



# High Resolution Source Attribution of PM Health Impacts with the CMAQ Adjoint Model

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# What is Black Carbon?

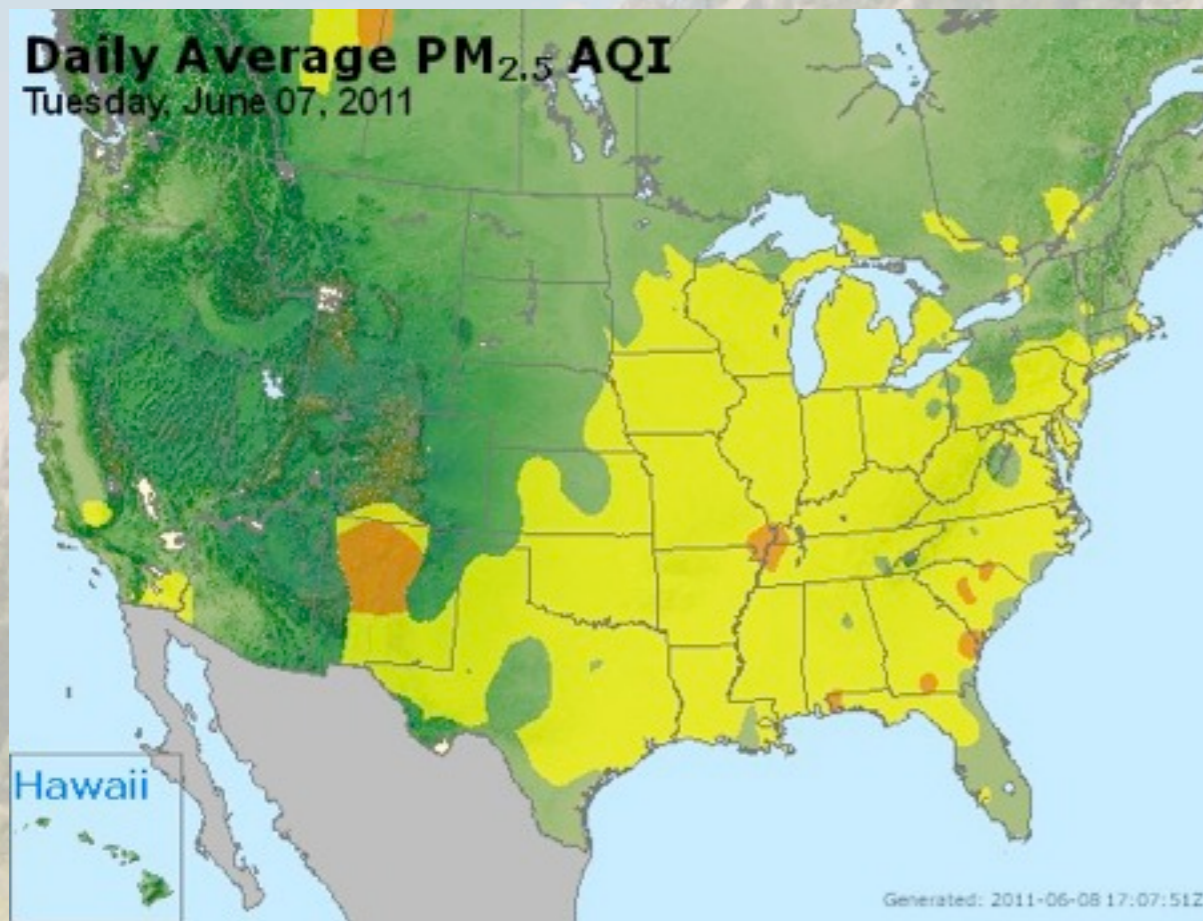
- Component of  $PM_{2.5}$  produced by incomplete combustion of fossil-fuel, bio-fuel, and open biomass burning.
- Light-absorbing particles
- Commonly called “soot”
- $PM_{2.5}$  mixtures with higher BC percentage may have greater effects on mortality (Cooke et al., 2007)



Smoke billowing from a plant in Copsa Mica, Romania.  
Photograph: Andrew Holbrooke/Corbis. Source: The Guardian



# Where is it Coming From?



EPA AIRNow  
June 07, 2011



MODIS  
June 07, 2011



# Co-benefits of Reducing BC

- Health effects of BC
- Effects on climate change.
- BC is short-lived climate forcer
  - “Reducing black carbon...now will slow the rate of climate change within the first half of this century” (UNEP, 2011).
  - “A small number of emission reduction measures targeting black carbon...could immediately begin to protect climate, [and] public health” (UNEP, 2011).



