Investigating the discrepancy between wet-suspension and dry-dispersion derived ice nucleation efficiency of mineral particles

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Abstract

Cloud chamber investigations into ice nucleation by mineral particles were compared with results from cold stage droplet freezing experiments. Kaolinite, NX-illite, and K-feldspar were examined and K-feldspar was revealed to be the most ice active mineral particle sample, in agreement with recent cold stage studies. The ice nucleation efficiencies, as quantified using the *ice-active surface site density* method, were found to be in agreement with previous studies for the lower temperatures; however, at higher temperatures the efficiency was consistently higher than those inferred from cold stage experiments. Numerical process modelling of cloud formation during the experiments, using the cold-stage-derived parameterisations to initiate the ice phase, revealed the cold-stage-derived parameterisations to consistently under predict the number of ice crystals relative to that observed. We suggest the reason for the underestimation of ice in the model is that the slope of the cold-stage-derived *ice-active surface site density* vs temperature curves are too steep, which results in an underestimation of the number of ice crystals at higher temperatures during the expansion. These ice crystals suppress further freezing due to the Bergeron-Findeison process. Results from applying a coagulation model to the size distribution of mineral particles present in the suspensions, as used in the cold-stage-derived parameterisations, were used to investigate the idea that the mineral particles coagulate in suspension, which either removes the particles from the drops by sedimentation, whilst in the bulk suspension, or reduces the total particle surface area available for ice nucleation to take place. Aggregation was confirmed to take place in mineral suspensions using dynamic light scattering measurements. However, it is not proven that aggregation of the mineral particles is able to reduce the surface area available for ice nucleation. The implication is that the mineral particles may be more important at nucleating ice at high temperatures than previously thought.
1 Introduction

Atmospheric mineral dust particles are comprised of several different minerals (e.g. Glac-
cum and Prospero 1980; Kandler et al. 2007) and it is possible to determine their ice
nucleation activity (e.g. Connolly et al. 2009 and others). However, there is much to be
learned by investigating the ice nucleating ability of less complex “pure minerals”. Using
a technique originally described by Vali (1971), Kaolinite (KGa-1b from the clay mineral
society) and NX-illite have been examined in the immersion freezing nucleation mode (Mur-
ray et al. 2011; Broadley et al. 2012) and parameterisations of the ice-active surface site
density have been put forward, as have those for K-feldspar (Atkinson et al. 2013). These
studies used “wet-suspensions” of mineral powders to investigate ice nucleation by immer-
sion freezing. They quantified the ice nucleation ability of pure minerals using the ice-active
surface site density concept, described as the number of ice active sites per unit surface
area of dust, $n_s$, as presented by Connolly et al. (2009).

Recently Hiranuma et al. (2014) determined ice nucleation efficiency of the NX-illite dust
sample using a variety of methods. The methods were broadly classed as “wet-suspension”
methods, where mineral particles were put into water suspension before droplets of the sus-
pension were cooled and frozen, or “dry-dispersion” methods, where the mineral particles
act as cloud condensation nuclei followed by freezing. Hiranuma et al. suggested that there
was a discrepancy between the dry-dispersion methods and the wet-suspension methods
at high temperatures, which they suggested may be due to a change in chemical compo-
sition of the NX-illite mineral during dissolution in water. They also discussed the potential
effect of agglomeration of the mineral particles in suspension to reduce the available sur-
face area for ice nucleation and also the possibility of the powders having multiple nucleation
‘modes’. They concluded that further work was needed to better understand instrumental
differences.

Several papers (e.g. Murray et al. 2011; Broadley et al. 2012) have shown that the num-
ber of ice active sites on mineral powders scales with the total surface area of powder in
a drop; however, in these papers, the total surface area available in the drops was, in some
instances, relatively large due to high particle concentrations in the powder suspension used to generate the drops. In some cases the particle number concentrations exceeded $10^{17}$ m$^{-3}$, which equates to an inter particle spacing of $\sim 2$ $\mu$m, if one assumes equal spacing between the particles. At these high particle concentrations one might expect some interaction between neighbouring particles if they are able to come together and adhere due to the van der Waals interaction.

In nature, it is unlikely such high dust concentrations will be present in supercooled cloud drops. Hence, the aim of this paper is to use a combination of laboratory experiments, data analysis and modelling to reconcile two different approaches for determining ice nucleation efficiency.

### 2 Experimental set-up

Experiments were conducted in the Manchester Ice Cloud Chamber (MICC) fall tube, which has a diameter of 1 m and height of 10 m (additional details of the general facility are described in [Connolly et al., 2012](#)). The MICC and experimental set-up are shown in Fig. 1. Initially, the chamber was pressure sealed and evacuated using two scroll pumps, capable of reducing pressure at a rate of approximately 1.4 hPa s$^{-1}$, to 200 hPa before refilling with filtered air. The filtered air had $10–20$ cm$^{-3}$ $< 5$ nm particles, with a total particle mass concentration $< 0.01$ $\mu$g m$^{-3}$. Volatile Organic Carbon, VOC, measurements by the Leicester Proton Transfer Reaction Mass Spectrometer always indicated VOC levels below detection limits of approximately 1 ppb. This cleaning process was repeated a total of three times to reduce background aerosol concentration inside MICC to typically 20 cm$^{-3}$. The chamber was then cooled to the desired temperature, ranging from $-12$ to $-27$ °C depending on the experiment, and allowed to thermally equilibriate.

Prior to conducting the cloud formation experiments, a background experiment was performed in which the pressure was reduced to 700 hPa to check that the remaining background aerosol in the chamber post-cleaning were not ice nuclei. Ice was only ever observed in low concentrations of a few cm$^{-3}$ at the lowest temperatures and was attributed
to homogeneous nucleation when the temperature during the pressure reduction process approached $-36^\circ$C. In the case where this was observed, the ice crystal concentration was substantially lower than the resulting concentration in the later experiments where mineral dust particles were present. Several of these background experiments are shown in Figures 2 and 3 for reference, where it can be seen that very low background ice crystal number concentrations were achieved.

Following the background experiment, a selected mineral dust was inserted into the chamber using a PALAS dust generator (RBG 1000 ID). This instrument uses particle free compressed air to separate and insert dust particles from a rotating brush which collects them from a reservoir. The dust was inserted into the top of the chamber and allowed to homogenise; an initial measurement was taken using an Ultra High Sensitivity Aerosol Spectrometer (UHSAS), which uses an intracavity laser to measure aerosols in the size range (50–1000 nm) and a PALAS WELAS 2000 aerosol probe indicating total initial concentrations of approximately 1000–2000 cm$^{-3}$.

Liquid cloud drops formed as the pressure was reduced to 700 hPa from ice saturated conditions, and this was sampled with cloud probes, including the PALAS WELAS 2000 (WELAS), Droplet Measurement Technologies Cloud Droplet Probe (CDP), and the Stratton Park Engineering Company Cloud Particle Imager 3V (3V-CPI). Briefly, the WELAS infers the size of particles from the intensity of the light they scatter at 90$^\circ$. The CDP operates on a similar principle to the WELAS, but uses a solid state laser (658 nm) and detects light scattered by particles ($3 < D < 50 \mu$m) in the forward direction (4-12$^\circ$). The 3V-CPI takes images of particles ($20 < D < 2000 \mu$m), that pass through the sample volume, using a pulsed infrared laser incident on a CCD array. 3V-CPI images that are greater than 35 $\mu$m in length are analysed for their shape to determine if they are ice crystals or not. For these large shapes we are confident in discriminating between drops and ice crystals; hence, the remaining errors are due to Poisson counting, which are presented in Table 1.

