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Modeling regional aerosol variability over California and its sensitivity to emissions and long-range transport during the 2010 CalNex and CARES campaigns

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Abstract

The performance of the Weather Research and Forecasting regional model with chemistry (WRF-Chem) in simulating the spatial and temporal variations in aerosol mass, composition, and size over California is quantified using measurements collected during the California Nexus of Air Quality and Climate Experiment (CalNex) and the Carbonaceous Aerosol and Radiative Effects Study (CARES) conducted during May and June of 2010. The extensive meteorological, trace gas, and aerosol measurements collected at surface sites and along aircraft and ship transects during CalNex and CARES were combined with operational monitoring network measurements to create a single dataset that was used to evaluate the one configuration of the model. Simulations were performed that examined the sensitivity of regional variations in aerosol concentrations to anthropogenic emissions and to long-range transport of aerosols into the domain obtained from a global model. The configuration of WRF-Chem used in this study is shown to reproduce the overall synoptic conditions, thermally-driven circulations, and boundary layer structure observed in region that controls the transport and mixing of trace gases and aerosols. However, sub-grid scale variability in the meteorology and emissions as well as uncertainties in the treatment of secondary organic aerosol chemistry likely contribute to errors at a primary surface sampling site located at the edge of the Los Angeles basin. Differences among the sensitivity simulations demonstrate that the aerosol layers over the central valley detected by lidar measurements likely resulted from lofting and recirculation of local anthropogenic emissions along the Sierra Nevada. Reducing the default emissions inventory by 50 % led to an overall improvement in many simulated trace gases and black carbon aerosol at most sites and along most aircraft flight paths; however, simulated organic aerosol was closer to observed when there were no adjustments to the primary organic aerosol emissions. The model performance for some aerosol species was not uniform over the region, and we found that sulfate was better simulated over northern California whereas nitrate was better simulated over southern California. While the overall spatial and temporal variability of

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tions in regional models directly affect the simulated aerosol lifecycle. Meteorological processes that have large uncertainties include, turbulent vertical mixing that affects the dilution and chemical processing of aerosols and their precursors (e.g. Aan de Brugh et al., 2012; Nilsson et al., 2001), vertical motions associated with sub-grid scale clouds that affect the vertical transport of aerosols (e.g. Gustafson et al., 2008), the spatial extent and lifetime of clouds that affects aerosol chemical and size transformation within clouds (e.g. Ervens et al., 2011; Fahey and Pandis, 2001) and photochemistry above and below clouds (e.g. Feng et al., 2004; Tang et al., 2003), and precipitation that controls wet removal of aerosols and their trace gas precursors (e.g. Wang et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2012; Barth et al., 2007). Third, the level of complexity in the treatment of aerosol chemistry (equilibrium vs. dynamic approach for gas-to-particle partitioning, the number of aerosol species and gas-phase precursors) (e.g. Baklanov et al., 2014) and size distribution (bulk, modal, and sectional approaches) varies among models. A fourth factor is the incomplete understanding of secondary organic aerosol (SOA) formation, aging, and removal based on laboratory and field studies, which leads to large uncertainties in simulated SOA (e.g. Heald et al., 2011; Spracklen et al., 2011; Hodzic et al., 2013). The spatial resolution of regional models contributes to all four of these factors, but the implications of ignoring the sub-grid scale variability of aerosol properties (Qian et al., 2010; Gustafson et al., 2011) is largely unexplored. Therefore, inadequate resolution of the large observed spatial and temporal variability of aerosols is a fifth factor. Finally, regional model predictions are often influenced by boundary conditions that are either specified by prescribed climatological values or obtained from coarser global models that can represent long-range transport of trace gases and aerosols that affect local concentrations. Therefore a sixth factor consists of errors from global model predictions that are propagated into the regional model domains. It is likely that one or more of these six factors are more significant for some regions than others.

Previous chemical transport modeling studies over the continental US have shown geographical variations in model performance. For example, Kang et al. (2010) used

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the CMAQ model with a horizontal grid spacing of 12 km over the continental US for a one-year period and showed that $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations were generally too low over the eastern US during the summer of 2007 and too high during the winter months of 2007. The model performance was more variable in California, a region with large topographic, land use, and population variations, with positive biases at some stations and negative biases at other stations. A simulation over the continental US for 2009 using the GEOS-Chem model (Walker et al., 2012) with a horizontal grid spacing of $0.5^\circ \times 0.67^\circ$ showed that while predicted annual mean sulfate concentrations over the continental US were similar to observations, nitrate and ammonium were too high over the eastern and mid-western US and too low over California where the observed concentrations were the highest. They indicated that the bias in nitrate over California was likely due to both ammonia emission estimates that were too low and simulated boundary-layer depths that were too high. Heald et al. (2012) reported similar spatial variations in the biases in sulfate and nitrate over the US during 2004, 2009, and 2010 from their GEOS-Chem simulations over North America. Huang et al. (2012) used the STEM model with a 60 km grid spacing to show that the performance in simulating surface black carbon over a two-week period during June 2008 varied over the US, with the largest negative biases in the southeastern US and the highest positive biases over the northeastern US. They also noted that black carbon was also $\sim 30\%$ too low on average for surface sites in the southwestern US and that the differences in simulated vertical profiles of black carbon compared with NASA DC-8 aircraft data over California could be attributed to the coarse spatial grid spacing that does not permit the model to resolve the variability in meteorology associated with topographic variations in the vicinity of Los Angeles and the San Joaquin Valley.

Several field campaigns have been conducted in California to collect data needed to better understand and characterize ozone and particulates in the region and to address modeling challenges using higher spatial resolution that better represents the terrain inhomogeneity in California. These campaigns include the Southern California Air Quality Study (SCAQS) conducted in August 1987 (Lawson, 1990), the South Coast Air Basin

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climate. Understanding the climate impact of aerosols first requires that the aerosol lifecycle be represented reasonably well, which requires that models accurately simulate aerosol composition, size distribution, hygroscopicity, and optical properties in addition to total mass. This is a challenging task. To address model uncertainties associated with climate and air-quality relevant atmospheric processes, two campaigns were conducted in California during the spring and early summer of 2010 that collected extensive meteorological, trace gas, and aerosol data: California Nexus (CalNex): Research at the Nexus of Air Quality and Climate (Ryerson et al., 2013) and the Carbonaceous Aerosol and Radiative Effects Study (CARES) (Zaveri et al., 2012). A few meteorological and aerosol model evaluation studies for this period have been completed. The WRF model with a 4 km horizontal grid spacing was used to evaluate the simulated boundary layer and thermally-driven circulations over central California using CARES measurements (Fast et al., 2012) and the simulated boundary layer and land/sea breezes over the southern California coastal zone using CalNex measurements (Angevine et al., 2012). Ensberg et al. (2013) used CalNex ground and aircraft measurements to evaluate predictions of trace gases, inorganic aerosols, and black carbon made by the CMAQ model with a 4 km grid spacing over southern California, while Knote et al. (2013) used the CARES and CalNex data and the WRF-Chem model to evaluate the effect of various glyoxal treatments on the formation of SOA.

The combined CalNex and CARES field campaigns provide an unprecedented data set in terms of the number of parameters measured and their spatial and temporal resolution that can be used to evaluate predictions of aerosol concentration, composition, hygroscopicity, and size needed to understand the sources of uncertainties in estimates of aerosol radiative forcing. The first objective of this study is to describe how data from these two field campaigns have been combined with other operational monitoring data set into the Aerosol Model Testbed (AMT) framework as described by Fast et al. (2011). The AMT is a framework for the atmospheric sciences community that streamlines the process of testing and evaluating aerosol process modules. While several factors are known to contribute to errors in aerosol predictions, it is not feasible

with those conducted by other CalNex investigators and describes how various model uncertainties contribute to model performance, while Sect. 7 summarizes our primary findings.

2 Measurements

2.1 Field campaign and operational data

Measurements collected in California during May and June of 2010 as part of the CalNex and CARES campaigns are used to evaluate mesoscale predictions of aerosols and aerosol precursors. CalNex was designed to address science issues relevant to emission inventory assessment, dispersion of trace gases and aerosols, atmospheric chemistry, and the interactions of aerosols clouds, and radiation (Ryerson et al., 2013). Ground-based instruments were deployed at two sites in southern California as shown in Fig. 1a: one in Pasadena (34.141° N, -118.112° W, ~ 240 mm.s.l.) (Chan et al., 2013; Hayes et al., 2013; Pennington et al., 2012; Thompson et al., 2012; Veres et al., 2011) and one in Bakersfield (35.346° N, -118.965° W, ~ 123 mm.s.l.) (Alm et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2012; Rollins et al., 2012, 2013; Zhao et al., 2013). Four research aircraft, the NOAA WP-3D, the NOAA Twin Otter, the CIRPAS Twin Otter and the NASA B-200, sampled atmospheric conditions aloft and the NOAA research vessel (R/V) *Atlantis* sampled atmospheric conditions along the coast of California. In-situ measurements of meteorological, trace gas, and aerosol quantities were collected by the WP-3D (Bahreini et al., 2012; Ryerson et al., 2013; Langridge et al., 2012; Moore et al., 2012; Pollack et al., 2012; Warneke et al., 2011; Peischl et al., 2012), CIRPAS Twin Otter (Duong et al., 2011; Metcalf et al., 2012; Craven et al., 2013; Hersey et al., 2013), and the R/V *Atlantis*. The Tunable Optical Profiler for Aerosols and oZone (TOPAZ) differential absorption lidar (DIAL) was deployed on the NOAA Twin Otter (Langford et al., 2012) and the High Spectral Resolution Lidar (HSRL-1) (Hair et al., 2008) was deployed on the B-200 (Scarino et al., 2013). As shown in Fig. 1a, most of the CalNex

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humidity, pressure, wind speed, and wind direction from radiosondes were launched up to twice a day at four sites in California. An air-quality monitoring network operated by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) provides hourly data on ozone (O_3), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), carbon monoxide (CO), $PM_{2.5}$, and PM_{10} at sites throughout California (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/aqd/aqmoninca.htm>). The Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environment (IMPROVE) network (Malm et al., 1994) provides 24 h average aerosol composition at 20 sites in California. Additionally, there were 10 sites during 2010 that provided measurements of column integrated aerosol optical properties (e.g. aerosol optical depth) as part of the NASA's AEROSOL RObotic NETwork (AERONET) (Holben et al., 1998; Dubovik et al., 2002).

2.2 Aerosol modeling testbed

The extensive data collected during CalNex and CARES are an ideal testbed for evaluating photochemical and aerosol models; therefore, they have been merged into a single dataset used by the Aerosol Modeling Testbed (AMT). The AMT (Fast et al., 2011) consists of a host model, testbed cases, and post-processing software. The host model is the Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF-Chem) community model (Skamarock et al., 2005) that permits on-line coupling of meteorology and chemistry (Grell et al., 2005; Fast et al., 2006). Since detailed measurements of aerosol properties are not routinely collected aloft, the AMT uses meteorological, trace gas, and aerosol measurements from field campaigns to define each testbed case. The analysis software extracts simulated variables in a manner compatible with the available measurements using “instrument simulators”. Examples of instrument simulators include the interpolation of model output in space and in time along research aircraft flight tracks and over vertical profiles sampled by radar wind profilers and lidars. Statistical and graphical programs are also available in the analysis software. While the AMT has been designed for use with WRF, the analysis software can be modified for other models. For example, Ensberg et al. (2013) used the AMT software coupled with the Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) modeling system to evaluate simulated aerosol concen-

tration and composition in the Los Angeles Basin using the CalNex CIRPAS Twin Otter measurements.

The field campaign and operational data used for the CalNex/CARES testbed case have been provided through several archives with a variety of formats (e.g. ASCII, ICARTT, NetCDF, HDF, Microsoft Excel). Modelers need to write software that handles the variety of formats, which usually changes from field campaign to field campaign. Inevitably, each user that processes the same field dataset creates different software scripts or programs. As part of the AMT, a common ASCII format is employed for most of the data and data has been organized into common types including surface, aircraft, profile, and satellite. Subdirectories are created for each supersite or operational network in the case of surface instrumentation, and for each research aircraft in the case of airborne sampling. The directory structure for the AMT CalNex/CARES testbed case is given in Fig. 2. Some of the sub-directories contain data exclusively from CalNex or CARES, while other sub-directories contain data from both campaigns, e.g., in the case of instrument platforms participating in both, such as the B-200 and NOAA Twin Otter aircraft. In addition to data from the radiosonde, radar wind profiler, CARB, IMPROVE, AERONET networks, satellite measurements of aerosol optical depth from the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on the Aqua and Terra satellites are also been included in the testbed case. An identical directory structure is employed for model output extracted to be temporally and spatially compatible with the measurements, enabling graphics and statistics to evaluate model performance. In this way, the AMT permits users to spend more time on science issues (rather than on tedious and repetitive tasks associated with data processing), target specific aerosol processes and other atmospheric processes affecting aerosol evolution, and document improvements in parameterizations.

The entire testbed case and analysis toolkit will soon be available to download from the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) research climate facility archive at <http://www.arm.gov/>.

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3 Model description

Version 3.3.1 of the WRF-Chem community model is used in this study to simulate the evolution of aerosols over California. The model configuration is similar to that used for operational meteorological and tracer forecasting during CARES as described by Fast et al. (2012), except that trace gas and aerosol chemistry are now included. The specific physical parameterizations used in this study, also available in the public release of the model, are listed in Table 1. We use the SAPRC-99 photochemical mechanism (Carter, 2000a, b) to simulate gas-phase chemistry, and the MOSAIC module (Zaveri et al., 2008) with 8 size bins to simulate aerosol chemistry, thermodynamics, kinetic gas-particle partitioning for inorganic species, and aerosol dynamics. The simplified 2-product volatility basis set (VBS) parameterization is used to simulate equilibrium SOA partitioning as described in Shrivastava et al. (2011), except that the factor of two used to increase primary organic aerosol emissions in that study is not employed here.

The model domain that encompasses all of California, Nevada, and the adjacent Pacific Ocean using a horizontal grid spacing of 4 km is identical to the domain used in Fast et al. (2012) and extends ~ 150 km further over the ocean than is shown in Fig. 1. A stretched vertical coordinate that uses 65 grid levels extends up to 16–20 km a.g.l., with a 30 m grid spacing adjacent to the surface and 43 levels located within 2 km of the ground. The simulation period is from 1 May to 30 June 2010. Initial and boundary conditions for the meteorological variables were based on analyses from the National Center for Environmental Prediction's North American Mesoscale (NAM) model, while initial and boundary conditions for trace gases and aerosols were obtained from the global MOZART model (Emmons et al., 2010). Boundary conditions were updated at 6 h intervals from both models and then interpolated linearly in time by WRF. Instead of performing a series of short forecasts, a single simulation was performed over the 2 month period in which four-dimensional meteorological data assimilation was applied above 1.5 km a.g.l. using analyses from the NAM model so that the simulated large-scale flows did not diverge from observed synoptic conditions. A test simulation with-

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out data assimilation (not shown) produced similar results, suggesting that the free tropospheric meteorological conditions were largely governed by the lateral boundary conditions.

Anthropogenic emissions were obtained from the CARB 2008 ARCTAS emission inventory developed for the NASA Arctic Research of the Composition of the Troposphere from Aircraft and Satellite (ARCTAS) mission over California (Pfister et al., 2011). The CARB inventory contains hourly emissions for a 13 day period using a 4 km grid spacing over California. We created diurnally-averaged emissions from five of the weekdays and two of the weekend days and used those averages for all weekdays and weekends in the entire two-month simulation period. Anthropogenic emissions from the 2005 National Emissions Inventory (NEI) were used for regions outside of California. Emissions of semi-volatile and intermediate volatility SOA trace gas precursors were assumed to be 6.5 times the mass of primary organic aerosol emissions from anthropogenic and biomass burning sources as in Shrivastava et al. (2011) and Tsimpidi et al. (2010). Biogenic emissions were computed on-line using the Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from Nature (MEGAN) model (Guenther et al., 2006) and lumped into isoprene, terpenes, and sesquiterpenes for the SAPRC-99 photochemical mechanism. Sea-salt emissions (sodium and chloride) from the ocean were computed online using fluxes based on predicted surface winds and boundary layer quantities as described by Gong et al. (2002). While biomass burning and dust emissions are not considered in the present study, long-range transport of smoke and dust from Asia as represented by MOZART were included through the boundary conditions. Satellite detection methods indicated that there were very few fires in California during this two-month period.

Anthropogenic VOC and biogenic isoprene emission rates over California and in the vicinity of the Los Angeles and Sacramento supersites at 10:00 Local Standard Time (LST) on a representative day are shown in Fig. 3. As expected, the highest anthropogenic volatile organic compound (VOC) emission rates are proportional to population density. A portion of the interstate highway system is also evident in the figure, espe-

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cially in the sparsely populated regions of Nevada and southeastern California. While biogenic emissions occur in most non-desert regions of California, the emission rates are highest along the foothills of the Sierra Nevada that are dominated by oak trees.

Two preliminary simulations (not shown here) were performed that used either the merged CARB 2008 and NEI 2005 inventories or only the NEI 2005 inventory over the entire model domain. While both simulations usually over-predicted CO, NO_x, and black carbon (that largely originate from traffic emissions), concentrations from the simulation that used the CARB 2008 inventory were closer to observations in both southern and northern California (not shown). This is consistent with trend in anthropogenic emissions that has decreased the past decade in California (Bahadur et al., 2011; CARB, 2009). Table 2 lists the total daily trace gas and aerosol emissions over the modeling domain for weekday and weekend periods. It is reasonable to assume anthropogenic emissions during 2010 would be less than during 2008, but the exact amount is still under investigation using a variety of methods. A few recent modeling studies have examined how reasonable the 2008 emission inventory is for this region. Using inverse modeling, Brioude et al. (2013) developed an improved CO and NO_x emission inventory for the Los Angeles basin to correct for inconsistencies in amounts and spatial distributions found in the CARB emission inventory. To reduce uncertainties in VOC emissions and their speciation, Knote et al. (2013) applied measured VOC/CO emission ratios obtained from the Los Angeles basin during CalNex. They found considerable differences in the estimates of speciated VOC emissions as well as OH concentrations between the CARB inventory and the amounts estimated from the measured VOC/CO emission ratios in the Los Angeles basin. These updates have not yet been incorporated in the publically released inventory, and have not been considered in our study.

Until a more refined inventory for 2010 is available, we performed a default simulation, called “DEF_ANT”, that employed the merged CARB 2008 and NEI 2005 inventories (Table 2) and two sensitivity simulations, called “50 %_ANT” and “0 %_ANT” as indicated in Table 3. The two sensitivity simulations reduce the anthropogenic emissions by 50 % (except for SO₂ and NH₃) in the former and eliminate them in the latter. Reduc-

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ing anthropogenic emissions by 50 % is a rather large adjustment considering a 2 year trend, but this factor also assumes the CARB 2008 emission estimates may be too high for that time period. Kozawa et al. (2014) recently reported similar reductions in NO_x and BC emission estimates based on truck-dominated freeways in Los Angeles from 2009 to 2010. All three simulations include on-line biogenic and sea-salt emissions. The simulation with no anthropogenic emissions is performed to estimate the relative contribution of local emission sources and long-range transport on aerosol concentrations throughout California. One additional sensitivity simulation is performed, called “50 %_LBC” in which aerosols for the initial and boundary conditions obtained from MOZART are reduced by half in addition to reducing the anthropogenic emissions by 50 %. As will be shown later, total aerosol mass near the surface is usually not significantly affected by long-range transport, but small aerosol concentrations in the free troposphere transported from Asia are the primary contributor to aerosol optical depth outside of major urban areas.

The four simulations all employ aerosol direct effects (Fast et al., 2006), primarily to obtain aerosol optical properties to compare with measurements. The impact of different aerosol loading and distributions among the simulations on radiation and subsequently meteorology is small (not shown); therefore, evaluation of the simulated meteorological quantities is presented only for the DEF_ANT simulation. Aerosol indirect effects, cloud chemistry, and wet scavenging are currently neglected since there were relatively few clouds and little rain over land during the two-month period.

