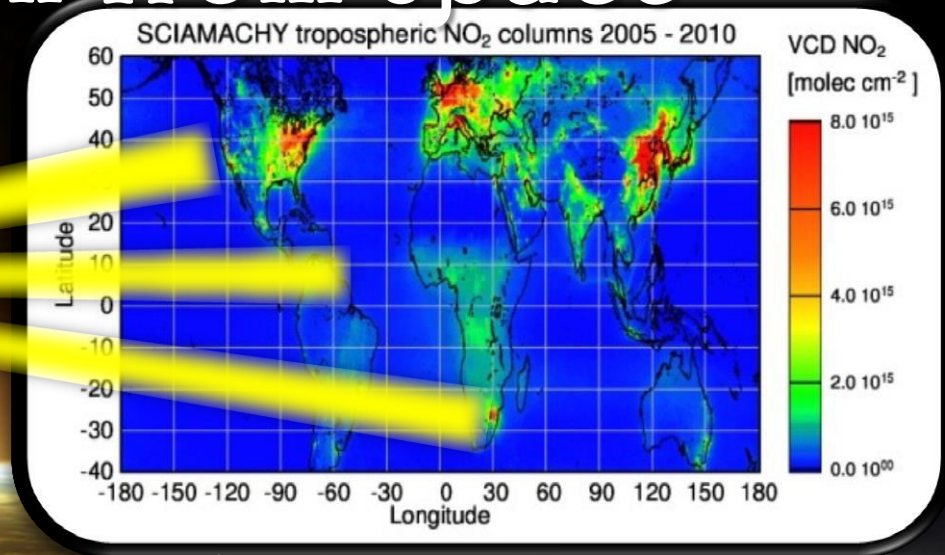


# Remote Sensing of tropospheric pollution from space



Mihalis Vrekoussis, Andreas Richter,  
Andreas Hilboll, Leonardo Alvarado,  
Folkard Wittrock and John P. Burrows



WORKSHOP | 16 - 17 MAY 2018 |

Nicosia, Cyprus

“Mediterranean & Middle East air pollution  
in a changing climate”

# The Economist

MAY 28TH-JUNE 3RD 2011

Economist.com

Obama, Bibi and peace  
 Huntsman blows his horn  
 A soft landing for China  
 The costly war on cancer  
 How the brain drain reduces poverty

## Welcome to the Anthropocene



Geology's new age



# nature

THE INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE



## THE HUMAN EPOCH

Refining the Anthropocene PAGES 144 & 171

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

### BUILDING BRIDGES

Long-standing disputes can be fixed – in theory

PAGE 148

LINGUISTICS

### SCIENTIFICALLY SPEAKING

How English became the academic lingua franca

PAGE 154

RISK MANAGEMENT

### TAKING IT PERSONALLY

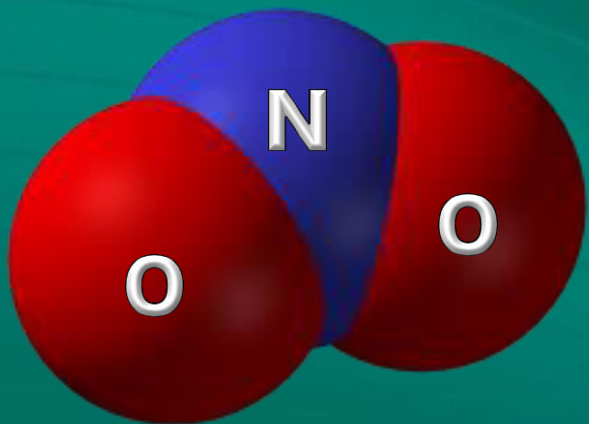
Model the growing interconnectivity of risk

PAGE 151

NATURE.COM/NATURE

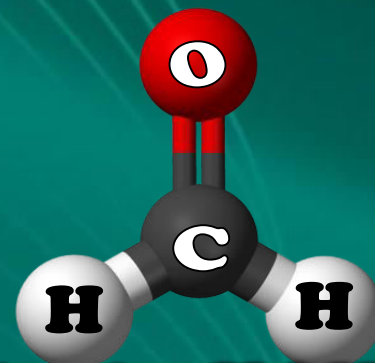
12 March 2015

The **Anthropocene** is proposed as the new geological epoch where **human-influence will dominate the fossil records**. *There is overwhelming global evidence that atmospheric, geologic, hydrologic, biospheric and other Earth system processes are now modified by human activity.* (E. F. Stoermer and P. J. Crutzen 2001 IGBP)

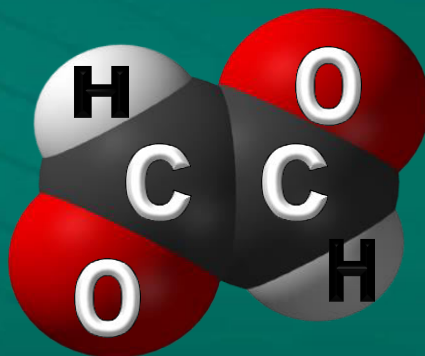


**Nitrogen Dioxide: NO<sub>2</sub>**

**STRUCTURE**



**Formaldehyde: HCHO**



**Glyoxal: CHOCHO**

# THEORETICAL ASPECTS

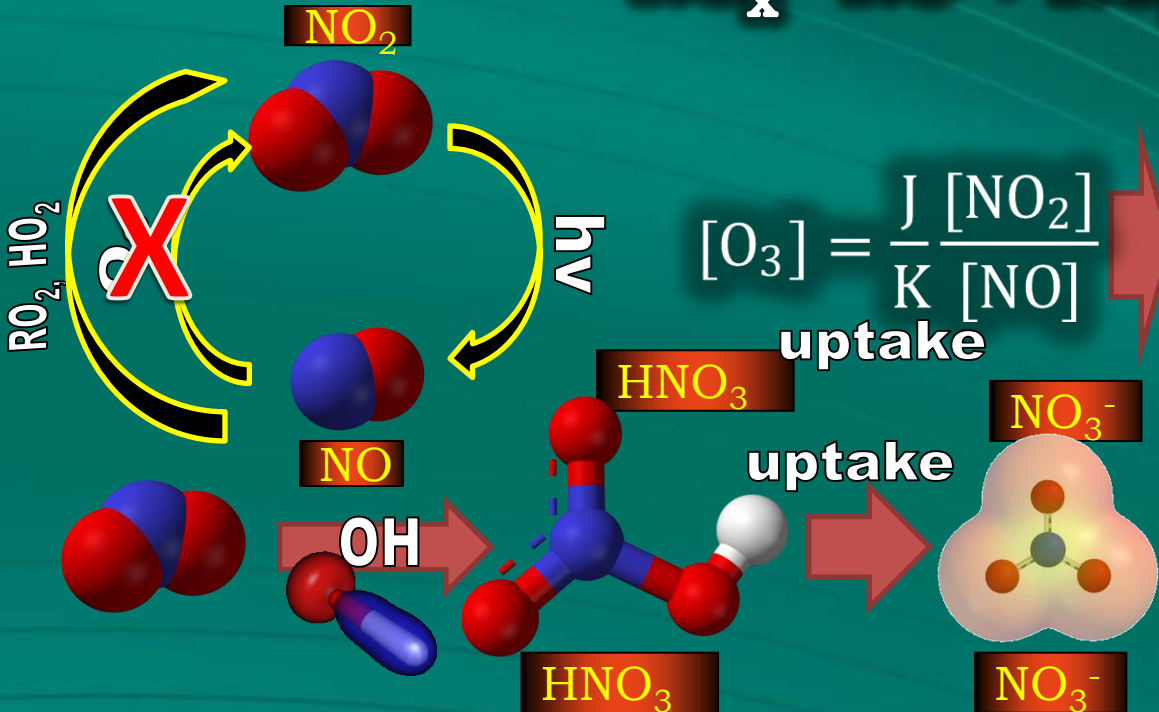
16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus



# Why should we care about NO<sub>x</sub> in the Troposphere?



Impact on climate and human health

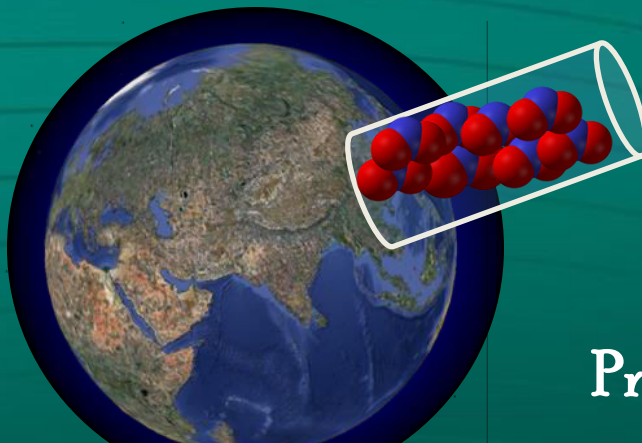


$$[\text{O}_3] = \frac{J [\text{NO}_2]}{K [\text{NO}]}$$

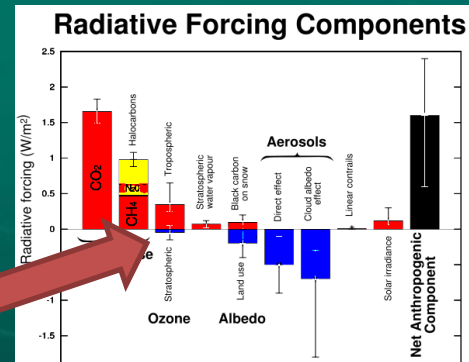
uptake

$\text{O}_3$  formation  
 $\rightarrow (\text{VOC}) + \text{NO}_2$   
 $\rightarrow$  **Photochemical smog**

$\text{HNO}_3$  formation,  $\text{NO}_3^-$   
 $(\text{NO}_2 + \text{OH}, \text{NO}_3 \rightarrow \text{N}_2\text{O}_5)$   
 $\rightarrow$  **Acid rain, changes in eutrophication**



**Changes in radiative forcing by absorbing sunlight (locally)**  
**Production of O<sub>3</sub>: Greenhouse gas**



# Sources of NO<sub>x</sub> in Tg N·y<sup>-1</sup> (Troposphere)



**Fossil fuel combustion**

**22**

**(51%)**

**Aircraft**

**0.5 (1%)**

**Soil emissions/NH<sub>3</sub> oxidation**

**6.0**

**(14%)**

**Stratosphere**

**0.1**

**Biomass burning**

**11.6 (27%)**

**Oceans**

**0.1**

**Lightning**

**3.0 (6%)**



# Importance

**OVOC**



**O**xxygenated –  
**V**olatile **O**rganic **C**ompounds

How much is out there?

