

# ATM515 Aerosol Physics, Fall 2025

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## Homework # 4 (due date Nov. 24)

For any parameter that is needed for the calculation but its value is not given, you can decide a reasonable value with proper justification (i.e., source or formula used, etc.)

1. (20 points) (a) For a particle in the kinetic regime with an initial diameter of  $D_{p0}$ , how does  $D_p$  change with time if the concentration of condensing vapor molecule is  $c_\infty$  far from the particle and  $c_s$  is its vapor-phase concentration at the particle surface. (b) If the observed growth rate (diameter) of 5-10 nm particles is 5 nm/hour and  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  is assumed to be the only condensing gas, what is the concentration of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  gas? The particle density is  $1.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ,  $T=280 \text{ K}$ ,  $P=1000 \text{ mb}$ . (c) Calculate the growth rate of cloud droplet with initial size of  $1 \mu\text{m}$  in the cloud with water supersaturation ratio of 0.2% (i.e.,  $\text{RH}=100.2\%$ ),  $T=280 \text{ K}$ , and  $P=950 \text{ mb}$ .
2. (15 points) By what factor does the average particle size of tobacco smoke increase as a result of coagulation during the 2 s that it takes for the smoke to travel from the cigarette to the smoker's lungs? Assume that the inhaled concentration is  $10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and that the initial aerosol diameter is 20 nm. Show your work on the calculation of coagulation coefficient using proper formula from the textbook.  $T=298 \text{ K}$ . Particle density =  $1.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$ .
3. (15 points) Calculate the characteristic time for coagulation for: (1) Polluted urban regions with initial number concentrations of  $2 \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ; (2) Marine boundary layer with initial number concentrations of  $1000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ; (3) Geo-engineered stratospheric aerosol layer with initial number concentration of  $100 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . Assume an average coagulation coefficient of  $2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  among these particles.