

About Negative Correlations of Surface Temperature and Clouds Parameters for Antarctic Region

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In previous study it was detected, that climatic changes of air surface temperature T in eastern and western part of Antarctica have different tendencies: warming was detected for some stations at the West and cooling was detected for some stations of the East [Comiso, 2000; Marshall et al. 2002, Turner et al., 2004 Chernykh and Alduchov, 2003a, 2003b, Jagovkina et al., 2004]. Clouds play very important role in distribution of solar radiation at the earth surface. But dependence of climate changes of surface temperature and clouds is not very pore. These changes can take place in different layers of the atmosphere. It is known, that distributions of cloud parameters, such as cloud amount, frequencies of cloud types are different for these regions [Warren, et al. 1986]. Increasing of cloud amount (up to 15-20%) at the South Pole, detected by Neff in 1999, was described in the documents of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change as “dramatic” [Climate Change, 2001].

Are exist any parameters of clouds which have negative correlations with air surface temperature for stations placed in both eastern and western and central parts of Antarctica, or for one of this part?

These researches are made on base Aerological dataset CARDS [Eskridge et al. 1995] for period 1964-2001 years. The present study is focused on the Eastern Antarctic coastal stations: Novolazarevskaya (89512); Syowa (89532); Molodezhnaya (89542); Mawson (89564); Davis (89571); Mirny (89592); Casey (89611); Dumont D’Urville (89642); Macquarie Island (94998); McMurdo (89002); Western Antarctic coastal stations: Bellingshausen (89050); Base Marambio (89055), Halley Bay (89022); Newmayer (89002); continental Antarctic stations: Amundsen Scott (89009); Vostok (89006).

CE-method was used to determine cloud boundaries and amount from temperature and humidity profiles [Chernykh and Eskridge 1996, Chernykh and Alduchov, 2004]. Correlations μ_i^{ta} for time series of monthly averaged means anomalies of cloud parameters and surface temperature for every station were calculated.

Monthly averaged mean values were calculated for five parameters of cloud vertical macrostructure: frequency of cloud layers (Freq), number (NLay) and total thickness (Thic) of cloud layers, base of lowest cloud layer (Base) и top of highest cloud layer (Top). All these parameters were determined for six atmospheric layers: 0-2 km, 2-6 km, 6-10 km (for L - low, M - middle and H – high level of clouds accordingly), and for layers 0-6 km, 2-10 km и 0-10 km about ground level (LM, MH, LMH, соответственно). Calculations were made for five following gradations of cloud amount. Symbols for these gradations present below:

- 1) 0-20%! – 0-20% of sky coverage independently of presence of any other cloud layers;
- 2) 20-60%! –20-60% of sky coverage independently of presence of any other cloud layers;
- 3) 60-80%! – 60-80% of sky coverage independently of presence of any other cloud layers;
- 4) 80-100%! – 80-100% of sky coverage independently of presence of any other cloud layers;
- 5) 0-100% – 0-100% of sky coverage (any clouds independently of amount).

So, totally we have 150 (5x6x5) cloud parameters to check correlations with surface temperature.

Calculations have shown that there is no exists any cloud parameter with negative correlations with respect T for all sixteenth. Frequency of middle cloud is one cloud parameter with negative correlations with respect T for all studied Eastern Antarctic coastal stations (see Table 1).

Table 1. Cloud parameter with negative correlations with respect T for Eastern Antarctic coastal stations (and for fourteenth Antarctic Stations also).

Atmos. layer	Cloud amount	Param. of cloud	Eastern Antarctic coastal stations									
			89512	89532	89542	89564	89571	89592	89611	89642	94998	89664
			Correlations μ_i^{ta}									
M	0-100%	Freq	-.002	-.256	-.015	-.064	-.027	-.060	-.082	-.246	-.028	-.139

Atmoos. layer	Cloud amount	Param. of cloud	Western Antarctic coastal stations				Continental Antarctic stations	
			89050	89055	89022	89002	89009	89606
			Correlations μ_i^{ta}					
M	0-100%	Freq	.014	-.157	-.019	-.084	.107	-.221

Most important cloud parameter with negative correlations with respect T for Western Antarctic coastal stations is cloud number (see Table 2).

Most important cloud parameter with negative correlations with respect T for continental Antarctic stations is cloud number also (see Table 3).

Table 2. Cloud parameter with negative correlations μ_i^{ta} with respect T for four Western Antarctic coastal stations

Atmospheric layer	Cloud amount	Parameter of cloud	Correlations μ_i^{ta}			
			89050	89055	89022	89002
H	20-60%!	NLay	-.036	-.183	-.275	-.105
M	0-100%	NLay	-.141	-.082	-.343	-.157
LMH	0-100%	NLay	-.101	-.188	-.480	-.169
H	0-100%	NLay	-.145	-.057	-.539	-.164
LM	0-100%	NLay	-.160	-.136	-.336	-.166
MH	0-20%!	NLay	-.070	-.086	-.253	-.296

Table 3. Cloud parameter with negative correlations with respect T for two continental Antarctic stations

Atmospheric layer	Cloud amount	Parameters of cloud	Correlations μ_i^{ta}	
			89009	89606
H	20-60%!	NLay	-.410	-.571
M	0-100%	NLay	-.455	-.337
MH	20-60%!	NLay	-.504	-.137
M	80-100%!	NLay	-.402	-.385
MH	60-80%!	NLay	-.006	-.500

This study is useful to gain insight into climate and climate change in Antarctica and for aviation. Further joint international researches should be very useful. The research was partly supported by RBRF, Project 04-05-64681 and Russian "Study and Investigation of Antarctic" Sub-Program.

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