

# In situ observations of water vapor and cirrus IWC in the Pacific TTL during ATTREX

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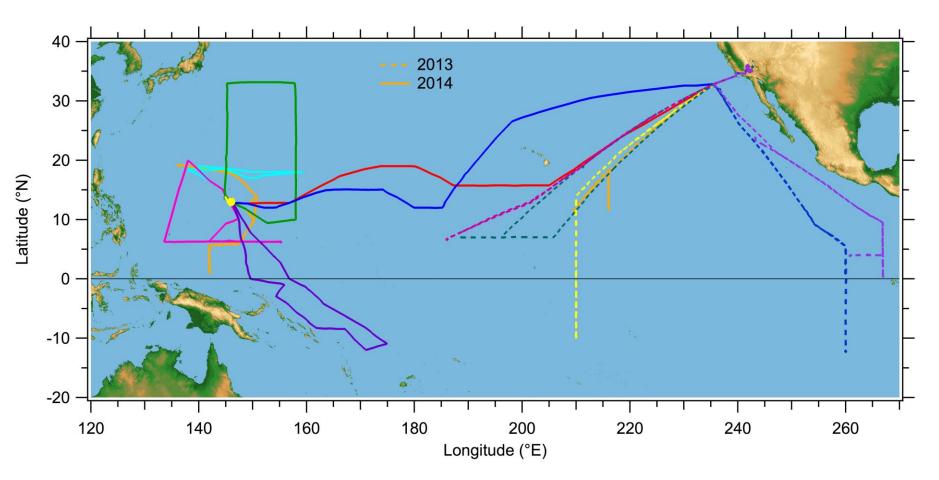






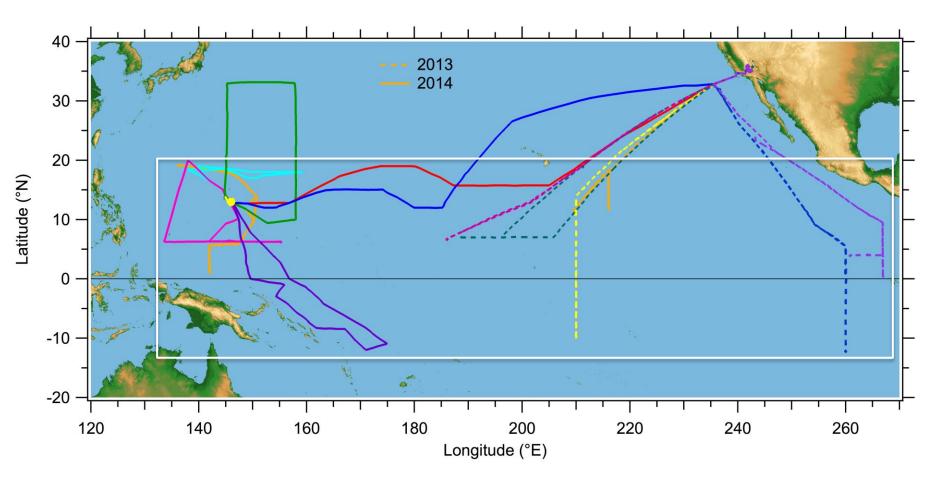
2014 Western Pacific Airborne Campaigns Science Team Meeting Boulder Colorado, October 21, 2014

# ATTREX 2 & 3 Flights



Sampling of the TTL over the Pacific with the goal of improving understanding of the dynamical and microphysical processes related to the final dehydration of air entering the stratosphere.

