

# EFFECTS OF NON- SPHERICAL ICE CRYSTAL SHAPE ON MODELED PROPERTIES OF THIN TROPICAL TROPOPAUSE LAYER CIRRUS

Support:

NSF grant ATM-0926996  
Dept. of Defense NDSEG Fellowship

**Rick Russotto**

Dept. of  
Atmospheric  
Sciences,  
Univ. of  
Washington

With:  
Tom Ackerman  
Dale Durran

ATTREX  
Science Team  
Meeting

Boulder, CO

October 21,  
2014

# INTRODUCTION

- Cirrus in TTL important for:
  - Radiative absorption
  - Water vapor transport into stratosphere
- Why use a cloud-resolving model?
  - Understand effects of mesoscale, radiatively induced circulations
- Previous work (Dinh *et al.*, 2010, 2012, 2014) assumed all spheres
  - Observations (Lawson *et al.*, 2008) suggest at least some plates and columns
  - Existing code could not maintain largest crystals

# INTRODUCTION

- New simulations incorporate more realistic ice crystal shapes
  - Fall speed
  - Growth rate
  - Radiative absorption
- How does this affect time evolution of clouds?

# MODEL OVERVIEW

# COMPONENTS OF MODEL

- **Dynamics:**

- System for Atmospheric Modeling (SAM)  
(Khairoutdinov and Randall, 2003)

- **Microphysics:**

- Bin microphysics scheme (Dinh and Durran, 2012)

- **Radiation:**

- Lookup table of broadband ice crystal absorption cross sections

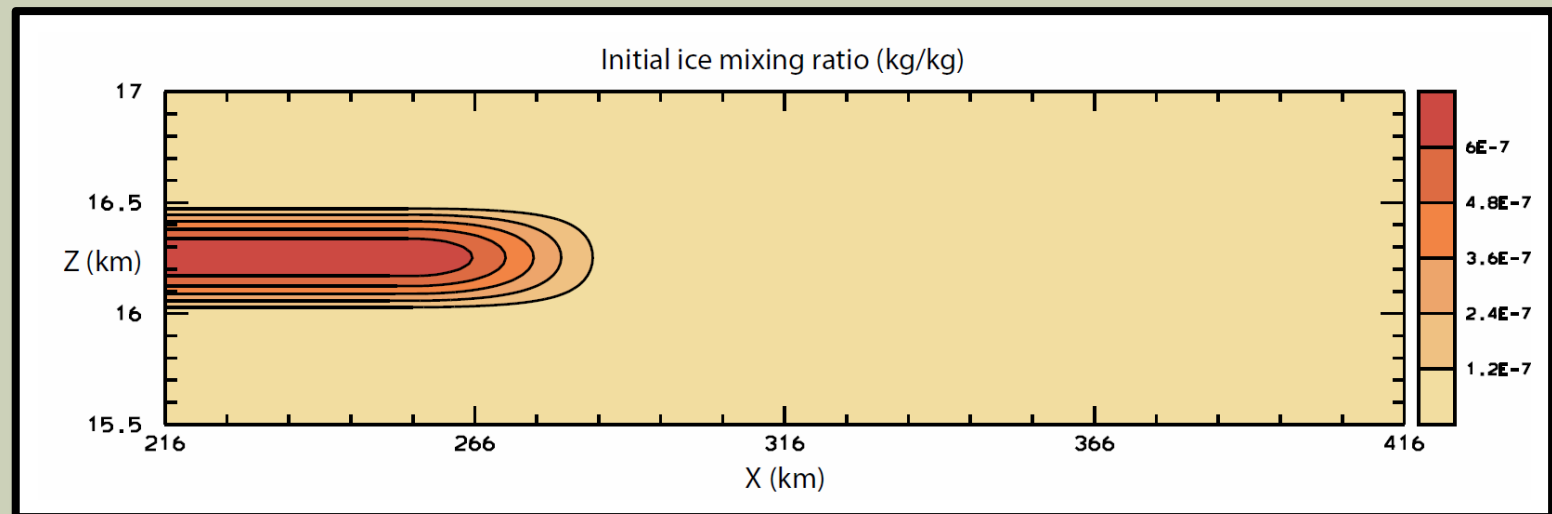
# SIMULATION SETUP

## ■ Domain:

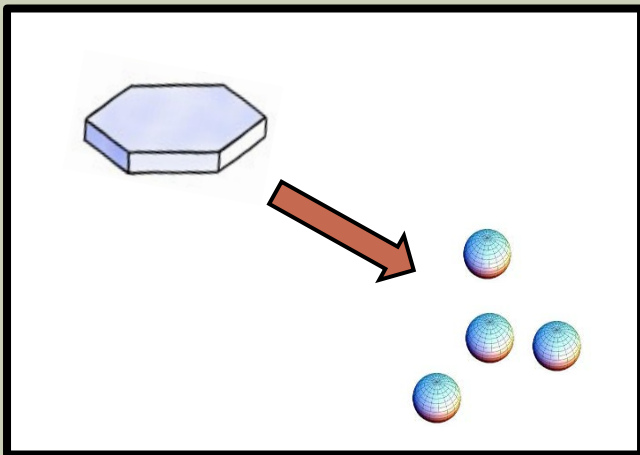
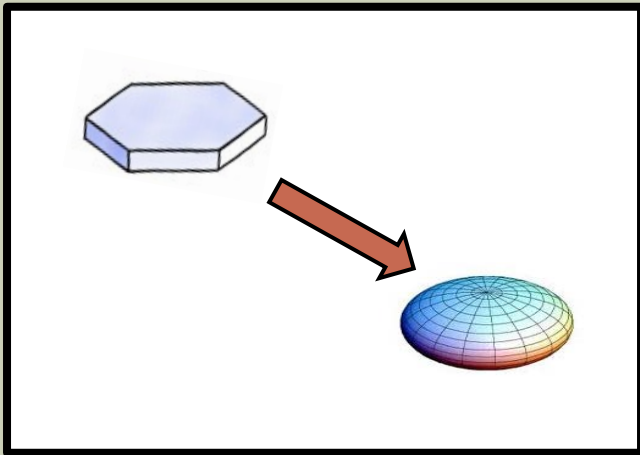
- 2D (x and z)
- 432 km (x) by 3.25 km (z)
- $\Delta x = 100$  m
- $\Delta z = 25$  m
- $\Delta t = 6$  s

## ■ Initialization:

- No large-scale flow
- Pre-existing cloud
- Ice crystals: 3  $\mu\text{m}$  radius
- Sounding: Nauru,  
January average



# REPRESENTING PLATES AND COLUMNS



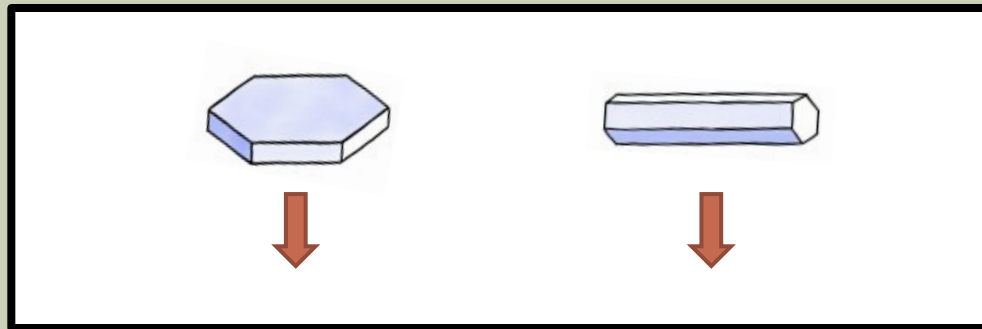
- For microphysics: oblate and prolate spheroids
- For radiation:
  - Collection of spheres
  - Conserve SA/Volume ratio (Neshyba et al., 2003)
- Aspect ratio of 6 for now

