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# Drivers of changes in stratospheric and tropospheric ozone between year 2000 and 2100

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# Abstract

A stratosphere-resolving configuration of the Met Office's Unified Model (UM) with the United Kingdom Chemistry and Aerosols (UKCA) scheme is used to investigate the atmospheric response to changes in (a) greenhouse gases and climate, (b) ozone-

- depleting substances (ODSs) and (c) non-methane ozone precursor emissions. A suite of time-slice experiments show the separate, as well as pairwise, impacts of these perturbations between the years 2000 and 2100. Sensitivity to uncertainties in future greenhouse gases and aerosols is explored through the use of the Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 4.5 and 8.5 scenarios.
- The results highlight an important role for the stratosphere in determining the annual mean tropospheric ozone response, primarily through stratosphere—troposphere exchange of ozone (STE). Under both climate change and reductions in ODSs, increases in STE offset decreases in net chemical production, leading to overall increases in the tropospheric ozone burden. This opposes the effects of projected decreases in ozone precursors through measures to improve air quality, which act to reduce the ozone burden.

The global tropospheric lifetime of ozone ( $\tau_{O_3}$ ) does not change significantly under climate change at RCP4.5, but it decreases at RCP8.5. This opposes the increases in  $\tau_{O_3}$  simulated under reductions in both ODSs and ozone precursor emissions.

The additivity of the changes in ozone is examined by comparing the sum of the responses in the single-forcing experiments to those from equivalent combined-forcing experiments. Whilst the ozone responses to most forcing combinations are found to be approximately additive, non-additive changes are found in both the stratosphere and troposphere when a large climate forcing (RCP8.5) is combined with the effects of ODSs.



# 1 Introduction

Ozone is of special interest in atmospheric science due to its multiple roles as a radiatively active gas, an oxidising agent and a surface pollutant. Thus, future projections of its evolution are of particular importance for climate and air quality issues. During the

- <sup>5</sup> 21st century, changes in climate, ozone-depleting substances (ODSs) and emissions of ozone precursor species are expected to be major factors governing ozone amounts and its distribution in the stratosphere, free troposphere and at the surface (e.g. Johnson et al., 1999, 2004; Hauglustaine et al., 2005; Zeng et al., 2008; Fiore et al., 2012). With the projected decline in ODSs following the Montreal Protocol, the relative contri-
- <sup>10</sup> bution of very short-lived substances (VSLS) to the halogen loading of the stratosphere is expected to increase. However, future changes in atmospheric transport, oxidant concentrations and the magnitude of VSLS emissions lead to considerable uncertainties in their impact on ozone (Dessens et al., 2009; Hossaini et al., 2012; Yang et al., 2014). The magnitudes of natural emission sources of tropospheric ozone precursors
- <sup>15</sup> are also likely to be affected by future changes in climate and land use (Squire et al., 2014) through changes in, for example, wildfire activity (Yue et al., 2013), lightning activity (Grewe, 2009; Banerjee et al., 2014) and the amount of isoprene emitted from vegetation (Sanderson, 2003; Pacifico et al., 2009).

The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report adopted Rep-<sup>20</sup> resentative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios for future emissions of greenhouse gases and aerosols, which are labelled according to the total radiative forcing at the year 2100 relative to the preindustrial (RCP2.6, 4.5, 6.0 and 8.5). Future ODS emissions are equivalent for RCP4.5, 6.0 and 8.5 (Meinshausen et al., 2011). All RCPs share the assumption of stringent future air quality legislation, and include strong re-<sup>25</sup> ductions in non-methane anthropogenic emissions. Methane emissions are highly un-

certain, and its future concentration varies greatly between the RCPs. RCP2.6, 4.5 and 6.0 assume different trajectories for methane, but all project a decrease by 2100





as compared to 2000. In contrast, RCP8.5 projects more than a doubling in methane over this period.

In the troposphere, the numerical budget of ozone or odd oxygen ( $O_x$  = species which rapidly interconvert with ozone) is widely used as a metric to gain insight into processes controlling ozone amounts. The budget consists of four terms: chemical produc-

- tion (P(O<sub>x</sub>)), chemical loss (L(O<sub>x</sub>)), deposition to the surface (D(O<sub>x</sub>)) and stratosphere– troposphere exchange (STE). The two chemical terms may be combined to give the net chemical production (NCP = P(O<sub>x</sub>) minus L(O<sub>x</sub>)). STE is commonly inferred as the net transport of ozone from the stratosphere to the troposphere required to close the
- tropospheric budget; this is the definition employed throughout the remainder of this study, unless otherwise stated. The processes that determine tropospheric ozone are strongly buffered. As a result, the inter-model spread in estimates of the contemporary ozone burden (e.g. for the year 2000) is small compared to the spread in other terms of the budget, as evident from several multi-model comparisons (IPCC, 2001; Stevenson et al., 2006; Wild, 2007; Young et al., 2013).

There exists a large body of literature that assesses the impact of future climate change on tropospheric ozone, including the multi-model studies mentioned above. Several features are robust across models: increased tropospheric ozone destruction through increased water vapour abundances (e.g. Johnson et al., 1999), which, for most models, leads to a decrease in NCP; and an increase in STE due to a strength-ened Brewer–Dobson circulation (BDC) (e.g. Collins, 2003; Sudo, 2003; Zeng and

Pyle, 2003).

On the other hand, isolating the impacts of declining ODS concentrations, and the associated recovery of stratospheric ozone, on tropospheric composition has received

attention in only a few studies (Kawase et al., 2011; Morgenstern et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2014). Effects could occur through two main mechanisms: (1) increases in STE and (2) increases in overhead ozone column with concomitant reductions in tropospheric photolysis rates. In such ODS-only scenarios, the aforementioned studies have shown the increase in STE to be the dominant influence on the tropospheric ozone bur-





den, while changes in photolysis rates drive a reduction in tropospheric concentrations of the hydroxyl radical (OH) and increase the methane lifetime.

This study employs the Met Office's Unified Model containing the United Kingdom Chemistry and Aerosols sub-model (UM-UKCA) in a process-based approach to sep-

- arate the impacts of future changes in climate, ODSs and emissions of non-methane ozone precursors on ozone. The analysis focuses on changes between 2000 and 2100 under the RCP4.5 and 8.5 climate forcing scenarios. Mechanisms for stratosphere– troposphere coupling are highlighted through changes in stratospheric circulation and in chemistry. However, deducing the mechanisms that underlie the changes in circu-
- <sup>10</sup> lation are beyond the scope of this study, and readers are referred to other literature on these topics (e.g. McLandress and Shepherd, 2009; Butchart et al., 2010; Hardiman et al., 2013). Particular focus is rather placed on assessing impacts on the global burden of tropospheric ozone. To this end, the global, tropospheric  $O_x$  budget is analysed in detail. To the best of our knowledge, few other studies have diagnosed this budget for the RCP scenarios (Kawase et al., 2011), which, as discussed by Young
- et al. (2013), was a shortcoming of the recent Atmospheric Chemistry and Climate Model Intercomparison Project (ACCMIP).

In addition, of the five ACCMIP models that did diagnose the budget under future scenarios, only two had online and comprehensive calculations of stratospheric chemistry.

- The remaining models either calculated simplified stratospheric chemistry or applied a stratospheric ozone climatology. Differences in the representation of stratospheric chemistry likely contributed to the large reported inter-model range of STE in ACCMIP (Young et al., 2013). A focus of this study is thus on the role of the stratosphere in determining changes in tropospheric ozone.
- A description of the UM-UKCA model and the experimental framework is given in Sect. 2. Results from the experiments are presented in two sections. Section 3 focuses on changes in temperature and stratospheric ozone. Section 4 then discusses tropospheric ozone and how, in particular, it is influenced by stratospheric effects. Concluding remarks are given in Sect. 5.





