

THERMODYNAMICS, KINETICS, AND MICROPHYSICS OF CLOUDS

Climate change has provided a new impetus for research on clouds and precipitation. One of the greatest uncertainties in current global climate models is cloud feedback, arising from uncertainties in the parameterization of cloud processes and their impact on the global radiation balance. In the past two decades, substantial progress has been made in the simulation of clouds using cloud resolving models. However, most of the parameterizations employed in these models have been empirically based. New theoretical descriptions of cloud processes are now being incorporated into cloud models, using spectral microphysics based on the kinetic equations for the drop and crystal size spectra along with the supersaturation equation, and newer parameterizations of drop activation and ice nucleation based on the further development of the classical nucleation theory. From these models, cloud microphysics parameterizations are being developed for use in global weather and climate models.

Thermodynamics, Kinetics, and Microphysics of Clouds reflects this shift to an increasingly theoretical basis for the simulation and parameterization of cloud processes. The book presents a unified theoretical foundation that provides the basis for incorporating cloud microphysical processes in cloud and climate models in a manner that represents interactions and feedback processes over the relevant range of environmental and parametric conditions. In particular, this book provides:

- the closed system of equations of spectral cloud microphysics that includes kinetic equations for the drop and crystal size spectra for regular and stochastic condensation/deposition and coagulation/accretion along with the supersaturation equations;
- the latest theories and theoretical parameterizations of aerosol hygroscopic growth, drop activation, and
 ice homogeneous and heterogeneous nucleation, derived from the general principles of thermodynamics
 and kinetics and suitable for cloud and climate models;
- a theoretical basis for understanding the processes of cloud particle formation, evolution, and precipitation, based on numerical cloud simulations and analytical solutions to the kinetic equations and supersaturation equation;
- a platform for advanced parameterizations of clouds in weather prediction and climate models using these solutions; and
- the scientific foundation for weather and climate modification by cloud seeding.

This book will be invaluable for researchers and advanced students engaged in cloud and aerosol physics, and air pollution and climate research.

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The Cloud Percy Bysshe Shelley (1820)

I bring fresh showers for the thirsting flowers,
From the seas and the streams;
I bear light shade for the leaves when laid
In their noonday dreams.
From my wings are shaken the dews that waken
The sweet buds every one,
When rocked to rest on their mother's breast,
As she dances about the sun.
I wield the flail of the lashing hail,
And whiten the green plains under,
And then again I dissolve it in rain,
And laugh as I pass in thunder.

I am the daughter of Earth and Water,
And the nursling of the Sky;
I pass through the pores of the oceans and shores;
I change, but I cannot die.
For after the rain, when with never a stain
The pavilion of Heaven is bare
And the winds and sunbeams with their convex gleams
Build up the blue dome of air,
I silently laugh at my own cenotaph
And out of the caverns of rain,
Like a child from the womb, like a ghost from the tomb,
I arise and unbuild it again.

(Poetical Works of Shelley (Cambridge Editions), by Percy Bysshe Shelley (Author), Newell F. Ford (Introduction). Publisher: Houghton Mifflin; Revised edition, January 1975, 704 pages, ISBN-10: 0395184614)



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Contents

Pref	асе			page xv
1.	Introduction			1
	1.1.	Relations	among Thermodynamics, Kinetics, and Cloud Microphysics	1
	1.2.	The Corr	espondence Principle	2
	1.3.	Structure	of the Book	3
2.	Clouds	and Their	Properties	9
	2.1.	Cloud Cl	assification	9
	2.2.	Cloud Re	gimes and Global Cloud Distribution	13
		2.2.1.	Large-Scale Condensation in Fronts and Cyclones	16
		2.2.2.	Sc-St Clouds and Types of Cloud-Topped Boundary Layer	18
		2.2.3.	Convective Cloudiness in the Intertropical Convergence Zone	19
		2.2.4.	Orographic Cloudiness	19
	2.3.	Cloud M	icrophysical Properties	20
	2.4.	Size Spec	etra and Moments	23
		2.4.1.	Inverse Power Laws	23
		2.4.2.	Lognormal Distributions	24
		2.4.3.	Algebraic Distributions	25
		2.4.4.	Gamma Distributions	26
	2.5.	Cloud Op	otical Properties	32
	Appen	dix A.2. Ev	valuation of the Integrals	
	with	Lognorma	l Distribution	44
3.	Thermo	odynamic F	Relations	45
	3.1.	Thermod	ynamic Potentials	45
	3.2.	Statistica	l Energy Distributions	49
		3.2.1.	The Gibbs Distribution	49
		3.2.2.	The Maxwell Distribution	51
		3.2.3.	The Boltzmann Distribution	52
		3.2.4.	Bose–Einstein Statistics	54
		3.2.5.	Fermi–Dirac Statistics	55



