

# Particle-based cloud microphysics: rationale, state of the art and challenges

Sylwester Arabas  
Jagiellonian University

uj.edu.pl

# Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland



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❖ founded in 1364, among 20 world oldest (in cont. operation)



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- ❏ ca. 40 000
- ❏ American Studies since 1991, Dept of Canada since 2001

A screenshot of the website for the Department of Canada at Jagiellonian University. The header is blue with the text "Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora" and navigation icons for accessibility (AAA), search, and language (PL). Below the header are the university's coat of arms and a navigation menu with links for NEWS, INSTITUTE, CANDIDATES, STUDIES, and CONTACT. The main content area features a blue banner with a city skyline and the text "DEPARTMENT OF CANADA". Below the banner, a paragraph of text describes the department's history: "The first lectures on Canadian issues were offered at the Jagiellonian University in the academic year of 1997-1998 and they were gradually extended as a part of the American studies program, functioning within the Interfaculty Department of American Studies. In October 2001, the Department of Canada was established as a part of the structure of the Institute of Regional Studies of the Jagiellonian University."

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- ❖ 1917 Smoluchowski elected as Rector (professor since 1913)

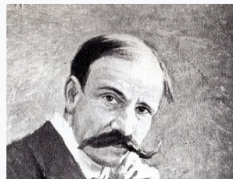
# Maurycy Pius Rudzki (1862–1916)

## Maurycy Pius Rudzki

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Maurycy Pius Rudzki** (b. 1862, d. 1916) was the first person to call himself a professor of geophysics. He held the Chair of Geophysics at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, and established the Institute of Geophysics there in 1895. His research specialty was elastic anisotropy, as applied to wave propagation in the earth, and he established many of the fundamental results in that arena. <sup>[1]</sup>

**Maurycy Pius Rudzki**



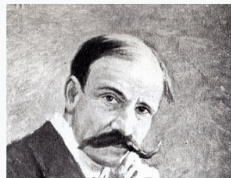
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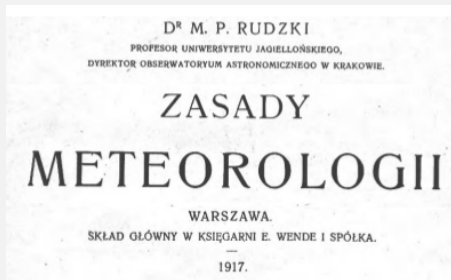
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**Maurycy Pius Rudzki**



## “Principles of Meteorology” book (1917)





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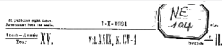
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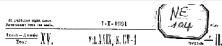
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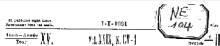
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# particle-based $\mu$ -physics: rationale

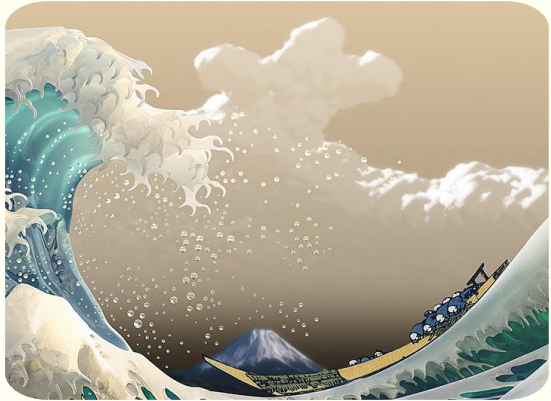
# aerosol-cloud interactions: conceptual picture

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# aerosol-cloud interactions: conceptual picture

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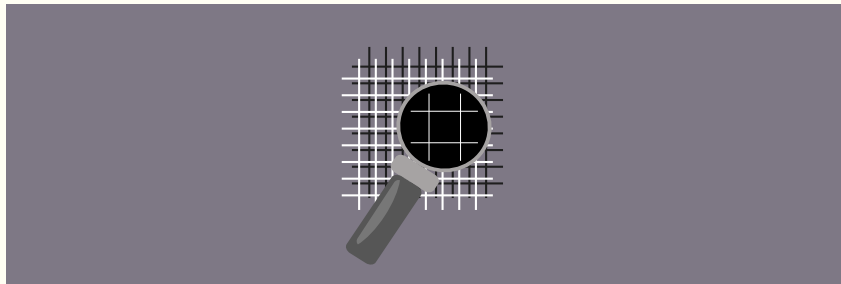
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- aqueous chemical reactions irreversibly modify the drop composition
- rain drops precipitate washing out aerosol
- rain drops evaporate into aerosol particles of potentially altered size and/or composition (collisions, chemistry)

