

1 **Sensitivity of cloud phase distribution to cloud microphysics and**  
2 **thermodynamics in simulated deep convective clouds and SEVIRI**  
3 **retrievals**

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23 **Abstract:**

24 The formation of ice in clouds is an important process in mixed-phase clouds, and  
25 the radiative properties and dynamical developments of clouds strongly depend on  
26 their partitioning between liquid and ice phases. In this study, we investigate the  
27 sensitivities of the cloud phase to ice-nucleating particle (INP) concentration and  
28 thermodynamics. Experiments are conducted using the ICOSahedral Nonhydrostatic  
29 model (ICON) at the convection-permitting resolution of about 1.2 km on a domain  
30 covering significant parts of central Europe, and are compared to two different  
31 retrieval products based on SEVIRI measurements. We select a day with multiple  
32 isolated deep convective clouds, reaching a homogeneous freezing temperature at  
33 the cloud top. The simulated cloud liquid pixel fractions are found to decrease with  
34 increasing INP concentration both within clouds and at the cloud top. The decrease  
35 in cloud liquid pixel fraction is not monotonic but is stronger in high INP cases.  
36 Cloud-top glaciation temperatures shift toward warmer temperatures with increasing  
37 INP concentration by as much as 8 °C. Moreover, the impact of INP concentration on  
38 cloud phase partitioning is more pronounced at the cloud top than within the cloud.  
39 Moreover, initial and lateral boundary temperature fields are perturbed with  
40 increasing and decreasing temperature increments from 0 to +/-3K and +/-5K  
41 between 3 and 12 km. Perturbing the initial thermodynamic state is also found to  
42 affect the cloud phase distribution systematically. However, the simulated cloud-top  
43 liquid pixel fraction, diagnosed using radiative transfer simulations as input to a  
44 satellite forward operator and two different satellite remote sensing retrieval  
45 algorithms, deviates from one of the satellite products regardless of perturbations in  
46 the INP concentration or the initial thermodynamic state for warmer sub-zero  
47 temperatures, while agreeing with the other retrieval scheme much better, in  
48 particular for the high INP and high convective available potential energy (CAPE)  
49 scenarios. Perturbing the initial thermodynamic state, which artificially increases the  
50 instability of the mid- and upper-troposphere, brings the simulated cloud-top liquid  
51 pixel fraction closer to the satellite observations, especially in the warmer mixed-  
52 phase temperature range.

53  
54 **Keywords:** Mixed-phase clouds, deep convection, INP, thermodynamics, satellite  
55 forward operator, remote-sensing retrieval algorithms

56

57 **Key points:**

- 58 1. Cloud properties are retrieved using a satellite forward operator and remote  
59 sensing retrieval algorithms with ICON simulations as input. To our knowledge,  
60 it is the first time this approach has been used to retrieve cloud phase and other  
61 microphysical variables.
- 62 2. Glaciation temperature shifts towards a warmer temperature with increasing  
63 INP concentration both within the cloud and at the cloud top. Initial  
64 thermodynamic states affect the cloud phase distribution significantly as well.
- 65 3. Simulated cloud-top liquid pixel fraction matches the satellite observations in  
66 the high INP and high CAPE scenarios.

67

## 68 1. Introduction

69 In the temperature range between 0 and  $-38^{\circ}\text{C}$ , ice particles and supercooled liquid  
70 droplets can coexist in mixed-phase clouds. Mixed-phase clouds are ubiquitous in  
71 Earth's atmosphere, occurring at all latitudes from the poles to the tropics. Because  
72 of their widespread nature, mixed-phase processes play a critical role in the life cycle  
73 of clouds, precipitation formation, cloud electrification, and the radiative energy  
74 balance on both regional and global scales ([Korolev et al., 2017](#)). Deep convective  
75 clouds are always mixed-phase clouds, and their cloud tops reach the homogeneous  
76 freezing temperature,  $-38^{\circ}\text{C}$ , in most cases. Despite the importance of mixed-phase  
77 clouds in shaping global weather and climate, microphysical processes for mixed-  
78 phase cloud formation and development are still poorly understood, especially ice  
79 formation processes. It is not surprising that the representation of mixed-phase  
80 clouds is one of the big challenges in weather and climate models ([McCoy et al.,  
81 2016](#); [Korolev et al., 2017](#); [Hoose et al., 2018](#); [Takeishi and Storelvmo, 2018](#); [Vignon  
82 et al., 2021](#); [Zhao et al., 2021](#)).

83  
84 The distribution of cloud phase has been found to impact cloud thermodynamics and  
85 Earth's radiation budget significantly ([Korolev et al., 2017](#); [Matus and L'Ecuyer,  
86 2017](#); [Hawker et al., 2021](#)). The freezing of liquid droplets releases latent heat and  
87 hence affects the thermodynamic state of clouds. Moreover, distinct optical  
88 properties of liquid droplets and ice particles exert different impacts on cloud's  
89 shortwave and longwave radiation. Simulation and observation studies reported that  
90 the cloud phase in the mixed-phase temperature range of convective clouds is  
91 influenced by aerosol and plays a significant role in the development into deeper  
92 convective systems ([Li et al., 2013](#); [Sheffield et al., 2015](#); [Mecikalski et al., 2016](#)).  
93 Observational studies reveal that the cloud phase distribution is highly temperature-  
94 dependent and influenced by multiple factors, for example, cloud type and cloud  
95 microphysics ([Rosenfeld et al., 2011](#); [Coopman et al., 2020](#)). Analyzing passive  
96 satellite observations of mixed-phase clouds over the Southern Ocean, [Coopman et  
97 al. \(2021\)](#) found that cloud ice fraction increases with increasing cloud effective  
98 radius. Analysis of both passive and active satellite datasets reveals an increase in  
99 supercooled liquid fraction with cloud optical thickness ([Bruno et al., 2021](#)).

100

101 A number of in-situ observations of mixed-phase clouds have been made in the past  
102 several decades, covering stratiform clouds ([Pinto, 1998](#); [Korolev and Isaac, 2006](#);  
103 [Noh et al., 2013](#)) and convective clouds ([Rosenfeld and Woodley, 2000](#); [Stith et al.,  
104 2004](#); [Taylor et al., 2016](#)). Aircraft-based observations of mixed-phase clouds  
105 properties reveal that the frequency distribution of the ice water fraction has a U-  
106 shape with two explicit maxima, one for ice water fraction smaller than 0.1 and the  
107 other for ice water fraction larger than 0.9, and the frequency of occurrence of mixed-  
108 phase clouds is approximately constant when the ice water fraction is in the range  
109 between 0.2 and 0.5 ([Korolev et al., 2003](#); [Field et al., 2004](#); [Korolev et al., 2017](#)).  
110 These findings are very useful constraints of numerical models ([Lohmann and  
111 Hoose, 2009](#); [Grabowski et al., 2019](#)). However, in-situ observations of mixed-phase  
112 cloud microphysics are technically difficult and sparse in terms of spatial and  
113 temporal coverage. Thus, understanding ice formation processes and determining  
114 the climatological significance of mixed-phase clouds have proved difficult using  
115 existing in-situ observations only.

116

117 Both observations and simulations reveal that ice-nucleating particles (INPs) impact  
118 deep convective cloud properties including the persistence of deep convective  
119 clouds and precipitation ([Twohy, 2015](#); [Fan et al., 2016](#)). However, the impact of  
120 INPs on precipitation from deep convective clouds is still uncertain and may depend  
121 on precipitation and cloud types ([van den Heever et al., 2006](#); [Min et al., 2009](#); [Fan  
122 et al., 2010](#); [Li and Min, 2010](#)). Although the effects of INPs on convective  
123 precipitation are not conclusive, it is certain that the interactions between convective  
124 clouds and INPs affect cloud microphysical properties and hence cloud phase  
125 distributions. In addition, previous numerical modeling studies on cloud-aerosols  
126 interactions have focused on influences of aerosols acting as cloud condensation  
127 nuclei (CCN) ([Fan et al., 2016](#)), which are linked to the ice phase e.g. through  
128 impacts on the riming efficiency ([Barrett and Hoose, 2023](#)). Given the limited  
129 knowledge on ice formation in deep convective clouds and significant uncertainties in  
130 ice nucleation parameterizations, it is necessary to conduct sensitivity simulations to  
131 investigate how ice formation processes are influenced by INP concentrations and  
132 thermodynamic states in deep convective clouds.

133

134 In this study, with the help of realistic convection-permitting simulations using two-  
135 moment microphysics, we address how and to what extent INP concentration and  
136 thermodynamic state affect the in-cloud and cloud-top phase distributions in deep  
137 convective clouds. In particular, cloud properties are retrieved using a satellite  
138 forward operator and remote sensing retrieval algorithms with radiative transfer  
139 simulations as input for a fair comparison to observations from SEVIRI. This method  
140 allows us to compare model simulated cloud properties with remote sensing cloud  
141 products directly, and is, to our knowledge, the first time this approach is used for the  
142 cloud phase and related microphysical variables. We aim to evaluate the satellite  
143 retrieval algorithms and investigate whether passive satellite cloud products can  
144 detect cloud microphysical and thermodynamical perturbations.

145

146 This paper is structured as follows: In section 2, we introduce our model setups and  
147 the experiment design, the satellite forward operator, remote sensing retrieval  
148 algorithms, and datasets. Simulation results for the sensitivity experiments are  
149 shown in section 3. Section 4 presents discussions; and we summarize the study  
150 and draw conclusions in section 5.

## 151 **2. Data and Method**

### 152 **2.1. Model description**

153 The Icosahedral Nonhydrostatic (ICON) model ([Zängl et al., 2015](#)) is a state-of-the-  
154 art unified modeling system offering three physics packages, which are dedicated to  
155 numerical weather prediction (NWP), climate simulation, and large-eddy simulation.  
156 ICON is a fully compressible model and has been developed collaboratively between  
157 the German Weather Service (DWD), Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, German  
158 Climate Computing Center (DKRZ), and Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). In  
159 order to maximize the model performance and to remove the singularity at the poles,  
160 ICON solves the prognostic variables suggested by [Gassmann and Herzog \(2008\)](#),  
161 on an unstructured triangular grid with C-type staggering based on a successive  
162 refinement of a spherical icosahedron ([Wan et al., 2013](#)). Governing equations are  
163 described in [Wan et al. \(2013\)](#) and [Zängl et al. \(2015\)](#). The DWD has operated the  
164 ICON model at a spatial resolution of about 13 km on the global scale since January  
165 2015. In the global ICON, the higher-resolution ICON-EU (resolution 7 km) nesting

166 area for Europe has been embedded since July 2015. In this study, ICON-2.6.4 with  
167 the NWP physics package is used and initial and lateral boundary conditions are  
168 provided by the ICON-EU analyses.

