

1 The authors would like to thank both anonymous referees for their time, their helpful comments and
2 suggestions and their attention to all the details. We appreciate their contribution. Please find below
3 a detailed point-by-point replies and amendments followed by the marked up manuscript. Referees
4 comments are in blue.

5 **Anonymous Referee #1**

6 Received and published: 30 November 2015

7 Our main concerns:

8 In his review, anonymous referee #1 indicates that the new chamber and instrumental
9 measurements have limited audience, implying the majority of atmospheric scientists would be
10 naturally interested in remote sensing. We argue that aerosol chemo-physical properties, modelling
11 and single particle measurements discussed in this paper are not less important but complementing
12 the remote measurements. The relevance of this paper is emphasized in the comparison to real
13 atmospheric measurements made with the same CASPOL airborne instrument (Fig.9) and following
14 the research published in ACP by Glen and Brooks, 2013 of Particle by Particle analysis. Using similar
15 instrument for similar purpose, similar terminology is used. CAPS-CASPOL is widely used in airborne
16 particle by particle measurements and it is an important tool in atmospheric research. It is primarily
17 used in the range (3-50 μm) and the new results presented here of $<3 \mu\text{m}$ small SOA particles
18 observed with this instrument could assist in atmospheric particle by particle CASPOL data
19 interpretation.

20 The review states that the paper may be more suited to a technical journal. At the same time the
21 reviewer suggests to add more details about signal conversion of a commercially available
22 instrument and detailed inlets description, while overlooking the science of the SOA observations
23 (Table 2, Fig.5, Fig.6, Fig.7, Fig.8, Fig.9) in his comments. The authors would like to highlight that this
24 paper is submitted to the special issue "The CERN CLOUD experiment (ACPD/AMTD Inter-Journal
25 SI)". More detailed replies are listed below.

26

1 **General comments**

2 This manuscript presents results, primarily taken with the CASPOL instrument, of artificial cloud and
3 secondary organic aerosol (SOA) experiments from the CERN CLOUD chamber. The Cloud and
4 Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation detection (CASPOL) measures the total forward-scattered
5 light and orthogonally polarised components of the backscattered light from particles produced in
6 the controlled conditions of the chamber. Based on the relationship between these three
7 measurements a classification scheme for water, ice, and (de)hydrated SOA particles is presented.

8 The authors discuss the importance of such chamber measurements and describe adequately both
9 the chamber and the CASPOL instrument. The fact that this instrument has been newly installed and
10 the CLOUD chamber has started producing cloud particles (as opposed to doing purely aerosol
11 studies) makes the results new and of interest, at least to a somewhat limited audience. Specific
12 concerns are listed below however the major two are; firstly that results are presented in a highly
13 specific manner such that its general usefulness has been lessened and secondly, that the quality of
14 the writing hinders the reader's understanding and appreciation of the work presented. The former
15 point has ramifications for satisfying the scope of ACP. From the journal 'Aims and Scope' webpage;

16 "The journal scope is focused on studies with general implications for atmospheric science rather
17 than investigations that are primarily of local or technical interest."

18 In its current form I would say that the manuscript does not meet this requirement and may be
19 better suited to submission to a more technical journal.

20 **Reply:**

- 21 • "measures the total forward-scattered light and orthogonally polarised components"
22 This instrument version measures the total backscatter and only one polarised component
23 (31441.13-16).
- 24 • "The fact that this instrument has been newly installed and the CLOUD chamber has started
25 producing cloud particles...makes the results new and of interest, at least to a somewhat
26 limited audience... that results are presented in a highly specific manner such that its general
27 usefulness has been lessened
28 This paper reports laboratory studies of aerosols and clouds and includes modelling and field
29 measurements all of which are included in the scope of this journal. Chemical composition
30 and physical properties and processes are linked throughout the paper:
31 Detailed optical observations of the phase transition process in a cloud is described along
32 with optical properties of the particles. Detailed SOA growth and the associated viscosity
33 changes observed, along with an analysis of the optical properties in each SOA state are
34 described, linking these to chemical processes. The reviewer does not provide any critical
35 comment on these aspects of the work.
36 To provide relevant atmospheric context for these chamber results, the measured responses
37 of a range of other atmospherically relevant particles from airborne field measurements of
38 volcanic ash, super-cooled water and ice cloud particles are compared with our chamber

1 measurements. This is highly relevant as these field observations were made with the
2 identical instrument used in the chamber experiment.

3 The study and its results can be used as a contribution to the approaches needed for
4 understanding analysis of airborne field experiments as well as chamber experiments where
5 these and similar instruments are becoming widely used, e.g. the DMT CAPS-CASPOL, BCP-D
6 and DMT SPIN-OPC. The presented results have special relevance for TTL measurements,
7 mixed phase clouds and aerosol cloud interaction studies in general.

8 A large part of the paper discusses the SOA transitions and existence of two polarising states
9 in simulated atmospheric conditions, together with the SOA reversed transition to a more
10 viscous state. This is scientifically important for understanding many atmospheric processes
11 including ice nucleation and particle radiative scattering properties. Therefore in our view,
12 the observations are not local or technical, and have demonstrated real atmospheric
13 relevance.

- 14 • “In its current form I would say that the manuscript does not meet this requirement and
15 may be better suited to submission to a more technical journal”

16 The focus of the paper is the optical characterisation of atmospheric particles by their
17 unique polarisation signatures with atmospheric relevance and context. The technical
18 discussion of the instrumental design or the chamber setup appears in all CLOUD papers and
19 is not the main point of this paper as these have been discussed by others (and which we
20 have cited). These are used here only to underpin the measurements of important physical
21 properties. The first section explains the initial steps in the analysis, further figures (**Table 2**,
22 **Fig.5** growth rate of SOA, **Fig.6** two distinct polarising states of particles, **Fig.7** reversed
23 transition in viscosity, **Fig.8** decrease in SOA size, **Fig.9** polarisation scatter map for different
24 particles) report and focus on the new results from the SOA experiments. Finally these are
25 placed in context by comparison with atmospheric observations using an identical
26 instrument which was deployed in previous aircraft studies. Whilst we are happy to clarify
27 and improve on the work presented we believe it is entirely relevant to ACP in all respects.

28
29

1 **Specific comments**

2 1. There is a tendency by the authors to present results in a manner that makes them less useful to
3 the wider community. One of the draws of using an instrument like the CASPOL is for comparison
4 with the remote sensing community which does not have access to the forward scattering
5 information. For example, polarisation ratio is presented in a slightly different way to the more
6 common $\beta_{\text{PER}}/\beta_{\text{PAR}}$ and the particle classification map is presented as perpendicularly polarised
7 backscatter to total backscatter ratio and forward-scatter ratio. In doing so, the authors have made
8 it impossible to compare these results with a majority of work in the existing literature. The authors
9 also do not explain the reasons for the decision to use these different parameters.

10 The authors cite the work by Glen and Brooks [1]. This paper presents maps using the same
11 classification mapping space as in this manuscript however they also show the same data in
12 backscatter versus polarisation ratio space which is close to that used extensively for lidar return
13 classification. Different plotting space does highlight different characteristics in the same dataset
14 and it is possible that the map presented in this manuscript is the only one that leads to clear
15 separation between the species under study. However this does seem somewhat unlikely given the
16 volume of data presented in the literature in the more conventional way. At the very least the
17 authors should address this, and more helpfully provide classifications with more common axes.

18 The afore-mentioned work of Glen and Brooks would also provide a nice comparison to the work
19 presented in this manuscript. This could easily be done despite the different definition of
20 polarisation ratio used in the older paper.

21 **Reply:**

22 • The comparison of remote sensing and particle by particle measurements is not a
23 straightforward process (i.e. bulk vs. single particle and single composition vs mixed
24 composition ensembles of particles). Many single particle laboratory techniques in particular
25 have proven difficult to adopt when translated to real atmospheric mixed-phase, multiple
26 composition aerosol and cloud environments. This is often not acknowledged fully. The
27 efficiency of such techniques in particular can become concentration limited especially in
28 mixed phase or small particle clouds. These techniques therefore provide complementary
29 data rather than comparable data and research in this area continues; “Satellite
30 measurements often unable to detect thin cirrus clouds and other clouds are misclassified as
31 cirrus. In these cases airborne probes are required. The main drawbacks of existing
32 instrumentation are their inability to effectively characterise the small $<200\mu$ crystal
33 component and to directly measure ice water content and important optical parameters.
34 Aircraft operations also inherently suffer from limited spatial coverage and limited
35 instrument sampling volumes. IWC becomes largely contributed by smaller particles at
36 temperatures below -45C , However there is still debate as to the importance of smaller
37 crystals for both mass budgets and for determining the radiative properties of clouds...
38 Finally, the soundest approach to research of clouds and cirrus in particular is to
39 synergistically combine as many sensor observations as possible” [2].
40 Nevertheless, a paper is being prepared based on a technical comparison between CASPOL
41 single particle measurements and the bulk measurements provided by the SIMONE

1 instrument based on measurements in CLOUD; this paper will be more relevant to the
2 remote sensing community as SIMONE operates on the same principle as LIDAR, providing
3 bulk cloud depolarisation measurements.

- 4 • The ratio mentioned by the reviewer is most commonly defined as the Depolarisation ratio
5 in remote sensing. The Polarisation ratio is what the current version of this instrument can
6 provide and it is a follow up on the work reported by Glen and Brooks in the ACP journal:
7 *“Although depolarization ratio is the working definition for a parameter used in numerous
8 studies, it has been noted that technically the interaction between particles and linearly
9 polarized light does not explicitly depolarize the incident light but instead changes the state
10 of the polarized light”.*
- 11 • The author appreciates the interest in the results for remote sensing classification of small
12 particles and mixed phase clouds and additional plot will be provided for Total Back vs
13 Dpol/Back space (Fig.3c) as the reviewer suggests.
- 14 • *“given the volume of data presented in the literature in the more conventional way”* – it will
15 be useful to see some citations other than those we have cited to which the reviewer refers
16 to here.
- 17 • *“The afore-mentioned work of Glen and Brooks would also provide a nice comparison to the
18 work presented in this manuscript”.*

19 Despite the similarity of the instruments, there are differences in defined Polarisation ratios,
20 and which are used by different communities:

21 1. Polarisation ratios much higher than unity were observed by Glen and Brooks e.g. White
22 Quartz, which makes it difficult to present a consistent comparison. In the Glen and Brooks
23 study (Fig.5) most of the particles up to 2 μm appear to have polarisation values > 1 . In our
24 measurements, less than 1% of the polarisation ratios are above unity. Such a comparison
25 will require thorough analysis of specifications of both detectors from both instruments.
26 DMT is frequently initiating instrument updates, therefore instrumental updates history
27 should be reviewed as well for the suggested quantitative comparison.

28 2. Dust and minerals roughly belong to the same category/ range of highly polarising
29 particles. Our general map includes several types and compositions under different
30 conditions. Needless to say more research is to be done to validate this classification under
31 different humidity and temperature variations (31449.15-18).

32 2. In page 31441, line 10 it is written that most of the light from particles of interest are scattered in
33 the forward direction. However, based on the ratios in figures 3, 6, and 10, the total backscatter
34 signal is greater than that in the forward direction. Specifics of the parameters used to calculate the
35 ratios are not addressed in the paper so I assume that they are some instrument voltage or count
36 that do not directly represent the scattered irradiance. This makes it difficult for those with different
37 but equivalent instruments (or even updated versions of the same instrument) to utilise or
38 reproduce these results.

39 **Reply:**

- 40 • The reported ratios in Fig.3,6,9 (there is no Fig.10) are from two separate detectors that
41 have different conversion because of different irradiance as the reviewer points out. Some
42 of these differences are described in Table S2, and elsewhere (e.g. [3]), and could be used in
43 equivalent versions of the instruments. The sample volume of the CAS is defined with a

1 pinhole aperture (or mask) and is used to select only the most uniform and intense section
2 of the laser beam [4], 31441.20. Once again, additional technical information could be more
3 suitable for a technical paper but is also described in the cited instrument papers standards,
4 for such instruments. Any inter-comparison of different instruments should be advised by
5 DMT.

6 3. The discrimination between liquid water and ice with polarised light has a long history so in
7 addition to this, I was hoping to see the identification or classification of different ice habits with this
8 instrument in the chamber. At the end of section 3.1 there is a glimpse of this possibility with a list of
9 different habits formed in the chamber along with the 3V-CPI images in figure 4. Given that all these
10 habits can be created it is unclear why the authors did not make better use them. The sentence on
11 page 31448, line 18 insinuates that there is a limited range of habits within the chamber (at least
12 compared to the real atmosphere). Perhaps the predominant habit cannot be selected with the
13 conditions within the chamber? Perhaps there was only ever a random selection of habits? If so this
14 should be addressed along with a comment on the distribution of habits used when doing the cluster
15 analysis. If discussion about the impact of different ice crystal habits, or even better, the
16 classification of different habits were included this manuscript would be significantly enhanced.

17 **Reply:**

- 18 • “The discrimination between liquid water and ice with polarised light has a long history” – it
19 has a long history indeed though not a fruitful one for application in real-mixed phase clouds
20 and small particles. Unfortunately, the measurements of ice crystal number and size as well
21 as RH_{ice} have suffered from instrument issues over the last decades [5]. Additional chamber
22 experiments with controlled conditions as this one could shed more light on the nature and
23 origin of particles in the atmosphere.
- 24 • “I was hoping to see the identification or classification of different ice habits with this
25 instrument in the chamber” - In these experiments, the vast majority of ice particles were
26 small. Ice habits classification for particles less than 50 μm by using solely the polarisation
27 measured by CASPOL is not realistic. Additional papers using other techniques during CLOUD
28 for this purpose (e.g. PPD small ice detector technology) are being prepared elsewhere. Our
29 3VCPI (which comprises both a 2DS LED imaging and a CPI CCD imaging instruments)
30 minimal detection threshold was $\sim 20\text{-}40 \mu\text{m}$, depending on habit, with an imaging resolution
31 of 2.3 μm . The shapes seen in Fig.4 are of bigger particles $\sim 80 \mu\text{m}$ as stated in the figure.
32 Since the majority of ice crystals are less than 50 μm in size it is not possible to reliably
33 discriminate these crystal habits into the generally used habit classification categories we
34 would use for e.g. airborne studies with 3VCPI (e.g. in Lawson et al. [6] the vast majority of
35 CPI images were $>50 \mu\text{m}$ and only those were sorted into habit categories).
- 36 • Initial branching of the small ice crystal or a high aspect ratio (aspherical) shape would
37 definitely affect the polarisation measured by CASPOL (31449.14).

38 4. Section 3.2 on the ACPIM modelling does not seem to add appreciably to this manuscript
39 compared to a comment on the chamber wall heating and appropriate citation towards the end of
40 section 2.1. See point 31445.15 below.

41 **Reply:**

- 1 • The ACPIIM model was used to plan the experimental conditions prior to the actual
2 experiments and to subsequently compare with the environmental conditions recorded.
3 Therefore the comparison of model and measurements is essential to indicate any
4 discrepancies in current understanding of both the chamber environmental conditions and
5 fundamental cloud nucleation processes. Model validation in a different chamber was one of
6 the purposes of these chamber measurements. This section therefore also presents the first
7 application of use ACPIIM for the CLOUD chamber at CERN. This adds to its previous
8 application in the AIDA cloud chamber at KIT as described in detail by Connolly et al. (2009).
9 A good prediction ability of the phase transition onset and water evaporation was
10 demonstrated with the model. Possible reasons for discrepancies are discussed in point
11 31445.15 below (Chamber vs. Air parcel).

12 5. The Discussion in section 4 is disjointed and very difficult to understand. Please break this into
13 separate paragraphs of related material.

14 **Corrected to:**

15 The results presented in this paper (Figs. 2, 5 and S3, S4 in the Supplement) illustrate the ability
16 of the CASPOL instrument to provide reliable Particle Size Distribution (PSD) in expansion
17 chamber campaigns, and to classify atmospheric particles of different phases, viscosities, shapes,
18 and sizes. The polarisation ratio was combined with the PBP clustering technique to highlight the
19 time resolved aspherical fraction evolution.

20 Despite the known limitations and uncertainties in these measurements, e.g., particle
21 sedimentation (Chapter 6 in Kulkarni, 2011), electronic “ringing”, and leakage currents (Kramer,
22 2002), these did not affect the filtered results (Fig. 3b) shown here. Another uncertainty is
23 contributed by the extremely high aerosol concentrations $\sim 40\,000\text{ cm}^{-3}$ (with unresolvable
24 interarrival- times between successive particle). These concentrations may not be
25 atmospherically relevant; their role here was solely to grow the larger SOA particles ($> 500\text{ nm}$).
26 This was required to allow the optical detection of particles during growth and liquefaction.

27 In addition to concentration issues, a derivation of equivalent diameters from dry viscous
28 aerosol particles may be challenging since it has been argued that spherical aerosols can be
29 considered as purely a “figment of the imagination” (Baran et al., 2013). However, the PSD
30 measured by CASPOL and UHSAS during SOA growth corresponded well (Fig. 5). The predicted
31 SOA behaviour (Koop et al., 2011) and the measured slow increase of polarisation may suggest a
32 change in the viscosity of these particles. The polarisation transitions observed were both clear
33 and repeatable which gives confidence in our ability to identify the hypothesised transitions and
34 to place these observations on the general polarisation map for classification in a comparative
35 particle analysis.

36 The general classification map presented here demonstrates a good agreement between
37 chamber and airborne measurements (Fig. 9). Although super-cooled droplets, ice and other
38 particle polarisation footprints seem to be quite distinct, it is clear that further spatial growth
39 and branching of ice could lead to a significant increase in polarisation and possibly significant
40 overlapping of different species. One of the aims of future studies would be to test aggregation
41 and branching impacts on CASPOL signals. Slightly higher polarisation of the airborne super-

1 cooled droplets and ice might be the result of aerosol ageing. Processes such as aerosol ageing
2 will influence subsequent phase separation processes within the droplet but are difficult to
3 reproduce in a chamber.

4 In the real atmosphere, the particles are more complex; contain additional polarising
5 constituents and have more branching. Froyd et al. (2010) report the coexistence of mixtures of
6 partially or fully neutralised sulphate with organic material, nucleated ice crystals, dry
7 ammonium sulphate, and glassy particles in the Tropical Troposphere Layer (TTL). Ice residuals
8 were also similar in size to unfrozen aerosol. Lawson et al. (2008) suggests a thorough
9 investigation of nucleation and growth mechanisms of ice particles in TTL at low temperatures is
10 needed, particularly in the presence of sulphates mixed with organics and very high relative
11 humidity. This might be difficult due to increasing anthropogenic SO₂ emissions which may
12 increase the formation of sulphuric acid aerosols and thus small ice crystals in the TTL (Notholt
13 et al., 2005). The increase in small ice concentration in presence of aerosols may complicate ice
14 content measurements even further. The classification map presented here represents one
15 approach to facilitate future CASPOL-PBP data analysis of the TTL and deep convective outflow
16 regions. It could also be useful for particles like ammonium sulphate that often reach high
17 altitudes through the seasonal biomass burning processes and initiate ice nucleation. Using a
18 method such as the classification map presented here to discriminate between different kinds of
19 atmospheric particles (e.g., ice crystals, ammonium sulphate, volcanic ash, SOA) will allow better
20 insight for atmospheric transport and chemical processes.