**FALL SPEED**

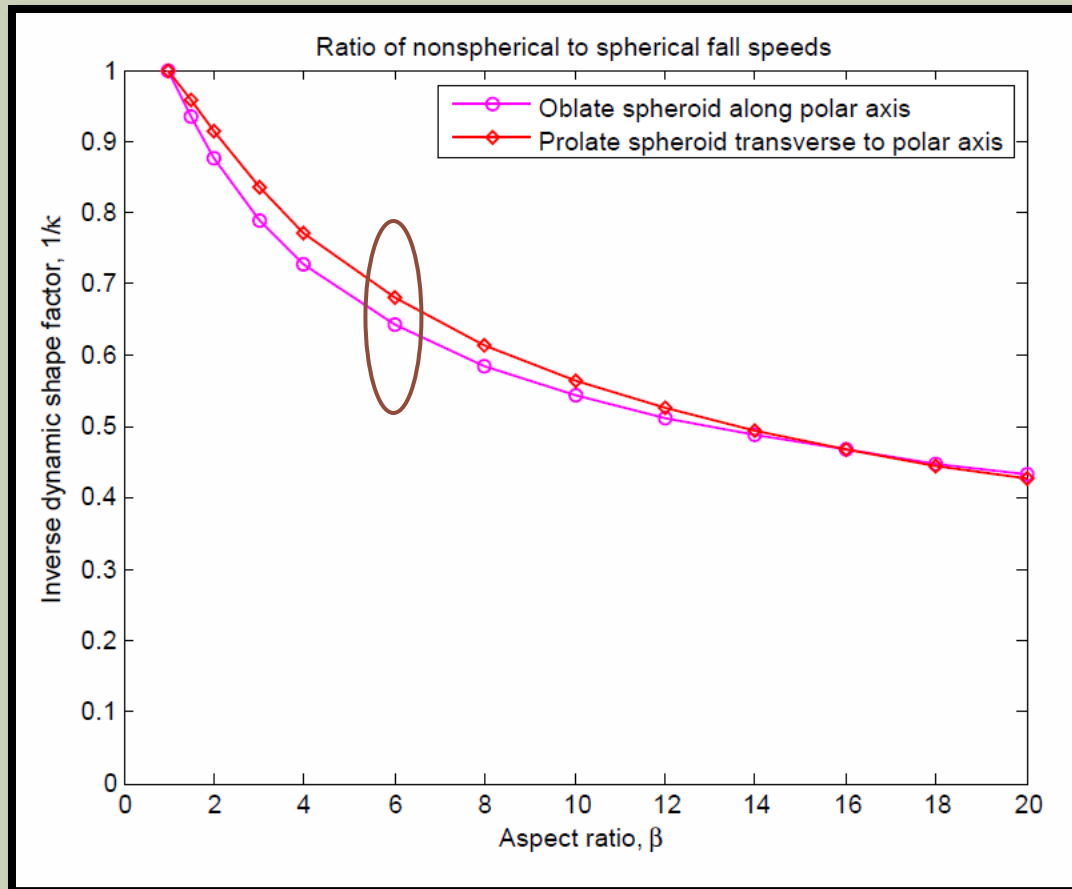


# FALL SPEED: CALCULATION

- Stokes regime:
  - Large enough that fluid is continuum
  - Small enough that fluid's inertia is negligible
  - Analytical expression for terminal velocity
- Corrections for spheroids: functions only of aspect ratio (Fuchs, *Mechanics of Aerosols*, 1964)
- Orientation: maximize horizontal cross section



