

ACRE Antarctica: improving our understanding of high latitude climate with old weather observations



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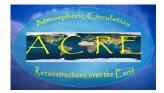














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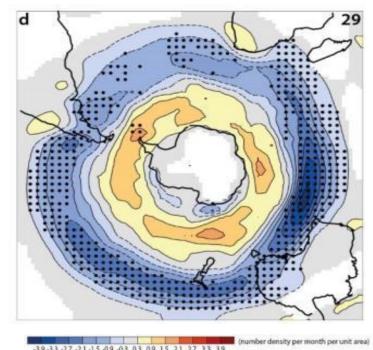
Outline

- The Deep South and New Zealand's weather and climate
- The Deep South National Science Challenge
- ACRE and data rescue
- Why do we need historic climate data?
- ACRE Antarctica
 - Progress so far
 - Where to next



The Deep South and NZ's weather and climate

- Antarctica and the Southern
 Ocean have significant impacts
 on New Zealand's weather and
 climate
 - Southern Annular Mode (Ummenhofer and England, 2007)
 - Pacific-South American Mode (Mo and Paegle, 2001)
 - Zonal Wave 3 (Raphael, 2004)
 - Sea ice (Yuan and Li, 2008)
- The nature of climate change in the Deep South will deeply impact NZ's future climate
- Problem = Deep South's natural climate and weather variability is poorly understood



IPCC (2013)

Change in winter Southern Hemisphere storm track between 1986-2005 and 2081-2100, RCP 8.5 (IPCC AR5)

Shading (dots) where 90% of models agree on the sign of the change.

Lower confidence over Southern Ocean! More historical data could increase this confidence.



The Deep South National Science Challenge

- The New Zealand Government has provided >\$130m
 NZD to promote several areas of science over 10 years;
 \$24m to DSNSC in Phase 1 (to 2019)
- The objective of the DSNSC is to understand the role of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean in driving New Zealand's climate and future environment
- The mission of the DSNSC is to enable New Zealanders to adapt, manage risk, and thrive in a changing climate
- Constructing a New Zealand Earth System Model (NZESM) to produce improved projections of climate change
- Assessing and validating the NZESM is one DSNSC project
- How does data rescue fit in?



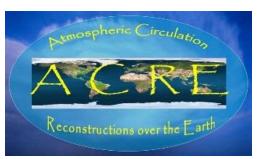






ACRE and Data Rescue

- International ACRE (Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over Earth) initiative
- ACRE undertakes and facilitates climate data rescue
 - Recovery, imaging, digitisation of data
- Terrestrial and marine global weather observations
- Rescued data underpins 3D weather reconstructions (reanalyses)
- High quality extension through the 19th century is desired (and possibly longer)
- Makes observations available to all international reanalyses

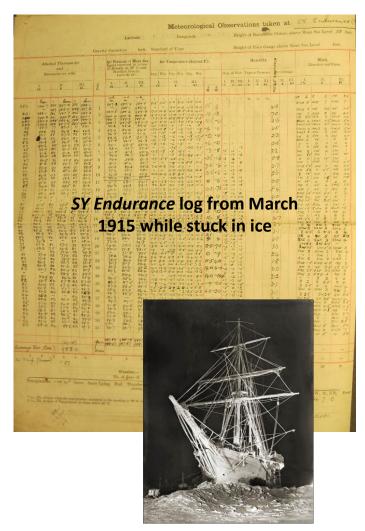






Why do we need historic climate data?

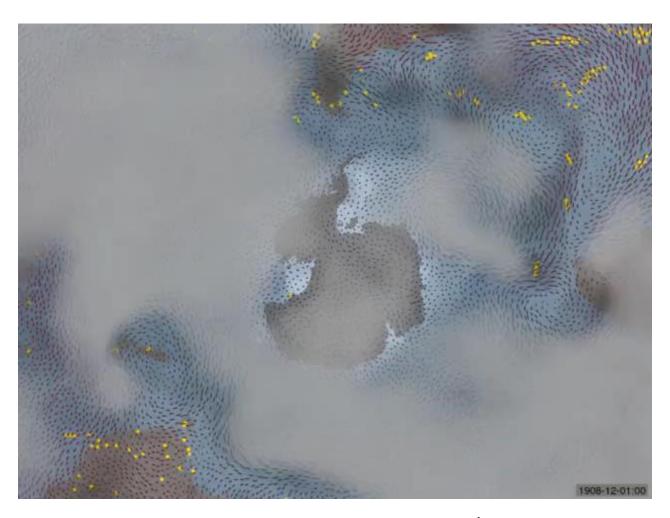
- To understand future climate changes we need to better understand the past
 - Climate extremes
 - Long term trends
 - Climate variability (multi-decadal, IPO)
 - Connecting local signatures to global changes
- Understanding of historic Deep South weather and climate would be improved by having more data in extended reanalyses (e.g. 20CR)
- Improved palaeoclimate calibration
- Where do these data come from?
 - Old ship's logbooks (whaling, immigrant, research), settler's diaries, exploration expeditions...
 - Regimented observations



