

11th European Turbulence Conference

# Role of turbulence for droplet condensation

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Porto, Wednesday 27th June 2007



# outline

- 1 an open problem
  - warm cloud development
  - the classical model
  - first turbulent models
- 2 model formulation
  - a global turbulent model
  - a convective turbulent model
- 3 two-dimensional numerical analysis
  - a correlation mechanism
  - spectrum broadening
  - conclusions and perspectives



# condensation crucial role

## three consecutive stages



- heterogeneous nucleation
- condensation
- collision and coalescence
- . . . precipitation

during condensation stage

- droplet radii spectrum broadens



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during condensation stage

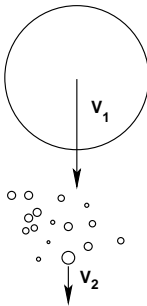
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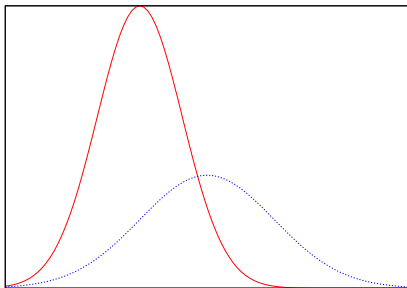
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- heterogeneous nucleation
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during condensation stage

- droplet **radii spectrum broadens**



# classical model failure

## description hypotheses for condensation

- *mean field* type description
- evolution of an ascending small *fluid parcel*

$$\frac{d}{dt} R^2 = 2A_3 s$$
$$\sigma_{R^2}(t) = \sigma_{R^2}(0)$$

### results

- no broadening size spectrum



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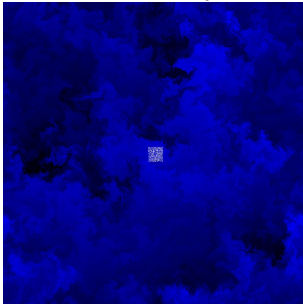
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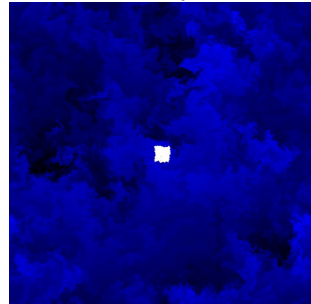
# turbulence in a fluid parcel

temporal and local fluctuations are not enough

confined droplets



free droplets



droplets are transported in the whole cloud

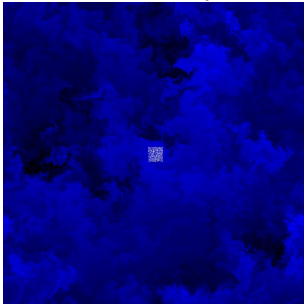
• the fluid parcel is not a proper tool



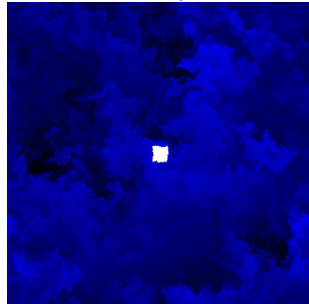
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## a global approach

**2d** A. Celani, G. Falkovich, A. Mazzino, A. Seminara 2005  
*Europhys. Lett.* **70** 6

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submitted to *J. Atmos. Sci.*

- turbulent field fluctuations were considered

$$\overline{w}, \overline{s} \longrightarrow \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}, t), s(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

- the whole cloud core was analysed

$$L \sim 1 \text{ m} \longrightarrow L \sim 1 \text{ km}$$

### results

- there is a correlation between trajectories and supersaturation
- a broadening size spectrum is observed





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# a strongly coupled system

more realistic cloud dynamics

turbulent convective motions

$$\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \partial \mathbf{v} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \partial p + \left(1 - \beta(T - T_m)\right) \mathbf{g} + \nu \partial^2 \mathbf{v}$$

$$\partial_t T + \mathbf{v} \cdot \partial T = -\Gamma w + \kappa \partial^2 T$$

$$\partial_t s + \mathbf{v} \cdot \partial s = A_1 w - \frac{s}{\tau_s(\mathbf{X}_i(t), R_i(t))} + D \partial^2 s$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X}_i(t) = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{X}_i(t), t) + \sqrt{2D} \eta_i(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} R_i^2(t) = 2A_3 s(\mathbf{X}_i(t), t)$$



# a strongly coupled system

local vapour absorption by droplets

droplet local feedback on vapour

$$\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \partial \mathbf{v} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \partial p + \left(1 - \beta(T - T_m)\right) \mathbf{g} + \nu \partial^2 \mathbf{v}$$

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# an undersaturated environment

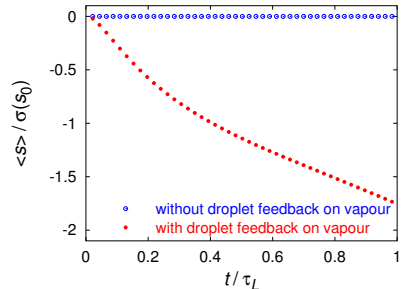
## consequences of the Lagrangian feedback on vapour

