

# Adaptive timestepping for condensational growth of droplets in numerical cloud models with Lagrangian microphysics

**P. Dziekan, A. Makulska, H. Pawlowska**

**Institute of Geophysics, Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw**

**Japanese collaborators: Shin-ichiro Shima's group, U. of Hyogo, Kobe**

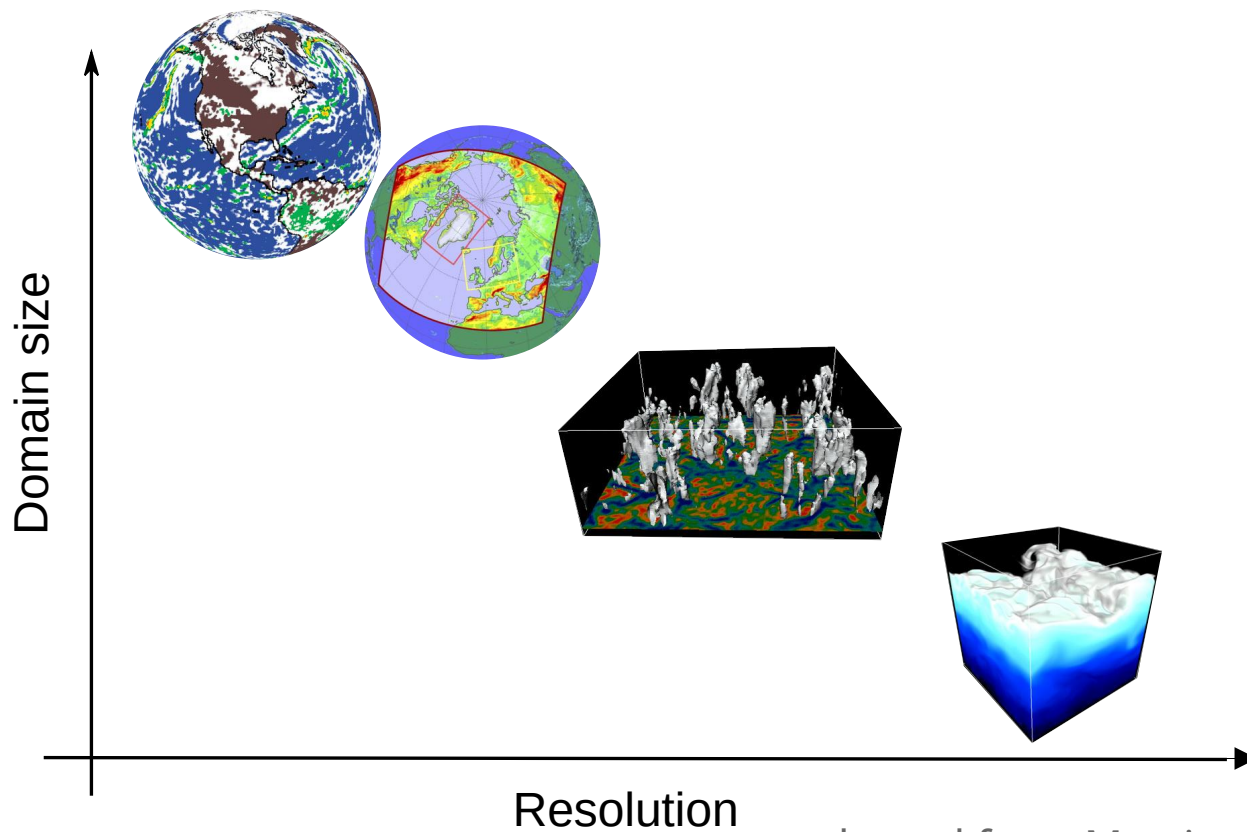
# Agenda

- 1) Overview of the University of Warsaw Lagrangian Cloud Model (UWLCM)
- 2) Development of adaptive condensation substepping in UWLCM
- 3) Other UWLCM work related to Hanami

# Agenda

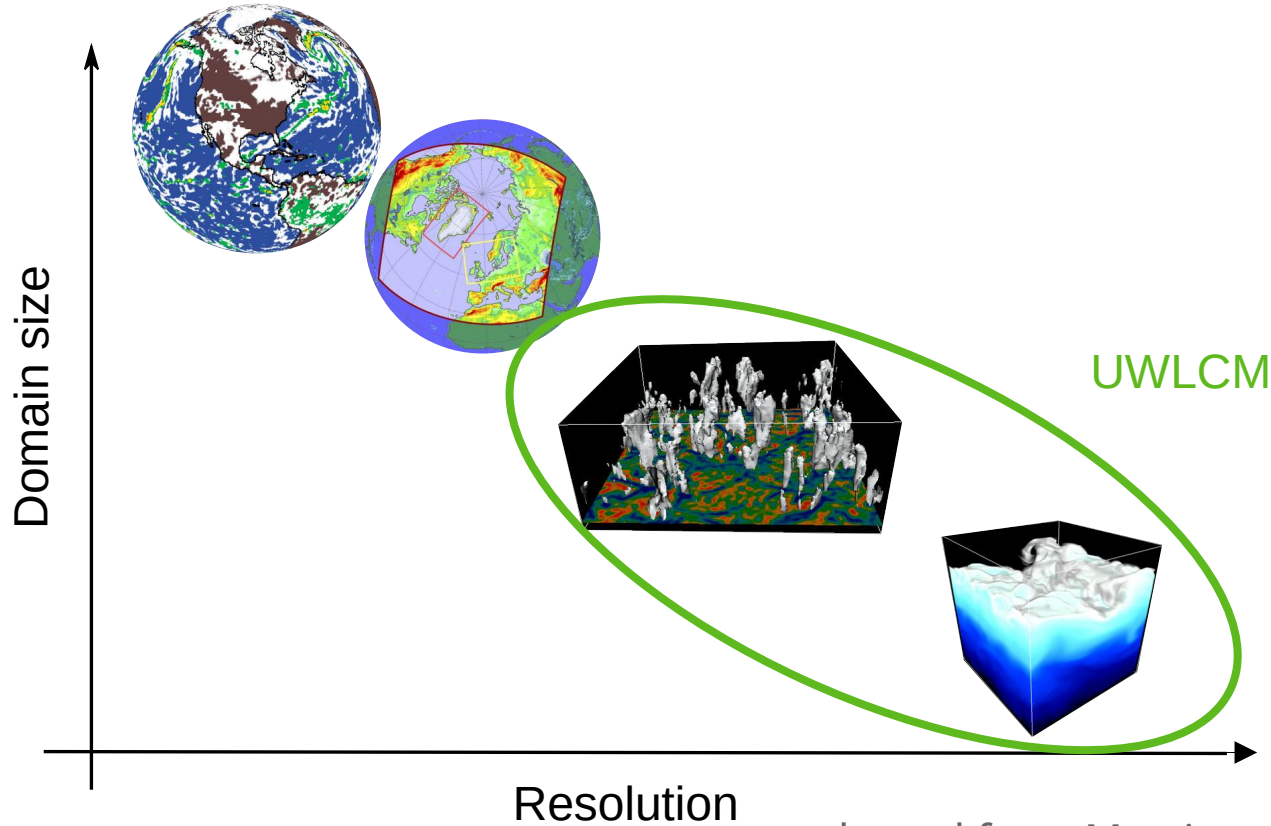
- 1) Overview of the University of Warsaw Lagrangian Cloud Model (UWLCM)

