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Biomass burning influence on high latitude tropospheric ozone and reactive nitrogen in summer 2008: a multi-model analysis based on POLMIP simulations

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Abstract

We have evaluated tropospheric ozone enhancement in air dominated by biomass burning emissions at high laititudes (> 50° N) in July 2008, using 10 global chemical transport model simulations from the POLMIP multi-model comparison exercise. In model air masses dominated by fire emissions, $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ values ranged between 0.039 and 0.196 ppbv ppbv⁻¹ (mean: 0.113 ppbv ppbv⁻¹) in freshly fire-influenced air, and between 0.140 and 0.261 ppbv ppbv⁻¹ (mean: 0.193 ppbv) in more aged fireinfluenced air. These values are in broad agreement with the range of observational estimates from the literature. Model $\Delta PAN/\Delta CO$ enhancement ratios show distinct groupings according to the meteorological data used to drive the models. ECMWF-forced models produce larger $\Delta PAN/\Delta CO$ values (4.44–6.28 pptv ppbv⁻¹) than GEOS5-forced models (2.02–3.02 pptv ppbv⁻¹), which we show is likely linked to differences efficiency of vertical transport during poleward export from mid-latitude source regions. Simulations of a large plume of biomass burning and anthropogenic

- emissions exported from Asia towards the Arctic using a Lagrangian chemical transport model show that 4 day net ozone change in the plume is sensitive to differences in plume chemical composition and plume vertical position among the POLMIP models. In particular, Arctic ozone evolution in the plume is highly sensitive to initial concentrations of PAN, as well as oxygenated VOCs (acetone, acetaldehyde), due to their role in
- ²⁰ producing the peroxyacetyl radical PAN precursor. Vertical displacement is also important due to its effects on the stability of PAN, and subsequent effect on NO_x abundance. In plumes where net ozone production is limited, we find that the lifetime of ozone in the plume is sensitive to hydrogen peroxide loading, due to the production of HO₂ from peroxide photolysis, and the key role of HO₂ + O₃ in controlling ozone loss. Overall, our
- results suggest that emissions from biomass burning lead to large-scale photochemical enhancement in high latitude tropospheric ozone during summer.



1 Introduction

Vegetation fires play an important role in ecosystem function and regulation (Bonan, 2008) and contribute substantially to atmospheric CO_2 , with gross emissions from biomass burning estimated to be between 2 and 4 Pg C a⁻¹ globally, equivalent to 40 % of those from fossil fuel combustion (Ciais et al., 2013). Biomass burning also impacts atmospheric chemistry, releasing large quantities of aerosol and reactive gas-phase chemical compounds, including CO, NO_x (= $NO+NO_2$) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) (Andreae et al., 1988; van der Werf et al., 2010). These emissions result in perturbations to tropospheric oxidants, aerosol loading and the atmospheric radiative balance. Studies have demonstrated that wildfires in the boreal regions of North America and Eurasia affect abundances of atmospheric trace gases and aerosol at high latitudes (Bourgeois and Bey, 2011; Fisher et al., 2010; Hornbrook et al., 2011; Jaffe and Wigder, 2012; Monks et al., 2012; Paris et al., 2009; Real et al., 2007; Warneke

- et al., 2010; Wofsy et al., 1992). These contributions peak during spring and summer, ¹⁵ when large fires occur naturally in the regions of Alaska and Canada and in central and eastern Siberia (Monks et al., 2012; van der Werf et al., 2010). How anthropogenic and natural sources of climatically-relevant atmospheric constituents will contribute to future high latitude climate change is highly uncertain (Shindell et al., 2008). In particular, our understanding of how boreal fires impact large-scale Arctic and high lati-
- tude budgets of climate-relevant atmospheric constituents is limited, and is reliant on sparse observations, often in specific events and isolated plumes. Short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) such as tropospheric ozone, aerosol and methane may contribute to accelerated rates of warming observed in the Arctic relative to the global mean temperature increase (Quinn et al., 2008). Changes in tropospheric ozone and aerosol and aerosol and methane may contribute to accelerate the provide the section of the sect
- ²⁵ may already have contributed 0.2–0.4 °C and 0.5–1.4 °C respectively to Arctic surface warming since 1890 (Shindell and Faluvegi, 2009). A better understanding of boreal fire influence on high latitude tropospheric ozone and aerosol is essential for improving the reliability of our projections of future Arctic and Northern Hemisphere climate



change, especially considering proposed climate-fire feedbacks which may enhance the intensity and extent of high latitude wildfire under a warming climate (de Groot et al., 2013).

- The role of boreal fires as a source of high latitude tropospheric ozone is particularly ⁵ poorly constrained, and has been the subject of some controversy, with different studies suggesting both minor and major roles for fires as a source of Arctic ozone. A recent review by (Jaffe and Wigder, 2012) showed that most studies have demonstrated net production of tropospheric ozone from wildfire emissions, due to the propensity of fires to emit large quantities of key ozone precursors (NO_x, CO, VOCs). The $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ en-10 hancement ratio (defined as the excess ozone mixing ratio above background ozone in
- an air mass normalized by an enhancement in CO mixing ratio above background 020he in is often used as a measure of ozone production efficiency in fire plumes as they are processed downwind from emission. Values of $\Delta O_3 / \Delta CO$ in boreal wildfire plumes from Siberia, Alaska and Canada vary between approximately -0.1 and 0.6 ppbv ppbv⁻¹
- (Alvarado et al., 2010; Bertschi et al., 2004; Goode et al., 2000; Honrath et al., 2004; Martin et al., 2006; Mauzerall et al., 1996; Paris et al., 2009; Parrington et al., 2013; Pfister et al., 2006; Real et al., 2007; Singh et al., 2010; Tanimoto et al., 2008; Wofsy et al., 1992). In addition, these values are observed to generally increase with increasing plume age.
- A robust estimate of the role of boreal fires in producing tropospheric ozone is hampered by a large range in observational estimates of ozone production efficiency, likely resulting from factors such as variability in emission factors with combustion efficiency and vegetation type, differences in plume age, different plume chemical processing, due to e.g. different aerosol loadings, and mixing with anthropogenic emissions (Jaffe
- and Wigder, 2012). Integrated analysis of data from multiple boreal fire plumes sampled across Alaska and Canada during the ARCTAS-B campaign concluded that boreal fire emissions had only negligible impact on tropospheric ozone profiles in summer 2008 over Alaska and Canada (Alvarado et al., 2010; Singh et al., 2010). However, plumes sampled were mostly freshly emitted (< 2 days), and box modelling based on</p>



the same data suggests high in-situ photochemical production rates, despite little to no measured ozone enhancement in these plumes (Olson et al., 2012). Other recent modelling studies have suggested greater ozone sensitivity to boreal fire emissions in more aged air masses. Tropospheric ozone in coastal Canada has been shown to be

- ⁵ highly sensitive to NO_x emissions from central Canadian fires (Parrington et al., 2012), and regional modelling for the Arctic in summer 2008 suggests that ozone production increases markedly in fire plumes downwind from emission as air masses process chemically over time (Thomas et al., 2013). Wespes et al. (2012), using a tagged NO_x and ozone production scheme in the MOZART-4 global CTM, showed that more than
- 20% of ozone in the Arctic lower troposphere is produced from NO_x emitted from high latitude fires in North America and Asia. Boreal forest fires have also been shown to be an important source of peroxyacetyl nitrate (PAN) in the Arctic during the spring and summer months (Jacob et al., 1992; Singh et al., 2010, 1992). Transport of PAN from lower latitudes into the Arctic makes a substantial contribution to local in-situ ozone
 production, via NO₂ released from PAN decomposition (Walker et al., 2012).

