

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.



AWS (Lorenzo De Silvestri)



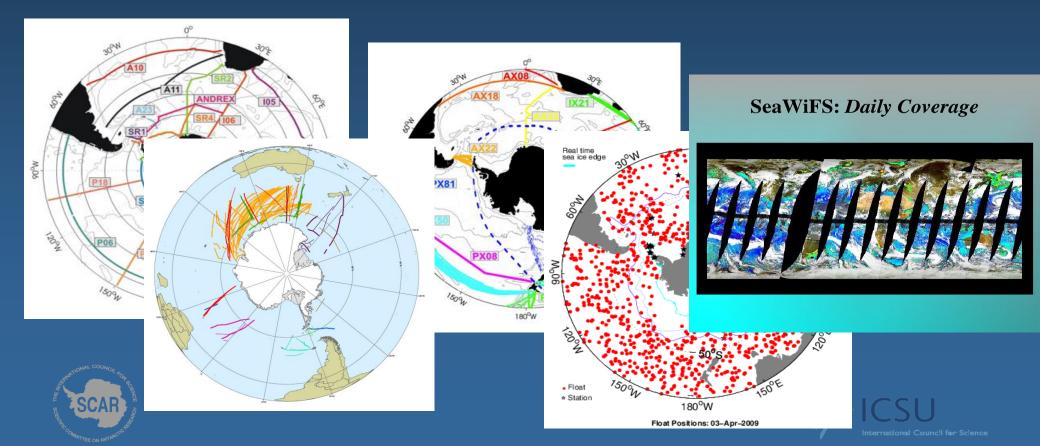
Radiosonde (AWI)





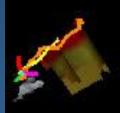


 Southern Ocean: Interdisciplinary (ecological, physical, chemical, sea ice...) observations are required as part of a Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS)



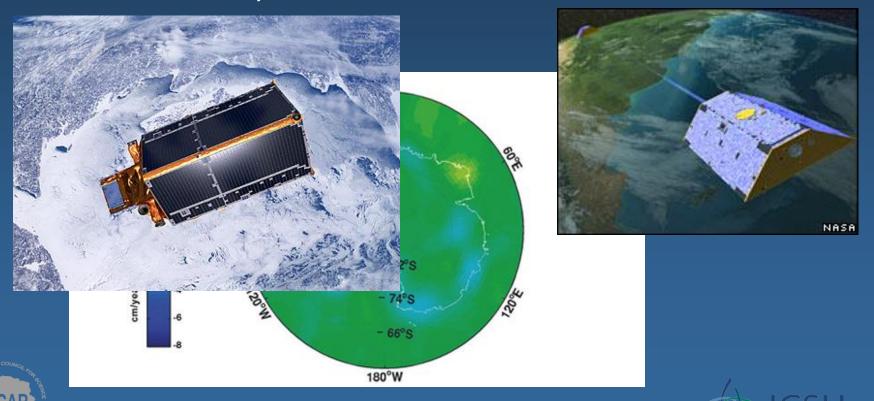
2004-02-29 09:38:31Z Tail 300 days







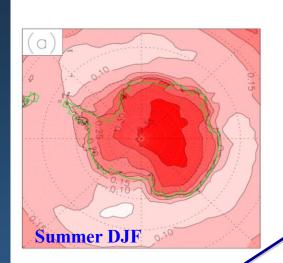
- Satellite Measurements:
 - Both for continent and Southern Ocean (time series, mass balance...)

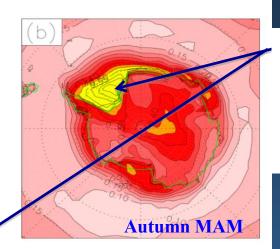




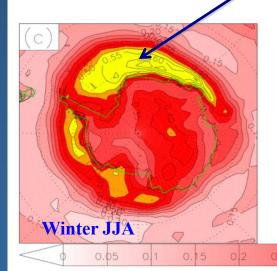
Projected Antarctic warming by 2100

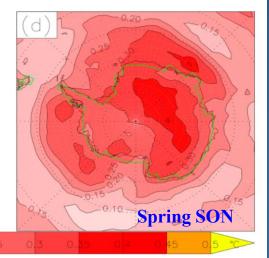
3.4°C by 2100 from weighted average of 19 IPCC models based on 2 x CO₂ (the IPCC A1B scenario).





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











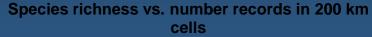
- Climate Model requirements:
 - Higher horizontal and vertical resolution
 - better simulation of polar-specific processes, such as sea ice and the very stable atmospheric boundary layer, stratospheric clouds
 - Improved atmospheric chemistry (for e.g. ozone hole)
 - integrative and spatially explicit 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)

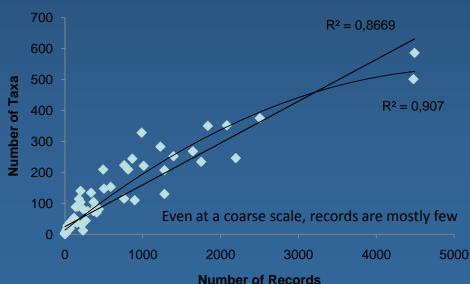






- Biological research requirements:
 - Explicit modelling of species responses to climate change in a community context
 - Better understanding of species distributions and variation in response to the environment







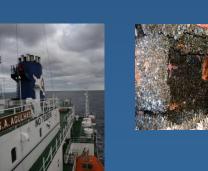




- Biological research requirements:
 - Quantification of colonisation routes and processes including the relative importance of natural and human mediated contributions to the latter, especially in hot spots of change
 - Development of continental-scale monitoring programmes based upon a network of carefully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

Propagule vectors and pathways













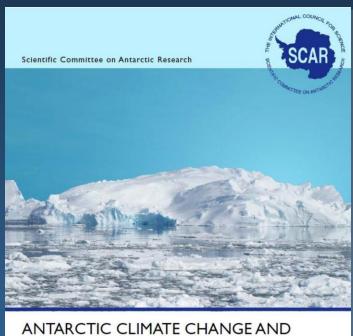
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"A review of conservation practice for Antarctica in the 21st century"









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A contribution to the International Polar Year 2007-2008

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