The background image is a simulation of a wildfire. A large fire is burning in the distance, with thick black smoke rising into the sky. The scene is filled with a hazy, orange-brown glow from the smoke and dust. In the foreground, a multi-lane highway is visible with several cars and a large tanker truck. The overall atmosphere is one of a severe weather event simulation.

**Simulating Radiative Effect of Smoke and Dust Aerosols Using  
NOAA's Next-Generation Storm-Scale Numerical Weather  
Prediction Model  
(*preliminary results*)**

**Ravan Ahmadov<sup>1</sup>, Haiqin Li<sup>1,2</sup>, Johana Remero-Alvarez<sup>1,2</sup>, Eric James<sup>1,2</sup>, Georg A. Grell<sup>1</sup>, Jordan Schnell<sup>1,2</sup>**

**<sup>1</sup>NOAA/Global Systems Laboratory**

**<sup>2</sup>Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences at the University of Colorado Boulder**

### ***3.1 An introduction to the Rapid Refresh Forecast System - Smoke and Dust (RRFS-SD)***

- **The host model: Rapid Refresh Forecast System (RRFS)**
  - dynamics core: Finite Volume Cubed-Sphere (FV3)
  - physics: Common Community Physics Package (CCPP) FV3 HRRR physics suite (MYNN PBL, Thompson microphysics, RUC LSM)
- **Coupling smoke and dust modules into RRFS through CCPP**
  - Plume rising: 1D cloud model is used to calculate injection heights and plume rise emission rates
  - Fire Emission: hourly Advanced Baseline Imager and Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite Emissions (RAVE)
  - Dust: FENGSHA dust scheme
  - Sea-salt: NASA GEOS-5 GOCART sea salt scheme
  - Fire Weather Index: Hourly Wildfire Potential diagnostic output
- **This is a simple aerosol model with 3 tracers of smoke, fine dust and coarsepm. Anthropogenic and biogenic emissions, gas or aerosol chemistry are NOT included.**

### ***3.2 The method of direct and indirect feedback in RRFS-SD***

- **In the global and regional scale NOAA United Forecast System (UFS) Weather Models, the MERRA2 climatology (2003-2013) is used as the background aerosols for the radiation process.**
- **We add the smoke and dust from RRFS-SD on top of the MERRA2 climatology for radiation.**
- **The same approach of aerosol indirect feedback in global modeling is also applied in RRFS-SD.**

### 3.3 Experimental design of aerosol direct/indirect feedback in RRFS-SD

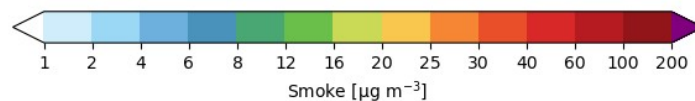
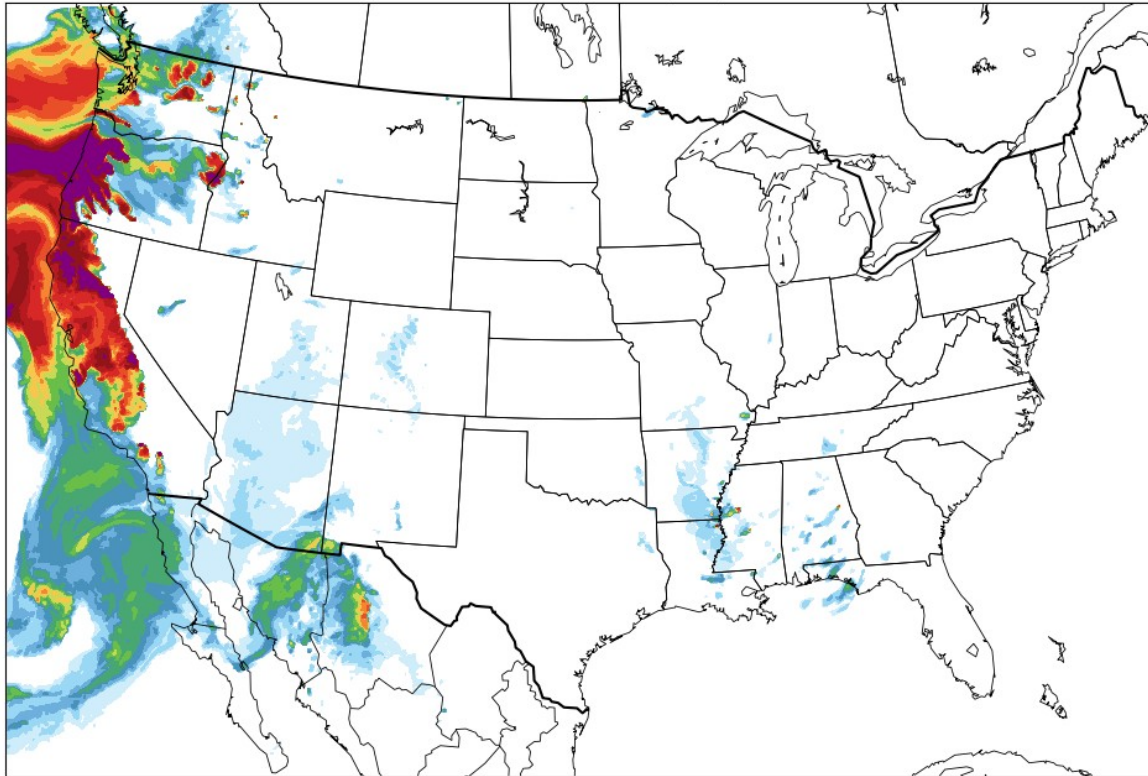
	CTL	fdb_dir	fdb_indir
Smoke/dust direct feedback to radiation	NO	YES	NO
Smoke/dust indirect feedback to cloud physics	NO	NO	YES
physics	FV3 HRRR physics suite	FV3 HRRR physics suite	FV3 HRRR physics suite
RRFS Initial/Boundary Conditions	Rapid Refresh (RAP) Analysis (2020090100~2020091523)	Rapid Refresh (RAP) Analysis (2020090100~2020091523)	Rapid Refresh (RAP) Analysis (2020090100~2020091523)
RRFS domain	Contiguous United States (CONUS)	Contiguous United States (CONUS)	Contiguous United States (CONUS)
Horizontal resolution	3km	3km	3km
Vertical resolution	64 layers	64 layers	64 layers
Integration length	24h with hourly output	24h with hourly output	24h with hourly output
Smoke/dust start	Cold-start cycling (smoke & dust are cycled)	Cold-start cycling (smoke & dust are cycled)	Cold-start cycling (smoke & dust are cycled)

