

# PROM-FRAGILE:

Exploring the role of **FRAG**mentation of ice particles by combining super-partIcle modeling, Laboratory studies and polarimEtric radar observations



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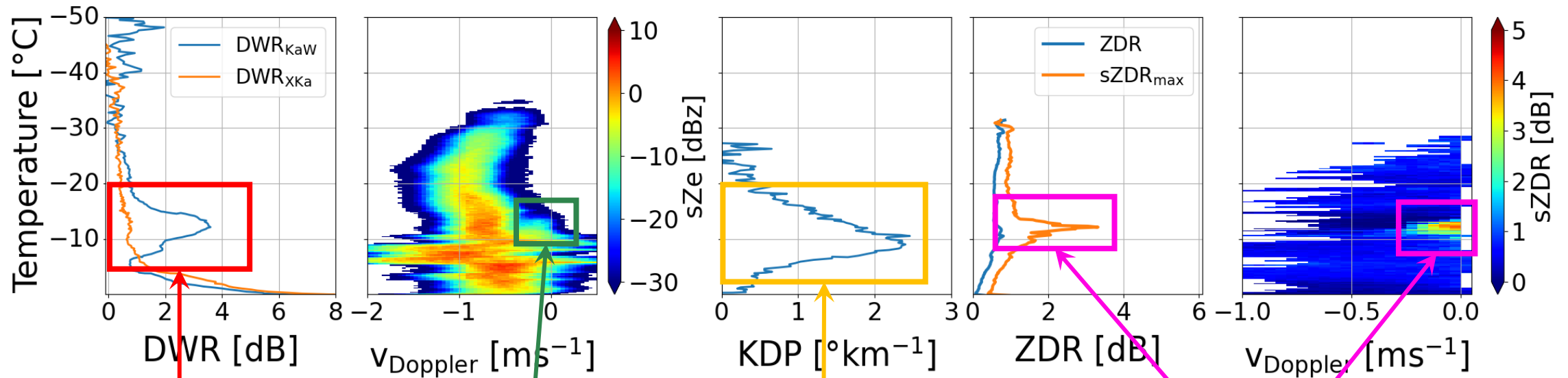
# What happened since our last meeting?

- ✧ Clouds containing ice workshop – Poster presentation
- ✧ Snowfall workshop – Talk
- ✧ AMS annual meeting – Invited talk
- ✧ Lots of science – paper in preparation, to be submitted to JGRA soon:

Investigating ice microphysical processes in the dendritic growth layer by combining Monte-Carlo Lagrangian particle modelling with multi-frequency polarimetric radar observations

Leonie von Terzi <sup>1</sup>, Christoph Siewert <sup>2</sup>, Axel Seifert <sup>2</sup>, Davide Ori <sup>3</sup>, Stefan Kneifel <sup>1</sup>

# The Dendritic Growth Layer (DGL) – a typical case study:



❄ Increase in DWR

→ aggregation

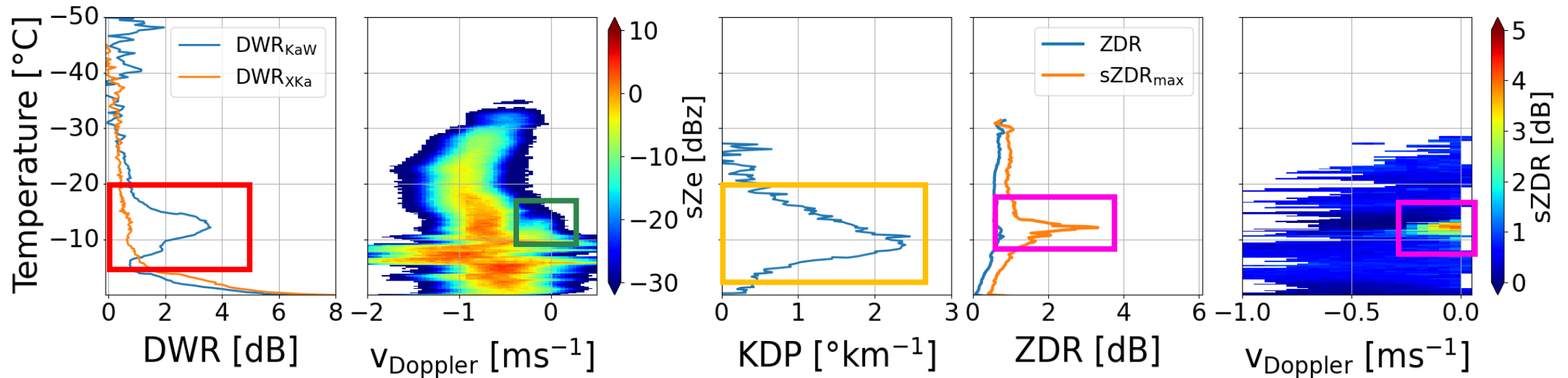
❄ Increase in KDP

❄ Second mode in Doppler spectrum

❄ Increase in sZDRmax



# The Dendritic Growth Layer (DGL) – a typical case study:



## Hypotheses:

1. Primary nucleation in DGL produces plate-like particles which grow rapidly in DGL
2. Secondary ice production (Fragmentation) in DGL produces fragments of ice particles
3. Small ice crystals sedimenting from above which grow plate-like rapidly in DGL

# The Lagrangian Monte-Carlo particle model *McSnow*

Radar only sees **effect** of ice microphysical processes (IMP) on the observed particle distribution, **not the IMP themselves!**

→ **Let's combine observations with model in which current knowledge of IMP can be implemented**

Lagrangian Particle Models:

✧ predict motion and evolution of individual particles

Monte-Carlo approach:

