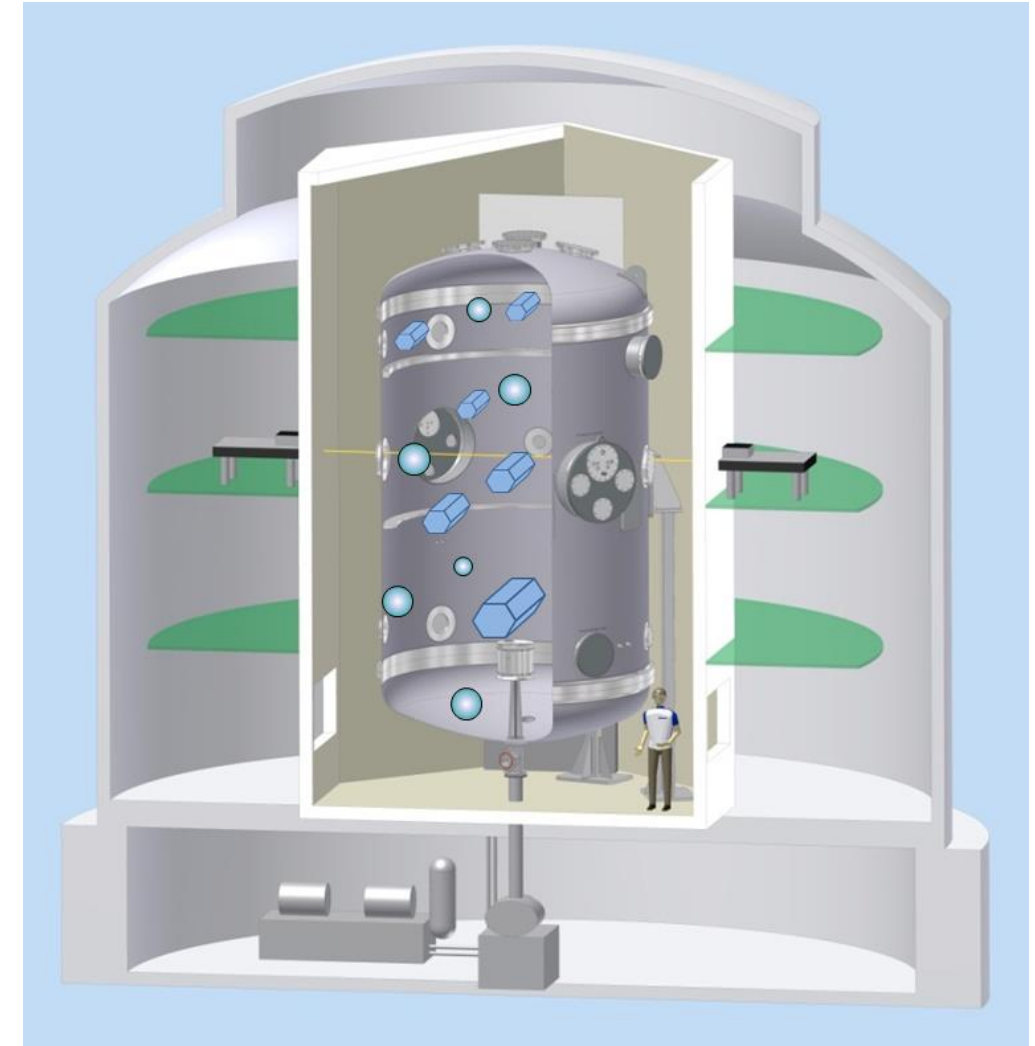
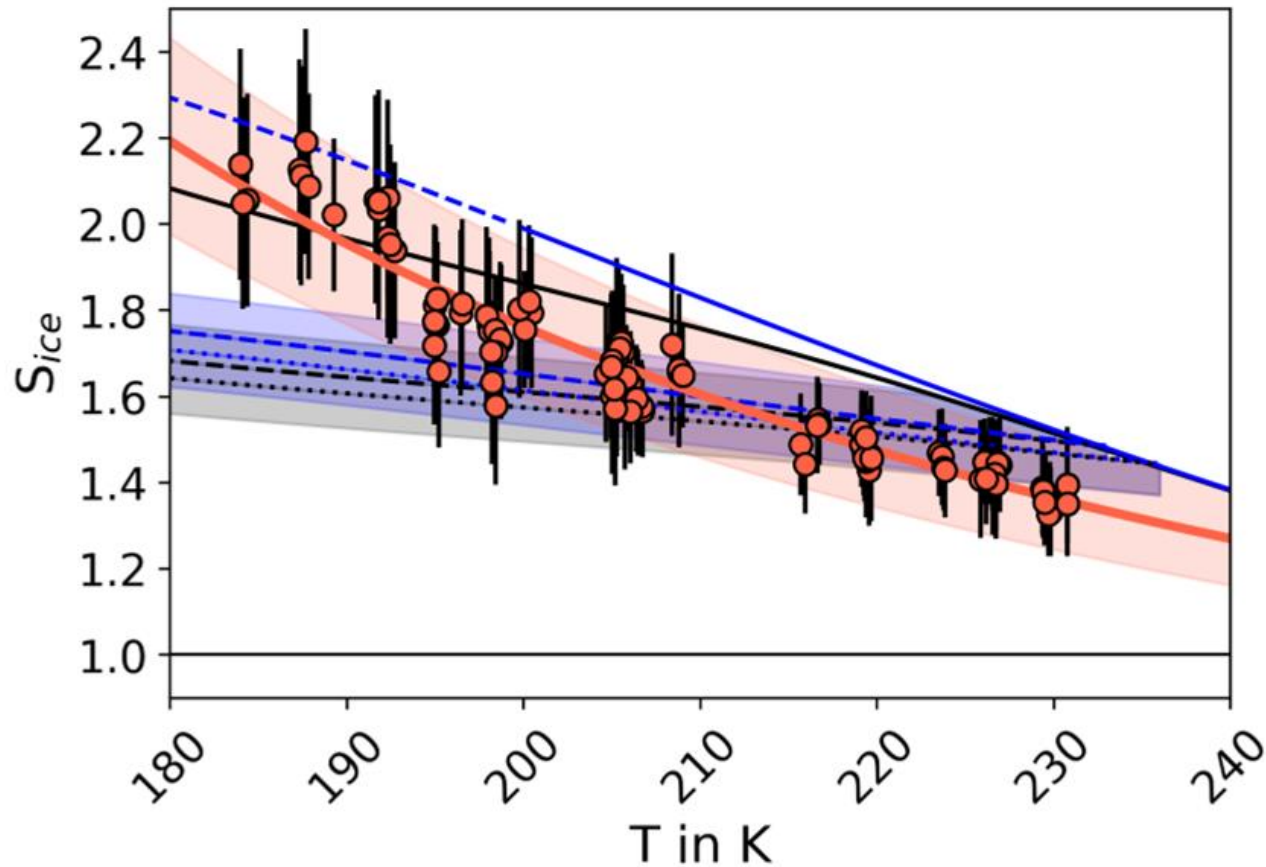
Increase of relative humidity
(e.g. by updrafts in lee waves)