# RRFS-Smoke simulation on the 3km resolution CONUS domain

September 10, 2020

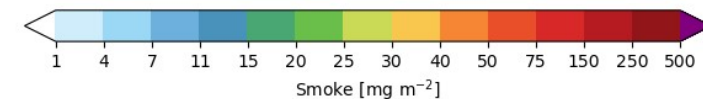
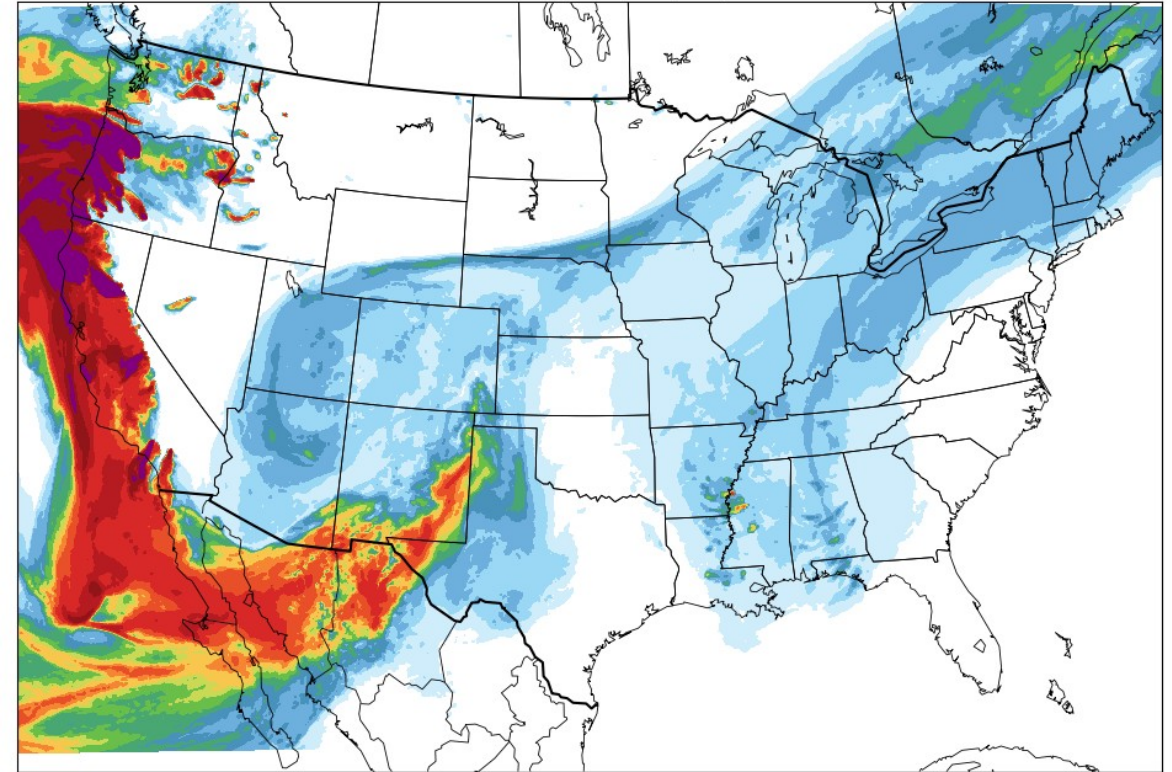
Near-Surface Smoke ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )

Near-Surface Smoke (experimental)  
2020-09-10 00:00:00 (UTC)

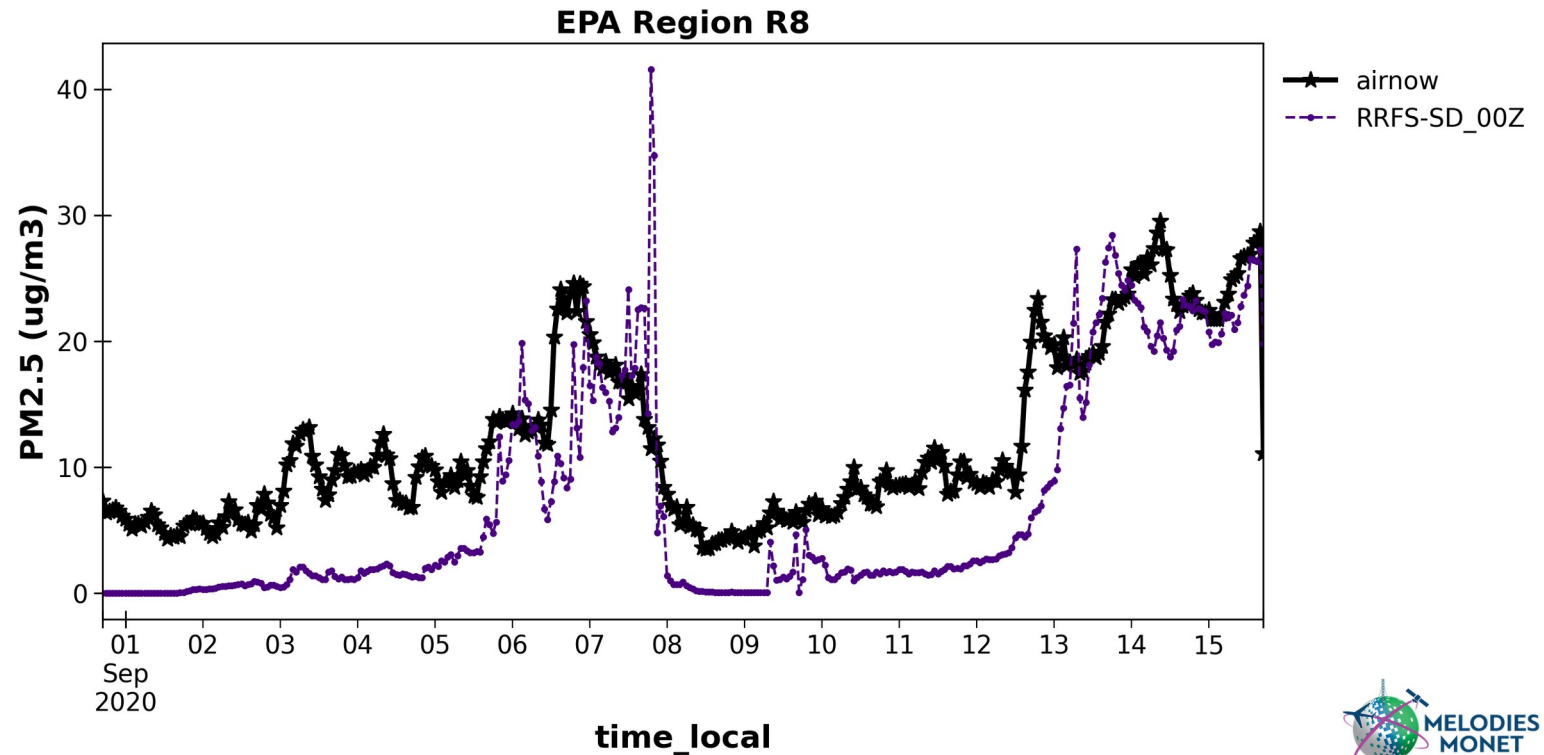
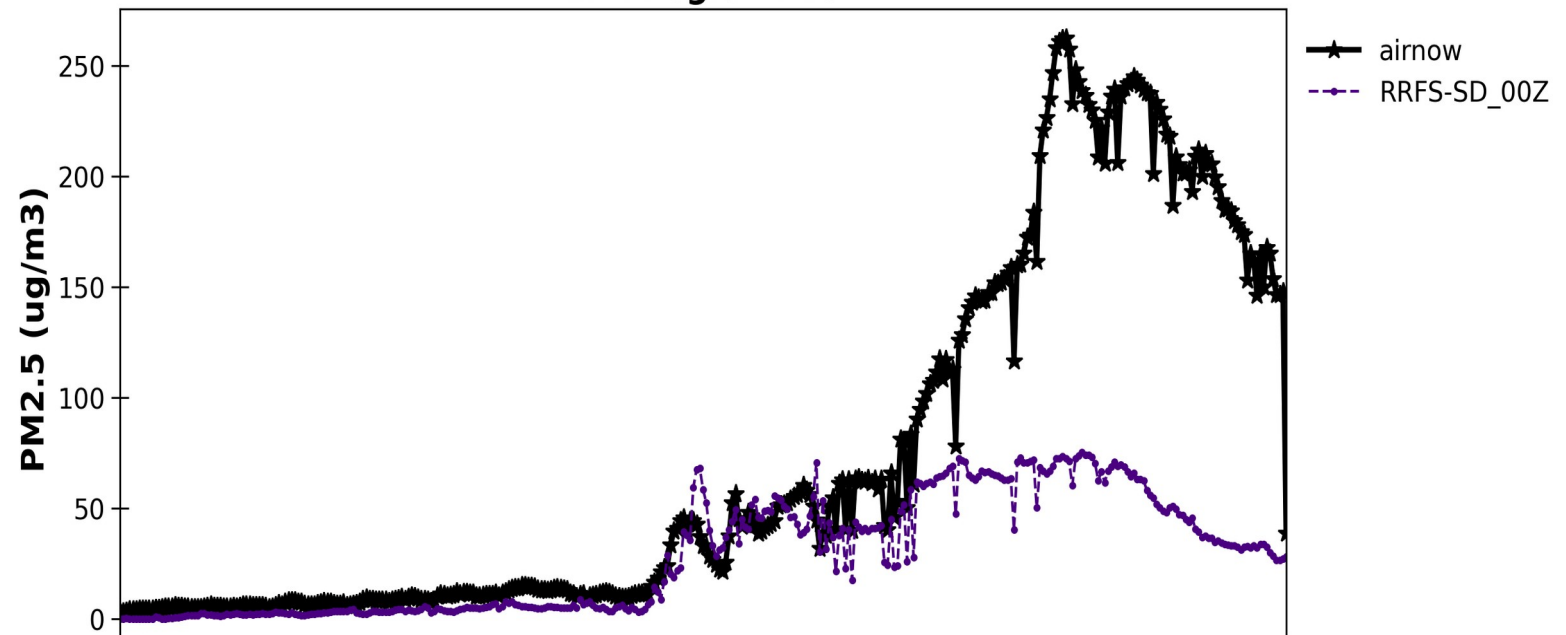
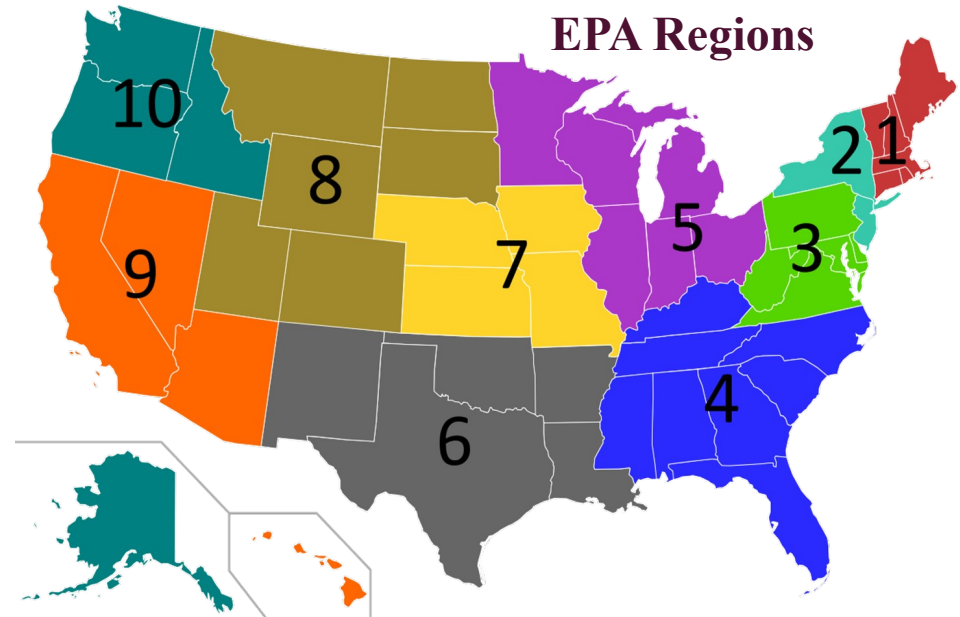


