



# SENS4ICE

SENSORS AND CERTIFIABLE HYBRID ARCHITECTURES  
FOR SAFER AVIATION IN ICING ENVIRONMENT

## **SENS4ICE Conclusions and Way Forward**

October 2024

Carsten Schwarz (DLR)

SAE AC-9C Aircraft Icing Technology Committee Meeting #81

October 21-22, 2024 – Ottawa

This project has received funding from European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement n° 824253



# SENS4ICE Project Overview

## SENSors and certifiable hybrid architectures for safer aviation in ICing Environment

💧 EU Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme

💧 JAN 2019 - DEC 2023 (extended, originally DEC 2022)

💧 17 Consortium partners including coordinator DLR

💧 Budget:

💧 total estimated eligible costs	8.7 M EUR
💧 max. EU contribution	6.6 M EUR
💧 project effort in person-months approx.	800 PM

💧 <https://www.sens4ice-project.eu>

💧 [#sens4iceproject](#) on LinkedIn



Centro Italiano Ricerche Aerospaziali



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National Research Council Canada

Conseil national de recherches Canada



# SENS4ICE Challenge – Detect SLD Icing Conditions

Problem: Detection very challenging (very few very large droplets)

Solution/Innovation:

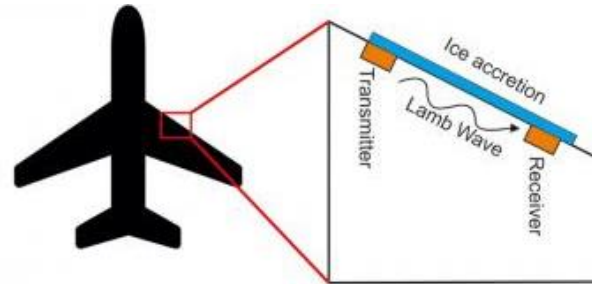
- 💧 8 direct detection technologies matured & flight test demonstrated
- 💧 Hybrid approach – fusion of complementary input data: sensor(s) and indirect ice detection (IID)

Benefits:

- 💧 Operational safety (activate anti-/de-icing, avoid/ leave icing conditions)
- 💧 Certification support (enabling technologies) for Appendix O/ SLD icing



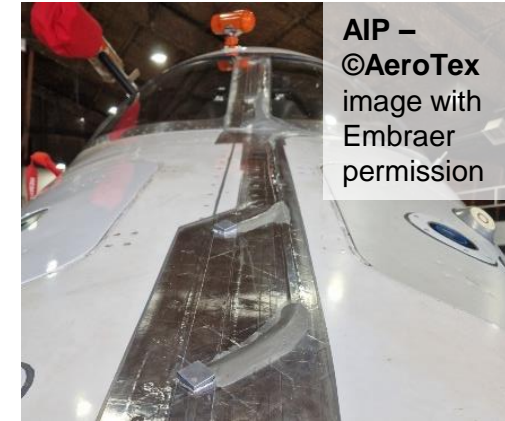
HIDS-Safran/ IID-DLR



LILD-DLR



PFIDS-Safran



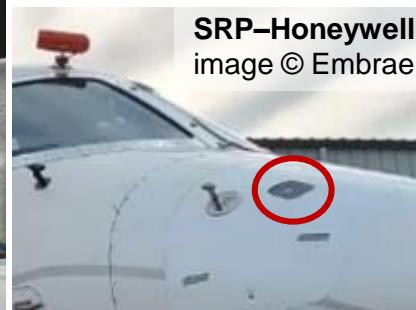
AIP –  
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AMPERA-ONERA  
image with Safire permission



IDS-Collins



SRP-Honeywell  
image © Embraer



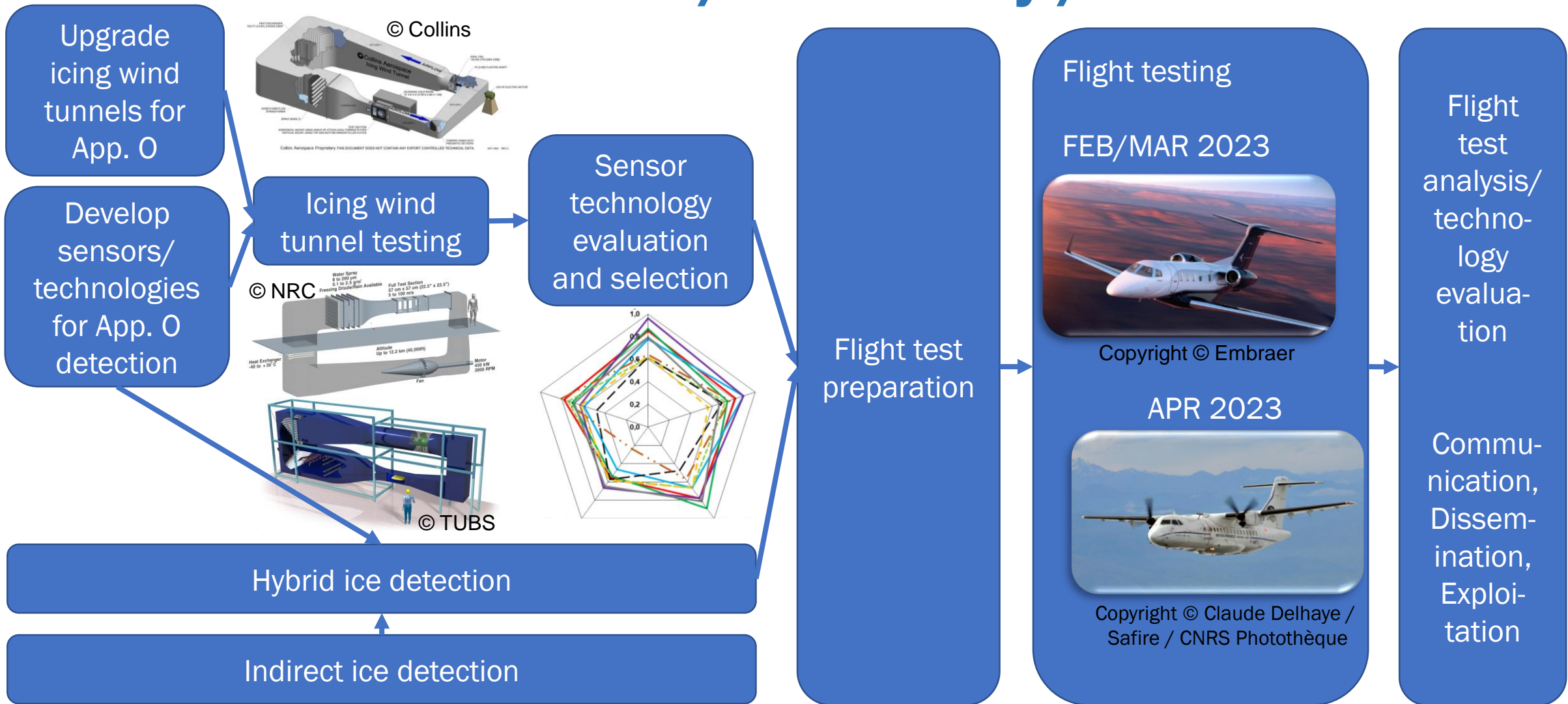
CM2D-DLR image DLR



FOD-INTA  
image with Safire permission



# SENS4ICE Timeline / Summary / Achievements



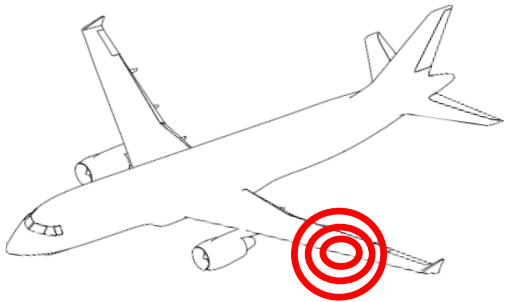
**2019 - 2020** **2021** **2022** **2023**



# Hybrid Ice Detection Approach

## Direct ice detection

Local detection (ice detector): presence of ice accretion/icing condition.



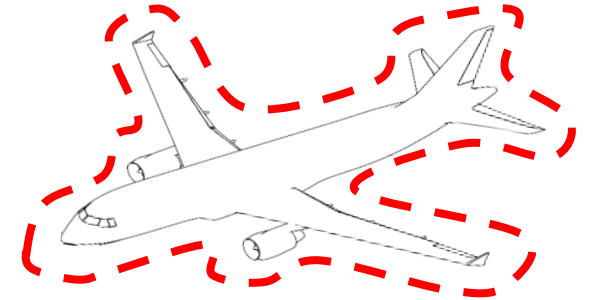
## Hybrid ice detection

Combination of Direct and Indirect Detection.

- Flight safety increase
- False alarms reduction
- A/C performance monitoring
- Improved situational awareness

## Indirect ice detection

Global detection: effects of ice accretion.

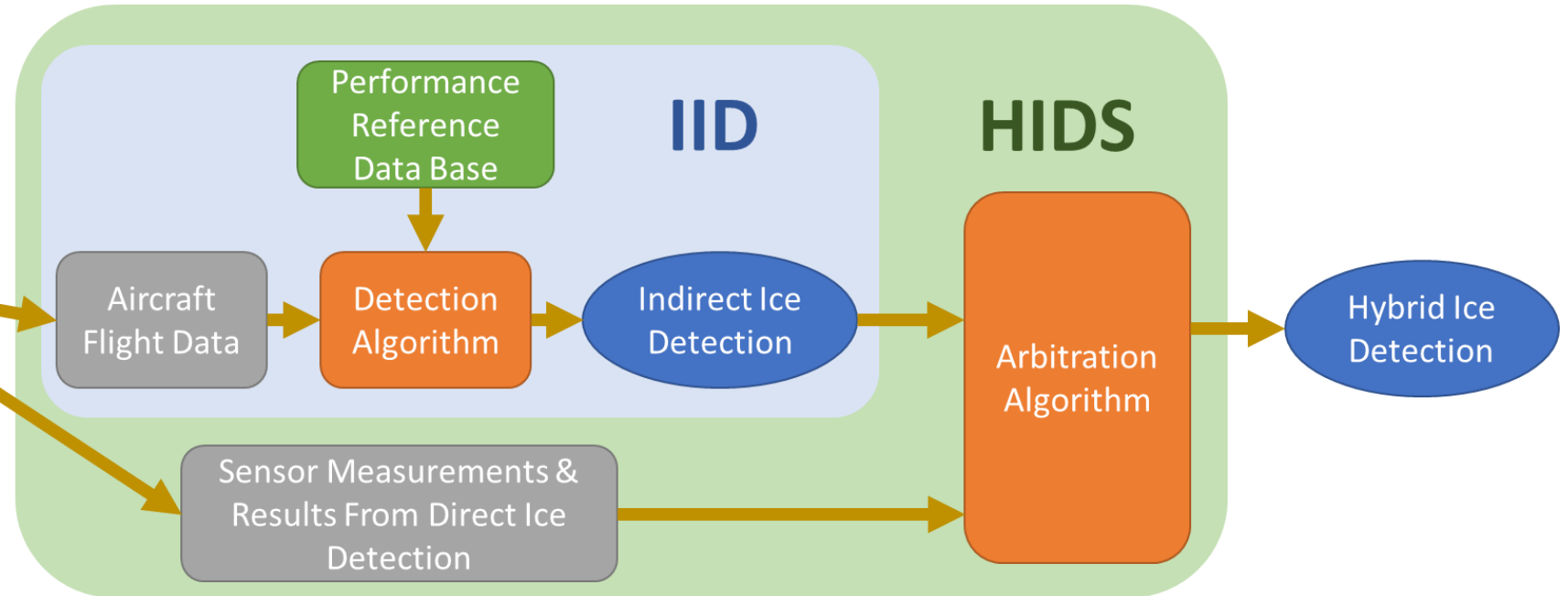


## SENS4ICE goals

- 💧 define hybrid detection specifications
- 💧 develop Hybrid Ice Detection System (HIDS) demonstrator for flight campaign