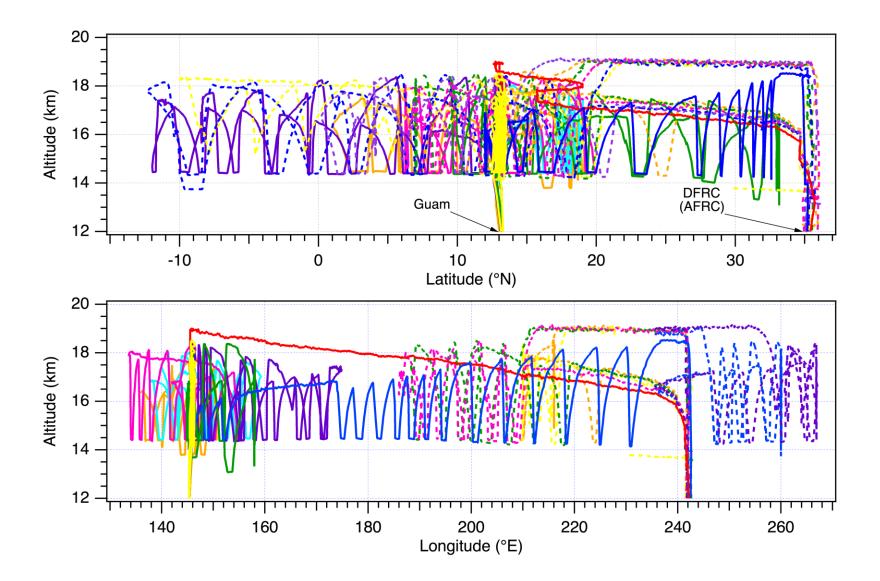
# ATTREX 2 & 3 Flights



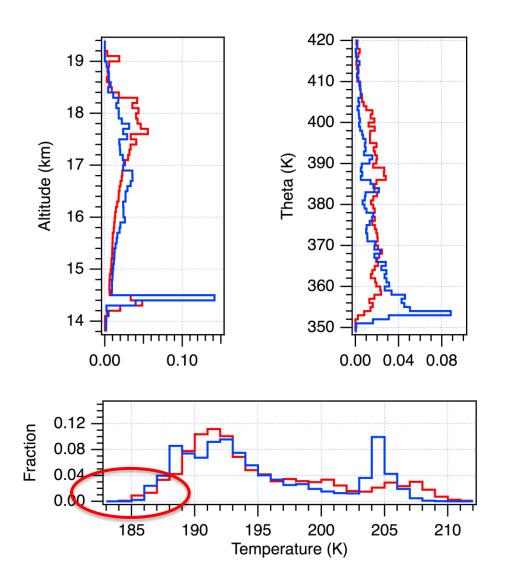
Extensive in situ sampling of the Pacific TTL with measurements of water vapor and cirrus properties.

However, some sampling limitations...

