

# Update on the NASA Air Quality Applied Sciences Team

Tracey Holloway

Assoc. Professor, University of Wisconsin—Madison

Deputy Leader, NASA Air Quality Applied Sciences Team

*April 6, 2013*

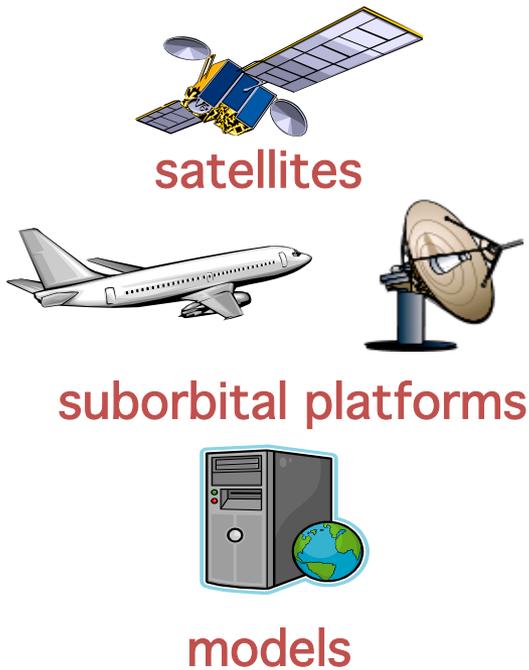


**NELSON INSTITUTE**  
**SAGE** Center for  
Sustainability and the  
Global Environment  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



# NASA Air Quality Applied Sciences Team

*Earth Science Serving Air Quality Management Needs*



*Pollution monitoring*  
*Exposure assessment*  
*AQ forecasting*  
*Source attribution*  
*Quantifying emissions*  
*Natural & foreign influences*  
*AQ processes*  
*Climate-AQ interactions*

# Why is ACAST Unique?

All ACAST projects **connect** Earth Science and air quality management:

- Pursue science to support air quality management
- Collaborate with partners in air quality management
- Expand relationships through meetings, online tools, newsletters

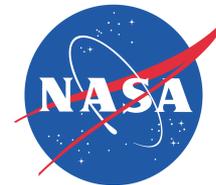
ACAST has **flexibility** in how it allocates its resources

- Members can adjust work plans to meet evolving air quality needs
- Multi-member “Tiger Teams” compete for funding to address strategic problems requiring coordinated activity
- ACAST is self-organizing and can respond **quickly** to demands

ACAST supports two types of projects:

- **Investigator Projects** – core funding to individual members
- **Tiger Team Projects** – collaborations between ACAST members with supplementary funding to address urgent air quality management needs

**Quick, collaborative, flexible,  
responsive to the needs of the AQ  
community**



*[www.aqast.org](http://www.aqast.org)*

# AQAST members

- Daniel Jacob (leader), Loretta Mickley (Harvard)
- Tracey Holloway (deputy leader), Steve Ackerman (U. Wisconsin); Bart Sponseller (Wisconsin DNR)
- Greg Carmichael (U. Iowa)
- Dan Cohan (Rice U.)
- Russ Dickerson (U. Maryland)
- Bryan Duncan, Yasuko Yoshida, Melanie Follette-Cook (NASA/GSFC); Jennifer Olson (NASA/LaRC)
- David Edwards (NCAR)
- Arlene Fiore (Columbia Univ.); Meiyun Lin (Princeton)
- Jack Fishman, Ben de Foy (Saint Louis U.)
- Daven Henze, Jana Milford (U. Colorado)
- Edward Hyer, Jeff Reid, Doug Westphal, Kim Richardson (NRL)
- Pius Lee, Tianfeng Chai (NOAA/NESDIS)
- Yang Liu, Matthew Strickland (Emory U.), Bin Yu (UC Berkeley)
- Richard McNider, Arastoo Biazar (U. Alabama – Huntsville)
- Brad Pierce (NOAA/NESDIS)
- Ted Russell, Yongtao Hu, Talat Odman (Georgia Tech); Lorraine Remer (NASA/GSFC)
- David Streets (Argonne)
- Jim Szykman (EPA/ORD/NERL)
- Anne Thompson, William Ryan, Suellen Haupt (Penn State U.)



# Scope of current AQAST projects

## AQ Management

- **Local:** RAQC, BAAQD
- **State:** TCEQ, MDE, Wisconsin DNR, CARB, Iowa DNR, GAEPD, GFC
- **Regional:** LADCO, EPA Region 8
- **National:** EPA, NOAA, NPS

*State Implementation Plans (SIPs)*

*Understanding processes*

*Improved Monitoring*

*Climate & AQ Linkages*

*Quantifying Background O<sub>3</sub>*

*Characterizing Fires*

*Improved Forecasting*

*Emissions Trends*

*User support*

Theme

**Satellites:** MODIS, MISR, MOPITT, AIRS, OMI, TES, GOES

**Suborbital:** ARCTAS, DISCOVER-AQ, ozonesondes, PANDORA

**Models:** MOZART, CAM AM-3, GEOS-Chem, RAQMS, STEM, GISS, IPCC, CMAQ, CAMx, WRF-Chem

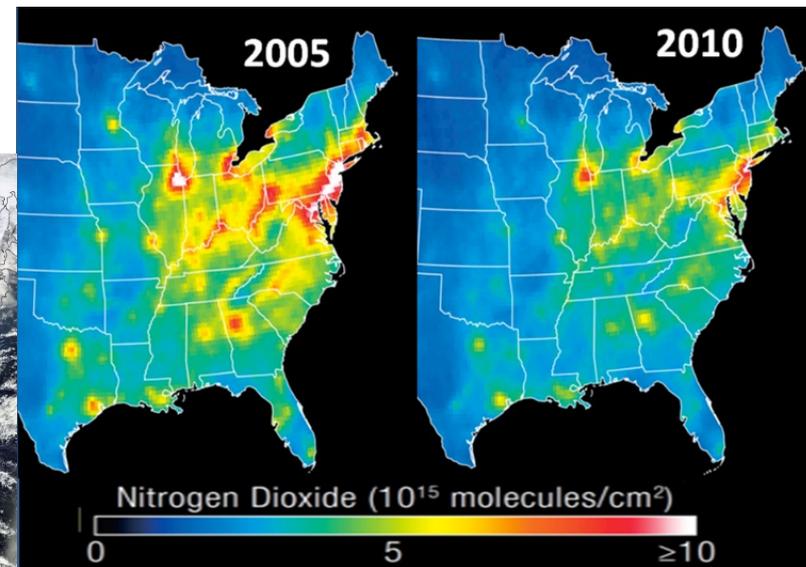
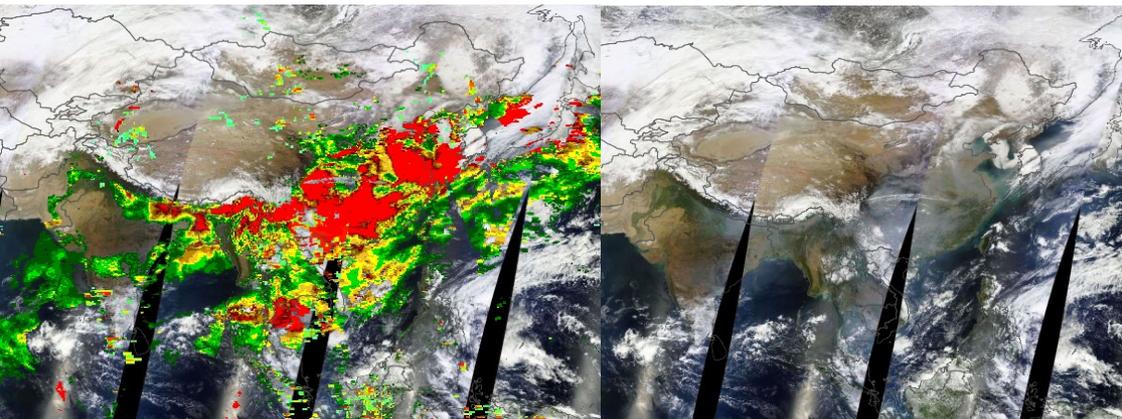
Earth Science resource

# 2013 Tiger Team Process

- 1. Merit.** Is the work proposed sound, creative, interesting, important?
- 2. Responsiveness.** Does it address a pressing AQ management need?
- 3. Uniqueness.** Does it use Earth Science assets that go beyond standard AQ tools?
- 4. Team.** Will team members effectively work together?

