

1 **MATCH-SALSA – Multi-scale Atmospheric Transport and**  
2 **CHemistry model coupled to the SALSA aerosol**  
3 **microphysics model. Part 1 – model description and**  
4 **evaluation**

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6 **C. Andersson<sup>1</sup>, R. Bergström<sup>1,2</sup>, C. Bennet<sup>1</sup>, L. Robertson<sup>1</sup>, M. Thomas<sup>1</sup>, H.**  
7 **Korhonen<sup>3,\*</sup>, K. E. J. Lehtinen<sup>3,4</sup> and H. Kokkola<sup>3</sup>**

8 [1]{Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, SE-60176 Norrköping, Sweden}

9 [2]{University of Gothenburg, Department of Chemistry and Molecular Biology, SE-41296  
10 Göteborg, Sweden}

11 [3]{Finnish Meteorological Institute, Kuopio Unit, PO Box 1627, 70211 Kuopio, Finland}

12 [4]{University of Eastern Finland, Department of Applied Physics, PO Box 1627, 70211  
13 Kuopio, Finland}

14 [\*]{now at: Finnish Meteorological Institute, Climate Research, PO Box 503, 00101  
15 Helsinki, Finland}

16 Correspondence to: C. Andersson (camilla.andersson@smhi.se)

17

18 **Abstract**

19 We have implemented the sectional aerosol dynamics model SALSA (Sectional Aerosol  
20 module for Large Scale Applications) in the European scale chemistry-transport model  
21 MATCH (Multi-scale Atmospheric Transport and Chemistry). The new model is called  
22 MATCH-SALSA. It includes aerosol microphysics, with several formulations for nucleation,  
23 wet scavenging and condensation.

24 The model reproduces observed higher particle number concentration (PNC) in central  
25 Europe and lower concentrations in remote regions. The modeled PNC size distribution peak  
26 occurs at the same or smaller particle size as the observed peak at four measurement sites  
27 spread across Europe. Total PNC is underestimated at Northern and Central European sites  
28 and accumulation mode PNC is underestimated at all investigated sites. The low nucleation

29 rate coefficient used in this study is an important reason for the underestimation. On the other  
30 hand the model performs well for particle mass (including secondary inorganic aerosol  
31 components), while elemental and organic carbon concentrations are underestimated at many  
32 of the sites.

33 Further development is needed, primarily for treatment of secondary organic aerosol, in terms  
34 of biogenic emissions and chemical transformation. Updating the biogenic SOA scheme will  
35 likely have a large impact on modeled  $PM_{2.5}$  and also affect the model performance for PNC  
36 through impacts on nucleation and condensation.

37

## 38 **1 Introduction**

39 Most aerosol properties relevant to climate are both size and chemical composition  
40 dependent. Thus, there is a need to resolve the size distributions of particle mass, number and  
41 chemical composition in climate models (e.g. Chen and Penner, 2005; Roesler and Penner,  
42 2010). Aerosol particles also have adverse effects on human health (e.g. Pope and Dockery,  
43 2006), which depend on particle size and chemical composition (WHO, 2013). In particular,  
44 ultrafine particles (with diameter less than 100nm) may be important for impacts on human  
45 health (e.g. Oberdörster et al., 1995; Peters et al., 1997; Knol et al., 2009), but there is still  
46 limited epidemiological evidence on their effects on health (WHO, 2013). The ultrafine  
47 particles do not contribute significantly to the particle mass concentration (PM) but they  
48 constitute a large proportion of the particle number concentration (PNC). Aerosol  
49 microphysical processes need to be considered in greater detail in order to describe PNC and  
50 size distributions accurately (e.g. Adams and Seinfeld, 2002). This has led to an increased  
51 need for realistic treatment of aerosols in atmospheric models.

52 A number of CTMs, which are used operationally for simulating atmospheric chemistry in  
53 Europe, were recently reviewed by Kukkonen et al. (2012). The aerosol descriptions in such  
54 models can be classified into three main categories: bulk schemes, modal schemes (Whitby  
55 and McMurry, 1997) and sectional schemes (Gelbard et al., 1980). In bulk schemes, typically  
56 the total mass concentration of particles, or the mass in a certain size interval, is modeled.  
57 LOTUS-EUROS (Schaap et al., 2008), DEHM (e.g. Frohn et al., 2002) and the EMEP MSC-  
58 W model (Simpson et al., 2012) are examples of bulk type models.

59 In modal schemes, the aerosol size distribution is represented by a small number of modes,  
60 typically assuming lognormal size distribution for the modes. The description of new particle  
61 formation is limited in modal schemes. Modal schemes are computationally more expensive  
62 than simple bulk schemes, but less than the sectional approach, which is why they are  
63 commonly used in regional and global CTMs and climate models, e.g. the Regional  
64 Particulate Model (Binkowski and Shankar, 1995), CMAQ (Byun and Schere, 2006), CAM5-  
65 MAM3 (Liu et al., 2012), TM5 (Aan de Brugh et al., 2011), GLOMAP-mode (Mann et al.,  
66 2012), EMAC (Pringle et al., 2010), ECHAM5-HAM2 (Zhang et al., 2012), GISS-MATRIX  
67 (Bauer et al 2008).

68 The sectional scheme, in which the size distribution is represented by a large number of  
69 discrete bins, is the most flexible and accurate choice – but computationally the most  
70 expensive. Many modern CTMs and global climate models (GCMs) include the sectional  
71 approach, e.g. PM-CAMx (Fountoukis et al., 2011), GLOMAP-bin (e.g. Reddington et al.,  
72 2011), ECHAM5-SALSA (Bergman et al., 2012), and GISS-TOMAS (Lee and Adams 2010).  
73 PM-CAMx and GLOMAP-bin make the assumption of internally mixed particles, in  
74 GLOMAP described by 20 size bins, whereas GISS-TOMAS includes externally mixed  
75 particles described by 30 size bins. Such a high size bin resolution is computationally  
76 demanding. GLOMAP uses prescribed monthly-mean oxidant fields. Mann et al. (2014)  
77 compared the performance of 12 global aerosol microphysics models using modal and  
78 sectional approaches.

79 The standard version of the MATCH (Multi-scale Atmospheric Transport and Chemistry)  
80 model (Robertson et al., 1999; Andersson et al., 2007) uses a simple bulk scheme for treating  
81 aerosols, with four size bins for primary particles, without any aerosol dynamics treatment  
82 (except hygroscopic growth in some model versions), but with dry and wet deposition of  
83 primary particles being dependent on particle size. The particle species considered in previous  
84 applications (e.g. Andersson et al., 2007; Andersson et al., 2009) were primary anthropogenic  
85 elemental carbon (EC), organic carbon (OC) and non-carbonaceous particles, as well as  
86 secondary inorganic aerosol (sulfate, nitrate, ammonium) and sea salt particles. Secondary  
87 organic aerosol was not included in the model. PNC formation and growth was not described.  
88 MATCH was adapted to assess anthropogenic ultrafine particles in an urban environment in a  
89 previous study (Gidhagen et al., 2005); seven monodisperse sizes were used and the aerosol

90 dynamics considered water uptake, coagulation and dry deposition, but without inclusion of  
91 nucleation or condensation processes.

92 The MATCH model includes photo-chemistry for calculating oxidant fields that can be used  
93 for online coupling to oxidation of organics and sulphur compounds, resulting in a coupled  
94 photo-chemistry and aerosol dynamics description. Further, MATCH contains a number of  
95 advanced features, including data assimilation (Kahnert 2008) and inverse modeling of  
96 aerosol optics of both surface observations and satellite data (Kahnert 2009). These  
97 assimilation techniques are uncommon in models that include advanced aerosol dynamics.

98 We have implemented the sectional aerosol dynamics model SALSA (Sectional Aerosol  
99 module for Large Scale Applications; Kokkola et al., 2008) in the European scale CTM  
100 MATCH (Robertson et al., 1999; Andersson et al., 2007). SALSA was chosen since it was  
101 developed to describe the PNC well; it includes several nucleation mechanisms and the  
102 sectional approach used in SALSA, to describe the aerosol size distribution, is an advantage  
103 for simulating new particle formation (e.g. Korhola et al. 2014). The coupling of SALSA to  
104 MATCH introduces a description of particle microphysics and aging in the model. New  
105 features include particle nucleation, condensation, coagulation and activation; leading to a  
106 description of the temporal evolution of the particle number size distribution in a number of  
107 bins, through the sectional approach. The model also describes the mixing state of the  
108 particles. The physical treatment of aerosol microphysics and the particle size distribution is  
109 described in Section 2.2; further details about the specific set-up used in this study are given  
110 in Section 3. We discuss the performance of MATCH-SALSA in relation to other models in  
111 Section 4.

112 This paper presents the resulting new aerosol dynamics version of the MATCH model; the  
113 new model is called MATCH-SALSA. The model was detailed in a report from SMHI  
114 (Andersson et al., 2013), which is included as Supplement to this paper (Supplement A). In  
115 this paper, we highlight the main new features and present the results from evaluation tests. In  
116 a second paper (Andersson et al., 2014) results from various sensitivity tests will be  
117 presented. The aim of MATCH-SALSA is to describe particle mass and number  
118 concentrations, and particle size distribution on the European scale. The new model features –  
119 inclusion of sectional descriptions of aerosol microphysics and particle number size  
120 distributions – are developed with the aim to couple the MATCH-SALSA model to climate

121 models and radiative transfer calculations; the new model can also be utilized for the  
122 estimation of human exposure to particles of different sizes.

123

## 124 **2 Description of MATCH-SALSA**

125 The layout of MATCH-SALSA is illustrated in Fig. 1. After initializations are completed the  
126 model integrates over time. The integrations are based on the meteorological time step  
127 (dtmet), starting with reading or interpolation of weather data, reading emissions, and setting  
128 lateral and top boundary concentrations of the chemical species. After this, the emissions are  
129 injected and model transport fluxes are calculated with the internal sub-stepping time steps.  
130 Subsequently, the model gas- and wet-phase chemistry, aerosol microphysics and cloud  
131 droplet number concentrations are calculated. Meteorological data are read at regular  
132 intervals, typically every three or six hours. Boundary conditions may be updated at  
133 compound dependent time intervals.

134 Natural and anthropogenic emissions are included in the model. Sea salt and isoprene  
135 emissions are calculated online, whereas anthropogenic and other emissions (volcanic sulfur,  
136 marine DMS and biogenic monoterpenes) are given as input data to the model in the set-up  
137 used in the present study. All primary particle components are emitted both as mass and  
138 number. Sea salt emissions are modeled as described by Foltescu et al. (2005) but modified to  
139 allow arbitrary size bins. For the smallest bins (diameter  $\leq 1 \mu\text{m}$ ) the description by  
140 Mårtensson et al. (2003) was used; for larger sizes the sea salt generation function was taken  
141 from Monahan et al. (1986). Biogenic emissions of isoprene are calculated using the E-94  
142 isoprene emission methodology proposed by Simpson et al. (1995). Emissions from wildfires  
143 and agricultural burning are not included in the present version of the model.

144 The transport model includes advective and turbulent transport. Particle number and mass are  
145 transported independently in MATCH-SALSA. The transport scheme is described in detail in  
146 Robertson et al. (1999).

147

### 148 **2.1 Chemistry**

149 The original MATCH photochemistry scheme (Langner et al., 1998) was, to a large extent,  
150 based on the EMEP MSC-W (European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme

151 Meteorological Synthesizing Centre - West) scheme (Simpson, 1992; Simpson et al., 1993),  
152 but with an alternative treatment of isoprene chemistry, using an adapted version of the Carter  
153 1-product mechanism (Carter, 1996; Langner et al., 1998). A simplified mixture of a dozen  
154 representative compounds (“lumped molecules”) is used to model all organic molecules  
155 emitted to the atmosphere (e.g., o-xylene represents all emitted aromatic species).

156 The gas-phase chemistry scheme in MATCH has remained mostly the same since 1998, but a  
157 number of reaction rates have been updated, taking into account new recommendations from  
158 IUPAC (Atkinson et al., 2006) and the Master Chemical Mechanism, MCM v3 (Jenkin et al.,  
159 1997; Saunders et al., 2003, via website: <http://mcm.leeds.ac.uk/MCM>); a few new gas phase  
160 components have also been added to the scheme. The revision of the MATCH chemistry  
161 scheme was based closely on the updates done in the EMEP MSC-W model, during 2008-  
162 2009, as documented by Simpson et al. (2012); the updated gas-phase reaction scheme in  
163 MATCH is mostly identical to the EMEP MSC-W EmChem09 scheme of Simpson et al.  
164 (2012), but, for isoprene the scheme from Langner et al. (1998) is retained (with some  
165 reaction rates updated to new recommended values from IUPAC (Atkinson et al., 2006), see  
166 Supplement B).

167 In addition to gas-phase chemistry, aqueous-phase oxidation of SO<sub>2</sub> in cloud water (based on  
168 Berge, 1992) and a few heterogeneous reactions for nitrogen compounds are included in the  
169 model. For MATCH-SALSA some further modifications related to particle formation have  
170 been made and the scheme used in the present work consists of ca 140 thermal, wet and  
171 photolysis reactions, including ca. 60 different chemical species.

