### CSPP NUCAPS Full Spectral Resolution CO vs RAQMS – new results

### August 2017 wildfires

### NOAA Satellite Aerosol Products Workshop September 25, 2017

Brad Pierce (STAR), **Nadia Smith** (STC), Jim Davies (CIMSS), Chris Barnet (STC)

Need for multiple products to understand complex systems







The Real-time Air Quality Modeling System (RAQMS) aerosol analysis <u>captures the timing</u> <u>and magnitude of</u> <u>the surface smoke</u> over the Pacific Northwest during the July 30-August 8, 2017 period.





The Real-time Air Quality Modeling System (RAQMS) aerosol analysis <u>captures the timing</u> <u>but underestimates</u> <u>the magnitude of</u> <u>the surface smoke</u> over Central Canada during the August 13-August 19, 2017 period.





#### Carbon Monoxide Column July 30 – August 28, 2017



NUCAPS science retrievals use CrIS Full Spectral Resolution (FSR) SDR code run within CSPP

#### Carbon Monoxide Column July 30 – August 28, 2017

#### AM Orbits

#### **PM Orbits**



#### Carbon Monoxide Column July 30 – August 28, 2017

#### **AM Orbits**

#### **PM Orbits**





Generated: 2017-09-22 18:12:17Z





Degrees of Freedom for CO is high -> high sensitivity, low uncertainty.

Could these high CO concentrations in Midwest be real?

## What does NUCAPS measure?

- The amount and quality of IR spectral information about the vertical atmospheric column (i.e., 'retrievability' of the sounding) varies with
  - local weather conditions, e.g., cold, warm, wet, dry
  - surface temperature and emissivity, e.g., land, ocean; day, night; ice, forest, bare soil
  - the presence and concentration of trace gases, e.g., methane plumes, carbon monoxide from fires, cities versus wilderness
- Clouds significantly alter the measured infrared (IR) radiance. Clouds are everywhere most of the time so dealing with them is a primary issue. So NUCAPS:
  - Does NOT retrieve any cloud information nor does it retrieve the thermodynamic environment inside clouds (complex problem; unstable solution).
  - Performs "cloud clearing" to remove the radiative effects of clouds from the IR radiance measurement (this is enabled by combining microwave and infrared)
  - Retrieves the 'clear-sky' thermodynamic environment AROUD clouds from cloud-cleared IR radiances (simplified problem; stable solution).
  - Achieves a 70% global yield despite clouds
  - Retrieves successfully (high quality soundings) under many types of cloudy conditions and with cloud cover as high as 90% per footprint



NUCAPS retrieve soundings if there is a radiative pathway past clouds

The clear-sky radiative pathway PAST clouds can be determined using a cluster of 3x3 CrIS footprints with variable cloud fractions.

NUCAPS soundings are successfully retrieved from clear-sky or cloud-cleared radiance measurements



NUCAPS soundings CANNOT be retrieved from cloudy measurements of the radiative the pathway through clouds.

This is why optical thickness (cirrus versus stratocumulus) is irrelevant to NUCAPS.





The area has cloudy patches (bottom) but the cloud clearing uncertainty (top) is low, meaning that there's little cloud contamination.

Looking at NUCAPS diagnostic metrics we can determine that there are very few cloud artifacts in the region.

#### Demonstrating NUCAPS quality filtering

#### NUCAPS without QC Red > 90% cloudy



#### NUCAPS with QC





Frames: 12 Time: 21:29Z 20-Jul-17 1055M of 1208M Slide by Ashley Wheeler (STC)



At 300 hPa NUCAPS CO product depicts mesoscale transport



At 700 hPa NUCAPS CO product depicts additional features



**E-IDEA**: https://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/smcd/spb/aq/expr/expr2/index.php?plot\_sel=2&goto\_date=20170803



Thank you

### Extra cases

#### NUCAPS T/q used in AWIPS to monitor fire weather



#### **NUCAPS Sounding**

- A noticeable inversion was detected near/just above 700mb.
- Compared to HRRR, RAP, and NAM soundings taken at a similar time, guidance was unable to detect this feature.
- Decided to investigate a smoke plume seen from KBLX radar



#### NUCAPS T/q used in AWIPS to monitor fire weather



"The placement of the fire and smoke plume suggests some accuracy of the NUCAPS capture of the inversion, which is missing from model guidance."

"Additionally, it has been noticed that as convection has pushed eastward this afternoon, it's intensity has been decreasing, which could be an impact of the inversion."

# JPSS PGRR Initiatives foster user-developer partnerships that evaluate NUCAPS CO applications

### Investigating the presence of elevated H2O mixed layer due to large scale biomass burning

Carbon Monoxide [500hPa]

NUCAPS CO with MOZART FG at 500 hPa 20160508 AM orbit [pb] 178 162 145 129 112 96 Ft McMurray Mega-Fire CO emissions



H2O Mixing Ratio [500hPa]

#### Elevated mixed layer due to megafire

H2O Mixing Ratio [700hPa]

# JPSS PGRR Initiatives foster user-developer partnerships that evaluate NUCAPS CO applications

#### Carbon Monoxide [500hPa]



#### H2O Mixing Ratio [500hPa]

Investigating CO emissions as well as the change in moisture regime due to large scale burning