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CMAS Quarterly

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Community Modeling and Analysis System

Upcoming Events

(All are at UNC unless otherwise indicated)

9TH ANNUAL CMAS CONFERENCE:

- October 11-13, 2010

SMOKE Training:

- October 6-8, 2010

CMAQ Training:

- October 14-15, 2010

BenMAP Training:

- October 18-20, 2010

Remote Sensing Data Usage in Air Quality Assessments:

- October 20-22, 2010

The next SMOKE, CMAQ, and BenMAP trainings will be held in April 2011 (dates TBD)

Can't come to us for training? Have the same courses taught on-site at your location. Visit <http://www.cmascenter.org/training/classes.cfm> or e-mail cmas@unc.edu.



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Please come visit us on the Web!

www.cmascenter.org

New Features of 2010 CMAS Conference

October is almost here, which means the annual CMAS conference is knocking at the door (October 11-13, 2010). For the ninth year in a row, we have a record number of both attendees and presentations. This year, we will have two parallel sessions on the first day (Monday, October 11) in addition to the usual two parallel sessions on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, we will have a special session

titled "Air Quality Science: An Essential Ingredient for Successful Air Pollution Health Studies." The session will include invited speakers, presentations, and panel discussions.

As part of the CMAS Center's efforts to engage the community, we have established a new venue for communication: the "CMAS Users Forum." This is a platform for open participation, similar to the developers meetings held in past years. Immediately

following this year's conference (on Thursday, October 14), the first CMAS Users Forum will be conducted in the Friday Center. The agenda will include a short presentation by EPA on their five-year strategic plan, and also presentations by members of the community (including some of you) on potential scientific gaps and other key issues that are in need of attention. Those presentations will be followed by an open question-and-answer period. The format of the forum will likely change each year as new priorities and needs emerge. We encourage you to take this opportunity to learn more about CMAS plans and future developments, and of course we want to hear from you and get your feedback.

EPA Announces New Procedures for Contributed CMAQ Codes

EPA has indicated that it intends to freeze the CMAQ model code (in a "beta" version) in March 2011, in advance of the intended September 2011 public release of CMAQv5.0. This CMAQ-beta code will be made available upon request from EPA. This action will provide an opportunity for interested parties in the CMAQ modeling community to work with EPA staff to integrate new contributed modules into the upcoming model release.

Code contributions must be modular, and must work within the code and data structures of the beta version of the model. Contributors must provide documentation, including science descriptions and model evaluations, for the contributed code. In addition, contributors must agree to provide continued support of their codes as they are used by EPA and the CMAQ user community. Additional information on these new procedures for code contributions will be discussed at the CMAS Conference next month in Chapel Hill, NC, and will also be announced on EPA's website (<http://www.epa.gov/amad/>).

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Next Year Will Mark the CMAS Center's Tenth Anniversary

We Hope You Will Join Us for the **10th Annual CMAS Conference**

October 24-26, 2011

The Friday Center
Chapel Hill, NC

CMAS Training Program: A Great Service — Here, There, Everywhere

Sponsored by the U.S. EPA, CMAS staff have recently developed an advanced training module on how to use the Environmental Benefits Mapping and Analyses Program (BenMAP) for conducting local-scale analyses. This advanced module (along with the introductory course) was offered at no cost as a pilot at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill earlier this year, to solicit feedback on the structure and design of the course. Based upon this feedback, the course was refined, and CMAS staff members Sarav Arunachalam and Alexis Zubrow then conducted two off-site trainings: one at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, GA (August 30 – September 1, 2010), and the other at the California EPA in Oakland, CA (September 13-15, 2010). The training at CDC was attended by CDC staff, Emory University faculty, and representatives from three state agencies (Florida, Oregon, and New York) who are participating in development of the CDC National Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) program. The overall goal of this program is to provide information from a nationwide network of health and environmental data systems to drive actions that improve community health. In this process, CDC is evaluating methods for linking data from ongoing, existing

health effects surveillance systems in local areas with data from existing human exposure and environmental hazards surveillance/monitoring systems. The tools and databases developed through the project will be used in advancing the development of an EPHT network at the state, local, and national levels. Attending the Oakland, CA, training were staff from the California EPA's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the California Air Resources Board

On October 20-22, 2010, there will be a training session on "Remote Sensing Data Usage in Air Quality Assessments" at UNC-Chapel Hill. The 2.5-day course will cover the use of aerosol and trace-gas data products from the satellite-based MODIS and OMI instruments and AERONET (ground-based lidar network) in air quality studies. Along with lectures and demonstrations of products from web-based data warehouses, hands-on modules will guide participants in examining postprocessed CMAQ model output from selected air pollution episodes to perform one-to-one comparisons against the remotely sensed data. To register, please go to this web site: http://www.cmascenter.org/training/classes/remsen_class.cfm.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is sponsoring UNC-Chapel

Hill and North Carolina State University for their role in a collaborative U.S.-India program to conduct a workshop on air quality that will be hosted by Ansal Institute of Technology in Gurgaon, India. Scientists from the U.S. EPA and the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will also be part of this collaboration. CMAS scientists will travel to India in December 2010 to participate in the workshop and present applications of air quality modeling systems in Southeast Asia to address various air quality challenges in that region. The collaborative research program is part of efforts to help fulfill India's long-term needs in developing feasible, comprehensive air quality decision support systems, and to develop resources within the Indian air quality research and regulatory communities in areas of measurements, modeling, and analyses. By bringing together experts from the U.S. and India, the workshop will help identify priority areas of air quality research and development, and strengthen a commitment for long-term collaboration. The workshop will include three days of invited lectures and presentations followed by a seven-day hands-on training segment in which CMAS scientists will conduct training sessions on SMOKE and CMAQ. One important near-term outcome of this workshop, including the training

sessions, will be to formulate a vision and develop a plan for building an air quality forecasting system for a selected metropolitan area in India. It is expected that more than 100 attendees will participate in the workshop, with about 15 scientists and engineers attending the training. For more information and to register, please visit <http://aitgurgaon.org/aqw/index.php>.

January 2011 is another busy month for CMAS scientists to reach out to the international community. The Korean Society for Atmospheric Environment (KOSAE) and the CMAS Center will jointly conduct an international conference titled "Air Quality Modeling in Asia 2011," which will be held January 20-28, 2011, in Seoul, Korea. The conference will be a great opportunity for the model user and development communities to share their modeling experiences with air quality and emissions modeling applications and development, and to seek an effective way to improve air quality in Asia. The meeting will include hands-on training for interested participants. CMAS scientists will conduct training sessions on SMOKE (January 20-21), introductory CMAQ (January 22-23) and advanced CMAQ (January 24). Keep an eye on the CMAS website (<http://www.cmascenter.org>) for more information and the opportunity to register.