

# **Polarimetric Radar simulations with realistic Ice and Snow properties and multi-frequency consistency Evaluation**

**PRISTINE**

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Jana Mendrok and Ulrich Blahak (DWD)

**PROM All-hands Meeting Kiel 2023**

# Preliminary Work: polarimetric FO

## Polarimetric extension of EMVORADO

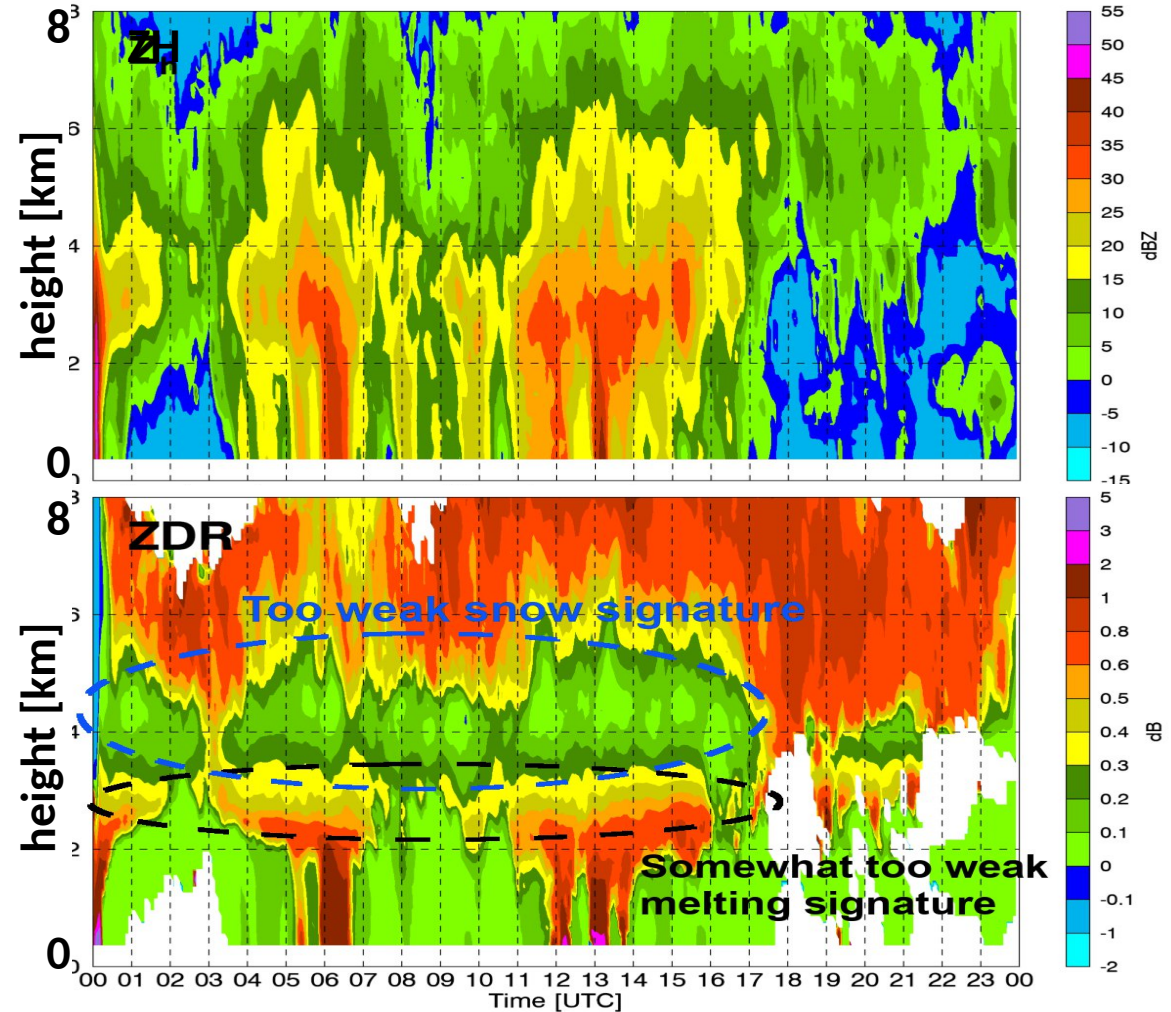
Based on **T-matrix oblate soft spheroids**:  
ZH, ZDR, KDP, PhiDP, LDR, RhoHV, AH

Volume scans (range, azimuth, elevation)

Values on model grid as intermediate step

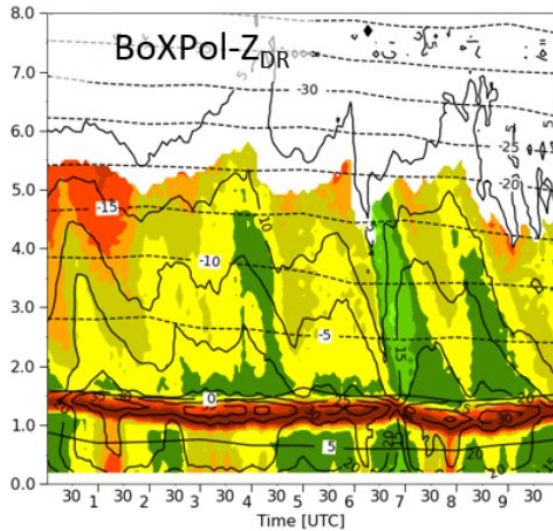
- PSDs and mass-size-relations consistent to model microphysics
- “Realistic” assumptions on Particle shapes / canting angles
- Volume scans include propagation effects: attenuation, beam blockage, beam smoothing
- Efficiency by use of look-up tables and parallelisation (MPI, OpenMP)
- Online coupled to COSMO and ICON, offline version available

24h timeseries of synthetic QVPs of ZH and ZDR from ICON-D2 (free) forecast

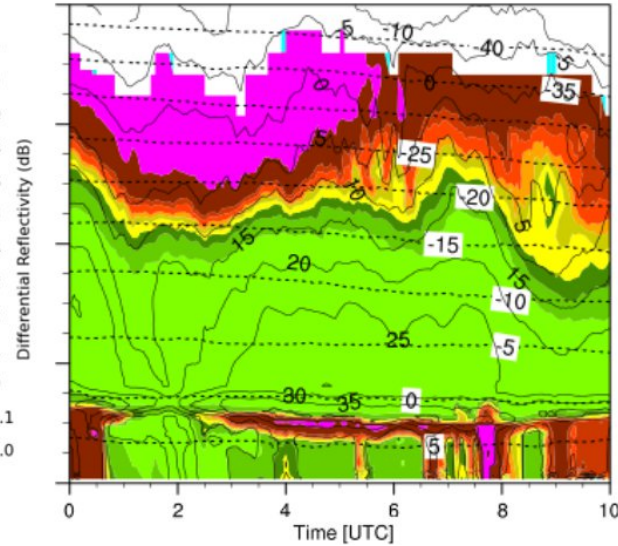


# T-Matrix a great tool with some deficiencies

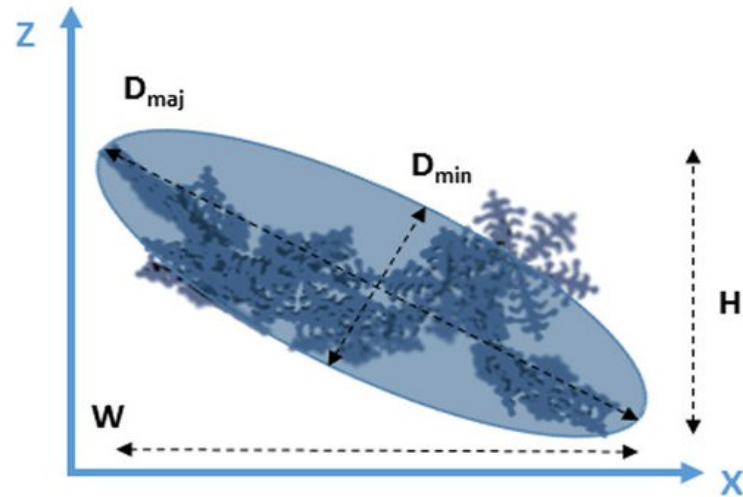
Observations



Model

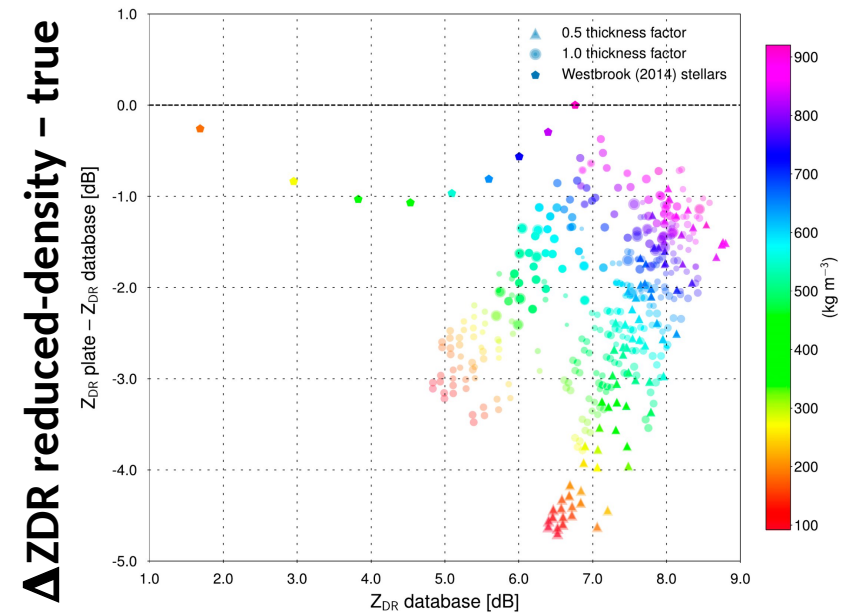


T-Matrix based simulations show a **consistent deficit** in terms of **polarimetric response** in the dendritic growth layer where large, “fluffy” particles prevail.



Multiple studies identified the spheroidal scattering model as a major source of uncertainty