Vertically-Integrated Smoke ( $\text{mg m}^{-2}$ )

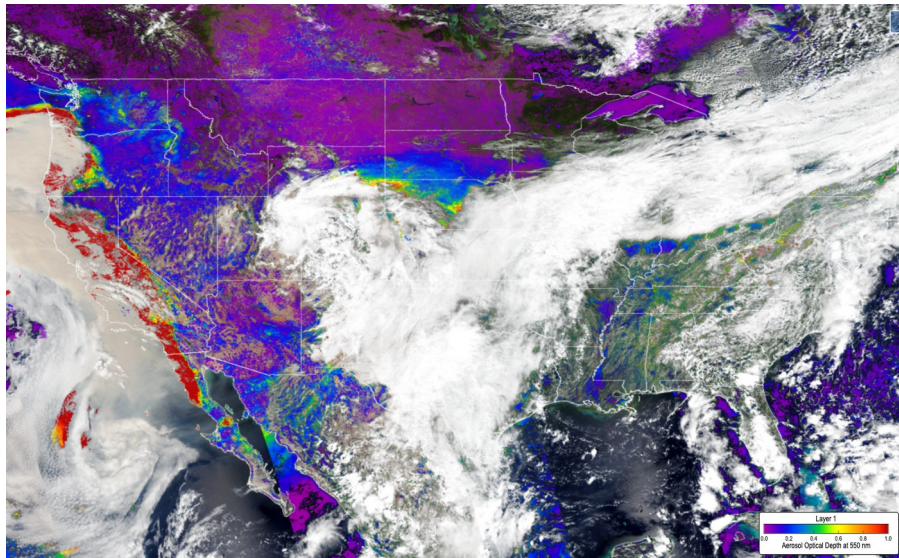
Vertically-Integrated Smoke (experimental)  
2020-09-10 00:00:00 (UTC)



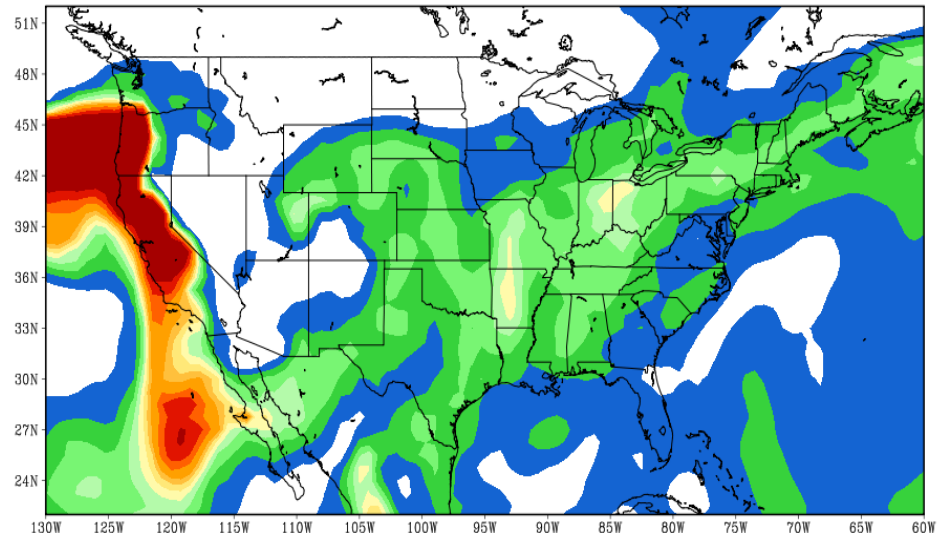
# Evaluation of the RRFS-Smoke simulations using the AirNow PM2.5 observations for September, 2020



