

International MetStröm-Conference 2011  
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# Application of Quadrature Method of Moments for Sedimentation and Coagulation of Raindrops

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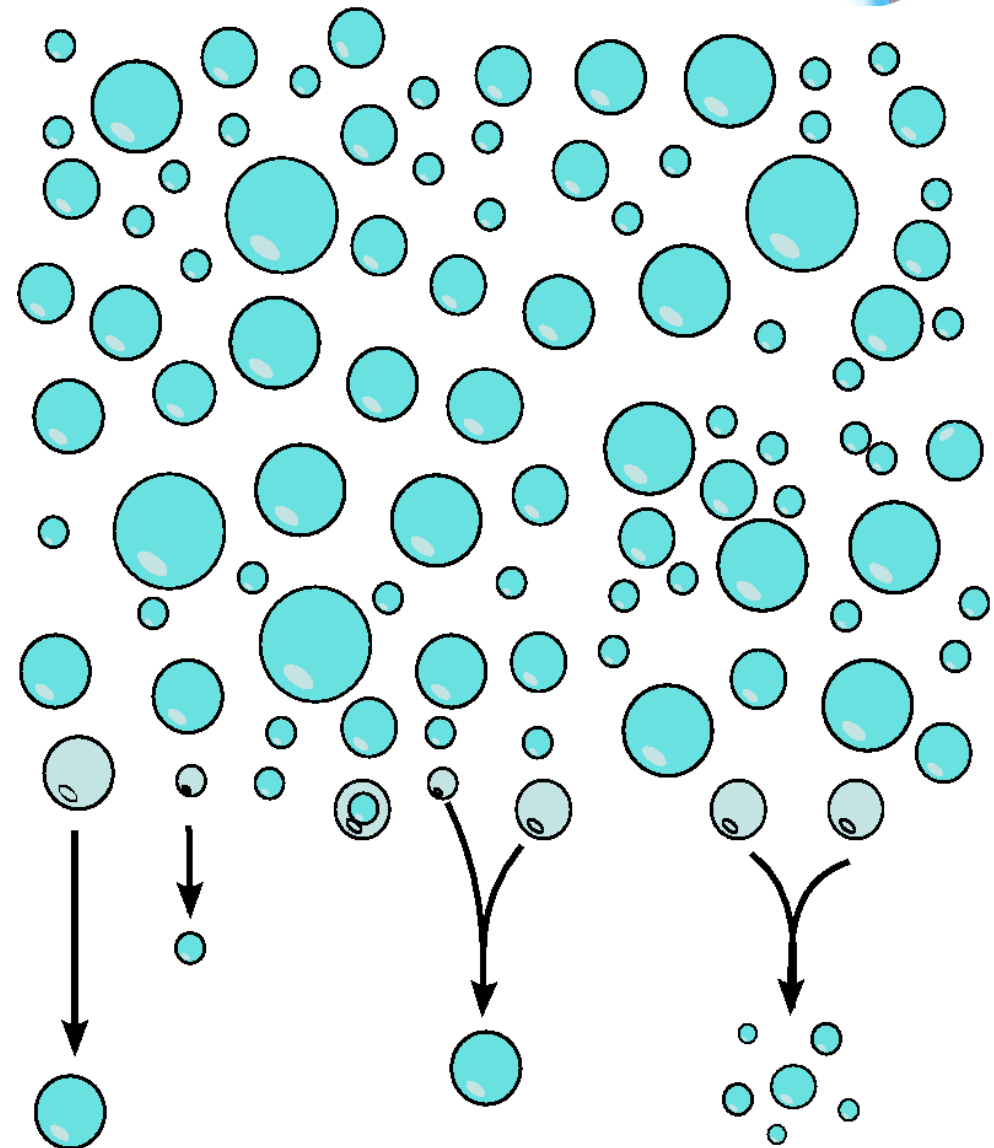
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With financial Support of Priority Programm SPP1276 Metström (DFG)

Project: *Multi-scale Modelling of the Population Dynamics of Hydrometeors with Methods of Moments (MoM's)*

## Multi-scale Modelling...

- Cloud physics :
  - sedimentation
  - coagulation
  - break-up
  - evaporation/condensation





# Spectral kinetic equation

flow                      turbulent                      evaporation  
subgrid-scale

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{\partial f(r)}{\partial t} + \nabla_x \cdot [f(r)\vec{v}] + \nabla_x \cdot [f(r)\vec{v}^i(r)] + \frac{\partial [f(r)\dot{r}]}{\partial r} \\
 & = \\
 & \frac{1}{2} \int_{r_i=0}^r K(r_i, R) f(r_i) f(R) dr_i - f(r) \int_{r_i=0}^{\infty} K(r, r_i) f(r_i) dr_i
 \end{aligned}$$

formation

“destruction“

$K(R_1, R_2)$  : efficiency with which two particles with diameter  $R_1$  resp.  $R_2$  will merge to form a bigger drop