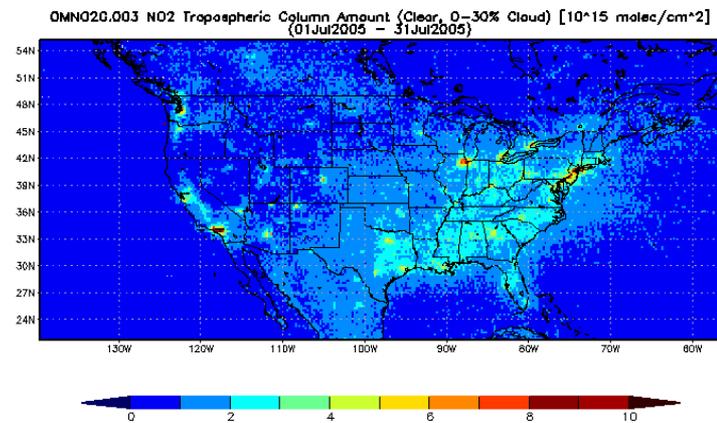
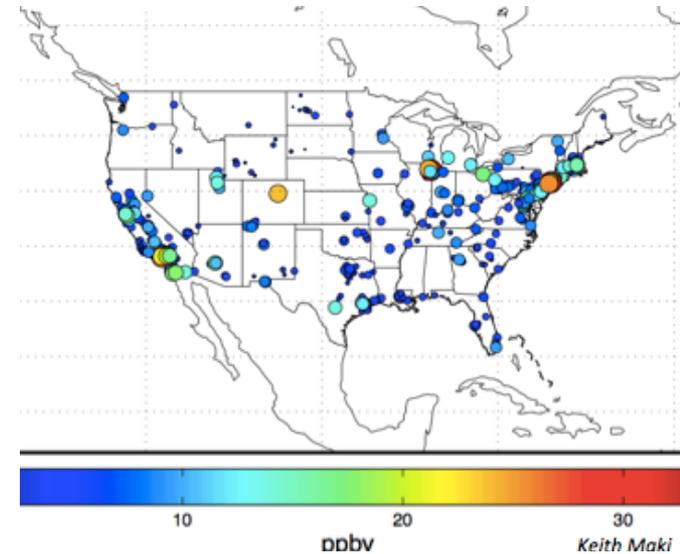
# The Opportunities

- Continuous global coverage:  
NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, AOD ~ PM, CO, HCHO ~ VOCs, etc.
- “See” pollutants where no monitors exist
- Inform day-to-day and multi-year trends
- Products on wildfires, climate, land cover, etc.
- Compelling images for public awareness



# The Challenges...

- No legal/policy framework
- Column vs. ground-level
- Limited suite of products comparable to criteria pollutants ( $\text{NO}_2$  and AOD  $\sim$  PM most equivalent)
- Satellite data are available  $< 1$  x per day (e.g. 1:45 local time for Aura, not on cloudy days)



# Potential Monitoring Site Purposes

*A Role for Remote Sensing?*

**Support Analysis**

1. To Determine Compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)
2. To Develop Regional Pollution Trends in Urban and Rural Areas
3. To Evaluate the Effects of Population, Land Use and Transportation on Air Quality
4. To Evaluate Air Dispersion Models
5. To Provide Air Quality Information to the Public

**Yes!**

**Yes!**

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Adapted from a slide of  
Bart Sponseller, WI DNR

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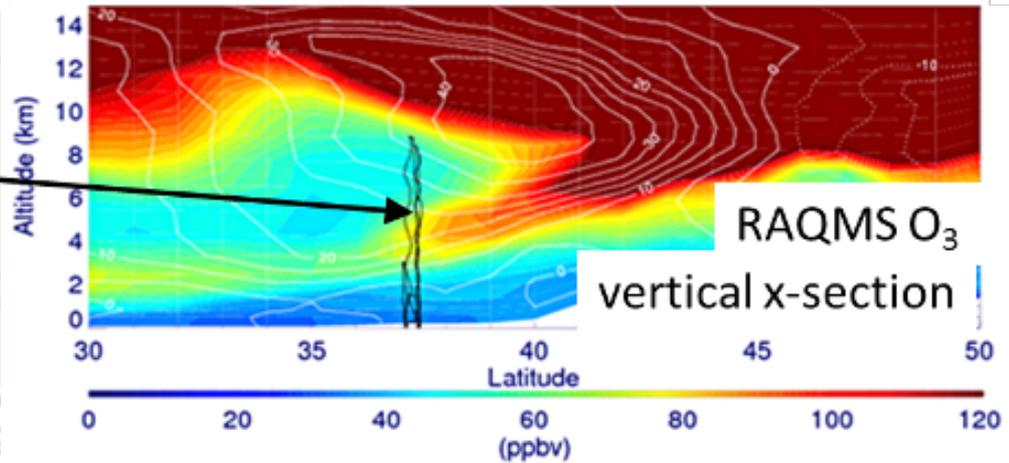
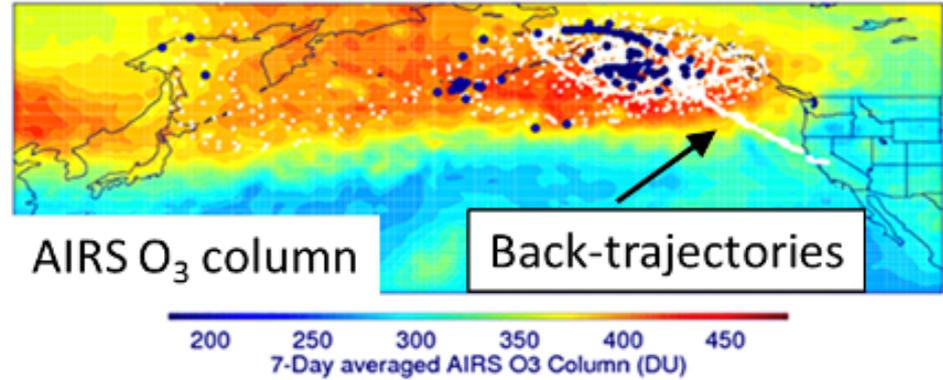
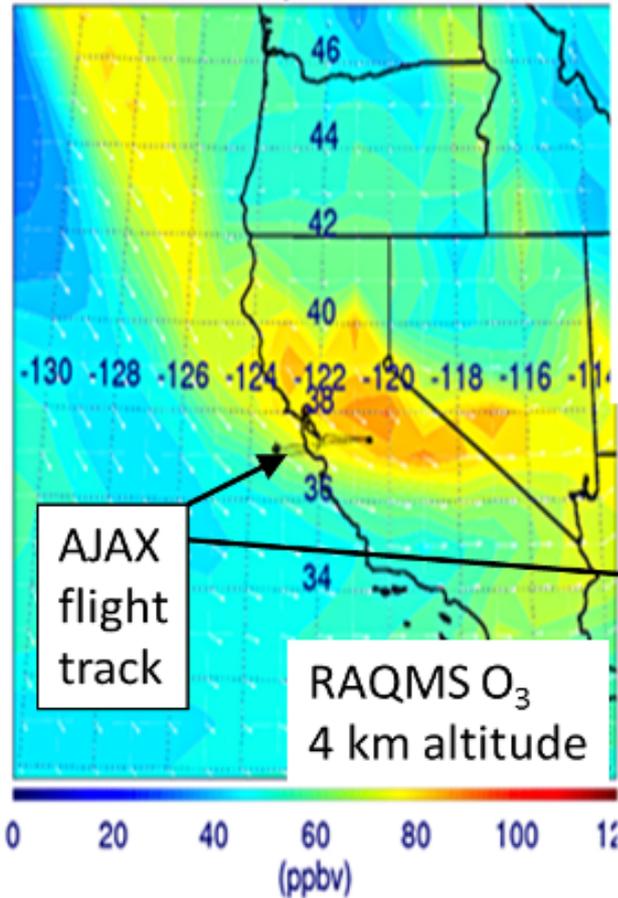
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# AQAST Highlight: Wyoming Exceptional Event Demonstration

Wyoming DEQ/AQD used AQAST resources to issue an exceptional event demonstration package for an ozone exceedance at Thunder Basin, June 6, 2012



R.B. Pierce et al.

