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# Tropical troposphere to stratosphere transport of carbon monoxide and long-lived trace species in the Chemical Lagrangian Model of the Stratosphere (CLaMS)

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## Abstract

Variations in the mixing ratio of trace gases of tropospheric origin entering the stratosphere in the tropics are of interest for assessing both troposphere to stratosphere transport fluxes in the tropics and the impact of these transport fluxes on the composition of the tropical lower stratosphere. Anomaly patterns of carbon monoxide (CO) and long-lived tracers in the lower tropical stratosphere allow conclusions about the rate and the variability of tropical upwelling to be drawn. Here, we present a simplified chemistry scheme for the Chemical Lagrangian Model of the Stratosphere (CLaMS) for the simulation, at comparatively low numerical cost, of CO, ozone, and long-lived trace substances ( $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  (CFC-11),  $\text{CCl}_2\text{F}_2$  (CFC-12), and  $\text{CO}_2$ ) in the lower tropical stratosphere. For the long-lived trace substances, the boundary conditions at the surface are prescribed based on ground-based measurements in the lowest model level. The boundary condition for CO in the free troposphere is deduced from MOPITT measurements (at  $\approx 700\text{--}200$  hPa). Due to the lack of a specific representation of mixing and convective uplift in the troposphere in this model version, enhanced CO values, in particular those resulting from convective outflow are underestimated. However, in the tropical tropopause layer and the lower tropical stratosphere, there is relatively good agreement of simulated CO with in-situ measurements (with the exception of the TROCCINOX campaign, where CO in the simulation is biased low  $\approx 10\text{--}20$  ppbv). Further, the model results are of sufficient quality to describe large scale anomaly patterns of CO in the lower stratosphere. In particular, the zonally averaged tropical CO anomaly patterns (the so called “tape recorder” patterns) simulated by this model version of CLaMS are in good agreement with observations. The simulations show a too rapid upwelling compared to observations as a consequence of the overestimated vertical velocities in the ERA-interim reanalysis data set. Moreover, the simulated tropical anomaly patterns of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  are in good agreement with observations. In the simulations, anomaly patterns for  $\text{CH}_4$  and CFC-11 were found to be consistent with those of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ;

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for all long-lived tracers, positive anomalies are simulated because of the enhanced tropical upwelling in the easterly phase of the quasi-biennial oscillation.

## 1 Introduction

Carbon monoxide (CO) has sources at the Earth's surface mostly from incomplete combustion of fossil fuels and from biomass burning. CO is also chemically produced in the troposphere by the oxidation of methane and non-methane hydrocarbons and is removed from the atmosphere by oxidation with OH, leading to a lifetime of about two months in the troposphere (e.g., Pfister et al., 2004); the lifetime in the stratosphere is somewhat longer (a few months, e.g., Hoor et al., 2004; Schoeberl et al., 2006). Because of the relatively long tropospheric lifetime of CO, CO concentrations in the troposphere are strongly influenced by transport processes. Thus, CO is useful as an indicator of long-range transport of polluted air-masses. As a result of the low background mixing ratios of CO in the lower stratosphere ( $\approx 20\text{--}40$  ppbv), CO is an important tracer of troposphere to stratosphere transport, during strong convective activity (Ricaud et al., 2007; Srivastava and Sheel, 2013), within rapidly ascending air-streams, so-called warm conveyor belts, in extratropical cyclones (Roiger et al., 2011), within the Asian monsoon circulation (Park et al., 2007, 2008, 2009; Vogel et al., 2014), and during slow ascent and mixing in the lowermost tropical stratosphere (Konopka et al., 2007; Schoeberl et al., 2006; Fueglistaler et al., 2009; Homan et al., 2010; Abalos et al., 2012; Ploeger et al., 2012a). Moreover, it has been observed that the seasonal variation in the mixing ratio of CO entering the stratosphere at the bottom of the tropical tropopause layer (TTL) is carried upward with the rising air in the tropics with the signal being observable throughout the tropical lower stratosphere (Schoeberl et al., 2006; Randel et al., 2007; Liu et al., 2007; Pumphrey et al., 2008). This phenomenon is commonly referred to as the “atmospheric tape recorder” (Mote et al., 1996). Annually and quasi-biennial oscillation (QBO) driven variations in the strength of the Brewer–Dobson circulation have an impact on the tape recorder pattern (Nivano

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et al., 2003; Randel et al., 2007; Schoeberl et al., 2008). There are also observations of sub-seasonal variations in CO in the tropical lower stratosphere that have recently been linked with sub-seasonal variations in tropical upwelling (Abalos et al., 2012). Therefore, the seasonal variation in the mixing ratio of species like water vapour, CO, and HCN in the lower tropical stratosphere provides information on the rate of tropical upwelling in this region, a quantity which is important, but relatively poorly constrained in meteorological analyses (e.g., Ploeger et al., 2011; Diallo et al., 2012; Wright and Fueglistaler, 2013; Randel and Jensen, 2013).

Robust anomaly patterns in the tropical stratosphere have also been reported for CCl<sub>3</sub>F (CFC-11), CCl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (CFC-12), N<sub>2</sub>O, and CH<sub>4</sub> based on satellite measurements (Randel et al., 1998; Schoeberl et al., 2008; Kellmann et al., 2012; Khosrawi et al., 2013). CCl<sub>3</sub>F, CCl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, and CH<sub>4</sub> are trace gases with purely tropospheric sources and with very long stratospheric lifetimes, ranging between about 50 years and more than 100 years (e.g., Volk et al., 1997; Brown et al., 2013; Minschwaner et al., 2013; Ko et al., 2013; Hoffmann et al., 2014). These trace gases do not exhibit a strong seasonal (or more irregular) variability in the lowermost tropical stratosphere and thus do not show a pronounced tape recorder pattern like water vapour, CO, and HCN. Nonetheless, in the lower tropical stratosphere, where mixing ratios of these trace gases are only moderately reduced compared to tropospheric values, a weak tape recorder signal for N<sub>2</sub>O and CH<sub>4</sub> is detectable because of annual variations in the vertical velocity (Schoeberl et al., 2008). Further, variability in tropical upwelling induced by the QBO (Baldwin et al., 2001; Ribera et al., 2004; Punge et al., 2009; Flury et al., 2013), acting on the stronger vertical trace gas gradient in the tropical stratosphere at altitudes above ≈ 500 K, induces more pronounced anomaly patterns in long-lived trace species like CCl<sub>3</sub>F, N<sub>2</sub>O, and CH<sub>4</sub> (Randel et al., 1998; Schoeberl et al., 2008; Kellmann et al., 2012; Khosrawi et al., 2013).

Here, we describe an extension of the Chemical Lagrangian Model of the Stratosphere (CLaMS) (McKenna et al., 2002b, a; Grooß et al., 2005; Konopka et al., 2004, 2007) that allows multi-annual simulations of CO, ozone, long-lived tracers, and age

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of air in the tropical upper troposphere and lower stratosphere to be made for investigations of phenomena like the atmospheric tape recorder in CO or anomaly patterns in long-lived trace species. CLaMS studies have originally focused on investigations of polar stratospheric chemical ozone loss (e.g., McKenna et al., 2002a; Grooß et al., 2002; Konopka et al., 2004; Grooß and Müller, 2007), but the model was extended later to the analysis of transport processes in the tropopause region, both in the extratropics (Pan et al., 2006; Vogel et al., 2011; Konopka and Pan, 2012) and in the tropics (Konopka et al., 2007, 2010; Ploeger et al., 2013). This version of CLaMS was also successfully applied to describe the irregular tape-recorder pattern discovered for HCN (Pumphrey et al., 2008; Pommrich et al., 2010). Here, we will focus on anomaly patterns of CO and long-lived trace species in the tropics to validate transport and chemistry in this version of CLaMS.

The model concept used here is different from chemical models of the stratosphere and troposphere that employ a comprehensive description of the tropospheric chemistry and a wide range of emissions of trace substances at the ground (e.g., Jöckel et al., 2006; Schultz et al., 2008; Boynard et al., 2012; Morgenstern et al., 2009, 2013; Kumar et al., 2013; Srivastava and Sheel, 2013). In contrast, we make use of CO measurements from the Measurements Of Pollution In The Troposphere (MOPITT) satellite experiment (Deeter et al., 2003) in version 4 (Deeter et al., 2010) for formulating a lower boundary condition for CO for multi-annual simulations of upper tropospheric and lower stratospheric transport of CO in the tropics. Together with a simplified chemistry scheme (with pre-calculated and tabulated radical concentrations) this concept allows successful simulations of CO in the lower tropical stratosphere to be made at comparatively low numerical cost. In addition to CO, the simplified scheme allows the simulation of the long-lived species CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, CCl<sub>3</sub>F, CCl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>, and CO<sub>2</sub>. We present simulations of CO using the CLaMS chemical transport model driven by ERA-Interim meteorological fields (Dee et al., 2011) over the time period from January 2005 to the end of October 2012 for the tropical lower stratosphere and compare the results with both remote-sensing and in-situ measurements. The simplified chemistry scheme

described here was recently used for studying the implementation of the CLaMS Lagrangian transport core into the chemistry climate model EMAC (Hoppe et al., 2014). (A preliminary account of the work presented here, based of MOPITT version 3 data (Deeter et al., 2003) and ECMWF operational analyses was given earlier by Pommrich et al., 2011).

The paper is structured as follows. We first present the remote-sensing and in-situ measurements of tropical CO which we use, then we describe the model system, namely the transport and the simplified chemistry scheme, as well as the upper and lower boundary conditions. In Sect. 4, we show the model results in comparison with both in-situ and remote-sensing measurements and discuss our findings. Section 5 contains our conclusions.

