Improvement of Air Quality Modeling in Hong Kong by Using MM5 Coupled with LSM

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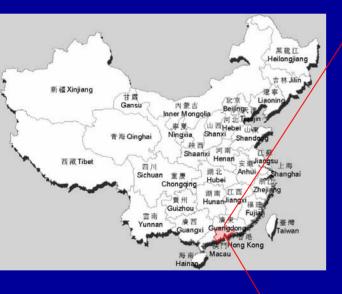
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology North Carolina State University

Objective

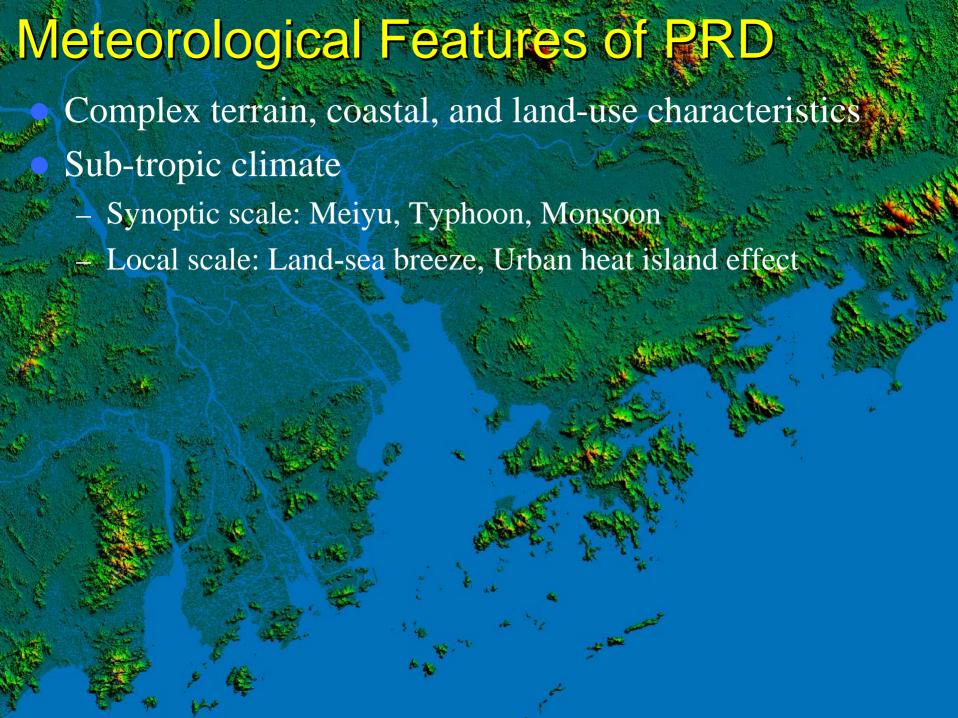
- The objective of this research is to better understand and predict the atmospheric flow (in particular, within the Planetary Boundary Layer ~ 1 to 2 km) and air quality over HK and the Pearl River Delta.
- Different dispersion models (SAQM and CMAQ) has been used in this study.

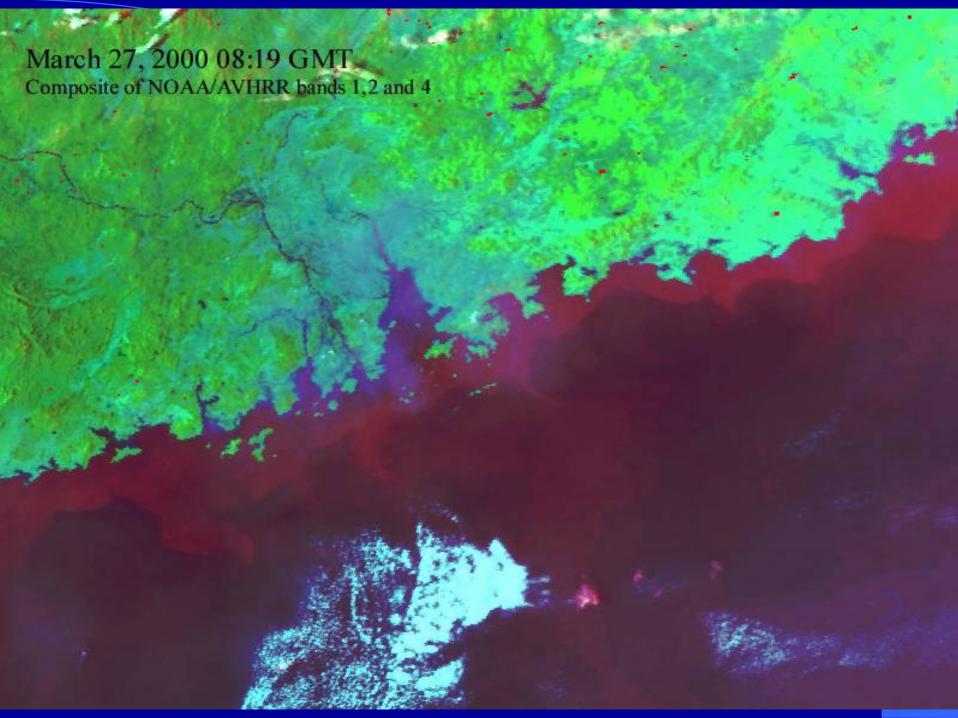
Features of Pearl River Delta (PRD)

- Located in Southern China
- 41,700 km² in size, 50 million in population
- Major cities: Hong Kong, Shen Zhen, Guang Zhou and Macau, etc.
- Rapid economic and industrial growth; high air pollution potential



