

## Response to reviewer 1

### General Comments

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*: This manuscript may advance our understanding of cirrus clouds considerably, especially in terms of homo- and heterogeneous ice nucleation and the dependence of those processes on topography, ice nuclei concentration, and aerosol concentration. However, the temperature dependence of the retrieved ice particle number concentration  $N_i$  ( $D_{min} = 5\mu m$ ) appears at variance with global in situ observations of  $N_i$ , and this should be mentioned. Some recent literature was overlooked, and by discussing the results from these other studies, the arguments made in this study will be stronger. The manuscript is well organized and well written, and the quality of the figures is good. Major and minor comments are listed below.*

**Reply:** We thank the reviewer for their useful comments and address them in turn below. The temperature dependence of  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  has been covered in more detail in the response to part 1, but it is also noted briefly in this work. When compared to the temperature dependence in Krämer et al (2009), there is indeed a strong difference between the in-situ and satellite measurements. However, as shown in the response to reviewer two of part 1, the DARDAR-LIM methodology would be able to reproduce the weak temperature dependence if it was confined to the same locations. It should also be noted that many previous studies do not target the cloud top, resulting in a weaker temperature dependence and that the Krämer study also included some cirrus formed over orography. This would make Fig. 4a the closest comparison, which has a weak (although non-zero) temperature dependence at temperatures colder than -35°C.

### Major comments

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**Page 5, lines 11-19:** *Over what temperature domain is the “glaciation index” proxy for INP applied?*

**Reply:** The glaciation index is determined using all temperatures, but in practice, only temperatures between 0°C and about -40°C contribute to the index. As ice is not found at temperatures warmer than 0°C, “warm ice” can only occur between 0°C and -20°C. Similarly “cold liquid” is only found between -20°C and -40°C.

The proxy itself is applied at temperatures colder than -35°C. We agree that this is perhaps treating the proxy in a too idealised fashion, but as stated in section 4.2, the worst case scenario is that there is no correlation between INP and the proxy, in which case there should be no relationship between the proxy and  $N_i$ . The method section has been expanded upon to make this clearer and the discussion around this has been modified to point out the possible important role of meteorological covariations.

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**Figure 1a:** *These results make sense theoretically since homogeneous ice nucleation (hom) is sensitive to temperature. But in situ measurements in the*

tropical tropopause layer (TTL) show relatively low ice particle number concentrations ( $N_i$ ,  $D_{min}=5\mu m$ ) there (e.g. Jensen et al., 2013, PNAS). Spichtinger and Krämer (2013, ACP) have offered a dynamical explanation for the relatively low TTL  $N_i$  ( $N_i < 30 L^{-1}$  typically). Since TTL cirrus appear more extensive and generally at higher altitudes than tropical anvil cirrus (Gasparini et al., 2017, J. Climate), it seems that  $N_i$  retrieved over the tropics at  $\approx -70^\circ C$  would be strongly influenced by TTL cirrus, but in Fig. 1a tropical  $N_i$  values are maximum at  $-70^\circ C$ , being  $\approx 135 L^{-1}$ . Please discuss this apparent paradox.

**Reply:** Thank you for pointing this out. Part of the issue comes from the skewed  $N_i$  distribution, such that this simple average in the plot here is strongly controlled by the higher values of  $N_i$ . The joint histograms later in the paper provide a better description of the actual number concentration values (a sentence on this has now been included where the joint histograms are introduced).

The difference in the values reported in this work may also be due to sampling differences between aircraft and the satellite retrieval. As TTL cirrus can be very thin (under 200m thick), these may occasionally be missed by the DARDAR retrieval, particularly if they have a very low  $N_i$  concentration. Similarly, it is possible that the sampling during aircraft campaigns is selective. Uncertainties in assumed parameters of the size distribution may also lead to an overestimation in  $N_i$ , as much as a factor of two, that could explain a large part of this discrepancy.

However, figures included in the response to Part 1 show that if the DARDAR retrieval is sampled in a similar manner to Krämer et al (2009), it produces a similar  $N_i$  magnitude and temperature dependence. This would give some confidence in the results of the retrieval, suggesting that a sampling difference is the primary cause of the difference between the satellite and in-situ results. This is now further discussed in section 3.2

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**Figure 1b and p. 6, lines 5-15:** *Fig. 1b is very similar to Figs. 11 and 12 in Mitchell et al. (2016, ACPD). Regarding the higher  $N_i$  over mountainous terrain outside the tropics, this finding and explanation was also reported in Mitchell et al. (2016). Although this paper was rejected since the editor felt the retrieved  $N_i$  values were too high, and therefore could not be used to infer nucleation modes, no arguments cast doubt on the spatial and temporal relative differences in  $N_i$ , which still appear meaningful. The results in Fig. 1b are more compelling when it is shown that two very different satellite retrieval techniques produce similar results in terms of the relative differences in  $N_i$ .*

**Reply:** There are a number of similarities, many thanks for pointing this out. This paper and the updated 2018 version have now been mentioned here and in a section in the discussion on the similarity between the two retrievals and the support this provides to conclusions drawn from both datasets.

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**Page 7, lines 7-8:** *Please note here that the study by Krämer et al. (2009, ACP), based on five cirrus cloud field campaigns that measured  $N_i$ , does not show a strong temperature dependence for  $N_i$ . On average,  $N_i$  slightly decreases with decreasing temperature.*

**Reply:** We agree that this is a puzzling difference between the two different datasets. This has been covered in more detail in the response to part one. While the temperature dependence in this work is different to the slight weak temperature dependence shown in Krämer et al (2009), the temperature dependence of these results is significantly weaker if only regions colder than -40C are considered. At least part of the weak temperature dependence of Krämer et al (2009) is also due to the vertical distribution of  $N_i$  within a cloud. The internal  $N_{i(top)}$  plots in Fig. 4 are much closer to the temperature dependence from Krämer et al (2009), especially in this temperature range. There also appears to be a difference due to the different sampling of the satellite and aircraft measurements (see Part 1). The discussion on this at the end of the subsection has now been improved.

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**Page 7, lines 10-11:** *Perhaps I missed something, but I am not seeing  $N_i$  as high as 100 L-1 in Fig. 2 for  $T \approx -15C$  for the orographic and convective regimes.*

**Reply:** The plots have all been modified to make them clearer and more useful. As part of this, the lower frequency of occurrence of these retrievals is now more clearly visible. The number has also been reduced to a less sensational 50L-1.

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**Page 9, lines 32-34 and page 10, line 1:** *The  $N_i$  measurements reported in Krämer et al. (2009) were sampled over the size range 3.0-30 $\mu$ m or 0.6-40 $\mu$ m diameter, which accounted for at least 80% (but typically > 90%) of the total  $N$  in a PSD. Thus, these observations can be compared with  $N_i(D_{min} = 5\mu m)$  but not with  $N_i(D_{min} = 100\mu m)$ .*

**Reply:** A very good point. The enticing direct comparison to  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  has been removed. This discussion has been improved, instead focussing on the weaker temperature dependence of the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  at temperatures colder than -35C. Further information on this has been included in the response to Part 1.

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**Page 12, lines 6-14:** *Most of this argument is not clear to me, and moreover, the physics of cirrus clouds is very complex and does not lend itself to these simple arguments. The authors are encouraged to read Spichtinger and Gierens, Part 1a and 1b (2009, ACP).*

**Reply:** We agree that this might have been a step too far. This section has now been amended to refer to the temperature and regime dependence of the peak as evidence for the impact of homogenous nucleation. The discussion of the peak providing information on updraught speed itself has been removed.

Further investigation showed that this peak is strongly temperature dependent, disappearing when clouds with colder tops are considered (plot included in supplement). Given the temperature dependence of  $N_{i(top)}$ , with an increase for temperatures colder than -35C, the impact of updraught on the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  and the relationship between MACC aerosol and  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  are all suggestive of homogeneous nucleation. This peak would be consistent with a nucleation region below the cloud top. While this is not the case in all cloud types, the size of this peak region is broadly consistent with the thicknesses of the nucleation region

noted in Jensen et al. (2016), of around 20 to 500m.

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**Page 12, lines 29-32:** *Consider citing Zhao et al. (2018, ACP), since they use satellite remote sensing and cloud modeling to demonstrate how increasing aerosol concentrations act through homogeneous ice nucleation to decrease the effective radius in cirrus clouds (note that decreasing  $r_e$  often corresponds with increasing  $N_i$ ).*

**Reply:** Many thanks for pointing this out. This paper has been included, along with Jiang et al, ACP, 2011 and Chylek et al, GRL, 2006, which also provide evidence of a variation in crystal size with changing aerosol environments.

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**Page 15, lines 12-13:** *Does not a higher INP concentration promote a LOWER supercooled liquid fraction over Siberia?*

**Reply:** This has been amended to point out that the supercooled fraction is lower than expected, given the lack of high level dust in this region.

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**Page 15, lines 29-32:** *The study by Zhao et al. (2018, ACP) may be of interest, since they demonstrate that the relationship between cirrus cloud effective radius ( $r_e$ ) and column aerosol optical depth (column AOD) and the relationship between  $r_e$  and the cirrus cloud layer dust AOD are similar. That is, for the region and time of study, there was a correlation between dust aerosols affecting cirrus clouds and the atmospheric column integrated AOD.*

**Reply:** Many thanks for pointing this out. A reference to this work has been included here and the discussion has been slightly expanded to include other studies of aerosol vertical autocorrelation.

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**Page 16, lines 10-14:** *The “negative Twomey effect” described here was also observed in the satellite remote sensing study by Zhao et al. (2018, ACP).*

**Reply:** This is now noted.

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**Page 17, lines 3-9:** *It should be noted here that this argument assumes relatively glaciated conditions at -20 C are indicative of relatively high INP concentrations for  $T < -50$  C, which is stretching this assumption quite far.*

**Reply:** We agree that this is quite a stretch, but in the worst case this would produce no correlation between this INP proxy and the  $N_i$ . The end of this paragraph has now been modified to note this. There is some evidence of significant vertical autocorrelation in aerosol (Weigum, 2014; Stier, 2016), but the applicability of this proxy will be an area of future investigation.

## Minor Comments

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**Page 8, lines 4-5:** *By “increased homogeneous nucleation directly into the ice phase”, are you referring to the freezing of aqueous haze aerosol particles?*

**Reply:** Amended

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**Page 9, lines 2-3:** *Note that CCN do not need to be activated (i.e. cloud droplets) for homogeneous freezing; they can be dissolved as unactivated haze*

droplets (Koop et al., 2000, *Nature*). Perhaps this was the intention of this sentence, but it was not clear.

**Reply:** Thank you for pointing this out. The sentence has been amended

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**Page 9, lines 6-7:** Barahona and Nenes (2008, *JGR*) are another good reference for demonstrating “the updraught limited nature of many cirrus clouds” regarding homogeneous ice nucleation.

**Reply:** Included

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**Page 12, line 4:** Should “part one” be “Part 1”?

**Reply:** Amended

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**Figure 7:** The “b” label is missing on this figure.

**Reply:** Amended

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**Page 19, line 23:** Suggest modifying sentence to read: studies based on satellite remote sensing, in situ, theoretical and modeling results.

**Reply:** Amended

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**Page 19, lines 28-29:** Good citations for this sentence are Diao et al. (2017, *JGR*), showing observational evidence for ice nucleation near cloud top, and Spichtinger and Gierens (2009, *ACP*), showing modeling evidence for this, and how nucleation rate profiles vary with updraft speed.

**Reply:** Amended

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**Page 20, line 11:**  $A \Rightarrow At$ ?

**Reply:** Amended

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## Response to reviewer 2

### General Comments:

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: This paper uses the ice concentration retrievals described in Part 1 of the 2-part paper to investigate the relationships between ice concentration and both meteorological variables and aerosol properties. As described below, I have serious concerns with the paper as it is written, I do not think all of the conclusions are justified by the analysis presented, and I believe major revisions are required.

**Reply:** We thank the reviewer for their useful comments and address them in turn below

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**1. Citations:** Examples where appropriate citations are omitted abound throughout the paper. Perhaps the authors are not familiar with the literature regarding cirrus ice concentrations, in which case I suggest the authors do a thorough literature search and cite appropriate papers. A few examples of missing references are provided here:

- Page 1, lines 17-18: Numerous observational and modeling papers have been written by U.S. scientists on the issue of aerosol impacts on liquid clouds, but only European studies are cited here (two by co-authors of this paper!).
- Page 1, line 19: Regarding the impact of aerosols on high clouds, again only one European paper has been cited, but there are many appropriate U.S. scientist-led papers (e.g., Jensen et al., 2016, JAS; Gettelman et al. papers; J. Penner group papers; etc.).
- Page 2, line 8: In addition to the Korolev reference earlier papers (McFarquhar et al., 2007, GRL; Jensen et al., 2009, ACP) should be cited.
- Page 2, lines 15-16: The climatology of ice concentrations published by Krämer et al. (2009) was based on a very limited set of measurements, particularly at low temperatures. Measurements from the ATTREX campaign near the tropical tropopause showed much higher ice concentrations at very cold temperatures (Jensen et al., 2013, PNAS; Jensen et al., 2016, JAS). Likewise, the ice concentrations shown by Muhlbauer et al. (2014) were perhaps biased by the limited sampling from a single campaign. The ice concentrations measured during MACPEX with a similar amount of data in the same geographical region and time of year showed the opposite trend with temperature (Jensen et al., 2013, JGR).
- Page 2, lines 33-34: The dominance of dynamics has been pointed out in numerous other modeling studies (e.g., Jensen et al., 2013, JGR; Jensen et al., 2016, JAS; DeMott et al., 1997, JGR).
- Page 3, line 8: DeMott et al. (1997, JGR) should also be cited here.
- Page 3, lines 13-14: Jensen et al. (2016, JAS) should also be cited here.

