



**INO-CNR**  
ISTITUTO  
NAZIONALE DI  
OTTICA

Caratterizzazione ottica e  
microfisica delle nubi  
sottili antartiche tramite la  
combinazione di misure  
lidar e spettroscopiche  
nell'infrarosso termico

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# OUTLINE

- **Introduction to cirrus clouds and ERB**
- **Introduction to REFIR-PAD spectroradiometer**
- **REFIR-PAD measurements field campaigns**
- **Radiative transfer theory for clouds**
- **Cirrus clouds physical models**
- **Forward and retrieval model**
- **Sensitivity study**
- **Data analysis and results**
- **Conclusions**

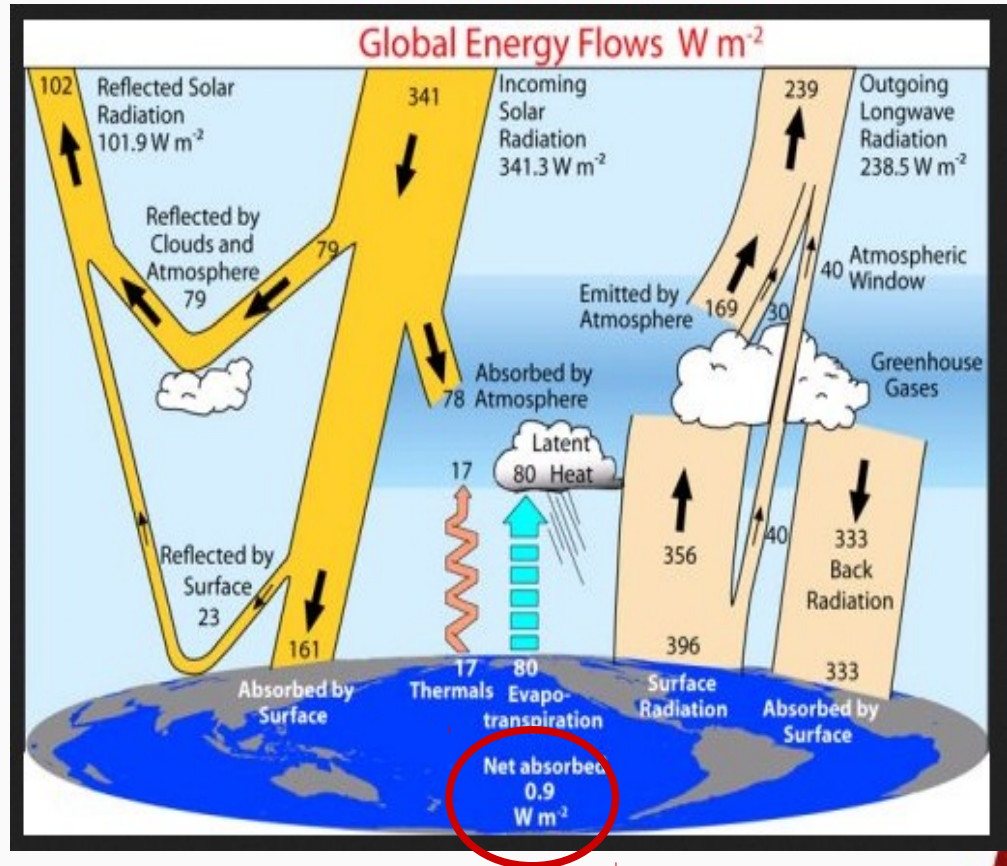


# EFFECT OF ICE CLOUDS

## WHY STUDY CIRRUS CLOUDS?

This kind of clouds play a key role in Earth radiation budget since they cover permanently about 30% of the planet surface (60% at tropical zone)

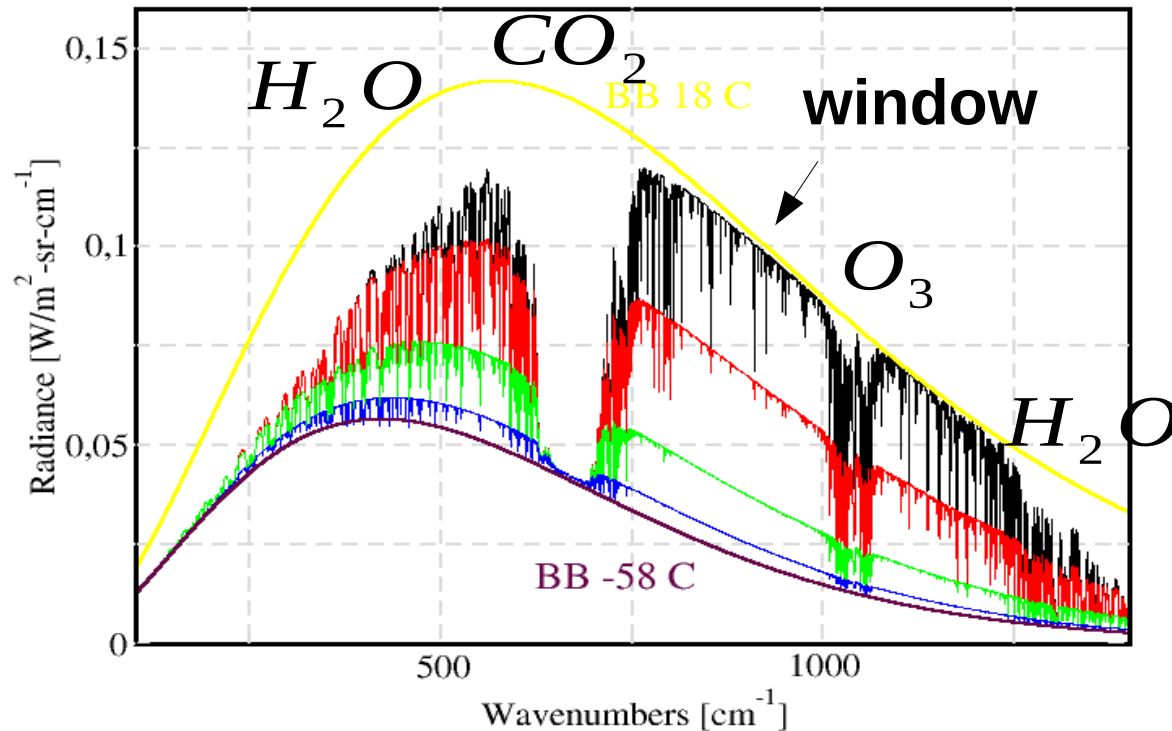
Depending on their optical and micro-physical properties, they modulate the incoming solar radiation and the outgoing thermal emission producing either a cooling and a warming



