LDMZ tutorial: tracers

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This tutorial focuses on using and adding tracers in LMDZ.

This document can be downloaded as a pdf file:

wget http://www.lmd.jussieu.fr/~lmdz/pub/Training/Tutorials/Tutorial_Tracers.pdf which should ease any copy/paste of command lines to issue.

1 Prerequisits

You should be familiar with setting up simulations, as described in tutorials #1 and #2.

2 Experimenting with tracers

2.0.1 Radon and lead

In the file traceur.def, you can see that two trace species, named RN, for radon, and PB, for lead, are already defined in addition to vapor and condensed water. Visualize these two tracers in the file histhf.nc. The NetCDF variables RN and PB are numbers of atoms per unit mass, in kg⁻¹. Usually, activities are preferred for comparison with observations. The activities per unit mass, in Bq kg⁻¹, are:

$$A_{\rm Rn} = rac{{
m RN}}{4,765 \cdot 10^5}$$

$$A_{\rm Pb} = rac{{
m PB}}{1,028 \cdot 10^9}$$

(The numerical values that appear in these fractions are the lifetimes of radon and lead, in s.) You can take a look at LMDZ info number 7, figure 19, or the plot in the General introduction of the LMDZ model (§ 4 "Operating modes") to check that you have sensible results. A recent work on the modeling of tracers with LMDZ is Pilon et al. (2015, QJRMS). If you want to see activities per unit volume, you should divide by the mass density, using NetCDF variables pres, temp and ovap in the file histhf.nc. (The Ferret color palette in figure 19 of LMDZ info number 7 is saz2.)

2.0.2 Inserting new tracers

We will now explain how to modify the code in order to add idealized tracers. As an example, we will add two tracers, and call them NewTr1 and NewTr2. We will define a domain of the horizontal grid in which the two tracers will initially have the same constant value. The first tracer will be transported by the boundary layer and convective sub-grid-scale motion, in addition to large-scale advection. The second tracer will only be transported by large-scale advection.

We will have to modify the Fortran program but let us first consider the run-time parameters that we have to modify. At run-time, we decide to include the tracers NewTr1 and NewTr2 in the simulation by changing the file traceur.def. Change the number of tracers at the first line of traceur.def and append one line for each tracer:

6

14 14 H2Ov

10 10 H201

10 10 RN

10 10 PB

10 10 NewTr1

10 10 NewTr2

Now let us turn to the Fortran program. The only file we need to modify is

LMDZtesting/modipsl/modeles/LMDZ5/libf/phylmd/traclmdz_mod.F90

Here are the changes you should make in that file:

- Declare two new module variables, id_NewTr1 and id_NewTr2, with type integer. These are the identifying numbers of the tracers in the program. You can take a previous declaration (id_pcsat, id_pcocsat...) as a template. (Do not forget the OpenMP directives.)
- All remaining changes will be made in the procedure traclmdz_init, which is inside the module traclmdz_mod. In order to define id_NewTr1 and id_NewTr2, the program will scan the file traceur.def, looking for NewTr1 and NewTr2. So you should initialize id_NewTr1 and id_NewTr2 to 0 before the loop beginning at line 175. There is a comment just above, saying "Recherche des traceurs connus", which means "looking for known tracers".
- In the body of this loop, set id_NewTr1 to the value of index it if tname(iiq) equals NewTr1. You can add the test near line 265, for instance, after the test for pcq0. You can take another tracer as a template. Do the same for id_NewTr2.
- For NewTr2, just after setting id_NewTr2, deactivate convective and boundary layer transport by setting conv_flg(it) and pbl_flg(it) to 0.
- Finally, we will initialize the tracers. There is a loop on tracers, beginning at line 294, which tests whether the initial tracer field, read from the file start.nc, is zero everywhere. At this point, the tracer field would also be zero if it was not found in start.nc. There is a comment just above the test which says "Initalize tracer that was not found in restart file" (the typo "Initalize" is in the code!). In the body of the test, for our two tracers, change the value at the surface in some horizontal domain. The value of tracers is in the variable tr_seri. The first dimension of tr_seri is for the horizontal position, the second dimension is for the vertical level and the third dimension identifies the tracer. The index of the surface in the vertical dimension is 1. Use variables xlat (latitudes) and xlon (longitudes) to choose the horizontal domain.

In summary, after making those changes, svn diff should give you something like this:

```
$ svn diff traclmdz_mod.F90
Index: traclmdz mod.F90
_____
--- traclmdz_mod.F90 (revision 2304)
+++ traclmdz_mod.F90 (working copy)
@@ -58,6 +58,8 @@
  LOGICAL, SAVE :: rnpb=.FALSE. ! Presence du couple Rn222, Pb210
 !$OMP THREADPRIVATE(rnpb)
  INTEGER, SAVE:: id_newtr1, id_newtr2
  !$OMP THREADPRIVATE(id_newtr1, id_newtr2)
CONTAINS
@@ -172,6 +174,8 @@
    id_rn=0; id_pb=0; id_aga=0; id_be=0; id_o3=0
    id_pcsat=0; id_pcocsat=0; id_pcq=0; id_pcs0=0; id_pcs0=0; id_pcq0=0
    id newtr1 = 0
    id_newtr2 = 0
    DO it=1,nbtr
       iiq=niadv(it+2)
       IF ( tname(iiq) == "RN" ) THEN
@@ -262,6 +266,12 @@
       ELSE IF ( tname(iiq) == "pcq0" .OR. tname(iiq) == "Pcq0" ) THEN
          id_pcq0=it
          conv_flg(it)=0 ! No transport by convection for this tracer
       else if (tname(iiq) == "NewTr1") then
          id_newtr1 = it
```

```
else if (tname(iiq) == "NewTr2") then
           id newtr2 = it
           conv_flg(it) = 0
           pbl_flg(it) = 0
        ELSE
           WRITE(lunout,*) 'This is an unknown tracer in LMDZ : ', trim(tname(iiq))
        END IF
@@ -325,6 +335,9 @@
                     tr_seri(i,:,it) = 100.
                  END IF
              END DO
           else if (it == id_newtr1 .or. it == id_newtr2) then
              where (xlat >= 40. .and. xlat <= 45. .and. xlon >= 0. &
                    .and. xlon \le 5.) tr_seri(:, 1, it) = 1.
           ELSE
              ! No specific initialization exist for this tracer
              tr_seri(:,:,it) = 0.
   Re-compile the program:
cd some_path/LMDZtesting/modipsl/modeles/LMDZ5/TUTO/SIMU1
rm gcm.e
cd ../..
If you ran init.sh with veget=0:
./makelmdz -d 48x36x39 gcm
If you set veget=1 in init.sh:
./makelmdz -d 48x36x39 -v orchidee2.0 -cpp ORCHIDEE_NOZOH gcm
Rename restart files:
cd TUTO/SIMU1
mv restart.nc start.nc
mv restartphy.nc startphy.nc
mv sechiba_rest_out.nc sechiba_rest_in.nc
Run the model:
../../gcm.e > listing
(could take about 15 mn). Visualize the two new tracers in histhf.nc and the difference between them.
```