

## **WP M2A, M2B, M2E: LES cirrus cloud and contrail cirrus simulations**

**Ingo Sölch and Simon Unterstrasser**

**VI-ACI annual meeting**



**DLR**

Deutsches Zentrum  
für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.  
in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

# M2A: Lagrangian ice crystal tracking module (finished)

The EULAG-LCM (Lagrangian Cirrus Module) is a cirrus-cloud resolving Large Eddy simulation model to study the formation and persistence of cirrus clouds that form below 235 K.

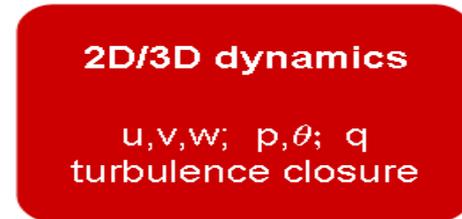
## EULAG-LCM



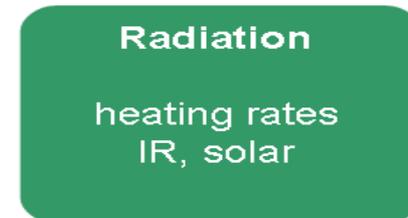
**new LCM module**

- water vapour coupling
- latent heat release
- advection of tracers
- T, p, Si

## EULAG



- diabatic source terms
- T, p

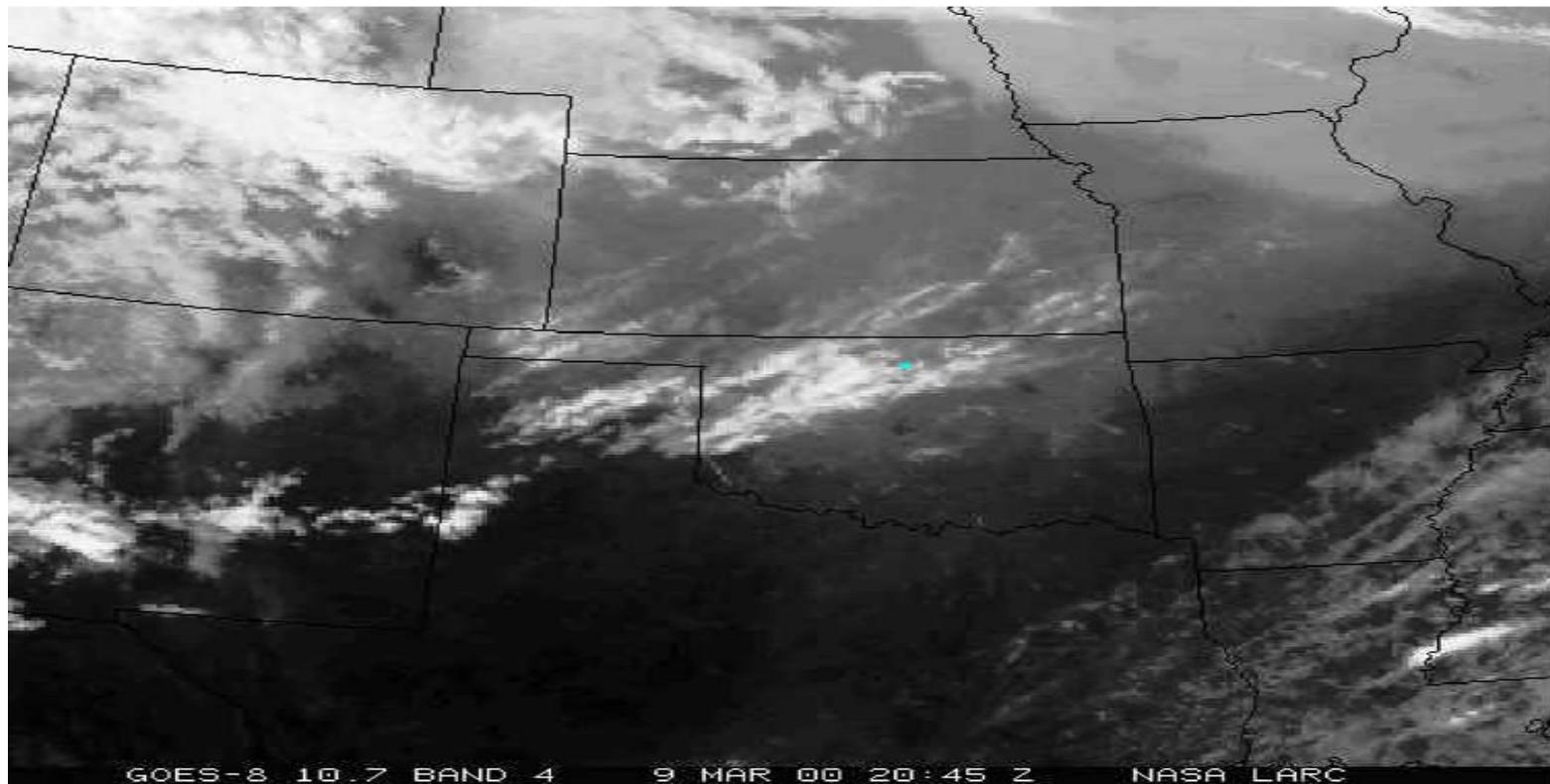


**Fu and Liou**

# M2E: Cloud resolving model runs: Case study (GEWEX)

Synoptically generated mid-latitude cirrus cloud field on 9 March 2000 over Oklahoma (US)