## 2 Measurements of CO in the upper troposphere and lower stratosphere

We use several sources for tropical CO data, both for prescribing boundary conditions for a multi-annual CLaMS simulation and for evaluating the results of the simulation (see Sects. 3.3 and 4 below). We use remote-sensing measurements from the MOPITT instrument, a nadir looking satellite experiment (Deeter et al., 2003) and from the Microwave Limb Sounder (MLS), a microwave limb viewing instrument (Waters et al., 2006). Further, we use in-situ CO measurements onboard the high-flying research aircraft Geophysica from the Cryogenically Operated Laser Diode (COLD) spectrometer (Viciani et al., 2008) and from the gas-chromatography measurements by the HAGAR (High Altitude Gas Analyzer) instrument (Volk et al., 2000; Homan et al., 2010). Finally, we consider in-situ CO measurements in the upper troposphere onboard a Learjet by the Tunable Diode Laser Absorption Spectrometer (TDLAS) TRISTAR (Tracer in-situ TDLAS for atmospheric research) (Hoor et al., 2004).

The MOPITT remote sensing instrument was launched aboard the EOS Terra satellite on 18 December 1999; routine measurements began in March 2000. Terra is in a sun-synchronous orbit with 705 km average altitude, 99 min period, and

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98° inclination. The equator crossing of the ascending nodes takes place at about 10.30 a.m. MOPITT views the Earth over all latitudes with a ground pixel size of 22 km × 22 km and a cross-track swath of 640 km that provides a near-global measurement of the distribution of CO every three days. Operational MOPITT CO products in version 4 are based on 4.7 μm thermal-channel radiances (Deeter et al., 2010). The information content in MOPITT retrievals is quantified through the degrees of freedom for signal which indicates the number of independent pieces of information in the retrieved profile (Deeter et al., 2004). In the tropics and in the mid-latitudes, the value for the degrees of freedom for signal is in general greater than one, which implies that MOPITT measurements provide some profile shape information, while a value of the degrees of freedom for signal of 1 indicates that the profile contains no more information than the column. The maximum sensitivity to the true atmospheric state is located around ~ 5 km altitude or 500 hPa pressure (Deeter et al., 2003). Here we use the level 2 data of the version 4 retrievals of MOPITT, which are validated extensively (e.g., Emmons et al., 2004, 2007, 2009; Luo et al., 2007; Deeter et al., 2010, and references therein). More recently, version 5 (Deeter et al., 2011) and version 6 (only for 2008) of MOPITT CO data were released.

MLS is an instrument on the EOS Aura satellite, which was launched on 15 July 2004. The EOS Aura satellite flies in a near polar, sun-synchronous orbit (in the “A Train” satellite constellation) at 98° inclination with a period of approximately 100 min and at an altitude of about 705 km above the Earth. The equatorial crossing time is about 1.45 p.m. MLS views the Earth’s limb in the orbit plane of the Aura spacecraft. Observations range from 82° S to 82° N every day and are spaced 140 km apart along the ground track. MLS detects thermally emitted radiation in several bands of the millimetre and sub-millimetre spectral region yielding profiles of temperature, geopotential height and the volume mixing ratio of several chemical species. The mixing ratio of CO is obtained from measurements of the spectral line at 230 GHz. Here we use version 3.3 retrievals. The vertical resolution of MLS CO measurements is in the range 3.5–5 km from the upper troposphere to the lower mesosphere. The MLS

retrieval technique is described in detail by Livesey et al. (2006) and the validation of the MLS CO data product (in version 2.2) is described by Pumphrey et al. (2007) and Livesey et al. (2008).

The COLD spectrometer is a Tunable Diode Laser (TDL) instrument designed for operation on a high-altitude aircraft for the measurement of CO (Viciani et al., 2008). The absolute in-flight accuracy for CO is 6–9 %. The precision is given by the value of either 1 % of the mixing ratio or 7–8 ppbv, depending on which value is larger. The time resolution of the data is 4 s which corresponds to a horizontal resolution of about 800 m for an average airplane cruising speed of 750 km h<sup>-1</sup> (Viciani et al., 2008).

The Tunable Diode Laser Absorption Spectrometer TRISTAR (Hoor et al., 2004) is an instrument for measurements of CO on research aircrafts. It measures CO with a temporal resolution of 5 s at 1.5 s integration time for each data point. The instrument is in situ calibrated against secondary standards of compressed ambient air, which have been traced against primary standards from NOAA/CMDL prior to and after the measurement campaigns. The total uncertainty for CO based on the reproducibility of the in-flight calibrations is better than 1.5 % relative to the secondary standards (typically 100–150 ppbv).

HAGAR (Volk et al., 2000; Homan et al., 2010) is a multi-tracer in-situ instrument that, apart from CO, also provides simultaneous in-situ measurements of CO<sub>2</sub> and a suite of long-lived tracers, namely CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, CFC-12, CFC-11, H-1211, SF<sub>6</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>. Except for CO<sub>2</sub>, which is measured at high time resolution (3 to 5 s) by non-dispersive infrared absorption (NDIR), all the other species were measured by gas chromatography with electron capture detection (GC/ECD) every 110 s. The detection of CO (as well as CH<sub>4</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>) is achieved by adding about 25 ppmv of N<sub>2</sub>O to the detector (Phillips et al., 1979). Frequent calibrations were performed in flight (usually every 9 min) using two secondary standards with mixing ratios of 138 ppb and 68 ppb (±7 %). Although the precision based on the reproducibility of in-flight calibrations was mostly better than 7 ppb, the total uncertainty of HAGAR's CO measurements during TROCCINOX was dominated by an estimated ~ 10 ppb systematic error due to a significant non-linearity

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of detector response to CO that could not be accurately characterised for flight conditions. The CO measurement was hampered by two other problems. First, after starting the instrument, satisfactory sensitivity to CO was established only gradually, such that reliable CO data are only available after the first flight hour. Second, for air samples with ozone mixing ratio exceeding  $\sim 260$  ppb the measurement was significantly biased by CO released from heated steel tubing inside HAGAR, which caused the loss of most stratospheric CO data above 400 K.

### 3 The Chemical Lagrangian Model of the Stratosphere (CLaMS)

#### 3.1 CLaMS transport

CLaMS is a chemical transport model designed to simulate chemistry, advection, and mixing in the stratosphere and upper troposphere (McKenna et al., 2002a, b; Konopka et al., 2007, 2010). CLaMS is based on a Lagrangian representation of transport, with the intensity of mixing in the model transport being driven by the strength of flow deformation. Thus, the model should be particularly well suited for the simulation of tracer transport in the vicinity of strong transport barriers and the associated tracer gradients.

The model employs a hybrid coordinate ( $\zeta$ ), which transforms from a strictly isentropic coordinate  $\theta$  to a  $\sigma$  coordinate system below a certain reference level  $\sigma_r = 0.3$ , where  $\sigma = p/p_s$ , with  $p_s$  denoting the surface pressure (Mahowald et al., 2002). Thus,  $\sigma_r = 0.3$  corresponds to about 300 hPa over sea level. Over orography,  $\sigma_r = 0.3$  corresponds to lower pressures; the most extreme case would be the summit of Mt. Everest ( $p_s \approx 330$  hPa) where  $\sigma_r = 0.3$  corresponds to about 100 hPa. The hybrid coordinate  $\zeta$  is defined as

$$\zeta(p) = f(\sigma) \cdot \theta(p, T(p)), \quad \sigma = \frac{p}{p_s} \quad (1)$$

with

$$f(\sigma) = \begin{cases} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} \frac{1-\sigma}{1-\sigma_r}\right) & \sigma > \sigma_r \\ 1 & \sigma \leq \sigma_r, \quad \sigma_r = 0.3 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

The use of this coordinate allows the tropospheric upwelling, as it is represented in the pressure tendencies ( $\dot{p} = \omega$ ) of the ECMWF ERA-Interim reanalysis, to be represented in the CLaMS transport (see Konopka et al., 2007, for details). However, a parametrisation of subgrid scale convectively driven vertical transport, as it is present for example in the ECMWF model, is not included in this model version of CLaMS. Further, the CLaMS mixing scheme was designed originally for describing stratospheric transport (McKenna et al., 2002b; Konopka et al., 2004, 2005) and thus there are only limited tests of its application to tropospheric transport (Vogel et al., 2011). In order to obtain mass-conserving velocity fields on an annual scale the calculated vertical velocities  $\zeta$  are corrected (Rosenlof, 1995; Konopka et al., 2010) so that zonally and annually averaged total mass fluxes vanish across each  $\zeta(\phi)$  surface (with  $\phi$  being latitude).

The specific model setup employed here follows closely the setup described by Konopka et al. (2007, 2010), with orography following lower boundary conditions (Riese et al., 2012). The mean horizontal resolution is 100 km and the mean vertical resolution in the tropopause region about 400 m. Multi-annual, global CLaMS simulations of the whole troposphere and stratosphere (from the ground up to the stratopause around 2500 K potential temperature, (corresponding to  $\approx 60$  km, 0.2 hPa) cover the time period from January 2005 to the end of October 2012.

To define the Lagrangian air parcels, the concept of an entropy- and static stability-based grid is applied as described by Konopka et al. (2012, see Figs. 3 and 4). Interpolation within such a grid mimics physical mixing only if both the vertical and the horizontal resolution properly scales with the vertical coordinate. This approach generalises the procedure described earlier (Konopka et al., 2007), where the atmosphere was divided into an irregular grid of air parcels with a variable thickness, but with the same (mean) horizontal distance between the air parcels. Thus, in the previous procedure

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(Konopka et al., 2007), although the vertical resolution qualitatively renders the true atmospheric vertical diffusivity (e.g. with smaller vertical separation in the stratosphere than in the troposphere), the horizontal resolution is the same for all air parcels throughout the model domain.

5 The procedure described by Konopka et al. (2012) overcomes this disadvantage by using physical assumptions to define *both* the vertical and the horizontal resolution of a full Lagrangian grid, namely same entropy per air parcel and aspect ratio of every air parcel derived from the static stability, (for details see Konopka et al., 2012, the  
10 resulting improvements in the model simulations are discussed briefly in the electronic supplement).