vi Contents

	3.3.	Phase Ru	lles	56
		3.3.1.	Bulk Phases	57
		3.3.2.	Systems with Curved Interfaces	57
	3.4.	Free Ene	rgy and Equations of State	59
		3.4.1.	An Ideal Gas	59
		3.4.2.	Free Energy and the van der Waals Equation of State	
			for a Non-Ideal Gas	62
	3.5.	Thermod	ynamics of Solutions	67
	3.6.	General I	Phase Equilibrium Equation for Solutions	70
		3.6.1.	General Equilibrium Equation	70
		3.6.2.	The Gibbs–Duhem Relation	72
	3.7.	The Clau	sius-Clapeyron Equation	73
		3.7.1.	Equilibrium between Liquid and Ice Bulk Phases	73
		3.7.2.	Equilibrium of a Pure Water Drop with Saturated Vapor	74
		3.7.3.	Equilibrium of an Ice Crystal with Saturated Vapor	75
		3.7.4.	Humidity Variables	78
	3.8.	Phase Eq	uilibrium for a Curved Interface—The Kelvin Equation	80
	3.9.	Solution	Effects and the Köhler Equation	81
	3.10.	Thermod	ynamic Properties of Gas Mixtures and Solutions	82
		3.10.1.	Partial Gas Pressures in a Mixture of Gases	82
		3.10.2.	Equilibrium of Two Bulk Phases around a Phase	
			Transition Point	83
		3.10.3.	Raoult's Law for Solutions	84
		3.10.4.	Freezing Point Depression and Boiling Point Elevation	84
		3.10.5.	Relation of Water Activity and Freezing Point Depression	86
	3.11.	Adiabatio	e Processes	88
		3.11.1.	Dry Adiabatic Processes	88
		3.11.2.	Wet Adiabatic Processes	90
	Appen	dix A.3. Ca	alculation of Integrals with the Maxwell Distribution	95
4.	Propert	ies of Wate	er and Aqueous Solutions	99
	4.1.		s of Water at Low Temperatures and High Pressures	99
			Forms of Water at Low Temperatures	99
			Forms of Water at High Pressures	101
	4.2.			103
	4.3.	Temperat	ture Ranges in Clouds and Equivalence of Pressure	
		and Solut	tion Effects	107
	4.4.	Paramete	rizations of Water and Ice Thermodynamic Properties	108
		4.4.1.	Saturated Vapor Pressures	108
		4.4.2.	Heat Capacity of Water and Ice	109
		4.4.3.	Latent Heats of Phase Transitions	110
		4.4.4.	Surface Tension between Water and Air or Vapor	111
		4.4.5.		112



			Contents	vii
		4.4.6.	Surface Tension between Ice and Air or Vapor	113
		4.4.7.	Density of Water	113
		4.4.8.	Density of Ice	113
	4.5.	Heat Cap	acity and Einstein-Debye Thermodynamic	
		Equation	s of State for Ice	114
	4.6.	Equation	s of State for Ice in Terms of Gibbs Free Energy	116
	4.7.	Generaliz	zed Equations of State for Fluid Water	120
		4.7.1.	Equations of the van der Waals Type and in	
			Terms of Helmholtz Free Energy	120
		4.7.2.	Equations of State Based on the Concept of the	
			Second Critical Point	122
	Appen	dix A.4. Re	elations among Various Pressure Units	125
5.	Diffusi	on and Coa	agulation Growth of Drops and Crystals	127
	5.1.	Diffusion	nal Growth of Individual Drops	127
		5.1.1.	Diffusional Growth Regime	127
		5.1.2.	The Kinetic Regime and Kinetic Corrections to the Growth Rate	129
		5.1.3.	Psychrometric Correction Due to Latent Heat Release	132
		5.1.4.	Radius Growth Rate	135
		5.1.5.	Ventilation Corrections	137
	5.2.	Diffusion	nal Growth of Crystals	138
		5.2.1.	Mass Growth Rates	138
		5.2.2.	Axial Growth Rates	141
		5.2.3.	Ventilation Corrections	143
	5.3.	Equation	s for Water and Ice Supersaturations	144
		5.3.1.	General Form of Equations for Fractional Water Supersaturation	144
		5.3.2.	Supersaturation Relaxation Times and Their Limits	147
		5.3.3.	Equation for Water Supersaturation in Terms	
			of Relaxation Times	149
		5.3.4.	Equivalence of Various Forms of Supersaturation Equations	151
		5.3.5.	Equation for Fractional Ice Supersaturation	152
		5.3.6.	Equilibrium Supersaturations over Water and Ice	154
			Liquid Clouds	154
			Ice Clouds	154
			Mixed Phase Clouds	156
		5.3.7.	Adiabatic Lapse Rates with Non zero Supersaturations	157
	5.4.	The Weg	ener-Bergeron-Findeisen Process and Cloud Crystallization	158
	5.5.	Kinetic E	Equations of Condensation and Deposition in the Adiabatic Process	161
		5.5.1.	Derivation of the Kinetic Equations	161
		5.5.2.	Some Properties of Regular Condensation	163
		5.5.3.	Analytical Solution of the Kinetic Equations of	
			Regular Condensation	165
		5.5.4.	Equation for the Integral Supersaturation	167



