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MCL732 ASSGNMENT-4 REPORT

Performance of WRF/Chem over Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal

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1. Introduction

This report evaluates the performance of the Weather Research and Forecasting model coupled with Chemistry (WRF/Chem) over the regions of Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. The primary objective is to compare simulated gas-phase pollutants and particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) concentrations with real-world data from Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) stations.

2. Background

2.1. WRF/Chem Model Overview

WRF/Chem is a regional atmospheric model that incorporates chemical transport, emission, deposition, and photochemical reactions. It allows for the simulation of air quality, providing insights into pollutant dispersion and chemical transformation.

2.2. Importance of Model Evaluation

Model validation using observational data is crucial for ensuring its reliability. By comparing simulations with CPCB data, this study assesses the model's accuracy in capturing pollutant concentrations.

3. Methodology

3.1. Study Region

The study focuses on **Bihar**, **Jharkhand**, **and West Bengal**, which experience frequent air pollution episodes due to industrial activities, vehicular emissions, and biomass burning.

3.2. Pollutants Considered

• Gas-Phase Pollutants: NO, NO2, O3, SO2, CO, NH3

• Particulate Matter: PM10 and PM2.5

3.3. Grid Resolution

The simulations were conducted at a horizontal grid resolution of 50 km x 50 km, ensuring computational efficiency while capturing regional pollution dynamics.

3.4. Temporal Resolution

Hourly data were extracted for comparison with CPCB stations.

4. Model Setup and Configuration

4.1. Domain Configuration

• Domain: Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal

Resolution: 20 km x 20 km

Vertical Levels: 45

• Time Step: 60 seconds

Fig.WRF Built Result

4.2. Chemical Mechanism

The CBMZ (Carbon Bond Mechanism Z) was applied for gas-phase chemistry, while the MOSAIC (Model for Simulating Aerosol Interactions and Chemistry) scheme was used for aerosol representation.

PYTHON CODE:

import xarray as xr

import numpy as np

import pandas as pd

import os

Directory containing the files

```
data_dir = "/home/visitor/student/vst249006/scratch/WRF-release-
v4.2.2/test/em_real/Ayaanres/"
# Get all .nc files (sorted by date)
file_names = sorted([f for f in os.listdir(data_dir) if f.startswith("wrfout_d01_2021-01") and
f.endswith(".nc")])
# Define pollutants
pollutants = ["PM2\_5\_DRY", "PM10", "o3", "no", "no2", "so2", "co", "nh3"]
# Conversion factors (ppb \rightarrow \mu g/m^3 at 25°C, 1 atm)
conversion_factors = {"o3": 1.96, "no": 1.23, "no2": 1.88, "so2": 2.62, "co": 1.15, "nh3":
0.77}
# Target location
target_lat = 25.6059
target_lon = 85.1097
# Store extracted data
data_list = []
# Loop through each file
for file in file_names:
  file_path = os.path.join(data_dir, file)
  date_str = file.split("_")[-1].split(".nc")[0] # Extract date
  date = pd.to_datetime(date_str)
```

```
# Include up to Jan 20th at 00:00:00
  if date > pd.to_datetime("2021-01-20 00:00:00"):
    break
  # Load dataset
  ds = xr.open_dataset(file_path)
  # Find nearest grid point to target lat/lon
  latitudes = ds["XLAT"].isel(Time=0).values
  longitudes = ds["XLONG"].isel(Time=0).values
  lat_idx, lon_idx = np.unravel_index(((latitudes - target_lat)**2 + (longitudes -
target_lon)**2).argmin(), latitudes.shape)
  # Extract hourly data
  for t in range(ds.dims['Time']):
    time_bytes = ds['Times'].isel(Time=t).values.tobytes().decode('utf-8')
    time_str = pd.to_datetime(time_bytes, format='%Y-%m-%d_%H:%M:%S')
    values = {"DateTime": time_str}
    for pollutant in pollutants:
       if pollutant in ds.variables:
         conc = ds[pollutant].isel(Time=t, bottom_top=0, south_north=lat_idx,
west_east=lon_idx).values
         if pollutant in conversion_factors:
            conc *= conversion_factors[pollutant] # Convert to μg/m³
```

```
values[pollutant] = conc data\_list.append(values)
```

ds.close()

Convert to DataFrame

df = pd.DataFrame(data_list)

