

1 First, we would like to thank the two anonymous Reviewers for having carefully read the
2 manuscript and for providing their helpful and constructive reviews, which improved our
3 manuscript. Point-by-point replies to the comments are here below.

4
5 For clarity and easy visualization, the Referee's comments are shown from here on in black.

6
7 The authors' replies are in blue font with an increased indent below each of the
8 referee's statements. The Line numbers (L.) in our responses refer to the unrevised
9 manuscript.

10
11 The relevant changes in the revised manuscript are below in green.

12
13 **Authors' response to anonymous Referee #3 ([https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-2022-98-](https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-2022-98-RC1)**
14 **RC1)**

15
16 **Overall Quality**

17 This manuscript utilizes a merged-instrument approach to characterize precipitating ice
18 particle habits at a remote site in inland Finland. Primarily using 12-hourly soundings and the
19 Multi-Angle Snowflake camera (MASC), the study determines via knowledge of ice particle
20 history and growth regimes that approximately three-quarters of ice particles originate from
21 cloud layers with top temperatures outside of the mixed-phase region (i.e., sub-liquid RH
22 saturation [$<99\%$]), suggesting that the majority of cloud layers are fully glaciated. Using an
23 empirical formulation, they finally determine that the number of ice nucleating particles (INP)
24 were likely sufficient to explain heterogeneous ice production, suggesting an inactive ice
25 multiplication mechanism (outside of possible collisions). Overall, the manuscript is of
26 excellent quality in terms of science, documentation, figures, and structure. The authors
27 clearly made a significant effort to explain their data processing in a concise manner. After
28 addressing a few specific comments and technical corrections, I recommend this manuscript
29 pursue publication in ACP.

30
31 We thank the referee for reviewing our manuscript. We appreciate the positive
32 feedback and helpful comments.

33
34 **Specific Comments**

35
36 Fig 6. & ~Line 183: I would point out to the reader that the color-scales on each panel are
37 different.

38
39 Thank you for commenting on this. We have added the following sentence in the
40 caption of Fig. 6. We also added a sentence in captions of Fig. 4 and Fig. A6, which
41 are figure that have had similar issues.

42
43 The color scale ranges from zero to the total number of events for each group, so the
44 color scale for each panel is different.

45
46 Line 159 & Fig. 3: What exactly is "visibility"? If it is similar to cloud base height, then these
47 are an order of magnitude off. It would also be good to mention how cloud base height was
48 detected within the instrumentation at the site. If it is a nm-wavelength active remote sensor,

49 then I would expect my interpretation of visibility to closely optically correspond with cloud
50 base height.

51

52 The cloud base height was measured by Vaisala CT25K ceilometer (Ceilometer
53 CT25K User's Guide, Vaisala, available at: [https://www.rish.kyoto-
54 u.ac.jp/ear/ceilometer/ct25k.pdf](https://www.rish.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ear/ceilometer/ct25k.pdf), last access: 11 August 2022). The visibility was
55 measured by Vaisala FD12P with an optical forward-scatter sensor that sees fog and
56 precipitation particles (see
57 <https://www.livedata.se/images/Vaisala/Nederbord/FD12P.pdf>, last access: 11
58 August 2022). The visibility measurement range is 10 to 50 000 m. This is basically
59 documented in L. 116 with reference to the FMI web page
60 (https://litdb.fmi.fi/luo0015_data.php, last access: 11 August 2022). We replaced the
61 "visibility" with "horizontal visibility" throughout the manuscript. Consistently, we
62 adapted the sentence in L. 159.

63

64 During snowfall, the horizontal visibility was on average 2020 m, the average base
65 height (or vertical visibility) of the lowest cloud was 213 m, [...].

66

67 Fig 3: I'm confused about the sea level pressure measurements. If the station is only 179 m
68 ASL, these values are way too low.

69

70 Thank you very much for this valuable comment. It brought to our attention that we
71 have made a mistake in calculating the ground-based meteorological parameters for
72 the 15 minutes intervals. We have corrected this and updated the Fig. 3. Amongst
73 other variables, the sea level air pressure values are higher than before and now
74 make sense. In addition, the related values mentioned in the text (L. 154 – 160, L.
75 192 – 194) and Fig. A6 were corrected.

76

77 Fig 2 & Line 134: Why 15 minutes prior to sounding release? Wouldn't 15 minutes afterward
78 be more representative of the cloud that is producing the precipitation?

79

80 Since radiosondes were launched from the same ground station at which we
81 observed falling snow crystals, it was only at ground level and at the moment of
82 launch that both kinds of observations coincided in space and in time. Crystals
83 formed at any point in the profile while it was sounded, have reached ground level
84 downwind the station and at a later point in time. By relating the humidity profile to
85 crystals observed 15 minutes prior to launch we assumed that the profile is, when
86 sounded, still representative of what it was up to 15 minutes earlier upwind the
87 station. If we would have related the sounded humidity profile to crystals observed
88 during the 15 minutes following sounding, we would have had to assume the
89 sounding to be representative of the moisture profile still upwind the station, from
90 where crystals would arrive in the following 15 minutes. Neither assumption is
91 secure, but the first seemed to us more reliable than the second. Anyway, the sky
92 was fully cloud covered (8 octas; see L. 162) during snow events and the choice of
93 assumption probably makes no big difference.

94

95 Line 213: Nice conclusion!

96

97 Thank you.

98

99 **Technical Corrections**

100

101 Line 61: “automatically” should be “automatic”

102

103 Done.

104

105 Line 63: “summery” should be “summer”

106

107 Done.

108

109 Fig A1: “lowlight” should be “highlight”

110

111 We changed the wording into “The grey areas mark...”.

112

113 Line 81: suggest using “length” instead of “height”

114

115 Done.

116

117 Line 94: Should “An ice particle classified” be “An ice is particle classified”?

118

119 We changed this sentence as it was a little confusing.

120

121 Unrimed ice particles correspond to riming degrees of 0 and 1, and rimed particles to
122 riming degrees of 2 to 5 according to Mosimann et al. (1994).

123

124 Line 153: Should “weighed” be “weighted”?

125

126 Yes, thank you. Done.

127

128

129 **References**

130

131 Mosimann, L., Weingartner, E., and Waldvogel, A.: An Analysis of Accreted Drop Sizes and
132 Mass on Rimed Snow Crystals, J. Atmos. Sci., 51, 1548 – 1558,
133 [https://doi.org/10.1175/1520-0469\(1994\)051<1548:AAOADS>2.0.CO;2](https://doi.org/10.1175/1520-0469(1994)051<1548:AAOADS>2.0.CO;2), 1994.