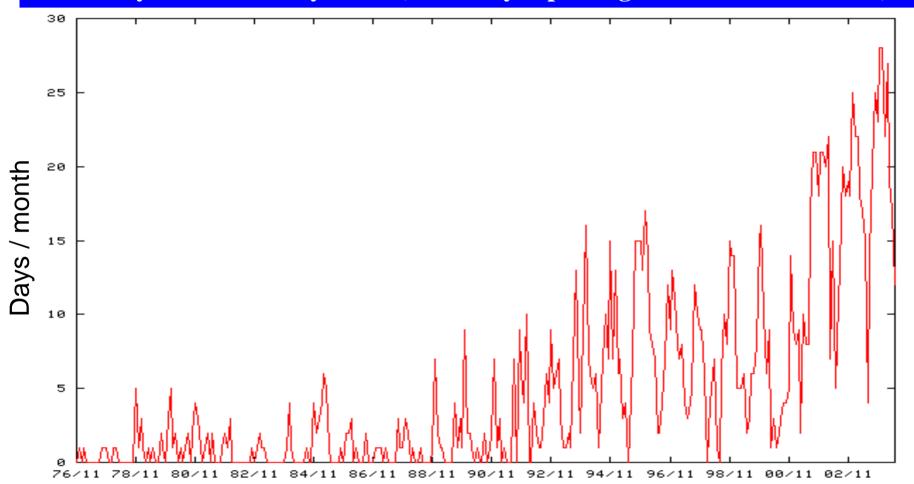


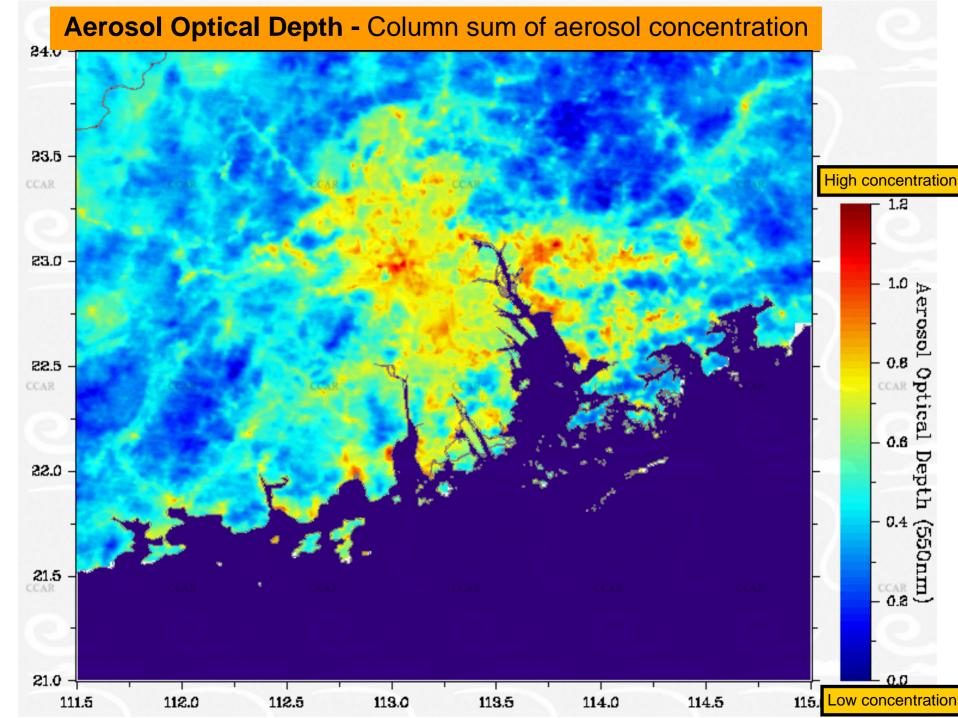


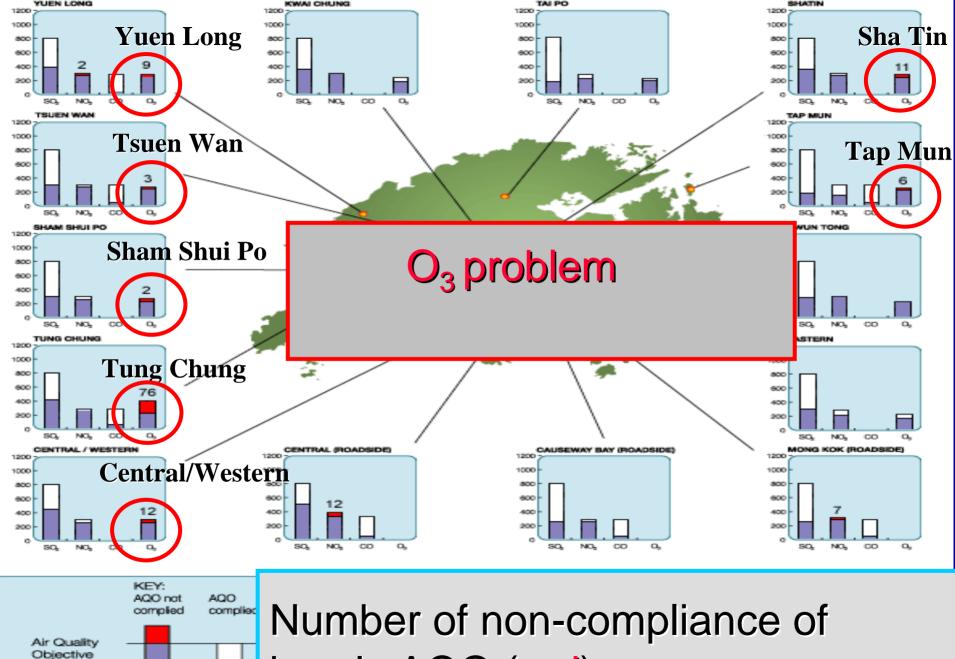


Visibility Report (11/1976 – 6/2004)

Monthly number of days with (Visibility reporting < 8km & RH < 80%)

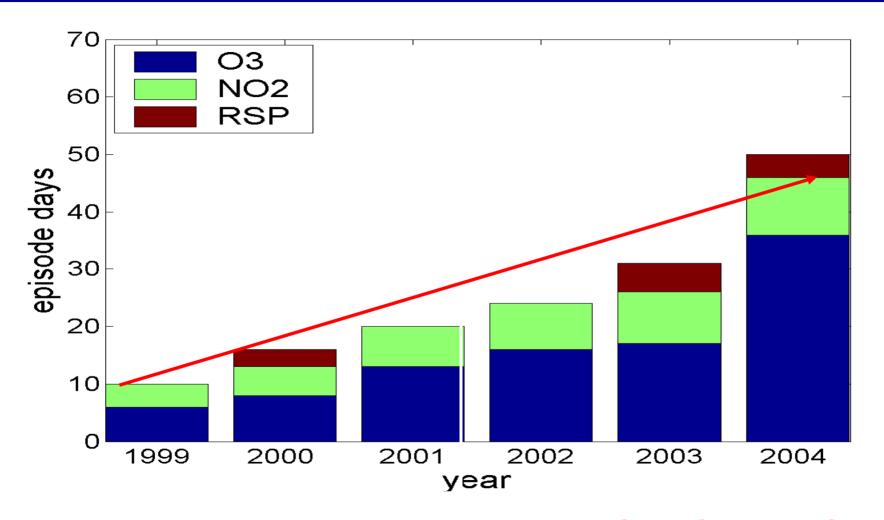






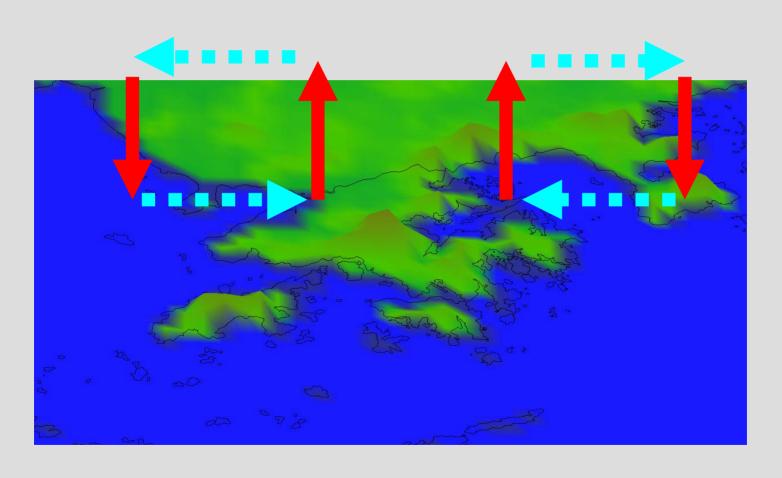
hourly AQO (red) (from HKEPD, 2004)

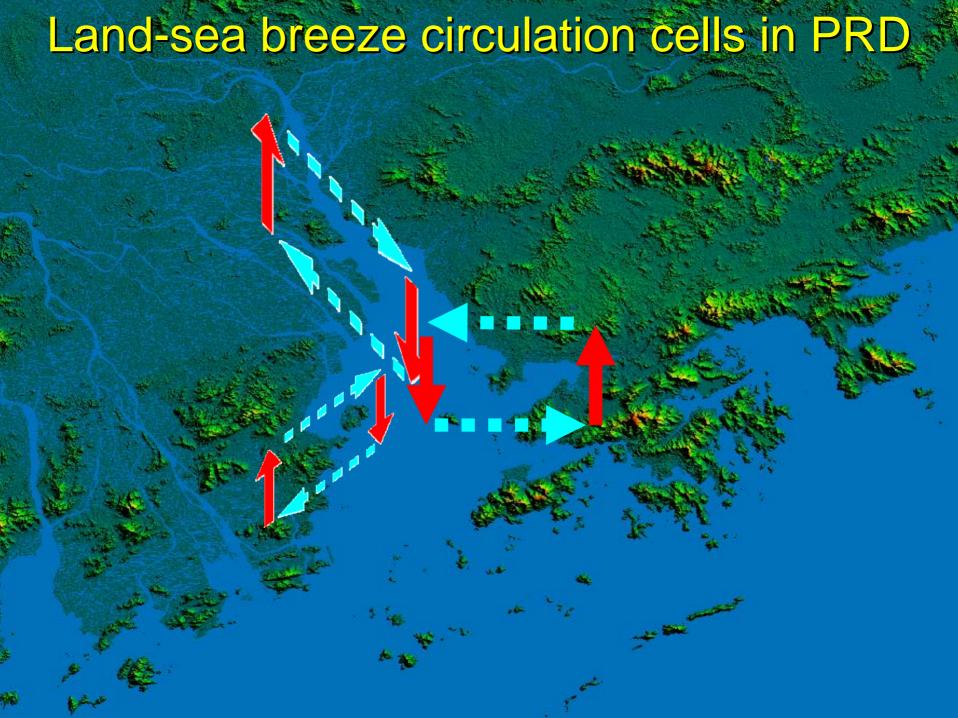
O₃ problem in HK: episodes



major contributors to air pollution episodes: O_3 , NO_2 and RSP O_3 : the biggest contributor

Sea breeze circulation





PATH Model System

Meteorological Model

PATH

Pollutants in the Atmosphere and their Transport over Hong Kong (HKEPD, 1997)

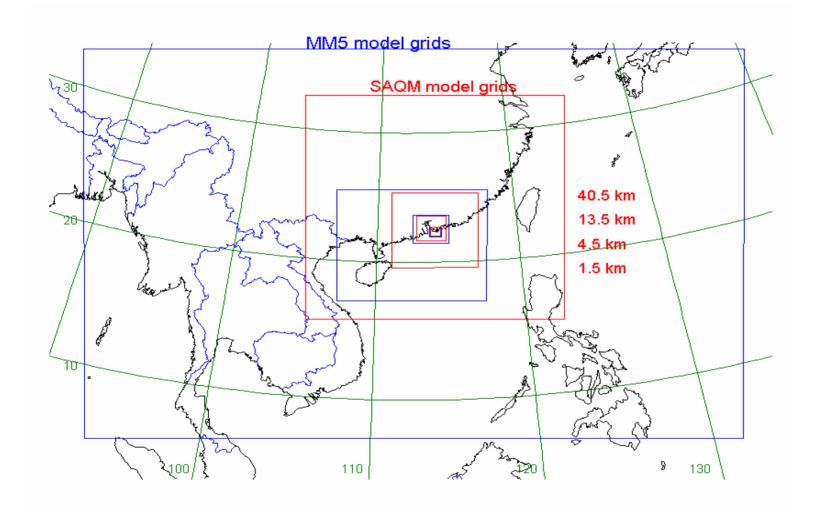
(MM5 v3.6)

Atmospheric Chemistry Model

Chemical reactions of various chemical species and solve the advection-diffusion equations

(SAQM)

Domain configurations of MM5 & SAQM



26 sigma levels (mm5) 15 sigma levels (SAQM)

