

# Evaluating wildfire emissions projection methods in comparisons of simulated and observed air quality

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## Supplemental Tables and Figures

**Table S1. Model performance statistics for monthly-averaged ozone vs. AQS<sup>†</sup> observations**

Month	Ozone (ppb)				NME <sup>‡</sup> (%)			NMB <sup>★</sup> (%)		
	AQS	Stat. d-s <sup>†</sup>	Dyn. d-s <sup>‡</sup>	NEI Bmrk*	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk
Jan	24.4	25.3	25.3	25.3	38.4	38.4	38.4	3.6	3.6	3.6
Feb	28.2	28.9	28.9	28.9	33.3	33.3	33.3	2.4	2.4	2.4
Mar	34.0	37.1	37.1	37.1	31.5	31.5	31.5	9.0	9.0	9.1
Apr	38.4	41.9	41.8	41.8	28.4	28.4	28.4	9.2	9.0	8.8
May	32.9	40.3	40.3	40.2	39.1	39.1	39.0	22.7	22.6	22.4
Jun	30.6	37.5	37.4	37.4	38.6	38.5	38.4	22.7	22.5	22.3
Jul	29.0	36.5	36.3	36.2	41.9	41.7	41.5	25.5	25.0	24.5
Aug	30.7	39.1	39.0	38.7	45.5	45.3	45.0	27.3	26.8	26.2
Sep	30.0	34.8	34.6	34.4	40.0	39.9	39.6	16.0	15.5	14.8
Oct	30.2	32.6	32.3	32.2	37.7	37.8	37.8	8.0	6.8	6.7
Nov	25.0	29.3	29.2	29.2	43.3	43.2	43.2	17.2	16.8	16.7
Dec	24.0	24.4	24.4	24.4	35.3	35.3	35.3	1.8	1.8	1.8

Symbols key: <sup>†</sup>AQS: Air Quality System; <sup>‡</sup>Normalized Mean Error; <sup>★</sup>Normalized Mean Bias; <sup>†</sup>Statistical d-s; <sup>‡</sup>Dynamical d-s; \*NEI Benchmark.

**Table S2. Model performance statistics for monthly-averaged total PM<sub>2.5</sub> vs. IMPROVE<sup>†</sup> observations**

Month	Total PM <sub>2.5</sub> ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )				NME <sup>‡</sup> (%)			NMB <sup>★</sup> (%)		
	IMPROVE	Stat. d-s <sup>†</sup>	Dyn. d-s <sup>‡</sup>	NEI Bmrk*	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk*	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk
Jan	7.0	11.5	11.5	11.5	75.9	75.9	75.9	65.1	65.1	65.1
Feb	8.4	13.7	13.7	13.7	71.7	71.7	71.7	63.1	63.1	63.1
Mar	7.2	10.8	10.8	10.8	64.7	64.8	64.7	50.0	49.9	49.9
Apr	8.5	9.3	9.1	9.0	43.4	42.2	41.7	9.2	6.6	5.3
May	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.1	47.5	47.1	46.0	-3.0	-4.9	-7.3
Jun	8.8	7.1	7.0	6.8	36.9	36.5	37.9	-19.8	-20.8	-23.4
Jul	9.8	8.2	7.5	7.6	41.2	40.0	40.2	-16.3	-23.7	-22.6
Aug	9.5	9.0	8.5	8.2	41.0	39.7	38.6	-5.2	-10.1	-13.3
Sep	7.6	9.9	9.5	8.7	61.6	57.2	48.8	30.6	24.8	15.2
Oct	6.9	10.8	10.2	10.1	69.0	63.0	61.1	56.2	47.9	45.7
Nov	6.5	10.9	10.5	10.5	79.4	78.3	74.9	67.3	64.4	61.6
Dec	8.0	10.9	11.3	10.9	46.6	45.7	46.6	36.4	35.5	36.4

Symbols key: <sup>†</sup>Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments network; <sup>‡</sup>Normalized Mean Error; <sup>★</sup>Normalized Mean Bias; <sup>†</sup>Statistical d-s; <sup>‡</sup>Dynamical d-s; \*NEI Benchmark.

**Table S3.** Model performance statistics for monthly-averaged sulfate (SO<sub>4</sub>) vs. IMPROVE<sup>†</sup> observations

Month	SO <sub>4</sub> (μg m <sup>-3</sup> )				NME <sup>‡</sup> (%)			NMB <sup>‡</sup> (%)		
	IMPROVE	Stat. d-s <sup>†</sup>	Dyn. d-s <sup>‡</sup>	NEI Bmrk*	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk
Jan	1.7	2.4	2.4	2.4	53.6	53.6	53.6	37.6	37.6	37.6
Feb	2.4	2.9	2.9	2.9	45.7	45.7	45.7	22.8	22.8	22.8
Mar	2.0	3.5	3.5	3.6	83.7	83.7	83.9	77.2	77.2	77.3
Apr	2.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	89.4	89.3	89.2	81.8	81.5	81.4
May	2.4	3.9	3.9	3.9	77.1	76.9	76.6	63.3	63.1	62.6
Jun	2.6	3.9	3.9	3.9	56.6	58.3	56.3	47.9	49.2	47.4
Jul	2.9	4.5	4.4	4.5	66.0	61.9	65.8	56.4	51.4	56.1
Aug	3.0	4.9	4.8	4.9	72.6	72.4	70.6	61.0	60.6	58.9
Sep	2.1	4.4	4.4	4.4	113.0	113.0	113.0	107.0	107.0	107.0
Oct	1.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	126.0	126.0	125.0	123.0	122.0	122.0
Nov	1.5	3.1	3.1	3.1	116.0	116.0	115.0	107.0	107.0	106.0
Dec	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	38.7	38.3	38.7	-1.4	0.6	-1.4

Symbols key: <sup>†</sup>Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments network; <sup>‡</sup>Normalized Mean Error; \*Normalized Mean Bias; <sup>†</sup>Statistical d-s; <sup>‡</sup>Dynamical d-s; \*NEI Benchmark.

