



Cloud Composition

Water is that its saturation vapor pressure is lower over ice than over liquid water. This means that air of 100% relative humidity, figured with respect to liquid water, has a relative humidity much greater than 100% when figured with respect to ice.

Ice crystals will continue to grow at the expense of the water droplets, which evaporate, yielding the resulting vapor to the ice crystals. Once the ice crystals reach a size that overcomes the vertical air currents suspending them, they fall to the ground as precipitation.

The growth of ice crystals and the subsequent precipitation at the expense of water droplets is called the Bergeron-Findeisen process and is the primary process for producing precipitation precipitation..

CThe COMET Program cloud drop is 1/1 millionth the size of a rain drop