

Soot Aerosols as a Source for Ice Nucleating Particles in the Cirrus Regime the Role of Soot Particle Properties

**Fabian Mahrt¹, Claudia Marcolli¹, Robert O. David¹, Philippe Grönquist^{3,4},
Eszter J. Barthazy Meier², Ulrike Lohmann¹ and Zamin A. Kanji¹**

¹Department of Environmental System Sciences, Institute for Atmospheric and Climate Science, ETH Zurich

²Scientific Center for Optical and Electron Microscopy, ETH Zurich

³Department of Civil, Environmental and Geomatic Engineering, Institute for Building Materials, ETH Zurich

⁴Department of Functional Materials, Applied Wood Materials, Empa

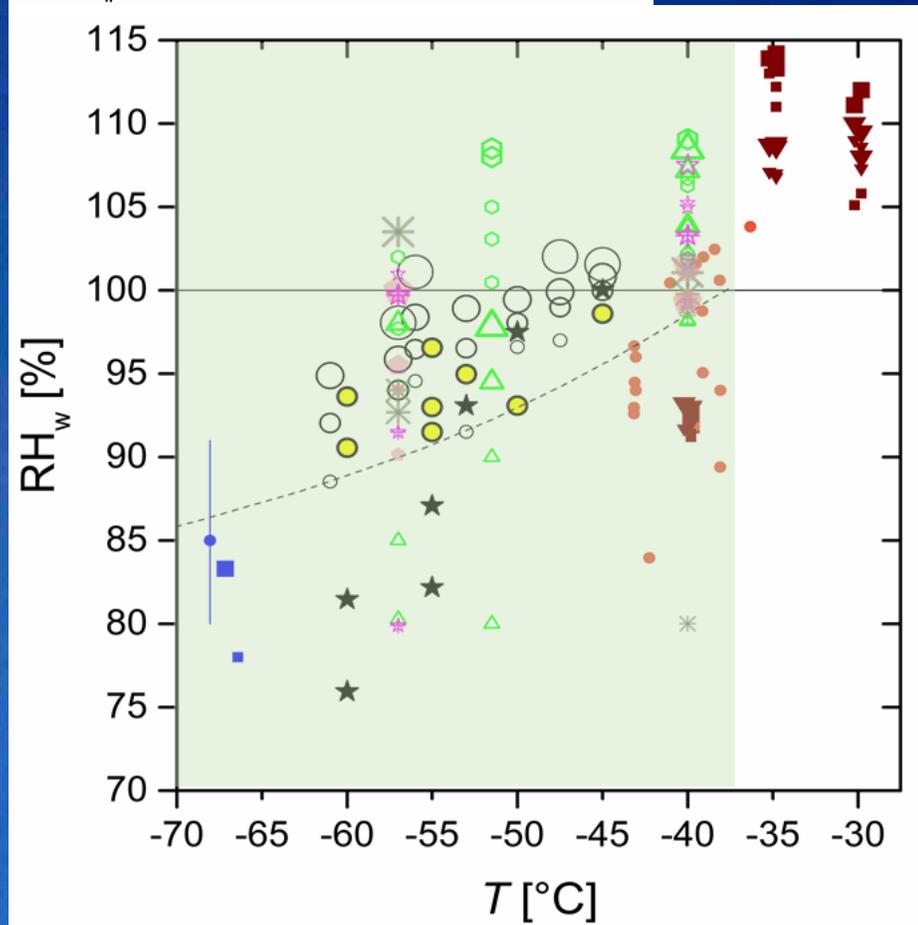
Acknowledgment:

H. Wydler, J. Aerni, L. Lacher, F. Friebel,
J. Atkinson, S. Brunamonti, U. Krieger,
J. Wong, M. Plötze and I. Burgert

**Supporting information can also be found at:
<https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-2018-557>**

Chou et al. 2013 ■ diesel engines ▼ wood burnings
 Kanji et al. 2011 and refs therein ● graphite soot
 Möhler et al. 2005 ■ CAST low OC ● CAST high OC
 DeMott et al. 1999
 ● lamp black ○ lamp black coated with monolayer H₂SO₄
 ★ lamp black coated with multilayer H₂SO₄
 Koehler et al. 2009
 ▲ TS 100 & 200 nm ○ GTS 200 nm * TOS 200 nm
 ☆ TC1-100 nm ☆ TC1-200nm ☆ AEC

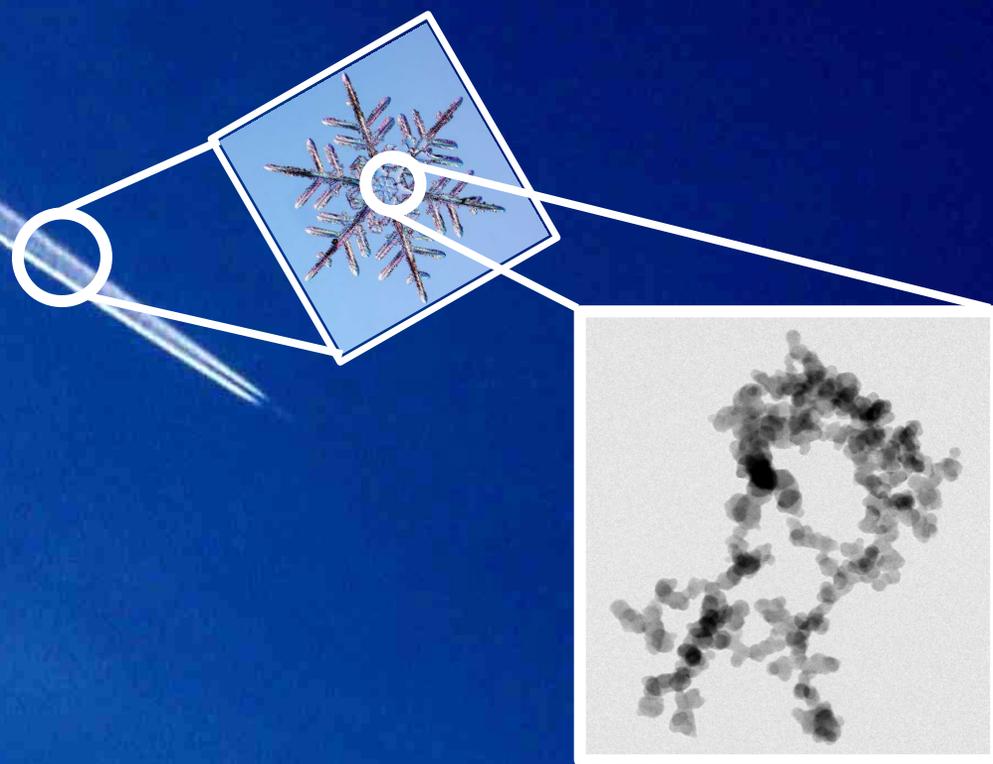
— RH_w=100% - - - - - Koop line



... uncertainties in net climate forcing from black-carbon-rich sources are substantial, largely due to lack of knowledge about **cloud interactions** with both black carbon and co-emitted organic carbon.