✧ group particles with similar microphysical properties into super-particles

McSnow predicts evolution of super-particles due to

✧ Deposition

✧ Secondary ice production

✧ Aggregation

✧ i.e. fragmentation

✧ Riming

✧ Sedimentation

# McSnow simulations

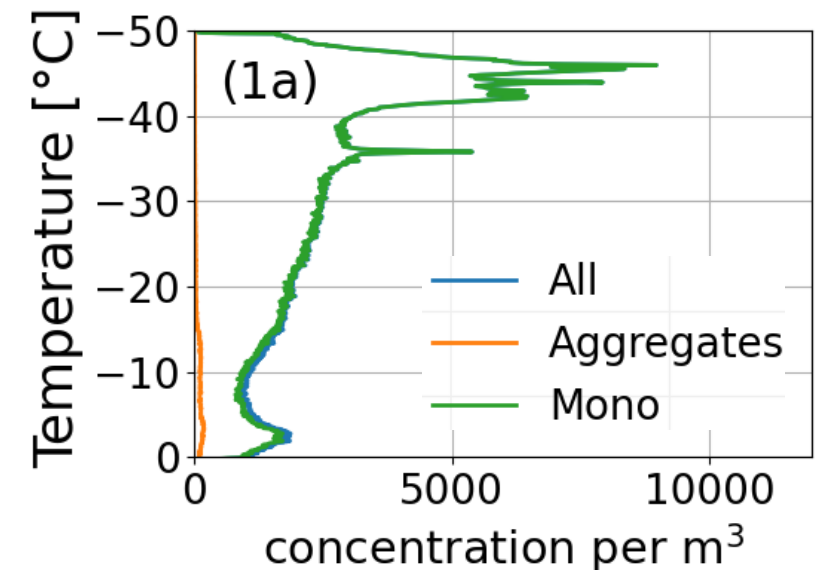
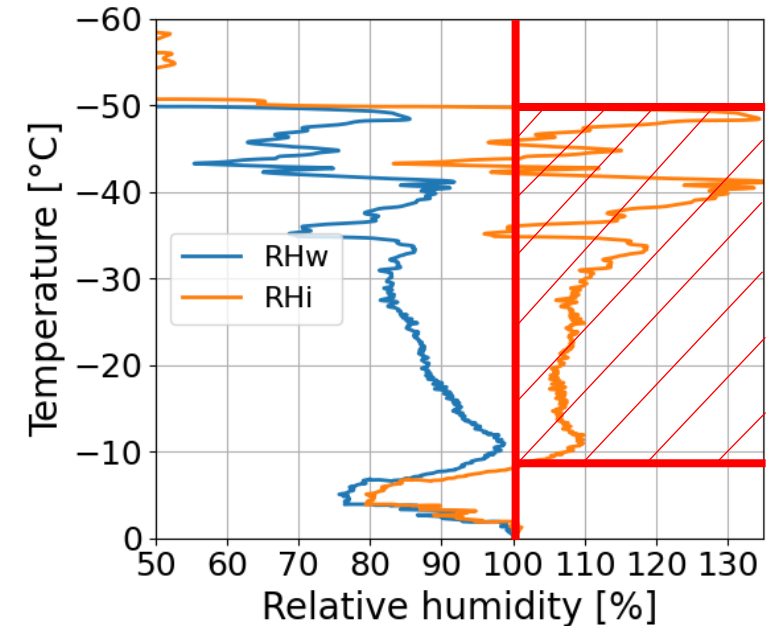
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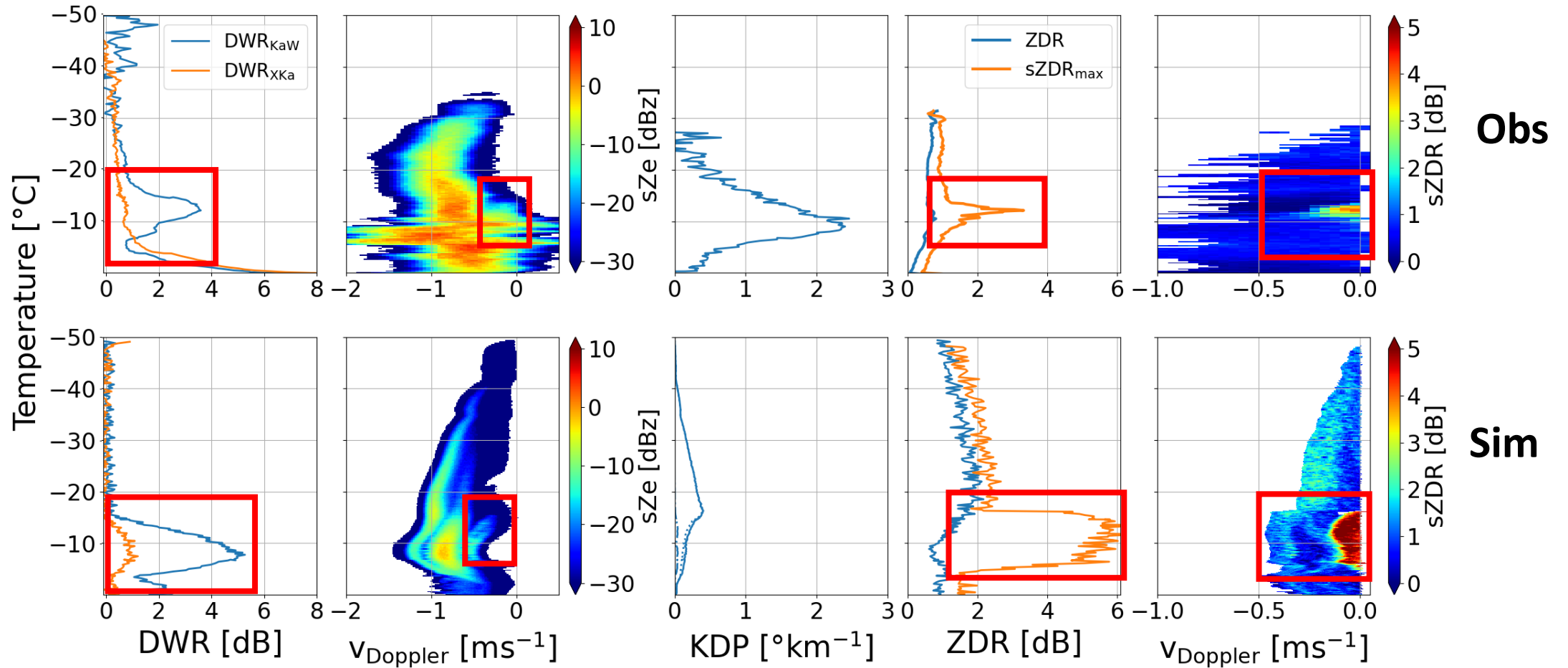
# McSnow simulation

## 1. Primary nucleation in DGL produces plate-like particles

- ✦ We do not have information about INP concentration or ice particle concentration
- ✦ Assumption:
  - ✦ We have ice nucleation everywhere where  $RH_{ice} > 100\%$
  - ✦ Ice number concentration is governed by INP concentration which could be expected in Jülich
- ✦ Ice nucleation means: initialisation of ice particles with  $D = 10\mu\text{m}$  and aspect ratio = 1



# 1. Primary nucleation in DGL produces plate-like particles

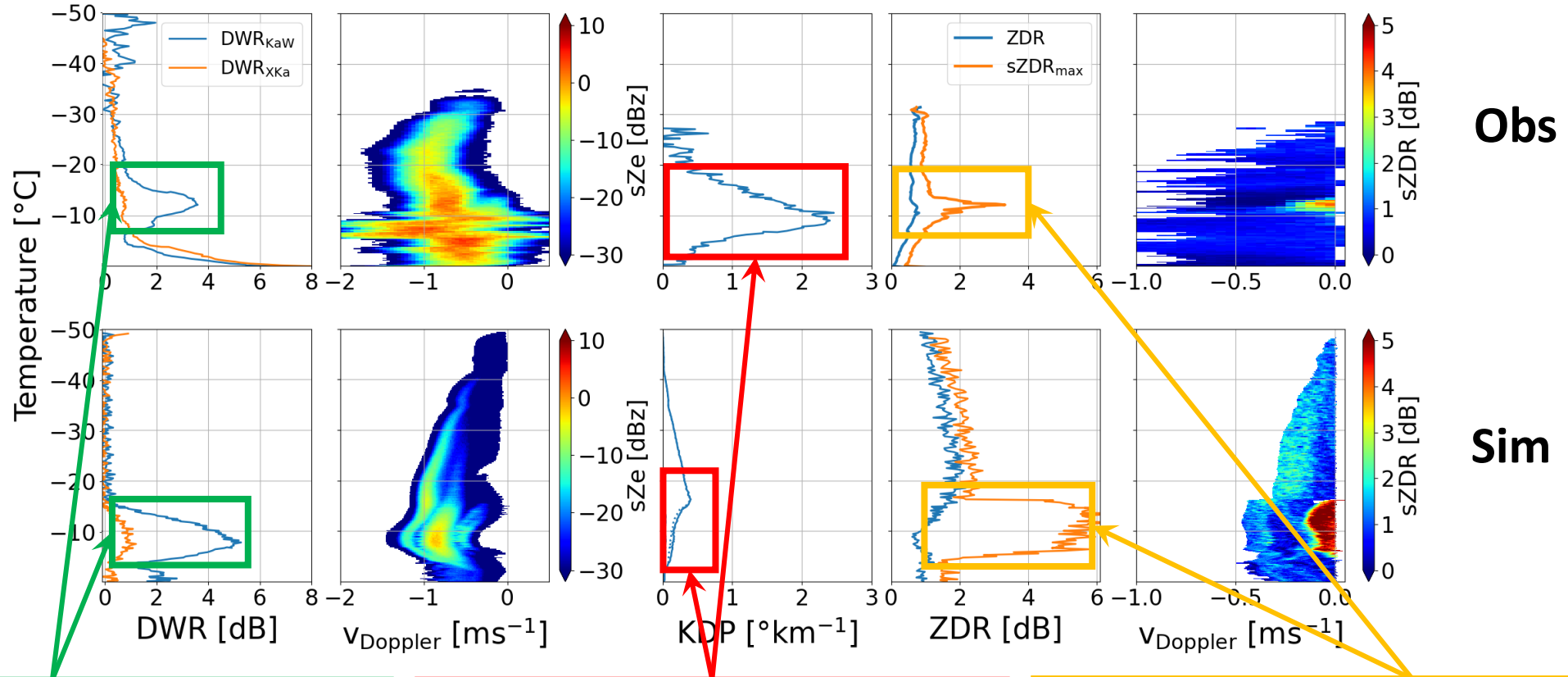


✧ McSnow is able to reproduce (most of) the important radar variables!

✧ What are the differences? Why are they there?



# 1. Primary nucleation in DGL produces plate-like particles



Obs

Sim

- \* Strength of DWR in DGL is similar
  - \* DWR peak:
    - \* at wrong temperature
    - \* too strong
- Is sublimation at correct height?

