

An LES Survey of Cold-Air Outbreaks Spanning ACTIVATE and COMBIE

*Ann Fridlind, Florian Tornow, Andrew Ackerman / NASA GISS
NASA ACTIVATE and DOE COMBIE Science Teams*

*with observational contributions from
(partial listing)*

Armin Sorooshian / Univ. Arizona
Ewan Crosbie / NASA LARC
Rich Moore / NASA LARC
Luke Ziemba / NASA LARC
David Painemal / NASA LARC
Simone Kirshler / DLR
Christiane Voigt / DLR
Brian Cairns / NASA GISS
Greg Elsaesser / NASA GISS
Bart Geerts / Univ. Wyoming
Christian Lackner / Univ. Wyoming
Paul DeMott / Colorado State Univ.
Yutaka Tobo / NIPR
Paul Ziegler / Stockholm Univ.
Peter Tunved / Stockholm Univ.
Radovan Krejci / Stockholm Univ.

with funding and computational support from

NASA Earth Science Division
NASA Modeling, Analysis and Prediction Program
NASA High-End Computing (HEC) Program at NASA Ames
DOE Atmospheric Radiation Measurement Program
DOE Atmospheric System Research Program

DOE ASR Co-PI Grant DE-SC0021983

Lynn Russell / UCSD
Abigail Williams / UCSD
Jeremy Dedrick / UCSD
Israel Silber / PSU

special thanks for LES modeling collaboration

Tim Juliano / NCAR
Mikhail Ovchinnikov / PNNL
Peng Wu / PNNL



Field campaigns → LES → Single-column model (SCM)

Conditions	Case study	Aerosol aware?
dry convective boundary layer	idealized [Bretherton and Park 2009]	—
dry stable boundary layer	GABLS1 [Cuxart et al. 2006]	—
marine stratocumulus	DYCOMS-II RF02 [Ackerman et al. 2009]	observed (2 modes)
marine trade cumulus (shallow)	BOMEX [Siebesma et al. 2003]	—
marine trade cumulus (deep, raining)	RICO [van Zanten et al. 2011]	—
marine stratocumulus-to-cumulus *	SCT [Sandu and Stevens 2011]	—
continental cumulus ^	RACORO [Vogelmann et al. 2015]	observed profile (3 modes)
Arctic mixed-phase stratus	M-PACE [Klein et al. 2009]	observed (2 modes)
Antarctic mixed-phase stratus *	AWARE [Silber et al. 2019, 2021, 2022]	estimated (1 mode)
tropical deep convection	TWP-ICE [Fridlind et al. 2012]	observed profile (3 modes)
mid-latitude synoptic cirrus *	SPARTICUS [cf. Mühlbauer et al. 2014]	—
mid-latitude cold-air outbreak *^	ACTIVATE [Tornow et al., 2021, 2022, in prep.]	observed profile (3 modes)
high-latitude cold-air outbreak *^	COMBLE [Tornow et al., in prep.]	observed/estimated profiles (3 modes, 1 INP)
marine cumulus and congestus *^	CAMP2Ex [Stanford et al., in prep.]	observed profiles (3 modes)
subtropical marine deep convection *^	SEAC4RS [Stanford et al., in prep.]	observed profiles (TBD)
continental sea breeze convection *^	TRACER [Matsui et al., in prep.]	observed profiles (TBD)

