

# Snowfall measurements in the Arctic using lidar and radar data

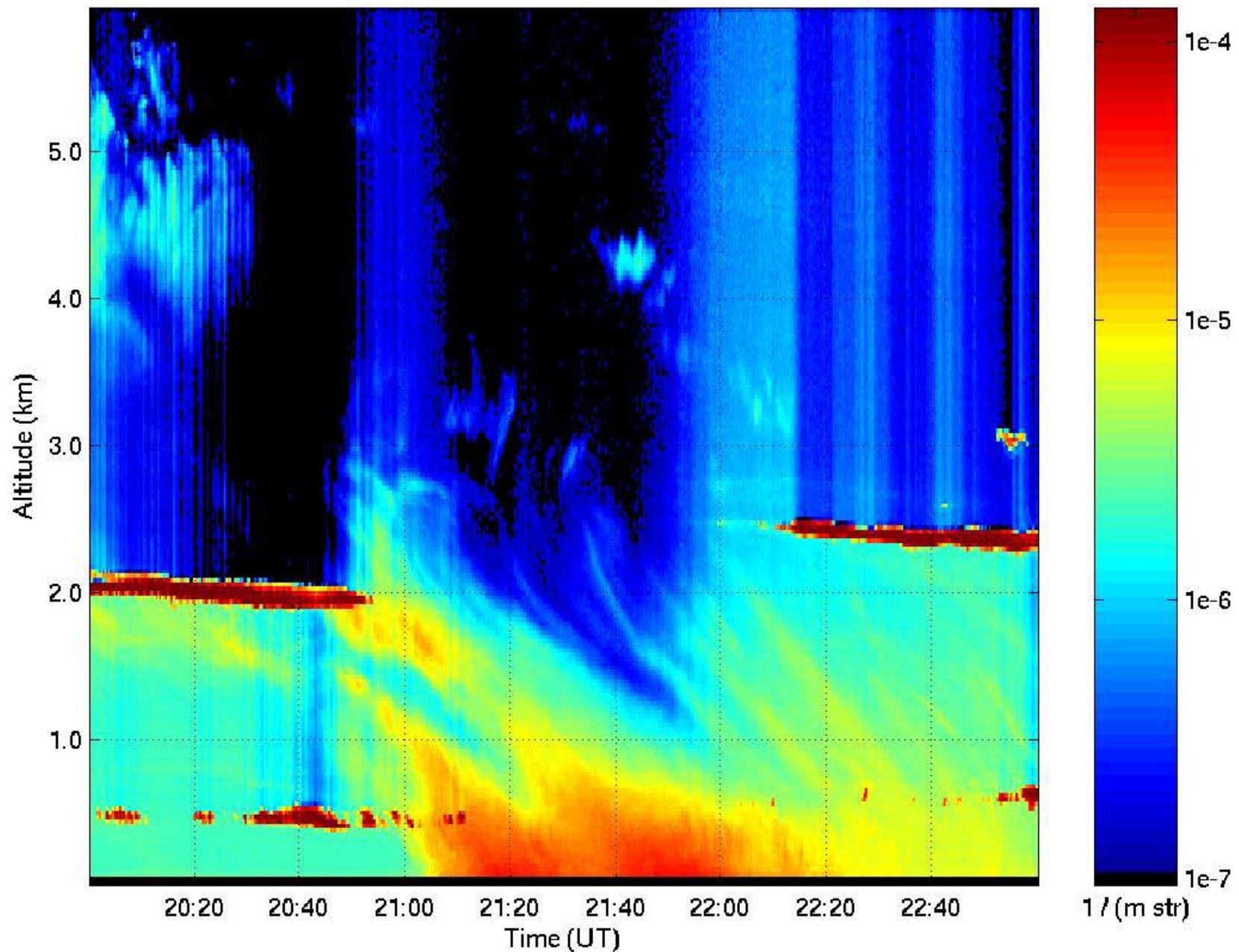
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<http://lidar.ssec.wisc.edu>