Schematic representation of BC effect on Arctic melting



# Adjoint Models

- Forward sensitivity analysis are source-based
- Adjoint method provides receptor-based sensitivities
- Adjoint method has 2 main advantages over FD:
  - Quickly calculate sensitivities with respect to all model parameters (sources) at the same time.
  - Don't need multiple forward runs



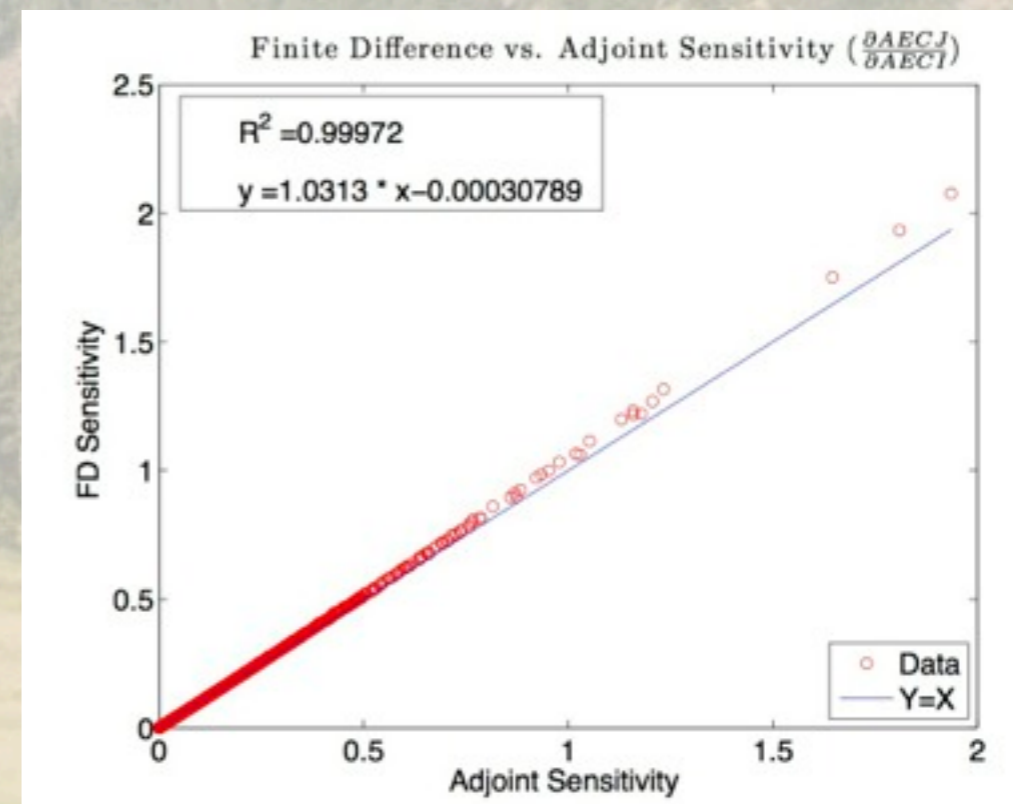
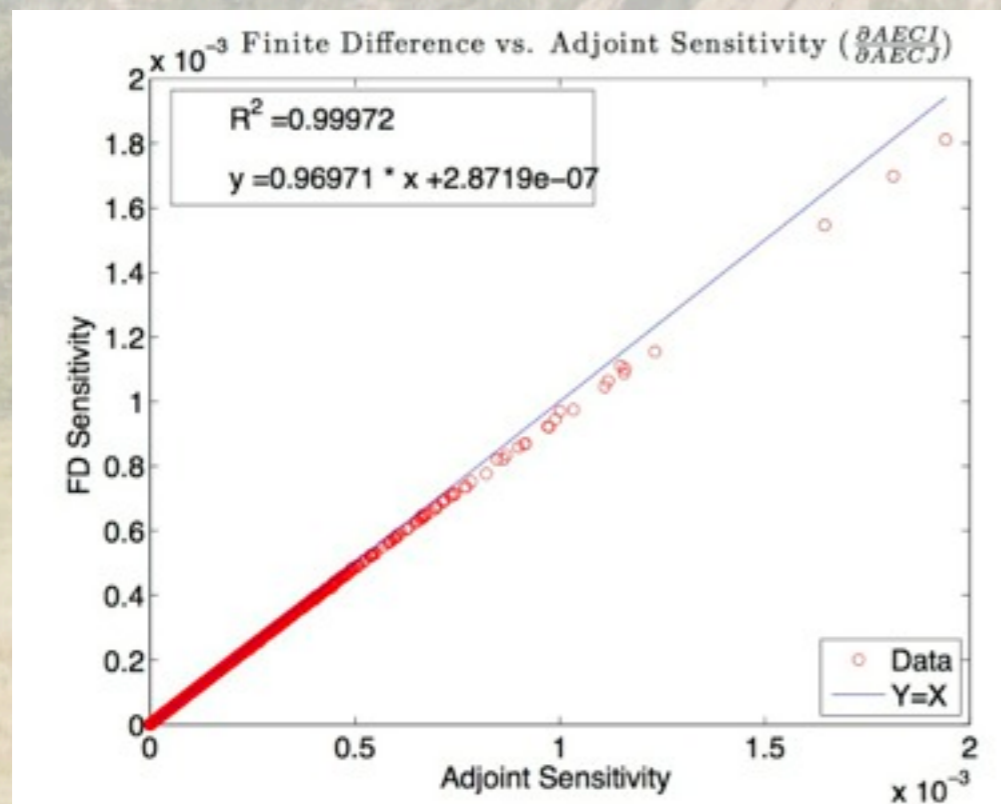
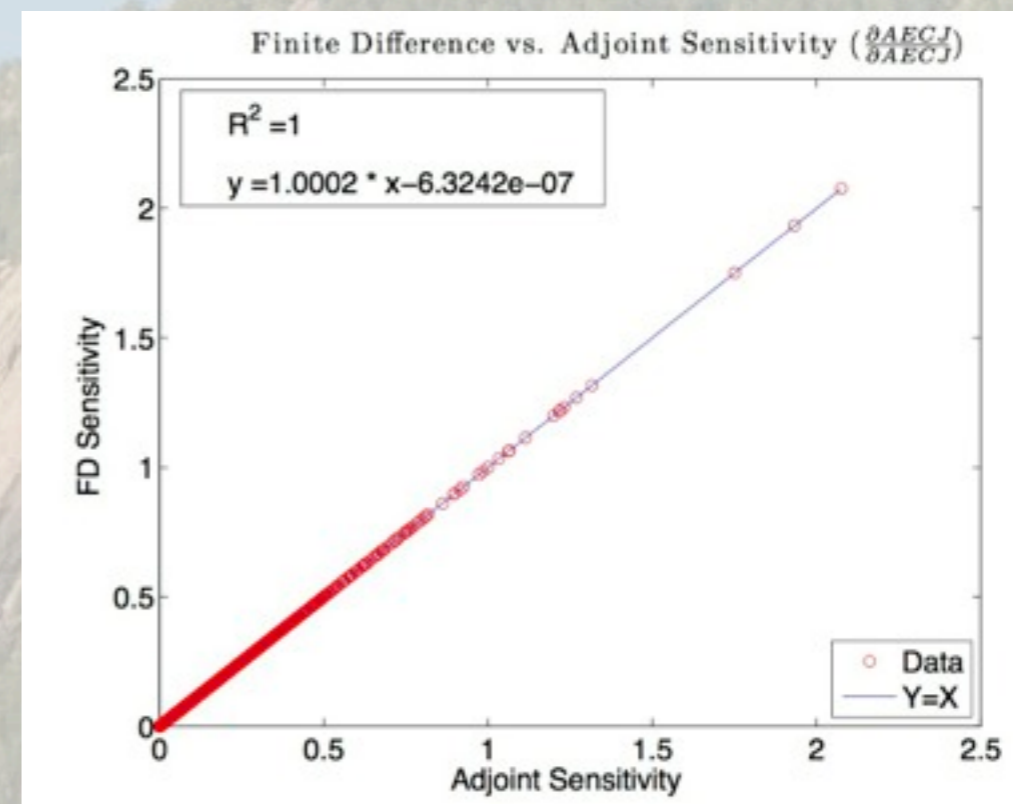
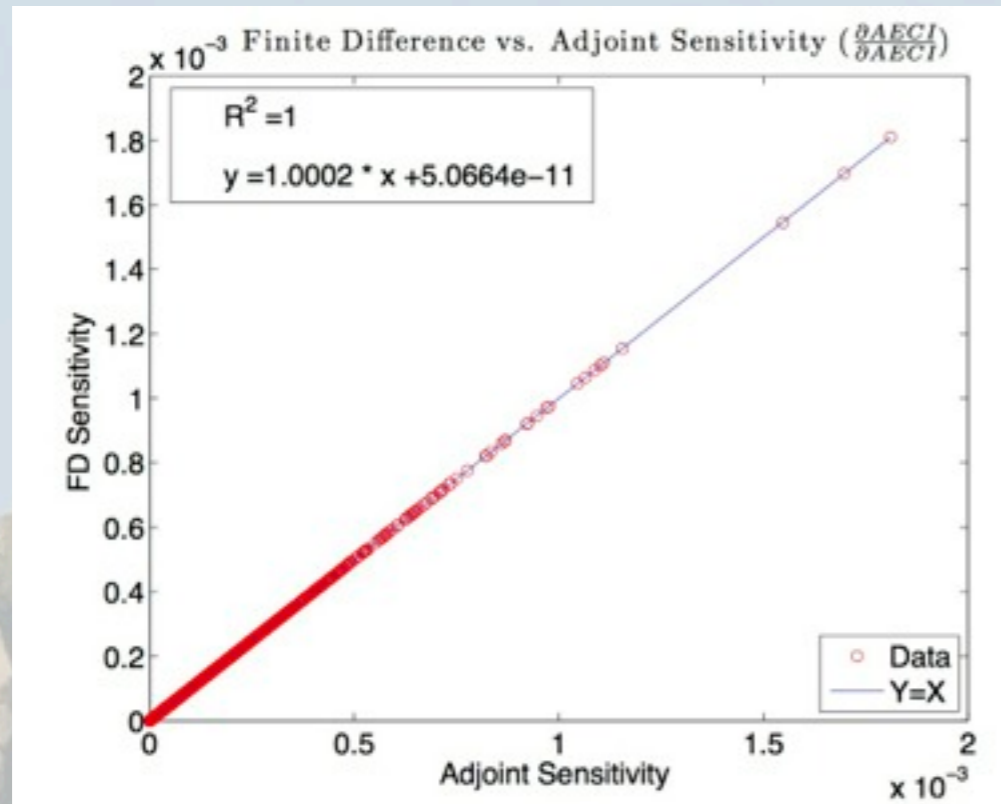


