

Interactive comment on “Forecasting for a Lagrangian aircraft campaign” by A. Stohl et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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1. General comments

This paper describes a complete system to predict the best Lagrangian opportunities that may arise during a Lagrangian aircraft campaign. It presents the model on which the whole system relies. It explains clearly the criteria used to select the best Lagrangian cases. A partial validation is led thanks to data from the NARE 97 campaign. The whole paper is well written and convincing and it brings enough ideas to be published.

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2. Specific comments

Before any validation with data from the NARE 97 campaign, it would be useful to assess the relevance of such a system according to the accuracy of the underlying model and the quality required to plan satisfactory flights. The authors themselves point out some large errors in the simulation in given conditions (e.g. at the end of the third paragraph of section 3). It is all the more relevant as the criteria may involve quite fine processes. Therefore it would be an improvement to explain how reliable the system is and which accuracy one can expect from it, beyond the particular validation case.

3. Technical corrections

- 1) In section 2 (first sentence), replace "the the Lagrangian" with "the Lagrangian".
- 2) In the first reference, replace "duringe" with "during".

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 4, 2405, 2004.

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