

Porting the Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) modeling system to the Apple Macintosh Operating System Mac OS X

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It is an appropriate time to have a version of the CMAQ modeling system capable of running on the Apple Macintosh platform. The combination of the new G5 64 bit processors and the UNIX based OS X operating system make the Macintosh a viable option for running the CMAQ modeling system. The availability and affordability of dual processor machines and larger clusters provides an attractive alternative to Linux or other UNIX systems, especially when coupled with Apple's user-friendly operating system. For comparison, we will present timing information for a test CMAQ run on our OS X system and a similar Linux system. Our tests will be performed on a dual 1.8 GHz G5 machine with 4 GB of RAM. The machine is currently running Mac OS X version 10.3.5.

Thus far, we have successfully compiled the NetCDF v3.5.1 library, versions 2.2 and 3.0 of the I/O API library, SMOKE v2.0, and a single processor version of CMAQ v4.3. Some of the challenges along the way have included modifying existing Linux-based scripts to work with OS X and resolving differences in compiler settings and flags. We are currently working to port PAVE to OS X and to compile and run CMAQ with support for multiple processors.