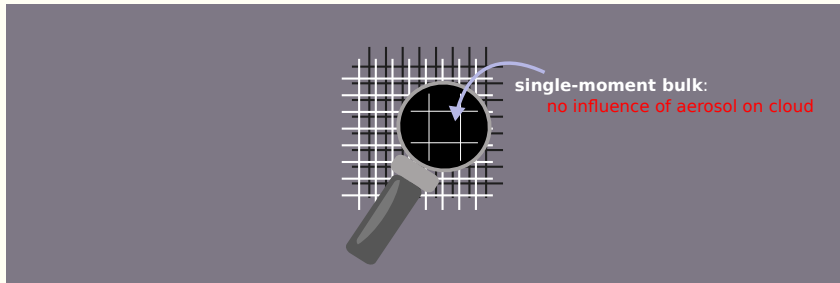


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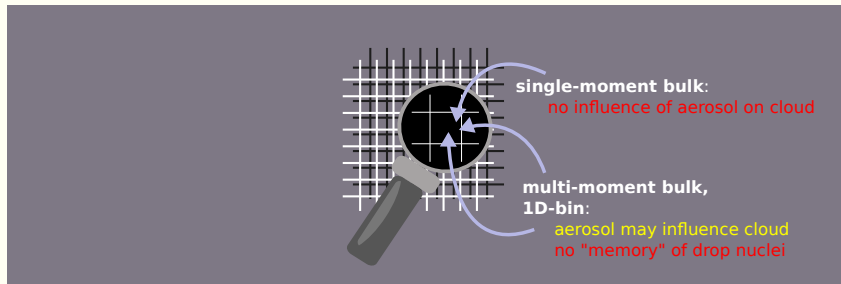
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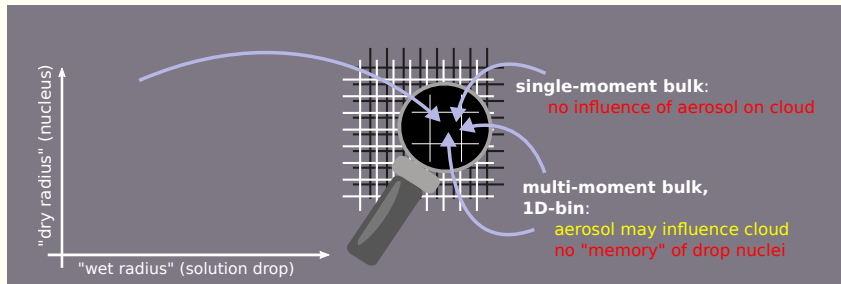
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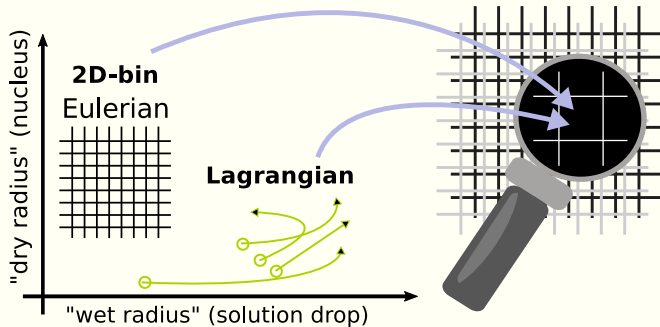
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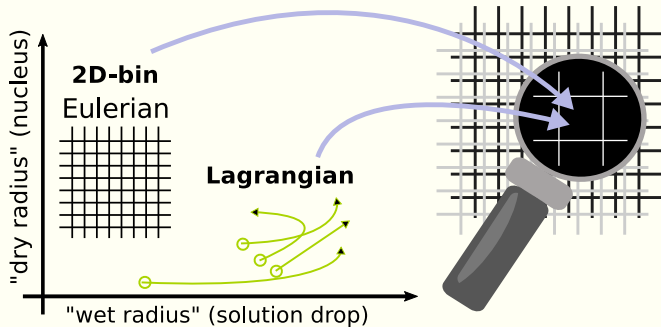
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## Pioneering warm-rain aerosol-cloud-interaction models:

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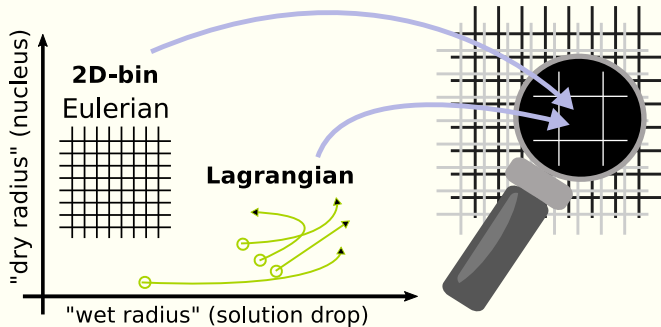
condensation: Lagrangian  
collisions: Eulerian

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## Shima et al.: stochastic coalescence and random phase-space sampling

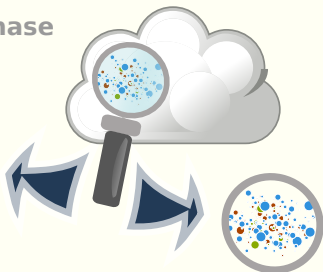
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**continuous phase**

(moist air)



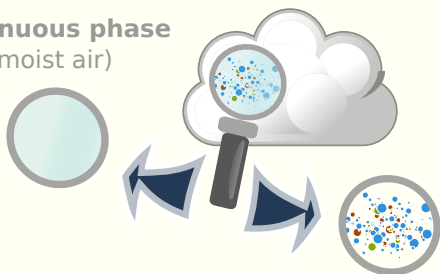
**dispersed phase**

(aerosol particles, cloud droplets, drizzle, rain, snow, ...)

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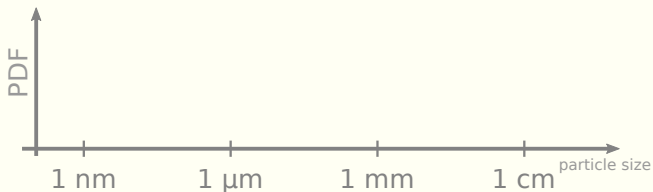
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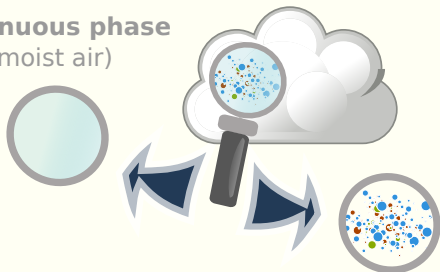
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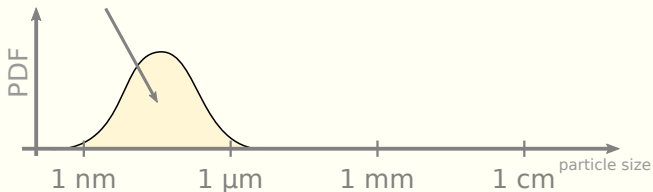
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(moist air)



**dispersed phase**

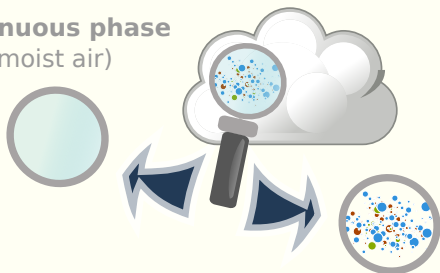
(aerosol particles, cloud droplets, drizzle, rain, snow, ...)