viii Contents

	5.6.	Kinetic E	quations of Coagulation	168
		5.6.1.	Various Forms of the Coagulation Equation	168
		5.6.2.	Collection Kernels for Various Coagulation Processes	170
			Brownian Coagulation	170
			Gravitational Coagulation	171
	5.7.	Thermody	ynamic and Kinetic Equations for Multidimensional Models	171
	5.8.	Fast Algor	rithms for Microphysics Modules in Multidimensional Models	173
6.	Wet Ae	rosol Proce	sses	181
	6.1.	Introducti	on	181
		6.1.1.	Empirical Parameterizations of Hygroscopic Growth	182
		6.1.2.	Empirical Parameterizations of Droplet Activation	183
	6.2.	Equilibriu	ım Radii	186
		6.2.1.	Equilibrium Radii at Subsaturation	187
		6.2.2.	Equilibrium Radii of Interstitial Aerosol in a Cloud	193
	6.3.	Critical R	adius and Supersaturation	197
	6.4.	Aerosol S	Size Spectra	203
		6.4.1.	Lognormal and Inverse Power Law Size Spectra	203
		6.4.2.	Approximation of the Lognormal Size Spectra	
			by the Inverse Power Law	203
		6.4.3.	Examples of the Lognormal Size Spectra,	
			Inverse Power Law, and Power Indices	204
		6.4.4.	Algebraic Approximation of the Lognormal Distribution	206
	6.5.	Transform	nation of the Size Spectra of Wet Aerosol at Varying Humidity	211
			Arbitrary Initial Spectrum of Dry Aerosol	211
			Lognormal Initial Spectrum of Dry Aerosol	212
			Inverse Power Law Spectrum	216
		6.5.4.	Algebraic Size Spectra	218
	6.6.	CCN Diff	Perential Supersaturation Activity Spectrum	219
			Arbitrary Dry Aerosol Size Spectrum	219
			Lognormal Activity Spectrum	221
			Algebraic Activity Spectrum	226
	6.7.		Concentration and the Modified Power Law for Drops Activation	230
		6.7.1.	Lognormal and Algebraic CCN Spectra	230
		6.7.2.	Modified Power Law for the Drop Concentration	231
		6.7.3.	Supersaturation Dependence of Power Law Parameters	233
	Appen		lutions of Cubic Equations for Equilibrium	
		Critical Rad		237
7.	Activat	ion of Clou	d Condensation Nuclei into Cloud Drops	241
	7.1.	Introducti		241
	7.2.		upersaturation in Liquid Clouds with Drop Activation	243
	7.3.	_	l Solutions to the Supersaturation Equation	246
	7.4.	-	l Solutions for the Activation Time, Maximum	_ 70
	,	•	aration, and Drop Concentration	250
		r Dioatu	, F	_00