# 2 Methodology

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# 2.1 Model description and experimental set-up

This study uses an atmosphere-only, stratosphere-resolving configuration of UM-UKCA at a resolution of N48L60 ( $3.75^{\circ} \times 2.5^{\circ}$ , with 60 hybrid-height levels extending up to

- <sup>5</sup> 84 km). A detailed description of the model can be found in Banerjee et al. (2014). Briefly, the model combines the previously validated UKCA stratospheric (Morgenstern et al., 2009) and tropospheric (O'Connor et al., 2014) chemical schemes. These include stratospheric gas phase ozone chemistry, heterogeneous reactions on polar stratospheric clouds (PSCs) and oxidation of methane, carbon monoxide (CO) and
- non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs). Natural forcings (volcanic eruptions, solar cycle variations) are not included in the experiments, but the model does internally generate the quasi-biennial oscillation (QBO). Ozone and water vapour are interactive between the chemistry and radiation schemes.
- We present results from a series of time-slice experiments, forced with fixed seasonally-varying boundary conditions. These include time-averaged sea surface temperatures (SSTs) and sea ice, a uniform fixed CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, uniform surface mixing ratios for other greenhouse gases (GHGs) and ODSs, and emissions of NO<sub> $\chi$ </sub>, CO and NMVOCs. Each simulation is integrated for 20 years, with the last 10 years used for analysis.
- A control simulation (Base) is forced by full year 2000 conditions; the remaining experiments perturb one or more of the boundary conditions to year 2100 levels. The experiments are detailed in Table 1, which has been updated from Banerjee et al. (2014). The three types of perturbation detailed in that paper, and briefly described now, are:
  - 1. Climate change ( $\Delta$ CC) the climate is changed by varying SSTs, sea ice and
  - GHG concentrations ( $CO_2$ ,  $CH_4$ ,  $N_2O$ , CFCs and HCFCs) in the radiation scheme only. Perturbations to year 2100 levels follow two RCP scenarios: RCP4.5 and RCP8.5 (van Vuuren et al., 2011), with climatological SSTs and sea ice ob-





tained from simulations of the HadGEM2-CC coupled atmosphere–ocean model for these scenarios (Martin et al., 2011).

- Ozone-depleting substances (ΔODS) a reduction in halogen-containing species to year 2100 levels. There exists some, but not large, differences in ODS concentrations between RCP scenarios, and thus RCP4.5 is arbitrarily adopted. Note that the abundance of ODSs at 2100 is still larger than that at 1960. The change in ODSs is applied to the chemistry scheme only and is uncoupled from the radiation scheme.
- 3. Ozone precursor emissions ( $\Delta$ O3pre) a reduction in NO<sub>x</sub>, CO and NMVOC emissions from anthropogenic and biomass burning sources is considered. The RCP4.5 scenario is also followed here, although this is somewhat arbitrary since all RCP scenarios project aggressive mitigations of these emissions, and there are not large differences between them (Lamarque et al., 2013). Methane and natural emissions (including isoprene emissions) remain unchanged.
- <sup>15</sup> We emphasise that methane levels remain at year 2000 levels within the chemistry scheme in all experiments, although as mentioned, its radiative impact is included in the effects of future climate change.

#### 2.2 Stratospheric ozone tracer

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To isolate the influence of the stratosphere on the troposphere through STE, we imple-<sup>20</sup> ment a "stratospheric ozone" tracer,  $O_3S$ , into the model in a manner similar to Collins (2003). In the stratosphere, defined as altitudes above the thermal tropopause (WMO, 1957),  $O_3S$  is constrained to equal ozone at every model timestep. In the troposphere,  $O_3S$  evolves freely. Following Roelofs and Lelieveld (1997),  $O_3S$  has no tropospheric chemical production (unlike tropospheric ozone, which is formed from NO<sub>2</sub> photolysis); <sup>25</sup> however, we do consider its loss through  $O(^1D) + H_2O$ ,  $HO_2 + O_3$ ,  $OH + O_3$  and dry



deposition. Loss of  $O_3S$  through reactions which conserve  $O_x$  is not considered. In this way, ozone that originates in the stratosphere can be traced through the troposphere.

The O<sub>3</sub>S tracer was implemented in the following experiments: Base,  $\Delta$ CC8.5,  $\Delta$ ODS and  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS), using the model simulated, time-varying tropopause <sup>5</sup> height and ozone field of each run. The impact of the choice of tropopause definition on O<sub>3</sub>S has not been investigated; however, although there may be some quantitative differences, the qualitative conclusions drawn in Sect. 4.5 are unlikely to depend upon this choice.

#### 3 Stratospheric ozone

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- <sup>10</sup> Figure 1 shows changes in zonal and annual mean ozone compared to the Base run for experiments in which a single type of perturbation has been imposed in turn; the corresponding temperature changes are shown in Fig. S1 in the Supplement. Figure 2 shows changes in stratospheric and tropospheric column ozone over the tropics for the single- and combined-forcing experiments. The tropics are highlighted as a region
- of particular interest, since it is here that total column ozone is not expected to recover to pre-1980 values this century (Austin et al., 2010; WMO, 2011). Although some discussion of tropospheric ozone is given, the following subsections focus mainly on stratospheric changes. Whilst many of these results have, at least qualitatively, been established in other studies, the aim is to highlight those stratospheric processes which bear some relevance for tropospheric ozone, which is discussed in Sect. 4.

#### 3.1 Climate change under RCP4.5 and 8.5

Experiments  $\Delta$ CC4.5 and  $\Delta$ CC8.5 show a pattern of temperature response (Fig. S1a and b) that is robust across climate models (IPCC, 2013). The troposphere warms across the globe, with a maximum change in excess of 3/9 K ( $\Delta$ CC4.5/ $\Delta$ CC8.5) in the tropical upper troposphere; the stratosphere cools, primarily due to increased long-



wave emission by  $CO_2$  (Fels et al., 1980). In the middle and upper stratosphere, where  $O_x$  (= O + O<sub>3</sub> here) is in photochemical steady state, it is well established that cooling slows down the rate of catalytic  $O_x$  destroying cycles (Haigh and Pyle, 1982; Jonsson et al., 2004). This effect leads to ozone increases in this region (Fig. 1a and b),

which partly mitigate the CO<sub>2</sub>-induced cooling through increased absorption of short-wave radiation. The magnitude of this effect has been quantified using simulations (not otherwise discussed) performed under ΔCC4.5/ΔCC8.5 forcings, but in which a fixed, time-varying 3-D ozone climatology from the Base run is employed in the calculation of radiative heating rates. These simulations show the radiative offset of ozone changes
 to reach 2/4 K (ΔCC4.5/ΔCC8.5) at 40 km.

In the tropical lower stratosphere, where photochemical lifetimes are long and ozone is predominantly under dynamical control, a decrease in ozone arises from enhanced upwelling of ozone poor air from the troposphere, which is associated with a strengthened BDC (e.g. SPARC CCMVal, 2010; WMO, 2011; IPCC, 2013). This localised de-

<sup>15</sup> crease in ozone is enhanced by the greater overlying ozone column, which reduces chemical production due to the "reversed self-healing" effect (Haigh and Pyle, 1982; Meul et al., 2014), but is partly mitigated by increases in lightning-derived ozone/NO<sub>x</sub> in the tropical upper troposphere for this model (Banerjee et al., 2014).

For the tropical stratospheric ozone column, Fig. 2 illustrates a very small and statistically insignificant increase of 0.2 DU in  $\Delta$ CC4.5 but a decrease of 4.7 DU in  $\Delta$ CC8.5. Thus, the opposite signed ozone changes in the lower and upper tropical stratosphere do not scale similarly with climate forcing in their contribution to the partial column. Whilst there is a near cancellation between these effects in  $\Delta$ CC4.5, the stronger BDC dominates in  $\Delta$ CC8.5. These results are qualitatively consistent with those from transient Coupled Medal Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIPE) simulations using

transient Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5) simulations using chemistry-climate models (CCMs) (Eyring et al., 2013).