# Lagrangian $\mu$ -physics

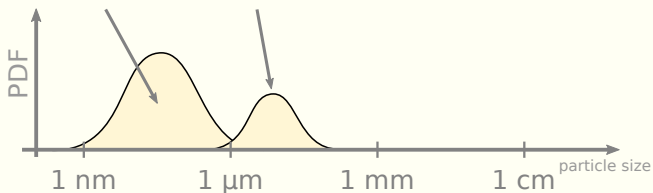
**continuous phase**

(moist air)



**dispersed phase**

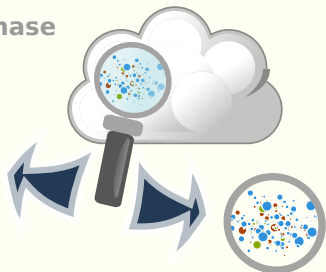
(aerosol particles, cloud droplets, drizzle, rain, snow, ...)



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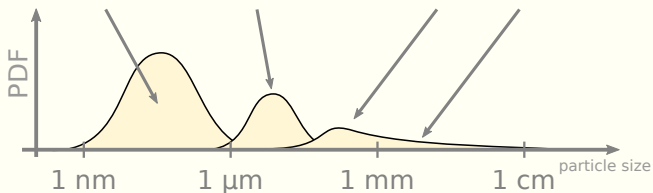
**continuous phase**

(moist air)



**dispersed phase**

(aerosol particles, cloud droplets, drizzle, rain, snow, ...)

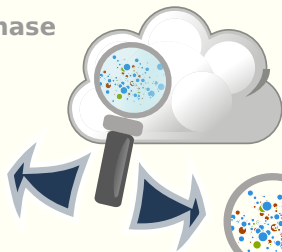




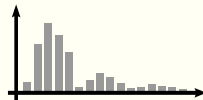
# Lagrangian $\mu$ -physics

**continuous phase**

(moist air)

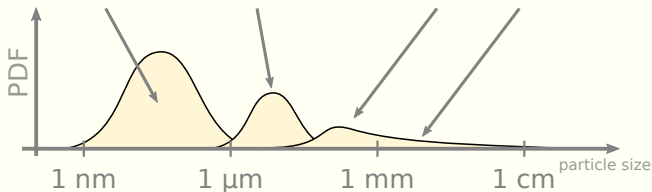


**discretisation**



**dispersed phase**

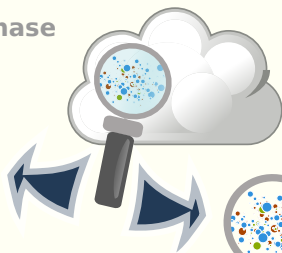
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# Lagrangian $\mu$ -physics

**continuous phase**

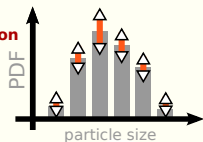
(moist air)



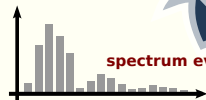
**discretisation**



**Eulerian representation**

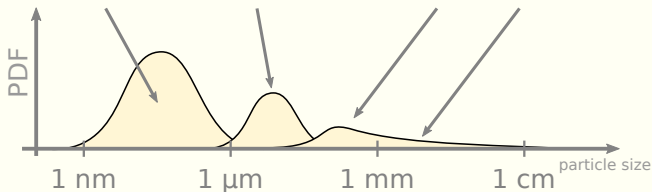


**spectrum evolution**



**dispersed phase**

(aerosol particles, cloud droplets, drizzle, rain, snow, ...)



# Lagrangian $\mu$ -physics

**continuous phase**

(moist air)



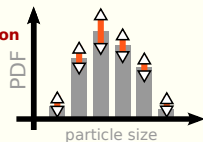
**discretisation**



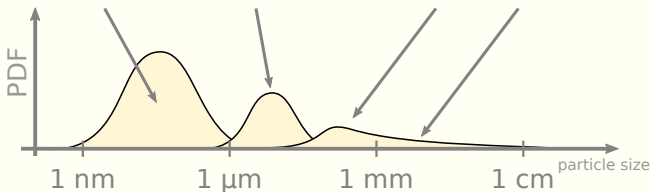
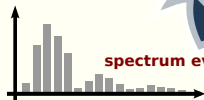
**dispersed phase**

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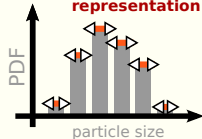
**Eulerian representation**



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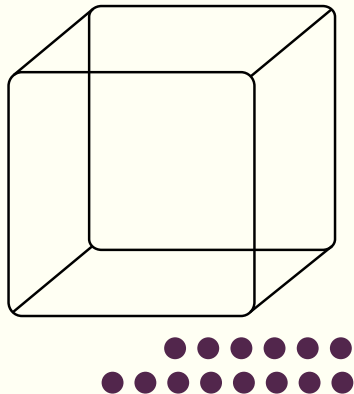


**Lagrangian representation**

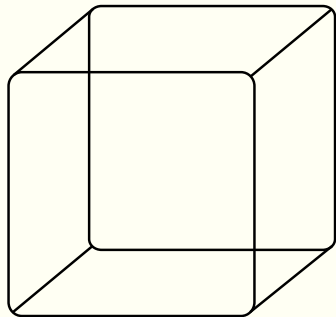


## particle-based $\mu$ -physics: key concepts

Domain randomly populated with  
"  $\mu$ -physics information carriers"  
(super particles / super droplets)



