Definitional Issues

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Or, in other words...

whaaat? we don't even know what it is and you want us to add up emissions?

> I mean, it *is* rather uncertain and all...

> > Relax.

Questions I think we are asking

 Climatic effects of carbonaceous particles depend on composition.

- There are thousands of carbon compounds.
 (obviously, we will not model each individually)
- What divisions between carbon types must we draw to represent effects on climate?
- Can we measure those divisions in practice?

What I'll cover here

1. carbon particles... hmm. a. could you identify a black carbon particle ... if you had nanovision? b. Houston, we have a (measurement) problem c. what can we do with all these names? 2. modeled climate forcing a. overview: forcing calculations b. the pieces: direct forcing c. some comments: indirect forcing 3. summary: role of definitions

outline

> If you had microvision...





- 1. Micrograph of diesel soot: Stanmore, Brilhac, and Gilot, Carbon. 2001, 39, 2247-2268.
- 2. Structure of spherule extracted from HRTEM image: Palotás et al., Energy and Fuels **1996**, 10, 254-259.
- *3, 4. Structure of spherule and layers inferred from electron microscopy and X-ray diffraction:* Heidenreich, Hess and Ban, *J. Appl. Crystallography* **1968**, 1, 1-19

Structure has been known for many years. Heckman, F.A. Microstructure of carbon black. *Rubber Chem. Technol.* **1964**, *37*, 1245-1298.

1a. nanovision

Nanovision (and a very good chemistry set)

thousands of compounds much carbon and hydrogen sometimes oxygen & a little nitrogen

Schauer, J.J.; Kleeman, M.J.; Cass, G.R.; Simoneit, B.R.T., *Environ. Sci. Tech.* **1999**, *33*, 1578-1587.

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1a. nanovision

Information from combustion research

- "soot" appears to form in a very narrow region (now you don't see it, now you do)
- implies there is a sharp difference between "special" BC and other
- caveat: most formation studies look only at simplified situations; is this true for real combustion?



Siegmann, K.; Sattler, K.; Siegmann, H.C. *J. Electron Spectrosc. Rel. Phenom.* **2002**, *126*, 191-202.



Van der Wal, R.L.; Jensen, K.A.; Choi, M.Y. *Comb. Flame.* **1997**, *109*, 399-414.

1a. nanovision

Measurement goals (I)

We can't measure climate forcing by individual constituents.

 Aerosol concentrations are patchy Individual measurements don't represent the globe.
 Satellites can measure globally

but they can't distinguish components, nor tell the difference between anthropogenic and natural.



Measurement goals (II)

Thus, we have to model the forcing. Measurements can:

Provide model inputs
Corroborate model results

For this purpose, the measurements must:

 Distinguish between important groups of carbon compounds

Measure a *conserved* property

measurement tools



- + light absorption → dark carbon
- thermal-optical analysis
 - → some carbon division (light/dark?)
- + gas chromatography/mass spectrometry
 → individual species
 identifies 10-20
- Fourier Transform Infrared
 → functional groups
- soluble fraction
- single-particle analysis

* not immune to measurement artifacts, though

identifies 10-20% of carbon

useful but expensive

OK *

next

next

real-time ability is new

useful but expensive

measurements: thermal

- Principle: Heat, measure carbon released at different temperatures
- Complication 1: Charring during analysis



- Complication 2: Oxidation rates can vary in different mixtures
- Different protocols (rates/ magnitudes of heating) yield different results

Interlab comparison of same filter



Lab# / method

(c)

measurements: optical

- Principle: Collect particles on filter; monitor transmittance
- Complication 1: Amplification by filter (x2-4)
- Complication 2: Absorption per mass changes with particle form
- Complication 3: Non-carbon absorbers (dust?)
- Drawback: Doesn't measure negligiblyabsorbing particles
- Different protocols (filters, wavelengths) and locations yield different results





All those names!



1c. names

Modeling procedure



2a. modeling overview

Aerosol lifetime estimates

Few ways to measure; must be modeled
 Depends on meteorology (esp. rainfall)
 Estimates are about ~1 week
 Model corroborated by comparison with measurements

 Hard to make that comparison unless quantity measured is invariant!

Model comparisons: black carbon



2b. modeling details: direct forcing

Variation in model results

Modeled integrated forcing by BC during its lifetime: 860 MJ/gram emitted (350-2000)

Sources of squared uncertainty



Optical properties-fresh
 Optical properties-coating
 Physical location - clouds
 Physical location - other
 Atmospheric lifetime

2b. modeling details: direct forcing

Model comparisons: organic carbon



2b. modeling details: direct forcing

> Indirect forcing: some questions

 Which aerosols dominate number concentration in critical regions?

- Primary? (BC, dust, some organic)
- Precursors of nucleation?
- Which aerosols/precursors affect cloud droplet number and size?
 - Solubility, or other better metric?

How defined classes of carbon affect forcing estimates

Uncertainties remain in:

- Emission estimates (what's the conserved quantity?)
 Model corroboration (what's the lifetime?)
- Species representation (what are the properties?)