PRISTINE

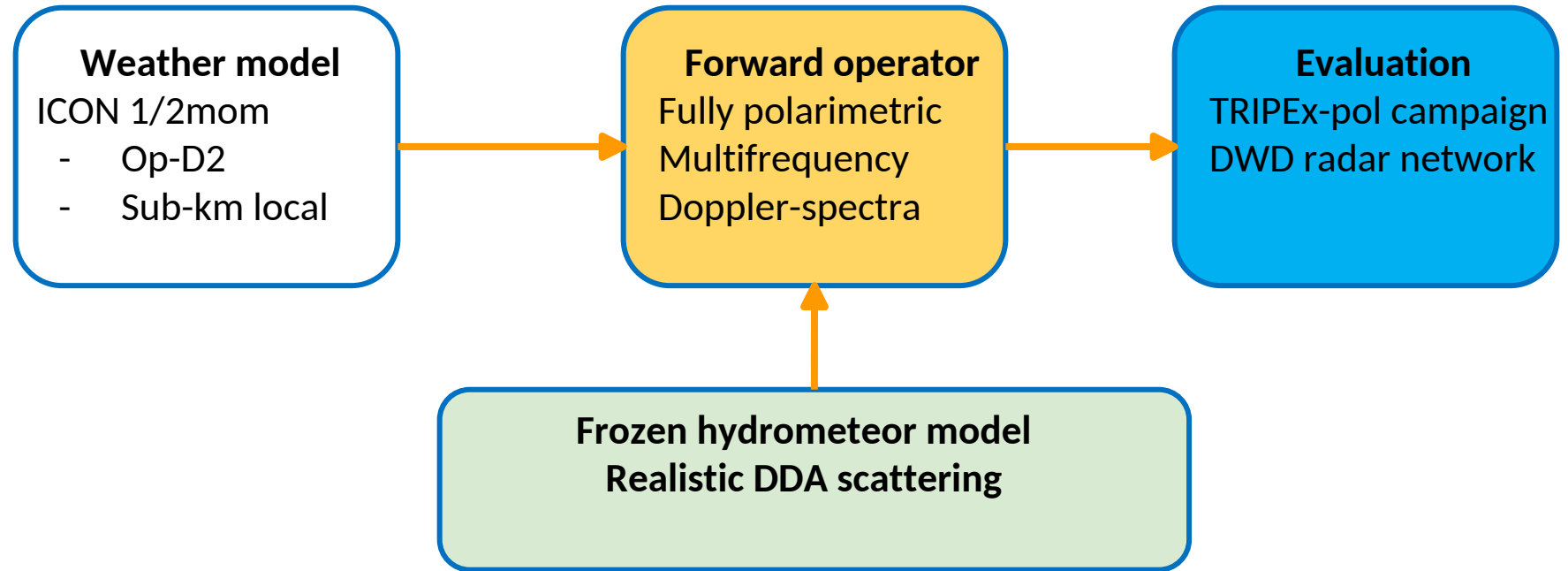


true ZDR

Robert Schrom

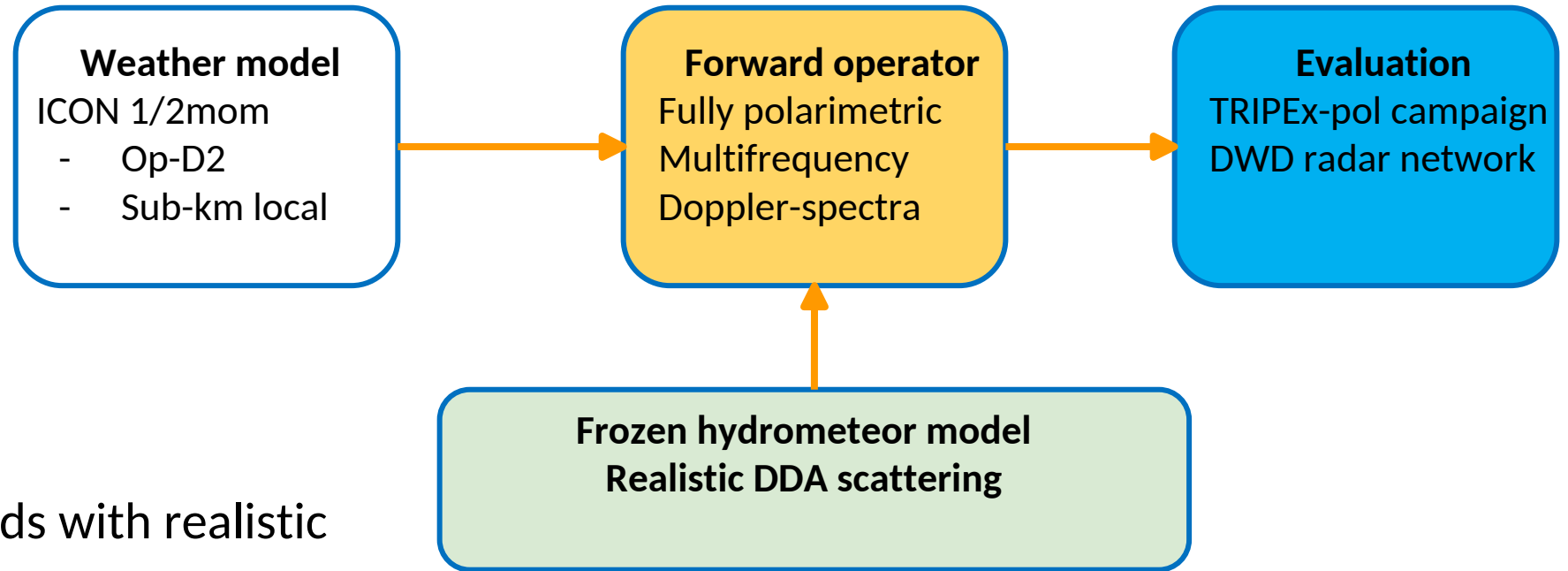
# Strategy

- Extend EMVORADO with new scattering tables and evaluate with real data



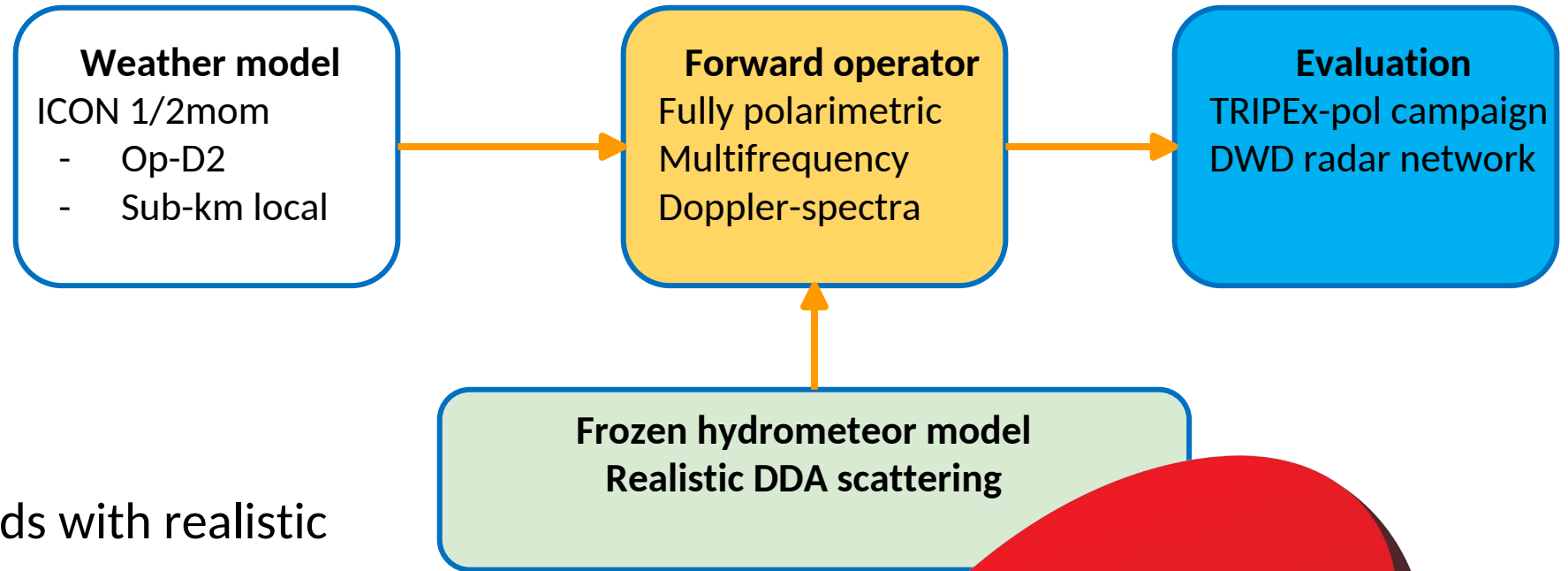
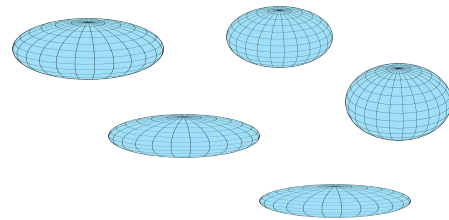
# Strategy

- Extend EMVORADO with new scattering tables and evaluate with real data
- Simply substitute spheroids with realistic shapes

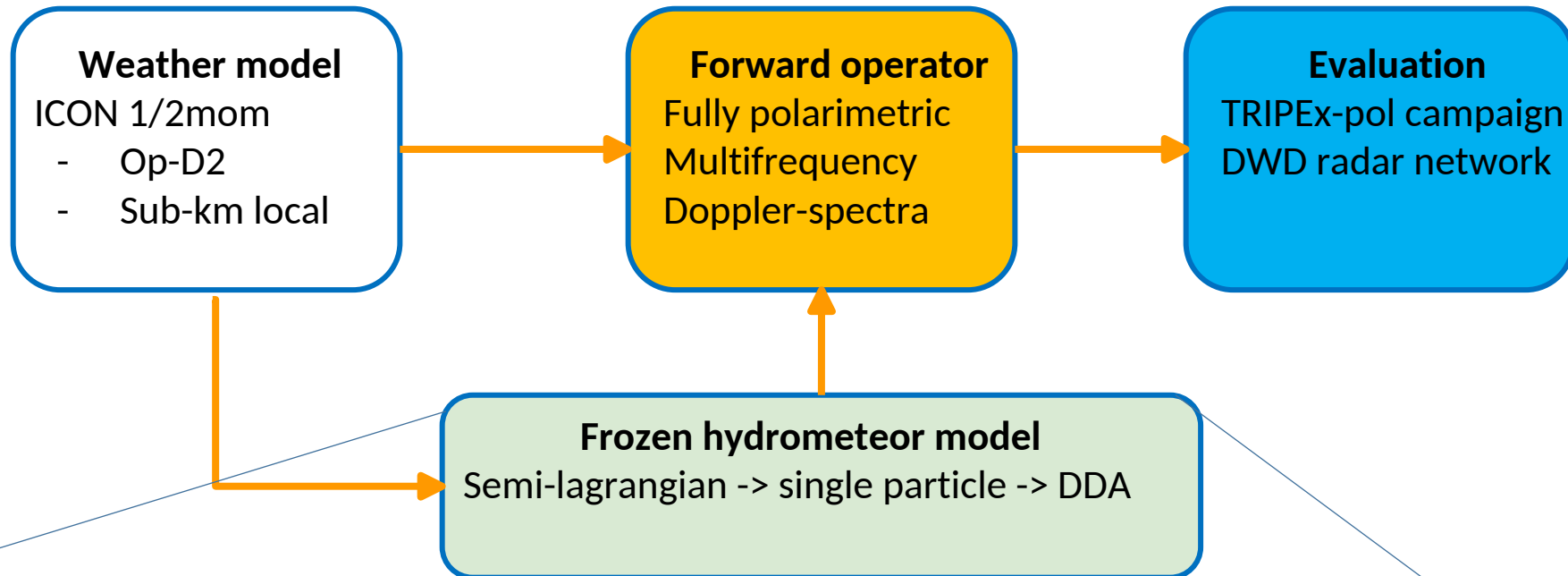


# Strategy

- Extend EMVORADO with new scattering tables and evaluate with real data
- Simply substitute spheroids with realistic shapes
- Ok, but ... which one?



# Strategy



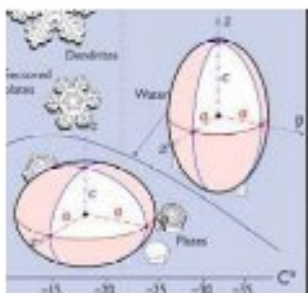
## Modeling

Lagrangian

**McSnow**

PSD properties

Agg. Properties  
Habit prediction  
Riming



Particle

Agg. Properties  
Monomers  
Riming



Single scattering

**DDA**  
Scattering  
Dataset

# Requirements

- 1) Maintain consistency with the model
- 2) Realistic particle modeling
- 3) Flexibility on orientation, sizes, frequencies
- 4) EMVORADO still fast

# Questions

Is the model microphysics self-consistent?

What is the uncertainty due to natural variability of properties?

TECHNICAL: Address the dimensionality problem efficiently

TECHNICAL: How to preserve the complexity in Look-Up Tables

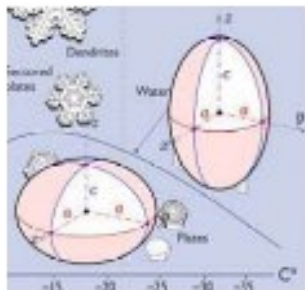
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Lagrangian

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Agg. Properties  
Habit prediction  
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Particle

Agg. Properties  
Monomers  
Riming



Single scattering

**DDA**  
Scattering  
Dataset



## **SELF INTRODUCTION**

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**Soumi Dutta**

### **Current Affiliation**

**PostDoctoral Researcher  
Institute for Geophysics and Meteorology  
University of Cologne, Germany**

### **PhD**

**Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, IIT Delhi, India  
&  
Department of Atmospheric Sciences, UIUC, USA**

# Transition from Cloud Macro-physics to Cloud Micro-physics

## Cloud Remote Sensing from Satellites

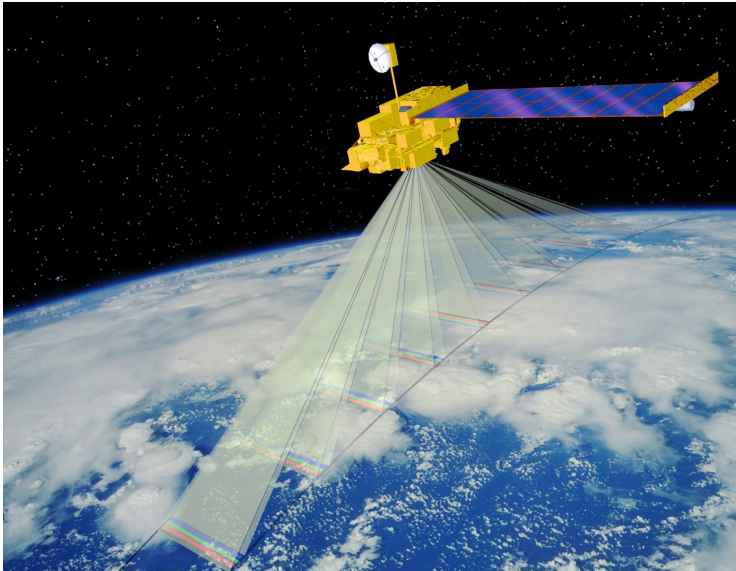


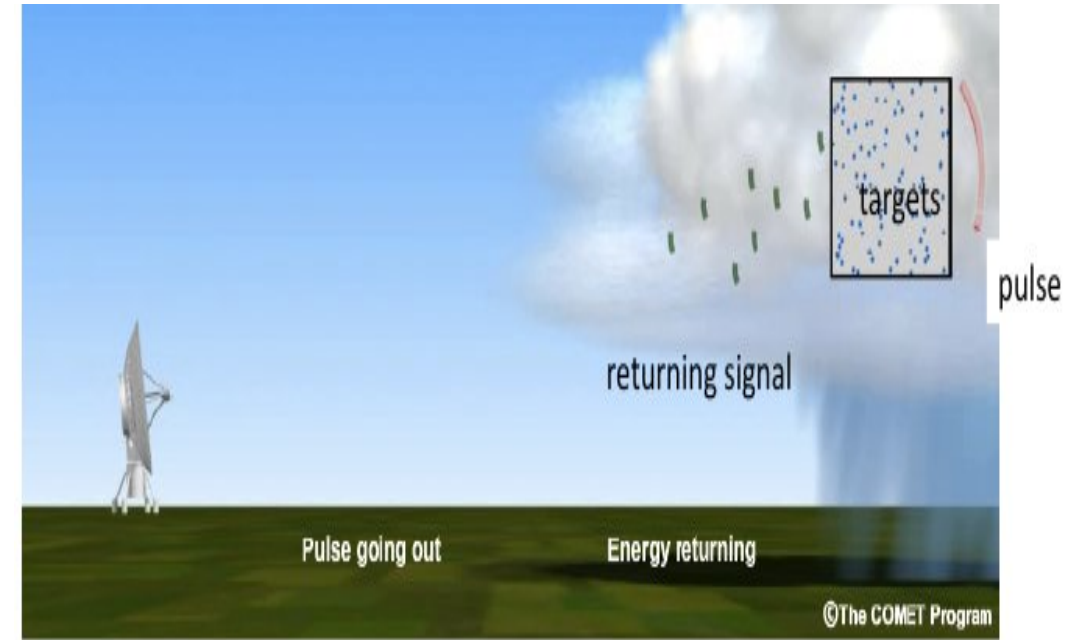
Image courtesy : MISR

### PhD Thesis

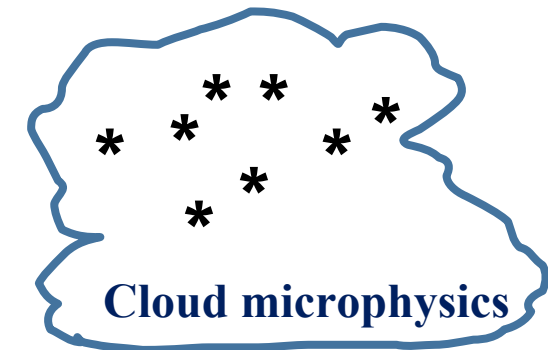
**Towards Improved Estimates of Global Cloud Cover by Addressing Uncertainties Involved in Satellite Cloud Remote Sensing**