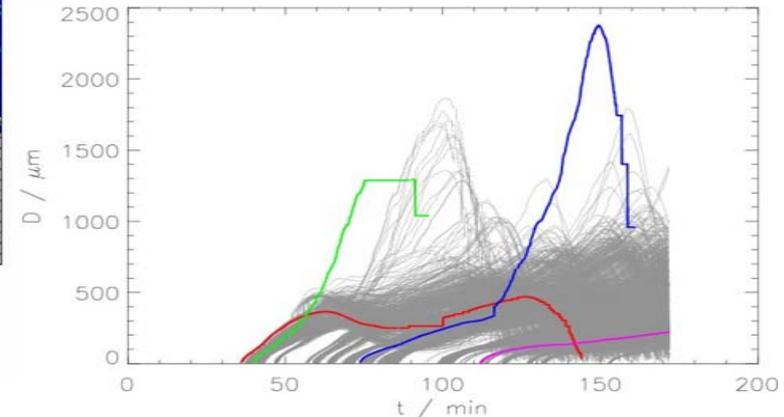
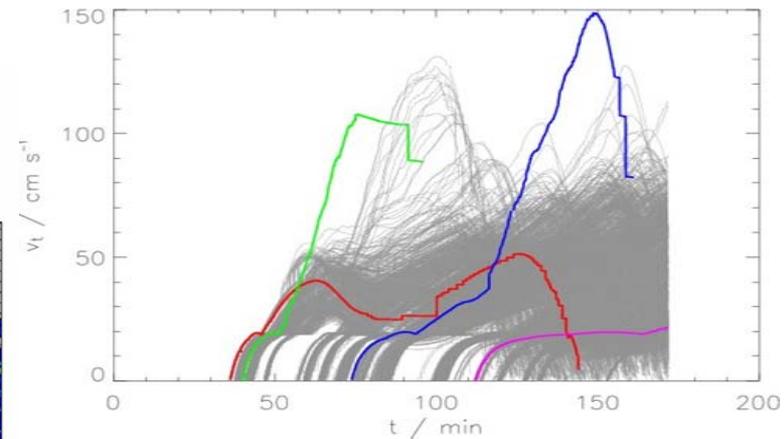
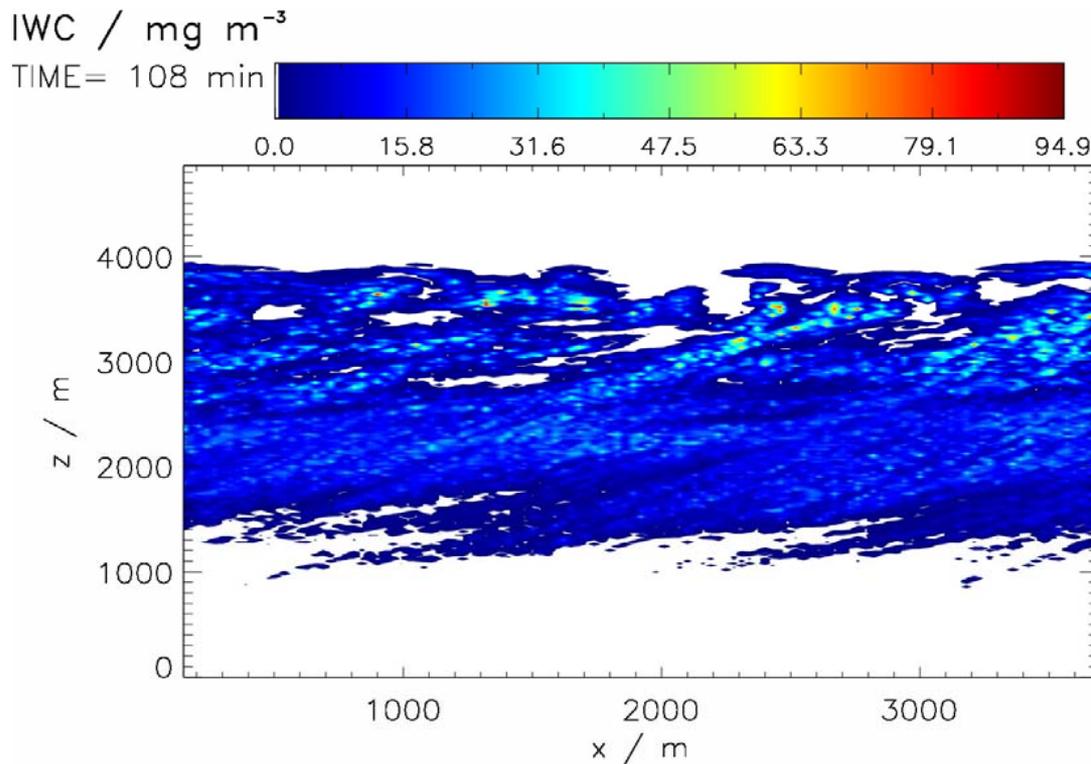
Comprehensive data from ground-based and aircraft-based measurements



