

Blue Collar Science and The Maryland State Implementation Plan for Air Quality

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Atmospheric and Oceanic Science
Department Seminar
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Cathy Sabol
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Thank You!

USASCIENCEFESTIVAL.ORG

BE THERE WHEN SCIENCE TAKES OVER THE NATION'S CAPITAL
EXPO ON THE NATIONAL MALL & SURROUNDING AREAS
OCTOBER 23 & 24, 2010, 10AM-5:30PM



Capital Weather Gang

The inside scoop on DC, Maryland and Virginia weather

AT A GLANCE



Forecast by National Weather Service
Go to CWG's Full Forecast

RIGHT NOW

Radar, Temps & More:
CWG's Weather Wall

DCA | IAD | BWI
National Airport

- Weather: Light Rain
- Temp: 78.0 F (25.6 C)
- Wind: Southeast at 16.1 MPH, Gusting to 24 MPH
- Dew Point: 73.0 F (22.8 C)
- Pressure: 1000.9 mb

Sep 30 2010, 12:52 pm EDT



Radar: Enlarge & Animate
Wx Underground Radar
Your Weather Photos
DC Webcam

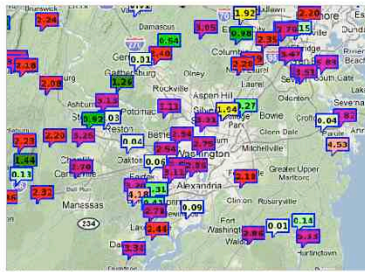
Posted at 12:10 PM ET, 09/30/2010

Deluge not done yet, flood risk remains Generally 2-4" and counting; some reports near 7"

- * [Flash Flood Warning](#) 'til 4:30 p.m. ('til 6:15 p.m. far N. & NE burbs) *
- * [Tornado watch](#) for eastern counties until 7 p.m. (map) *
- * [Storm impact coverage](#): [PostLocal](#) | [Live chat transcript](#) *
- * [When does it end?](#) [Full Forecast](#) | [Share photos](#) | [Dr. Gridlock](#) *
- * [Flash Flood Watch](#) thru today | [Wind Advisory](#) (eastern counties) *
- * [Outside now?](#) [Radar](#), [temperatures & more](#): [Weather Wall](#) *

It's still raining buckets out there in some places, though letting up in others, with rain totals to the tune of at least 2-4" for most locations thus far. Locally higher amounts near and over 7" have been reported, especially along the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay, which has been pummeled by a seemingly endless stream of heavy rain and seen a few tornado warnings as well. The flooding rains have created [plenty of traffic problems and trouble spots](#) across the region today.

Below is a map of rain totals as of noon from [National Weather Service mesonet](#) stations:



INTERACT





Last time I was invited to give a talk...



(cute video of me in the snow)

Air Chemistry 101.01

- Ozone in the troposphere:
- NO_x and hydrocarbons react in sunlight to produce ozone
- NO_x comes from high temperature processes
 - power plants, diesels and gasoline engines
- Natural process
 - Lightning, soils,
- Hydrocarbons from vegetation, autos, paint, evaporation...

Implementing the Clean Air Act

- In 1997, EPA set a standard, **85 ppbv for 8 hour average ozone** (now: 75→60-70?)
- Monitoring, states & EPA determine (non)compliance & classify severity
- Severity sets a timeline for compliance with the standard: worse problems get more time
- Figure of merit: 3 year average of each year's 4th highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone at each monitor = Design Value

Modeling Clean Air Act compliance

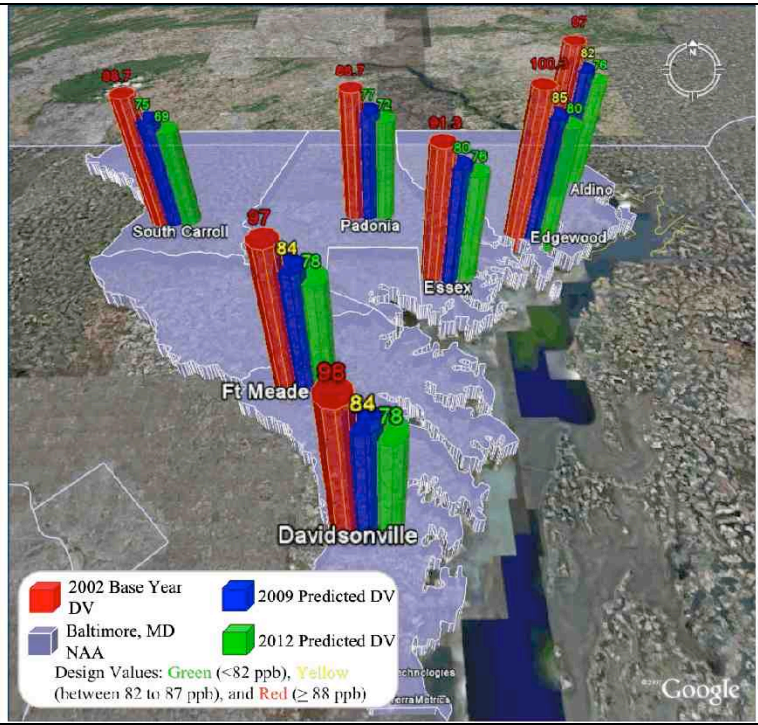
- GUIDANCE is set out by EPA
- Do a model run for base (2002) and future (2009) years
- Calculate ratios between future and base year modeled ozone: *a relative response factor*
- Observations form the baseline → “design value” calculated as a weighted average of 5 years around a base year (2002). This sets your starting point
- Multiply design value by RRF to get future year prediction

Model Predictions

Modeling Attainment Test Using EPA Preferred Methodology

Site Name	County	State	DVB	RRF	DVF
Davidsonville	Anne Arundel	MD	98.0	0.858	84
Ft. Meade	Anne Arundel	MD	97.0	0.869	84
Padonia	Baltimore	MD	88.7	0.872	77
Essex	Baltimore	MD	91.3	0.879	80
South Carroll	Carroll	MD	88.7	0.847	75
Edgewood	Harford	MD	100.3	0.852	85
Aldino	Harford	MD	97.0	0.846	82

MDE, Baltimore SIP, 2007



Model Evaluation

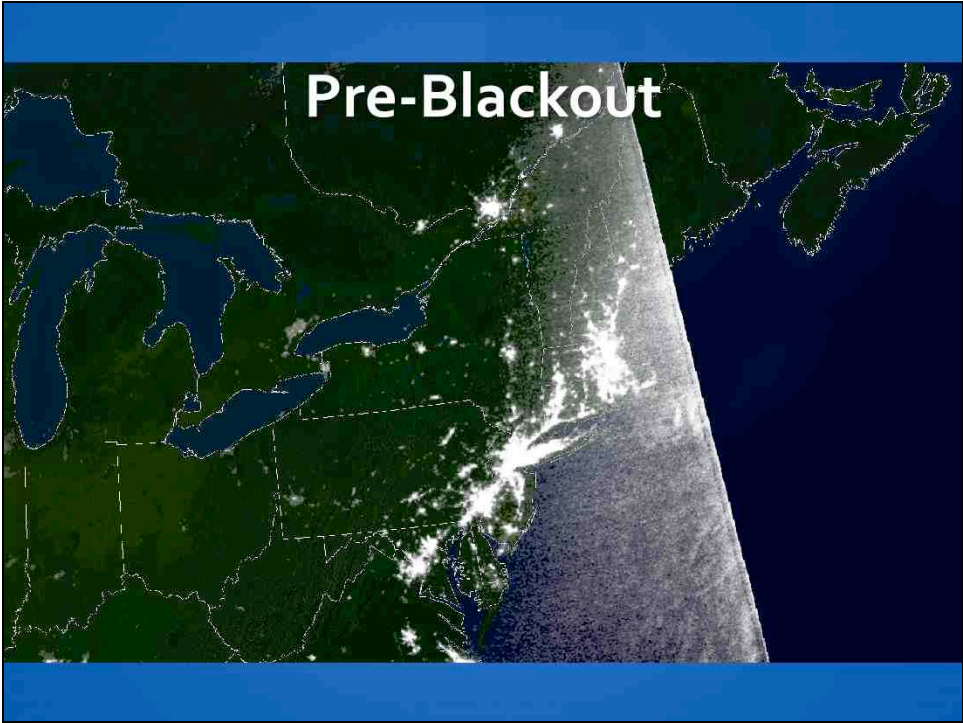
- Run the model according to EPA guidance
- Compare the model to ground-level monitoring according to EPA guidance
- Calculate mean error and bias as suggested by EPA guidance
- If they fall within certain limits (set by EPA guidance), then
- **THE MODEL IS VALID FOR ANY USE!!**
(no!)