IPCC 2013 (Intergovernment Panel on Climate Change)



# EFFECT OF THE ICE CLOUDS

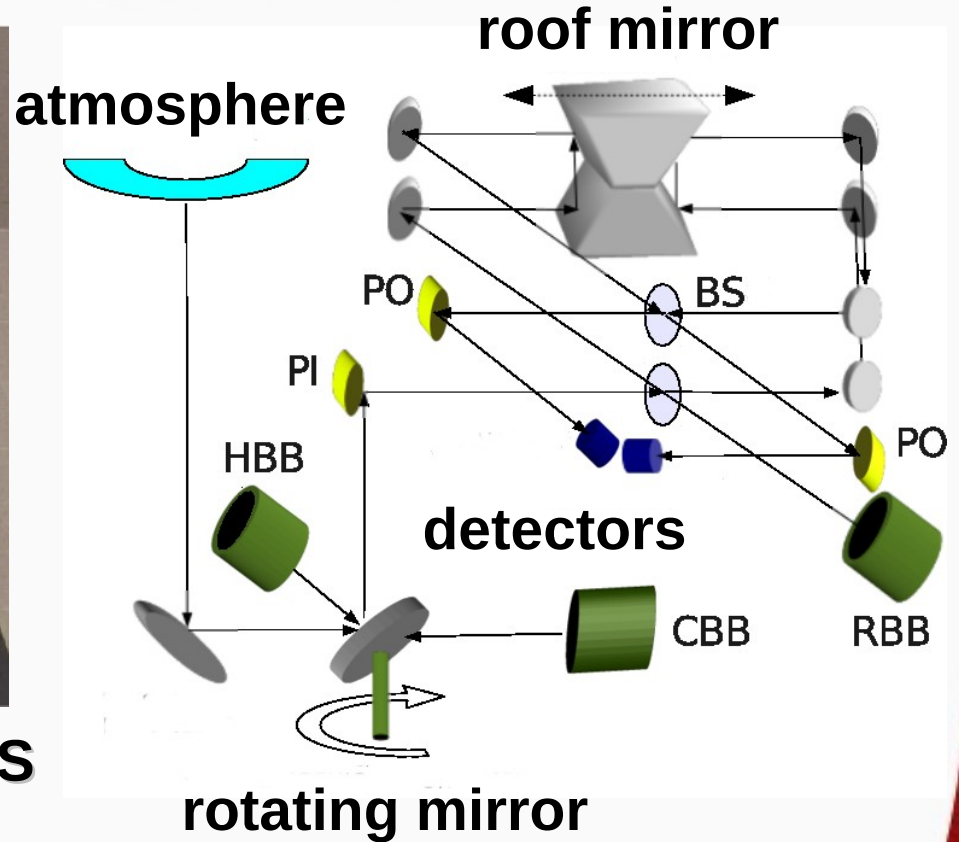
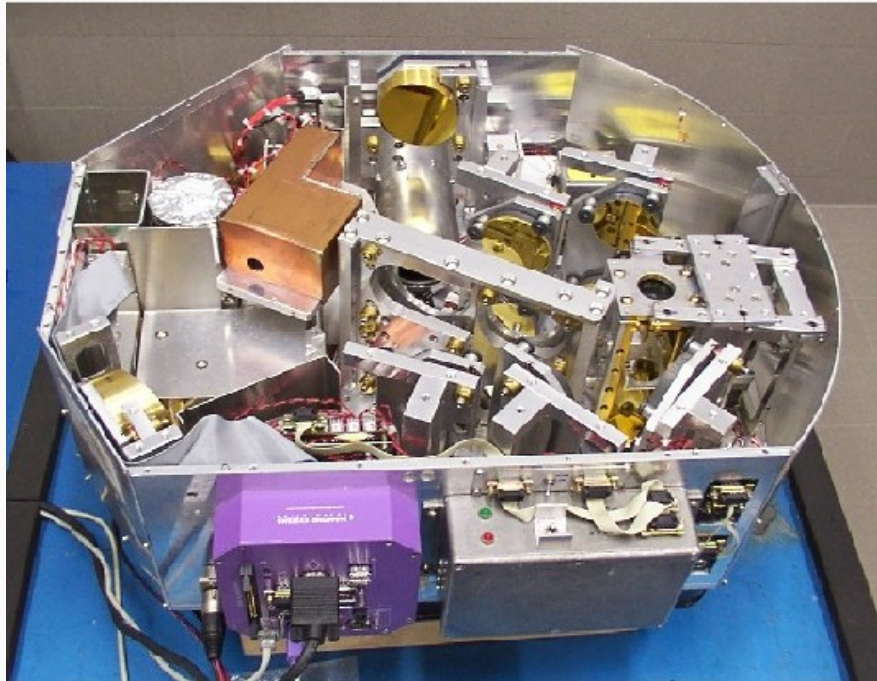