In light of uncertainties associated with these contributions, there is a need to better evaluate how models simulate the influence of boreal fires on high latitude budgets of ozone and precursors, particularly in summer, when local radiative processes play a major role in Arctic surface temperatures (Shindell, 2007). While several model studies have investigated simulated ozone production from boreal fires, there has been little

20 les have investigated simulated ozone production from boreal fires, there has been little attempt to understand how differences in model treatments of chemistry and transport affect estimates of ozone production in fire-influenced air masses.

In this paper, we use results from POLMIP (POLARCAT model intercomparison Project) (Emmons et al., 2014) and observations collected in the Arctic troposphere

as part of the ARCTAS-B mission (Jacob et al., 2010), to evaluate simulated summertime tropospheric ozone and its precursors in the northern high latitudes and how it is influenced by boreal fire emissions in a series of state-of-the-art global atmospheric chemical transport models. The POLMIP model experiments and observations used to evaluate them are described in Sect. 2. In Sect. 3, we use idealised model tracers



to track fire emissions, and compare ozone enhancement ratios ($\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$) in air dominated by fire emission influence across the range of models, and investigate relationships with model NO_y partitioning. Section 4 describes a case study of a large biomass burning plume exported from Siberia in July 2008, which we use to investigate the sensitivities of Arctic tropospheric ozone to model chemistry based on Lagrangian chemical model simulations of the plume. Our findings and conclusions are summarised in Sect. 5.

2 Model simulations and observations

The POLARCAT Model Intercomparison Project (POLMIP) was designed to evaluate the performance of several global and regional-scale chemical transport models (CTMs) in the Arctic troposphere (Emmons et al., 2014). POLMIP contributes to the POLARCAT project aim to better understand model deficiencies identified in a previous evaluation of CTM simulations of Arctic tropospheric ozone and its precursors, and aims to exploit the large amount of observational data collected during the IPY
 ¹⁵ aircraft experiments in the Arctic troposphere during spring and summer 2008. Further details on the POLARCAT project and the 2008 aircraft campaigns are given in Law et al. (2014). All models used the same data for emissions, with the aim of allowing an investigation of model differences due to atmospheric transport and chemical processes only. The exception was the GEOS-Chem model, which used different anthropogenic emissions are those

- provided for the ARCTAS project by D. Streets (Argonne National Lab) and University of Iowa (http://bio.cgrer.uiowa.edu/arctas/emission.html). Daily biomass burning emissions are taken from the Fire Inventory of NCAR (FINN), based on MODIS fire counts (Wiedinmyer et al., 2011). All POLMIP models injected biomass burning emissions
 into the lowest boundary layer model level, in order to remove any differences produced
- through treatments of fire emission injection heights. Other emissions (biogenic, ocean, volcano) were derived from the MACCity inventory (Lamarque et al., 2010). Table 1



summarises details of the POLMIP model simulations used in this study. Further details of the POLMIP model experiments, emissions data and evaluation of the simulations can be found in Emmons et al. (2014).

- To further aid in understanding inter-model differences in transport, POLMIP mod-⁵ els included fixed lifetime tracers from anthropogenic and biomass burning emission sources. A total of 6 tracers were simulated, each with a prescribed fixed atmospheric lifetime of 25 days. Two tracers were emitted from each of three mid-latitude continental source regions (Europe, North America and Asia), one with the same source as the anthropogenic CO emissions and one from the CO emissions from biomass burning ¹⁰ sources. Details on the exact definition of source regions and emission magnitudes
- are given in Emmons et al. (2014). The Asian biomass burning tracer is dominated by emissions from large Siberian fires in July 2008 (see Emmons et al., 2014). Monks et al. (2012) demonstrated that variability in emissions from boreal fires dominates the inter-annual variability of the ozone precursor, CO in the Arctic troposphere. Us-
- ¹⁵ ing fixed-lifetime CO tracers from the POLMIP simulations, Monks et al. (2014) used these tracers in conjunction with observed and simulated CO to investigate the contributions from differences in model transport and oxidants to inter-model variability in simulated seasonal CO in the Arctic. They showed that emissions from Asian fires are the dominant source of CO tracer in the lower and middle Arctic troposphere, and are
- ²⁰ approximately equal to the contribution from Asian anthropogenic sources in the upper troposphere. Here, we exploit these tracers to identify regions and periods in the POLMIP model simulations for which air is strongly influenced by fire emissions.

Several aircraft flew missions into the Arctic troposphere during summer 2008 as part of the POLARCAT experiment (Law et al., 2014). The POLARCAT-France and

GRACE experiments, based in south-west Greenland sampled aged fire plumes and anthropogenic air masses transported into the Arctic from Siberia and North America. ARCTAS-B, based in central Canada, sampled fresh and aged fire emissions over Canada and the Arctic. In this analysis, we make use only of data from the ARCTAS-B mission, for which the NASA DC8 aircraft was equipped with an extensive suite of gas



phase and aerosol instrumentation, including ozone, CO, speciated oxides of nitrogen (NO_y) , volatile organic compounds and peroxides (Jacob et al., 2010). Monks et al., (2014) present a detailed comparison of the POLMIP model simulations with CO and ozone data from all POLARCAT experiments.

During ARCTAS-B, the DC8 aircraft made 7 flights, based from Cold Lake, Canada from 29 June to 10 July 2008. The vast majority of observations were made in fresh Saskatchewan fire plumes, although some flights also targetted aged plumes transported to Canada from Siberian and Californian fires. All ARCTAS DC8 data are available in a publicly accessible archive (http://www-air.larc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/arcstat-c), and described in Jacob et al. (2010).

3 Fire emission influence on ozone and NOy enhancement in POLMIP models

3.1 Evaluation of model ozone and ozone precursors in air dominated by fire emissions

Using the fixed-lifetime tracers from the models, we evaluate simulations of ozone and precursors against ARCTAS-B aircraft observations in air dominated by fire emissions 15 in the summertime Arctic troposphere. Figures 1-4 respectively show aircraft observations of ozone, CO, PAN and HNO₃ plotted against hourly model output interpolated in time and space to the aircraft position. For each model, points have been coloured according to whether the simulated tracers from fire sources or from anthropogenic sources contribute more than 50% of the total (fire + anthropogenic) tracer mixing ra-20 tio at the aircraft location. In model air dominated by fire emissions, simulated ozone generally falls close to the observation-model 1:1 line, and model mean biases vary between -20 and +7%, compared with -13 to +6% in anthropogenic-dominated air. As discussed in detail by Monks et al. (2014), all POLMIP models display a negative mean CO bias, throughout the depth of the troposphere. Use of the POLMIP fixed-25 lifetime tracers shows that this is the case in both anthropogenic and fire-dominated air.