# Adjoint Validation

- Validate adjoint by comparing Finite Difference sensitivities to Adjoint sensitivities.
- Finite Difference:
  - Run simulation --> store output values
  - Run simulation after perturbing parameter --> store output values
  - $FD = (\text{Perturbed output} - \text{base output}) / \text{perturbation}$
- Adjoint:
  - Specify adjoint forcing (what drives adjoint model)
  - Run simulation

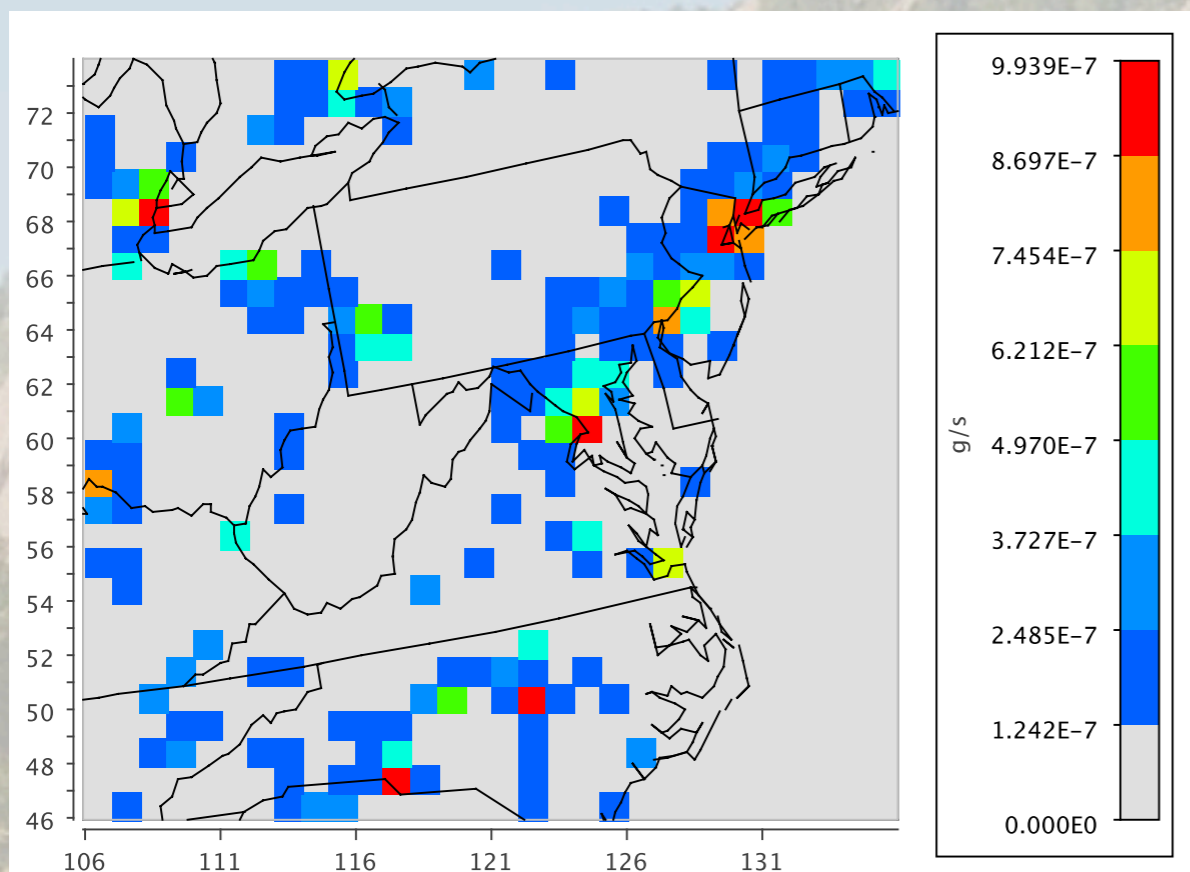


# Aerosol Dynamics - Full Model

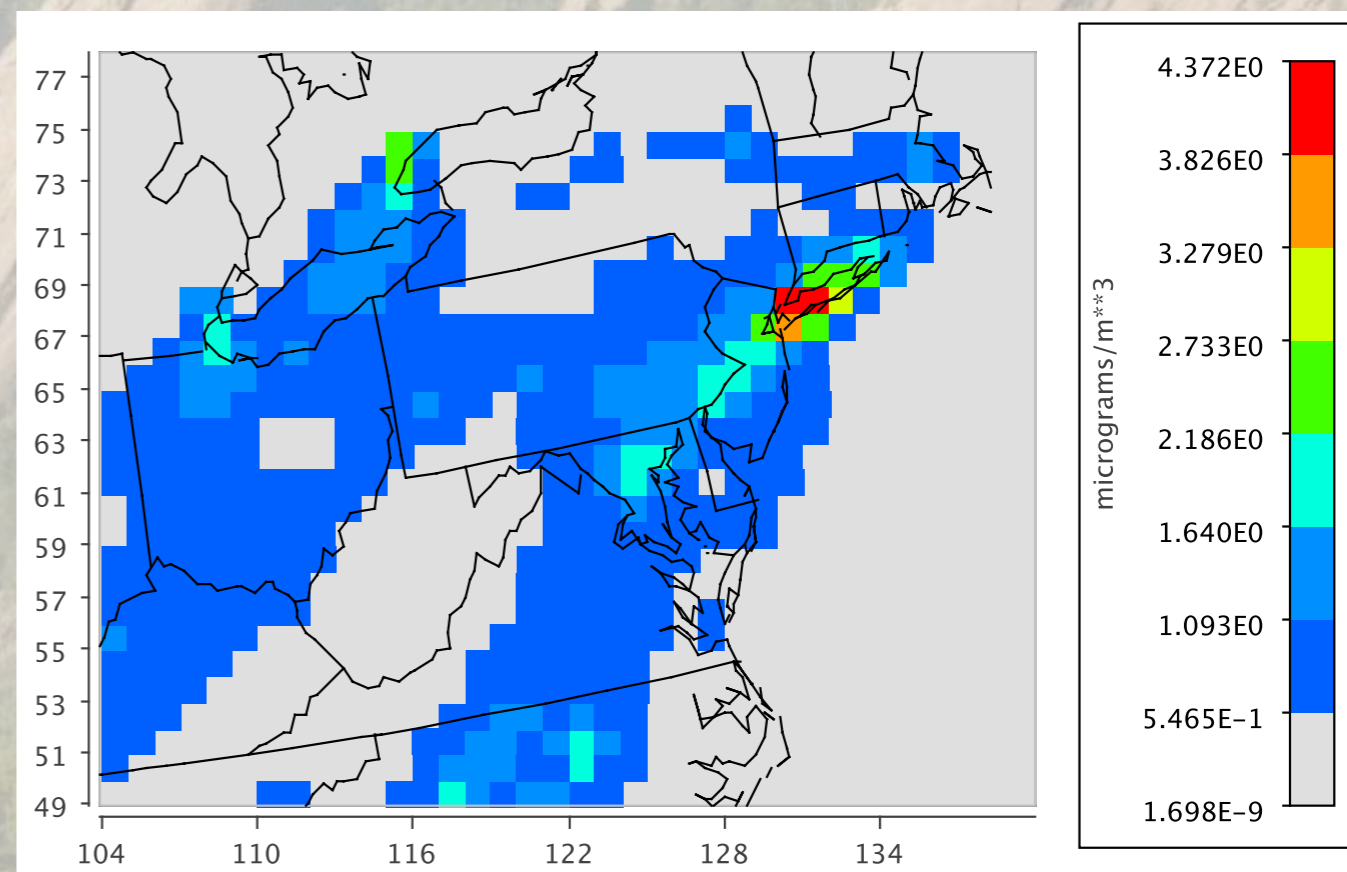




# Black Carbon Analysis



AECJ Emissions



AECJ Concentrations



# Black Carbon Analysis - Balt.

Health Impact Function:  $\Delta Mort = y_0(1 - \exp^{-\beta \Delta X})Pop$

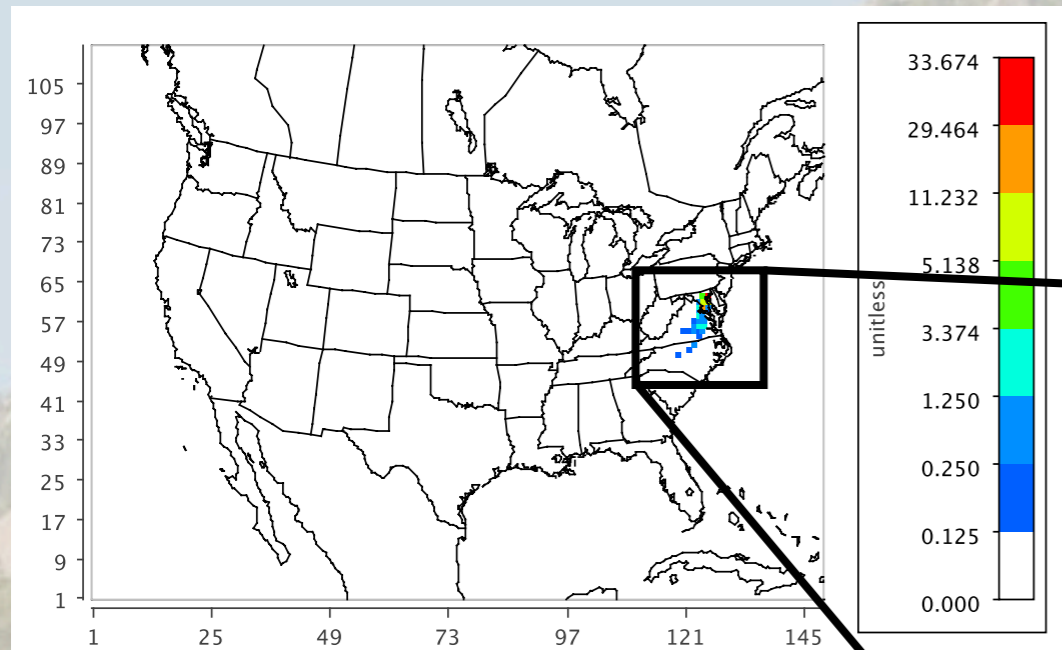
- $y_0$  = baseline mortality rate, 1.02 (Calculated from Maryland Vital Statistics)