# Cloud modeling across scales



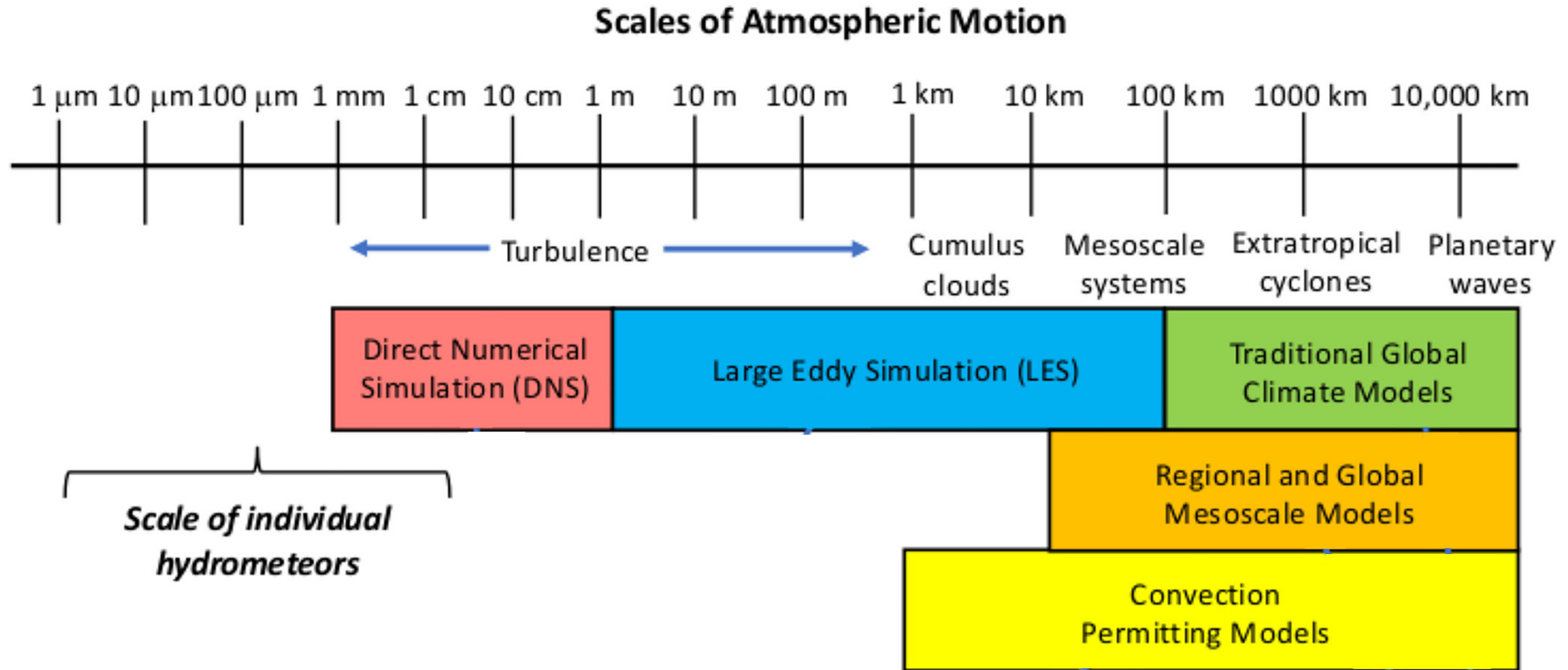
adapted from Morrison et al. *JAMES* (2020)

# Cloud modeling across scales



adapted from Morrison et al. *JAMES* (2020)

# Cloud modeling across scales



adapted from Morrison et al. *JAMES* (2020)

# LES use cases

- Basic research in cloud physics.
- Improvement of parameterizations used in weather and climate models.
- Predictive models are starting to use resolutions close to LES (e.g. project NextGEMS). Methods developed for LES will be used directly in global models.

# University of Warsaw Lagrangian Cloud Model (UWLCM)

- Tool for large eddy simulations (LES) of clouds
- Sophisticated cloud microphysics model – super-droplet method (SDM)
- Developed for 10+ years
- Written in C++ (Boost, blitz++, Python bindings)
- Hybrid OpenMP + MPI parallelization
- Can use GPUs (CUDA Thrust) to model microphysics
- Open-source: [github.com/igfuw/UWLCM](https://github.com/igfuw/UWLCM)



# UWLCM basics

- Modeling air flow (2d or 3d):
  - Large eddy simulations: small-scale turbulence is parameterized

# UWLCM basics

- Modeling air flow (2d or 3d):
  - Large eddy simulations: small-scale turbulence is parameterized
- Modeling temperature and water vapor

# UWLCM basics

- Modeling air flow (2d or 3d):
  - Large eddy simulations: small-scale turbulence is parameterized
- Modeling temperature and water vapor
- Modeling liquid water
  - Bulk microphysics

