

AtChem2 manual

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Chapter 1

Introduction

AtChem2 is a modelling software designed to build and run atmospheric chemistry box-models using the Master Chemical Mechanism (MCM). It can also be used with other chemical mechanisms, as long as they are provided in the FACSIMILE format (see [2.1 Chemical Mechanism](#)).

AtChem2 was developed from **AtChem-online** (<https://atchem.leeds.ac.uk/webapp/>) with the objective to create a software able to run large atmospheric chemistry models. AtChem-online is a web tool developed at the University of Leeds as part of the EUROCHAMP project. It was designed to facilitate the use of the MCM in the simulation of environmental chamber experiments. A tutorial for AtChem-online, with examples and exercises, is available on the MCM website. A help page with detailed instructions and description of the model parameters and variables is available [here](#).

The latest stable version of Atchem2 can be found at the releases page. The development version can be downloaded from the master branch or obtained via **git**. To install and run AtChem2 follow the instructions on the [installation](#), [Installation](#) and [dependencies](#) pages.

AtChem2 is open source, under **MIT license**. For instructions on how to cite the model in publications, see the `CITATION.md` file. The contributors and funders of **AtChem-online** and **AtChem2** are listed in the [credits page](#) and [Credits](#).

Bug reports, suggestions and contributions are welcome. In order to contribute to the model development, please follow the instructions in the corresponding [wiki page](#).

Chapter 2

Installation

AtChem2 can be installed on Linux/Unix or macOS. A working knowledge of the **unix shell** and its basic commands is *required* to install and use the model.

2.0.1 Download

There are two versions of AtChem2: the stable version and the development version, also known as `master branch` (see the [\[\[model development page|3. Model Development\]\]](#) for additional information). The source code can be obtained in two ways:

1. with **git**:

1. Open the terminal. Move to the directory where you want to install AtChem2.
2. Execute `git clone https://github.com/AtChem/AtChem2.git` (if using HTTPS) or `git clone git@github.com:AtChem/AtChem2.git` (if using SSH). This method will download the development version and it is recommended if you want to contribute to the model development.

2. with the **archive file** (*.tar.gz or *.zip):

1. Download the archive file of the stable version (<https://github.com/AtChem/AtChem2/releases>) or of the development version (<https://github.com/AtChem/AtChem2/archive/master.zip>) to the directory where you want to install AtChem2.
2. Open the terminal. Move to the directory where you downloaded the archive file.
3. Unpack the archive file (e.g., `tar -zxvf v1.1.tar.gz` or `unzip master.zip`).

52 Depending on which of these methods you have used, the source code is now
53 in a directory called `AtChem2` or `AtChem2-1.1` or `AtChem2-master`. This
54 directory - which you can rename, if you want to - is the *main directory* of the
55 model. In the documentation we will assume that the *AtChem2 main directory* is
56 `$HOME/AtChem2`.

57 2.0.2 Requirements

58 `AtChem2` needs the following tools:

- 59 • a Fortran compiler: the model compiles with GNU `gfortran` (version
60 4.8.5) and with Intel `ifort` (version 17.0)
- 61 • Python 2.7.x
- 62 • `cmake`
- 63 • Ruby 2.0 (optional)

64 Some or all of these tools may already be present on your system. Use the
65 `which` command to find out (e.g., `which python`, `which cmake`, etc...).
66 Otherwise, check the local documentation or ask the system administrator.

67 In addition, `AtChem2` has the following dependencies:

- 68 • the `CVODE` library
- 69 • the `openlibm` library
- 70 • the `BLAS` and `LAPACK` libraries
- 71 • `numdiff` (optional)
- 72 • `FRUIT` (optional)

73 For detailed instructions on the installation and configuration of the dependen-
74 cies go to: [\[\[1.1 Dependencies\]\]](#).

75 2.0.3 Install

76 To install `AtChem2`:

- 77 1. Move to the *AtChem2 main directory* (`cd ~/AtChem2/`). Install the [\[\[de-
78 dependencies|1.1 Dependencies\]\]](#) and take note of the name and path of the
79 *dependencies directory* (in the following instructions, we will assume that
80 the *dependencies directory* is `~/atchem-libraries/`).
- 81 2. Copy the `Makefile` in the `tools/` directory to the *main directory* (`cp
82 tools/Makefile ./`).

- 83 3. From the the *main directory*, open the Makefile with a text editor. Set
84 the variables CVODELIB, OPENLIBMDIR, FRUITDIR to the paths of the
85 CVODE, openlibm and FRUIT libraries, as described in the [[dependencies
86 page|1.1 Dependencies]]. Use the full path to the libraries, not the relative
87 path (see issue #364). For example: CVODELIB = \$(HOME)/atchem-libraries/cvode,
88 OPENLIBMDIR = \$(HOME)/atchem-libraries/openlibm-0.4.1
89 FRUITDIR = \$(HOME)/atchem-libraries/fruit_3.4.3
- 90 4. Execute ./tools/build.sh ./tools/mcm_example.fac. This com-
91 mand compiles the model and creates an executable (atchem2) using the
92 test mechanism file mcm_example.fac in the tools/ directory.
- 93 5. Execute ./atchem2. If the model has been installed correctly, you should
94 see a message similar to this: “————— Final statistics —————
95 — No. steps = 546 No. f-s = 584 No. J-s = 912 No. LU-s = 56 No. nonlinear
96 iterations = 581 No. nonlinear convergence failures = 0 No. error test failures
97 = 4
98 Runtime = 0 Deallocating memory. “

99 This means that AtChem2 has completed the test run without errors and is
100 ready to be used. The directory structure of AtChem2 is described [[here|1.2 Model
101 Structure]]. For instructions on how to set up, compile and execute the model go
102 to: [[2. Model Setup and Execution]].

103 **Note for macOS users**

104 When you first run AtChem2, you may receive an error message like this:

```
105 dyld: Library not loaded: @rpath/lib sundials_cvode.2.dylib  
106 Referenced from: /Users/username/AtChem2/./atchem2  
107 Reason: image not found  
108 Abort trap: 6
```

109 In this case, type at the terminal prompt the following command (change the
110 path to the CVODE library as appropriate):

```
111 export DYLD_LIBRARY_PATH=$(HOME)/atchem-libraries/cvode/lib
```

112 To make it permanent, add the command to your ~/.bash_profile file.
113 Advanced users may wish to use instead the accepted answer in this Stack Overflow
114 post to hardcode rpath in this instance for each of lib sundials_cvode.2.dylib,
115 lib sundials_fvecserial.2.dylib, lib sundials_vecserial.2.dylib.

116 2.0.4 Tests (optional)

117 You can run the [\[\[Test Suite|3.1 Test Suite\]\]](#) to verify that AtChem2 has been in-
118 stalled properly and to make sure that changes to the code do not result in un-
119 intended behaviour. This is recommended if you want to contribute to the model
120 development. Note that running the Test Suite requires the optional dependencies
121 to be installed, as explained in the [\[\[dependencies page|1.1 Dependencies\]\]](#).

122 To run the tests, execute the following commands from the *AtChem2 main di-*
123 *rectory*: `* make alltests` runs all the tests (requires **numdiff** and **FRUIT**) `* make tests`
124 runs only the behaviour tests (requires **numdiff**) `* make unittests`
125 runs only the unit tests (requires **FRUIT**)

126 For more information on the Test Suite go to the corresponding [\[\[wiki page|3.1](#)
127 [Test Suite\]\]](#).

Chapter 3

Dependencies

AtChem2 has a number of dependencies (external tools and libraries): some are required and without them the model cannot be installed or used, others are optional. We suggest to use a single directory for all the dependencies; the *dependencies directory* can be located anywhere and called as you prefer. In the documentation, we will assume that the *dependencies directory* is `$HOME/atchem-libraries/`.

Before installing the dependencies, make sure that Fortran, Python, cmake and (optionally) Ruby are installed on your system, as explained in the [[installation page|1. Installation]].

3.0.5 Required dependencies

BLAS and LAPACK

BLAS and LAPACK are standard Fortran libraries for linear algebra. They are needed to install and compile the CVODE library (see below). Usually, they are in `/usr/lib/` (e.g., `/usr/lib/libblas/` and `/usr/lib/lapack/`). The location may be different, especially if you are on an HPC system, so check the local documentation or ask the system administrator.

CVODE

AtChem2 uses the CVODE library, which is part of the SUNDIALS suite, to solve the system of ordinary differential equation (ODE). The current version of CVODE is 2.9.0 (part of SUNDIALS 2.7.0) and can be installed using the `install_cvode.sh` script in the `tools/install/` directory.