# Hybrid Ice Detection System (HIDS) concept including Indirect Ice Detection (IID)



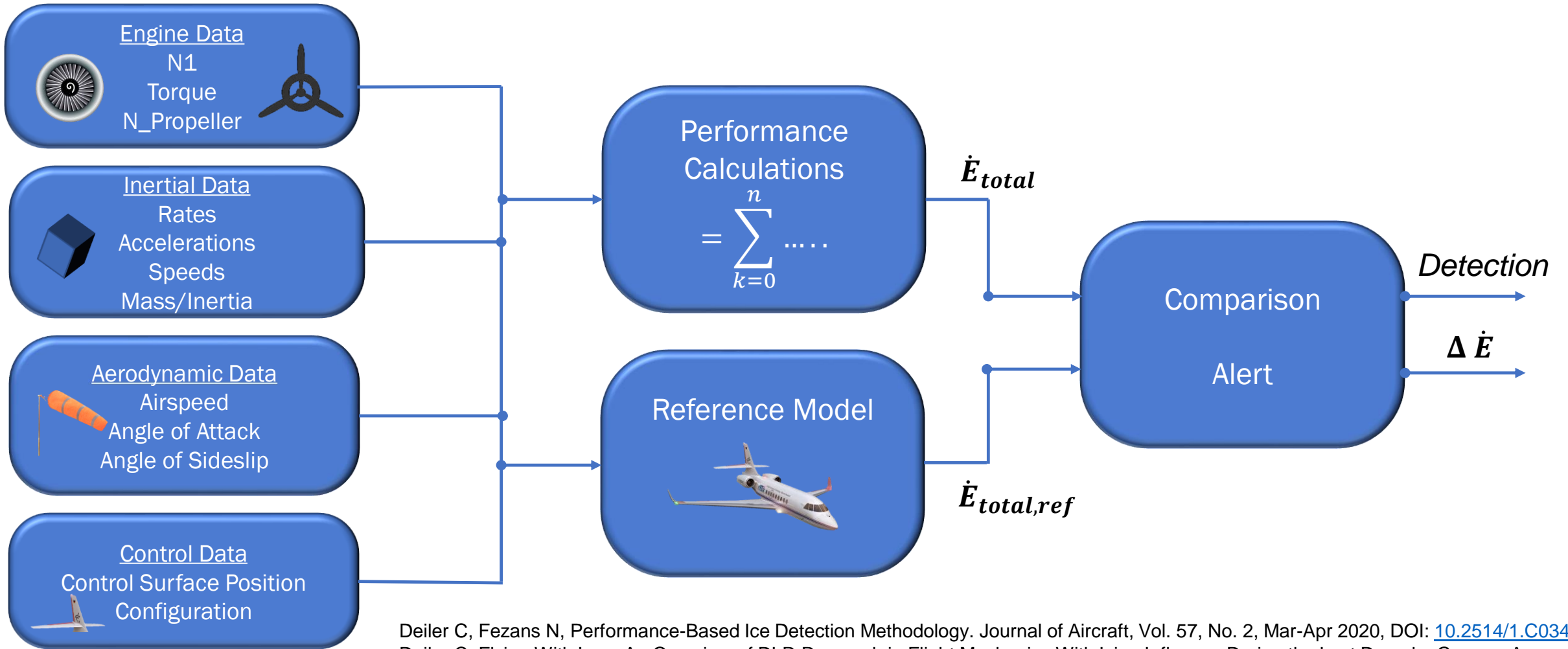
[Orazio, A., Thillays, B., “Hybrid Ice Detection System development and validation”, SAE International Conference on Icing of Aircraft, Engines, and Structures 2023, Vienna, Austria, 20 – 22 June 2023, 23ICE-0049]

[Christoph Deiler, Falk Sachs (2023) Design and Testing of an Indirect Ice Detection Methodology SAE International Conference on Icing of Aircraft, Engines, and Structures 2023, 20-22 June 2023, Vienna, Austria]

Image Credit  
DLR/EMBRAER/SAFIRE



# DLR's Indirect Ice Detection – based on aircraft performance System Design



Deiler C, Fezans N, Performance-Based Ice Detection Methodology. Journal of Aircraft, Vol. 57, No. 2, Mar-Apr 2020, DOI: [10.2514/1.C034828](https://doi.org/10.2514/1.C034828)  
 Deiler C, Flying With Ice – An Overview of DLR Research in Flight Mechanics With Icing Influence During the Last Decade. German Aerospace Conference DLRK 2021, Bremen and online, DOI: [10.25967/550008](https://doi.org/10.25967/550008)



# SENS4ICE Flight Campaigns - Overview

💧 Total flight test time: 75h aiming at natural icing conditions

💧 North America

💧 February/March 2023

💧 Embraer Phenom 300 operated by Embraer

💧 **15 flights** with a total of **25 flight hours** (including ferry and check flights) successfully conducted targeting natural liquid water icing conditions and in particular SLD conditions

💧 260+ min in App C and 50 min in App O

💧 Europe

💧 April 2023

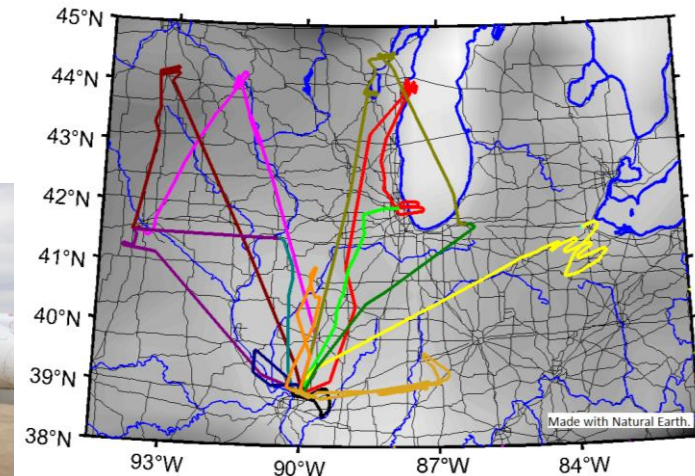
💧 French ATR 42 environmental research aircraft of Safire

💧 **15 flights** with a total of **about 50 flight hours** successfully conducted targeting natural liquid water icing conditions and in particular SLD conditions

💧 610+ min App C and 150+ min App O

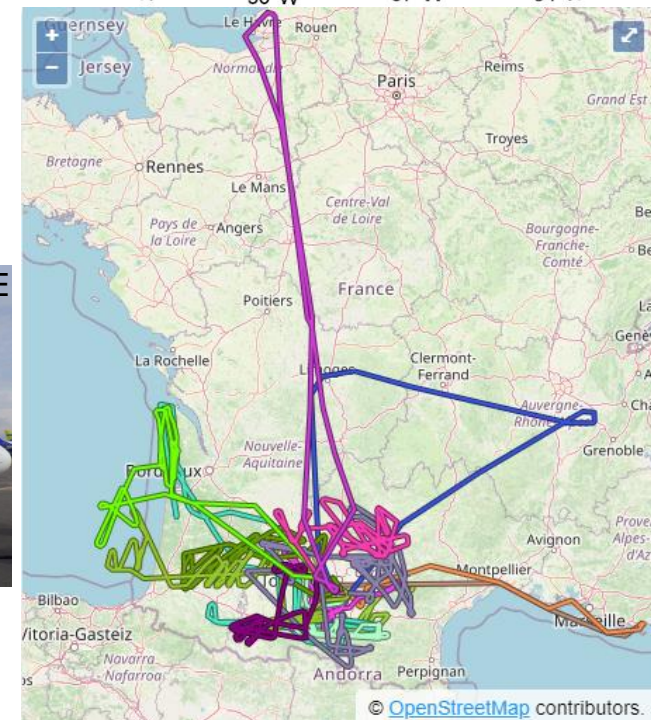
## Embraer Phenom 300

Copyright West Star Aviation with Embraer permission



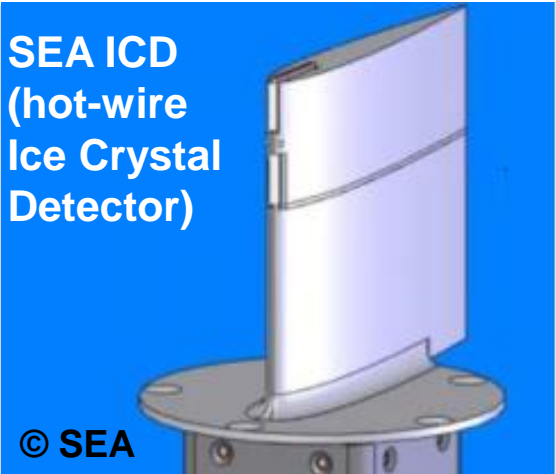



## SAFIRE ATR 42

Copyright SAFIRE





# Airborne Reference Instruments for Icing Atmosphere Characterisation

Instrumentation	Embraer Phenom 300	Safire ATR 42
Hotwire instruments: LWC (liquid water content)	 <p><b>SEA ICD (hot-wire Ice Crystal Detector)</b></p> <p>© SEA</p>	 <p><b>DLR Nevzorov</b></p>
Optical instruments: Particle size distributions	 <p><b>EMB CCP (Cloud Combination Probe)</b></p> <p>© Dan Bouley</p>	 <p><b>DLR-PA CCP (Cloud Combination Probe)</b></p>
Other instruments carried:	SAFIRE-CDP, SAFIRE-CIP, SAFIRE-UHSAS, SAFIRE-Robust, SAFIRE-GERBER, DLR-PIP, DLR-BCPD, DLR-HSI	

[Lucke, J., et al., "Meteorological conditions and microphysical properties that lead to aircraft icing as observed during the SENS4ICE campaigns", Deutscher Luft- und Raumfahrtkongress (German Aerospace Conference) DLRK 2023, Stuttgart, Germany, September 2023, paper no 0285]



# European Flight Campaign SAFIRE ATR 42 Sensor Installations

SENS4ICE ice detection technologies tested with SAFIRE ATR 42

- 🔹 FOD - Fiber Optic Detector (INTA)
- 🔹 AMPERA - Atmospheric Measurement of Potential and Electric field on Aircraft (ONERA)
- 🔹 LILD - Local Ice Layer Detector (DLR)
- 🔹 CM2D - Cloud Multi-Detection Device (DLR)
- 🔹 HIDS - Hybrid Ice Detection System (Safran)
- 🔹 IIDS - Indirect Ice Detection System (DLR)

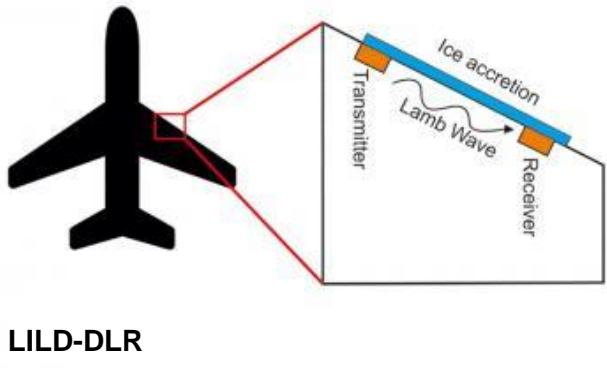


HIDS-Safran/  
IIDS-DLR

SAFIRE ATR 42 with test sensors and reference instruments



FOD-INTA  
image with Safire permission



LILD-DLR

image DLR with Safire permission



AMPERA-ONERA  
image with Safire permission



CM2D-DLR image DLR





# North America Flight Campaign Embraer Phenom 300 Sensor Installations

💧 SENS4ICE ice detection technologies tested with Embraer Phenom 300

- 💧 AIP - Atmospheric Icing Patch (AeroTex)
- 💧 PFIDS - Primary in-Flight Icing Detection System (Safran)
- 💧 IDS - Ice Detection System (Collins)
- 💧 SRP - Short Range Particulate (Honeywell)
- 💧 HIDS - Hybrid Ice Detection System (Safran)
- 💧 IIDS - Indirect Ice Detection System (DLR)



HIDS-Safran/ IIDS-DLR



AIP –  
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Embraer  
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PFIDS-  
Safran

SRP-Honeywell  
image © Embraer

IDS-Collins

© Embraer



# North America Flight Campaign Embraer Phenom 300 Impressions

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# SENS4ICE Flight Campaign Europe Impressions



Operator working with HIDS PC.  
(credit SAFRAN)