With regards to the changes in tropical tropospheric column ozone, lightning-NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (LNO<sub>x</sub>) are largely responsible for the 3.6/5.1 DU ( $\Delta$ CC4.5/ $\Delta$ CC8.5) increases shown in Fig. 2. Thus the small net change in total column ozone in  $\Delta$ CC8.5





reflects a strong cancellation between the changes in stratospheric and tropospheric partial columns. The global tropospheric ozone response also contains an important contribution from increased stratosphere-to-troposphere transport, which will be discussed in Sect. 4.

# 5 3.2 Reductions in ODSs

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Reductions in the abundance of  $Cl_y$  and  $Br_y$  following a reduction in ODS concentrations during the coming century lead to a ubiquitous increase in stratospheric ozone through homogeneous and heterogeneous chemical reactions. This is demonstrated in Fig. 1c for the  $\Delta$ ODS simulation, with Fig. S1c showing the corresponding temperature change. Figure 2 shows that within the set of experiments,  $\Delta$ ODS displays the largest increase (13.9 DU) in tropical stratospheric column ozone.

Increased ozone in the upper stratosphere (Fig. 1c), is primarily attributable to reduced gas phase  $CIO_x$ -catalysed loss. This is partly offset by increases in the abundance of both  $NO_x$  and  $HO_x$ , through reductions in the abundance of the  $CIONO_2$ reservoir (Portmann et al., 2012) and decreases in the flux through the reactions HCI + OH and  $CIO + HO_2$  (Stenke and Grewe, 2005), respectively.

The largest local changes in ozone occur in the polar lower stratosphere in both hemispheres as a result of reductions in PSC-induced chlorine and bromine catalysed ozone loss. Increases in ozone between 18–20 km exceed 40 % (April) over the Arctic

and 400 % (November) over the Antarctic where ozone is strongly depleted in the Base run; associated increases in shortwave heating increase lower stratospheric temperatures, which is evident in the annual mean change over Antarctica (Fig. S1c).

Section 4 will demonstrate that the changes in lower stratospheric ozone have a strong influence on tropospheric ozone, particularly in the extratropics. In contrast,

Fig. 2 shows that in the tropical troposphere,  $\Delta$ ODS is associated with only a small increase in tropospheric column ozone (1.0 DU).





# 3.3 Reductions in ozone precursor emissions

The decreases in NO<sub>x</sub>, CO and NMVOC emissions in the  $\Delta$ O3pre simulation result in decreased ozone throughout the troposphere (Fig. 1d). Local changes are largest in the Northern Hemisphere (NH) where reductions in emissions are greatest (e.g. total NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are reduced by 20.8 Tg(N) yr<sup>-1</sup>, 91 % of which is in the NH). It is notable that this is the only perturbation considered in this study that results in a decrease in tropical tropospheric column ozone (Fig. 2).

The changes in tropospheric ozone in the  $\Delta$ O3pre experiment are too small to have a significant effect on stratospheric ozone abundances. The changes in temperature (Fig. S1d) are also insignificant, although since the experiments include fixed SSTs, the

full radiative effect of ozone changes on tropospheric temperatures will not be captured. Thus, in the  $\Delta$ O3pre experiment, the troposphere exerts no significant influence on the stratosphere. Note that we have not explored the impact of changes in biogenic emissions, which are likely to be largest in the tropics (Squire et al., 2014), and could thus impact the stratosphere through convective lofting of ozone or its precursors into the upper troposphere-lower stratosphere (UTLS) (Hauglustaine et al., 2005).

#### 3.4 Stratospheric additivity

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Generally, changes in annual and zonal mean ozone and temperature for the combined-forcing runs  $\Delta$ (CC4.5+ODS),  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS),  $\Delta$ (CC4.5+O3pre),  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+O3pre) and  $\Delta$ (ODS+O3pre) can be closely reproduced from summing changes in the respective single-forcing runs. The extent to which additivity is maintained for ozone when combining changes in climate and ODSs is shown in Fig. 3.

Two regions of small, but statistically significant, non-additivities in ozone are found for  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS) (Fig. 3b). The first is located in the upper stratosphere where the response to climate change and reduced ODSs reinforce one another (Chipperfield and Feng, 2003). Here, the simulated increase in ozone is around 0.2 ppmv greater than that calculated from a linear addition of the  $\Delta$ CC8.5 and  $\Delta$ ODS perturbations. The



effect is essentially caused by a change in the temperature dependence of catalytic ozone loss with a change in the halogen loading, as found by Haigh and Pyle (1982) in their experiment combining a doubling in  $CO_2$  with increases in ODS concentrations.

The second region where the  $\Delta(CC8.5+ODS)$  response is non-additive is the lower stratosphere at around 60° S; this can be ascribed to a non-additivity in the amount of chlorine activated through heterogeneous reactions of reservoir species (ClONO<sub>2</sub> and HCl) on PSCs and sulfate aerosols. This can be rationalised by considering the rate of these reactions, which is proportional to the product of PSC/aerosol surface area density (SAD) and [Cl reservoir]. Thus, when [Cl reservoir] is low (e.g. due to the lower Cl<sub>y</sub> loadings in  $\Delta$ ODS), increases in the rate of reaction due to increases in SAD (e.g. due to cooling under climate change) are smaller. Therefore, in  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS), reductions in active chlorine (ClO<sub>x</sub>) are greater than expected from their separate ef-

fects, and hence, the ozone concentration is higher. These effects occur primarily at the edge of the vortex, where cooling under climate change leads to greater PSC formation and hence CIO<sub>x</sub> concentrations. In contrast, in the cold core of the vortex, cooling un-

and hence  $CIO_x$  concentrations. In contrast, in the cold core of the vortex, cooling under climate change does not greatly affect PSC areas, since temperatures are already below the PSC formation threshold in the Base experiment.

Note that scenarios in which  $CH_4$  or  $N_2O$  are changed in the chemistry scheme have not been explored. If such perturbations were combined with  $\Delta ODS$ , non-additive

<sup>20</sup> responses would be expected since both  $CH_4$  and  $N_2O$  control chlorine partitioning (through  $CH_4 + CI \rightarrow HCI + CH_3$  and  $NO_2 + CIO + M \rightarrow CIONO_2 + M$ , respectively) (e.g. Fleming et al., 2011; Portmann et al., 2012; Meul et al., 2015).

Overall, the stratospheric changes are largely as expected from theory and previous model studies. We have demonstrated that the stratosphere is not strongly influenced

<sup>25</sup> by chemical changes in the free troposphere in these experiments. However, the stratospheric ozone changes have important impacts on the troposphere. To demonstrate this, the next section provides a detailed analysis of the troposphere.





# 4 Tropospheric ozone

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This section focuses on the global burden of ozone and its lifetime in the troposphere. The role of changes in both chemical production/loss and STE of ozone are discussed. One key aim is to ascertain the influence of the stratosphere on the troposphere, which

as will be shown, mainly occurs through STE. Consequences of changes in STE are highlighted not only for the global ozone burden, but also for its latitude-height distribution. Where reported, errors represent the 5–95 % confidence interval, as calculated from the standard deviation in 10 yearly-mean values for UM-UKCA experiments; for multi-model means, errors give the inter-model range as  $1\sigma$ .

