

Evaluation of the ECHAM family radiation codes performance in the representation of the solar signal

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Abstract

Solar radiation is the main source of energy for the Earth's atmosphere and in many respects defines its composition, photochemistry, temperature profile and dynamics. The magnitude of the solar irradiance variability strongly depends on the wavelength making difficult its representation in climate models. Due to some deficiencies of the applied radiation codes several models fail to show a clear response in middle stratospheric heating rates to solar spectral irradiance variability, therefore it is important to evaluate model performance in this respect before doing multiple runs. In this work we evaluate the performance of three generations of ECHAM (4, 5 and 6) radiation schemes by comparison with the reference high resolution libRadtran code. We found that all original ECHAM solar radiation codes miss almost all solar signal in the heating rates in the mesosphere. In the stratosphere the 2-band ECHAM4 code (E4) has an almost negligible radiative response to solar irradiance changes, the 6-band ECHAM5 code (E5c) reproduces only about a half of the reference signal, while representation in the ECHAM6 code (E6) is better – it maximally misses about 15% in the upper stratosphere. On the basis of the comparison results we suggest necessary improvements of the ECHAM family codes by inclusion of available parameterizations of the heating rate due to absorption by oxygen (O₂) and ozone (O₃). Improvement is presented for E5c and E6, and both codes with the introduced parameterizations represent the heating rate

1 response to the spectral solar irradiance variability simulated with libRadtran much better
2 without substantial increase of computer time. The suggested parameterizations are
3 recommended to apply in the middle atmosphere version of the ECHAM-5 and 6 models for
4 the study of the solar irradiance influence on climate.

5

6 **1. Introduction**

7 Although solar ultraviolet radiation (SUV) comprises only a couple of percent of the total
8 solar irradiance (TSI), it plays a crucial role, largely defining the structure of the middle
9 atmosphere. While the radiation in the visible (VIS) and infrared spectral ranges of the solar
10 spectrum propagates through the atmosphere without significant absorption, almost all solar
11 ultraviolet irradiance below 300 nm is absorbed by ozone and oxygen above the troposphere
12 and represents the main source of energy in these regions. Furthermore, the SUV is strongly
13 modulated by the solar rotational and 11-year solar cycles. Whereas the variability of TSI
14 during 11 year solar activity cycle is around 0.1%, SUV variations can be more than 10 times
15 higher. Moreover, recent measurements by the SORCE (SOLar Radiation and Climate
16 Experiment) suggest a SUV variability significantly higher than all previous estimates
17 (Ermolli et al., 2013 and references therein).

18 Changes in SUV irradiance lead to significant ozone, temperature, and zonal wind responses
19 in the stratosphere and mesosphere, which has been shown in many modeling and observation
20 data analysis studies (Hood and Soukharev, 2012; Austin et al., 2008; Gray et al., 2010; Haigh
21 et al., 2010; Shapiro et al., 2013). The SUV is not considered as a direct radiative forcing for
22 troposphere and surface, since it does not reach these altitudes, but there are indirect effects of
23 solar irradiance variability, which are communicated downward in the so-called “top-down”
24 mechanism: the modulation of stratospheric temperatures leads to dynamical feedbacks by
25 affecting the Brewer-Dobson circulation and hence the stratosphere-troposphere exchange,
26 resulting in decadal climate changes in the lower atmosphere (Solomon et al. 2007; Gray et
27 al., 2010; Ermolli et al. 2013).

28 A comprehensive study of the entangled possible effects of solar variability requires
29 chemistry-climate models (CCMs), the main instruments which are capable to take into
30 account many atmospheric chemical, dynamical and temperature feedbacks. To this end,
31 CCMs should contain a correct representation of the radiative transfer in the atmosphere.
32 Accurate codes for radiative transfer solution exist, e.g. libRadtran (Mayer and Kylling,

1 2005), but they are too computationally expensive to be commonly used in global models.
2 Therefore, different parameterizations have been designed to provide a compromise between
3 accuracy and efficiency. Since most CCMs arise from global circulation models (GCMs),
4 which are primarily tropospheric models, their radiation schemes carefully treat the longwave
5 part of the spectrum, whereas the representation of the solar irradiance is coarse,
6 approximating the entire UV/VIS spectral range by 1 or 2 spectral bands and not considering
7 wavelengths shorter than ~250 nm. The evaluation of the radiation codes performed in the
8 framework of the SPARC CCMVal-2 project (Forster et al., 2011, SPARC CCMval, 2010)
9 have shown that only a few CCM radiation codes are capable of reproducing the magnitude
10 and vertical profile of heating rate differences between solar minimum and maximum, which
11 in turn directly depends on the treatment of the spectral resolution in the codes.

