



## SCICHEM Development Update

Eladio M. Knipping, Ph.D.  
Senior Technical Manager, Environment  
Electric Power Research Institute

EPA 10<sup>th</sup> Modeling Conference  
Research Triangle Park, NC  
March 15, 2012

## Some Introductory Notes

- A new SCICHEM version is forthcoming in a few months
- A prior version SCICHEM has been described in previous presentations at this conference; this version has some of but not all the enhancement of the future version
- As such, it has seen limited distribution as a “pre-release” version
- This presentation will provide an update on the status of SCICHEM development

## SCICHEM: Origin

- An overview of the SCICHEM system has been provided earlier in this conference
- Detailed presentations on SCICHEM have been given at past EPA Modeling Conferences and past CMAS Modeling Conferences, as well as other venues
- SCICHEM development started in the late 1990s
- All existing versions of SCICHEM are based on a 1998 version of the SCIPUFF model

# SCICHEM: Early Testing and Availability

- Testing and evaluation of past SCICHEM versions has been documented in EPRI reports
  - These EPRI reports are publicly and freely available at EPRI.com
  - Contact the EPRI Customer Assistance Center for information on how to download these reports (as well as many other EPRI reports) and a “legacy” version of SCICHEM

## SCICHEM: The APT Branch

- In the 2000s, EPRI embedded the SCICHEM model into the EPA CMAQ model as a plume-in-grid module for sub-grid treatment of industrial plumes
- This PiG version of SCICHEM is known by the name “Advanced Plume Treatment” or APT, i.e. CMAQ-APT
- A version of CMAQ-APT was publicly released via the CMAS Center based on CMAQ4.6
- This version was based on the sectional MADRID aerosol treatment

## SCICHEM: The APT Branch (Continued)

- Further development of APT continued using CMAQ 4.7.x as the host model
  - Added the option of modal aerosol treatment consistent with EPA's CMAQ AERO modules
  - Added the ability to run in parallel processors
  - UNC tested this version and provided useful feedback to model development
  - CMAQ-APT based on CMAQ4.7.1 was not released publicly as development efforts focused on releasing APT with CMAQ5.0 as the host model
  - This will be released soon in a interim release of CMAQ5.x in upcoming months

## SCICHEM: SCIPUFF and APT in the 2000s

- The chemistry elements of SCICHEM underwent refinement through continued development of APT in the 2000s
- Similarly, the transport and dispersion elements of SCICHEM underwent refinement through continued development of SCIPUFF in the 2000s
- Evaluation of APT and SCIPUFF during this period has been documented in the peer-reviewed scientific literature
- However, this branching of the code has led to an effort to reconcile the two codes into one uniform code for the standalone dispersion model

# Reconciliation of SCIPUFF and SCICHEM

- At the end of this reconciliation, there will be only one standalone model
- However, the two names will remain in order to emphasize whether chemistry is "on" or "off"
- The SCIPUFF/SCICHEM equivalency may be thought of as:
  - SCIPUFF is SCICHEM with chemistry off
  - SCICHEM is SCIPUFF with chemistry on



# User Considerations of SCICHEM

- The pre-release version of SCICHEM does not have a graphics user interface (GUI)
  - The release version will include a basic GUI
- The release version will be available in Windows and Unix/Linux versions (which can also be run from a command line interface)
- The release version will be able to take advantage of multiple cores on a single machine
- It will include user manuals and documentation on evaluation and testing, as well as a test case

# Availability of SCICHEM

- The new release of SCICHEM will become available to the community in upcoming months
- The model will be free, open-source and public-domain
- As derivative products of SCICHEM may be developed, EPRI will remain the “custodian” of the “core” SCICHEM model
  - Sage Management and ENVIRON are acknowledged as the current model developers

# Distribution of SCICHEM and Comments

- Distribution of the “core” SCICHEM model will be through EPRI.com and through other linked portals
  - Potential portals include the websites of the model developers, CMAS Center and EPA Model Clearinghouse
- We encourage the community to test, evaluate and apply the model as appropriate and to provide feedback that will allow for future refinements



# Selected SCICHEM Enhancements

# Selected SCICHEM Enhancements

## **1. Allocatable Arrays**

- Size limits are set in ini files
- Code does not have to be recompiled

## **2. Nested meteorology grid**

- High resolution terrain and meteorology can be used in nested grid

## **3. Improve convective boundary layer diffusion**

- represent non-Gaussian vertical diffusion
- “two-stream” model for skewness of vertical velocity pdf

## Selected Enhancements (continued)

### 4. *Dense gas effects*

- Takes account of dense gas and ground interaction

### 5. *Simple flashing liquid model*

- Instantaneous release of cryogenic liquids due to rupture of pressurized tank treated as two-phase mixture