Bond et al. (2013)

”

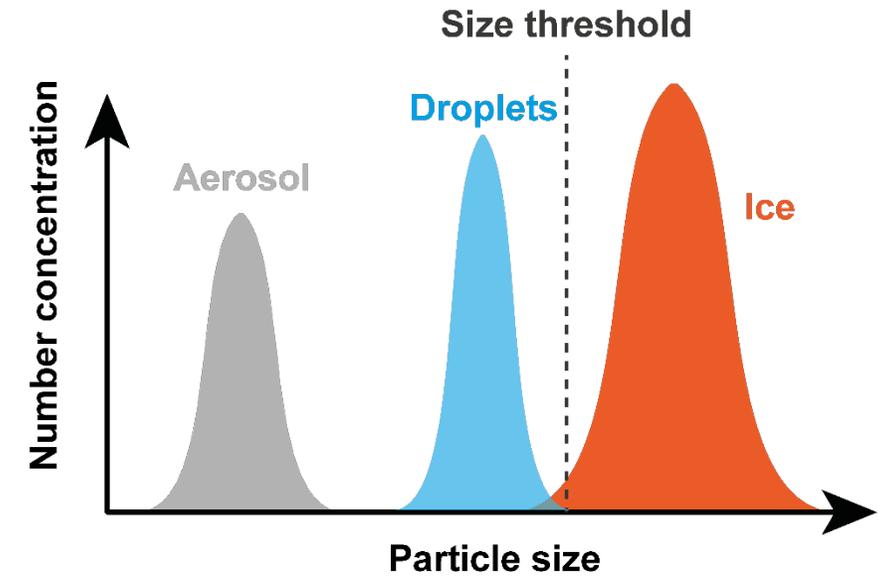
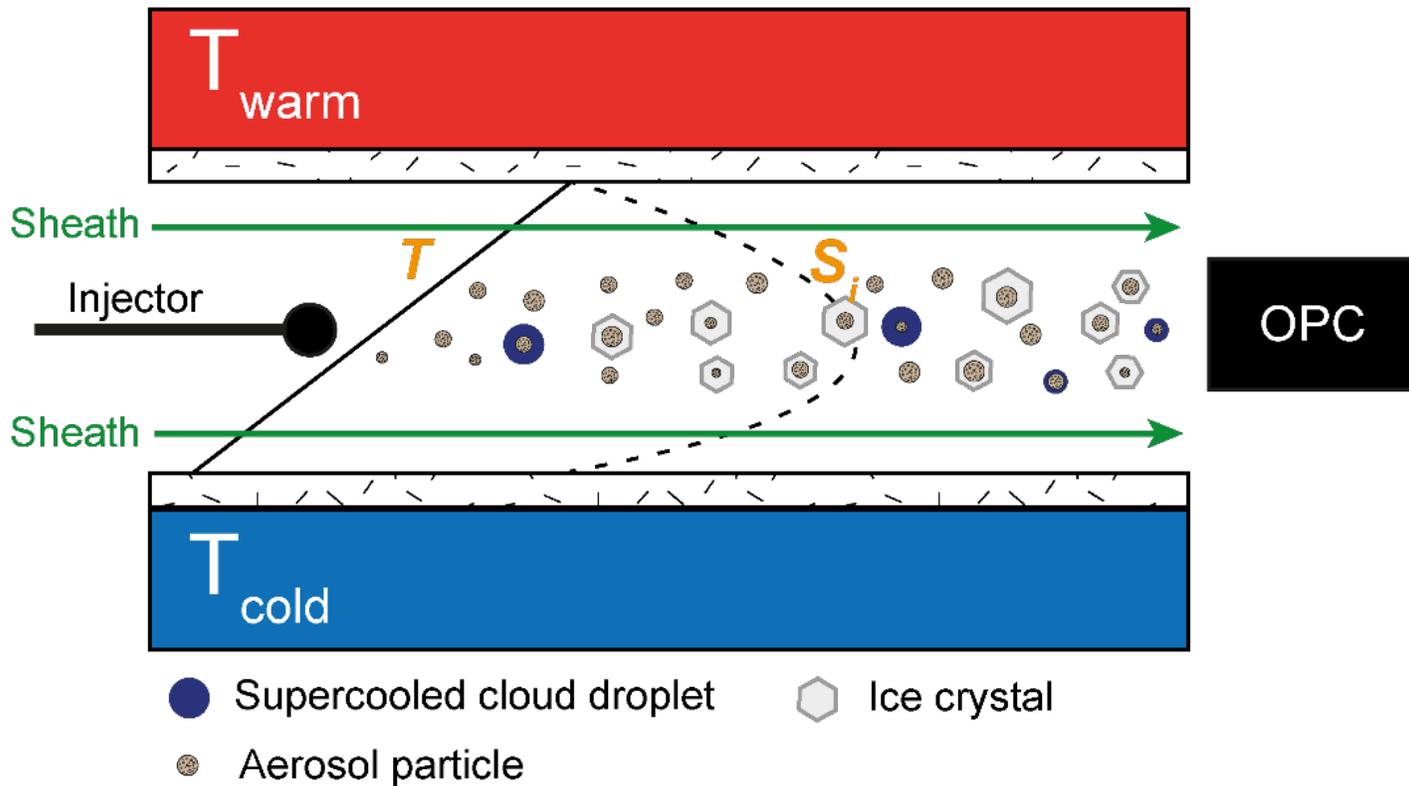


Kanji, Z. A., et al. (2017). "Overview of Ice Nucleating Particles." *Meteorological Monographs* 58(0): 1.1-1.33.