- absorption frequency **field**

$$\frac{1}{\tau_s}(\mathbf{x}, t) \propto \sum_i^{N(\mathbf{x}, t)} R_i(t)$$

- mean supersaturation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle s(\mathbf{x}, t) \rangle = - \left\langle \frac{s(\mathbf{x}, t)}{\tau_s(\mathbf{x}, t)} \right\rangle$$



negative mean supersaturation

• clue of correlation



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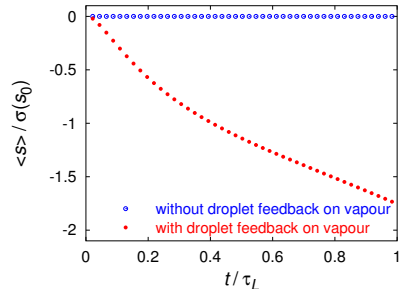
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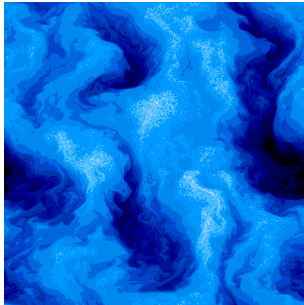
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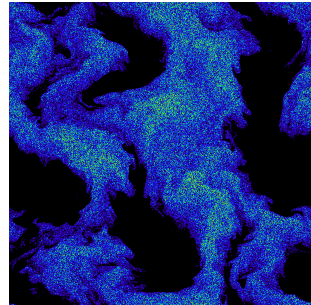


# a selection mechanism

with convection and Lagrangian feedback



supersaturation



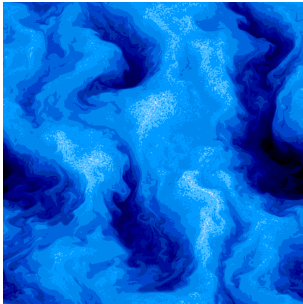
absorption frequency

droplets are in supersaturated regions

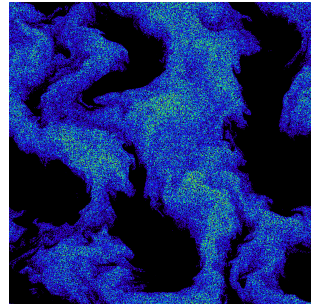
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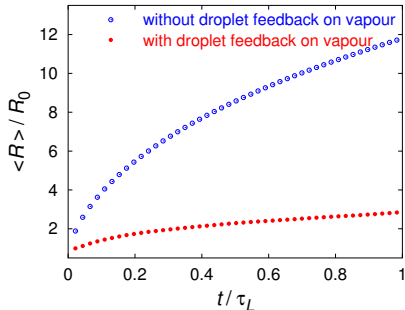
- **there is correlation**



# growth by condensation

bigger droplets absorb more vapour

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle R_i^2 \rangle = 2A_3 \langle s \rangle_{\text{lag}} \neq 2A_3 \langle s \rangle$$



the mean radius

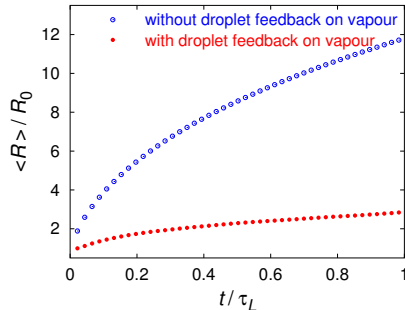
• still grows



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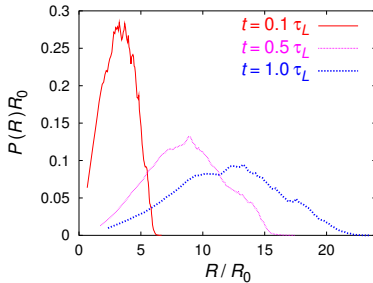
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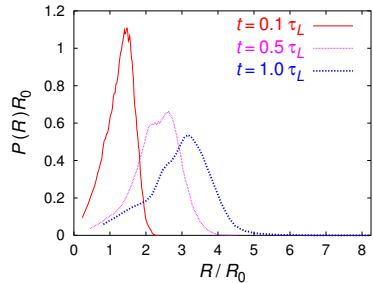


# a reduced broadening

## size spectrum evolution



without feedback



with feedback

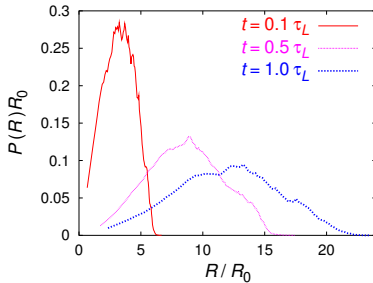
size spectrum

• broadens

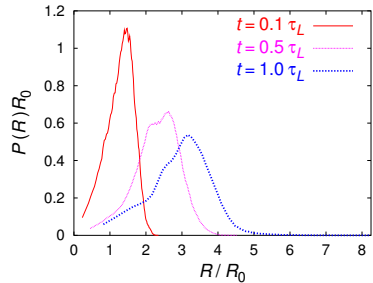


# a reduced broadening

## size spectrum evolution



without feedback



with feedback

size spectrum

● broadens



# conclusions

- very different conditions known by droplets
- correlation between trajectories and vapour field
- broadening size spectrum because of correlation
- effects reduced, not destroyed, by droplet feedback

A. Celani, A. Mazzino, A. Seminara, M. Tizzi 2007  
*J. Turbul.* **8** 17



# perspectives

- **curvature** and **solute** effects

$$\frac{d}{dt}R^2 = 2A_3 \left( s - \frac{c}{R} + \frac{h}{R^3} \right)$$

- wet adiabatic cooling
- wet buoyancy
- more droplets
- coalescence stage



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