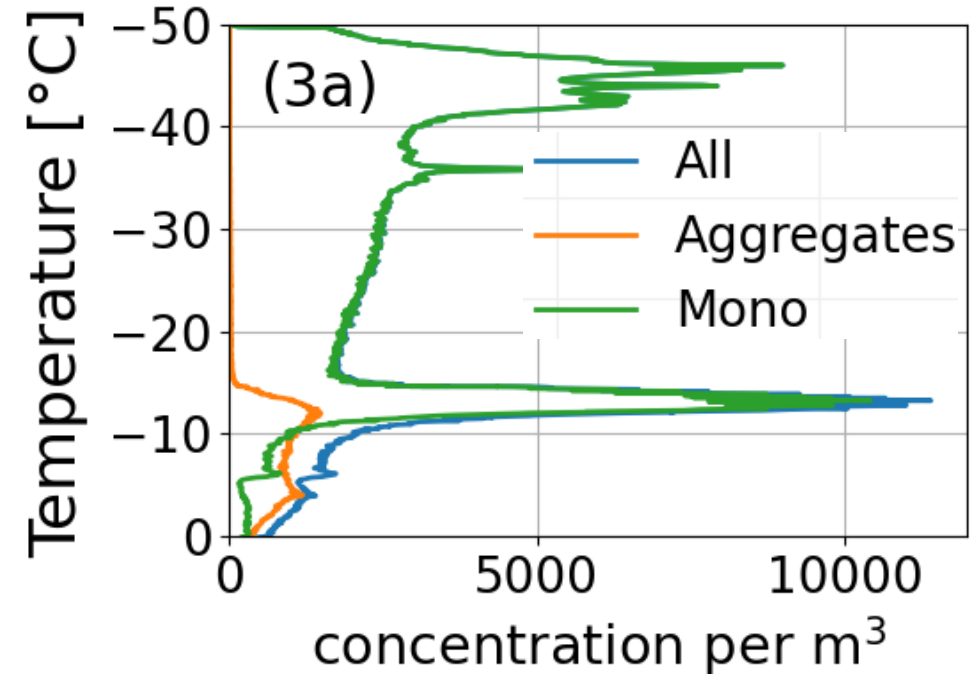
- \* Strength of KDP is massively underestimated
- \* Concentration (and size) of particles underestimated?

- \* Strength of sZDRmax is overestimated
  - \* no wobbling of particles assumed
- \* Peak of sZDRmax is too wide
  - \* Aggregation is not fast enough?
  - \* Does turbulence play a role?

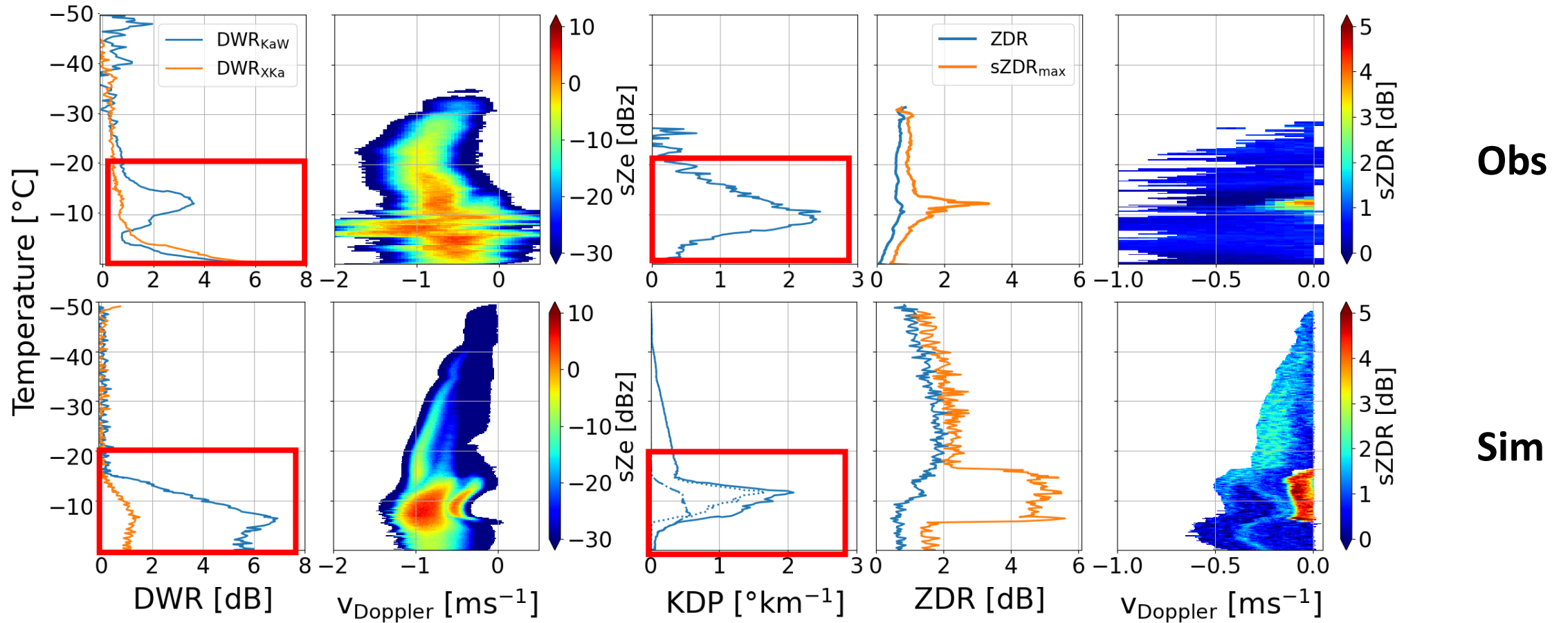
# McSnow simulation

## 2. Secondary ice production (collisional fragmentation) in DGL produces fragments of ice particles

- ✦ Same simulation setup as in 1<sup>st</sup> hypothesis
- ✦ In addition: new fragmentation scheme based on Grzegorzczuk et al. 2023 and Takahashi 1995:
  - ✦ Fragmentation happens during collision if:
    - ✦ Collision kinetic energy  $> 10^{-9}J$
    - ✦ Ambient temperature between  $-12$  and  $-18^{\circ}C$
  - ✦ Maximum number of fragments per fragmentation event: 20
  - ✦ Number of fragments is temperature dependent with maximum at  $-15^{\circ}C$
  - ✦ Size of fragments follows exponential PSD according to Grzegorzczuk with mode of PSD =  $70\mu m$



## 2. Secondary ice production – collisional fragmentation



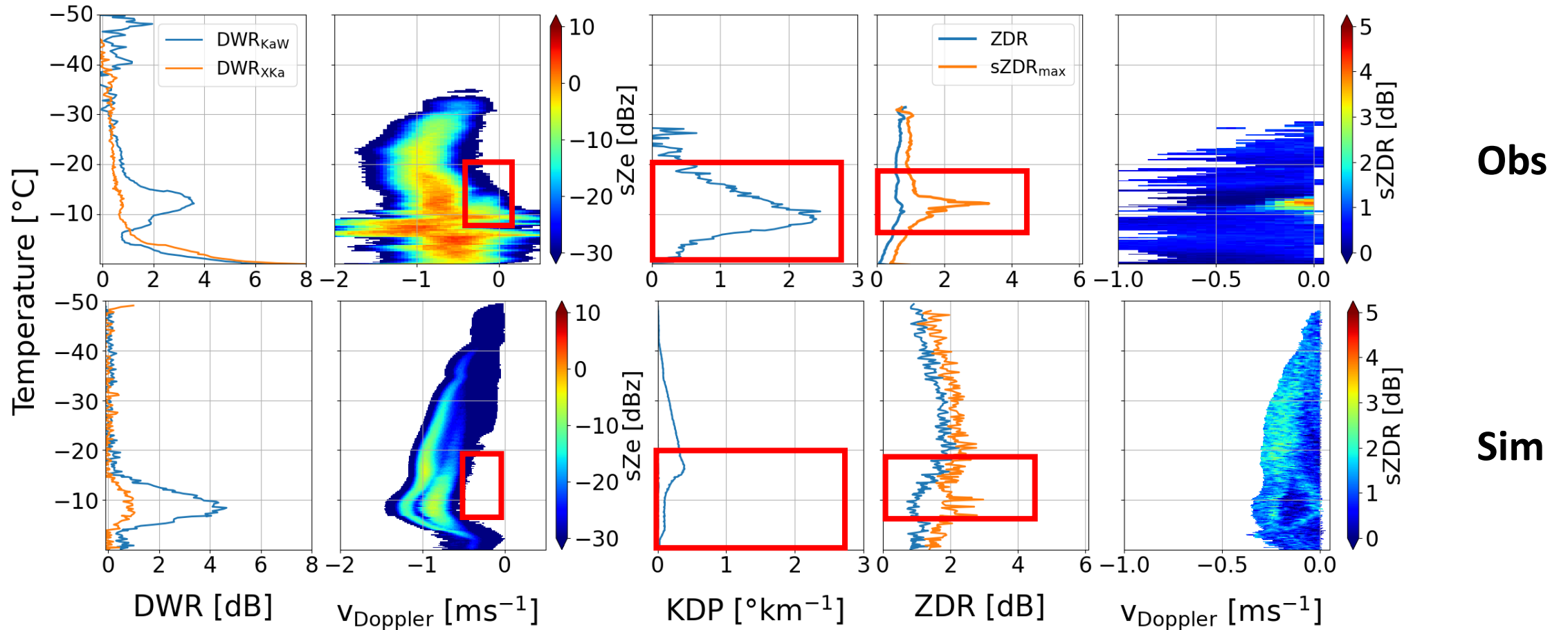
- ✧ Maximum of KDP is matching
- ✧ DWR is overestimated