Method: Ice nucleation measurements

The Horizontal Ice Nucleation Chamber (HINC)^[1,2]

A Continuous Flow Diffusion Chamber (CFDC)



$$\text{Active Fraction} = \frac{N(\text{Ice})}{N(\text{Aerosol})}$$

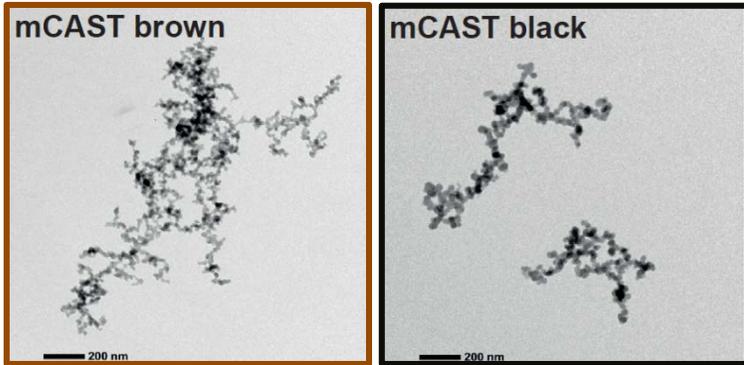
[1] Lacher, L., et al. (2017). "The Horizontal Ice Nucleation Chamber (HINC): INP measurements at conditions relevant for mixed-phase clouds at the High Altitude Research Station Jungfraujoch." *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics* **17**(24): 15199-15224.

[2] Mahrt, F., et al. (2018). "Ice nucleation abilities of soot particles determined with the Horizontal Ice Nucleation Chamber." *Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss.* **2018**: 1-41.

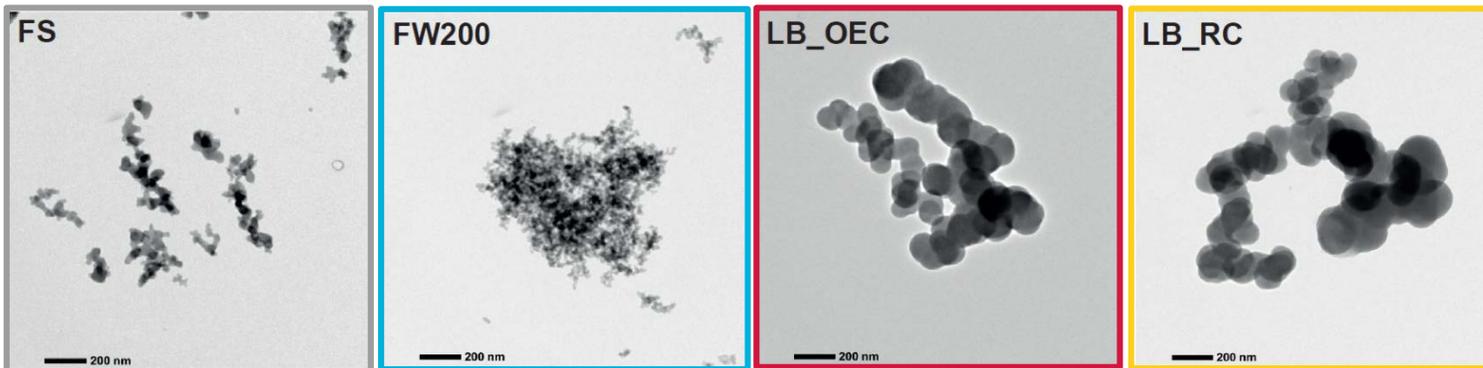
Materials and methods

Soot samples and experimental set up

miniCAST/propane flame soot



Commercial and industrial carbon blacks



- miniCAST soot with different organic matter content were used as surrogates for soot emitted from jet engines.^[1]
- Fullerene soots (FS) have previously been attributed to Diesel engines.^[2]
- FW200 is an industrial carbon used as surrogate of atmospherically aged soot.
- Lamp Blacks are frequently used in pigment applications and have been investigated for ice nucleation.^[3]