12 As was pointed out by Forster et al. (2011), a good representation of the solar signal can be
13 obtained by increasing the number of spectral intervals. However, such an approach implies
14 an increase of computational costs, which is a sensitive issue for already numerically
15 expensive global CCMs. Nissen et al. (2007) replaced the 4-band scheme of Fouquart and
16 Bonnel (1980) above 70 hPa by a 49-band parameterization FUBrad based on Beer-Lambert
17 law allowing a good agreement with a reference model. They showed that the reduction of the
18 FUBrad resolution to 6 bands results in a 20% loss of the solar variability induced changes in
19 heating rates. Another way is to apply parameterization only for the missed extra heating due
20 to solar UV enhancement. It has been already used in MAECHAM-4 (Egorova et al., 2004)
21 and CMAM (Fomichev et al. 2004; Semeniuk et al., 2011) in order to parameterize the solar
22 signal in missing and/or underrepresented spectral intervals. These parameterizations are also
23 based on Beer-Lambert law (Strobel, 1978; Nicolet, 1985; Zhu, 1994) but apply smaller
24 number of spectral bands (4-8) compared to Nissen et al. (2007) still demonstrating good
25 accuracy and efficiency. The most recent way to obtain satisfying results even with a
26 relatively small number of spectral intervals is to use a completely different approach of
27 incorporating non-gray gaseous absorption based on the so-called “correlated k-distribution”
28 method (e.g. Fu and Liou, 1992). This method exploits the cumulative probability of the
29 absorption coefficient in a spectral interval to replace wavenumber as an independent
30 variable. Such a code is a part of ECHAM6 (Stevens et al., 2013), but its performance in
31 respect to solar UV influence has not been checked which limits its application for solar-
32 climate studies.

1 In this paper we evaluate the performance of the ECHAM family radiation codes in
2 reproducing the heating rate response to SUV variability through the detailed comparison
3 with the reference libRadtran code. We demonstrate the weaknesses of the ECHAM family
4 solar radiation codes and suggest possible ways to improve their performance.

5

6 **2. Description of the original ECHAM solar radiation codes**

7 ECHAM is a family of atmospheric general circulation models developed by the Max Planck
8 Institute for Meteorology (MPI-M) in Hamburg, Germany. The original ECHAM model
9 branched from an early release of the ECMWF (European Center for Medium Range Weather
10 Forecasts) model to enable climate studies (Simmons et al., 1989). It covered only the lower
11 part of the atmosphere up to the 25-hPa level. Therefore, its solar radiation scheme (Fouquart
12 and Bonnel, 1980) inherited by ECHAM was quite crude with respect to the shortwave part of
13 spectrum, namely it had only one band covering the UV/VIS parts of the solar spectrum (250-
14 680 nm) and one band covering near infrared (NIR),, considered absorption by O₃ and H₂O
15 and used TSI as input, i.e. change of the TSI was equally distributed among all spectral bands,
16 and high shortwave variability was missed. This scheme (E4 hereafter) had been used up to
17 ECHAM4 until the NIR part of this scheme was extended to 3 bands (Table 1) in ECHAM5
18 (E5 hereafter). The weakness of both this versions in representing the solar signal was
19 demonstrated several times in stand-alone form (Solomon et al., 2007; Forster et al., 2011)
20 and within CCMs (Egorova et al, 2004; Cagnazzo et al., 2007; Nissen et al., 2007): basically
21 it has an almost negligible radiative response to solar irradiance changes due to the lack of
22 wavelength dependence within the one broad UV/VIS band. Further E5 was also upgraded in
23 Cagnazzo et al. (2007) by extending the number of spectral intervals from 1 in UV/VIS to 3
24 with 2 covering the UV range and switching to spectral solar irradiance (SSI) as input (E5c
25 hereafter). This allowed reproducing about half of the reference heating rate differences
26 (Forster et al., 2011). However, this scheme still does not contain any O₂ absorption.

27 One of the main improvements of ECHAM6 compared to previous versions was the
28 adaptation of another solar radiation scheme, namely the Rapid Radiation Transfer model
29 optimized for general circulation modeling studies (E6 hereafter) (Stevens et al., 2013). This
30 scheme is ~10 times faster than previous schemes, it uses the correlated k-distribution
31 method, and solar irradiance is calculated over a prescribed number of pseudo wavelength or
32 g-points regarding to the absorbing features of certain wavelengths. Quadrature is performed

1 over 112 g-points in the shortwave part of the spectrum, which then are grouped to 14 bands
2 with 3 bands in UV (Table 1). The model has three UV spectral bands and considers oxygen
3 absorption. However, the lowest wavelength boundary is 200 nm (Iacono et al., 2008), so that
4 important features such as the solar Lyman- α (121.6 nm) line (LYA) and part of the
5 Schumann- Runge oxygen absorption bands (SRB) are not taken into account.

6

7 **3. Validation**

8 To demonstrate the capabilities of the original codes we performed calculations with stand-
9 alone versions of E4, E5c and E6 for the tropical standard atmosphere, with solar zenith angle
10 equal to 10° and for solar minimum and maximum conditions. We have not analysed E5
11 separately since it has the same single UV/VIS band as E4. To validate the original schemes
12 we compare all our calculations to the reference code libRadtran (Mayer and Kylling, 2005),
13 which has shown high accuracy in a number of intercomparison studies. For the 120-440 nm
14 range libRadtran considers more than 16000 wavelengths resolving in detail all relevant
15 spectral features. Figure 1 shows the input information that we used to simulate solar
16 variability: the solar irradiance changes, i.e. the relative difference between the irradiances
17 during solar maximum and minimum conditions, and resulting solar-induced ozone changes.
18 The irradiance spectrum for solar minimum and maximum conditions was calculated with
19 Code for Solar Irradiance (Shapiro et al. 2010) following the approach presented in Shapiro et
20 al. (2011). The solar minimum and maximum conditions correspond to sunspot numbers
21 equal 0 and 120 respectively. We note that the spectral profile of the solar irradiance
22 variability on the 11-year time scale yielded by the approach presented in Shapiro et al.
23 (2011) agrees well with other reconstructions (Ermolli et al., 2013). Figure 1 shows that the
24 solar irradiance variability is a very sophisticated function of wavelength. The ozone changes
25 during 11-year solar activity cycle were estimated from a composite of observational data
26 (Soukharev and Hood, 2006; Austin et al. 2008; SPARC CCMVal, 2010).