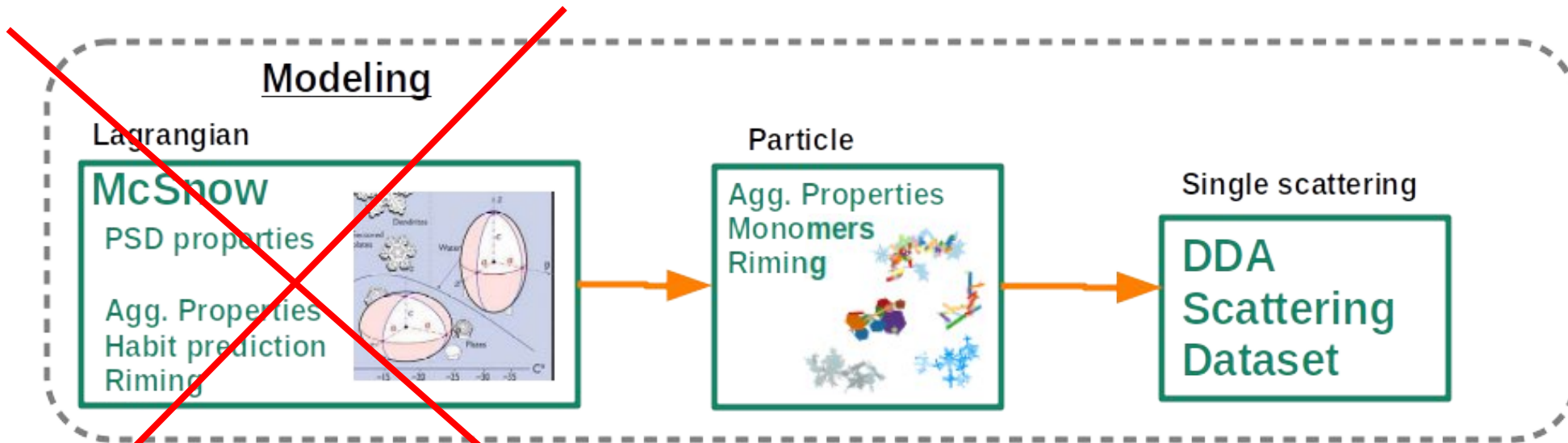
## Cloud Remote Sensing from Radars



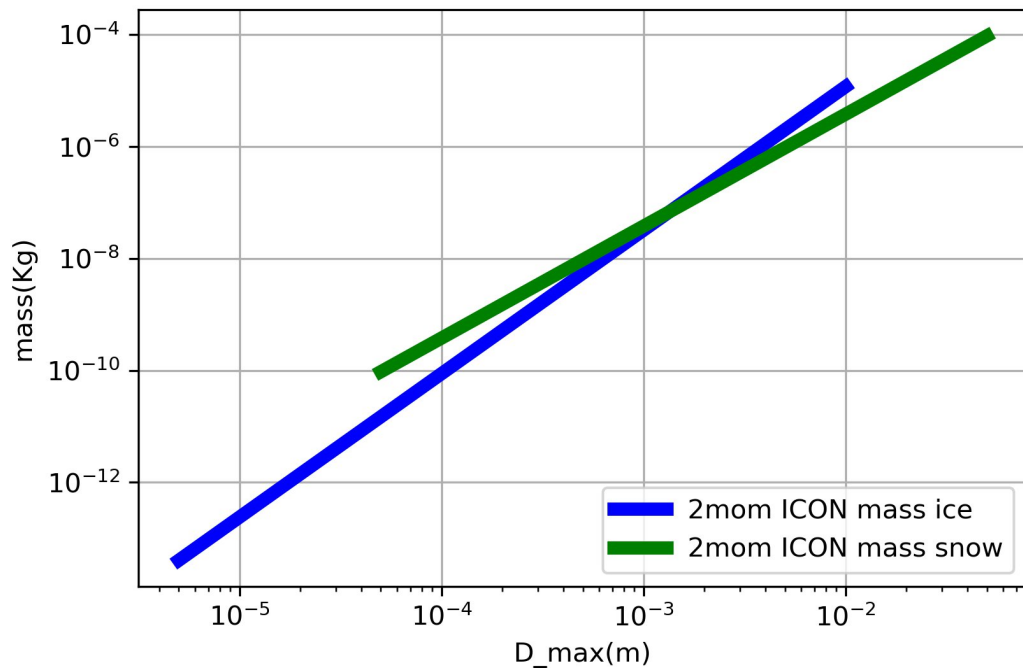
### PostDoc Project PRISTINE



# Ice and snow simulations



**ICON mass -size relations for ice and snow 2mom**



**ICON assumptions**

ice crystals

Dmin = 5.0e-6 ! 5um

Dmax = 10.0e-3 ! 10mm

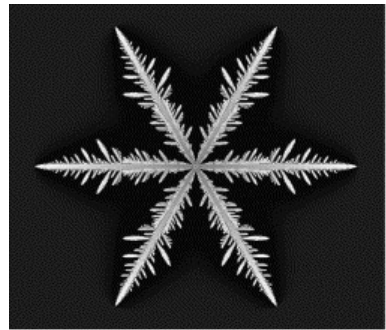
snowflakes

Dmin = 50.0e-6 ! 50um

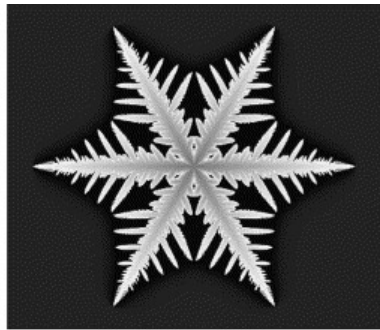
Dmax = 50.0e-3 ! 50mm

# Reiter algorithm to make dendrites

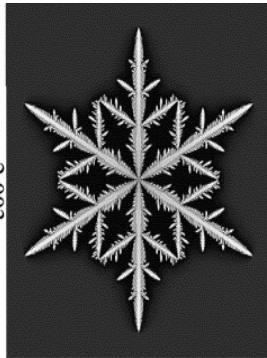
# Simulated dendrite crystals



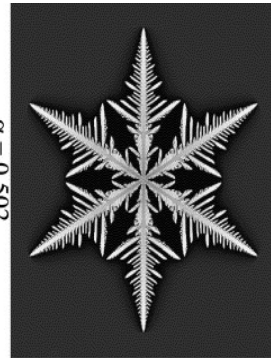
$\beta = 0.3, \gamma = 0.0001$



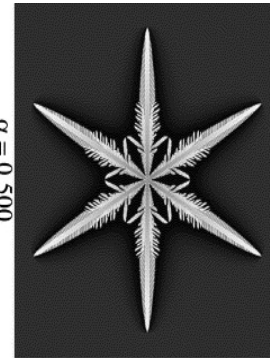
$\beta = 0.35, \gamma = 0.001$



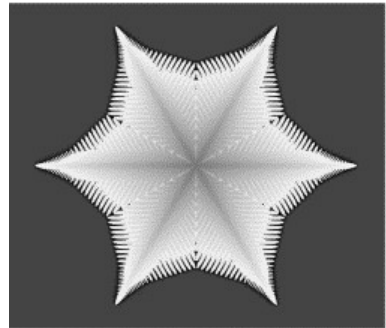
$\alpha = 2.003$



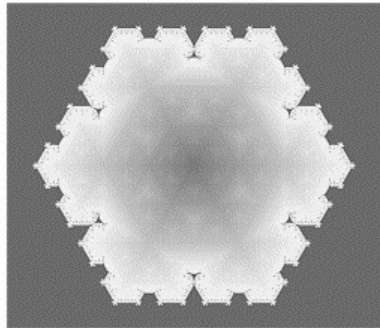
$\alpha = 0.502$



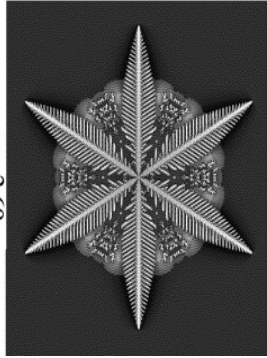
$\alpha = 0.500$



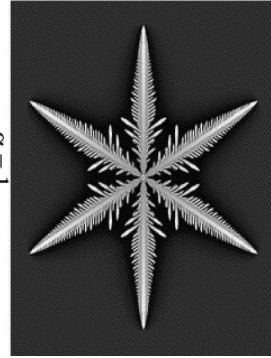
$\beta = 0.6, \gamma = 0.01$



$\beta = 0.9, \gamma = 0.05$



$\alpha = 2.69$



$\alpha = 1$



$\alpha = 0.501$

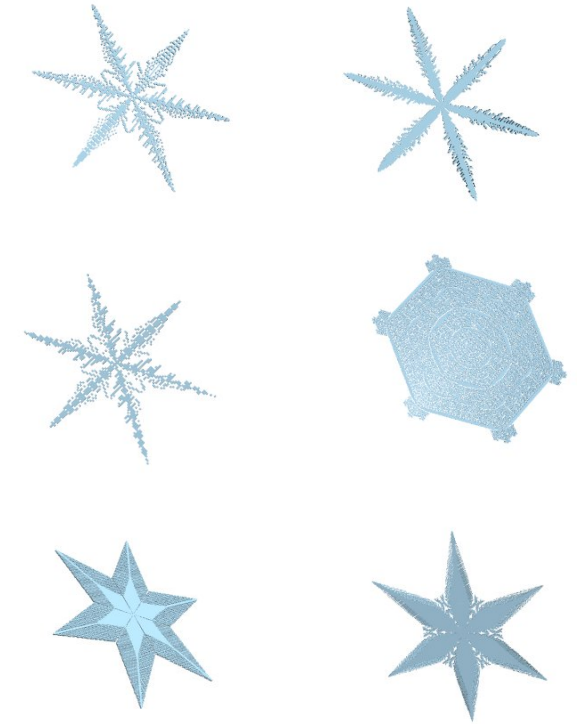
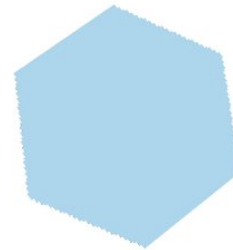
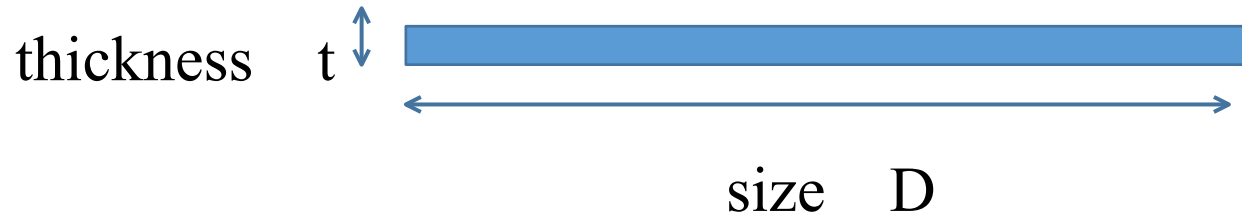


Image courtesy: Reiter, 2005

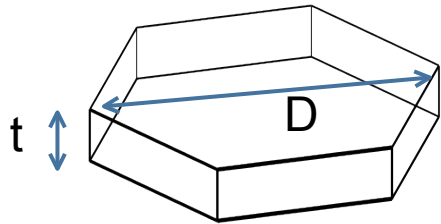
Plate crystals for very small (non branched)



