Mesoscale Modeling of Dust and Smoke Transport: How Geostationary Satellite Can Help?

Jun Wang^{1,2}

¹Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alabama in Huntsville ²Now NOAA/UCAR CGC Postdoctoral Fellow, DEAS, Harvard University

Collaborators: Sundar A Christopher, UAH/ATS U. S. Nair, UAH/ATS Jeffrey S. Reid, NAVY/NRL Elaine M. Prins, UW-Madison CIMSS James Szykman, EPA/ORD Jenny L. Hand, CSU/ATS



Central American Smoke Sàharan Dust

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Model Used: RAMS-AROMA

RAMS – Assimilation and Radiation Online Modeling of Aerosols (AROMA)





Assimilation of GOES AOT in PRIDE



GOES AOT retrieval during Puerto Rico Dust Experiment (PRIDE), July 2000. *Wang et al.*, JGR, 2003; GRL, 2004; *Christopher, Wang et al.*, JGR, 2003.

Simulation Results W/O Nudging



(B) AOT Simulated without nudging (C) AOT simulated with nudging

- The results show that GOES AOT provides an useful constraint for the boundary condition.
- Prediction in the area of interest mainly depends on boundary condition in previous time steps.
 Wang et al., JGR, 2004



- The distance between the model boundary and the area of interest makes the short-term forecast in this area relies on the boundary condition at earlier time steps, which provides a time window for the assimilation.
- The assimilation doesn't work in cloudy condition, it should combine with global CTMs (chemical composition and vertical distribution)



resolution are valuable for the short-term air quality forecast.

"Mexican, Central American fires smoke up U.S. states" -CNN, May 13, 1998, AUSTIN, Texas (AP)

CNN: "-- Smoke from fires in Mexico ... is drifting across much of the U.S. Southeast, prompting Texas officials to issue a health warning to residents throughout much of south Texas..."



Texas Commission on Environmental Quality: "... In 2003, the dry season was unusually dry, causing many of the fires to burn out of control. In Texas, the smoke levels measured during the 2003 smoke season were the highest for any smoke season since 1998."

Hourly Smoke Emission

- Fires in Central America are mainly ignited by farmers for agriculture. They usually exhibit a diurnal variation with peak in noon.
- Fire Locating and Modeling of Burning Emissions (FLAMBE) geostationary database. (*Reid et al.*, GRL, 2005). Based on GOES WF-ABBA fire products (*Prins et al.*, 1998)



RAMS-AROMA Simulation vs. Observation

12:00 CDT, 10 May 2003

MODIS



Wang et al., JGR, 2006, in press

RAMS-AROMA Smoke Profile ~ Lidar Aerosol Profile



RAMS-AROMA Smoke vs. Measured PM_{2.5}





Correlations between daily PM2.5 and modeled smoke mass in 30 days.

The model is able to capture the fluctuation of daily PM2.5 concentration at most stations,

even the background aerosols are not included in the model.

Top-down Assessment of Emission Strength



Our best estimate of smoke emission during the (30day) study time period is 1.3Tg in total (Wang et al., 2006). Preliminary estimate shows that about 55% was transported to US.

Impact of Emission Diurnal Variation



Because the biomass burning peaks at local noon ,the smoke loading is accumulated in the later afternoon. Using hourly emission can simulate the diurnal pattern of smoke AOT in the source region, however, daily emission can not.



Reduce the diurnal range of temperature (DRT)

	\triangle Min2mT (°C)	\triangle Max2mT (°C)	$DRT(^{\circ}C)$
Source Region	-0.15	-0.46	-0.31
Downwind Region	-0.05	-0.31	-0.26

Wang and Christopher, JGR, 2006, in press





Smoke heats the upper BL and cools lower BL and surface, increasing the atmospheric stability. The magnitude and the location of warming/cooling depend on the smoke mass vertical profile that is amenable to the diurnal variation of smoke as well as the PBL evolution.

Smoke self-trapping "feedbacks"

The difference of smoke concentration near the surface with and without smoke radative effects (30 days average)



Smoke decreases DWSI Decrease the TKE More smoke particles are trapped in lower PBL Proposed by *Robock*, 1988, *Science*.

This study is able to verify and consider the smoke direct radative feedback in modeling of aerosols.

Summary & Outlook

□The high temporal resolution AOT and fire emission estimate from GOES are helpful for the meso-scale air quality modeling in following aspects:

- Aerosol initial and boundary conditions in the model;
- Smoke source function, unique for short-term air quality forecast;
- -Better representation of radiative process in meteorology model.

Dutlook

- Study the smoke effect on cloud and precipitation over the SEUS. (MISR, MODIS, and OMI aerosol and cloud retrievals would be helpful).
- MILAGRO & Nesting with GEOS-CHEM to understand smoke aging and aerosol formation process. (integration with ground-based and sub-orbital measurement)
- -CALIPSO, smoke injection profile and boundary layer processes
- -GOES-R, reliable AOT product over land

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