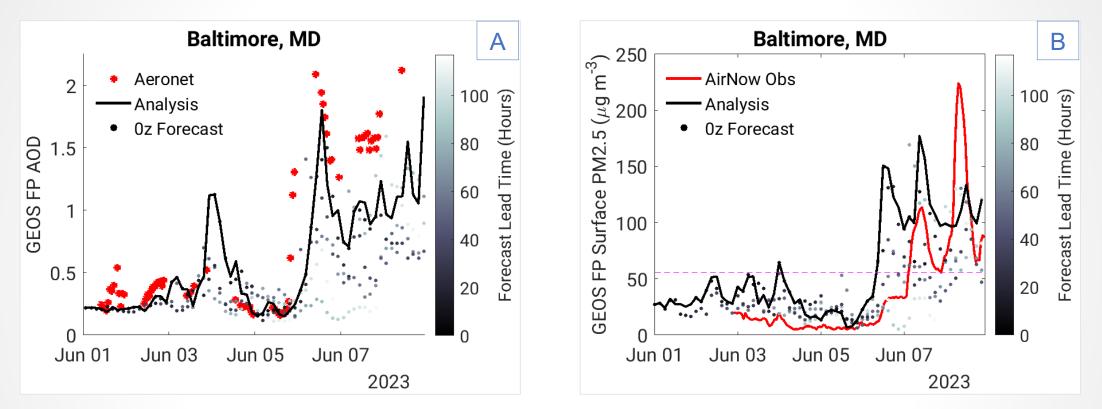
National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NASA

Exceptional Wildfire Smoke Across Canada Inundates the Northeastern United States



Warm and dry conditions throughout boreal Canada in early spring of 2023 led to enhanced fire weather conditions and an early start to the biomass burning season. On May 5, 2023, a cluster of wildfires ignited in Alberta, Canada. Accumulated carbon monoxide (CO) emissions across Canada for 2023 are roughly quadruple the prior maximum from the previous 20 years. The figures above show observed (A) aerosol optical depth from AERONET and (B) surface PM2.5 from AirNow as well as the analysis and forecasts from GEOS FP for the period of June 1, 2023, through June 9, 2023. Forecast points are colored based on time since the forecast initialization. The dashed pink line in (b) is the level of PM2.5 considered unhealthly for the general population.



