



1 **Air Quality and Climate Change, Topic 3 of the Model Inter-Comparison**
2 **Study for Asia Phase III (MICS-Asia III), Part II: aerosol radiative effects**
3 **and aerosol feedbacks**

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37 **Abstract**

38 Topic 3 of the Model Inter-Comparison Study for Asia (MICS-Asia) Phase III examines how
39 online coupled air quality models perform in simulating high aerosol pollution in the North
40 China Plain region during wintertime haze events and evaluates the importance of aerosol
41 radiative and microphysical feedbacks. This paper discusses the estimates of aerosol radiative
42 forcing, aerosol feedbacks, and possible causes for the differences among the models. Over the
43 Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei (BTH) region, the ensemble mean of aerosol direct radiative forcing
44 (ADRF) at the top of atmosphere, inside the atmosphere and at the surface are -1.9, 8.4 and -
45 10.3 W/m², respectively. Subdivisions of direct and indirect aerosol radiative forcing confirm
46 the dominant roles of direct forcing. During severe haze days (January 17-19, 2010), the
47 averaged reduction in near surface temperature for the BTH region can reach 0.3-3.0 °C. The
48 responses of wind speeds at 10 m (WS10) inferred from different models show consistent
49 declines in eastern China. For the BTH region, aerosol-radiation feedback induced changes in
50 PM_{2.5} range from 6.0 to 8.8 μg/m³ (< 6.6%). Sensitivity simulations indicate the most sensitive
51 parameter for aerosol radiative forcing and feedback is the aerosol mixing state, and BC
52 exhibits large contribution to atmospheric heating although it accounts for a small share of
53 mass concentration of PM_{2.5}.

54

55 **1 Introduction**

56 Aerosols change weather and climate via the following pathways: they absorb and scatter solar
57 and thermal radiation to alter the radiative balance of the earth-atmosphere system, which is
58 referred to as direct effects; and, they serve as cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) and/or ice
59 nuclei (IN) to modify cloud properties, which is referred to as indirect effects (*Haywood and*
60 *Boucher, 2000*). The suppression of cloud convection induced by direct effects of absorbing
61 aerosols is called the semi-direct effect (*Lohmann and Feichter, 2005*). Increases in cloud
62 droplet number can increase cloud albedo for a constant liquid water path (LWP), which is
63 further classified as the first indirect effect or Twomey effect (*Twomey, 1991*). More but smaller
64 cloud droplets reduce precipitation intensity but increase cloud lifetime, which is called cloud
65 lifetime or second indirect aerosol effect (*Albrecht, 1989*). In turn, changes in the radiative



66 balance can alter meteorological variables (e.g. temperature, relative humidity, photolysis rate,
67 etc.) and further the transport, diffusion and chemical conversion of trace gases and aerosols,
68 while changes in clouds can affect in-cloud aqueous-phase chemistry and wet deposition of
69 gases and aerosols.

70 The impacts of meteorology on chemistry have been explicitly treated in chemical transport
71 models (CTMs). For example, temperature modulates chemical reaction and photolysis rates,
72 affects volatility of chemical species, and biogenic emissions, wind speed and direction
73 determine transport and mixing, and precipitation influences wet deposition (*Baklanov et al.,*
74 *2014*). However, due to the complexity of these processes and lack of computational resources,
75 the influences of atmospheric compositions on weather and climate have been generally
76 ignored in previous CTMs (*Baklanov et al., 2014*). Until recently, with the rapid development
77 of coupled meteorology and chemistry models, many new studies have been conducted to
78 investigate the aerosol direct and indirect effects and feedbacks (*Baklanov et al., 2017; Forkel*
79 *et al., 2015; Gao et al., 2016, 2017; Han et al., 2010; Huang et al., 2016; Jacobson et al., 2007;*
80 *Wang et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2010*). In highly polluted regions like Asia, aerosol feedbacks
81 can be particularly important (*Gao et al., 2016, 2017*).

82 Aerosol feedbacks during haze events in China have been explored using multiple online
83 coupled meteorology-chemistry models, including WRF-Chem (the Weather Research
84 Forecasting model coupled with Chemistry, *Gao et al., 2016, 2017*), WRF-CMAQ
85 (Community Multiscale Air Quality, *Wang et al., 2014*). Nevertheless, large uncertainties
86 remain in the modelling of these processes, due to the lack of direct observational constraints
87 and challenges in predicting aerosol compositions. Thus, the inter-comparison of coupled
88 meteorology-chemistry models is of great significance to better understand the differences,
89 causes, and uncertainties within these processes.

90 Topic 3: air quality and climate change within the Model Inter-Comparison Study for Asia
91 Phase III (MICS-Asia phase III) was initialized to address these issues (*Gao et al., 2018a*).
92 Results from seven applications of fully online coupled meteorology-chemistry models using
93 harmonized emission and chemical boundary conditions were submitted to this topic (*Gao et*
94 *al., 2018a*). These model applications include two applications of WRF-Chem by different
95 institutions, two applications of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)



96 Unified WRF (NU-WRF) model with different model resolutions, one application of the
97 Regional Integrated Environment Modeling System with Chemistry (RIEMS-Chem, *Han et al.*,
98 2010), one application of the coupled Regional Climate Chemistry Modeling System
99 (RegCCMS), and one application of the coupled WRF-CMAQ model (*Gao et al.*, 2018a). More
100 detailed information of the participating models, how the experiments were designed and
101 model evaluations have been archived in *Gao et al.* (2018a). In this paper, we analyze the
102 results from the participating models to address the following questions: (1) how large is the
103 aerosol radiative forcing during winter haze in China and how differently are models estimating
104 it? (2) to what extent do aerosol feedbacks change meteorological variables? and how
105 differently are current models estimating these changes? (3) to what extent do aerosol
106 feedbacks contribute to the evolution of high aerosol concentrations during winter haze
107 episodes and what are the best estimates from different models? And (4) what are the major
108 causes of the differences among the models? Sect. 2 presents the estimates of aerosol direct
109 radiative forcing inferred from multiple models, including the separation of direct and indirect
110 effects. In Sect. 2, we discuss the impacts of aerosol-radiation feedbacks on meteorological
111 variables and PM_{2.5} concentrations. Sect. 4 illustrates the sensitivity of aerosol forcing to
112 different processes in the model, and the summary is presented in Sect. 5.