# UWLCM basics

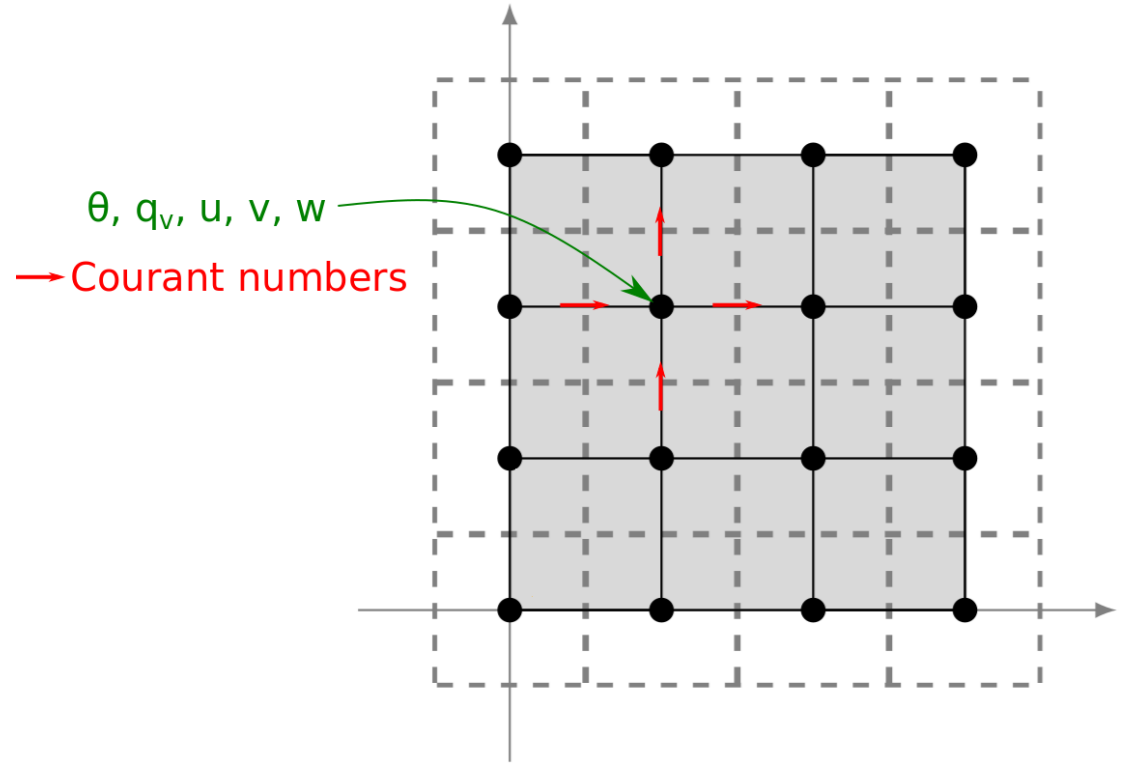
- Modeling air flow (2d or 3d):
  - Large eddy simulations: small-scale turbulence is parameterized
- Modeling temperature and water vapor
- Modeling liquid water
  - Bulk microphysics



Eulerian

# Eulerian variables

- Governed by anelastic equations
- Staggered rectangular grid with stretching
- Solved with MPDATA



# UWLCM basics

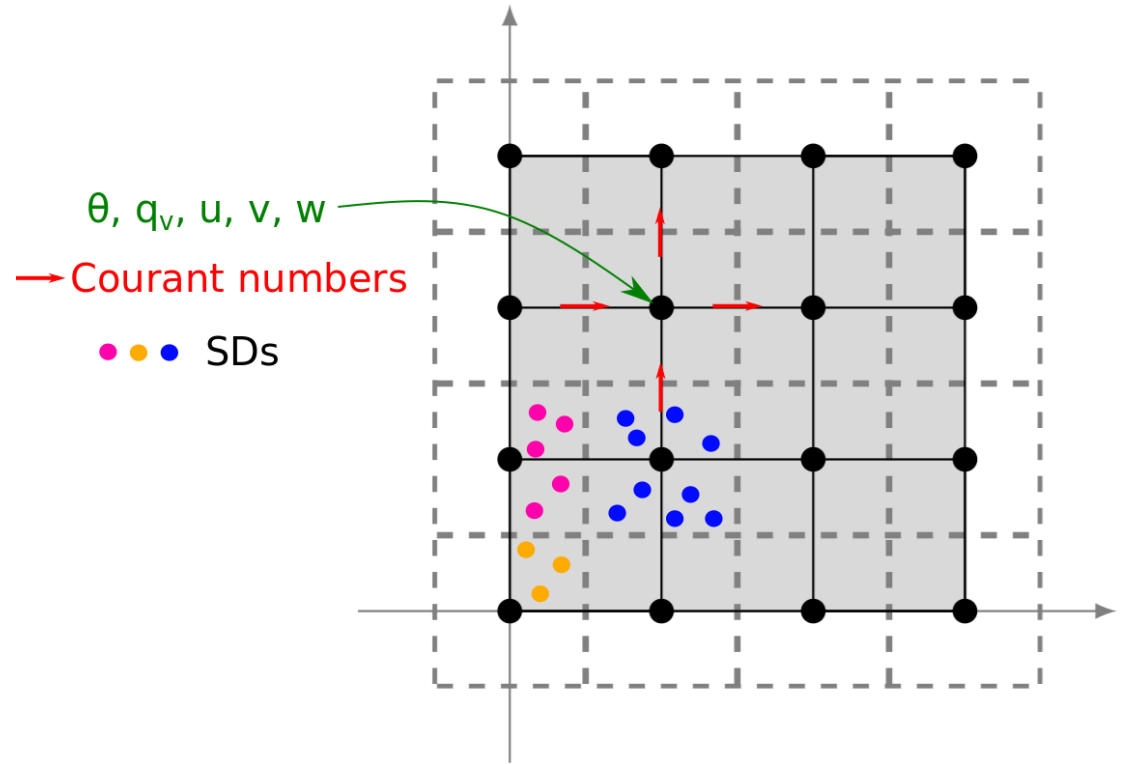
- Modeling air flow (2d or 3d):
  - Large eddy simulations: small-scale turbulence is parameterized
- Modeling temperature and water vapor
- Modeling liquid water
  - Bulk microphysics
  - Super-droplet method

