

# Online Chemistry within WRF: Description and Application of a State-of-the-Art Fully Coupled Multi-Scale Air Quality and Weather Prediction Model

Georg Grell

+ many national and international collaborators

Major slide contributors: Jerome Fast, Serena Chung, Stu McKeen, Greg Frost, Marc Salzman, Rainer Schmitz

WRF/Chem web site - <http://wrf-model.org/WG11>



**Earth System Research Laboratory**  
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# Structure of talk

- What was WRF and WRFV2.1/Chem
- New additions in WRFV2.2 (just released)
- Research applications
- Future developments

## WORKING GROUP 11: ATMOSPHERIC CHEMISTRY

[Georg Grell](#) (lead),  
UofC, NOAA/ESRL

[Mary Barth](#), NCAR/ACD

[Carmen M. Benkovitz](#), Brookhaven  
National Lab

[Daewon W. Byun](#), University of  
Houston

[Greg Carmichael](#), University of Iowa

[Jerome Fast](#), PNL

[John McHenry](#), Baron Advanced  
Meteorological Systems

[Stuart McKeen](#), NOAA/AL

[Jeff McQueen](#), NCEP

[Jon Pleim](#), EPA

[Kenneth L. Schere](#), EPA

[Bill Skamarock](#), NCAR

[Rainer Schmitz](#), IMK-IFU and  
University of Chile

[Doug Westphal](#), USN Research Lab

[Pai-Yei Whung](#), NOAA

[Julius Chang](#), National Central  
University, Taiwan

### Mission

The mission of the atmospheric chemistry working group is to guide the development of the capability to simulate chemistry and aerosols online as well as offline within the WRF model. The resulting WRF-chem model will have the option to simulate the coupling between dynamics, radiation and chemistry. Uses include forecasting chemical-weather, testing air pollution abatement strategies, planning and forecasting for field campaigns, analyzing measurements from field campaigns and the assimilation of satellite and in-situ chemical measurements.

### Interaction with other WRF Groups

The initial development of WRF-chem is involved with the Numerics and Model Dynamics ([WG1](#)), Model Physics ([WG11](#)), and Land Surface Modeling ([WG14](#)).

[Current Status of WRF-chem](#)

[Anthropogenic Emissions Available for WRF-chem](#)

[Model Evaluation](#)

[Future Plans](#)

[WRF/Chem FAQs](#)

[Real-time Air Quality Forecasts using WRF-chem](#)

## **Directly involved in major WRF/CHEM development – for the current release version**

at NOAA/ESRL: **Steven Peckham (NOAA/ESRL/GSD)**, and **Stu McKeen (NOAA/ESRL/CSD)**, also assists from **Serena Chung, Greg Frost, Si Wan Kim**

Major developers in **US**: **Jerome Fast, Bill Gustafson (PNNL)**, **Bill Skamarock (NCAR)**

**South America**: **Rainer Schmitz (U. of Chile)**

**Europe**: **Marc Salzmann (MPI Mainz)**

**India**: **C-DAC**

And other contributions from: **Saulo Freitas (CPTEC Brazil)**, and

*Many more national and international collaborators*

*A few things about the  
meteorological side of WRF/Chem*

# Non-hydrostatic Model Solvers within WRFV2.2 Common Infrastructure

- Eulerian flux-form mass coordinate (Advanced Research WRF, ARW core)
- NMM model (Non-hydrostatic Mesoscale Model, NCEP's core)

**Many different physics options (MM5-ETA-RUC....), now  
for both cores!!**

**Also available: 3DVAR systems (WRF, GSI) for  
meteorological analysis, FDDA nudging for ARW<sub>6</sub>**

# **“Basic” WRF 3DVAR (NCAR, ARW): Observations**

Many conventional (surface , upper air) data sources as well as remotely sensed retrieval data

**4DVAR in preparation, also collaboration with WG11 on chemical  
4DVAR**

*Contact **Dale Barker** for questions about WRF-Var  
(also check WRF-Var WEB-Page*

## Gridpoint Statistical Interpolation or GSI

- **main developer: NCEP/EMC, global *and* regional applications**
- **operational in NCEP's NMM-WRF since June 2006,**
- **main partners: NASA/GMAO, ESRL/GSD,**
- **observation used besides conventional ones come from satellites (AIRS, HIRS, AMSU-A, AMSU-B, GOES Imager, SSM/I, etc.), radar (radial wind), lidar, GPS (ground based and satellite), etc.,**

**Details are available from**

**<http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/gmb/treadon/gsi/>**

**GSI was used for met-fields in  
WRF/Chem, may be used in future  
applications for chemical species**



# WRF/chem

- **As of now:** “Online”, sometimes also called “inline”
- Completely embedded within WRF CI
- Consistent: all transport done by meteorology model
  - Same vertical and horizontal coordinates (no horizontal and vertical interpolation)
  - Same physics parameterization for subgrid scale transport
  - No interpolation in time
- Easy handling (Data management)

# Chemistry Package – V2.1

- Chemical mechanism from RADM2 (Quasi Steady State Approximation method with 22 diagnosed, 3 constant, and 38 predicted species is used for the numerical solution)
- Carbon Bond (CBM-Z) based chemical mechanism
- Fast-j photolysis scheme (coupled to aerosols and microphysics)
- Madronich Photolysis, coupled with hydrometeors and aerosols

# Aerosols – V2.1

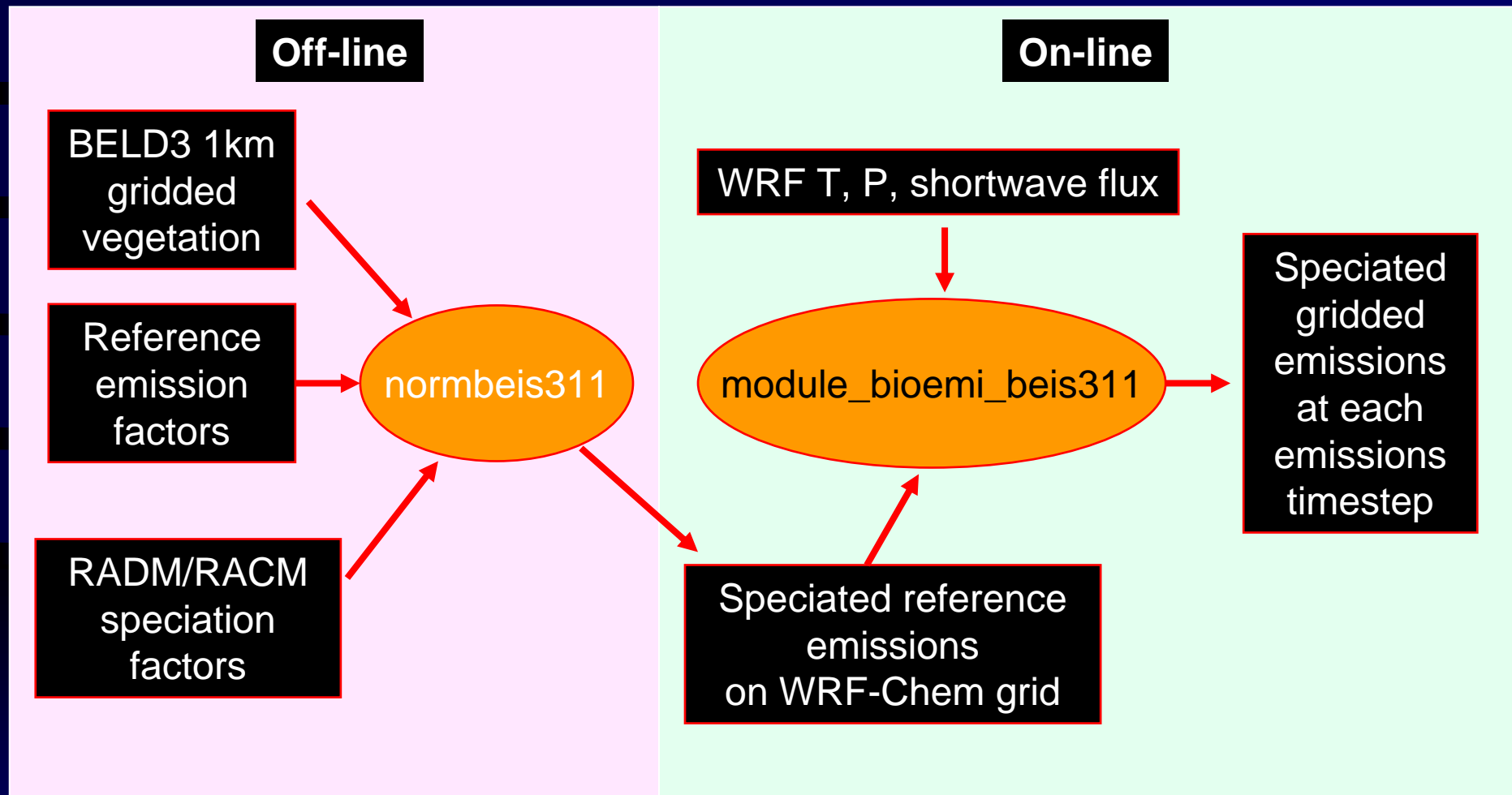
- Based on Modal Aerosol Dynamics Model for Europe (MADE, Ackermann et al. 1998)
- Modified to include Secondary Organic Aerosols (SOA), (Schell et al. 2001)
- Extra transport: total number of aerosol particles within each mode as well as all primary and secondary species for Aitken as well as Accumulation mode
- Diagnostic 3D variables: PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, 3 variables for interaction with photolysis and atmospheric radiation

# Chemistry Package – V2.1

- Dry deposition (coupled with soil/veg scheme, “flux-resistance” analogy)
- Simplified wet deposition by convective parameterization (scavenging factor of .6 for aerosols, no aqueous-phase chemistry involved)
- Biogenic emissions (as in Simpson et al. 1995 and Guenther et al. 1994), include temperature and radiation dependent emissions of isoprene, monoterpenes, also nitrogen emissions by soil
  - May be calculated “online” based on USGS landuse
  - May be input
  - BEISv3.11 (offline reference fields, online modified)

# Implementation of BEIS3 in WRFV2-Chem (Greg Frost)

Based on EPA BEIS3 for SMOKE processor



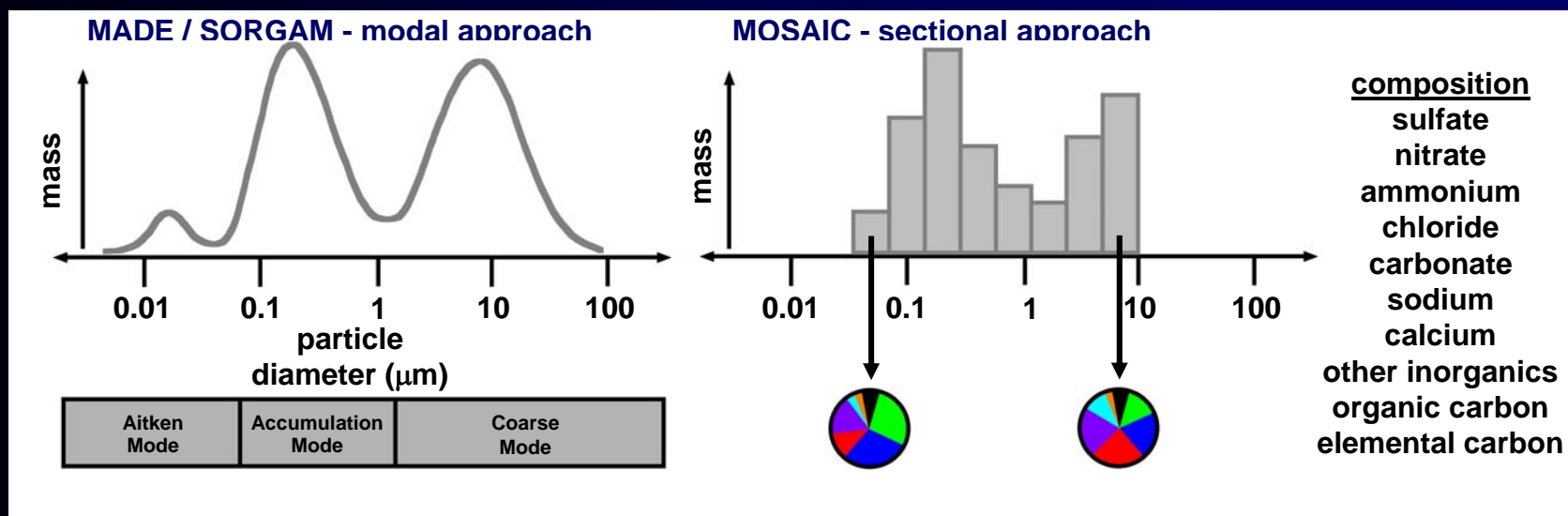
# Recent Additions for WRFV2.1/Chem

- Model for Simulating Aerosol Interactions and Chemistry (MOSAIC) sectional aerosols (with 4 or 8 bins)
- Goddard radiation scheme coupled to MOSAIC aerosols