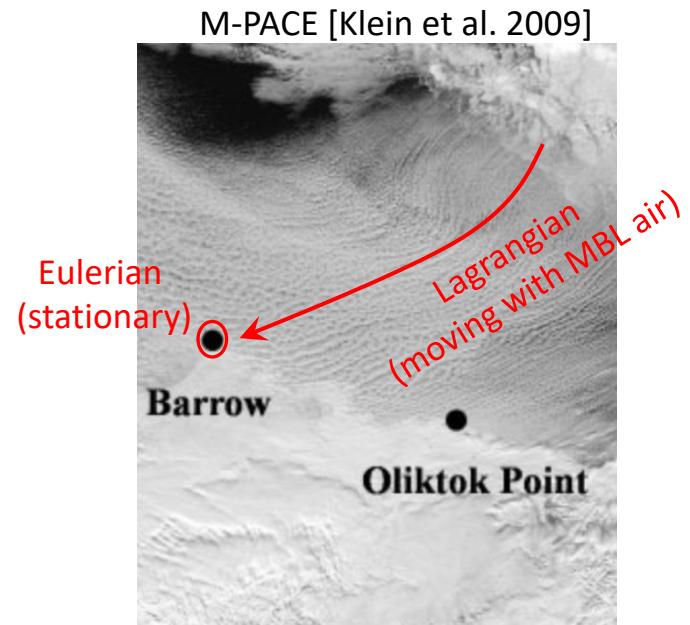
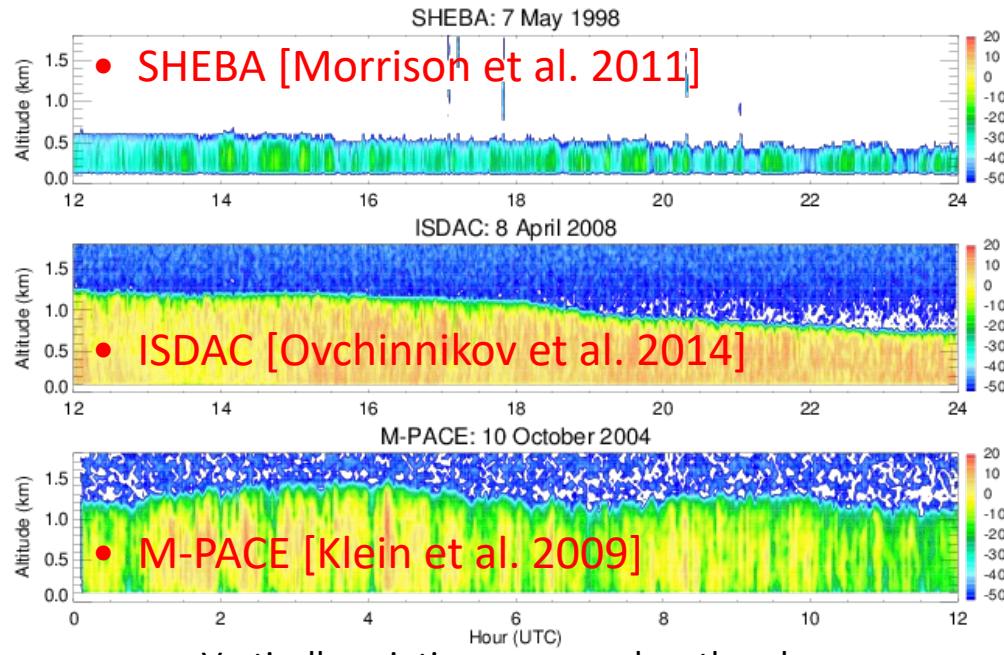
*Lagrangian (cf. Neggers JAMES 2015, Pithan et al. NatGeo 2019)

^ensemble (cf. Neggers et al. JAMES 2019)



Moving into the Lagrangian reference frame

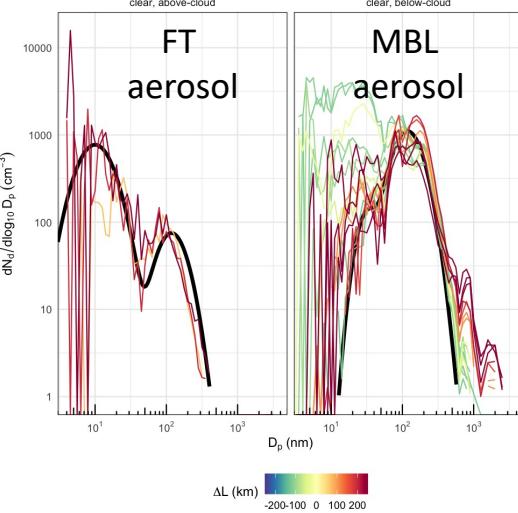
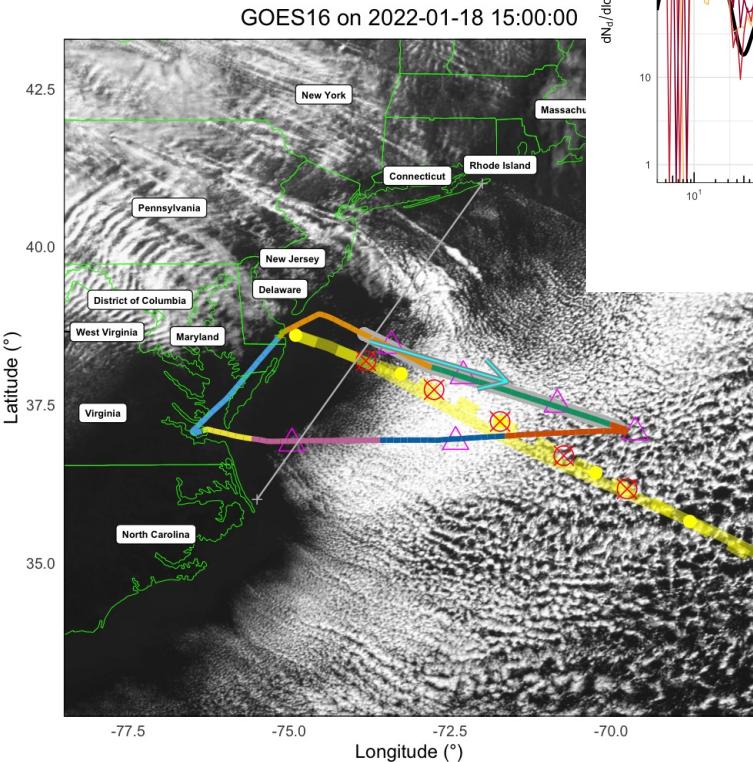
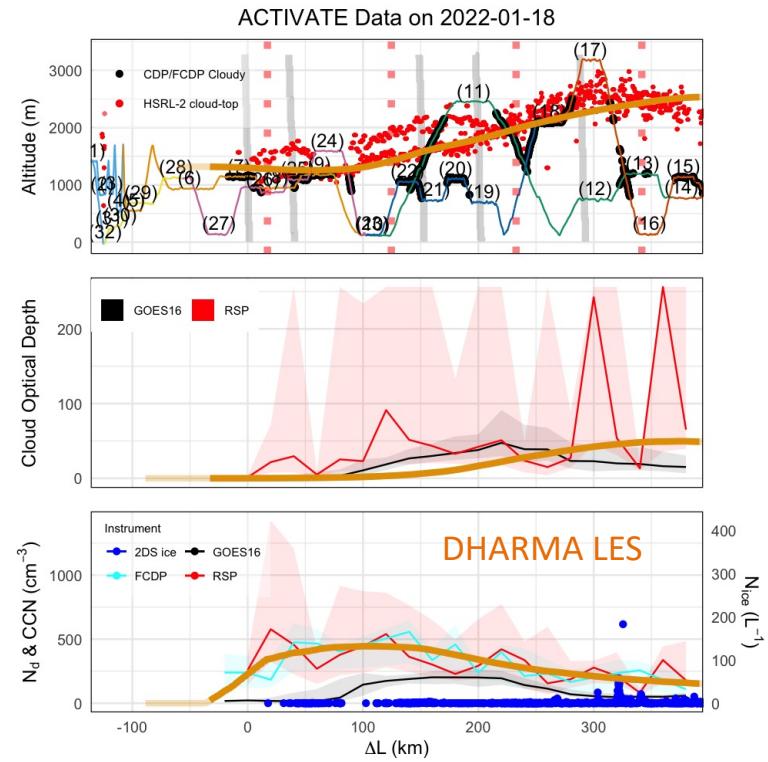
- Lagrangian and aerosol-aware go hand-in-hand