4 Model evaluation

The AMT software is used to extract variables related to meteorological, trace gas, aerosol, and aerosol optical properties variables from the four WRF-Chem simulations compatible with most of the measurements collected during CARES and CalNex and perform most of the statistics shown in this section. Bias is expressed in terms of simulated minus observed values. While the AMT was originally conceived to test aerosol

process modules while all other processes remain the same, the same methodology is used here to assess model sensitivity to emissions and boundary conditions.

4.1 Evaluation of meteorological quantities

Meteorological predictions during CalNex and CARES using the WRF model have been discussed previously by Angevine et al. (2012) and Fast et al. (2012), respectively. Since the current model configuration is somewhat different than these previous studies, some comparisons of observed and simulated temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, and solar radiation from the DEF_ANT simulation are presented here to demonstrate the performance of the model in representing the meteorological conditions that affect the vertical mixing, transport, chemical transformation, and removal of trace gases and aerosols.

An example of the simulated surface meteorology at the Pasadena supersite over May and June of 2010 as well as the diurnal averages is shown in Fig. 4. The model is able to reproduce the multi-day variability of temperature and relative humidity although the simulated nighttime temperatures are a few degrees warmer than observed and the relative humidity is generally 10 % lower than observed at all times of the day. As seen in the solar radiation, the mostly sunny conditions occurred on the majority of the days. While the model correctly produces clouds on some days when they occurred (17–18 May, 8–9 June), the overall reduction in downward shortwave radiation due to clouds is less than observed suggesting that the simulated liquid or ice water path is too low. The near-surface winds at Pasadena exhibit nearly the same diurnal variation from day to day, with southwesterly winds during the day that become weaker and southerly to southeasterly at night. While the model reproduces the diurnal variability in wind direction, the predicted wind speeds are too high. The over-prediction in wind speeds is likely due to two factors: (1) urban canopy effects that are not included in the current model configuration of the model, and (2) sub-grid scale terrain effects since the site is located near the edge of the San Gabriel Mountains. The performance of near surface

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winds is usually better at other stations located outside of urban areas and/or in flat terrain (not shown).

Table 4 summaries statistics that quantify model performance for the simulated near-surface temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, and wind direction average over California and averaged over smaller geographic regions depicted in Fig. 1c. As with the Pasadena site, simulated temperatures are usually 0.2 to 0.9 K too low and the diurnal and multi-day temporal variations are similar to observations. Relatively humidity is usually lower than observed by 5.5 to 7.0 % over the San Joaquin Valley and southern California, but is generally within 1 % of the observations on average elsewhere. Simulated near surface wind speeds are usually higher than observed, but the largest biases are for stations in the “coastal” region. The average bias in wind direction is less than 10° for the San Joaquin Valley, Sacramento Valley, and coastal regions, but between 17.6 and 22.5° over southern California and the interior mountains. While the model qualitatively captures the diurnal and multi-day variability in wind direction, it is not surprising that it cannot represent the high frequency variations especially when wind speed are low ($< 1 \text{ ms}^{-1}$) as shown in Fig. 4e. This is the primary reason for the low wind direction correlations in Table 4.

Statistics summarizing the performance in simulated temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, and wind direction for all of the G-1, CIRPAS Twin Otter, and WP-3D flight paths and the R/V *Atlantis* deployment are shown in Table 5. In general, the spatial and temporal variability in temperature in the lower troposphere is reasonably simulated as reflected by the relatively high correlation coefficients that are similar to the surface measurements; however, the model is 2 to 3° colder than observed on average. Conversely, the near surface temperatures over the ocean are about 1° warmer on average than those from the R/V *Atlantis*. The relative humidity statistics are similar to those at the surface measurement sites with the model being 4 to 7 % drier than observed, except along the G-1 flight paths that had a very small bias. The wind speed statistics aloft along the G-1 and WP-3D flight paths are very similar to observed and much smaller than at the surface measurement sites. Nevertheless, the correlation

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coefficients indicate that the model did not represent all of the spatial and temporal variability in wind speed. Wind speed variability is better represented over southern California where the WP-3D usually flew than over northern California where the G-1 flew. Statistics for individual aircraft flights and daily statistics for the R/V *Atlantis* sampling are given in Tables S1–S14.

It is also important to evaluate the evolving simulated winds throughout the boundary layer and lower troposphere when assessing the ability of a model to simulate horizontal transport downwind of emissions sources; therefore the simulated winds aloft have been evaluated with measurements from the radar wind profiler network shown in Fig. 1c. While Fast et al. (2012) demonstrated that the observed and simulated wind speed and direction, associated with varying synoptic conditions and thermally-driven flows, was similar in the vicinity of Sacramento during June, this study quantifies model performance over all of California for May and June. Statistics that summarize the model performance at all the radar wind profiler sites at three altitudes are given in Tables 6 and 7. The performance varies among the sites and with altitude as expected. Figure 5 shows the observed and simulated diurnally-averaged winds over May and June of 2010 at the Sacramento, Bakersfield, and USC radar wind profilers based on the time series shown in Fig. S1. The simulated wind speed and direction at Sacramento (Fig. 5a) is very close to observed, except for a few periods during the night that differ by as much as 30° . Both the observed and simulated winds at Bakersfield are usually northwesterly all day (Fig. 5b), but the model overestimates the wind speeds at night. Low-level jets frequently occur in the San Joaquin Valley, but the simulated wind speeds are too strong on some nights consistent with Bao et al. (2008) in their WRF simulation of winds during the Central California Ozone Study. At USC (Fig. 5c), the model reproduces the overall diurnal variation in wind speed and direction at this altitude, but the wind speeds are generally $1\text{--}2\text{ m s}^{-1}$ higher than observed during the night and early morning and the simulated wind directions are more westerly than observed. When comparing Figs. 4d and 5c, the daytime wind speed bias decreases significantly with height, but the bias at night is similar at both altitudes.

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Boundary-layer depth is an important meteorological quantity, since it defines the vertical extent of turbulent mixing that dilutes the concentrations of near-surface trace gases and aerosols and alters chemical transformation. The performance of the model in simulated boundary-layer depth compared with the radiosondes collected at the T0 and T1 sites is nearly identical to Fast et al. (2012) and is not included here. Scarino et al. (2013) present a methodology of deriving boundary layer heights from backscatter profiles measured by the HRSL on the B-200 aircraft. An advantage of this data set is that the simulated spatial and temporal variability in boundary layer height can be evaluated, as opposed to comparing model predictions to infrequent soundings made at a few locations. Scarino et al. (2013) use the results from the DEF_ANT simulation to show that the simulated spatial and temporal variations in boundary layer depths are usually similar to those derived along the B-200 aircraft flight paths. Statistics that summarize the model performance during the day also show that the model boundary layer depths are somewhat too low over southern California during the CalNex flights, but are closer to observed over northern California during the CARES flights.

4.2 Trace gases

As mentioned previously, it is likely that the CARB emission inventory developed for the 2008 ARCTAS field campaign may not be representative for the CalNex and CARES field campaign period in 2010. To demonstrate the sensitivity of the model results to trace gas emission rates, the observed and simulated diurnally-averaged mixing ratios of CO, NO, NO₂, NH₃, SO₂, five volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and ozone at the four supersites are shown in Figs. 6, 7 and 8. Since CO reacts slowly, its spatial and temporal variations can be used to evaluate how well transport and mixing processes are represented by models. Nitrate evolution is controlled by temperature and concentrations of NO, NO₂, and NH₃, while sulfate is produced by oxidation of SO₂. VOCs will influence oxidant chemistry and play a role in SOA formation. Finally, ozone is a useful quantity to examine since it is the byproduct of photochemistry that also impacts aerosol chemistry and high concentrations can adversely affect human health.

Ozone has also been shown to be correlated with SOA (Herndon et al., 2008; Wood et al., 2010) and the SOA treatment used by the model depends on simulated hydroxyl radical (OH) concentrations (Shrivastava et al., 2011).

As seen in Fig. 6a, simulated CO from the 50 %_ANT simulation performs better than DEF_ANT at all the supersites. The diurnal and multi-day variations from 50 %_ANT at the urban supersites agree reasonably well with observations as shown in Fig. S2. Errors in the simulated boundary layer depth cannot account for the large CO mixing ratios simulated by DEF_ANT. At the rural T1 site, the simulated CO from 50 %_ANT is still too high. The 0 %_ANT simulation shows that there are periods when the background mixing ratios from long-range transport lead to higher than observed CO mixing ratios (12–16 June and 20–24 in Fig. S2d), suggesting that the global MOZART simulation contributes to these errors over California. In general, the CO from the boundaries may be 20–30 ppb too high on many days. Therefore, errors in simulated CO are due to both uncertainties in the emissions rates and boundary conditions, with the errors associated from boundary conditions relatively more important at rural locations, such as T1, where emission rates are much smaller than in the urban areas.

Uncertainties in the boundary conditions do not likely contribute to the over-predictions of NO and NO₂ in the DEF_ANT simulation, since the mixing ratios from 0 %_ANT are very low compared to the observations as shown in Figs. 6b, c, S3 and S4. As with CO, NO and NO₂ are in better agreement with observations from the 50 %_ANT simulation; however, the simulated mixing ratios are still too high in Pasadena. As shown in Figs. 6d and S5, the observed and simulated diurnal variation in ammonia (NH₃) at Bakersfield are very similar, although simulated mixing ratios are somewhat lower than observed. At the Pasadena site, simulated NH₃ is too high, with peak mixing ratios occurring just before sunrise when the observations have a minimum value. The simulated diurnal variation in NH₃ at Pasadena and Bakersfield are very similar, but the observations at Pasadena exhibit much less diurnal variability. While the observed diurnal variation in HNO₃ is reproduced by the model and the mix-

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Simulated terpene at the T0 site is also a factor of two too low as shown in Figs. 7b and S9, but the mixing ratios are closer to observed at night. Conversely, simulated terpene mixing ratios are similar to observations during the day but a factor of three too high at night at the T1 site. Figures 7c and S10 show that simulated MVK+MACR is too low at Pasadena, T0, and the T1 sites throughout the day. These results suggest that there are likely uncertainties in biogenic emission rates obtained from MEGAN. While MEGAN computes 138 biogenic species, SAPRC-99 (as with any photochemical model) has a limited number of VOC species and consequently many of the biogenic species computed by MEGAN are lumped together. Knote et al. (2013) suggest that there is a deficient description of vegetation in urban areas in the MEGAN land use database, leading to too low biogenic emissions over Los Angeles. In their work with WRF-Chem, they increased emissions of all biogenic VOCs as determined in MEGAN by a factor of 2.5 over grid points with an “urban” land use type in WRF-Chem. Thus, uncertainties in the biogenic trace gases can arise from the species-lumping in SAPRC-99 and from how well vegetation is represented in the model, particularly in the vicinity of the sampling sites. For example, Fig. 3 shows that simulated biogenic emissions vary by a factor of 2 within 8 km of the T1 site. The 0%_ANT simulation also demonstrates that isoprene and terpene mixing ratios are sensitive to anthropogenic emissions rates while MVK+MACR are not very sensitive; therefore, uncertainties in some biogenic species are also affected by uncertainties in anthropogenic emissions. Toluene is emitted by anthropogenic sources, and as with the other primary anthropogenic emissions the 50%_ANT simulation is closer to observed at all four sites as shown in Figs. 7d and S11, except during the night at Bakersfield. As shown in Figs. 7e and S12, afternoon formaldehyde mixing ratios from the DEF_ANT simulation are closer to observations at the four supersites, while the 50%_ANT simulation better represents the mixing ratios at night and several hours after sunrise.

As seen in Figs. 8a and S13, the model captures the diurnal and multi-day variability of ozone. Daytime peak values are well simulated at the T0 and T1 sites, but are too low at the Bakersfield and Pasadena sites. Reducing ozone precursor emissions in the

50%_ANT simulation, increased peak ozone mixing ratios at Pasadena, but reduced daytime ozone concentration at Bakersfield. Statistics that describing the performance of the model in simulating ozone at all the surface monitoring sites are given in Tables S15–S17. Ozone from the DEF_ANT simulation is too low overall by 3.9 ppbV in contrast with the results at the Bakersfield and Pasadena sites that are 13 to 15 ppbV too low on average. The overall bias over California from the 50%_ANT simulation is nearly identical to the bias from the DEF_ANT simulation; however, the bias in ozone is improved for the southern California and Sacramento Valley regions. A similar difference between the two simulations is also produced for the sum of NO and NO₂.

Observed and simulated O_x, the sum of O₃ and NO₂, is shown in Fig. 8b because it is often used as an indicator of photochemistry that removes the effect of titration by NO. O_x from the 50%_ANT simulation is in much better agreement with observations at the Pasadena site during much of the day, but is still too low during the afternoon. While O_x from the DEF_ANT simulation is in better agreement with the observations at Bakersfield and Sacramento, we have shown that NO, NO₂, and some of the VOCs in that simulation are too high. Observed and simulated OH is shown in Fig. 8c for the Pasadena site. OH is a useful indicator of daytime photochemistry; however, OH measurements have large uncertainties and the observed nighttime mixing ratios in Fig. 8c were removed since there are much fewer measurements contributing to the diurnal average. Decreasing anthropogenic emissions in the 50% ANT simulation results in higher OH mixing ratios than in DEF_ANT and somewhat higher than observed on average. The impact of OH mixing ratios on simulated SOA formation will be discussed in Sect. 4.3.

Figure 9 shows the comparison of observed and simulated CO, NO, NO₂, NH₃, HNO₃, SO₂, and O₃ distributions in terms of percentiles for all the G-1 flights (as high as ~ 3.2 km m.s.l.), all the WP-3D flights north of 35° N (as high as ~ 6.8 km m.s.l.), all the WP-3D flights south of 35° N (as high as ~ 5.6 km m.s.l.), and the entire R/V *Atlantis* transect in the marine boundary layer. The statistics for the WP-3D aircraft are divided in this way so that the northern transects are more comparable to the G-1 in the vicinity

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values are between 0.4 and 0.7 ppb, while the simulated values are between 0.05 and 0.2 ppb. In contrast, the model significantly over predicts SO_2 in the marine boundary layer along the R/V *Atlantis* transects. The simulated 75th percentiles are ~ 5 ppb, but the observed values are ~ 0.5 ppb. The factors that contribute to the over-prediction in marine boundary layer SO_2 are likely the same as those for NO and NO_2 . As with the supersites, the DEF_ANT simulation produces ozone aloft in the vicinity of Sacramento that is similar to observed, but is too low everywhere else. The 50%_ANT simulation decreases ozone aloft, but improves the simulation over the ocean somewhat. The high simulated NO mixing ratios lead to too much ozone titration in the marine boundary layer.

PTR-MS instruments were also deployed on the G-1 (Shilling et al., 2013) and WP-3D (Warneke et al., 2011) aircraft; therefore, we also compare the observed and simulated isoprene, terpene, MVK+MACR, toluene, and formaldehyde distributions in Fig. 10. Observed biogenic trace gas mixing ratios from the G-1 are about an order of magnitude higher than those from the WP-3D north of 35°N because a large fraction of the G-1 samples occurred over the forested foothills of the Sierra Nevada (Fig. 1a and b). As with the supersites, simulated mixing ratios of biogenic species aloft are too low, although the simulated isoprene along the WP-3D transects in northern California are only somewhat lower than observed. While toluene along the G-1 flights from the DEF_ANT simulation are similar to observed, simulated toluene is somewhat higher than observed along the WP-3D flights over both southern and northern California. Simulated toluene from the 50%_ANT simulation is in better agreement with the WP-3D data, but lower than observed for the G-1 data. As with ozone, formaldehyde from the 50%_ANT simulation is too low and somewhat lower than from the DEF_ANT simulation.

Additional statistics for the same trace gases as in Figs. 9 and 10 are given in Tables 8 and 9 for the G-1 and WP-3D flights, respectively. The biases are similar to the percentile shown previously. As expected, the statistics from the 0%_ANT simulation are usually poor because it neglects anthropogenic emissions. For the simulations that

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include anthropogenic emissions, the temporal and spatial variations in ozone, CO, and formaldehyde are similar to those observed along the flight paths as indicated by correlation coefficients between 0.6 and 0.8. Somewhat lower correlation coefficients between 0.4 and 0.6 were produced for NO, NO₂, isoprene, and toluene. The lowest correlation coefficients were produced for SO₂, MVK+MACR, and terpene. Statistics quantifying the performance in select trace gases averaged over all the surface monitoring sites in California by region (Fig. 1c) and for the individual supersites are given in Tables S15, S16, and S17 for the DEF_ANT, 50%_ANT, and 0_ANT simulations, respectively. Model performance varies from day to day based on the simulated meteorological conditions and how well emissions are represented for a particular day. Therefore, additional statistics on the trace gases from the DEF_ANT simulation for the individual G-1 flights are given in Tables S18–S26 and for the individual WP-3D flights in Tables S26–S36.

4.3 Carbonaceous aerosols

Single Particle Soot Photometers (SP2) were used to measure black carbon (BC) concentrations at three of the supersites and on three research aircraft. The SP2 measures single-particle refractory BC mass for particles for a discrete size range. Metcalf et al. (2012) report a detection range 80 to 696 nm volume equivalent diameter for the SP2 on the CIRPAS Twin Otter. Therefore, we use the first four size-bins in the model (0.625 μm) to compare BC simulated mass with the SP2 measurements. Both Metcalf et al. (2012) and Langridge et al. (2012) note that the overall uncertainties on SP2 reported BC mass due to calibration and other factors could be as much as ±40%. Laborde et al. (2012) report that uncertainty in BC mass of ±10% can be achieved when the SP2 is carefully tuned and calibrated. The detection limits and uncertainty in mass may vary somewhat among the CalNex and CARES SP2 instruments and as a function of time, depending on the size of the peak BC mass distribution, and are not accounted for here.

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PAS Twin Otter aircraft in the vicinity of the Los Angeles Basin; therefore, the model was able to reproduce the overall characteristics of higher and lower BC concentrations over southern and northern California. The observed and simulated percentiles along the CIRPAS Twin Otter flight paths are also higher than those from the WP-3D since the Twin Otter usually flew in the immediate vicinity of the Los Angeles Basin, while the WP-3D also often flew over the ocean and desert farther from the Los Angeles Basin where BC concentrations were lower. The 50 %_LBC simulation produced the best results for all locations. Statistics on BC for individual aircraft flights from the DEF_ANT simulation are given in Table S37.

To demonstrate how well the model represents the spatial and temporal variability of BC, observed and simulated BC for two flights on 21 May in the vicinity of Los Angeles are shown in Fig. 13. On this day, the CIRPAS Twin Otter flew over the urban area and through Cajon Pass northeast of Los Angeles, and the WP-3D sampled primarily over the ocean. While observed BC concentrations from the WP-3D close to the ocean surface in the marine boundary layer were usually around $0.02 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, somewhat higher concentrations between 0.02 and $0.05 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ were observed $\sim 1 \text{ km m.s.l.}$ above the ocean. The model suggests that the higher BC concentrations at 1 km m.s.l. were influenced by local emissions that were transported over the ocean. BC concentrations from the DEF_ANT and 50 %_ANT simulations are higher than observed at both altitudes. As with the rural surface sites, the BC concentrations from the 0 %_ANT simulation are frequently higher than observed over the ocean. Consequently, simulated BC from 50 %_LBC is usually closer to observations than the other simulations. As expected, BC concentrations were an order of magnitude or more higher over the urban areas. BC concentrations measured on the CIRPAS Twin Otter were as high as $0.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. BC from the DEF_ANT simulation was too high except above 2 km m.s.l. , and the 50 %_ANT and 50 %_LBC simulations were in much better agreement with observed BC. The location and magnitude of the simulated peak BC concentrations were sometimes consistent with the measurements, but the simulated BC concentrations from 50 %_ANT and 50 %_LBC were still too high between 10:15 and 10:45

and 12:30 and 13:00 LST. This indicates that there are still uncertainties in simulated thermally-driven circulations, boundary layer turbulent mixing, and/or emissions over the Los Angeles Basin that affect local variations in BC.

