Anonymous Referee #1

We express our gratitude to Referee for the valuable comments and remarks.

1. C. The paper relay heavily on the theoretical work presented in Pinsky 2012 and previous works. It would be nice to have this paper on a more "standalone mode". A summary of the main assumptions and derivations would make it much useful.

(R) We added more details in description of the approach in Section 2 (model description). A short derivation of the basic equation for supersaturation maximum is presented in new Appendix.

2. C. On the same note, throughout the paper the validation of the new scheme (NA) should be better explained. When the results are compared to a one D model – is it a parcel model? When the authors state that the results of the NA are "much better" they should explain more on how they reached this conclusion.

(R) We used the parcel model to calculate supersaturation maximum and concentration using CCN distribution and vertical velocity at the cloud base as in the HUCM simulations. New Fig 2 shows that New Approach produces the values of supersaturation and droplet concentrations much closer to "exact" values obtained by the parcel model than to the values obtained in ST.

3. (C) Does the model with the new scheme assigns Smax as the supersaturation for all of the gridbox near cloud base? If yes wouldn't it results in an overestimation of the activation? If not please explain why?

(R) The values of Smax are calculated at all grid points that we assume to be associated to cloud base (the first grid point from below at which $S_w \geq 0$). Some overestimation is possible in case of very high concentration as it is shown by Pinsky et al. (2012), but this error is substantially lower than in case Standard Approach is used.

4) (C) Is this parameterization done only for the gridbox near (above) cloud base? If yes how does the LCL is found? How sensitive is it to the location of the theoretical LCL within the gridbox? Say that in one

case the theoretical LCL is toward the upper part of the gridbox, wouldn't it make more sense to assign the Smax parameter to the gridbox above? How sensitive it is to such details?

(R) We determine the model cloud base in the way described in the response above. In this approach, the grid point is slightly above the theoretical LCL, because we use condition $S_w \geq 0$. At the same time, the calculations performed according to Pinsky et al. (2012) show that the level where $S_w = S_{\max}$ is located, i.e. from about 20 m (for high CCN concentration) to about 60 m (for low CCM concentration) is higher than the LCL. The estimations show, therefore, that the level where $S_w = S_{\max}$ is quite close to the model cloud base level. Accordingly, the droplet concentration determined at $S_w = S_{\max}$ is assigned to the corresponding grid point at the model cloud base. We believe that the fact that we assign the droplet concentration calculated at the point of Smax to the lower model level, where $S_w \geq 0$,does not lead to serious errors.

5) (C) Smax and N (number of activated droplets) are coupled. Smax depends on N and N (or r(critical for activation)) on Smax. Could the authors explain how they solve them both and it the analytical parametrization? I guess one equation is eq. 3 but another equation is needed.

(R) Detailed explanations are added in Section 2.

Anonymous Referee #2

We express deep gratitude to Referee for the valuable comments and remarks.

1) The Introduction is short and sounds incomplete. It can be expanded to include (1) the importance of droplet nucleation to cloud properties and precipitation, (2) the description of the current approach (ST) and its limitation.

(R) The introduction is rewritten in more detail. It is stressed that droplet concentration determines major microphysical cloud properties such as height of precipitation onset, type of precipitation (liquid, mixed phase and ice). The description of Standard Approach is given, its limitations are mentioned. The necessity of exact calculation of cloud droplet concentration at cloud base is stressed.

New Approach is described in more detail in Section 2. A new Appendix is added to describe the derivation of the basic equation for supersaturation maximum.

C. If the authors want to claim that the NA method gives more realistic droplet nucleation than ST and also to better evaluate both the ST and NA, it is necessary to conduct a benchmark test in which very high vertical resolution is used to resolve the maximum supersaturation and compare the supersaturation and droplet concentration with those from the benchmark test. In addition, the authors have a statement that the NA can be applied to any vertical resolution. By comparing Smax parameterized with the model predicted in such a test can help support that conclusion as well. This test should not be difficult to do with the idealized 2-D model.

(R) We conducted the benchmark test. The values of supersaturation and droplet concentrations in the vicinity of cloud base calculated using ST and NA were compared with supersaturation and droplet concentration calculated using a high precision parcel model. It is shown that results obtained using NA are much closer than ST results to those obtained by means of the parcel model.. This comparison is presented in new Fig. 2.

3.(C) Some clarification is needed for the description of NA method (Section 2)

(R) the description of NA is clarified. The derivation of the equations is presented in new Appendix.

(C) Additional discussion is needed throughout Section 4 (see the specific comments below).

(R). The discussion is added (see responses to the specific questions).

Specific comments:

1) Line 134-139, for Eq (3), I am confused here, how did you solve three unknowns (Smax, the critical radius of the aerosols activated, and the nucleated droplet concentration) with Eq. 3?

(R). The detailed explanation is presented in Section 2.

2) (C) Line 142, what is the new microphysical scheme? A little more details are needed here.

(R) The new microphysical scheme is NA described in the model description section.

The sentence was changed as follows:

Effects of NA on cloud microphysics were tested...

3) C. Line 147-151, do you mean the simulation is not initiated with a real sounding? Then I would like to see some justifications how the used dynamics and thermodynamics are close to a realistic atmosphere condition.

(R) We use the surface temperature during the storm pass. To avoid confusion, the sentence was deleted.

4) Line 161-162 and Line 167-168, for the clean conditions, why the minimum CCN radius is set to be a little smaller than the polluted conditions?

(R) According to Ghan et al. (2011, Table 2) the nuclei mode (the smallest CCN) in Marine aerosol size distribution contains aerosols smaller than the nuclei mode in Continental case or even than in Urban case. This comment is included into the revised paper.

5) (C) Line 196-200, Figure 2 does not show the results of Sw and droplet concentrations. Please present the results.

(R) New Fig. 2 is presented in the revised version.

6) C. Line 253-256, the statement about "the decrease in the snow mass content" in the more droplet nucleation condition is not what Fig. 6 shows. Snow water content in EN3500-S is lower than E3500-S. Also, the NA method produces such greater graupel water content than the ST when shape parameter is 0.9. Is this related to a certain threshold used in the C2 ACPD Interactive comment Printer-friendly version Discussion paper riming processes to form graupel? In the tests with the shape factor of 0.5, the increase is not as dramatic. Why?

(R) The text is rewritten in a clearer manner. Snow water mass content in EN3500-S is lower than E3500-S because rimming is more efficient in EN3500-S as compared to E3500-S (more supercooled water was nucleation at cloud base and ascent to higher levels increase the riming). The rimed snow is converted to graupel. This also explains the increase in mass content of graupel and hail in all NA cases. The difference in supercolled water is less pronounced when at slope parameter k=0.5 (see Fig. 4). The existence of the smallest CCN concentration (at k=0.9) leads to an increase in the differences between NA and ST. We attribute this difference to the fact that in E3500-S the liquid water content at upper levels is higher, which leads to larger graupel mass formed by riming.

7) C. Figure 8 and Line 272-276, the discussion here should be compared with Figure 4 which shows that results for the high CCN condition. The differences between NA and ST in droplet number concentration are smaller, which is limited by available CCN. Also, CWC peaks at very different height compared with the high CCN condition.

The comparison is added. The differences between the cases plotted in Fig 4 and 8 are discussed in detail.

8) Figure 9 and Line 297-298, the statement is not right about hail. The hail mass content is the largest in the E100 and EN100 where no smaller CCN exist and droplet concentration is the lower than others. In addition, please discuss such high sensitivity of graupel to the small CCN (i.e. droplet number concentration under the maritime cloud condition and give possible reasons about it.

(R) Done. The text is rewritten as follows:

The mass content of snow decreases with the increase in the smallest CCN concentration, because the smallest CCN increase supercooled drop content that leads to intensification of riming of snow. In turn, riming leads to its conversion to graupel (Fig. 9b).Consequently, the graupel mass content increases (Fig. 9c). As regards to mass content of hail, the increase in the the smallest CCN concentration leads to a decrease in the hail content above 6 km and to its increase below this level (Fig. 9d). The higher hail mass content above 6 km layer in the absence of smallest CCN is likely related to the fact the low droplet concentration leads to formation of raindrops in high concentration. Although these raindrops are of comparatively small size, the total raindrop mass content is larger than that in case of higher drop concentration. These raindrops rapidly freeze above the freezing level producing hail (actually frozen drops) with total mass larger than at high CCN concentration. This effect is discussed by Ilotovich et al. (2016) in detail. In HUCM, frozen raindrops are assigned to the hail category due to their high density. If hail is defined as particles with sizes exceeding 1 cm, the amount of hail at low CCN concentration would be negligible.

Higher hail mass content below 6 km in the presence of the smallest CCN can be attributed to intense conversion of heavy rimed graupel to hail, as well as to more efficient hail growth by riming. In a deep convective cloud developing in the polluted atmosphere more hail particles from as compared to a cloud developing in clean air (Ilotovich et al. 2016). Due to larger size, hail in the polluted case falls to the surface (Fig. 6d), while in clean air hail melts at 1.5 km in the absence f no small CCN and in vicinity of the surface in case if the CCN size spectrum contains the smallest CCN.

9) C. Figure 10d and line 315-319, why does the hail precipitation in EN100-S-0.5 is much less than E100-S-0.5 since effect of small CCN is also included in this set of tests?

Amount of hail at the surface in polluted air (**Figure 10c**) is substantially larger than in clean air s (**Figure 10d**) due to lower sizes and faster melting of hail particles at low CCN concentration. The effect of AP on the size and amount of hail at the surface was investigated by Ilotovich et al. (2016) in detail.

The main factor determining the differences in the amount of hail falling to the surface in cases of low CCN concentration is effect of smallest CCN. The increase in concentration of smallest CCN leads to an increase in hail growth by riming.

As regards to the ratios of hail amounts in each group (with high and small CCN concentrations), for instance in the simulations EN100-S-0.5 and E100-S-0.5, these ratios change because of the earlier or later intensification of convective cells. Since the mass of hail falling to the surface (especially in clean air) is very low, a larger computational area is required to obtain reliable statistics and to get certain conclusions. Since at times exceeding about 200 min simulated cloud approached the lateral boundary, we re-plotted figure 10, so the time dependencies are shown till 180 min (instead of 220 min in the earlier version).

10) Line 345-347, I do not understand this statement, the small CCN increase droplet concentrations at the much higher levels, not around cloud base, how can it be made up by using the NA method? I did not see such results from Figures 4 and 8. I think the conclusion should be in-cloud nucleation has to be considered in the case of existing small CCN.

(R) The error in the calculation of the droplet concentration near cloud base in ST is compensated to a significant extent by in-cloud nucleation above cloud base. Indeed, in NA droplet concentration increases with height up to the level of 4 km (Fig. 4a). The only reason of such increase is the in-cloud nucleation of comparatively large CCN. Smallest CCN are activated at higher levels. Corresponding comments are included into the revised paper.

