Installing and Running WPS & WRF

For WRF Version 3.2 and 3.3

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Installing Steps

- Check system requirements
- Download source codes
- Download datasets
- Compile WRFV3 first
- Compile WPS



Check System Requirements

- Required libraries
 - NetCDF (needed by WRF and WPS)
 - NCAR Graphics (optional but recommended used by graphical utility programs)
- Optional libraries for GRIB2 met data support
 - JasPer (JPEG 2000 "lossy" compression library)
 - PNG ("lossless" compression library)
 - zlib (compression library used by PNG)
- Optional MPI library:



- Common ones: mpich, mpich2
- Less common: open//pppile & Microscale Meteorological Division / NCAR

Check System Requirements

- Installation of these libraries is not part of the WPS and WRF installation scripts
 - We recommend having a system administrator install the required libraries before installing WRF or WPS
- Make sure that these libraries are installed using the compilers available to you to compile WRF/WPS code.



Download WPS & WRF Source Codes

Download WPS & WRF source codes from

http://www.mmm.ucar.edu/wrf/users/downloads.html

Click 'WRF' on the side menu, then

- > 'New Users', register and download, or
- > 'Returning Users', your email and download
- Get the latest released codes:

WPSV3.TAR.gz

WRFV3.TAR.gz



Additional Downloads

- Test datasets
 - WPS output for WRF; can be useful for testing
 - Sample grib data for WPS
- Terrain, land state datasets for geogrid
 - Full resolution (30", 2', 5', 10' version)
 - Lower resolution (10 minutes version)
- Download from the same site as the source codes.



Static Terrestrial Data

The geog.tar.gz file contains the following data (~ 13 GB when uncompressed):

albedo_ncep	monthly surface albedo
greenfrac	monthly vegetation fraction
maxsnowalb	maximum snow albedo
landuse USGS	24+1 categories, 30", 2', 5' and 10' (since V3.3, it includes 'lake' category)
landuse MODIS	20+1 categories, 30", new in V3.1, Noah LSM only, 'lake' added in V3.3

Static Terrestrial Data

soiltemp	annual mean deep soil temperature
soiltype_top	top-layer soil type, 30", 2', 5', 10'
soiltype_bot	bot-layer soil type, 30", 2', 5', 10'
topo	topography, 30", 2', 5', 10'
orogwd	subgrid orography informationfor gravity wave drag option, new in V3.1
islope	slope index (not used)



Static Terrestrial Data

- Low resolution set available (398 MB only; 10', ~18 km, resolutions).
- Since the full resolution dataset is big, it should be placed in common location so that multiple users can share



Unzip and Untar tar Files

 Create a working directory, and uncompress both WPS and WRF tar files:

```
gunzip WPSV3.TAR.gz
tar -xf WPSV3.TAR
gunzip WRFV3.TAR.gz
tar -xf WRFV3.TAR
```

 After unzip and untar, you should have these directories in your working directory:

```
WPS/WRFV3/
```



WPS/ Directory

```
clean
                   compile, clean
compile
                   scripts
configure
arch/
                   compile rules
geogrid/
                   source
ungrib/
                   code
                   directories
metgrid/
                   utilities
util/
link grib.csh
namelist.wps
namelist.wps all-
                        runtime opt
  options
```

README



WRFV3/ Directory

```
Makefile
README
README test cases
clean
              compile
compile
              scripts
configure
Registry/
              data dictionary
arch/
              compile rules
dyn em/
dyn exp/
external/
               source
frame/
               code
inc/
              directories
main/
phys/
share/
tools/
run/
              run
              directories
test/
```



Before compiling..

- Check where your netCDF library and include file are
- If it is not in the usual location, i.e.

/usr/local/netcdf

Use NETCDF environment variable to set the path. For C-shell environment,

setenv NETCDF /where-netcdf-is



Before compiling..

- Know how your netCDF library is installed.
 - what compiler is used
- As a general rule, the netCDF library needs to be installed using the same compiler as one uses to compile WRF and WPS codes e.g. PGI compiler



Compile WRFV3 first

Why?

- WPS makes use of the external I/O libraries in WRFV3/external directory
- These libraries are built when WRF is installed



How to Compile WRFV3?