#### **4.1** Year 2000 tropospheric O<sub>x</sub> budget

The global and annual mean  $O_x$  budget of the troposphere for all experiments is shown in Table 2. Multi-model mean values from the ACCENT ensemble (Stevenson et al., 2006) are included for comparison to the Base run. Values for the more recent AC-CMIP ensemble are not shown, since only six of those models diagnosed the budget; the reader is referred to Young et al. (2013) for more detail. For most terms, the Base run compares favourably with the ACCENT results. Chemical production (P(O<sub>x</sub>)), loss (L(O<sub>x</sub>)) and deposition (D(O<sub>x</sub>)) are well within 1 $\sigma$  of the multi-model mean. However, the inferred STE of  $360 \pm 14$ Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup> is lower than observational estimates, which range between 450 and 550 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup> (e.g. Gettelman et al., 1997; Olsen et al., 2001,

- <sup>20</sup> 2013), and the ACCENT mean of  $552 \pm 168 \text{Tg}(O_3) \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . Nevertheless, a comparison to the ACCENT results is likely to be inadequate since almost all of the ACCENT models did not include a full representation of the stratosphere. In addition, some models altered the stratospheric upper boundary condition to match observational constraints, whereas STE cannot be predetermined in such a way in the UM-UKCA scheme.
- The balance between the terms means that the Base ozone burden of  $326 \pm 2 \text{Tg}(O_3)$  is close to the ACCENT and ACCMIP ensemble means ( $344 \pm 39$  and  $337 \pm 23 \text{Tg}(O_3)$ , respectively). Note that the UM-UKCA budgets are calculated using the monthly mean





lapse rate tropopause in contrast to ACCENT calculations, which used a chemical tropopause defined by the 150 ppbv contour of ozone. However, the  $O_x$  budget terms in the Base run do not differ greatly between the two definitions. At most, relative differences reach 2% for both the burden (7 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) lower) and STE (8 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup> greater) when comparing the chemical with the thermal tropopause. Furthermore, observations obtained between 2004 and 2010 from the Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI) and

- obtained between 2004 and 2010 from the Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI) and Microwave Limb Sounder (MLS) (Ziemke et al., 2011) indicate a climatological, total ozone burden of  $295 \text{ Tg}(O_3)$  between the latitudes  $60^{\circ} \text{ S}$  and  $60^{\circ} \text{ N}$ , which compares well with the value of  $298 \text{ Tg}(O_3)$  in the Base run.
- <sup>10</sup> Effects of the year 2100 perturbations on the ozone burden are now discussed, and the underlying causes investigated.

# 4.2 Ozone burden

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To illustrate the effects of the year 2100 perturbations on ozone, the tropospheric burden is shown against (1) NCP (Fig. 4a) and (2) STE (Fig. 4b).

- Reductions in emissions of ozone precursors lower the ozone burden; for the  $\Delta O3$  pre experiment, the decrease is  $34 \pm 2 \operatorname{Tg}(O_3)$  (10.4%). This is driven mainly by a decrease in NCP of 233 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup> (from 655 to 422 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup>, Fig. 4a), which is partly offset by a very small increase in STE of  $38 \operatorname{Tg}(O_3) \operatorname{yr}^{-1}$  (from 360 to  $398 \operatorname{Tg}(O_3) \operatorname{yr}^{-1}$ , Fig. 4b) and a reduction in deposition of  $195 \operatorname{Tg}(O_3) \operatorname{yr}^{-1}$  (Table 2).
- <sup>20</sup> In contrast, the burden increases under climate change and lower ODS concentrations. For the single-forcing experiments, the increases are  $30 \pm 2 \text{Tg}(O_3)$  (9.2%) ( $\Delta CC4.5$ ),  $43 \pm 2 \text{Tg}(O_3)$  (13.2%) ( $\Delta CC8.5$ ) and  $18 \pm 2 \text{Tg}(O_3)$  (5.5%) ( $\Delta ODS$ ). Figure 4a shows that consideration of NCP alone, which shows decreases of 36, 109 and  $55 \text{Tg}(O_3) \text{ yr}^{-1}$ , respectively, would suggest reductions in the ozone burden. However,
- Fig. 4b shows that increases in STE of 62, 101 and  $96 \text{ Tg}(O_3) \text{ yr}^{-1}$ , respectively, can explain the overall increases in ozone burden. Banerjee et al. (2014) highlighted the importance of changes in LNO<sub>x</sub> under climate change for increasing the ozone bur-





den, and hence opposing the effects of projected reductions in ozone precursors. The results presented here further demonstrate that increases in STE, though smaller in magnitude than changes in the chemical terms, are also crucial for the higher ozone burden under climate change in these experiments. Furthermore, through increased
 STE, reduced ODSs also act to oppose the effects of ΔO3pre.

The sensitivity of the tropospheric budget terms to climate change is qualitatively consistent with results from most models. However, the sign of the change in the ozone burden is not agreed upon by models. The ACCENT multi-model mean showed a slight decrease in the burden under the Special Report on Emissions Scenarios (SBES) A2 emissions scenario between the years 2000 and 2030 (Stevenson et al.

- (SRES) A2 emissions scenario between the years 2000 and 2030 (Stevenson et al., 2006), whereas Kawase et al. (2011) find an increased burden under RCP4.5 and 8.5 in sensitivity tests perturbing all GHG concentrations except methane between 2000 and 2100. The ACCMIP ensemble mean shows a decrease of 7% for RCP4.5 and an increase of 18% for RCP8.5 over this period, although these experiments included
- <sup>15</sup> all forcings (Young et al., 2013). This includes  $NO_x/CO/NMVOC$  emission reductions and, in RCP8.5, the assumption of a large increase in methane, which would have significant chemical impacts that are not explored in this study.

Note that to ensure a physically consistent definition of the troposphere, the height of the tropopause is allowed to change in response to the climate perturbations in these experiments. Therefore, under climate change, a rising of the tropopause contributes to an increase in the ozone burden.

The following subsection explores the impact of methane feedbacks on the calculated ozone burdens, before the underlying causes of the changes in NCP and STE are investigated.

#### 25 4.3 Methane adjustments

All experiments include a uniform fixed lower boundary condition of 1.75 ppmv for methane, which effectively fixes its abundance throughout the troposphere. Thus any changes in OH essentially do not affect methane concentrations, nor are any subse-





quent feedbacks captured. This includes the influence of methane on its own abundance (Isaksen and Hov, 1987) as well as on ozone.

The feedback factor, f (e.g. Fuglestvedt, 1999), gives a measure of the influence of methane on its own lifetime, and has previously been estimated to be 1.52 for this

- <sup>5</sup> model (Banerjee et al., 2014). Following the methodology in that study and references therein, the amount of methane and ozone that would be simulated at equilibrium if methane were allowed to evolve freely have been calculated using the whole atmosphere methane lifetime ( $\tau_{CH_4}$ ) reported in Table 2; corresponding equilibrium ozone burdens are reported in the final column.
- <sup>10</sup> The estimated equilibrium ozone burdens are 7 and  $16 \text{ Tg}(O_3)$  smaller than simulated in the  $\Delta$ CC4.5 and  $\Delta$ CC8.5 experiments, respectively. In contrast, only a  $2 \text{ Tg}(O_3)$  increase in ozone burden compared to simulated values is estimated for the  $\Delta$ ODS and  $\Delta$ O3pre experiments. Therefore, when considering the effects of methane adjustments, the extent to which climate change counters the impact of  $\Delta$ O3pre on the ozone burden significant to which climate to while the extent to which  $\Delta$ ODS counters  $\Delta$ O3pre is slightly
- den is somewhat reduced, while the extent to which ΔODS counters ΔO3pre is sligh increased. Nonetheless, the qualitative conclusions remain unchanged.

# 4.4 Chemical production and loss

To explore changes in NCP, Fig. 5 shows mean values for the Base experiment and the changes due to each type of perturbation in the primary  $O_x$  chemical production (HO<sub>2</sub> + NO, MeO<sub>2</sub> + NO and RO<sub>2</sub> + NO, where RO<sub>2</sub> is a generic peroxy radical not including HO<sub>2</sub> or MeO<sub>2</sub>) and loss (O(<sup>1</sup>D) + H<sub>2</sub>O, HO<sub>2</sub> + O<sub>3</sub> and OH + O<sub>3</sub>) routes. Together, these constitute 98 and 97 % of total chemical production and loss of  $O_x$ , respectively.