- Page 3, line 25: Again, McFarquhar et al. (2007, GRL) and Jensen et al. (2009, ACP) should be cited here.
- Page 6, line 7: Barahona et al. (2017, Nature) should also be cited here.
- Page 8, line 12: A number of earlier papers showed high ice concentrations in wave clouds (e.g., Jensen et al., 1998, GRL; Baker and Lawson, 2006, JAS).

**Reply:** Many thanks for pointing this out. The oversight of U.S. scientists was not intentional, the papers picked in the brief section on liquid clouds were intended to be only a selection of papers that highlighted the central role of  $N_d$  for generating observational constraints of the aerosol impact on liquid clouds. This was a significant oversight which has hopefully now been remedied to better indicate the international composition of this field. Many thanks for the suggested omitted references, these have now been included in the revised version.

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**Page 3, lines 18-22:** *Small-scale wave-driven vertical motions actually have been characterized by a number of aircraft measurements and super-pressure balloon measurements (e.g., Podglajen et al., 2016, GRL; Podglajen et al., 2017, JAS)*

**Reply:** Included

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**Page 3, lines 27-28:** *As noted in at least one of the referee comments on the Sourdeval et al. Part 1. paper, the ice concentration retrievals in regions with only lidar or only radar signals are highly suspect and insufficiently evaluated by comparison with in situ observations. This issue calls into question the results from this paper (Part 2.).*

**Reply:** This has been primarily addressed in the comments for Part 1. In summary, there is less information available in the lidar only or radar only portions of the cloud such that these retrievals would have a higher error. However, this does not translate into a strong bias against the in-situ measurements, although there is still significant scatter in the comparison.

Part of the weak impact of the lidar-only regions on the overall statistics comes from the clouds where only a lidar signal is received. These clouds tend to have a monomodal size distribution, such that although the large crystals are poorly characterised by the lidar, they are not present in significant enough numbers to bias the  $N_i$  retrieval. Surprisingly, the retrievals in the lidar only- portions of the cloud may even be more accurate due to the simpler shape of the  $N_i$  size distribution.

The impact of a transition between lidar-only and lidar-radar data is expanded in the section on the vertical distribution of  $N_i$ , as this is the section where it would play the clearest role, although this is also now referenced in the discussion.

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**Page 4, lines 11-13:** *The cloud-top region only represents the conditions near nucleation zones during a short time period just after the transient, localized nucleation events. Differential sedimentation and entrainment rapidly reduce ice*

concentrations thereafter (e.g., Jensen et al., 2013, JGR). Only in wave clouds is it possible to know where the nucleation zone is located.

**Reply:** This is a good point, we have modified the description here to note that although the nucleation region is sometime located at cloud top, this is not always the case. However, as the coldest part of the cloud, the cloud top is the location of the theoretical maximum nucleation rate and so is a useful method for reducing the impact of temperature variability due to the vertical extent of the cloud. As is noted in the vertical  $N_i$  structure section, the highest  $N_i$  values are rarely found directly at the cloud top, but they are usually located within 500m of the cloud top.

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**Page 4, lines 20-22:** *The classification scheme relies on MODIS data at 13:30 local solar time. So, are the ice concentrations in the remainder of the analysis restricted to times near this local time?*

**Reply:** This analysis uses only daytime data, which restricts it to the 13:30 LST time of the classification scheme through the orbit of the satellites used to construct the DARDAR-LIM dataset. This is now mentioned in the methods section.

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**Page 4, lines 32-33:** *Actually abundant recent laboratory experiments have shown that organic-containing aerosols (which are abundant in the upper troposphere) will likely be in a glassy state at low temperatures (e.g., Murray, 2008, ACP; Zobrist et al., 2008, J. Phys Chem.). The aerosols will likely be in a glassy state both at midlatitude and tropical upper troposphere conditions (Wilson et al., 2012, ACP).*

**Reply:** Thank you for pointing this out. A note on glassy organic aerosol has now been included in this section of the methods and is discussed further in the section on liquid aerosol and  $N_{i(top)}$ .

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**Page 5, lines 29-30:** *Ice concentrations produced by heterogeneous nucleation should also increase with decreasing temperature. As shown by numerous laboratory and field studies, ice nuclei abundance increases with decreasing temperature (e.g., DeMott et al., 2010, PNAS).*

**Reply:** A note to this effect has been included in this paragraph. In addition, the gridline in the temperature-number histograms have been modified to show the number of INP from the Demott (2010) parametrisation as a function of temperature to further illustrate this effect.

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**Figures 2 and 3, and discussion thereof:** *It would be very helpful to provide a brief review of the regime classification from Gryspeerdt et al. (2017). In fact, it is impossible to evaluate the results shown in Figure 3 without knowing the different definitions of ORO 1 and ORO 2.*

**Reply:** Thank you for pointing this out. An brief explanation of the regimes has now been included in the methods section.

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**Figure 2 discussion:** *The differences in  $N_i$  frequency distributions between different regimes are actually very slight, and I think they are somewhat exaggerated*



in the discussion. The main feature apparent in Figure 2 is a clear temperature dependence that is nearly identical in all of the regimes.

**Reply:** We agree that the differences between the regimes are smaller than the temperature dependence within them. However, there are strong differences between the regimes, as shown by Fig. 3. A separate subplot has been added to Fig. 3, showing the difference between the frontal and synoptic regimes, an even larger change than found amongst the orographic regimes. While this is less clearly due to updraught, it is likely related, demonstrating the important differences between the regimes.

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**Figure 2 discussion:** The text discusses a peak at temperatures just colder than  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This peak is very subtle in most of the regimes, and in fact it occurs closer to  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Therefore, I do not believe the assertion that there is a clear transition at the liquid water homogeneous freezing temperature (about  $-38^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) is justified. If anything, such a transition would be smeared toward warmer temperatures by ice crystal sedimentation rather than shifted toward colder temperatures as apparent in Figure 2.

**Reply:** We agree that the effect is very subtle in some of the regimes, but we consider this supporting evidence for the impact of homogeneous freezing, as the transition is stronger in regimes with a higher expected updraught (Fig. 3).

By using the cloud top temperature and  $N_i$ , this means that the temperature given is the coldest temperature in that cloud. As such, that transition cannot be smeared to warmer temperatures, as these clouds cannot achieve the temperatures necessary for homogenous freezing of liquid droplets or haze. However, even if this was an effect that took place purely at  $-38^{\circ}\text{C}$ , it would likely still be visible in clouds with tops significantly colder than this temperature as updraughts carry the tops higher. This would result in the effect being smeared to colder temperatures, as is observed in Fig. 2.

The weak difference between the Oro2 and Oro1 regimes (expected to differ primarily by updraught environment) warmer than  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$  is another indicator of the role of homogenous processes (Fig. 3). There is no process in the retrieval that changes at this temperature other than the phase classification. We therefore feel that the clear transition in both panels of this figure is a strong indicator of homogenous freezing of either liquid droplets or haze.

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**Figure 3::** What are the units for the change in occurrence?

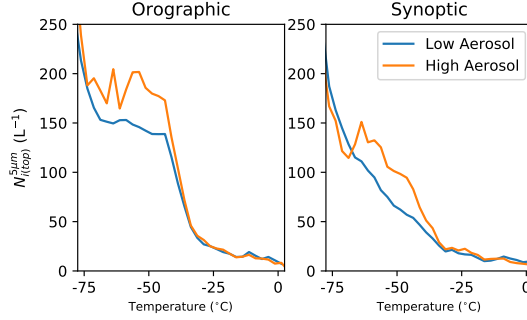
**Reply:** Change in absolute percentage occurrence. This has now been added to the figure

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**Section 4.1:** As shown by previous modeling studies (e.g., Kärcher and Lohmann, 2002), the sensitivity of ice concentrations produced by homogeneous freezing of aqueous aerosol to aerosol abundance should be weak. Furthermore, it is entirely possible that  $N_i$  frequency distribution differences shown in Figure 6 with different aerosol loadings are simply a result of co-varying meteorology. For example, aerosol loading and ice concentrations could both be enhanced in regions with relatively strong mesoscale updrafts. In recent years, de-convolving the effects of co-varying meteorology has become a requirement for attributing changes in

cloud properties to variations in aerosol properties. The same standard should be applied here. Either compelling evidence should be provided showing that the apparent changes in  $N_i$  with aerosol loading are not caused by co-varying meteorology or the entire discussion in section 4.2 should be removed.

**Reply:** The results shown here do not differ strongly from the changes proposed by Kärcher and Lohmann. Although there is a clear relationship to MACC aerosol in Fig. 6, the actual change in  $N_i$  this implies is relatively small, especially for such a large aerosol perturbation. The mean  $N_{i(top)}$  values are shown in the attached plot, but it is clear to see a strong increase in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  for the orographic regime at about -38C. The difference related to the MACC aerosol is only visible at temperatures warmer than this, but there is around a 25% increase in the  $N_{i(top)}$  for a large change in aerosol. At around -50C, this would require an updraught larger than around 1ms<sup>-1</sup>. This is large, but still plausible for the orographic and convective regimes (Gryspeydt et al., 2017).



While these results demonstrate plausible properties and have a sensible magnitude for an aerosol effect, we are very aware that this is only an observed relationship and that we have not been able to demonstrate causality. Work is currently underway to investigate this, but conclusively showing this in an observational study such as this is near impossible. As such, the section on meteorological covariations in the discussion has been highlighted and it is now mentioned in the results section. However, these results should not be removed from this work purely because they have not met the incredibly high bar of proving causality. It is useful to know that the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  and reanalysis aerosol are correlated and as mentioned in the discussion section, there is reasonable cause to believe that in-cloud updraughts are not the cause of the observed aerosol- $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  relationship as they are poorly simulated in MACC.

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**Page 15, lines 14-19:** *This paragraph starts by stating there is a strong correlation between occurrence of supercooled liquid and the mass concentration of reanalysis dust, then qualifications to this statement are made to acknowledge the lack of correlation in some regions. It would be clearer (and less misleading) to just state that correlations are only apparent in some regions.*

**Reply:** This paragraph has now been re-worded to following this suggestion.

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**Section 4.2.2:** *The same issue about co-varying meteorology discussed above for section 4.1 applies here. Again, either a clear demonstration that co-varying meteorology is not the cause of the correlations needs to be provided, or the section should be removed.*

**Reply:** Following the above discussion, we have amended to discussion to make it clear that co-variation could be the cause for this relationship, rewording the second half of this section.

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**Section 5:** *The same issue about co-varying meteorology discussed above for section 4.1 applies here. Again, either a clear demonstration that co-varying meteorology is no the cause of the correlations needs to be provided, or the section should be removed.*

**Reply:** Following the above discussion, we have modified some of the discussion about the possible impact of meteorological covariations, but we do not feel that it is necessary to remove this section for the reasons outlined above.

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**Discussion and Conclusions sections:** *The authors should remove unjustified conclusions. See comments above regarding a transition at the homogeneous freezing threshold, dust impacts, and co-varying meteorology.*

**Reply:** Thanks to the reviewers comments, we believe we have better justified some of these conclusions. However, as they note, it is not possible to rule out the impact of meteorological covariations in a study such as this one. As such, we have included a better discussion on this impact and modified the conclusions in this area to highlight the need to clearly isolate the aerosol effects from possible meteorological covariations.

# Bibliography

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# Ice crystal number concentration estimates from lidar-radar satellite ~~retrievals~~remote sensing. Part 2: Controls on the ice crystal number concentration

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**Abstract.** The ice crystal number concentration ( $N_i$ ) is a key property of ice clouds, both radiatively and microphysically. However, due to sparse in-situ measurements of ice cloud properties, the controls on the  $N_i$  have remained difficult to determine. As more advanced treatments of ice clouds are included in global models, it is becoming increasingly necessary to develop strong observational constraints on the processes involved.

5 This work uses the DARDAR-LIM  $N_i$  retrieval described in part one to investigate the controls of the  $N_i$  at a global scale. The retrieved clouds are separated by type. The effects of temperature, proxies for in-cloud updraught and aerosol concentrations are investigated. Variations in the cloud top  $N_i$  ( $N_{i(top)}$ ) consistent with both homogeneous and heterogeneous nucleation are observed and along with ~~a possible role of aerosol both increasing and decreasing the~~ differing relationships between aerosol  
and  $N_{i(top)}$  depending on the prevailing meteorological situation and aerosol type. Away from the cloud top, the  $N_i$  displays a  
10 different sensitivity to these controlling factors, providing a possible explanation to the low  $N_i$  sensitivity to temperature and INP observed in previous in-situ studies.

This satellite dataset provides a new way of investigating the response of cloud properties to meteorological and aerosol controls. The results presented in this work increase our confidence in the retrieved  $N_i$  and will form the basis for further study into the processes influencing ice and mixed phase clouds.

