

International Conference on Air Quality – Science and Application

#### International Conference on Air Quality – Science and Application

**12th International Conference on Air Quality** 

Abstract submissions

Venue, hotel and travel information

Thessaloniki, 9-13 March 2020



#### www.airqualityconference.org

#### Committees and sponsors

## Model Output and Data Management, Evaluating a forecast and its applications Ranjeet S Sokhi

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University of





### Resources

### WMO/GAW Training Materials and Best Practices for Chemical Weather/Air Quality Forecasting (CW-AQF)

Version 1 Scientific Editors: Yang Zhang and Alexander Baklanov CW-AQF guide can be downloaded from:

https://elioscloud.wmo.int/share/s/WB9UoQ5kQK-dmgERjSAqIA

Chapter 8. Model Output and Data Management, Christoph A. Keller Chapter 9. Model Evaluation, K. Wyat Appel, Johannes Flemming, and Yang Zhang

#### Mesoscale Modelling for Meteorological and Air Pollution Applications

Edited by Ranjeet S. Sokhi, Alexander Baklanov, K. Heinke Schlünzen Published by Anthem Press

The book can be purchased, for example from Amazon

Selected chapters 2, 5, 6 and 7 made available for the trainees who attend the Training course. <u>These chapters are only for personal use and should not be copied or circulated.</u>

COST 728/WMO reports <a href="https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=more\_results&autolevel1=1">https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=more\_results&autolevel1=1</a>

Overview of Tools And Methods For Meteorological And Air Pollution Mesoscale Model Evaluation and User Training Editors: K. Heinke Schlünzen and Ranjeet S Sokhi (2008)

#### **University of Hertfordshire AQF System for NCAS**



## Model outputs

Large amount of data is produced by advanced AQ models (Chemical Weather AQ models or chemical Transport Models) ~ 10s TB

3D Concentrations for a large number of species  $\sim$  100 species at every averaging time interval (e.g. hourly) over the domain at the specified grid resolution

Meteorological fields over the domain at the specified grid resolution at every averaging time interval e.g. wind speed and direction, precipitation, RH, temperature, boundary layer height and many more

Emissions data that is spatially and temporally distributed over the 3D domain and time (e.g. hourly)

Many considerations: Types of outputs and variables Horizontal grip resolution Vertical levels, resolution Frequency of output – averaging times Data format Access tools

Types of outputs and variables

concentrations for a number of species, meteorological conditions, process diagnostics, and customized regulatory species (e.g. PM2.5, O3, NO2, CO, SO2 process related species e.g. HONO (source of OH), Aerosol Optical Depth (AOD), Aerosol Optical Thickness (AOT)

#### Horizontal grip resolution

high horizontal grid resolution is important to capture air pollutant spatial gradients, e.g. for NOx/NO2 and CO (pollutants that have major local sources)

#### Vertical levels, resolution

- output at the first lowest model level is usually sufficient for many air quality applications
- 3D fields are important to understand processes e.g. entrainment and to capture the vertical structure e.g. for BL processes/dynamics and long range transport

#### Frequency of output

- averaging times sufficient to capture diurnal variabilities of air pollutants which is dependent on meteorology and source activity e.g those near roads or downwind of point sources
- Hourly outputs allow longer averaging statistics (e.g. daily, annual means and percentiles) to be generated

Data format

Access tools

#### Implications for data storage and archiving

#### **Meteorological variables**

- Critical for interpreting the variations in modelled and observed pollutant species concentration
- For source profiling and apportionment analysis
- To convert output units ppb < >  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>)
- Important modelled 2m surface temperature (and vertical profile), relative humidity, pressure, and 10m wind speed (u and v direction), boundary layer height
- Others e.g. precipitation, cloud cover, radiation, thermal stability (e.g., buoyancy)
- Coupled chemistry-meteorology models variables need to be available on each time step and can be output if needed

#### **Process Diagnostics**

- Most common process diagnostics are flux diagnostics e.g. emission, dry and wet deposition fluxes
- Other process diagnostics include chemical processes, e.g. reaction and photolysis rates or chemical production and loss rates
- Important for:
  - Interpretation of species concentrations
  - Explain the differences among models
  - Differences between model and observations

#### Customized Diagnostics – Post processing Using model input and output variables to understand air quality and resulting impacts, for example,