1. Move to the *AtChem2 main directory* (e.g., `cd ~/AtChem2`).
2. Open the installation script (`tools/install/install_cvode.sh`) with a text editor:

- 153 1. If LAPACK and BLAS are not in the default location on your system
154 (see above), change the `LAPACK_LIBS` variable for your architecture
155 (Linux or macOS), as appropriate.
- 156 2. If you are not using the `gcc` compiler (`gfortran` is part of `gcc`),
157 change the line `-DCMAKE_C_COMPILER:FILEPATH=gcc` \ accordingly.
158
- 159 3. From the *AtChem2* main directory, run the installation script (change the
160 path of the *dependencies* directory as needed): `./tools/install/install_cvode.sh`
161 `~/atchem-libraries/`

162 If the installation is successful, there should be a working CVODE installa-
163 tion at `~/atchem-libraries/cvode/`. The path to the CVODE library is
164 `~/atchem-libraries/cvode/lib/`.

165 **openlibm**

166 openlibm is a portable version of the `libm` library. Installing this library and link-
167 ing against it allows reproducible results by ensuring the same implementation of
168 several mathematical functions across platforms.

169 The current version of openlibm is 0.4.1 and can be installed using the `install_openlibm.sh`
170 script in the `tools/install/` directory.

- 171 1. Move to the *AtChem2* main directory (e.g., `cd ~/AtChem2`).
- 172 2. Run the installation script (change the path of the *dependencies* directory as
173 needed): `./tools/install/install_openlibm.sh ~/atchem-libraries/`

174 If the installation is successful, there should be a working openlibm installation
175 at `~/atchem-libraries/openlibm-0.4.1/`.

176 **3.0.6 Optional dependencies**

177 **numdiff**

178 numdiff is a program used to compare files containing numerical fields. It is needed
179 only if you want to run the [[Test Suite|3.1 Test Suite]], a series of tests to ensure
180 that the model works properly. Installation of numdiff is recommended if you want
181 to contribute to the development of AtChem2.

182 Use `which numdiff` to check if the program is already installed on your
183 system. If not, you can install it locally, for example in the *dependencies* directory.
184 Use the script `install_numdiff.sh` in the `tools/install/` directory.

- 185 1. Move to the *AtChem2* main directory (e.g., `cd ~/AtChem2`).
- 186 2. Run the installation script (change the path of the *dependencies* directory as
187 needed): `./tools/install/install_numdiff.sh ~/atchem-libraries/numdiff/`

- 188 3. Move to your `$HOME` directory (`cd ~`). Open the `.bash_profile` file (or
189 the `.profile` file, depending on your configuration) with a text editor. Add
190 the following line at the bottom of the file (change the path of the *dependen-*
191 *cies directory* as needed): `PATH=$PATH:$HOME/atchem-libraries/numdiff/bin`
- 192 4. Close the terminal.
- 193 5. Open the terminal and execute `which numdiff` to check that the program
194 has been installed correctly.

195 FRUIT

196 FRUIT (FORTRAN Unit Test Framework) is a unit test framework for Fortran.
197 It requires Ruby 2.0 and is needed only if you want to run the unit tests in the
198 `[[Test Suite|3.1 Test Suite]]`. Installation of FRUIT is recommended if you want to
199 contribute to the development of AtChem2.

200 The current version of FRUIT is 3.4.3 and can be installed using the `install_fruit.sh`
201 script in the `tools/install/` directory.

- 202 1. Move to the *AtChem2 main directory* (e.g., `cd ~/AtChem2`).
- 203 2. Run the installation script (change the path of the *dependencies directory* as
204 needed): `./tools/install/install_fruit.sh ~/atchem-libraries/`

205 If the installation is successful, there should be a working FRUIT installation
206 at `~/atchem-libraries/fruit_3.4.3/`.

Chapter 4

Model Structure

AtChem2 is organized in several directories containing the source code, the compilation files, the chemical mechanism, the model configuration and output files, a number of scripts to install and compile the model, plotting tools in various programming languages, and the test suite files.

The directory structure has changed with the release of **version 1.1** (November 2018). The following table shows the new structure and, for reference, the previous one.

v1.0	v1.1	description
<i>main directory</i>	<i>main directory</i>	information files (changelog, citation, license, readme) and auxiliary files for the test suite (<i>N.B.</i> : the <code>.gcda</code> and <code>.gcno</code> files are generated by the Fortran compiler during the build process).
–	<code>mcm/</code>	data files related to specific versions of the MCM: lists of organic peroxy radicals (RO ₂), parameters to calculate photolysis rates.
–	<code>model/</code>	model files: chemical mechanism (<code>.fac</code>), configuration, input, output.
<code>modelConfiguration</code>	<code>model//configuration</code>	model/configuration files and mechanism shared library.
–	<code>model/constraints</code>	model constraints.
<code>environmentConstraints</code>	<code>model/constraints/environment</code>	constrained environment variables.
<code>environmentConstraints</code>	<code>model/constraints/photolysis</code>	constrained photolysis rates.
<code>speciesConstraints</code>	<code>model/constraints/species</code>	constrained chemical species.

v1.0	v1.1	description
modelOutput/	model/output/	model output: chemical species, environment variables and photolysis rates, diagnostic variables, formatted production and loss rates of selected species.
instantaneousRates/	model/output/reactionRates/	model output: reaction rates of every reaction in the chemical mechanism.
obj/	obj/	files generated by the Fortran compiler.
src/	src/	Fortran source files.
-	src/gen/	Fortran source files generated by the compiler from the chemical mechanism.
tools/	tools/	Python and shell scripts to build and compile AtChem2, using the chemical mechanism, the configuration and the constraints in the model/ directory.
tools/install/	tools/install/	shell scripts to install the dependencies.
-	tools/plot/	scripts to plot the model results (gnuplot, Matlab/Octave, Python, R).
travis/	travis/	shell scripts to run the test suite.
travis/tests/	travis/tests/	behaviour tests.
-	travis/unit_tests/	unit tests.

216 The `model/` directory is the most important for the user: it includes the chemi-
 217 cal mechanism, the configuration files, the model constraints and the model output.
 218 The `model/` directory can be given any name and it can also be located outside of
 219 the *AtChem2* main directory.

220 There can be multiple `model/` directories (with different names) in the same
 221 location. As long as the correct paths are passed to the compilation and execution
 222 scripts, the model will compile and run. This approach gives the user the flexibility
 223 to run different versions of the same model or different models at the same time.
 224 For more information go to: [[2. Model Setup and Execution]].

Chapter 5

Model Setup and Execution

AtChem2 is designed to build and run atmospheric chemistry box-models based upon the Master Chemical Mechanism (MCM, <http://mcm.leeds.ac.uk/MCM/>). This page explains how to set up, compile and run an atmospheric chemistry box-model with AtChem2. The directory structure of AtChem2 is described [\[here\]](#) [\[1.2 Model Structure\]](#). A working knowledge of the **unix shell** and its basic commands is *required* to use the AtChem2 model.

There are two sets of inputs to AtChem2 - the mechanism file, and configuration files.

5.0.7 Mechanism file

The model requires a chemical mechanism in FACSIMILE format (`.fac`). The **mechanism file** can be downloaded from the MCM website using the extraction tool or assembled manually. The user can modify the `.fac` file as required with a text editor. This mechanism file is converted into a shared library and a set of associated data files in the compilation step below. For more information on the chemical mechanism go to: [\[2.1 Chemical Mechanism\]](#).

5.0.8 Configuration files

The **model configuration** is set via a number of text files located in the `model/configuration/` directory. The text files can be modified with a text editor. Detailed information on the configuration files can be found in the corresponding wiki pages:

- model and solver parameters - see [\[2.2 Model Parameters\]](#) and [\[2.3 Solver Parameters\]](#).
- environment variables - see [\[2.4 Environment Variables\]](#).
- photolysis rates - see [\[2.5 Photolysis Rates and JFAC\]](#).
- initial concentrations of chemical species and lists of output variables - see [\[2.6 Config Files\]](#).

The model constraints - chemical species, environment variables, photolysis rates - are located in the `model/constraints/` directory. For more information, go to: [[2.7 Constraints]].

5.0.9 Compilation

The script `build.sh` in the `tools/` directory is used to process the chemical mechanism file (`.fac`) and to compile the model. The script generates one Fortran file (`mechanism.f90`), one shared library (`mechanism.so`) and four configuration files (`mechanism.prod`, `mechanism.reac`, `mechanism.ro2`, `mechanism.species`) in the `model/configuration/` directory. Go to the [[chemical mechanism page |2.1 Chemical Mechanism]] for more information.

The script must be run from the *AtChem2 main directory* and takes four arguments (see the **Important Note 2** at the end of this section):

1. the path to the chemical mechanism file - no default (suggested: `model/`).
2. the path to the directory for the Fortran files generated from the chemical mechanism - default: `model/configuration/`.
3. the path to the directory with the configuration files - default: `model/configuration/`.
4. the path to the directory with the MCM data files - default: `mcm/`.