			Contents	ix
	7.5.	Calculatio	ons of CCN Activation Kinetics	254
	7.6.	Four Anal	ytical Limits of Solution	263
	7.7.	Limit #1:	Small Vertical Velocity, Diffusional Growth Regime	265
		7.7.1.	Lower Bound	265
		7.7.2.	Upper Bound	268
		7.7.3.	Comparison with Twomey's Power Law	270
	7.8.	Limit #2:	Small Vertical Velocity, Kinetic Growth Regime	273
		7.8.1.	Lower Bound	273
		7.8.2.	Upper Bound	275
	7.9.	Limit #3:	Large Vertical Velocity, Diffusional Growth Regime	277
		7.9.1.	Lower Bound	277
		7.9.2.	Upper Bound	277
	7.10.	Limit #4:	Large Vertical Velocity, Kinetic Growth Regime	278
		7.10.1.	Lower Bound	278
		7.10.2.	Upper Bound	280
	7.11.	Interpolati	ion Equations and Comparison with Exact Solutions	282
	Append	dix A.7. Eva	aluation of the Integrals J_2 and J_3 for Four Limiting Cases	284
8.	Homog	eneous Nuc	eleation	289
	8.1.	Metastable	e States and Nucleation of a New Phase	290
	8.2.	Nucleation	n Rates for Condensation and Deposition	293
		8.2.1.	Application of Boltzmann Statistics	293
		8.2.2.	The Fokker-Planck, and the Frenkel-Zeldovich	
			Kinetic Equations and the Zeldovich Factor	295
		8.2.3.	Application of Bose–Einstein Statistics for Condensation	
			and Deposition	299
	8.3.	Nucleation	n Rates for Homogeneous Ice Nucleation	300
			Nucleation Rates with the Boltzmann Distribution	300
			Application of Bose–Einstein Statistics for Freezing	303
			Parameterizations of Activation Energy	303
	8.4.	-	irical Parameterizations of Homogeneous Ice Nucleation	305
	8.5.		for Water and Ice Supersaturations with Homogeneous	
		Ice Nuclea		311
	8.6.	Critical Go	erm Size, Energy, and Homogeneous Freezing Rate	313
		8.6.1.	Derivation of the Critical Germ Size, Energy, and Nucleation Rate	313
		8.6.2.	Analysis and Properties of the Solution	319
		8.6.3.	Comparison with Other Models and Observations	322
		8.6.4.	The Freezing of Cloud Drops	325
	8.7.		reezing and Melting Temperatures of Homogeneous Freezing	328
		8.7.1.	General Expressions Based on Classical Theory	328
		8.7.2.	Liquidus Curves	331
		8.7.3.	Relation of the Freezing and Melting Point Depressions	332
		8.7.4.	Comparison with Observations	333
		8.7.5.	Equivalence of Solution and Pressure Effects	339



x Contents

	8.8.	Threshold	l or Critical Saturation Ratios for Homogeneous Freezing	345
		8.8.1.	General Equations	346
		8.8.2.	Parameterization of Effective Melting Heat	347
			Derivation from Classical Theory of the Water Activity	
			Shift Method	350
		8.8.4.	Effects of Various Factors on the Critical Humidity $S_{w,cr}^{hom}$	353
			Calculations of Critical Relative Humidities over Water and Ice	354
	8.9.	Parcel Mo	odel Simulations of the Kinetics of Homogeneous Ice Nucleation	357
		8.9.1.	Parcel Model Description	357
		8.9.2.	Simulation Results	359
	8.10.	Analytica	l Parameterization of Homogeneous Ice Nucleation	
		Kinetics I	Based on Classical Nucleation Theory	368
		8.10.1.	General Features of Homogeneous Ice Nucleation Kinetics	368
		8.10.2.	The Freezing Rate and Its Simplification	369
		8.10.3.	Separation of Temperature and Supersaturation Dependencies	370
		8.10.4.	The Evolution of the Nucleation Rate and Crystal Concentration	373
		8.10.5.	Evaluation of the Deposition Integral I_{dep}	377
		8.10.6.	Solution of Equations for the Supersaturation	
			and for Crystal Concentration	379
		8.10.7.	Particular Limiting Cases	381
			Diffusion Growth Limit	381
			Kinetic Growth and Large Particle Limits	381
		8.10.8.	Physical Interpretation	383
	8.11.		ure Effects and the Homogeneous Freezing of Cloud Drops	387
	Appen	dix A.8. Ev	aluation of the Integrals $J_{0i}^{(k)} = \int_{0}^{t} r_{c,ef}^{(k)}(t,t_0) \exp(\beta t_0) dt_0$	391
9.			cleation of Drops and Ice Crystals	395
	9.1.	Introducti	ion	395
	9.2.	Nucleatio	n of Drops by Vapor Deposition on Water-Insoluble Particles	395
	9.3.	Modes of	Ice Nucleation and Properties of Ice Nuclei	400
		9.3.1.	Modes of Ice Nucleation	400
		9.3.2.	Properties of Ice Nuclei	401
	9.4.	Empirical	Parameterizations of Heterogeneous Ice Nucleation	404
	9.5.	Nucleatio	n of Crystals in the Deposition Mode	
		on Water-	Insoluble Particles	408
	9.6.	Ice Nucle	ation by Deliquescence-Freezing and Immersion	411
	9.7.	Critical R	adius and Energy of Heterogeneous Freezing	412
		9.7.1.	Basic Dependencies of Heterogeneous Freezing	412
		9.7.2.	Volume Heterogeneous Freezing	414
		9.7.3.	Particular Cases of Critical Radius	419
		9.7.4.	Critical Energy of Volume Freezing	421
		9.7.5.	Modification of Critical Energy with Active Sites	423