**Upwelling radiance for clouds at different heights and in different phases**





# REFIR-PAD SPECTRORADIOMETER



## INSTRUMENT SPECIFICATIONS

Mach-Zehnder interferometer

Spectral band =  $100-1400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

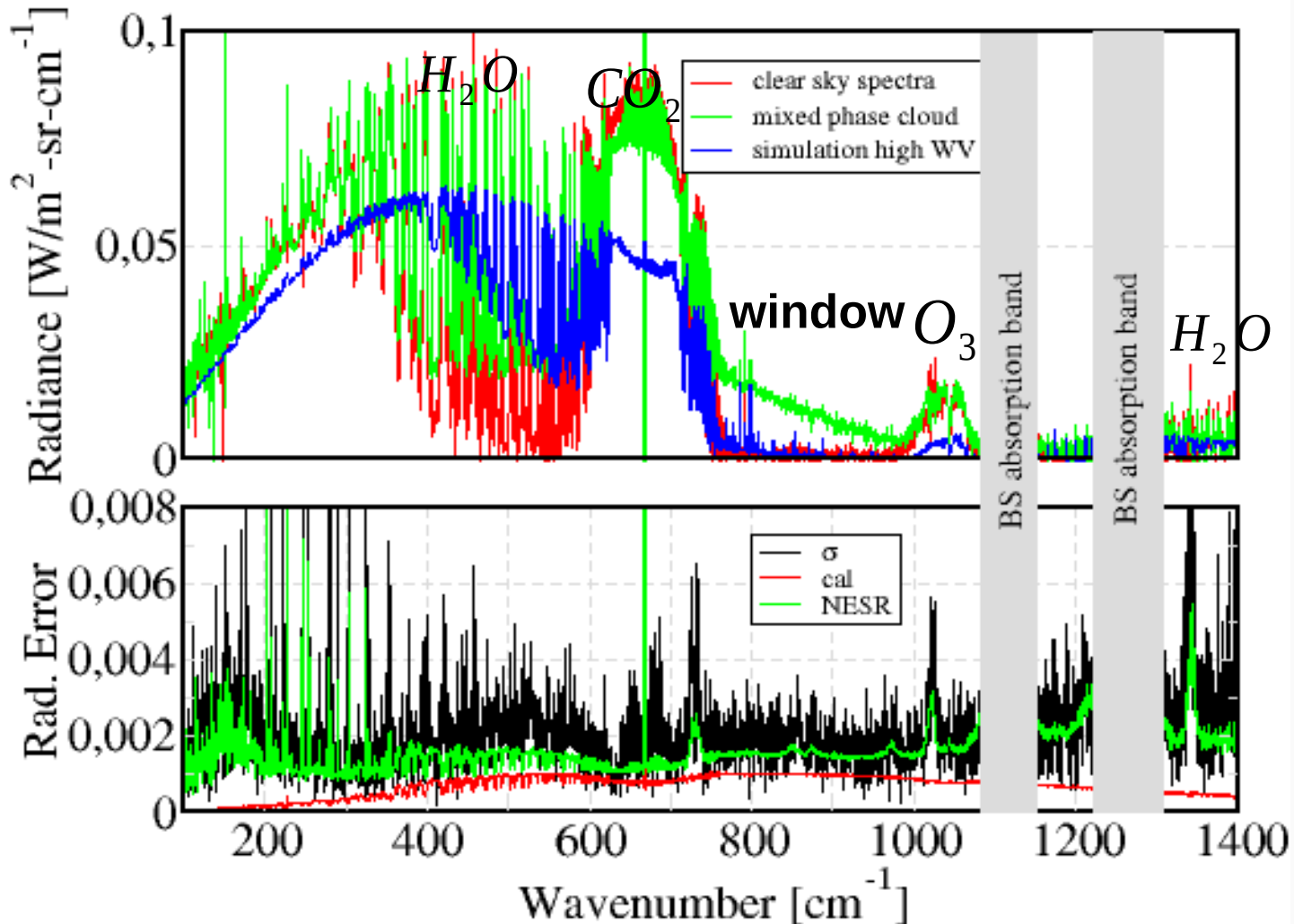
Spectral resol.  $\approx 0.25 - 0.5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

BT error  $\approx 0.1\text{K}$  (@280K), NESR  $\approx 1 \text{ mW /m}^2\text{-sr-cm}^{-1}$

**Ground based zenith looking observation geometry**



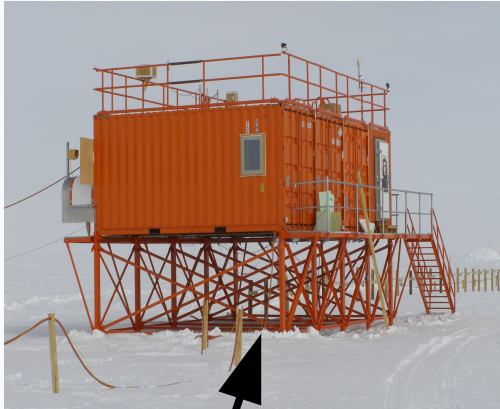
# MEASUREMENTS & UNCERTAINTY



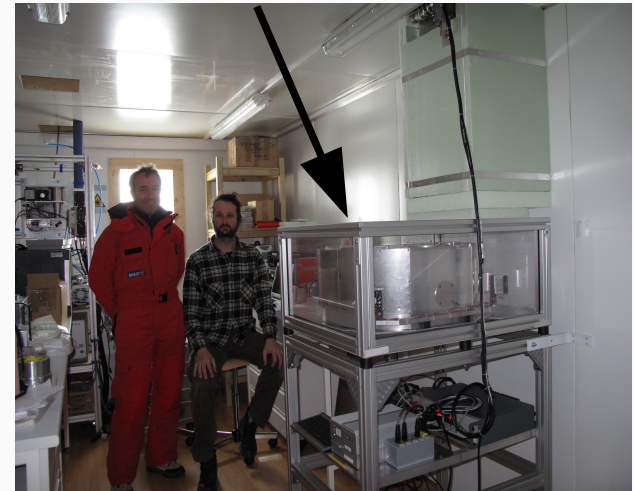
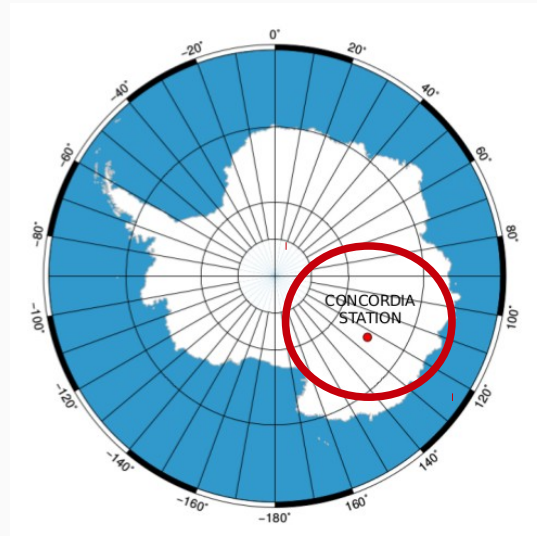


# ANTARCTICA FIELD CAMPAIGN

## REFIR-PAD



Physics shelter



Concordia base at Dome C, Antarctica, 3233 m a.s.l.







