Meteorology and Ozone, Temperature, Relative Humidity

J. Coates[1] and T. Butler[1]

[1]Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam, Germany

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Abstract

1 Introduction

2 Methodology

2.1 Model Setup

- MECCA box model as described in Coates and Butler (2015) to broadly simulate the Benelux (Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg) region. Solar zenith angle of 51°N was used to determine photolysis rates through a parameterisation and the SZA chosen is broadly representative of the central Benelux region.

- MECCA box model has been updated to include vertical mixing with the free troposphere and accordingly includes a diurnal cycle for the PBL height. These amendments are discussed further in Sect. 2.3.

- Simulations start at 06:00 using spring ecquinoctical conditions and the simulations ended after two days.

- All simulations performed using the Master Chemical Mechanism, MCM v3.2, (Rickard et al., 2015) and also repeated using MOZART-4 (Emmons et al., 2010). Coates and Butler (2015) describes the implementation of both MCM v3.2 and MOZART-4 for use with KPP within MECCA.

Table 1: The variables and their minimum and maximum values that were systematically varied in this study are outlined in this table.

Variable	**Minimum Value**	**Maximum Value**	**Unit**
NO_x emissions	7×10^5	7×10^9	molecules cm^{-3} s^{-1}
NMVOC emissions	2×10^8	2×10^{10}	molecules cm^{-3} s^{-1}
Temperature	288 (15)	313 (40)	K (°C)
Solar Zenith Angle (SZA)			°N
Humidity	0	100	%

- NOx and other parameters, including NMVOC emissions, temperature and relative humidity, were varied systematically to analyse the effects on ozone mixing ratios over different NOx gradients and hence different atmospheric conditions. Table 1 details the varied parameters and their ranges.

- VOC emissions constant until noon of first day, to simulate a plume of emitted VOC.

- Two sets of runs were performed – to include both a temperature-dependent and temperature-independent source of biogenic VOC emissions. MEGANv2.1 (Guenther et al., 2012) was used to specify the temperature-dependent BVOC emissions of isoprene and monoterpenes, the BVOC considered in this study.

- Methane is fixed at 1.7 ppmv throughout the model run, carbon monoxide (CO) and ozone were initialised at 200 ppbv and 40 ppbv and then allowed to evolve freely throughout the the simulation.

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2.2 VOC Emissions

- Anthropogenic emissions from Benelux were obtained from the TNO-MACC_III emission inventory. TNO-MACC_III is the current version of the TNO-MACC_II inventory and was created using the same methodology as Kuenen et al. (2014) and based upon improvements to the existing emission inventory during the AQMEII 2 exercies described in Pouliot et al. (2015).

- Temperature-independent emissions of the biogenic VOC isoprene and monoterpenes, were calculated as a fraction of the total anthropogenic VOC emissions from each country in the Benelux region, this data was obtained from the supplementary data available from the EMEP (European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme) model (Simpson et al., 2012).

Table 2: Anthropogenic NMVOC emissions in 2011 in tonnes from each SNAP category assigned from TNO-MACC_III emission inventory and biogenic VOC emission in tonnes from Benelux region assigned from EMEP. The allocation of these emissions to MCM v3.2 and MOZART-4 species is found in the supplement.

	SNAP1	**SNAP2**	**SNAP34**	**SNAP5**	**SNAP6**	**SNAP71**
Belgium	4494	9034	22152	5549	42809	6592
Netherlands	9140	12173	29177	8723	53535	16589
Luxembourg	121	44	0	1372	4482	1740
Total	13755	21251	51329	15644	100826	24921
	SNAP72	**SNAP73**	**SNAP74**	**SNAP8**	**SNAP9**	**BVOC**
Belgium	2446	144	210	6449	821	6533
Netherlands	3230	1283	1793	10067	521	1356
Luxembourg	1051	6	324	643	0	2057
Total	6727	1433	2327	17159	1342	9946

- AVOC and BVOC emissions are included as total emissions from SNAP (Selected Nomenclature for Air Pollution) source categories and these emissions were assigned to chemical groupings based on the country specific profiles for Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg provided by TNO.

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- The MCM v3.2 initial species were determined using the country specific profiles for each SNAP source category and where appropriate information of individual chemical species that can be represented by MCM v3.2 were determined using the detailed speciations of Passant (2002).

- First the primary VOC that are represented by the MCM v3.2 and respective emissions were determind. Using this MCM v3.2 data, the NMVOC emission data were mapped to MOZART-4 species and the emissions in MOZART-4 were weighted by the carbon numbers of the MCM v3.2 species and the emitted MOZART-4 species. The supplementary data outlines the primary NMVOC and calculated emissions with each chemical mechanism.

2.3 Vertical Mixing with Diurnal Boundary Layer Height

- The MECCA box model used in Coates and Butler (2015) includes a constant boundary layer height of 1 km and no interactions (mixing) with the free troposphere.

