HALO-0205 (05 February 2020)

Bernhard Mayer Draft, February 10, 2020

1. Objective

Eighth Research Flight, with two times 3.5 Standard Circles, separated by an NTAS Buoy Excursion and a satellite overpass. Takeoff at 5:15 local time. Excursion was planned in conjunction with Ron Brown and P3 which didn't work out since the Ron Brown had to return to port and the P3 flew South.

1. Crew

Bernhard Mayer (Mission PI), Silke Groß (WALES), Hauke Schulz (HAMP, Dropsondes), Linda Forster (specMACS, SMART/VELOX), Bjorn Stevens (Flight Scientist), Jule Radke (Dropsondes, HAMP), Jonas Sichert (Flight Scientist),

Geet George (Ground Contact)

2. Synoptic Situation

A ridge dominated the observation area, with increased wind of about 10m/s. At the beginning the cloud pattern was a succession of Flower patterns which changed to Gravel/Sugar later. The cloud fraction was larger than on previous days. The clouds were generally more developed, with showers for some of them. Satellite overpass at 10:25 local time over cold pool North of the Circle. No cirrus was observed, neither above nor below HALO.

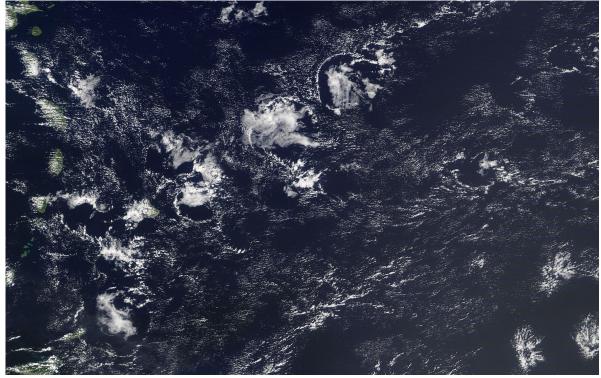


Figure 1: Terra MODIS image from NASA Worldview, 10:20 local time (at time of satellite overpass), 14:20 UTC



Figure 2: Aqua MODIS image, 13:20 local time (during last circle), 17:20 UTC

3. Flight Elements

Element	(°N, °W)	Flight Level (FL)	Time (UTC)	Notes
Takeoff	GAIA	Ascent to 320	9:15	
Note	n/e	320	9:33 – 12:51	3.5 circles, FL 320, CW
Note	n/e	320	12:51	Leaving Circle towards NTAS Buoy
Note	n/e	320	13:19 – 13:26	180° turn
Note	n/e	320	13:55	Back at circle; turn into Terra satellite track
Note	n/e	320	14:13 – 14:20	180° turn
Note	n/e	320	14:20 - 14:31	Terra/MISR Overpass
Note	n/e	320	14:37	In Circle again, East
Note	n/e	320	14:37 – 17:53	3.5 Circles, FL 320, CW
Note	n/e	Descent to 160	17:53	Left FL 320, start descent
Note	n/e	160	n/e	Lidar leg
Landing	GAIA	Descent to 0	18:20	Landing

Excursion to NTAS Buoy: No coordinated observations with Ron Brown and P3, since Ron Brown had to return to port.

Satellite Overpass: Perfect coordination with Terra/MISR; MISR takes 7 minutes to scan a ground pixel with all 9 cameras; HALO was directly below MISR track for 11 minutes

4. Instrument Status

Bahamas: operational, no issues

Radar: operational, no issues.

Microwave Radiometer: operational, except 183 GHz channels from 11:00 to 13:00 UTC.

Lidar: operational; 30 minutes missing during last circle

specMACS: operational, no issues

SMART: operational, no issues.

VELOX: some small artifacts shortly after the climb which disappeared soon; KT-19 worked stable and reliable from 13 UTC.

Dropsondes: ...