172 The chemistry code includes a simple scheme for secondary organic aerosol (SOA) formation  
173 from biogenic monoterpene emissions;  $\alpha$ -pinene is used as a surrogate for all monoterpenes.  
174 In the present study, we assume rapid formation of condensable SOA after gas-phase  
175 oxidation of  $\alpha$ -pinene (by O<sub>3</sub>, OH or NO<sub>3</sub>; oxidation rates are based on MCM v3.2,  
176 <http://mcm.leeds.ac.uk/MCM>); we assumed that all oxidation paths for  $\alpha$ -pinene produce low-  
177 volatility SOA-forming compounds, with 10% (mass-based) yield. These compounds are  
178 included in the condensation scheme for organic compounds in SALSA. The SOA-yield used  
179 here for  $\alpha$ -pinene is relatively high compared to some reported SOA-yields for this  
180 monoterpene in smog-chamber experiments (e.g., Mentel et al., 2009, find about 5% yield).  
181 However, recent findings by Ehn et al. (2014), regarding formation of extremely low-  
182 volatility organic compounds from ozonolysis of  $\alpha$ -pinene, indicate that SOA-yields from this

183 process may be higher than 10% above forest canopies. We also note that there are recent  
184 studies that indicate that SOA-yields based on smog-chamber studies may be underestimated  
185 by up to a factor of four, due to wall losses of gas-phase semi-volatile organic (Kokkola et al.,  
186 2014; Zhang et al., 2014). Note that the simplified BSOA “scheme” used in the present study  
187 is included to test the organic-aerosol parts of MATCH-SALSA, with minimal changes to the  
188 standard photochemistry scheme; it is not expected to model BSOA formation in a very  
189 realistic way compared to real-world conditions but, given the high uncertainties in  
190 monoterpene emissions and the neglect of other BSOA-forming emissions, it was considered  
191 a reasonable approach for the development phase of MATCH-SALSA.

192 The chemical equations are solved prior to SALSA. There is no internal sub-stepping between  
193 the chemistry and SALSA (cf. Figure 1). For a detailed description of the MATCH chemistry  
194 scheme, including a full list of the reactions and reaction rates, see Supplement B.

195

## 196 **2.2 Aerosol microphysics**

197 The SALSA model was designed to obtain a balance between computational efficiency and  
198 numerical accuracy. This was reached by keeping the number of tracer variables low, by  
199 using a relatively coarse particle size resolution, and including only the relevant chemical  
200 compounds in different particle size ranges (see Kokkola et al., 2008). The size resolution is  
201 varying across the size spectrum, with higher resolution for particles that are crucial in cloud  
202 activation and for aerosol radiative properties.

203 Aerosol number and mass concentrations are described by three size ranges, divided into size  
204 bins with equidistant distribution of the bins on the log-normal scale. The number of bins in  
205 each subrange and the size limits of the subranges are flexible. The level of mixing differs  
206 between the subranges:

- 207 i. In the smallest subrange, all particles are internally mixed.
- 208 ii. In the second subrange, there are two parallel externally mixed size bins for each size.  
209 In this subrange, we assume that soluble compounds (sulfate, sea salt, and soluble  
210 organics) are emitted to so called soluble bins whereas insoluble compounds (black  
211 carbon, mineral dust, and insoluble organics) are emitted to the insoluble bins.

212 iii. In the largest subrange, there are three externally mixed size bins: 1) soluble, into  
213 which the above-mentioned soluble compounds are emitted, 2) cloud active insoluble  
214 particles, which are mainly composed of insoluble compounds, but which have  
215 enough soluble material to activate as cloud droplets, and 3) freshly emitted insoluble  
216 range, into which insoluble compounds are emitted.

217 In addition, the chemical compounds that are treated in each size range are chosen depending  
218 on the compounds that are relevant to that size of particles in the atmosphere (for details, see  
219 Kokkola et al., 2008):

- 220 i. The first size range (nucleation and Aitken modes) includes sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ) and OC
- 221 ii. The second (accumulation mode) size range includes  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ , EC, OC, sea salt (NaCl)  
222 and mineral dust in two externally-mixed parallel size bins for each size section.
- 223 iii. The third (coarse mode) size range also includes  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ , EC, OC, sea salt (NaCl) and  
224 mineral dust in three externally-mixed particle types: sea salt, “insoluble dust” and  
225 “soluble dust”; all water soluble compounds, including  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and OC, are combined in  
226 the “soluble dust” type.

227 Note that EC is not included in the Aitken mode, which is a shortcoming of MATCH-  
228 SALSA. The reason for this choice in SALSA was to reduce the CPU burden.

229 The hygroscopicity of the aerosol is calculated using the Zdanowskii-Stokes-Robinson  
230 method (Jacobson, 2002). At the end of each microphysical time step the size distribution is  
231 updated to take into account growth of particles due to dynamic and chemical transformation  
232 processes.

233 Nitrate in coarse mode particles is treated separately as a simple tracer compound. Other  
234 particulate nitrogen species are described by a simplified chemistry scheme (see Supplement  
235 B), currently handled outside SALSA, i.e. ammonium salts (e.g. ammonium nitrate) are not  
236 taken into account in the modeling of the aerosol microphysical processes. After the aerosol  
237 microphysical processes have taken place, ammonium bound to sulfate is distributed  
238 according to the size-distribution of particulate sulfate and ammonium nitrate is distributed  
239 according to the available aerosol surface area. However, this condensation of ammonium and  
240 nitrate do not affect the particle radius in the model, thus they do not influence the shape of  
241 the size distribution. A possible consequence of the simplified treatment can be  
242 underestimation of condensational growth, which may cause overestimation of nucleation,

243 due to a too small condensational sink for the nucleation mode particles. The lack of  
244 ammonium nitrate condensation in the aerosol microphysics could cause underestimation of  
245 cloud droplet number concentration (CDNC).

246 In this study nucleation is simulated through an activation type nucleation formulation  
247 (Kulmala et al., 2006; Riipinen et al., 2007) and the formation rate of 3 nm particles (J3) is  
248 calculated according to Lehtinen et al. (2007). Nucleation is solved concurrently with  
249 condensation, using the methodology of Jacobson (2002); this takes into account the  
250 competition of nucleation and condensation in the mass transfer of volatile species between  
251 gas and particle phase. The MATCH-SALSA model also includes other nucleation schemes,  
252 for example binary nucleation (Vehkamaki et al., 2002), ternary nucleation (Napari et al.,  
253 2002a, 2002b) and activation of both H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and organic vapors (Paasonen et al., 2010;  
254 Supplement C). Tests of these alternative nucleation schemes will be presented in the  
255 companion paper (Andersson et al., 2014).

256 The scheme used for gas-to-particle transformation is the Analytical Predictor of  
257 Condensation scheme, with saturation vapor pressure set to zero (Jacobson 1997). The  
258 scheme solves condensation and evaporation of semi-volatile compounds over a discrete time  
259 step. It is very well suited for large scale atmospheric models, such as MATCH, since it  
260 requires no iteration, it is mass conserving, and it has been shown to be accurate over time  
261 step length of 7200s when condensation is the only active process (Jacobson, 2005).

262 Coagulation is described using a semi-implicit scheme (Jacobson 1994). Similarly to the  
263 condensation scheme, a semi-implicit coagulation scheme does not require iteration and it is  
264 mass conserving. Since coagulation is the (computationally) most time consuming  
265 microphysical process, it is neglected between aerosol pairs for which the coagulation  
266 efficiency is low. The detailed list of selected collision pairs accounted for in the coagulation  
267 routine is given in Kokkola et al. (2008).

268 Further details of the SALSA model is given by Kokkola et al. (2008) and Bergman et al.  
269 (2012).

270

## 271 **2.3 Deposition**

272 Dry deposition of trace gases is calculated with a simple resistance approach (Chamberlain  
273 and Chadwick, 1965), which depends on land use and season. Wet scavenging of most  
274 gaseous species is proportional to the precipitation intensity. For ozone, hydrogen peroxide  
275 and sulfur dioxide, in-cloud scavenging is calculated assuming Henry's law equilibrium; sub-  
276 cloud scavenging is neglected for these species. For ozone sub-cloud scavenging is likely to  
277 be negligible; O<sub>3</sub> has a very low solubility in water and wet deposition is not an important  
278 sink process for this specie. For SO<sub>2</sub> the omission of sub-cloud scavenging is likely leading to  
279 a slight underestimation of the wet-deposition losses; but SO<sub>2</sub> also has a relatively low  
280 solubility and a modeling study of wet scavenging of sulfur (Berge, 1993) found that sub-  
281 cloud scavenging by precipitation was small (only about 1% of the total S-deposition was due  
282 to sub-cloud scavenging). The absence of sub-cloud scavenging for H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> probably leads to a  
283 substantial underestimation of wet deposition for this compound. In recent MATCH-model  
284 simulations, that included sub-cloud scavenging of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, it was found that sub-cloud  
285 scavenging contributed about 20-40% to the total wet deposition of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Wet and dry  
286 deposition of gases in the MATCH-model is described in detail by Andersson et al. (2007).

287 Particle dry deposition (including the effects of hygroscopic growth) is calculated using a  
288 scheme based on Zhang et al. (2001), adapted to a smaller set of land use classes (Water,  
289 Forest, Low vegetation and Vegetation-free land areas). More details regarding the dry  
290 deposition of particle species are given in Supplement A.

291 Particles are wet deposited through incloud and subcloud scavenging. The incloud scavenging  
292 depends on the fraction of cloud water (or ice) that is precipitated in each grid box, the  
293 fraction of the box that is cloudy, the concentration of particles and the fraction of particles in  
294 each particle size bin that are inside the cloud droplets. MATCH-SALSA includes a  
295 simplified scheme, based on Seinfeld and Pandis (1997), to estimate the fraction of particles  
296 that are activated as cloud droplets (and thus are located inside the droplets) – in-cloud  
297 particles larger than 80nm in diameter are considered activated as cloud droplets. This  
298 simplified description is used in the present study.

299 A more advanced (and CPU-time consuming) formulation for cloud activation is also  
300 implemented in MATCH-SALSA. The model can be run coupled to an online cloud  
301 activation model that computes CDNC based on the prognostic parameterization scheme of  
302 Abdul-Razzak and Ghan (2002). The number of activated particles in each size bin is

303 determined by the particle size distribution, their number concentration and chemical  
304 composition, as well as the updraft velocity and the maximum supersaturation of the air  
305 parcel. Running the model with particle activation is optional. Optionally, the resulting  
306 activated particle fraction in each size bin can be used for calculation of incloud scavenging of  
307 particles. In this formulation the activated fraction of each particle class is calculated in each  
308 time step for each grid point. The online cloud-activation scheme was not used in the present  
309 study, but in Supplement A it is compared to the simplified scheme used here.

310 The subcloud scavenging in the model is treated in a similar way as by Dana and Hales  
311 (1976). In MATCH-SALSA, a simplified approach is used, where a monodisperse washout  
312 coefficient is calculated for each particle bin, and a standard rain drop spectrum<sup>1</sup> is assumed  
313 for all precipitation. The washout coefficient (i.e., the fraction of a species that is removed by  
314 precipitation below clouds) depends on precipitation amount and takes into account particle  
315 collection by Brownian diffusion, inertial impaction and interception. The total wet deposition  
316 is the sum of the incloud and subcloud scavenging.

317 Further details on the wet scavenging of particles are given in Supplement A and in the  
318 companion paper Andersson et al. (2014).

319

### 320 **3 Model set up**

321 In this section we describe the setup of the simulation used to evaluate MATCH-SALSA in  
322 Section 4.

323 Meteorological data is input at regular time intervals; here we used three-hourly fields from  
324 the HIRLAM (Hi-Resolution Limited-Area Model; Undén et al., 2002) weather forecast  
325 model. The meteorological data are interpolated to hourly resolution. The model domain  
326 covers Europe with a spatial resolution of ca 44km. The lowest model level is ca. 60m thick,  
327 and, in total, 22 vertical levels are used; the top level is at about 5km height. The vertical  
328 structure of MATCH-SALSA is the same as in the meteorological model; in this case hybrid  
329 ( $\eta$ ) coordinates, with shallow terrain following layers close to the ground and thicker pressure  
330 levels higher up.

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<sup>1</sup> A representative frontal rain spectrum is used,  $R_g=0.02$  cm,  $\Sigma_g=1.86$  (Dana and Hales, 1976).

331 For the aerosol size distribution, the following settings were used (see Fig. 2): The first  
332 subrange covered the diameter interval 3-50nm, with three log-normally distributed size bins;  
333 the second subrange covered the diameter interval 50-700nm, with four bins each for soluble  
334 and insoluble particle types; the third subrange covered the diameter size range 700nm-10 $\mu$ m,  
335 with three size bins for each of the following three particle types: seasalt, soluble particles and  
336 insoluble particles.

337 The top and lateral boundary concentrations of gaseous and particle species, including  
338 seasonal variation for some species, were set as described in Andersson et al. (2007).  
339 However, boundary concentrations of particulate organic matter (OM) on the southern,  
340 western and northern boundary were set based on marine OM measurements (O'Dowd et al.  
341 2004).

342 In the present study, biogenic emissions of monoterpenes (MT) were based on monthly  
343 emissions of MT taken from the EMEP MSC-W model (Bergström et al., 2012; Simpson et  
344 al., 2012). The BVOC-emissions are highly uncertain. With four different chemical transport  
345 models Langner et al. (2012) predicted European isoprene emissions within about a factor of  
346 five; we do not expect the uncertainty in the monoterpene emissions to be lower than for  
347 isoprene. Considering the large uncertainties, emissions tests with varying terpene emissions  
348 were performed; decreased underestimation in March and July 2007 for PNC and  
349 accumulation mode PNC, and improved temporal variation in March 2007 was found at the  
350 four measurement sites (see Supplement A) when using three times larger emissions than  
351 those taken from the EMEP MSC-W model. For this reason, the MT emissions in the base-  
352 case simulations in the present study were chosen to be three times higher than the  
353 corresponding emissions in the EMEP MSC-W model. We stress once more that the biogenic  
354 SOA description in the present MATCH-SALSA model set-up is incomplete and simplified –  
355 the aim is to test the first versions of MATCH-SALSA without introducing a complex and  
356 uncertain SOA scheme at the same time as introducing the aerosol dynamics module. The fact  
357 that model performance improved when the MT-emissions were tripled should not be  
358 interpreted as an indication that the MT-emissions are underestimated in the EMEP MSC-W  
359 model. A number of BVOC-emissions are missing in the MATCH-SALSA model (e.g.,  
360 sesquiterpenes and other VOCs emitted by plants subject to stress; e.g. Bergström et al.,  
361 2014). We also miss some other potentially important OA sources, such as wild fires (and  
362 other open burning), anthropogenic secondary OA and multigenerational aging of organic

363 compounds in the atmosphere. The increased BVOC-emissions in the model may lead to  
364 improved model results by compensating for other missing sources of OA or for too low SOA  
365 yields from BVOC-oxidation.