24 May is another day in which both the WP-3D and CIRPAS Twin Otter flew over southern California; however, the WP-3D sampled primarily over the southern San Joaquin Valley as shown in Fig. 14. These flights enable the model to be evaluated over a larger geographic area. As the WP-3D flew across the San Joaquin Valley, higher BC concentrations were observed over the eastern side of the valley that contribute to peak concentrations of $0.04 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ between 16:30 and 20:30 LST. The model does not produce the strong gradient across the valley during the aircraft sampling period. The simulated BC at $\sim 1 \text{ kma.g.l.}$ in the right panel of Fig. 14 shows that at 14:00 LST, just prior to the WP-3D flight, higher concentrations are simulated along the eastern side of the valley consistent with measurements. Higher concentrations of BC originating from the Bay Area are transported into the San Joaquin Valley, reducing the simulated variability of BC in the valley after 16:00 LST. Thus, transport errors in the model contributed to the differences between the observed and simulated variability in BC along the WP-3D flight path. The agreement between the observed and simulated BC concentrations is much better in the vicinity of Los Angeles at all altitudes. The simulated variability in BC concentrations from the 50 %_ANT and 50 %_LBC simulation are nearly identical to observations, although the simulated concentration are somewhat higher than observed.

In contrast to the CARES and CalNex data, somewhat different statistics are obtained when comparing the simulations to the daily-averaged BC measurements at the remote IMPROVE site as shown in Table 10. For this dataset, correlation coefficients that were greater than 0.64 represent the model's ability to replicate the multi-day variations rather than the diurnal variations. The bias in BC from the DEF_ANT and 50 %_ANT simulations was 0.02 and $-0.02 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, respectively. When the boundary conditions of BC are reduced in the 50 %_LBC simulation, the biases increased to $-0.04 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. Based on this dataset, the bias could be due to local anthropogenic emissions, bound-

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simulation that includes only biogenic SOA produces less than $0.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ on average at T1, suggesting that most of the simulated SOA is from anthropogenic sources. Since POA in the DEF_ANT simulation is too high and biogenic SOA is a small fraction of the total SOA, the model is likely producing the correct magnitude in SOA for the wrong reasons at the T1 site. It appears that uncertainties associated with anthropogenic semi-volatile and intermediate volatility precursor emissions that are poorly constrained and yields of multigenerational biogenic chemistry are cancelling each other out to some extent. In addition, semi-volatile and intermediate VOCs form SOA rapidly in the current VBS approach, whereas light aromatics (e.g. toluene) will make SOA continuously over several days. Multi-generational chemistry for aromatics is currently ignored; however, Hodzic et al. (2013) use an explicit model to show that this process could be important at regional scales over several days of chemical processing.

Simulated OA aloft was also compared with AMS measurements collected by the G-1, WP-3D, and CIRPAS Twin Otter aircraft in terms of percentiles over the sampling period as shown in Fig. 12b. The observed OA concentrations from the G-1 are higher than those from the WP-3D since the highest OA concentrations occurred during the last few days of June and the last WP-3D flight north of 35°N was on the 18 June. As with the T0 and T1 sites, OA concentrations from the DEF_ANT simulation were closer to observations over northern California than the other simulations. While OA from the DEF_ANT simulation was very similar to observations from the WP-3D south of 35°N , that simulation produced higher than observed concentrations along the CIRPAS Twin Otter paths. The variations in OA concentrations from the 50%_ANT simulation were also closer to Twin Otter observations. Note that the flight days and sampling period for the WP-3D (4 May–22 June) and Twin Otter flights (6–28 May) are not identical, so that observed and simulated percentiles for these two data sets are likely to be different. Nevertheless, these results aloft are substantially different than the under-predictions of OA at the Pasadena site. Statistics on OA for individual aircraft flights from the DEF_ANT simulation are given in Table S38.

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To further illustrate the uncertainties in OA predictions, Fig. 17 compares the observed and simulated OA and CO from the G-1 flights on 28 June and 12 June. The afternoon G-1 flight on 28 June had the highest OA observed during CARES, while 12 June had low OA concentrations as a result of strong northwesterly winds associated with an upper-level trough (Fast et al., 2012). The simulated CO along the flight path on 28 June is similar to observations downwind of Sacramento, except that the peak concentrations in center of the plume (points A and B in Fig. 17a) are too low. While the simulated southwesterly up-slope winds are simulated reasonably well as described in Fast et al. (2012), the simulated BL depth during the afternoon of 28 June was 61 % higher than observed at 13:00 LST and 25 % higher than observed at 16:00 LST, leading to excessive dilution within the model. The spatial variation in simulated OA is similar to CO, indicating that simulated SOA is influenced or controlled by anthropogenic sources; however, the concentrations from both DEF_ANT and 50 %_ANT are much lower than the AMS measurements. Peak values from DEF_ANT are $\sim 7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, while observations are as high as $25 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. In addition to too much dilution, two other factors likely account for the under-prediction in OA. First, the regional OA background concentrations transported into the Sacramento region are too low, even though background concentrations of CO are close to observed. Second, the model likely under-estimates enhanced SOA production resulting from anthropogenic emissions mixing with biogenic SOA precursors as described in Setyan et al. (2012) and Shilling et al. (2013).

Similar to the G-1 measurements, lower OA concentrations are simulated during the afternoon of 12 June than on other days. The simulated concentrations are usually less than $1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ while the observed concentrations are between 2 and $3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (Fig. 17b). The model also fails to capture the spatial variability in OA and CO on this day. The bottom panel of Fig. 17b shows that highest concentrations of observed OA are located on the eastern side of the valley, but the model produced peak concentrations over the western side of the valley. The spatial pattern in simulated CO is similar to OA (not shown). While the simulated wind speed and direction at the Sacramento radar

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wind profiler ~ 1 kma.g.l. was very similar to the observations (Fig. S1a), the simulated winds along the G-1 flight path were northerly along the foothills of the Sierra Nevada and the observations were northwesterly. Table S3 and S4 show that the performance in simulated winds along the G-1 flight path was reasonable during the morning of 12 June but decreased significantly during the afternoon. While transport errors likely accounts for all of the errors in simulated CO, they cannot explain the bias in simulated OA. The production of SOA is likely too low on this day as well.

In contrast, the spatial distributions of OA were usually simulated better in the vicinity of the Los Angeles Basin. Examples are shown in Fig. 18 for WP-3D flights on 20 and 3 June that had relatively higher and lower peak OA concentrations, respectively. On both days, the model reproduced the spatial variability in both CO and OA reasonably well. The correlation coefficients for OA on 20 and 3 June were 0.83 and 0.7, respectively. The peak concentrations in OA from the DEF_ANT and 50 %_LBC simulations were 5 and $3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, respectively, for both days while the observed peak values were between 7 and $10 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. OA concentrations from both simulations were much closer to observed on 3 June, with the DEF_ANT simulated OA somewhat higher than observed and 50 %_ANT simulated OA somewhat lower than observed.

4.4 Inorganic aerosols

The time series and average diurnal variation of sulfate (SO_4) obtained from the AMS instruments at the four supersites along with the simulated values are shown in Fig. 19. SO_4 concentrations from the DEF_ANT and 50 %_ANT simulations at the Pasadena site are about a factor of two too low on average and the simulated diurnal variability is weaker than observed. The simulated multi-day variations are qualitatively similar to observed with higher concentrations between 15 and 20 May and between 31 May and 8 June. While the average SO_4 concentrations from the DEF_ANT and 50 %_ANT simulations are similar to observations at the Bakersfield site, the model fails to capture peak concentrations frequently observed during the late afternoon. In contrast, the simulated diurnal and multi-day variability is predicted reasonably well by the model at

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was produced along the WP-3D flights north of 35° N, except that the overall concentrations from the DEF_ANT and 50 %_ANT simulations concentrations are lower than observed. The simulated SO₄ from the DEF_ANT, 50 %_ANT and 50 %_LBC simulations are higher over southern California than over northern California, similar to the aircraft observations. While the simulated SO₄ is lower than observed along the WP-3D flight paths, the DEF_ANT and 50 %_ANT simulation are higher than observed along the CIRPAS Twin Otter flight paths. The overall concentrations from the 50 %_LBC simulation are closest to the CIRPAS Twin Otter measurements. As with the AMS measurements, the simulated NO₃ and NH₄ are much lower over northern California than over southern California. The DEF_ANT simulation produced NO₃ concentrations closer to observed over southern California and NH₄ concentrations were comparable to the CIRPAS Twin Otter measurements. In contrast, the simulated NH₄ from the 50 %_LBC simulation is closest to the WP-3D measurements. Additional statistics for all of the aircraft flights are shown in Tables 11–13 and statistics from the DEF_ANT simulation for individual flights are given in Tables S39–S41. The spatial and temporal variations as reflected by the correlation coefficient and index of agreement are in general the best for OA, followed by BC, SO₄, NH₄, and NO₃.

4.5 Aerosol mass, volume, and size distribution

Table 14 presents statistics that quantify the performance in simulated total PM_{2.5} mass at all the available operational monitoring sites shown in Fig. 1d. The simulated PM_{2.5} mass from the DEF_ANT simulation is too low in general except over the Sacramento Valley, with the largest average bias of $-4.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ over southern California which is $\sim 38\%$ lower than the observed mean concentration of $11.8 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. Reducing the primary emissions by 50 % leads to larger biases in the 50 %_ANT simulation, with biases ranging from $-1.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (27 % lower than observed) over the Sacramento Valley to -6.8 (58 % lower than observed) over southern California. The temporal variability in PM_{2.5} is also better simulated in some regions of California than others. For example, relatively higher correlation coefficients of 0.48 and 0.44 were obtained for

southern California stations where the biases were the greatest for both the DEF_ANT and 50%_ANT simulations, respectively. The lowest correlation coefficients of 0.09 and 0.16 from the DEF_ANT simulation were produced for the Coastal and Interior Mountain regions, respectively that are the stations that are least influenced by local anthropogenic emissions.

In addition to total aerosol mass, it is also important to adequately simulate the aerosol size distribution to show that the model represents the total aerosol mass for the right reasons. Accurately representing the aerosol size distribution also affects aerosol radiative forcing and the ability of aerosols to serve as CCN. The T0 and T1 sites had measurements from Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer (SMPS) and Aerodynamic Particle Sizer (APS) instruments that were used to evaluate the simulated number and volume size distributions in terms of percentiles as shown in Fig. 24. The SMPS measures number as a function of mobility diameter that is similar to geometric diameter used by the model. The APS measures number as a function of aerodynamic diameter; therefore, the observed values have been adjusted to geometric diameter (Baron and Willeke, 2001) using a density of 2.36 g cm^{-3} based on 20% SO_4 (1.8 g cm^{-3}), 20% sea salt (2.2 g cm^{-3}), and 60% other inorganics (2.6 g cm^{-3}). Note that some uncertainty is introduced here since the actual composition of aerosols $> 1 \mu\text{m}$ was not measured and composition will likely vary in time (DeCarlo et al., 2004). The results from the 50%_LBC simulation are shown since it better represented the observed composition, except for OA, than the other simulations. The gray shading in Fig. 24 denotes the size range of the eight size bins employed by the MOSAIC aerosol model. The average number distributions (Fig. 24a and b) at both sites are lower than observed for bin 1 ($0.039\text{--}0.078 \mu\text{m}$), higher than observed for bins 2 and 3 ($0.078\text{--}0.313 \mu\text{m}$), similar to observed for bins 4–6 ($0.313\text{--}2.5 \mu\text{m}$), and lower than observed for bin 7 ($2.5\text{--}5 \mu\text{m}$). The corresponding volume distributions have similar biases as expected (Fig. 24c and d).

The simulated aerosol composition distribution is also compared with the AMS distribution at the T1 site (Setyan et al., 2012) and is shown in Fig. 25. While the largest

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OA mass is observed and simulated in the size range of bin 3 (0.156–0.313 μm) in the model (Fig. 25a), the simulated distribution is narrower than observed so that the mass is too low in bins 1–2 (0.039–0.156 μm) and 4 (0.313–0.625 μm). As described in Setyan et al. (2012), SO_4 had a bimodal mass distribution with peak values around 0.4 μm . Although the simulated SO_4 in bin 4 (0.313–0.625 μm) was close to the observed mean value, peak concentrations from the model (Fig. 25b) occurred in bin 3 (0.156–0.313 μm). Simulated concentrations were also too low in bins 1–2 (0.039–0.156 μm), and 5 (0.625–1.25 μm). As shown previously in Fig. 21 the simulated NO_3 ($< 1.25 \mu\text{m}$) is usually too low at the T1 site; however, the model does produce more NO_3 mass in bins 5–7 (0.625–5 μm) as shown in Fig. 25c. The shape of the simulated SO_4 and NH_4 mass distributions are similar to one another, as are the shape of the observed SO_4 and NH_4 distributions (Fig. 25d). In contrast with simulated SO_4 , the simulated NH_4 concentrations in bins 3 (0.156–0.313 μm) and 5 (0.625–1.25 μm) are similar to observed while concentrations in bins 1–2 (0.039–0.156 μm) and 4 are too low (0.313–0.625 μm).

Composition distributions are also shown in Fig. 25e and f as a percent of the total mass for the observed and simulated distributions, respectively. For the simulated composition distribution, BC, sea-salt (NaCl), and other inorganic material (OIN) are shown since they comprise a significant fraction of the total mass. While the T1 site is located ~ 200 km from the ocean, Laskin et al. (2012) provided evidence of chloride depletion in aged sea salt particles sampled along the G-1 flight paths using scanning electron microscopy, scanning transmission X-ray microscopy, and near edge X-ray absorption fine structure spectroscopy techniques. Moffet et al. (2013) employ similar microscopy techniques using particles collected at the T0 and T1 sites to show that dust and sea-salt particles were more prevalent at coarser sizes on 27 and 28 June. Comparing Fig. 25f with Fig. 24d suggests that simulated coarse mode NaCl and OIN concentrations are too high. Some of the simulated OIN results from long-range transport of dust in the MOZART model, as will be shown in the next section. Simulated sub-micron NaCl and OIN comprise 20–40 % (depending on size) of the total mass at

the T1 site. This fraction is much higher than observed at the Pasadena site (Hayes et al., 2013), but measurements from the PALMS instrument at the T1 site are not yet available for comparison.

An evaluation of both the fine and coarse aerosol components at the Pasadena site using the available measurements is shown in Fig. 26. The observations suggest that the simulated $PM_{2.5}$ OIN is roughly twice as high as observed during CalNex. In contrast, simulated sea-salt concentrations are similar to observed for $PM_{2.5}$ – PM_1 and are also a much larger fraction of the total mass compared to PM_1 . The large amount of simulated sum of $OA+SO_4+NO_3$ for $PM_{2.5}$ – PM_1 is due mostly to NO_3 . The average simulated PM_1 NO_3 is too low while the simulated $PM_{2.5}$ – $PM_{1.25}$ is too high, suggesting that the size distribution is skewed towards the coarser sizes, similar to the T1 site (Fig. 25c).

Additional analyses of the SP2 and single particle measurements are needed to provide more quantitative information to assess the simulated mass and size distributions associated with BC, NaCl, and OIN. Size distribution measurements using different instruments were also collected at other surface sites and on two research aircraft, but additional evaluation of simulated size distributions will be performed later after information from all the SP2 and single particle instruments are available.

5 Extinction profiles, AOT, and AOD

We have also compared the simulated extinction profiles with the observed profiles obtained from the HSRL-1 on the B-200 aircraft during the CARES and CalNex campaigns to infer how well the model represents profiles of aerosol mass that are not necessarily sampled by the in-situ measurements on the other research aircraft. As an example, the observed and simulated extinction for the B-200 flight on 25 May over southern California is shown in Fig. 27. The highest extinction was observed in the convective boundary layer (below 1.4 km m.s.l. in Fig. 27a and d) over the Los Angeles basin where the emissions are the highest. Extinction from the DEF_ANT simulation is

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also highest in the convective boundary layer, but the magnitude is 1.5–2 times lower than observed on average. When the effect of long-range transport is reduced in the 50 %_LBC simulation, the simulated extinction in the free troposphere is much closer to observed but the aerosol mass and extinction in the convective boundary layer is further reduced as well (Fig. 27b and d). Even though the boundary layer extinction is under-estimated, the simulated aerosol optical thickness (AOT) from DEF_ANT is higher than observed by about a factor of 2 (Fig. 27e) because of over-predictions in the vertically integrated extinction in the free troposphere. Similarly, the AOT from the 0 %_ANT simulation is higher than observed which does not seem reasonable and also suggests the background aerosol concentrations from MOZART are too high. The AOT from the 50 %_LBC simulation is the closest to observed outside of the Los Angeles Basin where the emission rates are relatively low.

Another example in the vicinity of Sacramento during CARES on 27 June is shown in Fig. 28. As expected, the highest extinction was observed in the convective boundary layer within 1 km m.s.l.; however, the lidar also detected a layer of aerosols between 1.5 and 3.5 km m.s.l. above the boundary layer (Fig. 28a). Extinction from the DEF_ANT simulation was similar to observed in the free troposphere and somewhat lower than observed in the convective boundary layer (Fig. 28b and d). The model qualitatively captured the aerosols in the convective boundary layer and the layer aloft. Similar to the layer described in Fast et al. (2012), daytime upslope flows transport trace gases and aerosols from the valley over the Sierra Nevada that are subsequently transported back over the valley at night. The 0 %_ANT simulation produced no such layer aloft (Fig. 28d), indicating that the layer is produced by local emissions and not long-range transport. As with the previous case in southern California, simulated extinction above 3.5 km was higher than observed. Reducing aerosols from long-range transport in the 50 %_LBC simulation improved the extinction above 3.5 km m.s.l., but also led to extinctions being lower than observed below 3.5 km m.s.l. (Fig. 27c and d). As with Fig. 26, AOT from the DEF_ANT simulation is too high compared to the lidar AOT. The 50 %_LBC simulation produces AOT that is closer to observed outside of the

anthropogenic plumes, but is too low where extinction in the convective boundary layer was observed to be the highest.

We have also compared the simulated aerosol optical depth (AOD) with the AERONET measurements (Fig. 1d) made during the two-month simulation period as well as the measurements from the moving R/V *Atlantis* platform as shown in Fig. 29. Consistent with the lidar analyses, AOD is usually too high from the two simulations that employ the MOZART boundary conditions of aerosols (DEF_ANT and 50 %_ANT). The 50 %_LBC simulation produces the AOD that is most consistent with the measurements. Much of the observed temporal variability is reproduced by the model at all the sites, except at Caltech. It is likely the bias in AOD at the Caltech site results from the large under-prediction of OA (Fig. 15) and SO₄ (Fig. 19) as well as sub-grid scale variability in emissions and meteorology. While the mean AOD from the 50 %_ANT simulation (0.171) is closer to observed (0.160) at Caltech, that result is not consistent with the large under-prediction in surface aerosol concentrations. Zhao et al. (2013) use the WRF-Chem model, the 2008 CARB emission inventory, and MOZART boundary conditions to simulate AOD and aerosol radiative forcing over California during 2005. While the model configuration is different than in this study (i.e. coarser spatial resolution, different trace gas chemistry, and simpler aerosol model), their simulated AOD at four AERONET sites were similar to or lower than observed. It is not clear why the performance in simulated AOD is so different, since both modeling studies use MOZART to represent long-range transport of aerosols. It is possible that both global emission inventories (2005 vs. 2010) and long-range transport (different synoptic conditions) contribute to different performance in MOZART over California.

As described by Yu et al. (2012), aerosols (mostly dust) originating from Asia likely contribute to a significant fraction of the AOD over the western US and the mass of dust imported from Asia is similar in magnitude to the total primary particulate emissions over North America. In the 0 %_ANT simulation, dust from MOZART contributes on average to 50–85 % of the total PM_{2.5} in the free troposphere over California. This study clearly demonstrates that regional-scale AOD simulations depend on how well

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global chemical transport models represent the long-range transport of aerosols from Asia to North America. While there were no large dust events during our simulation period that might be represented reasonably well by global models, simulating relatively clean conditions is important when interpreting the simulated AOD during CalNex and CARES period.

6 Discussion

To investigate aerosol radiative forcing over California, as well as other regions, requires that temporal and spatial variations in aerosol mass, composition, and size be simulated reasonably well. While the overall performance of the model in simulating these quantities during the CalNex and CARES is similar to other studies, there is certainly room for improvement. We have presented differences between observed and simulated quantities that can be attributed to either local emissions, sub-grid scale meteorology (particularly at the Pasadena site), secondary formation processes (mostly from SOA), long-range transport (mostly dust, but some anthropogenic species as well), or a combination of these uncertainties. To date, only a few aerosol modeling studies have been conducted using the CalNex and CARES data and brief comparison of the model performance with those studies is described next.