Eulerian

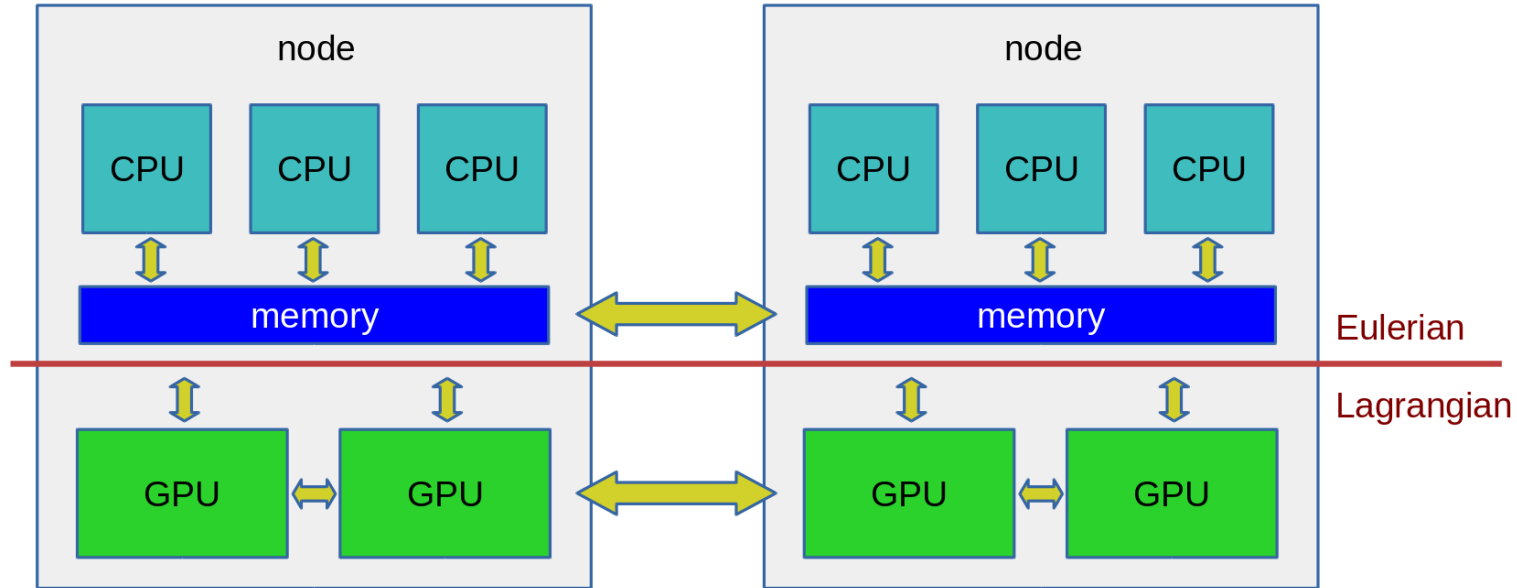
→ Lagrangian

# Super-droplets (SD)

- Computational particle-like objects called super-droplets represent:
  - Humidified aerosols
  - Cloud droplets
  - Rain drops
- Each super-droplet represents large number of identical real hydrometeors



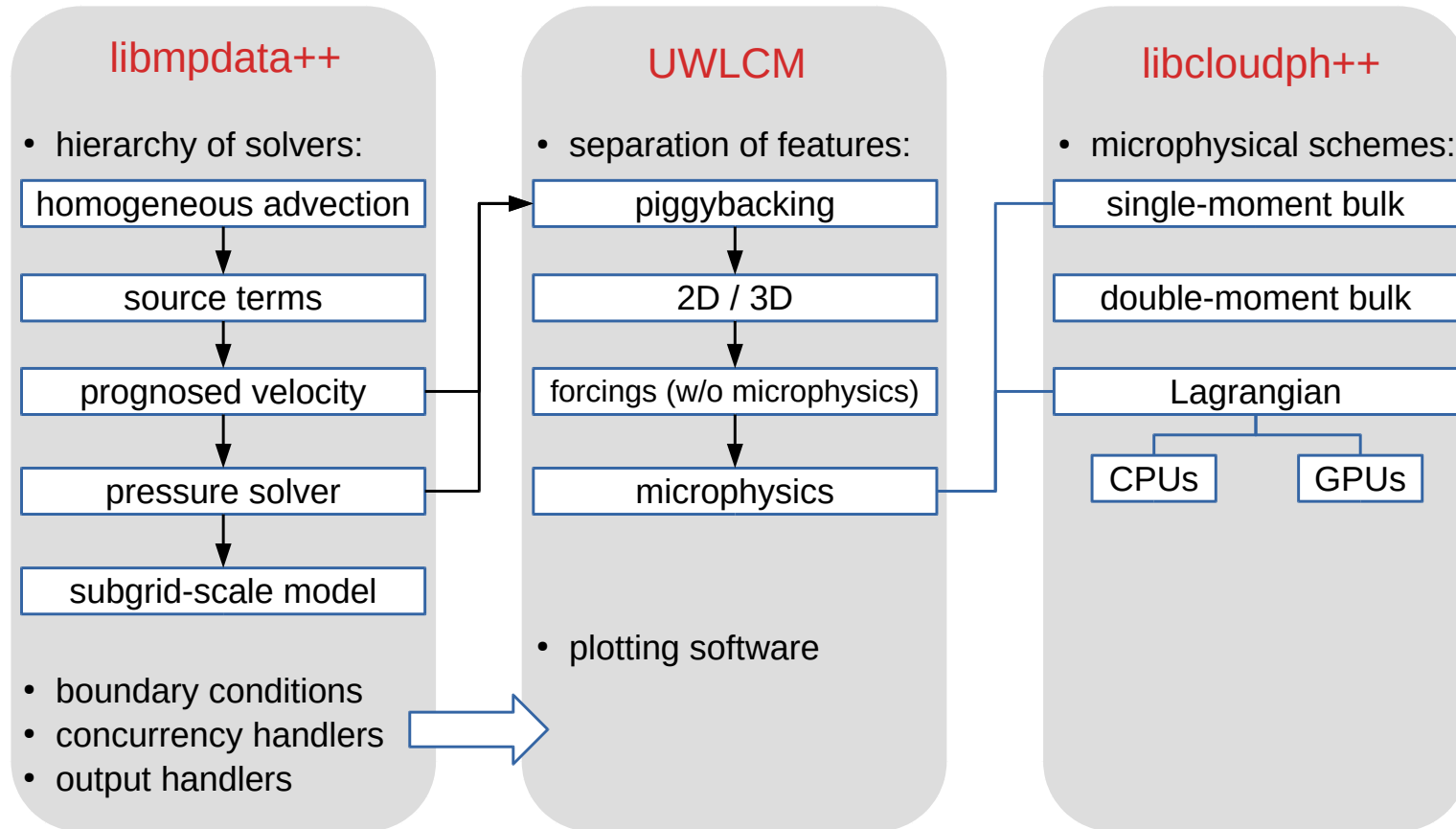
# Use of heterogeneous (CPU+GPU) clusters