366 The anthropogenic emissions of gases and primary aerosols are taken from the TNO-MACC  
367 emission inventory (Kuenen et al., 2011; Pouliot et al., 2012; see also the MACC -  
368 Monitoring the Atmospheric Composition and Climate - project web page [http://www.gmes-  
369 atmosphere.eu/](http://www.gmes-atmosphere.eu/)). The TNO-MACC emissions are given as annual totals. Seasonal, weekday  
370 and diurnal variations of the emissions are based on results from the GENEMIS project  
371 (<http://genemis.ier.uni-stuttgart.de/>; Friedrich and Reis, 2004).

372 The particle emissions of EC and OM<sup>2</sup> are distributed over different particle sizes according  
373 to sector resolved mass size distributions described by Visschedijk et al. (2009). Details about  
374 the size distributions are given in Supplement A (Table 4, page 16). Emissions from most  
375 SNAP sectors are described by uni-modal distributions, while emission from two sectors  
376 (international shipping and SNAP sector 4: production processes) are described by bimodal  
377 distributions.

378 The emissions of oxidized sulfur (SO<sub>x</sub>) were split into 99% SO<sub>2</sub> and 1% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The split is  
379 intended to account for subgrid scale processes of gas phase transformation and gas-to-  
380 particle partitioning. The distribution of SO<sub>x</sub> emissions between SO<sub>2</sub> and more oxidized  
381 compounds is discussed in Spracklen et al. (2005b) – the fraction of SO<sub>2</sub> increases with grid  
382 resolution and it is typically set to between 95-100% in European scale models. The assumed  
383 fractions have large uncertainties and it is not clear from the literature how to optimally  
384 partition SO<sub>x</sub> emissions between SO<sub>2</sub>(g), H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>(g) and particulate sulfate in modeling  
385 studies. The best distribution depends on model resolution (Spracklen et al., 2005b). Lee et al.  
386 (2013) have shown that the uncertainties in the sub-grid production of sulfate particles in  
387 plumes are more important for CCN uncertainty than the uncertainties in the total  
388 anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Since we expect that the choice of distribution of SO<sub>x</sub>  
389 emissions has a large impact on the model results, we investigate this further in a companion  
390 paper (Andersson et al., 2014). The size distribution of the emitted sulfate is the same as for  
391 OM. NO<sub>x</sub> and NMVOC emissions were handled in the same way as in Andersson et al.  
392 (2007).

---

<sup>2</sup> OM emissions are assumed to be distributed over different particle sizes in the same way as OC.

393

## 394 **4 Evaluation of MATCH-SALSA**

395 In this section we compare our model results to observations at a number of measurement  
396 sites throughout Europe. The evaluated model results are extracted from the lowest model  
397 level. The statistical measures used are defined in Supplement A. We evaluate the PNC, both  
398 in terms of total number concentration, accumulation mode number concentration, and  
399 temporal and spatial distribution. We also evaluate the particle mass, including speciation of  
400 secondary inorganic aerosol, EC and OC.

### 401 **4.1 Measurement data**

402 Most measurement data were extracted from EBAS (<http://ebas.nilu.no>). Details of the  
403 stations used in the evaluation of particle number size distribution, PM<sub>1</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, EC and OC  
404 are given in Supplement A (Table 5). The secondary inorganic aerosol (SIA) components  
405 (nitrate, sulfate and ammonium) were evaluated against available measurements in the EMEP  
406 network for 2007 (<http://www.emep.int>).

407 For evaluation of PNC, four stations from EBAS were chosen to represent different parts of  
408 Europe; all classified as rural background sites. Two of the measurement sites: Melpitz (in  
409 eastern Germany) and K-Pusztá (in central Hungary), are relatively close to regions with large  
410 emissions. Hyytiälä (in the inland of southern Finland) and Aspöreten (ca 70 km south west of  
411 Stockholm, in south eastern Sweden) were chosen as regional background stations  
412 occasionally impacted by aged particles due to transport from large emission sources in  
413 Europe.

414

### 415 **4.2 Model evaluation of PNC**

416 Fig. 3 shows the modeled annual mean PNC in Europe; both total PNC (Fig. 3a) and the PNC  
417 in the different model size bins up to 700nm are shown (Fig 3b-g). Corresponding measured  
418 annual mean PNC at the four measurement sites are also displayed in circles, for particle sizes  
419 where measurements are available.

420 The largest modeled total PNC (Fig. 3a) are found in areas with high SO<sub>x</sub> emissions (e.g.,  
421 areas around large point sources in Spain, Poland, south-eastern Europe, the Ukraine, Russia

422 and the area around Etna; as well as along shipping routes around the Iberian Peninsula and  
423 the Gibraltar strait). These results are in line with other model studies (e.g. Yu and Luo, 2009;  
424 Spracklen et al., 2010; Ahlm et al., 2013).

425 Most of the total PNC in the model resides in the Aitken mode bins (particle diameters 7-  
426 20nm and 20-50nm; Figs. 3c and 3d). The highest PNCs in the smallest bin (Fig. 3b),  
427 indicating recent nucleation, are found in in Russia and Ukraine Increased values in this bin  
428 are also seen along the shipping lanes; the modeled high nucleation in marine areas is not in  
429 agreement with observations (Heintzenberg et al., 2004). Metzger et al. (2010) found similar  
430 nucleation over oceanic regions with large sulfur emissions when traditional activation type  
431 nucleation mechanisms were used; their results with a new organic activation mechanism  
432 captured the observed lack of nucleation in marine areas, indicating that organic molecules  
433 may have a critical role in the nucleation.

434 The Aitken mode PNC pattern (Figs. 3c and 3d) is similar to the total PNC distribution (Fig.  
435 3a). The highest concentrations are found in areas in Spain, Turkey, Former Yugoslavia,  
436 Bulgaria, and north-eastern Russia, and around the volcano Etna. The highest accumulation  
437 mode (50-700nm) PNCs (Figs. 3e-h) are found in southern Europe. This is partly due to  
438 relatively large emissions of primary fine particles and gaseous SO<sub>x</sub>, and partly due to less  
439 precipitation in southern Europe, compared to the north and west, allowing accumulation  
440 mode particles to reside longer in the atmosphere.

441 We evaluate the model performance (see Figs. 4 - 6) in terms of total and accumulation mode  
442 particle number concentration (PNC and PNC<sub>a</sub>, respectively) against observations at the four  
443 European surface sites. Due to seasonal differences in emissions and atmospheric processes,  
444 we separate performance during summer half-years (April-September) from winter (October-  
445 March). For example, residential biomass burning emissions are much higher during winter  
446 than during summer, while biogenic VOC emissions are largest during summer. Both these  
447 sources are associated with large uncertainties regarding the emissions and modeling. It  
448 should be noted that the size ranges for PNC and PNC<sub>a</sub> vary between the stations depending  
449 on the measurement interval.

450

#### 451 4.2.1 Spatial distribution

452 Modeled total PNC shows moderate to poor agreement with the observations (Fig. 4a). At  
453 most sites the deviation between observed and modeled mean is large both in summer and  
454 winter, and the correlation coefficients for daily mean PNC are low ( $r$  range from 0.05 to  
455 0.66).

456 The model captures the general observed features of lower total and accumulation mode PNC  
457 in the northern and north-western parts of Europe (Fig. 3). Aspvreten and Hyytiälä have the  
458 lowest modeled and observed PNCs (Fig. 4a). However, looking in more detail at the stations  
459 (Fig. 4) there are some discrepancies. Melpitz clearly has the highest *observed total PNC*  
460 (during both winter and summer; Fig 4a); the model severely underestimates the PNC at  
461 Melpitz and predicts much higher total PNC at K-Pusztá than at Melpitz. The highest  
462 *observed accumulation mode PNCs* are found at K-Pusztá and Melpitz (the PNC are at similar  
463 levels for both seasons and both sites; Fig. 4b); just as for total PNC, the model predicts much  
464 higher accumulation mode PNC at K-Pusztá than at Melpitz.

465 Thus, the spatial distribution of PNC in the model is not in agreement with the observations.  
466 There may be many reasons for this. One important reason for the high modeled total PNC at  
467 K-Pusztá is a high rate of nucleation (Fig. 5c), which is caused by the large emissions of SO<sub>x</sub>  
468 in the area. For the other three northern and central European sites, there is an underestimation  
469 in all size ranges. This may be due to too weak nucleation rate, too efficient wet scavenging  
470 or a combination of various problems. For the Aitken and accumulation modes, the problem  
471 can also be due to underestimated primary emissions. The underestimation in the nucleation  
472 mode implies either a low-biased nucleation mechanism, a too efficient removal (deposition)  
473 or underestimated precursor emissions. Further, EC is not included in the Aitken mode in the  
474 model. This leads to underestimated total particle number concentration (in the Aitken mode  
475 and subsequently in larger sizes as well).

476 Spracklen et al. (2010) investigated the impact of different nucleation mechanisms, including  
477 the impact of using different nucleation rate coefficients in the activation mechanism. They  
478 chose to investigate three rate coefficients,  $A=2\times 10^{-7} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $2\times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $2\times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for which  
479 they evaluated the bias to global observations in the free troposphere, and marine and  
480 continental boundary layers. In the continental boundary layer the two lowest nucleation rate  
481 coefficients resulted in mean underestimations by -48% and -29% respectively, whereas the  
482 highest rate resulted in a slight overestimation on the average (12%). The nucleation rate

483 coefficient used in MATCH-SALSA in the present study is near the lower end of the interval  
484 ( $A=7.3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), which may explain our underestimation of nucleation at the central and  
485 northern sites. In fact, the nucleation rate coefficient in the activation scheme should be site  
486 and time dependent in the European boundary layer (e.g. Sihto et al., 2006; Riipinen et al.,  
487 2007): observations of this coefficient vary by ~4-5 orders of magnitude for different  
488 European measurement sites, ranging from  $3.3 \times 10^{-8}$  to  $3.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Riipinen et al., 2007).  
489 Thus, a more advanced description of the nucleation, e.g. time and space-varying rate  
490 coefficients, should be included in MATCH-SALSA.

491 Organic nucleation is not included as a nucleation process in the evaluated base case  
492 simulation, resulting in possible underestimation of nucleation in areas with high BVOC-  
493 concentrations and possibly overestimated nucleation in regions with low concentrations of  
494 organic aerosol precursors (similar to the overestimated nucleation in the model in oceanic  
495 high-SOx regions, discussed above). This may also be an explanation for the overestimated  
496 nucleation at K-Pusztta. Sensitivity tests including organic nucleation will be discussed in the  
497 companion paper (Andersson et al., 2014); a lot of the material is also available in  
498 Supplement A.

499

#### 500 4.2.2 Size distribution

501 The modeled and observed size distributions at all four stations are shown in Fig. 5. A  
502 common feature for the PNC size distribution is that PNC are underestimated, or on the same  
503 level as the measurements, except at K-Pusztta, where the PNC of the smallest particles is  
504 overestimated both during winter and summer (Fig. 5c). At K-Pusztta the mean total PNC is  
505 overestimated but the PNC in the accumulation mode is underestimated (Fig. 4). At all  
506 stations, the shape of the size distribution is captured relatively well, but during winter at K-  
507 Pusztta (Fig. 5c) and during summer at Aspvreten (Fig. 5a) and Hyytiälä (Fig. 5b) the modeled  
508 size distribution peaks at smaller sizes than in the observations. The reason for the maximum  
509 occurring at too small sizes, in combination with underestimated accumulation mode PNC,  
510 may be too weak condensation onto nucleating particles in the model. Bergman et al. (2012)  
511 also evaluated the modeled particle number size distribution at measurement sites, including  
512 Aspvreten, Melpitz and Hyytiälä, and found that the model ECHAM5-HAM underestimated  
513 the number concentrations at all three measurement sites for sizes larger than about 20nm,

514 both when using the aerosol dynamics modules of M7 and SALSA. SALSA performed better  
515 than M7 for PNC above 100nm at the dirtier measurement sites (e.g. Aspvreten and Melpitz)  
516 while M7 performed better at cleaner sites (e.g. Hyytiälä), but the differences between the two  
517 models were not large. Bergman et al. (2012) concluded that the growth in SALSA probably  
518 was too slow.

519

### 520 4.2.3 Temporal evolution

521 Fig. 6 shows the modeled and observed temporal variation of the daily mean PNC at the four  
522 sites. New particle formation in the model is seen in the form of peak concentrations of the  
523 smallest particles sizes. These peaks coincide with the observed maximum total PNC on some  
524 occasions; sometimes there is a time shift of a few days between the modeled and observed  
525 peaks. Many of the observed nucleation peaks at Hyytiälä (Fig. 6a), Aspvreten (Fig. 6b) and  
526 Melpitz (Fig. 6d) are not seen in the model results. Reddington et al (2011) simulated hourly  
527 PNC with diameters larger than 15nm using the GLOMAP model and evaluated these against  
528 measurements from one month (May 2008). Depending on the nucleation parameterization,  
529 the correlations ( $R^2$ ) between model and measured PNC were less than 0.03 at Aspvreten,  
530 Hyytiälä and Melpitz, and less than 0.10 at K-Pusztá. For PNC with larger sizes (>100nm),  
531 the correlations were less than 0.01 at K-Pusztá and higher at the other sites (<0.13 at  
532 Aspvreten, <0.20 at Melpitz and <0.45 at Hyytiälä). Spracklen et al. (2006) on the other hand  
533 captured the nucleation at Hyytiälä very well with GLOMAP, however, they only studied a  
534 short period (22 days) in May with clear sky conditions. With MATCH-SALSA the hourly  
535 correlations ( $R^2$ ), for single months of 2007, for PNC with a diameter larger than 50nm range  
536 from 0 to 0.17 for Hyytiälä (for May: 0), <0 - 0.20 for Aspvreten (May: <0), <0 - 0.20 for K-  
537 Pusztá (May: 0.01) and <0 - 0.41 for Melpitz (May: 0.41). These low correlations illustrate  
538 that nucleation events are difficult to capture by models when running over long time periods  
539 for a large region. One reason for this is the coarse scale of the model – each grid cell is  
540 representative of a large area (for MATCH-SALSA, ca  $44 \times 44 \text{ km}^2$  and for GLOMAP  $2.8^\circ \times$   
541  $2.8^\circ$ ). Another reason is that the simple activation type nucleation scheme needs a site and  
542 time varying nucleation parameter to work well (Riipinen et al., 2007). Furthermore, the  
543 wintertime nucleation peaks in the observations that are absent in the model may also be  
544 explained by a temperature dependence in the nucleation, that is not accounted for in the

545 model (Dal Maso et al., 2005), or the observed peaks could be of local origin that can not be  
546 captured by a regional scale CTM.