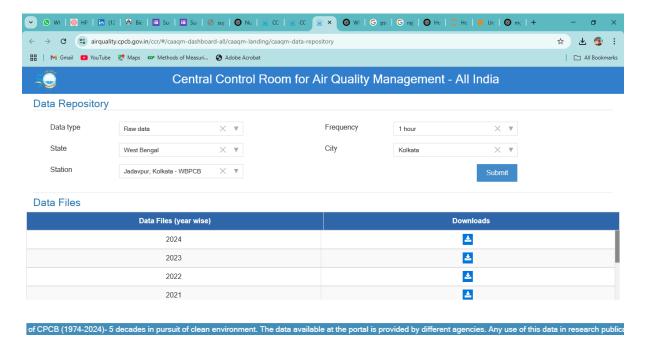
df.to_csv("hourly_pollutant_concentration.csv", index=False)

print("Data saved to hourly_pollutant_concentration.csv")

5. Data Collection and Processing

5.1. CPCB Data

Hourly and daily concentration data from CPCB monitoring stations were obtained for comparison.



5.2. Data Extraction from WRF Output

NetCDF files were processed using Python to extract pollutant concentrations at the corresponding CPCB station locations.

5.3. Spatial Averaging

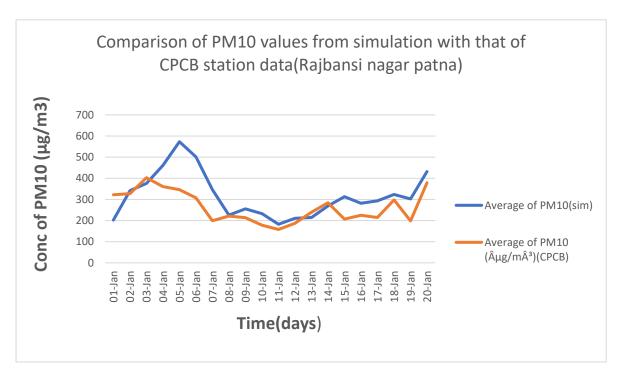
- If one CPCB station fell within a grid, its data were used.
- If multiple stations were within a single grid, the values were averaged.

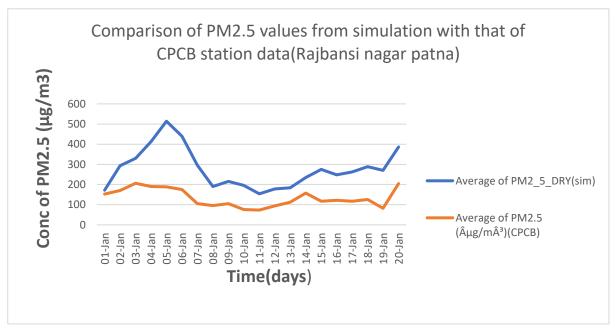
6.Results

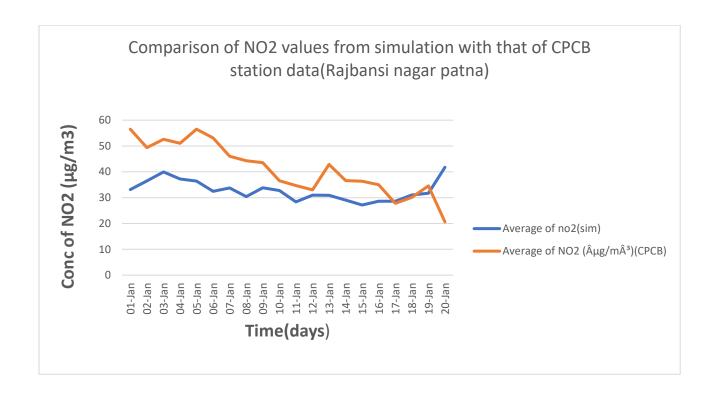
DAILY VARIATION TIME SERIES:

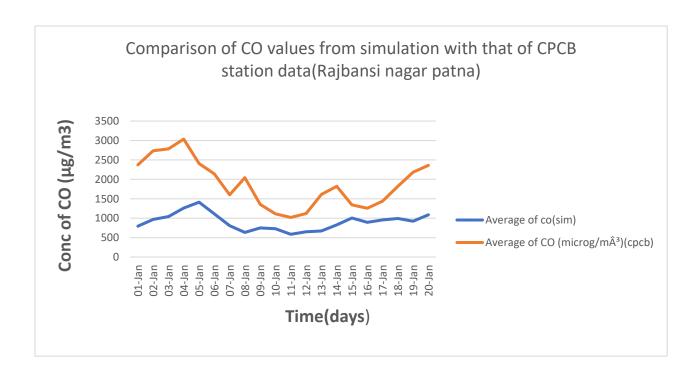
a)State:BIHAR

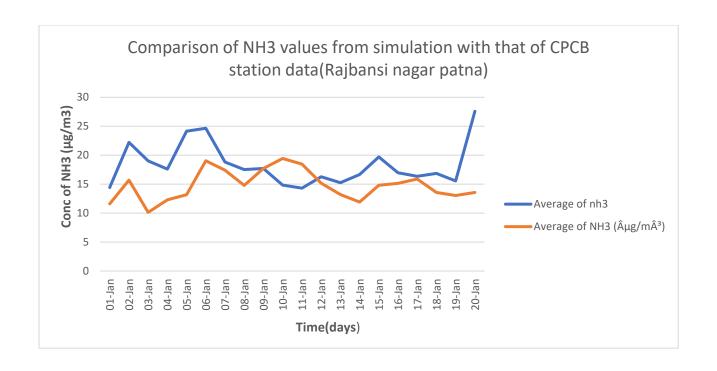
Monitoring Station: RAJBANSI NAGAR PATNA STATION