### Latitude and Longitude



# Sampling Histograms

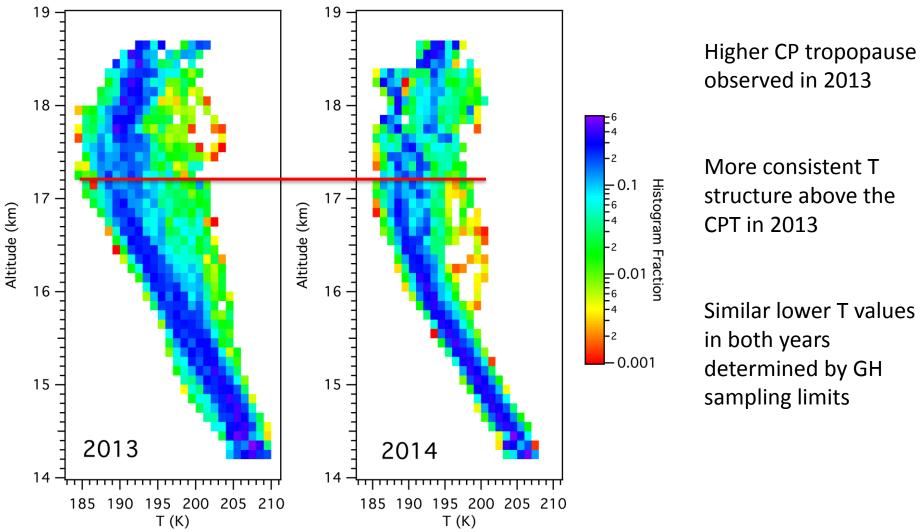


Comparison of 2013 and 2014 from GH sampling perspective

2013: > 74 hours in the TTL 2014: > 108 hours in the TTL

Limited sampling in either year at temperatures < 186 K

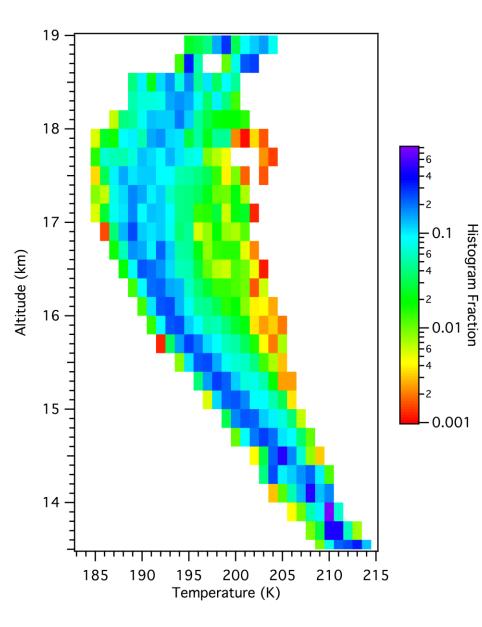
### TTL temperature profiles



More consistent T structure above the

Similar lower T values in both years determined by GH sampling limits

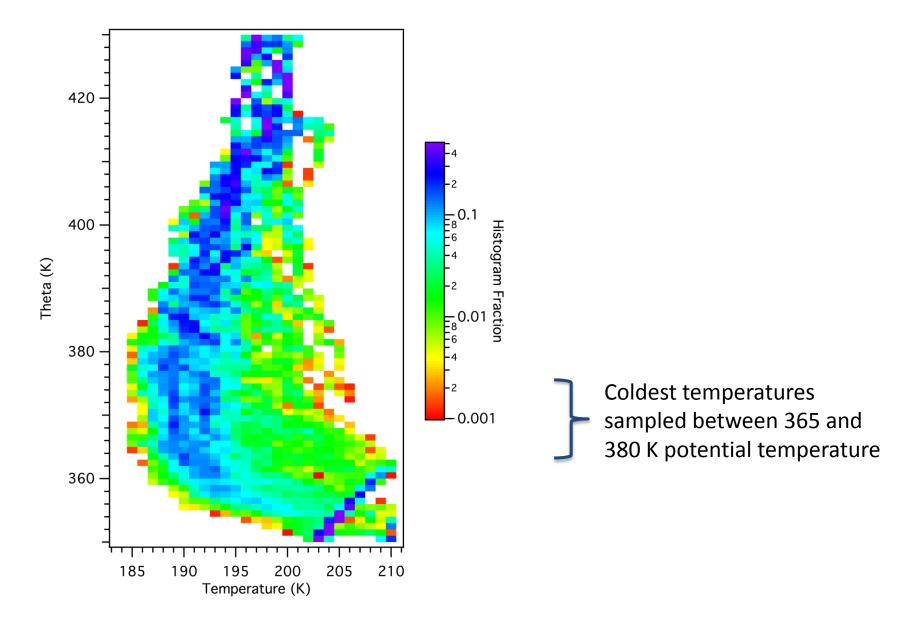
## **Combined Temperature profile**



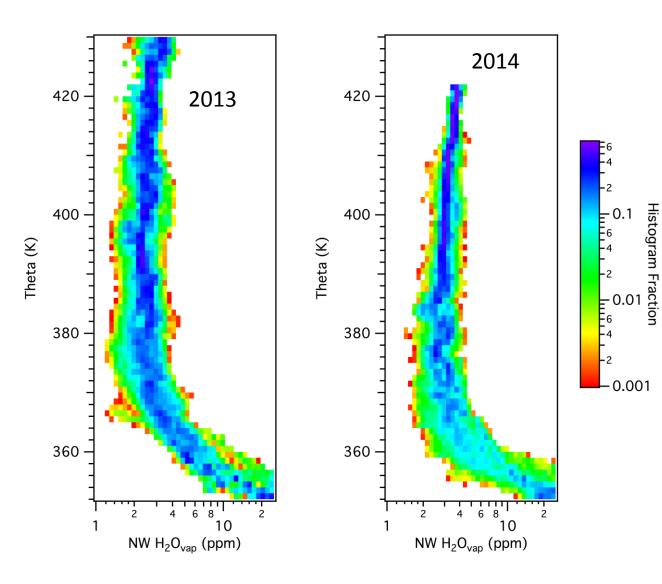