113

114 **2 Aerosol Direct and Indirect Forcing**

115 **Fig. 1** shows the monthly mean all-sky aerosol direct radiative forcing (ADRF) over China.
116 The spatial distributions of ADRF at the surface and inside the atmosphere inferred from
117 multiple models are generally consistent, with the largest values in eastern and southwestern
118 China. Over the BTH region, M5 and M7 reports the highest ADRF at the surface (-16.7 and -
119 17.0 W/m²), and the greatest ADRF inside the atmosphere (10.1 and 14.6 W/m²) (**Table 1**).
120 M6 shows the lowest ADRF both at the surface and inside the atmosphere (-3.6 and 3.6 W/m²)
121 (**Table 1**). It is noticed that M6 predicts lower AOD than M5 and M7 (*Gao et al.*, 2018a),
122 which could partly explain the weaker ADRF, and M6 also use an external assumption which
123 likely cause weaker absorption and ADRF in the atmosphere. However, the reported ADRF at
124 the top of the atmosphere (TOA) vary widely, and no consensus is reached on whether the



125 forcing is positive or negative. The spatial pattern of ADRF at the TOA inferred from M5 are
126 consistently negative across the modeling domain, while the results inferred from other models
127 are patchy with positive values to the north or to the southwest (**Fig. 1**). Over the BTH region,
128 suggested ADRF at the TOA range from -7.6 to 0.2 W/m^2 (**Table 1**). *Li et al. (2010)* reported
129 observation-based estimates of aerosol radiative forcing across China to be 0.3 ± 1.6 at the TOA.
130 *Chung et al. (2005)* and *Chung et al. (2010)* estimated the forcing over south Asia to be -2.9
131 W/m^2 and -3.6 W/m^2 at the TOA, respectively. The magnitudes of modelled estimated aerosol
132 radiative forcing values are generally in line with estimates inferred from observations, while
133 discrepancies among models could be resulted from assumptions for mixing state and other
134 model treatments. The discussions on how different model treatments affect the results of
135 ADRF is provided in Sect. 4.

136 **Fig. 2** exhibits the ensemble mean of monthly averaged ADRF at the TOA, inside the
137 atmosphere and at the surface. Elevated forcing inside the atmosphere and at the surface are
138 mainly located in east China. However, the ensemble mean of forcing at the TOA over the
139 ocean is slightly higher than that over the land. Over the BTH region, the ensemble mean of
140 ADRF at the TOA, inside the atmosphere and at the surface are -1.9 , 8.4 and -10.3 W/m^2 ,
141 respectively. When only haze days are considered, these values increase to -2.4 , 19.0 and -21.4
142 W/m^2 , respectively. In winter, the aerosol radiative forcing in China is largely contributed by
143 the power sector and residential sector, but with different signs of the contribution (*Gao et al.*,
144 *2018b*).

145 M4 and M5 further provide subdivision of direct and indirect aerosol radiative forcing. As
146 listed in **Table 2**, although the magnitudes of forcing estimated by M4 and M5 differ from each
147 other, the dominant roles of direct forcing are consistent. Over north China and during
148 wintertime, aerosol indirect forcing is negligible due to the lack of water vapor the stable
149 weather conditions.

150

151 **3 Impact of aerosol feedback on meteorological variables and PM_{2.5}** 152 **concentrations**

153 Here we analyze results for simulations on the time period, January 2010, of a heavy haze event.



154 When extreme haze events happen, high aerosol loadings can reduce significantly the
155 shortwave radiation reaching the surface, modifying near-surface temperature (*Gao et al.*,
156 2017). **Fig. 3** displays the aerosol-radiation feedback induced changes in temperature at 2 m
157 (T2) from M1 (a), M2 (b), M4 (c), M5 (d), M6 (e), M7 (f) (M1: Pusan National University;
158 M2: University of Iowa; M4: NASA; M5: Institute of Atmospheric Physics; M6: Nanjing
159 University; M7: University of Tennessee; *Gao et al.*, 2018a). All models show reductions in
160 T2, but the magnitudes differ. M5 exhibits the largest areas where T2 is reduced, which include
161 northeastern China, while significant reduction in T2 inferred from other models are mainly
162 concentrated in southern China (**Fig. 3**). In Beijing, the monthly averaged reductions in T2
163 from multiple models range from 0-1°C, with the greatest changes calculated from M5 (**Table**
164 **1**). In the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei (BTH) region, similar magnitudes (0-1.3 °C) are found. When
165 only severe haze days (January 17-19) are considered, the averaged reduction in T2 for Beijing
166 (0.1-3.2 °C) and the BTH region (0.3-3.0 °C) are further enhanced (**Table 3**). In terms of
167 aerosol-radiation feedback induced temperature reduction, M1 and M2 generally report similar
168 magnitudes, which are lower than M4, M5 and M7. Model evaluation of PM_{2.5} composition in
169 *Gao et al.* (2018a) reveals that M4 overpredicts strong scattering organic carbon, which could
170 be one of the reasons for higher temperature reduction.