## 15 1 Introduction

Clouds play a central role in the Earth's energy budget, being responsible for large variations in the reflected shortwave and emitted longwave radiation (Stephens et al., 2012). The response of clouds to changing greenhouse gases and aerosols remains one of the largest uncertainties in understanding past and future climate changes (Boucher et al., 2013). Significant advances  
(~~eg. Quaas et al., 2009; Seifert et al., 2015; Gryspeerdt et al., 2016~~) have been made into modelling and observing the role of  
20 aerosols in liquid clouds ~~;(e.g. Wang et al., 2011; Wood et al., 2011; Seifert et al., 2015; Gettelman, 2015; Ghan et al., 2016; Zuidema et al., 2016)~~

, especially through the use of retrievals of the cloud droplet number concentration (e.g. Quaas et al., 2008; Gryspeerdt et al., 2016) but the impact of aerosols on high clouds remains uncertain (Heyn et al., 2017) (Gettelman et al., 2012; Jensen et al., 2016; Zhou et al., 2017). A large part of this uncertainty comes from the difficulty in retrieving cirrus cloud properties at a large enough scale to separate the roles of individual factors controlling the ice crystal number concentration ( $N_i$ ).

- 5 A key microphysical property of ice clouds, the  $N_i$  links the aerosol environment to dynamic effects driving cloud updraughts and the generation of supersaturation (Pruppacher and Klett, 1997). Through changes in the ice crystal size, changes in the  $N_i$  can have far-reaching implications for a cloud, impacting the radiative (Liou, 1986; Fusina et al., 2007), precipitation and cloud lifetime properties (Lindsey and Fromm, 2008). ~~Given the importance of the~~ The  $N_i$ , it is often used as a prognostic variable in two moment cloud microphysics schemes (e.g. Lohmann et al., 2007; Salzmänn et al., 2010). This
- 10 highlights a requirement to understand the controls on the  $N_i$  for improving our understanding and parametrisation of cloud processes. While aircraft measurements of the  $N_i$  exist, they are restricted in space and time. They can be affected by shattering of ice crystals at the instrument inlet (~~Korolev et al., 2013~~) (McFarquhar et al., 2007; Jensen et al., 2009; Korolev et al., 2013) and difficulties in measuring the smallest crystals (O’Shea et al., 2016). In this paper, the new DARDAR-LIM satellite dataset described in part one (Sourdeval et al., submitted) allows the processes that control the  $N_i$  to be investigated globally.
- 15 It is known that the temperature plays a strong role in determining the ice crystal nucleation rate. The homogeneous nucleation rate is a strong function of temperature and supersaturation (Koop et al., 2000), with atmospherically relevant nucleation only taking place at temperatures colder than 235 K. This strong temperature dependence in the nucleation rate does not necessarily correspond to a strong temperature dependence in the  $N_i$  (Heymsfield and Miloshevich, 1993). A weak  $N_i$  temperature dependence was found by Gayet et al. (2004). Krämer et al. (2009) found similar results, with a slight reduction
- 20 in the  $N_i$  for the coldest measurements. ~~Using a different dataset, Muhlbauer et al. (2014)~~ Higher  $N_i$  values have been observed at cold temperatures during ATTREX (Jensen et al., 2013a, 2016) than in Krämer et al. (2009), leading to a weak combined temperature dependence. However, using different datasets targeting different cloud types, Muhlbauer et al. (2014) and Jensen et al. (2013b) both showed an increase in  $N_i$  with decreasing temperature, ~~concentrating primarily on synoptic and frontal cirrus~~ demonstrating that there is still considerable uncertainty in the  $N_i$  temperature dependence.
- 25 The in-situ homogeneous nucleation of ice crystals is also dependent on the supersaturation (Koop et al., 2000; Lohmann and Kärcher, 2002), which is often generated through cooling due to vertical air motion. Large scale updraughts cannot reproduce observed cirrus properties on their own, the smaller scale variation in updraught provided by gravity waves is necessary (Kärcher and Ström, 2003) and is occasionally able to produce cirrus in regions of large scale subsidence (Muhlbauer et al., 2014). These small scale updraughts can produce  $N_i$  values as high as  $50,000 \text{ L}^{-1}$  (Hoyle et al., 2005), highlighting the important
- 30 role that vertical motion can play in determining the  $N_i$ .

Although ice can form by in-situ nucleation, many ice crystals also form through the freezing of liquid condensate. This liquid-origin cirrus often originates from high updraught regions in mixed-phase clouds, forming thicker cirrus than those composed of in-situ ice (Krämer et al., 2016; Luebke et al., 2016). Synoptic-scale updraughts can also produce liquid-origin cirrus in the mid-latitudes (Wernli et al., 2016). The  $N_i$  formed through these liquid-origin processes is also strongly dependent

on the cloud-scale updraughts, with higher updraughts maintaining higher ice supersaturations and producing larger  $N_i$  values (Kärcher and Seifert, 2016; Kärcher, 2017).

Aerosol also plays a role in determining the  $N_i$ , although its impact is complicated by variations in ice crystal nucleation pathways and aerosol properties. While any particle can theoretically act as a homogeneous nucleation centre given a high enough supersaturation, in practice these aerosols are often hydrophilic liquid aerosols (Kojima et al., 2004). Increases in the aerosol number can result in an increase in  $N_i$  through increased homogeneous nucleation. However, in many situations, the  $N_i$  is limited by dynamical concerns, limiting the impact of aerosols (Lohmann and Kärcher, 2002; Kay and Wood, 2008) (Demott et al., 1997; Lohmann and Kärcher, 2002; Kay and Wood, 2008; Barahona and Nenes, 2008; Jensen et al., 2013a, 2016)

A second class of aerosols, known as ice nucleating particles (INP) are able to nucleate ice heterogeneously and can freeze liquid water droplets at temperatures warmer than 235 K. At these warmer temperatures, the presence of INP will often control the  $N_i$  near nucleation locations (Kärcher and Lohmann, 2003), as they form the sites for creating an ice crystal, although the nucleating ability of these INP is also a strong function of temperature (Hoose and Möhler, 2012). As heterogeneous nucleation can take place at a lower supersaturation than homogeneous nucleation, the introduction of INP has the ability to prevent homogeneous nucleation by depressing the supersaturation. As the  $N_i$  produced through homogeneous nucleation events is typically higher than the INP concentration (and so the  $N_i$  from heterogeneous nucleation), this implies that the introduction of INP into a clean atmosphere can reduce the  $N_i$  (Kärcher and Lohmann, 2003) (Demott et al., 1997; Kärcher and Lohmann, 2003). In-situ (Gayet et al., 2004) and satellite studies (Chylek et al., 2006) have provided some evidence for a possible decrease in  $N_i$  with increasing aerosol based on regional and hemispheric differences in ice crystal properties, although has proved difficult to conclusively link these  $N_i$  changes to a change in INP.

The relative role of heterogeneous and homogeneous nucleation in the atmosphere is unclear, making it difficult to develop observational constraints on the impact of aerosols on the  $N_i$  (e.g. Cziezo et al., 2013; Gasparini and Lohmann, 2016; Kärcher and Seifert, 2016) (e.g. Cziezo et al., 2013; Gasparini and Lohmann, 2016; Kärcher and Seifert, 2016; Jensen et al., 2016). In addition, changing conditions over the lifecycle of a cloud can result in a switch between nucleation mechanisms (Krämer et al., 2016) and nucleation is not the only control on the  $N_i$ . The rarity of INP suggests that other processes, such as ice multiplication, are required to explain the  $N_i$  observed in the lower atmosphere (Heymsfield et al., 2017).

These four factors (temperature, supersaturation/updraught, ice origin and aerosol environment) are all thought to influence the  $N_i$  in high clouds, but there remain significant uncertainties in assessing the role of these factors on the  $N_i$ . First, although they have been investigated using aircraft and balloon measurements (Podglajen et al., 2016, 2017), the ice origin and in-cloud updraught are difficult to determine from observations at a large spatial and temporal scale global scale and over a significant period of time. A recent classification (Gryspeerdt et al., 2017b) has shown some skill at determining these quantities when compared to a convection permitting model and is used in this work to account for this issue.

Second, the  $N_i$  is a difficult property to measure at a global scale. Aircraft measurements are limited in space and time and have been afflicted by shattering of crystals on the tips of measurement probes, casting doubt on some earlier measurements of the  $N_i$  (Korolev et al., 2013) (McFarquhar et al., 2007; Jensen et al., 2009; Korolev et al., 2013). Additionally, due to the highly

variable nature of cirrus clouds and their strong sensitivity to environmental conditions, it can be difficult to separate the relative roles of aerosol and dynamics (Gayet et al., 2004).

The retrieval presented in part one of this work (Sourdeval et al., submitted) has demonstrated that the  $N_i$  can be retrieved using a combined radar-lidar retrieval and that this compares well to new in-situ aircraft measurements where shattering is accounted for. Combined with simultaneous retrievals of the ice water content, this allows the global distribution of the  $N_i$  and the factors that control it to be investigated. Using reanalysis aerosol concentrations and a proxy for the INP concentration, the impact of aerosols on high clouds is also investigated, highlighting avenues for future research into cirrus cloud processes.

## 2 Methods

The  $N_i$  dataset used in this work (DARDAR-LIM) has been described in detail in part one of this work (Sourdeval et al., submitted), so only the main features are outlined here. The DARDAR-LIM product is based on the DARDAR retrieval (Delanoë and Hogan, 2010), a combined raDAR-liDAR retrieval of ice cloud water content (IWC) and ice crystal effective radius using data from the CloudSat and CALIPSO satellites at approximately 13:30 local solar time. Only daytime data from the period 2006-2013 is used in this work due to constraints in the reanalysis data availability. The properties are retrieved at a horizontal resolution of 1.7 km and a vertical resolution of 60 m. Both the DARDAR IWC and the DARDAR-LIM  $N_i$  retrieval compare favourably to in-situ aircraft data (Deng et al., 2013; Sourdeval et al., submitted), with the best agreement at temperatures below  $-30^\circ\text{C}$ , where the retrievals are more accurate due to the dominance of uni-modal ice crystal size distributions and reduced ambiguity in the cloud phase.

To investigate the controls on ice crystal nucleation, a more in-depth study is performed of the  $N_i$  near the cloud top ( $N_{i(top)}$ ). As the cloud top is the location of the coldest temperature in the cloud, it ~~provides a consistent location~~ has the highest theoretical nucleation rates. Although the cloud top is close to the nucleation ~~sites within a cloud. This region~~ region in wave clouds (e.g. Spichtinger and Gierens, 2009a), this is not always the case and the  $N_{i(top)}$  can be rapidly reduced by differential sedimentation and entrainment (e.g. Jensen et al., 2013a). However, as the coldest temperature, it provides a limitation on the maximum nucleated  $N_i$  within the cloud, limiting the impact of temperature variability due to the vertical extent of the cloud. The cloud top is taken to be the top 120 m of the cloud and only the uppermost cloud layer (in multi-layer situations) is used to avoid issues with ice being seeded by ice crystals falling from overlying layers. The data is also restricted to locations where the retrieval has gone through at least two iterations, limiting the impact of prior assumptions about the cloud structure.

Four main controls on the  $N_{i(top)}$  are considered in this work: temperature, cloud-scale updraught, ice origin and aerosol. Temperature data in this study is taken from the ECMWF ERA Interim reanalysis (Dee et al., 2011). Information about the cloud-scale updraughts and the ice-origin (liquid/ice) cannot yet be obtained directly at a global scale using satellites. To provide an indication of these cloud properties, the classification from Gryspeerdt et al. (2017b) is used. This classification is based on the assumed cirrus source (orographic, frontal, convective or synoptic) and determined at 13:30 local solar time using cloud retrievals from the MODIS instrument (Platnick et al., 2017) and reanalysis data. This classification selects orographic clouds by assuming the product of the topographic variation and the windspeed is related to the in-cloud updraught, similar



to global climate model parametrisations (e.g. Joos et al., 2008). The Oro2 and Oro1 regimes are the ones with the highest and second highest sextiles of the parametrised in-cloud updraught. Frontal and convective regimes are selected as connected regions of high level cloud that intersect with reanalysis fronts and regions of large-scale updraught respectively. Finally, the synoptic regime is taken as a residual, with clouds being considered synoptic if they do not fit any of the other classes.

5 Through comparisons with convection permitting model data and classifications based on reanalysis data, this classification has been shown to provide useful information on the cloud scale updraughts and the ice origin. While not a direct retrieval these properties, it does allow some inferences to be made regarding the response of the  $N_i$  to these factors. The results in this paper are restricted to daytime data, which in turn restricts it to 13:30 LST due to the orbit of the satellites used to construct the DARDAR-LIM dataset.

10 To investigate a possible aerosol link to  $N_i$ , we use the “monitoring atmospheric composition and climate” (MACC) aerosol re-analysis product (Morcrette et al., 2009; Benedetti et al., 2009), which assimilates MODIS aerosol optical depth (AOD) retrievals into the ECMWF integrated forecast system. The MACC product provides altitude information for aerosols along with speciation information. Although the MACC speciation has not yet been validated, the MODIS cloud droplet number concentration shows a stronger sensitivity to hydrophilic aerosol types than the hydrophobic ones, suggesting that the MACC speciation  
15 conveys useful information about the aerosol type (Gryspeerd et al., 2016). Further from sources, where ageing and other assumptions come into play, the speciation may be less accurate. In the upper troposphere, liquid aerosol is thought to be the dominant aerosol component (Kojima et al., 2004). ~~As such, this,~~ although recent studies have noted that glassy organic aerosols re abundant in the upper atmosphere and can act as INP at temperatures below -55°C (Murray, 2008; Wilson et al., 2012). This work takes the MACC total mass concentration ~~, with~~ (high (low) aerosol  
20 ~~being defined as being is~~ more (less) than  $6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), with the caveat that this measure of aerosol may shift towards a measure of INP at the coldest temperatures considered in this work.