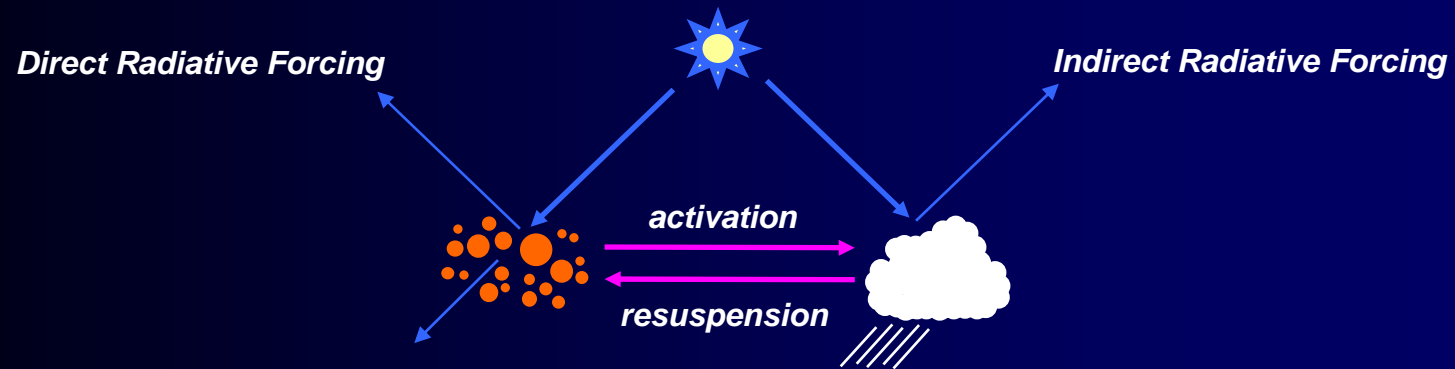
These contributions in addition to CBM-Z are from  
PNNL (Jerome Fast, Bill Gustafson,...)

# MOSAIC

- Sectional size distribution; moving-center or two-moment approach for the dynamic equations for mass and number; 112 prognostic species
- Mixing rule for activity coefficients of various electrolytes in multi-component aqueous solutions [Zaveri et al., JGR, 2005]
- Thermodynamic equilibrium solver for solid, liquid, or mixed phase state of aerosols [Zaveri et al., In Press JGR, 2006]
- Dynamic integration of the coupled gas-aerosol partitioning differential equations [Zaveri et al., In preparation]



# Aerosol interactions with meteorology



## ■ Direct Effect *(contributions from James Barnard and Rahul Zaveri)*

size and number distribution, composition, aerosol water → refractive indices → Mie theory → 3-D  $\tau_\lambda$ ,  $\omega_0$ , and  $g$  → scattering and absorption of shortwave radiation

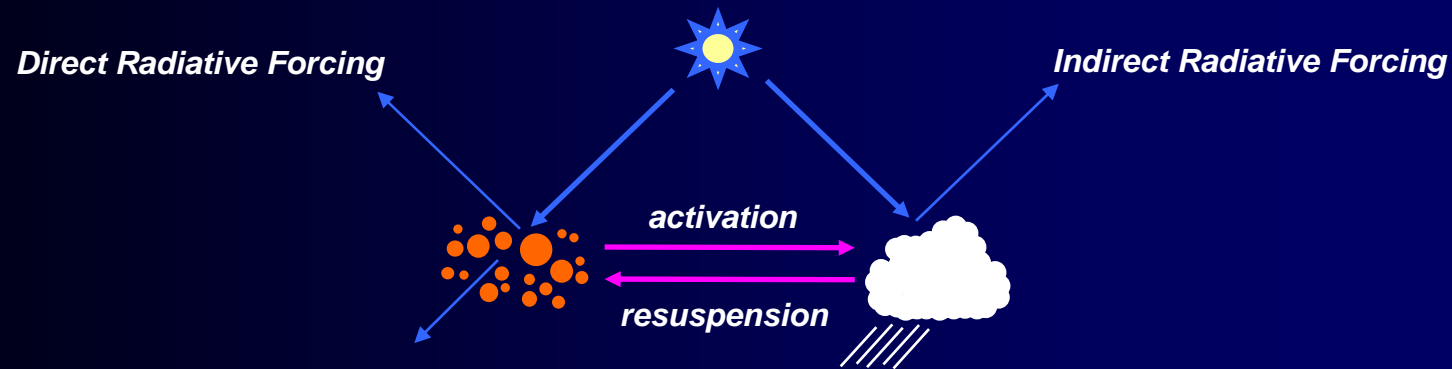
Currently only available for Goddard radiation scheme!



# Additions for WRFV2.2/Chem

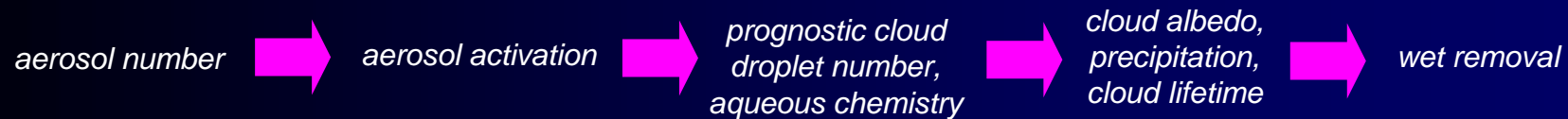
- Kinetic PreProcessor (KPP), **collaboration with MPI Mainz**
- Improved convective (non-resolved) transport
- Non-resolved aqueous phase chemistry, wet deposition, **collaboration with NOAA/ARL/EPA in RTP**
- 2-way and 1-way nesting
- Cloud-aerosol interaction (indirect effect) with Lin et al. 6-class microphysics scheme (work with Greg Thompsons 6-class scheme in progress) (**PNNL's doing, Steve Ghan, Jerome Fast,....**)
- Possibility to use global boundary conditions (**collaboration with Rainer Schmitz, U of Chile**)
- Urban parameterizations (one was included in met-WRF bei Fei Chen from NCAR, but also one in the makes from Rainer Schmitz and Alberto Martilli (**Madrid Spain**))
- **NMM Core**

# Aerosol interactions with meteorology



Currently only for 2<sup>nd</sup> moment version of  
Lin et al. Microphysics

## ■ In-Direct Effect *(contributions from Steven Ghan and Richard Easter)*



$$\frac{\partial N_k}{\partial t} = -(\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla N)_k + D_k - C_k - E_k + S_k$$

$N_k$  - grid cell mean droplet number mixing ratio in layer  $k$   
 $D_k$  - vertical diffusion  
 $C_k$  - droplet loss due to collision/coalescence & collection.  
 $E_k$  - droplet loss due to evaporation  
 $S_k$  - droplet source due to nucleation

# Urban parameterization from Alberto Martilli et al., as implemented by Rainer Schmitz (University of Chile) and Alberto Martilli (Madrid, Spain)

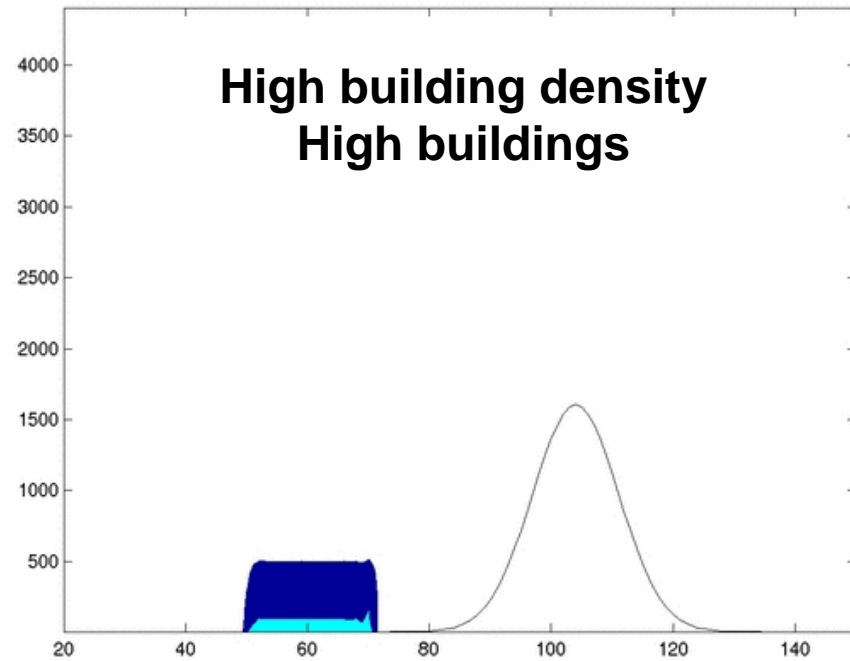
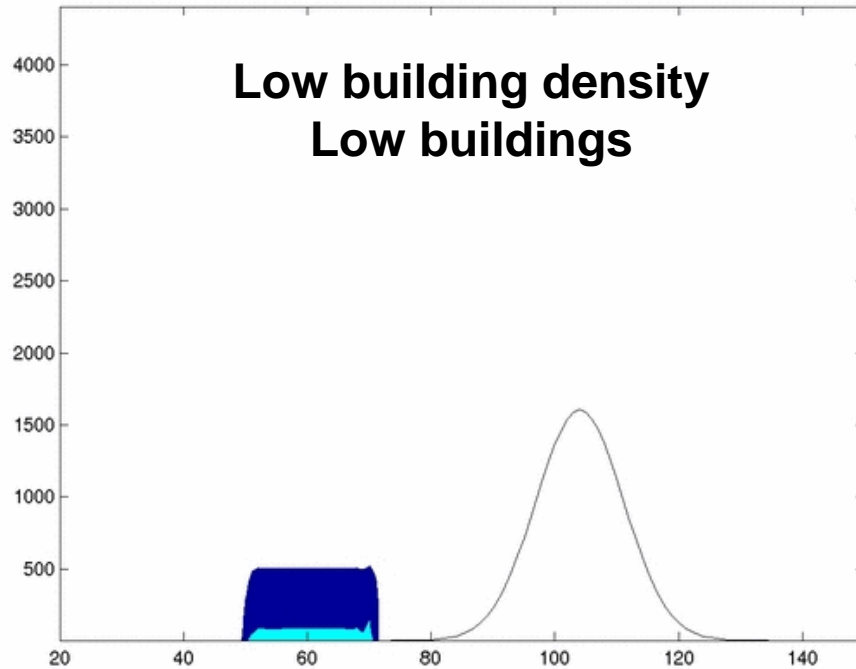
- Representation of a city by different urban classes
  - average building width
  - average street (canyon) width
  - probability of building heights

