

# Tropospheric Ozone and Air Quality

## AOSC / CHEM 433 & AOSC 633

Ross Salawitch & Walt Tribett

**Class Web Site:** <http://www.atmos.umd.edu/~rjs/class/spr2019>

**Today:**

- Tropospheric ozone production mechanism (CO, NO<sub>x</sub>, and VOCs)
- Recent improvements of air quality
- Coupling of meteorology, and perhaps climate change, to air quality

## Lecture 12

### 26 March 2019

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## Student Projects

- **Mandatory for 633 students:** project grade will count towards final grade in an amount equal to each exam
- **Optional for 433 students:** can use project grade to either replace a single problem set grade: advisable for anyone who failed to turn in a problem set or would otherwise like to replace the grade on a problem set
- Due Friday, 10 May 2019... you're welcome to complete sooner
- ~6 to 8 pages single spaced (not including reference list or figures) on a topic related to class (your choice ...we're happy to discuss potential topics)
- Must be new work for this class but can be related to your dissertation or some other topic in which you've had prior interest
- ~12 min project presentations at TBD time on 10 May: everyone welcome to attend
- Request all students who will complete a project to provide a **2 to 3 sentence description 2 weeks** from today: **Tues, 9 April 2019**  
Please use next **2 weeks** to speak to me about a project topic
- Delighted to provide feedback on your project (paper & presentation) if given the opportunity

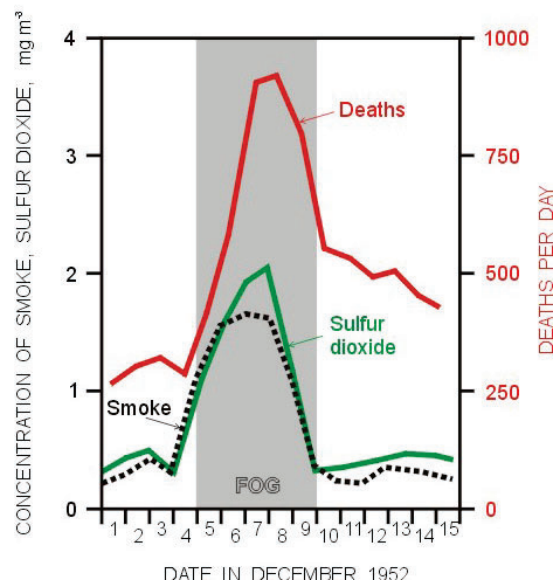
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## Why do we care ?

Many thousands of deaths attributed to London Smog of 1952:



<http://www.ems.psu.edu/~lno/Meteo437/Smoglond.jpg>

<http://www.nickelinthemachine.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/smog-d.jpg>

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## Why do we care ?

Today, epidemiologists relate many thousands of deaths (annually) to air pollution

**Table 2.** Decreases in ozone (the population-weighted annual average 8-h daily maximum) and premature mortalities when European emissions are removed, for eight NH regions.

Region <sup>a</sup>	Pop. (millions)	$\Delta O_3$ (ppbv)	Premature mortalities (/yr)
Europe	688.9	6.0	18,800
Northern Africa	626.4	4.1	10 700
Near/Middle East <sup>b</sup>	408.6	7.0	8400
Former Soviet Union <sup>c</sup>	98.7	4.5	1700
South Asia <sup>d</sup>	1267.1	0.8	3800
East Asia <sup>e</sup>	1518.5	1.4	5800
Southeast Asia <sup>f</sup>	361.9	0.4	300
America	578.7	0.9	1400
Total Northern Hemisphere	5548.8	2.5	51 000

<sup>a</sup> Regions are defined in only the Northern Hemisphere.

<sup>b</sup> Turkey, Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, countries on the Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

<sup>c</sup> East of 60° E; west of 60° E and north of 44° N is considered part of the "Europe" region.

<sup>d</sup> India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Bhutan.

<sup>e</sup> Japan, Mongolia, China, Taiwan, North Korea, and South Korea.

<sup>f</sup> Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Singapore, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei, and the Northern Hemisphere portion of Indonesia.

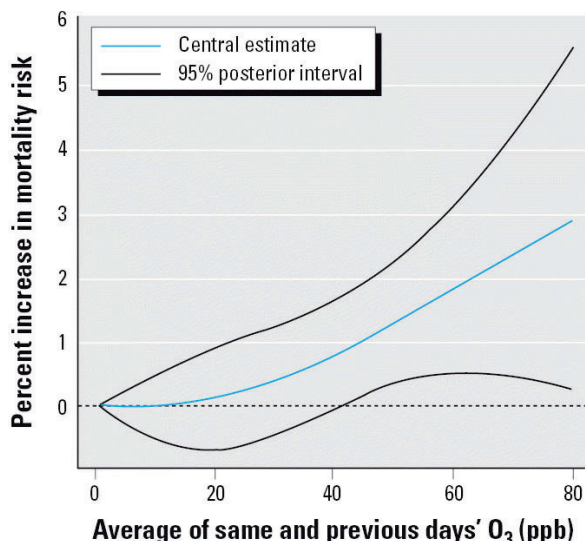
Duncan *et al.*, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 2008

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# Air Quality Standards and Why We Care



Increased risk of premature mortality at even low levels of surface O<sub>3</sub>  
Reductions in surface O<sub>3</sub> will benefit public health regardless of present conditions

Bell et al., 2006

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/ppmc/articles/PMC1440776>

Year	Averaging Period	EPA Surface Ozone Standard
1979	1 hr	125 ppb
1997	8 hr	85 ppb
2008	8 hr	75 ppb
2015 <sup>#</sup>	8 hr *	70 ppb

\* The 8 hr standard is met when the 3-yr average of the annual 4<sup>th</sup> highest daily maximum 8 hr O<sub>3</sub> is less than 70 ppb

<sup>#</sup> On October 1, 2015 the EPA lowered the NAAQS for ground-level ozone to 70 ppb, based on extensive scientific evidence about the harmful effects of tropospheric ozone

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## Why do we care ?

**(CNN)** — Many premature deaths around the globe are due to air pollution, which can cause heart, lung and other diseases. New research suggests that a rapid reduction in air pollution emissions would save millions of lives.

Worldwide, 3.61 million people are dying each year due to outdoor pollution caused by fossil fuels, an international team of researchers estimates. Fossil fuels, including coal, oil and natural gas, are responsible for about 78% of global greenhouse gas emissions, according to the US Environmental Protection Agency (and about 76% of US greenhouse gas emissions).

An additional 1.94 million premature deaths occur as a result of air pollution from other sources, including residential energy use and agricultural activities, according to the authors.

Beyond the direct health benefits, rapidly decreasing fossil fuel emissions would increase rainfall in drought-prone regions and boost food security, they say.

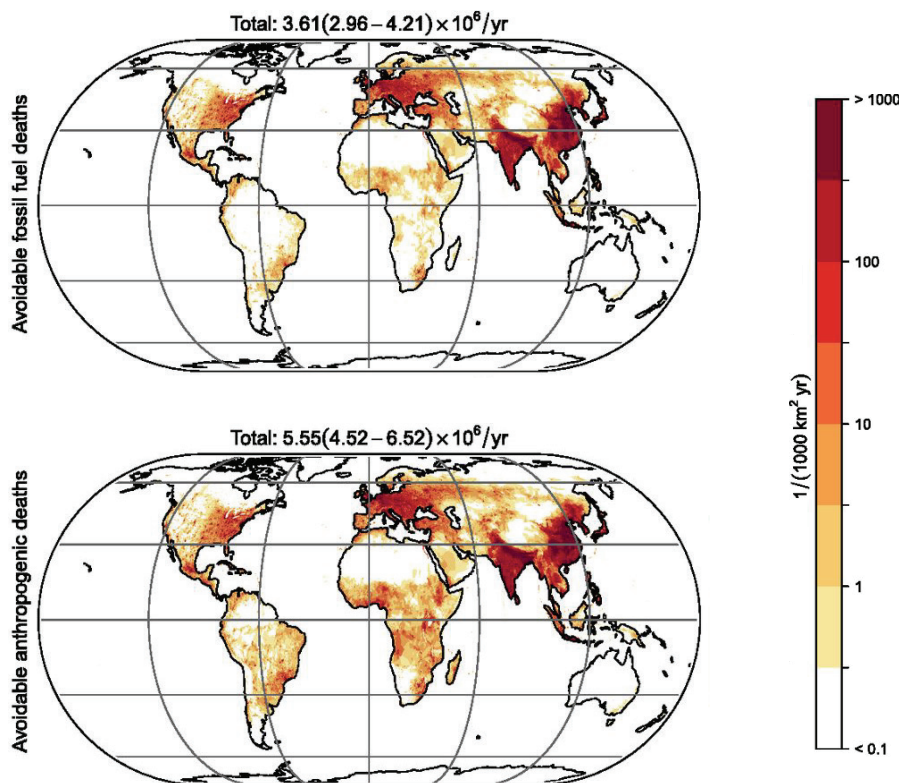
<https://www.cnn.com/2019/03/25/health/air-pollution-emissions-study/index.html>

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# Why do we care ?



<https://www.pnas.org/content/early/2019/03/19/1819989116>

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## Tropospheric Pollutants (The Air We Breathe)

### Criteria Pollutants

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U.S. NAAQS frequently updated

<http://www.epa.gov/air/criteria.html>

Table 1.2 U.S. National Ambient Air Quality Standards		
Pollutant	Standard (ppm)	Approximate Equivalent Concentration (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
<b>Carbon monoxide</b>		
8-hr average	9	10,000
1-hr average	35	40,000
<b>Nitrogen dioxide</b>		
Annual average	0.053	100
<b>Ozone</b>		
8-hr average	0.075	147
1-hr average	0.12	235
<b>Particulates*</b>		
PM <sub>10</sub> , annual average	—	50
PM <sub>10</sub> , 24-hr average	—	150
PM <sub>2.5</sub> , annual average	—	15
PM <sub>2.5</sub> , 24-hr average†	—	35
<b>Sulfur dioxide</b>		
Annual average	0.03	80
24-hr average	0.14	365
3-hr average	0.50	1,300

\*PM<sub>10</sub> refers to all airborne particles 10 µm in diameter or less. PM<sub>2.5</sub> refers to particles 2.5 µm in diameter or less.