# M2E: Cloud resolving model runs: Case study (GEWEX)

2D model runs -> Tracking the evolution of the cloud advected with the wind

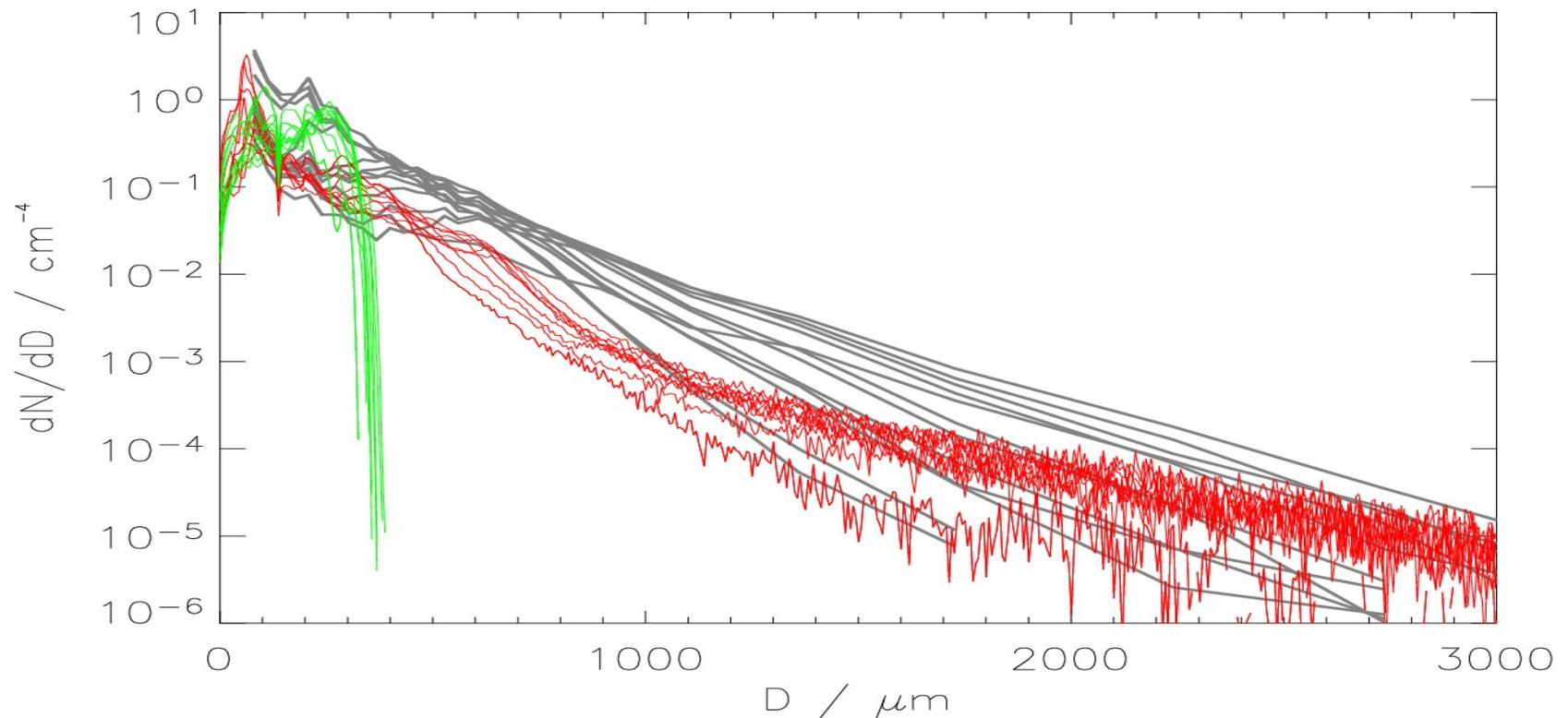
Particle tracking gives new analysis methods and insight into cloud evolution



# M2E: Cloud resolving model runs: Case study (GEWEX)

Comparison of model results with vertical profiles obtained during airborne measurements during spiral descents in the cloud deck