- Water uptake by aqueous aerosol particles (Raoult's law)
- Dilution of solutes
- Homogeneous freezing (Koop et al., 2000)

Courtesy of Thomas Koop

PSC – ice crystals: AIDA cloud chamber experiments

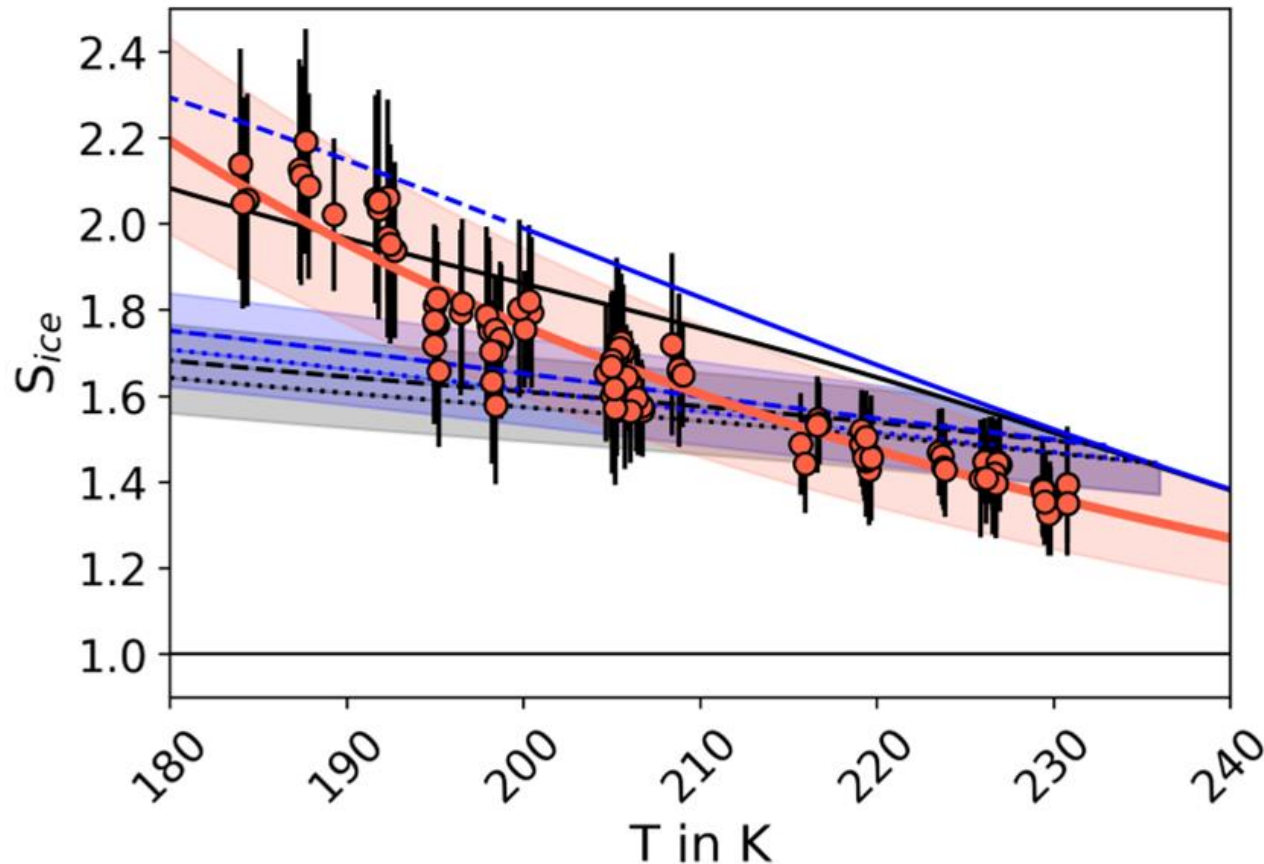
Homogeneous freezing insets measured in 63 AIDA experiments in the years 2007 to 2020



Schneider et al., ACP, 2021 (see also Möhler et al., ACP, 2003)

PSC – ice crystals: AIDA cloud chamber experiments

Homogeneous freezing onsets measured in 63 AIDA experiments in the years 2007 to 2020



At low T (< 200 K), measured freezing onsets clearly deviate from line predicted by Koop et al., 2000

→ New fit line for homogeneous freezing onset of aqueous sulfuric acid aerosol:

$$\ln S_{ice} = a + b T^{-1}; \quad a = -1.4 \pm 0.05, \quad b = 390 \pm 10 \text{ K}$$