### 6. *Simple liquid pool model*

- Evaporation based on mass transfer theory with consideration for different modes of heat transfer

## Selected Enhancements (continued)

### 4. *New sampler file format capabilities*

- Moving samplers
- Line of sight sampler
- Integrated concentration
- Time averaged concentration
- Meteorological samplers for outputting meteorological data



# Skew Turbulence in the Convective Boundary Layer



# Convective Layer Diffusion

- Vertical diffusion in convectively-driven turbulence is non-Gaussian
- PDF of vertical velocity fluctuations is skewed

- $$S = \langle w^3 \rangle / \langle w^2 \rangle^{3/2}$$

- Can be represented by two “streams”
  - narrow, high velocity updrafts
  - wide, low velocity downdrafts

# Two-stream Model

- Represent skew-w PDF with 2 Gaussians
- From Luhar et al. (*Atmos. Env.*, **30**, 1996)

$$\bar{w}_d = -m\sigma_d,$$

$$\bar{w}_u = m\sigma_u$$

$$\sigma_d = \sigma_w \left( \frac{\lambda_u}{\lambda_d(1+m^2)} \right)^{1/2},$$

$$\sigma_u = \sigma_w \left( \frac{\lambda_d}{\lambda_u(1+m^2)} \right)^{1/2}$$

where

$$\lambda_d = 1 - \lambda_u, \text{ and}$$

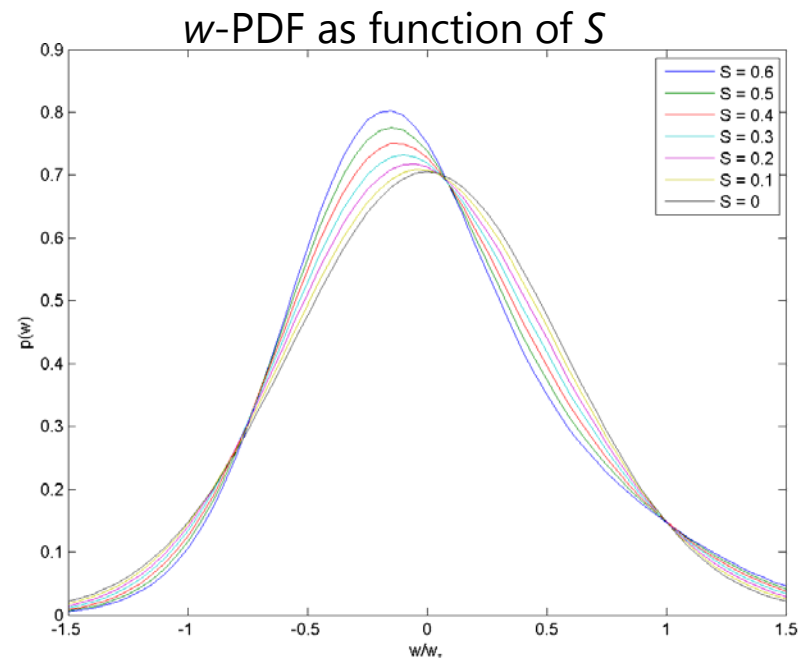
$$\lambda_u = \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{r}{4+r} \right)^{1/2} \right]$$