# RADIATIVE TRANSFER EQUATION



$$D_e = \frac{3}{2} \frac{\int \left[ \sum f_i(L) V_i(L) \right] n(L) dL}{\int \left[ \sum f_i(L) A_i(L) \right] n(L) dL}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tau &= \tau(D_e, IWP) \\ \omega &= \omega(D_e) \\ g &= g(D_e) \end{aligned}$$



**A, B, C, Λ**

**Coefficients depending on optical thickness, asymmetry factor and single scattering albedo**

$$\frac{dI_\nu}{d\tau_\nu} = -I_\nu(\tau) + \frac{\omega_\nu}{2} \int_{-1}^{+1} P(\mu, \mu') I_\nu(\mu') d\mu' + (1 - \omega_\nu) B_\nu(T)$$

$$I_\nu(\tau) = I_\nu(0) e^{-\tau} + A(T_e) (1 - e^{-\tau}) + B(1 - \Lambda)^{-1} (1 - e^{\tau(\Lambda - 1)}) + C(1 + \Lambda)^{-1} (1 - e^{\tau(\Lambda + 1)})$$

2-fluxes  $\delta$ -scaled Eddington solution for downwelling radiance for a single uniform layer



# CIRRUS CLOUDS MODELS

## Parameterizations for cirrus clouds composed of hexagonal columns:

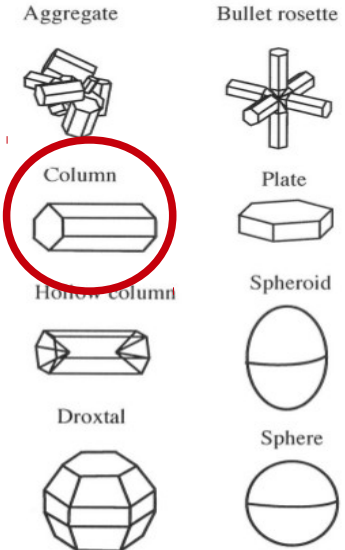
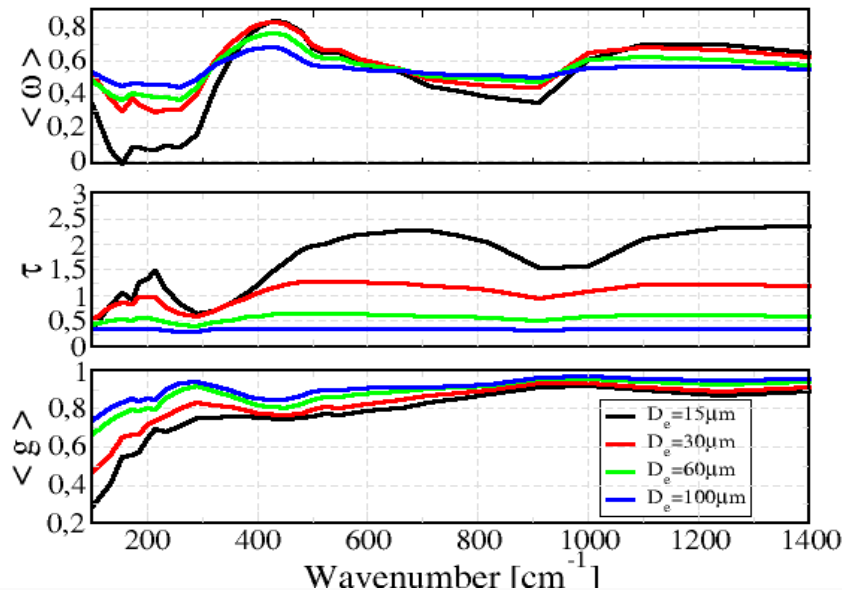
**Fu et al., “An accurate parameterization of the infrared radiative properties of cirrus clouds for climate models”, A.M.S.,2223-2237, 1998.**

$$\tau_e = IWP \left( a_0 + a_1 / D_{ge} + a_2 / D_{ge}^2 \right)$$

$$\tau_a = \frac{IWP}{D_{ge}} \left( b_0 + b_1 D_{ge} + b_2 D_{ge}^2 + b_3 D_{ge}^3 \right)$$