169

170 For cloud microphysics, we use an updated version of the two-moment cloud  
171 microphysics scheme developed by [Seifert and Beheng \(2006\)](#). The two-moment  
172 scheme predicts the number and mass mixing ratios of two liquid (cloud and rain)  
173 and four solid (ice, graupel, snow, and hail) hydrometers. The cloud condensation  
174 nuclei (CCN) activation is described following the parameterization developed by  
175 [Hande et al. \(2016\)](#). Homogeneous freezing, including freezing of liquid water  
176 droplets and liquid aerosols, is parametrized according to [Kärcher et al. \(2006\)](#).  
177 Heterogeneous ice nucleation, including the immersion and deposition modes, is  
178 parameterized as a function of temperature- and ice supersaturation-dependent INP  
179 concentration ([Hande et al., 2015](#)). The INP concentration due to immersion  
180 nucleation is described as the following equation:

$$181 \quad C_{INP}(T_K) = A \times \exp[-B \times (T_K - T_{min})^C] \quad (1)$$

182 where  $T_k$  is the ambient temperature in Kelvin;  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are fitting constants with  
183 different values to represent seasonally varying dust INP concentrations. The  
184 parameterization for deposition INPs is simply scaled to the diagnosed relative  
185 humidity with respect to ice ( $RH_{ice}$ ):

$$186 \quad C_{INP}(T_K, RH_{ice}) \approx C_{INP}(T_K) \times DSF(RH_{ice}) \quad (2)$$

$$187 \quad DSF(RH_{ice}) = a \times \arctan(b \times (RH_{ice} - 100) + c) + d \quad (3)$$

188 where  $C_{INP}(T_K)$  is given by Equation (1);  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  are constants. More details  
189 are found in [Hande et al. \(2015\)](#).

## 190 **2.2. Simulation setup and sensitivity experiments**

191 In this study, the setup consists of two different domains with one-way nesting  
192 covering a major part of central Europe (Figure 1). The horizontal resolution for the  
193 nested domains is halved from 2400 m to 1200 m in the innermost domain, and the  
194 time steps for the two domains are 12 s and 6 s, respectively. 150 vertical levels are  
195 used, with a grid stretching towards the model top at 21 km. The vertical resolution is  
196 the same for all horizontal resolutions and the lowest 1000 m encompass 20 layers.  
197 A 1-D vertical turbulence diffusion and transfer scheme is used for the 2400 m and

198 1200 m resolutions, referred to as numerical weather prediction (NWP) physics.  
199 Deep convection is assumed to be explicitly resolved, while shallow convection is  
200 parameterized for both domains. The simulations are initialized at 00:00 UTC on the  
201 study day from ICON-EU analyses and integrated for 24 hours. Simulation results  
202 were saved every 15 minutes. At the lateral boundaries of the outer domain, the  
203 simulation of the model is updated with 3-hourly ICON-EU analyses. The nested  
204 domains are coupled online, and the outer domain provides lateral boundary  
205 conditions to the inner domain.

206

207 In nature, INP concentration varies across multiple orders of magnitude ([Hoose and](#)  
208 [Möhler, 2012](#); [Kanji et al., 2017](#)). Thus, in our sensitivity experiments, heterogeneous  
209 ice formation was scaled by multiplying the default INP concentration (Equation (1))  
210 with a factor of  $10^{-2}$ ,  $10^{-1}$ ,  $10^1$ ,  $10^2$ ,  $10^3$  for both immersion freezing and deposition ice  
211 nucleation. Together with a case with default INP concentration (case CTRL) and  
212 one case switching off the secondary-ice production via rime-splintering process (the  
213 so called Hallet-Mossop process), 7 cases were created in total to investigate the  
214 impact of primary and secondary ice formation on cloud phase distribution in deep  
215 convective clouds.

216

217 In order to assess the sensitivity of the cloud phase to thermodynamics, initial and  
218 lateral boundary temperature fields are modified with increasing and decreasing  
219 temperature increments, named experiments INC and DEC, respectively. The  
220 temperature increment is linearly increased/decreased with height from 0 K at 3 km  
221 to +/-3K and +/-5K at 12 km, creating 4 sensitivity experiments DEC03, DEC05,  
222 INC03, and INC05. Above 12 km, the increment is constant up to the model top.  
223 Initial temperature profiles are shown in Figure 2. The increasing or decreasing  
224 environmental temperature leads to changes in the lapse rate and the stability of the  
225 atmosphere, and hence results in decrease or increase in the convective available  
226 potential energy (CAPE), respectively ([Barthlott and Hoose, 2018](#)). Thus, the CAPE  
227 increases monotonically from case INC05 (spatial-averaged CAPE at 9:00 UTC: 413  
228  $\text{J kg}^{-1}$ ) to case CTRL ( $724 \text{ J kg}^{-1}$ ) and finally to DEC05 ( $1235 \text{ J kg}^{-1}$ ). Note that the  
229 relative humidity increases/decreases with decreasing/increasing temperature as the  
230 specific humidity is unperturbed. The perturbations of INP concentration and  
231 initial/lateral temperature profiles are motivated by [Hoose et al. \(2018\)](#) and [Barthlott](#)



232 [and Hoose \(2018\)](#), respectively. Complementary to these earlier studies, we now  
233 investigate an ensemble of several deep convective clouds and focus on influences  
234 of INP and thermodynamics on cloud phase distribution. Short descriptions of all  
235 sensitivity experiments performed in this study are listed in Table 1.

### 236 **2.3. Satellite observations and retrieval algorithms**

237 The Spinning Enhanced Visible and Infrared Imager (SEVIRI) is a 12-channel imager  
238 on board the geostationary Meteosat Second Generation (MSG) satellites. SEVIRI  
239 has one high spatial resolution visible channel (HRV) and 11 spectral channels from  
240 0.6 to 14  $\mu\text{m}$  with a 15 min revisit cycle and a spatial resolution of 3 km at nadir  
241 ([Schmetz et al., 2002](#)). Based on the spectral measurements of SEVIRI, a cloud  
242 property data record, the CLAAS-2 dataset (CLOUD property dAtAset using SEVIRI,  
243 Edition 2), has been generated in the framework of the EUMETSAT Satellite  
244 Application Facility on Climate Monitoring (CM SAF) ([Benas et al., 2017](#)). CLAAS-2  
245 is the successor of CLAAS-1 ([Stengel et al., 2014](#)), for which retrieval updates have  
246 been implemented in the algorithm for the detection of clouds compared to CLAAS-1  
247 ([Benas et al., 2017](#)) with the temporal coverage being extended to 2004-2015.  
248 Retrieval algorithms for parameters that are important for this study are introduced  
249 below. Detailed descriptions for the retrieval algorithms are found in [Stengel et al.](#)  
250 [\(2014\)](#) and [Benas et al. \(2017\)](#) with the main features being summarized in the  
251 following.

252

253 The MSGv2012 software package is employed to detect clouds and their vertical  
254 placement ([Derrien and Le Gléau, 2005](#); [Benas et al., 2017](#)). Multi-spectral threshold  
255 tests, which depend on illumination and surface types, among other factors, are  
256 performed to detect cloud appearances. Each satellite pixel is assigned to categories  
257 of cloud-filled, cloud-free, cloud water contaminated, or snow/ice contaminated.  
258 Cloud top pressure (CTP) is retrieved with different approaches using input from  
259 SEVIRI channels at 6.2, 7.3, 10.8, 12.0, and 13.4  $\mu\text{m}$  ([Menzel et al., 1983](#); [Schmetz](#)  
260 [et al., 1993](#); [Stengel et al., 2014](#); [Benas et al., 2017](#)). Cloud top height (CTH) and  
261 cloud top temperature (CTT) are derived from CTP using ancillary data for  
262 temperature and humidity profiles from ERA-Interim ([Dee et al., 2011](#)). The cloud top  
263 phase (CPH) retrieval is based on a revised version of the multispectral algorithm

264 developed by [Pavolonis et al. \(2005\)](#). Clouds are categorized initially into six types,  
265 that are liquid, supercooled, opaque ice, cirrus, overlap, and overshooting.  
266 Subsequently, the binary cloud phase (liquid or ice) is generated based on the six  
267 categories ([Benas et al., 2017](#)). Cloud optical and microphysical properties are  
268 retrieved using the Cloud Physical Properties (CPP) algorithm ([Roebeling et al.,  
269 2006](#)). SEVIRI visible (0.6  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and near-infrared (1.6  $\mu\text{m}$ ) measurements are used  
270 to calculate cloud optical thickness (COT) and cloud particle effective radius ( $r_e$ ) by  
271 applying the [Nakajima and King \(1990\)](#) approach in the CPP algorithm ([Stengel et  
272 al., 2014](#); [Benas et al., 2017](#)). Liquid water path (LWP) and ice water path (IWP) are  
273 then computed as a function of liquid/ice water density, COT, and  $r_e$  of cloud water  
274 and cloud ice following the scheme developed by [Stephens \(1978\)](#).

275

276 In this study we used instantaneous CLAAS-2 data with temporal resolution of 15  
277 minutes and on native SEVIRI projection and resolution. In addition to the CLAAS-2  
278 dataset, the recently developed software suite SEVIRI\_ML (Philipp and Stengel  
279 (2023) in preparation; code available on Github:

280 [https://github.com/danielphilipp/seviri\\_ml](https://github.com/danielphilipp/seviri_ml)) was applied to the SEVIRI measurements  
281 to obtain cloud top phase and cloud top temperature for the selected case.

282 SEVIRI\_ML uses a machine learning approach calibrated against Cloud-Aerosol  
283 Lidar with Orthogonal Polarization (CALIOP) data. One feature of the SEVIRI\_ML is  
284 that it also provides pixel-based uncertainties such that values with low reliability can  
285 be filtered out. We applied the retrieval algorithms to the model simulations in this  
286 study and compared the results to satellite observations. A similar strategy was used  
287 by [Kay et al. \(2018\)](#) for the evaluation of precipitation in a climate model with  
288 CloudSat observations and termed “scale-aware and definition-aware evaluation”.

## 289 **2.4. Satellite forward operators**

290 In order to compare simulation results and satellite observations directly, SEVIRI-like  
291 spectral reflectance and brightness temperatures are calculated using the radiative  
292 transfer model for TOVS (RTTOV, v12.3)([Saunders et al., 2018](#)). RTTOV is a fast  
293 radiative transfer model for simulating top-of-atmosphere radiances from passive  
294 visible, infrared, and microwave downward-viewing satellite radiometers. It has been  
295 widely used in simulating synthetic satellite images and assimilating radiances in

296 numerical models ([Saunders et al., 2018](#); [Pscheidt et al., 2019](#); [Senf et al., 2020](#);  
297 [Geiss et al., 2021](#); [Rybka et al., 2021](#)).

298

299 In this work, ICON simulated surface skin temperature, near-surface pressure,  
300 temperature, specific humidity, wind velocity, total liquid water content, total ice water  
301 content, and effective radius of cloud liquid and cloud ice are used as input to drive  
302 the RTTOV model. Before inputting to the RTTOV model, ICON simulations are  
303 remapped onto SEVIRI's full disc coordinate. Brightness temperatures from 8  
304 channels (at 3.9, 6.2, 7.3, 8.7, 9.7, 10.8, 12.0, and 13.4  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and reflectance from 3  
305 channels (at 0.6, 0.8, and 1.6  $\mu\text{m}$ ) simulated by the RTTOV model are used as input  
306 to run the remote sensing retrieval algorithms to derive CLAAS-2-like and  
307 SEVIRI\_ML-like retrievals, named ICON\_RTTOV\_CLAAS-2 and  
308 ICON\_RTTOV\_SEVIRI\_ML products, respectively.

## 309 **2.5. Synoptic overview**

310 The day 06 June 2016 was selected to analyze, which was dominated by  
311 summertime deep convection located in central Europe. The synoptic forcing was  
312 weak on the day, and convection was triggered mainly by local thermal instabilities.  
313 The day has been discussed frequently in previous studies in terms of convection  
314 triggering, cloud microphysics, and its parameterizations ([Keil et al., 2019](#); [Geiss et  
315 al., 2021](#)).