$$m = \frac{2}{3} S^{1/3}$$

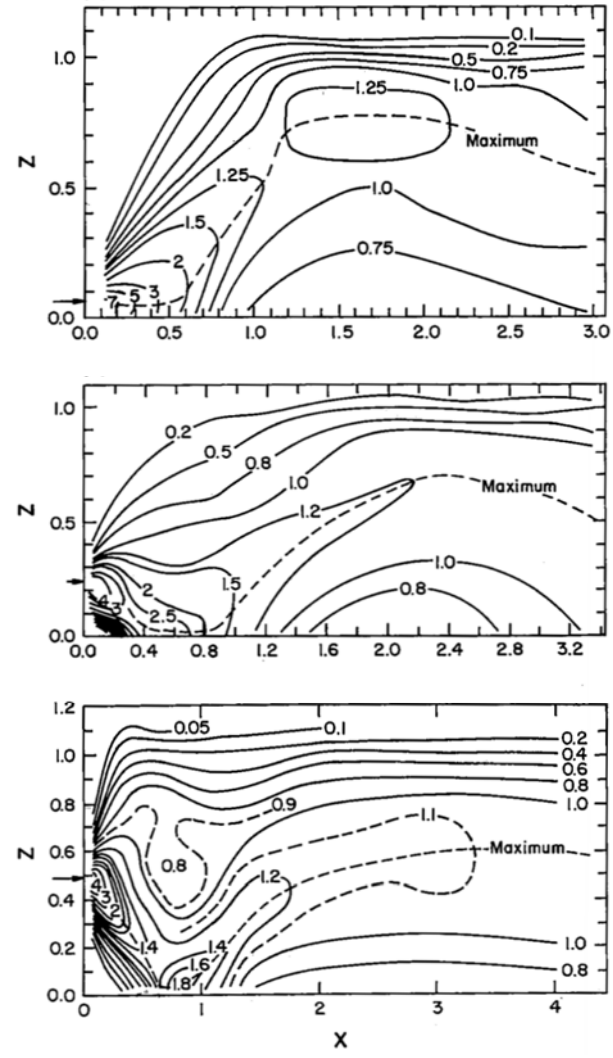
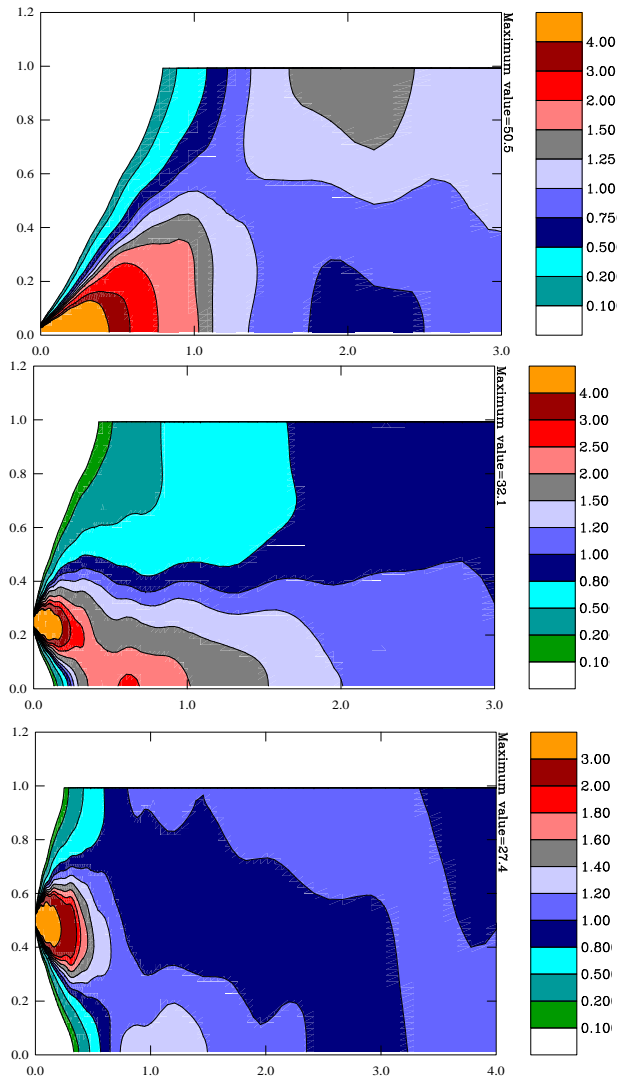
$$r = \frac{(1+m^2)^3 S^2}{m^2(3+m^2)^2}$$

# Puff Implementation

- Release 2 puffs ("u" and "d")
- Use appropriate  $w$ -statistics ( $w_{d,u}$  and  $\overline{\sigma_{d,u}}$ ) to advect and diffuse
- Switch type on reflection at ground or inversion



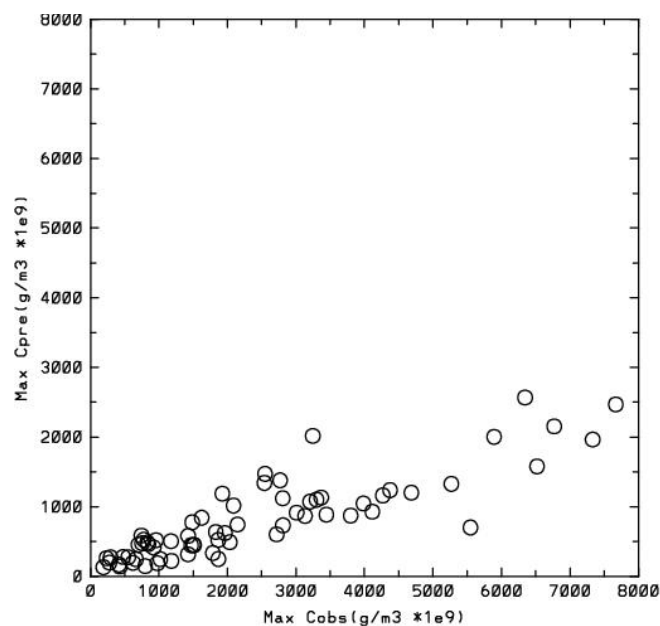
# Comparison with Deardorff and Willis



# Improvement for Copenhagen Data

- Elevated release at 115m under convective conditions
- Surface concentration measurements
- Arc max comparisons

Standard Model



Skew Model

