

Exploration of the runaway greenhouse transition with 3D climate modeling





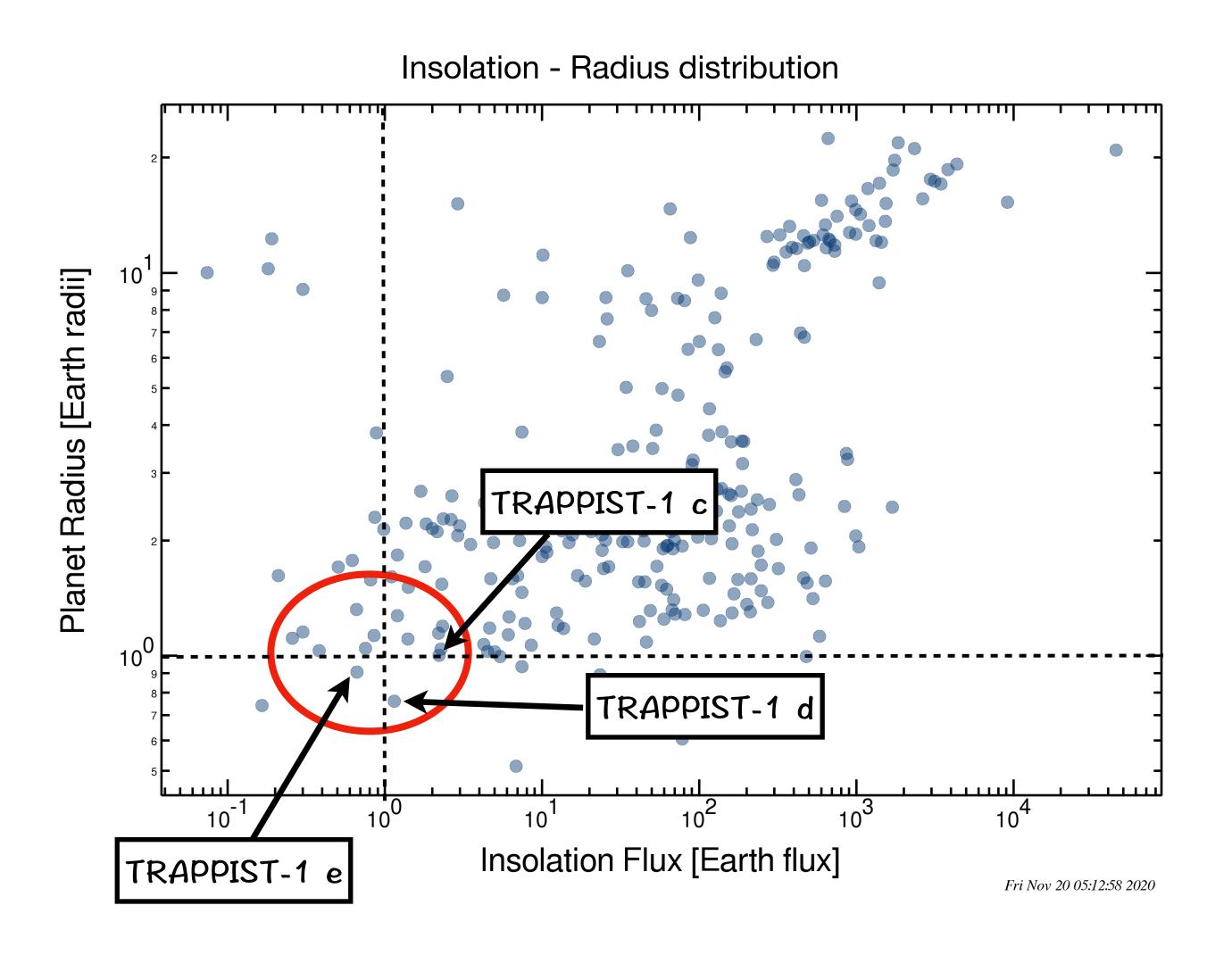
Guillaume Chaverot - EGU 2022

Supervisors: Emeline Bolmont & Martin Turbet

1

Challenging targets

Small rocky planets such as Ross-128b, Trappist-1 inner planets, Gliese-411b, HD85512b, GJ-273b, GJ-411b, YZ Ceti b, etc ...



Habitability Of small rocky exoplanets

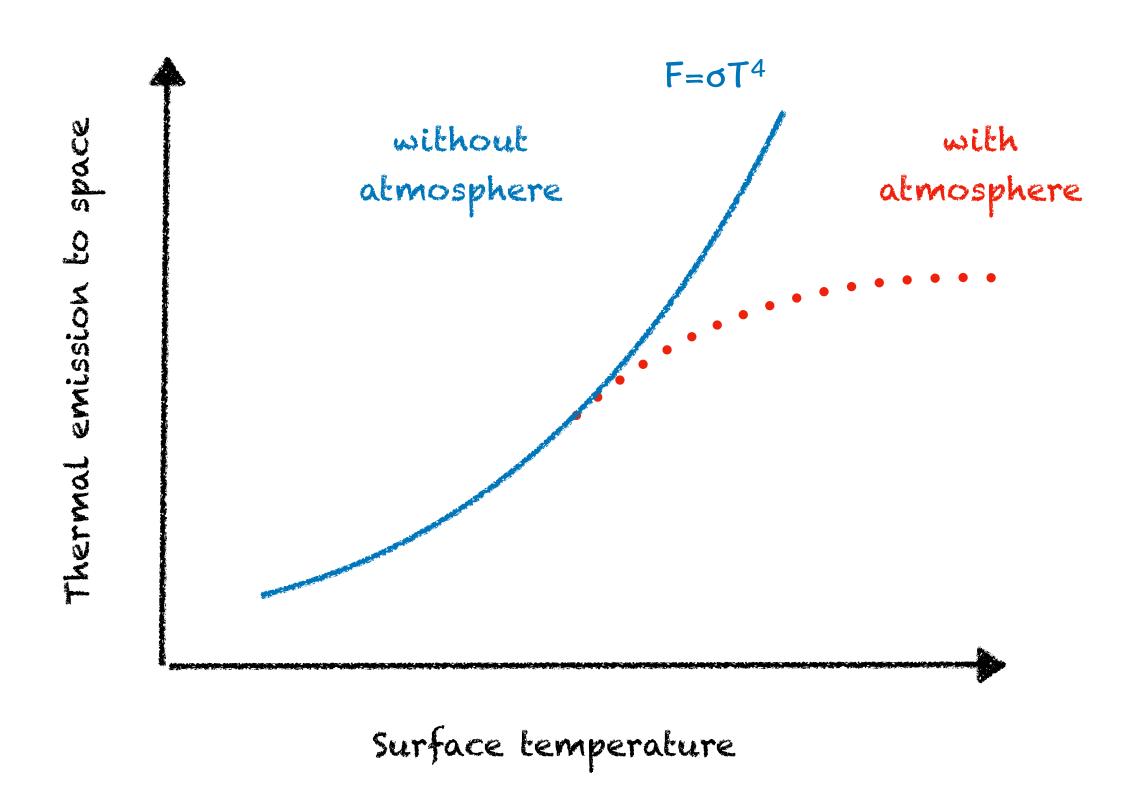
The sine qua non condition for the emergence of life as we know it is liquid water

