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***Improving NOAA National Air Quality Forecast Capability Through Refined PBL Meteorological Simulation***

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Proposed Start Date: June 1, 2019; Proposed Duration: 24 months

Proposed Federal Funds for Project:

OU: Year 1: $144,404, Year 2: $142,722, Two Year Total: $287,126

NOAA/NCEP/EMC:

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**1. Abstract**

***Improving NOAA National Air Quality Forecast Capability Through Refined PBL Meteorological Simulation***

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2NOAA/NCEP/EMC

The National Air Quality Forecasting Capability (NAQFC) provides numerical guidance for forecasts of surface ozone (O3) and particulate matter with diameters less than 2.5 μm (PM2.5) nationwide. In the NAQFC, the air quality component CMAQ has been tested with the updated Global Forecast System (GFS), containing the Finite Volume Cubed-Sphere (FV3) dynamic core, in an offline mode. Two-month FV3GFS-driven CMAQ simulations in August-September 2018 have been compared to observations and existing operational NMMB-driven CMAQ forecasts. The evaluation results indicate that the FV3GFS-CMAQ overestimates surface O3 at night, over lakes, and near coastal regions, while under-predicting PM2.5 in summer and over-predicting PM2.5 in winter. These model biases are largely attributed to inaccurate planetary boundary layer (PBL) meteorological fields of FV3GFS. Thus, in this project, we propose to ***improve NAQFC air quality prediction through refined PBL parameterization.***

Different PBL parameterization schemes generally simulate different PBL environments including different thermal/dynamic properties as a result of different turbulent mixing. These PBL environments affect atmospheric chemistry through influencing vertical mixing of pollutants and modulating chemical reaction coefficients. Many studies, including some by this research group have confirmed the importance of PBL schemes in air quality predictions/simulations.

In recent years, with the increase of computing power, NWP and air quality models running at grid spacings of a few kilometers through sub-kilometer have been increasingly common. At such resolutions (referred to as *Terra Incognita* or gray zone), the energy containing eddies are partially resolved by the grid, which violate the assumption of the conventional PBL schemes that all eddy transport is parameterized; the grid scale portion represents the ensemble mean of all entire turbulent motion. For this reason, convectional PBL schemes tend to over-mix or double-count the mixing within PBL within *Terra Incognita*. To solve such a problem, scale-aware (grid spacing dependent) PBL parameterization schemes have been proposed whose mixing coefficients are dependent on the horizontal grid space. One of such scheme was developed by [Shin and Hong (2015, below abbreviated as SH)](#_ENREF_44).

Despite the advantage of the scale-aware SH, ***the default SH scheme is found to have issues to reproduce the detailed thermal structure of the CBL*** due to its prescribed nonlocal/countergradient flux profile. SH often simulates a slightly unstable CBL when radiosonde data indicate a slightly stable CBL. Thus, we proposed to ***optimize the SH scheme through calibrating the parameters controlling the countergradient flux profile and apply the optimized SH scheme to improve FV3GFS-CMAQ air quality prediction***. In more detail: we will tune the SH scheme over the US domain using the multi-year sounding data over Beltsville, Maryland, and subsequently incorporatethe optimized SH into the Community Common Physics Package (CCPP) within the NEMS FV3GFS and then use the NEMS FV3GFS simulations with SH PBL scheme to drive CMAQ directly rather than re-diagnose the PBL height and eddy diffusivities by ACM2 through the offline interface coupler. Two-month (with one month in summer and one month in winter) FV3GFS-CMAQ simulations with different PBL schemes (including the default FV3 one, default SH and optimized SH) are proposed for this study. These FV3GFS-CMAQ experiments will use the current NAQFC domain with a 12-km grid spacing, as well as a smaller domain covering mid-Atlantic and northeastern US with a 4-km grid spac­ing. We will use the MetPlus verification tool to conduct a comprehensive evaluation to quantify how meteorological inputs especially PBL fields (e.g., PBLH and vertical profiles) affect air quality predictions. The improvement of the offline system will eventually benefit the online FV3GFS-CMAQ or SAR (Stand-alone-regional)-FV3-CMAQ systems for air quality predictions as well as FV3GFS and SAR-FV3 for weather predictions. The current readiness level of optimization of the SH scheme is 5, the end state readiness level of this project will be 7 to 8.

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| Fig. 1. Simulated and observed mean diurnal variation of PM2.5 over eastern U.S. during August 2018. |

# 2. Statement of Work

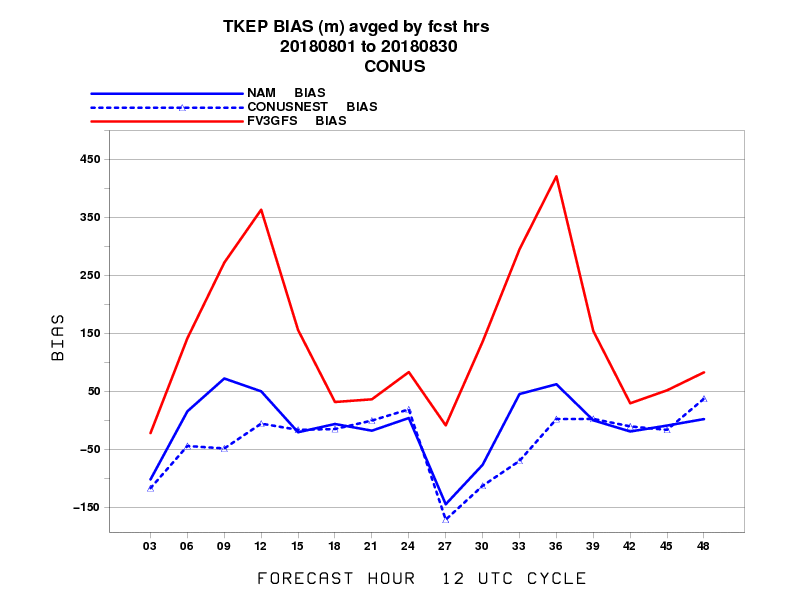
## ***2.1 Proposed Duration of the Project***

The proposed duration of this project is twoyears, from June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2021.

## ***2.2 Brief Description of the Project***

## ***2.2.1. Introduction***

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| Fig. 2. Bias of simulated PBL height over eastern U.S. during August 2018. |

The National Air Quality Forecasting Capability (NAQFC) provides numerical guidance for forecasts of surface ozone (O3) and particulate matter with diameters less than 2.5 μm (PM2.5) nationwide. In the current operational NAQFC, the NOAA North American Model Forecast System (NAM) Nonhydrostatic Multiple Model with Araka B grid staggering (NMMB, Janjic ́ and Gall, 2012) is used to drive the USEPA-developed Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) model (Byun and Schere 2006) in an offline mode. NOAA has selected the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL) Finite Volume Cubed-Sphere (FV3) as the dynamical core for the Next Generation Global Prediction System (NGGPS). The NMMB is going to decommission as a regional numerical weather prediction model soon. Recently, the air quality component CMAQ has been tested by using the updated Global Forecast System (GFS) with FV3 dynamic core, in an offline coupling mode as a successor candidate of the NAQFC (Huang et al., 2018). Two-month FV3GFS-driven CMAQ simulations in August-September 2018 have been compared to observations and existing operational NMMB-driven CMAQ predictions. The evaluation results indicate that the FV3GFS/CMAQ system continues to exhibit substantial forecast biases with under-predictions of PM2.5 during daytime in summer (Fig.1) and over-prediction of surface O3 at night, over lakes, and near coastal regions. Thus**, improving the NAQFC performance on PM2.5 and O3 predictions is critical to ensure the FV3GFS/CMAQ readiness for operational use**.

Meteorological inputs are one of the most important factors affecting the predictions of the off-line coupling meteorology/chemistry forecasting system. In the offline system, FV3GFS/CMAQ, several key meteorological fields including the PBL heights and eddy diffusivity are re-diagnosed in the offline coupler called PreMAQ based on the FV3GFS predictions. The Asymmetrical convective model, version 2 (ACM2) PBL parameterization scheme (Pleim 2006) is used in the current operational system and the offline FV3GFS/CMAQ system (Huang et al., 2018). Further analyses indicate that the CMAQ prediction biases are highly associated with the inaccurate planetary boundary layer (PBL) meteorological fields. For example, our evaluation of FV3-predicted PBL height against the data produced by the NAM Data Assimilation System (NDAS) during August 2018 indicates that FV3 overestimates PBL height during daytime by up to 430 m (Jeff et al., 2018). Such an overestimation of convective boundary layer height at least partially contributes to the under-predictions of PM2.5 during summer daytime (Fig. 1). The over-prediction of surface O3 in the stable boundary layer is likely associated with the excessive vertical mixing that is normally applied in operational numerical weather prediction (NWP) as well as climate models (e.g, UK Met office and ECMWF, Louis, 1979; Beljaars, 1995; Bechtold et al., 2008; Hu et al., 2010, McNider et al., 2018). Thus, in this project, we propose to ***improve NAQFC air quality prediction through refined PBL parameterization.***