**Table S4. Model performance statistics for monthly-averaged ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub>) vs. IMPROVE<sup>†</sup> observations**

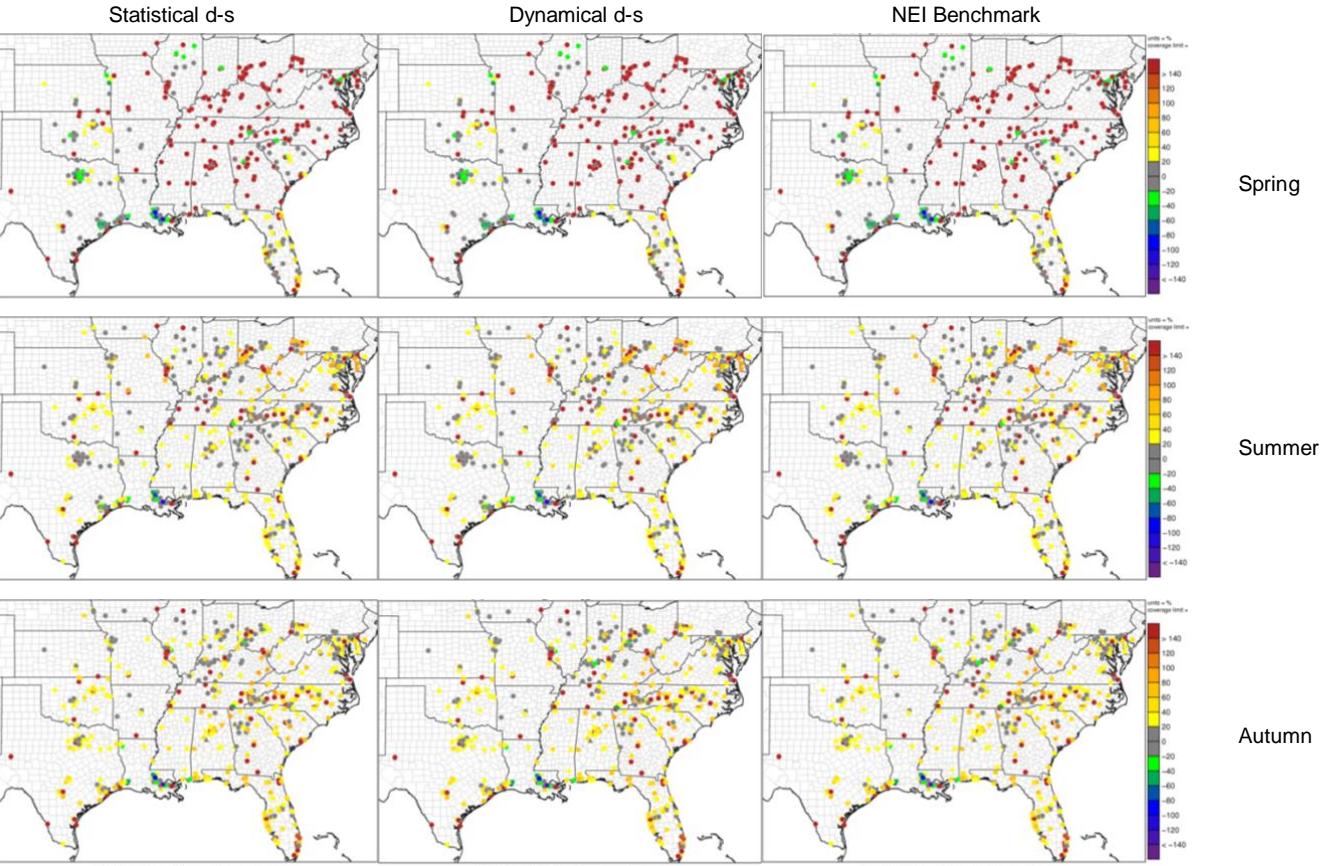
Month	NH <sub>4</sub> ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )				NME <sup>‡</sup> (%)			NMB <sup>§</sup> (%)		
	IMPROVE	Stat. d-s <sup>†</sup>	Dyn. d-s <sup>‡</sup>	NEI Bmrk*	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk
Jan	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	40.4	40.4	40.4	8.6	8.6	8.6
Feb	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.0	44.8	44.8	44.8	25.6	25.6	25.6
Mar	1.1	1.7	1.7	1.7	68.0	68.0	68.1	53.7	53.7	53.7
Apr	1.0	1.5	1.4	1.4	67.7	67.0	66.3	42.2	41.1	40.4
May	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	57.0	56.6	56.2	7.4	6.6	5.5
Jun	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	47.1	48.0	47.2	7.4	8.0	6.4
Jul	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	49.7	45.7	48.9	15.0	7.8	11.7
Aug	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	54.7	54.6	53.5	9.3	8.0	7.3
Sep	0.9	1.3	1.3	1.2	75.0	73.3	69.1	48.7	46.8	42.2
Oct	0.7	1.3	1.3	1.3	93.8	92.2	91.8	80.0	78.2	77.6
Nov	0.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	97.4	97.2	95.8	81.2	79.4	79.4
Dec	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	31.7	31.5	31.7	-16.2	-16.8	-16.2

Symbols key: <sup>†</sup>Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments network; <sup>‡</sup>Normalized Mean Error; <sup>§</sup>Normalized Mean Bias; <sup>†</sup>Statistical d-s; <sup>‡</sup>Dynamical d-s; \*NEI Benchmark.

**Table S5. Model performance statistics for monthly-averaged nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3$ ) vs. IMPROVE<sup>†</sup> observations**