21

22 **Technical corrections**

23 The general standard of the text is inadequate, in addition to rectifying the specific corrections
24 below, I would encourage the authors to carefully re-read the manuscript and address this issue.
25 Some of the following points are purely technical and some may also be of a scientific nature.
26 Location of items are given as **page.line**.

27 **Title:** The title is very vague and the use of a generic acronym does not help.

28 **Reply:**

29 The paper describes observations of phase change transition in SOA under different environmental
30 conditions. In addition the methods used were also applied to the discrimination of associated
31 nucleated water and ice particles observed during the CLOUD experiments. As mentioned earlier the
32 paper was submitted to the special issue "The CERN CLOUD experiment (ACPD/AMTD Inter-Journal
33 SI)" and should be seen in this context. The special issue has additional papers with the CLOUD
34 acronym which make the experiments more localized and defined. We are happy to emphasise the
35 nature of the phase transition nature of the work by suggesting a change in title. One suggestion is:
36 Phase Transition Observations and Discrimination of Small Cloud Particles by Light Polarisation in
37 Expansion Chamber Experiments

38 31435.4 This sentence mentions three times that there are both liquid water and ice. Remove the
39 repetition.

1 **Changed to:** The detection of aerosol particles, liquid droplets, and ice crystals, especially in the
2 small cloud-particle size range below 50 μm , remains challenging in mixed phase, often unstable
3 environments.

4 31435.8 The Cloud Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation (CASPOL) is an airborne instrument that
5 has the ability to detect such small cloud particles and measure their effects on the backscatter
6 polarisation state. “. . . and measure their effects on the backscatter polarisation state.” Rephrase
7 the second half of this sentence.

8 **Changed to:** The Cloud Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation (CASPOL) is an airborne instrument
9 that has the ability to detect such small cloud particles and measure the variability in polarisation
10 state of their backscattered light.

11 31435.22 “Finally, we discuss the benefits and limitations of this classification approach for
12 atmospherically relevant concentration and mixtures with respect to the CLOUD 8–9 campaigns and
13 its potential contribution to Tropical Troposphere Layer (TTL) analysis”. Since the relevance of the
14 particle categorisation to TTL data is limited to several sentences at the end of the manuscript,
15 mention of it in the abstract can probably be removed.

16 **Reply:**

17 The discussion of potential contribution to TTL analysis has been extended (Specific comment #5)

18 31436.10 “Scattering analysis is complicated further in small ice crystals and Secondary Organic
19 Aerosol (SOA)”. SOAs are not referred to in the previous or current paragraph so remove reference
20 to them in this sentence.

21 **Reply:**

22 Sentence moved to the end of first paragraph in the Introduction section. This way the first
23 paragraph states that scattering analysis is complicated further with ice and SOA and a detailed
24 paragraph with description of ice complication begins, following with a paragraph explaining the
25 aerosol and SOA complications respectively:

26 “Scattering and absorption due to atmospheric particles can vary widely, leading to net radiative
27 effect that either cool or warm the surface of the Earth. Ice crystals pose a potential challenge since
28 their non-sphericity complicates the theoretical description of their single scattering properties
29 (Macke et al., 1996). Several attempts have been made to model and simulate light interactions with
30 different ice crystal habits, mixtures of crystal types, aggregates, and aerosols (Baran, 2013), but no
31 single method can easily combine all size ranges and types of particles, making accurate, unified
32 modelling nearly impossible. Scattering analysis is complicated further in small ice crystals and
33 Secondary Organic Aerosol (SOA).

34 Small ice crystals can have different major internal defects (e.g., stacking faults, chemical defects,
35 molecular vacancies, interstitial molecules, ionized states, and orientation defects), surface
36 roughness, and branching with various symmetries; the optical effects of these defects depend
37 strongly on the spatial orientation of the particle in a flow...

1 Aerosol particles found in the lower confines of the atmosphere are typically internal or external
2 mixtures of inorganic salts, refractory components such as mineral dusts and clays, and organic
3 species; they also contain varying quantities of water...”.

4 31436.11 “Small ice crystals can have different major internal defects (e.g., stacking faults, chemical
5 defects, molecular vacancies, interstitial molecules, ionized states, and orientation defects), surface
6 roughness, and branching with various symmetries”; These complicating artefacts are unlikely to be
7 limited to small ice crystals as stated (although the implications of such artefacts on measurements
8 of the scattered light may indeed be more important) so rephrase these sentences.

9 **Changed to:** Ice crystals can have different major internal defects (e.g., stacking faults, chemical
10 defects, molecular vacancies, interstitial molecules, ionized states, and orientation defects), surface
11 roughness, and branching with various symmetries. These could be even more influential in small ice
12 measurements.

13 31436.14 The optical effects of these defects depend strongly on the spatial orientation of the
14 particle in a flow. The optical effects of these defects depend on the orientation of the particle
15 relative to the incident radiation not the flow. If there is a preferential particle orientation in a flow
16 relative to the instrument, and thus laser, this then may lead to systematic measurement bias as
17 mentioned. A reference would be good here along with comments about any preferential
18 orientation or lack there-of in the CLOUD chamber.

19 **Reply:**

20 The angle between the flow direction and the laser beam in the instrument is constant therefore
21 the angle to the laser is correlated with the preferred orientation in the laminar flow. Orientation
22 effects on classification were observed previously in the AIDA chamber [7]. Due to the good mixing
23 (two fans) in the CLOUD chamber, the smaller size and low aspect ratio of the measured particles in
24 addition to the short gap between entering the inlet and the actual measurement we assume no
25 orientation preference, nonetheless this is another uncertainty in our measurement as stated. We
26 can't cite any ice crystal orientation effects from previous work in the CLOUD chamber since these
27 are the first measurements reported from the ice phase experiments. Particles are generally in an air
28 flow of some description, and non-spherical particles will normally tend to orient themselves in a
29 way that minimises aerodynamic drag in the absence of any other forces such as shear in the flow.
30 To avoid confusion, we have removed reference to the air flow in the manuscript.

31 31436.21 Organic components create hygroscopicity variation that affect the water uptake of the
32 particles (Cziczo et al., 2004; Jimenez et al., 2009; Duplissy et al., 2011). Water uptake variation
33 between pure sulphate and internally mixed organic/sulphate aerosols alter the particle refractive
34 index and may lead to mis-sizing by optical instruments if the composition is not taken into account
35 (see Sect. 2.3). “Organic components create hygroscopicity variation. . .”, this sentence and the
36 next should be rephrased for clarity.

37 **Changed to:** The hygroscopicity of organic particle is derived from their composition (Cziczo et al.,
38 2004; Jimenez et al., 2009; Duplissy et al., 2011). Pure sulphate and internally mixed
39 organic/sulphate aerosols will have different water uptakes, and consequently different refractive

1 indices. This may lead to mis-sizing by optical instruments if the composition is not taken into
2 account (see Sect. 2.3).

3 31437.13 its derivatives in SOA are optically active materials (Wilberg et al., 2004; Cataldo et al.,
4 2010) that rotate the initial polarisation. Particles do not rotate the initial polarisation, the
5 polarisation of the incident light is unaffected by the presence of a particle. Rewrite this sentence.

6 **Changed to:** its derivatives in SOA are optically active materials (Wilberg et al., 2004; Cataldo et al.,
7 2010) that induce a change in the polarisation state of the scattered radiation.

8 31438.2 Recently, additional experiment focusing on cloud formation (i.e. “Cloudy” experiments) has
9 been added to allow ice nucleation to proceed. “Recently, additional experiment focusing on. . .”
10 This sentence doesn’t make sense.

11 **Change to:** Recently, additional experiments focusing on cloud formation have been performed at
12 the CERN chamber. In this paper we focus particularly on results from this “Cloudy” series of
13 experiments. This addition was driven by the importance of ice particles to the earth’s radiation
14 budget and feedback mechanisms.

15 31439.7 An in situ system, the Scattering Intensity Measurements for the Optical detection of icE –
16 SIMONE-Junior (Schnaiter et al., 2012), was installed for bulk depolarisation measurements. The
17 SIMONE instrument is described as in situ which suggests that the other instruments are not. Is this
18 because the other instruments operate with inlets? If so, a description of instrument inlets and the
19 impact on sampling should be given (with a reference if required). If not, then remove “in situ”.

20 **Reply:**

21 Some instruments are sampling through inlets. Chamber probes are described in detail elsewhere
22 [8]. In CASPOL, penetration efficiency of 10 µm particles was well above 90% in all campaigns.
23 Instrumental setup is presented in Fig.S1.

24 **Changed to:** An averaged path system, the Scattering Intensity Measurements for the Optical
25 detection of icE – SIMONE-Junior (Schnaiter et al., 2012), was installed for bulk depolarisation
26 measurements.

27 31440.25 A more detailed description of the latter can be found in the accompanying paper by
28 Järvinen et al. (2015). “. . . of the latter. . .” does not make sense here so the sentence needs
29 rewriting.

30 **Changed to:** A more detailed description of these experiments can be found in the accompanying
31 paper by Järvinen et al. (2015).

32 31441.1 The Cloud and Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation detection (CASPOL) is part of the
33 Cloud Aerosol and Precipitation Spectrometer (CAPS). Although mentioning the CAPS in the body of
34 this section is sensible (if nothing else it allows a reader to find the instrument on the manufacturer’s
35 website which does not list CASPOL) including it in the title of this section is just confusing. Rename
36 this “The CASPOL Instrument”, “CASPOL Description”, or something like that. In general this section
37 needs to be split up into more than one paragraph and reordered for clarity (eg currently order is

1 forward scattering, backscattering, depolarisation, size and refractive index effects on forward
2 scattering, then effect of qualifier. This does not make for easy reading).

3 **Changed to:**

4 2.3 The CASPOL instrument

5 The Cloud and Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation detection (CASPOL) is part of the Cloud
6 Aerosol and Precipitation Spectrometer (CAPS). The first variant of the instrument was introduced in
7 1999 and was designed for airborne in situ cloud measurements (Baumgardner et al., 2001;
8 Heymsfield, 2007), although it has subsequently been used for cloud chamber measurements
9 (Krämer 2009). The version of CASPOL employed here has a linearly polarised laser to provide a
10 collimated incident beam of light at a wavelength of 680 nm.

11 The first two detectors of the instrument are detecting the light scattered in the forward direction
12 with collection angles 4 to 12°. The near forward angles are used because most of the light scattered
13 from a particle whose diameter is larger than the incident wavelength is in the forward direction.
14 The first detector in the forward direction is used as a qualifier; it has a rectangular optical mask that
15 restricts scattered light from particles that are outside the centre of focus of the laser beam. Only
16 particles within the optimal view volume are counted and characterized. All data are collected on a
17 single particle basis, thus provide a measure of particle-by-particle variability and single particle
18 optical properties. The particle's water equivalent optical diameter in the range 0.51 – 50 µm is
19 determined from the forward scattering signal in the second detector using the standard Mie
20 scattering assumptions, i.e., spherical geometry and isotropic refractive index.

21 The next pair of detectors measures the backscattered light with collection angles of 168 to 176°.
22 The first backscattering detector is used for qualitative particle shape discrimination. The second
23 detector has a polarised filter (90° to the polarisation of the incident light) to measure the change in
24 polarisation of scattered light caused by asphericity (Baumgardner et al., 2011; Glen and Brooks,
25 2013) or birefringence. In this configuration, spherical particles produce little response in the
26 perpendicular polarisation backscatter detector. Conversely, frozen water droplets and aspherical
27 ice crystals will show much more distinct signals.

28 In order to eliminate aerosol particle interference in our cloud measurements, only contributions
29 from a subset of larger particles above 3 µm were included. This threshold is based on work by
30 Baumgardner et al. (2001) and Lance (2012) who selected a similar size range for cloud particle
31 measurements. In the special case of SOA measurements, a subset of small particles (< 3 µm)
32 detected in the lower gain stage, was considered.

33 31441.9 There are four detectors in the instrument, with collection angles of 4 to 12° for the forward
34 detectors and 168 to 176° for the backward detectors. It is obvious what is meant, however angles
35 are two dimensional; the instrument collects light over solid angles subtended by the angles given.

36 **Changed to:** The first two detectors of the instrument detect the light scattered in the forward
37 direction. The collection of the light cone is subtended by the angles 4 to 12°.

1 31441.10 The near forward angles are used because most of the light scattered from a particle
2 whose diameter is larger than the incident wavelength is in the forward direction. The near-forward
3 angles are used for what and instead of what alternative?

4 **Changed to:** The near forward angles are used for sizing because light is preferentially scattered in
5 the forward direction from particles whose diameters are larger than the incident wavelength.

6 31441.27 This threshold is based on work by Baumgardner et al. (2001) and Lance (2012) who
7 selected a similar size range for cloud particle measurements. The entire size range of the CASPOL is
8 not given although various subranges or thresholds are mentioned throughout the manuscript. Add
9 this information to this section.

10 **Reply:** Added above.

11 31442.8 Aspherical particles will be mis-sized with respect to spherical particles, subject to their
12 cross-section as shown by Borrmann et al. (2000). Size of aspherical particles is used throughout the
13 manuscript but only receives a very cursory two sentences here. It is unclear how such particles are
14 sized, as only Mie theory is discussed I assume that an equivalent optical diameter is used however it
15 is still unclear what refractive index is used (particularly in cases such as figure 2 where ice and water
16 particle sizes are presented on the same axis). The final sentence needs significant expansion. The
17 bin size (were the manufacturer's nominal diameter bin widths used or was a calibration done as in
18 the Rosenberg et al. [9] paper cited?) varies across the size range of the instrument but these are not
19 given in the manuscript. Was the error assumed or calculated and was it the same for the ice and
20 SOA particles? No uncertainties are given with the diameter data presented and plotted, this should
21 be rectified.

22 **Reply:**

23 The sizing of the particles is described in 31441.18. The CASPOL was calibrated using Polystyrene
24 Latex Spheres (PSL) with refractive index $n=1.51$, as described extensively in the cited references
25 (and in DMT User's Manual [10]). The authors have added this instrument's manual citation for
26 those interested. We assume an uncertainty of the size of a bin width as stated in this section. The
27 error for SOA and ice is essentially different due to their different sizes and different bin widths for
28 these sizes.

29 The inversion of the scattering cross section as was mentioned in the calibration section has an
30 inherent problem with all types of optical particle counters. DMT addresses this problem as follows:
31 the Mie curves were smoothed (by applying a running average) to an extent that yielded a
32 monotonic function across which 30 channels were attributed. This procedure does not account for
33 sizing ambiguities. Despite this, the default manufacturer's channel selection is sufficient for the
34 determination of the total droplet number concentration or the total liquid water content [11].
35 Moreover, it was shown in this study that despite the different scattering geometries and optics, the
36 different instruments are in a good agreement; The mean equivalent diameter measured by CASPOL
37 agrees with UHSAS measurement during SOA growth experiments (Fig.5) within the bin width error
38 range; CASPOL also agrees with the PPD instrument during the ice phase measurements at -50C
39 (Fig.S1) and with the WELAS instrument for super cooled water droplets at -12C (Fig.S2). These
40 various inter-comparisons add confidence to the performance of the CASPOL.

1 The uncertainty in the derived polarisation ratio is approximately 20%, as a result of the accuracy of
2 the NIST calibration particles that have a cited standard deviation of $\pm 10\%$, the variance in the laser
3 intensity that is on the order of 15%, and electronic noise that contributes another 10% as described
4 in [12].

5 **Section changed to:** The CASPOL was calibrated using Polystyrene Latex Spheres (PSL), as described
6 elsewhere, e.g., DMT Manual (2011), Meyer (2011), Rosenberg et al. (2012). Size calibration relates
7 the amplitude of the instrument's response to particle scattering cross-sections. Using the Mie–
8 Lorenz curve, the nominal size bin limits can then be defined (Table S2 in the Supplement) in terms
9 of the diameter of water droplets having the same scattering cross-section, giving a reasonable
10 estimate of particle size for liquid droplets and small spherical ice particles. Aspherical particles will
11 be mis-sized with respect to spherical particles, subject to their cross-section as shown by Borrmann
12 et al. (2000). In our instrument this error would normally be in the order of the size bin width. The
13 uncertainty in the derived polarisation ratio is approximately 20% as described by Baumgardner et
14 al., (2005).

15 • Supplementary materials will include bins table.

16 31442.15 The polarisation ratio measured with the CASPOL instrument and reported in this paper is
17 defined as the ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter intensity to total backscatter intensity
18 and provides a measure of phase, composition, and surface features of the particle. This is an
19 unusual manner of expressing the degree of polarisation rotation in the scattered light. It would be
20 good to see the reason that this definition was used compared to the more common one.

21 **Reply:**

22 This is based on the scattering properties measured by the instrument, as explained in 31442.17-19,
23 and is generally adopted by the user community for this instrument. This ratio differs from the
24 depolarisation ratio that is measured using remote sensing techniques [13]. The two ratios cannot
25 be directly compared, requiring additional calibration [3] with limited efficiency for this purpose. A
26 separate paper addressing this point, comparing SIMONE with CASPOL depolarisation approaches, is
27 being prepared.

28 31442.16 The polarisation ratio measured with the CASPOL instrument and reported in this paper is
29 defined as the ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter intensity to total backscatter intensity
30 and provides a measure of phase, composition, and surface features of the particle. "... provides a
31 measure of. . ." perhaps overstates the quantitative utility of the polarisation ratio which varies with
32 one or any combination of the particle characteristics listed.

33 **Reply:**

34 This is in fact what the instrument provides: a measure for the combination of all characteristics
35 together since it is unable to separate the single characteristics, maybe a better phrase would be:
36 "... and provides an indication of the combined phase, composition, and surface features of the
37 particle. Though some of these components effects on polarisation signal can be neglected in our
38 case due to the size, simplicity and reproducibility of the particles.

1 **Changed to:** The polarisation ratio measured with the CASPOL instrument and reported in this paper
2 is defined as the ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter intensity to total backscatter intensity
3 and provides a measure of the combined phase, composition, and surface features of the particle.

4 31442.20 The ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter to forward scatter (Dpol/Fwd) indicates
5 the contribution of particle size to the scattering. Unless there is precedent, I'd recommend a change
6 of symbol for the perpendicularly polarised backscatter signal. Dpol rolls of the tongue as
7 depolarisation (ratio).

8 **Reply:**

9 There is, somewhat unfortunately, a precedent among the probe user community which took root in
10 the early days of CASPOL measurements. While we agree that the term "Dpol" appears confusing, in
11 the context of the experiments described here, it is the only measurement of the polarisation state
12 of the scattered light.