- The planetary boundary layer (PBL) height varies diurnally and affects chemistry by diluting emissions after sunrise when the PBL rises. The expansion of the PBL into the free troposphere introduces vertical mixing with those chemical species present in the free troposphere. When the PBL collapses in the evening, pollutants are trapped in the PBL.

- Boris Bonn provided a parameterisation of the diurnal profile of the PBL height based on data from the CARES field campaign (CARB, 2008) . This parameterisation was then used to calculate the PBL height at every time point for the model run and then read into the boxmodel at each time point. Figure 1 illustrates the diurnal profile used in this study.

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- The concentrations of the chemical species within the PBL are diluted due to the larger mixing volume when the PBL height increases at the beginning of the day, also the increasing PBL height induces mixing of chemical species from the free troposphere with those chemical species within the PBL i.e. vertical mixing. When the PBL height collapses during night giving the stable nocturnal boundary layer, this traps the chemical species into a smaller volume thus increasing the concentrations of the chemical species.

- This vertical mixing scheme was implemented into the boxmodel using the same approach of Lourens (2012).

- The mixing ratios of O3, CO and CH4 in the free troposphere were respectively set to 50 ppbv, 116 ppbv and 1.8 ppmv. These condions were taken from the MATCH-MPIC chemical weather forecast model on the 27th March (the start date of the simulations). The model results (`http://cwf.iass-potsdam.de/`) at the 700 hPa height were chosen and the daily average was used as input into the boxmodel.

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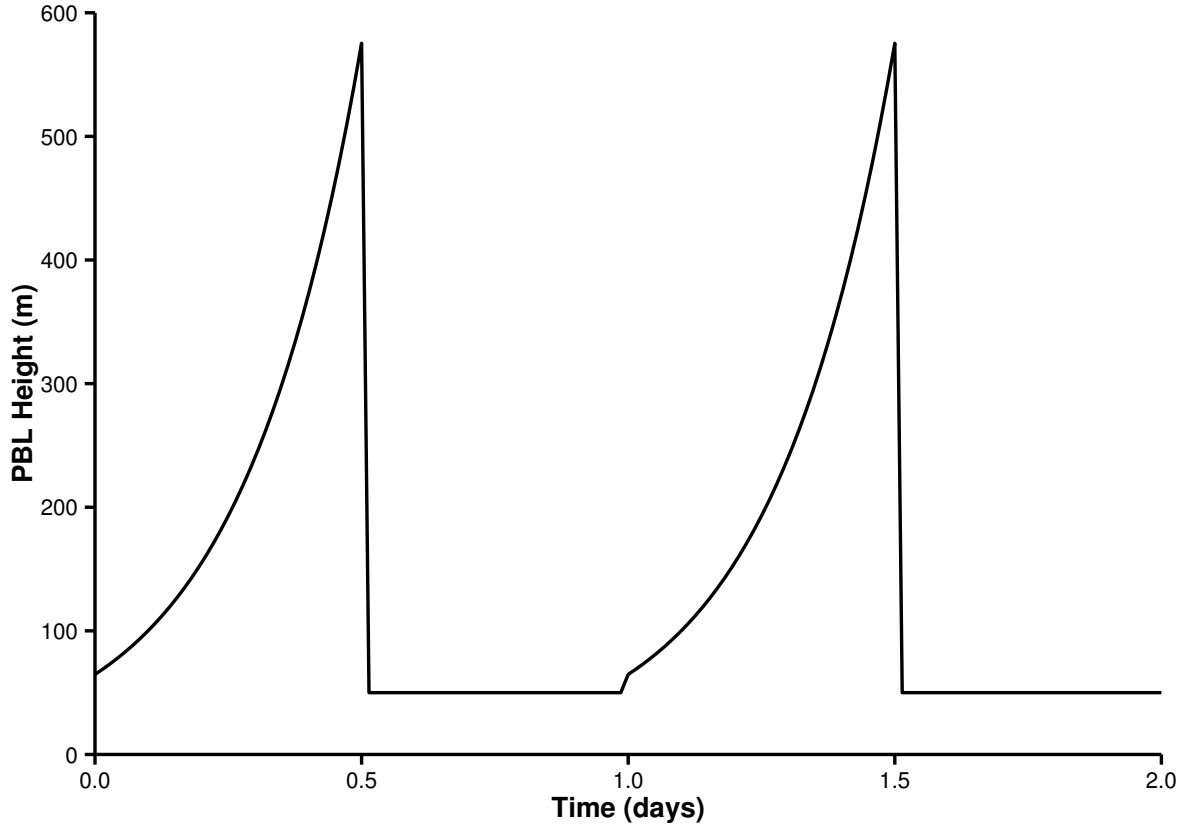
Figure 1: The planetary boundary layer (PBL) height diurnal profile used in the study.



3 Results

4 Conclusions

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