# Most important effects of urban surfaces on air flow are:

- drag induced by buildings with consequent loss of momentum
- transformation of mean kinetic energy into TKE
- modifications of heat fluxes due to shadowing and radiation trapping effects

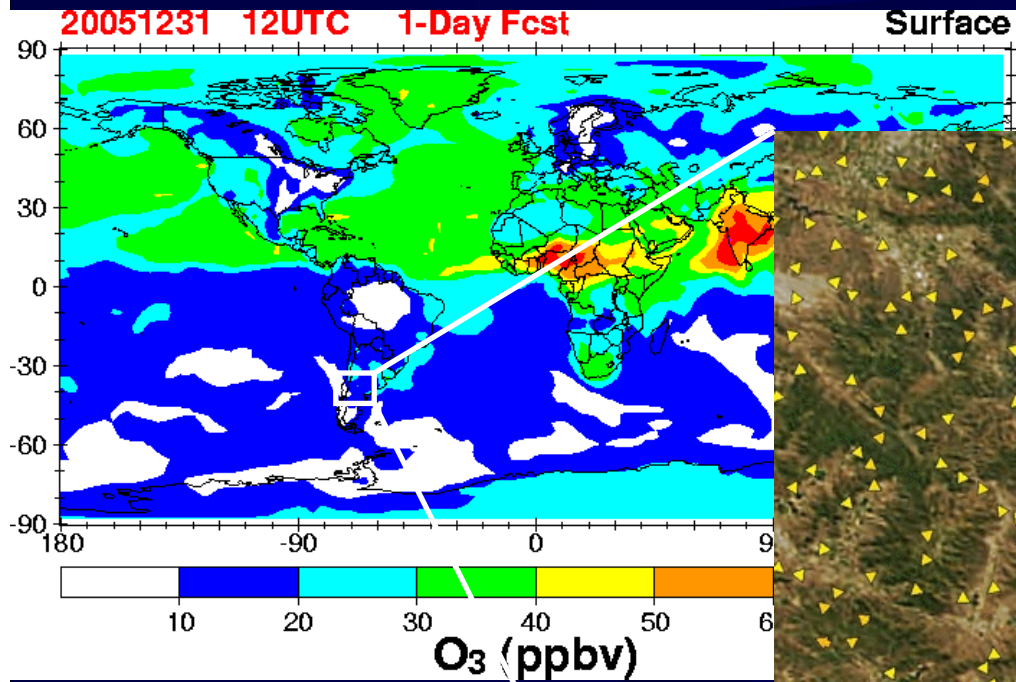
# Urban parameterization – dispersion

(Martilli *et al.*, 2002)

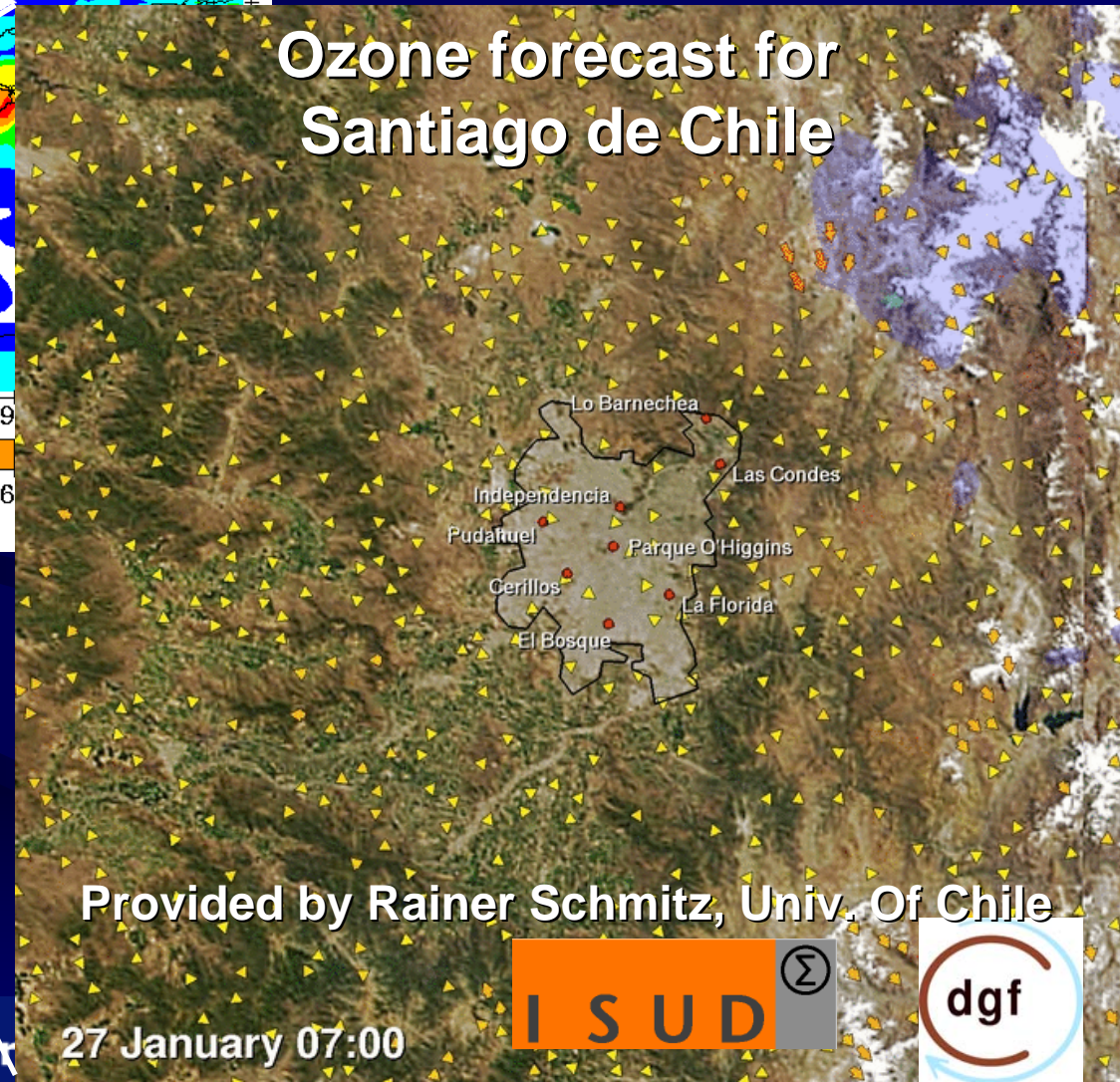


## WRF idealized 2D simulation, MYJ scheme

# Use of chemical data from Global Chemistry Model (GCM) for boundary conditions



## Ozone forecast for Santiago de Chile



Global forecast by Max-Planck-Institute, Mainz, Germany (Lawrence, 2003)

Now also available for MOZART and RAQMS

Provided by Rainer Schmitz, Univ. Of Chile



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27 January 07:00

ISUD  $\Sigma$



# KPP: Kinetic PreProcessor (Damian et al, 2002, Sandu et al, 2003, Sandu and Sander 2006)

- **Automatic tool to generate chemical mechanisms with a choice of time integration schemes**
- **Can also generate adjoints**
- **Well documented, tested, and widely used**

**Thanks go to Marc Salzman from the MPI in Mainz**

## Advantages of KPP tool

- Much less time-consuming than manual coding
- Less error prone
- Numerically reasonably efficient
- Great flexibility to
  - Update mechanisms by additional equations
  - Adjust mechanism to local conditions
  - Sensitivity studies
- Easy adjoint generation

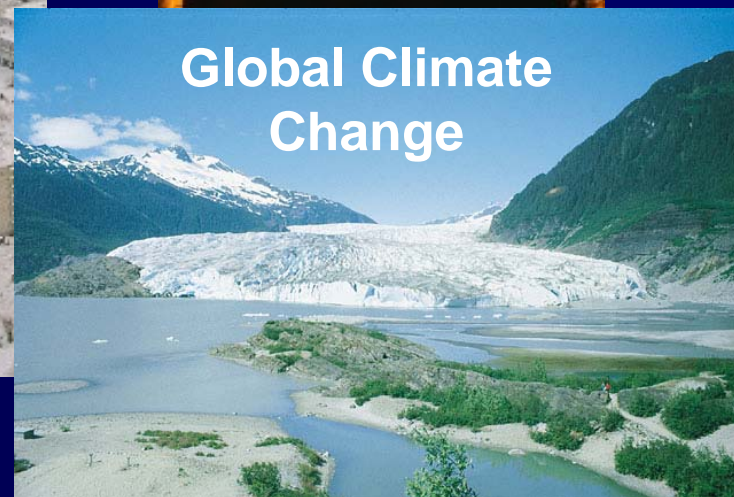
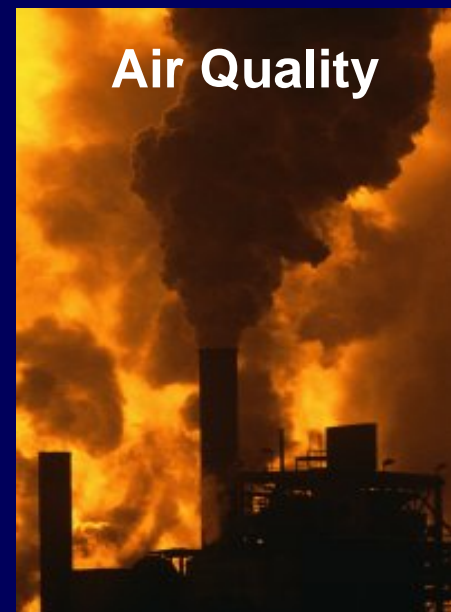




# Improved non-resolved convective transport

- Ensemble approach (based on Grell/Devenyi parameterization)
  - Uses observed or predicted rainfall rates as met-input
  - Ensemble of entrainment/detrainment profiles and/or downdraft parameters to determine vertical redistribution of tracers
  - Ensembles may be weighted to determine optimal solution
- Aqueous phase chemistry module called from within convective routine, CMAQ module (not tested yet)
- Connected to photolysis and atmospheric radiation schemes

# Current possible applications



# Applications of the WRF/Chem model within ESRL/CSD

Stu McKeen, Si-Wan Kim, Greg Frost, Serena Chung (ESRL/CSD and CU/CIRES)

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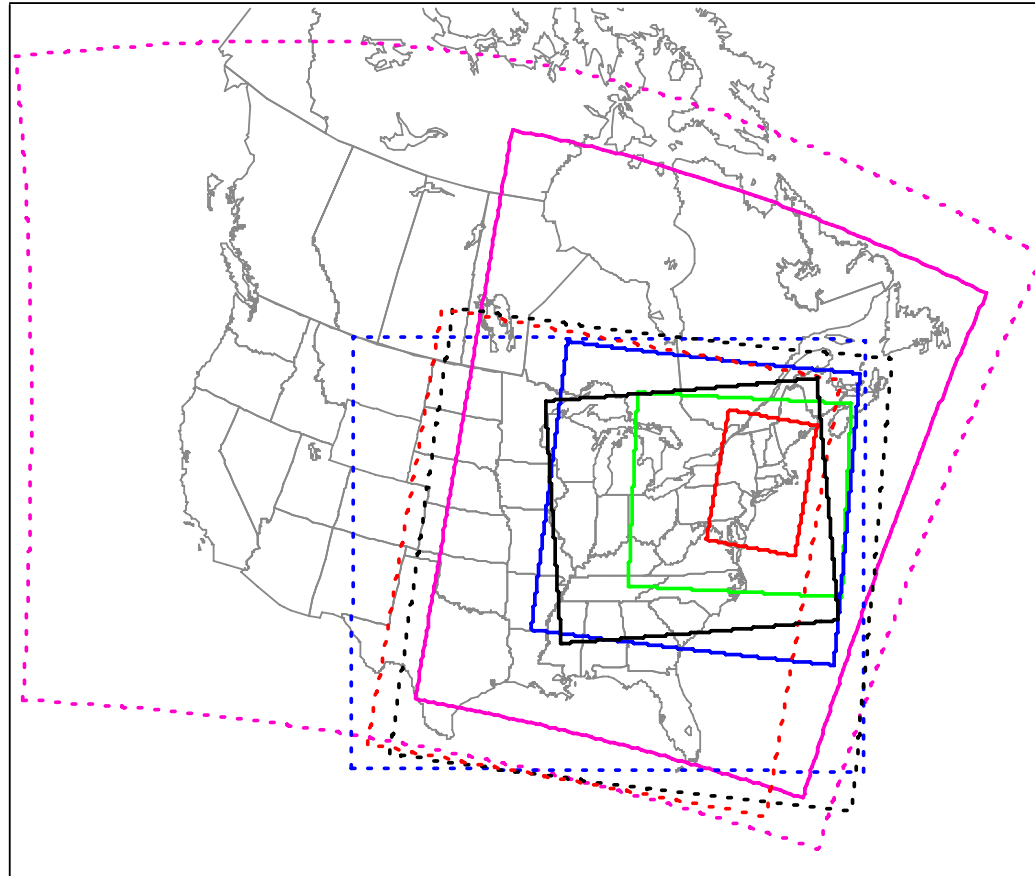
## Evaluation: WRF/Chem in weather/air-quality forecast mode