## 316 **3. Results and discussion**

317 Perturbing INP concentration and temperature profiles directly affects microphysical  
318 and thermodynamic processes of the developing deep convective clouds, and hence  
319 impact in-cloud and cloud-top phase distributions. The following section shows  
320 results and discussions on the sensitivities of cloud phase and cloud microphysics to  
321 INP concentration and thermodynamic perturbations.

### 322 **3.1. Spatial distribution of cloud properties**

323 Before analyzing the results of sensitivity experiments, retrieved cloud properties via  
324 RTTOV and the CLAAS-2 retrieval scheme for the CTRL case are compared to  
325 CLAAS-2 products. Spatial distributions of derived LWP, IWP, and COT at 13:00

326 UTC of the CTRL case and CLAAS-2 satellite observation are shown in Figure 3.  
327 Discrepancies are found between ICON simulation and CLAAS-2 satellite  
328 observations in terms of spatial coverage and intensity. The ICON simulation  
329 overestimates the cloud coverage of low-level liquid clouds compared to CLAAS-2  
330 satellite observations, while LWP derived from the ICON simulation (case CTRL) is  
331 smaller and more homogeneously distributed than that from the CLAAS-2  
332 observation (Figure 3a and 3b). The spatial distributions of IWP and COT represent  
333 the approximate location and spatial extension of deep convective clouds in this  
334 study. The ICON simulation could reproduce cores of deep convective clouds of a  
335 number and spacing comparable to observations, while the spatial extension and  
336 intensity of individual deep convective clouds are not simulated very well by the  
337 ICON model. The ICON simulation underestimates the spatial extension of deep  
338 convective clouds but overestimates IWP and COT outside the convective cores  
339 compared to the CLAAS-2 observation (Figure 3c-f).

340

341 Overall, the simulated clouds appear to be too homogeneous without sufficient  
342 internal structure. [Geiss et al. \(2021\)](#) also reported significant deviations between  
343 model simulations and satellite observations. The error sources are manifold and  
344 may originate from the model physics as well as from the forward operator and the  
345 retrieval algorithm. [Geiss et al. \(2021\)](#) investigated the sensitivity of derived visible  
346 and infrared observation equivalents to model physics and operator settings. They  
347 found that the uncertainty of the visible forward operator is sufficiently low while  
348 infrared channels could bring errors in cloud-top variables. [Geiss et al. \(2021\)](#)  
349 concluded that the primary source of deviations is mainly from model physics,  
350 especially model assumptions on subgrid-scale clouds. In addition to the subgrid-  
351 scale cloud scheme, multiple critical cloud microphysical processes missing from the  
352 model, introducing significant uncertainties into the simulation results. For example,  
353 entrainment mixing process is not resolved or parameterized in the model, which has  
354 essential influences on processes at cloud boundaries and hence the cloud  
355 properties ([Mellado, 2017](#)). Moreover, secondary ice processes including droplet  
356 shattering and collisional breakup due to ice particles collisions are missing, which  
357 have significant impacts on the cloud ice microphysics ([Sullivan et al., 2018](#);  
358 [Sotiropoulou et al., 2021](#)).

### 359 3.2. Sensitivity of microphysical properties to INP perturbation

360 Perturbing INP concentration results in a direct influence on the heterogeneous  
361 freezing processes and hence impacts on cloud microphysical properties.  
362 Systematic variations have been found in the spatial- and time-averaged profiles of  
363 mass mixing ratios of cloud hydrometeors as shown in Figure 4. All profiles  
364 discussed here are averaged over cloudy pixels (defined as having a condensed  
365 mass of cloud water plus total cloud ice greater than a threshold of  $1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ kg kg}^{-1}$ )  
366 and over the time period from 9:00 to 19:00 UTC, when convection was well  
367 developed. The mass concentration of ice crystals decreases with increasing INP  
368 concentration (Figure 4a). However, the mass concentration of snow, graupel, and  
369 rainwater increase with increasing INP concentration, especially in the high INP  
370 concentration cases (cases  $A \times 10^2$  and  $A \times 10^3$ ).

371

372 In order to further reveal why ice crystal mass concentration decreases with  
373 increasing INP concentration, we investigate process rates related to ice particle  
374 nucleation and growth. Figure 5 shows spatial- and time-averaged (from 9:00 to  
375 19:00 UTC) profiles of process rates for homogeneous freezing, heterogeneous  
376 freezing, secondary ice production via the rime-splintering process, cloud droplets  
377 rimed with ice crystals, rain droplets rimed with ice crystals, and collection between  
378 ice and ice crystals. Heterogeneous freezing (Figure 5a) includes processes of  
379 immersion freezing, deposition ice nucleation, and immersion freezing of liquid  
380 aerosols ([Kärcher et al., 2006](#); [Hande et al., 2015](#)), see also equations (1) and (2).  
381 Process rates of heterogeneous freezing increase significantly with increasing INP  
382 concentration compared to the CTRL (Figure 5a). Compensating the change in  
383 heterogeneous freezing, process rates of homogeneous freezing decrease  
384 significantly with increasing INP concentration (Figure 5b). However, a decrease in  
385 INP concentration (compared to the CTRL) does not have a strong influence on the  
386 heterogeneous freezing mass rate, which is already low compared to the other  
387 processes in CTRL. Riming processes of cloud droplets and rain droplets onto ice  
388 crystals are greatly invigorated due to enhanced INP concentration (Figure 5d and  
389 5e). Moreover, process rates of secondary ice production due to rime-splintering are  
390 strengthened as well due to the increase in rimed ice, albeit much lower values.  
391 Figure 5f shows process rates of collection between ice and ice crystals. Process

392 rates of collection between ice and ice particles increase with increasing INP  
393 concentration, especially in high INP concentration cases (cases  $A \times 10^2$  and  $A \times 10^3$ ).  
394 Process rates of collection of other ice particles all increase with increasing INP  
395 concentration, similar to the collection between ice and ice crystals (not shown). The  
396 increase in the riming of clouds and rain droplets onto ice crystals and collections  
397 between ice particles leads to the increase in the mass concentration of snow,  
398 graupel, and hail (Figure 4b and 4c). However, the total mass increase in snow,  
399 graupel, and hail do not outbalance the decrease in the mass concentration of ice  
400 crystals (Figure 4). The weakened homogeneous freezing is most likely the dominant  
401 factor leading to the decrease in ice mass concentration in high INP cases,  
402 considering the magnitude of the process rate of homogeneous freezing (Figure 5b).  
403 Supercooled liquid and cloud droplets have been converted into ice crystals before  
404 reaching the homogeneous freezing layer, leading to fewer supercooled droplets  
405 remaining for homogeneous freezing. Even though homogeneous freezing is  
406 weakened in high INP cases, the process rate of homogeneous freezing is still larger  
407 than heterogeneous freezing, which means homogeneous freezing is the dominant  
408 ice formation process in the convective clouds discussed in this study. Moreover, the  
409 enhanced production of large ice particles (snow, graupel, and hail) in the highest  
410 INP case, which sediment more rapidly to lower levels, leads to increased surface  
411 precipitation by about 10% in the  $A \times 10^3$  case (not shown). Interestingly, ice crystal  
412 effective radius ( $r_e^{ice}$ ) increases monotonically with increasing INP concentration,  
413 especially in the mixed-phase layer (Figure 4e). [Zhao et al. \(2019\)](#) also reported an  
414 increased  $r_e^{ice}$  with polluted continental aerosols in their simulated moderate  
415 convection cases, and they attributed it to enhanced heterogeneous freezing and  
416 prolonged ice crystal growth at higher INP loading.

417

418 This competition between homogeneous and heterogeneous freezing has been  
419 discussed in previous studies ([Heymsfield et al., 2005](#); [Deng et al., 2018](#); [Takeishi  
420 and Storelvmo, 2018](#)). In contrast, simulations of mixed-phase moderately deep  
421 convective clouds by [Miltenberger and Field \(2021\)](#) indicate that cloud ice mass  
422 concentration increases with increasing INP concentration, which is in opposition to  
423 the findings in this work. The main reason is that the CTT is about  $-18^\circ\text{C}$  in  
424 [Miltenberger and Field \(2021\)](#)'s study, and heterogeneous freezing does not

425 compete with homogeneous freezing. Thus, results on INPs effects on glaciation  
426 processes in convective clouds can be opposite under different conditions.

### 427 **3.3. Cloud liquid mass fraction**

428 Varying the INP concentration has a direct impact on the primary ice formation.  
429 Thus, it affects cloud liquid mass fraction within the clouds (directly for all cloudy  
430 layers where heterogeneous freezing is active and indirectly for warmer and colder  
431 temperatures) and at the cloud top. Cloud liquid mass fraction is defined as the ratio  
432 of mass mixing ratio between cloud droplets ( $q_c$ ) and the sum of cloud droplets and  
433 cloud ice crystals ( $q_i$ ). In-cloud liquid mass fraction, sampled at a time interval of 15  
434 minutes between 9:00 to 19:00 from all cloudy pixels, is shown as scatterplots  
435 versus temperature in Figure 6a-d. The corresponding frequencies of the occurrence  
436 of the temperature/liquid fraction bins are shown in Figure 6e-h. Similar analyses  
437 were made by [Hoose et al. \(2018\)](#), but for idealized simulations of deep convective  
438 clouds. In-cloud liquid mass fractions smaller than 0.5 are quite common already at  
439 temperature just below  $-3\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  except for the case without rime-splintering process  
440 ( $A \times 10^0$ \_NSIP). The decrease in INP concentrations has limited effects on the in-  
441 cloud liquid mass fraction (Figure 6c and 6g), while a stronger influence has been  
442 found in the case with enhanced INP concentration (Figure 6d and 6h). The number  
443 of pixels having high liquid mass fraction values at temperatures lower than  $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$   
444 decreases with increasing INP concentration. In addition, more and more pixels  
445 having liquid mass fraction smaller than 0.5 appear with increasing INP  
446 concentration and the number of pure ice pixels increases with increasing INP  
447 concentration as well. This is because higher INP concentration intensifies the  
448 heterogeneous freezing processes (immersion freezing and deposition ice  
449 nucleation) and invigorates the rime-splintering process as well (will be discussed in  
450 section 3.4). Interestingly, at the lower end of the mixed-phase temperature range ( $-$   
451  $38 \sim -28\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ), there are fewer pixels having high liquid mass fraction in the high INP  
452 case, and those remaining are mainly the ones at high vertical velocities (above  $\sim 10$   
453 m/s). This is probably because supercooled droplets are more easily frozen in high  
454 INP cases and stronger updrafts are needed to offset the Wegener-Begeron-  
455 Findeisen process to maintain the supersaturation with respect to water. Switching  
456 off the secondary ice production via rime-splintering process, pixels having a liquid

457 mass fraction smaller than 0.9 are reduced significantly at temperatures between -  
458 10 °C and 0 °C (Figure 6b and 6f).

459

460 At the cloud top (Figure 7), the number of pixels having a liquid mass fraction smaller  
461 than 0.5 increases with increasing INP concentration, which is the same as within  
462 the clouds. “Cloud top” is defined as the height of the uppermost cloud layer (which  
463 has a condensed mass of cloud water plus cloud total cloud ice greater than a  
464 threshold of  $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  kg kg<sup>-1</sup>) in a pixel column. At the cloud top, the liquid mass  
465 fraction has a more polarized distribution, with either large values or small values,  
466 and intermediate values are less common than within the clouds. This is because the  
467 vertical velocities at the cloud top are significantly smaller compared to that within  
468 the cloud, which leads to a more efficient Wegener-Begeron-Findeisen process at  
469 the cloud top.