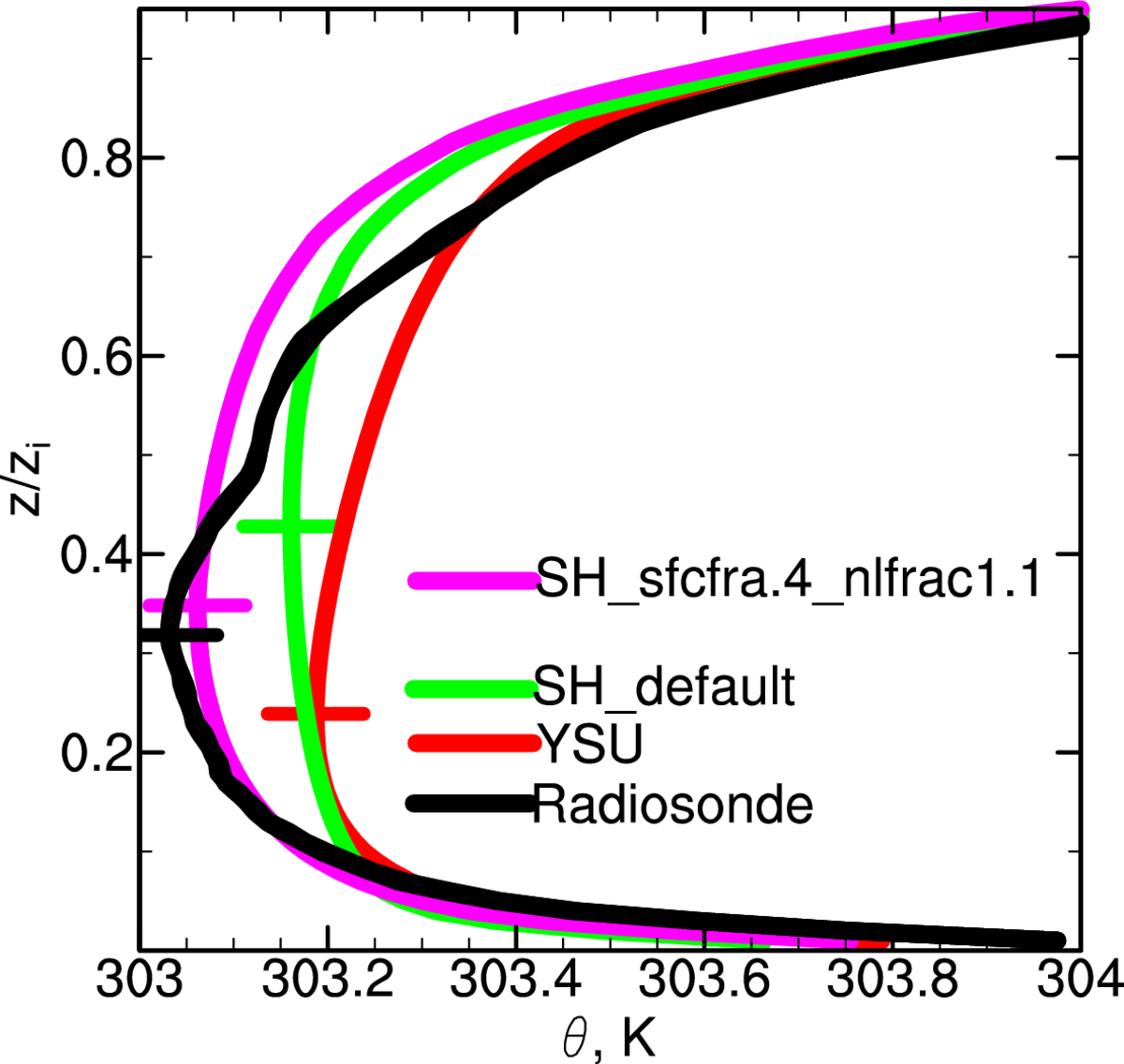
In typical NWP and air quality models, the horizontal resolution is insufficient to resolve the most energetic turbulent eddies (50-100m grid spacing is needed to do so) that are responsible for most of the vertical transport of heating, moisture and momentum from the surface and hence the turbulence mixing within the PBL. Thus, a planetary boundary layer (PBL) parameterization is needed to achieve the effects of such mixing. To deal with these important issues, many PBL parameterization schemes have been proposed. Often, day-time unstable convective boundary layer (CBL) and night-time stable boundary layer have quite different treatments within each PBL scheme. Currently there are 13 PBL schemes and their variations within the latest version (v4.0) of WRF model. The proliferation of PBL schemes suggests that there exist large uncertainties with PBL schemes.

Different PBL parameterization schemes generally simulate different PBL environments including different thermal/dynamic properties as a result of different turbulent mixing ([Hu et al., 2013b](#_ENREF_16); [Hu et al., 2010b](#_ENREF_18)). These PBL environments affect atmospheric chemistry through influencing vertical mixing of pollutants and modulating chemical reaction coefficients ([Hu, 2015](#_ENREF_24)). Numerous studies evaluated PBL schemes in terms of their effects on PBL thermodynamic and kinematic properties. Many studies, including some by this research group ([Hu et al., 2012](#_ENREF_12); [Hu et al., 2013b](#_ENREF_16); [Hu et al., 2010b](#_ENREF_18); [Hu et al., 2010d](#_ENREF_23)) have further confirmed the importance of PBL schemes in air quality predictions/simulations.

PBL schemes can be classified into local and nonlocal schemes. Local schemes estimate the turbulent fluxes at each point in a model from the mean atmospheric variables and/or their gradients at that point, whereas nonlocal schemes estimate the turbulent fluxes based on the atmospheric variables over a deeper layer covering multiple levels through the PBL ([Cohen et al., 2015](#_ENREF_7); [Hu et al., 2010b](#_ENREF_18)). The assumption among local schemes that fluxes depend solely on local values and local gradients of model state variables is least valid under convective conditions when turbulent fluxes are dominated by large eddies that transport fluid over longer distances ([Hu et al., 2010b](#_ENREF_18)). Previous studies found that traditional local schemes (e.g., Mellor–Yamada–Janjić (MYJ) or quasi-normal scale elimination (QNSE)) predict daytime continental boundary layers that are too cool and shallow; while nonlocal schemes (e.g., ACM2 or Yonsei University (YSU) schemes) or the more recently-updated local scheme (e.g., Mellor–Yamada Nakanishi and Niino (MYNN)) predict deeper and warmer daytime continental boundary layers than MYJ and QNSE ([Bright & Mullen, 2002](#_ENREF_3); [Clark et al., 2015](#_ENREF_5); [Coniglio et al., 2013](#_ENREF_8)). Less consensus is reached for the performance of PBL schemes over marine boundary layer. Most PBL schemes have different treatments for stable and unstable boundary layers. The uncertainties associated with PBL schemes for nighttime stable boundary layer is even larger ([Beare et al., 2006](#_ENREF_2); [Brown et al., 2008](#_ENREF_4); [Hong, 2010](#_ENREF_11)). The performance of PBL schemes during daytime convective boundary layer and nighttime stable boundary layer may interact each other, making the evaluation and understanding of the overall performance of PBL schemes more complicated ([Shin & Hong, 2011](#_ENREF_43)). In the current NAQFC FV3GFS-CMAQ forecasts, excessive nighttime mixing simulated by the ACM2 scheme is believed to at least partially cause O3 over-predictions mentioned above ([McNider et al., 2018](#_ENREF_36)).

In recent years, with the increase of computing power, NWP and air quality models running at grid spacings of a few kilometers through sub-kilometer have been increasingly common ([Clark et al., 2009](#_ENREF_6); [Kain et al., 2007](#_ENREF_30); [Weisman et al., 2008](#_ENREF_47); [Xue et al., 2013](#_ENREF_50)). The NWS High-Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) model is running at a 3-km grid spacing ([Alexander et al., 2010](#_ENREF_1); [Pinto & Steiner, 2015](#_ENREF_39)) while the North America Mesoscale (NAM) model has also been run in regional nests of 3-4 km grid spacing. An important issue with PBL parameterization scheme at such resolutions is that of *Terra Incognita* or gray zone ([Wyngaard, 2004](#_ENREF_48); [Zhou et al., 2014](#_ENREF_55)). As first pointed out by Wyngaard ([2004](#_ENREF_48)), within *Terra Incognita* or gray zone, the energy containing eddies are partially resolved by the grid, which violate the assumption of the conventional PBL schemes that all eddy transport is parameterized; the grid scale portion represents the ensemble mean of all entire turbulent motion. For this reason, convectional PBL schemes tend to over-mix within *Terra Incognita* or double-count the mixing within PBL ([Xue et al., 1996](#_ENREF_51)). To solve such a problem, scale-aware (grid spacing dependent) PBL parameterization schemes have been proposed whose mixing coefficients are dependent on the horizontal grid space. One of such scheme was developed by [Shin and Hong (2015, below abbreviated as SH)](#_ENREF_44).

The SH PBL scheme inherited treatment for local eddy fluxes (or downgradient fluxes) from the widely used YSU scheme, but the countergradient heat flux term was replaced with the nonlocal heat flux profile fitted to large-eddy simulation (LES) results. In addition, ***the SH scheme is formulated to be scale-aware, which is particularly important for a model designed for varying*** ***grid spacings such as FV3GFS***; without scale awareness, traditional PBL schemes like YSU and ACM2 become invalid when grid spacing are decreased to the point where some of the large eddies become partially resolved. Given the difference between the local/nonlocal flux profiles extracted from LES simulations and parameterized gradient/countergradient flux profiles from the conventional PBL schemes ([Zhou et al., 2018](#_ENREF_56)), replacing the countergradient heat flux profile with the LES-fitting nonlocal heat flux profile in SH might lead to model uncertainties.



