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Modelling study of the impact of deep convection on the UTLS air composition – Part 2: Ozone budget in the TTL

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Abstract. In this second part of a series of two papers which aim to study the local impact of deep convection on the chemical composition of the Upper Troposphere and Lower Stratosphere (UTLS), we focus on ozone simulation results using a mesoscale model that includes on-line chemistry. A severe convective system observed on 8 February 2001 at Bauru, Brazil, is studied. This unorganised convective system is composed of several convective cells that interact with each other. We show that there is an increase in the ozone concentration in the tropical transitional layer (TTL) in the model during this event, which is compatible with ozone sonde observations from Bauru during the 2004 convective season. The model horizontal variability of ozone in this layer is comparable with the variability of the ozone sonde observations in the same area. The calculation of the ozone budget in the TTL during a 24 h period in the area of the convective system shows that the ozone behaviour in this layer is mainly driven by dynamics. The horizontal flux at a specific time is the main contribution in the budget, since it drives the sign and the magnitude of the total ozone flux. However, when averaged over the 24 h period, the horizontal flux is smaller than the vertical fluxes, and leads to a net decrease of ozone molecule number of 23%. The upward motions at the bottom of the TTL, related to the convection activity is the main contributor to the budget over the 24 h period since it can explain 70% of the total ozone increase in the TTL, while the chemical ozone production inside the TTL is estimated to be 29% of the ozone increase, if NO_x production by lightning

(LNO_x) is taken into account. It is shown that downward motion at the tropopause induced by gravity waves generated by deep convection is non negligible in the TTL ozone budget, since it represents 24% of the ozone increase. The flux analysis shows the importance of the vertical contributions during the life time of the convective event (about 8 h). The TTL ozone is driven out of the domain horizontally by the convective outflow during this period, limiting the ozone increase in this layer.

1 Introduction

It is now well accepted that deep convection plays an important role in the redistribution of chemical species from the boundary layer up to the upper troposphere (e.g. Dickerson et al., 1987; Thornton et al., 1997; Wang and Prinn, 2000). Some of the species transported to a few kilometres below the tropopause might be important for the ozone chemistry budget, both for its production in the troposphere (NO_x, OVOC, CO, HO_x), and for its destruction in the stratosphere (e.g. Cl_y, Br_y, NO_x). The main way for species to reach the stratosphere is to cross the tropical tropopause (Holton et al., 1995), or possibly to cross laterally the extratropical tropopause (e.g. Ray et al., 1999; Schoeberl, 2004). Knowing the chemistry and composition of the layer below the tropical tropopause, called the tropical transitional layer (TTL), is a necessary step in determining the amount of each chemical compound entering the stratosphere. Once in the tropical stratosphere, all chemical compounds will be transported by the general Brewer-Dobson circulation to higher

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latitudes (Brewer, 1949), potentially affecting the global ozone budget.

Many chemical species (O_3 , NO_x , HO_x , other ozone precursors, halogen species including very short life substances) need to be studied throughout the whole troposphere to better understand the TTL chemical composition. Among these species ozone is of specific interest for several reasons.

Firstly, its behaviour in the TTL is not fully understood. From several balloon-borne ozone observations, it has been shown that the TTL is characterised by an increase of ozone with altitude (measurements published in Taupin et al., 1999; Pundt et al., 2002; Vömel et al., 2002; Thompson et al., 2003) that extends in the stratosphere. On one hand, using climatological profiles, Folkins et al. (2002) highlighted a typical “S-shaped” vertical profile of ozone in the tropical troposphere (consisting of an increase in the lower troposphere, a slight decrease in the middle troposphere and an increase in the upper troposphere), and explained this tendency with a simple 1-D model. This model only takes into account the contributions of advection, convection, and chemical ozone production. Since the tropospheric processes taken into account in the model of Folkins et al. (2002) are enough to describe the climatological shape of the tropospheric ozone profile, it can be concluded that the increase of ozone in the TTL is not due to stratospheric production of ozone. On the other hand, on an individual measurement approach during the wet season (Vömel et al., 2002; Pundt et al., 2002; Dessler et al., 2002), the behaviour of O_3 in the TTL can be less regular and can lead to a local maximum or a sharp increase in the vertical profile. This behaviour has not been fully explained yet, even though Vömel et al. (2002) explained one of these events with a passing Kelvin wave.

Secondly, considering the lifetime of ozone in the upper troposphere and the lower stratosphere (UTLS) due to chemical loss alone (typically longer than a month), the O_3 concentration is then determined by transport and chemical production (WMO, 2003). While not a perfect tracer, this property makes ozone a relatively good indicator of vertical transport from the surface up to the TTL. On this basis Dessler et al. (2002) combined O_3 with CO measurements, and Folkins et al. (2002) used an O_3 profile to infer the level of convective outflow.

Finally, ozone is one of the most measured species in the tropical upper troposphere. This is helpful for conducting chemistry studies in the upper troposphere, even if the ozone chemistry is relatively complex.

In this context, the aim of this series of two papers is to study the chemical composition of the UTLS associated with a severe deep convective event over Brazil. For this purpose, we are using 3-D simulations performed with a mesoscale model coupled on-line with a chemistry model. The case studied here is the convective event observed on 8 February 2001 in the region of Bauru, State of São Paulo, in the frame of the preparation campaign of the EC funded HIBISCUS project. The aim of HIBISCUS is to study the impact of

the tropical region on ozone on a global scale. The reasons for choosing this case study are the following. Firstly, the severity of the convection, almost reaching the tropopause, makes this case particularly interesting for studying the impact of deep convection on the TTL chemical composition. Secondly, this convective case is composed of a cluster convective cells that possibly interact with each others. Several modelling studies aiming at quantifying the impact of deep convection on the upper troposphere composition have already been published (Yin et al., 2001; Wang and Prinn, 2000; Barth et al., 2001; Tulet et al., 2002; DeCaria et al., 2005). Most of them studied either an individual convective cell or a well organised system (tropical or not). The present paper focuses on a more complex type of system: a non-organised and extreme tropical convective system. The first paper of the series (Marécal et al., 2006) is devoted to the description of the event, the validation of the meteorological simulation results, and the study of the ozone precursor distribution in the UTLS associated with this severe event. This paper reports the following results. The CO results are compatible with the airborne measurements previously performed over Brazil in another year during the convective season in the upper troposphere, and are also compatible with the MOPITT satellite monthly average data for February 2001. The NO_x simulation, taking into account a parameterisation of NO_x production by lightning, shows that this process strongly affects the NO_x distribution in the layer at 6–16 km, with a maximum mean value of 2 ppbv at 12.5 km in the area of convection. Local maxima in the Non-Methane volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were also computed by the model and were in the altitude range 8 to 12 km for propene and isoprene, and in the altitude range 7–15 km for ethane. These relatively large values of Non-Methane VOCs in the upper troposphere, combined with high contents of HO_x and HO_x precursors, mainly due to vertical transport by deep convection, might affect the ozone budget in the TTL.

The aim of this second paper is to study the impact of deep convection on the ozone behaviour in the UTLS with particular attention paid to its budget in the TTL. This analysis is based on the same short time simulation of the convective system as in Marécal et al. (2006). In particular, we would like to answer the following questions:

Is the model able to reproduce typical TTL ozone behaviour? What is the relative contribution of the dynamics and of the chemical processes to the upper tropospheric O_3 distribution? What is the relative contribution of horizontal and vertical dynamics? Does the NO_x production by lightning directly affect the ozone concentration in the TTL?

