The new model system ICON-MUSCAT – first European air quality simulations

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Motivation

- Air pollutants from local sources and long-range transport seriously affect the local climate, the ecosystem and human health.
- 3D aerosol-chemistry modeling can help understanding the complex multiphase atmospheric processes involved.



Outline

- Motivation
- The multiscale aerosol-chemistry transport model MUSCAT
- Coupling of ICON and MUSCAT
- First air quality simulations Melpitz Column 2015
- Summary and Outlook



Model system COSMO-MUSCAT



Wolke et al., 2012

Model system COSMO-MUSCAT

- Chemistry ("read in")
 - Gas phase: RACM (Stockwell et al., 1997) + MIM2 (Taraborelli et al., 2009)
 - Aqueous phase: CAPRAM

Aerosol model

- Mass-based approach (similar to EMEP) OR
- Modal scheme M7 (Vignati et al., 2004) extended by nitrate and ammonium and SIA by ISORROPIA I (Nenes et al., 1998)
- Dust: sectional, 5 size bins (Tegen et al., 2002; Heinold et al., 2011)
- Dry and wet deposition, sedimentation
- **SOA scheme:** Modified SORGAM (Schell et al., 2001; Li et al., 2013)

Emissions

- Anthropogenic (11 snaps, area + point, land fires)
- Biogenic (Steinbrecher et al., 2009)
- Sea salt (Sofiev et al., 2013)

Numerical approaches in MUSCAT

- Spatial discretization
 - Staggered grid, Finite-volume techniques
 - Advection: Third-order upwind scheme
- Time integration: IMEX scheme
 - Explicit second-order Runge-Kutta for horizontal advection
 - Second order BDF method for the rest: Jacobian is calculated explicitly, linear system by Gauss-Seidel iterations
 - Automatic time-step control
- Parallelization
 - Domain decomposition
 - **Dynamical load-balancing** by redistribution of blocks



Hill Cap Cloud Thuringia 2010 (HCCT-2010)

A ground-based integrated study of chemical aerosol-cloud interaction



 3-site ground-based Langrangian experiment at Mt. Schmücke, Germany, to study physico-chemical multiphase processing of aerosol particles during orographic cloud events; focus on organic particles and gas phase oxidants.

3D modelling of SOA formation

Towards a better representation of secondary particle formation



 Investigating different ways to improve the model representation of SOA formation; evaluation against timely highly resolved measurements.

SALTRACE (www.pa.op.dlr.de/saltrace)

Saharan Aerosol Long-range Transport & Aerosol-Cloud-Interaction Experiment



 German initiative to study the long-range transport of Saharan dust into the Caribbean focusing on particle aging, mixing, and removal processes, as well as aerosol-cloud-radiation interactions.

Online coupling of ICON and MUSCAT

- Additional Eulerian transport scheme
- Advection scheme "third-order upwind"
- Runge-Kutta IMEX scheme: horizontal transport explicitly, vertical transport and chemistry implicitly
- #ifdef MUSCAT compiler directives in ICON subroutines
- Separate MUSCAT subdirectory
- ICON-style namelist for MUSCAT

&MUSCAT_nml	
MUSCAT	= .true.
MUSCAT_lvadv_tracer	= .true.
MUSCAT_lhadv_tracer	= .true.
MUSCAT_Chemie= 1	
MUSCAT_dust	= 0
MUSCAT_drydep	= 1
MUSCAT_wetdep= 1	
MUSCAT_areaemiss	= 1
MUSCAT_pointemiss	= 0
MUSCAT_input_name	= "maccIcon"
MUSCAT_aemiss_file	= "muscatICONEmiss.nc"
MUSCAT_latbc	= 1
MUSCAT_dt_latbc	= 10800
/	

Advection scheme



- Polynomial interpolation, different stencils
- Outgoing flux from corresponding edge value
- Realized with tools from ICON
- Other stencils possible



IMEX time integration scheme

$$c' = \frac{f_E(t,c)}{f_I(t,c)} + \frac{f_I(t,c)}{f_I(t,c)}$$

where $f_E(t, c)$ represents the horizontal advection and $f_I(t, c)$ includes the vertical transport processes and the chemistry.



Test case – Melpitz Column Experiment

Goals:

- Detailed characterization of atmospheric column with focus on aerosol and its optical properties
- Evaluating comparability of ground and airborne in-situ observations and remote sensing



May – Jul 2015

Column:

- Continuously by remote sensing (lidar, radar...)
- In-situ airborne measurements during intensive periods

Observations completed by modelling studies

Very detailed in-situ characterization on ground



Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research

Melpitz Column

Intensive field campaign: May – Jul 2015, follow-up campaign in Jan/Feb 2017



Melpitz

- TROPOS' rural background site 40 km NE of Leipzig, member of ACTRIS network
- Long-term (> 20 yr) physico-chemical aerosol characterization, including analysis for ions, OC/EC and specific organics

Model setup – Melpitz Column 2015



- Meteorology: ICON nwp-2.0.15
- Transport scheme MUSCAT
- Horizontal grid: R3B07 (13 km), 60 vertical layers
- Initial / boundary conditions: ECMWF-IFS, MACC
- Emission inventory: MACC 2009 (7.5 km) / IIASA 2010 (30km)
- Chemistry: RACM-MIM2 (99 gas species, 274 reactions)

Period of interest:

1st May - 15th Jul 2015

First ICON-MUSCAT results

26 Jun 2015 00 UTC + 72 hrs





ICON-MUSCAT vs. EURAD forecast

Surface level 28 Jun 2015

Summary



- The aerosol-chemistry-transport code has been coupled to the ICON model.
- First air pollution simulations demonstrate the principle functionality of the new model system.

Next steps and plans for the future

- Complete functionality of MUSCAT model
 - Automatic time-step control
 - Biogenic and marine aerosol emissions and secondary aerosol formation
 - Aerosol feedback on radiation and cloud microphysics in ICON
 - Nesting capability
- Intensive testing, including comparisons to observations and COSMO-MUSCAT simulations
- Global & Arctic-focused aerosol simulations within the DFG-Transregio (AC)³ – ArctiC Amplification:
 Climate Relevant Atmospheric and SurfaCe and Feedback Mechanisms



ICON grid with Arctic nest