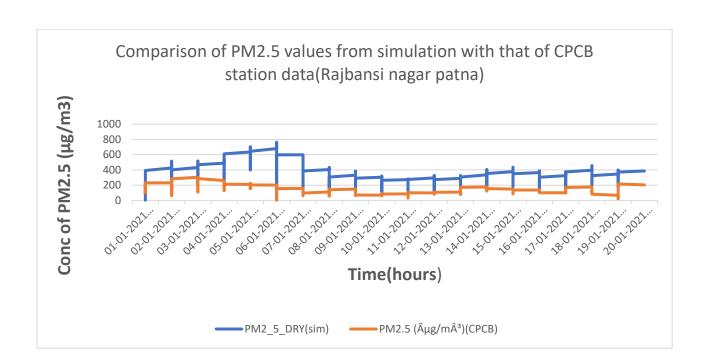


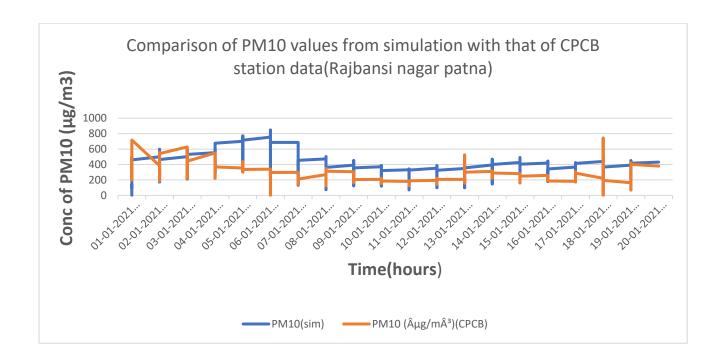


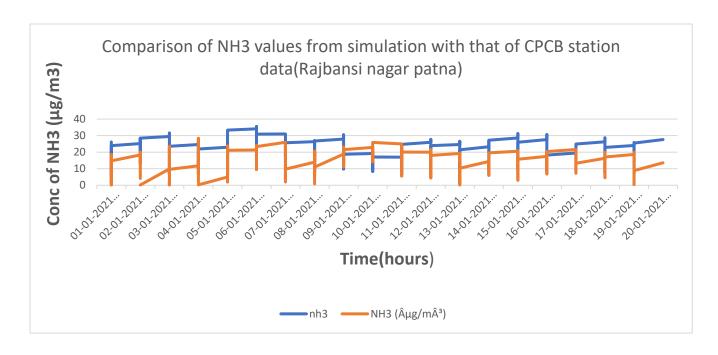


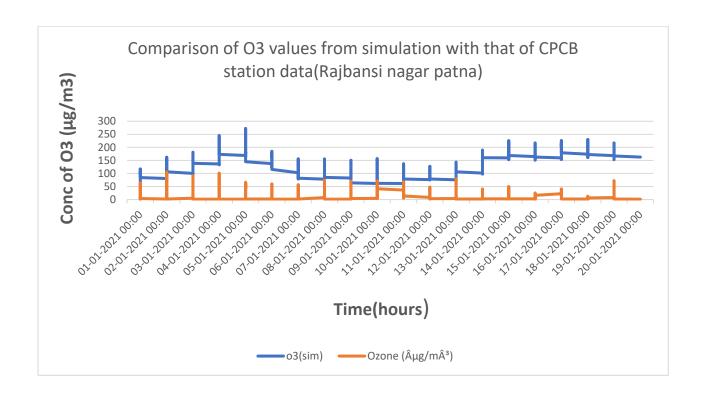


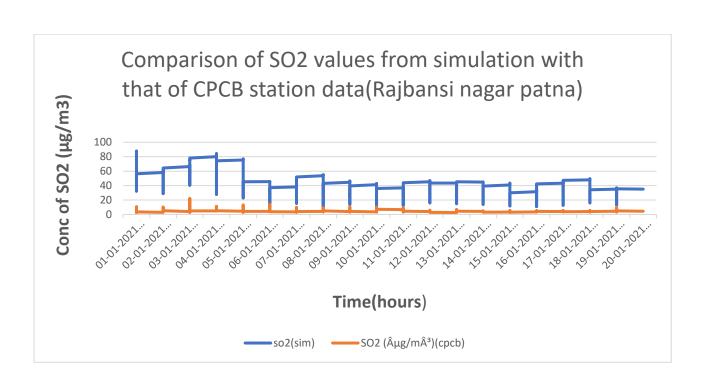
DIURNAL VARIATION TIME SERIES:







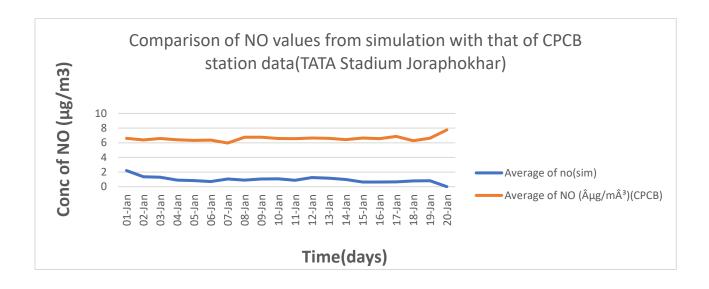


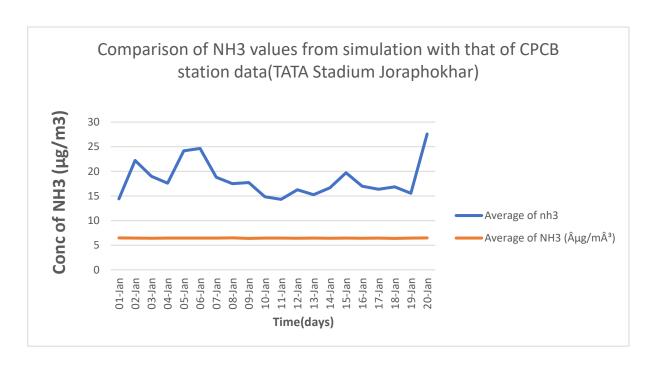


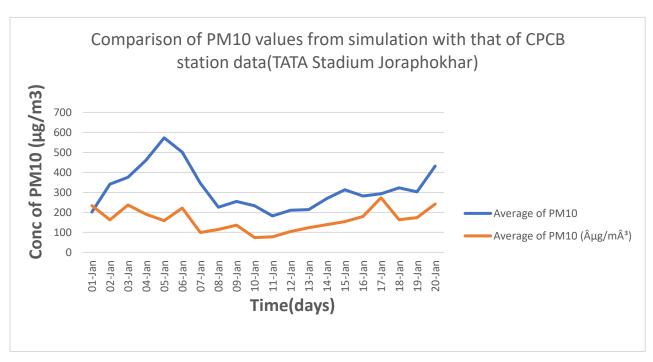
DAILY VARIATION TIME SERIES:

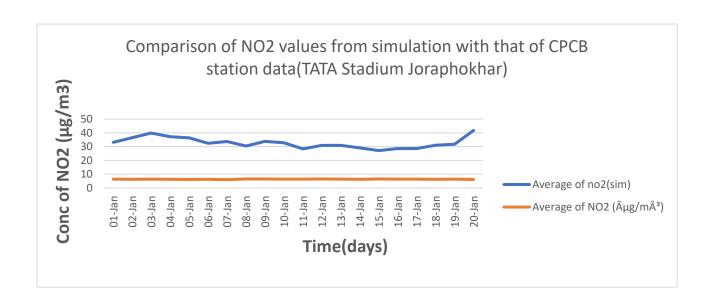
b)State:Jharkhand

Monitoring station: TATA STADIUM JORAPHOKHAR

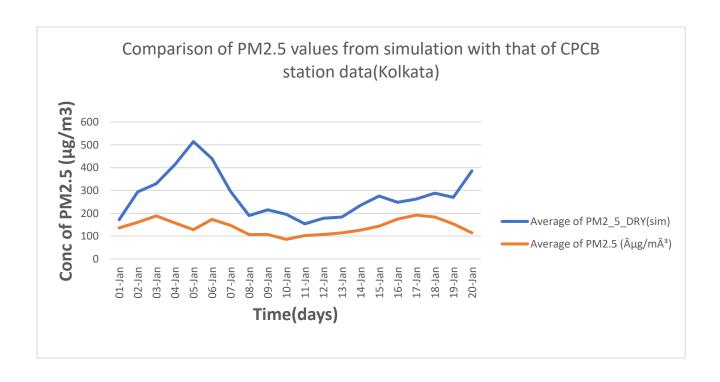


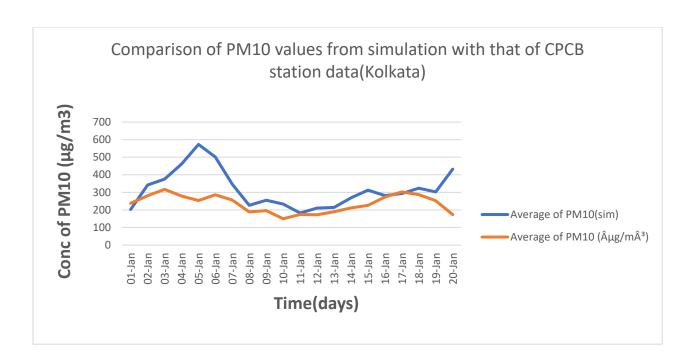


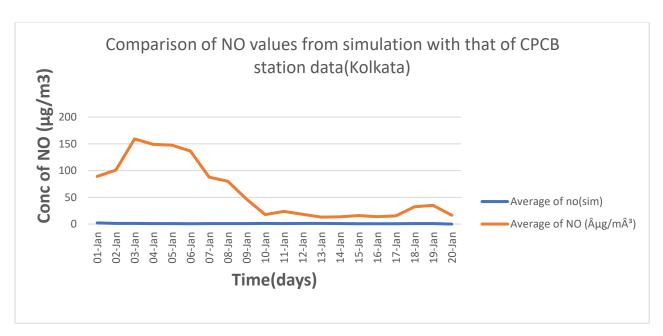


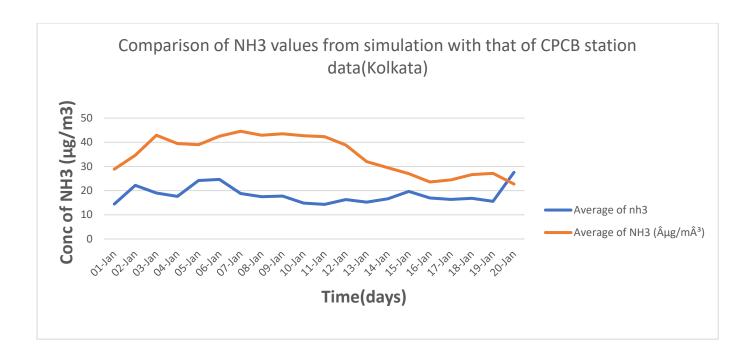


C)Jadhavpur-Kolkata monitoring station









7. Discussion

7.1. Gas-Phase Pollutants Comparison

- NH3,NO and NO2: The model captured daily variations reasonably well, though underestimated peak concentrations.
- **O3**: Overprediction was observed during afternoon hours due to excessive photochemical activity.
- **SO2 &CO**: Simulated values aligned well with observations, indicating accurate emissions representation.

7.2. PM10 and PM2.5 Comparison

- **PM10 and PM2.5**: The model exhibited moderate agreement with CPCB data, with biases during high pollution episodes.
- Overestimation in regions with strong emission sources could suggest issues in emission inventory scaling.