Source: coolantarctica.com



Antarctic weather 1909-1910

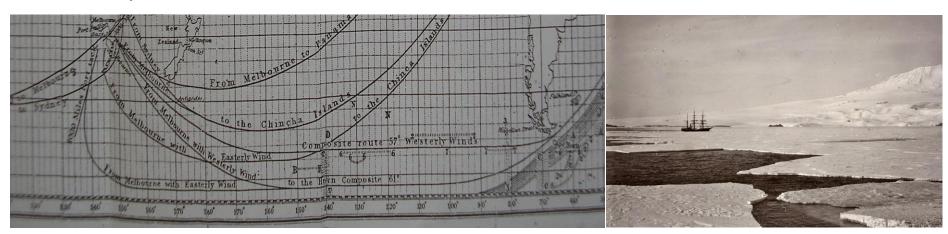


Wind (arrows) and air temp (blue/red)



ACRE Antarctica

- ACRE Antarctica has been supported under the DSNSC at NIWA
- ACRE Antarctica will contribute to the validation of the NZESM using historic and observational data
- Data rescue of ship's logbooks from the Antarctic/subantarctic region between 1850 and 1960
- Imaging, keying, submission to databanks for assimilation into reanalyses
- Priority data: barometric pressure, sea ice observations, air temperature, sea surface temperature

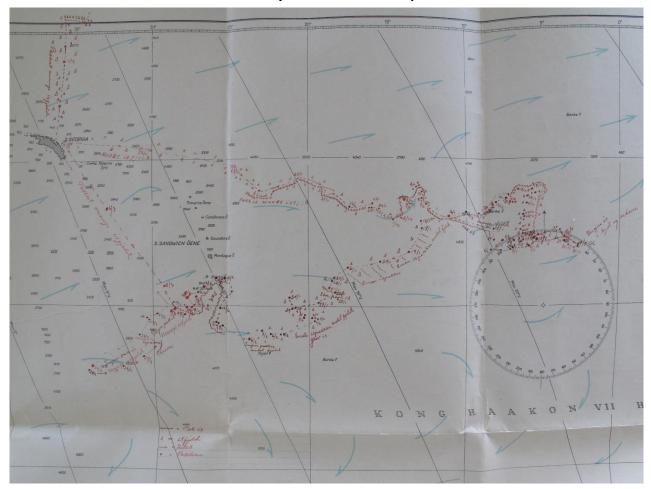


Scott's Discovery and Mt Erebus. Source: coolantarctica.com



ACRE Antarctica – sea ice

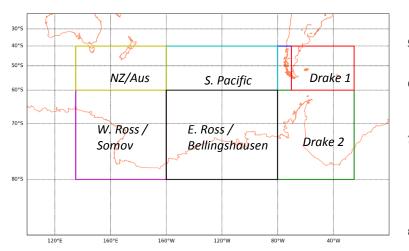
Sourabaya sea ice map

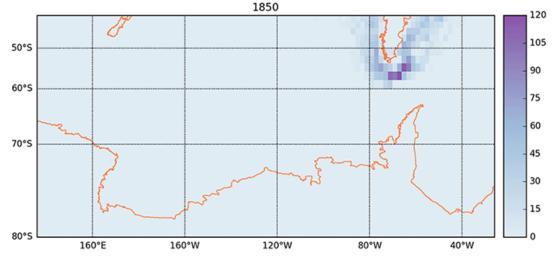




ACRE Antarctica

- Domain selection: covers the core action centres of drivers relevant to NZ weather and climate
- Goal: at least 6 daily data points for surface pressure added to the whole domain for 1850-1960 and build from there
 - ~250,000 new observations