The response of the  $N_i$  to aerosol is likely to vary by aerosol type (Pruppacher and Klett, 1997). Although MACC provides a dust speciation, it is not clear whether this can be used to determine the presence of INP. Previous studies have suggested that high altitude aerosol may be responsible for glaciating clouds between 0°C and -35°C (Choi et al., 2010; Kanitz et al., 2011;  
25 Zhang et al., 2012; Tan et al., 2014). Based on this previous work, the glaciation of clouds between 0°C and -35°C is used as a proxy for the occurrence of INP.

Cloud phase is determined using the DARDAR phase detection algorithm (v1.1.4; Delanoë and Hogan, 2010). This uses the different response of lidar backscatter and radar reflectivity to liquid and ice hydrometeors to identify glaciated clouds. Clouds with a peak in lidar backscatter at the cloud top are treated as liquid or mixed phase and those with only a strong radar return  
30 are treated as glaciated. Experience suggests that the retrieved phase can be unreliable for clouds less than 600 m thick, so these are excluded from this part of the analysis.

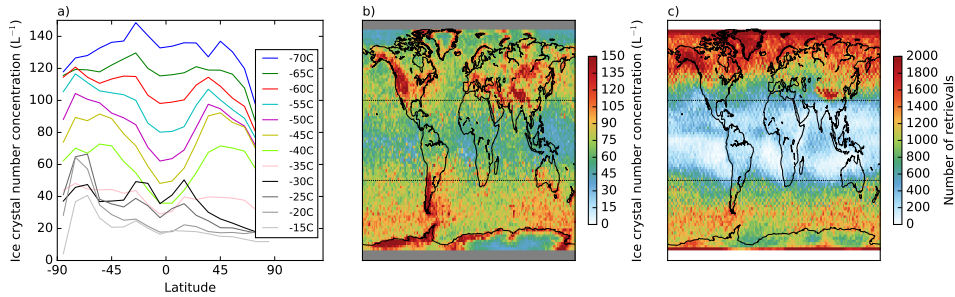
Using this cloud top phase product, a “glaciation index” is developed ~~for the mixed phase region~~ using the phase retrievals between 0 and -35°C. As approximately half of cloud tops are glaciated at -20°C, glaciated clouds with a top temperature warmer than -20°C are identified as “warm ice”, and liquid topped clouds colder than -20°C are correspondingly “cold liquid”.  
35 The “warm ice” pixels are taken to indicate the presence of INP within 100 km (the approximate spatial scale of aerosol

variability from Weigum et al., 2012), whilst the “cold liquid” ones are taken to indicate a relatively INP-free environment. If both (or neither) are detected within 100km, that pixel is excluded from the analysis. The cloud phase is only used for the uppermost cloud layer when determining this INP proxy to reduce the impact of overlying ice clouds seeding ice in lower layers. In addition, regions with nearby higher cloud layers (those within a 10:1 glide-slope) are also excluded from the “glaciation index”. To reduce the impact of random errors in the phase retrieval, two or more neighbouring pixels are required for a detection of “warm ice” or “cold liquid”. This “glaciation index” is produced for each DARDAR vertical profile and is then used as a proxy for the occurrence of INP at temperatures colder than -35°C in that profile. The use of cloud glaciation as an INP proxy for colder temperatures in the atmosphere assumes that cloud glaciation is correlated to INP between 0 and -35°C and that there is sufficient vertical correlation in INP occurrence. These assumptions are discussed in section 4.2.1.

This combination of reanalysis temperature and aerosol data, along with previously determined clouds regimes and a proxy for INP are used globally for daytime data over the period 2006-2013 to investigate the role of different processes on the  $N_i$ .

### 3 Results

#### 3.1 Global $N_{i(top)}$ distribution



**Figure 1.** a) The zonal mean DARDAR-LIM cloud top  $N_i$  ( $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ ) for crystals larger than  $5\mu m$  as a function of temperature from DARDAR-LIM data for the period 2006-2013. Temperatures warmer than  $-35^\circ C$  are in greyscale. b) The mean  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  at  $-50^\circ C$ . Grey indicates missing data. c) The number of cloud top retrievals at  $-50^\circ C$ . Zonal means and maps of  $N_i$  are available in part one.

The global  $N_{i(top)}$  distribution for crystals larger than  $5\mu m$  ( $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ ) displays several features that highlight the role of different cloud processes in controlling the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ . The zonal mean  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  (Fig. 1a) shows a strong temperature dependence, with significant increases in the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  as the temperature decreases from a mean of around  $40 L^{-1}$  at  $-35^\circ C$  to almost  $140 L^{-1}$  at  $-70^\circ C$ . This temperature dependence is particularly strong at temperatures colder than  $-40^\circ C$  in both the northern and the southern mid-latitudes. There is also a strong  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  increase in the tropics, although the initial increase in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  at  $-40^\circ C$  is weaker. This-Although the  $N_i$  produced by heterogeneous nucleation should also increase as temperatures decrease due to increasing INP concentrations (DeMott et al., 2010), this strong increase in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  at  $-40^\circ C$  along with a continuing  $N_i$

increase at colder temperatures is indicative of homogeneous nucleation, which is only significant ~~at these lower temperatures~~  
temperatures below around -35°C.

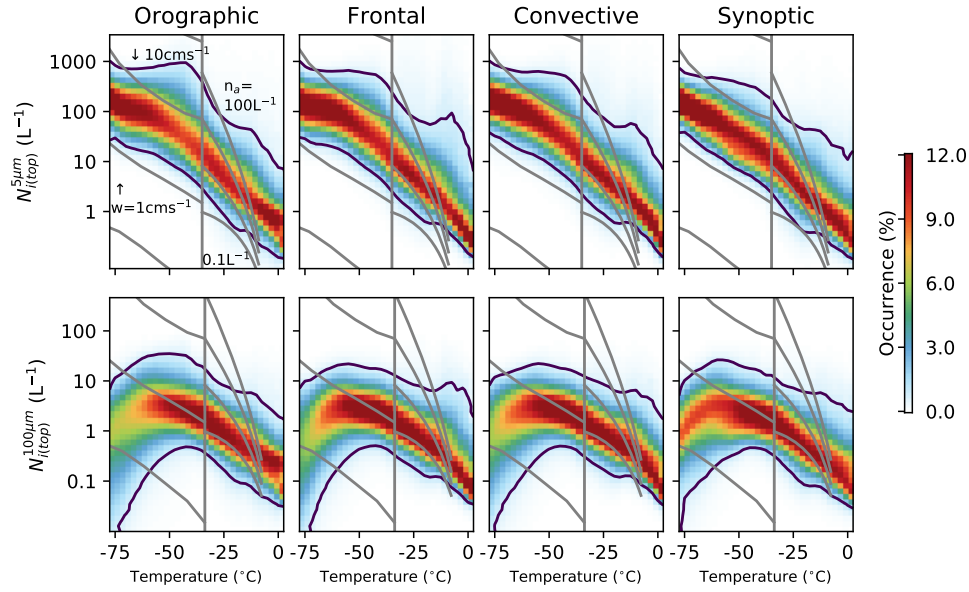
At temperatures warmer than -35°C, the mean  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  is relatively small, especially in the northern hemisphere where it averages less than  $50 \text{ L}^{-1}$ . This is expected from heterogeneous nucleation, where the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  is limited by available INP.

- 5 The mean  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  is much larger in the southern hemisphere and the tropics, although this is skewed by the long tail of the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  distribution (Fig. 2). A phase misclassification, with liquid topped cloud being mistaken for ice cloud might explain this hemispheric contrast, due to the large amounts of supercooled water in the southern hemisphere (Choi et al., 2010). A strong lidar backscatter at the cloud top would lead to a large retrieved  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  (if it was mis-classified as an ice cloud). As liquid topped clouds at sub-zero temperatures are more common in the southern hemisphere, this would result in an erroneously large  
10 mean  $N_i$  in the southern hemisphere.

- There are large geographical variations in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ . At -50°C, the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  is strongly affected by the topography (Fig. 1b). High  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  values are retrieved in mountainous regions over land and around the edge of the Antarctic ice sheet, similar to results from orographic cirrus parametrisations in global climate models (~~e.g. Joos et al., 2008~~)(e.g. Joos et al., 2008; Barahona et al., 2017) and other satellite retrievals (Mitchell et al., 2016, 2018). This is consistent with a high  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  being generated through oro-  
15 graphic uplift, which can generate the strong updraughts and high supersaturations required for homogeneous nucleation. While it is possible that the increased  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  is due to an increase in the vertical transport of INP, the lack of a similar pattern in the cloud supercooled fraction at -20°C (Choi et al., 2010) makes this explanation unsatisfactory. The  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  in the tropics is comparatively low, even in regions of significant topography such as the Ethiopian Highlands. This is due to low wind speeds in the tropics reducing the in-cloud orographic updraught, similar to the GCM results of Joos et al. (2008). The  
20 high orographic  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  also partially explains the hemispheric asymmetry in  $N_{i(top)}$  in the mid-latitude and polar regions, due to the high  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  generated by orographic clouds over the Andes and around the edge of the East Antarctic ice sheet. The  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  in the tropics is significantly lower than the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  at -50°C (Part 1). This is partly due to the low number of cloud tops at this temperature in the tropics, meaning that there is a clear sampling bias. Additionally, the cloud top temperature plays an important role in determining the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$ , giving it a much weaker temperature dependence. This temperature dependence is  
25 investigated further in the following two subsections.

### 3.2 Cloud regime dependence

- The location map and temperature dependence of the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  (Fig. 1) and the results from part one hint that there may be a significant regime dependence in the  $N_{i(top)}$ , in particular a strong role for orographic clouds and a possible role for convective clouds, given the low  $N_{i(top)}$  in the tropics. Separating the  $N_{i(top)}$  data by regime using the classification of Gryspeerdt et al.  
30 (2017b) allows this dependence to be independently investigated. Due to the strong temperature dependence and the large variability of the  $N_{i(top)}$ , joint probability histograms, showing the probability of a  $N_{i(top)}$  retrieval at a given temperature are shown in Fig. 2. Following the results of part one, the  $N_{i(top)}$  is investigated for crystals bigger than  $5 \mu m$  ( $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ ) and  $100 \mu m$  ( $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$ ). With a minimum size of  $5 \mu m$ ,  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  typically lines up with the smallest sizes measured by in-situ instruments, while with a larger minimum size,  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  covers a size range where less shattering is expected and where the normalised



**Figure 2.** The conditional  $N_{i(top)}$  ( $L^{-1}$ ) for  $5^{\circ}C$  temperature bins for each of the main cloud regimes (Orographic, Frontal, Convective, Synoptic) from Gryspeerdt et al. (2017b, O2, F, C, S). The top row shows the  $N_{i(top)}$  for particles greater than  $5\mu m$  ( $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ ) and the second greater than  $100\mu m$  ( $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$ ). The columns are normalised so that they sum to 100%. ~~Light grey lines are gridlines, the~~ The vertical line is drawn at  $-35^{\circ}C$  - approximately the homogeneous nucleation threshold temperature ~~and~~. ~~At temperatures warmer than  $-35^{\circ}C$ , the~~ diagonal lines gridlines show the INP numbers predicted by the DeMott et al. (2010) parametrisation for  $0.1, 1, 10, 100 L^{-1}$  aerosols  $>0.5\mu m$ . The gridlines at temperatures below  $-35^{\circ}C$  are ~~to aid comparison between the regimes~~  $N_i$  values following Koop et al. (2000) for  $1, 10$  and  $100 cm s^{-1}$  updraught speeds for a mean pressure and an aerosol particle number of  $300 cm^{-3}$ , following (Krämer et al., 2009). The regime names and definitions are given in Table 1 of Gryspeerdt et al. (2017a). Note the log scale for  $N_{i(top)}$ .

size distribution performs well (Delanoë et al., 2005; Sourdeval et al., submitted). ~~As noted in the previous section, the skewed~~  $N_{i(top)}$  distribution makes a simple linear average complicated to interpret. For the remainder of this work, normalised joint histograms are used, showing the probability of finding a particular  $N_i$ , given that a certain temperature has been observed.