*Fig. 3. Simulated and observed composite profiles of over Beijing for 14 cases in 2010. Simulations are conducted with WRF with the default YSU and SH PBL schemes and an SH variant with adjusted parameters.*

Based on our recent evaluation, the scale-aware SH scheme simulates the boundary layer convection better than the conventional PBL scheme such as YSU due to SH’s scale-awareness. Vertical velocity simulated by Shin-Hong is generally stronger than that simulated by YSU, which is due to the scale-aware design of the Shin-Hong scheme, i.e., parameterized subgrid-scale vertical transport is decreased when the grid size decreases, thus more vertical transport is resolved (exhibiting increased vertical velocity). Better resolved boundary layer convection by the SH scheme is shown to initiate storms in a better agreement with observations, particularly in terms storm initiation time. Despite better resolving boundary layer convection/eddies, ***the default SH scheme is found to have issues to reproduce the detailed thermal structure of the CBL*** due to its prescribed nonlocal/countergradient flux profile. SH often simulates a slightly unstable CBL when high-resolution radiosonde data indicate a slightly stable CBL (Fig. 3). In a study using the multiyear high-resolution early afternoon radiosonde data over Beijing, we proposed optimization of the SH scheme through parameter calibration. Experiments with an analytic solution of a *K*-profile PBL model derived by [Stevens (2000)](#_ENREF_46) disclose that adjusting countergradient flux profile leads to stability change in CBLs (Figure not shown), offering clues to calibrate SH. Thus, we proposed to optimize the SH scheme through calibrating the parameters controlling the countergradient flux profile. Evaluated using the radiosonde composite profile, the calibrated SH scheme (pink line in Fig. 3) performs better than the YSU and default SH schemes, particularly in terms of reproducing the neutral stability level in the convective PBL ([Hu et al., 2018](#_ENREF_21)). The default YSU is found to give a too low neutral stability level (marked by the horizontal bar in Fig. 3) while the default SH gives a too high neutral stability level. The calibrated SH scheme shows the best agreement with the radiosonde data (Fig. 3). Despite that the optimization of the SH scheme over Beijing is encouraging, the CBL over Beijing may be affected by the thermal and dynamic effects of the nearby Loess Plateau ([Hu et al., 2016b](#_ENREF_27); [Hu et al., 2014](#_ENREF_28); [Miao et al., 2015](#_ENREF_37)) and its boundary layer structure may be different from that over the US. The composite profiles over a few sounding sites in China even show different neutral stability level in the convective PBL ([Hu et al., 2018](#_ENREF_21)). Thus, the calibration of the SH scheme over Beijing may not readily work optimally over US.

Based on our initial results, in this project, we propose to ***fine tune the SH scheme over US*** and ***incorporate the optimized SH scheme into FV3-CMAQ to improve air quality forecasting, and to hopefully remove the prominent biases outlined earlier.*** The optimized SH scheme is expected to improve the simulation of meteorological profiles as well as the PBL height, and thereby leading to improved air quality forecasting. The effects are expected to be even greater for an online FV3-CMAQ system.

## ***2.2.2. Background of CAPS’ previous FV3 development work? Particularly in terms of incorporation of PBL schemes?***

Apart from the PBL and FV3 studies mentioned above, the proposal team also have extensive experience with numerical simulations and prediction of meso-scale to urban-scale meteorology ([Dawson et al., 2016](#_ENREF_9); [Hu & Xue, 2016](#_ENREF_20); [Roberts et al., 2016](#_ENREF_40); [Schenkman et al., 2014](#_ENREF_41); [Schenkman et al., 2012](#_ENREF_42); [Snook et al., 2015](#_ENREF_45); [Xue et al., 2014](#_ENREF_49)) as well as air quality ([Hu et al., 2012](#_ENREF_12); [Hu et al., 2015](#_ENREF_13); [Hu et al., 2010a](#_ENREF_14); [Hu et al., 2013a](#_ENREF_15); [Hu et al., 2013c](#_ENREF_17); [Hu et al., 2010c](#_ENREF_19); [Hu et al., 2011](#_ENREF_22); [Hu et al., 2016a](#_ENREF_25); [Hu et al., 2013d](#_ENREF_26); [Hu et al., 2016b](#_ENREF_27); [Hu et al., 2014](#_ENREF_28); [Hu et al., 2008](#_ENREF_29); [Klein et al., 2014](#_ENREF_31); [Li et al., 2018](#_ENREF_33); [Zhang et al., 2015](#_ENREF_53)). Such experience and knowledge will be valuable for designing the numerical experiments and analyzing and interpreting the results.

Jianping Huang­ has been responsible for conducting NAQFC numerical forecasts since 2009, and has been advising students (together with Dr. Xiaoming Hu) to investigate air quality and boundary layer meteorology and their interactions ([Liu et al., 2018a](#_ENREF_34); [Liu et al., 2018b](#_ENREF_35)).

The extensive experience of this proposal team and other CAPS scientists in running and testing various versions of the FV3 model, and in evaluating its PBL schemes, as well as running CMAQ air quality forecasting, will be exploited in carrying out the study proposed in this project. The simulated PBL structures will be verified against routine balloon-borne soundings and profiles from special instruments, while the predicted pollutants will be verified against the data from the EPA Air Quality System (AQS) sites.

## ***2.2.3. Research Plan***

CAPS at OU has incorporated the YSU and default SH schemes into FV3 and tested FV3 with these schemes over continental US at 3 km grid spacing, for the NOAA Hazardous Weather Testbed 2018 Spring Experiment. The scale-aware SH is found to simulate convection initiation better than conventional PBL schemes.

In this project, we will further ***tune the SH scheme over the US domain using the multi-year sounding data over Beltsville, Maryland, and subsequently incorporate the optimized SH into the Community Common Physics Package (CCPP) within the NEMS FV3GFS and then use the NEMS FV3GFS simulations with SH PBL scheme to drive CMAQ directly rather than re-diagnose the PBL height and eddy diffusivities by ACM2 through the offline interface coupler***.

Multi-year (2005-2011) afternoon sounding data over Beltsville, Maryland is available to us, which are critical to tune the SH scheme for simulation of CBL. Note that conventional radiosonde at 0000 and 1200 UTC are not in the middle of afternoon over US, when CBLs are in a mature stage, thus these conventional sounding data are not optimal to calibrate SH for CBL. Part of the Beltsville sounding data are reported in our previous studies ([Hu et al., 2012](#_ENREF_12); [Hu et al., 2013c](#_ENREF_17)) and the data in 2011 is part of the DISCOVER-AQ program and available at https://www-air.larc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/ArcView/discover-aq.dc-2011?GROUND-BELTSVILLE=1. Beltsville locates in the upstream of the urban corridor from Richmond, Virginia to New York City where ozone exceedance episodes often occurs in presence of the southwesterly wind (along the direction of the urban corridor). The boundary layer structure over Beltsville is often representative of that over the urban corridor and plays an important role in modulating the air quality in the region ([Hu et al., 2013c](#_ENREF_17)). In this study, the composite profile of potential temperature in CBLs over Beltsville will be produced based on the afternoon soundings during 2005-2011. These CBL soundings will be first normalized using the CBL depth (zi) and then averaged to get the composite CBL profile. The detailed vertical structure in the composite CBL profile (vertical gradient of potential temperature in the CBL, particularly whether slightly stable or slightly unstable) will provide the benchmark that the SH is to be calibrated to.

Finding the CBL top is a critical step to producing the composite profile. Many methods are used in literatures to diagnose CBL top. In the LES community, it is diagnosed as the level with the minimum heat flux. Unfortunately, heat flux profile is not available from the radiosondes. For sounding data, threshold Richardson number ([Guo et al., 2016](#_ENREF_10)), and the 1.5‐theta‐increase method ([Nielsen-Gammon et al., 2008](#_ENREF_38)) have been proved more practical ([Hu et al., 2013c](#_ENREF_17); [Hu et al., 2010b](#_ENREF_18); [Hu et al., 2010c](#_ENREF_19); [Li et al., 2017](#_ENREF_32); [Miao et al., 2015](#_ENREF_37); [Yang et al., 2019](#_ENREF_52)). The widely-used 1.5‐theta‐increase method defines the zi as the height where the potential temperature first exceeds the minimum potential temperature within the boundary layer by 1.5 k. This method will be used to diagnose zi for normalization and generating composite profiles from the multi-year radiosondes profiles over Beltsville.