—The unit of ppm is not applicable to particulates.

†PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards are likely to be revised after 2011.

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Standards also exist for lead, but are not included here.

← 1 hr 100 ppb is primary standard, Feb 2010

← 8 hr 70 ppb is standard, Oct 2015

← No annual average standard, Dec 2012

← Lowered to 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, Dec 2012

← 1 hr, 75 ppb is primary standard, Jun 2010

### Chemistry in Context

Criteria pollutant: common-place and detrimental to human welfare

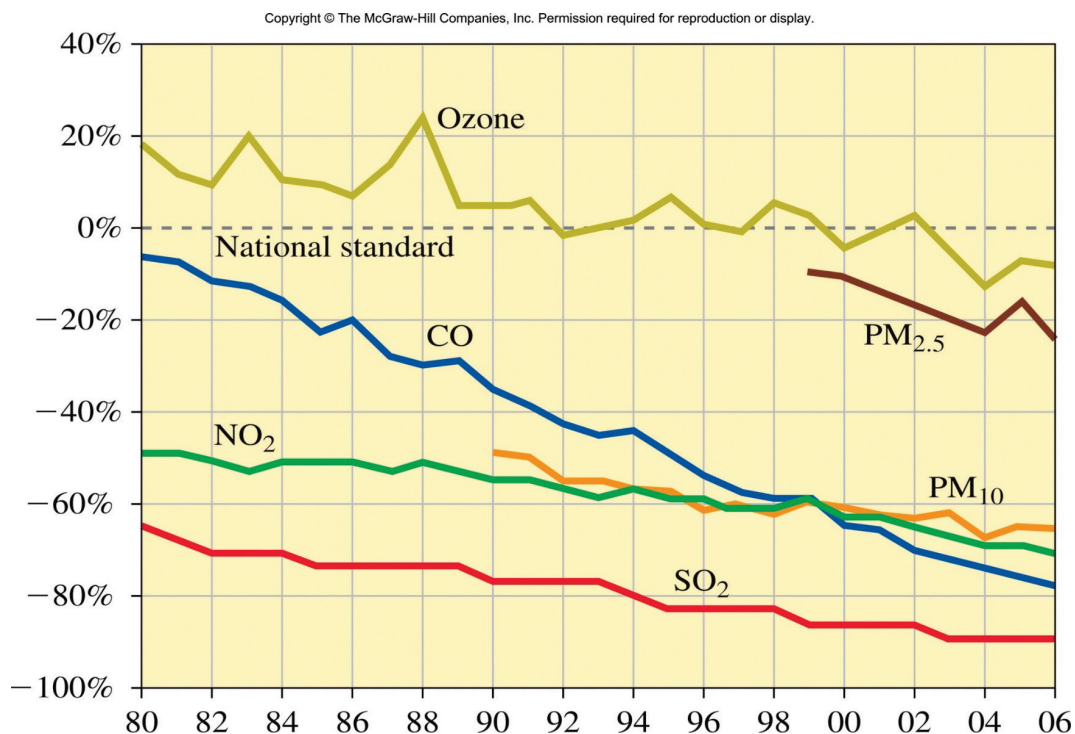
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# Significant Improvements in U.S. Air Quality, 1980 to 2006



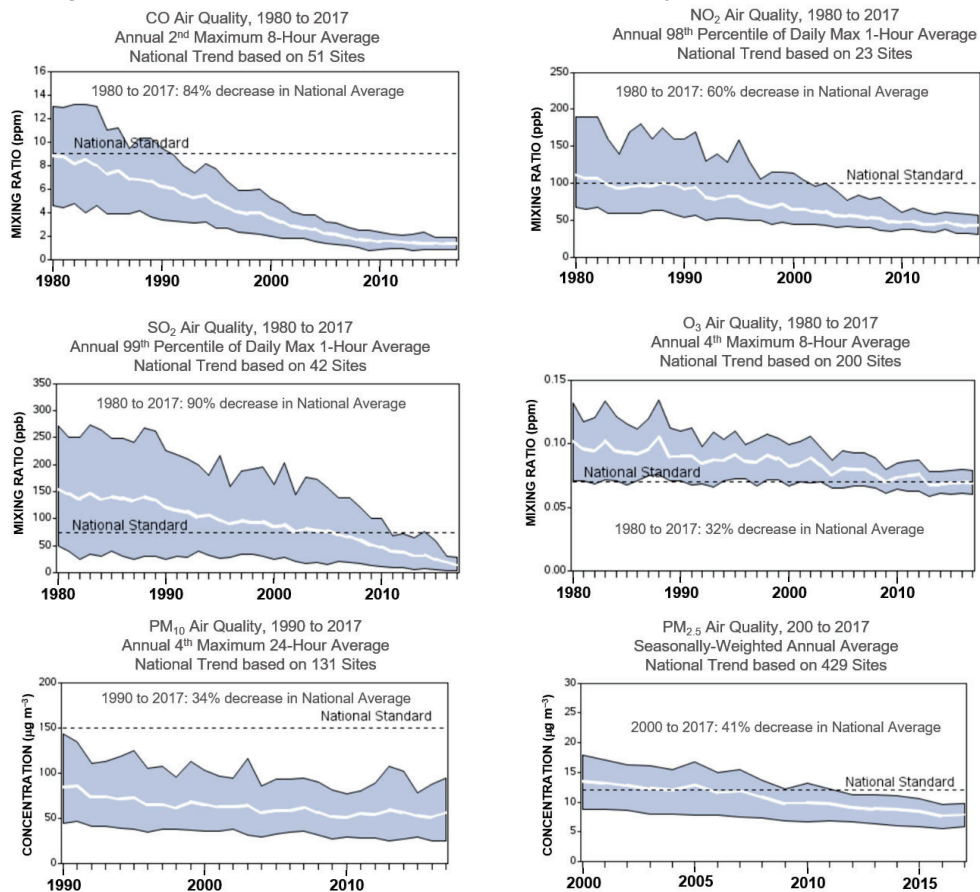
**Figure 1.8, Chemistry in Context**

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## Significant Improvements in U.S. Air Quality, Past 3.7 Decades



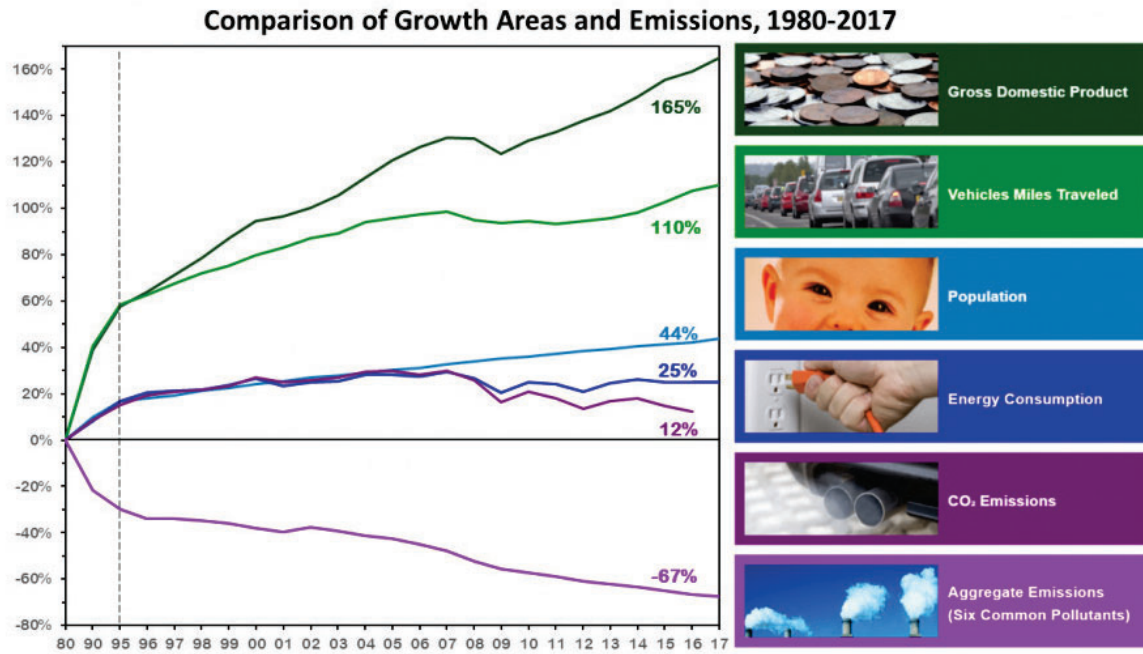
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<https://www.epa.gov/air-trends>

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## Significant Improvements in U.S. Air Quality, Past 3.7 Decades