MM5 Model Configurations

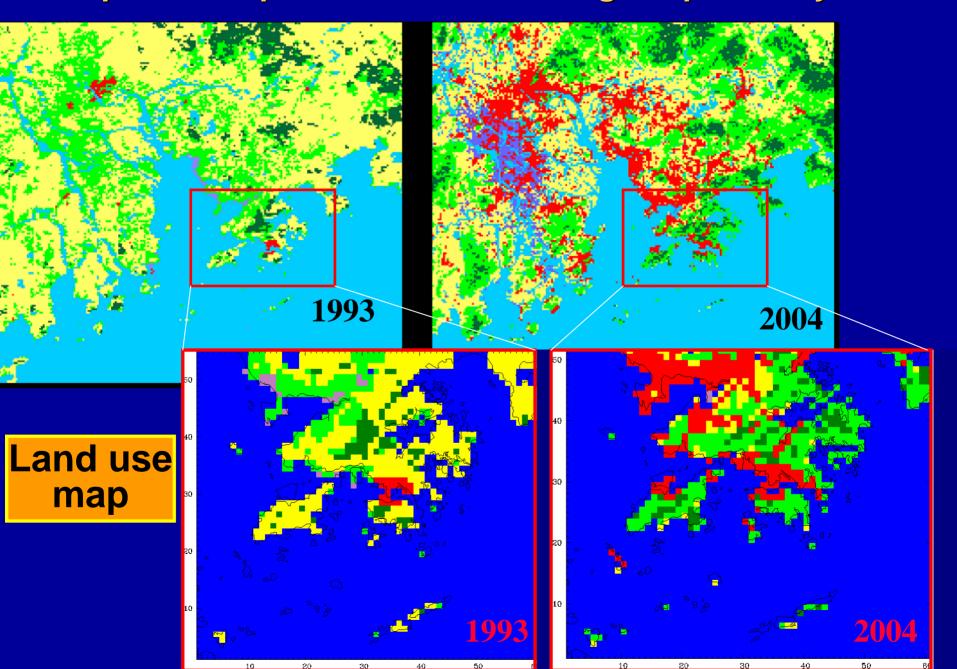
- > MM5 v3.6
- > 4 nested Domains:
 - > 40.5 km (115x75), 13.5km (85x73), 4.5km (85x73) and 1.5km (61x55)
 - > 2-ways nesting
 - **≥** 26 full sigma levels (~10 levels below 1km)
- Physical parameterization schemes (for the unresolved scales)

| | 40.5km, 13.5km | 4.5km, 1.5km |
|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| Cumulus | Grell | None |
| PBL | MRF | MRF |
| Moisture | Simple ice | Simple ice |
| Radiation | RRTM | RRTM |

MM5 Model Configurations (continued)

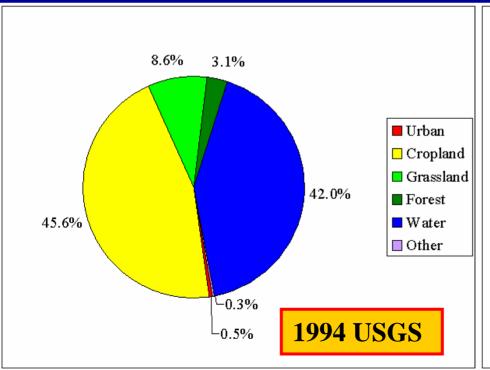
- Up-to-date fine resolution land use (as fine as 30 m) is applied to Hong Kong and PRD (i.e. both D3 and D4)
- ➤ Initial and Boundary Conditions
 NCEP Global Final Analyses (1° x1°)
 (http://dss.ucar.edu/datasets/ds083.2)

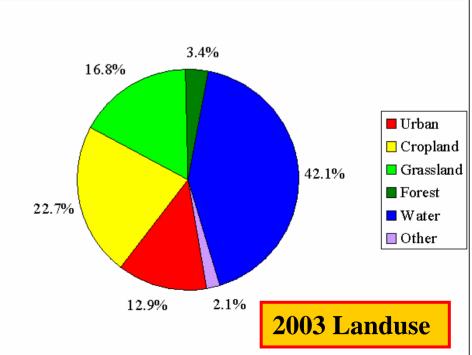
Rapid development over PRD during the past ten years



Percentage of each land-use classification in the innermost domain:

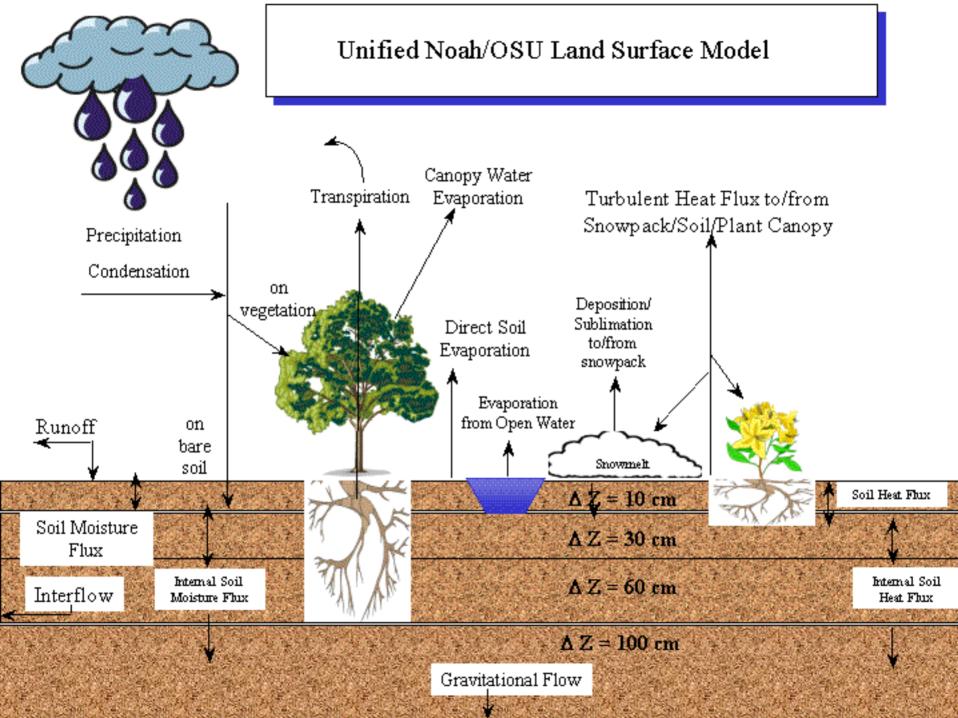
Urban area: increase from 0.5% to 12.9% Cropland: decrease from 45.6% to 22.7%





Land Surface Model (LSM)

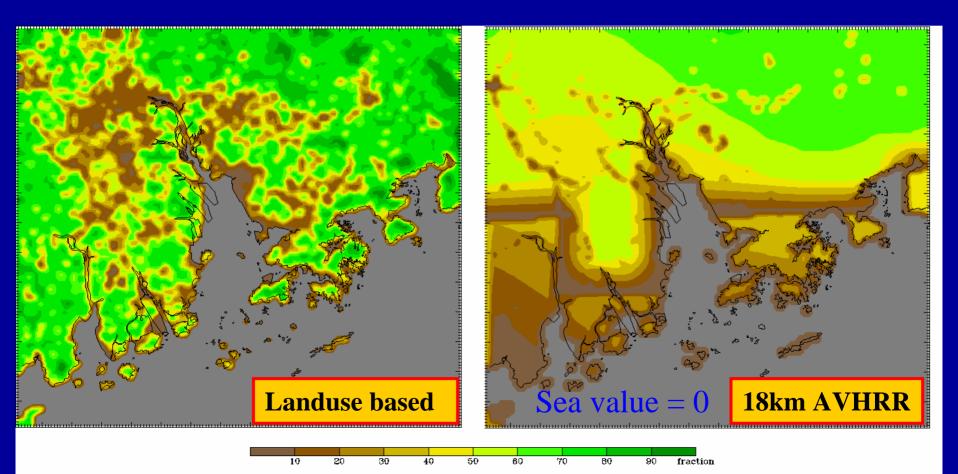
- **❖ NOAH community land-surface soil hydrology module, which was jointly developed by the**
 - > National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP)
 - **Oregon State University**
 - > the U.S. Air Force
 - > the Office of Hydrology
- **Coupled mode; the scheme is fully interactive with MM5**
- MM5 simulations of surface radiation, precipitation, and near-surface winds, humidity, and temperature provide the external forcing for the land surface
- **❖** The Noah-LSM provides surface sensible heat flux, latent heat flux and skin temperature as lower boundary condition to MM5
- ***** Heat and moisture fluxes are then process by PBL scheme and transported to the atmosphere.