# Aerosol Optical Depth (AOD) valid for September 10, 2020

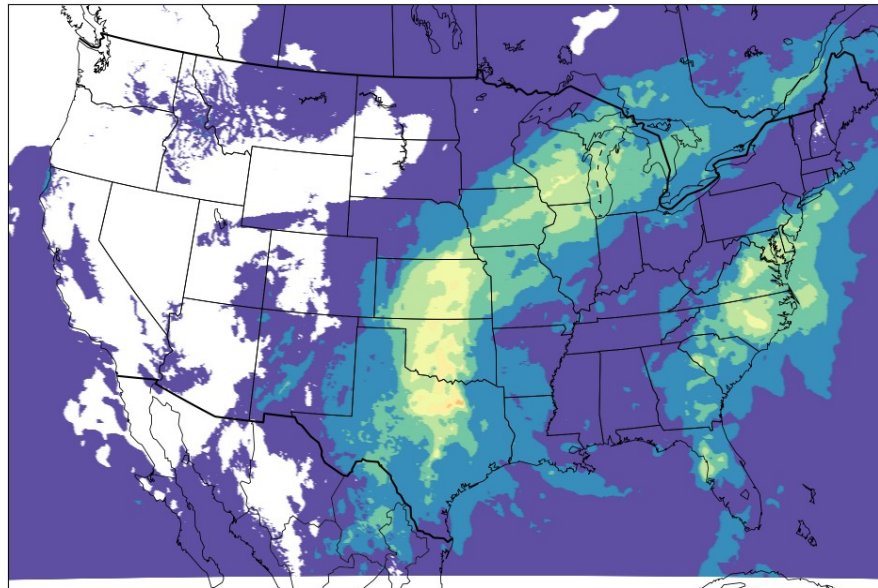


**NOAA-20  
satellite**

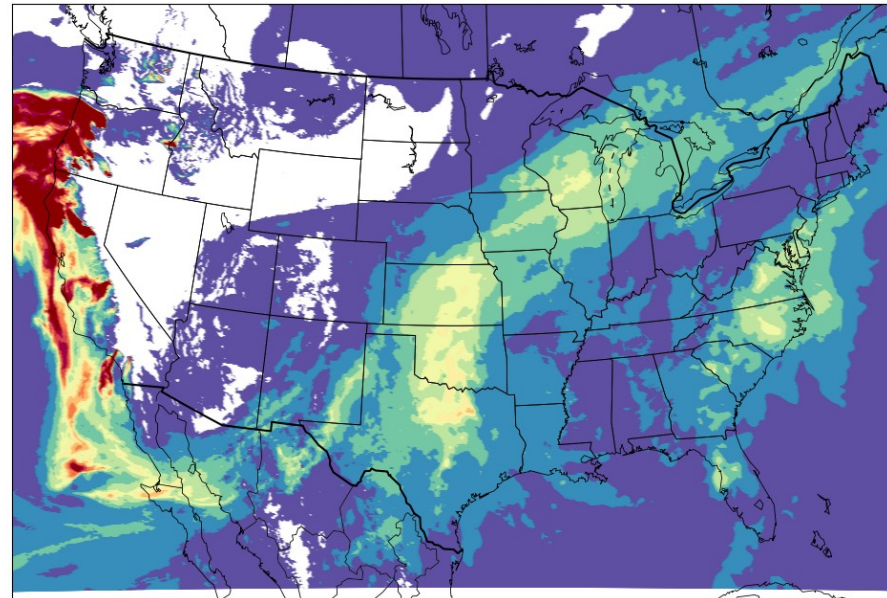


**ECMWF  
Aerosol  
analysis**

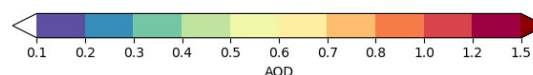
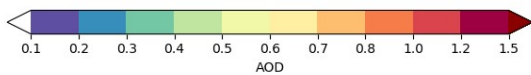
AOD  
2020-09-10 00:00:00 (UTC)



**Model AOD  
Climatological  
Aerosols only**



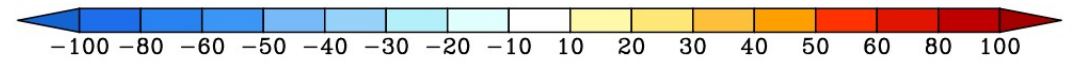
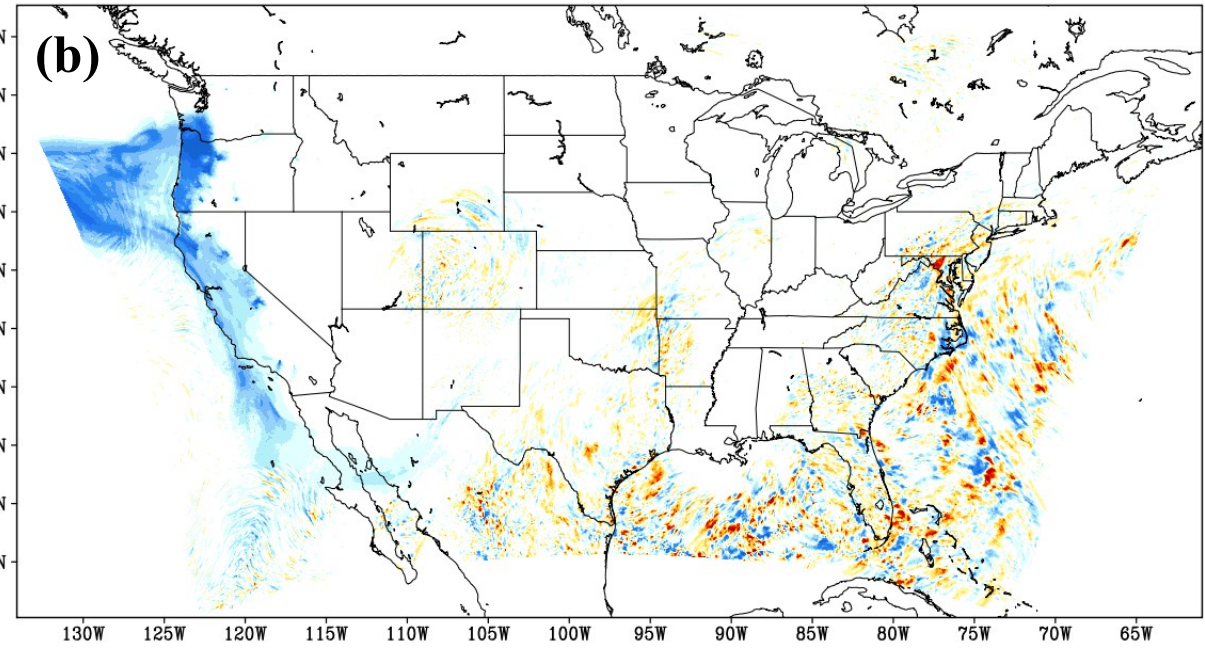
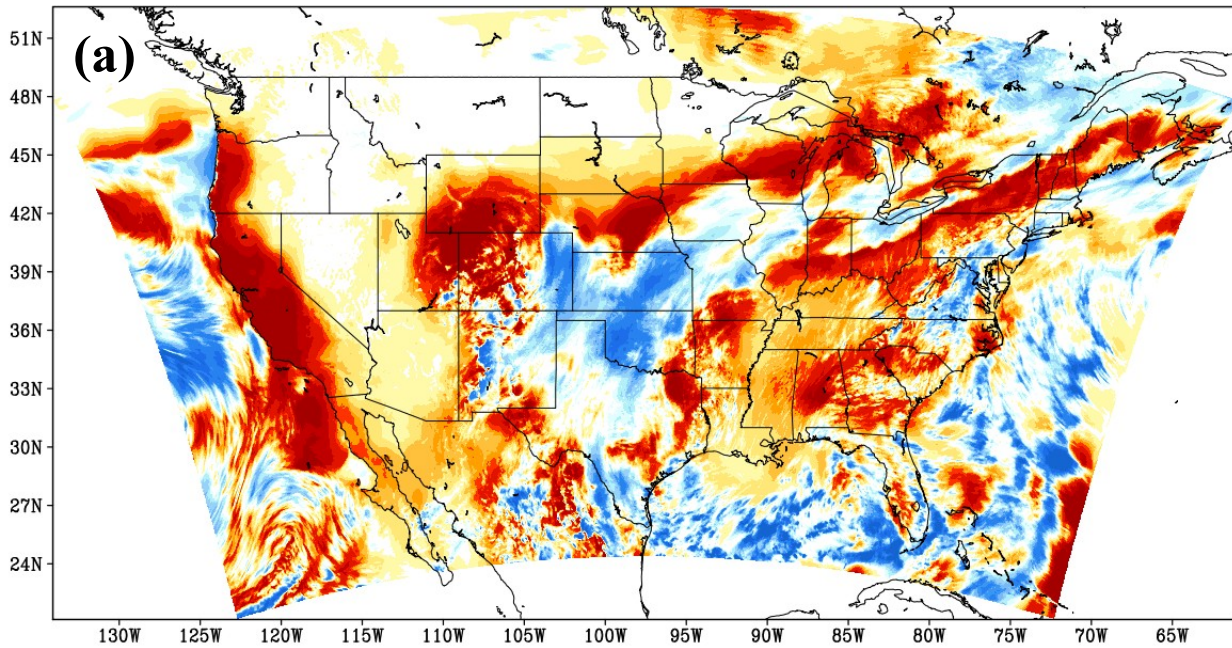
**Model AOD  
smoke+climatological  
aerosols**



