

PySDM: particle-based cloud modeling package with CPU and GPU number-crunching backends

Sylwester Arabas^{1,2}

UIUC Atmospheric Sciences Seminar, 7 Sept. 2021

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²on leave @ Faculty of Math. & CS at uj.edu.pl

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@caltech.edu: A. Jaruga, C. Singer, ...

Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland



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

Plan of the talk

PySDM: context

PySDM: statement of need & goals

PySDM: tour of the features

PySDM: demo (role play: reviewer)

PySDM: technological stack

context: aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions (scales!)



“Cloud and ship. Ukraine, Crimea, Black sea, view from Ai-Petri mountain”
(photo: Yevgen Timashov / National Geographic)

Smoluchowski's coagulation equation (SCE)

concentration of particles of size x at time t : $c(x, t): \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$

collision kernel: $a(x_1, x_2): \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$

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$$\dot{c}(x) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^x a(y, x-y) c(y) c(x-y) dy - \int_0^\infty a(y, x) c(y) c(x) dy \quad (1)$$

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discretised particle concentration: $c_i = c(x_i)$ where $x_i = i \cdot x_0$

$$\dot{c}_i = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} a(x_k, x_{i-k}) c_k c_{i-k} - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a(x_k, x_i) c_k c_i \quad (2)$$

cloud droplet collisional growth

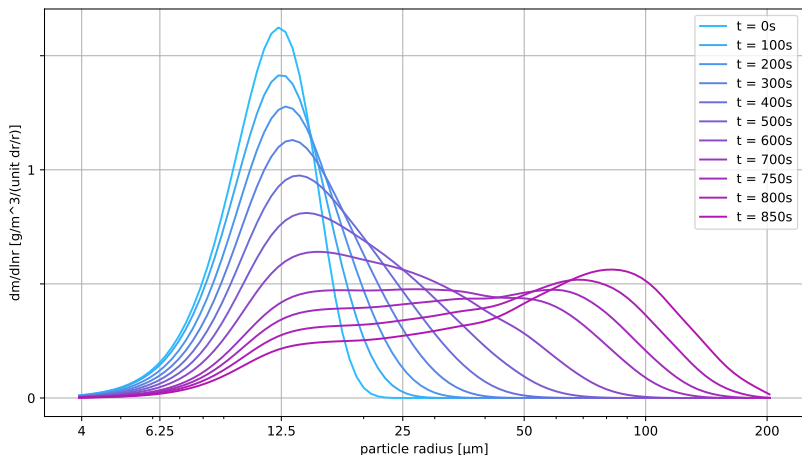


figure (PySDM simulation): Bartman, Arabas et al. 2021, LNCS
(doi:10.1007/978-3-030-77964-1_2)

SCE: challenges/problems

- ▶ analytic solutions known only for simple kernels

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- ▶ ...

Monte-Carlo SCE alternatives: e.g., SDM by Shima et al.

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Shima et al. 2020 (doi:10.5194/gmd-13-4107-2020): mixed-phase

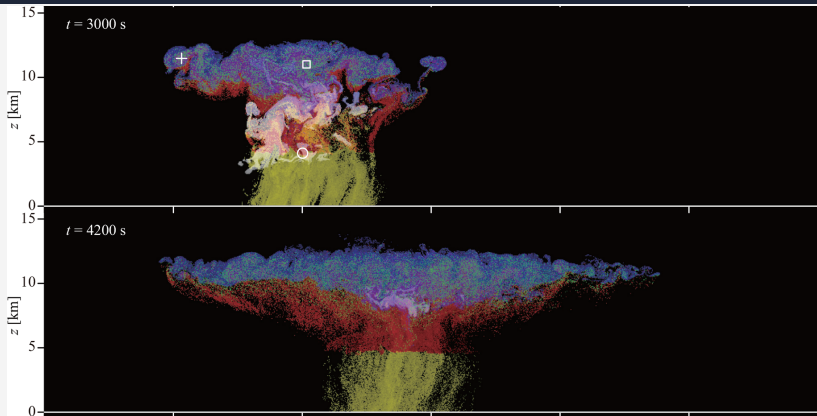


Figure 1. Typical realization of CTRL cloud spatial structures at $t = 2040, 2460, 3000, 4200,$ and 5400 s. The mixing ratio of cloud water, rainwater, cloud ice, graupel, and snow aggregates are plotted in fading white, yellow, blue, red, and green, respectively. The symbols indicate examples of unrealistic predicted ice particles (Sects. 7.3 and 9.1). See also Movie 1 in the video supplement.

Super Droplet Method vs. SCE: differences

method type

mean-field, deterministic

Monte-Carlo, stochastic

considered pairs

all (i,j) pairs

random set of $n_{sd}/2$ non-overlapping pairs, probability up-scaled by $(n_{sd}^2 - n_{sd})/2$ to $n_{sd}/2$ ratio

computation complexity

$\mathcal{O}(n_{sd}^2)$

$\mathcal{O}(n_{sd})$

Super Droplet Method vs. SCE: differences

collisions triggered

every time step

by comparing probability with a random number

collisions

colliding a fraction of $\xi_{[i]}$, $\xi_{[j]}$

collide all of $\min\{\xi_{[i]}, \xi_{[j]}\}$
(all or nothing)

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concentration " c_i " in size bin " i "

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incl. position in space (x_i, y_i, z_i)

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in aerosol community: DeVille, Riemer & West 2011:
Weighted Flow Algorithms (WFA) for stochastic particle coagulation

super-particles as an alternative to bulk or bin μ -physics

Confronting the Challenge of Modeling Cloud and Precipitation Microphysics

Hugh Morrison , Marcus van Lier-Walqui, Ann M. Fridlind, Wojciech W. Grabowski, Jerry Y. Harrington, Corinna Hoose, Alexei Korolev, Matthew R. Kumjian, Jason A. Milbrandt, Hanna Pawlowska, Derek J. Posselt, Olivier P. Prat, Karly J. Reimel, Shin-Ichiro Shima, Bastiaan van Dierenhoven, Lulin Xue

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Journal of Advances in Modeling Earth Systems 10.1029/2019MS001689

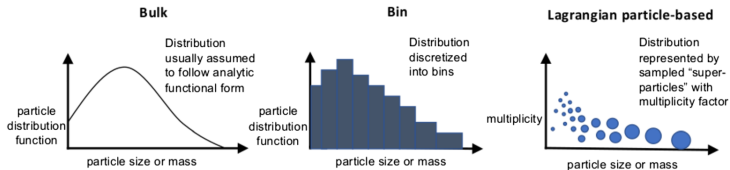


Figure 3. Representation of cloud and precipitation particle distributions in the three main types of microphysics schemes: Bulk (left), bin (center), and particle-based Lagrangian (right). The horizontal axes show particle diameter or mass, and the vertical axes show the number density distribution for the bulk and bin diagrams and “multiplicity” for the Lagrangian particle-based diagram, which is the actual number of particles that each super-particle represents. The size of the blue super-particles in this diagram represents the size or mass of a super-particle. Note that almost all current bulk schemes represent particle distributions using analytic functions, although some earlier schemes did not make any assumptions about the cloud particle distribution and only considered bulk cloud water content.