There are two steps:

- Create a configuration file for your computer and compiler
 - ./configure
- 2) Compile the code
 - ./compile test_case



Create configuration file

Step 1: type ./configure

This is a script that checks the system hardware and software (mostly *netCDF*), and then offers a user a number of compile choices:

- Serial, OpenMP (smpar), MPI (dmpar), MPI +OpenMP (dm+sm)
- Type of nesting (no nesting, basic, preset moves, vortex following)



If using any parallel compiling option

- If MPI or OpenMP is used, make sure that you have the parallel libraries on the computer
 - mpich
 - smp



Running configuration script: type of compile

```
checking for per15... no
checking for perl... found /usr/bin/perl (perl)
Will use NETCDF in dir: /usr/local/netcdf
PHDF5 not set in environment. Will configure WRF for use without.
configure: WRF operating system set to "Linux" via environment variable $WRF OS
configure: WRF machine set to "i686" via environment variable $WRF MACH
$JASPERLIB or $JASPERINC not found in environment, configuring to build without grib2 I/O...
Please select from among the following supported platforms.
  1. Linux i486 i586 i686, gfortran compiler with gcc (serial)
  2. Linux i486 i586 i686, gfortran compiler with gcc
                                                        (smpar)
   3. Linux i486 i586 i686, gfortran compiler with gcc
                                                        (dmpar)
   4. Linux i486 i586 i686, gfortran compiler with gcc
                                                        (dm+sm)

    Linux i486 i586 i686, g95 compiler with gcc (serial)

   6. Linux i486 i586 i686, g95 compiler with gcc (dmpar)
  7. Linux i486 i586 i686, PGI compiler with qcc (serial)
  8. Linux i486 i586 i686, PGI compiler with qcc (smpar)
   9. Linux i486 i586 i686, PGI compiler with qcc (dmpar)
 10. Linux i486 i586 i686, PGI compiler with gcc
                                                  (dm+sm)
 11. Linux x86 64 i486 i586 i686, ifort compiler with icc
                                                            (serial)
 12. Linux x86 64 i486 i586 i686, ifort compiler with icc
                                                            (smpar)
 13. Linux x86 64 i486 i586 i686, ifort compiler with icc (dmpar)
 14. Linux x86 64 i486 i586 i686, ifort compiler with icc
                                                            (dm+sm)
```



Enter selection [1-16] :

Running configuration script: nesting options

```
checking for perl5... no
checking for perl... found /usr/bin/perl (perl)
Will use NETCDF in dir: /usr/local/netcdf
PHDF5 not set in environment. Will configure WRF for use without.
configure: WRF operating system set to "Linux" via environment variable $WRF OS
configure: WRF machine set to "i686" via environment variable $WRF MACH
$JASPERLIB or $JASPERINC not found in environment, configuring to build without grib2 I/O...
Please select from among the following supported platforms.
  1. Linux i486 i586 i686, gfortran compiler with gcc (serial)
  2. Linux i486 i586 i686, gfortran compiler with gcc (smpar)
   3. Linux i486 i586 i686, gfortran compiler with gcc (dmpar)
  4. Linux i486 i586 i686, gfortran compiler with gcc (dm+sm)
  5. Linux i486 i586 i686, q95 compiler with qcc (serial)
  6. Linux i486 i586 i686, g95 compiler with gcc (dmpar)
  7. Linux i486 i586 i686, PGI compiler with qcc (serial)
  8. Linux i486 i586 i686, PGI compiler with gcc (smpar)
  9. Linux i486 i586 i686, PGI compiler with gcc (dmpar)
  10. Linux i486 i586 i686, PGI compiler with gcc (dm+sm)
 11. Linux x86 64 i486 i586 i686, ifort compiler with icc (serial)
 12. Linux x86 64 i486 i586 i686, ifort compiler with icc (smpar)
 13. Linux x86 64 i486 i586 i686, ifort compiler with icc
                                                            (dmpar)
 14. Linux x86 64 i486 i586 i686, ifort compiler with icc
                                                            (dm+sm)
Enter selection [1-16] : 9
```

Compile for nesting? (1=basic, 2=preset moves, 3=vortex following) [default 1]:



Create a configuration file

The result of running the **configure** script is the generation of a file called:

configure.wrf

This file contains compilation options, rules etc. specific to your computer.