13 31442.21 PBP measurements reveal the fraction of aspherical particles population (Fig. 2c) and its
14 evolution. This is not entirely obvious. For a spherical particle in the size range of interest, the
15 forward scattering signal will increase with size however spherical particles are somewhat irrelevant
16 here. With aspherical particles the forward scattering may be non-uniform which makes this
17 sweeping statement somewhat uncertain. This is linked to the use of these ratios as discussed in
18 point 1 above but if this ratio is to be used to link size and asymmetry then further explanation and
19 references are required to address the assumptions and subtleties.

20 **Reply:**

21 This line mentions the fraction of aspherical population. The sizing is done in the forward direction
22 but the aspherical fraction presented in Fig.2C is calculated from the backscatter polarisation
23 thresholds as described in section 2.4.2. The error in sizing would normally be in the order of the size
24 bin width, the uncertainties for the ratios are discussed in comment 31442.8.

25 31443.8 Clustering analysis is used here to discriminate and assign unique particle properties
26 corresponding to different phases during the experiment (e.g., water, ice), primarily based on
27 polarisation differences (Fig. 3). ". . . based on polarisation differences. . ." could cause confusion
28 with a mathematical difference, use "variation" or something similar.

29 **Changed to:** Clustering analysis is used here to discriminate and assign unique particle properties
30 corresponding to different phases during the experiment (e.g., water, ice), primarily based on
31 variations in the polarisation state of the scattered light (Fig. 3).

32 31443.11 Here we use the MatLab K means cluster function. Use standard nomenclature (of the
33 website); MATLAB (check journal standards to see if this requires a ®), k-Means, and cite the URL for
34 the kmeans function.

35 **Reply:** From a brief review of several ACP papers it looks like there are multiple variations of this
36 nomenclature.

37 **Changed to:** Here we use the *k*-means cluster function (Seber, 1984; Spath, 1985) from the
38 MATLAB® statistics toolbox.

1 **Added References:**

2 *Seber, G. A. F.: Multivariate Observations, John Wiley & Sons, I., Hoboken, NJ, 1984.

3 **Spath, H.: Cluster Dissection and Analysis: Theory, FORTRAN Programs, Examples, Halsted Press,
4 New York, 1985.

5 31444.4 $d(i,C)$ is the average distance of the point i to the other points in the cluster C . The use of
6 $d(i;C)$ here is confusing, is it the same as $d(x_j ; m_{ji})$ in equation 1? If not, it would be clearer to define
7 $b(i)$ in words only. If it is, then don't reuse i and rework the sentence for clarity.

8 **Reply:** They are different: $d(x_j, \mu_j)$ is the squared Euclidean distance of a point to the centroid of the
9 cluster. $d(i,C)$ is the average distance of a point to the other points in the cluster. Sentence
10 rephrased.

11 **Changed to:** where $a(i)$ is the average distance of the point i to the other points in its own cluster A .
12 $b(i)$ is the minimal average distance of the point i to the points in the other cluster, over all clusters
13 other than A (Eq. 2).

14 31444.6 This validation is sufficient for our analysis to indicate the ability of the algorithm to group
15 similar data sets using the prescribed values. What validation is being referred to here? $s(i) = 1$, $s(i) >$
16 x , or just the use of a silhouette value?

17 **Reply:**

18 The use of Silhouette to evaluate the clustering.

19 31444.9 Following cluster analysis, asphericity thresholds are selected based on cluster boundaries
20 identified by the colour transition in Fig. 3. Is the red–blue transition automatically generated by the
21 cluster analysis? Are the particle type boundaries given in the map in figure 9 the asphericity
22 thresholds that are referred to here? Are the thresholds set by 100% coverage of the data points,
23 90%, two standard deviations, etc? The cluster analysis and map is the focus of this manuscript and
24 yet the reader is left to guess at a number of relevant details.

25 **Reply:**

- 26
- 27 • Yes, the red–blue colours automatically generated and assigned by the algorithm to
28 differentiate the clusters visually.
 - 29 • No the asphericity thresholds are values derived from single cluster analysis. Fig.9 is collated
30 from tens of experiments. The boxes in Fig.9 represent the space of measurements error
31 and data points' distribution for single cluster as stated in the figure.
 - 32 • Yes, all 100% of data points are used in the clustering analysis. Thresholds are selected
33 according to colour boundaries and silhouette value above 0.9.
 - 34 • The cluster analysis and the map is not the only focus of the paper. We also report new
35 results for polarisation response observed for the viscous SOA and the derived transitions
36 states.

36 Hope it makes things clearer; these answers have been incorporated into the manuscript.

1 31444.23 These diverse experiments produced ice habits that included needles, hexagonal plates,
2 columns, bullets and dendrites; ice aggregates and spheroids were also detected (Fig. 4). See point 3
3 above for general comments on this section. Specifically, please comment on how representative
4 the images from the 3V-CPI are to the particles sampled by the CASPOL at the same time?

5 **Reply:**

6 These instruments measure over different size ranges. The 3V-CPI images provide complimentary
7 information regarding the variety of large particles and their habits resulting from the nucleation
8 processes that result from the different experiments and support the observation as stated of ice
9 production. While the 3V-CPI data acts as confirmation of the CASPOL detection of ice, we cannot
10 rule out a size dependence of ice crystal habit. It should not therefore be assumed that the crystal
11 habits shown by the 3V-CPI are the same as those giving rise to the observed polarisation effects. At
12 the same time, there is no fundamental reason to assume the habits are different. These are in fact
13 the first observations of ice habits in this particular chamber.

14 31445.15 ACPIM was able to replicate the observed particle phase transitions in the mixed phase
15 runs, thereby validating the phase concentration plot (Fig. 2c). Define replicate. There seems to be
16 some significant discrepancies between the model and data for times beyond 60 sec in figure 2c, ie
17 modelled liquid concentration drops quickly to zero around 100 sec and modelled ice concentration
18 remains constant for longer time scales.

19 **Reply:**

20 By replicating we refer to replication of the phase transition time series, decrease in water
21 concentration and increase in ice concentration.

22 Some of the particles classified as aspherical could be super-cooled droplets with higher polarisation
23 and this would explain the slight underestimation of the ice and overestimation of the water by the
24 model. Later on, the model slightly overestimates the concentration since part of the spherical
25 particle population measured could be sublimated ice at this point in the temperature cycle. These
26 small discrepancies are important since CASPOL is generally able to classify only according to optical
27 sphericity (31445.19: Ambiguous polarisation states of water, e.g., in super-cooled or frozen
28 droplets, might be resolved by comparing ACPIM to CASPOL data and examining the mismatch).

29 31446.5 During these growth periods (Fig. 5), an increase in the CASPOL backscatter polarisation
30 ratio was observed, while the Dpol/Fwd ratio did not change significantly, suggesting the change in
31 size had less effect on the measurements than did the polarisation. The meaning of the final phrase
32 of this sentence is unclear. Does this mean that as the particles grew the asymmetry increased faster
33 than the optical equivalent size? If so it would be very interesting to see some supporting data from
34 one of the other instruments or a previous work on the growth of such particles. In any case some
35 clarification is required here. It may be useful to add a plot of the ratio onto a second y-axis of figure
36 5.

37 **Reply:**

38 Once particles grew into the CASPOL detectable size range their size did not increase much further
39 (being concentrated in the lower size bins, with equivalent mean diameter $\leq 1 \mu\text{m}$), while the

1 Dpol/Bck ratio changed very significantly as seen in the experimental runs shown in Fig.6. We do not
2 refer to the rate of change here. Adding another y axis to Fig.5 for the whole growth period in
3 CASPOL would be inaccurate due to coincidence effects as explained in the paragraph. In addition to
4 counting and sizing artefacts, particle coincidence can result in erroneously high S-polarised
5 measurements as a result of multiple scattering. For this reason Fig.6 was plotted for periods when
6 the coincidence was negligible.

7 Comparison with the SIMONE is impossible since both instruments were measuring reliably in
8 different periods; SIMONE needs higher concentrations of particles to provide a signal while the
9 CASPOL particle by particle measurement generally operates best at lower concentrations. More
10 detail on growth and depolarisation is discussed elsewhere [14].

11 31446.16 As concentrations decreased below the CASPOL operating threshold of 1300 cm^{-3} , a
12 significantly lower particle polarisation (more optically spherical) state was detected by the CASPOL.
13 "As concentrations decreased below the CASPOL operating threshold of 1300 cm^{-3} . . ." makes it
14 sound like the concentration is lower than the minimum detection threshold. A slight rewording is
15 required, or even better, remove this as it has already been stated that only concentrations below
16 1300 cm^{-3} are considered in this analysis.

17 **Changed to:** A significantly lower particle polarisation (more optically spherical) state was detected
18 by the CASPOL at this stage.

19 31446.21 The two clusters are overlaid for several experiments as shown in Fig. 6. How did cases
20 with significant overlap of the clusters affect the classification map boundaries? Were such cases
21 used for classification? As mentioned in 31444.6, was there a threshold silhouette value required for
22 a dataset to be added to the classification map?

23 **Reply:**

24 For PBP data clustering there was no overlap (Fig.2). In case there is too much overlap- the data
25 can't be clustered or get a low silhouette value. These cases were not used for classification. The
26 threshold silhouette value will be noted in the manuscript.

27 31447.15 It is clear that classification of particles has wide reaching effects on our understanding of
28 the atmosphere. This is an unfortunate choice of words as this sentence is anything but clear. Surely
29 understanding precedes classification?

30 **Reply:** Will be removed.

31 31447.21 A plot of the total backscatter intensity as a function of the polarisation ratio for various
32 types of dust clearly shows the difference in their signatures. A list of different classification mapping
33 schemes is given and then the map used here is different to these. This is discussed as a major
34 shortcoming of the manuscript in point 1 above however if nothing else the authors should justify
35 their choice of classification space.

36 **Reply:**

37 We list recent methods for classification by light properties. Both methods for classification in
38 remote and in situ are presented. These techniques are different. Our technique is very similar to

1 the one used for insitu measurements. The difference in the nature of the experiments and the type
2 of particles allowed clearer separation in this particular classification space. Nonetheless, a plot will
3 be added for comparison in the exact classification space of Glen and Brooks.

4 [31448.4 Further separation by size might be possible on the x axis. Mention is made of segregation
5 by size which would be useful however it has not been done. Further information is required here.](#)

6 **Reply:**

7 X axis Dpol/Fwd encompasses information about the particle size as was mentioned previously:

- 8 • Typical sizes for ice and water are presented in Fig.2 and discussed in comment 31442.21
- 9 • SOA growth periods shown in Fig. 5 (comment 31446.5 the Dpol/Fwd ratio did not change
10 significantly, suggesting the change in size had small effect).

11 It is very difficult to completely separate the combination of features that can result in the observed
12 net Dpol/Fwd ratio, particularly if some of them are subtle. But might be possible with additional
13 information from other instruments.

14 [31448.11 The classification of ice and water is limited by size. This is unclear, does it mean that the
15 boundaries of the regions of liquid water and that of ice are based solely on the particle size?
16 Rewording of sentence required.](#)

17 **Changed to:** Previous classifications of small ice and water by size had limited accuracy [15].

18 [31449.8 However, the PSD measured by CASPOL and UHSAS during SOA growth corresponded well
19 \(Fig. 5\). Figure 5 does not show a PSD.](#)

20 **Changed to:** However, particle sizes measured by CASPOL and UHSAS during SOA growth
21 corresponded well.

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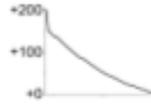
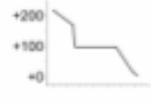
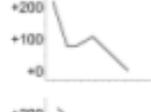
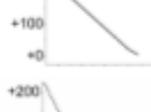
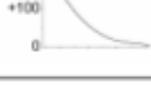
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1 Table 1:

Table 1. Experimental parameters of the expansion runs presented in this paper. Excess pressure profile x axis is of the order of several minutes.

Run#	Seed type	Seed concentration [cm^{-3}]	Excess Pressure profile [mb]	T_{initial} [$^{\circ}\text{C}$]	$\text{RH}_{\text{ice}}^{\text{max}}$ [%]
1248.13	Ammonium Sulphate	3000		+10	107
1291.16	Sulphuric Acid	75		-30	168, 135
1298.20	Sulphuric Acid	700		-50	148
1311.03	Sulphuric Acid	3260		-10	123
1471.34	Oxalic Acid	100		-20	165
31459					

2

3 Why are there two values for RH for run 1291.16?

4 **Reply:** max RH reached, in a multi-step (here 2 steps) expansion (Fig.1).

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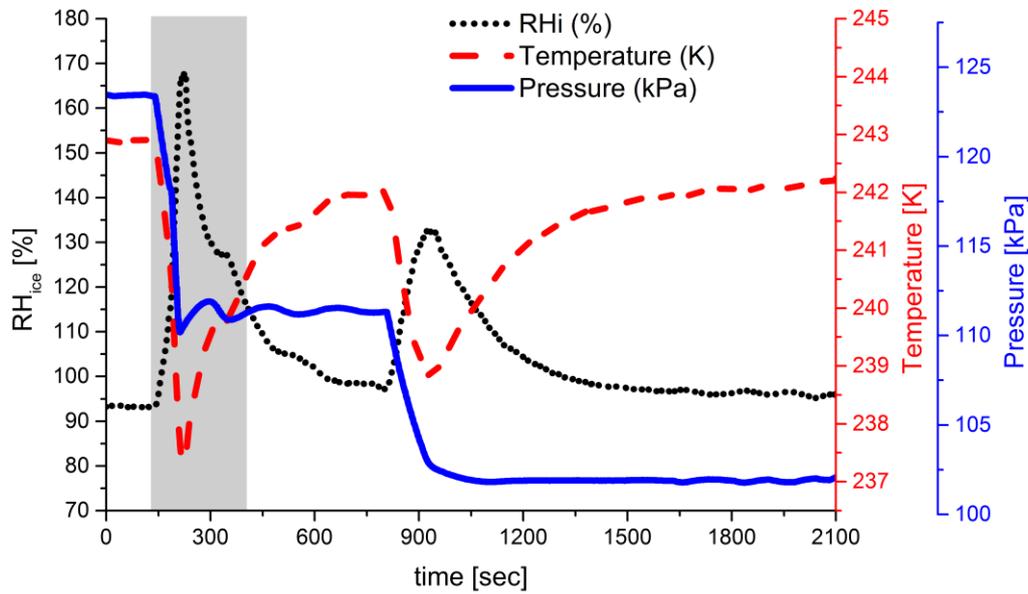
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13

1 Figure 1



2
3

4 It would be useful to have the x-axis of this plot presented in the same way (and scale?) as those in
5 figure 2.

6 **Reply:** Fig.1 presents a full time scale of a multistep expansion produced in the chamber, and the
7 behaviour of the physical variables. It is usually during the 2nd step (31444.17) that we were able to
8 observe the larger particles (e.g. as shown by the 3VCPI images).

9 Fig.2 focuses on a specific step (<200sec) of the phase transition. The grey shaded background
10 indicates the time period analysed in Fig.2, 3.

11 The x-axis will begin from 0.

12

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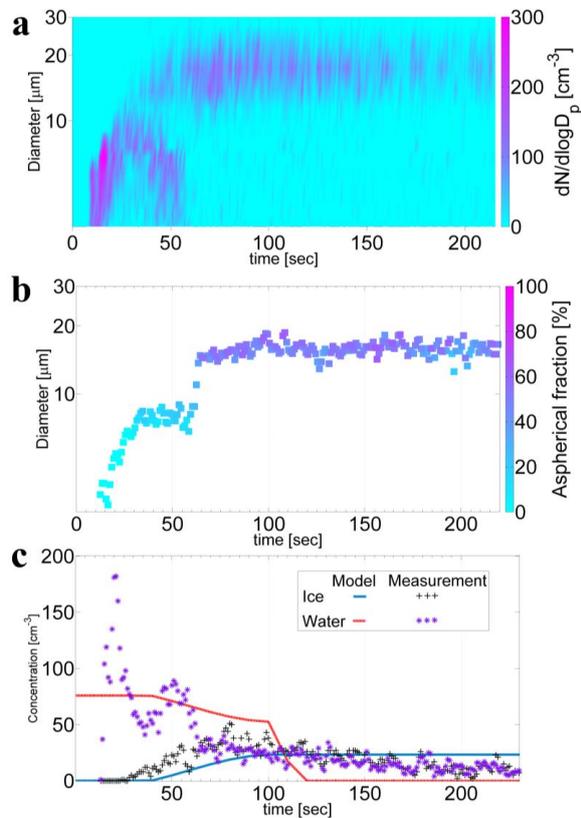
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1 Figure 2



2

3 Figure 2. Mixed phase cloud, phase transition period (Run #1291.16). The uncertainty in sizing is in
4 the order of the size bin width (Table S2). The error of the polarisation ratio and asphericity is
5 approximately 20 %. (a) CASPOL particle size distribution, (b) CASPOL PBP aspherical fraction, (c)
6 CASPOL measured water and ice concentrations derived from asphericity compared to ACPIM.

7 As mentioned previously, how is the diameter defined here? The colour maps are different to those
8 used in the other concentration contour plots; these should be unified if possible. Remove the blue
9 background from 2b, an increase in the size of the data points would also assist the reader. Add size
10 uncertainty bars to 2b (with associated discussion of their derivation in the text).

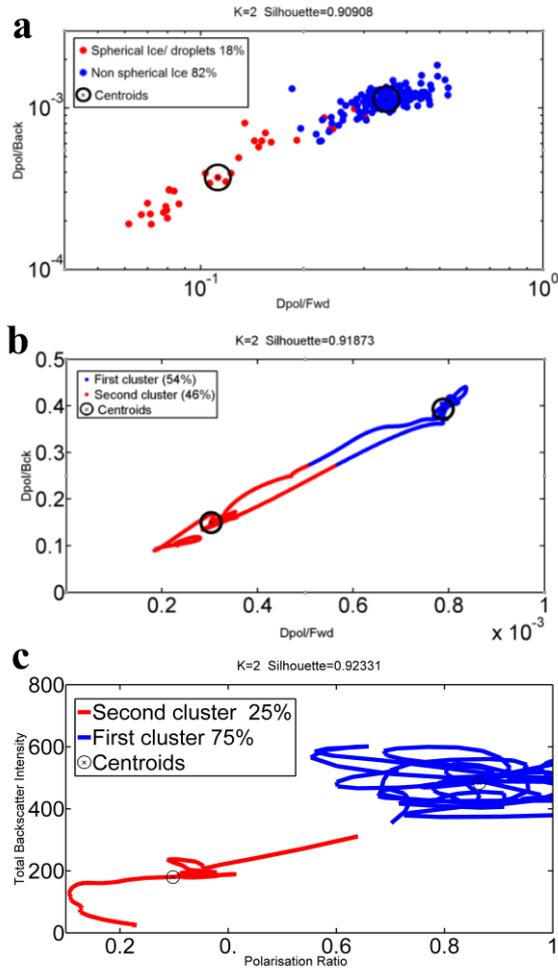
11 **Reply:** The optical diameter is defined based on calibration and binning of the forward scattered
12 intensity (comment 31442.8).