- Evaluations using data from ICARTT/NEAQS-2004
  - Surface Network for O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>
  - Ronald H Brown Ship data in the Gulf of Maine
  - NOAA WP-3 aircraft measurements - detailed chemistry
  - NOAA DC-3 Ozone lidar measurements
- Evaluations using data from TexaQS06

## WRF/Chem as a research tool – important also for global change applications

- Changes in Anthropogenic Emissions - Satellite comparisons
- Aerosol-Radiation-Meteorology Interactions
- Testing of PBL parameterizations

## Models Used in the ICARTT/NEAQS Evaluations



- |                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| · · · · · CHRONOS      | — AURAMS        |
| · · · · · CMAQ/ETA-3X  | — CMAQ/ETA-1x   |
| · · · · · WRF/CHM-27km | — WRF/CHEM-12km |
| · · · · · BAMS -45km   | — BAMS-15km     |
| — STEM-2K3             |                 |

### Model:      Anthropogenic Emission Inventory:

AURAMS - 42km      Canadian National Inv.  
 CHRONOS - 21km      (1990, 1995)

CMAQ/ETA(1x) - 12km  
 CMAQ/ETA(3x) - 12km(\*)      NEI-99, 2001,  
 BAMS - 45km      grown to 2004  
 BAMS - 15km

WRF/CHEM-1 - 27km      NET-96

WRF/CHEM-2 - 27km  
 WRF/CHEM - 12km(\*)      NEI-99  
 STEM(2K3) - 12 km

Red indicates PM<sub>2.5</sub> forecasts available  
 (\*) Indicates a retrospective run

# Web-page for NOAA P3 and Ron Brown model comparisons: <http://www.al.noaa.gov/ICARTT/modelevel/>

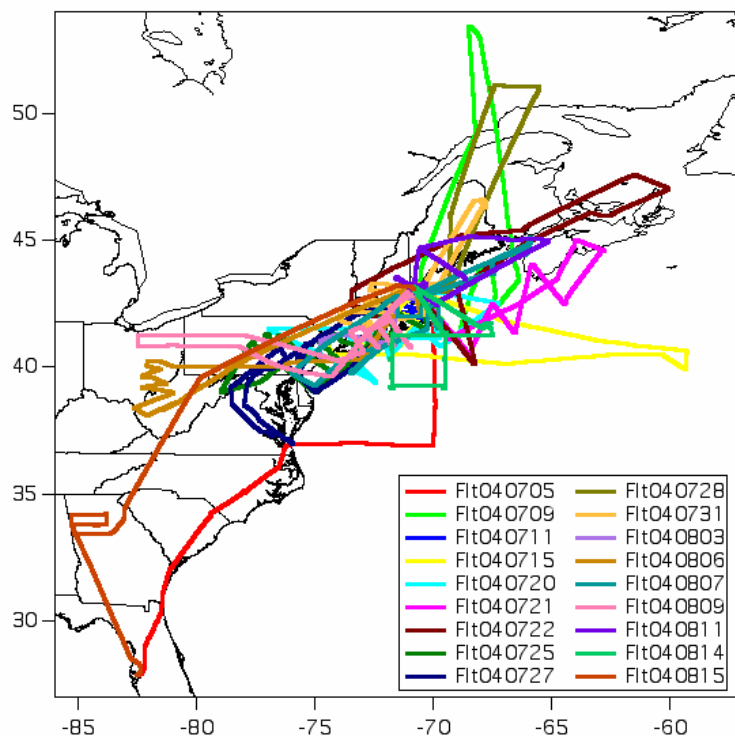
NOAA Aeronomy Lab, Theoretical Aeronomy Division

ICARTT/NEAQS 2004 - Air Quality Forecast Model Verification Project (Stu McKeen)

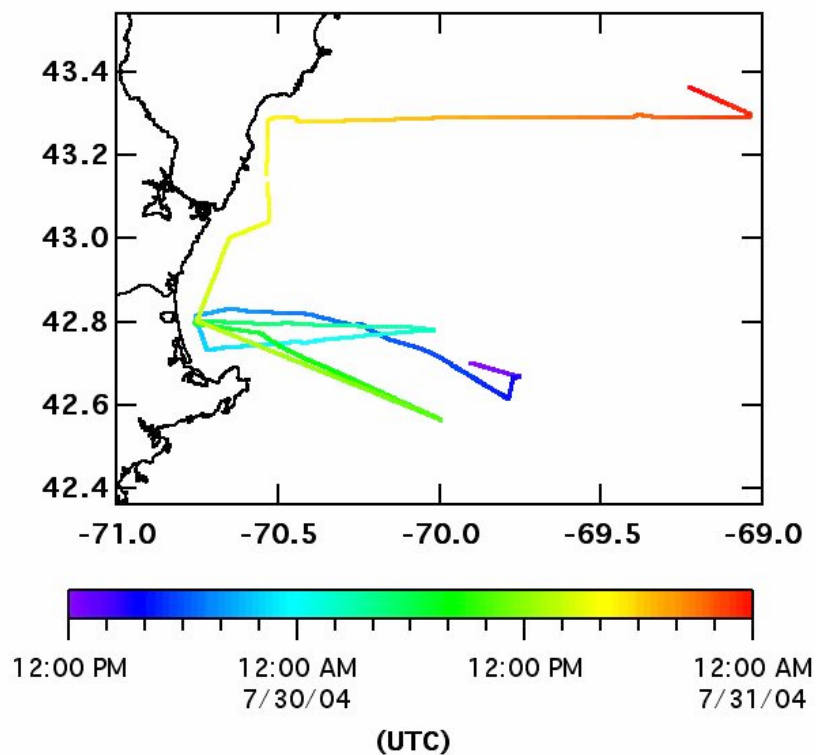
## [NOAA P3 Summary Statistics](#)

[Ron Brown, 7/07/04 - 7/23/04](#)

[Ron Brown, 7/27/04 - 8/12/04](#)



[Flight by flight vertical profiles and horizontal transect](#)



This page maintained by: [Stu McKeen](#)  
NOAA AERONOMY LABORATORY

# Model variables available for Comparison with NOAA Aircraft and Ron Brown data

gas phase chemistry

	AURAMS	CHRONOS	STEM	WRF-2
O <sub>3</sub>	√	√	√	√
CO			√	√
NO	√	√	√	√
NO <sub>x</sub>	√	√	√	√
NO <sub>y</sub>	√	√	√	√
PAN	√	√	√	√
Isoprene	√	√	√	√
SO <sub>2</sub>	√	√	√	√
NO <sub>3</sub>	√	√		√
N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	√	√		√
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO	√			√
Toluene		√		√
Ethylene	√	√		√
NH <sub>3</sub>				√

aerosols, radiation, meteorology

	AURAMS	CHRONOS	STEM	WRF-2
PM2.5	√	√	√	√
Asol SO <sub>4</sub>	√	√	√	√
Asol NH <sub>4</sub>	√			√
Asol OC	√	√	√	√
Asol EC	√		√	√
Asol NO <sub>3</sub>	√			√
JNO <sub>2</sub>				√
T	√	√	√	√
P	√		√	√
H <sub>2</sub> O	√	√	√	√
winds	√	√	√	√
SST	√			√
Radiation				√

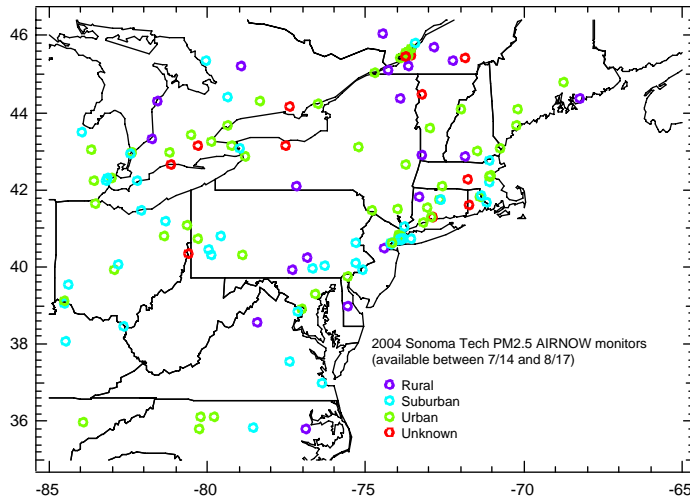
# Statistics for 8 Air Quality Forecast Models with 342 AIRNOW O<sub>3</sub> monitors (7/14/04 through 8/17/04 - 34 days) (7/14/04 through 7/29/04 - 16 days)

Statistics for maximum 8-hr averages, (00Z forecasts).

Medians of 342 monitor comparisons

Date of WRF/Chem Run	Institute, model, horiz. resolution	r coefficient	Mean bias ppbv	RMSE (ppbv)	Skill (%)
	MSC Canada, CHRONOS, 21km (2004 real-time)	0.68	17.0	23.2	16%
	MSC Canada, AURAMS, 42km (2004 real-time)	0.54	5.9	16.2	27%
	U of Iowa, STEM, 12km (2004 real-time)	0.60	26.4	31.	2%
	CMAQ/ETA, 12 km (2004 real-time)	0.63	13.4	17.9	24%
8/04	<u>WRF/Chem – V1.3 – 27km</u>	0.67	14.3	20.9	24%
11/04	<u>WRF/Chem – V2.0 – 27km</u>	0.73	3.4	11.6	61%
3/05	<u>WRF/Chem – V2.0 – 12km</u>	0.67	11.9	16.6	31%
5/05	<u>WRF/Chem – V2.0.3</u>	0.72	12.8	17.0	30%
5/05	<u>WRF/Chem – V2.1.2</u>	0.72	11.5	16.3	30%
10/06	<u>WRF/Chem – V2.1.2x</u>	0.82	6.4	11.2	73%
1/07	<u>WRF/Chem – V2.2</u>	0.83	3.3	9.8	81%

## PM2.5 Monitors within the AIRNow network



- ~120 TEOM monitors
- 10 am to 6 pm LDT averages
- No spatial interpolation
- Statistics done for log-transformed PM2.5
- Only days with complete model overlap

