Impact of BBA on the radiative budget, cloud properties and climate over the tropical Africa.

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Impact of BBA on the radiative budget, cloud properties and climate over the tropical Africa

1) BBA direct radiative forcing over Southeast Atlantic (SEA)
→ Do BBA heat or cool at the regional scale ?
→ Are CMIP6 models able to reproduce BBA forcing at TOA ?

2) Impact of BBA-induced absorption on tropical clouds (SDE) → what are the BBA impacts on the low-level clouds (macrophys., microphys. & optical) properties ?

3) Feedback's on the Tropical hydrological cycle
 → how do BBA modify atmospheric dynamic and precipitation ?



- International context -

1) BBA direct radiative forcing over Southeast Atlantic (SEA)

2) Impact of BBA-induced absorption on tropical clouds (SDE)

3) Feedback's on the Tropical hydrological cycle



BBA Direct Radiative Forcing (DRF) at TOA



BBA Direct Radiative Forcing at TOA - Regional Climate Models (RCM) -



- strong regional heterogeneity with positive DRF over the Sc
- positive DRF over Gabon (Sc)
- cooling over the Gulf of guinea
- north/south DRF gradient over the ocean consistent with MACv2

BBA Direct Radiative Forcing at TOA - Regional Climate Models (RCM) -



-22.0

62

20

TOA Diurnally averaged DARE [W/m²]

40

60

- strong regional heterogeneity with positive DRF over the Sc
- positive DRF over Gabon (Sc)
- cooling over the Gulf of guinea
- north/south DRF gradient over the ocean consistent with MACv2
- positive DRF over SEA consistent with ORACLES observations

Are CMIP6 models able to reproduce positive BBA Direct Forcing at TOA ?



Mallet et al., Science Advances, 2021

Are CMIP6 models able to reproduce positive BBA Direct Forcing at TOA ?



Cloud Fraction (CMIP6 historical, compared to CALIPSO)

Are CMIP6 models able to reproduce positive BBA Direct Forcing at TOA ?



Why do models underestimate the SSA - in-situ observations -



- BC concentration underestimated in CMIP6 models

Mallet et al., in prep.



BBA Semi Direct Effect (SDE)



-0.04

-0.06

Satellite obs.

Wilcox (2010)

Deaconu et al. (2019)

SDE is controled by :

- BBA-induced heating in the lower tropos.
- altitude of transport
- SST responses

0

- Lower Tropos. Stability (LTS)

 \rightarrow strong LTS favors the inversion that inhibits entrainment, favoring shallower & well-mixed boundary layer [Wood and Hartmann, 2006]



Low Cloud Fraction (%)



Mallet et al. (2021)

GCM-SOM Sakaeda et al. (2011)

Low Cloud Fraction

BBA Semi Direct Effect (SDE)



- O-A GCM approach (CNRM-CM model)
- atmospheric component : ARPEGE-Climat
- oceanic component : NEMO
- improved BBA optical properties (Druge et al., ACP, 2022)





Mallet et al. (in prep.)



RegCM-SOM (Mallet et al., 2021)



GCM-SOM (Sakaeda and Wood, 2001)

(Mallet et al., 2021)



Low Cloud Fraction anm. / CPL (JJAS)



- BBA SDE could be amplified in A-O GCM vs. GCM or RCM-SOM
- need to be quantified using the advection terms



- BBA SDE could be propagated to SON season due to the inertia of the « slow response » (SST)