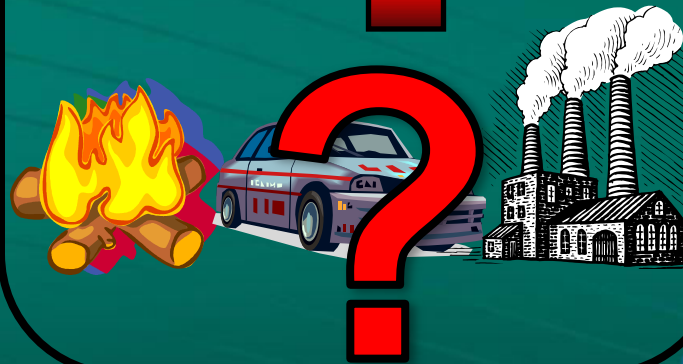
500 - 1200

$\text{Tg}\cdot\text{y}^{-1}$



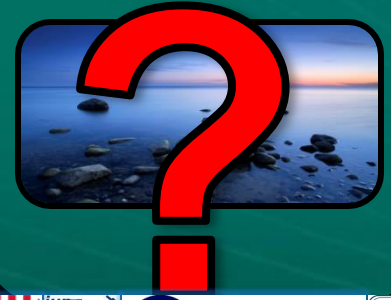
150-200

$\text{Tg}\cdot\text{y}^{-1}$



20

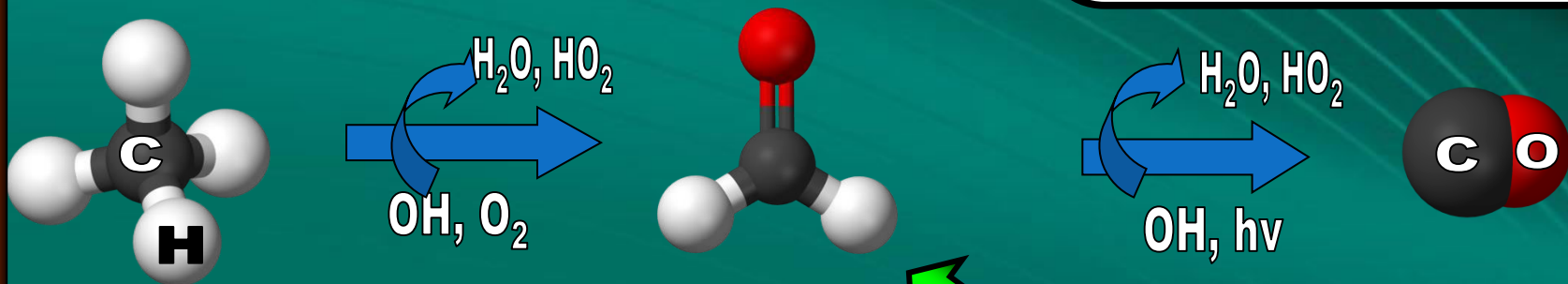
$\text{Tg}\cdot\text{y}^{-1}$



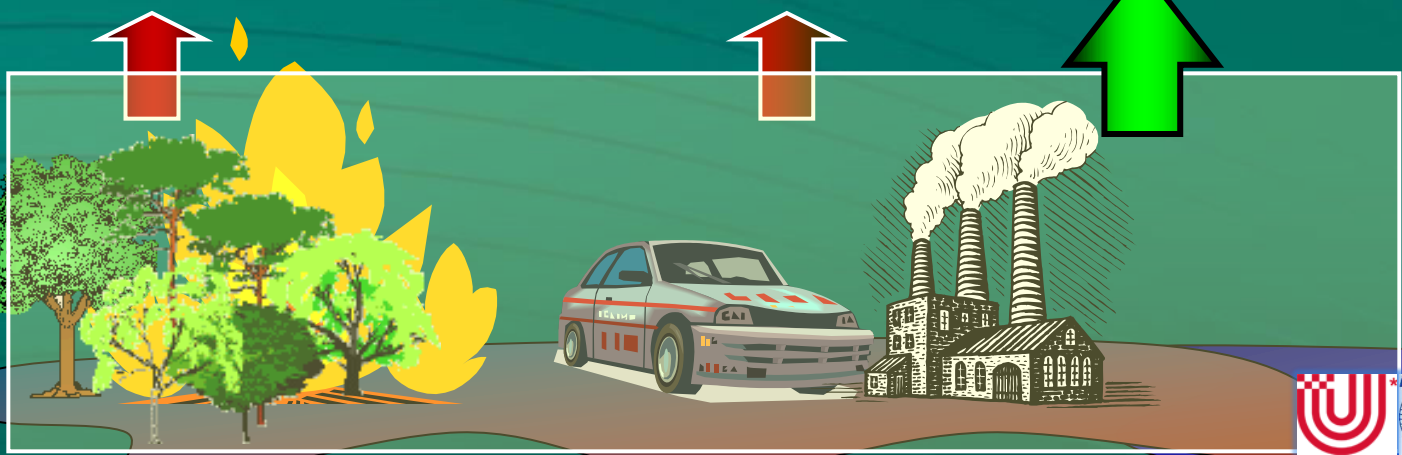
# Formaldehyde

(IUPAC: methanal)

## Sources



NMHC

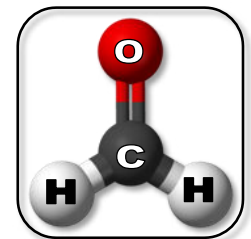


### SPECIES ID CARD

Name: HCHO

Family: oVOC

Known as:  
 1) The smallest carbonyl compound,  
 2) the most abundant aldehyde



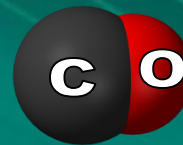
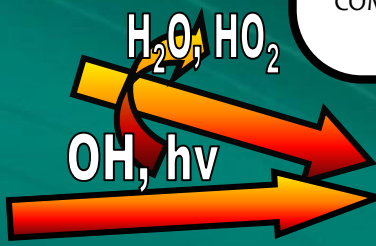
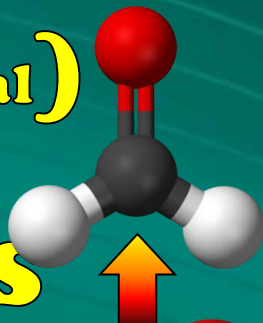
Sinks:  
 OH  
 hv



# Glyoxal

(IUPAC:ethanedial)

## Sources



Ethene, Acetylene, Aromatics, Isoprene, Terpenes, ...