		Contents	xi
9.8.	Propertie	s of the Deliquescence-Freezing Mode	426
	9.8.1.	Critical Radius, Energy, and the Nucleation Rate	426
	9.8.2.	Separation of Temperature, Supersaturation, and Aerosol	
		Dependences of the Critical Energy and Nucleation Rate	429
	9.8.3.	Separation of Insoluble Fractions between Activated Drops	
		and Unactivated CCN	434
	9.8.4.	Characteristic Relaxation Times of CCN Size	
		and Solution Concentration	435
9.9.	Surface F	reezing and Melting	436
	9.9.1.	Surface Freezing	436
	9.9.2.	Surface Melting	438
9.10.	Nucleatio	on in a Polydisperse Aerosol	440
	9.10.1.	Freezing of Haze Particles at Water Subsaturation in the DF Mode	440
	9.10.2.	Simultaneous Freezing in the DF and Immersion Modes	
		at Water Supersaturation	444
9.11.	Critical F	reezing and Melting Temperatures	446
	9.11.1.	General Equations	446
		Volume Heterogeneous Freezing	446
		Surface Quasi-Heterogeneous Freezing	450
		Surface Quasi-Heterogeneous Melting	451
		Liquidus Curves	452
9.12.	Critical S	aturation Ratios or Water Activities of Heterogeneous Freezing	452
	9.12.1.	General Equations	453
	9.12.2.	Simplifications of Equations for the Heterogeneous	
		Critical Saturation Ratio	454
	9.12.3.	Derivation from Classical Theory of the Water Activity Shift Method	456
	9.12.4.	Calculations of Critical Relative Humidities for	
		Heterogeneous Nucleation	458
	9.12.5.	Comparison of Critical Humidities for Heterogeneous	
		and Homogeneous Nucleation	463
9.13.	Parcel Me	odel for a Mixed-Phase Cloud	465
	9.13.1.	Supersaturation Equation with Nucleation of Drops and Crystals	466
	9.13.2.	Kinetic Equations for Droplet and Crystal Size Spectra with Particle	
		Nucleation	470
9.14.	Parcel Me	odel Simulations of Ice Nucleation Kinetics in Deliquescence-Freezing	
	Mode		470
	9.14.1.	Introduction	470
	9.14.2.	Simulation Characteristics	471
		Kinetics of Ice Nucleation in the Mixed and Crystalline	
		Clouds with Weak Updrafts	473
	9.14.4.	Ice Nucleation Effects with Stronger Updrafts	482
	9.14.5.		485



xii Contents

	9.15.	Comparison of Simulated Crystal Concentrations with Experimental	
		Data and Parameterizations	491
	9.16.	Thermodynamic Constraints on Heterogeneous Ice Nucleation Schemes	497
	9.17.	Evaluation of Ice Nucleation and Cloud Phase State Parameterizations	501
10.	Parame	terizations of Heterogeneous Ice Nucleation	507
	10.1.	Analytical Parameterization of Heterogeneous Freezing Kinetics	
		Based on Classical Nucleation Theory (CNT)	507
		10.1.1. Nucleation Rates in a Polydisperse Aerosol	507
		10.1.2. Temporal Evolution of Supersaturation	508
		10.1.3. Heterogeneous Nucleation Rate Derived from CNT	
		and Comparison with the Previous Parameterizations	510
		10.1.4. Temporal Evolution of the Crystal Concentration	514
		10.1.5. Comparison of Crystal Concentrations with Empirical	
		Parameterizations	515
		10.1.6. Parameterization for the Large-Scale Models. Case 1:	
		Large N_a and Crystal Concentrations Limited by Kinetics	516
		10.1.7. Diffusion Growth Limit	520
		10.1.8. The Kinetic Growth Limit, and Small and Large Particle Limits	522
		10.1.9. Parameterization for the Large-Scale Models. Case 2:	
		Small IN Concentration N_a and Crystal Concentration	
		Limited by N_a	524
	10.2.	Temperature Effects and Heterogeneous Freezing of Cloud Drops	525
	10.3.	Parameterization of Deposition Ice Nucleation Based on	
		Classical Nucleation Theory	529
	10.4.	General Properties and Empirical Parameterizations of Contact Nucleation	533
		10.4.1. General Properties	533
		10.4.2. Empirical Parameterizations	535
	10.5.	Aerosol Scavenging by Drops	536
		10.5.1. Brownian Diffusion	536
		10.5.2. Thermophoresis	537
		10.5.3. Diffusiophoresis	539
	10.6.	Freezing and Scavenging Rates	541
11.	Delique	escence and Efflorescence in Atmospheric Aerosols	547
	11.1.	Phenomena of Deliquescence and Efflorescence	547
	11.2.	Theories and Models of Deliquescence and Efflorescence	549
	11.3.	A Model for Deliquescence of Salt Crystals Based	
		on the Entropy Equation	553
	11.4.	Applications of the Deliquescence Model	558
		11.4.1. The Temperature Dependence of Dissolution Heat	559
		11.4.2. The Temperature Dependence of Solubility	559
		11.4.3. The Temperature Dependence of the Deliquescence	
		Relative Humidity	562
	11.5.	Phase Diagram of the Solution and Evaluation of the Eutectic Point	563
	11.6.	A Model for Efflorescence of Salt Crystals Based on the Entropy Equation	566