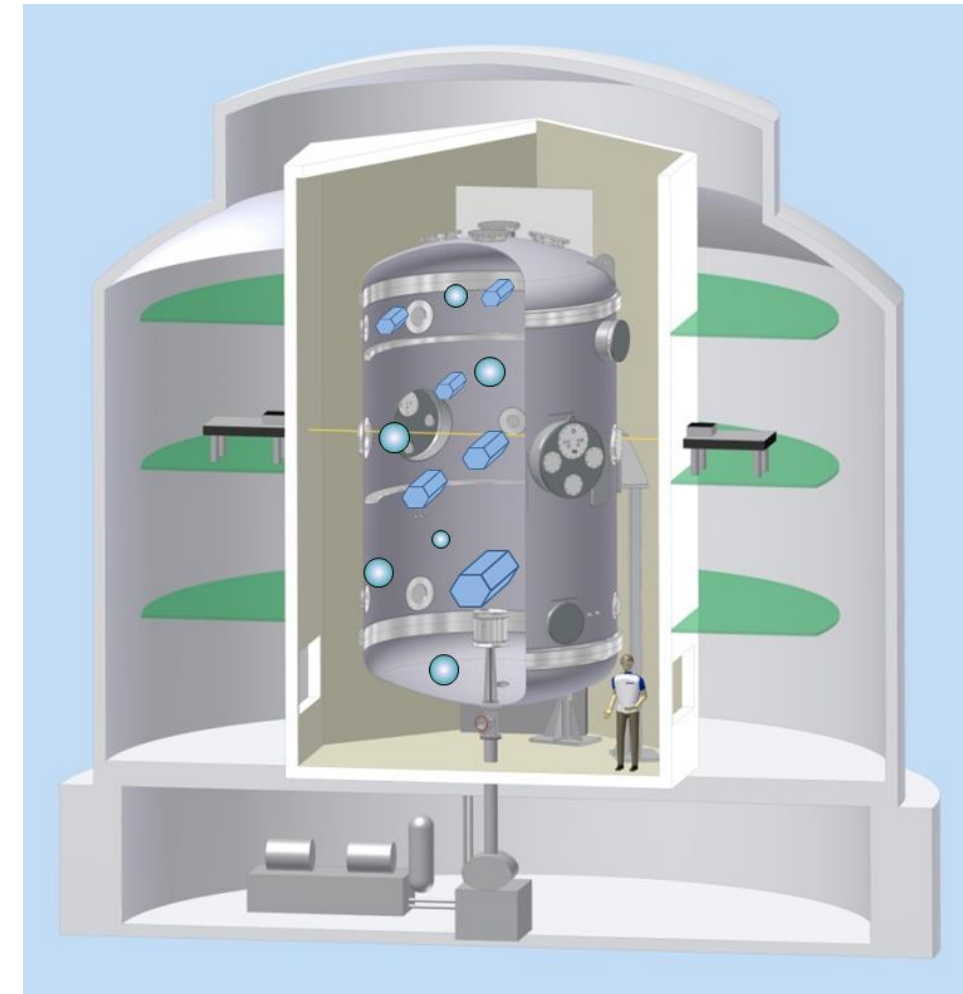
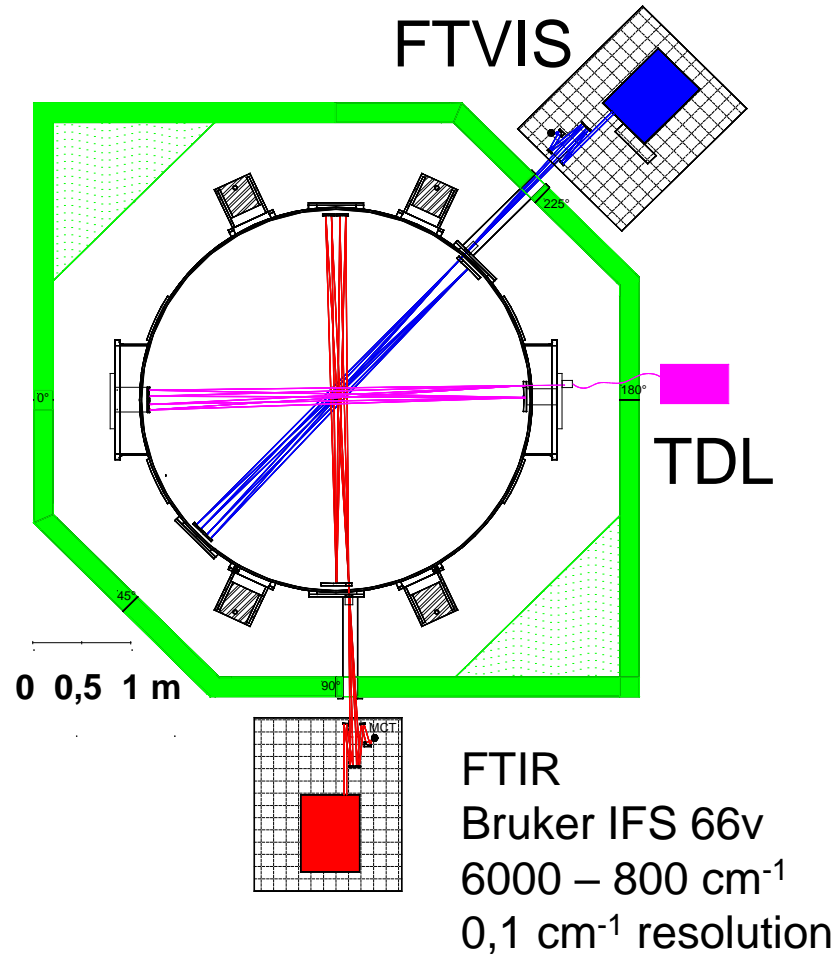
Possible explanation: Saturation for supercooled water higher than formulated by e.g. Murphy and Koop, 2005

Schneider et al., ACP, 2021 (see also Möhler et al., ACP, 2003)