For example, if the `.fac` file is in the `model/` directory:

```
./tools/build.sh model/mechanism.fac model/configuration/ model/configuration/
```

An installation of AtChem2 can have multiple `model/` directories, which may correspond to different models or different projects; this allows the user to run more than one model at the same time. In the following example, there are two `model/` directories, each with their own chemical mechanism, configuration, constraints and output:

```
AtChem2/
| mcm/
| model_1/
|   configuration/
|   constraints/
|   output/
|   mechanism.fac
| model_2/
|   configuration/
|   constraints/
|   output/
|   mechanism.fac
```

```

288         | obj/
289         | src/
290         | tools/
291         | travis/

```

Each model can be built by passing the correct path to the `build.sh` script (see the **Important Note 1** at the end of this section). For example:

```

294 ./tools/build.sh model_1/mechanism.fac model_1/configuration/ model_1/con
295 ./tools/build.sh model_2/mechanism.fac model_2/configuration/ model_2/con

```

Compilation is required only once for a given `.fac` file. If the user changes the configuration files, there is no need to recompile the model. Likewise, if the constraints files are changed, there is no need to recompile the model. This is because the model configuration and the model constraints are read by the executable at runtime. However, if the user makes changes to the `.fac` file, then the shared library `model/configuration/mechanism.so` needs to be recompiled from the source file `model/configuration/mechanism.f90` using the `build.sh` script.

The user may want or need to change the Fortran code (`src/*.f90`), in which case the model needs to be recompiled: if the `.fac` file has also been changed, use the `build.sh` script, as explained above. Otherwise, if only the Fortran code has been changed, executing `make` from the *main directory* is enough to recompile the model.

5.0.10 Execution

The compilation process creates an executable file called `atchem2` in the *main directory*. The executable file takes seven arguments, corresponding to the directories containing the model configuration and output:

1. the path to the directory for the model output - default: `model/output`
2. the path to the directory for the model output reaction rates - default: `model/output/reactionRates`
3. the path to the directory with the configuration files - default: `model/configuration/`.
4. the path to the directory with the MCM data files - default: `mcm/`.
5. the path to the directory with the data files of constrained chemical species - default: `model/constraints/species/`
6. the path to the directory with the data files of constrained environment variables - default: `model/constraints/environment/`
7. the path to the directory with the data files of constrained photolysis rates - default: `model/constraints/photolysis/`

323 The model can be run by executing the `atchem2` command from the *main*
324 *directory*, in which case the executable will use the default configuration and output
325 directories. Otherwise, the configuration and output directories need to be specified
326 (see the **Important Note 2** at the end of this section).

327 For example, if the constraints are in the default directories (or not used), the
328 model can be run by executing:

```
329 ./atchem2 model/output/ model/output/reactionRates/ model/configuration/
```

330 In the case of multiple `model/` directories, the directories corresponding to
331 each model need to be passed as arguments to the `atchem2` executable. This al-
332 lows the user to run two or more models simultaneously. For example:

```
333 ./atchem2 model_1/output/ model_1/output/reactionRates/ model_1/confi  
334 ./atchem2 model_2/output/ model_2/output/reactionRates/ model_2/confi
```

335 Important Note 1

336 As explained above, if the chemical mechanism (`.fac`) is changed, only the shared
337 library needs to be recompiled. This allows the user to have only one base exe-
338 cutable called `atchem2` in the *main directory*: when running multiple models at
339 the same time the user can reuse this base executable while pointing each model to
340 the correct shared library and configuration files.

341 Important Note 2

342 The arguments need to be passed to the `atchem2` executable in the exact order,
343 as listed above. This means that if - for example - the third argument needs to be
344 specified, it is also necessary to specify the first and the second arguments, even
345 if they have the default values. To avoid mistakes, the user can choose to always
346 specify all the arguments. This behaviour also applies to the `tools/build.sh`
347 script used to compile the model. Future versions of AtChem2 will adopt a simpler
348 command-line interface.

349 5.0.11 Output

350 The model output is saved by default in the directory `model/output/`. The
351 location can be modified by changing the arguments of the `atchem2` executable
352 (see above).

353 The AtChem2 output files are space-delimited text files, with a header contain-
354 ing the names of the variables:

- 355 • values of environment variables and concentrations of chemical species: `environmentVariables.`
356 `speciesConcentrations.output`.

- 357 • values of photolysis rates and related parameters: `photolysisRates.output`,
358 `photolysisRatesParameters.output`.
- 359 • loss and production rates of selected species (see [[2.6 Config Files]]): `lossRates.output`,
360 `productionRates.output`.
- 361 • Jacobian matrix (if requested, see [[2.2 Model Parameters]]): `jacobian.output`.
- 362 • model diagnostic variables: `finalModelState.output`, `initialConditionsSetting.out`
363 `mainSolverParameters.output`.

364 In addition, the reaction rates of all the reactions in the chemical mechanism
365 are saved in the directory `reactionRates/`: one file for each model step, with
366 the filename corresponding to the time in seconds.

367 5.0.12 Running on HPC

368 Atchem2 can be set up to run on a High Performance Computing (HPC) system.
369 Compilation and configuration are the same as for a normal workstation. Typically,
370 a job scheduler is used to allocate computing resources on an HPC system. A **sub-**
371 **mission script** is therefore needed to submit the AtChem2 models for execution.

372 The format and the syntax of the submission script depend on the specific soft-
373 ware installed on the HPC system. For instructions on how to prepare a submission
374 script for AtChem2, check the local documentation or ask the HPC system admin-
375 istrator.

376 An *example* submission script for the Portable Batch System (PBS) is shown
377 below:

```
378 #PBS -o atchem2.log
379 #PBS -e atchem2_error.log
380 #PBS -N base_v1
381 #PBS -l walltime=15:00:00
382 #PBS -l vmem=10gb
383 #PBS -m bea
384 #PBS -l nodes=1:ppn=1
385
386 cd ~/AtChem2/
387 MODELDIR="base_model_v1"
388 ./atchem2 $MODELDIR/model/output/ $MODELDIR/model/output/reactionRates/ $
```


Chapter 6

Chemical Mechanism

The **chemical mechanism** is the core element of an atmospheric chemistry box-model. In AtChem2, the mechanism file is written in FACSIMILE format and has the extension `.fac`. The FACSIMILE format is used to describe chemical reactions in the commercial FACSIMILE Kinetic Modelling Software; for historical reasons, the software and the format have been widely used in conjunction with the MCM. The extraction tool on the MCM website can generate `.fac` files directly in FACSIMILE format.

6.0.13 FACSIMILE format

Chemical reactions are described in FACSIMILE format using the following notation:

```
% k : A + B = C + D ;
```

where k is the rate coefficient, A and B are the reactants, C and D are the products. The reaction starts with the `%` character and ends with the `;` character. Comments - enclosed between the characters `*` and `;` - can be added to the mechanism, and will be ignored by the compiler. For example:

```
* conversion of A to C with rate coefficient of 1e-4 *;  
% 1E-4 : A = C ;
```

The mechanism file is processed by the script `tools/build.sh`, as explained in the [[model setup page|2. Model Setup and Execution]]. For the build process to work, the `.fac` file must include four sections delimited by a single comment line, which allows the script to recognize the beginning of each section: 1. Generic rate coefficients 1. Complex reactions rate coefficients 1. Sum of peroxy radicals (see below) 1. Chemical Reactions

These comment lines must always be present, even though the respective sections can be empty. A minimal `.fac` file looks like this:

```

416 * Generic Rate Coefficients ;
417
418 * Complex reactions ;
419
420 * Peroxy radicals. ;
421
422 RO2 = ;
423
424 * Reaction definitions. ;
425
426 % k : A + B = C ;

```

427 A simple chemical mechanism in FACSIMILE format - with the first step of
 428 the atmospheric oxidation of ethanol - is shown below, as an example.

429 6.0.14 RO2 sum

430 The sum of organic peroxy radicals (RO2) is a key component of the Master Chem-
 431 ical Mechanism (see the MCM protocol papers: Jenkin et al., Atmos. Environ., 31,
 432 81-104, 1997 and Saunders et al., Atmos. Chem. Phys., 3, 161-180, 2003). Since
 433 AtChem2 is designed primarily to run models based upon the MCM, the .fac file
 434 must contain a section with the RO2 sum. This section must be introduced by the
 435 comment line `* Peroxy radicals. ;` (see above) and has the format:

```

436 RO2 = RO2a + RO2b + RO2c + ... ;

```

437 where RO2a, RO2b, RO2c, are the organic peroxy radicals in the chemical
 438 mechanism. If there are no organic peroxy radicals in the mechanism (or if the
 439 mechanism is not based upon the MCM), the RO2 sum must be left empty, e.g.:

```

440 RO2 = ;

```

441 *Important:* HO2 is a peroxy radical, but it is not an organic molecule. Therefore
 442 it should NOT be included in the RO2 sum.