5. Figures

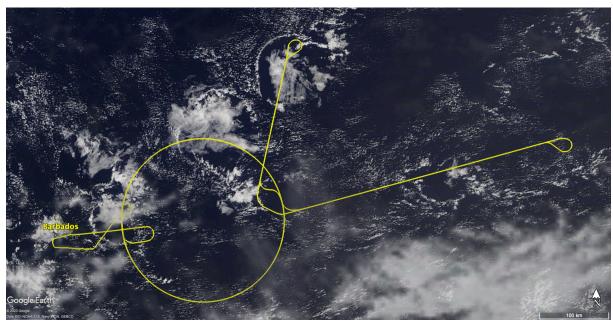


Figure 3: HALO flight path, with NTAS excursion to the East and Terra/MISR overpass to the North.



Figure 4: Flight profile. Except for start, landing, and the Lidar leg HALO stayed at FL 320.

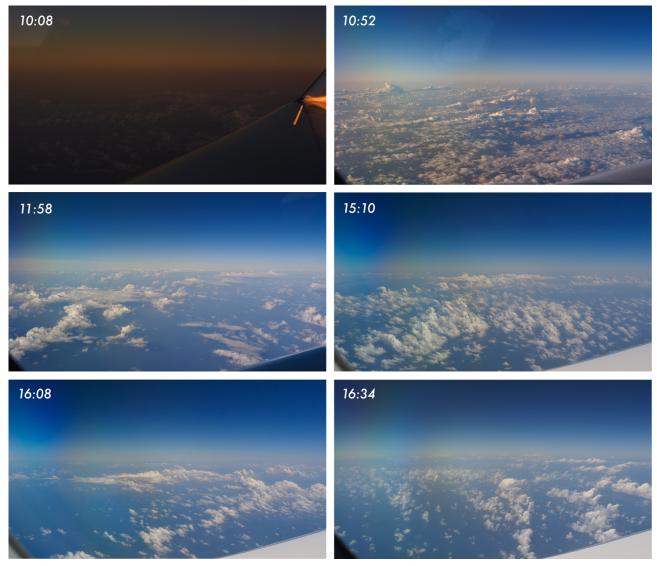


Figure 5: 10,887 pictures were taken with an OLYMPUS OM-D E-M1 in order to create a time lapse movie (available from the author); here one image from each full circle is shown, looking into the circle. The time lapse clearly illustrates that the other side of the circle is visible from HALO.

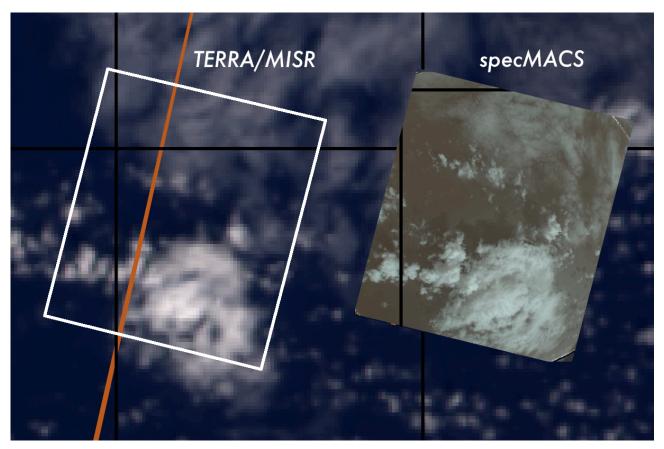


Figure 6: Comparison between Terra/MISR and specMACS (shifted to the right) during the satellite overpass. Red line indicates the satellite track; 10:25 local, 14:25 UTC.

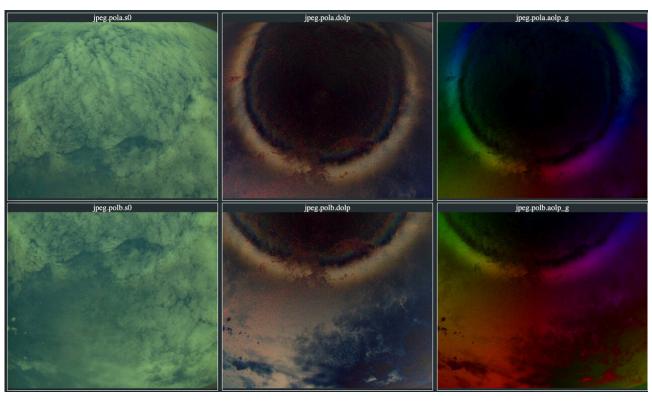


Figure 7: specMACS observation of a cloudbow; radiance (left), degree of linear polarization (center), angle of linear polarization (right); cloud droplet sizes will be calculated from the shape of the cloudbow.

