

***Interactive comment on “Multi-model simulations of springtime dust storms in East Asia: Implications of an evaluation of four commonly used air quality models (CMAQv5.2.1, CAMxv6.50, CHIMEREv2017r4, and WRF-Chem v3.9.1)” by Siqi Ma et al.***

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I am writing as an executive editor of GMD to highlight some issues with the code availability section which needs to be remedied in the revised manuscript.

Thank you for the significant effort you have gone to to document the data used and the model configurations in the manuscript. Nonetheless, there are code and data availability issues that need to be addressed in the revised manuscript.

## 1 Persistent, public, archives for the exact version of code used

The code availability section points to model websites. These are not persistent archive locations and create a very high risk that future readers of your manuscript will not be able to find the code you used. It is also not clear whether any source code was modified from that downloaded. For these reasons, you should produce persistent, public archives of the exact versions of the code you used. Many authors find Zenodo is a good choice for this (<https://zenodo.org>).

## 2 Experiment specification is incomplete

While section 2 is quite thorough, it's simply not possible to precisely specify every single model setting and everything you did to pre- and post-process data in the manuscript. For this reason, please provide a public, persistent archive (e.g. Zenodo) of the model configuration scripts or files, and pre- and post- processing code you used. Please also ensure that the use of external data is sufficiently well documented that a future reader can obtain the same forcing data and reproduce your experiments.

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Discussion paper

