

Tropospheric Ozone and Air Quality

AOSC 433/633 & CHEM 433

Ross Salawitch

Class Web Site: <http://www.atmos.umd.edu/~rjs/class/spr2017>

Today:

- **Tropospheric ozone production mechanism (CO, NO_x, and VOCs)**
- **Recent improvements of air quality**
- **Coupling of meteorology, and perhaps climate change, to air quality**

Lecture 12

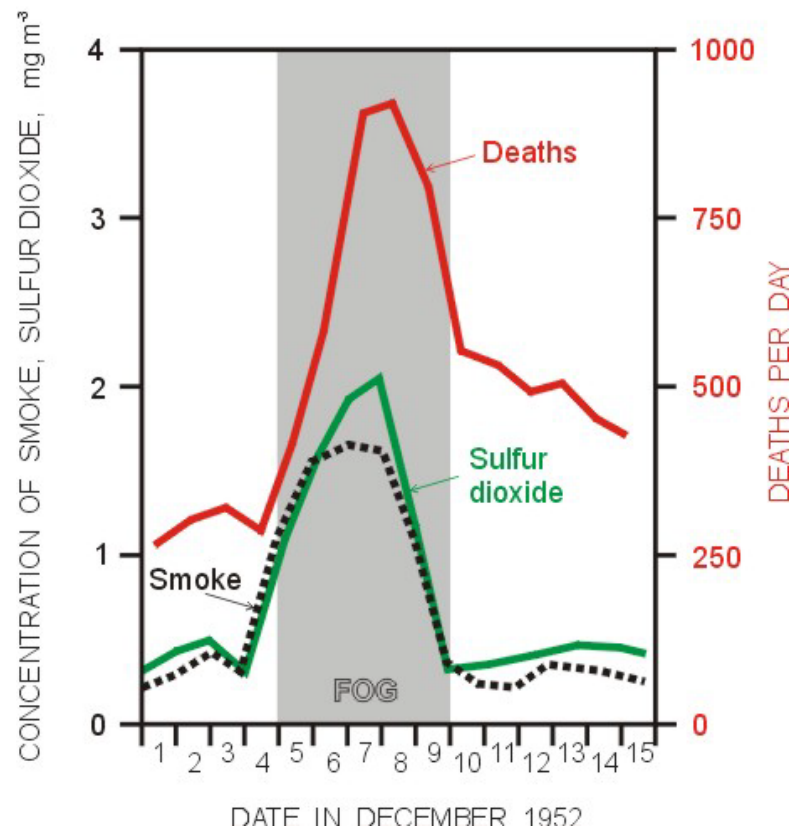
16 March 2017

Student Projects

- **Mandatory for 633 students:** project grade will count towards final grade in an amount equal to each exam
- Due Wednesday, 10 May 2017... you're welcome to complete sooner
- ~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
- ~10 min project presentations 6:30 pm, 10 May: everyone encouraged to attend
- Request all students who will complete a project to provide a **2 to 3 sentence description 2 weeks** from today: **Thurs, 30 March 2017**
Please use next **2 weeks** to speak to me about a project topic
- Finally, I am delighted to provide feedback on your project (paper & presentation) if given the opportunity

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>

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 ^a	Pop. (millions)	ΔO_3 (ppbv)	Premature mortalities (/yr)
Europe	688.9	6.0	18,800
Northern Africa	626.4	4.1	10 700
Near/Middle East ^b	408.6	7.0	8400
Former Soviet Union ^c	98.7	4.5	1700
South Asia ^d	1267.1	0.8	3800
East Asia ^e	1518.5	1.4	5800
Southeast Asia ^f	361.9	0.4	300
America	578.7	0.9	1400
Total Northern Hemisphere	5548.8	2.5	51 000

^a Regions are defined in only the Northern Hemisphere.

^b Turkey, Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, countries on the Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

^c East of 60° E; west of 60° E and north of 44° N is considered part of the “Europe” region.

^d India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Bhutan.

^e Japan, Mongolia, China, Taiwan, North Korea, and South Korea.

^f Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Singapore, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei, and the Northern Hemisphere portion of Indonesia.

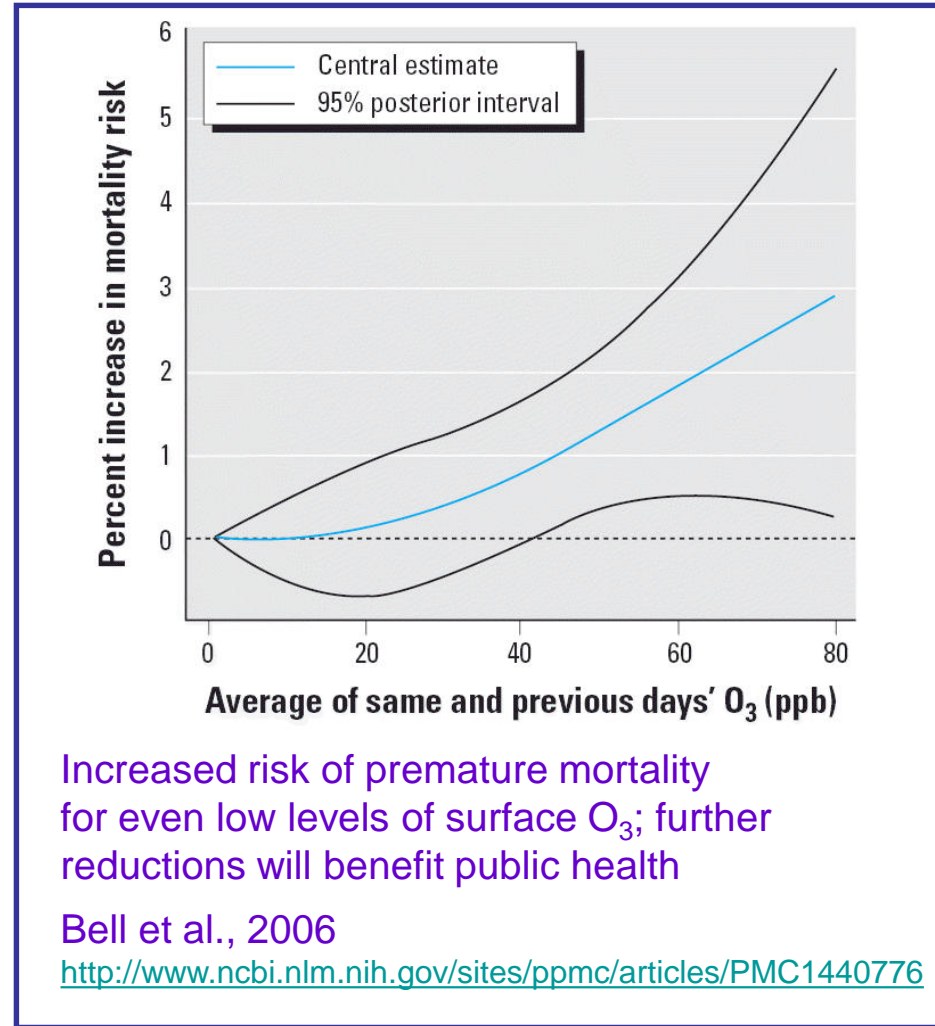
Duncan *et al.*, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 2008

Air Quality Standards and Why We Care

Year	Averaging Period	EPA Surface Ozone Standard
1979	1 hr	125 ppb
1997	8 hr	85 ppb
2008	8 hr	75 ppb
2015 [#]	8 hr [*]	70 ppb

* The 8 hr standard is met when the 3-yr average of the annual 4th highest daily maximum 8 hr O₃ is less than 70 ppb

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



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 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	
Carbon monoxide			
8-hr average	9	10,000	
1-hr average	35	40,000	
Nitrogen dioxide			
Annual average	0.053	100	← 1 hr 100 ppb is primary standard, Feb 2010
Ozone			
8-hr average	0.075	147	
1-hr average	0.12	235	← 8 hr 70 ppb is standard, Oct 2015
Particulates*			
PM ₁₀ , annual average	—	50	← No annual average standard, Dec 2012
PM ₁₀ , 24-hr average	—	150	
PM _{2.5} , annual average	—	15	← Lowered to 12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, Dec 2012
PM _{2.5} , 24-hr average [†]	—	35	
Sulfur dioxide			
Annual average	0.03	80	
24-hr average	0.14	365	
3-hr average	0.50	1,300	← 1 hr , 75 ppb is primary standard, Jun 2010

*PM₁₀ refers to all airborne particles 10 μm in diameter or less. PM_{2.5} refers to particles 2.5 μm in diameter or less.

—The unit of ppm is not applicable to particulates.

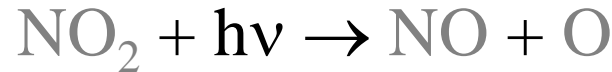
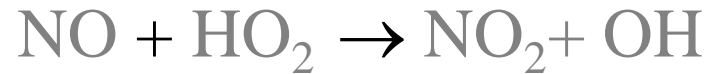
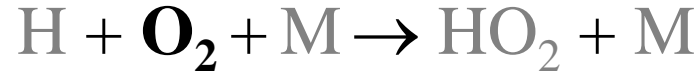
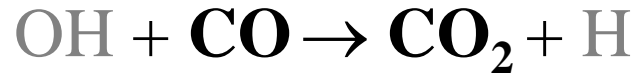
[†]PM_{2.5} standards are likely to be revised after 2011.

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

Chemistry in Context

Criteria pollutant: common-place and detrimental to human welfare

Tropospheric Ozone Production



NO & NO₂: Emitted by fossil fuel combustion & biomass burning



CO: Emitted by fossil fuel combustion & biomass burning

Complete combustion:



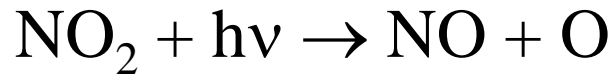
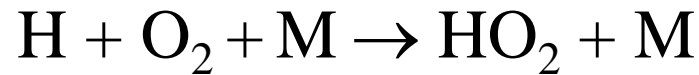
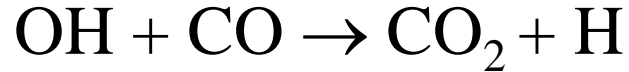
Extreme, incomplete combustion:



OH & HO₂: ????

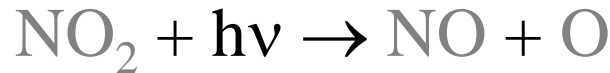
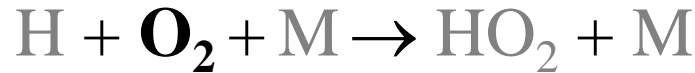
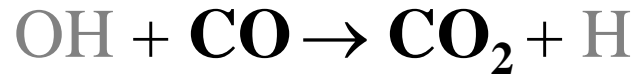
Tropospheric Ozone Production

Suppose NO is converted to NO₂ by reaction with O₃ :



Net:

Tropospheric Ozone Production

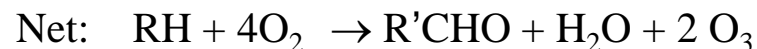
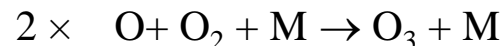
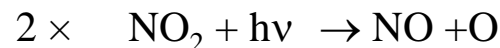
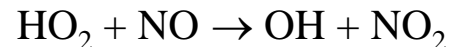
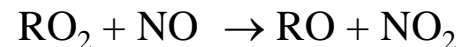
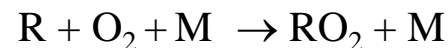
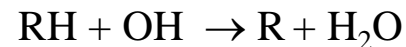
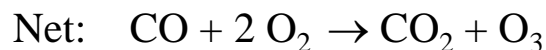
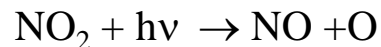
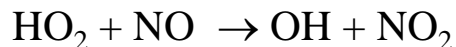
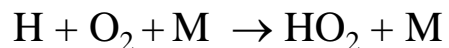
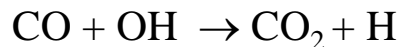


Chain Mechanism for production of ozone

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 NO₂ is crucial for whether O₃ is produced by this chain mechanism, chemists consider production of tropospheric ozone to be “limited” by $k[\text{HO}_2][\text{NO}]$

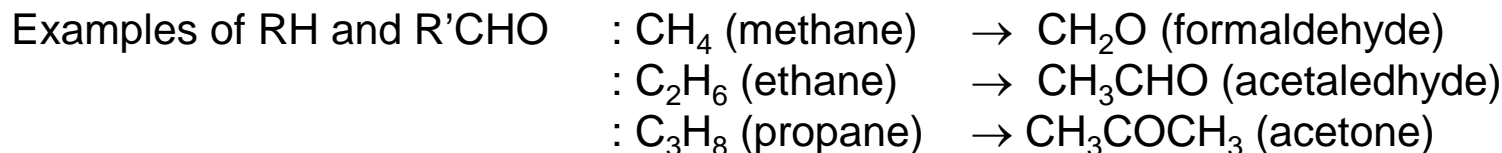
Tropospheric Ozone Production



VOC: Volatile Organic Compounds

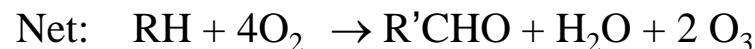
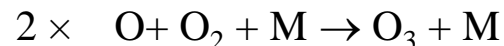
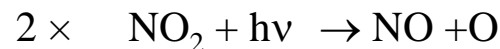
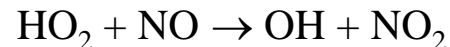
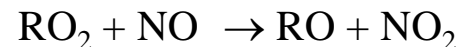
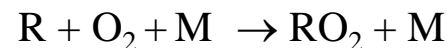
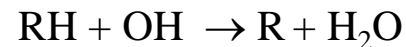
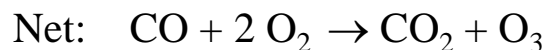
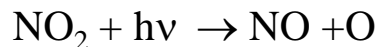
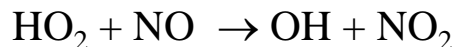
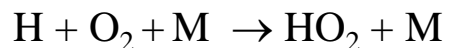
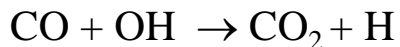
Produced by trees and fossil fuel vapor

