

# ***A Roadmap for ML-assisted Ice Microphysics Parameterizations in PUMAS***

[Credit: pynsrps](#)



*Tuesday, Feb 4, 2025*

*2025 CESM Winter Working Group Meeting*

**Joseph Ko**<sup>1</sup>, Jerry Harrington<sup>2</sup>, Kamal Chandrakar<sup>3</sup>, Jasmine Remillard<sup>4</sup>, Marcus van Lier-Walqui<sup>4, 1</sup>, Kara Sulia<sup>5</sup>, Vanessa Przybylo<sup>5</sup>, Trude Eidhammer<sup>3</sup>, Hugh Morrison<sup>3</sup>, Kara Lamb<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Columbia University, <sup>2</sup>Penn State University,  
<sup>3</sup>NCAR, <sup>4</sup>NASA GISS, <sup>5</sup>University at Albany



# ***Outline***

1. Motivation

2. Lab + NODE

3. In situ + ML

4. LES + Bayesian + ROM

5. Future steps + timeline

# ***Outline***

1. Motivation
2. Lab + NODE
3. In situ + ML
4. LES + Bayesian + ROM
5. Future steps + timeline

# ***Outline***

1. Motivation
2. Lab + NODE
- 3. In situ + ML**
4. LES + Bayesian + ROM
5. Future steps + timeline

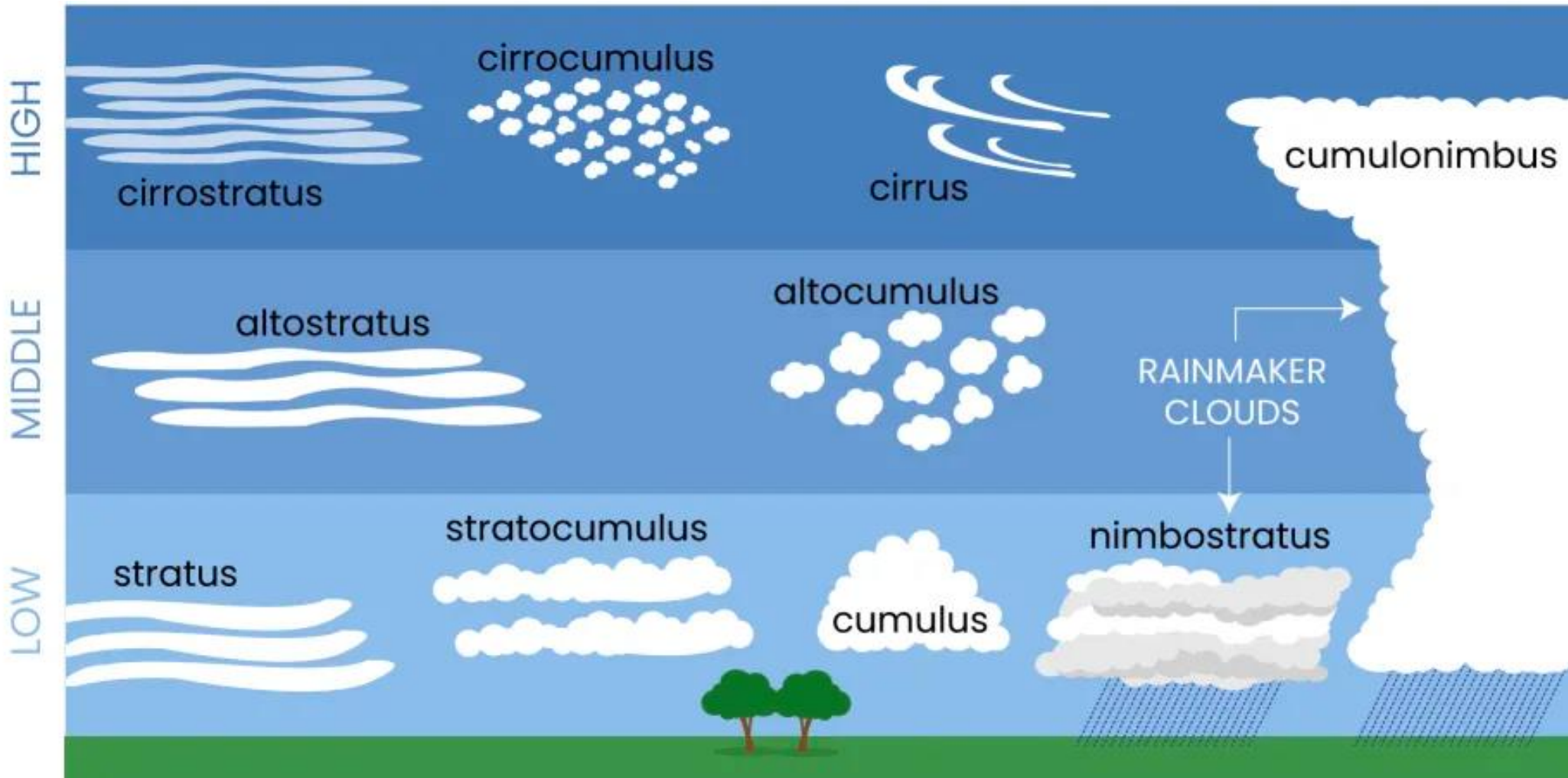
# ***Outline***

1. Motivation
2. Lab + NODE
3. In situ + ML
4. LES + Bayesian + ROM
5. Future steps + timeline

# ***Outline***

1. Motivation
2. Lab + NODE
3. In situ + ML
4. LES + Bayesian + ROM
5. Future steps + timeline

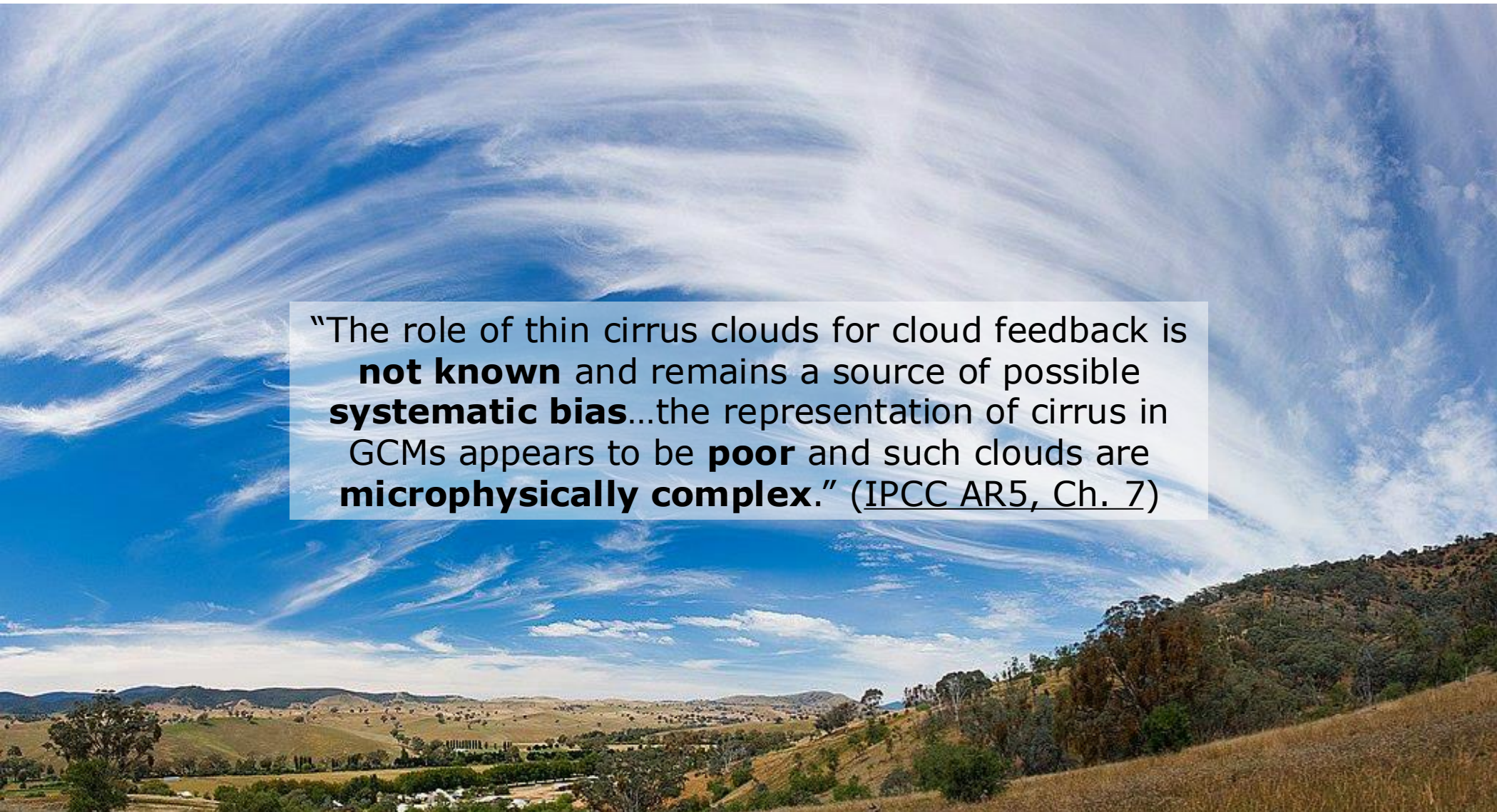
# *Clouds strongly impact the climate*



Source: [UCAR](#)