The majority of ARCTAS-B observations were made is fresh biomass burning plumes, leading to larger CO concentrations on average in fire-dominated air masses. The models also simulate larger CO concentrations in these air masses, but with a general underestimate. Monks et al. (2014) demonstrated that POLMIP model-simulated global mean OH was generally biased slightly high compared with observational constraints, possibly contributing to their low CO bias.

Simulated distributions of NO_y species show some of the largest diversity between models and largest fractional biases against observations. Emmons et al. (2014) showed that POLMIP models display large variability in their budgets of NO_y throughout the death of the Arctic transporter. The POLMIP models fall into two distinct groups in

- the depth of the Arctic troposphere. The POLMIP models fall into two distinct groups in terms of their simulation of ARCTAS-B PAN concentrations. Models forced by GEOS5 meteorology tend to have lower PAN than observed in fire-dominated air (mean biases: -37 to -11%), while the ECMWF-forced models produce more PAN than observed in fire-dominated air (mean biases: +11 to +40%). This major difference appears to be
- ¹⁵ related to differences in the efficiency of vertical transport between models using the two different sets of meteorological data (see Sect. 3.3). Models that transport PAN and its precursors more rapidly to higher altitudes and lower temperatures will likely promote enhanced PAN formation and stability (Singh and Hanst, 1981). These effects on differences in NO_y partitioning are explored further in Sect. 3.3.
- GEOS-Chem underestimates DC8 PAN concentrations by the largest magnitude overall (mean bias -43%), with lower-than-observed PAN at all locations where observed PAN exceeds 250 pptv. Recent work has substantially improved the simulation of PAN in the GEOS-chem model (Fischer et al., 2014), however these model updates are not included here. The CIFS model shows a large positive PAN bias (mean
- ²⁵ bias +40 %) in fire-dominated air, with very large overestimates (> factor of 4) in fire air masses sampled close to the surface. Comparisons with aircraft observations (see Emmons et al., 2014) show coincident overestimates in NO₂ and acetaldehyde, suggesting these very large PAN concentrations may be partly produced by overestimates in PAN precursors near to fire source regions. In general, the models display substantially



larger PAN biases in fire-dominated air (mean biases: -37 to +40%) compared with anthropogenic-dominated air (mean biases: -20 to +22%). Fresh biomass burning plumes observed in ARCTAS-B displayed enhancements in peroxyacetyl precursors such as acetaldehyde and acetone (Hornbrook et al., 2011). Simulated oVOC enhancements relative to CO (particularly for acetone) in the POLMIP models show large

variability close to Canadian fires (Emmons et al., 2014), which may in turn lead to a large range in simulated PAN production.

All models show a large positive bias in Arctic HNO_3 concentrations (up to a factor 32 in anthropgenically-dominated air). The exception is the MOZART-4 model, which

¹⁰ has a small negative bias (-9%) in fire-dominated air. In an earlier study, Alvarado et al. (2010) used the GEOS-Chem model to study HNO_3 in fire-influenced air masses. This study concluded that the over-prediction of HNO_3 was due to under-prediction of NO_x conversion to PAN in fire Influenced air masses. The POLMIP models do no generally support this offsetting of positive biases in HNO_3 with under-prediction of PAN.

3.2 Model ozone production in fire-dominated Arctic air masses

Previous studies have directly determined the contribution from fire emissions to model ozone by removing emissions from fires (Pfister et al., 2006; Thomas et al., 2013) or by chemically tagging ozone produced by NO_x emitted from fires (Wespes et al., 2012).

- ²⁰ To investigate this contribution in the POLMIP models, we use the 25 day fixed-lifetime tracers to identify the dominant emission source that influences high latitude air in the models. We calculate enhancement in tropospheric ozone as a ratio to CO enhancement ($\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$) where the fixed-lifetime tracers indicate that the model domain is dominated by fire emissions. Points are considered to be fire-dominated where the
- fire-sourced fixed-lifetime tracer concentration is at least 66% of the total fixed lifetime tracer concentration, and where the fire-sourced fixed-lifetime tracer mixing ratio is at least 10 ppbv. Using this minimum tracer mixing ratio to define air enhanced in fire emissions, we use the slope of CO vs. ozone in these air masses to calculate the



 $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ ratio directly. This avoids the definition of a CO mixing ratio enhancement above background CO, which due to OH differences between the models is highly model dependent (Monks et al., 2014).

- Using changes in the ratio of concentrations of two co-emitted VOCs with differ-⁵ ing atmospheric lifetimes, it is also possible to estimate how model $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ values change, as air dominated by fire emissions is transported away from the source region and ages photochemically. For primary-emitted VOCs that have losses dominated by OH-oxidation, the concentration ratio of a more reactive to a less reactive VOC is expected to reduce over time since emission (Calvert, 1976). Propane (C₃H₈) ¹⁰ and ethane (C₂H₆) have respective atmospheric e-folding lifetimes of approximately 5
- and 24 days (for an average OH concentration of 2×10^6 molec cm⁻³, Atkinson et al., 2006). In the absence of mixing with background concentrations, a decrease in the $\ln([C_3H_8]/[C_2H_6])$ ratio is directly proportional to the time elapsed since emission.
- We use the $ln([C_3H_8]/[C_2H_6])$ ratios from the POLMIP models to create relationships between broad classifications of air mass age and $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$. Based on model values of the $ln([C_3H_8]/[C_2H_6])$ ratio, we separate the distribution of high latitude tropospheric model grid boxes into two populations of "youngest" (points with $ln([C_3H_8]/[C_2H_6])$ values larger than the median) and "oldest" (points with $ln([C_3H_8]/[C_2H_6])$ values smaller than the median) air masses, in terms of their estimated age since emission. Fig-
- ²⁰ ure 5 shows POLMIP model-simulated relationships between [O₃] and [CO] in firedominated air in the high latitude free troposphere (latitude > 50° N; 850 hPa > pressure > 250 hPa), with calculated $\Delta O_3 / \Delta CO$ slopes in youngest and oldest air mass groups as defined by the ln([C₃H₈]/[C₂H₆]) ratios. The SMHI-MATCH and GEOS-Chem models respectively did not explicitly simulate propane and the fixed-lifetime source tracers.
- ²⁵ Therefore, it is not possible to calculate $\Delta O_3 / \Delta CO$ slopes in fire-dominated air according to these age classes.