<https://www.epa.gov/air-trends/air-quality-national-summary#air-quality-trends>

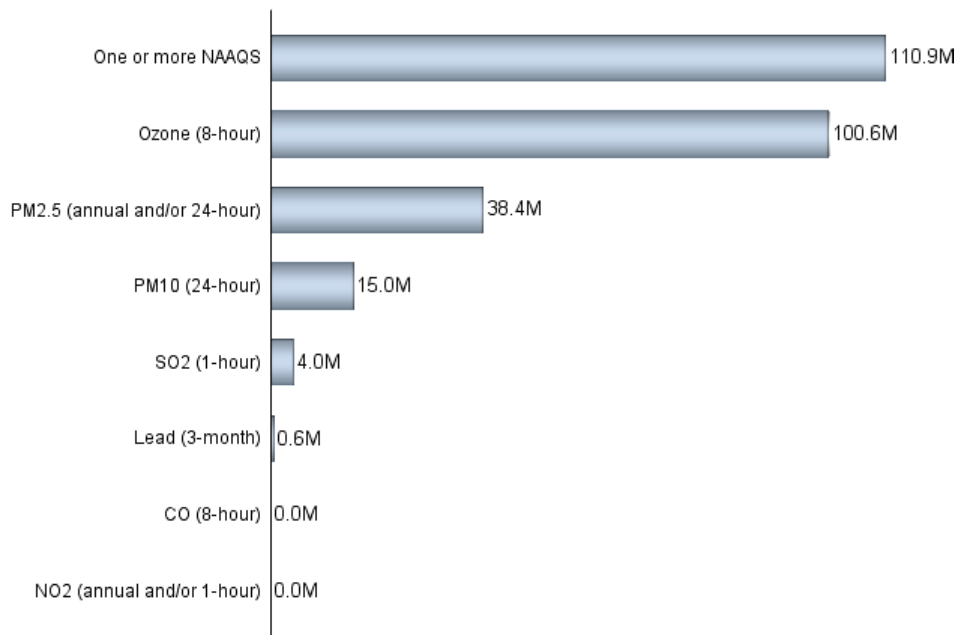
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## Alas, much of the Developing World still experiences poor Air Quality

**Number of People Living in Counties with Air Quality Concentrations Above the Level of the NAAQS in 2017**



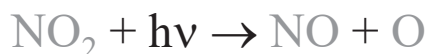
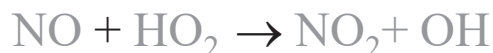
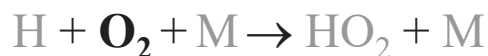
<https://www.epa.gov/air-trends/air-quality-national-summary#air-quality-trends>

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## Tropospheric Ozone Production



**NO & NO<sub>2</sub>: Emitted by fossil fuel combustion & biomass burning**



**CO: Emitted by fossil fuel combustion & biomass burning**

**Complete combustion:**



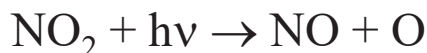
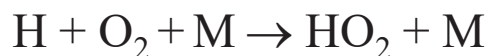
**Extreme, incomplete combustion:**



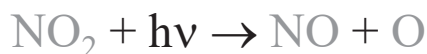
**OH & HO<sub>2</sub>: ????**

## Tropospheric Ozone Production

**Suppose NO is converted to NO<sub>2</sub> by reaction with O<sub>3</sub>:**



## Tropospheric Ozone Production

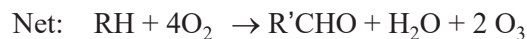
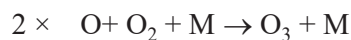
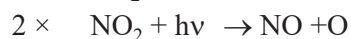
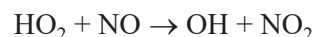
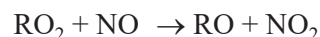
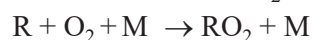
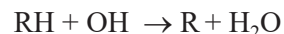
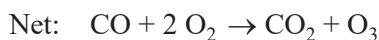
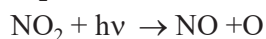
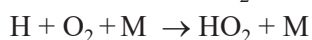
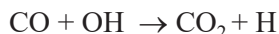


### Chain Mechanism for production of ozone

**Chemical Initiation:  $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}(^1\text{D}) \rightarrow 2\text{OH}$  & human emission of NO, CO**

**Since method for conversion of NO to  $\text{NO}_2$  is crucial for whether  $\text{O}_3$  is produced by this chain mechanism, chemists consider production of tropospheric ozone to be “limited” by  $k[\text{HO}_2][\text{NO}]$**

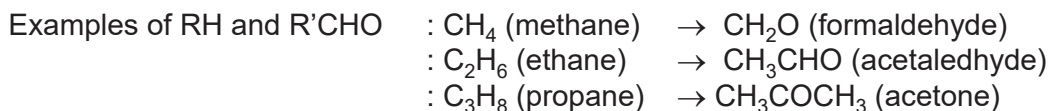
## Tropospheric Ozone Production



### VOC: Volatile Organic Compounds

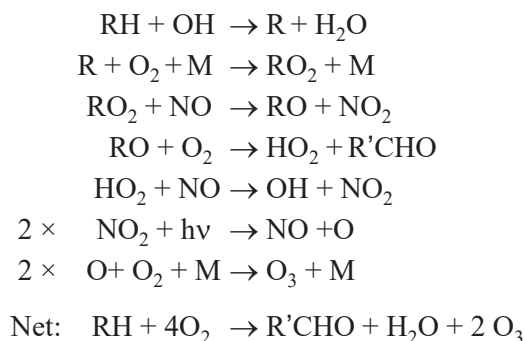
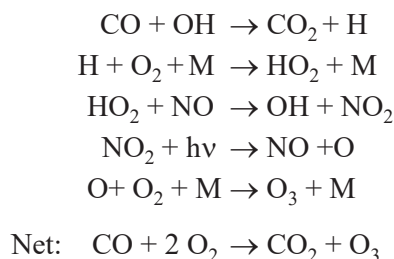
**Produced by trees and fossil fuel vapor**

**Strong source of  $\text{HO}_x$  ( $\text{OH}$  &  $\text{HO}_2$ ) &  $\text{O}_3$  (depending on  $\text{NO}_x$  levels)**



**Ozone Production “limited” by  $k[\text{HO}_2][\text{NO}] + \sum k_i [\text{RO}_2]_i [\text{NO}]$**

# Tropospheric Ozone Production



## Chain Mechanism for production of ozone

**Chemical Initiation:** Human emission of NO, CO and either human (RO<sub>2</sub>) or natural (HO<sub>2</sub>) hydrogen radicals

**Ozone production:**  $k[\text{HO}_2][\text{NO}]$

**Termination:** can occur via either:



or



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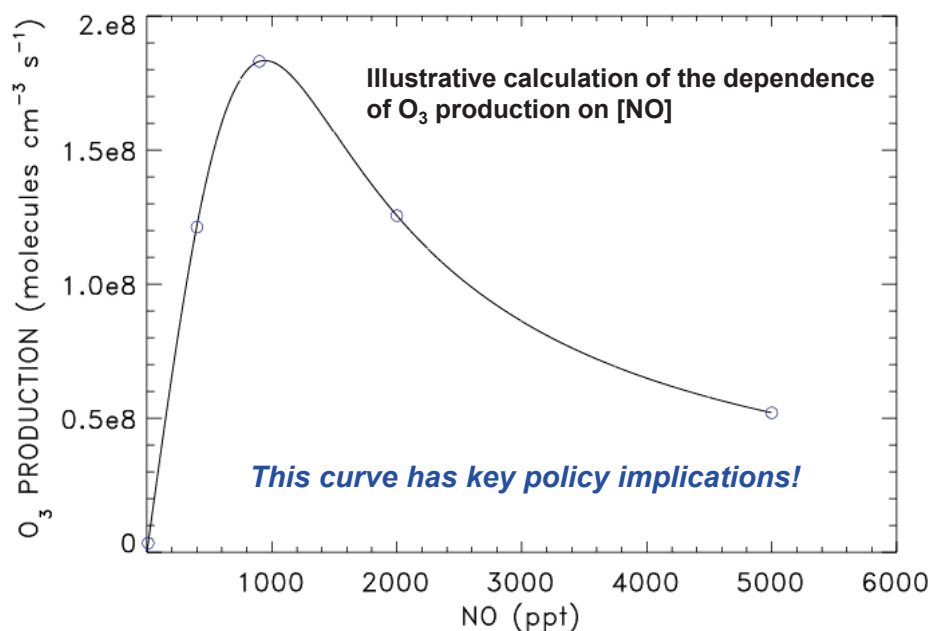
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## Tropospheric Ozone Production versus NO

**As NO<sub>x</sub> rises:**

**[HO<sub>2</sub>] falls faster than [NO] rises,**  
**leading to a decrease in the value of the product of  $k [\text{HO}_2] [\text{NO}]$ ,**  
**and hence the production rate of O<sub>3</sub>.**



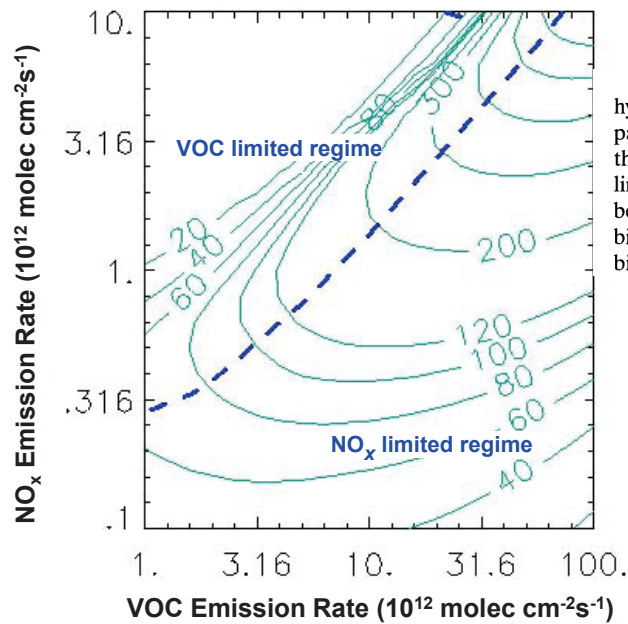
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# Tropospheric Ozone Production versus $\text{NO}_x$ and VOCs



An important discovery in the past decade is that the focus on hydrocarbon emission controls to combat  $\text{O}_3$  pollution may have been partly misdirected. Measurements and model calculations now show that  $\text{O}_3$  production over most of the United States is primarily  $\text{NO}_x$  limited, not hydrocarbon limited. The early models were in error in part because they underestimated emissions of hydrocarbons from automobiles, and in part because they did not account for natural emission of biogenic hydrocarbons from trees and crops.

