



How to run MM5? (pages 8-22,23)

- Use *mm5.deck* to run MM5
- To create a *mm5.deck*, type
`make mm5.deck`
- Edit *mm5.deck* for run-time / namelist options

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Alternative way to run MM5

- Edit *configure.user* file as usual.
- Create *mmlif* file:
 - Create *mm5.deck* first
 - Run it for a few time steps, then kill it
 - cd to *Run/* directory, *mmlif* should be there
- May change *mmlif* for various options (if it is an option specified in *configure.user* file, make sure that it is compiled)
- Type *mm5.exe* to run directly

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A note on namelist

- When there is a single value, it usually applies to all domains. e.g.
IFUPR
- When there are 10 values in a row, each value corresponds to each domain
IMPHYS = 4,5,5,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,
ISFFLX = 1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,
- Special case:
FRAD = 2,1,3,4,0, - only the first one is used

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Complete list of namelist variables... (pages 8-30 – 8-36)

- There are 5 namelists:
 - *OPARAM* (time control, input and output options)
 - *LPARAM* (physics options)
 - *NPARAM* (nest options)
 - *PPARAM* (changeable parameters)
 - *FPARAM* (FDDA options)
- (There are a total of 111 namelist variables in 3.7)

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Basic runs (page 8-23)

- Modify the following in *mm5.deck* for your case:
 - *TIMAX*, *TISTEP*, *TAPFRQ*
 - *NESTIX*, *NESTJX*, domain sizes
- If there is a nest:
 - *NESTI*, *NESTJ*, nest starting location in its mother domain
 - *NUMNC*: nest mother domain ID
 - *IOVERW*: nest initialization option

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Restart runs (page 8-23)

- In addition to those defined for a standard run, set
IFREST = *.TRUE.*
IXTIMR = 720. (it appears at the end of *mm5.print.out* file from the previous run)
- Make sure times are available in *BDYOUT_DOMAIN1* file

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One-way Run (page 8-23)

- > Treat it the same way as it is a standard run.
- > Name the *MMINPUT*, *BDYOUT* and *LOWBDY* files generated from program *NESTDOWN* to

MMINPUT_DOMAIN1

BDYOUT_DOMAIN1

LOWBDY_DOMAIN1

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Input Files (pages 8-24)

- For standard run:
Input files from *INTERPF*:
 - *MMINPUT_DOMAIN1*,
 - *BDYOUT_DOMAIN1*
 - *LOWBDY_DOMAIN1*
 - *TERRAIN_DOMAINx* (if using *IOVERW*=2)
- Additional input files required for *FDDA* runs (see later)

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Input files (cont)

- If it is restart run:
Model output *SAVE_DOMAINx* files from previous run, rename them to *RESTART_DOMAINx*
- What is a restart run?**
- Split a long run into several smaller runs
 - Continue a run if the model blows up

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Input files (cont)

- Other input files (provided):
 - *LANDUSE.TBL*
 - *BUCKET.TBL* (*IMOIAV* = 1, 2 only)
 - *RRTM_DATA* (*FRAD* = 4 only)
 - *VEGPARM.TBL* (*ISOIL* = 2)
 - *SOILPARM.TBL* (*ISOIL* = 2)
 - *GENPARM.TBL* (*ISOIL* = 2)
- Note that MM5 job expects all the input files either located in or linked to the *Run/* directory

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Output files (pages 8-24,27)

- History files (if *IFTAPE* = 1)
MMOUT_DOMAINx – where x is domain no.
- Restart files (if *IFSAVE* = T)
SAVE_DOMAINx
- time series output (if *IFTSOUT* = T)
fort.26 for domain 1
fort.27 for domain 2, etc.

Variables in MM5 history file and time series output are listed on page 8-24 – 8-27

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Input options (page 8-31)

- MM5 can skip input files and start at any times which is available in *MMINPUT* file (*IFSKIP* and *CDATEST*)
For example, for an *MMINPUT* file that contains the following times:
2004_01_04:12:00:00
2004_01_05:00:00:00 ← model may start from here
2004_01_05:12:00:00
2004_01_06:00:00:00

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Lateral BC options (page 8-32)

- **IBOUDY = 3**
Boundary condition option for coarse domain
- **IBOUDY = 0**
Coarse domain lateral boundary condition.
Use it if you absolutely have to
- **IBOUDY = 2**
Boundary condition for the nest (do not change)

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Nest initialization option (*IOWERW*) (page 8-34)