443 The RO2 sum is automatically generated from the mechanism file during the
 444 build process, using the list of RO2 extracted from the MCM database. AtChem2
 445 includes the list of all the organic peroxy radicals in version 3.3.1 of the MCM
 446 (mcm/peroxy-radicals_v3.3.1), which is used by default. Since v1.1, lists
 447 of organic peroxy radicals from other versions of the MCM are also included in
 448 the mcm/ directory: see the file mcm/INFO.md for instructions on how to use
 449 previous versions of the MCM with AtChem2.

450 6.0.15 The MCM extraction tool

451 The MCM website provides a convenient tool which can be used to download the
 452 whole MCM, or subsets of it, in FACSIMILE format. After selecting the species of
 453 interest in the MCM browser, add them to the *Mark List*, then proceed to the MCM
 454 extraction tool and select *FACSIMILE* as format. Make sure to tick the boxes:

```
455 [x] Include inorganic reactions?
456 [x] Include generic rate coefficients? FACSIMILE, FORTRAN and KPP formats
```

457 then press the *Extract* button to download the generated `.fac` file into a di-
 458 rectory of choice (e.g., `model/`; see the [[model structure page|1.2 Model Struc-
 459 ture]]). The mechanism can be modified with a text editor (if necessary) or directly
 460 used in AtChem2. More information about the MCM browser and the extractor
 461 tool can be found on the MCM website.

462 6.0.16 The build process

463 Atchem2 uses a Python script (`tools/mech_converter.py`, automatically
 464 called by `tools/build.sh` during the build process) to convert the chemical
 465 mechanism into a format that can be read by the Fortran code.

466 The script generates one Fortran file, one shared library, and four configuration
 467 files from the `*.fac` file:

- 468 • **mechanism.f90** contains the equations, in Fortran code, to calculate the rate
 469 coefficients of each reaction. By default, it is placed in `model/configuration/`.
- 470 • **mechanism.so** is the compiled version of `mechanism.f90`. By default, it
 471 is placed in `model/configuration/`.
- 472 • **mechanism.species** contains the list of chemical species in the mechanism.
 473 By default, it is saved in `model/configuration/`. The file has no header.
 474 The first column is the *ID number* of each species, the second column is the
 475 name of the species: 1 O 2 O3 3 NO 4 NO2
- 476 • **mechanism.reac** and **mechanism.prod** contain the reactants and the prod-
 477 ucts (respectively) in each reaction of the mechanism. By default, it is saved
 478 in `model/configuration/`. The files have a 1 line header with the
 479 number of species, the number of reactions and the number of equations in
 480 the Generic Rate Coefficients and Complex Reactions sections. The first col-
 481 umn is the *ID number* of the reaction, the second column is the *ID number* of
 482 the species (from `mechanism.species`) which are reactants/products in
 483 that reaction: 29 71 139 numberOfSpecies numberOfReactions
 484 numberOfGenericComplex 1 1 2 1 3 1 3 2

485 • **mechanism.ro2** contains the organic peroxy radicals (RO2). By default, it is
 486 saved in `model/configuration/`. The file has a comment line header
 487 (Fortran style). The first column is the *ID number* of the peroxy radical (from
 488 `mechanism.species`), the second column is the name of the peroxy rad-
 489 ical as Fortran comment: ! Note that this file is generated
 490 by `tools/mech_converter.py` based upon the file `tools/mcm_example.fac`.
 491 Any manual edits to this file will be overwritten when
 492 calling `tools/mech_converter.py` 23 !CH3O2 26 !C2H5O2
 493 28 !IC3H7O2 29 !NC3H7O2

494 The locations of the files generated during the build process can be modified
 495 by changing the second and the third argument of the script `tools/build.sh`.
 496 For more information and detailed instructions go to: [[2. Model Setup and Execu-
 497 tion]].

498

499 6.0.17 Example mechanism file

```

500 * ----- *;
501 * SIMPLE CHEMICAL MECHANISM *;
502 * Chemical mechanism for ethanol - from MCM v3.3.1 *;
503 * ----- *;
504 *;
505 * Generic Rate Coefficients ;
506 *;
507 * Complex reactions ;
508 *;
509 * Peroxy radicals. ;
510 RO2 = HOCH2CH2O2 ;
511 *;
512 * Reaction definitions. ;
513 % 3.0D-12*EXP(20/TEMP)*0.05 : C2H5OH + OH = C2H5O ;
514 % 3.0D-12*EXP(20/TEMP)*0.9 : C2H5OH + OH = CH3CHO + HO2 ;
515 % 3.0D-12*EXP(20/TEMP)*0.05 : C2H5OH + OH = HOCH2CH2O2 ;

```

Chapter 7

Model Parameter

The **model parameters** are set in the text file `model/configuration/model.parameters`; they control the general setup of the model.

- **number of steps** and **step size**. The duration of the model run is determined by the number of steps and the step size (in seconds). The step size controls the frequency of the model output for the chemical species listed in `outputSpecies.config` (see [[2.6 Config Files]]), and for the environment variables, the photolysis rates, the diagnostic variables.
For example, a model runtime of 2 hours, with output every 5 minutes, requires 24 steps with a step size of 300 seconds ($24 \times 300 = 7200 \text{ sec} = 2 \text{ hours}$). Possible values for these parameters are shown below, for reference.
- **species interpolation method** and **conditions interpolation method**. Interpolation method used for the constrained chemical species, and for the constrained environment variables and the photolysis rates, respectively (see [[2.7 Constraints]]). Two interpolation methods are currently implemented in AtChem2: piecewise constant (1) and piecewise linear (2). The default option is *piecewise linear interpolation*.
- **rates output step size**. Frequency (in seconds) of the model output for the production and loss rates of selected species. The species for which this parameter is required are listed in `outputRates.config` (see [[2.6 Config Files]]).
- **model start time**. Start time of the model (in seconds) calculated from midnight of the **day**, **month**, **year** parameters (see below). For example, a start time of 3600 means the model run starts at 1:00 in the morning and a start time of 43200 means the model run starts at midday. The **model stop time** is automatically calculated as: `model start time + (number of steps * step size)`.
Important: if one or more variables are constrained, the interval between the

- model start time and the model stop time must be equal or shorter than the time interval of the constrained data (see [[2.7 Constraints]]).
- **jacobian output step size.** Frequency of the model output for the Jacobian matrix (in seconds). If the frequency is set to 0 (default option), the Jacobian matrix is not output. Note that the `jacobian.output` file generated by the model can be very large, especially if the chemical mechanism has many reactions and/or the model runtime is long.
 - **latitude and longitude.** Geographical coordinates (in degrees). By convention, latitude North is positive and latitude South is negative, longitude East is negative and longitude West is positive. Latitude and longitude are used only for the calculation of the Earth-Sun angles, which are needed for the MCM photolysis parameterisation (see [[2.5 Photolysis Rates and JFAC]]).
 - **day and month and year.** Start date of the model simulation. The model time is in seconds since midnight of the start date.
 - **reaction rates output step size.** Frequency (in seconds) of the model output for the reaction rates of every reaction in the chemical mechanism. The reaction rates are saved in the directory `model/output/reactionRates/` as one file for each model step, with the name of the file corresponding to the time in seconds. In previous versions of AtChem, this output was called *instantaneous rates*.
Note that this parameter is different from **rates output step size** (see above), which sets the frequency of a formatted output of reaction rates for selected species of interest. For more information go to: [[2.6 Config Files]].

568

569 7.0.18 Runtime reference values

570 For 1 day at 15 minute intervals:

571 96 number of steps
572 900 step size

573 For 2 days at 15 minute intervals:

574 192 number of steps
575 900 step size

576 For 2 days at 1 minute intervals:

577 2880 number of steps
578 60 step size

Chapter 8

Solver Parameters

The **solver parameters** are set in the text file `model/configuration/solver.parameters`; they control the behaviour of the ordinary differential equations (ODE) solver. A complete explanation of these parameters can be found in the CVODE documentation.

- **atol** (positive real) and **rtol** (positive real): absolute and relative tolerance values for the solver. Standard values for these parameters are listed below, for reference.
- **delta main** (positive real): linear convergence tolerance factor of the GMRES linear solver.
- **lookback** (positive integer): maximum Krylov subspace dimension of the GMRES linear solver.
- **maximum solver step size** (positive real): maximum size (in seconds) of the timesteps that the solver is allowed to use.
- **maximum number of steps in solver** (positive integer): maximum number of steps used by the solver before reaching **tout**, the next output time.
- **solver type** (integer): selects the linear solver to use: 1 for GMRES, 2 for GMRES preconditioned with a banded preconditioner, 3 for a dense solver. The default option is 2.
- **banded preconditioner upper bandwidth** (integer): used in the case that `solver type = 2`.
- **banded preconditioner lower bandwidth** (integer): used in the case that `solver type = 2`.

604 8.0.19 Solver reference values

605 Standard solver tolerance values:

606 1.0e-04 atol

607 1.0e-06 rtol

608 Chapter 9

609 Environment Variables

610 The **environment variables** define the physical parameters of the box-model, such
611 as temperature, pressure, humidity, latitude, longitude, position of the sun, etc...
612 These variables are set in the text file `model/configuration/environmentVariables.config`.