The SH scheme will be calibrated to match the observed composite profile over Beltsville, particularly in terms of the vertical gradient of potential temperature similar as Fig. 3 for the calibration over Beijing. Adjusting countergradient flux profile leads to stability change in CBLs ([Hu et al., 2018](#_ENREF_21); [Stevens, 2000](#_ENREF_46)), offering a clue to calibrate the SH scheme. Thus, we proposed to optimize the SH scheme through calibrating the parameters controlling the countergradient flux profile. The SH scheme replaces the parabolic countergradient heat flux profile in YSU () with a three-layer nonlocal heat flux profile fitted to LES results. The three-layer nonlocal vertical heat flux profile adopted by SH peaks at *sfcfra* (*sfcfra*=0.075) and the profile decrease linearly away from the peak value in the boundary layer. The parameters used in specifying the three-layer flux profile will be calibrated, likely including the two parameters, *sfcfra* and *nlfrac*. *sfcfra* specifies the normalized height of the surface layer, in which nonlocal flux increases linearly with height. *nlfrac* specifies the ratio of nonlocal heat flux to total heat flux at the top of the surface layer. FV3GFS with the SH scheme with the perturbed parameters will be used to simulate the boundary layer structure during the days when the daytime Beltsville profiles are available during 2005-2011. An initial estimation would be that 10 configurations with perturbed parameters will be used for simulations for 20-30 cases/days. The composite profiles of potential temperature will be compared with the observed composite profile. The configuration gives the best agreement would be the one with the optimal parameters.

After the calibration process, the optimized SH PBL scheme will be implemented into the offline coupler interface PreMAQ, a key component of the FV3GFS/CMAQ. Then two-month retrospective simulations with one month in summer (i.e., August) in 2019 and one month in winter (i.e., January ) in 2020 with the updated offline system FV3GFS/CMAQ are proposed to evaluate the model performance in different seasons. The simulations will be conducted with CMAQ v5.2.0 and National Emission Inventory (NEI) 2014 will be conducted on the NAQFC contiguous United States (CONUS) domain with a grid-spacing of 12-km that is same as the operational one. Special attentions will be given to the cases with over-predictions of surface O3 during nighttime, over water surface such as Great Lakes as well as coastal regions, under-predictions of PM2.5 in summer and over-predictions of PM2.5 in winter that have been seen the NAQFC for long time (Huang et al., 2017; Huang et al., 2018).

Evaluation of meteorological inputs that are used to drive CMAQ runs is done very little for the NAQFC or FV3GFS-CMAQ system so far. In this study, except comparing to the sounding data at Beltsville, evaluation of FV3GFS outputs will be conducted for other variables and at other locations. The air quality prediction will be evaluated with the AirNow observational data. We will use the MetPlus verification tool to conduct a comprehensive evaluation to quantify how meteorological inputs especially PBL fields (e.g., PBLH and vertical profiles) affect air quality predictions.

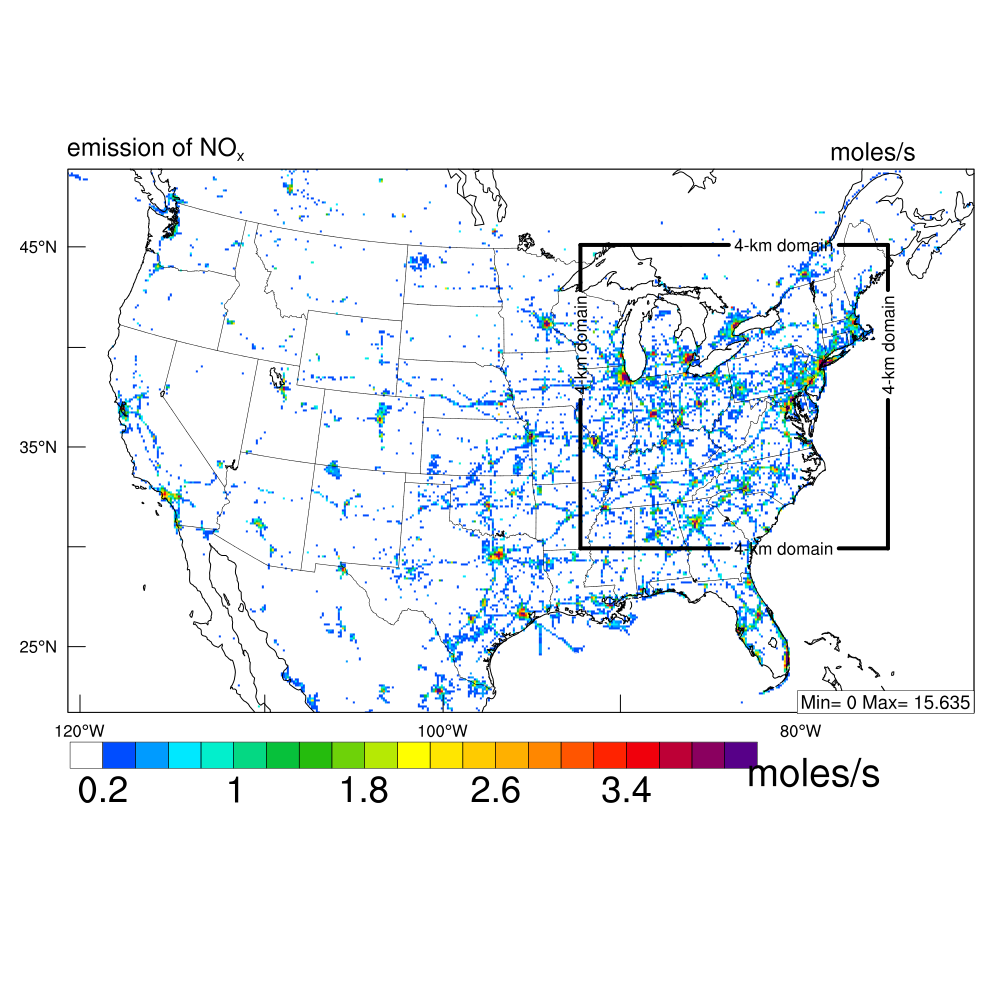
Our FV3GFS-CMAQ numerical experiments plan to use the current NAQFC CONUS domain with a 12-km grid spacing (Fig. 3), as well as a smaller domain covering mid-Atlantic and northeastern US with a 4-km grid spacing. The performance of the PBL schemes at 12 and 4 km grid spacings can be assessed individually and compared. While the 12-km FV3GFS-CMAQ simulations will be conducted for the two selected months, the 4-km FV3GFS-CMAQ simulations over the mid-Atlantic to northeastern US will be conducted for selected severe air pollution cases, e.g., the ozone exceedance event in New York City associated with a heat wave reported in a paper co-authored by one of our PIs ([Zhao et al., 2018](#_ENREF_54" \o "Zhao, 2018 #413)).

The project will use NSF XSEDE supercomputers for SH optimization and use NOAA Theia for NEMS FV3GFS-CMAQ testing. CAPS has a proven track record in securing time from and effectively utilizing the most advanced national high-performance computing systems, as demonstrated by its efforts in past years. Such resources are available free of charge to the project or NOAA. Once an improvement of surface O3 and PM2.5 predictions is achieved, the updated FV3GFS/CMAQ with the optimized SH PBL scheme included will be transferred to the WCOSS machine for near real-time test. The improvement of the offline system will eventually benefit the online FV3GFS-CMAQ or FV3-SAR (Stand Alone Regional version)-CMAQ systems for air quality predictions as well as the CCPP with NEMS FV3GFS for weather prediction.

***2.3 Proposed Work Plan and Timeline of Deliverables***

We plan to test FV3GFS (for SH calibration) and FV3GFS-CMAQ in two domain configurations with one matching the current NAQFC domain with a 12-km grid spacing, and another smaller domain covering mid-Atlantic and northeastern US with a 4-km grid spacing (see Fig. 4). The spatial distribution of NOx emissions shown in Fig. 3 show significant primary pollutants in the second domain, which contributes to ozone formation and air pollution in the region. The use of two domains allows us to examine the performance of the PBL schemes calibrated using soundings from a site in the mid-Atlantic region over two domains with different resolutions independently.

While the improvement of SH through tuning the countergradient flux profile should be manifested by the improved profiles of thermodynamic properties with both domain configurations, the benefit of the SH scheme over conventional PBL schemes (e.g., YSU and ACM2) would be more prominent in the 4-km domain in presence of deep convective boundary layer, because in such cases the scale of large boundary layer turbulent eddies is more close to the grid spacing.



*Fig. 4. Proposed CONUS domain for* FV3GFS (for SH calibration) andFV3GFS-CMAQ *simulations. Shaded colors show the NOx emissions.*

We plan to start most of FV3GFS simulations from 1800 UTC for each selected day, using the NAM model analysis as the background, as has been done for CAPS’s real-time experiments for HWT. This system is well tested. Boundary conditions will come from NAM 6 hourly analyses interleaved with 3 hour forecasts. Given the large outer domain, the effect of lateral boundary conditions should be relatively small. Most forecasts will run for 48 hours.

We propose two different sets of CMAQ simulations. The first one will directly use the new FV3GFS simulations in which the refined SH PBL scheme is used in FV3GFS runs. The second one will continue use the operational FV3GFS (to be implemented in January 2019) outputs but the PBL heights and eddy diffusivity are recalculated with the refined SH PBL scheme that is implemented in the coupler PreMAQ. Two-month simulations with one month in summer (e.g., August) and one month in winter (e.g., December) in 2020 are proposed to evaluate the impact of refined SH PBL scheme on the predicted PBLH heights and well as air quality (e.g., O3 and PM2.5) predictions. Both simulations will be compared with the current experimental runs which use the similar configurations except for ACM2 PBL scheme is employed by PreMAQ. All the simulated PBL heights will be carefully evaluated with NDAS data. PM2.5 and O3 predictions are evaluated with USEPA AirNow observational data.