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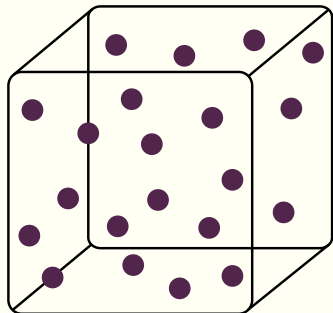


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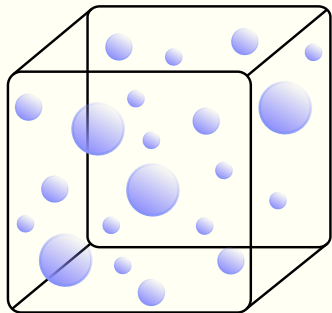


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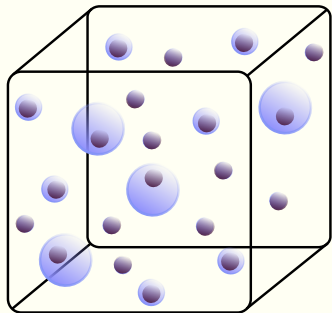


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carrier attributes:

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- ❏ wet radius

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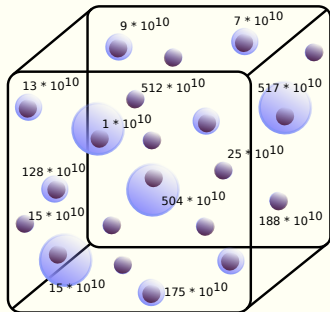
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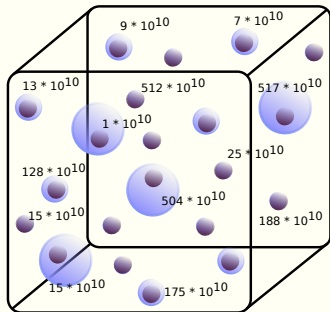


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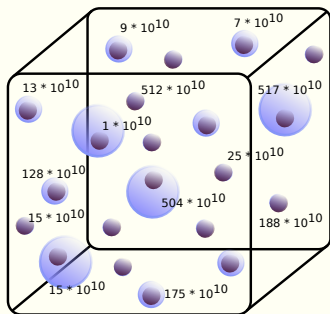


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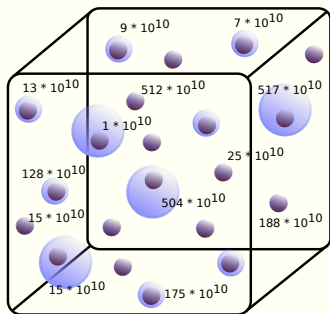
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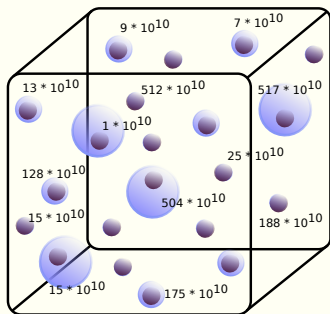
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(ice, chemistry, charge, isotopic  
composition, ...)

# particle-based $\mu$ -physics: coupling with the host model

Eulerian / PDE

Lagrangian / ODE

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advection of moisture

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particle transport by the flow

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condensational growth  
collisional growth  
sedimentation



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Lagrangian / ODE

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in-particle aqueous chemistry

...

challenges:

- ❑ scalability (cost vs. number of particles),
- ❑ super-particles “conservation” (coalescence!)

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- for all  $n$  super-droplets in a grid box of volume  $\Delta V$  in timestep  $\Delta t$

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↪ there's always a "bin" of the right size to store the collided particles

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- ❖ collisions triggered by comparing a uniform random number with  $P_{ij}$
- ❖  $[n/2]$  random non-overlapping  $(i, j)$  pairs examined instead of all  $(i, j)$  pairs  
cost:  $O(n^2) \rightsquigarrow O(n)$ , probability upscaled by  $\frac{n \cdot (n-1)}{2} / \left[ \frac{n}{2} \right]$

# example simulation (2D, prescribed flow)

Geosci. Model Dev., 8, 1677-1707, 2015

<https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-8-1677-2015>

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Model description paper | 09 Jun 2015

## **libcloudph++ 1.0: a single-moment bulk, double-moment bulk, and particle-based warm-rain microphysics library in C++**

S. Arabas<sup>1</sup>, A. Jaruga<sup>1</sup>, H. Pawlowska<sup>1</sup>,  
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<sup>1</sup>Institute of Geophysics, Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland

<sup>2</sup>National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR),  
Boulder, CO, USA