171 Pronounced decreases in water vapor at 2 m (Q2) are mostly located in southern China (**Fig.**
172 **4**), where water vapor is more abundant due to the proximity to the sea. During extreme haze
173 days, the aerosol-radiation feedback induced decreases in Q2 in the BTH region from multiple
174 models range from 0.07 to 0.5 g/kg, with the lowest estimate from M1 and the highest from
175 M6 (**Table 3**). The responses of wind speeds at 10 m (WS10) inferred from different models
176 are generally consistent, displaying decreases in eastern China except M6. In the BTH region,
177 the monthly mean aerosol-radiation feedback induced decreases in WS10 range from 0.02 to
178 0.09 m/s (**Table 1**), and more pronounced reductions are suggested by M4, M5 and M7 (**Fig.**
179 **5**).

180 Because of aerosol-radiation feedback, most models report that surface PM_{2.5} concentrations
181 are generally enhanced in China, with the exception of M6 (**Fig. 6**). It is also noteworthy that
182 PM_{2.5} concentrations decrease in the Gobi desert and Taklimakan desert of western China in
183 M5 and M2, which is caused by the decreased wind speed near the surface due to the weakened



184 downward transport of momentum from upper layer above boundary layer to the surface (*Han*
185 *et al.*, 2013). For M6 the increases are patchy over east China, with decreases to the north and
186 to the southwest. The monthly mean $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ are enhanced by 0.1-1.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for Beijing, and by
187 0.8-4.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for the BTH region. The enhancement fractions are generally below 2.7% for
188 Beijing, and below 7.8% for the BTH region (**Table 1**). To further understand how aerosol-
189 radiation feedback contribute to the formation of haze event, we calculate the mean increase
190 for extreme haze days (January 17-19). For the BTH region, the contribution of aerosol-
191 radiation feedback to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations are lower than 6%, and the enhancement are below
192 8.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. *Gao et al.* (2017) demonstrates that the aerosol-radiation feedback induced changes
193 in $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ are negligible during nighttime, so we further calculate daytime mean changes, as
194 listed in **Table 3**. For the BTH region, M2 reports the highest enhancement (12.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) of
195 $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations during daytime. Except M6, other models report similar magnitudes of
196 the enhancement, ranging from 6.0 to 8.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The enhancement fraction is still not more
197 than 6.6% for the BTH region, and below 8.3% for Beijing. **Table 3** also displays the maximum
198 enhancement of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ for the BTH region. M7 suggests the largest $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ enhancement (up to
199 60.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), followed by M2 (up to 55.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), and M5 (41.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). Other three models,
200 M1, M4 and M6 indicate the aerosol-radiation induced increase in $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ can reach up to more
201 than 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in the BTH region (**Table 3**).

202 These results can be compared to previous studies. The contributions of aerosol-radiation
203 feedback to haze formation in China have been investigated in many previous studies (*Ding et al.*
204 *et al.*, 2016; *Gao et al.*, 2015; *Gao et al.*, 2016; *Liu et al.*, 2018; *J. Wang et al.*, 2014; *Z. Wang et al.*
205 *et al.*, 2014; *Wang et al.*, 2015; *Wu et al.*, 2019; *Zhang et al.*, 2015; *Zhang et al.*, 2018; *Zhong et al.*
206 *et al.*, 2018), but the reported values partly diverge. *Ding et al.* (2016), *J. Wang et al.* (2014) and
207 *Zhong et al.* (2018) indicate that the aerosol radiative effects can increase $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ by more than
208 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ or +70%. *Gao et al.* (2015), *Z. Wang et al.* (2014), *Wang et al.* (2015), and *Zhang et al.*
209 *et al.* (2018) suggest that the contributions are generally within the range of 10-30%. These
210 studies are different from ours in terms of time period, region, emissions and resulting aerosol
211 levels. For example, the monthly mean $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ level in January 2010 are about 50% lower than
212 that in January 2013. The above studies also differed in the assumptions and treatments for
213 aerosol properties and mixing state. According to the results from multiple models in this study,



214 the contribution of aerosol-radiation feedback to haze formation during this time period are
215 generally below 10%. Uncertainties remain resulting from the errors in simulated chemical
216 compositions (*Gao et al., 2018a*). As suggested in model evaluation, sulfate and organic
217 aerosol concentrations are generally underestimated by most models in this study, except that
218 M4 overestimate organic aerosol (*Gao et al., 2018a*). These were attributed to the missing
219 multiphase oxidation mechanisms of SO₂, and different secondary organic aerosol (SOA)
220 formation mechanisms in these models (*Gao et al., 2018a*).

221

222 **4 Sensitivity to Different Processes**

223 To further explore the causes for the differences among models and the main factors influencing
224 the aerosol-radiation feedback, several sensitivity simulations were conducted using the
225 RIEMS-Chem model (M5) focusing on the effects of aerosols mixing state, hygroscopic
226 growth, black carbon and mineral dust.