Figure 4a shows that reductions in NCP are largest when emissions of ozone precursors are reduced. Figure 5b shows that this is driven by decreases in  $P(O_x)$ , primarily through the HO<sub>2</sub> + NO reaction. Mitigation of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, and hence a reduction in NO concentrations, directly drive the majority of this response. Reductions in NMVOC and, in particular, CO emissions also contribute by slowing down OH to HO<sub>2</sub> conver-





sion, thus reducing  $HO_2$  concentrations. Additionally, the decreases in ozone also act to reduce  $HO_x$  abundances. It is beyond the scope of this work to quantify the relative importance of these separate drivers.

- The impact of climate change reduces NCP in the experiments, as can be seen from each set of connecting lines in Fig. 4a; this is in qualitative agreement with recent multi-model studies (Stevenson et al., 2006; Young et al., 2013). This is the result of greater  $L(O_x)$ , which dominates over a smaller increase in  $P(O_x)$ . Greater  $L(O_x)$  occurs primarily via increased  $O(^1D) + H_2O$  (Fig. 5c) as atmospheric moisture content increases, and is a robust feature across models, although the magnitude will depend
- <sup>10</sup> on the amplitude of tropospheric warming. Here, the imposed SSTs and sea ice are derived from a model that is part of the HadGEM2 family, known to lie on the upper end of the current modelled range of equilibrium climate sensitivities (Andrews et al., 2012). Greater  $P(O_x)$  occurs mainly due to increased LNO<sub>x</sub> associated with changes in tropical convection (see Banerjee et al., 2014, for more details), although the importance <sup>15</sup> of this effect relative to other drivers of  $O_x$  production is expected to be highly model
- dependent. The fluxes through  $HO_2 + NO$  and  $MeO_2 + NO$  (Fig. 5b) thus increase with climate change. Both  $P(O_x)$  and  $L(O_x)$  are amplified for the larger RCP8.5 climate forcing.
- Figure 4a also shows that there are consistent reductions in NCP under lower ODS concentrations. For the  $\triangle$ ODS experiment, NCP is reduced by 55 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup> relative to Base, with P(O<sub>x</sub>) reduced (-104 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup>) more than L(O<sub>x</sub>) (-49 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup>). This result is strongly influenced by changes in stratospheric ozone which lead to modifications in tropospheric actinic fluxes and photolysis rates, with subsequent chemical feedbacks in the troposphere. P(O<sub>x</sub>) and L(O<sub>x</sub>) are particularly sensitive to photolysis rates for NO<sub>2</sub> to NO (J(NO<sub>2</sub>)) and O<sub>3</sub> to O(<sup>1</sup>D) (J(O<sub>3</sub>)). With increases in stratospheric ozone (Figs. 1c and 2), J(O<sub>3</sub>) is strongly reduced, but J(NO<sub>2</sub>) is largely unaffected.
  - Reductions in  $J(O_3)$  depress  $O(^1D)$  abundances (not shown), despite increases in tropospheric ozone. The reduction in  $O(^1D)$  mixing ratio is largest in the extratropics and peaks at over 50 % in southern high latitudes, where the stratospheric ozone column is





enhanced by ~ 80 DU in the annual mean (not shown), in contrast to the much smaller change in the tropics (see Fig. 2). With lower  $[O(^{1}D)]$ , the loss of  $O_{x}$  through  $O(^{1}D) + H_{2}O$  is diminished (Fig. 5c). Loss through  $HO_{2} + O_{3}$  is increased, however, due to the increase in tropospheric ozone abundances. By contrast,  $P(O_{x})$  is reduced through all

- <sup>5</sup> three major channels as a result of decreases in ODSs (Fig. 5b). Following changes in stratospheric column ozone, previous studies have shown that the sign of the HO<sub>x</sub> response follows that of  $J(O_3)$  regardless of background NO<sub>x</sub> levels (Fuglestvedt et al., 1994); in this case, decreases in HO<sub>x</sub> in the extratropics (and to a lesser extent, MeO<sub>2</sub>) drive lower P(O<sub>x</sub>).
- <sup>10</sup> Whilst much insight can be gained from analysis of the chemical terms of the  $O_x$  budget, these alone cannot explain the overall changes in tropospheric ozone burden for the climate change and ODS experiments. As previously described, changes in STE have an important role alongside modifications to tropospheric chemical processes, and these are discussed in the following section.

#### 15 4.5 STE

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# 4.5.1 Measures of STE and its influence on the troposphere

Although several metrics for STE exist (Hsu and Prather, 2014), the common approach of inferring STE from the other three terms of the  $O_x$  budget is adopted here. In the Base experiment, STE is calculated to be  $360 \text{ Tg}(O_3) \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . STE may be altered by changes in the residual circulation and two-way mixing (which collectively characterise the BDC) (Plumb, 2002), and in the ozone distribution in the extratropical lower stratosphere.

The Transformed Eulerian Mean (TEM) residual vertical velocity (Andrews et al., 1987) and the total upward and downward residual mass fluxes across a fixed pressure surface (Rosenlof, 1995) are used as metrics for the stratospheric circulation. Mass fluxes are calculated between all latitudes where there is net upward or downward motion, respectively. The upward mass flux at 70 hPa is used as a measure for





the overall strength of the residual circulation (SPARC CCMVal, 2010). The downward mass flux at 100 hPa is used as an indicator for the STE of air, although more accurate measures exist (see Rosenlof and Holton, 1993; Holton et al., 1995; Rosenlof, 1995; Yang and Tung, 1996, for a fuller discussion).

- <sup>5</sup> The climatological, annual mean upward mass flux at 70 hPa in the Base experiment is  $7.9 \times 10^9$  kg s<sup>-1</sup>. For comparison, the ERA-Interim reanalysis data (Dee et al., 2011) and most models within the Chemistry-Climate Model Validation project (CCMVal-2) indicate a value of around  $6 \times 10^9$  kg s<sup>-1</sup> (Butchart et al., 2011); the residual circulation is therefore ~ 33% stronger in the UM-UKCA model.
- <sup>10</sup> Changes in the residual circulation in the single-forcing experiments, as shown in Fig. 6, are linked qualitatively to changes in STE. While quantifying the global and annual net flux of ozone into the troposphere is useful for understanding changes in the global burden of tropospheric ozone, to study the impacts on the distribution of ozone in the troposphere, we use the stratospheric ozone tracer,  $O_3S$  (see Sect. 2.2). Note
- that the amount and distribution of O<sub>3</sub>S in the troposphere depends on its tropospheric lifetime and transport, in addition to transport from the stratosphere. Figure 7 shows the relative contribution of O<sub>3</sub>S to the annual mean ozone field in the Base experiment. The contribution is lowest (20 %) in the equatorial region, where upward transport takes place. The contribution is greater in the extratropics, particularly so in the Southern
   Hemisphere (SH) where other sources of ozone are relatively weak.

# 4.5.2 Changes in STE

The residual circulation, as measured by the upward mass flux at 70 hPa, is projected to strengthen under climate change by all climate models (e.g. Butchart et al., 2006, 2010; SPARC CCMVal, 2010; Hardiman et al., 2013). The UM-UKCA model also shows this
 <sup>25</sup> behaviour: Figure 6a shows an increase of 10% (ΔCC4.5) and 27% (ΔCC8.5) in the annual mean. The latter result is comparable to the CMIP5 multi-model mean increase for the RCP8.5 scenario (32% between 2000 and 2100).