Ensberg et al. (2013) evaluated simulated inorganic and black carbon aerosols from the CMAQ model that used a domain encompassing southern California with a grid spacing of 4 km. Since that study also uses the CARB 2008 emission inventory, their CMAQ simulation should be most comparable to the DEF_ANT simulation. They also found that simulated BC concentrations were usually higher than observed, with biases between 0.09 to 0.19 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ for five CIRPAS Twin Otter flights and between -0.03 and 0.07 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ for five WP-3D flights. In this study, biases in BC are between 0.08 and 0.20 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ for the same five Twin Otter flights and between 0.06 and 0.13 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ for the same five WP-3D flights (Table S37). So the model performance is similar for the Twin Otter flights, but the present WRF-Chem simulation has a somewhat higher bias

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than CMAQ for the WP-3D flights. For inorganics, Ensberg et al. (2013) report biases in SO_4 , NO_3 , and NH_4 that vary between 0.0 to $1.30 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, -1.47 to $-0.31 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, and -0.77 to $-0.11 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, respectively among the ten aircraft flights. In this study, we obtain biases that vary between -0.19 to $0.32 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, -2.22 to $0.75 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, and -1.03 to $0.12 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ for SO_4 , NO_3 , and NH_4 , respectively (Tables S39–S41). Biases in SO_4 from CMAQ were consistently positive, while biases in NO_3 and NH_4 were negative. In contrast, the biases in the present study were both higher and lower than observed for the inorganic aerosols depending on the flight. The different statistics between the CMAQ and WRF-Chem simulations likely arise from a number of factors. While the emissions are almost the same, the models use different treatments for meteorology, trace gas chemistry, and aerosols and employ boundary conditions from different global chemical transport models. Differences in SO_4 are likely to due the lack of aqueous chemistry and cloud-aerosol interactions in this study that might be important at times in the Los Angeles Basin and over the adjacent ocean where most of the CIRPAS Twin Otter measurements were collected.

Knute et al. (2013) also use the WRF-Chem model, with a similar domain size and resolution as in this study, the 2008 CARB emission inventory, the MOSAIC aerosol model (but with 4 size bins), and the same global models for boundary conditions. Differences in their model configuration with the present study include some of the meteorological parameterizations, the use of the MOZART photochemical mechanism, SOA treatment, and a shorter simulation period. The simulated diurnal variations in SO_4 , NO_3 , and NH_4 concentrations at the four supersites reported in Knute et al. (2013) are similar to those shown in this study. There are some differences in simulated NO_3 at the Bakersfield and Pasadena sites and the simulated overall mean NH_4 is higher in Knute et al. (2013) and closer to observed. These differences are likely due to differences in the trace gas chemistry between MOZART and SAPRC-99 that will influence gas-to-particle partitioning. Not surprisingly, the largest difference between the two studies is associated with OA, with consistent over-predictions at the four supersites in Knute et al. (2013) and consistent under-predictions in this study. However, simulated average

species, such as NO and NO₂, are contributing to errors in NO₃. Unfortunately, there were no NH₃ and HNO₃ observations over northern California during CARES (other than a few WP-3D flights over northern California) to help evaluate the under predictions of NO₃ at the surface and aloft in that region.

It is not surprising that there are errors in simulated OA concentrations, given that the theoretical understanding of SOA formation and chemical processing is incomplete. When the model does simulate reasonable OA concentrations, it may be for the wrong reasons. OA under-predictions in the current model may be due missing important interactions associated with anthropogenic emissions influencing biogenic SOA (e.g. Carlton et al., 2010) or using lower yields that neglect multigenerational biogenic chemistry (Shrivastava et al., 2011) which were shown to be important on some days during CARES (Shilling et al., 2013; Setyan et al., 2012). In addition, the current model does not include contributions of glyoxal chemistry that was shown by Knote et al. (2013) to potentially produce up to ~ 15% more SOA in the vicinity of the Los Angeles basin. Biomass burning was a source of trace gases and aerosols neglected in this study. While relatively few fires were observed in California by satellite detection methods during the 2 month period, biomass-burning aerosols from a large number of small, undetectable fires could contribute to the background concentrations of OA and BC. Analyses of the mass spectra from single particle measurements (Cahill et al., 2012) indicate that a substantial fraction of aerosols could be associated with biomass burning; however, the analyses cannot determine whether they are due to local or distant sources and there can be confounding factors that lead to overestimation of biomass burning particles with single particle measurements (Hayes et al., 2013; Aiken et al., 2010). In our study, biomass burning from long-rang transport is included through the boundary conditions, but the current MOZART configuration does not differentiate OA anthropogenic, biomass burning, or biogenic sources. Another issue is that MOZART likely underestimates SOA severely (Dunlea et al., 2009; Emmons et al., 2010), which influences the WRF-Chem boundary conditions of OA. We acknowledge that reducing

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the anthropogenic emission rates by 50 % is arbitrary, but some adjustment is needed to account for likely reductions in emissions over time in California.

Considering that the current theoretical understanding of SOA formation and transformation processes is highly uncertain (e.g. Jimenez et al., 2009), errors in the treatment of organic aerosol processes in models are expected (e.g. Volkamer et al., 2006; Hodzic et al., 2010). New insights from recent laboratory and field data (e.g. Perraud et al., 2012; Vaden et al., 2011; Virtanen et al., 2010) as well as explicit modeling studies (e.g. Lee-Taylor et al., 2011) that identify important organic chemical reactions, examine the role of semi- and intermediate volatile organic compounds, and quantify phase and volatility of SOA will likely provide improved modeling frameworks. Still unaccounted removal processes of organic vapors that are in equilibrium with SOA may also significantly affect SOA concentrations (Hodzic et al., 2013). The results of simulated OA using a revised VBS framework that includes new findings on volatility and fragmentation (Shrivastava et al., 2013) will be presented in a subsequent study.

We demonstrated that evaluating predictions with only surface aerosol concentrations is insufficient in terms of understanding uncertainties contributing to column optical properties that affect aerosol radiative forcing. It would have been difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain errors associated with simulated aerosols originating outside of the California region without the extensive aircraft and remote sensing measurements available during CalNex and CARES. The regional sampling from the HSRL-1 on the B-200 aircraft was the most valuable measurement to quantify the over-prediction in aerosols in the free troposphere. Even though the simulated concentrations were relatively small in the free troposphere compared to boundary layer concentrations, the vertically integrated effect was large enough to affect predictions of AOD that will affect shortwave radiation reaching the surface. The in-situ measurements also provided some evidence of over-predictions in the free troposphere for transects upwind of urban emission sources; however, the lidar provides more complete information on aerosol loading and extinction in the vertical column than could possibly be obtained from in situ sampling. In addition, the in-situ measurements do not provide information for all

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aerosol components or coarse aerosols ($> 1 \mu\text{m}$). Kassianov et al. (2012) showed that coarse particles often contributed more than 50 % of the total observed aerosol volume during CARES and that even during clean conditions those coarse particles contribute significantly to direct aerosol radiative forcing. Yu et al. (2012) used satellite measurements averaged over multiple years to show that dust contributes a large fraction of the AOD over the northern Pacific Ocean. Additional analyses of single particle measurements (e.g. Laskin et al., 2012; Moffet et al., 2013; Vaden et al., 2011) coupled with size distribution information are needed to fully evaluate the simulated dust and sea-salt aerosol.

While no field campaign can provide measurements to evaluate every aspect of an aerosol model, the extensive meteorological, trace gas, and aerosol measurements collected during CalNex and CARES is the most comprehensive dataset currently available for the western US. It is particularly useful to assess the strengths and weaknesses of current and new treatments of SOA because of the proximity of both anthropogenic and biogenic precursors, the complexity of meteorology that will influence aerosol formation, growth, and removal, and the use of state-of-the-science instrumentation to provide data on organic gases and aerosols.

7 Summary and conclusion

This study integrated the wide range of meteorological, chemistry, and aerosol data collected during the CARES and CalNex field campaigns and by operational monitoring networks into a single publically available dataset for the Aerosol Modeling Testbed. The AMT was used to comprehensively evaluate the performance of one configuration of the WRF-Chem model to simulate aerosols and their precursors over California between May and June of 2010. We also assessed the sensitivity of the aerosol predictions to uncertainties associated with the emission inventories and boundary conditions. Independent measurements showed that the model captured the overall meteorological conditions as reflected in simulated temperature, humidity, cloudiness,

circulations, and boundary layer depth. Any errors in the meteorological quantities are consistent with those typically seen in other other mesoscale modeling studies.

The main findings of this modeling study are:

- Reducing the 2008 CARB emissions inventory by 50 % improved simulated CO, NO_x, and anthropogenic hydrocarbons such as toluene and formaldehyde at most sites and along most aircraft flight paths.
- Altering anthropogenic emission rates affected mixing ratios of isoprene and terpene when biogenic emissions rates remained the same. It is possible that there are uncertainties in biogenic emissions from the on-line MEGAN model used in WRF-Chem, but uncertainties in these emissions are also coupled to interactions with anthropogenic sources that affect the oxidation capacity of the atmosphere, as shown by comparing the simulations with and without anthropogenic emissions. Isoprene mixing ratios were usually too low in the simulations that employed anthropogenic emissions, except at the Bakersfield site and along the WP-3D flights north of 35° N where the simulated values were similar to observations.
- Simulated spatial and temporal variability in BC was qualitatively similar to surface and aircraft measurements when emissions of BC are reduced by 50 %.
- While the spatial and temporal variability of OA is simulated reasonably well, the magnitude is generally too low, particularly at the Pasadena site. In contrast with other adjustments to the emissions, comparisons with PMF results suggest that the original POA emission estimates may be reasonable.
- Simulated SO₄ was too low in southern California, but the magnitude as well as the diurnal and multi-day variability was better represented over northern California.
- Simulated NO₃ was too low everywhere, but the magnitude as well as the diurnal and multi-day variability was better represented over southern California.

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– Long-range transport of aerosols simulated by the global model was likely too high in the free troposphere even though their concentrations were relatively low. In addition, the sensitivity simulation that removed anthropogenic emissions suggest that CO from long-range transport might be up to 20 ppb too high.

– The bias in aerosols in the free troposphere leads to over-predictions in AOD by about a factor of two, and offsets the effect of the under-predictions of boundary-layer aerosols resulting primarily from local emissions. Reducing aerosol concentrations by half from long-range transport greatly improves the simulated AOD in all regions of California.

Our long-term objectives are to use WRF-Chem to quantify regional-scale variations in aerosol radiative forcing over California and determine the relative role of emissions from local and distant sources. This study was a necessary first step that rigorously evaluates simulated aerosol mass, composition, and size distribution. These properties influence the model's treatment of optical properties and consequently aerosol radiative forcing. While this study does not extensively examine all simulated aerosol optical properties, we evaluated simulated AOD and extinction profiles to check for consistency with simulated aerosol concentrations. Our evaluation using measurements from in-situ and remote instrumentation deployed on the surface, aircraft, and ship platforms shows that simulated mass and composition both at the surface and aloft needs improvement to better represent AOD and extinction profiles and to have confidence in calculations of aerosol radiative forcing during the CalNex and CARES periods as well as other time periods. In addition, an evaluation of the simulated single scattering albedo and other optical properties is needed.

The extensive data collected during CalNEX and CARES provide a valuable opportunity to make sure that aerosol optical properties are simulated adequately for the correct reasons. The combined field campaign and operational data provide an ideal testbed to evaluate aerosol models in more detail and develop improved treatments for aerosol processes. Simulating SOA is particularly important since it is often the largest

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fraction of observed fine mode aerosol mass. New particle formation events were observed during CARES (Zaveri et al., 2012; Setyan et al., 2014) and CalNex (Alm et al., 2012; Pennington et al., 2012) and better representing the growth of aerosols could affect the overall mass and number in the region. Some studies are beginning to explore the role of mixing state on aerosol optical properties and cloud condensation nuclei (e.g. Zhang et al., 2013; Matsui et al., 2013), which could be important at regional spatial scales. These challenging issues will be explored in forthcoming studies using the CalNex and CARES testbed.

Supplementary material related to this article is available online at
[http://www.atmos-chem-phys-discuss.net/14/7187/2014/
acpd-14-7187-2014-supplement.pdf](http://www.atmos-chem-phys-discuss.net/14/7187/2014/acpd-14-7187-2014-supplement.pdf).

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Table 1. Selected WRF-Chem configuration options used for this study.

Atmospheric Process	Option
Advection	monotonic
Longwave Radiation	RRTMG
Shortwave Radiation	RRTMG
Surface Layer	Monin-Obukhov (Janic) similarity theory
Land Surface	Noah
Boundary Layer	Mellor-Yamada-Janic
Cumulus Convection	Kain-Fritsch
Cloud Microphysics	Morrison
Gas-Phase Chemistry	SAPRC-99
Photolysis	FTUV
Aerosol Chemistry	MOSAIC with volatility basis set (VBS)
Direct Effect	on
Indirect Effect	off

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Table 2. Total daily emissions (metric tons) of trace gases and fine particulates ($PM_{2.5}$) over the modeling domain for weekday and weekend periods derived from the 2008 CARB emission inventory (over California) and the 2005 National Emissions Inventory (elsewhere) as described in the text. VOC are the sum of all non-methane volatile organic compounds and OIN are other inorganic aerosol of unspecified composition.

	CO	NO _x	SO ₂	NH ₃	VOC	BC	OA	SO ₄	NO ₃	OIN
weekday	13 669.0	3409.3	509.9	803.6	3302.2	56.9	156.1	43.1	1.4	242.4
weekend	14 430.9	2031.0	499.7	803.3	3238.5	54.8	123.6	47.2	1.4	237.3

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Table 3. Description of simulations performed for this study.

Simulation Name	Description
DEF_ANT	Default configuration that employs the merged CARB 2008 emissions inventory over California and NEI 2005 emissions inventory elsewhere. Biogenic and sea-salt emissions are computed on-line.
50%_ANT	50 % reduction of anthropogenic emissions, with the exception of SO ₂ and NH ₃ that are left unchanged; otherwise identical to DEF_ANT
0%_ANT	no anthropogenic emissions, otherwise identical to DEF_ANT
50%_LBC	50 % reduction of aerosols for the initial and boundary conditions, otherwise identical to 50 %_ANT

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Table 4. Performance of simulated temperature (T), relative humidity (RH), wind speed (WS), and wind direction (WD) in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (R), and index of agreement (IA) for the surface stations depicted in Fig. 1c. Statistics given for all of California (CA) and by region (Fig. 1c).

Variable	Region	Observed Mean	Bias	RMSE	R	IA
T (K)	CA	289.9	-0.5	3.4	0.90	0.94
	Southern CA	292.0	-0.3	3.5	0.87	0.93
	San Joaquin valley	293.1	-0.2	3.1	0.90	0.95
	Sacramento Valley	292.3	-0.7	3.2	0.89	0.94
	Coastal	287.4	-0.2	3.2	0.86	0.92
	Interior Mountains	288.9	-0.9	3.6	0.92	0.95
RH (%)	CA	55.6	-2.7	17.5	0.76	0.87
	Southern CA	57.7	-7.0	19.2	0.76	0.86
	San Joaquin Valley	49.2	-5.5	14.6	0.79	0.87
	Sacramento Valley	54.3	-0.7	14.0	0.79	0.89
	Coastal	65.9	0.2	17.1	0.72	0.85
	Interior Mountains	47.3	-0.5	17.5	0.74	0.85
WS (ms^{-1})	CA	3.0	1.3	2.7	0.57	0.70
	Southern CA	2.6	1.2	2.6	0.58	0.68
	San Joaquin Valley	2.9	1.3	2.5	0.52	0.65
	Sacramento Valley	3.2	1.1	2.4	0.53	0.69
	Coastal	3.0	1.7	3.0	0.56	0.66
	Interior Mountains	3.8	0.7	2.7	0.61	0.77
WD ($^{\circ}$)	CA	285.0	-12.7	99.9	0.27	0.77
	Southern CA	15.0	-22.5	121.0	0.23	0.67
	San Joaquin Valley	315.0	-9.7	68.8	0.38	0.81
	Sacramento Valley	255.0	-3.4	90.5	0.34	0.77
	Coastal	285.0	-3.1	75.3	0.27	0.82
	Interior Mountains	15.0	-17.6	114.8	0.20	0.78

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Table 5. Performance of simulated temperature (T), relative humidity (RH), wind speed (WS), and wind direction (WD) in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (R), and index of agreement (IA) for all of the aircraft flight paths and ship track.

	Platform	Number of Data Points	Observed Mean	Bias	RMSE	R	IA
T (K)	G-1	24 213	294.7	-2.3	3.53	0.89	0.90
	WP-3D	442 273	287.4	-2.9	5.11	0.90	0.92
	CIRPAS Twin Otter	3415	289.3	-3.0	4.21	0.86	0.86
	R/V <i>Atlantis</i>	35 489	287.7	1.1	2.68	0.69	0.79
RH (%)	G-1	24 041	39.3	0.1	12.90	0.65	0.80
	WP-3D	442 273	37.5	-4.0	17.55	0.70	0.82
	CIRPAS Twin Otter	3413	49.2	-5.8	19.88	0.60	0.76
	R/V <i>Atlantis</i>	35 489	84.8	-6.6	15.30	0.49	0.66
WS (ms^{-1})	G-1	23 988	5.4	-0.2	3.80	0.45	0.65
	WP-3D	440 073	6.2	-0.1	3.98	0.71	0.83
	R/V <i>Atlantis</i>	35 488	4.9	2.0	4.38	0.33	0.58
WD ($^{\circ}$)	G-1	23 988	195.0	9.6	57.60	0.36	0.84
	WP-3D	440 073	315.0	-3.7	68.24	0.27	0.79
	R/V <i>Atlantis</i>	35 488	255.0	12.4	72.40	0.23	0.60

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Table 6. Performance in simulated wind speed (ms^{-1}) in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (R), and index of agreement (IA) for the radar wind profilers shown in Fig. 1c. Statistics given for range gates close to ~ 250 , ~ 1000 , and ~ 2000 m a.g.l. Statistics at TRK are not given because relatively little data were available May and June of 2010.

Station	Height (m a.g.l.)	Number of Observations	Observed mean	Bias	RMSE	R	IA
BBY	245	1359	9.4	0.5	3.3	0.79	0.88
BKF	239	1265	2.2	2.3	3.6	0.08	0.34
CCL	253	1294	7.1	1.7	3.5	0.69	0.80
CCO	239	1347	7.3	0.3	4.0	0.54	0.74
GMN	253	622	5.5	6.3	6.0	0.34	0.51
IRV	290	1160	1.4	2.2	2.8	0.36	0.44
LHS	239	1206	5.6	0.1	3.0	0.60	0.77
LVR	271	1379	4.4	2.1	3.4	0.56	0.66
ONT	266	395	2.1	2.1	1.7	0.34	0.52
SAC	220	1370	7.0	0.6	3.0	0.64	0.79
USC	271	1193	3.1	1.2	2.5	0.58	0.71
VIS	271	1381	5.8	1.2	3.4	0.73	0.83
WAP	245	1024	2.7	1.6	2.7	0.52	0.64
BBY	994	630	7.0	0.8	2.3	0.67	0.81
BKF	992	1278	5.0	0.3	2.9	0.43	0.67
CCL	1006	1067	6.5	-0.5	2.8	0.56	0.75
CCO	992	753	7.3	-2.4	3.3	0.34	0.57
GMN	1006	660	8.1	-1.1	4.0	0.29	0.57
IRV	977	1074	3.0	1.2	2.8	0.14	0.44
LHS	992	1160	6.7	-0.5	3.1	0.51	0.71
LVR	1021	1237	6.6	0.3	2.8	0.59	0.77
ONT	1010	402	2.8	0.6	1.4	0.16	0.46
SAC	1021	1059	5.7	-0.2	2.4	0.61	0.78
USC	1021	702	3.6	1.6	2.8	0.33	0.51
VIS	1021	1014	4.8	0.4	2.2	0.58	0.76
WAP	989	908	5.4	1.0	2.9	0.59	0.75
BBY	1983	352	7.9	-0.5	1.5	0.78	0.88
BKF	1954	1302	7.4	-1.0	3.2	0.51	0.70
CCL	1969	946	6.3	-1.6	3.1	0.35	0.59
CCO	1954	702	7.9	-2.5	3.5	0.51	0.66
GMN	1969	475	9.1	-2.4	2.8	0.47	0.66
IRV	2014	629	6.9	-1.0	2.2	0.65	0.80
LHS	1954	1130	7.2	-1.2	2.9	0.56	0.73
LVR	1986	841	7.6	-0.4	2.3	0.67	0.81
ONT	2014	370	6.0	-0.8	1.7	0.55	0.74
SAC	1957	957	7.0	-0.8	2.5	0.61	0.77
USC	2014	367	6.5	-0.3	1.6	0.50	0.72
VIS	2003	962	5.2	-1.0	2.3	0.43	0.65
WAP	2027	821	8.2	-1.4	2.8	0.57	0.74

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Table 7. Performance in simulated wind direction (degrees) in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (R), and index of agreement (IA) for the radar wind profilers shown in Fig. 1c. Statistics given for range gates close to ~ 250 , ~ 1000 , and ~ 2000 m.a.g.l. Statistics at TRK are not given because relatively little data were available May and June of 2010.

