

# Sylvia C. Sullivan

---

sylvia@arizona.edu | sylviasullivan.github.io  
www.linkedin.com/in/sylvia-sullivan-08224494

## EDUCATION

### **Ph.D. | May 2017 | Georgia Institute of Technology**

Major: Chemical Engineering, Minor: Earth and Atmospheric Science

Thesis: *Multi-scale modeling of in-cloud ice crystal formation*

Advisor: Athanasios Nenes

### **B.S. | June 2012 | California Institute of Technology**

Major: Chemical Engineering, Minor: Environmental Science

### **Study Abroad | Fall 2011 | École Polytechnique**

Program: Environmental Fluid Mechanics

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

### **Assistant Professor | Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering**

#### **University of Arizona | January 2022 - present**

- elucidating scale interaction in atmospheric phenomena with simulation and experimentation

### **Young Investigator Fellow | Institute for Meteorology and Climate Research**

#### **Karlsruhe Institute of Technology | November 2019 – November 2021**

- radiative effects of tropical ice clouds in the ICON convection-resolving model

### **Postdoctoral Researcher | Earth and Environmental Engineering Department**

#### **Columbia University | September 2017 – September 2019**

- satellite climatologies of tropical organized convection and collocated meteorology
- precipitation changes from tropical organized convection with El Niño phase

### **Doctoral Student | School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering**

#### **Georgia Institute of Technology | August 2012 – May 2017**

- adjoint sensitivity analyses of ice nucleation parameterizations in global climate models
- parcel model development for simulation of secondary ice production processes

### **Visiting Researcher | Institute for Meteorology and Climate Research**

#### **Karlsruhe Institute of Technology | January - July 2016**

- secondary ice production parameterizations within the COSMO mesoscale weather model

### **Visiting Researcher | Climate and Radiation Laboratory**

#### **Goddard Space Flight Center | February 2015**

- adjoint sensitivity and attribution analyses within the GEOS-5 global climate model

### **Undergraduate Research Fellow | Air Quality Monitoring Laboratory**

#### **Gwangju Institute of Technology | June – August 2011**

- NO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio measurements using Differential Optical Absorption spectroscopy

## AWARDS and LEADERSHIP

**2019-2022** Lead editor, *Cloud Physics and Dynamics*, AGU Wiley Geophysical Monograph  
**2020-2021** KIT Young Investigator Group Preparation Fellowship (100,000 € budget)  
**2020-2021** EGU Co-convenor, Atmospheric Ice clouds observations and modelling  
**2020-2021** European Conference on Non-Linear Optical Spectroscopy (ECONOS), Co-chair  
**2016** Chemical Engineering Department Ziegler Award for Best Paper  
**2014-2015** Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Graduate Research Symposium, Chair  
**2013-2016** NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship: Mixed-Phase Cloud Parameterization in Global Climate Models  
**2012** Georgia Tech Chemical Engineering Excellence Fellowship  
**2012** NCAA Division III Track and Field, Team Captain  
**2011** Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship: Caltech-GIST Exchange Program  
**2010** Caltech Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

## TEACHING and MENTORING

**2022** Instructor for ATMO/CHEE 469B/569B: Aerosol Physics  
**2021** Summer placement mentor to Paul Vautravers from the University of Manchester  
**2021** International High-Performance Computing Summer School, mentor  
**2017** Coursework: Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, Teaching Practicum, Course Design for Higher Education in fulfillment of the **Tech to Teaching Certification**  
**2016** Co-Instructor for Georgia Tech ChBE4300: Chemical Kinetics & Reactor Design  
**2014** Teaching Assistant for Georgia Tech ChBE3210: Transport Processes II  
**2013** Teaching Assistant for Georgia Tech ChBE4300: Chemical Kinetics & Reactor Design  
**2012** Teaching Assistant for Caltech ChE 10: Introduction to Chemical Engineering