# FALL SPEED: EFFECT OF SHAPE

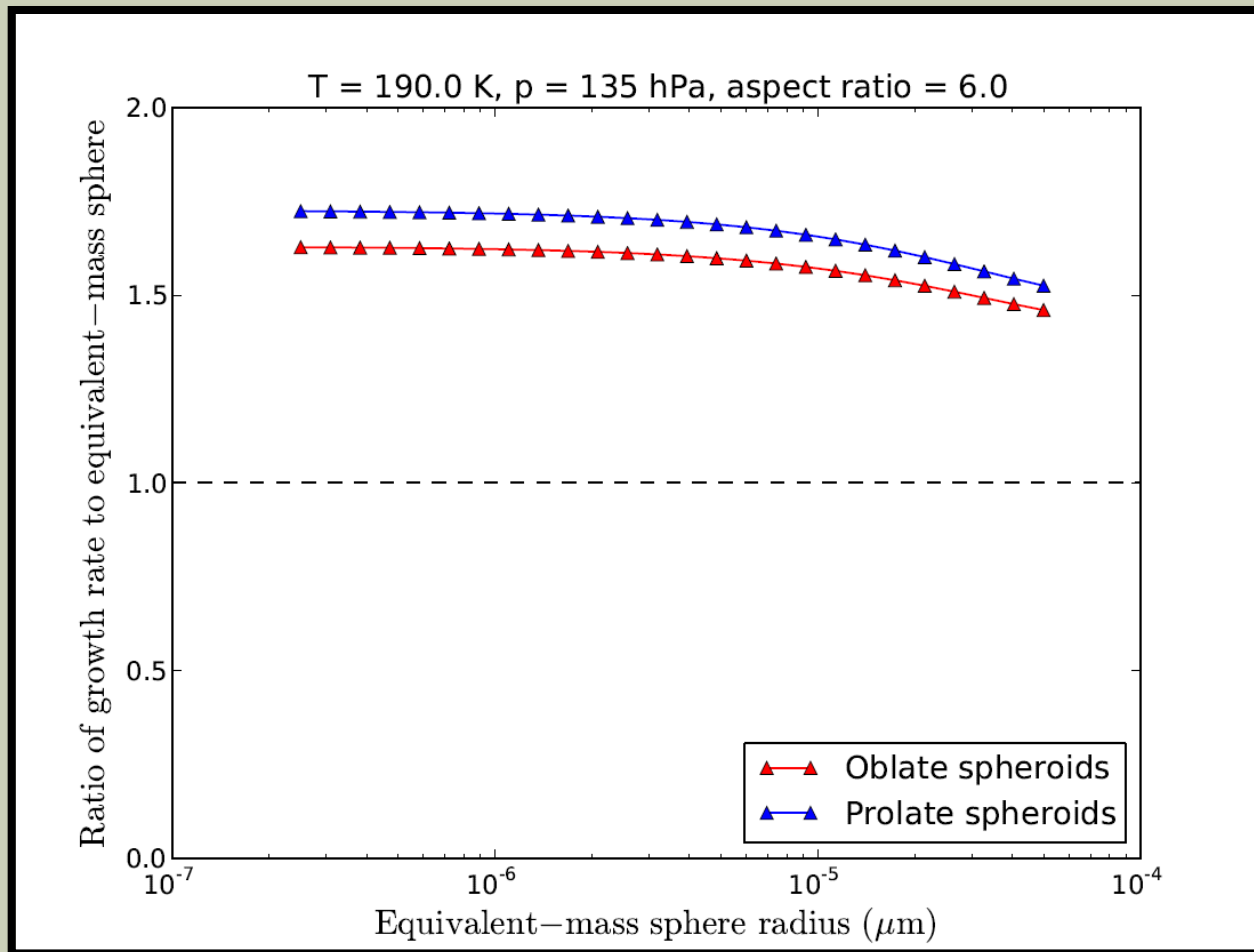


# GROWTH RATES

# GROWTH RATE: CALCULATION

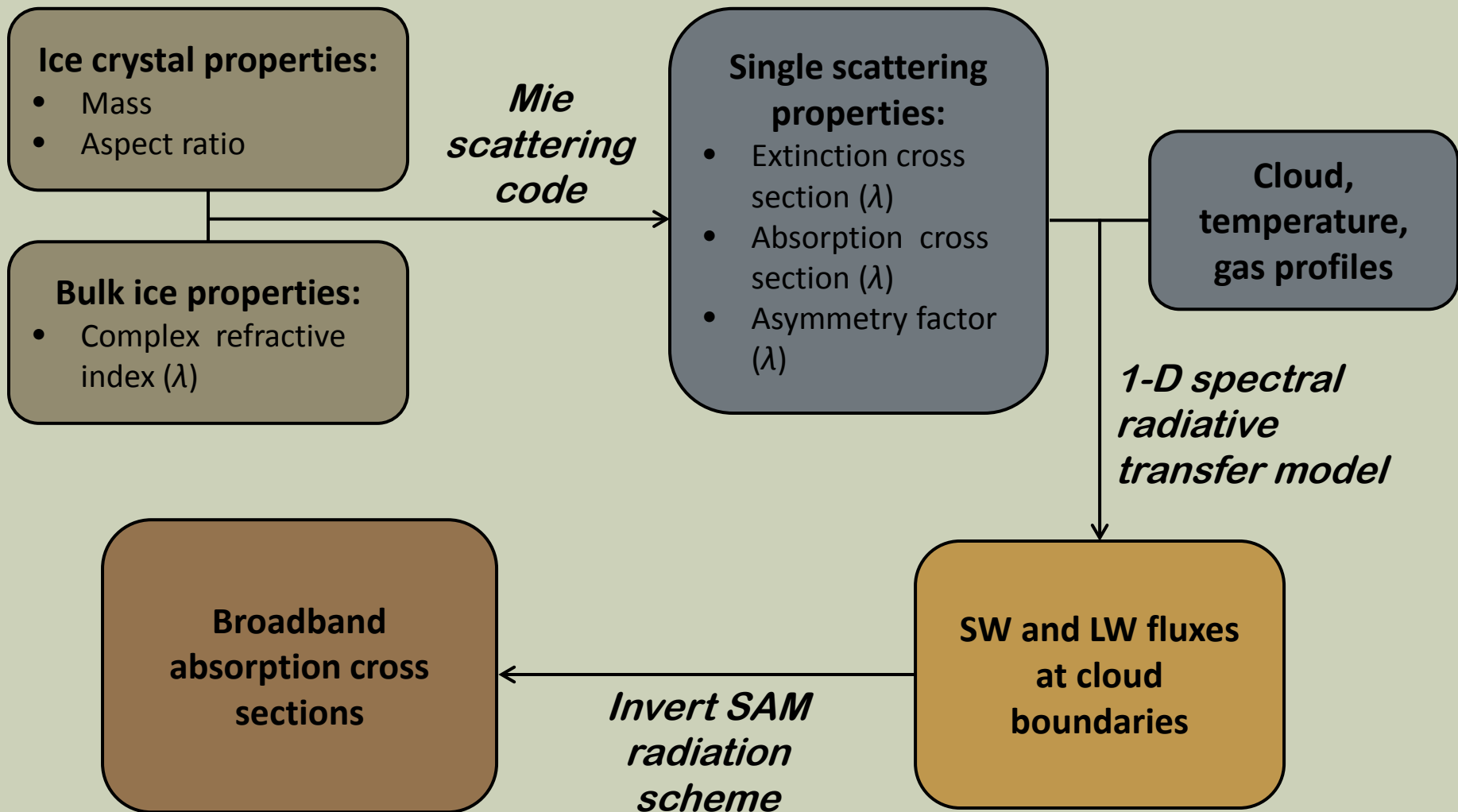
- How to account for both size and shape?
- Electrostatic analogy: growth rate  $\propto$  **capacitance**
  - Equal to radius for spheres
  - Spheroids: function of major and minor axes