547 The best correlation between modeled and observed daily mean PNC is found at Melpitz  
548 ( $r=0.70$ ; Fig. 6d) but the model underestimates PNC most of the time; the observed PNC is  
549 almost always high at this site. The model grossly overestimates the total PNC at K-Pusztza  
550 (Fig. 6c) during summer, but the temporal variation for particles sizes  $>20\text{nm}$  follows the  
551 measurements fairly well ( $r=0.32$ ); during winter the model PNC is in better agreement with  
552 the observations. At Hyytiälä (Fig. 6a) a lot of nucleation is observed; this is not captured by  
553 the model, possibly due to the lack of organic nucleation in this simulation; this will be  
554 discussed in detail in the companion paper (Andersson et al., 2014).

555 Spracklen et al. (2010) calculated the correlations ( $R^2$ ) between monthly mean modeled and  
556 observed PNC for sites where the monthly means varied by more than a factor of two during  
557 the year 2000 (Aspvreten was excluded due to too small variation). K-Pusztza was not  
558 included in the assessment. Their results were  $R^2=0.39$  and  $0.28$  for the sites Hyytiälä and  
559 Melpitz, respectively. With MATCH-SALSA we get  $R^2=0.67$  and  $0.08$ , respectively, for the  
560 same sites (for PNC with diameter  $>50\text{nm}$ ). Using kinetic nucleation description Spracklen et  
561 al. (2010) achieved higher monthly correlations than with activation type nucleation at most  
562 evaluated sites, including Hyytiälä and Melpitz.

563

#### 564 **4.3 Model evaluation of particle mass and composition**

565 Simulated annual average total  $\text{PM}_{10}$ , and the chemical components that constitute  $\text{PM}_{10}$ , are  
566 displayed in Fig. 7. The largest concentrations of total  $\text{PM}_{10}$  (Fig. 7a) are found at  
567 anthropogenic emission hotspots (e.g., northern Italy, Moscow and the eastern Ukraine) and  
568 over the Atlantic Ocean and parts of the Mediterranean Sea. The highest modeled  
569 concentrations over land are due to large anthropogenic emissions of primary anthropogenic  
570 inorganic aerosol (Fig. 7d), except in northern Italy, where there is a large contribution from  
571 ammonium nitrate (Figs. 7f-g), and in southeastern Europe, and some sulfur emission  
572 hotspots, where sulfate (Fig. 7e) dominates  $\text{PM}_{10}$ . Over the oceans (and in large parts of  
573 western and northern Europe), the largest contribution to  $\text{PM}_{10}$  is from sea salt particles (Fig.  
574 7h); important sulfate contributions are also seen, especially around Etna and the eastern  
575 Mediterranean Sea. OM (Fig. 7c) gives the largest modeled non-sea salt contributions to  $\text{PM}_{10}$

576 in northern Europe and also in some parts of southern/western Europe. In the following  
577 subsections we present evaluation statistics for the different particle components.

578

#### 579 4.3.1 Secondary inorganic aerosol (SIA)

580 Statistics from the evaluation for SIA components (particulate sulfate,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ; nitrate,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ;  
581 and ammonium,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) are shown in Table 1 and in Supplement A (Tables A15-A19 and Figs.  
582 A32-A36). In order to avoid biases due to possible incorrect separation of gas and particle  
583 phase nitrogen in the measurements, we also include evaluation results for total nitrate  
584 (TNO3:  $\text{HNO}_3(\text{g}) + \text{NO}_3^-(\text{p})$ ) and total reduced nitrogen (TNHx:  $\text{NH}_3(\text{g}) + \text{NH}_4^+(\text{p})$ ).

585 Sulfate has a low mean bias (4%) whereas the root mean square error normalized to the  
586 observed mean (CV(RMSE)) is around 50%. The average (Pearson) correlation coefficient  
587 (average  $r$  at the different sites, based on daily means) is 0.52 and the spatial correlation  
588 coefficient (“spatial”  $r$  for the annual mean concentration at all the stations) is 0.57. The  
589 model performance for the nitrogen compounds ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3 + \text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$  and NHx) at  
590 individual stations is of similar quality as that of sulfate. The model underestimates the  
591 concentration of the nitrogen components by about 10-20%, while the CV(RMSE)s are a bit  
592 lower than for sulfate (range from 36 to 49% for the four N-components). The average  $r$  at the  
593 measurement sites vary between 0.44 and 0.59 for the N-components, whereas the spatial  
594 correlation coefficients are higher (between 0.79 and 0.87).

595

#### 596 4.3.2 Elemental and organic carbon

597 The organic aerosol measurements used for model evaluation in this study are organic carbon  
598 (OC) measurements. The model describes organic matter (OM). In the evaluation we assume  
599 an OM:OC ratio of 1.4. The actual ratio varies with location and season (e.g., Simon et al.,  
600 2011) and is usually between 1.25 and 2.5, with a greater ratio for more aged OM (Turpin et  
601 al., 2000; Kupiainen and Klimont, 2007; Aiken et al., 2008). The choice of a fixed OM:OC  
602 ratio for the evaluation will lead to model under- or overestimation, depending on the  
603 measurement site and time of year. Fig. 8 and Fig. 9 show the annual observed and modeled  
604 mean concentrations of EC (Figs. 8a-b) and OC (Figs. 9a-b) at individual measurement sites,

605 as well as the associated correlation coefficients, based on daily data; detailed results are  
606 given in Table 2.

607 Both EC and OC are underestimated at many of the sites. The underestimation is especially  
608 large at the Italian sites and Payerne (Switzerland) during winter, for both EC (Fig. 8b) and  
609 OC (Fig. 9b), and for EC at Melpitz (Figs. 8a-b). Correlation coefficients are higher for EC  
610 than OC; OC is more complicated to model than EC, since it is a combination of primary and  
611 secondary components, many of them semi-volatile. The reasons for the model –  
612 measurement differences are likely to vary between seasons and locations; e.g., wintertime  
613 emissions from residential combustion are often underestimated (e.g. Simpson et al., 2007;  
614 Gilardoni et al., 2011; Bergström et al., 2012), during the summer half-year biogenic VOC  
615 emissions and wildfires may be more important sources of carbonaceous particles.

616 At Ispra (IT04) in northern Italy, the model performs fairly well for carbonaceous aerosol  
617 during summer but greatly underestimates both EC and OC during wintertime (Fig. 8, Fig. 9  
618 and Fig. A15 in Supplement A). One reason may be the underestimation of residential wood  
619 combustion emissions (e.g. Bergström et al., 2012). The model also underestimates NO<sub>2</sub> (by  
620 43% in summer and 51% in winter). Both the observations and the model results show a clear  
621 seasonal cycle with higher concentrations during winter for NO<sub>2</sub> as well as for EC and OC.  
622 However, for EC and OC the model underestimation during winter is much larger (-74 and -  
623 87%, respectively) than during summer (-20 and -37%, respectively) (Supplement A, Fig.  
624 A15). The poor model performance for EC and OC during winter is likely due to lacking  
625 emissions from one or more emission sectors, with greater emissions of EC and OC during  
626 winter, but relatively small contribution to NO<sub>2</sub>. This work therefore supports the results of  
627 previous studies (e.g. Gilardoni et al., 2011) that have concluded that residential wood  
628 combustion emissions are likely underestimated in current emission inventories, at least in the  
629 area around Ispra.

630 For the German site Melpitz, the model grossly underestimates EC throughout the year  
631 (Supplement A, Fig. A37). OC is generally captured fairly well at the station, with  
632 underestimation of OC in PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> (but not PM<sub>1</sub>) during winter and overestimation for  
633 OC in PM<sub>2.5</sub> and underestimation (-25%) in PM<sub>10</sub> during summer (Supplement A, Fig. A38).  
634 Part of the reason for the relatively high EC measurements at Melpitz is that the measurement  
635 technique used at this site, to separate OC from EC, has no charring correction and is  
636 expected to lead to too high EC values and to underestimate OC (see Genberg et al., 2013,

637 and references therein). There are large peaks during spring and late autumn of OC (and EC)  
638 in  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$ , which are clearly underpredicted. The peak in the beginning of April  
639 coincides with a vegetation fire episode (Genberg et al., 2013); the earlier peaks and the late  
640 autumn peaks are perhaps more likely due to residential combustion or other  
641 missing/underestimated sources, possibly, also due to fires in eastern Europe (Jönsson et al.,  
642 2013). Stern et al. (2008) compared five different chemical transport models to observations  
643 from northern and eastern Germany during highly polluted conditions. None of the models  
644 could reproduce the very high EC concentrations observed at Melpitz. Stern et al. (2008)  
645 suggested that the large underestimations of EC may be an indication that emissions in the  
646 central European region were underestimated during these episodes.

647

#### 648 4.3.3 Total particulate matter ( $PM_1$ and $PM_{2.5}$ )

649 Evaluation of  $PM_1$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  at 28 measurement sites is presented in Fig. 10 and in  
650 Supplement A (Table A21 and Fig. A39); detailed time series plots are given in Supplement  
651 A Figs. A17, A40-A41. For  $PM_1$  the annual means at the sites with the lowest observed  
652 concentration (three Nordic sites: NO01, FI17, DK41) are overestimated by the model. On the  
653 other hand, at the central European sites the  $PM_1$  concentrations are much better captured.  
654 The model underestimates  $PM_{2.5}$  by 14% (spatial average) and the spatial correlation  
655 coefficient is 0.64. Six of the 35 evaluated annual means ( $PM_1$  and  $PM_{2.5}$ ) deviate by more  
656 than 50% from the measured concentrations. The largest underestimations of  $PM_{2.5}$  are seen at  
657 the sites with the highest observed annual mean. The underestimation of  $PM_{2.5}$  can be due to a  
658 number of reasons, including underestimated emissions, too short aerosol lifetime or too small  
659 secondary aerosol production. There is probably too little EC and OC in the model, at least at  
660 some of the sites, which can be explained by underestimated emissions.

661 The treatment of sea spray needs to be further evaluated and the model scheme for sea salt  
662 particles may need to be updated. For  $PM_1$  the annual means at the sites with the lowest  
663 concentrations are overestimated by the model. This seems to be partly due to overestimation  
664 of sea salt. Evaluation scores for modeled  $PM_1$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  excluding sea salt aerosol in the  
665 total PM mass (see Supplement A: Table A21, Figs. A18 and A39) gives higher correlation  
666 coefficients for daily mean  $PM_{2.5}$  or  $PM_1$  at 22 of the 28 sites (and lower at only one site) than  
667 when sea salt is included. This is an indication of too much sea salt at the wrong time. It may

668 be due to too strong sea salt emissions and/or too weak sink processes for the sea salt, since  
669 substantial improvements in correlation are seen also at some far inland sites.  
670

## 671 **5 Conclusions**

672 We have implemented the sectional aerosol dynamics model SALSA (Kokkola et al., 2008) in  
673 the European scale CTM MATCH (Multi-scale Atmospheric Transport and Chemistry;  
674 Robertson et al., 1999). The new model is called MATCH-SALSA. It includes aerosol  
675 microphysics with several options for nucleation, wet scavenging and condensation.

676 In general, the model reproduces observed lower particle number concentration (PNC) in  
677 northern and north-western Europe and remote regions than in central Europe. The model  
678 peak in the particle number size distribution occurs at the same or smaller particle size as the  
679 observed peak. Total PNC is underestimated at northern and central European sites. The low  
680 nucleation rate coefficient used in this study is probably one important factor for the  
681 underestimation, although other reasons may also contribute, e.g. organic nucleation is not  
682 included and EC are not emitted in the Aitken mode. The model performs well for particle  
683 mass, including secondary inorganic aerosol components. Particulate elemental and organic  
684 carbon concentrations are underestimated at many of the sites.

685 Before using the model for simulating total  $PM_{2.5}$ , the SOA formulation needs further  
686 improvements. MATCH-SALSA is computationally heavier than MATCH, which also puts  
687 restrictions on when the model can be used.

688 The development of the MATCH-SALSA model is continuing and in the near future focus  
689 will be on the following areas:

- 690 - An updated biogenic emission module is needed for realistic treatment of BSOA formation.  
691 Updating the biogenic SOA scheme will likely have a large impact on modeled  $PM_{2.5}$  and also  
692 affect the model performance for total PNC through impacts on nucleation and  
693 condensation.
- 694 - Updating the nucleation rate coefficients possibly with time- and space-varying rate  
695 coefficients.