Fridlind and Ackerman [Ch. 7 in *Mixed-Phase Clouds*, Ed. C. Andronache, 2018]

ACTIVATE LES case study selection

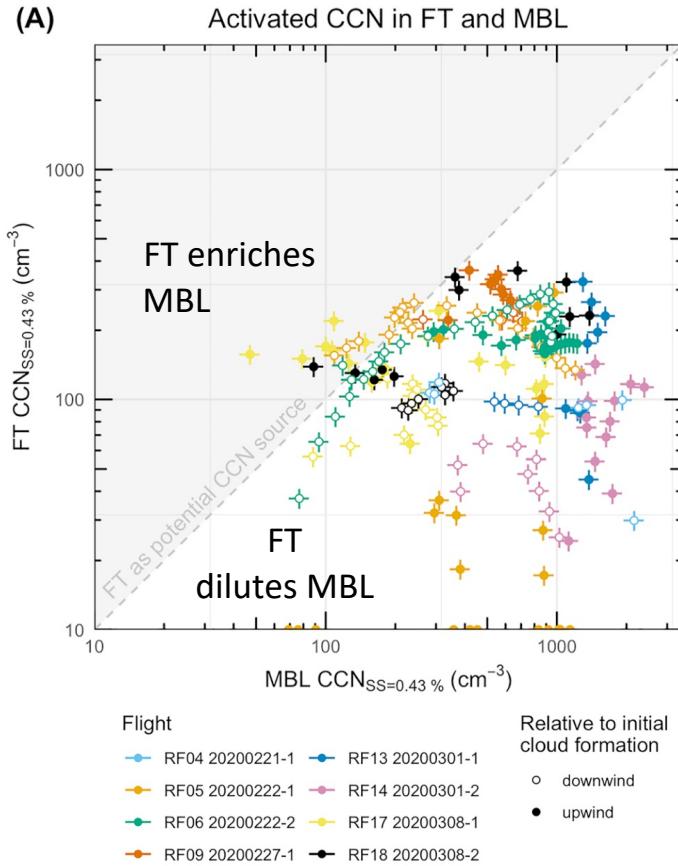
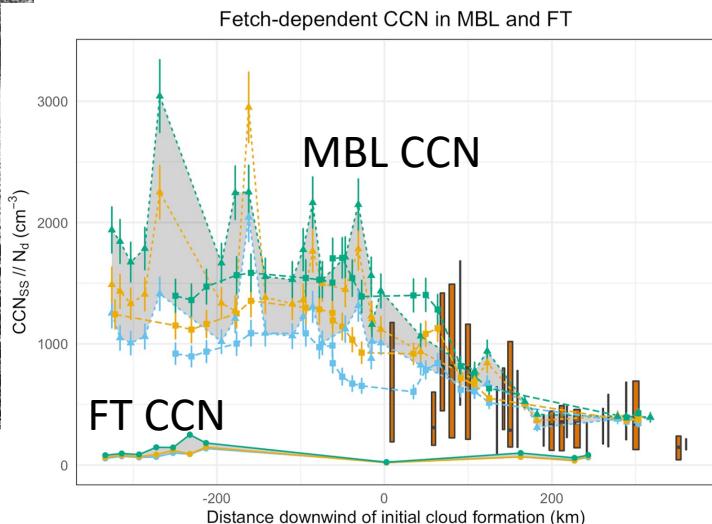
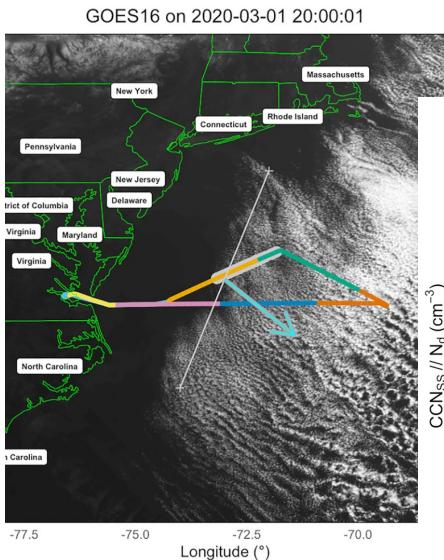
- choose 2020-2022 flights with greatest fetch offshore



Tornow et al.
(in prep.)

