# Challenges in developing better observational constraints and models for aerosols : Emerging ideas for design and use of future observing systems

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> https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/08/nasa-aircraft-probenamibian-clouds-solve-global-warming-puzzle

# Aerosol interaction with meteorology

#### 78

6)

Low Cloud Feedback

- High Cloud Feedback
- Convective Storm Systems
- Cold Cloud & Precipitatio
- **5** Aerosol Attribution and Air Quality
- **6** Aerosol Processing, Removal and Redistribution
- Aerosol Direct Effect and Absorption
- 8 Aerosol Indirect Effect

NASA Decadal survey, ACCP SCIENCE AND Applications: Science objectives https://science.nasa.gov/science-pink/s3fspublic/atoms/files/ACCP\_SATM\_Rel\_E\_TAGGED.pdf

6

6

# **Aerosol modeling : Status and future**



#### Observations

- Multi-platform multi-spectral aerosol retrievals from satellites
- In-situ aerosol mass and optical properties



#### Aerosol modeling Best possible

- meteorology : Multi-model ensemble
- Aerosol mass, size distribution and optical properties

#### Data Assimilation



- Point by point
   observation
   uncertainty
- Choice of aerosol variables
- Clear sky radiance



#### Evaluation and

- development
- Use of aerosol variables not used in assimilation – process-based improvements to models

#### **Observation constrained modeling**



### **Observation constrained modeling (Contd)**



# Aerosol regional modeling

# Case study of dust storms in Arizona : Mile high wall of dust hits Phoenix

# Aerosol optical properties, dust concentrations, and transport



# Aerosol trends over the dusty SouthWest



Change in TERRA AOD Standardized anomaly over a decade shows statistically significant decrease in anomalies over dusty hotspots and North American Monsoon (NAM) alley for pre-monsoon and monsoon.

A. Raman et al., 2016

### **Modeling of Arizona dust storms**

285

Conceptual Diagram of Cold Pool Formation and Movement



WRF-Chem Simulated Cold Pool (2011/07/05 8pm Local Time)



WRF-Chem 1.2 km inner domain simulation of July 5, 2011 haboob

Decrease in 2m
temperature
Downbursts and
surface divergence
Dust uplift

Strong SE winds 23-25ms<sup>-1</sup> and cold pool development ! Lader, 0

Lader, G., A. Raman et al., 2016 NOAA Tech memo NWS-WR 290

310

### Modeling of Arizona dust storms (Contd)



11

### **Limitations and future direction**

$$F = CSsp(u_{10} - u_{*t}) u_{10}^2 \quad if \ u_{10} > u_{*t}$$

S is the erodibility, sp is the fraction of soil composition, u10 is the 10m wind speed, u\*t is the threshold wind friction velocity, and C is a tunable constant



Convective scale modeling, using wind probability instead of wind speed Fine scale meteorology processes, dust impacts

Dual-pole radar reflectivities and hydrometeor classification observations Missing dust sources using real time NDVI

Lack of

GEO+LEO, MISR plume height and spherical , non-spherical AOD

# Black carbon aerosols and uncertainties due to lack of observations



estimate Black carbon

# Black carbon aerosols : Requirements for observations

- Reductions in BC, PM<sub>2.5</sub> (PM 2.5 μm or less in diameter) emissions from on-road diesel engines have not been significant (e.g. Dallmann, T. R. and Harley, R. A, 2010).
- Large uncertainties in BC mixing state in aerosol models.





### **Co-emitted gases : Utility in Elemental carbon enhancement trends**



A. Raman and A.F. Arellano., 2017 <sup>16</sup>

## **Co-emitted gases : Utility in BC emission trends (Contd)**



A. Raman and A.F. Arellano., 2017 <sup>17</sup>

#### Take home messages

- CO and NOx provide a novel pathway to improve observational coverage for sparsely measured, co-emitted aerosol species like Black Carbon.
- Such approach can significantly improve characterization of black carbon aerosol sources from satellite retrievals due to ample measurements of CO and NO<sub>x</sub> from space.
- Developing tracers for regional and sectoral CO in addition to total CO can improve source attribution and emission fluxes for black carbon aerosol in models.