**SPECIES ID CARD**

M.F: CHOCHO  
 Family: oVOC

CHARACTERISTICS:  
 THE SMALLEST  $\alpha$ -DICARBONYL  
 COMPOUND

**Sinks:**

OH  
 hv  
 Aerosols

Chemical  
 lifetime~  
 2-3h

# Instrumentation & remote sensing

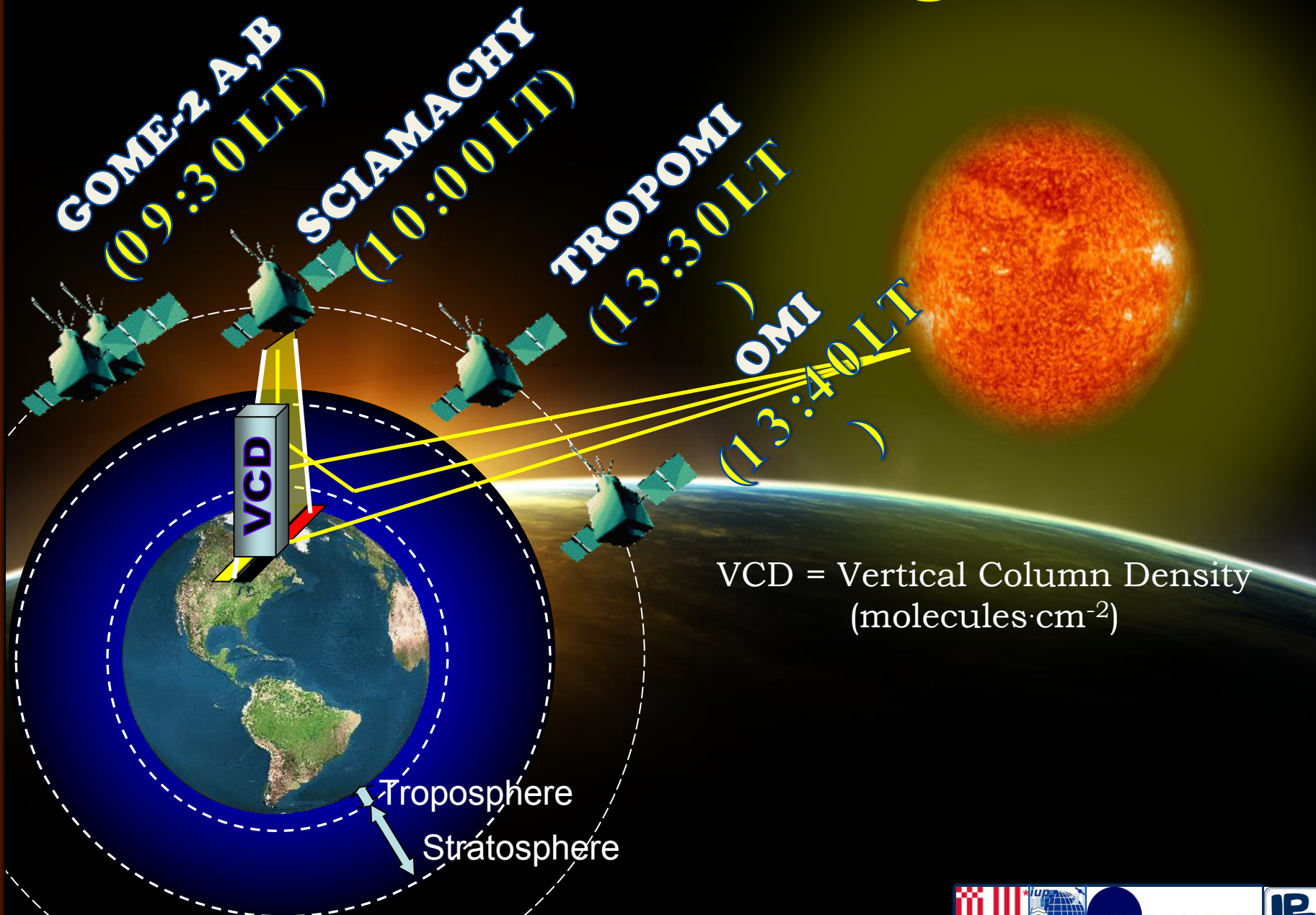


16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus



# Remote sensing

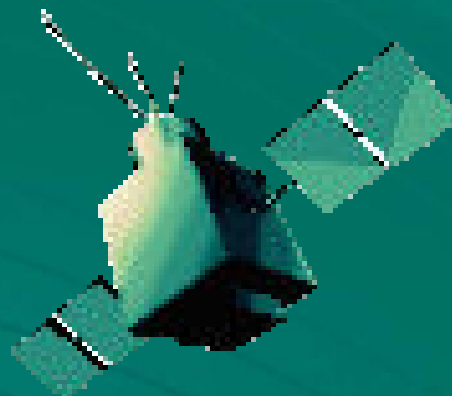
Basics of remote sensing



VCD = Vertical Column Density  
(molecules·cm<sup>-2</sup>)