Internal chamber pressure was measured using a Lex 1 Keller pressure probe and the air temperature was measured using calibrated type K thermocouples arranged along the height of and in the centre of the cloud chamber. Several repeat pressure reduction cycles
were performed once dust was inserted; after each experiment, the chamber was filled back to ambient pressure using the clean air system described above. A set of experiments for each dust was performed at both higher and lower temperature, and in total, Kaolinite, Feldspar, and Illite were used, giving a total of 6 experiment sets comprising $\sim 4$ runs per set (a total of $\sim 24$ depressurisations, not including background runs).

3 Observations

Figures 4 and 5 show the results of the two first experimental runs on K-feldspar – the same sample used in the Atkinson et al. (2013) study. Figure 4 was conducted with the initial temperature equal to $-12^\circ$C and expansion of the air to 700 hPa resulted in the temperature decreasing to $\sim -19^\circ$C. The middle plot of Fig. 4 shows the time evolution of the measured size distribution from the CDP. Mineral particles are visible at the start of the experiment at sizes up to $\sim 10 \mu$m, whereas $\sim 25$ s into the experiment a cloud of droplets grows as noted from the brighter colours. Following the formation of drops, ice crystals are formed and grow to large sizes.

The cloud of drops evaporates at $\sim 200$ s due to the Bergeron-Findeison process, following which the ice crystals are able to persist to $\sim 300$ s. The bottom plot of Fig. 4 shows that the drop concentration measured with the CDP reaches $\sim 2000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$. The ice concentration determined by the 3V-CPI (red-line) agrees very well with the concentrations of particles greater than 20 μm as measured with the CDP (blue line), thus giving confidence in our measurements of ice crystal concentration. The blue-dashed line is the concentration of particles greater than 35 μm measured with the 3V-CPI. It should be noted the reason this is greater than the concentrations of particles greater than 20 μm measured with the CDP is because the 3V-CPI often over-sizes out of focus images of droplets (Connolly et al., 2007).

Figure 5 shows the results of the first run of K-feldspar at an initial temperature of $-21^\circ$C. During the expansion the air temperature reduced to $\sim -28^\circ$C. The CDP showed evidence of droplets forming for a brief period at $\sim 40$ s in to the experiment (middle plot and black line on bottom plot). However, the droplets lasted for a brief period (less than $\sim 40$ s).
CPI concentration is lower than the CDP concentration of particles greater than 20µm (blue line); however, in this experiment it was difficult to discriminate the ice crystals on shape alone because the ice crystals appeared somewhat rounded due to the lack of vapour growth. Furthermore, the concentrations of particles greater than 20µm, measured with the CDP, and those measured with the 3V-CPI greater than 35µm are in good agreement. For this experiment it was more accurate to use these two measurements for the ice crystal concentrations.

Similar plots are shown in Figs. 6 and 7, but for kaolinite at −19°C and −25°C respectively. In Fig. 6 (middle plot) a cloud of droplets forms for ∼50 seconds before evaporating to leave an ice cloud. It is more difficult to see from the CDP data that the ice cloud nucleates after the drops form, because the optical sizes of the ice crystals overlap with the optical sizes of the largest kaolinite particles; nevertheless the 3V-CPI data indicated that this was the case (not shown). The bottom plot of Fig. 6 shows that the 3V-CPI derived ice crystal concentration (red line) is about a factor of two smaller than the particles larger than 20µm from the CDP (and those larger than 35µm from the 3V-CPI, blue lines); this is because some of the ice crystals are too small to be able to unequivocally classify them as ice crystals on their shape alone, so we slightly underestimate the ice concentration here.

Figure 7 middle shows that the kaolinite particles nucleate ice in the absence of a cloud of droplets. In fact, the droplets are too small to see with the CDP: the humidity in the chamber was close, and likely above water saturation. The drops are not visible because the Bergeron-Findeison process acts rapidly in this experiment, leaving the drops with little time to grow. The drop mode became more visible with repeat experiments (not shown): (a) because the particle concentration was diluted and (b) because the largest, most IN active particles were used up, which enabled the drops to grow to larger sizes. As for the experiment at higher temperature the 3V-CPI derived ice crystal concentration was below that of the concentrations that were derived on size alone from the CDP and 3V-CPI (solid blue and dashed blue lines respectively). Again this is because the particle sizes were often too small to unequivocally classify them as ice; hence, we classified the ice based on size for these runs (blue lines).
Finally, we have similar plots for the NX-illite sample in Figs. 8 and 9. In Fig. 8 (top) we see that the initial temperature was $-15^\circ C$, which decreased to $\sim -23^\circ C$ throughout the experiment. The middle plot shows that the droplet mode was of fairly long duration, lasting up to $\sim 300$ s and that there were relatively few ice crystals (as noted from the few speckles above $20\mu m$ in size). The 3V-CPI and CDP derived ice concentrations agree reasonably well in this case; however, the concentration of particles larger than $35\mu m$ as measured with the 3V-CPI is larger than those larger than $20\mu m$ measured with the CDP. The reason for this is that the 3V-CPI has a tendency to over estimate the size of the drops when they are out of focus. Drop concentrations were $\sim 2000 \, cm^{-3}$.

For NX-illite at $-25^\circ C$ in Fig. 9 the picture is similar to K-feldspar and kaolinite at the lower temperatures. There is no visible drop mode and the ice crystal concentration inferred from the 3V-CPI images is lower than those inferred from the CDP and 3V-CPI on size alone (bottom plot). The drop mode was visible in later expansions, when the most efficient ice nuclei had been used up and thus removed from the chamber (not shown). The reason the 3V-CPI derived ice crystal concentrations were smaller than the CDP and 3V-CPI concentrations based on size is again due to the ice crystals not developing distinct facets because there are many of them; hence, for these experiments we classified the ice on size alone (blue lines). It is noteworthy that drop concentrations were $\sim 500 \, cm^{-3}$, which is lower than the aerosol by a factor of $\sim 3$. We suspect that NX-illite, because of its high specific surface area and heterogeneity, is less effective as a cloud condensation nucleus (CCN) than the other samples, which may be explained by NX-illite having a different adsorption isotherm (e.g. Kumar et al., 2008) in comparison to the other samples.

4 Analysis

To compare our dry dispersion chamber observations with wet suspension cold stage methods (e.g. Murray et al., 2011; Broadley et al., 2012; Atkinson et al., 2013) we used two main approaches. Firstly we calculated values of the ice-active surface site density, or $n_s$, using our data and plotted them on the same graph as existing data taken using cold stages
(see Sect. 4.1). Secondly the Aerosol-Cloud-Interactions Model (ACPM) \citep{Connolly2012} was used to simulate the MICC cloud chamber experiments. In this model, the freezing parameterisations of \cite{Murray2011, Broadley2012, Atkinson2013} have been implemented and were used to compare ice concentrations expected with those observed. ACPIM is discussed and the analysis is presented in Sect. 4.2.1.