Station	Height (m.a.g.l.)	Number of Observations	Observed mean	Bias	RMSE	R	IA
BBY	245	1359	315.0	3.7	44.4	0.37	0.84
BKF	239	1265	285.0	16.3	66.0	0.33	0.81
CCL	253	1294	315.0	1.2	39.6	0.43	0.78
CCO	239	1347	135.0	-2.1	67.0	0.52	0.87
GMN	253	622	345.0	-14.6	71.3	0.07	0.93
IRV	290	1160	165.0	-11.5	70.1	0.33	0.73
LHS	239	1206	345.0	2.6	66.3	0.05	0.88
LVR	271	1379	255.0	17.2	55.3	0.32	0.69
ONT	266	395	255.0	-7.9	71.2	0.25	0.61
SAC	220	1370	255.0	14.4	36.5	0.45	0.84
USC	271	1193	255.0	-21.5	67.5	0.43	0.81
VIS	271	1381	345.0	-0.1	53.2	0.29	0.79
WAP	245	1024	165.0	5.5	65.8	0.43	0.82
BBY	994	630	345.0	4.1	40.6	0.32	0.93
BKF	992	1278	345.0	-1.5	58.5	0.26	0.86
CCL	1006	1067	315.0	7.2	50.2	0.41	0.85
CCO	992	753	165.0	1.4	75.6	0.30	0.83
GMN	1006	660	315.0	-0.9	58.8	0.40	0.91
IRV	977	1074	165.0	16.6	89.0	0.31	0.76
LHS	992	1160	345.0	-0.7	45.6	0.20	0.96
LVR	1021	1237	285.0	7.2	43.0	0.32	0.94
ONT	1010	402	225.0	9.5	81.2	0.46	0.81
SAC	1021	1059	345.0	5.6	56.2	0.31	0.89
USC	1021	702	345.0	-6.1	71.8	0.14	0.89
VIS	1021	1014	345.0	-3.2	52.8	0.28	0.86
WAP	989	908	345.0	4.6	60.3	0.38	0.90
BBY	1983	352	15.0	-6.0	34.8	0.48	0.98
BKF	1954	1302	315.0	0.8	44.3	0.49	0.91
CCL	1969	946	165.0	16.1	65.6	0.34	0.82
CCO	1954	702	165.0	2.9	63.3	0.16	0.85
GMN	1969	475	285.0	-2.5	60.9	0.38	0.87
IRV	2014	629	285.0	-8.3	50.3	0.44	0.91
LHS	1954	1130	345.0	3.0	43.9	0.39	0.93
LVR	1986	841	255.0	3.4	40.0	0.56	0.96
ONT	2014	370	285.0	-8.9	52.2	0.44	0.92
SAC	1957	957	195.0	4.6	43.2	0.60	0.95
USC	2014	367	315.0	-0.8	40.7	0.62	0.95
VIS	2003	962	345.0	7.0	47.9	0.30	0.91
WAP	2027	821	315.0	-3.1	43.9	0.50	0.92

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Table 8. Performance of simulated carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxide (NO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), ozone (O₃), isoprene, methyl-vinyl-ketone + methacrolein (MVK+MACR), toluene, terpene, and formaldehyde over all the G-1 flights in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (*R*), and index of agreement (IA).

Trace Gas	Simulation	Number of Data Points	Observed Mean (ppbV)	Bias (ppbv)	RMSE	<i>R</i>	IA
CO	DEF_ANT	22 675	140.2	13.9	34.0	0.60	0.71
	50%_ANT			-5.0	22.7	0.62	0.76
	0%_ANT			-24.5	34.7	0.45	0.49
	50%_LBC			-5.1	22.8	0.62	0.76
NO	DEF_ANT	21 491	0.42	0.32	1.24	0.54	0.61
	50%_ANT			-0.13	0.66	0.56	0.69
	0%_ANT			-0.40	0.86	0.26	0.33
	50%_LBC			-0.13	0.66	0.56	0.69
NO ₂	DEF_ANT	20 361	1.05	0.63	2.11	0.57	0.64
	50%_ANT			-0.30	1.17	0.58	0.72
	0%_ANT			-0.99	1.67	0.28	0.39
	50%_LBC			-0.31	1.16	0.59	0.72
SO ₂	DEF_ANT	15 816	0.59	-0.28	0.77	0.25	0.51
	50%_ANT			-0.28	0.77	0.26	0.51
	0%_ANT			-0.59	0.92	0.12	0.42
	50%_LBC			-0.28	0.77	0.26	0.51
O ₃	DEF_ANT	22 378	48.1	3.4	12.4	0.77	0.85
	50%_ANT			-2.6	9.9	0.77	0.87
	0%_ANT			-18.9	23.4	0.40	0.51
	50%_LBC			-2.7	10.0	0.77	0.87
isoprene	DEF_ANT	21 617	0.53	-0.40	0.94	0.65	0.49
	50%_ANT			-0.36	0.87	0.70	0.61
	0%_ANT			0.10	0.72	0.72	0.84
	50%_LBC			-0.36	0.87	0.70	0.61
MVK+ MACR	DEF_ANT	21 636	0.58	-0.37	0.81	0.65	0.53
	50%_ANT			-0.34	0.78	0.68	0.57
	0%_ANT			-0.16	0.68	0.67	0.68
	50%_LBC			-0.34	0.78	0.67	0.57
toluene	DEF_ANT	20 470	0.09	0.04	0.15	0.40	0.55
	50%_ANT			-0.03	0.09	0.42	0.64
	0%_ANT			-0.08	0.11	0.35	0.42
	50%_LBC			-0.03	0.09	0.42	0.64
terpene	DEF_ANT	21 606	0.07	-0.06	0.09	0.25	0.46
	50%_ANT			-0.05	0.09	0.27	0.48
	0%_ANT			-0.02	0.10	0.32	0.55
	50%_LBC			-0.05	0.09	0.26	0.48

Table 9. Performance of simulated ozone (O₃), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxide (NO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ammonia (NH₃), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), isoprene, methyl-vinyl-ketone + methacrolein (MVK+MACR), toluene, terpene, and formaldehyde over all the WP-3D flights in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (*R*), and index of agreement (IA).

Trace Gas	Simulation	Number of Data Points	Observed Mean (ppbv)	Bias (ppbv)	RMSE	<i>R</i>	IA
CO	DEF_ANT	401 896	155.2	17.0	45.6	0.80	0.86
	50%_ANT			-6.3	34.2	0.80	0.86
	0%_ANT			-29.6	60.7	0.27	0.43
	50%_LBC			-6.5	34.3	0.80	0.86
NO	DEF_ANT	370 374	0.47	0.36	2.22	0.57	0.67
	50%_ANT			-0.14	1.35	0.59	0.69
	0%_ANT			-0.45	1.73	0.07	0.17
	50%_LBC			-0.14	1.35	0.59	0.69
NO ₂	DEF_ANT	356 465	1.53	1.28	4.34	0.65	0.72
	50%_ANT			-0.25	2.48	0.65	0.78
	0%_ANT			-1.48	3.52	0.06	0.30
	50%_LBC			-0.25	2.47	0.66	0.78
NH ₃	DEF_ANT	301 891	5.80	-3.68	15.23	0.47	0.28
	50%_ANT			-3.45	15.10	0.46	0.29
	0%_ANT			-5.82	16.82	0.04	0.21
	50%_LBC			-3.38	15.09	0.46	0.29
SO ₂	DEF_ANT	385 293	0.46	-0.14	0.91	0.30	0.51
	50%_ANT			-0.28	0.77	0.26	0.51
	0%_ANT			-0.45	0.91	0.06	0.34
	50%_LBC			-0.15	0.89	0.32	0.52
O ₃	DEF_ANT	387 766	59.0	-5.6	13.2	0.64	0.77
	50%_ANT			-8.8	14.0	0.67	0.73
	0%_ANT			-19.6	24.4	0.40	0.51
	50%_LBC			-8.9	14.0	0.67	0.73
isoprene	DEF_ANT	20 380	0.05	-0.01	0.09	0.62	0.78
	50%_ANT			-0.01	0.09	0.57	0.74
	0%_ANT			0.12	0.27	0.43	0.43
	50%_LBC			-0.01	0.09	0.57	0.74
MVK+ MACR	DEF_ANT	1227	0.11	0.05	0.14	0.23	0.44
	50%_ANT			0.04	0.13	0.24	0.44
	0%_ANT			0.05	0.14	0.26	0.49
	50%_LBC			0.04	0.13	0.24	0.45
toluene	DEF_ANT	22 350	0.07	0.10	0.25	0.76	0.66
	50%_ANT			0.01	0.10	0.76	0.86
	0%_ANT			-0.06	0.14	0.04	0.34
	50%_LBC			0.01	0.10	0.76	0.86
terpene	DEF_ANT	21 654	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.41	0.47
	50%_ANT			-0.01	0.02	0.26	0.39
	0%_ANT			0.00	0.02	0.28	0.51
	50%_LBC			-0.01	0.02	0.26	0.39
formaldehyde	DEF_ANT	22 833	1.92	-0.69	1.04	0.77	0.76
	50%_ANT			-0.88	1.19	0.77	0.69
	0%_ANT			-1.36	1.71	0.62	0.50
	50%_LBC			-0.88	1.19	0.77	0.69

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Table 10. Performance of simulated PM_{2.5} at the IMPROVE monitoring sites in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (*R*), and index of agreement (IA).

Aerosol Composition	Simulation	Observed Mean ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Bias ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	RMSE	<i>R</i>	IA
SO ₄	DEF_ANT	0.70	-0.27	0.43	0.63	0.66
	50%_ANT		-0.31	0.47	0.59	0.62
	0%_ANT		-0.42	0.58	0.35	0.50
	50%_LBC		-0.44	0.55	0.65	0.55
NO ₃	DEF_ANT	0.48	-0.14	0.56	0.58	0.75
	50%_ANT		-0.33	0.58	0.57	0.65
	0%_ANT		-0.48	0.75	0.04	0.41
	50%_LBC		-0.32	0.57	0.57	0.66
BC	DEF_ANT	0.10	0.02	0.07	0.69	0.81
	50%_ANT		-0.02	0.07	0.64	0.70
	0%_ANT		-0.07	0.11	0.24	0.47
	50%_LBC		-0.04	0.08	0.69	0.66
OC	DEF_ANT	0.68	0.41	0.73	0.74	0.74
	50%_ANT		-0.05	0.38	0.74	0.85
	0%_ANT		-0.51	0.71	0.52	0.48
	50%_LBC		-0.09	0.38	0.74	0.85
seasalt	DEF_ANT	0.34	-0.29	0.99	0.81	0.26
	50%_ANT		-0.29	0.99	0.84	0.27
	0%_ANT		-0.30	0.99	0.88	0.27
	50%_LBC		-0.30	0.98	0.86	0.29
Cl	DEF_ANT	0.19	-0.18	0.58	0.47	0.24
	50%_ANT		-0.18	0.57	0.60	0.24
	0%_ANT		-0.18	0.57	0.79	0.25
	50%_LBC		-0.18	0.56	0.79	0.27
PM _{2.5}	DEF_ANT	3.90	0.27	2.23	0.50	0.71
	50%_ANT		-0.83	2.20	0.46	0.62
	0%_ANT		-2.00	3.03	0.08	0.45
	50%_LBC		-1.68	2.58	0.51	0.59
PM ₁₀	DEF_ANT	10.19	1.26	7.18	0.37	0.58
	50%_ANT		0.05	7.40	0.31	0.54
	0%_ANT		-1.37	8.02	0.22	0.50
	50%_LBC		-3.26	7.87	0.35	0.59

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Table 11. Performance of simulated aerosol composition over all the G-1 flights in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (R), and index of agreement (IA).

Aerosol composition	Simulation	Observed mean ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Bias ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	RMSE	R	IA
SO ₄	DEF_ANT	0.53	-0.03	0.32	0.45	0.65
	50 %_ANT		-0.09	0.34	0.41	0.62
	0 %_ANT		-0.28	0.44	0.06	0.44
	50 %_LBC		-0.21	0.38	0.43	0.59
NO ₃	DEF_ANT	0.31	-0.14	0.35	0.30	0.41
	50 %_ANT		-0.17	0.37	0.16	0.39
	0 %_ANT		-0.29	0.45	-0.14	0.37
	50 %_LBC		-0.21	0.39	0.18	0.40
NH ₄	DEF_ANT	0.16	-0.11	0.23	0.15	0.40
	50 %_ANT		-0.14	0.19	0.06	0.42
	0 %_ANT		-0.16	0.19	-0.09	0.42
	50 %_LBC		-0.14	0.19	0.06	0.42
BC	DEF_ANT	0.07	0.09	0.11	0.54	0.53
	50 %_ANT		0.03	0.06	0.55	0.67
	0 %_ANT		-0.03	0.07	0.18	0.38
	50 %_LBC		0.01	0.05	0.54	0.69
OA	DEF_ANT	4.16	-1.70	3.32	0.76	0.70
	50 %_ANT		-2.73	4.23	0.78	0.54
	0 %_ANT		-3.75	5.34	0.78	0.44
	50 %_LBC		-2.77	4.25	0.78	0.54
Cl	DEF_ANT	0.01	-0.01	0.04	0.07	0.15
	50 %_ANT		-0.01	0.04	0.02	0.14
	0 %_ANT		-0.01	0.04	0.07	0.18
	50 %_LBC		-0.01	0.04	0.03	0.14

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Table 12. Performance of simulated aerosol composition over all the WP-3D flights in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (R), and index of agreement (IA).

Aerosol Composition	Simulation	Observed Mean ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Bias ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	RMSE	R	IA
SO ₄	DEF_ANT	0.75	-0.20	0.47	0.66	0.74
	50%_ANT		-0.24	0.50	0.64	0.71
	0%_ANT		-0.42	0.68	0.39	0.50
	50%_LBC		-0.37	0.57	0.64	0.66
NO ₃	DEF_ANT	0.71	0.03	1.64	0.57	0.74
	50%_ANT		-0.41	1.53	0.56	0.64
	0%_ANT		-0.69	1.92	0.07	0.28
	50%_LBC		-0.40	1.52	0.57	0.66
NH ₄	DEF_ANT	0.48	-0.10	0.56	0.66	0.79
	50%_ANT		-0.24	0.59	0.64	0.68
	0%_ANT		-0.44	0.82	0.08	0.38
	50%_LBC		-0.27	0.60	0.65	0.68
BC	DEF_ANT	0.08	0.08	0.15	0.64	0.70
	50%_ANT		0.02	0.09	0.64	0.75
	0%_ANT		-0.03	0.12	0.19	0.37
	50%_LBC		0.00	0.09	0.64	0.76
OA	DEF_ANT	1.74	0.23	1.35	0.71	0.83
	50%_ANT		-0.58	1.47	0.71	0.72
	0%_ANT		-1.31	2.19	0.33	0.48
	50%_LBC		-0.64	1.49	0.72	0.72
CI	DEF_ANT	0.02	-0.02	0.11	0.17	0.30
	50%_ANT		-0.02	0.11	0.12	0.23
	0%_ANT		-0.02	0.11	0.04	0.16
	50%_LBC		-0.01	0.12	0.08	0.22

Table 13. Performance of simulated aerosol composition over all the CIRPAS Twin Otter flights in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (R), and index of agreement (IA).

Composition	Simulation	Observed Mean ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Bias ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	RMSE	R	IA
SO ₄	DEF_ANT	0.60	-0.05	0.54	0.16	0.43
	50%_ANT		-0.31	0.57	0.27	0.42
	0%_ANT		-0.10	0.54	0.16	0.43
	50%_LBC		-0.22	0.58	0.11	0.44
NO ₃	DEF_ANT	1.77	-0.57	2.02	0.49	0.68
	50%_ANT		-1.76	2.76	-0.16	0.41
	0%_ANT		-1.14	2.24	0.43	0.56
	50%_LBC		-1.10	2.20	0.44	0.58
NH ₄	DEF_ANT	0.96	-0.45	0.85	0.51	0.64
	50%_ANT		-0.96	1.27	0.15	0.43
	0%_ANT		-0.64	0.97	0.47	0.54
	50%_LBC		-0.66	0.98	0.47	0.54
BC	DEF_ANT	0.05	0.19	0.26	0.41	0.36
	50%_ANT		-0.02	0.09	-0.15	0.24
	0%_ANT		0.08	0.13	0.39	0.51
	50%_LBC		0.07	0.12	0.41	0.54
OA	DEF_ANT	1.81	0.21	0.99	0.70	0.83
	50%_ANT		-1.65	2.02	0.53	0.45
	0%_ANT		-0.52	1.00	0.70	0.78
	50%_LBC		-0.54	1.02	0.70	0.78
Cl	DEF_ANT	0.12	-0.10	0.16	0.02	0.38
	50%_ANT		-0.09	0.15	0.12	0.41
	0%_ANT		-0.11	0.16	-0.01	0.38
	50%_LBC		-0.11	0.16	0.01	0.39

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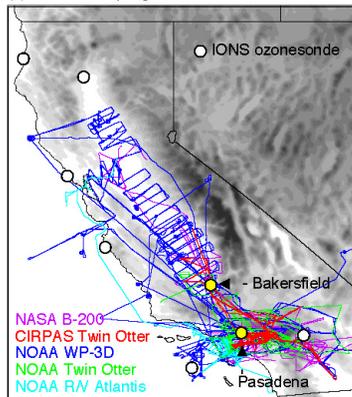
Table 14. Performance of simulated $PM_{2.5}$ for all the surface operational monitoring sites in terms of bias, root-mean-square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (R), and index of agreement (IA).

Region	Simulation	Observed Mean ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Bias ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	RMSE	R	IA
CA	DEF_ANT	8.4	-2.8	7.0	0.45	0.58
	50%_ANT		-4.4	7.9	0.44	0.48
	0%_ANT		-6.3	9.5	0.13	0.42
Southern CA	DEF_ANT	11.8	-4.5	8.1	0.48	0.60
	50%_ANT		-6.8	9.7	0.44	0.50
	0%_ANT		-9.51	12.2	-0.04	0.43
San Joaquin	DEF_ANT	7.7	-1.5	5.1	0.46	0.63
	50%_ANT		-3.6	6.0	0.43	0.51
	0%_ANT		-5.6	7.7	0.08	0.44
Sacramento Valley	DEF_ANT	4.8	0.1	3.7	0.32	0.52
	50%_ANT		-1.3	3.8	0.30	0.43
	0%_ANT		-2.7	4.7	0.08	0.42
Coastal	DEF_ANT	6.5	-3.0	7.2	0.09	0.34
	50%_ANT		-3.7	7.5	0.11	0.36
	0%_ANT		-4.6	8.0	0.23	0.37
Interior Mountains	DEF_ANT	6.3	-2.2	8.2	0.16	0.31
	50%_ANT		-3.2	8.5	0.15	0.30
	0%_ANT		-4.1	8.9	0.07	0.31

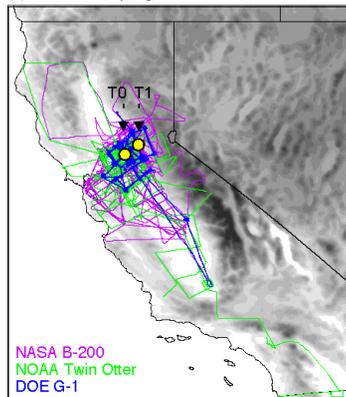
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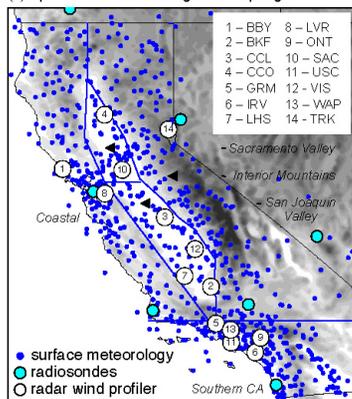
(a) CalNex sampling locations



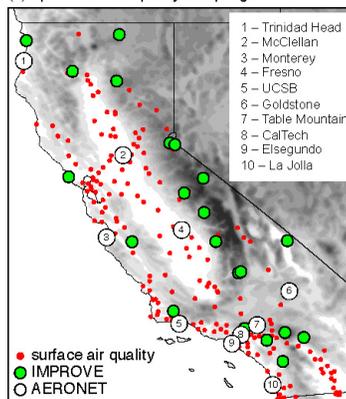
(b) CARES sampling locations



(c) operational meteorological sampling



(d) operational air quality sampling



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Fig. 1. Geographic distributions of fixed and mobile sampling during the **(a)** CalNex and **(b)** CARES campaigns along with operational **(c)** meteorological and **(d)** air quality sampling sites. Yellow circle in **(a)** and **(b)** denote measurement supersites while blue lines in **(c)** denote geographic regions to compute statistics. Gray shading denotes model topography using $\Delta x = 4$ km. The modeling domain extends ~ 150 km west of the western boundary shown above.