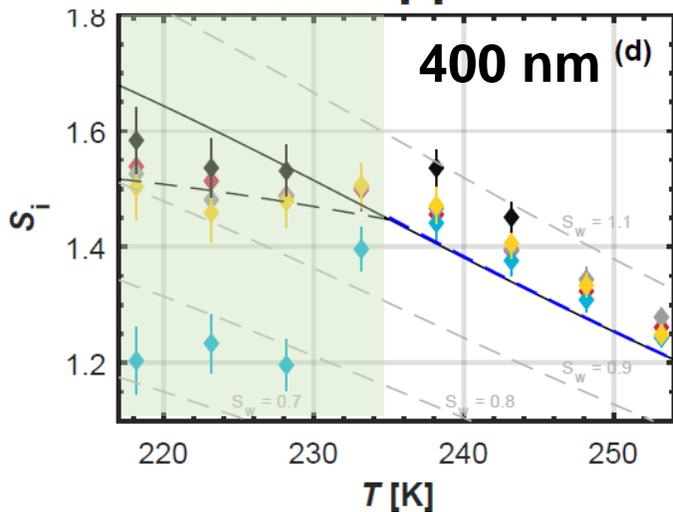
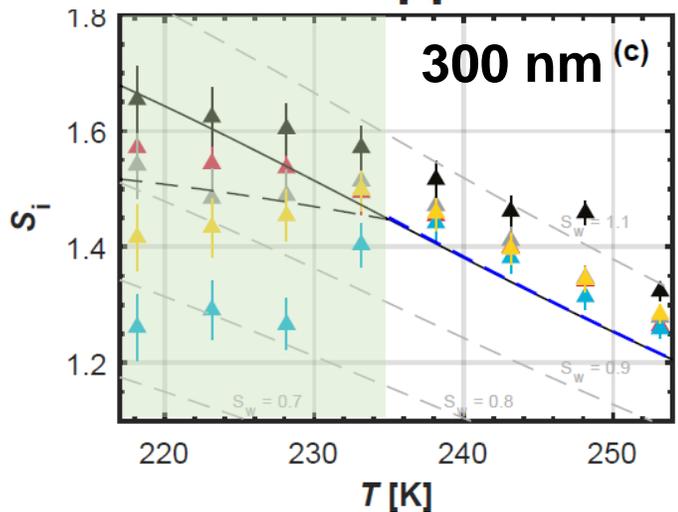
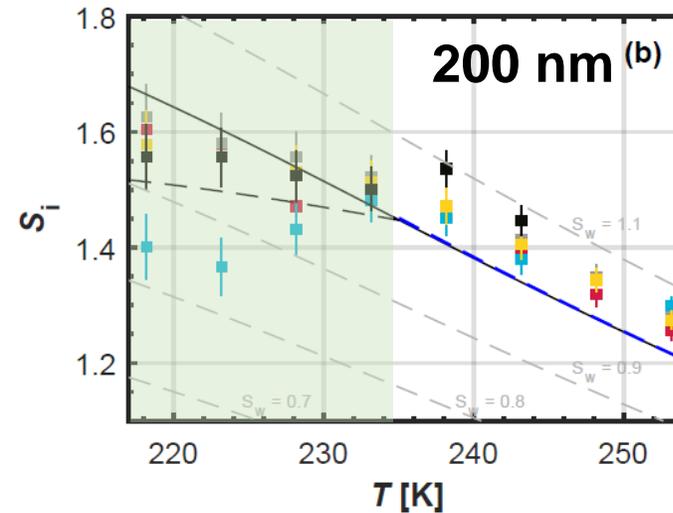
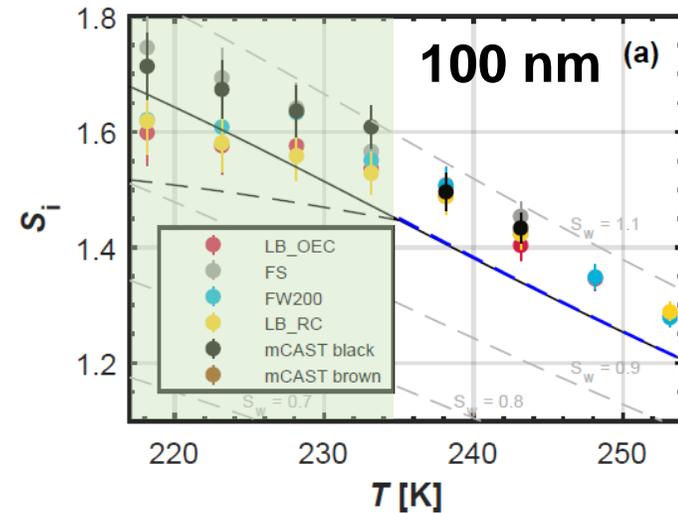
[1] Bescond, A., et al. (2014). "Automated Determination of Aggregate Primary Particle Size Distribution by TEM Image Analysis: Application to Soot." *Aerosol Science and Technology* **48**(8): 831-841.

[2] Muller, J. O., et al. (2005). "Morphology-controlled reactivity of carbonaceous materials towards oxidation." *Catalysis Today* **102**: 259-265.

[3] DeMott, P. J., et al. (1999). "Ice formation by black carbon particles." *Geophysical Research Letters* **26**(16): 2429-2432.

Results: Ice nucleation of size selected soot particles

Onset conditions for 1% of the particles to activate into ice crystals and/or cloud droplets



- 100 nm soot particles do not heterogeneously nucleate ice.
- Dependence on homogeneous nucleation temperature (HNT = 235 K) [2] suggest involvement of liquid water [3].



- Cirrus regime ($T < 235$ K)
- Water saturation
- Koop et al. (2000) [1]
- WDS

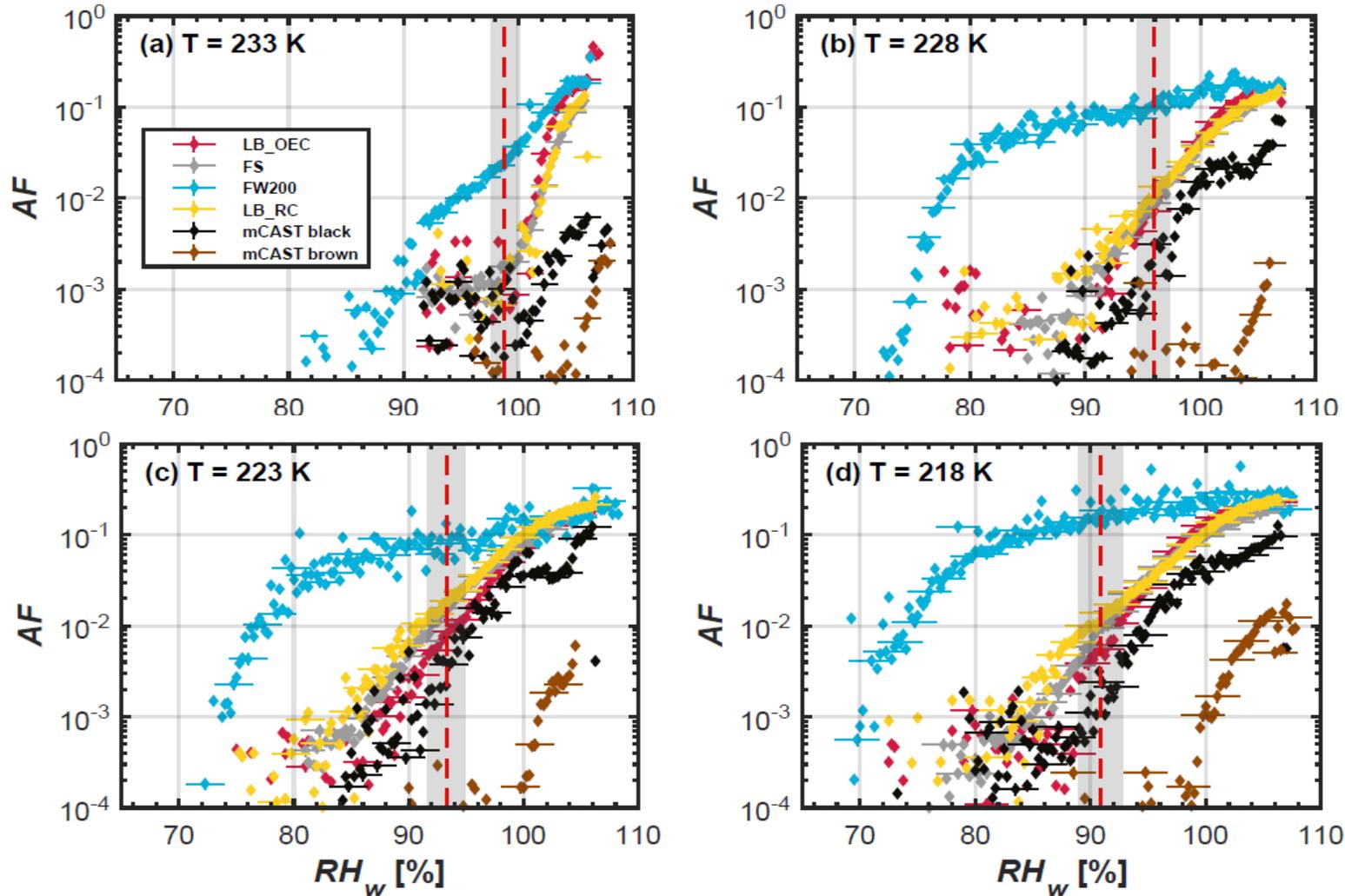
[1] Koop, T., et al. (2000). "Water activity as the determinant for homogeneous ice nucleation in aqueous solutions." *Nature* **406**(6796): 611-614.