Reference sensors with ice accretion  
[image DLR with Safire permission]



© Safire



© Safire



# SENS4ICE Flight Campaigns

## North America

- 💧 Ice accretion on windshield after SLD cloud encounter
- 💧 [image credit Embraer]

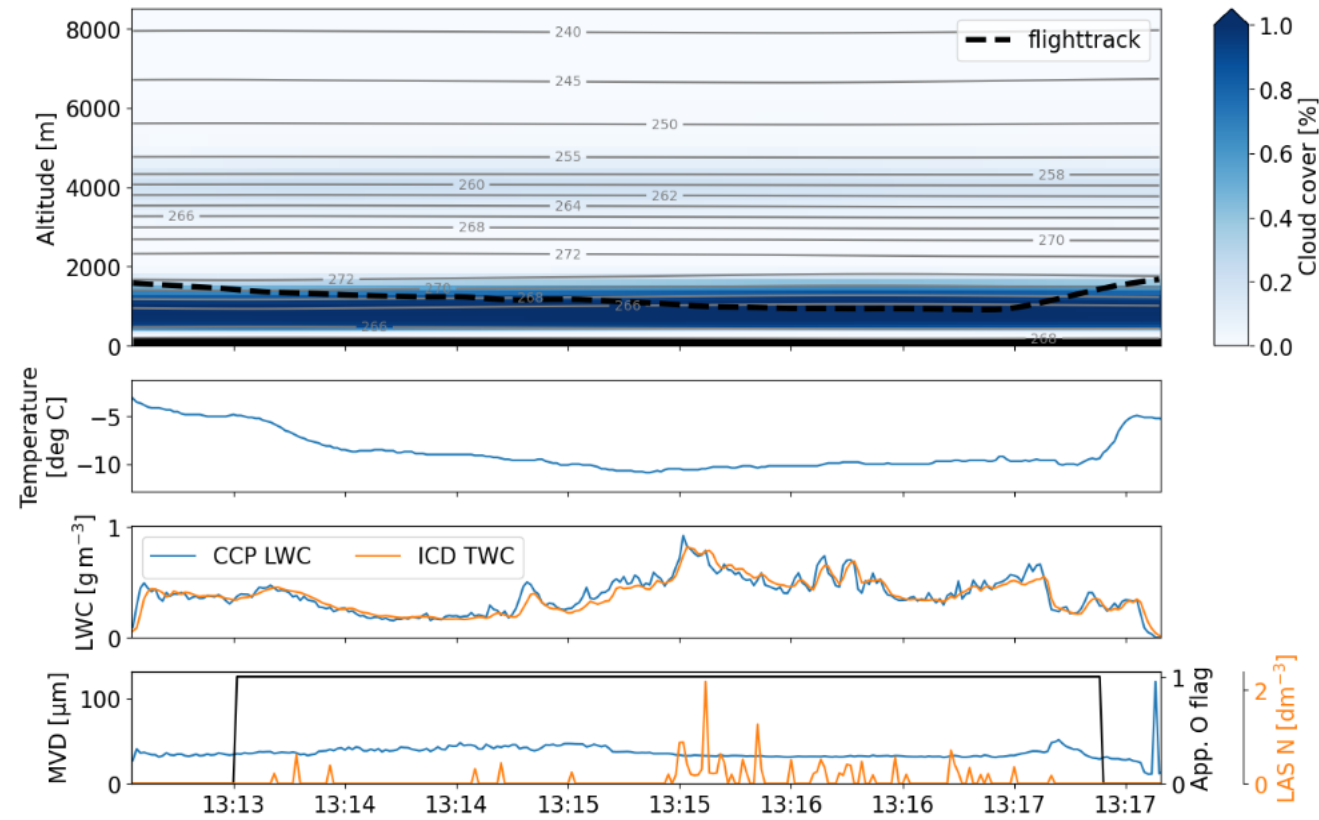


## Europe

- 💧 SAFIRE ATR 42 horizontal tail with ice accretion
- 💧 [image credit DLR with Safire permission]

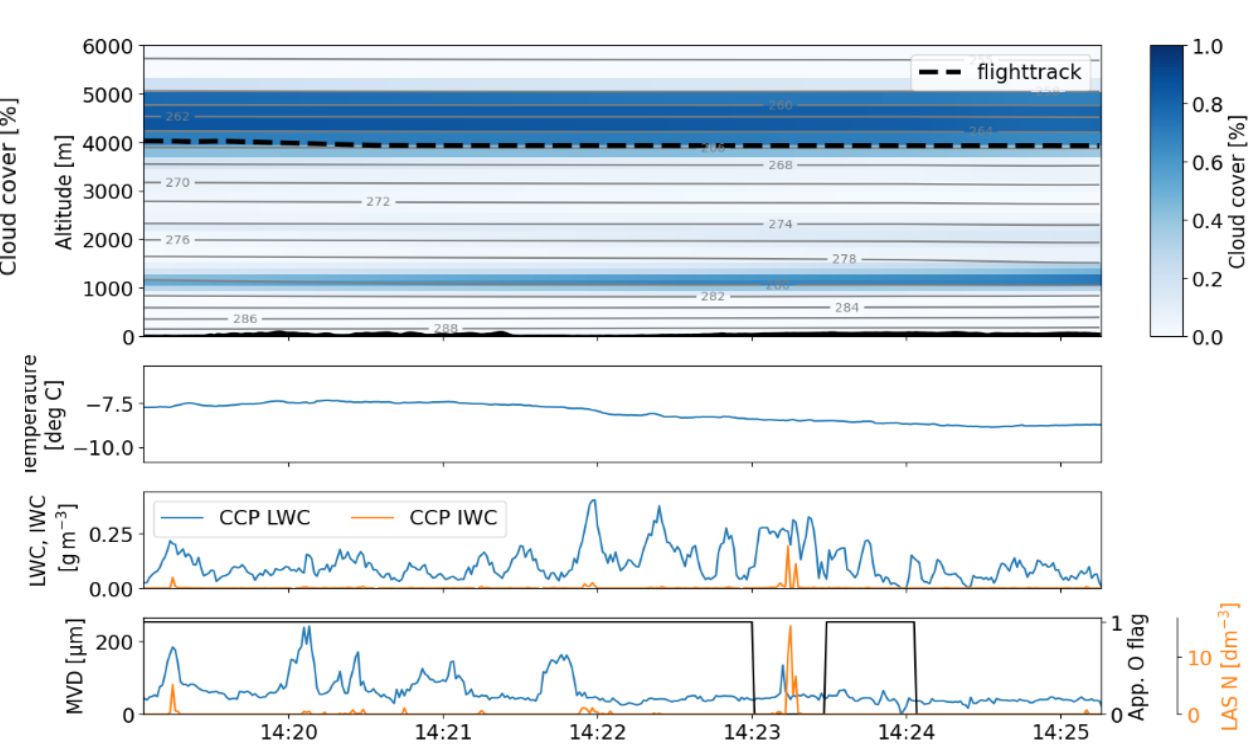


## Appendix O Example Encounters



### North America Campaign

- ☿ Clouds most often closed stratus decks
- ☿ Appendix O encountered above a stable layer
- ☿ Typically cloud approached from top



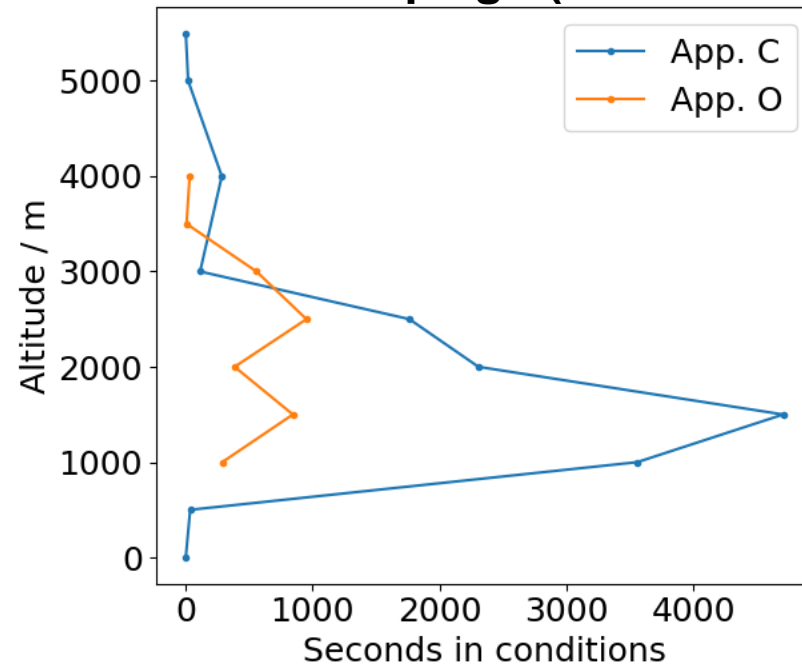
### Europe Campaign

- ☿ Cloud consisted of multiple layers, not separately resolved in ERA5 cloud cover data
- ☿ Clouds thinner and patchier, large variation of LWC within clouds