-> We need to be able to estimate the temperature of exoplanets

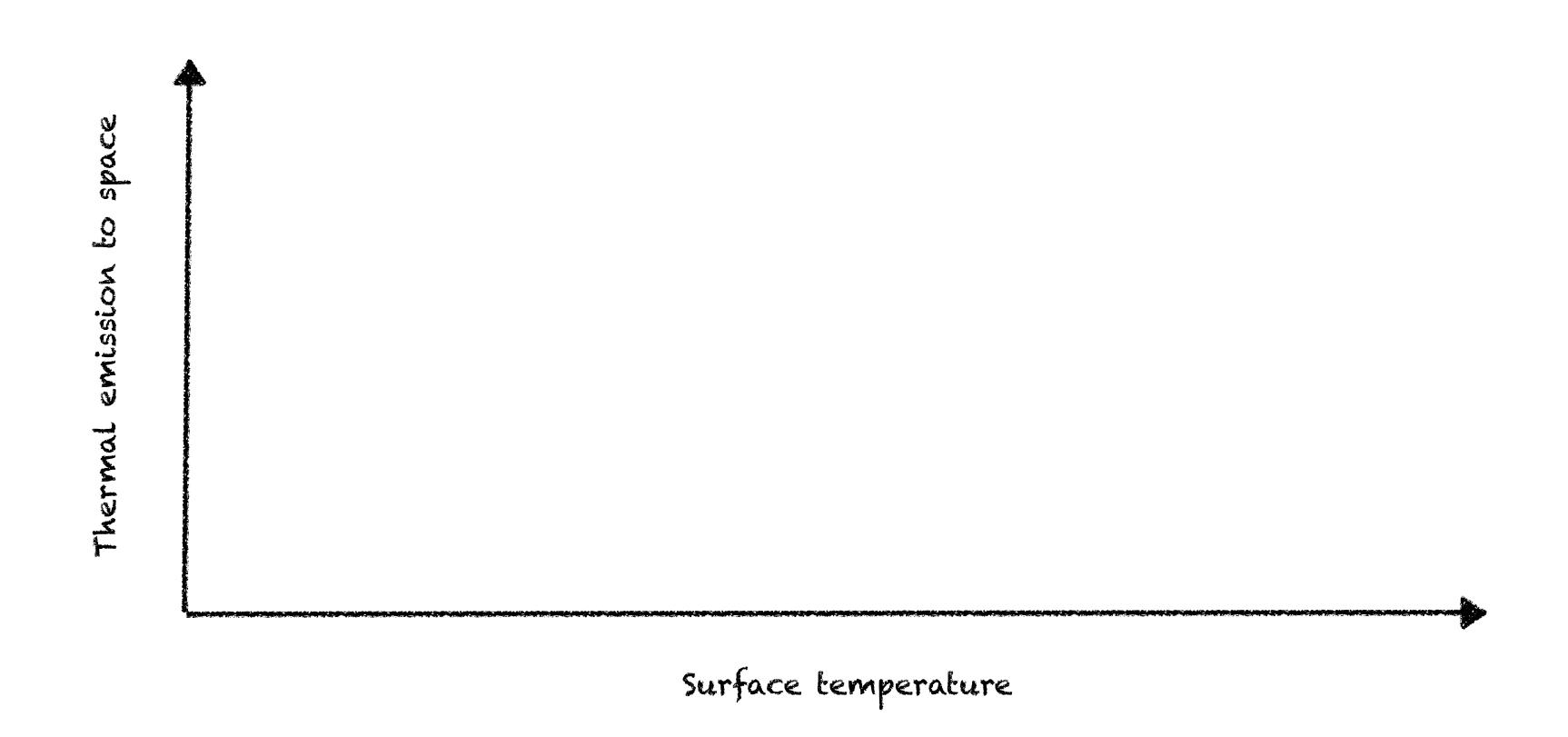
Equilibrium temperature

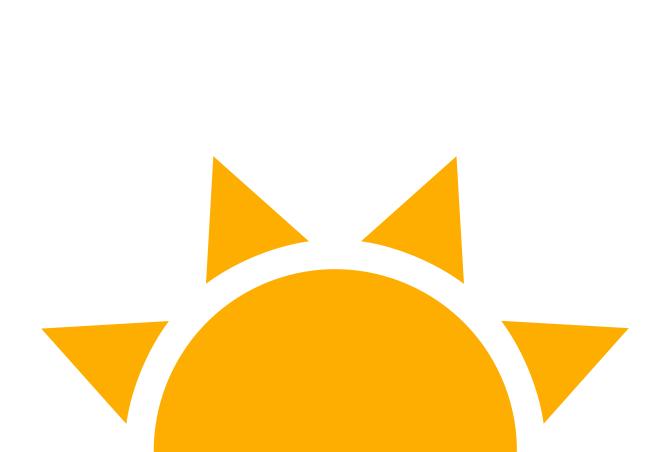
-> Absorbed flux = Thermal emission

How does the thermal emission of a rocky planet with a vapor atmosphere evolve?