### 3.2 Simplified chemistry scheme

The CLaMS model contains a comprehensive stratospheric chemistry scheme including catalytic ozone loss cycles and heterogeneous chemistry at the surfaces of stratospheric aerosol particles and polar stratospheric clouds (e.g., McKenna et al., 2002a; Grooß and Müller, 2007; Grooß et al., 2011; Wegner et al., 2012). Here, the focus  
15 is on a limited set of trace species in the TTL, in particular on CO, but also on N<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>4</sub>, CCl<sub>3</sub>F (CFC-11), CCl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (CFC-12), O<sub>3</sub>, and CO<sub>2</sub> from which information about advection and mixing in the TTL can be deduced. A strongly simplified chemistry is implemented in this model version, which is designed to describe reasonably well the  
20 first order chemical loss of long-lived tracers, production of ozone and its chemical loss in the lower stratosphere, as well as the production and loss of stratospheric CO. There are five long-lived tracers considered in the simplified chemistry scheme, namely CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, CCl<sub>3</sub>F, CCl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>, and CO<sub>2</sub>. Ploeger et al. (2011, 2012b) showed that the O<sub>3</sub> budget in the upper TTL and lower stratosphere is well represented employing this simplified  
25 chemistry scheme. The parametrised reactions that constitute the simplified scheme are designed to represent the net result of reaction cycles and, therefore, cannot be written in a way that is stoichiometrically correct. For example, in Reaction (R4), the initial reaction product of the methane oxidation by Cl is HCl, however the ultimate

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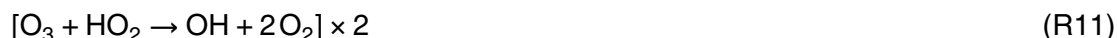
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product of the hydrogen atoms in the methane molecule in the stratosphere is two H<sub>2</sub>O molecules. Products other than CO, O<sub>3</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub>O are ignored in this approach. The parametrised reactions implemented in the model are:



15 Most rate constants are taken from the recommendations in Sander et al. (2011). (For the model runs shown here, exceptions are Reactions (R3) and (R5), for which rates are taken from Sander et al. (2006) and Reaction (R1), for which the rate is taken from Sander et al. (2002)). The photolysis rates were calculated as diurnal averages using the CLaMS photolysis code (Becker et al., 2000). Reaction (R11) constitutes the rate limiting step of the HO<sub>x</sub> catalytic ozone loss cycle (Reactions R10–R11) in which two ozone molecules are destroyed (2O<sub>3</sub> → 3O<sub>2</sub>). Thus, Reaction (R11) is assigned twice the recommended value to represent the ozone loss through this cycle and in turn, the rate of Reaction (R10) is set to zero. By this approach and by accounting for photochemical production of ozone through the photolysis of molecular oxygen (Reaction R9), the most important reactions that determine ozone concentrations in the lowermost stratosphere are represented in the model.

25

The concentrations of the radicals Cl, O(<sup>1</sup>D), OH, and HO<sub>2</sub> are prescribed as tabulated, monthly average, values as a function of latitude and pressure level for each month. Concentrations of methane and ozone are taken from the HALOE climatology (Grooß and Russell, 2005) and the radical concentrations are then calculated from a simulation of the box model version of CLaMS including the complete chemistry scheme (McKenna et al., 2002b; Grooß and Müller, 2007) for each pressure level and latitude over a months period. These tabulated climatologies of Cl (for 2005 conditions), O(<sup>1</sup>D), OH, and HO<sub>2</sub> are available as an electronic supplement of this paper.

### 3.3 Boundary conditions for CO and long-lived tracers at the top and bottom of the model domain

The model setup presented here is aimed at using CO as a tracer of tropospheric air transported into the TTL, rather than investigating CO in the lower troposphere and the detailed impact of local tropospheric sources. Furthermore, we intend to implement a background CO field rather than an accurate representation of extreme values of tropical CO, e.g., as caused by rapid convective transport from source regions in the boundary layer. Therefore, CO is prescribed in the free troposphere based on MOPITT measurements. We use the MOPITT measurements at 500 hPa, where MOPITT CO is most reliable (Deeter et al., 2004; Emmons et al., 2004). Although reported at 500 hPa, due to the rather wide averaging kernels of MOPITT (Deeter et al., 2004), these values are influenced by the CO values in a thick layer (~ 200–700 hPa; 3–12 km) in the free troposphere. However, these CO measurements by MOPITT do not cover the boundary layer, where tropospheric CO concentrations are highest (e.g., Boynard et al., 2012; Kumar et al., 2013). MOPITT only reaches global coverage after three days and, in addition, the density of measurements is often limited by cloud occurrence. Therefore, we calculate trajectories using the CLaMS trajectory module and based on ERA-interim winds from the MOPITT measurement locations during a five day period, forward and backward, to 12:00 UTC on the central day of the five day period. The data



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are binned into a  $2^\circ \times 6^\circ$  latitude/longitude grid and then averaged on each grid point location weighted by the distance to the corresponding grid point location to construct the boundary condition for the central day. The MOPITT field constructed in this way is then interpolated onto the model levels in  $\zeta$ -coordinates. An example of the so-derived CO field on a regular grid for Northern Hemisphere winter and summer conditions is shown in Fig. 1. The model levels below  $\zeta = 200$  K ( $\approx 3$ – $4$  km) are set to the CO values of the  $\zeta = 200$  K level. The spatial resolution of MOPITT and the processing described above allows some of the spatial variability of CO to be captured (Fig. 1), but some of the high and low extremes in CO values in the measurements will be averaged out. This is noticeable clearly in Fig. 6 below.

The tropospheric CO fields deduced in this way, however, underestimate the enhanced CO values in the boundary layer, below about 1–2 km, (e.g., Boynard et al., 2012; Kumar et al., 2013) and thus the CO total column in the lower troposphere. Therefore, the CO values prescribed at the lower boundary condition below the  $\zeta = 200$  K level are scaled up by a factor to correct for the underestimation of CO in the lowermost troposphere. The factor can be adjusted for the particular question being addressed; in the model simulations discussed here, a factor of two was applied in order to allow the impact of rapid uplift on CO concentrations in the upper troposphere to be described (see also discussion below). It is also possible to use other satellite measurements of CO than MOPITT for constructing the boundary for CO in the troposphere. For example, Vogel et al. (2011) used AIRS (Atmospheric Infrared Sounder) CO measurements (Aumann et al., 2003) to prescribe the CO boundary condition in the lowest model layer in a case study of transport of CO and other trace gases in a tropopause fold in the free troposphere. At the upper boundary ( $\theta = 2500$  K), CO is set according to the Mainz-2D model (Grooß, 1996).

For the long-lived tracers  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$ ,  $\text{CCl}_2\text{F}_2$ , and  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  boundary conditions are prescribed as mixing ratios in the lowest model level. For  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_4$  the measurements from the NOAA/CMDL ground-based measurement network are used

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(Masarie and Tans, 1995; Novelli et al., 2003)<sup>1</sup>. An alternative data source for prescribing CH<sub>4</sub> at the lower boundary is the AIRS instrument (which provides also information on CO, Vogel et al., 2011). CCl<sub>3</sub>F, CCl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>O are derived from the in-situ measurements from CATS instruments (CATS–Chromatograph for Atmospheric Trace Species) being in continuous operation at six NOAA baseline observatories since 1999 (e.g., Montzka et al., 1996; Rigby et al., 2013)<sup>2</sup>. Like for CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> a zonally symmetric lower boundary condition is derived. At the upper boundary CCl<sub>3</sub>F and CCl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> are set to zero, whereas the HALOE climatology (Grooß and Russell, 2005) is used for CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O.

In addition, for the interpretation of the data and for the definition of the upper boundary of CO<sub>2</sub>, the mean age  $\Gamma(\lambda, \phi, \zeta)$  ( $\lambda$ , longitude;  $\phi$ , latitude;  $\zeta$ , vertical coordinate) is used. The mean age  $\Gamma$  is determined by considering a strictly linearly increasing, artificial tracer in the boundary layer.  $\Gamma$  is calculated as the time lag, at a given time, between the stratospheric tracer value and the tracer value in the boundary layer (Vaugh and Hall, 2002). The mean age of air ( $\Gamma$ ) at  $\zeta = 2500$  K is estimated from MIPAS observations of SF<sub>6</sub> (Stiller et al., 2008). Because no corrections for mesospheric SF<sub>6</sub> losses are included, this so-called “apparent” mean age is probably somewhat too old, although possible differences, caused by mesospheric contributions, are difficult to quantify.

The upper boundary of CO<sub>2</sub> at time  $t$ , latitude  $\phi$ , and longitude  $\lambda$ , is defined through:  $\text{CO}_2(\lambda, \phi, t) = \langle \text{CO}_2 \rangle(t - \Gamma(\lambda, \phi, \zeta = 2500 \text{ K}))$ , where  $\langle \text{CO}_2 \rangle$  denotes the mean value of CO<sub>2</sub> in the tropics (zonally averaged in the latitude range  $\pm 30^\circ$ ) calculated from the NOAA/CMDL ground-based measurement network. Thus, at the upper boundary, CO<sub>2</sub> is derived from the CO<sub>2</sub> distribution in the tropical boundary layer that was observed in the past, where the time lag is quantified in terms of the mean age. Because the apparent age used at the upper boundary is probably somewhat too old, the CO<sub>2</sub>

<sup>1</sup>See [http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/globalview/ch4/ch4\\_intro.html](http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/globalview/ch4/ch4_intro.html), [http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/globalview/co2/co2\\_intro.html](http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/globalview/co2/co2_intro.html)

<sup>2</sup>See <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/hats/insitu/cats/>

values at this level are probably somewhat too low. This deficiency will be more relevant at high latitudes, where air is descending, than in the tropics, where the influence of the upper boundary on the composition of the atmosphere and thus on the age of air estimates is limited.