### Statistics for 6 Air Quality Forecast Models with 118 AIRNOW PM2.5 monitors (7/14/04 through 8/17/04 - 34 days)

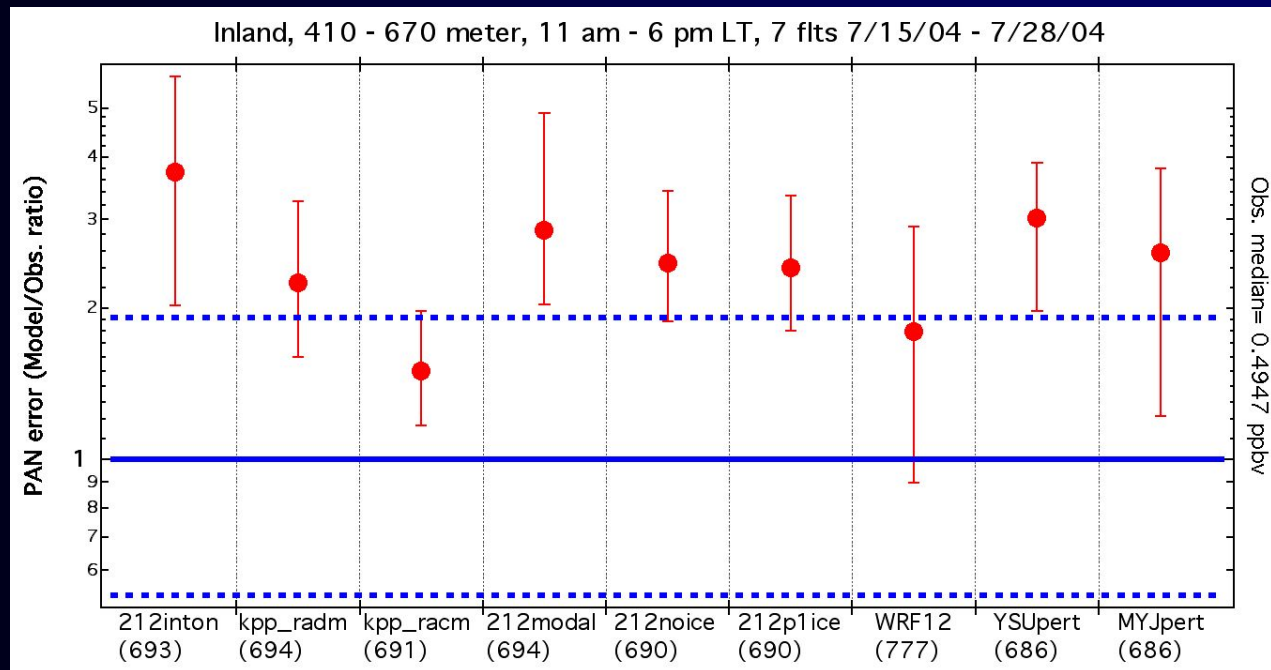
Statistics for 14Z to 22Z 8-hr averages, based on 00Z forecasts only.

Medians of 118 monitor comparisons

Institute, model, horiz. resolution	r coefficient	Modl/Obs ratio	RMSE (factor)	Skill (%)
NOAA FSL, WRF/Chem-1, 27km	0.42	1.17	2.19	33%
NOAA FSL, WRF/Chem-2, 27km	0.65	0.79	1.79	64%
MSC Canada, CHRONOS, 21km	0.67	0.77	2.14	53%
MSC Canada, AURAMS, 42km	0.49	0.85	2.16	58%
U of Iowa, STEM, 12km	0.65	1.12	1.95	70%
CMAQ/ETA, 12 km	0.65	0.75	2.01	61%
<b>6-model Ensemble</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>1.76</b>	<b>75%</b>



# Comparison of PAN Forecast with NOAA -P3 aircraft data



## WRFV2.2

Key:

212inton - V2.1.2, Pegasus - CBMZ, no convective subgrid transport

kpp\_radm - V2.1.2, RADM2, subgrid convection on, subgrid photol. reduc. On  
ice contribution to photolysis reduction in resolved clouds (1. cloud equiv)

kpp\_racm - V2.1.2, RACM, subgrid convection on, subgrid photol. reduc. On  
ice contribution to photolysis reduction in resolved clouds (1. cloud equiv)

212modal - V2.1.2, RADM2, subgrid convection off, subgrid photol. reduc. off

212noice - V2.1.2, RADM2, subgrid convection on, subgrid photol. reduc. off

no ice contribution to photolysis reduction in resolved clouds

212p1ice - V2.1.2, RADM2, subgrid convection on, subgrid photol. reduc. off

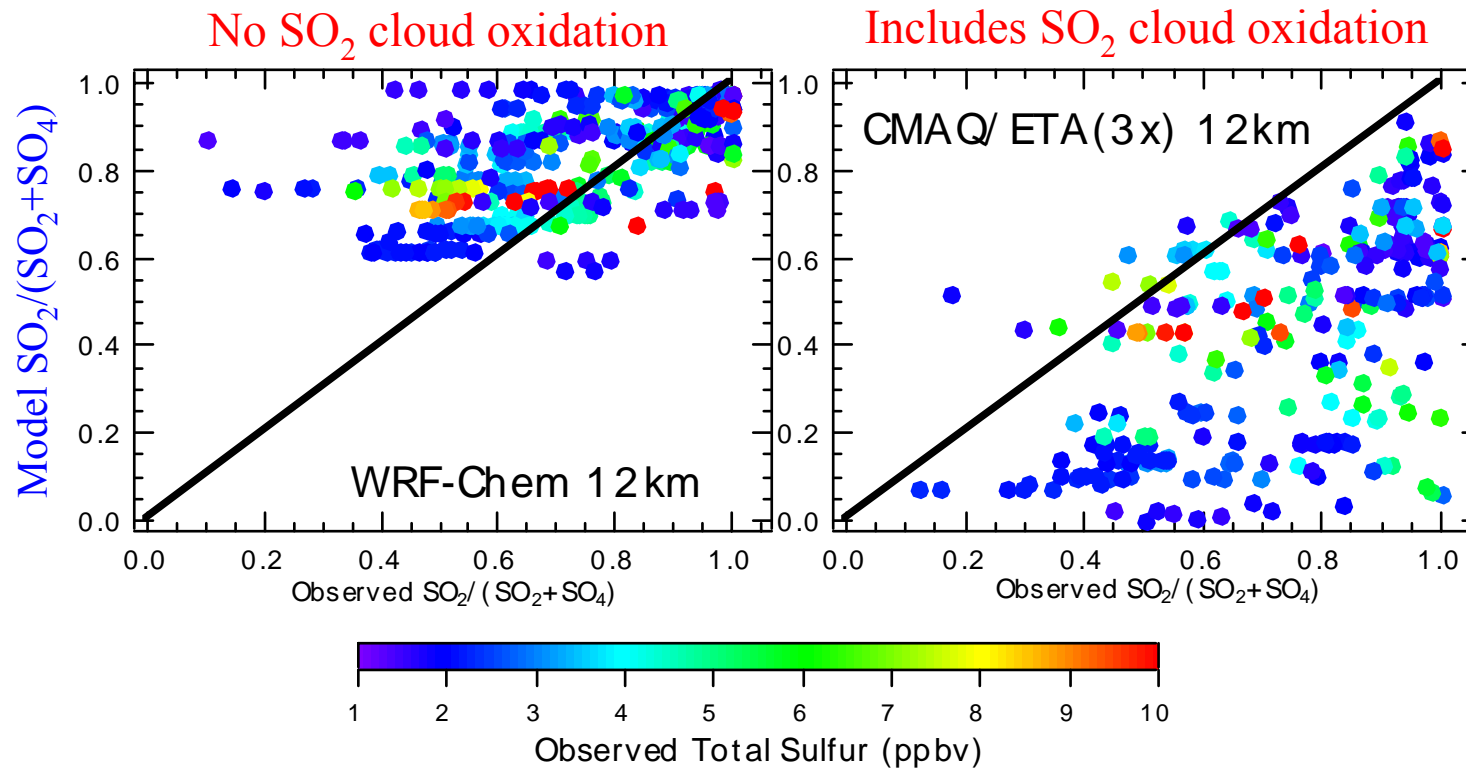
ice contribution to photolysis reduction in resolved clouds (.1 cloud equiv)

WRF12 - V2.0.3, RADM2, 12 km res. YSU PBL (convection on, no subgrid photol. reduc.)

YSUpert - V2.0.3, RADM2, 27km res., YSU PBL scheme ( " " " )

MYJpert - V2.0.3, RADM2, 27km resolution, MYJ PBL scheme ( " " " )

## Comparing SO<sub>2</sub> oxidation rates, Models versus Obs.



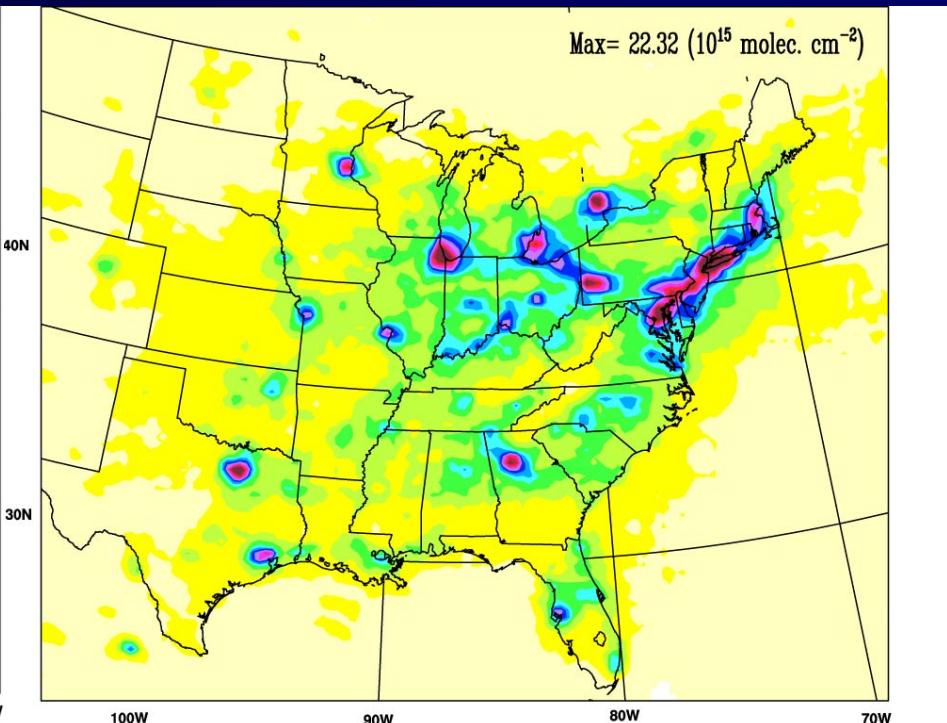
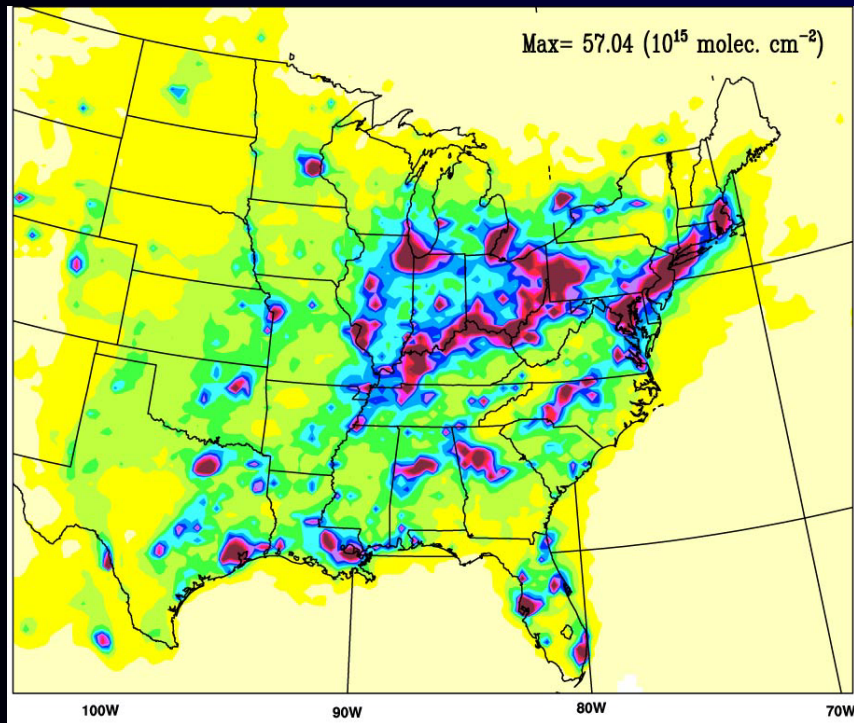
Models without cloud oxidation under-predict SO<sub>4</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> oxidation  
Models with cloud oxidation over-predict SO<sub>4</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> oxidation