- 696 - Nitrogen gas-particle partitioning should be coupled to the microphysics. This may increase  
697 condensational growth, which is underestimated in the present version of the model.
- 698 - Emissions from open fires (wildfires and agricultural burning activities) will be added to the  
699 model.
- 700 - Dust emissions from road traffic, agricultural activities and non-vegetated soils including  
701 desert areas should be included in the model.
- 702 - Processes affecting sea salt need further work and evaluation. This study has shown large  
703 modeled sea salt peaks that are not seen in the measurements. Both emissions and  
704 deposition of sea salt particles should be investigated.
- 705 - Emission inventories need to be improved, especially for EC and OC emissions.
- 706

## 707 **6 Acknowledgements**

708 This work was financed by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (Naturvårdsverket)  
709 through the Swedish Clean Air Research Programme (SCARP; <http://www.scarp.se>) and the  
710 Swedish Clean Air and Climate research programme (SCAC; <http://www.scac.se>). We also  
711 acknowledge funding from the Swedish Research Council FORMAS under the MACCII  
712 project (No 2009-409) and from the Academy of Finland (decision: 250348).

713

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1057 Tables

1058

1059 Table 1. Comparison of modeled secondary inorganic aerosol (SIA) components to daily  
1060 observed concentrations. Average results covering available measurements for the year 2007  
1061 (results for individual stations are given in Tables A15-A19 in Supplement A). In addition to  
1062 the SIA components also the total nitrate (TNO<sub>3</sub>=HNO<sub>3</sub>(g)+NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>(p)) and total reduced  
1063 nitrogen (TNH<sub>x</sub>=NH<sub>3</sub>(g)+NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>(p)) are evaluated. r: the Pearson correlation coefficient,  
1064 CV(RMSE): the coefficient of variation of the Root Mean Square Error (RMSE normalized to  
1065 the observed mean concentrations), #obs: the total number of observations included in the  
1066 evaluation, #stns: the number of measurement stations included in the evaluation.

1067

|                               | Global/temporal       |                       |           |                   |                   |       | Spatial   |      |          |       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|-----------|------|----------|-------|
| Measure:                      | Mean Obsvd            | Mean Model            | Rel. Bias | mean <sup>a</sup> | mean <sup>a</sup> | #obs. | Rel. Bias | r    | CV(RMSE) | #stns |
| Unit:                         | μgS/N m <sup>-3</sup> | μgS/N m <sup>-3</sup> | (%)       | r                 | CV(RMSE) (%)      |       | (%)       |      | (%)      |       |
| SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> | 0.63                  | 0.65                  | 4         | 0.52              | 46                | 16033 | -6        | 0.57 | 53       | 52    |
| NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>  | 0.40                  | 0.32                  | -21       | 0.44              | 49                | 7249  | -22       | 0.83 | 48       | 23    |
| TNO <sub>3</sub>              | 0.49                  | 0.40                  | -19       | 0.59              | 36                | 11039 | -21       | 0.85 | 41       | 35    |
| NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>  | 0.72                  | 0.64                  | -12       | 0.57              | 39                | 9728  | -11       | 0.79 | 37       | 31    |
| TNH <sub>x</sub>              | 1.27                  | 1.01                  | -21       | 0.53              | 40                | 10137 | -20       | 0.87 | 38       | 32    |

1068 <sup>a</sup> Weighted average of correlation coefficients and CV(RMSE) at individual stations.

1069

1070

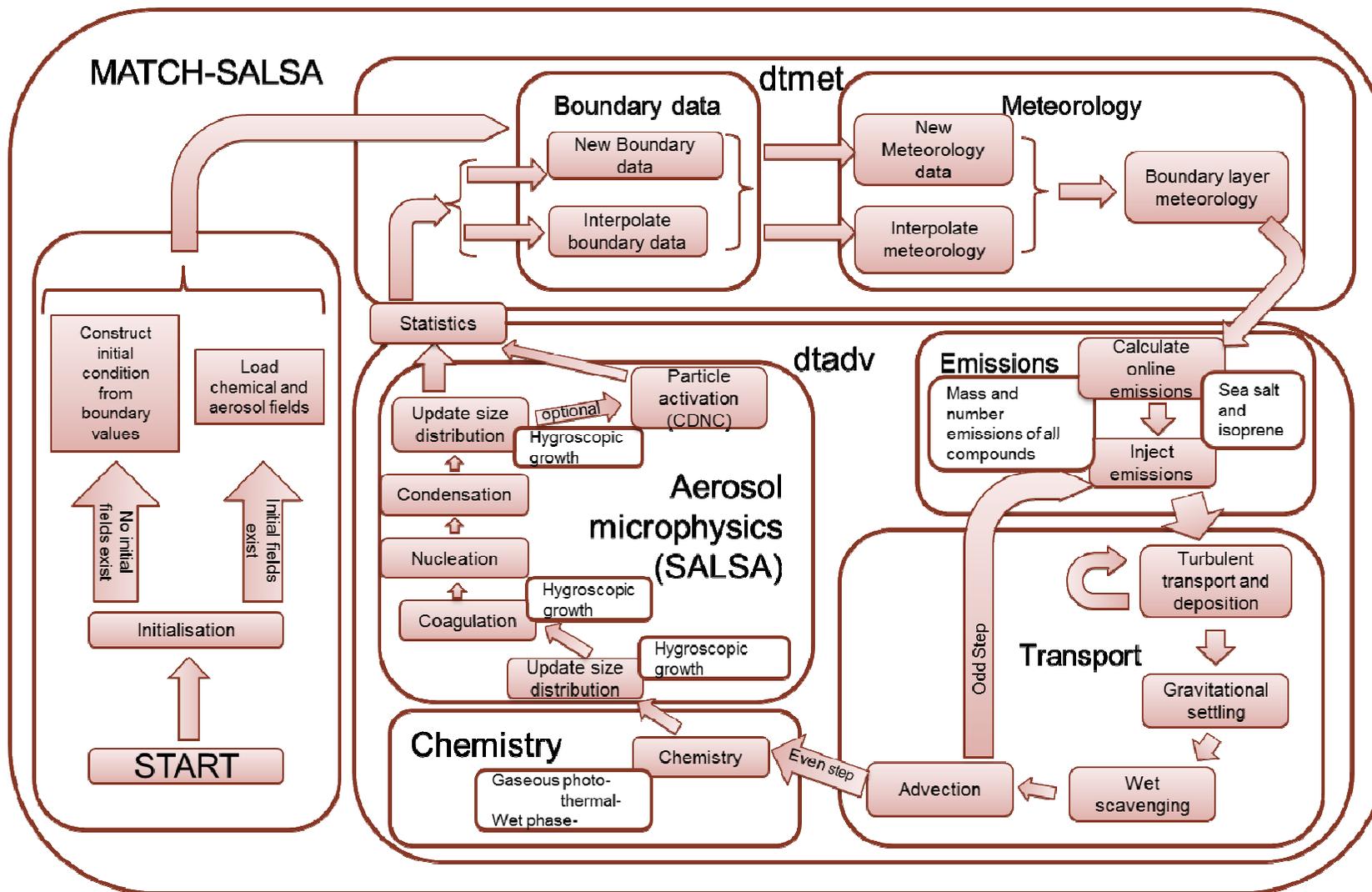
1071 Table 2. Statistics of the comparison of MATCH-SALSA results to daily observed  
 1072 concentrations of elemental carbon (EC) and organic carbon (OC) in PM<sub>1</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> for  
 1073 the year 2007. Obs = Measured concentration, Mod = Modeled concentration, MAE = mean  
 1074 absolute error, r = Pearson correlation coefficient (only calculated for sites with more than 10  
 1075 measurements). Relative bias and MAE are given as percentage of the observed average. For  
 1076 further information about the measurement stations, see Table A5 in Supplement A.

|                                       |                                       | EC                        |                           |          |                              |            |      |       | OC                           |                              |             |                              |            |       |       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------|------------------------------|------------|------|-------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|------------|-------|-------|
|                                       | Stations                              | Obs<br>μg m <sup>-3</sup> | Mod<br>μg m <sup>-3</sup> | bias (%) | MAE<br>μg<br>m <sup>-3</sup> | MAE<br>(%) | r    | #meas | Obs<br>μg<br>m <sup>-3</sup> | Mod<br>μg<br>m <sup>-3</sup> | bias<br>(%) | MAE<br>μg<br>m <sup>-3</sup> | MAE<br>(%) | r     | #meas |
| <b>In PM<sub>1</sub><br/>winter</b>   | Melpitz                               | 0.54                      | 0.21                      | -60      | 0.33                         | 60         | 0.60 | 32    | 0.65                         | 0.76                         | 18          | 0.23                         | 36         | 0.83  | 32    |
|                                       | <b>In PM<sub>2.5</sub><br/>winter</b> | Birkenes                  | 0.12                      | 0.18     | 47                           | 0.11       | 87   | 0.58  | 73                           | 0.60                         | 0.88        | 46                           | 0.46       | 76    | 0.45  |
|                                       | Overtoom                              | 0.75                      | 0.54                      | -27      | 0.27                         | 36         | 0.76 | 27    | 2.19                         | 1.15                         | -48         | 1.25                         | 57         | 0.59  | 28    |
|                                       | Melpitz                               | 1.28                      | 0.29                      | -77      | 0.99                         | 77         | 0.60 | 182   | 1.81                         | 1.21                         | -33         | 0.95                         | 52         | 0.59  | 182   |
|                                       | Payerne                               | 1.45                      | 0.39                      | -73      | 1.06                         | 73         | 0.67 | 23    | 5.61                         | 1.33                         | -76         | 4.28                         | 76         | 0.52  | 23    |
|                                       | Ispra                                 | 3.67                      | 0.93                      | -75      | 2.76                         | 75         | 0.28 | 173   | 14.1                         | 2.04                         | -86         | 12.1                         | 86         | 0.24  | 173   |
|                                       | Puy de Dome                           | 0.05                      | 0.36                      | 556      | 0.31                         | 556        | 0.43 | 33    | 0.99                         | 1.35                         | 36          | 0.46                         | 46         | 0.60  | 21    |
|                                       | Montelibretti                         | 1.10                      | 0.40                      | -64      | 0.70                         | 64         | 0.60 | 32    | 17.2                         | 1.22                         | -93         | 16.0                         | 93         | 0.53  | 32    |
|                                       | Montseny                              | 0.17                      | 0.49                      | 181      | 0.32                         | 181        | 0.60 | 17    | 1.64                         | 1.74                         | 6           | 0.48                         | 29         | 0.68  | 17    |
|                                       | Campisabalos                          | 0.16                      | 0.27                      | 65       | 0.10                         | 65         | -    | 9     | 1.73                         | 1.01                         | -42         | 0.72                         | 42         | -     | 9     |
| <b>In PM<sub>10</sub><br/>winter</b>  | Birkenes                              | 0.14                      | 0.19                      | 38       | 0.10                         | 75         | 0.62 | 73    | 0.76                         | 0.92                         | 22          | 0.48                         | 63         | 0.43  | 73    |
|                                       | Harwell                               | 1.06                      | 0.93                      | -11      | 0.68                         | 64         | 0.50 | 56    | 3.23                         | 1.67                         | -48         | 1.65                         | 51         | 0.70  | 56    |
|                                       | Melpitz                               | 1.65                      | 0.32                      | -80      | 1.33                         | 80         | 0.63 | 182   | 2.77                         | 1.40                         | -49         | 1.48                         | 53         | 0.56  | 182   |
|                                       | Kosetice                              | 0.36                      | 0.25                      | -30      | 0.13                         | 37         | 0.42 | 30    | 1.96                         | 0.86                         | -56         | 1.13                         | 58         | 0.62  | 30    |
|                                       | Montelibretti                         | 1.30                      | 0.44                      | -66      | 0.86                         | 66         | 0.47 | 31    | 15.5                         | 1.29                         | -92         | 14.2                         | 92         | 0.65  | 31    |
|                                       | Montseny                              | 0.21                      | 0.51                      | 143      | 0.30                         | 143        | 0.73 | 17    | 1.61                         | 2.03                         | 26          | 0.57                         | 35         | 0.80  | 17    |
|                                       | Campisabalos                          | 0.17                      | 0.29                      | 71       | 0.12                         | 71         | -    | 8     | 1.92                         | 1.25                         | -35         | 0.69                         | 36         | -     | 8     |
| <b>In PM<sub>2.5</sub><br/>summer</b> | Birkenes                              | 0.09                      | 0.11                      | 27       | 0.03                         | 40         | 0.81 | 51    | 0.74                         | 0.85                         | 14          | 0.31                         | 42         | 0.73  | 51    |
|                                       | Overtoom                              | 0.57                      | 0.37                      | -36      | 0.24                         | 42         | 0.34 | 37    | 1.66                         | 1.17                         | -29         | 0.62                         | 38         | 0.76  | 37    |
|                                       | Melpitz                               | 0.95                      | 0.17                      | -82      | 0.78                         | 82         | 0.54 | 183   | 1.26                         | 1.78                         | 41          | 0.83                         | 66         | 0.47  | 183   |
|                                       | Ispra                                 | 0.87                      | 0.68                      | -21      | 0.35                         | 40         | 0.48 | 165   | 3.80                         | 2.54                         | -33         | 1.91                         | 50         | 0.34  | 169   |
|                                       | Puy de Dome                           | 0.09                      | 0.26                      | 171      | 0.18                         | 192        | 0.09 | 33    | 2.18                         | 2.05                         | -6          | 1.57                         | 72         | -0.08 | 11    |
|                                       | Montseny                              | 0.17                      | 0.47                      | 172      | 0.29                         | 172        | 0.60 | 21    | 1.82                         | 2.72                         | 49          | 0.91                         | 50         | 0.60  | 21    |
|                                       | Campisabalos                          | 0.10                      | 0.14                      | 46       | 0.05                         | 53         | -    | 5     | 2.24                         | 1.33                         | -41         | 1.28                         | 57         | -     | 5     |
| <b>In PM<sub>10</sub><br/>summer</b>  | Birkenes                              | 0.11                      | 0.12                      | 10       | 0.04                         | 37         | 0.76 | 52    | 1.04                         | 0.90                         | -13         | 0.27                         | 26         | 0.81  | 52    |
|                                       | Melpitz                               | 1.60                      | 0.19                      | -88      | 1.41                         | 88         | 0.59 | 183   | 2.58                         | 1.93                         | -25         | 0.87                         | 34         | 0.51  | 183   |
|                                       | Montseny                              | 0.19                      | 0.49                      | 162      | 0.30                         | 162        | 0.51 | 21    | 1.66                         | 2.89                         | 74          | 1.23                         | 74         | 0.62  | 21    |
|                                       | Campisabalos                          | 0.15                      | 0.14                      | -9       | 0.08                         | 52         | -    | 10    | 2.26                         | 1.48                         | -35         | 1.13                         | 50         | -     | 9     |