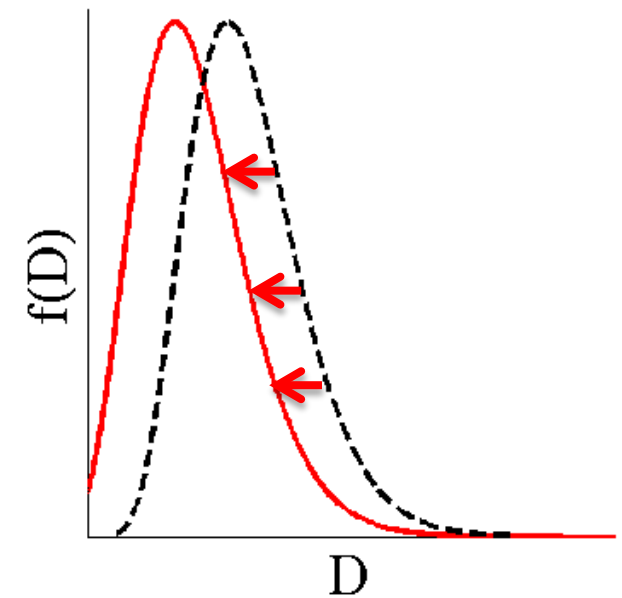
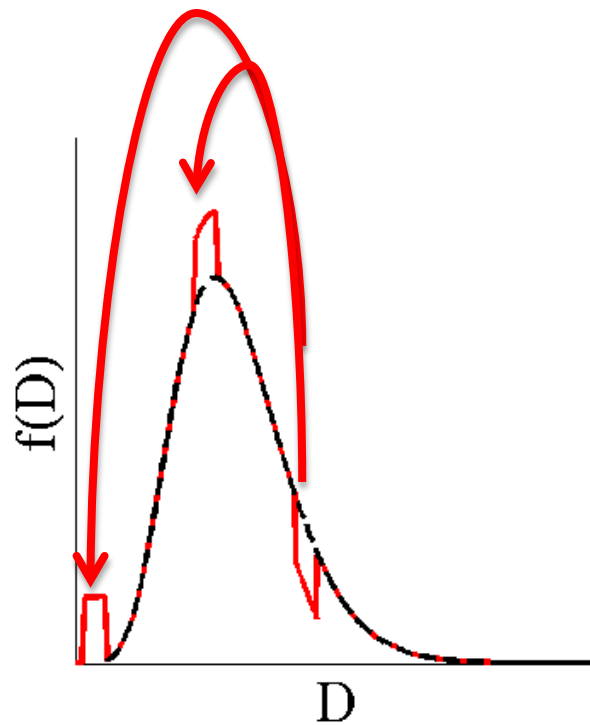
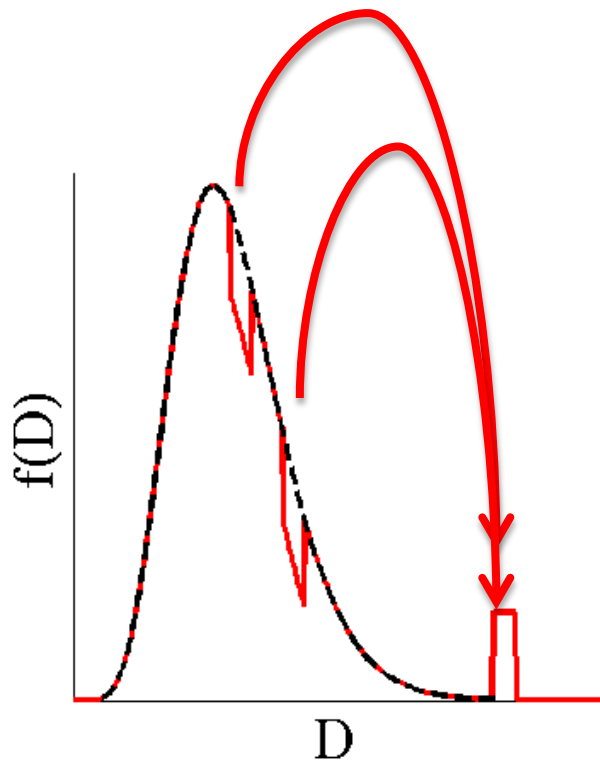
$f(r, \vec{x}, t)$  : particle size density function in  $m^{-1}m^{-3} = m^{-4}$

