

# Daily wildfire and non-wildfire PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration estimates by ZIP code in western US states, 2008-2018

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## Abstract

[Insert abstract text here.]

## Background & Summary

[Insert Background & Summary text here.]

[insert Figure 1: monitor locations (points) and state boundaries]

[insert Table 1: list variables]

## Methods

### Study Area

Our study area includes 11 western US states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. [What other descriptions should we put? - square kilometers? climate zones? topography? other?]

Example of citation: [1]

### PM<sub>2.5</sub> Measurements

[Write short description of each PM<sub>2.5</sub> data source.]

We downloaded the 2008-2018 pre-generated daily summary files for PM<sub>2.5</sub> (88101 and 88502 parameter codes) ([https://aqs.epa.gov/aqsweb/airdata/download\\_files.html#Daily](https://aqs.epa.gov/aqsweb/airdata/download_files.html#Daily)) as well as the spreadsheet listing all AQS monitors with datums ([https://aqs.epa.gov/aqsweb/airdata/aqs\\_monitors.zip](https://aqs.epa.gov/aqsweb/airdata/aqs_monitors.zip)) from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA).

All available PM<sub>2.5</sub> data in the Fire Cache Smoke Monitor Archive (<https://wrcc.dri.edu/cgi-bin/smoke.pl>) was downloaded for the years 2008-2018.

PM<sub>2.5</sub> data from the Uintah Basin, Utah were provided by Seth Lyman at Utah State University (personal communication).

PM<sub>2.5</sub> data from the Persistent Cold Air Pool Study (PCAPS) [2] conducted in the Salt Lake Valley, Utah in January–February, 2011 were provided by Dr. Geoff Silcox in Chemical Engineering at the University of Utah

## Predictors

[Write short description of each predictor data set and refer to Table 1]

## Machine learning modelling and mapping

[Write description of ML modelling approach]

## Code availability

[Insert brief description of how to access code on GitHub.] The code was written and annotated in R [version number] and Python [version number] and is available from GitHub [doi citation link]. The key package for implementing the ML model was [caretEnsemble?].

## Data Records

All data are freely available from [repository name, data doi citation]. We provide ... [reference Figure 2]

[insert Figure 2: choropleths at zip code level - 4-panel: a) highest year PM<sub>2.5</sub>, Aug or Sept, b) highest year PM<sub>2.5</sub>, Jan/Feb, c) lowest year PM<sub>2.5</sub>, Aug or Sept, d) lowest year PM<sub>2.5</sub>, Jan/Feb.]

[Insert Table 3: list of files]

## Technical Validation

[Write description of goodness of fit methods/metrics - out-of-bag data, RMSE, R<sup>2</sup>, models run on subsets of data, etc.]

[Insert Figure 4: a) out-of bag observed PM<sub>2.5</sub> vs predicted, b) full model observed PM<sub>2.5</sub> vs predicted, c-j) various subsets of data - oob and full model plots (see figure 5 of example paper)]

[Write discussion about variable importance, possibly referring to the suggested figure of variable importance panel figure. Could make an observation or two about the complexity of the variables, e.g., PM<sub>2.5</sub> can be highest at highest and lowest temperatures (summer fire season and winter inversions), etc.]

[Thoughts - insert figure of predicted PM<sub>2.5</sub> vs predictor variable for the 8 (or so) most important variables (panel figure)]

Thoughts: compare to PM2.5. Concerned comparing to HMS will take too long?

## Usage Notes

[Write brief description of things the provided code can be adapted to do, such as making plots of specific years, use in health/pollution studies.]

## Acknowledgements

[Write acknowledgements text here.]

## Author contributions

[Write brief description of contribution from each author.]

## Competing interests

The authors declare not competing interests.

## Figures and figures legends

[All figures go here and are referred to in the text]

## Tables

[All tables go here and are referred to in the text - read template text for tables]

## References

- [1] Y. Liu, J. A. Sarnat, V. Kilaru, D. J. Jacob, and P. Koutrakis. Estimating ground-level PM2.5 in the eastern United States using satellite remote sensing. *Environ Sci Technol*, 39(9):3269–78, May 2005.
- [2] Geoffrey D. Silcox, Kerry E. Kelly, Erik T. Crosman, C. David Whiteman, and Bruce L. Allen. Wintertime pm2.5 concentrations during persistent, multi-day cold-air pools in a mountain valley. *Atmospheric Environment*, 46:17 – 24, 2012.