POLMIP model $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ slopes are positive in both the younger and aged firedominated air in all models. Slopes in the aged air masses (mean: 0.193, min: 0.140, max: 0.261 ppbv ppbv⁻¹) are larger on average compared with slopes in the younger



air masses (mean: 0.113, min: 0.039, max: 0.196 $ppbv ppbv^{-1}$). This is indicative of photochemical ozone production in fire emission-dominated air emitted into and advected to high latitudes in the POLMIP models, with an increase in ozone enhancement relative to CO enhancement in these air masses as they age photochemically.

- ⁵ Two models (TOMCAT and CAM5-chem) show a slight decrease in $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ with air mass age defined by the ln([C₃H₈]/[C₂H₆]) ratio. Supplement Fig. S1 shows that the ln([propane]/[ethane]) ratio for these models show less distinct separation in their corresponding fire tracer concentrations between the "young" and "old" age classes. This suggests that the ln([C₃H₈]/[C₂H₆]) ratio may be a less robust proxy for photo-
- ¹⁰ chemical age since emission in these models. Figure 5k shows ozone and CO observations from ARCTAS-B DC8 flights over-plotted with $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ slopes from the different POLMIP models. Although the DC8 aircraft sampled only a small proportion of the fire-dominated domain simulated by the models, the aircraft points lie close to the model $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ slopes. Observed ozone concentrations appear slightly larger as
- ¹⁵ a function of CO than those in the POLMIP simulations. There is also evidence that observed air masses show a larger range in ozone enhancements for a given range of CO enhancement than those simulated, perhaps reflecting a diverse range of fresh plumes sampled by the aircraft close to the fires on the model sub-grid scale.

POLMIP model $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ values are highly consistent compared with the wide

- ²⁰ range of $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ values determined from observational studies in boreal fire plumes. Figure 6 compares the $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ values from the POLMIP models with $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ values from previous model and observational studies on fire plumes at high latitudes. Average $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ values from a previous GEOS-Chem model study based on ARCTAS-B range between -0.07 and 0.01 (Alvarado et al., 2010), substantially smaller than val-
- ²⁵ ues from the POLMIP models. Moreover, these values indicate a tendency for ozone loss in fire plumes, however these values were diagnosed in freshly fire-influenced air masses. The POLMIP models agree well with regional WRF-chem model simulations for the ARCTAS-B campaign, which produced mean $\Delta O_3 / \Delta CO$ values in fresh and aged biomass burning plumes of 0.08 and 0.49 ppbv ppbv⁻¹ respectively, and used



the same FINN fire emissions as the POLMIP models (Thomas et al., 2013). Mao et al. (2013a), using the GFDL AM3 model with aerosol loss uptake of HO₂, characterized a suppressed large-scale ozone enhancement from fires ($\Delta O_3/\Delta CO = 0.16$) at high latitudes (> 60° N) compared with the tropics. This is also seen in comparisons

- of observational studies between different latitudes, however observed ΔO₃/ΔCO at high latitudes is often larger than this large-scale average value derived from their model (Jaffe and Wigder, 2012). Both heterogeneous HO₂ loss on aerosol (Mao et al., 2013b) and bromine chemistry (Parrella et al., 2012), implemented in GEOS-Chem for POLMIP may also play a role in reducing tropospheric ozone abundance.
- Overlaying O₃/CO slopes from the other POLMIP models onto plots of GEOS-Chem and SMHI-MATCH [O₃] vs. [CO] allows some comparison of their efficiency of Arctic tropospheric [O₃] production with other POLMIP models. POLMIP model O₃/CO slopes lie through the [O₃] vs. [CO] distribution from the SMHI-MATCH model, which at larger [CO], shows a slope value consistent with the smaller slope values from other
 POLMIP models. GEOS-Chem shows the lowest ozone enhancement as a function of
- CO among the POLMIP models, outside of the range of the majority of other models and the ARCTAS-B observations.

3.3 High latitude PAN enhancement in POLMIP models

Enhancements in PAN relative to CO in the high latitude troposphere in the POLMIP models show grouping according to the source of meteorological data used to drive the models. Analogous to the ozone enhancement ratio ($\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$), $\Delta PAN/\Delta CO$ can be used to evaluate the efficiency of PAN formation and its transport to high latitudes in the POLMIP models (Fig. 7). Observations show that PAN was the dominant NO_y component in the Arctic troposphere during summer 2008 (Alvarado et al., 2010; Liang et al., 2011), and as a source of NO_x, may be an important driver of tropospheric ozone production at high latitudes (Walker et al., 2012). Average ΔPAN/ΔCO values in GEOS5-forced models range between 1.87–3.28 pptv ppbv⁻¹, and in ECMWF-forced models range between 4.47–7.00 pptv ppbv⁻¹. Along with the biases shown in Fig. 3,



this further suggests that major differences in summertime NO_y partitioning may be driven by differences in model vertical transport efficiency. While differences in PAN abundances in the Arctic troposphere shown in Fig. 3 could be explained by differences in efficiency of poleward pollution transport in the models generally, differences

- in ΔPAN/ΔCO slopes reflect inter-model variability in the efficiency of PAN production or transport relative to CO. CO has a long atmospheric lifetime relative to the transport timescales characteristic of poleward frontal export, and is dominated by primary emissions. Therefore, ΔPAN/ΔCO variability likely represents differences in the rate of PAN formation and its stability. This may be driven by different efficiencies of air mass uplift during boundary layer export, promoting PAN stability, or differences in organic
- chemistry, controlling the abundance of the acetyl peroxy radical precursor.

The vertical distributions of the 25 day fixed-lifetime CO tracers in the models indicate a more vertically well-mixed lower troposphere in the ECMWF models compared with the GEOS-5 models in general. Figure 8 shows zonal mean differences in tracers be-

- ¹⁵ tween 900 and 500 hPa at Northern Hemisphere mid-latitudes in spring and summer. In spring, TOMCAT, TM5 and CIFS show a weaker vertical tracer gradient than CAM4-Chem, CAM5-Chem, MOZART and GMI, suggesting less efficient vertical transport in the GEOS5-driven models over mid-latitude source regions. This pattern is less clear in summer, however between 45 and 55° N this general behaviour is evident among the
- same models, with the exception of MOZART4, which becomes more vertically wellmixed. Mid-latitude convection is likely more important for vertical transport in summer. Parameterisation of sub-grid convection in the models therefore may mask some of the differences in large-scale vertical transport characteristic of the driving meteorological data.
- Average values of ΔPAN/ΔCO from a range of fresh and aged fire plumes sampled during ARCTAS-B varied between 2.8 and 0.35 pptv ppbv⁻¹ (Alvarado et al., 2010), in better agreement with values produced by the GEOS5-driven models. Figure 7k shows PAN and CO from ARCTAS-B observations. Observed PAN/CO slopes are broadly consistent with those simulated by the POLMIP models. The majority of



