



Improving understanding, model simulations, and prediction of the Southeast Pacific Climate System

Post VOCALS - REx Report











NOAA





Institut de recherche pour le développement

Foreword

The VOCALS Science Working Group at its meeting in Arica, Chile, 7 November 2008, decided to produce a project-snapshot document at the completion of the field campaign VOCALS-REx.

To this end, all VOCALS Scientists were invited in December 2008 to provide slides with selected aspects of their work. The current document, in four parts, is a collection of those slides.

In many cases the material sent has been included without modifications; in other cases we have made minor changes to improve consistency. We apologize for mistakes that might have made in theses cases.

C. Roberto Mechoso, UCLA VOCALS Chair Robert Wood, U. Wash. VOCALS-Rex Lead PI

Part 1 INTRODUCTION

- Come sample with me and be my wings: Poem
- Goals of VOCALS
- Coupled atmosphere-ocean-land hypotheses
- Aerosol-Cloud-Drizzle Hypotheses
- VOCALS Regional Experiment (Rex) Themes
- VOCALS-REx platforms and sampling
- Institutions collaborating in VOCALS
- Photo Album

COME SAMPLE WITH ME AND BE MY WINGS

Rendez vous Ron Brown - C130 VOCALS, South Pacific, October 25, 2008

Come sample with me and be my wings, Together we will gather temps and winds That VOCALS scientists came to find, And are the only glory that they mind.

We two will journey from Arica westward, And again from the IMET buoy eastward, Along the 20 south of latitude, you up there While at the ocean surface I do my share.

Admiral Bob with steel determination Will steer my course without hesitation. While sending soundings into the misty air And dropping XBTs into the sea with flair.

And Air Marshall Rob with multi-eagle eyes will guide you and your band of brothers up and down across the clouds searching for aerosols and CCNs to calm their longings.

Text: R. Mechoso, Image: C. McNaughton

The South Eastern Pacific



Cold SSTs, coastal upwelling

- Coastally trapped Kelvin waves and ocean eddies
- Unresolved issues in heat and nutrient budgets
- Important links between clouds and aerosol

Cloud-topped ABLs
Important links between clouds and aerosol
Influenced by and influential on remote climates (ENSO)
Poorly simulated by atmosphere-ocean GCMs







GOALS of VOCALS

Elimination of CGCM systematic errors in the SEP, and improved model simulations of the coupled system in the region and global impacts of its variability.

Improved understanding and regional/global model representation of aerosol indirect effects over the SEP.





www.eol.ucar.edu/projects/vocals

COUPLED OCEAN-ATMOSPHERE-LAND HYPOTHESES

- Oceanic mesoscale eddies play a major role in the transport of heat and fresh water from coastally upwelled water to regions further offshore.
- By changing the physical and chemical properties of the upper ocean, upwelling has a systematic and noticeable effect on aerosol precursor gases and the aerosol size distribution over the SEP.
- The diurnal subsidence wave ("upsidence wave") originating in northern Chile/southern Peru has an impact upon the diurnal cycle of clouds that is well-represented in numerical models.
- The entrainment of cool fresh intermediate water from below the surface layer during mixing associated with energetic nearinertial oscillations generated by transients in the magnitude of the trade winds is an important process to maintain heat and salt balance of the surface layer of the ocean in the SEP.

AEROSOL-CLOUD-DRIZZLE HYPOTHESES

• Variability in the physicochemical properties of aerosols has a measurable impact upon the formation of drizzle in stratocumulus clouds over the SEP

 Precipitation is a necessary condition for the formation and maintenance of pockets of open cells (POCs) within stratocumulus clouds

• The small effective radii measured from space over the SEP are primarily controlled by anthropogenic, rather than natural, aerosol production, and entrainment of polluted air from the lower freetroposphere is an important source of cloud condensation nuclei (CCN)

 Depletion of aerosols by coalescence scavenging is necessary for the maintenance of POCs.



VOCALS Regional Experiment (REx)

Themes

- Aerosol-cloud-drizzle interactions in the marine boundary layer (MBL) and the physicochemical and spatiotemporal properties of aerosols
- Chemical and physical couplings between the upper ocean, the land, and the atmosphere.



VOCALS-REx Platforms





Universities

Arizona Arizona State California Los Angeles California Irvine California San Diego California Santa Cruz Chile, Chile Concepción, Chile Colorado Boulder Colorado State Drexel Hawaii Iowa Leeds, UK Manchester, UK Miami N. Andres Bello, Chile Naval Post, School North Carolina State **Oregon State** Purdue Reading, UK Washington Wyoming

Research Institutions

Brookhaven Nat. COLA **CNRM/GAME** France **CNRS/LMD** France **IMARPE** Peru Inst. Geofísico del Peru IPRC JISAO LEGOS **LOCEAN France** NASA/GSFC **NCAR** NCAS, UK NOAA/ESRL NOAA/GFDL NOAA PMFI NRL **Pacific Northwest** Scripps Woods Hole

Institutions Collaborating in VOCALS

Logistic Support: UCAR JOSS

Operational Centers

BMRC Australia CPTEC Brazil ECMWF Int. JMA Japan MetOffice UK NCEP US

VOCALS Development Group

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VOCALS-REx Science Team

FUNCTION	PARTICIPANT
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C-130 Flight Scientist	Rob Wood, Chris Bretherton
BAe146 Flight Scientist	Hugh Coe, Phil Brown
G1 Flight Scientist	Pete Daum
Dornier Flight Scientist	Geraint Vaughan
Twin Otter Flight Scientist	Bruce Albrecht
Ronald H Brown Lead Scientist	Bob Weller
José Olaya Lead Scientist	Carmen Grados
All other VOCALS PIs	n/a
VOCALS Science Working Group (SWG)	Bruce Albrecht, Chris Bretherton, Hugh Coe, Tony Clarke, Chris Fairall, Jerome Fast, Laura Gallardo, Carmen Grados, Bill Large, C. Roberto Mechoso (Chair), Hualu Pan Yuqing Wang, Bob Weller, Rob Wood (Vice Chair) Paquita Zuidema, José Meitín and Carlos Ereño (ex officio)