27 Figure 2 illustrates the heating rates calculated by original E4, E5c and E6 schemes and by
28 libRadtran for solar minimum conditions and heating rate differences between solar maximum
29 and minimum caused only by the solar irradiance changes. In terms of absolute values E5c
30 and E6 overestimate heating rates compared to libRadtran up to 2 and 3.5 Kday⁻¹
31 correspondingly. This overestimation arises from 250–440 nm (E5c) and 263–345 nm (E6)
32 models bands i.e. from Hartley (HAR) and Huggins (HUG) ozone absorption bands. In the

1 mesosphere E5c underestimate absolute values up to 5 Kday^{-1} since it does not take into
2 account any oxygen absorption. E6 considers absorption by oxygen and shows adequate
3 absolute values in the mesosphere although its lowest wavelength bound is 200 nm.

4 E4 and E5c comparison is additionally shown on picture (Fig. 3), because the single band of
5 E4 includes the visible part of the spectrum, what is manifested in the overestimation of the
6 absolute values below 40 km compared to E5c and libRadtran on figure 2 due to absorption
7 by ozone in the Chappuis bands. Also the similar comparison was made before in Nissen et al.
8 (2007), Cagnazzo et al. (2007) and Forster et al. (2011) showing somewhat different results.
9 So we have extended our analysis by the third 440-690 band of E5c and increased the upper
10 wavelength bound of libRadtran to 690 nm. For this analysis we have calculated the daily
11 averaged shortwave heating rates for the tropical atmosphere following the same approach as
12 in Cagnazzo et al. (2007). Albeit E4 starts from 250 nm, it shows an almost perfect agreement
13 with libRadtran with the slight overestimation around 40 km, what is fully consistent with
14 Nissen et al. (2007). The fact that E5c shows higher heating rates than E4 is consistent with
15 Cagnazzo et al. (2007) and Forster et al. (2011), however the value of this difference is higher
16 in Cagnazzo et al. (2007) and libRadtran results are positioned between E4 and E5c in Forster
17 et al. (2011). In this two comparisons there was also NIR included, producing additional
18 heating (Fomichev, 2009) and additional distinctions between the models, that can probably
19 explain this inconsistency. Cagnazzo et al. (2007) also used another reference model that was
20 more consistent with E5c in the upper stratosphere, what means that found deviations from
21 libRadtran are comparable to the uncertainty range between high resolution models.

22 In terms of heating rates response to SUV changes (Fig. 2) all schemes highly underestimate
23 the solar signal in the mesosphere. At these altitudes heating rates are significantly defined by
24 oxygen absorption in a highly variable LYA and SRB, which is completely missed in E4 and
25 E5c and only slightly covered in E6. In the upper stratosphere E5c and E6 first bands covering
26 Herzberg continuum and part of HAR are reproduced well. However, contribution from the
27 second bands containing HAR and HUG is noticeably underestimated causing the main
28 deviation from the reference model resulted in a total maximum 45 and 15 % deviation at 49
29 km for E5c and E6 correspondingly. E4 is able to reproduce only 10% of the signal at 49 km.
30 Results of E4 and E5c are in agreement with previous comparison studies (Forster et al.,
31 2011, SPARC CCMval, 2010). Underestimation of all schemes in HAR-HUG bands can be
32 explained by a high spectral inhomogeneity of the solar irradiance variability in these regions
33 (see Fig. 1), which is smoothed in integrated fluxes. Since the main disagreement appears in

1 this wavelength region, it should be paid by more attention in the future evolution of heating
 2 rate parameterizations. In case if higher UV variability suggested by SORCE (Ermolli et al.,
 3 2013) is correct, the absolute values of the missed solar signal in heating rates would be
 4 respectively higher, providing more discrepancy to all feedbacks related to solar irradiance
 5 changes.

6

7 **4. Implementation of the parameterizations**

8 We do not consider E4 further, because its upgraded version was already discussed in
 9 Egorova et al (2004) and Forster et al. (2011) and currently it is not so widely used anymore
 10 as E5c and E6. To improve the representation of the solar signal we have implemented the
 11 parameterizations of the heating rates in the spectral regions, where we have found problems
 12 in the previous section. All parameterizations use the same approach based on Strobel (1978),
 13 deriving heating rates H from the atmosphere transmissivity of O_2 and O_3 , using integrated
 14 fluxes of the solar radiation F as well as the ozone and oxygen number ($[O_2], [O_3]$) and
 15 column (N_2, N_3) density. For LYA we used the parameterization of Nicolet (1985)

$$16 \quad H_{lya} = [O_2] \sigma_{lya} F_{lya} T_{o_2,lya}, \quad (1)$$

17 where the mean LYA absorption cross-section $\sigma_{lya} = 1.725 \times 10^{-18} / N_2^{0.1175} \text{ cm}^2$ and
 18 transmissivity $T_{o_2,lya} = \exp(-2.115 \times 10^{18} N_2^{0.8855})$.