$$g = a_0 + c_1 D_{ge} + c_2 D_{ge}^2 + c_3 D_{ge}^3$$

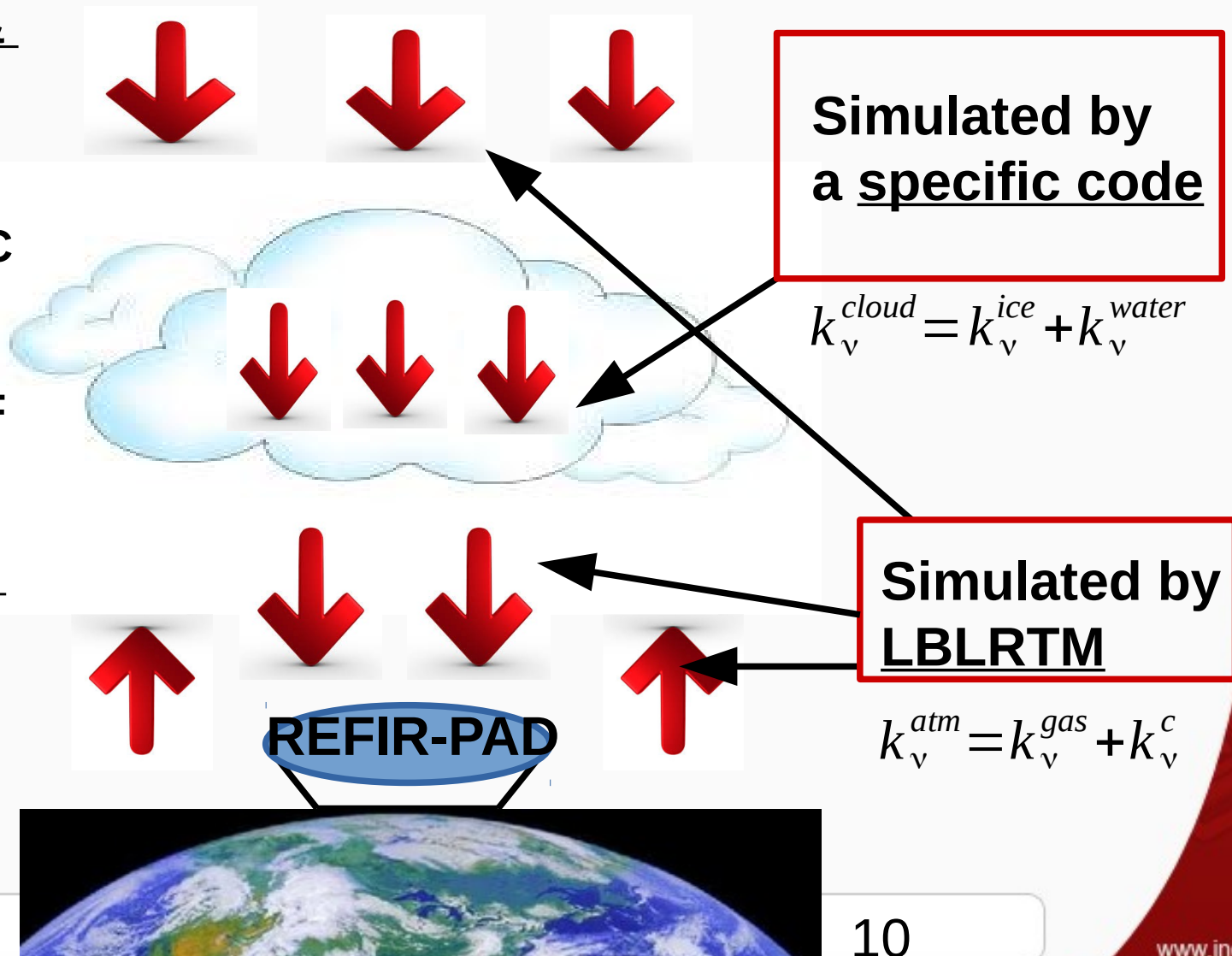
$$\omega = 1 - \frac{\tau_a}{\tau_e}$$





# FORWARD & RETRIEVAL MODEL

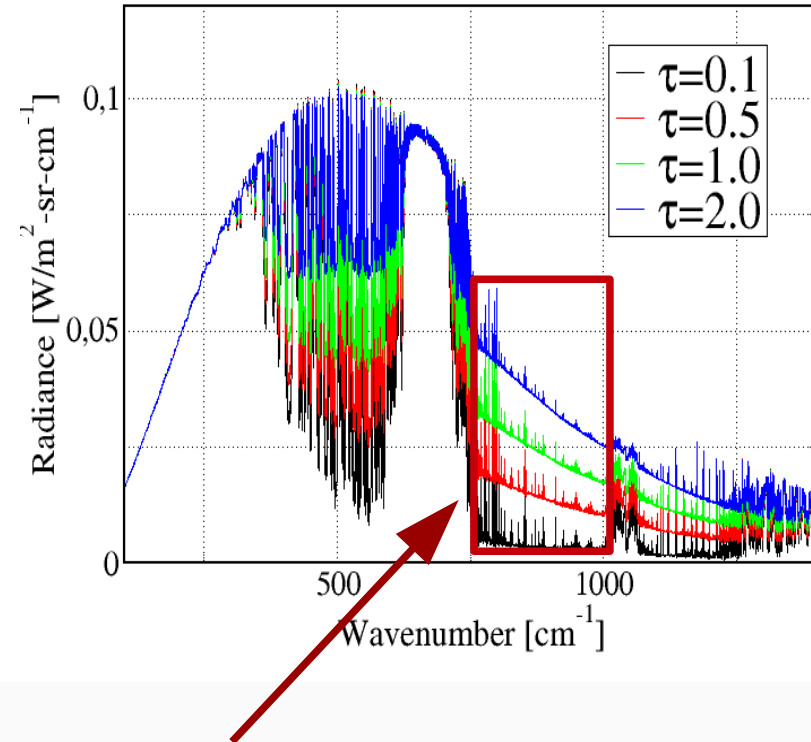
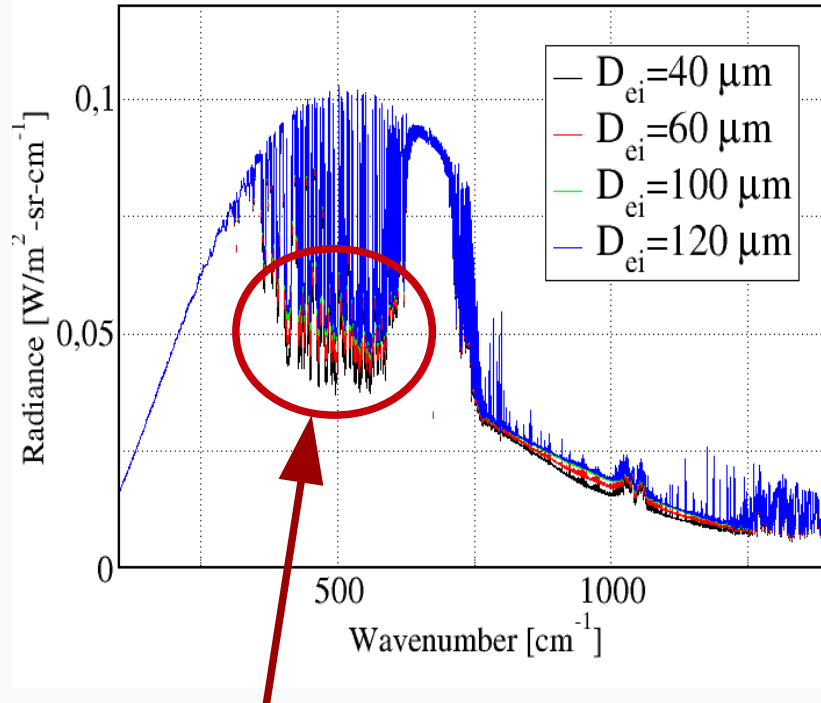
A FORWARD & RETRIEVAL MODEL  
SIMULATING  
ATMOSPHERIC  
RADIANCE  
IN  
PRESENCE OF  
ICE  
&  
MIXED PHASE  
CLOUDS  
WERE  
DEVELOPED