#### **Combining models and observations**





## **Analog Ensemble Forecasting**



Delle Monache et al. 2011 Delle Monache et al. 2006

# Predictor weights correspond to AOD-predictor correlation in the model



Correlation values of AOD and predictors. (a) AOD Vs Total Precipitable Water, (b) AOD Vs PM<sub>10</sub>, (c) AOD Vs PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and (d) AOD Vs Horizontal windspeed at the surface collocated for Terra overpass time. (e) - (h) Similar to (a) - (d) but for Aqua over pass time

A. Raman et al., in prep

#### **Analog Ensemble Forecasting : Results**



# Analog Ensemble Forecasting : Meteorology driven aerosols



Boxplot of AOD from MODIS, WRF-Chem, ANEN, and KFAN for June-August, 2012 Midline in the boxplot represents the median of AOD, top and bottom lines of the box represents 25th and 75th percentile, and top and bottom lines outside the box represents maximum and minimum values of AOD that are not outliers. The boxplots are shown for different EPA regions and outliers are not shown here.

### **Analog Ensemble Forecasting : Meteorology driven aerosols**



Change in RMSE is  $\sim 30\%$  for June and July. Smaller reduction for August is due to the higher relative humidity (RH) during this period across U.S and the model errors in accurately predicting the total precipitable water and effects of higher on RH on model AOD.

#### Take home messages

- Analog Ensemble forecasting with a combination of Kalman Filter provides improvement in AOD in seasons when AOD is mostly driven by wind and aerosol emissions.
- Despite the strong dependence on observations, analogs are heavily driven by the choice and quality of the predictors which is evident from the case of U.S East coast where during the month of August, errors in model predictions of precipitable water and wet scavenging prohibits improvement to AOD.

# Aerosol global modeling

# Implementing a process driven sea salt aerosol emission parameterization in GEOS

Whitecap fraction : Area of the ocean surface covered by active wave breaking (Stage A or active ) and mature foam (stage b).



Sea salt emissions = f (Whitecap fraction) f (Size distribution of sea salt particles)

### Whitecap models : Wind dependence



#### At a given wind speed, W variability is ~1-2 orders of magnitude



### **Observation constrained modeling**





- Windsat W : 1° x 1° multi –frequency retrievals [Anguelova et al., 2019]
- 0 10 GHz includes more active W and 37
   GHz include fresh + mature (foam) W

Significant Wave Height [m] : M01



- GEOS-UMWM
  - 0.5° x 0.5° resolution runs for 2014 replayed to MERRA-2
  - Wind, sea-ice, air density input to UMWM from GEOS

gmao.gsfc.nasa.gov

#### W parameterization development





30

## Variability with wind speed

- Whitecap decreases for higher windspeed.
- In order to capture this behavior in models, additional terms based on wind stress were added to the Seastate W model for wind speed > 20 m/s.



#### Global Modeling and Assimilation Office gmao.gsfc.nasa.gov

**GMAO** 

# Aerosols as a part of the Earth System : What do we need from models and observations?

➢Observations of vertical profiles of aerosol concentrations and number distribution.

▶ Point by point data uncertainties from satellite retrievals.

Ensemble Forecasting of aerosols

➢Use of aerosol products from satellites to improve model parameterizations in addition to direct assimilation of AOD [e.g. R.Kahn , 2020]

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Thank you

#### **Extra slides**

#### Importance of meteorology for aerosol analogs



Negative skill scores in the East coast:

- Strong correlation with meteorology, in particular precipitable water

- Impact of wet scavenging processes.

Skillscore for analog predictions of AOD for June-August, 2012. Skill score is calculated here using Mean Square Errors in comparison with MODIS Terra and Aqua retrievals. (a, b) KFAN and ANEN AOD estimated with reference to WRF-Chem AOD Mean Square Errors for Terra overpass. (c, d) similar to (a, b) for Aqua overpass.

# Using PM<sub>2.5</sub>/CO ratios in WRF-Chem to improve PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations

Bayesian Synthesis Inversion : Methodology illustration : Prior CO emissions (Xa)





#### **Optimizing PM given CO observations**

- Information from the observed relationship between CO and PM
- Modeled responses K from a set of source basis functions
- An estimate of the change in emissions from a source inversion of CO.

 $p(PM|EPACO) \\ \propto p(PM|CO) \times p(CO|CO_{emis}) \times p(CO_{emis}|EPACO)$ 

Mean and covariance of the estimate are given by

$$\hat{X} = X_a + Sa (K)^T [(K) S_a(K)^T + S_e]^{-1} [Y - (K)X_a]$$
$$\hat{S} = [(K)^T S_e^{-1} (K) + S_a^{-1}]^{-1}$$

Where Sa is the prior error covariance and Se is the observational error covariance.

#### Results

1400

1000

600

200

CO( ppbv)

Reductions in prior emissions in the New England mostly due to anthropogenic emissions.

Huge increase in posterior emissions in Western US caused by biomass burning.

