

Environnement et Changement climatique Canada Environment and Climate Change Canada





## ECCC operations annual update to AQFFGW

AQFFGW 2017 NCWCP Kasey Thomas, PSD Didier Davignon, CCMEP 2016.09.15

# **SECTION 1**

Kasey Thomas presenting on the Canadian air quality program



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# Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)

- Health based formulation
- Uses three pollutants:
  - O<sub>3</sub>
  - $-NO_2$
  - $PM_{2.5}$



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## **AQHI**

$$AQHI_{PM\,2.5} = \frac{10}{10.4} * \left(100 * \left[ \left( e^{(0.000871*NO_2)} - 1 \right) + \left( e^{(0.000537*O_3)} - 1 \right) + \left( e^{(0.000487*PM\,2.5)} - 1 \right) \right] \right)$$



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Canada

## Locations



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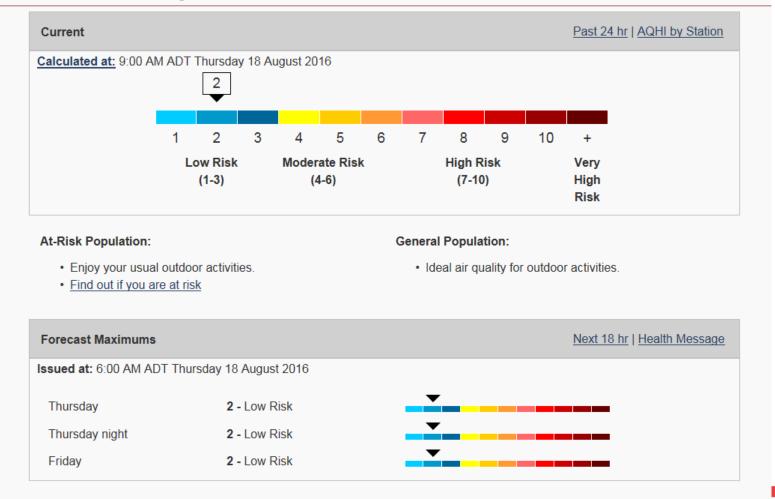


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## **AQHI City Page**

#### Halifax - Air Quality Health Index



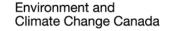


## AQHI+

- Used when single pollutants (ie PM<sub>2.5</sub>) are above a certain level based on a one hour average
- The province sets the threshold level
- May be tied to provincial regulations
- The AQHI may still be showing a low or moderate value (<7)</li>
- The AQHI is then manually raised to the high risk category (7 or greater)
- Advisories are issued if required by the province



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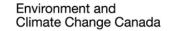


# **Current and Future Air Quality Work**

- Current
  - Implementation of hourly forecast (18 hours) with PAN AM games
  - Forecast by station
- Future
  - 3 day forecast
  - AQHI by map
  - Heat and AQ
  - Allergens

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# **SECTION 2**

Didier Davignon presenting on Canadian air quality model and operational systems



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## **Canadian Air Quality Forecast Systems**

- Systems run by ECCC Operations
  - 1) RAQDPS (Regional Air Quality Deterministic Prediction System)
    - GEM-MACH
    - Emissions & boundary conditions
    - Statistical model (UMOS-AQ)
    - Operational Products
    - Regional Deterministic Air Quality Analysis (RDAQA)
  - 2) FireWork (RAQDPS with wildfire emissions)
    - Emissions

Now with operational status

Experimental Products

Statistical model (UMOS-AQ)

- Regional Deterministic Air Quality Analysis connected to FireWork (RDAQA-FW)
- Experimental AQ system versions (ex: GEM-MACH on 2.5km for PanAm games)
- VAQUM (Verification of Air QUality Models) System

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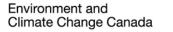


## **Recent changes to RAQDPS**

- Major upgrade to GEM-MACH AQ model and its GEM core dynamic library
- Based on latest weather model GEM v4 (major update).
  - New vertical coordinate (hybrid in *log*-hydrostatic-pressure)
  - New vertical discretization (Charney-Phillips staggering) lowest layer depth is now 40-m;
  - Physics spin-up capability;
  - Global Yin-Yang grid (New LAM grid that align to it);
  - New PBL moist TKE scheme
  - New orographic blocking scheme



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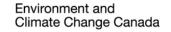