Clouds impact Earth's **energy balance** and **hydrologic cycle**

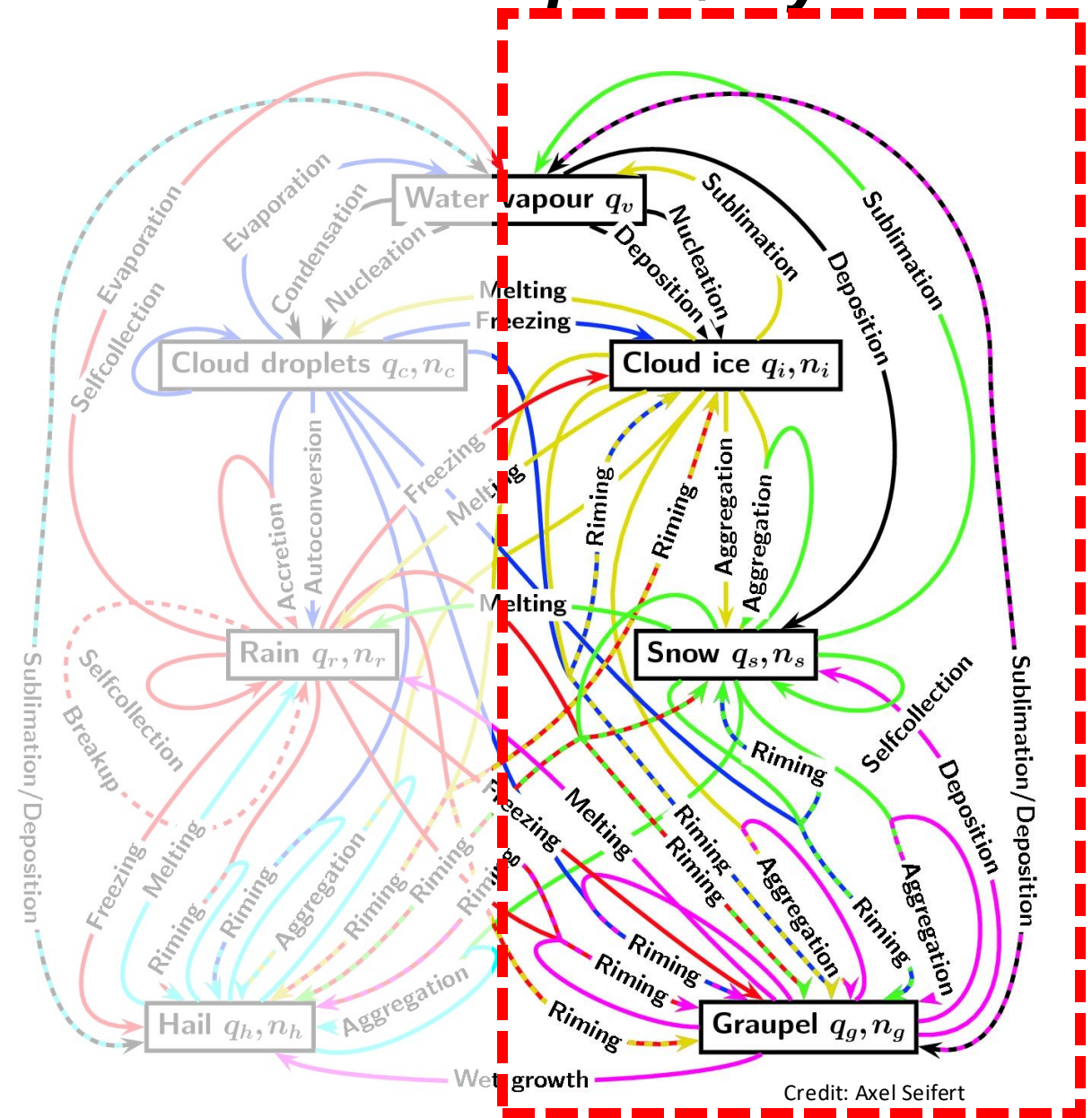
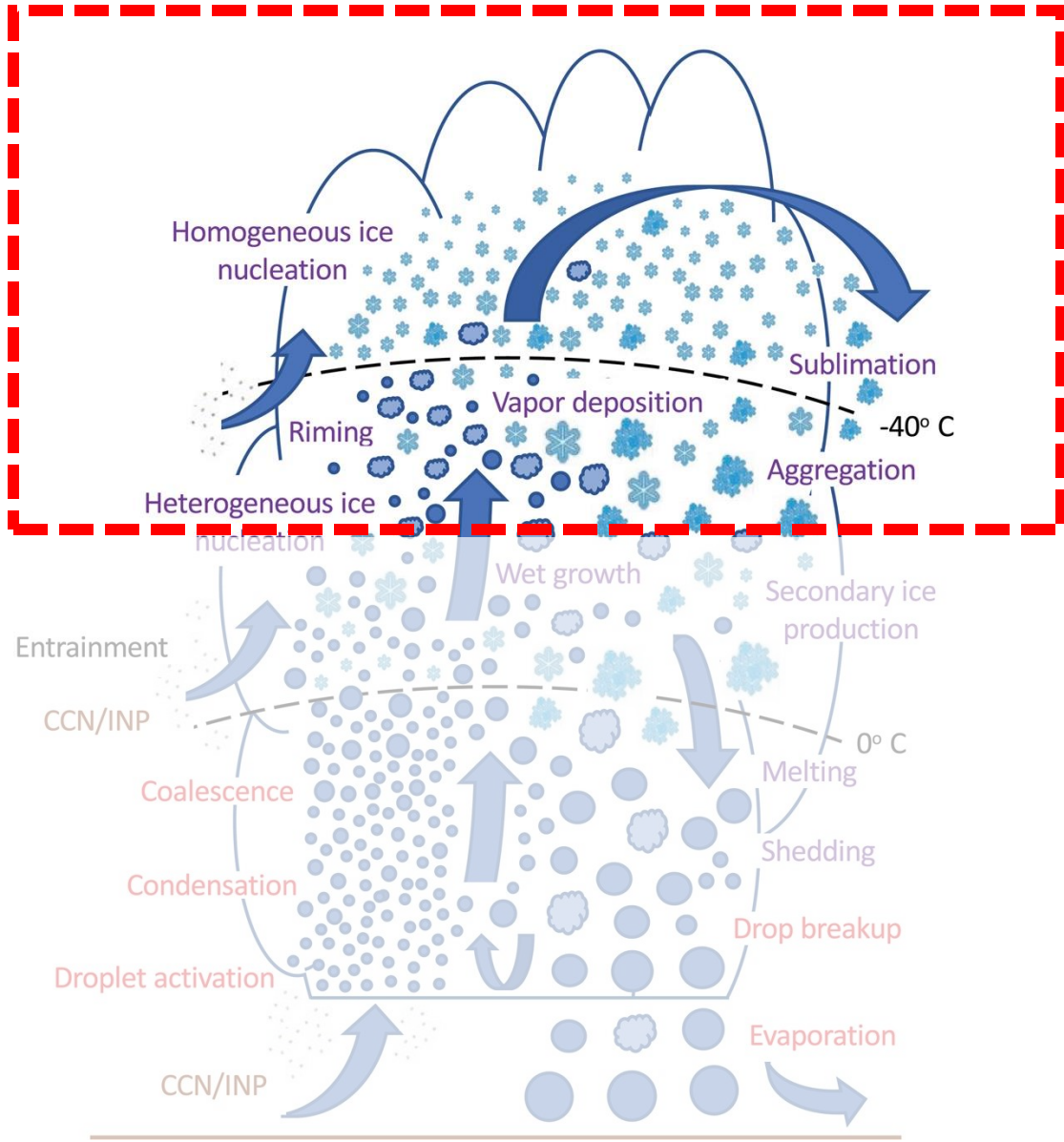
# *Ice clouds are poorly understood*



“The role of thin cirrus clouds for cloud feedback is **not known** and remains a source of possible **systematic bias**...the representation of cirrus in GCMs appears to be **poor** and such clouds are **microphysically complex**.” (IPCC AR5, Ch. 7)



# Cloud Microphysics: small-scale processes that describe the formation, evolution, and interaction of droplets/crystals



Credit: Morrison et al. 2020

Credit: Axel Seifert

## ***2. Lab + NODE***

***Learning ice growth rates with lab measurements and neural ODE's  
(Kara Lamb, Jerry Harrington)***

# Can we use lab measurements to improve representation of vapor depositional growth?

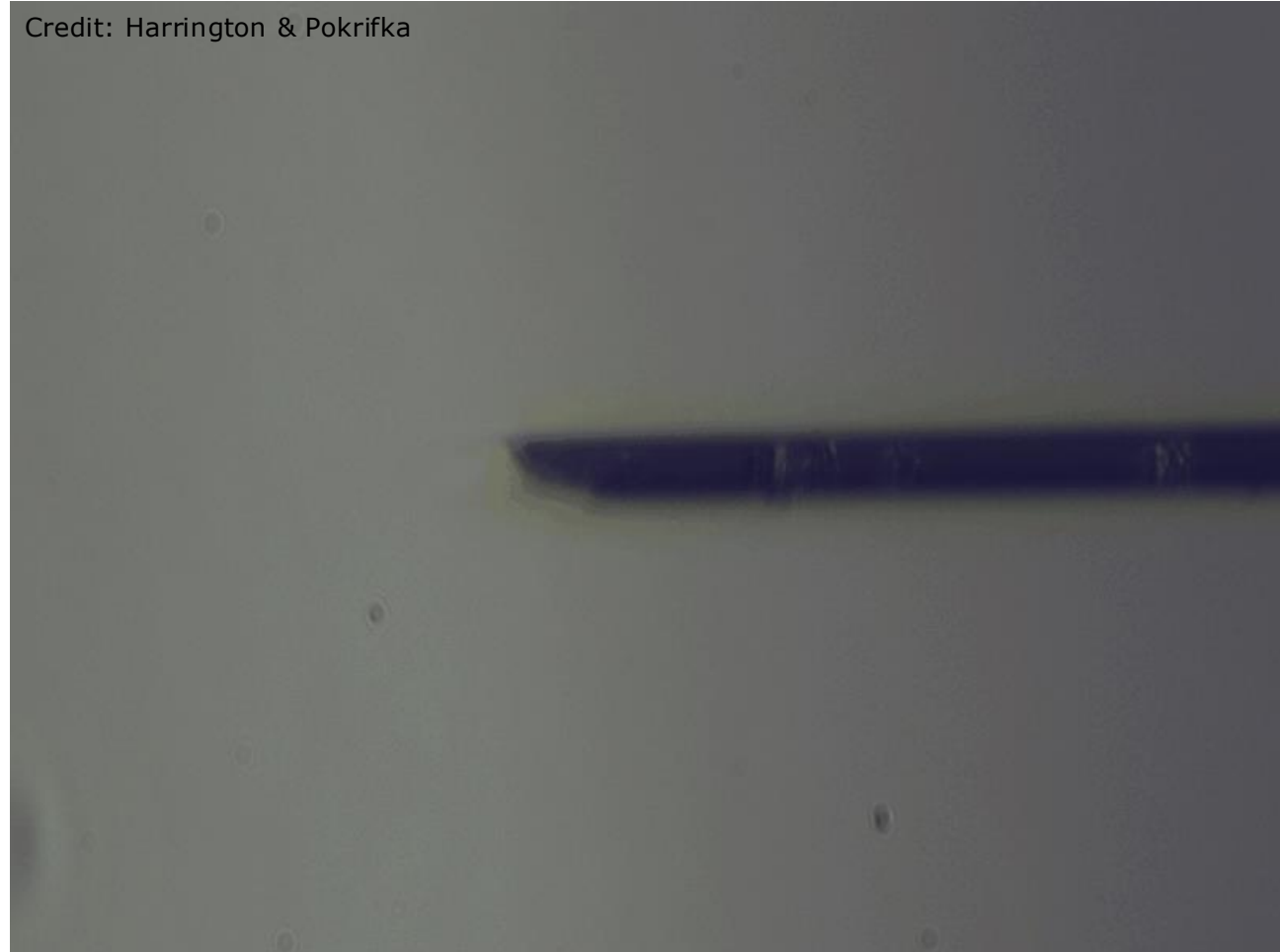
Single crystal ice mass growth rate  
(Pruppacher & Klett, 1997)

$$\frac{dm_p}{dt} = \frac{4\pi C(S_{ice} - 1)}{\frac{RT_g}{\hat{e}_{ice}(T_g)D_w^*M_w} + LH}$$

$$D_w^* = \frac{D_w}{\frac{r}{(r+\Delta_v)} + \frac{D_w}{r\alpha_D} \left(\frac{w\pi M_w}{RT_a}\right)^{1/2}}$$