Jacob, Chapter 12, Introduction to Atmospheric Chemistry, 1999

Figure: <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~sillman/ozone.htm>

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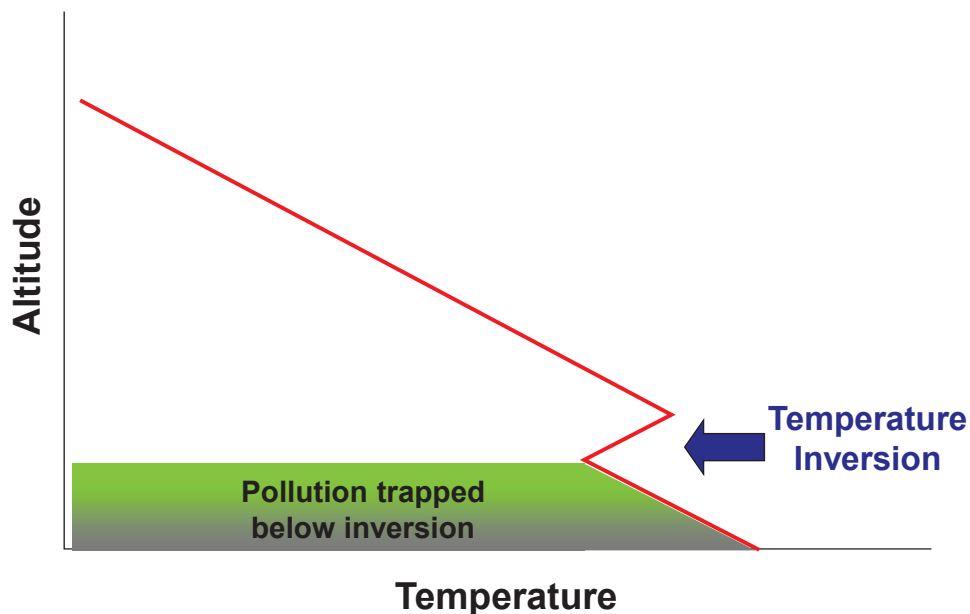
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## Temperature Inversions and Air Quality

**Temperature inversion: increase in temperature with height**

**Inversions important for Air Quality because they inhibit vertical mixing of air**

**Air pollutants can accumulate in cities ringed by mountains, such as Los Angeles, Mexico City, and Salt Lake City**



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# Temperature Inversions and Air Quality

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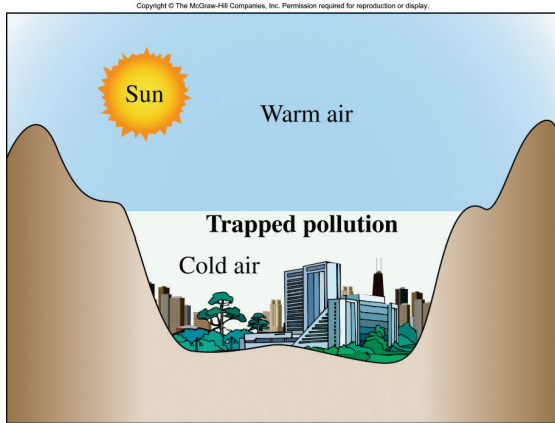
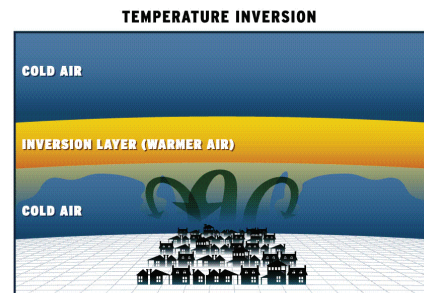
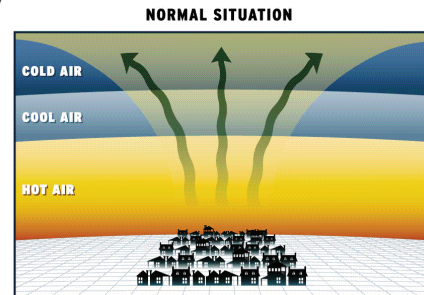


Figure 1.10, Chemistry in Context



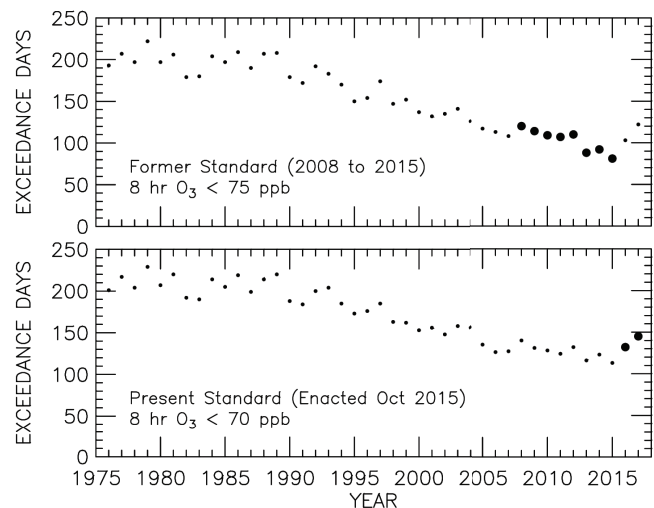
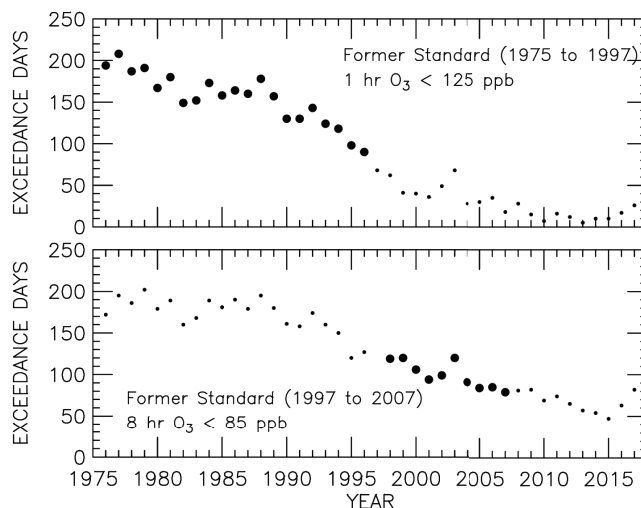
<http://geographygems.blogspot.com/2011/09/smog.html>

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## *Dramatic Improvements California Air Quality, Past 4 Decades*