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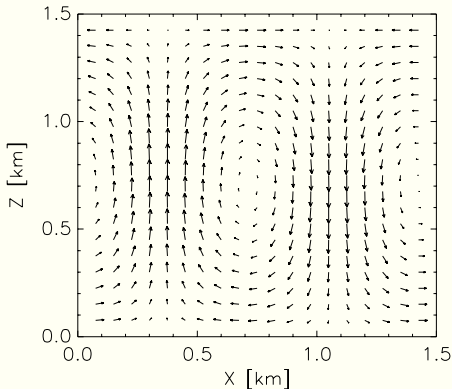
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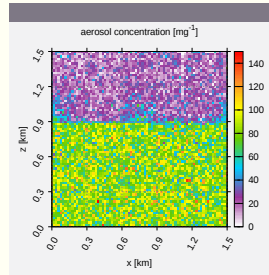
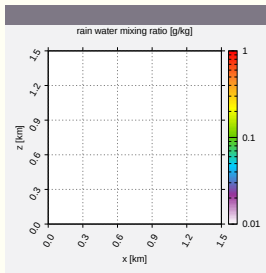
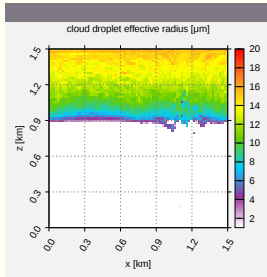
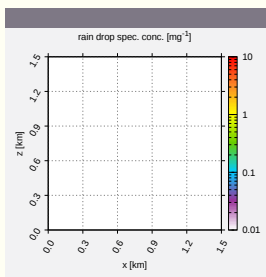
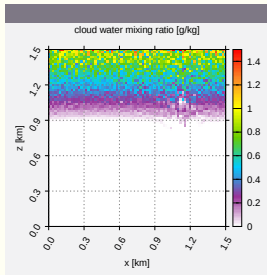
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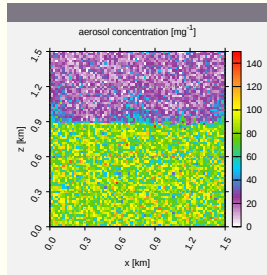
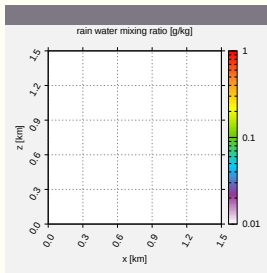
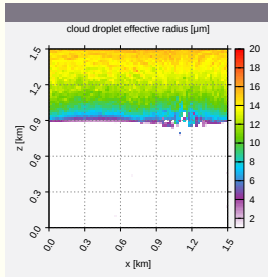
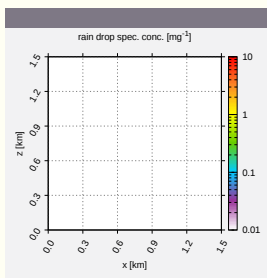
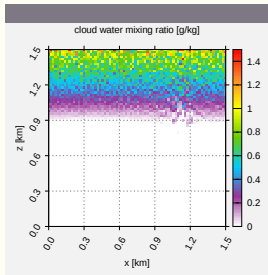
# example simulation (Arabas et al. 2015, GMD)

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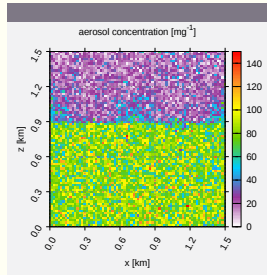
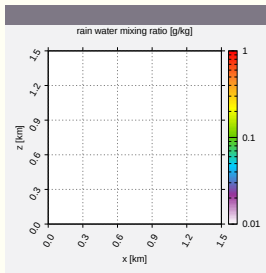
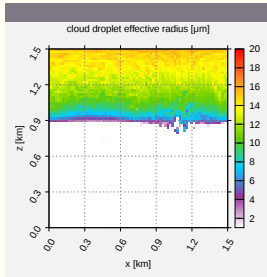
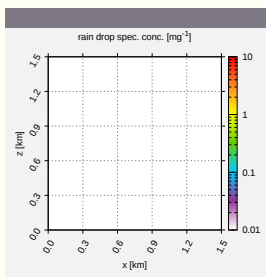
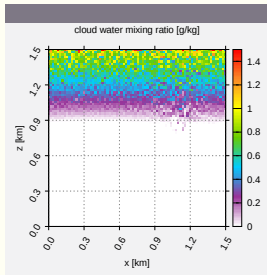
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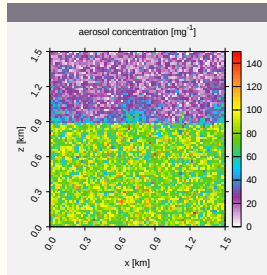
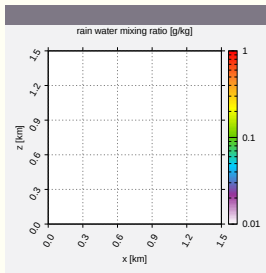
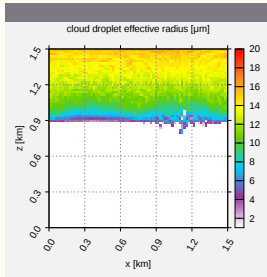
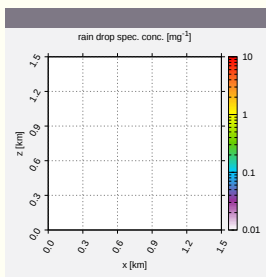
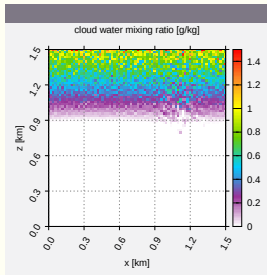
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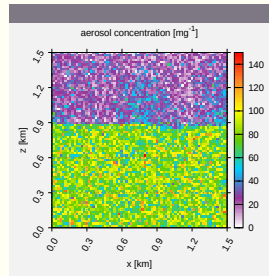
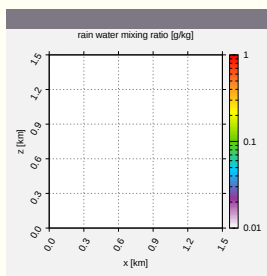
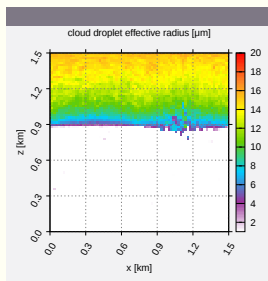
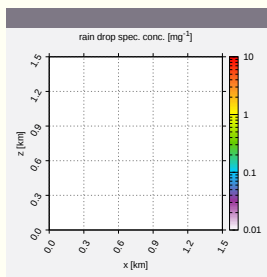
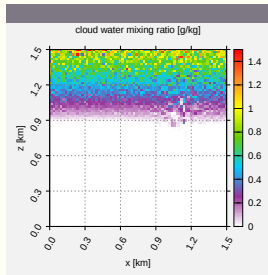