[2] Friedman, B., et al. (2011). "Ice nucleation and droplet formation by bare and coated soot particles." *Journal of Geophysical Research-Atmospheres* **116**.

[3] Welti, A., et al. (2009). "Influence of particle size on the ice nucleating ability of mineral dusts." *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics* **9**(18): 6705-6715.

Results: Ice nucleation of $d_m = 400$ nm soot particles

Cirrus temperature regime^[1]



AF curves

What particle characteristics can explain difference in ice nucleation ability?

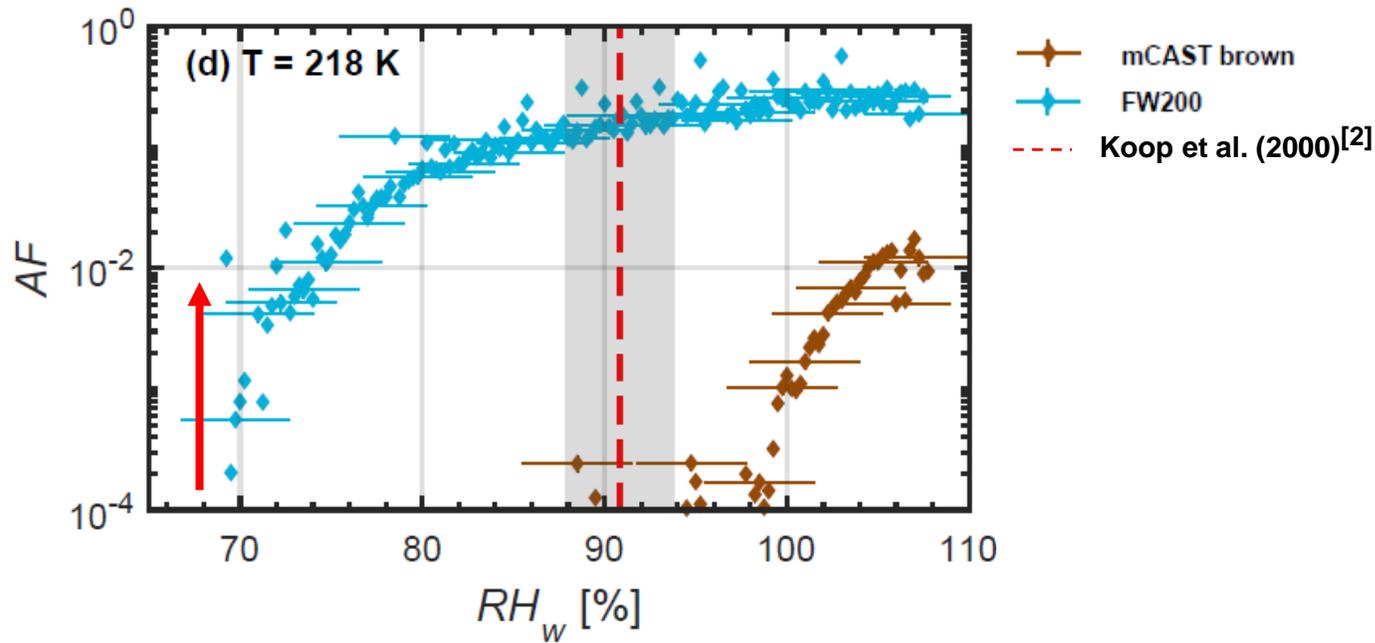
— Koop et al. (2000)^[2]

[1] Mahrt, F., et al. (2018). "Ice nucleation abilities of soot particles determined with the Horizontal Ice Nucleation Chamber." *Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss.* **2018**: 1-41.

[2] Koop, T., et al. (2000). "Water activity as the determinant for homogeneous ice nucleation in aqueous solutions." *Nature* **406**(6796): 611-614.

Ice nucleation mechanism

Can soot nucleate ice via Pore Condensation and Freezing (PCF)^[1]?



$RH_w < 100\%$

Figure: R. O. David

Inverse Kelvin effect:

$$p_{lc} = p_l \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-4\gamma v_l}{D_p \cos\theta RT}\right)$$

D_p : Pore diameter

θ : Contact angle

T : Temperature

p_{lc} : water vapor pressure - concave surface

p_l : water vapor pressure - flat surface

γ : surface tension of water

v_l : molar volume of water

R : dry gas constant

Step activation curve of FW200 suggests homogeneous freezing type mechanism.