Refinements in Noah-LSM experiments

Green vegetation fraction definition

- Problems caused by interpolating the 18km AVHRR data into our inner domains (4.5km, 1.5km)
- **Landuse based green vegetation is used in the inner domains**
 - > PRD located in subtropics, seasonal variation is very small

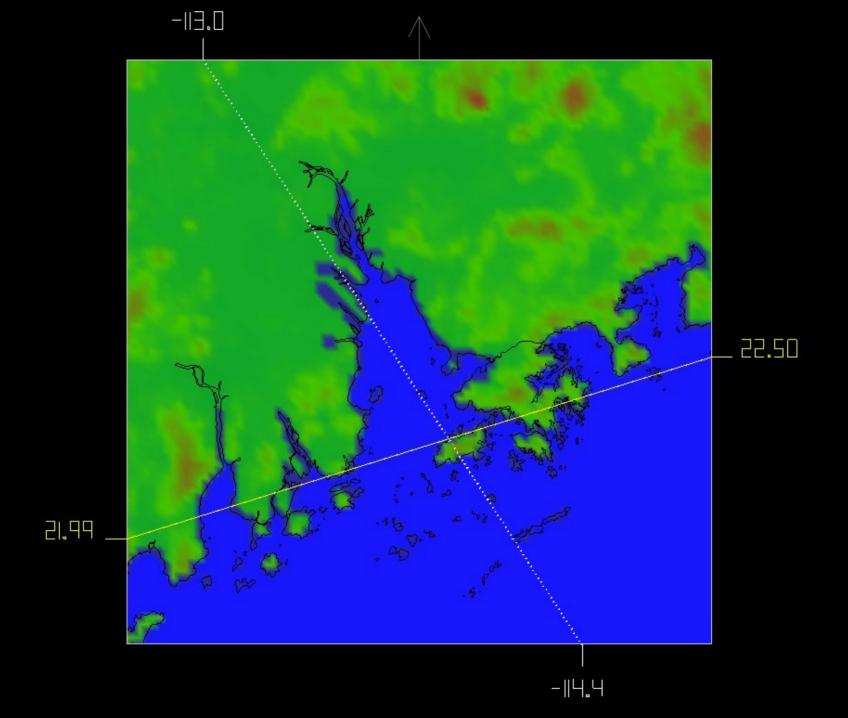


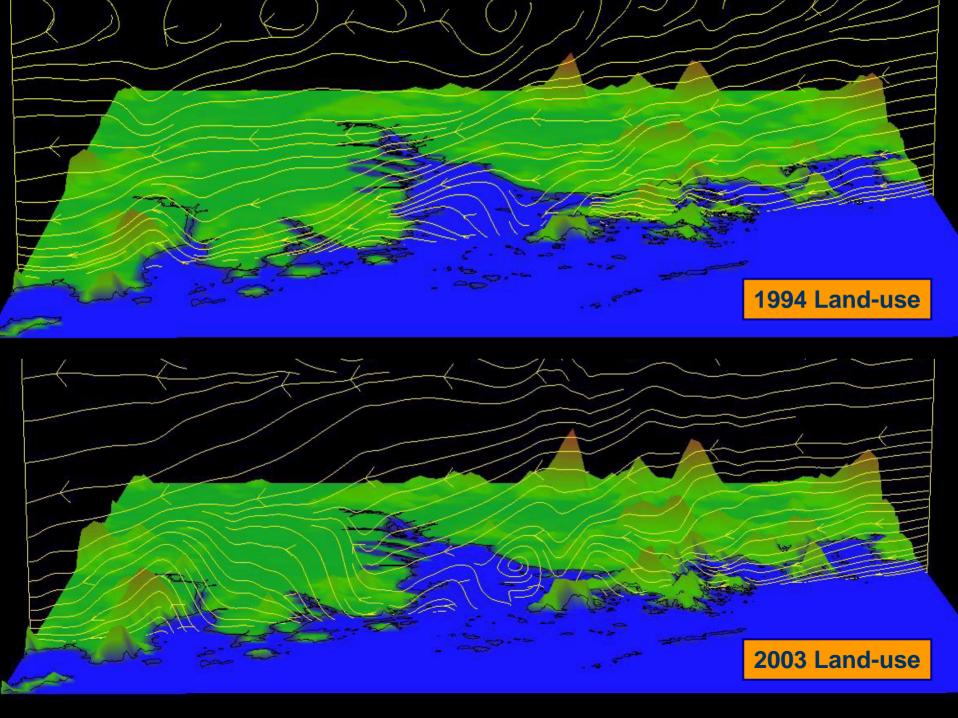
Refinements in Noah-LSM experiments

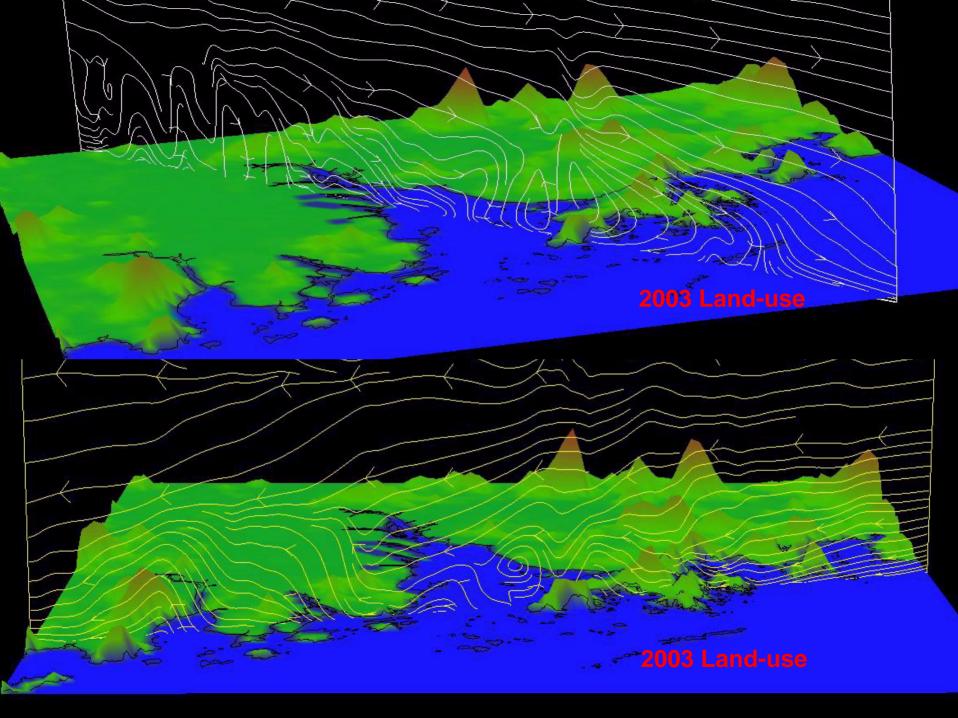
- 1. Up-to-date landuse map for PRD
- 2. Better green vegetation fraction in inner domains
- 3. Enhancements of urban landuse treatment in Noah-LSM
 - Simply modifying the values of physical parameters for urban landuse – albedo, roughness length, soil thermal properties and evaporation

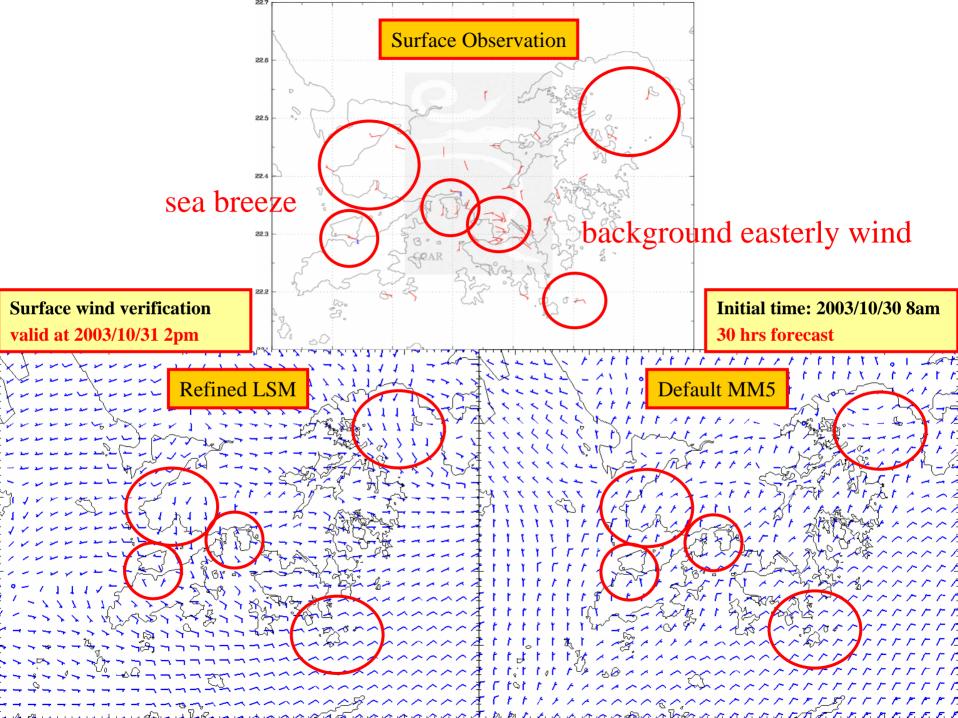
4. Modification of MRF PBL scheme

Better methods for computation of free convection turbulence, PBL height and surface heat flux (Liu Y., F. Chen, T. Warner, S. Swerdlin, J. Bowers, and S. Halvorson, 2004)