13 Addition of size uncertainty bars on all the data points in Fig.2b produces an unclear phase transition
14 and overloads the plot, the uncertainty will be described in the caption.

- 15 • Colour maps unified
- 16 • Fig.2B background removed, size of data points increased

17

1 Figure 3



2

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4 Refine size of plots and size of text to make full use of column width. The symbol for the cluster
5 centroid in the caption is incorrect.

6 **Changed:** text size enlarged, instructions will be given to the publisher to make full use of column
7 width, the symbol of the centroid in the caption will be changed to \odot . [A figure comparable to Glen
8 and Brooks has been added.](#)

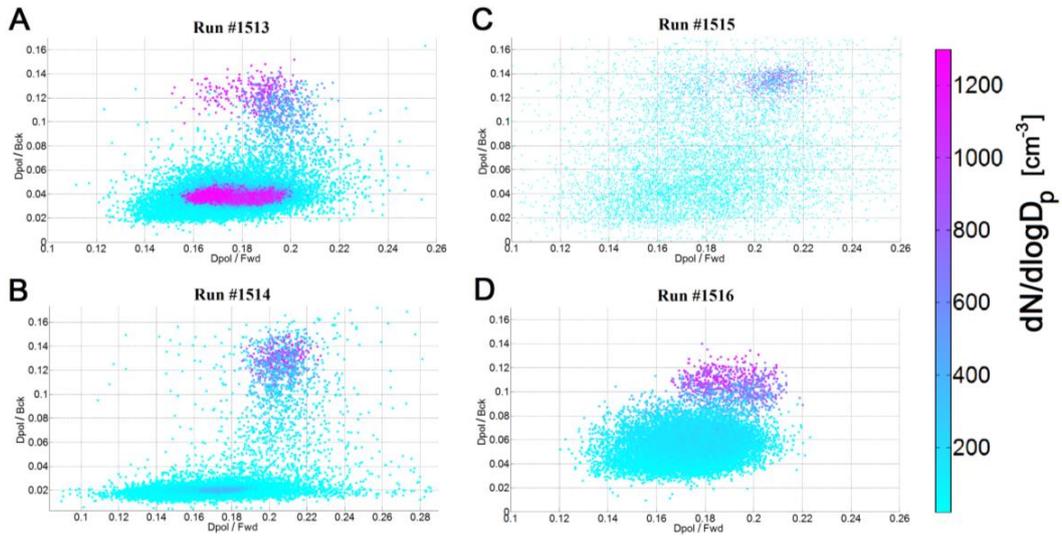
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1 Figure 6



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3 Refine size of plots and size of text to make full use of column width.

4 **Reply:** Instructions will be given to the publisher to make full use of column width

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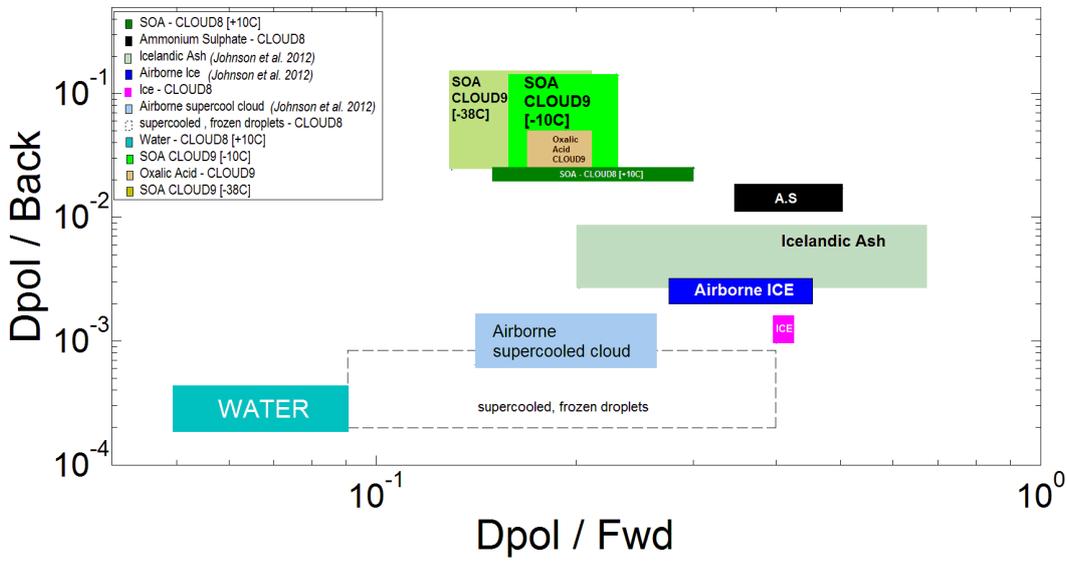
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1 Figure 9



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3 The labels are almost illegibly small. Several colours (especially the dark blues) are too similar.

4 Changed:

5 Colours changed, labels slightly bigger

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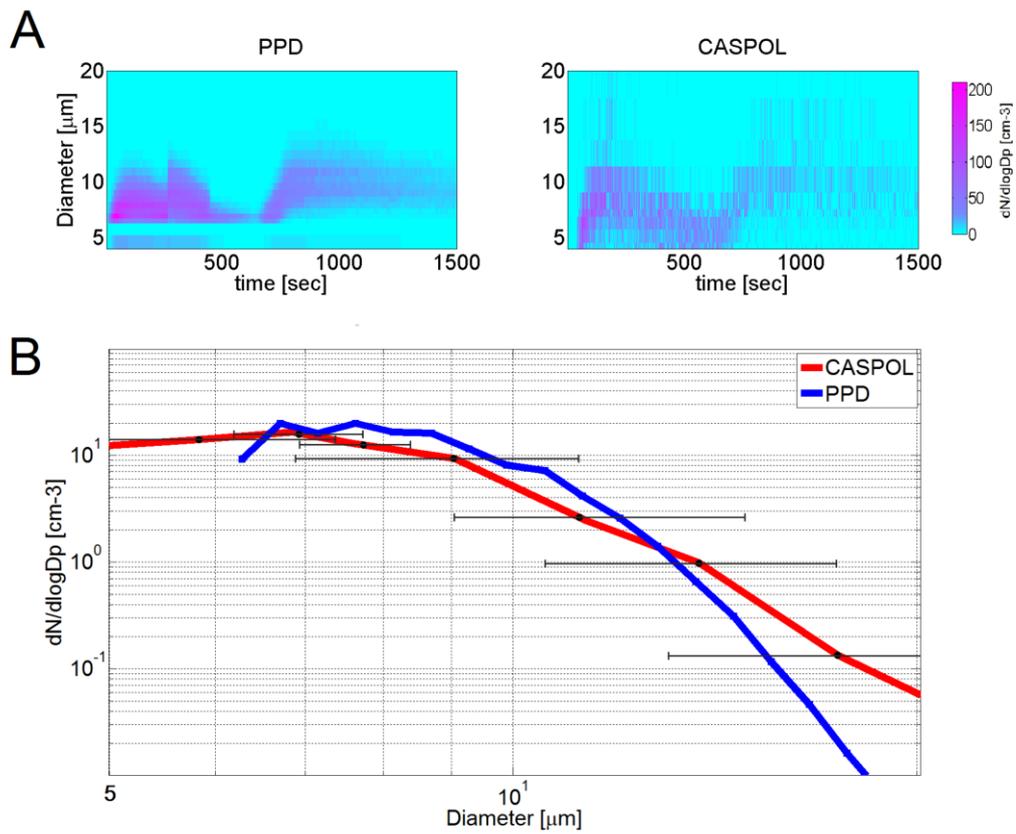
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1 Figure S3



2
3 Add uncertainties to PSD in S3b. Improve axis labels so that there is more than a single number on
4 the x-axis.

5 **Changed.**

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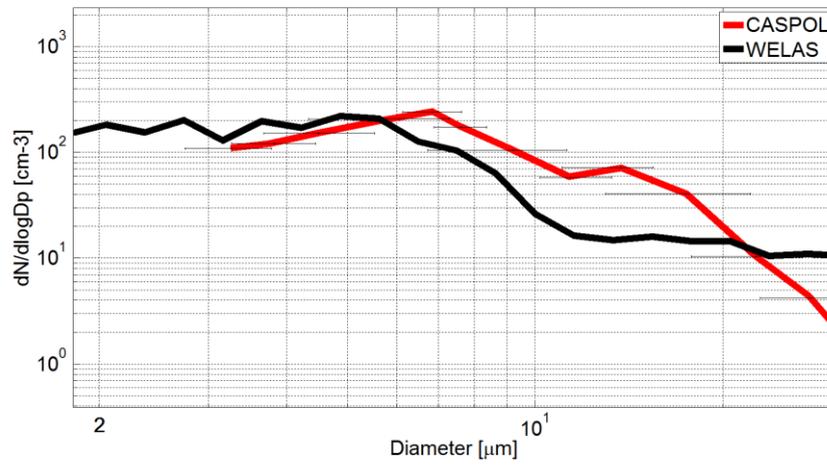
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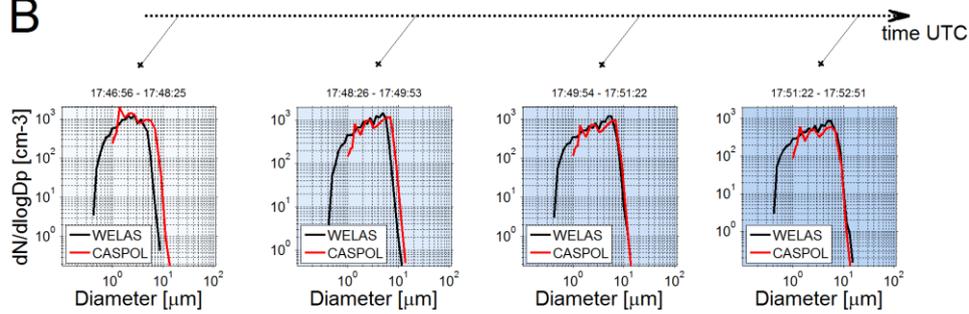
12

1 Figure S4

A



B



2

3 Add uncertainties to PSD in S4a. Improve axis labels so that there is more than a single number on
4 the x-axis.

5 **Changed.**

6

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12

1 References

- 2 [1] Glen, A. and Brooks, S. D. "A new method for measuring optical scattering properties of
3 atmospherically relevant dusts using the Cloud and Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarization
4 (CASPOL)", *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 13, 1345–1356, doi:10.5194/acp-13-1345-2013, 2013.
- 5 [2] Lynch, D. K.: *Cirrus*, Oxford University Press, 2001.
- 6 [3] Meyer, J.: Ice crystal measurements with SIMONE and CAS DPOL, Ph.D. thesis, Julich 25
7 Forschungszentrum, Wuppertal, Germany, 140 pp., 2011.
- 8 [4] Baumgardner, D., Jonsson, H., Dawson, W., O'Connor, D., and Newton, R.: The cloud, aerosol and
9 precipitation spectrometer: a new instrument for cloud investigations, *Atmospheric Research*, 59,
10 251-264, 10.1016/S0169-8095(01)00119-3, 2001.
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- 18
19
20

1 **Anonymous Referee #2**

2 Received and published: 4 January 2016

3 Main comments

4 The purpose of this paper remain somewhat unclear for the reader. First of all, no explicit scientific
5 goals are given in section 1. It is merely stated that "We probe this viscous state in this paper" (lines
6 21-22 on page 31437) and "In this paper we highlight results from. . ." (lines 12-14 on page 31438).
7 Second, the title give a hint what might be the main purpose of this paper, yet the contents of the
8 paper is not fully in line with the this title. Section 5 finally provides some concrete results obtained
9 from this study. Maybe the authors could build on these main results, rather than giving the reader
10 an impression of very general goal (title) or hardly no scientific goals at all (introduction).

11 **Reply:**

12 31436.17 "However, single particle-by-particle analysis of the backscatter polarisation state
13 is useful for particle discrimination as we shall show". – Our goal here is to find a method to
14 discriminate particles based on their physical properties.

15 31437.11 "In this study we examine Alpha-pinene... ; its derivatives in SOA are optically
16 active materials... We probe this viscous state in this paper". - The importance of viscosity is
17 introduced in previous paragraph and the goal is described in this paragraph: Detection of
18 the different states of alpha pinene SOA by light polarisation.

19 31.438.12 Another goal was to produce, detect and analyse small-ice fraction in mixed phase
20 clouds which is still a challenging task. The results of these experiments are highlighted here.

21 I am not fully comfortable with the structure of the paper. The paper has a section "2.
22 Methodology", yet the authors present methodological issues also in the introduction (introduction
23 of the CLOUD chamber) and in the middle of results (short description of ACPIM model in section
24 3.2).

25 **Reply:**

- 26
- The CLOUD Chamber and Cloudy experiments section includes the history and
27 overview of the CLOUD PROJECT, 31438.5-7 the principle of operation is mentioned
28 briefly for the sake of comparison to other chambers in the world. Line 31438.8 will
29 be moved to the Methodology section.
 - The Methodology section includes the instrumentation, technical description of the
30 facility and the CLOUD experiments.
 - The description of ACPIM in section 3.2 is too brief to have a separate paragraph in
31 the Methodology section; ACPIM's structure is not in the scope of this paper and is
32 cited for further reading.
- 33
34

35

36 The result are given in 4 separate subsections (sections 3.1-3-4). While these results are probably
37 somehow connected with each other, such a connection is very difficult to catch when reading the
38 paper. The authors should do a better job in tighing up these apparantly separate results.

39 **Reply:**

1 First we present a technique to discriminate between ice and water in mixed phase clouds
2 (3.1). Then we present ice fraction model validation (3.2). Next we broaden the classification
3 method to discriminate between the different states of SOA in the lower size range (3.3).
4 This is finally broadened to include classification of various types of particles (3.4). The story
5 plot will be modified.

6

7 [Minor comments](#)

8 1. I do not see the agreement between measurements and modeling in Fig. 2c as convincing as
9 stated in the paper (lines 15-24 on page 31445).

10 **Reply:**

11 Please see reply to 1st referee in specific comment #4 and comment 31445.15

12 2. Lines 1-8 on page 31447: The authors use 3 times the word "this" without clearly specifying
13 what "this" is referring to (something mentioned before these two paragraphs).

14 **Reply:**

15 1st This 31447.1 refers to the preceding sentence: "As a result of this drying process and the
16 dynamics of partitioning, CASPOL measures an increase in polarisation".

17 2nd This 31447.4 refers to the preceding sentence: "Transition to an amorphous aerosol
18 phase with high viscosity".

19 3rd This 31447.7 refers to the preceding sentence: "ability of the CASPOL to identify very
20 significant polarisation shifts in the aerosol scattering properties that are likely associated
21 with changes in their physico-chemical properties".

22 • Rephrased:

23 This increase could be explained as transition to an amorphous aerosol phase with high
24 viscosity at RH ~ 10 %, T = -30 to -38 °C, P = 102 kPa as suggested by the hysteresis plot
25 of Koop et al. (2011). Our results cannot, however, be unambiguously ascribed to the
26 viscosity transition based solely on the measurements here. We simply note the ability
27 of the CASPOL to identify very significant polarisation shifts in the aerosol scattering
28 properties that are likely associated with changes in their physico-chemical properties.

29 Additional support for this hypothesis comes from SMPS measurements. No particles
30 were detected in the SMPS size range in the transition period;

31

32 3. I do not understand the purpose of the first sentence of section 3.4

33 Reply: removed.

1 **Phase Transition Observations and Discrimination of Small**
2 **Cloud Particles by Light Polarisation in Expansion**
3 **Chamber Experiments** ~~**Discrimination of Water, Ice and**~~
4 ~~**Aerosols by light polarisation in the CLOUD experiment**~~

5
6 **L. Nichman¹, C. Fuchs², E. Järvinen³, K. Ignatius⁴, N.F. Höppel³, A. Dias⁵, M.**
7 **Heinritzi⁶, M. Simon⁶, J. Tröstl², A.C. Wagner⁶, R. Wagner⁷, C. Williamson^{6,*}, C.**
8 **Yan⁷, P. J. Connolly¹, J.R. Dorsey^{1,8}, J. Duplissy⁹, S. Ehrhart⁵, C. Frege², H.**
9 **Gordon⁵, C.R. Hoyle^{2,10}, T.B. Kristensen⁴, G. Steiner^{7,11,**}, N.M. Donahue¹², R.**
10 **Flagan¹³, M. W. Gallagher¹, J. Kirkby^{5,6}, O. Möhler³, H. Saathoff³, M. Schnaiter³,**
11 **F. Stratmann⁴ and A. Tomé¹⁴**

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14 [2] {Laboratory of Atmospheric Chemistry, Paul Scherrer Institut, 5232 Villigen,
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21 [7] {Department of Physics, University of Helsinki, P.O.Box 64, 00014 University of
22 Helsinki, Finland }

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25 [10] {Swiss Federal Institute for Forest Snow and Landscape Research (WSL)-Institute for
26 Snow and Avalanche Research (SLF), Davos, Switzerland }

Comment [L.N1]: Technical corrections: The title is very vague and use of a generic acronym does not help

Reply:

The paper describes observations of phase change transition in SOA under different environmental conditions. In addition the methods used were also applied to the discrimination of associated nucleated water and ice particles observed during the CLOUD experiments. As mentioned earlier the paper was submitted to the special issue "The CERN CLOUD experiment (ACPD/AMTD Inter-Journal SI)" and should be seen in this context. The special issue has additional papers with the CLOUD acronym which make the experiments more localized and defined. We are happy to emphasise the nature of the phase transition nature of the work suggesting a change in title. One suggestion is: Phase Transition Observations and Discrimination of Small Cloud Particles by Light Polarisation in Expansion Chamber Experiments

Comment [L.N2]: Referee 2, main comment 1:

The purpose of this paper remain somewhat unclear for the reader. First of all, no explicit scientific goals are given in section 1. It is merely stated that "We propose this viscous that in this paper" (lines 21-22 on page 31437) and "In this paper we highlight results from. . ." (lines 12-13 on page 31438). Second, the title give a hint what might be the main purpose of this paper, yet the contents of the paper are not fully in line with the this title. Section 5 finally provides some concrete results obtained from this study. Maybe the authors could build on these main results rather than giving the reader an impression of very general goal (title) or hardly no scientific goals at all (introduction).