ACTIVATE aerosol budgets

- entrainment of FT air usually dilutes MBL CCN (and CN)
- leading cause of observed CCN and N_d reduction with fetch prior to substantial rain formation

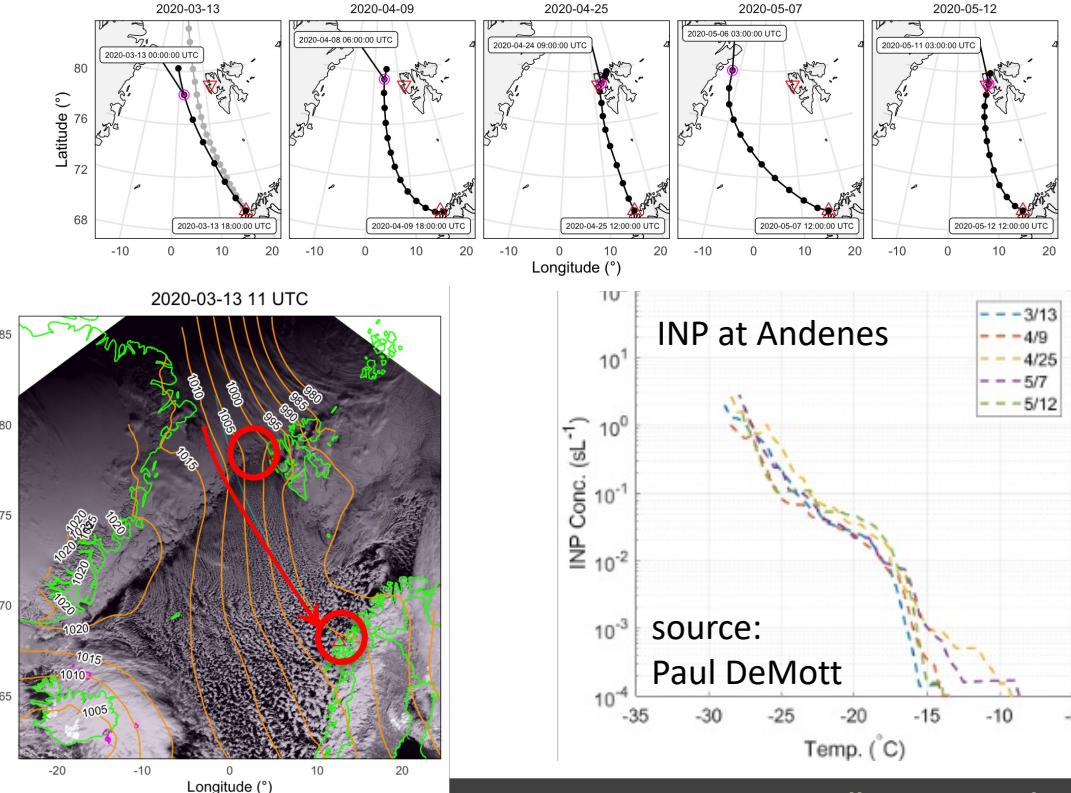


Tornow et al. (GRL 2022)

COMBLE LES case study selection

Tornow et al. (in prep.; see AMS 12B.5)
source: Christian Lackner

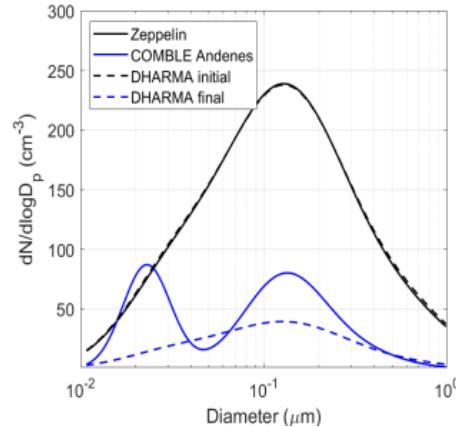
- choose CAO back trajectories passing near Zeppelin