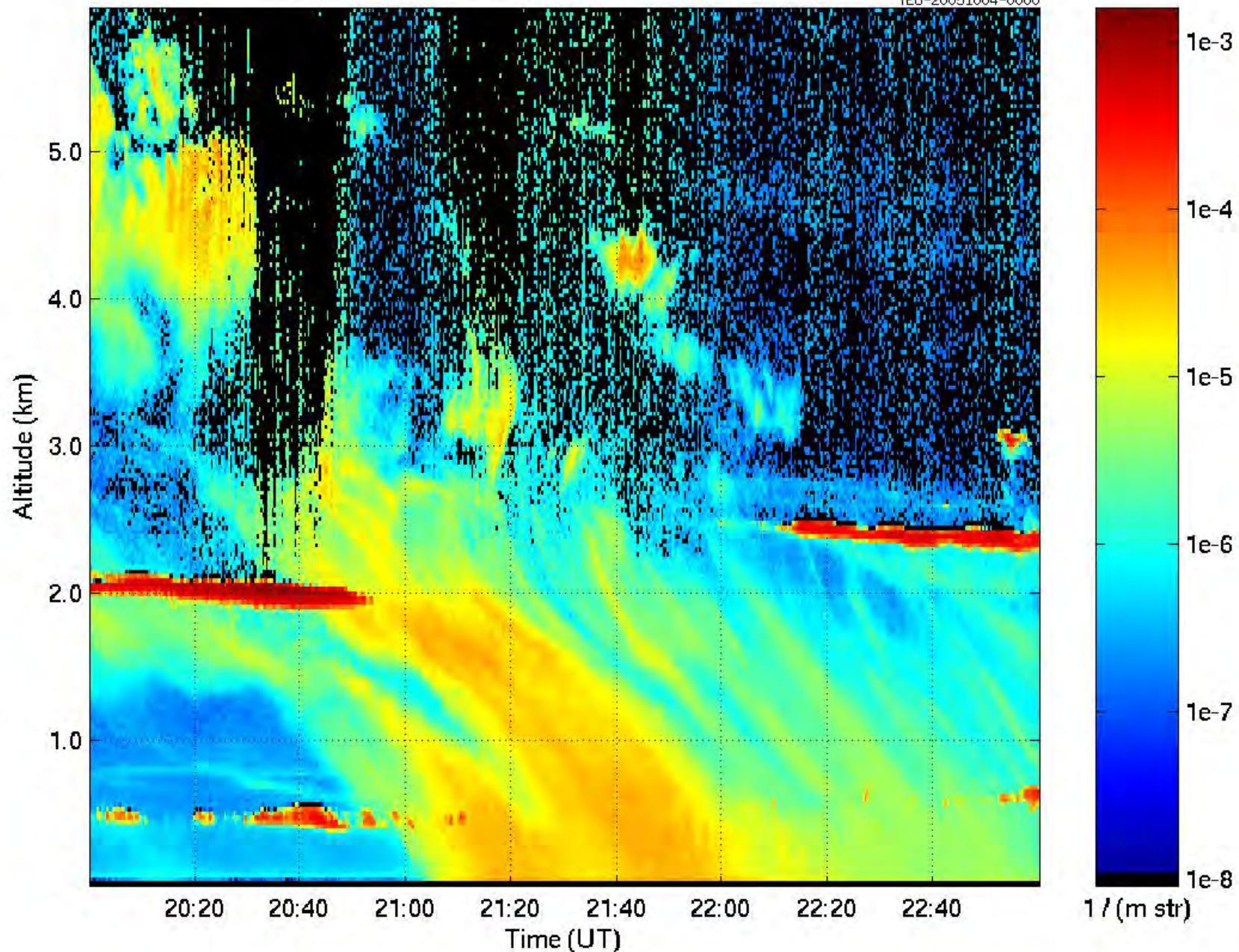


Attenuated backscatter ( $\text{m}^{-1}\text{str}^{-1}$ ) 03-Oct-2005

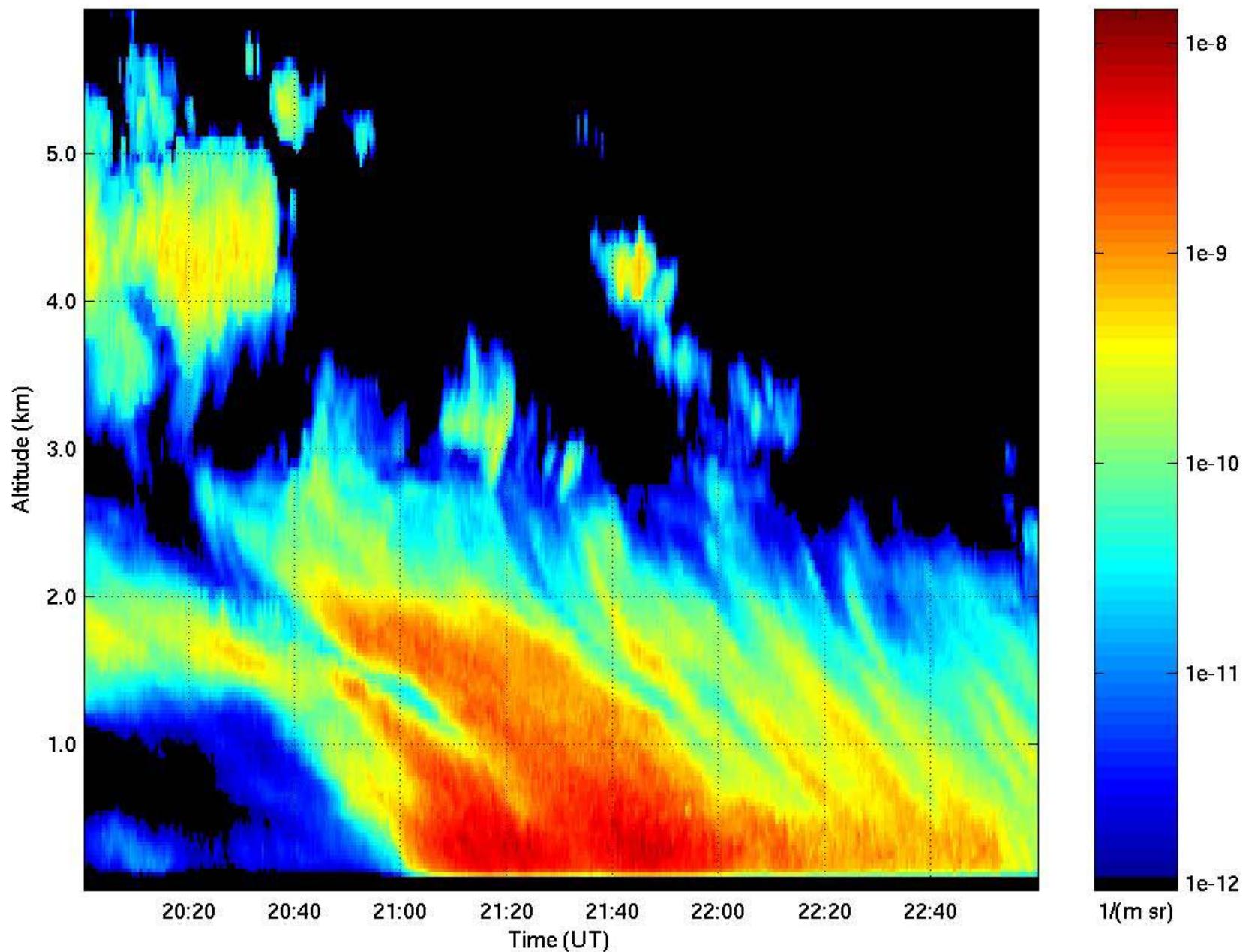


Aerosol backscatter cross section  $\text{m}^{-1}\text{str}^{-1}$  03-Oct-2005

YEU-20051004-0000



Radar backscatter cross section 03-Oct-2005



# Lidar-Radar Measurement of Effective Diameter

Radar scattering cross section  $\sim \langle \text{Mass}^2 \rangle \sim \rho \langle \text{Volume}^2 \rangle \sim D^6$

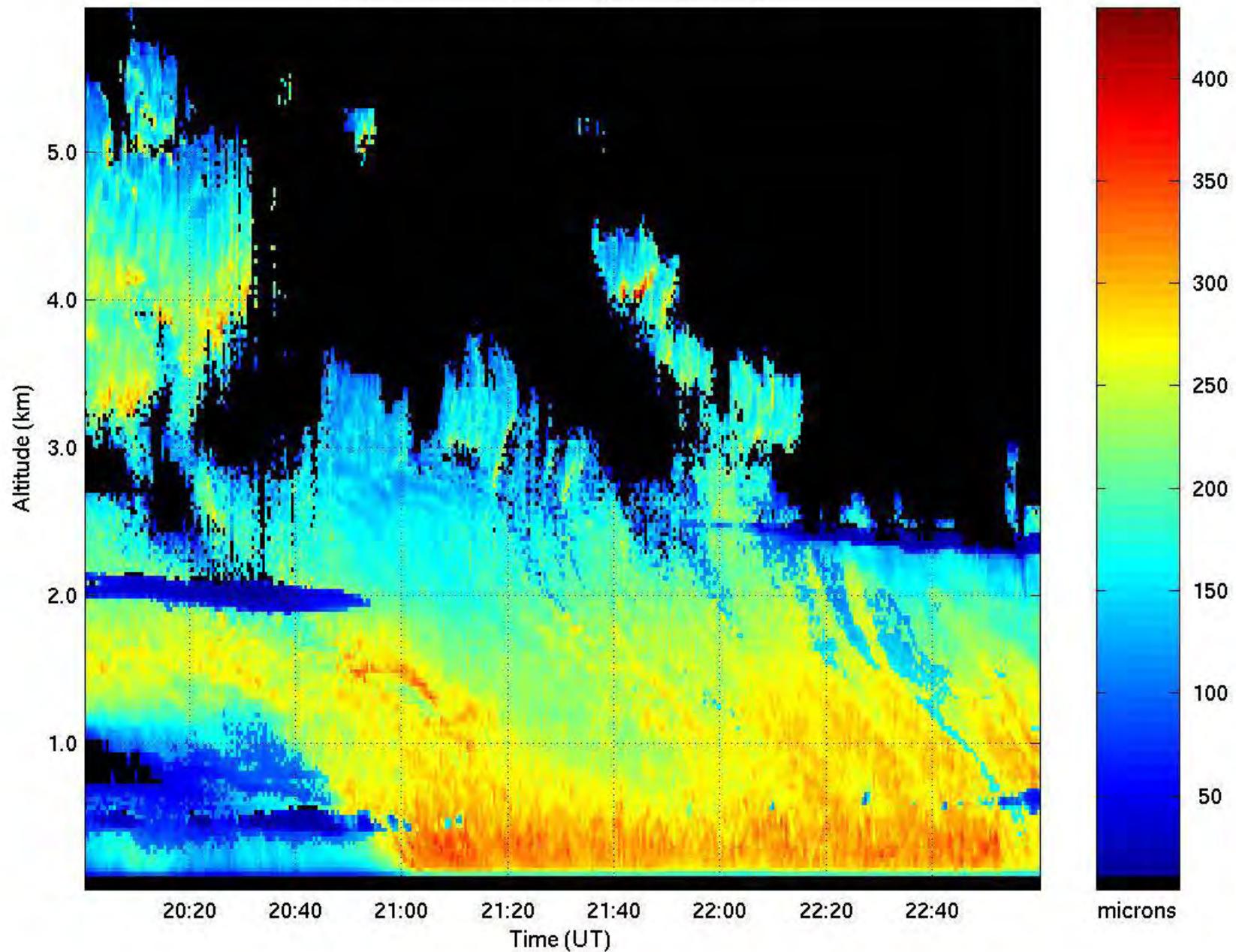
Lidar scattering cross section  $\sim \langle \text{Area} \rangle \sim D^2$

$$D_{\text{eff\_prime}} \sim \sqrt[4]{\left( \frac{\langle \text{Radar scattering cross section} \rangle}{\langle \text{Lidar scattering cross section} \rangle} \right)}$$

Notice that this differs from the usual definition:

$$D_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\langle \text{Particle volume} \rangle}{\langle \text{Particle area} \rangle}$$

Particle effective diameter prime 03-Oct-2005



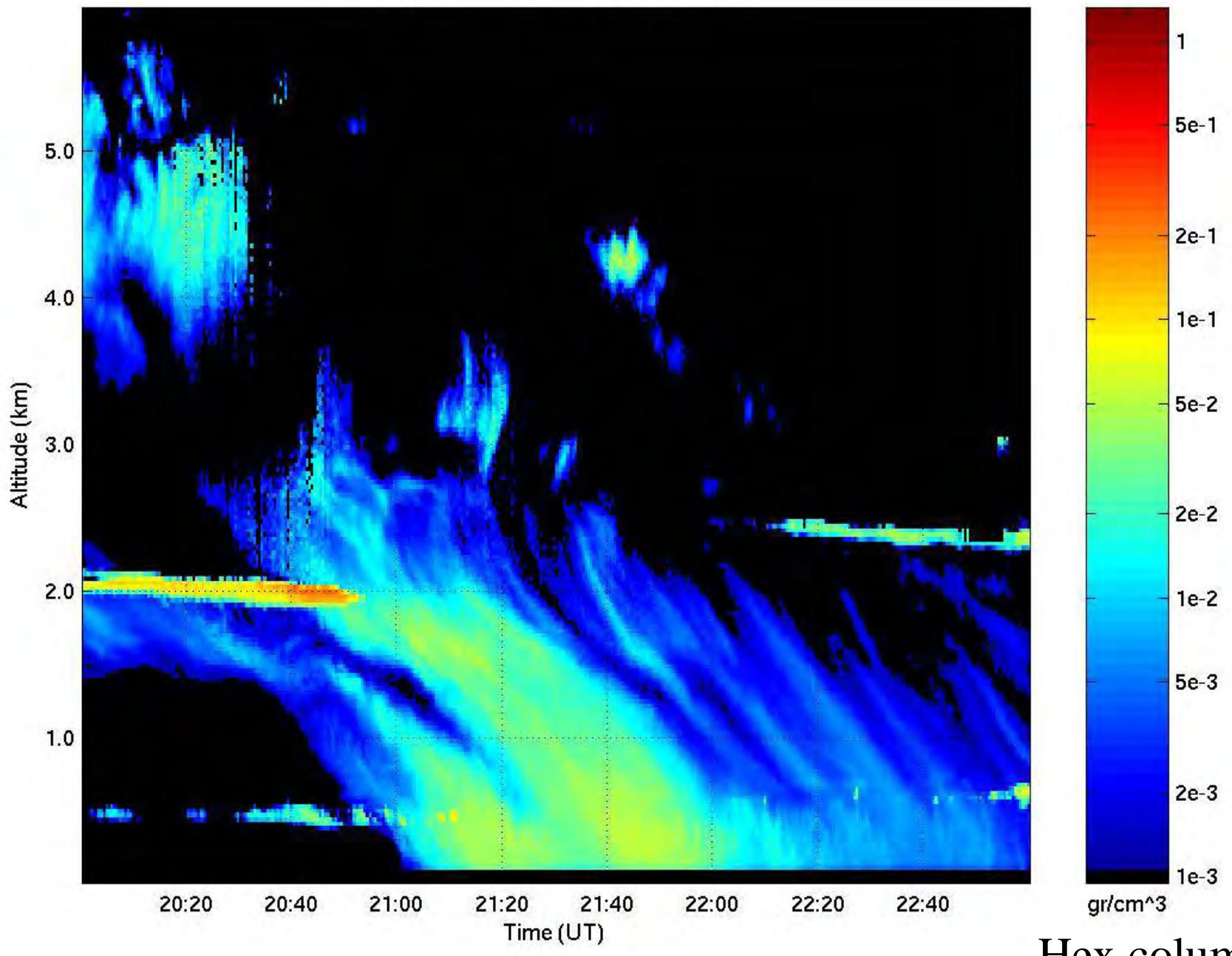
Problem:

Ice crystals are not spherical

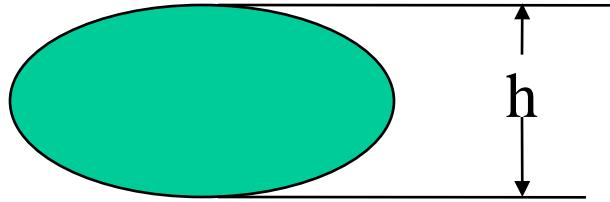


Photos by Kenneth Libbrecht

Liquid Water Content 03-Oct-2005



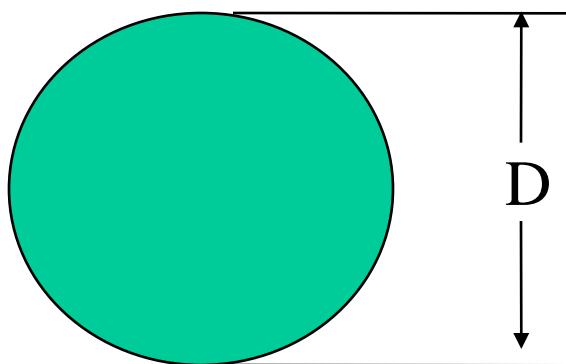
# Spheroid model to represent measureable properties of a snowflake



$$h = a D^\zeta \quad (\text{Auer and Veal})$$

$$\text{mass} = \pi/6 D^2 h$$

Side view



$$\text{projected area} = \pi/4 D^2$$

Top view

We assume a modified Gamma distribution  
 $N(D) \sim D^\alpha \exp(-bD^\gamma)$

Radar backscatter  $\sim$  particle concentration  $\langle \text{mass}^2 \rangle$

Lidar extinction  $\sim$  particle concentration  $\langle \text{projected area} \rangle$

Fall Velocity  $\sim F(\text{mass}, \text{projected area})$

The size distribution and the spheroid model are used to compute the observable quantities:

Integrating over the size distribution  $N(D)$  to derive  $D'_{\text{eff}}$

$$D'_{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{\frac{4\sqrt{9\langle V^2 \rangle}}{\pi\langle A \rangle}} = \sqrt{\frac{\int a^2 D^4 D^{2\zeta} N(D) dD}{\int D^2 N(D) dD}} = \sqrt{\frac{4\sqrt{2\lambda^4 \beta_{\text{radar}}}}{\pi^3 k_{\text{ice}}^2 \beta_s}}$$

Radar reflectivity weighted fall velocity:

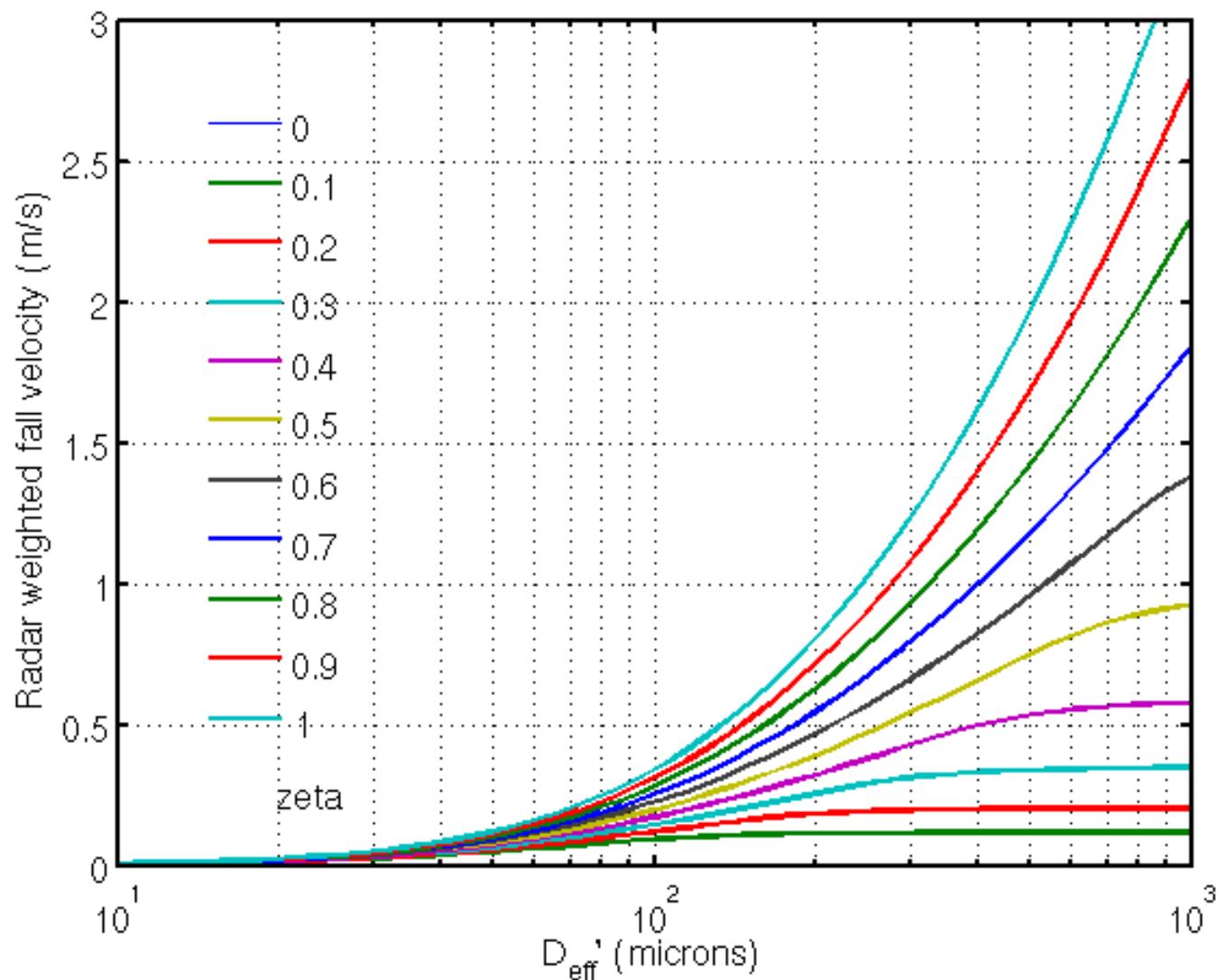
$$\langle V_f \rangle = \frac{\int V_f D^4 D^{2\zeta} N(D) dD}{\int D^4 D^{2\zeta} N(D) dD}$$

Fall velocity is parameterized in terms of  $X$ , the Best # :

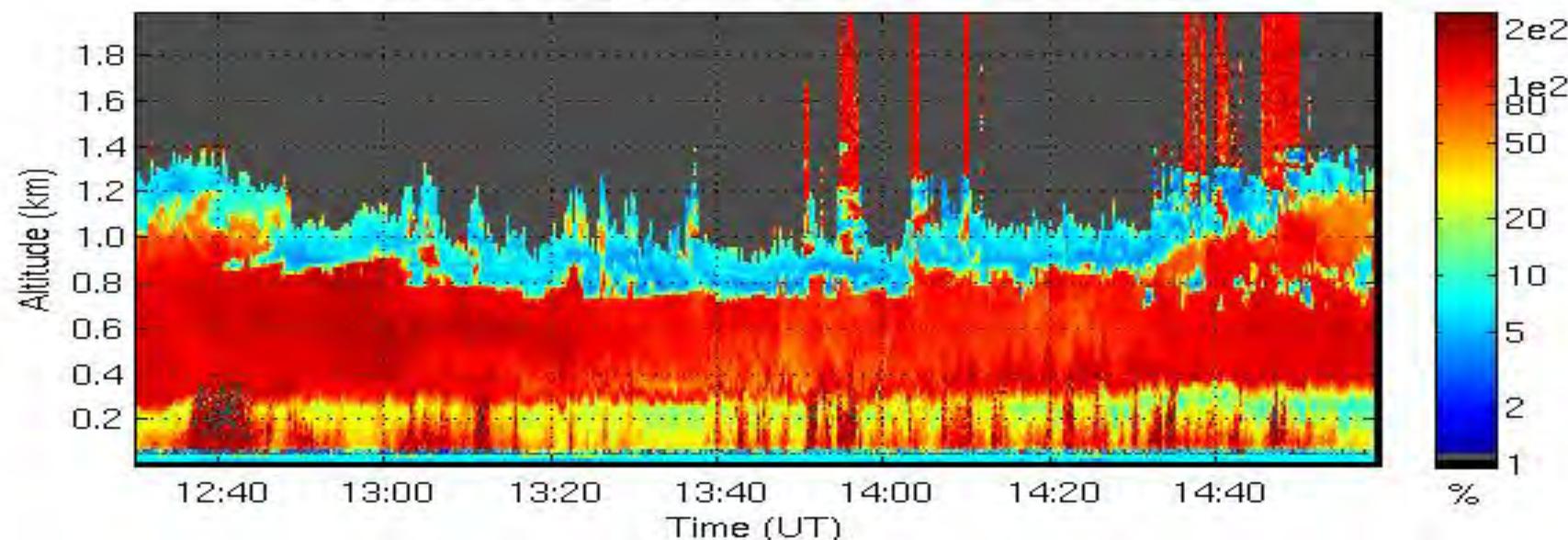
$$V_f = (\eta / (\rho_{\text{air}} D)) \{ (d_o^2 / 4) [(1 + C_1 X^{1/2})^{1/2} - a_o X^{bo}] \}$$