# Population Dynamics of Hydrometeors

Coagulation

Break-up

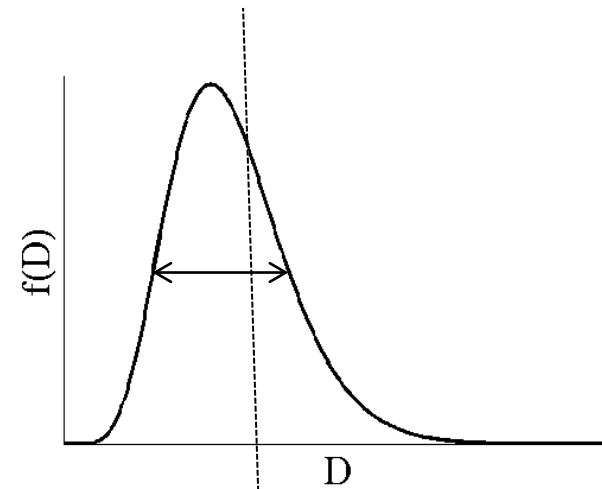
Evaporation





## Methods of Moments (MoM's)

- $f(D)$  : particle size distribution (PSD)
- $M^{(k)} = \int D^k f(D) dD$   
Moment of k-th order.



*Particle Size Distribution*

- Physical Meaning of the moments :

$$- M^{(0)} = N$$

number of particles

$$- \pi M^{(2)} = \pi \int D^2 f(D) dD$$

total surface area of the particles

$$- \frac{\pi}{6} M^{(3)} = \frac{\pi}{6} \int D^3 f(D) dD$$

total volume of the particles (volume fraction)

$$- L = \frac{\pi}{6} \rho_w M^{(3)}$$

water content

$$- M^{(6)} \propto Z$$

proportional to the reflectivity (albedo)



# Outline

Introduction

Quadrature Method of Moments

Background

Gaussian quadrature

Application to 1D cases

Pure sedimentation

Sedimentation with coagulation



# Spectral Method

- Principle :
  - discretise the diameter range into  $n_D$  classes  $[D_i, D_{i+1}[$
  - solve for each class
  - sum over these classes to compute the moments

$$M^{(k)} \approx \frac{1}{n_D} \sum_i D_i^k$$

- Straightforward but very costly
- Serves as a reference solution when affordable



# Spectral kinetic equation

flow

turbulent  
subgrid-scale

evaporation

$$\frac{\partial f(r)}{\partial t} + \nabla_x \cdot [f(r)\vec{v}] + \nabla_x \cdot [f(r)\vec{v}^i(r)] + \frac{\partial [f(r)\dot{r}]}{\partial r}$$

=

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{r_i=0}^r K(r_i, R) f(r_i) f(R) dr_i - f(r) \int_{r_i=0}^{\infty} K(r, r_i) f(r_i) dr_i$$

formation

“destruction“

Simplification for 1D case (over altitude) with diameter as internal coordinate





# Spectral kinetic equation

flow

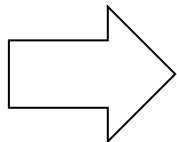
$$\frac{\partial f(r)}{\partial t} + \nabla_x \cdot [f(r)\vec{v}] + \quad +$$

$$=$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{r_i=0}^r K(r_i, R) f(r_i) f(R) dr_i - f(r) \int_{r_i=0}^{\infty} K(r, r_i) f(r_i) dr_i$$

formation

“destruction“



$$\frac{\partial f(D, z, t)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial V(D, z, t) f(D, z, t)}{\partial z} = S_p$$



## Moment transport equation

- Multiply by  $D^k$  and integrate over the diameter range

$$\frac{\partial M^{(k)}(z, t)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial U^{(k)}(z, t)M^{(k)}(z, t)}{\partial z} = S_c$$

with

$$U^{(k)} = \frac{1}{M^{(k)}(z, t)} \int_{D=0}^{+\infty} V(D, z, t) D^k f(D, z, t) dD$$

Actually,  $V(D) = \alpha \left(\frac{D}{D_v}\right)^\beta$  : terminal fall velocity



## Closure Problem and Source Terms

- For the moment transport equation : 
$$\frac{\partial M^{(k)}}{\partial t} - C_v \frac{\partial M^{(k+\beta)}}{\partial z} = S_c$$

- Knowing  $M^{(k)}$  does not imply we know  $M^{(k+\beta)}$  (higher order!!)
- Extra modelling can be required

- For the source term :

$$S_c = \frac{1}{2} \int_{D=0}^{\infty} \int_{D'=0}^{\infty} \left[ \left( (D^3 - D'^3)^{1/3} \right)^k - D^k - D'^k \right] K(D, D') f(D) f(D') dD' dD$$

with

$$K(D, D') = \frac{\pi}{4} (D + D')^2 |V(D) - V(D')| E_{eff}(D, D')$$

- No straightforward term involving a moment

# Quadrature MoM (QMoM)

- Principle :

- Based on Gauss quadrature :

