

## **Tropospheric Configuration of UKCA**

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### **Transport**

The United Kingdom Chemistry and Aerosol (UKCA) model has been coupled to the HadGEM family of Met Office Hadley Centre climate models (Johns et al., 2006; Martin et al., 2006; Collins et al., 2009), all of which are based on the U.K. Met Office's Unified Model (UM). As a result, UKCA uses components of the UM for the large-scale advection, convective transport, and boundary layer mixing of its chemical tracers. The large-scale transport is based on the new dynamical core implemented in the UM by Davies et al. (2005). The horizontal latitude-longitude grid in use is a staggered Arakawa C-grid (Arakawa and Lamb 1977) with typical climate model resolutions of N48 i.e.  $2.5^\circ$  latitude x  $3.75^\circ$  longitude or N96 i.e.  $1.25^\circ$  latitude x  $1.875^\circ$  longitude. A staggered Charney-Phillips grid is used in the vertical with either 38 levels (extending up to 40 km) or 60 levels (extending up to 83 km). Advection is semi-Lagrangian with conservative and monotone treatment of tracers (Davies et al., 2005). Convective transport is treated according to the mass-flux scheme of Gregory and Rowntree (1990) and is applicable to moist convection of all types (shallow, deep, and mid-level) in addition to dry convection. For boundary layer mixing, UKCA makes use of a new boundary layer turbulent mixing scheme (Lock et al., 2000) which includes a representation of non-local mixing in unstable layers and an explicit entrainment parameterization

### **Chemistry Schemes**

The UM release at vn7.1 (+ branch) supports 3 tropospheric chemistry schemes (Table 1). The first chemistry scheme (Trop) includes  $\text{NO}_x$ - $\text{HO}_x$ - $\text{CO}$ - $\text{CH}_4$ - $\text{O}_3$  chemistry with explicit treatment of ethane and propane and has previously been used in both the TOMCAT chemical transport model (Savage et al., 2004) and chemistry-climate integrations (Zeng and Pyle, 2003; Zeng and Pyle, 2005). This was included in an intercomparison of chemistry schemes and, unsurprisingly, was found to have a low photochemical ozone production potential due to its lack of higher non-methane hydrocarbons (Archibald, 2007). The second scheme (TropIsop) is an extension of the first scheme to include the 34 reactions of the Mainz Isoprene Mechanism (Poschl et al., 2000). This scheme was included in a recent chemical mechanism intercomparison by Emmerson and Evans (2008); it was found to show good agreement with the Master Chemical Mechanism (Jenkin et al., 2003; Saunders et al., 2003; Bloss et al., 2005) in simulating both  $\text{O}_3$  and OH concentrations. The third scheme (Aerchem) is again an extension of the first scheme; in this case, it includes oxidation of  $\text{SO}_2$  and DMS and provides input to the treatment of sulphate aerosol in UKCA-MODE, the aerosol component of UKCA. The choice of chemical scheme is controlled by UKCA logicals `L_ukca_trop` (Scheme 1), `L_ukca_tropisop` (Scheme 2), and `L_ukca_aerchem` (Scheme 3). In all 3 schemes, bimolecular and termolecular reaction rate co-efficients follow recommendations from IUPAC (2005), JPL (2003), and the Master Chemical Mechanism vn3.1 (<http://www.chem.leeds.ac.uk/Atmospheric/MCM/mcmproj.html>). Two additional schemes (RAQ and ExtTC) with more extensive treatment of non-methane hydrocarbons have been run within UKCA and are included in Table 1; these are not available with the UMvn7.1 release but could be added by means of an FCM branch.

	Trop	TropIsop = Trop+MIM	Aerchem = Trop + S	RAQ	ExtTC = TropIsop + VOCs
Tracers	26	40	27	40	60
Species	46	60	49	58	82
Ethane, Propane	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Isoprene	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other non- CH <sub>4</sub> VOCs	No	No	No	Alkenes, Aromatics	Alkenes, Terpenes, Aromatics
Aerosol formation	No	No	Sulphate	No	SOA

Table1: Brief Summary of the various tropospheric chemistry schemes being run within UKCA. Some of these schemes are available as part of the UMvn7.1 release and others need to be added by means of an FCM branch.