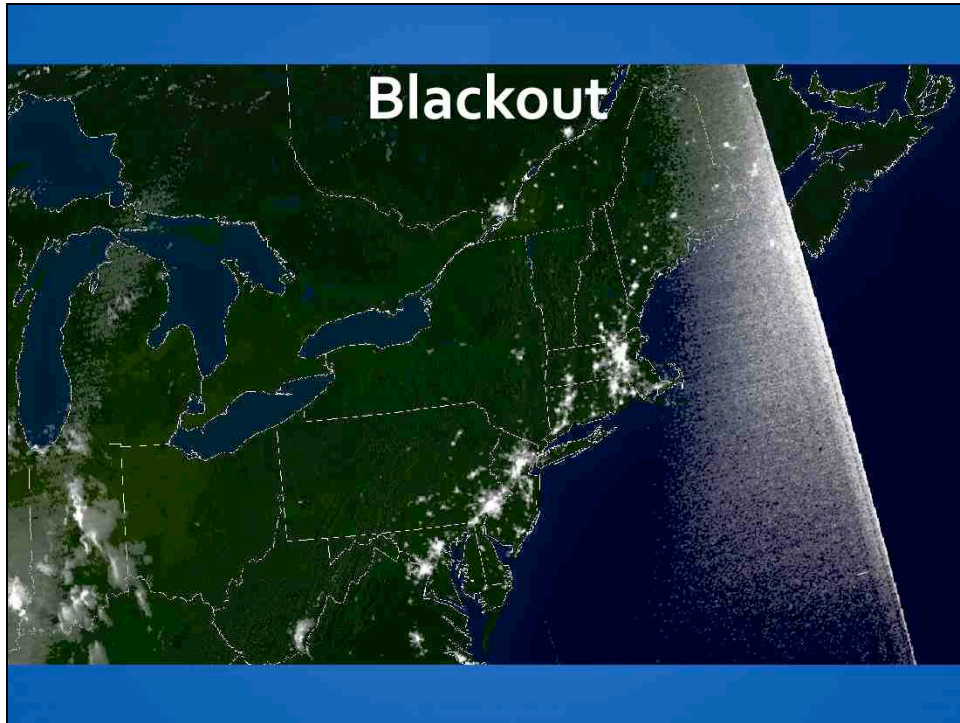
The Disconnect

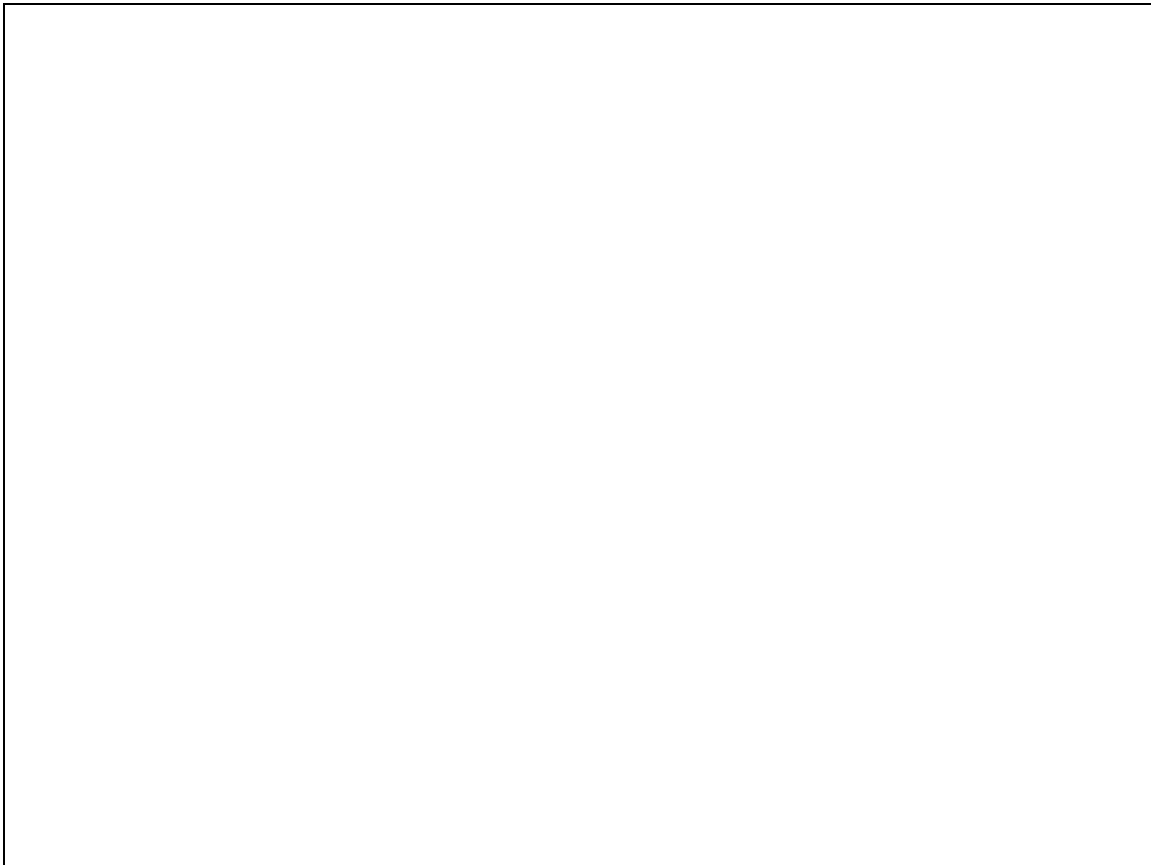
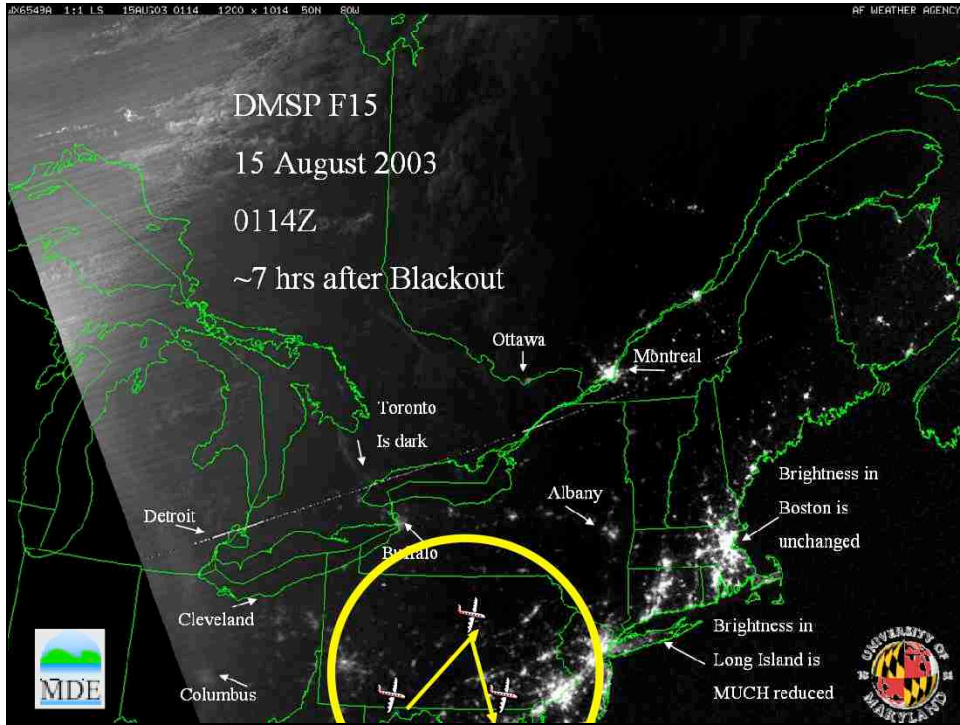
- Base year compared to concentrations **at the surface** and **for that year only** to vet performance—a *static* evaluation
- We evaluate the model based on its **static performance**, not its ability to predict change
- Then use it **dynamically** to predict changes

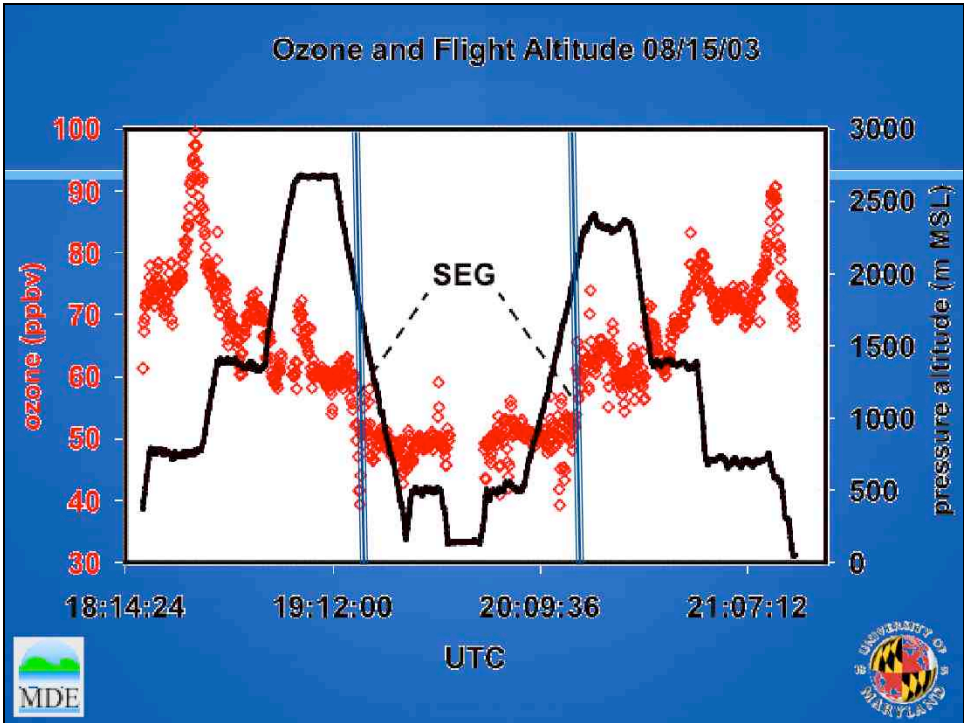
How about a *dynamic* model evaluation?