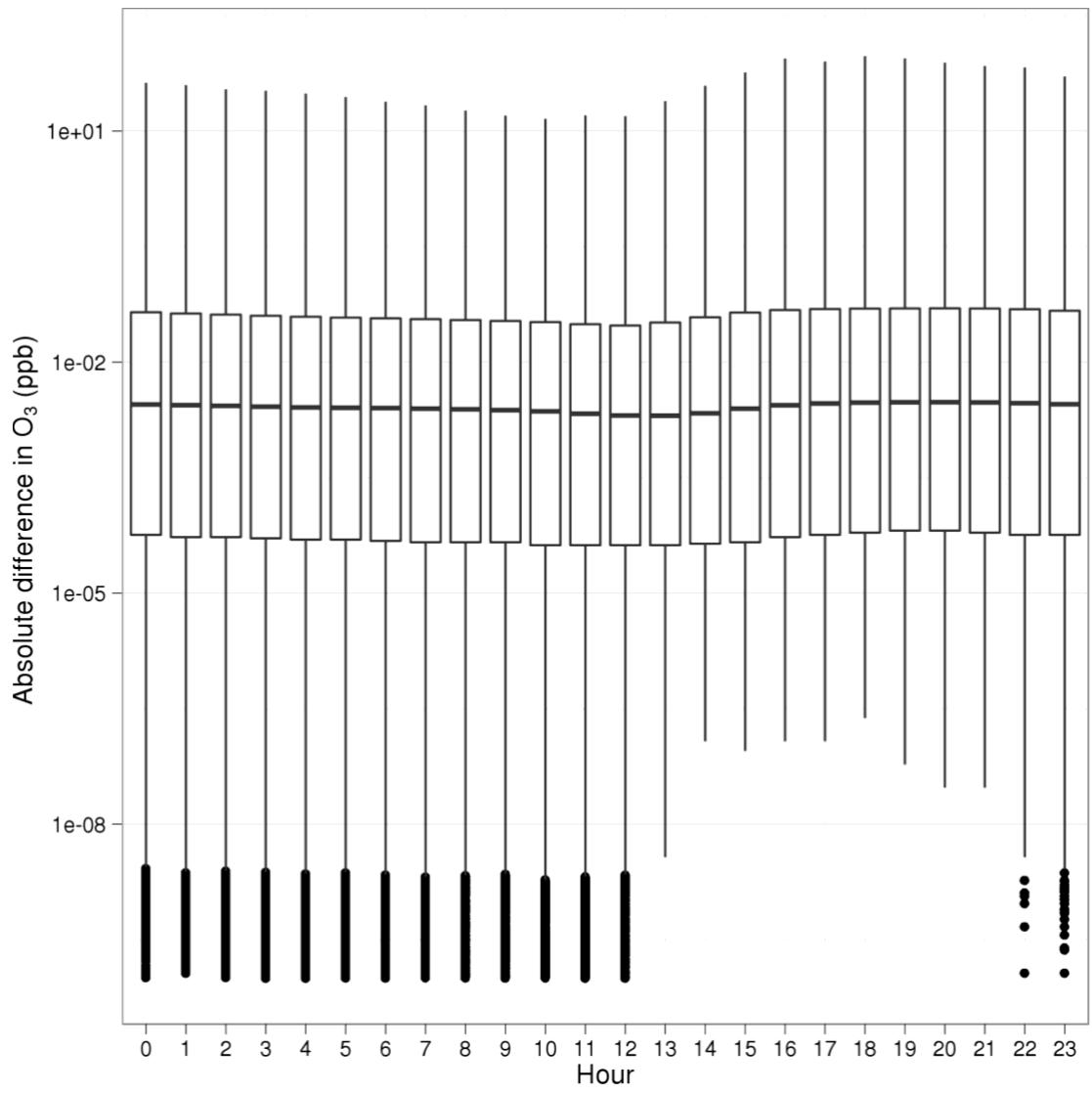
Month	$\text{NO}_3$ ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )				NME <sup>‡</sup> (%)			NMB <sup>§</sup> (%)		
	IMPROVE	Stat. d-s <sup>†</sup>	Dyn. d-s <sup>‡</sup>	NEI Bmrk <sup>*</sup>	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk	Stat. d-s	Dyn. d-s	NEI Bmrk
Jan	1.8	2.4	2.4	2.4	77.4	77.4	77.4	36.2	36.2	36.2
Feb	2.3	3.9	3.9	3.9	87.8	87.8	87.8	68.2	68.2	68.2
Mar	1.2	2.4	2.4	2.4	132.0	132.0	132.0	109.0	109.0	109.0
Apr	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	134.0	132.0	130.0	66.1	63.0	61.1
May	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	123.0	121.0	118.0	35.0	32.2	28.7
Jun	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	140.0	141.0	139.0	44.9	41.3	41.6
Jul	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	168.0	146.0	164.0	59.5	31.7	52.2
Aug	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	207.0	200.0	198.0	110.0	102.0	95.3
Sep	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.5	238.0	232.0	216.0	154.0	146.0	128.0
Oct	0.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	278.0	270.0	267.0	234.0	223.0	220.0
Nov	0.8	2.0	2.0	2.0	189.0	182.0	185.0	165.0	157.0	160.0
Dec	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.2	55.5	52.6	55.5	18.4	14.2	18.4

Symbols key: <sup>†</sup>Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments network; <sup>‡</sup>Normalized Mean Error; <sup>§</sup>Normalized Mean Bias; <sup>†</sup>Statistical d-s; <sup>‡</sup>Dynamical d-s; <sup>\*</sup>NEI Benchmark.