11) C. Line 366-368, see my comment in #8.

(R) The effect of the smallest CCN on hail is discussed in the body of the paper. The sentence pointed out by Referee is changed to:

"The smallest CCN also influence hail size and mass content".

12)C. Line 382-383, the statement "It can be used in cloud-resolved models with different vertical grid spacing", is not supported by the content yet. By adding the benchmark test in which Smax calculated with NA can be compared with the model predicted Smax would address this problem.

(R). The comparison with the benchmark parcel model is included and discussed.

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Application of a new scheme of cloud base droplet nucleation in a Spectral (bin) Microphysics cloud model: sensitivity to aerosol size distribution

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Abstract

A new scheme of droplet nucleation at cloud base is implemented into the Hebrew University Cloud Model (HUCM) with spectral (bin) microphysics. In this scheme, supersaturation maximum S_{max} near cloud base is calculated using theoretical results according to which $S_{\max} \sim w^{3/4} N_d^{-1/2}$, where w is the vertical velocity at cloud base and N_d is droplet concentration. Microphysical cloud structure obtained in the simulations of a mid-latitude hail storm using the new scheme is compared with that obtained in the standard approach, in which droplet nucleation is calculated using supersaturation calculated in grid points. The simulations were performed with different concentrations of cloud condensational nuclei (CCN) and with different shapes of CCN size spectra. It is shown that the new nucleation scheme substantially improves the vertical profile of droplet concentration shifting the concentration maximum to cloud base. It is shown that the effect of the CCN size distribution shape on cloud microphysics is not less important than the effect of the total CCN concentration. It is shown that the smallest CCN with diameters less than about 0.015 μm have a substantial effect on mixed-phase and ice microphysics of deep convective clouds. Such CCN are not measured by standard CCN probes which hinders understanding of cold microphysical processes.

Key words: cloud-aerosol interaction, droplet nucleation at cloud base, spectral bin microphysics

1. Introduction

Droplet concentration is the key microphysical parameter that affects precipitation formation, and radiative cloud properties (Pruppacher and Klett, 1997). The droplet concentration determines major microphysical cloud properties such as height of precipitation onset, type of precipitation (liquid, mixed phase and ice) (Khain, 2009; Freud and Rosenfeld, 2012; Tao et al. 2012) . Droplet concentration is determined by concentration and size distribution of aerosol particles (AP) and by the maximum value of supersaturation near cloud base S_{max} . S_{max} is reached at a few tens of meters above cloud base (Rogers and Yau, 1996). The vertical grid spacing of most cloud-resolving models is too coarse to resolve this maximum. This can lead to errors in determination of droplet concentration. Therefore, it is desirable to parameterize the process of droplet nucleation near cloud base. One approach to the parameterization is based on lookup tables developed using precise 1D parcel models (e.g., Segal and Khain, 2006). The other approach is based on analytical calculation of supersaturation maximum, S_{max} , near cloud base. This approach has been developed in several studies using various assumptions concerning CCN activity spectra (Ghan et al., 1993, 1997; Bedos et al., 1996; Abdul-Razzak et al., 1998; Cohard et al., 1998; Abdul-Razzak and Ghan, 2000; Fountoukis, 2005; Shipway and Abel, 2010). In these studies calculation of a supersaturation maximum is reduced to solving a complicated integro-differential equation assuming different expressions for CCN activation spectra. The parameters of activation CCN spectra, as well as the concentration and shape of the CCN size distributions, are often prescribed in atmospheric models and assumed to be invariant over time. The results and a comparison of these approaches are presented by Ghan et al. (2011).

In cloud models with a comparatively high resolution (Kogan 2001; Khain et al. 2014) supersaturation S_w is calculated explicitly at each grid point. In these bin microphysics models AP playing the role of cloud condensational nuclei (CCN) are described using aerosol size distribution functions containing several tens of size bins. The value of supersaturation is used to calculate the critical radius of AP using the Köhler theory. All CCN with sizes exceeding this critical value are activated to droplets. This approach will be referred to as standard approach (ST) where supersaturation maximum near cloud base is not resolved and the vertical profile of supersaturation may not contain such maximum. It leads to underestimation of droplet concentration in clouds, at least in their low part.

In set of studies by Pinsky et al. (2012, 2013, 2014) formation of profiles of supersaturation and of droplet concentration were investigated both analytically and by means of a high precision model of an ascending adiabatic parcel. Pinsky et al. (2012) proposed a simple method of calculating $S_{\max}$ near cloud base for monodisperse aerosol size distribution. The detailed test showed that the method can be applied to any CCN spectra. Pinsky et al (2014) gave a theoretical basis for such conclusion by calculating droplet concentrations using multidisperse size spectra of AP. The method of calculating droplet concentration near cloud base using $S_{\max}$ will be referred to as *new approach* (NA).

In this study we investigate the effects of application of NA on the microphysics of mid-latitude deep convective clouds (hail storm) using the Hebrew University Cloud model (HUCM) with spectral-bin microphysics (SBM). The effect of the new approach is investigated in simulations with different parameters of CCN activation spectra.

2. Model description

The HUCM is a 2-D, nonhydrostatic SBM model with microphysics based on solving a system of equations for size distributions of liquid drops, three types of pristine ice crystals (plates, columns, and dendrites), snow/aggregates, graupel, hail and partially frozen or "freezing drops". Each size distribution is discretized into 43 mass-doubling bins, with the smallest bin equivalent to the mass of a liquid droplet of radius 2 μm. AP playing the role of CCN are also defined on a mass grid containing 43 mass bins. The size of dry CCNs ranges from 0.005 μm to 2 μm.

Primary nucleation of each ice crystal type is described using Meyers et al. [1992] parameterization. The type of ice crystals is determined depending on temperature range where the particles arise (Takahashi et al., 1991). Secondary ice generation is taken into account during riming (Hallett and Mossop 1974). Collisions are described by solving the stochastic collection equations for the corresponding size distributions using the Bott (1998) method. Height-dependent, gravitational collision kernels for drop-drop and drop-graupel interactions are taken from Pinsky et al. (2001) and Khain et al. (2001); those for collisions between ice crystals are taken from Khain and Sednev (1995) and Khain et al. (2004). The latter studies include the dependence of particle mass on the ice crystal cross-section. The effects of turbulence on collisions between cloud drops are included (Benmoshe et al. 2012). The collision kernels depend on the turbulence intensity and changes over time and space.

The time-dependent melting of snow, graupel, and hail as well as shedding of water from hail follows the approach suggested by Phillips et al. (2007). We have implemented liquid water mass in these hydrometeor particles that is advected and settle similarly to the mass of the corresponding particles. As a result, these particles are characterized by their total mass and by the mass of liquid water (i.e., the liquid water mass fraction). The liquid water fraction increases

during melting. As soon as it exceeds ~95%, the melting particles are converted to raindrops. Process of time dependent freezing is described according to Phillips et al. (2014, 2015). The freezing process consists of two stages. The first nucleation stage is described using the parameterization of immersion drop freezing proposed by Vali (1994) and Bigg (1953). Drops with radii below 80 μm that freeze are assigned to plates, whereas larger drops undergoing freezing are assigned to freezing drops. The freezing drops consist of a core of liquid water surrounded by an ice envelope. Time-dependent freezing of liquid within freezing drops is calculated by solving the heat balance equations that take into account the effects of accretion of supercooled drops and ice particles. Collision between freezing drops and other hydrometeors lead either to the freezing drops category if the freezing drop is larger than its counterpart. Otherwise, the resulting particle is assigned to the type of counterpart. Once the liquid water fraction in a freezing drop becomes less than some minimal value (<1%) it is converted to a hailstone. Hail can grow either by dry growth or by wet growth (Phillips et al. 2014, 2015). Accordingly, liquid water is allowed in hail and graupel particles at both positive and negative temperatures. The shedding of water in wet growth is also included.

Water accreted onto aggregates (snow) freezes immediately at temperatures below 0^0C, where it then contributes to the rimed fraction. This rimed mass distribution is advected and settle similarly to the snow masses. Riming mass increases the density of the aggregates. As the bulk density of snow in a certain mass bin exceeds a critical value (0.2 $g\ cm^{-3}$), the snow from this bin is converted into graupel. The appearance of water on the surface of hailstones as well as an increase in the rimed fraction of snowflakes affect the particle fall velocities and coalescence efficiencies.

The initial size distribution of CCN (at t=0) is calculated using the empirical dependence (i.e., the Twomey formula) of concentration N_{ccn} of activated CCN on supersaturation S_w (in %) $N_{ccn} = N_o S_w^k$, where N_o and k are the measured constants (Khain et al., 2000). The obtained aerosol size distribution is corrected in zones of very small and very large CCN, that is, in size ranges where the Twomey formula is invalid. At t>0 the prognostic equation for the size distribution of non-activated CCN is solved. Using the value of S calculated at each time-step and in each grid point, the critical radius of CCN particles was determined according to the Köhler theory. The CCNs with radii exceeding the critical value are activated and new droplets are nucleated. The corresponding bins of the CCN size distributions become empty. In ST, this procedure is used at all cloud grid points.

In NA, droplet concentration at cloud base is calculated using the formula for $S_{\max}$ derived by

Pinsky et al. (2012)

$$S_{max} = Cw^{3/4} N_d^{-1/2}, \quad (1)$$

where w is vertical velocity at cloud base, N_d is droplet concentration and coefficient C slightly depends on the thermodynamical parameters only (see **Table 1** for notations). A brief derivation of the formula (1) is presented in **Appendix**. Since the droplet concentration at cloud base is equal to the concentration of CCN activated at $S_w = S_{\max}$, the droplet concentration at the cloud base can be calculated as:

$$N_d = \int_{r_{n\_cr}(S_{\max})}^{\infty} f(r_n)\, dr_n \quad (2)$$

where $f(r_n)$ is a size distribution of dry AP and r_{n_cr} is critical radius of CCN activated under $S_{\max}$. According to the Köhler theory, the critical radius relates to $S_{\max}$ as

$$r_{n\_cr} = \frac{A}{3}\left(\frac{4}{BS_{\max}^2}\right)^{1/3}, \qquad (3)$$

where coefficients A and B are the coefficients of the Köhler equation for equilibrium supersaturation (see Table 1 for notations). Substituting Eq. (2) into (1) one can obtain equation for $S_{\max}$:

$$S_{\max}\underbrace{\left[\int_{r_{n\_cr}(S_{\max})}^{\infty} f(r_n)\,dr_n\right]^{1/2}}_{N_d} = Cw^{3/4} \qquad (4)$$

Taking into account the relationship (3), Eq. (4) contains only one unknown $S_{\max}$. This equation is easily solved by iteration calculating $S_{\max}$, $r_{n\_cr}(S_{\max})$ and concentration of nucleated droplets at cloud base at each time step.