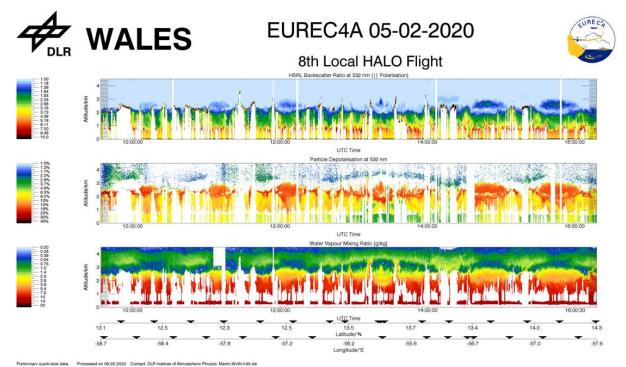


Figure 8: WALES overview of complete flight. Backscatter ratio, particle depolarization, and water vapor mixing ratio. High depolarization ratios indicate some leftover desert dust.

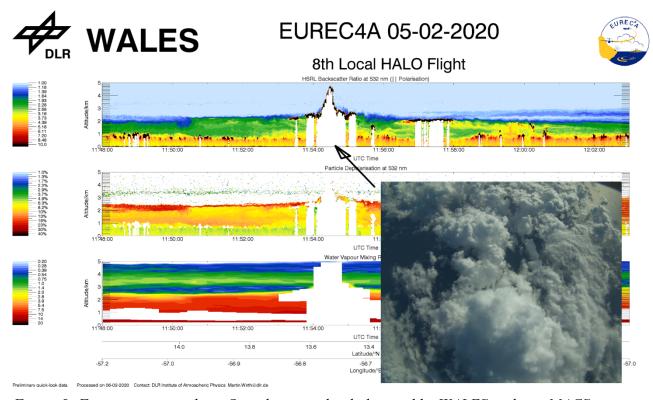


Figure 9: First synergy product: Overshooting cloud observed by WALES and specMACS.

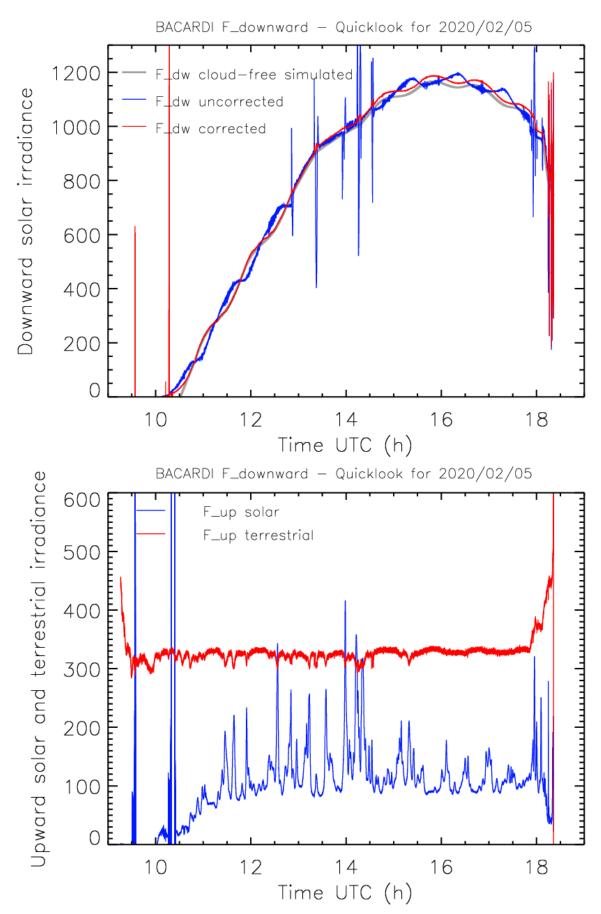


Figure 10: Up- and downward Fluxes from BACARDI. Structures in downward irradiance stems from flight maneuvers; smoothness of the downward irradiance indicates no cirrus above HALO.