## DEVELOPMENT and SERVICE

**2021** ECMWF Advanced Numerical Methods for Earth System Modelling, participant  
**2020** Fulbright-Cottrell Junior Faculty Workshop (*postponed*)  
**2019** Data Analytics for Climate and Earth (DANCE) Workshop, participant  
**2018** International High-Performance Computing Summer School, participant  
**2016-present** Reviewer for Geophysical Research Letters, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics, Geoscientific Model Development, Nature Communications, DOE Atmospheric Science Research, and the NSF Physical Meteorology division.  
**2014** JPL Center for Climate Sciences Summer School, participant  
**2014-present** American Geophysical Union and American Meteorological Society member  
**2014-2015** Women in Engineering Outreach Ambassador  
**2013** NCAR Community Earth System Model tutorial, participant  
**2011** Student Faculty Committee for Chemical Engineering, student representative  
**2010** Committee on Exchange Programs and Study Abroad, student representative

## PUBLICATIONS

1. *S. Sullivan, A. Voigt, A. Miltenberger, C. Rolf, and M. Krämer. A Lagrangian perspective of ice microphysical impact on cloud-radiative heating [in preparation for J. Adv. Model Earth Sys.]*

2. A. Voigt et al. Resolving convection and cloud microphysics impacts on upper-tropospheric cloud properties over the North Atlantic Ocean [in preparation for *J. Geophys. Res.*]
3. L. Gu, J. Yin, P. Gentine, S. Guo, H.-M. Wang, L. J. Slater, S. C. Sullivan, J. Zscheischler, J. Zhou, and J. Chen. Large anomalies in extreme precipitation sensitivity driven by atmospheric dynamics in a warming Earth [in review at *Science Advances*].
4. S. Chakraborty, S. Sullivan, and Z. Feng. An overview of mesoscale convective systems: Observations, modelling, and tropical climate variability (2022) [under review at *AGU Geophysical Monographs*].
5. S. Sullivan and C. Hoose. Science of cloud and climate science: An analysis of the literature over the past 50 years (2022). [Accepted in *AGU Geophysical Monographs*].
6. S. Sullivan and A. Voigt. Ice microphysical processes exert a strong control on the simulated radiative energy budget in the tropics (2021). *Comms. Earth & Env.* **2** (137).
7. J. Yin, S. Guo, P. Gentine, S. Sullivan, L. Gu, S. He, J. Chen, and P. Liu. Does the hook structure constrain future flood intensification under anthropogenic climate warming? (2021). *Water Res. Rev.* **57** (2).
8. S. Bacer, S. Sullivan, O. Sourdeval, H. Tost, J. Lelieveld, and A. Pozzer. Ice microphysical process rates of large-scale clouds in EMAC (2021) *Atm. Chem. Phys.* **21**: 1485-1505.
9. K. Schiro, S. Sullivan, Y.-H. Kuo, H. Su, P. Gentine, G. S. Elsaesser, J. H. Jiang, and J. David Neelin. Environmental controls on tropical mesoscale convective system precipitation intensity (2020) *J. Atm. Sci.* **77** (12): 4233-4249.
10. S. Sullivan, K. Schiro, J. Yin, and P. Gentine. Changes in precipitation extremes from organized convection with El Niño warming (2020). *Geophys. Res. Lett.* **47**: e2020GL087663.
11. G. Sotiropoulou, S. Sullivan, J. Savre, G. Lloyd, T. Lachlan-Cope, A. Ekman, and A. Nenes. The impact of secondary ice production on Arctic stratocumulus (2020). *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **20**: 1301-1316.
12. L. Gu, J. Yin, J. Chen, S. Guo, S. Sullivan, H.-M. Wang, and C.-Y. Xu. Projected increases in magnitudes and socioeconomic exposures of global droughts in 1.5° and 2°C warmer climates (2019). *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci.* **24**: 451-472.
13. S. Sullivan, K. Schiro, C. Stubenrauch, and P. Gentine. The response of convective organization throughout the tropics to El Niño warming (2019). *J. Geophys. Res.* **124**: 8481-8500.
14. S. Sullivan, C. Barthlott, J. Crosier, A. Nenes, and C. Hoose. The effect of secondary ice parameterizations on a simulated frontal rain band (2018). *Atmo. Chem. Phys.* **18**: 16461-16480.
15. J. Yin, P. Gentine, S. Zhou, S. Sullivan, R. Wang, Y. Zhang, and S. Guo. Large increase in storm runoff extremes under anthropogenic changes (2018). *Nature Comm.* **9**: 4389.
16. S. Bacer, S. Sullivan, V. A. Karydis, D. Barahona, A. Nenes, H. Tost, A. P. Tsimpidi, J. Lelieveld, and A. Pozzer. Implementation of a comprehensive ice crystal formation parameterization into the EMAC model (2018). *Geosci. Model Develop.* **11**: 4021-4041.
17. S. Sullivan, C. Hoose, A. Kiselev, T. Leisner, and A. Nenes. Initiation of secondary ice production in clouds (2018). *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **18**: 1593-1610.
18. S. Sullivan, C. Hoose, and A. Nenes. Investigating the relative contributions of secondary ice formation processes to ice crystal number concentrations (2017). *J. Geophys. Res.* **122** (17): 9391-9412.
19. Field, P. et al. Chapter 7. Secondary Ice Production – current state of the science and recommendations for the future (2016). *Met. Monog.* **58**: 7.1-7.20.