The values of $S_{\max}$ were calculated ~~in~~ at all grid points corresponding to cloud base, which is determined as the first grid point from below, ~~in~~ at which $S_w \geq 0$.

3. Design of simulations

All simulations were performed within a computational domain of 153.9 km x 19.2 km, and a grid spacing of 300 m in the horizontal direction and 100 m in the vertical direction. Effects of NA on cloud microphysics were tested in simulations of a thunderstorm observed in Villingen-Schwenningen, southwest Germany, on June 28, 2006**.** Meteorological conditions (including sounding) of this storm are described by Khain et al. [2011]. The background wind direction was

quasi-2-D, which simplified the prescription of the background wind profile in the 2-D model. The wind speed increased with height from ~10 $m\ s^{-1}$ in the lower atmosphere to about 20 $m\ s^{-1}$ at levels of 100-200 mb. Surface temperature was 22.9℃, the relative humidity near the ground was high (~85%), which led to a low lifting condensation level of about 890 m. The freezing level was located at around 3.5 km. The observed maximum diameter of hailstones was about 5 cm.

The convection was triggered by a cool pool, which is typical in simulations of long-lasting convection (Rotunno and Klemp, 1985).

Three sets of simulations were performed, each simulation in two versions: according to ST where the critical CCN radius was calculated using a supersaturation calculated at the grid points using the values of temperature and humidity, and according to NA where the critical CCN radius and $S_{\max}$ were determined from Eq. (9).

The first set of simulations aims at the comparison of the microphysics between NA and ST in cases of high (N_0 =3500 cm^{-3}) and low (N_0 =100 cm^{-3}) CCN concentrations. Minimum CCN radii were set equal to 0.015 μm and 0.0125 μm, respectively. These values correspond to the data according to which the nuclei mode (the smallest CCN) in Marine aerosol size distribution contains aerosols smaller than the nuclei mode in Continental case or even than in Urban case (Ghan et al, 2011). Similar CCN size distributions were used by Khain et al (2011). These simulations are referred to as E3500, E100 (T) and EN3500, EN100 (NA), respectively.

In *the second set of simulations* the smallest CCN were added into the AP spectra. The large impact of the smallest CCN in formation of ice crystals in cloud anvils was shown by Khain et al. (2012). The minimum CCN radii were taken equal to 0.006 μm and 0.003 μm in cases of high and low CCN concentrations, respectively. These simulations are referred to as E3500-S, EN3500-S, E100-S and EN100-S, where symbol "S" denotes small AP.

406 In the first and the second sets of simulations the slope parameter k was assumed equal to 0.9.

407 *The third set of simulations* was similar to the second one, but with the slope parameter k
408 =0.5. In many studies investigating effects of aerosols on cloud microphysics only parameter N_0
409 is changed. However, the slope parameter determines the relationship between concentration of
410 smaller and larger CCN, so concentration of nucleated droplets also depends on the slope
411 parameter. The simulations of the third set are referred to as E3500-S-05, EN3500-S-05, E100-S-
412 05 and EN100-S-05. Size distributions of CCN in the simulations are shown in **Figure 1**.

413 CCN concentrations in the simulations s are presented in **Table 2**. Although the difference
414 between the total aerosol concentrations is not large, in case k=0.5 the CCN size distribution
415 contains more large CCN and fewer small CCN. These size distributions were assumed within the
416 lower 2-km layer. Above this level, the CCN concentration in each mass bin was decreased
417 exponentially with height. Above 8 km, the CCN concentration was set constant.

418

419 **4. Results of simulations**

420

421 **4.1 Vertical profiles of supersaturation near cloud base**

422 The model calculates supersaturation at the model grid points which typically do not
423 exactly coincide with the cloud base level where supersaturation S_w=0. We consider the first level
424 where $S_w \geq 0$ as the cloud base. Since the supersaturation maximum is reached not far from the
425 cloud base level, especially for high AP concentration cases (Pinsky et al. 2012), we attribute the
426 values of $S_{\max}$ to this level. Correspondingly, the difference between NA and ST in the droplet
427 concentrations is also attributed to this level. **Figure 2** shows vertical profiles of supersaturation
428 calculated in ST and NA simulations in the atmospheric columns where the velocity at cloud base

429 was equal to 1 ms^{-1}. It is natural that the values of S_{max} are larger in case of low CCN
430 concentration as compared to high CCN concentration case. For goals of the present study, a more
431 interesting finding is that the values of S_{max} calculated using NA are substantially larger than S_w
432 calculated at model level associated to the cloud base in ST. The difference between NA and ST in
433 the supersaturation values leads to a substantial difference in the droplet concentrations, especially
434 in cases of high CCN concentration. Calculation of S_{max} at cloud base changes the vertical profile
435 of supersaturation above it. While in ST supersaturation changes only slightly or even increase
436 with height within 100-200 m above cloud base, in NA supersaturation decreases within this layer
437 above the supersaturation maximum in agreement with the theory (Rogers and Yau, 1989, Pinsky
438 et al, 2012, 2013).

439 To justify the values of supersaturation and droplet concentration obtained in NA,
440 benchmark simulations using a parcel model were performed. The parcel model describes AP and
441 drops using drop size distribution defined on a mass grid containing 2000 mass bins (Pinsky et al,
442 2002). It calculates growth of AP and droplets by solving the equation for diffusional growth
443 written in the most general form without using parameterization of droplet nucleation. Time step
444 used for solving the diffusional growth equation was 0.001 s. The model was used earlier for
445 developing lookup tables relating parameters of AP and vertical velocity to droplet concentration
446 (Segal and Khain, 2006). Simulations with the parcel model were performed for the same vertical
447 velocity at cloud base, temperature and CCN distributions as in the HUCM simulations. As can be
448 seen from Fig. 2, the values of supersaturation and droplet concentration calculated using NA are
449 much closer to those calculated using the parcel model as compared to the values calculated using
450 ST.

The model level associated with the cloud base (where $S_w \geq 0$) is slightly higher than the lifting condensation level (LCL), where $S_w = 0$. At the same time, the calculations performed according to Pinsky et al. (2012) show that the level where $S_w = S_{\max}$ is located from about 20 m (for high CCN concentration) to about 60 m (for low CCM concentration) higher than the LCL. The estimations show, therefore, that the level where $S_w = S_{\max}$ is quite close to the model cloud base level. Accordingly, the droplet concentration determined at $S_w = S_{\max}$ is assigned to the corresponding grid point at the model cloud base.

4.2 High CCN concentration

In this section we compare the results for three pairs of simulations of clouds were developing in a highly polluted atmosphere. **Figure 3** shows the fields of droplet concentration N_d at the developing stage of the cloud evolution in E3500-S-0.5 (a), EN3500-S-0.5 (b), E3500-S (c) and EN3500-S (d). The maximum N_d in NA is reached at cloud base, which makes the cloud base well pronounced. The difference between droplet concentrations in ST and NA experiments decreases with height. The highest droplet concentration is reached in simulations where the CCN activation spectrum was characterized by the slope parameter k=0.5 . This can be attributed to the fact that at k=0.5 the aerosol spectrum contains more CCN which are activated at cloud base than at k=0.9.

Vertical profiles of the maximum values of droplet concentration and of cloud water content (CWC) averaged over time periods of storm development (a-b) and over the mature stage (c,d) are presented in **Figure 4.**

In NA the N_d maximum is reached near cloud base and the droplet concentration decreases with height.. This behavior of $N_d(z)$ is more realistic than in ST, where N_d increases with height up to an altitudes 2- 4 km, depending on the stage of storm evolution. This increase in the N_d in ST is caused by in-cloud activation of mid-size CCN which were not activated at cloud base in the standard approach. In NA, these CCN were activated at cloud base. There is, therefore, a negative feedback in the supersaturation-droplet concentration relationship: an underestimation of supersaturation at low levels in the ST simulations leads to the underestimation of droplet concentration and to the corresponding increase in supersaturation at comparatively small distances above cloud base. These results indicate that in models where droplet nucleation is calculated only at cloud base, the correct calculation of $S_{\max}$ at cloud base is *strictly necessary to obtain reasonable values of* N_d in clouds.

At height of about 4-5 kms, droplet concentrations in ST and NA become nearly similar. Figs. 4a,c show also that N_d is very sensitive to the slope parameter of the CCN activation spectrum. The maximum N_d reached at cloud base is about $1100\,cm^{-3}$ in EN3500-S-05 (k=0.5) as compared to ~$550\,cm^{-3}$ in EN3500-S (k=0.9). This difference is caused by the fact that in case k=0.5 the concentration of CCN with sizes exceeding ~$0.015\,\mu m$ (which are activated at cloud base) is larger than in case k=0.9 (see Fig.1).

The effect of the *smallest* CCN on N_d (and on entire ice microphysical structure) becomes very important above 6 km. In simulations containing the smallest CCN, these CCN are activated producing new small droplets at heights of around 6.5- 8 km. The increase in N_d is shown in Fig. 4a,c by red arrows. These smallest CCN are not activated at cloud base even in NA (where $S_{\max}$ is larger than S_w in ST). This in-cloud nucleation is caused by an increase in supersaturation at

494 these levels due to a decrease in CWC (Fig. 4b,d) and an increase in vertical velocity (not shown).
495 The increase in N_d by activation at high levels and its effect on concentration of ice crystals in
496 cloud anvils of deep convective clouds was also reported by Khain et al. (2012).

497 Since the slope parameter determines concentration both of larger CCN and of smallest
498 CCN, the slope parameter also affects the concentration of droplets nucleated at high levels.

499 Vertical profiles of CWC (Figs. 4b,d) are typical of deep convective clouds developing in
500 the highly polluted environment: CWC is large and has maximum at about 5 km, i.e. at quite high
501 altitude.

502 **Figure 5a** shows the vertical profiles of maximum concentration of plate crystals (in HUCM
503 homogeneous freezing leads to formation of plates) averaged over the mature stage of cloud
504 evolution (from 4860 to 5460s). The number concentration of ice crystals in E3500 and EN3500
505 (in which there are no the smallest CCN in the initial CCN spectrum) is by factor of 5 lower than
506 in simulations with the CCN spectra containing the smallest CCN. The results show that ice
507 crystal concentration in NA is higher only slightly than in ST. Thus *the concentration of ice*
508 *crystals in cloud anvils is determined to a large extent by the concentration of smallest CCN in*
509 *the CCN spectra and is substantially less sensitive to larger CCN, which are activated at cloud*
510 *base*. Figure 5b shows that this conclusion is valid for the entire period of the simulation. In
511 agreement with Fig. 4c, the concentration of plates increased when NA was used (**Fig. 5b**). The
512 comparative contribution of the smallest CCN and CCN additionally activated at the cloud base in
513 NA (as compared to ST) are shown in Fig. 5b by arrows.