Combined profile looks reasonable

During both 2013 and 2014 a number of warm profiles were measured

#### Temperature vs Theta profile



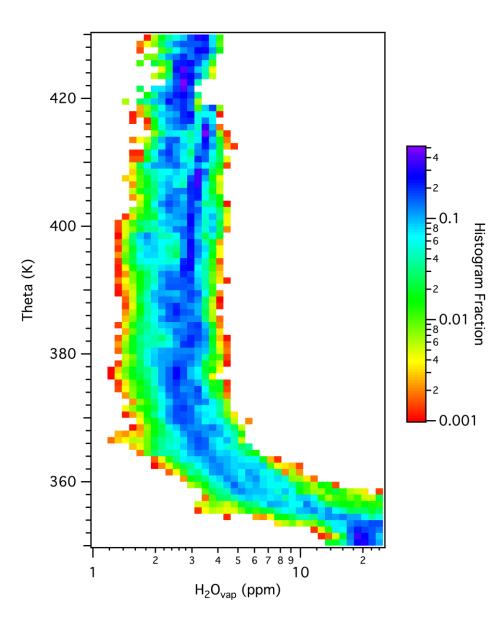
#### Water vapor profiles



Typical WV values above CP lower by ~ 05 ppm in 2013 than 2014

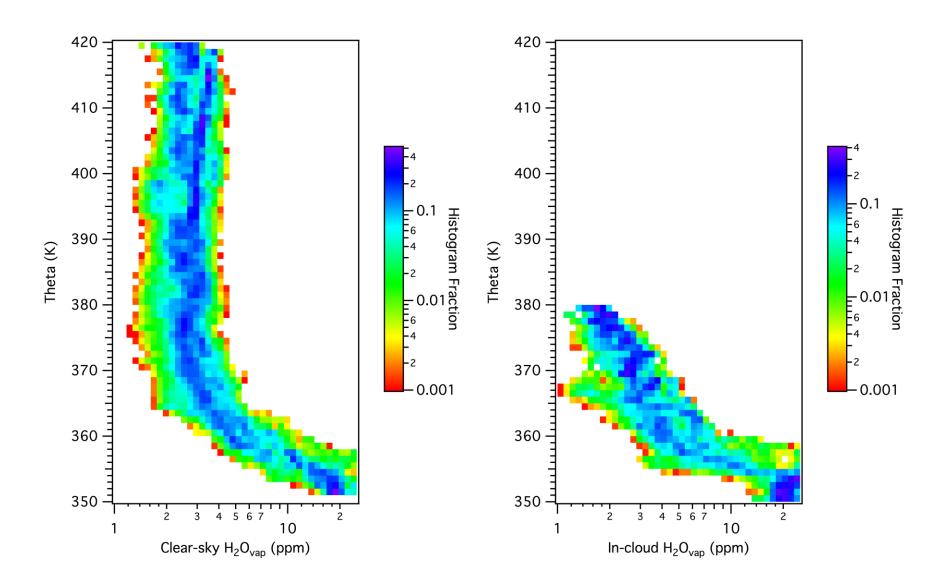
Consistent with zonal mean value difference

# Combined WV profile

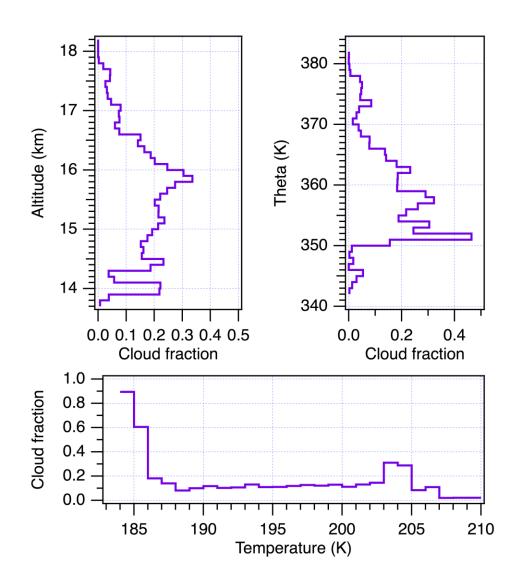


Apparent discontinuity above 410K due to difference in profile top between ATTREX-2 and ATTREX-3

