



# Introduction to ESA campaigns and Pre-launch lessons learned

2<sup>nd</sup> ESA EarthCARE Validation Workshop

25-28 May 2021 (online)

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# Why these campaigns?



- Improve our understanding of EarthCare measurements
- Develop and improve synergistic retrievals by bringing real measurements close enough to EarthCare but with even more information
- A very welcome rehearsal thanks to A-Train, flight strategies, way to compare measurements etc.



# WHAT CAN WE LEARN VIA DIRECT COMPARISONS

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# EarthCARE – Pre-launch campaign activities



## NARPEX (HALO with Radar-Lidar payload)



NARVAL-I south •Base: Barbados •Period: 10 – 20 Dec. 2013



#### **NARVAL-I** north

- Base: Iceland
- Period: 7 22 Jan. 2014

Summary: ~120 flight hours; 11 coordinated A-Train underpasses

#### **Objectives:**

- Use of different radar / lidar wavelengths (measurements and calculations)
- Comparing airborne and space borne radar / lidar measurements (resolution / measurement range)
- Studying small scale structures with airborne and space borne lidar

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# **Comparing airborne and space-borne measurements**





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# Comparing airborne and space-borne measurements LATM



→ THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

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# **Comparing small scale structures**



**CALIPSO underpasses** 

# Direct comparison of **cloud top height** derived from airborne and spaceborne lidar



 $\rightarrow$ Good agreement within +/- 200 m height for up to 400 sec time difference

# **Comparing small scale structures**





#### All flights/measurements during NARVAL

Underestimation of small scale structures with coarser resolution

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# TEAM UP TO IMPROVE OUR UNDERSTANDING – TEST RETRIEVALS AND CLOSURE



# **Airborne tandem-platforms**



### Remote sensing measurements on HALO and SAFIRE

HALO



Aircraft:

- Modified Gulfstream G550 business jet
- Endurance: > 10 flight hours
- Maximum cruising altitude: > 15 km

#### Payload:

- High spectral resolution lidar (532 nm) and water vapor DIAL
- **Doppler Cloud Radar** (35 GHz)
- Hyper-spectral radiometer (specMACS)
- Microwave radiometer

# SAFIRE

Aircraft:

- Dassault Falcon 20-E5
- Endurance: 3.5 flight hours
- Maximum cruising altitude: **13 km**

#### Payload:

High spectral resolution lidar (355 nm)
Doppler Cloud Radar (94 GHz)
IR radiometer

# EarthCARE – Pre-launch campaign activities



### EPATAN (FF20 – HALO; both with Radar-Lidar payload)



#### 28th of September to 17th of October 2016

- Number of scientific flights (FF20): 15
- Number of scientific flight hours (FF20): 46.5
- Number of released dropsondes (FF20): 59
- Number of CloudSat-CALIPSO underpasses: 3
- Number of co-located flight legs: 5

Common flights of French F20 (red) and HALO (black) during NAWDEX. Common flight tracks are marked blue.

### **Objectives:**

- Use of different radar / lidar wavelengths / different sensitivity (joint flights)
- Contribute to a better understanding of EarthCARE measurements
- First rehearsal of cal/val strategy (ensuring readiness of the systems)

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# Synergistic Radar/Lidar retrieval





# Closure study – Radar-Lidar vs. specMACS



→ Forward modeling of spectral radiances using microphysical properties derived from synergistic radar/lidar measurements

LATM

→ Comparison with measured spectral radiances with specMACS



→ Good agreement of simulated and measured spectral radiance at 1900 nm

Ewald et al., 2021



# WHAT CAN WE LEARN WITH CLOSURE AND IN-SITU

# **Coordinated HALO – FF20 - FAAM flight**



### Comparison with specMACS and in-situ measurements

### NAWDEX RF06 – 14 October 2016



# Comparison with specMACS





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# Comparison with specMACS





#### NO agreement of simulated and measured spectral radiance at 1900 nm

# Analysis of multi-wavelength measurements



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# Analysis of multi-wavelength measurements



### Comparison of Level2 data between HALO and FF20



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# Analysis of multi-wavelength measurements



Comparison of Level2 data between HALO and FF20

Investigating the effects of different wavelengths on retrieved properties



### Mie scattering / attenuation at 94 GHz leads to:

- larger values of IWC
- lower values of Reff

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# **AEROSOL CLASSIFICATION**

# Aerosol type classification scheme



Linking optical and

microphysical properties

**ICAROHS** - Project

Measurement strategy



Aerosol classification

#### Groß et al., 2013 22

# A-CARE (DLR-Falcon (in-situ) + ground-based lidar) 🕂 💽 esa



#### <u>April 2017</u>

- Measurement side: Cyprus
- Overflights over ground station in Cyprus and Crete: 2
- Variable aerosol situation
  - Coordinated (ground-based) remote sensing and airborne in-situ measurements







#### **Objectives:**

- Analysis of airborne in-situ measurements
- Analysis and quality control of ground-based remote sensing measurements and assessment for Level-2 processing
- Relate microphysical properties measured in situ to the remote sensing data and refine the HETEAC model accordingly

# Aerosol type classification scheme



# HETEC – Hybrid End-to-End Aerosol Classification

To connect **microphysical**, **optical** and **radiative** properties of predefined aerosol components

- Aerosol classification model developed for EarthCARE and implemented in ECSIM
- 4 basic aerosol components with prescribed microphysical properties to calculate mixtures
- Radiation closure for aerosol from ATLID & MSI with BBR



Comparison of retrieved microphysical properties with airborne in-situ measurements shows good agreement

Wandinger et al., 2016 <sub>24</sub>

# Campaign gaps

### Bringing together airborne measurements and the EC Level-2 algorithms

- Use of the retrieved properties from airborne radar-lidar+... to simulate the measurements from space. We can address multiple scattering for both radar and lidar (for example) and the impact of the beam filling/geometry.
- Formatting our airborne data in order to be used by EC-processors



Airborne radar lidar measurements have been rescaled to EarthCARE resolution but without considering sensitivity for future space borne measurements

→ Use of existing and new data to perform sensitivity studies

# Campaign gaps



• Radiative closure (active/passive – passive)



First closure studies show that under certain conditions microphysical retrievals fail

 Perform more closure studies
 Test the use of additional information in microphysical retrievals (passive remote sensing measurements, Doppler measurements)

### • Ice microphysical properties used in retrieval



→ Investigate the impact of used ice microphysical properties