- $\beta$  = Concentration Response Factor, 0.005827 (calculated from Relative Risk from Annenberg et al. 2011.  $PM_{2.5}$  only)
- $X$  = concentration (microgram per cubic meter for BC)
- $Pop$  = population, 636,919 (Baltimore, MD. 2008 Maryland Vital Statistics)

J = Health Impact Function = 2.05

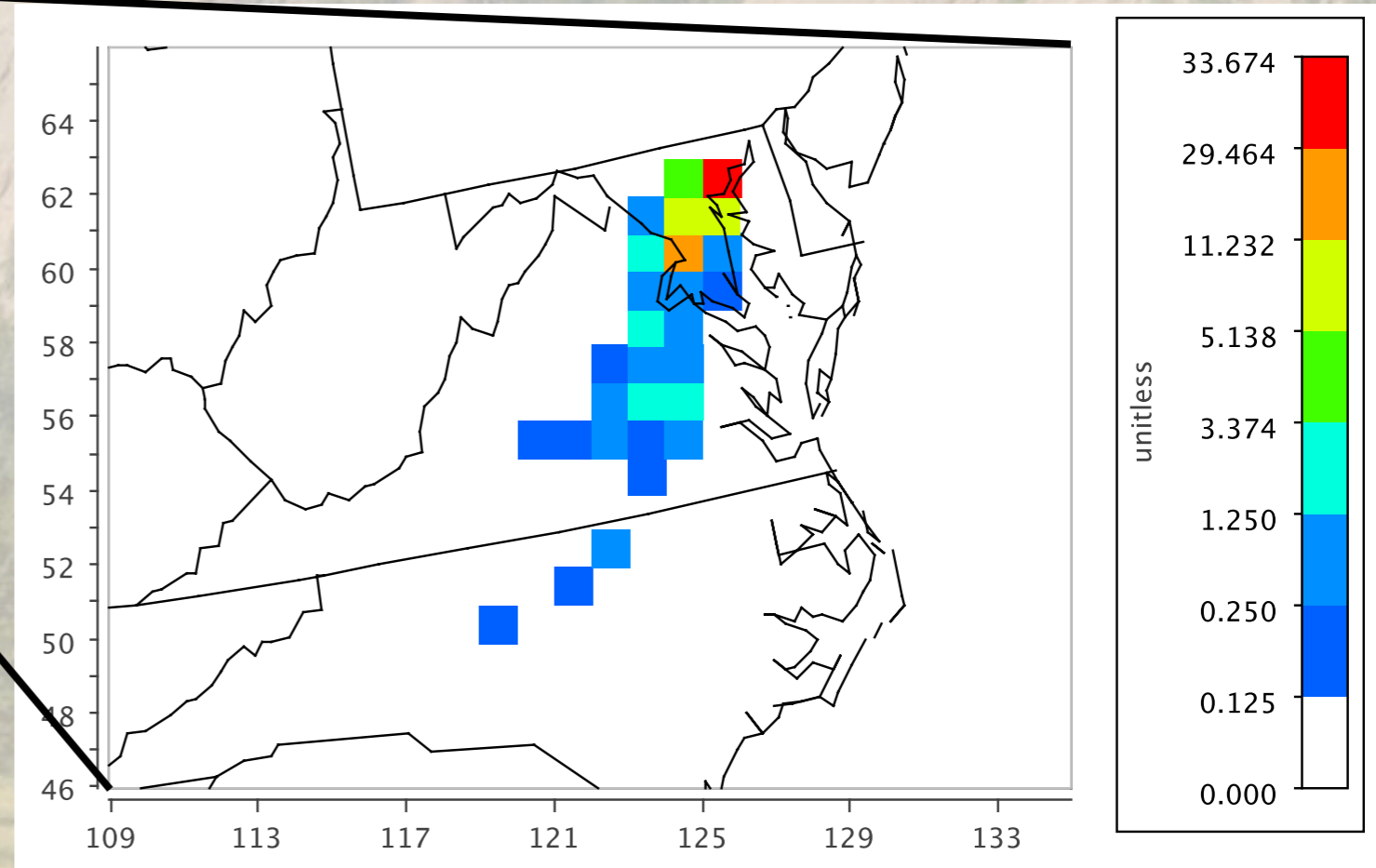
Adjoint model driven by:  $\frac{\partial Mort}{\partial X} = \beta * y_0 * Pop * \exp^{-\beta X}$