613 The environment variables can have a fixed (constant) value or can be con-
614 strained to measured values (**CONSTRAINED**), in which case the corresponding
615 data file must be in the `model/constraints/environment/` directory (see
616 [[2.7 Constraints]]). Some environment variables can be calculated by the model
617 (**CALC**) and some can be deactivated if they are not used by the model (**NOTUSED**).

618 By default, most environment variables are set to a fixed value, corresponding
619 to *standard environmental conditions* (listed below), or to **NOTUSED**.

620 9.0.20 TEMP

621 Ambient Temperature (K).

- 622 • fixed value
- 623 • constrained

624 Default fixed value = 298.15

625 9.0.21 PRESS

626 Ambient Pressure (mbar).

- 627 • fixed value
- 628 • constrained

629 Default fixed value = 1013.25

630 **9.0.22 RH**

631 Relative Humidity (%). It is required only if **H2O** is set to `CALC`, otherwise should
632 be set to `NOTUSED`.

- 633 • fixed value
- 634 • constrained
- 635 • not used

636 Default = `NOTUSED` (-1)

637 **9.0.23 H2O**

638 Water Concentration (molecules cm⁻³).

- 639 • fixed value
- 640 • constrained
- 641 • calculated -> requires **RH** set to fixed value or `CONSTRAINED`

642 Default fixed value = 3.91e+17

643 **9.0.24 DEC**

644 Sun Declination (radians) is the angle between the center of the Sun and Earth's
645 equatorial plane.

- 646 • fixed value
- 647 • constrained
- 648 • calculated -> requires **DAY** and **MONTH**, which are set in `model.parameters`
649 (see [[2.2 Model Parameters]])

650 Default fixed value = 0.41

651 **9.0.25 BLHEIGHT**

652 Boundary Layer Height. It is required only if the model includes emission or depo-
653 sition processes (it must be used in the chemical mechanism as a multiplier of the
654 rate coefficient). The unit is typically in cm, but it depends on how the processes
655 are parameterized in the chemical mechanism (see [[2.1 Chemical Mechanism]]).

- 656 • fixed value
- 657 • constrained
- 658 • not used

659 Default = `NOTUSED` (-1)

660 9.0.26 DILUTE

661 Dilution rate. It is required only if the model includes a dilution process (it must be
662 used in the chemical mechanism as a multiplier of the rate coefficient). The unit is
663 typically in s⁻¹, but it depends on how the process is parameterized in the chemical
664 mechanism (see [[2.1 Chemical Mechanism]]).

665 • fixed value

666 • constrained

667 • not used

668 Default value = NOTUSED (-1)

669 9.0.27 JFAC

670 Correction factor used to correct the photolysis rates (e.g., to account for cloudi-
671 ness). The calculated photolysis rates are scaled by JFAC, which can have a value
672 between 0 (photolysis rates go to zero) and 1 (photolysis rates are not corrected).
673 JFAC is NOT applied to constant or constrained photolysis rates. For more infor-
674 mation go to: [[2.5 Photolysis Rates and JFAC]].

675 • fixed value

676 • constrained

677 • calculated

678 Default fixed value = 1

679 9.0.28 ROOF

680 Flag to turn the photolysis rates ON/OFF. It is used in simulations of environmental
681 chamber experiments, where the roof of the chamber can be opened/closed or the
682 lights turned on/off.

683 When ROOF is set to CLOSED all the photolysis rates are zero, including those
684 that are constant or constrained; this is different than setting JFAC to 0, which only
685 applies to the calculated photolysis rates (see above). ROOF is the only environ-
686 ment variable that cannot be set to CONSTRAINED.

687 Default value = OPEN

688

689 **9.0.29 Standard environmental conditions**

690 Temperature = 25C

691 Pressure = 1 atm

692 Relative Humidity = 50%

693 Day, Month = 21 June

Chapter 10

Photolysis rates

The photolysis rates are identified in [[FACSIMILE format|2.1 Chemical Mechanism]] as $J_{<n>}$, where n is an integer determined by the MCM naming convention. The photolysis rates are calculated by AtChem2 using the MCM parametrization, as explained in more detail below. Each photolysis rate can also be set to a constant value or to constrained values.

The following rules apply:

1. If a photolysis rate is set as constant, it assumes the given value. Any other photolysis rate, without an explicitly defined constant value, is set to zero.
2. If one or more photolysis rates are set to constrained (and none is set to constant), they assume the values given in the corresponding constraint files. Any other photolysis rate is calculated.
3. If no photolysis rate is set to constant or to constrained, the model calculates all the photolysis rates.

The environment variable `ROOF` can also be used to turn the photolysis rates ON/OFF, which is useful for simulations of some environmental chamber experiments (see [[2.4 Environment Variables]]).

10.0.30 Constant photolysis rates

The typical scenario for constant photolysis rates is the use of a lamp in an environmental chamber. All the photolysis rates used in the mechanism need to be given a value (in `model/configuration/photolysisConstant.config`) otherwise they will be set to zero. This approach allows the user to model individual photolysis processes and/or to account for lamps that emit only in certain spectral windows. The format of the `photolysisConstant.config` file is described in the [[configuration files page|2.6 Config Files]].

10.0.31 Constrained photolysis rates

Photolysis rates can be constrained to measured values. In this case, the name of the constrained photolysis rate (e.g., J2) must be in `model/configuration/photolysisConstrained` and a file with the constraint data must be present in `model/constraints/photolysis/`. For more information go to: [[2.6 Config Files]] and [[2.7 Constraints]].

It is not always possible to measure - and therefore constrain - all the required photolysis rates. The photolysis rates that are not constrained (i.e., not listed in `photolysisConstrained.config`) are calculated using the MCM parametrization.

10.0.32 Calculated photolysis rates

AtChem2 implements the parametrization of photolysis rates used by the Master Chemical Mechanism. It is described in the MCM protocol papers: Jenkin et al., Atmos. Environ., 31, 81, 1997 and Saunders et al., Atmos. Chem. Phys., 3, 161, 2003.

The MCM parametrization calculates the photolysis rate of a reaction (J) with the equation:

$$J = l * (\cos X)^m * \exp(-n * \sec X) * \tau$$

where l , m , n are empirical parameters, $\cos X$ is the cosine of the solar zenith angle, $\sec X$ is the inverse of $\cos X$ (i.e., $\sec X = 1/\cos X$) and τ is the transmission factor. The empirical parameters are different for each version of the MCM. AtChem2 v1.1 includes the empirical parameters for version 3.3.1 in the file `mcm/photolysis-rates.v3.3.1`. This file also contains the transmission factor τ , which can be changed by the user (by default $\tau = 1$). It is possible to use previous versions of the MCM parametrization: see the file `mcm/INFO.md` for instructions.

The solar zenith angle is calculated by AtChem2 using latitude, longitude, time of the day and sun declination (see [[2.2 Model Parameters]] and [[2.4 Environment Variables]]). The calculation is detailed in “The Atmosphere and UV-B Radiation at Ground Level” (S. Madronich, Environmental UV Photobiology, 1993).

10.0.33 JFAC

Measurements of ambient photolysis rates typically show short-term variability, due to the changing meteorological conditions (clouds, rain, etc. . .). This information is retained in the constrained photolysis rates, but it is lost in the calculated ones. To account for this, the calculated photolysis rates can be scaled by a correction factor (JFAC), as explained below.

The environment variable JFAC is a constant or time-dependent parameter that can be used to correct the calculated photolysis rates for external factors not taken into account by the MCM parametrization, such as cloudiness. JFAC is defined as

758 the ratio between a measured and the calculated photolysis rate. Typically J_4 (the
759 photolysis rate of NO_2) is used for this purpose, as it is one of the most frequently
760 measured photolysis rates.

$$761 \quad JFAC = j(\text{NO}_2) / J_4$$

762 where $j(\text{NO}_2)$ is the measured value and J_4 is calculated with the MCM
763 parametrization (see above). $JFAC$ is by default 1, meaning that the calculated
764 photolysis rates are not scaled; it can be set to any value between 0 and 1 (see [[2.4
765 Environment Variables]]) or it can be constrained (see [[2.7 Constraints]]). Note
766 that only the photolysis rates calculated with the MCM parameterization are scaled
767 by $JFAC$, the constrained and the constant photolysis rates are not.

768 $JFAC$ can also be calculated at runtime. To do so, $JFAC$ should be set to the
769 name of the photolysis rate to be used as reference (e.g., J_4) in `model/configuration/environmentV`
770 There should be an associated constraint file in `model/constraints/environment/`.
771 **Important:** this option is not working very well in the current version of AtChem2,
772 so it is suggested to calculate $JFAC$ offline and to constrain it (see issue #16).