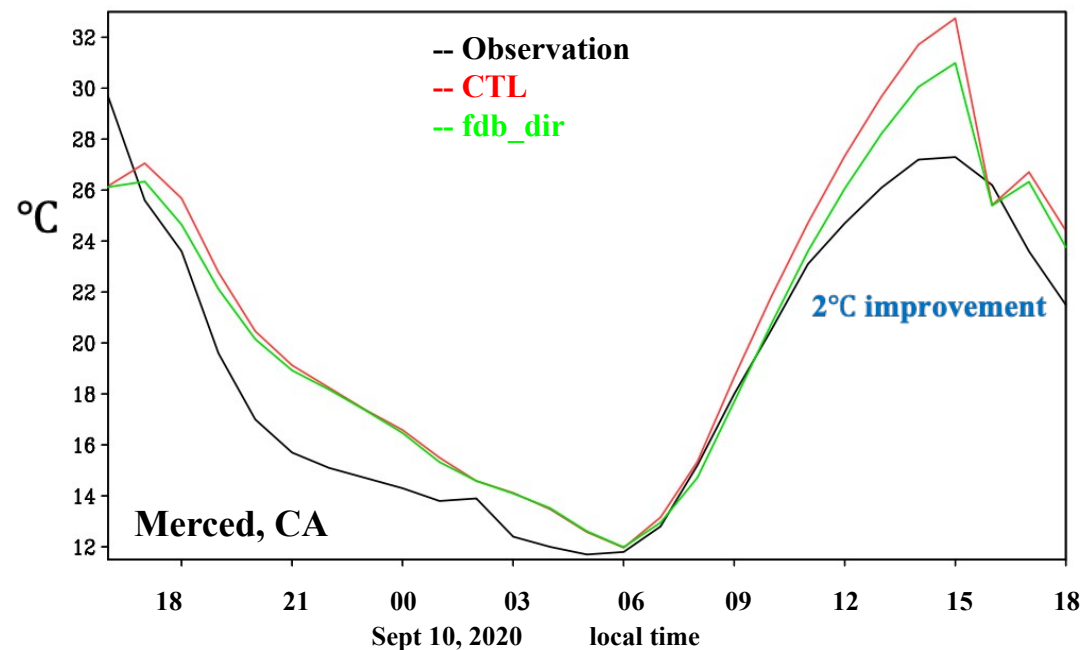
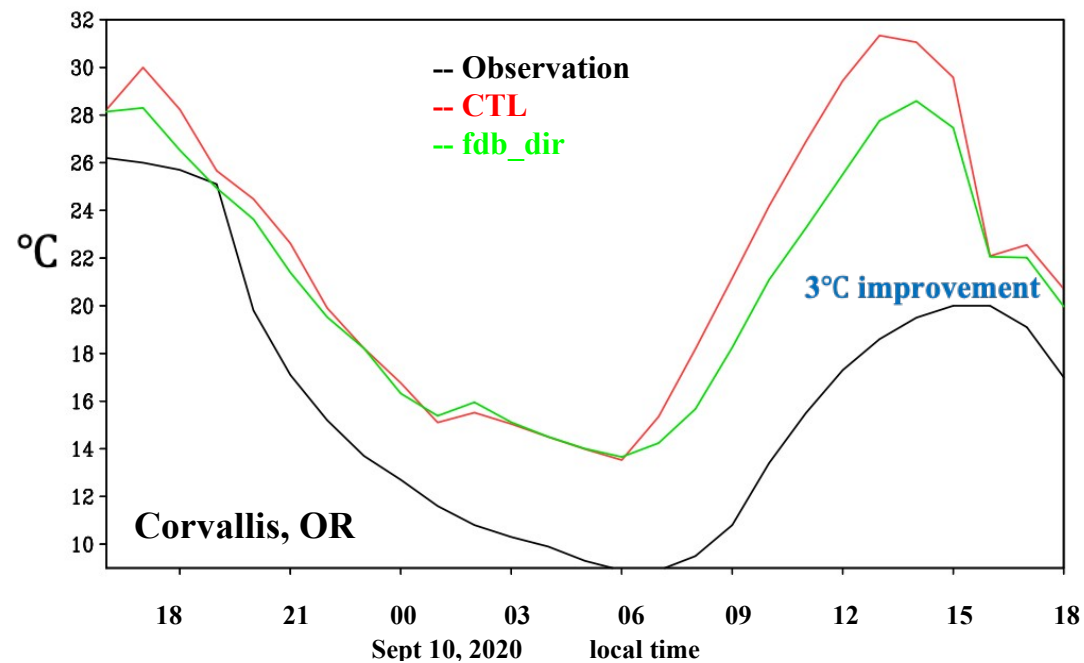
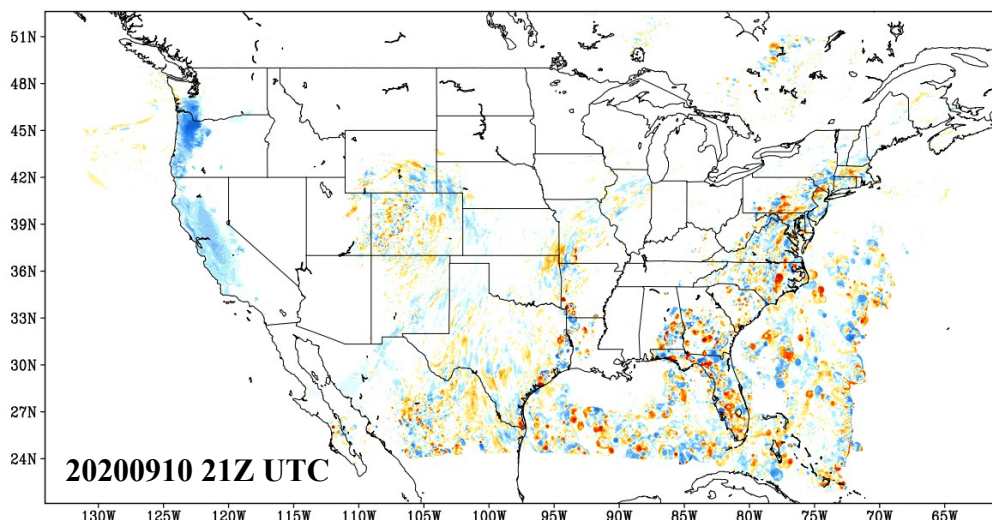
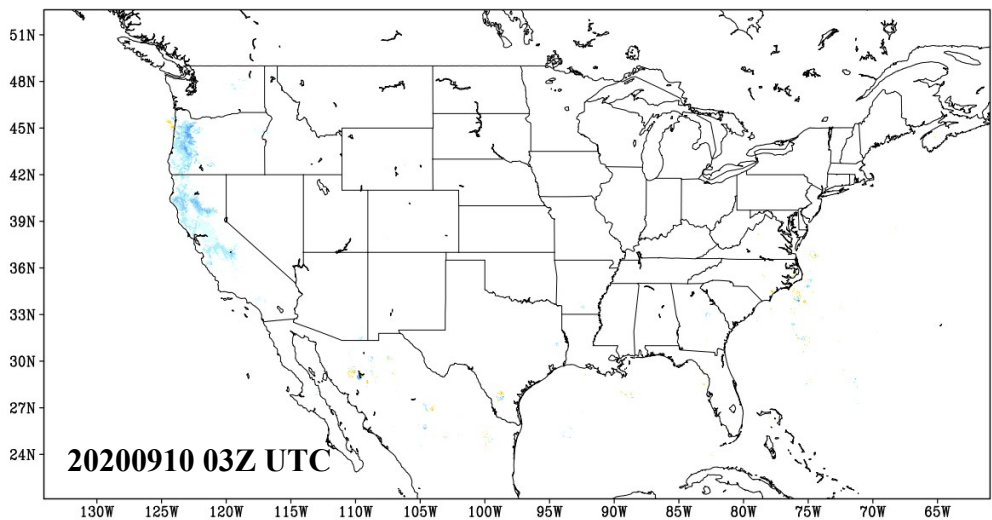
# Surface downward shortwave radiation flux ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ )

20200910 daily mean  
CTL .minus. CERES Observation

20200910 daily mean  
fdb\_dir .minus. CTL



# 2m air temperature forecast difference (°C) due to the radiative feedback in RRFs-SD (September 10, 2020)



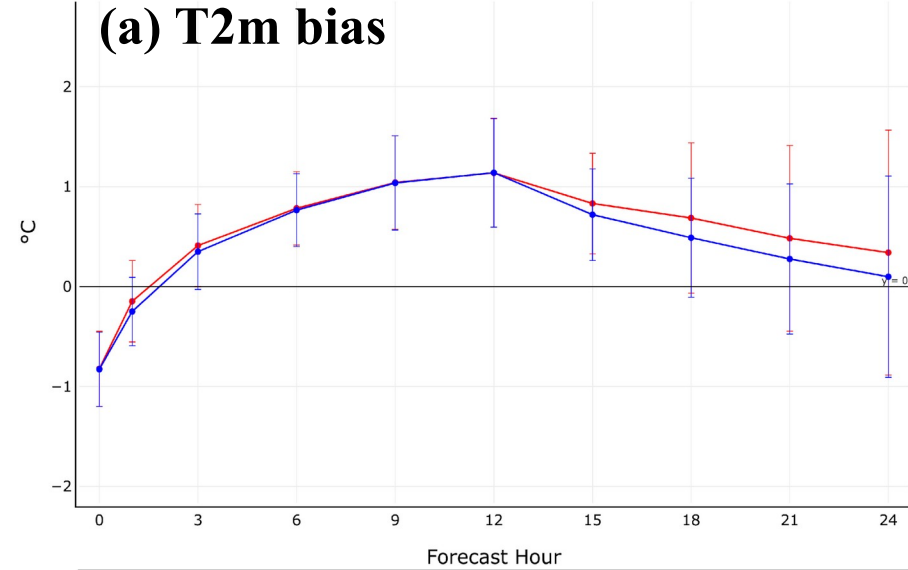


# RRFS-Smoke verification over the northwestern CONUS region

Surface : DieOff: no diffs MATCHED

Curve0 mean = 0.4746, median = 0.5849, stdev = 0.5585  
 Curve1 mean = 0.3801, median = 0.4196, stdev = 0.5882

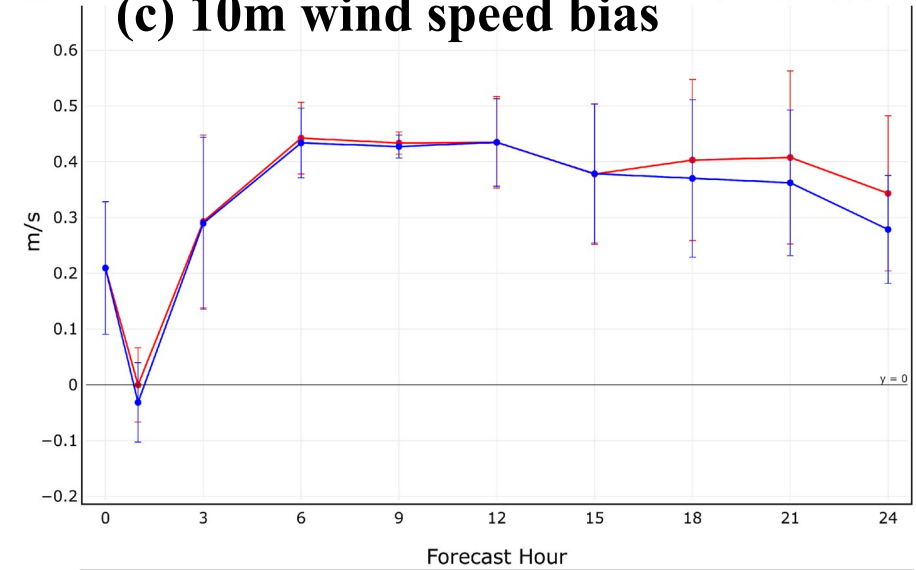
Curve0: RRFsret\_Sept2020\_BaseE\_CTL in unused: Northwest CONUS, 2m temperature Bias (Model - Obs), Dieoff, valid-time: unused, start utc: 12, METAR, 09/01/2020 00:00 - 09/15/2020 00:00  
 Curve1: RRFsret\_Sept2020\_BaseE\_fdb\_dir in unused: Northwest CONUS, 2m temperature Bias (Model - Obs), Dieoff, valid-time: unused, start utc: 12, METAR, 09/01/2020 00:00 - 09/15/2020 00:00



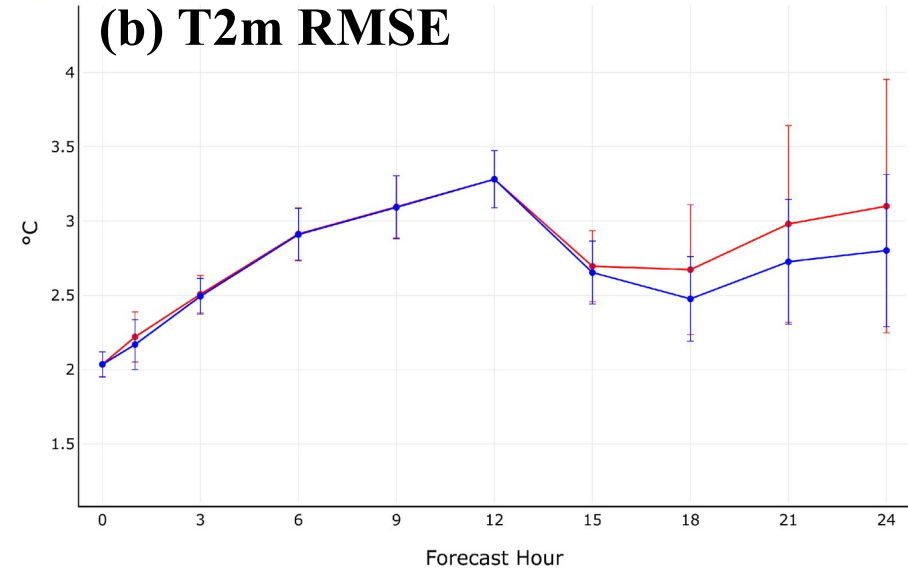
Surface : DieOff: no diffs MATCHED

Curve0 mean = 0.3344, median = 0.3904, stdev = 0.1315  
 Curve1 mean = 0.3152, median = 0.3662, stdev = 0.1355