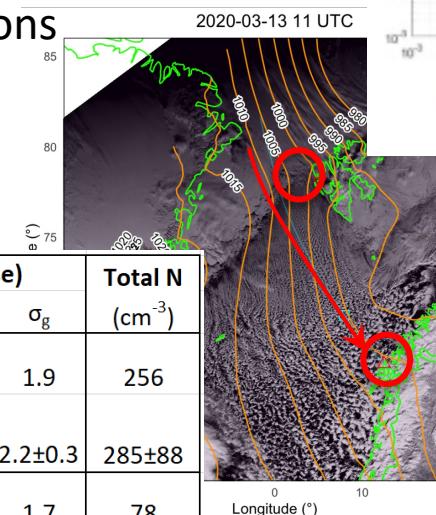
Ranking	Intensity	Data Availability
1 st	Mar 12-13	May 7
2 nd	Mar 28-29	Apr 25
3 rd	Feb 2-6	May 11-12
4 th	Jan 4	Apr 9-10
5 th	Dec 1-2	Mar 12-13
6 th	Apr 9-10	Feb 2-6
7 th	Feb 23-24	Dec 1-2
8 th	Dec 31	Feb 23-24
9 th	Jan 21-22	Dec 31
10 th	Dec 9	Mar 28-29
11 th	May 11-12	Dec 9
12 th	May 7	Jan 4
13 th	Apr 25	Jan 21-22

COMBLE aerosol budgets

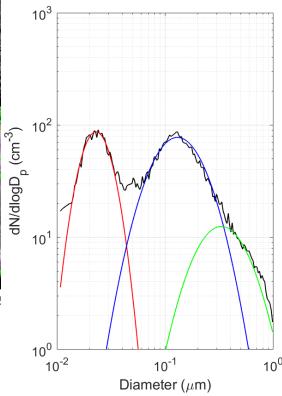
Williams et al. (in prep.; see AMS 8B.4)



- trimodal aerosol with CCN reduction
- entrainment + wet scavenging + sea spray
- preliminary DHARMA simulations show excessive CCN reduction (and excessive LWP)



Case 1: March 13



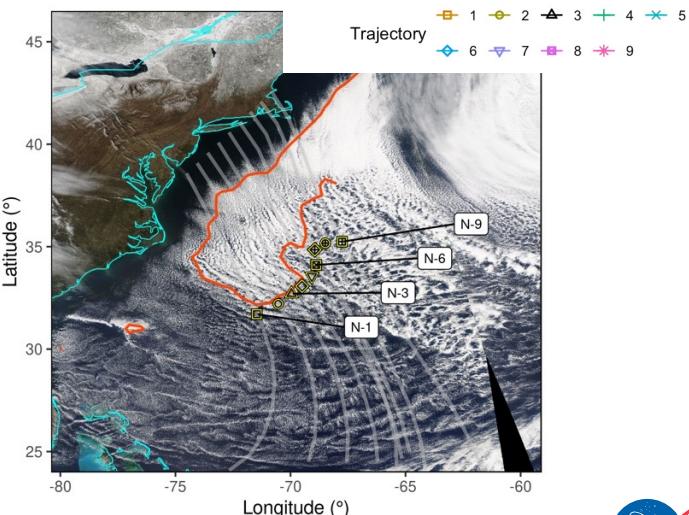
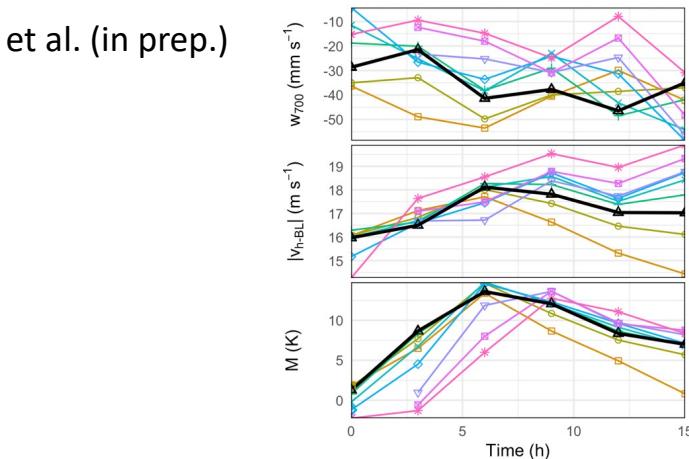
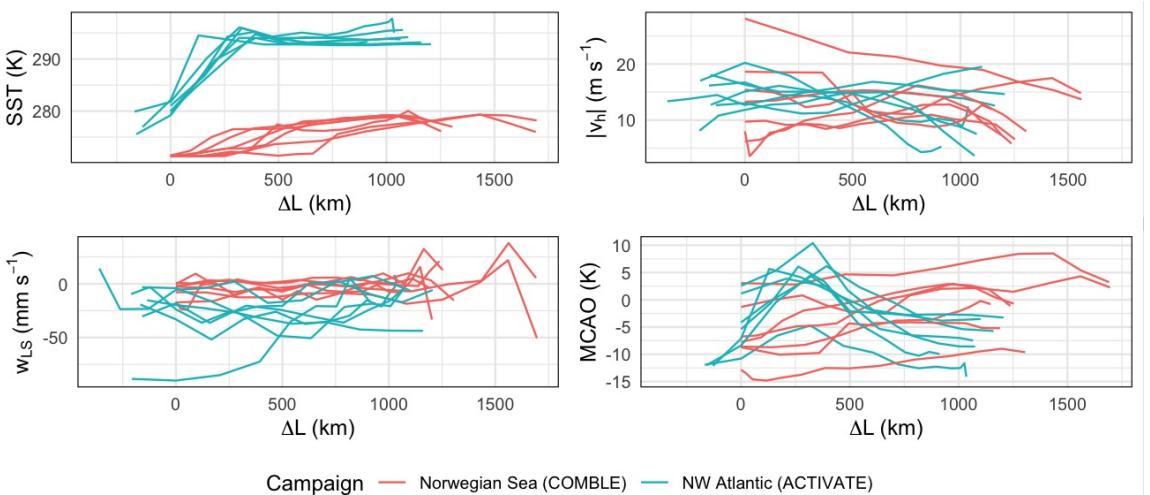
Location	Case	Mode 1 (Aitken)			Mode 2 (Accumulation)			Mode 3 (Coarse)			Total N (cm ⁻³)
		N (cm ⁻³)	D (μm)	σ_g	N (cm ⁻³)	D (μm)	σ_g	N (cm ⁻³)	D (μm)	σ_g	
Zeppelin	13-Mar	38	0.03	1.8	194	0.13	2.2	24	0.61	1.9	256
	5 Case Avg	125±114	0.04±0.01	1.6±0.1	154±36	0.15±0.02	1.7±0.3	9±9	0.4±0.1	2.2±0.3	285±88
Andenes (COMBLE)	13-Mar	28	0.02	1.4	43	0.13	1.7	7	0.33	1.7	78
	5 Case Avg	21±0.001*	0.02±0.001*	1.6±0.4*	94±73	0.13±0.01	1.6±0.1	6±3	0.40±0.07	1.7±0.2	99±60