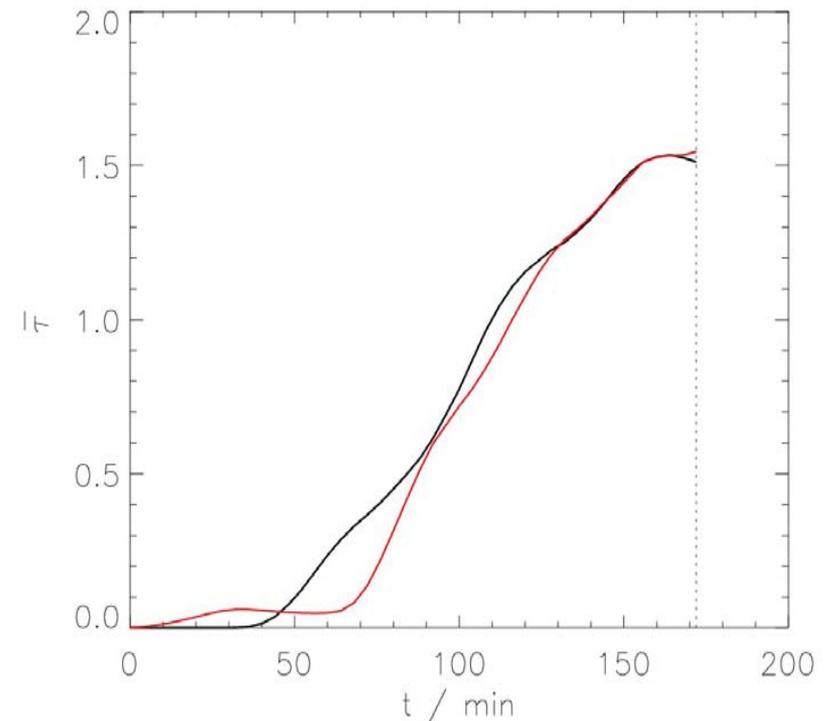
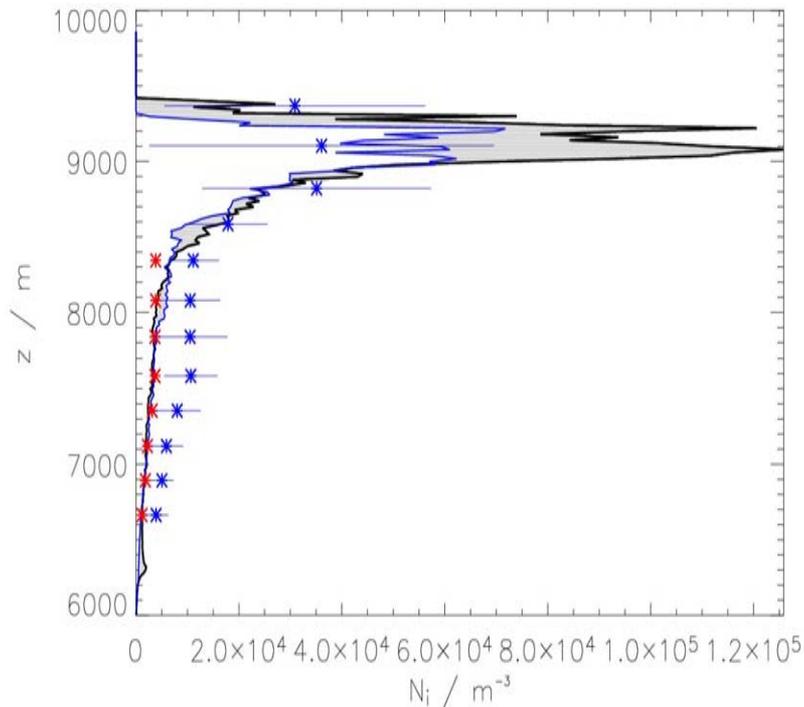
Great influence of ice crystal aggregation



## M2E: Sensitivity to nucleation pathway (Ongoing work)

Standard run with homogeneous nucleation of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/\text{H}_2\text{O}$  aerosol particles

Sensitivity to inclusion of IN ( $2 \text{ l}^{-1}$ ) with parameterisation of Möhler et. al (2006)



Sensitivity small relative to updraft speed or supersaturation in the current case

# Outlook

- Further parametrisations for different types of IN needed (atmospheric measurements difficult)
- Are there any hints on particle aggregation in the AIDA chamber (preferred shape of aggregates, size dependence) ?
- Diversity of particle shapes nucleated from the same sort of aerosol?



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## **M2B: Simulations of contrail-to-cirrus transition (finished)**

2D Model similar to EULAG-LCM. Use 2-moment bulk microphysics scheme (Spichtinger&Gierens).

Extensive parameter studies are completed. We have investigated the impact of relative humidity, temperature, wind shear, stratification, radiation on microphysical, optical and geometric properties of contrails.

# M2E: Potential of re-nucleation induced by contrail dynamics

A large fraction of crystals can sublime during the contrail vortex phase.

