

The TEMF PBL Scheme in WRF: Experience in real-time forecasts for California

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- It runs and is running
- Results are subtly different than reference configuration
- Systematic evaluation is yet to come
- Here are some examples

What is TEMF?

- Total Energy – Mass Flux
- In stable conditions, based on total turbulent energy and LES-derived stability functions
- In convective BLs, combines eddy diffusivity for local transport with mass flux for non-local
- Particularity intended for **stable** BLs and BLs with **shallow cumulus / stratocumulus**
- New: Subgrid cloud parameterization

Forecasting for CalNex

- Large field project in California
 - multiple aircraft, ship, ground sites
 - May – July 2010
- Fine-scale modeling needed to handle complex terrain and coastline
- WRF domains:
 - Triple nest (36, 12, 4 km)
 - Matched to EPA emissions inventory projection
 - Inner domain (d03) 300x200, covers all of CA
- Driving Flexpart particle dispersion model

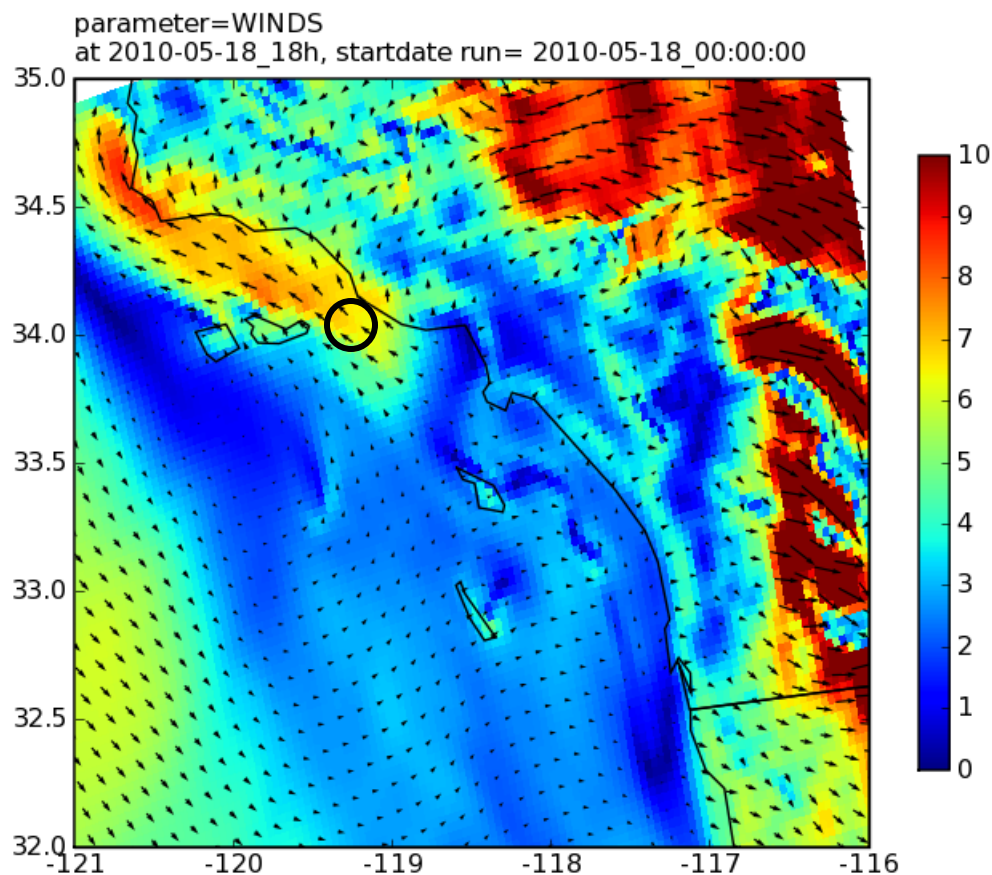
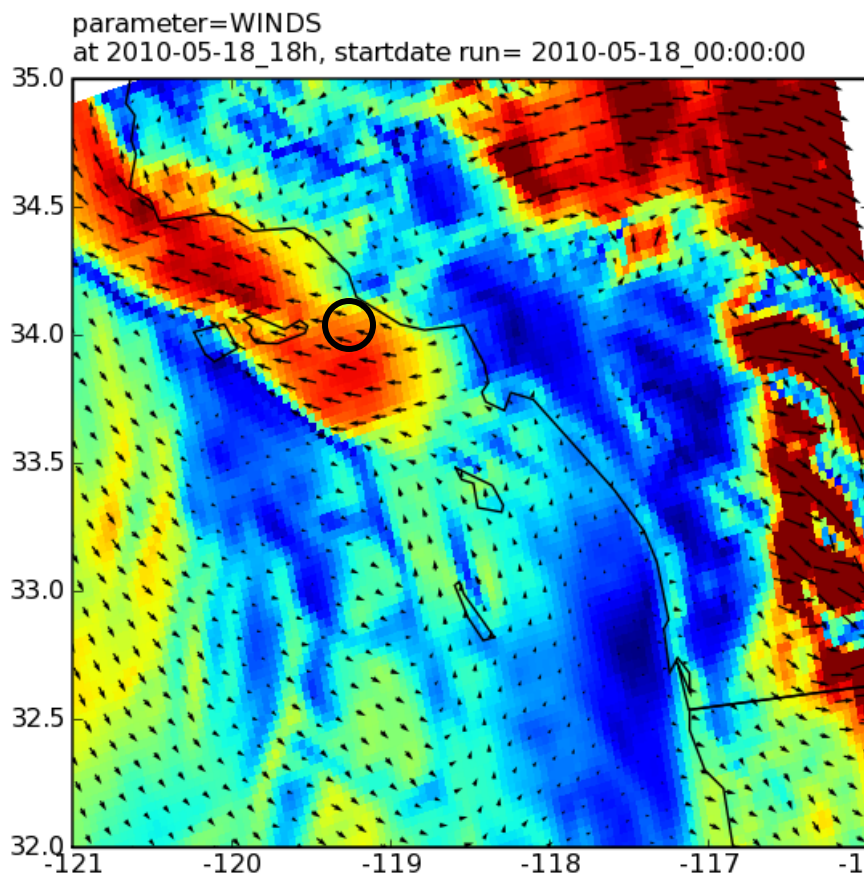
WRF configurations for CalNex