- Eulerian component: resides in RAM, computed by CPUs
- Lagrangian component: resides in GPU RAM, computed by GPUs
- Simultaneous computation of Eulerian and Lagrangian components



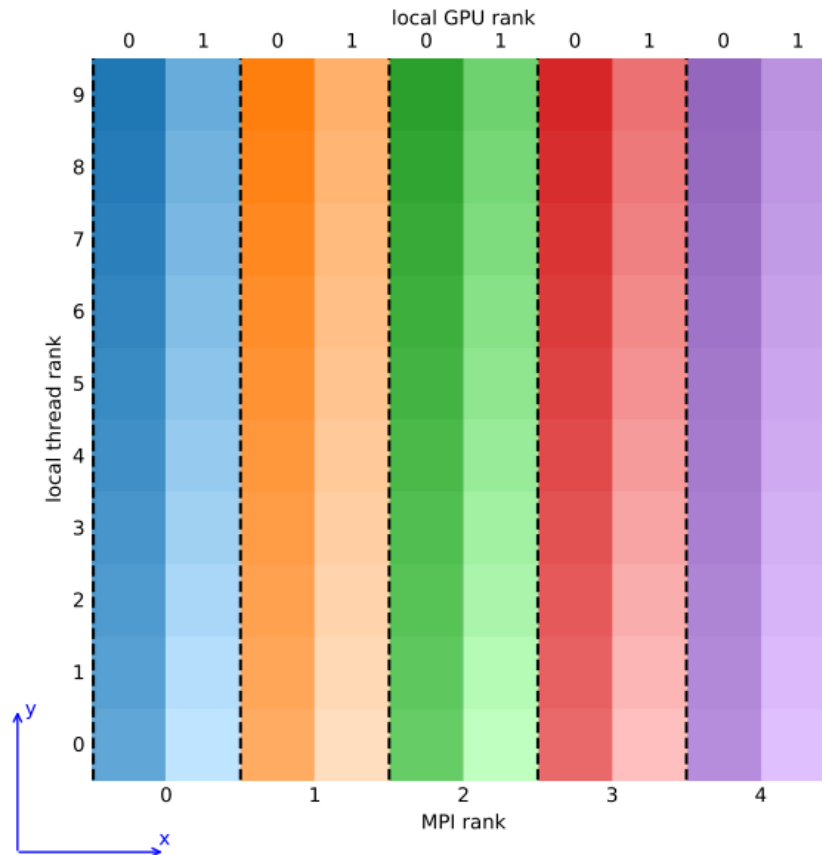
# Modular code structure



- Code sections can be developed independently.
- Code are sections ready to be reused.

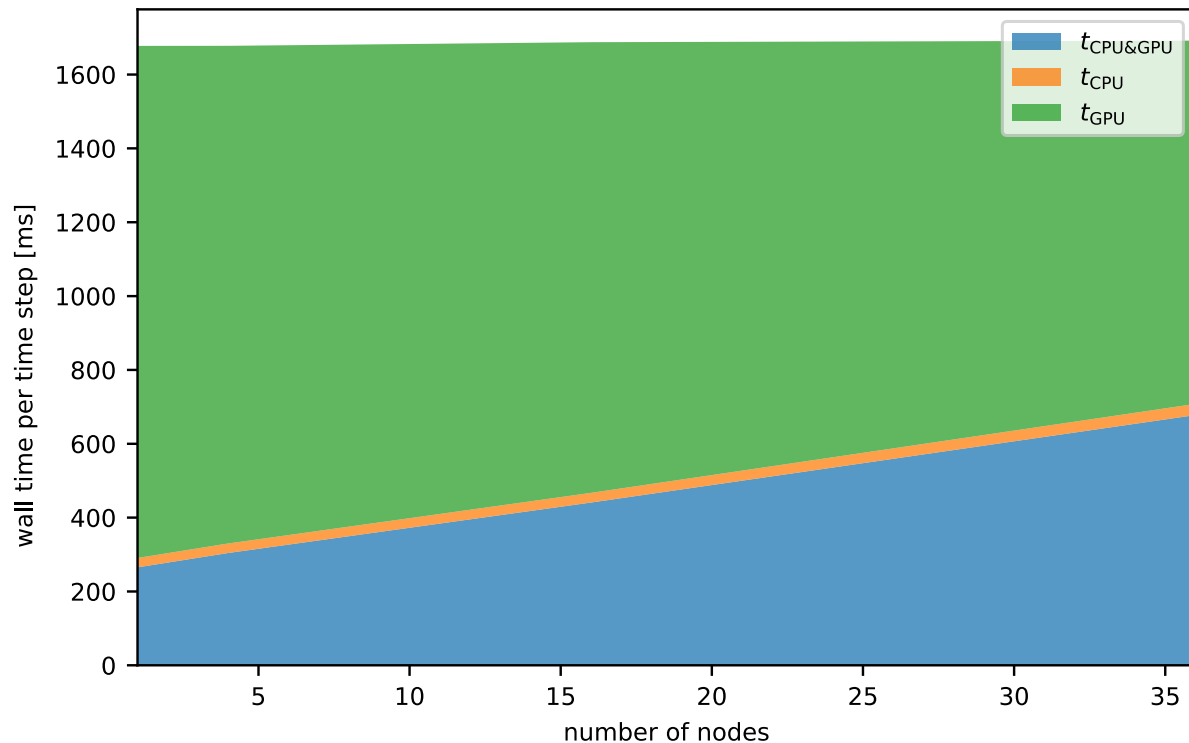
- version control system
- automated tests
- open-source code hosted on github

# Domain decomposition



Top-down view of modeled domain; squares are Eulerian grid cells; coloring shows MPI, thread and GPU ranks.