### 4.1 Calculating $n_s$ directly from the data

We calculated $n_s$ directly from the data in the following way. The result of the $n_s$ concept is that the fraction of drops, $f$, containing surface area, $A$, that are frozen at temperature, $T$, is described by the factor:

\[
    f = 1 - \exp(-An_s[T])
\]  

(1)

Hence, for an input dust particle size distribution, $\frac{dN}{dD}$, where all particles are hygroscopic, or take up at least a mono-layer of water, we write the number of ice crystals that are nucleated as:

\[
    N_{\text{ice}} = \int_{D_{\text{min}}}^{D_{\text{max}}} \frac{dN(D)}{dD} (1 - \exp(-An_s[T])) \, dD
\]  

(2)

Here $D_{\text{min}}$ and $D_{\text{max}}$ are the minimum and maximum particle size in the mineral particle size distribution.

The value used for $A$ in Eq. (2) is the surface area of a sphere multiplied by a factor to yield the BET specific surface area (see Table 3). We calculate $n_s$ iteratively using data and Eq. (2). Firstly, we use an initial guess of $n_s$ and evaluate the integral in Eq. (2). We then compare the calculated value of $N_{\text{ice}}$ with the measured value. This process is repeated with updates to $n_s$ until the integral is equal to $N_{\text{ice}}$, at which point the method has converged.

Another way of estimating $n_s$ \citep[e.g.][]{Niemand2012, Hiranuma2014} has been to divide the measured ice crystal number concentration by the surface area of the aerosol
size distribution, as measured at the start of the experiment (with a pressure correction for dilution during the expansion):

\[ n_s \approx \frac{N_{\text{ice}}}{\pi \int_{D_{\text{min}}}^{D_{\text{max}}} D^2 \frac{d^2N(D)}{dD} dD} \]  

(3)

However, this method can lead to an underestimation of \( n_s \) because it does not take into account the removal of surface area from the dust size distribution as they nucleate ice.

The values of \( n_s \) derived using the iterative method are shown in Fig. 10. We have chosen to plot each experimental run as a single data point. Note that the spread in \( n_s \) values, for data points that are close together in temperature, arises because experiments were repeated for several expansions, which allowed the most efficient ice nuclei to be depleted from subsequent expansions. Since the ice crystal concentrations are measured with time we could use a single experiment for multiple data points as is typically done in other studies (e.g. Niemand et al. 2012; Hiranuma et al. 2014); however, we have more confidence in the accuracy of the experimentally averaged data points.

Figure 10 shows that the results from MICC for NX-Illite (red stars) closely match those for the dry dispersions by Hiranuma et al. (2014) (red triangles), which validates our approach. Furthermore, it is seen that at the higher temperatures, values from the chamber (using dry dispersion) are significantly larger than those taken from cold stages (using wet suspension). This effect has been noted for NX-illite in the recent study by Hiranuma et al. (2014).

4.2 Process modelling

The application of ACPIM to understand and interpret the implications observations is described in Sect. 4.2.1 below. The discrepancies noted in Fig. 10 prompted us to understand the reason for differences between dry-dispersion and wet-suspension techniques; hence, coagulation model calculations are presented in Sect. 4.2.2.
4.2.1 Chamber modelling

We operated ACPIM as a cloud parcel model with bin microphysics. The aerosol size distributions were specified as lognormal fits to the observed data from the UHSAS and the WELAS probes (see Table 1). The curves were manually fitted to the data. Since the background aerosol were not ice nuclei we assumed they were hygroscopic aerosol (ammonium sulphate). A single lognormal mode of ammonium sulphate aerosol was used to describe the background aerosol measured during the background experiment while two lognormal modes were used to describe the mineral particle size distribution that was measured prior to the experiment. The background aerosol could be clearly distinguished from the mineral particle size distribution by size: the background distribution was narrow and had a median diameter of $\sim 40 \text{ nm}$; whereas the mineral particle distribution was broad and had a median diameter of $\sim 400 \text{ nm}$. It was assumed that the mineral dust had a small amount of soluble material on them, to enable them to act as cloud condensation nuclei (as well as ice nuclei). The model was relatively insensitive to the fraction of soluble material assumed in the range 1–5% (by mass). The parcel model was forced with the observed pressure drop rate and the temperature rate of change was calculated from the conservation of energy (1st law of thermodynamics) for moist air with the addition of a first order derivative that depends on the temperature difference between the gas and the chamber walls. In the model, total water content remained constant during an experiment (which was consistent with the condensed mass inferred from the CDP measurements and water vapour concentration measured by a tunable diode laser).

The condensation process was described by the droplet growth equation (Pruppacher and Klett, 1997), with equilibrium vapour pressures described by Köhler theory. Ice nucleation was modelled using the parameterisation of Koop et al. (2000) for homogeneous freezing or, Murray et al. (2011); Broadley et al. (2012); Atkinson et al. (2013) for heterogeneous freezing by the kaolinite, illite or feldspar mineral dust respectively. A criteria was added that a dust particle had to have $5 \times 10^{-14} \text{ kg}$ of water condensed before it could act in the immersion / condensation mode – this prevented ice nucleation at conditions that
were sub-saturated with respect to water, as observed. Once nucleated ice crystals grew
according to the ice crystal growth equation (Pruppacher and Klett [1997]), and in this work
crystals were assumed to be quasi-spherical with a variable effective density (see Connolly
et al., 2012 for details). All derivatives form a large set of coupled ODEs, which were solved
using the DVODE solver from Netlib.

The ACPIM model was run for every experiment in Table 1 and the results are sum-
marised as ratios of observed to simulated ice crystal concentrations in Fig. 11. The statis-
tics in Fig. 11 were calculated from each of the experimental runs for a particular set of
experiments. In general it is shown that the parameterisations underestimate the ice crystal
concentrations at all temperatures whereas from Fig. 10 one would expect the parameteri-
sations to do reasonably well at the lower temperatures. The reason the parameterisations
do not do well at low temperatures is because the dry dispersion data suggest that the
slope of the \(n_s\) vs temperatures curves should be shallower, thus yielding higher values of
\(n_s\) at the start of the expansion.

4.2.2 Coagulation modelling

In the experimental approaches relying on wet suspension, mineral particles are added to
a large volume of water and the wet suspension is stirred for \(\sim 12\) hours with a magnetic
stirrer. The drops containing mineral particles in suspension are then either sprayed (in
which case pico-litre drops are produced) or pipetted onto a glass slide (in which case
micro-litre drops are produced). A few minutes may then elapse before commencing the
cooling of drops. Hence, it is possible that coagulation of particles happens, either in the
large volume of water, or in the drops before and during the cooling cycle.

We modelled the coagulation of particles within wet-suspensions using the model de-
scribed in Appendix A. We present the results here neglecting the electric double charge
layer that is commonly used to describe inter-particle forces in a colloid (our justification for
this is discussed in Sect. 5.1.1).

Simulations with the coagulation model were performed for 2 h run-time. We performed
simulations for two weight percents (0.005 and 1.000) and also used 3 assumptions for
the size of the water drops that the mineral particles were suspended in. The first was to assume a pico-litre volume drop \((1 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}^3)\); the second was to assume a micro-litre volume drop \((1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}^3)\) and the third was to assume an infinite volume of water. The reason for these choices was that they span the range of conditions encountered in the cold stage experiments. We also used different coagulation kernels: one where forces due to Brownian motion were the only forces governing the motion of the particles; and another where Brownian and gravitational settling forces were acting.