The BDC consists of two distinct branches, commonly referred to as the deep and shallow branches (Plumb, 2002). Both branches strengthen under climate change in these experiments, which is in agreement with other recent studies (Hardiman et al., 2013; Lin and Fu, 2013). The downward mass flux at 100 hPa increases by 11 % in

- <sup>5</sup> the SH and 21 % in the NH in  $\Delta$ CC4.5, and by 37 and 42 %, respectively, in  $\Delta$ CC8.5 (Fig. 6b and c); these are the main contributors to the increases in global STE of 62 and 101 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. This result is supported by Collins (2003), Zeng and Pyle (2003) and Zeng et al. (2010) who isolated the effects of circulation changes on STE in a future climate.
- Figure 8 shows absolute changes in O<sub>3</sub>S between Base and selected experiments (ΔCC8.5, ΔODS and Δ(CC8.5+ODS)), as well as changes in tropospheric ozone for comparison. Increases in O<sub>3</sub>S occur particularly in the subtropical upper troposphere for ΔCC8.5 (Fig. 8a), suggesting an increased importance of STE in these regions in a future climate. A strengthened shallow branch of the BDC contributes to this
   response. This does not preclude another important contribution from more efficient isentropic stirring across the tropopause (as suggested by the idealised model study of Orbe et al. 2013). This effect may be particularly important for ozone, which has

of Orbe et al., 2013). This effect may be particularly important for ozone, which has a large concentration gradient across the tropopause.

The peak  $O_3S$  increase in  $\Delta CC8.5$  is greater in the NH subtropics (7 ppbv) than in the SH (5 ppbv). Despite this, the hemispheric asymmetry in the tropospheric ozone change (Fig. 8b) is in the opposite sense, due to a greater contribution from LNO<sub>x</sub>produced ozone in the SH. Using a simulation in which climate is allowed to vary according to the RCP8.5 scenario, but in which LNO<sub>x</sub> is fixed to Base values (detailed in Banerjee et al., 2014), we deduce that the change in O<sub>3</sub>S under climate change can be as large as 30/50 % (SH/NH) of the increase in ozone due to increases in LNO

 $_{\rm 25}$  be as large as 30/50 % (SH/NH) of the increase in ozone due to increases in LNO  $_{\chi}$  in the subtropics.

Consistent with Palmeiro et al. (2014), Lin and Fu (2013) and Oberländer et al. (2013), ozone recovery in the  $\Delta$ ODS experiment is associated with a weakening of the SH deep branch of the BDC during austral summer. In this model, a weaken-



ing of the NH deep branch is also simulated. Concomitantly, the upward mass flux at 70 hPa is reduced by 4.5% (Fig. 6a). However, the relative mass flux anomalies in the lowermost stratosphere are small, with the downward mass flux at 100 hPa decreasing by only 1.8/4.1% (SH/NH) (Fig. 6b and c).

- <sup>5</sup> While the residual circulation is not strongly affected in the ΔODS experiment, STE still increases by 96 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup>, a change that is approximately equal to that for ΔCC8.5. This is attributable to the large increase in extratropical lower stratospheric ozone (Fig. 1c). Increased transport of stratospheric ozone into the extratropical troposphere is evident from the change in O<sub>3</sub>S for ΔODS (Fig. 8c). Greater O<sub>3</sub>S amounts
   <sup>10</sup> are particularly prominent in the NH where, despite the smaller absolute increase in
- lower stratospheric ozone, the residual circulation is stronger and the net stratosphere to troposphere mass flux of air is larger than in the SH (see also Schoeberl et al., 2004). The corresponding change in ozone (Fig. 8d) strongly resembles that of  $O_3S$ , suggesting that most of the tropospheric ozone change is driven by increased STE.
- <sup>15</sup> Figure 6 shows that the  $\Delta O3$  pre perturbation leads to no significant change in the stratospheric residual circulation; neither is extratropical lower stratospheric ozone greatly affected (Fig. 1d). The amount of ozone entering the troposphere from the stratosphere is therefore similar in the Base and  $\Delta O3$  pre experiments. The small increase in net STE of  $38 \text{ Tg}(O_3) \text{ yr}^{-1}$  could instead be due to a reduction in  $O_x$  trans-<sup>20</sup> port from the troposphere into the tropical lower stratosphere, but the effect is small enough to cause no statistically significant change in tropical lower stratospheric ozone amounts (Fig. 1d).

Considering the entire set of experiments, a large range in STE of 360– 619 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup> is simulated (Fig. 4b), the upper bound of which is found in the  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS) experiment. Interestingly, climate change and ODSs have their greatest impact on O<sub>3</sub>S in different regions. Climate change has its largest effect on the subtropical upper troposphere (Fig. 8a), and ODSs on the middle/high latitudes (Fig. 8c). Consequently, there are increases in O<sub>3</sub>S throughout much of the troposphere in the  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS) experiment (Fig. 8e). It is interesting that for this experiment, the effect





of increased humidity on lowering ozone dominates only in a small region of the lowermost tropical troposphere (Fig. 8f), in contrast to the experiment with climate change alone (Fig. 8b), where the offset is much more widespread.

- Within ACCMIP, Young et al. (2013) find that future changes in STE under the RCP
  scenarios tend to scale (qualitatively) with the magnitude of STE modelled for the present-day (year 2000). If this relationship holds more generally across models, we might expect future changes in STE for other models to be larger than those found in this study, since the baseline STE in UM-UKCA is on the lower end of the contemporary modelled range. Indeed, increases in STE under climate change in this study
  (i.e. from a lower baseline STE) are smaller than found by Kawase et al. (2011) between the years 2005 and 2100 in similar sensitivity experiments. For scenarios which isolate the impact of stratospheric ozone recovery under declining ODS loadings, the
- absolute changes found here are similar to their results:  $96 \text{ Tg}(O_3) \text{ yr}^{-1}$  ( $\Delta \text{ODS}$  in this study) and  $91 \text{ Tg}(O_3) \text{ yr}^{-1}$  (Kawase et al., 2011). This suggests that the uncertainty in future changes in STE mostly lies in the effects of climate change and stratospheric circulation.

# 4.6 Effects on ozone lifetime

The lifetime of ozone  $(\tau_{O_3})$  varies strongly with altitude in the troposphere, ranging from days near the surface, where deposition rates are high, to weeks in the upper troposphere. In particular, longer  $\tau_{O_3}$  can amplify the role of ozone as an air pollutant through intercontinental transport (e.g. Wild and Akimoto, 2001), and as a radiative forcing agent. Here,  $\tau_{O_3}$  is calculated as the tropospheric ozone burden divided by its total loss (chemical and deposition).  $\tau_{O_3}$  in the Base experiment is  $22.5 \pm 0.1$  days, which closely matches the ACCENT mean value of  $22.3 \pm 2.0$  days. Changes about this baseline as a result of each type of perturbation are now considered.

Figure 9 shows the ozone burden against  $\tau_{O_3}$  for all experiments. For the  $\Delta O3$  pre perturbation,  $\tau_{O_3}$  increases by 1.0 ± 0.1 day (4.4 %). In this experiment, the largest reduction in ozone occurs near the surface, where its lifetime is low. So, removing ozone





in this region further increases  $\tau_{O_3}$  (the deposition term of the  $O_x$  budget is lower by, on average, 199 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup> in all runs which include  $\Delta O3$ pre).  $\tau_{O_3}$  is also affected by changes in the amount of HO<sub>x</sub> and its partitioning. Mitigation of surface NO<sub>x</sub> emissions reduces total HO<sub>x</sub> (through ozone), which increases  $\tau_{O_3}$ . The reduction in emissions favours HO<sub>2</sub> over OH, which drives a reduction in  $\tau_{O_3}$  since loss of ozone to HO<sub>2</sub> is greater than to OH (see Fig. 5a). This is only important in the lowermost troposphere since the NO<sub>x</sub> lifetime is short near the surface and the impact on  $\tau_{O_3}$  through this mechanism is thus small (Wang and Jacob, 1998). An increase in  $\tau_{O_3}$  comes from the decrease in CO (in particular) and NMVOC emissions, which favours HO<sub>x</sub> partitioning towards OH, as discussed in Sect. 4.4.

