

Interactive comment on “The impact of Great Basin Desert dust on the summer monsoon system over southwestern North America” by C. Zhao et al.

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Do the simulations represent a "free" climate simulation? It is not clear whether the model is re-initialized every few days with the reanalysis or not. If the model is reinitialized every few days, it is not surprising that the circulation simulated is similar to the reanalysis on the seasonal scale. The dust radiative effects would probably differ depending on the inclusion of re-initialization due to changes in the circulation and slower adjustment processes. It would be important that the authors clarify this aspect in the text.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 11, 31735, 2011.

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