Figure 12 shows results from the coagulation model assuming that the forces governing the movement of mineral particles are those due to Brownian motion only. Figure 12a and b show that hardly any coagulation occurs within the pico-drops at the weight percents assumed in the calculations. This is evident from the fact that the particle sizes do not change with time. There are just too few particles present for coagulation to be efficient. When micro-litre drops are used (Fig. 12c and d) we see that the size of the mode shifts to larger sizes. This is significant for the larger weight percent drops where the median size shifts from sub-micron to 10s of microns. The assumption of an infinite volume of water in Fig. 12e and f yields similar results to the micro-litre model run.

From the results in Fig. 12 we have calculated the ratio of mineral particle surface area to the initial mineral particle surface area. These calculations are shown in Fig. 13. We have assumed that a collision between two mineral particles yields a mineral particle with the same volume as the other two and that they produce quasi-spherical particles with a fractal dimension of \(\sim 2\) (as shown by, Vaezi G et al., 2011). Figure 13 shows that, at the highest weight percent in the micro-litre drop, the surface area of the mineral particles quickly drops to \(\sim 0.1\) of the initial value. For the highest weight percent in the pico-litre drop and for the lowest weight percent of the micro-litre drop we see that the surface area available for nucleation is \(\sim 0.5\) of the initial value. Finally, for the lowest weight percent in the pico-litre drop we see no reduction in the available surface area.

Figure 14 shows the same calculation of available surface area vs. time when both Brownian motion and gravitational settling influence the coagulation kernel. Similar results to those for the Brownian only kernel are shown for the pico-litre drops and also for the micro-
litre at low weight percent; however, for the micro-litre drop at high weight percent we see that the available surface area quickly drops to 0.005 of the initial value. This is in the region required to explain the discrepancies seen in Fig. 10.

It should be noted that our simulations of coagulation offer a rough calculation of the reduction in surface area due to coagulation. However, another important process to consider is the fact that, once aggregated, large particles will sediment out of the suspension; therefore further reducing the available surface area for nucleation. The subsequent calculations of $n_s$ will be biased low because the surface area used to calculate $n_s$ (the original surface area added to the suspension) will be too high.

### 4.3 Colloid experiments

In order to support our calculations we have conducted experiments where we prepare colloidal suspensions at 0.1 to 1 wt % solids (either K-feldspar, kaolinite or nx-illite) in ultrapure (18.2 MΩ cm) water.

We stirred the suspensions for 12 h using a magnetic stirrer to reproduce the methods of previous ice nucleation studies and then passed them through either 1 µm or 5 µm filters (22 mm Cellulose nitrate membrane, Whatman, UK). We found in all cases that this process reduced the absorbance of UV and visible light to that of ultrapure water (UV-Vis spectrometer, Stellarnet, Fla., USA) and, therefore, removed the particles completely to within error of the absorbance measurements. Less than 2 ml of suspension was passed through the filter membranes and their effective pore-size would have remained unaltered. This, therefore, suggests that the particles had aggregated from their initial sub-micron sizes to super micron sizes. We also monitored the absorbance of the suspension vs time across the spectrum; at 567 nm, the optimum wavelength with respect to signal to noise, and found it to decrease by a factor of 10 within 90 min of sample preparation. This also suggests that sedimentation and aggregation had occurred.

Measurements were performed using a Malvern Zetasizer Nano ZS at the University of Manchester, UK. Kaolinite suspensions were prepared (MilliQ H2O and 100 mM NaCl) to study the effect of electrolytes on particle aggregation. The water was filtered with a 0.2 µm
PTFE filter to eliminate possible dust particles. Measurements of the kaolinite samples were conducted with concentrations of 0.1, 0.33 and 1 mg ml$^{-1}$ (0.01, 0.033 and 0.1 wt %) prepared by mild sonication for 5 min at 60 °C then immediately cooled to room temperature and measured within minutes. Note that in the absence of heating to 60 °C the particles remained in an aggregated state. The pH was varied between 3 and 11 by addition of the minimum amount of diluted HCl or NaOH, respectively and the results are summarised in Table 2.

Measurements in MilliQ water show an increase in particle size with increasing kaolinite concentration. It is notable that at pH $\sim$ 9.0 there is a factor of two increase in particle size going from 0.33 mg ml$^{-1}$ concentration to 1 mg ml$^{-1}$ since the pH of kaolinite in MilliQ water was measured to be $\sim$ 8.2 in the aggregated sample; thus suggesting that aggregation is important. The effect of electrolytes is clearly seen in the lower half of Table 2. At high NaCl concentrations aggregation is enhanced, as expected, since charges on the clay minerals are neutralized by the mobile charges in solution. It is not clear whether this enhancement in aggregation is due to a reduction in like-like charge repulsion or an enhancement in the attraction of particles with different zeta-potential in the heterogeneous mineral particle sample (see Appendix C, Fig. 17).

5 Discussion

Hiranuma et al. (2014) suggested that there is a discrepancy between the dry-dispersion and wet-suspension methods of determining the ice nucleation efficiency of the clay mineral NX-illite. They explained that the mineral surface is chemically altered during reaction with water, which may affect the ice nucleating activity. Their measurements of ion concentrations in water containing NX-illite supported this finding; however, since ion concentrations are able to screen surface charge on colloidal particles these charges may significantly enhance the ability of the particles to coagulate (see Appendix B and C).

Although Hiranuma et al. (2014) state that dry dispersions lead to higher $n_s$ values than wet-suspensions, this was not true of all data they presented. For example some of the
CFDC data showed lower values of $n_s$, more consistent with the wet-suspensions methods. However, one possible reason to account for this was presented by the same authors, who stated that the lower $n_s$ of the CSU-CFDC may be a consequence of the underestimation of the number of ice crystals, possibly due to its constrained RHw (when operating at 105%) and the disturbance of aerosol laminar between two plates in a CFDC.

We confirm that our dry-dispersion method, using the MICC, predicts higher values of $n_s$ at high temperatures than the previously published results using wet-suspensions, but that the two methods are in close agreement at the lower temperatures. We explore an alternate explanation to that of Hiranuma et al. (2014), which is that the mineral particles may coagulate together in suspension and reduce the surface area available for nucleation.

This explanation is also consistent with the discrepancy found at high temperatures: in the wet-suspension methods, the high temperature results use the highest mineral particle weight percents, which are more likely to coagulate. However, Atkinson et al. (2013) show that high weight percents (0.8%) in pico-litre drops at lower temperatures that agree with our dry-dispersion measurements. We suggest a possible reason is that the K-feldspar particles form relatively weak aggregates, which can be disrupted and broken up by energetic spraying into pico-litre size drops, but not by pipetting into micro-litre drops. This may explain (with reference to Fig. [14]) why the pico-litre drops at high weight percent presented in Atkinson et al. (2013) agrees with our measurements, but the micro-litre drops at the same weight percent do not. Coagulation can also occur within micro-litre drops, but tends not to in pico litre drops because they lack sufficient mineral particles for the process to be efficient. Another alternate explanation is that the spraying process for the pico-litre drops causes the aggregates to be disrupted.