## **Recent changes to RAQDPS**

- Improvements to chemistry modules
  - Native (GEM) vertical diffusion scheme for chemical tracers
  - Comprehensive mass conservation for tracers, designed for LAM
  - Improved below-cloud scavenging
  - Correcting problems with emissions, dry deposition
  - Gas-phase dry deposition with improved LAI scaling
  - New 3D seasonal chemical lateral boundary conditions
  - Sea-salt emissions now precede vertical diffusion (old problem)
  - Various minor corrections



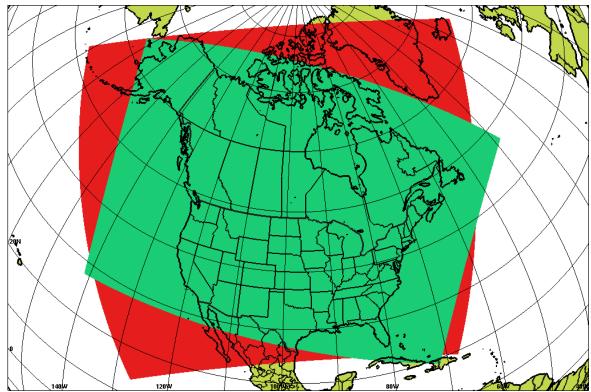
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## New RAQDPS domain (Sept 2016)