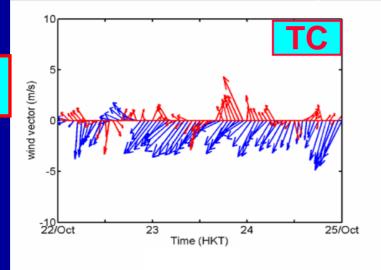


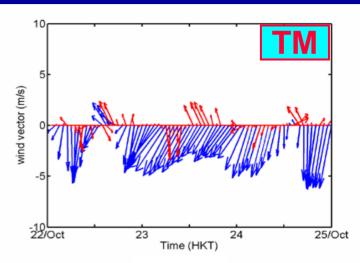




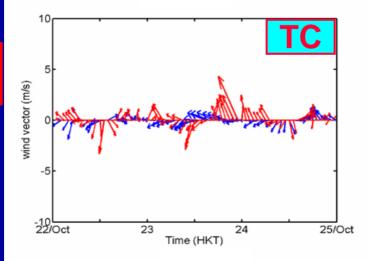
Comparison of velocity

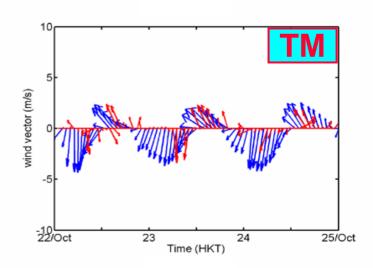
MM5-STD





MM5-LSM

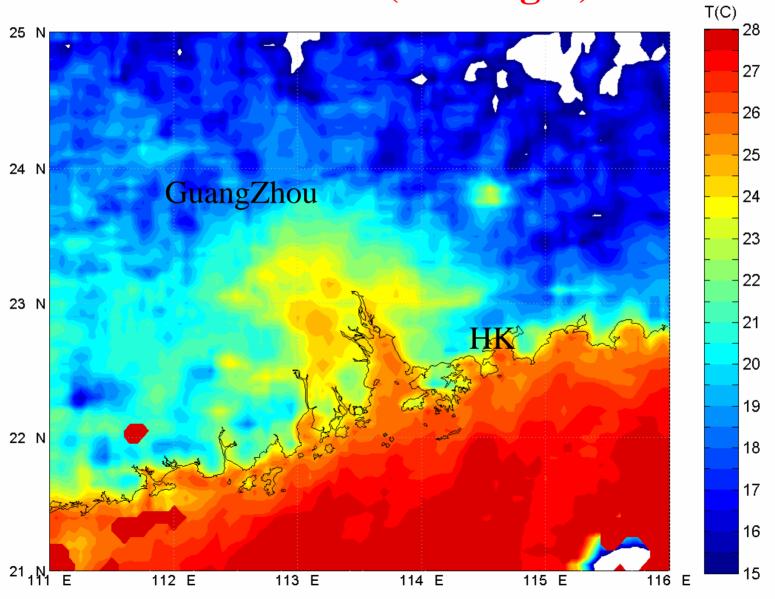


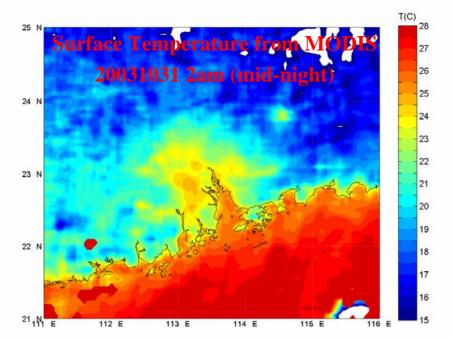


Results

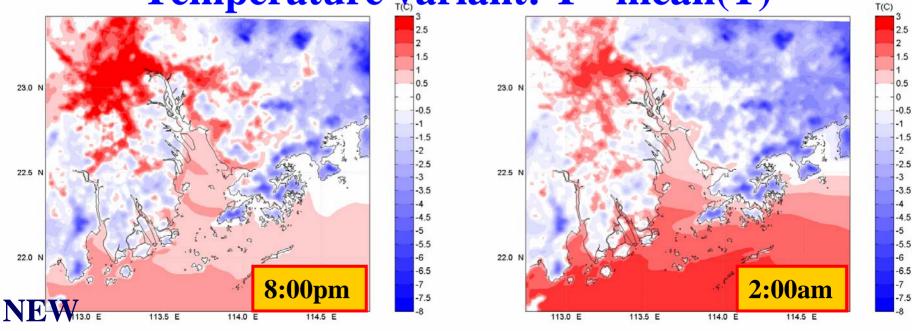
Urban heat island

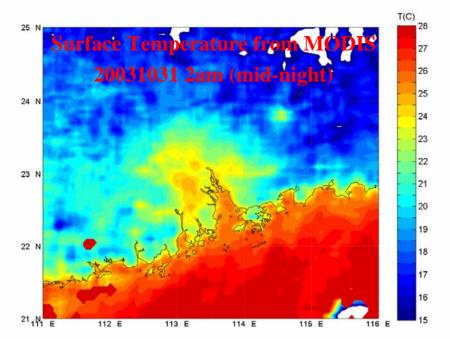
Surface Temperature from MODIS 20031031 2am (mid-night)



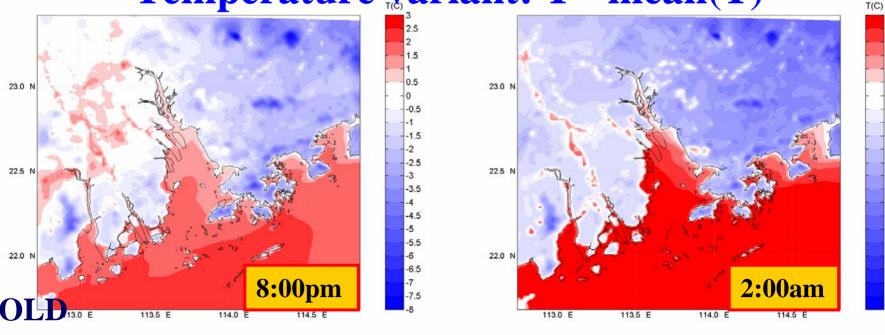


Temperature variant: T - mean(T)



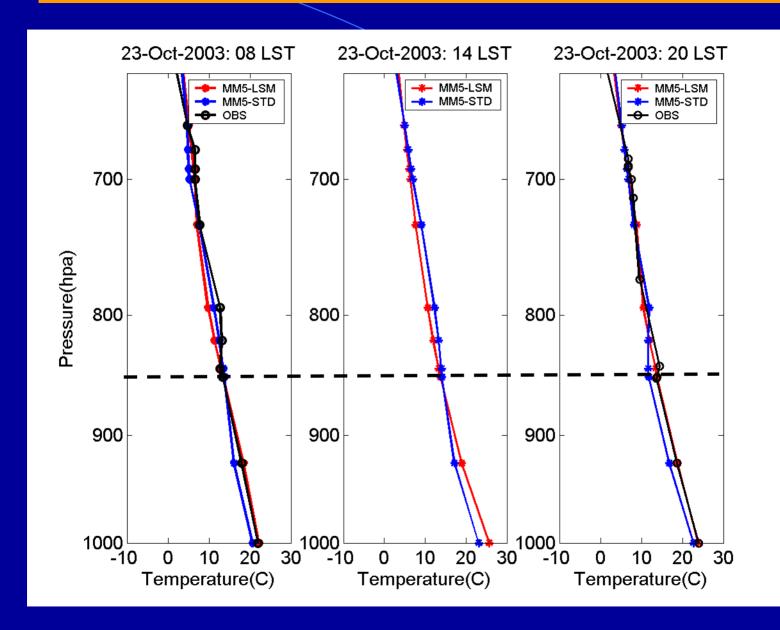


Temperature variant: T - mean(T)