$$X = (2 \text{ mass } \rho_{\text{air}} g D^2) / (\text{area } \eta^2)$$

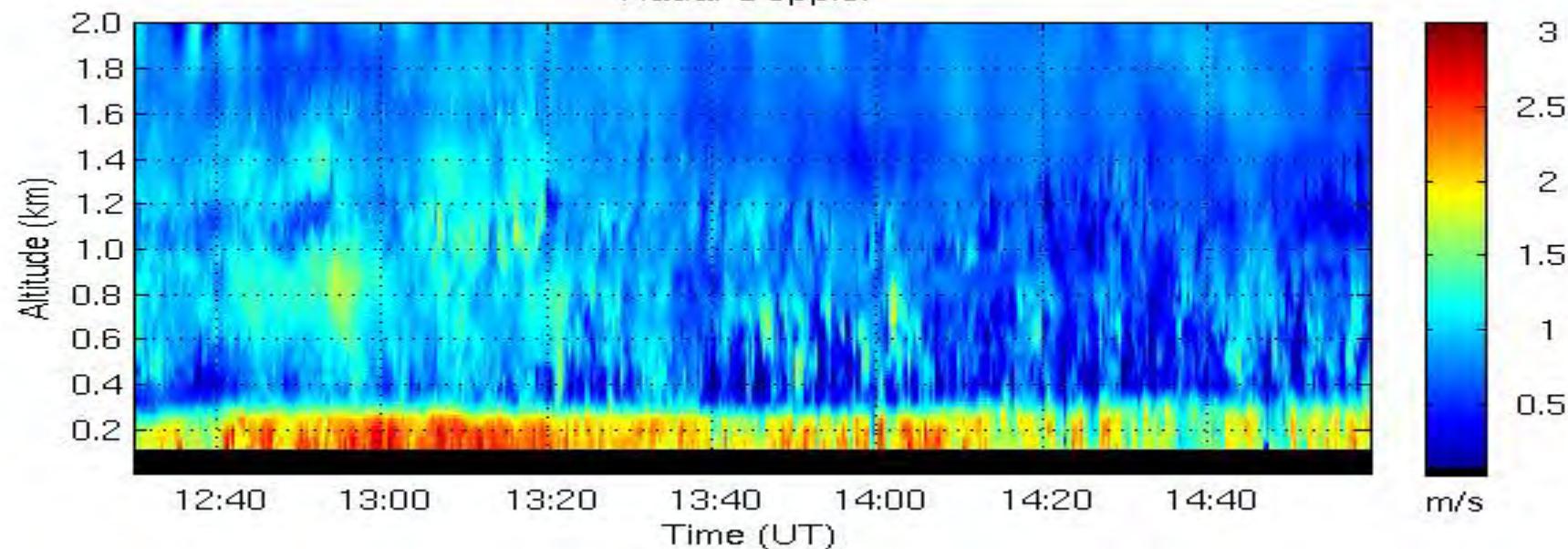
Zeta--ice,  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\gamma = 1$