Because tropospheric ozone is not a focus of the simulations shown here, the volume mixing ratio of ozone at the surface is set to zero, between the surface and  $\theta = 500$  K ( $\approx 20$  km, 55 hPa) the volume mixing ratio of ozone is calculated based on the simplified chemistry scheme described above (Sect. 3.2), and above  $\theta = 500$  K ozone is prescribed from the HALOE climatology (Grooß and Russell, 2005).

## 4 Comparison of simulated CO with MLS measurements

We first compare the simulated monthly climatology of the CO anomaly pattern for summer and winter in the lower stratosphere at 390 K with MLS measurements (Fig. 2). This anomaly was calculated for both the measurements and the results of the simulation by subtracting the monthly mean CO mixing ratio  $\langle \text{CO} \rangle$  at 390 K from the monthly mean CO mixing ratio  $\text{CO}(\lambda, \phi)$  at each grid point and then calculating the monthly anomaly pattern, as  $100 \cdot (\text{CO}(\lambda, \phi) - \langle \text{CO} \rangle) / \langle \text{CO} \rangle$ . The monthly anomaly patterns at 390 K are then averaged for winter (DJF) and summer (JJA) for the entire time period (2005–2012) resulting in the climatology shown in Fig. 2. The CLaMS model results were convoluted with the MLS averaging kernels (Livesey et al., 2011) for each single profile to allow a better comparison.

The main feature of the anomaly pattern is well reproduced, namely enhanced values in the tropics compared to mid-latitudes and high latitudes in both summer and winter. The anomaly in mid-latitudes in the summer hemispheres is well represented, however, compared to MLS, the model overestimates the anomaly fields in the winter hemisphere mid-latitudes. Another pronounced anomaly feature, which is well reproduced in the model is the positive CO anomaly over the region of the Asian summer monsoon (JJA). Further, the lower anomaly values in the summer season, both at



5  $\approx 30^\circ\text{S}$ – $40^\circ\text{S}$  in the South Pacific (in DJF, Fig. 2, top left panel) and in the North Atlantic at  $\approx 30^\circ\text{N}$ – $40^\circ\text{N}$  (in JJA, Fig. 2, bottom left panel) are reproduced in the simulation.

10 An important test for the ability of a model to describe transport and chemistry of longer lived tropospheric tracers like CO in the tropical upper troposphere and lower stratosphere is the temporal development of anomaly signals in the air ascending in the tropics, commonly referred to as “atmospheric tape recorder” (Mote et al., 1996; Schoeberl et al., 2006). For a successful reproduction of the CO tape recorder pattern, a model needs to be able to describe correctly the seasonality of CO in the upper troposphere and the transport within the troposphere to the bottom of the TTL, where the seasonal CO pattern is imprinted on the ascending air (or where, in other words, the “tape head is written”). Further, the model needs to be driven with appropriate vertical velocities for the upward transport in the tropical lower stratosphere without the anomaly pattern being destroyed by an excessive vertical or horizontal diffusion or incorrect chemistry. Finally, the extent of horizontal in-mixing into the TTL, which affects tape recorder patterns (Konopka et al., 2010; Ploeger et al., 2012a) needs to be correctly described.

15 In Fig. 3, the simulated (seasonal) anomaly pattern of tropical, zonally averaged CO, i.e., the CO “tape recorder” is compared with MLS measurements. This seasonal anomaly was calculated by subtracting the long-term average over the entire time period (2005–2012) from the monthly climatology at each level. For an appropriate comparison, the CLaMS values were vertically convoluted with the averaging kernels of the MLS CO measurements. The simulation successfully reproduced the observed approximately one-year tape recorder pattern of CO (Schoeberl et al., 2006; Liu et al., 2007). Further, the onset (at  $\approx 100\text{ hPa}$ ) of enhanced as well as of reduced CO volume mixing ratios are well described in the CLaMS simulation. However, compared to the 25 MLS observations, the phase shift of the simulated tape recorder pattern with altitude, and thus the rate of tropical upwelling is too fast (Fig. 3). We attribute this model deficiency to an overestimate of the rate of tropical upwelling in the lower stratosphere

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in the ERA-interim reanalyses, which has also been reported in previous studies (Dee et al., 2011; Schoeberl et al., 2012; Ploeger et al., 2012a).

In both the observations and the results of the simulations, the tape recorder anomaly pattern is only visible up to about 30 hPa (Fig. 3). At these altitudes, the CO anomaly patterns are propagating downward rather than upward, as it is the case below 30 hPa. A downward propagation of tropical anomaly patterns is observed for long lived trace species, for which mixing ratios decline steadily with altitude in the stratosphere (Schoeberl et al., 2008; Kellmann et al., 2012; Khosrawi et al., 2013, see also Sect. 4.2). These anomaly patterns are attributed to a modulation of the vertical velocity in the tropical stratosphere induced by the QBO (Ribera et al., 2004; Punge et al., 2009; Flury et al., 2013), acting on the vertical gradient of long lived tracers (see Sect. 4.2).

However, tropical mixing ratios of CO, decline with increasing altitude up to  $\approx 40$  hPa, but increase again at altitudes above  $\approx 20$  hPa (see electronic supplement), so that the impact of a QBO induced modulation of the vertical velocity in the tropics on CO anomaly patterns is complex. Nonetheless, the rate of downward propagation of CO anomaly patterns between 10 and 30 hPa is consistent with the rate of downward propagation of the QBO (not shown). We therefore attribute the variation of the CO anomaly patterns between 10 and 30 hPa (Fig. 3) as being influenced by the secondary meridional circulation in the tropical stratosphere induced by the QBO.

#### 4.1 Comparison of simulated CO with in-situ measurements

Because of their high spatial and temporal resolution, in-situ measurements of CO in the upper troposphere and lower stratosphere from the COLD instrument allow the quality of the vertical structure of CO in the CLaMS simulations to be evaluated. In Fig. 4 we show the vertical profile of CO volume mixing ratio measured by COLD during four flights of the TROCCINOX campaign, which took place in February 2005 in Araçatuba (21.2° S, 50.4° W), Brazil (Konopka et al., 2007). For the flights on 4, 5, 8, and 12 February 2005, CO measurements from the HAGAR instrument are available. The flights on 4 and 5 February 2005 were planned in order to sample air masses

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influenced by fresh convection in the vicinity of isolated thunderstorms (“storm chase”); the flight on 5 February 2005 also aimed at a plume re-encounter. The flights on 8, 12 and 15 February 2005 were designed as survey flights of the TTL in tropical air northward of the subtropical jet; the flight on 8 February also aimed at a stratospheric intrusion, the objective of the last two flights was in particular the validation of satellite measurements.

The comparison for all flights (Fig. 4) shows that in the CLaMS simulation, the low stratospheric mixing ratios of CO at altitudes greater than about 390 K are reproduced reasonably well, although a low bias in the model results is notable, in particular compared to the COLD CO measurements. In this altitude region, HAGAR and COLD CO measurements agree within error bars. However, the strong enhancement of CO at altitudes below, with observed peak values of CO of about 120–130 ppbv at 350–360 K are substantially underestimated in the model simulation. In this altitude region, the HAGAR measurements generally support the conclusions based on the COLD measurements, but show lower peak CO values than COLD and thus a better agreement with the CLaMS simulations. (See Appendix for a brief discussion of the agreement between COLD and HAGAR measurements).

We attribute the observed strong CO enhancement at 350–360 K to air that is lofted by convection to these altitudes and thereafter injected into the upper troposphere in the convective outflow region. Indeed, young air masses, with a simulated mean age of air of less than a month, are found at  $\approx 360$  K in the model and the youngest air masses show the highest CO mixing ratios. Nonetheless, the simulated mean age of air is not compatible with fresh convection. Consequently, we interpret the observed model underestimate of CO as being caused by the lack of a representation of rapid convective uplift and of sufficiently high surface concentrations of CO in this model version of CLaMS. The model produces some signature of convectively driven upward transport as a peak in the CO distribution at about 360 K that coincides with young air masses, recently lofted from the ground; in particular for the flights on 5 and 15 February 2005. Thus, for these flights, the ERA-interim vertical winds employed in



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the CLaMS simulation discussed here (a combination of  $\omega = \dot{p}$  and  $\dot{\theta}$ , see Sect. 3.1), contain some signature of the convective activity that was sampled, albeit a much weaker one than in reality. However, the convectively enhanced CO observed on 4 and 12 February 2005, is not well reproduced in the CLaMS simulations.

The best reproduction by the CLaMS simulations of the measured CO mixing ratios is for the flights on 8 and 15 February (Fig. 4). Although the CLaMS values are somewhat lower than observed values, the agreement is generally reasonable with both the decline of CO with altitude above about 350 K and the enhancement in the upper troposphere being reproduced in the simulation. There is some indication of an underestimate of the peak CO in the convective outflow region for the flight on 15 February (at  $\approx 340$ – $350$  K), but much less pronounced than for the flights on 2, 5, and 12 February. For the TROCCINOX flights, a discrepancy between CLaMS results and in-situ measurements are also observed at greater altitudes (Fig. 4). The underestimate of the CLaMS values above  $\approx 400$  K in the lower stratosphere is about 10–20 ppb. Although HAGAR and COLD measurements generally agree within the combined uncertainty estimates (see Appendix for details), there is a tendency for HAGAR CO measurements to be lower than COLD values. In particular at altitudes between 380 to 340 K, the HAGAR CO values agree somewhat better with the CLaMS simulations than COLD values.

The comparison of the CLaMS results with the COLD measurements during the SCOUT-O3 campaign in November 2005 (Brunner et al., 2009) and the AMMA campaign in July and August 2008 (Cairo et al., 2010) shows a much closer agreement. This is true in particular for SCOUT-O3, where an underestimate of the in-situ measurements by the simulation is not noticeable. The climatological mean values of CLaMS simulations and COLD measurements agree rather well for both the AMMA and SCOUT-O3 measurements (Fig. 5). The lack of a good representation of rapid convective uplift in the CLaMS model is less problematic for the SCOUT-O3 and the AMMA measurements, because during these campaigns strong convectively driven

CO enhancements at the bottom of the TTL were not sampled (see also electronic supplement).