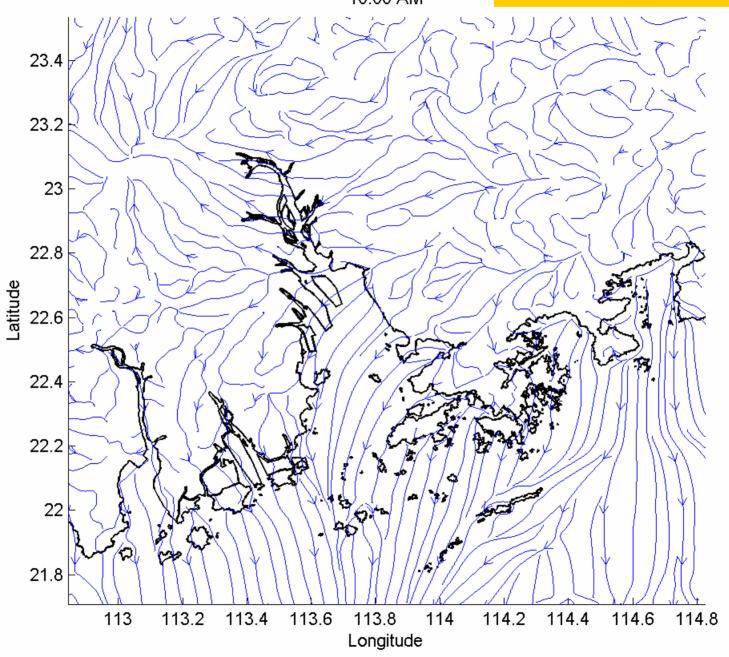


-7.5

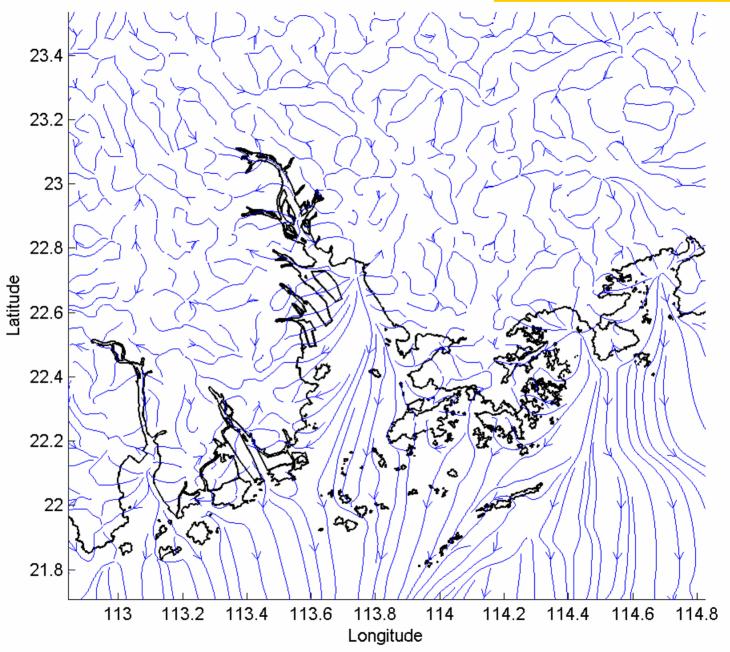
Temperature Profiles Comparison





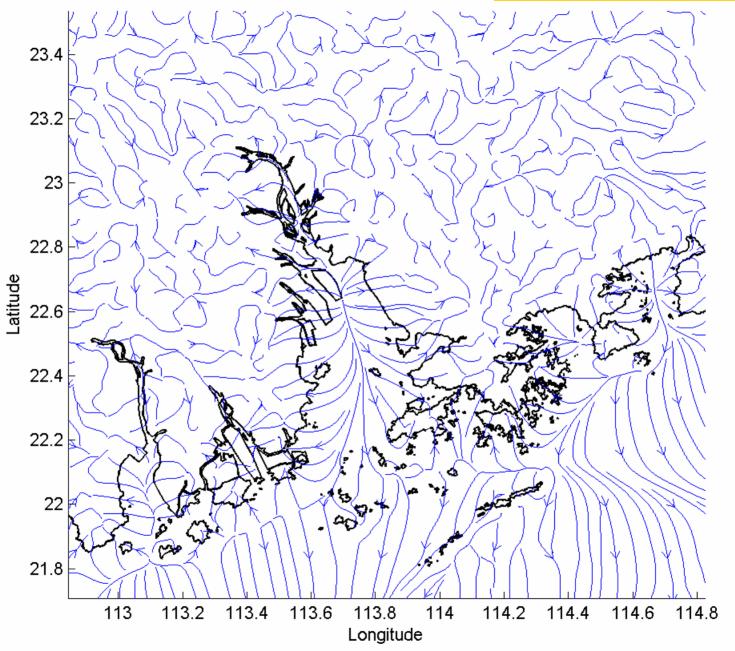






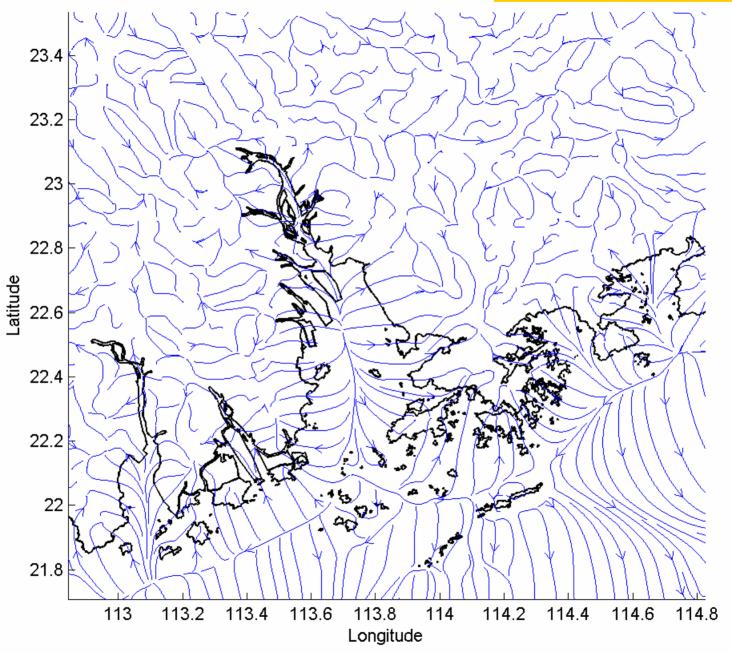
Surface streamline pattern



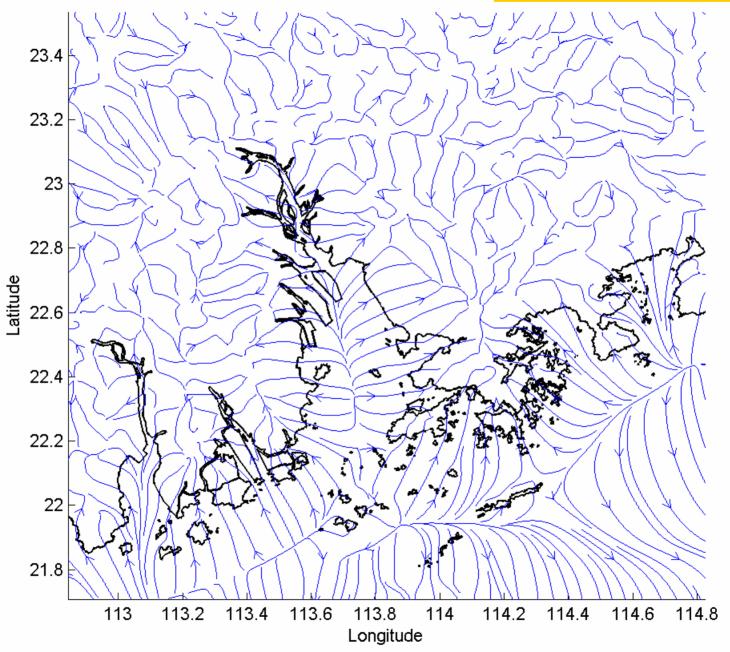


Surface streamline pattern

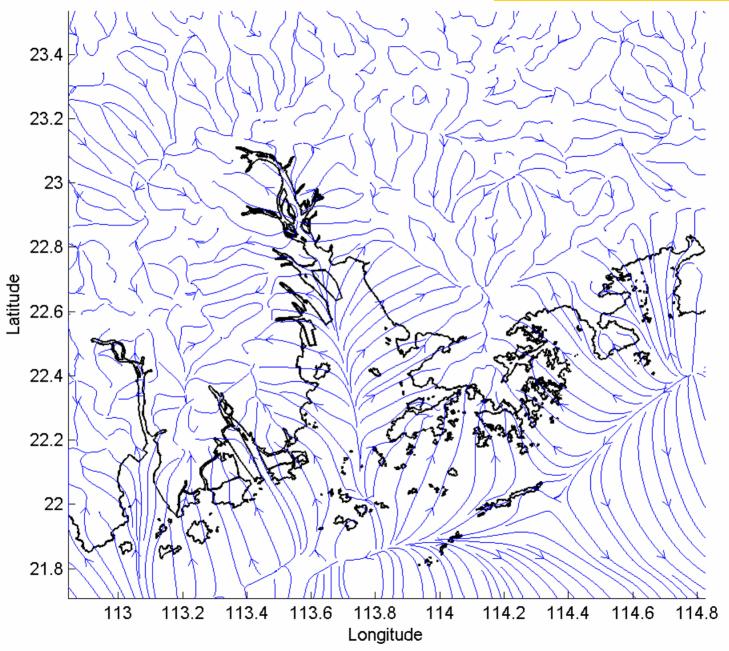


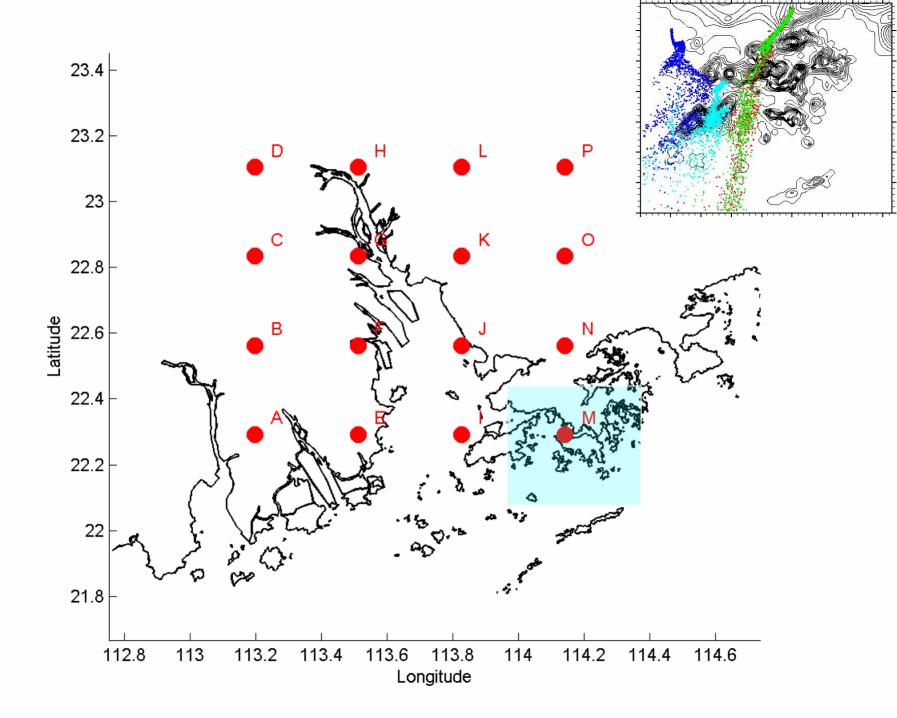




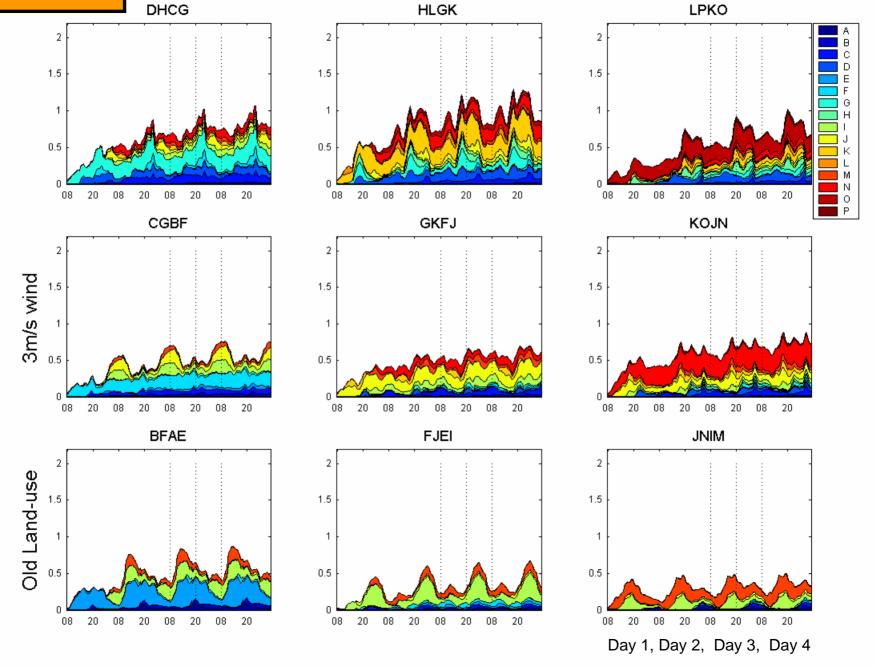




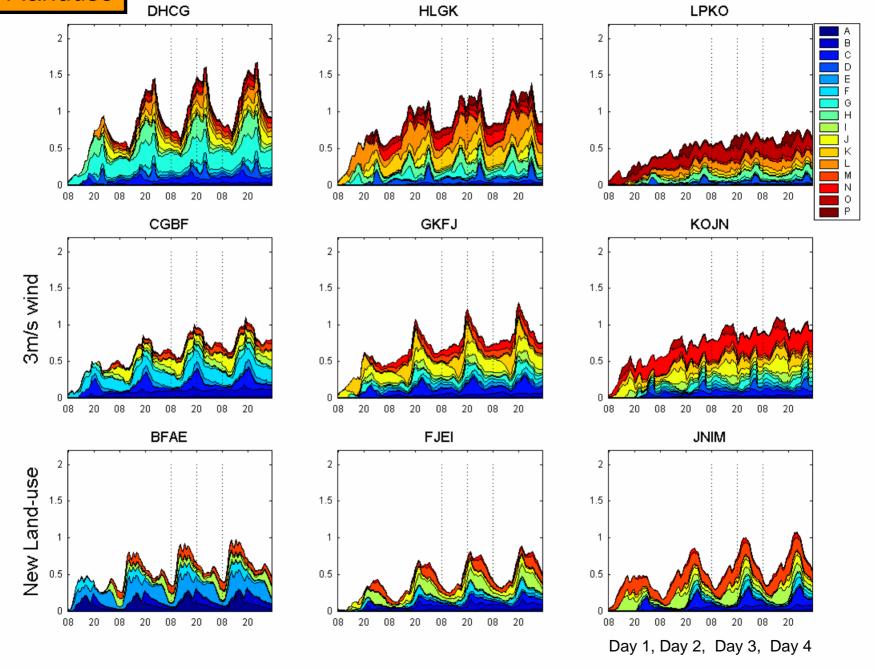




1993 landuse



2004 landuse



PATH Model System

Meteorological Model

Create Physical Atmosphere

Solve full set of atmospheric equations for evolution of wind, temperature, pressure and moisture content, etc.