#### 470 **3.4. Liquid cloud pixel fraction**

471 Liquid cloud pixel fractions are calculated differently for model simulations and  
472 retrieved cloud products. For simulation results, a cloudy pixel having a cloud liquid  
473 mass fraction larger than 0.5 is counted as a liquid pixel, otherwise, it is an ice pixel.  
474 Both CLAAS-2 and SEVIRI\_ML products and the corresponding retrievals derived  
475 from ICON simulations by the satellite forward operators (see section 2.4) provide  
476 binary cloud phase information (liquid or ice) only. For these data, the liquid cloud  
477 pixel fraction is calculated as the ratio between the number of liquid cloud pixels and  
478 the sum of all cloudy pixels.

479

480 Liquid cloud pixel fractions within clouds and at the cloud top are shown in Figure 8.  
481 Decrease in INP concentration has limited impacts on the liquid cloud pixel fraction  
482 for in-cloud layers. Increase in INP concentration leads to a decrease in liquid cloud  
483 pixel fraction but not monotonically (Figure 8a). The decrease in liquid cloud pixel  
484 fraction is significant in the highest INP concentration case (case  $A \times 10^3$ ), while  
485 decreases in intermediate INP concentration cases (cases  $A \times 10^1$  and  $A \times 10^2$ ) are  
486 only obvious in temperature ranges from -30 °C to -20 °C and from -15 °C to -5 °C.  
487 Moreover, liquid mass fraction decreases monotonically with increasing INP  
488 concentration in the temperature range from about -15 to -35 °C both within the cloud



489 and at the cloud top (except for the lowest INP concentrations), and the decreasing  
490 trend is more significant at the cloud top compared to within the cloud (not shown).  
491 Switching off the rime-splintering process results in an increase in liquid cloud pixel  
492 fraction in the temperature range between -10 °C and -3 °C, which is consistent with  
493 the strong decrease in pixels of cloud liquid mass fraction lower than 0.9 in the same  
494 temperature range (Figure 7b). The temperature at which the liquid cloud pixel  
495 fraction equals 0.5 is often termed “glaciation temperature”. The glaciation  
496 temperature shifts slightly to a warmer temperature by ~2 °C at the highest INP  
497 concentration case (case  $A \times 10^3$ , Figure 8a).

498

499 Sensitivities of the cloud phase to INP concentration are more complex at the cloud  
500 top than inside the cloud. Liquid cloud pixel fractions at the cloud top calculated  
501 directly from ICON simulations on its native grid (~1200 m) are shown in Figure 8b.  
502 Cloud-top liquid pixel fraction decreases significantly with increasing INP  
503 concentration. In the temperature range between -35 °C and -15 °C, where  
504 heterogeneous freezing processes (immersion freezing and deposition nucleation)  
505 are dominant, the impact of INP is most pronounced. Above -15 °C, the impact of  
506 INP does not disappear, especially in the highest INP concentration case (case  
507  $A \times 10^3$ ). This is mostly likely due to the sedimentation of ice crystals from upper  
508 layers and the secondary ice production invigorated by the Wegener-Begeron-  
509 Findeisen process. Switching off the rime-splintering process increases cloud-top  
510 liquid pixel fraction only slightly in the temperature range from -10 °C to -3 °C and is  
511 almost identical to the control run (case CTRL) outside this temperature range.  
512 Interestingly, the shift of glaciation temperature with increasing INP concentration is  
513 about 8 °C (Figure 8b) at the cloud top, which is stronger than that inside the clouds  
514 (~2 °C, Figure 8a). A possible explanation is that, typically, the vertical velocity at the  
515 cloud top is smaller than within the cloud and the ice formation through the Wegener-  
516 Bergeron-Findeisen process is expected to be more efficient. Thus, the Wegener-  
517 Bergeron-Findeisen process is more sensitive to INP perturbation at the cloud top  
518 than within clouds, and leads to the glaciation temperature shifting to be more  
519 significant at the cloud top.

520

521 Liquid cloud pixel fractions at the cloud top calculated directly from ICON simulations  
522 on SEVIRI's grid (~ 5000 m) are shown in Figure 8c. They are noisier and do not  
523 exhibit the small minimum between -10 °C and -3 °C related to rime-splintering, but  
524 are otherwise very similar to Figure 8b. In contrast, the scale-aware and definition-  
525 aware ICON\_RTTOV\_CLAAS-2 cloud-top liquid pixel fractions shown in Figure 8d  
526 differ markedly from the direct or regridded model output. Above -23 °C, increase  
527 and decrease in INP concentration both lead to a decrease in cloud-top liquid pixel  
528 fraction at certain temperature, but the high INP concentration cases (cases  $A \times 10^2$   
529 and  $A \times 10^3$ ), still exhibit the lowest liquid fractions, and case  $A \times 10^0$ \_NSIP the highest.  
530 Thus, the fingerprints of primary and secondary ice formation are retained in the  
531 ICON\_RTTOV\_CLAAS-2 liquid fraction in this temperature range only for very strong  
532 perturbations. At the same time, it must be noted that the decrease of the liquid pixel  
533 fraction to values around 0.8 above -15 °C is not related to the rime-splintering  
534 process, but to the application of the CLAAS-2 satellite simulator. Below -23 °C, in  
535 the high INP cases  $A \times 10^2$  and  $A \times 10^3$ , cloud-top liquid pixel fractions even increase  
536 with increasing INP concentration. In moderate and low INP cases, the impacts of  
537 INP perturbation are not pronounced. Moreover, the shape of cloud-top liquid pixel  
538 fraction decreasing with cloud-top temperature is different from that in Figure 8b.  
539 Here, the fingerprints of the ice formation processes are completely lost. As  
540 demonstrated in Figure 8c, remapping of simulation data onto SEVIRI's coarser grid  
541 is not the cause of liquid pixel fraction difference between direct ICON output and the  
542 ICON\_RTTOV\_CLAAS-2 diagnostics, but the CLAAS-2 retrieval algorithm itself is  
543 responsible.

544

545 The satellite observed cloud-top liquid pixel fraction from CLAAS-2 is plotted as a  
546 grey dashed line in Figure 8d. It does not reach 1.0 for all cases even as the cloud-  
547 top temperature is approaching 0 °C, and shows a different temperature dependency  
548 than the simulated curves. No matter how strong the INP concentration and rime-  
549 splintering are perturbed, the retrieved cloud-top liquid pixel fractions from simulation  
550 data deviate strongly from the CLAAS-2 products. In this context one should note  
551 that in particular cloud edges have been found to be problematic situations for the  
552 cloud retrievals, being to some extent responsible for biasing the liquid-pixel fraction  
553 towards smaller values, in particular for the CLAAS-2 data.

554

555 Finally, the comparison to observations is repeated with the SEVIRI\_ML retrieval  
556 scheme applied to both simulated radiances (ICON\_RTTOV\_SEVIRI\_ML) and the  
557 SEVIRI observations themselves (Figure 8e). As SEVIRI\_ML provides uncertainty  
558 estimates, pixels for which either the cloud mask uncertainty or the cloud phase  
559 uncertainty is larger than 10% are filtered out. While this ensures that only very  
560 certain values are kept, it has a significant impact on the number of remaining values  
561 as more than 90% of the pixels are filtered out. The resulting liquid pixel fractions  
562 ICON\_RTTOV\_SEVIRI\_ML bear a much stronger similarity to the regrided model  
563 output in Figure 8c. Remaining differences are a noisier behavior, a plateau of non-  
564 zero liquid pixel fractions even below -40 °C, and a general shift to lower  
565 temperatures. SEVIRI\_ML applied to observations (dashed black line in Figure 8e),  
566 with the same uncertainty criterion, exhibits the expected behavior with a liquid  
567 fraction of approximately 1 above -10 °C and 0 below approximately -30 °C, and  
568 results in a very good agreement to the  $A \times 10^3$  case. Generally, the SEVIRI\_ML  
569 retrieval algorithm is assumed to perform better than the CLAAS-2 scheme for both  
570 cloud top temperature and cloud phase. This is because SEVIRI\_ML employs state-  
571 of-the-art neural networks to emulate CALIOP v4 data. Moreover, SEVIRI\_ML  
572 provides uncertainty estimates which facilitates filtering out pixels with high  
573 uncertainties. Nevertheless, retrieval inaccuracies are unavoidable for passive  
574 satellite retrievals which holds true for CLAAS-2 but also for SEVIRI\_ML.

### 575 **3.5. Sensitivity of cloud phase to atmospheric stability perturbations**

576 In addition to the reference run (case CTRL), four cases with perturbations in initial  
577 temperatures are analyzed. Mean updraft velocities increase gradually from the low  
578 CAPE case INC05 to high CAPE case DEC05 (Figure 9) and cause differences in  
579 cloud microphysics and cloud phase distributions.

580

581 In-cloud and cloud-top liquid cloud pixel fractions for the five cases are shown in  
582 Figure 10. Systematic shifting of liquid cloud pixel fractions is detected both inside  
583 clouds and at the cloud top. Liquid cloud pixel fraction decreases with increasing  
584 CAPE from INC05 to DEC05. Both in-cloud and cloud-top glaciation temperatures  
585 shift toward warmer temperatures as the CAPE increases from case INC05 to

586 DEC05. This is different from the results reported by [Hoose et al. \(2018\)](#) that cloud-  
587 top glaciation temperatures hardly changed with increasing temperature in the  
588 boundary-layer by 2 °C, and appears to be contradictory to the expectation that  
589 stronger vertical velocities result in a lower glaciation temperature due to  
590 suppression of the Wegener-Bergeron-Findeisen process ([Korolev, 2007](#)). Further  
591 analysis (not shown) revealed that the mass concentration of cloud ice particle  
592 increases while the mass concentration of cloud droplet decreases with the increase  
593 in CAPE from case INC05 to DEC05. Moreover, homogeneous and heterogeneous  
594 freezing are both enhanced in the high CAPE cases (Figure 11), possibly due to  
595 more transport of moisture to upper levels in the stronger updrafts (Figure 9). With  
596 more ice generated, the Wegener-Begeron-Findeisen process can be stimulated  
597 despite the higher updrafts. Interestingly, cloud-top liquid pixel fractions from the two  
598 high CAPE cases (cases DEC03 and DEC05) are closer to SEVIRI observations,  
599 both using the CLAAS-2 retrieval (Figure 10c) and the SEVIRI\_ML retrieval (Figure  
600 10d), especially in the temperature range between -10 and -28 °C. Overall,  
601 perturbing initial thermodynamic states or CAPE of convective clouds is as important  
602 as and may even stronger than the modifications to cloud heterogeneous freezing  
603 parameterizations.

#### 604 **4. Conclusions**

605 Remote sensing products, which cover the entire globe, provide a unique opportunity  
606 to constrain the representation of cloud microphysics in global and regional  
607 numerical models. In this study, instead of comparing simulation results to satellite  
608 observations directly, we derived cloud properties using a radiative transfer model  
609 and two different satellite remote sensing retrieval algorithms and then performed the  
610 comparison. This enables us to make apples-to-apples comparisons between model  
611 simulations and satellite observations. A series of numerical experiments were  
612 performed applying convection-permitting simulations with perturbations in INP  
613 concentrations and initial thermodynamic states to investigate their impacts on cloud  
614 phase distributions in deep convective clouds. Moreover, cloud properties were  
615 derived using a satellite forward operator and retrieval algorithms with ICON  
616 simulations as input, and compared with CLAAS-2 and SEVIRI\_ML satellite cloud  
617 products to evaluate whether satellite retrievals could detect perturbations in cloud

618 microphysics and thermodynamics. Uncertainties in the forward operator were  
619 however not assessed in this study, which may influence the validity of  
620 corresponding results in some extent.