In summary, we found from the analysis of the vertical CO profiles measured in situ:

- Reasonable representation of lower CO values in the lower tropical stratosphere, with a tendency for underestimation (by  $\approx 10$ – $20$  ppbv) during TROCCINOX
- Insufficient representation of strongly enhanced CO in the convective outflow region during TROCCINOX
- Good representation of CO values in the lower tropical stratosphere during SCOUT-O3 and AMMA in the absence of convectively enhanced CO

In Fig. 6 the probability density functions (PDFs) are shown for scatterplots of a climatology of CO measured in several aircraft campaigns against the corresponding CLaMS simulations. The climatology of CO measurements is based on the COLD measurements aboard the Geophysica aircraft in the tropical tropopause region in the campaigns TROCCINOX (February 2005, Konopka et al., 2007), SCOUT-O3 (November 2005, Brunner et al., 2009) and AMMA (Summer 2006, Cairo et al., 2010) and on in-situ CO measurements by the TRISTAR instrument in the mid-latitude tropopause region during the SPURT campaign (November 2001 to July 2003, Hoor et al., 2004; Engel et al., 2006).

For lower mixing ratios of CO, below about 50 ppbv, the maximum values of the PDFs cluster closely around the 1 : 1 line. However, for simulated CO values below  $\approx 130$  ppbv there is also a clear tendency for the range of observed CO values to extend to much higher values than simulated. For simulated CO mixing ratios above about 130 ppbv, i.e. for lower altitudes, the situation is different, with observed CO values being lower than simulated by CLaMS. It is not surprising that the model underestimates the variability of CO values in the tropical tropopause region, and in particular does not reproduce large CO values at the bottom of the TTL, because the upward transport in the troposphere is represented in the model solely by the large-scale vertical winds

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(i.e., a combination of  $\omega = \dot{p}$  and  $\dot{\theta}$ , see Sect. 3.1), which do not contain sufficient information on convectively driven uplift and vertical mixing, in particular from sub-grid scale processes.

Thus, in summary, we conclude that the lack of a representation of convectively driven uplift of trace species in the troposphere in CLaMS does not substantially impact the simulation of CO for tropical background conditions. For a successful representation of the impact on CO of individual convective events, for example as observed for the flight on 5 February 2005 (Fig. 4), an appropriate representation of convective uplift and an accurate description of CO concentrations in the lowermost troposphere in the model are necessary.

## 4.2 Simulated tropical anomalies of long-lived tracers

The tape recorder signal in CO, and similarly in HCN, is attributed to seasonal or irregular variation in emissions driven by biomass burning (Schoeberl et al., 2006; Pommrich et al., 2010). The situation is different for long-lived tracers (e.g.,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$ ,  $\text{CCl}_2\text{F}_2$ ), which do not have source strengths varying strongly with season (or other irregular variations as observed for HCN) and thus will have only small annual (or irregular) variation at the tropical tropopause.

Due to increasing chemical loss with altitude and in-mixing from mid-latitudes, there is a vertical gradient in the tropical lower stratosphere in mixing ratios of long-lived tracers. Thus, variations of the vertical velocity in the tropical stratosphere, acting on this gradient, should result in anomaly patterns in long-lived tracers. In particular, the QBO is known to exert a significant modulation of tropical upwelling with the easterly shear phase of the QBO corresponding to enhanced upwelling and the westerly shear phase to reduced upwelling (Ribera et al., 2004; Punge et al., 2009; Flury et al., 2013).

In Fig. 7, the tropical ( $\pm 15^\circ$ ) anomaly patterns for  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ , observed by MLS (top panel) and simulated by the CLaMS model (bottom panel) for the time period from January 2005 to the end of October 2012 are shown. The CLaMS model results were convoluted with the MLS averaging kernels to allow a more appropriate comparison.



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As expected, there is no signature of a tape recorder signal for  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ , but rather a distinctive anomaly pattern propagating downwards with time. The positive anomalies in  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  at 700–800 K ( $\approx 10$ –20 hPa) in 2005, 2007, and 2011 are consistent with an enhanced upwelling due to the secondary meridional circulation induced by the QBO in easterly phase at these times (see dashed black line in Fig. 7; QBO zonal pattern is deduced from ERA-Interim). Also the somewhat extended phase of easterlies at 10–20 hPa between the end of 2008 and early 2010 is reflected in positive anomalies of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  (albeit interrupted by negative anomalies at the end of 2009). Thus, in agreement with previous studies (e.g., Kellmann et al., 2012; Khosrawi et al., 2013), we interpret the positive anomalies in long-lived tracers as being caused by enhanced upwelling due to the QBO in easterly phase. Very good agreement between  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  anomaly patterns simulated by CLaMS and MLS observation is obvious (Fig. 7); the onset of positive and negative anomalies of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  at about 800 K, and, in particular, its interannual variation are well reproduced by the simulations. Further, the observed velocity of the downward propagation of the anomaly is well captured by the simulations.

The tropical ( $\pm 15^\circ$ ) anomaly patterns simulated by the CLaMS model for  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$ , and  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  are shown in Fig. 8; here the pure model results are shown without applying the MLS averaging kernels. Clearly, the anomaly pattern is robust and consistent for all three species. This finding corroborates the conclusion of the anomaly pattern being caused by the secondary meridional circulation induced by the QBO. The impact of convoluting the results of the CLaMS simulation with the MLS averaging kernels is limited (compare Fig. 7, bottom panel and Fig. 8, top panel). Solely, the apparent propagation of the  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  anomaly to 450 K and below in the averaging kernel convoluted presentation of the CLaMS results are not noticeable in the CLaMS results at model resolution (Fig. 8). We therefore attribute the extension of the  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  anomaly pattern to below 450 K in the MLS observations (Fig. 7, top panel) to the limited vertical resolution of the MLS measurements.

The CLaMS simulation shows that an anomaly pattern as simulated for  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{CH}_4$  is also clearly pronounced in the simulation of  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  (CFC-11) (Fig. 8, bottom panel).

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However, because the stratospheric loss rate for  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  in the tropics is substantial at altitudes between about 500–800 K ( $\approx 55$ –10 hPa, 20–30 km) (e.g., Minschwaner et al., 2013; Ko et al., 2013), the anomaly pattern for  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  starts to weaken at about 800 K (10 hPa). There is also an obvious signal of a decline of  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  at 350–400 K altitude over the considered time period between 2005 to 2012 (by about 18 pptv). This signal is caused by the decline in tropospheric concentrations due to the regulations of the Montreal protocol and its amendments and adjustments. It is consistent in magnitude with the observed decline of  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  in the troposphere over this time period (WMO, 2011; Montzka, 2012)<sup>3</sup> and with satellite measurements of  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  between July 2002 and April 2011 (Kellmann et al., 2012).

## 5 Conclusions

We presented a simplified chemistry scheme for the chemical transport model CLaMS for the simulation at comparatively low numerical cost of CO, ozone, and long-lived trace substances ( $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  (CFC-11),  $\text{CCl}_2\text{F}_2$  (CFC-12), and  $\text{CO}_2$ ) in the lower tropical stratosphere at comparatively low numerical cost. The boundary condition at the ground is represented for the long-lived trace substances  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$ ,  $\text{CCl}_2\text{F}_2$ , and  $\text{CO}_2$  based on ground-based measurements. The boundary conditions for CO in the free troposphere are based on MOPITT V4 measurements (at  $\approx 700$ –200 hPa). Here we focused on the quality of the simulated CO and long-lived tracer fields in the TTL and in the lower tropical stratosphere (see Ploeger et al., 2011, 2012b, for a discussion of the simulated ozone budget in the TTL).

The model simulations do not very well reproduce enhanced CO pollution events and especially enhanced CO observed in the convective outflow region. We attribute this deficiency to the lack of a good representation of tropospheric mixing and of convectively driven uplift in this model version, together with the limitations of the CO boundary

<sup>3</sup>See also <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/hats/insitu/cats/>

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condition in the free troposphere (see Sect. 3.3). Further, in the TTL and the lower tropical stratosphere, there is relatively good agreement of simulated CO with in-situ measurements, with the exception of the TROCCINOX campaign, where CO in the simulation is biased low (by  $\approx 10\text{--}20$  ppbv). However, the model results allow the large scale anomaly patterns of CO in the lower stratosphere to be reproduced. In particular, the simulated zonally averaged tropical CO anomaly patterns (the so called “tape recorder” patterns) are in good agreement with observations. The simulations show a too rapid upwelling compared to observations, which is due to the known overestimated vertical velocities in the tropical lower stratosphere and in the TTL in the ERA-interim reanalysis data set (Dee et al., 2011; Schoeberl et al., 2012; Ploeger et al., 2012a). Finally, the simulated tropical anomaly patterns of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  are in good agreement with observations. In the simulations, anomaly patterns for  $\text{CH}_4$  and CFC-11 were found to be consistent with those of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ; for all long-lived tracers, positive anomalies agree with enhanced tropical upwelling caused by the easterly phase of the QBO (Ribera et al., 2004; Punge et al., 2009; Flury et al., 2013).

In summary, we found that this model version of CLaMS has certain deficiencies in describing enhanced pollution events especially in the convective outflow region, but is of sufficient quality to allow background conditions in the TTL and lower tropical stratosphere to be described. In particular, the zonally averaged tropical CO anomaly patterns (i.e., the CO tape recorder signal) and the tropical anomalies of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  simulated by this model version of CLaMS are in good agreement with observations.