PSC – NAD: AIDA cloud chamber experiments

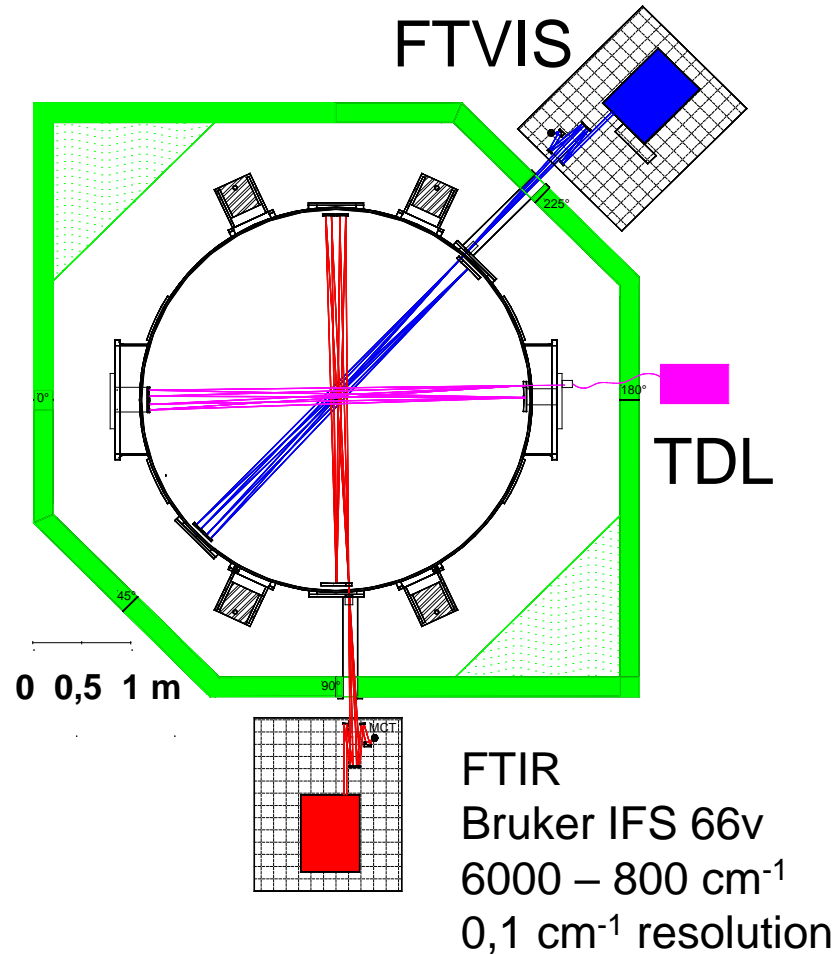
in situ optical measurements

AIDA = Aerosol Interactions and Dynamics in the Atmosphere

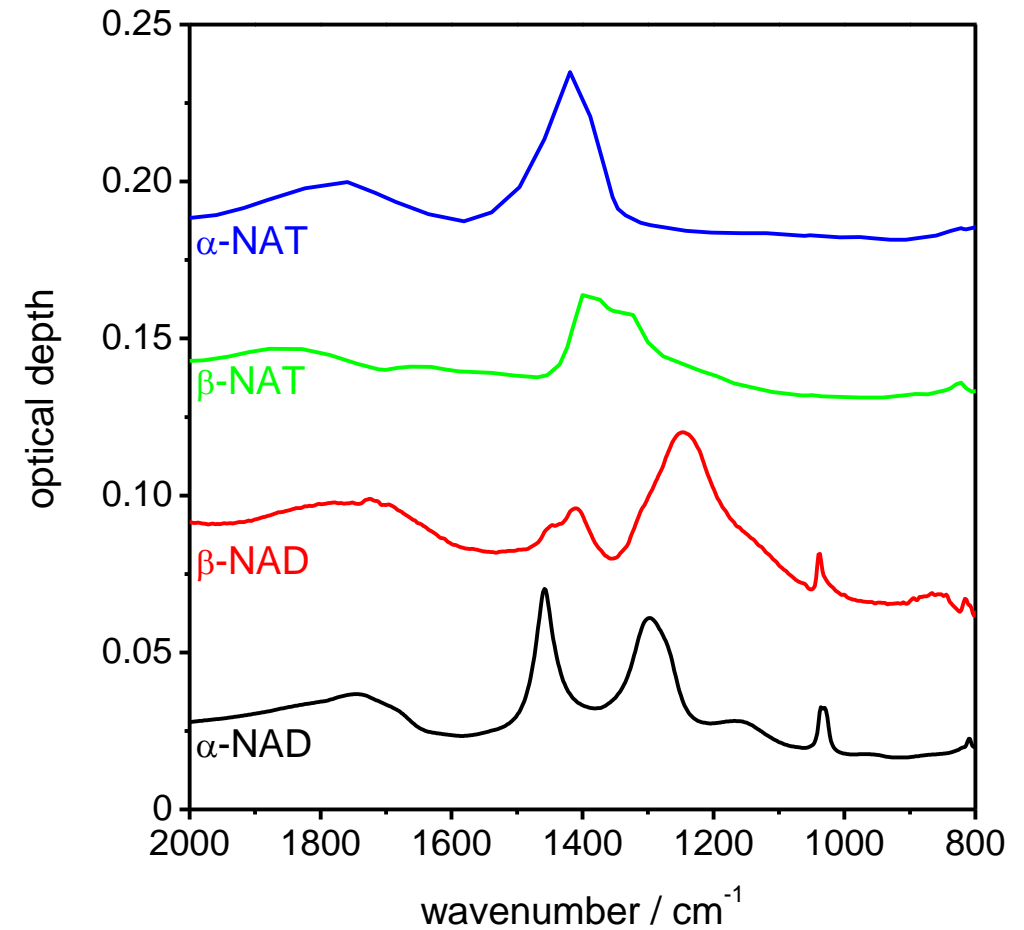


PSC – NAD: AIDA cloud chamber experiments

in situ optical measurements



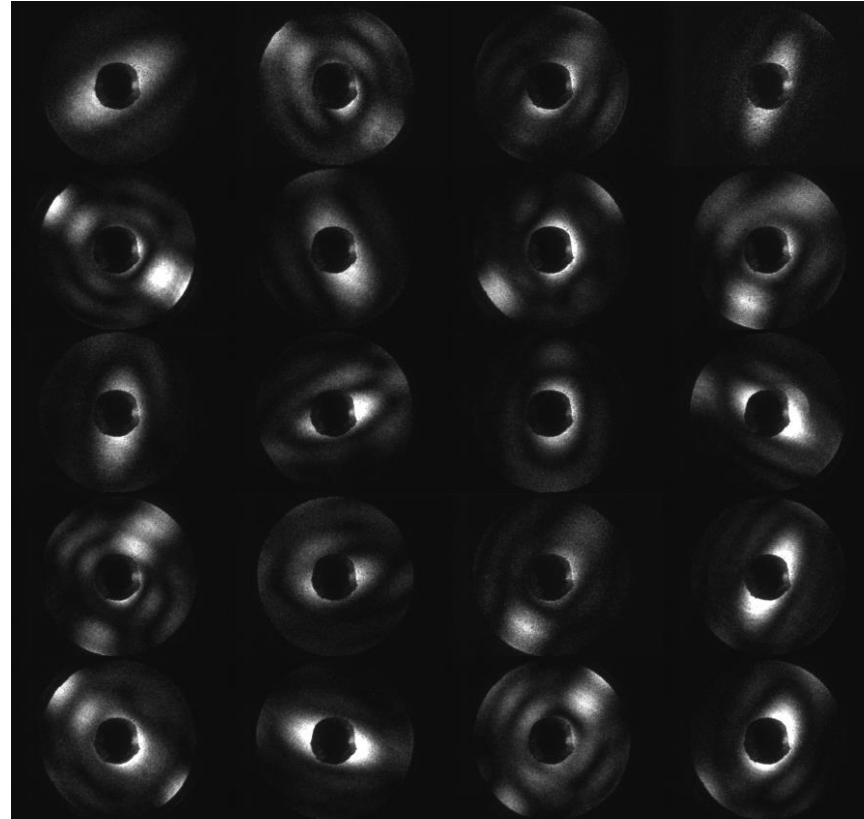
Extinction spectra



PSC – NAD: AIDA cloud chamber experiments

Hom. nucleation \rightarrow α -NAD

Het. nucleation \rightarrow β -NAD



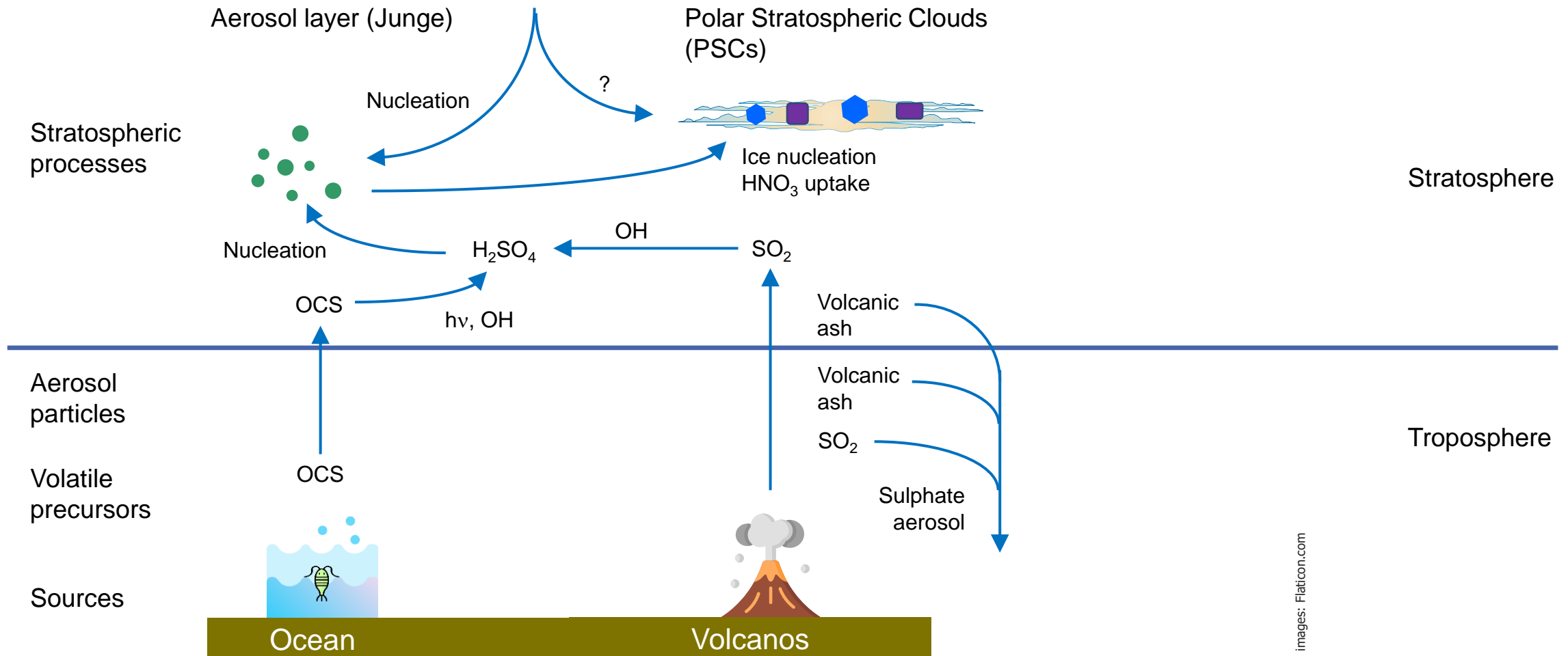
\rightarrow Nucleation impacts particle morphology and thereby vertical settling velocity