#### In-cloud vs Clear-sky



# **ATTREX cloud fraction**

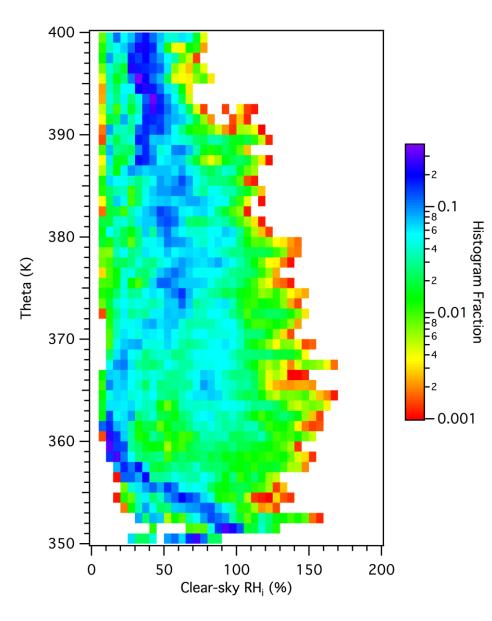


Define cloud using FCDP and NW IWC measures

Sampled cloud fractions similar to satellite climatology

Particularly high cloud fraction observed at lowest sampled temperatures

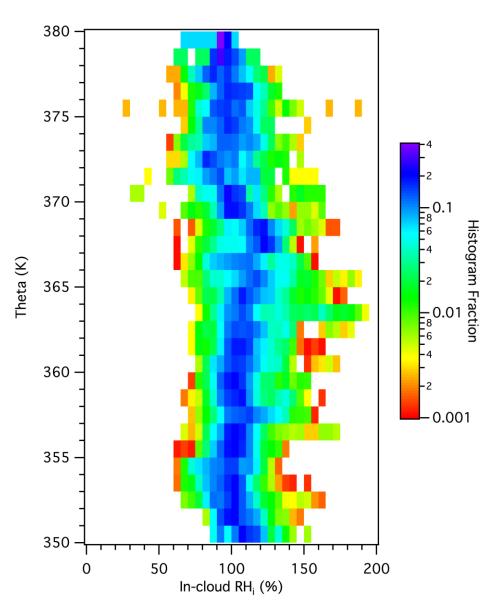
# Clear-sky RH<sub>ice</sub> profile



Broad range of RH<sub>ice</sub> observed in clear air from very dry to supersaturated