227

228 4.1 Aerosol mixing state

229 A simulation was run with the assumption of external mixing (results discussed above applied
230 the assumption of internal mixing), and the corresponding results are displayed in **Fig. 7-9**. The
231 simulation with the assumption of external mixing shows weaker (30% smaller) ADRF at the
232 surface, TOA and in the atmosphere (**Fig. 9a, 9f and 9k**), resulting in smaller changes in surface
233 meteorological variables and PM_{2.5} concentrations (**Fig. 8a, 8d, 8g, and 8j**). For example, the
234 monthly mean maximum changes in air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and PM_{2.5}
235 values are -2.7°C, +3%, -0.24m/s and 16 µg m⁻³, respectively in the southern Huabei province
236 from the simulation with internal mixing, whereas the corresponding changes from external
237 mixing assumption are -1.4°C, +2%, -0.12m/s and 8 µg m⁻³, respectively. These differences
238 demonstrate the significant impact of aerosol mixing state on the ADRF and the aerosol-
239 radiation feedback. It should also be emphasized that the aerosol mixing state can vary with
240 time and location. Some previous measurements in the Huabei Plain exhibit that aerosols are
241 partially internally mixed and the fraction of internal mixing could be increasing from clean to
242 haze period (*Li et al., 2014*).



243

244 4.2 Hygroscopic growth

245 Given the important effect of aerosol hygroscopic growth on ADRF (*Li et al., 2014*), another
246 simulation was conducted with decreased relative humidity by FNL nudging above boundary
247 layer. Such perturbation of RH was based on the fact that M5 predicted higher relative humidity
248 (water vapor mixing ratio) than the observations (*Gao et al., 2017*). The simulation with
249 reduced RH produces lower values of AOD (**Fig. 7f**) and ADRF (**Fig. 9e, 9j, and 9o**, about 10%
250 lower) because of the decreased relative humidity and weaker hygroscopic growth.

251

252 4.3 Soil dust

253 M5 includes all anthropogenic aerosols and dust, sea salt, while the other models except M2
254 do not consider natural dust. A simulation with dust aerosol excluded was conducted and the
255 results show the dust aerosol contributes to total PM_{2.5} concentration and ADRF in parts of
256 central and northeast China, especially in the middle reaches of the Yellow River with the
257 ADRF by dust at the surface contribute up to -6 W m^{-2} in terms of monthly mean (**Fig. 9d, 9l,**
258 **and 9n**), which indicates the nonnegligible role of dust even in winter. Both the overprediction
259 of relative humidity (water vapor) and the inclusion of mineral dust can partly explain the
260 relatively stronger ADRF from M5 compared with other models.

261

262 4.4 The effect of BC

263 To identify the effect of BC, two simulations without BC and with doubled BC concentrations
264 were conducted. When BC is not included, the ADRF in the atmosphere decreases largely (**Fig.**
265 **9g**), indicating the strong absorbing effect of BC. The ADRF at the surface changes by about
266 10% (**Fig. 9b**). The monthly mean maximum changes in air temperature, relative humidity,
267 wind speed and PM_{2.5} values in this case are -2.2°C , $+3.5\%$, -0.18m/s and $10 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$,
268 respectively, in the southern Huabei region. When BC concentrations are doubled, the
269 corresponding values are -3.0°C , $+2.0\%$, -0.27m/s and $18 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, respectively. The comparison
270 with the changes in the base case (the corresponding values are -2.7°C , $+3\%$, -0.24m/s and 16
271 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, respectively) indicates that the effect of BC is smaller than that due to other scattering
272 aerosols (inorganic and organic aerosols), and the percentage contribution by BC to the total



273 feedback could be in a range of 20-30%. It is also found that the effect of BC under internal
274 mixing condition is larger than that under external mixing. Gao et al. (2016) demonstrates that
275 the impacts of BC on meteorology and PM_{2.5} can account for as high as 60% of the total aerosol
276 feedbacks, although it is not of great significance in terms of mass concentration.

277 The above sensitivity simulations suggest the importance of mixing state assumption for
278 ADRF and feedback and the potentially dominant role of scattering aerosols over absorbing
279 aerosols in aerosol radiative effect during haze periods.

280

281 **5 Summary**

282 Topic 3 of MICS-Asia III focuses on understanding how current online coupled air quality
283 models perform in capturing extreme aerosol pollution event in northern China and how
284 aerosols interact with radiation and weather. Seven applications of different online coupled
285 meteorology-chemistry models were involved in this activity. Previous paper has demonstrated
286 that main features of the accumulation of air pollutants are generally well represented, while
287 large differences in the models were found in the predicted PM_{2.5} chemical compositions (*Gao*
288 *et al.*, 2018a). These inconsistency would lead to differences in estimated ADRF and aerosol
289 feedbacks.

290 The spatial distributions of ADRF at the surface and inside the atmosphere inferred from
291 multiple models are generally consistent, while the spatial pattern of ADRF at the TOA greatly
292 differ. Over the BTH region, the ensemble mean of ADRF at the TOA, inside the atmosphere
293 and at the surface are -1.9, 8.4 and -10.3 W/m², respectively. Subdivisions of direct and indirect
294 aerosol radiative forcing confirm the dominant roles of direct forcing.

295 During severe haze days (January 17-19), the averaged reduction in T2 for the BTH region
296 can reach 0.3-3.0 °C. The responses of wind speeds at 10 m (WS10) inferred from different
297 models show consistent declines in eastern China. For the BTH region, aerosol-radiation
298 feedback induced changes in PM_{2.5} range from 6.0 to 8.8 µg/m³ (< 6.6%). Our findings differ
299 from previous studies in terms of time period, region and emissions, for example, the monthly
300 mean PM_{2.5} level in January 2010 are about 50% lower than that in January 2013.