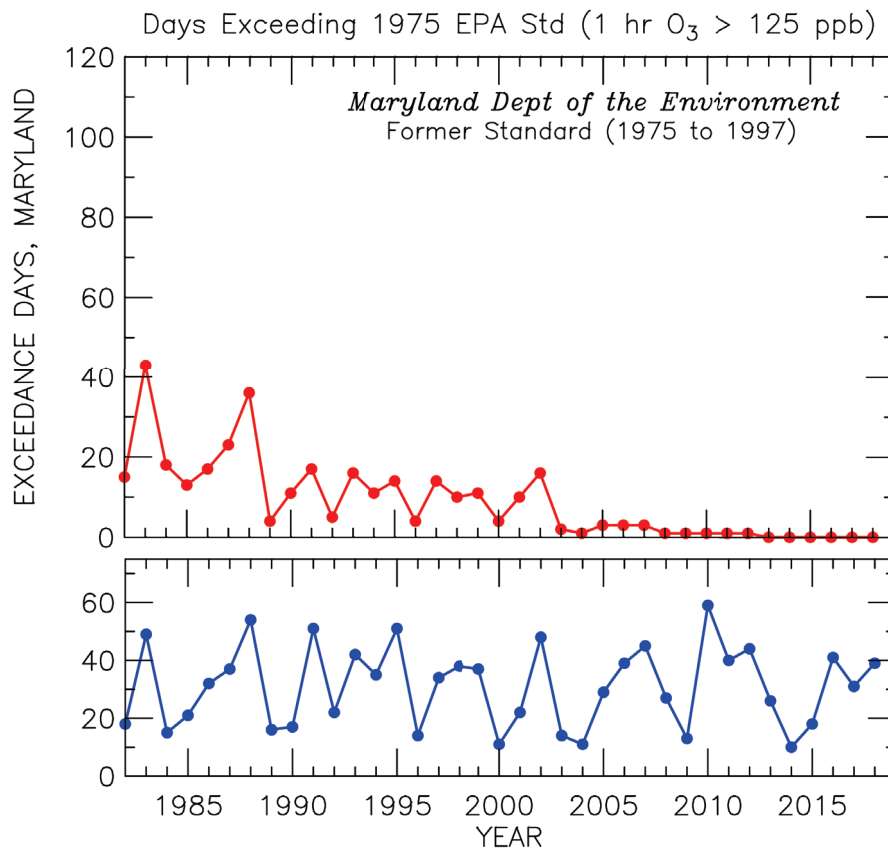


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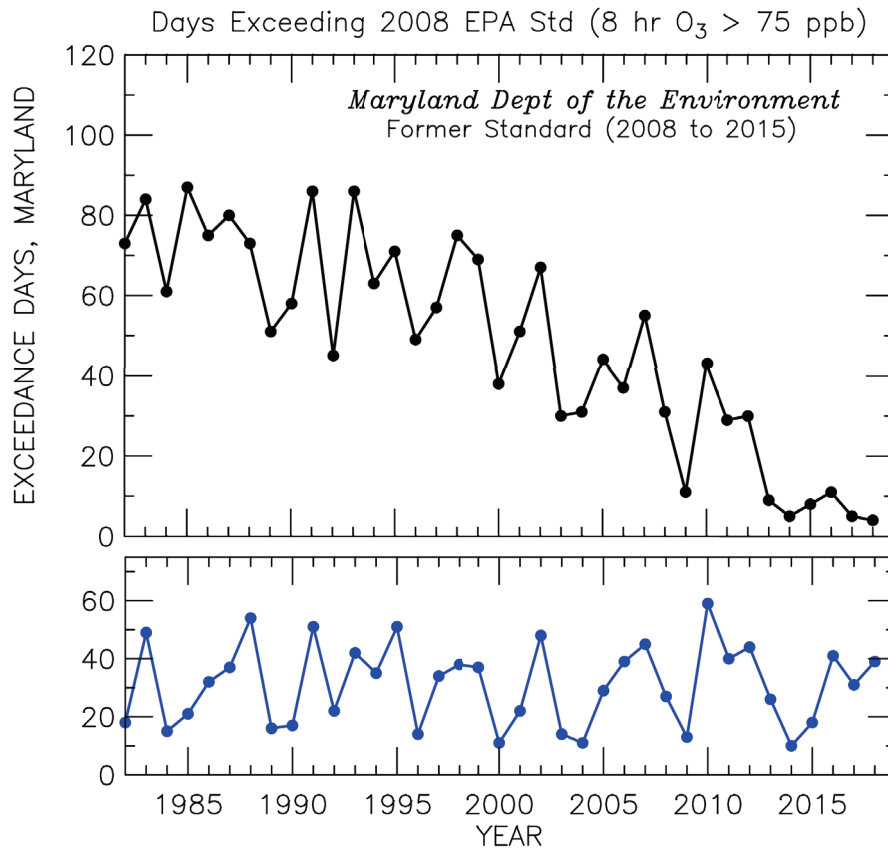
## Dramatic Improvements Local Air Quality, Past 4 Decades



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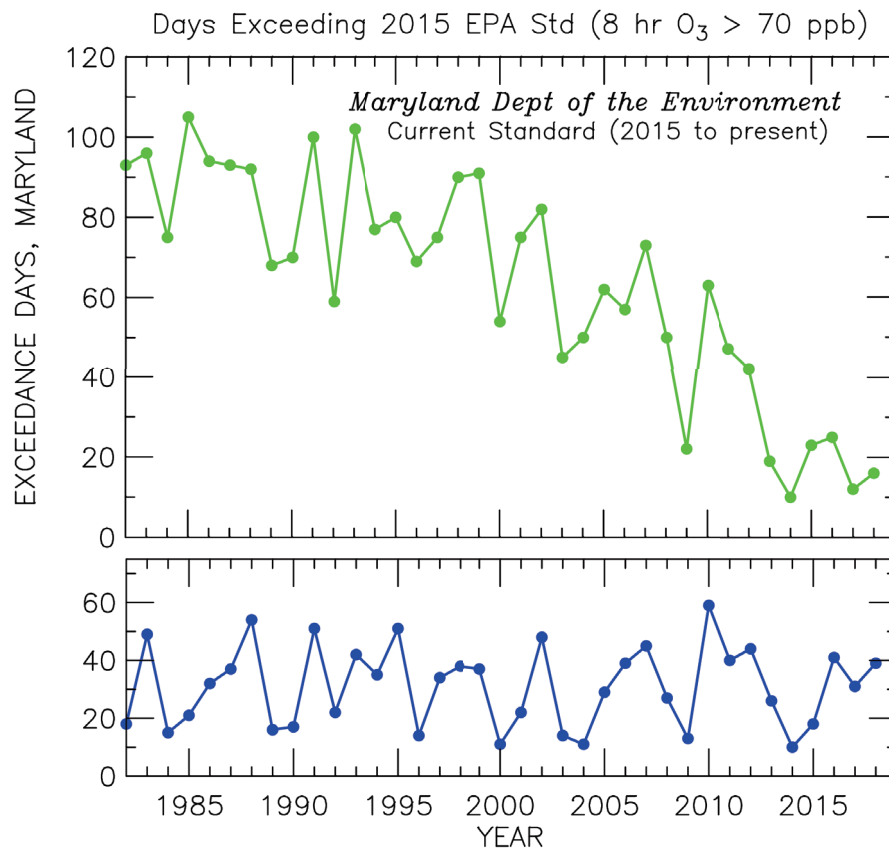
## Dramatic Improvements Local Air Quality, Past 4 Decades



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## Dramatic Improvements Local Air Quality, Past 4 Decades



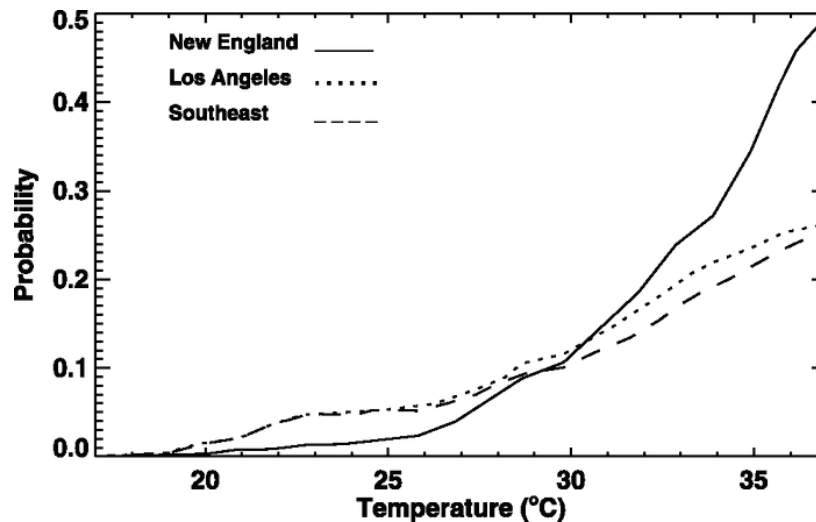
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## Day-to-day meteorology (weather!) affects severity and duration of pollution episodes

### Probability of ozone exceedance vs. daily max. temperature



Lin et al. 2001

### Why does probability of high ozone rise with increasing temperature?

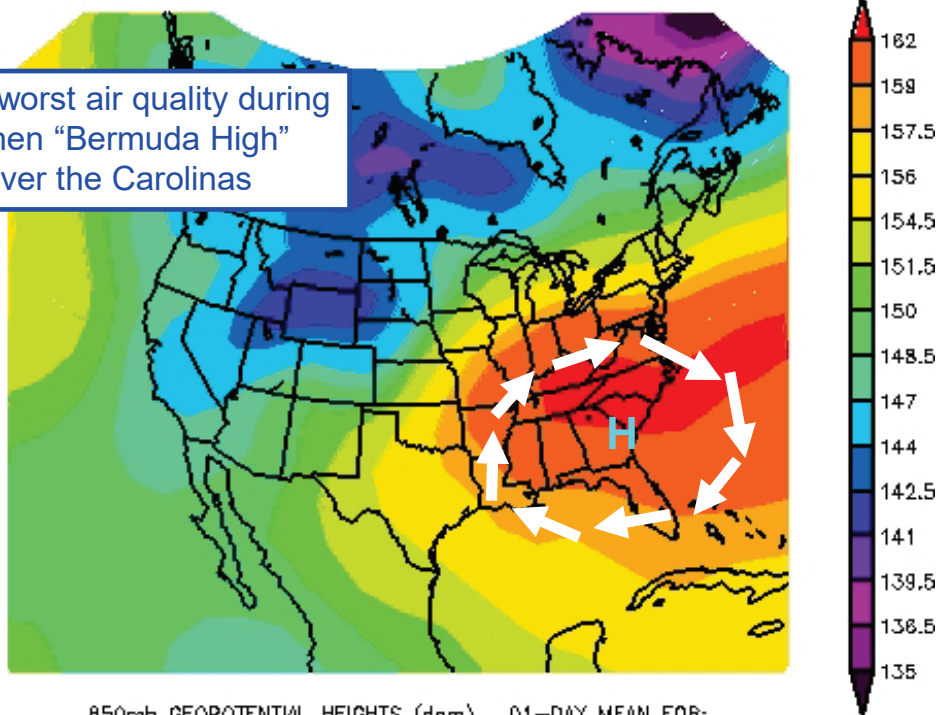
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## Day-to-day meteorology (weather!) affects severity and duration of pollution episodes

Maryland has worst air quality during summer, when “Bermuda High” sets up over the Carolinas



