



Regional air quality forecasting in the Met Office Unified Model

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The Met Office Unified Model (Met UM) is used by the UK Met Office for Numerical Weather Prediction, seasonal forecasting and climate modelling. Building on a new scheme for atmospheric chemistry, initially developed for climate studies, the AQUM (Air Quality in the Unified Model) project is developing a regional air quality forecasting capability.

This on-line AQ forecast model was routinely run in real-time during summer 2008, with near-real-time verification against surface observations, and also applied to some case studies of ozone episodes in the UK.

We will summarise the set-up of the model and will present some results from the initial model verification. We will also outline our plans for future work towards including aerosols and creating an operational air quality model.