Stellar flux 🖊





Stellar flux

Temperature

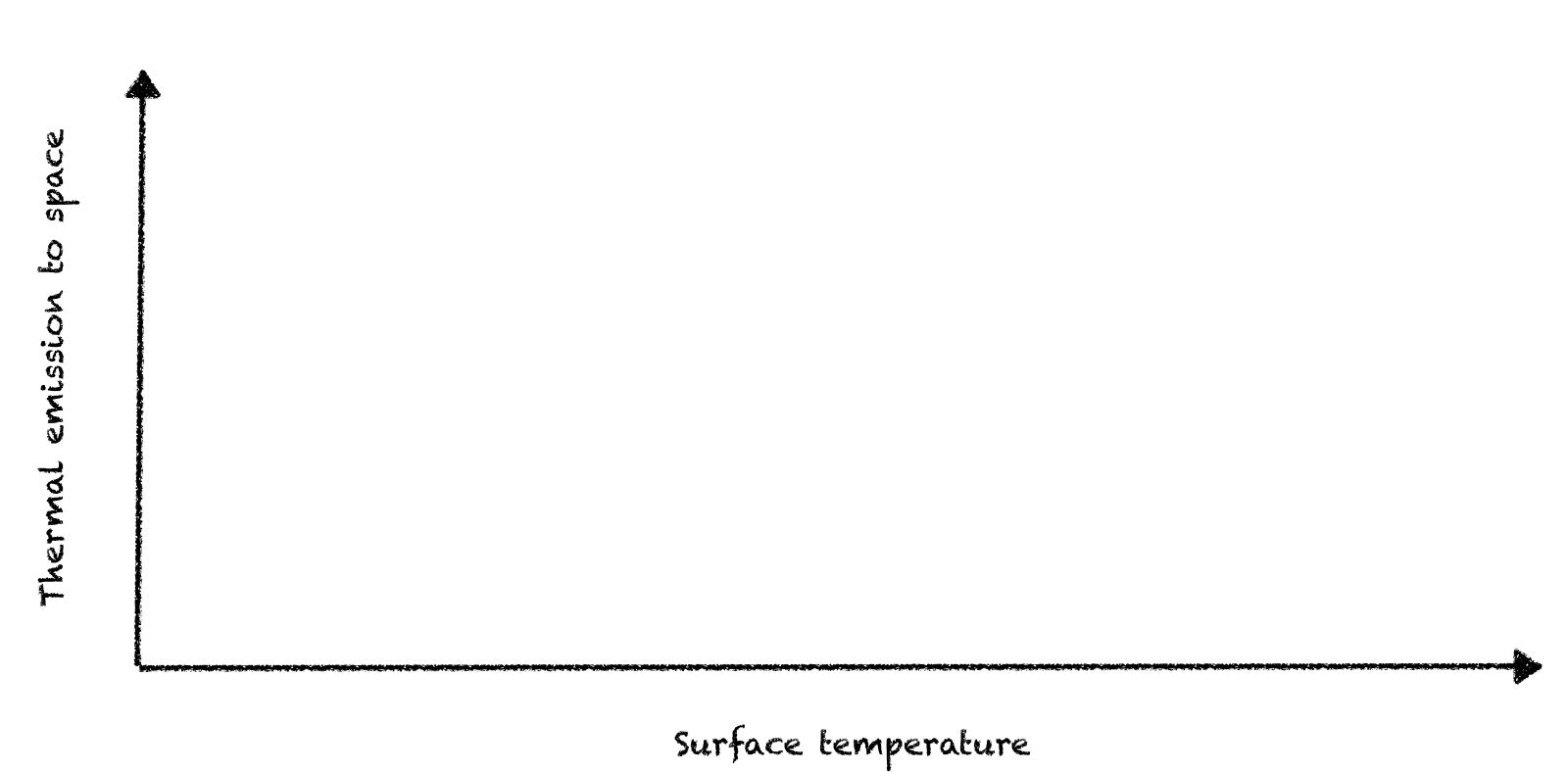
Greenhouse effect

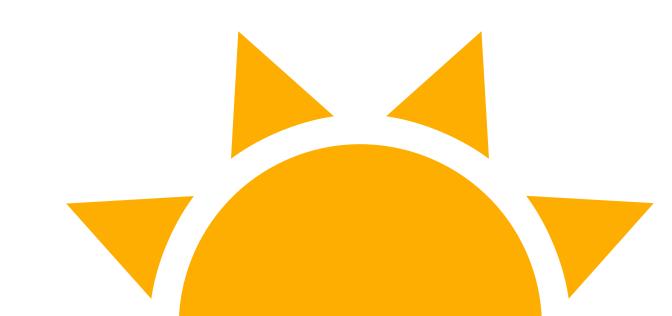
Evaporation

Evaporation

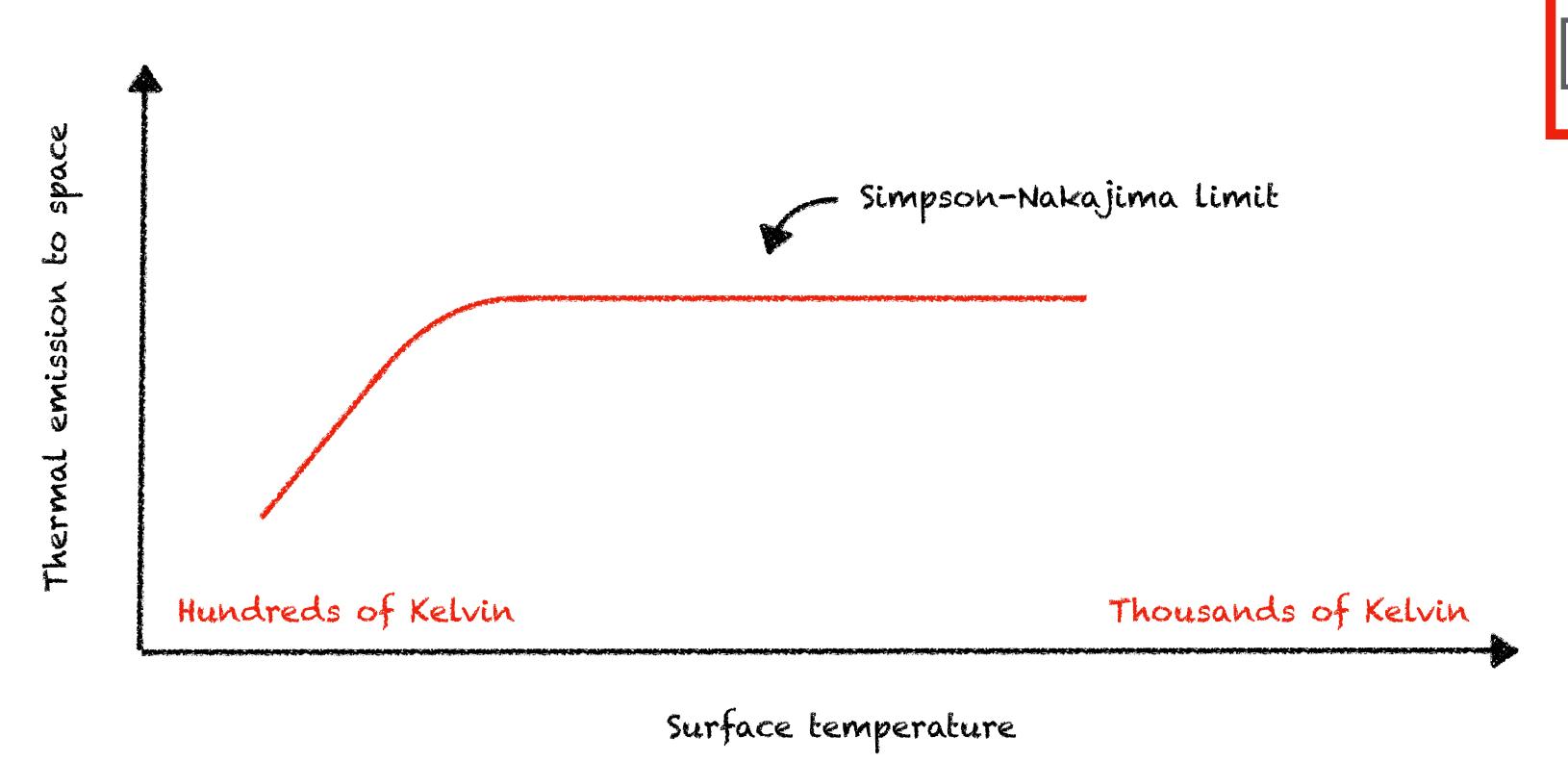
■

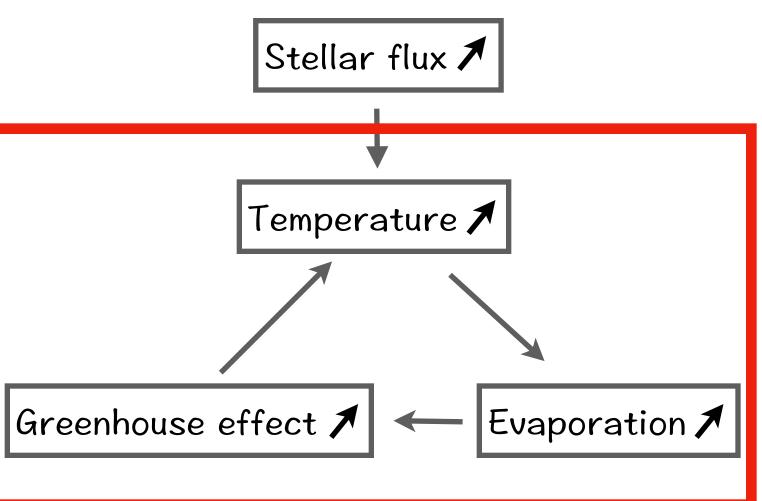
Runaway greenhouse feedback



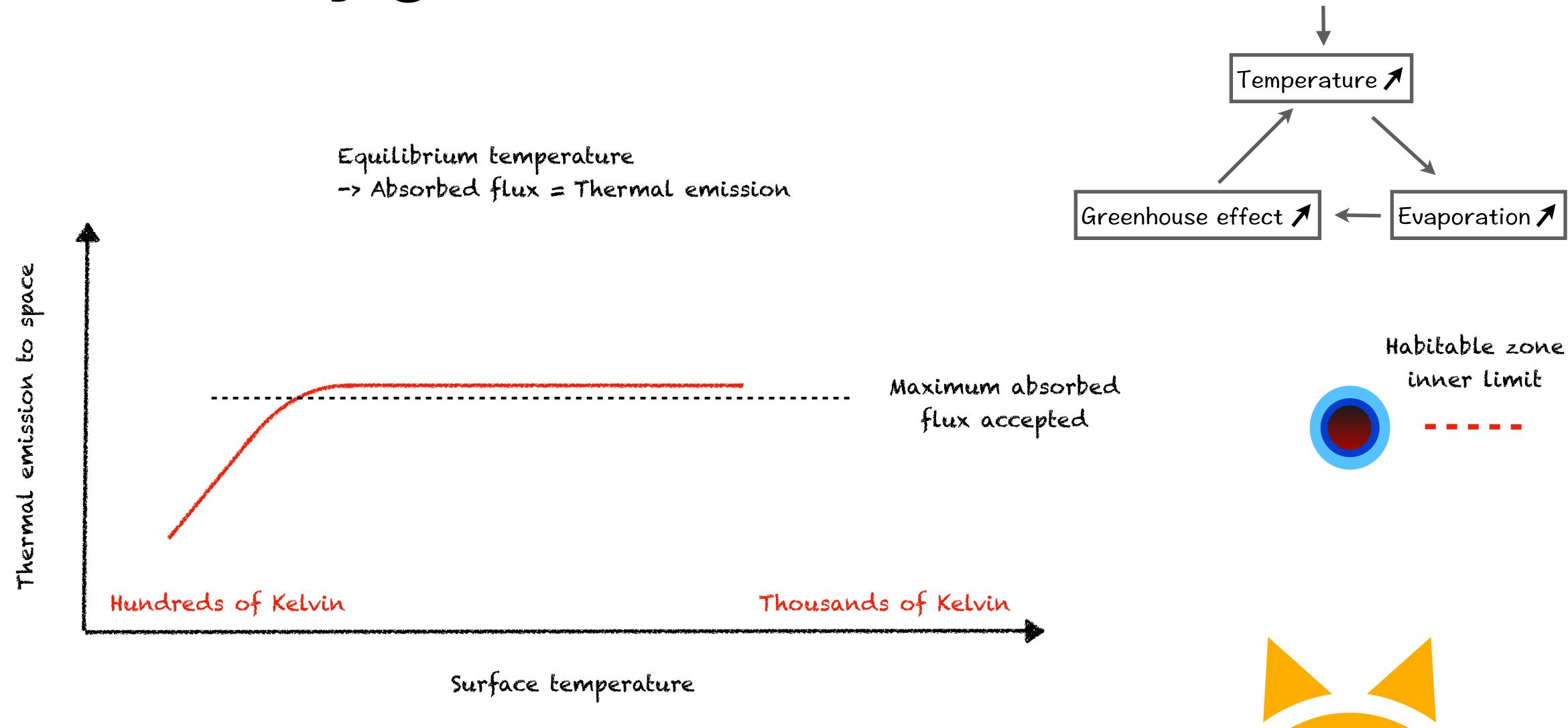


Runaway greenhouse feedback

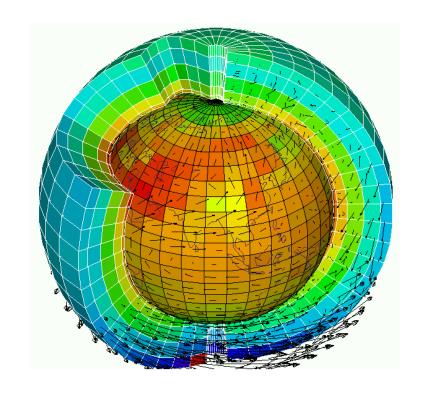








Stellar flux 7



1) Dynamical Core to compute large scale atmospheric motions and transport

LMD-Generic

3) Subgrid-scale dynamics: Turbulence and convection in the boundary layer,