long, very thin needles:
aspect ratio: > 5

comparably small & more compact:
aspect ratio: 1-2

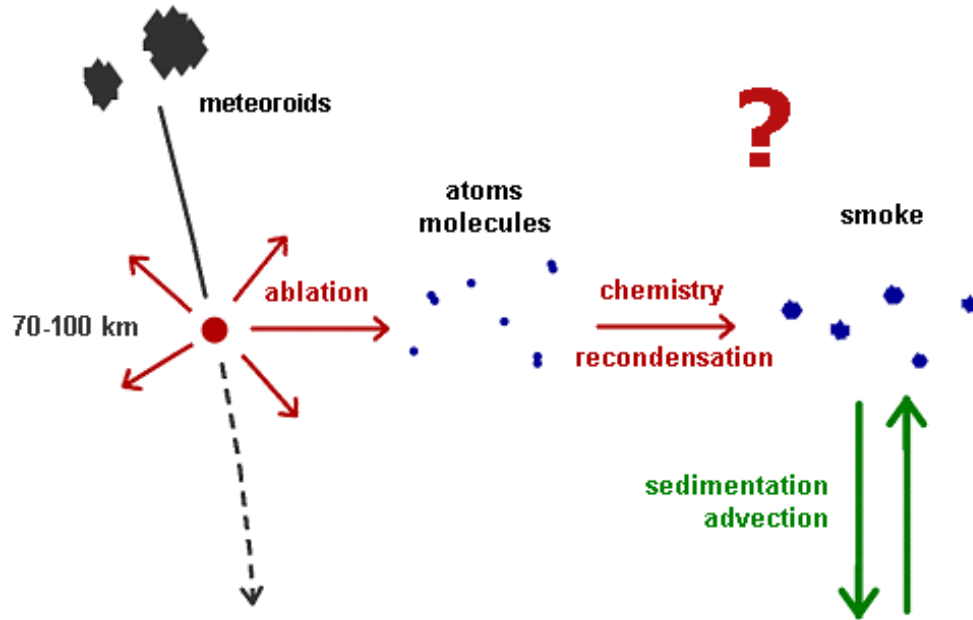
Meteor smoke particles

Mesosphere



images: Flaticon.com

Meteor smoke: early observations and modelling



Hunten et al., J. Atmos. Sci., 1980

Smoke and Dust Particles of Meteoric Origin in the Mesosphere and Stratosphere

DONALD M. HUNTEN

Department of Planetary Sciences, Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721

RICHARD P. TURCO

R & D Associates, Marina del Rey, CA 90291

OWEN B. TOON

Space Science Division, NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, CA 94087

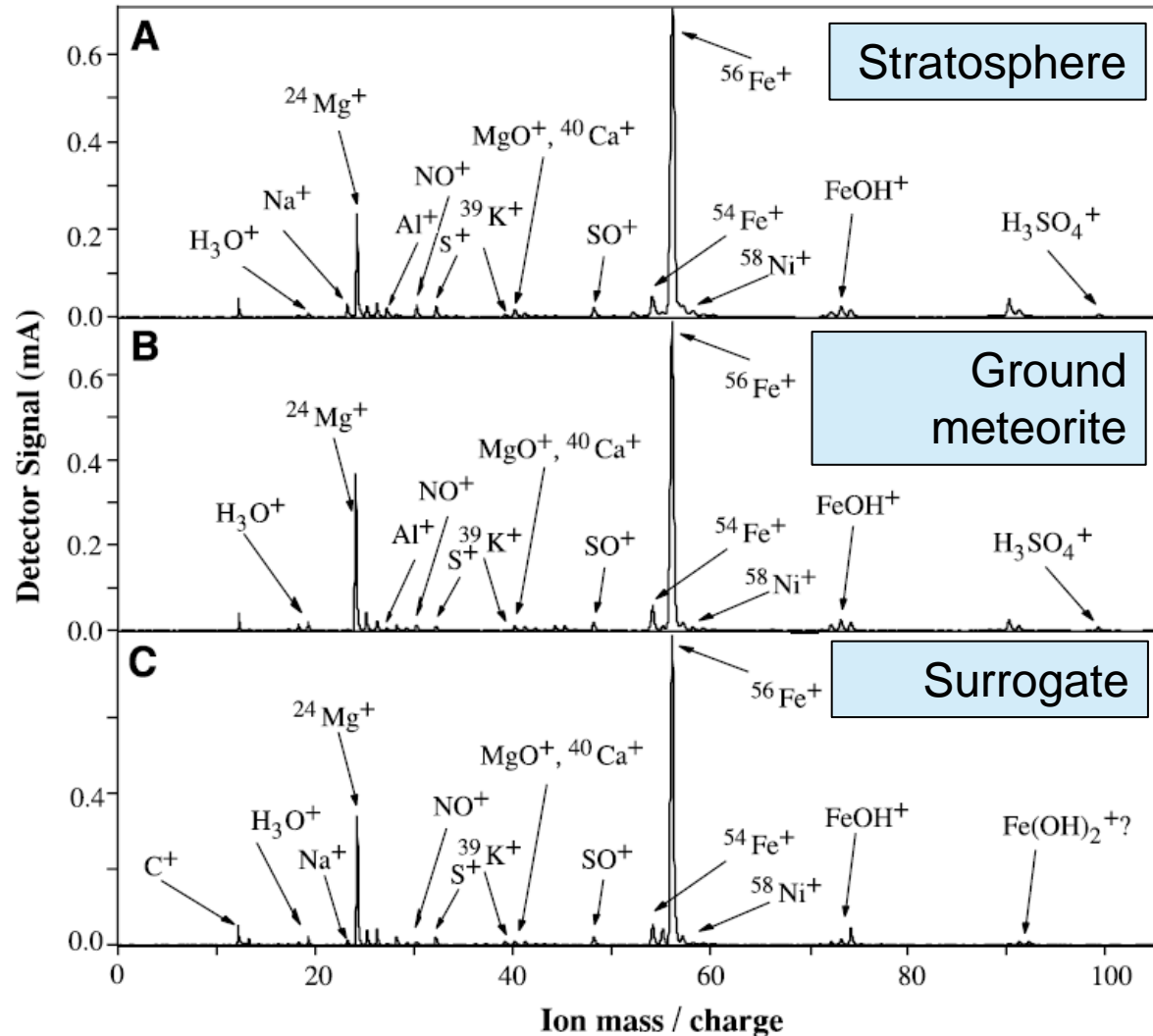
(Manuscript received 5 November 1979, in final form 21 February 1980)