observations support larger slopes consistent with the ECMWF-driven models. The largest PAN enhancements are produced by the CIFS model, which also shows the largest overall positive bias (+40 %) against high latitude PAN observations (Fig. 3). Three POLMIP models use identical chemistry schemes (MOZART4, CAM4Chem, CAM5Chem). Among these three models, Δ PAN/ Δ CO values increase from 1.91 to 3.55 pptv ppbv⁻¹, and Δ O₃/ Δ CO enhancements increase with this increasing Arctic PAN import efficiency. Across all POLMIP models, we see no robust relationship between increased Arctic PAN import efficiency and increased ozone production efficiency (Δ O₃/ Δ CO). Differences in photochemistry between the models likely determine the efficiency with which NO_y import is manifested in high laittude ozone enhancement. In addition, a reduction in NO_x through more rapid PAN formation in the ECMWF models, and consequent suppression of ozone production in plumes trans-

ported poleward may also play a role (Jacob et al., 1992; Mauzerall et al., 1996). The NO_y biases shown by GEOS-Chem are consistent with those shown in Alvarado
et al. (2010), who found that PAN and HNO₃ in the GEOS-Chem model were underand over-estimated respectively by almost a factor 2. In particular, the large negative bias in high latitude PAN (Fig. 3) may explain the lower ozone enhancement compared with other POLMIP models. This bias is largest among the POLMIP models, despite GEOS-Chem directly emitting 40 % of fire NO_x as PAN and 20 % of fire NO_x as HNO₃
to capture observed rapid conversion of NO_x to NO_y in fire plumes. The simulated

 20 to capture observed rapid conversion of NO_x to NO_y in the pluttes. The simulated low PAN abundances are unlikely explained by the composition of emissions, since all POLMIP models use the same fire emissions.

4 Arctic fire plume sensitivities to model chemistry

In order to further investigate the sensitivities of high latitude tropospheric ozone production to differences in POLMIP model NO_y partitioning and photochemistry in fire plumes, we analyse chemical processing during the export of a large plume of Siberian biomass burning and anthropogenic emissions from Asia to the Arctic. By carrying out



additional simulations using a Lagrangian chemical transport model, we quantify how differences in chemical composition of this plume between the POLMIP models following export from Asia and poleward transport, and differences in subsequent transport in the Arctic, impact the evolution of ozone in the plume.

5 4.1 Siberian biomass burning and Asian anthropogenic plume case study

Between 6 and 9 July 2008, a low-pressure system travelled from Siberia across the Arctic Ocean towards the North Pole, carrying with it smoke plumes from Siberian wild-fires and emissions from anthropogenic sources in East Asia. This extensive plume of polluted air was sampled both remotely from satellite and by aircraft in-situ measurements. The IASI (Infrared Atmospheric Sounding Interferometer) satellite instrument observed the plume as a large feature of enhanced CO that was exported from the Asian east coast and advanced towards the North Pole (Pommier et al., 2010). On 6

- and 7 July the plume was between 850 and 1600 km wide, large enough to represented on the grid-scale of the POLMIP global models. As part of ARCTAS-B, the DC8 aircraft also sampled the plume on 9, July, between 80 and 85°N, to the porth of Greenland
- also sampled the plume on 9 July, between 80 and 85° N, to the north of Greenland. Despite excessive diffusion in the polar region due to the singularity at the pole on the Eulerian global grid, Sodemann et al. (2011) showed that the TOMCAT global model was able to capture the large-scale export of the plume, its horizontal position, and its poleward transport into the Arctic region. This event provides a good case study for
 evaluation of differences in transport and chemistry of fire-influenced pollution to the
 - Arctic among the POLMIP models.

The general horizontal position, size and shape of the plume agree well between the different POLMIP model simulations. This is likely due to the use of the same emissions data in each model, and large-scale horizontal flow associated with the low pressure system being largely consistent between different driving meteorological data. Figure 9

25 system being largely consistent between different driving meteorological data. Figure 9 shows total column CO from the POLMIP models at 06:00 UT on 7 July 2008, just as the leading edge of the plume reaches 80° N, at ~180° W. The plume extent and position simulated by the POLMIP models is also consistent with the observed IASI



satellite CO columns (Sodemann et al., 2011). The positions and relative enhancement of simulated column CO maxima are controlled by simulated horizontal transport and diffusive processes at the sub-plume scale, but also vertical transport processes which control the export CO from the boundary layer and the extent to which exported pollution layers remain distinct or become vertically diffusive.

There are large differences in the magnitude of CO simulated in the plume. Differences in model OH have been shown to have a strong influence on inter-model variability in Arctic CO in the POLMIP models (Monks et al., 2014). These same differences are evident in Fig. 9, particularly in CO column differences in Arctic background air surrounding the plume enhancements. The enhanced horizontal resolution of the

- CIFS and SMHI-MATCH models results in the retention of more distinct filamentary tracer structures close to and downstream from source regions, compared with more diffusive structures in the other models. Figures 10 and 11 show column distributions of 25 day lifetime tracers emitted from Asian anthropogenic and Asian fire sources re-
- spectively. The lower resolution models tend to simulate more diffuse and poleward penetration of anthropogenic-emitted tracer into the Arctic compared with the CIFS model.

Although the plume appears as a largely coherent single feature in total column CO, the fixed-lifetime tracers reveal large-scale separation of anthropogenic and fire contributions. The leading edge of the plume in all models is dominated by fire emissions, with the main part of the anthropogenically-sourced air mass further to the south (Fig. 10). Backward modelling simulations with the FLEXPART Lagrangian particle dispersion model have also demonstrated that when this plume was sampled by the DC8 aircraft on 9 July 2008, CO contributions from anthropogenic and fire sources showed

²⁵ large-scale separation, with Asian fossil fuel sourced CO dominating above 6–7 km altitude (Sodemann et al., 2011). Enhanced CO from the anthropogenic part of this plume was transported into the lowermost stratosphere, and was sampled by the DLR Falcon aircraft during the POLARCAT-GRACE campaign on 10 July 2008 (Roiger et al., 2011). The separation between anthropogenic and fire influence within the plume is highly



consistent across the POLMIP models, suggesting good agreement in the locations of export and large-scale horizontal transport of emissions from these two sources from the Asian boundary layer to the Arctic. The GMI and MOZART model plume maxima are situated at lower altitudes compared to the other models (Table 2), again consistent with less efficient vertical export in GEOS5-driven models (Fig. 8).

4.2 Lagrangian chemical model simulations

From each of the POLMIP global model simulations, the positions of plume maxima are determined from the plume distributions shown in Fig. 9. Maxima locations are defined in the horizontal by the grid box containing the maximum Asian fire tracer column amount. The vertical maximum in the tracer concentration profile over the same model grid box is then used to determine the vertical positions of the plume maxima. Table 2 shows the longitude, latitude and pressure of plume maxima in the POLMIP models at

- 06:00 UT on 7 July 2008, following export from the Asian continental boundary layer and import into the Arctic. Table 2 also shows POLMIP model concentrations of key
- species for ozone photochemistry at these maxima locations. From these maxima locations in each POLMIP model, Lagrangian forward air mass trajectories are calculated using the ROTRAJ (Reading Offline Trajectory) Lagrangian transport model (Methven et al., 2003). Kinematic forward-trajectories from the plume maxima locations are calculated by integration of velocity fields taken from operational analyses of the European
- ²⁰ Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF). The fields at the Lagrangian particle positions are obtained from the 1.0125° horizontal resolution analyses by cubic Lagrange interpolation in the vertical followed by bilinear interpolation in the horizontal and linear interpolation in time. Five-day forward-trajectories were calculated with position output every 6 h. These trajectories account for large-scale advection by the resolved model winds, and neglect convective and turbulent transport.