AQAST Member: B. Pierce



# Tiger Team activity: Key factors contributing to differences in model estimates for O<sub>3</sub> “background”

**Problem:** Poorly quantified errors in background distributions complicate NAAQS-setting and interpreting SIP attainment simulations

*To date, EPA N. American Background estimates provided by one model.*

## **Approach:**

- 1) Compare GFDL AM3 and GEOS-Chem NAB (Mar-Aug 2006)
- 2) Process-oriented analysis of factors contributing to model differences

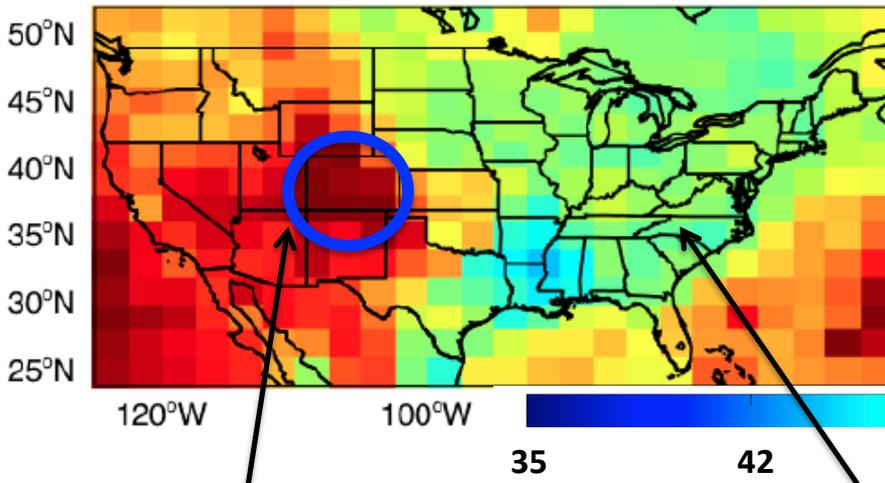
YEAR 2006	GEOS-Chem	GFDL AM3
Resolution	½°x⅔° (and 2°x2.5°)	~2°x2°
Meteorology	Offline (GEOS-5)	Coupled, nudged to NCEP U and V
Strat. O <sub>3</sub> & STE	Parameterized (Linoz)	Full strat. chem & dynamics
Isoprene nitrate chemistry	18% yield recycling	NO <sub>x</sub> recycling (obs: Albritton et al, 2007)
Lightning NO <sub>x</sub>	tied to model clouds, so climate; higher NO <sub>x</sub> at N. mid-lat	reactive clouds
Emissions	NEI 2005 + 2006 fires (emitted at surface)	ACCMIP historical + RCP4.5 (2005, 2010); vert. dist. climatological fires

**ALL DIFFERENT!**

# Estimates of North American background in 2 models (simulations with N. American anth. emissions set to zero)

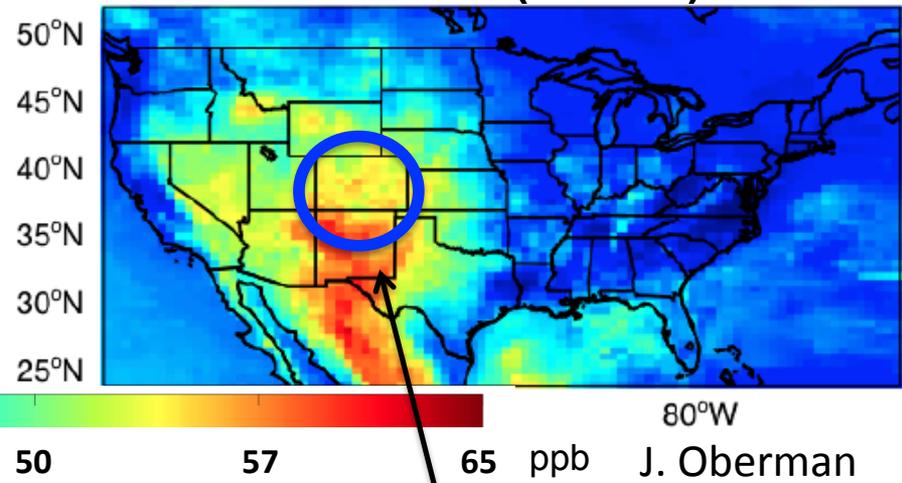
Fourth-highest North American background MDA8 O<sub>3</sub>  
in model surface layer between Mar 1 and Aug 31, 2006

**AM3 (~2°x2°)**



Higher background:  
More exchange with surface?  
Larger stratospheric influence?

**GEOS-Chem (1/2°x2/3°)**



High AM3 bias in EUS;  
caution on N. Amer.  
Background here!

Excessive lightning NO<sub>x</sub>  
in summer

- Models robustly agree N. American background is higher at altitude in WUS
- Multi-model enables error estimates, in context of observational constraints

**AQAST Year 3 Tiger Team Proposal**  
**Performance period: 10/1/2013-9/30/2014**

**Quantifying Source Contributions to O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> Pollution Episodes Across the Eastern U.S.**

**Lead PI:** Tracey Holloway (Univ. of Wisconsin) and Arlene Fiore (Columbia/LDEO)

**Other AQAST participants:** Greg Carmichael (Univ. of IA), Daniel Cohan (Rice Univ.), Bryan Duncan (NASA), Daven Henze (CU-Boulder), Daniel Jacob (Harvard), Russ Dickerson (Univ. of MD), Gabriele Pfister (NCAR)

**AQ management contacts:** Bart Sponseller [Wisconsin DNR]; Angela Dickens [Wisconsin DNR/LADCO]; Tad Aburn [Maryland Dept. Env.]; Mark Estes [Texas/TCEQ]; other states representatives to serve on Advisory Council; Terry Keating, Kirk Baker [US EPA]

**Problem to be solved:** Designing effective State Implementation Plans (SIPs) requires knowledge of the relative contributions from emissions within a state, transported from other states, imported across U.S. borders, and natural sources. As the ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) and fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) NAAQS thresholds are lowered, it becomes increasingly important to estimate accurately source contributions so that a state can determine if exemptions are required due to sources other than U.S. anthropogenic emissions. In the Eastern U.S., these information needs are particularly acute, given challenges to the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) and the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR), which will be reviewed by the Supreme Court.

**AQ responsiveness:** We address a request noted in multiple NASA AQAST meetings<sup>1</sup>: the need for

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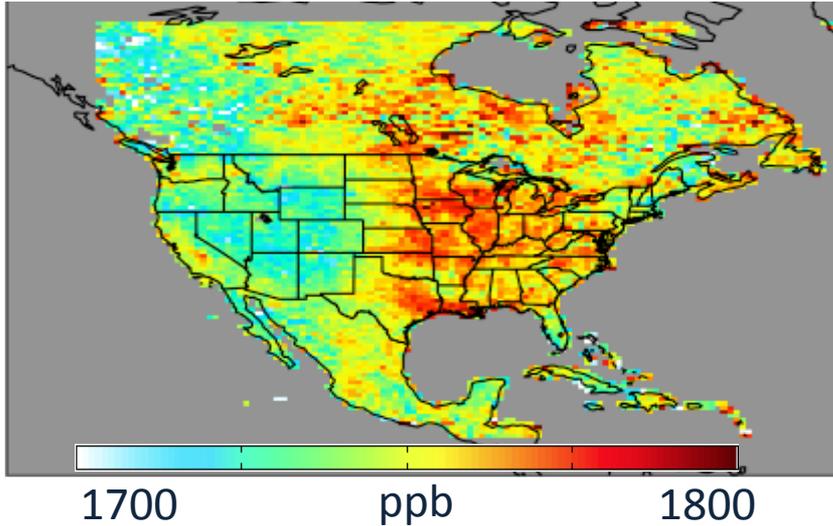
Yes!

Yes!

Adapted from a slide of  
Bart Sponseller, WI DNR

# Using satellite observations of methane to constrain US methane emissions

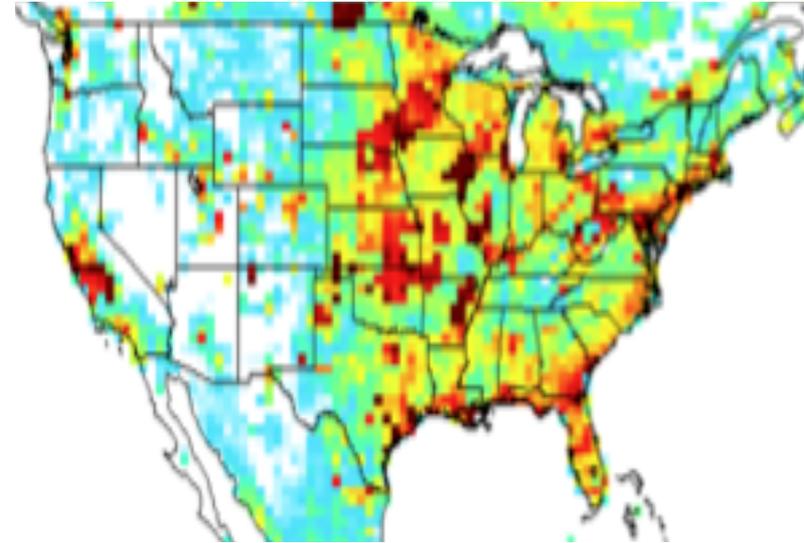
SCIAMACHY methane (Jul-Aug 2004)