Particulate circular depolarization ratio 19-Jun-2006

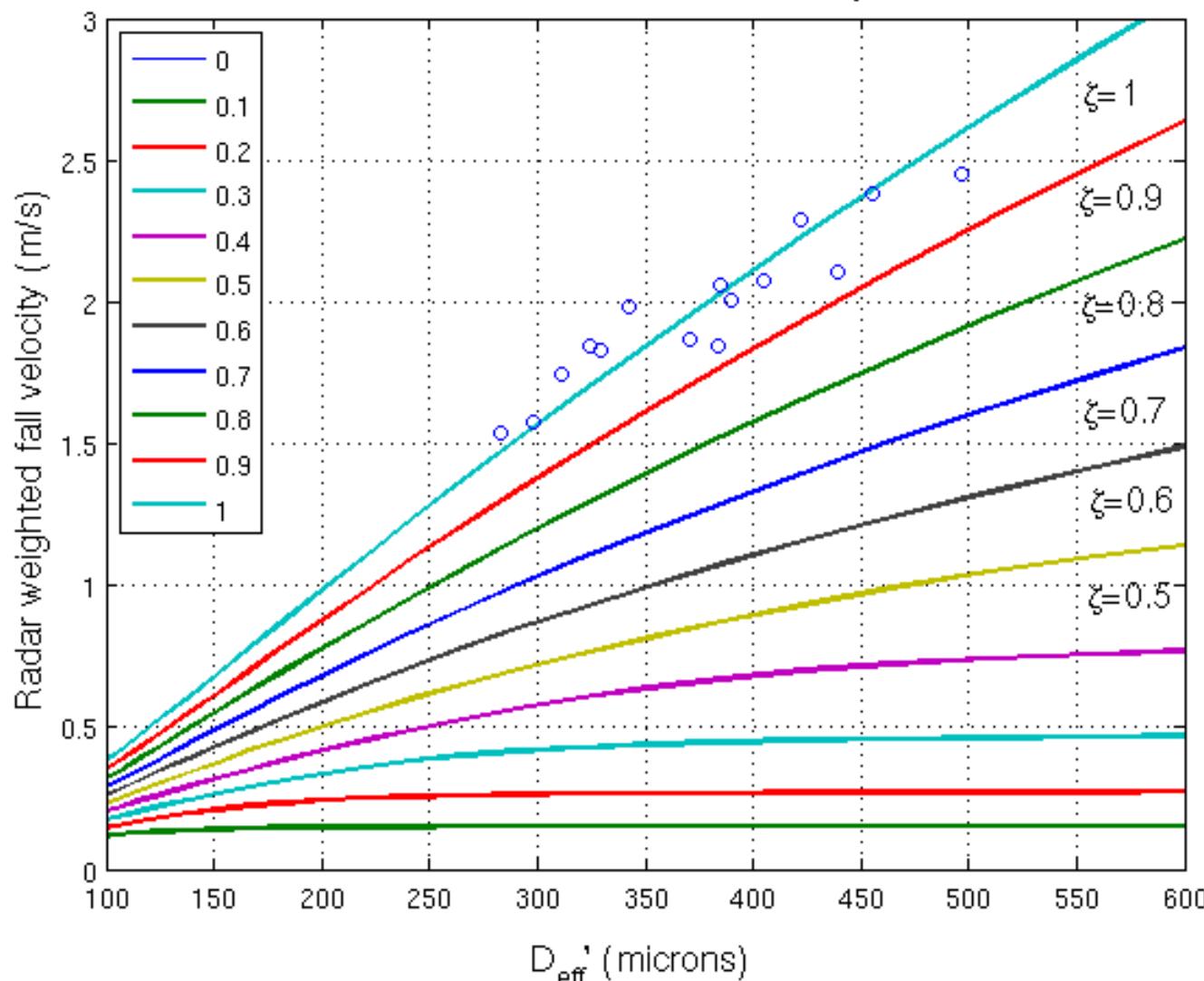


Radar Doppler

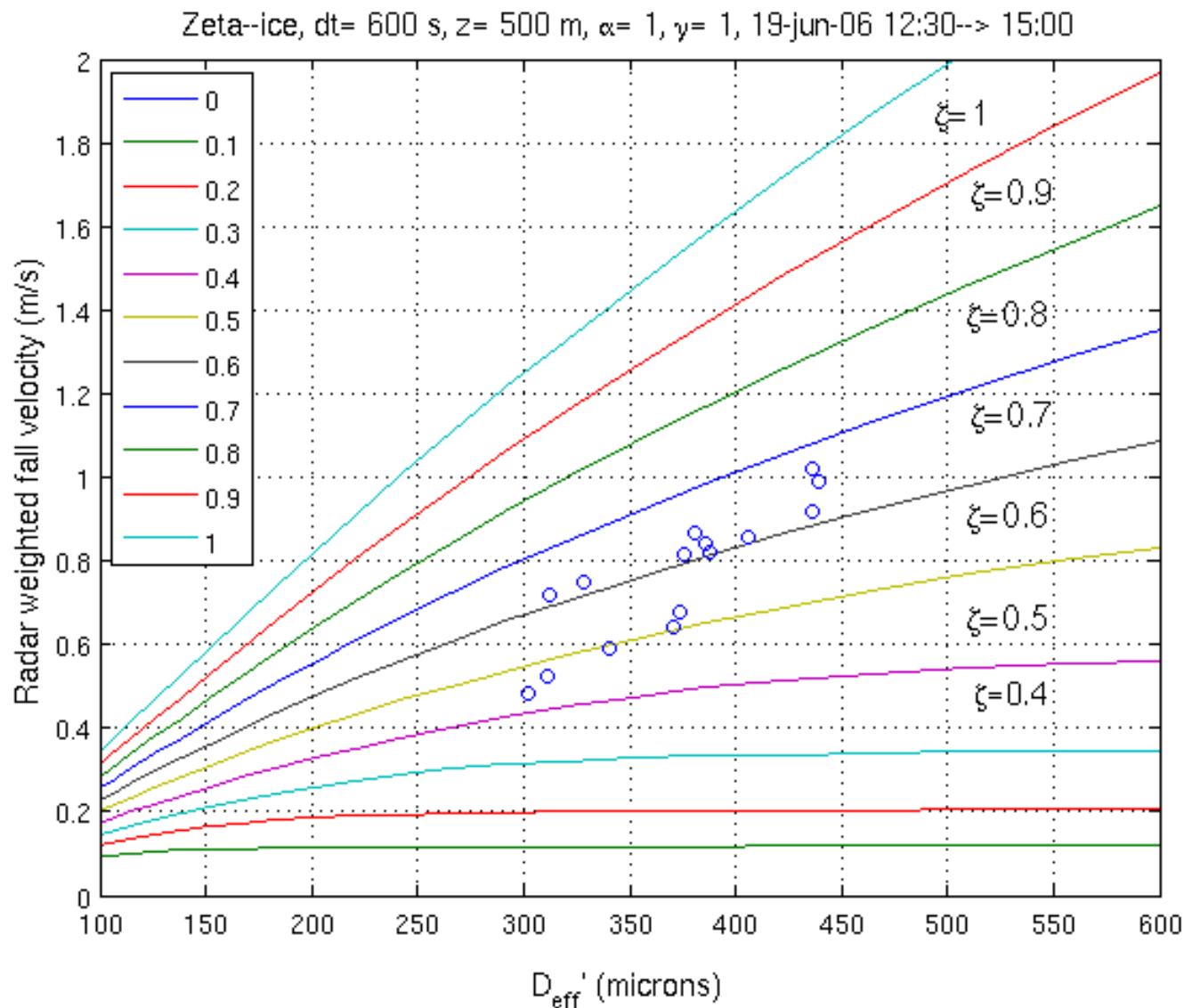


# Doppler velocity vs. $D_{\text{eff prime}}$ below melting layer

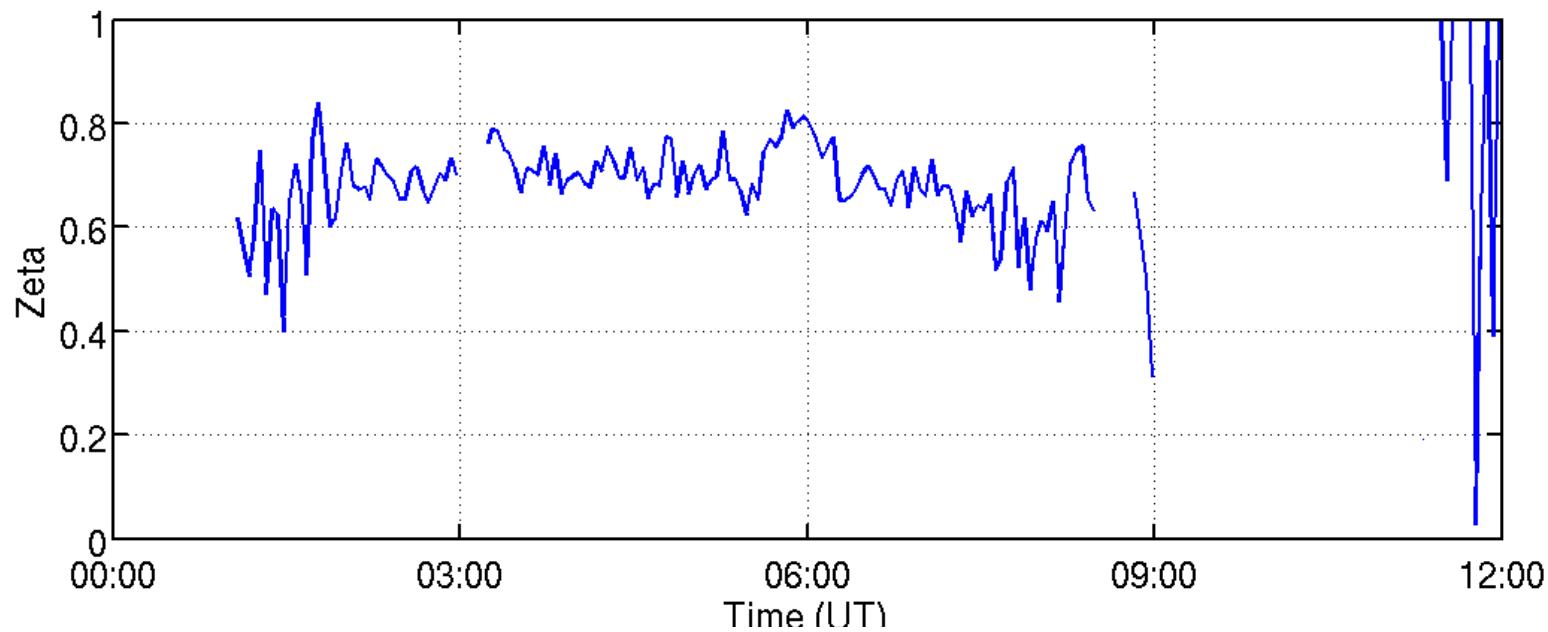
Zeta-water, dt= 600 s, z= 200 m,  $\alpha$ = 1,  $\gamma$ = 1, 19-jun-06 12:30->15:00



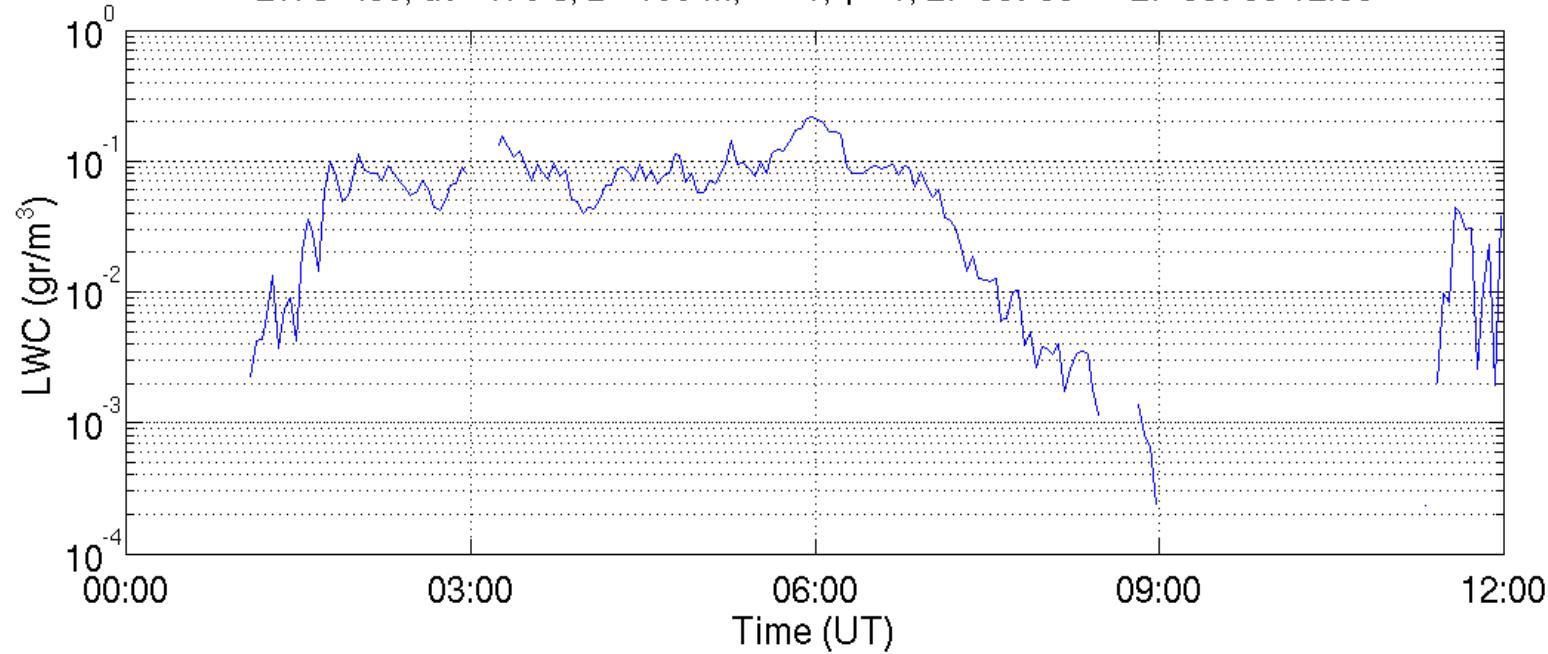
# Doppler velocity vs. $D_{\text{eff prime}}$ in snow layer