Strong source of HO_x (OH & HO_2) & O_3 (depending on 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

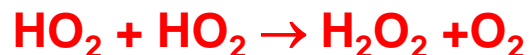


Chain Mechanism for production of ozone

Chemical Initiation: Human emission of NO, CO and either human (RO₂) or natural (HO₂) hydrogen radicals

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

Termination: can occur via either:



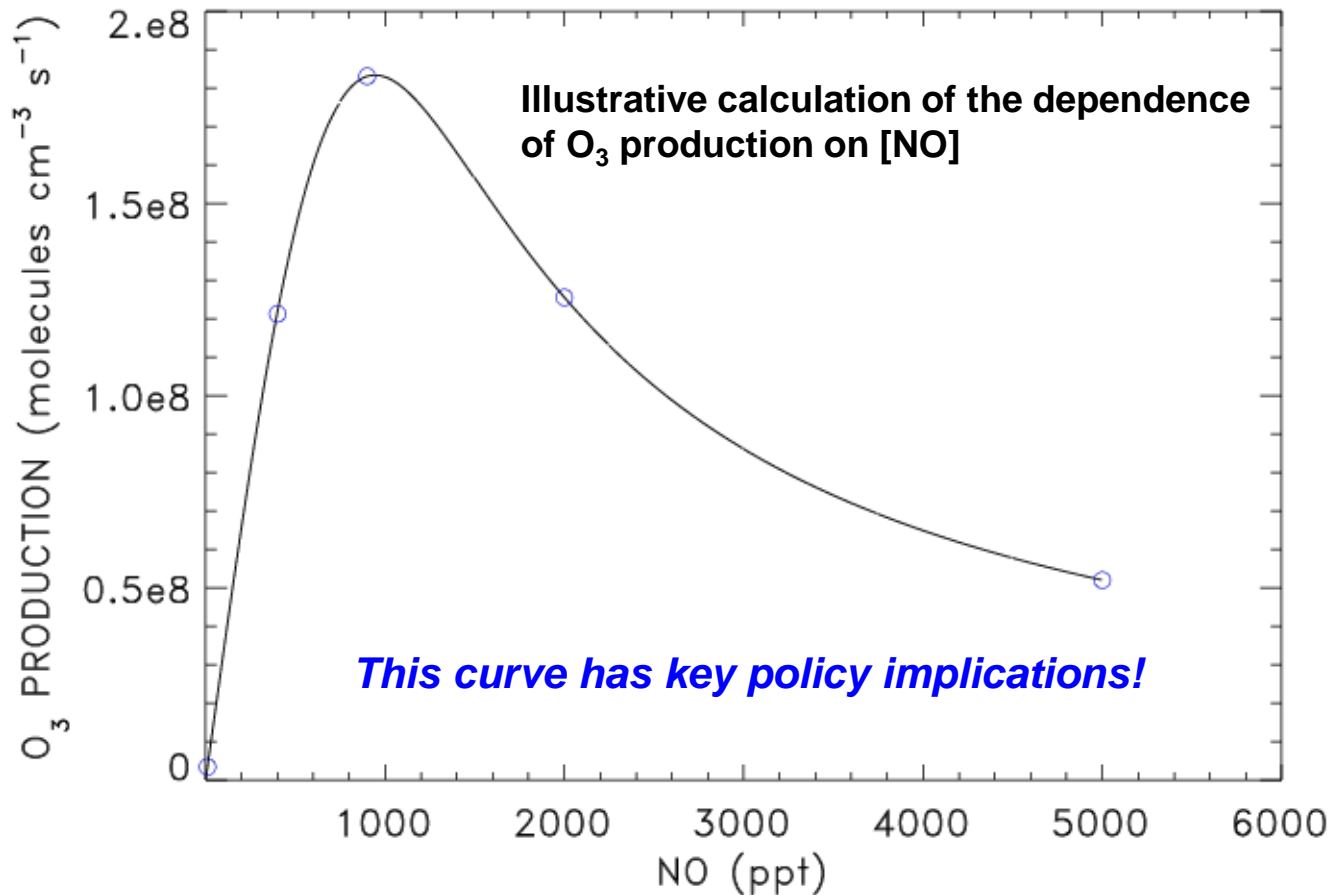
or



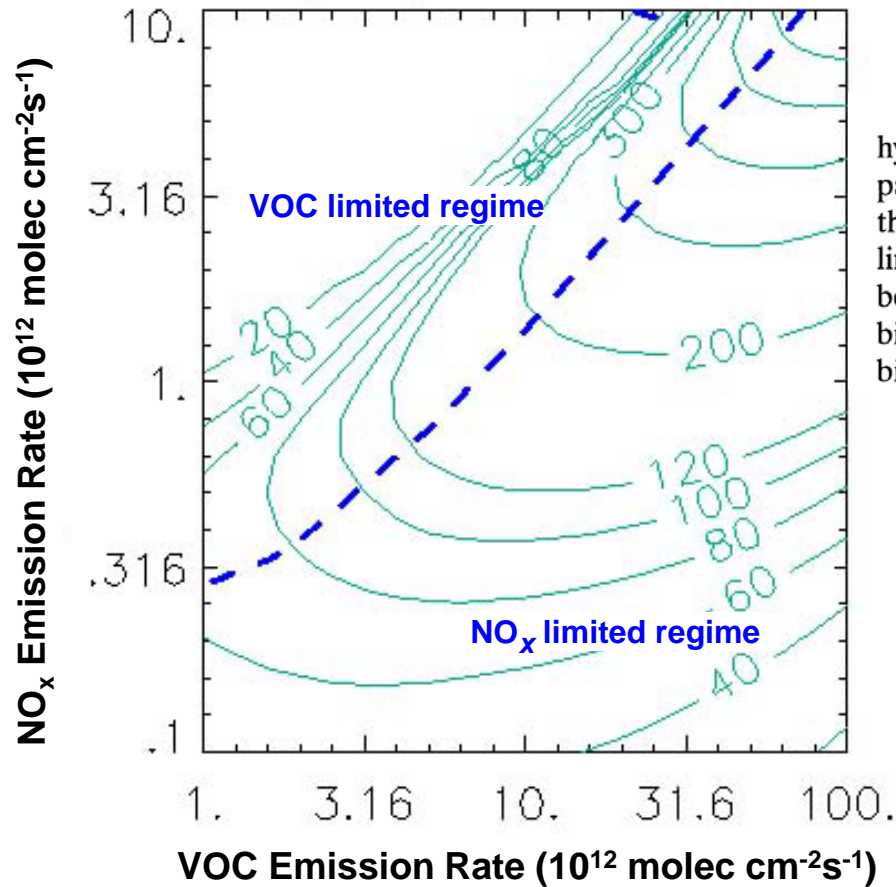
Tropospheric Ozone Production versus NO

As NO_x rises:

$[\text{HO}_2]$ falls faster than $[\text{NO}]$ 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_3 .



Tropospheric Ozone Production versus NO_x and VOCs



An important discovery in the past decade is that the focus on hydrocarbon emission controls to combat O_3 pollution may have been partly misdirected. Measurements and model calculations now show that O_3 production over most of the United States is primarily 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

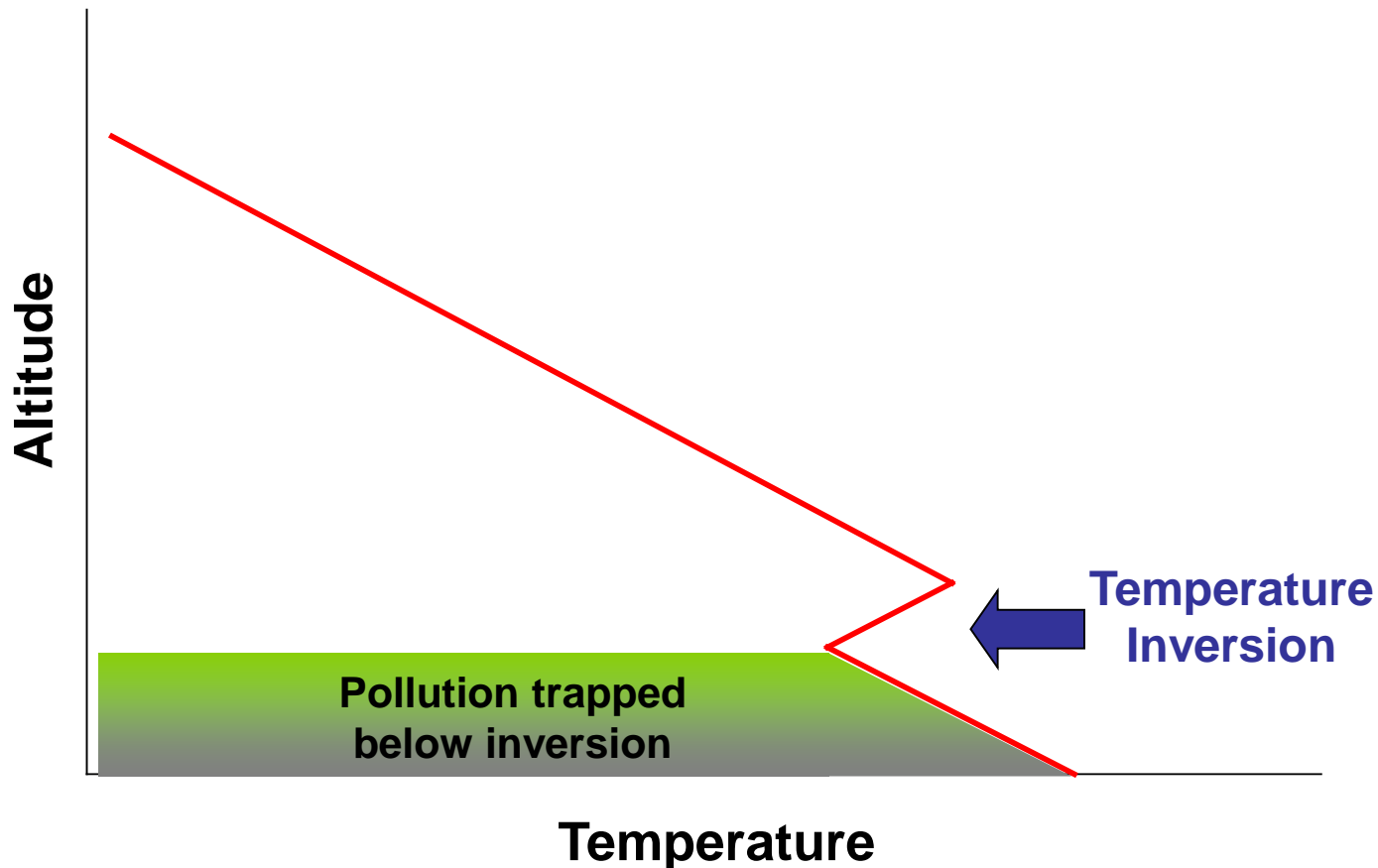
Figure: <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~sillman/ozone.htm>

