# Coagulation of fractal-like aerosols in the transition regime

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#### **Aerosols** *Radiative Forcing - Emissions*



- Larger error bar than greenhouse gases
- Impact in global radiation budget by absorbing & scattering light
- Investigate & regulate emissions from aerosol measurements



# Goal:

Understanding agglomerate

- Structure (relate to agglomerate mass)
- Dynamics

in the *free molecular*, *transition* and *continuum* regime of aged aerosols in the atmosphere

### **Motivation:**

Connect emissions to aerosol size measurements

 $r_{va} \leftrightarrow r_g, r_m$ 

• Facilitate understanding of aerosol contribution in climate forcing (minimize hopefully error bar)

#### **Previous Work**

- Brownian coagulation of spheres<sup>1,2</sup>
- Non-spherical particles determination of evolving structure<sup>3,4,5</sup>

collisional growth and dynamics<sup>6</sup>

# on-line measurements of agglomerate size and structure<sup>7,8</sup>

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#### Free molecular regime: Event-driven method<sup>1</sup>

 $\overline{u}_p =$ 

Ballistic trajectories:

BCCA

SiO<sub>2</sub> particles (like fly ash)  $T = 27 \circ C$ 

**Continuum regime: Langevin Dynamics**<sup>2</sup>



1. Allen MP, & Tildesley DJ. (1991). Computer Simulation of Liquids, Oxford University Press, New York.

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#### Validation – Full Coalescence Collision Frequency Function, β





Enhancement due to polydispersity & attainment of self-preserving size distribution

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2. Fuchs NA. (1964). Mechanics of Aerosols. Macmillan, New York.

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1. Eggersdorfer ML, Pratsinis SE. (2014) Adv. Powder Technol., 24, 71-90.

#### **Results – Agglomerate Structure Evolution**



#### **Results – Agglomerate Structure Evolution**



#### **Results – Geometric Standard Deviation**



1. Vemury S, Pratsinis SE. (1995). J. Aerosol Sci. 26: 175-185.



 $D_f$  evolution from spherical to fractal-like structures:  $D_f = f(n_p)$ 

#### **Geometric Standard Deviation of Quasi-Self-Preserving**

	Spheres		Agglomerates			
	FM	Continuum	FM	Continuu	m	
• $\sigma_{a,v}$	1.33	1.32	1.41	1.31		
• $\sigma_{am}$	1.46	1.44	2.03	-		
• $\sigma_{\!g,g}$	1.46	1.44	2.27	1.95	$\sigma_{g,g} = f(Kn_{D,m})$	12

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!