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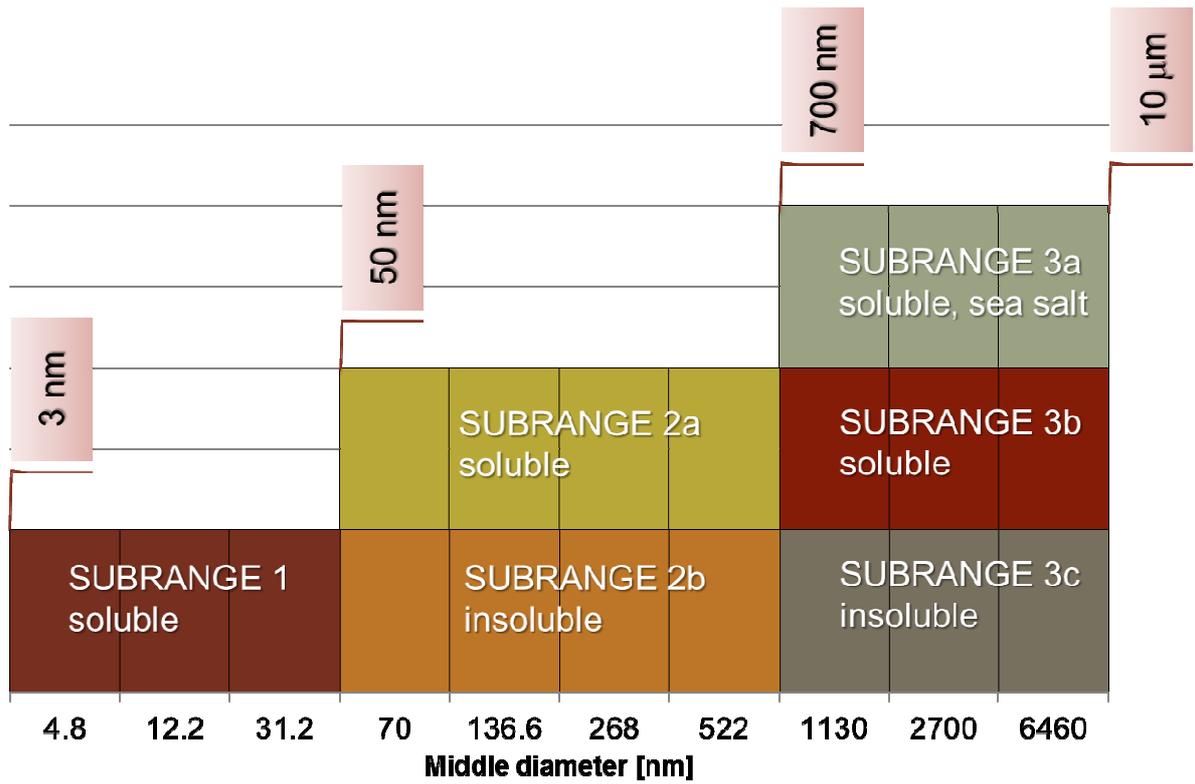
1078 Figures

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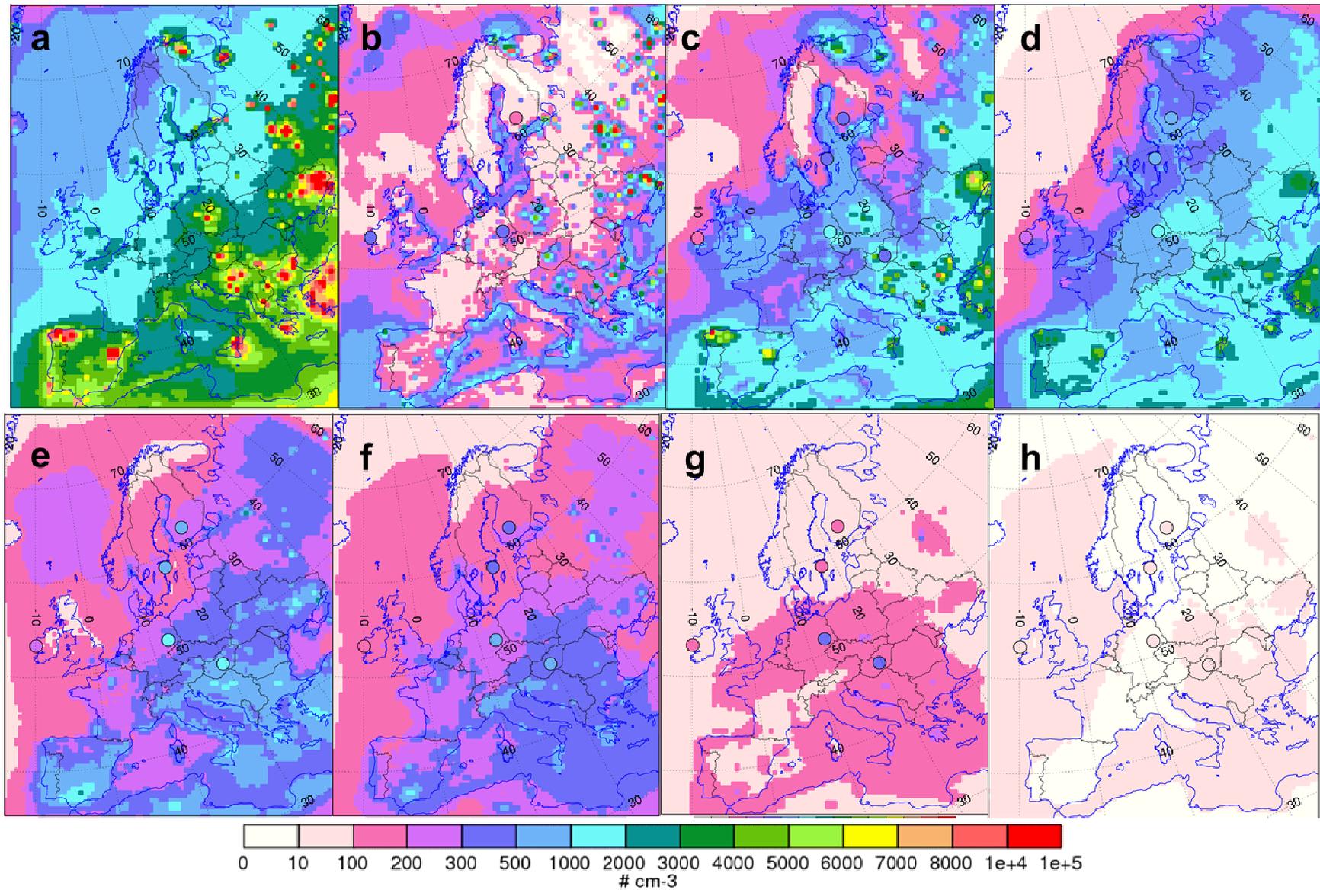
1081 Figure 1. Model integration and time stepping in MATCH-SALSA.



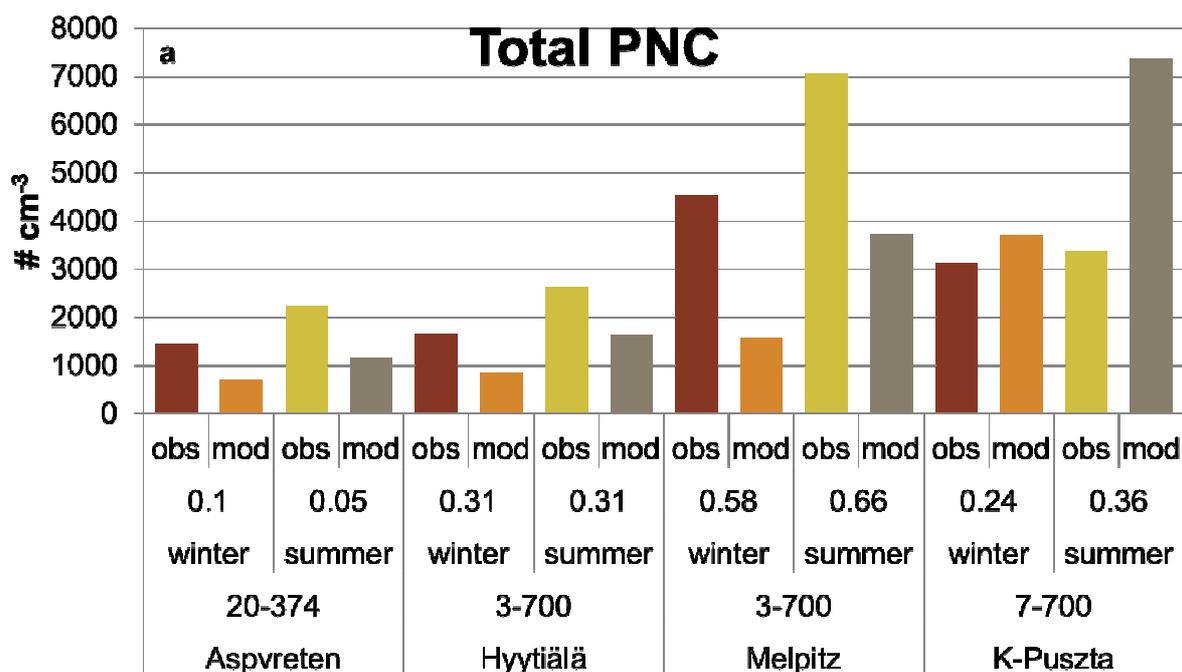
1082

1083 Figure 2. Aerosol division into bins in the three SALSA subranges in the base case set up of  
 1084 MATCH-SALSA.

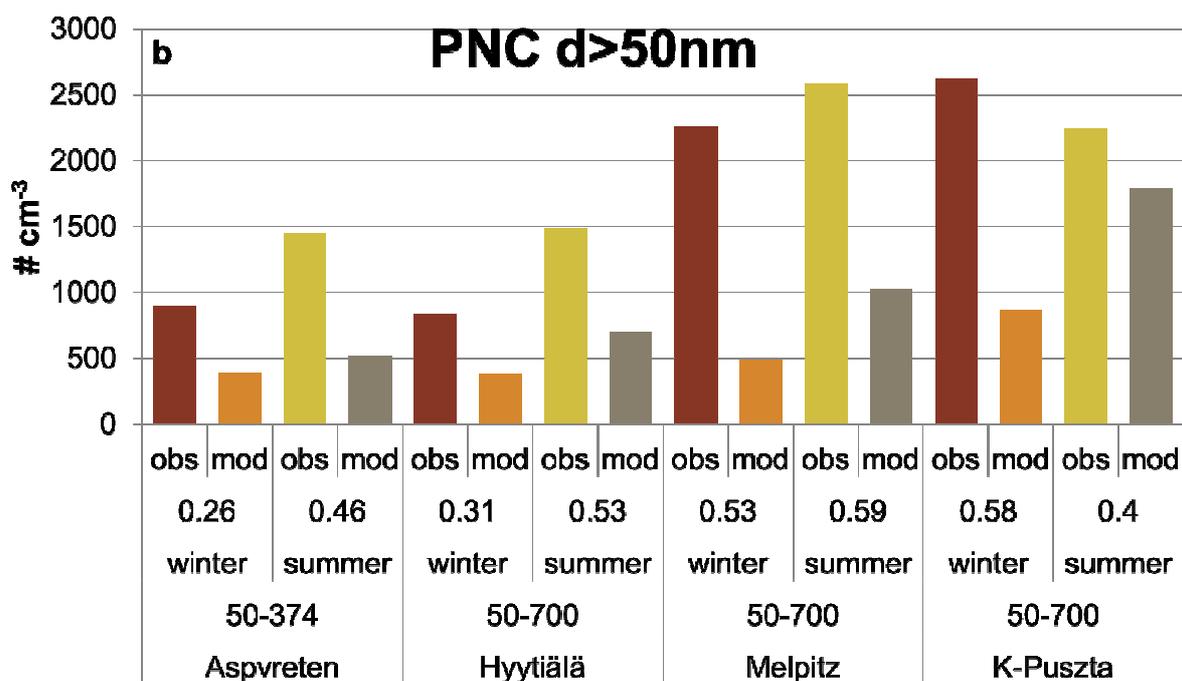
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1087 Figure 3. Calculated annual mean (2007) particle number concentration (PNC) in Europe. Total PNC (sum of all sizes; panel a), and PNC in size  
1088 bins  $PNC_{3<d<7nm}$  (panel b),  $PNC_{7<d<20nm}$  (panel c),  $PNC_{20<d<50nm}$  (panel d),  $PNC_{50<d<98nm}$  (panel e),  $PNC_{98<d<192nm}$  (panel f),  $PNC_{192<d<360nm}$  (panel  
1089 g),  $PNC_{360<d<700nm}$  (panel h). Observed annual mean PNC (filled circles) at the observation sites: Hyytiälä (Finland), Aspvreten (Sweden), Melpitz  
1090 (Germany) and K-Pusztá (Hungary) when observed numbers exist in the indicated interval. Unit: #  $cm^{-3}$ .



