# The OpenSSP Snow Particle and Scattering Property Database

Ian S. Adams, Kuo-Sen Kuo, William S. Olson, Craig Pelissier, Thomas Clune, Matthew Lammers, Adrian Loftus, Robert S. Schrom, S. Joseph Munchak





# Scattering Tables

The OpenSSP database include realistic particles synthesized using quasi-physical methods

- Depositional growth
- Heuristic monohabit aggregation
- Uniformly-random orientational averaging
- ~10k particles
- 230 unique file downloads
  - Does not include database testing









### Backscatter Convergence

Backscatter is particularly sensitive to the number of orientations used in orientational averaging

- Far more sensitive than extinction
- Frequency dependent
- Non-uniform zenith distributions may impact results for azimuthally-random particles



# Melting Particles

# Melting particles are the largest gap across the various particle databases

- Currently performing scattering calculations on Dr. Ben Johnson's melted particles
  - 25 of Kuo's aggregates
  - Increased surface tension to avoid breakup
- Implemented smooth particle hydrodynamics
  - 1e6 particles
  - $_{\circ}$  Finalizing code
- High-resolutions particles costly for DDA
  - Blurring method to reduce resolution, conserve mass



# Particle Blurring



### Backscatter: Full resolution vs blurred



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# Particle Melting using SPH



# Polycrystals

#### A significant number of observed "pristine" particles comprise polycrystals

- Rosettes
- Capped columns
- Extending depositional growth model to produce quasi-physical polycrystals
- Currently implementing adaptive mesh for more efficient calculations





# Hydrometeor Effects on Radar Multiple Scattering

Observational studies suggest graupel is a significant contributor to multiple scattering

- Demonstrated with OLYMPEX simulation
- Morrison 2M, 3 ICE
- Uniformly-random snow and graupel
- Azimuthally-random cloud ice
  - Invariant Imbedding T-Matrix Method (IITM)



### Multiple Scattering Enhancement



# Radiometer Simulation (OLYMPEX, 20151203, 1500 UTC)



### Convective Radiometer Simulations (MC3E)



# Web Interface Enhancements



### Conclusion

- Free online database
- Pristines and aggregates

   Level 0
  - $\circ$  Level 2+
- Finishing melting and polycrystals
- Employing other EM methods
- Useful for understanding
  observations

#### https://storm.pps.eosdis.nasa.gov/storm/OpenSSP.jsp

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