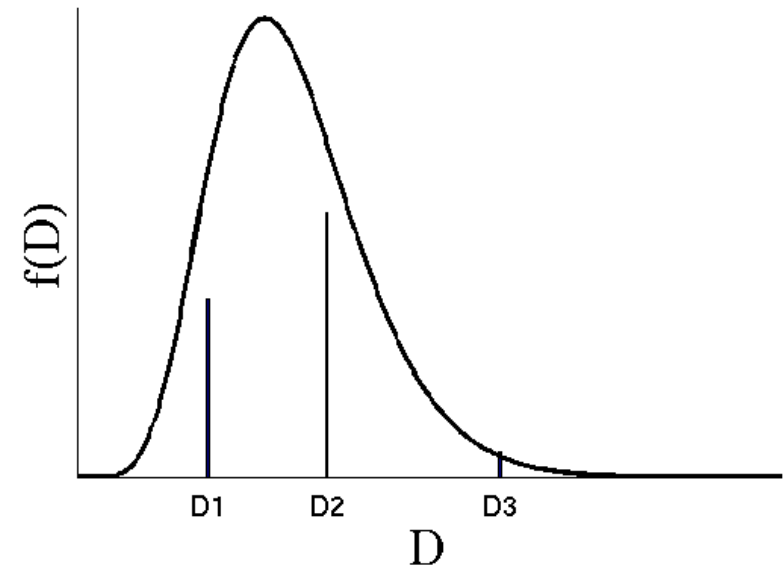
$$\exists (D_i, \omega_i)_{i \in \mathbb{R}^{2N_q}},$$

$$I = \int_0^{+\infty} g(D)f(D)dD \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N_q} \omega_i g(D_i)$$

- Application to  $g = D^k$

$$M^{(k)} \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N_q} D_i^k \omega_i$$

- For  $N_q = 3$ ,  
6 prognostic moments needed





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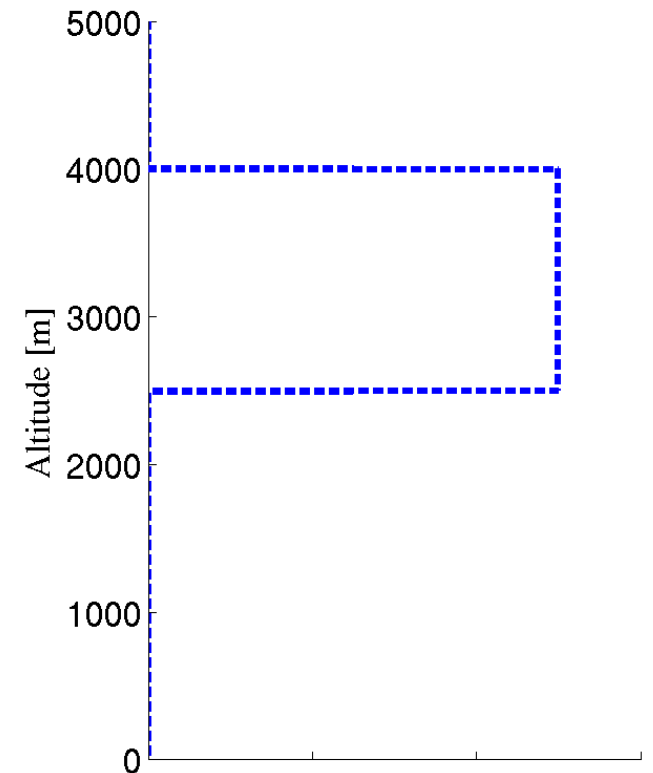
## Study Case

- 1D Moment transport equation
- Starting conditions :