In Sect. 2, we present the simulation results for ozone. Section 3 discusses the validation of the ozone results using measured profiles published in the literature and DMI O_3 sonde measurements performed from Bauru during the HIBISCUS field campaign in 2004. Section 4 is devoted to the estimation of the impact of the chemical ozone production on

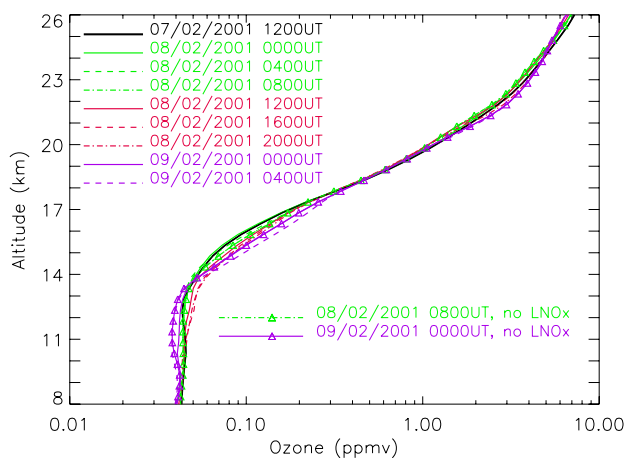


Fig. 1. Temporal evolution of the O_3 mean profile in the vertical range (8 km; 26 km) computed at regular 4 h time intervals by RAMS in Grid 2 between 8 February 2001 at 00:00 UT and 9 February 2001 at 04:00 UT. The initial state is also shown (black line). The horizontal scale is logarithmic.

ozone in the TTL, while Section 5 discusses the dynamical and chemical budget of ozone in this layer. The main conclusions and perspectives of this paper are given in Sect. 6.

2 Ozone simulation results

2.1 Simulation summary

Since the model and the simulation setup are fully described in Marécal et al. (2006), we just briefly summarise the characteristics of the simulation in the present paper. The model used is the RAMS mesoscale model (Pielke et al., 1992; Cotton et al., 2003) coupled on-line with a condensed chemistry module originally developed by Aumont et al. (1996). The coupled model will be referred to hereafter as the RAMS-chemistry model (e.g. Taghavi et al., 2004). A comparable mesoscale model with online chemistry was successfully used by Tulet et al. (2002) to simulate the redistribution of ozone by a convective system observed at mid-latitudes. The chemical package of the RAMS-chemistry model takes account of 29 species with 72 gas phase reactions. Aqueous phase chemistry for 9 species is included. Firstly this allows the passage of these species from the gas phase to the liquid phase, and vice versa. Secondly, liquid phase reactions from Grégoire et al. (1994) are included. The model accounts for the NO_x production by lightning (LNO_x) using the parameterisation of Pickering et al. (1998) and references therein. The initialisation of the chemical species is deduced from the chemistry transport model MOCAGE (Peuch et al., 1999). A 42-h simulation has been used, starting from 7 February 2001, 12:00 UT. The run is performed using two nested grids. The fine grid (referred later as Grid 2) has a horizontal grid

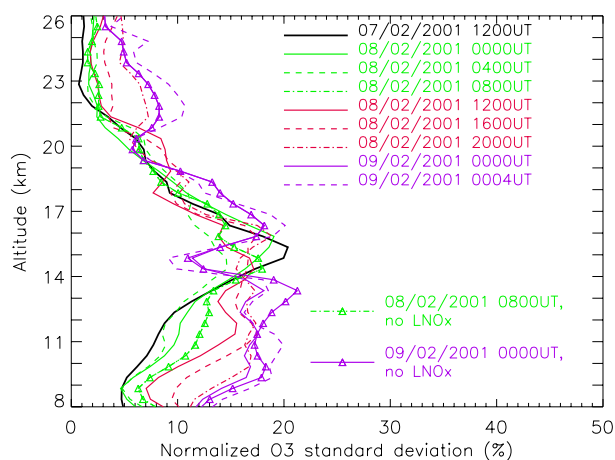


Fig. 2. Same as in Fig. 1 but for O_3 standard deviation normalised by the mean vertical profiles in Fig. 1.

spacing of $4\text{ km} \times 4\text{ km}$ and a vertical resolution of 0.5 km in the UTLS, covering $628\text{ km} \times 608\text{ km}$, including the Bauru and São Paulo areas. The maximum convective activity in the model is reached at 22:00 UT on 8 February. Two simulations with different chemistry were performed. The first one, referred to as the “reference simulation”, includes NO_x production by lightning, except during the 12 first hours of the simulation. The spin-up period, that is, the initial period needed by the model to reach equilibrium, is evaluated to be 12 h. In order to avoid NO_x production by lightning associated with unrealistic convective ascent during the spin-up period, the LNO_x parameterisation has been switched-off during this period for the “reference” run. The other run, referred to hereafter as the “no LNO_x ” simulation, does not take into account NO_x production by lightning.

2.2 Vertical structure

The evolution of the mean ozone profile in Grid 2 between 8 February 00:00 UT and 9 February 04:00 UT at 4 h increments, corresponding to the “reference” simulation, is shown in Fig. 1. The results of the “no LNO_x simulation” are also plotted for two specific times. The corresponding standard deviations normalised by the average values are plotted in Fig. 2. For each profile, we can broadly distinguish 3 different layers. The first layer, in the altitude range 8 to 13 km is characterised by an almost constant value with altitude (~ 40 ppbv) and a relatively weak change with time. As an indication, 40 ppbv is the typical mean value of ozone at the ground level during the simulations. The corresponding variability is relatively low (typically about 12%), with values increasing with altitude. The second layer, from 13 km altitude up to the tropopause (~ 17 km in our case) corresponds to the beginning of the O_3 mixing ratio increase with altitude, even for the initial time profile. This behaviour is typical of the TTL and the range of this second layer matches

well the altitude range given by the several definitions of the TTL. Furthermore, the analysis of the lapse rate simulated by the model shows a change in the lapse rate vertical structure from 13 km. Above this height, there is a constant increase up to 22 km. This change of the lapse rate vertical structure at 13 km is compatible with the definition of the bottom of the TTL according to Sherwood and Dessler (2000). Thus in the following, we will call the layer between 13 km and the tropopause the TTL. In the simulations, the TTL exhibits an important evolution of O₃ with time. In this layer, relatively high values of the standard deviation are found. However, different shapes of the variability profile are found depending on time. The third layer, above 17 km, corresponds to the stratosphere and is characterised by an ozone increase with altitude and a very weak time evolution. The variability in the stratosphere is much lower than in the TTL, with values typically below 10% and a tendency to decrease with altitude.

2.3 Time evolution

In the first layer (8 to 13 km), the changes of ozone concentration with time are weak. In the afternoon of 8 February 2001, an increase of ozone is found in the model. Concurrently, a decrease of ozone is found after sunset. These features might be related to the O₃ production cycle in the presence of ozone precursors. Marécal et al. (2006) have shown that convective activity brings large amounts of ozone precursors to the upper troposphere. Therefore, ozone is chemically produced during daytime while sunset corresponds to the time when ozone is chemically destroyed. The dynamics might also play a role in this time evolution. Particularly, the ozone variability increases with time and is likely due to the enhancement of the convection activity with time. Both dynamical and chemical effects will be further analysed in Sects. 4 and 5.

The TTL exhibits the most significant variation with time during the convective event. It is worth noting that a comparison of the initial state (solid black line) and the profile 12 h later (solid green line) shows that there is no significant difference in the mean profile over this period (Fig. 1). This is correlated with a weak convective activity in both the model and the observations from the Bauru radar. The variability for 7 February 12:00 UT and for 8 February 00:00 UT is also similar, differing by only 4 percentage points at the most. These differences are probably due to dynamical processes. The mean profile for 8 February at 04:00 UT is not significantly different from the initial state, even though there is a slight increase in ozone in the layer range 15–17 km.

