Modelling air quality in the Lake Baikal region

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Objectives of the study The AURORA model Results and discussion Conclusions





1. Objectives

- Bilateral scientific co-operation between Russia (INM-RAS) and Flanders (VITO) with the aim:
 - to mutually exchange expertise on transportchemistry modelling and aerosol physics and chemistry in order to attain improved atmospheric modelling capabilities in both countries
 - to perform a joint validation study for simulation domains in Russia and Flanders







Studying aerosol formation in the Antwerp area

Modelling air quality in the lake Baikal region



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2. The AURORA model

Air quality modelling in Urban Regions using an Optimal Resolution Approach

- 3-dimensional Eulerian grid model for meteorologyemissions-transport-chemistry
- different scales : regional -> urban scale, street-box submodel
- meteorology from ARPS model (wind, turbulent diffusion, temperature, ...)





2. The AURORA model

- emissions from various sectors : traffic, industry, domestic combustion, biogene emissions, ...
- transport : Walcek advection, Crank-Nicholson diffusion
- chemistry :
 - Carbon-Bond IV gas-phase chemistry with isoprene, limited PM
 - CACM gas phase mechanism + MADRID2 aerosol module
 - PAH (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon) version
- output : hourly gridded pollutant concentrations (O3, PM10, PM2.5, NO2, benzene, PAH, ...)











advection



Surface module: LAICa



validation meteorology (T, q, R_s)



validation O₃ concentrations



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3. Results for lake Baikal

- Lake Baikal is the largest fresh water lake in the world
- The region is characterised by complex terrain, consisting of steep and densely forested hill slopes surrounding the lake
- A challenge with respect to the correct simulation of atmospheric dynamics and turbulence.
- Emissions: few large point sources, which are the dominant sources of air pollution in this area, but no information on other emissions in a wider area





ARPS – AURORA coupling and nesting



AURORA :: nesting levels



AURORA input: terrain data for 3-km domain



Domain: 150km x 150km @ 3km resolution Terrain data:

- vegetation information
- land use
- sea surface temperature : MODIS
- topography

- : VEGETATION / SPOT
 - : GLC2000

 - : Digital Elevation Model

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AURORA input: emission data

- Two approaches :
 - Bottom up
 - local emission = activity × activity factor
 - Top down
 - local emission = proportion of total emission
- Top down emission modeling :

Emission inventory at low resolution

Geographical databases : land use, population density, road networks, large point sources, ... Gridded emission data at high resolution

Top down emission modelling :: NOx emissions from EDGAR database



EDGAR 3.2 database provides emission data for 1995 :

- on a 1x1 degree grid
- per country



AURORA: input emission data

NOx emissions for 30km, 10km and 3km resolution domains



AURORA: input emission data

SO2 emissions for 3km resolution domains





ARPS: meteo results



average temperature, July 2003 : - Baikal lake : hotter water - city of Irkutsk: urban heat island

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ARPS: validation meteo







ARPS: day and night breezes





AURORA: average concentration fields



SO2 and NO2 concentration fields for the 10km resolution domain



AURORA: modelled SO2 concentrations



AURORA: validation SO2 concentrations



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4. Conclusions

- Modelling air quality in this part of the world is a challenge !
- The ARPS model can predict some part of the dynamics, especially in the first part of July.
- Emission data are difficult to obtain.
- Background SO₂ concentrations (Mondy) seem ok, but the SO₂ concentrations near the main sources are overestimated by +/- a factor of two.
- Further analysis of the results is needed



And... yes, this was also part of the bilateral co-operation...