A decrease in  $\tau_{O_3}$  of 0.1±0.1 days (0.4%) ( $\Delta$ CC4.5) and 1.5±0.1 days (6.7%) ( $\Delta$ CC8.5) is found under climate change, predominantly as a result of greater water vapour-induced loss of ozone. This is counteracted by increases in LNO<sub>x</sub> and STE, which increase ozone in the upper troposphere where its lifetime is long. For  $\Delta$ CC8.5, the water vapour effect dominates leading to the largest decrease in  $\tau_{O_3}$  within the entire set of experiments (Fig. 9).

In the  $\triangle ODS$  experiment,  $\tau_{O_3}$  increases by 1.2 ± 0.1 days (5.3 %) as a result of decreases in O(<sup>1</sup>D), OH and HO<sub>2</sub> amounts, especially at middle and high latitudes, as discussed in Sect. 4.4. Enhanced STE augments this effect.

- <sup>20</sup> Hence, in terms of  $\tau_{O_3}$ , the effects of climate change oppose those of  $\Delta O3$  pre, while  $\Delta ODS$  enhances them. The largest increase in lifetime of 2.2 ± 0.1 days is calculated for  $\Delta (ODS+O3$  pre), which outweighs the decrease in  $\Delta CC8.5$  (1.5 ± 0.1 days). The colour coded arrows in Fig. 9 denote the changes in  $\tau_{O_3}$  when a particular type of perturbation is added, either in isolation or in combination. The fact that all arrows for
- <sup>25</sup> a particular type of perturbation (i.e. those of a particular colour) follow approximately the same path indicates that the changes are linearly additive.





# 4.7 Tropospheric additivity

We now consider the additivity in the tropospheric ozone response for the combinedforcing experiments. Figure 10 compares modelled values of NCP, STE and the ozone burden for the combined-forcing experiments with those expected from a linear addition

<sup>5</sup> of changes in the respective single-forcing experiments. It is evident that, generally, the changes match those expected assuming additivity.

The  $\Delta(CC8.5+ODS)$  simulation raises the only significant exception. The increase in STE in  $\Delta(CC8.5+ODS)$  is  $62 \text{ Tg}(O_3) \text{ yr}^{-1}$  greater than the sum of the increases in the  $\Delta CC8.5$  and  $\Delta ODS$  experiments (Fig. 10b). Consistent with this, only  $\Delta(CC8.5+ODS)$  exhibits a non-additivity in changes in  $O_3S$  (Fig. S2), which extends from the stratosphere into the troposphere in the SH, and to a lesser extent, in the NH. This is qualitatively expected since an increase in the strength of the stratospheric circulation (due to climate change) under greater background ozone (due to reduced ODS amounts) leads to a greater increase in STE than expected from the sum of the two separate effects. The impact is largest in the SH where increases in lower stratospheric ozone are largest.

The non-additive change in ozone in the SH lower stratosphere for this experiment (Fig. 3b) might further contribute to the non-additive change in STE, but quantifying this effect is beyond the scope of this study.

- <sup>20</sup> Non-additivity in  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS) is also evident in NCP (Fig. 10a), which is found to be 55 Tg(O<sub>3</sub>) yr<sup>-1</sup> less than expected. The response is driven by chemical loss rather than production: greater loss occurs directly as a result of STE-derived increases in ozone (relative to the additive response). To a great extent, the larger loss counters increased STE, such that the change in the global ozone burden for  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS)
- <sup>25</sup> (Fig. 10c) is close to the expected response, demonstrating the strong buffering that takes place in response to increases in tropospheric ozone.





# 5 Conclusions

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This study has explored the impacts of future climate change, reductions in ozonedepleting substances (ODSs) and in non-methane ozone precursor emissions on global ozone and, in particular, on the tropospheric budget of odd oxygen ( $O_x$ ). Time-

- <sup>5</sup> slice experiments representing conditions for the years 2000 and 2100 were performed with the UM-UKCA chemistry-climate model (CCM), in a configuration that contains a comprehensive description of both stratospheric and tropospheric chemistry. This allowed an investigation of the consequences of future changes in stratospheric chemistry and dynamics for the tropospheric  $O_x$  budget.
- <sup>10</sup> The principal results regarding the stratosphere are:
  - 1. Changes in ozone and temperature are in qualitative agreement with previous literature.
  - 2. For simulations in which two types of perturbation are combined, changes in ozone can generally be reproduced by the sum of changes in the appropriate single-forcing experiments. The only exception arises when combining a large climate forcing (RCP8.5) with the effects of ODSs, for which there is a detectable non-additivity in the upper stratosphere and Southern Hemisphere lower stratosphere.

The principal results regarding the troposphere are:

- The global tropospheric ozone burden decreases with projected reductions in ozone precursor emissions as part of air quality controls, but this effect is opposed by future changes in climate and ODSs; some combination of these processes will determine future changes in tropospheric oxidising capacity and background surface ozone.
- 25 2. Increases in stratosphere–troposphere exchange (STE) of  $O_x$  primarily result from a strengthened Brewer–Dobson circulation under climate change and from increases in lower stratospheric ozone abundances under reduced ODSs.





- 3. The increases in STE act to increase ozone most in the subtropical (climate change) and extratropical (ODS changes) upper troposphere; the upper troposphere is a key region for ozone as a radiative forcing agent.
- 4. The enhancements in STE act to increase the global tropospheric ozone burdens, despite concomitant reductions in net chemical production under climate change and reduced ODSs.

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- 5. The global and tropospheric lifetime of ozone is enhanced under lower ozone precursor emissions and ODSs; this is opposed by a decrease under climate change at RCP8.5. Essentially no change is found for climate change at RCP4.5.
- 6. Changes in the tropospheric  $O_x$  budget terms when combining two types of perturbation can generally be reproduced by summing the effects of the separate perturbations. Combining changes in climate (RCP8.5) and ODSs leads to a nonadditive change in STE, but the effect on the ozone burden is strongly buffered.

The sensitivity tests in this study have investigated the effects of some, but not all, of the key drivers of ozone under selected scenarios. For example, the future evolution of methane is highly uncertain and its chemical effects have not been examined here. CCM studies that have imposed increases in methane according to the RCP scenarios show large increases in tropospheric ozone, particularly at RCP8.5, which would greatly oppose the effects of emission controls on global, tropospheric ozone (e.g. Young et al., 2013; Revell et al., 2015).

The base climate state, climate sensitivity (incorporated here through the imposed sea surface temperatures), chemical complexity and parameterisations of processes such as lightning  $NO_x$  emissions may all contribute to inter-model differences in projections of future ozone. However, although the quantitative results of this study are likely to be specific to UM-UKCA, the significance of the stratosphere in determining future changes in tropospheric ozone through STE is clear. The results therefore emphasise the need for a good representation of STE in CCMs to simulate future tropospheric ozone. While models with simplified stratospheric ozone chemistry are unlikely



to represent STE accurately (Olsen et al., 2013), this study achieves greater fidelity in its representation through the use of a CCM which contains a relatively sophisticated description of stratospheric and tropospheric chemistry and dynamics. Nonetheless, better constraints on observed estimates of STE are required to deduce whether mod-<sup>5</sup> elled values are realistic; it is hoped that with continued satellite observations of ozone

in the upper stratosphere-lower stratosphere, this uncertainty can be reduced.

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#### Table 1. List of model simulations.