Reply:

31436.17 "However, single particle-by-particle analysis of the backscatter polarisation state is useful for particle discrimination as we shall show". - Our goal here is to find a method to discriminate particles based on their physical properties.
31437.11 "In this study we examine Alpha-pinene... ; its derivatives in SOA are optically active materials... We probe the viscous state in this paper". - The importance of viscosity is introduced in the previous paragraph and the goal is described in this paragraph: Detection of the different states of alpha pinene SOA by light polarisation.
31.438.12 Another goal was to produce and detect and analyse small-ice fraction in mixed phase clouds which is still a challenging task. The results of these experiments are highlighted here.

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2 Physics Leopold-Franzens University, Innsbruck, Austria}

3 [12] {Centre for Atmospheric Particle Studies, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh PA
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5 [13] {California Institute of Technology, Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering,
6 Pasadena, California 91125, USA}

7 [14] {CENTRA-SIM, University of Lisbon and University of Beira Interior, 1749-016
8 Lisbon, Portugal}

9 [*] {now at Chemical Sciences Division NOAA Earth System Research Laboratory, Boulder,
10 CO. Also at Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, University of
11 Colorado Boulder, Boulder, Colorado, USA}

12 [**] {now at Aerosol Physics and Environmental Physics Faculty of Physics, University of
13 Vienna, Wien, Austria}

14 Correspondence to: L. Nichman (Leonid.Nichman@manchester.ac.uk)

15 Abstract

16 Cloud microphysical processes involving the ice phase in tropospheric clouds are among the
17 major uncertainties in cloud formation, weather and General Circulation Models (GCMs).

18 ~~The detection of aerosol particles, liquid droplets, and ice crystals, especially in the small~~
19 ~~cloud-particle size range below 50 μm , remains challenging in mixed phase, often unstable~~
20 ~~environments. The simultaneous detection of aerosol particles, liquid droplets, and ice~~
21 ~~crystals, especially in the small cloud-particle size range below 50 μm , remains challenging~~
22 ~~in mixed phase, often unstable ice water phase environments. The Cloud Aerosol~~
23 ~~Spectrometer with Polarisation (CASPOL) is an airborne instrument that has the ability to~~
24 ~~detect such small cloud particles and measure the variability in polarisation state of their~~
25 ~~backscattered light. The Cloud Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation (CASPOL) is an~~
26 ~~airborne instrument that has the ability to detect such small cloud particles and measure their~~
27 ~~effects on the backscatter polarisation state. Here we operate the versatile Cosmics-Leaving-~~

28 Outdoor-Droplets (CLOUD) chamber facility at the European Organisation for Nuclear
29 Research (CERN) to produce controlled mixed phase and other clouds by adiabatic
30 expansions in an ultraclean environment, and use the CASPOL to discriminate between

Comment [L.N3]: 31435.4 This sentence mentions three times that the are both liquid water and ice. Remove the repetition.

Comment [L.N4]: 31435.8 The Cloud Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation (CASPOL) is an airborne instrument that has the ability to detect such small cloud particles and measure their effects on the backscatter polarisation state. "... and measure their effects on the backscatter polarisation state." Rephrase the second half of this sentence.

1 different aerosols, water and ice particles. In this paper, optical property measurements of
2 mixed phase clouds and viscous Secondary Organic Aerosol (SOA) are presented. We report
3 observations of significant liquid - viscous SOA particle polarisation transitions under dry
4 conditions using CASPOL. Cluster analysis techniques were subsequently used to classify
5 different types of particles according to their polarisation ratios during phase transition. A
6 classification map is presented for water droplets, organic aerosol (e.g., SOA and oxalic
7 acid), crystalline substances such as ammonium sulphate, and volcanic ash. Finally, we
8 discuss the benefits and limitations of this classification approach for atmospherically
9 relevant concentration and mixtures with respect to the CLOUD 8 - 9 campaigns and its
10 potential contribution to Tropical Troposphere Layer (TTL) analysis.

11 1 Introduction

12 Scattering and absorption due to atmospheric particles can vary widely, leading to net
13 radiative effect that either cool or warm the surface of the Earth. Ice crystals pose a potential
14 challenge since their non-sphericity complicates the theoretical description of their single
15 scattering properties (Macke et al., 1996). Several attempts have been made to model and
16 simulate light interactions with different ice crystal habits, mixtures of crystal types,
17 aggregates, and aerosols (Baran, 2013), but no single method can easily combine all size
18 ranges and types of particles, making accurate, unified modelling nearly impossible.

19 Scattering analysis is complicated further in small ice crystals and Secondary Organic
20 Aerosol (SOA).

21 Small ice crystals can have different major internal defects (e.g., stacking faults, chemical
22 defects, molecular vacancies, interstitial molecules, ionized states, and orientation defects),
23 surface roughness, and branching with various symmetries. These could be even more

24 influential in small ice measurements. The optical effects of these defects depend strongly on
25 the spatial orientation of the particle in a flow. They can lead to systematic biases since

26 particles with a high width to height aspect ratio can have a preferred orientation in chamber
27 measurements (Abdelmonem et al., 2011). However, single particle-by-particle analysis of
28 the backscatter polarisation state is useful for particle discrimination as we shall show.

29 Aerosol particles found in the lower confines of the atmosphere are typically internal or
30 external mixtures of inorganic salts, refractory components such as mineral dusts and clays,
31 and organic species; they also contain varying quantities of water. The hygroscopicity of
32 organic particle is derived from their composition (Cziczo et al., 2004; Jimenez et al., 2009;

33 Duplissy et al., 2011). Pure sulphate and internally mixed organic/sulphate aerosols will have

Comment [L.N5]: 31435.22 "Finally we discuss the benefits and limitations of this classification approach for atmospherically relevant concentration and mixtures with respect to the CLOUD 8-9 campaigns and its potential contribution to Tropical Troposphere Layer (TTL) analysis". Since the relevance of the particle categorisation to TTL data is limited to several sentences at the end of the manuscript, mention of it in the abstract can probably be removed.

Reply:
The discussion of potential contribution to TTL analysis has been extended (Specific comment #5)

Comment [L.N6]: 31436.10 "Scattering analysis is complicated further in small ice crystals and Secondary Organic Aerosol (SOA)". SOAs are not referred to in the previous or current paragraph so remove reference to them in this sentence.

Reply:
Sentence moved to the end of first paragraph in the Introduction section. This way the first paragraph states that scattering analysis is complicated further with ice and SOA and a detailed paragraph with description of ice complication begins, following with a paragraph explaining the aerosol and SOA complications respectively.

Comment [L.N7]: 31436.11 "Small crystals can have different major internal defects (e.g., stacking faults, chemical defects, molecular vacancies, interstitial molecules, ionized states, and orientation defects), surface roughness, and branching with various symmetries". These complicating artefacts are unlikely to be limited to small ice crystals as stated (although the implications of such artefacts on measurements of the scattered light may indeed be more important) so rephrase these sentences

Comment [L.N8]: 31436.14 "The optical effects of these defects depend strongly on the spatial orientation of the particle in a flow". The optical effects of these defects depend on the orientation of the particle relative to the incident radiation not the flow. If there is a preferential particle orientation in a flow relative to the instrument, and thus laser, this then may lead to systematic measurement bias as mentioned. A reference would be good here along with comments about any preferential orientation or lack thereof in the CLOUD chamber.

Reply:
The angle between the flow direction and the laser beam in the instrument is constant therefore the angle to the laser correlated with the preferred orientation in the laminar flow. Orientation effects classification were observed previously in the AIDA chamber [7]. Due to the good

1 ~~different water uptakes, and consequently different refractive indices. This may lead to mis-~~
2 ~~sizing by optical instruments if the composition is not taken into account (see Sect.~~
3 ~~2.3). Organic components create hygroscopicity variation that affect the water uptake of the~~
4 ~~particles (Cziczo et al., 2004; Jimenez et al., 2009; Duplissy et al., 2011). Water uptake~~
5 ~~variation between pure sulphate and internally mixed organic/sulphate aerosols alter the~~
6 ~~particle refractive index and may lead to mis-sizing by optical instruments if the composition~~
7 ~~is not taken into account (see Sect. 2.3).~~ In addition to the familiar liquid and crystalline
8 states, atmospheric aerosol may also exist in semi-solid and solid amorphous states (i.e.,
9 lacking an ordered, repeating structure) such as soft polymers, gels, or glasses (Mikhailov et
10 al., 2009). The viscous SOA is expected to appear either in low relative humidity (RH), low
11 temperature environments or both. A subset of these viscous particles, sometimes referred to
12 as “glassy”, (e.g. Koop et al., 2011) or amorphous, are thought to be important components in
13 the atmosphere because of their low volatility, long lifetimes, and their potential impact on
14 several competing processes which occur during updraft of an air parcel. These include:
15 heterogeneous ice nucleation in the deposition mode onto the glassy solid aerosol surface;
16 diffusion of water into the particle, inducing a gradual phase transition towards the liquid
17 state; and immersion freezing during the transition between the states, (Berkemeier et al.,
18 2014). Some terpenoids can affect these processes by formation of particles in the glassy
19 state.

20 In this study we examine alpha-pinene, the most widely encountered terpenoid in nature
21 (Noma and Asakawa, 2010); ~~its derivatives in SOA are optically active materials (Wilberg et~~
22 ~~al., 2004; Cataldo et al., 2010) that induce a change in the polarisation state of the scattered~~
23 ~~radiation.its derivatives in SOA are optically active materials (Wilberg et al., 2004; Cataldo et~~
24 ~~al., 2010) that rotate the initial polarisation.~~ The resulting change to the polarisation state of
25 the back-scattered light from these aerosol particles can, therefore, be used to probe these
26 effects. Small molecules such as water can soften the structural matrix (as water acts as a
27 plasticizer) of SOA, thus reducing viscosity. As water molecules are removed by drying, the
28 SOA viscosity increases. These highly viscous particles (Renbaum-Wolff et al., 2013) are,
29 therefore, likely to be optically-anisotropic (having aspherical shape, branches, roughness, or
30 variations in internal structure) that accentuate the polarisation shift of the incident beam in
31 Cloud Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation (CASPOL). We probe this viscous state in this
32 paper.

Comment [L.N9]: 31436.21 Organic components create hygroscopicity variation that affect the water uptake of the particles (Cziczo et al., 2004; Jimenez et al., 2009; Duplissy et al., 2011). Water uptake variation between pure sulphate and internally mixed organic/sulphate aerosols alter the particle refractive index and may lead to mis-sizing by optical instruments if the composition is not taken into account (see Sect. 2.3). “Organic components create hygroscopicity variation...” this sentence and the next should be rephrased for clarity.

Comment [L.N10]: 31437.13 its derivatives in SOA are optically active materials (Wilberg et al., 2004; Cataldo et al., 2010) that rotate the initial polarisation. Particles do not rotate the initial polarisation, the polarisation of the incident light is unaffected by the presence of a particle. Rewrite this sentence.

1.1 The CLOUD Chamber and Cloudy Experiments

The Cosmics Leaving OUtdoor Droplets (CLOUD) chamber was designed to simulate different atmospheric conditions to reduce the uncertainties for cloud, weather and general circulation models (Chapter 7 of IPCC 2013; Boucher et al., 2013) and provide new data for the parametrisation and modelling of atmospheric processes. The first series of CLOUD experiments at the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) began in 2006 (Duplissy et al., 2010). For several years these experiments were mainly dedicated to aerosol nucleation and growth. ~~Recently, additional experiments focusing on cloud formation have been performed at the CERN chamber. In this paper we focus particularly on results from this “Cloudy” series of experiments. This addition was driven by the importance of ice particles to the earth’s radiation budget and feedback mechanisms.~~ ~~Recently, additional experiment focusing on cloud formation (i.e. “Cloudy” experiments) has been added to allow ice nucleation to proceed.~~ ~~This was driven by the importance of ice particles to the earth’s radiation budget and feedback mechanisms.~~ The CLOUD chamber utilises the adiabatic expansion principle to generate super-cooled water and ice clouds, similar to other atmospheric cloud chambers (Möhler et al., 2006; Schnaiter, 2009; Tajiri et al., 2013). ~~Controlled supersaturated conditions are created in the chamber by allowing air to expand and cool at prescribed rates.~~ In order to investigate the microphysics of homogeneous ice nucleation in situ, two sets of Cloudy experiments were conducted during two campaigns at CERN in 2013 and 2014, hereafter referred to as CLOUD 8 and 9, respectively. In this paper we highlight results from some of the mixed-phase cloud measurements as well as new polarisation transition measurements for SOA from the photo-oxidation and ozonolysis of alpha-pinene.

2 Methodology

2.1 CLOUD chamber and instrumentation

The CLOUD chamber was designed in order to achieve excellent temperature stability and very low background aerosol and trace gas concentration levels in order to identify small changes in nucleation rates due to the influence of cosmic rays (Duplissy et al., 2010; Kirkby et al., 2011). An overview of the chamber and more detailed information is presented in the Supplement (Fig. S1). The CLOUD chamber was equipped with a range of instruments that can measure atmospheric constituents. Aerosol concentrations were measured by a combination of Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer (SMPS with TSI-type, custom-built DMA), and an Ultra High Sensitivity Aerosol Spectrometer (UHSAS, DMT) to determine potential

Comment [L.N11]: 31438.2 Recent additional experiment focusing on cloud formation (i.e. “Cloudy” experiments) has been added to allow ice nucleation to proceed. “Recently, additional experiment focusing on...” This sentence doesn't make sense.

Comment [L.N12]: Referee 2, main comment 2:
I am not fully comfortable with the structure of the paper. The paper has a section “2. Methodology”, yet the author presents methodological issues also in the introduction (introduction of the CLOUD chamber) and in the middle of results (short description of ACPIM model in section 3.2).

Reply:

The CLOUD Chamber and Cloudy experiments section includes the history and overview of the CLOUD PROJECT, 31438.5-7 the principle of operation is mentioned briefly for the sake of comparison to other chambers in the world. Line 31438.8 will be moved to the Methodology section.

The Methodology section includes the instrumentation, technical description of the facility and the CLOUD experiments. The description of ACPIM in section 3.2 is too brief to have a separate paragraph in the Methodology section; ACPIM's structure is not in the scope of this paper and is cited for further reading.

1 Cloud Condensation Nuclei (CCN) concentrations. During CLOUD 8 and 9, instruments for
2 the measurements of cloud droplets and ice particles were added. Cloud particle formation
3 and evolution was measured using several optical spectrometers including a WELAS optical
4 particle counter (WELAS Promo 2000, Palas GmbH) (Benz et al., 2005), a Particle Phase
5 Discriminator (PPD-2K), (Kaye et al., 2008), a 3-View Cloud Particle Imager (3V-CPI,
6 SPEC Inc.), (Lawson et al., 2003) and a Cloud Aerosol Spectrometer – with Polarisation
7 (CASPOL, DMT) (Baumgardner et al., 2001, 2011; Glen and Brooks, 2013). The latter will
8 be described in more detail in Sect. 2.3. An averaged path system, the Scattering Intensity
9 Measurements for the Optical detection of icE – SIMONE-Junior (Schnaiter et al., 2012), was
10 installed for bulk depolarisation measurements.~~An in situ system, the Scattering Intensity
11 Measurements for the Optical detection of icE – SIMONE-Junior (Schnaiter et al., 2012), was
12 installed for bulk depolarisation measurements.~~

13 The procedure for operation of the CLOUD facility as an expansion cloud chamber for ice
14 nucleation studies along with full schematics are described in detail by Guida et al. (2012,
15 2013) and will only briefly be reviewed here. Controlled supersaturated conditions are
16 created in the chamber by allowing air to expand and cool at prescribed rates.The basic
17 operating procedure adopted for all the cloud microphysics experiments was as follows: the
18 chamber was slowly pressurised to +220 mb relative to ambient pressure; CCN were then
19 vaporised and injected through the gas lines; after the CCN had mixed throughout the
20 chamber volume, a valve was opened allowing the air to expand with the pressure reached +5
21 mb. The pressure, temperature, and humidity traces for a typical expansion are shown in Fig.
22 1. Super-saturation occurs due to the pressure reduction and resultant temperature decrease.

23 Before the beginning of the expansion, RH with respect to liquid water of approximately 92–
24 96 % was achieved. The total humidity in the chamber was measured by dew point mirror
25 instruments (model MBW973 during CLOUD 9 and MBW373LX during CLOUD 8, both
26 from “MBW calibration Ltd.”) attached to a heated sampling line. Together with the in situ
27 measured gas temperature (6 calibrated thermocouples, type K) these instruments provide the
28 RH in the chamber and might overestimate it in the presence of clouds (assuming additional
29 evaporation of cloud droplets in the heated sampling line). During CLOUD 9 a tuneable
30 diode laser (TDL) hygrometer, comparable to the APicT instrument as described by Fahey et
31 al. (2014), was used to measure the water vapour content with 1 Hz time resolution using a
32 single optical path of 314 cm once across the middle plane of the CLOUD chamber. Thus,
33 this instrument provides the RH also in the presence of clouds. Subtracting the water vapour

Comment [L.N13]: 31439.7 An in situ system, the Scattering Intensity Measurements for the Optical detection of icE – SIMONE-Junior (Schnaiter et al., 2012), was installed for bulk depolarisation measurements. The SIMONE instrument is described as in situ which suggests that the other instruments are not. Is this because the other instruments operate with inlets? If so, a description of instrument inlets and their impact on sampling should be given (with a reference if required). If not, then remove “in situ”.
Reply:
Some instruments are sampling through inlets. Chamber probes are described in detail elsewhere [8]. In CASPOL, penetration efficiency of 10 µm particles was well above 90% in all campaigns. Instrumental setup is presented in Fig.S

1 content from the total water content results in the condensed (ice or liquid) water content.
2 Sulphuric acid, ammonium sulphate, and oxalic acid particles were used to seed the chamber
3 with CCN concentrations ranging from 0.5 to several thousand particles cm^{-3} . The CCN
4 number concentrations determined the cloud droplet size, with higher CCN concentration
5 producing higher concentrations of smaller ice particles in CLOUD.

6 Although the expansion is, ideally, adiabatic, heat is continuously transferred to the cooled air
7 from the chamber walls, as the temperature control system is maintained at the pre-expansion
8 temperature, resulting in eventual evaporation of the cloud. The cloud lifetime in the CLOUD
9 experiments could be controlled (e.g., by fan speed or by number of steps in the expansion
10 profile) from several minutes to greater than forty minutes when required (e.g., for ice
11 evolution experiments).

12 2.2 Cloud Experiment Overview

13 A series of experiments was conducted to generate liquid clouds (Hoyle et al., 2015), mixed
14 phase clouds, and pure ice clouds. Controlling stepwise the rate of expansion and the
15 humidity flow into the chamber in the mixed phase experiments, it was possible to obtain
16 water super saturation followed by ice super saturation, allowing CCN activation to form a
17 cloud for a short period of several minutes. The adiabatic expansion experiments on which
18 this paper focuses are summarised in Table 1, but results based on a much broader data base
19 of several hundred CLOUD expansions will also be considered for the discussions.