# McSnow simulation

## 3. Small ice crystals sedimenting from above grow plate-like













❄ Difference to 1<sup>st</sup> simulation setup: only nucleation at  $T < -20^{\circ}\text{C}$

### 3. Only ice nucleation at $T < -20^{\circ}\text{C}$



✳ Without ice nucleation (primary or secondary) we do not have polarimetric signatures in DGL and also no second mode in the Doppler spectrum

# Summary – which hypothesis is most likely?

	DWR	2 <sup>nd</sup> mode in Doppler spectrum	KDP	sZDRmax
Primary nucleation @ $RH_{ice} > 100\%$				
Primary nucleation + fragmentation				
Primary nucleation @ $T < -20^{\circ}C$				

# Outlook

- ✧ Orientational averaging of ice particles is currently running (see talk of Davide and Soumi?)
    - ✧ This could decrease the polarimetric variables (which is needed in case of sZDRmax)
  - ✧ We need more laboratory experiments in order to constrain
    - ✧ Temporal dependence of fragmentation
    - ✧ Shape of fragments
    - ✧ ...
- Talk by Sudha

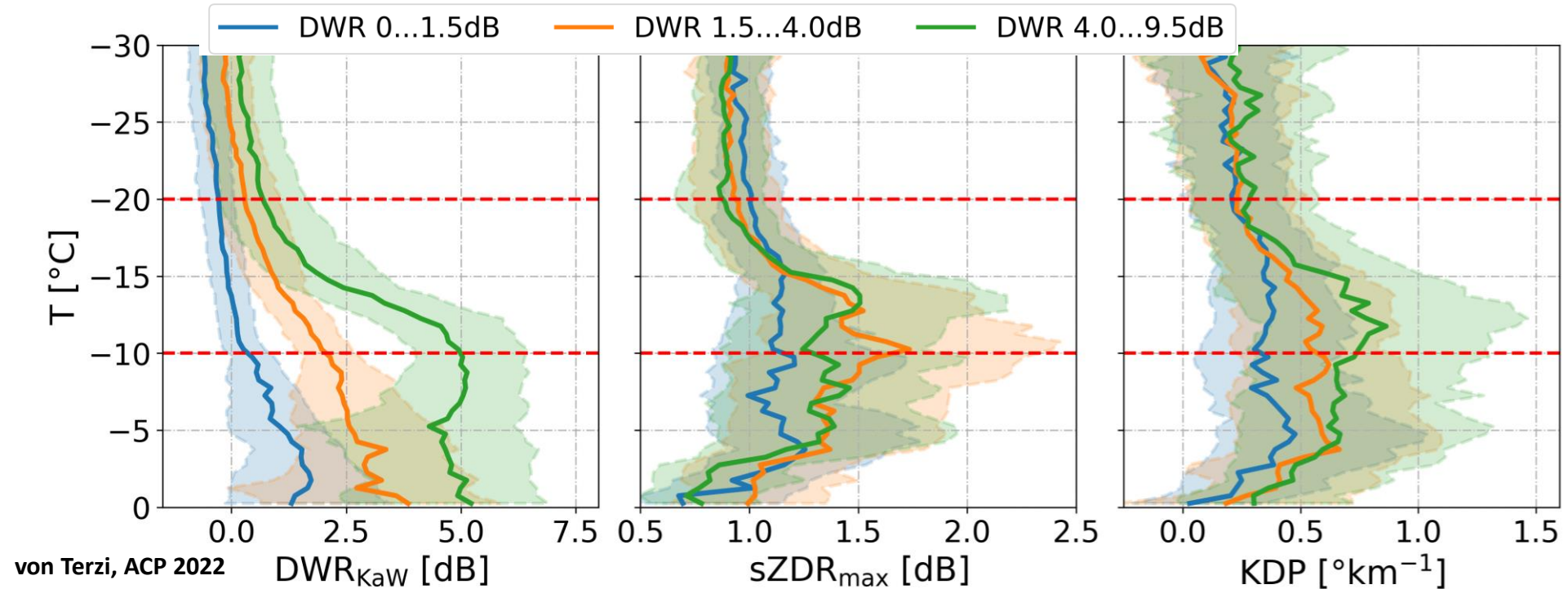
## Take Home messages:

1. The second mode in the Doppler spectrum as well as the increase in  $sZDR_{max}$  appear to be a direct result of new production of ice particles within the DGL (primary and secondary).
2. Fragmentation is needed in order to produce the large increase in KDP.
3. Ice crystals sedimenting into the dendritic growth layer do not explain the main DGL features.



# Anhang

# Multi-month spectral polarimetric multi-frequency radar dataset



The dendritic growth layer is known for:

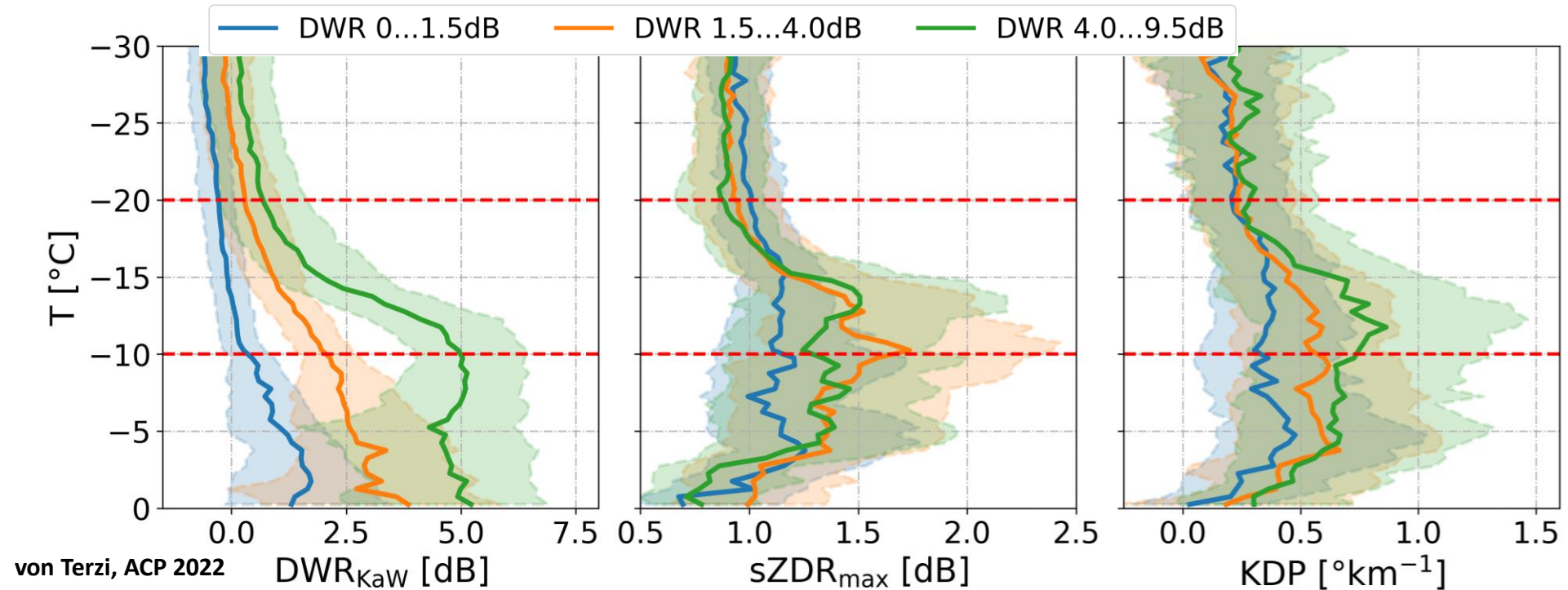
❄ Increase in DWR  
→ aggregation

❄ Increase in sZDRmax

❄ Increase in KDP

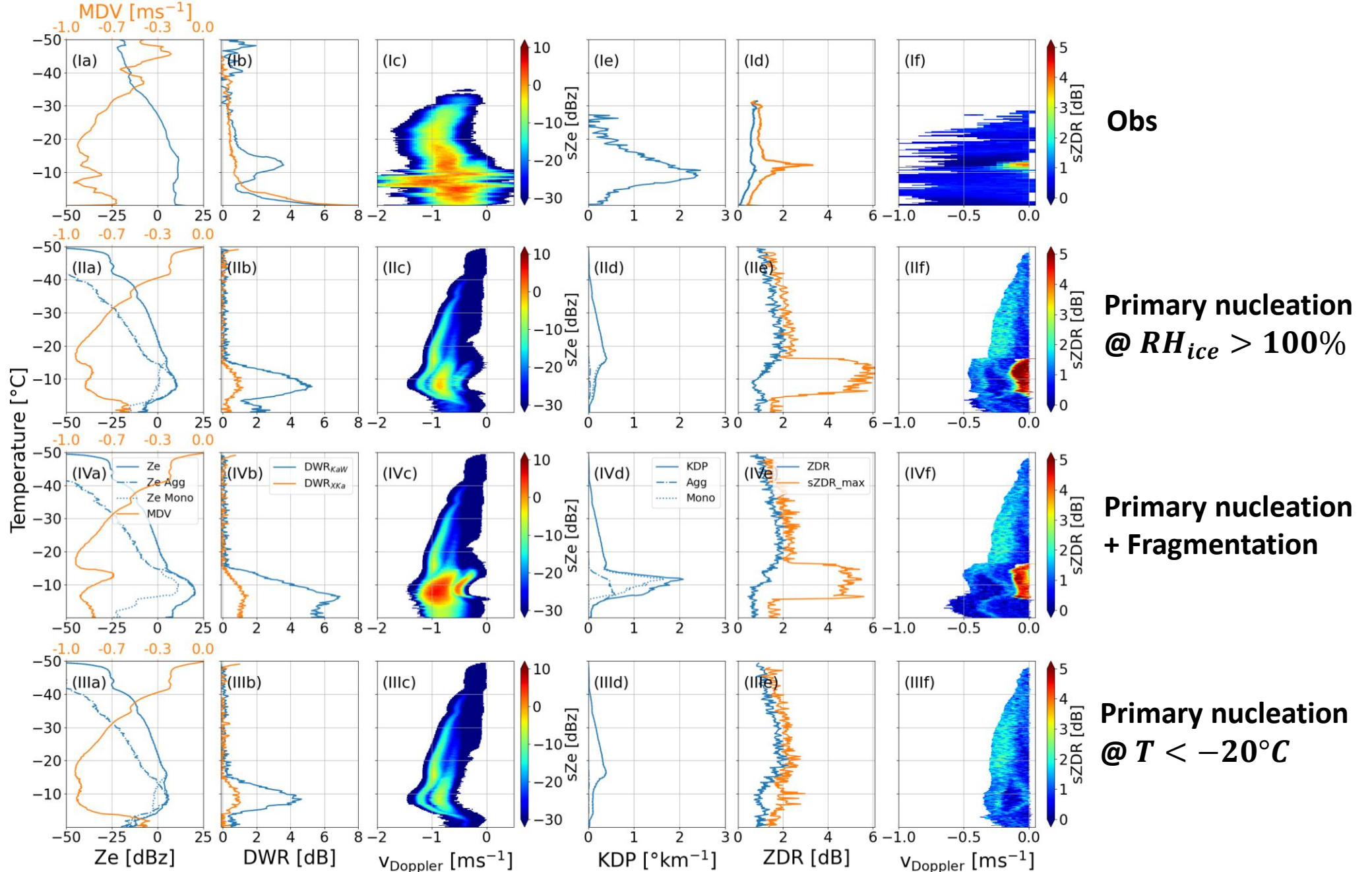


# Multi-month spectral polarimetric multi-frequency radar dataset



## Hypotheses:

1. Primary nucleation in DGL produces plate-like particles which grow rapidly in DGL
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# Two radar campaigns:

Jülich – Germany

Polarimetric  
W-Band

Ka-Band

X-Band

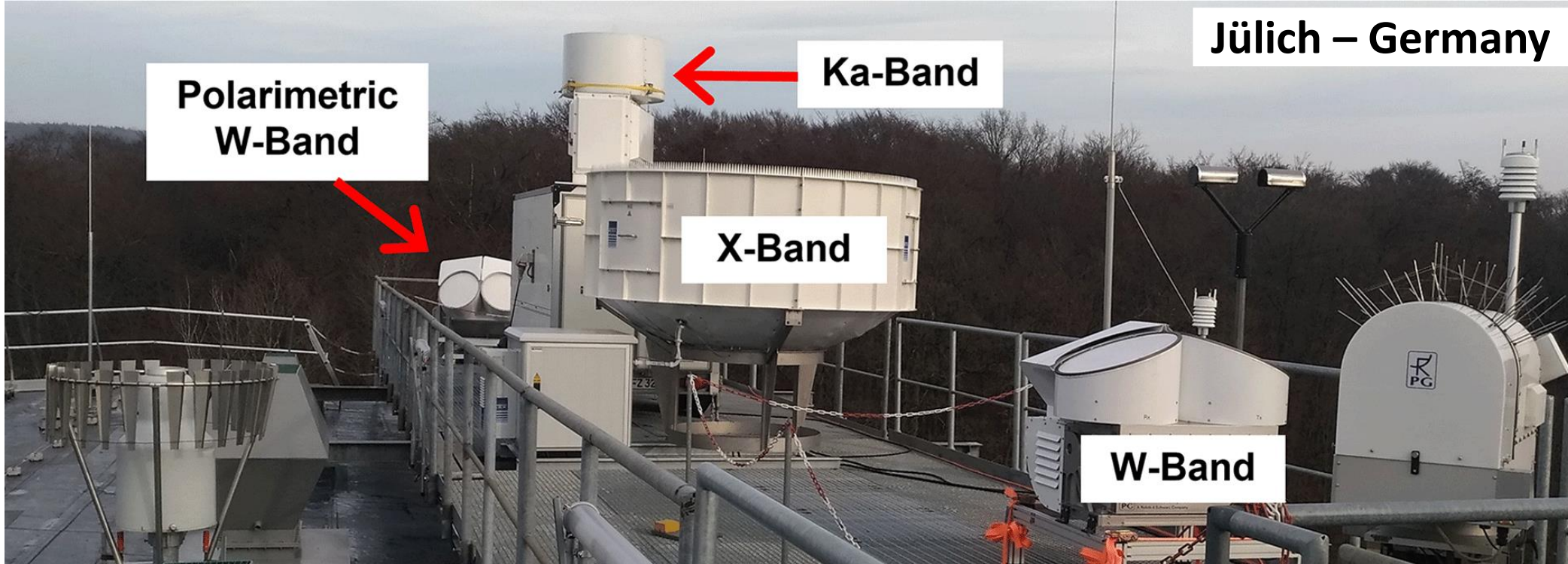
W-Band

## 1. Tripex-pol

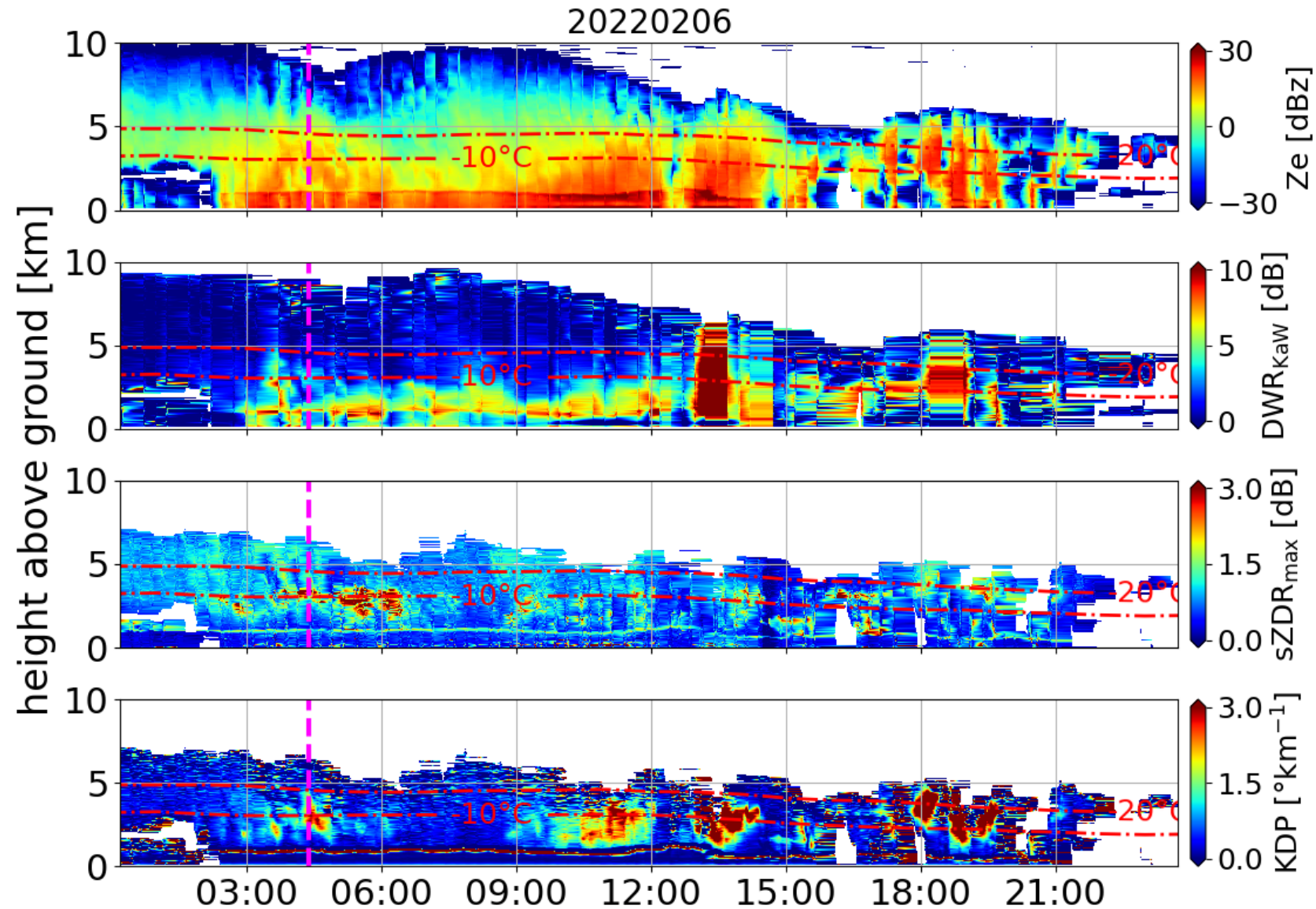
- ✦ Nov 2018 – Jan 2019
- ✦ Zenith X, Ka, W-Band
- ✦ Scans pol. W-Band
- ✦ 15 Radiosondes