### Photolysis

In the UM code release at vn7.1, UKCA has two different treatments for photolysis. The first and simplest treatment, controlled by the UKCA logical `L_ukca_phot2d`, is where use is made of photolysis rates which have been calculated offline in the Cambridge 2D model (Law and Pyle, 1993) with the Hough (1988) scheme. These are read in by UKCA on the first time step of the model integration and interpolated in time and space at each model grid box. Although this treatment gives realistic diurnal and seasonal variations in photolysis rates, there is no variability associated with cloud cover and/or aerosol; the 2D rates were calculated with a climatological cloud cover and a prescribed aerosol loading. The second more sophisticated treatment is Fast-j (Wild et al., 2000) which provides a flexible and accurate scheme for the calculation of photolysis rates in the presence of both cloud and aerosol layers. In its implementation in UMvn7.1, the Fast-j scheme is only called when the UKCA logical `L_ukca_fastj` is set to true and the scheme itself is provided with optical depths from cloud liquid water, cloud frozen water, and sulphate aerosol from the HadGEM model. This can be altered to either extend the number of aerosol types considered from HadGEM or to use optical depths derived from UKCA-MODE aerosol distributions. The Fast-j code also includes flexibility for running on both scalar and vector platforms and in addition, load balancing code was introduced. Unfortunately, there are some memory problems associated with running Fast-j which have not yet been resolved.

### Wet Deposition

The wet deposition scheme implemented in UKCA is the same scheme as was implemented and validated in the TOMCAT model by Giannakopoulos et al. (1999). Here, it makes use of the climate model's 3D convective and large-scale precipitation (both rainfall and snowfall), following a scheme originally developed by Walton et al.

(1988). The scheme uses the scavenging co-efficient values for  $\text{HNO}_3$  proposed by Penner et al. (1991), which are scaled down according to the fraction of each species in the liquid phase determined by Henry's Law. Further evaluation of the scheme, particularly its UKCA implementation, can be found in O'Connor et al. (2009).

### Dry Deposition

The tropospheric configuration of UKCA in UMvn7.1 supports two different dry deposition schemes. The first scheme is a very simple dry deposition scheme and is the default scheme. It assumes that the rate of dry deposition  $\tau_d$  ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ ) can be expressed as a function of the dry deposition velocity  $V_d$  ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ) as follows:

$$\tau_d = V_d/H$$

where  $H$  represents the height of the lowest model layer (m). The scheme uses prescribed deposition velocities at 1 metre above the ground (Ganzeveld and Lelieveld, 1995; Giannakopoulos, 1998 and references therein; Sander and Crutzen 1996) which are dependent on surface type, season, and time of day. They are then extrapolated from 1 metre to the centre of the bottom grid box, according to Sorteberg and Hov (1996). The second dry deposition scheme in UKCA is the “big-leaf” multiple resistance model of Smith et al. (2000) and is similar in its implementation to that in the STOCHEM model (Sanderson et al., 2006). The multiple resistances considered represent a) transport of gas molecules from the boundary layer to the immediate vicinity of the absorbing surfaces (aerodynamic resistance), b) diffusion through the quasi-laminar boundary layer of air close to absorbing surfaces (quasi-laminar resistance) and c) removal of the gas from the atmosphere depending on the chemical and physical properties of the gas and the surface (surface resistance). The multiple resistances are calculated for each surface type within a grid box and are then combined to give a grid-box deposition velocity and a first order loss rate. This “big-leaf” dry deposition scheme is chosen when the UKCA logical `L_ukca_intdd` is set to true. An important difference between the two schemes is that the dry deposition loss rates are only applied in the bottom model level with the first scheme but applied in all model levels within the boundary layer with the second scheme. Therefore, it is recommended that `L_ukca_intdd` is set to true.

### Emissions

Surface, aircraft, and lightning emissions are all treated in the tropospheric configuration of UKCA.