Sample of what is inside a configure.wrf file

```
pgf90
FC
                            pgf90
\mathbf{L}\mathbf{D}
CC
                            gcc -DFSEEKO64 OK
                             $ (CC)
SCC
                             $(NATIVE RWORDSIZE)
RWORDSIZE
                             $ (FC)
SFC
CFLAGS
                             -02 # -fast
FCOPTIM
                             #-g
FCDEBUG
                             -w -byteswapio -Mfree
FCBASEOPTS
                             -tp p6 $ (FCDEBUG)
                             $ (FCOPTIM) $ (FCBASEOPTS)
FCFLAGS
```



How to Compile?

```
Step 2: type
  ./compile test case
  ./compile test case >& compile.log
  where test case is one of the following:
  (type ./compile to find out)
                          em hill2d x
em real
                3d real
em quarter ss
                          em squall2d x
                                             2d ideal
                          em squall2d y
em b wave
                3d ideal
                          em grav2d x
em les
em heldsuarez
                          em seabreeze2d x
                                        1d ideal
em tropical cyclone
                          em scm xy
      (new in V3.3)
```

More on Compile

- Compiling WRF code will take 20 30 min, depending on options chosen
- Since V3.2, parallel compile is supported if 'make' on the computer supports it
- Two processors are used in default compile.
 If you would like to change it, set the following environment variable before compile:
 setenv J "-j 1" -- change to use only one processor



WRF executables: names and locations

If compile is successful, you should find these executables in WRFV3/main/.

If you compile for a real data case:

wrf.exe - model executable

real.exe - real data initialization

ndown.exe - one-way nesting

tc.exe - for tc bogusing (serial only)

If you compile an ideal case, you should have:

wrf.exe - model executable

ideal.exe - ideal case initialization

-> each ideal test case compile creates a different executable



WRF executables: names and locations

These executables are linked to:

WRFV3/run

and

WRFV3/test/em_test_case

-> One can go to either directory to run.



WRFV3/run directory

```
LANDUSE . TBL
ETAMPNEW DATA
RRTM DATA
SOTT PARM TRI
                       these files are for
VEGPARM. TBL
                       model physics use,
urban param.tbl
                       and reside in this
tr49t67
                       directory
tr49t85
tr67t85
gribmap.txt
grib2map.tbl
namelist.input -> ../test/test case/namelist.input
real.exe -> ../main/real.exe
wrf.exe -> ../main/wrf.exe
ndown.exe -> ../main/ndown.exe
.... (a few more)
```

WRFV3/test/em_real directory

```
LANDUSE.TBL -> ../../run/LANDUSE.TBL
ETAMPNEW DATA -> ../../run/ETAMPNEW DATA
RRTM DATA -> ../../run/RRTM DATA
SOILPARM.TBL -> ../../run/SOILPARM.TBL
VEGPARM.TBL -> ../../run/VEGPARM.TBL
urban param.tbl -> ../../run/urban param.tbl
tr49t67 -> ../../run/tr49t67
tr49t85 -> ../../run/tr49t85
tr67t85 -> ../../run/tr67t85
gribmap.txt -> ../../run/gribmap.txt
grib2map.tbl -> ../../run/grib2map.tbl
namelist.input - require editing
real.exe -> ../../main/real.exe
wrf.exe -> ../../main/wrf.exe
ndown.exe -> ../../main/ndown.exe
.... (a few more)
```

How to Compile WPS?

Once WRFV3 is compiled, change directory to WPS to compile WPS

There are two steps here too:

- 1) Create a configuration file for your computer
 - ./configure
- 2) Compile the code
 - ./compile



Create configuration file

Step 1: type
./configure

This is a script that checks the system hardware and software (mostly *netCDF*), and then offers a user a number of compile choices:

- Serial, or MPI (serial usually sufficient)
- Whether to compiling GRIB 2 (requires additional external libraries: zlib, jasper and png)



Create a configuration file

The result of running the configure script is the generation of a file called:

configure.wps

This file contains compilation options, rules etc. specific to your computer.

One may compile WRF model with MPI, but compile WPS using serial option unless one is using very large domains.