621

622 INP concentration was found to have a significant role in shaping cloud phase  
623 distributions both within clouds and at the cloud top. Cloud liquid pixel fraction  
624 decreased with increasing INP concentration both within the cloud and at the cloud  
625 top, indicating a higher glaciation temperature and more intense heterogeneous  
626 freezing processes in enhanced INP concentration cases. Interestingly, the  
627 influences of INP did not increase linearly but are more pronounced in the high INP  
628 concentration cases. In addition, the shifting of glaciation temperature was more  
629 significant at the cloud top than within the cloud, which means the impact of INP  
630 concentration on cloud phase distribution is more pronounced at the cloud top. It  
631 turned out that with the CLAAS-2 retrieval scheme, the INP sensitivity of the cloud-  
632 top phase distribution was not detectable, while the SEVIRI\_ML retrieval scheme, for  
633 which the most uncertain pixels could be excluded, resulted in a better agreement  
634 and retained the sensitivity to INP. In contrast, secondary ice production via rime-  
635 splintering did not have a detectable impact on the cloud-top phase distribution.  
636 Therefore, in future studies, we recommend using the SEVIRI\_ML retrieval scheme  
637 and SEVIRI\_ML satellite-based cloud products.

638

639 Ice crystal mass concentration did not increase but decreases with increasing INP  
640 concentrations in the simulated deep convective clouds. Process rate analyses  
641 revealed that heterogeneous freezing process rates increased with increasing INP  
642 concentration, while homogeneous freezing process rates decreased with increasing  
643 INP concentration. The competition between heterogeneous freezing and  
644 homogeneous freezing for water vapor suppressed ice formation via homogeneous  
645 freezing, which was the dominant nucleation process in the simulated deep  
646 convective clouds, and hence reduced the cloud ice mass concentration. The  
647 increase in heterogeneous nucleation in high INP cases invigorated riming and  
648 collection processes of ice particles, making it easier for small ice crystals to grow  
649 into large ice aggregates and sediment to lower levels. This was the reason why  
650 precipitation increases in enhanced INP cases.

651

652 Perturbations in initial thermodynamic states had a strong impact on the cloud phase  
653 distribution both within the cloud and at the cloud top, although the used  
654 perturbations might be rather large compared to initial condition uncertainty in a  
655 weather forecasting context. Moreover, cloud thermodynamics can perturb the cloud  
656 phase distribution even stronger than microphysics. To completely distinguish  
657 microphysical impacts from thermodynamic impacts, applying a piggybacking  
658 approach ([Grabowski, 2015](#); [Thomas et al., 2023](#)) in future simulations is necessary.

659

660 Utilizing satellite forward operator (the RTTOV radiative model) and remote sensing  
661 retrieval algorithms enabled us to derive cloud-top microphysical properties and  
662 compare simulation results to satellite products more consistently. However, there  
663 were significant differences in retrieved cloud-top liquid fractions between model  
664 simulations and satellite products. The sources of errors were very complicated and  
665 may come from simulation results, satellite operators, and retrieval algorithms, which  
666 will be investigated in the future. Moreover, the cloud-top property analysis  
667 presented in this study was based on domain-wide statistics, including clouds of  
668 varying types. Statistical results could differ if individual clouds are tracked, as clouds  
669 differ in different experiments in terms of locations and extensions. Although there  
670 are significant uncertainties in satellite forward operators and retrieval algorithms,  
671 passively remote-sensed cloud products provide potential opportunities to constrain  
672 microphysical processes in numerical models.

673

674 Simulation results of this study revealed a close dependence of heterogeneous  
675 freezing and cloud phase distribution on INP concentrations. Despite this finding, the  
676 ice formation processes in deep convective clouds remain poorly understood. It is  
677 necessary to investigate how and in which conditions the competition of  
678 heterogeneous with homogeneous freezing for water vapor and cloud water depends  
679 on INP availability and vertical velocities in different types of deep convective clouds.  
680 Moreover, the importance of other secondary ice production processes than rime-  
681 splintering (droplet shattering and collisional breakup) in deep convective clouds  
682 need to be quantified in the future.

683

684 **Competing interests**

685 One of the (co-)authors (Corinna Hoose) is a member of the editorial board of  
686 Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics.  
687

688 **Acknowledgments**

689 This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under  
690 the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant  
691 agreement 714062 (ERC Starting Grant "C2Phase"). We gratefully acknowledge the  
692 computing time allowed by the German Climate Computing Centre (DKRZ) on the  
693 HPC system Mistral and the Steinbuch Centre for Computing (SCC) on the HPC  
694 system ForHLR II. The contribution of Martin Stengel was supported by EUMETSAT  
695 and its member states through CM SAF.  
696

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976 **Tables:**

977

978 Table 1: Setups of simulations performed in this study.

Num	Experiment	Description
1	$A \times 10^0$ (CTRL)	Without any perturbations, the CTRL run, used as a reference.
2	$A \times 10^{-2}$	INP concentrations for both immersion and deposition mode are scaled by multiplying parameter A in Equation (1) by $10^{-2}$ .
3	$A \times 10^{-1}$	Same as num. 2, but multiplying by $10^{-1}$ .
4	$A \times 10^1$	Same as num. 2, but multiplying by $10^1$ .
5	$A \times 10^2$	Same as num. 2, but multiplying by $10^2$ .
6	$A \times 10^3$	Same as num. 2, but multiplying by $10^3$ .
7	$A \times 10^0$ _NSIP	INP concentration as in CTRL. The secondary ice production (rime-splintering process) is switched off.
8	DEC05	Initial and lateral temperature decreases from 3 to 12 km with a maximum increment of 5 K. No perturbations in INPs ( $A \times 10^0$ ).
9	DEC03	Same as num. 8, but with a maximum increment of 3 K.
10	INC03	Initial and lateral temperature increases from 3 to 12 km with a maximum increment of 3 K. No perturbations in INPs ( $A \times 10^0$ ).
11	INC05	Same as num. 10, but with a maximum increment of 5 K.

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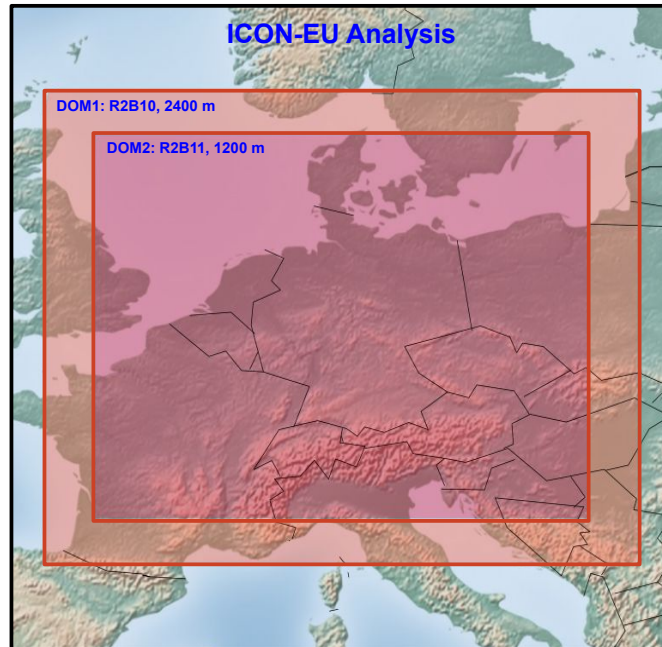
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983 **Figures:**

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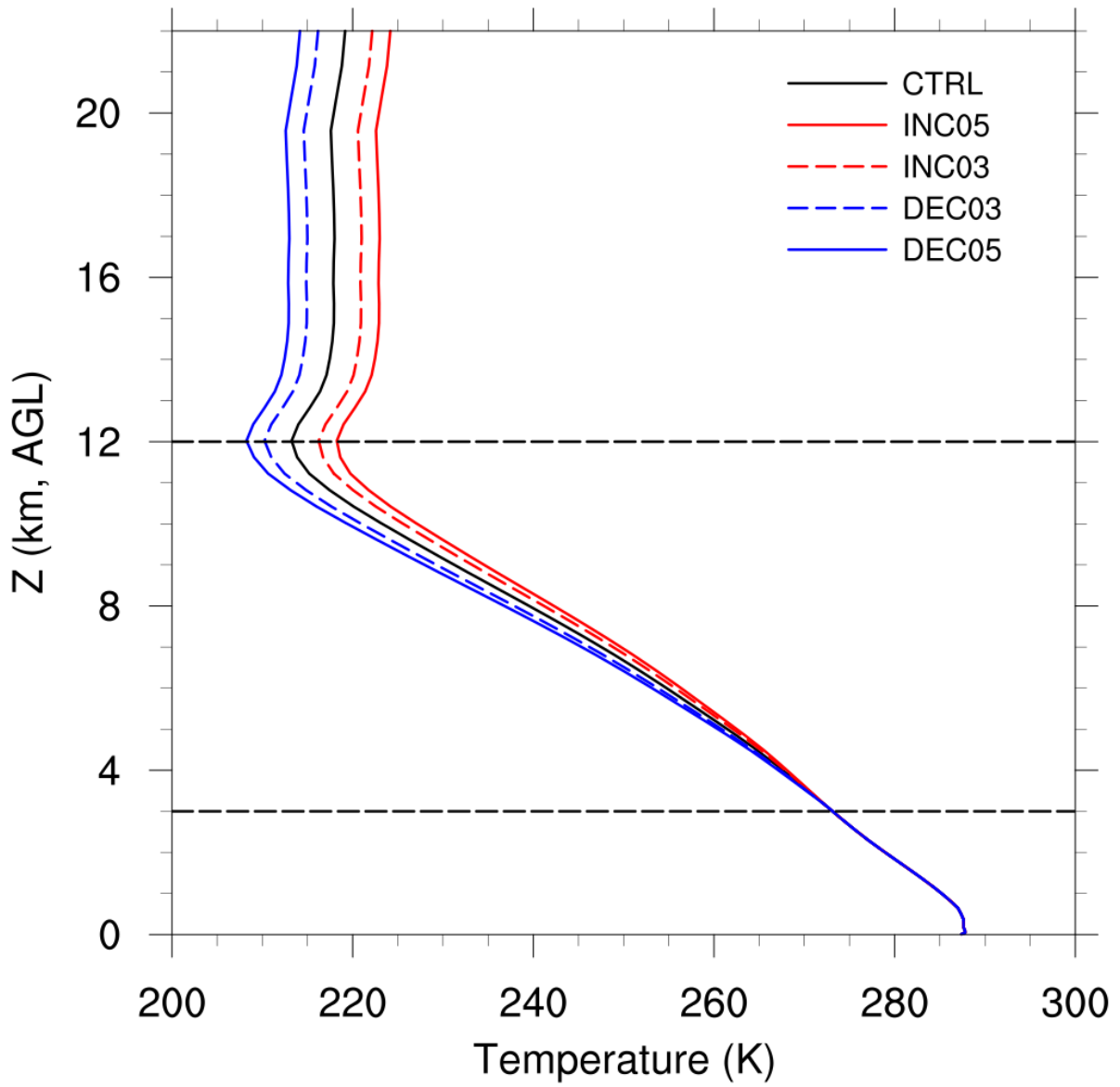


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987 Figure 1: The simulation domains.