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



Temperature Inversions and Air Quality

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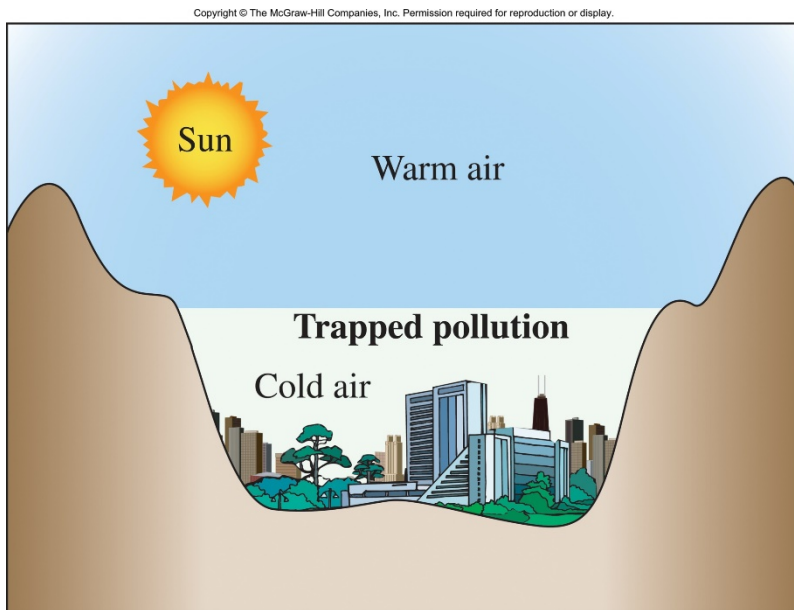
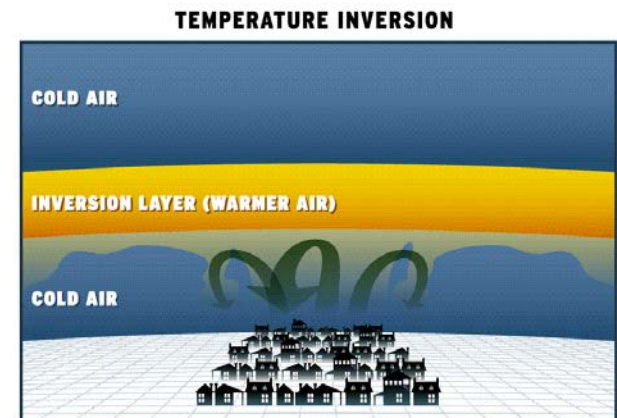
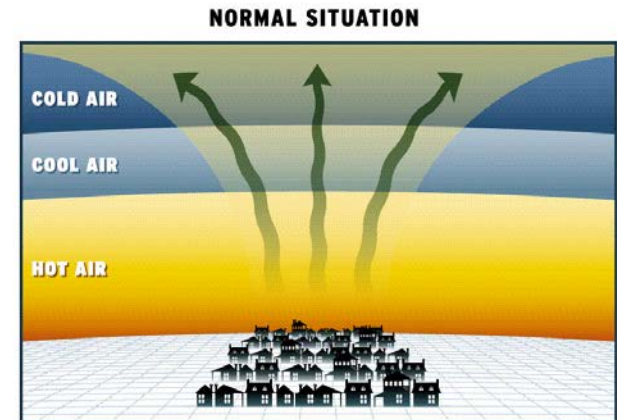


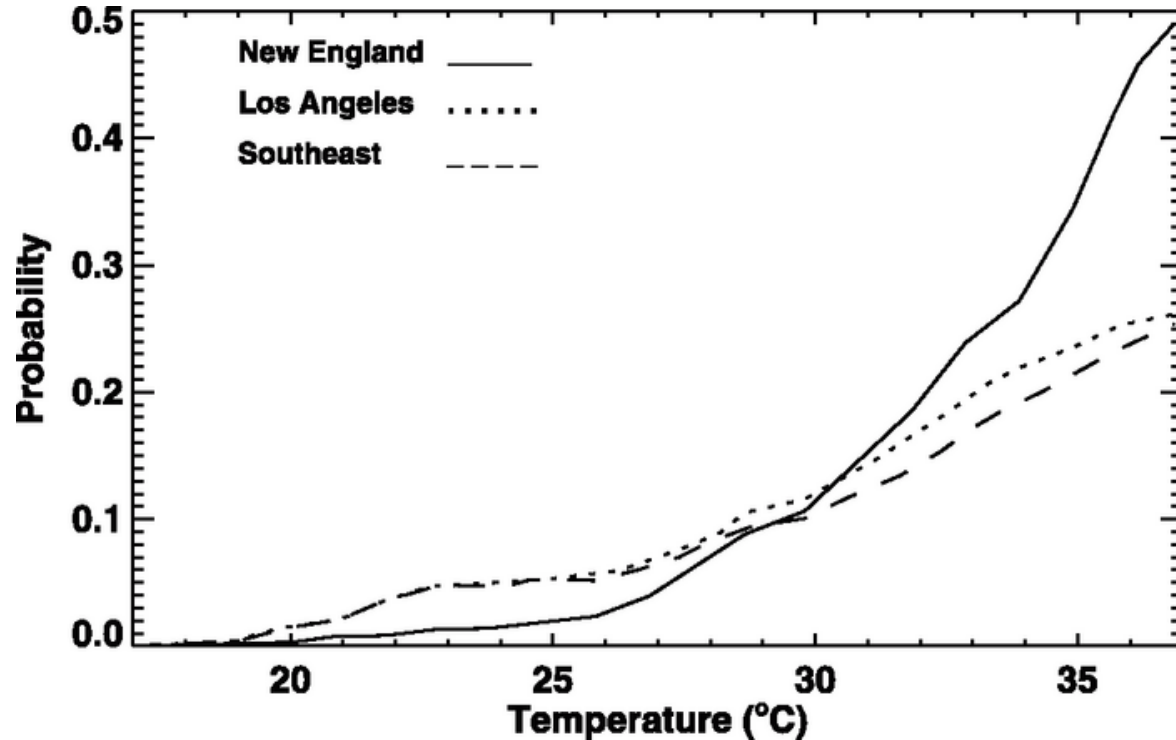
Figure 1.10, Chemistry in Context



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

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

Probability of ozone exceedance vs. daily max. temperature

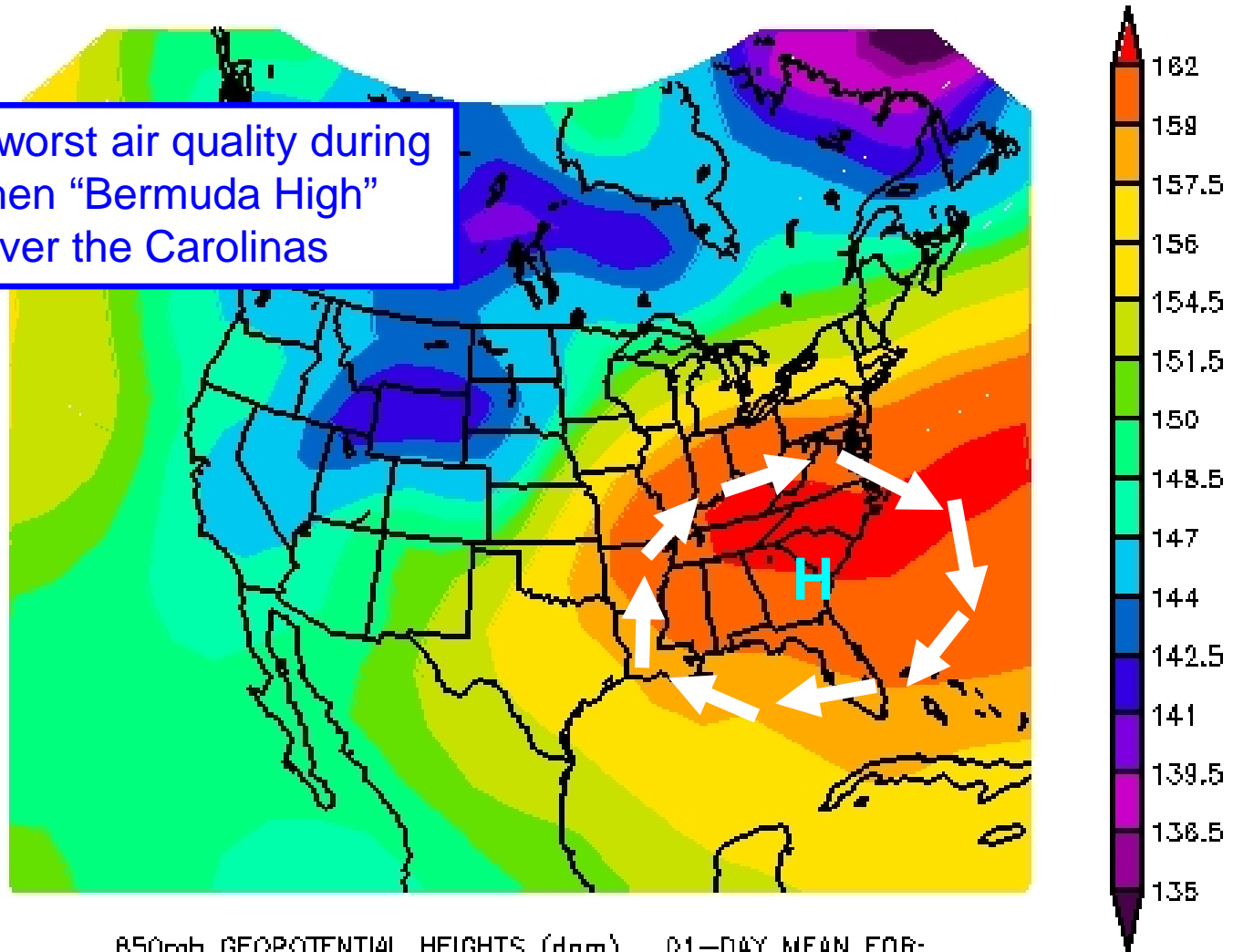


Lin et al. 2001

Why does probability of high ozone rise with increasing temperature?

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

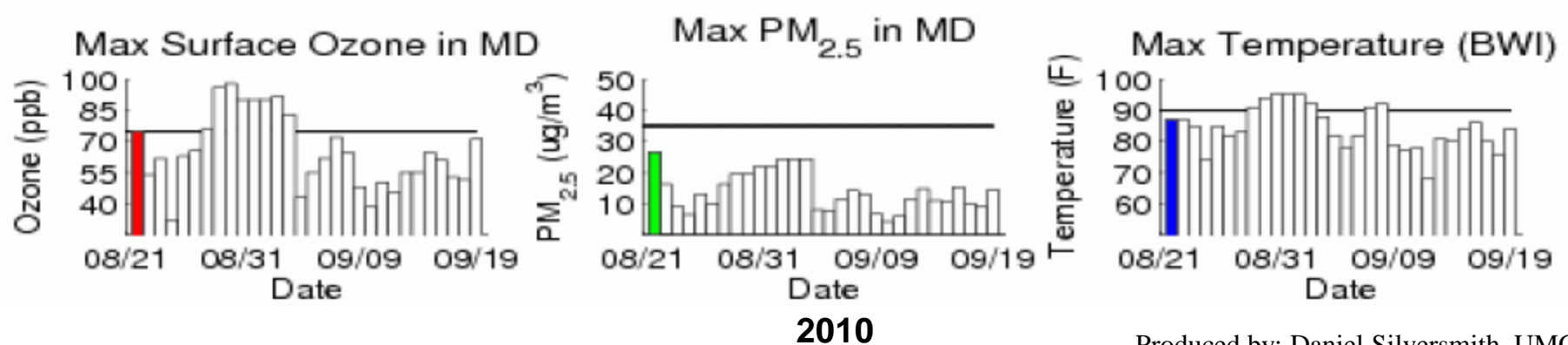
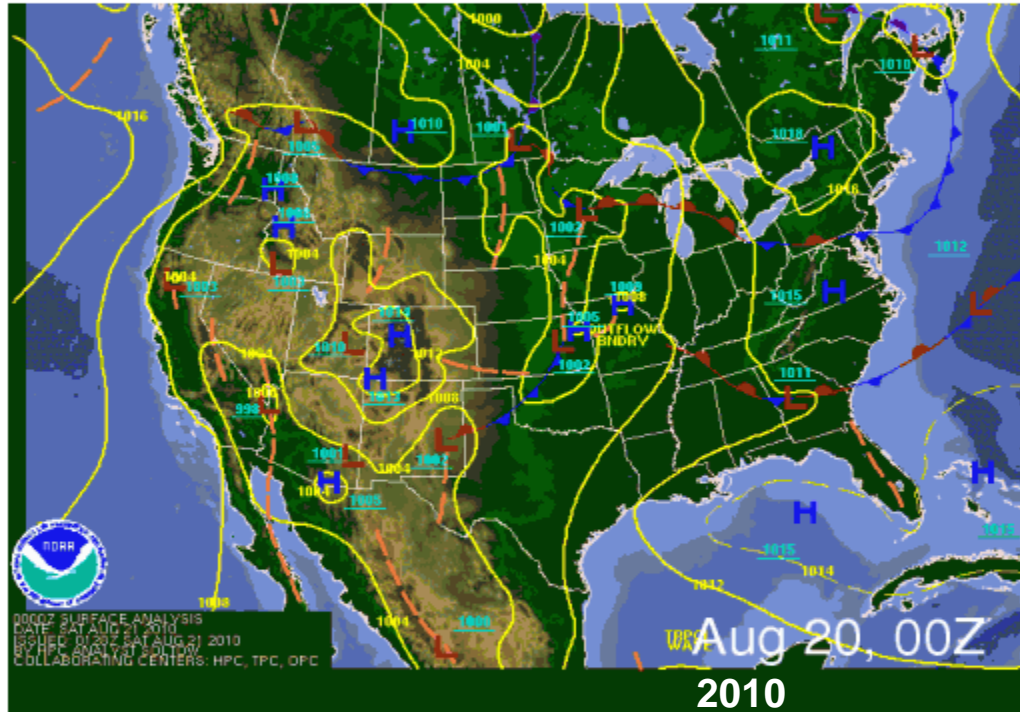