4) Surface and subsurface thermal balance

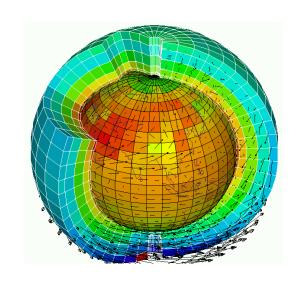
2) Radiative transfer through gases

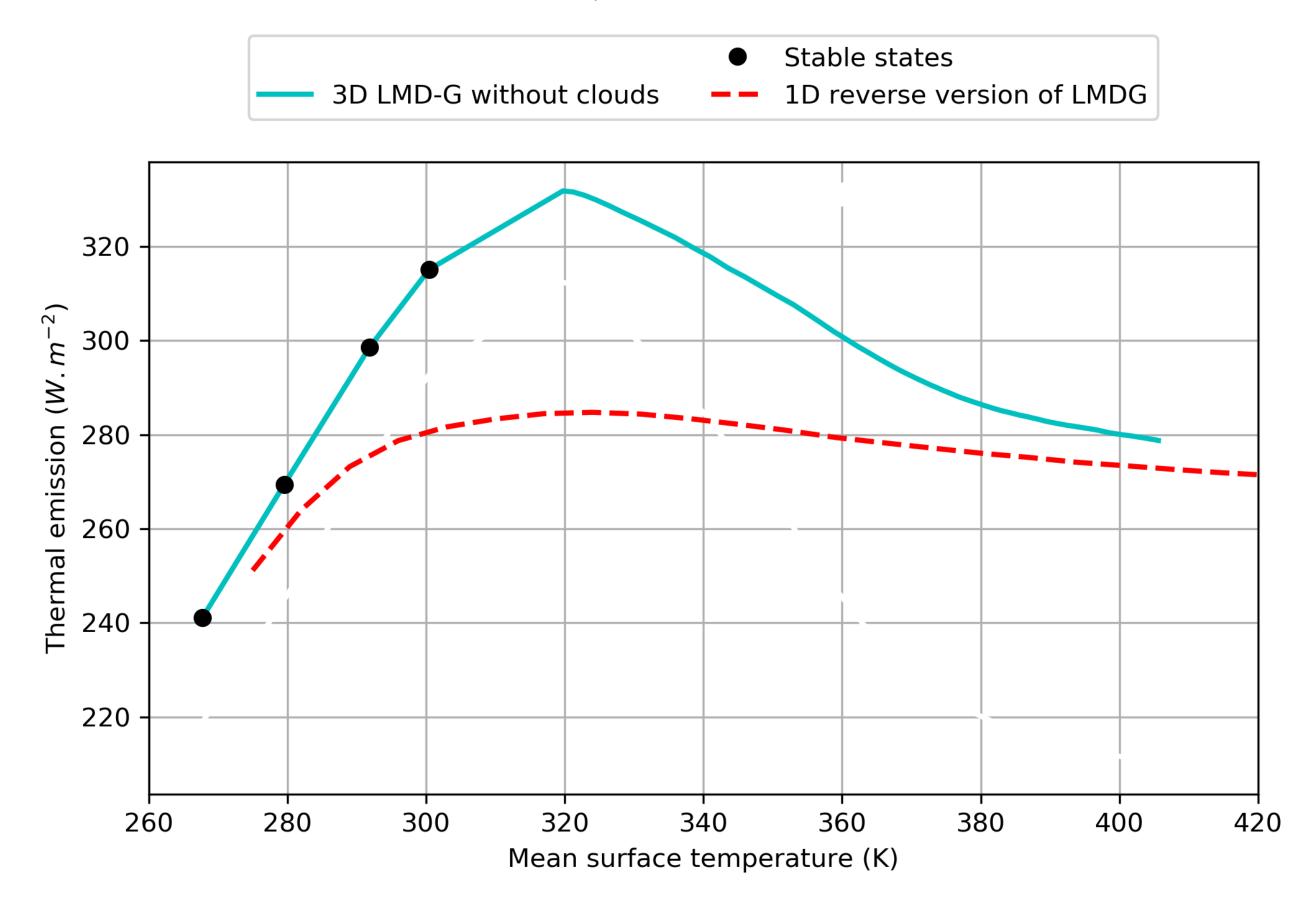
5) Volatile condensation on the surface and in the atmosphere

Courtesy Emeline Bolmont
Inspired by Martin Turbet

The onset Without clouds

Preliminary results

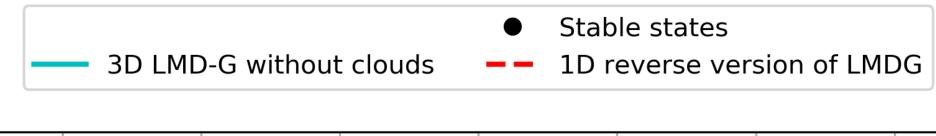


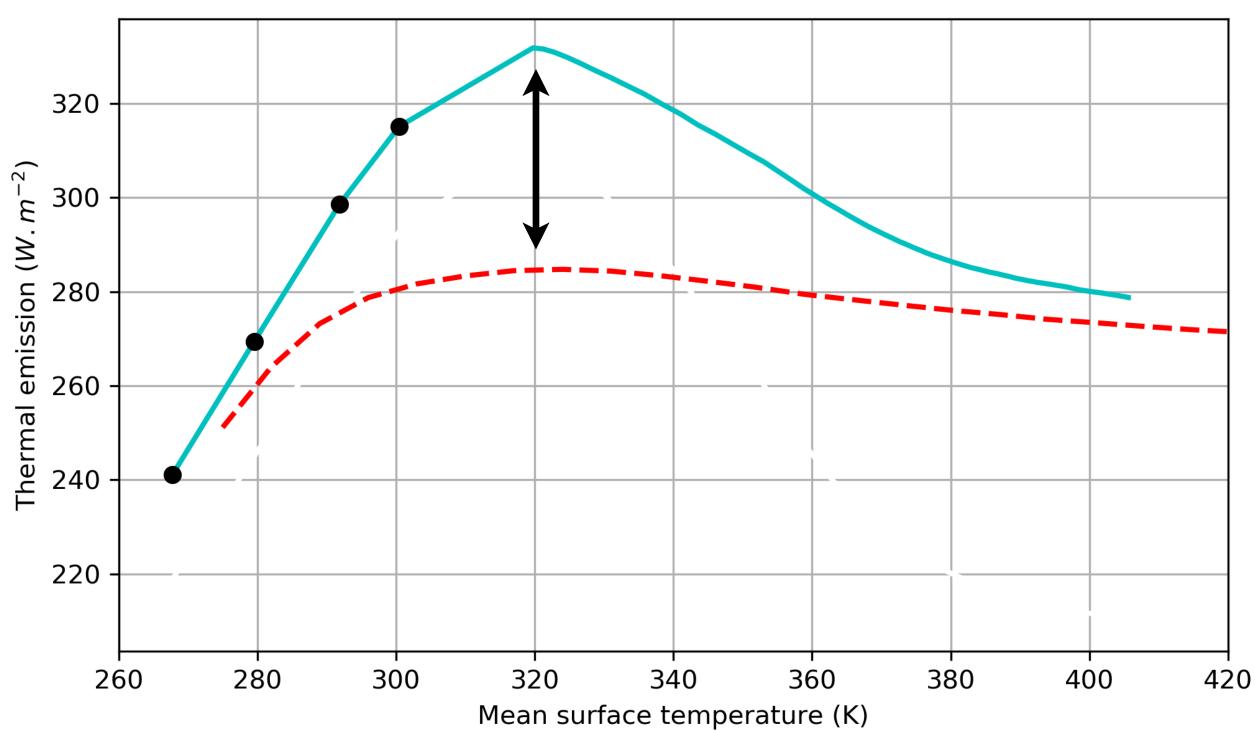


Preliminary results

The onset Without clouds

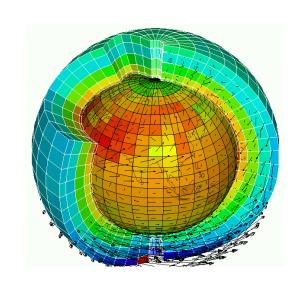
The maximum thermal emission is stronger in the simulation using the 3D LMD-Generic model