ABSTRACT

A height profile of ablated mass from meteors is calculated, assuming an incoming mass of $10^{-16} \text{ g cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ (44 metric tons per day) and the velocity distribution of Southworth and Sekanina, which has a mean of 14.5 km s^{-1} . The profile peaks at 84 km. The fluxes of micrometeorites and residual meteoroids are also calculated. The coagulation of the evaporated silicates into "smoke" particles is then followed by means of a model adapted from a previous study of the stratospheric sulfate layer. Numerous sensitivity tests are made. Features of the results are a sharp cutoff of the particle distribution above 90 km, and a surface area close to $10^{-9} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ all the way from 30 to 85 km. Some confirmation is obtained from balloon studies of condensation nuclei, although the various measurements differ greatly. The optical scattering and extinction are shown to be undetectable. Several potential applications are suggested: nucleation of sulfate particles and noctilucent clouds, scavenging of metallic ions and atoms, and perhaps other aeronomical effects. The latter are limited to processes that can be influenced by a collision time of the order of a day.

Meteor smoke: identification by single particle MS

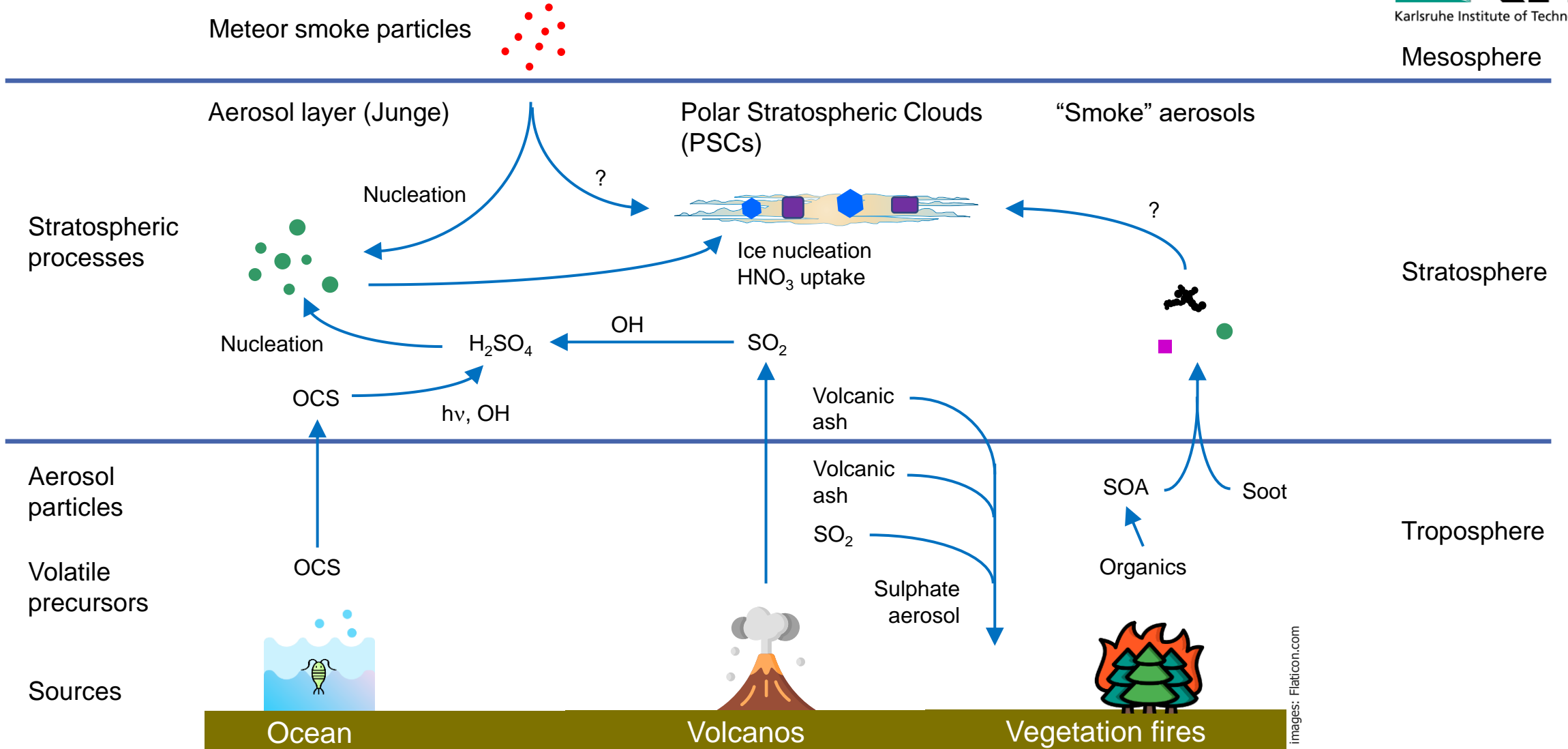
Positive ion spectra from single particles:



Cziczo et al., Science, 2001



Soot and „smoke“ particles

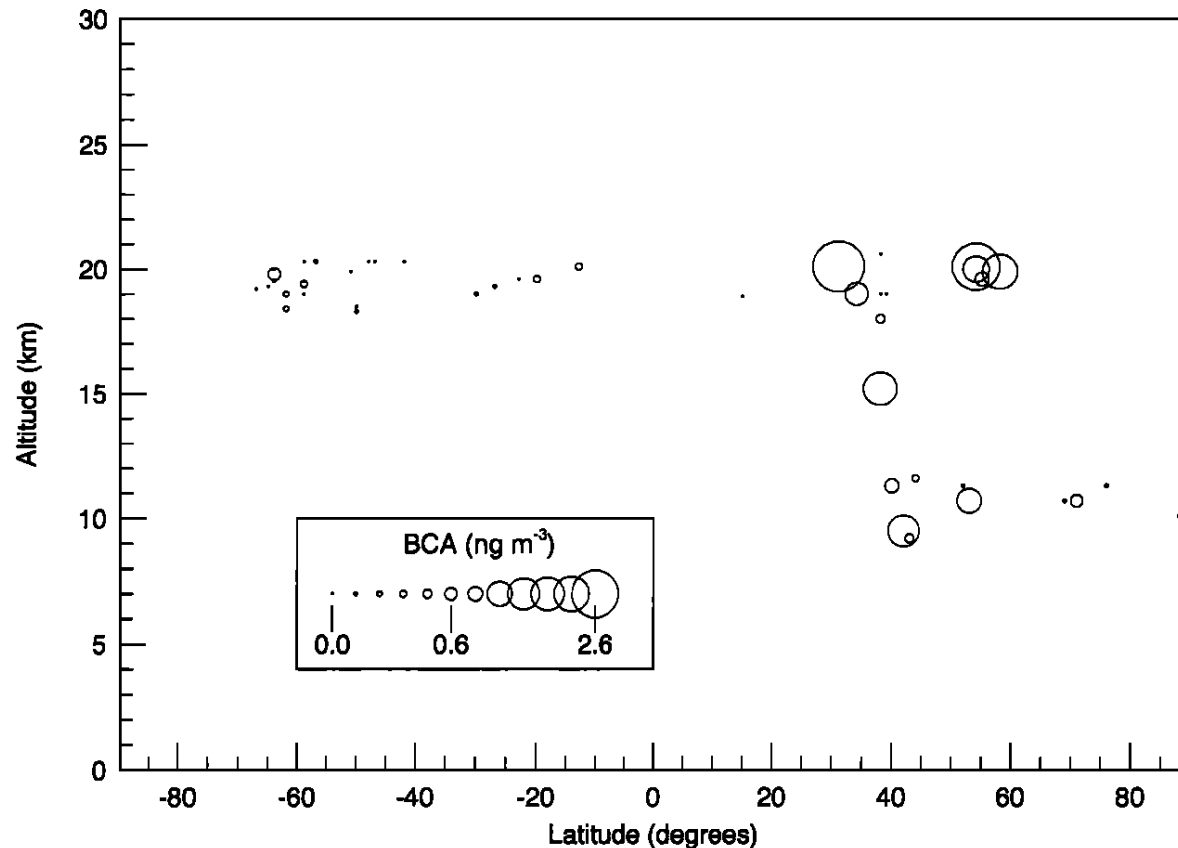


images: Flaticon.com

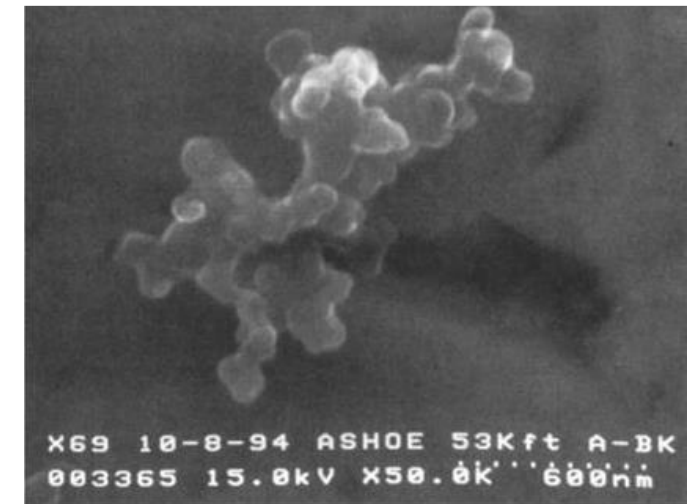
Soot and „smoke“ particles

Soot particles collected on wire impactors on ER-2 aircraft (Pueschel et al., JGR, 1997, 2000)

→ Lifted by gravito-photophoresis? (Rohatschek et al., J. Atm. Chem., 1984)



Pole-to-pole variability
of soot mass
concentrations
(Pueschel et al., 1997)



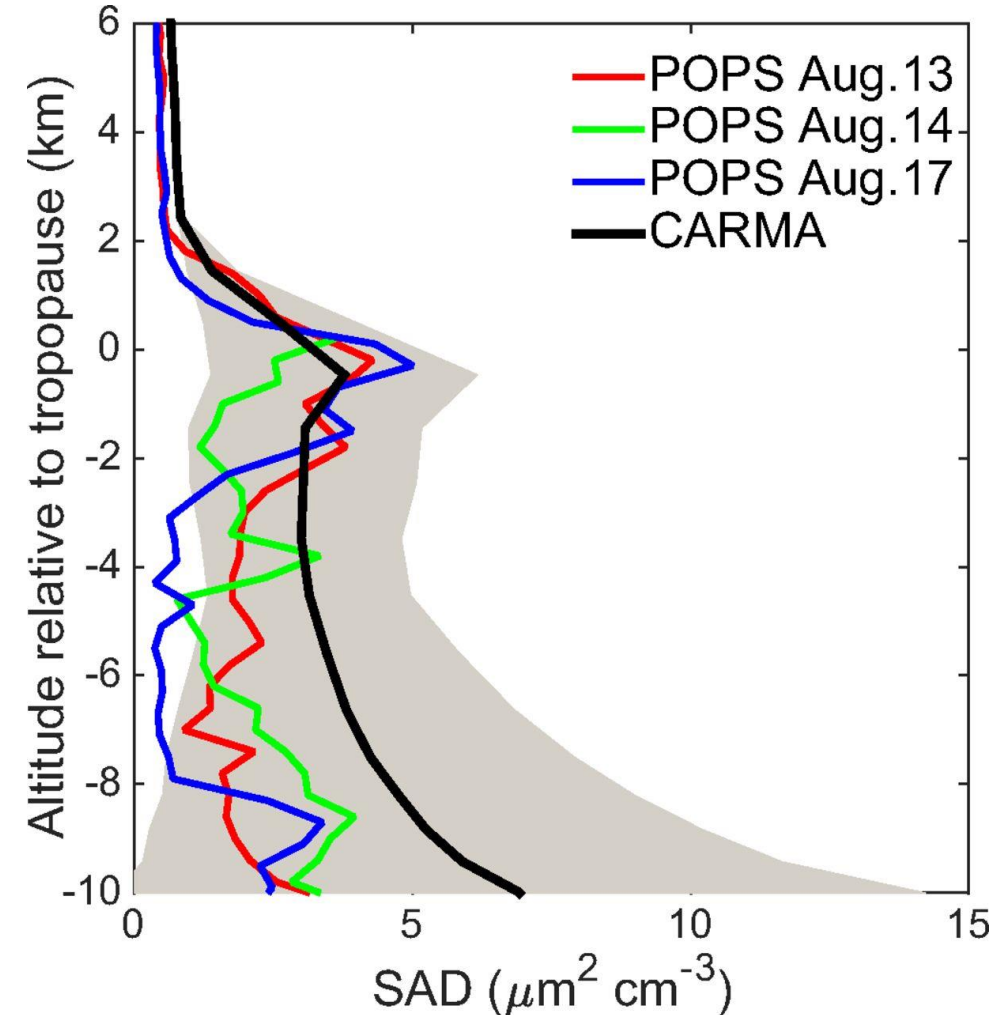
Soot particle collected in the
wake of Concorde at 16.3 km
altitude (Pueschel et al., 1997)

Soot and „smoke“ particles: Asian summer monsoon (ASM)

Yu et al., PNAS, 2017

(www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1701170114).