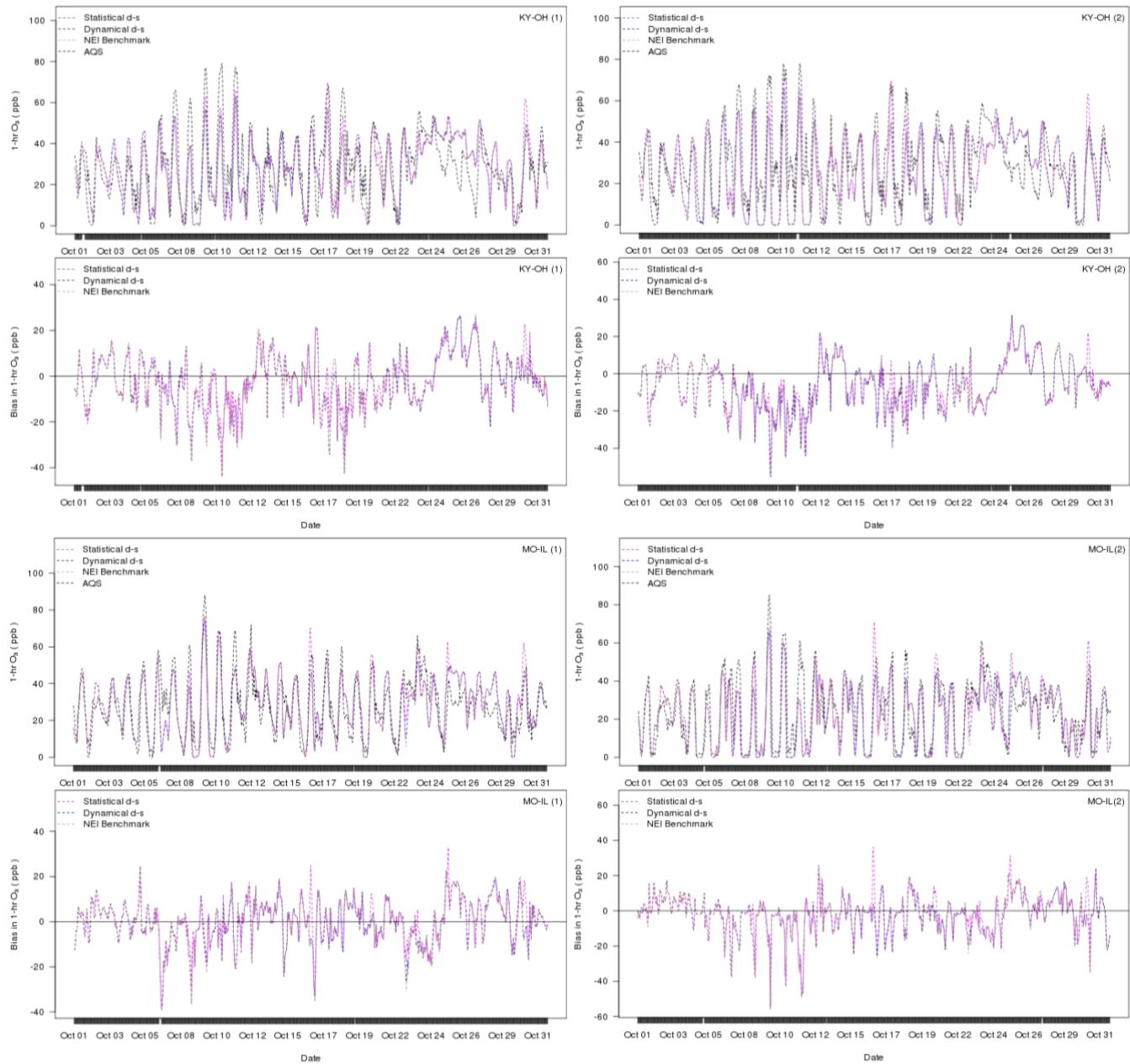


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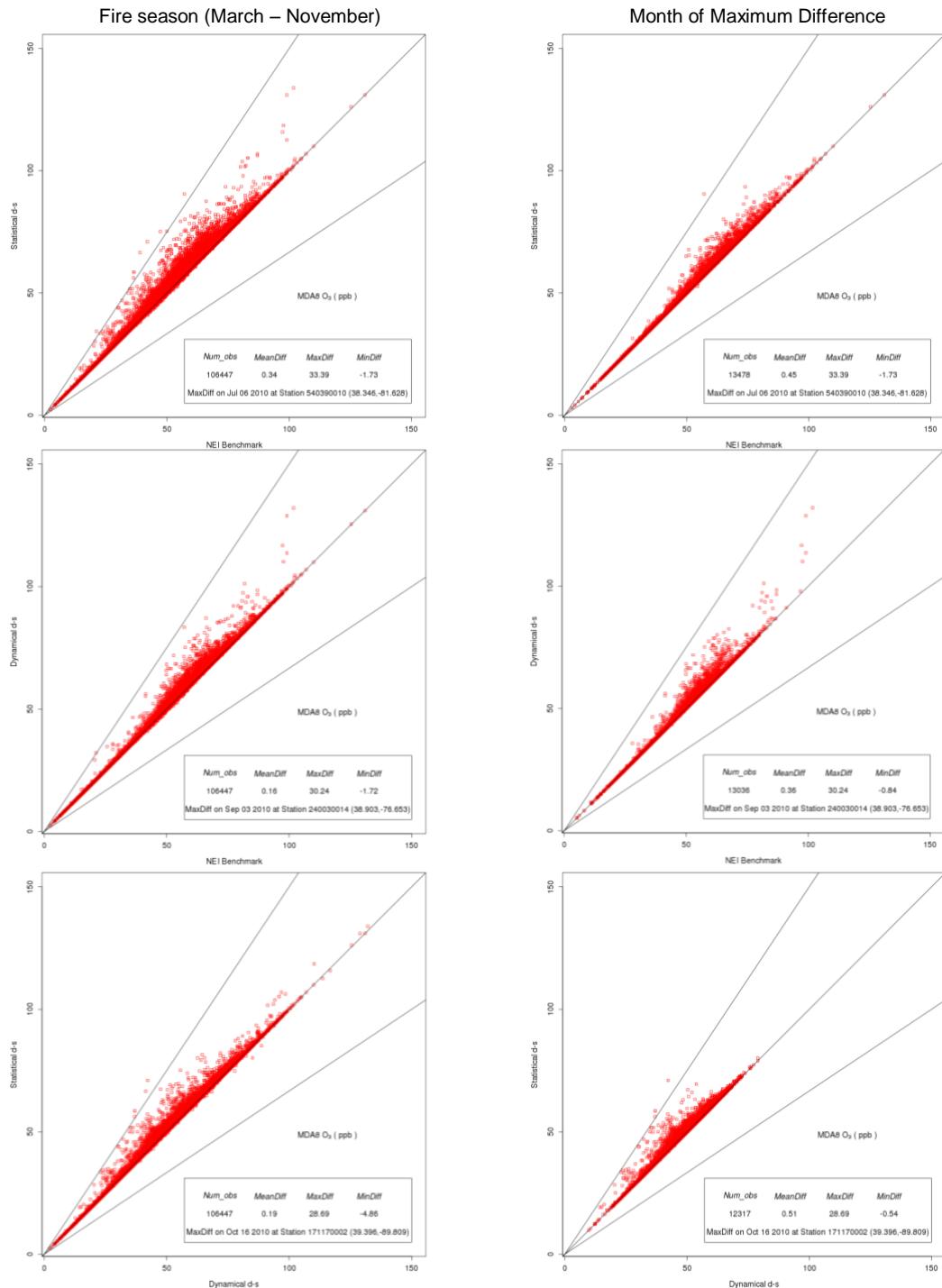
**Figure S1. Spatial distribution of hourly ozone Mean Fractional Bias with respect to AQS and SEARCH measurements in each season for each modeled case.**