## 2. Tripex-pol-scan

- ✦ Dec 2021 – Feb 2022
- ✦ Zenith X-Band
- ✦ Scans with pol. W-Band and Ka-Band
- ✦ 50 Radiosondes

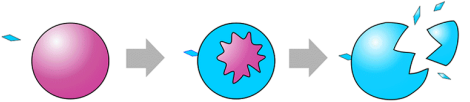
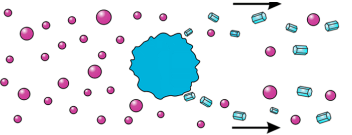
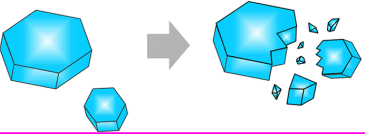

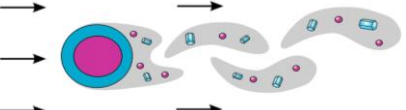


# The Dendritic Growth Layer – a case study:



# Why Fragmentation?

❄️ Status of SIP research: (as in talk from Korolev at ICCP 2021)

Description	Mechanism	# Lab works	Lab studies quantification	# years	simulations
	<b>Droplet fragmentation during freezing</b>	35	Work-in-progress (ongoing)	69	Early stage
	<b>Splintering during riming (HM process)</b>	22	Work-in-progress (ongoing)	61	Yes physical mechanism under debate
	<b>Fragmentation during ice-ice collision</b>	2	Work-in-progress (deeply hibernated)	49	Early stage
	<b>Fragmentation during sublimation</b>	9	Work-in-progress (deeply hibernated)	47	Early stage
	<b>Activation of INPs in transient supersaturation</b>	5	Not attempted	49	no

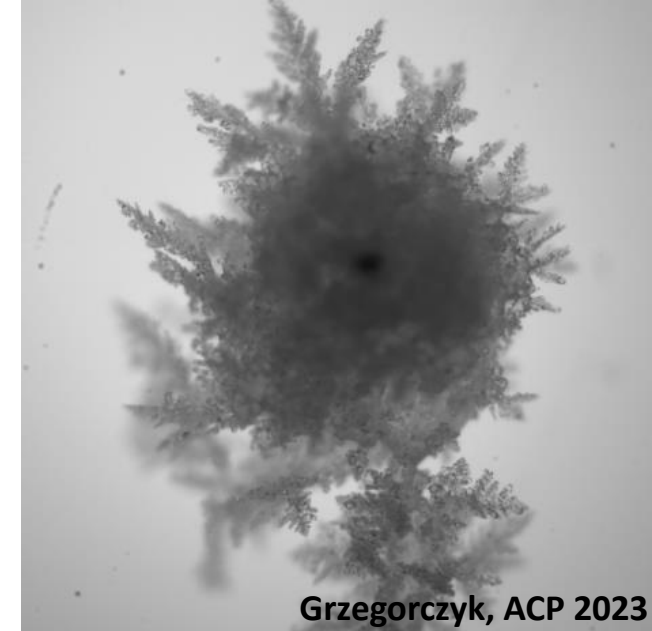
# Why Fragmentation?

Fragmentation:

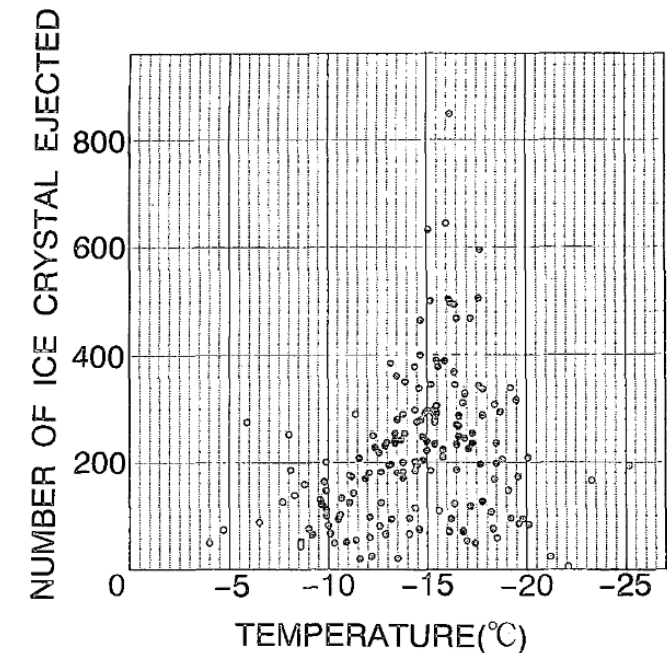
- ❄️ Fragile dendritic arms growing on ice particles and aggregates
- ❄️ Arms break off during collisions
- ❄️ Potential to be active over wide parameter range (not like other SIP)

Problem:

- ❄️ Very little understanding



Grzegorzczuk, ACP 2023



Takahashi 1995



# Outlook McSnow simulations

- ✧ Fragmentation produces 2. Mode with reasonable sZDR
  - ✧ KDP is too small – can we produce more fragments?
  - ✧ Which conditions are most favourable for fragmentation?
- ✧ Are there other explanations for 2. Mode?
  - ✧ Local enhancement of relative humidity
    - INP get activated and new ice crystals are formed
- ✧ Both hypothesis are currently investigated in more detailed with a statistical approach!

# Conclusions

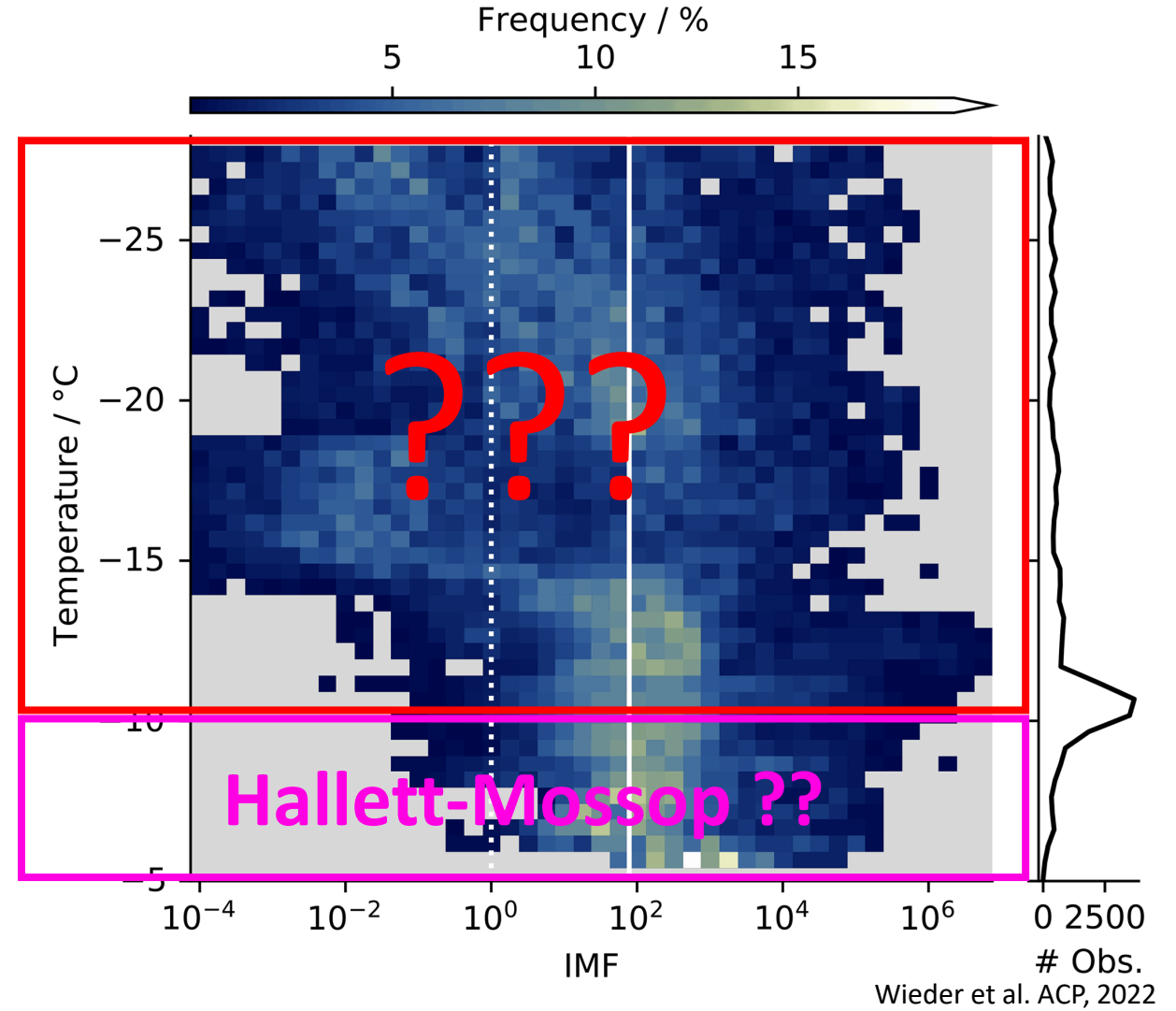
- ❄ Observations show an increase in number concentration in DGL alongside second mode and enhanced sZDR
- ❄ Simulations indicate that second mode might be more likely related to fragmentation than new INP activation