The year-by-year summary of proposed work milestones are outlined below:

**a) Year 2019-2020**

1. Generate composite profile of potential temperature in the CBLs over Beltsville, Maryland based on soundings during 2005-2011, which are available to us. Part of the Beltsville sounding data are reported in our previous studies ([Hu et al., 2012](#_ENREF_12); [Hu et al., 2013c](#_ENREF_17)) and the data in 2011 is part of the DISCOVER-AQ program and available at https://www-air.larc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/ArcView/discover-aq.dc-2011?GROUND-BELTSVILLE=1.
2. FV3GFS with the SH scheme with the perturbed parameters will be used to simulate the boundary layer structure during the days when the daytime Beltsville profiles are available during 2005-2011. An initial estimation would be that 10 configurations with perturbed parameters will be used for simulations for 20-30 cases/days. The configuration gives the best agreement with the observed composite profile would be the one with the optimal parameters.
3. Write up manuscripts for publication based on optimization of SH in FV3GFS over the northeastern US domain.

**b) Year 2020-2021**

1. The calibrated SH PBL scheme will be incorporated into the interface coupler PreMAQ of the offline coupling system FV3GFS/CMAQ. Several cases related to over-predictions of O3 over Great lake or nighttime and underpredictions of PM2.5 in summer and over-predictions of PM2.5 in winter will be investigated by using the FV3GFS/CMAQ with SH PBL scheme. The results will be compared with the simulations by FV3GF/CMAQ with the same configurations but with the ACM2 PBL scheme and all the simulations will be evaluated with AirNow observational data. All the FV3GF/CMAQ simulations will be completed on NOAA development machine Theia.
2. The well-tested PreMAQ coupler will be transferred to NCEP development machines Cray and be integrated with the NAQFC. Near real-time parallel runs will be set up by using the FV3GFS/CMAQ with the optimized SH PBL scheme on Cray starting from May 2020. The results will be compared with the current operational NAQFC predictions. The model performance will be evaluated with the available EPA measurements such as AiNow data.
3. Another parallel CMAQ run will use the FV3GFS outputs directly in which the refined SH PBL parameterization scheme is used in the FV3GFS instead using the re-diagnosed meteorological fields. In this case, the PreCAQ code needs to be modified appropriately.
4. Write manuscripts for publication regarding impact of optimization of SH on FV3GF/CMAQ air quality simulations.

The deliverables of the project will be conference and journal papers documenting the findings, and project reports providing more details. Recommendations on the best choices and options of the PBL schemes, together with possible code modifications are other forms of deliverables. Data and codes will be made available to interested parties and the public, conforming to the data management policy.

## ***2.4 Computational Resources***

The project will use NSF XSEDE (Extreme Science and Engineering Discover Environment, http://xsede.org) supercomputing facilities and a supercomputer at the Oklahoma Supercomputing Center for Research and Education (OSCER, http://www.oscer.ou.edu). About half a million CPU core-hours, worthy of at least $50K, are expected to be consumed by the proposed simulations. CAPS has a proven track record in securing time from and effectively utilizing the most advanced national high-performance computing systems available, as demonstrated by its efforts in past years. For the 2016 allocation year, CAPS has an allocation of 12 million CPU-hours on NSF XSEDE supercomputers, including those from the TACC (Texas Advance Computing Center) and the PSC. For the 2017 allocation year, CAPS has an allocation of >10 million CPU-hours on NSF XSEDE supercomputers for tornado-related research, including those from TACC and [San Diego Supercomputer Center](http://www.sdsc.edu/support/user_guides/comet.html) (SDSC). Such resources are essentially available free of charge to the project. In addition, a portion of the latest-generation Linux supercomputer with more than 10,000 cores at OSCER of the University of Oklahoma will also be available for running components of the numerical experiments. Funds for purchasing a total of 64 TB of disks are budgeted, which will be installed within a CAPS storage raid box and hooked up with CAPS’s Compute Cluster for interactive processing and analysis of the simulation data sets, and for storing observational data.

## ***2.5 Expected Travel***

In each of the two years of the project, funds are requested to support 2-3 domestic trips for the project scientists to attend VORTEX-SE planning meetings, and scientific conferences/workshops to present research findings (at, e.g., AMS Severe Local Storms, AMS Annual Meeting).

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# 4. Proposed Budget and Budget Justification

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Institution Name | FY 2019 | FY2020 | Total |
| University of Oklahoma | $96,360 | $93,235 | $189,595 |
| NOAA/NCEP/EMC | $50,000 | $50,000 | $100,000 |

The detailed annual budget for University of Oklahoma is shown in the following table:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cost Items | Year 1 | Year 2 | Cumulative |
| Xiao-Ming Hu, co-PI | $39,000 | $40,170 | $79,170 |
| Chunxi Zhang, co-PI | $5,917 | $6,094 | $12,011 |
| Fringe Benefits (FB) | $44,917 | $46,264 | $91,181 |
| **Total Salary + FB** | $62,861 | $64,746 | $127,607 |
| Travel | $4,000 | $4,000 | $8,000 |
| Equipment - RAID Array | $5,500 |  | $5,500 |
| Materials, Phone, etc. | $1,250 | $1,250 | $2,500 |
| Publication | $4,000 | $4,000 | $8,000 |
| **Total Direct Costs** | $77,611 | $73,996 | $151,607 |
| Indirect Costs | $18,749 | $19,239 | $37,988 |
| **Total Costs** | $96,360 | $93,235 | $189,595 |

**Budget Justification**

***a) Personnel Costs***

The project will be led by Dr. Xiao-Ming Hu, a senior research scientist at CAPS, is an expert in boundary layer/air quality modeling. He has published 47 refereed papers on related subjects. He will be the primary scientist on the project who will conduct the numerical simulations for selected episodes, and investigate the formulations, improvement and optimization of the PBL schemes for the purpose of improving the ***FV3GFS-CMAQ air quality prediction***. He will be supported by the project at 6 months per year.

Dr. Chunxi Zhang, a research scientist at CAPS, is an expert on WRF and FV3, in terms of model development and model physics. He will be supported at 1 month per year, and will help incorporate optimized SH PBL scheme into FV3 and run FV3, and help analyze the sensitivity of prediction results to the PBL processes.

Dr. Ming Xue, Weathernews Chair Professor of School Meteorology (SOM) and Director of CAPS, who will contribute to this project as a co-PI. Dr. Xue is the principal architect of the ARPS (Advanced Regional Prediction System, ARPS) NWP model, and is a leading expert in storm-scale prediction and data assimilation. Dr. Xue has published many papers on mesoscale meteorology and boundary layer meteorology. He is the PI of NOAA grants to CAPS that support CAPS’s contributions of storm-scale ensemble forecasts to the HWT Spring Experiments, and the PI of NOAA grant to improve scare-aware PBL schemes, from which this project will build on. He will contribute to this project at no cost and will be responsible for scientific guidance and coordination of collaborations, and will contribute to paper writing.

The first year’s salaries for personnel are based on their current levels, and a 3% annual raise is assumed for the second year. Fringe benefits are budgeted using standard University of Oklahoma rates.

***b) Computing and Communications***

The project will require a large amount of data storage, for storing observational and modeling simulation data, and to allow effective diagnostic analyses. CAPS has existing storage serves that can accommodate additional storage arrays, which can be accessed from CAPS’s compute cluster which is mainly used for data analysis. In Year 1, a RAID array providing about 64 TB usable space will be purchased at a cost of $5,500. System management will be provided by CAPS. Based on recent quotes, purchasing the disk array is much cheaper than renting or any other means, and provides the fastest speed for data access.

***c) Travel***

$4,000 is requested in each of the two years of the project to support 2-3 domestic trips for the project scientists to scientific conferences/workshops to present research findings (at, e.g., AMS Severe Local Storms, AMS Annual Meeting). The cost breakdown for attending a conference is estimated to be: $500 airfare, $500 hotel, $300 per diem, $200 transportation, $500 conference registration. For each shorter workshop, the cost breakdown is estimated to be $500 airfare, $300 hotel, $200 per diem.

***d) Other Direct Costs***

We request a total of $2,500 over 2 years for project supplies and printer consumables ($1,000/year) and computer LAN connection charges ($250/year) for project scientists. A total of $8,000 is requested over the 2 years of the project to cover page charges for ~55 pages of journal papers reporting the results of the work.

***e) Indirect costs***

Indirect cost is charged by the University at the special NOAA-OU Cooperative Agreement rate of 26%.

# 5. Curriculum Vitae of PIs

**Xiao-Ming Hu, Ph.D.**

**Senior Research Scientist, Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms**

**Adjunct assistant professor, school of meteorology**

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**Professional Preparation**

Peking University, China Atmospheric Sciences B.S. 2001

Peking University, China Atmospheric Physics and Atmospheric Environment M.S. 2004

NC State University Atmospheric Sciences Ph.D. 2008

**Appointments**

2014 – Present  Adjunct assistant professor, Univ. of Oklahoma, USA.

2013 – Present  Senior Research Scientist, Univ. of Oklahoma, USA.

2011 – 2013  Research Scientist, Univ. of Oklahoma, USA.