- “Reference” configuration
 - MYJ PBL & surface layer
 - 5-layer thermal (slab) LSM (1)
 - Navy high-resolution SST
 - Eta microphysics (5)
 - RRTM longwave (1)
 - Dudhia shortwave (1)
 - Kain-Fritsch cumulus (1) d01 only
- TEMF configuration
 - same as reference except TEMF PBL & surface layer on d02 & d03

18 May Southerly jet

Ref 50 m wind speed

TEMF 50 m wind speed

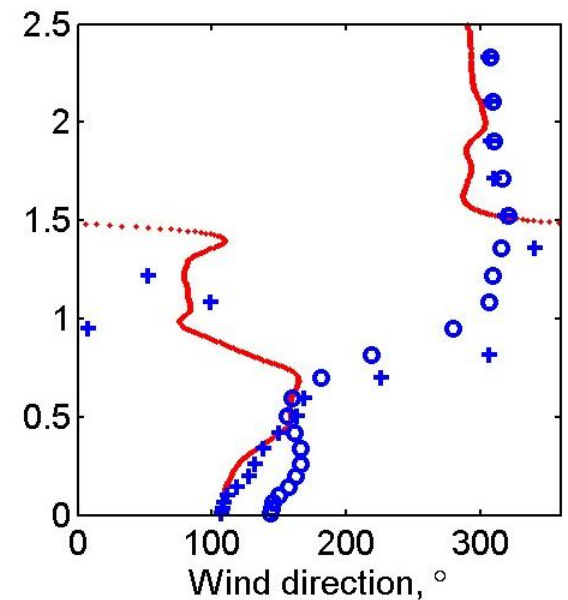
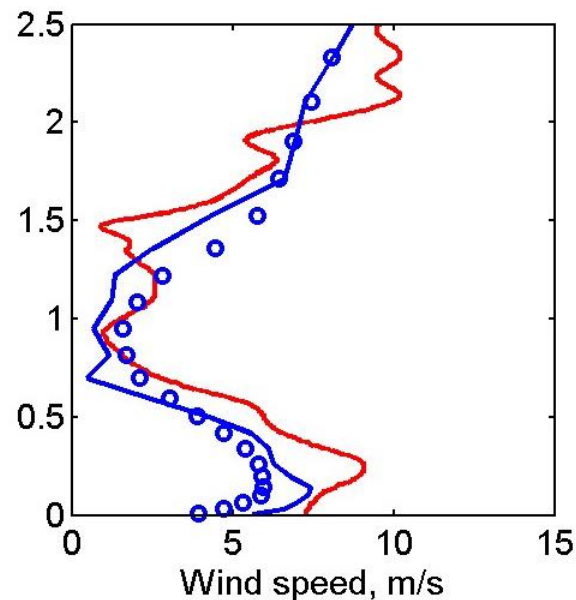
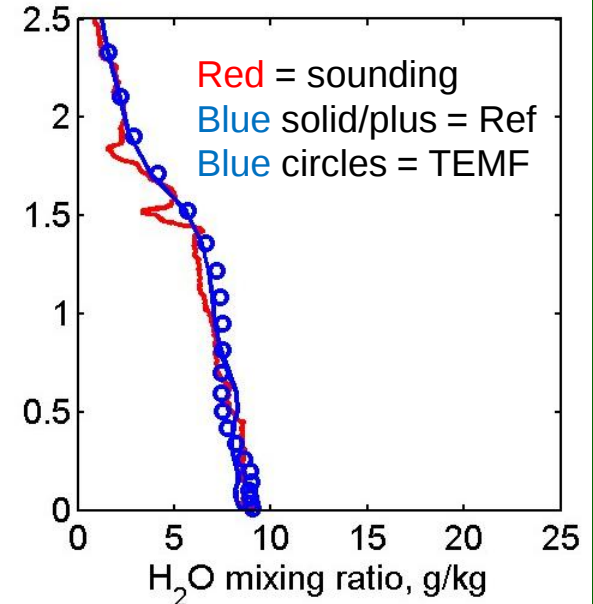
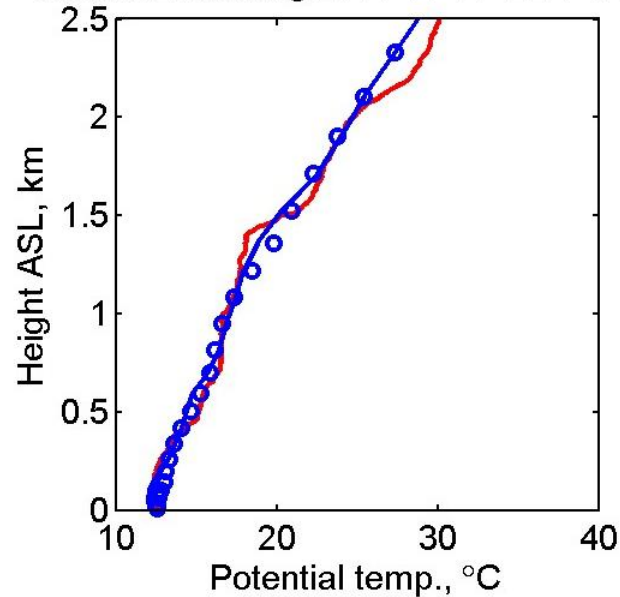