Using initial chemical conditions from Table 2, and following the forward trajectories calculated from the plume maxima locations for each POLMIP model, we carry out Lagrangian chemical box model simulations using the CiTTyCAT (Cambridge



Tropospheric Trajectory model of Chemistry and Transport) Lagrangian CTM (Pugh et al., 2012). The aim of these simulations is to test the sensitivity of ozone in the plume to differences in the chemical composition and the vertical position of the plume following import into the Arctic. Using the same Lagrangian model, Real et al. (2007) simulated photochemistry in an Alaskan biomass burning plume advected over the North Atlantic Ocean and sampled sequentially by several research aircraft. The model was able to reproduce the observed ozone change in the plume observed between aircraft interceptions. We use the CiTTyCAT model in single box mode, with a chemical

- timestep of 5 min and physical conditions taken from the ECMWF trajectory data (position, temperature, specific humidity) updated every 30 min. Photochemical kinetic data is updated with information where available from the JPL recommendation (Sander et al., 2011), with further data from IUPAC (Atkinson et al., 2004, 2006; Crowley et al., 2010) and the Leeds Master Chemical Mechanism (http://mcm.leeds.ac.uk). In the absence of adequate observations of aerosol size distribution in the plume, we specify
- fixed aerosol surface area based on observed aerosol size distributions in the boreal fire plume analysed by Real et al. (2007). This surface area (3.0 × 10⁻⁶ cm² cm⁻³) is used to calculate rates of heterogeneous chemistry in the CiTTyCAT plume simulations. In order to isolate sensitivities to chemical composition of the plume, we use a single chemistry scheme in the CiTTyCAT Lagrangian simulations (Pugh et al., 2012), and a single set of metaerological data (ECMM/E exercised enclosed data) to calculate.
- ²⁰ a single set of meteorological data (ECMWF operational analyses data) to calculate transport of the plume forward from 06:00 UT on 7 July 2008.

4.3 Simulated plume ozone change and sensitivities to transport and chemistry

We investigate the range of plume ozone production and loss rates produced by the diversity in chemical initial conditions and forward transport from the plume maxima positions in the POLMIP models. Figure 12a shows simulated 4 day ozone change from the CiTTyCAT model in the plume when initialised by different POLMIP model chemical conditions and when following individual forward trajectories from plume maxima locations. The 4 day evolution of pressure along each of these trajectories is shown in



Fig. 12d. The 4 day ozone change differs by ~ 2.5 ppbv across the range of POLMIP model initial concentrations and forward trajectories, with some models showing nearzero net ozone change (TM5, LMDZ-INCA), while others show net ozone loss of more than 2 ppbv (CAM4-Chem, CAM5-Chem). These differences are produced both by differences in the chemical composition of the plume and different transport pathways forwards over the 4 day period. In particular, differences in plume altitude and subsequent vertical displacement over the 4 days affects the formation and stability of PAN, as well as the balance between ozone production and loss via the reactions of O(¹D) with water vapour and of O₃ + HO₂.

- All plume simulations result in net ozone loss over 4 days, with ozone destruction dominated by the reaction of $O_3 + HO_2$. The TM5-initialised plume shows very little net ozone change, likely due to its relatively high altitude, suppressing both ozone production due to PAN stability and ozone loss due to the dry upper tropospheric conditions of the Arctic. The GMI-initialised plume shows a large ozone production tendency of
- ¹⁵ 2 ppbv day⁻¹ on average, which is balanced by large ozone loss rates of slightly larger but similar magnitude. Larger ozone production tendency is driven by the larger NO_x concentrations in this plume compared to those initialized from the other POLMIP models. Similar strong NO_x-limitation of ozone production in Arctic biomass burning plumes was first noted during flights made in western Alaska during the ABLE3A mission (Ja-
- cob et al., 1992). The cycle of ozone production and loss rates in this simulation also suggests that the pathway followed by this plume from its initial position favours more efficient photochemistry, due to exposure to relatively more hours of peak solar radiation.

The simulated ozone change shows strong sensitivity to the physical position and displacement of the air mass forward trajectories. Figure 13 shows net changes in ozone and PAN from analogous CiTTyCAT simulations in which forward trajectories from each of the 7 model plume locations have been used in conjunction with the 7 sets of chemical initial conditions from the POLMIP models. This produces an ensemble of 49 Lagrangian model simulations, with varying combinations of chemical



composition and physical displacement. This diversity produces a much larger range in ozone change over 4 days (approx -5 to +4 ppbv). Several simulations initialised by chemical conditions from the TOMCAT and GMI models result in net ozone production. These models have plume compositions enhanced in NO_x and PAN compared with the other POLMIP models (Table 2). In particular, the conversion of enhanced PAN from the TOMCAT initial state to NO_x (Fig. 12b) results in enhanced exercise production in

the TOMCAT initial state to NO_x (Fig. 13b) results in enhanced ozone production in forward trajectories that descend (LMDZ-INCA, MOZART) or begin at lower altitudes (GMI) (Fig. 12d).

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- Additional plume simulations using the CiTTyCAT model and the model-specific for-¹⁰ ward trajectories, reveal strong sensitivity of ozone in the plume to chemical composition simulated by the POLMIP models. We have investigated separately sensitivity to (a) PAN; (b) oxygenated (o)VOCs (acetaldehyde, acetone); and (c) peroxides (H₂O₂, CH₃OOH), using simulations where the initial concentrations of each of these three sets of species from each POLMIP model are decreased and increased by a factor of 0. These approximates where the base large intermediat differences and bisectory.
- 2. These species were shown to have large inter-model differences and biases against observations in the POLMIP model experiments (Emmons et al., 2014), and the aim here is to investigate the extent to which uncertainties in their modelled abundances may affect simulation of Arctic ozone.