## Appendix A:

### A1 Comparison CO measurements by COLD with measurements by HAGAR on the Geophysica and with VUV fluorescence measurements on the Falcon

In-situ measurements of CO during the TROCCINOX campaign are used for the evaluation of the CLaMS simulation results. In this appendix, we compare all three available

CO measurements during TROCCINOX, namely the COLD (Viciani et al., 2008) and HAGAR (Volk et al., 2000; Homan et al., 2010) measurements on the Geophysica and the VUV fluorescence measurements on the Falcon (Gerbig et al., 1999; Roiger et al., 2011), to allow the accuracy of the measurements to be assessed.

Figure 9 shows a comparison of the measured CO time series by the HAGAR and COLD instruments during the flights on 4, 5, and 12 February 2005 in the frame of TROCCINOX. Within the reported uncertainty range of the two measurements, on all three days, there is agreement for CO volume mixing ratios below about 50 ppbv. There is further agreement within the combined error bars for the measurements on 4 February 2005 and 12 February 2005. Solely for the flight on 5 February 2005, for mixing ratios greater than about 50 ppbv, there is less agreement between the two measurements, with HAGAR showing lower values than COLD.

Furthermore, the CO measurements of the COLD instrument onboard the Geophysica on 4, 5, 15, and 18 February 2005 may be compared with the CO measurements on the research aircraft Falcon. The CO measurements aboard the Falcon were conducted with a vacuum-UV fluorescence instrument (Gerbig et al., 1999; Roiger et al., 2011) with an accuracy of 3 ppbv, a precision of 1 ppbv and an averaging time of 5 s. We compare the vertical profiles taken by the two instruments on ascent (Fig. 10) and descent (Fig. 11). The measurements were taken at approximately the same time; the time difference ranges between a few minutes and 2.5 h (see Table 1 for the exact time period).

In spite of the time delay between the two measurements, the agreement is good in general. The Falcon measurements tend to show somewhat lower CO mixing ratios than the COLD instrument and in cases with a delay in the measurements of about an hour (e.g., ascent on 4 February 2005, Fig. 10), features in the two vertical profile can be different. However, the values of the two CO measurements lie mostly within the combined error estimates over the altitude range  $\approx 320$ – $350$  K and in the case of a close coincidence between the two measurements (ascent on 18 February 2005, Fig. 10), the agreement is very good above about 325 K.





## Code availability

The code for the various components of the Chemical Lagrangian Model of the Stratosphere (CLaMS), including the developments presented here can be obtained from the CLaMS team via the corresponding author of this paper. The main tool for an independent implementation of the simplified stratospheric chemistry described here (Sect. 3.2) beyond the list of reactions, are the precalculated tables of the radical species. These tables are available as an electronic supplement to this paper.

**The Supplement related to this article is available online at doi:10.5194/gmdd-7-5087-2014-supplement.**

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**Table 1.** Time of ascent and descent measurements for the Geophysica and Falcon research aircrafts (given in local time).

Flight	Ascent		Descent	
	Geophysica	Falcon	Geophysica	Falcon
4 Feb 2005	16:39–18:00	17:46–18:30	20:30–21:24	19:45–20:11
5 Feb 2005	16:46–17:39	17:56–18:30	20:40–21:36	20:15–20:42
8 Feb 2005	12:47–13:29	12:43–13:15	16:30–17:33	15:23–15:54
12 Feb 2005	08:37–09:38	–	13:10–13:45	–
15 Feb 2005	10:07–11:19	10:33–11:30	13:45–15:09	13:00–14:03
18 Feb 2005	17:45–18:15	17:45–18:15	21:03–21:49	18:45–19:11

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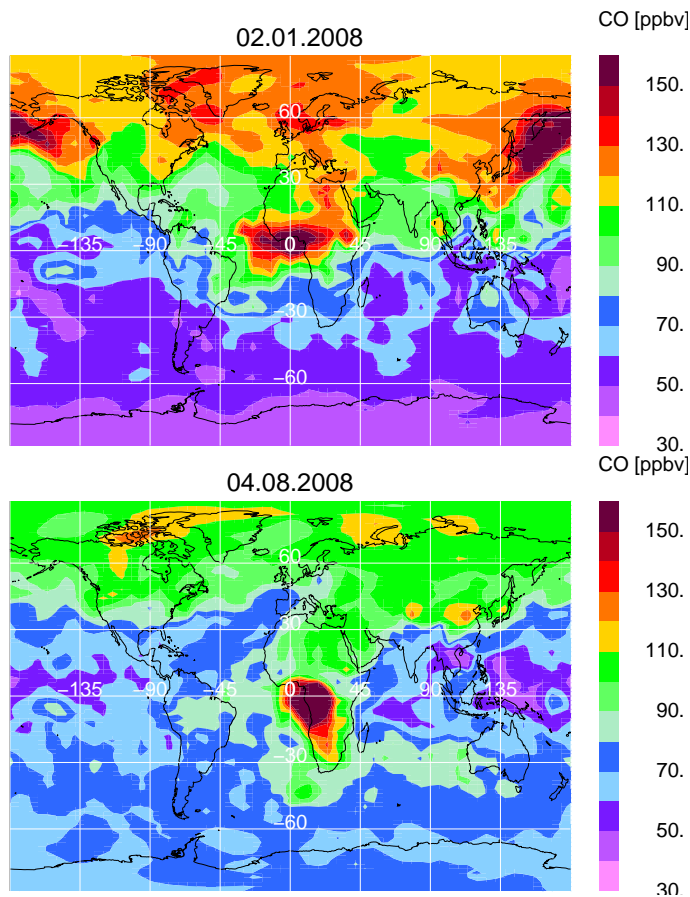
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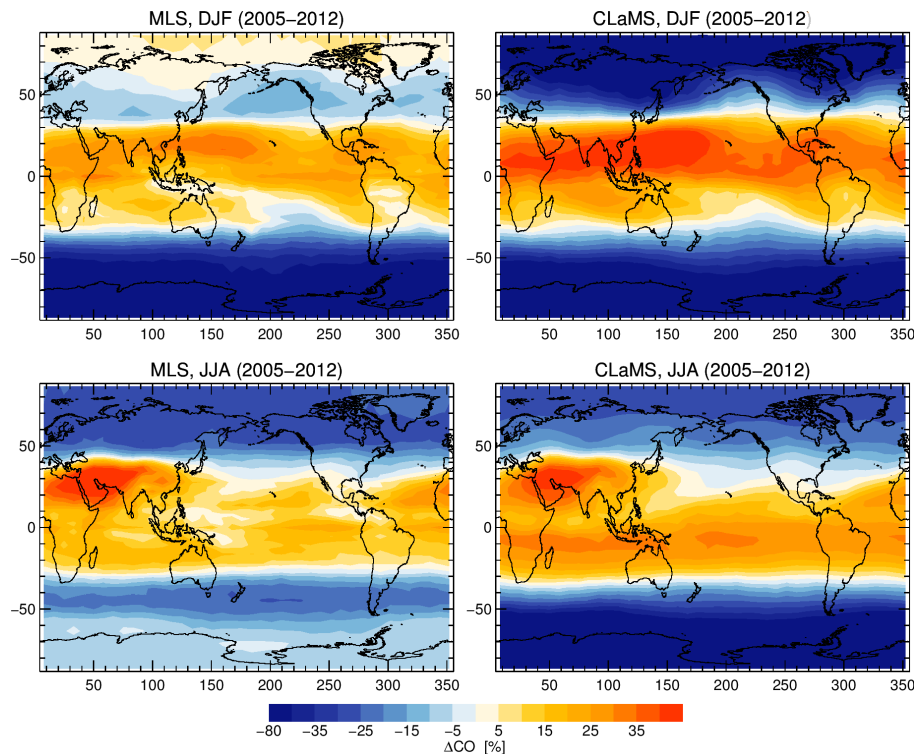
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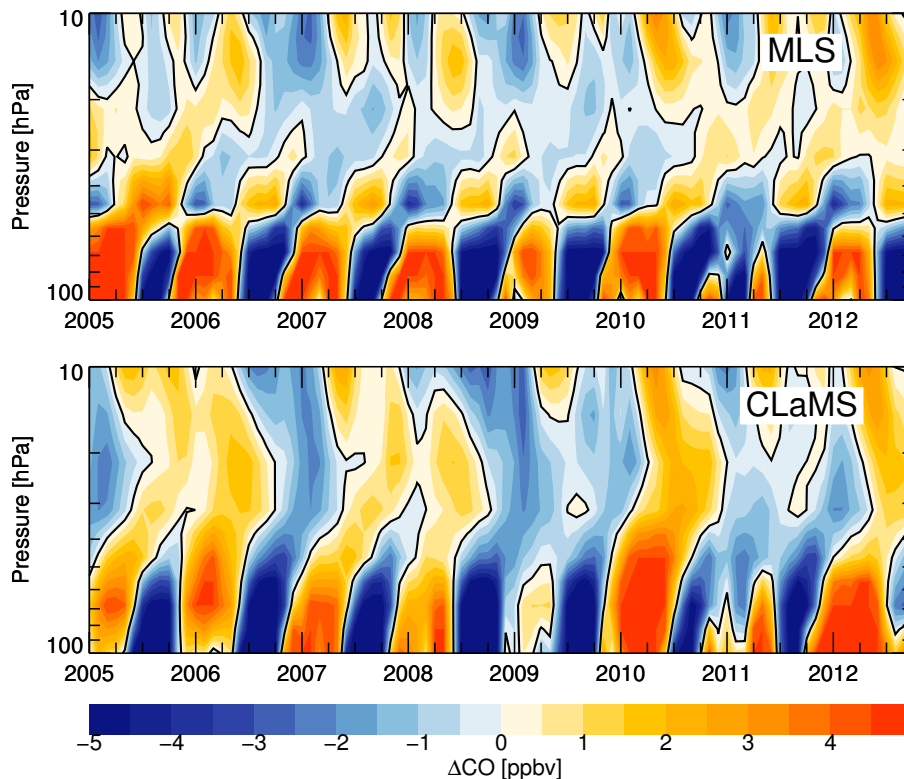


**Figure 1.** Mixing ratios of CO on the  $\zeta = 200$  K model level ( $\approx 3$ – $4$  km) on 2 January 2008 (top panel) and 4 August 2008 (bottom panel), as derived from five days of MOPITT (version 4) measurements by a trajectory technique. (See text for details).