- Population exposure studies
- Health impact studies
- Deriving source-receptor relationships
- Understanding particle for mation and evolution
- Deriving metrics, such as, Daily means, accumulated ozone exposure over 40 ppbv (AOT40), or sum of all hourly average concentrations at or above 60 ppbv (SUM60), percentiles, maximum daily average 8-h (MDA8)
- Air Quality Index (AQI) or Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)
  - 1-10 in the UK (10 is worst AQ)
  - 0-500 in the USA (500 is worst AQ)

# Needs to be application and user orientated

### Data Access

Many online platforms globally e.g. visualizations of surface concentration maps of air pollutants such as ozone and 35N PM2.5. e.g., from the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS) or the NASA Global Modeling and Assimilation Office (GMAO), UK Air 10N and many others

#### Model output data

- From download tools for the full
- (3-dimensional) output files
- Use of Application Programming Interface (API)









### Data Format

**Size of air quality data files** can be of large size – 100sTB !!

File formats should allow geospatial information to be handled efficiently

**Examples:** Network Common Data Form (netCDF), Hierarchical Data Format 5 (HDF5), and GRIdded Binary or General Regularly-distributed Information in Binary form (GRIB, GRIB2)

These formats can be handled by **common scientific data analysis software languages**, such as IDL, MATLAB, Python, or R

### Data Format

For processed **data of smaller volume** other model outputs can be used comma separated values (csv) or text format (txt) e.g., surface concentrations of selected species.

Meta data

**Detailed description** of the model output should be included in every data file (meta data)

e.g. location (lat/long/altitude), time in Coordinated Universal *Time* (*UTC*), and units for each value

## **Purpose of model evaluation**

**Overall purpose:** To assess and benchmark the performance of the model through comparison with observations, process sensitivity studies and diagnostic analysis

#### How do you decide which evaluation approaches to use:

Know the nature of application of the model (e.g. assessment, forecasting, scenario analysis, research process analysis etc..)

**Consult available experience and methodologies e.g.** COST 728 – Reports on WMO Publications FAIRMODE AQMEII

## Evaluation of model performance

Evaluating concentrations only is not enough for advanced, Eulerian models e.g. all key components should be evaluated including input datasets and pre-processing procedures

How do you decide which evaluation approaches to use?

Know the nature of application of the model (e.g. assessment, forecasting, scenario analysis, research process analysis etc..)



AQ simulation chain; the models can either be online coupled (dotted square) or chemistry and meteorology are offline coupled

Sokhi et al., 2019

# Atmospheric processes and scales



Coupling between the different processes and scales relevant for air pollution transport and transformation.

The synergy of all these components (processes plus meteorological scales) results in the "Regional Air Quality".

> See Chapter 7 of Sokhi et al (2019)

## MEGAPOLI MEGAPOLI

#### **Connections of Megacities, AQ, Weather and Climate**

main feedbacks, ecosystem, health & weather impact pathways, mitigations

- Science nonlinear interactions and feedbacks between emissions, chemistry, meteorology and climate
- Multiple spatial and temporal scales
- Complex mixture of pollutants from large sources
- Interacting effects of urban features and emissions
- Chain of meteo-hazards domino effects on city safety and social activities

Nature, 455, 142-143 (2008)



Relevance of better knowledge on specific processes to improve simulation of meteorological, chemical, biological variables

Processes (clouds, aerosols)		For variables in			For applications		
		Chem.	Biol.	NWP	AQ	Clim.	
<ul> <li>Cloud processes</li> <li>Microphysics, dynamics,</li> <li>In-cloud and below-cloud scavenging,</li> <li>Aqueous-phase chemistry</li> </ul>		X X X	X X X	Х	X X X	X X X	
<ul> <li>Aerosol processes</li> <li>Chemistry</li> <li>Thermodynamics</li> <li>Dynamics</li> </ul>		X X X		(X) (X)	X X X	X X X	
Representation of aerosol-radiation- cloud-chemistry interactions (improve indirect estimates of aerosol effect)		X	х	x	х	X	

EuMetChem: Baklanov, Schlünzen et al.

Relevance of better process descriptions to improve simulation of meteorological, chemical, biological variables

Process (emissions)		For variables in			For applications		
		Chem.	Biol.	NWP	AQ	Clim.	
<ul> <li>Meteorology-dependent emission processes</li> <li>to be described more accurately:</li> <li>Biogenic</li> <li>Sea spray</li> <li>Windblown dust</li> <li>Lightning</li> </ul>	(X)	X X X X	Х	(X)	X X X X	X X X X	
<ul> <li>Anthropogenic emission data in urgent need for improvement:</li> <li>Ships</li> <li>Wild fires</li> <li>Volcanic eruptions</li> </ul>		X X X		X	X X	X X X	
<ul> <li>Heat fluxes sources needing better</li> <li>knowledge:</li> <li>Wild fires</li> <li>Volcanic eruptions</li> </ul>		X X		X X	X X	X X	

EuMetChem: Baklanov, Schlünzen et al.