The functional dependence of  $\alpha_D$  is uncertain  
(typically assumed to be a constant value)

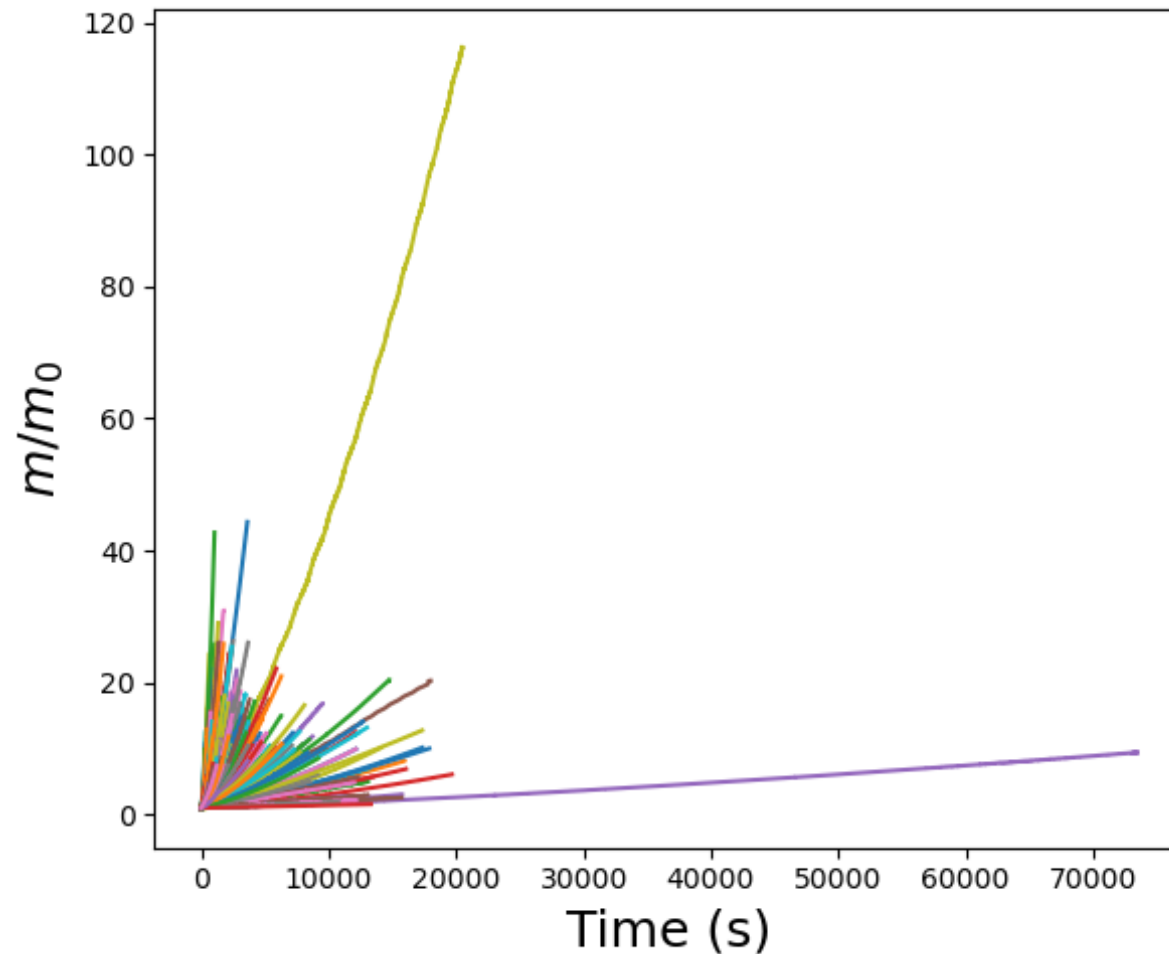
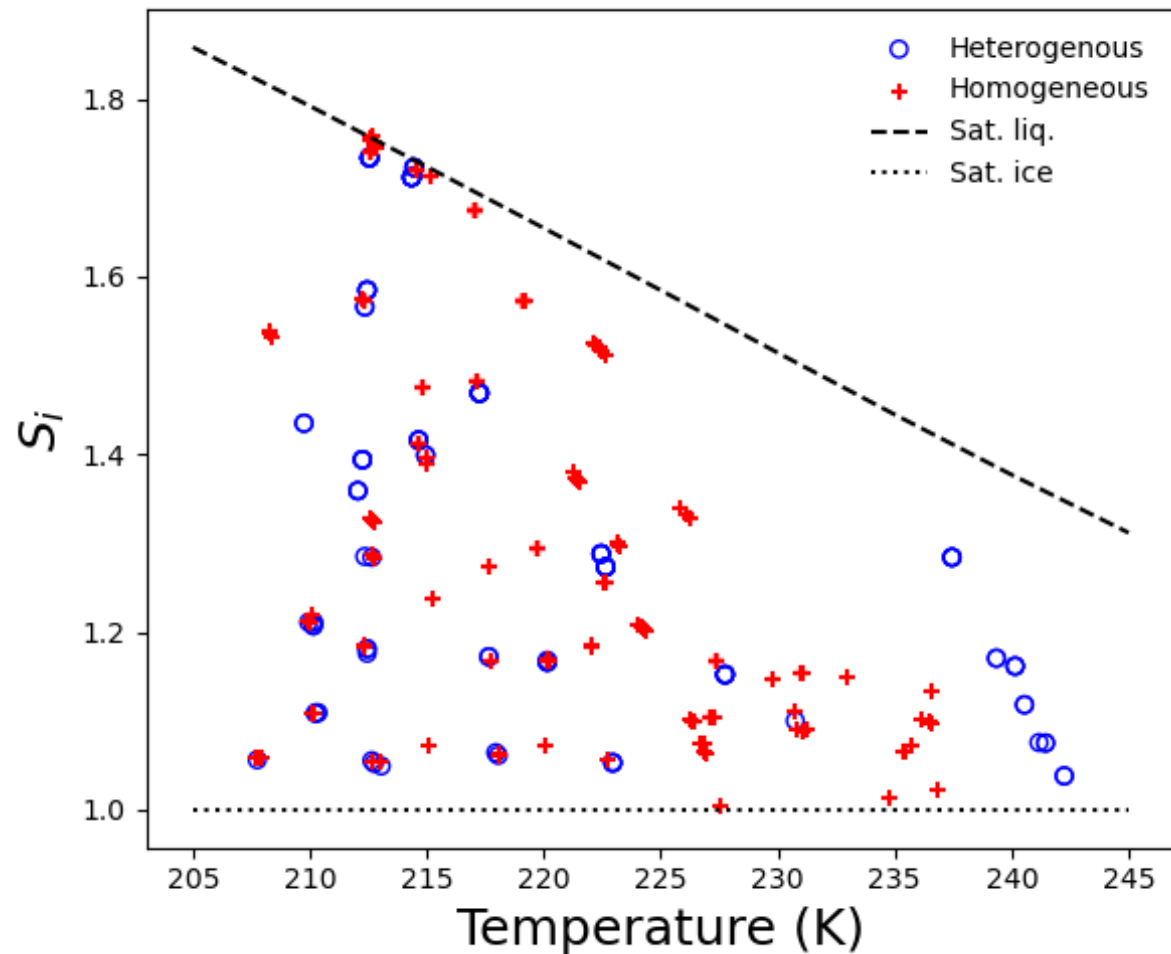
Credit: Harrington & Pokrifka



# Mass growth time series from levitation diffusion chamber experiments

(Harrison et al. 2016; Pokrifka et al. 2020, 2023)

$N = 290$  experiments



# Neural ODE (NODE) to learn growth rate

a) Ice growth rate from theory

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = 4\pi r(S_i - 1)G(r, T, S_i, \alpha)$$

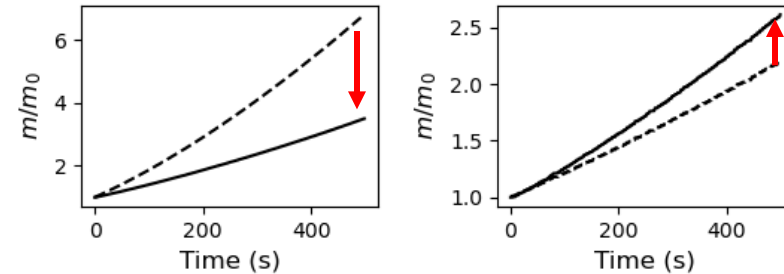
Strong constraint

$$\alpha = f_\alpha(S, T | \theta_\alpha)$$

Weak constraint

$$\frac{G}{G_c} = f_G(S, T, m | \theta_G)$$

c) Minimize distance between obs. & model by optimizing neural network (NN) weights using stochastic gradient descent