Naturally, the question arises why some unpublished measurements of NX-illite in micro litre drops do not show large sensitivity to the mineral particle wt % (Ben Murray, Personal Communication). In order to investigate this we have run the aggregation model (described in Appendix [A]) to show that the fractional surface area left in micro-litre drops is relatively in-sensitive to the initial wt %. The results are shown in Figure [15] where it is demonstrated that a factor of 20 in wt % (0.05 to 1.0) results in only a factor of 2 in fractional surface area.
It should be noted that these model results are subject to other uncertainties, such as the assumed packing geometry of the aggregates and any ions available in the suspension.

The real test of our laboratory results is whether they can better describe observations. Atkinson et al. (2013) present a comparison between observed IN from many experiments and their cold-stage derived parameterisation, which showed an underestimation at high temperatures (low IN concentrations) and an overestimation at low temperatures (high IN concentrations). One can do a similar comparison by taking their data and multiplying the modelled ice concentrations by the ratio of our $n_s$ curve to the Atkinson curve (K-feldspar, both adjusted to take into account the wt % of K-feldspar present in natural dust as in the original study), this is shown in Figure 16. While such a comparison is crude it arguably shows that there is better agreement when using the chamber derived parameterisation, which supports a shallower $n_s$ vs temperature curve than the cold stage derived curves.

5.1 Does the assumption of spherical particles affect our findings?

We note that Fig. 10 is adjusted so that we take account of the specific surface area; however, the process modelling (Fig. 11) assumes the surface area of spherical mineral particles. Here we assess whether this affects the main findings. The quoted values for BET specific surface areas of the three samples are shown in Table 3.

We estimate the discrepancy in the assumption that the particles are spherical. The median diameter for the three samples when introduced into the chamber was approximately $D_m = 0.4 \times 10^{-6}$ m. The calculated surface area to mass ratio is then, $S$:

$$S = \frac{6D_m^2}{\rho D_m^3}$$ (4)

$$= \frac{6}{\rho D_m}$$ (5)

We may then calculate the SSA underestimation factor, which is the ratio of the SSA to the value of $S$. Table 3 shows that the assumption of spherical particles likely underestimates the surface area for the kaolinite and NX-illite samples by factors of $\sim 2$ and $\sim 20$.
respectively. For the K-feldspar the assumption of sphericity overestimates the surface area by a factor of $\sim 2$. The underestimation is because the particles are platelets so measured optical size is closer to $\frac{\pi D^2}{2}$ (area of a disk) instead of $\pi D^2$ (area of a sphere). It should be noted that these values are not large enough to significantly affect the conclusions from Fig. 11.

5.1.1 Colloidal forces in suspensions

The coagulation modelling in Sect. 4.2.2 neglected the force of repulsion due to the electric double charge layer (see Appendix B and C for details). Kaolinite is a 1:1 layer clay consisting of alternating silica (tetrahedral) and alumina (octahedral) layers, which are bonded together. The tetrahedral faces have a net negative charge due to isomorphic substitution of silicon ions by ions with a lower charge, whereas the edges and octahedral faces have charges that depend on the pH of the solution.

When placed in suspension the minerals develop a double charge layer by attracting positive ions (counter-ions) to the surface. The double charge layer can result in the particles being colloidally stable because of the effective like-charge Coulomb interaction between two particles. The sign and magnitude of the charge layer can be quantified by inferring the zeta-potential from measurements of electro-phoresis.

We now provide some justification for the decision to neglect it. Elimelech et al. (2000) have shown that the $\zeta$-potential is a relatively insignificant factor in predicting the transport / sedimentation of particles when there is heterogeneity in the surface of the colloidal material. This is reasonable since the $\zeta$-potential is only a bulk measurement of the charge on a population of particles.

Tombácz and Szekeres (2006) have since shown that kaolinite has surface charge heterogeneity due to the mineral having permanent charges on the tetrahedral silica faces and pH dependent charges on the crystal edges and also the octahedral alumina faces. In the paper by Tombácz and Szekeres (2006), kaolinite samples were heavily processed to remove the large particle sizes and any other contamination; however, surface charge heterogeneity still persisted.
The faces of alumina and edges of the kaolinite crystal may undergo hydrolysis and hence carry pH dependent charges (Tombácz and Szekeres 2006). Tombácz and Szekeres (2006, their Fig. 7) show that, at pH 7, these alumina and silica groups (as inferred through a linear combination of their zeta potential) may have an overall charge close to zero. Hence, there is surface charge heterogeneity in clay minerals. Indeed Schofield and Samson (1954) had noted previously that “edge to face” coagulation (or flocculation) occurs in kaolinite samples.

Berka and Rice (2005) have shown that kaolinite can be colloidally stabilized at particle concentrations similar to those under consideration here ($\sim 10^{16} \text{ m}^{-3}$); however, their results are at pH of 9.5, where the alumina also carries high negative charge; hence, it should be expected that kaolinite will be colloidally stabilized to some extent at pH 9.5. Our own dynamic light scattering measurements confirm that high pH does cause some colloidal stability, but that this can be overcome at higher concentrations (Table 2).

6 Conclusions

Experiments were conducted in the Manchester Ice Cloud Chamber facility to look at ice nucleation in the condensation-freezing mode. Three dusts were investigated: kaolinite, illite, and feldspar, and each dust was examined at relatively high and low temperatures. The primary goal of this study was to reconcile dry-dispersion methods of quantifying ice nucleation on mineral dusts with those using wet-suspension.

Results from MICC for NX-illite were demonstrated to agree well with previously published results for dry dispersions (see Figure 10, red triangles vs red stars), thus serving as a validation of MICC.

Observations revealed feldspar to be the most efficient dust at nucleating ice (Fig. 10) in agreement with Atkinson et al. (2013), followed by illite, then kaolinite. Thus our data are qualitatively in agreement with previous findings. However, they all showed a discrepancy at the higher temperatures; our data showed higher values of $n_s$ than previously published wet-suspension methods.
Using the ACPIM numerical model to simulate the cloud chamber with ice nucleation parameterisations provided by Murray et al. (2011); Broadley et al. (2012), ice concentrations for all dusts were underestimated relative to observations. The reason for this was that the slope of the $n_s$ vs. temperature curves were determined to be less steep in our measurements than the published wet-suspension methods. Hence, the reason the model under-predicted the ice crystal concentration at lower temperatures was because the values of $n_s$ from the parameterisations were too low at the start of the experiment. Thus too few ice crystals were nucleated and by the time the lower temperatures were reached the Bergeron–Findeison process had led to the evaporation of the drops.

Modelling of coagulation in the suspension showed that it may be a pathway to reduce the surface area of mineral particles and hence, although not proven in this study, we consider it may reduce the effective $n_s$ calculated from experimental data. Aggregation was confirmed by separate experiments passing the suspensions through filters after initial dispersion and also through measurements using dynamic light scattering.

To explain the discrepancy between dry-dispersions and wet-suspensions we put forward the following suggestions:

- During the stirring process feldspar particles do not adhere strongly to each other. These weak aggregates may thus be easily disrupted when pico litre drops of the suspension are sprayed, because the drops are a similar size to the aggregate particles in this case.

- Illite and kaolinite particles form stronger, more tightly packed, aggregates and could sediment during the stirring process.

- As the drops are either sprayed, or pipetted onto the glass slide the mineral particles within the drops may start to coagulate.

