

Acknowledgements

Without the help, support, and cooperation of many people this work would not have been possible. First of all I am indebted to Prof. Dr. Jürgen Fischer who offered me the opportunity to work on this topic and who provided an excellent working climate. I give special thanks to Prof. Dr. Ralf Bennartz for agreeing to be second supervisor. My visiting scientist stay at his working group in Madison, WI, USA was very productive. Many fruitful discussions led to significant progress of this work. The Monte Carlo model, developed by himself and Grant Petty, and his k-distribution are basic tools of the presented analysis.

Many thanks go to Clemens Simmer for coordinating the 4D-CLOUDS project. I am grateful to Steffen Meyer, Sebastian Schmidt, and Victor Venema for many helpful discussions. The LWP data from Susanne Crewell, the LWC data from Jens Meywerk, and the surrogate cloud fields from Victor Venema have been essential for this work. Many thanks for the supply of this data.

The aeronautical skills of our pilot Carsten Lindemann contributed significantly to the success of the BBC campaign. Additional support came from Eyk Bösche and Thomas Ruhtz who assisted in taking the observational data and in the performance of the calibrations. Special thanks goes to Eyk Bösche for relaxing moments during the campaigns.

I would like to express my thanks to Dr. Bernhard Mayer for the cooperation and supply of the validation data. I also thank Dr. Michael Weller for the usage of his calibration laboratory. I am very grateful to Frederick Chosson for the discussions about cloud micro-physical processes and for the supply of LES data. I enjoyed my visiting scientist stay at Meteo France very much.

Many friends and colleagues have helped me through the years with fruitful discussions, useful suggestions, and sometimes also with just the necessary distraction. I would like to thank Dr. Lothar Schüller for being in the right place at the right time. The β^2 -scheme was made available by him. Dr. Rene Preusker and Dr. Peter Albert gave me innumerable pieces of advice and suggestions that improved this work. Especially their assistance in IDL programming and in solving computer related problems helped me to concentrate on my work. I enjoyed the working climate at the institute and appreciate the friendly relation to many colleagues which goes beyond a pure cooperation very much.

This work was performed in the framework of 4D-CLOUDS funded by the German BMBF under contract number 07ATF24.

Last but not least I would like to thank Anne Kotulla for her support and patience.