16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus

# Results NO<sub>2</sub>



16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus



UB



IUPAC

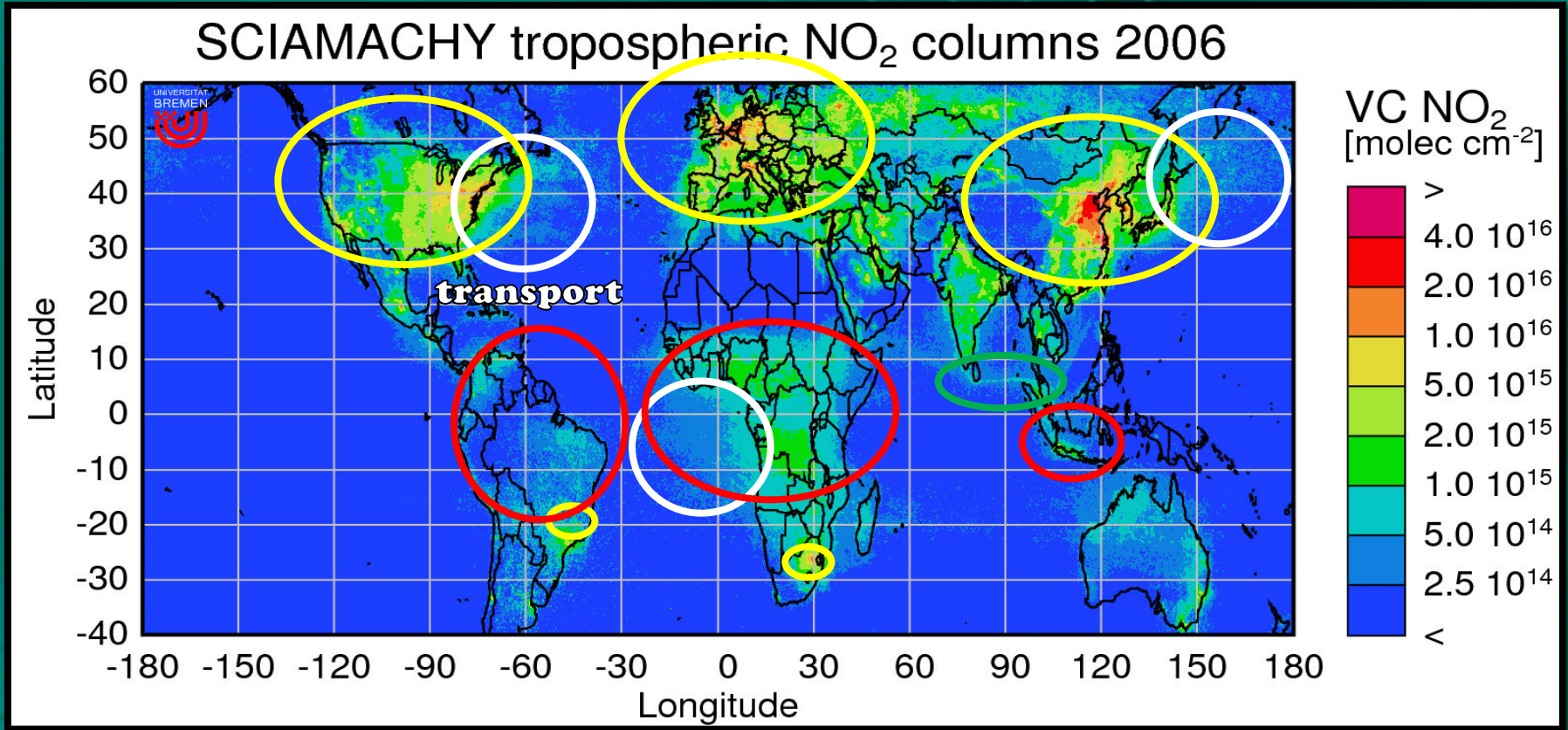


MARUM



CyI

# Satellite NO<sub>2</sub> Measurements: Example



**anthropogenic  
pollution**



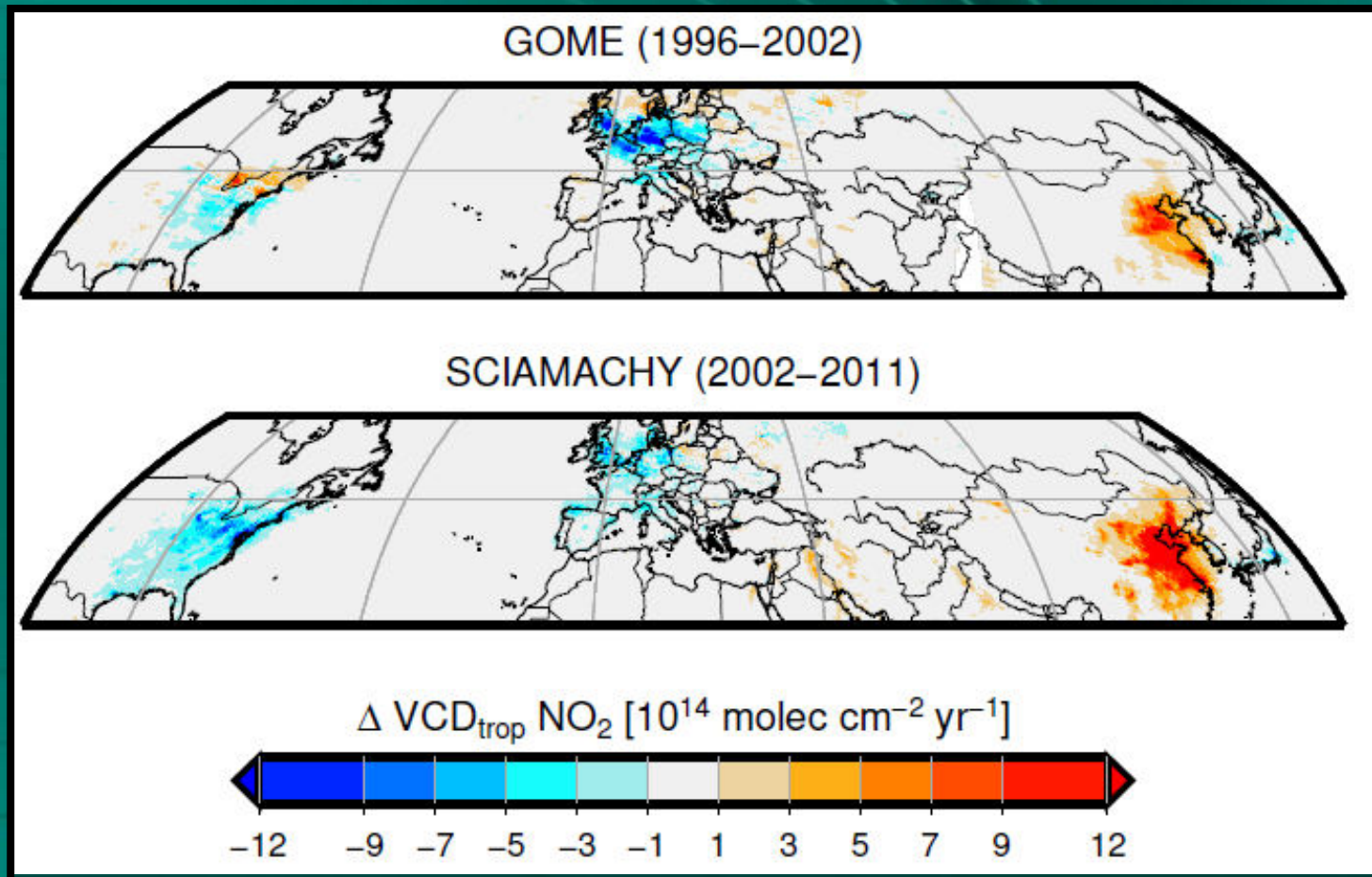
**biomass  
burning**



**ships**



# Satellite NO<sub>2</sub> Trends: The Global Picture

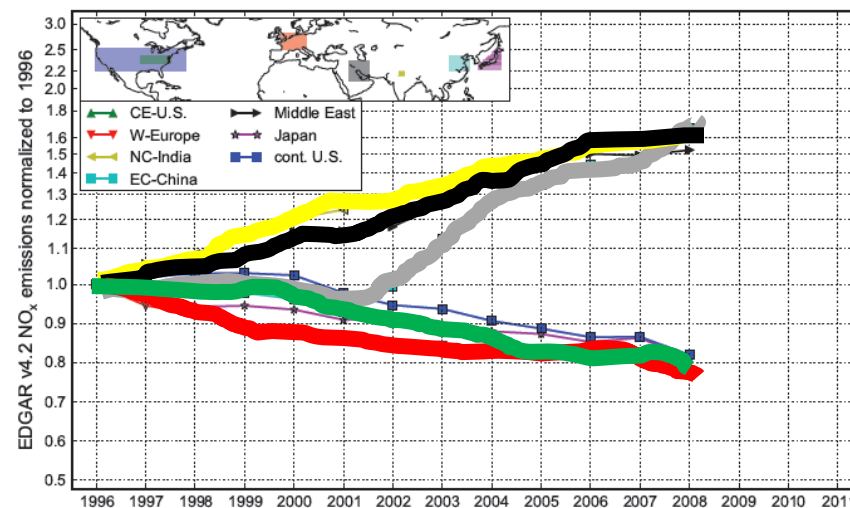
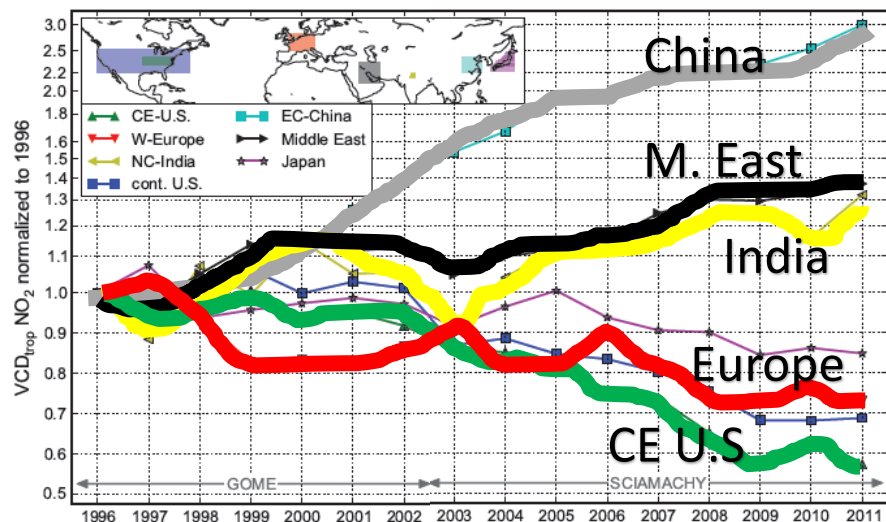


Hilboll, A., Richter, A., and Burrows, J. P.: Long-term changes of tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub> over megacities derived from multiple satellite instruments, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* 13, 4145-4169, doi:10.5194/acp-13-4145-2013, 2013

# NO<sub>2</sub> Trends: Comparison with bottom up estimates

GOME and SCIAMACHY

EDGAR v4.2

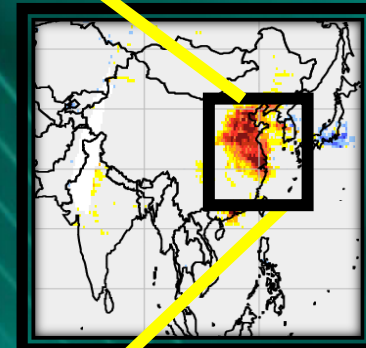
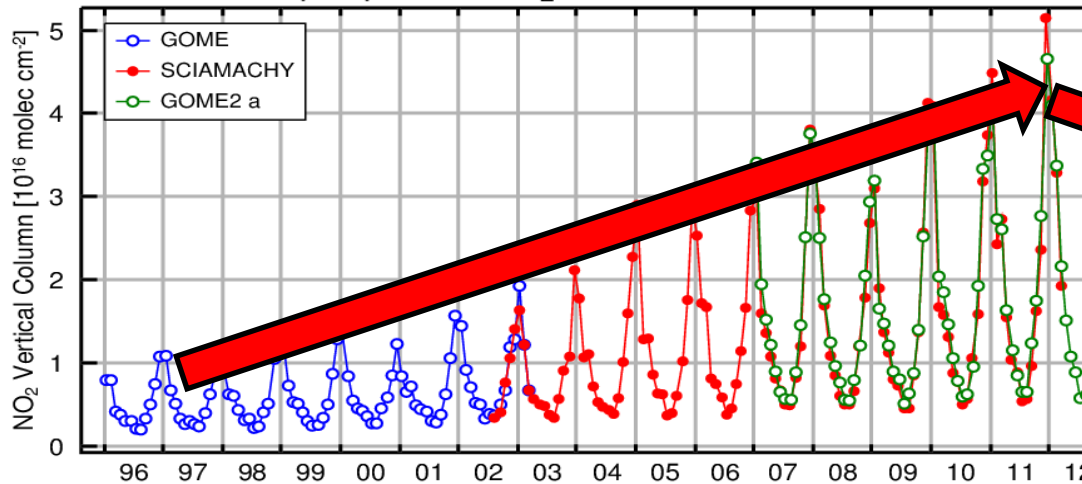


- Overall pattern in emission data base is correct
- Increase in China is underestimated
- Increase in India and Middle East is overestimated
- Decrease in Europe / US is underestimated

Hilboll, A., Richter, A., and Burrows, J. P.: Long-term changes of tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub> over megacities derived from multiple satellite instruments, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **13**, 4145-4169, doi:10.5194/acp-13-4145-2013, 2013

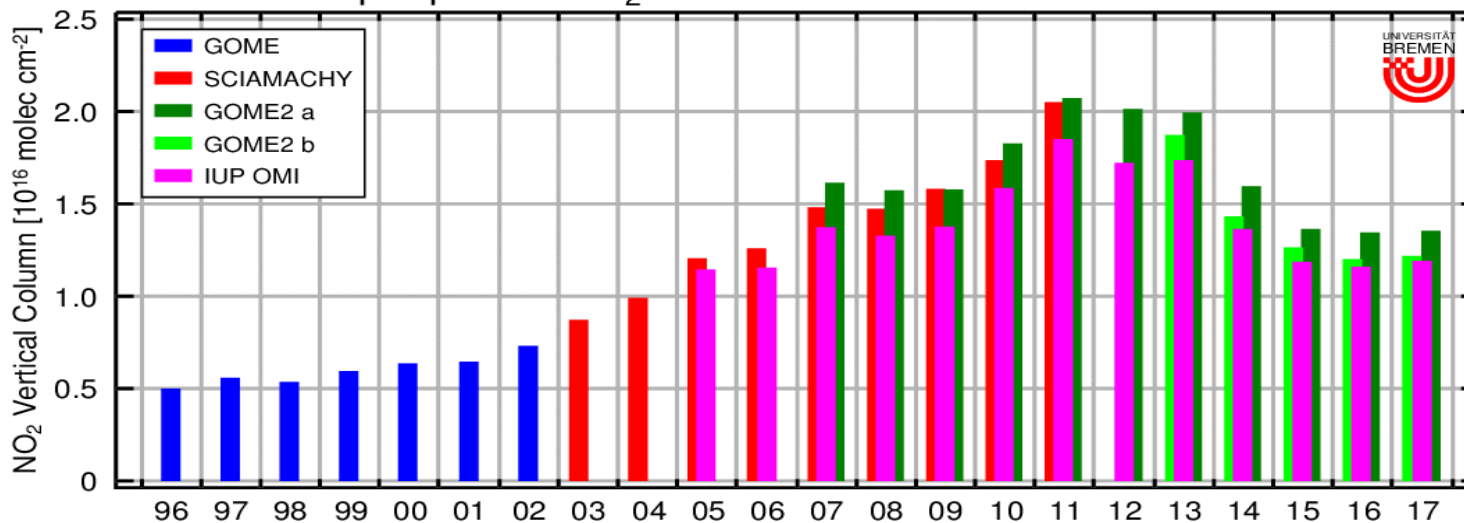
# Satellite NO<sub>2</sub> Trends over China

Tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub> column above Central East China



- **Until 2011, there was continuous increase in NO<sub>2</sub>**

Tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub> column above Central East China



- **After two years of stagnation, → large decrease**



# NO<sub>2</sub> Trends above Europe: The case study of Athens

$$\frac{d(\text{Image of car})}{dt} = f(\text{Image of graph with magnifying glass})$$