SDM

PySDM

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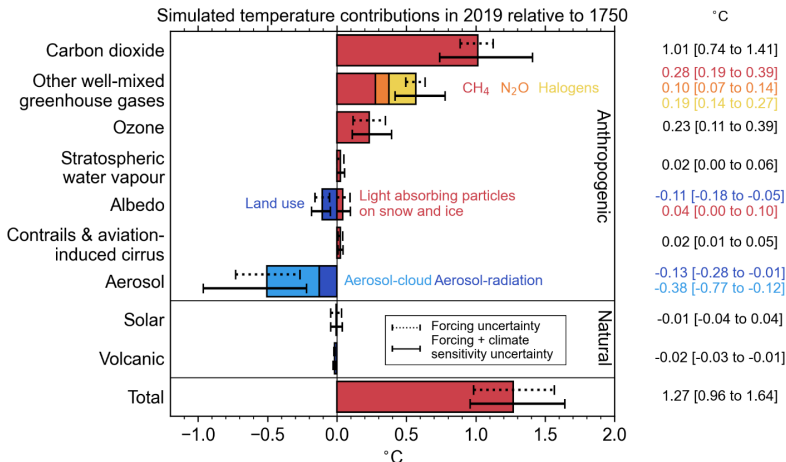


Figure 7.7: The contribution of forcing agents to 2019 temperature change relative to 1750 produced using the two-layer emulator (Supplementary Material 7.SM.2), constrained to assessed ranges for key climate metrics described in Cross-Chapter Box 7.1.

IPCC AR6 WGI: Chapter 7

Final Government Draft

Chapter 7

IPCC AR6 WGI

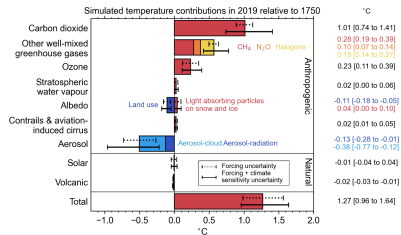


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Summer 2021 news

IPCC AR6 WGI: Chapter 7

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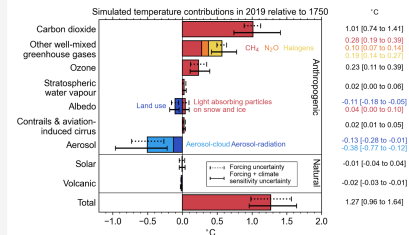


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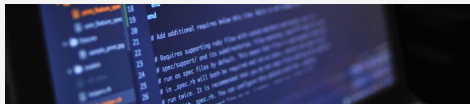
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Adopted by the AMS Council on 16 July 2021

Motivation

Software is an essential component in driving scientific and technical advances in the atmospheric and oceanic sciences, leading to broader societal benefits. Society now relies upon software tools to assist in planning for daily life, improving the efficiency of economic activities, and saving lives when faced with pending natural disasters such as hurricanes. Modern numerical weather prediction (NWP) and ocean circulation models, which provide the foundation for environmental prediction, are essentially software products arising from decades of scientific research. As computational capacity and the complexity of observational networks increase, stewardship of software resulting from research is imperative in many cases. In order to build upon and further the knowledge that has been characterized within current software tools, the community is now expected to produce and curate software that is equitably accessible and easier to be reused by others. Equitable access to software that was used to discover the most recent research findings avoids wasteful duplication of efforts and provides an opportunity for any researcher to more easily build upon the work of others.

PySDM: goals (stimulating overlap with PartMC!)

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- ▶ **accessibility**: seamless Linux/macOS/Windows installation (pip)
KPI: continuous integration on all targeted platforms
- ▶ **curation**: open licensing (GPL), public versioned development (Github)
KPI: instant and anonymous execution on commodity environment

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Atmospheric Cloud Simulation Group @ Jagiellonian University

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PySDM

Pythonic particle-based (super-droplet) warm-rain/aqueous-chemistry cloud microphysics package with box, parcel & 1D/2D prescribed-flow examples in Python, Julia and Matlab

Python 17 14

PyMPDATA

Forked from piotrbartman/PyMPDATA

Numba-accelerated Pythonic implementation of MPDATA with examples in Python, Julia and Matlab

Python 5 7

numba-mpi

Numba @njit MPI wrappers tested on Linux, macOS and Windows

Python 2

PySDM-examples

PySDM usage examples (mostly reproducing results from literature) depicting how to use PySDM in Python, in particular from Jupyter notebooks

Jupyter Notebook 1 4

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Jupyter Notebook 1 3

PySDM: backends, dynamics & environments

“backends”

- ▶ CPU (Numba/LLVM)
- ▶ GPU (ThrustRTC/CUDA)

“dynamics”

- ▶ coalescence (SDM + dt-adaptivity)
- ▶ condensation (dt-adaptive, bespoke semi-implicit ODE solver)
- ▶ displacement (incl. sedimentation)
- ▶ aqueous chemistry (Hoppel gap)
- ▶ immersion freezing (in progress)
- ▶ ...

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“environments”

- ▶ Box
- ▶ Parcel
- ▶ PyMPDATA-based:
 - ▶ Kinematic1D
 - ▶ Kinematic2D
- ▶ PySDMachine.jl (planned)

PySDM: 2D kinematic Sc test (Morrison & Grabowski '07)

2D flow field

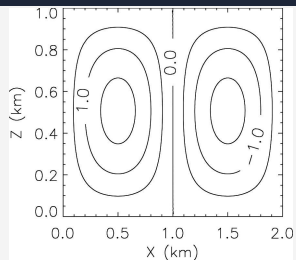
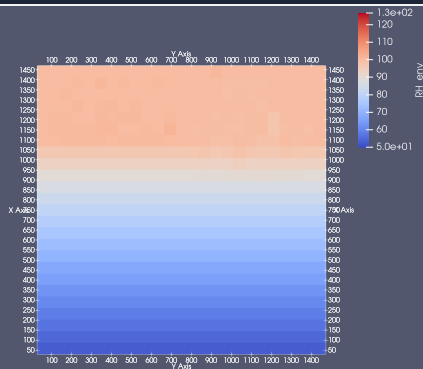
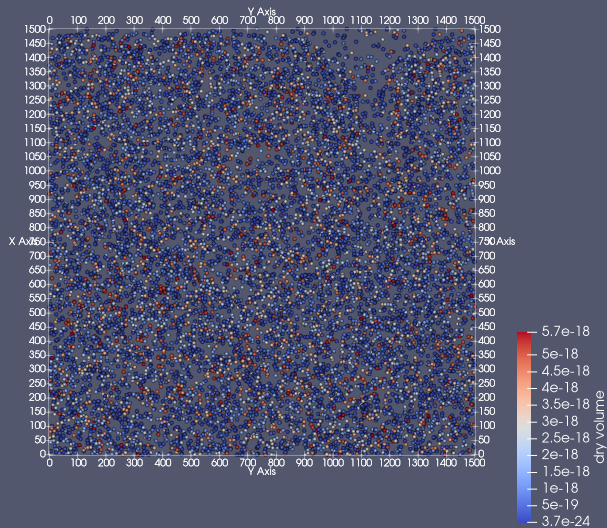


FIG. 1. Time-invariant vertical velocity for the stratocumulus case (contour interval is 0.5 m s⁻¹).