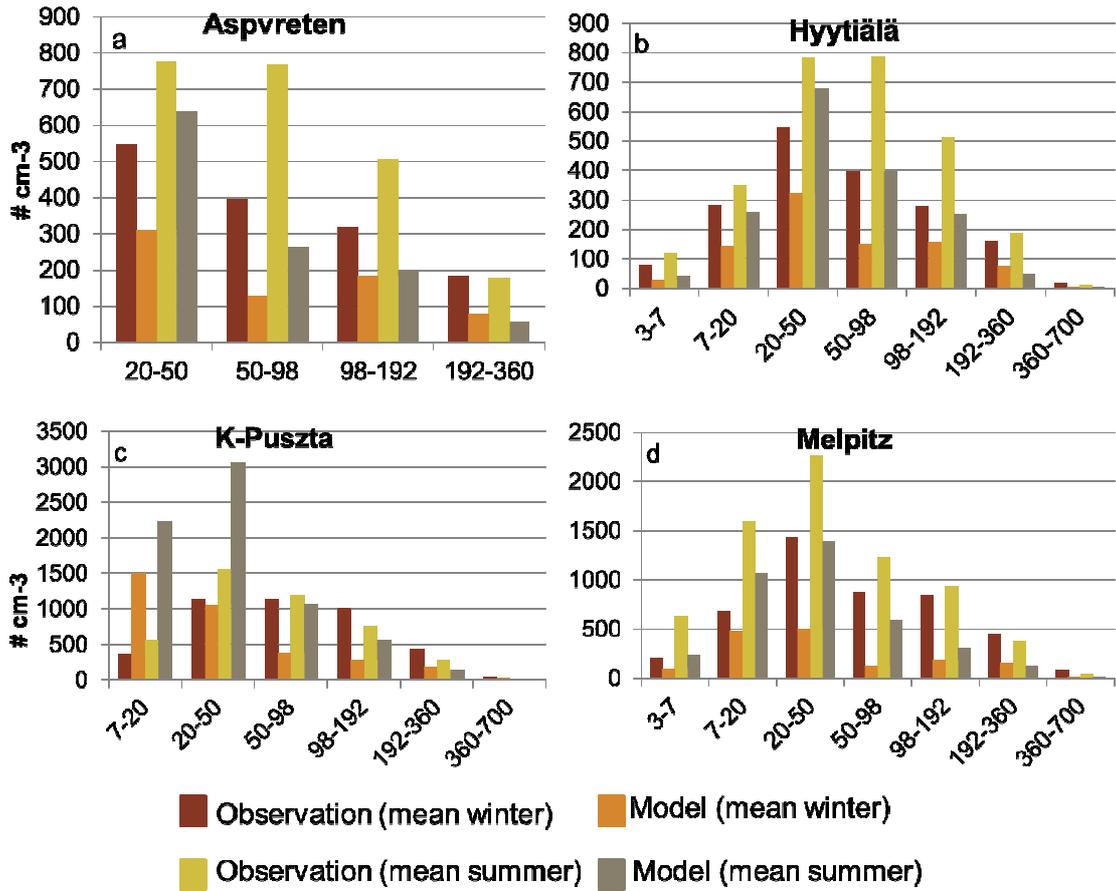
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1093 Figure 4. Mean particle number concentration (PNC) during winter (Jan-March; Oct-Dec) and  
 1094 summer (April-September) half years at four sites in Europe. Top panel (a): mean observed  
 1095 and modeled total PNC. Bottom panel (b): mean observed and modeled PNC in the  
 1096 accumulation mode. The interval above the site name indicates the particle size interval (unit:  
 1097 nm). The number above the season shows the (Pearson) correlation coefficient (r) of daily

1098 mean PNC. Note that the size intervals differ between the stations: the same size interval is  
1099 used for both modeled and observed values at each site. Unit: # cm<sup>-3</sup>.  
1100

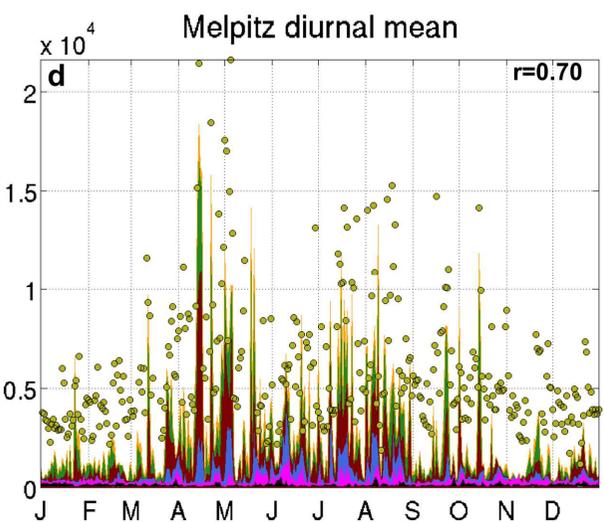
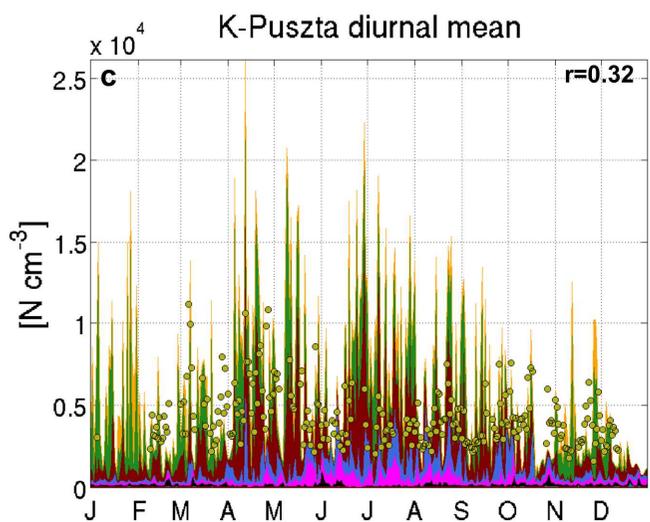
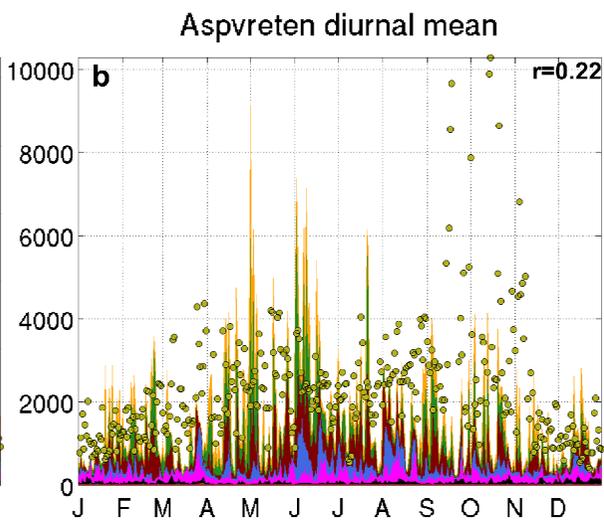
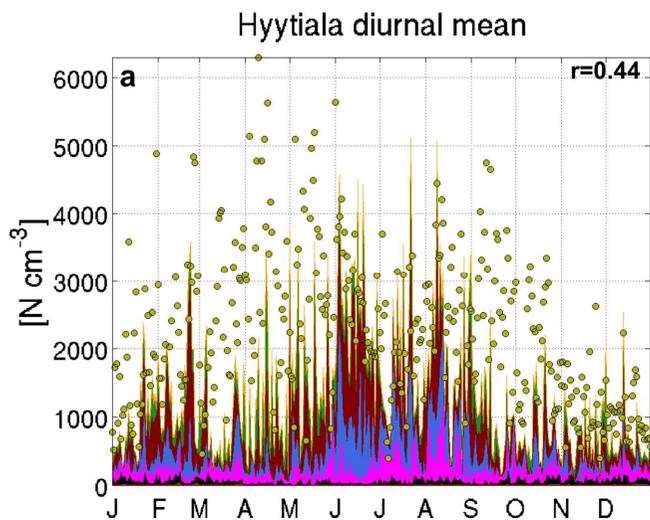


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1103

1104 Figure 5. Modeled and measured winter (Jan-March, Oct-Dec) and summer (April-  
 1105 September) half year mean particle number concentration size distribution at four  
 1106 measurement sites in Europe during 2007. Unit: # cm<sup>-3</sup>.

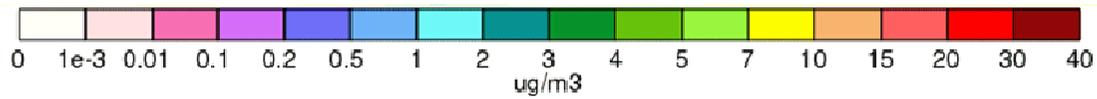
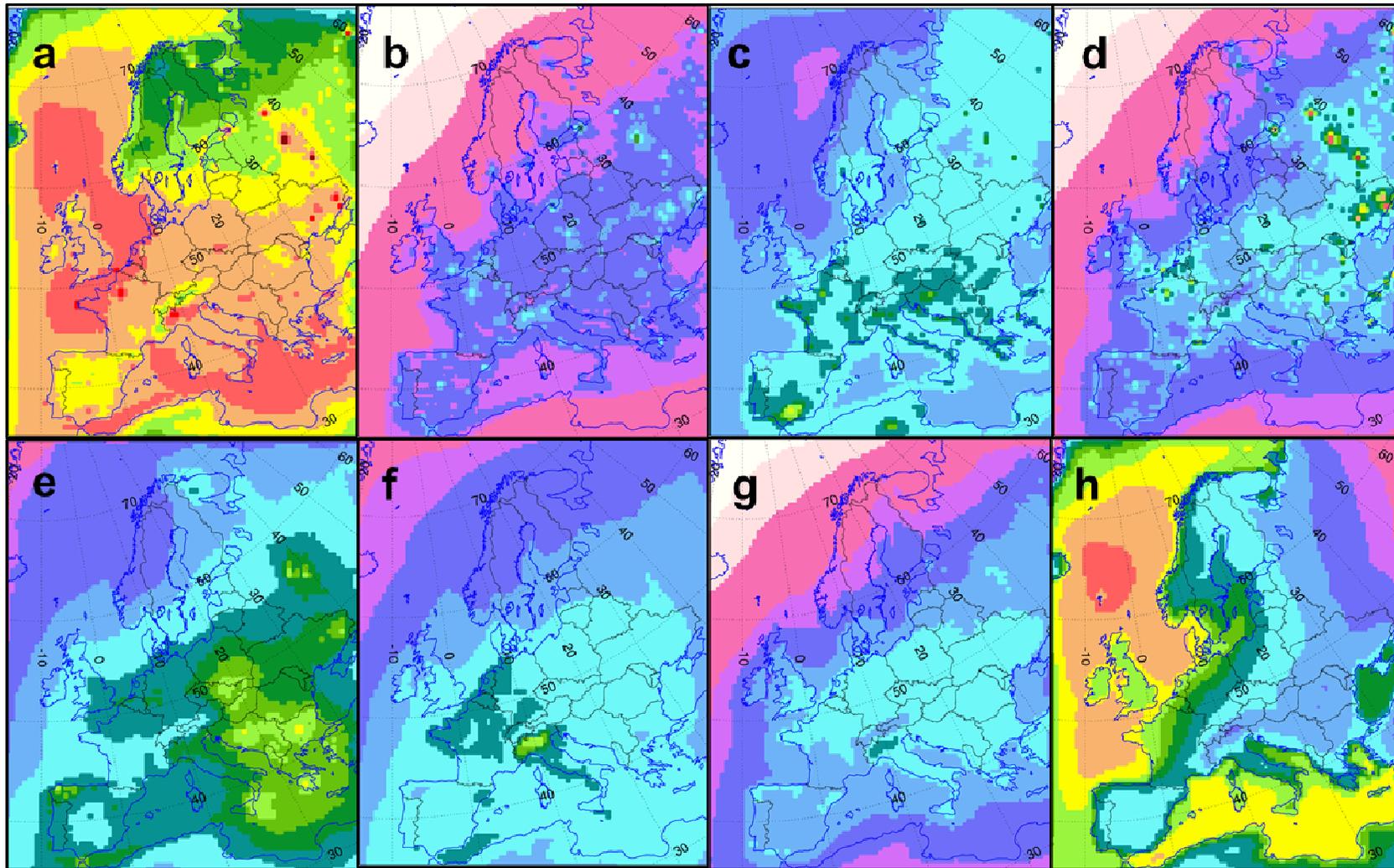