+



+

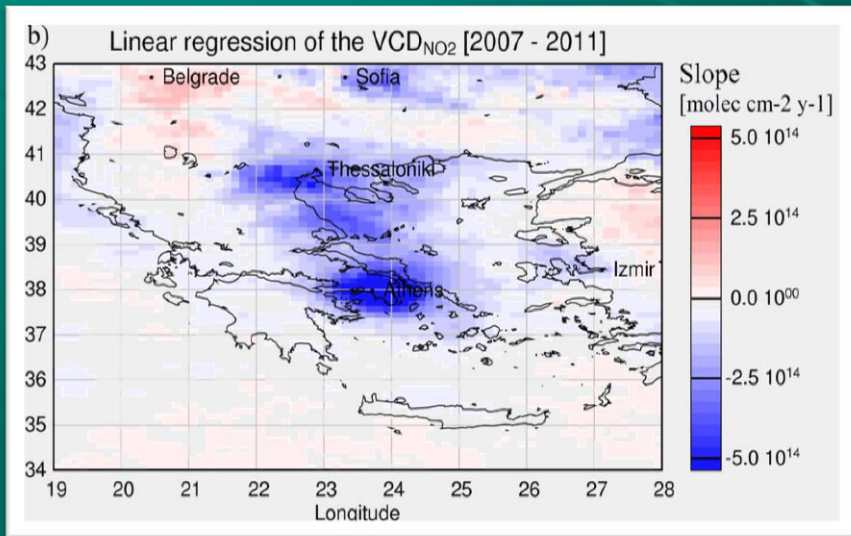


16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus



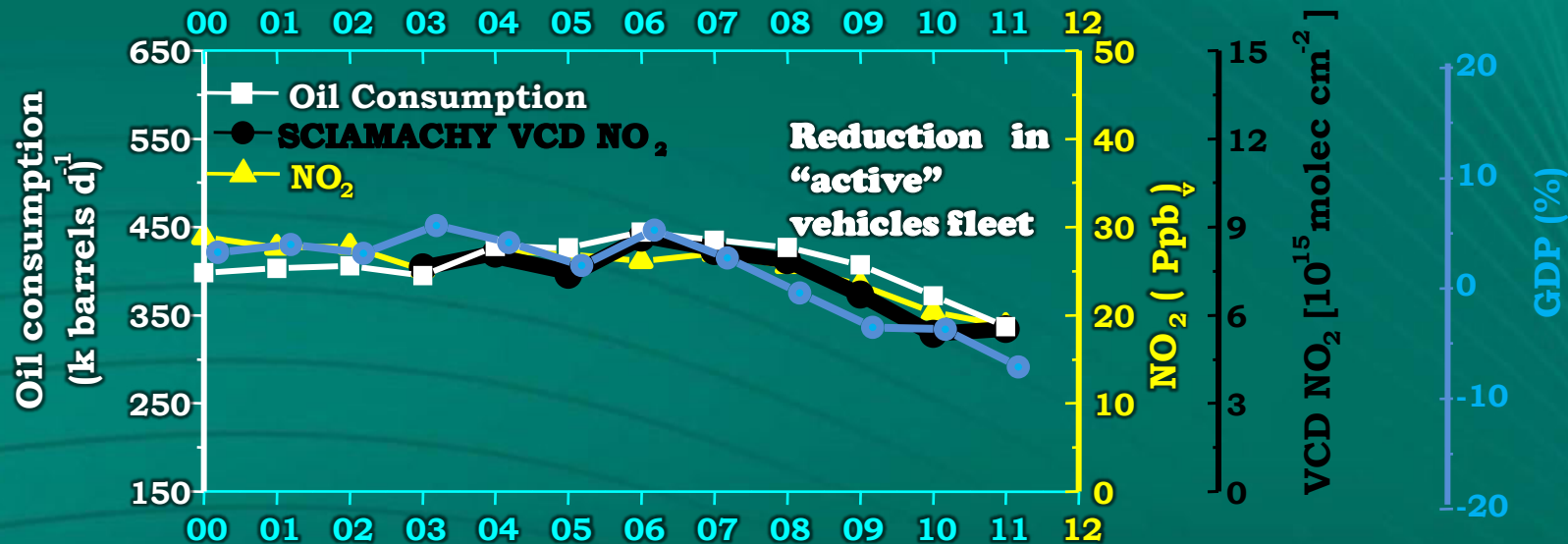
# Linear regressions of the GOME2 VCD<sub>NO<sub>2</sub></sub> 2007 to 2011

Results (satellite observations)



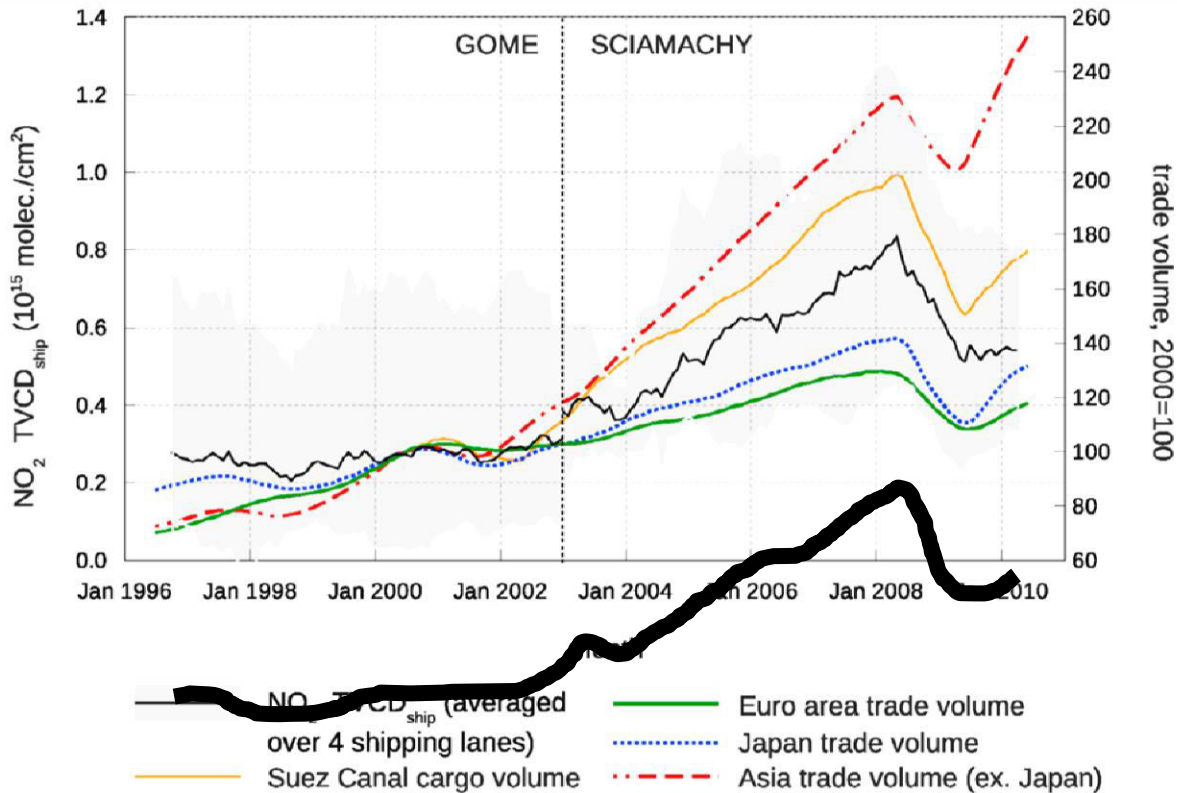
**~1·10<sup>15</sup> molec cm<sup>-2</sup>y<sup>-1</sup>**

**~35% reduction  
>3·10<sup>15</sup> molec cm<sup>-2</sup>**



Vrekoussis, M. et al., Economic crisis detected from space: Air quality observations over Athens/Greece, *Geophys. Res. L ett.*, 40, doi:10.1002/grl.50118., 2013

# NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions from Shipping



- **Trade and cargo volume is increasing**
- **NO<sub>2</sub> over shipping regions shows similar trend**
- **Economic crisis in 2008 created clear signature in both, trade volume and shipping NO<sub>x</sub>**

de Ruyter de Wildt, M., H. Eskes, and K. F. Boersma (2012), The global economic cycle and satellite-derived NO<sub>2</sub> trends over shipping lanes, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 39, L01802, doi:10.1029/2011GL049541.

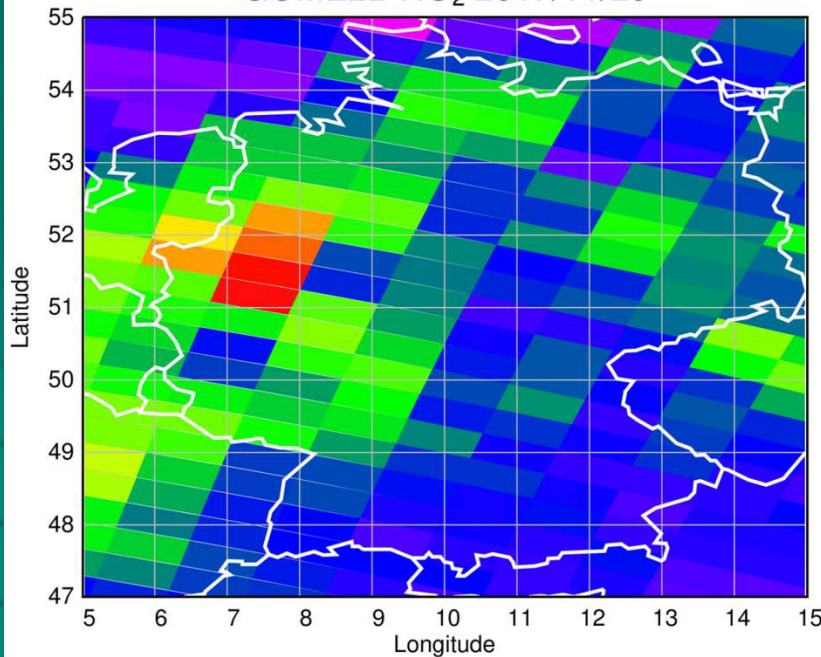
# First IUP S5P Results: NO<sub>2</sub>



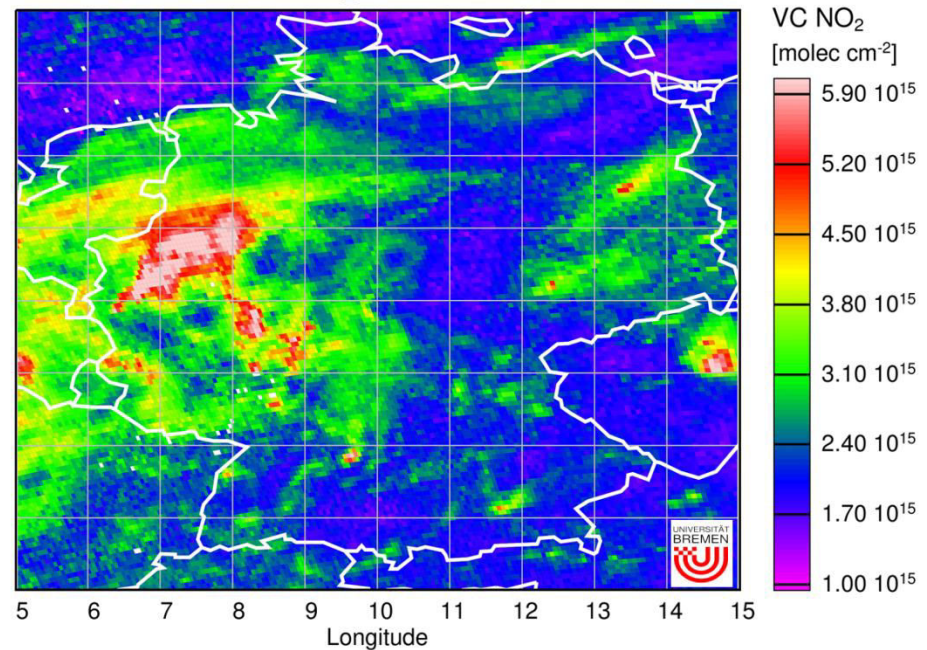
- **Very good agreement with GOME2B data**
- **Very large increase in spatial detail**