- **IOWERW = 0**
 - Nest initialized completely from coarse domain MMINPUT file, inc. terrain etc.
 - Nest can start any time, and move
 - Required input files are
MMINPUT_DOMAIN1
LOWBDY_DOMAIN1 (always required)
BDYOUT_DOMAIN1 (always required)

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Nest initialization option (*IOWERW*) (cont)

- **IOWERW = 1**
 - Nest initialized from MMINPUT files for each of the nest domains
 - Nest can only start at initial time
 - Required input files are
MMINPUT_DOMAIN1, 2, 3, ...
LOWBDY_DOMAIN1 (always required)
LOWBDY_DOMAIN2, 3, ... (optional)
BDYOUT_DOMAIN1 (always required)

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Nest initialization option (*IOWERW*) (cont)

- **IOWERW = 2 (recommended)**
 - Nest initialized from coarse domain MMINPUT file and TERRAIN files for each of the nest domains
 - Nest can start at any time
 - Required input files are
MMINPUT_DOMAIN1
TERRAIN_DOMAIN2, 3, ...
LOWBDY_DOMAIN1 (always required)
LOWBDY_DOMAIN2, 3, ... (optional)
BDYOUT_DOMAIN1 (always required)

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Output options (page 8-31)

- For history files (*IFTAPE = T*):
MM5 can output at different times for different domains (*INCTAP* option)
For example, if
 - **MAXNES= 3**
 - **TAPFRQ = 60.**
 - **INCTAP = 6,3,1,...** then
domain 3 will be output at every 60 min
domain 2 will be output at every 60 x 3 or 180 min
domain 1 will be output at every 60 x 6 or 360 min

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Output options (cont)

- For history files:
MM5 can split output into several pieces by using *BUFFRQ*
For example, if **TIMAX = 1440.**
 - **TAPFRQ = 60.**
 - **BUFFRQ = 360.** then
output will be split into 5 pieces:
MMOUT_DOMAIN1_00: hour 0
MMOUT_DOMAIN1_01: hour 1 – 6
MMOUT_DOMAIN1_02: hour 7 – 12
MMOUT_DOMAIN1_03: hour 13 – 18
MMOUT_DOMAIN1_04: hour 19 – 24

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Output options (cont)

- For restart files (*IFSAVE* = T)
MM5 allows you to store all save times in the save file at interval specified by *SAVFRQ*, or the last save time in the save file (*SVLAST* = T) to save disk space

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Output options (cont)

- To output time series: set *IFTSOUT* = T and specify *TSLAT*, *TSLON*: the latitude/longitude locations
- Output has 13 'surface' variables from the model at every model time step
e.g. 2 m T, Qv, 10 m u,v (earth-coordinate), surface fluxes (see page 8-26 for a listing)

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Physics options (pages 8-28,30)

- Standard ones (as defined in *configure.user*)
IMPHYS: for microphysics
ICUPA: for cumulus convection
IBLTYP: for planetary boundary layer
ISOIL: for land surface
IFRAD: for atmospheric radiation
IPOLAR: for activating polar physics

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Other useful namelists options (pages 8-32,33)

- *IFUPR*: upper radiative boundary condition (good for < 50 km grid)
- *ISSTVAR*: whether SST/sea ice/snow cover is going to be updated during a long simulation (> 3-5 days) – *make sure that you have real SST from pregrid*
0: no;
1: yes, fields will be updated during a simulation at the interval available in the
`LOWBDY_DOMAINx` files

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Other useful namelists options (page 8-33)

- *IMOIAV*: how bucket soil moisture model is initialized (if not using a land-surface model)
0: do not use bucket soil moisture model
1: use table values from `LANDUSE.TBL`
2: use soil moisture field in `MMINPUT`
- *IFSNOW*: how snow cover data are considered
0: not considered;
1: considered, but constant during the run
2: can be updated with simple snow model

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Other useful namelists options (page 8-33)

- *ISFMTHD*: methods for calculating 2 m / 10 m temperature and wind diagnostics (*IBLTYP* = 2, 5 only)
0: old method;
1: new method for stable conditions
- *IZOTOPT*: thermal roughness length option (*IBLTYP* = 2, 5 only)
0: default (old) scheme;
1: Garratt formulation;
2: Zilitinkevich formulation

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Useful namelists for sensitivity test (pages 8-33)

- *IFDRY*=1: excluding latent heating (must also set *ICUPA* = 1)
- *ISFPAR*=0: reset landuse with land and water only
- *ISFLX*=0: may turn off surface fluxes

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Useful namelists to control model constants (page 8-35)