			Contents	xiii
	11.7.	Applicati	ons of the Efflorescence Model	570
		11.7.1.	The Temperature Dependence of Efflorescence	570
		11.7.2.	The Solute Activity and Mole Fraction Dependence of Efflorescence	571
		11.7.3.	The Joint Phase Diagram	573
12.	Termin	al Velocitie	es of Drops and Crystals	577
	12.1.	Review o	of Previous Theories and Parameterizations	577
	12.2.	Basic Eq	uations for Fall Velocities	582
	12.3.	Turbulen	t Corrections	587
	12.4.	Asympto	tic Values and Applications for Spherical	
		and Nons	spherical Particles	588
	12.5.	Correctio	ons for Temperature and Pressure	591
	12.6.	Results o	f Calculations	593
		12.6.1.	Re-X Relation	593
		12.6.2.	The Drag Coefficient and "Crisis of Drag"	594
		12.6.3.	Application to Drops	596
		12.6.4.	Turbulent Corrections and Their Application to Aggregates	598
		12.6.5.	Other Crystal Habits	603
		12.6.6.	Application to Hail	605
		12.6.7.	Altitude Correction Calculations	606
	12.7.	Paramete	rizations for Large-Scale Models	608
	12.8.	Applicati	ons for Remote Sensing, Other Objects and Other Planets	610
13.	Broad S	Size Spectr	a in Clouds and the Theory of Stochastic Condensation	613
	13.1.	Introduct	ion	613
		13.1.1.	Mechanisms and Theories of the Formation of Broad Size	
			Spectra in Clouds	614
		13.1.2.	Kinetic Equations of Stochastic Condensation	618
	13.2.	Condensa	ation in a Turbulent Cloud	623
		13.2.1.	Basic Equations	623
		13.2.2.	Stochastic Equations	624
		13.2.3.	Supersaturation Fluctuations	625
	13.3.	Evaluatio	on of Correlation Functions	628
		13.3.1.	Expansions of Random Characteristics over the Turbulent Frequencies	628
		13.3.2.	Supersaturation as a Nonconservative Variable	629
		13.3.3.	Covariances with Supersaturation	630
		13.3.4.	Covariances with the Drop Size Distribution Function	631
	13.4.	General I	Kinetic Equations of Stochastic Condensation	633
	13.5.	Assumpti	ions and Simplifications for Analytical Solutions	636
	13.6.	Approxin	nation Neglecting the Diffusional Growth of Larger Particles	639
		13.6.1.	Small Particle Solution	640
		13.6.2.	Large Particle Solution	640
		13.6.3.	Merged Solution	641
		13.6.4.	Asymptotic Solutions	643
	13.7.	Solution	Including the Diffusional Growth of Large Particles,	
		Sediment	tation, and Coagulation	645



