

Identifying the model properties contributing to aerosol forcing uncertainty

**AEROCOM** Meeting 2020



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# **Aerosol forcing**

#### MODEL BASED UNCERTAINTY ≈ MULTI-MODEL "DIVERSITY"

- Which model properties contribute to this variability?
- Developed an offline Python tool where model output can be used interchangeably
- Instead of studying model sensitivity, we study "forcing sensitivity" to different parameters
- Offline Python tool for
  - calculating aerosol radiative properties
  - calculating cloud droplet number concentration





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#### **Aerosol properties**





**Aerosol properties:** 



rh(lon, lat, lev, time, model)



How much inter-model variability in AOD is due to inter-model variability in RH?

#### **RELATIVE HUMIDITY**

rh(lon, lat, lev, time, model)

model = [CAM5-ATRAS, GEOS-i33p2, GFDL-AM4, GISS-ModelE2p1p1-OMA, INCA, MIROC-SPRINTARS, ECHAM6.3-SALSA2.0, ECHAM6.3-HAM2.3]

AOD

#### Difference between the maximum and minimum AOD



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**Aerosol properties:** 



rh(lon, lat, lev, time)



**CDNC** burden

CDNCb(lon, lat, time, model)

How much inter-model variability in CDNC is due to inter-model variability in number concentration?

**CDNC** burden

#### Data Min = 8E+09, Max = 2E+12, Mean = 4E+11

#### Difference between the maximum and minimum CDNCb

OMA, ECHAM6.3-SALSA2.0, ECHAM6.3-HAM2.3]

model = [CAM5-ATRAS, GFDL-AM4, GISS-ModelE2p1p1-





## Models of lowest and highest values





# Intercomparison

- Repeat the procedure for all relevant model properties
- Obtain a distribution of aerosol extinction and CDNC

#### - Data:

- CRESCENDO (EU project, ESM-data)
- Trajectory experiment GCMTraj
  - high time resolution
  - size resolved



item	details	<u>RFari</u>	<u>RFaci</u>
Simulated properties			
number size distribution	Global 3D values for each size class	х	x
composition size	Global 3D values for each size class,	х	х
distribution	each chemical compound		
relative humidity	Global 3D values of the cloud-free part of	х	
	the grid box		
updraft velocity	Global 3D values for the mean of positive		х
	updraft velocities		
cloud fraction	Global 3D values of the cloud fraction	х	х
	within each grid box		
Model parameters	MARCH AND		
refractive index	Values for aerosol species used in each	х	
	global climate model		
hygroscopicity	Values for aerosol species used in each	х	х
	global climate model		
surface albedo	Global 2D values of surface albedo	х	х
Model parametrization			
Treatment of model	Parameterizations used in each global	х	
hygroscopicity	climate model		
cloud activation	Parameterizations used in each global		х
parameterization (liquid)	climate model		
Cloud activation	Parameterizations used in each global		х
parameterization (mixed)	climate model		