# GROWTH RATE: EFFECT OF SHAPE

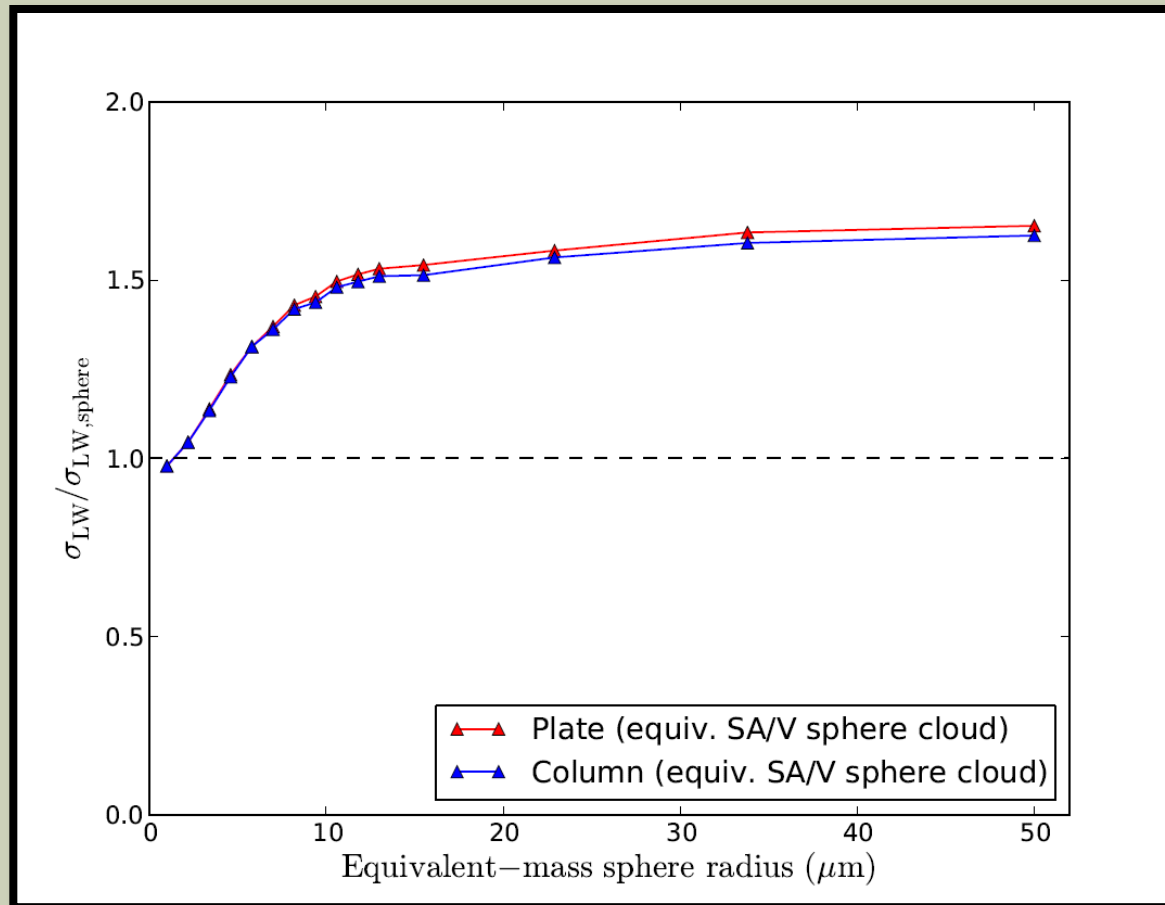


# RADIATIVE ABSORPTION

# RADIATION: PARAMETERIZATION PROCESS



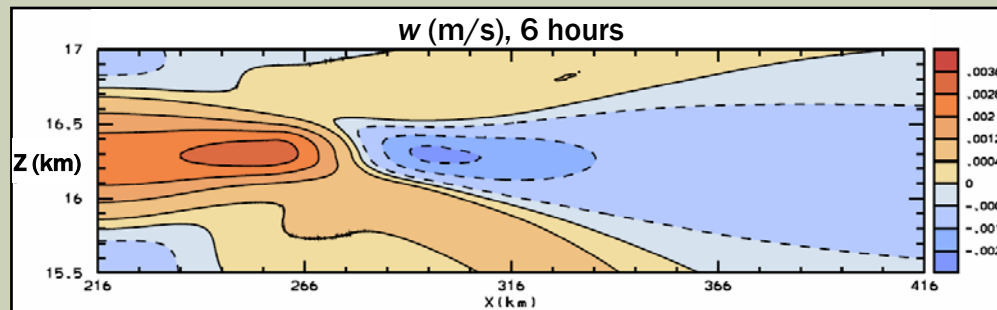
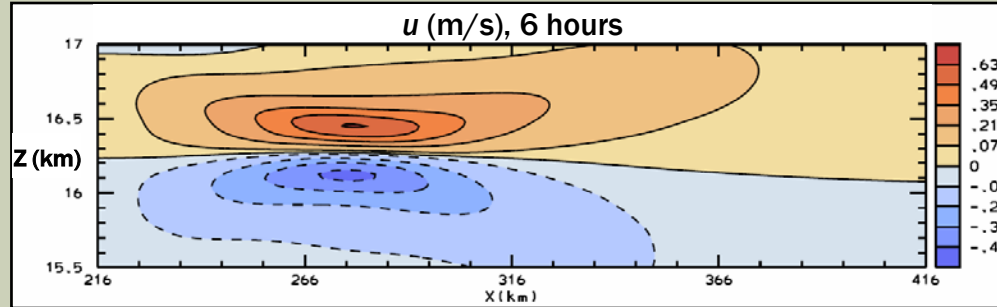
# RADIATION: EFFECT OF SHAPE