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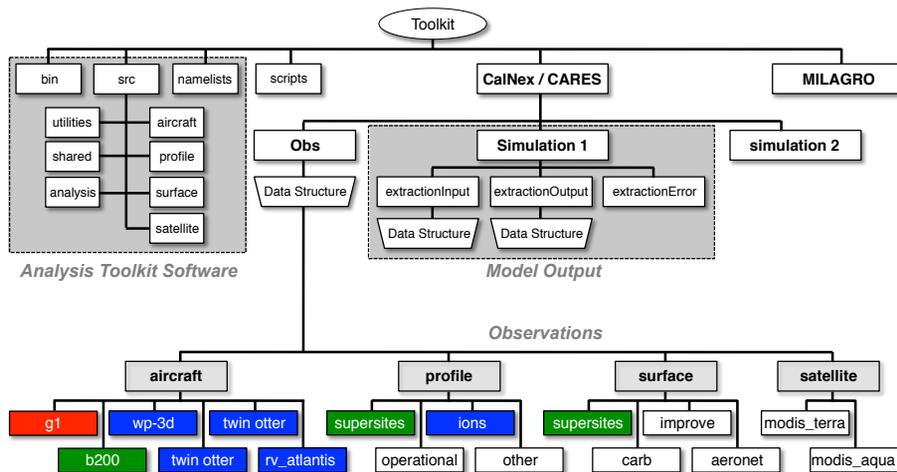


Fig. 2. Directory structure of the Aerosol Modeling Testbed for the CalNex/CARES testbed case. Blue, red, and green denote data from CalNex, CARES, and both campaigns, respectively.

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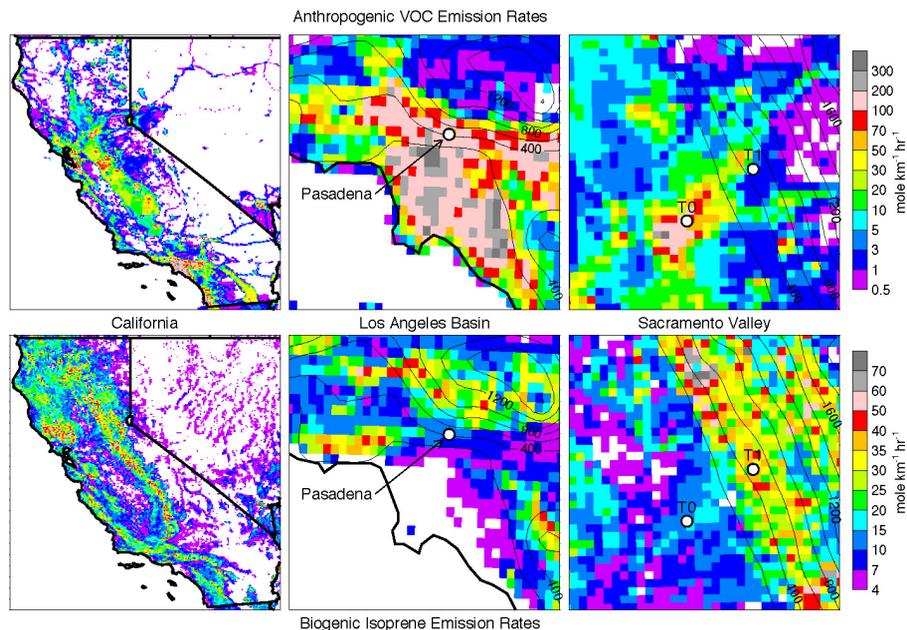


Fig. 3. Spatial distribution of anthropogenic VOC (top) and biogenic isoprene (bottom) emission rates for a representative day at 10:00 LST over California and in the vicinity of the Pasadena, T0, and T1 supersites (white dots). Contours denote model topography (m) and regions that are not shaded denote low emission rates.

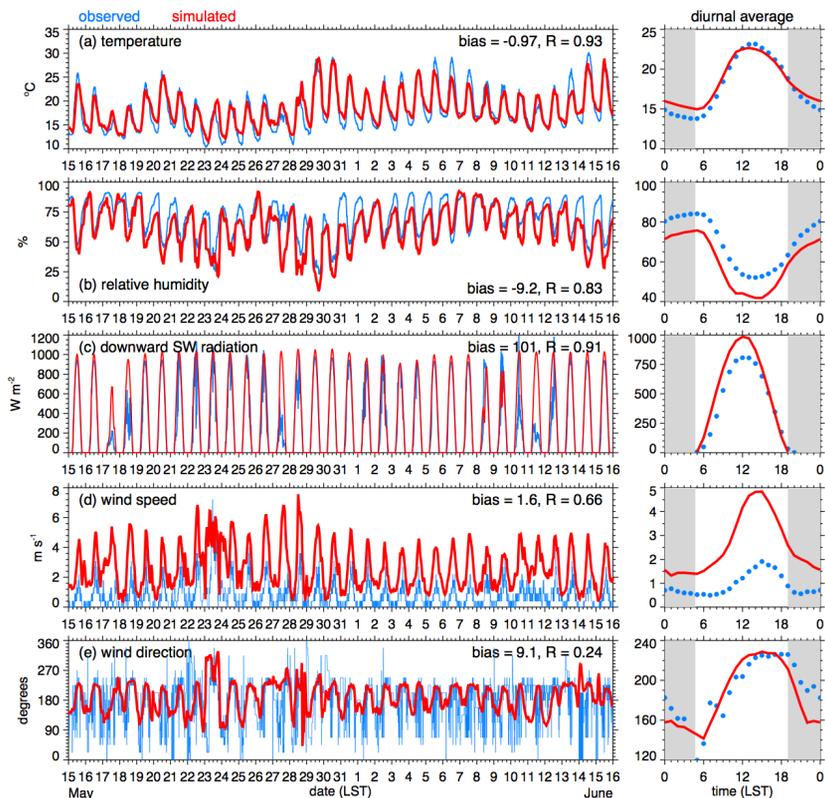


Fig. 4. Time series (left panels) and diurnal average (right panels) of **(a)** temperature, **(b)** relative humidity, **(c)** downward shortwave radiation, **(d)** wind speed, and **(e)** wind direction at the Pasadena supersite. Observed values are hourly averages, while simulated values are instantaneous values at hourly intervals. Gray shading denotes night and R is the correlation coefficient.

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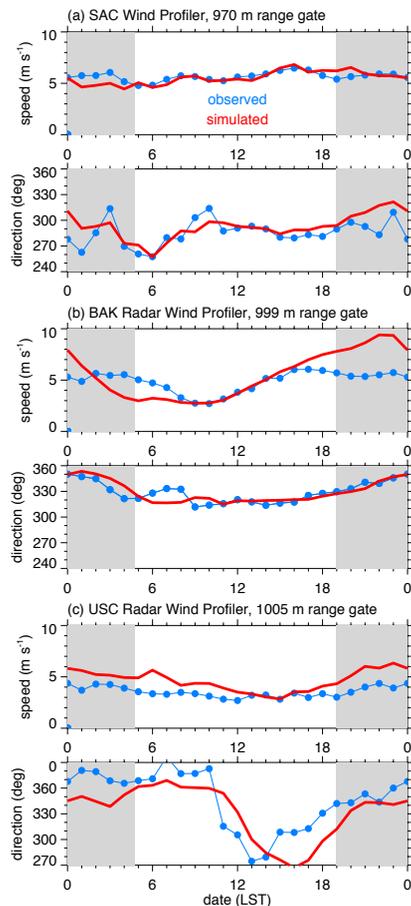


Fig. 5. Observed and simulated diurnally-averaged wind speed and direction over the 2 month period approximately 1 kma.g.l. at the **(a)** SAC, **(b)** BAK, and **(c)** USC radar wind profiler sites. Gray shading denotes night.

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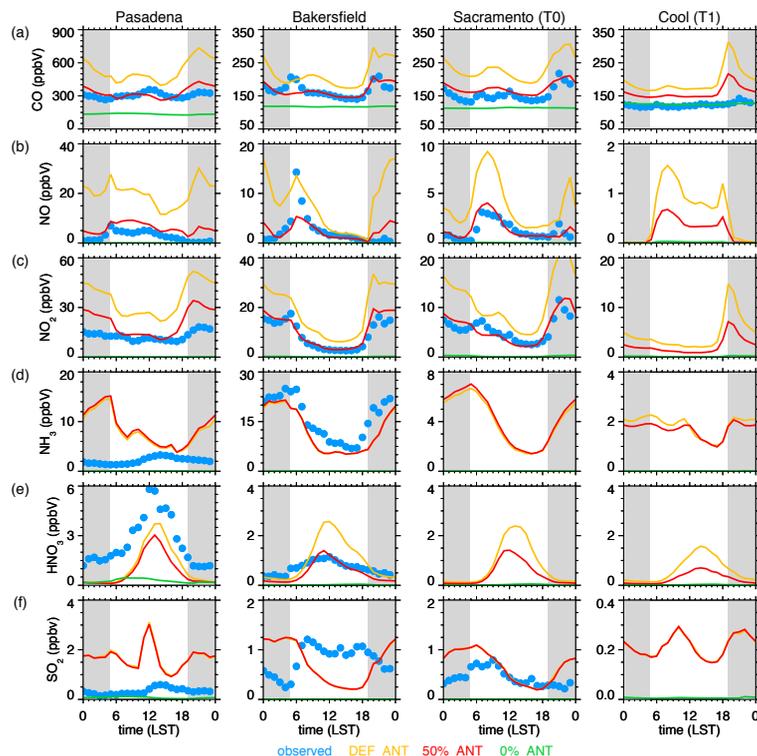


Fig. 6. Observed and simulated diurnally-averaged **(a)** carbon monoxide (CO), **(b)** nitrogen oxide (NO), **(c)** nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), **(d)** ammonia (NH₃), **(e)** nitric acid (HNO₃), and **(f)** sulfur dioxide (SO₂) over the 2 month period at the Pasadena, Bakersfield, T0, and T1 supersites. Gray shading denotes night. Missing observations indicate measurements were not collected at a particular site. 50 %_LBC simulation results not shown since they are nearly identical to those from the 50 %_ANT simulation.

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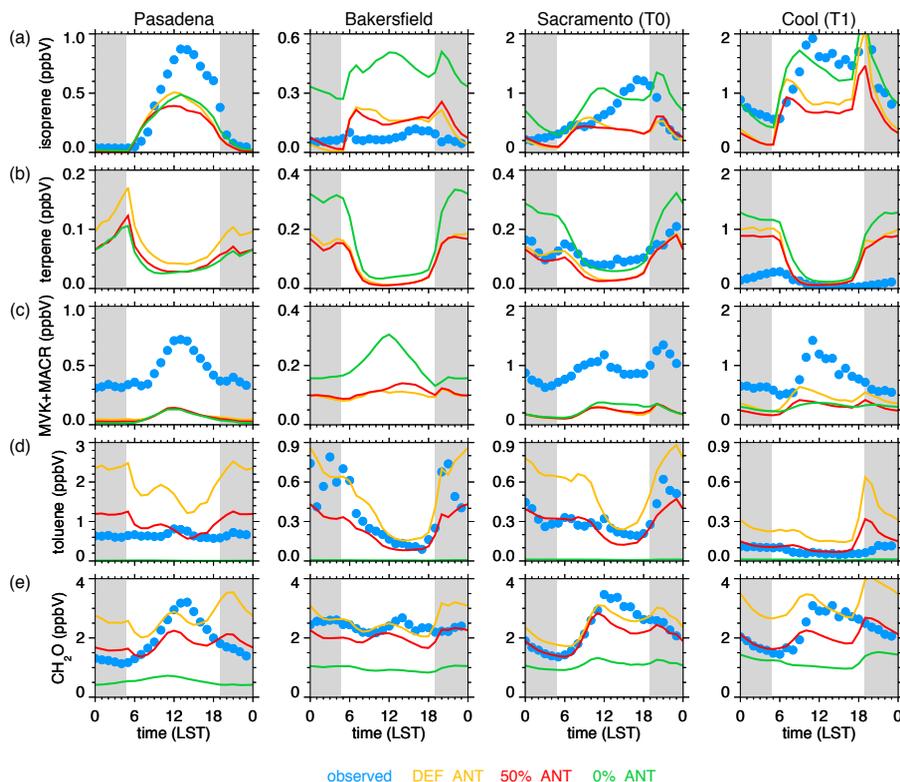


Fig. 7. Observed and simulated diurnally-averaged **(a)** isoprene, **(b)** terpene, **(c)** methyl-vinylketone + methacrolein (MVK+MACR), **(d)** toluene, and **(e)** formaldehyde (CH_2O) over the 2 month period at the Pasadena, Bakersfield, T0, and T1 supersites. Gray shading denotes night. Missing observations indicate measurements were not collected at a particular site. 50%_LBC simulation results not shown since they are nearly identical to those from the 50%_ANT simulation.

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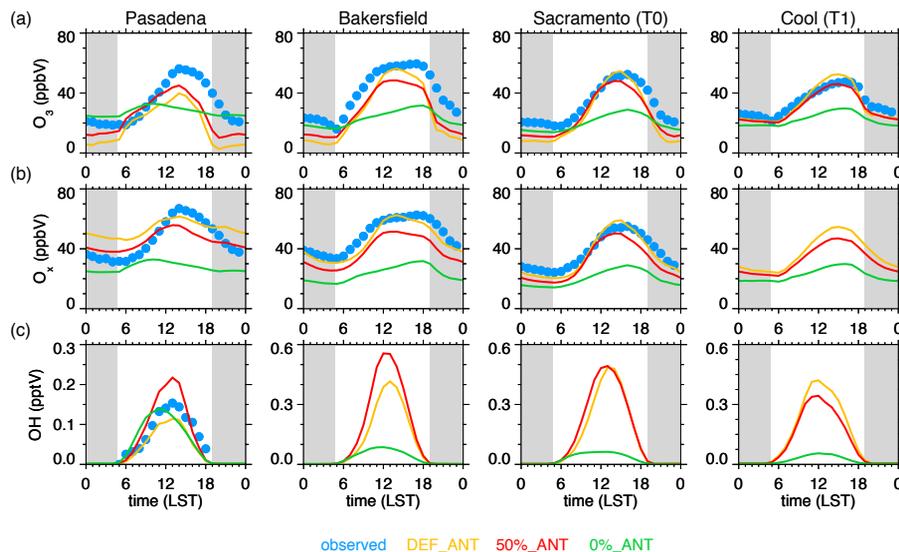


Fig. 8. Observed and simulated diurnally-averaged **(a)** ozone (O_3), **(b)** O_x ($O_3 + NO_2$) and **(c)** OH over the 2 month period at the **(a)** Pasadena, Bakersfield, T0, and T1 supersites. Gray shading denotes night. 50%_LBC simulation results not shown since they are nearly identical to those from the 50%_ANT simulation. NO_2 not measured at T1, OH not yet available at Bakersfield, and OH not measured at T0 and T1.

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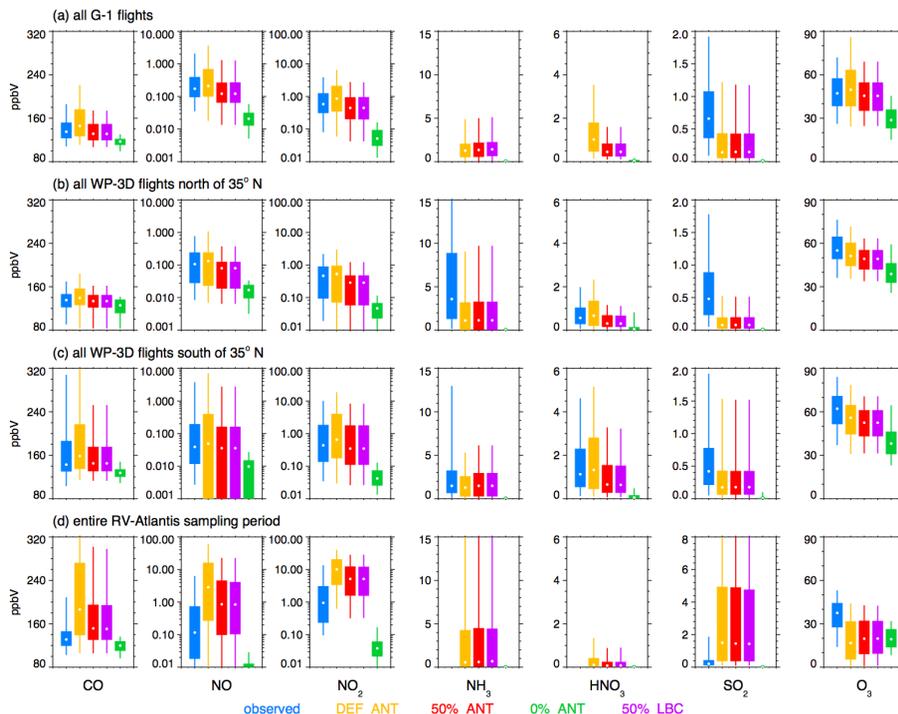


Fig. 9. Percentiles for carbon dioxide (CO), nitrogen oxide (NO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ammonia (NH₃), nitric acid (HNO₃), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and ozone (O₃) for all **(a)** G-1 flights, **(b)** WP-3D flights north of 35° N, **(c)** WP-3D flight flights south of 35° N, and **(d)** the entire RV-Atlantis sampling period. Vertical lines denote 5th and 95th percentiles, boxes denote 25th and 75th percentiles, and the white dots denote the 50th percentiles. Note that NH₃ was not measured on the G-1 or the R/V *Atlantis*, but the model results are included for completeness.