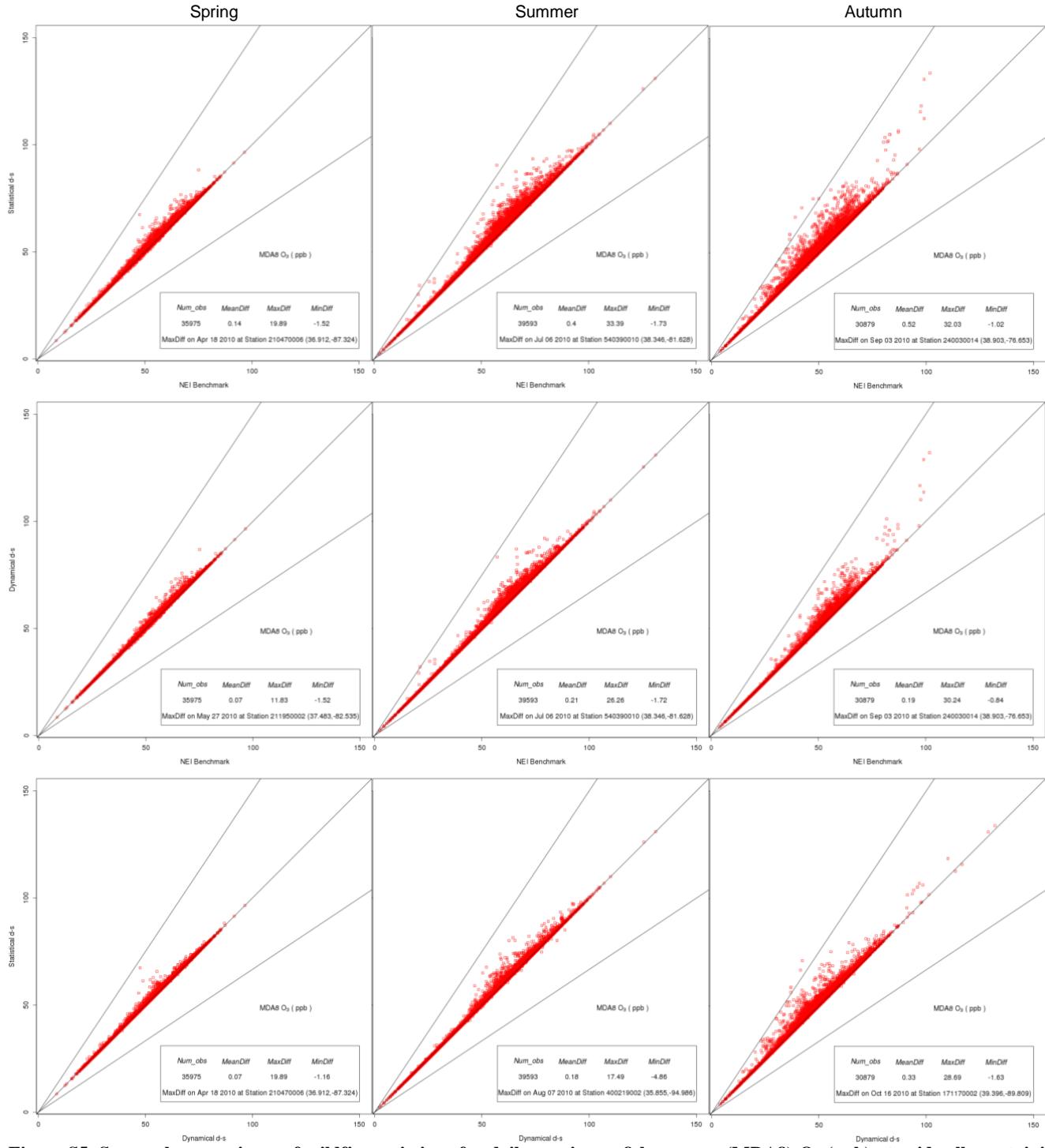
**Figure S2. Absolute difference between the statistical d-s and dynamical d-s cases in 1-h O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios (ppb) from Hour 0 - 23 (local standard time) for the 2010 fire season (March 1 – November 30) over the whole domain (level 1).**



5 **Figure S3. 1-h ozone mixing ratios (ppb) and bias (ppb) relative to AQS observations at four sites in October 2010. UL – KY-OH (1): site 210590005, located on the KY-OH border; UR – KY-OH (2): site 210910012, located on the KY-OH border; LL – MO-IL (1): site 291831002 located on the MO-IL border; LR – MO-IL (2): site 295100085 located on the MO-IL border.**