# SENSITIVITY TO THE CLOUD PARAMETERS



High sensitivity to diameter

Far InfraRed (below  $600 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

High sensitivity to optical depth

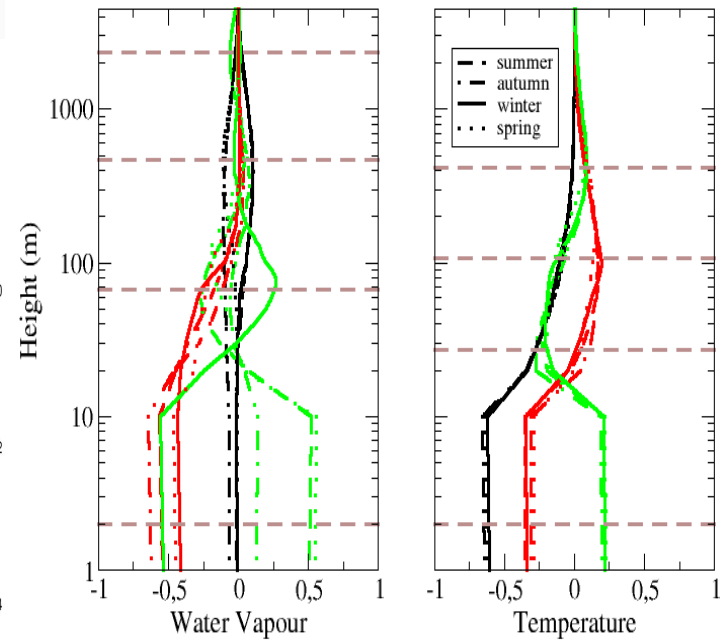
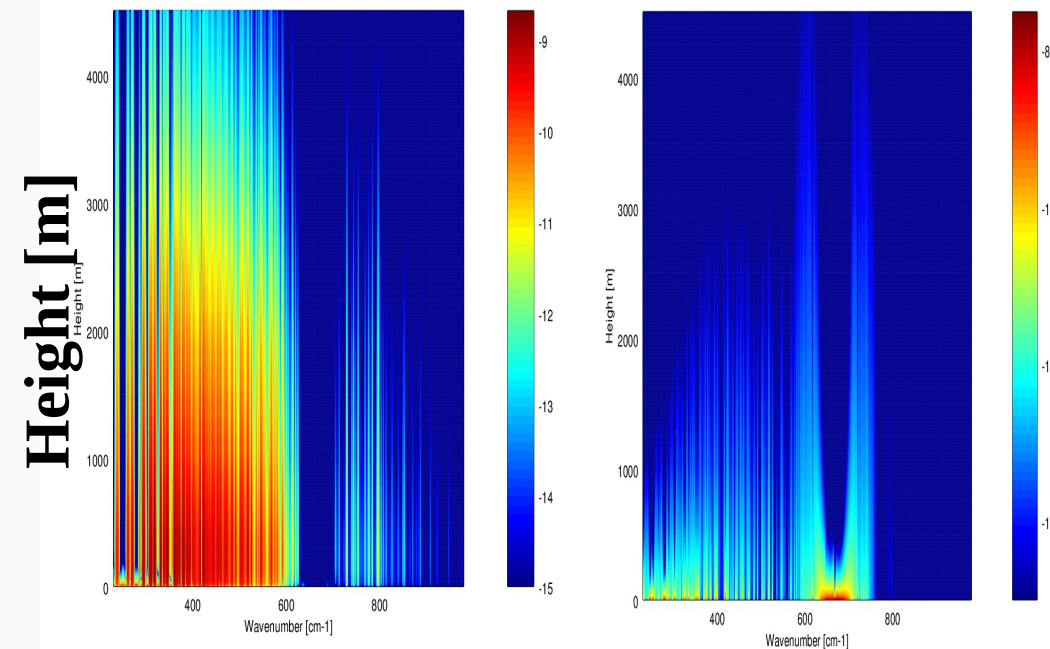
Mid InfraRed (window,  $820\text{-}980 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )



# SENSITIVITY TO THE ATMOSPHERIC PARAMETERS

## SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION of information matrix to optimize the atmospheric variables fit

### Water Vapour      Temperature

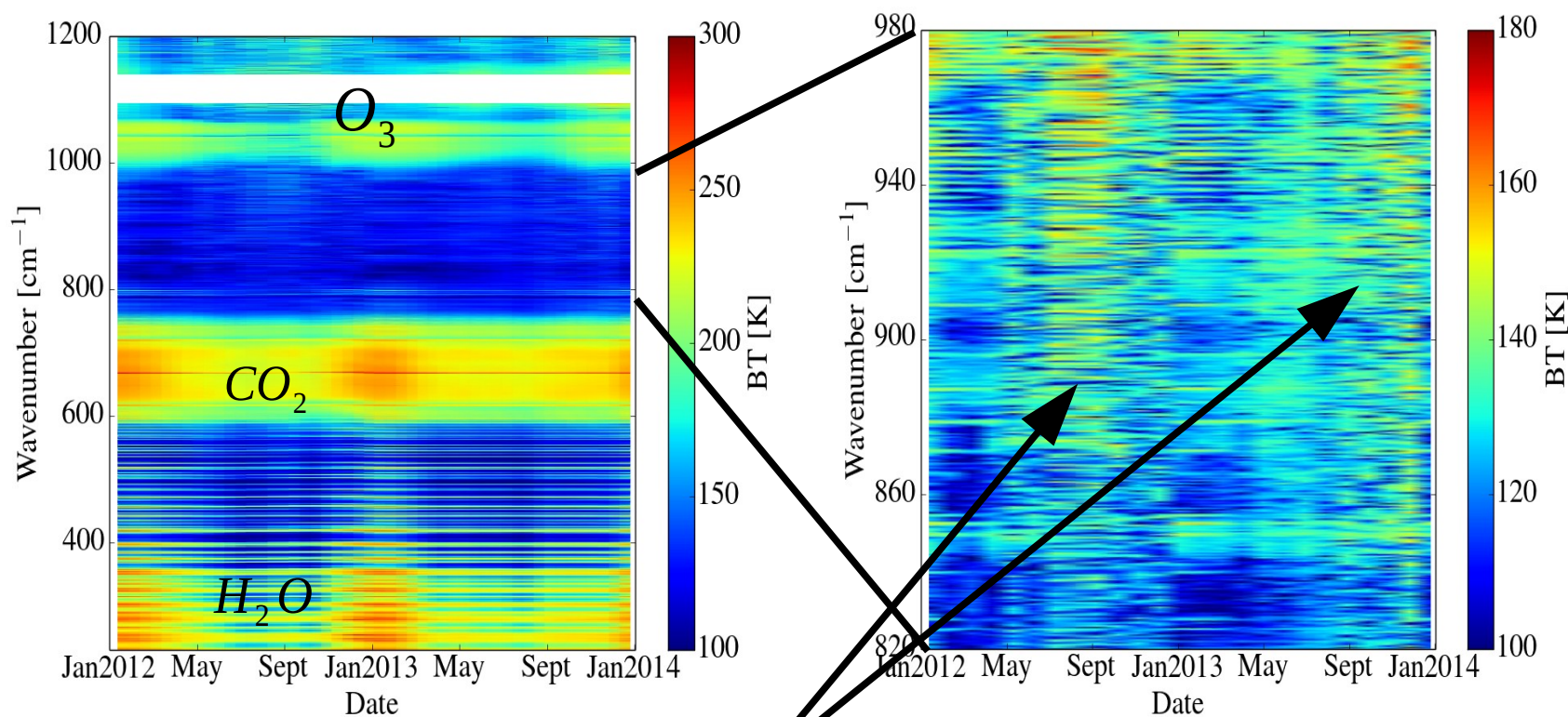


Wavenumber [cm<sup>-1</sup>]