b) NODE model to predict mass ratio

$$ODESolve(m_0, \frac{dm}{dt}, f, \theta_f, t_0, \dots, t_M)$$

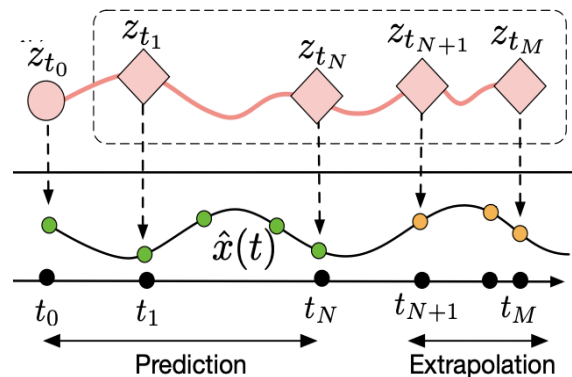


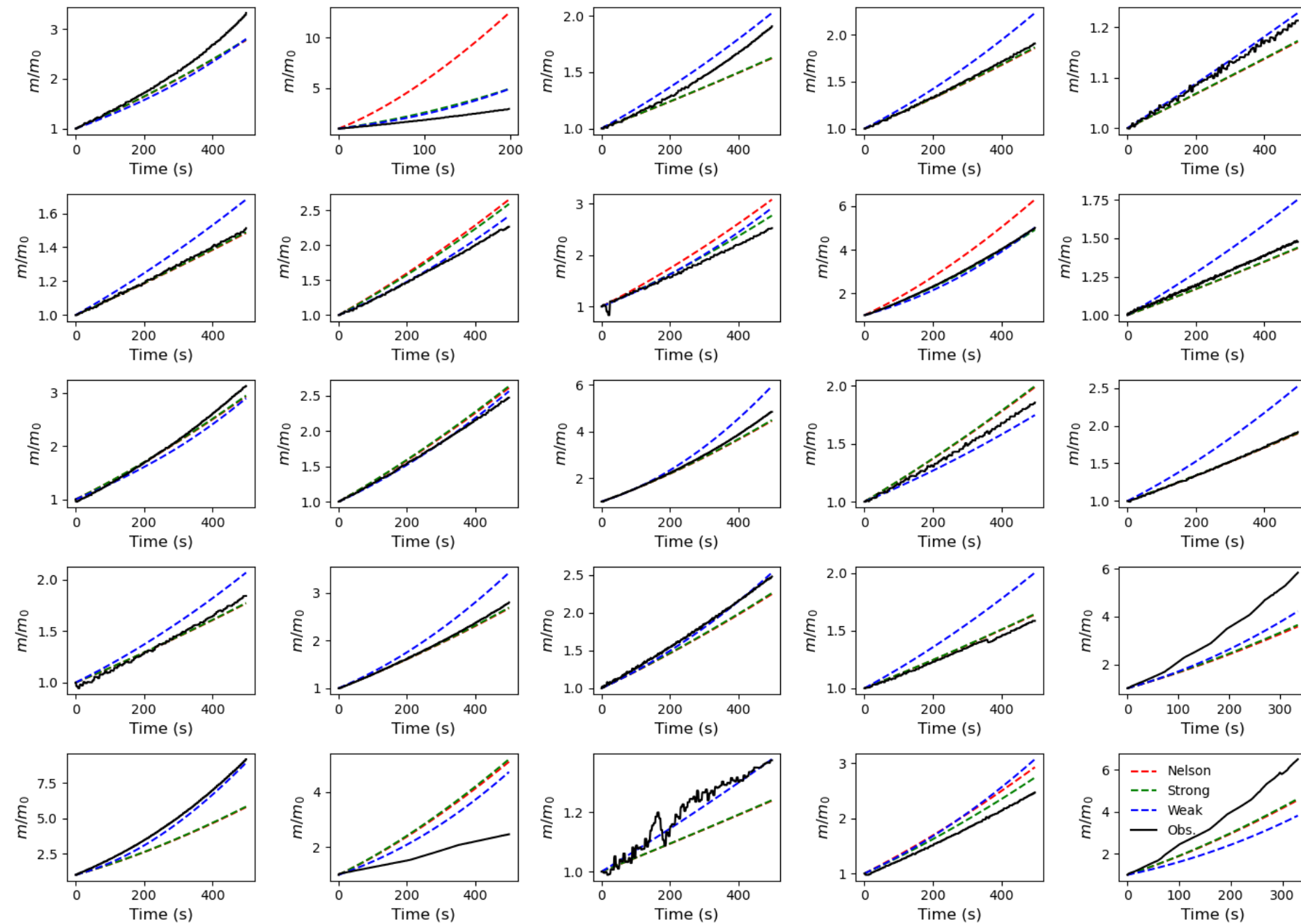
Figure adapted from Chen et al. 2018

d) Symbolic regression on trained NN

$$G = \frac{G_c}{a + b(G_c + cm)^{-1}}$$

The symbolic regression tree diagram shows the structure of the equation  $G = \frac{G_c}{a + b(G_c + cm)^{-1}}$ . The root node is a division operator (÷). The left child is  $G_c$ . The right child is an addition operator (+). The left child of this addition is  $a$ . The right child is a multiplication operator (x). The left child of this multiplication is  $b$ . The right child is an inversion operator (inv). The left child of the inversion operator is  $G_c$ . The right child is a multiplication operator (x). The left child of this multiplication is  $m$ . The right child is  $c$ .

## 2. Lab + NODE



$$\frac{dm}{dt} = 4\pi r(S_i - 1)G(r, T, S_i, \alpha)$$

Strong constraint

$$\alpha = f_\alpha(S, T | \theta_\alpha)$$

Weak constraint

$$\frac{G}{G_c} = f_G(S, T, m | \theta_G)$$

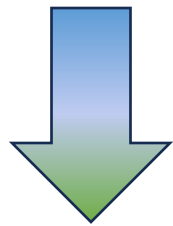
Weakly constrained  
NODE model  
performed best:

- Lowest error (MSE)
- Best fit for 154 of 290 experiments

# Functional form learned with symbolic regression (PySR)

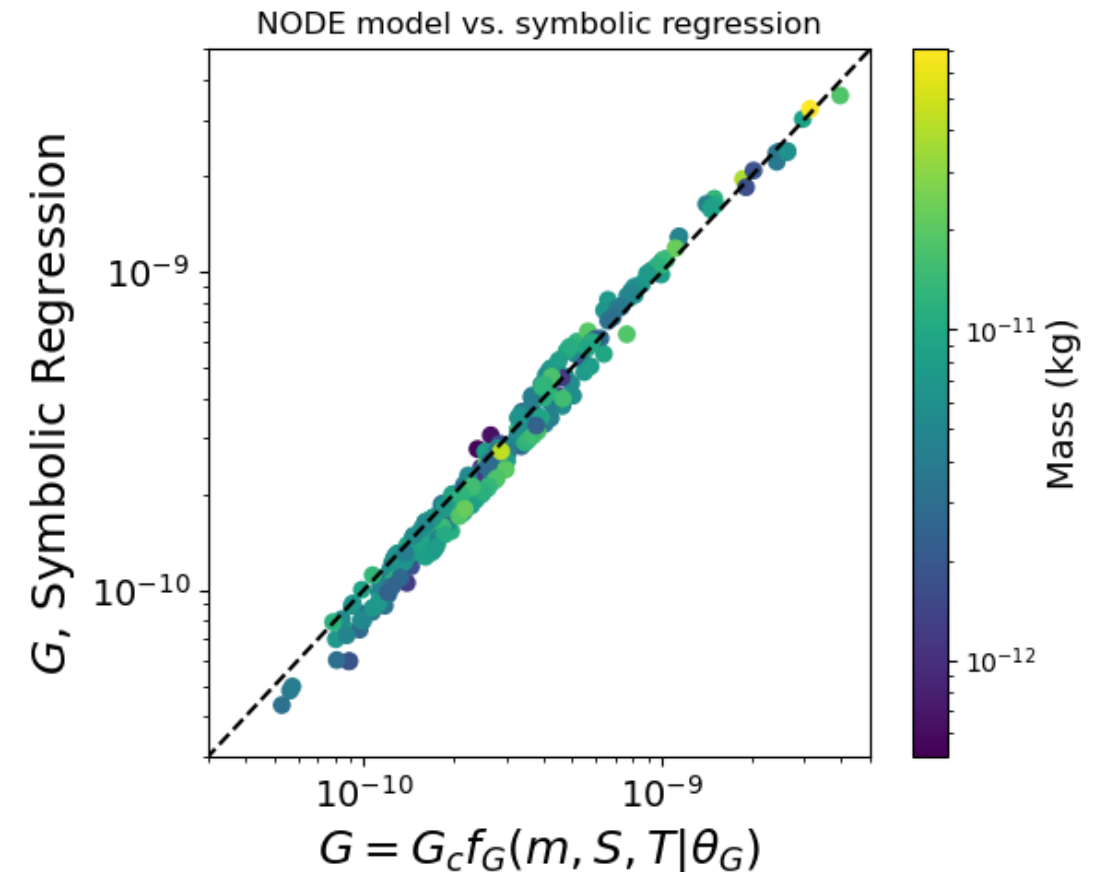
$$G = \frac{G_c}{a + b(G_c + cm)^{-1}}$$