- Increasing aerosol optical depth (AOD) was retrieved from satellite observation (Vernier et al., JGR, 2015)
- Aerosol profiles measured with balloon-borne lightweight OPC POPS (Gao et al., AST, 2016)
- Aerosol transported in the ASM anticyclone is exported to the entire Northern Hemispheric stratosphere.
- About ~15% of the Northern Hemisphere column stratospheric aerosol surface area originates from the Asian summer monsoon anticyclone region

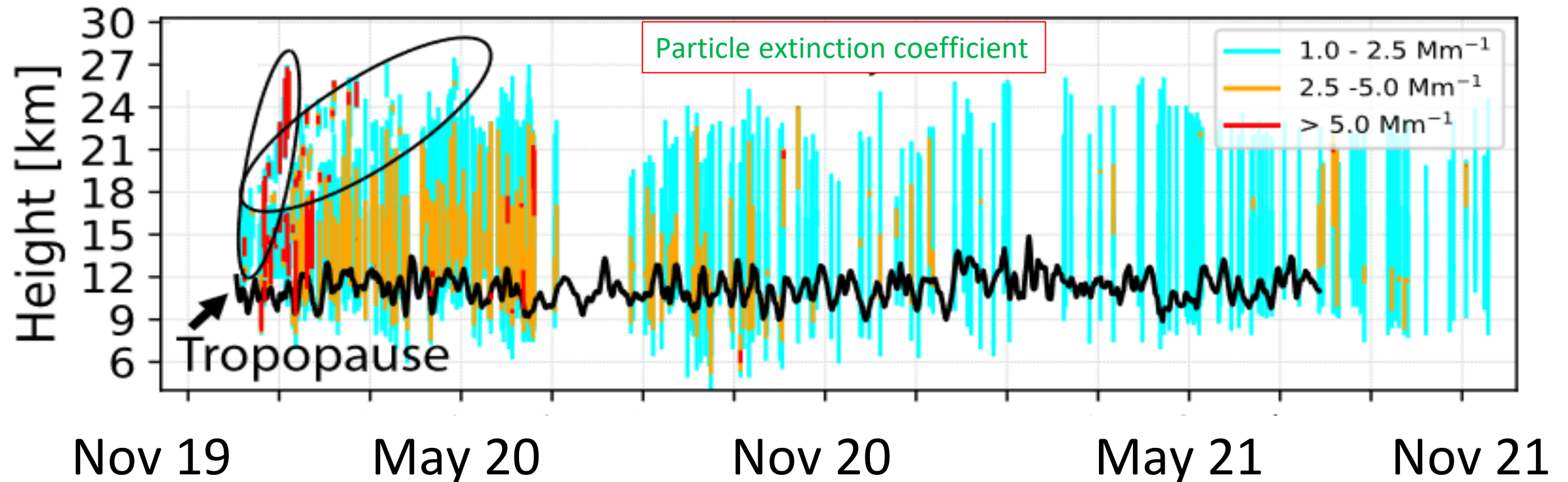


Soot and „smoke“ particles

Polly Lidar measurements, Southern South America (50°-60°S)

Ohneiser et al., ACP, 2020, 2022

See also recent MOZAiC results (Engelmann et al., 2021; Ohneiser et al., 2021)



Courtesy of Albert Ansmann, TROPOS, Leipzig. Germany

Summary

Tropospheric aerosol:

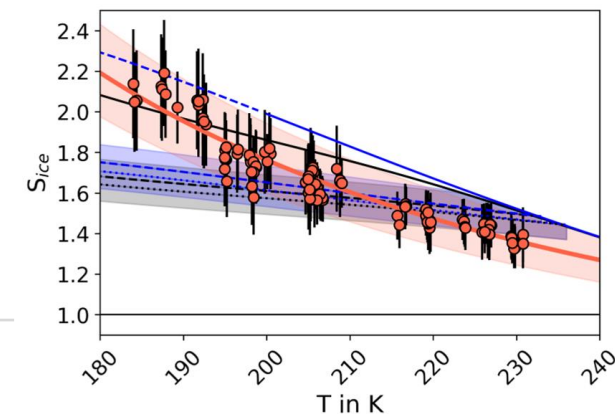
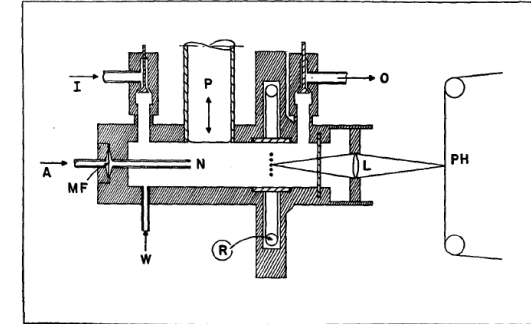
- Complex mixture of various particle types
- Natural and anthropogenic sources
- Primary emission and secondary formation processes

Stratospheric aerosol:

- ❖ Aqueous sulphuric acid particles (Junge layer) from OCS
- ❖ Periodic enhancement by volcanic SO_2
- ❖ Source of PSCs in wintertime polar stratosphere
- ❖ Includes meteoric smoke particles (also act as nuclei?)
- ❖ Soot and smoke particles detected (wire impactors)

Recent findings:

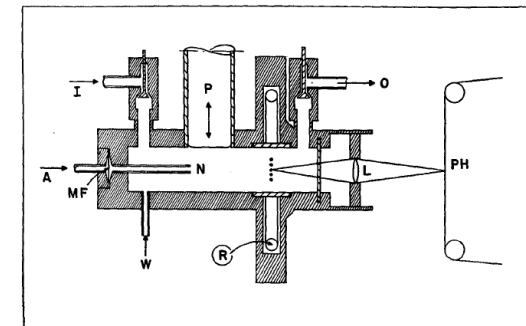
- Freezing onset higher than predicted by Koop et al., 2000
- Liquid water saturation may be higher than currently formulated
- Het./hom. NAD nucleation forms particles of different morphology
- Lofting of tropospheric aerosols into the stratosphere: impact on PSCs, ozone, ...



Ongoing work and future challenges

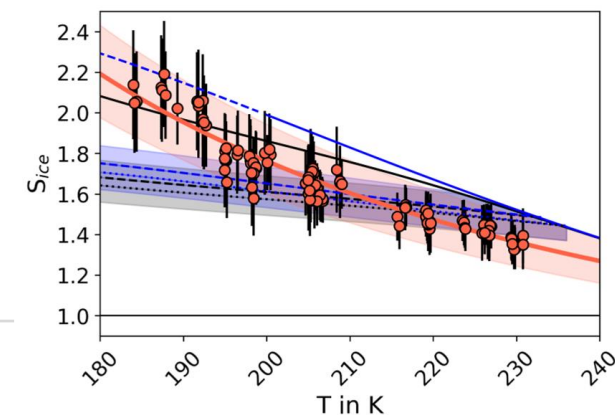
Laboratory process studies:

- Better understand homogeneous freezing of solutes
- Quantify saturation point of liquid water at low T
- Quantify nucleation rates of nitric acid hydrates (NAT, NAD)



Stratospheric in situ measurements:

- ❖ Morphology of solid PSC particles
- ❖ Sources and distribution of different aerosol types
- ❖ Quantify contribution and impact of non-volcanic tropospheric aerosols (smoke)



Thanks for listening (ottmar.moehler@kit.edu)