Ozone sensitivities to initial PAN concentration in the plume demonstrate the potential importance of model biases in Arctic NO_y for Arctic tropospheric ozone. Figure 14 shows changes in simulated ozone and NO_x evolution in the plume produced by simulations with perturbations to initial PAN. Increasing and decreasing initial PAN abundance in the plume leads to a reduction in NO_x and an increase in NO_x respectively (Fig. 14b). The consequent impacts on ozone change in the plume largely depend on the abso-

²⁵ lute NO_x concentration, and the magnitude of the NO_x perturbation brought about by the fractional change in initial PAN. In the TOMCAT, LMDZ-INCA and GMI-initialised plumes, an increase in initial PAN leads to a shift from slight net ozone loss to net ozone production of between 0.5 and 1 ppbv over 4 days (Fig. 14b). Model plumes that descend over the 4 days have increased NO_x sensitivity to the PAN perturbation. Such



altitude changes promote reduced PAN stability and release of NO₂. This illustrates the potential sensitivity of in-situ Arctic ozone production in the simulated fire plume to model NO_y partitioning errors. Increasing and decreasing initial oVOC abundances leads to suppression and enhancement of ozone in the plume over the following 4 days

- respectively (Fig. 14c and d), due to the role of acetaldehyde and acetone as a source of the peroxyacetyl radical during their photo-oxidation. This promotes the formation of PAN, reducing NO_x concentrations in the plume. Consequently, model plumes in which NO_x concentrations are large enough to promote ozone production show larger ozone sensitivity to this perturbation. These results suggest that after having undergone ex-
- ¹⁰ port from the continental boundary layer and long-range transport into the Arctic, PAN formation and loss may still play an important role in ozone photochemistry in such plumes. In plumes with very low NO_x abundances, and dominated by ozone loss, perturbation to initial peroxide concentrations produces a larger effect on ozone (approx. ±0.5 ppbv over 4 days in the CAM5-chem plume) (Fig. 14e). Increased and decreased peroxide leads to increases and decreases in HO₂ production from peroxide photoly-
- sis, resulting in changes the rate of ozone loss via $O_3 + HO_2$. Increased initial peroxide concentrations also lead to enhanced removal of NO_x in the plume, due to increased HO_x production (Fig. 14f).

5 Summary and conclusions

- ²⁰ We have evaluated tropospheric ozone enhancement in air dominated by biomass burning emissions at high laititudes (> 50° N) in the summer, using simulations from the POLMIP multi-model comparison exercise for July 2008. Using 25 day fixed lifetime CO tracers emitted from fires and anthropogenic sources in the models, we calculated $\Delta O_3 / \Delta CO$ enhancement ratios in air dominated by fire emissions. All POLMIP ²⁵ models that simulated fixed-lifetime tracers demonstrate positive ozone enhancement
- in fire-dominated air, with ozone enhancement increasing with air mass age on average in the models, suggesting net tropospheric ozone production in biomass burning



air masses transported to the Arctic. $\Delta O_3/\Delta CO$ values ranged between 0.039 and 0.196 ppbv ppbv⁻¹ (mean: 0.113 ppbv ppbv⁻¹) in the younger air, and between 0.140 and 0.261 ppbv ppbv⁻¹ (mean: 0.193 ppbv) in the more aged air, with age since emission defined by the ratio of propane to ethane mixing ratios. These values are in broad agreement with the range of observational estimates from the literature, and larger than those in some previous modelling studies. Model NO_y partitioning may play an important role in determining lower model-diagnosed ozone production efficiencies.

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Model $\Delta PAN/\Delta CO$ enhancement ratios at high latitudes show distinct groupings according to the meteorological data used to drive the models. ECMWF-forced models produce larger $\Delta PAN/\Delta CO$ values (4.44–6.28 pptv ppbv⁻¹) than GEOS5-forced mod-

- produce larger ΔPAN/ΔCO values (4.44–6.28 pptv ppbv⁻¹) than GEOS5-forced models (2.02–3.02 pptv ppbv⁻¹), which we show is likely linked to differences efficiency of vertical transport during poleward export from mid-latitude source regions. Comparison with limited observations from the ARCTAS-B aircraft campaign suggests that the larger PAN enhancement ratios simulated by the ECMWF-forced models are consis-
- tent with the majority of these observations. We find little relationship between the efficiency of Arctic PAN import in fire-dominated air and Arctic ozone enhancement across the diverse range of POLMIP models. However, among three models using the same chemistry scheme there is a general increase in $\Delta O_3 / \Delta CO$ with increased PAN import efficiency.
- ²⁰ All POLMIP models are capable of resolving a large plume of mixed Asian anthropogenic and Siberian fire pollution, which is imported to the Arctic on 7 July 2008, with close similarities in simulated horizontal structure. These features are in good agreement with CO observations from the IASI satellite instrument and the FLEXPART Lagrangian particle dispersion model, shown in a previous study (Sodemann et al., 2011).
- Fixed-lifetime tracers simulated by the models show that the leading edge of this plume is dominated by fire emissions in all POLMIP models. Simulations using a Lagrangian chemical transport model show that 4 day net ozone change in the plume is sensitive to differences in plume chemical composition and plume vertical position among the POLMIP models. In particular, Arctic ozone evolution in the plume is highly sensitive



to initial concentrations of PAN, as well as oxygenated VOCs (acetone, acetaldehyde), due to their role in producing the peroxyacetyl radical PAN precursor. Vertical displacement is also important due to its effects on the stability of PAN, and subsequent effect on NO_x abundance. In plumes where net ozone production is limited, we find that the lifetime of ozone in the plume is sensitive to hydrogen peroxide loading, due to the production of HO₂ from peroxide photolysis, and the key role of HO₂ + O₃ in controlling ozone loss.

Overall, our results suggest that emissions from biomass burning lead to large-scale enhancement in high latitude NO_y and tropospheric ozone during summer, with increasing production of ozone as air masses age, and that this is consistent across a wide range of chemical transport models using the same emissions data. In addition, model deficiencies and inter-model differences in simulating species that are less commonly observed in the Arctic (PANs, oxygenated VOCs, and peroxides) are important to understand due to their substantial roles in governing in-situ ozone production and

¹⁵ loss in plumes imported to the summertime Arctic troposphere.

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Table 1. Description of POLMIP models.

Model	Resolution	Meteorology	Chemistry
CAM4-chem CAM5-chem C-IFS	1.9° × 2.5°, 56 levels 1.9° × 2.5°, 56 levels 1.125° × 1.125°, 60	GEOS-5 GEOS-5 ECMWF	MOZART-4, bulk aerosols MOZART-4, modal aerosols tropospheric, CB05
GEOS-Chem GMI-GEOS5	levels 2° × 2.5°, 47 levels 2° × 2.5°, 72 levels	GEOS-5 GEOS-5	tropospheric, 100 species stratospheric and tropospheric, 154
LMDZ-INCA MOZART-4	1.9° × 3.75°, 39 levels 1.9° × 2.5°, 56 levels	ERA-Interim GEOS-5	tropospheric, 85 species, aerosols tropospheric, 103 species, bulk
TM5 TOMCAT SMHI-MATCH	$2^{\circ} \times 3^{\circ}$, 60 levels 2.8° × 2.8°, 31 levels 0.75° × 0.75°, 35 levels (hemispheric)	ECMWF ECMWF ECMWF	tropospheric, CB05 tropospheric, 82 species 63 tracers, 110 gas-phase reactions Stratosphere: monthly means from EU-MACC project (MOZART-4)



Table 2. Positions and chemical composition of fire plume maxima in the POLMIP model simulations at 06:00 UT on 7 July 2008. Plume maxima positions are defined based on abundance of simulated 25 day fixed-lifetime Asian biomass burning tracer. See text for details.