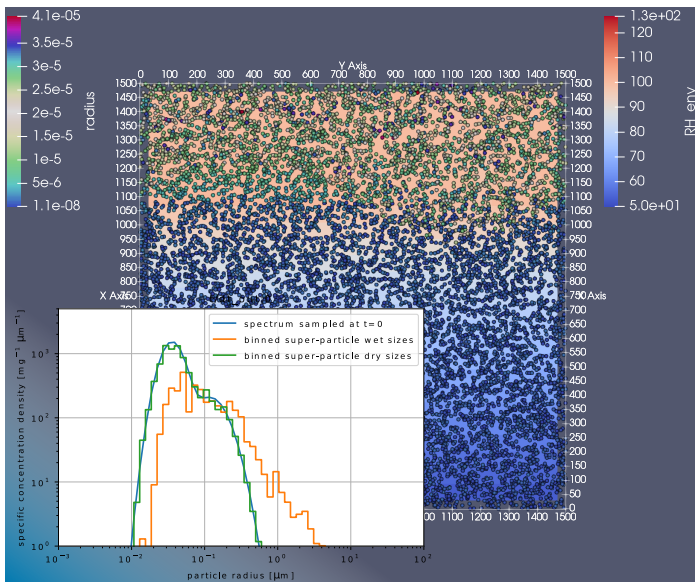
RH profile at t=0



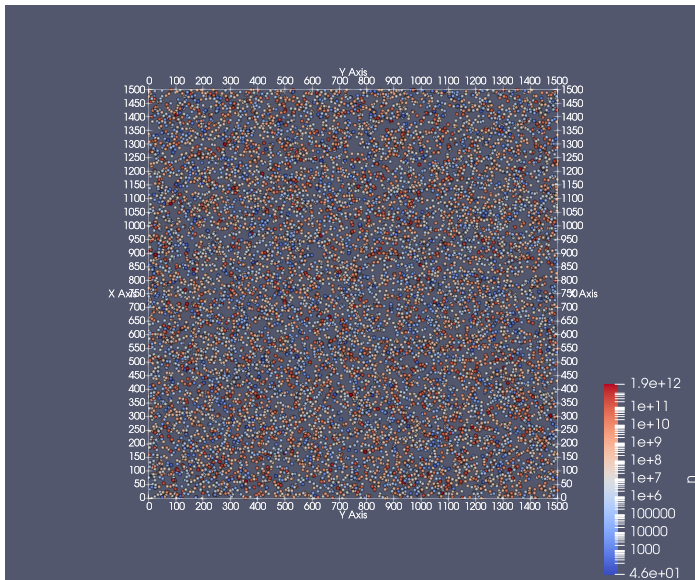
particle attribute initialisation: dry/wet volume



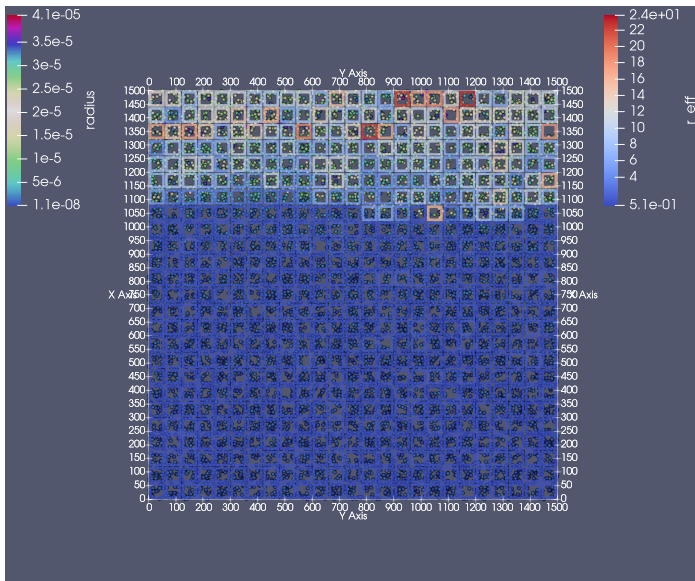
particle attribute initialisation: dry/wet volume



particle attribute initialisation: multiplicity



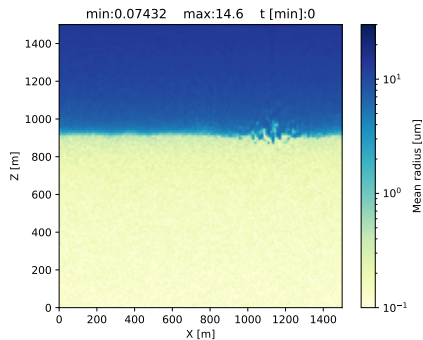
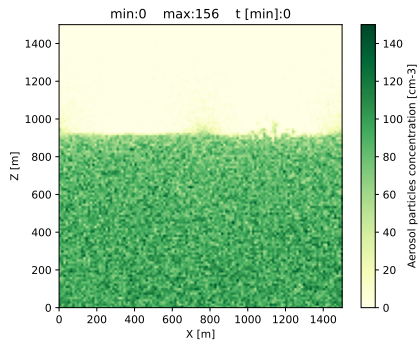
particle attribute evolution: droplet radius



sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

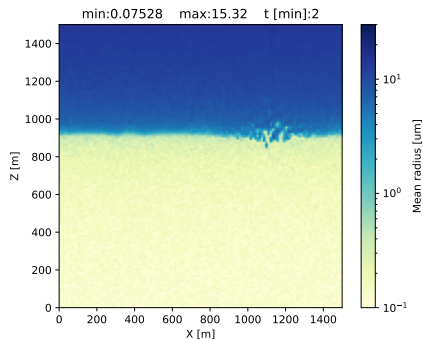
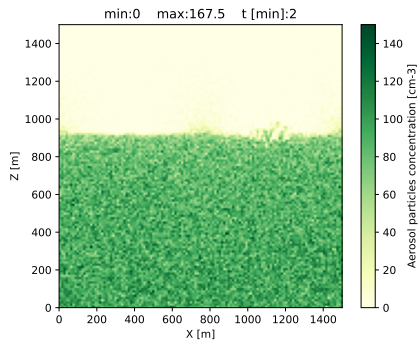
Computational particles: 2^{21}