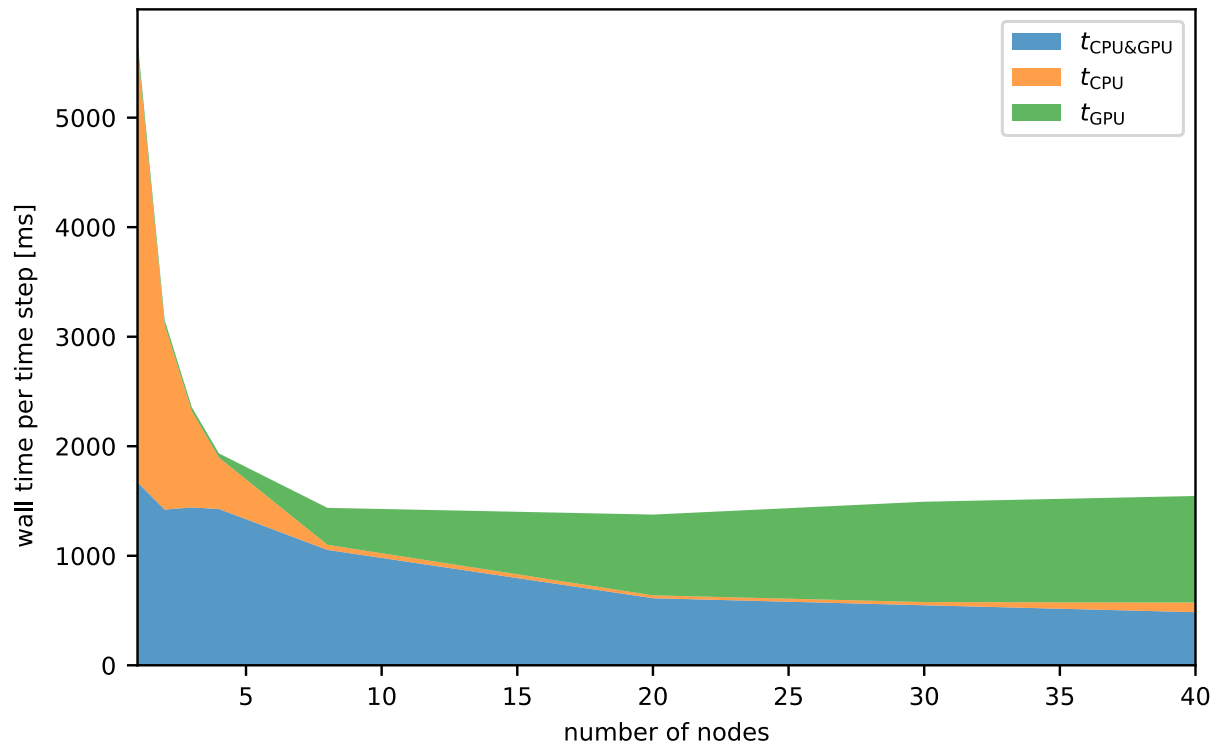
# Weak scaling test



- GPU time scales better than CPU time
- Simultaneous CPU and GPU usage should be maximized for an optimal number of nodes (larger than shown)
- Up to the optimal number of nodes, scaling efficiency of the total wall time is ca. 100%

Wall time per time step vs number of nodes. Timings of simultaneous CPU and GPU computations (blue), CPU-only computations (orange) and GPU-only computations (green) are stacked.

# Strong scaling on CPU, weak on GPU



- Good balance of CPU and GPU computations (ca. 80%) for an optimal number of nodes (5-10 in this case)

Wall time per time step vs number of nodes. Timings of simultaneous CPU and GPU computations (blue), CPU-only computations (orange) and GPU-only computations (green) are stacked.

# Agenda

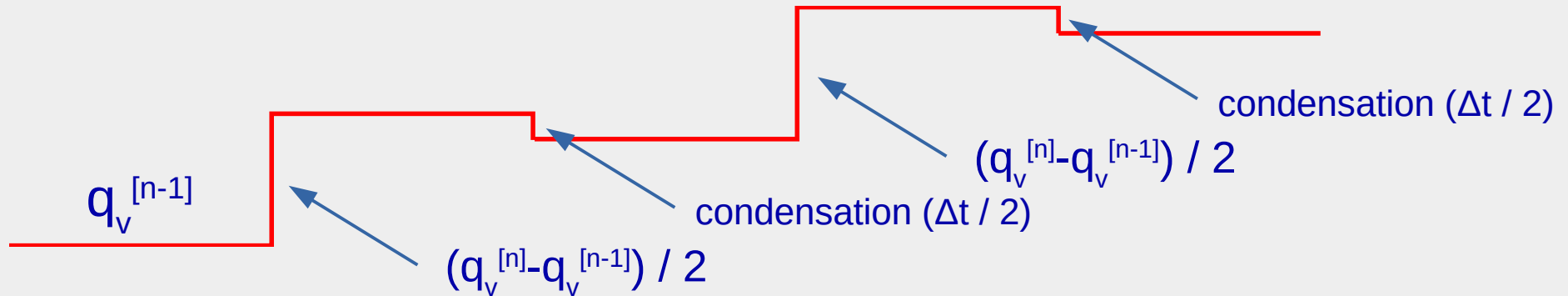
- 1) Overview of the University of Warsaw Lagrangian Cloud Model (UWLCM)
- 2) Development of adaptive condensation substepping in UWLCM

# Need for substepping

- Model timestep:  $\sim 1\text{s}$
- Processes that need to be modeled with shorter timesteps: condensation, collision-coalescence, ...
- Change of radius due to condensation is modeled using an implicit-explicit scheme solved with a predictor-corrector method. Converges for a  $\sim 0.1\text{s}$  timestep.
- Substepping: multiple timesteps for specific processes per model timestep.