20. S. Sullivan, D. Lee, L. Oreopoulos, and A. Nenes. The role of updraft velocity in temporal variability of cloud hydrometeor number (2016). *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci.* **113** (21): 5791-5796.
21. S. Sullivan, R. Morales, D. Barahona, and A. Nenes. Understanding cirrus ice crystal number variability for different heterogeneous nucleation spectra (2016). *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **16**: 2611-2629.
22. B. Sheyko, S. Sullivan, R. Morales, S. L. Capps, D. Barahona, X. Shi, X. Liu, and A. Nenes. Quantifying sensitivities of ice crystal number and sources of ice crystal number variability in CAM 5.1 using the adjoint of a physically-based cirrus formation parameterization (2015). *Journal of Geophysical Research* **120** (7): 2169-8996.

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

1. ***Ice microphysics and tropical atmospheric radiative heating.*** The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, May 2021
2. ***Ice crystals and convective plumes: The large-scale impacts of local atmospheric phenomena.*** The University of Arizona, March 2021
3. ***From environmental moisture to precipitation intensity in tropical convective systems.*** Laboratoire de Météorologie Dynamique, February 2020
4. ***The role of large-scale circulation and ice microphysics on Mediterranean precipitation extremes.*** Centre National d'Études Spatiales, May 2019
5. ***The relationship of atmospheric ice content and vertical velocities.*** Brookhaven National Laboratory, December 2018
6. ***Multi-scale modeling of in-cloud ice crystal formation.*** Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory, October 2016
7. ***The role of updraft velocity in temporal variability of cloud hydrometeor number.*** Georgia Tech School of Chemical Engineering, October 2016

## SKILLS

**Computer:** Python, MATLAB, Fortran, LaTeX, bash, git

**Language:** French – TCF C2 level

German – B2.2 certification (CEFR standards)

Spanish – courses through A2 level

## REFERENCES

Prof. Athanasios Nenes, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, [athanasios.nenes@epfl.ch](mailto:athanasios.nenes@epfl.ch)  
 Prof. Corinna Hoose, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, [corinna.hoose@kit.edu](mailto:corinna.hoose@kit.edu)  
 Prof. Pierre Gentine, Columbia University, [pg2328@columbia.edu](mailto:pg2328@columbia.edu)  
 Prof. Aiko Voigt, University of Vienna, [aiko.voigt@univie.ac.at](mailto:aiko.voigt@univie.ac.at)  
 Dr. Lazaros Oreopoulos, Goddard Space Flight Center, [lazaros.oraopoulos-1@nasa.gov](mailto:lazaros.oraopoulos-1@nasa.gov)