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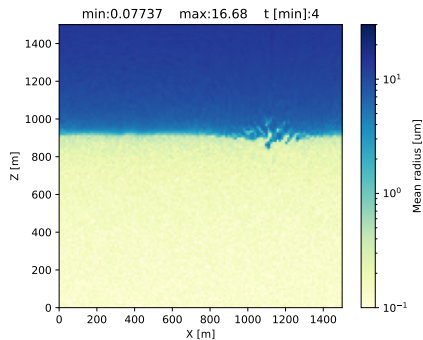
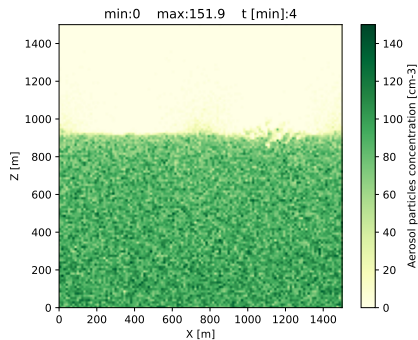
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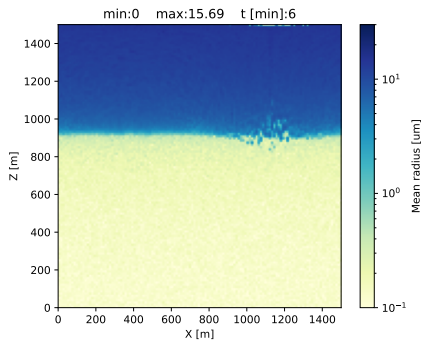
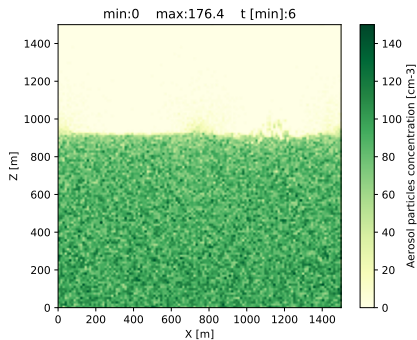
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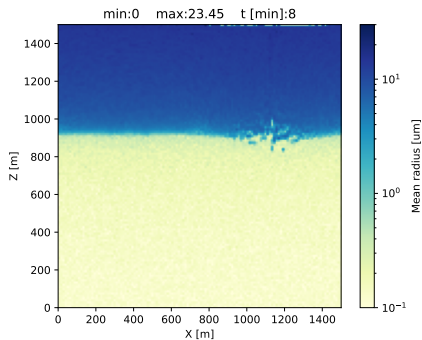
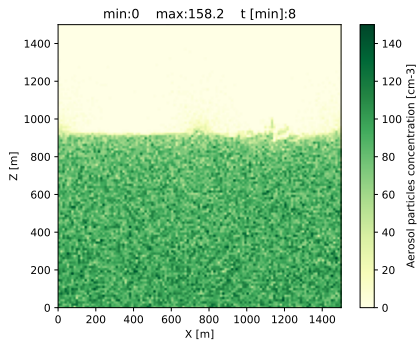
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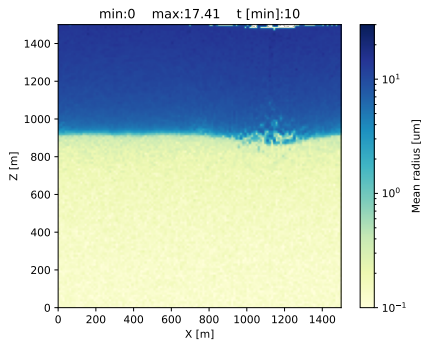
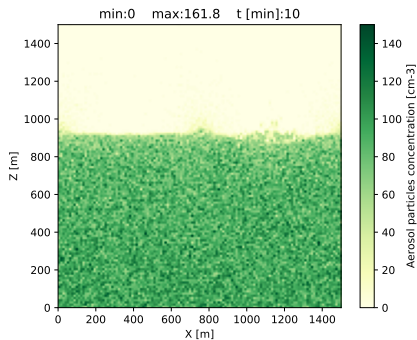
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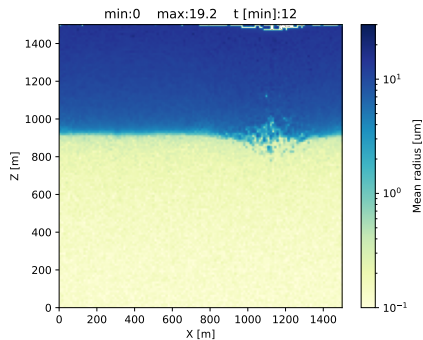
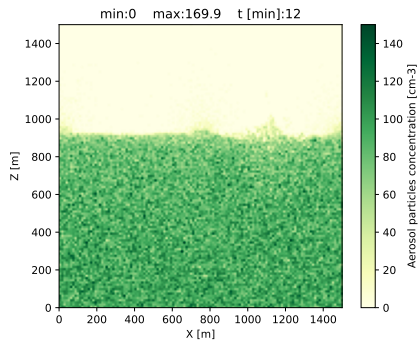
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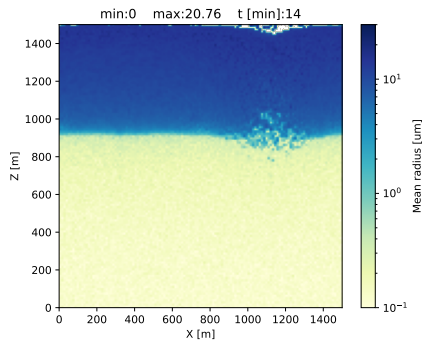
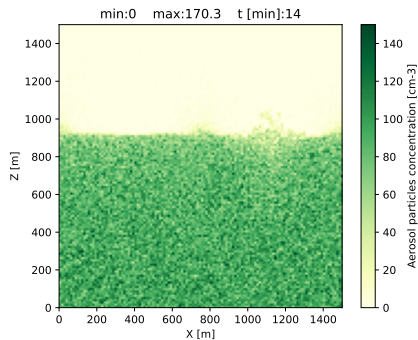
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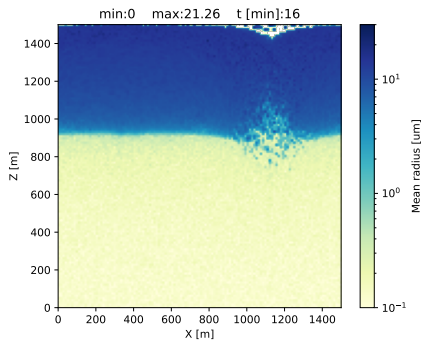
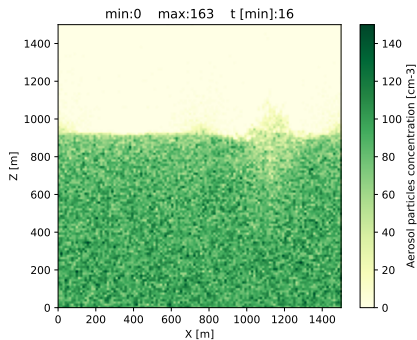
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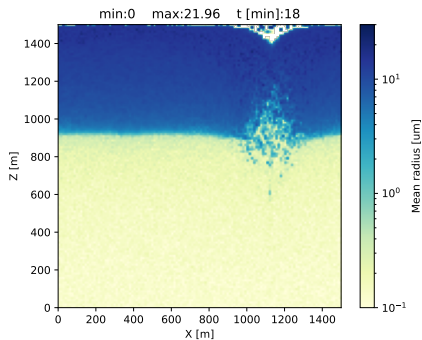
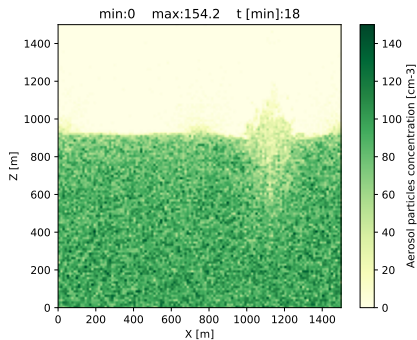
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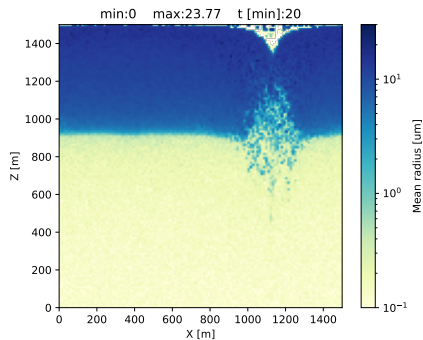
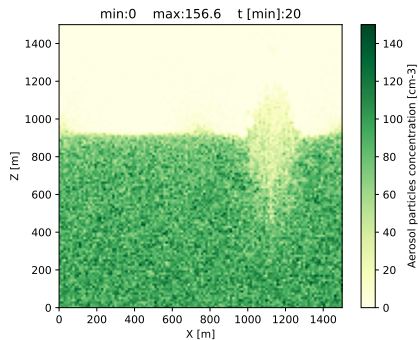
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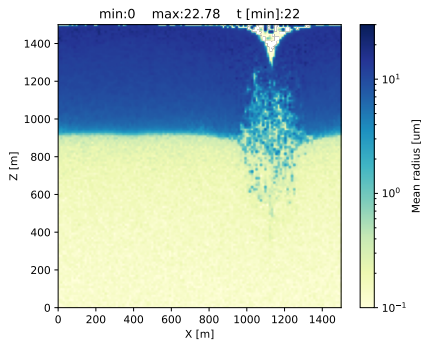
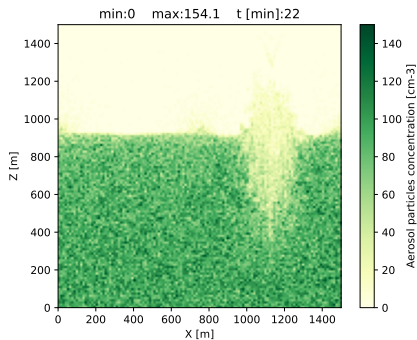
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sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