PCF mechanism :

- Water uptake at $RH_w < 100\%$
 - Inverse Kelvin effect
- Pore water freezes

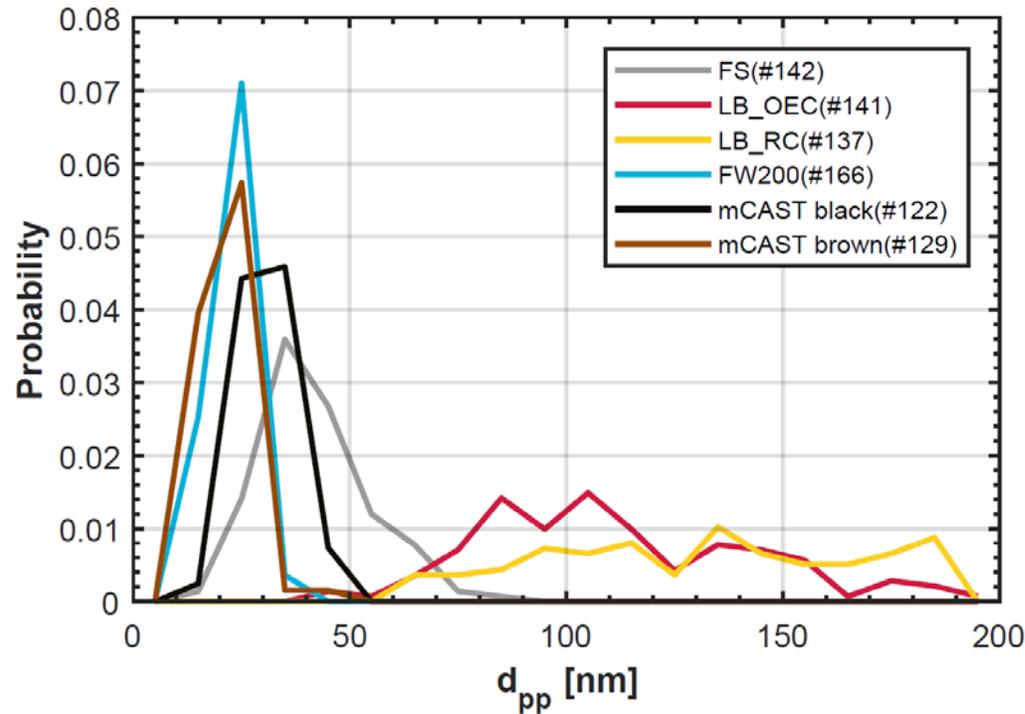
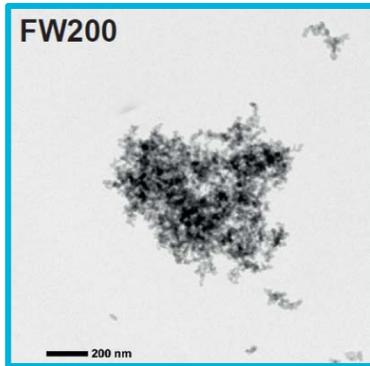
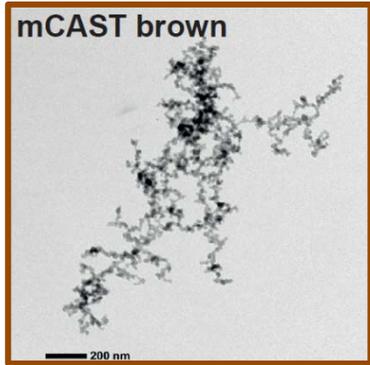
[1] Marcolli, C. (2014). "Deposition nucleation viewed as homogeneous or immersion freezing in pores and cavities." *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **14**(4): 2071-2104.

[2] Koop, T., et al. (2000). "Water activity as the determinant for homogeneous ice nucleation in aqueous solutions." *Nature* **406**(6796): 611-614.

Porous and fractal structure of soot particles

What can TEM evaluation tell us about particle morphology?

Overall aggregate structure & primary particle size

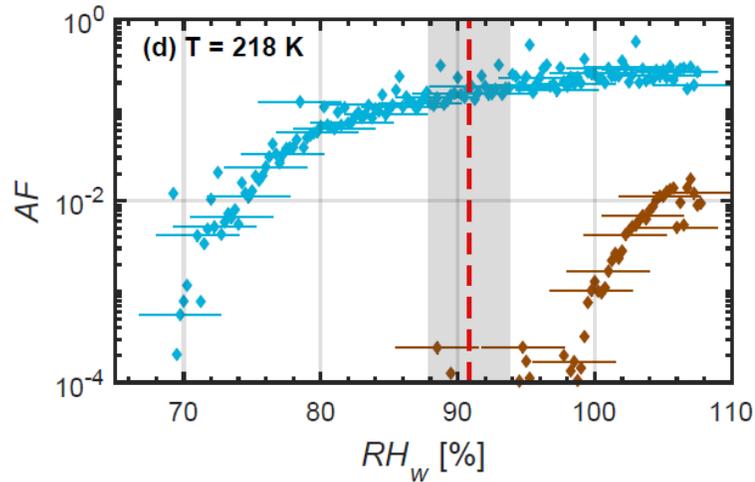
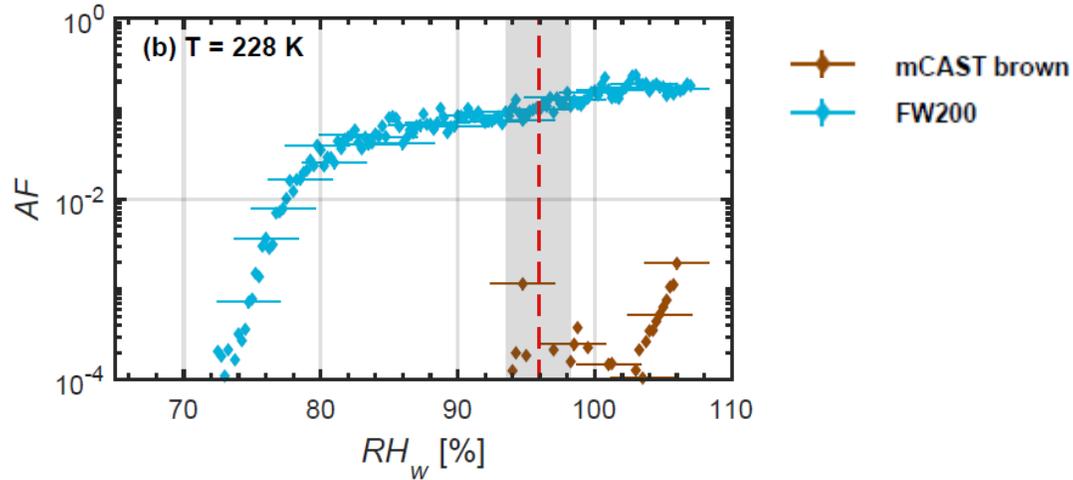


- Pores formed in between sintered primary particles.
- TEM evaluation reveals mesopores with diameters between 2 – 8 nm.
- Soot with smaller primary particles are more likely to nucleate ice via PCF due to the higher propensity of pores.
- Macroscopic ice only grows out of pores if they are closely spaced^[1].