From this time, above 14.5 km, there is a continuous increase with time in the mean ozone mixing ratio in the TTL, reaching a maximum on 9 February at 04:00 UT. The increase between 8 February 20:00 UT and 9 February 04:00 UT is greater than for other time intervals, while there is only a slight increase between 16:00 and 20:00 UT on 8

February 2001. There is a time decrease in the mean ozone mixing ratio only in the lower part of the TTL (from 13 km to 14.5) over the period 8 February 20:00 UT to 9 February 04:00 UT. The time increase in the ozone amount in the TTL leads to a specific shape in the vertical ozone profile for 9 February at 04:00 UT. This disturbed behaviour in the TTL is characterised by a local inflection in the increase of ozone, which is different from the initial profile for which the derivative of ozone with respect to altitude was monotonic. In the TTL, the variability tendency starts with a decrease with time (until 8 February at 04:00 UT) followed by an increase until 8 February 16:00 UT. Between 16:00 UT and 20:00 UT, the variability is roughly constant with altitude in the TTL, oscillating vertically around a 17% value. For 9 February at 00:00 UT and 04:00 UT, the TTL variability exhibits a specific behaviour with two local maxima at 14 km (21%) and 16.8 km (18%) and a local minimum in the middle of it (about 10% at 14.8 km). This could indicate that the evolution of the ozone in the TTL is driven by two different processes at the top and at the bottom of the TTL.

In the lower stratosphere, the mean profile remains unchanged with time up to 20 km. The corresponding variability, which decreases with altitude, does not evolve significantly with time. Above this level, there is a slight increase on mean ozone and corresponding variability with time from 16:00 UT on 8 February.

Two mean profiles (variability, respectively) corresponding to the “no LNO_x simulation” are also plotted in Fig. 1 (Fig. 2, respectively). 8 February at 08:00 UT is the latest time for which no differences appear between the profiles from the “reference” and “no LNO_x” simulations. On 9 February at 00:00 UT, the differences in the mean and variability profiles between the simulations with and without LNO_x are large. These differences occurred in the range 9.5–14 km. This layer corresponds to the layer of the maximum of NO_x produced by lightning (see Fig. 7 in Marécal et al., 2006). On average, the enhancement of ozone due to LNO_x reaches 8% in this layer. This result is consistent with the tendency given previously by the modelling studies of Jourdain (2003) and Labrador et al. (2004) that were based on a different approach. Using a global scale chemistry transport model which was run for a one year period, Labrador et al. (2004) estimated the tropospheric burden of O₃ enhancement due to LNO_x to be 14%. Jourdain (2003) using a global circulation model which was run to give a simulation for one month, estimated the contribution of LNO_x to the O₃ enhancement over Brazil for the month of January to be 10 to 15%.

For any other altitude than [9.5 km, 14 km], including the disturbed layer of the TTL, the simulations with and without LNO_x superimpose in Fig. 1. This means that the large increase of ozone in the TTL is not due entirely to the chemistry associated with enhanced NO_x from lightning. However, this does not rule out the potential role of the chemistry in producing the increase of O₃ for this layer since it has

been shown in Marécal et al. (2006) that ozone precursors were present in this range of altitude, even in the “no LNO_x” simulation.

In order to evaluate the validity of the simulation, we compare the results with measurements performed in Brazil during the convective season in the next section.

3 Evaluation of the model results

Since no ozone sonde or balloon-borne measurements were available in the Bauru area during the simulation period, we have used for comparison, profiles from ozone sondes launched from Bauru during February 2004. In our analysis, ozone sondes were preferred to balloon-borne remote sensing measurements because the latter type of instrument uses lines of sight of several hundred kilometres for profile retrieval, which induces a horizontal resolution that is coarser than the scale of a convective system. Since our aim is to study the impact of convection on the chemical distribution on a local scale, in situ measurements were used.

3.1 DMI Ozone measurements

In the context of the HIBISCUS 2004 campaign, ozone sondes were launched regularly from Bauru between 10 February and 24 February 2004. Standard electrochemical concentration cells (ECC) ozone sondes were applied, using 3 ml. 1% KI-cathode solutions, with an estimated ozone measurement accuracy of about 5% (Komhyr et al., 1995).

A total of 10 profiles were obtained from the ground up to 26–27 km. They depict a wide range of different meteorological situations with respect to convection (close to or far from the convection, after or before a convective event). Thus, this set of measurements should help in evaluating our simulation, since inside the RAMS Grid 2 for a specific time, a wide range of situations with respect to the convection activity is also encountered. The 10 ozone profiles are shown in Fig. 3 for the vertical range 8 km to 26 km. To provide a comparison with the RAMS-chemistry results, the simulated profiles for the “reference” run for 7 February at 12:00 UT (initial time) and for 9 February at 00:00 UT are also shown. The mean profile from all the measurements was calculated and is given in Fig. 3. To provide a better comparison, the measurements were averaged over the RAMS vertical grid.

The 10 profiles are different, but generally the following characteristics are common. Firstly, the ozone profiles are generally almost constant with altitude up to around 13 km. Then the ozone mixing ratio starts to increase with height, well below the tropopause, as already observed in previously published measurements in the tropics (Pundt et al., 2002; Thompson et al., 2003; Vomel et al., 2002; Folkins et al., 2002). This corresponds to the TTL. For some DMI O₃ sonde profiles, this layer can be highly disturbed, as shown by a local ozone maximum in the TTL (11, 16 and 17 Febru-

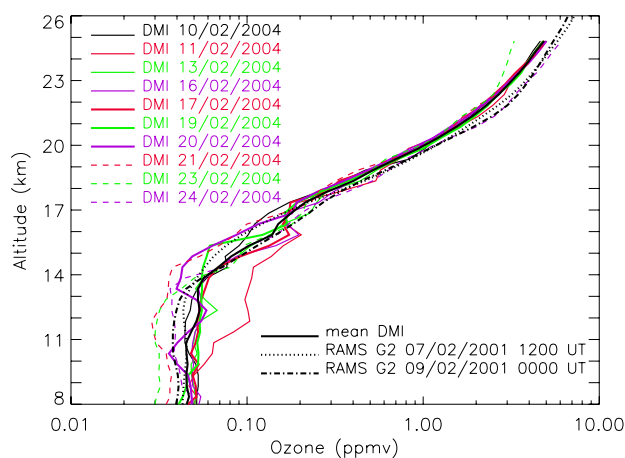


Fig. 3. DMI sonde O₃ measurements from Bauru, Brazil, during HIBISCUS 2004, expressed in the same vertical resolution as the RAMS model. The date of each launch is given in the figure. Also shown are the mean profile of all the measurements (black thick solid line), the mean vertical profiles of ozone computed by RAMS in Grid 2 at 12:00 UT on 7 February 2001 (initial state), and at 00:00 UT on 9 February 2001 for the “reference” run. The horizontal scale is logarithmic.

ary). Finally almost all the profiles superimpose in the lower stratosphere (~ above 17 km) where the ozone increases with altitude. Only 2 profiles (23 February 2004 and 24 February 2004) differ significantly from the others above 20 km. The first, (DMI 23/02/2004) shows the lowest amount of all the measurements, while the second (DMI 24/02/2004) shows a much higher value of O₃ than all others. This is possibly due to the location of the sonde when it was in the stratosphere: a more southern location would sample a higher content of ozone for the same altitude, while a position closer to the equator would lead to a lower amount. Since the sondes did not carry GPS receivers, it was not possible to check their latitudinal positions.