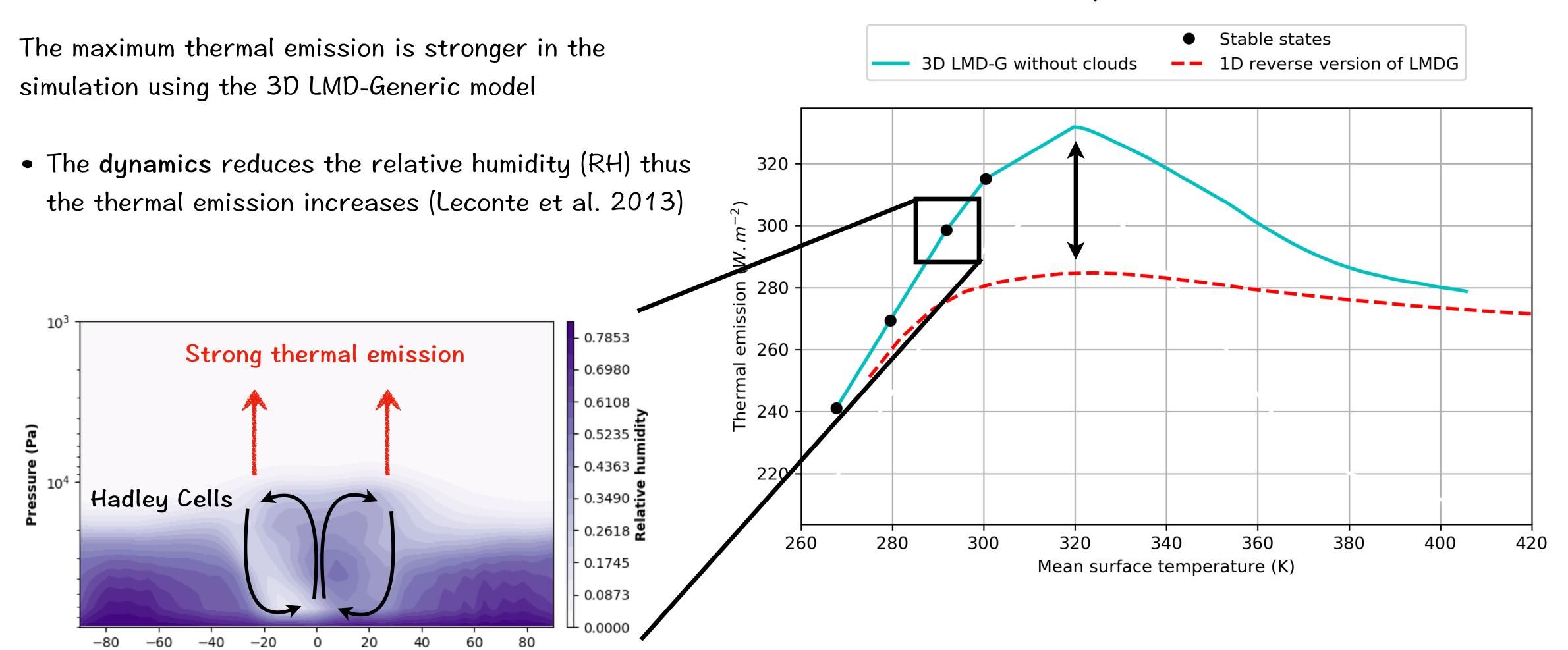




The onset The dynamics

Latitude



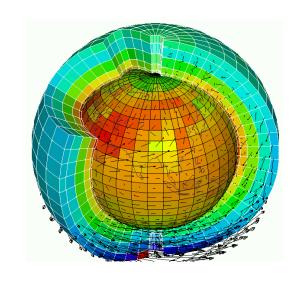


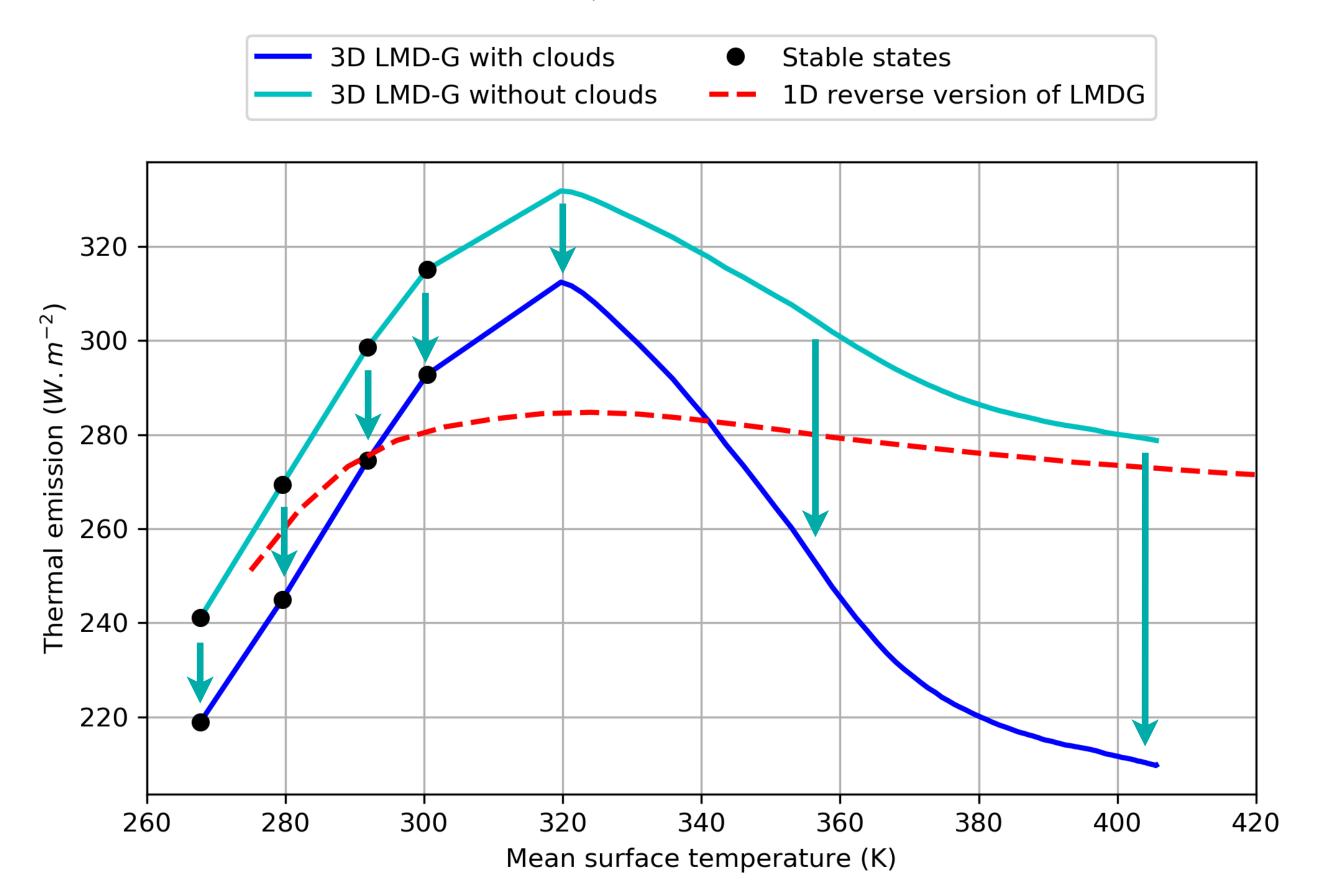
Preliminary results

The onset Effect of the clouds

The maximum thermal emission is stronger in the simulation using the 3D LMD-Generic model