# Black Carbon Analysis - Balt.



$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial E_{i,j,k}} \frac{E_{i,j,k}}{J} \times 100\%$$



Sensitivity of mortalities caused by black carbon in Baltimore, MD with respect to black carbon emissions.  
April 3, 2008, 7:00 PM Local to  
April 4, 2008, 7:00 PM Local



# Black Carbon Analysis - NY

Health Impact Function:  $\Delta Mort = y_0(1 - \exp^{-\beta \Delta X})Pop$

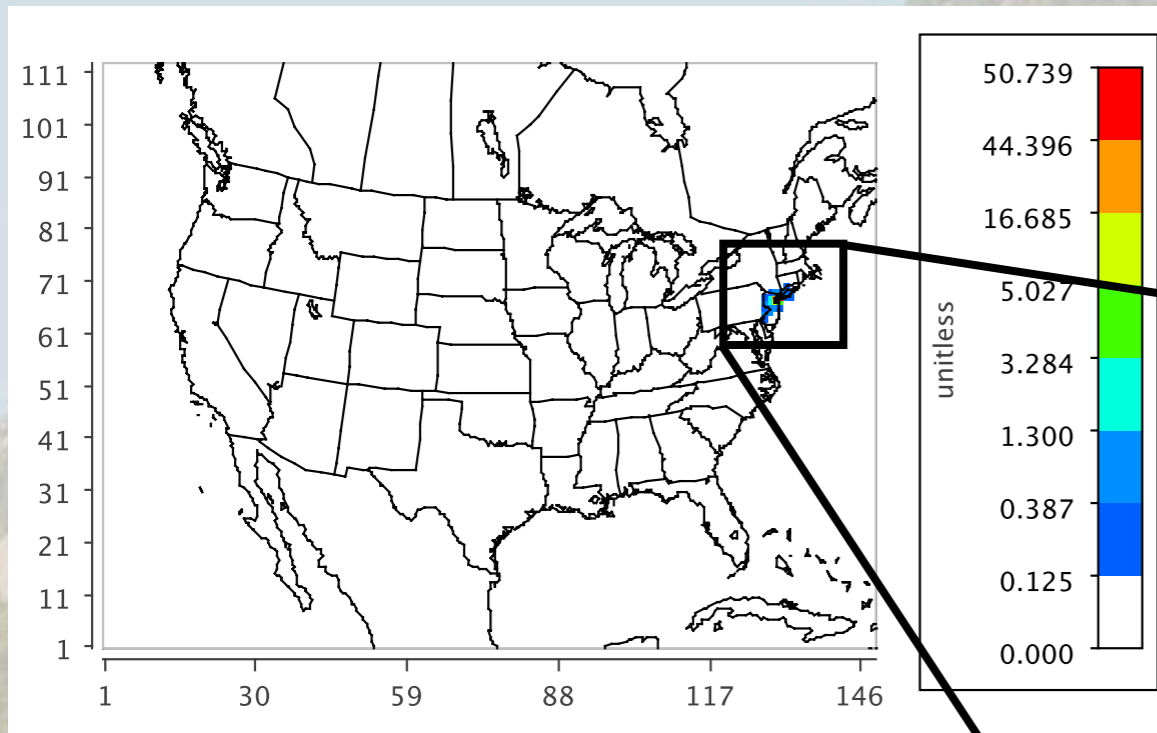
- $y_0$  = baseline mortality rate, 0.634 (Calculated from NY Vital Statistics)
- $\beta$  = Concentration Response Factor, 0.005827 (calculated from Relative Risk from Annenberg et al. 2011. PM<sub>2.5</sub> only)
- $X$  = concentration (microgram per cubic meter for BC)
- $Pop$  = population, 8,363,710 (NY, NY. 2008 New York Vital Statistics)

J = Health Impact Function = 36.96

Adjoint model driven by:  $\frac{\partial Mort}{\partial X} = \beta * y_0 * Pop * \exp^{-\beta X}$