# Aspect Ratio of Single Crystals

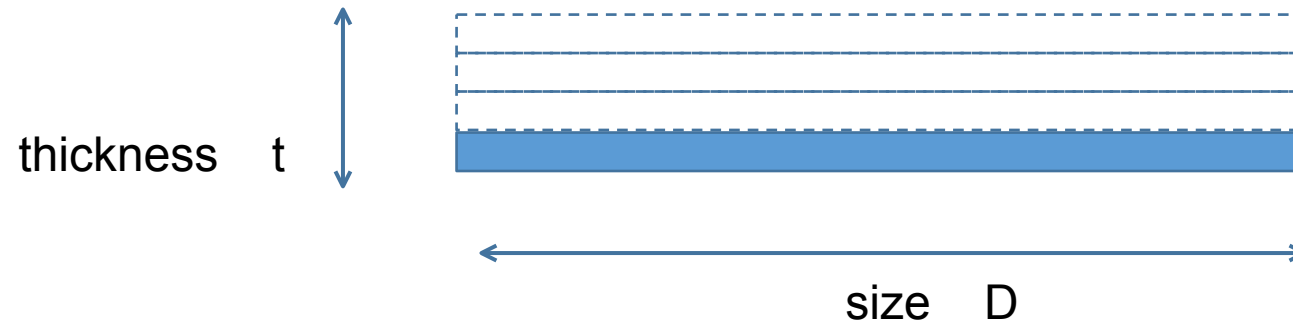


**aspect ratio  $ar = t/D$**

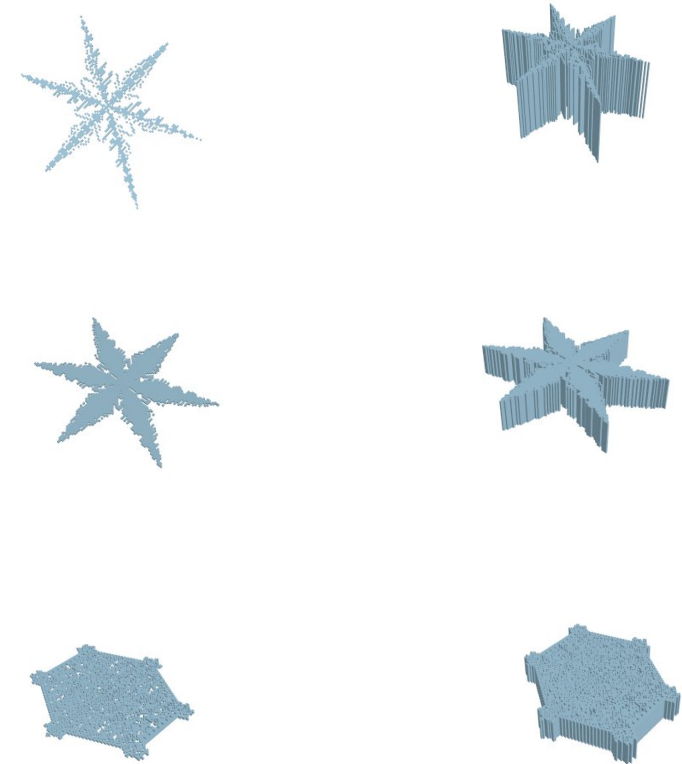
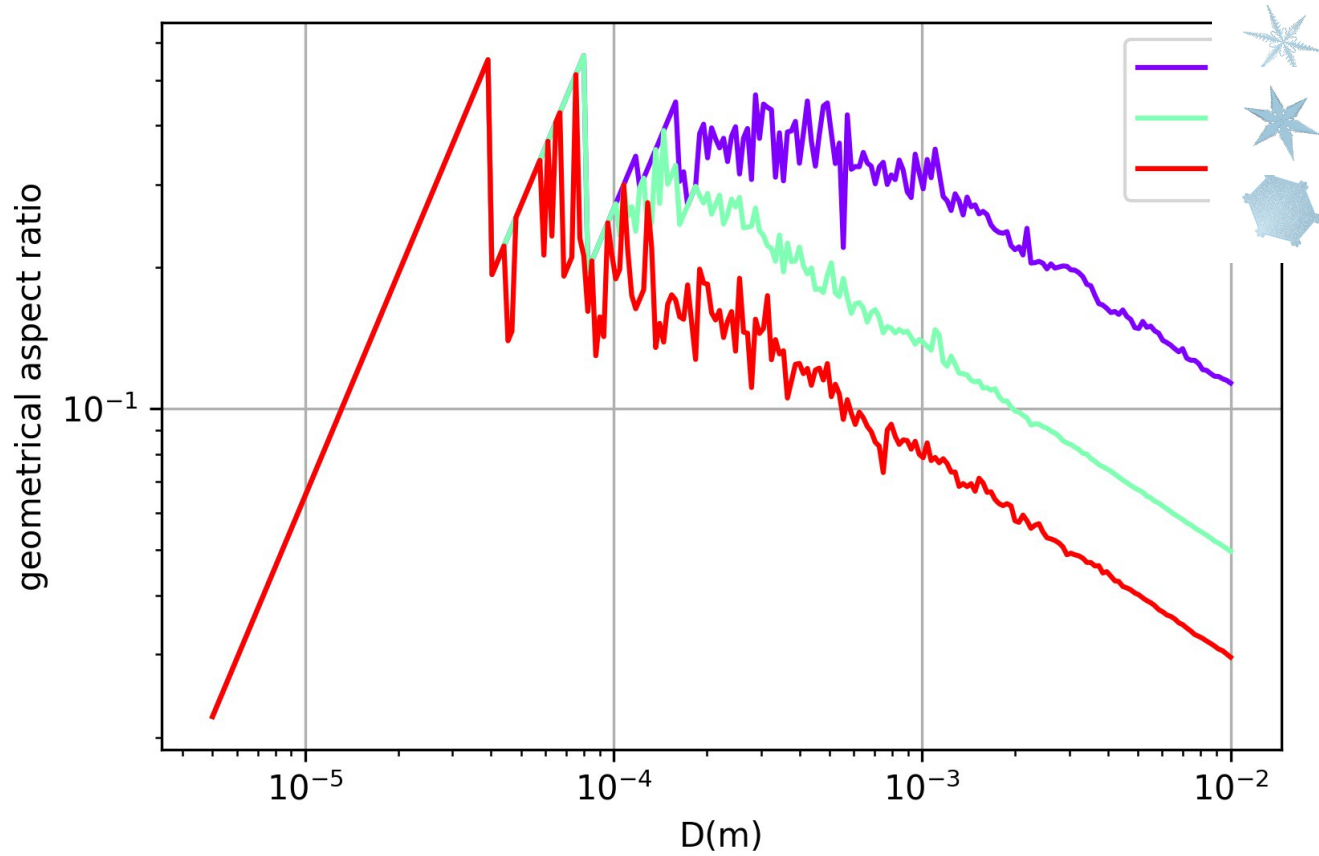


By adjusting aspect ratio we can match the desired mass consistent with ICON m-D relationship.

but we are limited by the resolution



# Aspect ratio calculation for 2mom dendrite crystals to match with ICON 2mom mass-size relation

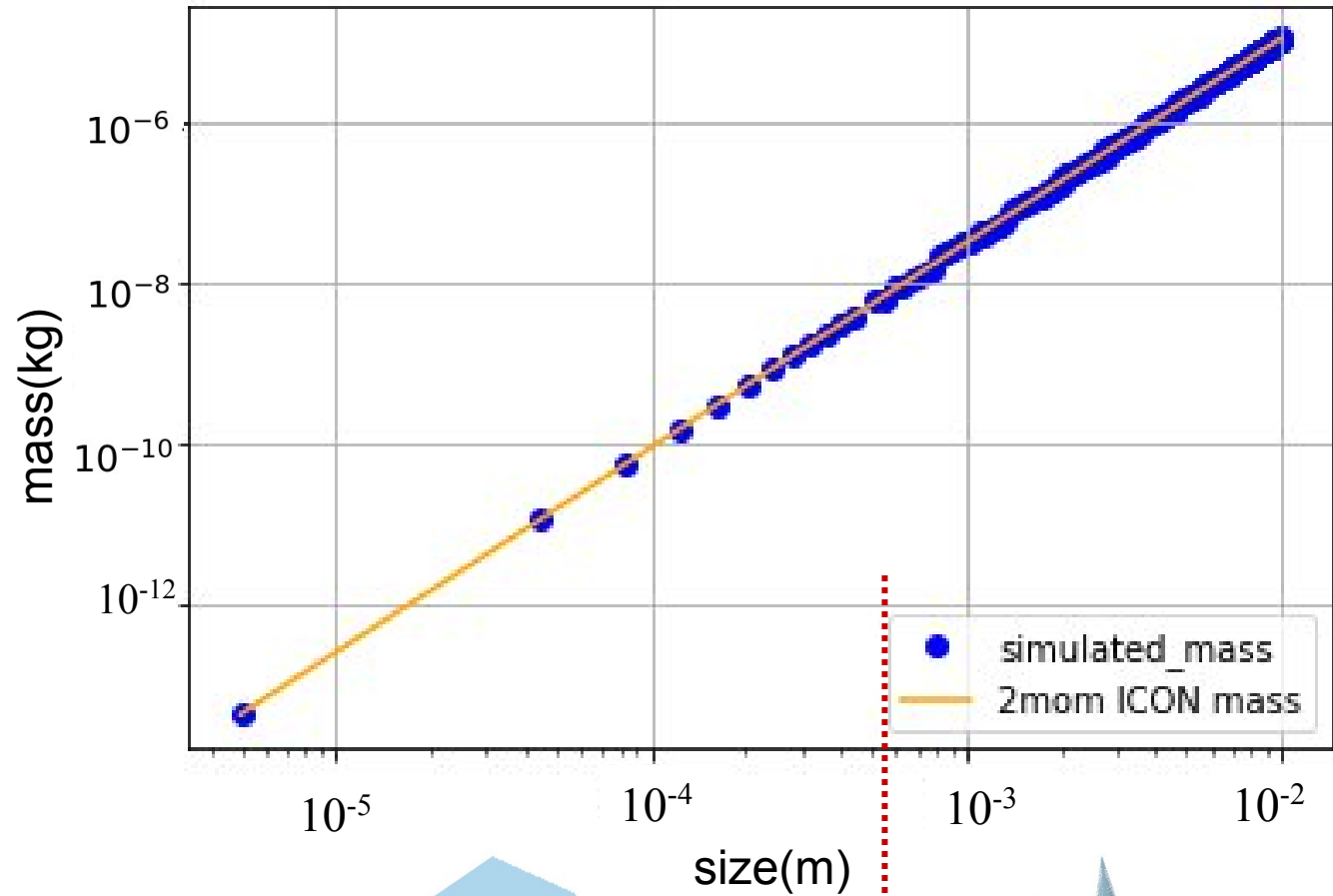


**Crystal images with new\_aspect ratios to match with ICON 2mom masses**

# Changed aspect ratio of ice crystals to match ICON m-D relationship

Plate size up to 0.5 mm size (Um et al., 2015) (IMPRINT under revision)

Dendrite size  $> 0.5\text{mm}$

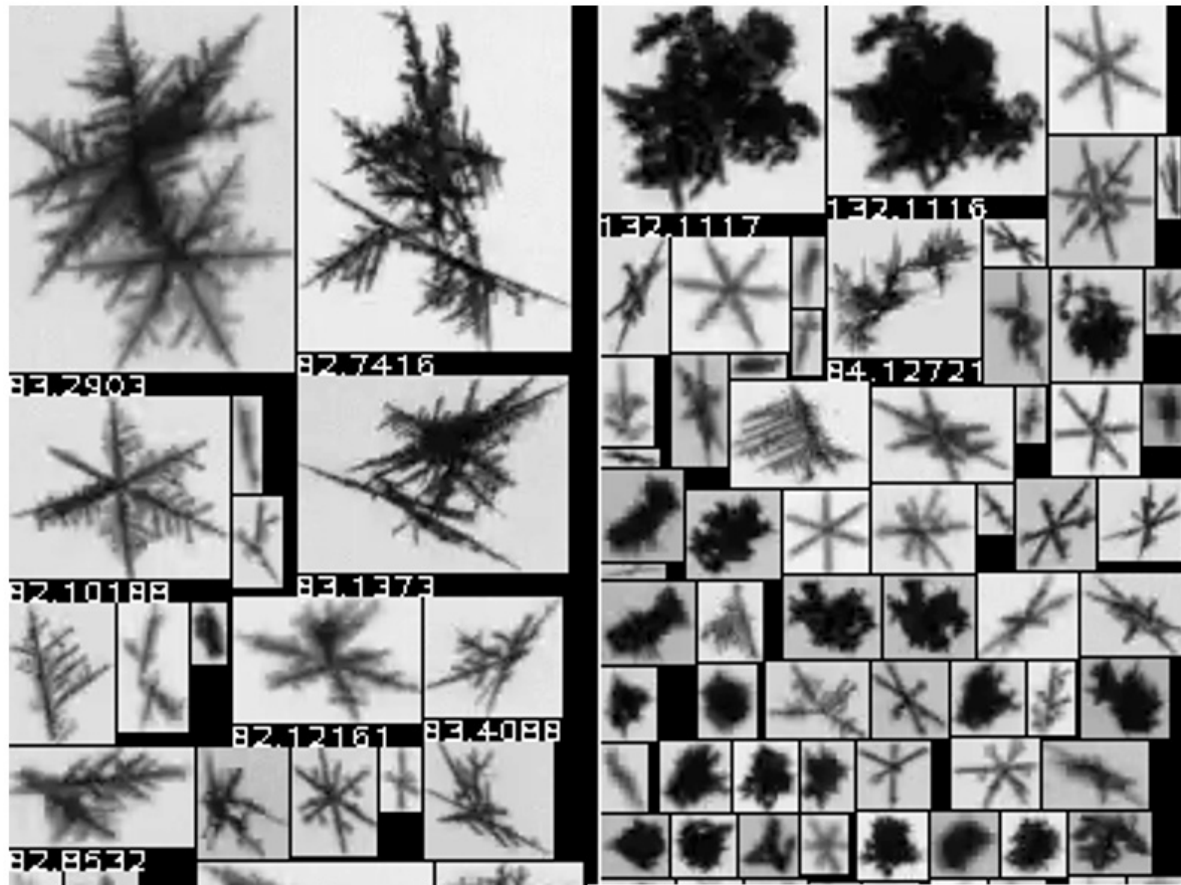


ICON size limit for ice  
Dmin =  $5.0 \times 10^{-6}$  ! 5 $\mu\text{m}$   
Dmax =  $10.0 \times 10^{-3}$  ! 10mm



**Aggregation is a key microphysical process for the formation of precipitable ice particles.**

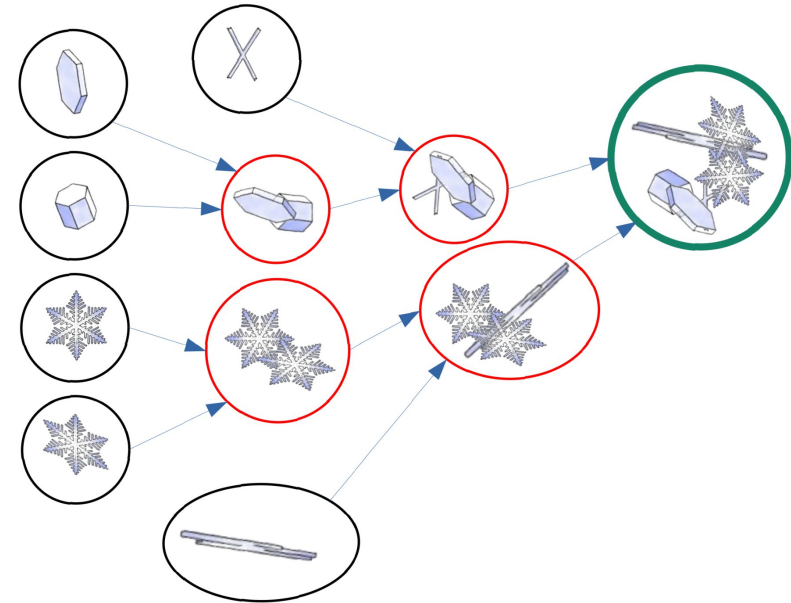
## Observation



10 mm =

VISSS camera

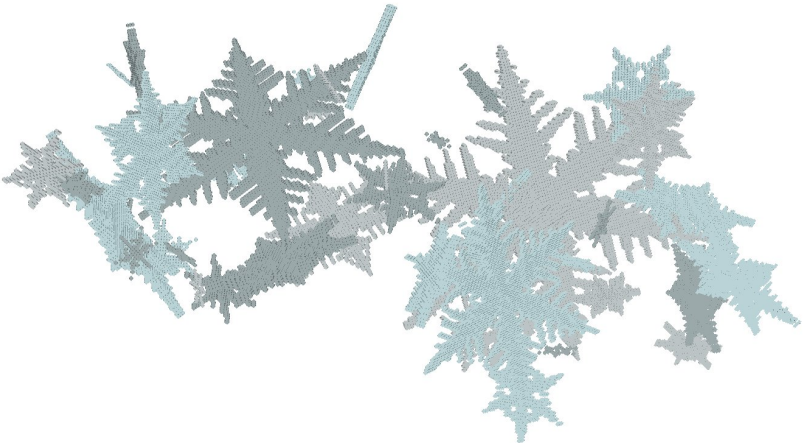
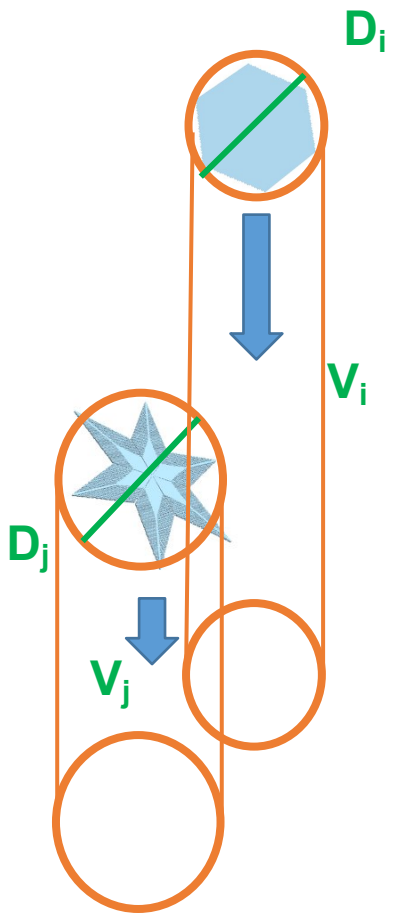
## Snow Aggregation Model



Schematic Diagram of aggregation process.