• The clouds reduce the thermal emission





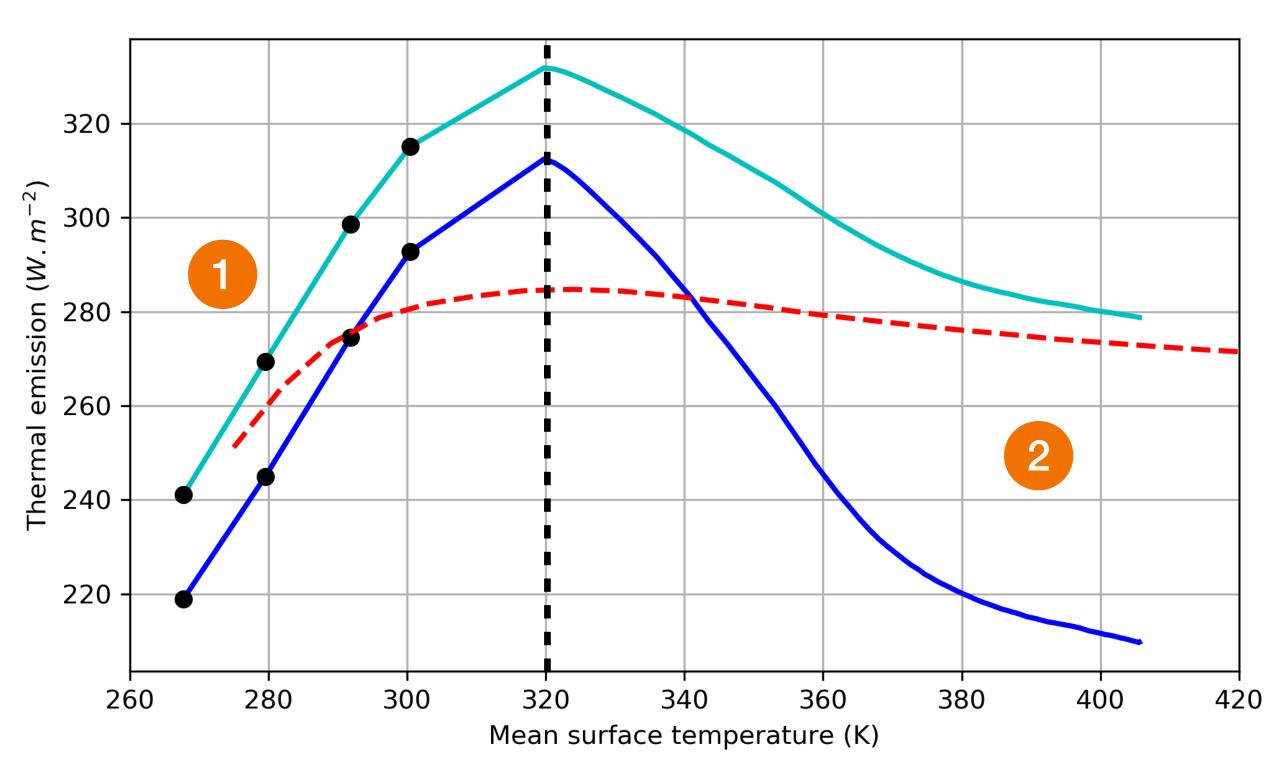
The onset Effect of the clouds

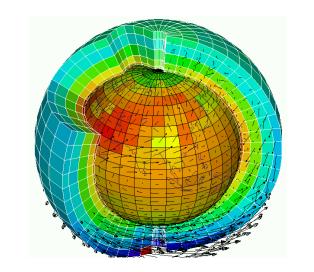
The maximum thermal emission is stronger in the simulation using the 3D LMD-Generic model

• The clouds reduce the thermal emission

- 1. Constant difference between thermal emission with/without clouds -> constant cloud layer
- 2. Strong evaporation -> more clouds