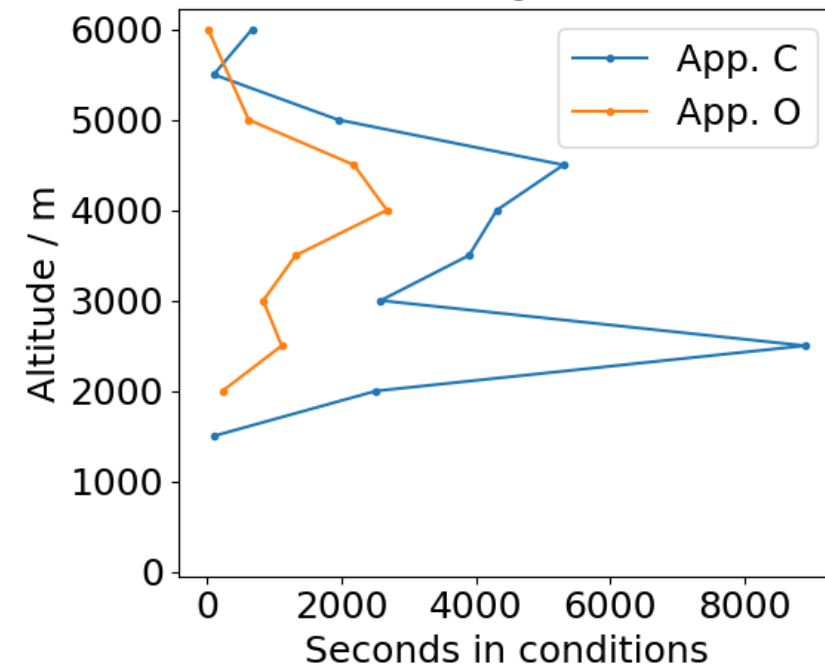


# Altitude of Icing Conditions

## North American campaign (Feb/March 2023)



## European campaign (April 2023)



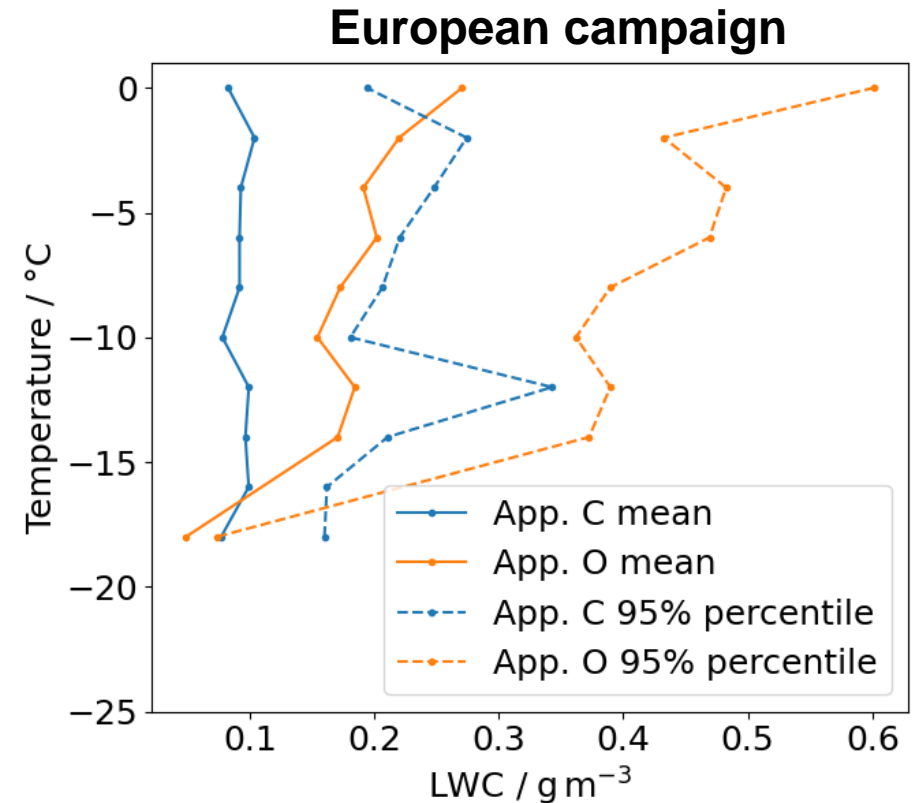
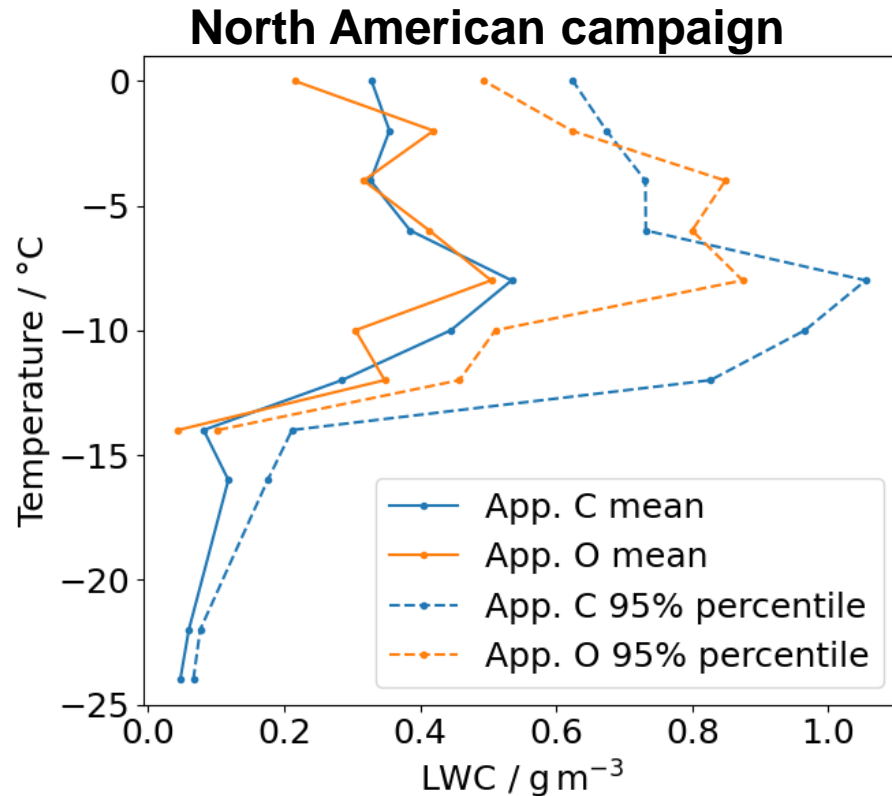
- North American campaign: Icing conditions mostly 1000 - 3000 m
- European campaign: Most icing conditions 2500 - 5000 m
- Most Appendix O conditions during European campaign 3500 - 5000 m
- Different altitudes reflect different seasons during which campaigns occurred

[Lucke, J., et al., "Meteorological conditions and microphysical properties that lead to aircraft icing as observed during the SENS4ICE campaigns", Deutscher Luft- und Raumfahrtkongress (German Aerospace Conference) DLRK 2023, Stuttgart, Germany, September 2023, paper no 0285]





# LWC of Icing Conditions

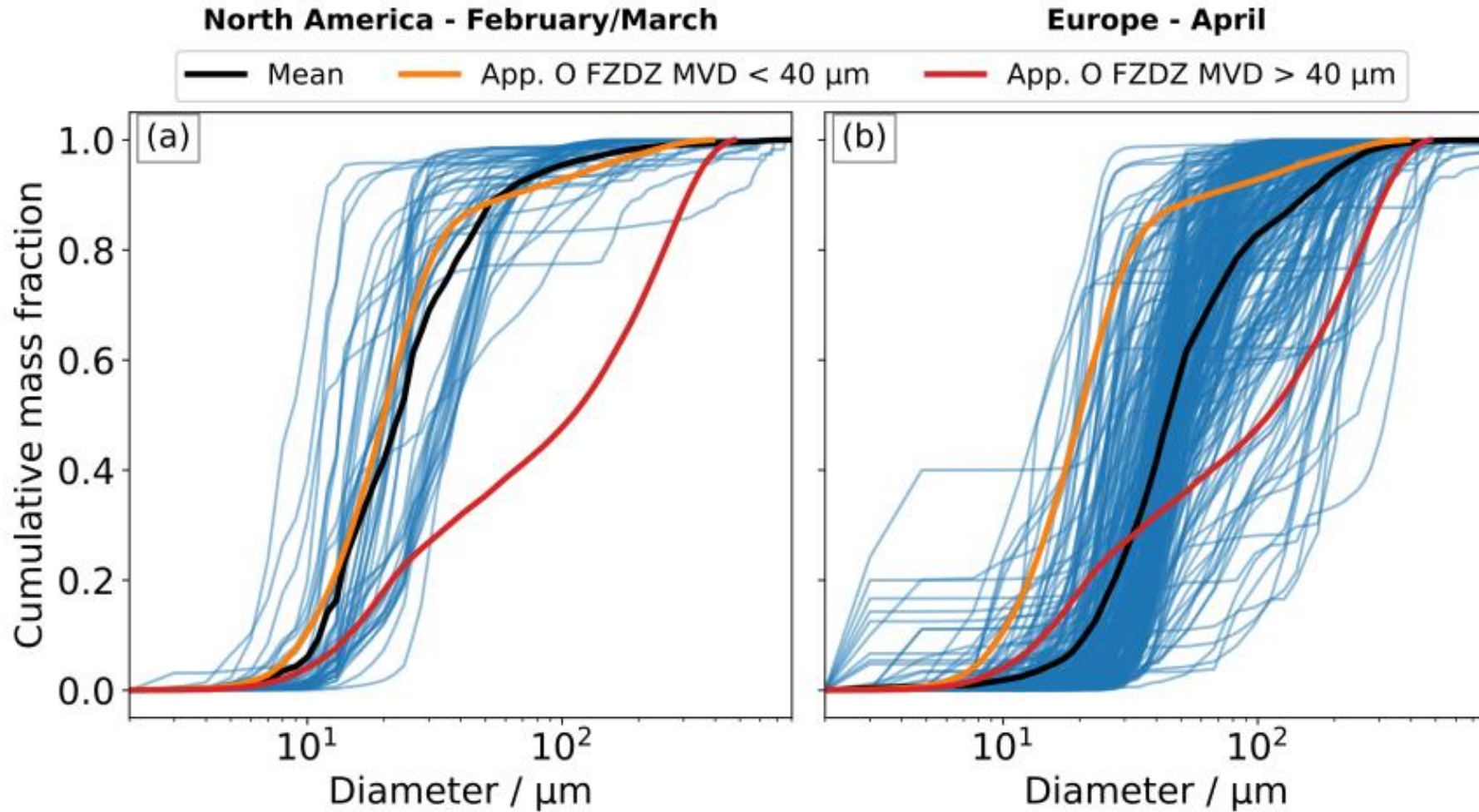


- 💧 LWCs higher during North American campaign
- 💧 North American campaign: LWCs in Appendix C and O conditions are similar.
- 💧 European campaign: LWCs in Appendix O significantly higher than in Appendix C

[Lucke, J., et al., "Meteorological conditions and microphysical properties that lead to aircraft icing as observed during the SENS4ICE campaigns", Deutscher Luft- und Raumfahrtkongress (German Aerospace Conference) DLRK 2023, Stuttgart, Germany, September 2023, paper no 0285]



# Cumulative mass distributions



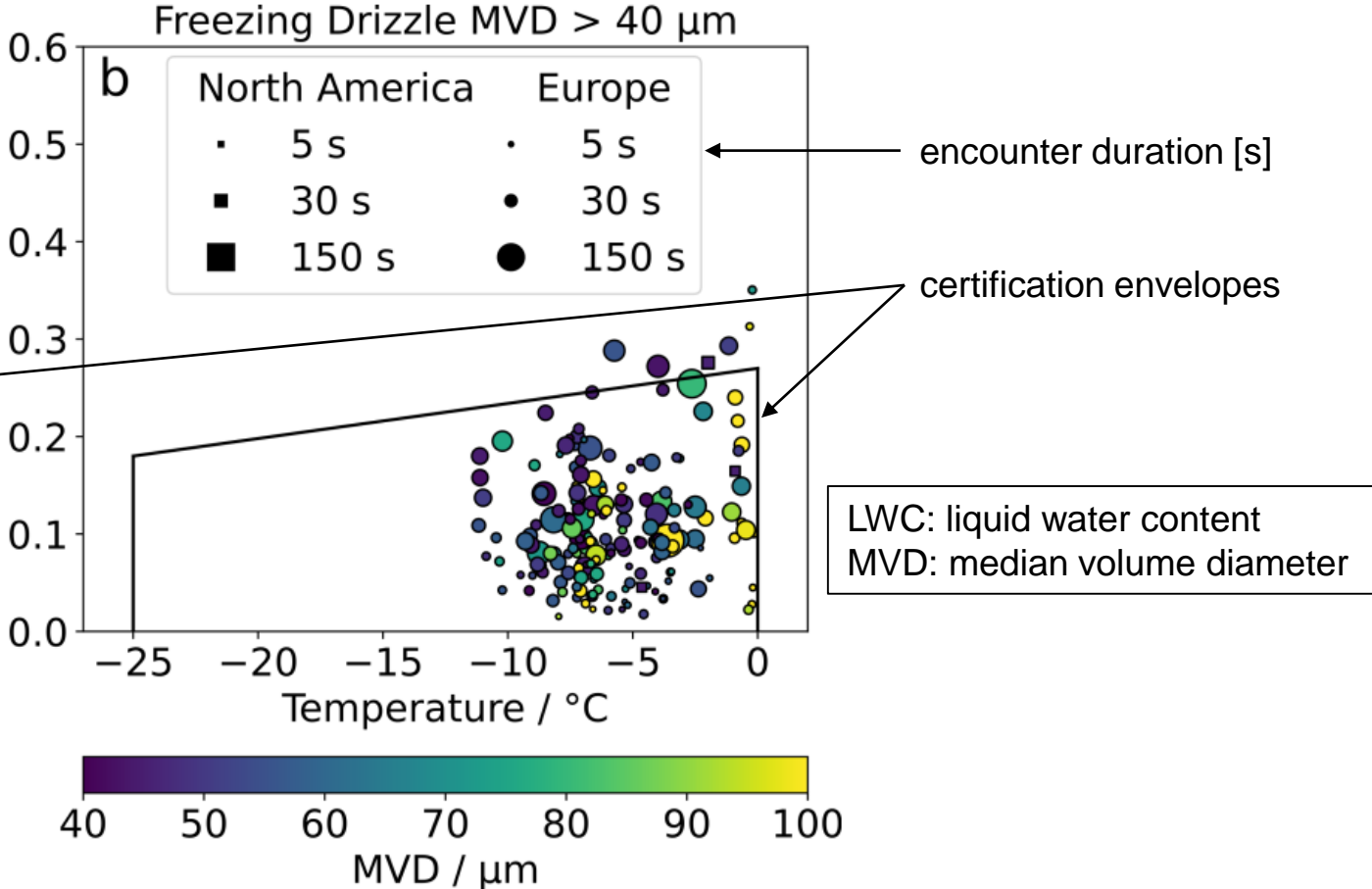
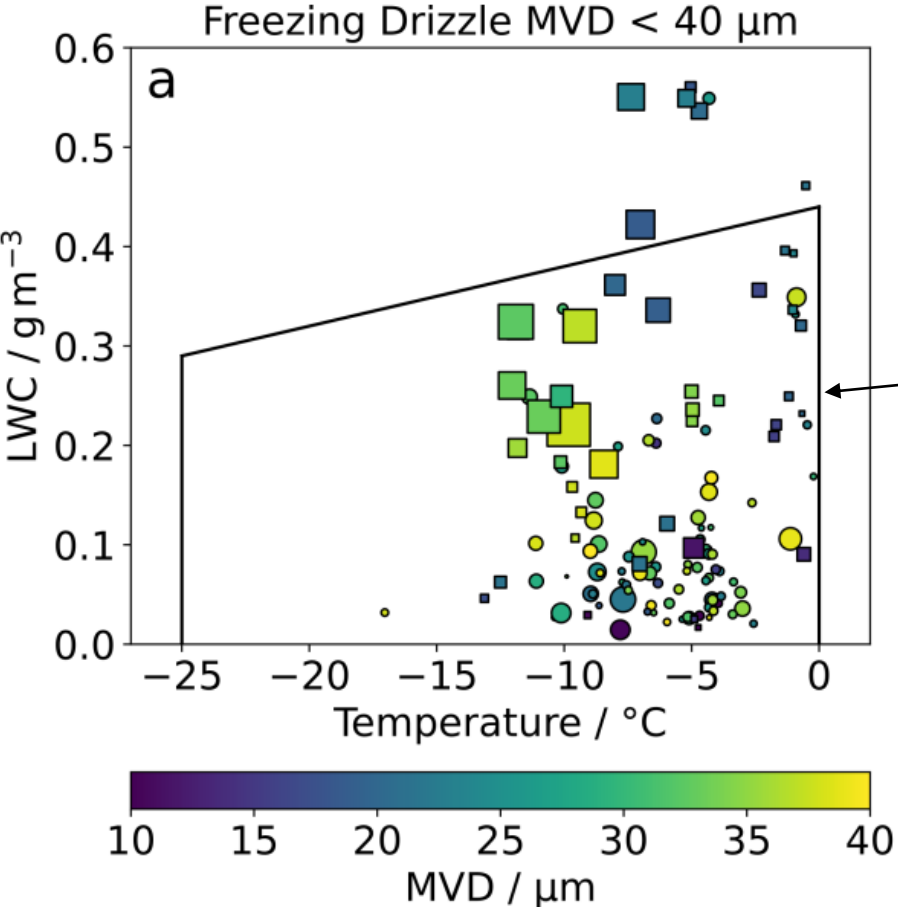
💧 North America average MVD  $\approx 23 \mu\text{m}$