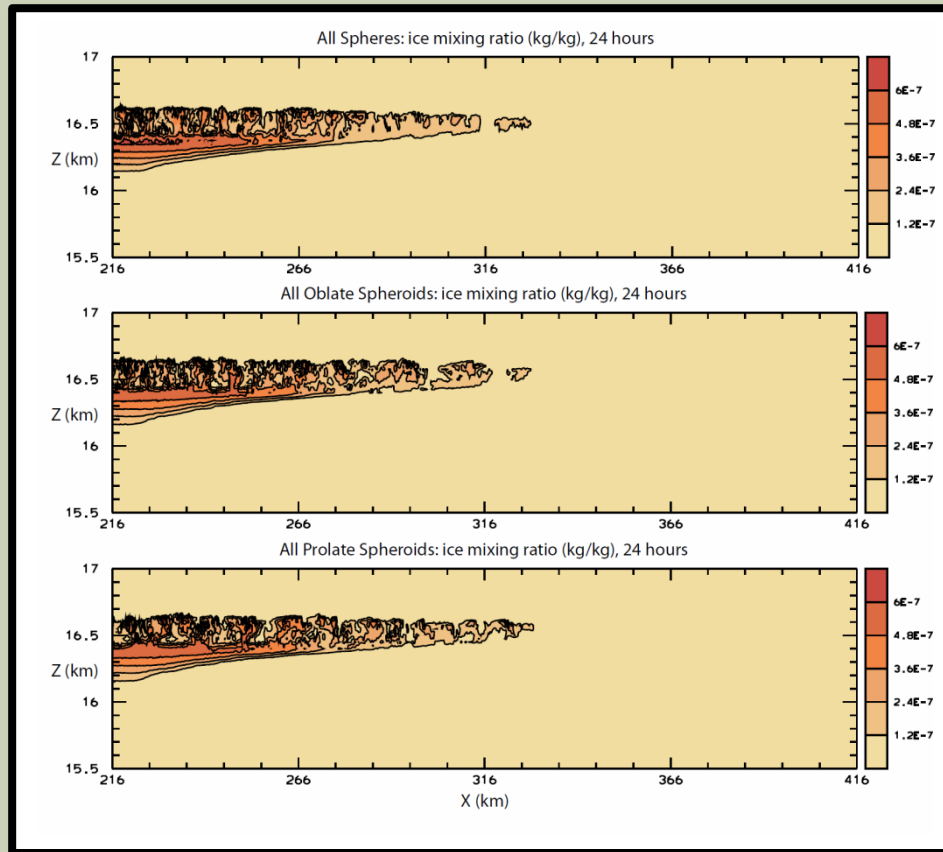


# RESULTS AND FUTURE WORK

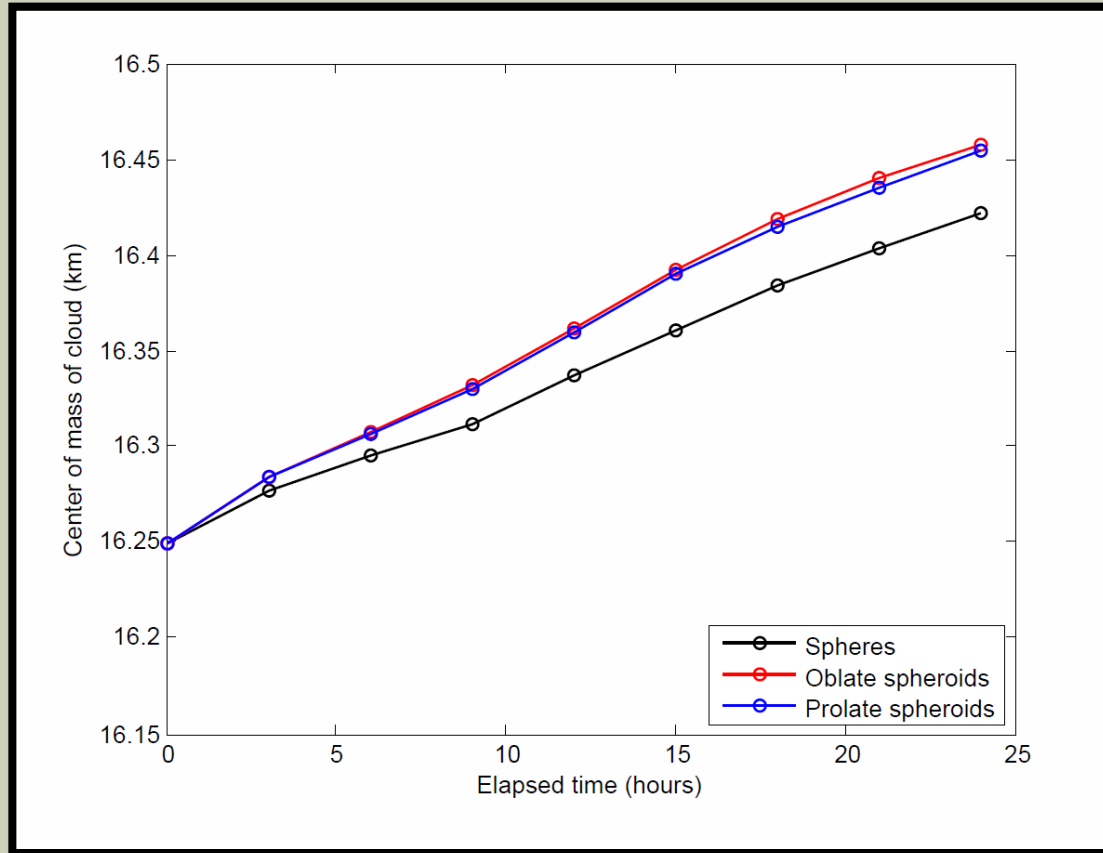
# CIRCULATION AT 6 HOURS



# CLOUD AT 24 HOURS

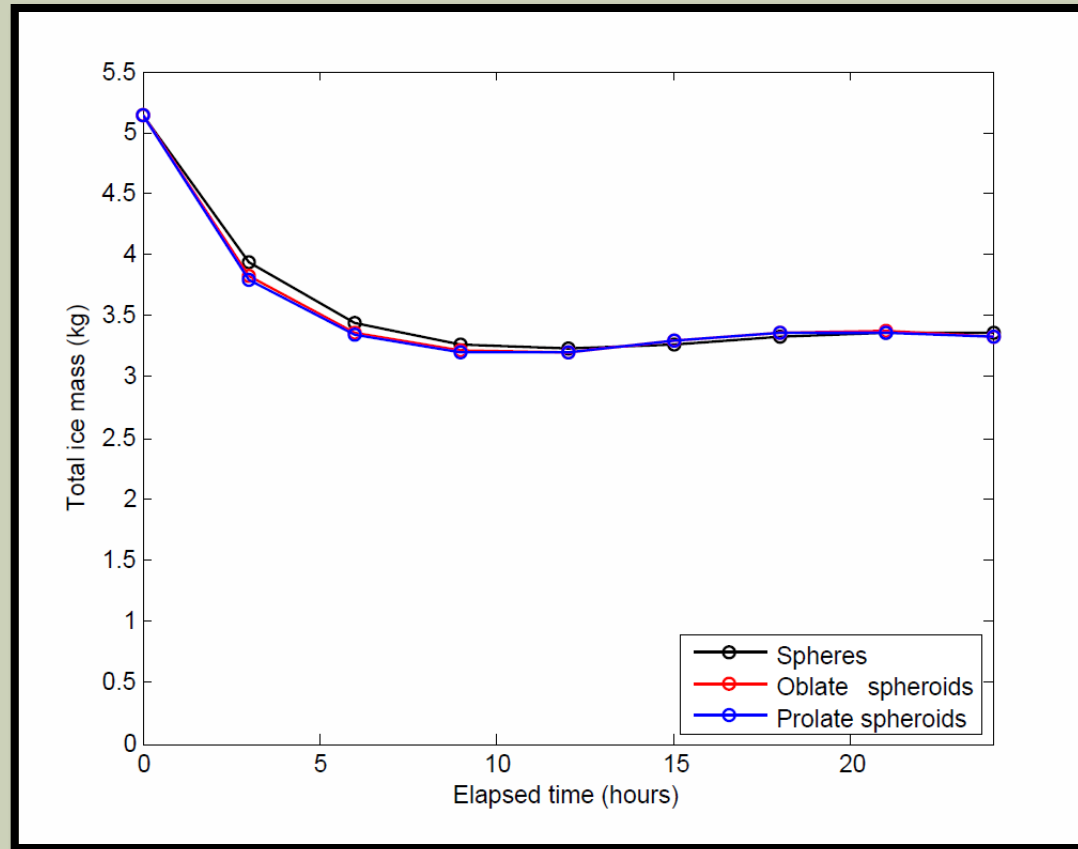


# LIFTING OF CLOUD



- Preliminary: additional lifting due to
  - Fall speeds (2/3)
  - Radiation (1/3)

# TOTAL CLOUD MASS



# FUTURE WORK

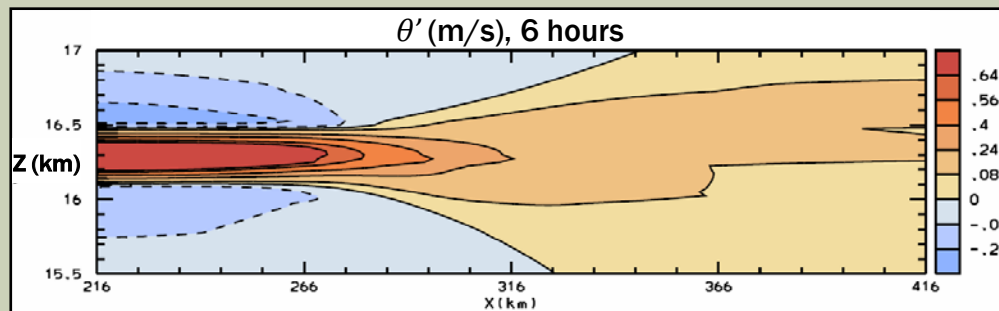
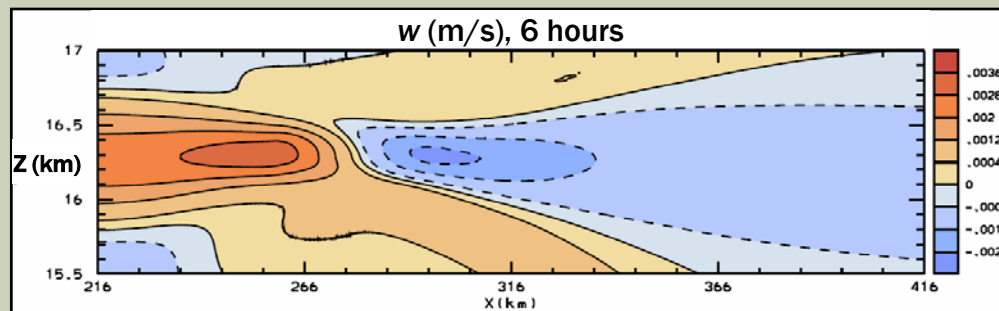
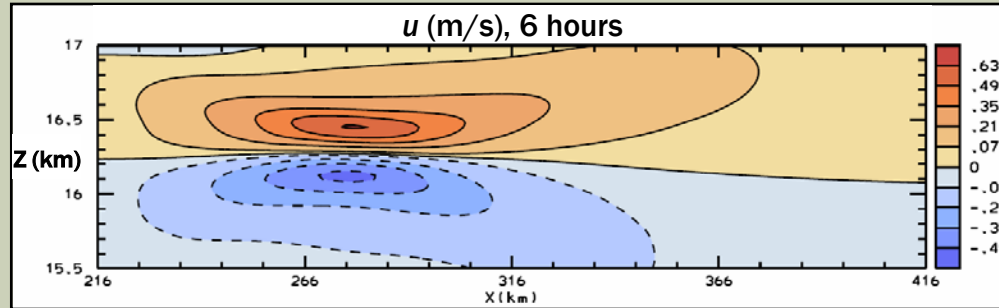
- Distinguish effects of fall speed, growth rate, and radiation
- Other ways to get single-scattering properties
  - T-Matrix method (Mishchenko & Travis, 1998)
  - Improved geometric optics method (Yang & Liou, 1996)
- Use of ATTREX data:
  - Ice crystal size distributions (also habits)
  - Environmental water vapor distributions
  - Inertial-gravity waves?