301 Sensitivity simulations were conducted using the RIEMS-Chem model (M5) to understand the



302 influences of aerosols mixing state, hygroscopic growth, black carbon and mineral dust. The
303 results indicate the most sensitive parameter for ADRF and feedback is the aerosol mixing state,
304 and BC exhibits large contribution to atmospheric heating although it accounts for a small share
305 of mass concentration of PM_{2.5}.

306

307 **Author Contributions**

308 M.G., Z.H., and G.R.C. designed the study, and M.G. processed and analyzed the data. M.G.,
309 Z.H., and G.R.C. wrote the paper with inputs from all other authors.

310

311 **Data availability**

312 The measurements and model simulations data can be accessed through contacting the
313 corresponding authors.

314

315 **Competing interests**

316 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interests.

317

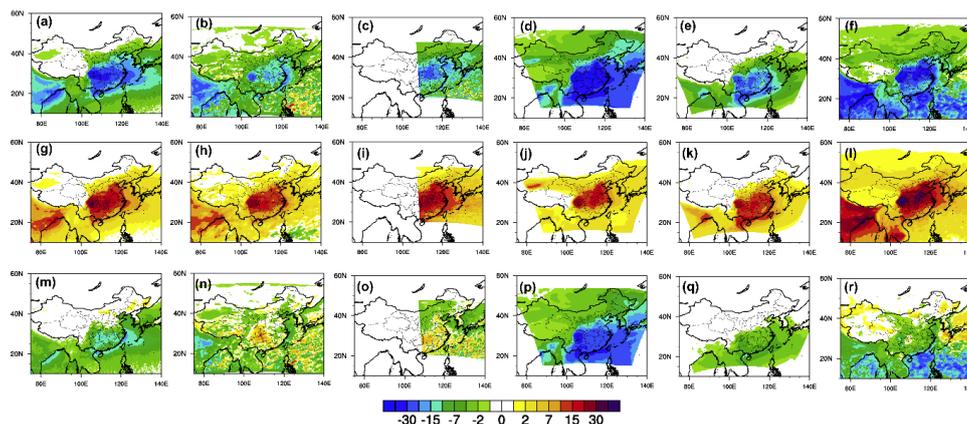
318 **Acknowledgement**

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320 Science Foundation of China (91644217 and 41620104008).

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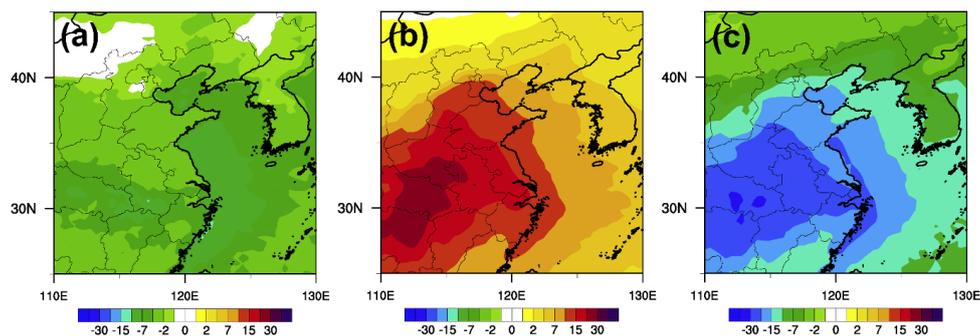
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325 Figure 1. Monthly mean aerosol direct radiative forcing at the surface, inside the atmosphere
326 and at the top of the atmosphere inferred from M1 (a, g, m), M2 (b, h, n), M4 (c, i, o), M5 (d,
327 j, p), M6 (e, k, q), M7 (f, l, r) (M1: Pusan National University; M2: University of Iowa; M4:
328 NASA; M5: Institute of Atmospheric Physics; M6: Nanjing University; M7: University of
329 Tennessee; *Gao et al., 2018*)
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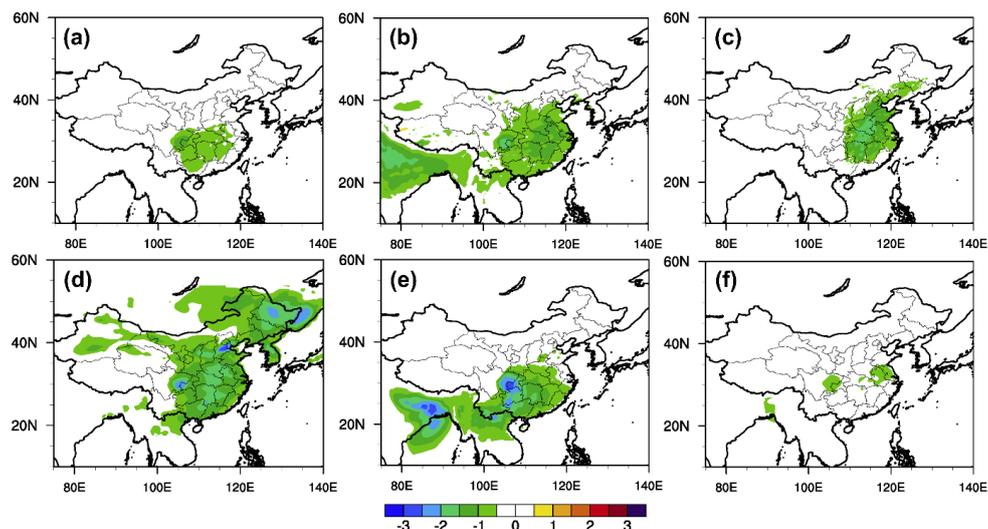