# Spatial Distribution of NO<sub>2</sub> Columns (Si-Wan Kim et al., GRL, 2006)

Summer 2004 (June-August) Averages

WRF/Chem - NEI 99 v3 emissions

SCIAMACHY satellite observations

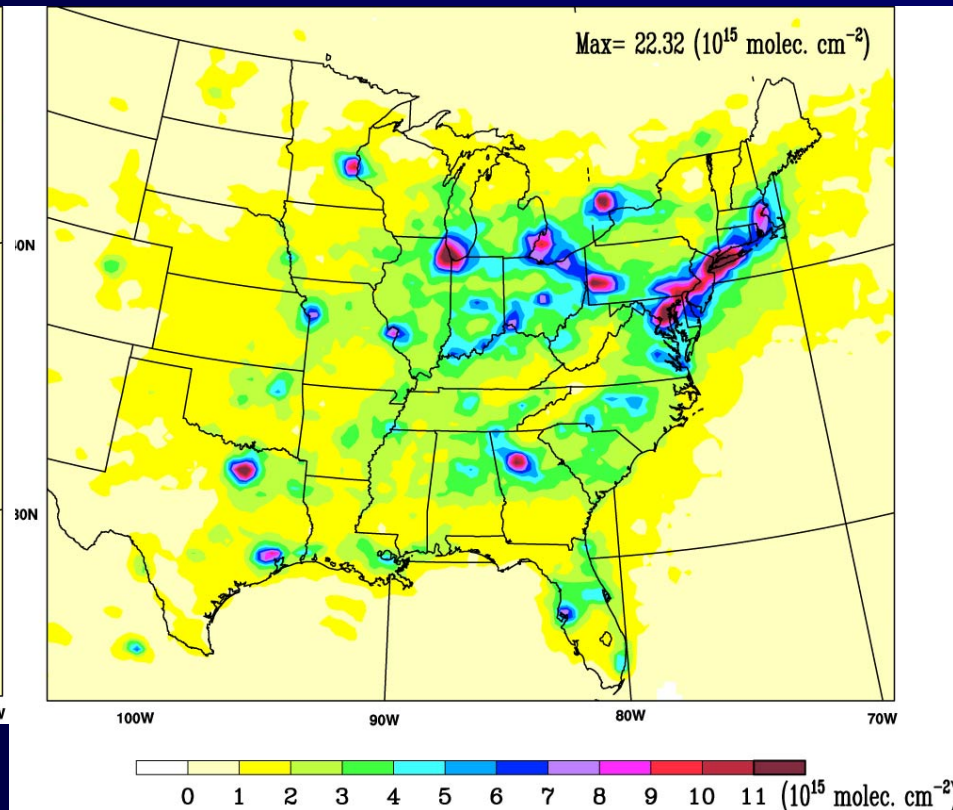
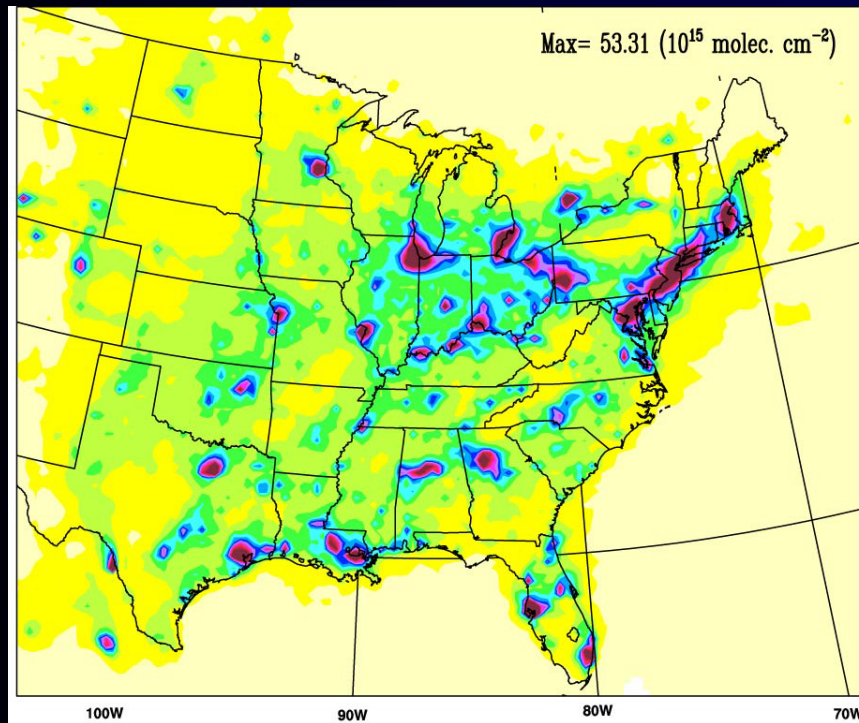


# Spatial Distribution of NO<sub>2</sub> Columns (Si-Wan Kim et al., GRL, 2006)

Summer 2004 (June-August) Averages

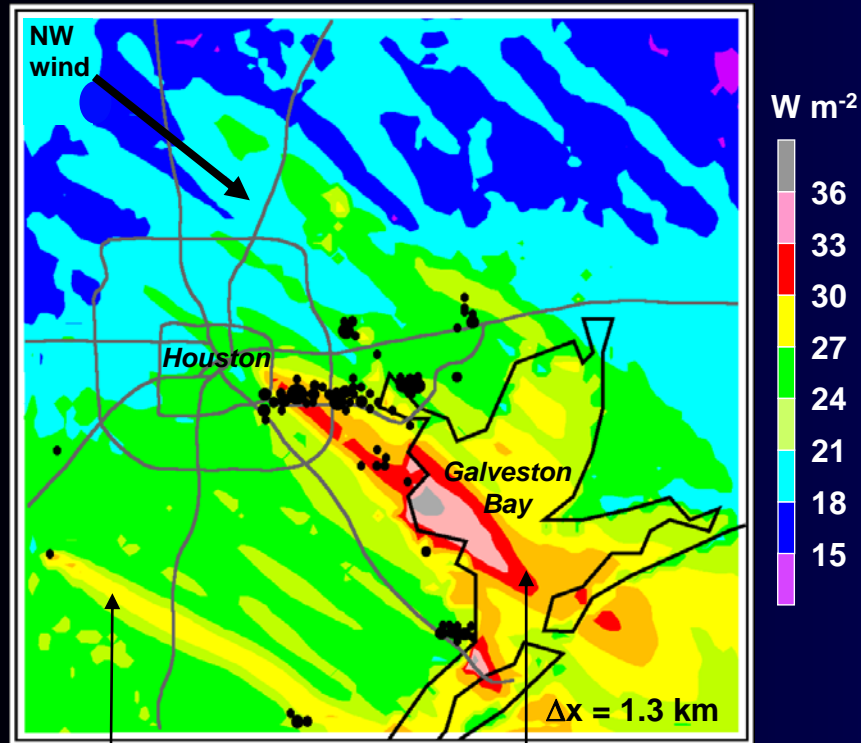
**WRF/Chem - Updated emissions -  
CEMS monitors at ~ 1000 stacks**

**SCIAMACHY satellite observations**



# TexAQS 2000 – DRY RUN

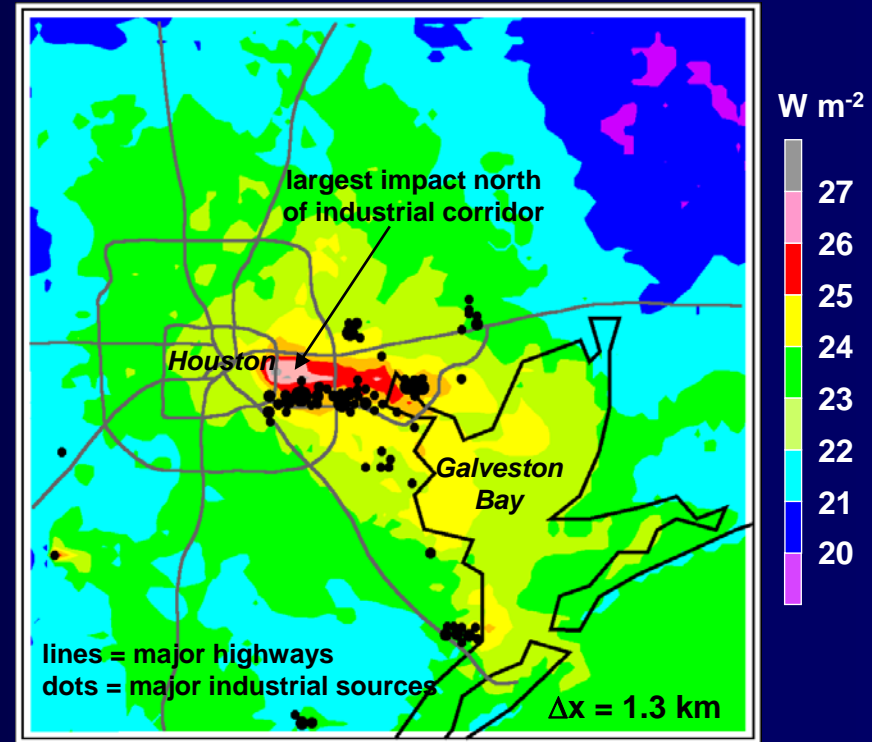
**Instantaneous Aerosol Radiative Forcing**  
Noon, August 31, 2000