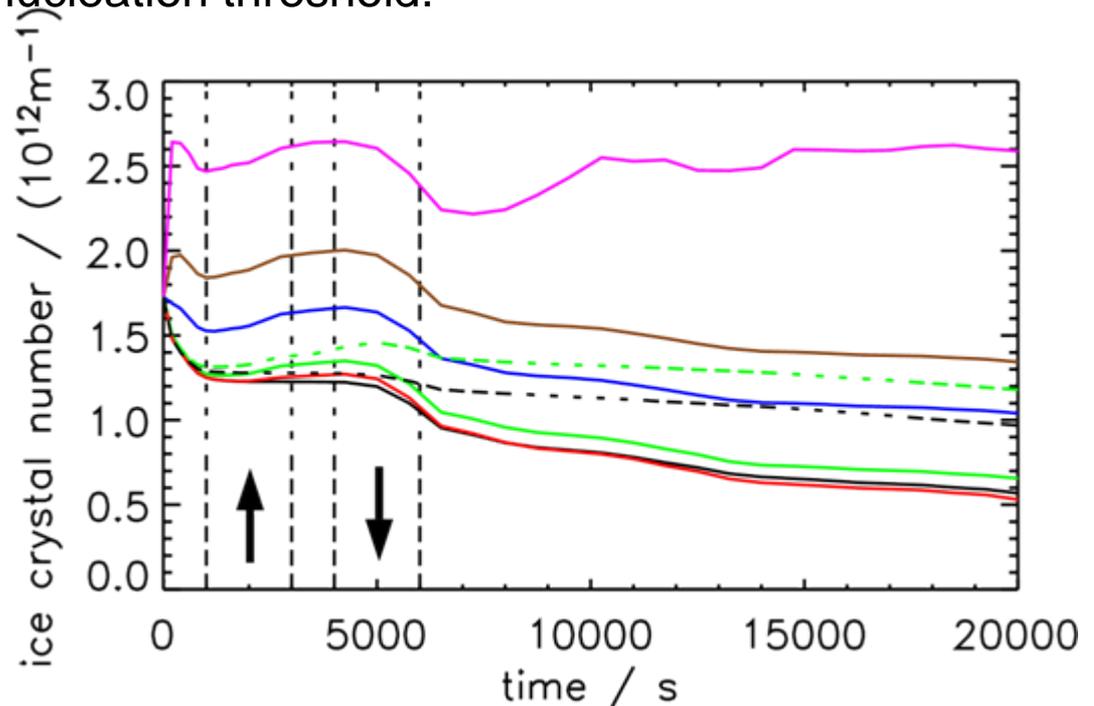
Does re-nucleation possibly occur during contrail-to-cirrus transition ?

Use different heterogeneous nucleation threshold.

$T=217\text{K}$ ,  $RH_i=120\%$   
Updraft + Downdraft  
( $w=10\text{cm/s}$ ,  $w=-10\text{cm/s}$ )

$Rh_{het} =$   
130% (red)  
120% (green)  
110% (blue)  
105% (brown)  
101% (magenta)  
— (black)

Overall  $3 \cdot 10^{12}$  particles



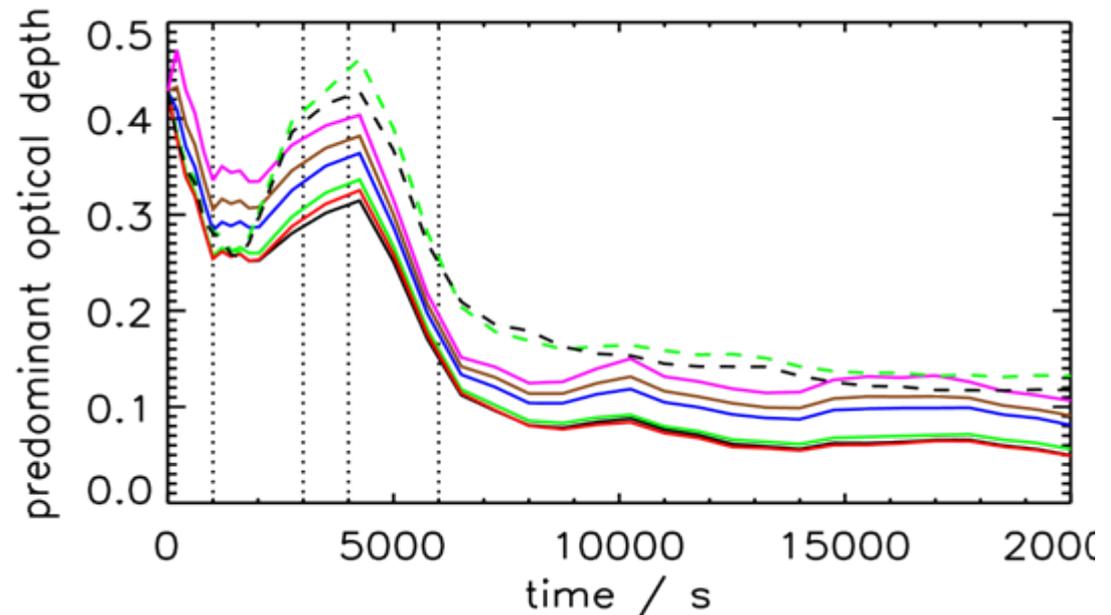
# M2E: Potential of re-nucleation induced by contrail dynamics

Impact on optical depth of contrail is zero to moderate (depending strongly on the nucleation threshold). IN stay close to contrail where the relative humidity is approx at saturation. No additional water vapour uptake of newly formed particles.