3.2 Model-measurements comparison

The initial state described by the model is in the range of the DMI measurements for any altitude, showing that the initialisation used is realistic (Fig. 3). The initial profile is typical of the upper part of the “S-shaped” climatological profile reported in Folkins et al. (2002). The simulation results for 9 February 00:00 UT are also within the range of the measurements except between 22 and 23 km where the model slightly overestimates the measurements. Furthermore the average profile of the DMI O₃ sondes is qualitatively (i.e. the shape of the profile) and quantitatively close to the model profile of 9 February 00:00 UT, especially in the TTL. Figure 4 shows the standard deviation normalized by the average profile of the DMI O₃ measurements. The variability is relatively low in the lower part of the profile, where it is around

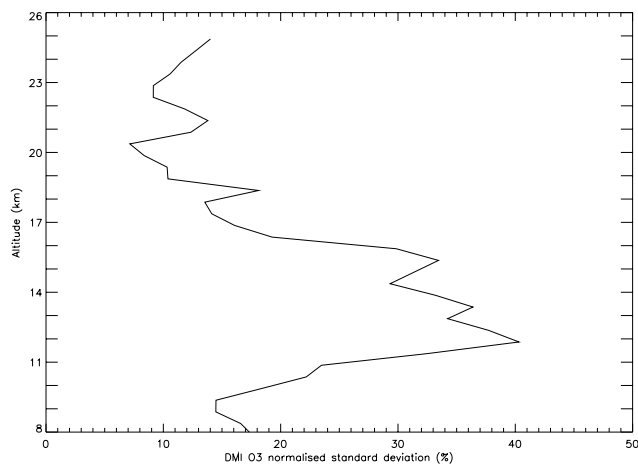


Fig. 4. Normalised standard deviation of the DMI O₃ measurements.

20%. It reaches a maximum of 40% at 12 km of altitude. High values over 30% are found in the TTL up to 15 km. Above this height there is a decrease, with the variability dropping to about ten percent in the stratosphere. This vertical structure is qualitatively reproduced by the model (Fig. 2) since the simulated values are typically about 10% below the TTL, are higher in the TTL, and then decrease in the stratosphere. However, one can note that the maximum of variability of the DMI O₃ measurements occurs at a lower altitude than the maximum of variability in our simulation. This can be explained considering that for a few profiles (e.g. DMI 24/02/2004), the ozone increase with altitude starts significantly below 13 km while in our case study the bottom of the TTL is at 13 km altitude. Therefore, this comparison shows that the simulation results are realistic in the UTLS and capture rather well the observed ozone distribution in the Bauru region during the convective season.

The two following sections are devoted to the interpretation of the ozone simulation results, firstly by quantifying the role of the O₃ chemical production, and secondly by quantifying the impact of dynamical processes.

4 Ozone chemical production

In order to estimate the role of chemistry in the ozone behaviour in the TTL, we have followed the evolution of the net chemical ozone production (the net contribution of the ozone production and destruction terms) in the model during the simulation. Figure 5 shows the accumulated chemical ozone production until 8 February 00:00 UT, 8 February 12:00 UT, and 9 February 00:00 UT, for the “reference” run (upper panel) and for the “no LNO_x” run (lower panel).

For both simulations, the ozone production is low, less than 1 ppbv, during the first 12 h of the simulations. This low value is explained by the fact that there is no severe deep

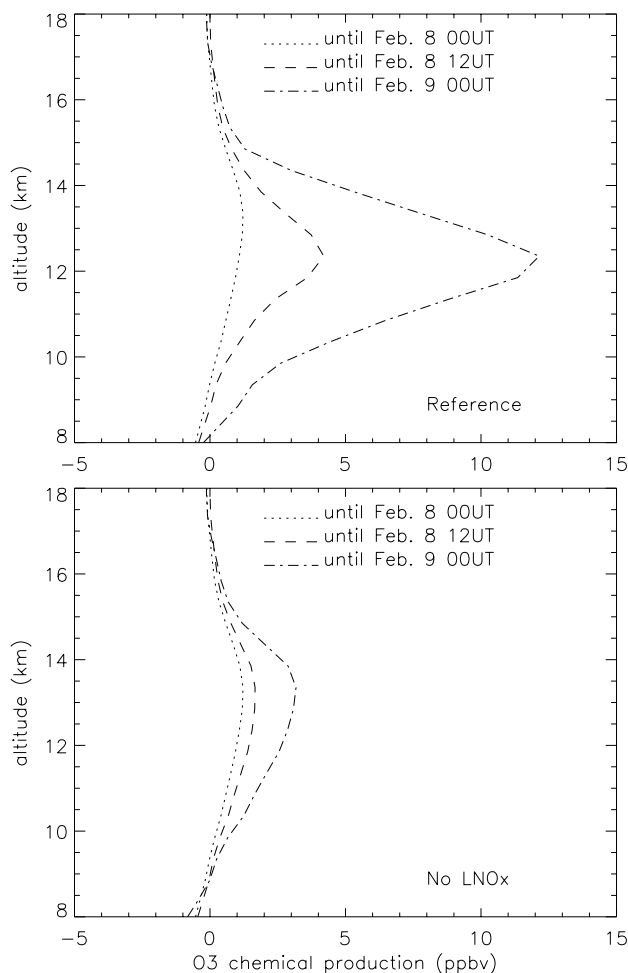


Fig. 5. Vertical profile of the mean accumulated chemical ozone production in Grid 2 of the RAMS model until 8 February 00:00 UT, 8 February 12:00 UT, 9 February 00:00 UT. (a) “reference” run. (b) “no LNO_x” run.

convection that would have brought ozone precursors into the upper troposphere, and that the LNO_x production is not taken into account during this period. For the “reference” run that accounts for the production of NO_x by lightning after 00:00 UT on 8 February, there is a large increase of accumulated ozone production with time in the 9–14 km layer reaching a maximum of 12 ppbv on 9 February 00:00 UT. The maximum of ozone production is always around 12 km altitude. This altitude corresponds to the altitude of the maximum of LNO_x (see Fig. 5 of Marécal et al., 2006). For the “no LNO_x” run, the accumulated chemical production of ozone also increases with time in the 9–14 km layer as in the “reference” run.

In the “no LNO_x” simulation, ozone is produced from reactions with the other ozone precursors: CO, Non Methane VOCs (NVMOCs) and NO_x from other sources than lightning. As shown in Marécal et al. (2006), ozone precursors

emitted in the lower troposphere are transported by convection in the upper troposphere, leading to relatively large concentrations in the 7–17 km layer with a maximum around 12–13 km. The maximum value of the accumulated ozone production is 3 ppbv at 13.5 km altitude for 9 February at 00:00 UT. This is 4 times less than for the “reference” run.

These results show the major role of LNO_x originated by convection on the ozone production around 12 km. However, there is also a non-negligible contribution of the other ozone precursors (CO and Non Methane VOCs and NO_x from other sources than lightning) transported up to the upper troposphere by convection (see Fig. 5). A detailed analysis shows that the main contribution in the ozone chemical production is due to the photolysis of NO₂, the other chemical sources such as the photolysis of NO₃, or reactions involving HO₂ and RCOO₂ (peroxy acyl radicals) being of lesser importance. This analysis is compatible with the conclusions reached by Ridley et al. (2004) from aircraft measurements in the upper troposphere influenced by continental deep convection over central America. It has to be noted that the ozone production involving CO and NMVOCs discussed in Marécal et al. (2006) is part of the NO₂ photolysis source term. As a matter of fact, CO or NMVOCs are involved in the transformation of NO into NO₂ from which O₃ can be produced. It is then difficult within the ozone production term due to NO₂ photolysis to identify the relative contribution from CO, NMVOCs or NO_x. Therefore, convection favours the production of ozone in two ways: firstly by producing NO_x via lightning and secondly by increasing the ozone precursors in the upper troposphere via vertical transport. It should be noted that even though maximum ozone production is below the TTL, a non-negligible part of the O₃ chemical production lies within the TTL. This is consistent with Fig. 5 in Marécal et al. (2006) which shows that LNO_x can be produced up to 13–14 km.

