

# Antarctic Climate Change and the Environment: Recommendations

#### ATME, Svolvaer, 6-9 April 2010







 Antarctic Continent: Need for collection of more data (e.g. AWS, radiosondes), particularly long-term observing programmes (e.g. CryOS) and monitoring of biologically relevant variables.





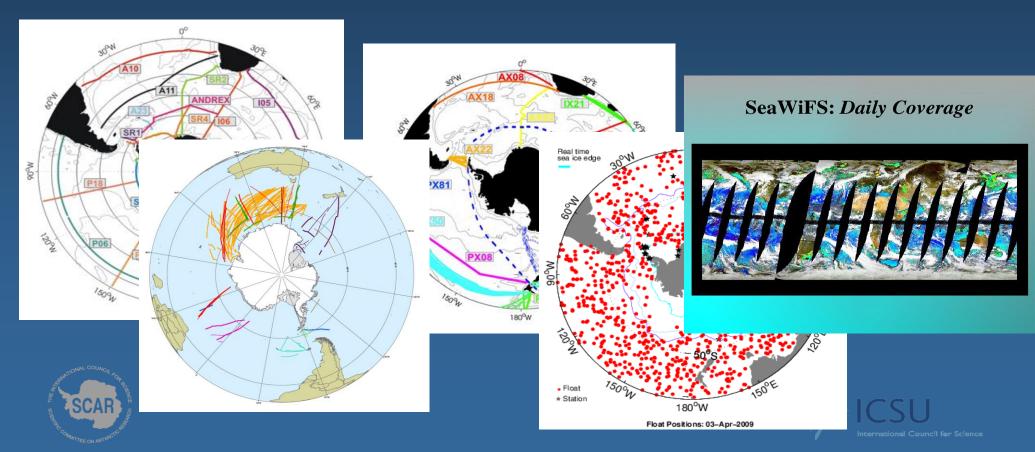
Radiosonde (AWI)

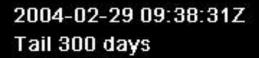




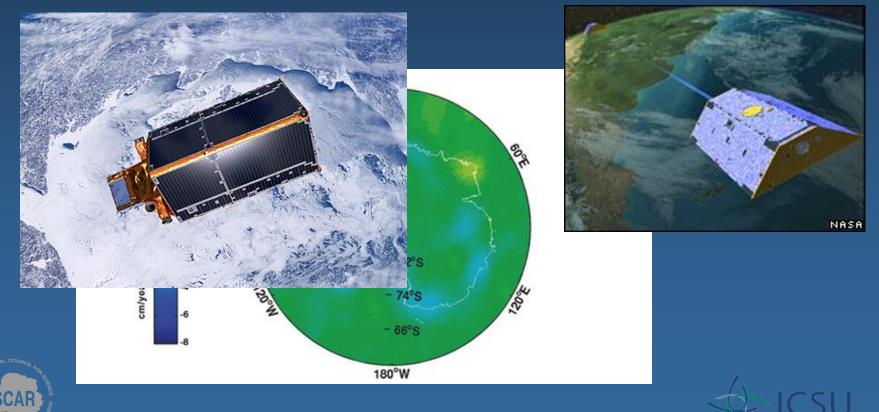


• Southern Ocean: Interdisciplinary (ecological, physical, chemical, sea ice...) observations are required as part of a Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS)



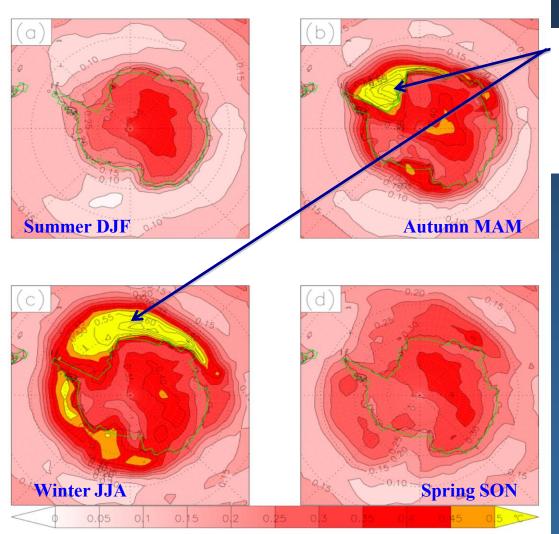


- Satellite Measurements:
  - Both for continent and Southern Ocean (time series, mass balance...)



#### Projected Antarctic warming by 2100

3.4°C by 2100 from weighted average of 19 IPCC models based on 2 x CO<sub>2</sub> (the IPCC A1B scenario).



**SCAR** 

Most warming is over sea ice, due to retreat of sea ice edge in winter; otherwise, little seasonal trend (av. 0.34°C/decade).





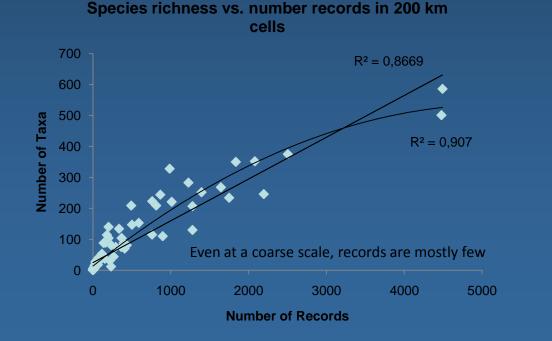
- Climate Model requirements:
  - Higher horizontal and vertical resolution
  - better simulation of polar-specific processes, such as sea ice and the very stable atmospheric boundary layer, stratospheric clouds
  - Improved atmospheric chemistry (for e.g. ozone hole)
  - integrative and spatially explicit ecosystem modelling (for e.g. response to acidification)
  - the next generation of ice sheet models must be able to account for rapid dynamical changes to the flow of glaciers and ice streams (link to sea level rise)







- Biological research requirements:
  - Explicit modelling of species responses to climate change in a community context
  - Better understanding of species distributions and variation in response to the environment









- Biological research requirements:
  - Quantification of colonisation routes and processes including the relative importance of natural and human mediated contributions to the latter, especially in hot spots of change
  - Development of continental-scale monitoring programmes based upon a network of carefully selected flagship sites.

Propagule vectors and pathways















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"A review of conservation practice for Antarctica in the 21st century"









#### ANTARCTIC CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

A contribution to the International Polar Year 2007-2008

Edited by:

John Turner, British Antarctic Survey, UK Robert Bindischadler, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, USA Pete Convey, British Antarctic Survey, UK Guido di Prisco, Institute of Protein Biochemistry, Italy Eberhard Fahrbach, Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany Julan Gutz, Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany Dominic Hodgion, Brithh Antartic Surrey, UK Paul Mayewida, Climote Change Institute, University of Maine, USA Colin Summerhayes, Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research