514 **Figure 6** shows the vertical profiles of time averaged maximum mass contents of ice
515 crystals, snow, graupel and hail+freezing drops at the storm mature stage. The maximum

difference between ice crystal mass contents takes place at ~10-11 km, where ice crystals are caused by homogeneous freezing.

The most pronounced effect of NA is an increase in the accretion rate. In agreement with results of simulations of aerosol effects on ice microstructure of deep convective clouds (Khain 2009; Tao et al. 2012; Khain et al. 2016), the intensification of riming leads to a decrease in the snow mass content and to an increase in the mass contents of graupel (Fig.6b-c).. The existence of the smallest CCN concentration leads to further decrease in the snow mass content and to the increase in the graupel mass content. This smallest CCN lead to higher supercooled droplet concentration and to an increase in the liquid mass available for riming (Fig. 4d,e).

4.3. Low CCN concentration

In this section we compare the results for three pairs of simulations: a) E100 and EN100, b) E100-S and EN100-S, and c) E100-S-0.5 and EN100-S-0.5 in which clouds were developed in the atmosphere with low CCN concentration. After the first 35 min of cloud evolution, the cloud base is located at 700-800 m altitude and T=16.8℃ at this level.

The fields of droplet concentration N_d in different simulations at the developing stage of the cloud evolution are shown in **Figure 7**. The maximum N_d in a NA is reached at cloud base, which makes the cloud base well pronounced. The difference in droplet concentrations between ST and NA simulations decreases with height**.** Although the difference is N_d between NA and ST is very pronounced, the absolute difference is not large (about 20 cm^{-3}). This low N_d determines a typical maritime microphysical structure of clouds in both NA and ST cases.

538 **Figure 8** shows vertical profiles of the maximum values of droplet concentration and cloud
539 water content (CWC) averaged over the time period of 3420-4020s (mature stage). One can see a
540 dramatic difference in the profiles of droplet concentration and between CWC values of at low
541 CCN concentration as compared to high CCN concentration (Fig. 4). At low CCN concentration,
542 droplet collisions are efficient and droplet concentration decreases with height much faster than in
543 polluted air. As a result, the CWC maximum at low CCN concentration is located at the height of
544 2 km as compared to 5 km in case of high CCN concentration. These differences determine the
545 huge difference in the ice microphysics.
546 Fig. 8 shows that both the droplet concentration and CWC are larger in NA as compared to
547 ST. The main differences between droplet concentrations near cloud base are, however,
548 determined by the difference in the slope parameter value: at k=0.5 there are more CCN of sizes
549 exceeding 0.015 μm than at k=0.9 (Fig. 1).These CCN are activated at cloud base leading to
550 higher concentration in simulations with k=0.5, especially when NA was applied.
551 Efficient collisions (seen by the sharp decrease in the CWC above z=2 km) and rain fall
552 decrease the droplet concentration. As a result, the supersaturation increases and leads to in-cloud
553 nucleation and an increase in the droplet concentration already at distances of a few hundred
554 meters above the cloud base. However, since the concentration of CCN is low, the amount of
555 new nucleated droplets in the simulations was only about 5-10 cm^{-3}. The second layer of intense
556 in-cloud nucleation caused by activation of the smallest CCN is seen within the altitude layer from
557 4 km to 8 km. The difference in droplet concentration within this layer is fully related to the
558 existence/absence of smallest CCN in the CCN size spectrum. The differences between droplet
559 concentration in ST and NA simulations are not significant at these levels.

This result agrees with the case of high CCN concentration when droplet concentration at higher levels is to a large extent determined by the smallest CCN in the droplet spectrum.

Figure 9 presents the vertical profiles of maximum mass contents of ice crystals, snow, graupel and hail + freezing drops at the mature stage of cloud evolution. Comparison with Fig. 6 shows that with the exception of snow, the mass contents of different ice hydrometeors at low CCN concentration are substantially lower than at high CCN concentration. The main reason for such difference is lower CWC at low CCN concentration that leads to less intense riming and, consequently to slow growth of ice particles.

Fig. 9 shows that the profiles of ice hydrometeors in NA and ST are similar. It means that the ice microphysics is to a large extent determined by the mass of supercooled droplets at high levels which in turn is determined by the *smallest* CCN in the CCN size spectrum. The effects of the smallest CCN and the shape of CCN size spectra on droplet concentration and the concentration on ice microphysics are much stronger than the effect of additional droplets nucleating at cloud base in the NA. The reason for this effect was explained above.

The increase in the concentration of the smallest CCN and in droplet concentration leads to an increase in the ice crystals mass content occurring about the level of homogeneous freezing (Fig.9a).

The mass content of snow decreases with the increase in the smallest CCN concentration , because intensification of riming of snow leads to its conversion to graupel (Fig. 9b). Consequently, the graupel mass content increases (Fig. 9c). As regards to mass content of hail, the increase in the smallest CCN concentration leads to a decrease in the hail content above 6 km and to its increase below this level (Fig. 9d). The higher hail mass content above 6 km layer in the absence of smallest CCN is likely related to the fact the low droplet concentration leads to

583 formation of raindrops in high concentration. Although these raindrops are of comparatively small
584 size, the total raindrop mass content is larger than that in case of higher drop concentration. These
585 raindrops rapidly freeze above the freezing level producing hail (actually frozen drops) with total
586 mass larger than at high CCN concentration. This effect is discussed by Ilotovich et al. (2016) in
587 detail. In HUCM, frozen raindrops are assigned to the hail category due to their high density. If
588 hail is defined as particles with sizes exceeding 1 cm, the amount of hail at low CCN
589 concentration would be negligible.
590
591 Higher hail mass content below 6 km in the presence of the smallest CCN can be attributed
592 to intense conversion of heavy rimed graupel to hail, as well as to more efficient hail growth by
593 riming. Note that sizes of hail particles forming in a deep convective cloud developing in the
594 polluted atmosphere are larger than hail forming in a cloud developing in clean air (Ilotovich et al.
595 2016). Due to larger size, hail in the polluted case falls to the surface (Fig. 6d), while in clean air
596 hail melts at 1.5 km in the absence of small CCN, and in vicinity of the surface if the CCN size
597 spectrum contains the smallest CCN.

598 **4.3 The impact on precipitation**

599 **Figure 10a** shows the accumulated rain at surface in the polluted air . Accumulated rain
600 is maximum in EN3500-S-0.5 where effect of smallest CCNs is combined with the effect of
601 comparatively large amount of large CCN. This synergetic effect of the smallest and large CCN
602 is described by Khain et al. (2011). In most simulations, the masses of accumulated rain are
603 quite similar.
604 Comparison of Fig. 10a and Fig. 10 b shows that the accumulated rain at low aerosol
605 concentration is lower than at high CCN concentration, which is in agreement with many

606 previous studies. Accumulated rain in NA was found to be quite close to that in ST. The main
607 difference in the values of accumulated rain at low CCN concentration is caused by effects of
608 smallest aerosols increasing the mass of precipitating ice particles .

609 Amount of hail at the surface in polluted air (**Figure 10c**) is substantially larger than in
610 clean air (**Figure 10d**) due to lower sizes and faster melting of hail particles if CCN
611 concentration is low. The effect of AP on the size and amount of hail at the surface was
612 investigated by Ilotovich et al. (2016) in detail.

613 Amount of hail at the surface in polluted air is slightly higher in EN3500-S-0.5 as
614 compared to E3500-S-0.5 (**Figure 10c**). We attribute this effect to a higher rate of riming in
615 EN3500-S-0.5 due to a higher amount of supercoold water (Fig. 4b, d). There are no
616 significant differences in the other cases of polluted air.

617 The main factor determining the differences in the amount of hail falling to the surface at
618 low CCN concentration is the effect of smallest CCN. The increase in concentration of smallest
619 CCN leads to an increase in hail growth by riming.

620 As regards to the ratio of hail amounts in the experiments with smallest AP, earlier or later
621 intensification of convective cells (which is more or less random) may affect the ratio. Since
622 the mass of hail falling to the surface in clean air is very low, a larger computational area is
623 required to obtain reliable statistics.

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625 ## 5. Conclusions

626 Sensitivity of the microphysics of deep convective clouds to the concentration of aerosols and
627 to the shape of aerosol size distribution is investigated using a new version of a 2D Spectral (bin)
628 Microphysics Cloud Model (HUCM). A new component of the model is the calculation of

maximum supersaturation at cloud base using the analytical expression derived by Pinsky et al. (2012). The cloud microphysical structure obtained using this expression is compared with that obtained with supersaturation calculated at model grid points.

The goal of the study was twofold: a) to test the effects of the improved calculation of supersaturation maximum near cloud base (NA (new approach) vs ST (standard approach)) at different aerosol loadings and b) to evaluate sensitivity of cloud microphysics to concentration and shape of size distribution of aerosol particles. In the simulations, shape of CCN size distributions was changed by changing the value of the slope parameter in the expression for activation spectrum (the values of k=0.5 and k=0.8 were used) and by adding the smallest CCN with radii below 0.015 μm.

The values of S_{max} near cloud base calculated by the theoretical analysis were found to be substantially larger than the supersaturation values calculated explicitly at model grid points associated with cloud base. The comparison of the values of supresaturation at cloud base and droplet concentration in the model simulations with the corresponding values calculated using a benchmark parcel model showed that NA simulates cloud base supersaturation and droplet concentration much more accurately than ST. Thus, *the first main conclusion* of the study is that the droplet concentration field in NA is substantially more realistic than in ST, with the maximum of droplet concentration in NA located near cloud base in agreement with classical results (Rogers and Yau, 1989). The increased droplet concentration makes the cloud base more pronounced. The improvement of the representation of the vertical profile of the droplet concentration is especially significant in case of high CCN concentration, where utilization of S_{max} leads to a substantial increase in the concentration of droplets near cloud base. Thus, even at 100-m vertical resolution,

651 it is necessary to use analytical expressions for S_{max} . At low CCN concentration, the improved
652 representation of droplet concentration above cloud base has a comparatively weak effect on cloud
653 microphysics. This result can be attributed to the fact that droplet concentration increases
654 relatively slightly if it is more accurately calculated since the available CCN concentration is low.
655 As a result, intense warm rain rapidly arises in both NA and ST.

656 The error in calculation of droplet concentration near cloud base in ST is compensated to a
657 significant extent by in-cloud nucleation above cloud base. Indeed, in NA droplet concentration
658 increases with height up to level of 4 km (Fig. 4a). The only reason of such increase is the in-cloud
659 nucleation of comparatively large CCN.

660 Models with microphysical schemes that do not describe in-cloud droplet nucleation should
661 include calculation of S_{max} at cloud base to avoid large errors in simulation of the microphysical
662 cloud structure.