Preliminary – no cloud screening, total column with stratospheric AMF

GOME2B NO<sub>2</sub> 2017/11/29



S5P NO<sub>2</sub> 2017/11/29

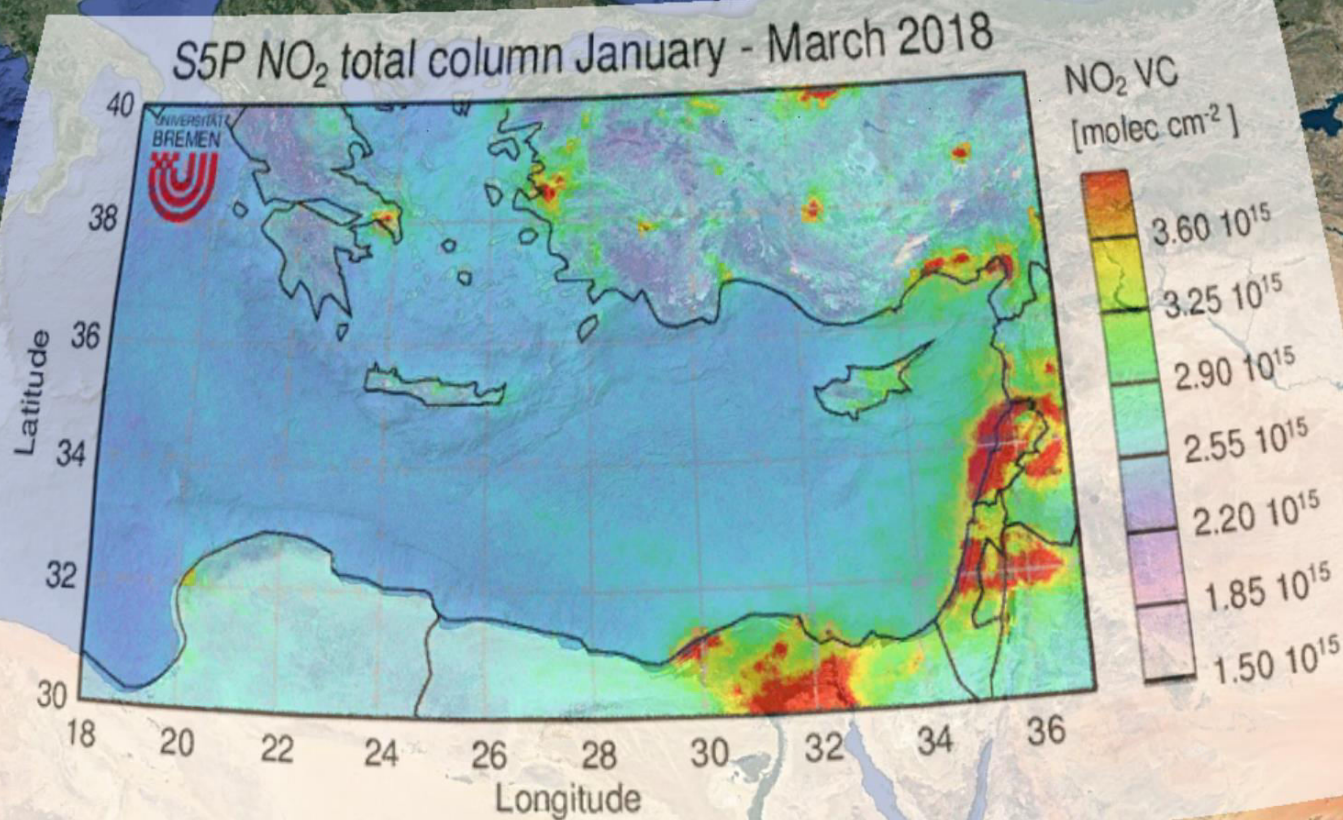


© Andreas.Richter@iup.physik.uni-bremen.de

Disclaimer: The presented work has been performed within the framework of the Sentinel-5 Precursor Validation Team or Level 1/Level 2 Product Working Group activities. Results are based on preliminary (not fully calibrated/validated) Sentinel-5 Precursor data that are still subject to change.

Acknowledgement: Sentinel-5 Precursor is a European Space Agency (ESA) mission implemented on behalf of the European Commission (EC). The TROPOMI payload is a joint development by ESA and the Netherlands Space Office (NSO). The Sentinel-5 Precursor ground-segment development has been funded by ESA and with national contributions from The Netherlands, Germany, and Belgium.

# First IUP S5P Results: NO<sub>2</sub>



*Disclaimer: The presented work has been performed within the framework of the Sentinel-5 Precursor Validation Team or Level 1/Level 2 Product Working Group activities. Results are based on preliminary (not fully calibrated/validated) Sentinel-5 Precursor data that are still subject to change.*

*Acknowledgement: Sentinel-5 Precursor is a European Space Agency (ESA) mission implemented on behalf of the European Commission (EC). The TROPOMI payload is a joint development by ESA and the Netherlands Space Office (NSO). The Sentinel-5 Precursor ground-segment development has been funded by ESA and with national contributions from The Netherlands, Germany, and Belgium.*

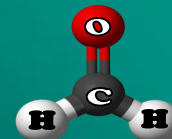
# Results VOCs

16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus

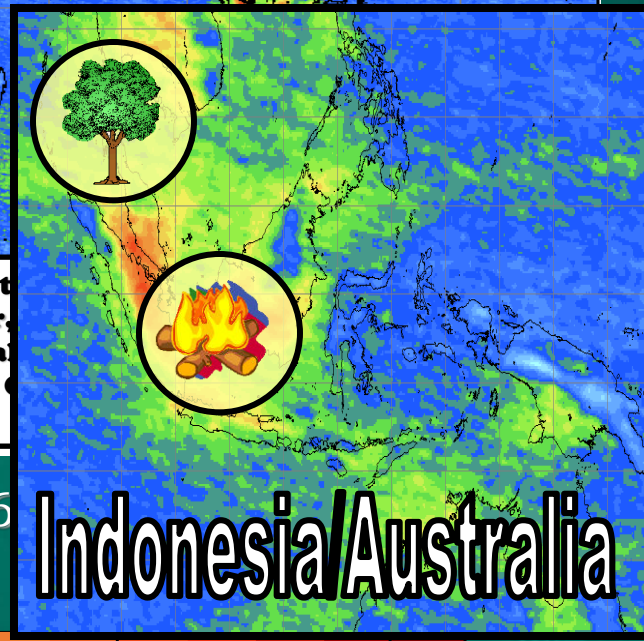
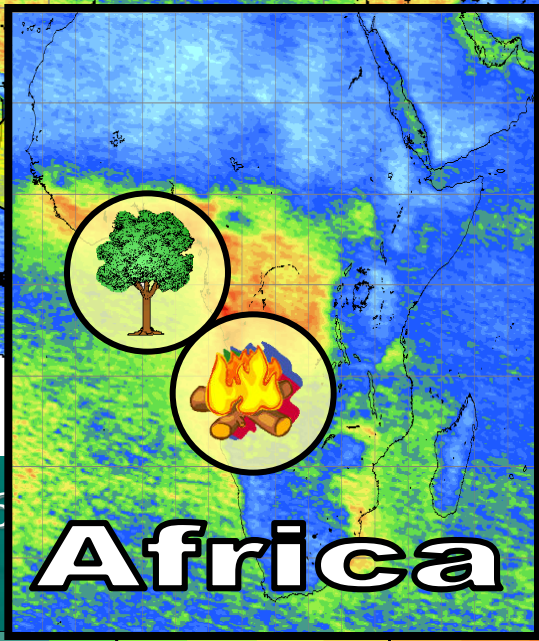
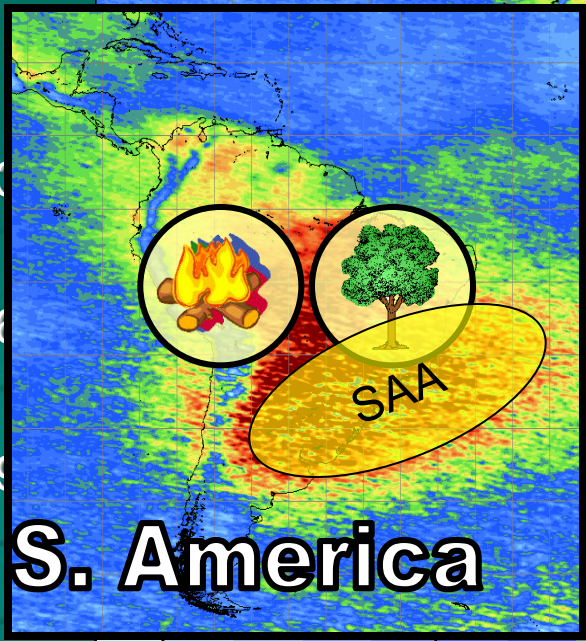
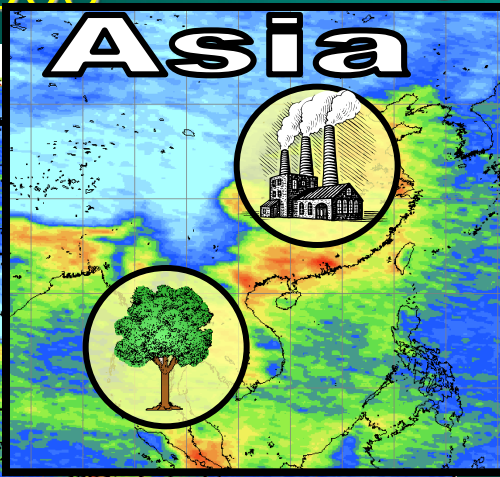
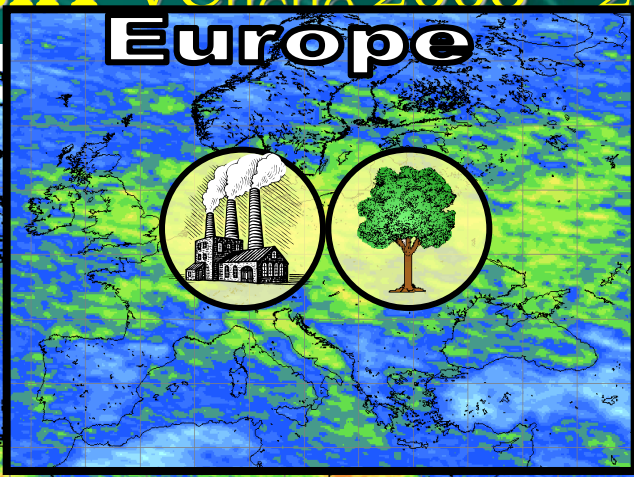
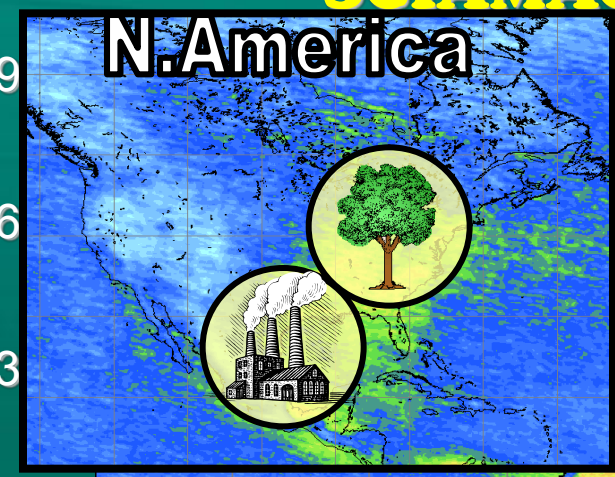