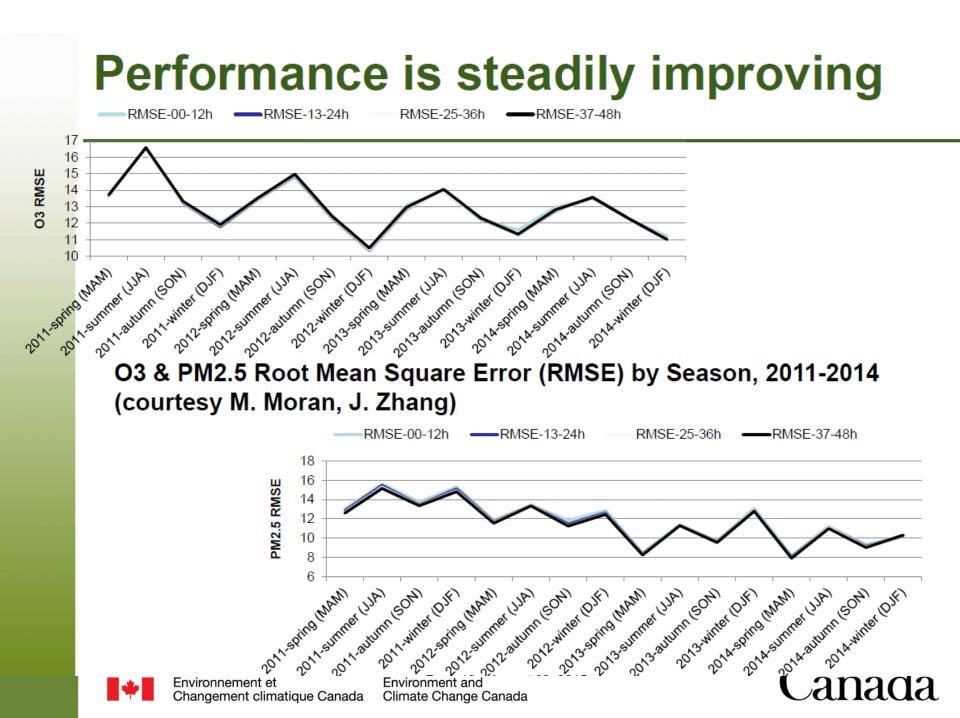
### New RAQDPS\_016 in red





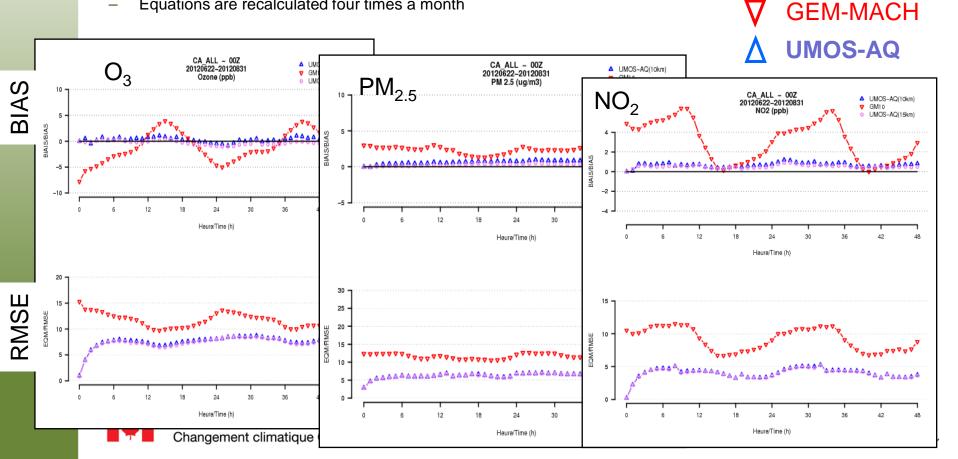
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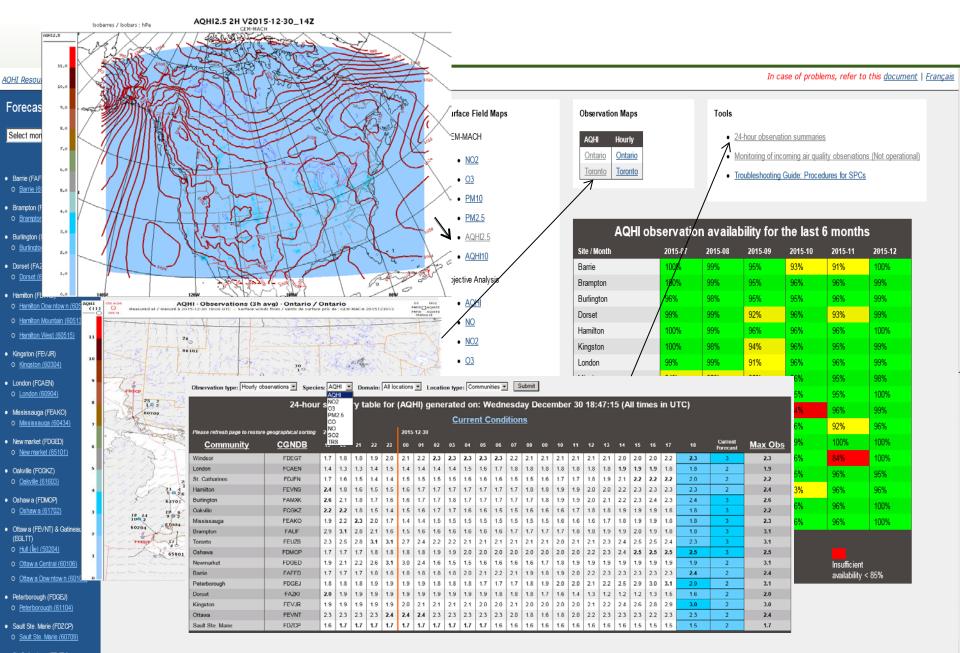


## Statistical Model: UMOS-AQ

- Post-processing applied to GEM-MACH raw model output
- Reduces model bias and model error at point locations with AQ monitors through through multi-variate linear regression approach
  - Applied to meteorological variables since 2000
  - Adapted for air quality variables (O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>25</sub>) in 2010
  - Equations are recalculated four times a month