663 *The second main conclusion* is high importance of the shape of CCN size distribution. Cloud
664 microphysics was found to be highly sensitive to the slope parameter of the CCN activation
665 spectra. The effect is comparable with the change in the total CCN concentration via the change
666 in the intercept parameter N_0. The utilization of k=0.5 instead of k=0.9 nearly doubled droplet
667 concentration near cloud base that leads to corresponding effects on cloud microphysics, in
668 particular, to an increase in accumulated rain.

669 *The third main conclusion* is high sensitivity of ice microphysics to the existence of the
670 smallest CCN in the CCN size spectrum. Both in cases of low and high CCN concentration, the
671 differences in ice microphysics are determined to a large extent by *concentration of the smallest*
672 *aerosols in the CCN spectra*. In cases of high CCN concentration, the effect of the smallest CCN

673 in the NA becomes important above 5-6 km altitude where they are activated producing additional
674 supercooled liquid droplets. The latter leads to the increase in the concentration of ice crystals
675 above the level of homogeneous freezing by factor of about 5, to doubling of graupel mass
676 maximum. The smallest CCN also influence hail size and mass content.

677 In case of low CCN concentration the smallest CCN also lead to an increase in the
678 concentration and mass contents of ice crystals and to a significant increase of graupel and hail
679 mass contents. Note that many probes of CCN measure concentration of CCN at supersaturations
680 not exceeding 0.6%. In this case the concentration of the smallest CCN which remain non-
681 activated at this supersaturation remains unknown. Such measurements do not provide necessary
682 information for investigation of mixed-phase and ice microphysics.

683 Accumulated rain amount in case of high CCN concentration turned out to be higher than in
684 case of low CCN concentration. This result was discussed by Khain (2009) and Ilotovich et
685 al.(2016) showing that formation of hail increases precipitation efficiency of mid-latitude storms.

686 Ice precipitation (calculated in mm of melted hail) at the surface is much lower than liquid
687 precipitation. Nevertheless, hail precipitation at the surface in case of high CCN concentration is
688 higher than in case of low CCN concentration by order of magnitude in agreement with results by
689 Khain et al. (2011) and Ilotoviz et al. (2016). This effect can be attributed by formation of larger
690 hail particles in case of high CCN concentration (high supercooled mass content). The large hail
691 particles reach the surface, while smaller hail forming in case of low CCN concentration melts
692 without reaching the surface.

693 The concentrations of drops and ice crystals are important parameters determining cloud
694 radiative properties. In this context, more accurate calculation of the concentrations using the NA

as well as taking into account the effects of smallest CCN should improve the accuracy of evaluation of radiative cloud properties. The proposed approach of calculation of nucleation of droplets at cloud base is simple in the utilization and computationally efficient. It can be used in cloud-resolved models with different vertical grid spacing. The utilization of cruder vertical model resolution may lead to larger errors in cases when droplet concentration at cloud base is calculated using supersaturations calculated at model grid points.

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Appendix. Derivation of an expression for the supersaturation maximum at cloud base

Detailed description of the derivation of Eq. (1) is given in Pinsky et al. (2012). Below we present only a short description. Assuming that near cloud base $S_w << 1$, the equation for supersaturation can be written as:

$$\frac{dS_w}{dt} = A_1 \frac{dz}{dt} - A_2 \frac{dq_w}{dt} \qquad \text{(A1)}$$

where coefficients A_1 and A_2 are presented in T**able 1**; z is the height above cloud base and q_w is liquid water mixing ratio. The first term on the right-hand side of eq. (A1) describes an increase in supersaturation due to adiabatic air cooling during ascent, whereas the second term

describes the supersaturation decrease caused by condensation of water vapor on droplets. Integration of equation (A1) leads to the equation of mass balance:

$$S_w = A_1 z - A_2 q_w + C_1 \quad \text{(A2)}$$

where $C_1 = 0$ at cloud base. Assuming monodisperse DSD with droplets of radii r, the liquid water mixing ratio can be written as :

$$q_w = \frac{4}{3}\pi \frac{\rho_w}{\rho_a} N_d r^3 \quad \text{(A3)}$$

where N_d is the droplet concentration. The equation for diffusional growth can be written is the form where the curvature term and the chemical term are omitted (Pinsky et al. 2012):

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{1}{Fr} S_w \quad \text{(A4)}$$

The expression for coefficient F is presented in **Table 1**. Coefficients A_1, A_2 and F slightly depend on temperature and can be assumed constant in the analysis. Using Eqs. (A2-A4), eq. (1) can be rewritten in the closed form as:

$$\frac{dS_w}{dz} = A_1 - \frac{1}{w} B_1 (A_2 N_d)^{2/3} (A_1 z - S_w)^{1/3} S_w \quad \text{(A5)}$$

where $B_1 = \frac{3}{F}\left(\frac{4\pi}{3}\frac{\rho_w}{\rho_a}\right)^{2/3}$

Pinsky et al. (2012) showed that Eq. (A5) can be written in a non-dimensional form that results in an universal profile of supersaturation with height at given vertical velocity. The condition $\frac{dS_w}{dz} = 0$ applied to this equation allows to get solution in the form (1) for $S_{\max}$, as

733 well as for the height of S_{max} over the cloud base. Pinsky et al. (2012, 2014) showed that (1) is

734 valid for any size distributions of CCN.

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868 **Table 1. List of symbols**

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Symbol	Description	Units
A	$\frac{2\sigma_w}{\rho_w R_v T}$	m
A_1	$\frac{g}{R_a T}\left(\frac{L_w R_a}{c_p R_v T}-1\right)$	m^{-1}
A_2	$\frac{1}{q_v}+\frac{L_w^2}{c_p R_v T^2}$	-
B	$\frac{\nu_n \Phi_s \varepsilon_m M_w \rho_n}{M_n \rho_w}$	-
B_1	$\frac{3}{F}\left(\frac{4\pi\rho_w}{3\rho_a}\right)^{2/3}$	$m^2 s$
C_1	$1.058(FA_1/3)^{3/4}\left(\frac{3\rho_a}{4\pi\rho_w A_2}\right)^{1/2}$	$m^{9/4}\ s^{-3/4}$
c_p	specific heat capacity of moist air at constant pressure	J $kg^{-1}K^{-1}$
D	coefficient of water vapor diffusion in the air	$m^2\ s^{-1}$
e		
e_w	saturation vapor pressure above the flat surface of water	N m^{-2}
g	acceleration of gravity	m s^{-2}
F	$\left(\frac{\rho_w L_w^2}{k_a R_v T^2}+\frac{\rho_w R_v T}{e_w(T) D}\right)$	m^{-2} s
K	parameter of activity spectra	
k_a	coefficient of air heat conductivity	J $m^{-1}s^{-1}K^{-1}$
L_w	latent heat for liquid water	J kg^{-1}
M_n	molecular weight of aerosol salt	kg mol^{-1}
M_w	molecular weight of water	kg mol^{-1}
N_d	concentration of liquid droplets	m^{-3}

N_0	parameter of activation spectra	
P	pressure of moist air	N m^{-2}
q_v	water vapor mixing ratio air)	$kg\ kg^{-1}$
q_w	liquid water mixing ratio	$kg\ kg^{-1}$
$r_{\max}$	drop radius at $z = z_{\max}$	m
		-
S_w	$S_w = e/e_w - 1$ supersaturation over water	-
$S_{\max}$	supersaturation maximum	-
T	absolute temperature	^{o}K
T_C	temperature at cloud base	^{o}C
w	vertical velocity	m s^{-1}
z	height over condensation level	m
$z_{\max}$	height of supersaturation maximum	m
ε_m	soluble fraction	-
ρ_a	density of air	kg m^{-3}
ρ_N	density of a dry aerosol particle	kg m^{-3}
ρ_w	density of liquid water	kg m^{-3}
σ_w	surface tension of water-air interface	Nm^{-1}
ν_n	van 't Hoff factor	-

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Table 2. CCN concentrations in different experiments in the boundary layer

	High CCN concentration, cm^{-3}		Low CCN concentration, cm^{-3}	
Slope parameter	No smallest CCN	With smallest CCN	No smallest CCN	With smallest CCN
k=0.9	840	2930	33	214
k=0.5	1552	3140	53	152