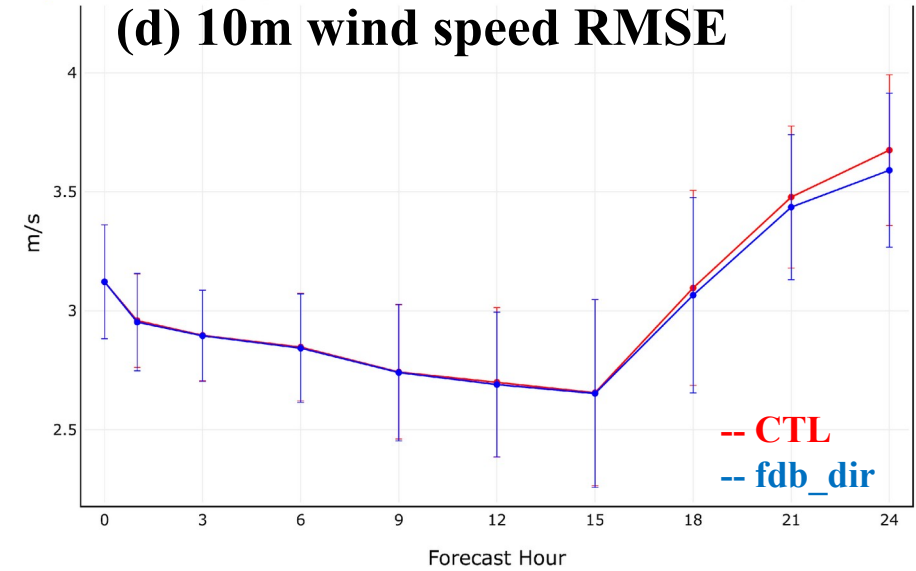
Curve0: RRFsret\_Sept2020\_BaseE\_CTL in unused: Northwest CONUS, 10m wind Bias (Model - Obs), Dieoff, valid-time: unused, start utc: 12, METAR, 09/01/2020 00:00 - 09/15/2020 00:00  
 Curve1: RRFsret\_Sept2020\_BaseE\_fdb\_dir in unused: Northwest CONUS, 10m wind Bias (Model - Obs), Dieoff, valid-time: unused, start utc: 12, METAR, 09/01/2020 00:00 - 09/15/2020 00:00



Curve0: RRFsret\_Sept2020\_BaseE\_CTL in unused: Northwest CONUS, 2m temperature RMSE, Dieoff, valid-time: unused, start utc: 12, METAR, 09/01/2020 00:00 - 09/15/2020 00:00  
 Curve1: RRFsret\_Sept2020\_BaseE\_fdb\_dir in unused: Northwest CONUS, 2m temperature RMSE, Dieoff, valid-time: unused, start utc: 12, METAR, 09/01/2020 00:00 - 09/15/2020 00:00

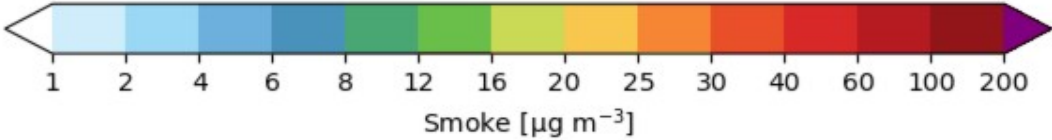
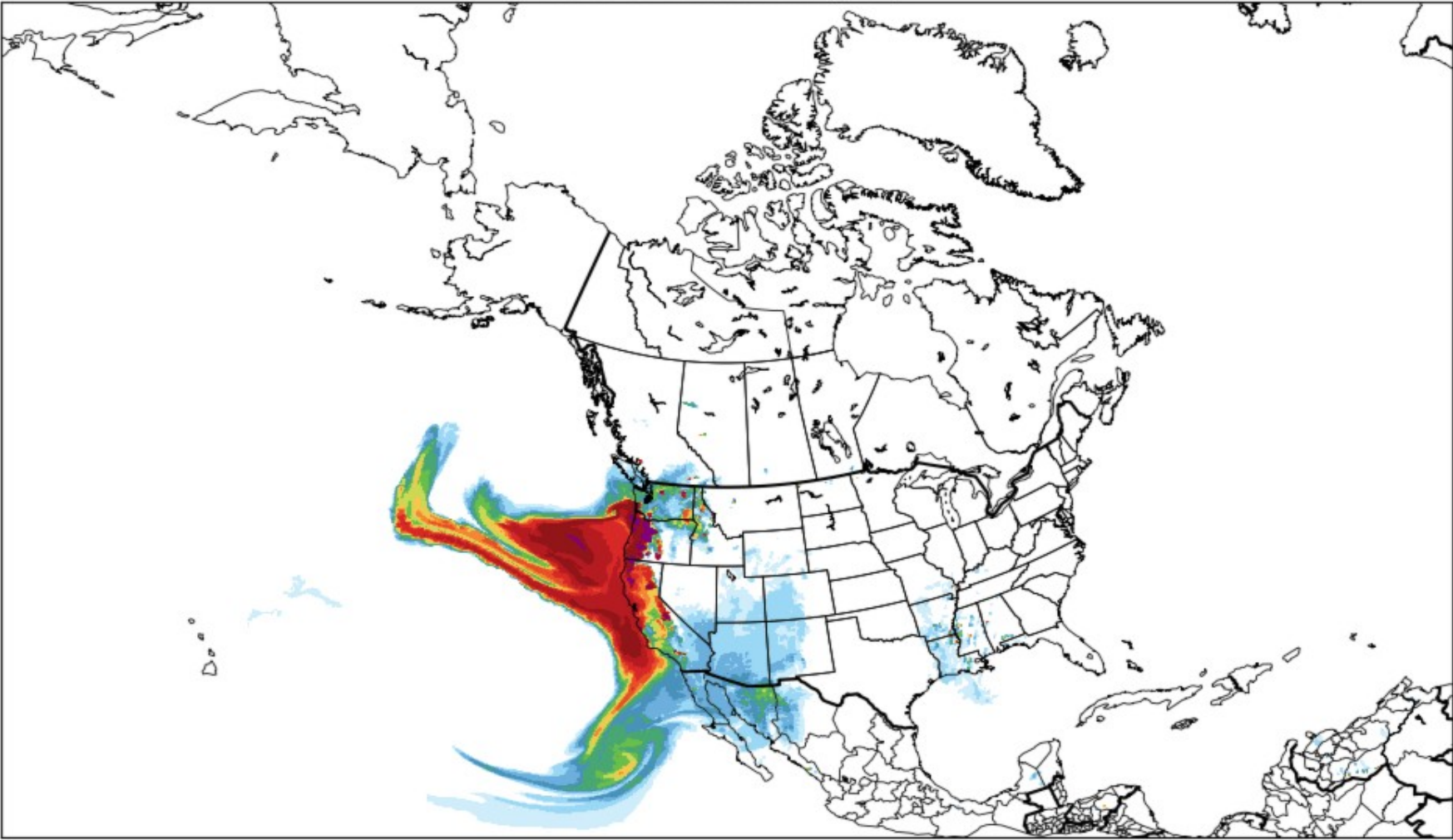


Curve0: RRFsret\_Sept2020\_BaseE\_CTL in unused: Northwest CONUS, 10m wind RMSE, Dieoff, valid-time: unused, start utc: 12, METAR, 09/01/2020 00:00 - 09/15/2020 00:00  
 Curve1: RRFsret\_Sept2020\_BaseE\_fdb\_dir in unused: Northwest CONUS, 10m wind RMSE, Dieoff, valid-time: unused, start utc: 12, METAR, 09/01/2020 00:00 - 09/15/2020 00:00