$$a = 0.6517688, b = 2.98707 \times 10^{-9}, c = 1000$$



Can be directly implemented into growth parameterization

**(i.e., don't need Python to Fortran bridge!)**

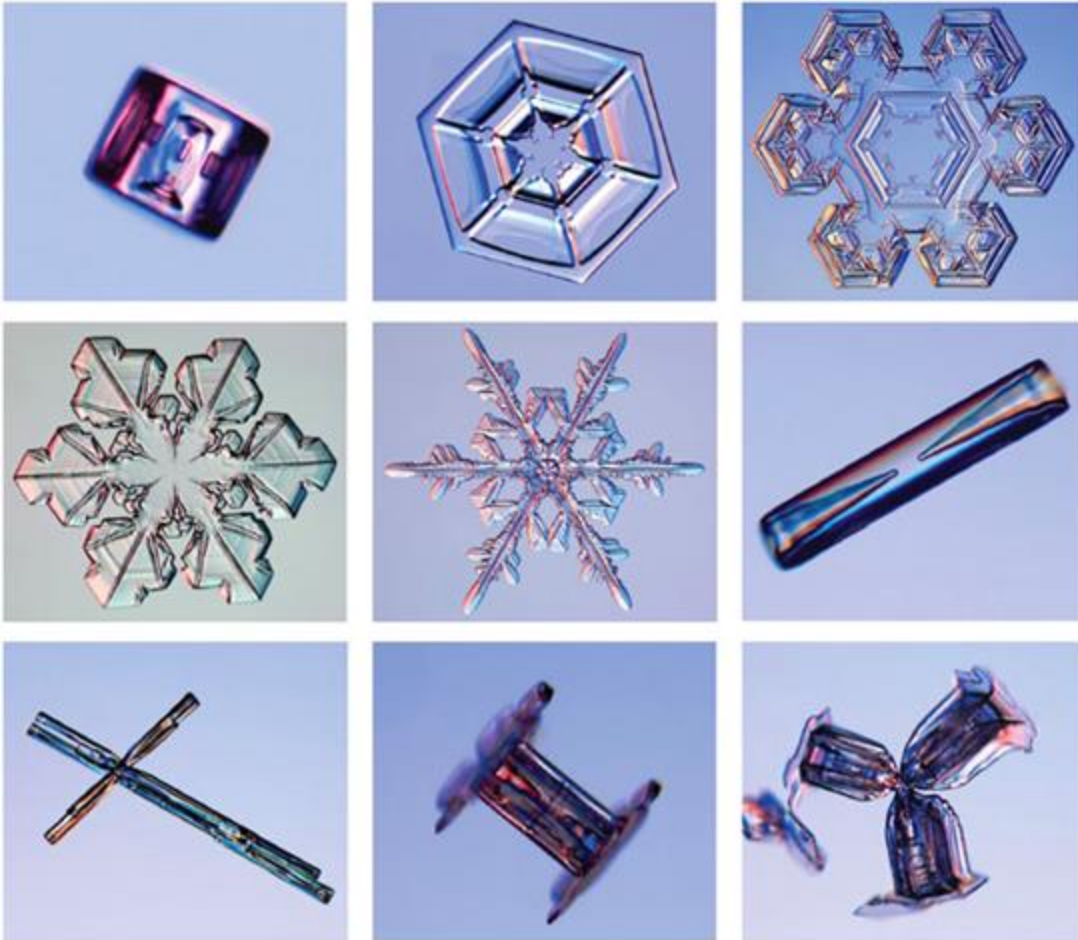


## ***3. In Situ + ML***

***Constraining ice properties with in situ imagery and ML***



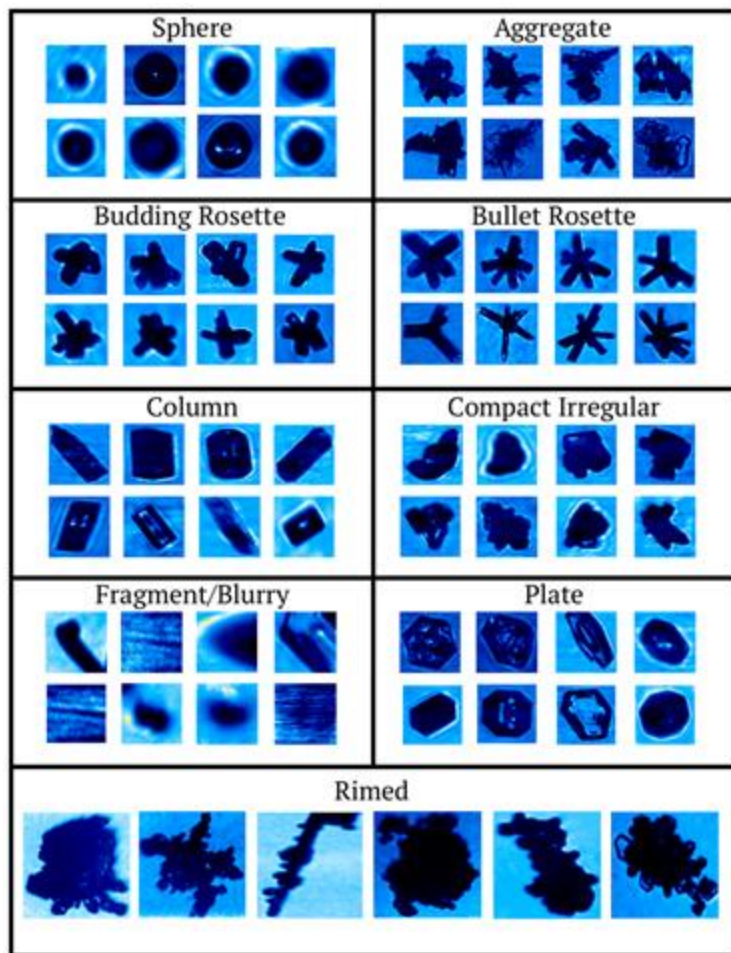
# *Ice habit (i.e., shape) matters*



- Habit = Shape
- Habit  $\sim$  function of *temperature* and *supersaturation* (i.e., humidity)
- Habit influences:
  - **microphysical process rates**
  - **fall speeds**
  - **optical properties**
- E.g. Ice complexity may induce additional cooling effect of  $-1.1 \text{ W m}^{-2}$  (Jarvinen et al. 2018)
  - For reference:  $\text{CO}_2$  forcing is  $\sim 2 \text{ W m}^{-2}$

Source: [Kenneth Libbrecht, snowcrystals.com](http://KennethLibbrecht.snowcrystals.com)

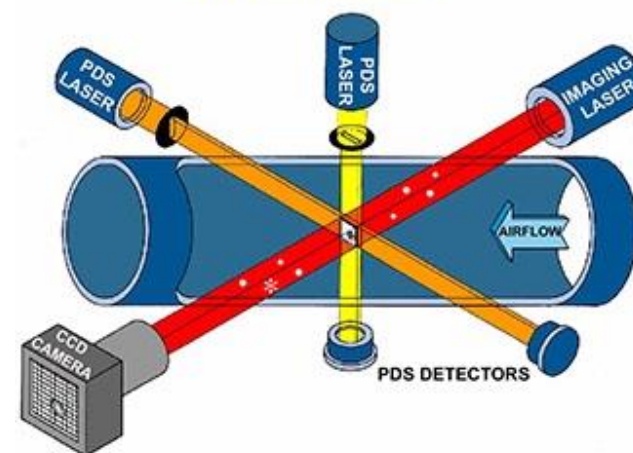
# *In situ measurements are crucial to understanding habit in real clouds*



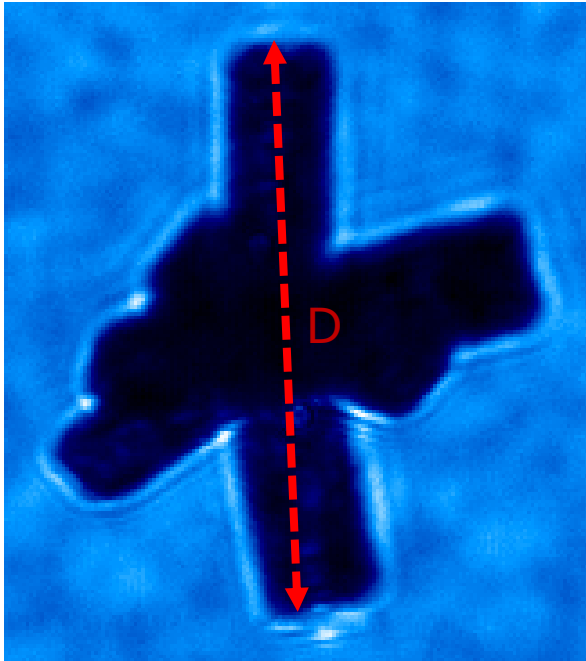
Source: [Przybylo et al. \(2022\)](#)



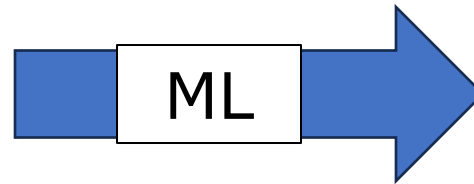
CPI Electro-Optics



# *Mass-Size (m-D) relationships are important for ice microphysics*



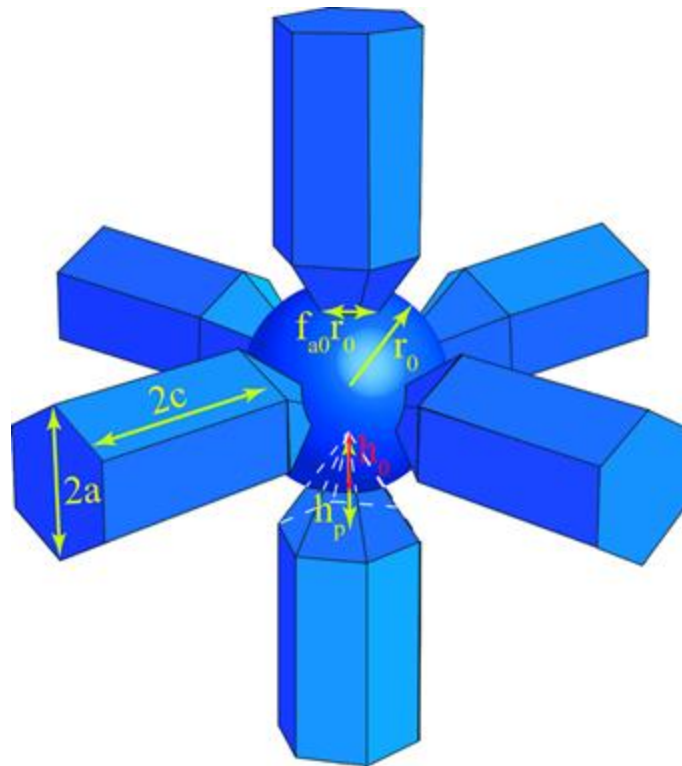
CPI image of  
bullet rosette



Mass?  
Surface Area?  
Etc.

# *No ground truth* → *Use synthetic data*

*A priori* geometric model of  
**bullet rosette**

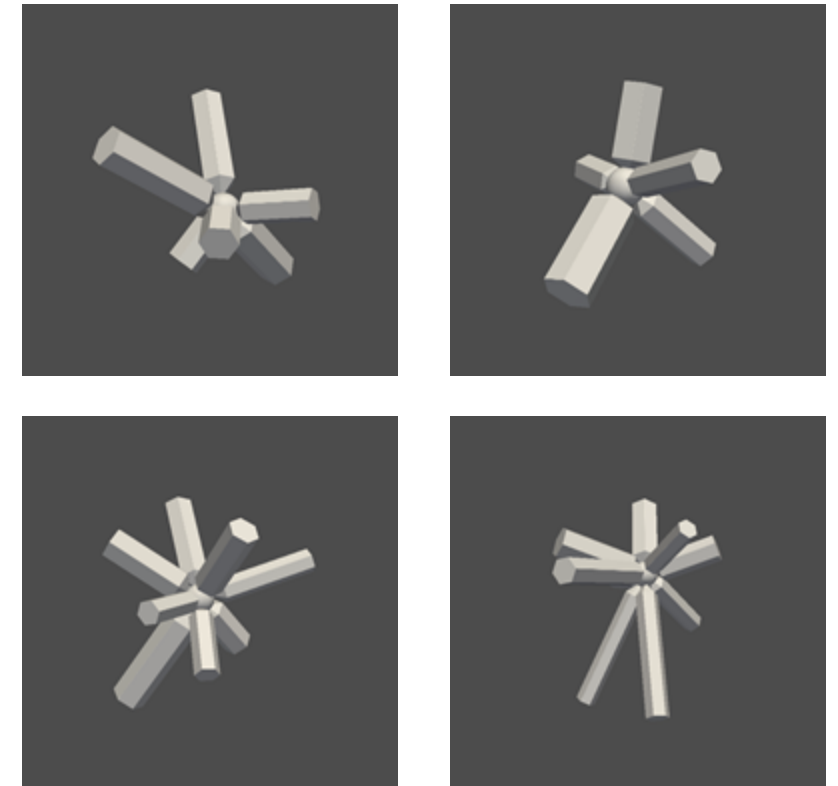


Source: [Pokrifka et al., 2023](#)

