The airship ZEPPELIN NT as a measurement platform in the planetary boundary layer: ZEPTER-1

F. Holland, B. Bohn, T. Brauers, U. Corsmeier\(^3\), H. Geiß, R. Häseler, K.-P. Heue\(^2\), H.-P. Heuser\(^4\), A. Hofzumahaus, T. Hohaus, A. Kiendler-Scharr, P. Knieling\(^1\), R. Koppmann\(^1\), Ch. Kottmeier\(^3\), M. Krebsbach\(^1\), Th. Mentel, A. Oebel, H.-W. Pätz, D. Raak, F. Rohrer, N. Rohrer, H. Spahn, R. Tillmann, B. Vogel\(^3\), A. Volz-Thomas, R. Wegener, A. Wahner

Forschungszentrum Jülich, Institut für Chemie und Dynamik der Geosphäre: Troposphäre
\(^1\)Bergische Univ. Wuppertal, Fachgruppe Physik: Atmosphärenphysik
\(^2\)Ruprecht-Karls-Univ. Heidelberg, Institut für Umweltphysik: Troposphären-Gruppe
\(^3\)Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe, Institut für Meteorologie und Klimaforschung: Troposphäre

In July 2007 the airship ZEPPELIN NT was equipped with a suite of instruments to measure the distribution of different trace gases, aerosols and short-lived radicals in the planetary boundary layer together with radiation fluxes and different meteorological parameters. Some of the instruments were mounted on a platform on top of the airship to allow for an undisturbed sampling of air. During the first five days of ZEPTER-1 the airship was deployed at its home base Friedrichshafen mainly flying vertical profiles over Lake Constance. Thereafter the airship was transferred to the COPS/TRACKS operation base at airport Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden. From that location the airship flew a number of tracks into the Murg and Kinzig valley in the Black Forest, several vertical profiles over the Bienwald and a first pseudo-Lagrangian experiment north-east of Karlsruhe.

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