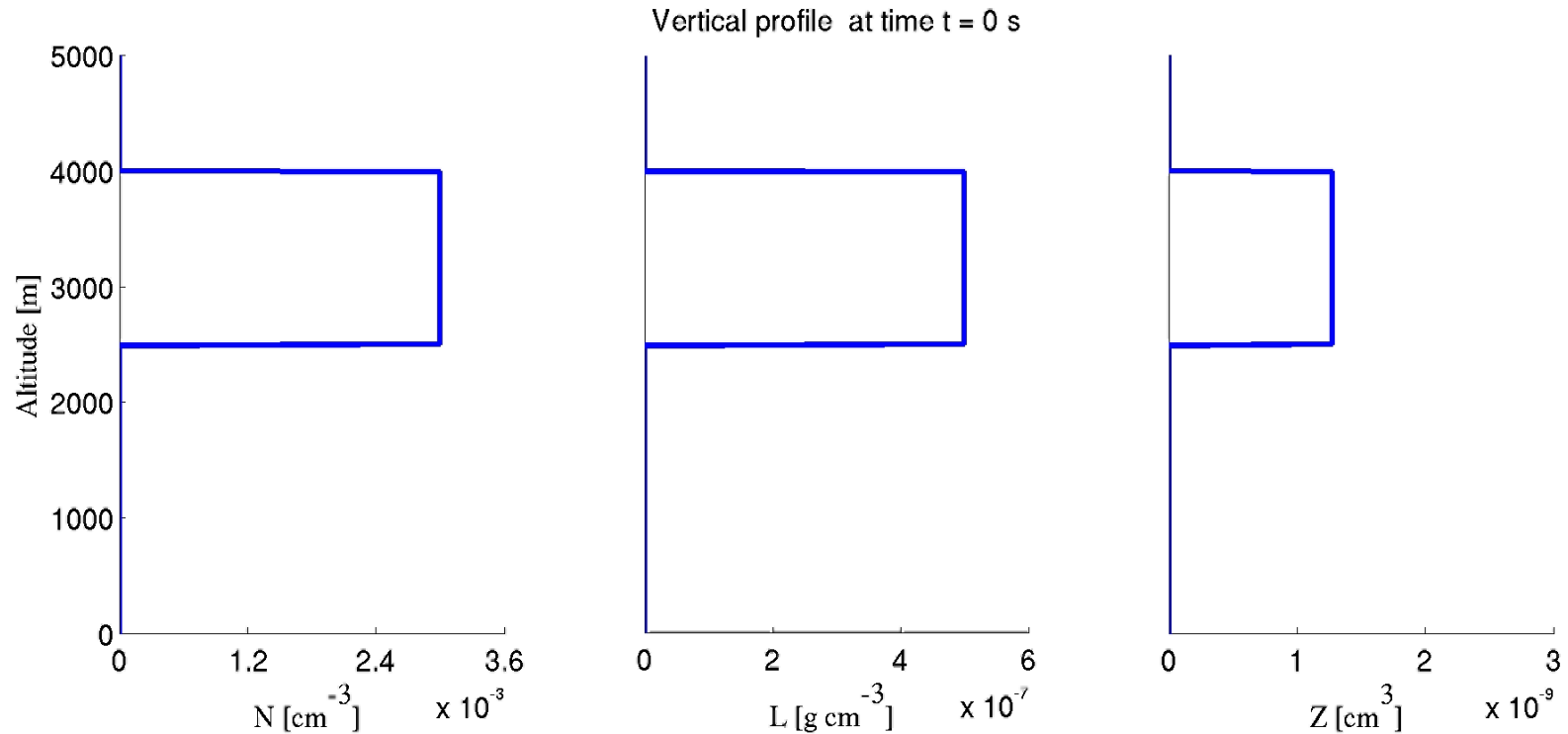
$$\frac{\partial M^{(k)}}{\partial t} - C_v \frac{\partial M^{(k+\beta)}}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$f(D, z) = \begin{cases} \Gamma_{n_0, \gamma, \lambda}(D) = \frac{n_0 D^{\gamma-1} e^{-D/\lambda}}{\Gamma(\gamma) \lambda^\gamma}, & 2500m \leq z \leq 4000m \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

with  $n_0$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\lambda$  given parameters



# Pure Sedimentation : comparison spectral vs QMoM



$$n_0 = 3 \cdot 10^3 \text{ m}^{-3}, \quad \gamma = 4 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda \approx 1,38 \cdot 10^{-4}$$