## Differential Sedimentation Kernel

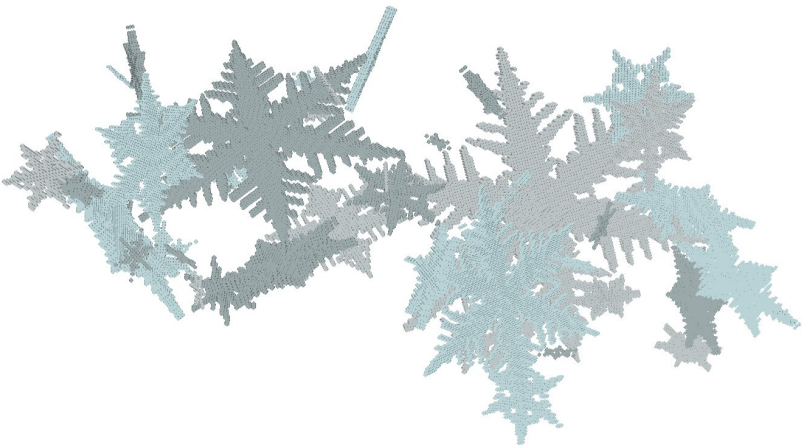
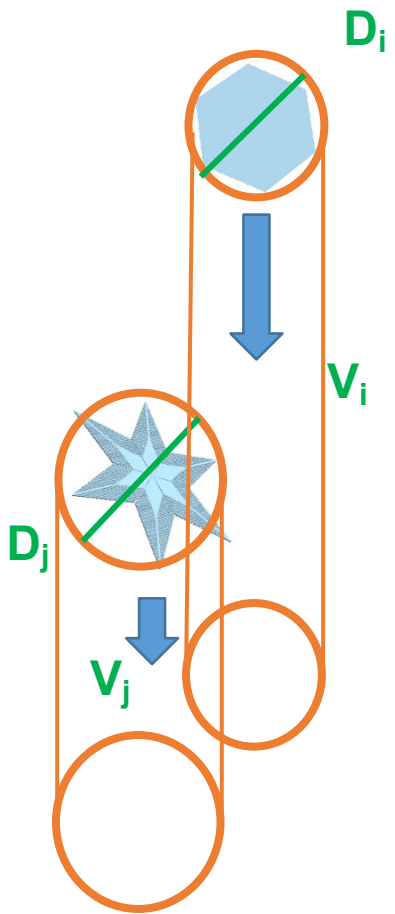
$$K_{i,j} = (D_i^2 + D_j^2) |v_i - v_j|$$



## Differential Sedimentation Kernel

$$K_{i,j} = (D_i^2 + D_j^2) |v_i - v_j|$$

Type of monomers: ICON ice crystals

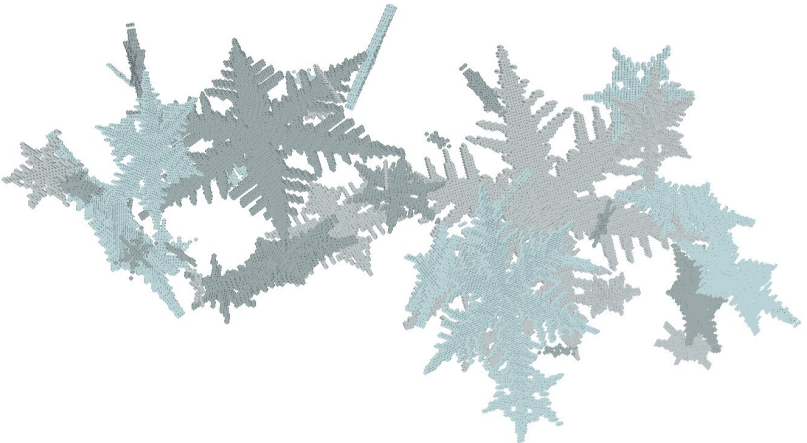
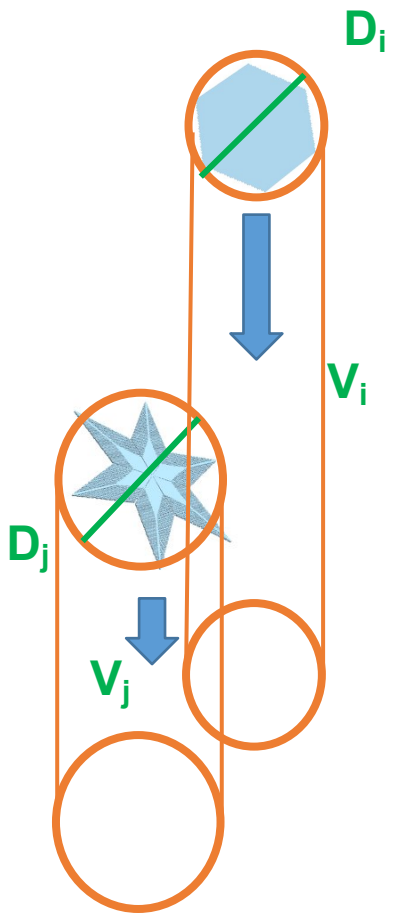


## Differential Sedimentation Kernel

$$K_{i,j} = (D_i^2 + D_j^2) |v_i - v_j|$$

Type of monomers: ICON ice crystals

Number of monomers: 2 - 500



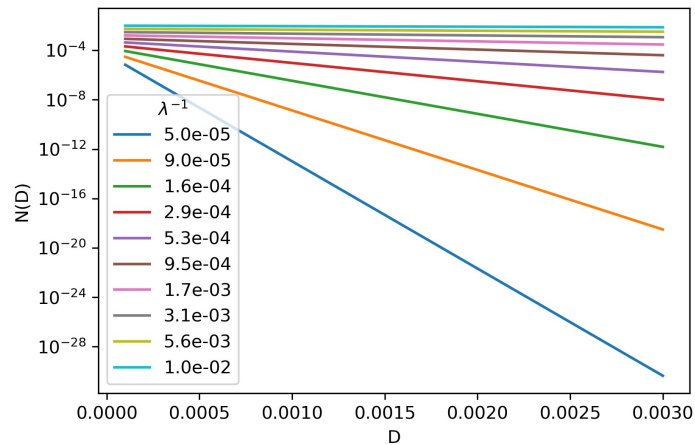
## Differential Sedimentation Kernel

$$K_{i,j} = (D_i^2 + D_j^2) |v_i - v_j|$$

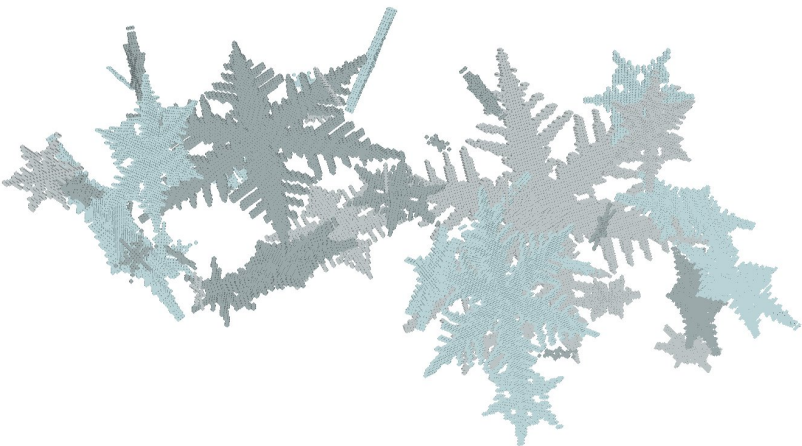
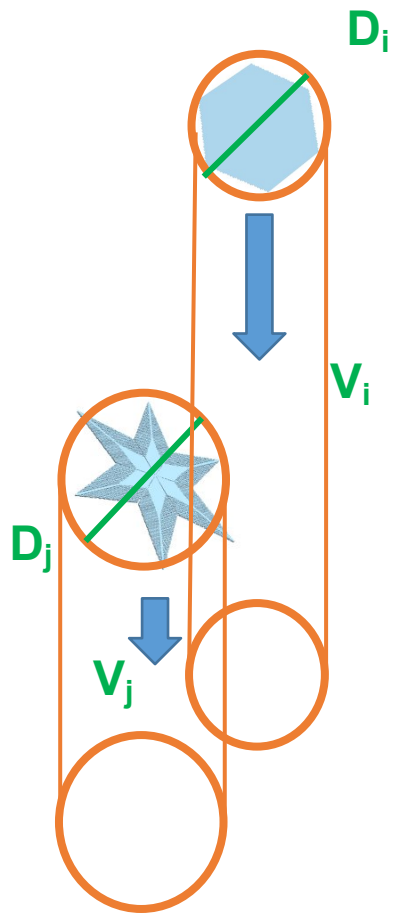
Type of monomers: ICON ice crystals

Number of monomers: 2 - 500

Monomer size distribution: inverse exponential  
mean size 0.05 to 1 mm

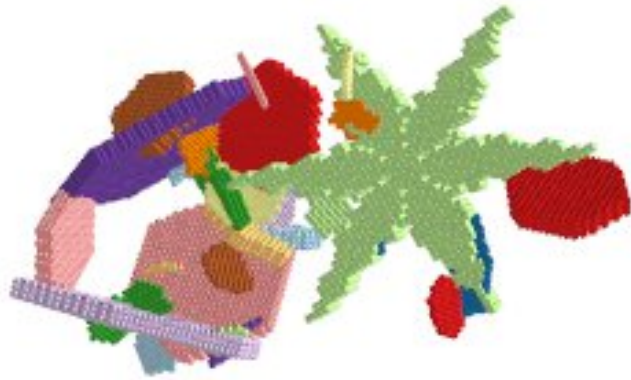


$$N(D) \propto \exp(-D/D_0)$$

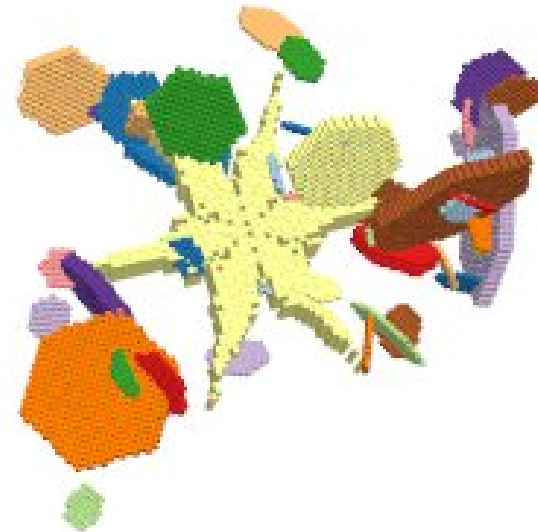


# Generation of realistic snowflakes using snow aggregation model

30 monomers of thin plate and dendrites



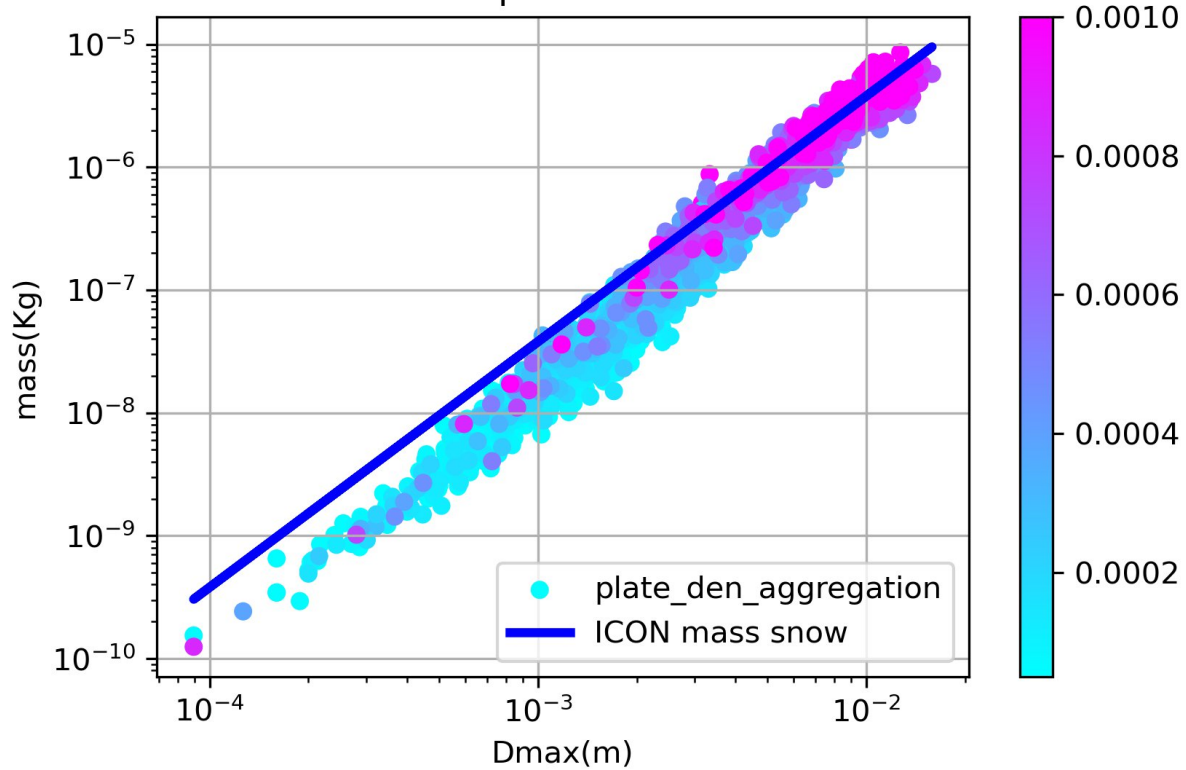
40 monomers of thin plate and dendrites



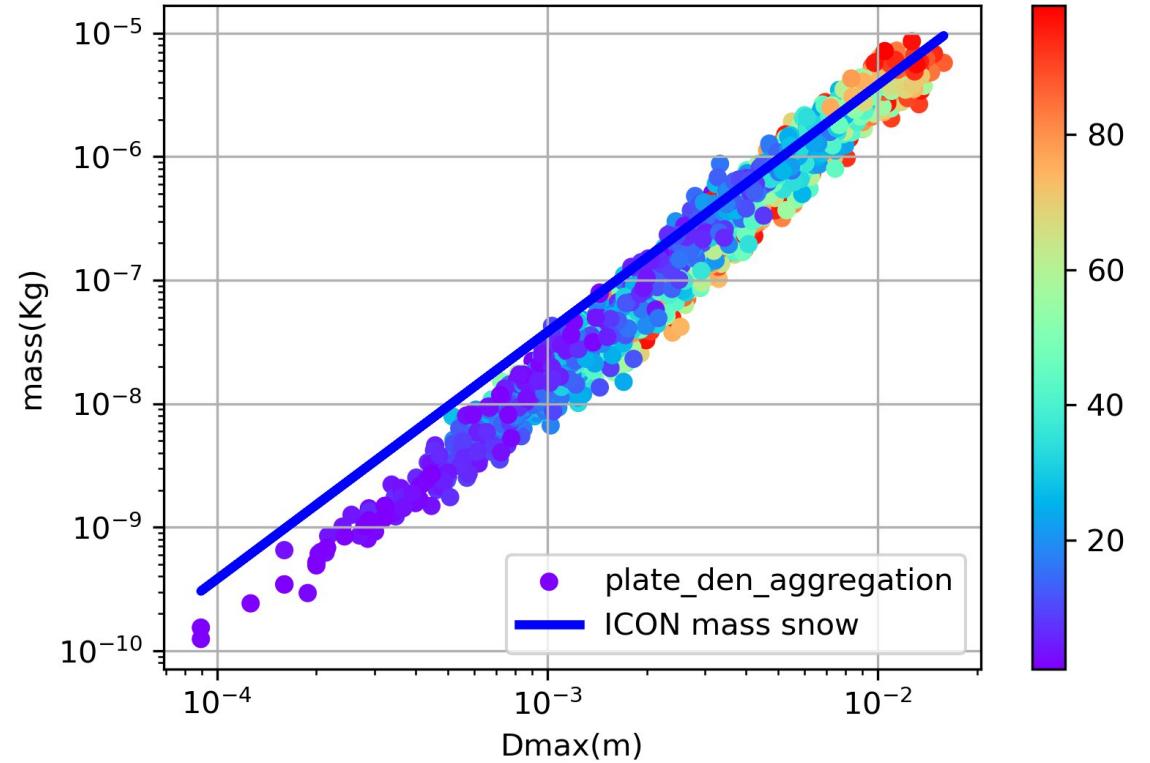
# aggregates using plates (upto 0.5mm) and dendrites (for 2mom ICON microphysics)