Frequent dry values observed near 360K

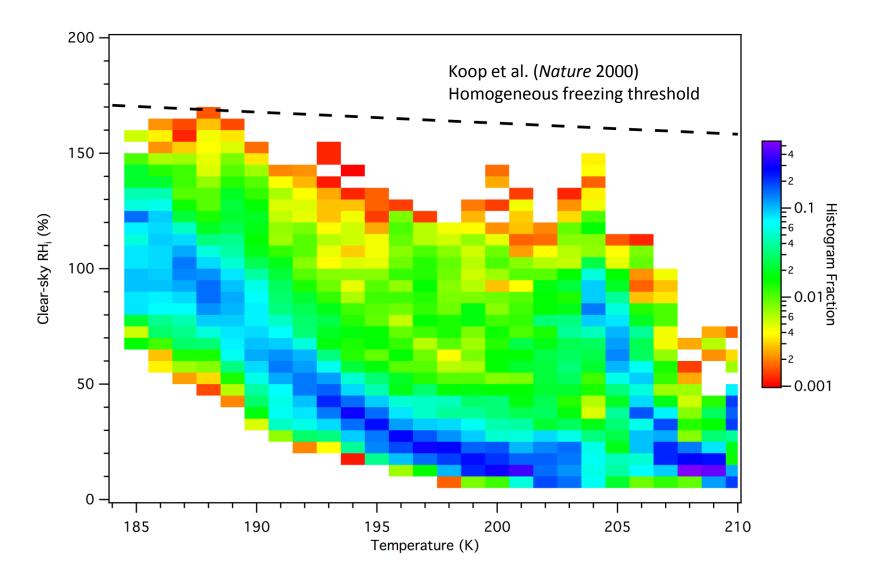
# In-cloud RH<sub>ice</sub> profile



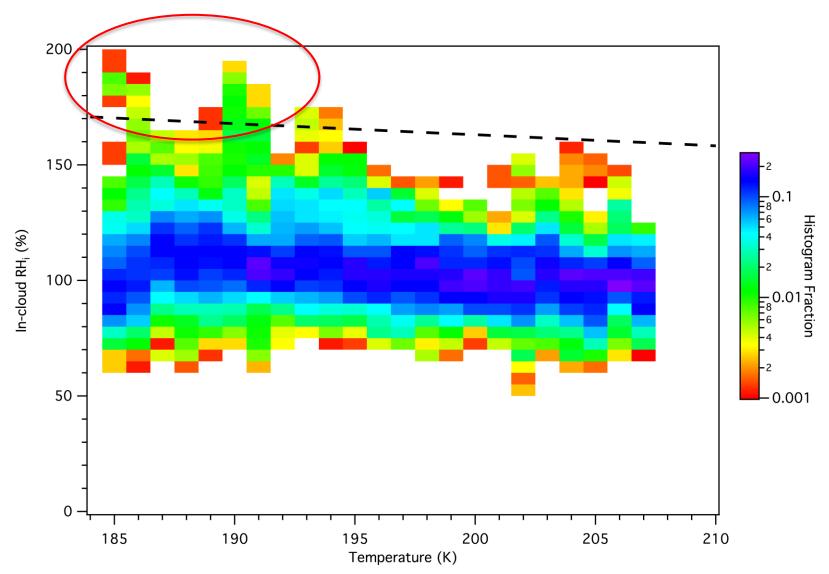
Distribution of RH<sub>ice</sub> within cirrus centered near 100% throughout profile