20 Several additional experiments were conducted to examine any aerosol polarisation state
21 changes arising from possible viscosity changes in response to RH variations, using
22 CASPOL. A more detailed description of these experiments can be found in the
23 accompanying paper by Järvinen et al. (2015). ~~A more detailed description of the latter can be~~
24 ~~found in the accompanying paper by Järvinen et al. (2015).~~

25 2.3 The CAPS-CASPOL Instrument

26 The Cloud and Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation detection (CASPOL) is part of the
27 Cloud Aerosol and Precipitation Spectrometer (CAPS). The first variant of the instrument
28 was introduced in 1999 and was designed for airborne in situ cloud measurements
29 (Baumgardner et al., 2001; Heymsfield, 2007), although it has subsequently been used for
30 cloud chamber measurements (Krämer 2009). The version of CASPOL employed here has a
31 linearly polarised laser to provide a collimated incident beam of light at a wavelength of 680
32 nm.

Comment [L.N14]: 31440.25 A more detailed description of the latter can be found in the accompanying paper by Järvinen et al. (2015). "... of the latter." does not make sense here so the sentence needs rewriting.

Comment [L.N15]: 31441.1 The Cloud and Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation detection (CASPOL) is part of the Cloud Aerosol and Precipitation Spectrometer (CAPS). Although mentioning the CAPS in the body of this section is sensible (if nothing else it allows a reader to find the instrument on the manufacturer's website which does not list CASPOL) including it in the title of this section is just confusing. Rename this "CASPOL Instrument", "CASPOL Description", or something like that. In general this section needs to be split up into more than one paragraph and reordered for clarity (eg currently order forward scattering, backscattering, depolarisation, size and refractive index effects on forward scattering, then effects of qualifier. This does not make for easy reading).

1 The first two detectors of the instrument detect the light scattered in the forward direction.
2 The collection of the light cone is subtended by the angles 4 to 12°. The near forward angles
3 are used for sizing because light is preferentially scattered in the forward direction from
4 particles whose diameters are larger than the incident wavelength. The first detector in the
5 forward direction is used as a qualifier; it has a rectangular optical mask that restricts
6 scattered light from particles that are outside the centre of focus of the laser beam. Only
7 particles within the optimal view volume are counted and characterized. All data are collected
8 on a single particle basis, thus provide a measure of particle-by-particle variability and single
9 particle optical properties. The particle's water equivalent optical diameter in the range 0.51 –
10 50 µm is determined from the forward scattering signal in the second detector using the
11 standard Mie scattering assumptions, i.e., spherical geometry and isotropic refractive index.

12 The next pair of detectors measures the backscattered light with collection angles of 168 to
13 176°. The first backscattering detector is used for qualitative particle shape discrimination.
14 The second detector has a polarised filter (90° to the polarisation of the incident light) to
15 measure the change in polarisation of scattered light caused by asphericity (Baumgardner et
16 al., 2011; Glen and Brooks, 2013) or birefringence. In this configuration, spherical particles
17 produce little response in the perpendicular polarisation backscatter detector. Conversely,
18 frozen water droplets and aspherical ice crystals will show much more distinct signals.

19 In order to eliminate aerosol particle interference in our cloud measurements, only
20 contributions from a subset of larger particles above 3 µm were included. This threshold is
21 based on work by Baumgardner et al. (2001) and Lance (2012) who selected a similar size
22 range for cloud particle measurements. In the special case of SOA measurements, a subset of
23 small particles (< 3 µm) detected in the lower gain stage, was considered. The Cloud and
24 Aerosol Spectrometer with Polarisation detection (CASPOL) is part of the Cloud Aerosol and
25 Precipitation Spectrometer (CAPS). The first variant of the instrument was introduced in
26 1999 and was designed for airborne in-situ cloud measurements (Baumgardner et al., 2001;
27 Heymsfield, 2007), although it has subsequently been used for cloud chamber measurements
28 (Krämer 2009). The version of CASPOL employed here has a linearly polarised laser to
29 provide a collimated incident beam of light at a wavelength of 680 nm. There are four
30 detectors in the instrument, with collection angles of 4 to 12° for the forward detectors and
31 168 to 176° for the backward detectors. The near forward angles are used because most of the
32 light scattered from a particle whose diameter is larger than the incident wavelength is in the
33 forward direction. The backscattering signal is used for qualitative particle shape

Comment [m16]: Referee 1, specific comment 2:

In page 31441, line 10 it is written that most of the light from particles of interest are scattered in the forward direction. However, based on the ratios in figures 6, and 10, the total backscatter signal is greater than that in the forward direction. Specifics of the parameters used to calculate the ratios are not addressed in the paper so I assume that they are some instrument voltage or count that do not directly represent the scattered irradiance. This makes it difficult for the author with different but equivalent instrument (or even updated versions of the same instrument) to utilise or reproduce these results.

Reply:

The reported ratios in Fig.3,6,9 (there is Fig.10) are from two separate detectors that have different conversion because of different irradiance as the reviewer pointed out. Some of these differences are described in Table S2, and elsewhere (e.g. [3]), and could be used in equivalent versions of the instruments. The sampling volume of the CAS is defined with a pinhole aperture (or mask) and is used to select only the most uniform and intense section of the laser beam [4], 31441.20. Once again, additional technical information could be more suitable for a technical paper but is also described in cited instrument papers standards, for such instruments. Any inter-comparison of different instruments should be advised by DMT.

Comment [L.N17]: 31441.27 This threshold is based on work by Baumgardner et al. (2001) and Lance (2012) who selected a similar size range for cloud particle measurements. The entire size range of the CASPOL is not given although various subranges or thresholds are mentioned throughout the manuscript. Add this information to this section.

Reply: Added above.

Comment [L.N18]: 31441.9 There are four detectors in the instrument, with collection angles of 4 to 12° for the forward detectors and 168 to 176° for the backward detectors. It is obvious what is meant, however angles are two dimensional; the instrument collects light over solid angles subtended by the angles given.

Comment [L.N19]: 31441.9 There are four detectors in the instrument, with collection angles of 4 to 12° for the forward detectors and 168 to 176° for the backward detectors. It is obvious what is meant, however angles are two dimensional; the instrument collects light over solid angles subtended by the angles given.

1 discrimination. The CASPOL has an additional back-scatter detector with a polarised filter
2 (90° to the polarisation of the incident light) to measure the change in polarisation of
3 scattered light caused by aspherical particles (Baumgardner et al., 2011; Glen and Brooks,
4 2013). In this configuration, spherical particles produce little response in the perpendicular
5 polarisation backscatter detector. Conversely, frozen water droplets and aspherical ice
6 crystals will show much more distinct signals. The particle's water equivalent optical
7 diameter is determined from the forward scattering signal using the standard Mie scattering
8 assumptions, i.e., spherical geometry and isotropic refractive index. An additional detector in
9 the forward direction is used as a qualifier; it has a rectangular optical mask that restricts
10 scattered light from particles that are outside the centre of focus of the laser beam. Only
11 particles within the optimal view volume are counted and characterized. All data are collected
12 on a single particle basis, thus provide a measure of particle by particle variability and single
13 particle optical properties. In order to eliminate aerosol particle interference in our cloud
14 measurements, only contributions from a subset of larger particles above $3\ \mu\text{m}$ were included.
15 This threshold is based on work by Baumgardner et al. (2001) and Lance (2012) who selected
16 a similar size range for cloud particle measurements. In the special case of SOA
17 measurements, a subset of small particles ($< 3\ \mu\text{m}$) detected in the lower gain stage, was
18 considered.

19 Calibration

20 The CASPOL was calibrated using Polystyrene Latex Spheres (PSL), as described elsewhere,
21 e.g., DMT Manual (2011), Meyer (2011), Rosenberg et al. (2012). Size calibration relates the
22 amplitude of the instrument's response to particle scattering cross-sections. Using the Mie-
23 Lorenz curve, the nominal size bin limits can then be defined (Table S2 in the Supplement) in
24 terms of the diameter of water droplets having the same scattering cross-section, giving a
25 reasonable estimate of particle size for liquid droplets and small spherical ice particles.
26 Aspherical particles will be mis-sized with respect to spherical particles, subject to their
27 cross-section as shown by Borrmann et al. (2000). In our instrument this error would
28 normally be in the order of the size bin width. The uncertainty in the derived polarisation
29 ratio is approximately 20% as described by Baumgardner et al., (2005). Size calibration of
30 CASPOL, as described in Rosenberg et al. (2012), relates the amplitude of the instrument's
31 response to particle scattering cross sections. Using the Mie-Lorenz curve, the nominal size
32 bin limits can then be defined in terms of the diameter of water droplets having the same
33 scattering cross-section, giving a reasonable estimate of particle size for liquid droplets and

1 small spherical ice particles. ~~Aspherical particles will be mis-sized with respect to spherical~~
2 ~~particles, subject to their cross-section as shown by Borrmann et al. (2000). In our instrument~~
3 ~~the error would normally be in the order of the size bin width.~~

4 2.4 Data processing

5 2.4.1 Particle-by-Particle analysis

6 ~~The polarisation ratio measured with the CASPOL instrument and reported in this paper is~~
7 ~~defined as the ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter intensity to total backscatter~~
8 ~~intensity and provides a measure of the combined phase, composition, and surface features of~~
9 ~~the particle. The polarisation ratio measured with the CASPOL instrument and reported in~~
10 ~~this paper is defined as the ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter intensity to total~~
11 ~~backscatter intensity and provides a measure of phase, composition, and surface features of~~
12 ~~the particle.~~ This ratio differs from the depolarisation ratio that is measured using remote
13 sensing techniques (Groß et al., 2013). The two ratios cannot be directly compared, requiring
14 additional calibration for this purpose (Meyer, 2011). ~~The ratio of perpendicularly polarised~~
15 ~~backscatter to forward scatter (D_{pol}/Fwd) indicates the contribution of particle size to the~~
16 ~~scattering. PBP measurements reveal the fraction of aspherical particles population (Fig. 2c)~~
17 ~~and its evolution. Here we employ cluster analysis on PBP data (Sect. 2.4.2) for phase~~
18 ~~discrimination and for data quality assurance. This method can also be used to classify highly~~
19 ~~polarising particles. Corrections to the forward, backward and the Dpol channels have been~~
20 ~~applied and summarized in Table S2-S3 in the Supplement.~~

21 2.4.2 Cluster analysis

22 Clustering or grouping of data by the similarity in one variable or a matrix of variables
23 reveals the size of the population with similar properties and the number of the unique groups
24 in the dataset, as well as the spread in each group. ~~Clustering analysis is used here to~~
25 ~~discriminate and assign unique particle properties corresponding to different phases during~~
26 ~~the experiment (e.g., water, ice), primarily based on variations in the polarisation state of the~~
27 ~~scattered light (Fig. 3). Clustering analysis is used here to discriminate and assign unique~~
28 ~~particle properties corresponding to different phases during the experiment (e.g., water, ice),~~
29 ~~primarily based on polarisation differences (Fig. 3).~~ Clustering approaches have been
30 previously used for aerosol property classification, e.g., Omar et al. (2005), Robinson et al.
31 (2013), Crawford et al. (2015). ~~Here we use the k -means cluster function (Seber, 1984; Spath,~~
32 ~~1985) from the MATLAB® statistics toolbox. Here we use the MatLab K means cluster~~

Comment [L.N20]: 31442.8 Aspher particles will be mis-sized with respect to spherical particles, subject to their cross-section as shown by Borrmann et al. (2000). Size of aspherical particles is used throughout the manuscript but only receives a very cursory two sentences here. It is unclear how such particles are sized, as only Mie theory is discussed. I assume that an equivalent optical diameter is used however it is still unclear what refractive index is used (particularly in cases such as figure 2 where ice and water particle sizes are presented on the same axis). The final sentence needs

Comment [m21]: Referee 1, specific comment 1:

There is a tendency by the authors to present results in a manner that makes them less useful to the wider community. One of the draws of using an instrument like the CASPOL is for comparison with the remote sensing community which does not have access to the forward scattering information. For example, polarisation ratio is presented in a slightly different

Comment [L.N22]: 31442.15 The polarisation ratio measured with the CASPOL instrument and reported in this paper is defined as the ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter intensity to total backscatter intensity and provides a measure of phase, composition, and surface features of the particle. This is an unusual manner of expressing the degree of polarisation rotation in the scattered light. It would

Comment [L.N23]: 31442.20 The ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter to forward scatter (D_{pol}/Fwd) indicates the contribution of particle size to the scattering. Unless there is precedent, I recommend a change of symbol for the perpendicularly polarised backscatter signal. Dpol rolls of the tongue as depolarisation (ratio).

Reply:

Comment [L.N24]: 31442.21 PBP measurements reveal the fraction of aspherical particles population (Fig. 2c) and its evolution. This is not entirely obvious. For a spherical particle in the size range of interest, the forward scattering signal will increase with size however spherical particles are somewhat irrelevant here. With aspherical particles the forward scattering may be non-uniform which makes this sweeping

Comment [L.N25]: 31443.8 Cluster analysis is used here to discriminate and assign unique particle properties corresponding to different phases during the experiment (e.g., water, ice), primarily based on polarisation differences (Fig. 3). "... based on polarisation differences." could cause confusion with a mathematical difference, use "variation" or something similar.

1 ~~function. First the number of clusters, k, is specified.~~ The algorithm then calculates the
 2 minimum total intra-cluster variance (Eq. 1)

$$\sum_{i=1}^K \sum_{x_j \in S_i} d(x_j, \mu_i) \quad (1)$$

3 where S_i is the i th cluster ($i = 1, \dots, K$), μ_i is the i th centroid of all the points x_j in cluster S_i ,
 4 and d is the distance function (e.g., squared Euclidean). In this case the function is applied to
 5 a matrix of parameter vectors including polarisation, size, asphericity, concentration, inter-
 6 arrival-time, time, etc. This approach should, by itself, be sufficient for discriminating a
 7 simple mixture consisting of two discrete and well-separated phases as may be found in the
 8 water-ice particle population. In our aerosol-cloud nucleation experiments, an a-priori
 9 assumption of cluster number is challenging due to the variability of particles. Initial
 10 estimates of cluster numbers (1–7) were tested in sequential iterations. A silhouette index,
 11 $s(i)$, was then used to quantitatively assess the quality of clustering. This is a composite
 12 index reflecting the compactness and separation of clusters; a larger average silhouette index
 13 indicates a better overall quality of the clustering result (Chen et al., 2002). The silhouette
 14 value of a point is a measure of the similarity of points within a given cluster compared to
 15 these in other clusters; it is defined as

$$s(i) = \frac{b(i) - a(i)}{\max(a(i), b(i))} \quad (2)$$

16 where $a(i)$ is the average distance of the point i to the other points in its own cluster A .
 17 ~~$d(i, C)$ is the average distance of the point i to the other points in the cluster C .~~ $b(i)$ ~~is~~
 18 ~~the minimal $d(i, C)$ over all clusters other than A .~~ $b(i)$ is the minimal average distance of the
 19 ~~point i to the points in the other cluster, over all clusters other than A .~~ (Eq. 2). For the best
 20 possible fit, the silhouette index is, $s(i) = 1$. This validation is sufficient for our analysis to
 21 indicate the ability of the algorithm to group similar data sets using the prescribed values.
 22 Following cluster analysis, asphericity thresholds are selected based on cluster boundaries
 23 identified by the colour transition in Fig. 3 and silhouette values greater than 0.9.

24 3 Results

25 3.1 CASPOL Water-Ice measurements

26 As the temperature in the chamber decreases in the multistep expansions, liquid cloud starts
 27 to form when the RH exceeds water saturation (Fig. 1). Figure 2a shows the formation of a

Comment [L.N26]: 31443.11 Here use the MatLab K means cluster function. Use standard nomenclature (of the website); MATLAB (check journal standards to see if this requires a *), k-Means, and cite the URL for the kmeans function.

Reply:
 From a brief review of several ACP papers it looks like there are multiple variations of this nomenclature.

Comment [L.N27]: 31444.4 $d(i, C)$ is the average distance of the point i to the other points in the cluster C . The use of $d(i; C)$ here is confusing, is it the same as $d(x_i; \mu_{ij})$ in equation 1? If not, it would be clearer to define $b(i)$ in words only. If it then don't reuse i and rework the sentence for clarity.

Reply:
 They are different: $d(x_j, \mu_j)$ is the squared Euclidean distance of a point to the centroid of the cluster. $d(i, C)$ is the average distance of a point to the other points in the cluster. Sentence rephrased.

Comment [L.N28]: 31444.6 This validation is sufficient for our analysis to indicate the ability of the algorithm to group similar data sets using the prescribed values. What validation is being referred to here? $s(i) = 1$, $s(i) > x$, or just the use of a silhouette value?

Reply:
 The use of Silhouette to evaluate the clustering.

Comment [L.N29]: 31444.9 Following cluster analysis, asphericity thresholds are selected based on cluster boundaries identified by the colour transition in Fig. 3. Is the red–blue transition automatically generated by the cluster analysis? Are the particle type boundaries given in the manuscript in figure 9 the asphericity thresholds that are referred to here? Are the thresholds set by 100% coverage of the data points, 90%, two standard deviations, etc? The

Comment [L.N30]: Referee 2, main comment 3:

The results are given in 4 separate subsections (sections 3.1-3-4). While the results are probably somehow connected with each other, such a connection is very difficult to catch when reading the paper. The authors should do a better job in tightening up these apparently separate results.

Reply:

Comment [m31]: Referee 1, specific comment 3:

The discrimination between liquid water and ice with polarised light has a long history so in addition to this, I was hoping to see the identification or classification of different ice habits with this instrument in the chamber. At the end of section 3.1 there is a glimpse of this possibility with a list of different habits formed in the chamber along with the 3V-CPI images

1 mixed phase cloud as a function of time. Droplets formed at sub-zero temperatures are super-
2 cooled and some of them freeze. During the stabilisation period, when pressure remains
3 constant, some of the super-cooled droplets evaporate as the walls reheat the chamber.
4 During the second step of the expansion, the ice grows further. The rapid growth of ice
5 particles depletes the available water vapour, causing the remaining liquid droplets to
6 evaporate by the Bergeron–Findeisen mechanism. The aspherical fraction (Fig. 2b), and the
7 concentrations of water and ice (Fig. 2c) were calculated from the PBP cluster analysis for
8 each of these conditions during the run. Images of some typical ice particles (diameter < 150
9 μm) from the Cloudy experiments were captured by the 3VCPI. These diverse experiments
10 produced ice habits that included needles, hexagonal plates, columns, bullets and dendrites;
11 ice aggregates and spheroids were also detected (Fig. 4). These habits scatter the light
12 differently. However, CASPOL data were in good agreement with ice measurements by the
13 PPD, small water droplets measured with WELAS (Figs. S3–S4 and S4–S5 in the
14 Supplement).