This ozone production due to chemistry should be compared with the corresponding O₃ variation in order to estimate the relative importance of dynamics and chemistry in the ozone evolution. This is shown in Fig. 6 for both the “reference” and the “no LNO_x” simulations. As already noticed in Fig. 1, Fig. 6 highlights the fact that the differences between the “reference run” and the “no LNO_x run” mainly appear below 14 km. Above 14 km, there is nearly the same ozone variation, indicating that the NO_x produced by lightning do not play a significant role above 14 km at the timescale of the simulation.

In Fig. 6, it should be noted that any absolute variation of ozone between 7 February 12:00 UT and 8 February 00:00 UT is less than 4 ppbv. This value is much smaller than the variation that occurs later in the simulation. This is logical since we have shown that the initial mean profile of ozone in Grid 2 was very close to the one computed 12 h later.

For the O₃ variation, until 8 February 12:00 UT and 9 February 00:00 UT, there is a maximum at 16 km, which is 4 km higher than the maximum of chemical ozone produc-

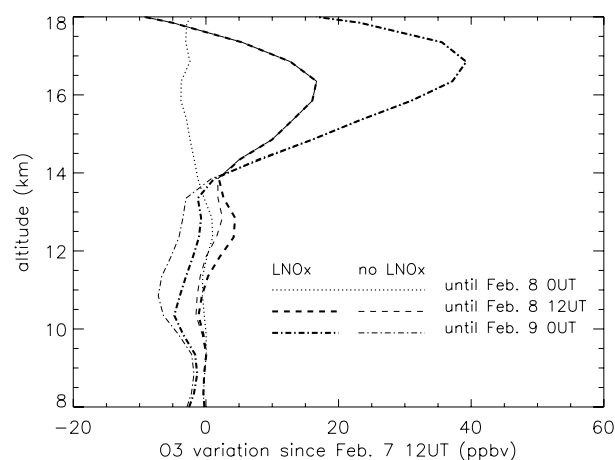


Fig. 6. Mean of the ozone variation in the altitude range (8 km; 18 km) computed by RAMS in Grid 2 8 February 00:00 UT, 8 February 12:00 UT, 9 February 00:00 UT. The results including LNO_x are presented using thick lines, and the results without LNO_x are shown using thin lines.

tion. Furthermore, at any time, the value of maximum ozone variation at 16–17 km altitude is much higher than the value of maximum ozone production at 12 km (see Fig. 5). Until 8 February 12:00 UT the variation has a maximum reaching 17 ppbv while the maximum of accumulated chemical ozone production reaches 4 ppbv at 12 km for the “reference” run. Later, for 9 February 00:00 UT, a ratio of ~ 3 appears between the maximum of ozone variation of (approximately 40 ppbv at 17 km), and the maximum of accumulated chemical ozone production (12 ppbv at 12 km).

It is possible that the ozone produced by chemistry below the TTL contributes to the ozone budget in the TTL if transported by dynamical processes. But this contribution cannot be more than the ratio between the maximum of O₃ production and the maximum of O₃ variation, ($\sim 30\%$). This value would be reached if all the O₃ chemically produced below 13 km would enter the TTL.

In the next section the ozone budget is calculated in order to estimate the contributions of chemistry and dynamics to the ozone mixing ratio in the TTL.

5 Ozone budget in the TTL

In this section we focus on the tropical transitional layer, defined in this study as the layer between 13 km and the tropopause (~ 17 km) as justified in Sect. 2.2. The budget is calculated between 8 February 00:00 UT and 9 February 00:00 UT in the domain defined horizontally by the boundaries of Grid 2, and vertically by the 13 km and 17 km levels. In order to quantify the dynamical effect of deep convection in the TTL ozone budget, the same calculation was made over the most active period of convection, that is between 8

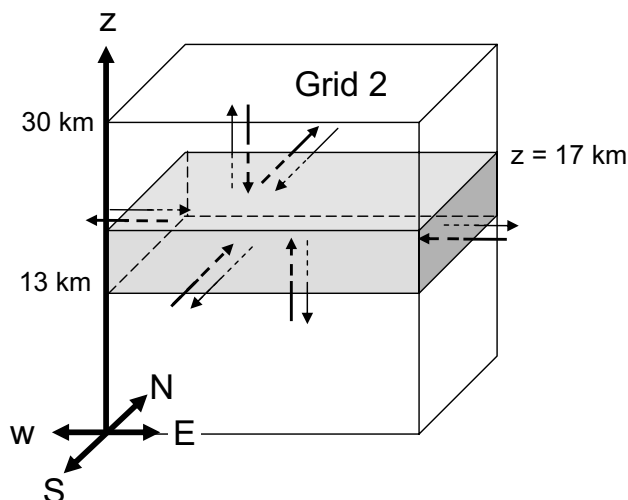


Fig. 7. Schematic of the box used to calculate the ozone budget in the TTL (shaded domain delimited at the bottom by the 13 km level, at the top by the 17 km level and on the sides by the boundary of Grid 2). The net contribution (inflowing flux or outflowing flux) on the budget for each side of the domain is indicated by the sense of the corresponding bold arrows.

February at 16:00 UT until 9 February at 00:00 UT. We are aware that the flux at 17 km is not an exact calculation of the stratosphere troposphere exchange (or STE, see Holton et al., 1995) because the altitude of the tropopause is not constant with time and space, especially during convective events when waves generated by convection can disturb the tropopause height. However here we try to give a tendency of what could occur around the tropopause. The domain is illustrated in Fig. 7.

The O_3 fluxes are calculated every hour for each side of the domain as follows:

$$F_s = 10^{-6} \frac{100}{k_{\text{boltz}}} \int \int_S \frac{P_{\text{air}}(i, j, k)}{T_{\text{air}}(i, j, k)} n(i, j, k) \cdot V(i, j, k) O_3(i, j, k) dS \quad (1)$$

where F_s (in molec/s) is the flux through the surface S of the domain, k_{boltz} is the Boltzmann constant, P_{air} and T_{air} are, respectively, the pressure (in hPa) and the temperature (in K), O_3 is the ozone concentration (in molec cm^{-3}), i , j and k are the usual indices for directions x , y , and z . \mathbf{n} is the unit vector perpendicular to the elementary surface dS , and \mathbf{V} is the velocity vector. The sign of the flux is chosen to be positive when entering the TTL domain and negative when exiting it. Results of this calculation are shown in Fig. 8 and the 24 h integrated results are reported in Table 1. A 24 h period has been chosen in order to encompass a full ozone production/destruction diurnal cycle. Also provided in Table 1 is the same budget calculation results but for the 8 h period when convection is the most active. The total flux reported in Fig. 8 is the sum of the fluxes for each side of the domain plus the

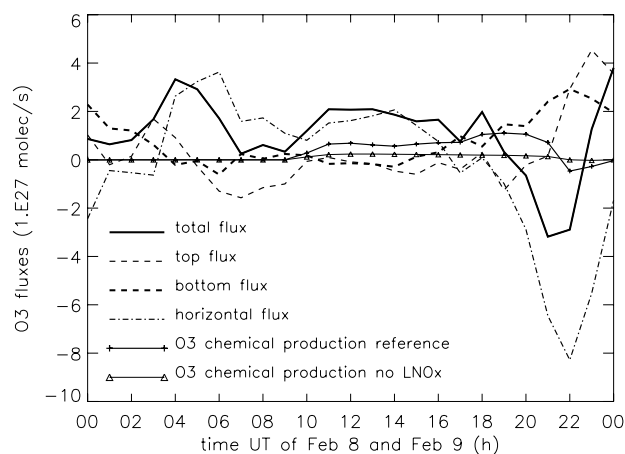


Fig. 8. O_3 instantaneous fluxes on each side of the domain shown in Fig. 7 between 8 February 00:00 UT and 9 February 00:00 UT for the “reference” run. The positive sign of the flux means that the flux is entering the domain. Also shown are the instantaneous O_3 chemical production within the domain for both simulations and the total of each flux including the O_3 production (solid line) for the “reference” run.

net chemical ozone production (the net contribution of the ozone production and destruction terms) inside the domain for the “reference” run. The corresponding ozone production for the “no LNO_x ” run is also reported as an indication but does not enter in the total flux calculation.