Figures

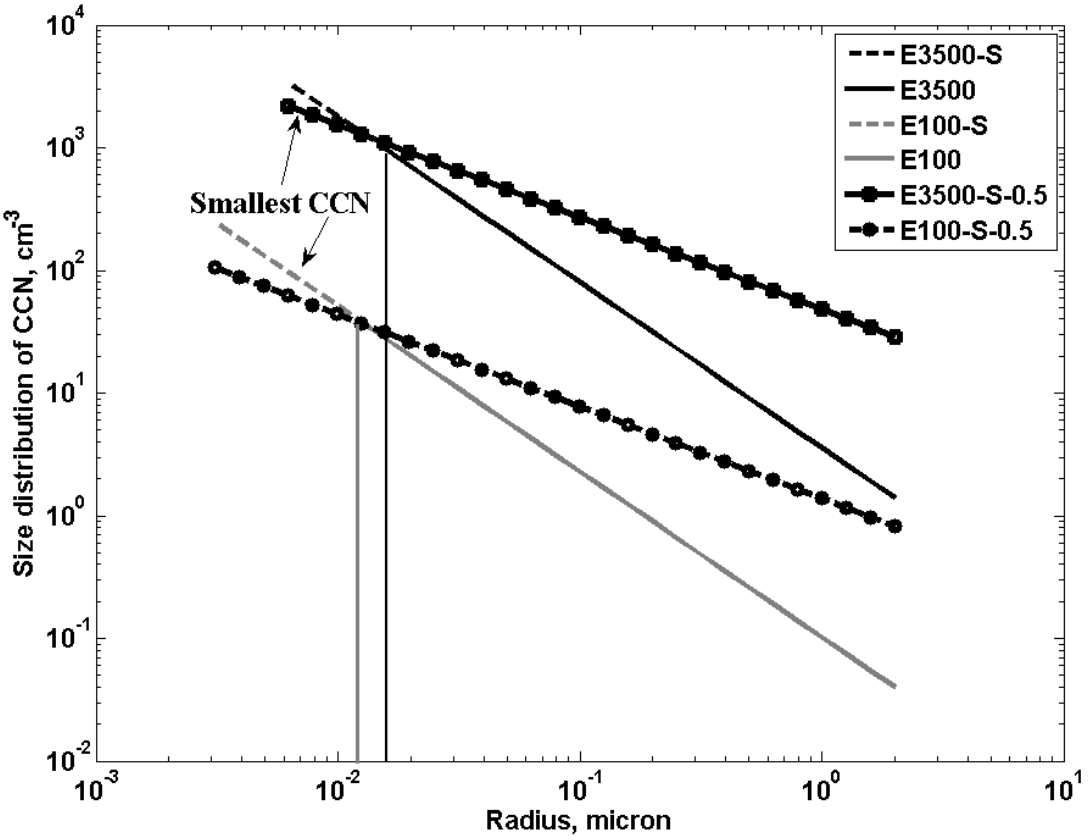
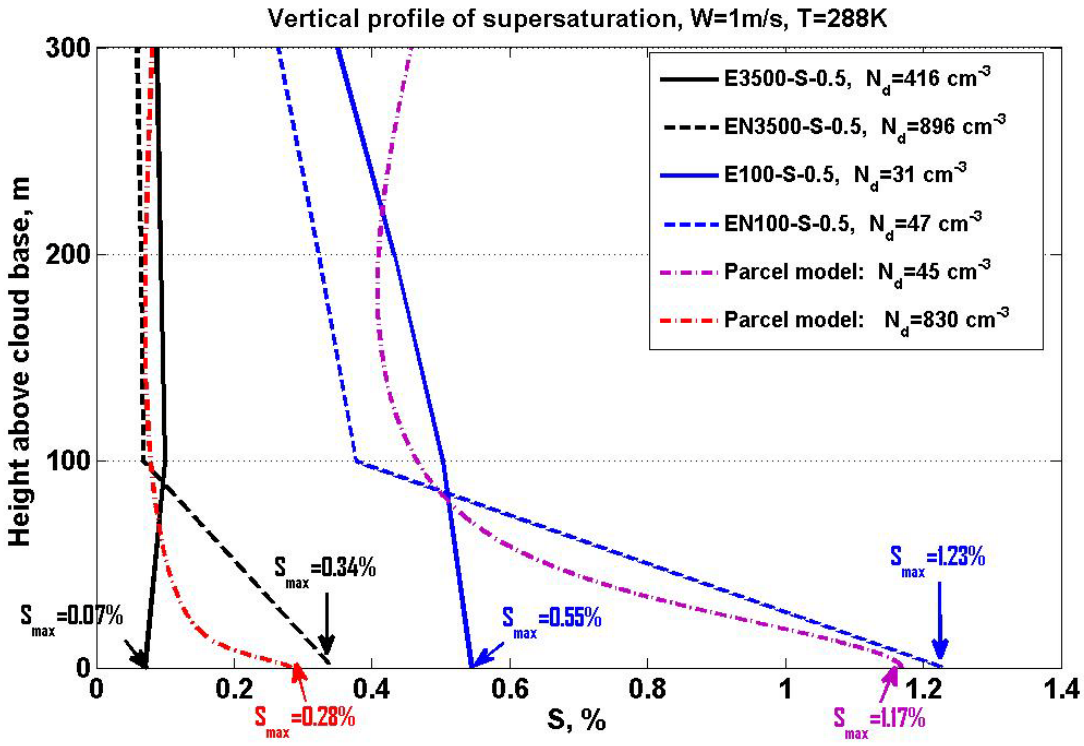


Figure 1. The initial size distributions of aerosols near the surface in different simulations.



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900 **Figure 2.** Examples of vertical profiles of the supersaturation above cloud base calculated using
901 HUCM and a benchmark parcel model. The columns with w close to 1 m/s at cloud base were
902 chosen for comparison. The values of S_{max} in HUCM were calculated according to *Pinsky et al.*
903 (2012). The values of droplets concentration calculated at cloud base in different simulations
904 are shown as well (see legend box).
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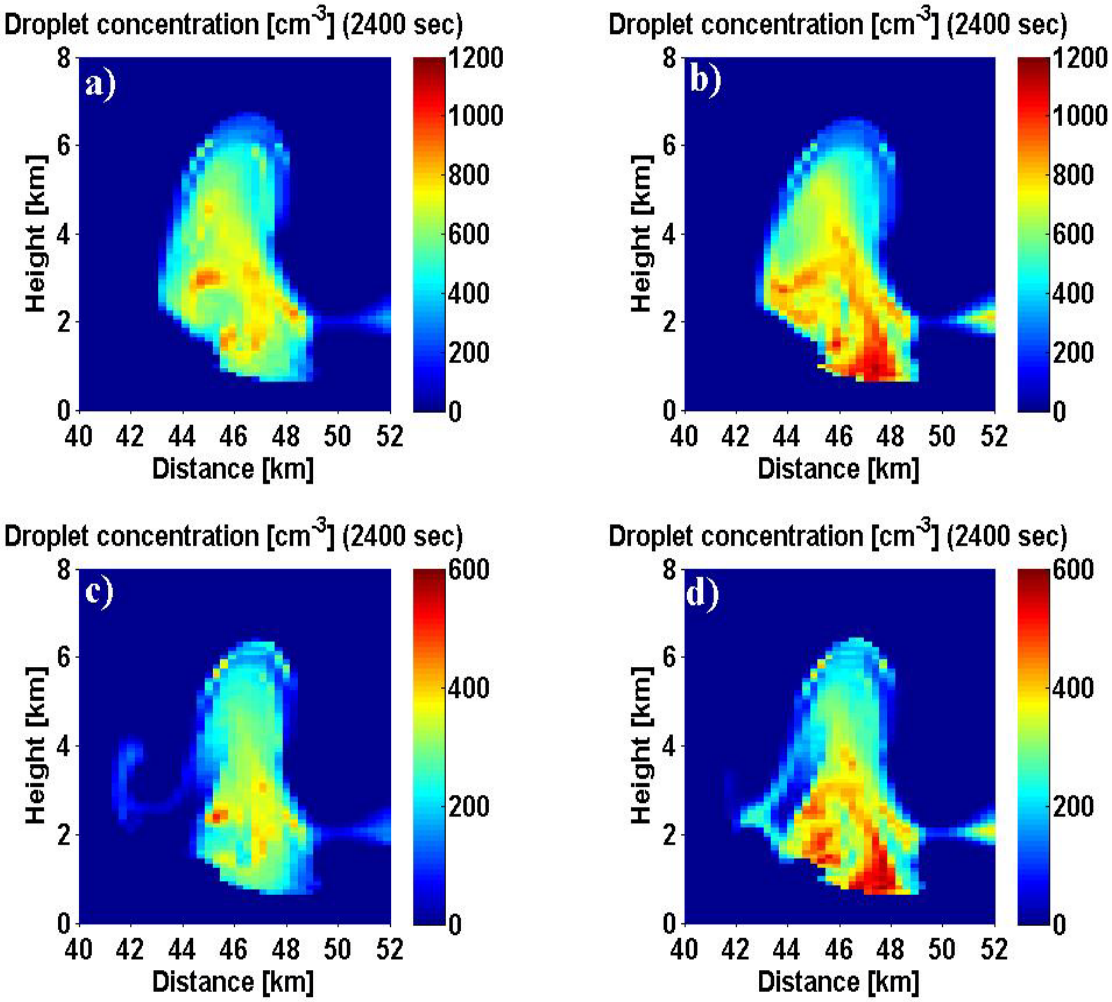

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917 **Figure 3.** Field of droplet concentration at t=2400s in (a) E3500-S-0.5, (b) EN3500-S-0.5, (c)
918 E3500-S and (d) EN3500-S.

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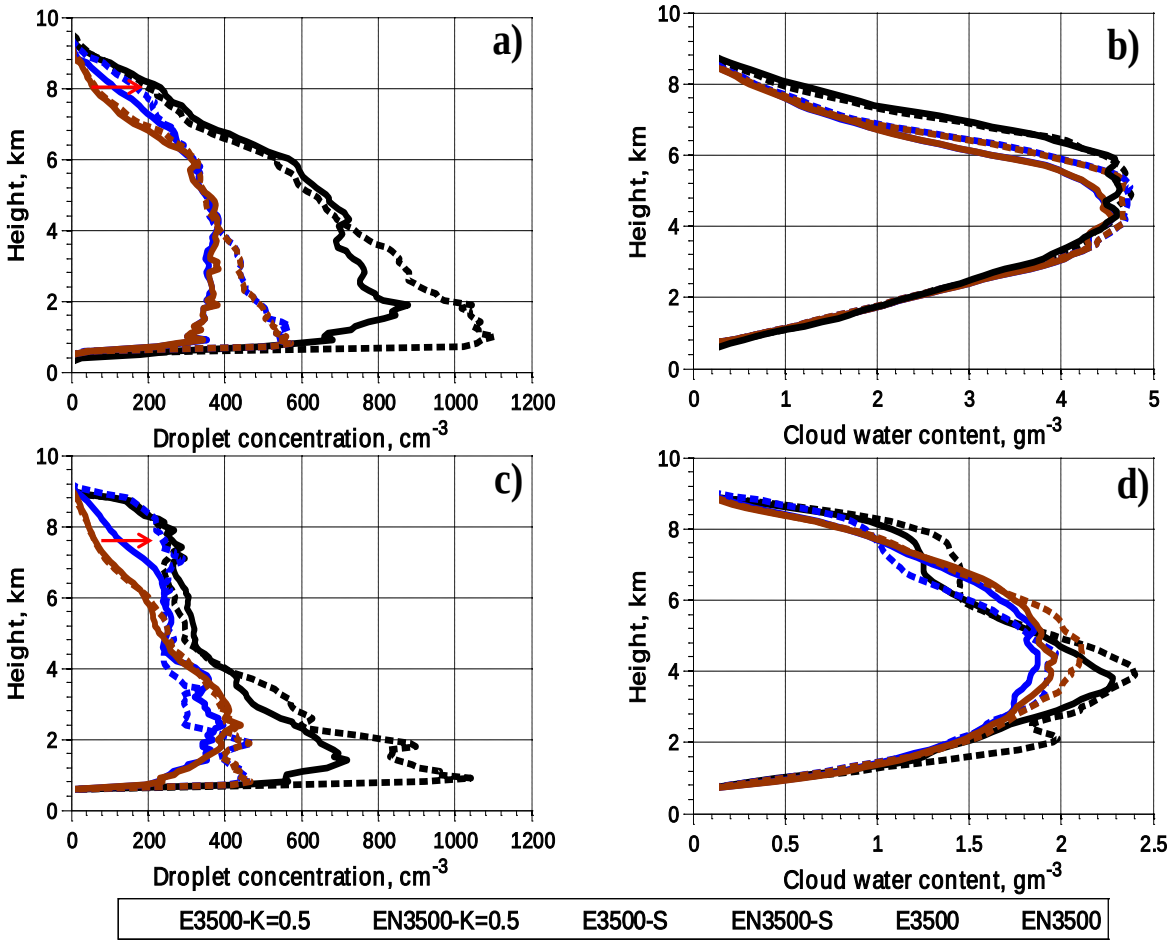

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926 **Figure 4.** Vertical profiles of the maximum values of droplet concentration (a,d) and CWC(b,e)
927 in simulations with high CCN concentration. The profiles are obtained by averaging over the
928 time period of 2400-3000s (upper row) and over time period of 4860-5460s (bottom row). Panel
929 (c) shows a zoom of panel (b) for large CWC .