850mb GEOPOTENTIAL HEIGHTS (dam) 01-DAY MEAN FOR:  
Sun JUL 04 1999

NCEP OPERATIONAL DATASET

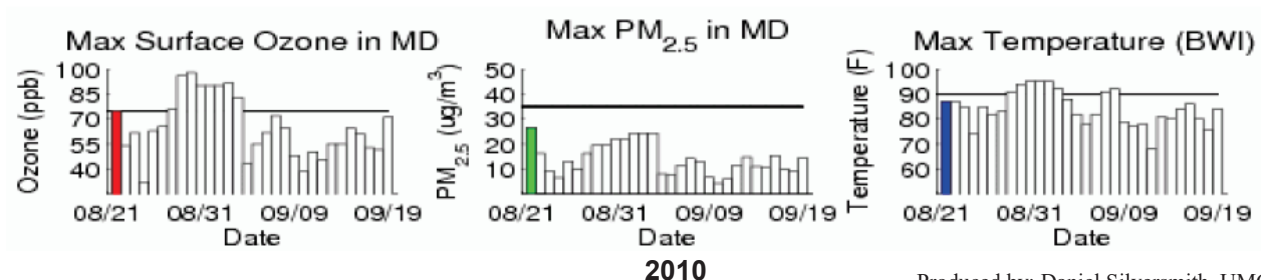
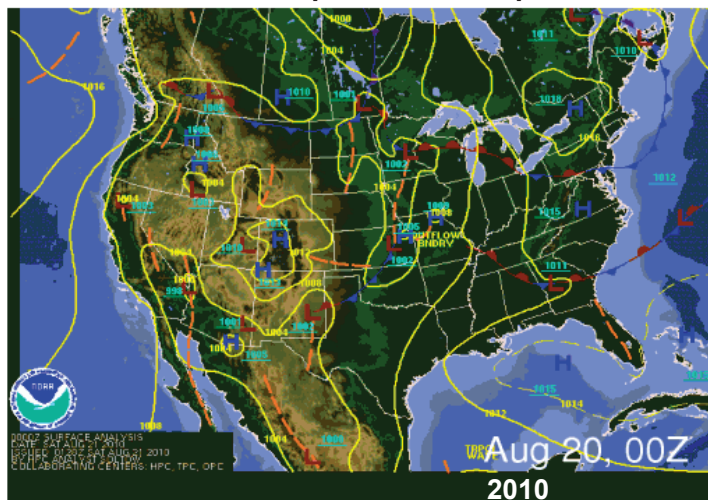
<http://www.mde.state.md.us/assets/document/BJH%20-%20Basics%20on%20Ozone%20Transport.ppt>

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## Day-to-day meteorology (weather!) affects severity and duration of pollution episodes



Produced by: Daniel Silversmith, UMCP  
Directed by: Tim Canty & Ross Salawitch

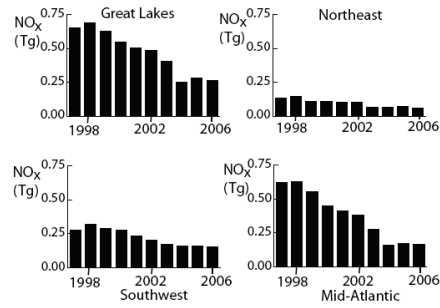
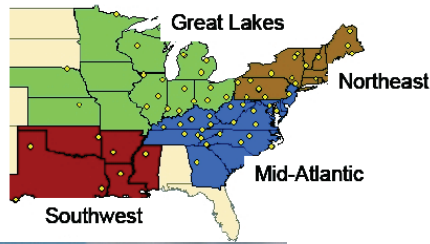
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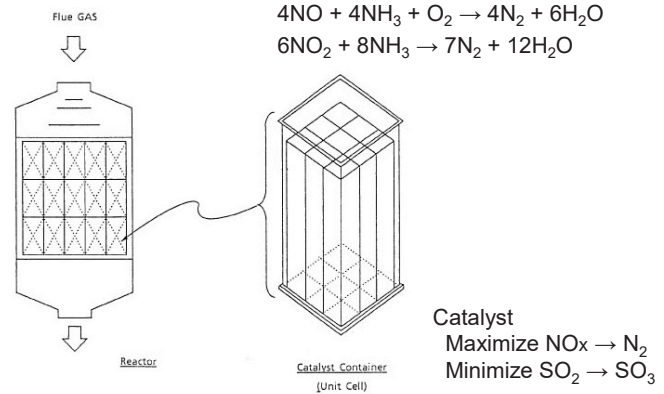
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# Removal of NO<sub>x</sub> from Power Plants



## NO<sub>x</sub> Control: SCR Selective Catalytic Reduction



Slide courtesy John Sherwell, Md Dept of Natural Resources

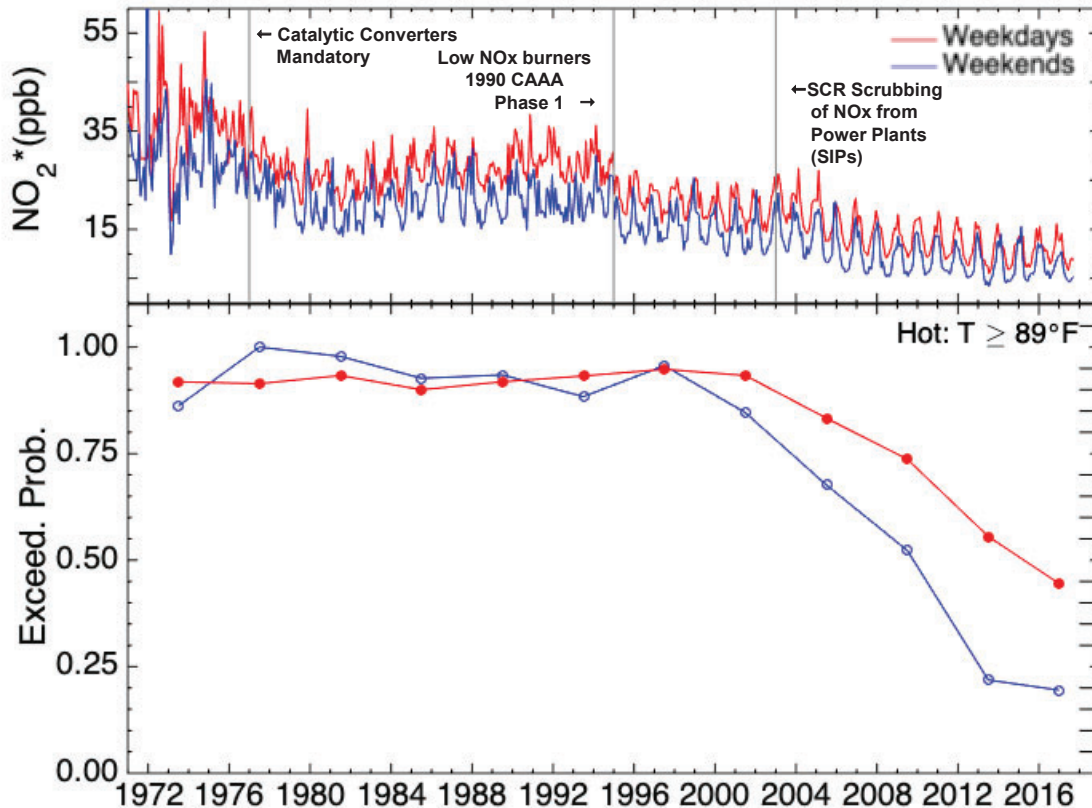
<http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/bay/pprp>

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## Probability of Surface O<sub>3</sub> Exceedance: DC, MD, and Northern VA



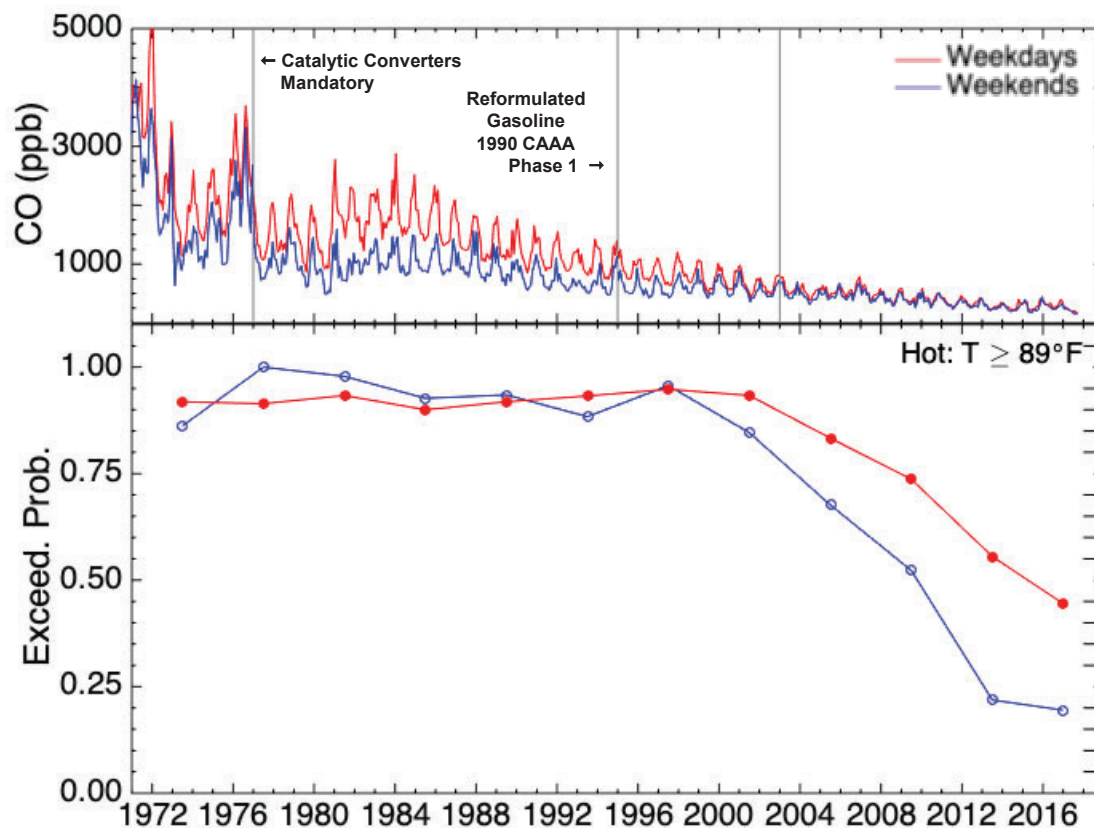
Figures above research product of UMCP Graduate Student Sandra Roberts