5.1 Total flux and horizontal flux

The total flux, is always positive, except between 19:00 UT and 22:00 UT. This explains why the O_3 concentration generally increases during this period, except around 20:00 UT as it was previously seen in Fig. 1 (see Sect. 2.3).

The horizontal flux is characterised by two different dynamical regimes. The first regime, until 16:00 UT, depicts most of the time positive values of the flux. It is characterised by a maximum at 06:00 UT of 4×10^{27} molec/s (which is the maximum of all the fluxes considered until 16:00 UT), followed by an almost constant value slightly below 2×10^{27} molec/s until 14:00 UT. The second regime is characterized by a decrease of the flux, leading to negative minimum value of -8×10^{27} molec/s at 22:00 UT (which is also the absolute minimum of all the fluxes considered). The horizontal flux increases again after 22:00 UT but is still negative. This change of dynamical regime, correlated to the high convective activity, is explained by two mechanisms. Firstly the change of direction of the wind in the western part of grid 2. In the TTL altitude range, there is a negative ozone gradient from south to north. During the first period of the considered 24 h period, the winds were mostly along the western edge of Grid 2 (northward direction), while during the second period, the winds on this side of the domain turn

Table 1. Integrated number of molecules of ozone entering the domain drawn in Fig. 7 during a 24 h period starting from 8 February 2001 00:00 UT, and during the 8 h convective period starting from 8 February 2001 16:00 UT (in 10^{30} molec) for the “reference” run. The horizontal, the top, bottom and the chemical contributions are reported. A positive value means a gain for the domain. Also shown are the percentage contributions to the ozone molecule increase for the 24 h period.

		total	Top (17 km)	Bottom (13 km)	Horizontal	Chemistry
24 h period	10^{30} O ₃ molec	97.5	23.3	68.7	−23.1	28.7
	% of the total O ₃ increase	100	23.9	70.4	−23.7	29.4
Convective Period (8 h)	10^{30} O ₃ molec	11.0	34.2	52.2	−91.8	16.4

to the north-west direction, increasing the ozone flow out of the grid. Secondly, the increase of the convection activity leads to an increase of the vertical fluxes of ozone as it will be shown in the next sub-sections. For mass conservation reasons below the tropopause where air masses cannot rise anymore, the vertical motion turn to horizontal motions, so that the horizontal motions increase in the TTL with an increasing convective activity. It is noted that the total flux follows roughly the time evolution of the horizontal flux, due to its relatively large values and variability compared to the other fluxes. However, when integrated on a 24 period (see Table 1), the contribution of the horizontal flux represents only −23% of the total ozone increase (this means a net contribution of 23% ozone loss) due to the fact that most of the time, the vertical fluxes are anti-correlated with the horizontal flux and partially compensate them. Furthermore, the large minimum of the second dynamical regime (from 16:00 UT) compensates the positive values of the first regime (before 16:00 UT). Integrated on the 8 h of the severe convective period, there is a net exiting horizontal flux of 91.8×10^{30} O₃ molecules while it is 4 times less than for the 24 h calculation. Despite the large negative horizontal flux on the 8 h period, the total flux remains positive during this period but 9 times smaller (11×10^{30} O₃ molecules) than for the 24 h period (97.5×10^{30} O₃ molecules). The positive value is reached because, during the 8 h period, the vertical fluxes are large and positive and the chemistry contribution is significant, even if twice smaller than for the 24 h period. It is important to note that O₃ molecules entering or exiting horizontally the flux calculation domain shown in Fig. 7 do not represent a loss or a gain for the TTL since most of the O₃ molecules exiting the domain horizontally will remain in the TTL. The real gain or loss of O₃ molecules for the TTL will be generated by the vertical fluxes or the O₃ chemical production/destruction. These contributions are discussed in the next sub-sections.

5.2 Vertical flux at the bottom of the TTL

The vertical flux at 13 km is expected to give an important indication of how O₃ chemically produced below the TTL (see Figs. 5 and 6) can be transported into the TTL. This

flux oscillates around a zero value until 16:00 UT with a relatively weak magnitude compared to the horizontal flux. From this time its contribution is always positive and becomes the largest source of ozone except during the two last hours. This is once again correlated with the convective activity in the simulation which is very intense during this period. From 16:00 UT, beginning time of the intense convective period, an anti-correlation between the bottom flux and the horizontal flux is found. This result is consistent with the mass conservation principle. The mass conservation implies that the divergence of the wind is close to zero (it is perfectly zero if the incompressibility of the air is assumed). Then the net upward motion at a given location must be compensated by an increasing horizontal motion. This is true because the tropopause acts as a dynamical barrier (even if partially permeable), so that the flow cannot rise above and becomes mostly horizontal below the tropopause. As a consequence, an increasing upward motion at the bottom of the TTL increases the horizontal flow inside the TTL, generating a horizontal outflow of ozone.

As deduced from Table 1, the overall contribution of the flux at the bottom of the TTL is 70% of the total ozone increase for this 24 h period. This high ratio is logical considering that this flux is almost all the time positive, or very weak when negative, during the 24 h period, while the other fluxes have a succession of negative and positive values, which weakens their contribution in the total ozone increase. For the 8 h of the intense convective period, the vertical flux at the bottom of the TTL corresponds to 52.2×10^{30} O₃ molecules entering the TTL. This is 76% of the same flux calculated for the 24 h period. This means that the main process responsible for the large vertical flux value at 13 km in the 24 h calculation is deep convection.

In order to estimate the contribution of the chemistry in this upward O₃ flux, we have compared the bottom flux for the “reference” run and the “no LNO_x” run for the same 24 hour period. The calculation of the flux for the “no LNO_x” simulation provides values that are close to those of the “reference” run, with differences that are generally not significant. The basic explanation is the following. The “reference” run and the “no LNO_x” run have the same dynamics. In the dynamical simulation, downdrafts appear in the