18 May Southerly jet

Both WRF runs
under-forecast jet
strength

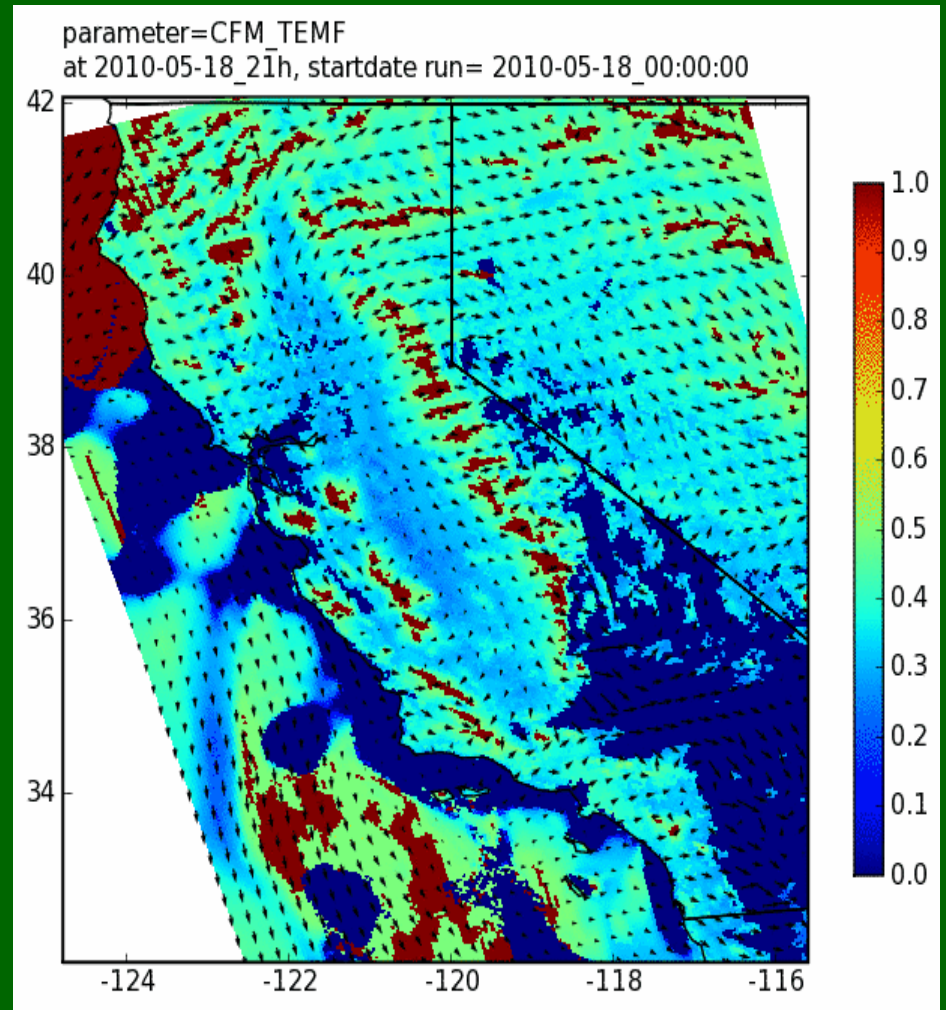
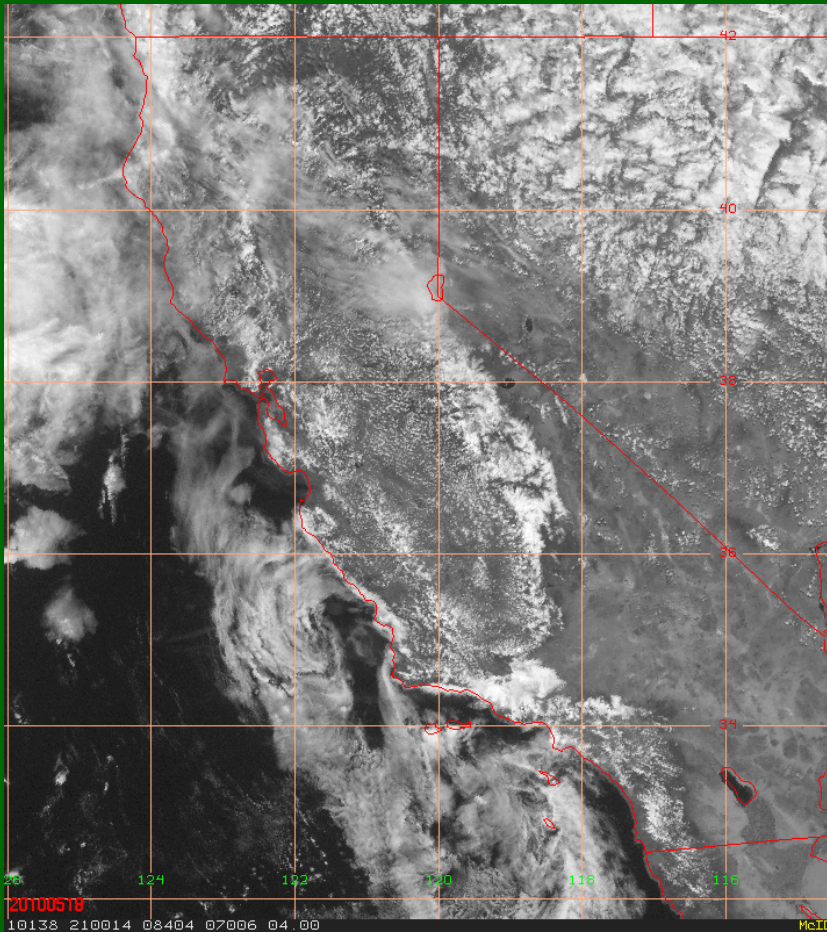
Ref slightly better at
time and place of
sounding