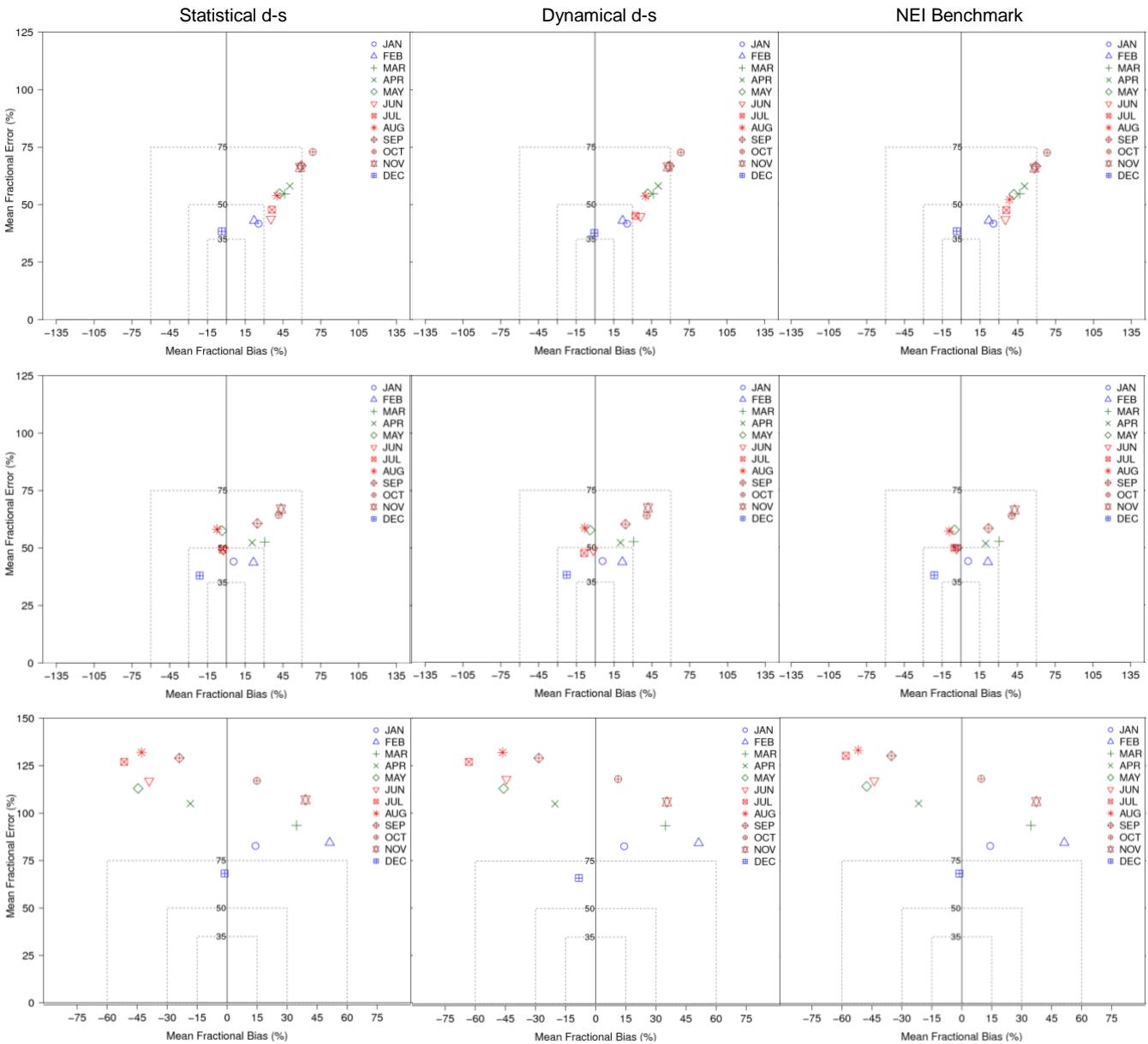


5 **Figure S4. Comparisons of wildfire emissions methods for daily maximum 8-h average (MDA8) O<sub>3</sub> (ppb) predicted at grid cells containing Air Quality System (AQS) monitors and wildfires in 2010. Right: top – July; middle – September; bottom – October.**