# Condensation substepping

2 sub-steps:



- $q_v^{[n]}$  – water vapor at n-th model time step
- $\Delta t$  – model time step length
- Change in thermodynamic conditions ( $q_v$ ,  $T$ ) is incrementally applied in substeps

# Adaptive condensation substepping

- Inspired by: Matsushima T. et al. GMD (2023),  
Bartman P. Msc thesis (2020)
- Per-cell vs per-superdroplet?
- Number of substeps can vary between superdroplets in a cell
- Number of substeps changes between time steps





# The issue of „mixing“

Super-droplet A

Super-droplet B

Substep 1

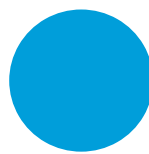
  $r_{(A)}, q_v, T$

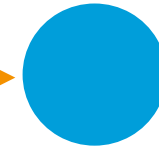
  $r_{(B)}, q_v, T$

$\Delta r_{(A)}, \Delta q_{v(A)}, \Delta T_{(A)}$

$\Delta r_{(B)}, \Delta q_{v(B)}, \Delta T_{(B)}$

Substep 2

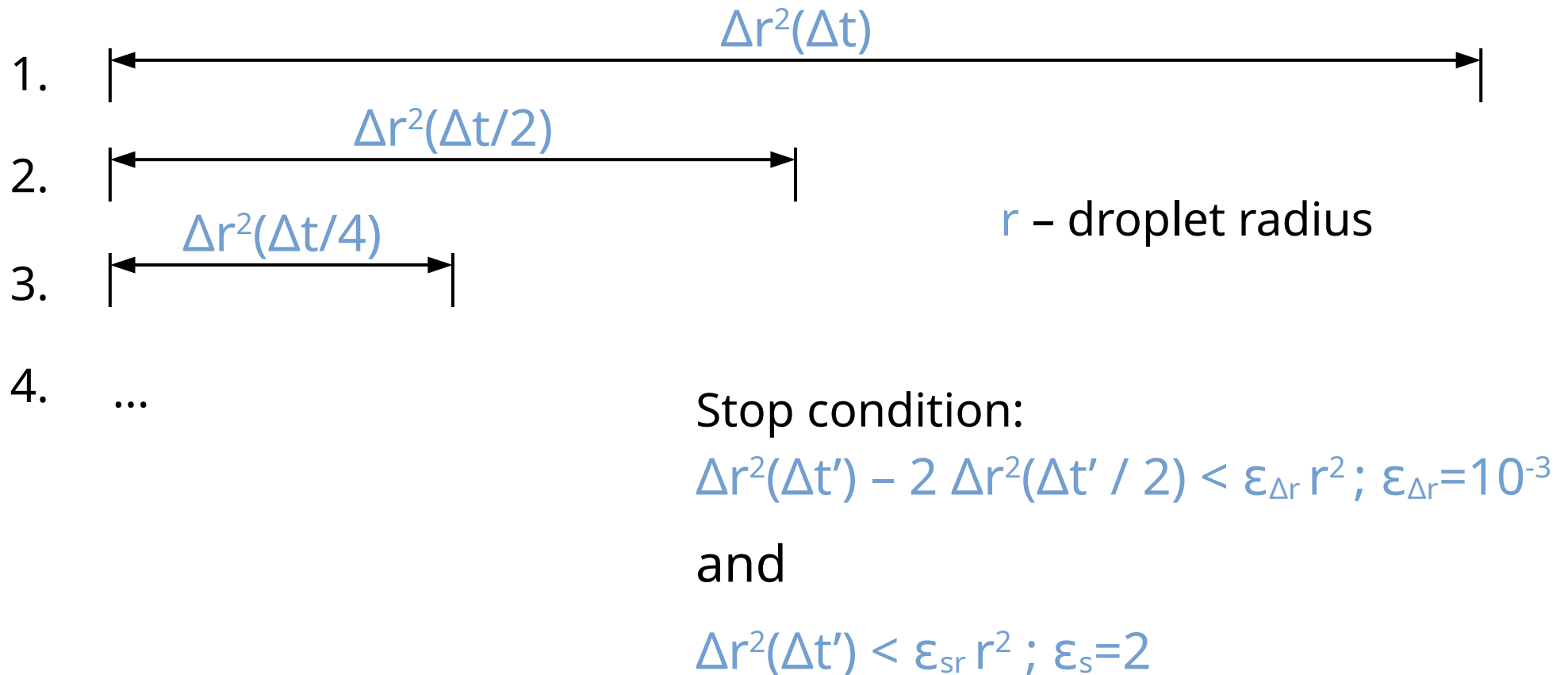
  $\Delta q_{v(A)}, \Delta T_{(A)}, \Delta q_{v(B)}, \Delta T_{(B)} ?$



# The issue of „mixing“

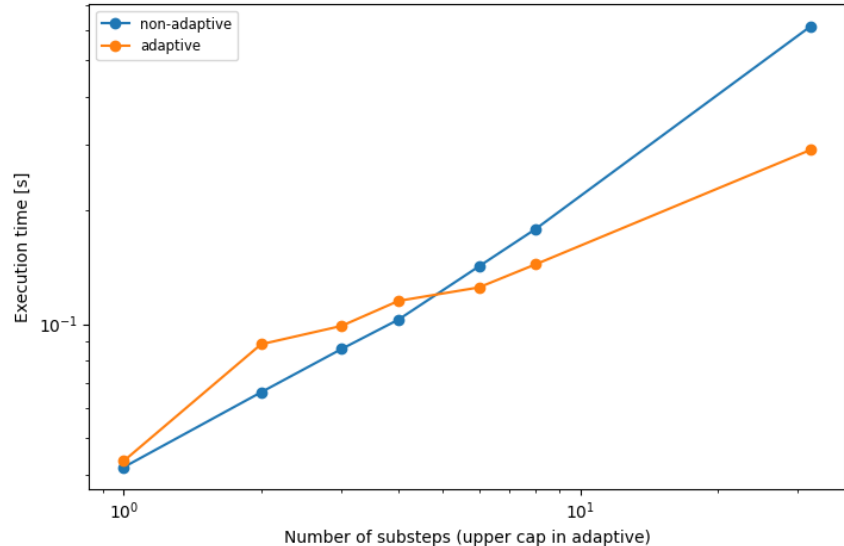
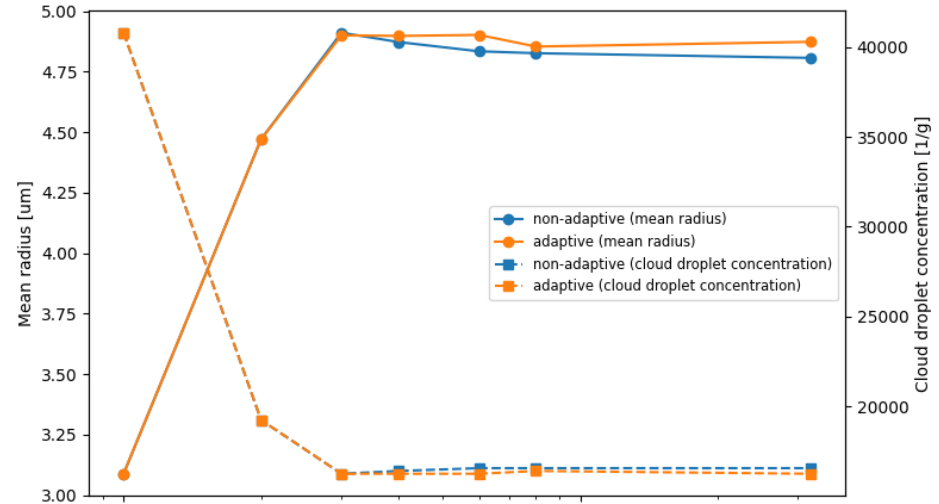
- Mean distance between droplets: ~2 mm
- Turbulent mixing timescale at a 2 mm distance: ~0.1 s
- Turbulent mixing timescale at a 1 cm distance: ~0.5 s
- No clear answer if it's better to „mix“ (homogenize) cell every substep (~0.1s) or every step (~1s), so we choose the latter in adaptive substepping.
- Preliminary results don't show much sensitivity to mixing.