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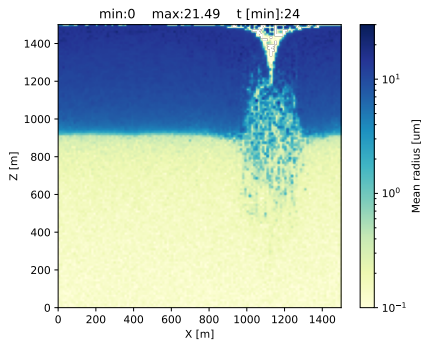
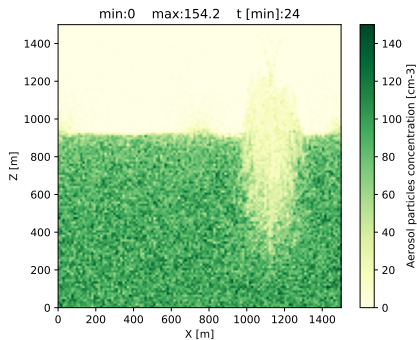
Computational particles: 2^{21}



sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

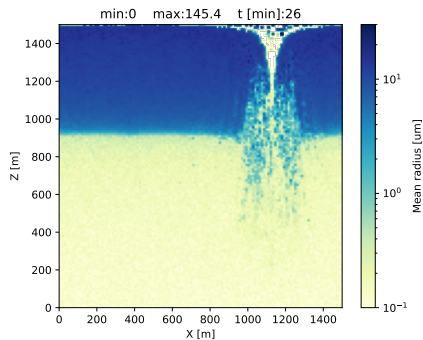
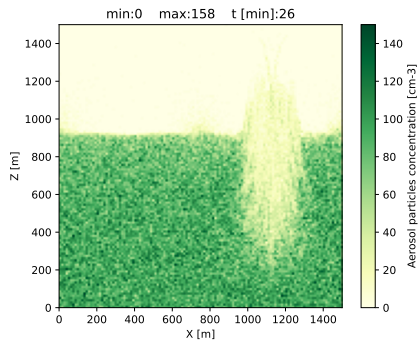
Computational particles: 2^{21}



sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

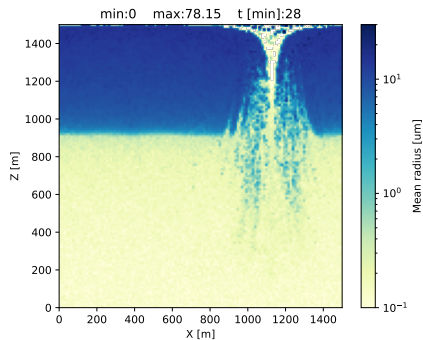
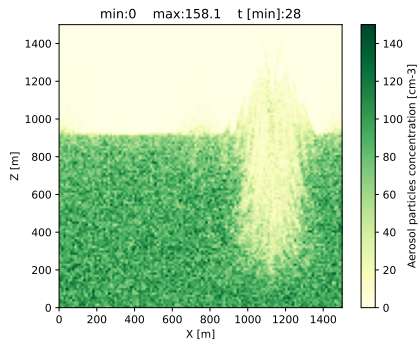
Computational particles: 2^{21}



sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

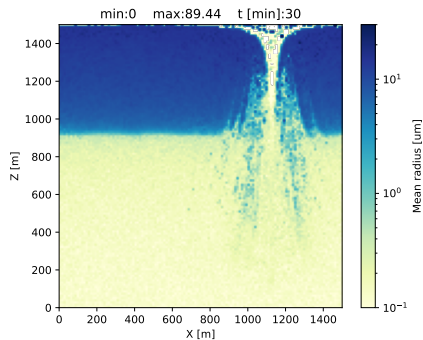
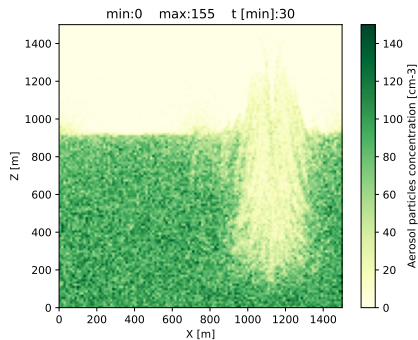
Computational particles: 2^{21}



sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

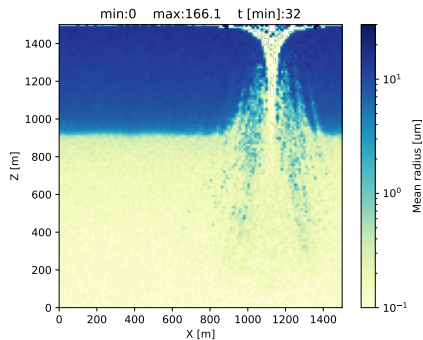
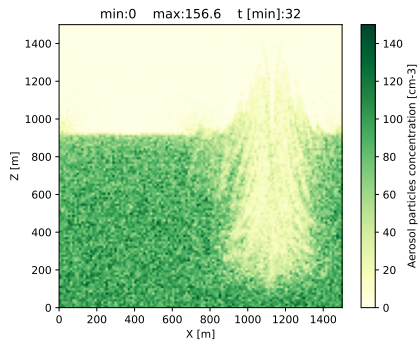
Computational particles: 2^{21}



sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

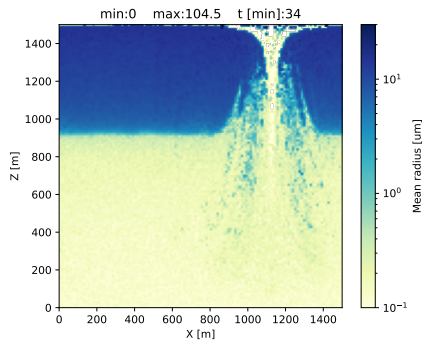
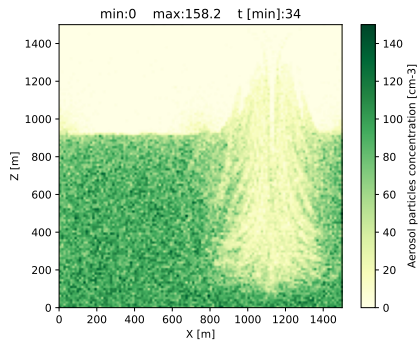
Computational particles: 2^{21}



sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

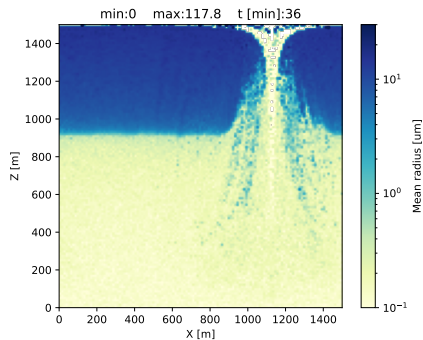
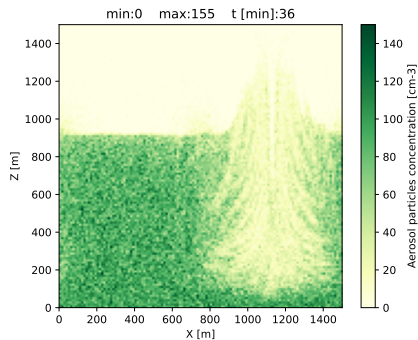
Computational particles: 2^{21}



sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

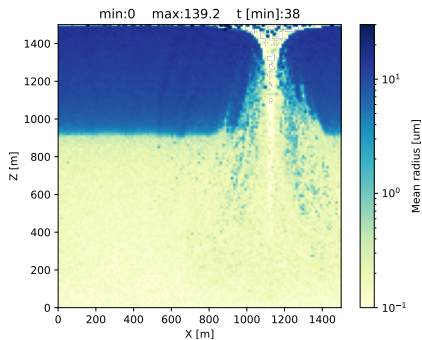
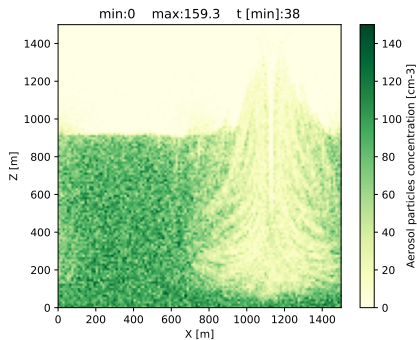
Computational particles: 2^{21}



sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

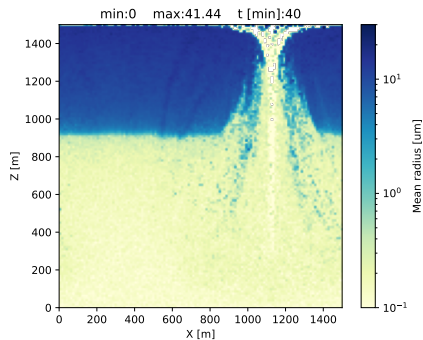
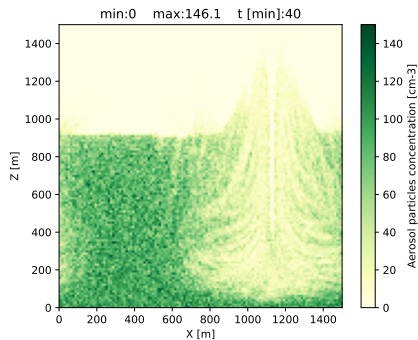
Computational particles: 2^{21}

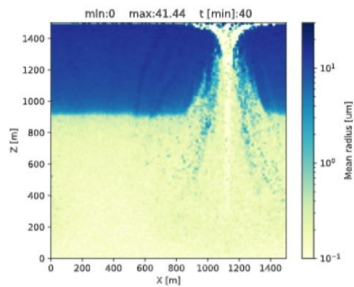
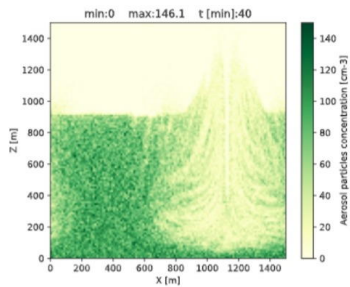


sample aerosol-cloud-precipitation interactions simulation

Computational grid: 128x128

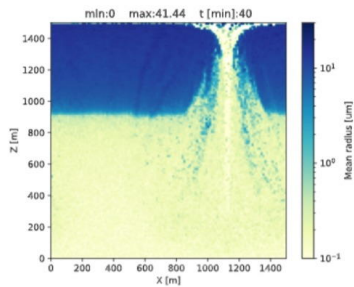
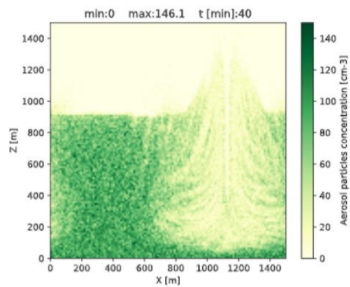
Computational particles: 2^{21}