- After generation of the pico-litre drops they contain insufficient mineral particles, even at 1.000 wt %, to result in significant coagulation.
– In micro-litre drops there are enough mineral particles to result in significant coagulation, and a reduction of surface area in the drops. This reduction increases with increasing wt % of mineral particles.

– The fractional surface area left in the drops after aggregation can be relatively insensitive to the wt % under some circumstances (see Figure 15).

– The slopes of the $n_s$ vs temperature derived from our dry dispersion experiments more closely agree with those derived for natural dusts by [Niemand et al. (2012)].

– The dry-dispersion techniques suggest that mineral particles are more efficient than the wet-suspension derived parameterisations suggest, especially at relatively high temperatures.

Appendix A: Modelling coagulation in suspension

We adopted the semi-implicit numerical algorithm for treating the coagulation process (pp 438 [Jacobson 1999]). This method conserves total particle volume and approximately conserves the monomer concentration. The algorithm is written as follows:

$$ v_{k,t} = \frac{v_{k,t-1} + dt \sum_{j=1}^{k} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} f_{i,j,k} \beta_{i,j} v_{i,t} n_{j,t-1} \right)}{1 + dt \sum_{j=1}^{N_B} (1 - f_{k,j,k}) \beta_{k,j} n_{j,t-1}} $$

(A1)

with $n_k = \frac{v_k}{\nu_k}$ and:

$$ f_{i,j,k} = \begin{cases} 
\left( \frac{\nu_{k+1} - V_{i,j}}{\nu_{k+1} - \nu_k} \right) \frac{\nu_k}{V_{i,j}} & \nu_k \leq V_{i,j} < \nu_{k+1} \text{ if } k < N_B \\
1 - f_{i,j,k-1} & \nu_{k-1} < V_{i,j} < \nu_{k} \text{ if } k > 1 \\
1 & V_{i,j} \geq \nu_{k} \text{ if } k = N_B \\
0 & \text{all other cases}
\end{cases} $$

(A2)
Equation (A1) shows that the solution at the next time-step depends on the solution at that time-step; hence, the method is an “implicit” method; however, the algorithm is solved sequentially in discrete bins such that the solution at the next time-step is always known.

The variable $\beta$ is the coagulation kernel of two interacting particles (m$^3$ particle$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$). When by the concentration of particles in a discrete bin it gives the rate of the number of particle interactions. We assume it can be described by the sum of a kernel due to Brownian diffusion and that due to gravitational settling. For Brownian the diffusion the kernel takes the form:

$$\beta(i, j) = 4\pi (r_i + r_j) (D_{p,i} + D_{p,j})$$ (A3)

where $D_{p,i}$ and $D_{p,j}$ are particle diffusion coefficients:

$$D_{p,i} = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi r_i \eta_w}$$ (A4)

following Einstein (1956). This model assumes that each Brownian collision results in a sticking event.

For gravitational settling the kernel takes the form:

$$\beta(i, j) = E_{i,j} \pi (r_i + r_j)^2 |u_{t,i} - u_{t,j}|$$ (A5)

Appendix B: Interaction potential of minerals in suspension

A particle suspended in water will generally form a double charge layer by accumulation of ions.

The potential energy of the electrical double layer interaction between two spheres may be written:

$$V_R = \left( \frac{\pi \varepsilon R_1 R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \right) (\zeta_1^2 + \zeta_2^2) \left( \frac{2\zeta_1 \zeta_2}{\zeta_1^2 + \zeta_2^2} p + q \right)$$ (B1)
where \( R_1 \) and \( R_2 \) are the radii of the two interacting particles; \( \epsilon \) is the electric permittivity; \( \zeta_{1,2} \) are the zeta potentials of the interacting particles.

\[
p = \ln \left( \frac{1 + \exp(-\kappa x)}{1 - \exp(-\kappa x)} \right) \tag{B2}
\]

\[
q = \ln \left( 1 - \exp(-2\kappa x) \right) \tag{B3}
\]

where \( x \) is the shortest distance between to particles and \( \kappa^{-1} \) is the Debye length:

\[
\kappa^{-1} = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon k_B T}{N_A e^2 \sum Z^2 m_i}} \tag{B4}
\]

where \( k_B \) is Boltzmann’s constant; \( N_A \) is Avogadro’s number, \( e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \) C is the charge on an electron; \( Z \) and \( m_i \) are the valence and molar concentration (moles per cubic metre) of ions; and \( T \) is the temperature.

In addition to the electrical double layer potential we also consider the van der Waals interaction, which is given by London’s equation:

\[
V_A = -\frac{A_{132}}{6} \left( \frac{2R_1 R_2}{[R_1 + R_2 + x]^2 + [R_1 + R_2]^2} \right.
\]

\[
+ \frac{2R_1 R_2}{[R_1 + R_2 + x]^2 + [R_1 - R_2]^2} \right.
\]

\[
+ \ln \left[ \frac{[R_1 + R_2 + x]^2 + [R_1 + R_2]^2}{[R_1 + R_2 + x]^2 + [R_1 - R_2]^2} \right] \tag{B5}
\]

Here, \( A_{132} \) is the Hamaker constant for interaction between particle 1, particle 2 in medium 3. Individual Hamaker constants are as follows: for mineral particles we use \( A_1 \) and \( A_2 = 6.8 \times 10^{-19} \) J; whereas for pure water we use \( A_3 = 7 \times 10^{-21} \) J. \( A_{132} \) can be estimated (source) from the Hamaker constants for pure components:

\[
A_{132} \approx \left( \sqrt{A_1} - \sqrt{A_3} \right) \left( \sqrt{A_2} - \sqrt{A_3} \right) \tag{B6}
\]
The total potential for the interaction is given by the sum of van der Waals and the double electric charge layer: \( V_T = V_A + V_R \).

**Appendix C: Coagulation kernel with interaction potential**

As described in Housiadas and Drossinos (2005, Sect. 6.3.1.2) the coagulation kernel can be corrected for the effect of an external, conservative force field. Here, “external” refers to the force field being external to the process considered in the uncorrected kernel. The correction is to divide the kernel by the factor:

\[
Q = (R_i + R_j) \int_0^\infty \exp\left[\frac{V_T(x)}{k_B T}\right] \frac{1}{x^2} \, dx
\]

We define the enhancement factor over the Brownian kernel, \( W \), as the ratio of \( Q \) calculated with the interaction potential in Eqs. (B1) and (B5) to that calculated by van der Waals alone (B5). This enhancement factor is shown in Fig. 17 for two, spherical, 0.1 \( \mu \)m diameter, particles having different values of the zeta-potential.

Figure 17 shows that two particles may come together if the zeta-potential of one of the particles has a magnitude less than a threshold of \( \sim 10 \) mV. However, mineral particles are not spheres and exhibit patch-wise heterogeneity in their surface potential (see Sect. 5.1.1). Hence, we argue that for measured bulk zeta-potentials of \( -20 \) mV there may be enough heterogeneity in the sample, in addition to patch-wise heterogeneity, to lead to colloidal instability.