2008 – 2011   Post-doc Research Associate, Penn State Univ., USA.

**Five Publications Most Relevant to This Proposal**

**Hu, X.-M.**, P. M. Klein, and M. Xue (2013), Evaluation of the updated YSU Planetary Boundary Layer Scheme within WRF for Wind Resource and Air Quality Assessments, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 118, doi:10.1002/jgrd.50823.

**Hu, X.-M.**, D. Doughty, K.J. Sanchez, E. Joseph, and J. D. Fuentes (2012), Ozone variability in the atmospheric boundary layer in Maryland and its implications for vertical transport model, Atmos. Environ.,46,354-364.

Nielsen-Gammon,J. W., **X.-M. Hu,** F. Zhang, and J. E. Pleim (2010), Evaluation of Planetary Boundary Layer Scheme Sensitivities for the Purpose of Parameter Estimation, *Mon. Wea. Rev*., 138, 3400–3417.

**Hu, X.-M.,** J. W. Nielsen-Gammon,and F. Zhang (2010), Evaluation of Three Planetary Boundary Layer Schemes in the WRF Model, *J. Appl. Meteor. Climatol.*,49, 1831–1844..

**Hu, X.-M.,** F. Zhang,and J. W. Nielsen-Gammon (2010), Ensemble-Based Simultaneous State and Parameter Estimation for Treatment of Mesoscale Model Error: A Real-data study, *Geophys. Res. Lett.,*37, L08802, doi:10.1029/2010GL043017.

**Five Other Significant Publications Relevant to This Proposal**

**Hu, X.-M.**, and M. Xue (2016), Influence of synoptic sea breeze fronts on the urban heat island intensity in Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, Mon. Wea. Rev., doi:10.1175/MWR-D-15-0201.1.

**Hu, X.-M.**, et al (2014), Impact of the Loess Plateau on the atmospheric boundary layer structure and air quality in the North China Plain: a case study, *Science of the Total Environment*, 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2014.08.053 .

**Hu, X.-M.**, P. M. Klein, M. Xue, J. K. Lundquist, F. Zhang, and Y. Qi (2013), Impact of low-level jets on the nocturnal urban heat island intensity in Oklahoma City. J. Appl. Meteor. Climatol., doi:10.1175/JAMC-D-12-0256.1.

**Hu, X.-M.**, P. M. Klein, M. Xue, A. Shapiro, and A. Nallapareddy (2013), [Enhanced vertical mixing associated with a nocturnal cold front passage and its impact on near-surface temperature and ozone concentration](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jgrd.50309/abstract), *J. Geophys. Res.,* 118, 2714–2728, doi:10.1002/jgrd.50309.

**Hu, X.-M.**, P. M. Klein, M. Xue, F. Zhang, D. C. Doughty, R. Forkel, E. Joseph, and J. D. Fuentes (2013), Impact of the Vertical Mixing Induced by Low-level Jet on Boundary Layer Ozone Concentration, *Atmos. Environ.*, 70, 123-130.

**Synergistic Activities**

2008-2009: Developed the EnKF parameter estimation system to optimize the boundary layer scheme in the WRF model

2011-2012: Improved a one-dimensional chemical transport model to simulate the ozone profiles

2015-2016: Developed a slab dispersion model to investigate the air quality in the North China Plain

2015-2016: Developed the SREF-WRF/Chem ensemble air quality forecasting system to investigate the air quality issues in the south Great Plains.

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**Chunxi Zhang**

**Research Scientist**

**Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms**

**University of Oklahoma**

**120 David L. Boren Blvd., Suite 2500, Norman, OK 73072**

**Tel: 405 325 6115, FAX: 405 325 7614**

**Email: czhang@ou.edu**

**Professional Preparation**

Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology, China

Computer Science B.S. 2002

Peking University, China Atmospheric Science Ph.D. 2007

**Appointments**

07/2017 – present Research Scientist, CAPS, University of Oklahoma

01/2013 – 06/2017 Regional Atmospheric Modeling Specialist, University of Hawaii at Manoa

08/2009 – 12/2012 Postdoctoral Researcher, IPRC, University of Hawaii at Manoa

08/2007 – 07/2009 Postdoctoral Researcher, Shanghai Typhoon Institute, China

**Publications**

**Publications Most Relevant to Project**

**Zhang, C.**, Y. Wang, and K. Hamilton, 2011: Improved representation of boundary layer clouds over the Southeast Pacific in WRF-ARW using a modified Tiedtke cumulus parameterization scheme. *Mon. Wea. Rev*., **139**, 3489-3513, doi: 10.1175/MWR-D-10-05091.1.

**Zhang, C.**, Y. Wang, A. Lauer, K. Hamilton, and F. Xie, 2012: Cloud base and top heights in the Hawaiian region determined with satellite and ground-based measurements. Geophys. Res. Lett., **39**, L15706, doi:10.1029/2012GL052355.

**Zhang, C.**, Y. Wang, A. Lauer, and K. Hamilton, 2012: Configuration and Evaluation of the WRF Model for the Study of Hawaiian Regional Climate. Mon. Wea. Rev., **140**, 3259-3277, doi: 10.1175/MWR-D-11-00260.1

**Other Significant Publications**

**Zhang, C.**, and Y. Wang, 2018: Why is the simulated climatology of tropical cyclones so sensitive to the choice of cumulus parameterization scheme in the WRF model? Climate Dynamics, doi: 10.1007/s00382-018-4099-1.

**Zhang, C.**, and Y. Wang, 2017: Projected future changes of tropical cyclone activity over the western north and south pacific in a 20-km-mesh regional climate model, *J. Climate*, doi: 10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0597.1.

**Zhang, C.**, Y. Wang, K. Hamilton, and A. Lauer, 2016: Dynamical downscaling of the climate for the Hawaiian Islands. Part I: Present Day. *J. Climate*, **29**, 3027-3048, doi: 10.11175/JCLI-D-15-0432.1.

Miyazaki, K., H.J. Eskes, K. Sudo, and **C. Zhang**, 2014: Global lightning NOx production estimated by an assimilation of multiple satellite datasets. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, **14**, 3277-3305, doi:[10.5194/acp-14-3277-2014](http://dx.doi.org/10.5194/acp-14-3277-2014).

Sakazaki, T., K. Hamilton, **C. Zhang**, and Y. Wang, 2017: Is there a stratospheric pacemaker controlling the daily cycle of tropical rainfall? Geophys. Res. Lett., doi:10.1002/2017GL072549.

**Synergistic Activities**

1. **2007-2009:** Developed a real-time weather forecasting system with advanced data assimilation capability.
2. **2010-2011:** Implemented a modified Tiedtke cumulus scheme into WRF-ARW.
3. **2012-2017:** Developed a regional climate model for Hawaii and the Western Pacific dynamical downscaling projects.
4. **2012-1017:** Implemented a newer Tiedtke cumulus scheme into WRF-ARW.
5. **2015-2018:** Developed an E-epsilon PBL scheme in WRF-ARW.
6. **2017-2018:** Implemented multiple physics schemes in FV3GFS.

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**Ming Xue, Ph.D.**

**Director, Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms (CAPS)**

**Professor, School of Meteorology**

**NWC 2500, David Boren Blvd, Norman OK 73072**

**Tel: 405 325 6037, FAX: 405 325 7614**

**E-mail: mxue@ou.edu**

**Professional Preparation**

Nanjing University, P. R. of China Atmospheric Sciences B.Sc.,1984

Nanjing University, P. R. of China Atmospheric Sciences Master's program 1984-85

University of Reading, U.K. Meteorology Ph.D.,1989

**Appointments**

Jul. 2006 – Present Director, Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms, Univ. of Oklahoma

Mar. 2001 – Jun. 2006 Scientific Director, CAPS, Univ. of Oklahoma

July 2008 – Present. Professor, School of Meteorology, Univ. of Oklahoma

Jun. 2003 – Present. Associate Professor, School of Meteorology, Univ. of Oklahoma

Oct. 1999 – Jun. 2003 Assistant Professor, School of Meteorology, Univ. of Oklahoma

Jan. 1999 – Oct. 1999 Research Assistant Professor, School of Meteorology, Univ. of Oklahoma

Jan.1997 – Dec. 1998 Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of Meteorology, Univ. of Oklahoma

July 1994 – Oct. 1999 Director, ARPS Model Development Project, CAPS

Aug. 1993 – Oct. 1999 Senior Research Scientist, CAPS, Univ. of Oklahoma

Aug. 1992 – July 1993 Research Scientist, CAPS, Univ. of Oklahoma

July 1991 – June 1994 Co‑director, ARPS Model Development Project, CAPS

Oct. 1989 – Aug. 1992 Post‑doctoral Fellow, CAPS, Univ. of Oklahoma

**Five Most Relevant Referred Publications of the Past Three Years**

Hu, X.-M., P. M. Klein, and M. **Xue**, 2013: Evaluation of the updated YSU Planetary Boundary Layer Scheme within WRF for Wind Resource and Air Quality Assessments. J. Geophy. Res., **118**, 10490–10505.

**Xue**, M. and W. Martin, 2006: A high-resolution modeling study of the 24 May 2002 case during IHOP. Part II: Horizontal convective rolls and convective initiation. Mon. Wea. Rev., **134**, 172–191.