PySDM: Pythonic

```
[3] 1 simulation.run()
```



PySDM: Pythonic, Jupyter-friendly



demo.ipynb ☆

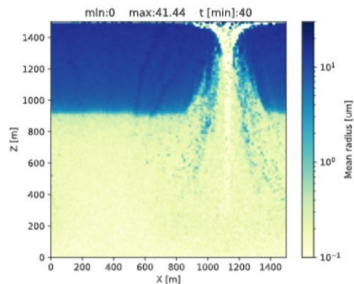
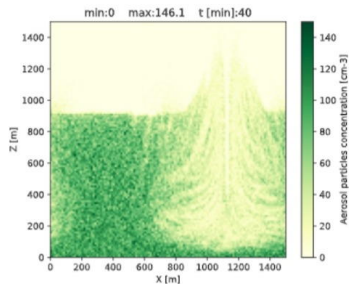
File Edit View Insert Runtime Tools Help

Comment Share Settings Profile

+ Code + Text

RAM Disk Editing ^

```
[3] 1 simulation.run()
```



Navigation icons: up, down, link, comment, settings, print, trash, menu

PySDM: Pythonic, Jupyter-friendly, GPU-enabled

demo.ipynb ☆

File Edit View Insert Runtime Tools Help All changes saved

+ Code + Text

RAM
Disk

Comment Share Settings P

Editing ^

```
[3] 1 simulation.run()
```

min:0 max:146.1 t [min]

z [m]

x [m]

Aerosol

44 t [min].40

x [m]

Mean radius [um]

10¹

10⁰

10⁻¹

Notebook settings

Hardware accelerator
GPU ?

To get the most out of Colab, avoid using a GPU unless you need one. [Learn more](#)

Omit code cell output when saving this notebook

CANCEL SAVE

Plan of the talk

PySDM: context

PySDM: statement of need & goals

PySDM: tour of the features

PySDM: demo (role play: reviewer)

PySDM: technological stack

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PySDM-examples 1.6

[Latest version](#)

```
pip install PySDM-examples
```



Released: Sep 6, 2021

Navigation

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Statistics

View statistics for this project via [Libraries.io](#), or by using [our public dataset](#) on [Google BigQuery](#)

Meta

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Project description

This repository stores example files for `PySDM` depicting usage of `PySDM` from Python via Jupyter. For information on the `PySDM` package itself and examples of usage from Julia and Matlab, see [PySDM README.md](#) file.

Please use the [PySDM issue-tracking](#) and [discuss](#) infrastructure for `PySDM-examples` as well.

0D box-model coalescence-only examples:

- [Shima et al. 2009](#) (Box model, coalescence only, test case employing Golovin analytical solution):
 - Fig. 2: [launch binder](#) [Open in Colab](#)
- [Berry 1967](#) (Box model, coalescence only, test cases for realistic kernels):
 - Figs. 5, 8 & 10: [launch binder](#) [Open in Colab](#)

0D parcel-model condensation only examples:

- [Arabas & Shima 2017](#) (monodisperse size spectrum activation/deactivation test case):
 - Fig. 5: [launch binder](#) [Open in Colab](#)
- [Yang et al. 2018](#) (polydisperse size spectrum activation/deactivation test case):
 - Fig. 2: [launch binder](#) [Open in Colab](#)
- [Lowe et al. 2019](#) (externally mixed polydisperse size spectrum with surface-active organics case):
 - Fig. 1: [launch binder](#) [Open in Colab](#)
 - Fig. 2: [launch binder](#) [Open in Colab](#)



<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-12982-0>

OPEN

Key drivers of cloud response to surface-active organics

S.J. Lowe^{1,2}, D.G. Partridge³, J.F. Davies⁴, K.R. Wilson⁵, D. Topping⁶ & I. Riipinen^{1,2,*}

Aerosol-cloud interactions constitute the largest source of uncertainty in global radiative forcing estimates, hampering our understanding of climate evolution. Recent empirical evidence suggests surface tension depression by organic aerosol to significantly influence the formation of cloud droplets, and hence cloud optical properties. In climate models, however, surface tension of water is generally assumed when predicting cloud droplet concentrations. Here we show that the sensitivity of cloud microphysics, optical properties and shortwave radiative effects to the surface phase are dictated by an interplay between the aerosol particle size distribution, composition, water availability and atmospheric dynamics. We demonstrate that accounting for the surface phase becomes essential in clean environments in which ultrafine particle sources are present. Through detailed sensitivity analysis, quantitative constraints on the key drivers – aerosol particle number concentrations, organic fraction and fixed updraft velocity – are derived for instances of significant cloud microphysical susceptibilities to the surface phase.

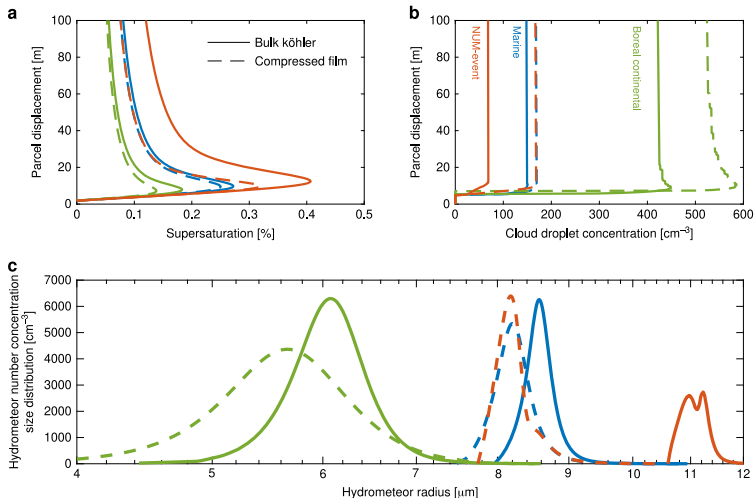
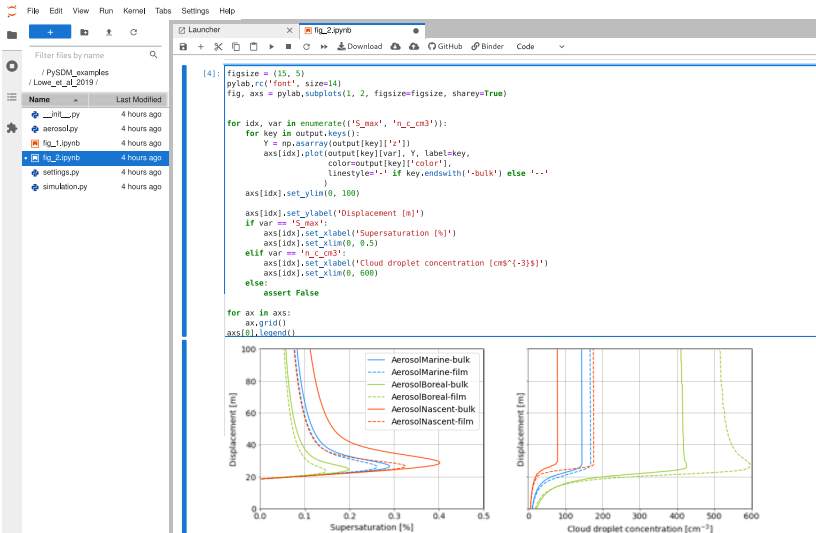