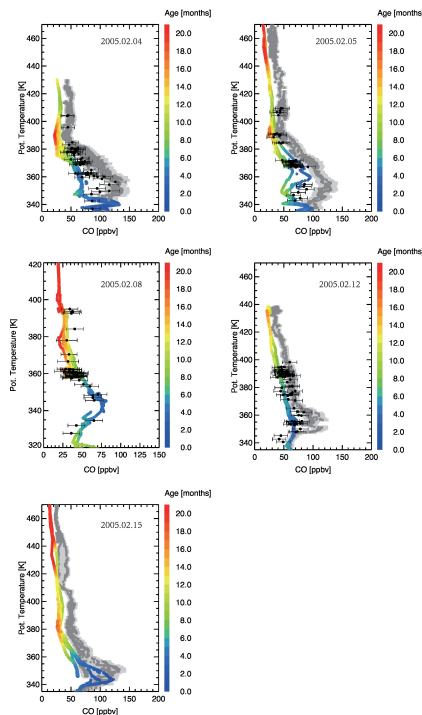
**Figure 2.** Comparison of the climatological anomalies of the CLaMS simulations with MLS measurements at the 390 K potential temperature surface. CLaMS CO values were interpolated on the locations of the MLS measurements and vertically smoothed with the MLS averaging kernels. For both measured (left hand panels) and simulated (right hand panels) CO values the climatological anomaly (with respect to the mean value at the 390 K potential temperature level) for the time period 1 January 2005 to 31 October 2012 is shown (see text for details). Top panels show Northern Hemisphere winter (DJF) conditions, bottom panels show Northern Hemisphere summer (JJA) conditions.



**Figure 3.** Comparison of CO anomalies, zonally averaged in the latitude band  $\pm 15^\circ$  from MLS measurements (top panel) and the CLaMS simulation (bottom panel) for the time period 1 January 2005 to 31 October 2012. The CLaMS values were vertically smoothed employing the averaging kernels of the MLS measurements. The black lines in both panels indicate where the anomaly is zero.

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**Figure 4.** Comparison of the simulation of CO from CLaMS (coloured) with in-situ measurements from the COLD instrument (dark grey) and the HAGAR instrument (black) on the Geophysica aircraft. The flights were conducted on 4 February 2005 (top left panel), 5 February 2005 (top right panel), 8 February 2005 (middle left panel), 12 February 2005 (middle right panel), 15 February 2005 (bottom panel). Note that HAGAR measurements are not available for 15 February 2005 and COLD measurements are not available for 8 February 2005. The mean age of air calculated by the model is colour-coded and given in months. The absolute in-flight accuracy for the COLD CO measurements is about 9 % and is indicated as a light grey shading. The error bars for the HAGAR measurements show total measurement uncertainty.

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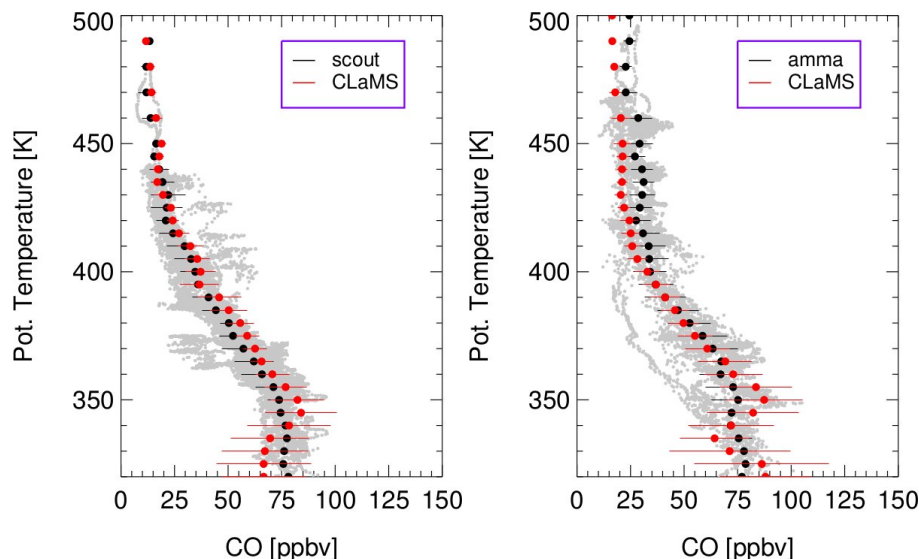
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**Figure 5.** Climatological comparison of vertical CO profiles measured by the COLD instrument aboard the Geophysica aircraft in the tropical tropopause region with CLaMS simulations. The climatology of CO measurements (grey dots) is based on the COLD measurements in the campaigns SCOUT-O3 (November 2005, left panel, Brunner et al., 2009) and AMMA (Summer 2006, right panel, Cairo et al., 2010). The vertical profile of the mean of all CO measurements in the respective campaigns is shown as black symbols with the horizontal bars denoting the standard deviation of the mean. The corresponding model values (derived by interpolating the model information on the location and time of the measurements) are shown in red.

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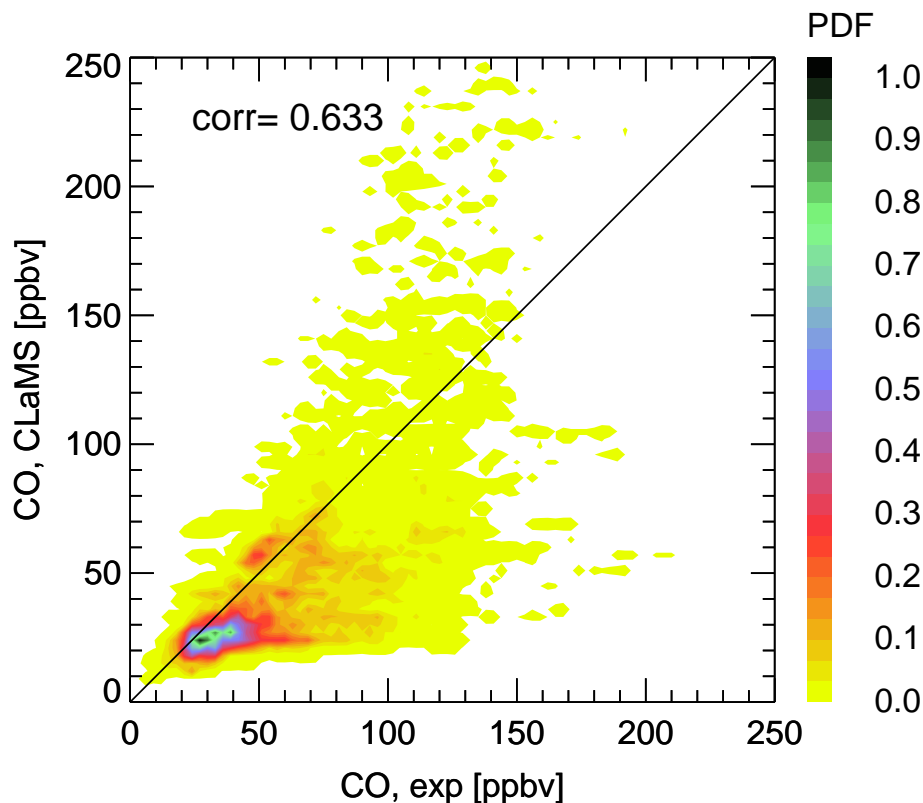
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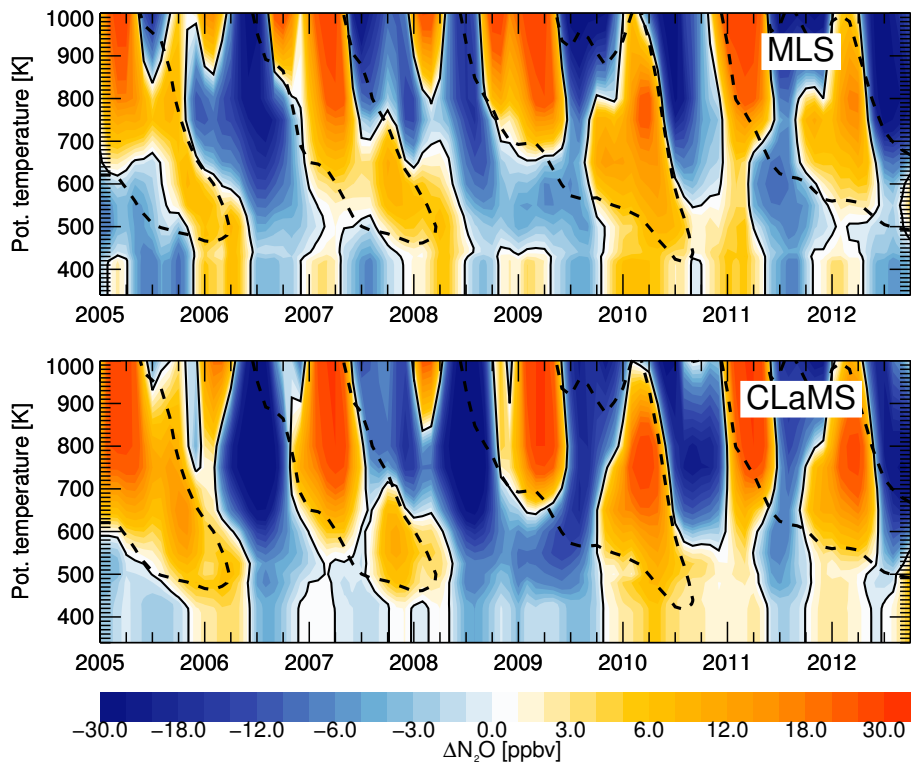
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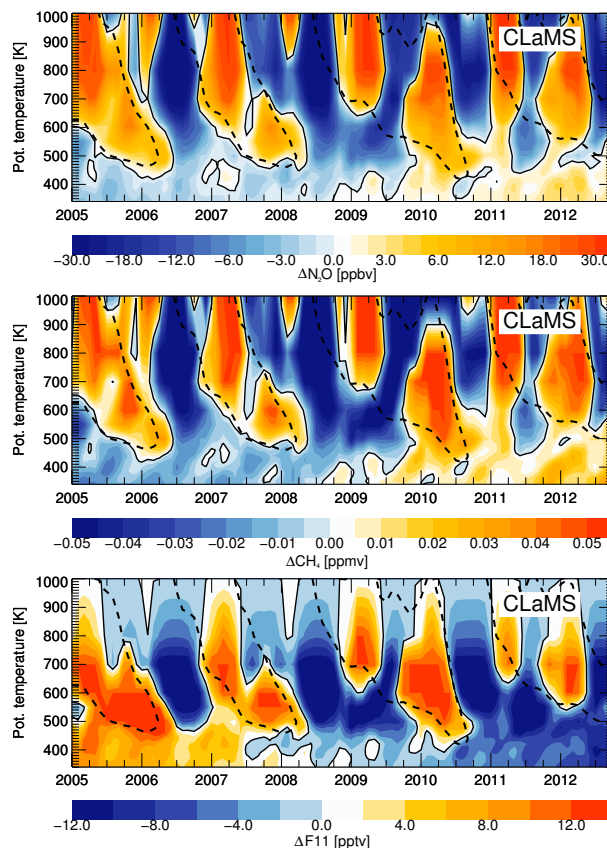
**Figure 6.** Probability density function for a scatter plot of a climatology of aircraft based CO measurements against CLaMS model simulations. The climatology of CO measurements is based on the COLD measurements aboard the Geophysica in the campaigns TROCCINOX (February 2005, Konopka et al., 2007), SCOUT-O3 (November 2005, Brunner et al., 2009), and AMMA (Summer 2006, Cairo et al., 2010) as well as on the TRISTAR CO measurements in the mid-latitude tropopause region during the SPURT campaign from November 2001 to July 2003 (Hoor et al., 2004).