850mb GEOPOTENTIAL HEIGHTS (dam) 01-DAY MEAN FOR:
Sun JUL 04 1999

NCEP OPERATIONAL DATASET

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

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



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

Significant Improvements in U.S. Air Quality, Past 3 Decades

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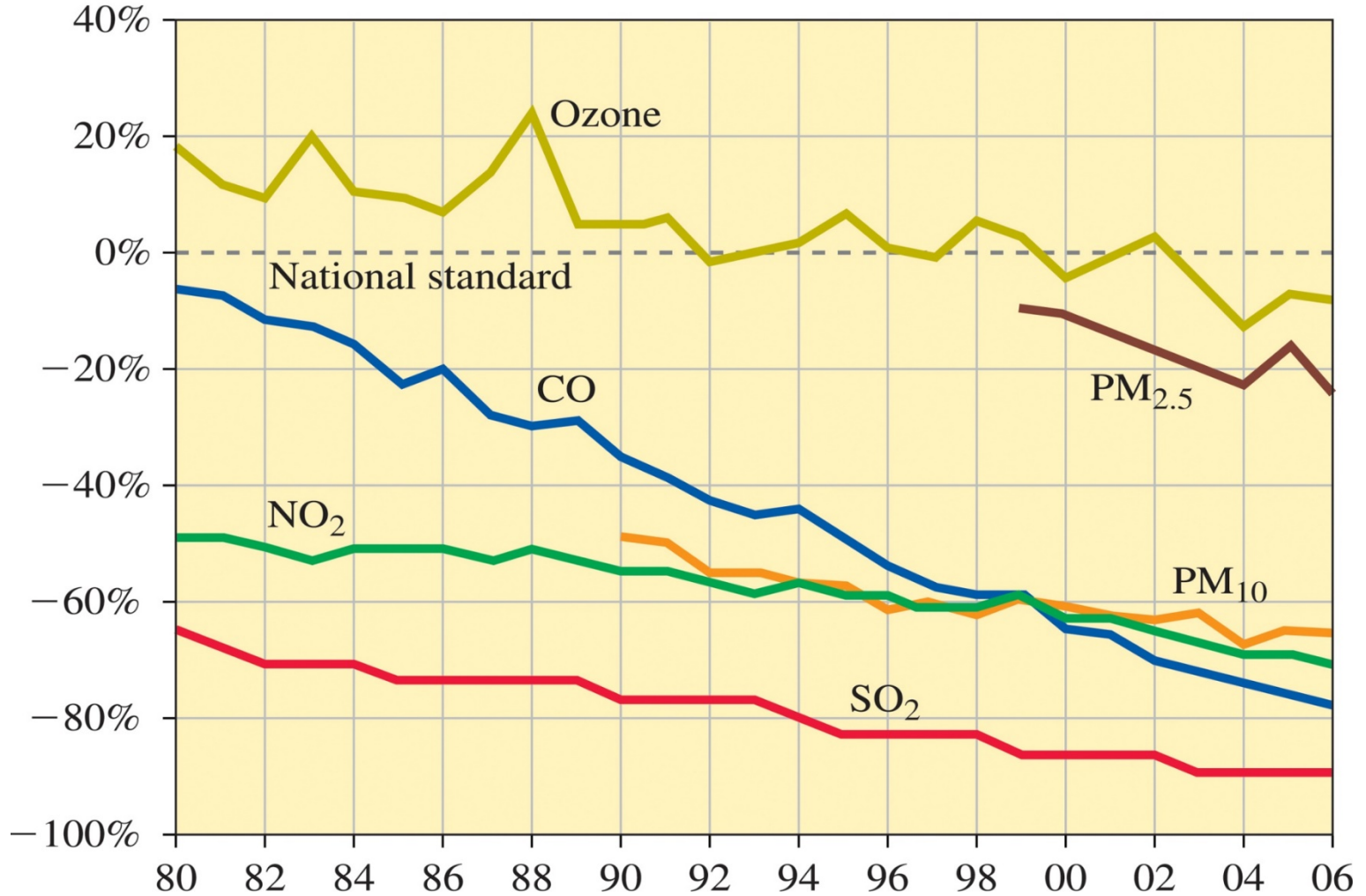
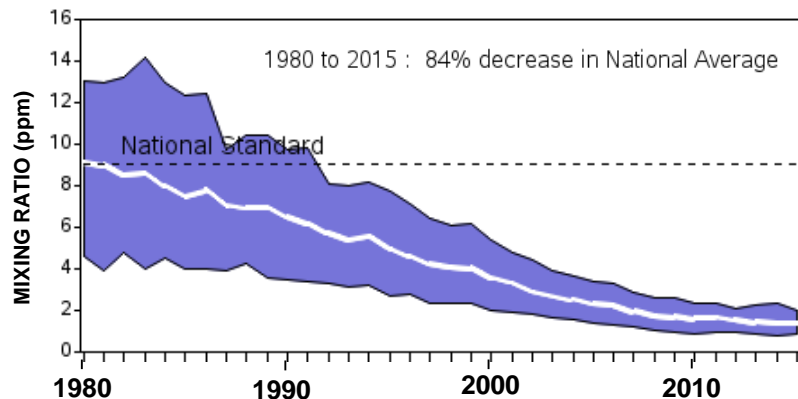


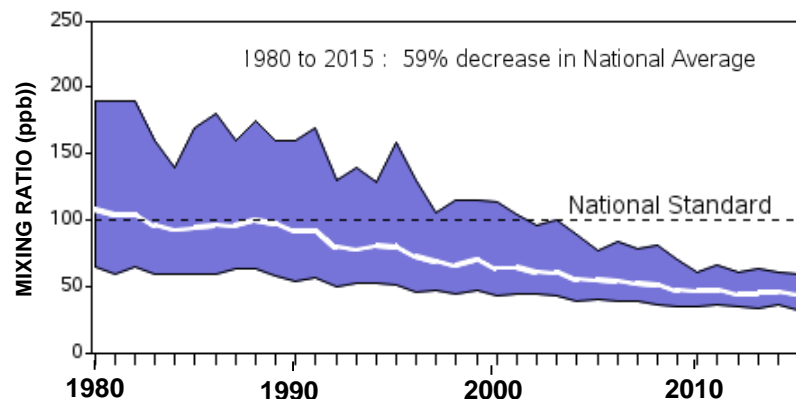
Figure 1.8, Chemistry in Context

Significant Improvements in U.S. Air Quality, Past 3 Decades

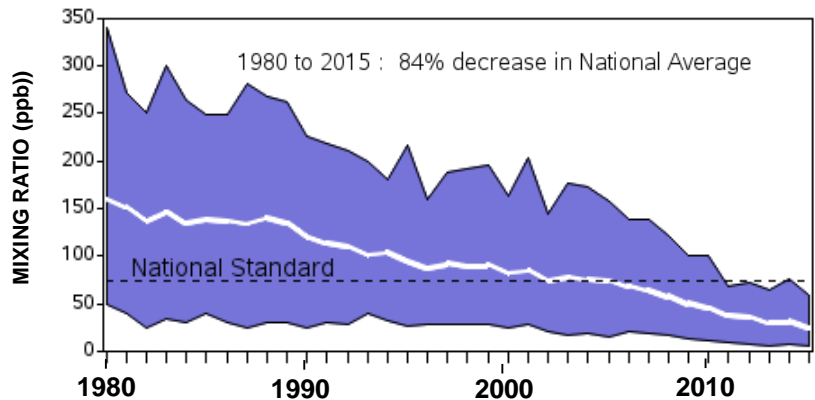
CO Air Quality, 1980 - 2015
 (Annual 2nd Maximum 8-hour Average)
 National Trend based on 69 Sites



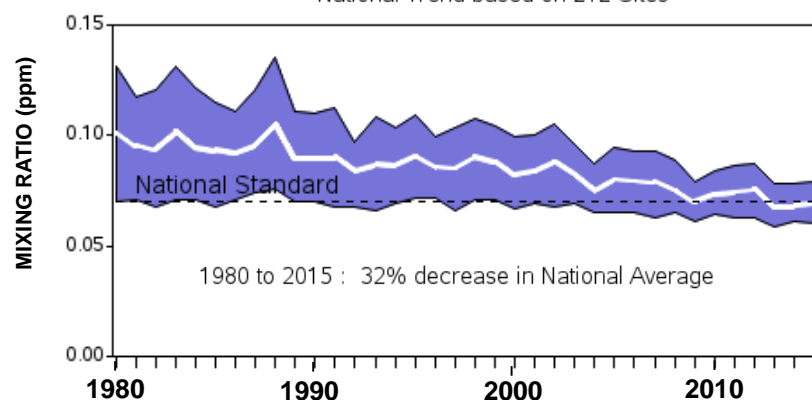
NO2 Air Quality, 1980 - 2015
 (Annual 98th Percentile of Daily Max 1-Hour Average)
 National Trend based on 26 Sites



SO2 Air Quality, 1980 - 2015
 (Annual 99th Percentile of Daily Max 1-Hour Average)
 National Trend based on 45 Sites

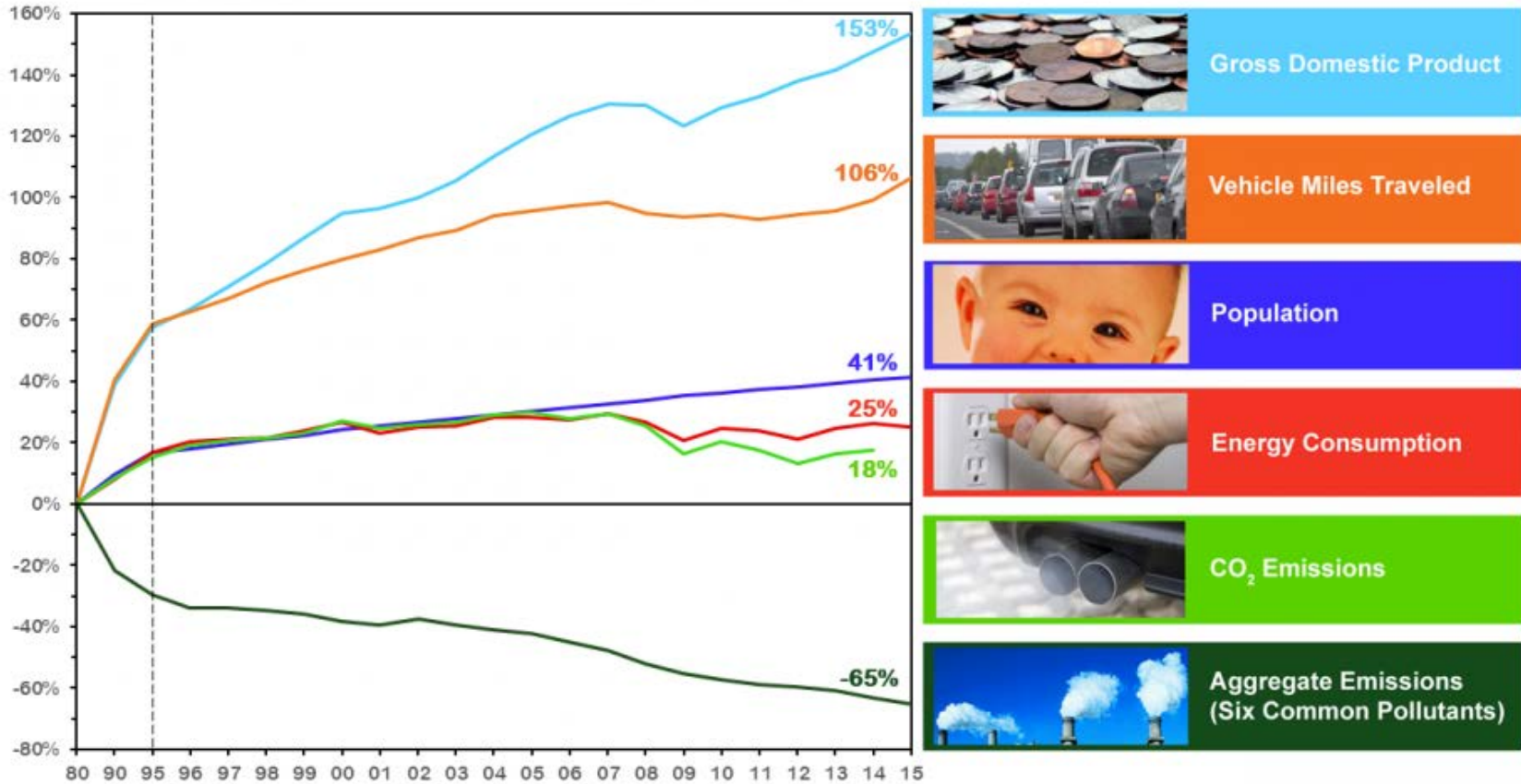


Ozone Air Quality, 1980 - 2015
 (Annual 4th Maximum of Daily Max 8-Hour Average)
 National Trend based on 212 Sites



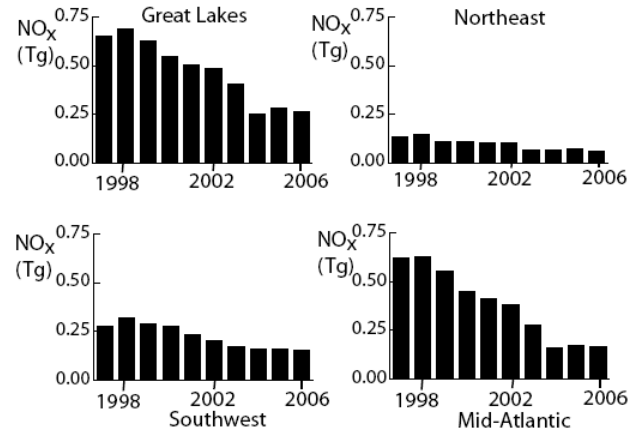
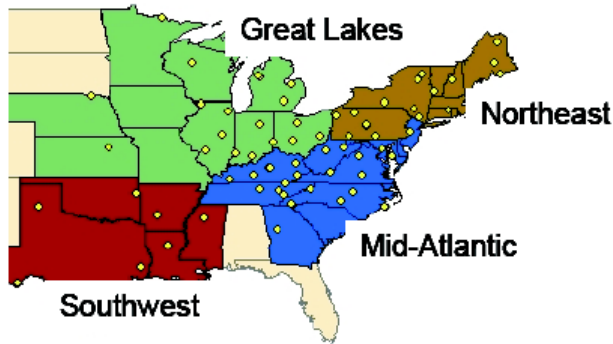
<http://www.epa.gov/airtrends>