$T=217\text{K}$ ,  $RH_i=120\%$   
Updraft + Downdraft  
( $w=10\text{cm/s}$ ,  $w=-10\text{cm/s}$ )

$Rh_{\text{het}} =$   
130% (red)  
120% (green)  
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Overall  $3 \cdot 10^{12}$  particles



Nucleation thresholds of preactivated soot cores are needed, to assess the potential of re-nucleation reliably.

END



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## Appendix B: Ice particle trajectories

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}_i}{dt} = \mathbf{u} + \left( \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_i + \mathbf{v}_{t,i} \right)$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_i(t) = R_L \mathbf{u}_i(t - \Delta t_{MIC}) + \mathbf{u}_i^*(t)$$

$$\mathbf{u}_i^*(t) = \sqrt{1 - R_L^2} \sigma_u \Omega$$

Lagrangian autocorrelation  $R_L = \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta t_{MIC}}{\tau_L}\right)$

Lagrangian timescale  $\tau_L = K_m/E$

$$\sigma_u = \sqrt{E},$$



## Appendix C: EULAG model equations

$$\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} + f\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{u}' = -\nabla \left( \frac{p'}{\bar{\rho}} \right) + \mathbf{g} \frac{\theta'_d}{\theta} + \mathbf{D}_u$$

$$\frac{d\theta'}{dt} = -\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \theta_e + \mathbf{D}_\theta + Q_R + Q_H.$$

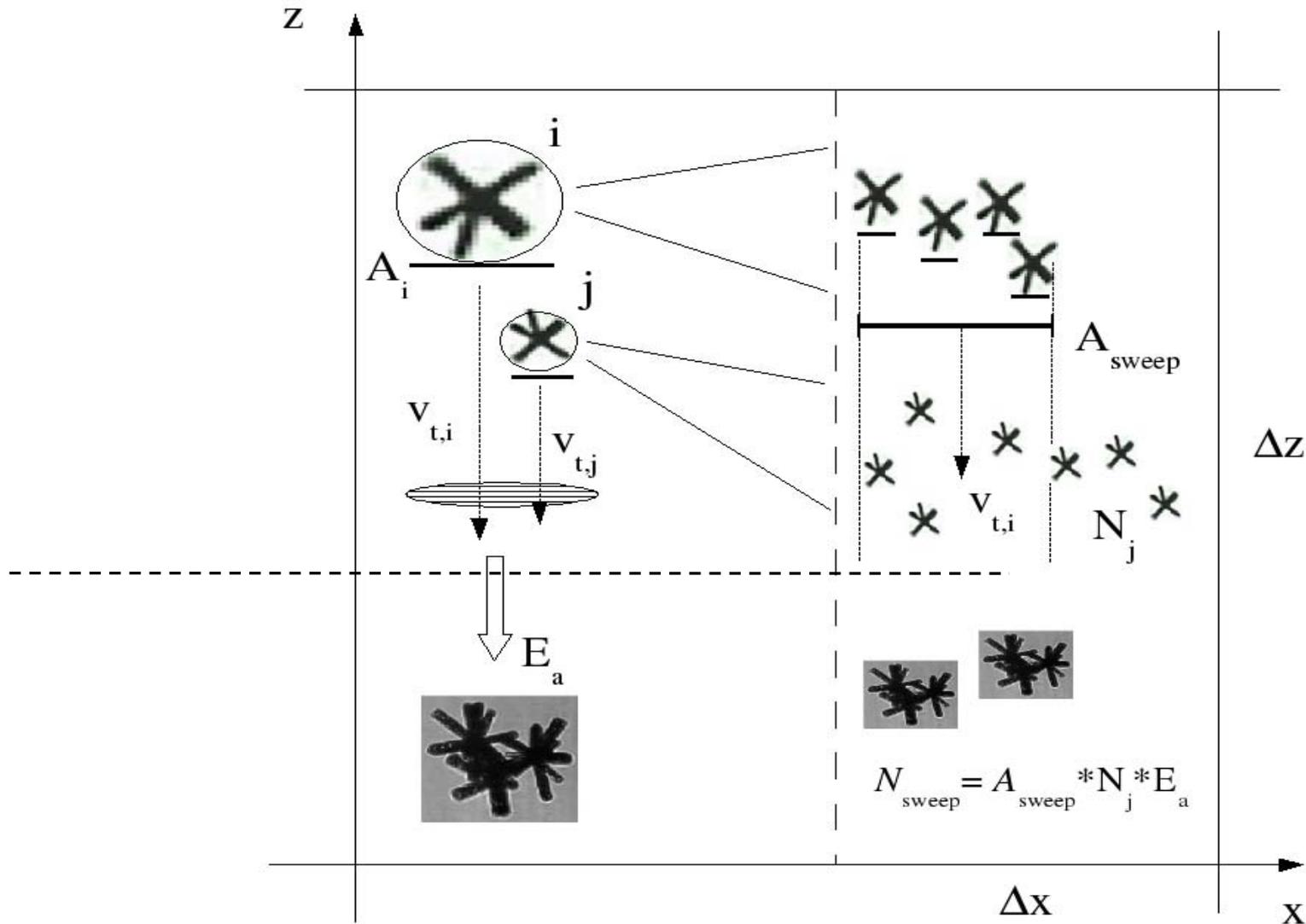
$$\nabla \cdot (\bar{\rho}\mathbf{u}) = 0.$$