... of course more simulations are needed to investigate in a more objective way...

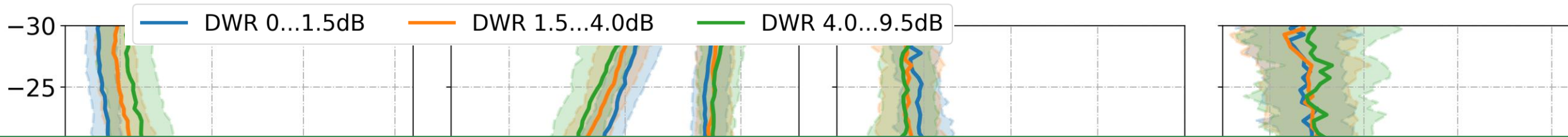
... more information on fragmentation is needed to constrain fragmentation scheme in McSnow ...

# Why Fragmentation?

- ❄ factor 10 to 100 more ice particles (IP) observed than ice nucleating particles (INP) measured
- ❄ E.g. ice multiplication factor  $IMF = \frac{N(IP)}{N(INP)}$
- Secondary ice production (SIP)



# Multi-month spectral polarimetric multi-frequency radar dataset



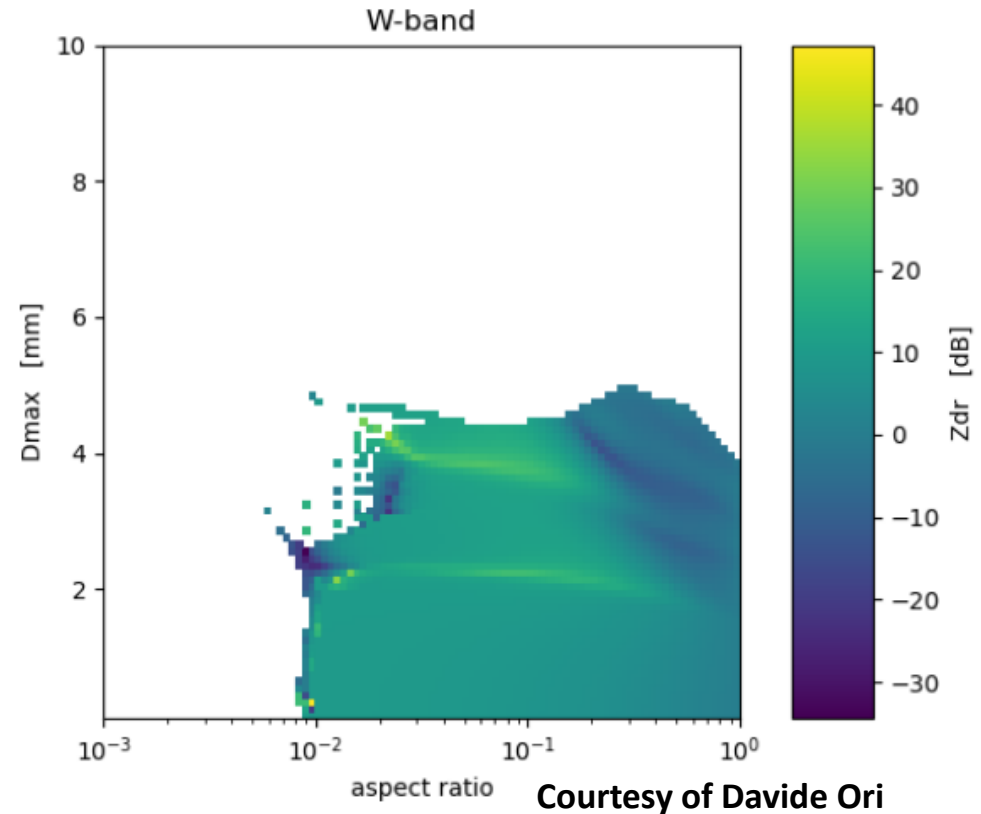
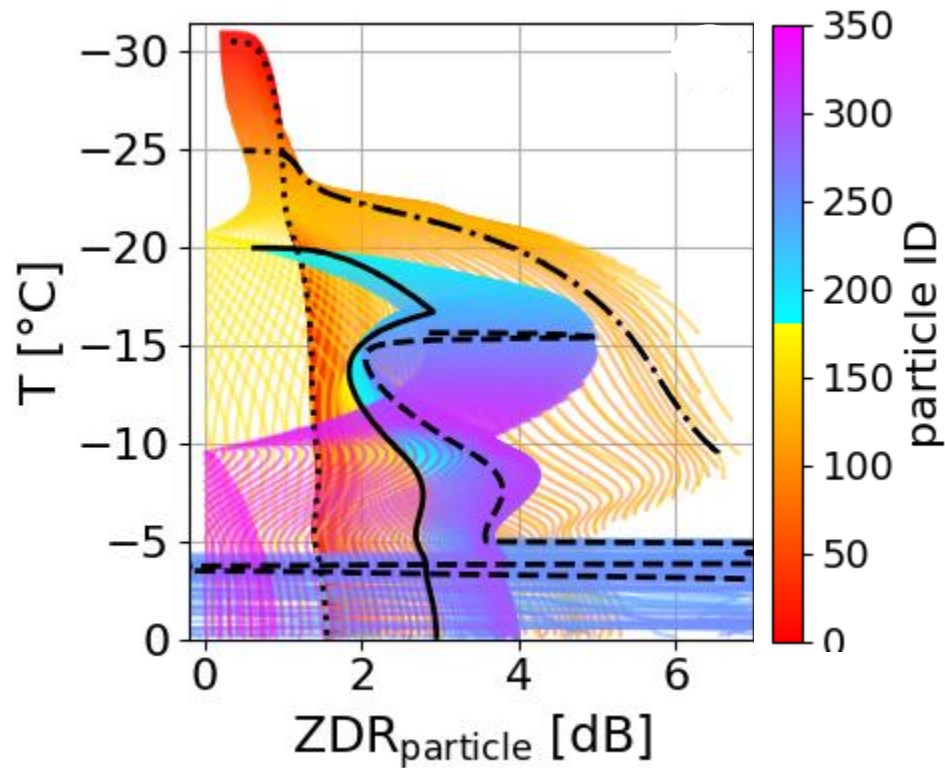
Radars only observe the **effect** of microphysical processes, **not the processes themselves!!**

→ Model where current knowledge of microphysical processes is implemented and hypothesis can be tested

- ❄ Do ice – ice collisions in the DGL cause fragmentation?
- ❄ Ice nucleating particles (INP) get activated and produce new primary ice