There are a number of broad similarities between the regimes, ~~each showing a clear~~. Each regime shows a very similar increase in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  with decreasing temperature, ~~similar to results seen during the SPARTICUS campaign (Mühlbauer et al., 2014)~~ ~~The distribution becomes more sharply peaked in log-space as the temperature reduces with the decrease becoming weaker at very colder temperatures~~, rising to around  $100 L^{-1}$  at  $-75^{\circ}C$ . While this is larger than the  $N_i$  values reported from many measurements of tropical tropopause layer cirrus (e.g. Jensen et al., 2013a), this may be due to sampling differences between the satellite and in-situ measurements, with some of the thinnest clouds being missed by the DARDAR retrieval. It is also possible that uncertainties in the shape of the particle size distribution (PSD) can lead to overestimations of  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  by as much as a factor of two (Sourdeval et al., submitted). The temperature dependence is similar to that observed during the SPARTICUS

and MACPEX campaigns (Jensen et al., 2013b; Muhlbauer et al., 2014), although the temperature dependence is stronger than that observed in Krämer et al. (2009) where the  $N_i$  was sample in cloud, rather than at the cloud top. However, if the satellite data is sampled in a manner similar to previous work, it reproduces the in-situ results (Sourdeval et al., submitted), giving confidence in the magnitude and temperature dependence of the results presented here. There is evidence of possible retrieval

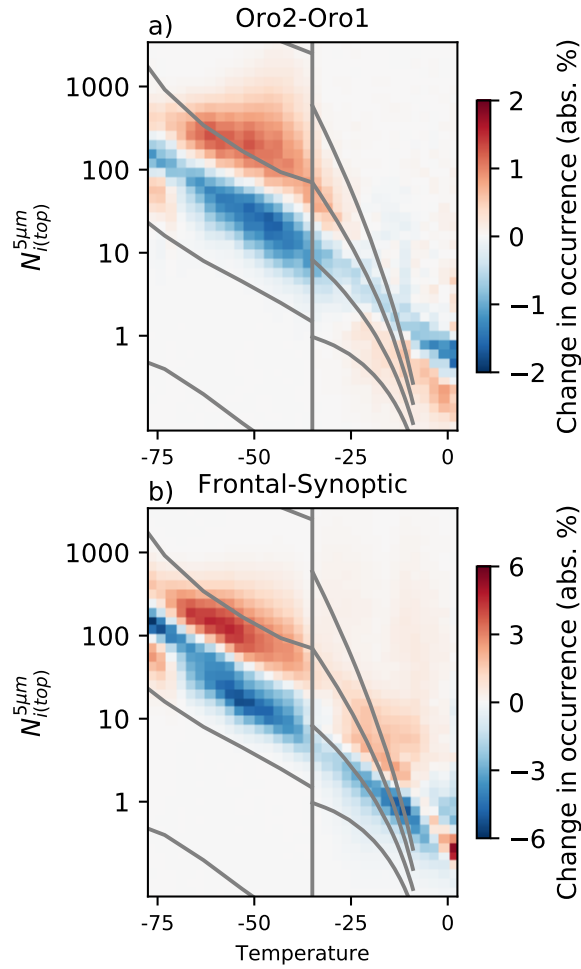
errors, as both the orographic and convective regimes have a small number of retrievals of over  $30 \text{ L}^{-1}$ , with some as high as ~~100~~ $50 \text{ L}^{-1}$ , around  $-15^\circ\text{C}$ . This suggests that the possible phase misclassification and the high  $N_{i(\text{top})}$  values observed in the zonal mean are more common in certain regimes.

All of the regimes also show a peak in the  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  at temperatures just colder than  $-35^\circ\text{C}$ . The strength varies by regime, with the orographic regime showing a strong peak and a weaker one being observed in the frontal and convective regimes. The peak is barely present in the synoptic regime. A strong increase in  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  at this temperature is consistent with homogeneous nucleation, either through an increase in the freezing of liquid droplets or ~~through-by~~ increased homogeneous nucleation ~~directly into the ice phase through the freezing of unactivated aqueous haze particles~~. At these colder temperatures, the  $N_{i(\text{top})}$  is roughly parallel with the contours of  $N_i$  expected through homogeneous nucleation at a constant updraught (Krämer et al., 2009), especially in cases where the peak in  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  at  $-40^\circ\text{C}$  is small (Fig. 2). Warmer than  $-35^\circ\text{C}$ , the  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  is broadly consistent with the number of INP predicted by the DeMott et al. (2010) parametrisation, but the  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  becomes increasingly large compared to the number of INP as the temperature increases. As the DARDAR-LIM retrieval has not been evaluated at this temperature, it is unclear if this is a real effect, or if it is due to the possible phase classification issue mentioned previously.

The variation in the strength of this peak is clearly seen when comparing the Oro 2 and Oro 1 regimes (the highest and second highest sextiles of the estimated in-cloud updraught) in Fig. 3a. While there is little difference between the regimes at warmer temperatures, below  $-35^\circ\text{C}$  there is a strong increase in the  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  in the Oro 2 regime. This increase peaks at about  $-50^\circ\text{C}$ , reducing and almost disappearing at the coldest temperatures studied. The high  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  retrieved in these clouds and the strong dependence on the in-cloud updraught explain the geographical pattern shown in Fig. 1b, where high  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  are observed in mountainous regions. A high  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  in these regimes is supported by results from previous in-situ studies, where large  $N_i$  values were recorded in orographic clouds (~~Field et al., 2001~~)(Jensen et al., 1998; Field et al., 2001; Baker and Lawson, 2006)

It is possible that this increased  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  is the result of increased aerosol concentrations carried to lower temperatures in the stronger updraughts of the Oro 2 regime. However, the lack of a difference in  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  between the regimes at temperatures warmer than  $-35^\circ\text{C}$  indicates that an increase in INP is not driving this change in  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$ , which in turn makes it less likely that this change is due to a change in liquid aerosol. As the Oro regimes are defined by the estimated in-cloud updraught (Grypsperdt et al., 2017b), the difference between the regimes shown in Fig. 3 is likely due to a change in the updraught environment impacting freezing processes.

A change in the updraught environment could modify the  $N_{i(\text{top})}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  by changing the likelihood of homogeneous nucleation, through an either ~~increase in the number of activated CCN in the mixed-phase part of the cloud lifecycle or~~ through allowing more liquid droplets to reach temperatures where they can freeze homogeneously or by increasing the nucleation of haze droplets (Koop et al., 2000). These processes cannot be easily distinguished in the current study, although the lack of a sig-

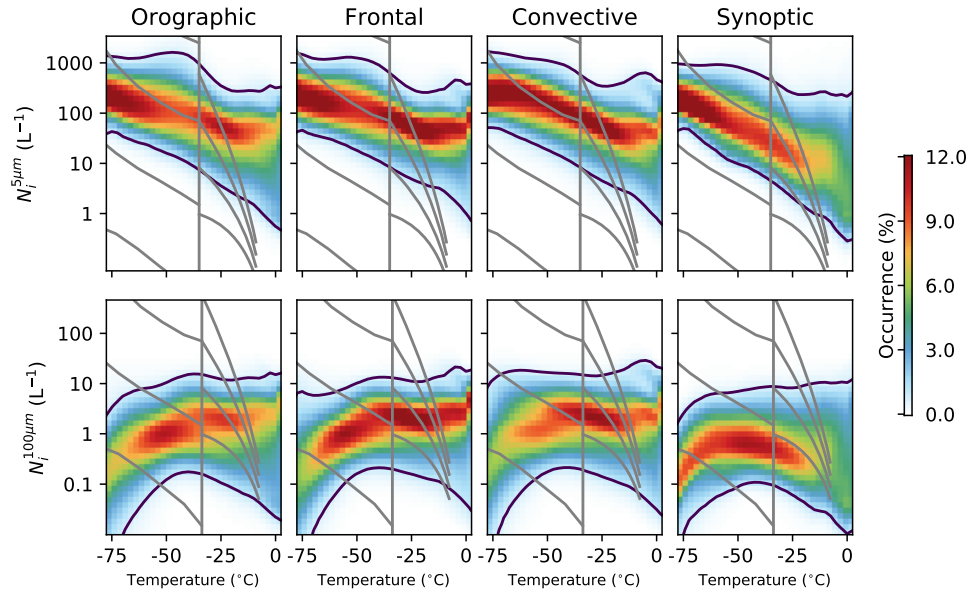


**Figure 3.** a) The difference the the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  as a function of temperature between the Oro 2 and Oro 1 regimes (highest and second highest sextiles of estimated in-cloud updraught). Red above blue at a given temperature indicates an increased  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  in the Oro 2 regimes compared to Oro 1. b) The difference between the frontal and synoptic regimes. Note the different colourscale from (a).

nificant occurrence of liquid-topped cloud in orographic regions (Tan et al., 2014) suggests that an increased cloud droplet number concentration is not the leading contributor to the increase in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ . This strong response to updraught changes would support previous studies that highlighted the updraught limited nature of many cirrus clouds (Kay and Wood, 2008). (Kay and Wood, 2008; Barahona and Nenes, 2008). A larger difference exists between the frontal and synoptic regimes (Fig. 3b), indicating that the magnitude of this updraught effect could be stronger than is shown here. However, the difference between the frontal and synoptic regimes cannot be easily attributed to updraught variations.

The temperature dependence of crystals larger than  $100\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  ( $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$ ) at the cloud top displays a different pattern (Fig. 2, bottom row). While  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  and temperature are negatively correlated at warmer temperatures, the  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  reaches a peak at around  $-50\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  and there is a decrease in the  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  as temperatures reduce further, with the strongest decrease observed in the orographic regime. This is consistent with a shift towards smaller ice crystals at the cloud top with colder temperatures. The synoptic regime shows a weaker decrease in  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$ , indicating a slightly larger role for larger ice crystals in this regime. This shift towards smaller crystals at the cloud top is expected due to slower depositional growth and aggregation of ice crystals at colder temperatures resulting in crystals precipitating from the cloud top region before they grow larger than  $100\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ .

### 3.3 The $N_i$ within clouds



**Figure 4.** As Fig. 2 but using the  $N_i$  from throughout the cloud, rather than just the cloud top. The temperature scale is the temperature of the  $N_i$  retrieval, rather than that of the cloud top.

The behaviour of the  $N_i$  within clouds as a function of temperature displays some significant contrasts to the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  (Fig. 4). While all of the regimes show an increase in the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  with decreasing temperature, this increase is much weaker than the increase in the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ . Similarly, although the peak that is visible in the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  at about  $-40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  is still visible in  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  in the orographic and frontal regimes, it is much weaker than the peak observed at the cloud top. The synoptic regime has the strongest temperature dependence of all of the regimes. One explanation is the lower average cloud depth, such that the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  retrieved is often closer to the cloud top than in the other regimes. In all of the regimes, the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  is much larger in-cloud than at the cloud top for temperatures warmer than  $-30\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , with values up to  $100\text{ L}^{-1}$  being commonly observed. The smaller  $N_i^{5\mu m}$



values that are more typically observed in the synoptic regime than the other regimes suggest that seasonal variations of the cloud classes (Gryspeerdt et al., 2017b) are likely responsible for the seasonal variations in  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  observed in part one.

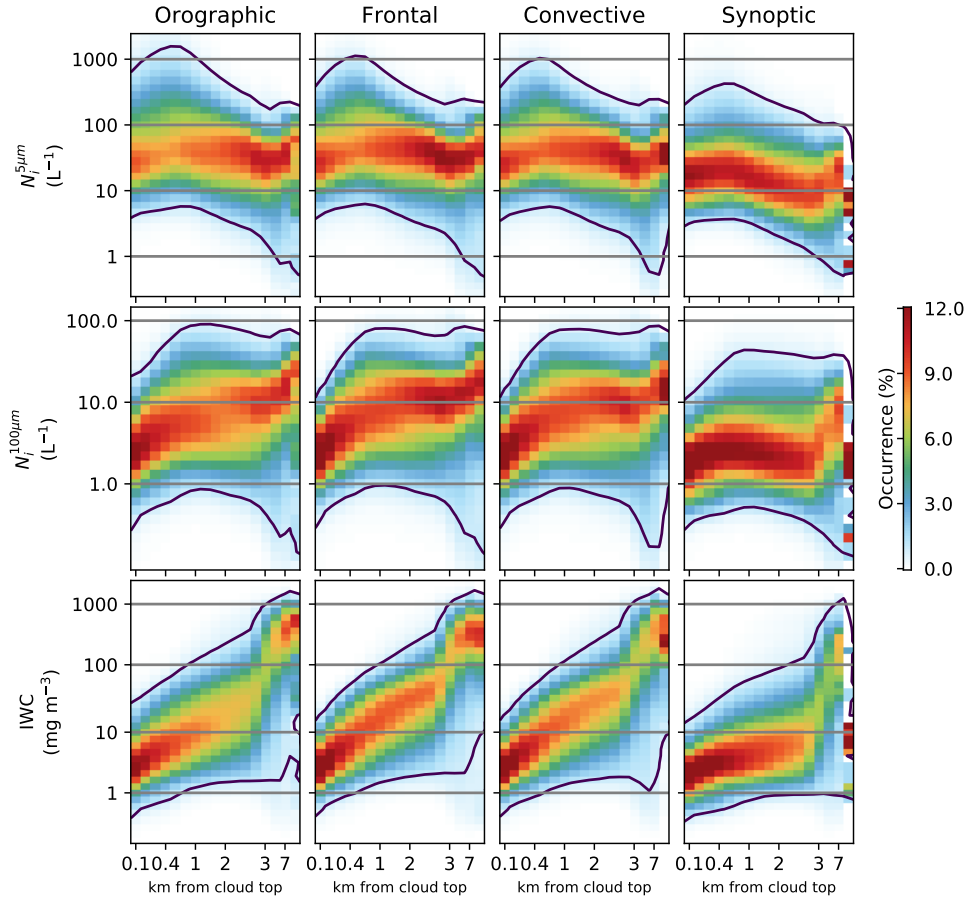
Similar to the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$ , the temperature dependence of the  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  is very different internally within clouds compared to at cloud tops. The temperature dependence is much weaker, with almost no temperature dependence at temperatures warmer than -50 °C. There is a decrease in the  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  at the lowest temperatures, similar to the decrease in the  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  seen in Fig. 2 and is explained by the retrievals at these temperatures being closer to the cloud top than at warmer temperatures. The synoptic regime has the lowest  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  at warmer temperatures, which may again be due to the lower geometrical thickness of clouds in this regime, such that the  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  is typically located closer to the cloud top, resulting in a lower  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  for any given temperature inside a cloud.