19 From Zhu (1994) we used for SRB

$$20 \quad H_{srb} = \frac{[O_2] x_{srb} F_{srb}}{\left(1 + \frac{4\sigma_{srb} N_2}{\pi y_{srb}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \exp\left\{-\frac{\pi y_{srb}}{2} \left[\left(1 + \frac{4\sigma_{srb}}{\pi y_{srb}} N_2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1\right]\right\}, \quad (2)$$

21 where $\sigma_{srb} = 2.07 \times 10^{-24} \text{ m}^2$, $x_{srb} = (N_{2,top}/N_2)^{0.3} \sigma_{srb}$ and $y_{srb} = 0.0152$.

22 And for HAR and HUG from Zhu (1994) we used

$$23 \quad H_{har} = [O_3] \sigma_{har} F_{har} \exp(-\sigma_{har} N_3), \quad (3)$$

$$24 \quad H_{hug} =$$

$$25 \quad \frac{[O_3]}{MN_3} \{F_{1,hug} + (F_{2,hug} - F_{1,hug})\} \exp\left(-\sigma_{hug} N_3 \exp(-M\lambda_{long}) -\right.$$

$$26 \quad \left. F_{2,hug} \exp\left(-\sigma_{hug} N_3 \exp(-M\lambda_{short})\right)\right), \quad (4)$$

1 where $M = 0.01273 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$, $(\lambda_{short}, \lambda_{long}) = (2805, 3015) \text{ \AA}$, $(\sigma_{har}, \sigma_{hug}) = (8.7 \times$
2 $10^{-22}, 1.15 \times 10^{-6}) \text{ m}^2$ and $F_{1,hug}$ and $F_{2,hug}$ are the integrated solar fluxes in the 280.5-
3 305.5 and 305.5-360 nm ranges.

4 First, we have performed separate tests of these parameterizations which have shown that the
5 parameterizations for HAR and HUG are in a good agreement with libRadtran. However, for
6 LYA and SRB according to the test results we have changed σ_{lya} and added altitude
7 dependent χ_{srb} . Results of these tests are presented in Fig. 4. Because the original ECHAM
8 schemes can partly reproduce the response of the heating rate to solar UV variability obtained
9 with reference scheme we apply these parameterizations to cover only the missing part of the
10 signal. The scaling coefficients for each of the four applied parameterizations were calculated
11 from the following system of equations

$$12 \quad A_{ij}k_j = B_i - C_i, \quad i = 1, m, \quad j = 1, n, \quad (5)$$

13 where m is number of levels in vertical direction, n is a number of unknown k coefficients, A_{ij}
14 is an n -column m -row array containing heating rate difference between solar maximum and
15 minimum calculated with LYA, SRB, HAR and HUG parameterizations, B_i and C_i are an m -
16 element vectors containing the same difference from the reference model and original
17 ECHAM codes. In our case $m = 42$ and $n = 4$, meaning that the system of equations is
18 overdetermined and has no exact solution. The approximate solution of the system is
19 calculated then by the standard least squares procedure from the IDL (Interactive Data
20 Language) LAPACK library. The set of scaling coefficients was calculated separately for E5c
21 and E6 and is presented in Table 2.

22 Since E5c does not have original absorption by oxygen and therefore underestimates the
23 absolute values in the mesosphere, the heating parameterizations for LYA and SRB have been
24 added to the original scheme using the full flux integrated within specific band in order to
25 improve the scheme in respect to the calculation of the absolute heating rates. However to
26 avoid an overestimation in the upper stratosphere, related to the fact that the original codes
27 partially treat O_3 absorption in the Hartley and Huggins bands, we recommend to use not the
28 full radiative flux, but the difference between solar minimum and maximum. The same should
29 be done for LYA and SRB in E6 to avoid an overestimation in the mesosphere, since the
30 absolute values in the mesosphere are already reproduced well. In global models this can be
31 done choosing the month or day with the lowest SSI in which all extra heating will be equal to

1 zero, and then for calculations in all other dates one should use the SSI difference from this
2 “grand minimum” value.

3 Implementation of the proposed parameterizations does not require any retuning of the
4 original codes, and another important advantage is that these parameterizations take negligible
5 computer time compared to the time taken by radiation schemes.

6

7 **4.1 Changing UV**

8 Figure 5 shows the improvement of the original schemes performance due to the implemented
9 parameterizations of O₂ and O₃ absorption calculated under changing UV and constant ozone
10 conditions for tropical standard atmosphere and solar zenith angle equal to 10°. The
11 implemented parameterizations of O₂ and O₃ absorption allowed us to get very good
12 agreement in solar variability induced heating rate changes with the reference model in the
13 mesosphere and the stratosphere. The only notable difference appears in the lower
14 mesosphere around 67 km, but we suspect that this is the artefact of the used vertical
15 resolution. For E5c, since we used the full radiative flux for LYA and SRB, we also improved
16 the representation of the absolute values in the mesosphere. Both radiation schemes, E6 and
17 E5c, overestimate the total heating rate in certain regions in absolute values compared to
18 libRadtran, which is a feature of the original schemes. This overestimation is larger during
19 solar minimum conditions, since E5c and E6 underestimate the additional heating through
20 spectral irradiance variability over the 11-year solar cycle. By the inclusion of the additional
21 parameterizations the extra heating rate maximally reaches 0.06 Kday⁻¹ for E6 and 0.21 Kday⁻¹
22 for E5c around 46 km during solar maximum, and therefore decrease the discrepancy of
23 E5c+ and E6+ to libRadtran, which is now constant in time. In a transient simulation such
24 deviation will be always equal to the difference during the “grand minimum”.

