

A numerical study of contrail development

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Abstract. In this study, the formation of a contrail from an aircraft flying near the tropopause is simulated using a three-dimensional mesoscale atmospheric model including a very complex scheme of parameterized cloud microphysical processes. Two different primary ice nucleation parameterizations for deposition nucleation, condensation freezing, and contact freezing are applied. The model-predicted ice concentrations are compared to data measured during the International Cirrus Experiment (ICE), 1989.

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