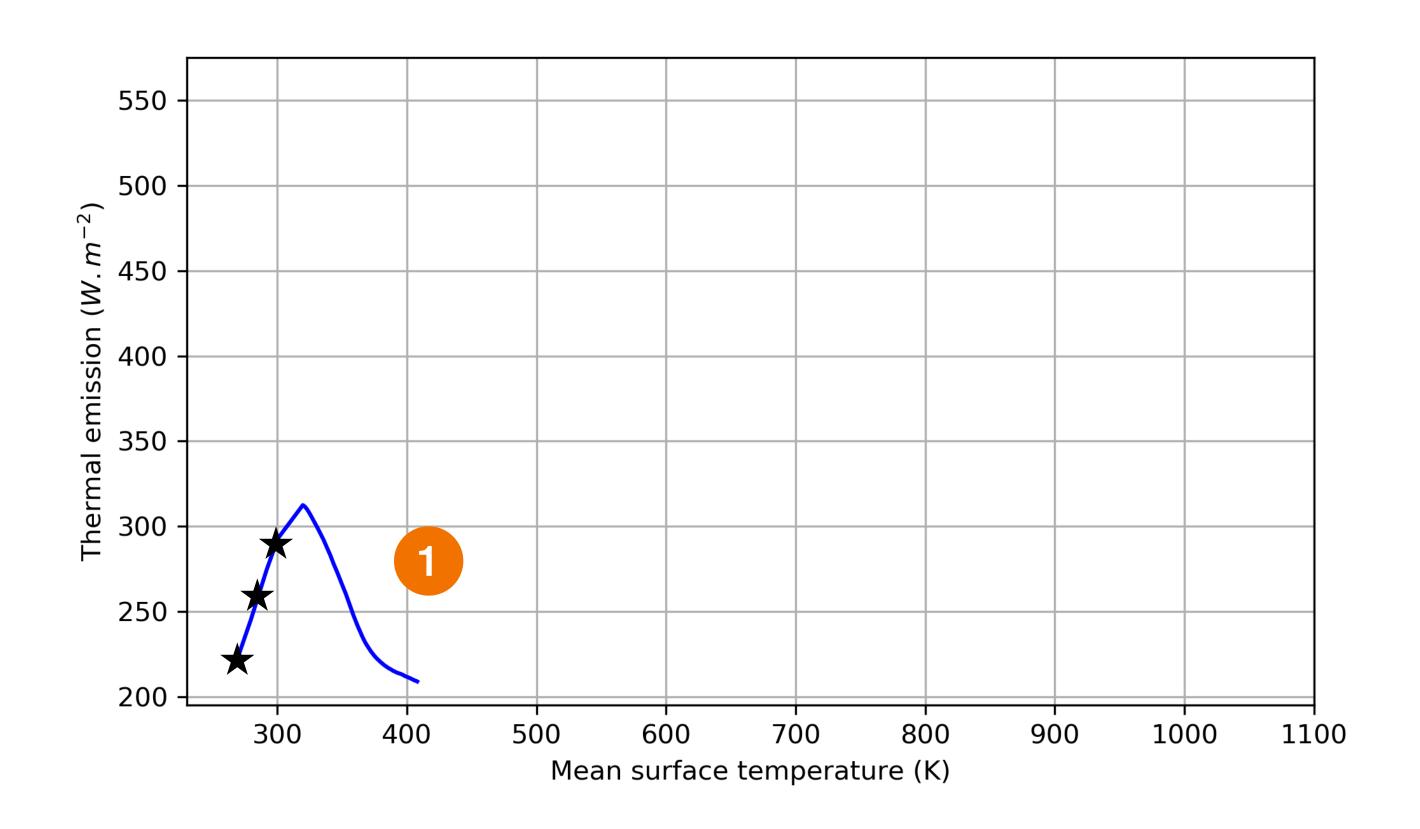




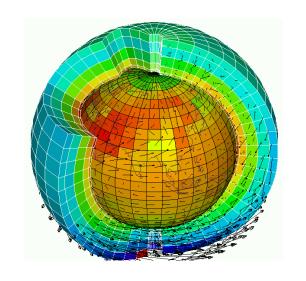
Evap. phase

1) The thermal emission decreases during the evaporation phase

-> No moist stable states with LMD-Generic



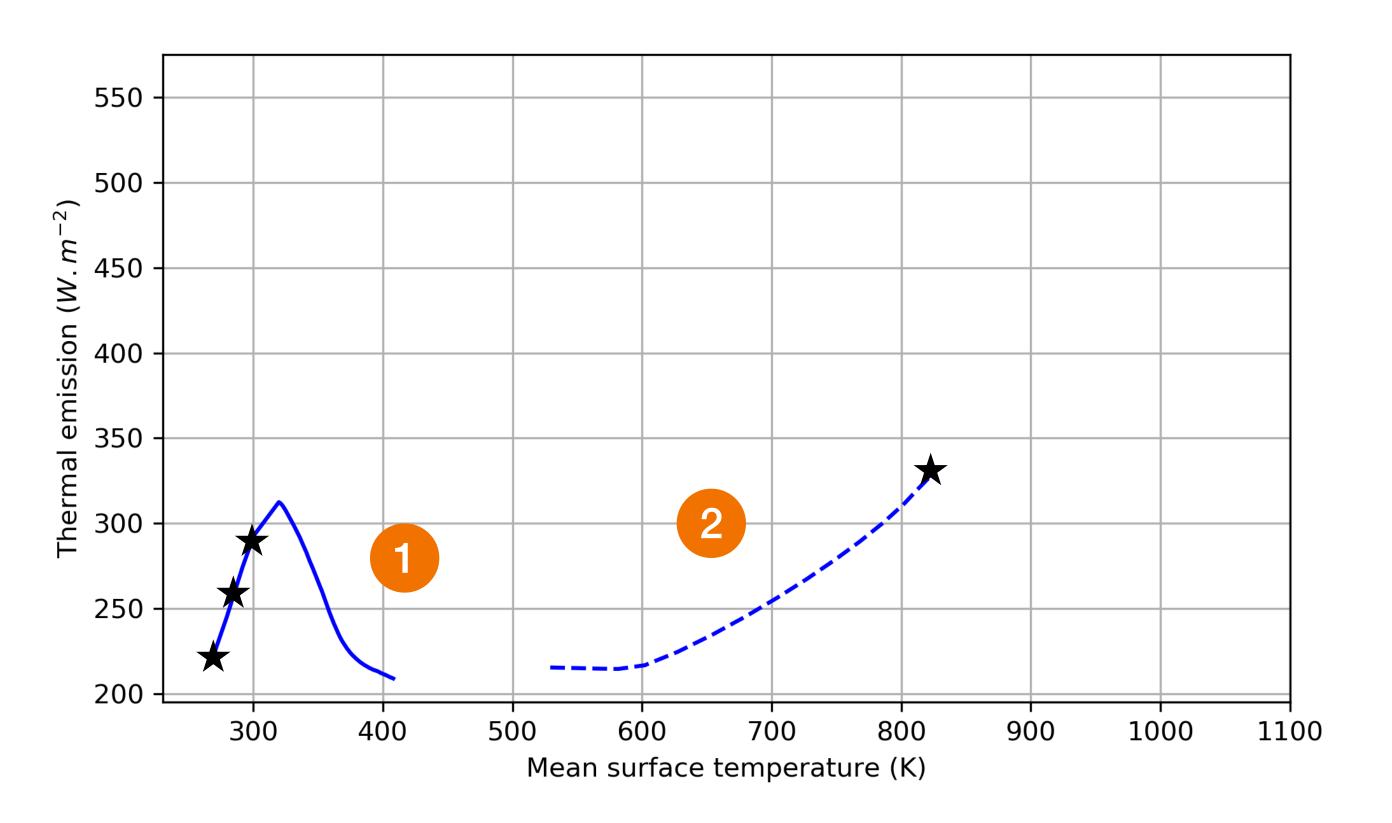
★ Stable states



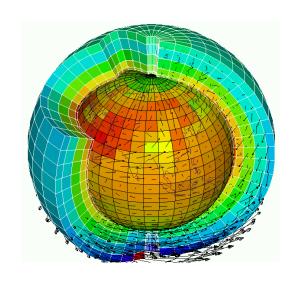
1) The thermal emission decreases during the evaporation phase

2) When there is no remaining ocean, the temperature inscreases rapidly and asymptotically

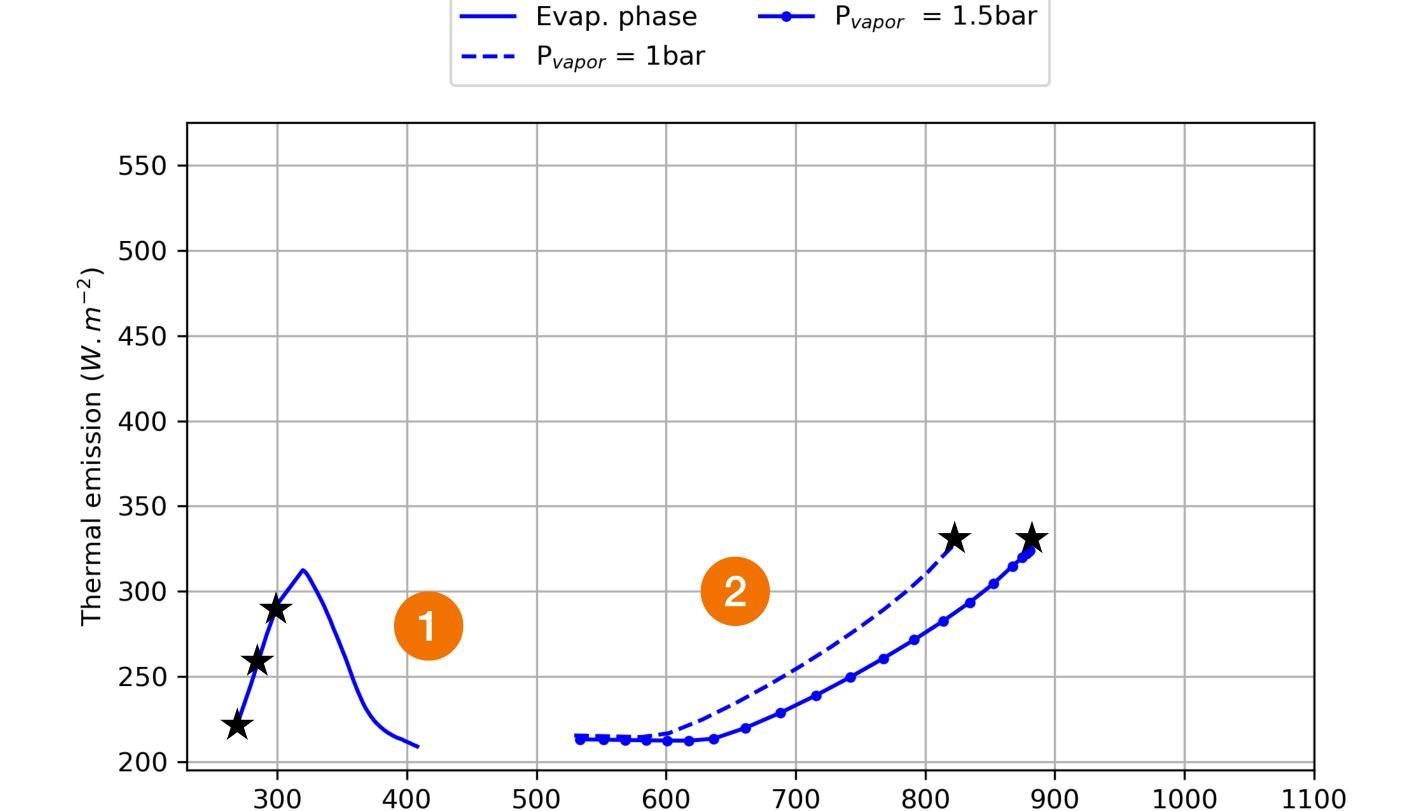




★ Stable states

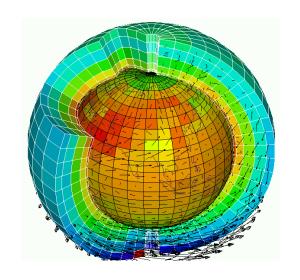


- 1) The thermal emission decreases during the evaporation phase
- 2) When there is no remaining ocean, the temperature inscreases rapidly and asymptotically (function of the vapor pressure and the insolation)