Contrasting subsidence

Tornow et al. (in prep.)

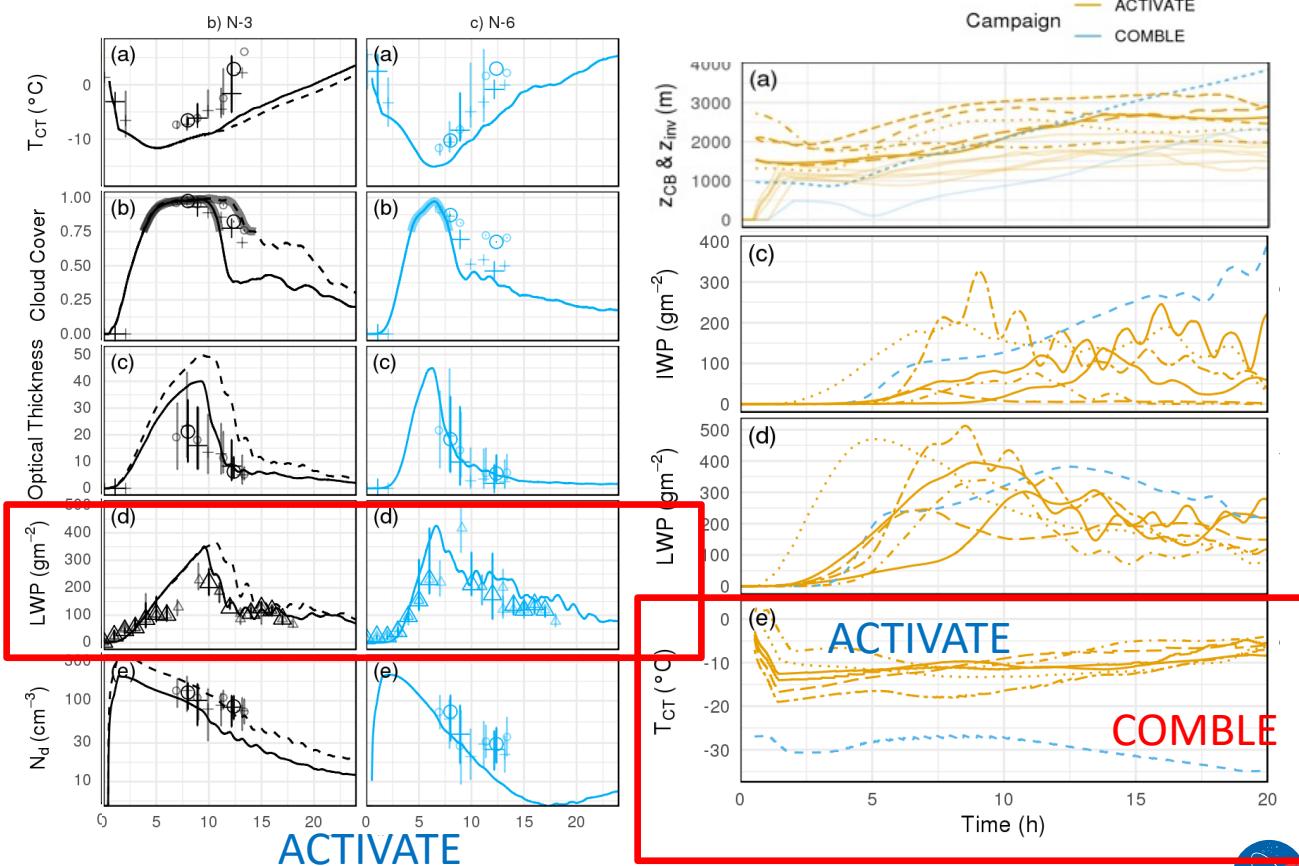
- powerful subsidence in some **ACTIVATE** cases!
- systematically weaker subsidence in **COMBLE** cases, can have negligible impact (cf. Chlond BLM 1992)
- corresponding contrast in inversion strengths



Contrasting CTT and LWP (CWP+RWP)

Tornow et al. (in prep.)