## Evaluation of model performance

#### Availability of observations:

Routine surface networks, field campaigns, Satellites aircrafts, other models

#### **Consider:**

#### Type of stations – urban, rural, remote, traffic, industrial, residential etc...

location and height of stations – is it appropriate for the model?
 Model Grid resolution
 Model Temporal resolution
 Output species

## **UH AQ Forecast evaluation**

#### AURN Network (2014)

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### EnvironmentType

- Background Rural
- Background Suburban

Background Urban

- Industrial Suburban
- Industrial Urban
- Traffic Urban

Total stations for all
pollutants
135

	PM2.5
Background Rural	3
Background Suburban	2
Background Urban	37
Industrial Suburban	0
Industrial Urban	7
Traffic Urban	18
Total	67

## Evaluation of model performance

Station Representative of the location

Related to surrounding of station and grid size of the model

Urban stations – spatial representativeness is generally less

Rural stations – spatial representativeness is generally greater

## Evaluation of model performance

# Available measurements – ideally we need long term hourly datasets of

air pollutant concentrations

meteorological parameters e.g. wind speed, direction, temperature, PBL height, RH, pressure, precipitation

Model output variables and metrics to be evaluated: Routine gaseous species e.g. O3, NO, NO2, CO and SO2.

Particle matter Total mass – PM10, PM2.5 Particulate species e.g. SO42-, NO3- and NH4+, EC, OC

Deposition species e.g. wet and dry deposition of SO42-, NO3- and NH4+, Cl-, Na+, and O3.

## Structure of evaluation of model performance

Evaluation approaches depends on the detail of evaluation that is required:

Purpose - Science or assessment

**Types of evaluation,** operational, dynamic, diagnostic, probabilistic

![](_page_27_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### Structure of a generic evaluation protocol

Chapter 7 of Sokhi et al (2019)

## Types of model performance metrics

**Discrete metrics** – commonly used for operational evaluation e.g. bias, error, and correlation

**Categorical metrics** – used for evaluating a model in a forecast capacity

Usually **absolute** and **relative** evaluation metrics are used in combination for a more comprehensive evaluation of model performance.

### Evaluation of model performance Model performance discrete metrics

**Bias/error** (the deviation of the forecast value from the observed value) **Large values** — large deviation between the observed and forecast values Overestimation (+ve) or underestimation (–ve)

**Correlation** (assessment of the linear relationship between observed and forecast values). Typically 0 (no correlation) to 1 (perfect correlation)

#### Should be used in context e.g.

Different species Diurnal variations Seasonal e.g. summer vs winter Annual Urban, rural

## Discrete Model performance metrics

Metric	Definition	Unit	Range
Mean Bias (MB)	$\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(C_m-C_o)$	Absolute	∞±
Mean Error (ME)	$\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}  C_m - C_o $	Absolute	+∞
Root Mean Square Error (RMSE)	$\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (C_m - C_o)^2}{N}}$	Absolute	+∞

## Discrete Model performance metrics

Metric	Definition	Unit	Range
Normalized Mean Bias (NMB)	$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{(C_m - C_o)}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} C_o}$	%	-100% to +∞
Normalized Mean Error (NME)	$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{ C_m - C_o }{\sum_{i=1}^{N} C_o}$	%	0% to +∞
Mean Normalized Bias (MNB)	$\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left(\frac{C_m-C_o}{C_o}\right)$	%	-100% to +∞
Mean Normalized Error (MNE)	$\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left \frac{C_m - C_o}{C_o}\right $	%	0% to +∞
Mean Fractional Bias (MFB)	$\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\frac{(C_m - C_o)}{\left(\frac{C_o + C_m}{2}\right)}$	%	-200% to +200%
Mean Fractional Error (MFE)	$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{ C_m - C_o }{\left(\frac{C_o + C_m}{2}\right)}$	%	0% to +200%
Correlation (r)	$\frac{n(\sum C_m C_o) - (\sum C_m)(\sum C_o)}{\sqrt{[n \sum C_m^2 - (\sum C_m)^2][n \sum C_o^2 - (\sum C_o)^2]}}$	None	-1 to 1