ICON Dmin=50e-6m (50 um), Dmax=5cm

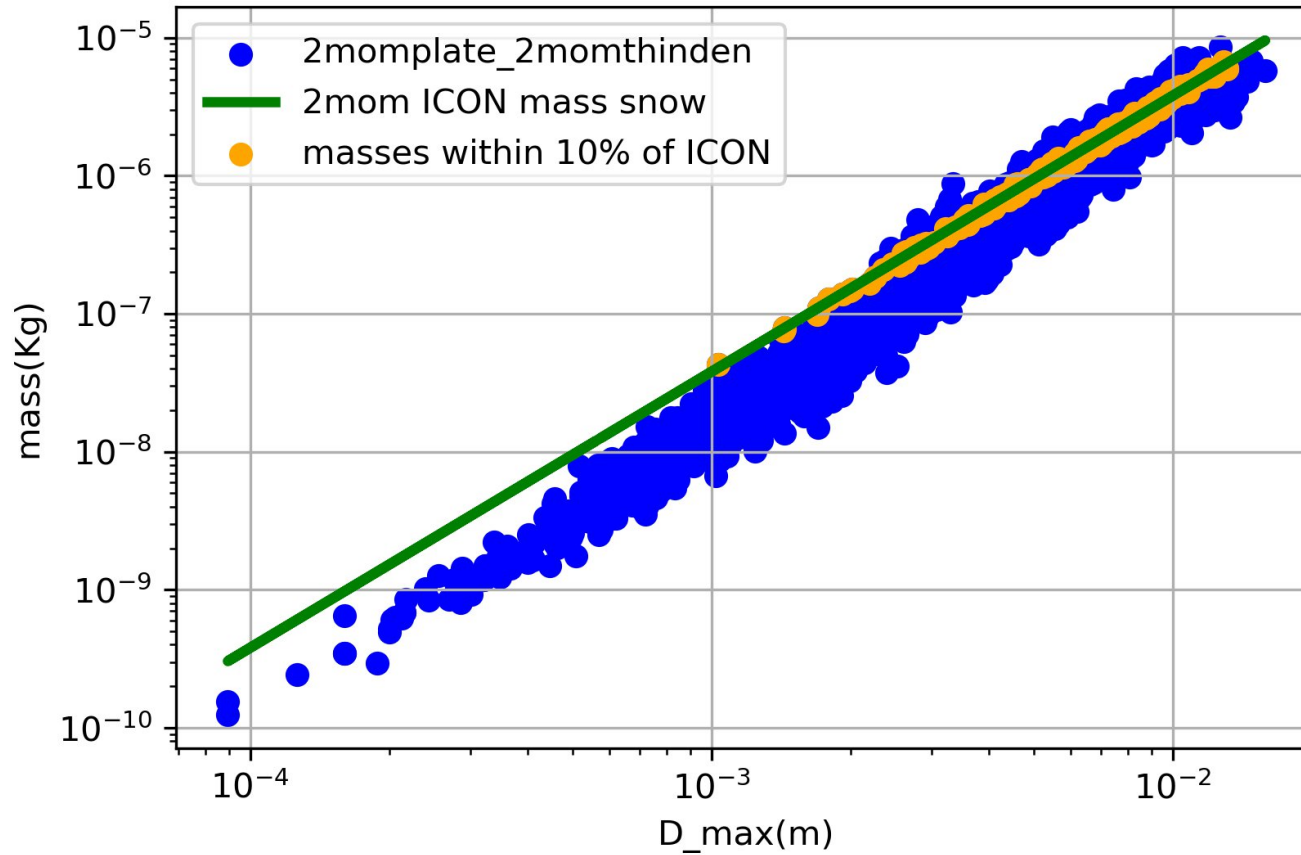
size parameters



number of monomers



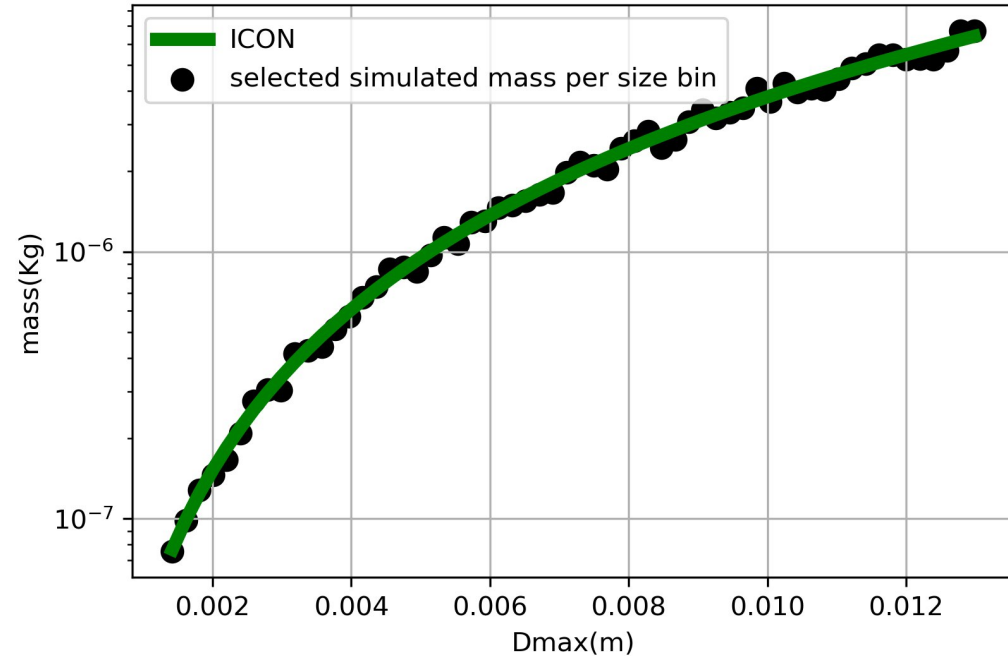
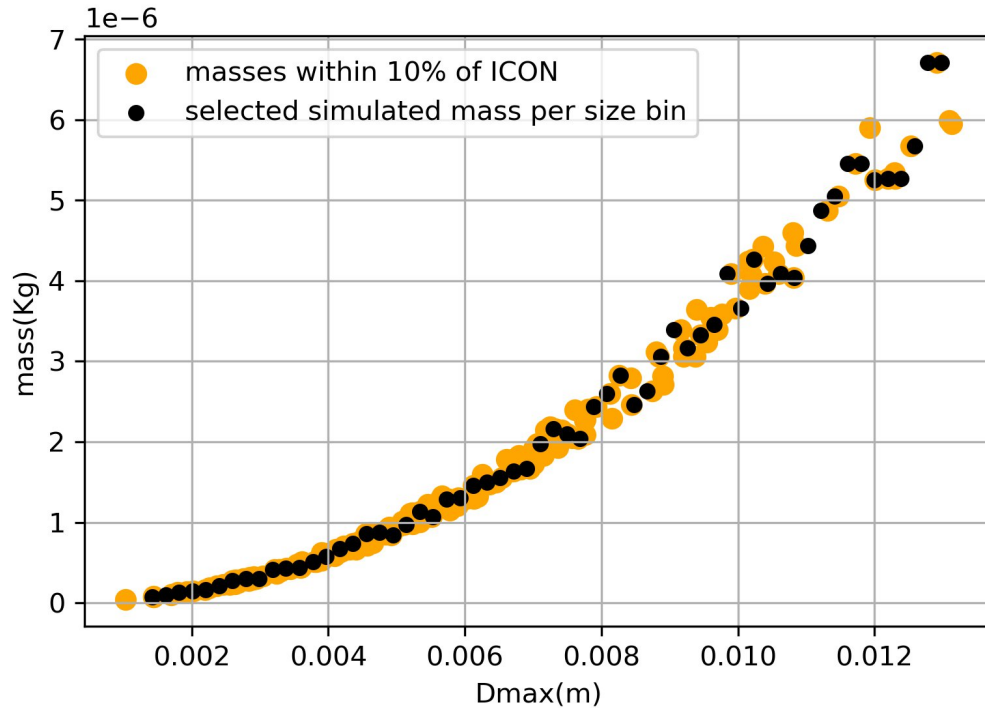
## Selection of masses from simulated aggregates



aggregated masses within 10% of ICON 2mom masses for 1 to 100 monomers for size parameter 0.05 to 1 mm



## mass values corresponding to each ICON size bin



### ICON assumptions for snowflakes

$D_{min} = 50.0e-6$  ! 50 $\mu m$  and  $D_{max} = 50.0e-3$  ! 50mm

Divided into 256 linearly spaced size bins

around 70 linearly spaced ICON size bins are filled with snow aggregates for size 1mm to 2cm

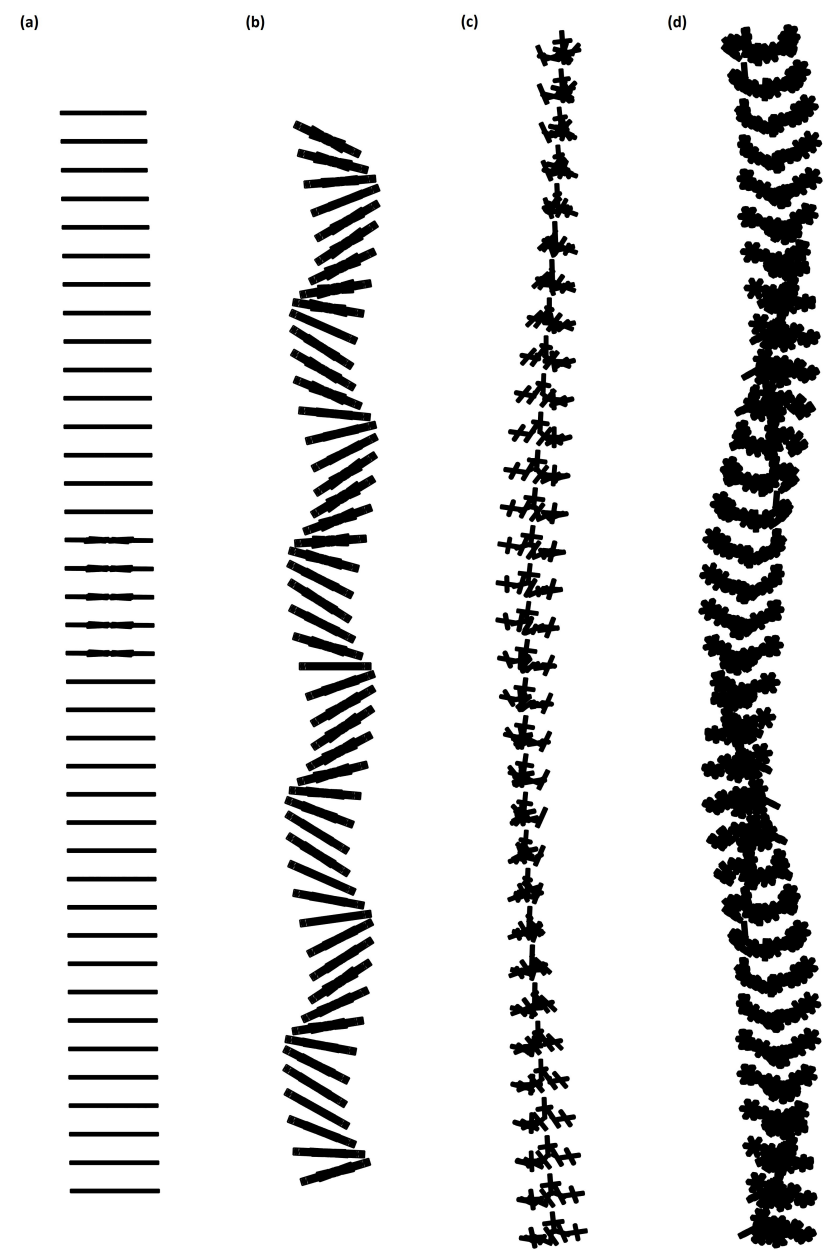
# Scattering

# Orientation averaging?

7D complex problem in Lab Reference Frame

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_{\vartheta L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \\ E_{\varphi L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\exp(ik_1 r)}{r} \mathbf{S}^L(\hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}, \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{inc}}; \alpha, \beta, \gamma) \begin{bmatrix} E_{0\vartheta L}^{\text{inc}} \\ E_{0\varphi L}^{\text{inc}} \end{bmatrix}$$

actually 5D *computationally* (scattering directions are for free)  
and for radar (only backward and forward scattering)

