



An overview of atmospheric circulation reconstructions from Antarctic ice core data

A. Russell (1), G. R. McGregor (2) and G. J. Marshall (3)

(1) Centre for Atmospheric Science, School of Earth, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, University of Manchester, UK, (2) Department of Geography, King's College London, UK, (3) British Antarctic Survey, Natural Environment Research Council, Cambridge, UK (andrew.russell-2@manchester.ac.uk / Phone: +44 161 3063918)

The importance of atmospheric circulation changes can clearly be seen when examining the dynamic climate of the Antarctic Peninsula. Furthermore, changes in the atmospheric circulation regimes of the high-latitude southern hemisphere are believed to also have impacted the continental climate of Antarctica. With this in mind, many workers have attempted to gain an insight into past atmospheric circulation changes using the atmospheric signals that can be found in Antarctic ice core data. It is the aim of this paper to give an overview of this body of work and present a summary of atmospheric circulation reconstructions for the high-latitude southern hemisphere as gleaned from Antarctic ice core data. This will largely be based on inferred periods of strong or weak activity of established circulation patterns such as the Southern Annular Mode (SAM), which is also known as the Antarctic Oscillation (AAO), the Semi-annual Oscillation (SAO) and those patterns associated with ENSO.