25 Results of calculations with 4 other different atmosphere models (midlatitude summer,
26 midlatitude winter, subarctic summer, subarctic winter (McClatchey et. al., 1972) and 3 solar
27 zenith angles (10°, 40°, 70°) presented in Fig. 6 have shown that the parameterizations work
28 good for all conditions, and the applied scaling coefficients do not strongly depend on the
29 position of the Sun and latitude and can be used in models with high confidence. It should be
30 noted that for other radiation schemes and other SSI data sets these coefficients will differ and
31 have to be carefully calculated regarding to the specific features of each particular scheme.

1

2 **4.2 Changing ozone.**

3 For the previous calculations we have used only changing UV fluxes with a constant ozone
4 profile, but ozone profile is modulated by solar irradiance changes and these two features are
5 closely related. To check the parameterization applicability taking into account the ozone
6 feedback we have also calculated the heating rate response to the solar induced ozone changes
7 keeping the UV fluxes unchanged. Results of these calculations are shown in Fig. 7. In this
8 case the original codes work well, and since we use irradiance differences to calculate extra
9 heating, we do not affect heating rates by ozone changes, because extra-heating rates in this
10 case are equal to zero. The total heating rate (UV + ozone) also looks good compared to the
11 reference model.

12

13 **5. Conclusions**

14 We have evaluated the performance of the ECHAM4, 6-band ECHAM5 and ECHAM6
15 radiation codes in the representation of the solar UV variability induced changes in the
16 heating rates. All schemes have shown high underestimation in the mesosphere. In the
17 stratosphere ECHAM4 code is able to reproduce only 10% of the reference solar signal, while
18 6-band ECHAM5 code misses 45% and ECHAM6 code misses about 15%. We suggested an
19 accurate method to correct the revealed problems by the implementation of parameterizations
20 of extra heating due to oxygen and ozone absorption. This approach was implemented to the
21 6-band ECHAM5 and ECHAM6 schemes and allowed us to get very good agreement with the
22 reference model in the representation of the solar signal in the mesosphere and stratosphere
23 without significant increase of computational time. This method does not require tuning of the
24 original codes, but it only provides the solar induced addition to the original heating rates.
25 Therefore this method is suitable for any other radiation scheme to correct the solar signal in
26 heating rates due to missing or underrepresented spectral intervals.

27

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4

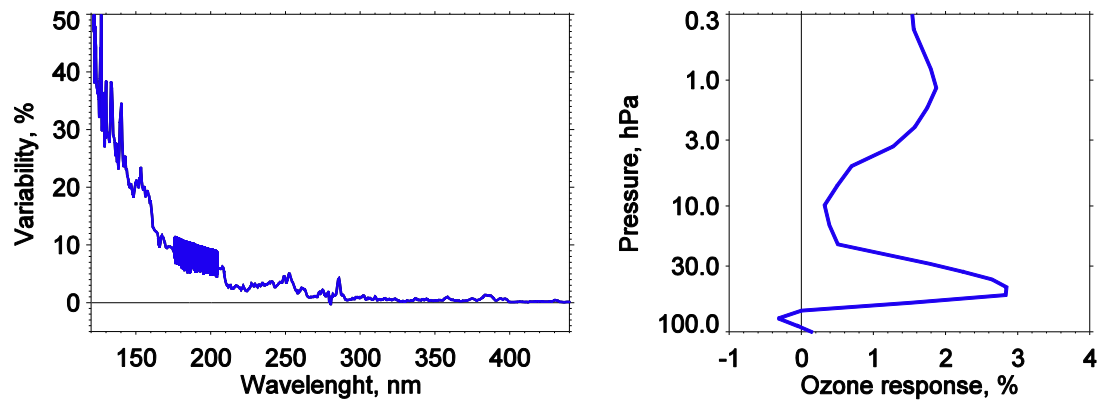
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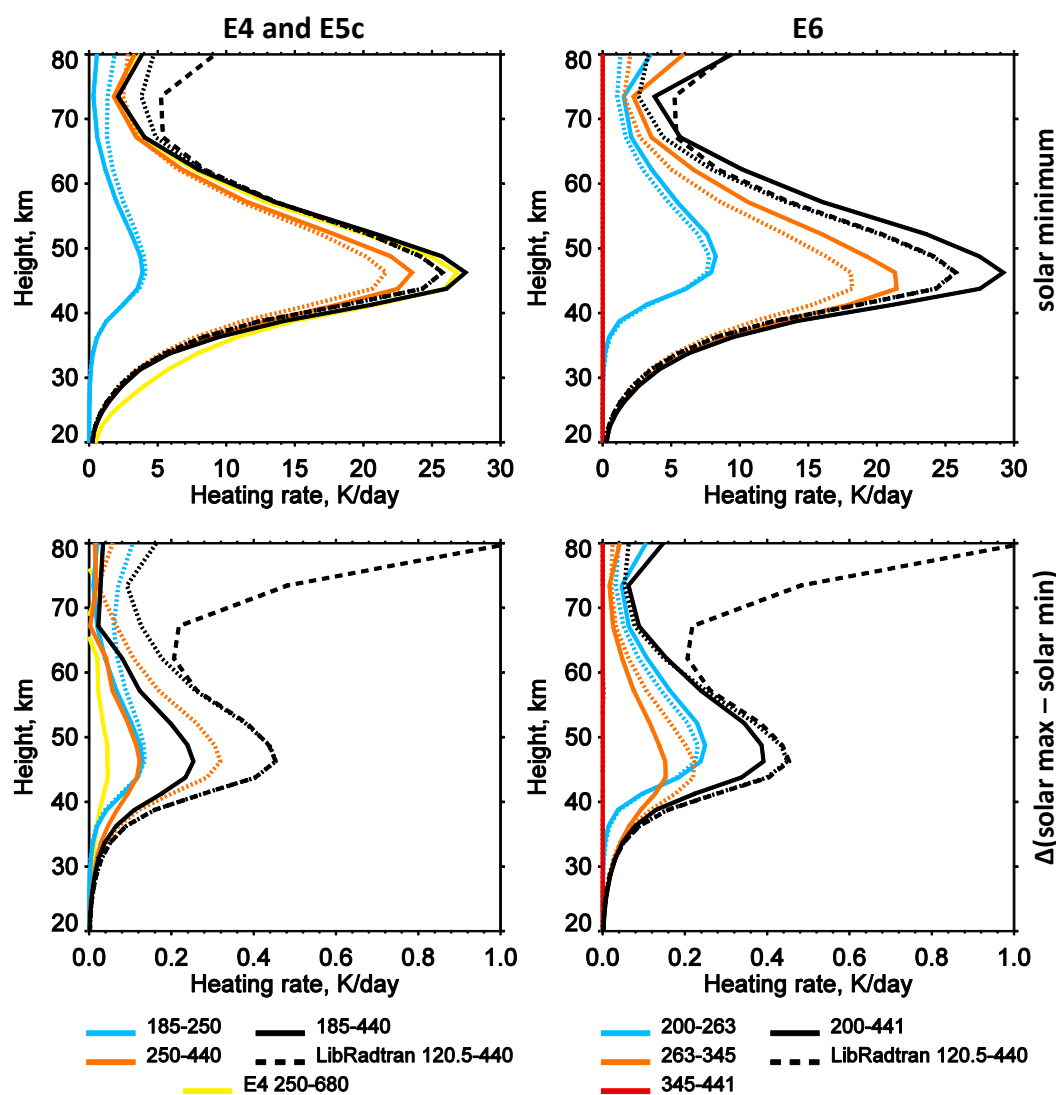