In addition Fig. 17 also shows that the enhancement factor may be greater than unity even when the particles have like change. This is seen most clearly at values of \( \zeta_1 \approx -20 \) mV and \( \zeta_2 \approx 0 \) mV, where the enhancement factor is \( \sim 5 \). This behaviour is because the interaction between the two spheres produces induced charges, and has been observed experimentally in other studies.
**Acknowledgements.** This work was funded by the NERC ACID-PRUF programme, grant code NE/I020121/1. We also acknowledge funding from the EU FP7-ENV-2013 programme “impact of Biogenic vs. Anthropogenic emissions on Clouds and Climate: towards a Holistic UnderStanding” (BACCHUS), project (number 603445). Ben Murray is acknowledged for providing the mineral particle samples sourced from the clay mineral society.

**References**


Table 1. Table showing summary of experimental results. Ice crystal concentrations are determined from the CPI number concentration of ice crystals, unless stated otherwise. Multiple rows indicate the expansion number on the same mineral particle sample after refilling to 1000 hPa. Geometric surface areas were obtained through integration of the size distribution assuming spherical particles. Errors in ice crystal concentration are calculating using Poisson counting statistics at the 0.05 level of significance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mineral sample</th>
<th>ice conc. (cm⁻³)</th>
<th>N (cm⁻³)</th>
<th>Dₘ (μm)</th>
<th>ln σᵧ</th>
<th>Geometric surface area (m⁻¹)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-feldspar @ −12°C</td>
<td>8.96 ± 0.15</td>
<td>[1700,45]</td>
<td>[0.32,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.3,0.55]</td>
<td>1.99 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.31 ± 0.13</td>
<td>[1200,15]</td>
<td>[0.32,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.5,0.55]</td>
<td>1.25 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.53 ± 0.11</td>
<td>[800,4]</td>
<td>[0.32,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.5,0.45]</td>
<td>5.75 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.56 ± 0.08</td>
<td>[400,3]</td>
<td>[0.32,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.5,0.65]</td>
<td>3.44 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-feldspar @ −21°C</td>
<td>47.16 ± 0.35</td>
<td>[1000,20]</td>
<td>[0.32,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.5,0.8]</td>
<td>1.41 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>53.39 ± 0.38</td>
<td>[600,20]</td>
<td>[0.33,1.0]</td>
<td>[0.45,1.5]</td>
<td>7.03 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32.56 ± 0.29</td>
<td>[300,20]</td>
<td>[0.33,1.0]</td>
<td>[0.45,1.4]</td>
<td>5.42 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27.05 ± 0.27</td>
<td>[200,1]</td>
<td>[0.33,1.0]</td>
<td>[0.45,0.8]</td>
<td>1.10 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaolinite@ −19°C</td>
<td>9.51 ± 0.16</td>
<td>[500,90]</td>
<td>[0.45,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.4,0.6]</td>
<td>4.35 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.52 ± 0.06</td>
<td>[300,20]</td>
<td>[0.45,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.4,0.5]</td>
<td>1.13 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.34 ± 0.03</td>
<td>[200,8]</td>
<td>[0.45,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.4,0.5]</td>
<td>5.50 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.20 ± 0.02</td>
<td>[100,15]</td>
<td>[0.45,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.4,0.55]</td>
<td>7.23 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.06 ± 0.01</td>
<td>[50,5]</td>
<td>[0.45,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.4,0.8]</td>
<td>2.81 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaolinite@ −25°C</td>
<td>5.29 ± 0.12</td>
<td>[500,90]</td>
<td>[0.45,3]</td>
<td>[0.4,0.6]</td>
<td>4.55 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.43 ± 0.15</td>
<td>[375,60]</td>
<td>[0.45,3]</td>
<td>[0.4,0.6]</td>
<td>3.21 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.59 ± 0.15</td>
<td>[250,40]</td>
<td>[0.5,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.4,0.65]</td>
<td>2.11 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.78 ± 0.15</td>
<td>[150,25]</td>
<td>[0.45,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.4,0.8]</td>
<td>1.28 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.69 ± 0.11</td>
<td>[50,15]</td>
<td>[0.45,2.8]</td>
<td>[0.5,0.8]</td>
<td>7.26 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illite@ −15°C</td>
<td>1.59 ± 0.07</td>
<td>[1400,15]</td>
<td>[0.28,2.6]</td>
<td>[0.25,0.5]</td>
<td>5.10 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.182 ± 0.02</td>
<td>[700,5]</td>
<td>[0.27,2.6]</td>
<td>[0.28,1.3]</td>
<td>1.92 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.037 ± 0.01</td>
<td>[400,2]</td>
<td>[0.27,2.6]</td>
<td>[0.48,0.5]</td>
<td>1.73 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.021 ± 0.03</td>
<td>[250,3]</td>
<td>[0.27,2.6]</td>
<td>[0.48,2]</td>
<td>1.50 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illite@ −25°C</td>
<td>8.04 ± 0.15</td>
<td>[1700,25]</td>
<td>[0.28,3]</td>
<td>[0.45,0.5]</td>
<td>1.51 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10.36 ± 0.17</td>
<td>[1500,20]</td>
<td>[0.28,3]</td>
<td>[0.45,1]</td>
<td>1.27 × 10⁻³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10.92 ± 0.17</td>
<td>[800,15]</td>
<td>[0.28,3]</td>
<td>[0.45,1.6]</td>
<td>7.14 × 10⁻⁴</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Ice concentrations determined from particles greater than 20 μm as measured with the CDP for this experiment because the concentrations were high and hence the ice crystal sizes were small.*
Table 2. Table showing results from dynamic light scattering experiments for the kaolinite sample.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>pH</th>
<th>diameter for 0.1 mg ml(^{-1}) (nm)</th>
<th>diameter for 0.33 mg ml(^{-1}) (nm)</th>
<th>diameter for 1 mg ml(^{-1}) (nm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>692.4</td>
<td>1143.0</td>
<td>1777.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>652.1</td>
<td>741.9</td>
<td>753.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>695.0</td>
<td>742.4</td>
<td>792.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>449.4</td>
<td>418.0</td>
<td>721.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>467.7</td>
<td>448.0</td>
<td>693.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>pH</th>
<th>diameter for 0.1 mg ml(^{-1}) (nm)</th>
<th>diameter for 0.33 mg ml(^{-1}) (nm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>1241.5</td>
<td>1585.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>913.0</td>
<td>1318.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>740.1</td>
<td>1533.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>674.6</td>
<td>1350.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>618.2</td>
<td>997.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3. Table showing BET specific surface area of the different mineral samples used in this study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mineral sample</th>
<th>BET SSA m$^2$ kg$^{-1}$</th>
<th>Bulk density (kg m$^{-3}$)</th>
<th>SSA underestimation factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kaolinite</td>
<td>11 800</td>
<td>2650</td>
<td>$\sim 2.1$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NX-Illite</td>
<td>104 200</td>
<td>2770</td>
<td>$\sim 19.2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-feldspar</td>
<td>3115$^a$</td>
<td>2570</td>
<td>$\sim 0.53$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^a$ 3.5 times that of 890.
Table 4. Nomenclature.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Equation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\beta$</td>
<td>Coagulation kernel ($m^3$ particle$^{-1}$ s$^{-1}$)</td>
<td>Eq. A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\epsilon$</td>
<td>Permittivity of water (F m$^{-1}$)</td>
<td>Eq. B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\eta_w$</td>
<td>Viscosity of water $\sim 8.9 \times 10^{-4}$ Pa s</td>