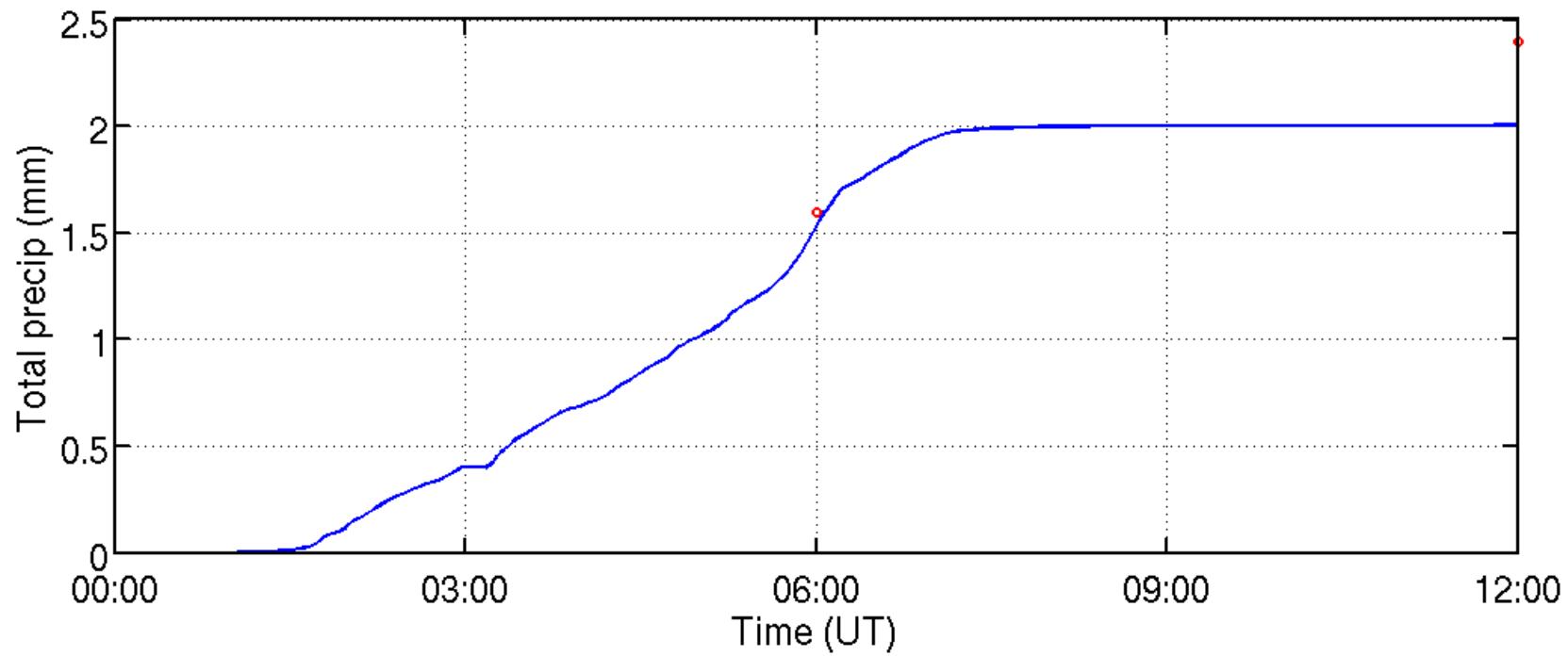
Zeta--ice, dt= 179 s, z= 199 m,  $\alpha$ = 1,  $\gamma$ = 1, 27-oct-06--> 27-oct-06 12:00



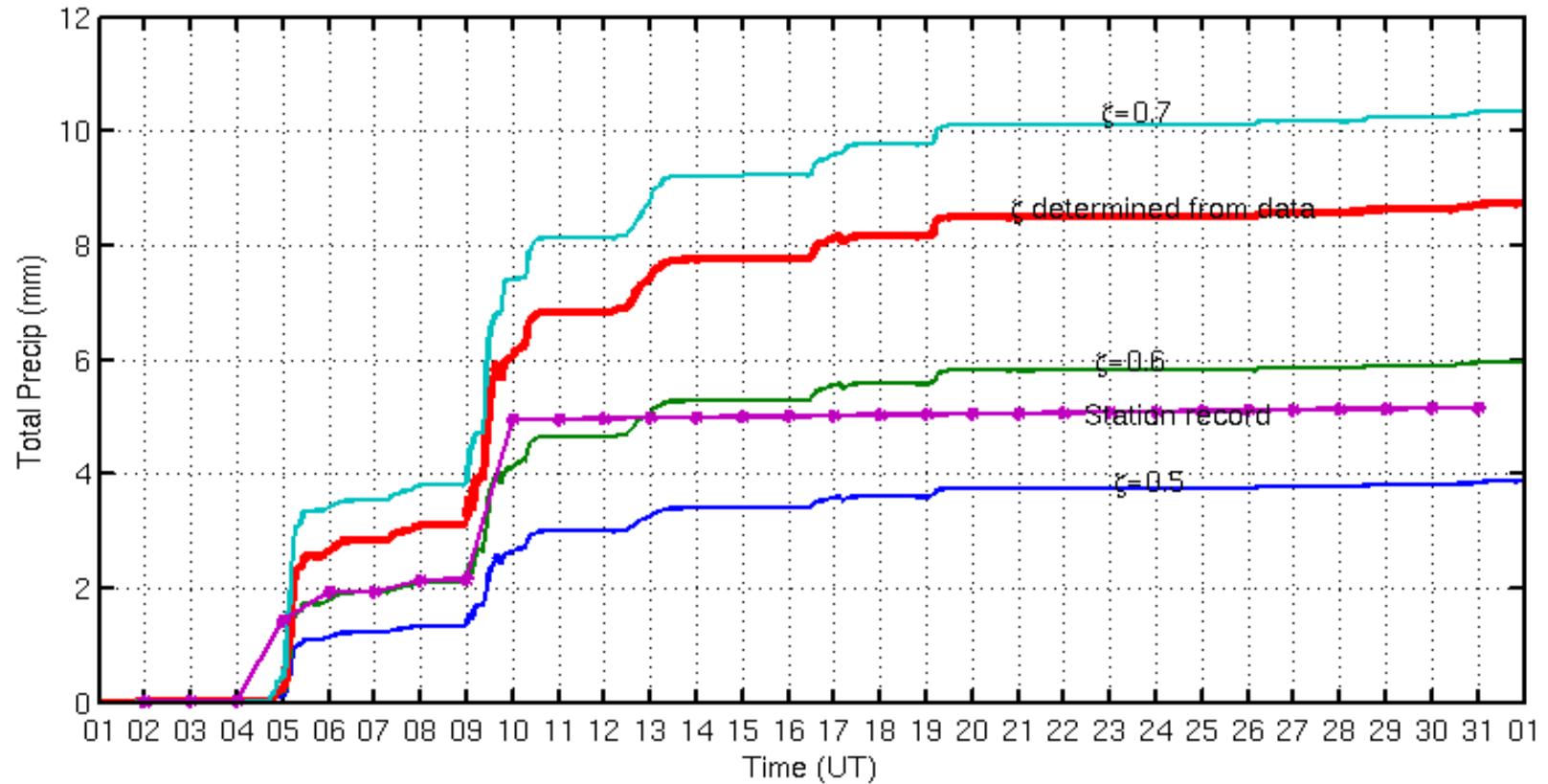
LWC--ice, dt= 179 s, z= 199 m,  $\alpha$ = 1,  $\gamma$ = 1, 27-oct-06--> 27-oct-06 12:00



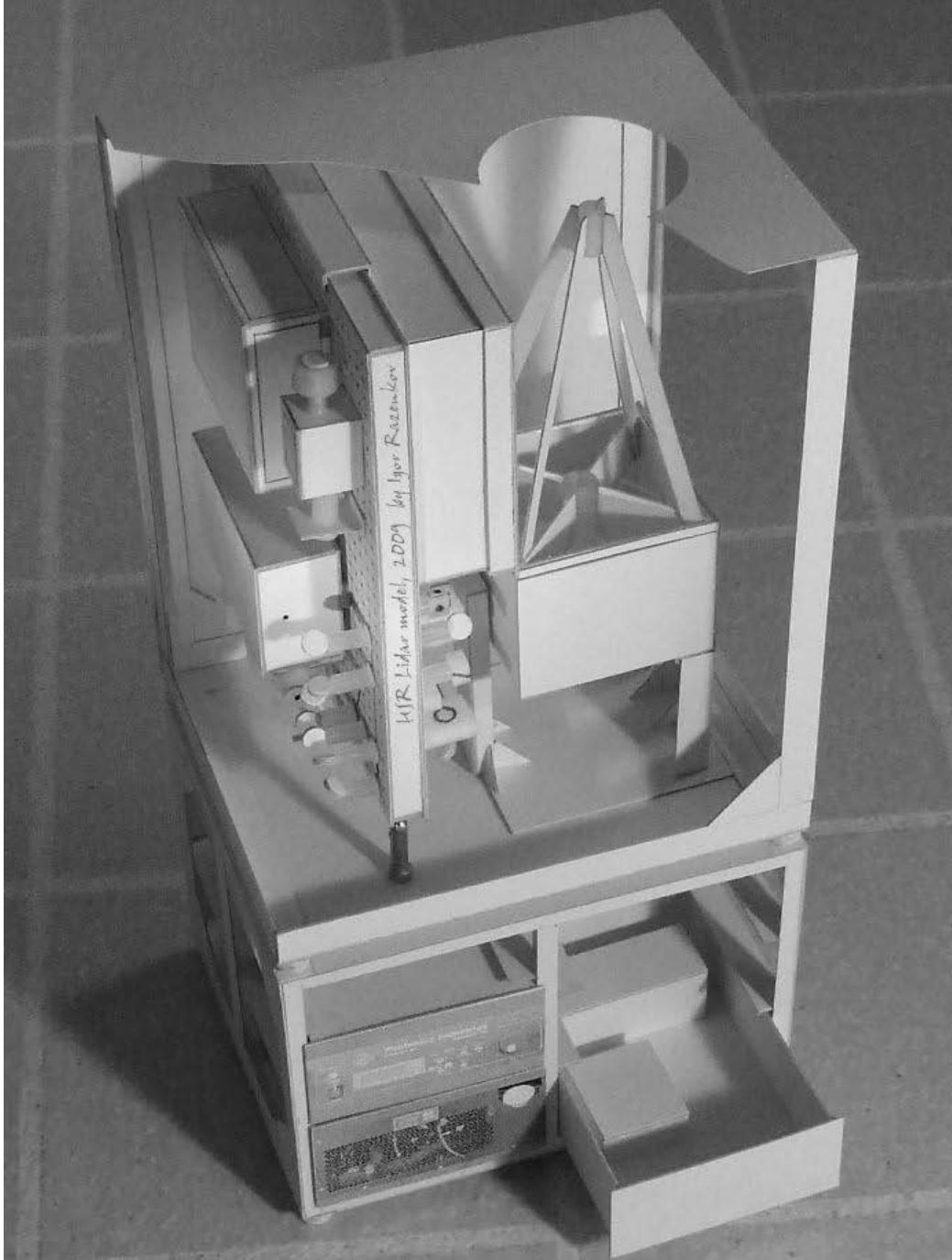
Total precip--ice, dt= 179 s, z= 199 m,  $\alpha$ = 1,  $\gamma$ = 1, 27-oct-06--> 27-oct-06 12:00