### **Products: AQHI Forecaster Resource Site**



### **OA: Objective Analysis for Surface Pollutants**

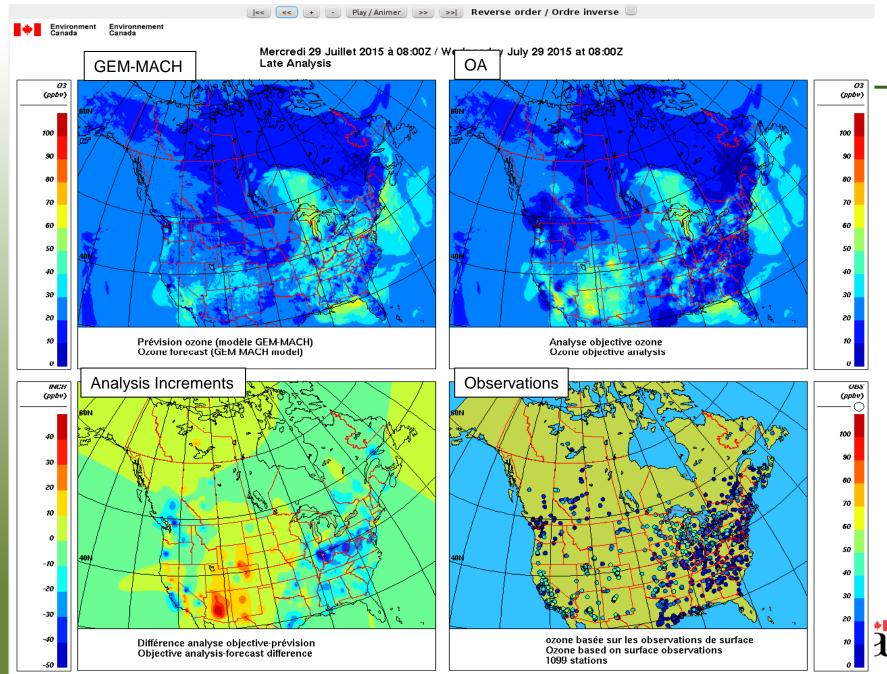
- Operational as of February 2013, called RDAQA
- Blends model forecasts with surface observations from Canadian regional networks and the U.S. EPA's AIRNow observation network
  - Using an optimal interpolation approach
  - Knowledge of the errors of model and observation data is applied to weight each input accordingly
- Products available hourly (2x = early and late analyses):
  - Available for : PM<sub>2.5</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO, SO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and AQHI
- A new system is under development (basis for 3D assimilation)



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#### Example of 4-Panel OA Summary for Wed. July 29, 2015, 08 UTC

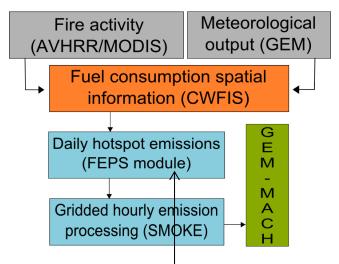


## **FireWork System**

- FireWork has the same configuration as GEM-MACH, the operational AQ model. The only difference is the inclusion of the near-real-time wildfire emissions
- FireWork:
  - Run twice daily (initiated at 00 UTC and 12 UTC)
  - Available at approximately at the same time as the operational model
- Additional products
  - Alternate AQHI based on FireWork
  - PM<sub>2.5</sub>/PM<sub>10</sub> maps and animations based on difference fields (FireWork – GEM-MACH) to isolate plumes
  - Total column PM<sub>2.5</sub>/PM<sub>10</sub> sums
  - Other specialized products available upon request

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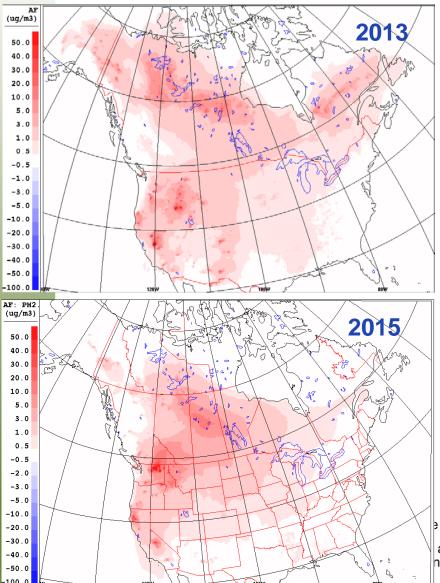
Environment and Climate Change Canada WildFire Emissions Data

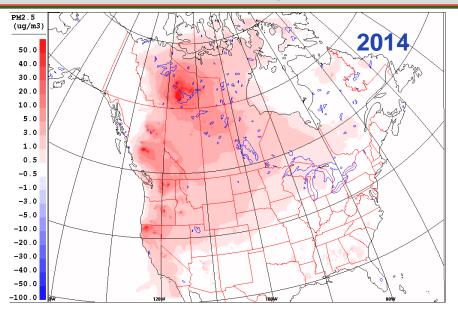


Currently **CFFEPS**, developed by CWFIS, is being tested and will eventually replace the current FEPS module

## How Important are wildfires for AQ?

#### Forecasted wildfire emissions contribution to average summertime PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations





#### In Canada, the impact of wildfire smoke on air quality is very significant.

Forecasted wildfire emissions contribution to the average summertime  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations (2013-2015) ranges from a few  $\mu g/m^3$  to <u>over 30µg/m<sup>3</sup></u>.