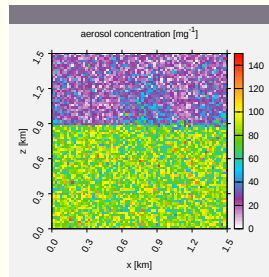
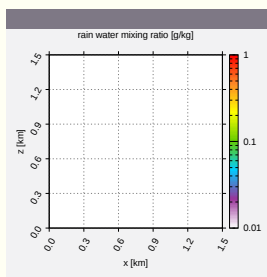
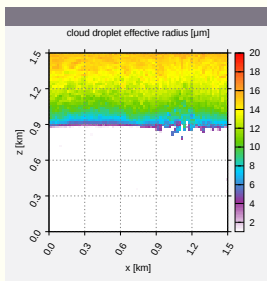
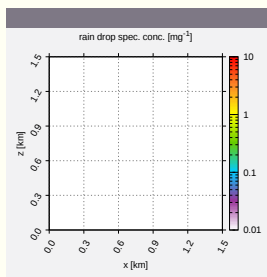
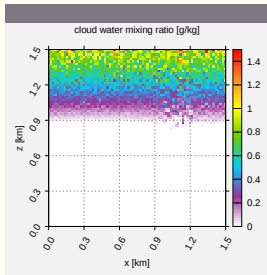
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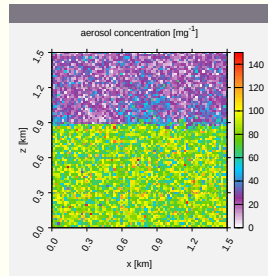
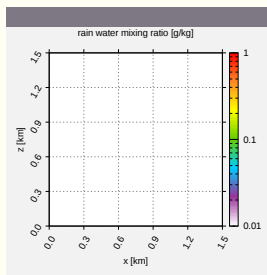
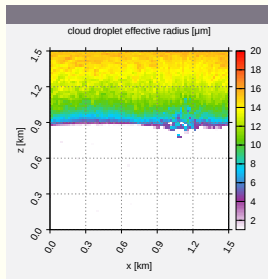
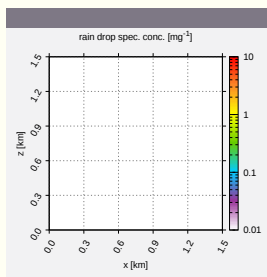
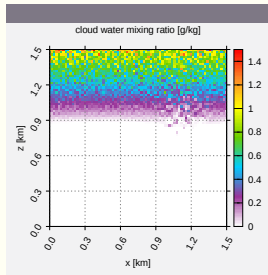
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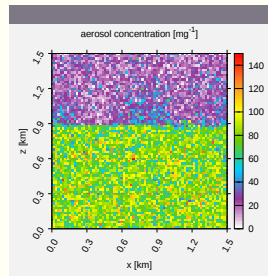
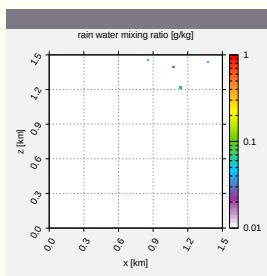
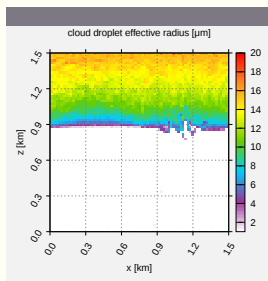
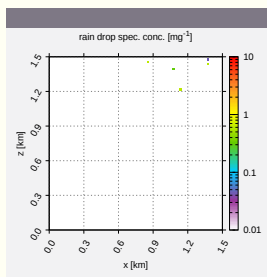
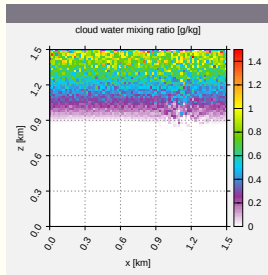


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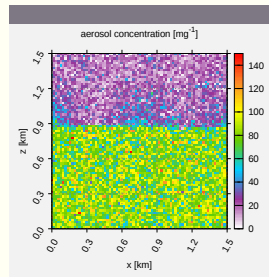
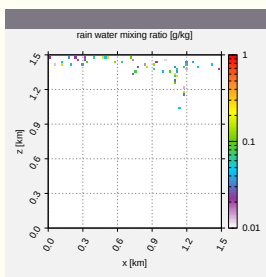
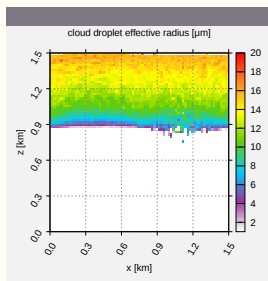
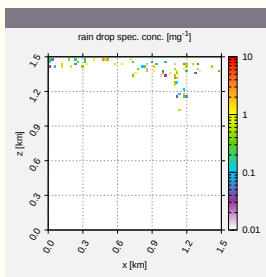
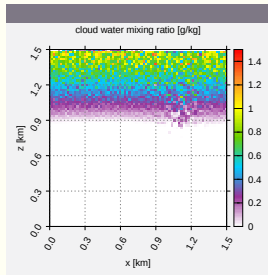


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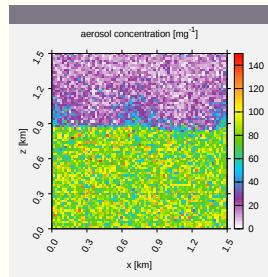
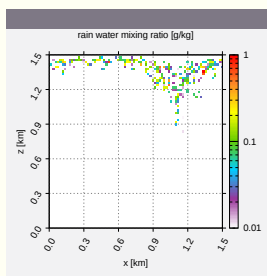
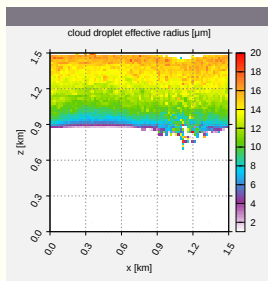
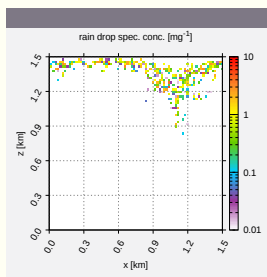
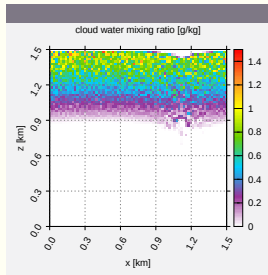