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3 Fig. 1. Variability of solar irradiance in the 120-440 nm wavelength range calculated by COSI
4 (left) and resulting ozone response from a composite of observational data from Soukharev
5 and Hood (2006) and Austin et al. (2008) (right).

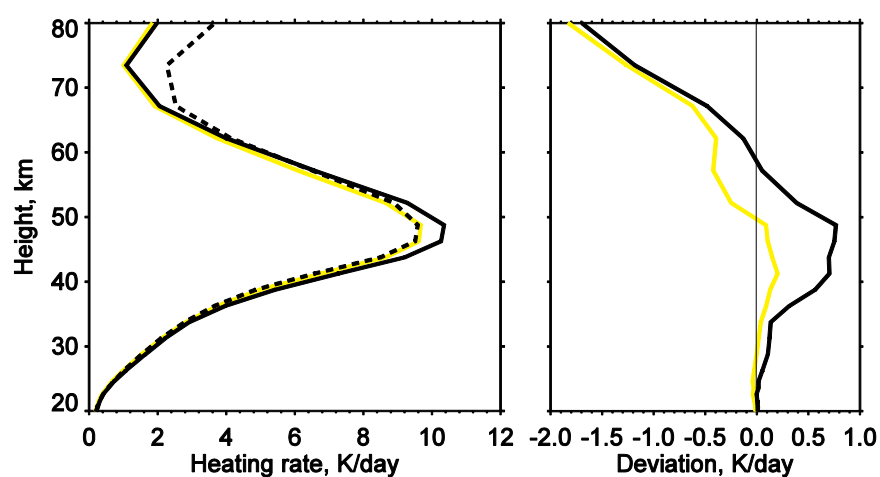
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3 Fig. 2. Shortwave heating rates in Kday^{-1} for tropical standard atmosphere and solar zenith
 4 angle equal to 10° calculated by E5c and E4 (left pictures) and E6 (right pictures). Top
 5 panels: absolute values during solar minimum. Bottom panels: differences between minimum
 6 and maximum (max-min) of the 11-year solar cycle. Solid lines: ECHAM results. Dotted
 7 lines: libRadtran results for the same spectral intervals. Different spectral intervals are
 8 designated by colours, yellow line – E4 250–680 band. Black dashed line: libRadtran results
 9 for 120-440 nm (i.e. including shortest wavelengths > 120 nm).

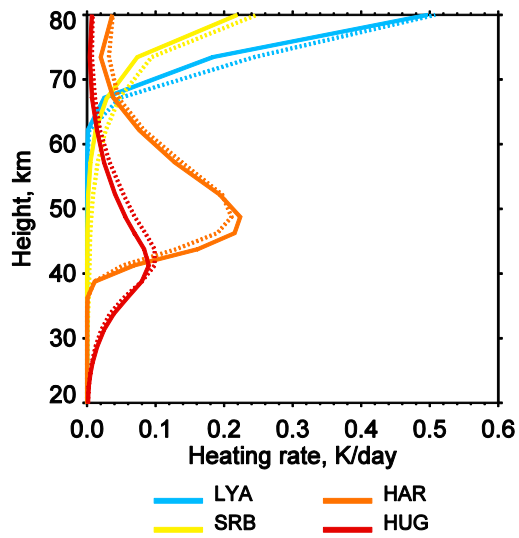
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1 — E5c 185-250 + 250-440 + 440-690
 2 — E4 250-680
 - - - LibRadtran 120.5-690