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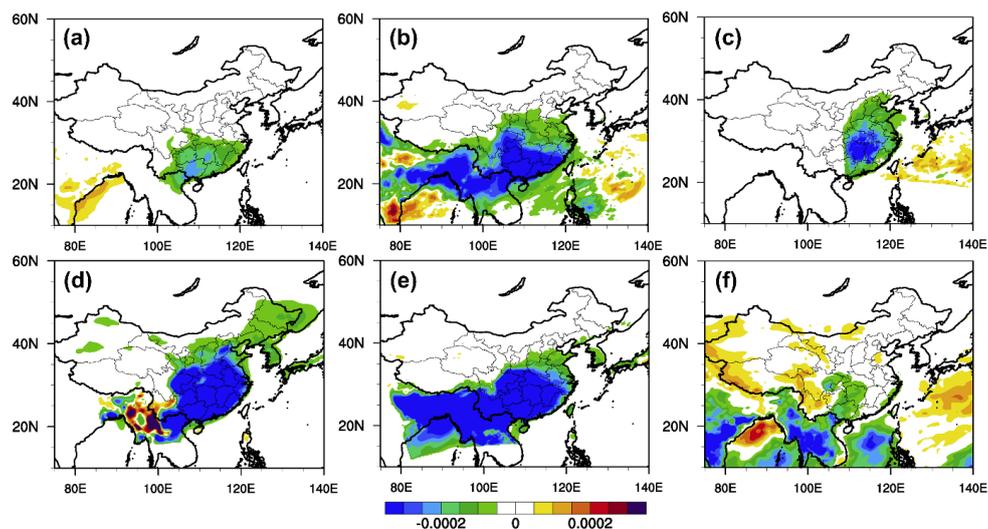
332 Figure 2. Ensemble mean of monthly mean aerosol direct radiative forcing at the top of the
333 atmosphere (a), inside the atmosphere (b) and at the surface (c)

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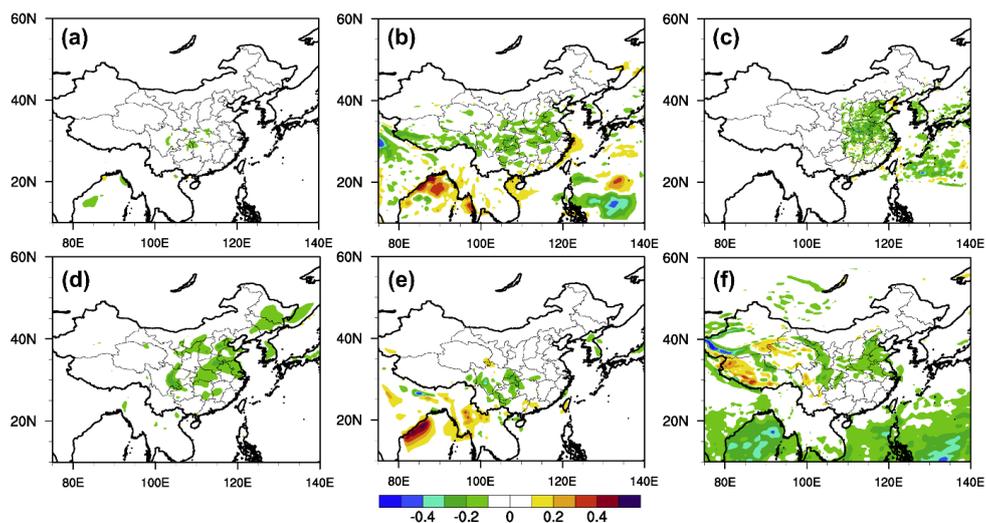
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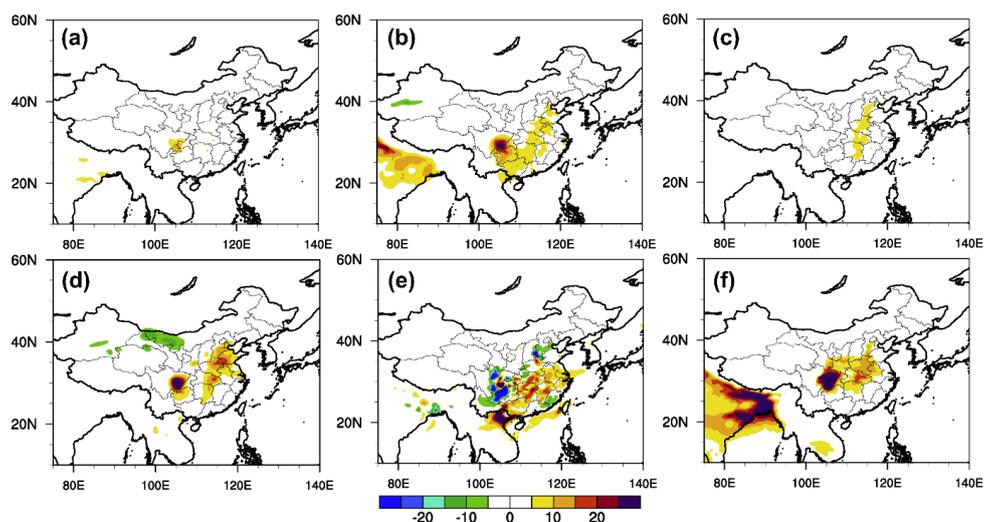
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337 Figure 3. Monthly mean changes in temperature at 2 m (T_2 , °C) due to aerosol radiative
338 effects from M1 (a), M2 (b), M4 (c), M5 (d), M6 (e), M7 (f) (M1: Pusan National University;
339 M2: University of Iowa; M4: NASA; M5: Institute of Atmospheric Physics; M6: Nanjing
340 University; M7: University of Tennessee; *Gao et al., 2018*)
341