**Xue**, M., M. Hu, and A. Schenkman, 2014: Numerical prediction of 8 May 2003 Oklahoma City tornadic supercell and embedded tornado using ARPS with assimilation of WSR-88D radar data. Wea. Forecasting, **29**, 39-62.

Zhou, B., K. Zhu, and M. **Xue**, 2017: A physically-based horizontal subgrid-scale turbulent mixing parameterization for the convective boundary layer in mesoscale models. J. Atmos. Sci., Conditionally accepted.

Clark, A. J., J. S. Kain, P. T. Marsh, J. Correia, Jr., M. **Xue**, and F. Kong, 2012: Forecasting tornado path lengths using a three-dimensional object identification algorithm applied to convection-allowing forecasts. Wea. Forecasting, **27**, 1090-1113.

**Five Other Significant Publications Relevant to This Proposal**

Dawson, D. T., II, M. **Xue**, A. Shapiro, and J. A. Milbrandt, 2015: Sensitivity of real-data simulations of the 3 May 1999 Oklahoma City tornadic supercell and associated tornadoes to multi-moment microphysics. Part I: Storm- and tornado-scale numerical forecasts. Mon. Wea. Rev., **143**, 2241-2265.

Wang, Q.-W. and M. **Xue**, 2012: Convective initiation on 19 June 2002 during IHOP: High-resolution simulations and analysis of the mesoscale structures and convection initiations. J. Geophy. Res., **117**, D12107.

Snook, N. A., M. **Xue**, and Y. Jung, 2015: Multi-scale EnKF assimilation of radar and conventional observations and ensemble forecasting for a tornadic mesoscale convective system. Mon. Wea Rev., 143, 1035-1057.

Schenkman, A., M. **Xue**, and A. Shapiro, 2012: Tornadogenesis in a simulated mesovortex within a real-data-initialized mesoscale convective system. J. Atmos. Sci., **69**, 3372-3390.

Zhou, B., M. **Xue**, and K. Zhu, 2017: A Grid-Refinement-Based Approach to Improving Convective Boundary Layer Parameterization in the Gray Zone. Part II: Algorithms and A Posteriori Tests. J. Atmos. Sci., Under review.

**Synergistic Activities**

Director, Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms, University of Oklahoma, 2006-

Member, WMO World Weather Research Program TIGGE-LAM North American Working Group. 9/2010-

Member, Editorial Board, Acta Meteorologica Sinica. 2011-

Scientific Fellow, National Severe Storms Laboratory, NOAA, 2010, 2011.

Member, Science Advisory Board of National Warn-on-Forecast Project. 2010-

Member, Advisory Committee, National Ensemble Testbed/Developmental Testbed (DTC). 2010-

Member, Advisory Committee of the eXtreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment Project. 2010 -2011.

Co-PI, Associate Director and Analysis and Prediction Thrust Leader of NSF ERC of Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of Atmosphere (CASA) 2006 -

U. of Oklahoma PI of the FAA Model Development and Enhancement Product Development Team.

PI and co-PI of other research grants from NSF, FAA, ONR and NOAA related to storm-scale NWP and radar DA.

Member, Weather Research and Forecast (WRF) Research and Application Board, 2006-

Member, Weather Research and Forecast (WRF) Model Development Science Board, 1999 – 2004

Member, WRF Model Dynamics, Model Physics, Software Architecture, 4DVAR working groups. Participant of WRF model design activities since the early stage.

Principal developer of the Advanced Regional Prediction System and the ARPS EnKF Data Assimilation Systems. Contributor to the ARPS 3DVar system development.

**Jeff McQueen, M.S.**

**Physics Scientist, NOAA/NCEP/EMC**

**5830 University Research Ct**

**College Park, MD, 20740**

**Tel: 301 683 3734, Email: Jeff.McQueen@noaa.gov**

**Professional Preparation**

Johns Hopkins University, MD, Graduate classes in Computer Science, 1986-87

The Colorado State University, Atmo. Sci., M.S., 1985

University of Virginia, VA, Environmental Science, B.A., 1982

**Appointments**

2009 – Present  Physics Scientist, NOAA/NCEP/EMC, USA.

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**Five Publications Most Relevant to This Proposal**

Huang, J., J. McQueen, J. Wilczak, I. Djalalova, I. Stajner, P. Shafran, D. Allured, P. Lee, L. Pan, D. Tong,

H.-C. Huang, G. DiMego, S. Upadhayay, L. Delle Monache.(2017) Improving NOAA NAQFC PM2.5 predictions with a bias correction approach. Wea. Forec., 32,2. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/WAF-D-16-0118.1

Lee. P., McQueen, J.T., Stajner, I., J. Huang, Li Pan, D. Tong, H-C Kim, Y. Tang , S. Kondragunta, M. Ruminski, S. Lu, E. Rogers, R. Saylor1, P. Shafran, H-C Huang, J. Gorline, S. Upadhayay, and R. Artz, 2016: NAQFC developmental forecast guidance for fine particulate matter (PM2.5). Wea. Forec. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/WAF-D-15-0163.1.

Stajner, I., J. McQueen, J. Huang, P. Lee, R. Draxler, D. Tong, M. G. Ruminski, and P. Dickerson, 2014: NOAA’s Operational Air Quality Prediction. 18th Joint Conference on the Applications of Air Pollution Meteorology with the A&WMA, Atlanta, GA, 2-6 Feb. 2014.

McQueen, J.T., C. M. Tassone, M. Tsidulko, G. Manikin, G. DiMego, W. Lapenta, W. R. Pendergrass, C. A. Vogel, E. J. Welton, E. Joseph, M. Hicks, B. B. Demoz, R. M. Hoff, R. Delgado, J. Compton, and M. D. Simpson, 2011: An Ad-Hoc PBL variability experiment over the Washington, DC area. Special Symposium on Applications of Air Pollution Meteorology, Seattle, WA, 24-28, Jan. 2011.

McQueen, J.T., J. Du, B. Zhou, G. Manikin, B. Ferrier, H.-Y. Chuang, G. DiMego, and Z. Toth, 2005: Recent Upgrades to the NCEP Short Range Ensemble Forecasting System (SREF) and Future Plans. *17th Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction. Amer. Meteo. Soc.* 11A.2, Washington, D.C.,. 10 pp. [http://ams.confex.com/ams/pdfpapers/94665.pdf](http://ams.confex.com/ams/pdfpapers/94666.pdf)

**Five Other Significant Publications Relevant to This Proposal**

Huang, J., **J. McQueen**, J. Wilczak, I. Djalalova, I. Stajner, P. Shafran, D. Allured, P. Lee, L. Pan, D. Tong, H.-C. Huang, G. DiMego, S. Upadhayay, L. Delle Monache.(2017) Improving NOAA NAQFC PM2.5 predictions with a bias correction approach. Wea. Forec., 32,2. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/WAF-D-16-0118.1

Lee., P**., I. McQueen**, I. Stajner, J Huang, L Pan, D. Tong, H-C Kim, Y. Tang , S. Kondragunta, M. Ruminski, S. Lu, E. Rogers, R. Saylor1, P. Shafran, H-C Huang, J. Gorline, S. Upadhayay, and R. Artz, 2016: NAQFC developmental forecast guidance for fine particulate matter (PM2.5). Wea. Forec. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/WAF-D-15-0163.1.

Stajner, I., J**. McQueen**, J. Huang, P. Lee, R. Draxler, D. Tong, M. G. Ruminski, and P. Dickerson, 2014: NOAA’s Operational Air Quality Prediction. 18th Joint Conference on the Applications of Air Pollution Meteorology with the A&WMA, Atlanta, GA, 2-6 Feb. 2014.

**McQueen, J**, M. Tassone, M. Tsidulko, G. Manikin, G. DiMego, W. Lapenta, W. R. Pendergrass, C. A. Vogel, E. J. Welton, E. Joseph, M. Hicks, B. B. Demoz, R. M. Hoff, R. Delgado, J. Compton, and M. D. Simpson, 2011: An Ad-Hoc PBL variability experiment over the Washington, DC area. Special Symposium on Applications of Air Pollution Meteorology, Seattle, WA, 24-28, Jan. 2011.

**McQueen,** J., J. Du, B. Zhou, G. Manikin, B. Ferrier, H.-Y. Chuang, G. DiMego, and Z. Toth, 2005: Recent Upgrades to the NCEP Short Range Ensemble Forecasting System (SREF) and Future Plans. *17th Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction. Amer. Meteo. Soc.* 11A.2, Washington, D.C.,. 10 pp. [http://ams.confex.com/ams/pdfpapers/94665.pdf](http://ams.confex.com/ams/pdfpapers/94666.pdf)

**Synergistic Activities**

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**Jianping Huang, Ph.D.**

**Support Scientist III, IMSG, NOAA/NCEP/EMC**

**5830 University Research Ct**

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**Tel: 301 683 3734, Email: Jianping.huang@noaa.gov**

**Professional Preparation**

The Hong Kong University of Science & Technique, China Appl. Math., Ph.D., 2001-2005

Peking University, China, Atmos. Phys. & Atmos. Environ., Ph.D. Candidate, 2000-2001

Nanjing Institute of Meteorology, China, Atmos. Phys. &Atmos. Environ., M.S., 1995-1998

**Appointments**

2009 – Present  Support Scientist III, IMSG, NOAA/NCEP/EMC, USA.