**Figure 7.** The anomaly pattern of tropical ( $\pm 15^\circ$ )  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  as observed by MLS (top panel) and as simulated by CLaMS (bottom panel) for the time period 1 January 2005 to 31 October 2012. In contrast to Fig. 8 below, the CLaMS results are interpolated here on the MLS measurement locations and convoluted with the averaging kernels of MLS for a more accurate comparison. Dashed contours ( $-15 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  wind line from ERA-Interim) illustrate the easterly phase of the QBO.

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**Figure 8.** The anomaly pattern of tropical ( $\pm 15^\circ$ ) tracer fields as simulated by CLaMS for the time period 1 January 2005 to 31 October 2012. Top panel shows  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ , middle panel  $\text{CH}_4$ , and bottom panel  $\text{CCl}_3\text{F}$  (CFC-11). Dashed contours ( $-15 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  wind line from ERA-Interim) illustrate the easterly phase of the QBO.

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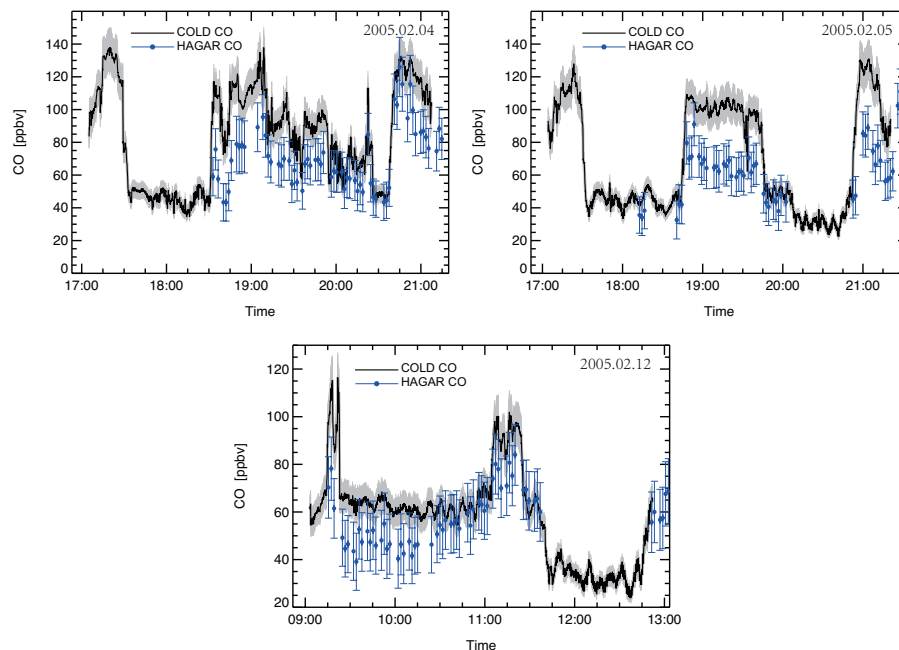
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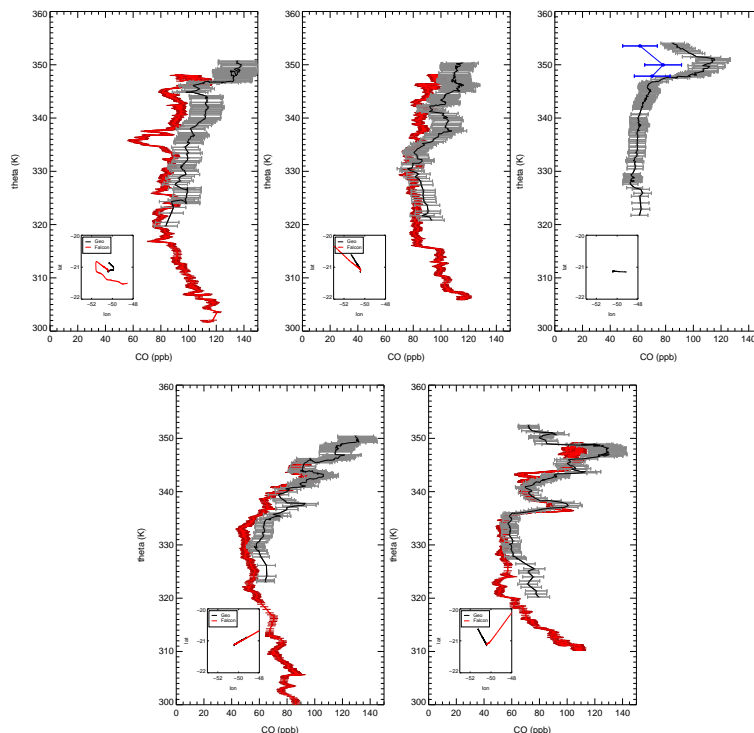


**Figure 9.** Comparison of HAGAR (blue symbols) and COLD CO measurements (black solid line) during three Geophysica flights in February 2005. The absolute in-flight accuracy for the COLD measurements (9 %) is shown as a grey shading. The error bars for the HAGAR measurements show total measurement uncertainty. Top left panel shows flight on 4 February 2005, top right panel the flight on 5 February, and bottom panel flight on 12 February 2005.

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**Figure 10.** Comparison of CO measurements during ascent by the COLD instrument aboard the Geophysica (black) and CO measurements aboard the Falcon (red) (see Table 1 for the exact time period, which is compared). If available, data from HAGAR aboard the Geophysica are shown in blue. Shown are data for 4 February 2005 (top left), 5 February 2005 (top middle), 12 February 2005 (top right), 15 February 2005 (bottom left), and 18 February 2005 (bottom right).

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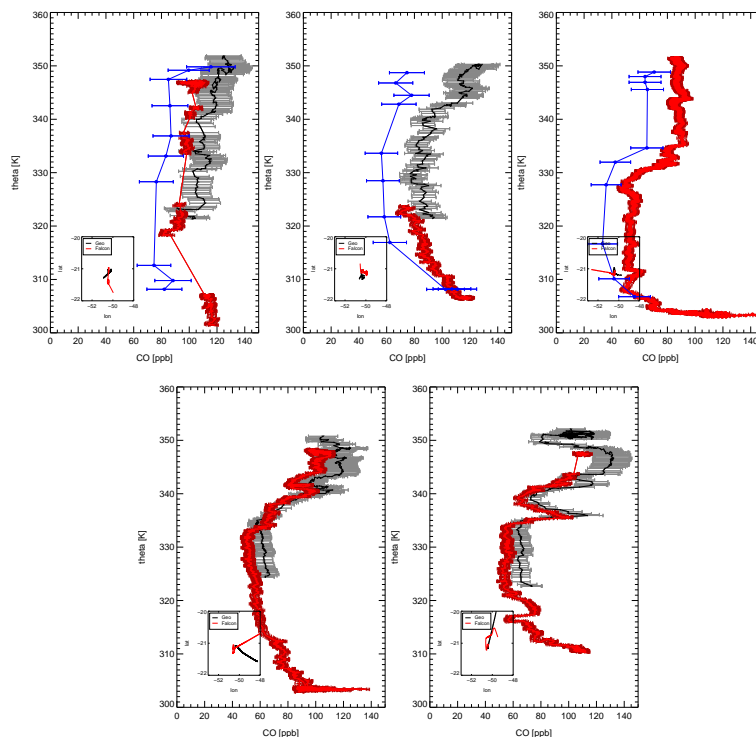
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**Figure 11.** Comparison of CO measurements during descent by the COLD instrument aboard the Geophysica (black) and CO measurements aboard the Falcon (red) (see Table 1 for the exact time period, which is compared). If available, data from HAGAR aboard the Geophysica are shown in blue. Shown are data for 4 February 2005 (top left), 5 February 2005 (top middle), 8 February 2005 (top right), 15 February 2005 (bottom left) 18 February 2005 (bottom right).

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