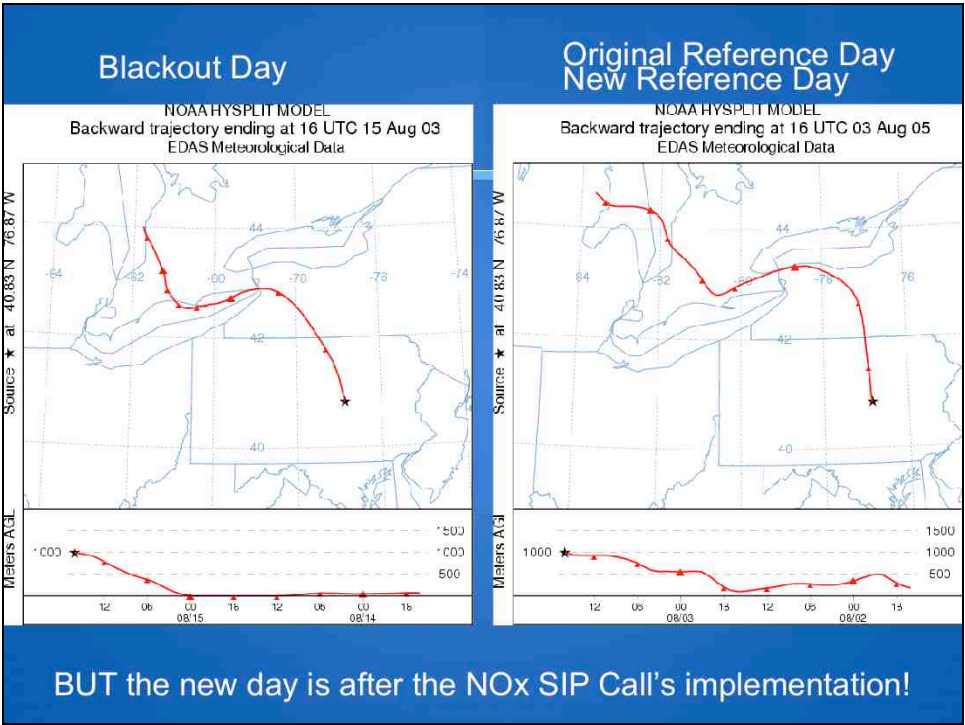
- Sudden changes in emissions are rare, but can be found:
 - 2003 Northeast Electrical Blackout
 - NO_x controls installed around 2002 (the NO_x SIP Call)
- Using the observations differently helps
 - Emphasize diagnostics and changes, not absolute concentrations
 - Diel cycles in ozone
 - Compare model to aircraft vertical profiles of pollutants
 - Transport and mixing of pollution

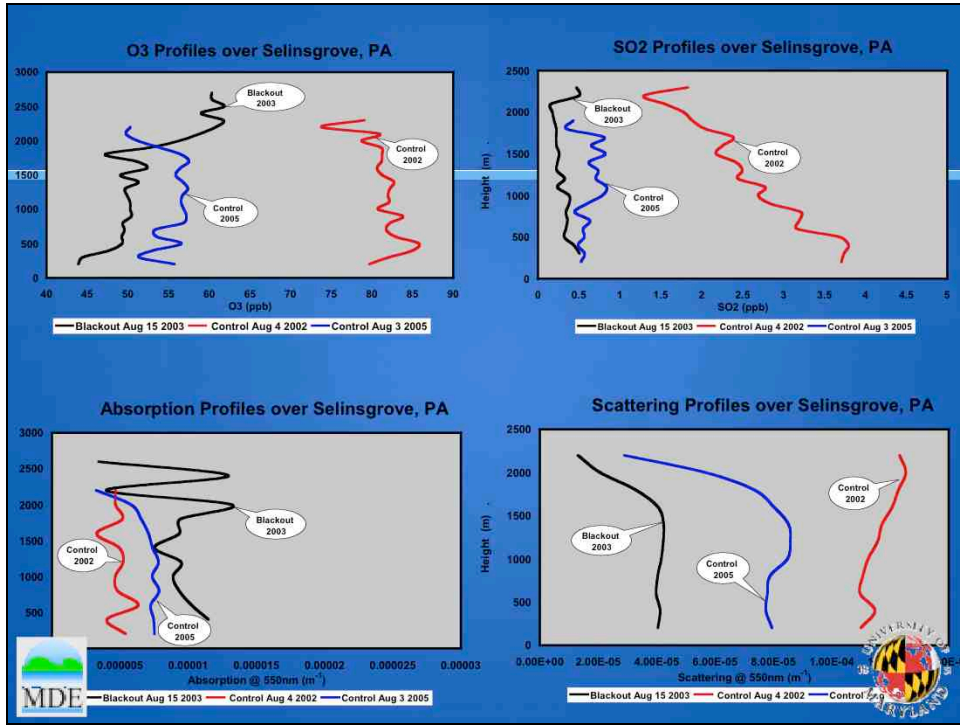


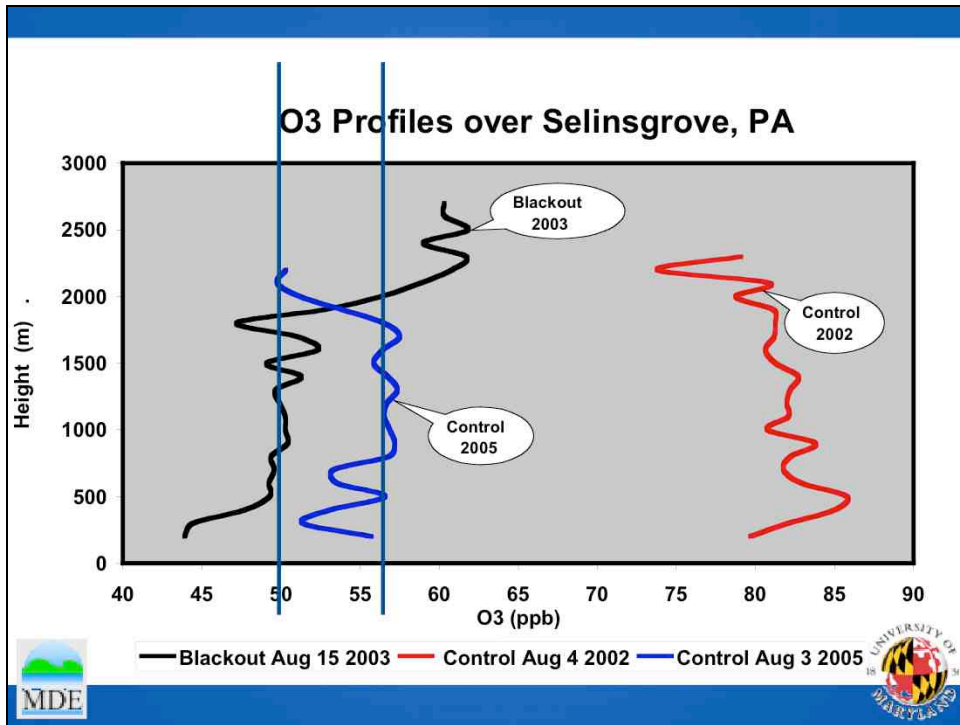






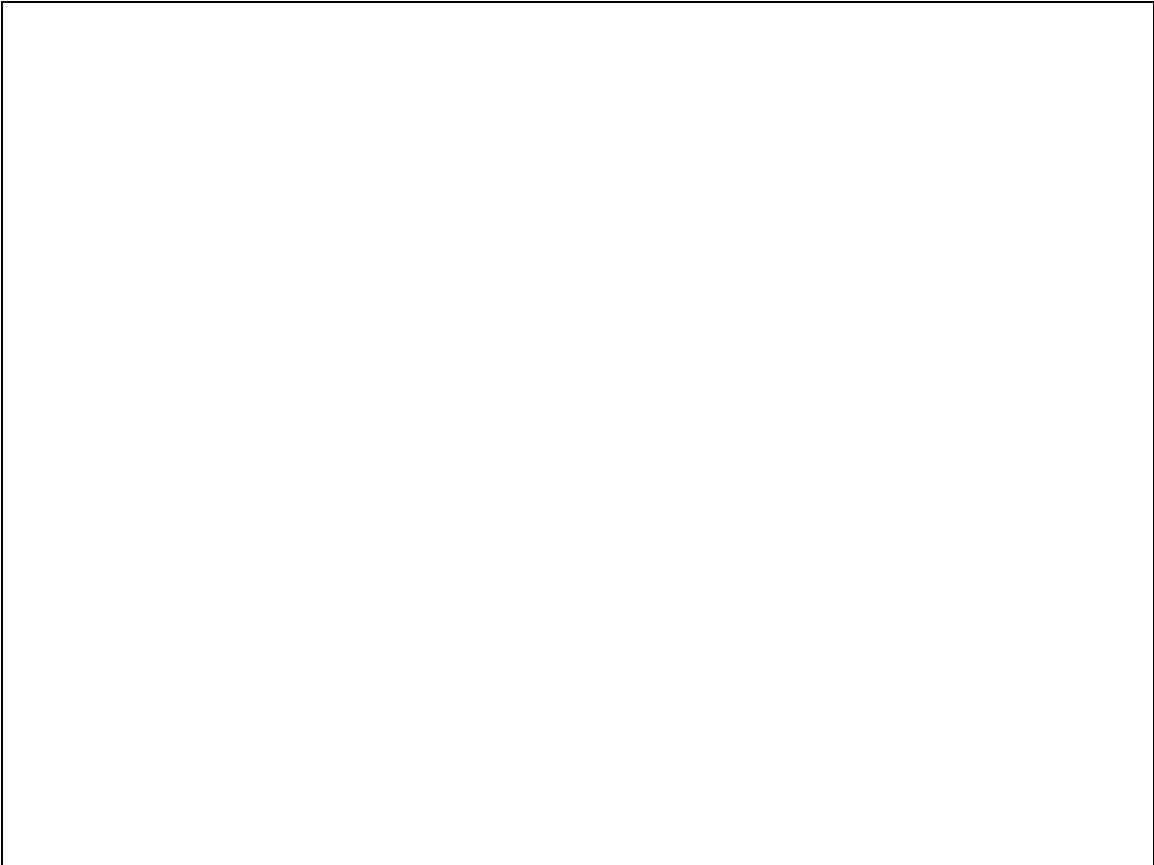
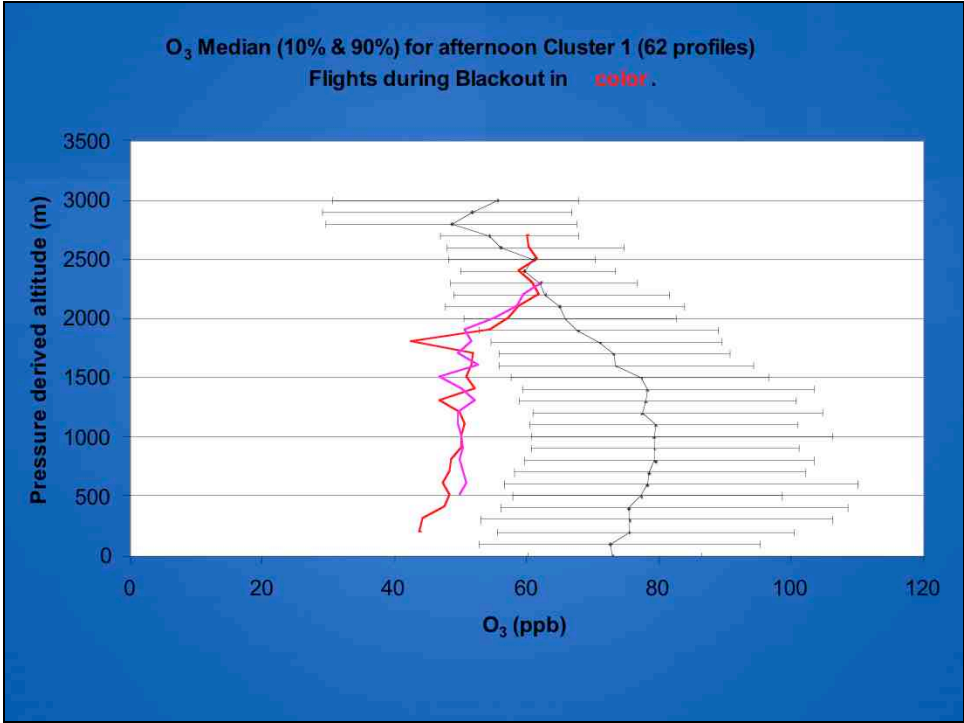