How to Compile?

```
Step 2: type
```

```
./compile or
./compile >& compile.log & (recommended)
(it doesn't take very long to compile WPS)
```



WPS executables

If compile is successful, you should find these executables created in WPS/ directory (and they are linked, respectively, to the their source code directories),

```
geogrid.exe -> geogrid/src/geogrid.exe
ungrib.exe -> ungrib/src/ungrib.exe
metgrid.exe -> metgrid/src/metgrid.exe
```



WPS utility executables

If compile is successful, you should also find these executables in WPS/util directory,

Note plotgrids.exe and plotfmt.exe build require NCAR Graphics

WPS utility executables

More utilities in WPS/util directory,

```
util/avg tsfc.exe
```

- compute average surface temp to use as substrate temp for 5-layer soil model option or skin temp if it is not available

```
util/mod_levs.exe
```

- remove pressure levels from intermediate files

```
util/calc_ecmwf_p.exe
```

 calculate height, pressure and RH for ECWMF model-level data



Common Problems with Installation

- Executables do not exist
 - Check the location of netCDF library
 - See if netCDF is installed with the same compiler that you use to compile WRF/WPS
 - Try simple compile option first



Running a Real Data Case



Steps to Run WPS

- 1. Go to *WPS*/
- 2. Edit *namelist.wps* for your case
- 3. Run *geogrid.exe* to set up domain
 - -- Run *plotgrids.exe* to configure your domain (or use *plotgrids.ncl*)
- 4. Run ungrid.exe to degrib met data
- 5. Run *metgrid.exe* to interpolate met data to model grid



A note on namelist

- A Fortran namelist contains a list of runtime options for the program to read in during its execution. Use of a namelist allows one to change runtime configuration without the need to recompile the source code.
- Fortran 90 namelist has very specific format, so edit with care:

```
&namelist-record - start
/ - end
```

As a general rule:

Multiple columns: domain dependent

Single column: value valid for all domains



example of a partial WPS namelist

```
&share
wrf core = 'ARW',
max dom = 2,
start date = '2006-08-16 12:00:00', '2006-08-16 12:00:00',
end date = '2006-08-16\ 18:00:00', '2006-08-16\ 12:00:00',
interval seconds = 21600
io form geogrid = 2,
&geogrid
parent id = 1, 1,
parent grid ratio = 1, 3,
                  = 74, 112,
e we
               = 61, 97,
e sn
geog data res = '10m', '2m',
dx = 30000,
dy = 30000,
map proj = 'lambert',
geog data path = '/mmm/users/wrfhelp/WPS GEOG'
&ungrib
out format = 'WPS',
prefix = 'FILE',
&metgrid
fg name = 'FILE'
io form metgrid = 2
```



Running geogrid

- Edit namelist records &share and &geogrid
- make sure GEOGRID.TBL is linked to GEOGRID.TBL.ARW (by default, it is)
- Type the following to run:
 - ./geogrid.exe
- If successful, you should see
 Successful completion of geogrid



Running geogrid

Output from geogrid:

```
geo_em.d01.nc
geo_em.d02.nc (for a nest)
```

Use tools like ncview to quickly check the output



Running ungrib

- Edit namelist record &share (for dates) and &ungrib in namelist.wps
- Link the correct Vtable from wps/ungrib/ Variable_Tables/ directory to the file name "Vtable" in the run directory. e.g.

ln -s ungrib/Variable_Tables/Vtable.GFS Vtable

• Link GRIB files using provided script link_grib.csh:

link_grib.csh /data/GRIB/gfs/gfs*



Running ungrib

Type the following to run ungrib:

```
./ungrib.exe >& log.ungrib
```

- If successful, you should see Successful completion of ungrib
- output files from ungrib, one per time period:

```
FILE:2009-04-15_00
```



Running metgrid

- Edit namelist records &share and &metgrid
- Type the following to run metgrid:

```
./metgrid.exe >& log.metgrid
```

- If successful, you should see
 Successful completion of metgrid
- Output from metgrid program:

```
met_em.d01.2009-04-15_00:00:00
met_em.d01.2009-04-15_06:00:00
met_em.d02.2009-04-15_00:00:00 (for a nest, usually only one time period is needed)
```



Typical Errors Running WPS

- Using wrong Vtable
- Missing some surface data, which may result an error message like:

```
WRF_DEBUG: Warning DIM 4 , NAME num_metgrid_levels REDIFINED by var TT 27 26 in wrf_io.F90 line 2420 ERROR: Error in ext pkg write field
```

- Missing soil temperature or moisture
- Check the log file from running ungrib to know what met fields you have got

Steps to Run real and wrf

- 1. cd to *run*/ or one of the *test case* directories
- 2. Link or copy WPS output files to the directory for real-data cases
- 3. Edit *namelist.input* file for the appropriate grid and times of the case
- 4. Run initialization program (*ideal.exe*, *real.exe*)
- 5. Run model executable, wrf.exe



Running Real-Data Case

 If you have compiled the em_real case, you should have:

```
real.exe - real data initialization program
wrf.exe - model executable
ndown.exe - program for doing one-way nesting
```

These executables are linked to:

```
WRFV3/run
and
WRFV3/test/em_real
```

→ One can go to either directory to run.