💧 Europe average MVD  $\approx 45 \mu\text{m}$



# SENS4ICE Flight Campaigns: Comparison with App 0 LWC Envelopes

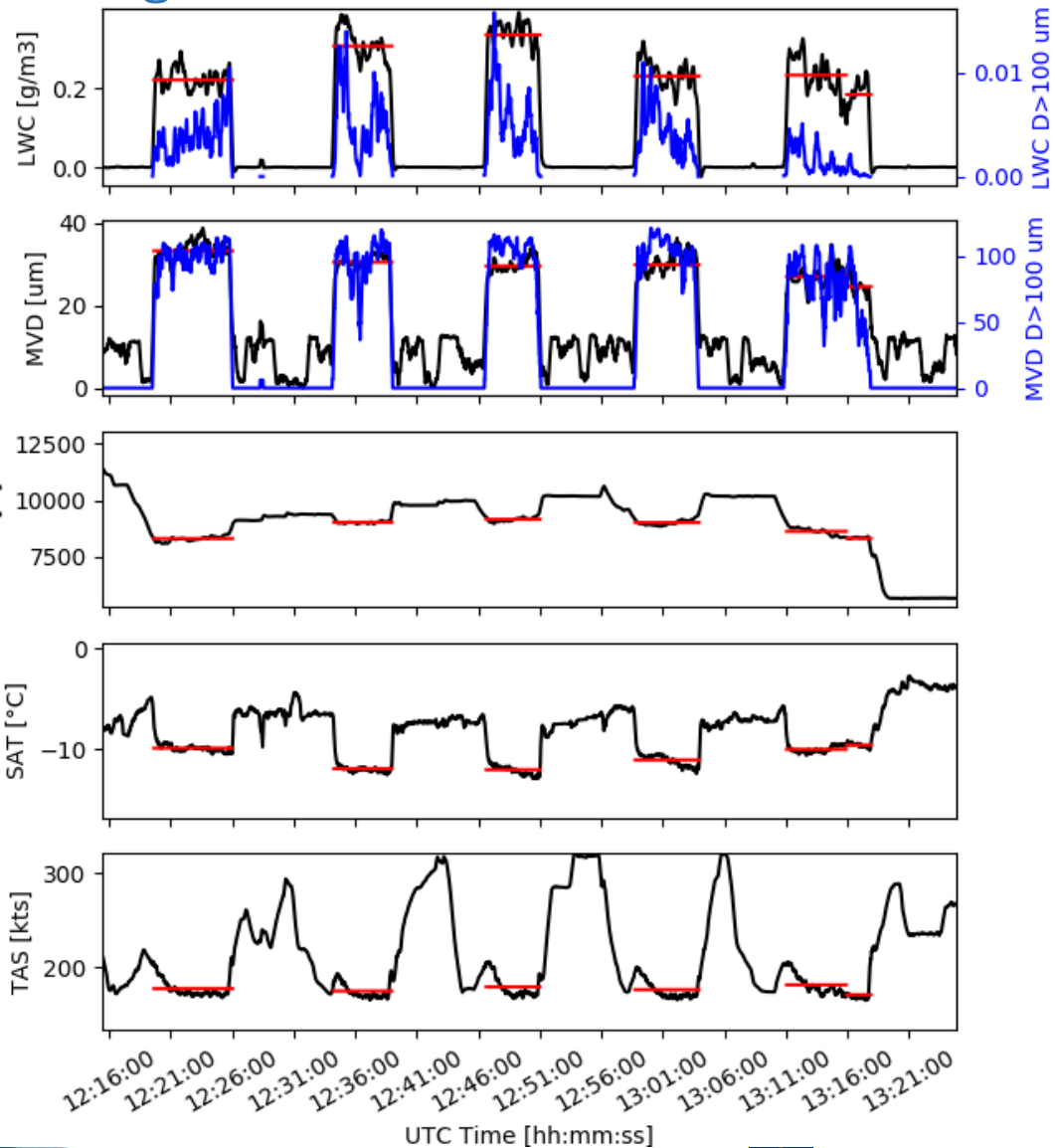
- Shorter sampling distance of LWC values accounted for with scaling factor
- Only encounters exceeding 30 s used for this analysis
- Certification envelopes represented well by measurements, only few encounters outside



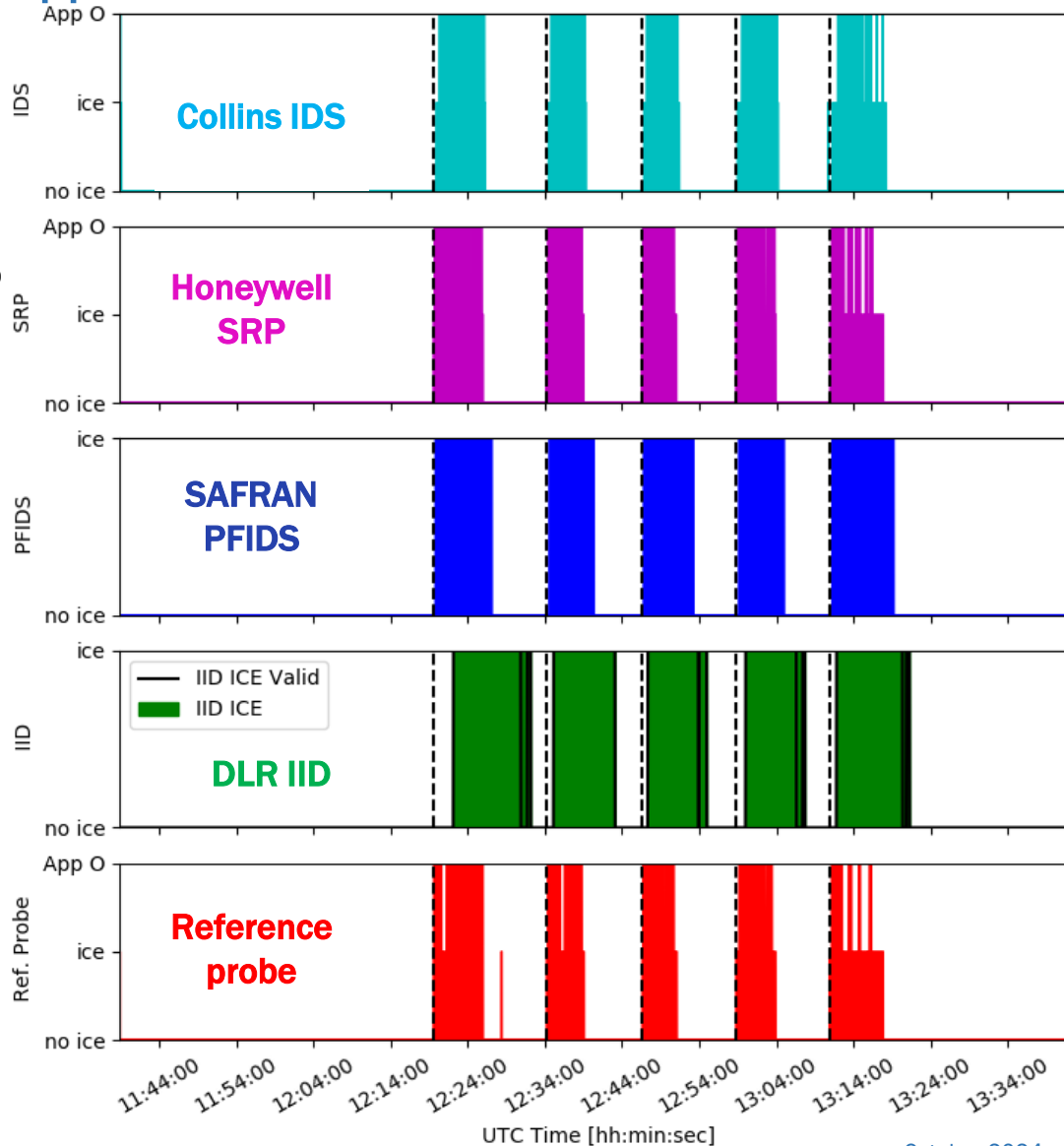
# HIDS North America Flight Campaign Results