Chapter 11

Config Files

The **configuration files** contain the settings for the initial conditions, the constraints and the output of the model. These files complement the configuration settings of the model (in `model.parameters`) and of the solver (in `solver.parameters`), which are in the same directory. For more information go to: [[2.2 Model Parameters]] and [[2.3 Solver Parameters]].

The configuration files have the extension `.config` and, by default, are in the directory `model/configuration/`. This directory also contains the files generated during the [[build process|2. Model Setup and Execution]] which describe the chemical mechanism (`mechanism.species`, `mechanism.reac`, `mechanism.prod`, `mechanism.ro2`), as explained in the [[chemical mechanism page|2.1 Chemical Mechanism]]. The location of the configuration files can be modified by changing the arguments of the script `tools/build.sh` (see [[2. Model Setup and Execution]]).

The content and the format of the `.config` files are described below. Note that the names of some files have changed with the release of **version 1.1** (November 2018).

11.0.34 `environmentVariables.config`

This file contains the settings for the environment variables, which are described in detail in the related [[wiki page|2.4 Environment Variables]]. If an environment variable is constrained, there must be a corresponding data file in `model/constraints/environment/` (see [[2.7 Constraints]]).

11.0.35 `initialConcentrations.config`

This file contains the initial concentrations of the chemical species. The first column is the list of initialized species, the second column is the corresponding concentration at $t = 0$ (in **molecules cm⁻³**). For example:

```
NO          378473308.14
```



```

801 NO2      86893908168.9
802 O3       1.213e+12
803 CH4      4.938e+13

```

804 The chemical species not included in this file are automatically initialized to
 805 the default value 0. It is not necessary to initialize the constant and the constrained
 806 species (i.e., those listed in `speciesConstant.config` and `speciesConstrained.config`).

807 The environment variables are set in `environmentVariables.config`
 808 (see above) and should not be included in this file.

809 11.0.36 outputRates.config

810 This file (called `productionRatesOutput.config` and `lossRatesOutput.config`
 811 in v1.0) lists the chemical species for which detailed production rates and loss rates
 812 are required. The file has one column, with one species per line.

813 The frequency of this output is controlled by the **rates output step size** param-
 814 eter in `model.parameters` (see [[2.2 Model Parameters]]). The format of the
 815 corresponding output files - `lossRates.output` and `productionRates.output`
 816 - is designed to facilitate the analysis of production and destruction rates for se-
 817 lected species of interests (rather than processing the output files in `model/output/reactionRates/`):

818	time	speciesNumber	speciesName	reactionNumber	r
819					
820	3.600000E+003	8	OH	15	0.0000
821	3.600000E+003	8	OH	20	0.0000
822	3.600000E+003	9	HO2	16	0.0000
823	3.600000E+003	9	HO2	17	0.0000
824					
825	7.200000E+003	8	OH	15	0.0000
826	7.200000E+003	8	OH	20	0.0000
827	7.200000E+003	9	HO2	16	0.0000
828	7.200000E+003	9	HO2	17	0.0000

829 11.0.37 outputSpecies.config

830 This file (called `concentrationOutput.config` in v1.0) lists the chemical
 831 species for which the model output is required. The current version of AtChem2
 832 limits the number of species that can be output to 100, although the user can modify
 833 the Fortran code to increase this number. The file has one column, with one species
 834 per line.

835 The frequency of this output is controlled by the **step size** parameter in `model.parameters`
 836 (see [[2.2 Model Parameters]]).

837 **11.0.38 photolysisConstant.config**

838 This file lists the photolysis rates that are constant. The file has three columns: the
839 first column is the number that identifies the photolysis rate (e.g., 1), the second
840 column is the value of the photolysis rate in **s-1** (e.g., $1e-5$), the third column is
841 the name of the photolysis rate (e.g., J1). The photolysis rates are named according
842 to the MCM naming convention. If no photolysis rate is constant, the file should be
843 left empty.

844 If one or more photolysis rates is set to a constant value, the others (i.e., those
845 not listed in `photolysisConstants.config`) are set to zero. For more in-
846 formation go to: [[2.5 Photolysis Rates and JFAC]].

847 **11.0.39 photolysisConstrained.config**

848 This file (called `constrainedPhotoRates.config` in v1.0) lists the pho-
849 tolysis rates that are constrained. The file has one column, with one photolysis
850 rate per line (e.g., J1). The photolysis rates are named according to the MCM
851 naming convention. If no photolysis rate is constrained, the file should be left
852 empty. If a photolysis rate is constrained, there must be a corresponding data file
853 in `model/constraints/photolysis/` (see [[2.7 Constraints]]).

854 The photolysis rates that are not listed in `photolysisConstrained.config`
855 are calculated by AtChem2 using the MCM parametrization and the parameters
856 in `mcm/photolysis-rates.v3.3.1`. Older versions of the MCM photolysis
857 parametrization can be used, as explained in the file `mcm/INFO.md`. For more
858 information go to: [[2.5 Photolysis Rates and JFAC]].

859 **11.0.40 speciesConstant.config**

860 This file (called `constrainedFixedSpecies.config` in v1.0) lists the chem-
861 ical species that are constant. The file has two columns: the first column is the
862 list of constant species, the second column is the corresponding concentration (in
863 **molecules cm-3**). If no chemical species is constant, the file should be left empty.

864 If a chemical species is constant, it does not need to be initialized: the values set
865 in `speciesConstant.config` override those set in `initialConcentrations.config`.

866 **11.0.41 speciesConstrained.config**

867 This file (called `constrainedSpecies.config` in v1.0) lists the chemical
868 species that are constrained. The file has one column, with one species per line.
869 If no chemical species is constrained, the file should be left empty. If a chemical
870 species is constrained, there must be a corresponding data file in `model/constraints/species/`
871 (see [[2.7 Constraints]]).

872 If a chemical species constrained, it does not need to be initialized: the values
873 set in `speciesConstrained.config` override those set in `initialConcentrations.config`.

Chapter 12

Constraints

AtChem2 can be run in two modes:

- unconstrained: all variables are calculated by the model from the initial conditions, set in the `[[model configuration files|2.6 Config Files]]`.
- constrained: one or more variables are constrained, i.e. the solver forces their value to a given value. The variables that are not constrained are calculated by the model.

The constrained values must be provided as separate files for each constrained variable. The format of the constraint files is described below. By default, the files with the constraining data are in `model/constraints/species/` for the chemical species, `model/constraints/environment/` for the environment variables, and `model/constraints/photolysis/` for the photolysis rates. The default directories can be modified by changing the arguments of the `atchem2` executable (see `[[2. Model Setup and Execution]]`).

12.0.42 Constrained variables

Environment variables

All environment variables, except `ROOF`, can be constrained. To do so, set the variable to `CONSTRAINED` in `model/configuration/environmentVariables.config` and create the file with the constraining data. The name of the file must be the same as the name of the variable, e.g. `TEMP` (without extension). See also: `[[2.4 Environment Variables]]`.

Chemical species

Any chemical species in the chemical mechanism can be constrained. To do so, add the name of the species to `model/configuration/speciesConstrained.config` and create the file with the constraining data. The name of the file must be the same

as the name of the chemical species, e.g. CH₃OH (without extension). See also: [[2.6 Config Files]].

Photolysis rates

Any of the photolysis rates in the chemical mechanism can be constrained. The photolysis rates are identified as J_{<n>}, where n is an integer (see [[2.5 Photolysis Rates and JFAC]]). To constrain a photolysis rate add its name (J_n) to model/configuration/photolysisConstrained.config and create the file with the constraining data. The name of the file must be the same as the name of the photolysis rate, e.g. J₄ (without extension). See also [[2.6 Config Files]].

12.0.43 Constraint files

The files with the constraining data are text files with two columns separated by spaces. The first column is the time in **seconds** from midnight of day/month/year (see [[2.2 Model Parameters]]), the second column is the value of the variable in the appropriate unit. For the chemical species the unit is **molecules cm⁻³** and for the photolysis rates the unit is **s⁻¹**; for the environment variables see the related [[wiki page|2.4 Environment Variables]]. For example:

-900	73.21
0	74.393
900	72.973
1800	72.63
2700	72.73
3600	69.326
4500	65.822
5400	63.83
6300	64.852
7200	64.739

The time in the first column of a constraint file can be negative. AtChem2 interprets the negative timestamps as “seconds *before* midnight of day/month/year” (see [[2.2 Model Parameters]]). This can be useful to allow correct interpolation of the variables at the beginning of the model run (see below).

Important. The constraints must cover the same amount of time, or preferably more, as the intended model runtime. For example: if the model starts at 42300 seconds and stops at 216000 seconds, the first and the last data points in a constraint file must have a timestamp of 42300 (or lower) and 21600 (or higher), respectively.

12.0.44 Interpolation

Constraints can be provided at different timescales. Typically, the constraining data come from direct measurements and it is a very common for different instruments

938 to sample at different frequencies. For example, ozone and nitrogen oxides can be
939 measured once every minute, but most organic compounds can be measured only
940 once every hour.