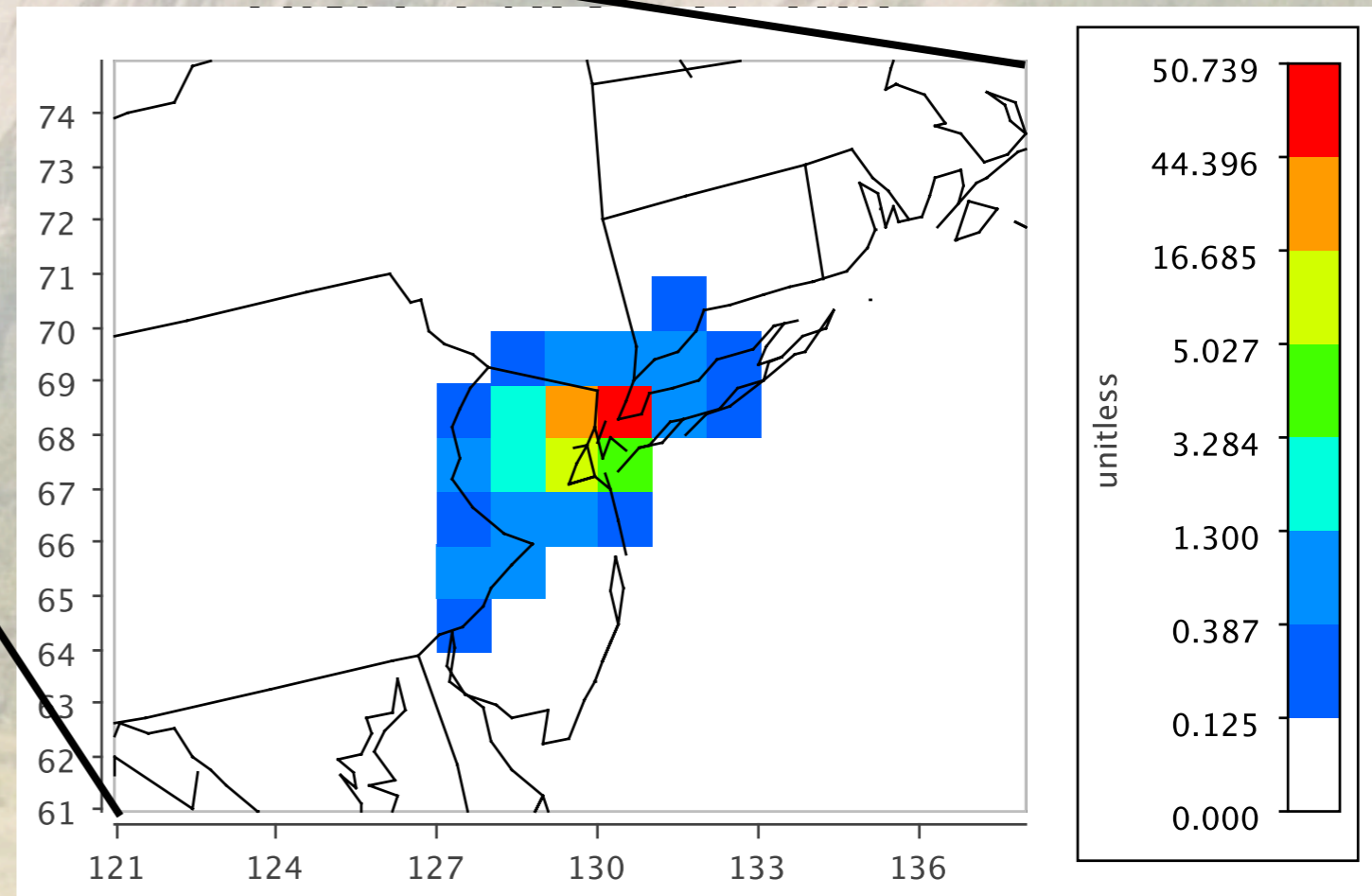


# Black Carbon Analysis - NY



$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial E_{i,j,k}} \frac{E_{i,j,k}}{J} \times 100\%$$

Sensitivity of mortalities caused by black carbon in New York, NY with respect to black carbon emissions.  
April 3, 2008, 7:00 PM Local to  
April 4, 2008, 7:00 PM Local





# Summary

- Adjoint of CMAQ aerosol module has been developed and validated for black carbon.
- Sensitivities with respect to emissions have been obtained for single day simulations for Baltimore, MD and New York city.
  - Mortalities in Baltimore caused by exposure to black carbon most sensitive to emissions in Baltimore down through DC.
  - Mortalities in New York city caused by exposure to black carbon most sensitive to emissions in New York City and into Newark and New Brunswick, NJ.



# Future Work

- Expand Black Carbon simulation time period to 4 months.
  - Average over 4 day periods (atmospheric lifetime of BC).
- Run simulations for various regions and cities.
  - Requires gridded baseline mortality rates and gridded populations for cost functions consisting of a range of cells.