Cumulative snowfall with  $\zeta$  determined from fall  
velocity vs  $D'_{\text{eff}}$  Jan 2007

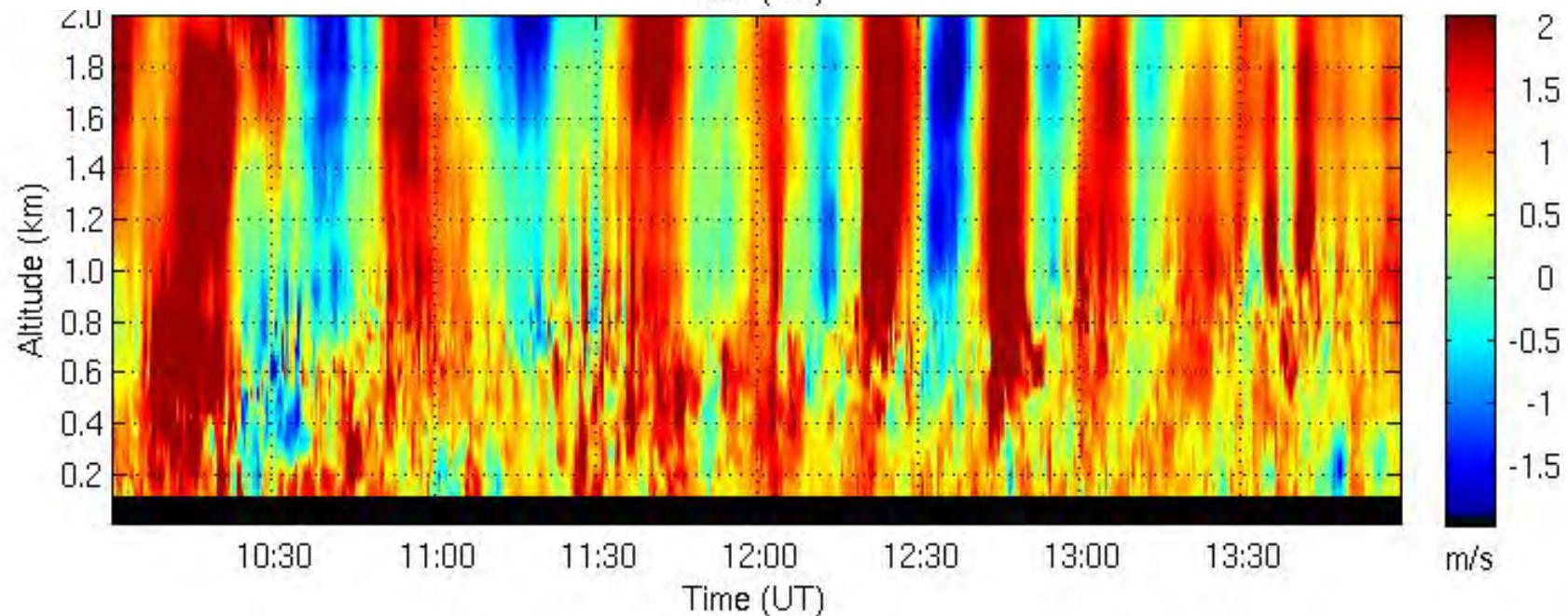
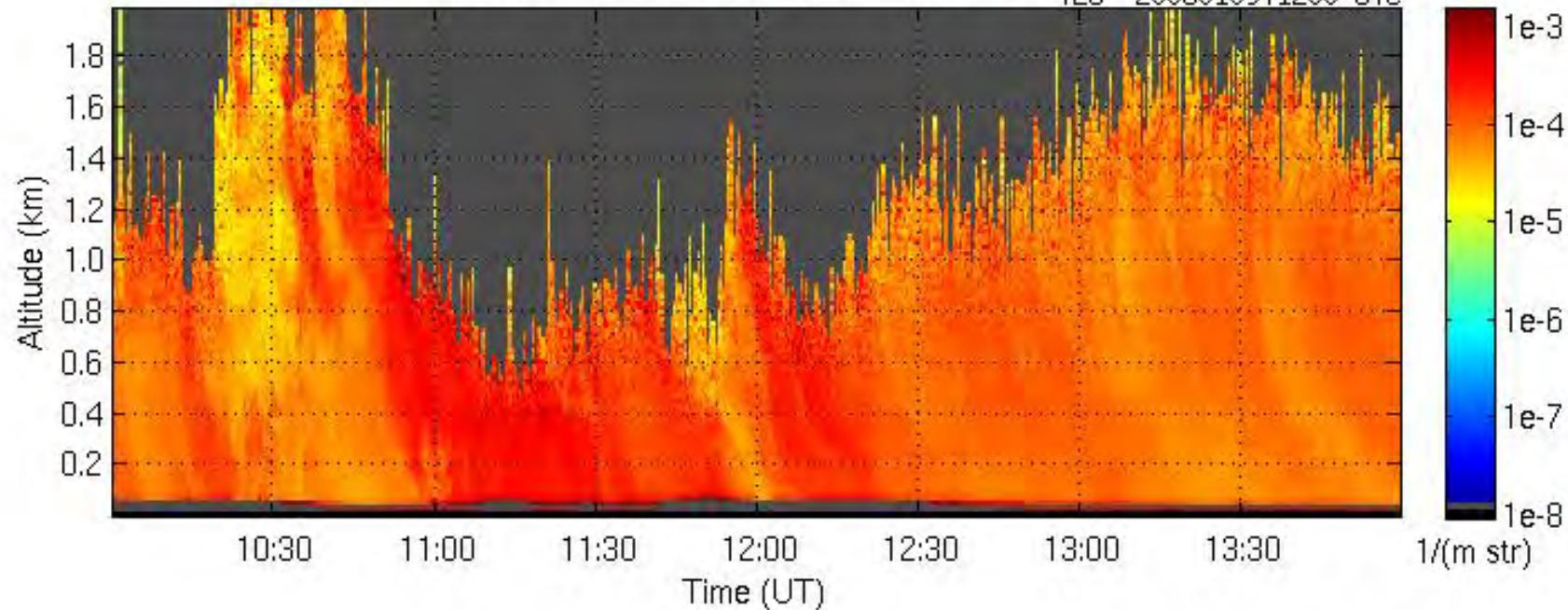