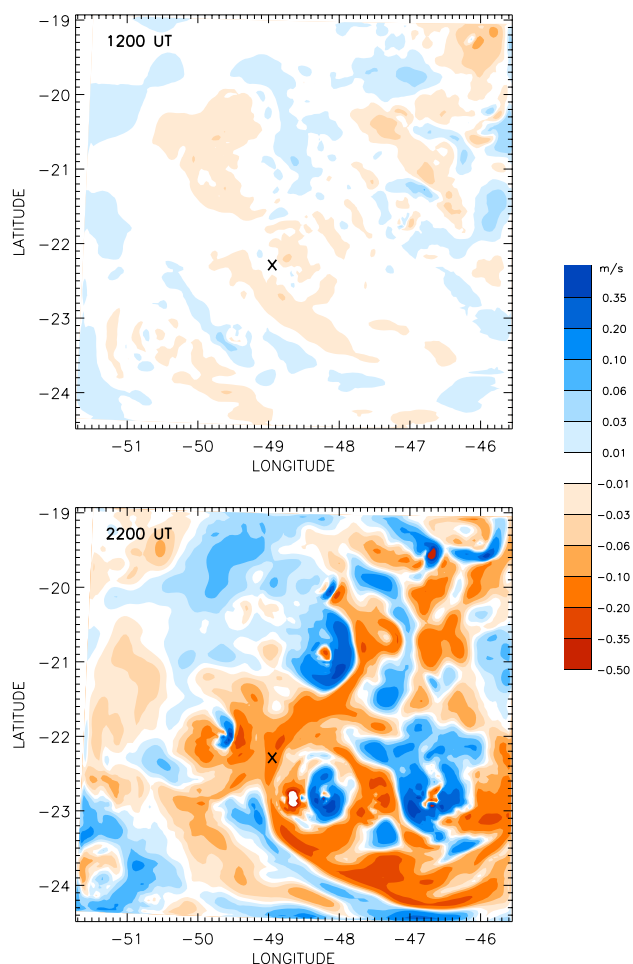


Fig. 9. Horizontal cross section at 17 km of the vertical velocity in Grid 2 at 12:00 UT (upper panel) and 22:00 UT (lower panel). The location of Bauru is indicated by a cross.

vicinity of each convective cell in order to balance the convective updrafts. In the “reference” run, the ozone level at 13 km is higher than for the “no LNO_x” run. As a consequence, for the “reference” run, the magnitude of the ozone flux both in the updrafts and in the downdraft is large, and each contribution partially balance each other. Concurrently, the magnitude of the ozone flux both in the updrafts and in the downdraft is smaller for the “no LNO_x” run, also leading to a balance between the upward flux and the downward flux. The consequence is that the net vertical fluxes at 13 km (the sum of the contributions of the upward and downward fluxes) are comparable for the “reference” run and the “no LNO_x” run. The only significant difference between the two simulations appear from 22:00 UT (corresponding to the maximum intensity of the convective system) when the flux for the “reference” simulation is ~35% higher than for the “no LNO_x” simulation. When integrated on the 24 h period, the 13 km flux for the “reference” run is only 4% higher than for the “no LNO_x” run. For the 8 h severe convective period, the same

calculation leads to a flux 11% higher for the “reference” run than for the “no LNO_x” run. This tends to show the role of convection in bringing O₃ produced by LNO_x below and at the bottom of the TTL into the TTL.

The contribution of the flux at the bottom of the TTL could possibly be more important if the simulation was continued for a longer period since this could allow ozone chemically produced by LNO_x at 12 km to be continuously transported into the TTL, or the LNO_x produced at 12 km to be transported during the night to 13 km, where O₃ can be produced chemically after sunrise.

5.3 Vertical flux close to the tropopause

As mentioned earlier in this section, the top flux does not illustrate directly the role of STE in this TTL ozone budget. It can however give an indication of what is happening in the tropopause region. This contribution is negative between 05:00 UT and 20:00 UT, but its 24 h integrated value is positive, corresponding to 24% of the total ozone increase. This value is relatively small compared to the 13 km flux in Table 1, but not negligible and this contribution is high between 22:00 (8 February) and 00:00 UT (9 February) with values higher than 4×10^{27} molec/s at 2300 UT, which is higher than the 13 km flux values. Integrated during the 8 h of intense convection, the top flux contribution is 34.2×10^{30} O₃ molecules while it is 23.3×10^{30} O₃ molecules for the 24 h period. As for the vertical flux at the bottom of the TTL, this latter result shows that the 24 h tendency for the top vertical flux is mostly explained by processes related to the convective activity. In particular, it is worth noting that the sharp increase of 17 km downward ozone flux is correlated with an increase of the wave activity in the tropopause region, as illustrated in Fig. 9. This figure provides the vertical velocity at 17 km (thus close to the tropopause level) for 12:00 UT and 22:00 UT. For both times, a wave activity exists in the simulation, as shown by an alternation of upward and downward motions inside Grid 2, centred on places where the convection is the most intense. It also shows that the vertical motions are much stronger for 22:00 UT than for 12:00 UT. This is related to deep convection activity which generated gravity waves at the tropopause. Convection generated waves are known to be isentropic. This means that the waves oscillate on iso- θ surfaces. However if these waves break, the motion is not isentropic anymore and air can cross iso- θ surfaces. These breaking waves potentially bring stratospheric ozone down to the upper troposphere. In the latter case we talk of stratosphere to troposphere transport (or STT), according to the nomenclature of Stohl et al. (2003). Two cases are possible for our simulation. Either the waves oscillate on iso- θ surfaces and on average, should not contribute to the ozone budget (the amount that crosses down the 17 km surface would cross up the same surface a half period of the wave later, so that the average budget is zero), or the waves break, and thus the average vertical transport is not zero,

leading to STE. A full study with higher vertical resolution would be necessary to quantitatively estimate the STE and to conclude about the interpretation of the 17 km flux given here. However, in the present simulations there are several convective cells developing close in time and space. Thus there are several sources of waves. This is illustrated in the bottom panel of Fig. 9 where two waves develop around two convective cells located at 49.8° E 22° S, and 48° E 22.5° S which can interact and provoke perturbations. These perturbations favour wave breaking (Albert Hertzog, personal communication). Furthermore the increase of the top flux between 19:00 UT and 23:00 UT is relatively long compared to the quarter of the period of the wave. This period is generally of a few hours. If this hypothesis is confirmed, our result would be compatible with the conclusions of Wang et al. (1995). Performing a 2-dimensional model simulation of the ozone redistribution by a convective storm in the Pacific Ocean, they have shown that the stratospheric ozone had a significant contribution to the composition of the upper troposphere. Olsen et al. (2002) using total column ozone observations and potential vorticity field analysis, reached the same conclusion. Finally, it was shown in the simulations of Tulet et al. (2002), using a model similar to ours and with a coarser vertical resolution (700 m), that mid-latitude convective systems can induce the intrusion of stratospheric ozone into the upper troposphere.

The increase of the contribution for both vertical fluxes (13 km and 17 km) during the convective activity might explain the features observed in Fig. 2 for the latest variability profiles. In this figure (Cf. Sect. 2.3), two local maxima of ozone variability at the bottom and the top of the TTL are computed by the model. The increase of the vertical fluxes at the bottom and the top of the TTL is likely to increase the variability of ozone.

5.4 Chemical production inside the TTL

The contribution of the chemical ozone production inside the TTL for both simulations is also shown in Fig. 8. For the “reference” run, the maximum of this contribution ($\sim 1.5 \times 10^{27}$ molec/s) is relatively weak compared to the other contributions, but when integrated over 24 h, it represents 29.4% of the total ozone increase. The ozone chemical production is zero during night-time, increases after sunrise and remains constant until 16:00 UT. From this time, which corresponds to the beginning of the intense period of convection, the ozone increases again, due to the fact that ozone precursors are lifted up to the TTL by deep convection and that LNO_x is produced. A detailed analysis shows that the main source term of chemical production is the NO₂ photolysis, as explained in Sect. 4. During the convective period with sunlight (until $\sim 22:00$ UT), it was shown that the raw ozone destruction term is 40% to 90% of the raw ozone production term so that the net chemical ozone production is positive. This percentage depends on the location with re-

spect to the convective cells. During the most intense period of convection (around 22:00 UT), it is worth noting that the contribution of the ozone production is negative. This is because this period also coincides with sunset, and the ozone amount around 13–14 km at this time is comparable with the amount of NO_x. Thus, ozone is destroyed by NO_x at sunset, because of O₃ titration. The maximum of convection, if shifted in time with respect to sunset, would have increased the contribution of chemical production in the TTL ozone budget. Integrated over the 8 h period of severe convection, the number of ozone molecules produced in the domain of calculation is roughly half (57%) the number of molecules produced during the 24 h period. This is due to the fact that the 8 h period encompasses the ozone destruction at sunset but also the period between 18:00 UT and 20:00 UT when the ozone production is maximum. This number of 16.4×10^{30} O₃ molecules produced in the domain during the 8 h period is relatively small compared to the dynamical fluxes during the same period. However, keeping in mind that the sum of the dynamical fluxes is slightly negative, this ozone production ensures the ozone budget to be positive during the severe convective period.