The larger  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  values at warmer temperatures mean that larger crystals comprise a larger proportion of the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$ , with a reduced contribution of small crystals to the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$ . ~~The weak~~ A weaker temperature dependence of the ~~is very similar to the aircraft results reported by Krämer et al. (2009), suggesting that the lack of a dependence on temperature in these~~  $N_i^{5\mu m}$ , especially at temperatures colder than -35 °C, is in better agreement with the results from Krämer et al. (2009), although a temperature dependence remains. It is possible that the weak temperature dependence in previous results could be due to a lack of measurements near the cloud top. ~~It further suggests that as the is strongly controlled by precipitating crystals from colder temperatures,~~ where the temperature dependence is strongest. This may also explain the apparent mismatch between the INP and  $N_i$  concentration in aircraft data (e.g. Kanji et al., 2017) ~~is due to the difficulty of sampling the nucleation region within a cloud. The retrieved values,~~ as the retrieved  $N_{i(top)}$  values are a much closer match to the INP concentrations predicted by the DeMott et al. (2010) parametrisation than the internal  $N_i$  at temperatures warmer than -35 °C (Fig. 2) ~~are a much closer match to observed INP concentrations than the internal.~~ Further sampling differences between the satellite and in-situ studies due to detection limits of satellite instruments and the structuring of flight campaigns may explain the remaining differences between  $N_i$  determined using different methods.

### 3.4 Vertical structure of $N_i$

The  $N_i^{5\mu m}$ ,  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  and ice water content (IWC) all change significantly as a function of depth through the cloud (Fig. 5). For clouds with a top temperature between ~~-50 and -60~~ -40 and -50 °C (Fig. 2), the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  continues to increase until about 500 m from the cloud top, at which point it starts to decrease again (Fig. 5, top row). The  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  distribution width stays approximately constant from about 1 km into the cloud until around 2-3 km from the cloud top, when it reaches a temperature of around -30 °C when liquid water can form more easily. At this point the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  distribution broadens significantly. Similar to the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$ , the  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  also grows quickly when moving down through the cloud, moving to a slower growth regime after the first 500 m from the cloud top. This shift in the  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  growth regime is roughly coincident with the location of the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  peak. All of the regimes also show an increase in the IWC (Fig. 5, bottom row) with increasing depth in the cloud, with a sharp increase over 2.5 km from the cloud top. This sharp increase is consistent with a possible increase in ice through liquid water processes in warmer parts of the cloud.





**Figure 5.** Retrieved properties as a function of the distance from the cloud top. This is for clouds with tops between  $-50$ – $-40$  and  $-60$ – $-50$  °C. Note the non-linear scale on the horizontal axis.

There are some differences between the regimes. The synoptic regime has a much weaker peak in  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  below the cloud top and a consequently lower  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  throughout the depth of the regime. Despite having similar values at the cloud top to the other regimes, the  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  and the IWC in the synoptic regime remain lower than the other regimes through the cloud, possibly due to lower in-cloud updraughts. At about 2.5 km from the cloud top, both  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  and IWC increase until they are roughly comparable to the other regimes, suggesting that the signal from liquid water swamps any signal based on ice nucleation.

It is possible that the peak is caused by the different sensitivities of the CloudSat radar and the CALIOP lidar, with the lower vertical resolution and sensitivity of the radar resulting in it missing the cloud top detected by the lidar. If this was the case, the peak would likely be stronger and further from the cloud top in cases where the IWC is low (due to the increased penetration distance required for a significant radar return). However, the peak is weaker in the synoptic regime, where the IWC is lower

than the other regimes, suggesting that the occurrence of this peak is not attributable to a retrieval error. The results from part one support this assessment, showing no clear signal of strong biases in the lidar-only to lidar-radar transition region.

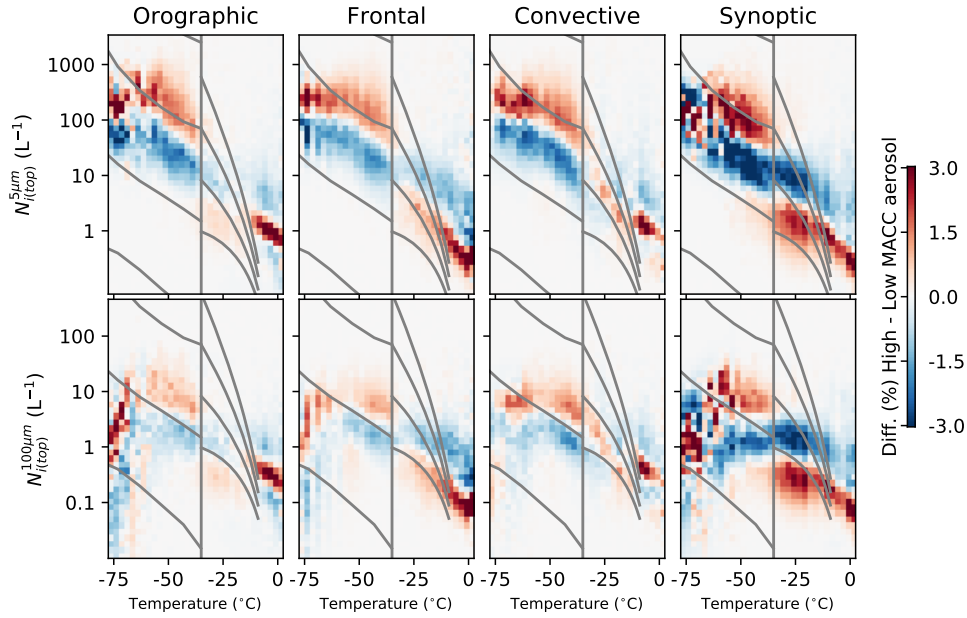
The location of the peak may be related to the updraught in the cloud. As the crystal fall velocity is related to the crystal size, in a cloud with a fast enough updraught, the crystals have to grow to a significant size before they can fall through the cloud. If this is the case, the initial ice crystal nucleation region (and so the peak in  $N_i$ ) would then exist further from the cloud top in clouds with a stronger updraught. This may explain the weaker peak in the synoptic regime, as this regime is expected to have weaker in-cloud updraughts (Gryspeerd et al., 2017b). The peak is also temperature dependent, almost disappearing in clouds with colder tops (see supplementary information) and varying in size and location between the regimes. When the peak occurs in the synoptic regime, it is within 300 m of the cloud top in 67% of cases, compared to only 48% of cases for the frontal regime. These distances are comparable to the thickness of nucleation regions noted in Jensen et al. (2016) of between 20 and 500 m. The enhancement of the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  within this peak in the synoptic regime is also smaller, with an average peak of  $130 \text{ L}^{-1}$ , compared to  $270 \text{ L}^{-1}$  in the frontal regime and  $325 \text{ L}^{-1}$  for the orographic regime. This lends support to the hypothesis that the properties of this peak are related to the in-cloud updraught. The increased strength of this peak in regimes expected to have a stronger updraught along with its location close to the cloud top may indicate a role of homogeneous nucleation. Model studies of cirrus clouds suggest that homogeneous nucleation can produce peaks in  $N_i$  cloud to the cloud top (Spichtinger and Gierens, 2009a, b), with an increased  $N_i$  at higher updraught velocities. The disappearance of the peak at colder temperatures gives it a similar temperature dependence to the peak in the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  (Fig. 2) providing further supporting evidence of the impact of homogeneous nucleation on  $N_i$  in this temperature range.

It is possible that the varying sensitivities of the CloudSat radar and the CALIOP lidar to crystal size and the attenuation of the CALIOP lidar in the upper levels of the cloud could be generating this vertical structure. The lower vertical resolution and sensitivity to small crystals of the radar could result in it missing the cloud top, generating a peak in the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  at the level where the retrieval starts to include radar information. However, the results in Part 1 show no evidence of a bias in the  $N_i$  retrieval as a function of the instruments contributing to the retrieval (Sourdeval et al., submitted). This is primarily due to the sensitivity of the instruments to different ice crystal size distributions. Although the lidar-only retrievals have a higher expected error, they usually only occur in cases where there is a monomodal size distribution dominated by small crystals that can be accurately constrained by the lidar alone. Additionally, the disappearance of the peak at colder temperatures indicates that it is a physical property of the clouds, rather than a property of the retrieval, as the instrument sensitivities would not be expected to strongly vary with temperature.

## 4 The impact of relationship to aerosol

### 4.1 The impact of relationship to liquid aerosol

Fig. 6 shows how the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  distribution changes as a function of temperature and MACC reanalysis aerosol (used to indicate high concentrations of liquid aerosol). In most of the regimes, there is a positive relationship between MACC aerosol and  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  at temperatures below  $-35^\circ \text{C}$  (shown by red above blue in Fig. 6). In the synoptic regime, this positive aerosol- $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$



**Figure 6.** The difference in the conditional histograms between cases with high MACC total aerosol mass concentration ( $>6\mu\text{g m}^{-1-3}$ ) and low total mass concentration ( $<6\mu\text{g m}^{-1-3}$ ) for the four main regimes. The gridlines are the same as Fig. 2. The upper set of plots show the difference in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  and the lower in  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu\text{m}}$ . The changes sum to zero vertically, red over blue indicates an increase in the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu\text{m}}/N_{i(top)}^{100\mu\text{m}}$  for a given temperature and regime.

relationship only exists for temperatures warmer than  $-60^\circ\text{C}$  – at temperatures colder than this, the relationship becomes weak and noisy. In the other regimes, the positive relationship is maintained to very cold temperatures. At temperatures warmer than  $-35^\circ\text{C}$ , the relationship becomes a lot weaker, with almost no aerosol- $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  relationship existing in the orographic and convective regimes. In the frontal regime, there is a slight negative relationship, with a stronger negative relationship in the synoptic regime. It is possible that this negative relationship is related to a misclassification of ice and liquid at these warmer temperatures being a function of the MACC aerosol, particularly in regions where INP rich aerosol constitute a majority of the aerosol population.

The aerosol- $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu\text{m}}$  relationship shows a weaker pattern than the aerosol- $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  relationship, with the smaller enhancement of the  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu\text{m}}$  at colder temperatures in most regimes indicating a shift to smaller crystal sizes. The change in the synoptic regimes is the strongest, likely related to the strong relationship for the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu\text{m}}$ .

A strong relationship between MACC aerosol and A negative relationship between aerosol environment and crystal size has been noted in previous work (Jiang et al., 2011; Zhao et al., 2018) and often corresponds to an increase in  $N_{i(top)}$  could be due to, although positive relationships have been observed over the Indian Ocean (Chylek et al., 2006).

It is difficult to demonstrate causality with observed aerosol-cloud relationships, to the extent that it is not clear that this relationship is a change in  $N_{i(top)}$  due to a change in aerosol. However, this strong relationship between MACC aerosol and  $N_{i(top)}$  is consistent with an increased ice crystal nucleation through homogeneous nucleation, which can be sensitive to the concentration of liquid aerosol (e.g. Kärcher and Seifert, 2016)(e.g. Kärcher, 2002). In situations where the  $N_{i(top)}$  is primarily determined by the freezing of liquid droplets, an increase in cloud droplets in high aerosol regions could also lead to an increased  $N_{i(top)}$ , although the number of droplets frozen is relatively insensitive to the total number of liquid droplets (Kärcher and Seifert, 2016). As with the impact of in-cloud updraught on  $N_{i(top)}$ , further investigation is required to determine if one of these mechanisms is dominant. As liquid water has been found in clouds at temperatures as cold as  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$ , increased droplet freezing cannot be ruled out, even though many clouds are frozen before reaching this temperature (Choi et al., 2010).

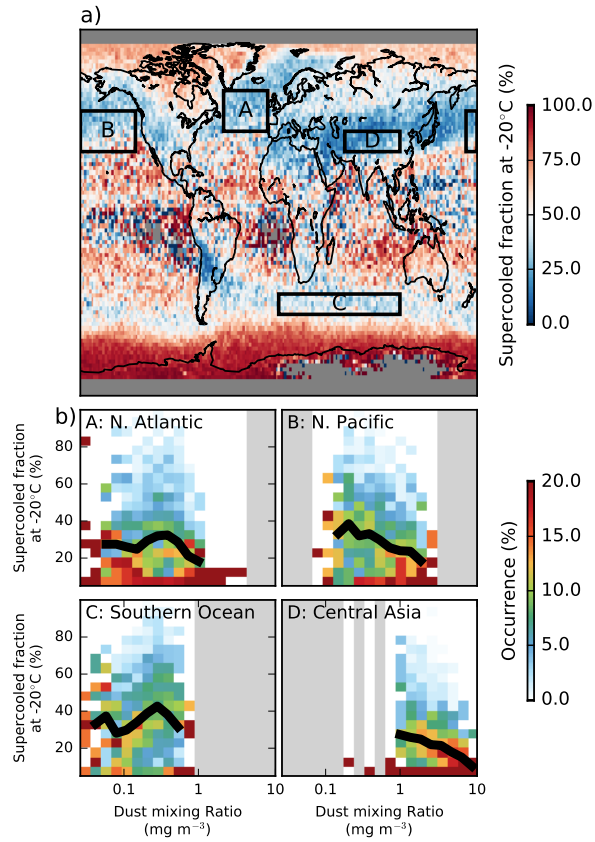
At colder temperatures, it seems likely that homogeneous nucleation plays a role, as liquid droplets cannot form at these temperatures. In this case, the stronger updraughts in the frontal and convective regimes are important for generating the high supersaturations in which homogeneous nucleation can occur. This would also explain the weak relationship between the and MACC aerosol at colder temperatures. Changing aerosol types may also play a role at temperatures colder than  $-60^{\circ}\text{C}$ , where the increasing impact of glassy aerosols may lead the aerosol to nucleate ice heterogeneously. A combination of the weak expected updraughts and the increasing ability of glassy aerosol to act as an INP at low temperatures may explain the weak aerosol- $N_{i(top)}$  relationship in the synoptic regime, as the updraughts in this regime are weaker and so less likely to achieve the necessary supersaturations (Krämer et al., 2016), below  $-60^{\circ}\text{C}$ . While there is a clear relationship in Fig. 6, the change in the mean  $N_{i(top)}$  is small, even for this large aerosol perturbation. At  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the mean  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu\text{m}}$  increases from around  $140\text{ L}^{-1}$  to  $175\text{ L}^{-1}$ , an increase of 25%. Much of this change is driven by changes in the high updraught tail of the distribution, producing a 25% change in  $N_{i(top)}$  at  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$  would require an updraught in excess of  $1\text{ms}^{-1}$  (Kärcher, 2002). While plausible for the convective and orographic regimes (Gryspeardt et al., 2017a), the large updraughts required to generate such a sensitivity may indicate that this relationship is affected by an updraught mediated covariation.