Significant Improvements in U.S. Air Quality, Past 3.5 Decades

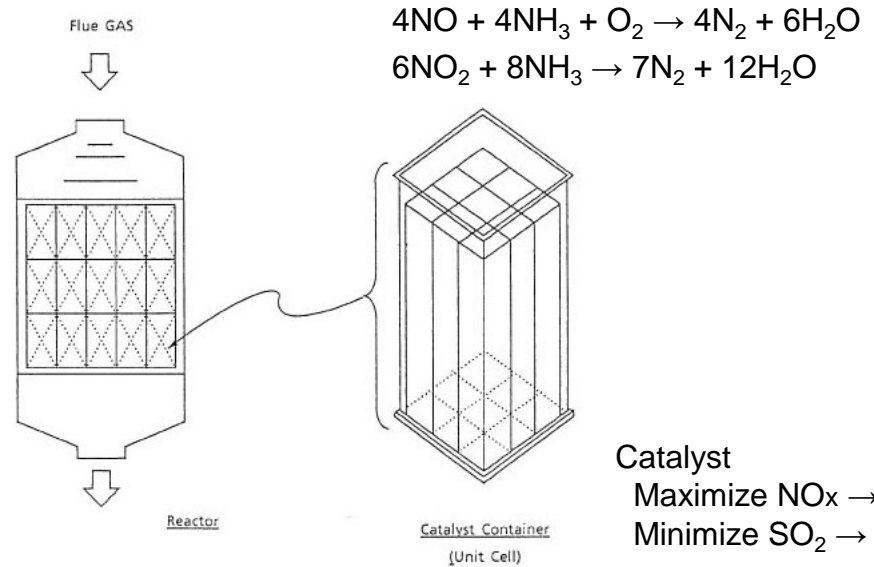


<https://www.epa.gov/air-trends/air-quality-national-summary>

Removal of NO_x from Power Plants



NO_x Control:
SCR Selective Catalytic Reduction



Slide courtesy John Sherwell, Md Dept of Natural Resources
<http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/bay/pprp>

Removal of NO_x from Power Plants

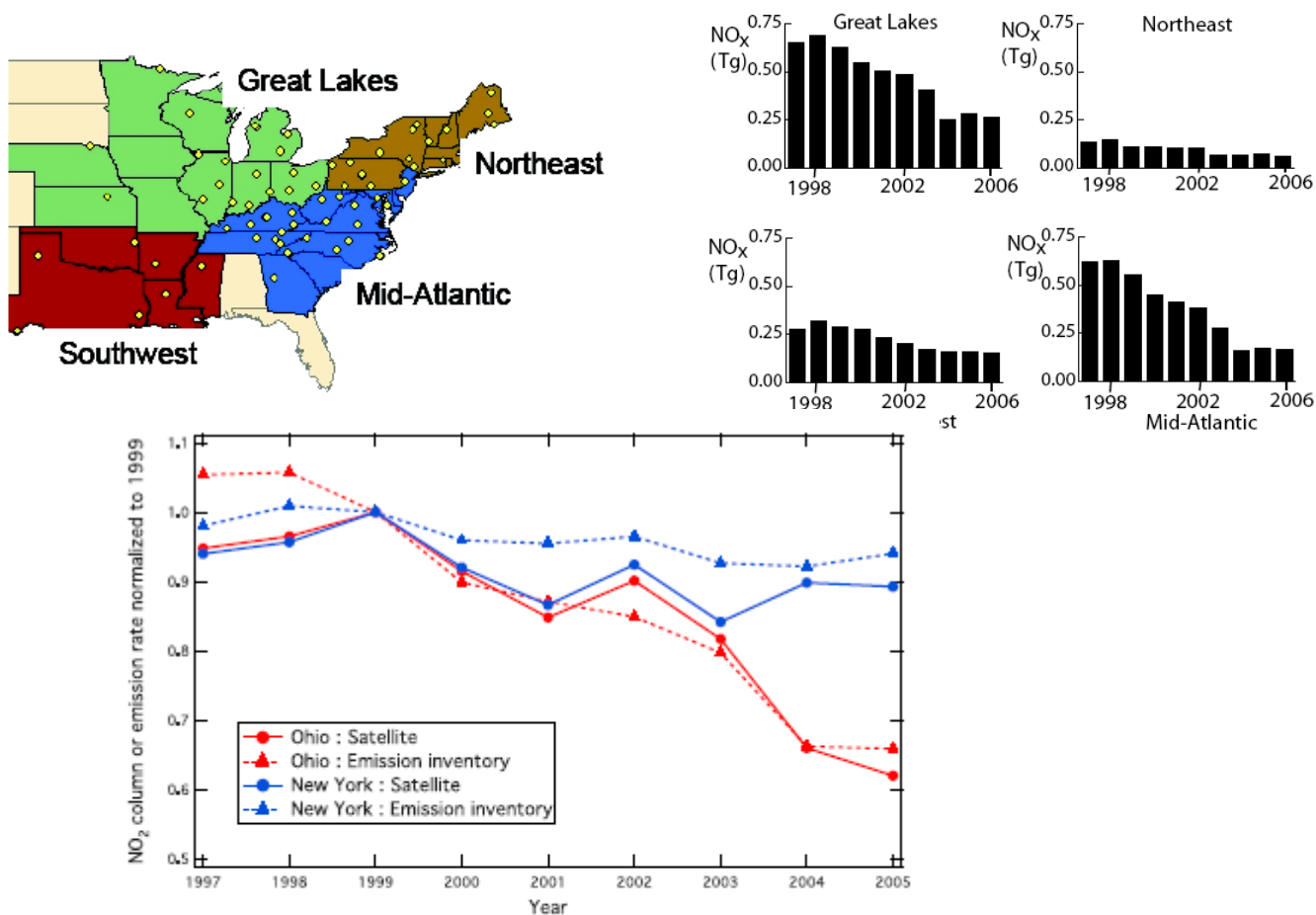


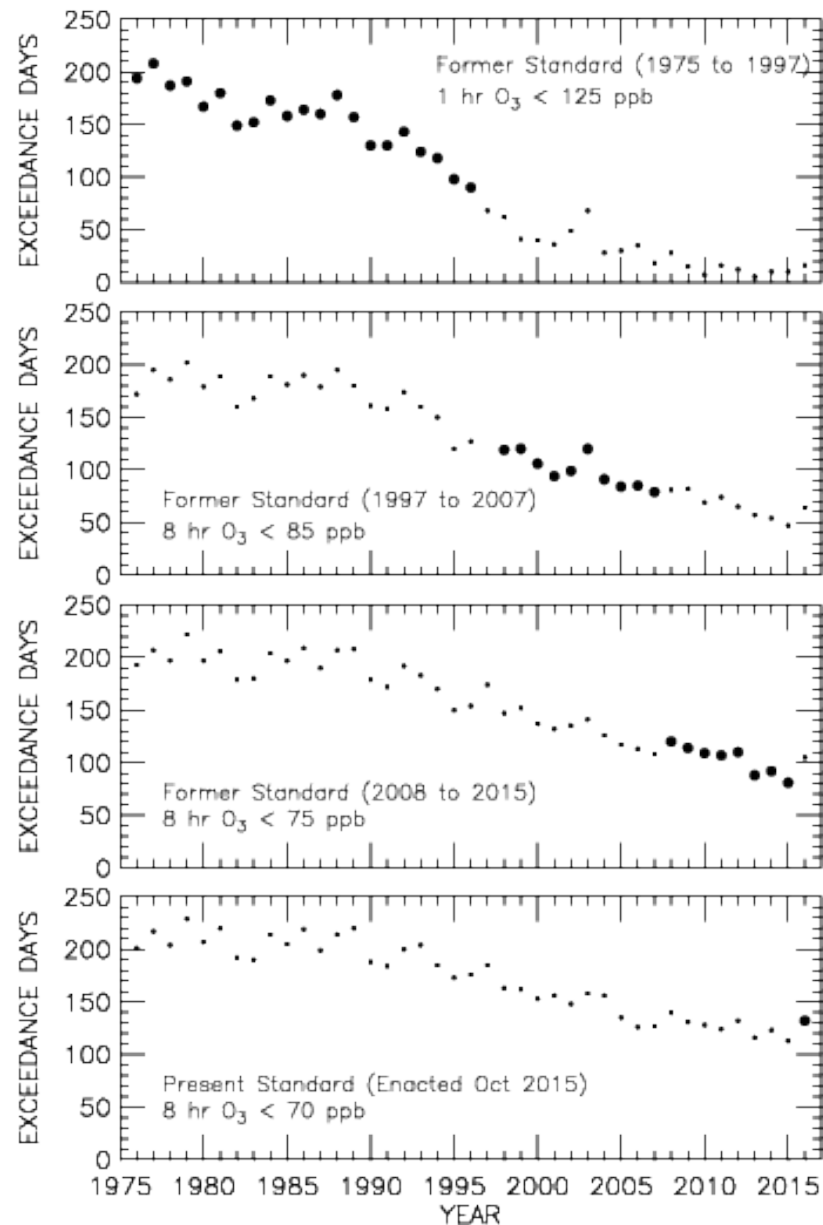
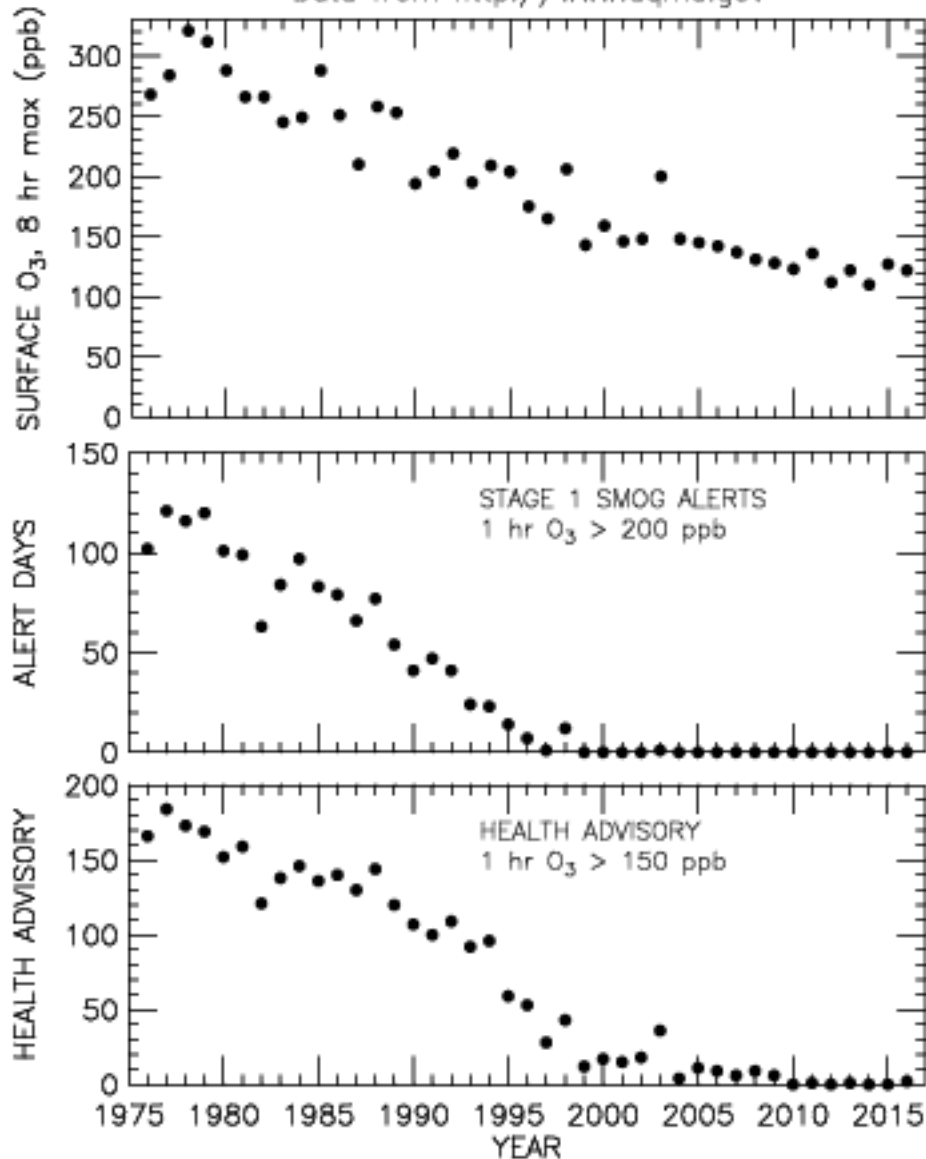
Figure 2. The trends in summertime (June–August) mean NO₂ columns from the GOME and SCIAMACHY satellites and the bottom-up NO_x emission rates in the Ohio River Valley and the northeast U.S. urban corridor during 1997–2005. SCIAMACHY data are used for 2003–2005, while GOME data are utilized for the earlier period. Data are normalized to 1999 values.