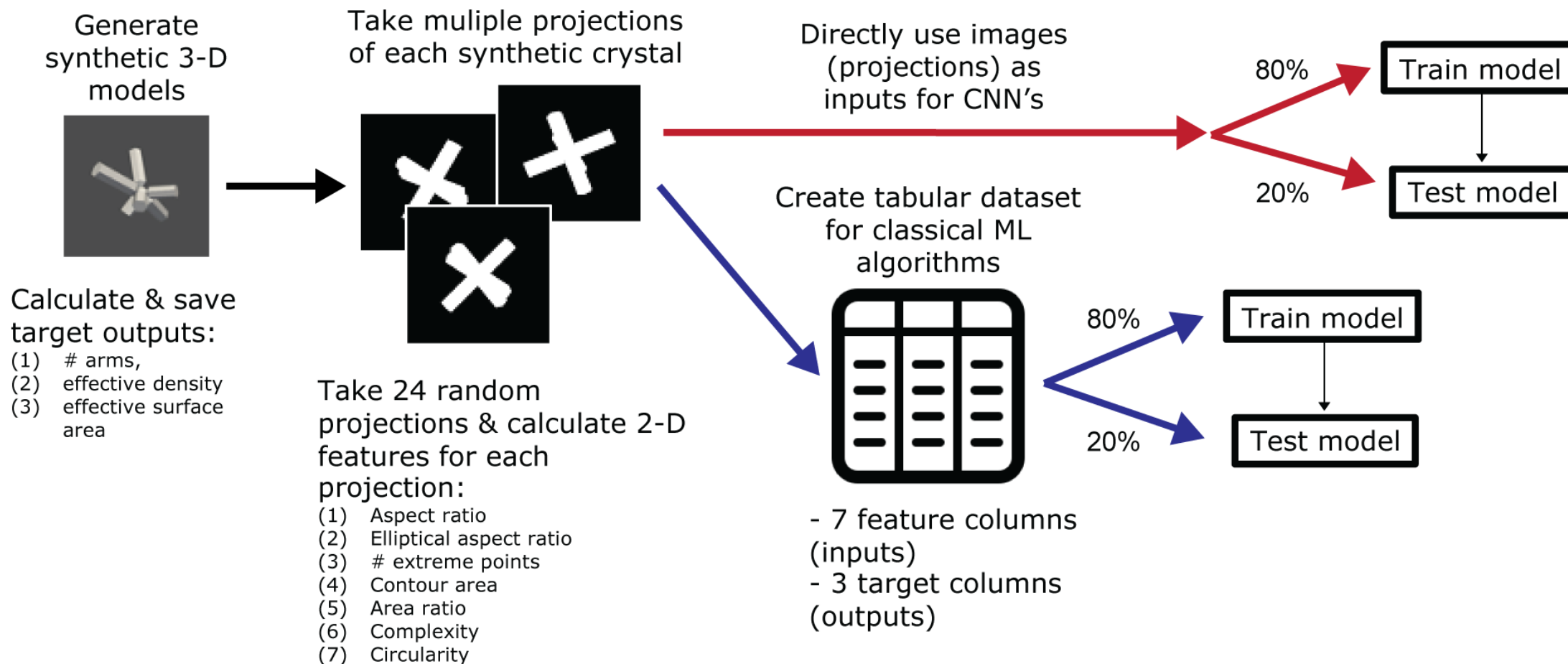
Computationally generate  
random variations



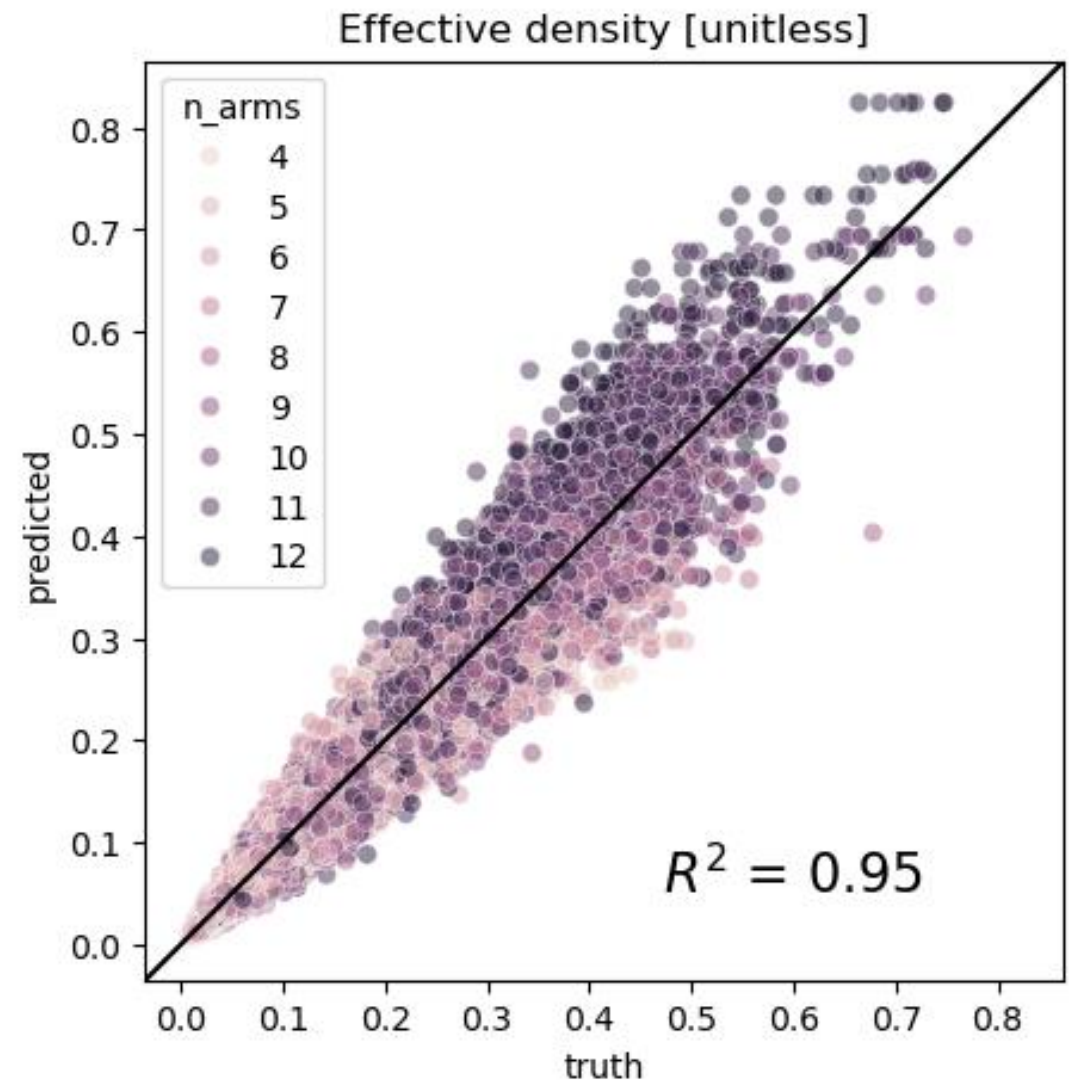
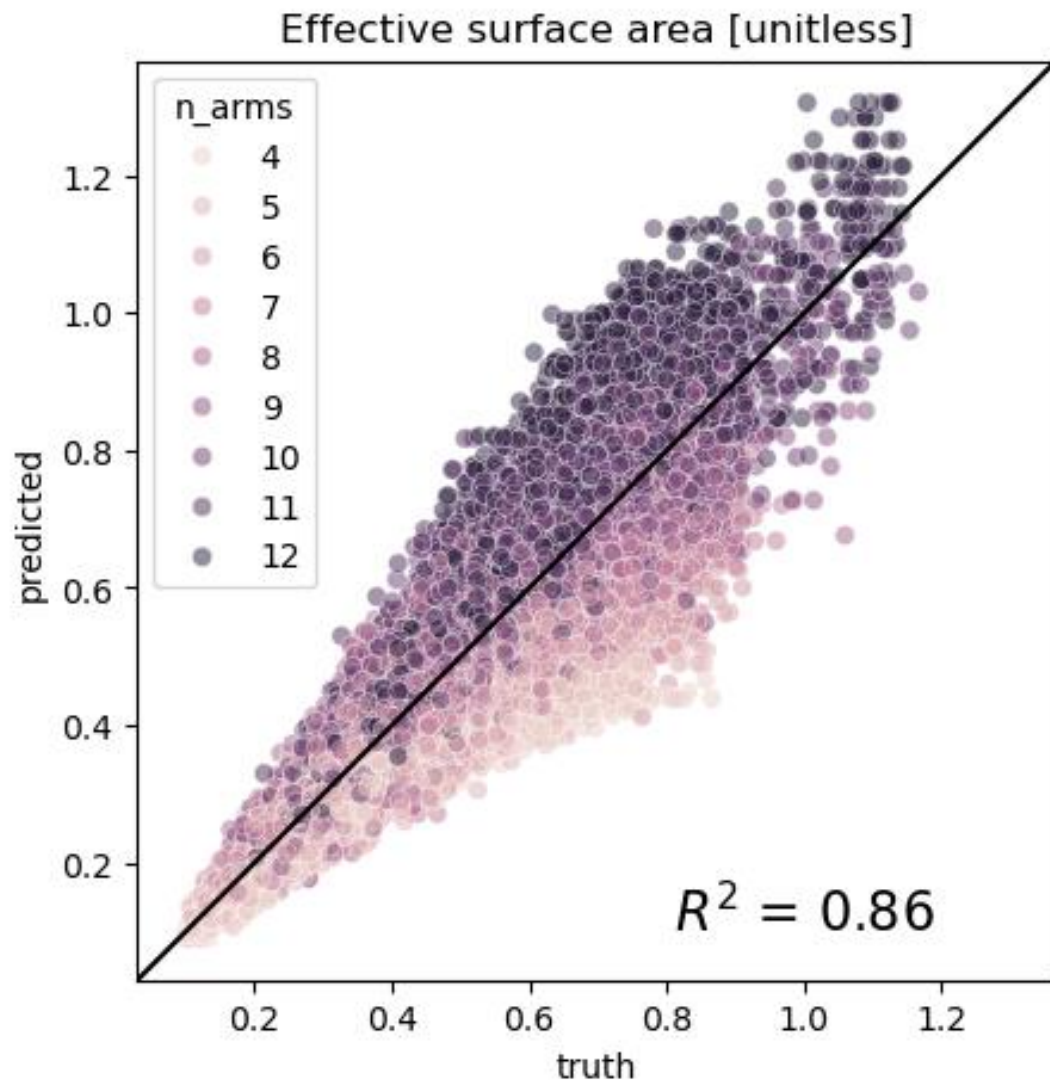
Synthetic 3-D models



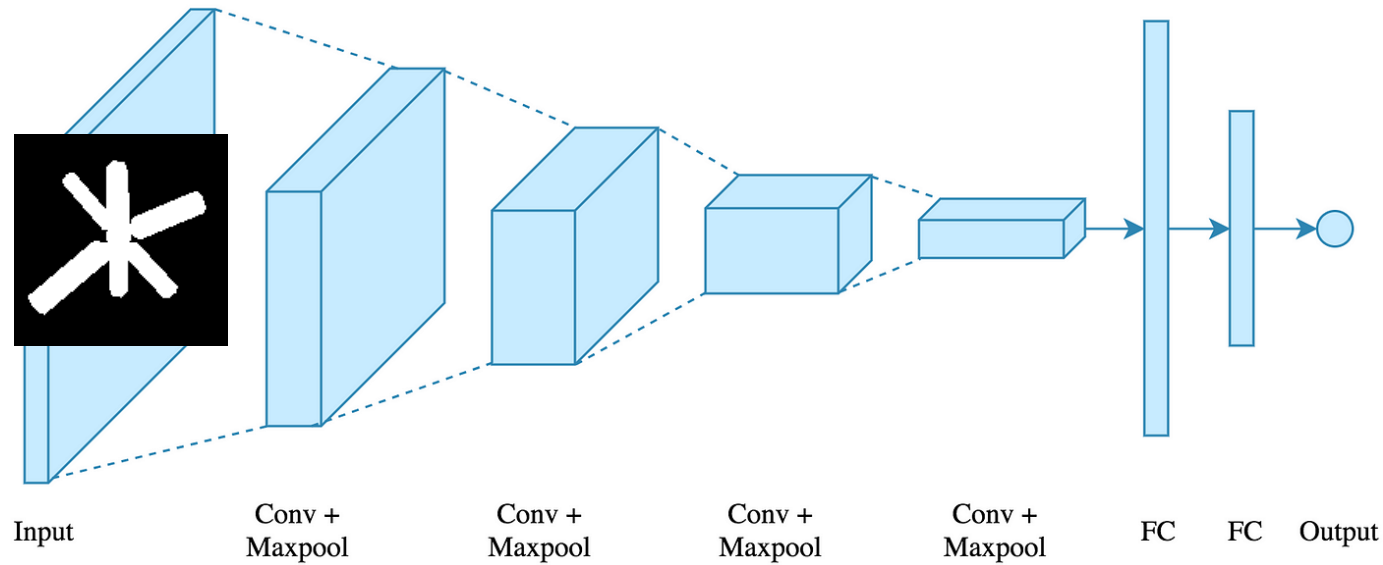
# Predicting 3-D properties from 2-D imagery



