

NSF Perspective on UAS

- ▶ Generally NSF has not been a player in the UAS arena – too rich for our blood.
- ▶ Exceptions
 - Airborne Vertical Atmospheric Profiling System (AVAPS)



Exceptions continued

- ▶ UAS (Tempest)
 - Developed for VORTEX 2, sampling of environment of a severe storm
 - Limited, university-based effort
 - Small UAS, local use, line of sight
 - Reasonably successful. Some good observations and good technical operational lessons learned Including how to work with FAA in domestic airspace



Exceptions continued

- ▶ Office of Polar Programs supports via three separate universities three different UAS that vary in size from small to large (one to several meter wing span).
- ▶ Both autonomous and remotely piloted.
- ▶ Observational capability include state parameters, thermal fluxes, atmospheric chemistry and ice penetrating radar



Future

- ▶ Currently, NSF has no long range plans to invest heavily in UAS beyond the above examples.