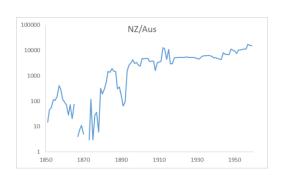






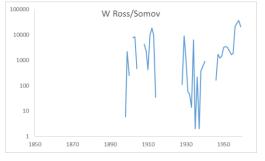
Progress so far

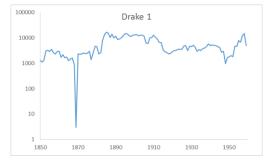
- Evaluated existing temporal data coverage in subdomains in 20CRv2c (1851)
- Clive Wilkinson has assessed archives and imaged logbooks in Europe and UK
- Evaluated 1 TB of images provided by Australia's SEARCH project
 - < 5% is directly relevant to ACRE Antarctica goals (first cut)</p>
 - Issues with poor imagery and irrelevant data, but some potential
- Ursula Rack has investigated archives in NZ, Australia, some in Europe

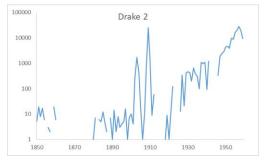






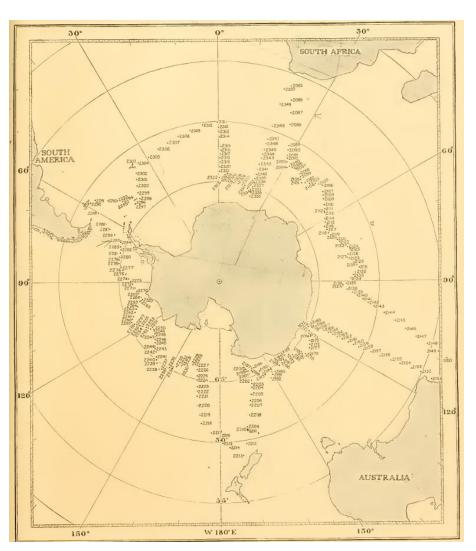






Progress so far

- Keying of 'Discovery Reports'
 - UK research ship
 - 1930s
 - Antarctic circumnavigations
 - Oceanographic and biological (plankton) research
 - Sub-daily observations of air temp, barom. pressure, SST, ice observations
 - Determined by ACRE to not have been keyed already
 - NIWA team keyed ~5000 observations during 2016 within AA domain





Archive imaging

- Logbooks and other material imaged in 2016
 - Christian Salvesen Archive, University of Edinburgh
 - 2,700 images
 - · Whaling ships
 - 1930s 1960s
 - Vestfold Archive, Sandefjord, Norway
 - 30,500 images
 - Whaling ships, research vessels, land station in Antarctica
 - 1890s 1960s
- National Meteorological Archive, UK
 - 18,000 images
- UK National Archive, Scott Polar Research Inst., British Antarctic Survey
 - 27,000 images



Excerpt from log of Norwegian whaling ship *Thorshammer*, Dec 1955, from Vestfold Archive



What's next?

- Images from Northern Hemisphere archives recently received at NIWA
- NIWA team will prioritise logs for keying based on:
 - Subdomain coverage
 - Temporal coverage
 - Climate variables recorded
- Key priority logs working on citizen science to assist with this (e.g. OldWeather)
- Meanwhile, Clive will image logs in more archives in the UK and Europe
- Engage with researchers who can assist in contributing to data rescue for ACRE
- Help other 'overlap' regions for ACRE (Chile and Argentina) by identifying data sources

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LANGITUDE

Whale Fishery Catch Book

Factory Ship *Terje Viken* Nov/Dec 1937 Hubert. Lamb Archive, CRU/UEA





-N-LWA Taihoro Nukurangi

Thank you

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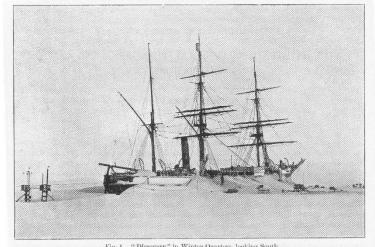


Fig. 1. "Discovery" in Winter Quarters, looking South.