941 The user can average the constraints so that they are all at the same timescale
942 or can use the data with the original timestamps. Both approaches have advantages
943 and disadvantages in terms of how much pre-processing work is required, and in
944 terms of model accuracy and integration speed. Whether all the constraints have the
945 same timescale or not, the solver interpolates between data points using the interpo-
946 lation method selected in the `model/configuration/model.parameters`
947 file (see [[2.2 Model Parameters]]). The default interpolation method is piecewise
948 linear, but piecewise constant interpolation is also available.

949 The photolysis rates and the environment variables are evaluated by the solver
950 when needed - each is interpolated individually, only when constrained. This hap-
951 pens each time the function `mechanism_rates()` is called from `FCVFUN()`,
952 and therefore is controlled by **CVODE** as it completes the integration. In a similar
953 way, the interpolation routine for the chemical species is called once for each of the
954 constrained species in `FCVFUN()`, plus once when setting the initial conditions of
955 each of the constrained species.

956 As mentioned above, the model start and stop time *must be* within the time
957 interval of the constrained data to avoid interpolation errors or model crash. If data
958 is not supplied for the full runtime interval, then the *final* value will be used for all
959 times both *before the first data point* and *after the last data point*. This behaviour
960 is likely to change in future versions, at least to avoid the situation where the last
961 value is used for all times before the first (see issue #294).

962 A warning is printed for all evaluations outside of the supplied time interval.
963 Users may find it useful to supply data that covers a short time *beyond* the final
964 model time, which may be used by the solver.

Chapter 13

Tools

The `tools/` directory contains a number of auxiliary scripts to install, build and compile AtChem2, and to plot the results of the model:

- shell script to compile the model: `build.sh`.
- Python scripts to process the chemical mechanism: `fix_mechanism_fac.py`, `mech_converter.py`.
- Python scripts to enforce a consistent [\[\[coding style|3.2 Style Guide\]\]](#): `fix_indent.py`, `fix_style.py`.
- Ruby script to run the unit tests: `fruit_generator.rb`.
- example chemical mechanism in FACSIMILE format: `mcm_example.fac`.
- `install/` directory containing scripts to install the [\[\[dependencies|1.1 Dependencies\]\]](#).
- `plot/` directory containing scripts to plot the model results.

In addition, the `tools/` directory contains a copy of the `Makefile`, which has to be copied to the *main directory* and modified as explained in the [\[\[installation page|1. Installation\]\]](#).

13.0.45 Plot tools

The plotting scripts in `tools/plot/` are only intended to give a quick view of the model results. It is suggested to use a proper data analysis software (e.g., R, Octave/MATLAB, Igor, Origin, etc...) to process and analyze the model results. The scripts are written in various programming languages, but they all produce the same output: a file called `atchem2-output.pdf` in the given directory (e.g., `model/output/`).

From the *main directory*:

```
990 gnuplot -c tools/plot/plot-atchem2.gp model/output/  
991 octave tools/plot/plot-atchem2.m model/output/  
992 python tools/plot/plot-atchem2.py model/output/  
993 Rscript --vanilla tools/plot/plot-atchem2.r model/output/
```

```
994     N.B.: the matlab script (plot-atchem2.m) is compatible with both Octave  
995 and MATLAB. GNU Octave is an open-source implementation of MATLAB.
```

Chapter 14

Model Development

Two versions of Atchem2 are available:

- 1) the stable version, which is indicated by a version number (e.g., **v1.0**), and can be found here.
- 2) the development version: which is indicated by a version number with the suffix `-dev` (e.g., **v1.1-dev**), and can be downloaded from the master branch (<https://github.com/AtChem/AtChem2/archive/master.zip>) or obtained via **git**.

AtChem2 is under active development, which means that the master branch may sometimes be a few steps ahead of the latest stable release. The [[test suite|3.1 Test Suite]] is designed to ensure that changes to the code do not cause unintended behaviour or unexplained differences in the model results, so the development version is usually safe to use, although caution is advised.

The roadmap for the development of Atchem2 can be found here.

Feedback, bug reports, comments and suggestions are welcome. Please check this page for a list of known and current issues.

If you want to contribute to the model development, the best way is to use **git**. The procedure to contribute code is described below. A basic level of knowledge of git is *required*.

1. Fork the official repository (AtChem/AtChem2) to your github account (username/AtChem2).
2. Configure git so that origin is your fork (username/AtChem2) and upstream is the official repository (AtChem/AtChem2). The output of `git remote -v` should look like this: `origin git@github.com:username/AtChem2.git (fetch) origin git@github.com:username/AtChem2.git`


```
1023      (push)  upstream  git@github.com:AtChem/AtChem2.git
1024      (fetch) upstream  git@github.com:AtChem/AtChem2.git
1025      (push)
```

1026 3. Create a new branch in your local repository. Make your edits on the branch,
1027 commit and push. Before committing, it is advised to run the `[[test suite|3.1`
1028 `Test Suite]]` locally to verify whether the changes could cause any problem.

1029 4. Submit a pull request, together with a brief description of the proposed
1030 changes. One of the admins will review the edits and approve them or ask
1031 for additional changes, as appropriate.

1032 Contributions can also be submitted via email or via the issues page.

1033 A `[[Style Guide|3.2 Style Guide]]` is available for code contributions. Note that
1034 style and indentation of the code are also checked by the `[[test suite|3.1 Test Suite]]`.

Chapter 15

Test Suite

AtChem2 uses Travis CI for Continuous Integration testing. This programming approach ensures changes to the code do not modify the behaviour and the results of the software in an unintended fashion.

To begin using CI on code modifications, create a Pull Request on github from your own fork to AtChem/AtChem2 (see [[3. Model Development]] for instructions on how to set up **git**). Once the PR is created, Travis CI will automatically run build, unit and behaviour tests on 2 architectures (linux and OSX). Pull requests should only be merged once the Travis CI has completed with passes on both architectures. This is indicated by the message: “All checks have passed”.

In order to run the Testsuite on your local machine, call `make alltest` from the *main directory*. This will run each of the 3 classes of test in this order: * unit tests: checks that small fragments of code generate the expected outputs; * build test: checks that an example program builds and runs successfully; * behaviour tests: builds each of a number of test setups in turn, and checks that they generate the expected outputs.

Each of the test classes outputs the results of their tests to the terminal screen. To perform just the unit tests, call `make unittests`. To run just the build and behaviour tests, call `make tests`.

The CI tester performs the following on each architecture: * Install `gfortran`, `cvode`, and `numdiff` * linux: use `apt-get` for `gfortran`, `numdiff`, and `liplapack-dev` (a dependency of `cvode`). Install `cvode` from source (`apt-get` could also be used to install `sundials` (including `cvode`), but it doesn't currently hold `cvode 2.9`). * OSX: use Homebrew for `gfortran` and `numdiff`. Install `cvode` from source. * Build and run unit tests. PASS if all unit tests pass. * Build and run a single example of AtChem2. PASS if this exits with 0. * Build and run several other examples of AtChem2, using different input files. PASS if no differences from the reference output files are found, otherwise FAIL. Every test must pass to allow the full CI to PASS.

1066 **15.0.46 Adding new unit tests**

1067 To add new unit tests, do the following: 1. Navigate to `travis/unit_tests`.
 1068 This contains several files with the ending `*_test.f90`. IF the new test to be
 1069 added fits into an existing test file, edit that file - otherwise, make a new file, but it
 1070 must follow that pattern of `*_test.f90`. It is suggested that unit tests covering
 1071 functions from the source file `xFunctions.f90` should be named `x_test.f90`.

1072 1. The file must contain a module with the same name as the file, i.e. `*_test`. It
 1073 must use `fruit`, and any other modules as needed. 1. The module should con-
 1074 tain subroutines with the naming scheme `test_*~`. These subroutines
 1075 must take no arguments (and, crucially, not have any brackets
 1076 for arguments either `-subroutine test_calc` is correct, but `subroutine`
 1077 `test_calc()` is wrong). 1. Each subroutine should call one or
 1078 more assert functions (usually `assert_equals()`, `assert_not_equals()`, `assert_true()` or `assert_false()`).
 1079 These assert functions act as the arbiters of pass or failure - each assert must pass
 1080 for the subroutine to pass, and each subroutine must pass for the unit tests to pass.
 1081 1. The assert functions have the following syntax:

```
1082 call assert_true( a == b , "Test that a and b are equal")
1083 call assert_false( a == b , "Test that a and b are not equal")
1084 call assert_equals( a, b , "Test that a and b are equal")
1085 call assert_not_equals( a, b , "Test that a and b are not equal")
```

1086 It is useful to use the last argument as a *unique* and *descriptive* test message.
 1087 If any unit tests fail, then this will be highlighted in the summary, and the message
 1088 will be printed. Unique and descriptive messages enable faster and easier under-
 1089 standing of which test has failed, and perhaps why.