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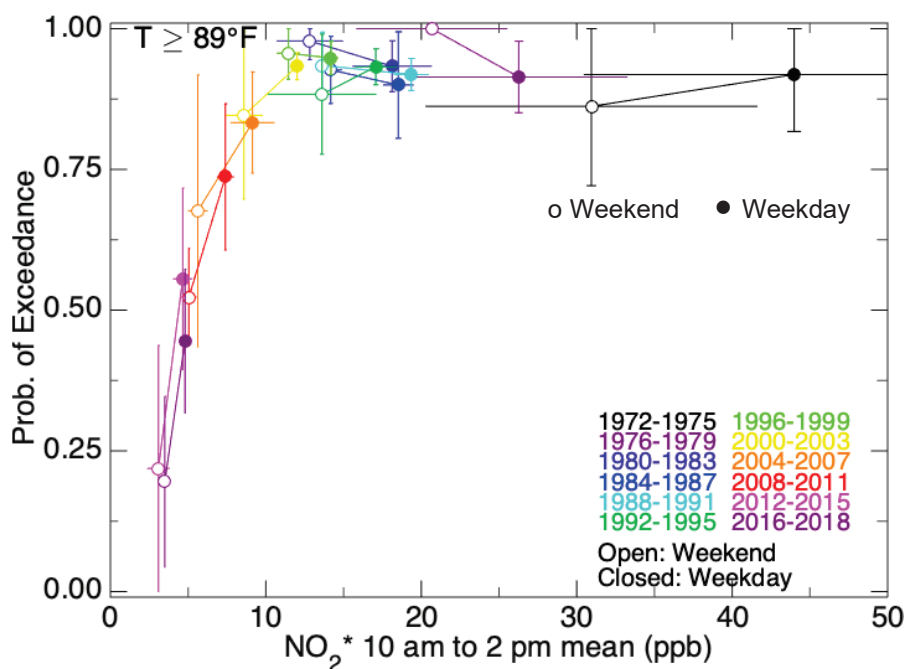
## Probability of Surface O<sub>3</sub> Exceedance: DC, MD, and Northern VA



Figures above research product of UMCP Graduate Student Sandra Roberts  
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## Probability of Surface O<sub>3</sub> Exceedance (DC, MD, No. VA) vs Daytime NO<sub>2</sub> Hot Summer Days (T<sub>BWI</sub> > 89° F)



Analysis in this framework motivated by Pusede and Cohen, ACP, 2012  
<http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/12/8323/2012/acp-12-8323-2012.html>  
 Figures above research product of UMCP Graduate Student Sandra Roberts

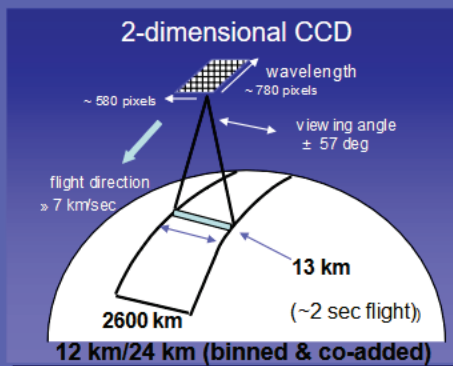
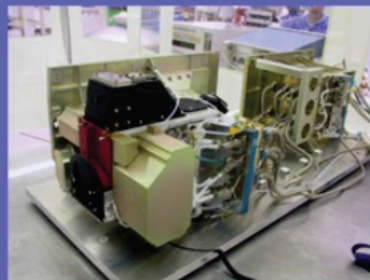
# NASA OMI Instrument on Aura



## Ozone Monitoring Instrument



- The NASA EOS Aura platform, launched on July 15, 2004, carries the Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI)
- Joint Dutch-Finnish Instrument with Dutch/Finish/U.S. Science Team
  - PI: P. Levelt, KNMI
- Hyperspectral wide FOV Radiometer
  - 270-500 nm
  - 13x24 km nadir footprint (**highest resolution from space !**)
  - Swath width 2600 km (**contiguous coverage**)
- Radicals: Column  $O_3$ ,  $NO_2$ , BrO, OClO
- $O_3$  profile ~ 5-10 km vert resolution
- Tracers: **Column  $SO_2$** , HCHO
- Aerosols (smoke, dust and sulfates)
- Cloud top press., cloud coverage
- Surface UVB
- Tropospheric ozone



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krY5DjhjKGY>

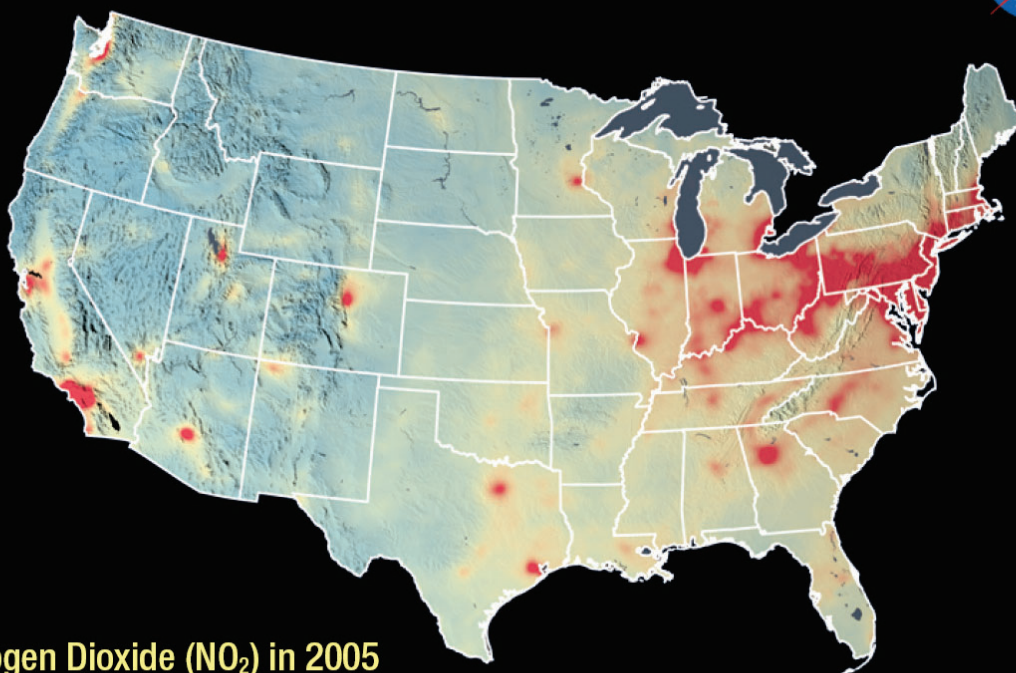
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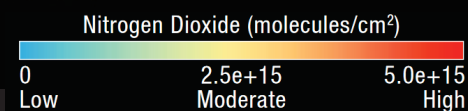
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## US Trends: $NO_2$

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



**Nitrogen Dioxide ( $NO_2$ ) in 2005**



[https://aura.gsfc.nasa.gov/images/outreach/NO2\\_2005-15\\_final.pdf](https://aura.gsfc.nasa.gov/images/outreach/NO2_2005-15_final.pdf)



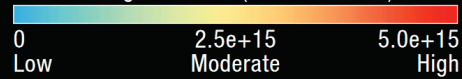
# US Trends: NO<sub>2</sub>

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



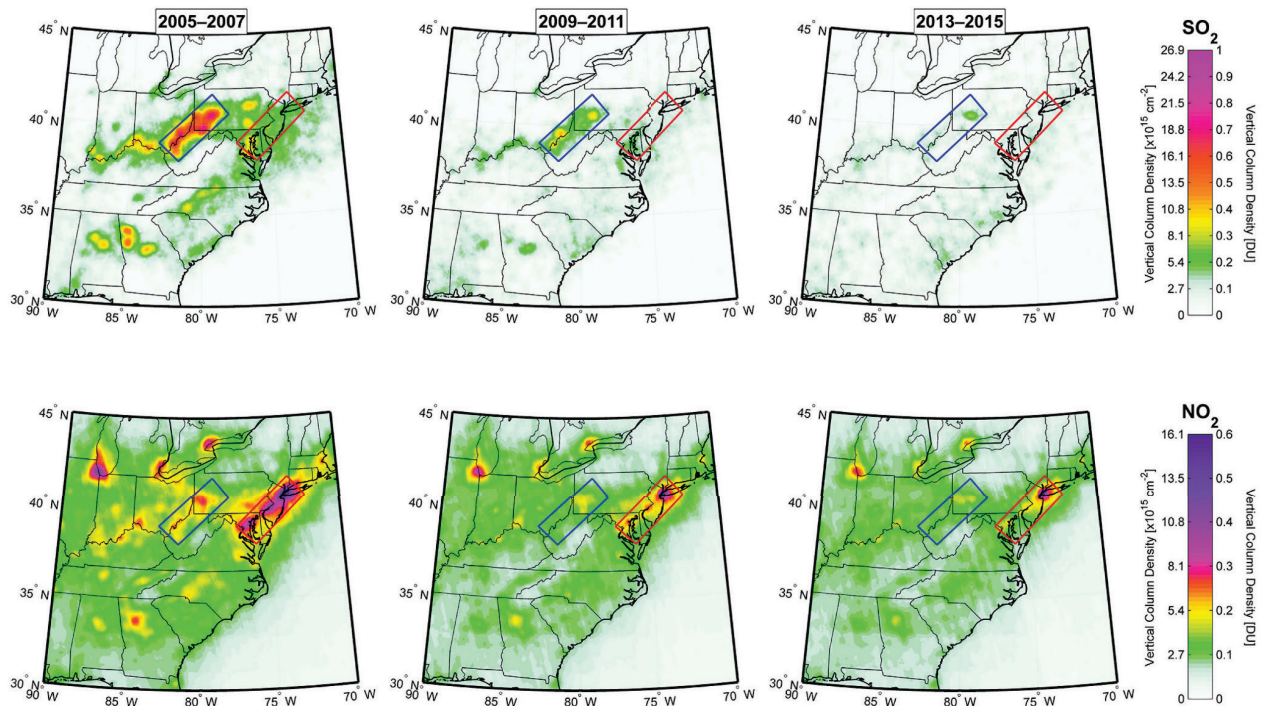
## Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in 2015