[1] David et al. (in prep.), "Is Deposition Ice Nucleation Real? The Role of Pore Condensation and Freezing on Atmospheric Ice Nucleation"

Results: Ice nucleation of $d_m = 400$ nm soot particles

Cirrus temperature regime



Question:

- Pure availability of porous structures seems to be insufficient.
- What are we missing?



Inverse Kelvin effect:

$$p_{lc} = p_l \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-4\gamma v_l}{D_p \cos\theta RT}\right)$$

D_p : Pore diameter

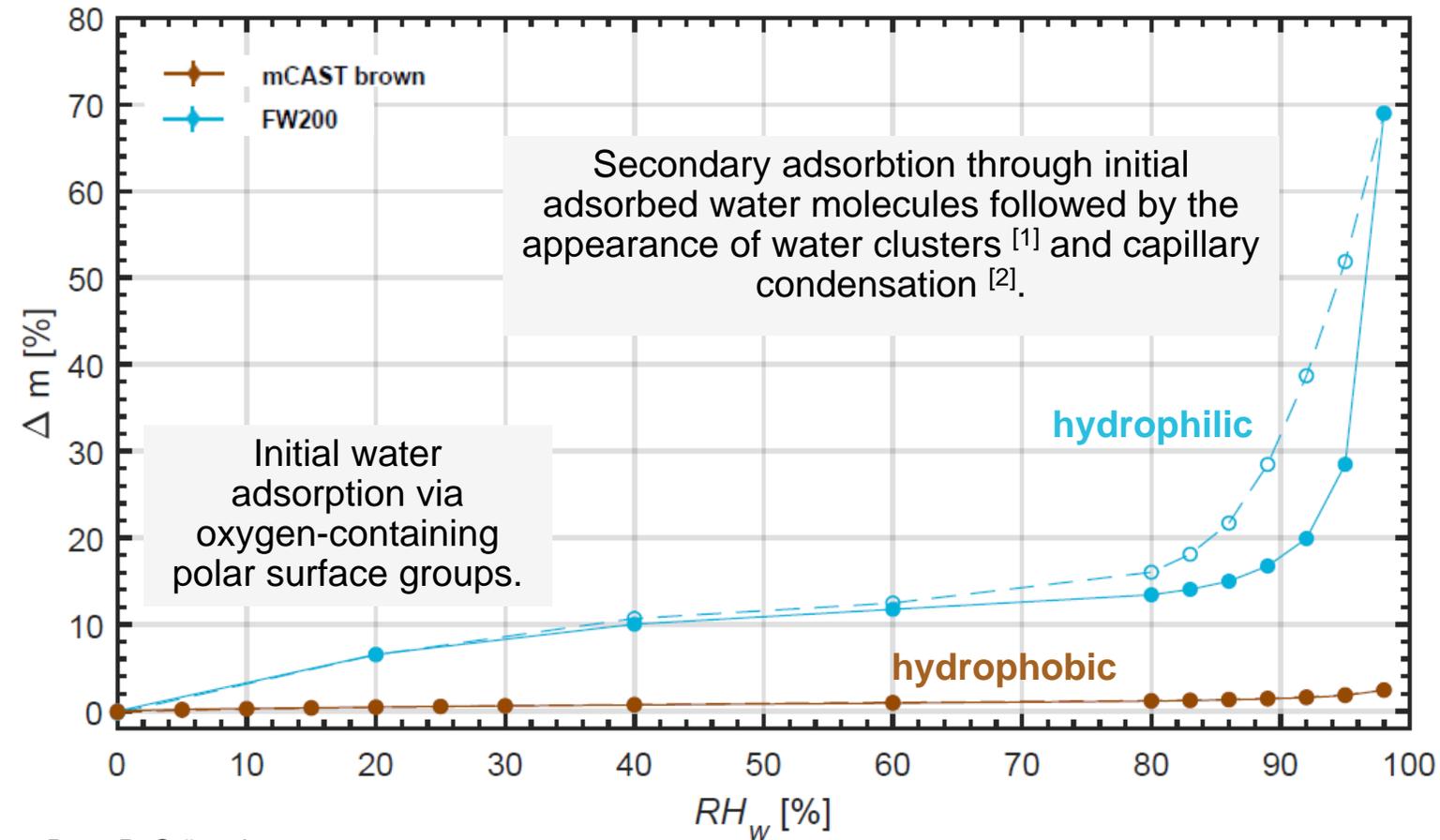
θ : Contact angle

T : Temperature

Results: Wettability of soot particles

Water Adsorption Isotherms

Gravimetric technique: Dynamic Vapor Sorption (DVS)



Data: P. Grönquist

- More ice active soot shows enhanced water adsorption
- Strong water uptake at high RH_w indicates presence of mesopores on FW200, needed for PCF
- Strong water uptake indicative of low soot-water contact angle
- DVS results support a PCF ice nucleation mechanism

[1] Ferry, D., et al. (2002). "Water adsorption and dynamics on kerosene soot under atmospheric conditions." *Journal of Geophysical Research-Atmospheres* **107**(D23)