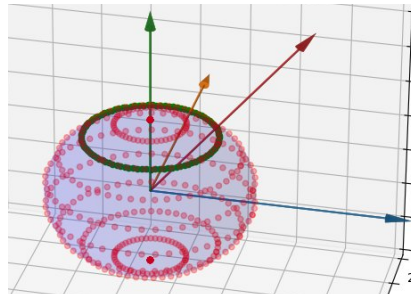


# Orientation averaging?

7D complex problem in LRF

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_{\vartheta L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \\ E_{\varphi L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\exp(ik_1 r)}{r} \mathbf{S}^L(\hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}, \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{inc}}; \alpha, \beta, \gamma) \begin{bmatrix} E_{0\vartheta L}^{\text{inc}} \\ E_{0\varphi L}^{\text{inc}} \end{bmatrix}$$

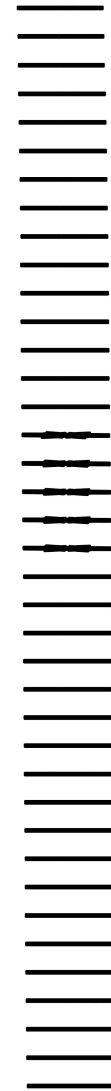
5D problem for radar (only backward and forward scattering)



2D if horizontally aligned  
(elevation, azimuth)



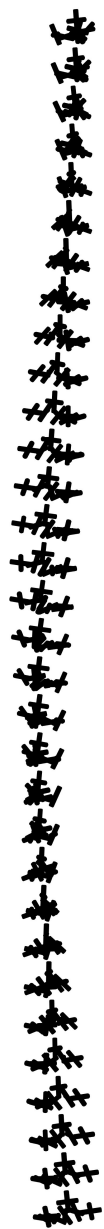
(a)



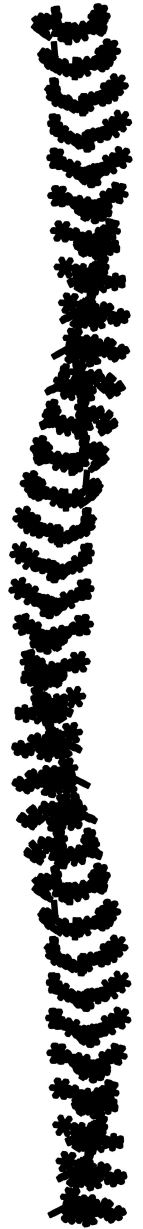
(b)



(c)



(d)

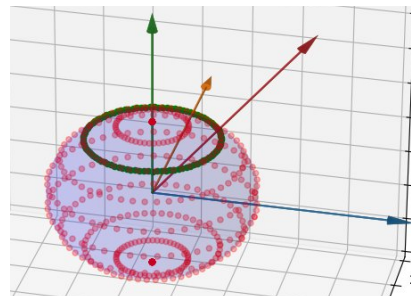


# Orientation averaging?

7D complex problem in LRF

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_{\vartheta L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \\ E_{\varphi L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\exp(ik_1 r)}{r} \mathbf{S}^L(\hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}, \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{inc}}; \alpha, \beta, \gamma) \begin{bmatrix} E_{0\vartheta L}^{\text{inc}} \\ E_{0\varphi L}^{\text{inc}} \end{bmatrix}$$

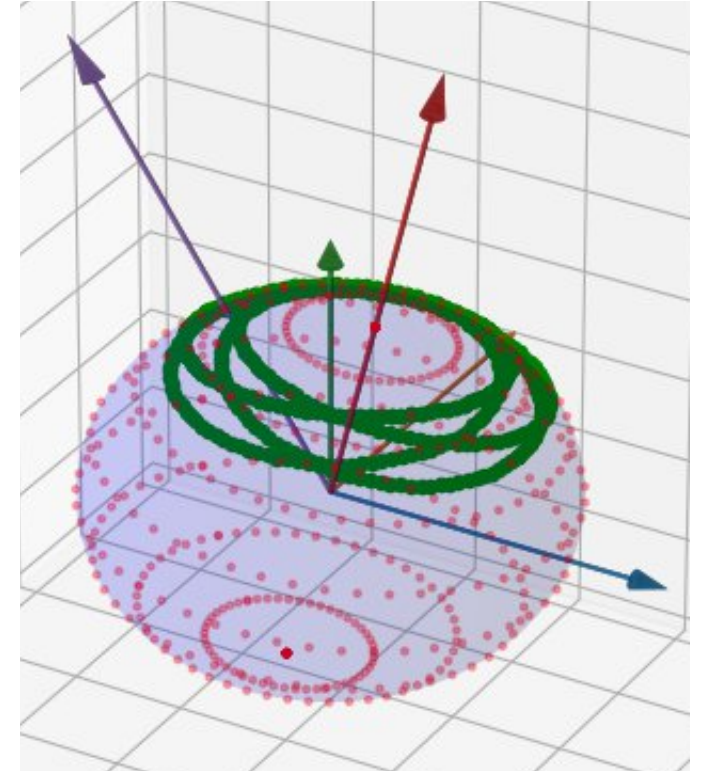
5D problem for radar (only backward and forward scattering)



2D if horizontally aligned  
(elevation, azimuth)



Constant tilt 10 deg



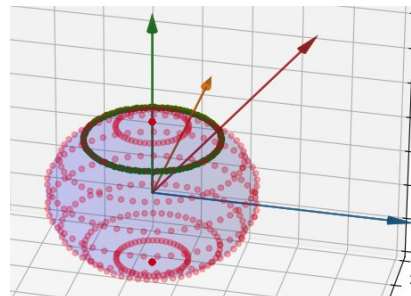
$\alpha = \text{avg}$   $\beta = 10$   $\gamma = \text{avg}$

# Orientation averaging?

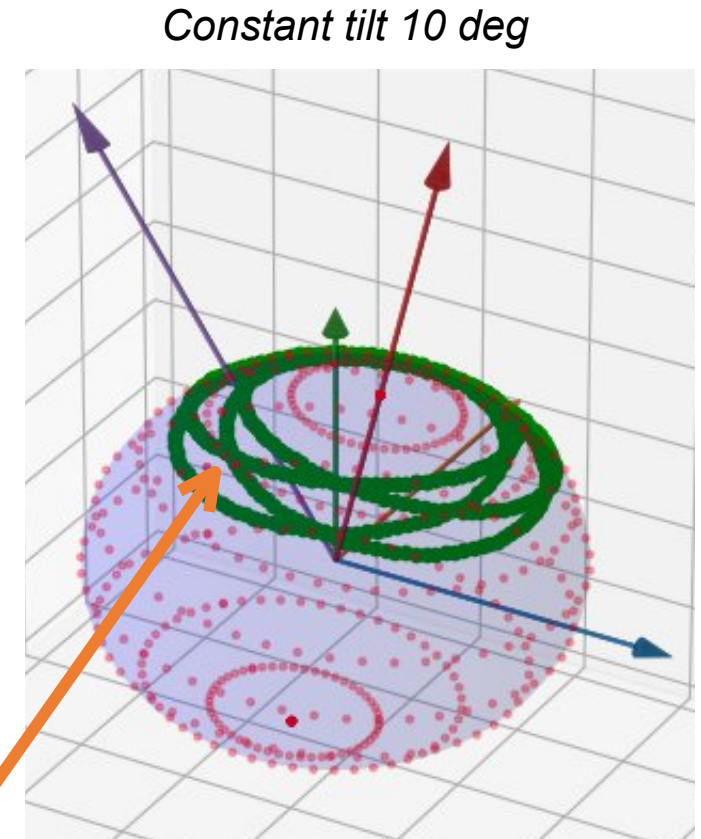
7D complex problem in LRF

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_{\vartheta L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \\ E_{\varphi L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\exp(ik_1 r)}{r} \mathbf{S}^L(\hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}, \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{inc}}; \alpha, \beta, \gamma) \begin{bmatrix} E_{0\vartheta L}^{\text{inc}} \\ E_{0\varphi L}^{\text{inc}} \end{bmatrix}$$

5D problem for radar (only backward and forward scattering)



2D if horizontally aligned  
(elevation, azimuth)



$$\alpha = \text{avg} \quad \beta = 10 \quad \gamma = \text{avg}$$



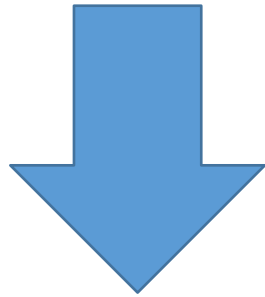
**Wait! Am I revisiting the same point multiple times?**

# Orientation averaging?

7D complex problem in LRF

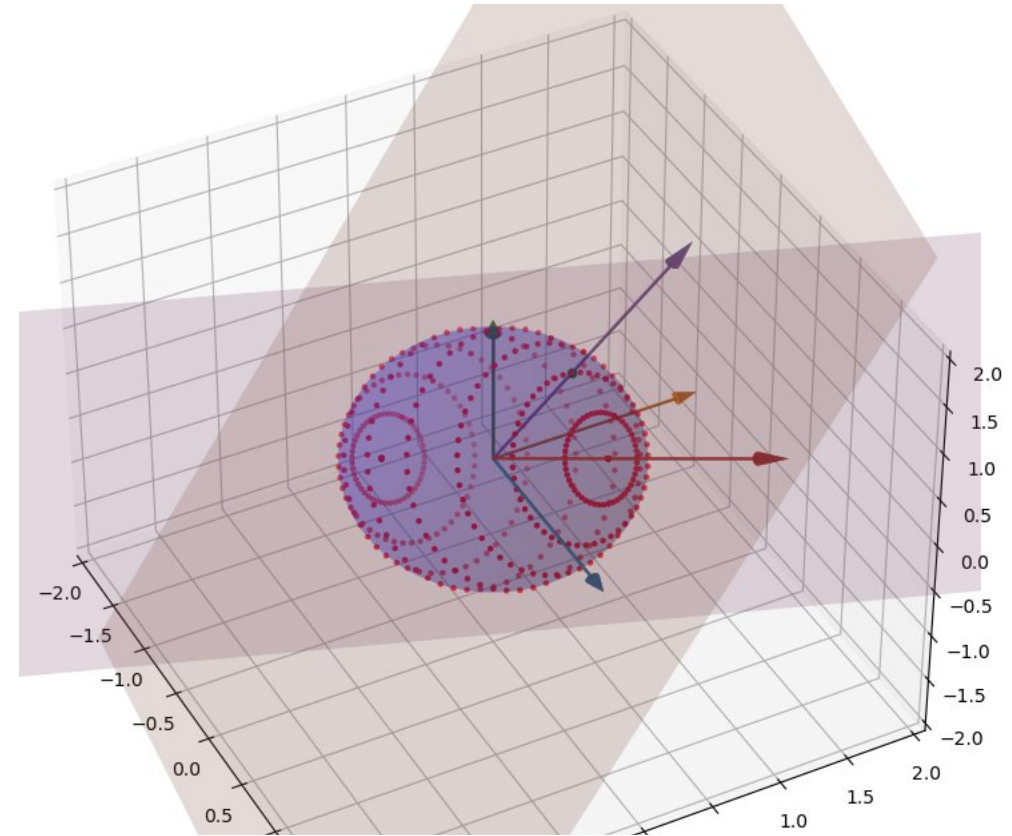
$$\begin{bmatrix} E_{\vartheta L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \\ E_{\varphi L}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\exp(ik_1 r)}{r} \mathbf{S}^L(\hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}, \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{inc}}; \alpha, \beta, \gamma) \begin{bmatrix} E_{0\vartheta L}^{\text{inc}} \\ E_{0\varphi L}^{\text{inc}} \end{bmatrix}$$

5D problem for radar (only backward and forward scattering)



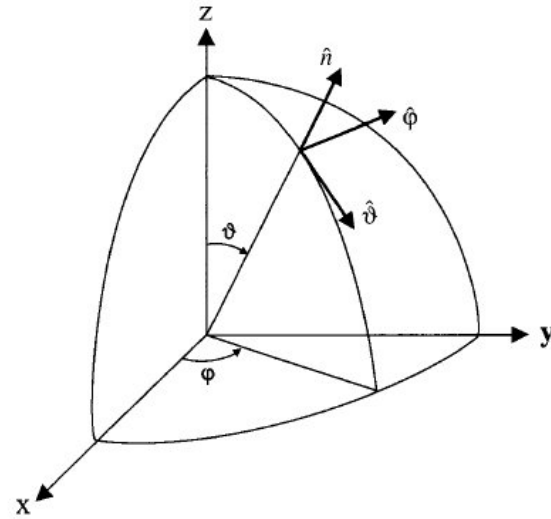
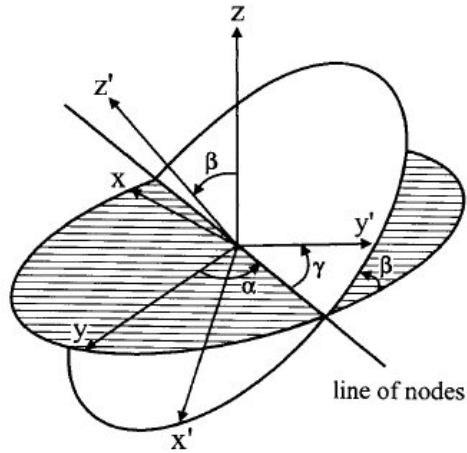
2D complex problem in  
Particle Reference Frame

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_{\vartheta P}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \\ E_{\varphi P}^{\text{sca}}(r \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\exp(ik_1 r)}{r} \mathbf{S}^P(\hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{sca}}, \hat{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{inc}}) \begin{bmatrix} E_{0\vartheta P}^{\text{inc}} \\ E_{0\varphi P}^{\text{inc}} \end{bmatrix}$$



... as long as you know how to  
account for the rotate  
polarization plane...