**QUESTIONS?**

**ADDITIONAL SLIDES**



# CIRCULATION AT 6 HOURS



## ■ Other ways to get single-scattering properties

- T-Matrix method (Mishchenko & Travis, 1998)
- Improved geometric optics method (Yang & Liou, 1996)
- Existing databases (Fu et al., 1999; Yang et al., 2013)
- Exact scattering solution for spheroids (Asano & Sato, 1980)

# GROWTH RATE: CALCULATION

- General growth rate equation: (Pruppacher and Klett, 1978)

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = \frac{4\pi C (S_{\text{ice}} - 1)}{\frac{R_v T}{e_{\text{sat,ice}} D'_v} + \frac{L_s}{k'_a T} \left( \frac{L_s}{R_v T} - 1 \right)}$$

- Shape dependence for:

- $C$
- $D'_v$
- $k'_a$

$m$  = ice crystal mass

$C$  = capacitance

$S_{\text{ice}}$  = saturation ratio w.r.t. ice

$R_v$  = gas constant for water vapor

$T$  = temperature

$e_{\text{sat,ice}}$  = sat. vapor pressure over plane surface

$L_s$  = latent heat of sublimation

$k'_a$  = modified thermal conductivity of air

$D'_v$  = modified diffusivity of water vapor in air

# GROWTH RATE: CAPACITANCE METHOD

- General growth rate equation (Pruppacher and Klett, 1978):

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = \frac{4\pi C(S_{\text{ice}} - 1)}{\frac{R_v T}{e_{\text{sat,ice}} D'_v} + \frac{L_s}{k'_a T} \left( \frac{L_s}{R_v T} - 1 \right)}$$

- Expressions for capacitance,  $C$ :

- Spheres:  $C = r$

$r$  = radius of sphere

- Oblate spheroids:

$$C = \frac{ae}{\sin^{-1} e} \quad \text{where} \quad e = \sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{a^2}}$$

- Prolate spheroids:

$$C = \frac{A}{\ln\left(\frac{a+A}{b}\right)} \quad \text{where} \quad A = \sqrt{a^2 - b^2}$$

$a$  = semi-major axis of ellipse of revolution

$b$  = semi-minor axis “ “ “ “

$e$  = eccentricity “ “ “ “

$A$  = linear eccentricity “ “ “ “

$m$  = ice crystal mass

$C$  = capacitance

$S_{\text{ice}}$  = saturation ratio w.r.t. ice

$R_v$  = gas constant for water vapor

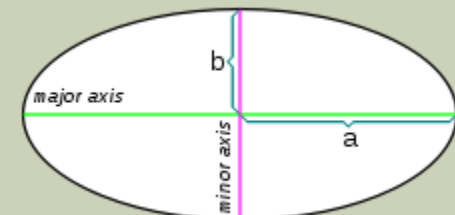
$T$  = temperature

$e_{\text{sat,ice}}$  = saturation vapor pressure over plane surface

$L_s$  = latent heat of sublimation

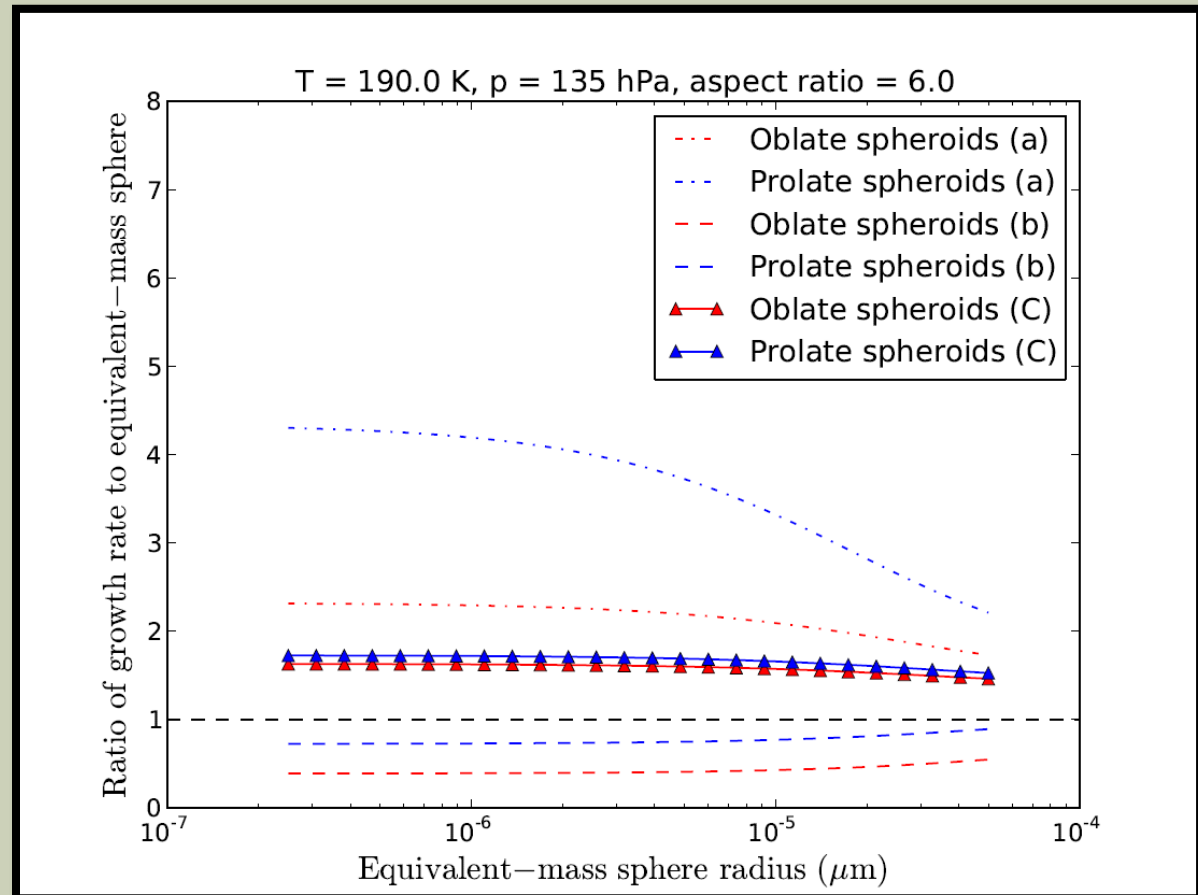
$k'_a$  = modified thermal conductivity of air

$D'_v$  = modified diffusivity of water vapor in air



# MORE ON GROWTH RATE

Field discontinuity corrections for thermal conductivity and water vapor diffusivity ( $D_v'$ ,  $k_a'$ ) depend on particle size. What measure of size to use for spheroids? Makes a big difference.



# FALL SPEEDS

- Stokes regime:
  - Large enough that fluid is a continuum
  - Small enough that fluid's inertia is negligible
- Analytical expression for drag coefficient
  - And therefore terminal velocity
- For spheres:

$$v_T = \frac{2}{9} \frac{\rho_{ice} g}{\mu_{air}} r^2$$

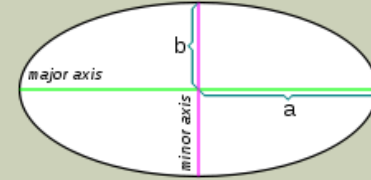
# FALL SPEEDS

- Corrections for spheroids from Fuchs, *Mechanics of Aerosols* (1964)
- Dynamic shape factor  $\kappa$ :

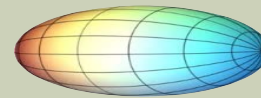
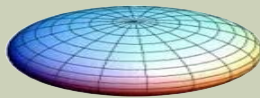
$$\kappa \equiv \frac{\text{rate of settling of equivalent mass sphere}}{\text{rate of settling of spheroid particle}}$$

- $\kappa$  function only of aspect ratio  $\beta$

$$\beta = \frac{a}{b}$$



- Fall directions: maximize horizontal cross section

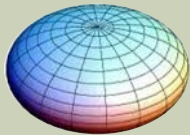


# FALL SPEED: STOKES' LAW METHOD

- Corrections for spheroids from Fuchs, *Mechanics of Aerosols* (1964)
- Dynamic shape factor  $\kappa$ :

$$\kappa \equiv \frac{\text{rate of settling of equivalent mass sphere}}{\text{rate of settling of spheroid particle}}$$

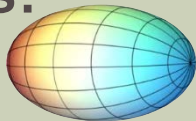
- For oblate spheroids, falling along the polar axis:



$$\kappa = \frac{\frac{4}{3}(\beta^{1/3})(\beta^2 - 1)}{\frac{\beta(\beta^2 - 2)}{\sqrt{\beta^2 - 1}} \tan^{-1}(\sqrt{\beta^2 - 1}) + \beta}$$