3 Fig. 3. Daily averaged shortwave heating rates in Kday^{-1} for tropical standard atmosphere and
 4 solar minimum irradiance calculated by E4 (250-680 nm), E5c (185-690 nm) and libRadtran
 5 (120.5-690) (left) and deviations of E4 and E5c to libRadtran.
 6

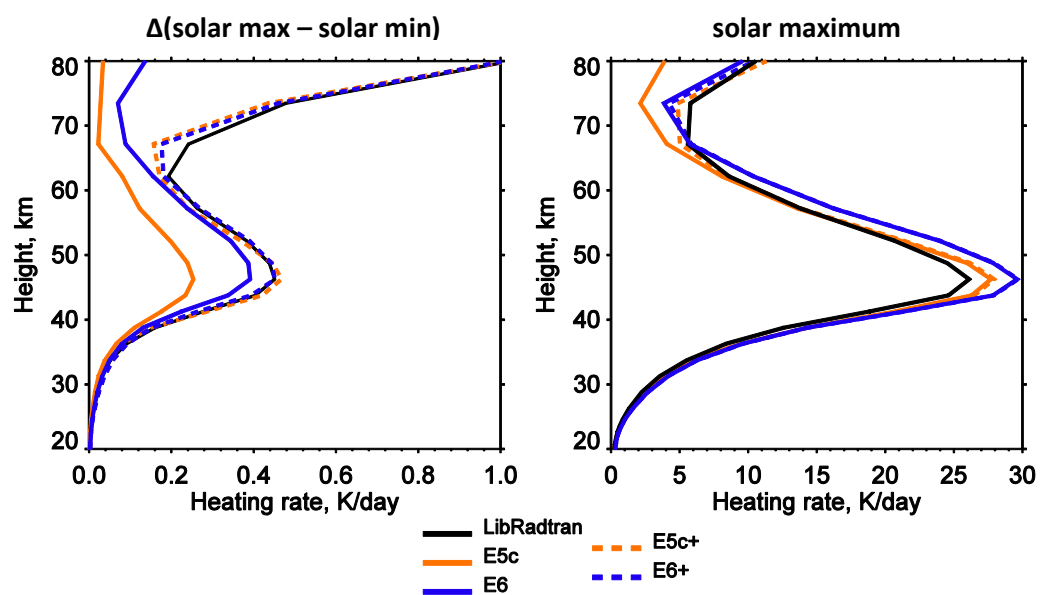
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3 Fig. 4. Shortwave heating rate differences of the 11-year solar cycle (solar max minus solar
4 min) in Kday^{-1} for tropical standard atmosphere and solar zenith angle equal to 10° calculated
5 by extra heating parameterizations and libRadtran. Solid lines: results of parameterizations.
6 Dotted lines: libRadtran results for the same spectral intervals (table 1).

7



1

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3 Fig. 5. Shortwave heating rates in Kday^{-1} for tropical standard atmosphere and solar zenith
 4 angle equal to 10° . Left panel: differences between minimum and maximum (max-min) of the
 5 11-year solar cycle in case of UV only variability and constant ozone profile. Right panel:
 6 absolute values during solar maximum. Coloured solid lines: results from original E5c and E6
 7 codes. Black solid line: libRadtran results for reference. Dashed lines: results from improved
 8 parameterizations.