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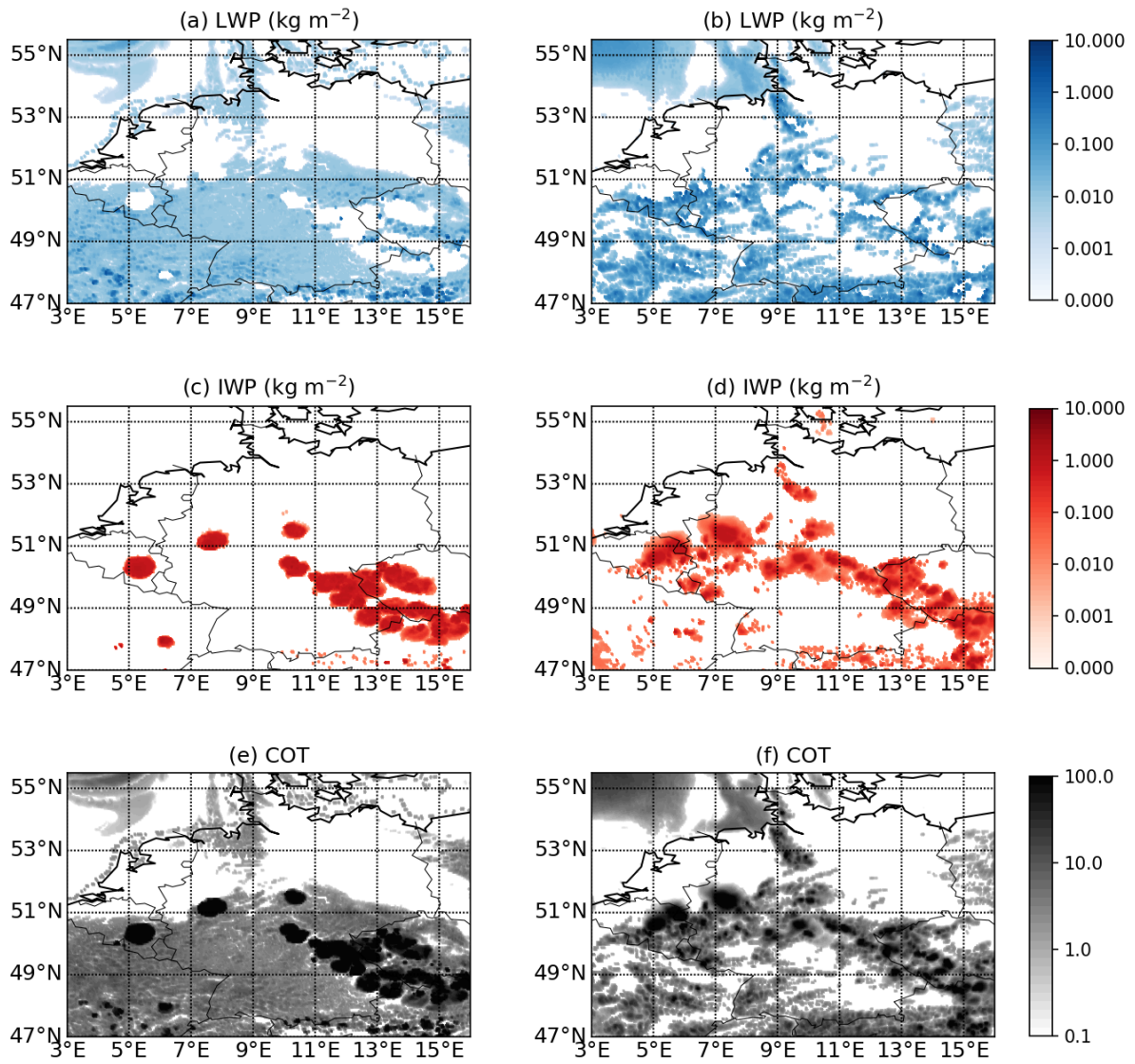


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991 Figure 2: Domain averaged initial temperature profiles. The same modification was  
992 applied to the lateral boundary conditions.

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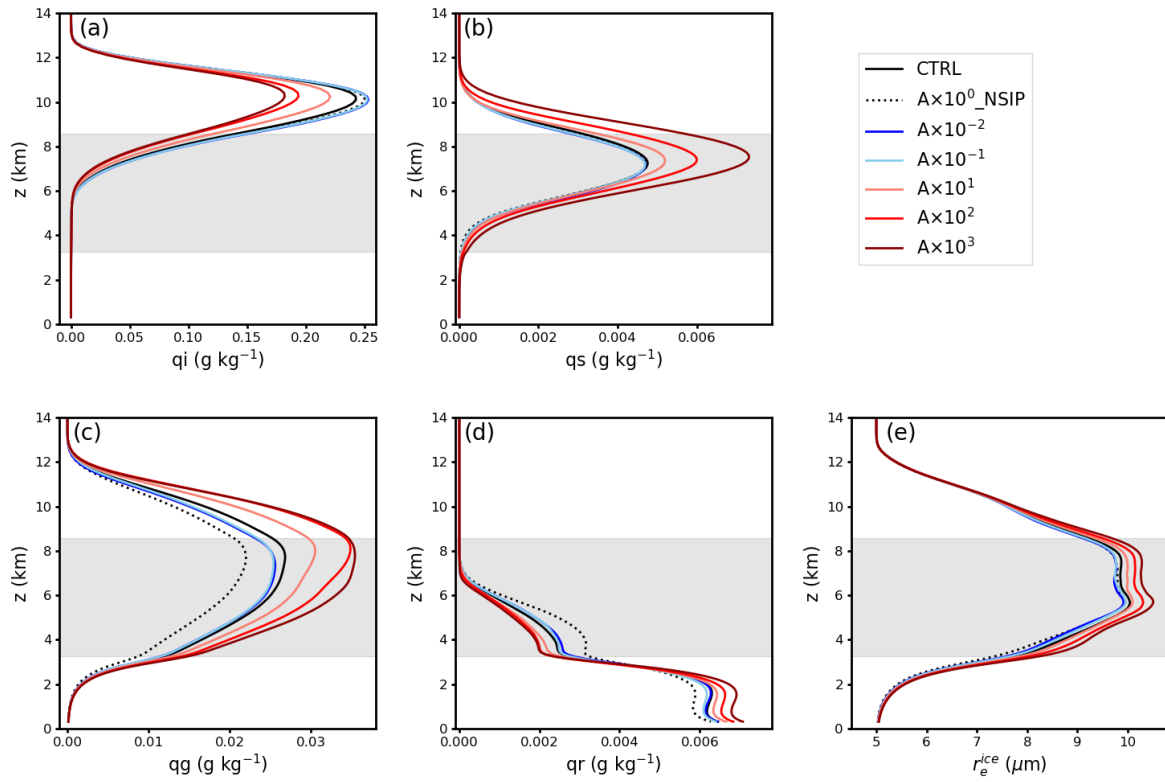




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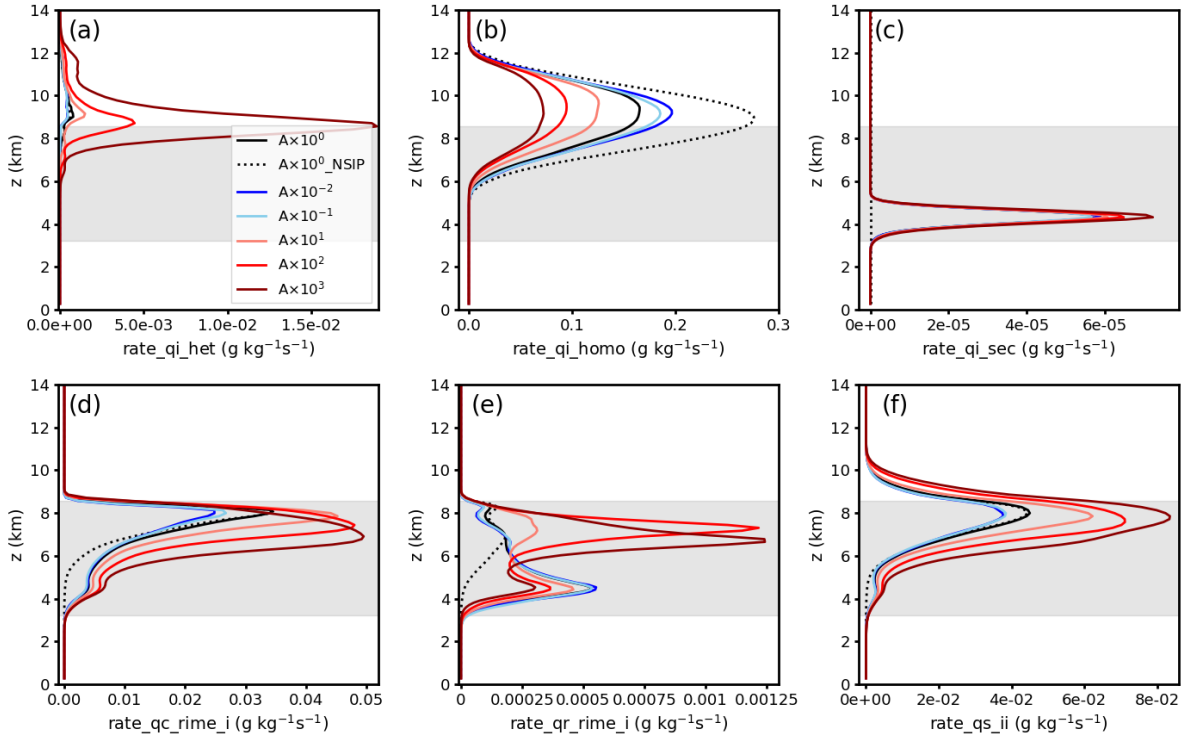
995 Figure 3: Spatial distributions of retrieved cloud liquid water path (LWP), ice water  
 996 path (IWP), and cloud optical thickness (COT) at 13:00 UTC. The left panel is for the  
 997 CTRL case (a, c, e) and the right panel is for the CLAAS-2 product (b, d, f).

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Figure 4: Spatial- and time-averaged (9:00~19:00) profiles of cloud mass mixing ratios of (a) ice crystals, (b) snow, (c) graupel, (d) rainwater, and (e) ice crystal effective radius. Mass mixing ratio unit is  $\text{g kg}^{-1}$  and the unit of ice crystal effective radius is  $\mu\text{m}$ . Shaded area indicates the spatial- and time-averaged mixed-phase region.



