Cloud variation in the Arctic for UKESM-1-0-LL

Johannes T. Langvatn, Group 1 w/ Gabriel Freitas under under supervision of Paul Zieger

Motivation: Why look at cloud variation?

- Clouds are very important for the radiative budget
 - Clouds in the arctic has a warming effect throughout winter (less Outgoing Longwave Radiation)
- One of the most important cloud characteristics defining the radiative properties is cloud phase composition (T. Nomokonova et al,2019)

(T. Nomokonova et al, (2019), Statistics on clouds and their relation to thermodynamic conditions at Ny-Ålesund, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 19, 4105–4126, 2019)

Motivation: Why UKESM-1-0-LL?



Could the differences in cloud representation be linked to differences in temperature changes?

Methods: (1) Radar-observation

 Observations from CLOUDNET @ Ny-Ålesund and Summit observatories



Methods: (1) Radar-observation

- Output from Radar-observation is categorical:
 - O: Clear sky, 1: Cloud droplets only, 2: Drizzle or rain, 3: Drizzle/rain & cloud droplets, 4: Ice, 5: Ice & supercooled droplets, 6: Melting ice , 7: Melting ice & cloud droplets, 8: Aerosol, 9: Insects, 10: Aerosol & insects
- I use these to categorize both 1. column at each timestep, and 2. vertical levels for all timesteps as:
 - 0: Clear sky, 1: Water cloud, 2: Ice cloud, 3: Mixed cloud

Methods: (2) Cloud-variables from UKESM-1-0-LL

- cl Cloud-cover (one value for each model-level at each model-cell)
- cli Cloud Ice Mass fraction
- clw Cloud Ice Mass fraction

I will use these variables to classify the phase of clouds represented at model heights and columns (Same as for the observational data). Ratio between cli and clw (clw = 0 is ice, cli = 0 is water, obviously)





Results: Cloud variation from observations



Results: Summit Observations(!) split in hist and future



Results: Cloud variation from Models



Results: (To be produced)

- I want to compare the cloud cover and phases for fixed heights (0-1000m, 1000-2000m, etc.)
- Plot and compare seasonality of clouds in models compared to the observartions
- Maybe scatter-plot between modelled cloud-cover and observed cloud-cover.

Outlook: Why not the others?



Could the differences in cloud representation be linked to differences in temperature changes?