## 4.2 The impact of relationship to an INP proxy

The sparse nature of INP measurements (e.g. Mamouri and Ansmann, 2016) and the high sensitivity of the  $N_i$  to low INP concentrations means that it is difficult to use retrieved aerosol properties to investigate the effect of INP on the  $N_{i(top)}$ . To avoid this issue, the glaciated fraction of clouds lower in the atmosphere ( $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) is used as a proxy for the presence of INP at other levels in the atmosphere.

### 4.2.1 Cloud glaciation and INP

The addition of the CloudSat data in the DARDAR product allows smaller quantities of ice to be detected than the lidar-only studies, but produces a very similar pattern of cloud glaciation (Fig. 7) to the previous CALIOP studies (Choi et al., 2010; Tan et al., 2014). Calculating the supercooled fraction as the number of liquid retrievals divided by the total number of liquid and ice retrievals between  $-17.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $-22.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  from 2006 and 2013, using only the top layer of clouds where the layer is more than 600 m thick.



**Figure 7.** a) The DARDAR supercooled fraction at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , defined as the fraction of DARDAR cloud top phase retrievals between  $-17.5$  and  $-22.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  from 2006 and 2013 that are classed as liquid. b) The conditional probability of observing a daily mean supercooled fraction, given a specified MACC dust mixing ratio for the regions specified in (a). The black line shows the mean supercooled fraction for each aerosol bin.

There is a strong hemispheric contrast with a higher glaciated fraction over the northern hemisphere and a high supercooled fraction over the southern ocean and Antarctica, as observed in previous aircraft (Huang et al., 2012) and satellite studies (Choi et al., 2010; Tan et al., 2014). High glaciated fractions are observed over desert locations in central Asia and Iran, stretching across the North Pacific to the Americas. This is consistent with previous studies suggesting that dust is a good INP. Previous studies have found Asian dust over California, suggesting that transport across the Pacific is not unexpected (Creamean et al., 2013). There is also a significant proportion of glaciated cloud downwind of the Andes, which appears to originate near the Altiplano and Patagonia. These are sources of high altitude dust (Ginoux et al., 2012) and would support the hypothesis that high altitude dust is able to glaciate clouds. While glaciated cloud in this region has been previously noted (Choi et al., 2010), the lower resolution of the previous study made it difficult to determine the source of possible INP. The longer dataset and increased spatial resolution of Fig. 7a make the source in the upper Andes much clearer. Although southern Africa and

Australia are also sources of dust (Ginoux et al., 2012), this dust is emitted at lower altitudes, which would explain the lower glaciated fractions downwind of these regions.

The origin of the glaciated region over the north Atlantic is less clear, as there are not many local sources of high level dust in the region. It is possible that the dust here has been transported across the Sahara and lofted by cyclone systems crossing the Atlantic. It is also possible the black carbon or ash (Grawe et al., 2016) from North America may act as an INP. This might explain the ~~higher-lower~~ supercooled fraction over Siberia, where black carbon from fires typically occurs without the other aerosols that are found in industrial pollution, allowing it to act as an INP (Rosenfeld et al., 2011) despite the low amounts of high level dust in this region.

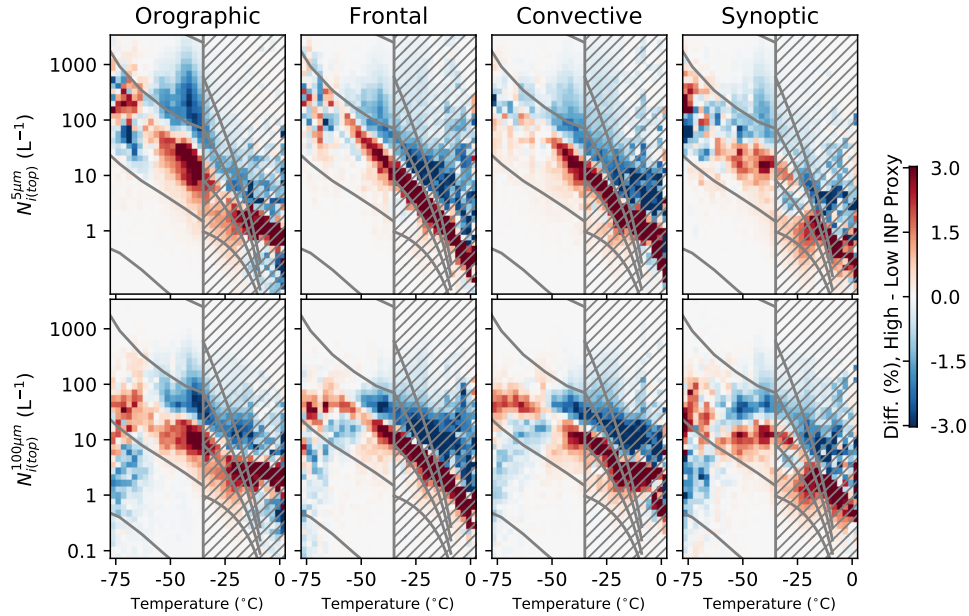
The ice nucleating impact of dust for driving the cloud glaciated fraction is supported by comparing the cloud glaciated fraction to reanalysis aerosol fields (Fig. 7b). ~~There is a strong negative correlation~~ Strong negative correlations between the occurrence of supercooled liquid cloud at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the mass concentration of reanalysis dust (Fig. 7b) are observed in some regions, with glaciated cloud dominating at high mass concentrations of reanalysis dust. However, this correlation varies by region. A stronger relationship is found in regions close to dust sources, such as over the N. Pacific (B) and central Asia (D). The relationship is much weaker in the N. Atlantic (A) and the southern ocean (C) where the dust is further from source.

The stronger dust-glaciation relationship close to the dust source, where the MACC aerosol speciation is best suggests that the supercooled fraction of clouds at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  is strongly related to the occurrence of INP. The weaker relationship further from source suggests that although the MACC speciation has been shown to provide useful information on aerosol type, this speciation is less reliable further from source. This is supported by results in liquid clouds, where the dust optical depth-cloud droplet number concentration relationship becomes stronger further from dust sources (Gryspeerd et al., 2016).

Due to the reduced speciation skill from MACC far from dust sources, the occurrence of glaciated cloud at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  is used as a proxy for the occurrence of INP instead of the reanalysis aerosol. This relies on two assumptions:

1. Cloud glaciation at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  is related to INP at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$
2. INP at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  is correlated to INP at other temperatures

Based on the relationship to MACC dust aerosol, the first assumption holds in many cases. Although the second assumption is tenuous, previous studies have found similar relationships between cirrus cloud properties and both column and layer AOD (Zhao et al., 2018), similar to model results showing a significant correlation between high altitude CCN concentration and column AOD (Stier, 2016). Significant vertical aerosol autocorrelation has also been observed in global climate models (Weigum, 2014). Additionally, there is very unlikely to be a negative correlation between the INP at the two temperature levels, with the worst case being no correlation. As such, the relationship between the  $N_i$  and the INP proxy is unable to give a quantitative result for the impact of INP on the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ , but it is able to provide a qualitative indication of the sign of the INP impact.



**Figure 8.** As Fig. 6 but showing the difference in the conditional histograms as a function of the INP proxy. Red indicates an increase in occurrence of a particular bin at higher inferred INP and blue a decrease, such that red above blue indicates an increase in  $N_{i(top)}$  with increased INP for a given temperature. The shaded regions are likely affected by a phase misclassification at warmer temperatures.

#### 4.2.2 The INP relationship to $N_{i(top)}$

- The relationship of the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  to the proxy for INP is shown in Fig. 8. There are a number of features that are similar between the regimes, in particular the strong negative relationship between INP occurrence and  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  at temperatures warmer than  $-35^\circ\text{C}$ . As with the large mean  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  values shown in Fig. 1a, this may be due to liquid clouds being misclassified as ice, resulting in large  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  values being retrieved. The requirement for “warm-ice” means that supercooled liquid occurs less frequently in the high INP cases, and as such it is less likely to be misclassified as ice. The lower frequency of this misclassification then reduces the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  and  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  in cases of high INP. The weaker  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  response in the synoptic and orographic regimes supports this, as the misclassification in these regimes is weaker (Fig. 2). The warmer temperatures are shaded out in Fig. 8 due to the impact of this potential misclassification.
- At colder temperatures, the INP- $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  relationship starts to vary between the regimes. All of the regimes show a decrease in the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  between around  $-35^\circ\text{C}$  and  $-50^\circ\text{C}$ , the temperatures where the strong peak in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  is observed connected with in-cloud updraught (Fig. 3). This decrease is strongest in the orographic regime and weakest in the synoptic regime, similar to the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  peak observed in the different regimes (Fig. 2), ~~lending support to the idea that this reduction in is due to a suppression of homogeneous nucleation by INP.~~



. At temperatures colder than  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the relationship becomes different again. In all of the regimes, there is an increase in  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  with increasing INP. At temperatures colder than  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the relationship becomes different again. In all of the regimes, there is an increase in  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  with increasing INP. This is consistent with an increasing number of INP shifting the size distribution towards a smaller number of larger ice crystals. In the orographic and synoptic regimes, this increase also appears in the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ , suggesting that in these cases, increasing the INP can increase even the numbers generating a positive relationship between the INP proxy and the occurrence of small ice crystals. This might suggest that at the coldest temperatures, INP have a controlling influence on the in these regimes, as would be-

As with the previous section, the ~~case~~ impact of meteorological covariations cannot be ruled out when interpreting these plots. However, they are consistent with a reduction in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  is due to a suppression of homogeneous nucleation by INP at around  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This negative Twomey relationship has previously been found in satellite relationships between aerosol environment and ice crystal size, with an increase in the crystal radius in situations where heterogeneous nucleation controls the  $N_i$  (Chylek et al., 2006; Zhao et al., 2018). This would fit with the results in previous sections, suggesting that the  $N_{i(top)}$  at this temperature range just colder than  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$  is influenced by homogeneous nucleation. This effect would only be expected in a narrow range of updraughts (Kärcher, 2002), so further work is necessary to understand the cause of this relationship.

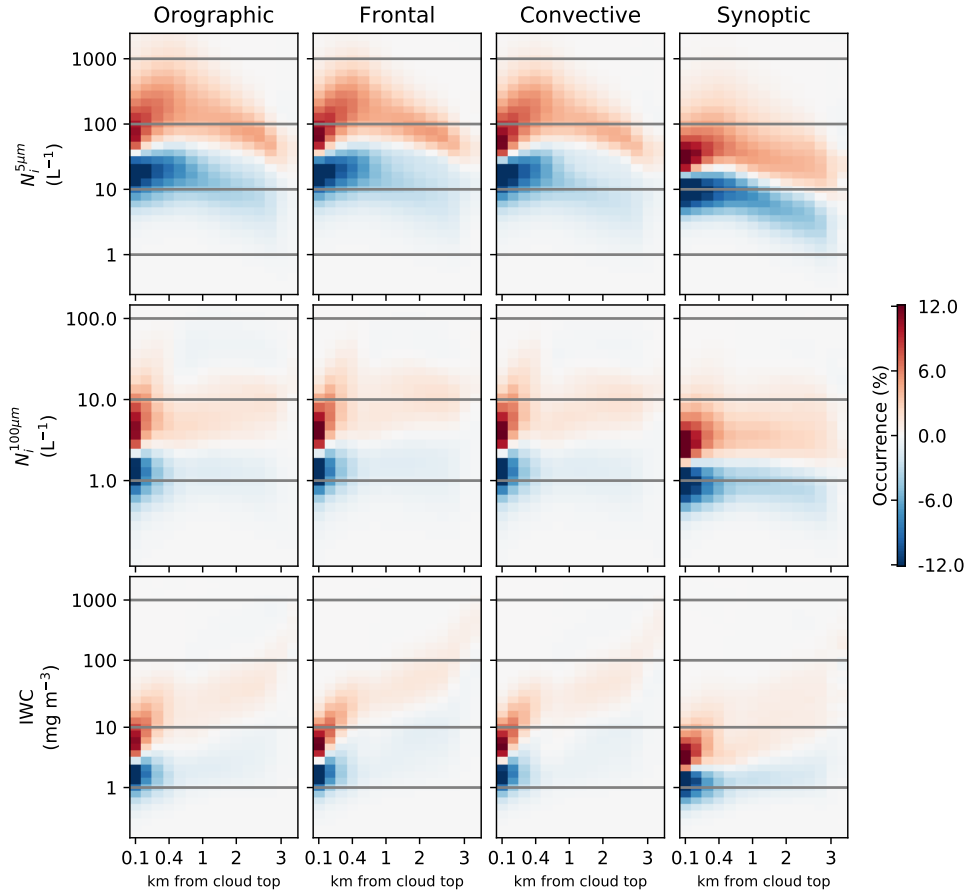
The increase in large crystals at the coldest temperatures (below  $-60^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) is consistent with an INP effect on  $N_{i(top)}$  if heterogeneous nucleation was dominant in these clouds at these temperatures. This would fit with the results from Fig. 6, where at the coldest temperatures, there was a relatively small response of the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  to MACC total (liquid) aerosol, suggesting that homogeneous nucleation was not controlling the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  in synoptic cirrus. At these coldest temperatures, dust can act as an INP at very low supersaturations (as low as 105%; Möhler et al., 2006) , which may explain the dominance of heterogeneous nucleation and organic aerosol can occur in a glassy state allowing it to act as an INP. This may explain relationships consistent with heterogeneous nucleation and a classical Twomey effect at these temperatures. It is important to note that this proxy for INP relies upon the correlation between cloud glaciation at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  and INP at  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , but the absence of this correlation would produce no relationship in Fig. 8, giving some confidence to the qualitative nature of these results.