adjoint  
inversion

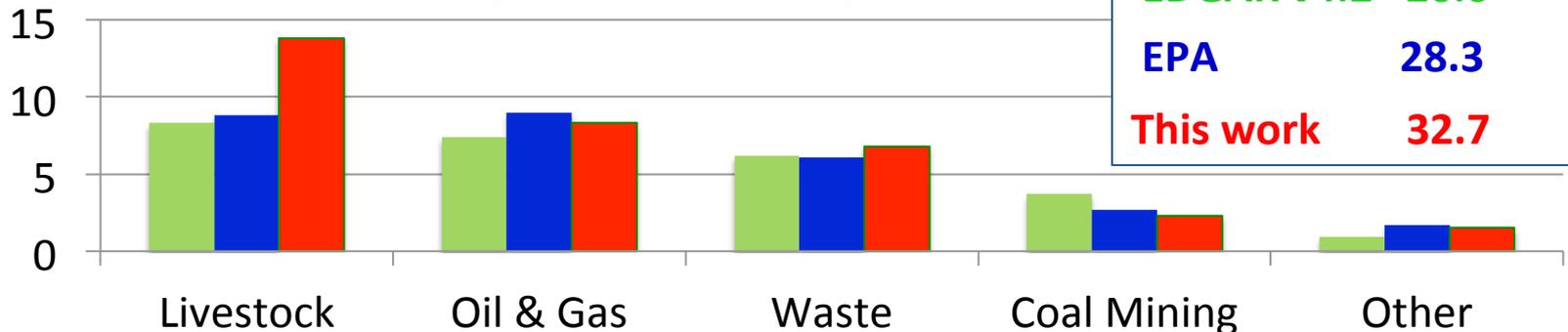


methane emissions



5e10 molec cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> 5e12

Total US anthropogenic emissions (Tg a<sup>-1</sup>)



AQAST Member: D. Jacob; Wecht et al. [in prep]

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Not w/o change  
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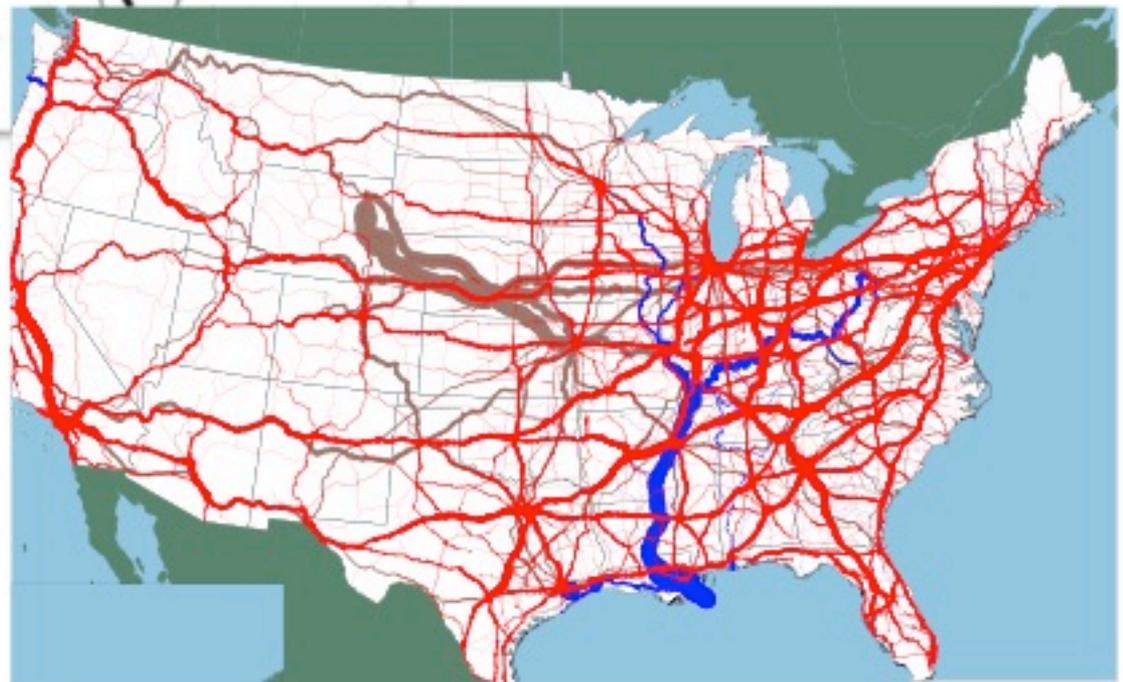
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AQS NO<sub>2</sub>

Surface  
Monitors  
concentrated  
in urban areas

- January & July
- January only
- July only

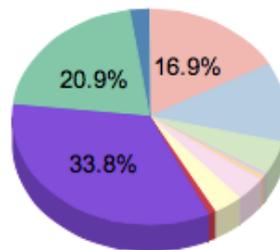
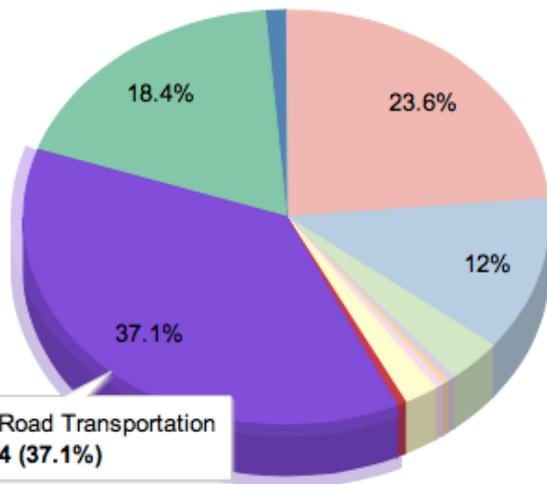
Freight  
activity in  
rural America



# Freight and Air Quality



- Transportation is the largest source of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions.
- Freight accounts for **33%** of transportation NO<sub>x</sub> (20% of all NO<sub>x</sub>)
- *Bickford et al., in prep; Bickford et al., 2013*



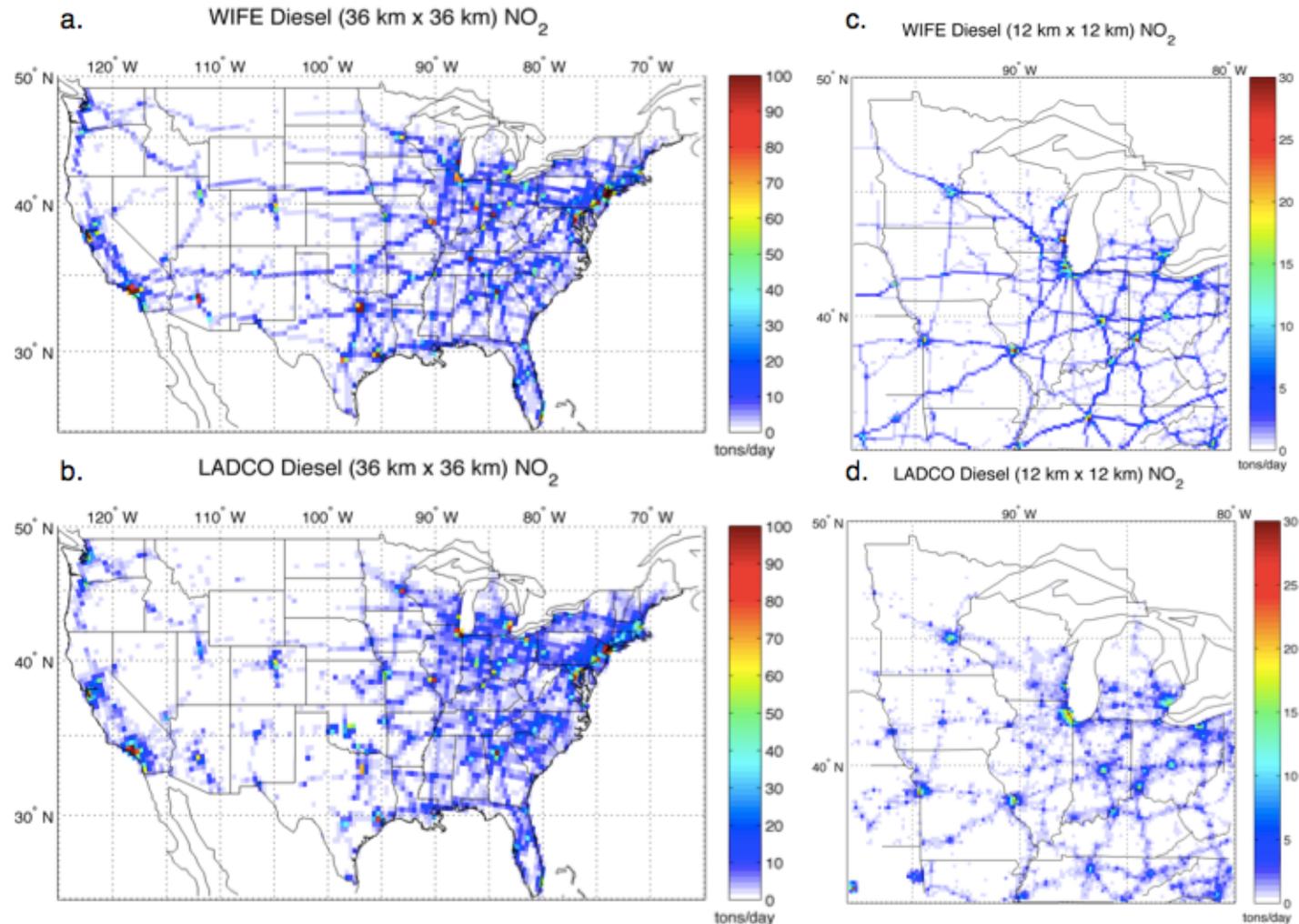
2000 & 2012 U.S. NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions

On-Road Transportation  
Off-Road Transportation  
Electricity  
Industrial

# NO<sub>2</sub> from On-Road Diesel

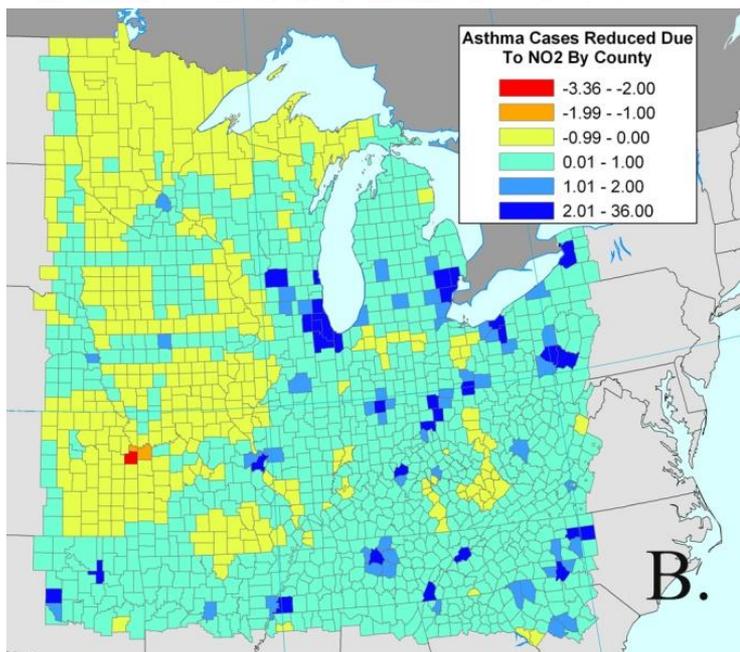
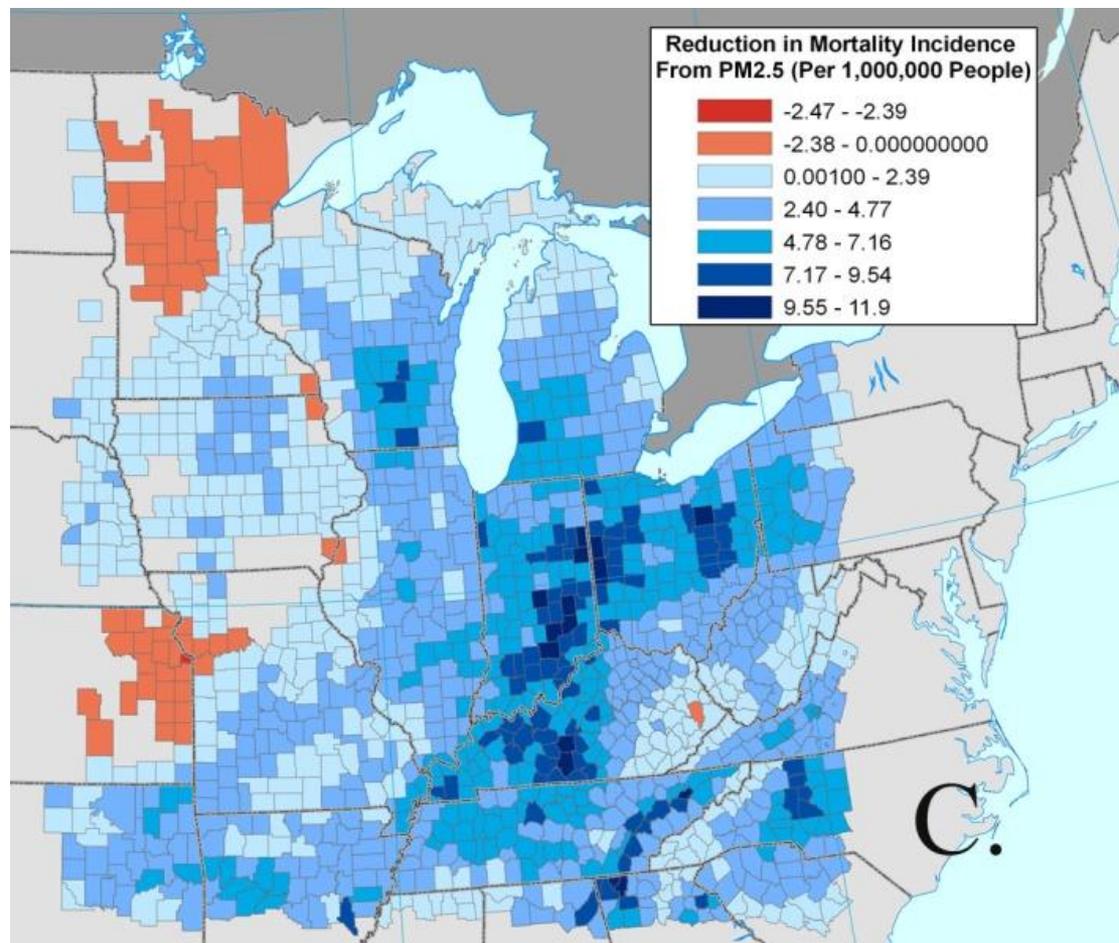
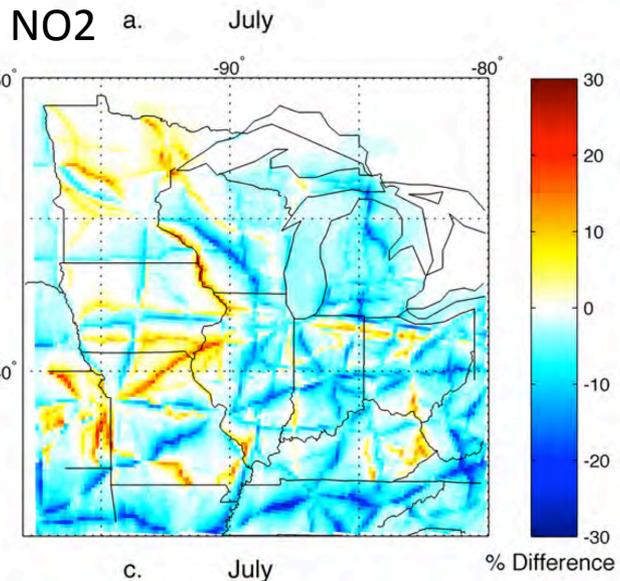
New:  
WIFE

Existing:  
LADCO



**Figure 2.1.1** 2007 January diesel NO<sub>2</sub> emissions inventory comparison (in tons/day) between the WIFE freight + non-freight on-road diesel inventory and LADCO's on-road diesel inventory, for the continental U.S. gridded to 36 x 36 km<sup>2</sup>, and the upper Midwest gridded to 12 x 12 km<sup>2</sup>.