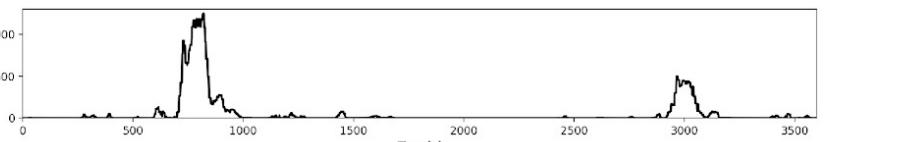
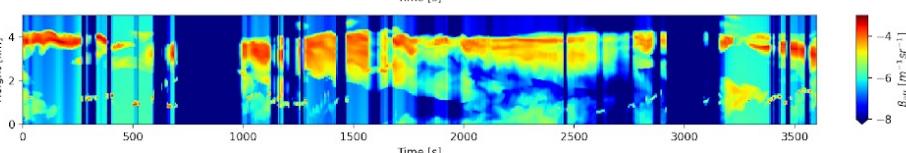
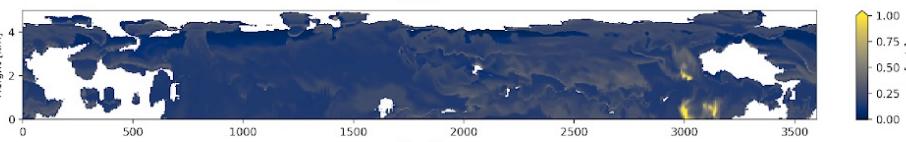
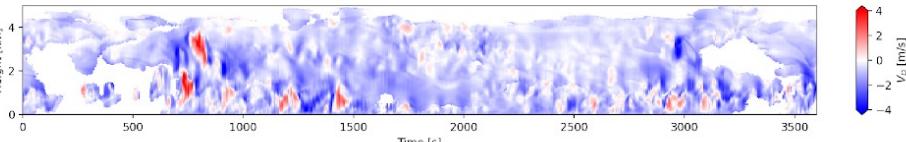
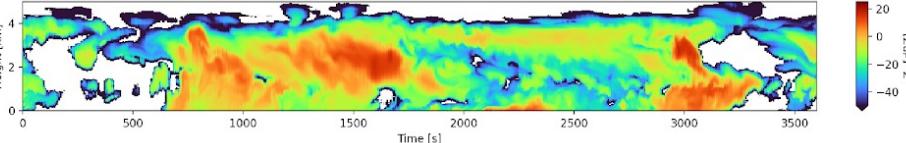
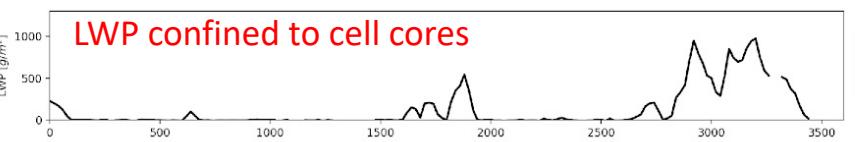
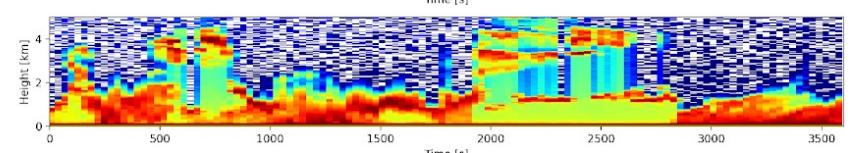
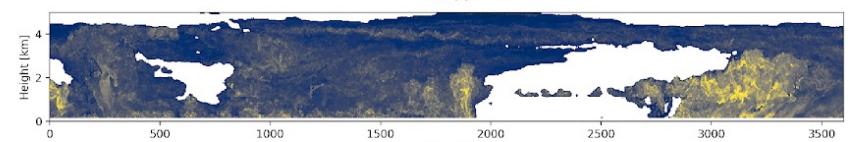
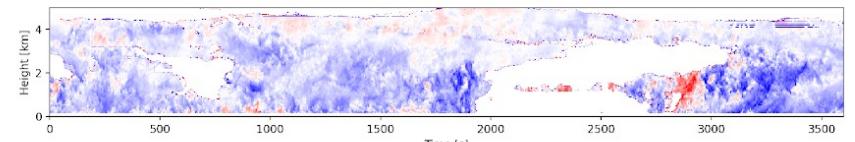
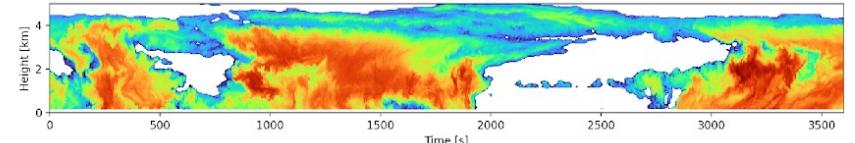
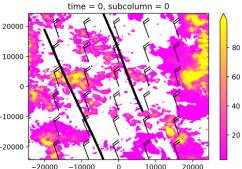
- **ACTIVATE** CTT reaches an early minimum with CTH < 2X increase
- **COMBLE** CTT may decrease, CTH > 3X in this case
- **ACTIVATE** LWP tends to exhibit rapid rise to a peak, followed by rain-modulated decline (MAC-LWP; Elsaesser et al. 2017)



COMBLE observational constraint

Silber et al.
(in prep.)