# DATA ANALYSIS

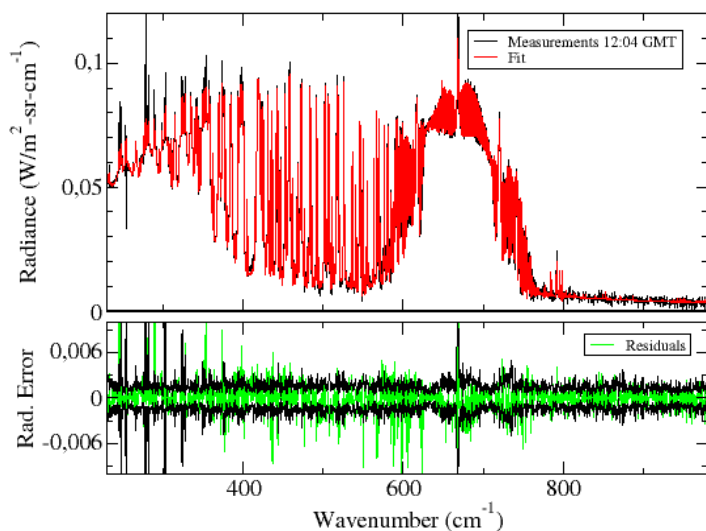
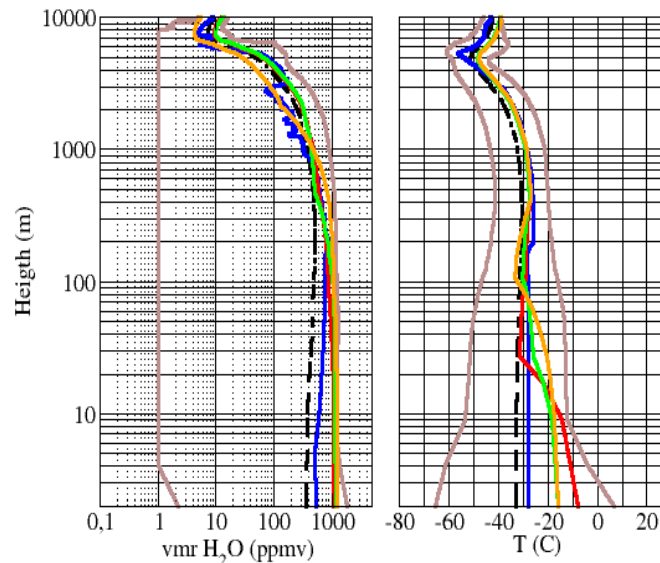
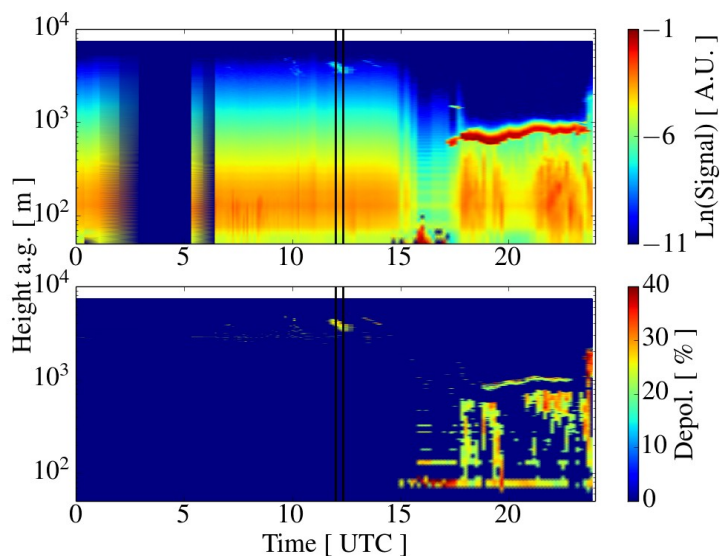
Huge database starting from December 2011