<td>Eq. A4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\kappa$</td>
<td>Reciprocal of Debye length (m$^{-1}$)</td>
<td>Eq. B2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\nu$</td>
<td>The volume of a single particle in a bin (m$^3$)</td>
<td>Eq. A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\zeta_1$</td>
<td>Zeta potential of particle 1 ($V$)</td>
<td>Eq. B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\zeta_2$</td>
<td>Zeta potential of particle 2 ($V$)</td>
<td>Eq. B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$A_1$, $A_2$</td>
<td>Hamaker constant for particles 1 and 2 ($6.8 \times 10^{-19}$ J)</td>
<td>Eq. B5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$A_3$</td>
<td>Hamaker constant for water ($7 \times 10^{-21}$ J)</td>
<td>Eq. B5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$A_{132}$</td>
<td>Hamaker constant for interaction between particle 1 and 2 in medium 3</td>
<td>Eq. B5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$D_{p,i}$</td>
<td>Particle diffusion coefficient (Stokes–Einstein coefficient) for bin $i$ ($m^2$ s$^{-1}$)</td>
<td>Eq. A3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$e$</td>
<td>Charge on electron ($\sim 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$ C)</td>
<td>Eq. B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$k_B$</td>
<td>Boltzmann's constant, $1.381 \times 10^{-23}$ m$^2$ kg s$^{-2}$ K$^{-1}$</td>
<td>Eq. A3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$m_i$</td>
<td>Molar concentration of ions (mol m$^{-3}$)</td>
<td>Eq. B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$N_A$</td>
<td>Avogadro's number ($6.02 \times 10^{23}$)</td>
<td>Eq. B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$N_B$</td>
<td>The number of bins</td>
<td>Eq. A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R_1$</td>
<td>Radius of particle 1 (m)</td>
<td>Eq. B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R_2$</td>
<td>Radius of particle 2 (m)</td>
<td>Eq. B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$r_{i,j}$</td>
<td>The radius of a particle in bin $i$ or $j$ (m)</td>
<td>Eq. A3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$T$</td>
<td>Temperature (K)</td>
<td>Eq. B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$u$</td>
<td>Terminal velocity of particle in fluid (m s$^{-1}$)</td>
<td>Eq. A5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$V$</td>
<td>The volume of the bin edges (m$^3$)</td>
<td>Eq. A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$n$</td>
<td>The number concentration of a particle in a bin (m$^{-3}$)</td>
<td>Eq. A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$v$</td>
<td>The total volume all particles in a bin (m$^3$ m$^{-3}$)</td>
<td>Eq. A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$V_A$</td>
<td>van der Waals interaction potential ($V$)</td>
<td>Eq. B5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$V_R$</td>
<td>Interaction potential between two particles ($V$)</td>
<td>Eq. B1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$V_T$</td>
<td>Sum of all interaction potentials ($V$)</td>
<td>Eq. C1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$W$</td>
<td>Correction factor for particles interacting with potential</td>
<td>Eq. C1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Z$</td>
<td>Valence of dissociation</td>
<td>Eq. B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x$</td>
<td>Distance between two particles (m)</td>
<td>Eq. B2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 1. A schematic of the MICC cold-rooms and chamber. Outer lines mark the outline of the outer wall of the cold rooms, with the MICC tube inside. Temperature probes are labeled with a “T”. Pressure, and cloud properties are monitor in the bottom section of the chamber.
Figure 2. Background experiment at $-12^\circ$C before the addition of mineral particles. Top shows the temperature in the chamber (black line, left axis) and the pressure (red line, right axis). The black line is the mean of temperature probes, while the grey shading marks the range in measured temperatures across all probes. Middle plot shows the size distribution as measured with the CDP instrument. Bottom plot shows: (1) the drop concentration measured with the CDP (black line, left axis); (2) the concentration of particles larger than 20 microns diameter (solid blue line, right axis); (3) the ice crystal concentration measured with the 3V-CPI (red line, right axis); (4) the concentration of particles larger than 20 microns with the 3V-CPI (dotted blue, right axis).
Figure 3. Same as Figure 2 but for a background experiment at $-21 \degree C$ before the addition of mineral particles.
Figure 4. Feldspar mineral particles at $-12\,^\circ\text{C}$. Top shows the temperature in the chamber (black line, left axis) and the pressure (red line, right axis). The black line is the mean of temperature probes, while the grey shading demarks the range in measured temperatures across all probes. Middle plot shows the size distribution as measured with the CDP instrument. Bottom plot shows: (1) the drop concentration measured with the CDP (black line, left axis); (2) the concentration of particles larger than the main droplet mode (solid blue line, right axis); (3) the ice crystal concentration measured with the 3V-CPI (red line, right axis); (4) the concentration of particles larger than 35 microns with the 3V-CPI (dotted blue, right axis).
Figure 5. Same as Fig. 4 but for feldspar at −21 °C.
Figure 6. Same as Fig. 4 but for kaolinite at −19°C.
Figure 7. Same as Fig. 4 but for kaolinite at $-25^\circ C$. 
Figure 8. Same as Fig. 4, but for illite at $-15^\circ C$. 
Figure 9. Same as Fig. 4 but for illite at $-25^\circ C$. 
Figure 10. $n_s$ values from the literature using wet-suspension methods are shown via the line plots: black line is for kaolinite from Murray et al. (2011); blue line is for K-feldspar from Atkinson et al. (2013); red solid line is for NX-illite from Broadley et al. (2012); red-dashed line is for NX-illite from Hiranuma et al. (2014). The open symbols correspond to $n_s$ values derived using dry-dispersion: black circles are our data for kaolinite; blue squares are our data for K-feldspar and stars are our data for NX-illite. Downward pointing triangles are for the NX-illite data derived using dry-dispersions from Hiranuma et al. (2014). For our data, measurement errors are typically the size of the symbols or less (see Table 1).
Figure 11. Figure summarising the results of the ACPIM simulations. The metric shown is the ratio of observed to modelled ice crystal number concentrations averaged over all expansions in a set of experiments. Error bars are 25th and 75th percentiles. The ACPIM model used the parametrisations from Murray et al. (2011); Broadley et al. (2012); Atkinson et al. (2013) for kaolinite, illite and K-feldspar particles respectively.
Figure 12. Numerical model simulations of the coagulation of mineral particles within suspension showing the size distribution evolution vs time. (a) is for a 0.005 wt % suspension inside a pico litre drop; (b) is the same as (a) but for 1.000 wt %; (c) is for a 0.005 wt % suspension inside a micro litre drop; (d) is the same as (c) but for 1.000 wt %; (e) and (f) are the same as (c) and (d) respectively, but for an infinite volume.
Figure 13. The evolution of the ratio of particle surface area to initial particle surface area for mineral particles undergoing coagulation in water suspension. The coagulation kernel assumed is that due to collisions arising from Brownian motion only.
**Figure 14.** Same as Fig. 13, but with the coagulation due to Brownian motion and gravitational settling.
Figure 15. Model calculations of the surface area of mineral particles divided by the initial surface area, in micro litre sized drops, for three different wt %: 0.05, 1.0 and 2.0.
Figure 16. A comparison of the Atkinson et al. (2013) cold-stage derived parameterisation to observations and a similar comparison using our data.
Figure 17. The enhancement factor of the Brownian collision kernel for two spherical particles in pure water as a function of the zeta-potential of both particles.