xiv Contents

	13.8.	Physical Interpretation of the Parameters	647
		13.8.1. Various Forms of Solution Parameters	647
		13.8.2. Solutions in the Form of Gamma Distributions	649
		13.8.3. Solutions in the Form of Inverse Power Laws	654
	13.9.	Applications of the Solution for Liquid Clouds	656
	13.10.	Comparison with Previous Theories and Observations	661
	13.11.	Calculation of Size Spectra for a Crystalline Cloud	665
	13.12.	Derivation of the Generalized Stochastic Kinetic Equations	
		from the Fokker–Plank Equation	669
		13.12.1. Chapman–Kolmogorov and Fokker–Planck Equations	669
		13.12.2. Spatially Homogeneous Cloud	673
		13.12.3. Spatially Inhomogeneous Cloud	676
	Appen	dix A.13. Derivation and Solution of the Kummer Equation in Section 13.6.3	679
	Appen	dix B.13. Solutions of Kinetic Equation of Section 13.7, Taking	
	into A	Account Diffusional Growth in the Tail	684
14.	Analyti	ical Solutions to the Stochastic Kinetic Equation for Precipitating Clouds	685
	14.1.	Introduction	685
	14.2.	Derivation of Kinetic Equations in Continuous Collection Approximations	688
	14.3.	Basic Equations and Assumptions for the Large-Size Fraction	692
	14.4.	Solutions for the Large-Size Fraction Taking into Account Diffusion	
		Growth and Coagulation	696
		14.4.1. General Solution	696
		14.4.2. Particular Case: Fall Speed as a Linear Function of Particle Size	698
		14.4.3. Particular Case: Coagulation Growth Rate Much Greater	
		than Diffusion Growth Rate	699
		14.4.4. Particular Case: Aerodynamic Regime for the Fall Speed	
		of Large Particles	700
		14.4.5. Solutions for Subcloud Layers	702
	14.5.	Interpretation of Solutions	703
		14.5.1. General Analysis of the Parameters	703
		14.5.2. Example Calculations for a Crystalline Cloud	705
		14.5.3. General Interpretation of the Solutions	709
	14.6.	Autoconversion and Corrections to the Analytical Solutions	712
	14.7.	The Coagulation Equation as the Integral Chapman-Kolmogorov	
		and Differential Fokker-Planck Equations	716
	Appen	dix A.14. Evaluation of the Integrals in Section 14.4.2 for $v(r) = A_v r$	722
	Appen	dix B.14. Evaluation of the Integrals in Section 14.4.4 for $v(r) = A_v r^{1/2}$	
	(Aere	odynamic Regime of Fall Velocities)	724
Refe	erences		727
Note	ations		767
Inde	ex		777



Preface

Cloud microphysics is a branch of cloud physics that studies initiation, growth, and dissipation of cloud and precipitation particles. Cloud microphysics is governed by the thermodynamic and kinetic processes in clouds. The field of cloud microphysics has been intensively developed since the 1940s when the first successful experiments on cloud seeding were performed. The field has received additional impetus in recent years from the challenges associated with forecasting precipitation and understanding aerosol-cloud interactions in the context of climate change and feedback processes. Several books on cloud microphysics are available, including Mason (1957), Fletcher (1962, 1970a), Dufour and Defay (1963), Sedunov (1974), Voloshchuk and Sedunov (1975), Voloshchuk (1984), Matveev (1984), Young (1993), Pruppacher and Klett (1997), and Cotton et al. (2011).

Thermodynamics, Kinetics, and Microphysics of Clouds extends the subject of cloud microphysics beyond these previous treatments. The goals and contents of this book are formulated to:

- Present in compact form the major thermodynamic relations and kinetic equations required for theoretical consideration of cloud microphysics;
- Review the currently known states of water in liquid, crystalline, and amorphous forms, and the
 conceptual modern theories of water and equations of state for water in various states;
- Formulate a closed system of equations that describe the kinetics of cloud microphysical processes and is suitable both for analytical studies and for inclusion in numerical models;
- Derive from theory generalized analytical parameterizations for aerosol deliquescence, hygroscopic growth, efflorescence, and drop activation and ice nucleation in various modes;
- Demonstrate that these theoretical parameterizations generalize and unify previous parameterizations and include them as particular cases; express previous empirical parameters via atmospheric and aerosol parameters and theoretical quantities;
- Derive the kinetic equations of stochastic condensation and coagulation and obtain their analytical solutions that reproduce the observed drop and crystal size spectra; express parameters of empirical distributions from theory; and
- Outline a path for future generalizations of the kinetic equations of cloud microphysics based on the Chapman–Kolmogorov and Fokker–Planck equations.

Using the general principles of thermodynamics and kinetics, a closed system of equations is formulated that includes kinetic equations for the drop and crystal size spectra along with the supersaturation equations. Using these equations and further developing classical nucleation theory, theories are



xvi Preface

developed of aerosol hygroscopic growth, drop activation, and ice homogeneous and heterogeneous nucleation. Analytical expressions are obtained for the particle concentration, critical radii and energies of nucleation, nucleation rates that are expressed as functions of temperature, saturation ratio, pressure, and aerosol concentration simultaneously and in factorized form. It is shown that the new theoretical expressions generalize previous empirical parameterizations, can reduce to them in some particular cases, and their empirical parameters are expressed via the aerosol parameters and physical constants. The validity of these new theoretical expressions is verified in comparison with experimental data, previous empirical and semi-empirical parameterizations, and parcel model simulations. A similar theory is developed for the aerosol deliquescence and efflorescence. This allows for the first time calculation from the theory of a unified phase diagram for solutions that are in agreement with experimental phase diagrams.