	CAM4-chem	CAM5-chem	GMI	LMDZ-INCA	MOZART-4	TM5	TOMCAT
Longitude	197.5	200.0	182.5	228.8	172.5	169.5	205.3
Latitude	76.7	78.6	72.0	80.5	76.7	83.0	76.7
Pressure (hPa)	471.5	433.7	737.1	442.7	709.6	422.1	418.1
Ozone (ppbv)	57.8	61.7	62.0	64.8	43.7	53.6	75.6
CO (ppbv)	292.0	280.3	332.3	218.8	251.0	215.8	364.1
NO (pptv)	0.850	1.336	8.731	5.743	0.300	4.974	6.281
NO ₂ (pptv)	0.663	1.079	32.473	7.612	5.721	2.618	7.815
HONO ₂ (pptv)	4.912	0.757	784.2	288.3	0.093	2.580	463.9
PAN (pptv)	182.7	207.3	93.86	407.1	97.41	448.6	1476.
H_2O_2 (ppbv)	1.115	1.719	3.492	0.000	1.235	0.000	2.120
MeOOH (ppbv)	0.425	0.579	1.034	0.000	0.836	0.476	0.000
C ₂ H ₆ (ppbv)	2.165	2.067	2.451	1.642	1.779	1.653	2.637
C ₃ H ₈ (ppbv)	0.128	0.083	0.130	0.078	0.101	0.082	0.110
Acetone (ppbv)	1.456	1.417	0.000	0.746	1.185	0.345	1.445
Acetaldehyde (ppbv)	0.051	0.046	0.069	0.022	0.126	0.015	0.054





Figure 1. POLMIP model ozone interpolated to selected ARCTAS-B DC8 flight tracks north of 50° N, and between 3–9 km altitude plotted as a function of the DC8-observed concentrations. Blue and red colours show model points which are dominated by anthropogenic and biomass burning emissions respectively, as diagnosed by 25 day fixed-lifetime CO tracers simulated by the models (see text for details). Mean fractional model biases (%) in anthropogenic- and firedominated air are shown in blue and red text respectively. The GEOS-chem model did not simulate 25 day fixed lifetime tracers.





Figure 2. As Fig. 1, but for CO.



Discussion Paper

Discussion Paper

Discussion Paper

Discussion Paper



Figure 3. As Fig. 1, but for PAN.









Figure 5. July 2008 monthly-mean O_3 vs. CO from POLMIP model simulations coloured by fire influence and relative age of air since emission. Black: all points north of 50° N, with 850 hPa > pressure > 250 hPa. Coloured points show model grid boxes where the fire-emitted fixed-lifetime CO tracer contributes more than 66% of the total (fire + anthropogenic) tracer mixing ratio. Red and blue points denote youngest and most aged 50% of these points respectively, as diagnosed by the ln([C_3H_8]/[C_2H_6]) concentration ratio. Models that did not simulate fixed-lifetime tracers, or do not carry [C_3H_8] explicitly, do not have coloured points, but instead show slopes from linear regressions of the coloured points from the other models (red and blue lines). Red and blue text give $\Delta O_3 / \Delta CO$ slope values from linear regressions of the youngest and most aged populations respectively. Letters in square brackets denote the meteorological analysis data used to drive the models – E: ECMWF; G: GEOS-5. Panel (k) shows ARCTAS-B aircraft observations.



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Figure 6. $\Delta O_3 / \Delta CO$ ratios in boreal biomass burning pollution from previous studies and from the POLMIP model simulations analysed in this study. Green: values from plumes of age > 5 days; yellow: values from plumes of age < 1–5 days. POLMIP model values are classified by age since emission (red: aged; blue: young), based on the by the $ln([C_3H_8]/[C_2H_6])$ concentration ratio (see text for details). Hatched bars indicate average values for each category. Literature values for previous studies are based on an updated version of the review of Jaffe and Wigder (2012).





Figure 7. July 2008 PAN/CO relationships for POLMIP models coloured by fire influence. Black: all points north of 50° N, with 850 hPa > pressure > 250 hPa. Red points show model grid boxes where the fire fixed-lifetime CO tracer contributes more than 66% of the total (fire + an-thropogenic) tracer mixing ratio. Red text gives Δ PAN/ Δ CO slope values for linear regressions of the red points. GEOS-Chem model did not supply fixed-lifetime tracers. Letters in square brackets denote the meteorological analysis data used to drive the models – E: ECMWF; G: GEOS-5. Panel (k) shows ARCTAS-B aircraft observations with slopes from ECMWF (blue) and GEOS-5 (green) models shown for comparison.





Figure 8. Zonally-averaged difference between simulated 25 day fixed lifetime CO tracer mixing ratios at 900 and 500 hPa in the POLMIP model simulations for spring (MAM) and summer (JJA) 2008





Interactive Discussion

Figure 9. Total column CO from the POLMIP model simulations at 06:00 UT on 7 July 2008.



Interactive Discussion

Figure 10. Total column concentrations of the 25 day fixed-lifetime Asian anthropogenic tracer from the POLMIP model simulations at 06:00 UT on 7 July 2008.



ACPD

Figures

Close

Interactive Discussion

Figure 11. Total column concentrations of the 25 day fixed-lifetime Asian fire tracer from the POLMIP model simulations at 06:00 UT on 7 July 2008.



Figure 12. CiTTyCAT Lagrangian box model simulations of fire plume ozone evolution in the Arctic. Coloured lines show simulations initialised with chemical composition from each of the POLMIP global models at the fire plume maxima locations at 06:00 UT on 7 July 2008. (a) Net ozone change over the 4 day simulations. (b) Integrated ozone production (solid) and loss (dashed) rates. (c) Rate of HO_2 +NO ozone production; (d) rate of $O(^1D) + H_2O$ ozone loss; (e) rate of $HO_2 + O_3$ ozone loss; (f) pressure of forward trajectories from each POLMIP model plume maximum position used for the Lagrangian simulations. See text for details of the Lagrangian model simulations.







Figure 13. Time evolution of fire plume ozone (a) and PAN (b) from CiTTyCAT Lagrangian model simulations in which the initial plume concentrations from each of the POLMIP models have been used in combination with each of the forward trajectories from the different POLMIP model plume positions (shown in Fig. 12f). Different colours correspond to the POLMIP model initial chemical conditions and line styles correspond to POLMIP model forward trajectories.



Figure 14. CiTTyCAT Lagrangian box model simulations showing sensitivity of fire plume ozone and NO_x evolution in the Arctic to initial concentrations of key species. Dotted and dashed lines show simulations initialsed with 200 and 50 % respectively of PAN (**a**, **b**), acetone and acetaldehyde (**c**, **d**), H₂O₂ and CH₃OOH (**e**, **f**). Ozone change from simulations with un-perturbed initial concentrations are shown in Fig. 12a.