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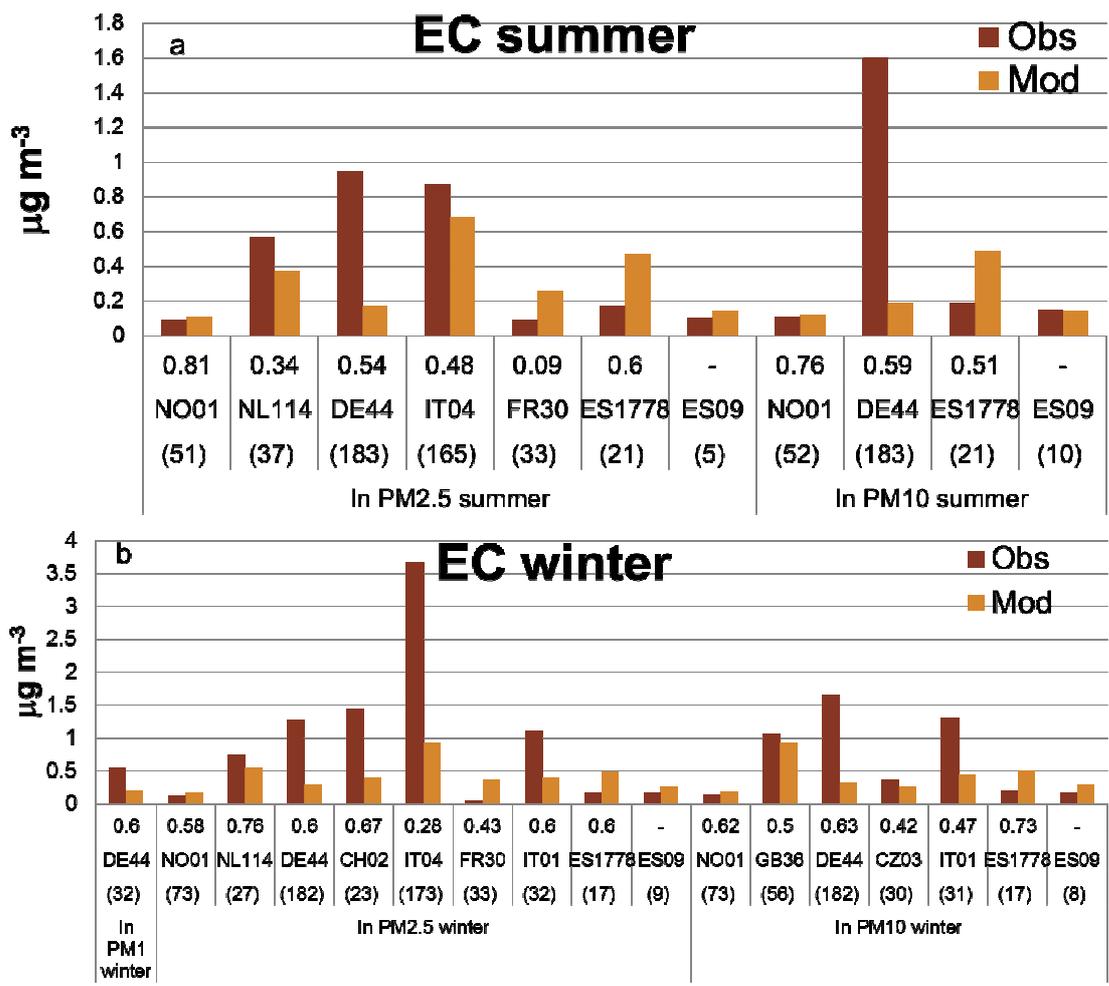
1108

1109 Figure 6. Observed and modeled daily mean particle number concentrations (PNC) at four sites in Europe during 2007 (panels a-d). Modeled  
1110 (surfaces) size resolved and observed total (filled circles) daily mean PNC are displayed as a time series. See legend for colors representing the  
1111 different size bins. Observed PNC limit diameters are: 3.2nm-1 $\mu$ m for Hyytiälä, 11-418nm for Aspvreten, 5.6-1  $\mu$ m for K-Pusztta and 3-859nm  
1112 for Melpitz. Unit: # cm<sup>-3</sup>.

1113



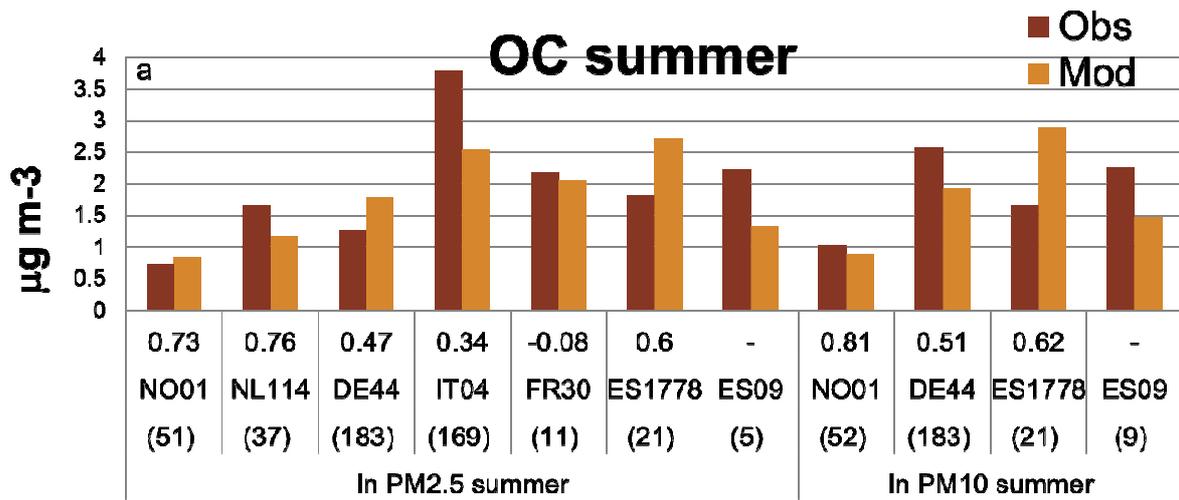
1115 Figure 7. Modeled annual mean concentrations (for 2007) of PM<sub>10</sub> (panel a; peak at 37 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in Moscow) and its particle components: elemental  
1116 carbon (panel b), organic matter (panel c), anthropogenic primary inorganic aerosol (panel d), sulfate (panel e), nitrate (panel f), ammonium  
1117 (panel g) and sea salt (panel h). Unit: µg m<sup>-3</sup>.



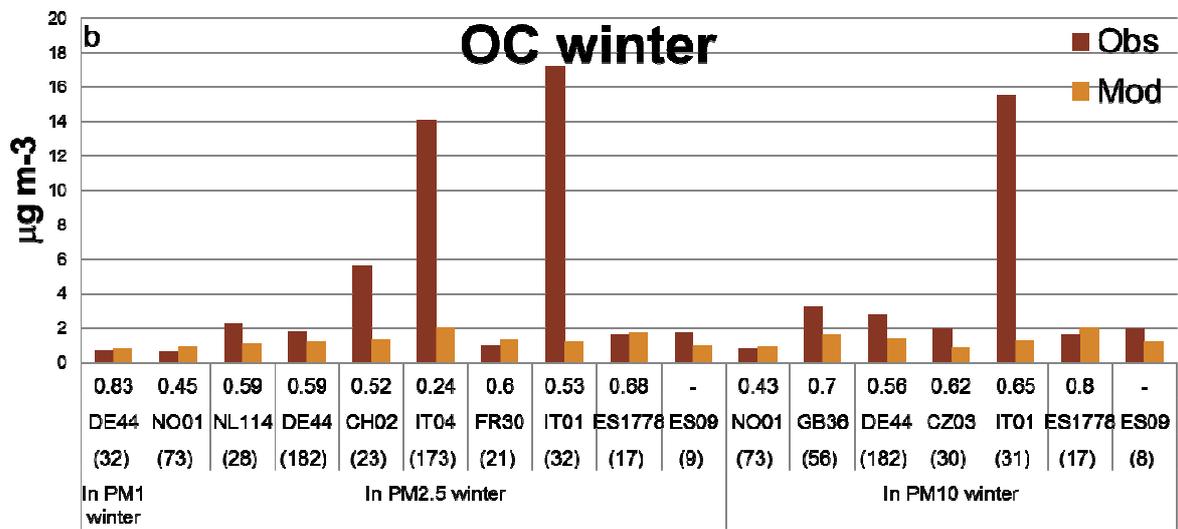
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1120 Figure 8. Evaluation of elemental carbon (EC) for 2007 (panel a: April-September mean;  
 1121 panel b: October-March mean). Observed and modeled mean concentrations (unit:  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ),  
 1122 correlation coefficients of daily mean concentrations are indicated below the bars. The  
 1123 number of daily mean values is indicated by the numbers in the parentheses. Correlation  
 1124 coefficients were calculated for measurement sites with more than 10 daily observations. Site  
 1125 codes as defined by EMEP, see Supplement A Table 5.



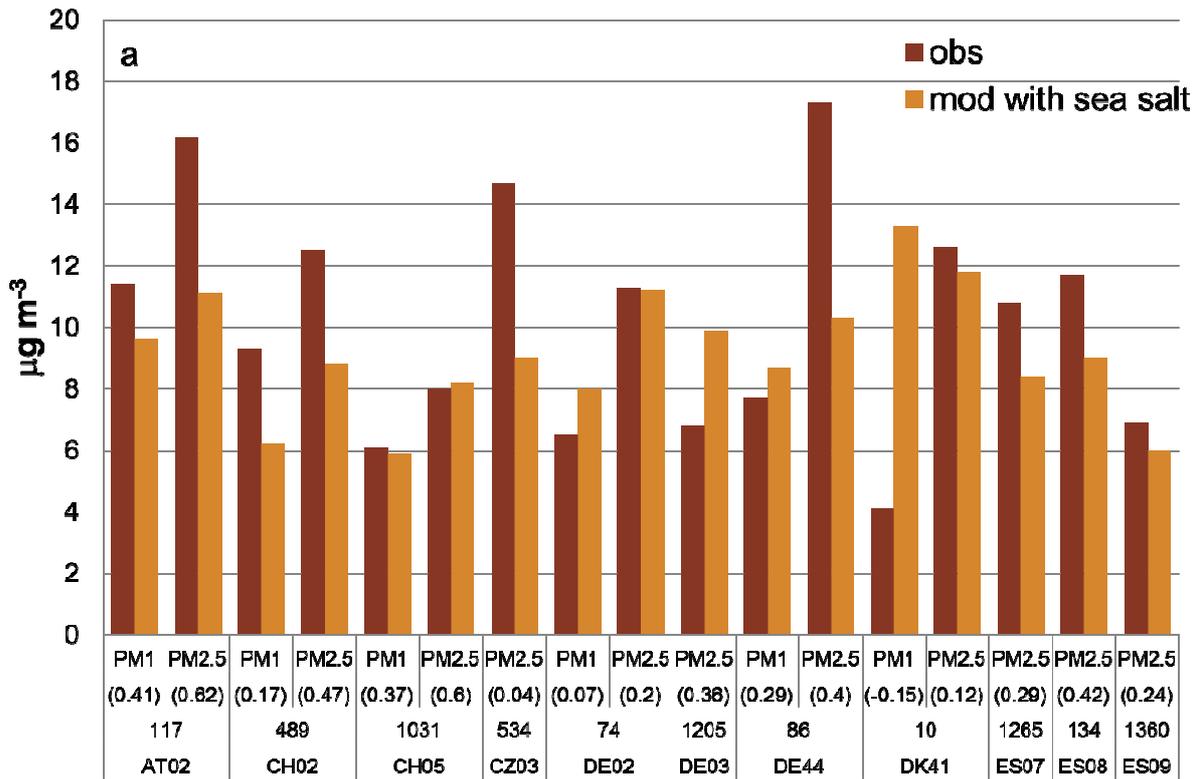
1126



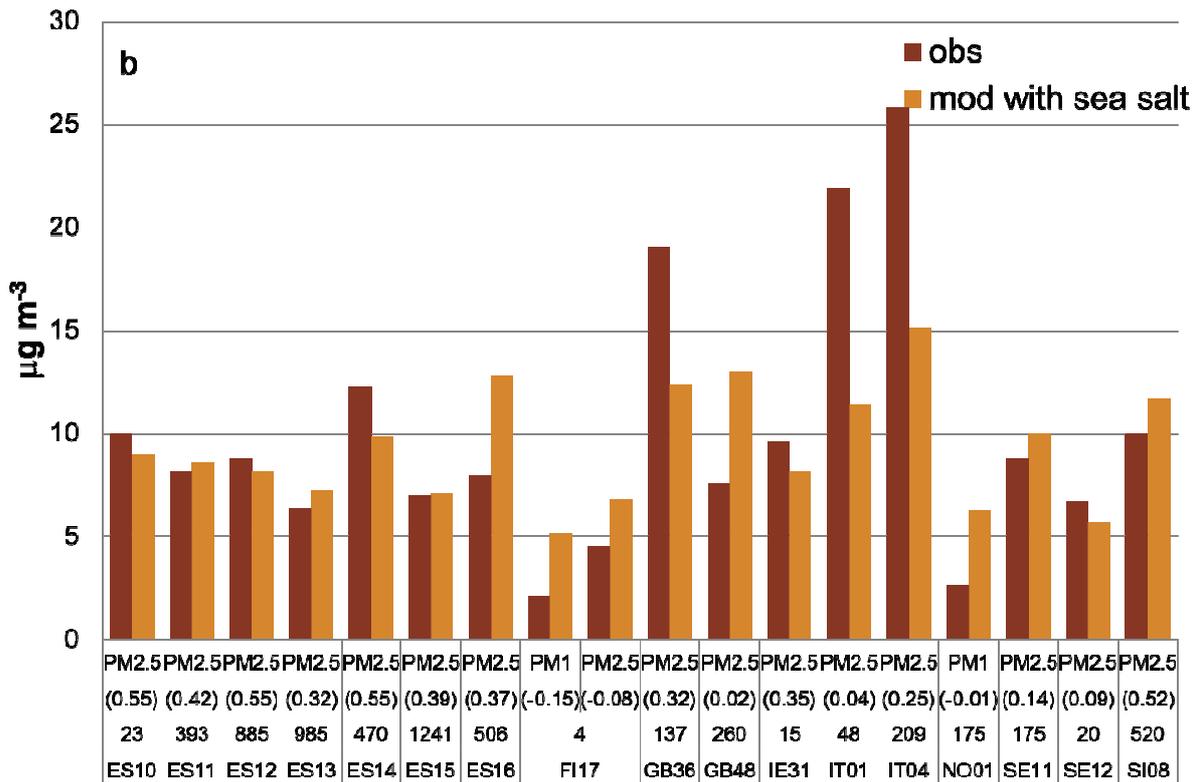
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1128 Figure 9. As Figure 8 but for organic carbon (OC).

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1132 Figure 10. Evaluation of PM<sub>1</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> for 2007. Observed and modeled mean  
 1133 concentrations (unit: µg m<sup>-3</sup>); correlation coefficients of daily mean concentrations are

1134 indicated below the bars within parentheses. The elevation of each site is included below the  
1135 correlation coefficients (unit: m above sea level). Station codes as defined by EMEP, see  
1136 Supplement A Table 5.

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