$$\theta' = \theta - \theta_e.$$

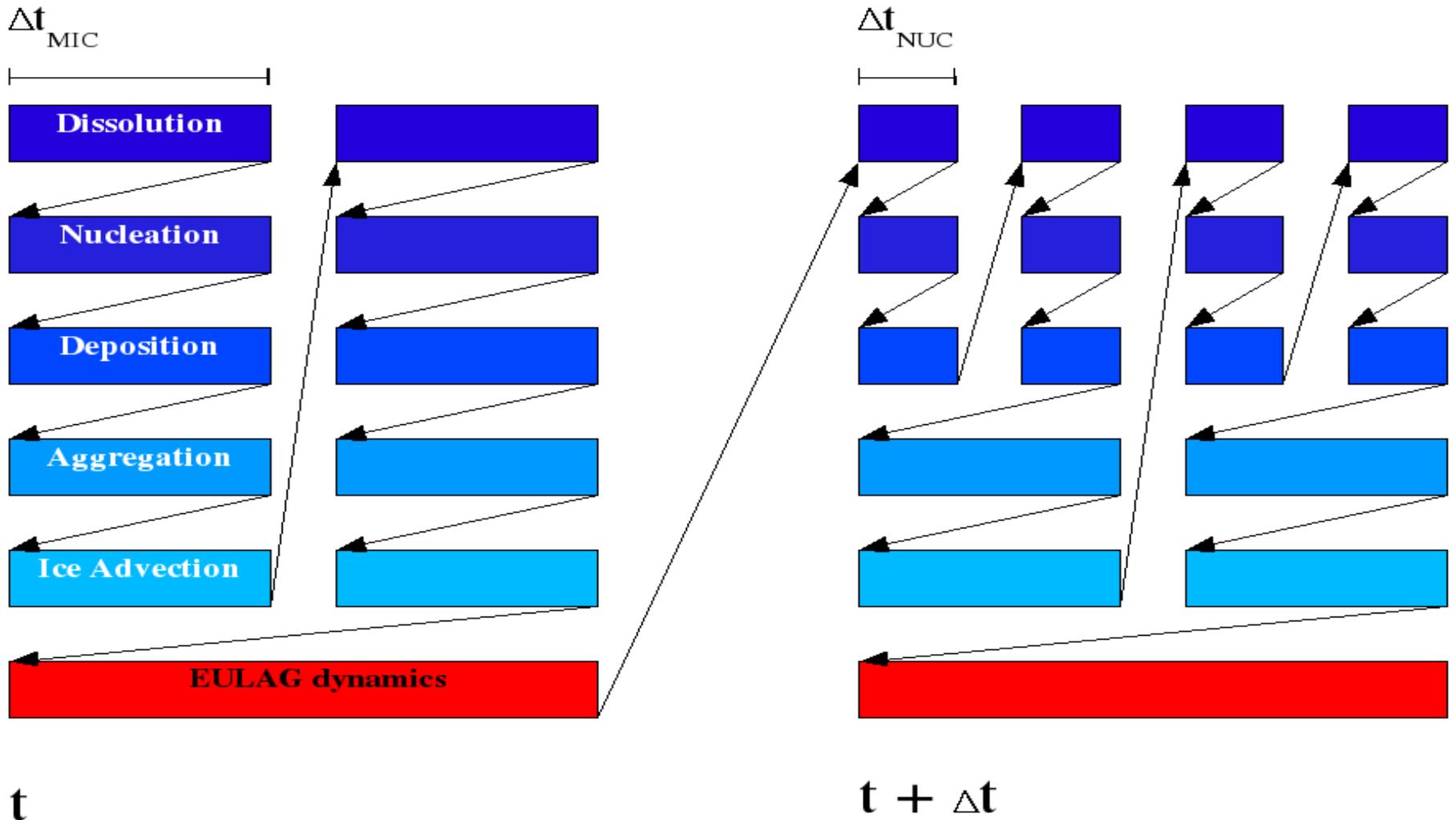
$$\frac{dq_v}{dt} = \mathbf{D}_{q_v} - Q_{DEP} - Q_{DIS}$$