15 3.2 ACPIM modelling

16 Validation of ice formation was done by modelling. A modelling tool used in this analysis is
17 the Aerosol–Cloud–Precipitation Interaction Model (ACPIM), which has been developed at
18 the University of Manchester in collaboration with the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
19 (Connolly et al., 2009). Temperature time series were plotted using the initial experimental
20 conditions (e.g., chamber temperature, pressure, RH, and CCN concentration) in the model.
21 Subsequent fitting of the simulated temperature drop to chamber data enabled us to find the
22 rate at which the chamber reheats after expansion (0.007 s^{-1}) for the runs specified in Table 1.
23 This heat exchange coefficient is in a good agreement with the results found by Dias et al.
24 (2015). It quantifies how effectively heat is transferred from the chamber walls and mixed
25 throughout the gas in this chamber.

26 ACPIM was able to replicate the observed particle phase transitions in the mixed phase runs,
27 thereby validating the phase concentration plot (Fig. 2c). Phase concentration deviations at
28 the beginning of the expansion were probably caused by inhomogeneity in the chamber due
29 to incomplete mixing, or by variations in the expansion rate. Ambiguous polarisation states of
30 water, e.g., in super-cooled or frozen droplets, might be resolved by comparing ACPIM to
31 CASPOL data and examining the mismatch. This simulation of the experiment makes it
32 possible to predict phase concentrations and sizes, supporting the planning of future
33 experiments and validation of the theories behind the model.

Comment [L.N32]: 31444.23 These diverse experiments produced ice habits that included needles, hexagonal plates, columns, bullets and dendrites; ice aggregates and spheroids were also detected (Fig. 4). See point 3 above for general comments on this section. Specifically, please comment on how representative the images from the 3V- are to the particles sampled by the CASPOL at the same time?

Reply:
These instruments measure over different size ranges. The 3V-CPI images provide complimentary information regarding a variety of large particles and their habits resulting from the nucleation processes that result from the different experiments and support the observation as stated in ice production. While the 3V-CPI data are as confirmation of the CASPOL detection of ice, we cannot rule out a size dependence of ice crystal habit. It should not therefore be assumed that the crystal habits shown by the 3V-CPI are the same as those giving rise to the observed

Comment [m33]: Referee 1, specific comment 4:
Section 3.2 on the ACPIM modelling does not seem to add appreciably to this manuscript compared to a comment on the chamber wall heating and appropriate citation towards the end of section 2.1.

See point 31445.15 below.
Reply:
The ACPIM model was used to plan the experimental conditions prior to the actual experiments and to subsequently compare with the environmental conditions recorded. Therefore the comparison of model and measurement is essential to indicate any discrepancies in current understanding of both the

Comment [L.N34]: Referee 2, minor comment 1:
I do not see the agreement between measurements and modeling in Fig. 2c, convincing as stated in the paper (lines 24 on page 31445).

Reply:
Please see reply to 1st referee in specific comment #4 and comment 31445.15

Comment [L.N35]: 31445.15 ACPIM was able to replicate the observed particle phase transitions in the mixed phase runs thereby validating the phase concentration plot (Fig. 2c). Define replicate. There seems to be some significant discrepancies between the model and data for times beyond 60 sec in figure 2c, ie modelled liquid concentration drops quickly to zero around 100 sec and modelled ice concentration remains constant for longer time scales.

Reply:
By replicating we refer to replication of the phase transition time series, decrease in water concentration and increase in ice concentration.

3.3 Viscous SOA measurements

The validated discrimination method used in water-ice phase transition analysis was subsequently applied to investigate SOA phase transition. The viscous SOA growth

experiments reported here were achieved using a controlled, constant flow of precursor gases and ozone into the chamber at constant, near-ambient pressure, dry conditions, and constant temperatures, as shown in Table 2 (for details see Järvinen et al., 2015). We observe a growth in particle diameter from tens of nanometres to more than 1 μm size particles. During these growth periods (Fig. 5), an increase in the CASPOL backscatter polarisation ratio was observed, while the *Dpol/Fwd* ratio did not change significantly, suggesting the change in size had less effect on the measurements than did the polarisation. A large part of the

experiment produced extreme particle concentrations above the recommended CASPOL concentration limit of 1300 cm^{-3} , where significant coincidence errors would be likely to occur (D. Baumgardner, personal communication, 2015). Therefore, we limit our discussion to conditions in which growth to sizes larger than $0.56\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ in diameter, and concentrations below 1300 cm^{-3} occur (for details see Sect. 4). After the growth, RH was increased up to 80% in each experiment in order to observe the phase transitions using optical depolarisation measurements made with the SIMONE instrument (Järvinen et al., 2015). Several repetitions of these growth experiments followed by humidification and phase transition were conducted.

The subsequent glass transition formed liquid particles at the end of each experiment. A significantly lower particle polarisation (more optically spherical) state was detected by the CASPOL at this stage.~~As concentrations decreased below the CASPOL operating threshold of 1300 cm^{-3} , a significantly lower particle polarisation (more optically spherical) state was detected by the CASPOL.~~ As a consequence, we observed the presence of two distinct

polarisation clusters during the growth where highly viscous SOA is expected and after the phase transition where we expect to see liquid particles. The two clusters are overlaid for several experiments as shown in Fig. 6.

While cooling the chamber and reducing the RH (Run #1515.16) (Fig. 7), the larger optically semi-spherical particles started to dry. Oxidized α -pinene SOA compounds generally have added functional groups (oxygen containing substituents), high polarity, and, thus, lower vapour pressure (Pandis et al., 1992) than water. As a result of this drying process and the dynamics of partitioning, CASPOL measures an increase in polarisation. The detailed dynamics of partitioning in SOA from alpha-pinene ozonolysis is described in Donahue et al. (2014).

Comment [L.N36]: 31446.5 During these growth periods (Fig. 5), an increase in the CASPOL backscatter polarisation ratio was observed, while the *Dpol/Fwd* ratio did not change significantly, suggesting the change in size had less effect on the measurements than did the polarisation. The meaning of the final phrase of this sentence is unclear. Does this mean that as the particles grew the asymmetry increased faster than the optical equivalent size? If so it would be very interesting to see some supporting data from one of the other instruments a previous work on the growth of such particles. In any case some clarification required here. It may be useful to add a plot of the ratio onto a second y-axis of figure 5.

Reply:
Once particles grew into the CASPOL detectable size range their size did not increase much further (being concentrated in the lower size bins, with equivalent mean diameter $\leq 1\text{ }\mu\text{m}$), while the *Dpol/Bck* ratio changed very significantly as seen in the experimental runs shown in Fig.6. We do not refer to the rate of change here. Adding another axis to Fig.5 for the whole growth period in CASPOL would be inaccurate due to coincidence effects as explained in the paragraph. In addition to counting and sizing artefacts, particle coincidence can result in erroneously high S-polarised measurements as a result of multiple scattering. For this reason Fig.6 was

Comment [L.N37]: 31446.16 As concentrations decreased below the CASPOL operating threshold of 1300 cm^{-3} , a significantly lower particle polarisation (more optically spherical) state was detected by the CASPOL. "As concentrations decreased below the CASPOL operating threshold of 1300 cm^{-3} ..." makes it sound like the concentration is lower than the minimum detection threshold. A slight rewording is required or even better, remove this as it has already been stated that only concentrations below 1300 cm^{-3} are considered in this analysis.

Comment [L.N38]: 31446.21 The two clusters are overlaid for several experiments as shown in Fig. 6. How do cases with significant overlap of the clusters affect the classification map boundaries? Were such cases used for classification? As mentioned in 31444.6 was there a threshold silhouette value required for a dataset to be added to the classification map?

Reply:
For PBP data clustering there was no overlap (Fig.2). In case there is too much overlap- the data can't be clustered or a low silhouette value. These cases were not used for classification. The threshold silhouette value will be noted in the manuscript.

1 ~~This increase could be explained as transition to an amorphous aerosol phase with high~~
2 ~~viscosity at RH ~ 10 %, T = -30 to -38°C, P = 102 kPa as suggested by the hysteresis plot of~~
3 ~~Koop et al. (2011). Our results cannot, however, be unambiguously ascribed to the viscosity~~
4 ~~transition based solely on the measurements here. We simply note the ability of the CASPOL~~
5 ~~to identify very significant polarisation shifts in the aerosol scattering properties that are~~
6 ~~likely associated with changes in their physico-chemical properties.~~

7 ~~Additional support for this hypothesis comes from SMPS measurements. No particles were~~
8 ~~detected in the SMPS size range in the transition period; This could be explained as transition~~
9 ~~to an amorphous aerosol phase with high viscosity at RH ~ 10 %, T = -30 to -38°C, P = 102~~
10 ~~kPa as suggested by the hysteresis plot of Koop et al. (2011). Our results cannot, however, be~~
11 ~~unambiguously ascribed to this based solely on the measurements here. We simply note the~~
12 ~~ability of the CASPOL to identify very significant polarisation shifts in the aerosol scattering~~
13 ~~properties that are likely associated with changes in their physico-chemical properties.~~

14 ~~Additional support for this hypothesis comes from SMPS measurements. No particles were~~
15 ~~detected in the SMPS size range in this period;~~ the upper cut-off of the measurement was
16 about 400 nm. Small decay of the averaged diameter is observed in CASPOL (Fig. 8). These
17 data indicate a wet to dry transformation of essentially large particles. This reversed transition
18 of the viscosity is then followed by much slower partitioning or dissociation within these
19 particles, and a decrease in their concentration and sizes due to constantly decreasing RH.

20 **3.4 Particle classification maps**

21 ~~It is clear that classification of particles has wide reaching effects on our understanding of the~~
22 ~~atmosphere.~~ In order to map the whole range of atmospheric processes under future emissions
23 scenarios, it will be necessary to identify the particles. A new strategy to categorize dust
24 groupings was developed by Glen and Brooks (2013, 2014) whereby optical scattering
25 signatures from CASPOL measurements were used to develop a set of threshold rules based
26 on polarisation ratios. These rules can be used to classify types of dust sampled in the
27 laboratory and during field campaigns. A plot of the total backscatter intensity as a function
28 of the polarisation ratio for various types of dust clearly shows the difference in their
29 signatures. Similar techniques for classifying aerosols are already in use by the Light
30 Detection And Ranging (LIDAR) community (Burton et al., 2012; Petzold et al., 2010). To
31 explore the feasibility of using the signature method in CLOUD, we have collated
32 polarisation ratio ranges of many particles measured in the CLOUD 8 and 9 campaigns. Here

Formatted: Space After: 10 pt,
Adjust space between Latin and Asian
text, Adjust space between Asian text
and numbers

Comment [L.N39]: Referee 2, minor
comment 2:
Lines 1-8 on page 31447: The authors use
3 times the word "this" without clearly
specifying what "this" is referring to
(something mentioned before these two
paragraphs).

Reply:
1st This 31447.1 refers to the preceding
sentence: "As a result of this drying
process and the dynamics of partitioning
CASPOL measures an increase in
polarisation".
2nd This 31447.4 refers to the preceding
sentence: "Transition to an amorphous
aerosol phase with high viscosity".
3rd This 31447.7 refers to the preceding
sentence: "ability of the CASPOL to
identify very significant polarisation shifts
in the aerosol scattering properties that
are likely associated with changes in the
physico-chemical properties".

Comment [L.N40]: 31447.15 It is clear
that classification of particles has wide
reaching effects on our understanding of
the atmosphere. This is an unfortunate
choice of words as this sentence is
anything but clear. Surely understanding
precedes classification?

Referee 2, minor comment 3:
I do not understand the purpose of the
sentence of section 3.4

Comment [L.N41]: 31447.15 It is clear
that classification of particles has wide
reaching effects on our understanding of
the atmosphere. This is an unfortunate
choice of words as this sentence is
anything but clear. Surely understanding
precedes classification?
Reply: Will be removed.

Comment [L.N42]: 31447.21 A plot of
the total backscatter intensity as a
function of the polarisation ratio for
various types of dust clearly shows the
difference in their signatures. A list of
different classification mapping schemes
given and then the map used here is
different to these. This is discussed as a
major shortcoming of the manuscript in
point 1 above however if nothing else the
authors should justify their choice of
classification space.

Reply:
We list recent methods for classification
by light properties. Both methods for
classification in remote and in situ are
presented. These techniques are
different. Our technique is very similar to
the one used for in situ measurements.
The difference in the nature of the
experiments and the type of particles
allowed clearer separation in this
particular classification space.
Nonetheless, a plot will be added for

1 we present the polarisation map (Fig. 9) combining the CLOUD campaign measurements
2 with those obtained from aircraft flights over the North sea (Johnson et al., 2012) using the
3 same CASPOL instrument. This map makes it possible to predict the coordinates of other
4 potential organic compounds in the upper area. Salts, ash, and ice are in the mid-range of the
5 *Dpol/Bck* ratio; spherical liquids are at the bottom. Further separation by size might be
6 possible on the *x* axis. In comparison between SIMONE and CASPOL for SOA data points
7 from CLOUD, we can see on the map that SOA – CLOUD 8 (+10°C) data points have lower
8 polarisation ratio compared to other organic aerosols. This measurement implies lower
9 viscosity and could explain the non-existent phase transition in SIMONE depolarisation
10 measurements for this experiment. More experimental data is needed to fill the space for
11 other particles, temperatures and RH.

12 Classification of small ice and water by size characteristics has limited accuracy (Heymsfield
13 et al., 2006).~~The classification of ice and water is limited by size.~~ As explained earlier
14 CASPOL can only differentiate between the asphericities of the particles. The ice presented
15 on this map is aspherical. Slight changes in the polarisation state of droplets can also be
16 observed as the droplets cool and a crystalline pattern emerges. This discrimination technique
17 could be used in chamber measurements with mixtures of CCN and Ice Nuclei (IN) and with
18 some limitations could be applied in explicit atmospheric measurements albeit with higher
19 uncertainty due to potentially significant overlap in polarisation responses, particularly in real
20 environment with high diversity of particles.

21 **4 Discussion**

22 The results presented in this paper (Figs. 2, 5 and S4, S5 in the Supplement) illustrate the
23 ability of the CASPOL instrument to provide reliable Particle Size Distribution (PSD) in
24 expansion chamber campaigns, and to classify atmospheric particles of different phases,
25 viscosities, shapes, and sizes. The polarisation ratio was combined with the PBP clustering
26 technique to highlight the time resolved aspherical fraction evolution.

27 Despite the known limitations and uncertainties in these measurements, e.g., particle
28 sedimentation (Chapter 6 in Kulkarni, 2011), electronic “ringing”, and leakage currents
29 (Kramer, 2002), these did not affect the filtered results (Figs. 3b,3c) shown here. Another
30 uncertainty is contributed by the extremely high aerosol concentrations ~ 40 000 cm⁻³ (with
31 unresolvable interarrival- times between successive particle). These concentrations may not
32 be atmospherically relevant; their role here was solely to grow the larger SOA particles (>

Comment [L.N43]: 31448.4 Further separation by size might be possible on the *x* axis. Mention is made of segregation by size which would be useful however has not been done. Further information required here.

Reply:

X axis *Dpol/Fwd* encompasses information about the particle size as was mentioned previously:

- Typical sizes for ice and water are presented in Fig.2 and discussed in comment 31442.21

- SOA growth periods shown in Fig. 5 (comment 31446.5 the *Dpol/Fwd* ratio did not change significantly, suggesting the change in size had small effect). It is very difficult to completely separate the combination of features that can result in the observed net *Dpol/Fwd* ratio particularly if some of them are subtle. But might be possible with additional information from other instruments.

Comment [L.N44]: 31448.11 The classification of ice and water is limited size. This is unclear, does it mean that boundaries of the regions of liquid water and that of ice are based solely on the particle size? Rewording of sentence required.

Comment [L.N45]: Referee 1, Spec comment 5: The Discussion in section 4 disjointed and very difficult to understand. Please break this into separate paragraphs of related material.
Amended

1 500 nm). This was required to allow the optical detection of particles during growth and
2 liquefaction.

3 In addition to concentration issues, a derivation of equivalent diameters from dry viscous
4 aerosol particles may be challenging since it has been argued that spherical aerosols can be
5 considered as purely a “figment of the imagination” (Baran et al., 2013). However, particle
6 sizes measured by CASPOL and UHSAS during SOA growth corresponded well. The
7 predicted SOA behaviour (Koop et al., 2011) and the measured slow increase of polarisation
8 may suggest a change in the viscosity of these particles. The polarisation transitions observed
9 were both clear and repeatable which gives confidence in our ability to identify the
10 hypothesised transitions and to place these observations on the general polarisation map for
11 classification in a comparative particle analysis.

12 The general classification map presented here demonstrates a good agreement between
13 chamber and airborne measurements (Fig. 9). Although super-cooled droplets, ice and other
14 particle polarisation footprints seem to be quite distinct, it is clear that further spatial growth
15 and branching of ice could lead to a significant increase in polarisation and possibly
16 significant overlapping of different species. One of the aims of future studies would be to test
17 aggregation and branching impacts on CASPOL signals. Slightly higher polarisation of the
18 airborne super-cooled droplets and ice might be the result of aerosol ageing. Processes such
19 as aerosol ageing will influence subsequent phase separation processes within the droplet but
20 are difficult to reproduce in a chamber.

21 In the real atmosphere, the particles are more complex; contain additional polarising
22 constituents and have more branching. Froyd et al. (2010) report the coexistence of mixtures
23 of partially or fully neutralised sulphate with organic material, nucleated ice crystals, dry
24 ammonium sulphate, and glassy particles in the Tropical Troposphere Layer (TTL). Ice
25 residuals were also similar in size to unfrozen aerosol. Lawson et al. (2008) suggests a
26 thorough investigation of nucleation and growth mechanisms of ice particles in TTL at low
27 temperatures is needed, particularly in the presence of sulphates mixed with organics and
28 very high relative humidity. This might be difficult due to increasing anthropogenic SO₂
29 emissions which may increase the formation of sulphuric acid aerosols and thus small ice
30 crystals in the TTL (Notholt et al., 2005). The increase in small ice concentration in presence
31 of aerosols may complicate ice content measurements even further. The classification map
32 presented here represents one approach to facilitate future CASPOL-PBP data analysis of the

Comment [L.N46]: 31449.8 However, the PSD measured by CASPOL and UHSAS during SOA growth corresponded well (Fig. 5). Figure 5 does not show a PSD.

changed

1 TTL and deep convective outflow regions. It could also be useful for particles like
2 ammonium sulphate that often reach high altitudes through the seasonal biomass burning
3 processes and initiate ice nucleation. Using a method such as the classification map presented
4 here to discriminate between different kinds of atmospheric particles (e.g., ice crystals,
5 ammonium sulphate, volcanic ash, SOA) will allow better insight for atmospheric transport
6 and chemical processes.

7 **5 Conclusions**

8 The CLOUD 8–9 campaigns at the CERN facility, introduced a new capability of this facility
9 for cloud particle measurements (Cloudy). In this paper the first CASPOL Cloudy
10 measurements of mixed phase and ice clouds are presented. We discuss the advantages of
11 particle by particle analysis of the polarisation. Single-particle polarisation was used here to
12 discriminate water, ice, SOA, and other atmospheric particles. The capability to detect
13 viscous oxidized alpha-pinene with the CASPOL is reported for the first time.