If the peak in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  at temperatures colder than  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$  is primarily due to droplet freezing, an increase glaciated fraction at warmer temperatures could also result in this reduction of  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  with increasing INP. As the number of INP and  $N_i$  warmer than  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$  is much lower than the cloud droplet number concentration, the increase in cloud glaciation could result in a reduction in the number of cloud droplets available to form ice crystals a  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This would result in a negative relationship between cloud glaciation at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  at colder temperatures as observed in Fig.8. As with the relationship of  $N_{i(top)}$  to updraught (Fig.3) and aerosol (Fig.6), the difference between an aerosol impact on homogeneous nucleation, a change in droplet freezing or an updraught-mediated covariation (no causal effect of aerosol) cannot be distinguished by this analysis.

## 5 Vertical information propagation

The changes in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  observed in the previous section have impacts throughout the depth of the cloud. Fig. 9 shows how  $N_i$  and IWC information propagates vertically within a cloud. The cloud profiles are split into two categories, based on whether





**Figure 9.** As Fig. 5, but showing the difference in the retrieved properties depending on the cloud top properties. Red over blue indicates that clouds with above median properties at the cloud top ( $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ ,  $IWC_{(top)}$ ) have higher values of the retrieved properties at a specified depth from the cloud top. Note the non-linear scale on the horizontal axis.

they have above or below median values of the cloud top properties ( $N_{i(top)}$ ,  $IWC_{(top)}$ ). The difference in the vertical structure of the clouds (in a similar manner to Fig. 5) is shown, with red over blue indicating that an increase in the retrieved quantity at a given distance from the cloud top for profiles that were above median in that property at the cloud top.

The top row of Fig. 9 shows that  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  information propagates a significant distance through the cloud. Clouds with an increased  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  maintain a higher  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  at distances at least 3km from the cloud top in all regimes. However, as shown in the second row, vertical information about the  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  does not propagate nearly as far through the cloud. The vertical propagation is the highest in the synoptic regime. The vertical propagation of IWC information is very similar to the  $N_i^{100\mu m}$ , with the relationship to the cloud top IWC being significantly reduced more than 500 m from the cloud top.

The large vertical propagation of the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  indicates that the changes in  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  at the cloud top found in the previous section can have considerable impact at lower levels in the cloud. However, the lower vertical propagation of the information about the larger crystals ( $N_i^{100\mu m}$ , IWC) would support the suggestion that the growth of the ice crystals after nucleation is primarily controlled by meteorological factors that do not play a large role in the nucleation processes that control  $N_i^{100\mu m}$ . Note that the temperature of the cloud top and the distance from the cloud top can still play a large role in determining the  $N_i$  (Figs. 4, 5).

## 6 Discussion

These results show that the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  is strongly affected by several factors including temperature (Fig. 1), cloud type (Fig. 2) and updraught (Fig. 3) and that changes in the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  can be maintained at large distances from the cloud top (Fig. 9). The dependence of the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  on the in-cloud updraught and the relationship to reanalysis liquid aerosol (Fig. 6) ~~suggests that at~~ temperatures between  $-35^\circ\text{C}$  and  $-50$ – $60^\circ\text{C}$  ~~, the is strongly affected by~~ is consistent with an impact of homogeneous nucleation processes on the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$ . This is supported by the relationship of the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  to the INP proxy (Fig. 8), where a reduction in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  with increasing INP could be indicative of a negative Twomey effect. The relationship with INP ~~also suggests that at~~ temperatures colder than  $-50^\circ\text{C}$ , heterogeneous nucleation has is also consistent with heterogeneous nucleation having a strong role to play in determining the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  in synoptic cirrus clouds at temperatures colder than  $-60^\circ\text{C}$ .

Uncertainties in the retrieval have been covered in part one of this work (Sourdeval et al., submitted). However, there are a few points to note with regards to the relationship of the  $N_i$  to other cloud and meteorological properties. Although there is significant uncertainty in the  $N_i$  retrieval, many of these uncertainties are random errors and not systematic functions of the meteorological properties investigated here. Even ice crystal shape, which can be a major issue in ice cloud retrievals, is a function of temperature (to first order) and so does not impact the majority of the results which are presented in this work stratified by temperature. The geographical variations in Fig. 1b show a similar pattern to those from (Mitchell et al., 2016, 2018), with high  $N_{i(top)}$  observed in mountainous regions and a reduced  $N_{i(top)}$  in the tropics. The similarity of the results from these two different retrieval products, each with a different physical basis supports the conclusions drawn from these datasets regarding the global distribution of  $N_i$ . There is also little evidence to suggest that there are large biases caused by the retrieval only being able to use one instrument (radar or lidar). Cases where only the lidar detects a cloud are often characterised by monomodal ice distributions, which are well represented by the Delanoë et al. (2005) parametrisation. As such, these cases are retrieved with similar accuracy to the full radar-lidar retrieval (Sourdeval et al., submitted).

The cloud phase classification is of critical importance to the warmer clouds included in this study and there is evidence of a misclassification of a small number of cases ~~(Fig. 8)~~ at temperatures warmer than  $-35^\circ\text{C}$  ~~.(Fig. 8)~~. This can make it difficult to interpret results at these temperatures, so they are not a focus of this work. The change in phase of these clouds as a function of aerosol is likely to dominate the radiative response of clouds to aerosols at these temperatures.

There are a number of limitations of this study that could be addressed in future work. The lack of information about the location of INP is a serious issue when investigating the impact of aerosol on  $N_i$ . While the INP proxy in this work is able to

provide a qualitative estimate of the role of INP in determining the  $N_i$ , for a quantitative estimate a better proxy or measure of the global INP concentration is required.

Additionally, the ~~lack of~~ impact of meteorological covariations makes it difficult to assign causality to the aerosol- $N_{i(top)}$  relationships observed in Fig. 6. The lack of a complete picture of the atmosphere makes it difficult to directly control for meteorological  
5 variability. The causal link between aerosol and  $N_{i(top)}$  is thought to be strong (e.g. Kärcher, 2002), but the lack of observations of in-cloud updraughts also limits how accurately the impact of aerosol on the  $N_i$  can be determined. Although the cloud regimes used have some ability to constrain the cloud-scale updraught (Gryspeerdt et al., 2017b), the updraught is a critical component in determining the  $N_i$  through its influence on the supersaturation. The in-cloud updraught is assumed to be largely independent of the aerosol properties in this work, but it is possible that the reanalysis aerosol is related to the in-cloud up-  
10 draught, such that more aerosol is transported vertically in conditions with high in-cloud updraughts. In this case, a positive correlation between the  $N_i$  and MACC reanalysis aerosol could be generated. However, as MACC does not explicitly simulate in-cloud updraughts, the impact of this confounding issue is likely to be small.

It is also possible that using cloud glaciation as a proxy allows other meteorological covariations, which could generate apparent relationships between the “INP” and  $N_i$ . However, the in-cloud updraught is of a second order importance in deter-  
15 mining the cloud-top phase compared to the INP concentration (Bühl et al., 2013). The inclusion of a “glide-slope” test when determining the INP proxy means that it is also unlikely that clouds are being glaciated but undetected ice falling from higher cloud layers. The separation into cloud regimes also limits the impact of these kind of meteorological covariations, which might be expected between different regimes, but would be weaker within them.

The behaviour of the  $N_i$  retrieval in this work follows the expected behaviour of the  $N_i$  determined in several previous  
20 studies based on satellite remote sensing, in-situ, theoretical and modelling results. This provides further evidence that the DARDAR-LIM  $N_i$  retrieval described in (Sourdeval et al., submitted) is able to retrieve the  $N_i$  in a variety of situations.

## 7 Conclusions

Few global studies exist of the controls on the ice crystal number concentration ( $N_i$ ), especially the role of aerosols. In this study, the DARDAR-LIM  $N_i$  retrieval from part one (Sourdeval et al., submitted) is used to investigate possible controls on  
25 the  $N_i$  at a global scale for the period 2006-2013. A special emphasis is placed on the  $N_i$  at the cloud top ( $N_{i(top)}$ ), due to ~~it's the~~ close proximity to ice crystal nucleation locations within ~~high-clouds~~ many high clouds (Spichtinger and Gierens, 2009a; Diao et al., 2017).

Strong ~~impacts on~~ relationships between the  $N_{i(top)}$  ~~are observed for and~~ updraught, cloud type and particularly temperature are observed (Figs. 1, 2), with a higher  $N_{i(top)}$  for crystals larger than  $5\mu\text{m}$  ( $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu\text{m}}$ ) being found at colder temperatures in  
30 all regimes, consistent with an increased nucleation rate at lower temperatures. Fewer crystals larger than  $100\mu\text{m}$ , ( $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu\text{m}}$ ) are found at the coldest temperatures, possibly due to the reduced depositional growth rate ~~removing them meaning that they~~ sediment from the cloud top region before they can grow to a sufficient size.

Many of the regimes show an increase in the  $N_i^{100\mu m}$  and a decrease in the  $N_i^{5\mu m}$  with increasing distance from the cloud top (Fig. 5) due to the ~~aggregation of ice crystals as they sediment within the cloud~~size sorting impact of sedimentation. The rate of change of the  $N_i$  moving away from the cloud top depends on the regime, with much slower changes in the synoptic regime indicating a role of meteorological factors in determining ice crystal growth rates. This is supported by the weaker temperature dependence of the  $N_i$  within clouds compared to the  $N_{i(top)}$  (Fig. 4), which may also explain the apparent weak dependence of  $N_i$  on temperature (Krämer et al., 2009) and INP (Kanji et al., 2017) found in previous studies. Given the large difference between the  $N_{i(top)}$  and the  $N_i$  deeper in the cloud, this may suggest that the cloud top would make a good target for future in-situ campaigns examining the controls on ice nucleation.

There are indications of homogeneous nucleation or possibly the freezing of liquid droplets determining the  $N_{i(top)}$ . ~~A~~At temperatures just colder than  $-35^\circ\text{C}$ , there is a strong peak in the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  (Fig. 2). This peak is related to the updraught strength in the cloud, with the reliably high updraughts in the orographic regime giving it the strongest peak (Fig. 3). This is further supported by the relationship between the  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  and the MACC reanalysis aerosol (Fig. 6), with an increased  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  being observed in high aerosol environments, indicating a possible dependence on the liquid aerosol concentration, particularly for smaller crystals, although this analysis cannot make a conclusive statement about the causality of this relationship.

As previous work has suggested that INP occurrence is related to cloud glaciation, the glaciated fraction at  $-20^\circ$  is used as a qualitative proxy for INP occurrence (Fig. 7). At temperatures between  $-50^\circ\text{C}$  and  $-35^\circ\text{C}$ , there is a reduction in  $N_{i(top)}^{5\mu m}$  with increasing “INP” (Fig. 8), which may indicate a “negative Twomey” effect in action (Kärcher and Lohmann, 2003) and provide further supporting evidence for the role of homogeneous nucleation in determining the  $N_{i(top)}$ . At colder temperatures, some regimes show an increasing  $N_{i(top)}$ , and the  $N_{i(top)}^{100\mu m}$  in particular, which may be evidence of heterogeneous nucleation controlling the  $N_{i(top)}$  and shifting the size distribution towards larger crystals. However, as with the relationship to liquid aerosol, meteorological covariations could be generating these relationships. Further studies are required to separate the role of these different mechanisms in controlling the  $N_{i(top)}$  and to isolate the role of aerosols in these relationships.

While changes to the  $N_{i(top)}$  are important for radiative considerations, changes in the  $N_{i(top)}$  can have implications for the cloud many kilometres below the cloud top (Fig. 9). This far reaching impact into the lifecycle of ice and mixed-phase clouds demonstrates the importance of developing strong observational constraints on the controlling factors of the  $N_i$ . The results presented in this work provide a global context for existing theory and in-situ measurement based hypotheses about cloud properties, highlighting areas for future research to further constrain ice and mixed-phase cloud processes.

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