Fig. 2 Simulated microphysics of cloud events on marine (MA, blue), boreal (HYY, green) and NUM-event (NE, orange) aerosol populations. Cloud-formation event simulations using bulk Köhler BK (solid lines) and approximate compressed film CF (dotted lines) models of cloud droplet activation with initial temperature $T = 280$ K, pressure $P = 98,000$ Pa, supersaturation $s = -0.1\%$ and fixed updraft velocity $w = 0.32$ ms^{-1} . Simulated (a) ambient parcel supersaturation and (b) cloud droplet number concentration during parcel ascent. c Simulated droplet size distribution at a parcel displacement 200 m above initialisation

example contributed by Clare Singer et al.
(<https://claresinger.github.io/>)



Plan of the talk

PySDM: context

PySDM: statement of need & goals

PySDM: tour of the features

PySDM: demo (role play: reviewer)

PySDM: technological stack

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- ▶ Python python.org
- ▶ Numba (JIT, multi-threading)
numba.pydata.org
- ▶ ThrustRTC (GPU-resident backend)
pypi.org/project/ThrustRTC



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- ▶ GitHub & GitHub Actions github.com
- ▶ Codecov codecov.io
- ▶ AppVeyor appveyor.com



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- ▶ Codecov codecov.io
- ▶ AppVeyor appveyor.com

- ▶ Jupyter jupyter.org
- ▶ Binder mybinder.org
- ▶ Colab colab.research.google.com





[International Conference on Computational Science](#)

ICCS 2021: [Computational Science - ICCS 2021](#) pp 16-30 | [Cite as](#)

On the Design of Monte-Carlo Particle Coagulation Solver Interface: A CPU/GPU Super-Droplet Method Case Study with PySDM

Authors

[Authors and affiliations](#)

Piotr Bartman , Sylwester Arabas

Conference paper

First Online: 09 June 2021

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Downloads

Part of the [Lecture Notes in Computer Science](#) book series (LNCS, volume 12743)

PySDM: GPU backend internals

```
1 _kernel = ThrustRTC.For(  
2     ['perm_cell_start', 'perm_cell_id', 'pair_flag', 'length'], "i", '''  
3     pair_flag[i] = (  
4         i < length - 1 &&  
5         perm_cell_id[i] == perm_cell_id[i+1] &&  
6         (i - perm_cell_start[perm_cell_id[i]]) % 2 == 0  
7     );  
8     ''')  
9  
10 def flag_pairs(pair_flag, cell_start, cell_id, cell_idx):  
11     perm_cell_id = ThrustRTC.DVPermutation(cell_id.data, cell_idx.data)  
12     perm_cell_start = ThrustRTC.DVPermutation(cell_start.data, cell_idx.data)  
13     d_length = ThrustRTC.DVInt64(len(cell_id))  
14     _kernel.launch_n(len(cell_id),  
15         [perm_cell_start, perm_cell_id, cell_idx.data,  
16         pair_flag.indicator.data, d_length])
```

PySDM: CPU/multi-threaded backend internals

```
1 @numba.njit(parallel=True, error_model='numpy')
2 def _update_attributes(length, n, attributes, idx, gamma):
3     for i in prange(length//2):
4         j = idx[2*i]
5         k = idx[2*i + 1]
6         if n[j] < n[k]:
7             j, k = k, j
8         g = min(int(gamma[i]), int(n[j] / n[k]))
9         if g == 0:
10            continue
11        new_n = n[j] - g * n[k]
12        if new_n > 0:
13            n[j] = new_n
14            for attr in range(0, len(attributes)):
15                attributes[attr, k] += g * attributes[attr, j]
16        else: # new_n == 0
17            n[j] = n[k] // 2
18            n[k] = n[k] - n[j]
19            for attr in range(0, len(attributes)):
20                attributes[attr, j] = attributes[attr, j] * g \
21                    + attributes[attr, k]
22                attributes[attr, k] = attributes[attr, j]
23
24 def update_attributes(n, intensive, attributes, gamma):
25     _update_attributes(len(n.idx),
26                       n.data, intensive.data, attributes.data,
27                       # in/out
28                       n.idx.data, gamma.data)
29                       # in
```

UIUC-originated breakthroughs

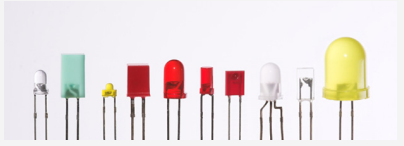
MRI



Mosaic



LED



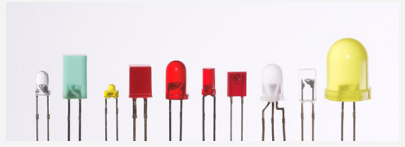
graphics from <https://illinois.edu>, <https://llvm.org>

UIUC-originated breakthroughs

MRI



LED



graphics from <https://illinois.edu>, <https://llvm.org>

Mosaic



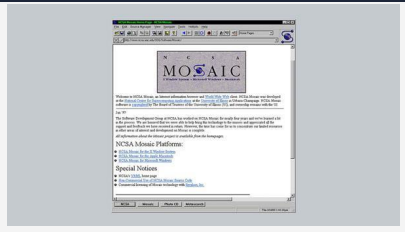
Instantwhip?

UIUC-originated breakthroughs

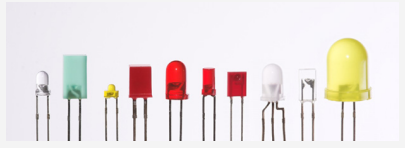
MRI



Mosaic



LED



graphics from <https://illinois.edu>, <https://llvm.org>

LLVM!



Acknowledgements

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co-authors & contributors

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Thank you for your attention!

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.17238> (Bartman et al. 2021, arXiv/JOSS)

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-77964-1_2 (Bartman & Arabas 2021, LNCS)

<https://pypi.org/p/PySDM> & <https://pypi.org/p/PySDM-examples>