# Appendix D: Cluster—cluster aggregation algorithm



# Appendix E: Operator splitting scheme



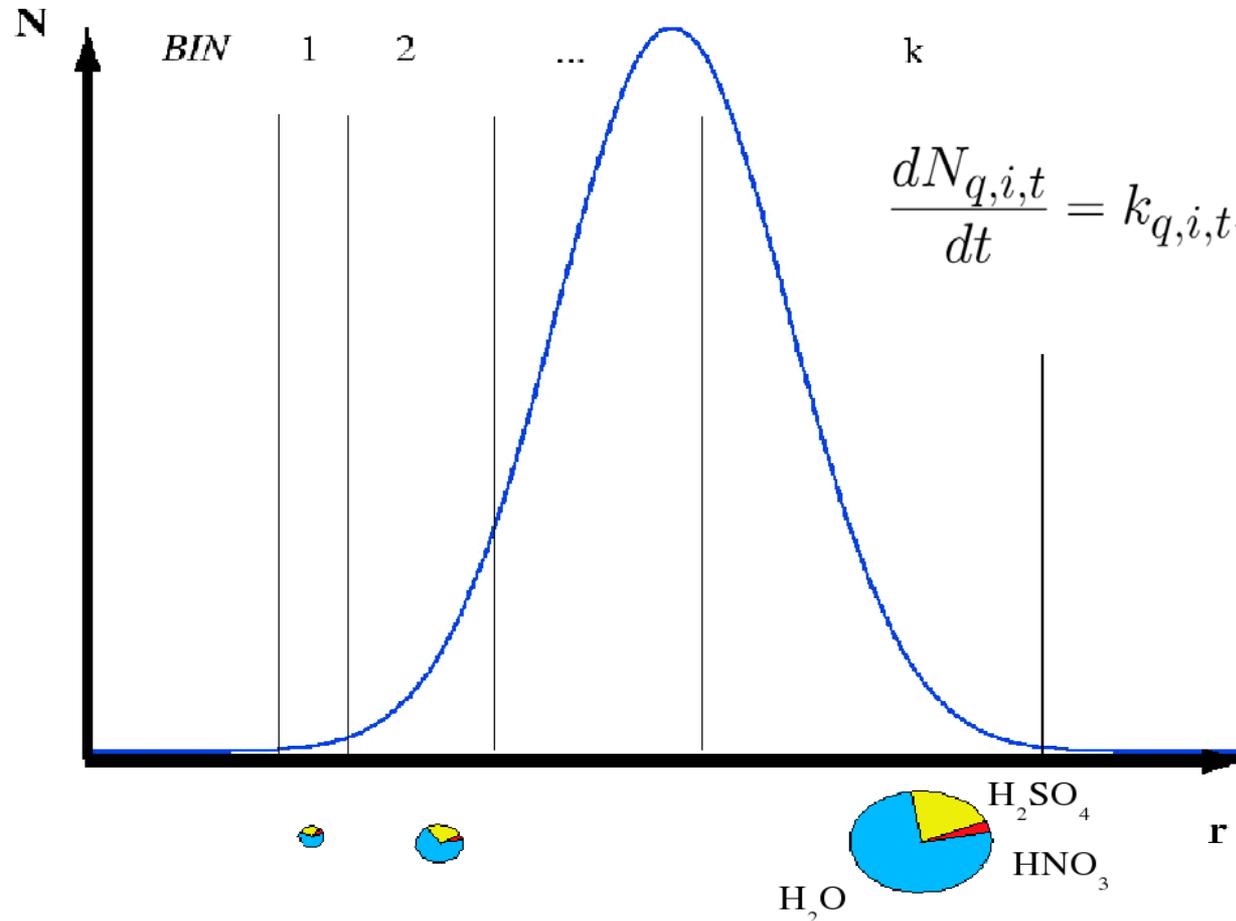
**Radiation module**



# Appendix F: Kinetic uptake of H<sub>2</sub>O and HNO<sub>3</sub> on liquid aerosol particles (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O/HNO<sub>3</sub>)

## Size-resolved uptake on typical aerosol component of UTLS

Solving dissolution equations for the number concentrations  $N_{q,i,t}$  of the molecules of each trace gas species residing in aerosol particles in every size bin.



$$\frac{dN_{q,i,t}}{dt} = k_{q,i,t-h} \left( N_{q,t} - S'_{q,i,t-h} \frac{N_{q,i,t}}{H'_{q,i,t-h}} \right)$$

# Appendix G: Scales in cirrus cloud processes