impact of sulfate  
from power plant

impact of organic and elemental carbon  
from urban and industrial sources

**Average Aerosol Radiative Forcing**  
August 28 - 1 September, 2000

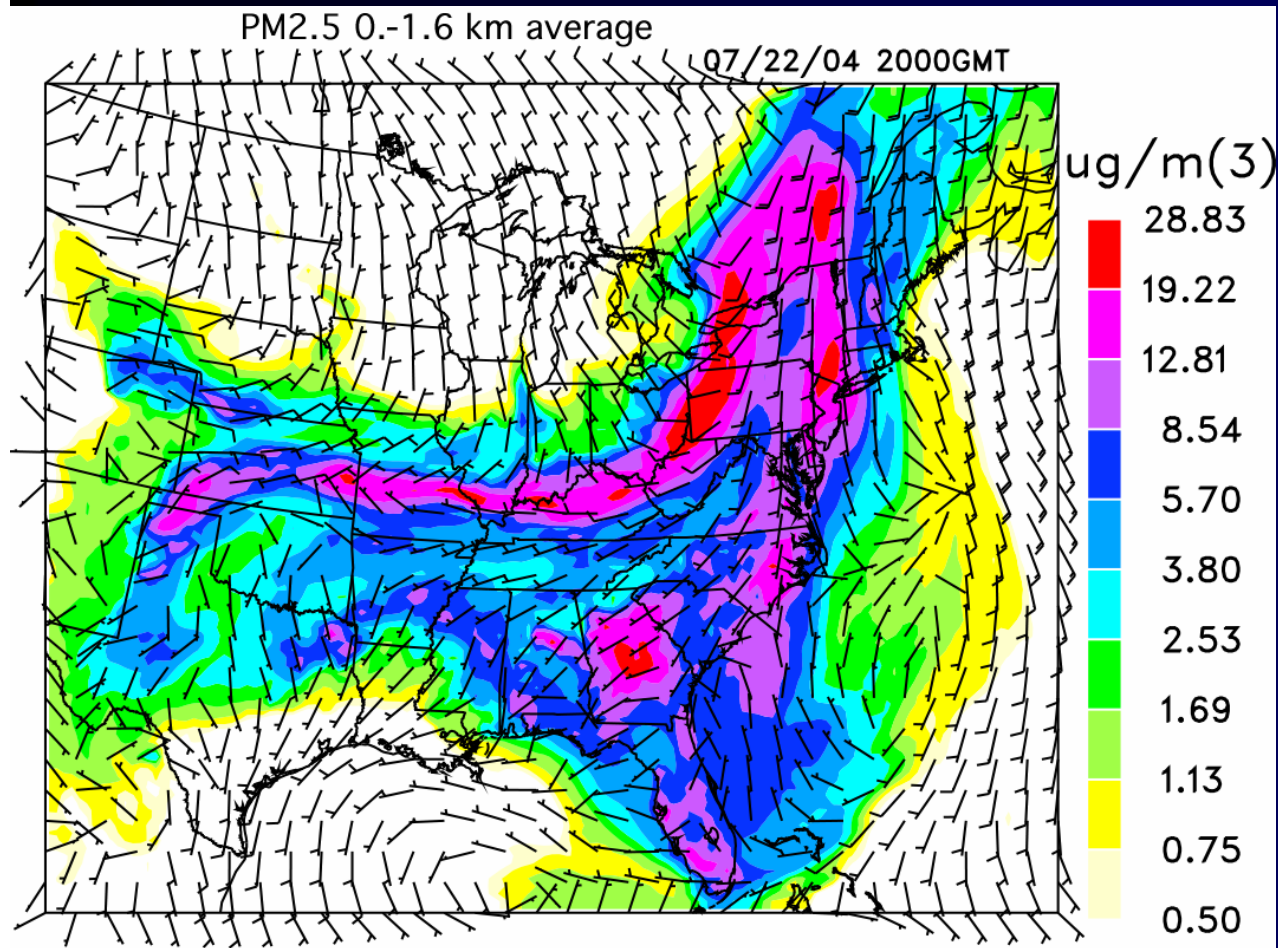


← 120 km →  
(typical GCM  $\Delta x = 100$  km)

- ➔ Impact of anthropogenic particulates are a major uncertainty in GCMs
- ➔ Large spatial variations in particulates and the resulting radiative forcing over urban areas are not resolved by Global Climate Models (GCMs)

# PM2.5 predictions – One case only

Average over lowest 1.6km



32 hr forecast

**Full physics,**

Lin et al. Microphysics,  
Grell/Devenyi convection

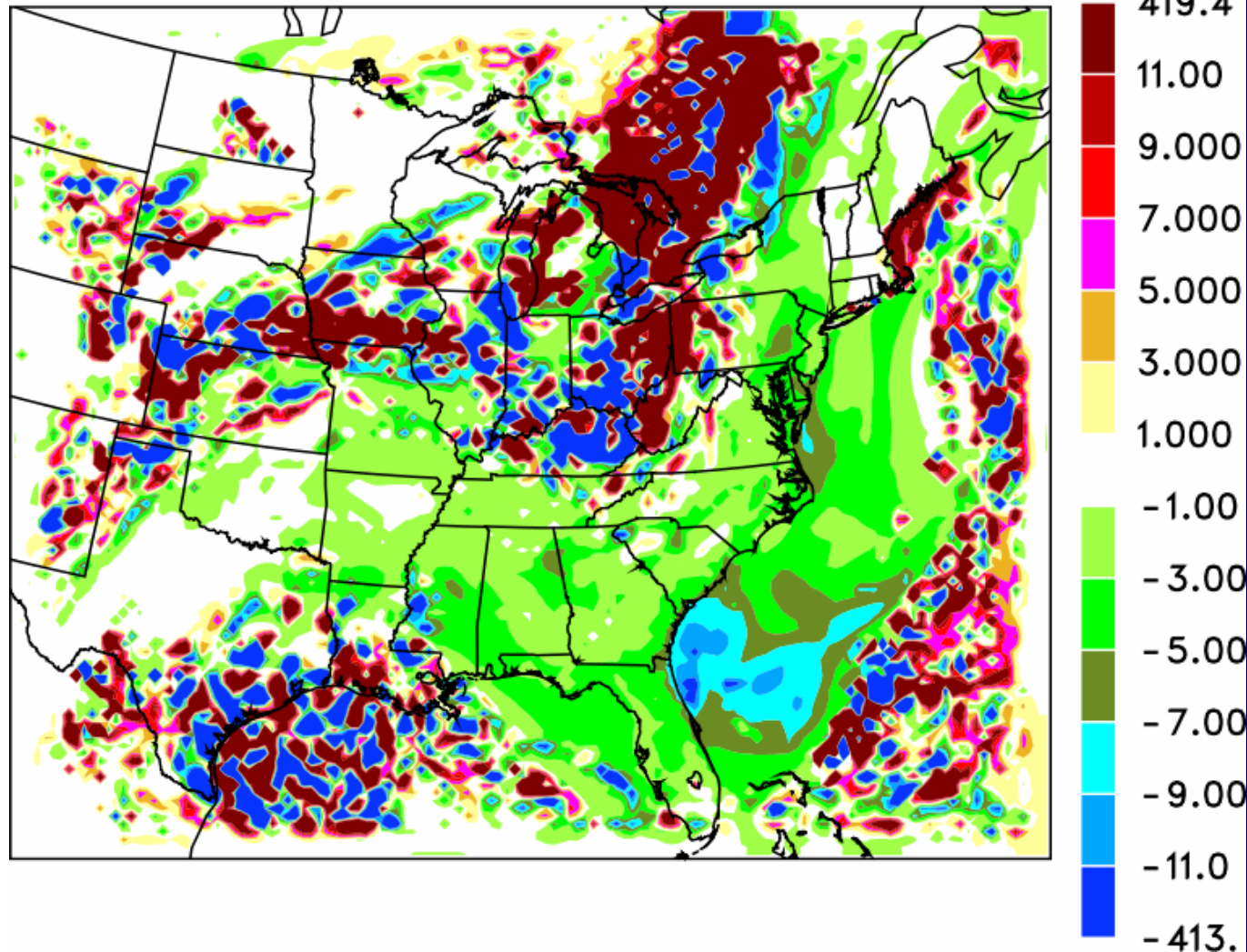
# Aerosol/Radiation feedback: Short Wave radiative Flux Difference using different microphysics scheme

Short Wave Radiative Flux Difference

(With Aerosol/Radiation interaction minus Without)

07/22/04 1500GMT

W/m<sup>2</sup>



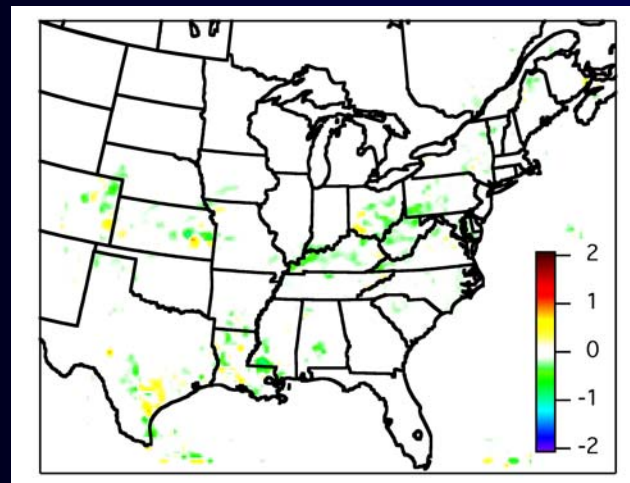
15 hr forecast

# Aerosol-Radiation Effects on 2m-Temperature

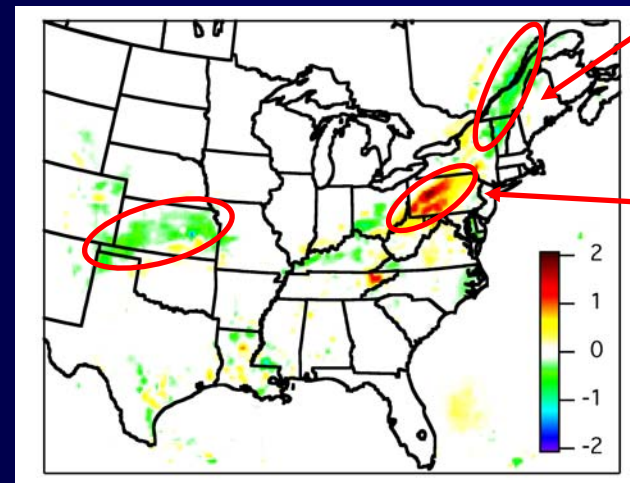
## Contribution from Serena Chung

$\Delta T_{@2m}$   
(°C)

Scattering Only



With Absorption



"NE"

"PA"

07/23/2004 18:00:00 UTC

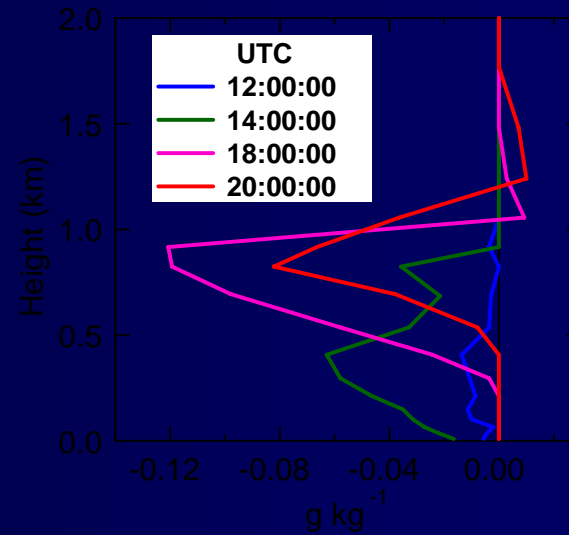
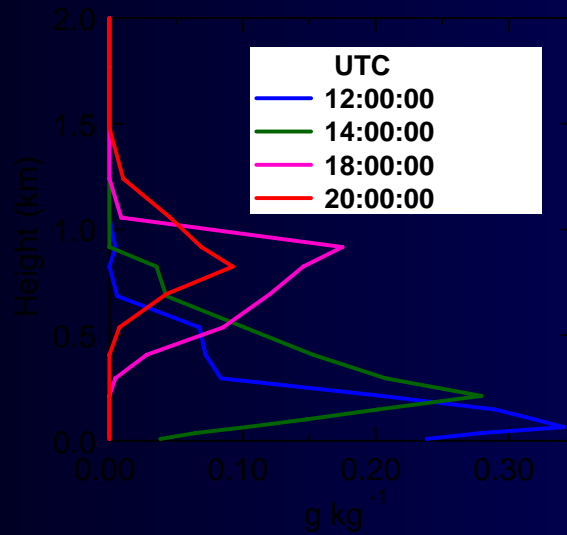


# Vertical Distribution of Liquid Water

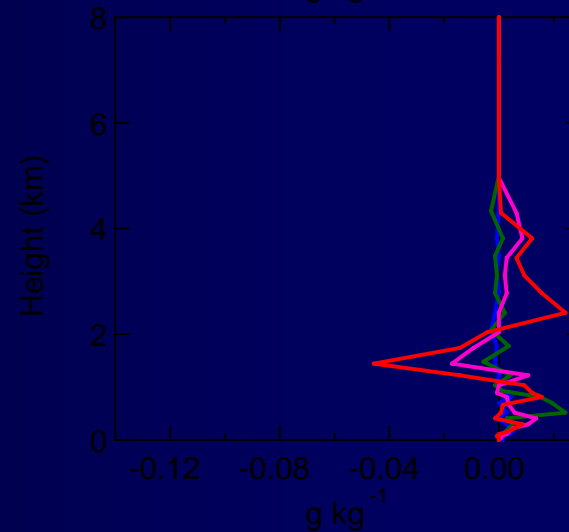
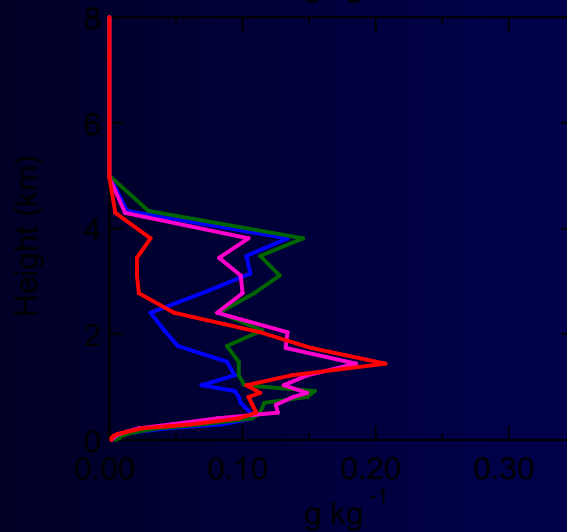
Liquid Water Content  
(no feedback)