# Adaptation strategy



# Box model test

- Condensation in a single cell
- Non-adaptive vs adaptive
- Similar results for adaptive and non-adaptive
- Results converge for  $\#substeps > 5$
- Adaptation gives speedup only for  $\#substeps > 5$

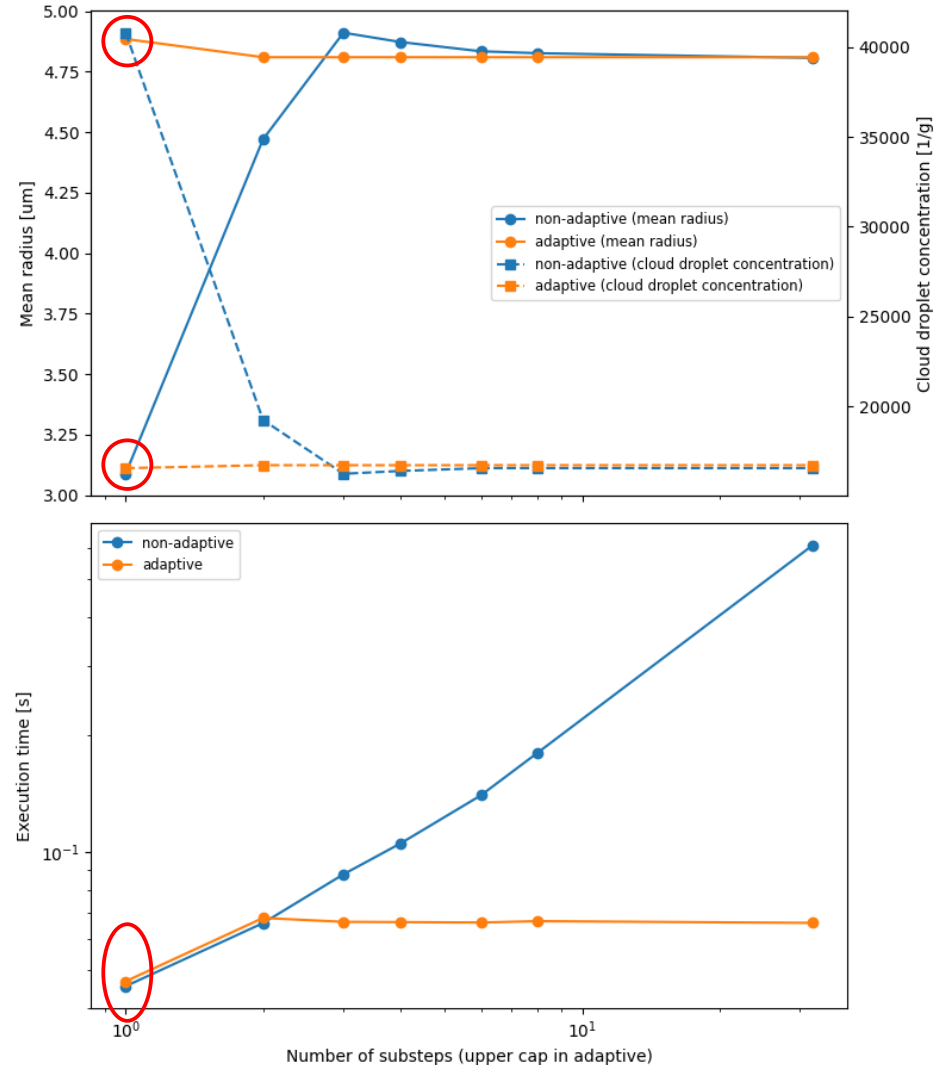


# Adaptation for activation

- Short timesteps are mostly required to resolve droplet activation (formation of new cloud droplets).
- Additional condition: if a droplet is to (de)activate:  
 $r^2 < r_c^2$  ,  $r^2 + \Delta r^2(\Delta t) > r_c^2$  , use a fixed number of substeps (8).
- The critical radius  $r_c$  weakly depends on thermodynamic conditions, so it can be calculated only once.

# Box model test

- Activation adaptation used.
- Correct results even if substeps are done only for activating droplets.
- 3x speedup in modeling condensation (possibly more in more realistic simulations).
- Computing condensation can take up to 40% of simulation time.



# Adaptation: next steps

- Test in a realistic cloud simulation.
- Test on GPUs.

# Agenda

- 1) Overview of the University of Warsaw Lagrangian Cloud Model (UWLCM)
- 2) Development of adaptive condensation substepping in UWLCM
- 3) Other UWLCM work related to Hanami



# Benchmarking UWLCM on Fugaku

- Non-MPI runs work.
- Work in progress on a Singularity image with MPI.

# Ice microphysics in UWLCM

- Inspired by Shima et al. GMD (2020).
- Implemented processes:
  - Ice nucleation and melting (singular and time-dependent).
  - Deposition and sublimation.
- Tested in parcel model.
- Ongoing work on using it in an Arctic stratocumulus simulation.