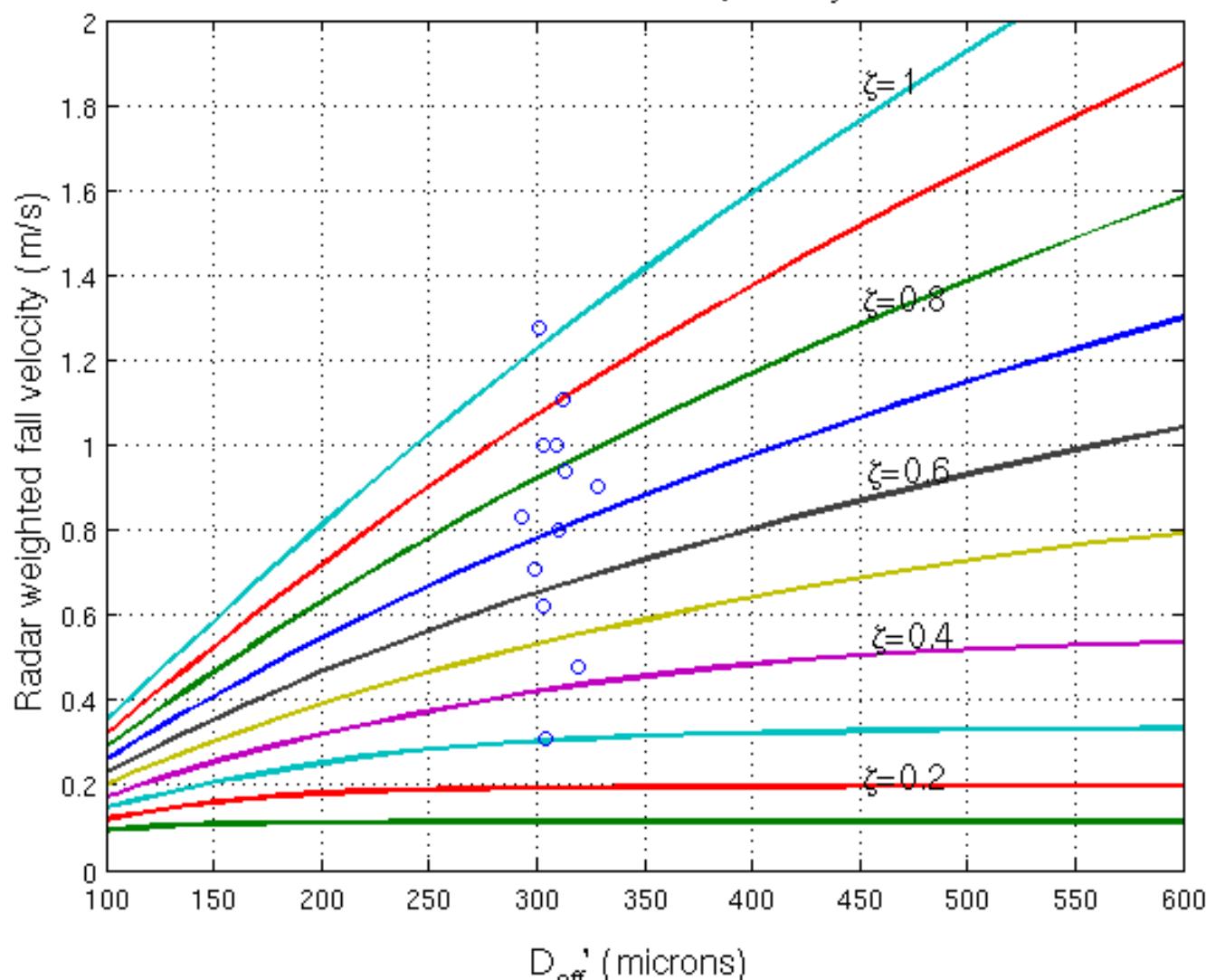


Aerosol backscatter cross section 09-Jan-2006

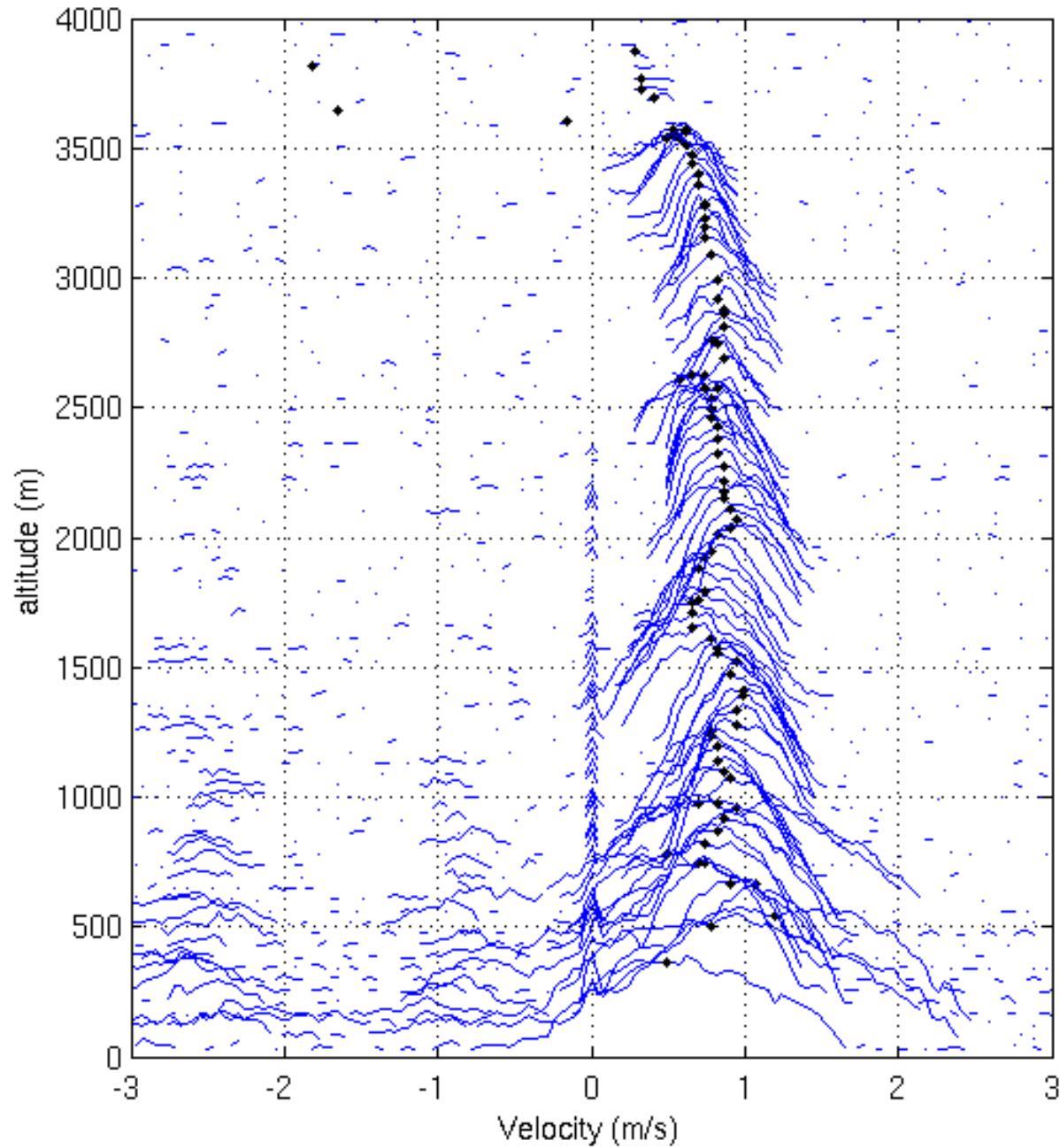
YEU 20060109T1200 UTC



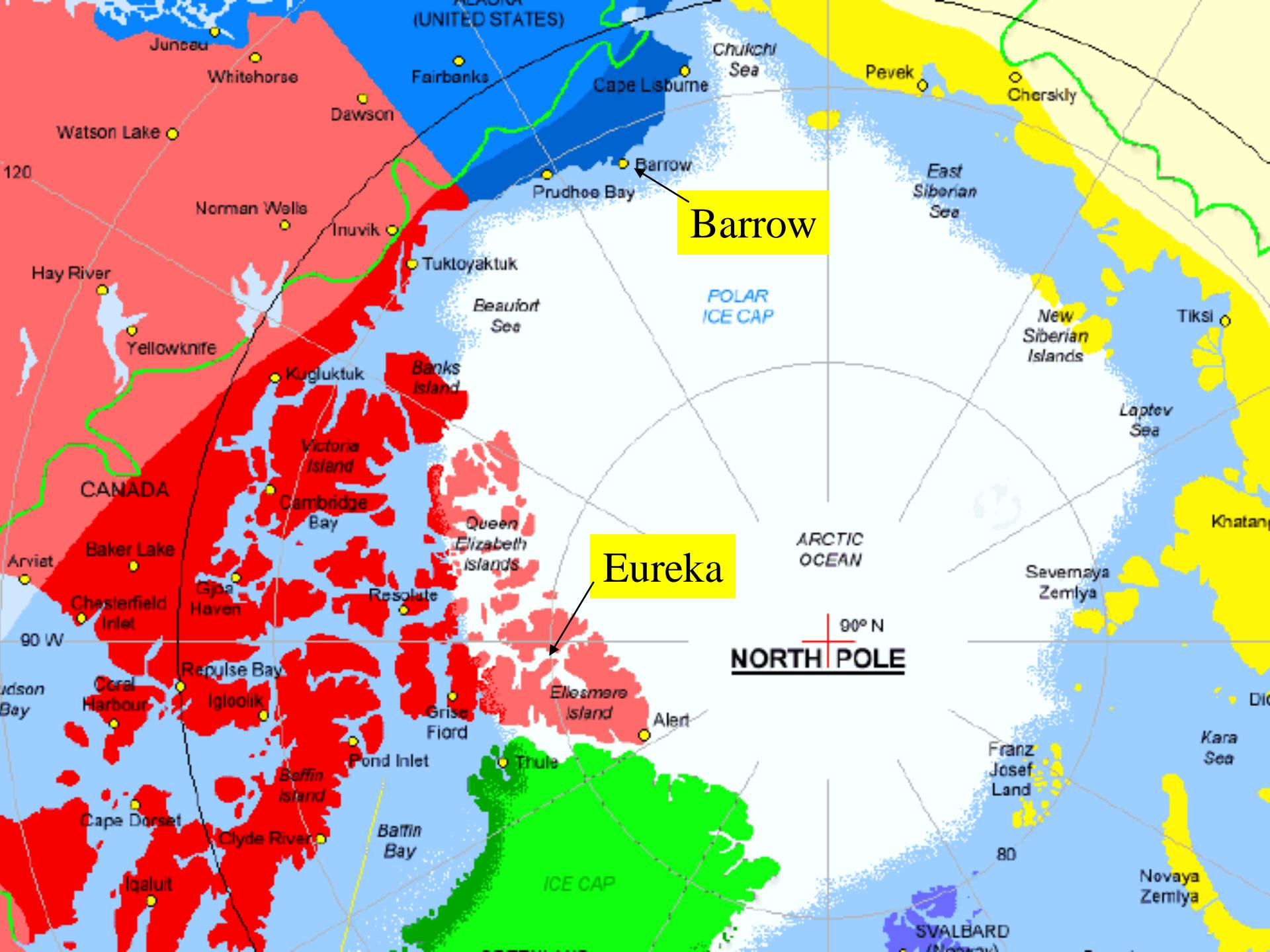
Zeta--ice, dt= 1200 s, z= 200 m,  $\alpha= 1$ ,  $\gamma= 1$ , 9-jan-06 10:00--> 14:00



01-Jan-2008 07:09:54 mode= BL







# Total precipitation Jan 07 for assumed values of zeta