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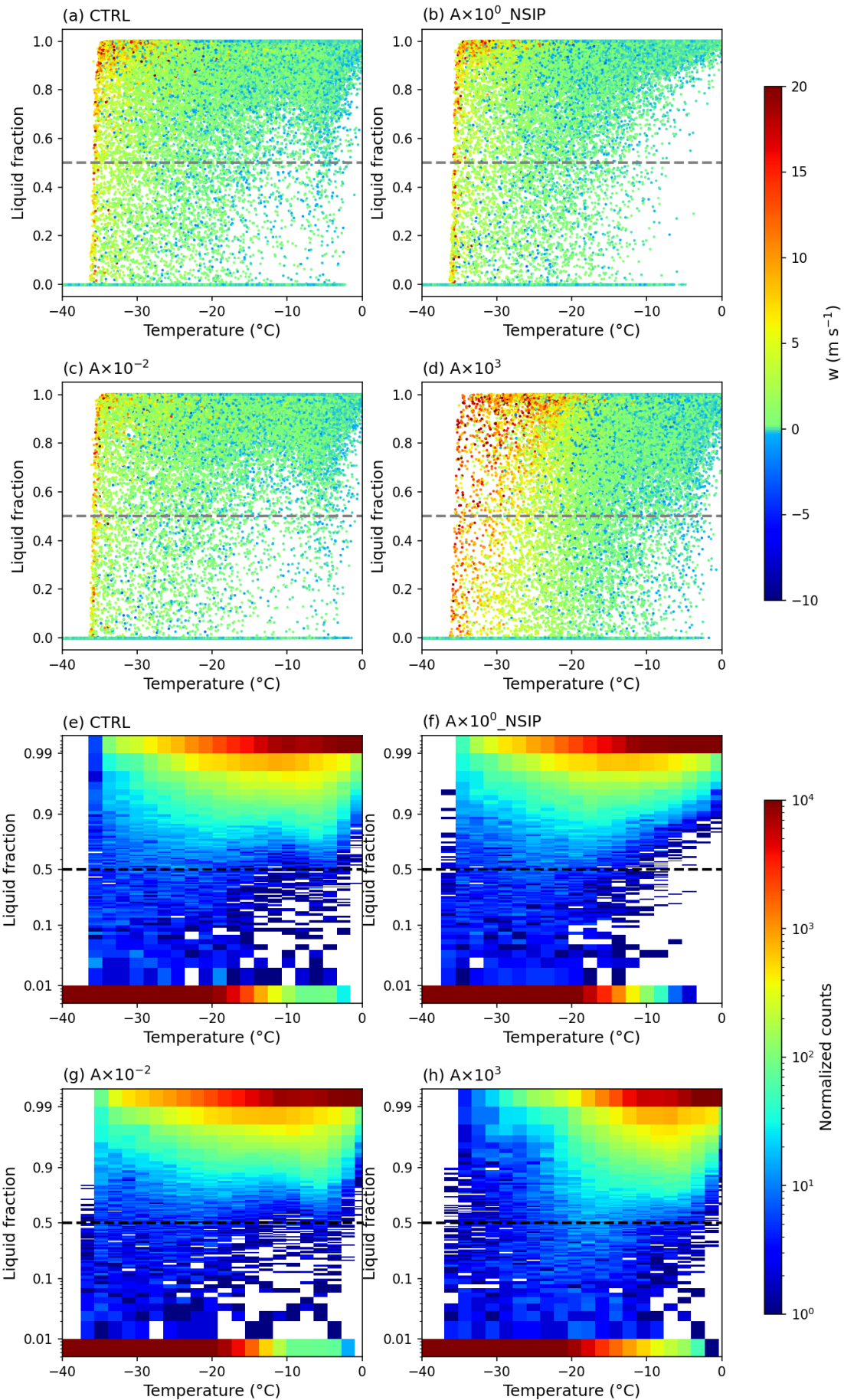
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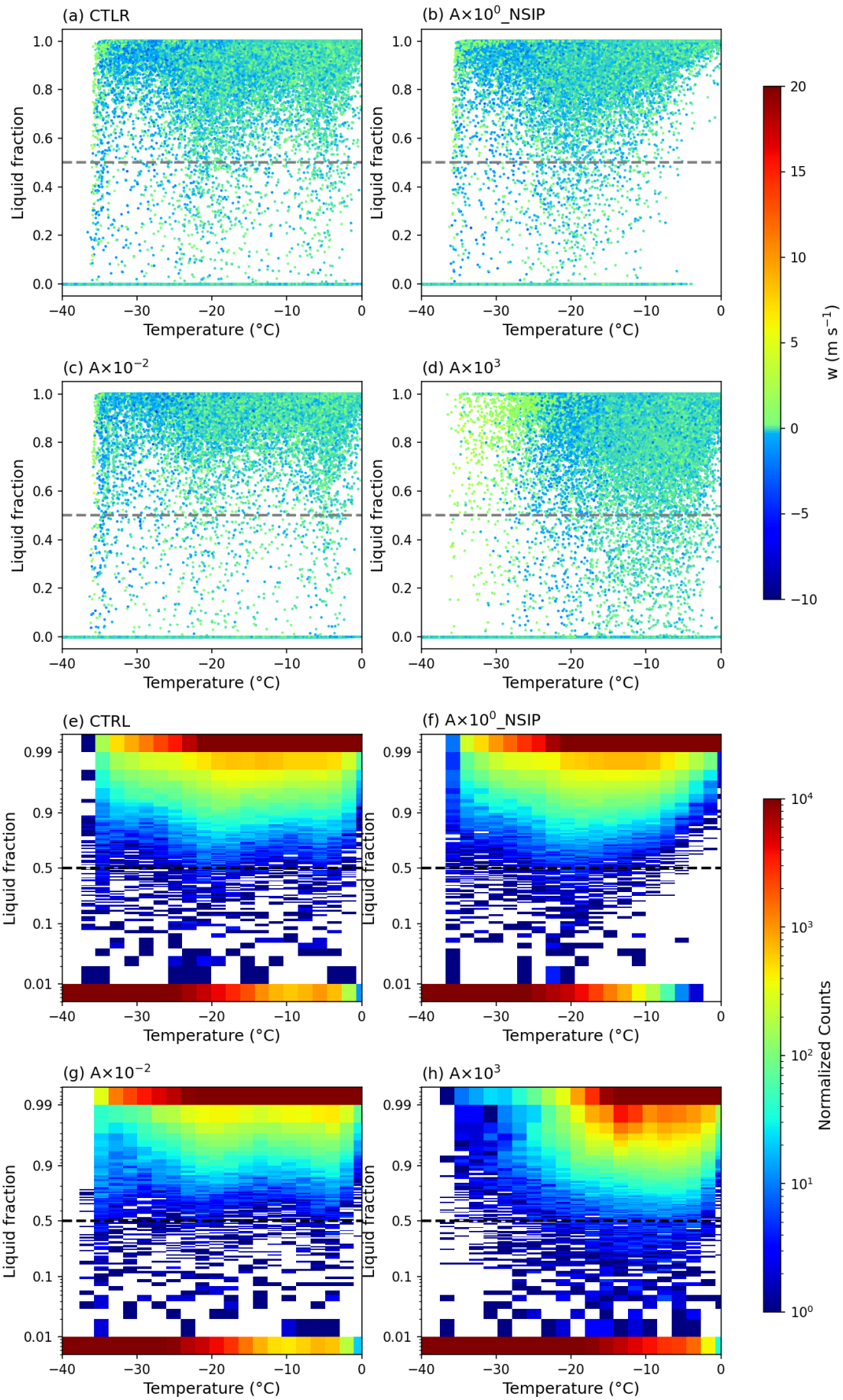
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Figure 5: Spatial- and time-averaged (9:00~19:00) profiles of process rates of (a) heterogeneous freezing (immersion and deposition nucleation), (b) homogeneous freezing, (c) secondary-ice production (rime-splintering), (d) cloud droplets rimed with ice crystals, (e) rain droplets rimed with ice crystals, (f) collection between ice and ice. Unit is  $\text{g kg}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ . The average mixed-phase layer ( $0 \sim -38^\circ \text{C}$ ) is roughly in between 3.2 and 8.6 km. Shaded area indicates the spatial- and time-averaged mixed-phase region. Unit is  $\text{g kg}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ .

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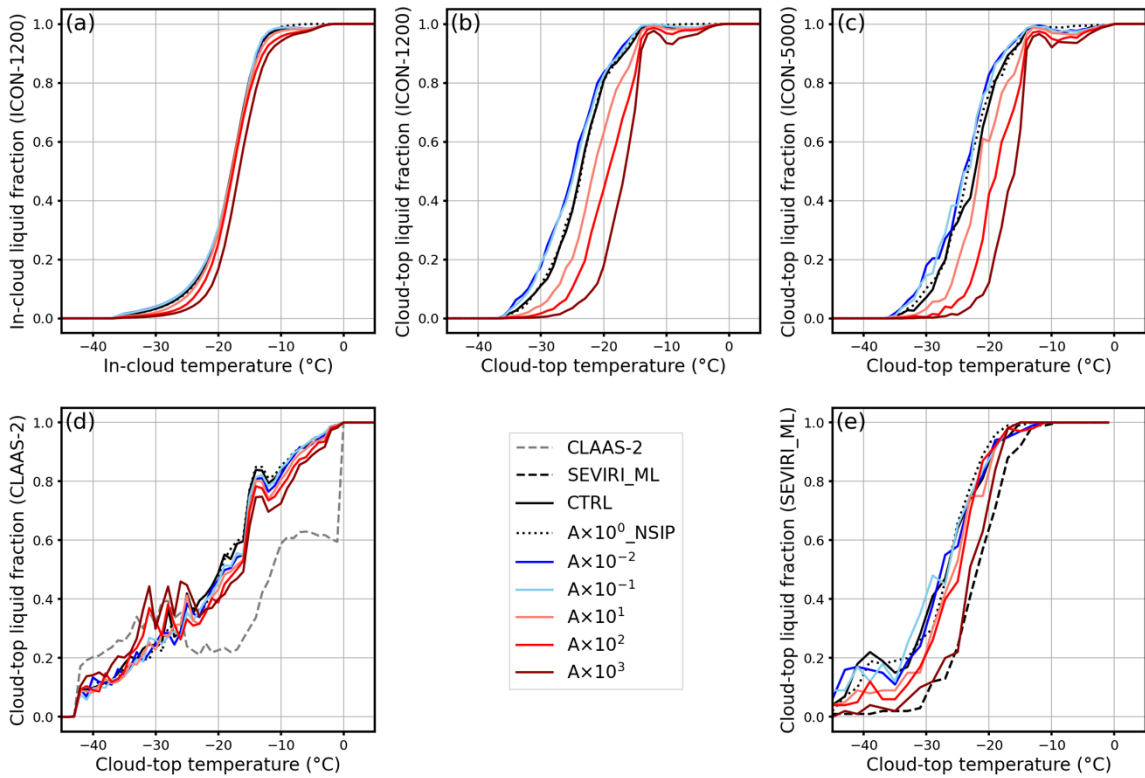


1016 Figure 6: In-cloud supercooled liquid mass fraction distribution as a function of  
1017 temperature (binned by 1°C) between 9:00 and 19:00 (a-d) for the 4 cases ( $A \times 10^0$ ,  
1018  $A \times 10^0_{\text{NSIP}}$ ,  $A \times 10^{-2}$ ,  $A \times 10^3$ ), the colour of points indicates the vertical wind velocity  
1019 (unit,  $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ). 2-D histogram of in-cloud liquid mass fraction versus temperature (e-f).



1021 Figure 7: Cloud-top supercooled liquid mass fraction distribution as a function of  
1022 temperature (binned by 1°C) between 9:00 and 19:00 (a-d) for the 4 cases ( $A \times 10^0$ ,  
1023  $A \times 10^0$ \_NSIP,  $A \times 10^{-2}$ ,  $A \times 10^3$ ), the colour of points indicates the vertical wind velocity  
1024 (unit,  $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ). 2-D histogram of cloud-top liquid mass fraction versus temperature (e-f).