# Transform PRF to LRF



$$\mathbf{S}^L(\vartheta_L^{\text{sca}}, \varphi_L^{\text{sca}}; \vartheta_L^{\text{inc}}, \varphi_L^{\text{inc}}; \alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \hat{\rho}^{-1}(\hat{n}^{\text{sca}}; \alpha, \beta, \gamma) \\ \times \mathbf{S}^P(\vartheta_P^{\text{sca}}, \varphi_P^{\text{sca}}; \vartheta_P^{\text{inc}}, \varphi_P^{\text{inc}}) \hat{\rho}(\hat{n}^{\text{inc}}; \alpha, \beta, \gamma)$$

$$\hat{\rho}(\hat{n}; \alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \hat{\alpha}^{-1}(\vartheta_P, \varphi_P) \hat{\beta}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \hat{\alpha}(\vartheta_L, \varphi_L)$$

$$\cos \vartheta_P = \cos \vartheta_L \cos \beta + \sin \vartheta_L \sin \beta \cos(\varphi_L - \alpha), \quad (9)$$

$$\cos \varphi_P = \frac{1}{\sin \vartheta_P} [\cos \beta \cos \gamma \sin \vartheta_L \cos(\varphi_L - \alpha) \\ + \sin \gamma \sin \vartheta_L \sin(\varphi_L - \alpha) \\ - \sin \beta \cos \gamma \cos \vartheta_L], \quad (10)$$

$$\sin \varphi_P = \frac{1}{\sin \vartheta_P} [-\cos \beta \sin \gamma \sin \vartheta_L \cos(\varphi_L - \alpha) \\ + \cos \gamma \sin \vartheta_L \sin(\varphi_L - \alpha) \\ + \sin \beta \sin \gamma \cos \vartheta_L]. \quad (11)$$

$$\hat{\beta}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha \cos \beta \cos \gamma - \sin \alpha \sin \gamma & \sin \alpha \cos \beta \cos \gamma + \cos \alpha \sin \gamma & -\sin \beta \cos \gamma \\ -\cos \alpha \cos \beta \sin \gamma - \sin \alpha \cos \gamma & -\sin \alpha \cos \beta \sin \gamma + \cos \alpha \cos \gamma & \sin \beta \sin \gamma \\ \cos \alpha \sin \beta & \sin \alpha \sin \beta & \cos \beta \end{bmatrix}$$

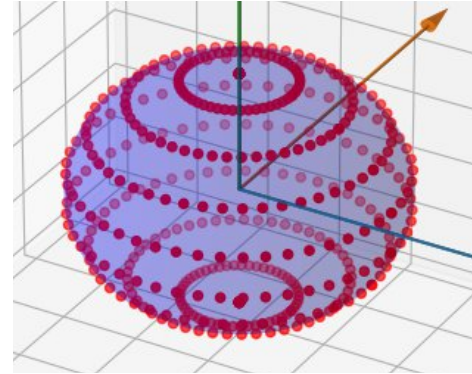
$$\hat{\alpha}(\vartheta, \varphi) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \vartheta \cos \varphi & -\sin \varphi \\ \cos \vartheta \sin \varphi & \cos \varphi \\ -\sin \vartheta & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\hat{\alpha}^{-1}(\vartheta, \varphi) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \vartheta \cos \varphi & \cos \vartheta \sin \varphi & -\sin \vartheta \\ -\sin \varphi & \cos \varphi & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



# How to sample the sphere

Regular “lat-lon” grids are easy to implement but inefficient

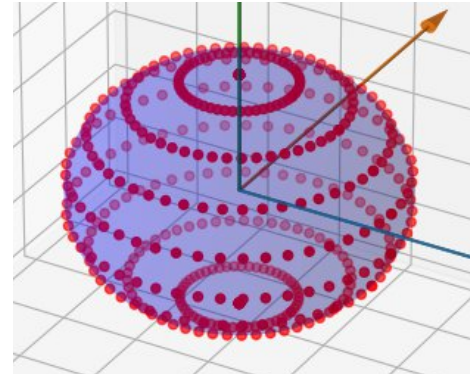


inefficient  
great for horiz. aligned

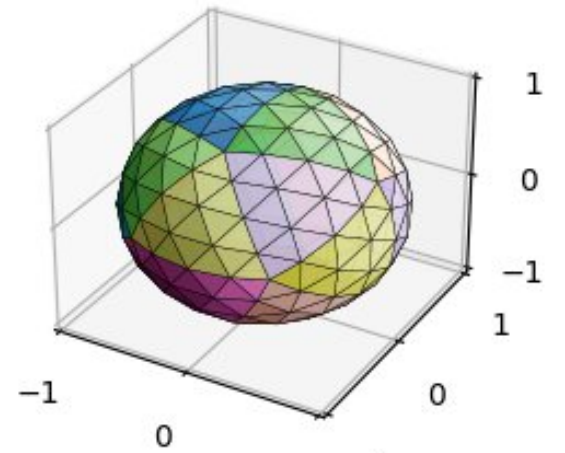
# How to sample the sphere

Regular “lat-lon” grids are easy to implement but inefficient

icosphere grids are equally spaced



inefficient  
great for horiz. aligned



very efficient  
not great 4 horiz. aligned

# How to sample the sphere

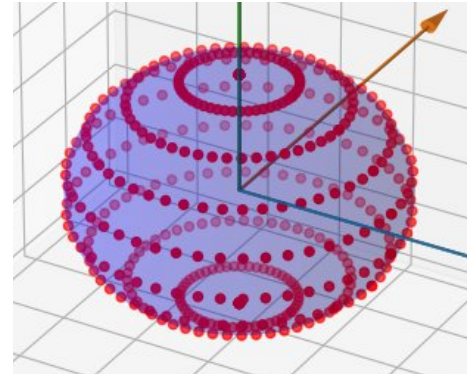
Regular “lat-lon” grids are easy to implement but inefficient

icosphere grids are equally spaced

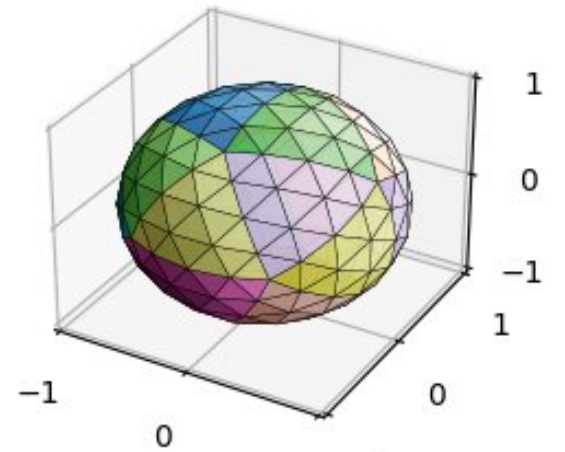
Taking power of 2 subdivisions of the seed icosahedron we can improve resolution while “recycling” previous calculations

8 subdivisions:

- **642 nodes**
- 1.34 deg angular separation



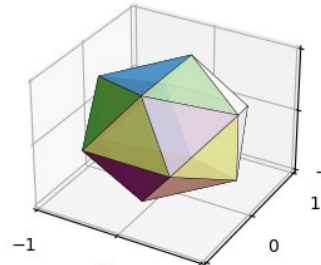
inefficient  
great for horiz. aligned



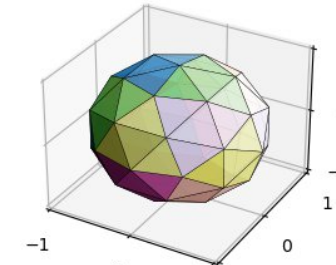
very efficient  
not great 4 horiz. aligned

Icospheres with [1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32] subdivisions

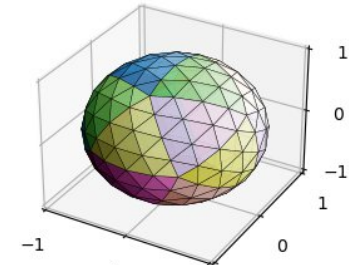
Number of vertexes 12  
angular separation 17.18 deg



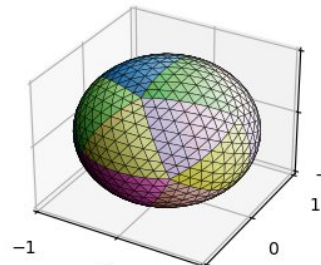
Number of vertexes 42  
angular separation 17.18 deg



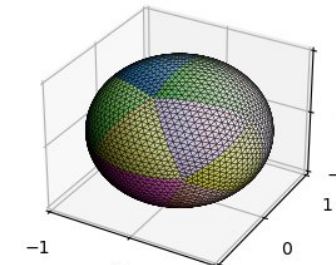
Number of vertexes 162  
angular separation 5.11 deg



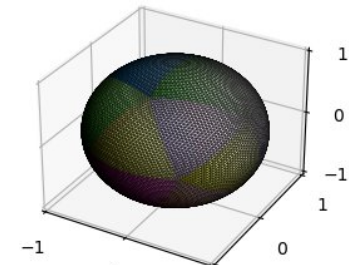
Number of vertexes 642  
angular separation 1.34 deg



Number of vertexes 2562  
angular separation 0.32 deg



Number of vertexes 10242  
angular separation 0.08 deg



# How to sample the sphere

Regular “lat-lon” grids are easy to implement but inefficient

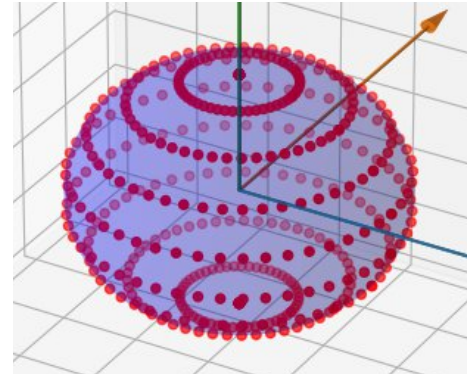
icosphere grids are equally spaced

Taking power of 2 subdivisions of the seed icosahedron we can improve resolution while “recycling” previous calculations

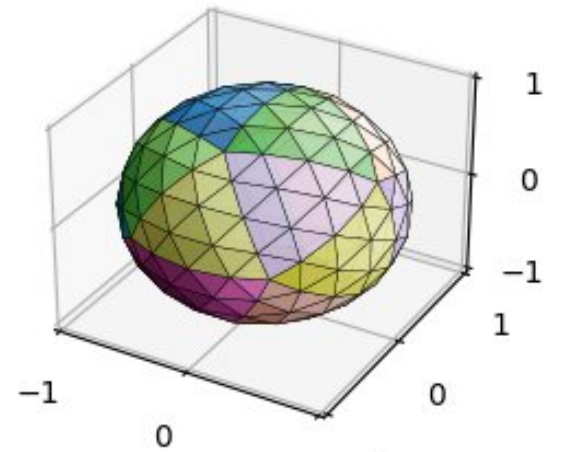
8 subdivisions:

- **642 nodes**
- 1.34 deg angular separation

would have been **36k nodes** on lat-lon!!



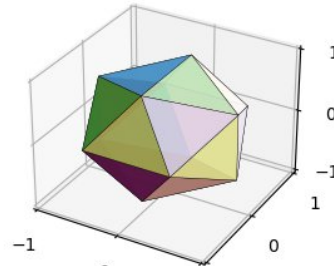
inefficient  
great for horiz. aligned



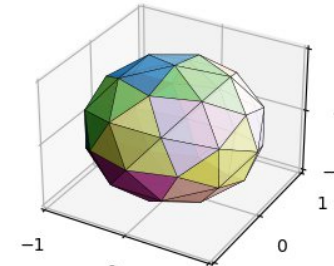
very efficient  
not great 4 horiz. aligned

Icospheres with [1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32] subdivisions

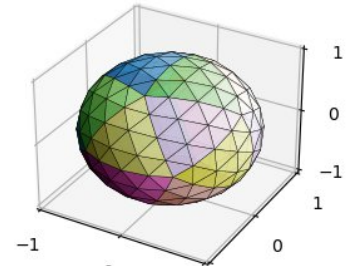
Number of vertexes 12  
angular separation 17.18 deg



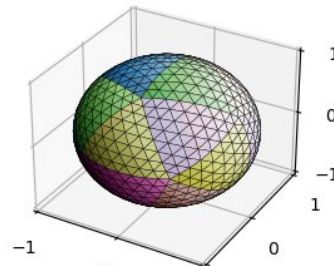
Number of vertexes 42  
angular separation 17.18 deg



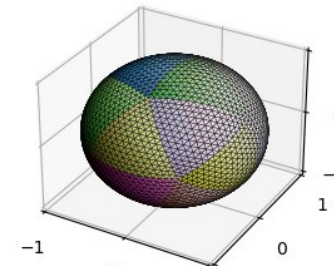
Number of vertexes 162  
angular separation 5.11 deg



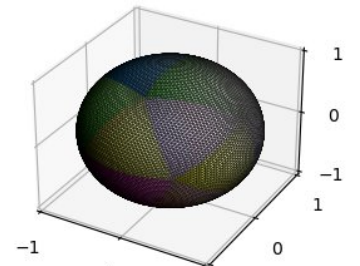
Number of vertexes 642  
angular separation 1.34 deg



Number of vertexes 2562  
angular separation 0.32 deg

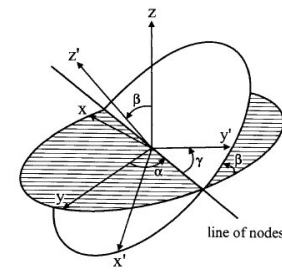


Number of vertexes 10242  
angular separation 0.08 deg



# Preliminary results for single crystals

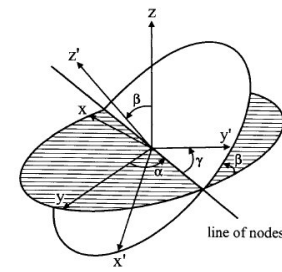
$$\hat{Z}(el) = \int f_\alpha(\alpha) f_\beta(\beta) f_\gamma(\gamma) \underline{Z(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, el)}$$



4D again!! but..

$$f_\alpha(\alpha) = f_\gamma(\gamma) = \frac{1}{2\pi}$$

# Preliminary results for single crystals



$$\hat{Z}(el) = \int f_{\alpha}(\alpha) f_{\beta}(\beta) f_{\gamma}(\gamma) \underline{Z(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, el)}$$

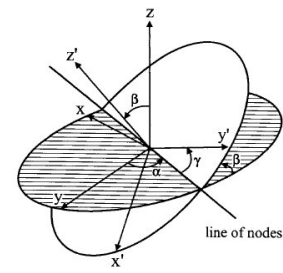
4D again!! but..

$$f_{\alpha}(\alpha) = f_{\gamma}(\gamma) = \frac{1}{2\pi}$$

$$\langle Z \rangle_{aro}(el, \beta) = \int f_{\alpha}(\alpha) f_{\gamma}(\gamma) Z(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, el)$$

2D !!

# Preliminary results for single crystals

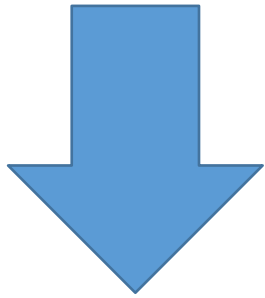


$$\hat{Z}(el) = \int f_{\alpha}(\alpha) f_{\beta}(\beta) f_{\gamma}(\gamma) \underline{Z(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, el)}$$

4D again!! but..  $f_{\alpha}(\alpha) = f_{\gamma}(\gamma) = \frac{1}{2\pi}$

$$\langle Z \rangle_{aro}(el, \beta) = \int f_{\alpha}(\alpha) f_{\gamma}(\gamma) Z(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, el)$$

2D !!



$$\hat{Z}(el) = \int f_{\beta}(\beta) \langle Z \rangle_{aro}(el, \beta)$$