9

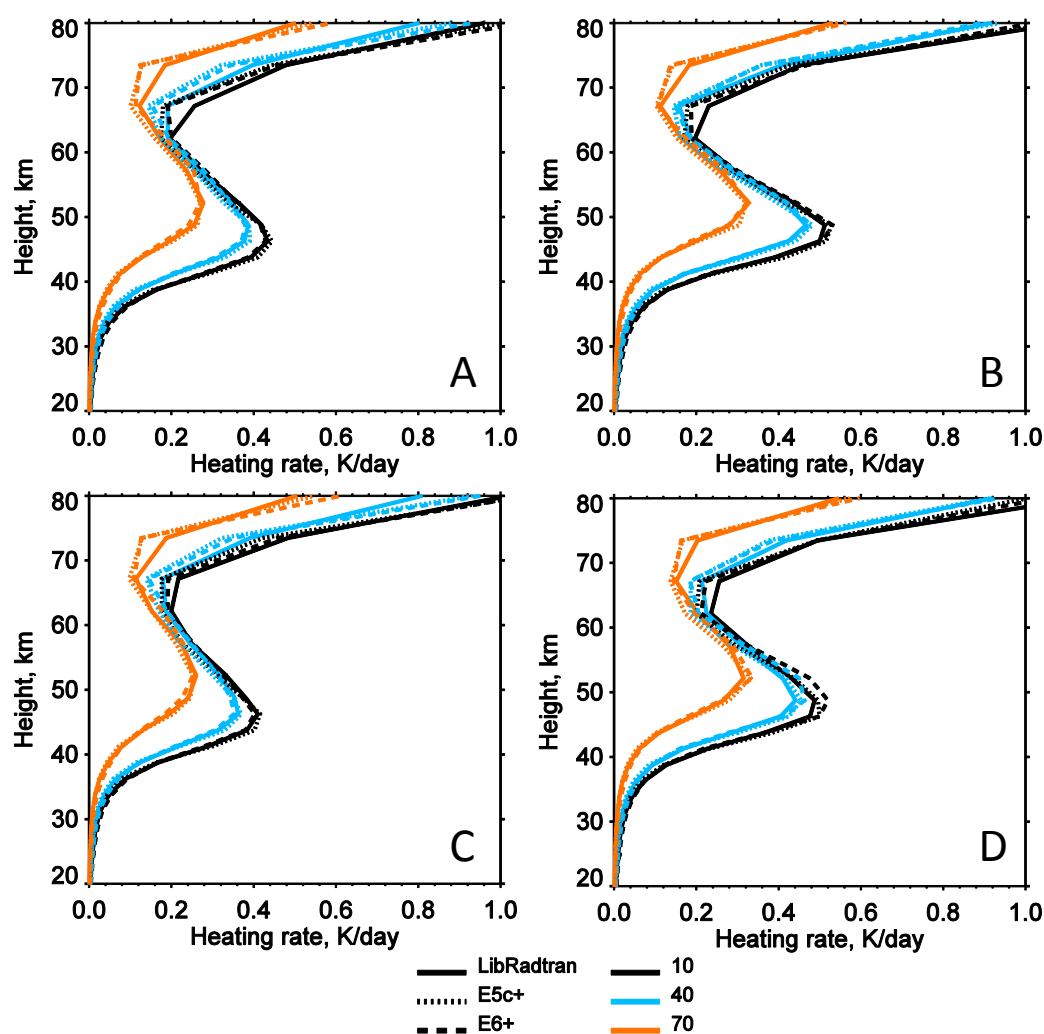


Fig. 6. Shortwave heating rate differences (solar max minus solar min) of the 11-year solar cycle in Kday^{-1} for 4 standard atmospheres: A - midlatitude summer, B - midlatitude winter, C - subarctic summer, D – subarctic winter. Solid lines: libRadtran. Dashed lines: E6+ (E6 including corrections to 120 nm). Dotted lines: E5c+. Colours: different solar zenith angles (black 10° , blue 40° , orange 70°).

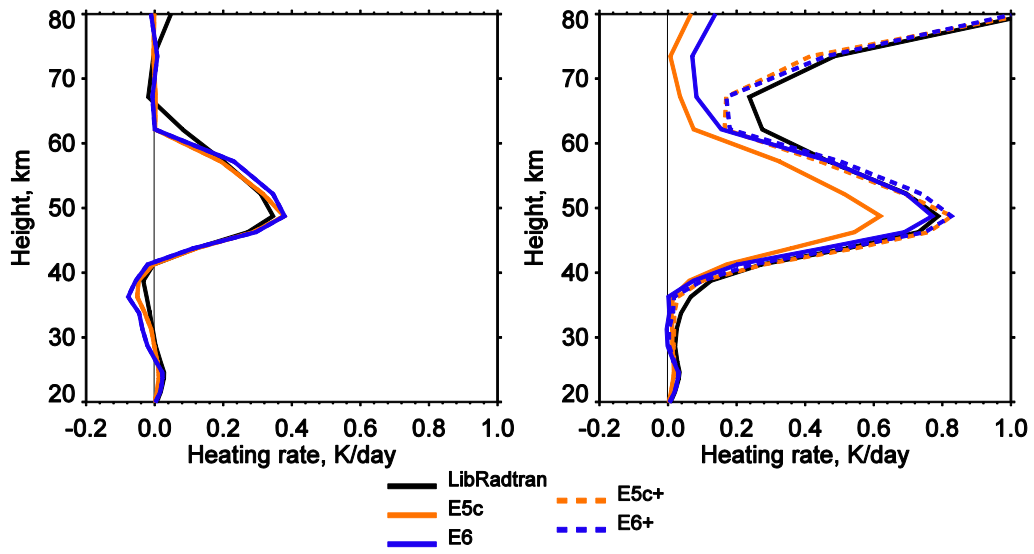


Fig. 7. Shortwave heating rate differences (solar max minus solar min) of the 11-year solar cycle in Kday^{-1} for tropical standard atmosphere and solar zenith angle equal to 10° . Left panel: including only ozone changes. Right panel: UV + ozone changes. Original codes results are denoted by solid lines, improved codes results – by dashed lines.

1 Table 1. ECHAM radiation schemes spectral intervals and main absorbers in the UV part of
 2 spectrum.

Scheme	E4	E5	E5c	E6	
Main absorbers in the UV	O ₃	O ₃	O ₃	O ₂ , O ₃	
Wavelength bands, nm	250 – 680	185 – 250	185 – 250	200 – 263	1298 – 1626
	680 - 4000	690 – 1190	250 – 440	263 – 345	1626 – 1942
		1190 - 2380	440 - 690	345 – 441	1942 - 2151
	2380 - 4000	690 - 1190	441 – 625	2151 – 2500	
			1190 - 2380	625 – 778	2500 – 3077
			2380 - 4000	778 – 1242	3077 – 3846
				1242 – 1298	3846 - 12195

3

1 Table 2. Wavelength intervals and scaling coefficients of the extra heating parameterizations.

Parameterization	Wavelength interval (nm)	Scaling coefficients	
		E5c	E6
LYA	121.0 – 122.0	1.04087	1.44783
SRB	175.0 – 205.0	1.41071	0.139395
HAR	250.0 – 280.0	0.804855	0.173304
HUG	280.5 – 360.0	0.173304	0.223386

2