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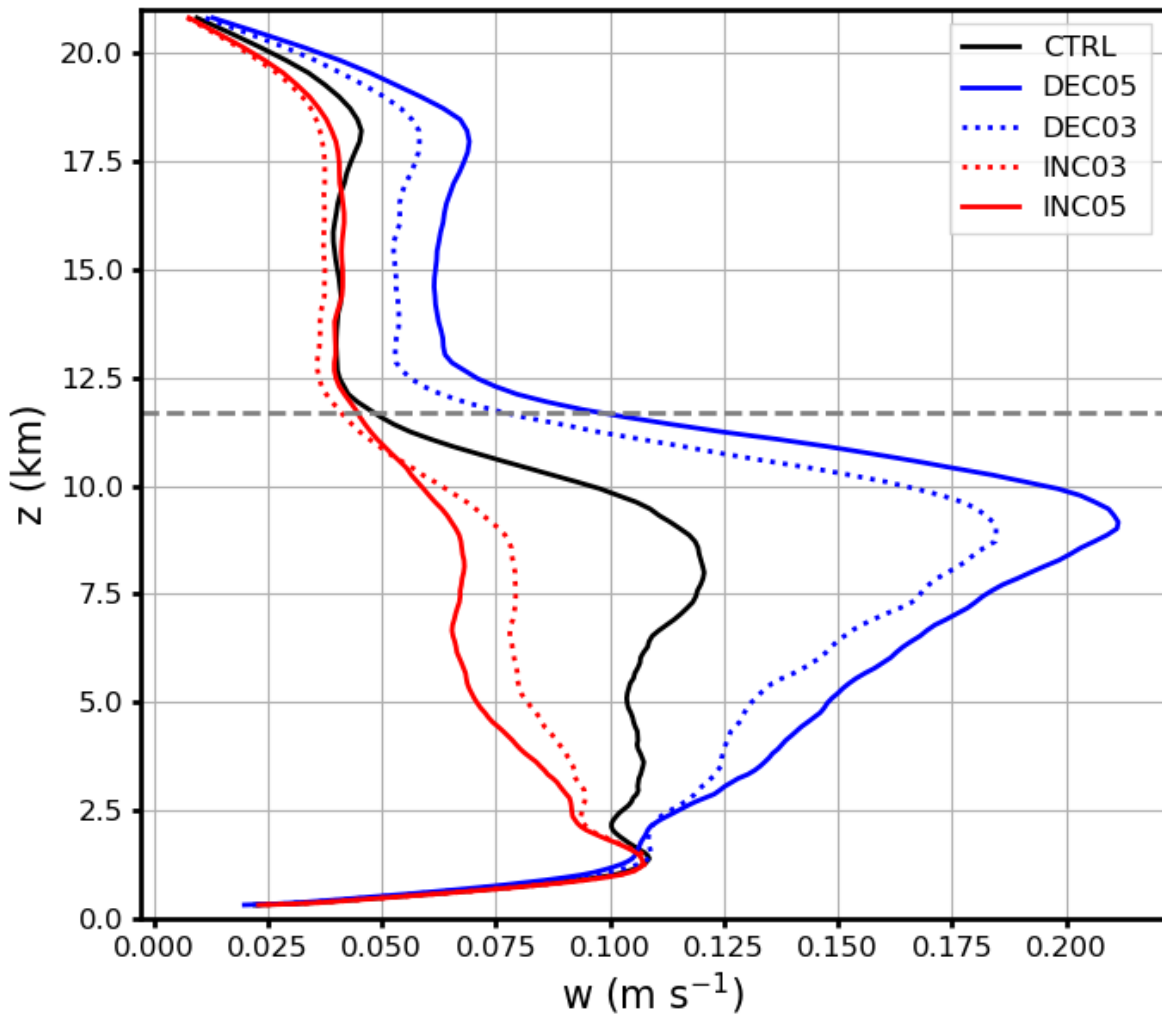
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Figure 8: Liquid cloud pixel fraction as a function of temperature from 9:00 to 19:00 UTC for the INP sensitivity experiments, (a) in-cloud fraction calculated from simulations on ICON native grid (~1200 m), (b) cloud-top fraction calculated from simulations on ICON native grid (~1200 m), (c) cloud-top fraction calculated from simulations on SEVIRI's grid (~5000 m), (d) cloud-top fraction calculated by remote-sensing retrieval algorithms to produce CLAAS-2 dataset, and (e) cloud-top fraction calculated by remote-sensing retrieval software suite SEVIRI\_ML. The temperature is binned by 1°C in (a), (b), (c), and (d), and by 2°C in (e).



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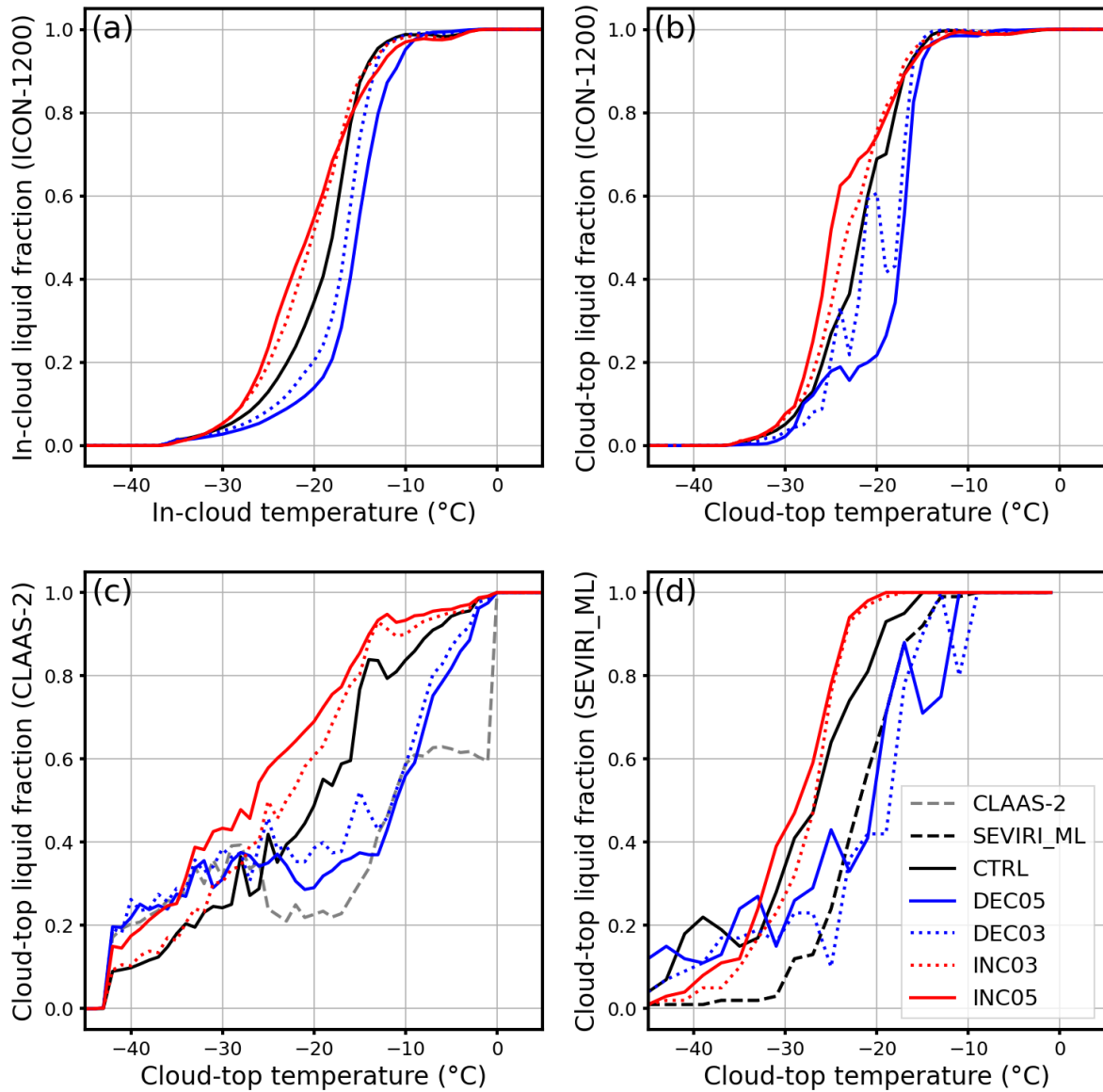
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Figure 9: Spatial- and time-averaged (9:00~19:00) profiles of vertical velocities ( $w$  values  $\leq 0 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  are excluded). The dashed grey line indicates the cloud top height which is about 11.7 km.

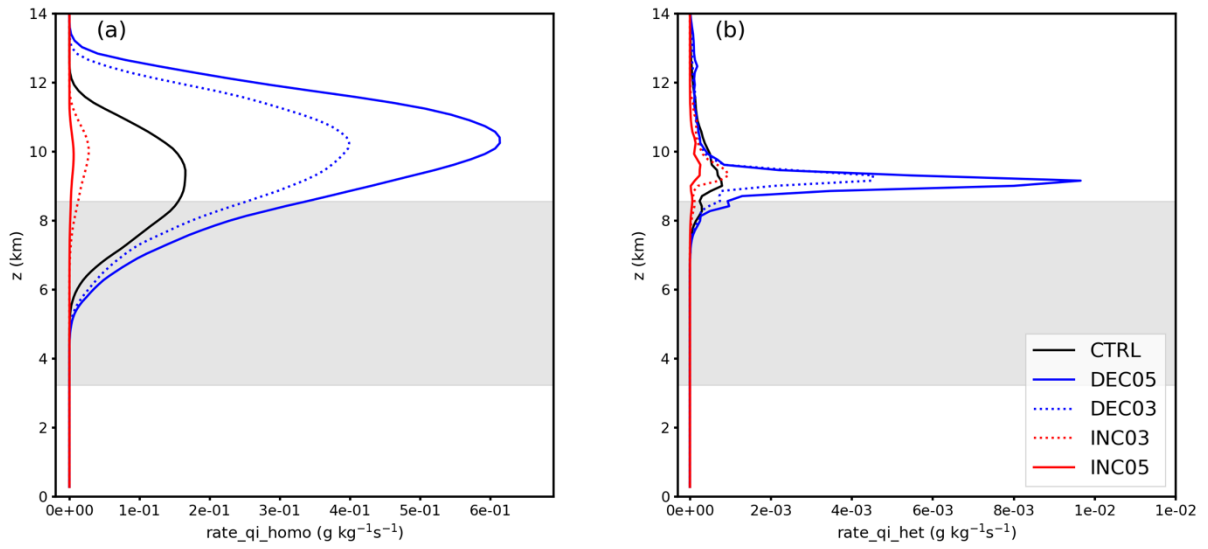


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1044 Figure 10: Liquid cloud pixel fraction as a function of temperature from 9:00 to 19:00  
 1045 for the thermodynamic sensitivity experiments, (a) in-cloud fraction calculated  
 1046 directly from simulations, (b) cloud-top fraction calculated from directly simulations,  
 1047 (c) cloud-top fraction calculated by remote-sensing retrieval algorithms to produce  
 1048 CLAAS-2 dataset, and (d) cloud-top fraction calculated by remote-sensing retrieval  
 1049 software suite SEVIRI\_ML. The temperature is binned by 1°C in (a), (b), and (c), and  
 1050 by 2°C in (d).

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1054 Figure 11: Spatial- and time-averaged (9:00~19:00) profiles of process rates of (a)  
1055 homogeneous freezing, (b) heterogeneous freezing (immersion and deposition  
1056 nucleation) for cases with perturbed initial thermodynamic states. Shaded area  
1057 indicates the spatial and time-averaged mixed-phase region. Unit is  $\text{g kg}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$ .

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