Experiment	Climate (SSTs, sea ice, GHGs <sup>a</sup> )	ODSs (total chlorine, bromine <sup>b</sup> )	Ozone precursor emissions <sup>c</sup>
Base	2000	2000	2000
ΔCC4.5	2100 (RCP4.5)	2000	2000
ΔCC8.5	2100 (RCP8.5)	2000	2000
ΔODS	2000	2100 (RCP4.5)	2000
∆O3pre	2000	2000	2100 (RCP4.5)
$\Delta$ (CC4.5+ODS)	2100 (RCP4.5)	2100 (RCP4.5)	2000
∆(CC4.5+O3pre)	2100 (RCP4.5)	2000	2100 (RCP4.5)
$\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS)	2100 (RCP8.5)	2100 (RCP4.5)	2000
$\Delta$ (CC8.5+O3pre)	2100 (RCP8.5)	2000	2100 (RCP4.5)
Δ(ODS+O3pre)	2000	2100 (RCP4.5)	2100 (RCP4.5)

<sup>a</sup> Changes in GHGs are imposed within the radiation scheme only.

<sup>b</sup> Relative to Base, runs containing ΔODS include total chlorine and bromine reductions at the surface of 2.3 ppbv (67%) and 9.7 pptv (45%), respectively.

<sup>c</sup> Relative to Base, runs containing  $\Delta$ O3pre include average global and annual emission changes of: NO (-51 %), CO (-51 %), HCHO (-26 %), C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (-49 %), C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub> (-40 %), CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> (-2 %), CH<sub>3</sub>CHO (-28 %).





**Table 2.** Tropospheric  $O_x$  budget for the experiments detailed in Table 1. Values for the year 2000 ACCENT ensemble, representing a mean of 26 models (Stevenson et al., 2006), are included for comparison with the Base run on the first row. Also reported is the tropospheric lifetime of ozone ( $\tau_{O_3}$ ) and whole atmosphere lifetime of methane ( $\tau_{CH_4}$ ). The latter includes loss by OH (diagnosed by the model), a soil sink (lifetime 160 years) and a stratospheric sink (120 years). The final column shows values of the ozone burden after adjusting to account for methane feedbacks ( $B_{adj}$ ) (see Sect. 4.3 for details).  $O_x$  is defined in this study as the sum of  $O_3$ ,  $O(^{3}P)$ ,  $O(^{1}D)$ ,  $NO_2$ ,  $2NO_3$ ,  $3N_2O_5$ ,  $HNO_3$ ,  $HNO_4$ , peroxyacetyl nitrate (PAN), peroxypropionyl nitrate (PPAN) and peroxymethacrylic nitric anhydride (MPAN).

Experiment	P/Tg(O <sub>3</sub> ) yr <sup>-1</sup>	L/Tg(O <sub>3</sub> ) yr <sup>-1</sup>	NCP/Tg(O <sub>3</sub> ) yr <sup>-1</sup>	$D(O_x)/Tg(O_3) yr^{-1}$	STE/Tg(O <sub>3</sub> ) yr <sup>-1</sup>	B/Tg(O <sub>3</sub> )	$\tau_{\rm O_3}$ /days	$\tau_{\rm CH_4}/{\rm years}$	$B_{adj}/Tg(O_3)$
ACCENT, year 2000	$5110\pm606$	$4668 \pm 727$	$442 \pm 09$	$1003 \pm 200$	$552 \pm 168$	$344 \pm 39$	$22.3\pm2.0$	$8.67 \pm 1.32$	-
Base	4872	4217	655	1015	360	326	22.5	6.84	-
ΔCC4.5	5287	4668	619	1041	422	356	22.4	6.23	349
ΔCC8.5	5851	5305	546	1007	461	369	21.0	5.36	353
ΔODS	4768	4168	600	1056	456	344	23.7	7.08	346
∆O3pre	4065	3643	422	820	398	292	23.5	7.04	294
$\Delta$ (CC4.5+ODS)	5186	4634	552	1081	529	374	23.6	6.61	372
$\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS)	5742	5307	436	1054	619	393	22.3	5.95	384
∆(CC4.5+O3pre)	4470	4090	380	847	467	319	23.3	6.57	316
∆(CC8.5+O3pre)	5050	4720	331	828	497	337	21.8	5.93	327
Δ(ODS+O3pre)	4000	3633	366	858	492	308	24.7	7.19	312







**Figure 1.** Changes in annual and zonal mean ozone for single-forcing experiments relative to Base. Areas where the changes are not statistically significant at the 95% level according to a two-tailed Student's t test are hatched out. The solid green line indicates the thermal tropopause (WMO, 1957) of the Base run.







**Figure 2.** Changes in annual mean, area-weighted tropical ( $30^{\circ}$  S– $30^{\circ}$  N) stratospheric (red) and tropospheric (blue) column ozone for the single- and combined-forcing experiments relative to Base. Partial columns are calculated assuming a thermal tropopause and a 50 km stratopause. Error bars indicate the 5–95 % confidence interval, calculated as ±1.96 times the standard error in the mean of the change.







**Figure 3.** Changes in annual and zonal mean ozone (ppmv, contours) from Base to two combined-forcing runs: (a)  $\Delta$ (CC4.5+ODS) and (b)  $\Delta$ (CC8.5+ODS). The shading indicates the amount by which the response deviates from additivity (i.e. the difference between the combined-forcing experiment and the sum of the individual-forcing cases). Areas where the non-additive component of the response is not significant at the 95% level according to a Student's *t* test are hatched out. The solid green line indicates the thermal tropopause of the Base run.







**Figure 4.** Tropospheric ozone burden against (a) NCP and (b) STE. Connecting lines are drawn between experiments which differ only in their climate states. Error bars denote the 5-95% confidence interval, calculated as  $\pm 1.96$  times the standard error in the mean.







**Figure 5. (a)** Global tropospheric and annual mean fluxes in the Base run through the main channels for chemical production and loss of  $O_x$ . Differences between Base and the four different types of perturbation are shown for chemical **(b)** production and **(c)** loss. These account for the changes in all runs that include a particular type of perturbation e.g. the bars for  $\Delta$ CC4.5 represent the mean of the differences  $\Delta$ CC4.5-Base,  $\Delta$ (CC4.5+ODS)- $\Delta$ ODS and  $\Delta$ (CC4.5+O3pre)- $\Delta$ O3pre. The range of these calculated means is illustrated by whiskers on each bar.







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Error bars indicate the 5–95 % confidence interval, calculated as  $\pm 1.96$  times the standard error in the mean of the change.

at 70 hPa (blue bars) and 100 hPa (red bars) for the single-forcing experiments relative to Base.



**Figure 7.** The zonal and annual mean contribution of  $O_3S$  to ozone in the Base simulation. The solid green line indicates the thermal tropopause of the Base run.







**Figure 8.** Changes in annual and zonal mean  $O_3S$  (first column) and ozone (second column) mixing ratios (ppbv) from Base to a selection of experiments,  $\Delta CC8.5$ ,  $\Delta ODS$  and  $\Delta (CC8.5+ODS)$ . The solid green line indicates the thermal tropopause of the Base run. Strong reductions in  $O_3S$  and ozone occur near the tropopause under climate change because of a lifting of the tropopause, which introduces tropospheric (ozone poor) air into this region.







**Figure 9.** Tropospheric ozone burden against the ozone lifetime. Arrows indicate the impact of climate change at RCP4.5 (blue) and RCP8.5 (red), reduced ODS loadings (green) and reduced ozone precursor emissions (magenta). Error bars indicate the 5–95% confidence interval, calculated as  $\pm 1.96$  times the standard error in the mean.





**Figure 10.** Correlations in (a) NCP, (b) STE and (c) the ozone burden between the combinedforcing experiments and those expected from a linear addition of changes in the single-forcing experiments relative to Base. Error bars indicate the 5–95% confidence interval calculated as  $\pm 1.96$  times the standard error in the mean.