Atlantis sounding 2010 05 18 1913 UTC

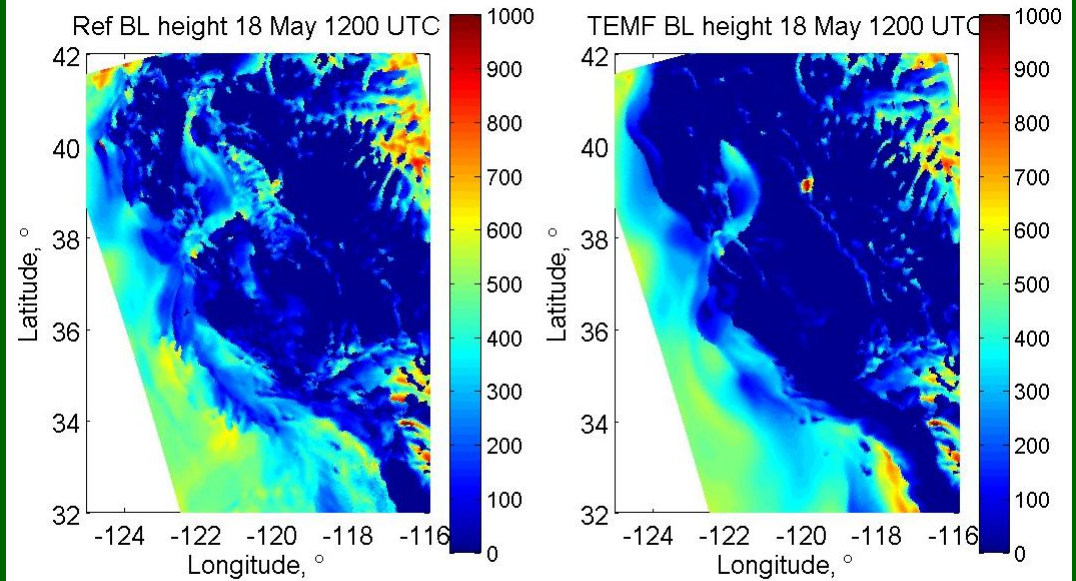


18 May 21Z cloud forecast

Column max. cloud fraction