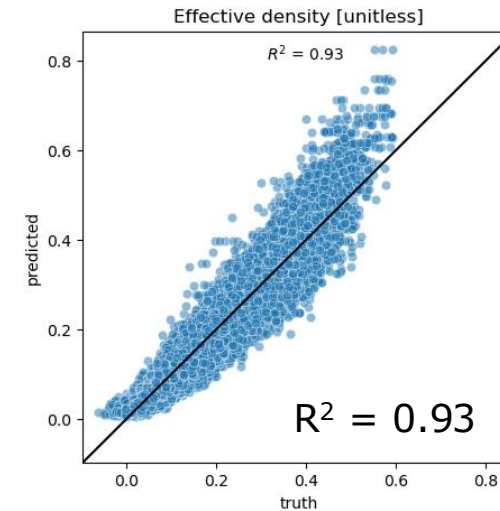
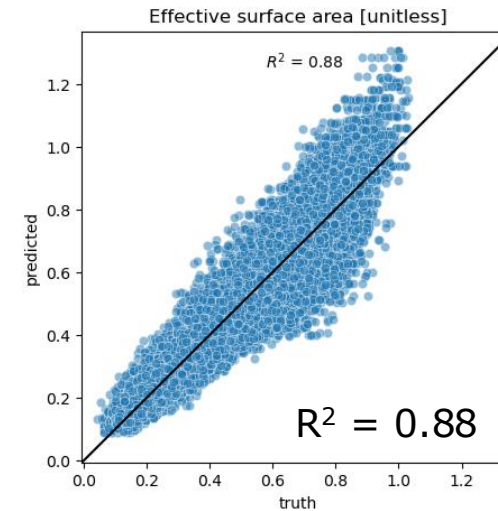
# Random forest results: surface area and mass



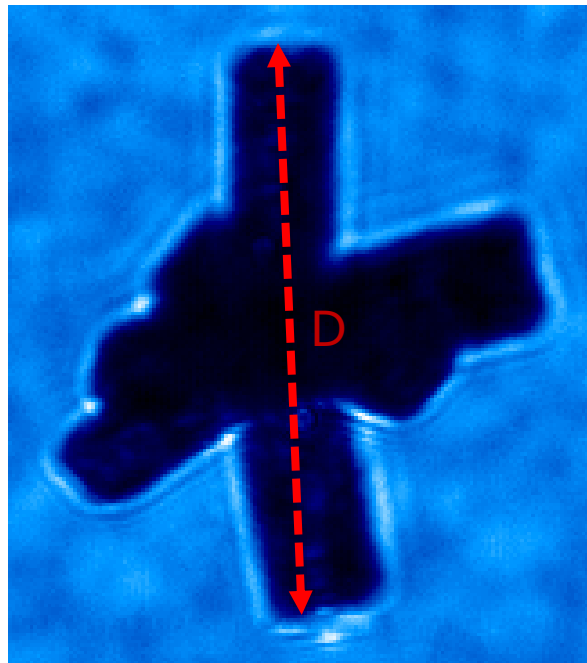
# ***CNN's can be used to circumvent feature engineering***



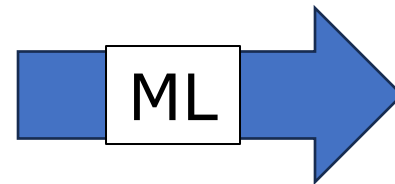
Credit: [Arden Dertat](#)



# *End goal: Revisit m-D relationships using millions of CPI images*



CPI images



Compare to existing m-D lookup tables.

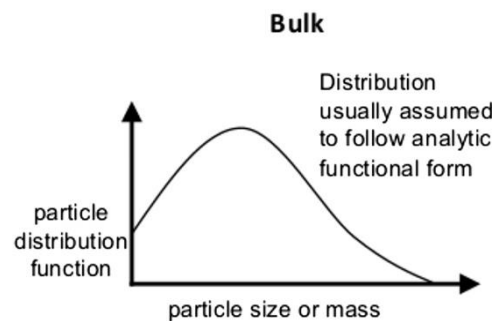
Update as necessary.



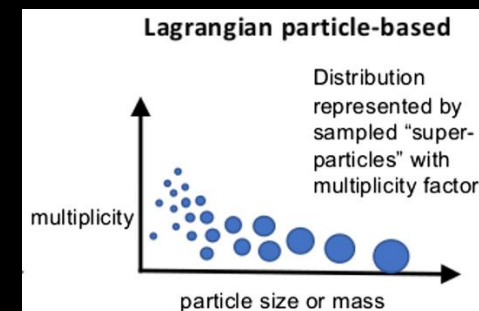
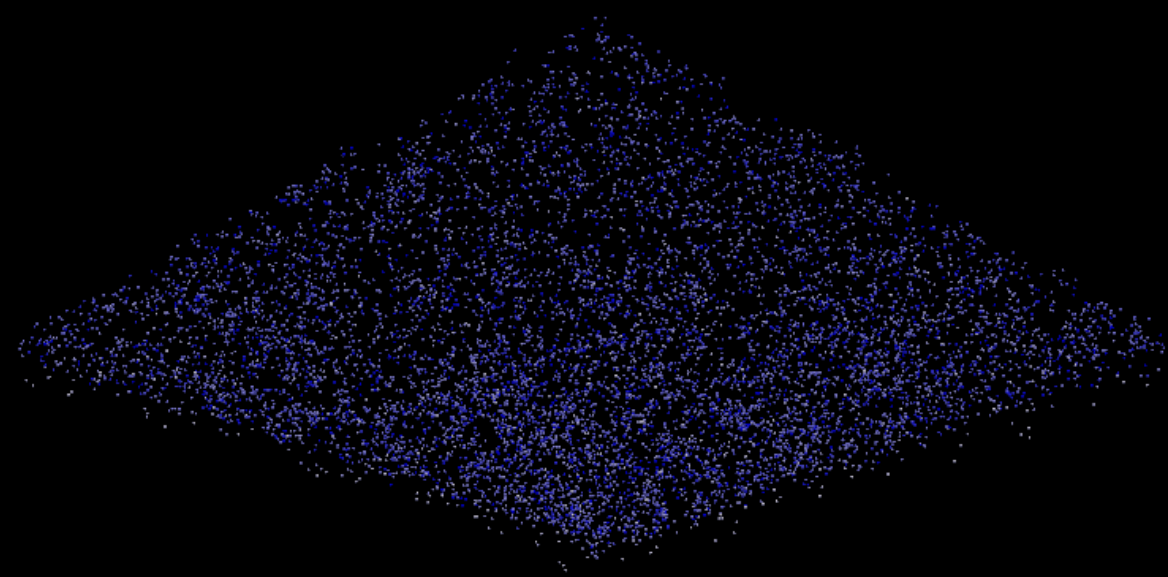
## ***4. LES + Bayesian + ROM***