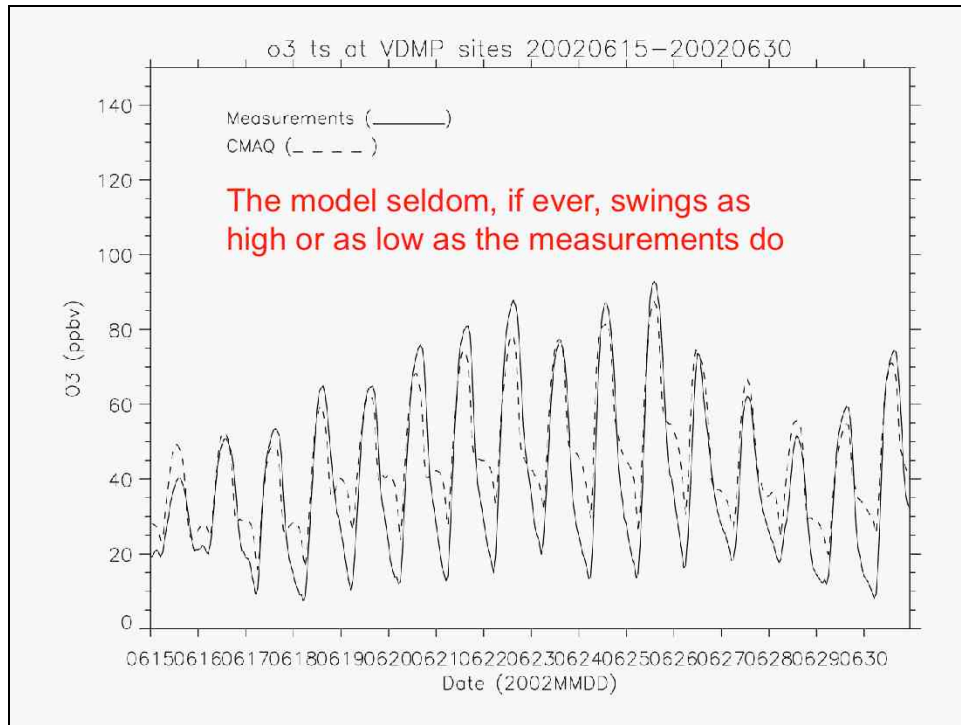
Climatology

- Compare with historical ozone flights under similar meteorological conditions
- Cluster back-trajectories to determine transport patterns on the days we flew
- Compare blackout ozone profile to statistical summary of all flights within the cluster that contains the blackout flight

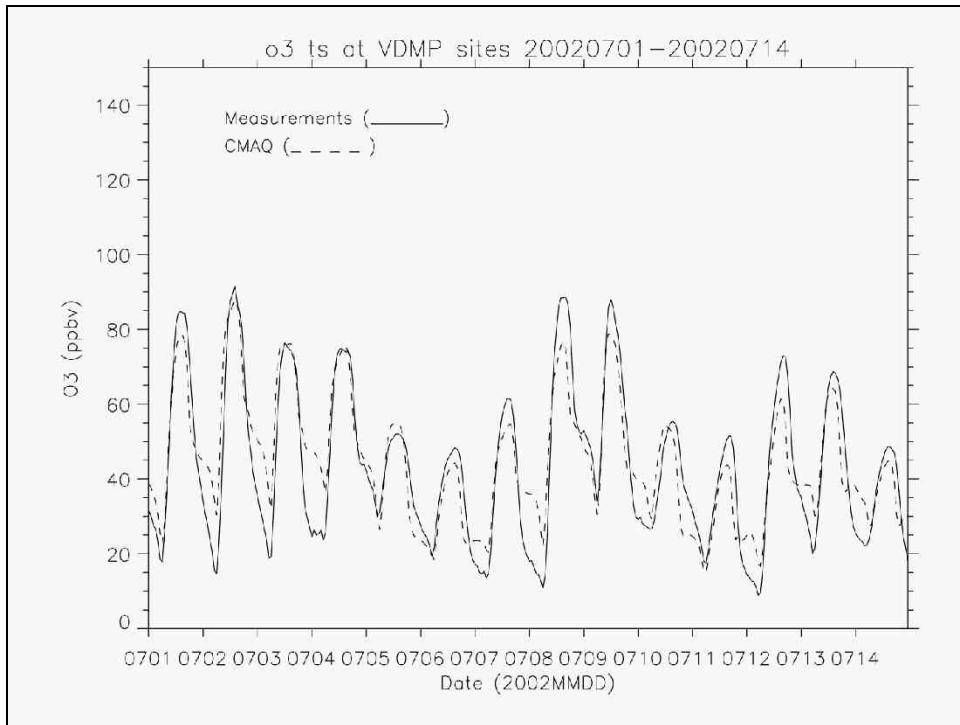


Dynamic evaluation of the model

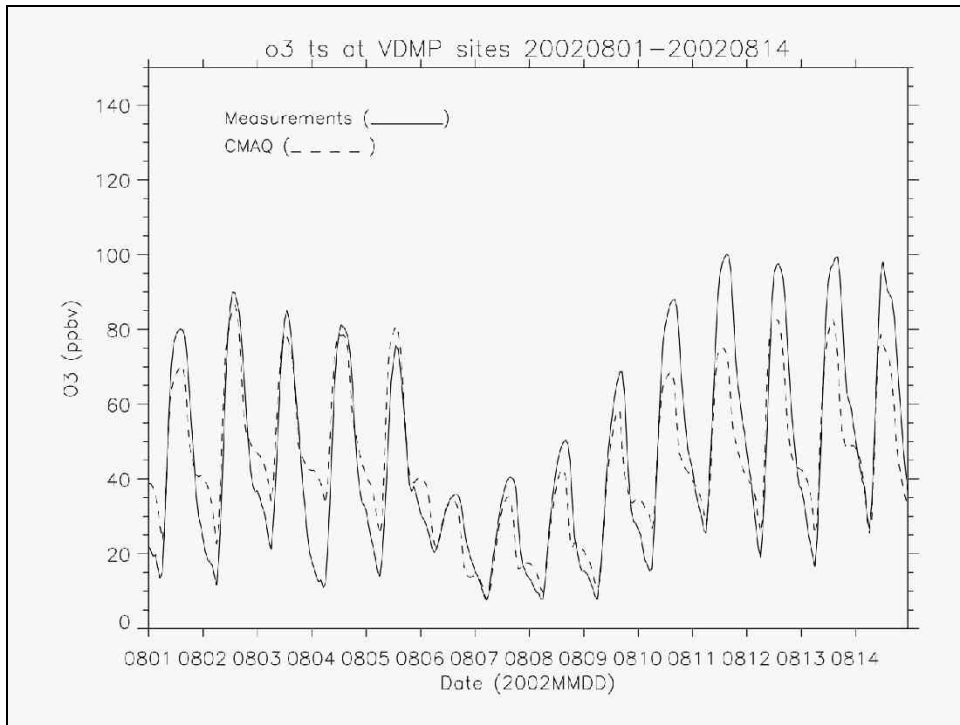
- CMAQ does not reproduce diurnal cycles well
 - Nighttime ozone performance poor, but perhaps expected?
 - Daytime peaks poor as well
- Statistics like mean error and bias necessarily make you look at average performance
 - Model development geared towards these measures!
 - Time to look at some new measures



Averages taken at all monitoring stations in Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania (VDMP); model sampled at those grid cells and averaged. June 15-30, 2002