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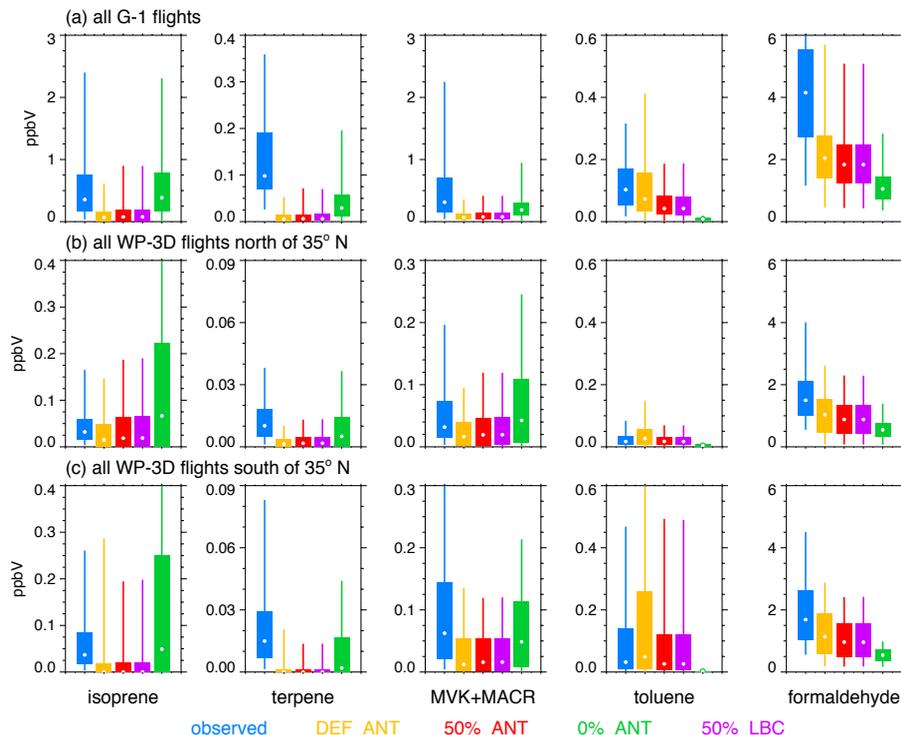


Fig. 10. Percentiles as a function of height for isoprene, monoterpenes, methyl-vinyl-ketone + methacrolein (MVK+MACR), toluene, and formaldehyde for all **(a)** G-1 flights **(b)** WP-3D flights north of 35° N, and **(c)** WP-3D flight flights south of 35° N. Vertical lines denote 5th and 95th percentiles, boxes denote 25th and 75th percentiles, and the white dots denote the 50th percentiles. Note that formaldehyde was not measured on the G-1, but the model results are included for completeness.

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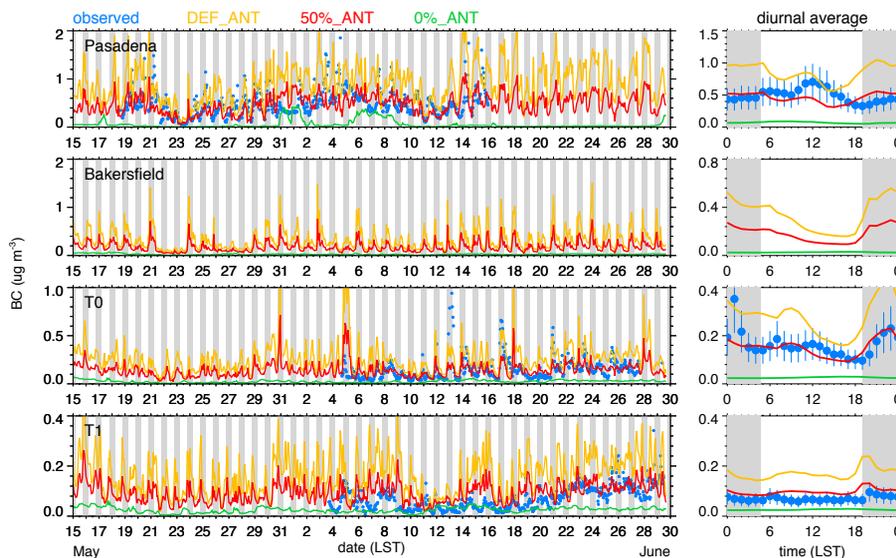


Fig. 11. Observed and simulated time series (left panels) and average diurnal variation (right panels) of BC at the four supersites. Simulated BC is the total of the first four model size bins (i.e., aerosol diameters up to $0.625 \mu\text{m}$). Gray shading denotes night and vertical lines in right panels denote measurement uncertainty range. Results from 50%_LBC simulation not shown since it is nearly the same as the 50%_ANT simulation. Bakersfield results shown for completeness even though no BC measurements were made at that site.

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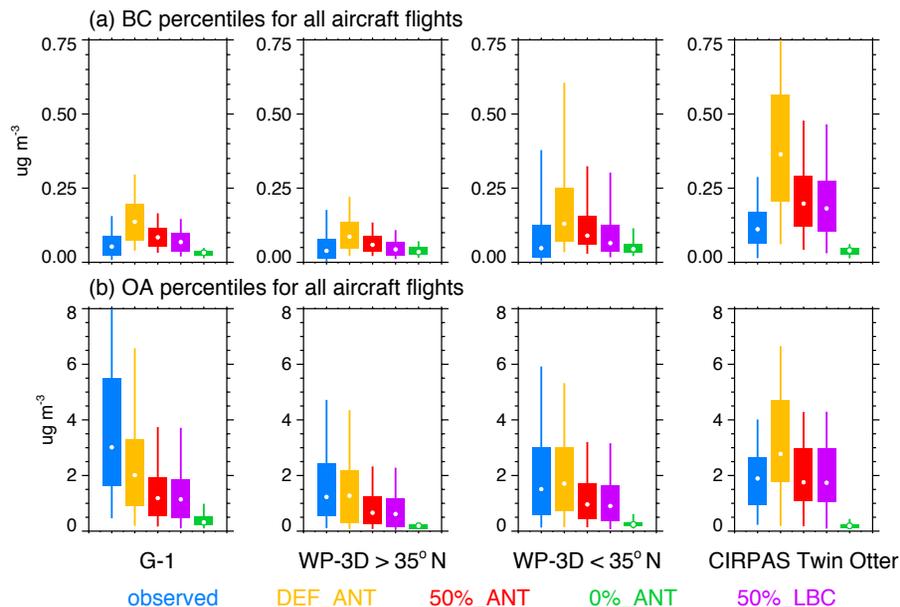


Fig. 12. Percentiles for (a) black carbon (BC) and (b) organic matter (OA) for all G-1, WP-3D, and CIRPAS Twin Otter flights. Vertical lines denote 5th and 95th percentiles, boxes denote 25th and 75th percentiles, and the white dots denote the 50th percentiles.

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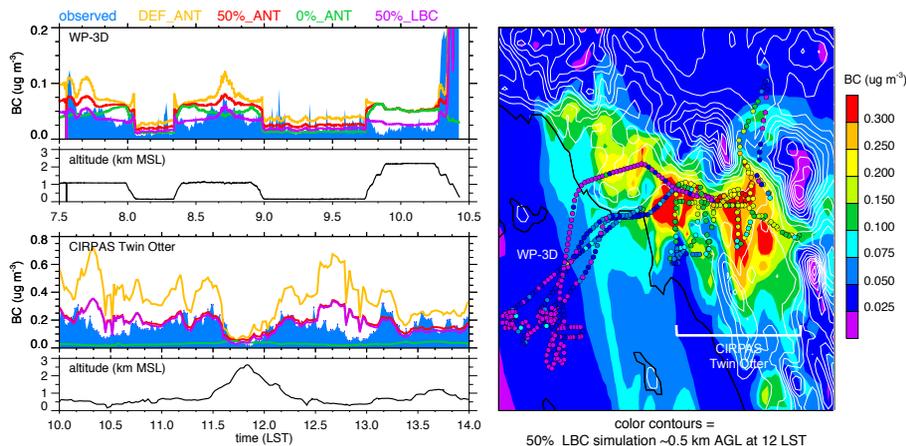


Fig. 13. Observed and simulated BC on 21 May 2010 along the WP-3D and CIRPAS Twin Otter flight paths (left panels) and spatial variations in observed BC (right panel). Gray contour lines in right panel denote model topography.

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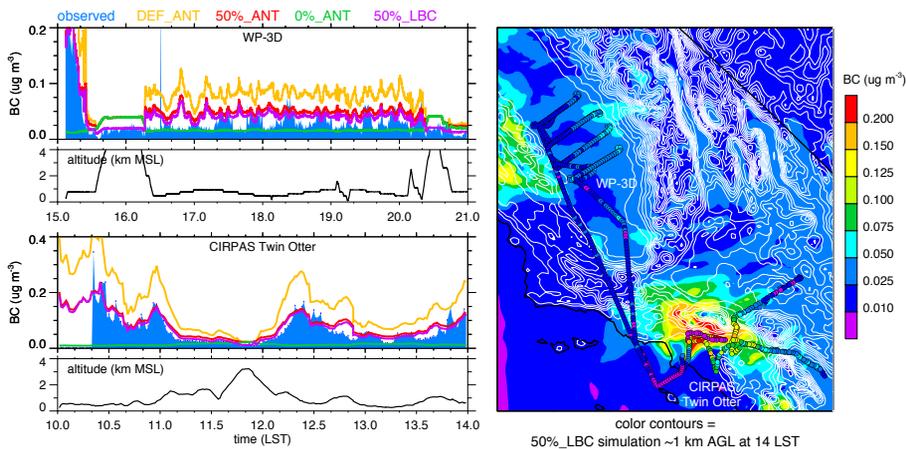


Fig. 14. Same as Fig. 13, except for 24 May 2010.

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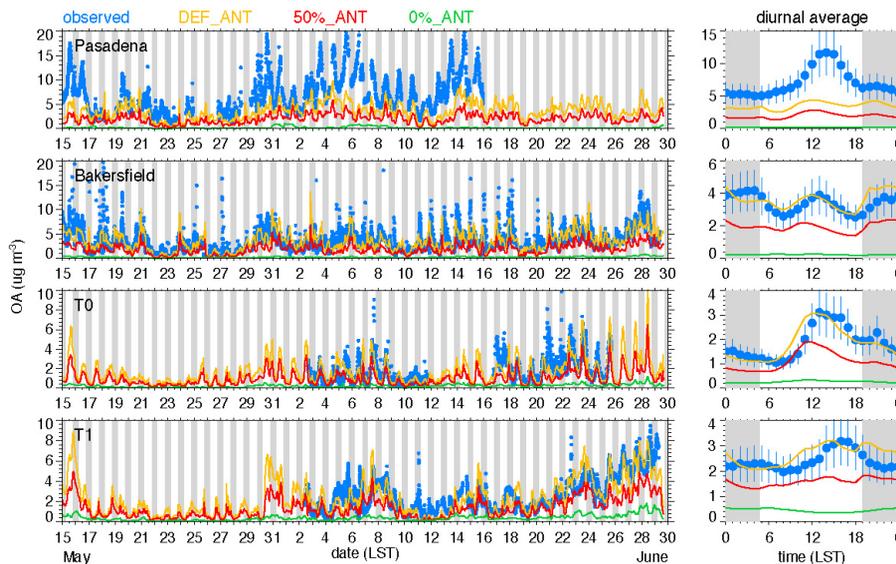


Fig. 15. Observed (AMS instrument) and simulated time series (left panels) and average diurnal variation (right panels) of OA at the four supersites. Simulated OA is the total of the first four model size bins up to $0.625\ \mu\text{m}$ diameter. Gray shading denotes night and vertical lines in right panels denote measurement uncertainty range. 50%_LBC simulation results not shown since they are nearly identical to those from the 50%_ANT simulation.

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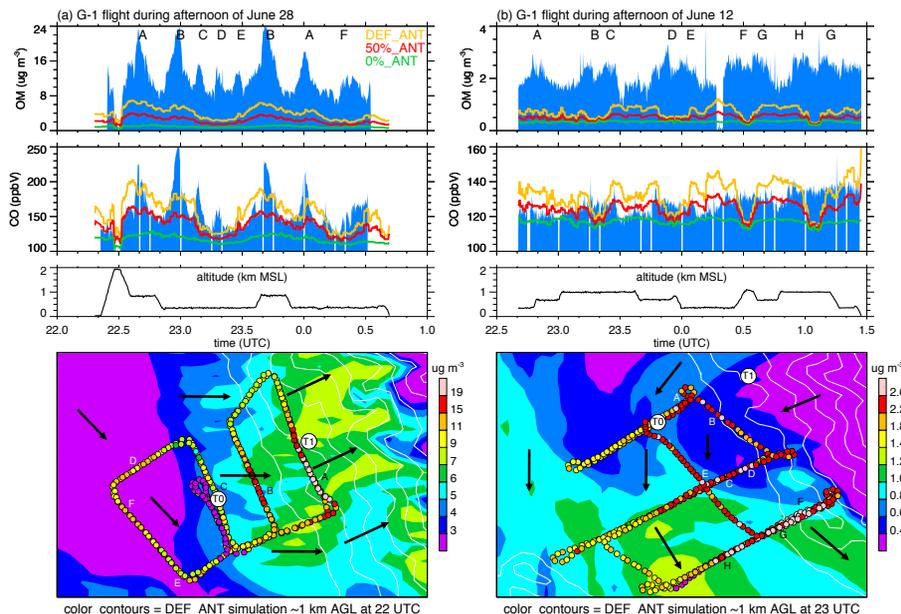


Fig. 17. Observed and simulated OA during CARES in the vicinity of Sacramento for the afternoon of (a) 28 June and (b) 12 June. (a) and (b) represent days with high and low observed OA, respectively. Simulated OA is the total of the first four model size bins up to $0.625 \mu\text{m}$ diameter.

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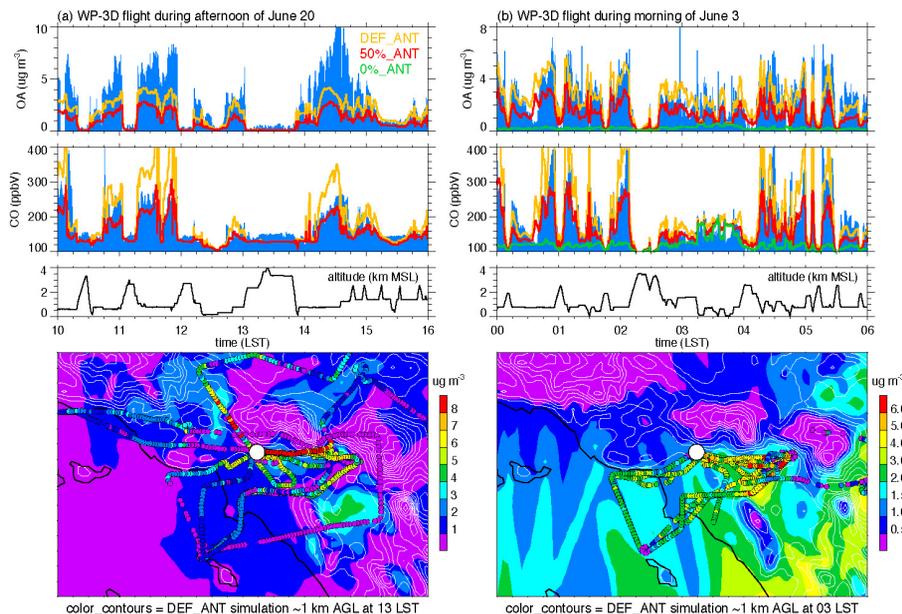


Fig. 18. Observed and simulated OA during CalNex in the vicinity of Los Angeles during **(a)** the afternoon of 20 June and **(b)** the morning of 3 June. **(a)** and **(b)** represent days with high and low observed OA, respectively. The white dot denotes the location of the Pasadena supersite. Simulated OA is the total of the first four model size bins up to 0.625 μm diameter.

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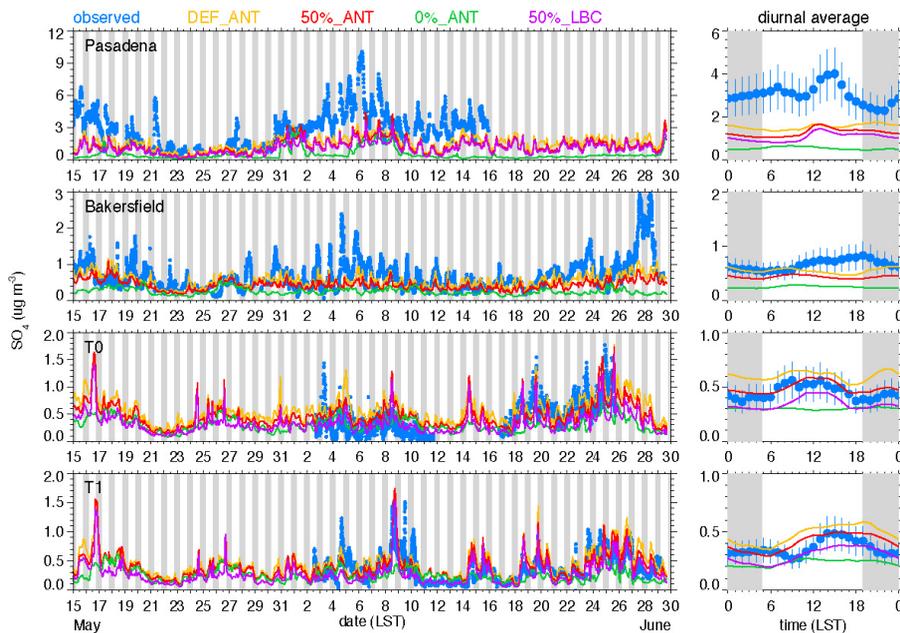


Fig. 19. Observed and simulated time series (left panels) and average diurnal variation (right panels) of SO_4 at the four supersites. Simulated SO_4 is the total of the first four model size bins up to $0.625 \mu\text{m}$ diameter. Gray shading denotes night and vertical lines in right panels denote measurement uncertainty range.

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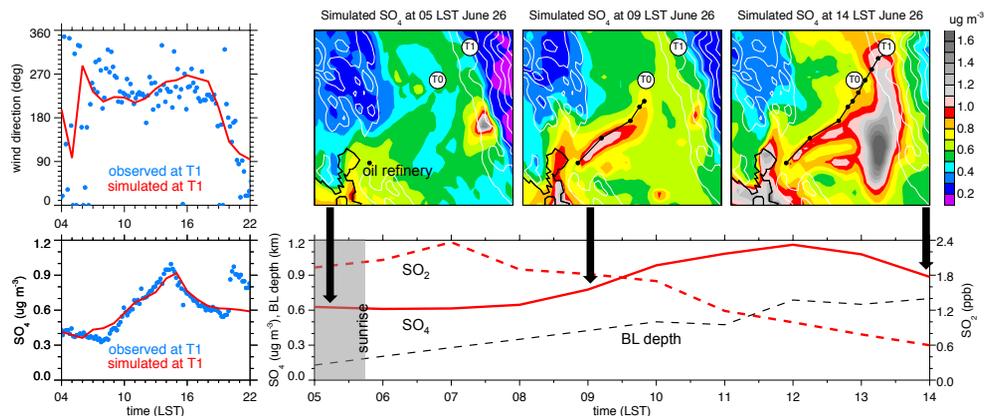


Fig. 20. Observed and simulated time series of wind direction and SO₄ (left panels), near-surface SO₄ distributions between the San Francisco Bay area and the T1 site at 05:00, 09:00, and 14:00 LST and one air mass trajectory that arrives at the T1 site at 14:00 LST during the peak afternoon SO₄ concentration (upper right panels), and evolution of SO₄, SO₂, and boundary layer (BL) height along the trajectory (lower right panel).

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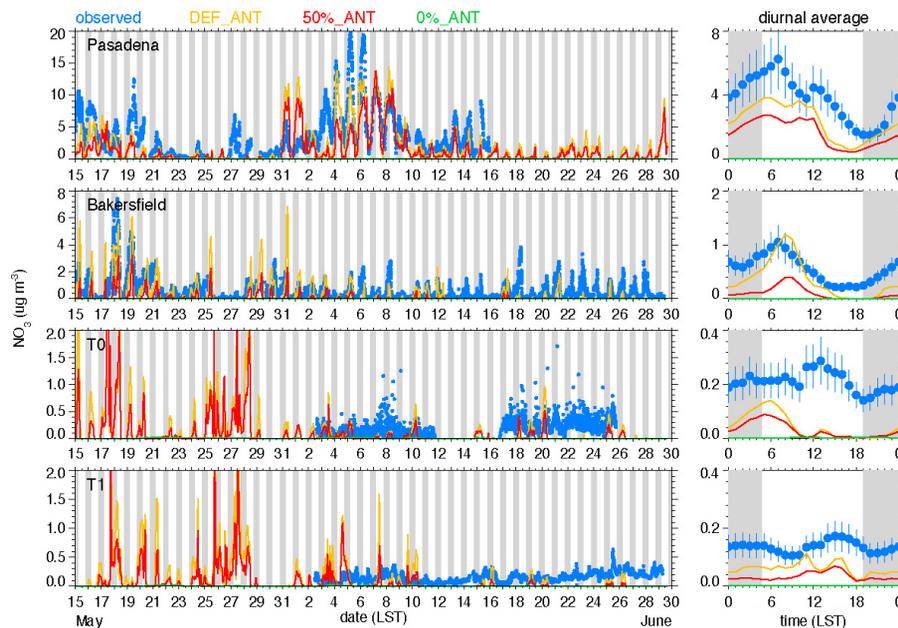


Fig. 21. Observed and simulated time series (left panels) and average diurnal variation (right panels) of NO_3 at the four supersites. Simulated NO_3 is the total of the first four model size bins up to $0.625 \mu\text{m}$ diameter. Gray shading denotes night and vertical lines in right panels denote measurement uncertainty range. Results from 50%_LBC simulation not shown since it is nearly the same as the 50%_ANT simulation.