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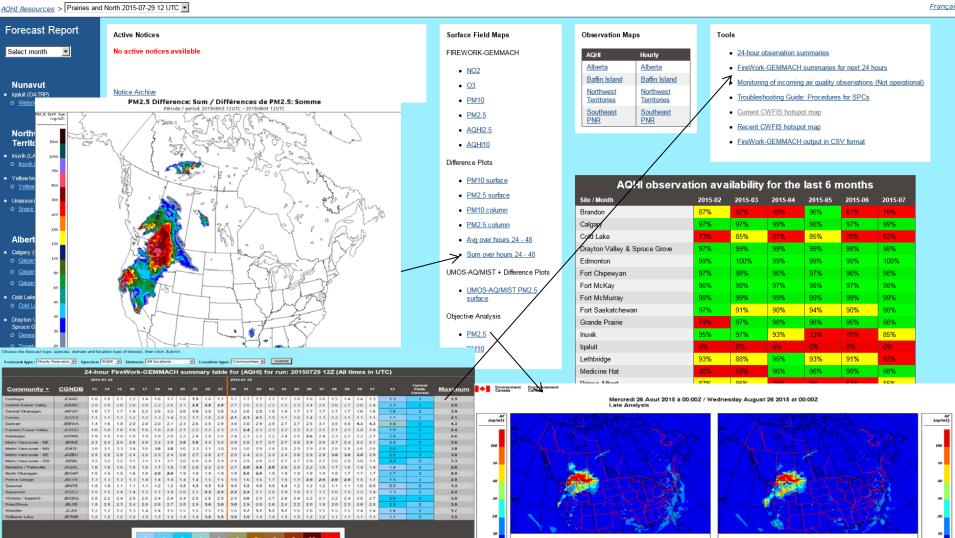
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### Products: FireWork Forecaster Resources Site EC internal site

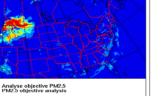
Section des Applications en Modélisation de la Qualité de l'Air (SAMQA) Air Quality Modeling Applications Section (AQMAS)

#### FIREWORK-GEMMACH SITE





Prévision PM2.5 (modèle FireWork-GEMMACH) PM2.5 lorecast (FireWork GEMMACH model)



## Canadian AQ model data access

- Two main streams: WMS and GRIB
- GeoMet
  - Updated this fall
  - Geospatial web services (MapServer) solution
  - Open protocols
  - Can deliver data on the fly in numerous formats, such as <u>WMS</u>, WFS, WCS, GeoJSON, csv, etc.

### GRIB

- NOAA & ECCC are working on mutual operational GRIB data feeds for AQ model forecasts
  - Initially, use internally for model comparison
  - Examine how respective agencies can make use of these new data feeds (with mutual benefits) Page 22 – 5 octobre 2016

