



# Balloon Sondes for DCOTSS

## Ozone\_Sondes & Ozone-H2O\_Sondes

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# Data Collection/Creation Process

- Total of 62 instrumented balloons launched at 4 different sites in coordination with ER-2 flights from Salina (6 July – 23 August, 2021)

Salina, KS (16) – 4 w/FPH

Corpus Christi, TX (18)

Grand Forks, ND (14)

Boulder, CO (14) – 4 w/FPH

- Instruments

**EN-SCI Electrochemical Concentration Cell (ECC)**

O<sub>3</sub> partial pressure (P<sub>O<sub>3</sub></sub>)

**Intermet Radiosonde (RS)**

T, P, RH, GPS 3D location (Lat, Lon, Geom. Altitude)

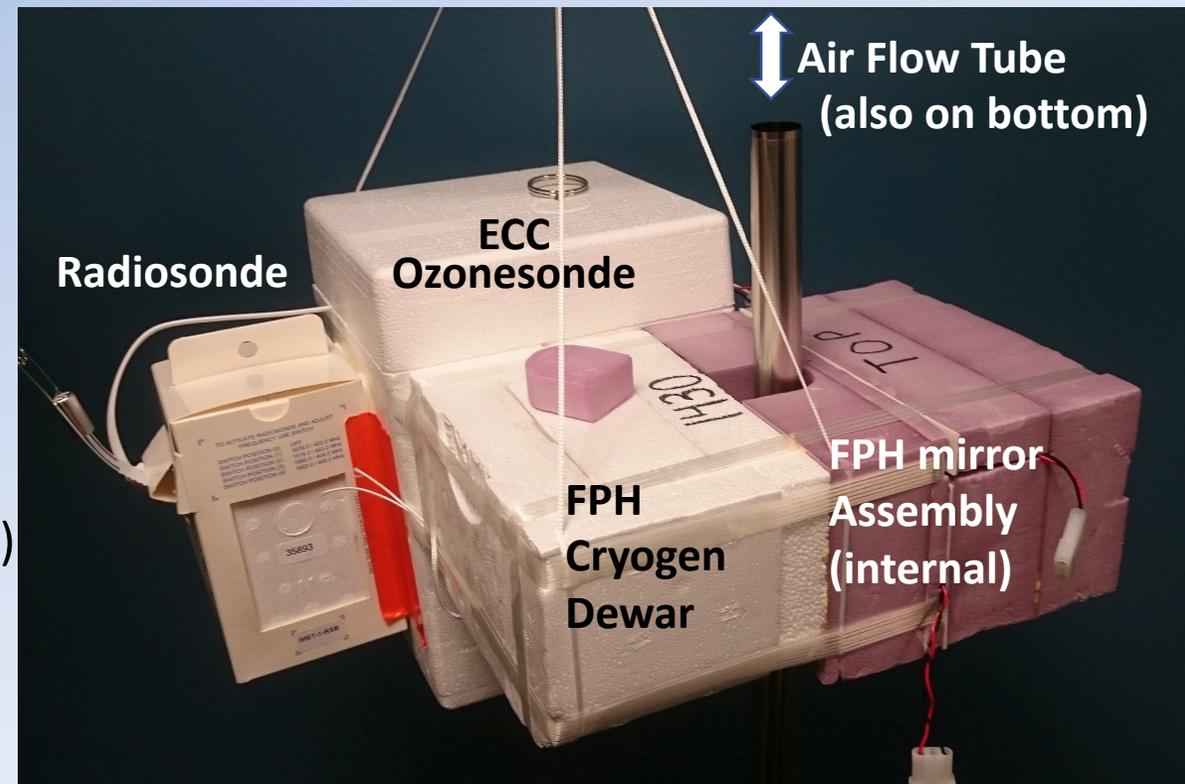
**NOAA Frost Point Hygrometer (FPH)**

H<sub>2</sub>O partial pressure (via frost point temperature)