# HCHO - Global picture

SCIAMACHY VC Global 2003 - 2008



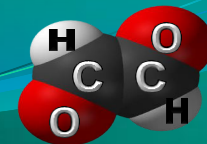
HCHO



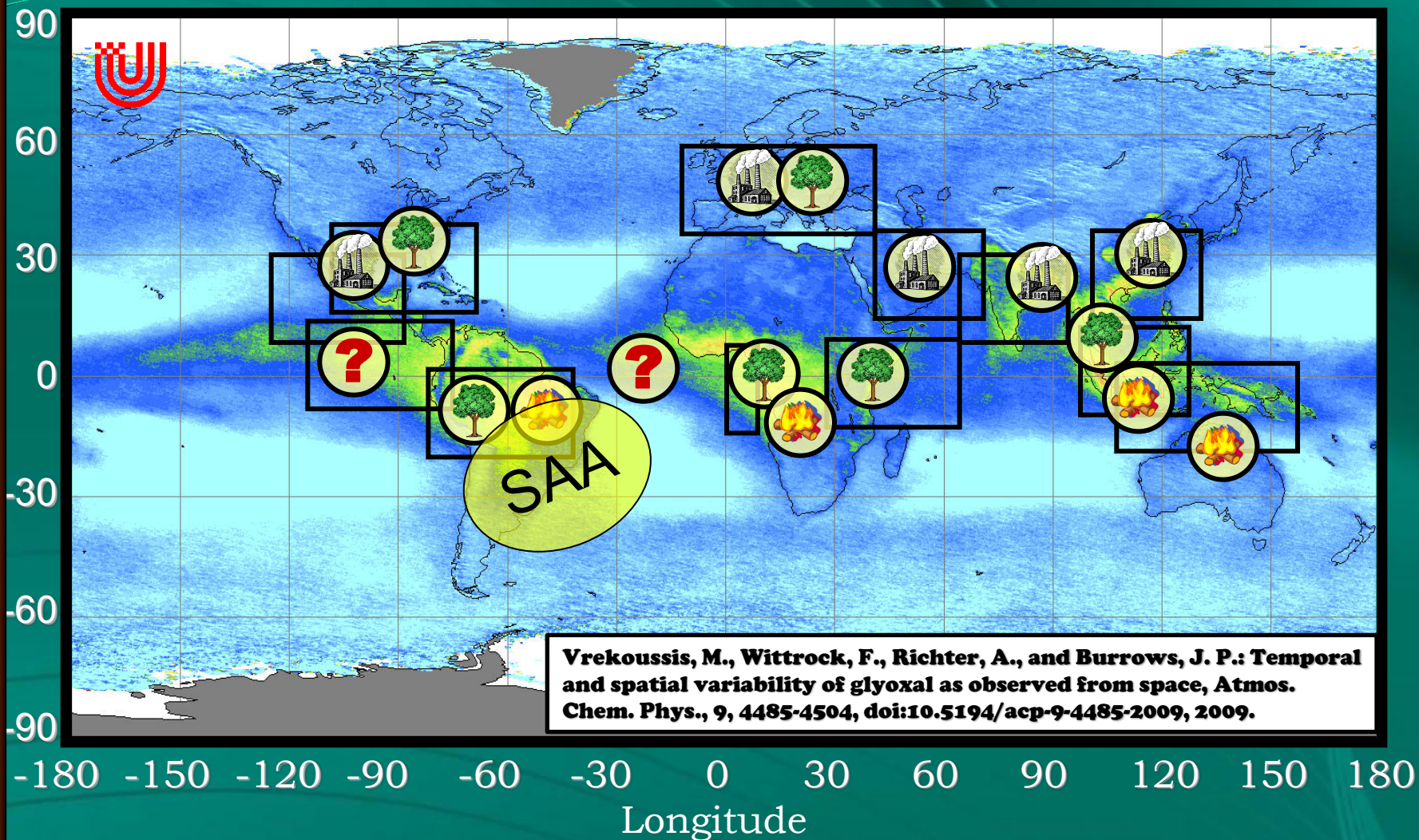
VC HCHO [molec·cm<sup>-2</sup>]

# CHOCHO - Global picture

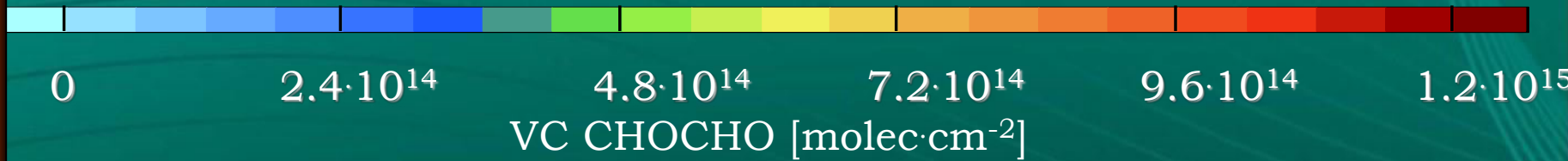
## SCIAMACHY VC<sub>CHOCHO</sub> 2003 - 2008



CHOCHO



Vrekoussis, M., Wittrock, F., Richter, A., and Burrows, J. P.: Temporal and spatial variability of glyoxal as observed from space, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 9, 4485-4504, doi:10.5194/acp-9-4485-2009, 2009.