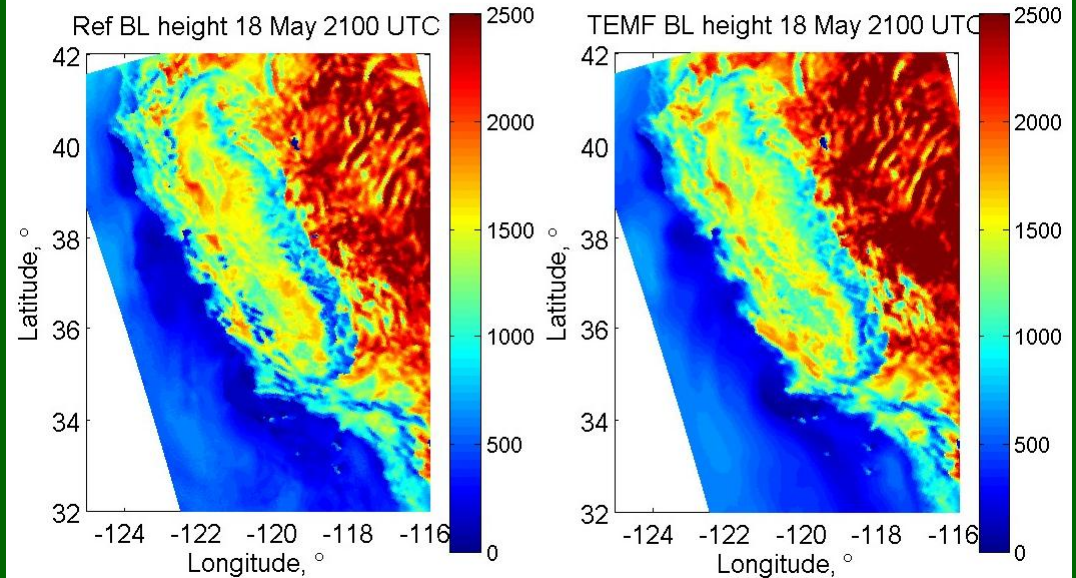


18 May BL heights



Ref

TEMP

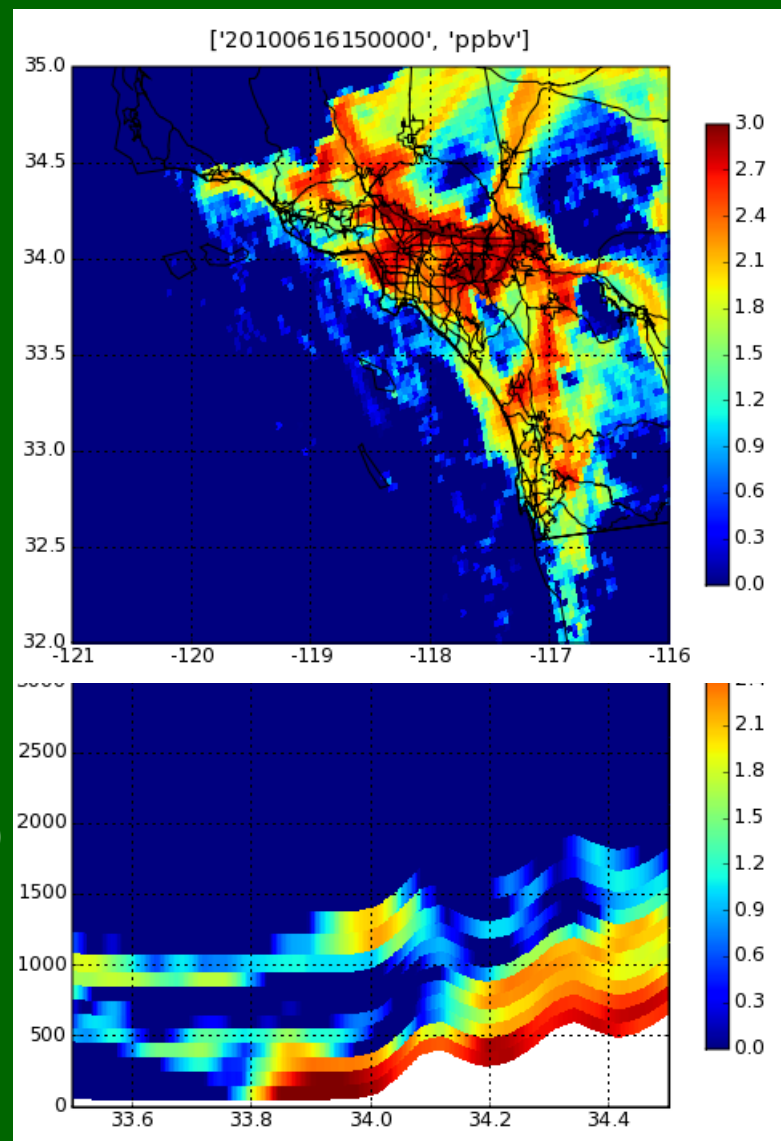
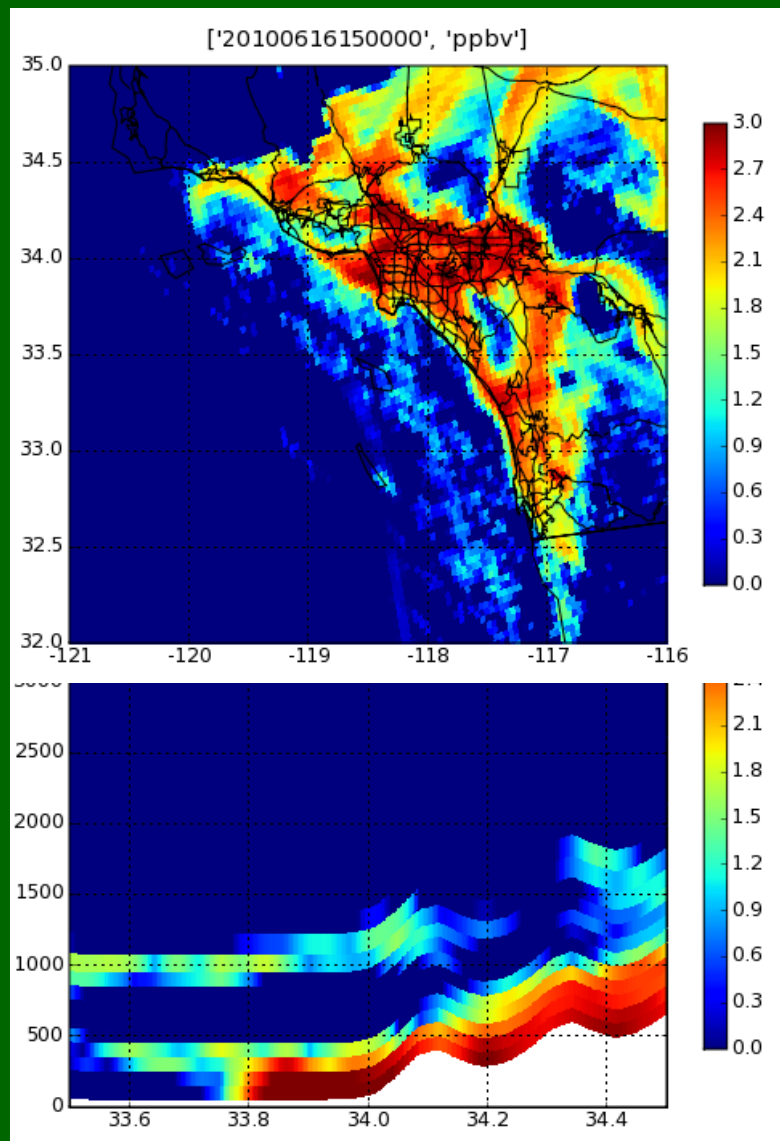