342
343 Figure 4. Monthly mean changes in water vapor at 2 m (Q_2 , kg/kg) due to aerosol radiative
344 effects from M1 (a), M2 (b), M4 (c), M5 (d), M6 (e), M7 (f) (M1: Pusan National University;
345 M2: University of Iowa; M4: NASA; M5: Institute of Atmospheric Physics; M6: Nanjing
346 University; M7: University of Tennessee; *Gao et al., 2018*)
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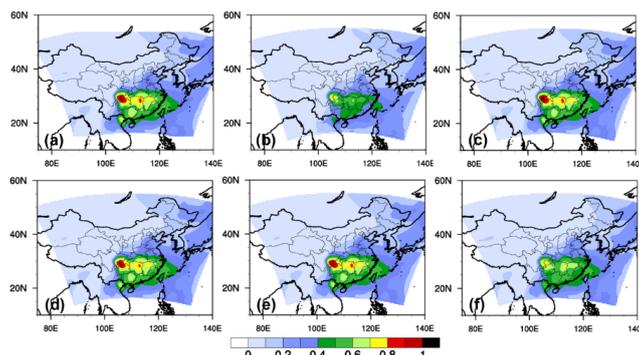
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349 Figure 5. Monthly mean changes in wind speeds at 10 m (WS10, m/s) due to aerosol radiative
350 effects from M1 (a), M2 (b), M4 (c), M5 (d), M6 (e), M7 (f) (M1: Pusan National University;
351 M2: University of Iowa; M4: NASA; M5: Institute of Atmospheric Physics; M6: Nanjing
352 University; M7: University of Tennessee; *Gao et al., 2018*)
353



354
355 Figure 6. Monthly mean changes in surface $PM_{2.5}$ ($\mu g/m^3$) due to aerosol radiative effects
356 from M1 (a), M2 (b), M4 (c), M5 (d), M6 (e), M7 (f) (M1: Pusan National University; M2:
357 University of Iowa; M4: NASA; M5: Institute of Atmospheric Physics; M6: Nanjing
358 University; M7: University of Tennessee; *Gao et al., 2018*)
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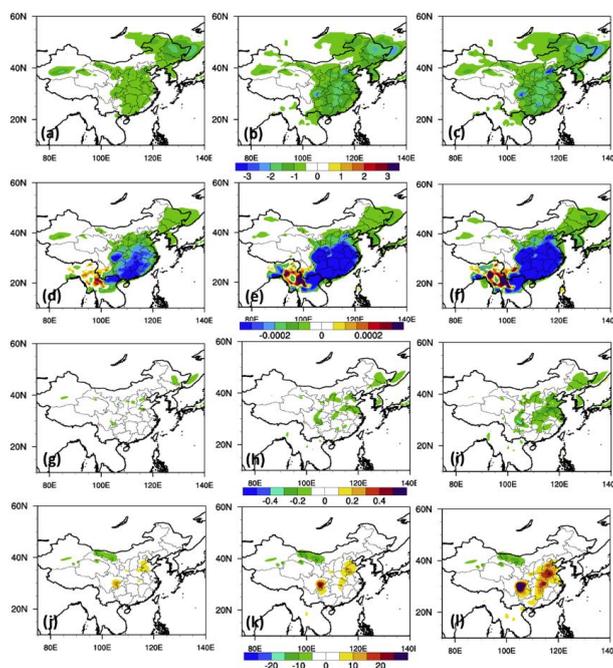


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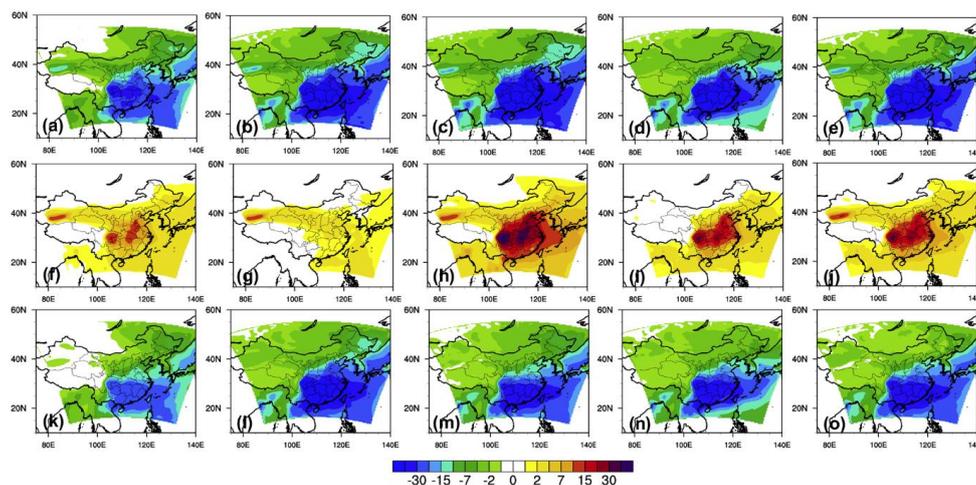
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362 Figure 7. Monthly mean RIEMS-Chem modeled AOD from different simulations: control run
363 (default simulation with internal mixing assumption) (a), external mixing assumption (b),
364 internal mixing assumption but without BC (c), internal mixing assumption but with doubled
365 BC (d), without dust and sea-salt (e), and reduced RH (f)
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368 Figure 8. Monthly mean RIEMS-Chem modeled changes in T2 (°C), Q2 (kg/kg), WS10 (m/s)
369 and PM_{2.5} (µg/m³) from different simulations: external mixing assumption (first column),
370 internal mixing assumption but without BC (second column) and internal mixing assumption
371 but with doubled BC (third column)
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374 Figure 9. Monthly mean RIEMS-Chem modeled aerosol direct radiative forcing at the surface
375 (a-e), inside the atmosphere (f-j) and at the top of the atmosphere (k-o) from different
376 simulations: external mixing assumption (first column), internal mixing assumption but
377 without BC (second column), internal mixing assumption but with doubled BC (third
378 column), without dust and sea-salt (fourth column), and reduced RH (fifth column)

