

The Cirrus Regional Study of Tropical Anvils and Cirrus Layers - Florida Area Cirrus Experiment (CRYSTAL-FACE)

PI: Linnea Avallone

May–July 2002

Observing the Formation and Evolution of Cirrus Clouds



CRYSTAL-FACE was designed to study the formation and evolution of cirrus clouds using instrumented aircraft and observations from space. Five aircraft flew over southern Florida during July 2002 to make measurements of the chemical and physical properties of the high clouds generated by thunderstorms.



The closed-path laser hygrometer (CLH) measures the water content of cloud particles by evaporating them and detecting the resulting water vapor by the infrared light it absorbs.

Science • Engineering