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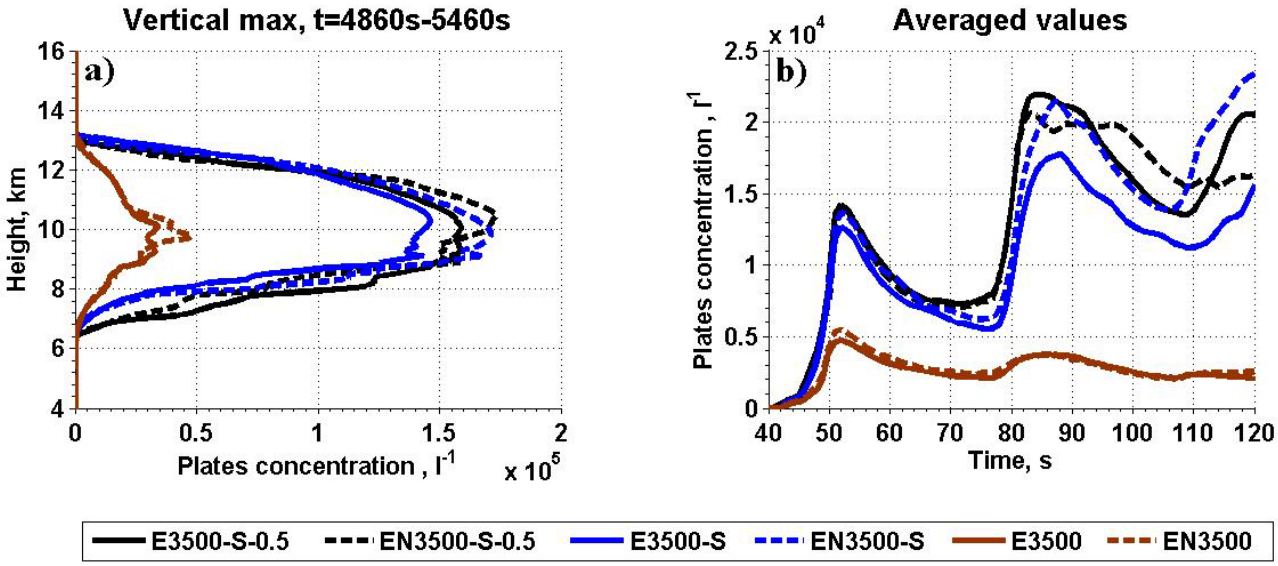

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936 **Figure 5.** Vertical profiles of (a) maximum values of plates concentration and (b) time
937 dependencies of averaged plate concentration. The profiles are obtained by averaging over the
938 time period of 4860-5460s. The low and the upper arrows in the panel b show approximate
939 contribution of smallest CCN and the additional CCN activated in NA, respectively.

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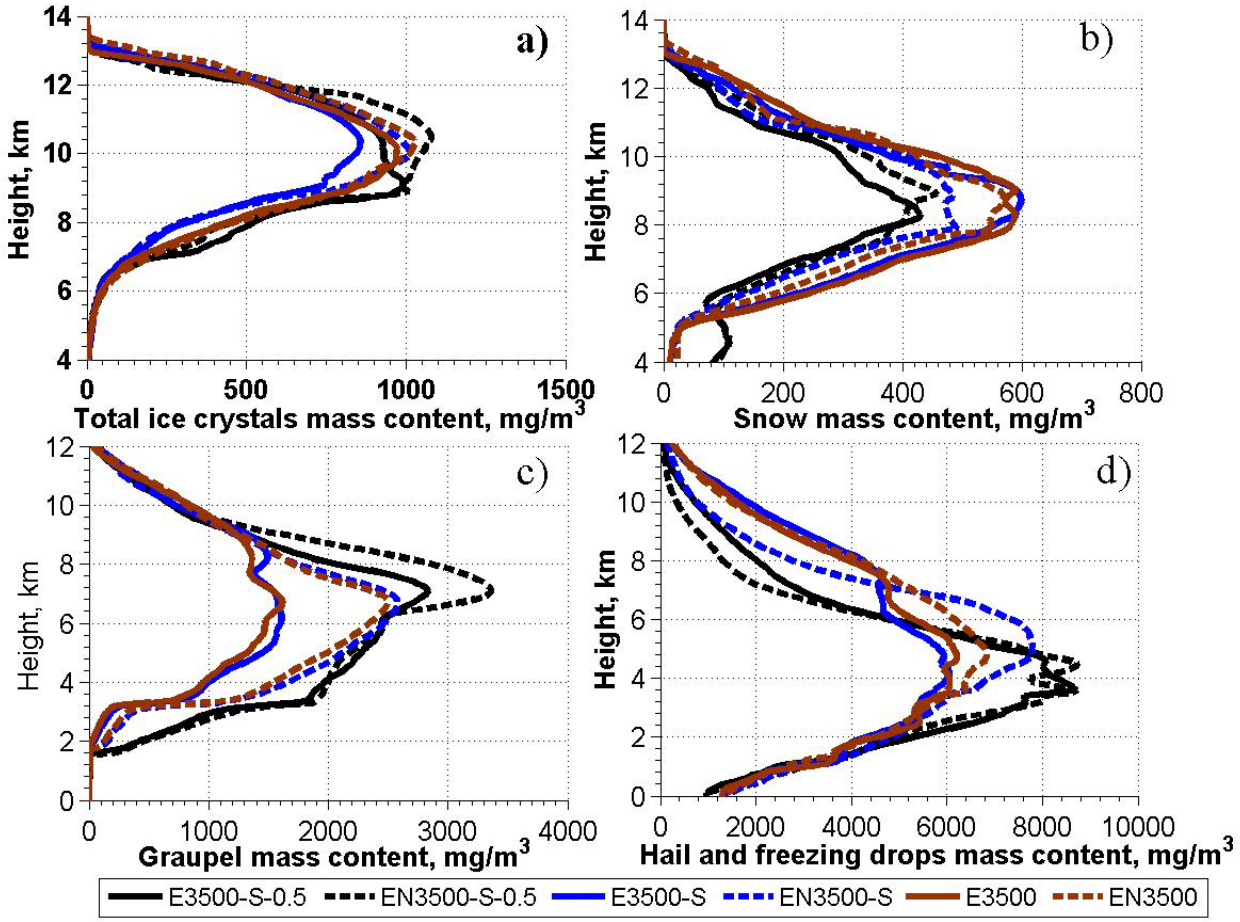

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947 **Figure 6.** Vertical profiles of the maximum values of mass content: (a) total ice crystals, (b)
948 snow, (c) graupel and (d) total hail and freezing drops in simulations with high CCN
949 concentration. The profiles are obtained by averaging over the time period of 4860-5460s.

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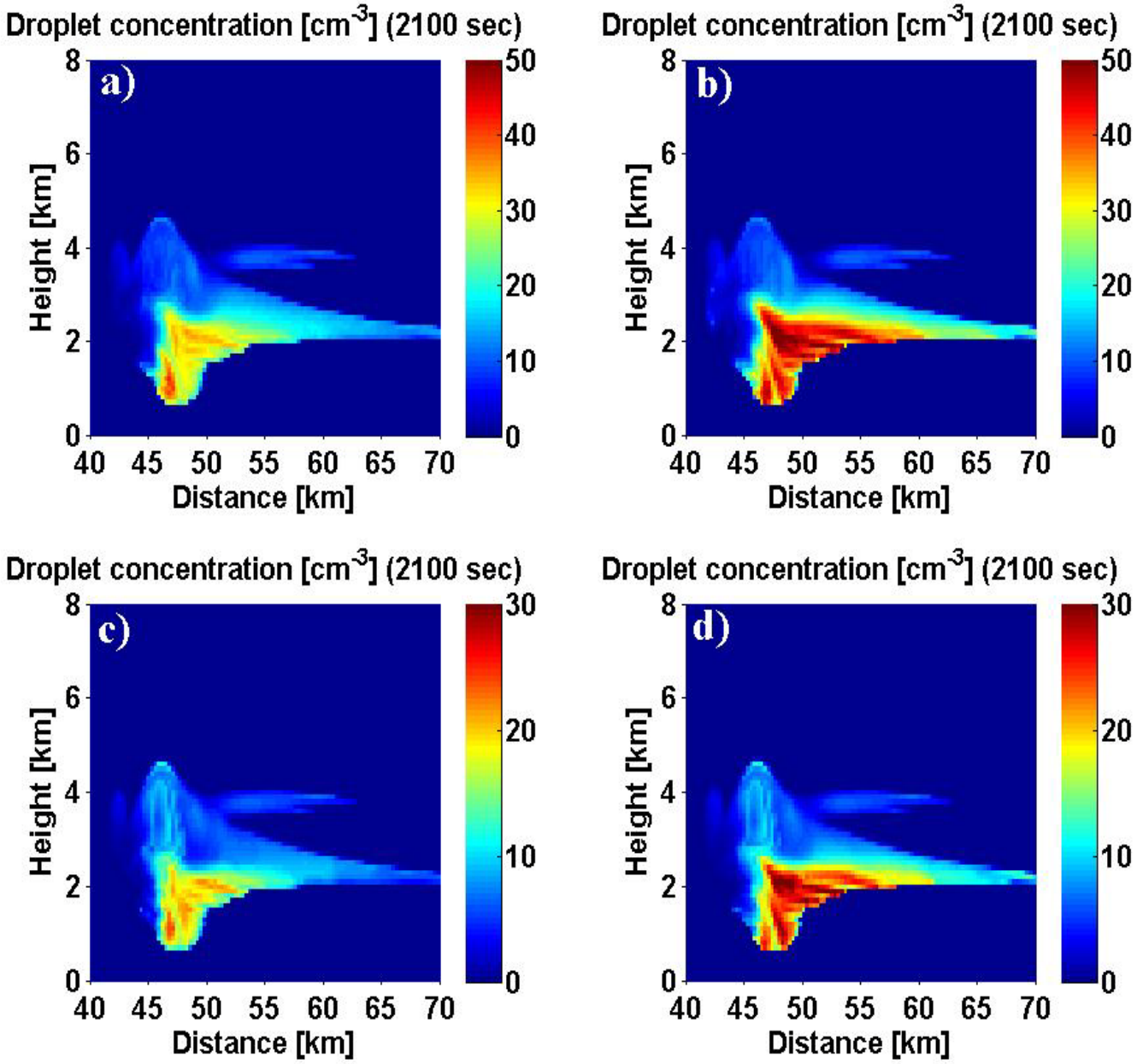

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964 **Figure 7.** Field of droplet concentration at t=2100s in (a) E100-S-0.5, (b) EN100-S-0.5, (c)
965 E100-S and (d) EN100-S simulations.