Flight 1476 – Direct and Indirect Ice detection in App 0 conditions

Microphysics and aircraft data



Direct and indirect ice detection signals

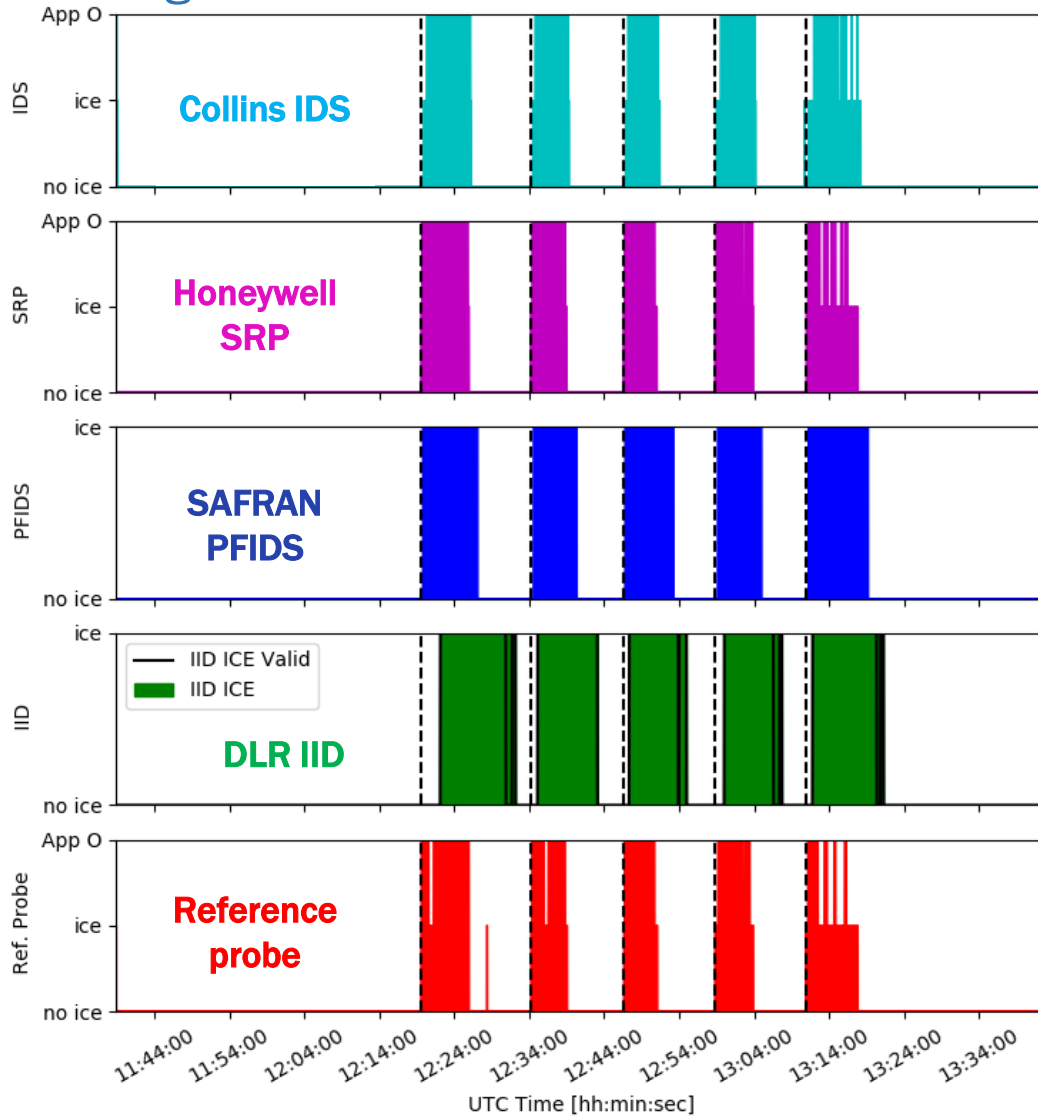




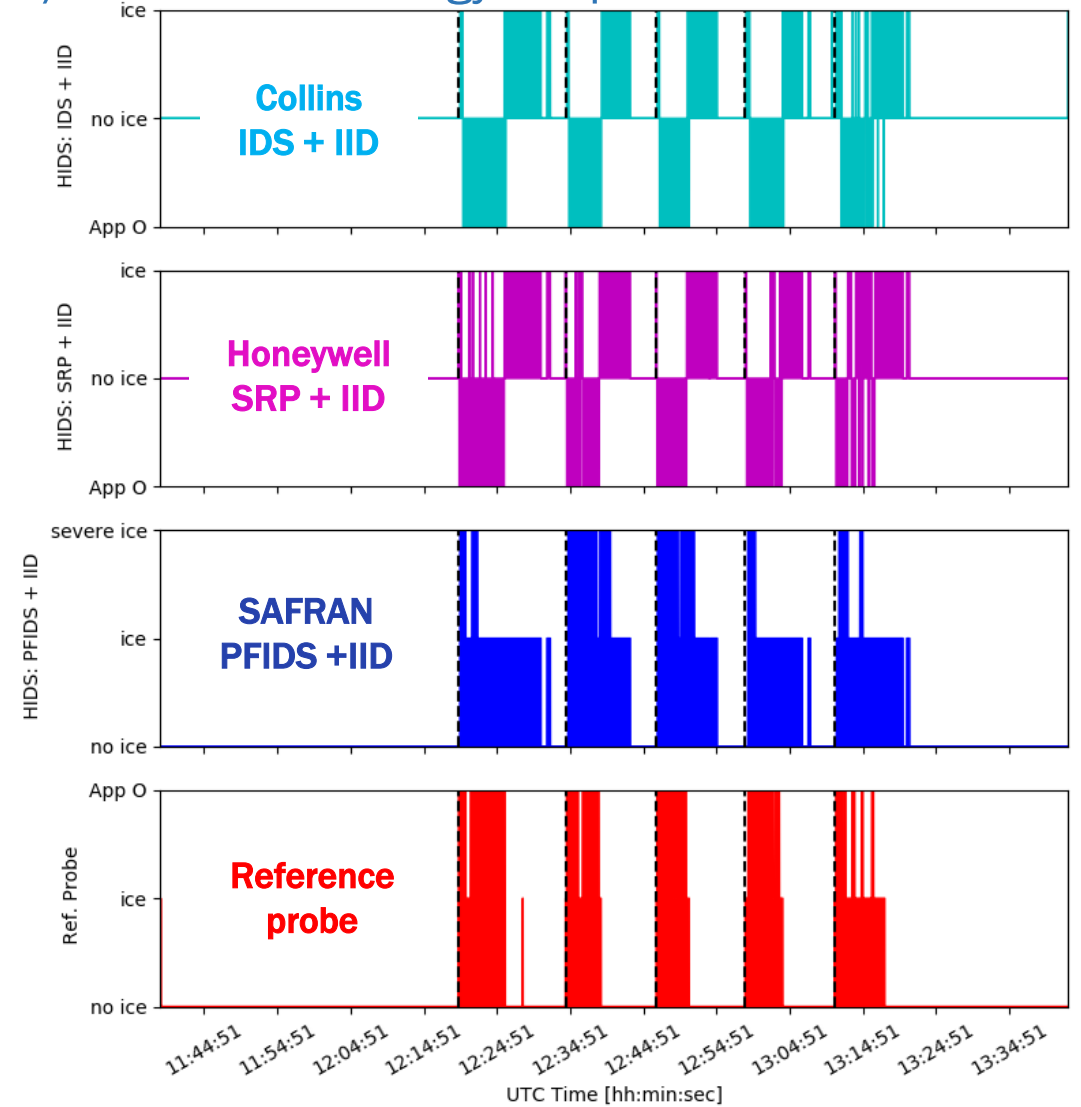
# HIDS North America Flight Campaign Results

Flight 1476 – HIDS arbitration results for each direct/indirect technology couple

Direct and indirect ice detection signals

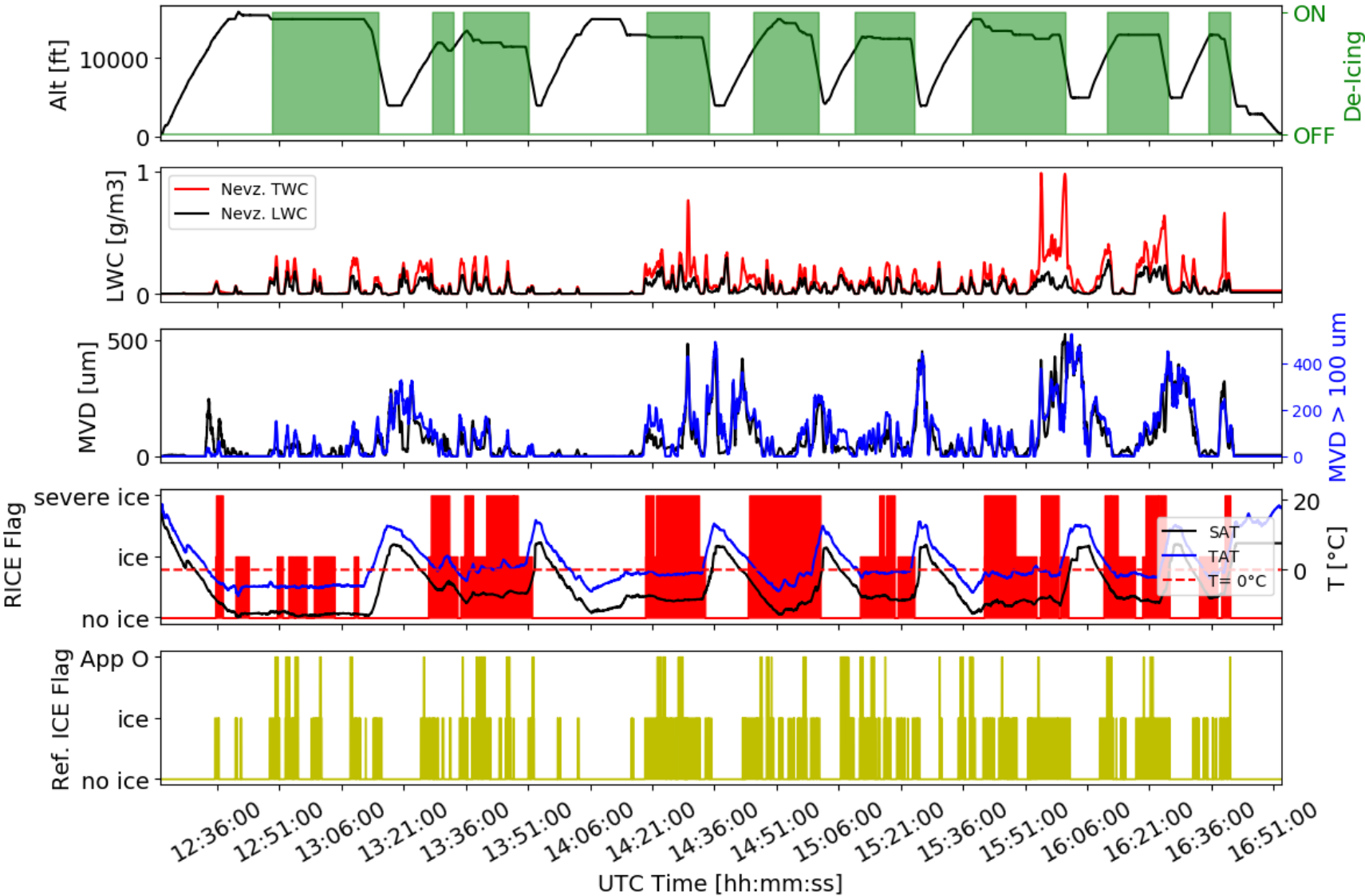


HIDS arbitration results



# HIDS Europe Flight Campaign Results

Flight as230018: Microphysics and aircraft data



Several icing conditions encountered

- 9 activations of IPS
- 20 RICE reference detections
- 251 Microphysics probes detections
  - SLD presence
  - Ice Crystals presence
  - Lower LWC w.r.t. North America flight campaign



Difficult characterization of icing conditions!