## **Categorical Model Evaluation Metrics**

Metric	Definition	Unit	Range
Hit Rate (HR)	(True Positives + True Negatives) / All	%	0% to 100%
	Values		
False Alarm Rate	False Positives/(False Positives + True	%	0% to 100%
(FAR)	Positives)		
Probability of	True Positives/(True Positives + False	%	0% to 100%
Detection (POD)	Positives)		
Critical Success	True Positives/(True Positives + False	None	0 to 1
Index (CSI)	Positives + False Negatives)		
(Threat Score)			
Brier Score (BS)	The mean square error of probabilistic	None	BS=0 for perfect (deterministic)
	two-category forecasts where the		forecasts. BS=1 for forecasts
	observations are either 0 (no occurrence)		that are always incorrect.
	or 1 (occurrence) and forecast probability		
	may be arbitrarily distributed between		
	occurrence and non-occurrence		
Skill Score	A measure of the relative improvement of	%	Typically, skill scores are the
	the forecast over some (usually 'low-		percentage difference between
	skilled') benchmark forecast. Commonly		verification scores for two sets
	used reference forecasts include		of forecasts (e.g., operational
	climatology, persistence, or output from		forecasts versus climatology).
	an earlier version of the forecast		Perfect score: 1
Uncertainty	The degree of variability in the	Absolute	0 to +∞
	observations. Most simply measured by		
	the variance of the observations (e.g.):		
	<b>-</b> (a) <b>- b b</b>		
	$\sum (C-C)^2$		
	N-1		

## Typical operational evaluation statistics

#### **Forecast performance indexes**

- Correlation Coefficient (CORR)
- Mean error (MERR)
- Mean absolute error (MAE)
- Normalised mean error (NME)
- Root mean square error (RMSE)
- Scatter plots

Performance as compared to reference model

• Skill score  $(-\infty \le SK \le 1)$ 

$$SK = 1 - \frac{MSE(forecast)}{MSE(reference.forecast)}$$

## Typical questions

- How many pollution episodes occurring during the test period were correctly forecast ("Hit rate")?
- For what percentage of times does the AQ index forecast predicting worse AQ with respect to observations?
- Exceedances how many times did the system forecast exceedances, and how does this compare with the percentage shown in the observations?
- What percentage of observed exceedances were hit/missed by the forecast?

## Exceedance forecast performance indices (binary events)

True Positive rate (Hit Rate) TPR=A/M

False Positive rate FPR=(F-A)/(N-M)

**False Alarms** FA=(F-A)/F

Success index (-1 to +1) SI=TPR-FPR

- N = Total number of days considered
- M = Observed exceedances
- F = Forecasted / predicted exceedances
- A = correctly predicted exceedances

		Yes	No	Total
cdst	Yes	А	F-A	F
	No	M-A	(N-M)-(F-A)	N-F
	Total	Μ	N-M	Ν

**Threshold Limits** Daily mean PM2.5  $= 25 \, \mu g/m^3$ 

Measured

## Daily mean PM2.5 time series

**Rural** 

Urban

Time series analysis Diurnal variations Visual inspection

![](_page_36_Figure_2.jpeg)

### Typical scatter plot (Hourly PM2.5)

![](_page_37_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Statistics calculated at 40 PM2.5 background sites (2014)

### PM2.5 comparison statistics Box whisker plots

![](_page_38_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### **Representing discrete metrics spatially**

![](_page_39_Figure_1.jpeg)

Example of CMAQ run over the UK

# Sensitivity analysis for two different boundary conditions with CMAQ over the USA

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

Global and regional Earthsystem Monitoring (GEMS)

GEOS-Chem (GC)

![](_page_40_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Figure_5.jpeg)

#### Bias of O<sub>3</sub> at Mace Head: MACC vs CMAQ

Sensitivity analysis BC for two different grid resolutions

![](_page_41_Figure_2.jpeg)

With Ricardo and KCL

![](_page_42_Picture_0.jpeg)

- Aim: Provide new experimental data to better quantify sources of primary and secondary carbonaceous aerosol in a megacity and its plume. Duration: Summer 1-31 Jul 2009, Winter 15Jan-15Feb 2010
- **Chemical** 30 research institutions from France and other European countries, MEGAPOLI Teams & Collaborators

![](_page_42_Figure_3.jpeg)

• Surprisingly low fine PM levels

species

- 70% of fine PM mass is transported into megacity from continental Europe
- Fossil fuel combustion contributes only little to organic fine PM
- Large fraction of carbonaceous aerosol is of secondary biogenic origin
- Cooking and, during winter, residential woodburning are the major primary OA
- BC concentrations are on the lower end of values encountered in megacities worldwide.