$\beta$  = aspect ratio  
= (major axis)/  
(minor axis)

- For prolate spheroids, falling transverse to the polar axis:



$$\kappa = \frac{\frac{8}{3}(\beta^{-1/3})(\beta^2 - 1)}{\frac{(2\beta^2 - 3)}{\sqrt{\beta^2 - 1}} \ln(\beta + \sqrt{\beta^2 - 1}) + \beta}$$



# FALL SPEED: STOKES' LAW METHOD

- Has been used before (Jensen *et al.*, 2008)
- Only works for low Reynolds' numbers, but that should be the case here:

$$\text{Re} = \frac{\rho v L}{\mu}$$

Estimates:

$$\rho \approx 1.2 e^{-2} = 0.162 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \quad (\text{2 scale heights up})$$

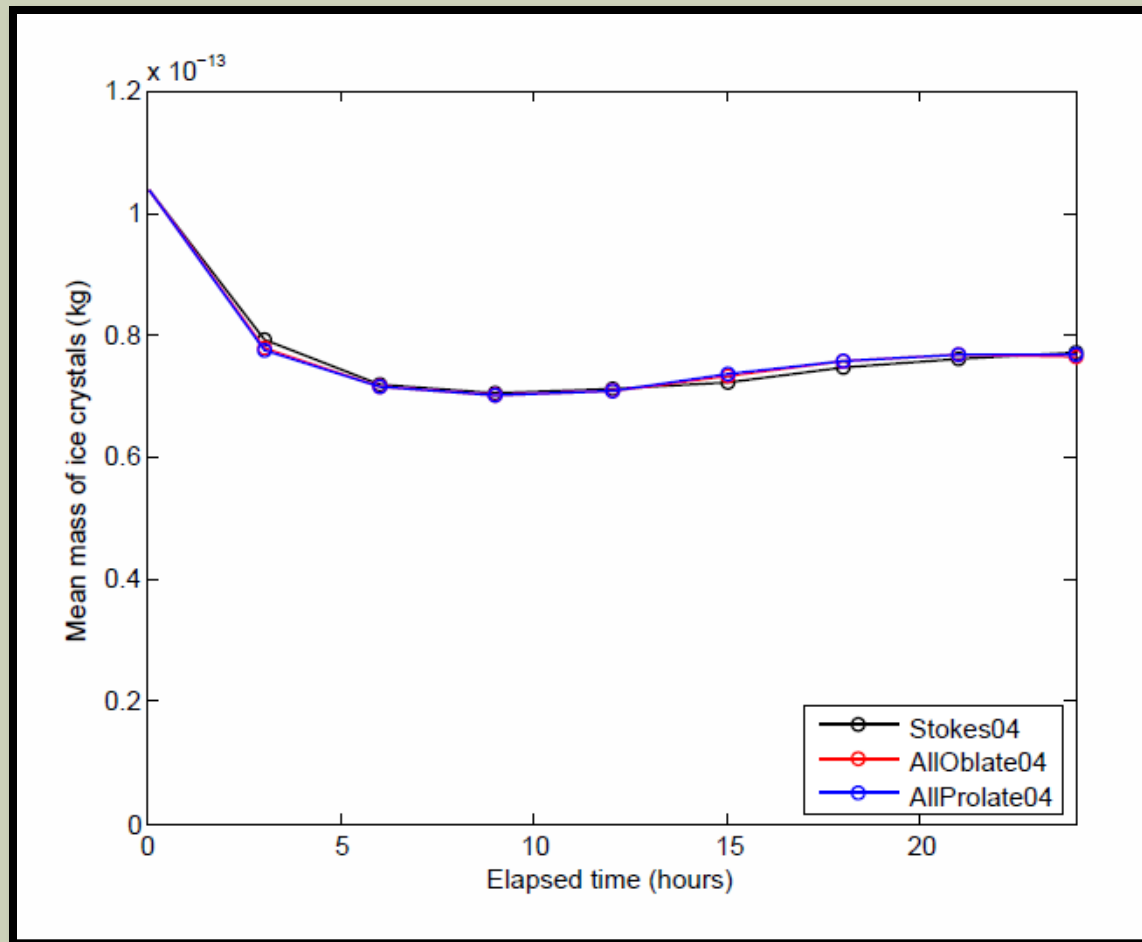
$$v \approx 10 \frac{\text{mm}}{\text{s}} = 0.01 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \quad (\text{based on updrafts in Dinh } et al., 2010)$$

$$L \approx 100 \mu\text{m} = 0.0001 \text{ m} \quad (\text{conservative estimate for particle size})$$

$$\mu \approx 1.2 \times 10^{-5} \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m} \cdot \text{s}} \quad (\text{viscosity of air at about 180 K})$$