- *SOILFAC* = 1. – 2.: makes soil time step in 5-layer soil model more conservative
- *CZO*, *OZO*: constants in Charnock relation for water roughness length used in *IBLTYP* = 2,5,6. Default values: *CZO*=0.032, and *OZO* = 0.1 mm
- *CKH*: factor to control background diffusion. Default value is 1., which gives the same b.d. as versions before 3.5 if one uses 3DX as the time step
- If *ISFPAR* = 0, one may set values for *ZZLND*, *ZZWTR*, *ALBLND*, *THILND* and *XMAVA*
- *CONF*: criterion for super saturation removal (< 1 and for *IMPHYS* = 1 only)

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Namelists for using Noah LSM (pages 8-29, 8-33,34)

- Set *ISOIL* = 2 in *configure.user* file
- Additional options to decide whether to use climatological albedo fields:
 - *RDMAXALB*: true or false
 - *RDBRDALB*: true or false
- Options to specify input soil layers, if they are different from what Noah uses:
 - *ISTLYR*: soil temp layers
 - *ISMLYR*: soil moisture layers

Tip: see Appendix C for more information

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Useful namelists for nesting (pages 8-34,35)

- *LEVIDN* (nest level)
- *NUMNC* (mother domain ID)
- *XSTNES*, *XENNES*: beginning and ending nest times (doesn't apply to domain 1)
- *IFEED*: nest feedback option. Recommended option: 3

Note that the default MM5 code handles 6 levels of nesting. Code may be modified to add more levels of nesting (details available on the [FAQ page](#))

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Useful namelists for nesting (cont)

- Moving nest options for the most inner domain:
 - IMOVE*: whether this nest will move
 - IMOVCO*: move counter
 - IMOVEI*: no of grids moved in y-direction
 - IMOVEJ*: no of grids moved in x-direction
 - IMOVET*: time of nest moves
- Tip: Move less frequent, and with large overlap*

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FDDA runs

- Compilation options in *configure.user* file
 - Set either or both *FDDAGD* and *FDDAOB* = 1
- Runtime options for analysis or grid nudging (page 8-35, 36):
 - *FDASTA*, *FDAEND*: start and end of FDDA time
 - *I4D*: whether to use FDDA option
 - *DIFTIM*: analysis time intervals
- Two rows: upper row for 3D analysis nudging, and lower row for surface analysis nudging. e.g.


```
I4D = 1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,
      0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,
```

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FDDA runs (cont) – Additional input files

- For analysis nudging:
 - standard MMINPUT files
 - SFCFDDA_DOMAINx from RAWINS/LITTLE_R programs
 - For observation nudging:
 - MM5OBS_DOMAINx generated by user
- Tip: file format described on pages 8-21 or 13-20*

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Namelist for FDDA (pages 8-35,36)

- Runtime options for analysis nudging:
 - IWIND, GV: whether to nudging wind, and weighting coefficient for wind nudging
 - ITEMP, GT: whether to nudging temp, and weighting coefficient for temp nudging
 - IMOIS, GQ: whether to nudging moisture, and weighting coefficient for moisture nudging
 - INONBL: whether to exclude boundary layer nudging when using only 3D analysis

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Namelist for FDDA (cont)

- Runtime options for observation nudging:
 - I4D: whether to do obs nudging
 - ISWIND, GIV: whether to nudging wind, and weighting for wind nudging
 - ISTEMP, GIT: whether to nudging temp, and weighting for temp nudging
 - ISMOIS, GIQ: whether to nudging moisture, and weighting for moisture nudging
 - RINXY: radius of influence
 - TWINDO: time window in minutes
 - NPFI: time frequency to computer weighting

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Namelist for FDDA (cont)

- Runtime options for dynamic initialization:
 - IDYNIN: whether to use this option
 - DTRAMP: time window in minutes to ramp nudging terms. +: means ramping is done after FDAEND time; -: means ramping is done before FDAEND time.



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A note on time specification in the MM5 namelist

- All time variables used in the namelist are defined in *minutes*. e.g. TIMAX, TAPFRQ, SAVFRQ, IXTIMR, IMOVET, FDASTA, FDAEND, etc.. (except for TISTEP, which is defined in *seconds*).
- All of these times are specified with respect to domain 1's starting time, regardless it is an original run or a restart run.

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New namelist variables in 3.7

- IFRSFA – used for restart and FDDA runs
- ITPDIF = 2 (and TDKORR) – more accurate (and expensive) diffusion scheme
- LEVSLP – topography slope effect
- OROSHAW – terrain shadow effect
 - May be used for high resolution runs
- ITADV, IQADV

Tip: Use default options unless you see problems

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