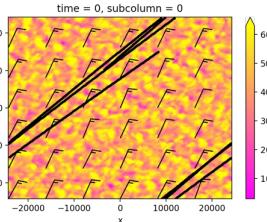
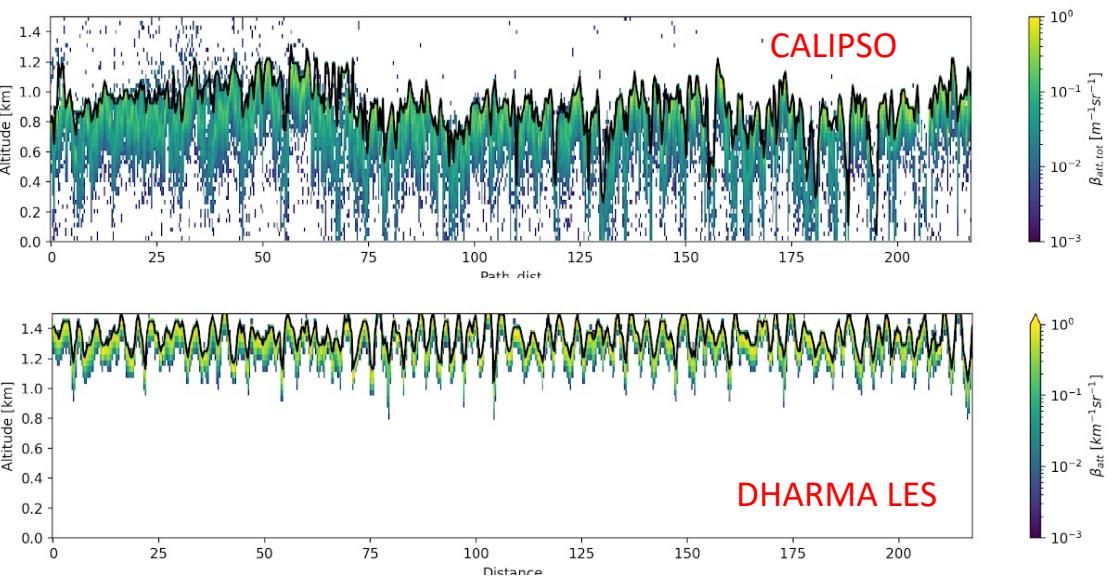
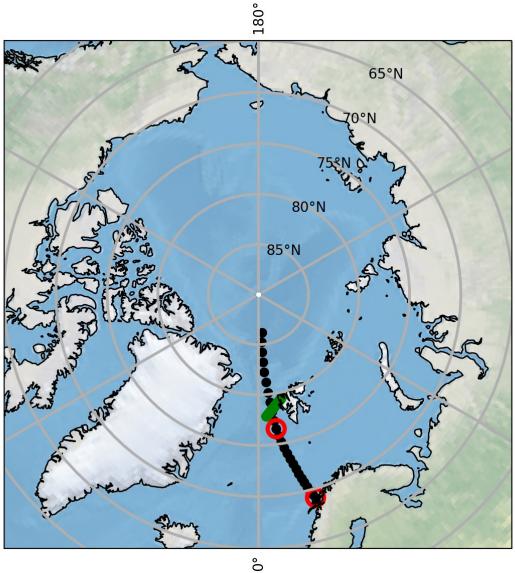
- use EMC² (Silber et al. GMD 2022) to evaluate LES vs ground-based radar + lidar



COMBLE observational constraint

Silber et al.
(in prep.)

- use EMC² (Silber et al. GMD 2022) to evaluate LES vs CALIPSO satellite
- LES clouds too deep + dense



Progress report takeaways

- Aerosol-aware Lagrangian ensembles of case studies for LES + SCM
 - ACTIVATE's polluted MBL aerosol diluted by FT vs much cleaner Arctic
 - COMBLE's consistently weak subsidence
 - ACTIVATE's weaker supercooling vs COMBLE reaching homogeneous freezing
- Community exercises for LES and SCM (just getting started)
 - GEWEX Atmospheric System Study (GASS) COMBLE project (tjuliano@ucar.edu)
 - coordination of COMBLE and ACTIVATE cases in a GASS-CFMIP project?
- Remaining challenges
 - early high biases in LWP and CTH in COMBLE (ERA5 PBL biased over ice?)
 - weak cloud street formation in COMBLE case (cf. de Roode et al. JAMES 2019)
 - uncertainty in ice formation mechanisms (esp. COMBLE) and IWP constraints