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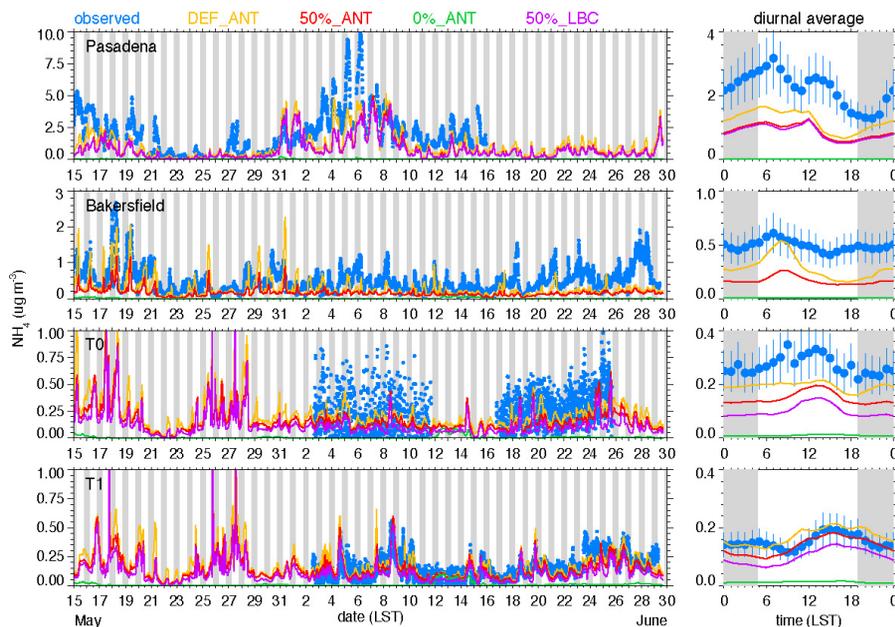


Fig. 22. Observed (AMS instrument) and simulated time series (left panels) and average diurnal variation (right panels) of NH_4 at the four supersites. Gray shading denote night and vertical lines in right panels denote measurement uncertainty range. Simulated NH_4 is the total of the first four model size bins up to $0.625 \mu\text{m}$ diameter.

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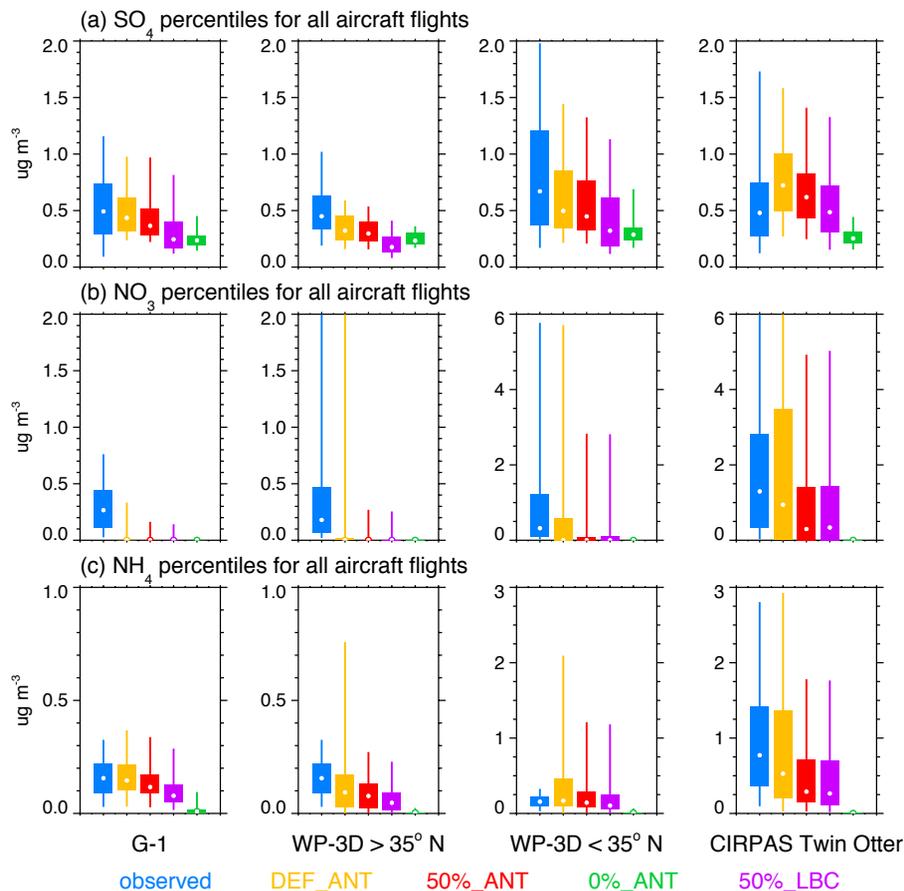


Fig. 23. Percentiles for (a) sulfate (SO_4), and (b) nitrate (NO_3), and ammonium (NH_4) for all G-1, WP-3D, and CIRPAS Twin Otter flights. Vertical lines denote 5th and 95th percentiles, boxes denote 25th and 75th percentiles, and the white dots denote the 50th percentiles. Note the scale differs for the northern and southern flights for NO_3 and NH_4 .

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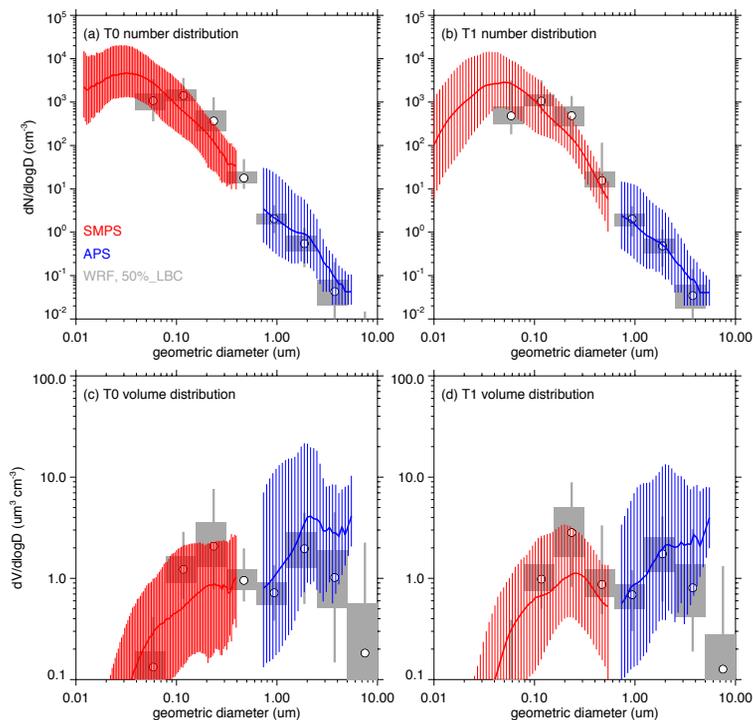


Fig. 24. Overall observed aerosol number distribution from the SMPS (red) and APS (blue) instruments at the **(a)** T0 and **(b)** T1 sites during June 2010 along with the simulated aerosol number distribution (gray). **(c)** and **(d)** same as **(a)** and **(b)**, except for aerosol volume distribution. Thick red and blue lines denote 50th percentile and thin vertical red and blue lines denote the 5th and 95th percentiles for the observations. Gray vertical lines denote simulated 5th and 95th percentiles, boxes denote 25th and 75th percentiles, and the white dots denote the 50th percentiles.

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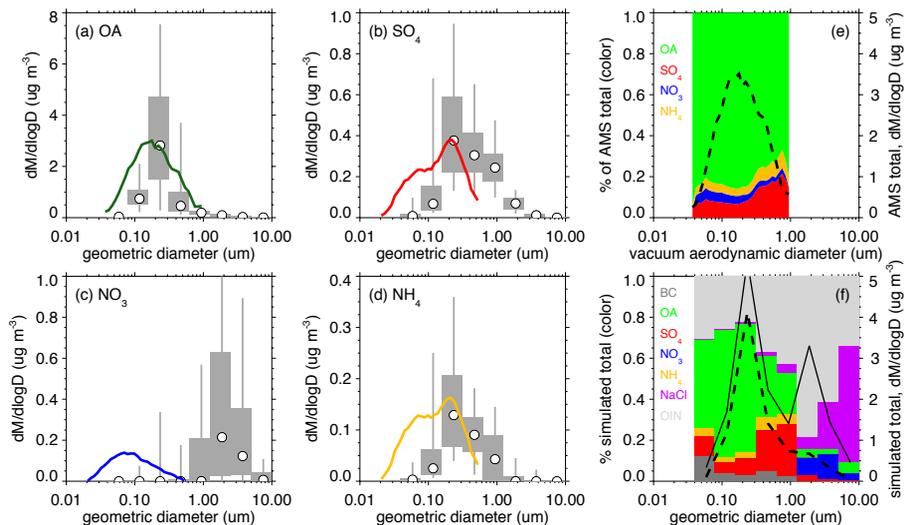


Fig. 25. Observed size distribution of **(a)** OA, **(b)** SO_4 , **(c)** NO_3 , and **(d)** NH_4 (thick colored lines) at the T1 site along with the percentiles for each size bin from the 50%_LBC simulation (gray). Vertical lines denote 5th and 95th percentiles, boxes denote 25th and 75th percentiles, and the white dots denote the 50th percentiles. **(e)** and **(f)** depict % of total mass by composition as well as total mass. Dashed lines in **(e)** and **(f)** are for the total of OA, SO_4 , NO_3 , and NH_4 , while the solid line in **(f)** is for all aerosol components in the model.

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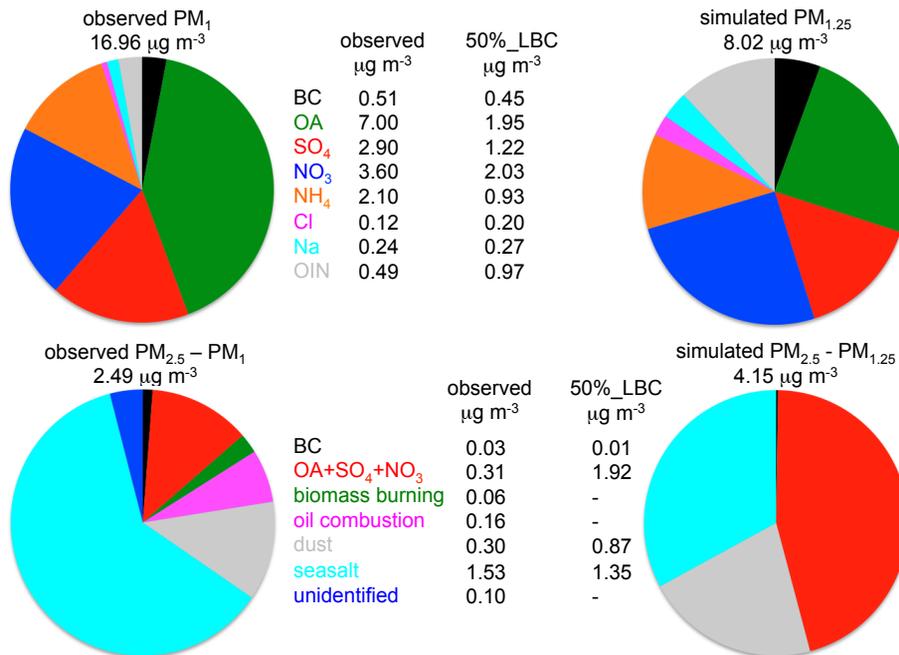


Fig. 26. Average aerosol composition observed (left) and simulated (right) at the Pasadena site. Observations adapted from Hayes et al. (2013) where PM₁ observations obtained from AMS, EC/OC Sunset Analyzer, and X-ray fluorescence analysis and PM_{2.5}–PM₁ observations obtained from PALMS particle types.

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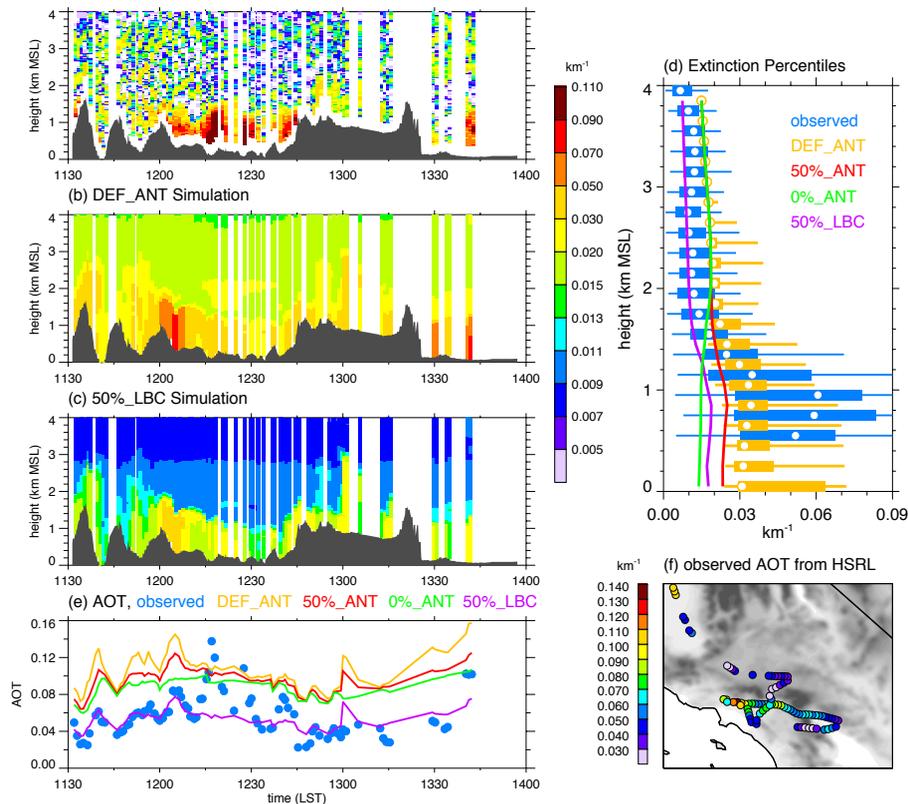


Fig. 27. (a) Observed extinction along the B-200 aircraft flight on 25 May over southern California and the corresponding simulated profiles from (b) DEF_ANT and (c) 50%_LBC. (d) Percentiles of extinction as a function of altitude over the entire flight binned for the observations and DEF_ANT simulation, where vertical lines denote 50th percentiles from the 50%_ANT, 0%_ANT, and 50%_LBC simulation. (e) Observed and simulated column integrated AOT obtained from the extinction profiles along the flight path shown in (f).

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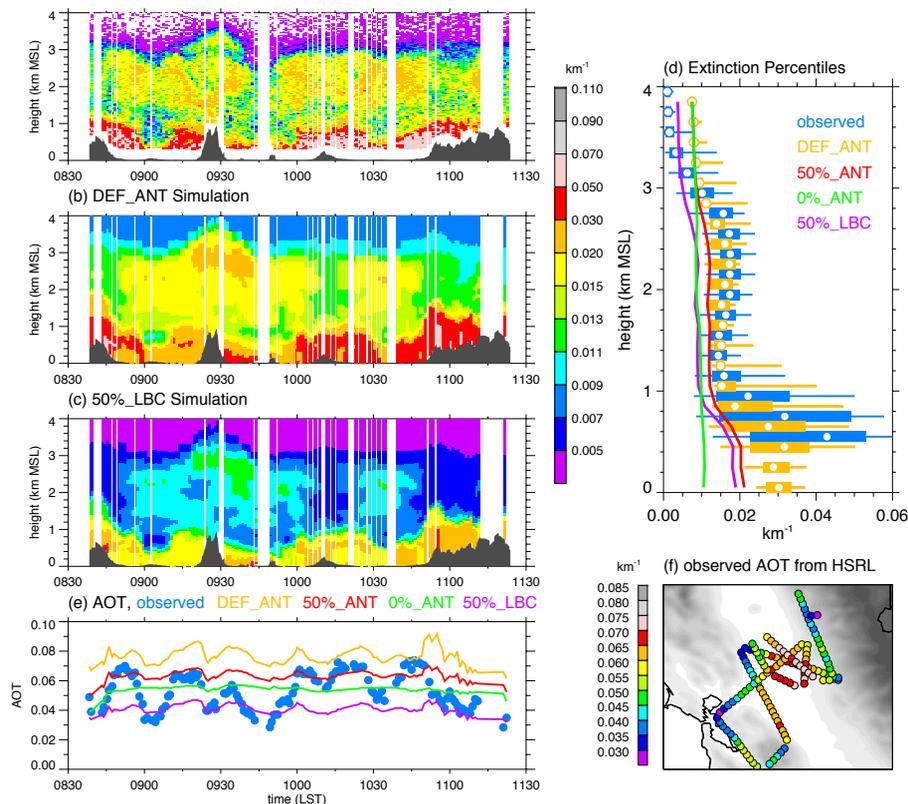


Fig. 28. (a) Observed extinction along the B-200 aircraft flight in the vicinity of Sacramento on 27 June and the corresponding simulated profiles from (b) DEF_ANT and (c) 50%_LBC. (d) Percentiles of extinction as a function of altitude over the entire flight binned for the observations and DEF_ANT simulation, where vertical lines denote 50th percentiles from the 50%_ANT, 0%_ANT, and 50%_LBC simulation. (e) Observed and simulated column integrated AOT obtained from the extinction profiles along the flight path shown in (f).

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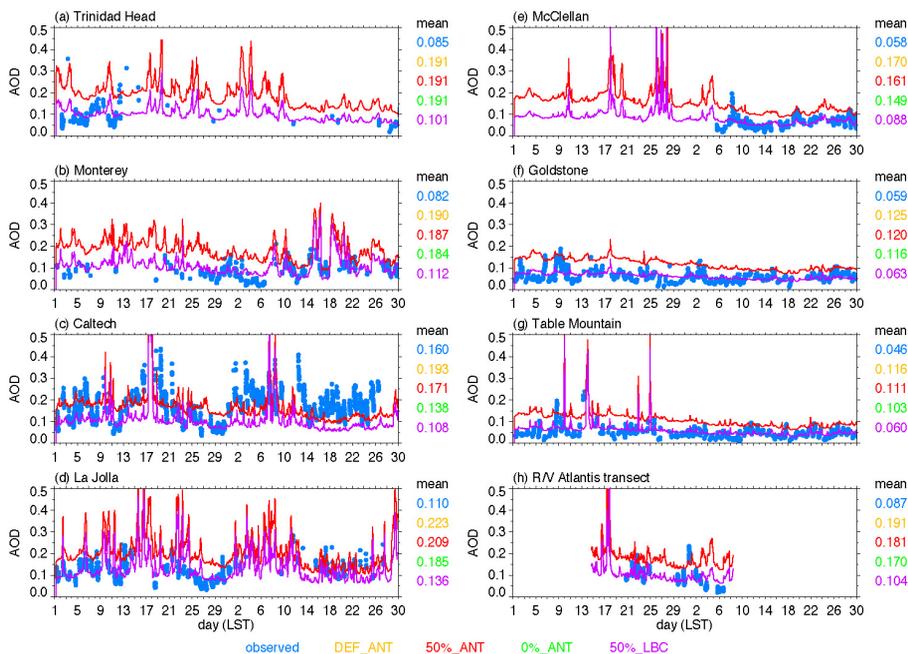


Fig. 29. Observed and simulated AOD at 500 nm at the **(a)** Trinidad Head, **(b)** Monterey, **(c)** Caltech, **(d)** La Jolla, **(e)** McClellan, **(f)** Goldstone, and **(g)** Table Mountain AERONET sites depicted in Fig. 1d and **(h)** along the R/V *Atlantis* transect depicted in Fig. 1a. Average values over the 2 month period are given to the right of each panel.