Various analytical solutions to the kinetic equations and supersaturation equations are obtained for adiabatic and non-adiabatic processes. These solutions are suitable both for analytical studies of condensation and for inclusion in the numerical models. This system of equations, including kinetic equations for drops and crystals and integral supersaturation equations, is generalized for the turbulent atmosphere and multidimensional models. A fast algorithm for a numerical solution based on the splitting method is described. Spectral bin microphysical method was applied for many years in various 1D, 2D, and 3D models for various cloud types, and its applicability in the models of various scales and dimensions is discussed.

The kinetic equations of stochastic condensation in a turbulent atmosphere are derived and generalized taking into account the coagulation and accretion processes. Various analytical solutions to these stochastic equations are obtained, whose functional forms are similar to the gamma distributions and to exponential and inverse power laws that have been observed in clouds and precipitation. The solution parameters are expressed via the atmospheric characteristics and physical constants, and the solutions are verified through comparison with experimentally observed size spectra. These solutions provide explanations of various empirical parameterizations and a platform for their refinement.

In addition to advancing our basic understanding of cloud microphysical processes, the theoretical approach employed in this book supports the explanation and interpretation of laboratory and field measurements in the context of instrument capabilities and limitations and motivates the design of future laboratory and field experiments. In the context of models that include cloud processes, ranging from small-scale models of clouds and atmospheric chemistry to global weather and climate models, the unified theoretical foundations presented here provide the basis for incorporating cloud microphysical processes in these models in a manner that represents the process interactions and feedback processes over the relevant range of environmental and parametric conditions. Further, the analytical solutions presented here provide the basis for computationally efficient parameterizations that include the relevant parametric dependencies. The methods of cloud simulation using spectral bin microphysics described here are especially suitable for modeling of weather modification by cloud seeding since these methods are almost always based on modification of cloud microstructure and phase state. These methods are also convenient for studies of inadvertent cloud modification by anthropogenic and natural pollutions and for studies of cloud-radiation interactions.

This book incorporates the heritage of Russian cloud physics that introduced and developed the kinetic equations for drop and crystal diffusion growth, the fast numerical algorithms for their



Preface xvii

solutions, and the stochastic approach to cloud microphysical processes. This Russian heritage is combined with the best knowledge of cloud microphysics acquired and described in the Western literature over the past several decades. A large amount of the material presented in this book is based on original work conducted jointly by the authors over almost two decades. Some of this research has been published previously in journal articles, but a large portion of this material is being published here in this book for the first time, notably the parameterization of heterogeneous ice nucleation and the theory of aerosol deliquescence and efflorescence.

Integration of Russian and Western perspectives on cloud physics was facilitated by the 1972 bilateral treaty between the U.S. and USSR on Agreement and Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, specifically under Working Group VIII – The Influence of Environmental Change on Climate. Its regular meetings and exchanges of delegations and information promoted international collaboration, provided the foundation for long-term cooperation, and outlined proposals for joint research. With the advent of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) in 1980, both Khvorostyanov and Curry subsequently became members of the WCRP Working Group on Radiative Fluxes, which later became the Radiation Panel of the Global Water and Energy Exchange Experiment (GEWEX). The GEWEX Radiation Panel had regular annual meetings (where the authors participated and met), which initiated the collaboration that has lasted for almost two decades, resulted in more than 30 joint publications, and culminated in this book.

This book bridges Russian and Western perspectives of cloud physics. Khvorostyanov's involvement in the evolution of the Russian school of cloud physics includes development of cloud models with spectral bin microphysics and applications to cloud seeding and cloud-radiation interactions. Curry's early cloud microphysics research focused on aircraft observations of cloud microphysics and the development of parameterizations for cloud and climate models. Over the past 18 years, Khvorostyanov and Curry have collaborated on a range of cloud microphysical topics of relevance to understanding and parameterizing cloud processes for cloud and climate models, that integrate the Russian perspectives on cloud microphysics into the broader community, and that combine Eastern and Western approaches to cloud microphysics. In addition to summarizing and integrating these perspectives and the broad body of recent research in cloud microphysics, throughout the book a number of new results are included, as well as extensions and generalizations of existing ones.

This monograph is intended to provide a source of information for scientists engaged in teaching and research in cloud physics and dynamics, aerosol physics, air pollution, and weather modification. The book can be used as a textbook to provide graduate-level students with the theoretical foundations of cloud microphysics. Researchers and students should have a basic background in physics and thermodynamics and mathematical physics before using this book. Beyond this basic background, the authors have made every effort to make the book as self-inclusive as possible. Formal derivations and analytical solutions are emphasized, with every effort made to make the mathematical steps easy to follow, including additional details in the appendices. A comprehensive bibliography is provided that references seminal material in the primary literature and previous textbooks and monographs.

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xviii Preface

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