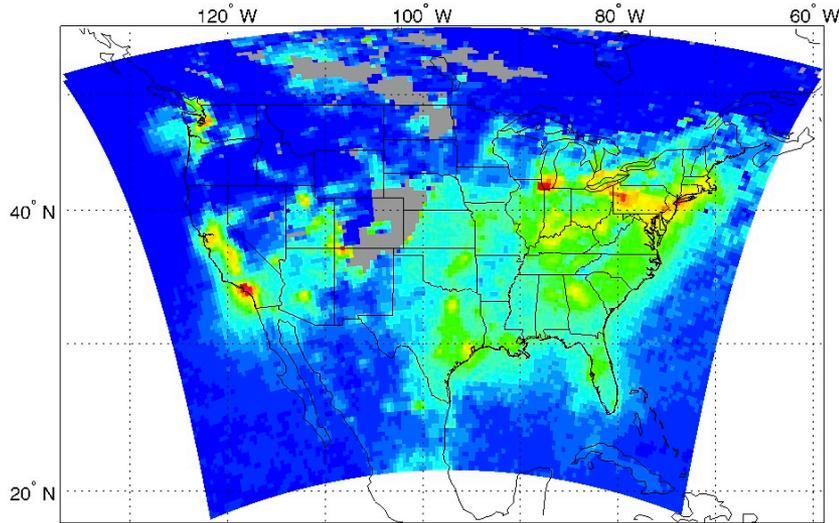
# New Inventory to Test Scenarios: *e.g.* AQ & Health Impacts of More Rail, Less Trucking



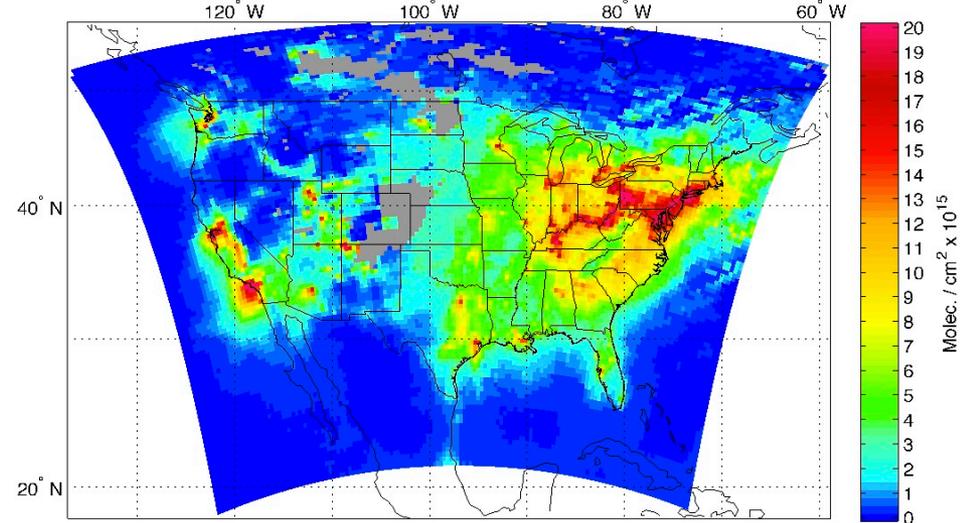
Bickford et al., in press, ES&T  
Greene, M.S. Thesis, 2012

# January Monthly Mean Total Column NO<sub>2</sub>

OMI

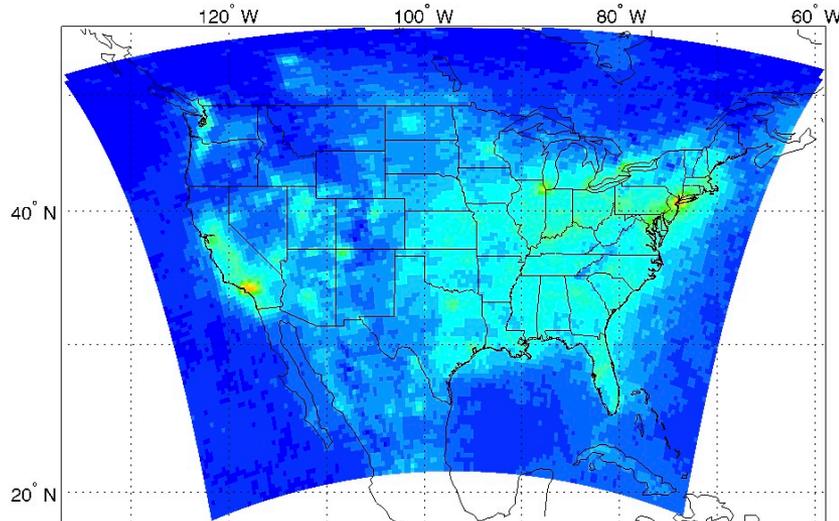


CMAQ

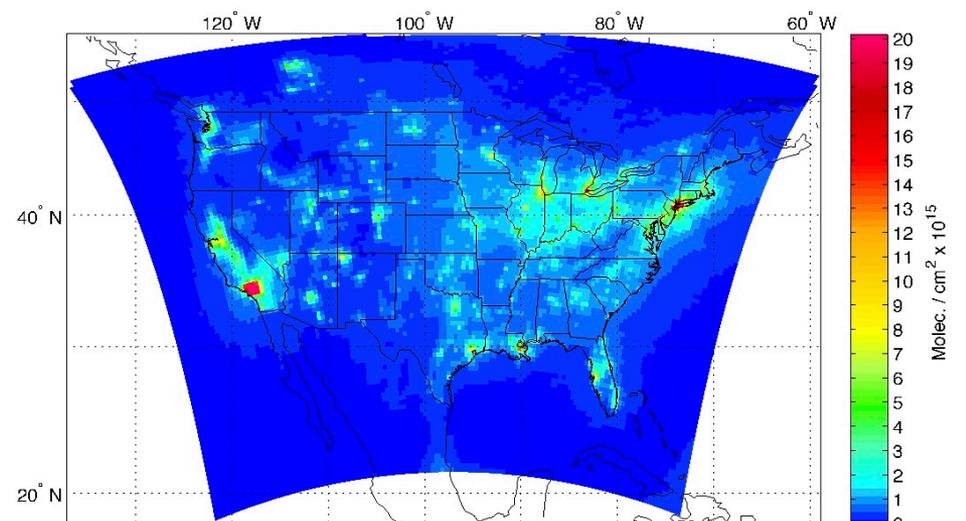


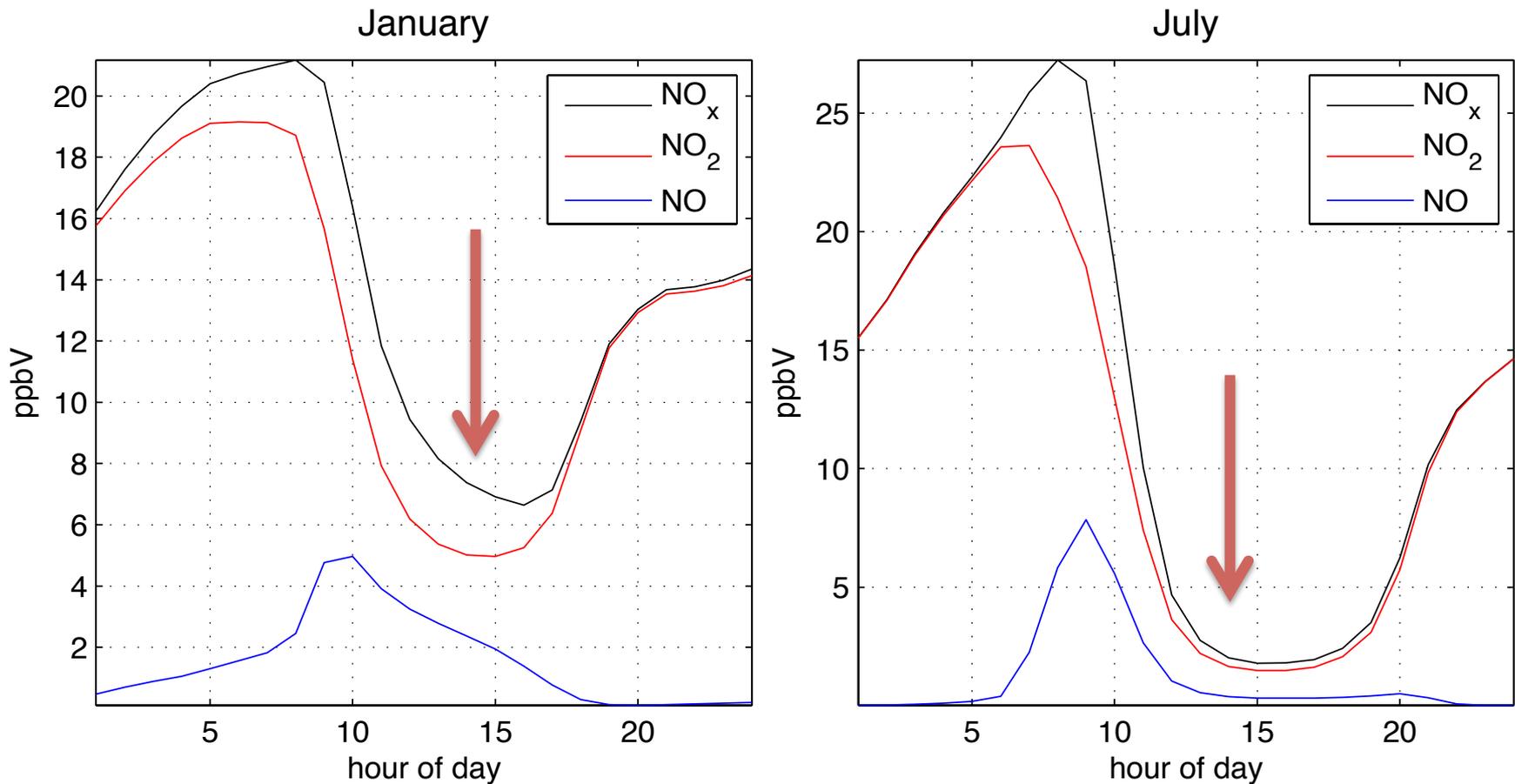
# July Monthly Mean Total Column NO<sub>2</sub>