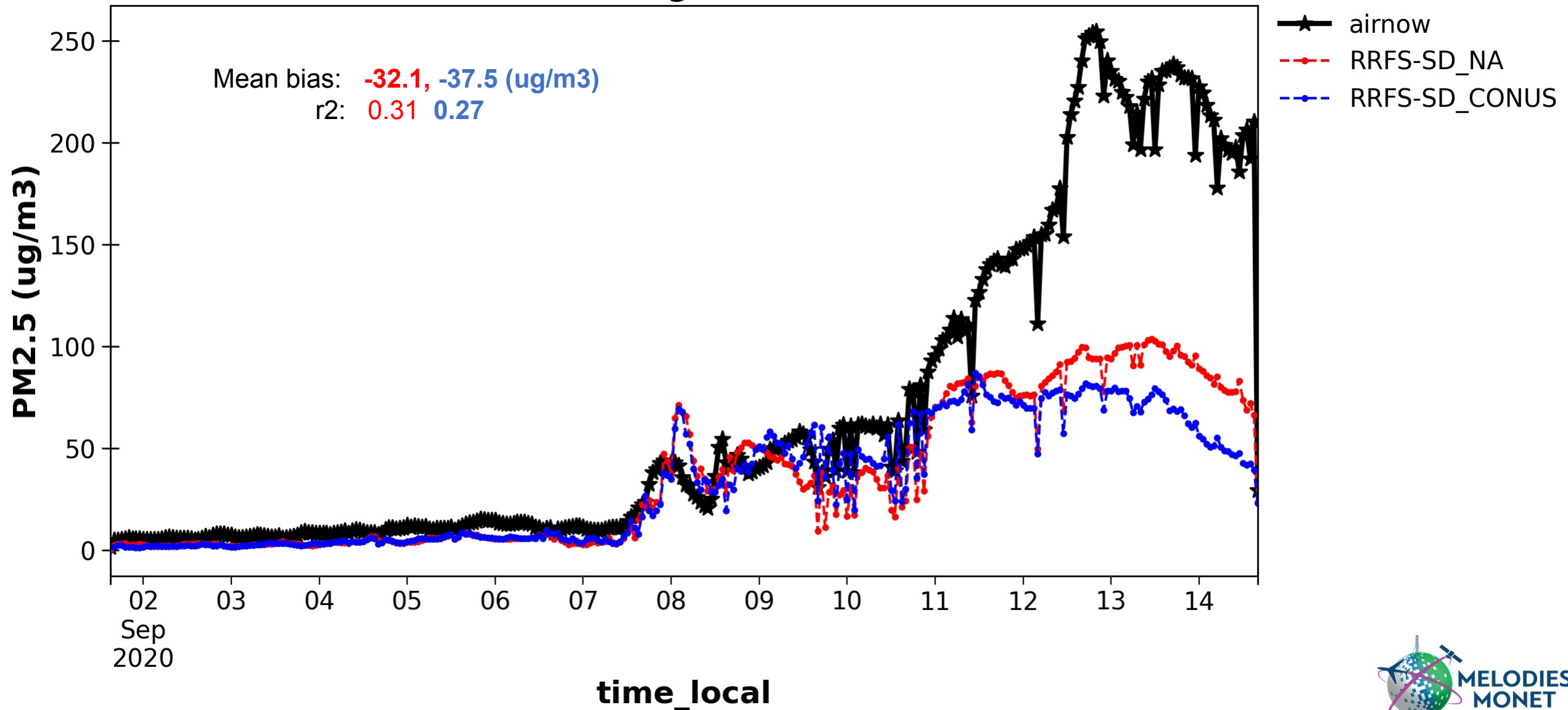
# RRFS-Smoke simulation on the 3km res. NA domain

Near-Surface Smoke (experimental)  
2020-09-11 00:00:00 (UTC)



# Verification of the RRFS-Smoke simulation on the 3km res. North American domain

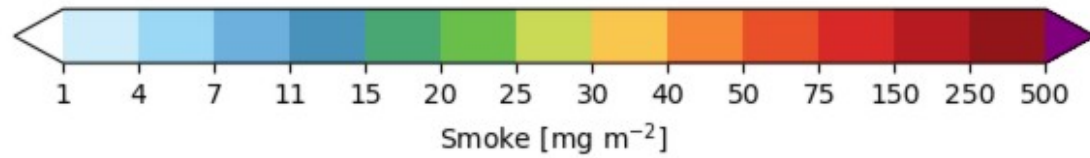
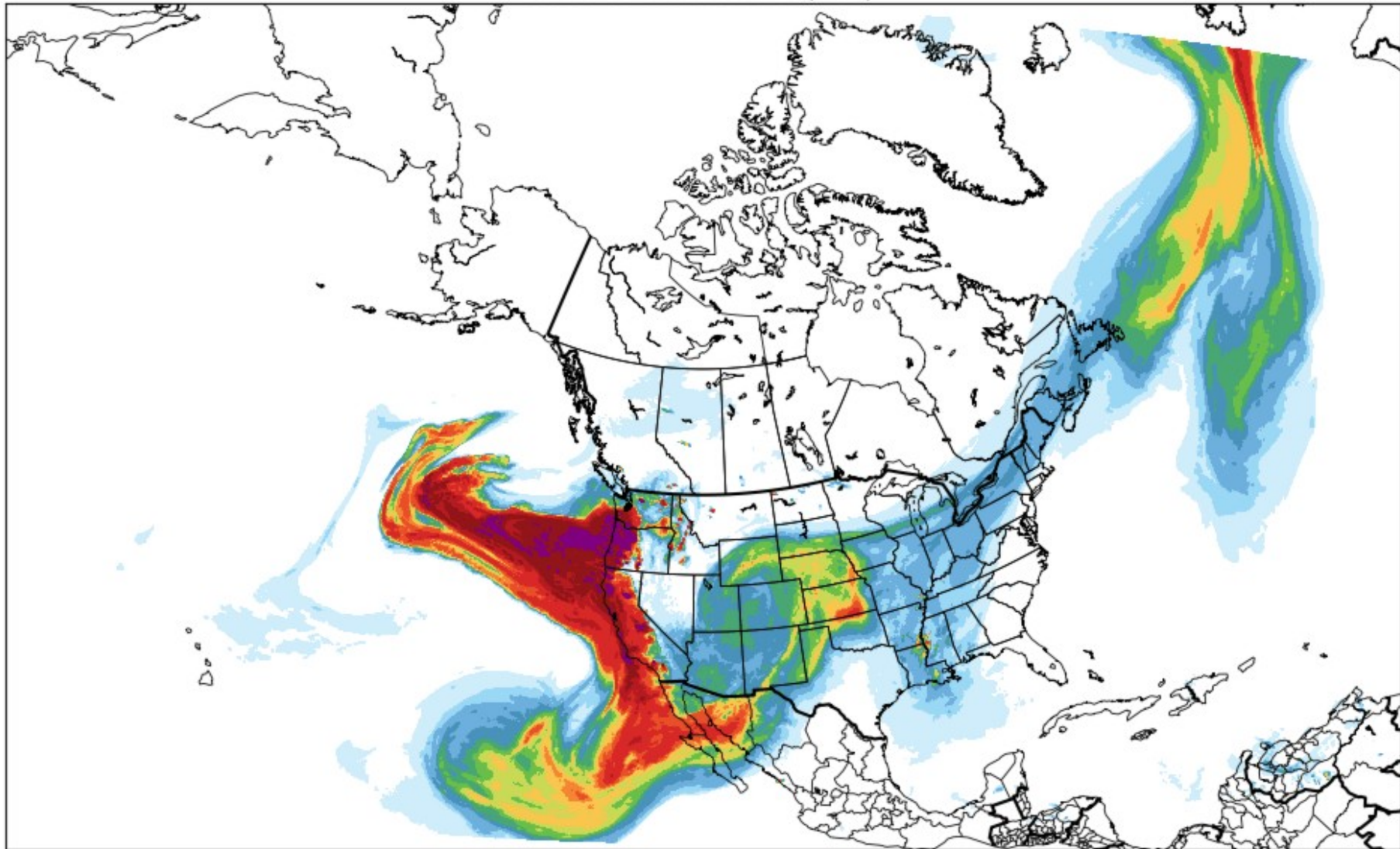
## EPA Region R10



## *Summary and future plans*

- RRFS-Smoke simulations are conducted for September, 2020 during the extreme fire season in the western US.
- Smoke simulations are conducted on the 3km resolution domains covering the CONUS and NA regions, with and without radiative feedback of smoke.
- Incorporating smoke direct feedback into RRFS helps to improve the weather forecast skill of the model noticeably.
- Next step is to conduct RRFS-Smoke simulations on the NA3km domain with meteorological and aerosol data assimilation.

Vertically-Integrated Smoke (experimental)  
2020-09-11 00:00:00 (UTC)



# EPA Region R10