$\Delta$  Liquid Water Content  
(with absorption)

at "PA"



at "NE"



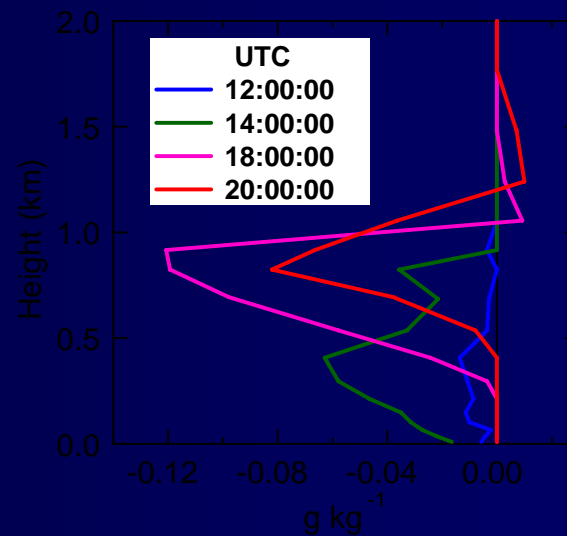
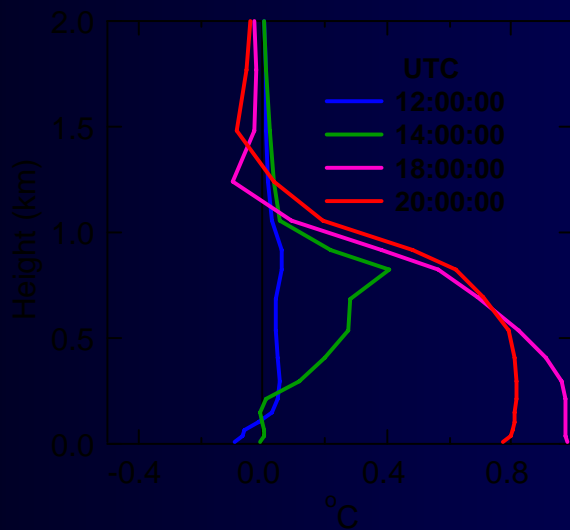
07/23/2004

# Vertical Distribution of $\Delta T$

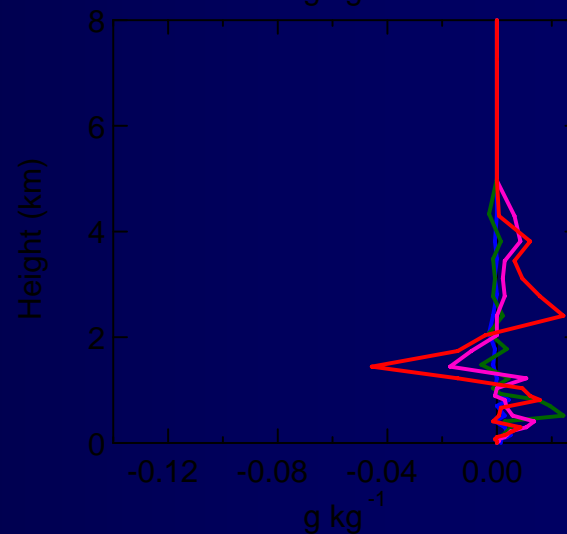
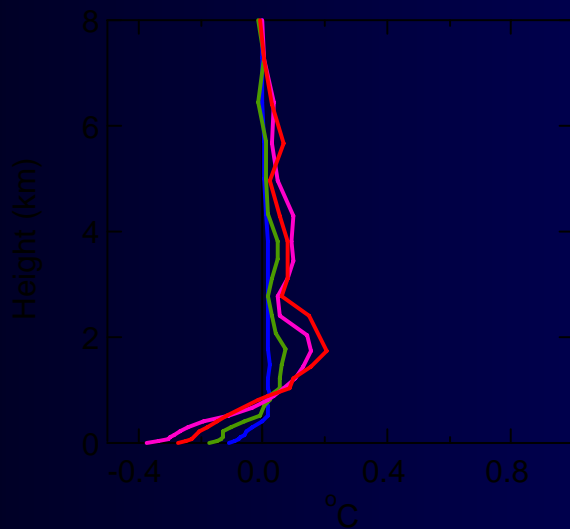
$\Delta T$   
(with absorption)

$\Delta$  Liquid Water Content  
(with absorption)

at "PA"

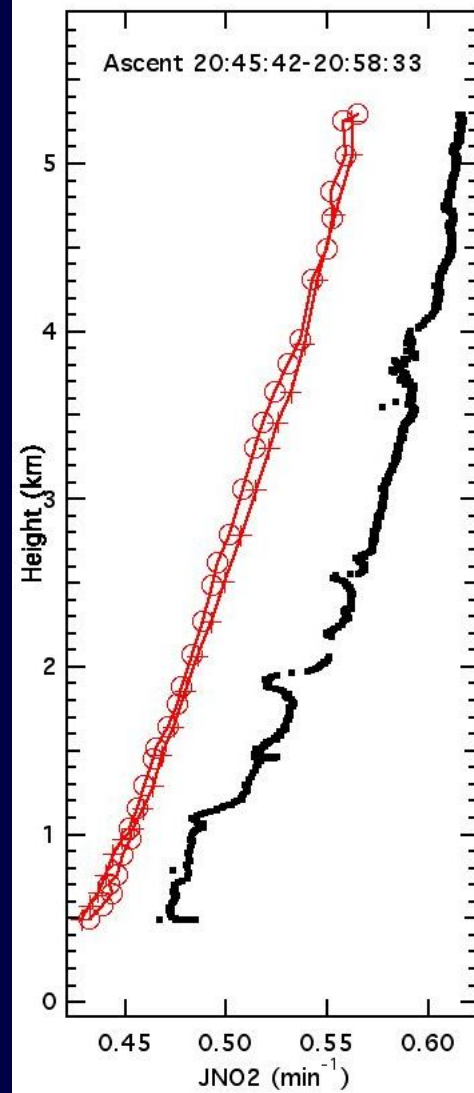
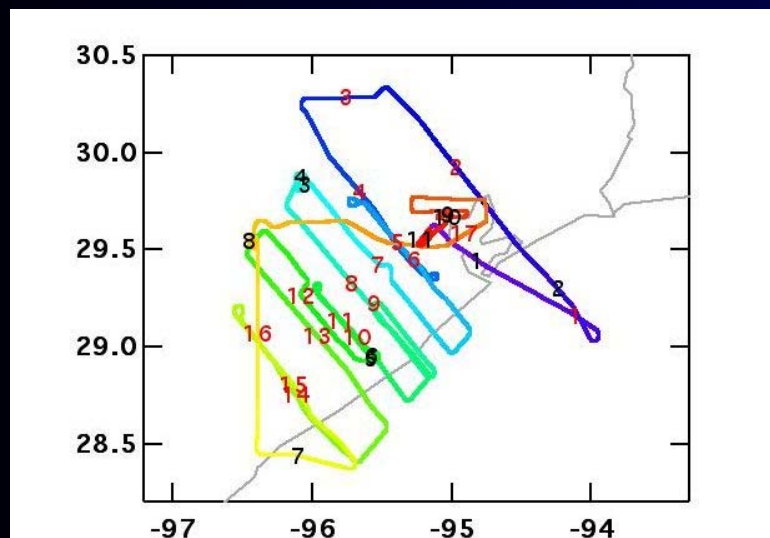


at "NE"

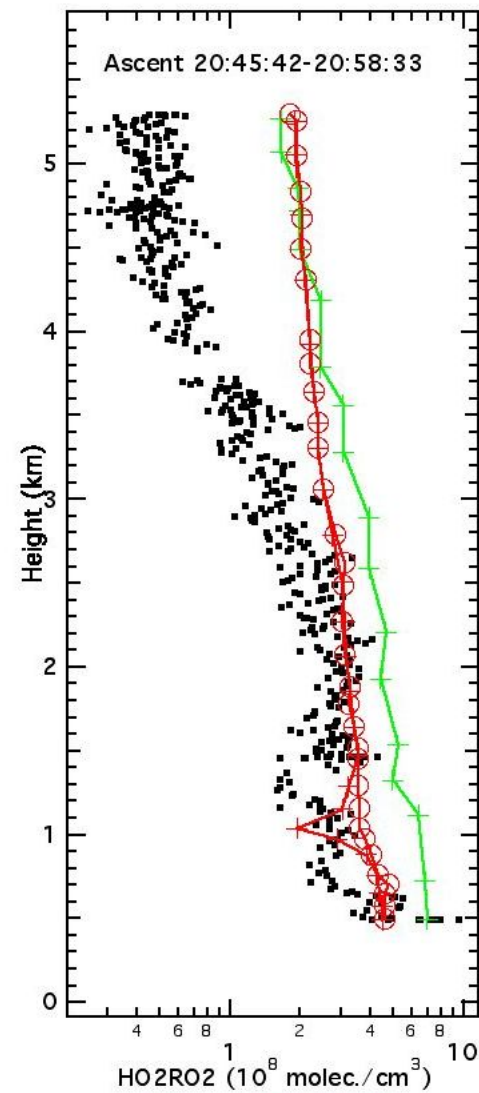


07/23/2004

# Texas 2006 – aircraft comparisons



—○— cmaq5x-12km  
—+— STEM-12km



—○— WRF-12km  
—+— WRF-36km  
—+— STEM-12km

## **Some conclusions from research applications for WRF/Chem:**

### **AQ Forecasting:**

Steady improvements in forecasting O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> aerosol

WRF/Chem is highly competitive compared to other AQ models

### **Research within CSD:**

Used in Satellite studies of Anthropogenic Emission Changes

Aerosol-Radiation-Meteorology Interactions

Additional Process Studies related to PBL parameterizations, Chemistry, and Aerosols

# Next in line-up for inclusion into WRF/Chem (ARW and NMM)

- CMAQ modules: for compatibility with EPA's CMAQ model: Carbon Bond 5 chemical mechanism, and MADRID sectional aerosol module (collaboration with NCSU)
- Offline version (Indo-US project)
- Sasha Madronich's latest, fast photolysis scheme (NCAR)
- Global versions (ARW? NMM? )
- SMOKE emissions model
- MEGAN biogenic emissions (NCAR)
- Smoke/Fire plume model

# Distant line-up for WRF/Chem, with various groups working on these issues

- More aerosol modules
- Dust/sea-salt parameterizations
- More choices for “interactive” parameterizations (like radiation or microphysics schemes that allow for feedback from chemistry to meteorology)

# Future development plans, as brought forth in WRF Research and Applications Board document:

- Computational efficiency (monotonic, conserving advection), possibly other technical changes to WRF-CI
- *Advanced data assimilation methods*
- Expansion of KPP capabilities
- Implementation of necessary steps and research to be able to use the modeling system for design of observational networks (use of OSE's and OSSE's)
- **Coupling to other modeling systems (ocean, agriculture, biology,...)**