Kim *et al.*, *GRL*, 2006

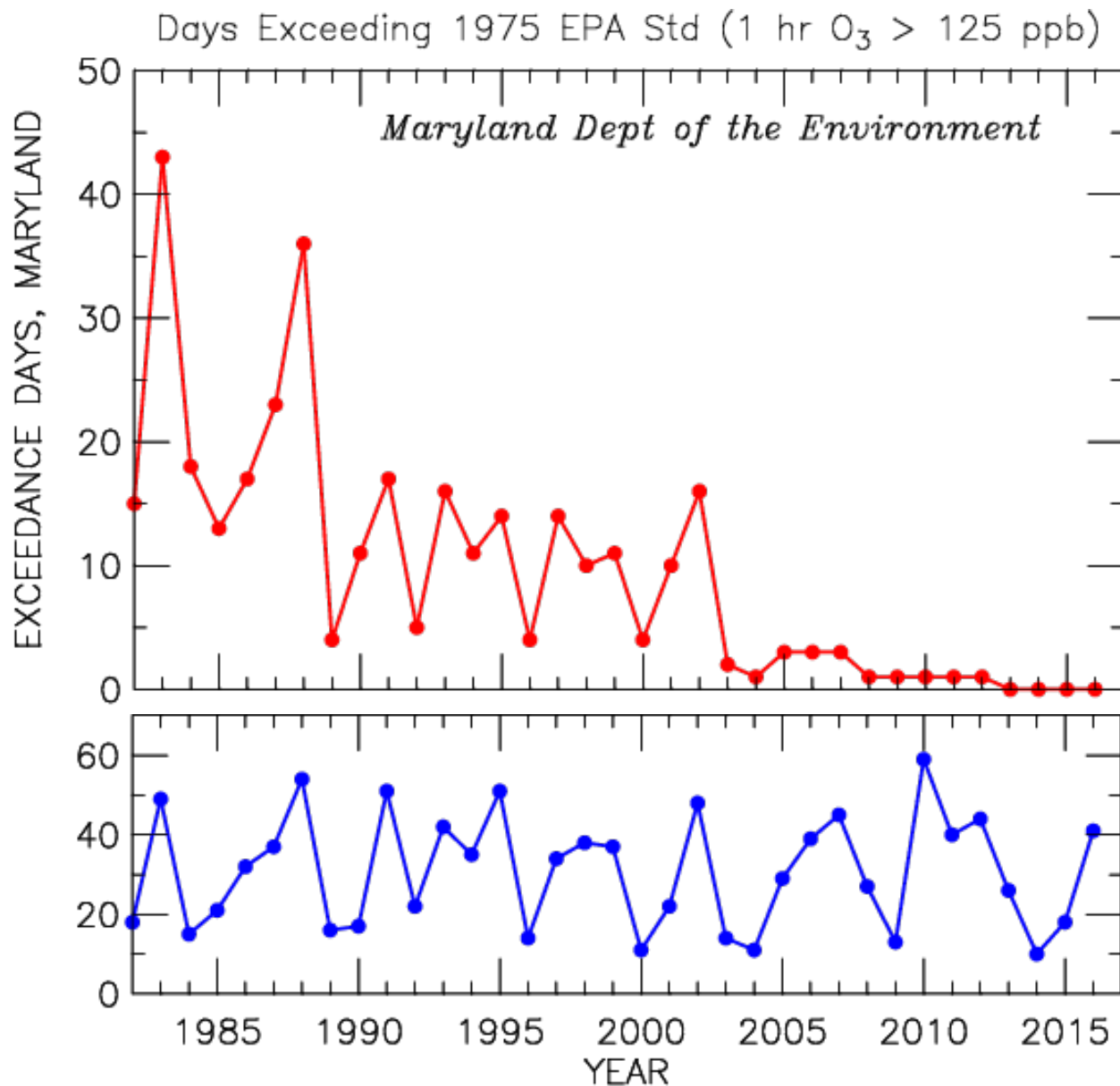
Dramatic Improvements California Air Quality, Past 4 Decades

Southern California

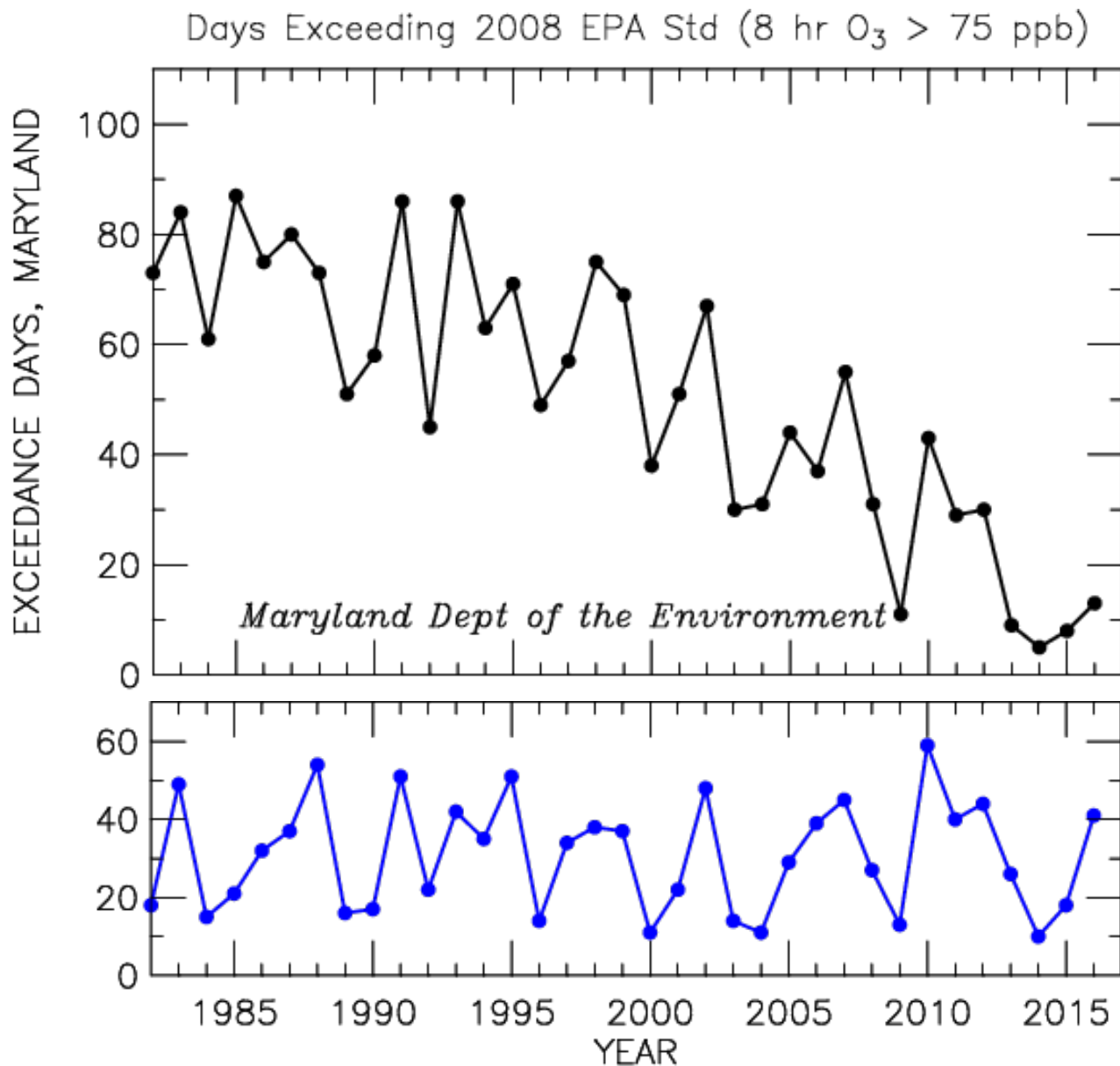
Data from <http://www.aqmd.gov>



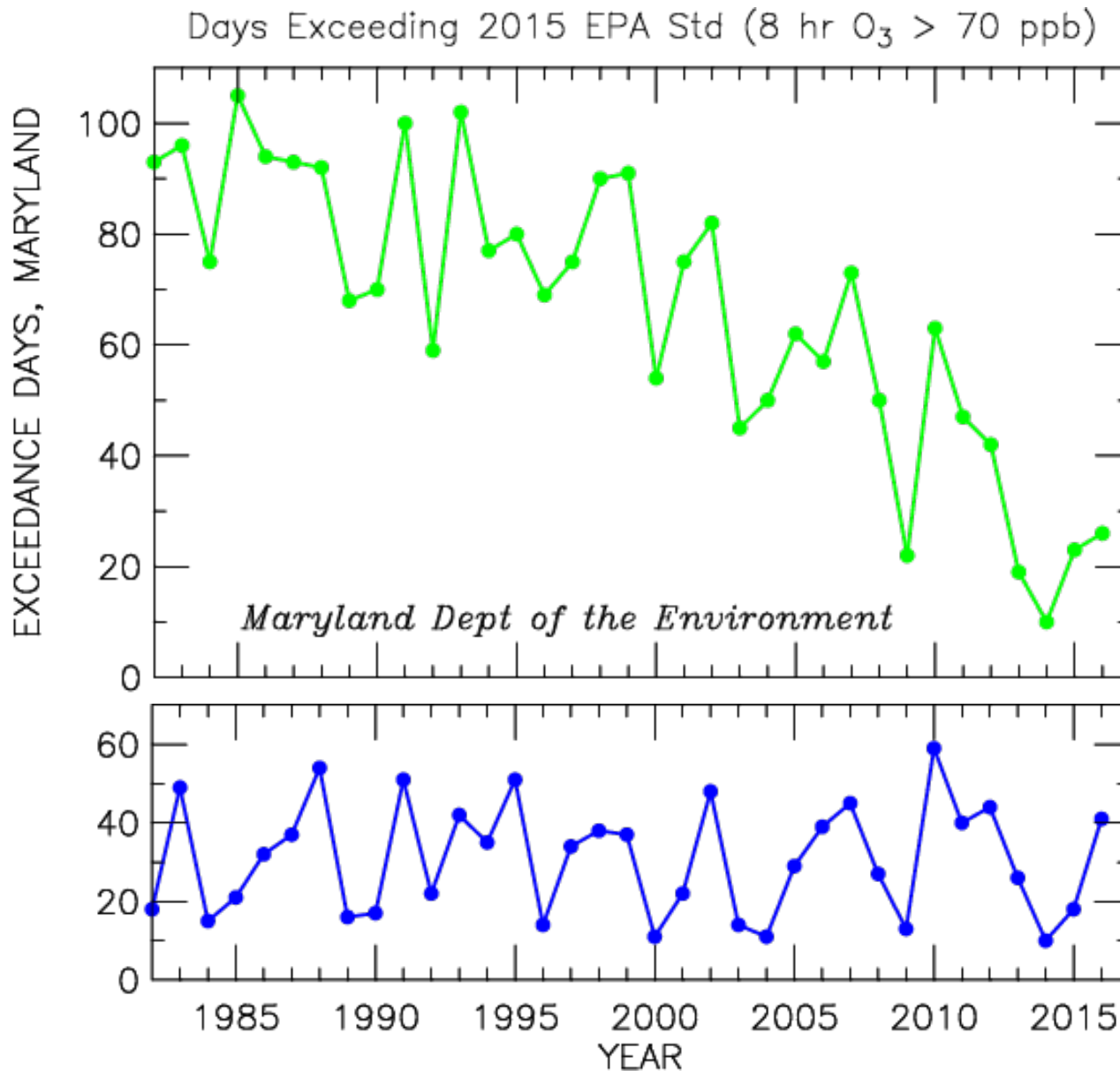
Dramatic Improvements Local Air Quality, Past 4 Decades