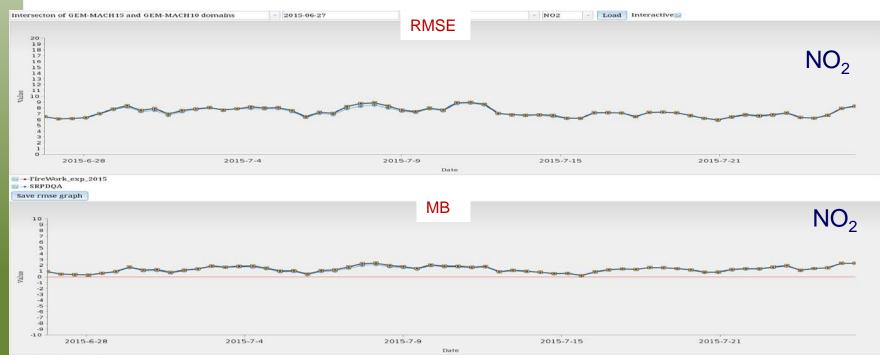


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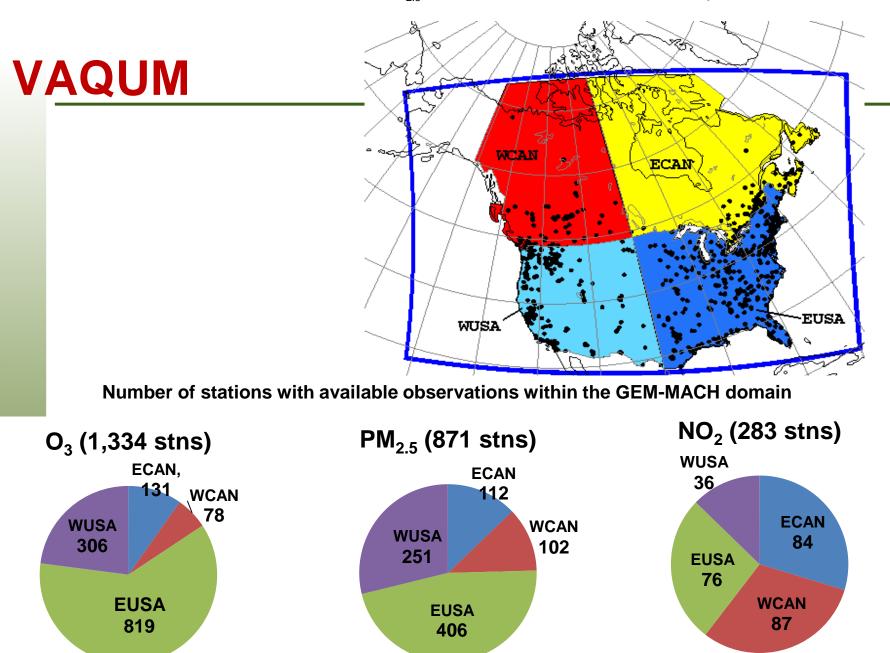


## VAQUM: Verification for Air QUality Models

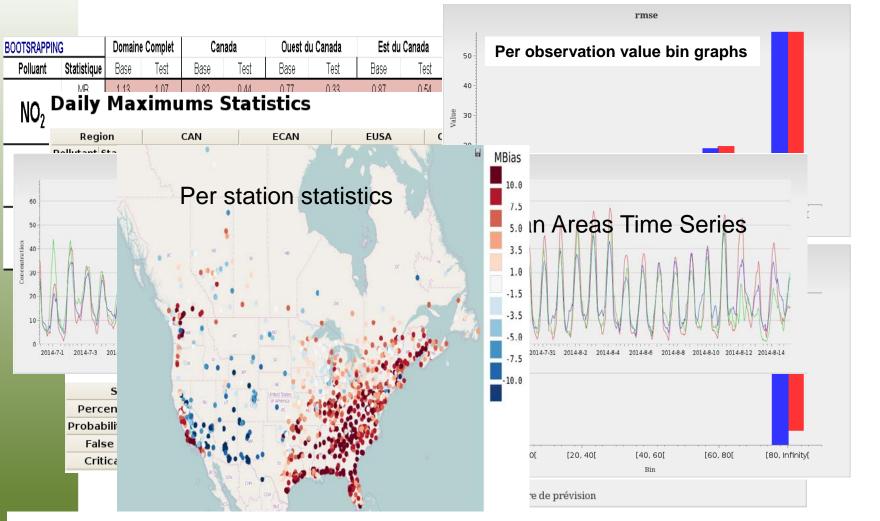
- Designed a PostGIS database to store AQ observations and corresponding model outputs
  - Can ingest both real time and QC'ed historical datasets
  - Allows to produce various statistics & categorical scores
  - About 1730 stations (265 CAN, 1465 USA)
  - Collecting data since 2007
- Essential tool to assess the impact of model updates
- Also used to monitor the performance of the operational system



 $PM_{2.5}$  stations with 75% observation availability for summer of 2015



## **VAQUM Products**



For further details, please see **poster number 275** (Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> January) **Verification Tools for Air Quality Models** 

## **Next steps**

- Major changes to supercomputing environment.
  - Development to be slower over the next 12 months
  - Hope to gain in performance (and delivery times)
- RAQDPS
  - 72h forecasts (next 2y)
  - Updated emissions inventories for Canada, U.S. and Mexico (planned for 2017)
  - Developing 2.5km subdomains (next 2y)
- FireWork
  - Improved plume height estimates (2017)
  - Improved wildfire emissions estimates (2017)



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