

To whom it may concern

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Re: Dr. Quentin Coopman's application for a CNRS Associate Scientist position

It is my great pleasure to recommend Dr. Quentin Coopman for a position as Associate Scientist at CNRS. Having worked with him for over 3 years, I see him as a highly promising early-career scientist with all the required qualities for a very productive scientific career.

I met Dr. Coopman in early 2017 at a workshop, where his poster presentation (for which he won the best poster award) caught my attention. A couple of months later, I was able to convince him to take up a position as postdoctoral scientist in my group, funded by the ERC Starting Grant C2Phase. He started this position in July 2017. In the C2Phase team, he took a special role as expert on remote sensing of mixed-phase clouds, while my own expertise and the roles of the other team members are focused on numerical modelling. In C2Phase, we are successfully bringing these two views together, and Dr. Coopman has contributed substantially to this. His task in the project is to carry out analyses of cloud glaciation from different remote sensing datasets, which he does with excellent technical knowledge and skills, selecting the most suitable methods e.g. for statistical analysis or for tracking of cloud objects. He is enormously creative in developing the ideas further as well as initiating new projects. He is always eager to listen and learn from others while sharing his own ideas generously, making him an important contributor also to other projects in my group. Here at KIT, he has taken advantage of the expertise in numerical modelling and trained himself to understand and apply a cloud resolving model to the cases for which he also has observations. This will certainly benefit his future research projects. While working with me, he has successfully published two manuscripts on his work at KIT in the Journal of Geophysical Research, submitted another one to Geophysical Research Letters, and has a fourth first-author manuscripts in the pipeline. Furthermore, he will be coauthor on at least two publications lead by other group members. His analyses and results are original, solid (because Dr. Coopman always thoroughly tests the results from different angles), and well presented with high quality graphics and text. With his wide knowledge of the literature, he takes inspiration from many different areas of science and transfers methods and ideas to his own work. He is open and curious and actively seeks collaborations, both with key persons in his own research area, as well as with persons from other areas if he sees a potential for synergy.

In addition to the high-level research in his postdoctoral project, Dr. Coopman has voluntarily contributed to teaching in the MSc course in Cloud Physics at KIT. He is a dedicated teacher and structures the material in a way that is accessible to the audience. Furthermore, Dr. Coopman has acted as the direct supervisor of a 12-month MSc thesis on a topic defined by him and closely related to his research. This thesis project was very successful, and the student acquired an excellent grade.

In summary, I have seen many concrete examples of Dr. Coopman's potential for a very successful career as a scientist. He has a sharp mind, is very intelligent and knowledgeable, has outstanding technical and presentation skills, and has already built up a wide network in the scientific community. On an interpersonal level, he is a very good team player, but has shown clear potential for leadership. Given that he is only three years past his PhD, Dr. Coopman's track record is very impressive. In his research plan for the CNRS Associate Scientist position, he identifies important research questions, which are broad enough to last for multiple years of work. In particular, the model-satellite intercomparability and creation of synergies between these two approaches is a very important problem, for which Dr. Coopman has the ideal background and fresh ideas. It would be a great pleasure for me to continue my collaboration with Dr. Coopman, and I hope that you will consider him for the announced position.

Sincerely,



Corinna Hoose
Professor of Theoretical Meteorology
Head of the Cloud Physics group at IMK-TRO