

Interactive comment on “Relationships between particles, cloud condensation nuclei and cloud droplet activation during the third Pallas Cloud Experiment” by T. Anttila et al.

T. Anttila et al.

tatu.anttila@fmi.fi

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Our replies are included into a PDF file (see supplement).

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.atmos-chem-phys-discuss.net/12/C8419/2012/acpd-12-C8419-2012-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 12, 13691, 2012.

C8419

Response to the review of “Relationships between particles, cloud condensation nuclei and cloud droplet activation during the third Pallas Cloud Experiment”

We would like to thank the reviewer for his valuable comments. The comments are displayed below in italics, followed by our replies in normal font.

General Comments:

1) Introduction: For readers not familiar for the first two Pallas Cloud Experiments, a more in depth description of the motivation and results of these two Experiments is needed.

We aim to keep the introduction section as brief as possible and the detailed descriptions are available in the cited publications. For these reasons, such discussion does not fit to the scope of the introduction.

2) Introduction: While the goals of the third Pallas Cloud Experiments are listed, additional description of the unanswered questions from the first two Experiments would be helpful. Additional discussion of how the third Experiment will answer these questions (different technologies, season, focus, etc.) would also fit well in this section.

The topic is now briefly covered in the end of the fifth paragraph of the introduction.

3) Sect. 2.2: Inspection of Table 1 shows that the five cloud events have very different properties that are not well described. I would like to see an additional figure with back-trajectories of the five events with additional discussion to better understand the aerosol and air mass source region.

Trajectories are now included, and a brief discussion on the impact of air mass history to the particle concentrations is given in the section.

4) Sect. 2.2: Another figure that would be helpful in a supplement would be visible satellite images of the region during the cloud events to get an idea of the cloud coverage and synoptic conditions.

Thanks for the suggestion. Unfortunately in this campaign we have only five cloud events, and satellite data is available only from the first one, and even in that case there seems to be multilayered clouds as cloud top temperature as retrieved from MODIS is varying between 250K and 280K. For these reasons, no satellite data were included.

5) Section 6.1: “As can be seen from Fig. 5, the cloud droplet number concentrations could be reproduced by the model. Also, Table 2 shows the average values of measured and modeled CDNC for each event which are used to compare with the corresponding experimental values displayed in Table 1.” If I understand correctly for each case, the updraft velocity was chosen to minimize the difference between experimental and modeled cloud droplet number concentrations. Therefore, by default, modeled and measured CDNCs must agree well. Can authors report standard deviation for each averaging interval within the event? That can give some insight into the effect of updraft velocity fluctuations on CDNC.

This is correct. We have now omitted the figure as being unnecessary and potentially misleading. Instead we report the degree of agreement in the text. Also, the standard deviations of the updraft

Fig. 1.

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