OMI



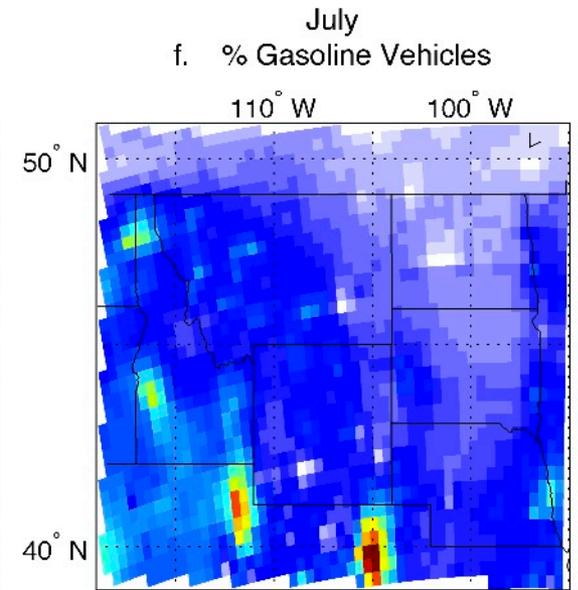
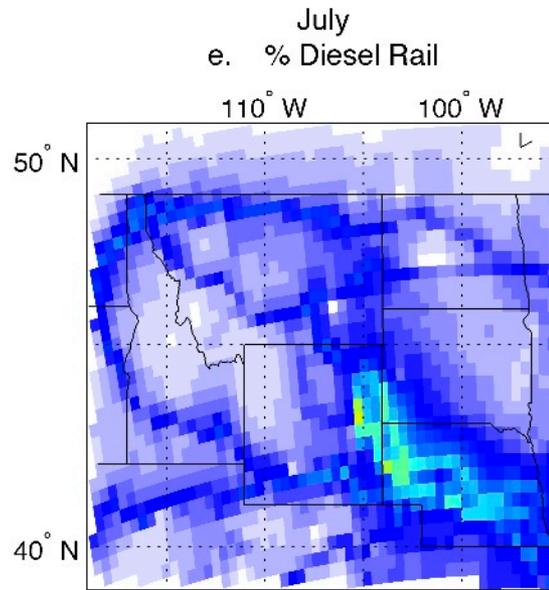
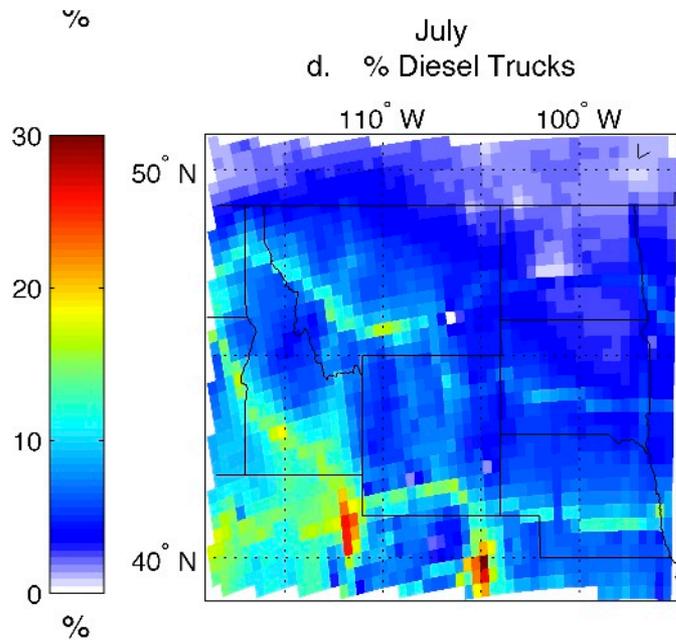
CMAQ





**Figure 1.2.1** CMAQ modeled monthly mean diurnal concentration pattern for NO, NO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> over Madison, WI in January and July 2007. Concentrations of NO peak early in the day before dropping off at night when NO is converted to NO<sub>2</sub>. Concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> track closely with concentrations of NO<sub>x</sub>.

CMAQ Model Scenario		CONUS 36 km x 36 km				MIDWEST 12 km x 12 km			
		LADCO Diesel		WIFE Diesel		LADCO Diesel		WIFE Diesel	
Metric		January	July	January	July	January	July	January	July
AQS surface NO <sub>2</sub>	mean-r	0.39	0.37	0.39	0.36	0.34	0.29	0.37	0.28
	NMB (%)	-35.5	-0.3	-14.5	25.9	-21.6	-4.1	-3.3	15.9
	NME (%)	49.5	49.6	45.8	62.4	45.5	56.6	47.4	67.0
	n	266	271	266	271	100	103	100	103
	R	0.60	0.65	0.64	0.67	0.54	0.56	0.54	0.54
OMI trop. column NO <sub>2</sub>	mean-r	0.37	0.16	0.37	0.17	0.44	0.22	0.45	0.22
	NMB (%)	8.2	-41.3	30.6	-37.2	26.5	-41.4	44.1	-38.5
	NME (%)	74.3	62.7	84.2	62.7	73.4	61.0	82.1	60.3
	n	15,967	16,576	15,967	16,576	19,190	19,564	19,190	19,564
	R	0.88	0.72	0.89	0.68	0.85	0.75	0.85	0.75
OMI trop. column NO <sub>2</sub> at AQS gridcells	mean-r	0.53	0.25	0.53	0.25	0.34	0.20	0.35	0.22
	NMB (%)	11.6	4.2	37.0	29.5	14.2	1.8	30.1	9.4
	NME (%)	52.2	62.6	65.0	79.4	56.4	68.1	64.3	70.4
	n	265	271	265	271	99	103	99	103
	R	0.87	0.82	0.88	0.82	0.81	0.87	0.81	0.85
OMI trop. column NO <sub>2</sub> in rural areas	mean-r	0.65	0.16	0.35	0.16	0.45	0.24	0.46	0.24
	NMB (%)	6.7	-45.5	29.0	-43.2	41.9	-47.1	62.0	-44.9
	NME (%)	87.1	65.0	96.6	63.9	96.2	62.5	107.2	61.7
	n	14,596	15,233	14,596	15,233	13,467	14,080	13,467	14,080
	R	0.73	0.67	0.75	0.69	0.64	0.69	0.64	0.69



# Take Home Points

- Satellite data are well suited for emissions inventory evaluation
- How does the new trucking inventory perform away from cities? (Work in progress...)
- OMI has pros and cons for evaluating NO<sub>2</sub> emissions – morning overpass (GOME) would capture maximum values
- The importance of lightning emissions is evident in satellite evaluation