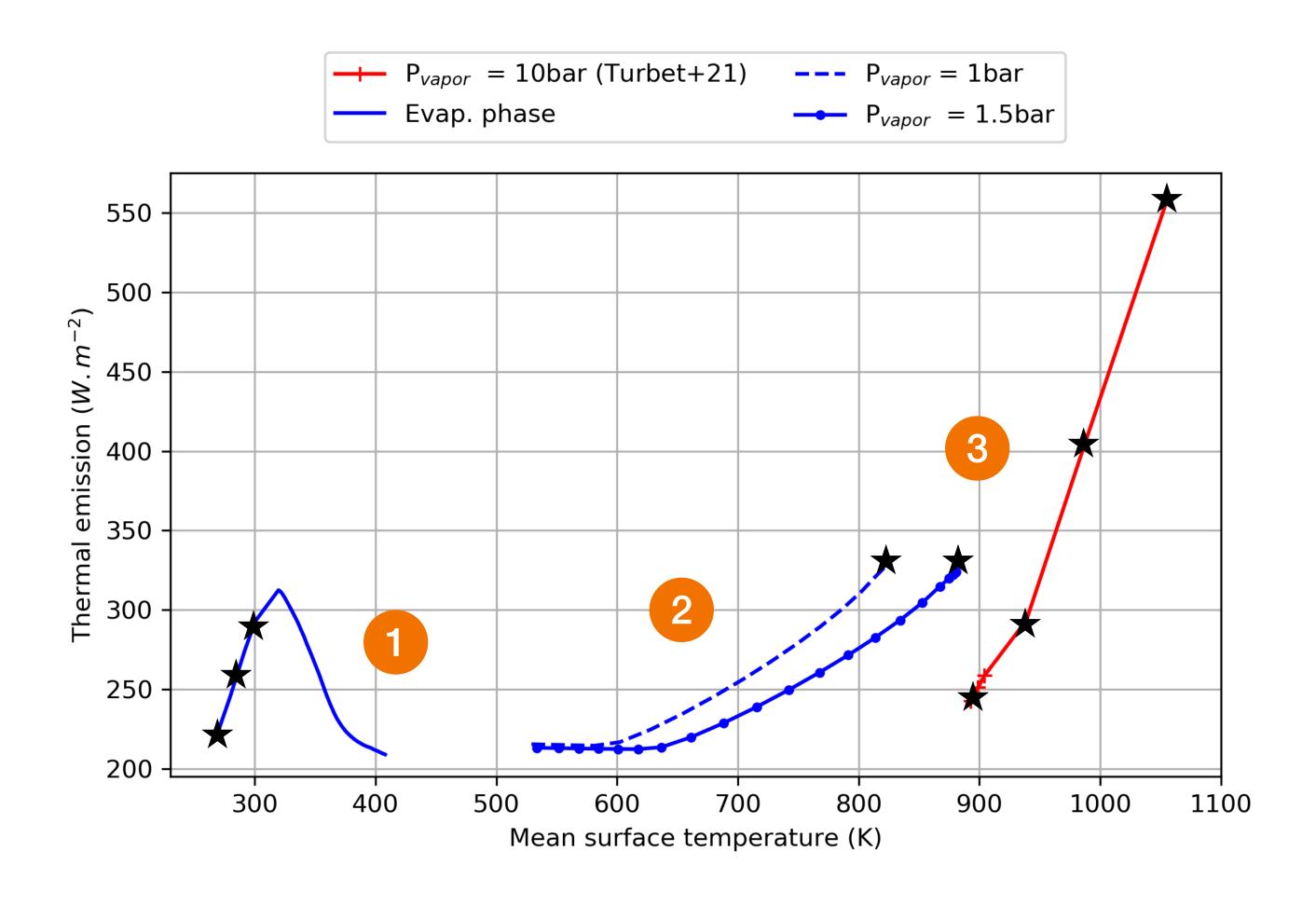




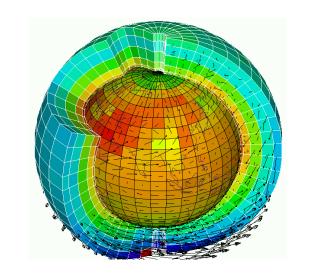
Mean surface temperature (K)



- 1) The thermal emission decreases during the evaporation phase
- 2) When there is no remaining ocean, the temperature inscreases rapidly and asymptotically (function of the vapor pressure and the insolation)
- 3) The thermal emission increases again to reach a post runaway state



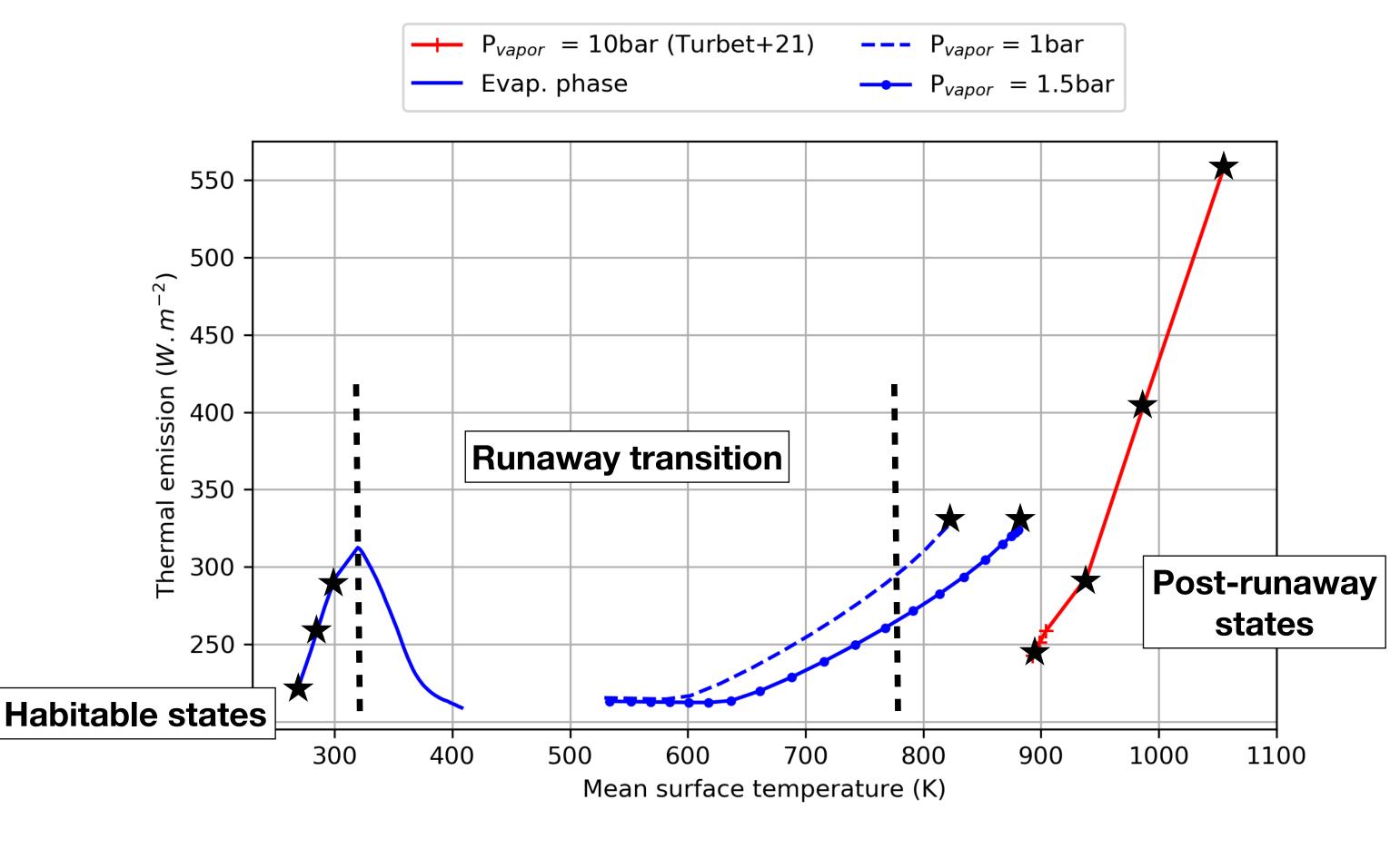




1) The thermal emission decreases during the evaporation phase

2) When there is no remaining ocean, the temperature inscreases rapidly and asymptotically (function of the vapor pressure and the insolation)

3) The thermal emission increases again to reach a post runaway state





Take away messages

Conclusions of the GCMs simulations:

- The dynamics is the key process for temperate stable states
- The runaway transition is determined by the evolution of the cloud coverage
- After an evaporation phase, when there is no remaing ocean the temperature increase quickly to reach a post runaway state
- Theses post runaway states depend on the vapor pressure