For the “no LNO_x” simulation, the behaviour is qualitatively comparable with the results of the “reference” run, but the production of ozone is quantitatively much less. For the 24 h integration period, the O₃ production inside the TTL without LNO_x represents 29% of the ozone production with LNO_x. This result stresses the local role of LNO_x in producing ozone directly inside the TTL, even if the maximum of ozone LNO_x production is below the TTL, as shown in Fig. 5. The role of LNO_x in producing ozone inside the TTL is emphasized during the intense period of convection.

From Subsects. 5.2 and 5.4 it can be concluded that, from the point of view of the ozone increase in the TTL, lightning produced NO_x play a more important role in producing locally ozone than in producing ozone below the TTL that would be vertically transported later up to the TTL.

5.5 Budget summary

As a consequence of the time evolution of each contribution in the TTL ozone budget, the ozone evolution in the TTL can be explained by the sum of each contribution. Between 8 February at 00:00 UT and 09:00 UT, the ozone amount in the TTL increases, mainly due to the horizontal flux. After that, until 14:00 UT, the increase is due both to the horizontal flux and the chemical ozone production. Before the horizontal flux becomes negative, the ozone increase is due to both the chemical production and the vertical bottom flux, as a consequence of the strong convective activity. Between 19:00 UT and 22:00 UT when the total flux is negative, the high contribution of the bottom and tropopause fluxes partially compensate the large minimum of the horizontal flux. From 22:00 on 8 February to 00:00 on 9 February, the ozone increase is due to the vertical fluxes at the bottom and the top of the TTL.

To summarise, this section shows that the behaviour of ozone in the TTL during the period of convection is mainly due to the dynamics, the chemistry being responsible for $\sim 29\%$. This contribution could have been higher for cases with intense convection out of the sunset period. The vertical dynamics, especially at the end of the period of calculation, is strongly related to deep convection: atmospheric waves generated at the top of the convection might favour the penetration of higher amounts of stratospheric ozone down to the TTL, and vertical flux at the bottom of the TTL plays the major role in the budget since it represents 70% of the total ozone increase over the 24 h period of the budget calculation, since this contribution is almost always positive. The correlation between the chemical ozone production inside the TTL and the convection activity is also highlighted in this budget. Calculating the same budget for the 8 most active hours of convection shows the importance of the vertical fluxes during this period since the total number of ozone molecules entering the TTL vertically during the 8 h period is comparable to the same number calculated for the 24 h period. The results have shown that there are two different chemical and dynamical regimes that have an impact the ozone budget: before and during the convective period. The large negative contribution of the horizontal flux, balanced by the vertical ozone flux, is explained by the conservation of mass.

6 Conclusion and perspectives

Because the upper troposphere is a key region for the atmospheric chemistry, especially in the tropics where chemical exchanges between the troposphere and the stratosphere are known to occur, a large number of studies have documented this issue since a decade. Among them, the study of the impact of deep convection on the upper troposphere composition is one important aspect of this issue. This needs to be investigated using measurements or/and modelling approach, at different scales of time and space, and in different regions (oceanic or continental). Most of the modelling studies on this aspect investigated the cloud scale approach (e.g. Yin et al., 2001; DeCaria et al., 2005) or the large scale approach (Labrador et al., 2004). Here we focus on the study of the ozone behaviour in the upper troposphere, and particularly in the tropopause transitional layer (TTL), for an unpublished type of convective system: an extreme continental non-organised convective cluster. We have performed the simulation of the event which occurred on 8 February 2001 in Brazil, using a mesoscale model with on-line chemistry. The companion paper (Part 1: Marécal et al., 2006) focussed on the meteorological simulation and on the ozone precursor results. They showed the average importance of deep convection in the vertical transport of ozone precursors from the surface to between 10 and 15 km altitude. They also showed the importance of lightning produced NO_x in the chemistry of other ozone precursors in the upper troposphere, between 8 and 15 km.

We can summarise the main results of the second part of this series of papers as follows. During the severe convective event, the disturbed layer of ozone in the TTL simulated by the model qualitatively and quantitatively reproduces the set of DMI O_3 sonde observations from Bauru during the 2004 wet season. On average, an inflection around 15 km in the ozone vertical profile is reproduced. Qualitatively, the variability of the ozone in the fine grid of the simulation is comparable with the ozone sonde observations: a relatively high variability in the TTL and a much lower variability above the tropopause. A budget of ozone in the TTL was calculated during 24 h including the time of the convective event. Firstly, it should be stressed that during the most intense period of the convection, a strong signature of the convective activity was detected in the vertical flux at 13 km, in the downward motions around the tropopause and in the ozone chemical production inside the TTL. Secondly, this 24 h budget shows that this increase of ozone in the TTL with respect to the initial state is mainly due to the dynamics, but with a significant contribution of the chemistry. In this case study, the major contribution in the budget is the vertical flux at the bottom of the TTL which accounts for 70% of the total O_3 increase because this contribution is almost always positive during the 24 h period or close to zero when negative. This contribution increases with the convection activity. A part of this 70% is due to chemical production of ozone below the TTL which is transported higher in the TTL by deep convection. The chemical production of ozone within the TTL is smaller but still significant since it represents 29% of the ozone budget. Finally we have found that stratosphere to troposphere transport associated with convection-generated gravity wave breaking can occur. A complete high resolution study is needed to exactly quantify this contribution. In the present case, chemical production plays a weaker role than the dynamics in the TTL O_3 distribution. One of the explanations is that the maximum of the chemical production occurs at 12 km, on average, and is thus below the bottom of the TTL. A significantly longer simulation might change this ratio since it could allow the ozone chemically produced around 12 km to be transported into the TTL by the large scale ascent. It could also allow the LNO_x produced during the night below the TTL to be transported up to 13 km, where O_3 can be produced after sunrise. It could also allow the LNO_x produced above 13 km to form ozone after sunrise. However, a longer simulation would lead to a different type of study, since it would imply a larger domain of simulation. In our simulation results, the chemical production of ozone is mainly due to the presence of LNO_x in the upper troposphere even though it was shown that ozone precursors other than LNO_x also contributed to this chemical production. Comparison of simulation results with or without the parameterisation of LNO_x shows that the ozone production is enhanced by a factor of 4 when the lightning parameterisation is switched on.

This study shows that a mesoscale model with on-line chemistry is a powerful tool to study the chemistry in relation with deep convection: it can explicitly resolve the convection, and can take into account a relatively large area around the event studied. Direct measurements to compare with model outputs are needed to better estimate the quality of the modelling results. This will be done in the future by studying events from the HIBISCUS/Troccino_x/Troccibras 2004 field campaign, from which we can obtain information on H₂O, O₃, CO, NO_x, and halogen VLSL. The chemistry of halogen species will then be included in the model, as well as the full set of chemical reactions involving O_x compounds to better constrain the chemistry in the stratosphere. Another study of a convective system in the same area will determine if the O₃ behaviour computed here can be reproduced.

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