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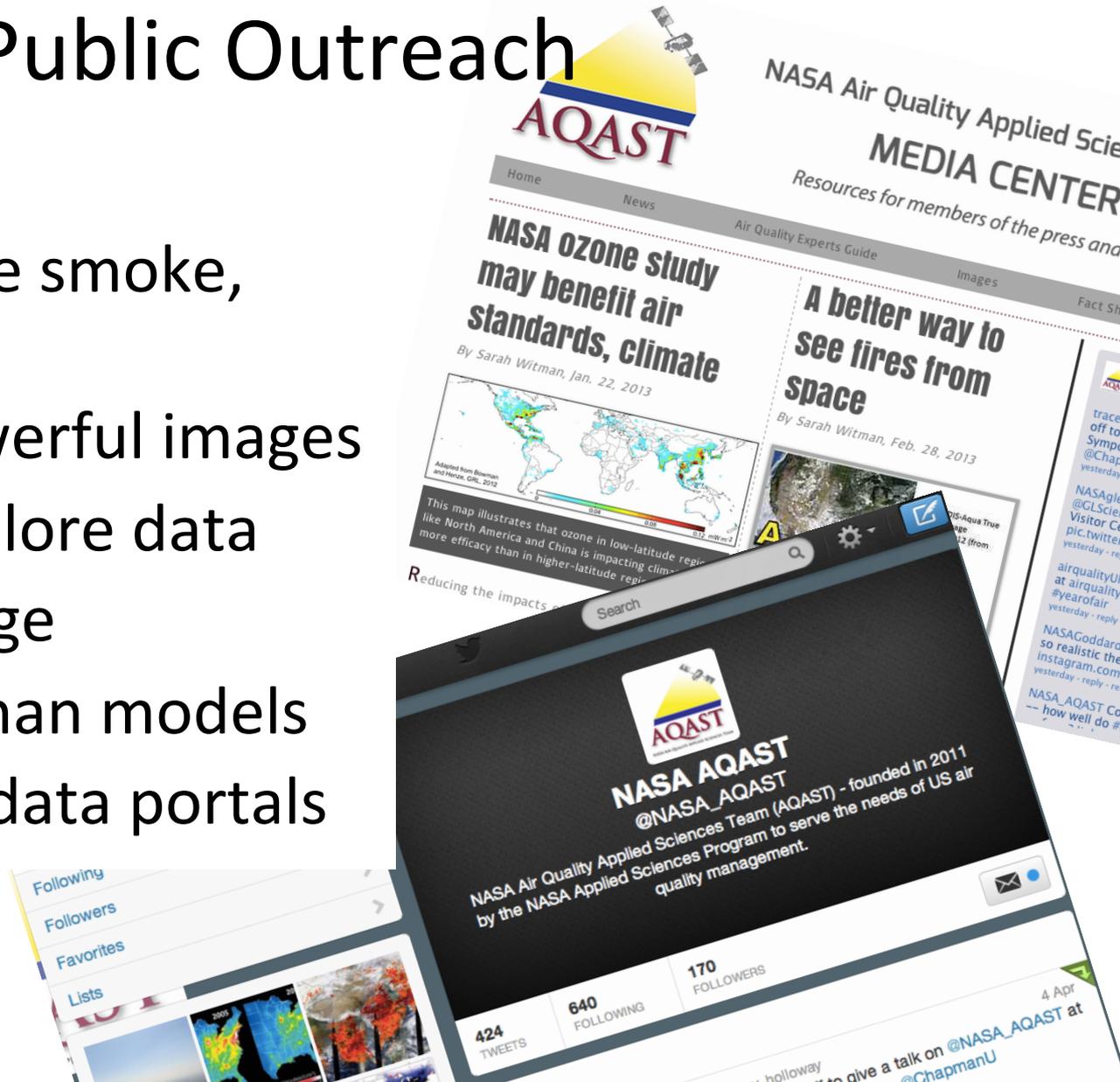
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Adapted from a slide of  
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# Benefits of Satellite Data for Public Outreach

- NASA is cool!
- Intuitive to see smoke, haze
- Engaging, powerful images
- Public can explore data
- Global coverage
- More “real” than models
- User-friendly data portals



# Case study: January '13 Beijing Smog



international

## Beijing's Pollution, Seen From Space In Before And After Photos

by ANDREW PRINCE

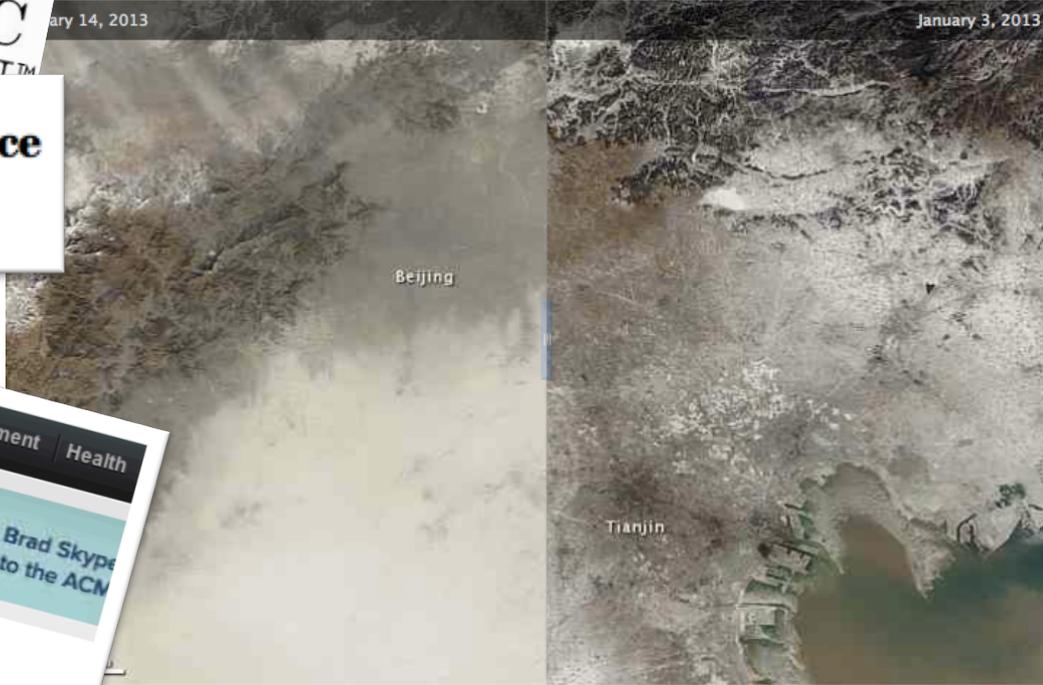
January 15, 2013 1:10 PM

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN



January 14, 2013

January 3, 2013



## Beijing's air pollution as seen from space

By D... Wogan | January 15, 2013 | 9



Video US World Politics Entertainment Health



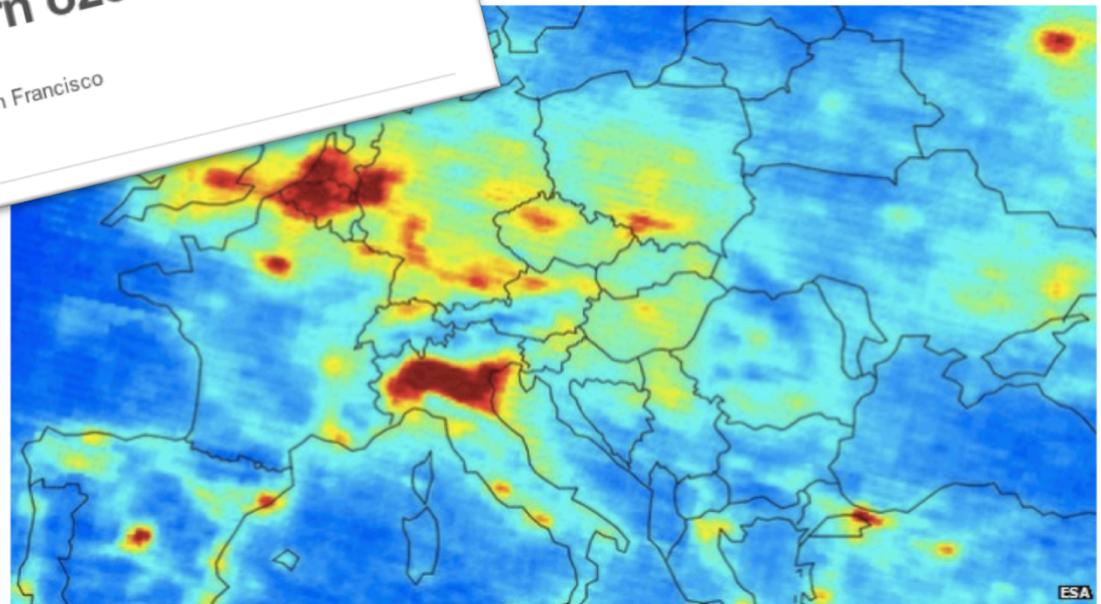
GO BEHIND THE SCENES WITH BRAD PAISLEY

Tune in to see Brad Skype fan leading up to the ACM

CBS/AP / January 15, 2013, 11:25 AM

## NASA releases images of Beijing air pollution

# Case study: OMI NO<sub>2</sub> in BBC



Nitrogen oxides are produced from many sources including power stations, motor vehicles, and industrial and domestic heating systems

# The Path Forward...

- **Engage** air quality managers directly (responsive research, partnerships, twice yearly meetings)
- Use **stakeholder input** to inform future missions
- Develop **analysis methods** to support satellite use for air quality management
- Build **new tools and data sets** to meet user needs



twitter



Twitter @NASA\_AQAST

Thank you!

[www.aqast.org](http://www.aqast.org)

[www.aqast-media.org](http://www.aqast-media.org)



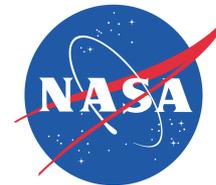
**NASA Air Quality Applied Sciences Team**

*Earth Science Serving Air Quality Management Needs*



# 2.5 Year Accomplishments

Quick, collaborative, flexible,  
responsive to the needs of the AQ  
community



[www.aqast.org](http://www.aqast.org)