14 We present observation of reversed transition from liquid to viscous based on CASPOL,
15 SMPS measurements, and SOA modelling. In our experiments, the SOA viscous to liquid
16 transition is shown to be a reversible process. This result contributes to our understanding of
17 viscous SOA appearance in the atmosphere, ageing and potentially to the solar radiation
18 budget calculations.

19 Classification using the clustering technique produced a classification map that can contribute
20 to future chamber and, possibly, atmospheric measurements of small particles with CASPOL
21 in a heterogeneous environment. Small ice particles formed during different stages of the
22 cloud still pose a great challenge for the optical instruments. Future efforts will focus on
23 classification of additional cloud particles using CASPOL.

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26 Synchrotron. We express great appreciation for the CLOUD collaboration and the volunteers
27 for the night shifts. We would also like to thank Darrel Baumgardner for CASPOL data
28 filtering advice and review of the manuscript. T. B. Kristensen gratefully acknowledges
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30 CLOUD12 project. This research has received funding from the EC Seventh Framework
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28 *Chem. A*, 108, 5559–5563, doi:10.1021/jp040085g, 2004.

- 1 Table 1. Experimental parameters of the expansion runs presented in this paper. Excess
- 2 pressure profile x axis is of the order of several minutes.

Run#	Seed type	Seed concentration [cm ⁻³]	Excess Pressure profile [mb]	T _{initial} [°C]	RH _{ice} ^{max} [%]
1248.13	Ammonium Sulphate	3000		+10C	107
1291.16	Sulphuric Acid	75		-30C	168, 135
1298.20	Sulphuric Acid	700		-50C	148
1311.03	Sulphuric Acid	3260		-10C	123
1471.34	Oxalic Acid	100		-20C	165

3

Comment [L.N48]: Why are there two values for RH for run 1291.16?
Reply: Max RH reached, in a multi-step (here 2 steps) expansion (Fig.1).

1 Table 2. SOA growth experimental conditions of the presented runs.

Run	T [°C]	Initial RH [%]	Max. concentration [x1000 cm ⁻³] (Diameter>10nm)
1313	+10	12	30
1513	-20	60	45
1514	-20	4	40
1515	-30	2	30
1516	-38	5	45

2

- 1 **Figure** 1. Example of programmable multistep expansion to form a mixed phase cloud (Run
- 2 #1291.16). Relative humidity with respect to ice (RH_{ice}) calculated from MBW and
- 3 Thermocouples. Second step grows the present ice particles in the cloud period (25 min).
- 4 Shaded time period is analysed in Fig. 3.

Comment [L.N49]: It would be useful to have the x-axis of this plot presented the same way (and scale?) as those in figure 2

Reply:
Fig.1 presents a full time scale of a multistep expansion produced in the chamber, and the behaviour of the physical variables. It is usually during the 2nd step (31444.17) that we were able to observe the larger particles (e.g. as shown by the 3VCPI images).
Fig.2 focuses on a specific step (<200sec) of the phase transition. The grey shaded background indicates the time period analysed in Fig.2, 3.
The x-axis will begin from 0.

1 | Figure 2. Mixed phase cloud, phase transition period (Run #1291.16). The uncertainty in
2 | sizing is in the order of the size bin width (Table S2). The error of the polarisation ratio and
3 | asphericity is approximately 20 %. (a) CASPOL particle size distribution, (b) CASPOL PBP
4 | aspherical fraction, (c) CASPOL measured water and ice concentrations derived from
5 | asphericity compared to ACPIM.

Comment [L.N50]: As mentioned previously, how is the diameter defined here? The colour maps are different to those used in the other concentration contour plots; these should be unified if possible. Remove the blue background from 2b, an increase in the size of the data points would also assist the reader. Add size uncertainty bars to 2b (with associated discussion of their derivation in the text).

Reply: The optical diameter is defined based on calibration and binning of the forward scattered intensity (comment 31442.8).

Addition of size uncertainty bars to all data points in Fig.2b produces an unclear phase transition and overloads the plot; the uncertainty will be described in the caption.

- Colour maps unified
- Fig.2B background removed, size of data points increased

1 **Figure 3.** Cluster analysis (Run #1291.16). K in the title indicates the number of clusters
2 found with best silhouette value. Each cluster appears with a percentage of particles in it. The
3 centres of clusters are marked by centroids . (a) 1 s averaged data, whole size range and all
4 concentration, (b) particle by particle data clustering for selected size range and concentration
5 thresholds. (c) particle by particle data clustering plotted in a space comparable to Glen and
6 Brooks (2013).

Comment [L.N51]: Refine size of plot and size of text to make full use of column width. The symbol for the cluster centroid in the caption is incorrect. Changed to larger figure, different centroid in the caption

- 1 Figure 4. Images of ice particles in CLOUD captured by 3VCPI with 2 μm resolution. Most
- 2 of the particles are smaller than 100 μm (scale on the left).

1 Figure 5. SOA growth over a 10 h period, 1 Hz sampling rate (Run #1516). CASPOL and
2 UHSAS overlapped size measurements. Black lines – particles measured with UHSAS,
3 instrument's cut-off is at 1000 nm. Blue lines – particles measured with CASPOL. Red lines
4 indicate that CASPOL has passed the saturation threshold and the measurements may be
5 subject to coincidence errors.

1 **Figure 6.** Polarisation scatter-plots of SOA growth and liquefaction measured by CASPOL in
2 four experiments. Ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter intensity to total backscatter
3 intensity (D_{pol}/B_{ck}) vs. ratio of perpendicularly polarised backscatter to forward scatter
4 intensity (D_{pol}/F_{wd}), 1 s averaged run periods where the concentration was below 1300 cm^{-3} ,
5 colour is concentration $dN/d\log D_p$ [cm^{-3}], (a) Run #1513, (b) Run #1514, (c) Run #1515,
6 (d) Run #1516.

Comment [L.N52]: Refine size of plot and size of text to make full use of column width.

Reply:
Instructions will be given to the publisher to make full use of column width

- 1 Figure 7. CASPOL polarisation ratio (blue line) increases as RH (black dotted line) decreases
- 2 during the cooling period after a SOA experiment (Run #1515.16).

- 1 Figure 8. Large dry particles decrease in size. Smaller frame: illustration of the hypothesised
- 2 transition sequence from CASPOL and SMPS measurements (liquid to viscous and dried
- 3 further).

1 **Figure 9.** Atmospheric particle classification map for CLOUD data. The dimensions of the
2 coloured rectangular boxes represent the space of measurements error and data points'
3 distribution. Additional CASPOL data points from aircraft measurements are presented for
4 comparison (Johnson et al., 2012).

5

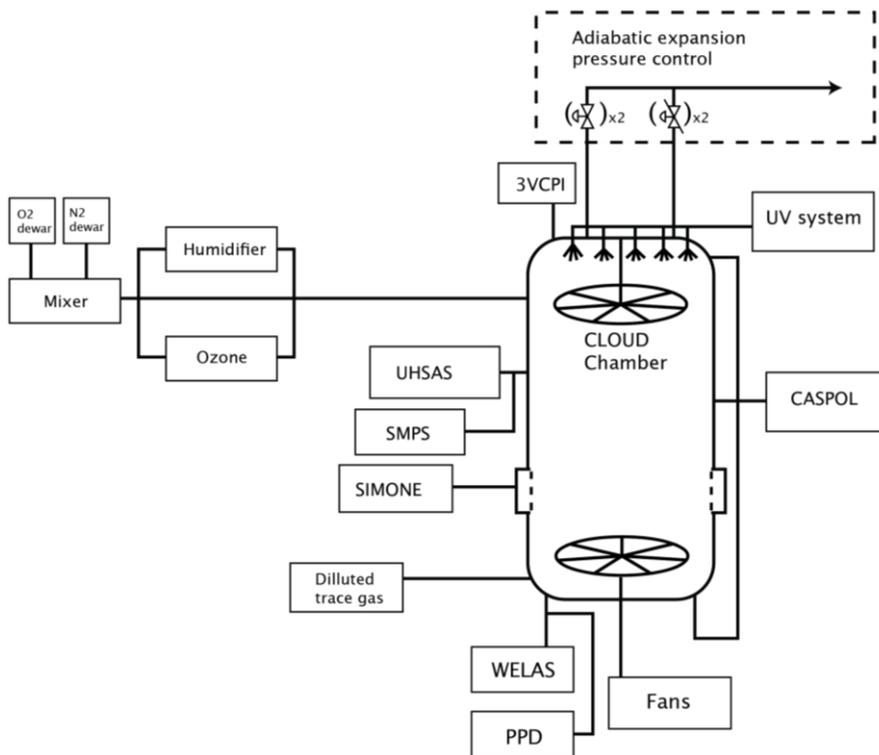
Comment [L.N53]: The labels are almost illegibly small. Several colours (especially the dark blues) are too similar. Changed: Colours changed, labels slightly bigger

1 **Supplementary materials**

2 **The CLOUD Chamber**

3 The CLOUD chamber is a 3 m-diameter electropolished stainless-steel cylinder (26.1 m³). An
4 insulated thermal housing surrounds the chamber. The temperature is controlled by precisely
5 regulating the temperature of the air circulating in the space between the chamber and the
6 thermal housing. Experimental runs can be performed at highly stable temperatures (near
7 0.01 °C) between +40 °C and -70 °C. Ultra-pure synthetic air is obtained from the
8 evaporation of cryogenic liquid N₂ and liquid O₂, mixed in the ratio 79:21 (Fig. S1),
9 respectively. The air is humidified using ultra-pure water from a filtered re-circulation
10 system. Ozone is added to the chamber by UV irradiation of a small inlet flow of dry air.
11 Magnetically coupled stainless steel fans on both manhole covers serve to mix the fresh gases
12 and beam ions, and ensure uniformity inside the chamber (Voigtlander et al., 2012). Volatile
13 trace gases such as SO₂ or NH₃ are supplied from concentrated gas cylinders pressurised with
14 N₂ carrier gas. The trace gas mixtures are highly diluted using synthetic air before injection
15 into the chamber. Less volatile trace gases such as alpha-pinene (C₁₀H₁₆) are supplied from
16 temperature-controlled stainless steel evaporators using ultrapure N₂ carrier gas. In order to
17 compensate for sampling losses, there is a continuous flow of fresh gases into the chamber of
18 about 150-250 L/min, resulting in a dilution lifetime of 2-3 h. The chamber and gas system
19 are designed to operate at up to +220 mb relative pressure and to make controlled adiabatic
20 expansions down to +5 mb. In this way, starting from relative humidity near 100 %, the
21 chamber can be operated as a classical Wilson cloud chamber for studies of ion-aerosol
22 interactions with cloud droplets and ice particles. The chamber can be evacuated from +200
23 mb to +5 mb over any chosen time interval above 10 sec, in order to simulate the adiabatic
24 cooling in ascending air masses that form clouds. Multistep programmed variations of
25 pressure drop are available for cloud lifetime extension or regrowth. Two 60 cm in diameter
26 fans rotating at speeds up to 400 RPM are responsible for uniform mixing in the chamber.
27 (For more details see Duplissy et al., 2015, and Kirkby et al., 2011)

28



1

2 Fig. S1 Simplified diagram of the CLOUD chamber.

3

4 [Table S2. Lower and upper size bin thresholds in CASPOL.](#)

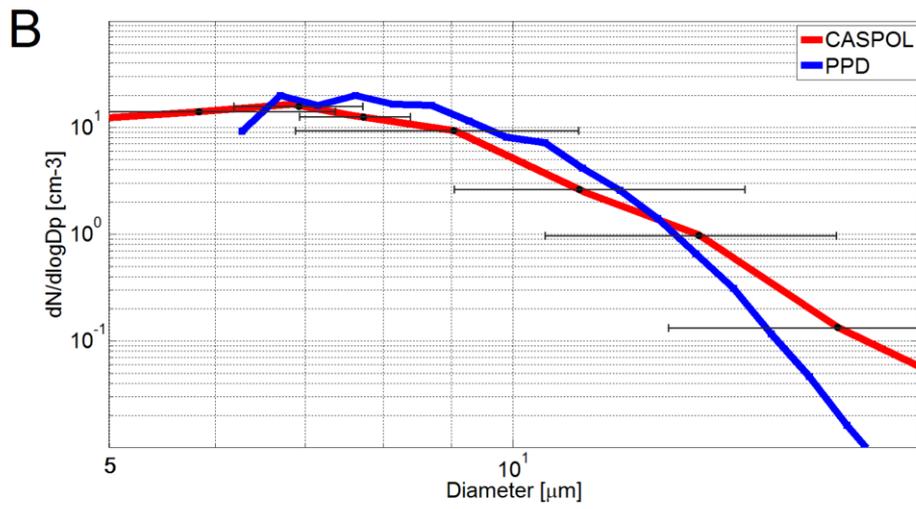
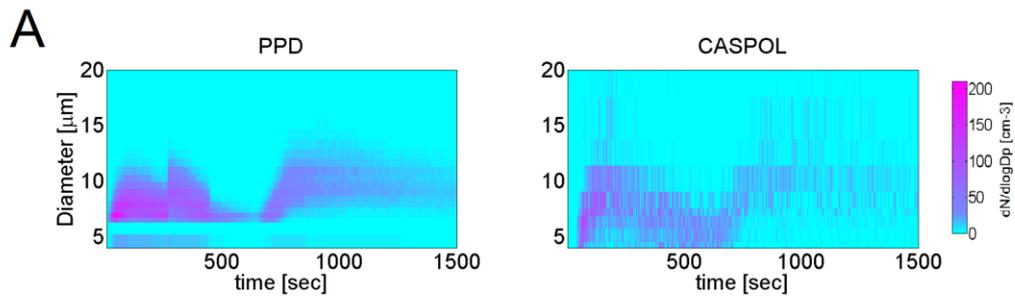
<u>Bin number</u>	<u>Bin lower threshold</u>	<u>Bin upper threshold</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>0.51</u>	<u>0.61</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>0.61</u>	<u>0.68</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>0.68</u>	<u>0.75</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>0.75</u>	<u>0.82</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>0.82</u>	<u>0.89</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>0.89</u>	<u>0.96</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>0.96</u>	<u>1.03</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>1.03</u>	<u>1.10</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>1.10</u>	<u>1.17</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>1.17</u>	<u>1.25</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>1.25</u>	<u>1.5</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2.5</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>2.5</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3.5</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>18</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6.5</u>
<u>19</u>	<u>6.5</u>	<u>7.2</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>7.2</u>	<u>7.9</u>

<u>Bin number</u>	<u>Bin lower threshold</u>	<u>Bin upper threshold</u>
<u>21</u>	<u>7.9</u>	<u>10.2</u>
<u>22</u>	<u>10.2</u>	<u>12.5</u>
<u>23</u>	<u>12.5</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>24</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>25</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>26</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>27</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>28</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>29</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>45</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>50</u>

1

2 Table [S2S3](#). CASPOL detectors have 3 gain stages in the forward scattering direction and 2
3 in the backward. Signal to size conversion requires the adjusted linearly scaled reading of
4 PBP data. Corrections to the Forward, Backward and the Dpol signals are summarized.

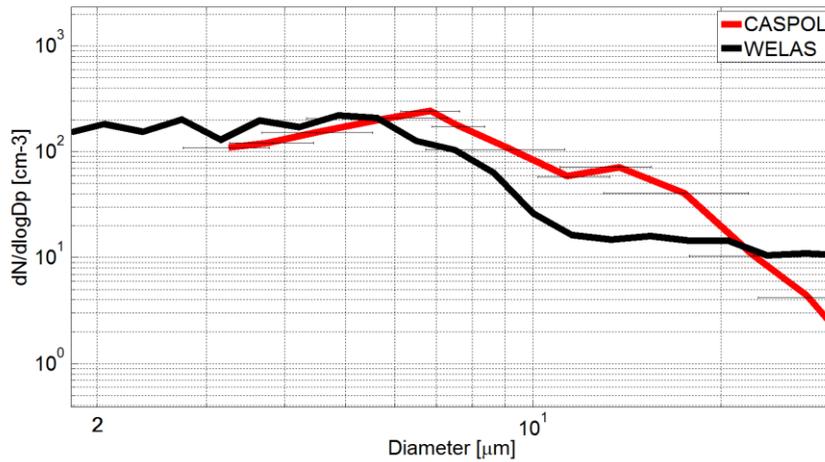
Forward signal	Adjusted Forward scattering signal
20 – 3071	20 – 3071
3072 – 6143	$([Forward\ Size] - 3071) \times 22 + 3072$
6143 – 9216	$([Forward\ Size] - 6143) \times 506 + (6143 - 3071) \times 22 + 3072$
Backward signal	Adjusted Backward scattering signal
0 – 2000	0 – 1536
2001 – 3071	$([Backward\ Signal] - 2000) \times 22 + 3072$
Dpol signal	Adjusted Dpol signal
> 2730	$([Dpol\ signal] - 2730) \times 22 + 2731$



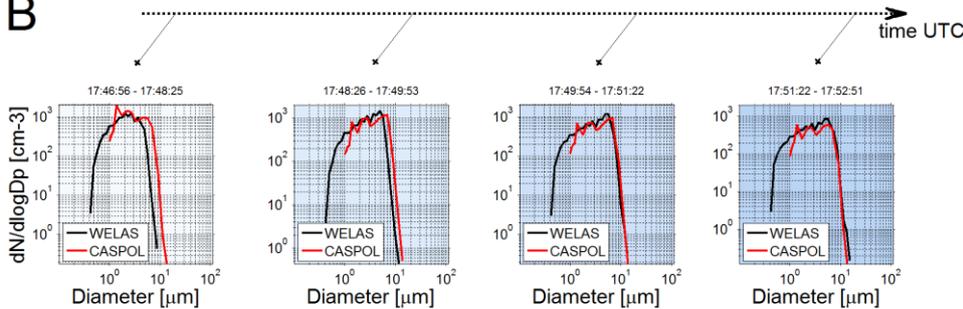
1
 2 **Fig. S3-S4** Ice measurements (-50°C) PPD-CASPOL comparison (Run # 1298.20),
 3 Represented as 'Ice - CLOUD 8' in Fig. 8 (A) PSD plots: PPD, CASPOL. (B) Total PSD for
 4 the whole run.

Comment [L.N54]: Add uncertainty to PSD in S3b. Improve axis labels so that there is more than a single number on the x-axis.

A



B



1

2 | Fig. S4–S5 Super-cooled water droplets (-10°C) (Run # 1311.03). Represented as
 3 ‘Supercooled, frozen droplets – CLOUD 8’ in Fig. 8 (A) CASPOL WELAS, total PSD
 4 comparison for the whole run (B) Comparison of sequential time frames.

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Comment [L.N55]: Add uncertainty to PSD in S4a. Improve axis labels so that there is more than a single number on the x-axis.

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