16 June outflows from LA area

Flexpart So.Cal. tracer

Ref

TEMF



16 June outflows from LA area

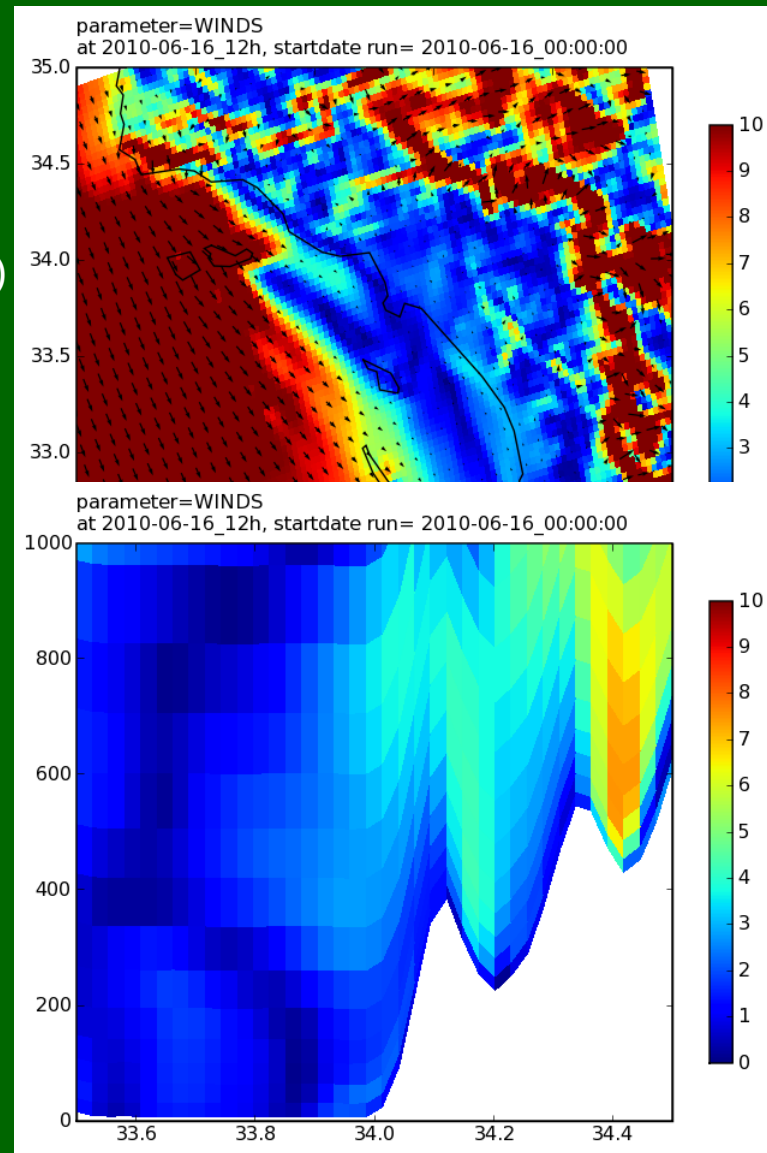
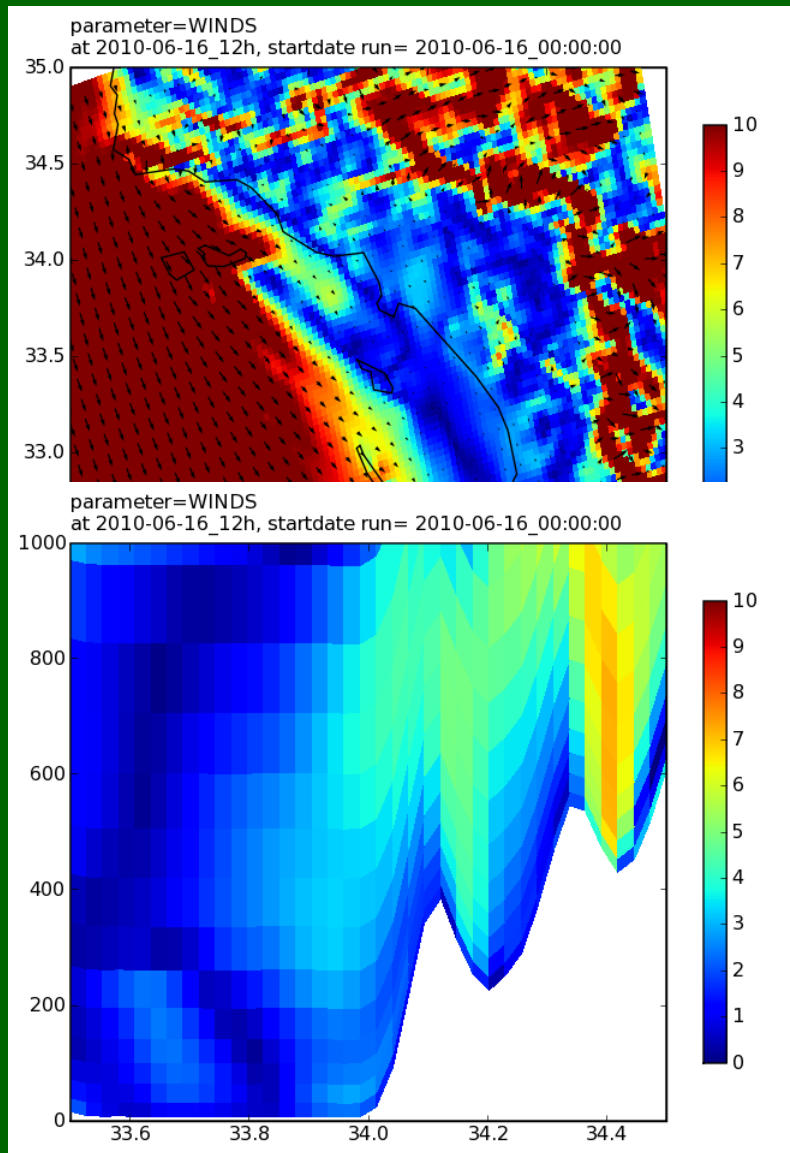
WRF winds

Ref

TEMF

Horizontal
(50 m AGL)

Vertical
(lat.-118.5)



To Do

- Implemented in WRF v3.1.1 (not released)
 - Make ready for release (priority?)
 - Couple to radiation scheme(s)
 - Test with other physics combinations
 - Improve numerics to allow longer timesteps?
- Systematic evaluation
 - Winds (vs. profilers)
 - Forecast time (effect of initialization)
 - Cloud fraction prediction (vs. satellite pics)

Thanks to:

- Kevin Durkee, SCAQMD (LA area profiler data)
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- NOAA ESRL High-Performance Computing Program
- Stephan de Roode for help with the cloud fraction parameterization