Geosci. Model Dev. Discuss., 7, C3238–C3239, 2015 www.geosci-model-dev-discuss.net/7/C3238/2015/
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Interactive comment on "Forecast error covariance structure in coupled atmosphere—chemistry data assimilation" by S. K. Park et al.

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Received and published: 31 January 2015

The authors examine an ensemble based coupled atmposphere-chemistry forecast error covariance matrix in the context of WRF-Chem model. A synthetic single observation test is carried out and the results are discussed in terms of cross-variable components of a coupled error covariance. The procedure is clear and well-defined as well as the structure of the paper. There is no major complains regarding the grammar. I would recommend to accept this paper but I will address the next questions to the authors:

 ${\bf 1.}\ How\ well\ your\ idea\ scales\ regarding\ the\ dimension\ of\ the\ model?\ Observations?\ 2.$

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What happen in the context of realistic scenarios? For your reference, here I cite two: * SPEEDY Model: http://www.ictp.it/research/esp/models/speedy.aspx * QGCM Model: http://www.q-gcm.org/

Interactive comment on Geosci. Model Dev. Discuss., 7, 8757, 2014.