1090 If these steps are followed, calling `make unittests` is enough to run all the
 1091 unit tests, including new ones. To check that your new tests have indeed been run
 1092 and passed, check the output summary - you should see a line associated to each
 1093 of the `test*` subroutines in each file in the unit test suite.

1094 **15.0.47 Adding new behaviour tests**

1095 To add a new behaviour test called '`$TESTNAME`' to the Testsuite, you should
 1096 provide the following:

1097 Each input `TESTNAME` should have a subdirectory '`travis/tests/TESTNAME`' containing
 1098 the following files in the following structure (* indicates
 1099 that this file/directory is optional dependent on the configuration
 1100 used in the test, while + indicates that this directory should
 1101 be populated with the required files for the constraints
 1102 declared in file in the `model/configuration` directory):

```
1103 | - mcm
1104 |   | - photolysis-rates_v3.3.1
```

```

1105 |   |- peroxy-radicals_v3.3.1
1106 |- model
1107 |   |- configuration
1108 |     |- $TESTNAME.fac
1109 |     |- environmentVariables.config
1110 |     |- mechanism.reac.cmp
1111 |     |- mechanism.prod.cmp
1112 |     |- mechanism.species.cmp
1113 |     |- mechanism.ro2.cmp
1114 |     |- model.parameters
1115 |     |- outputSpecies.config
1116 |     |- outputRates.config
1117 |     |- *photolysisConstant.config
1118 |     |- *photolysisConstrained.config
1119 |     |- solver.parameters
1120 |     |- *speciesConstrained.config
1121 |     |- *speciesConstant.config
1122 |     |- initialConcentrations.config
1123 |     \- a .gitignore file containing
1124 |
1125 |         # Ignore everything in this directory
1126 |         *
1127 |         # Except the following
1128 |         !*.config
1129 |         !*.parameters
1130 |         !.gitignore
1131 |   \- constraints
1132 |       |- ++environment (1)
1133 |       |   \- a .gitignore file containing
1134 |       |       # Ignore nothing in this directory
1135 |       |
1136 |       |       # Except this file
1137 |       |       !.gitignore
1138 |       |
1139 |       |- ++photolysis (1)
1140 |       |   \- a .gitignore file containing
1141 |       |       # Ignore nothing in this directory
1142 |       |
1143 |       |       # Except this file
1144 |       |       !.gitignore
1145 |       |
1146 |       \- ++species (1)
1147 |           \- a .gitignore file containing
1148 |               # Ignore nothing in this directory

```

```

1149 |
1150 |             # Except this file
1151 |             !.gitignore
1152 |- output
1153 |   |- reactionRates/ (3)
1154 |   |- concentration.output.cmp
1155 |   |- environmentVariables.output.cmp
1156 |   |- errors.output.cmp
1157 |   |- finalModelState.output.cmp
1158 |   |- initialConditionsSetting.output.cmp
1159 |   |- jacobian.output.cmp
1160 |   |- lossRates.output.cmp
1161 |   |- mainSolverParameters.output.cmp
1162 |   |- photolysisRates.output.cmp
1163 |   |- photolysisRatesParameters.output.cmp
1164 |   \- productionRates.output.cmp
1165 |- $TESTNAME.out.cmp (2)

```

1166 Notes on this structure: 1. if any environment variables (resp. species, photoly-
 1167 sis) are to be constrained by data from a file (as set in model/configuration/environmentVariables.
 1168 model/configuration/speciesConstrained.config,model/configuration/photolysisConstrained.config),
 1169 the subdirectories in model/constraints/ (environment/, species/,
 1170 photolysis/) should contain data files with filename equal to the constrained
 1171 variable name. 1. the file \$TESTNAME.out.cmp, should contain a copy of the
 1172 expected screen output; 1. the subdirectory reactionRates, should contain a
 1173 .gitignore file and a copy of each of the appropriate files normally outputted
 1174 to reactionRates, with each suffixed by .cmp. The .gitignore file should
 1175 contain

```

1176         \# Ignore everything in this folder
1177         \*
1178         \# except files ending in .cmp
1179         !*.cmp

```

1180 New tests will be picked up by the Makefile automatically when running make
 1181 test.

1182 Chapter 16

1183 Style Guide

1184 In order to make the code more readable, we attempt to use a consistent style of
1185 coding. Two scripts, `tools/fix_style.py` and `tools/fix_indent.py`,
1186 help with keeping the style of the Fortran code consistent:

1187 • `tools/fix_style.py` edits files in-place to try to be consistent with the
1188 style guide (passing two arguments sends the output to the second argu-
1189 ment, leaving the input file untouched, and is thus the safer option). This
1190 script is by no means infallible.; therefore, when using the script (by invok-
1191 ing `python tools/fix_style.py filename`), it is strongly recom-
1192 mended to have a backup of the file to revert to, in case this script wrongly
1193 edits.

1194 This script is also used in the [[test suite|3.1 Test Suite]] to check a few as-
1195 pects of the styling. This works by running the script over the source file and
1196 outputting to a `.cmp` file: if the copy matches the original file, then the test
1197 passes.

1198 • `tools/fix_indent.py` works similarly, but checks and corrects the in-
1199 dentation level of each line of code. This is also used within the [[test suite|3.1
1200 Test Suite]].

1201

1202 16.0.48 Style recommendations

1203 General principles

1204 • All code should be within a module structure, except the main program. In
1205 our case, due to a complicating factor with linking to CVODE, we also place
1206 `FCVFUN()` and `FCVJTIMES()` within the main file `atchem.f90`.

1207 • Code is write in free-form Fortran, so source files should end in `.f90`

1208 • Use two spaces to indent blocks

- 1209 • Comment each procedure with a high-level explanation of what that procedure does.
- 1210
- 1211 • Comment at the top of each file with author, date, purpose of code.
- 1212 • Anything in comments is not touched by the style guide, although common
- 1213 sense rules, and any code within comments should probably follow the rules
- 1214 below.
- 1215 **Specific recommendations**
- 1216 • All **keywords** are lowercase, e.g. `if` `then`, `call`, `module`, `integer`,
- 1217 `real`, `only`, `intrinsic`. This also includes `(kind=XX)` and `(len=XX)`
- 1218 statements.
- 1219 • All **intrinsic** function names are lowercase, e.g. `trim`, `'adjustl'`, `'adjustr'`.
- 1220 • **Relational operators** should use `>=`, `==` rather than `.GE.`, `.EQ.`, and sur-
- 1221 rounded by a single space.
- 1222 • `=` should be surrounded by one space when used as assignment, except in the
- 1223 cases of `(kind=XX)` and `(len=XX)` where no spaces should be used.
- 1224 • **Mathematical operators** should be surrounded by one space, e.g. `*`, `-`, `+`,
- 1225 `**`.
- 1226 – The case of scientific number notation requires no spaces around the `+`
- 1227 or `-`, e.g. `1.5e-9`.
- 1228 • **Variables** begin with lowercase, while **procedures** (that is, subroutines and
- 1229 functions) begin with uppercase. An exception is **third-party functions**,
- 1230 which should be uppercase. Use either CamelCase or underscores to write
- 1231 multiple-word identifiers.
- 1232 • All **procedures and modules** should include the `'implicit none'` statement.
- 1233 • All variable **declarations** should include the `::` notation.
- 1234 • All procedure dummy arguments should include an **intent** statement in their
- 1235 declaration.
- 1236 • **Brackets:**
- 1237 – Opening brackets always have no space before them, except for `read`,
- 1238 `write`, `open`, `close` statements.
- 1239 – `call` statements, and the definitions of all procedures should con-
- 1240 tain **one** space inside the brackets before the first argument and after
- 1241 the last argument, e.g. `call function_name(arg1, arg2)`,
- 1242 `subroutine subroutine_name(arg1)`

- 1243 – Functions calls, and array indices have **no such space** before the first
- 1244 argument or after the last argument.

1245 Chapter 17

1246 Credits

1247 **AtChem online** was developed at the University of Leeds in 2009-2012 by:

- 1248 • Chris Martin (PhD thesis)
- 1249 • Kasia Boroska
- 1250 • Jenny Young
- 1251 • Peter Jimack
- 1252 • Mike Pilling

1253 Model evaluation, development of test scenarios and model testing were done
1254 by Andrew Rickard (NCAS) and Monica Vzquez Moreno (CEAM). Technical sup-
1255 port was provided by David Waller (University of Leeds).

1256

1257 **AtChem2** was developed from the **AtChem online** codebase (rev.146) at the
1258 University of Leicester in 2017 by:

- 1259 • Sam Cox
- 1260 • Roberto Sommariva (also at University of Birmingham)

1261 Additional contributions by:

- 1262 • Peter Bruer
- 1263 • Vasilis Matthaios
- 1264 • Marios Panagi

1265

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