*solid : spectral*

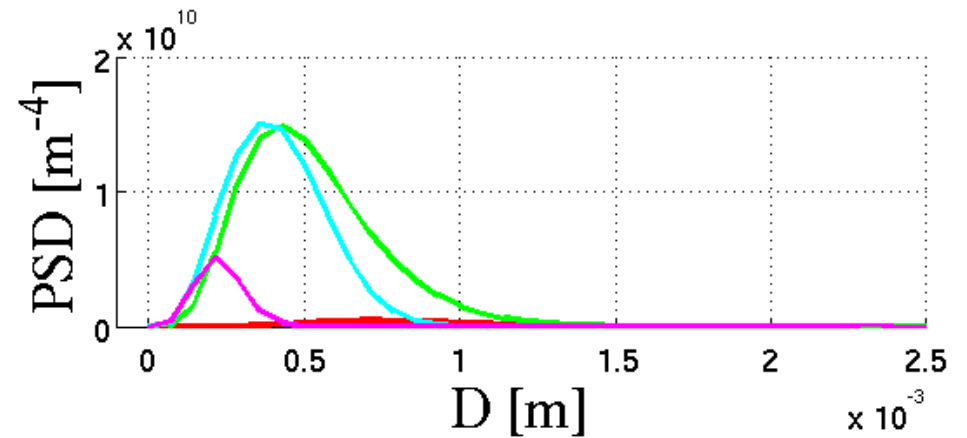
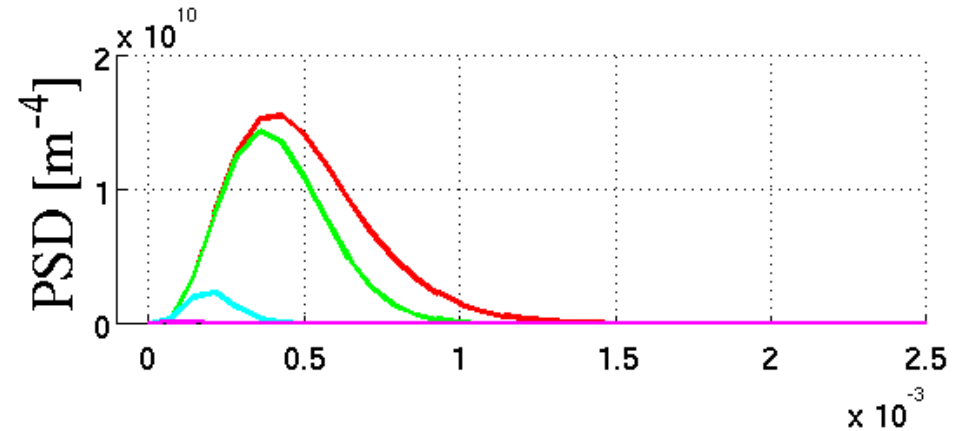
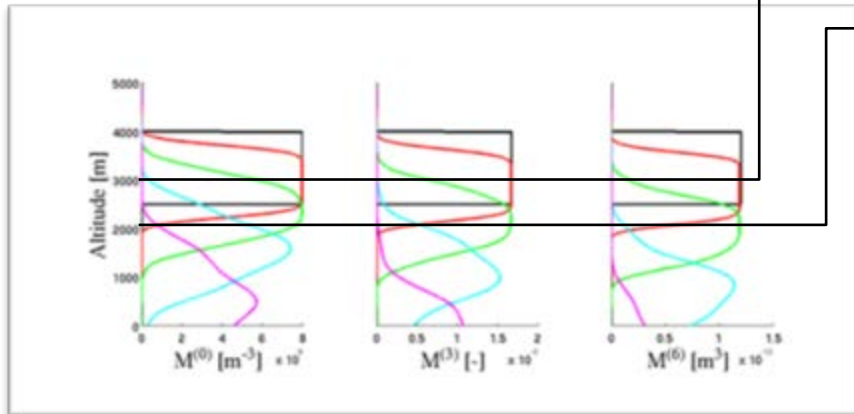
*dashed : QMOM*