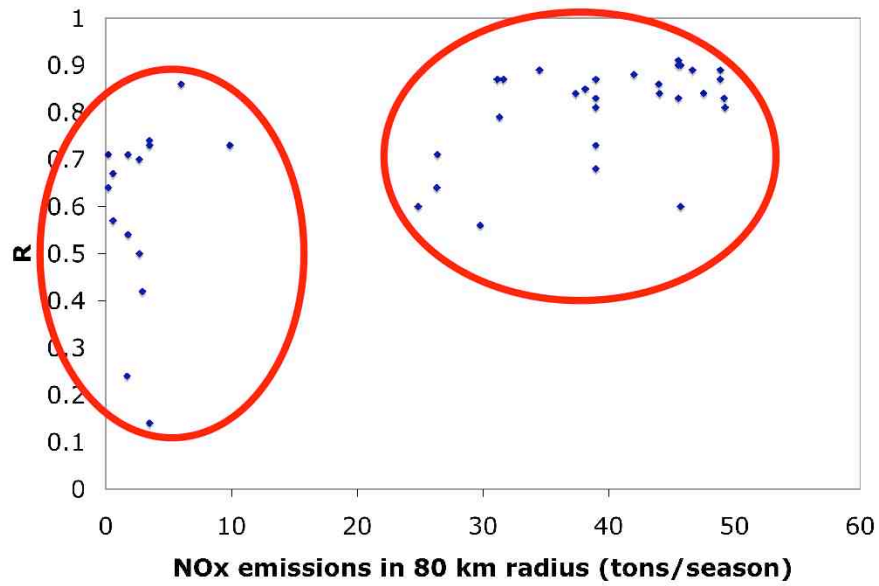


July 1-14, 2002

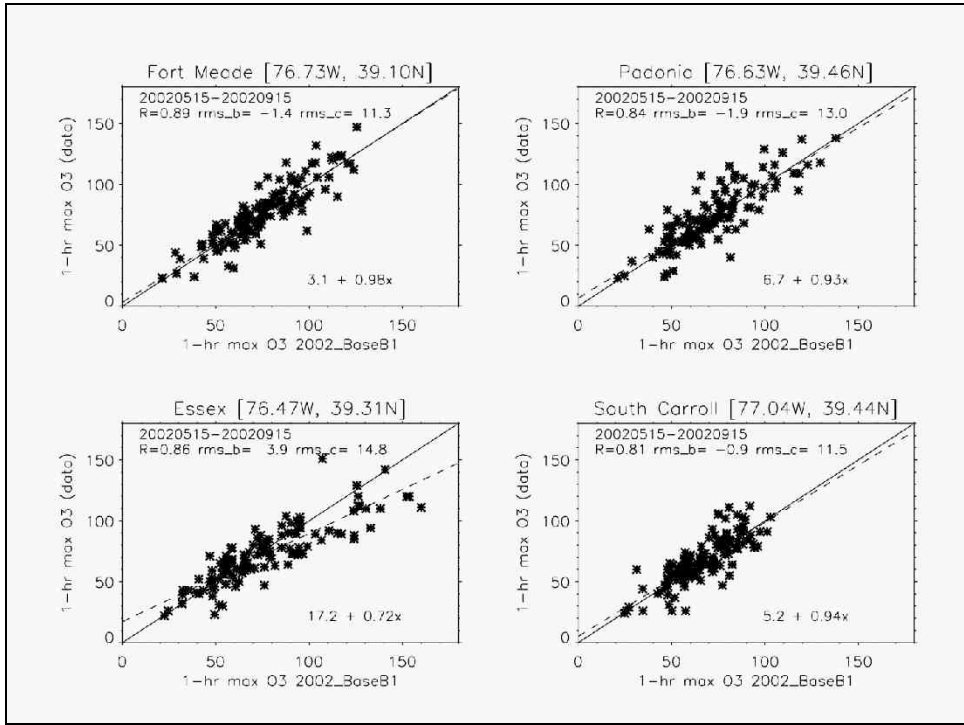


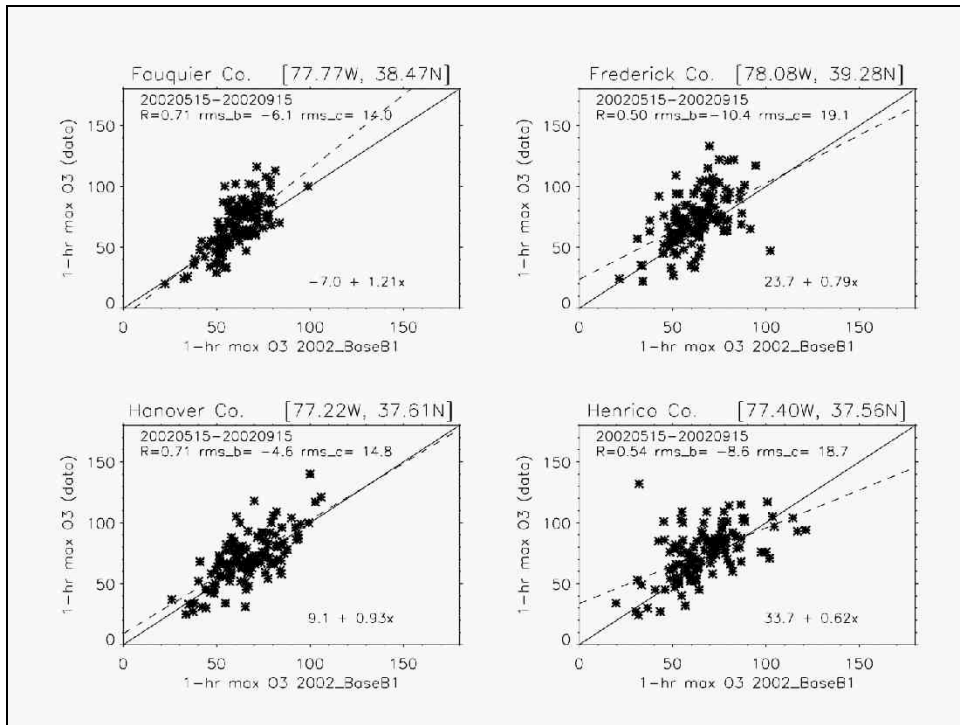
August 1-14, 2002.

Rural area ozone performance poorer



Urban areas tend to have lots of cars, rural areas tend to have power plants. If we mess up the rural areas, we mess up the ozone that's coming into the city from outside and emphasize the wrong controls.

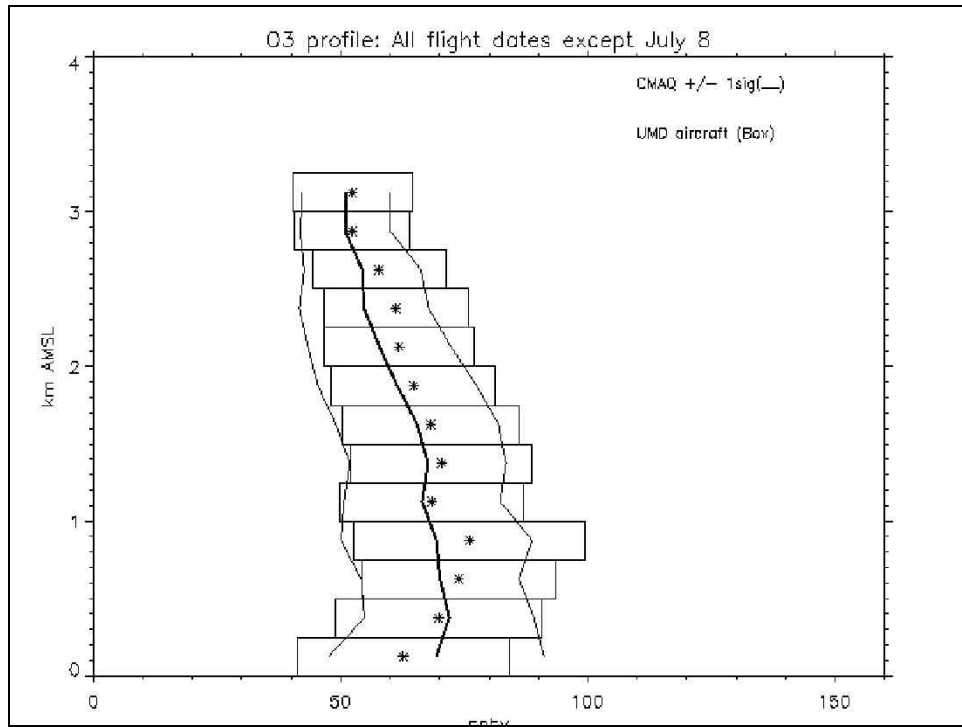




Correlations much poorer at more rural sites.

Aloft performance

- CMAQ generally overpredicts ozone at the surface and underpredicts aloft
- Transport likely underrepresented
- Better than in the past, still not right.



CMAQ underpredicts ozone aloft and overpredicts it at the surface. Graph based on all flights in 2002 except July 8, which was heavily influenced by smoke from forest fires in central Quebec.

Dynamic Response Missing

- Generally falls short of peaks
 - Peaking units? Dynamics? Chemistry?
- Generally overpredicts nighttime minima
 - NO_x titration, sure, but:
 - Everywhere?
 - What about the odd shape?
- Model lacks dynamic range.
- Lack of response due to...?

Long-term response to emissions changes

- In New Jersey, 2009 design values arrived in 2006!
- There were still more emissions reductions to come

2009 Came Early to New Jersey

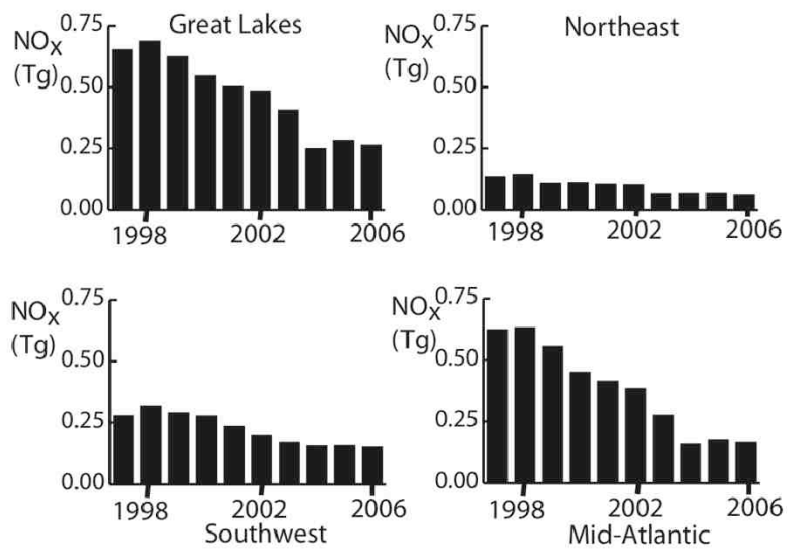
Model
2006 2009

COUNTY	OZONE MONITOR LOCATION	2004-2006 DESIGN VALUE	Modeled Predicted O3 Concentration (BOTW-v.3)	
Atlantic	Nacote Creek	78	75	+
Passaic	Ramapo	79	79	o
Monmouth	West Long Beach (Monmouth Univ)	81	83	-
Morris	Chester	82	85	-
Camden	Camden Lab	83	89	-
Bergen	Teaneck	85	87	-
Cumberland	Millville	85	82	+
Gloucester	Clarksboro	85	88	-
Hudson	Bayonne	85	80	+
Mercer	Rider U	87	87	o
Middlesex	Rutgers U	88	85	+
Hunterdon	Flemington	88	84	+
Camden	Ancora	88	90	-
Ocean	Colliers Mills	92	93	-
Average (ppb)		85	85	
Papalski, NJDEP, 2006				