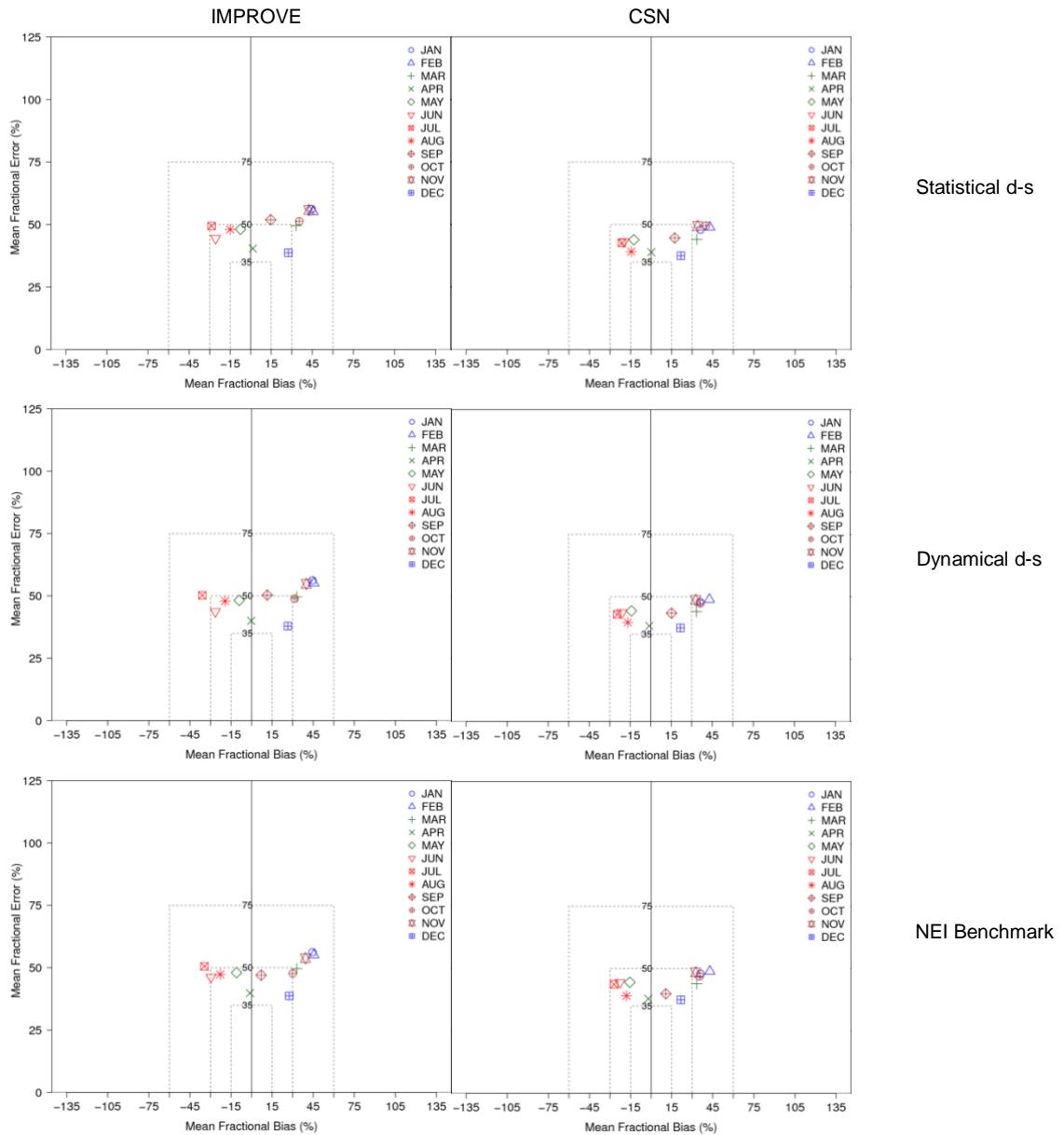


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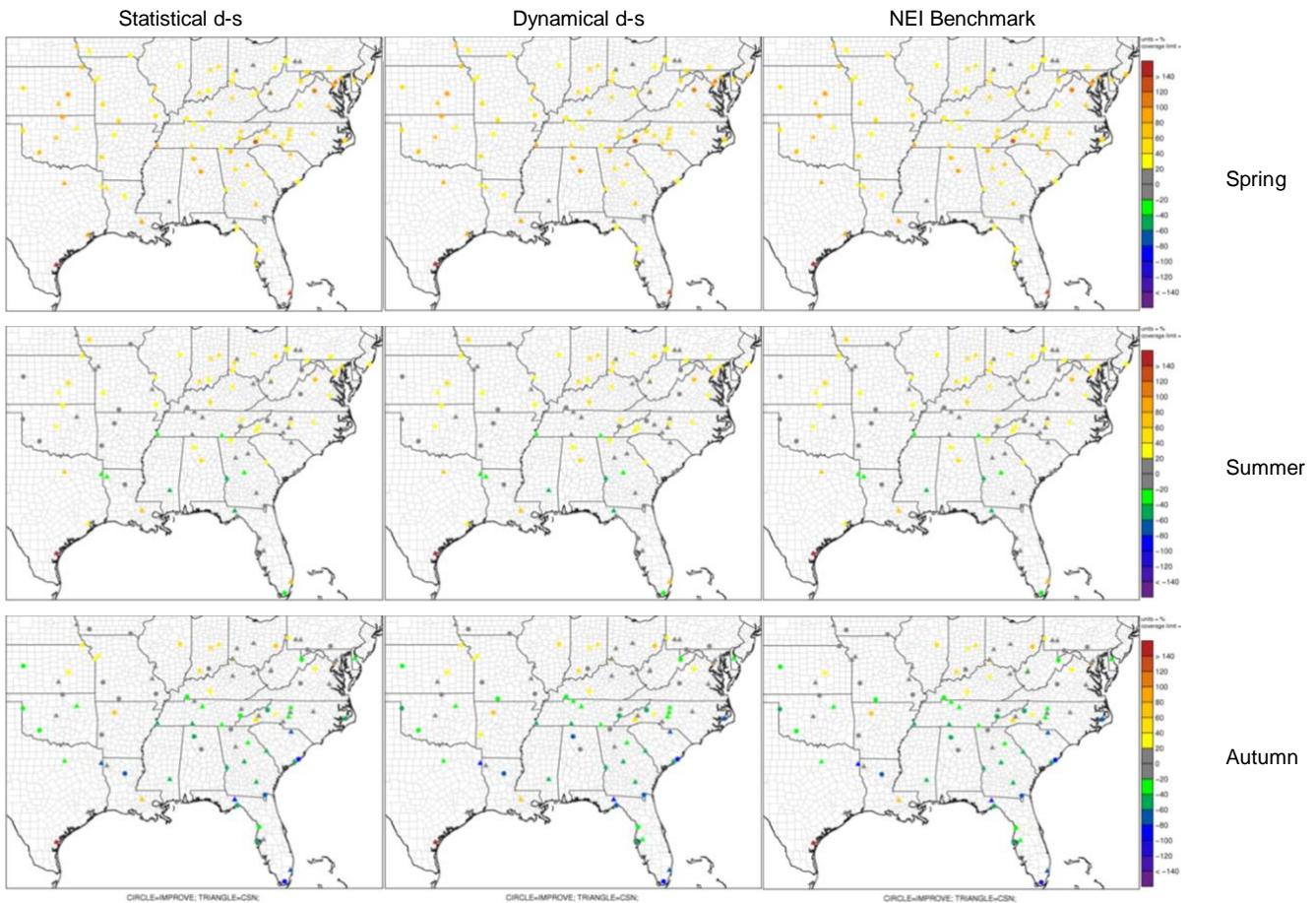
**Figure S5. Seasonal comparisons of wildfire emissions for daily maximum 8-h average (MDA8)  $O_3$  (ppb) at grid cells containing both Air Quality System (AQS) monitors and wildfires in 2010.**



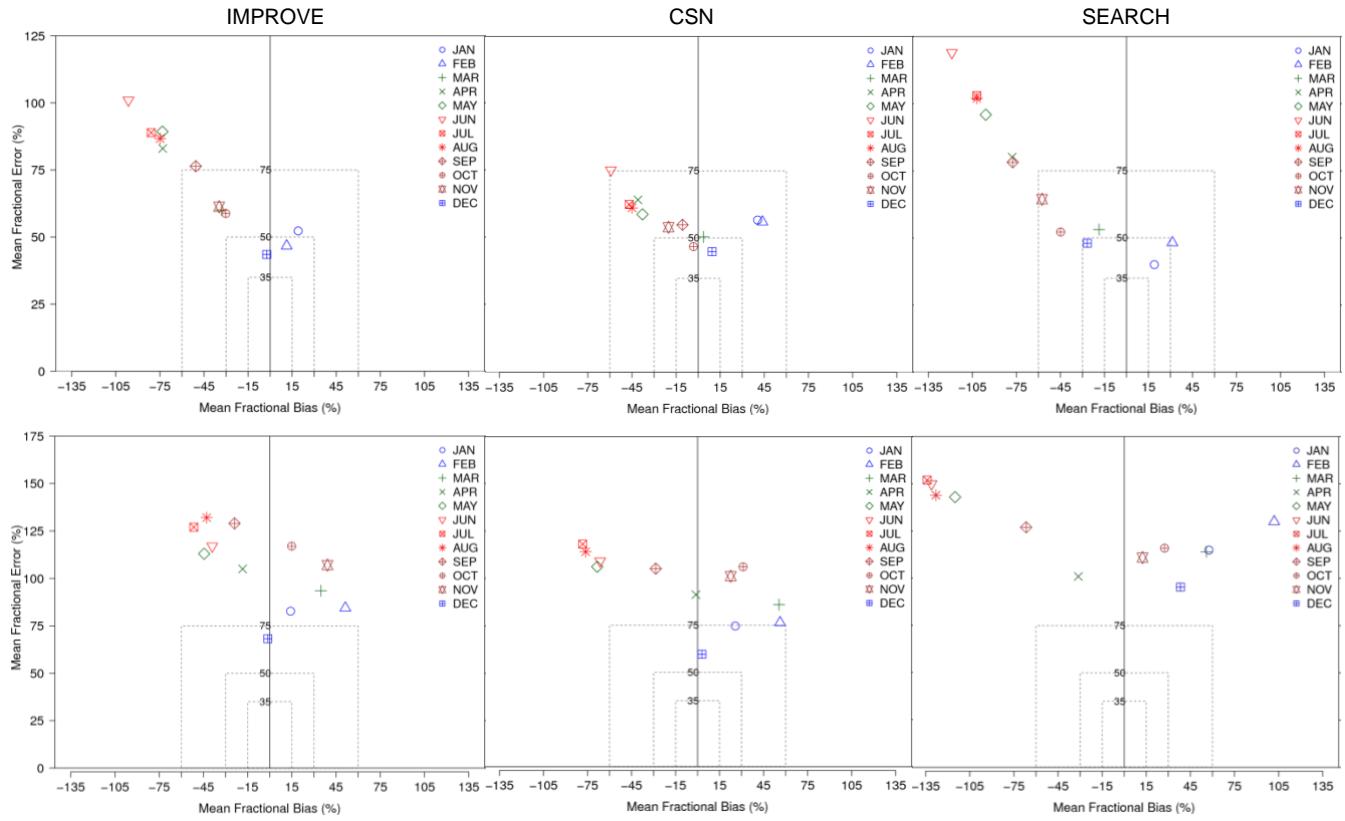
**Figure S6. Monthly-averaged model performance for inorganic PM constituents. Mean fractional error (%) vs. mean fractional bias (%) relative to observations from the IMPROVE monitoring network for:** Top row: sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4$ ); middle row: ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4$ ); bottom row: nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3$ ).