(MM5 v3.6)

Emissions Model

Anthropogenic, Natural

(EMS95)

Atmospheric Chemistry Model

Chemical reactions of various chemical species and solve the advection-diffusion equations

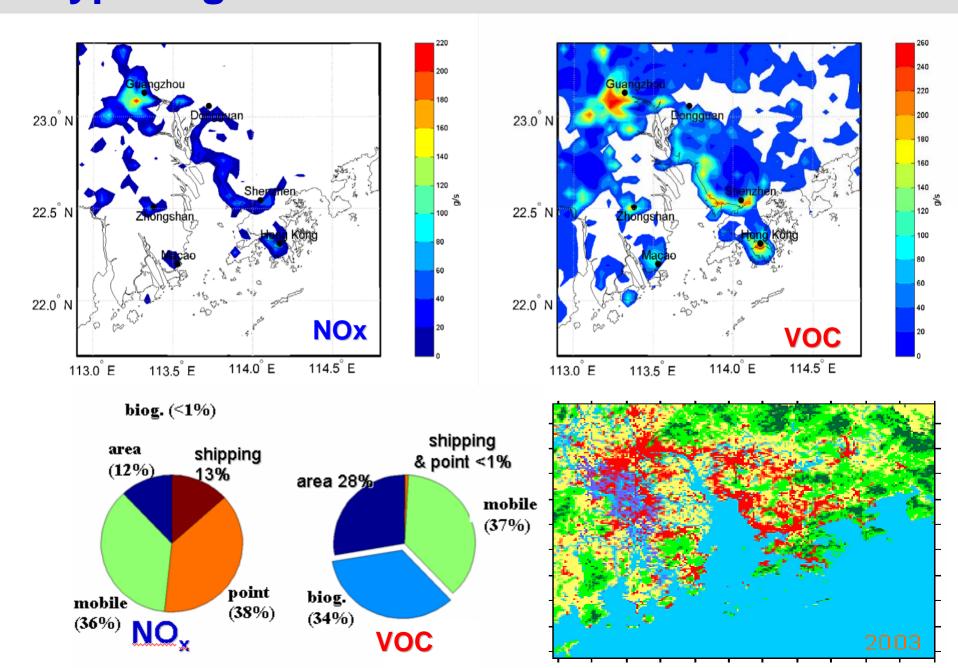
(SAQM)

Introduction of PATH: EMS-95

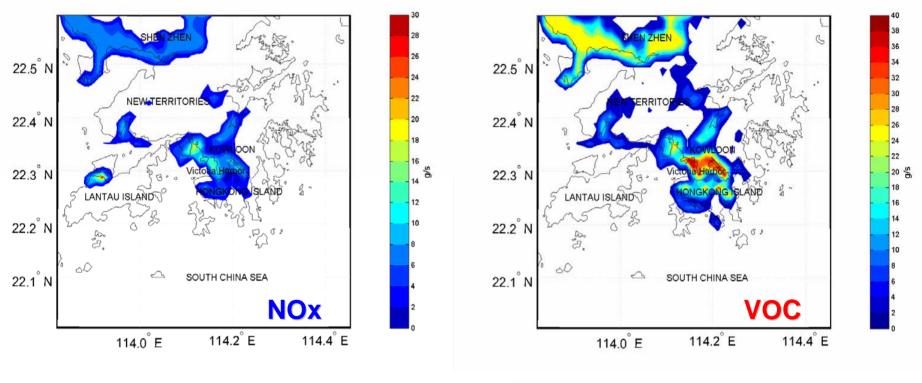
EMS-95: The US Emission Modeling System (1995, version)

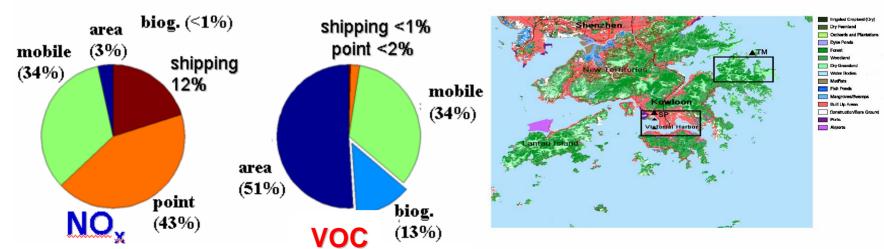
- Point sources(power plants and industrial sources)
- Mobile sources(road vehicles, railways and aircrafts)
- Area sources
 (domestic and commercial fuel combustion)
- Shipping sources (marine traffics)
- Biogenic sources (vegetation)