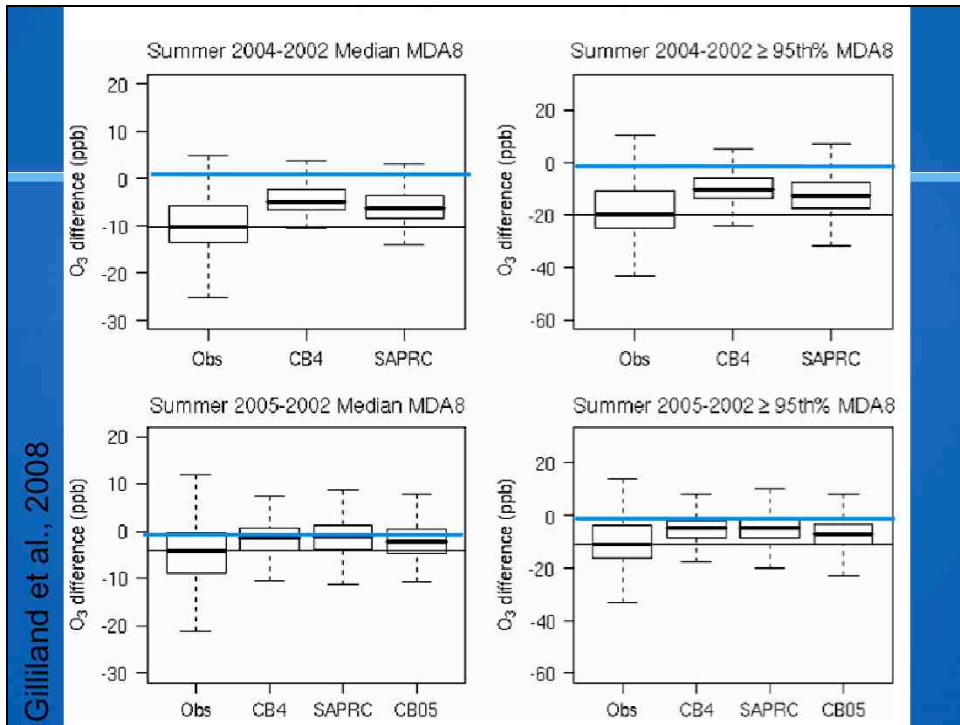
The +/-o signs along the right side indicate where 2006 numbers were with respect to 2009

Response to the NOx SIP Call

- Around 2002-2004, HUGE emissions controls went in on power plants, many upwind of Maryland—the NOx SIP Call
- EPA and collaborators modeled 2002, 2004 and 2005 meteorology, emissions, and chemistry
- Look at CMAQ's response to the NOx SIP Call



Bloomer, 2008



Gilliland et al., 2008

The model never shows the same level of change that the measurements indicate between 2002 and 2004/2005. Generally, the response is about half that measured in reality.

Dynamic evaluation results

- **Blackout:**
 - Using the 2005 reference day: A minimum of 7 ppbv ozone throughout a deep column, likely higher
 - Using comparisons to areas outside the blackout on the same day: 10 ppb, possibly 20-25 ppb.
 - Using comparisons to climatology: ozone levels were very unusual for those conditions
 - Hu et al.: 4%: some from power plants, more from *assumed* weekend traffic patterns on the blackout day (~2 ppb)
- Measurement-based estimates of the change in ozone due to the blackout are **at least twice** the model-based estimate

Hu et al. is a paper from Georgia Tech that simulated the effects of the blackout by examining the measured emissions from the blacked out plants and assuming weekend travel patterns on that day (toll booth records and measurements of species other than ozone suggest otherwise) throughout the affected area. They got a 4% reduction in ozone from the blackout.

Dynamic Evaluation Results

- Dynamic model evaluation
 - CMAQ underpredicts the peaks, overpredicts nighttime lows: poor response to emissions changes
 - Performance poorer in upwind rural areas
- New Jersey effect
 - 2009 modeled design values at the highest monitors (New Jersey) were already there by 2006

Make Predictions

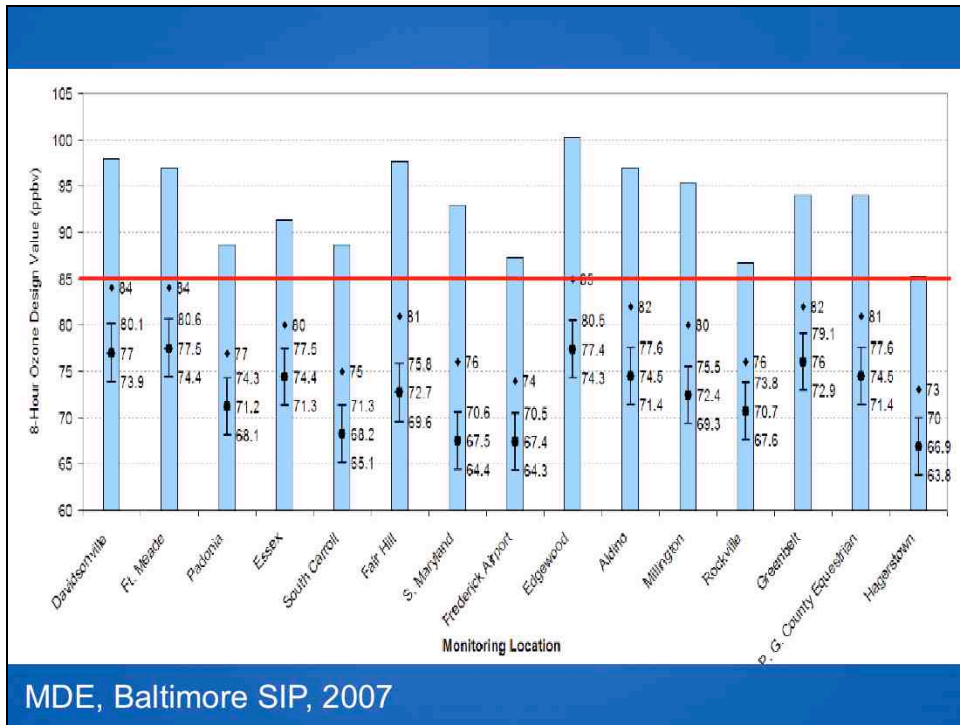
- Use EPA-approved guidance to calculate 2009 future design values
- For Maryland, things looked close
- Blackout suggests double the response
- Gilliland et al suggests a larger response as well
- Take a conservative estimate: 50% more response to emissions changes than CMAQ predicts.
- This is what EPA calls a **Weight of Evidence** argument

Weight of evidence is essentially arguing. If your prediction is that you will be close to the standard (below or above) in the future, you have to argue why your area should be able to attain the standard using more than just model results. In my view, this amounts to “prove the model is right”.

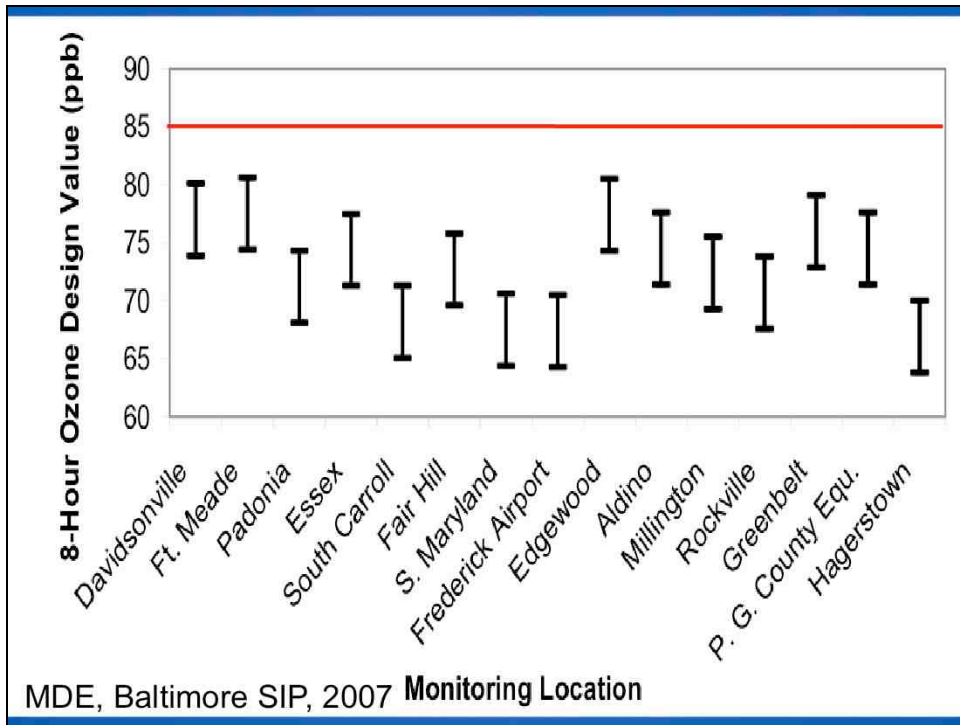
Maryland Model Predictions

- Also include a RANGE of possible future outcomes
- Spread in model runs using estimates of future year emissions
- Spread in 4th highest ozone from years around the base year*

*The only idea EPA liked



The red line was the ozone standard for this SIP = State Implementation Plan



MDE = Maryland Department of the Environment

Table 3. Current and Projected Design Values and Their Uncertainties for Maryland Monitors