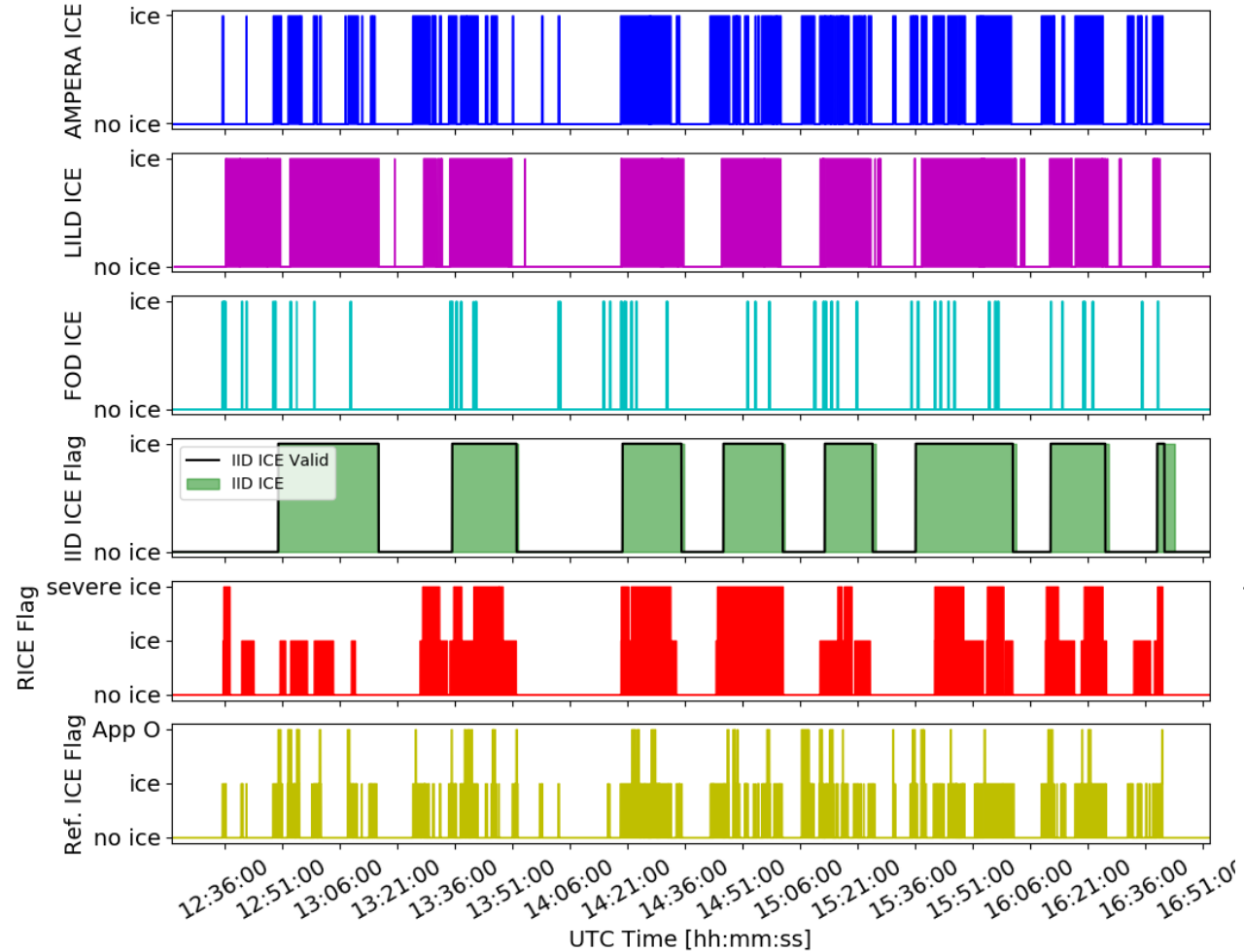


# HIDS Europe Flight Campaign Results

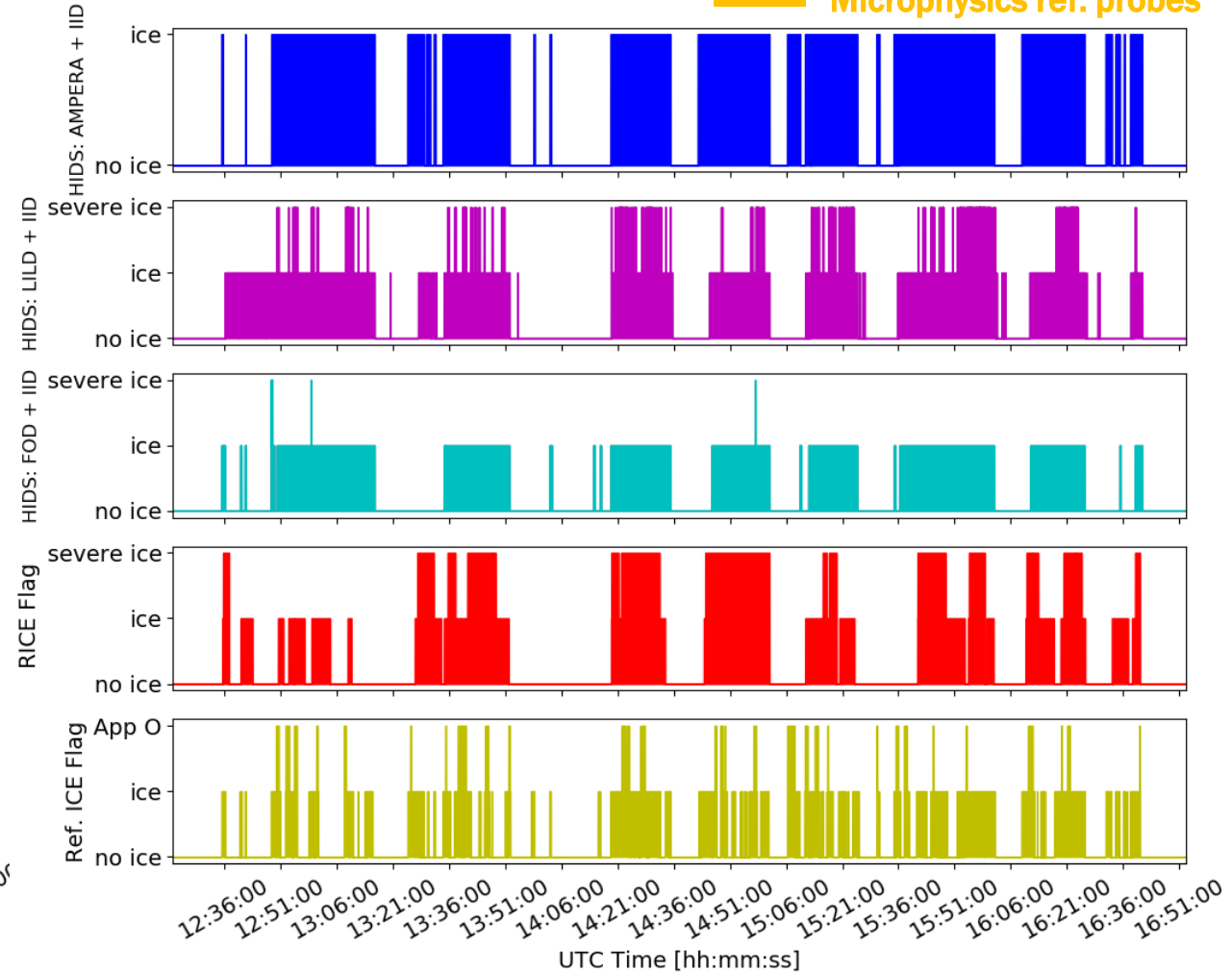
Flight 24 APR 2023 (as230018): Ice detection results

- ONERA AMPERA
- DLR LILD
- INTA FOD
- DLR IID
- RICE reference probe
- Microphysics ref. probes

Direct and indirect ice detection signals



HIDS arbitration results



# SENS4ICE North America Flight Campaign

## Indirect Ice Detection Performance

- example 23 FEB 2023, 17:41:49 UTC - 17:55:29 UTC
- figure 1: altitude and indicated airspeed
- figure 2: nominal drag estimation and IIDS detection output
- figure 3: MVD and LWC of encountered icing conditions
- figure 4: static air temperature and average engine fan speed
- detection threshold at 10 % relative drag increase



[Deiler, C., "Testing of an Indirect Ice Detection Methodology in the Horizon 2020 Project SENS4ICE", Deutscher Luft- und Raumfahrtkongress (German Aerospace Conference) DLRK 2023, Stuttgart, Germany, 09/2023, paper no. 0048]

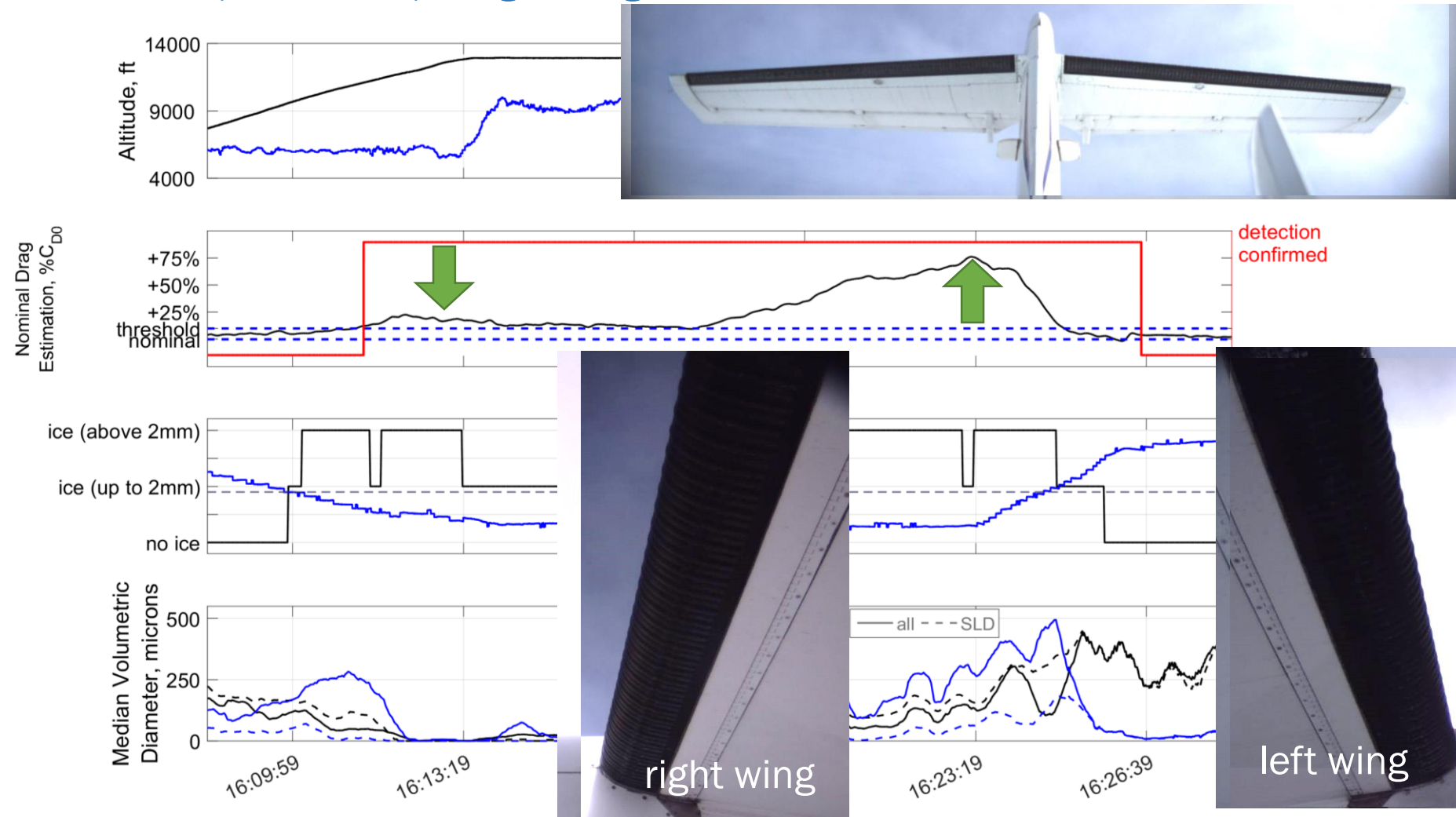




# SENS4ICE Europe Flight Campaign

## Indirect Ice Detection Detailed Example Results

Flight 24 APR 2023 (as230018): single icing encounter

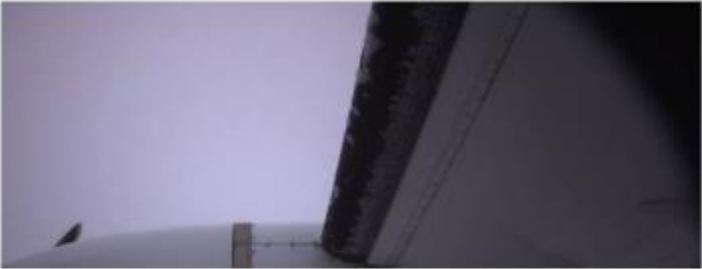


# Example on detailed indirect ice detection results

Flight 24 APR 2023 (as230018): single icing encounter (video snapshot)