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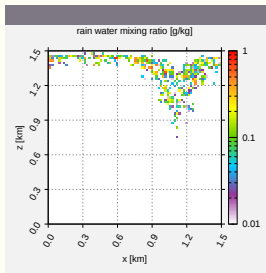
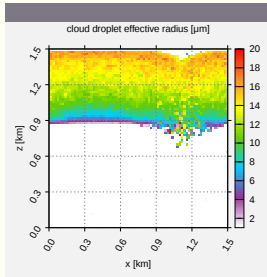
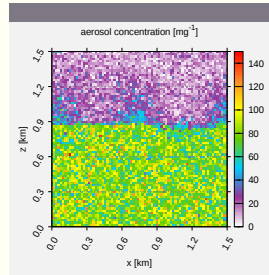
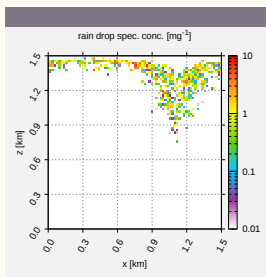
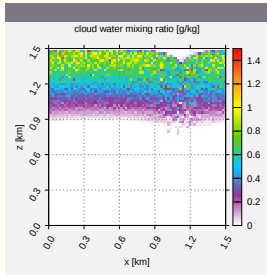




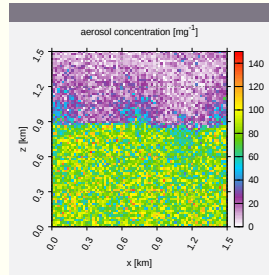
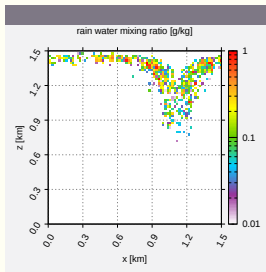
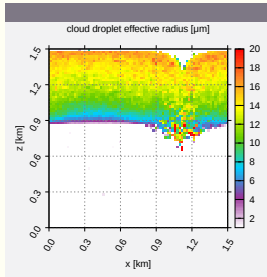
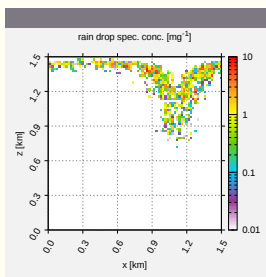
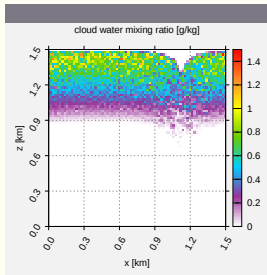
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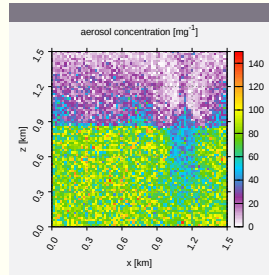
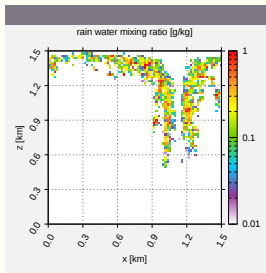
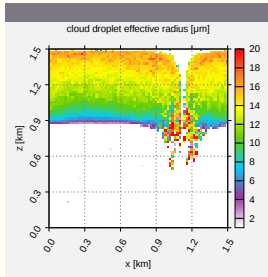
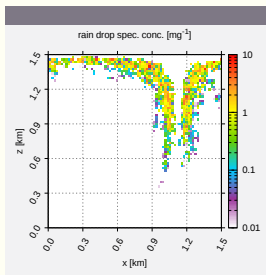
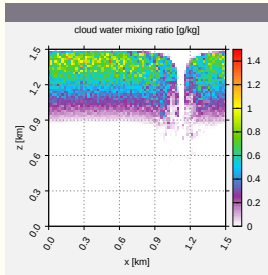






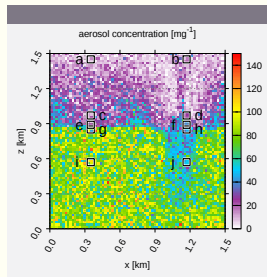
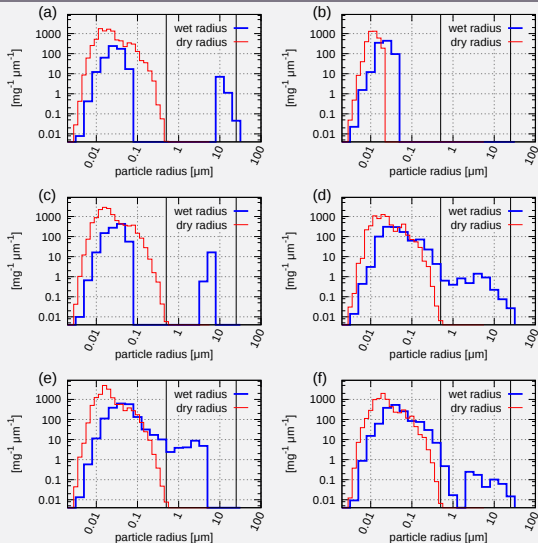


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## particle size spectra



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- ❖ UWLCM (<http://github.com/igfuw/UWLCM>) from Univ. Warsaw.