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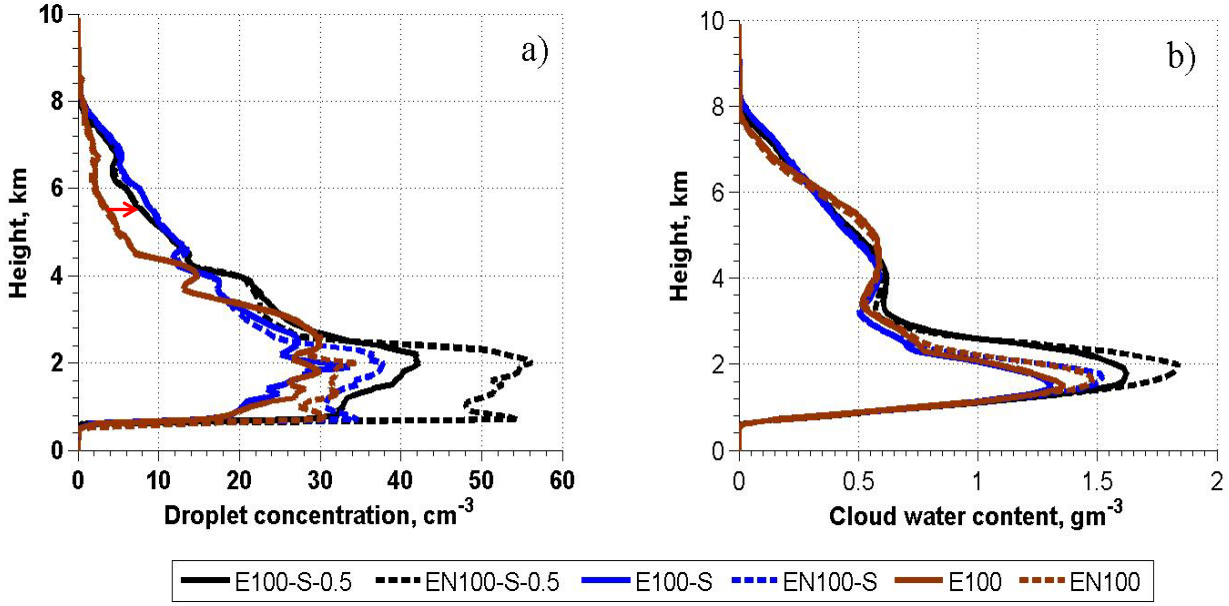

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973 **Figure 8.** Vertical profiles of the maximum values of droplet concentration (a) and CWC (b) in
974 simulations with low CCN concentration ($N_0 = 100\ cm^{-3}$). The profiles are obtained by
975 averaging over the time period of 3420-4020s. Red arrow shows the increase in droplet
976 concentration due to in-cloud nucleation in simulations with the CCN spectra containing small
977 CCN.

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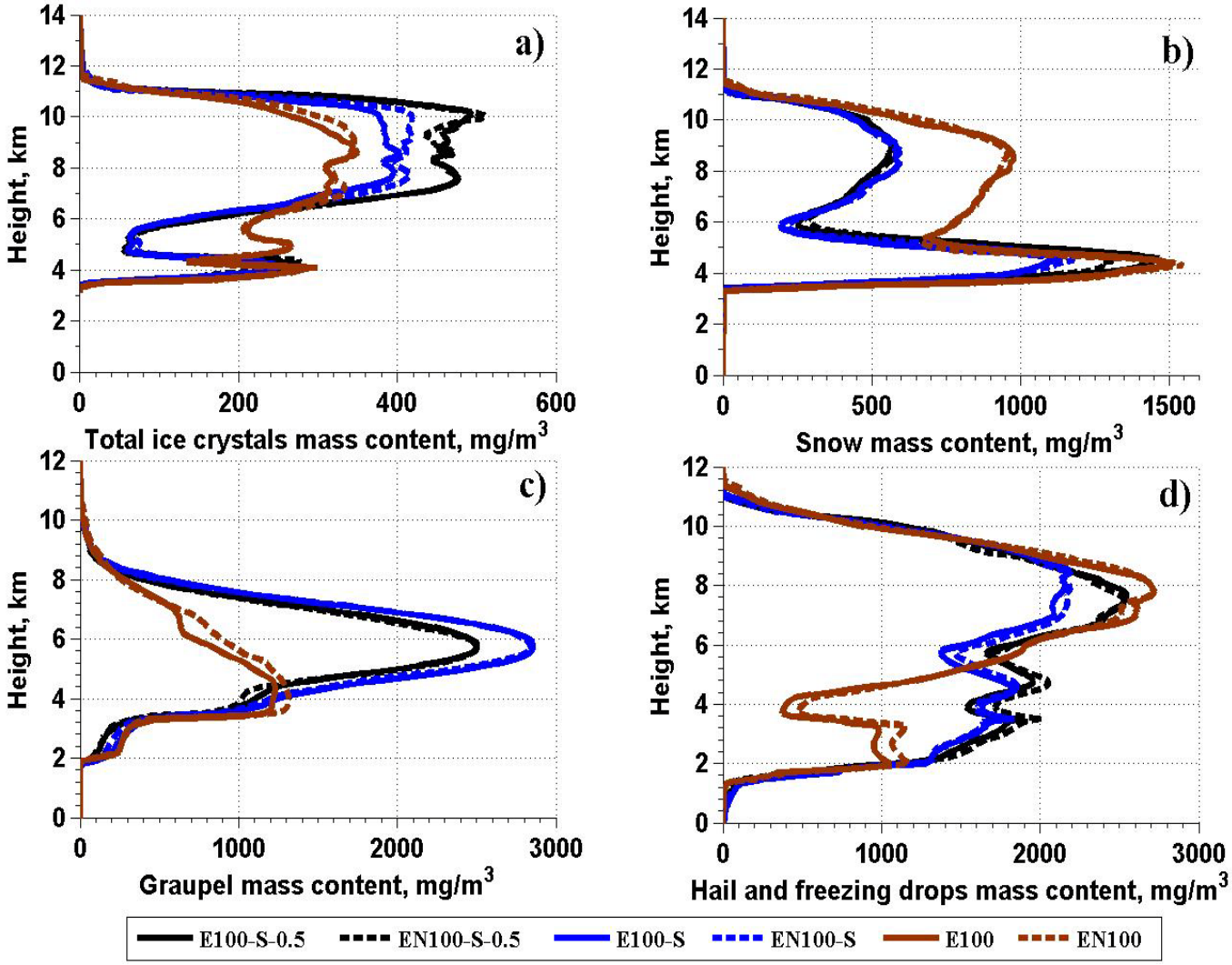

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984 **Figure 9.** Vertical profiles of the maximum values of mass content: (a) total ice crystals, (b)
985 snow, (c) graupel and (d) total hail and freezing drops in the simulations with low CCN
986 concentration. The profiles are obtained by averaging over the time period of 3420-4020s.

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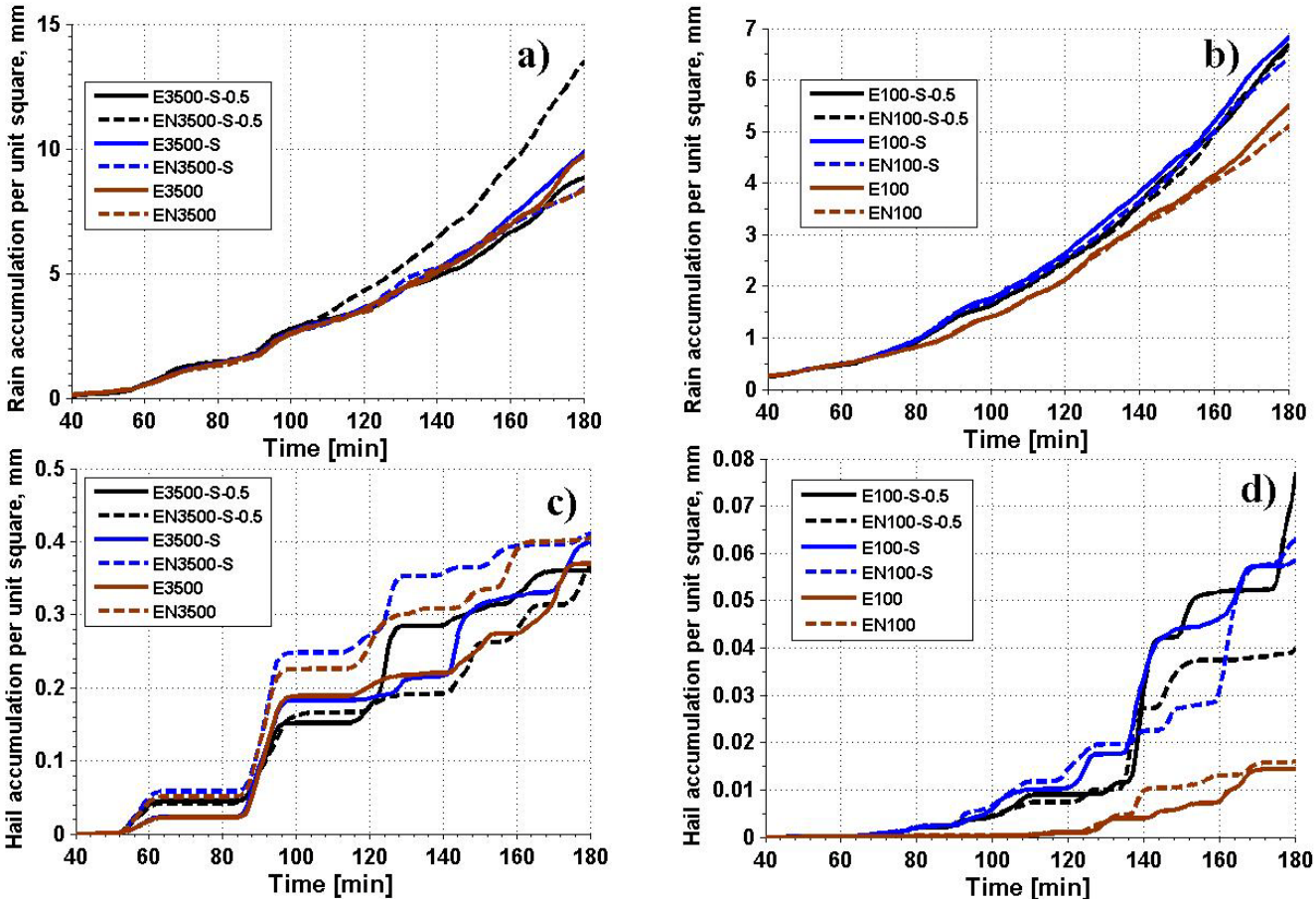

Figure 10. Time dependencies of (a) accumulated rain at surface for polluted and (b) for clean. Accumulated hail at the surface for polluted (c) and for clean (d) in different simulations in polluted cases.