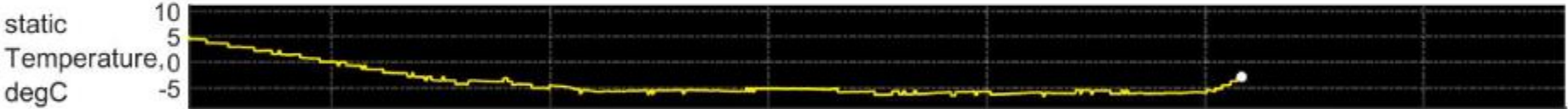


IIDS Abnormal Performance Detection



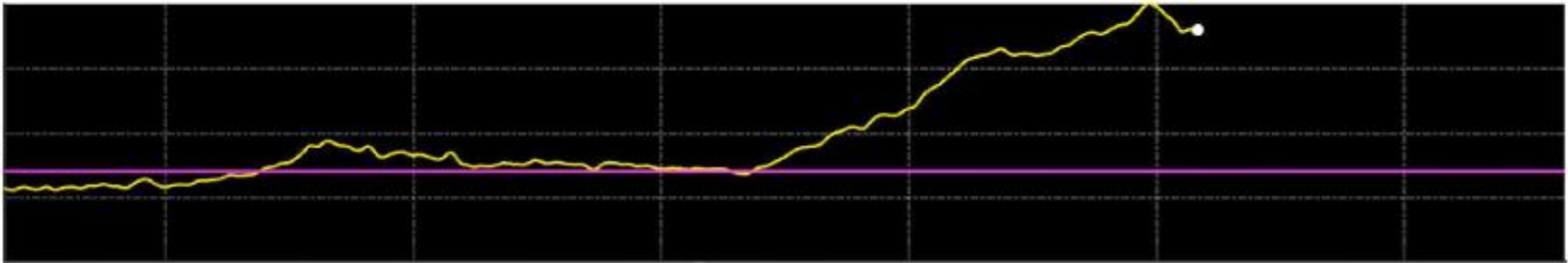
Altitude  
11229 ft

IAS  
173 kt



$$\frac{C_D - C_{D,ref}}{C_{D0,ref}}$$

nominal drag estimation, %C<sub>D0</sub> threshold nominal



# Example on detailed indirect ice detection results

Flight 24 APR 2023 (as230018): single icing encounter (time-lapse video)



Normal AC Performance

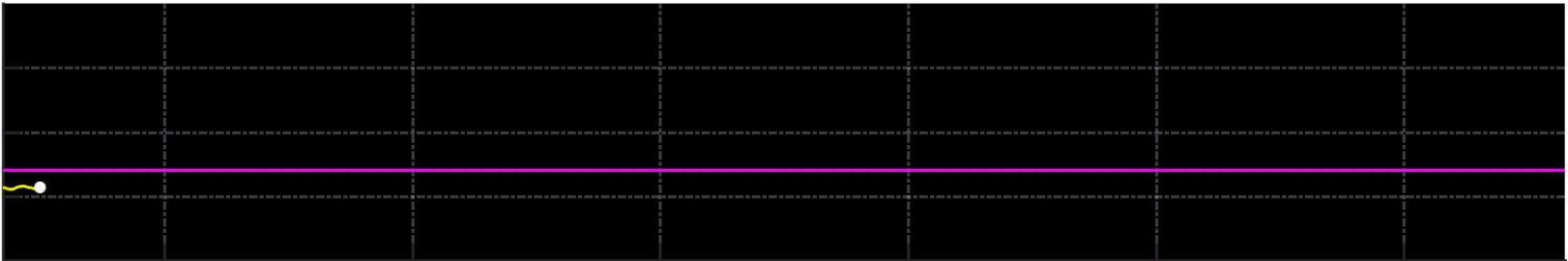


Altitude  
7705 ft

IAS  
161 kt



$\frac{C_D - C_{D,ref}}{C_{D0,ref}}$  nominal drag estimation, % $C_{D0}$  threshold nominal





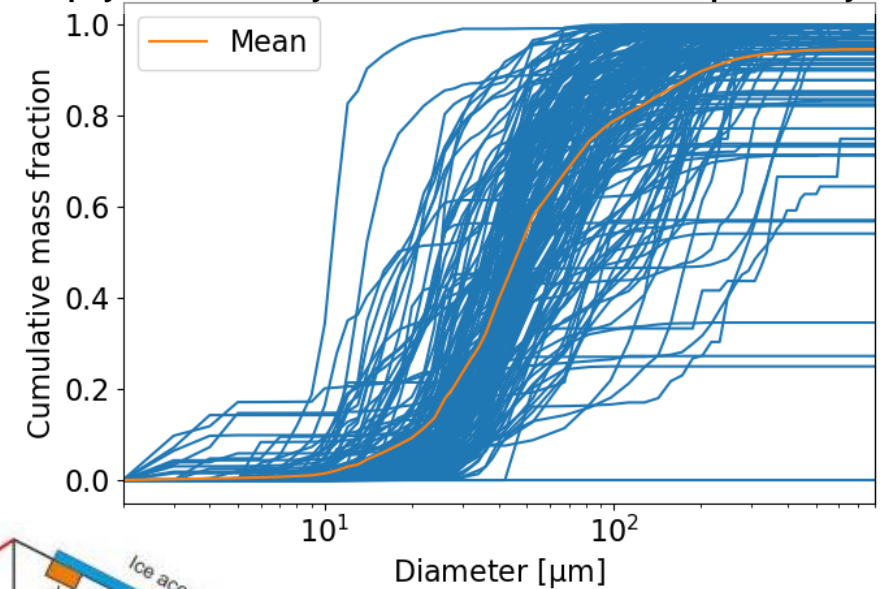
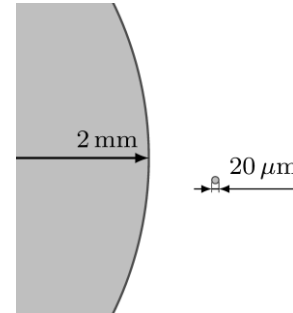
# SENS4ICE Challenge/Outcome

🔹 Detect icing conditions – challenge: SLD

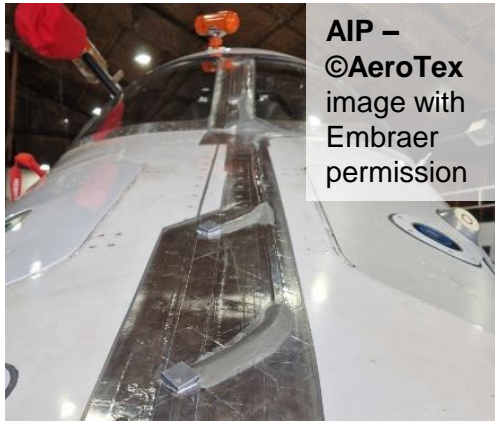
Solution/Innovation

- 🔹 8 direct detection technologies matured & flight test demonstrated (many TRL6)
- 🔹 Hybrid approach (TRL5) – fusion of input data: sensor(s) and indirect detection

SENS4ICE Flight Campaign Europe  
 Cumulative mass distribution of Appendix O conditions  
 Microphysics data analysis - DLR Institute of Atmospheric Physics



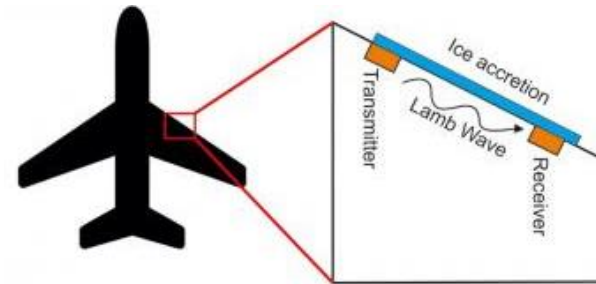
HIDS-Safran/ IID-DLR



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PFIDS-  
 Safran



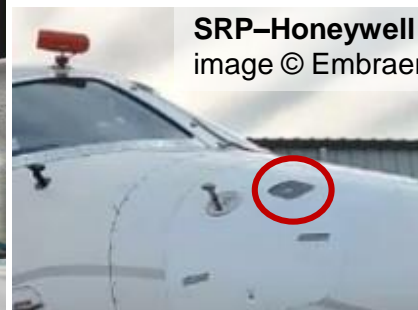
LILD-DLR



AMPERA-ONERA  
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IDS-Collins



SRP-Honeywell  
 image © Embraer



CM2D-DLR image DLR



FOD-INTA  
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## Final Public Dissemination

### Final Public Dissemination Event

📍 29 November 2023, Brussels, Belgium

📄 **Presentations download**

📄 <https://www.sens4ice-project.eu/publications-presentations>  
> section Presentations



### Final Public Project Reports

📄 D4.1 Sensor evaluation results and final roadmaps for future technology development and exploitation

📄 D4.2 Final report on hybrid ice detection development

📄 D4.3 Final report on airborne demonstration and atmospheric characterisation

📄 D4.4 Final report on evaluation of technologies developed in SENS4ICE and technical project results

📄 **Reports download**

📄 <https://www.sens4ice-project.eu/publications-presentations> > section Publications



# SENS4ICE EU Project

## Conclusion & Outlook - Research Gaps

### 💧 game changer hybrid solution for SLD detection

- 💧 benefits of quick warnings and continuous ice accretion and flight performance monitoring
- 💧 enabling IPS efficiency/energy optimisation

### 💧 identifying path for certification

#### ➤ improve understanding of icing effects on aircraft

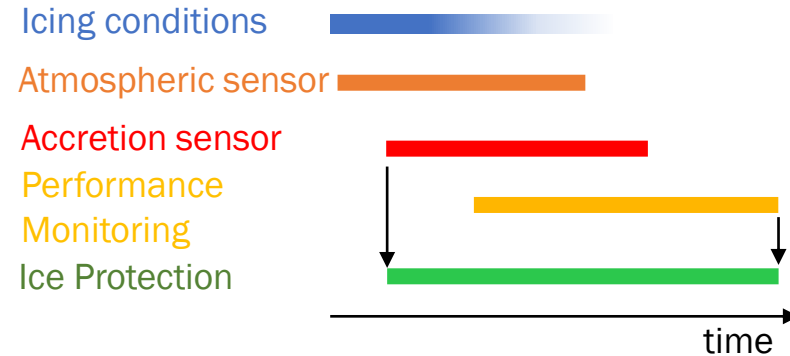
- 💧 for rare and safety/certification relevant icing conditions (Appendix O/ SLD)
- 💧 to enable certification and safe operations for new aircraft/vehicle designs

#### ➤ further research/development/testing required for maturing icing detection & discrimination technologies

- 💧 in enhanced icing wind tunnels and in natural icing conditions in flight
- 💧 covering the full range of App O, specifically freezing rain

### 💧 dedicated research and development for smart ice protection technologies with high efficiency e.g. for

- 💧 greener aviation high aspect ratio aircraft and
- 💧 small/ low speed/ low altitude/ unmanned vehicles



# SENS4ICE follow-on activities

## Small/ low speed/ low altitude/ unmanned vehicles

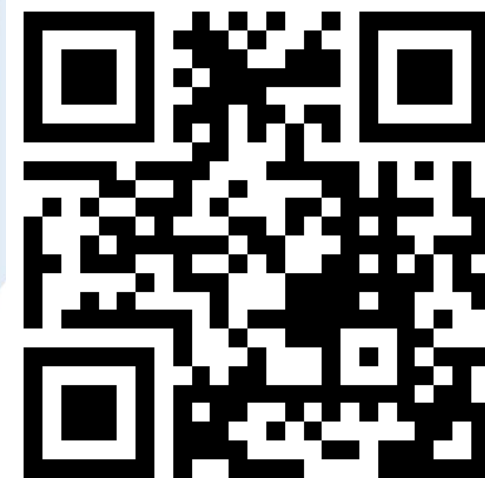
- 💧 lower atmosphere icing conditions characterization
- 💧 understanding small/ low speed vehicle icing, i.e. for typical configurations/ geometries
- 💧 dedicated ice detection and protection technologies for unmanned vehicles
  - 💧 automated
  - 💧 low power
  - 💧 low weight
  - 💧 low size
  - 💧 including performance monitoring, envelope protection and loss-of-control prevention
- 💧 possible instruments to consolidate research needs
  - 💧 SAE AC-9C
  - 💧 NATO AVT-388 (Applied Vehicle Technology Panel)
  - 💧 UAV Icing Workshop [www.uavicingworkshop.com](http://www.uavicingworkshop.com)
  - 💧 possible future research projects including EU projects



This project has received funding from European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement n° 824253.

If not acknowledged, images courtesy of the consortium partners.

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