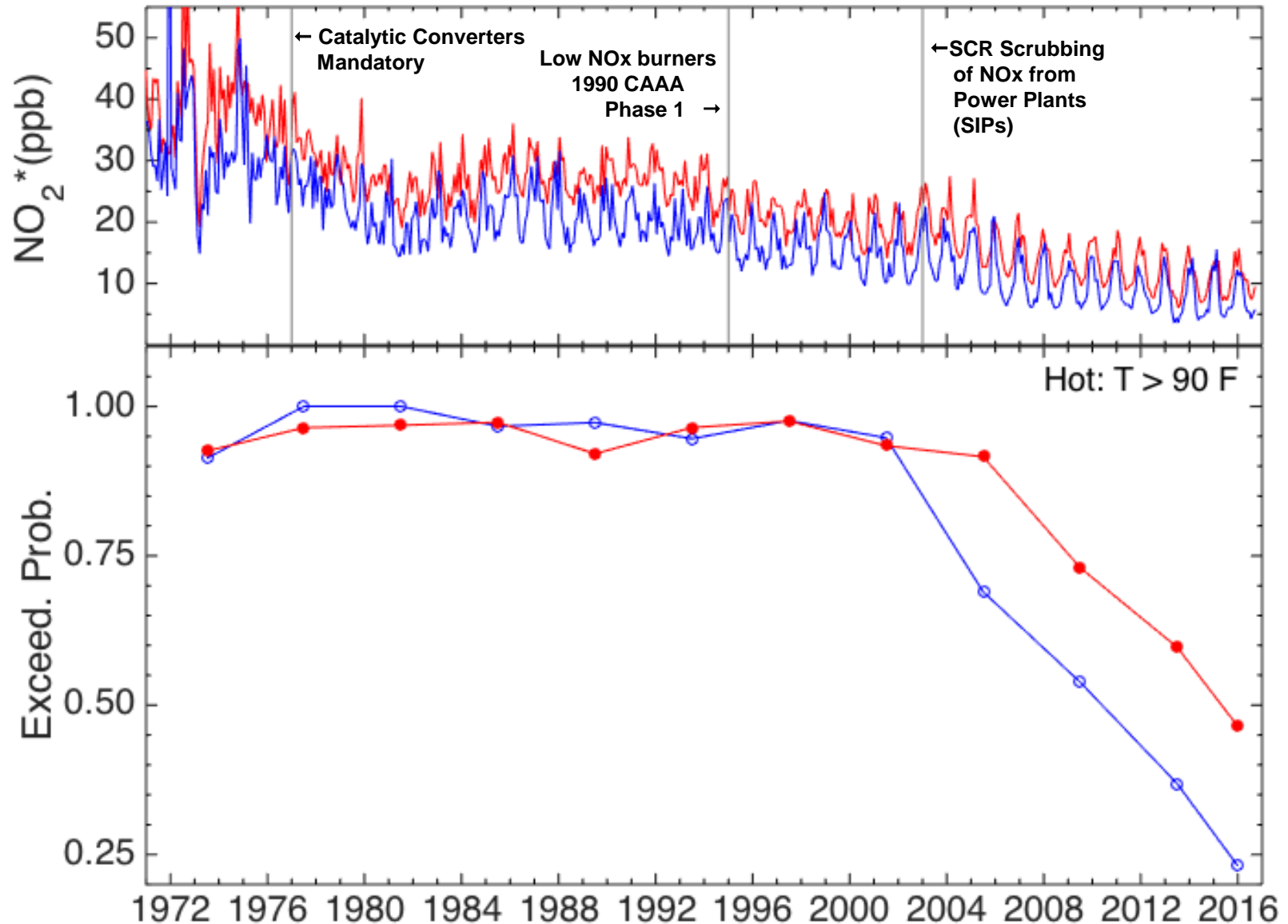
Dramatic Improvements Local Air Quality, Past 4 Decades



Dramatic Improvements Local Air Quality, Past 4 Decades

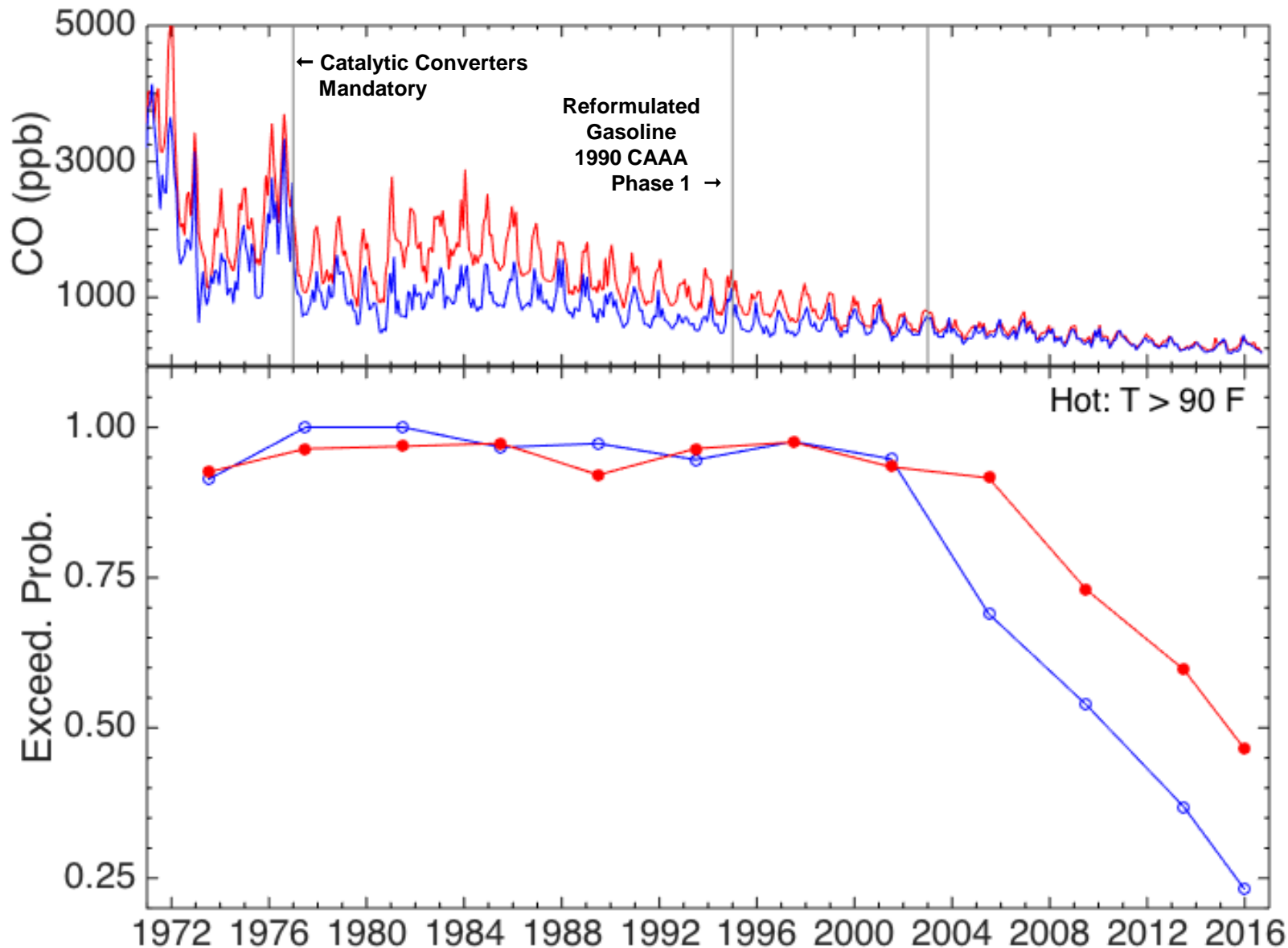


Probability of Surface O₃ Exceedance: DC, MD, and Northern VA



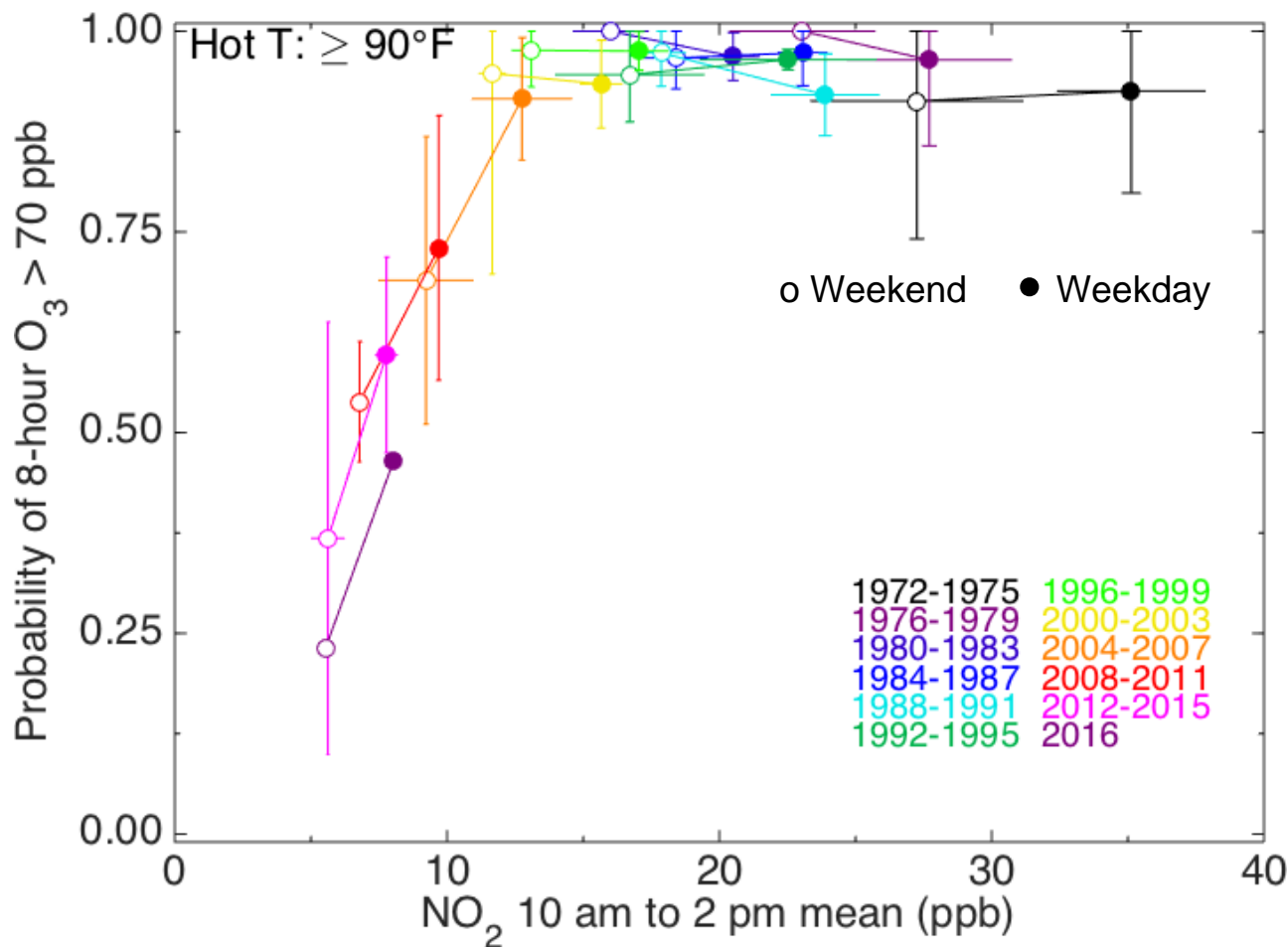
Figures above research product of UMCP Graduate Student Sandra Roberts

Probability of Surface O₃ Exceedance: DC, MD, and Northern VA



Figures above research product of UMCP Graduate Student Sandra Roberts

Probability of Surface O₃ Exceedance (DC, MD, No. VA) vs Daytime NO₂ Hot Summer Days (T_{BWI} > 90°F)



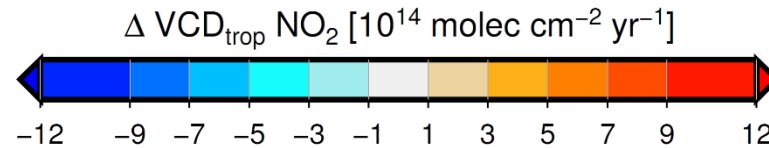
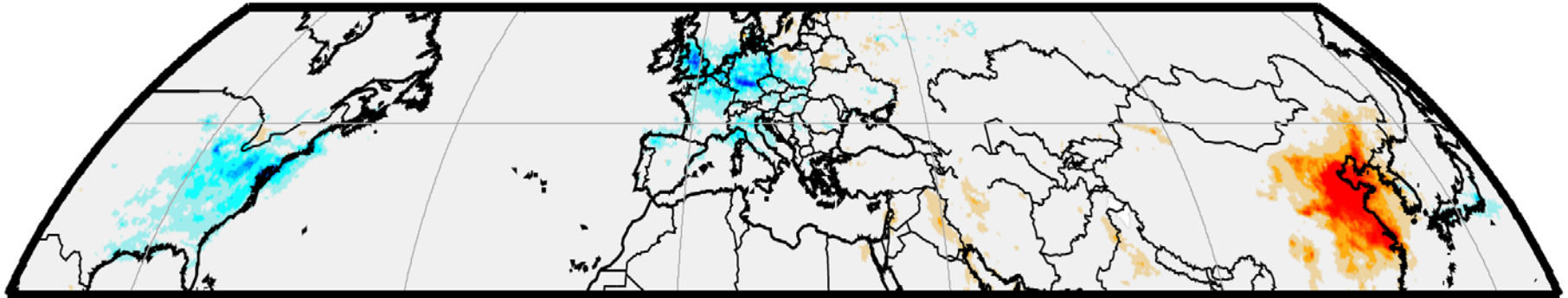
Analysis in this framework motivated by Pusede and Cohen, ACP, 2012

<http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/12/8323/2012/acp-12-8323-2012.html>