- One must successfully run WPS, and create
 met_em.* file for more than one time period
- Link or copy WPS output files to the run directory:

```
cd test/em_real
ln -s ../../WPS/met_em.*
```

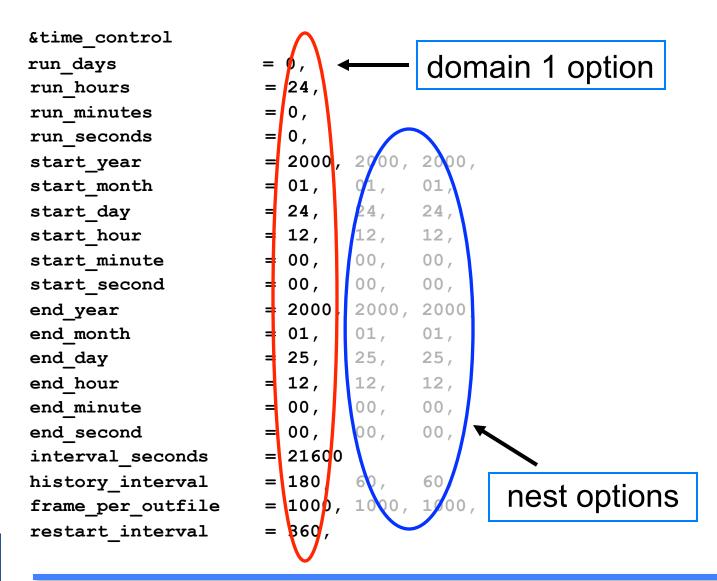


 Edit namelist.input file for runtime options (at mininum, one must edit &time_control for start, end and integration times, and &domains for grid dimensions)

Pay attention to first column in the namelist.input file if you are using a single domain. For nested runs, multiple columns of namelists need to be edited.



example of namelist.input file: &time_control





example of namelist.input file: &domains

```
&domains
                                    Match the dimensions
time step
                         = 180
                                    defined in WPS
time_step_fract_num
                         = 0,
time step fract den
                         = 1,
max dom
e we
                                     , nest1,
e sn
                                    <sup>8</sup>options
                         = 28,
e vert
num_metgrid_levels
                         = 21
num metgrid soil levels
                         = 30000, 10000, 33
dx
                         = 30000, 1000, 2
dy
                         = 1.0, 0.996, 0.99, 0.98, \dots 0.0
eta levels
                         = 5000,
p_top_requested
```



Run the real-data initialization program:

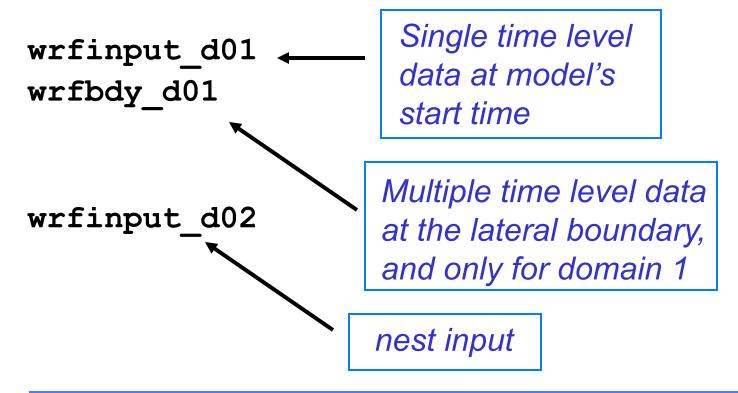
```
./real.exe, if compiled serially / SMP, or mpirun -np N ./real.exe, for a MPI job where N is the number of processors requested.
```

Depending on how the computer is configured, one may need to specify *machinefile* option:

```
mpirun -machinefile mach -np N ./real.exe
- here 'mach' is a file containing a list of machine/
```

processor names

 Successfully running this program will create model initial and boundary files:





Run the model executable by typing:

```
./wrf.exe >& wrf.out &
or
mpirun -np N ./wrf.exe &
```

 Successfully running the model will a create model history file:

```
wrfout_d01_2005-08-28_00:00:00
wrfout_d02_2005-08-28_00:00:00
And restart file if restart_interval is set to 720:
wrfrst_d01_2008-08-28_12:00:00
wrfrst_d02_2008-08-28_12:00:00
```



Where do I start?