2006 – 2009 Post-doc Research Associate, Yale University, USA.

2005 – 2006  Post-doc Research Associate, NC State University, USA.

1998 – 2000   Assistant Professor, Nanjing Institute of Meteorology, China.

**Five Publications Most Relevant to This Proposal**

Liu, C., E. Fedorovich, and **J. Huang** (2018), Revisiting entrainment relationships for shear-free and sheared convective boundary layers through large-eddy simulation. Quarterly Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society. 144(716): 2182-2195. doi: 10.1002/qj.3330.

Liu, C., **J. Huang**, and E Fedorovich, X.M. Hu, Y. Wang, X. Lee (2018), The effect of aerosol radiative heating on turbulence statistics and spectra in the atmospheric convective boundary layer: a large-eddy simulation study. *Atmosphere*, 9(9): 347.

Zhao, K., Bao, Y., **Huang, J.,** Wu, Y., Moshary, F., Arend, M., . . . Lee, X. (2018), A high-resolution modeling study of a heat wave-driven ozone exceedance event in New York City and surrounding regions. *Atmos. Environ*., <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosenv.2018.10.059>

**Huang, J.,** J. McQueen, J. Wilczak, etc. (2017), Improving NOAA NAQFC PM2.5 predictions with bias correction approach, *Wea. Forecasting*, 32, 404-421, doi: 10.1175/WAF-D-16-0118.1.

Lee., P., J. McQueen, I. Stajner, **J. Huang**, etc. (2017), NAQFC Developmental Forecast guidance for fine particulate matter (PM2.5), *Wea. Forecasting*, 32, 343-360, doi: 10.1175/WAF-D-15-0163.1.

**Five Other Significant Publications Relevant to This Proposal**

**Huang., J.**, C. Zhou, X. Lee, Y. Bao, X. Zhao, J. Fung, A. Richter, X. Liu, Y. Zheng (2013), The effects of rapid urbanization on the levels in tropospheric nitrogen dioxide and ozone over East China. Atmos. Environ., 558-567. DOI: 10.1016/j.atmosenv.2013.05.030.

**Huang., J.**, X. Lee, and E. Patton (2011), Entrainment and Budget Analyses of Heat, Water Vapor and Carbon Dioxide in the Convective Boundary Layer, *J. Geophys. Res*., 116, D06308, doi:10.1029/2010/JD014938.

**Huang J**, X. Lee, and E. Patton (2009), Dissimilarity of scalar transport in the convective boundary layer in inhomogeneous landscapes, *Boundary-Layer Meteorol*., 130:327-345.

**Huang J**, X. Lee, and E. Patton (2008), A Modeling Study of Flux Imbalance and the Influence of Entrainment in the Convective Boundary Layer, *Boundary-Layer Meteorol*., 27: 273-292.

**Huang J**, J. Fung, and K. Lau (2006), Integrated Processes Analysis and Systematic Meteorological Classification of Ozone Episodes, *J. Geophys. Res.,* 111, D20309, doi:10.1029/2005JD007012.

**Synergistic Activities**

2018-Present: Completed the off-line coupling of FV3GFS with CMAQ as a strong candidate of the next operational NAQFC at NOAA/NCEP.

2009-Present: As a code manager of the NAQFC, support the operational implementation of NAQFC at NOAA/NCEP.

2016-2018: Implemented the Analog Ensemble and Kalman Filter Analog Ensemble bias correction codes into the NAQFC for improving surface O3 and PM2.5 at NOAA.

2006-2009: Coupled a land-surface model (LSM) with the NCAR-developed large-eddy simulation (LES) model to investigate the vegetation-atmosphere exchange of heat, water vapor, and carbon dioxide (CO2) in heterogeneous landscapes.

2005-2006: Coupled the CB05 gas-phase mechanism into the WRF/Chem to improve the surface O3 predictions.

# 6. Current and Pending Federal Support for PIs

**Current and pending federal support for Xiao-Ming Hu**

“Evaluation and Optimization of Two New Scale-Aware PBL Schemes within WRF for the Prediction of Day- and Night-Time Storm Environment and Tornadic Storms during VORTEX-SE”, Co-PI, NOAA, $287,126, 9/1/2017-8/31/2019. 6 months/year.

**Current and pending federal support for Chunxi Zhang**

“Projecting near-term climate variability and change for the main Hawaiian Islands to actionable climate information to resource managers and decision makers”, subaward title “Projecting near-term climate variability and change for the main Hawaiian Islands: Dynamical downscaling”, subrecipient PI, DOI-PICSC, $73,188, 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2019.

“Continued Enhancements to FV3 Model with Advanced Physics through CCPP and Convective-Scale Data Assimilation into GSI and JEDI for Convection-Allowing Forecasting and Evaluations through Hazardous Weather Testbed towards Accelerated Operational Implementation of FV3 for Mesoscale Applications”, Co-PI, NOAA, $199,581, 07/01/2018-06/30/2019, 8 months/year.

“Understanding the Physical Processes underlying the Precipitation Diurnal Cycles in the Tropics through Observations and Cloud-Resolving Modeling”, Co-PI, NASA, $508.523, 01/01/2019-12/31/2021, 2 months/year, Pending.

**Current and pending federal support for Ming Xue**

“Assimilation of High-Frequency GOES-R Geostationary Lightning Mapper (GLM) Flash Extent Density Data in GSI-Based EnKF and Hybrid for Improving Convective Scale Weather Predictions”, PI, NOAA GOES-R Program, $581,146, 4/1/2017-3/31/2020, 1 month/year.

“A Partnership to Develop and Evaluate Optimized Realtime Convective-Scale Ensemble Data Assimilation and Prediction Systems for Hazardous Weather: Toward the Goals of Weather Ready Nation”, PI, NOAA, $450,000, 7/1/2013-6/30/2016, 0.25 months/year.

“Advanced Data Assimilation and Prediction Research for Convective-Scale "Warn-on-Forecast"”, PI, NOAA, $200,000, 10/1/2016-9/30/2017. 0.5 month/year.

"The Severe Hail Analysis, Representation, and Prediction (SHARP) Project," PI, NSF, $819K. 9/15/2013 – 8/31/2017. No cost extension.

"Improving Initial Conditions and their Perturbations through Ensemble-Based Data Assimilation for Optimized Storm-Scale Ensemble Prediction in Support of HWT Severe Weather Forecasting," PI. NOAA, $249,705. 9/2015 – 8/2017, 0.25 m/year.

"Storm-Scale Ensemble Prediction Optimized for Heavy Precipitation Forecasting in Support of the Hydrometeorology Testbed (HMT)”, PI, NOAA, $239,700, 9/2015 – 8/2017, 0.25m/year.

“Development and Implementation of Probabilistic Hail Forecast Products using Multi-Moment Microphysics and Machine Learning Algorithms” Co-PI. NOAA, $335K, 10/1/2016-9/30/2018. 0.25 month/year.

“Impact of Assimilating Phased Array Radar Observations on Convective-scale Numerical Weather Prediction Model for Severe Weather Forecasts”, co-PI, NOAA, $546,000, 5/1/2017-4/30/2019, 0.5 month/year

“Convective-Allowing Ensemble Prediction for Heavy Precipitation in Support of the Hydrometeorology Testbed (HMT): New QPF Products, Data Assimilation Techniques and Prediction Model”, PI, NOAA, $290K, 7/1/2017-8/30/2019, 0.5 month/year, Pending.

“Development and Optimization of Radar-Assimilating Ensemble-Based Data Assimilation for Storm-Scale Ensemble Prediction in Support of HWT Spring Experiment”, PI, NOAA, $291K, 7/1/2017-8/30/2019, 0.5 month/year, Pending.

“PREEVENTS Track 2: Understanding and Improving the Prediction of Cascading Storm-Flood-Landslide-Debris Flow Hazards: An Integrated Approach”, NSF, $1,995,703, Co-PI, 0.5 month/yr., Pending.

# 7. Data Management Plan

Environmental data produced in the project will be documented and made available initially to project collaborators and later freely shared with the meteorological research community and the general public as described in the following:

Graphics displaying the model results generated by this project are made accessible to the general public via links on the CAPS web site. http://www.caps.ou.edu/micronet/PBLcomparison2011Spring.html

The simulation output will be made available in WRF model files of NetCDF or HDF format, common open standard formats. File descriptions, data access and visualization tools are documented and supported separately by the WRF model project http://www.wrf-model.org

Model data files are very large and are saved as WRF split files (one per processor) on the mass storage facilities at the National Science Foundation (NSF) eXtreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment (XSEDE) computing center where created. Due to the aggregate size of the files, access must be made directly from the appropriate host computing center. Any model data created for this project on the Oklahoma Supercomputing Center for Education and Research (OSCER) at the University of Oklahoma will be archived on the OSCER Petastore system, and data can be copied from there by CAPS personnel. Access methods will be arranged by CAPS personnel, and depending on size of request provided via ftp access or storage media provided by the requester.

Access to the model data will be granted to other researchers after one year after the end of each annual project period.

Data access questions and requests can be made via

Data Request

Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms

University of Oklahoma

120 David Boren Blvd., Suite 2500

Norman, OK 73072

datarequest@caps.ou.edu