(Beekmann et al., ACP, 2015)

### Model Evaluation - New Developments

#### Satellite data

#### **Biggest advantage**

Spatial coverage

Can provide data where in-situ measurements are not available Information from the entire column of the atmosphere useful for AOD, NO, NO2, O3, dust, fire plumes etc....

#### Disadvantages

Sometimes satellites only produce data on narrow swaths and can take several days to cover an area

Lack of sensitivity to ground level concentrations

Concentrations based on algorithms and hence not a direct measurements Hence satellite data can be treated a 'model data' with their own uncertainty and bias Problems with deep clouds

# Model Evaluation - Ensemble Evaluation Approaches

**Multiple simulations** for a single time period and location, while varying other aspects of the model simulation e.g.

Meteorology (different meteorology models, different meteorology configuration options, etc.) Different emission inputs, Different boundary conditions, or Different CW-AQ model configuration options

# Model Evaluation - Ensemble Evaluation Approaches

#### Approaches

**Brute force** - where the model is simply run many times, each time varying some aspects of the model simulation

#### **Decoupled direct method (DDM)**

- Sensitivity analysis technique for computing sensitivity coefficients simultaneously while air pollutant concentrations are being computed
- Allows for the computation of the impact (sensitivity) of the model to an input perturbation (typically emission perturbations) using a single model simulation
- More efficient computationally efficient than running the equivalent brute-force simulations

# Model Evaluation - Ensemble Evaluation Approaches

#### **Ensembles can help in understanding:**

**Structure uncertainty** - lack of knowledge regarding the fundamental mechanisms underlying an environmental process (i.e. ensembles by varying a single process

**Parametric uncertainty** - uncertainty in the inputs and parameter values (ensembles by varying an input or parameter used)

#### **Example:**

Pinder et al., 2009

# - Model Evaluation - Average ensemble for NO<sub>2</sub> from five models Ensemble Evaluation Approaches

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

Release from: Northern Europe Coordinates: -10 40 Start: 2006-04-27 00:00 UTC

Case 0223-001 (NO2) - Grid plot - Concentration (0 m agl) in ug/m3 Date and time: 2006-04-28 00:00 UTC (-24h0m after release start) Data range: [7.59E-03,7.29E+01] ug/m3

Created by user spotempski on 2009-10-01 04:24:31 UTC

Chapter 7 of Sokhi et al (2019)

## Model Evaluation Tools

Software	Developer	Application	Supported	Availability	Website	Reference
Name			Models			
AMET	EPA	Meteorology,	CMAQ	Open Source	https://www.cmascenter.	Appel et
		Air Quality	directly,		org/amet/	al., 2010
			other models			
			indirectly			
MET	NCAR	Meteorology,	WRF,	Open Source	https://dtcenter.org/met/u	
		Air Quality	MPAS		sers/index.php	
ENSEMBL	JRC	Meteorology,	Multiple	Online	https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/e	Galmarini
E		Air Quality	models		n/scientific-tool/model-	et al., 2012
			indirectly		evaluation-platform-	
					ensemble	
OPENAIR	NERC	Air Quality	Model	Open Source	http://davidcarslaw.githu	Carslaw
			independent	(R package)	b.io/openair/	and
						Ropkins,
						2011
MONET	NOAA	Air Quality	CMAQ	Open Source	https://github.com/noaa-	Baker and
			directly		oar-arl/MONET	Pan, 2017

### Example references

Im, U., et al., 2014a, Evaluation of operational on-line-coupled regional air quality models over Europe and North America in the context of AQMEII phase 2. Part I: Ozone, 115, 404-420, *Atmospheric Environment*, doi: 10.1016/j.atmosenv.2014.09.042.

Im, U., et al., 2014b, Evaluation of operational online-coupled regional air quality models over Europe and North America in the context of AQMEII phase 2. Part II: Particulate Matter, *Atmospheric Environment*, 115, 421-441, doi: 10.1016/j.atmosenv.2014.08.072.

K. Wyat Appel, Charles Chemel, Shawn J. Roselle, Xavier V. Francis, Rong-Ming Hu, Ranjeet S. Sokhi, S.T. Rao, Stefano Galmarini Examination of the Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) model performance over the North American and European domains. Atmospheric Environment 53 (2012) 142-155

Pinder, R.W., R.C. Gilliam, K.W. Appel, S.L. Napelenok, A.B. Gilliland. Efficient probabilistic estimates of surface ozone concentration using an ensemble of model configurations and direct sensitivity calculations, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2009, 43 (7), pp 2388-2393, DOI: 10.1021/es8025402