- Always start with a namelist template provided in a test case directory, whether it is a ideal or real data case.
 - A number of namelist templates are provided in test/test-case/ directories
- Use document to guide the modification of the namelist values:
 - run/README.namelist
 - User's Guide, Chapter 5
 - Full list of namelists and their default values can be found in Registry files: Registry.EM, and registry.io_boilerplate (IO options)



To run a job in a different directory..

- Directories run/ and test_<case>/ are convenient places to run, but it does not have to be.
- Copy or link the content of these directories to another directory, including physics data files, wrf input and boundary files and wrf namelist and executables, and you should be able to run a job anywhere on your system.



Check Output



Output After a Model Run

Standard out/error files:

```
wrf.out, or rsl.* files
```

Model history file(s):

Model restart file(s), optional



Output from a multi-processor run

The standard out and error will go to the following files for a MPI run:

```
mpirun -np 4 .wrf.exe →
```

```
rsl.out.0000 rsl.error.0000
rsl.out.0001 rsl.error.0001
rsl.out.0002 rsl.error.0002
rsl.out.0003 rsl.error.0003
```

There is one pair of files for each processor requested

What to Look for in a standard out File?

Check run log file by typing

```
tail wrf.out, or tail rsl.out.0000
```

You should see the following if the job is successfully completed:

wrf: SUCCESS COMPLETE WRF



How to Check Model History File?

• Use ncdump:

```
ncdump -v Times wrfout_d01_<date>
to check output times. Or
   ncdump -v U wrfout_d01_<date>
to check a particular variable (U)
```

- Use ncview or ncBrowse (great tools!)
- Use post-processing tools (see talks later)



What is in a wrf.out or rsl file?

- A print of namelist options
- Time taken to compute one model step:

```
Timing for main: time 2000-01-24_12:03:00 on domain 1: 3.25000 elapsed seconds. Timing for main: time 2000-01-24_12:06:00 on domain 1: 1.50000 elapsed seconds. Timing for main: time 2000-01-24_12:09:00 on domain 1: 1.50000 elapsed seconds. Timing for main: time 2000-01-24_12:12:00 on domain 1: 1.55000 elapsed seconds.
```

Time taken to write history and restart file:

```
Timing for Writing wrfout_d01_2000-01-24_18:00:00 for domain 1: 0.14000 elapsed seconds.
```

Any model error prints:

```
5 points exceeded cfl=2 in domain 1 at time 4.200000 MAX AT i,j,k: 123 48 3 cfl,w,d(eta)= 4.165821
```

-> An indication the model has become numerically unstable



Simple Trouble Shooting



Often-seen runtime problems

- module_configure: initial_config: error reading namelist: &dynamics
 - > Typos or erroneous namelist variables exist in namelist record &dynamics in namelist.input file
- input_wrf.F: SIZE MISMATCH: namelist
 ide,jde,num_metgrid_levels= 70 61 27; input
 data ide,jde,num_metgrid_levels= 74 61 27
 - > Grid dimensions in error



Often-seen runtime problems

- Segmentation fault (core dumped)
 - > Often typing 'unlimit' Or 'ulimit -s unlimited' or equivalent can help when this happens quickly in a run.
- 121 points exceeded cfl=2 in domain 1 at time 4.200000 MAX AT i,j,k: 123 48 3 cfl,w,d(eta)= 4.165821
 - Model becomes unstable due to various reasons. If it happens soon after the start time, check input data, and/or reduce time step.



Resources

- Information on compiling and running WRF, and a more extensive list of namelist options and their definition / explanations can be found in the WRF User's Guide, Chapter 5
- namelist templates in test/em* directories
- example.namelists in test/em_real directory
- README.namelist in WRFV3/run
- Registry/Registry.EM