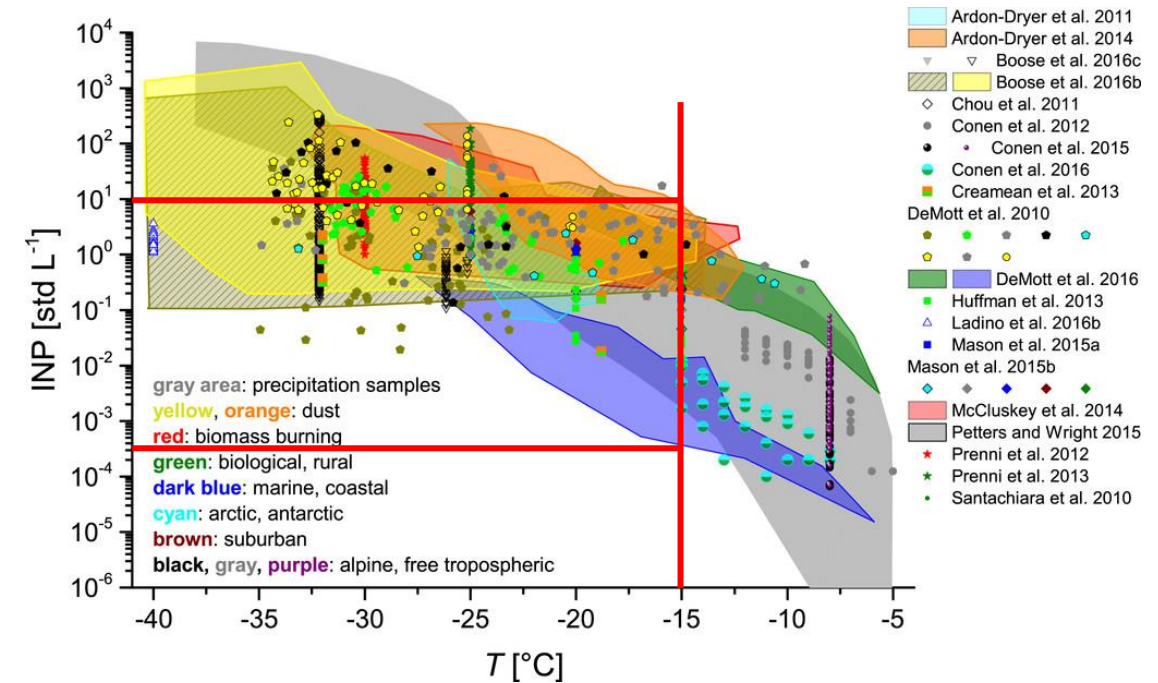
# Forward simulations: from T-matrix to DDA

✦ Tmatrix has a convergence problem!

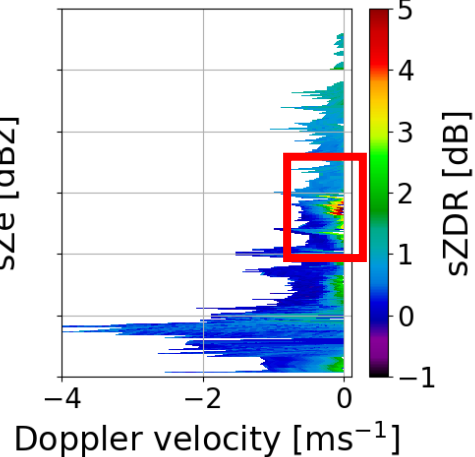
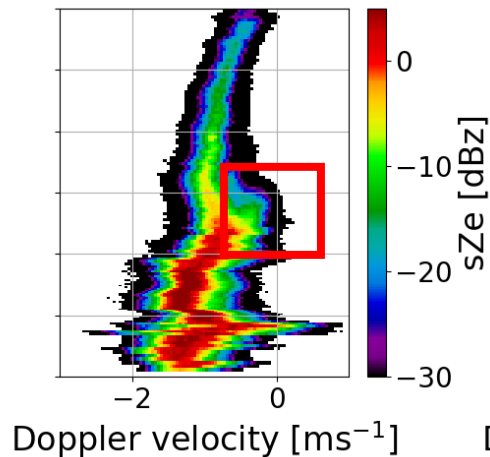
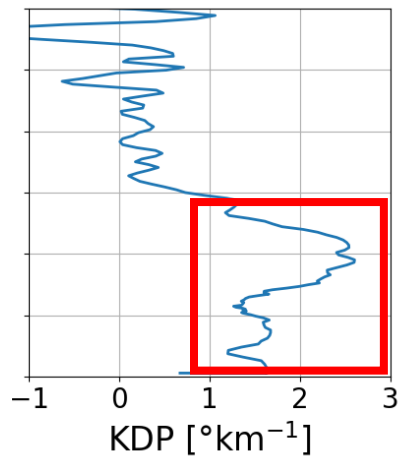
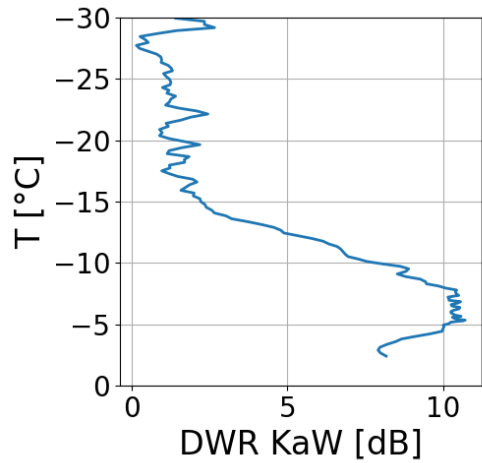
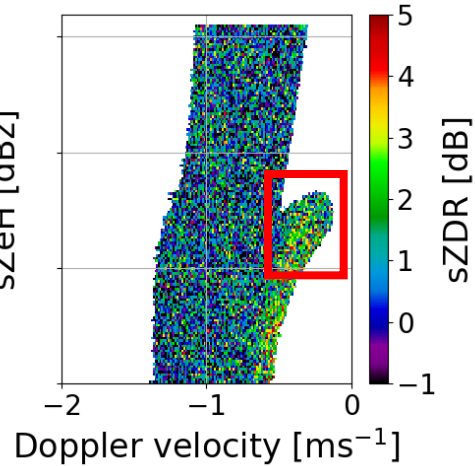
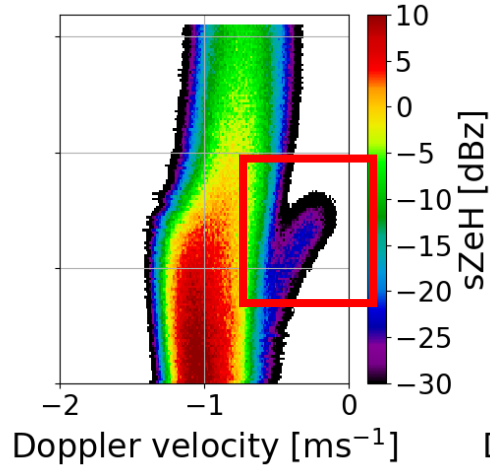
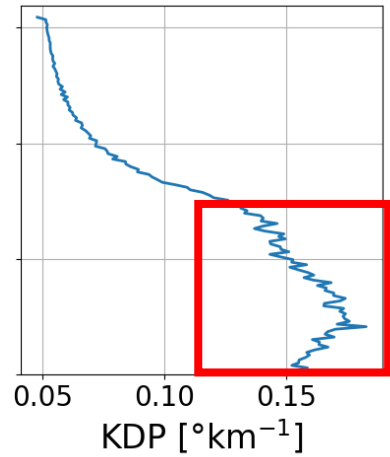
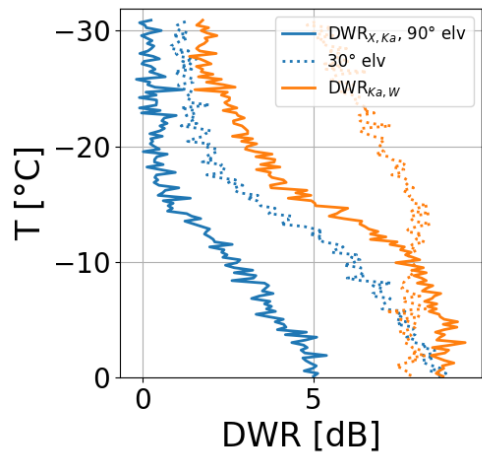


# Are new INP activated in DGL?

- ❄ Mode of aggregates from above
- ❄ Second nucleation layer in DGL
- ❄ Nucleation rate was adapted to have 2-3 L<sup>-1</sup> ice crystals in the second mode
- ❄ McSnow mit habit prediction (Welss, JAMES 2023)
- ❄ Atmosphere setup:
  - ❄ Temp: const. Lapse rate
  - ❄ Rhi: 105% (median of radiosonde observations)



# Are new INP activated in DGL?



## Simulation

- \* KDP too small
- \*  $sZe$  too small
- \*  $sZDR$  too small
- \*  $\rightarrow$  not enough particles?
- \*  $\rightarrow$  aspect ratios too large
- \* Particles not too large or asymmetric enough?

## Observation