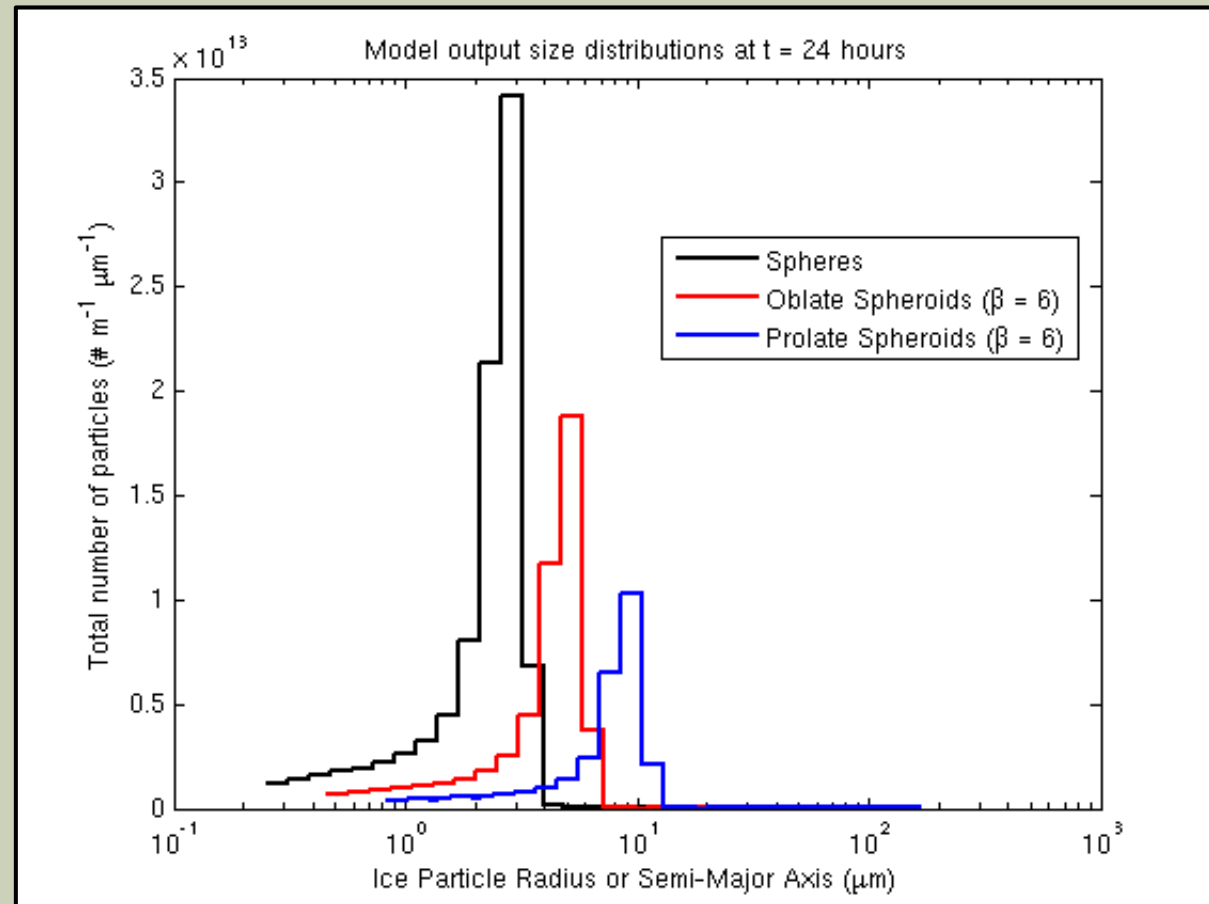
$$\text{Re} \approx 0.0135 \ll 1$$

# MEAN ICE CRYSTAL MASS

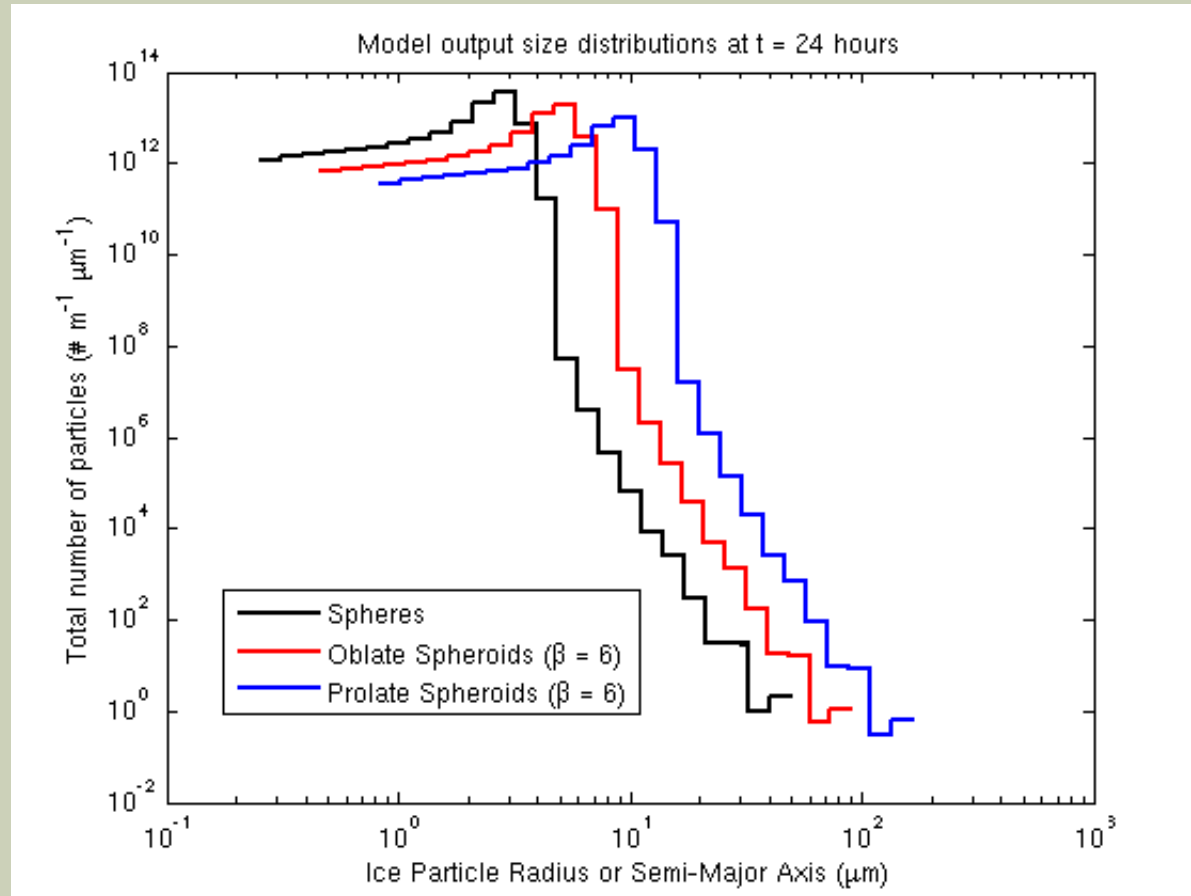


# PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTIONS

- Note: these are earlier simulations that did not consider effects of shape on radiation, and also had a different growth rate calculation.

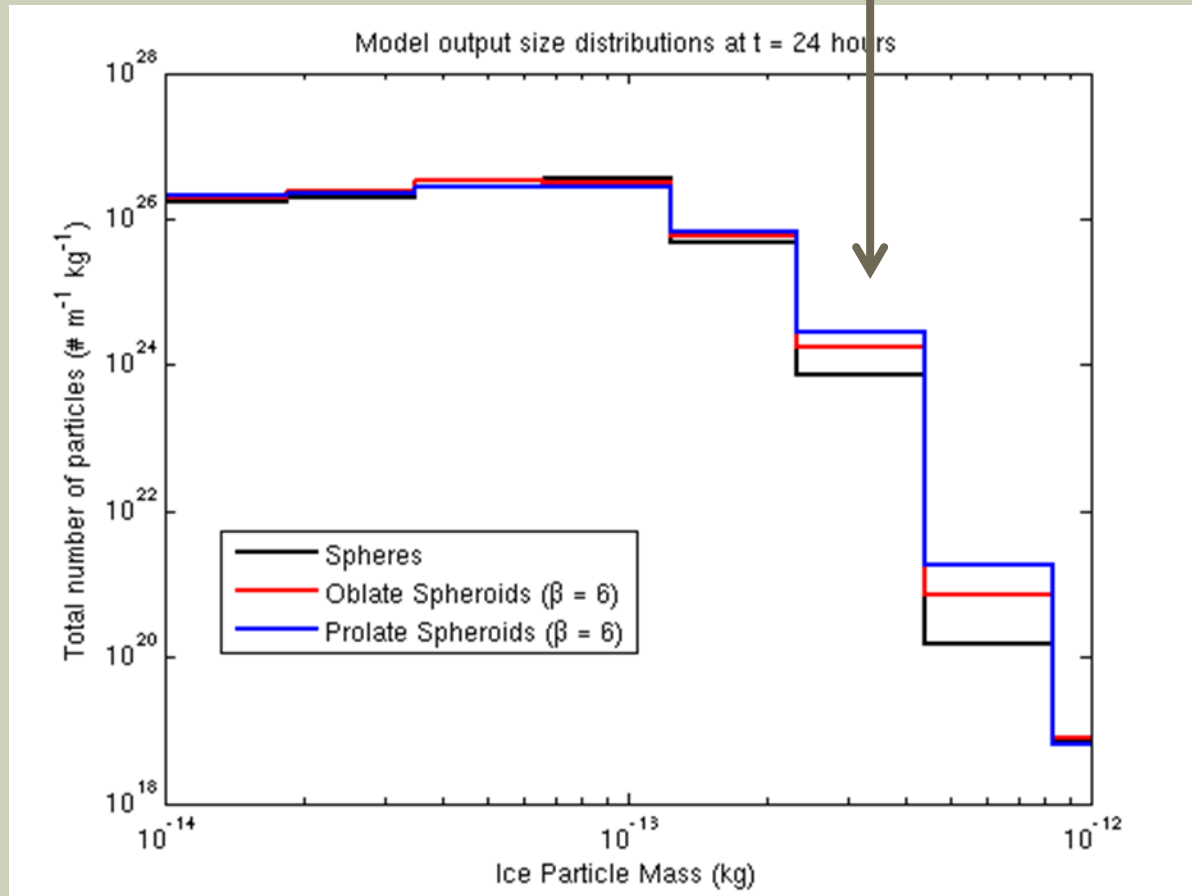


# PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTIONS



# PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTIONS

Starting Bin



# PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTIONS

Starting Bin