Values range from ~50% to above homogeneous freezing threshold

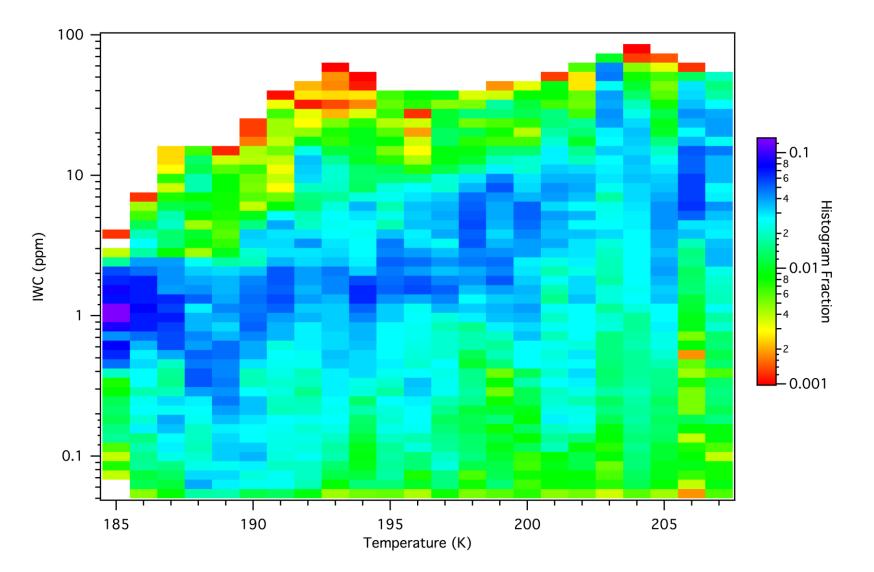
# Clear-sky RH<sub>ice</sub> vs T



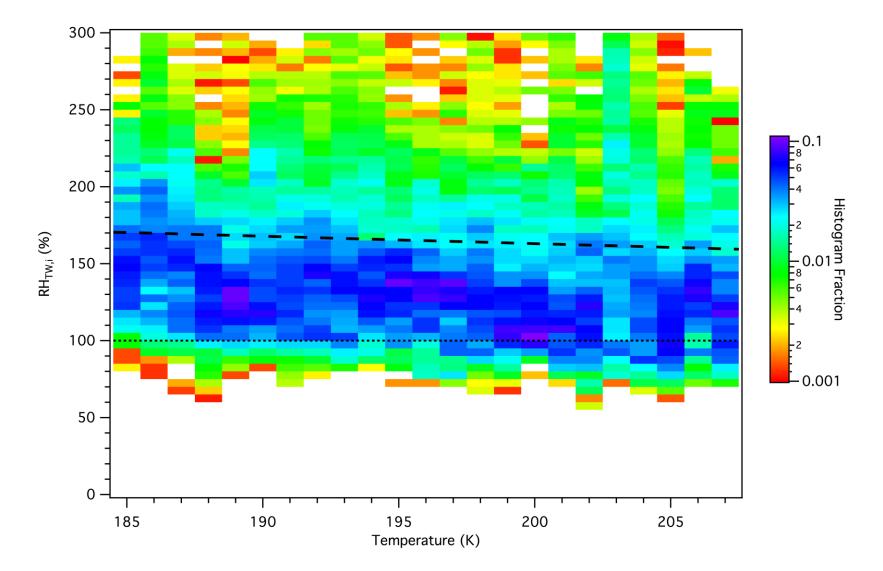
#### In-cloud RH vs T



# IWC vs T



# $S_{TW}$ vs Temperature



# Summary

- GH observations of temperature and water vapor profiles are consistent with the zonal mean differences between 2013 and 2014
- Sampled cloud fractions higher than satellite climatology
- RH<sub>ice</sub> below homogeneous freezing threshold in clear air
- Distribution of RH<sub>ice</sub> in cirrus peaks near 100% but has a broad range and potentially some very high values
- Significant cirrus IWC measurements along with cirrus properties measurements
- Distribution of TW (vapor + IWC) includes a number of values significantly exceeding homogeneous freezing threshold

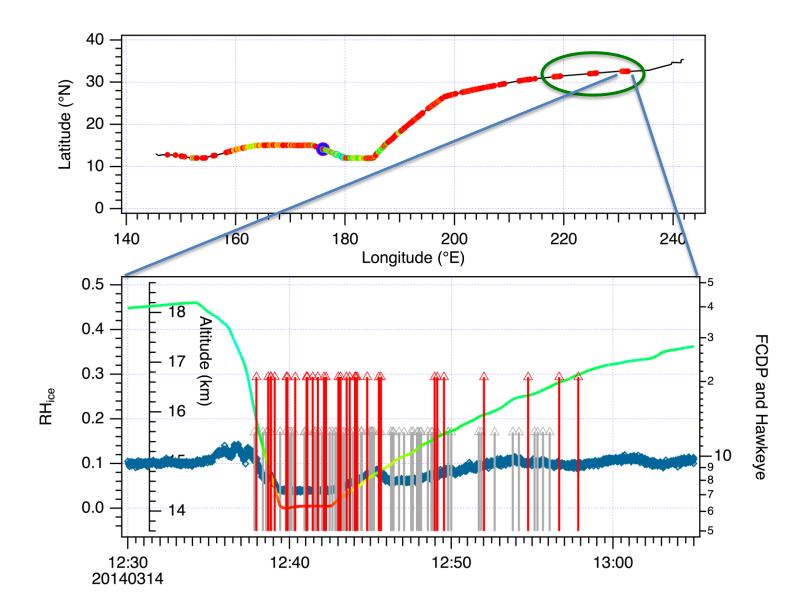
## Directions

• NW and FCDP/Hawkeye IWC closure

Investigation of in situ cirrus nucleation mechanisms

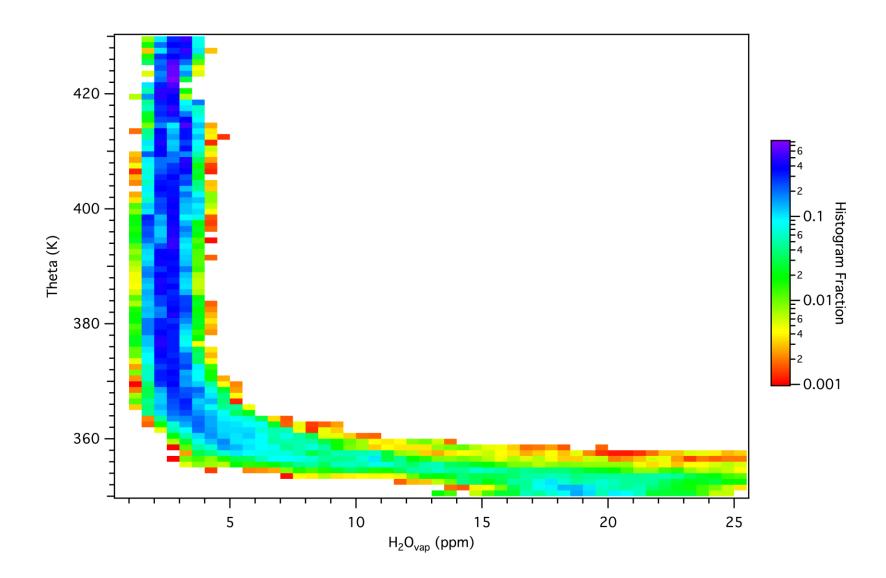
• Dehydration efficiency...

#### Non-water containing particles in the LS?



# END

# WV profile



# IWC/TW ratio vs T