The majority of surface emissions are prescribed through UM single-level ancillary files as monthly mean emissions in  $\text{kg (species) m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . These emissions can be time-varying over a number of years or time-varying over a single year which are used repeatedly through the model integration. Although the second chemistry scheme includes an isoprene degradation mechanism, there is no code yet in UMvn7.1 to provide interactive biogenic emissions. The only source of interactive surface emissions currently treated in UKCA is that of  $\text{CH}_4$  from wetlands according to Gedney et al. (2004) although the complete hydrology code is not present at UMvn7.1. In terms of UKCA, the coding is complete and all that is required is the setting of the logical switch `L_ukca_qch4inter` to true. In this case, the user needs to ensure that the prescribed  $\text{CH}_4$  emissions do not include a component from wetlands. In addition to surface emissions, UKCA considers emissions of  $\text{NO}_x$  from aircraft. These emissions

are also prescribed by means of a UM multi-level ancillary file which specifies monthly mean emissions in units of kg NO<sub>2</sub>/gridbox/s. These are converted to kg (NO) m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> before being added to the NO chemical tracer.

Lightning emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> are interactive and are coupled to the climate model's convection scheme following the implementation from the TOMCAT model by Stockwell et al. (1999). The global distribution and frequency of lightning flashes are calculated using the parameterization of Price and Rind (1992) from the model's cloud top height. The amount of NO<sub>x</sub> emitted is a linear function of the discharge energy (Chameides et al., 1977) which is 10 times lower from an intracloud flash than from a cloud-to-ground flash (Kowalczyk and Bauer 1982; Price et al., 1997). The ratio of IC to CG flashes follows Price and Rind (1993) and varies with latitude. This ratio and the flash frequencies are used to derive an emission rate which is scaled to give a global annual total of 5 Tg (N)/year.

### **Top Boundary Conditions**

There are a number of options available at UMvn7.1 to treat boundary conditions at the top of the model. In particular, there are treatments for O<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and NO<sub>y</sub>.

For O<sub>3</sub>, one option is to overwrite it at pressures below 70 hPa using output from the Cambridge 2D model (Law and Pyle, 1993). However, the disadvantage with this method is that the output from the 2D model is only for a single year and may not be appropriate for a long transient model integration. An alternative option is to use the same ozone field (SPARC or Rosenlof climatology) that is used to drive the UM's radiation scheme (Edwards and Slingo, 1996) which evolves with time. In this case, O<sub>3</sub> is overwritten on model levels which are a fixed number of levels above the diagnosed tropopause. This second option is selected when L\_use\_umo3 is set to true in the ukca\_stratf routine.

The UKCA CH<sub>4</sub> field also has a top boundary condition applied to it to take account of the lack of CH<sub>4</sub> oxidation in the stratosphere above the top of the domain of the L38 model in particular. This can be carried out in one of two ways. The original method is similar to the first method for O<sub>3</sub>, in that CH<sub>4</sub> is simply overwritten above 70 hPa with output from the Cambridge 2D model. However, this approach appears to be too strong a sink for CH<sub>4</sub> in the present day and acts as a source of CH<sub>4</sub> in the pre-industrial period! The alternative approach is to call a subroutine ukca\_ch4\_stratloss (not included in the UMvn7.1 release), in which an explicit loss rate is applied to CH<sub>4</sub> in the top levels of the model. The loss rate used should give a stratospheric loss of approximately 40 Tg (CH<sub>4</sub>)/year in present-day simulations, in line with Prather et al. (2001).

As is the case for O<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>, there are 2 alternative treatments for NO<sub>y</sub> at the top boundary. In the first approach, NO<sub>y</sub> output from the 2D Cambridge model is used to overwrite all the NO<sub>y</sub> species in UKCA while still retaining their original partitioning. The second approach is that used in the STOCHEM model, in which a fixed O<sub>3</sub>:HNO<sub>3</sub> ratio from Murphy and Fahey (1994) is used to simply overwrite HNO<sub>3</sub>. All other NO<sub>y</sub> species are not overwritten. The default approach is the first one but can be switched to the second method by setting L\_use\_O3HNO3ratio to true.

Such top boundary conditions will not be required when whole-atmosphere chemistry modelling within UKCA becomes more established.

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