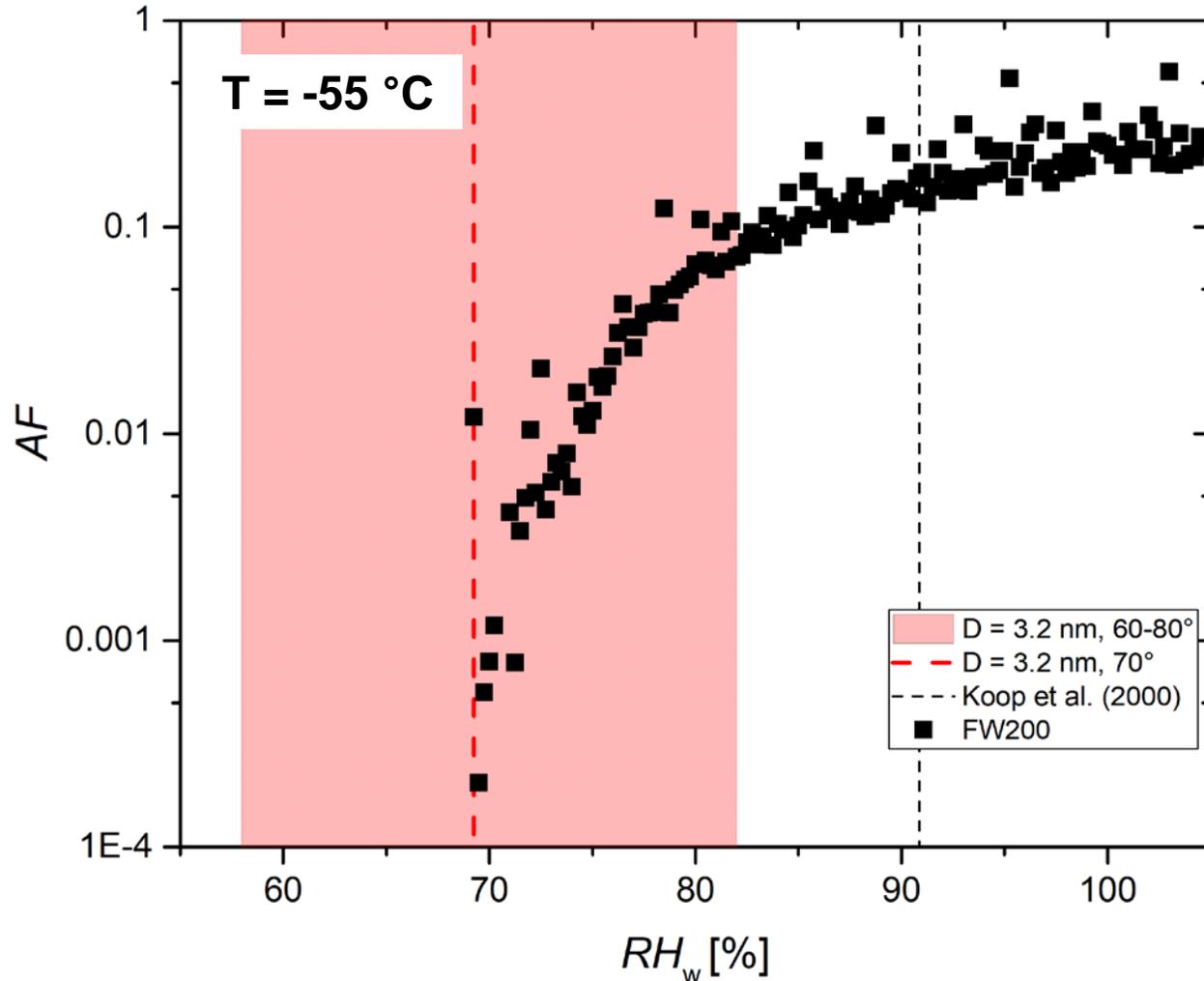
[2] Thommes, M., et al. (2015). "Physisorption of gases, with special reference to the evaluation of surface area and pore size distribution (IUPAC Technical Report)." *Pure and Applied Chemistry* **87**(9-10): 1051-1069.

[3] David, R. O., et al. (in prep.). "The Role of Contact Angle and Pore Width on Pore Condensation and Freezing."

Pore filling conditions

Can PCF estimates explain results?

Example: FW200 particles $d_m = 400$ nm



- Soot-water contact angles reported in literature range from 60 to 80°^[1,2].
- Ice formation of FW200 falls within expected range, using pore sizes (from TEM and DVS) and contact angles (from literature).
- Nevertheless, better experimental determination of both contact angles and pore sizes needed.

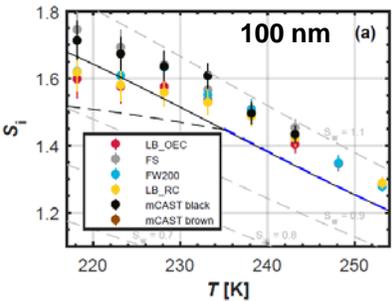


[1] Persiantseva, N. M., et al. (2004). "Wetting and hydration of insoluble soot particles in the upper troposphere." *Journal of Environmental Monitoring* 6(12): 939-945.

[2] Wei, Y., et al. (2017). "The Wetting Behavior of Fresh and Aged Soot Studied through Contact Angle Measurements." *Atmospheric and Climate Sciences* Vol.07No.01: 12.

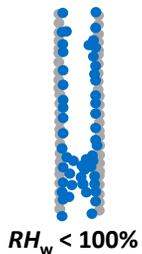
Summary and Conclusions

Contact: fabian.mahrt@env.ethz.ch



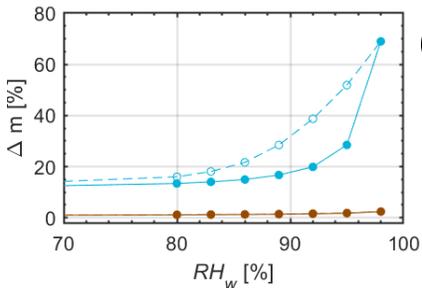
(1) **Soot particles can contribute to ice formation below homogeneous freezing of solution droplets only for $d_m > 100$ nm.**

- Larger soot particles mainly sourced from biomass burning and wildfires^[1]
- Soot particles from aviation emissions generally found to be < 100 nm^[2,3]



(2) **Distinct dependence on HNT suggests involvement of liquid water in ice nucleation process on soot particles.**

- Ice formation in cirrus regime and absence for MPC temperatures
- Best described by a PCF mechanism^[4,5]



(3) **Soot particle properties determine freezing ability by PCF.**

- Cavities/pores are available, but their size and propensity is important
- Wettability/Soot-water contact angle as driving factor to inhibit and/or trigger ice formation.

[1] Chakrabarty, R. K., et al. (2014). "Soot superaggregates from flaming wildfires and their direct radiative forcing." *Scientific Reports* **4**: 5508.

[2] Moore, R. H., et al. (2017). "Biofuel blending reduces particle emissions from aircraft engines at cruise conditions." *Nature* **543**(7645): 411-+.

[3] Yu, Z. H., et al. (2017). "Evaluation of PM emissions from two in-service gas turbine general aviation aircraft engines." *Atmospheric Environment* **160**: 9-18.

[4] Higuchi, K. and N. Fukuta (1966). "Ice in capillaries of solid particles and its effect on their nucleating ability." *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences* **23**(2): 187-&.

[5] Marcolli, C. (2014). "Deposition nucleation viewed as homogeneous or immersion freezing in pores and cavities." *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **14**(4): 2071-2104.