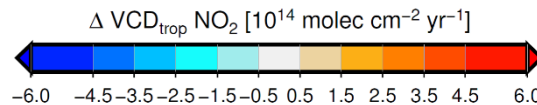
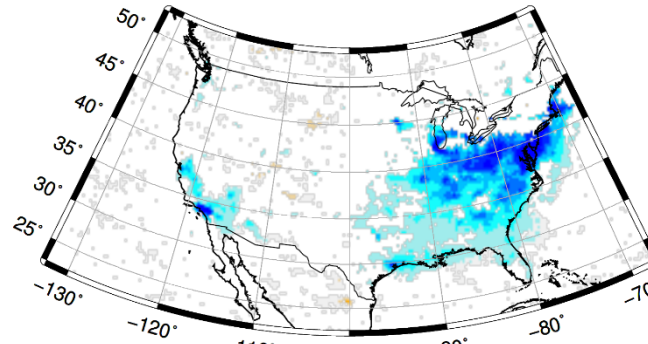
Figures above research product of UMCP Graduate Student Sandra Roberts

Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂): Combustion product that leads to formation of tropospheric ozone

Value in 2011 minus value in 2006

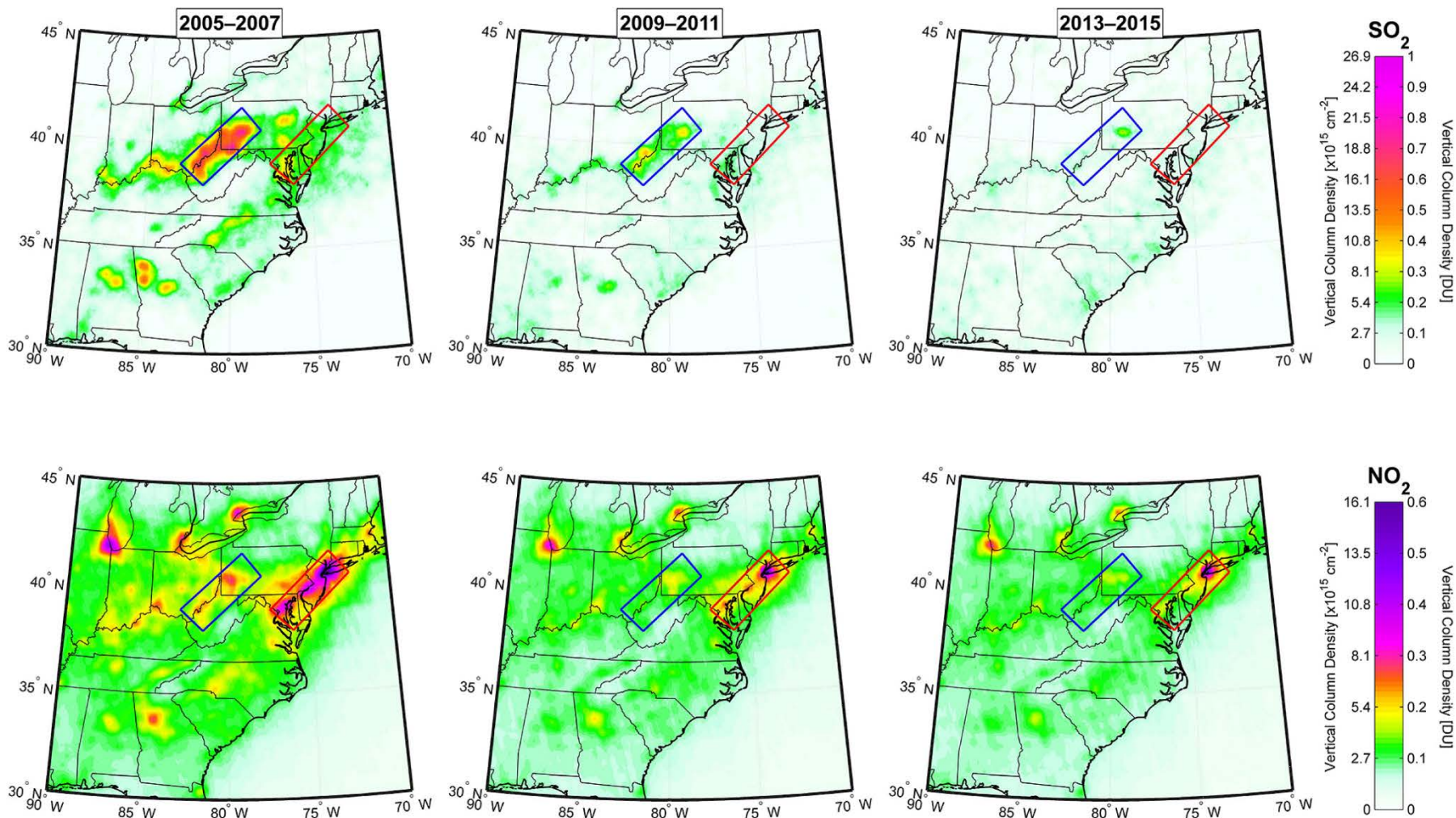


Value in 2011 minus value in 2006



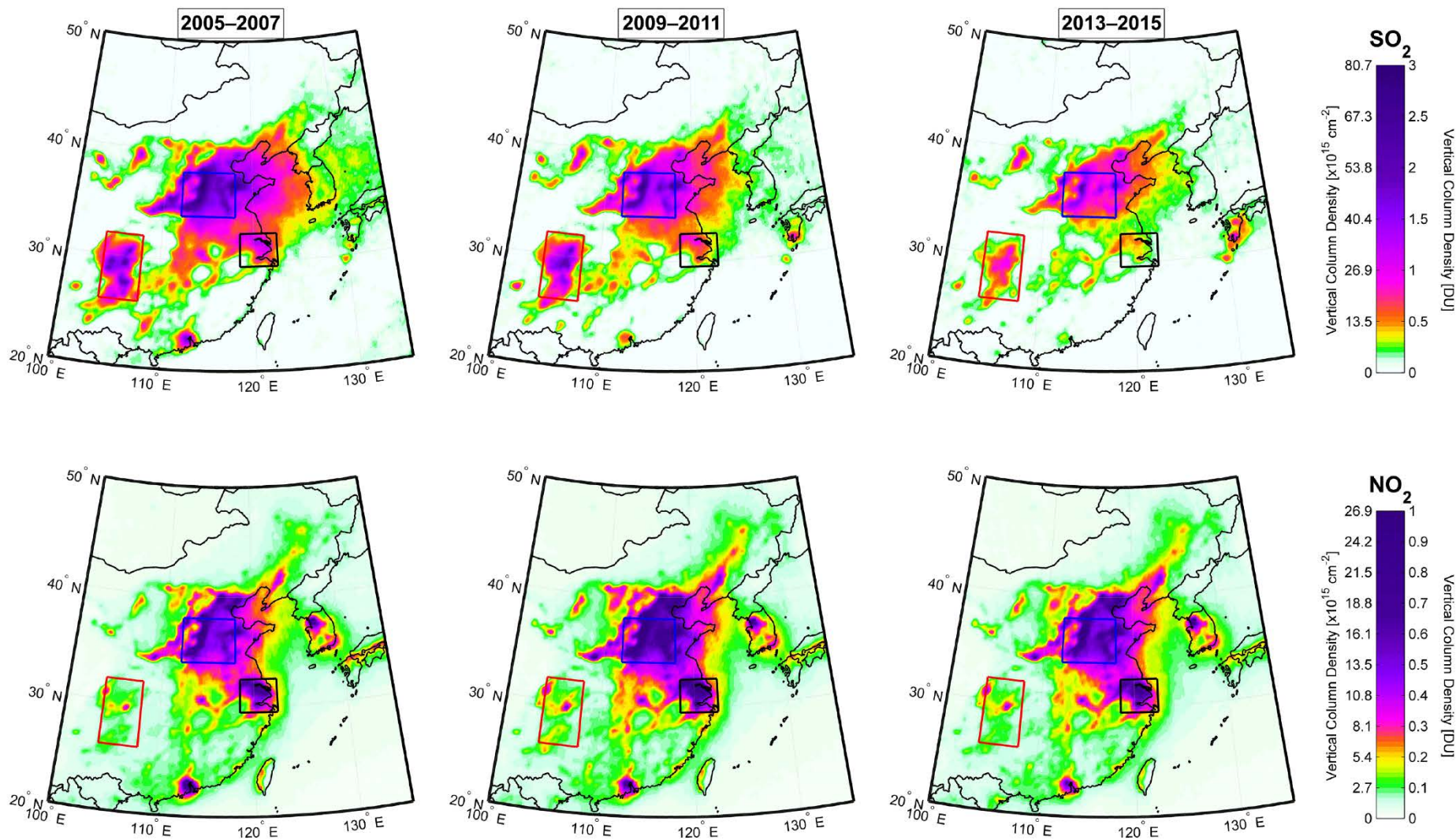
Hilboll *et al.*, *ACP*, 2013

US Trends: NO₂ and SO₂



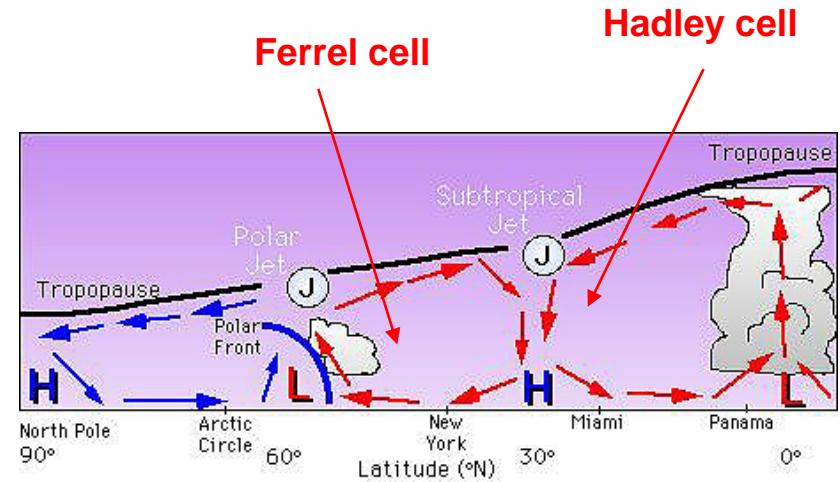
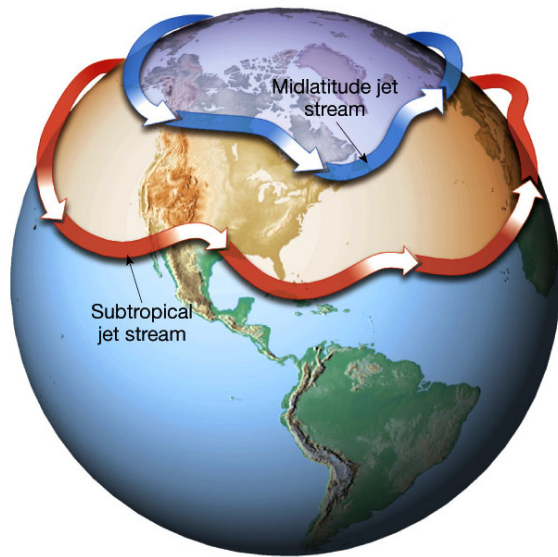
Krotkov *et al.*, *ACP*, 2016

China Trends: NO₂ and SO₂



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

Subtropical Jet



http://www.ux1.eiu.edu/~cfjps/1400/FIG07_014A.jpg

http://www.fas.org/irp/imint/docs/rst/Sect14/jet_stream.jpg

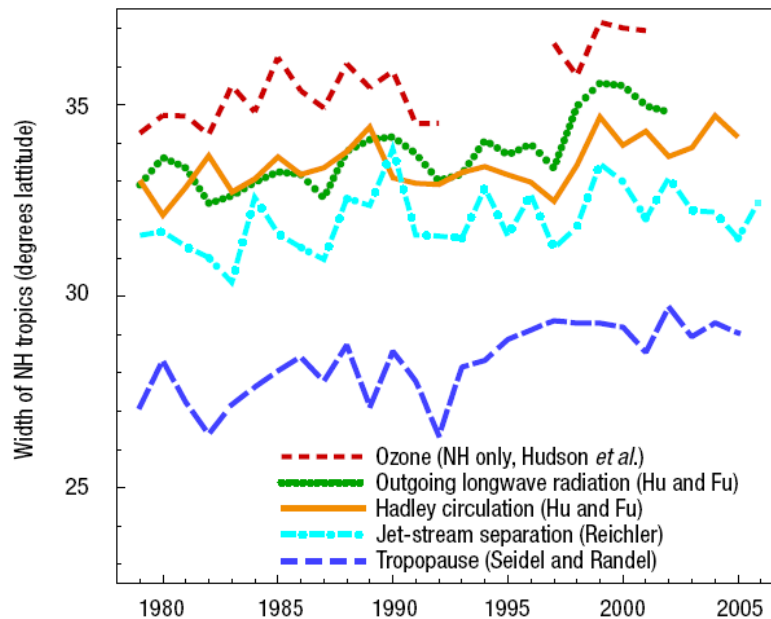
Subtropical Jet: area where poleward descending branch of the Hadley Circulation meets the equatorward descending of the Ferrel Cell (see Lecture 3)

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

Climate Change and Air Pollution

Poleward expansion of the sub-tropical jet:

- Surface ozone highs occur along Subtropical Jet
- Number of days Subtropical Jet within 150 miles of Baltimore has increased by ~50% between 1979 and 2003, due to “frontal movement”
- Driving force: weakening of the equator to pole temperature gradient, caused by more rapid warming at high latitudes compared to tropics



Seidel et al., *Nature Geoscience*, 2008

- **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**