- Data Products

O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratio (P<sub>O<sub>3</sub></sub>, P); H<sub>2</sub>O mixing ratio (P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>, P); Theta (P, T); Geopotential Altitude (P, T, RH); RH (P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>O</sub>, P, T);

O<sub>3</sub> partial columns (P<sub>O<sub>3</sub></sub>, P, T); Horizontal wind speed & direction (GPS Lat & Lon); Tropopause Height (T, Alt)<sup>β</sup>



# Data Collection/Creation Process

- Websites

<https://gml.noaa.gov/ozwv/ozsondes/>

<https://gml.noaa.gov/ozwv/wvap/>

- References

Sterling, C.W., B.J. Johnson, S.J. Oltmans, H.G.J. Smit, A.F. Jordan, P.D. Cullis, E.G. Hall, A.M. Thompson and J.C. Witte: **Homogenizing and estimating the uncertainty in NOAA's long-term vertical ozone profile records measured with the electrochemical concentration cell ozonesonde**, *Atmos. Meas. Tech.*, 11, 3661-3687, doi:10.5194/amt-11-3661-2018, 2018.

Hall, E.G., A.F. Jordan, D.F. Hurst, S.J. Oltmans, H. Vömel, B. Kühnreich, and V. Ebert: **Advancements, measurement uncertainties and recent comparisons of the NOAA frost point hygrometer**, *Atmos. Meas. Tech.*, 9, 4295–4310, doi:10.5194/amt-9-4295-2016, 2016.

# File Structure & Content

- Vertical Profile Data (Ascent & Descent) telemetered and recorded at 1-2 s resolution (5-10 m vertical resolution)
  - “Ozone\_Sondes”: Time, Altitude (Geopot. & Geometric), P, T, RH (RS),  $\Theta$ , Lat, Lon, Horiz. Wind Speed and Direction, O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratio  
Surface to ~35 kmasl (i.e, balloon burst height)
  - “Ozone-H2O\_Sondes”: add H<sub>2</sub>O mixing ratio, RH (FPH), RH<sub>i</sub> (FPH)  
Surface to ~28 kmasl (valved balloon turnpoint)
- ICARTT format, ~1 MB per file, 1-sec timestamp intervals
  - “Non-updated” 1-sec data are reported as -99999, not repeated
  - Data rate is limited by hard-coded radiosonde telemetry rate

# Data Limitations & Considerations

- ECC ( $X_{O_3}$ ): accuracy ( $\pm 5\%$ ); precision ( $\pm 4\% > 100$  hPa,  $\pm 3\% < 100$  hPa)
- FPH ( $X_{H_2O}$ ): accuracy ( $\pm 5\% > 100$  hPa,  $\pm 3\% < 100$  hPa); precision ( $\pm 8\% > 100$  hPa,  $\pm 5\% < 100$  hPa)
- RS (T): uncertainty ( $\pm 0.5K > 100$  hPa,  $\pm 1.0K < 100$  hPa); reproducibility ( $\pm 0.3K$ ,  $\pm 0.8K$ , same P ranges)
- RS (P): uncertainty ( $\pm 1$  hPa  $> 400$  hPa,  $\pm 2$  hPa  $< 400$  hPa); reproducibility ( $\pm 0.8$  hPa,  $\pm 1.5$  hPa, “ “)
- RS (RH): uncertainty ( $\pm 5\%$  RH); reproducibility ( $\pm 3\%$  RH)
- Ascent data recommended for ECC  $O_3$  data, but descent data are available (bad are -99999)  
 Balloon burst = rapid descent rate, ECC optimized for ascent, latency of RS and ECC sensors' responses
- Ascent & descent data good for FPH  $H_2O$  data  
 Valved balloon = controlled ( $\sim 5$  m  $s^{-1}$ ) balloon descent, uncontaminated descent  $H_2O$
- Use RH values calculated from FPH measurements, especially above  $\sim 10$  km
- Geopotential altitude  $f(P, T, RH) \neq$  Geometric altitude (GPS)

# Tentative Archival Timeline

- Final data "R0" have been archived for all 62 flights!

Questions?



Photo Credit: Patrick Cullis, GML