***Using high-fidelity models to reduce parametric and structural uncertainties.***

# ***Bulk LES***

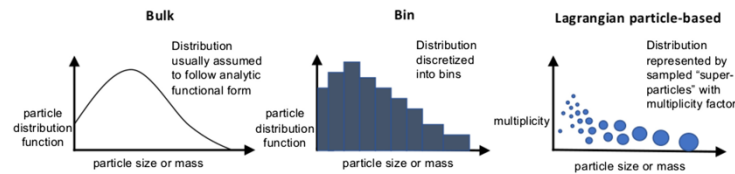


# ***Lagrangian (SDM) LES***



# Structural vs. Parametric

## Microphysics framework



## Different process parameterizations

e.g.,

$$y = \theta_1 x + \theta_2$$

$$y = \phi_1 x^2 + \phi_2 x + \phi_3$$

## Generally, referring to coefficients in equations

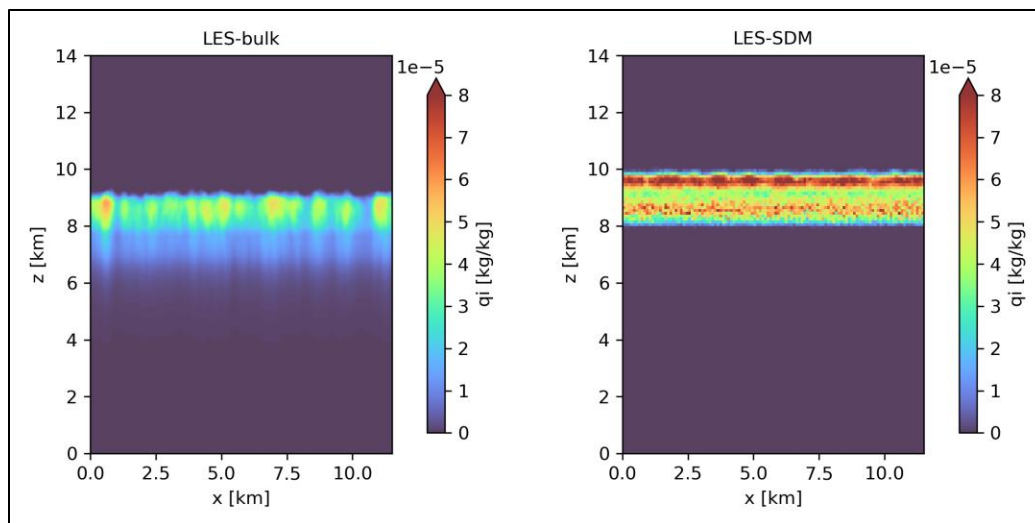
e.g.,

$$y = \theta_1 x + \theta_2$$

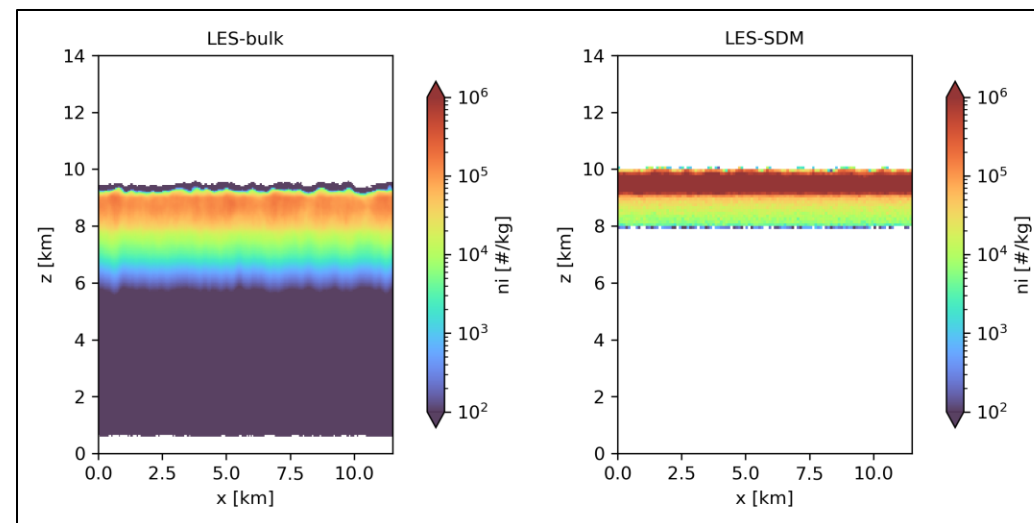
$$y = \phi_1 x^2 + \phi_2 x + \phi_3$$

# Structural uncertainty dominate over parametric uncertainty

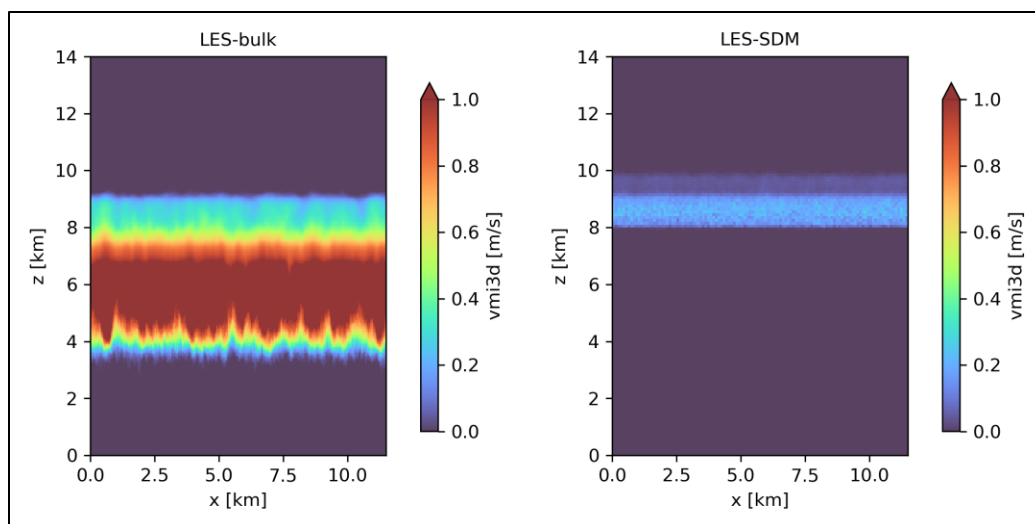
Mass mixing ratio



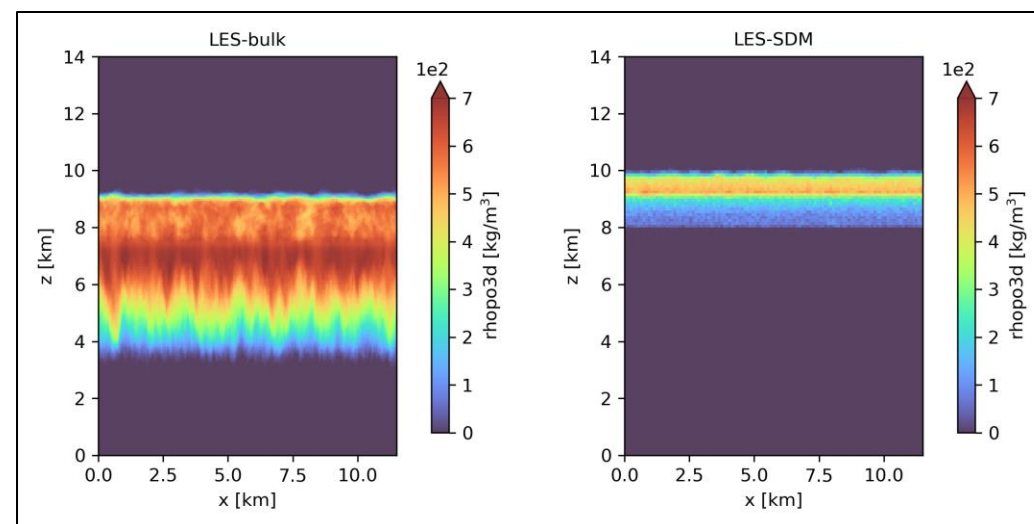
Number mixing ratio



Mass-weighted fall speed

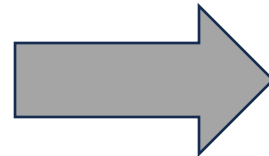


Mass-weighted particle density



# *End goal: reduce parametric + structural uncertainty and move towards implementation in CAM*

Large ensembles of ice cloud LES



## **1. Optimize parameters within existing (inadequate) structure:**

- Approximate Bayesian Computation for estimating posteriors without likelihoods

## **2. Improve the structure:**

- Reduced order modeling with encoders and decoders (e.g., Lamb et al. 2024)

**JAMES** | Journal of Advances in Modeling Earth Systems\*

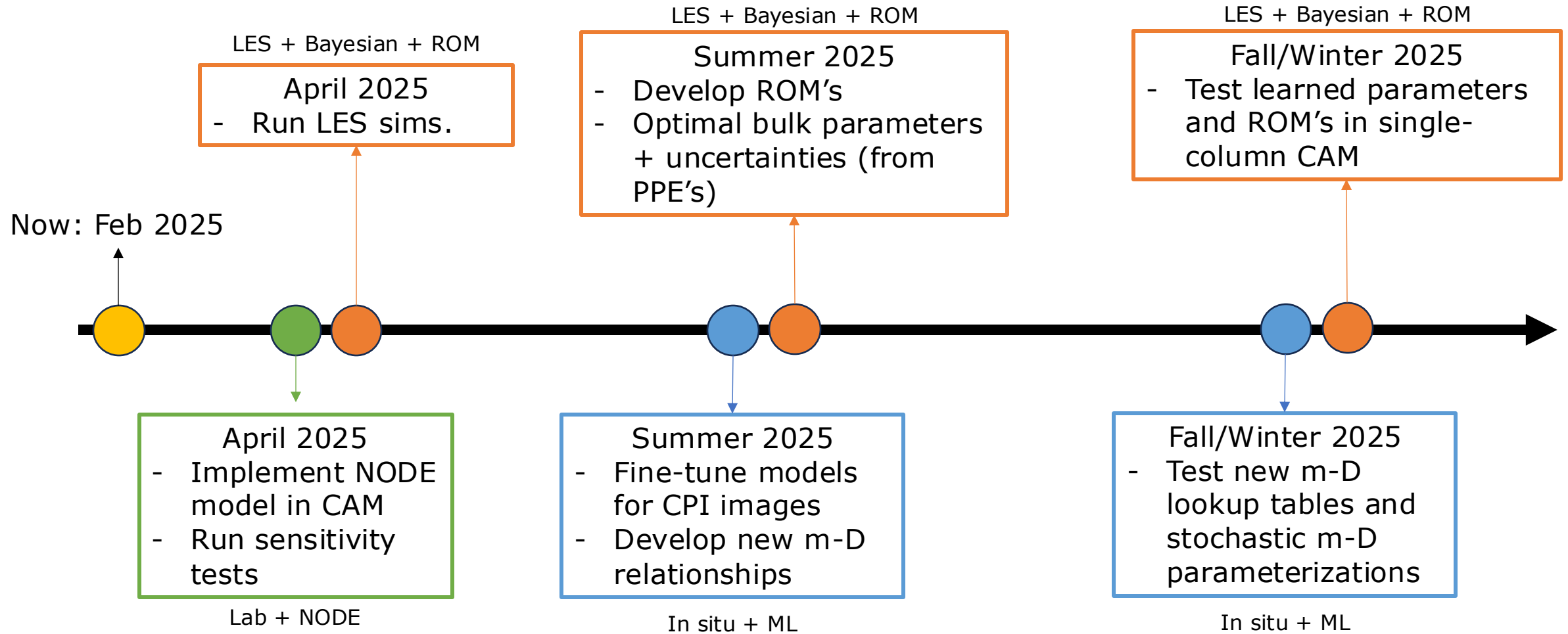
Research Article |  Open Access |  

**Reduced-Order Modeling for Linearized Representations of Microphysical Process Rates**

K. D. Lamb  M. van Lier-Walqui, S. Santos, H. Morrison

First published: 28 June 2024 | <https://doi.org/10.1029/2023MS003918>

# Timeline of progress & CAM integration



# ***Conclusion***

1. NODE's applied to single-particle lab measurements to develop physics-informed ML models for vapor depositional growth

# ***Conclusion***

1. NODE's applied to single-particle lab measurements to develop physics-informed ML models for vapor depositional growth
2. Framework for predicting 3-D properties from *in situ* imagery was developed → goal to improve m-D relationships



# ***Conclusion***

1. NODE's applied to single-particle lab measurements to develop physics-informed ML models for vapor depositional growth
2. Framework for predicting 3-D properties from *in situ* imagery was developed → goal to improve m-D relationships
3. LES + Bayesian methods → optimal parameters in existing schemes. LES + ROM → Improved structure?

Contact: [jk4730@columbia.edu](mailto:jk4730@columbia.edu)

# Thanks!

## Collaborators & Help:

- Kara Lamb (Columbia)
- Marcus van Lier-Walqui (Columbia, NASA GISS)
- Jerry Harrington (Penn State)
- Gwenore Pokrifka (Penn State)
- Kamal Chandrakar (NCAR)
- Jasmine Remillard (NASA GISS)
- Hugh Morrison (NCAR)
- Kaitlyn Loftus (Columbia)
- Nathan Magee (TCNJ)
- And more...



LEAP



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

# Conclusion

Contact: [jk4730@columbia.edu](mailto:jk4730@columbia.edu)

1. NODE's applied to single-particle lab measurements to develop physics-informed ML models for vapor depositional growth
2. Framework for predicting 3-D properties from *in situ* imagery was developed → goal to improve m-D relationships
3. LES + Bayesian methods → optimal parameters in existing schemes. LES + ROM → Improved structure?