Monitor Name	AIRS-ID	Observed	Modeled		Probable		
		2002 Design Value	2009 Design Value	2012 Design Value	2009 Design Value	2009 Lower Bound	2009 Upper Bound
Davidsonville	240030014	98.0	84	78	77.0	73.9	80.1
Ft. Meade	240030019	97.0	84	78	77.5	74.4	80.6
Padonia	240051007	88.7	77	72	71.2	68.1	74.3
Essex	240053001	91.3	80	76	74.4	71.3	77.5
South Carroll	240130001	88.7	75	69	68.2	65.1	71.3
Fair Hill	240150003	97.7	81	75	72.7	69.6	75.8
S. Maryland	240170010	93.0	76	70	67.5	64.4	70.6
Frederick Airport	240210037	87.3	74	68	67.4	64.3	70.5
Edgewood	240251001	100.3	85	80	77.4	74.3	80.5
Aldino	240259001	97.0	82	76	74.5	71.4	77.6
Millington	240290002	95.3	80	74	72.4	69.3	75.5
Rockville	240313001	86.7	76	71	70.7	67.6	73.8
Greenbelt	240330002	94.0	82	76	76.0	72.9	79.1
P. G. County Equestrian	240338003	94.0	81	76	74.5	71.4	77.6
Hagerstown	240430009	85.3	73	67	66.9	63.8	70.0

New Jersey in 2009

4th Highest by year and site

Site	2007	2008	2009	Average 2007-2009
Ancora	91	82	71	81
Bayonne	92	81	69	80
Brigantine	78	72	71	73
Chester	88	81	68	79
Clarksboro	89	89	71	83
Colliers Mills	86	85	71	80
Flemington	88	85	70	81
Leonia	-	82	72	-
Millville	83	79	72	78
Monmouth	88	83	72	81
Newark	-	-	64	-
Ramapo	85	76	69	76
Rider University	94	79	71	81
Rutgers University	90	83	67	80

All sites in attainment!!

New Jersey in 2009

COUNTY	OZONE MONITOR		Average 2007-2009	2004-2006 DESIGN	Modeled Predicted O3 Concentration (BOTW-v.3)
	LOCATION	Site		VALUE	
Atlantic	Nacote Cree	Nacote Creek	-	78	75
Passaic	Ramapo	Ramapo	76	79	79
Monmouth	West Long B	Monmouth	81	81	83
Morris	Chester	Chester	79	82	85
Camden	Camden Lab	Camden Lab	-	83	89
Bergen	Teaneck	Teaneck	-	85	87
Cumberland	Millville	Millville	78	85	82
Gloucester	Clarksboro	Clarksboro	83	85	88
Hudson	Bayonne	Bayonne	80	85	80
Mercer	Rider U	Rider U	81	87	87
Middlesex	Rutgers U	Rutgers U	80	88	85
Hunterdon	Flemington	Flemington	81	88	84
Camden	Ancora	Ancora	81	88	90
Ocean	Colliers Mills	Colliers Mills	80	92	93
Average (ppb)				85	85

Note how many sites were projected to be far out of attainment

Site Name	Design Value (ppb)		4th Maximum Concentration (ppb)				Modeled		Probable		
	2008	2009	2006	2007	2008	2009	2009 DV	2012 DV	2009 DV	2009 Lower Bound	2009 Upper Bound
Southern Maryland	82	75	85	83	78	66	76	70	67.5	64.4	70.6
Frederick Airport	82	76	85	86	75	69	74	68	67.4	64.3	70.5
Rockville	84	78	88	88	76	70	76	71	70.7	67.6	73.8
PG Equestrian Center	87	78	95	88	79	67	81	76	74.5	71.4	77.6
Mount Vernon	87	80	88	88	85	69					
Franconia	85	80	87	85	85	70					
McMillian Reservoir	87	80	90	87	84	71					
Davidsonville	87	80	92	89	81	70	84	78	77	73.9	80.1
Padonia	80	75	81	72	87	68	77	72	71.2	68.1	74.3
Essex	85	78	91	83	81	71	80	76	74.4	71.3	77.5
South Carroll	83	78	82	89	78	68	75	69	68.2	65.1	71.3
Edgewood	91	87	95	90	88	83	85	80	77.4	74.3	80.5
Aldino	89	82	90	92	85	69	82	76	74.5	71.4	77.6
Millington	83	78	82	83	85	66	80	74	72.4	69.3	75.5
Hagerstown	78	73	79	81	75	65	73	67	66.9	63.8	70
Fairhill	90	84	92	92	88	72	81	75	72.7	69.6	75.8
Colliers Mills	87	80	91	86	85	71					
Bucks Co PA	91	87	87	102	85	74					

Note the boxes in pink and blue in the 2009 DV column. Four of our predictions were too high for 2009 and only one was too low. Clearly something is unusual about Edgewood.

Site Name	Design Value (ppb)		4th Maximum Concentration (ppb)		Modeled		Most Probable	
		2009		2009	2009 DV		2009 DV	
Southern Maryland		75		66	76		67.5	
Frederick Airport		76		69	74		67.4	
Rockville		78		70	76		70.7	
PG Equestrian Center		78		67	81		74.5	
Mount Vernon		80		69				
Franconia		80		70				
McMillian Reservoir		80		71				
Davidsonville		80		70	84		77	
Padonia		75		68	77		71.2	
Essex		78		71	80		74.4	
South Carroll		78		68	75		68.2	
Edgewood		87		83	85		77.4	
Aldino		82		69	82		74.5	
Millington		78		66	80		72.4	
Hagerstown		73		65	73		66.9	
Fairhill		84		72	81		72.7	
Colliers Mills		80		71				
Bucks Co PA		87		74				

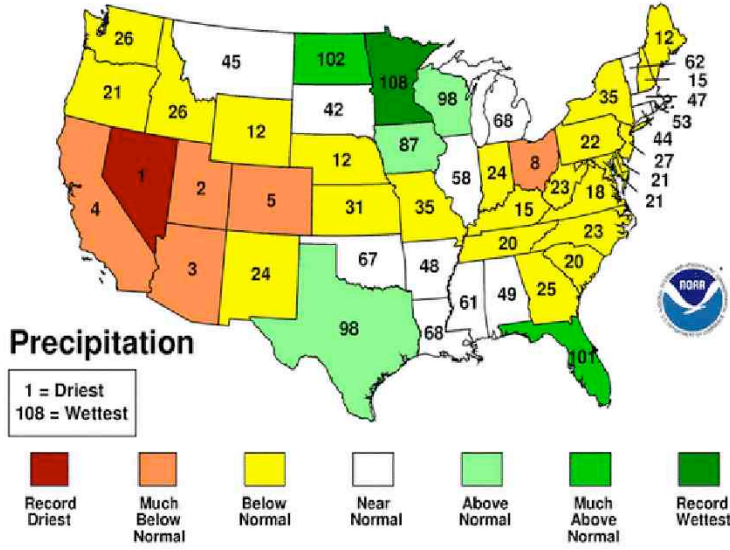
Even the 3 year average “design values” were close. (Colliers Mills (NJ) and Bucks County (PA) are particularly difficult sites in the Philadelphia nonattainment area)

Lucky or good?

- 2009 was not 2002
- 2009 unusually wet, cool...
- 2002 unusually hot, dry

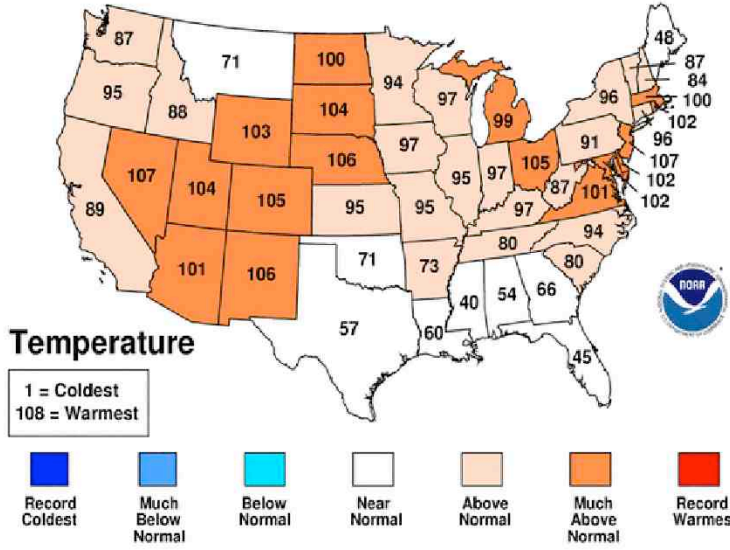
June-August 2002 Statewide Ranks

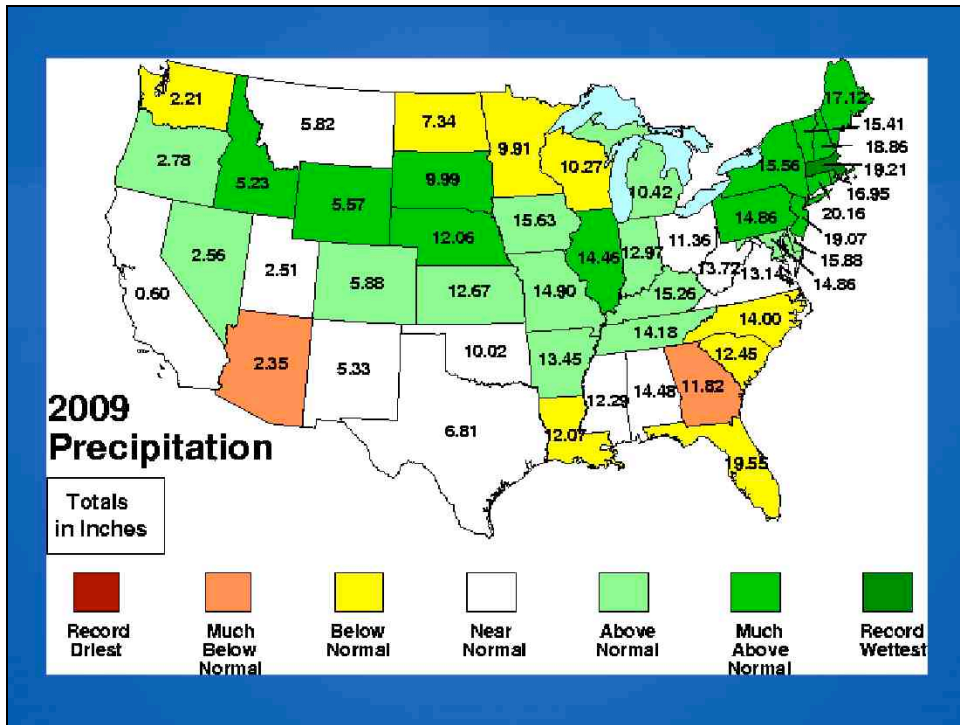
National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA

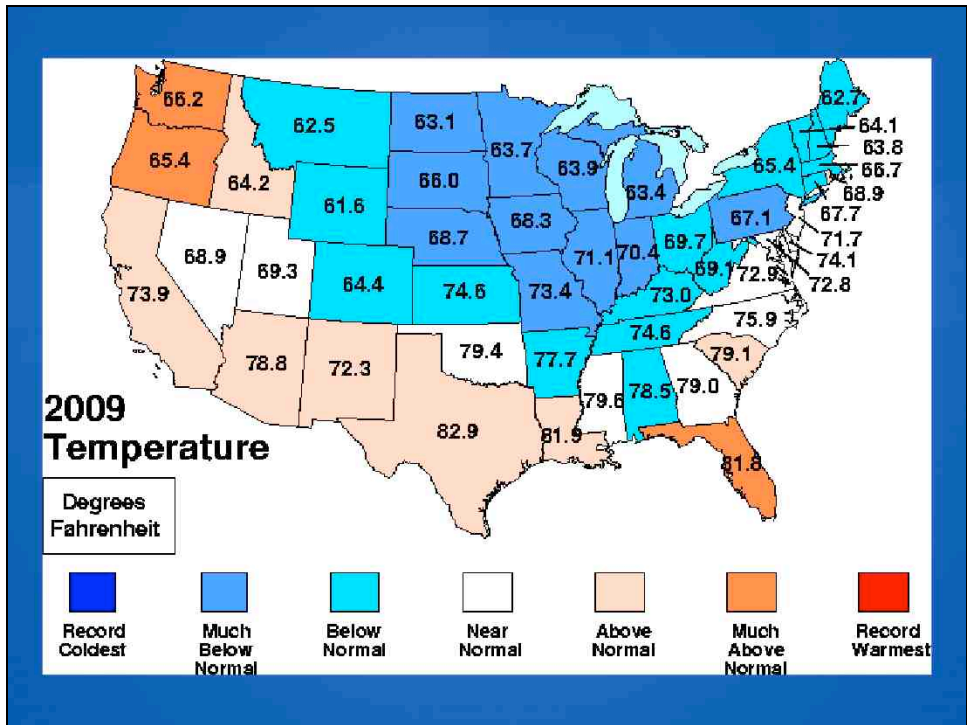


June-August 2002 Statewide Ranks

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA







Lucky or Good? Both!

- Substantial power plant emission reductions were installed in Maryland for the summer of 2009
- Summer of 2009 was cool and wet, then just cool, then warm and convectively active
- Summer of 2002 was very hot and dry
- Predictions for 2012 suggest greatly improved air quality due to ongoing automobile fleet turnover & better exhaust systems

Site Name	Design Value (ppb)		4th Maximum Concentration (ppb)		Modeled		Most Probable	
		2009		2009	2012 DV	2009 DV		2009 Upper Bound
Southern Maryland		75		66		70	67.5	70.6
Frederick Airport		76		69		68	67.4	70.5
Rockville		78		70		71	70.7	73.8
PG Equestrian Center		78		67	76	74.5		77.6
Mount Vernon		80		69				
Franconia		80		70				
McMillian Reservoir		80		71				
Davidsonville		80		70	78	77		80.1
Padonia		75		68	72	71.2		74.3
Essex		78		71	76	74.4		77.5
South Carroll		78		68	69	68.2		71.3
Edgewood		87		83	80	77.4		80.5
Aldino		82		69	76	74.5		77.6
Millington		78		66	74	72.4		75.5
Hagerstown		73		65	67	66.9		70
Fairhill		84		72	75	72.7		75.8
Colliers Mills		80		71				
Bucks Co PA		87		74				

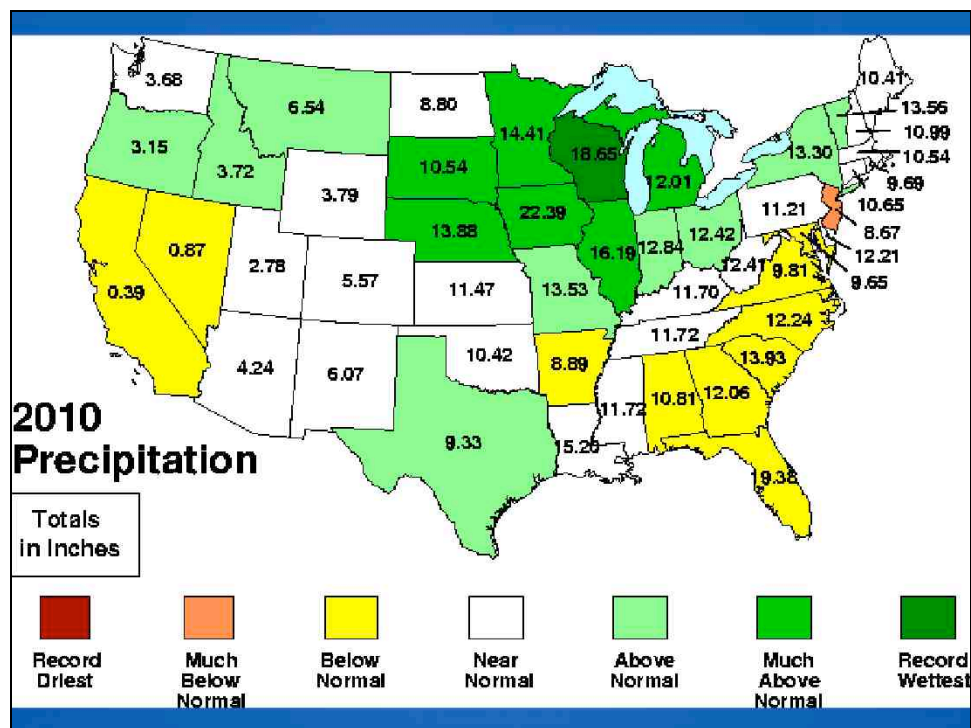
Dare I ask about 2010?

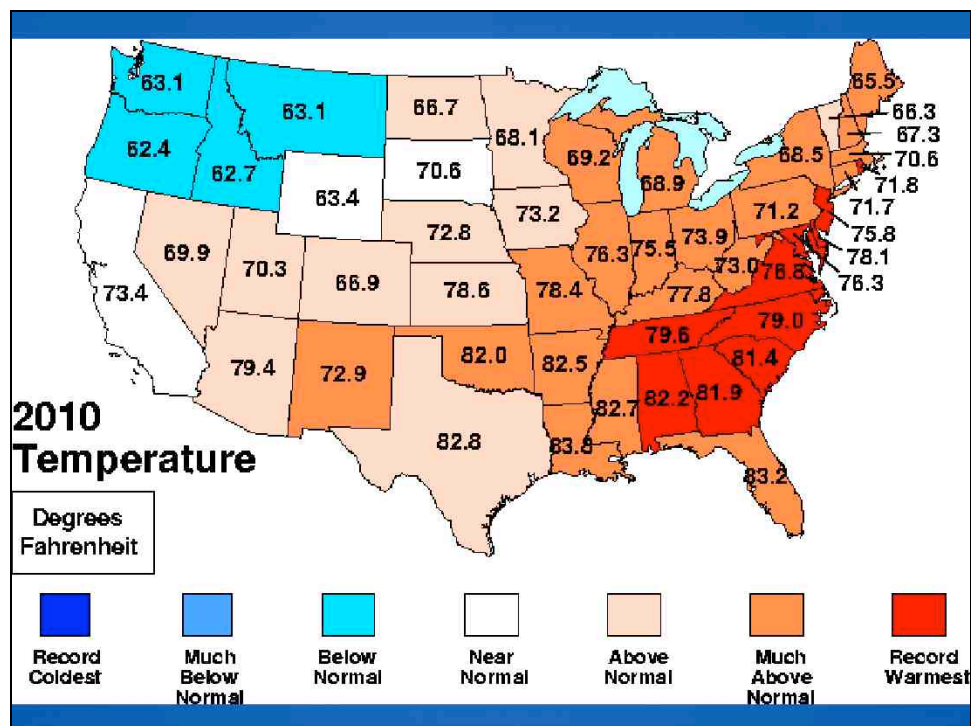
	2009 DV	2010 DV	2010 4th highest
Aldino	82	78	80
Davidsonville	80	79	87
Edgewood	87	89	96
Essex	78	79	84
Furley ES, Baltimore	67	*	<75
Padonia	75	78	78
South Carroll	78	76	83
Calvert County	74	*	87
PG Equestrian Center	78	77	85
Frederick County	76	76	83
Howard U Beltsville	78	*	85
Rockville	78	74	77
Southern Maryland	75	75	82
Fair Hill	84	81	82
Millington	78	*	<75
Hagerstown	73	73	78
Piney Run	71	*	<75

All 2010 *design values* are below 81 ppb except Edgewood: 89

*insufficient data, likely low

We're going to start thinking of Edgewood as its own private nonattainment area.





Lucky or Good? Both!

- Taking model predictions at face value, we needed a little help in 2009 and we got it.
- We didn't get **that** much help!
- We got no help in 2010, and with the exception of one site, we were fine
- Two very interesting/irritating sites: Edgewood, MD and Bucks Co, PA.
- The standard will probably fall to 60-70 ppbv in the near future, which will be difficult to achieve

Conclusions

- Dynamic model evaluation produced more reasonable results for most sites
- Edgewood is clearly quite different
 - Think of it as its own area with its own problems?
- Fine particles did NOT work this way (attainment was easy)
- Models only develop the way we push them to
- If we're going to use a model to predict change, we must evaluate its ability to do so and develop the model accordingly.

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