**CLOUDS**



# DATA ANALYSIS: SUMMER



Day 02/01/2013, res. 0.4  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

$D_e = 35\mu\text{m}$  IWP =  $3\text{g/m}^2$

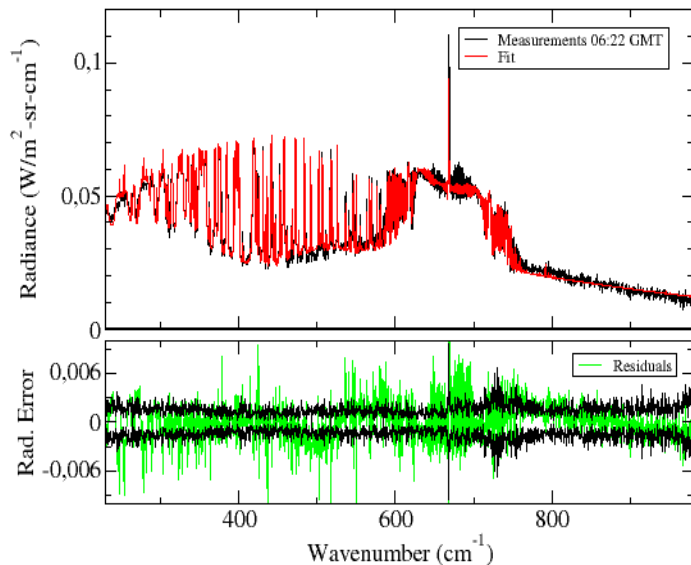
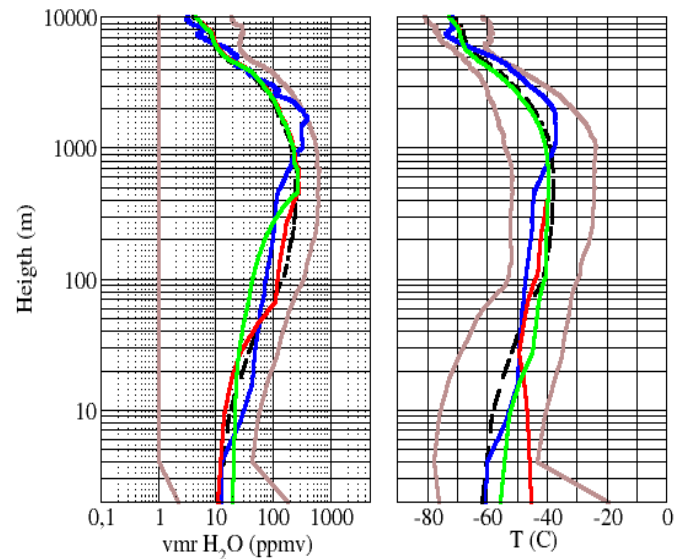
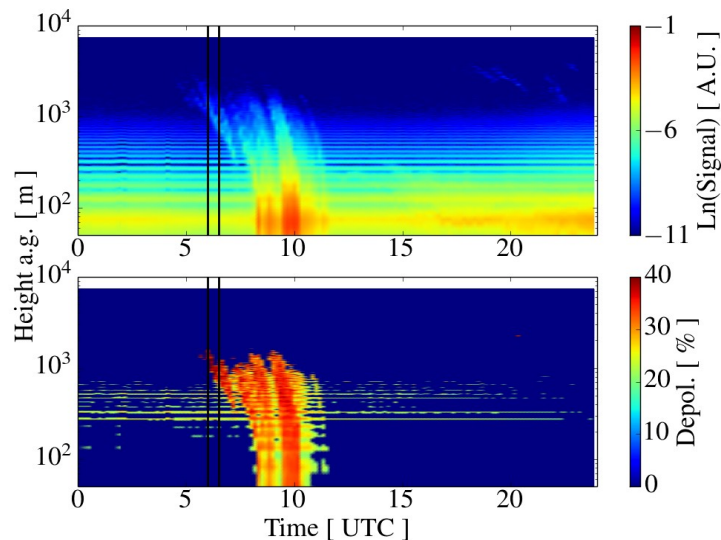
$T_e = -47^\circ\text{C}$ , OPD=0.3

TOP at 7.5 km

BOTTOM at 6.5 km



# DATA ANALYSIS: WINTER



Day 10/06/2013, res. 0.4 cm<sup>-1</sup>

$D_e = 78 \mu\text{m}$  IWP = 23g/m<sup>2</sup>

$T_e = -47^\circ\text{C}$ , OPD=1.0

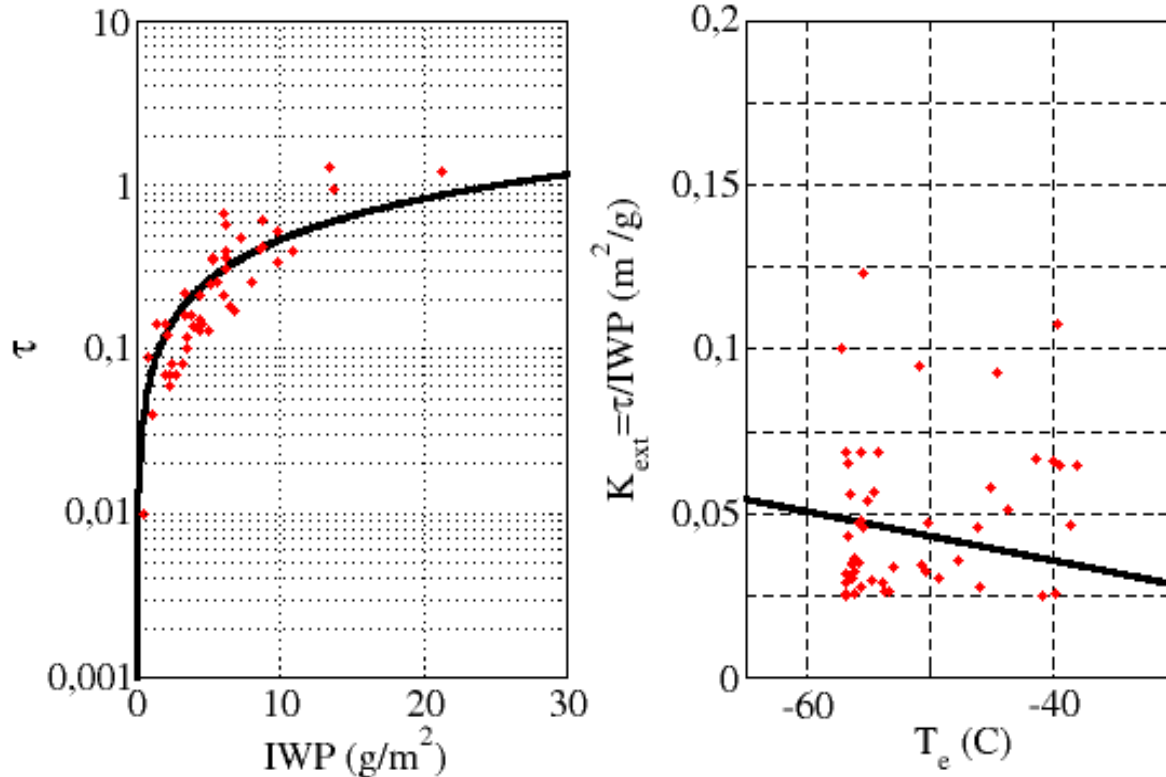
TOP at 4.0 km

BOTTOM at 5.2 km





# HEYMSFIELD STATISTICS



**COMPARISON TO HEYMSFIELD STATISTICS  
( TESTA GRIGIA 2007/11 ANALYSIS)**





# CONCLUSIONS

- Many different measurements field campaigns were carried out using REFIR-PAD, last one still in place since 2012 in Antarctica
- Huge database of spectral radiance for the Antarctic atmosphere
- A FORWARD & RETRIEVAL model to simulate radiative transfer in atmosphere in presence of clouds were developed and allowed to retrieve the clouds properties
- Cirrus models provided by Fu and Yang are suitable to retrieve optical and micro-physical parameters of cirrus clouds
- Far InfraRed is very important to characterise the state of the atmosphere and the clouds optical and microphysical properties

A photograph of a bright blue sky filled with wispy white clouds. At the bottom of the frame, a range of mountains is visible, covered in a layer of snow. The overall scene is serene and clear.

Thanks for your attention!!