Nitrogen Dioxide (molecules/cm<sup>2</sup>)



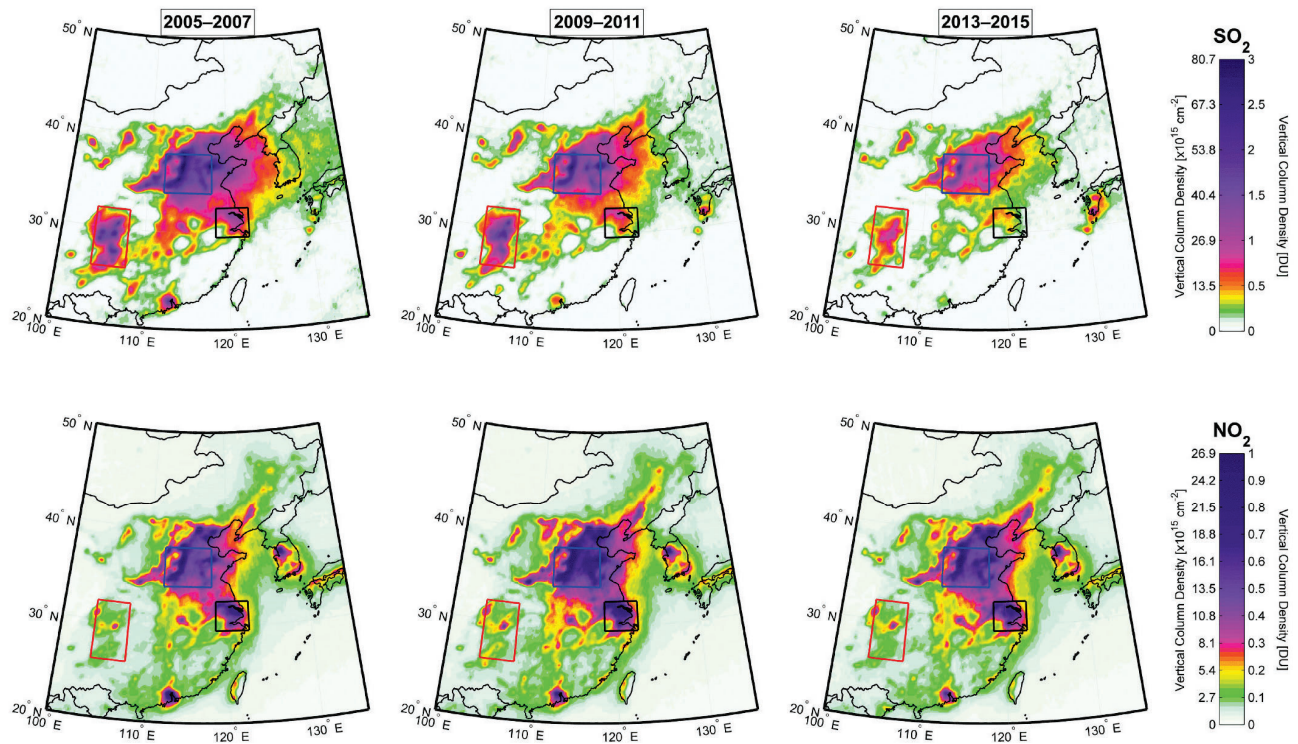
[https://aura.gsfc.nasa.gov/images/outreach/NO2\\_2005-15\\_final.pdf](https://aura.gsfc.nasa.gov/images/outreach/NO2_2005-15_final.pdf)

## US Trends: NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>



Krotkov *et al.*, ACP, 2016

## China Trends: NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>



Krotkov *et al.*, *ACP*, 2016

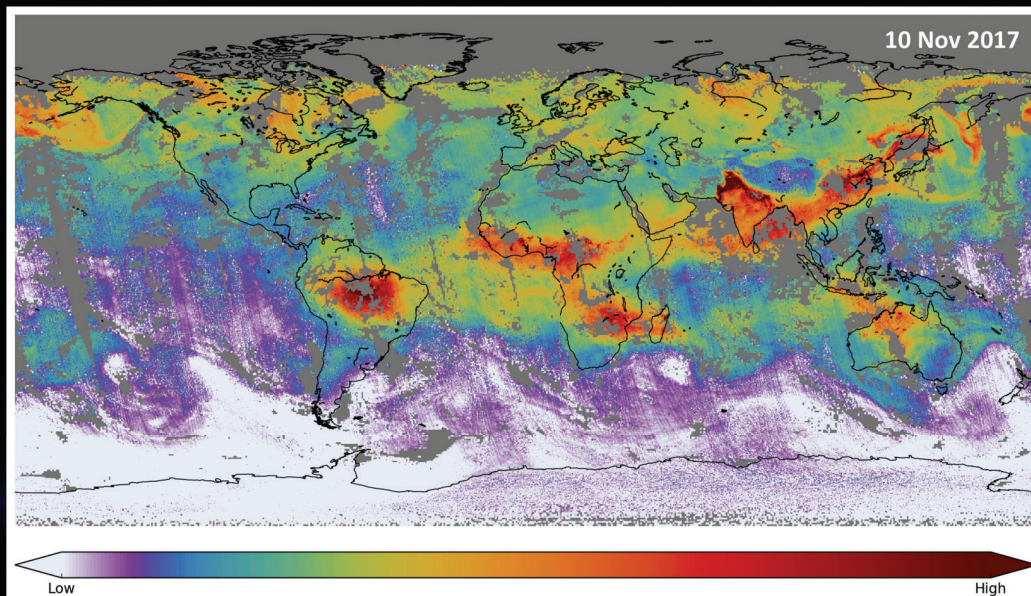
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## TROPOMI: Early Results Presented in Washington, DC at Fall 2018 American Geophysical Union meeting

### Carbon Monoxide



Credits: SRON

[http://www.tropomi.eu/sites/default/files/files/agu\\_veefkind.pdf](http://www.tropomi.eu/sites/default/files/files/agu_veefkind.pdf)

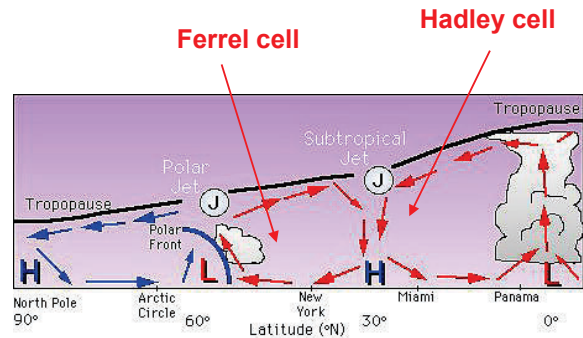
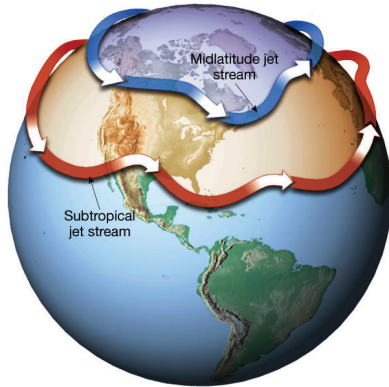
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# Subtropical Jet



[http://www.ux1.eiu.edu/~cfjps/1400/FIG07\\_014A.jpg](http://www.ux1.eiu.edu/~cfjps/1400/FIG07_014A.jpg)

[http://www.fas.org/irp/imint/docs/rst/Sect14/jet\\_stream.jpg](http://www.fas.org/irp/imint/docs/rst/Sect14/jet_stream.jpg)

**Subtropical Jet: area where poleward descending branch of the Hadley Circulation meets the equatorward descending of the Ferrel Cell (see Lecture 3)**

**Semi-permanent area of high pressure, fair weather, low rainfall:  
conditions conducive to high ozone**

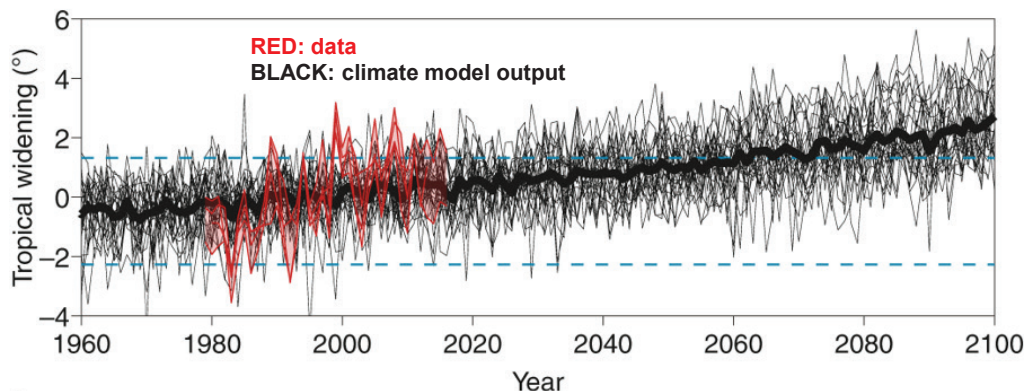
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## Climate Change and Air Pollution

### Poleward expansion of the sub-tropical jet:

- Surface ozone highs occur along Subtropical Jet
- Driving forces:
  - a) rising levels of GHGs lead to a weakening of the equator to pole due to more rapid warming at extra-tropical latitudes compared to tropics;
  - b) prior increases in CFCs lead to ozone depletion in the extra-tropics, which exacerbates stratospheric cooling



Staten et al., *Nature Climate Change*, 2018  
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-018-0246-2/>

- **Computer models predict increase in severity and duration of pollution episodes over Midwest, Mid-Atlantic, and Northeast U.S. in 2050, even for constant emissions**

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