Typical ground level emission rates in PRD



Typical ground level emission rates in HK





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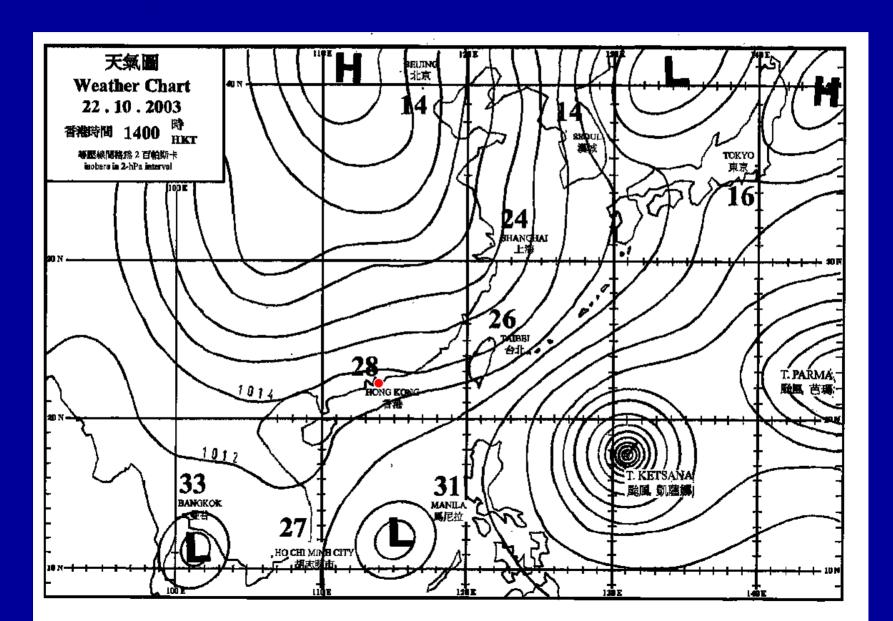
Chemical reactions of various chemical species and solve the advection-diffusion equations

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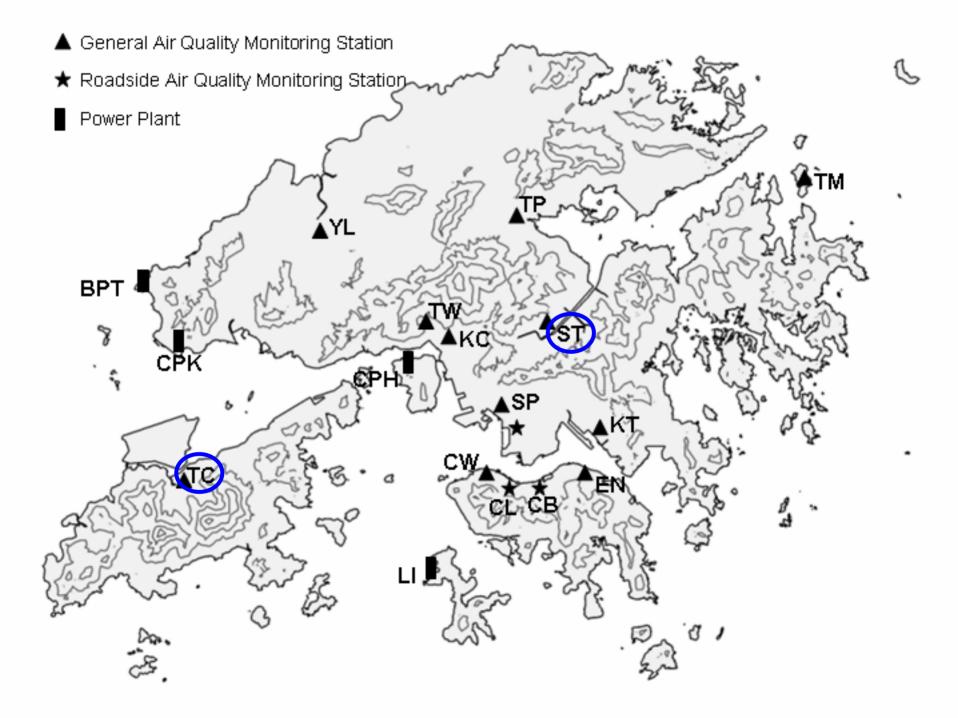
SAQM Model Configurations

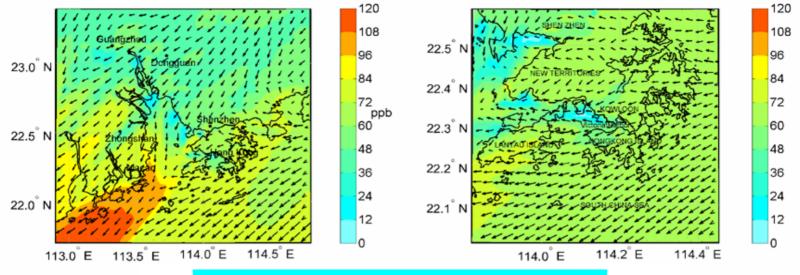
- > **SAQM:** the **S**ARMAP **A**ir **Q**uality **M**odel (Chang, 1997), modified for its application to PATH in HK;
- ➤ **4-nested domains**: 40.5, 13.5, 4.5, 1.5 km with 49x49 grid cells for each domain;
- > CB-IV chemical mechanism is used;
 - diffusion: horizontal-briggs; vertical-eddies;
 - **horizontal advection**: 4th order Botts scheme;
- > 78 thermal-kinetic reactions, 11 photolytic reactions,
 - **56** reactive species,
 - **31** output species (15 for gas and 16 for particle matters).

An O₃ episode: (22-24 October 2003)

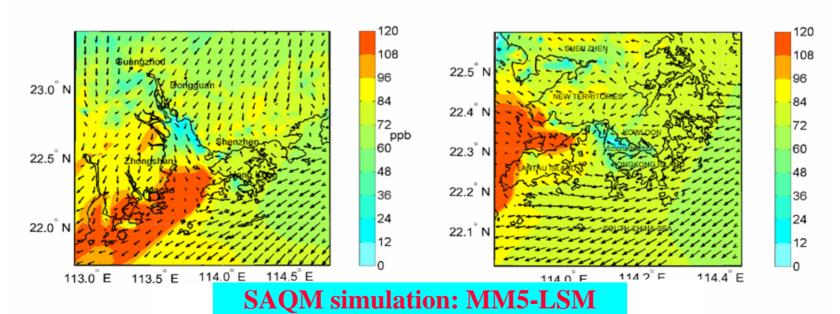


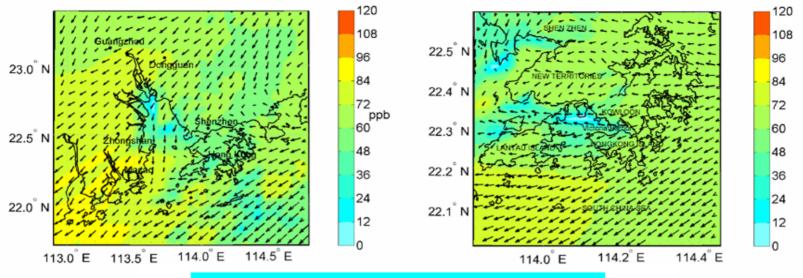
Model results



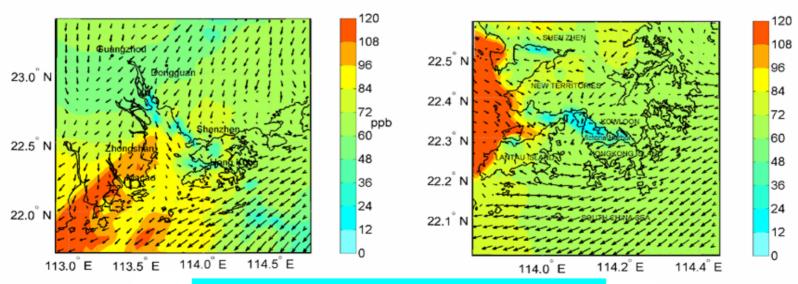


SAQM simulation: standard MM5





CMAQ simulation: standard MM5



CMAQ simulation: MM5-LSM

Summary and Conclusion

- ❖ The simulations of MM5 with NOAH LSM show a better agreement with meteorological observations such as surface winds and temperature profiles below 850 hpa, etc., than those of MM5-STD, in comparison with observations;
- **❖** The surface ozone simulations have been improved in terms of the peak ozone and spatial patterns when MM5/NOAH LSM is used to generate meteorological fields for air quality models;
- **❖** However, the impact of MM5/NOAH LSM on PM modeling is still under investigation.

Acknowledgements

■ Thank the Hong Kong Environment
Protection Department for the provision
of PATH model and air quality data, and
the Hong Kong Observatory for provision
of meteorological data.