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403 Table1 Monthly Mean Aerosol Direct Radiative Forcing (W/m^2) and Changes in T2 ($^{\circ}C$), Q2
 404 (g/kg), WS10 (0.1 m/s), and $PM_{2.5}$ ($\mu g/m^3$) for Beijing and Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region

Beijing	M1 PNU	M2	M4 NASA	M5 IAP	M6 NJU	M7 UTK
UIOWA						
ADRF	-0.6	-2.2	-0.8	-5.1	-0.1	-2.5
TOA						
ADRF	5.8	4.3	9.3	7.1	2.4	11.6
ATM						
ADRF	-6.4	-6.5	-10.1	-12.2	-2.5	-14.1
SFC						
T2	-0.1	-0.3	-0.7	-1.0	-0.1	0.0
Q2	-1.2E-2	-2.3E-2	-6.4E-2	-1.1E-1	-5.8E-3	2.1E-2
WS10	-0.2	-0.2	-0.6	-0.3	0.0	-1.2
$PM_{2.5}$	0.1 (0.2%)	1.4 (1.6%)	1.1 (1.7%)	1.2 (2.7%)	-1.2 (-2.2%)	1.0 (1.4%)
BTH						
ADRF	0.2	-1.4	-0.3	-7.6	0.0	-2.4
TOA						
ADRF	7.3	5.4	10.1	9.1	3.6	14.6
ATM						
ADRF	-7.1	-6.8	-10.4	-16.7	-3.6	-17.0
SFC						
T2	-0.2	-0.4	-0.8	-1.3	-0.2	0.0
Q2	-1.0E-2	-2.5E-2	-8.1E-2	-1.6E-1	-2.9E-2	2.5E-2
WS10	-0.2	-0.2	-0.9	-0.7	0.1	-0.9
$PM_{2.5}$	0.8 (1.4%)	1.8 (1.8%)	2.2 (3.2%)	4.4 (7.8%)	-4.2 (-5.7%)	2.2 (2.4%)

405 Table 2 Monthly Mean Aerosol Direct Radiative Forcing and indirect Radiative Forcing
 406 (W/m^2) at the top of the atmosphere inferred from M4 and M5
 407

Beijing	direct	Indirect
M4	-0.77	-0.15
M5	-5.05	-0.01
BTH		
M4	-0.28	0.1
M5	-7.63	-0.04

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415 Table 3 Mean Aerosol Direct Radiative Forcing (W/m^2) and Changes in T2 ($^{\circ}C$), Q2 (g/kg),
 416 WS10 (0.1 m/s), and PM_{2.5} ($\mu g/m^3$) for Beijing and Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei (BTH) region
 417 averaged over January 17-19 2010

Beijing	M1 PNU	M2 UIOWA	M4 NASA	M5 IAP	M6 NJU	M7 UTK
ADRF TOA	2.6	-1.4	1.8	-11.9	-0.6	-3.3
ADRF ATM	18.6	9.8	21.5	19.0	7.3	32.3
ADRF SFC	-16.0	-11.2	-19.7	-30.8	-7.9	-35.6
T2	-0.5	-0.5	-1.7	-3.2	-0.1	-1.5
Q2	-7.4E-2	-6.2E-2	-2.6E-1	-4.5E-1	-1.3E-2	-9.2E-2
WS10	-0.1	0.2	-2.3	1.7	0.5	-0.8
PM _{2.5}	-1.1 (- 0.9%)	3.8 (1.7%)	6.3 (3.8%)	-2.6 (- 2.1%)	-7.9 (- 4.7%)	1.3 (1.1%)
BTH						
ADRF TOA	1.4	0.1	4.9	-16.0	-0.7	-3.8
ADRF ATM	18.3	12.0	19.1	18.7	10.0	36.1
ADRF SFC	-16.9	-11.9	-14.2	-34.6	-10.7	-39.9
T2	-0.6	-0.7	-1.6	-3.0	-0.3	-1.5
Q2	-7.1E-2	-8.2E-2	-2.9E-1	-5.0E-1	-1.2E-1	-8.9E-2
WS10	-0.3	-0.4	-2.5	0.5	0.3	-0.9
PM _{2.5}	2.9 (2.3%)	8.5 (3.7%)	5.3 (3.9%)	7.9 (5.9%)	-10.5 (- 6.2%)	5.1 (2.7%)
Daytime PM_{2.5}						
Beijing	2.4 (2.0%)	8.5 (3.9%)	8.4 (5.5%)	-2.1 (- 1.8%)	-4.2 (- 3.2%)	10.7 (8.3%)
BTH	6.0 (4.9%)	12.9 (5.9%)	6.6 (5.2%)	8.8 (6.6%)	-6.2 (- 3.8%)	6.4 (3.8%)
	Up to 26.4	Up to 55.4	Up to 26.5	Up to 41.2	Up to 22.8	Up to 60.9

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