# MoM relevance

- t = 0 s
- t = 100 s
- t = 300 s
- t = 600 s
- t = 1000 s

z=3000m

z=2000m



*Evolution of Particle Size Distribution*



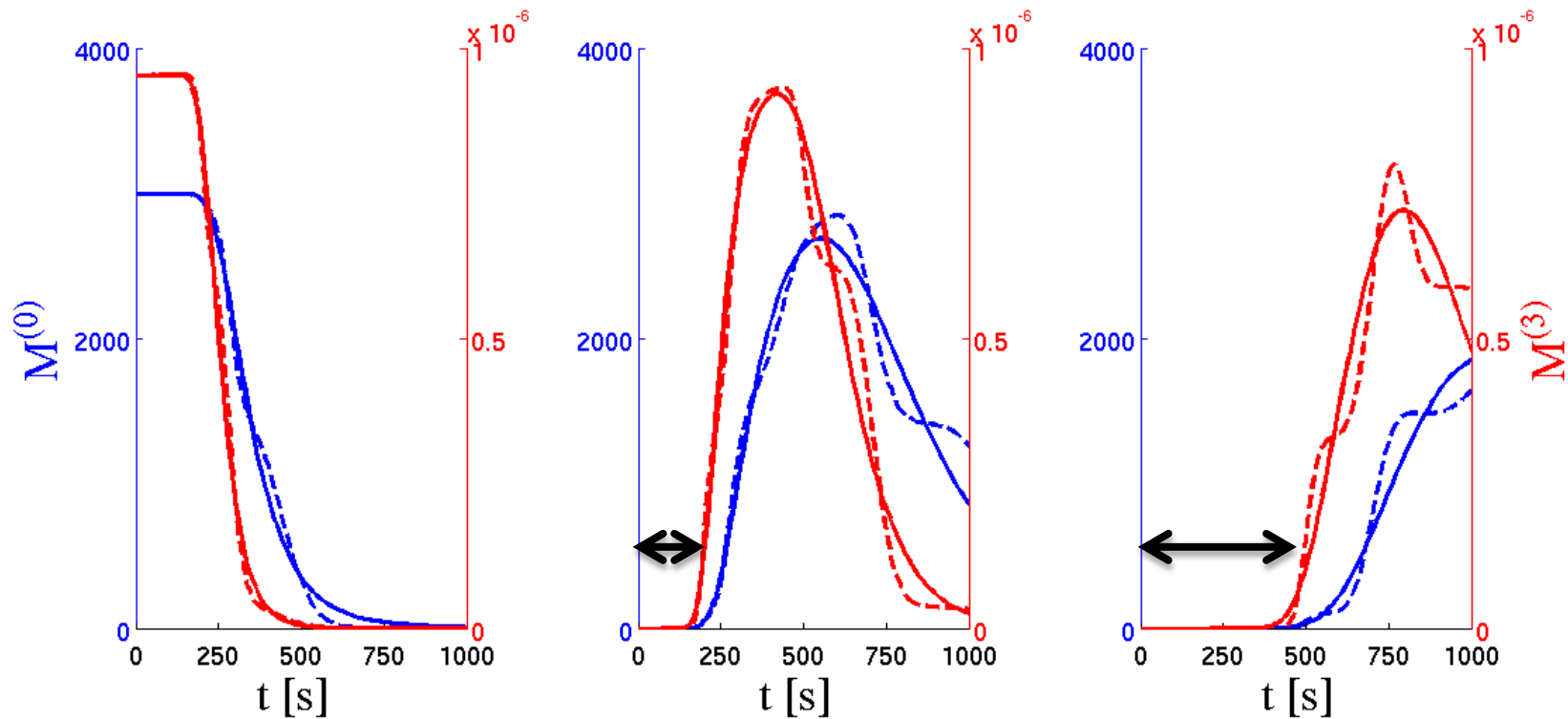


# Temporal evolution of the moments at different altitudes

z=3000m

z=1500m

z=0m

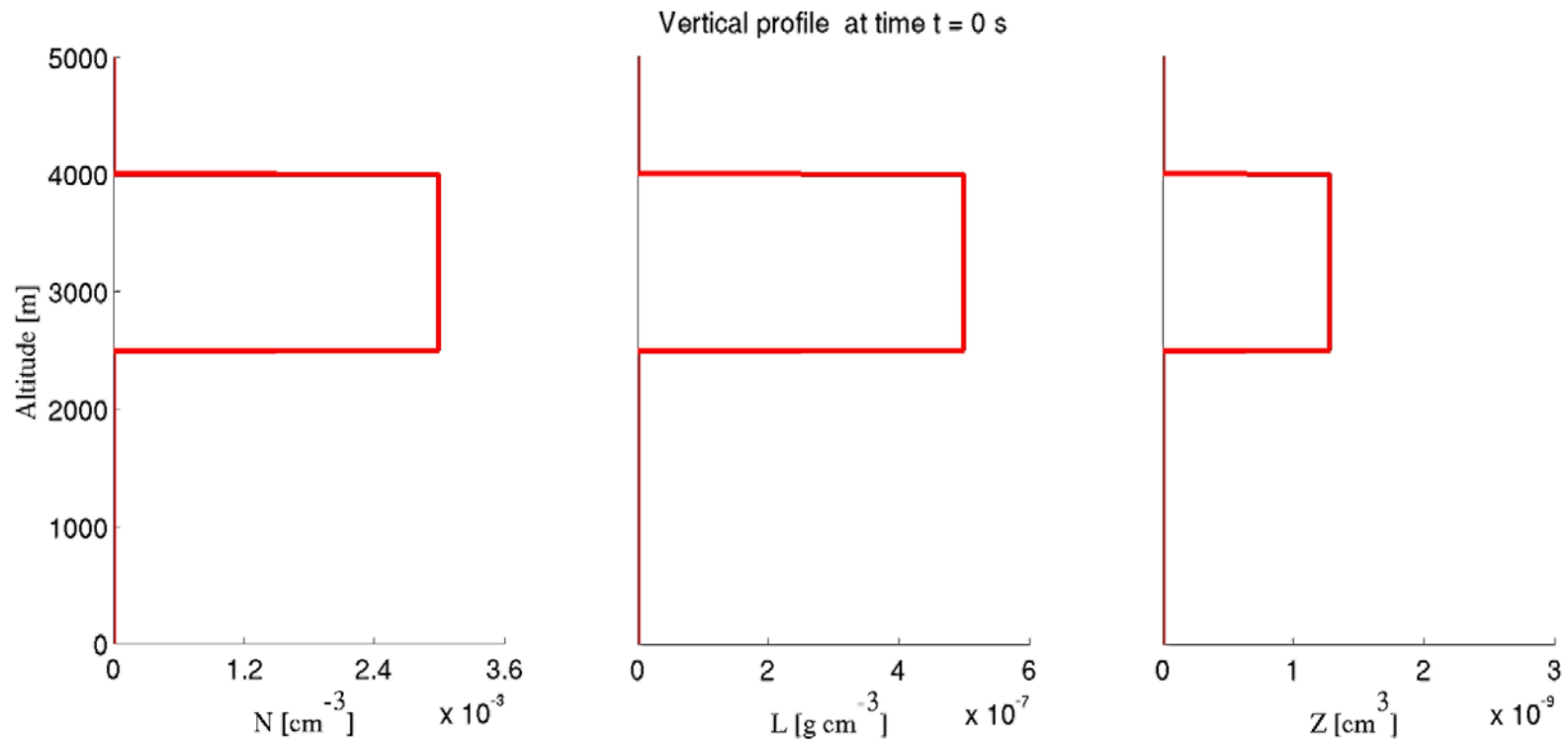


*solid : spectral*

*dashed : QMoM*



# Comparison sedimentation without vs with coagulation



*in red* : without coagulation  
*in blue* : with coagulation

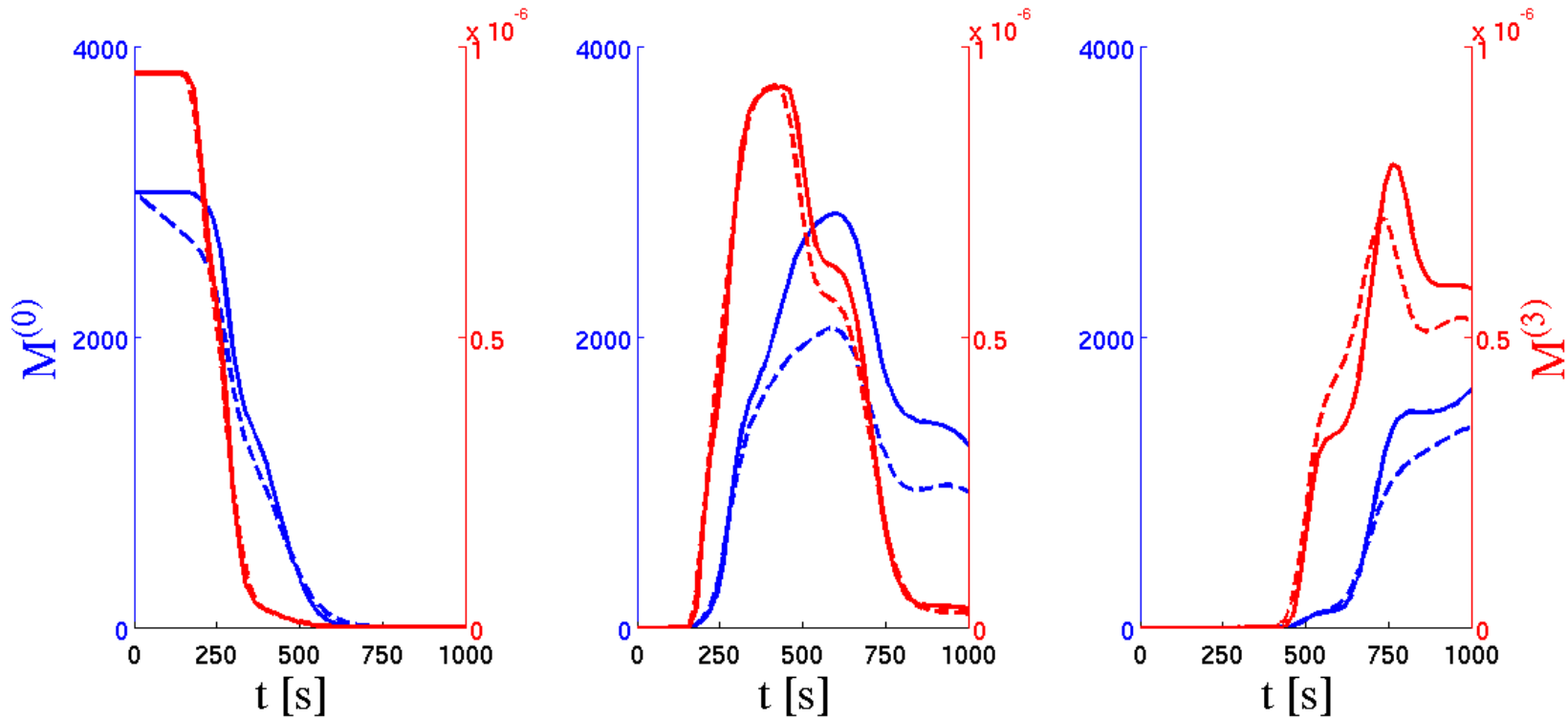
$(E_{eff} = 0.5)$

# Temporal evolution with and without coagulation

$z=3000\text{m}$

$z=1500\text{m}$

$z=0\text{m}$



*solid : without coagulation*

*dashed : with coagulation*

## Conclusions and Outlook

- Application of QMoM to 1D simple cases
  - QMoM deals efficiently with coagulation
  - Strong step towards study of more realistic cases
- Coming Work
  - LES modelling of a wind tunnel turbulent flow with liquid dispersed phase (Thévenin's group of University of Magdeburg)
  - Improvements and cross-checking with AWI (Bremerhaven) for 1D configurations and with KIT (Karlsruhe) for realistic coagulation kernels

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