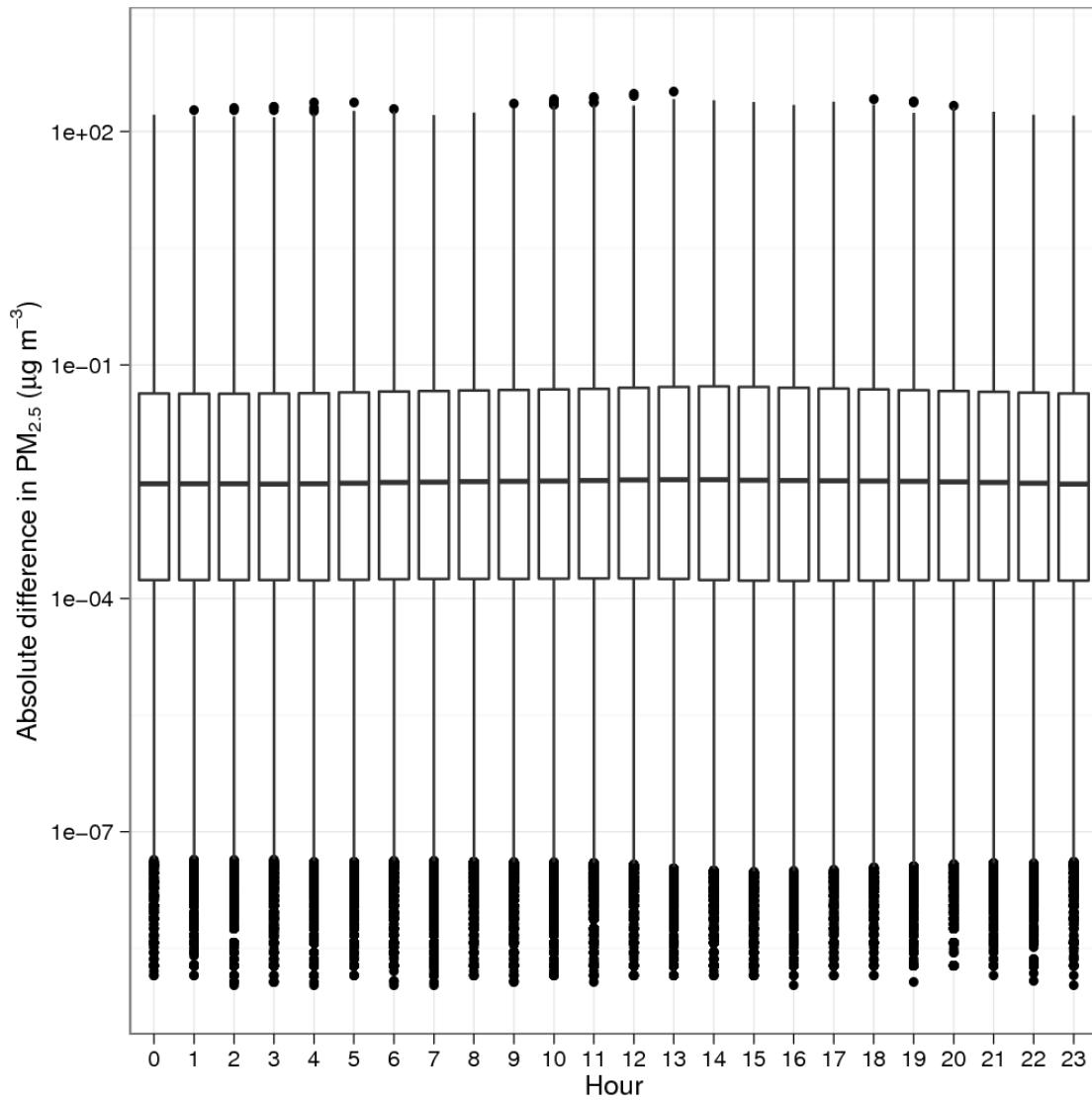
**Figure S7.** Monthly-averaged model performance comparisons for total PM<sub>2.5</sub> between the IMPROVE and CSN monitoring networks.



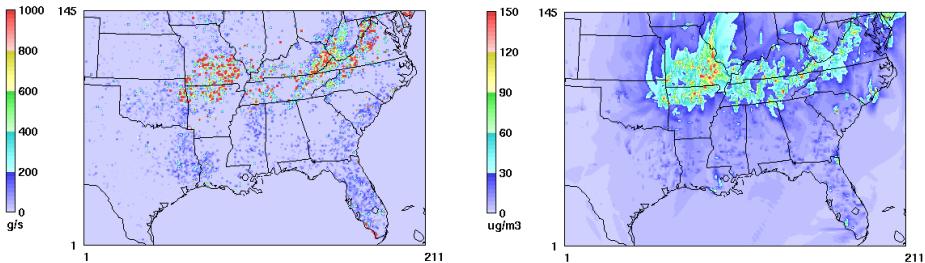
**Figure S8.** Spatial distribution of total PM<sub>2.5</sub> Mean Fractional Bias with respect to IMPROVE and CSN measurements in each season for each modeled case.



5 **Figure S9. Monthly-averaged model performance comparisons for PM constituents from statistical d-s against multiple monitoring networks. Mean fractional error (%) vs. mean fractional bias (%) relative to observations. Top row: organic carbon (OC); bottom row: nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3$ ).**



**Figure S10.** Absolute difference between the statistical d-s and dynamical d-s cases in in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) from Hour 0 - 23 (local standard time) for the 2010 fire season (March 1 – November 30) over the whole domain (level 1).



**Figure S11. Maximum absolute difference between statistical d-s and dynamical d-s in each grid cell over the fire season in:**  
**L – hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> column emissions (g/s), and R – hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) in model layer 1.** Here the fire season is  
5 defined as April 23 – November 30; almost all grid cell maxima in absolute hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration differences occurred in this time period.