## highlights

- ❏ particle-based microphysics vs. particle-based measurements
- ❏ new particle formation studies

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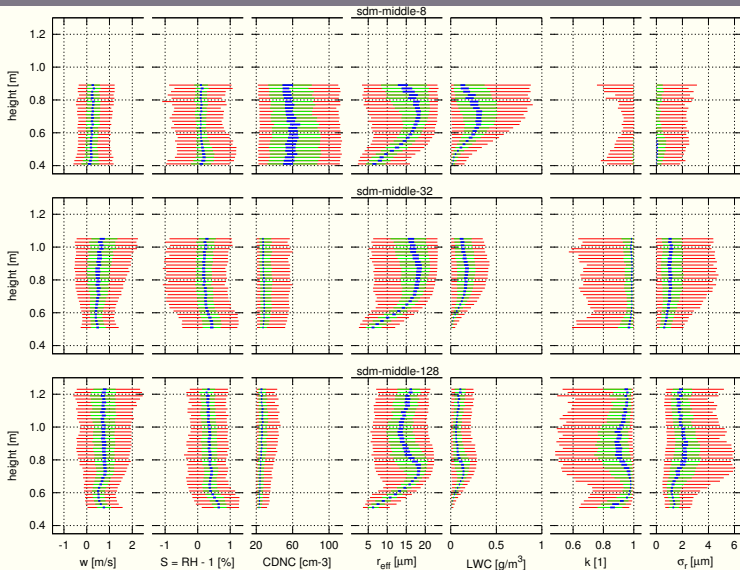
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## references

- ❖ **Arabas & Shima 2013** (JAS): *“Large Eddy Simulations of Trade-Wind Cumuli using Particle-Based Microphysics with Monte-Carlo Coalescence”*
- ❖ **Shima, Hasegawa & Kusano 2015** (EGU Vienna): *“Preliminary numerical study on the cumulus-stratus transition induced by the increase of formation rate of aerosols”*



# CReSS - RICO 24h LES of cumulus cloud field



(Arabas & Shima 2013, JAS)

## highlights

- ❑ Hoppel-gap resolving aqueous chemistry
- ❑ GPU-resident microphysics in C++

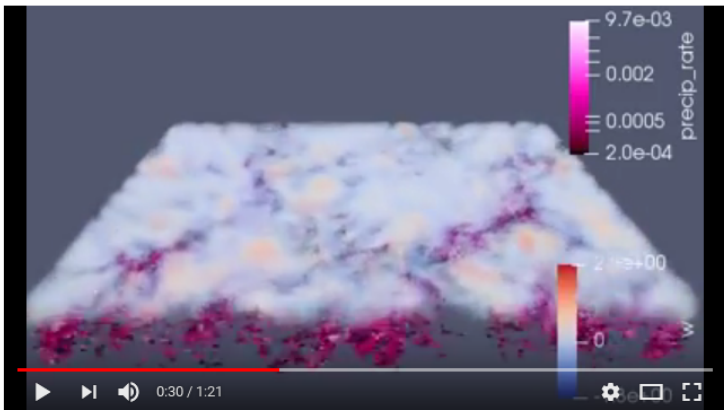
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## references

- ❏ Arabas, Jaruga, Pawlowska & Grabowski 2015 (GMD): *“libcloudph++ 1.0: single-moment bulk, double-moment bulk, and particle-based warm-rain microphysics. . .”*
- ❏ Jaruga & Pawlowska 2018 (GMD): *“libcloudph++ 1.1: aqueous phase chemistry extension of the Lagrangian cloud microphysics scheme”*
- ❏ Dziekan & Pawlowska 2017 (ACP): *“Stochastic coalescence in Lagrangian cloud microphysics”*
- ❏ Grabowski & Abade 2017 (JAS): *“Broadening of cloud droplet spectra through eddy hopping: Turbulent adiabatic parcel simulations”*
- ❏ Grabowski, Dziekan & Pawlowska 2018 (GMD): *“Lagrangian condensation microphysics with Twomey CCN activation”*
- ❏ Dziekan, Waruszewski & Pawlowska 2019 (GMD): *“University of Warsaw Lagrangian Cloud Model (UWLCM)...”*

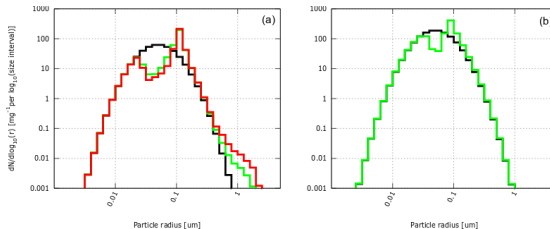
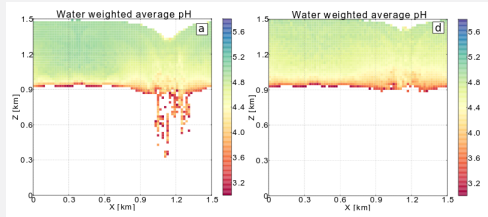
# UWLCM - DYCOMS example



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEidkhpw-MA>

# UWLCM: Hoppel-gap resolving particle-based $\mu$ -physics

Jaruga and Pawlowska 2018 (doi: 10.5194/gmd-11-3623-2018)



**Figure 6.** The size distributions of dry radii for the base case (a) and case3 (b). The initial dry radius size distribution is marked in black, the final dry radius size distribution from grid cells with  $r_c > 0.01 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$  in green, and from grid cells with  $r_t > 0.01 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$  in red. See Tables 2 and 3 for a definition of simulation set-ups.

# challenges ( $\rightsquigarrow$ opportunities )

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- ❖ **hybrid supercomputing** adaptable (GPU-resident particles)

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- ❖ **Eulerian/Lagrangian** dynamics consistency (resolved and subgrid)
- ❖ **commensurable comparisons** wrt bin/bulk: “aerosol water”, cannot “switch off” aerosol processing, ripening, etc (ab-initio)
- ❖ **charge, isotopic ratio, ...**

# MODELING OF CLOUD MICROPHYSICS

Can We Do Better?

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The Lagrangian particle-based approach is an emerging technique to model cloud microphysics and its coupling with dynamics, offering significant advantages over Eulerian approaches typically used in cloud models.

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