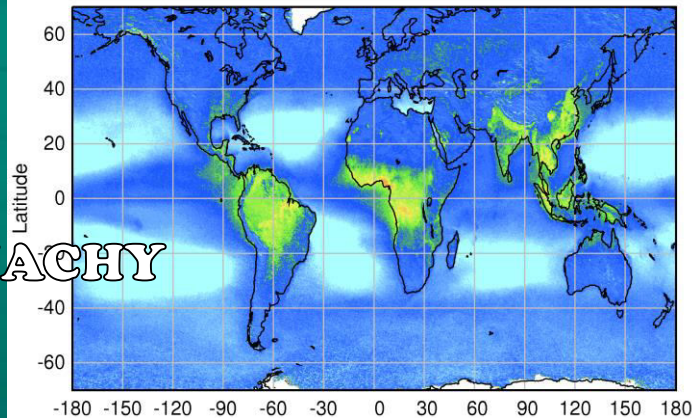




# Homogenized glyoxal retrieval

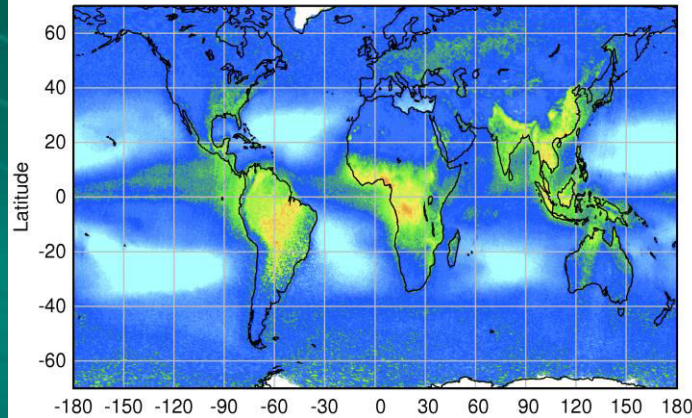
SCIAMACHY

SCIAMACHY VC<sub>CHOCHO</sub> : 2003 - 2011



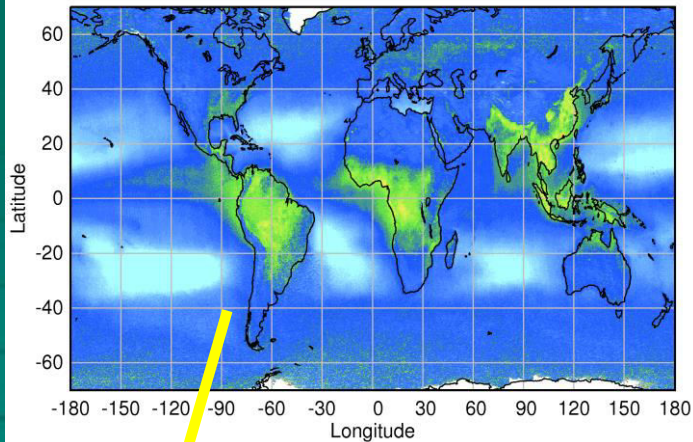
GOME2A

GOME-2A VC<sub>CHOCHO</sub> : 2007 - 2014



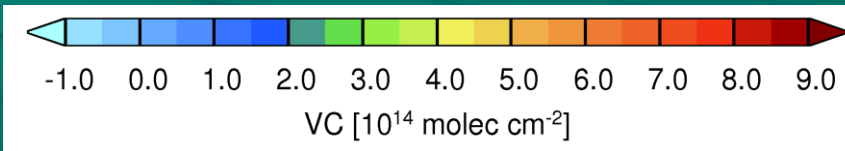
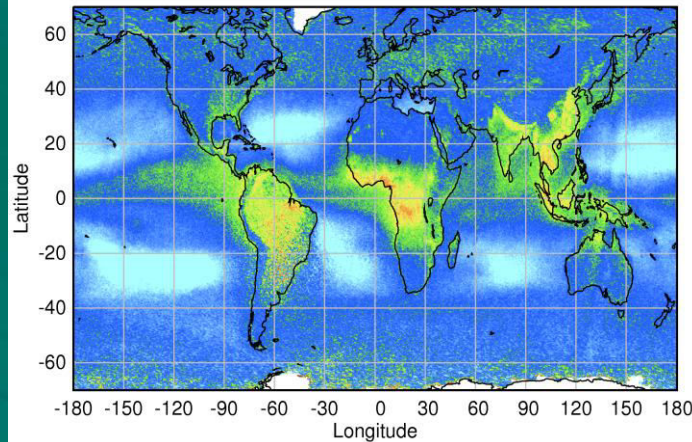
OMI

OMI VC<sub>CHOCHO</sub> : 2005 - 2014



GOME2B

GOME-2B VC<sub>CHOCHO</sub> : 2013 - 2014

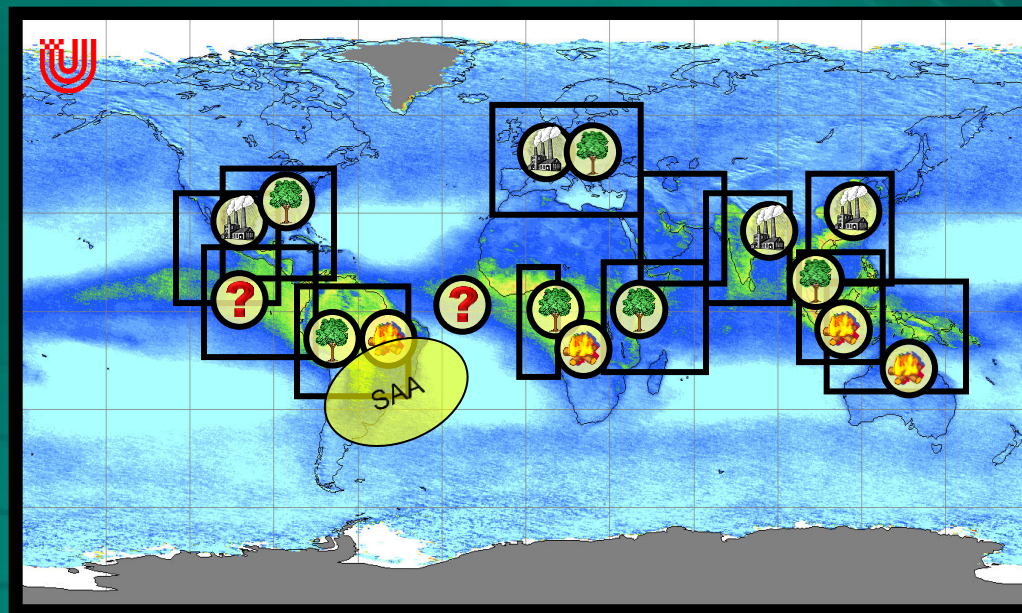


Alvarado, L. M. A., Richter, A., Vrekoussis, M., Wittrock, F., Hilboll, A., Schreier, S. F., and Burrows, J. P.: An improved glyoxal retrieval from OMI measurements, *Atmos. Meas. Tech.*, 7, 4133-4150, doi:10.5194/amt-7-4133-2014, 2014.

16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus

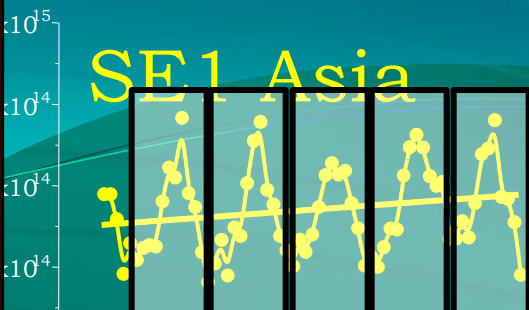
# Multiannual variations of the $VCD_{CHOCHO}$ above the hot-spots

Global trends



16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus

### SE1 Asia



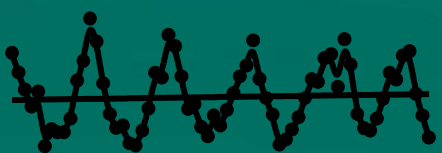
$(4.3 \pm 1.3) \cdot 10^{14} \text{ molec} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$

### SE2 Asia



$(5.3 \pm 0.9) \cdot 10^{14} \text{ molec} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$

### India



$(3.9 \pm 1.0) \cdot 10^{14} \text{ molec} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$



### Indonesia



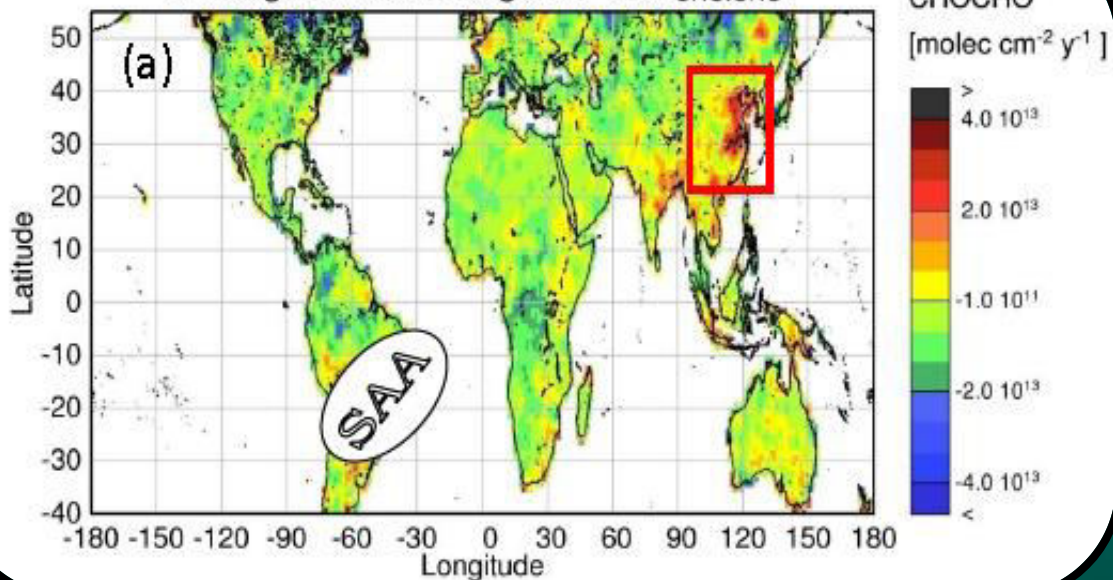
$(4.8 \pm 0.8) \cdot 10^{14} \text{ molec} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$

### Australia



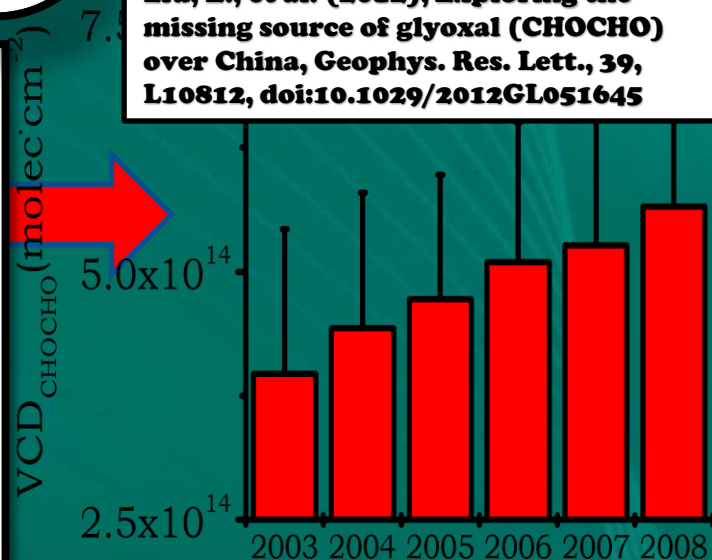
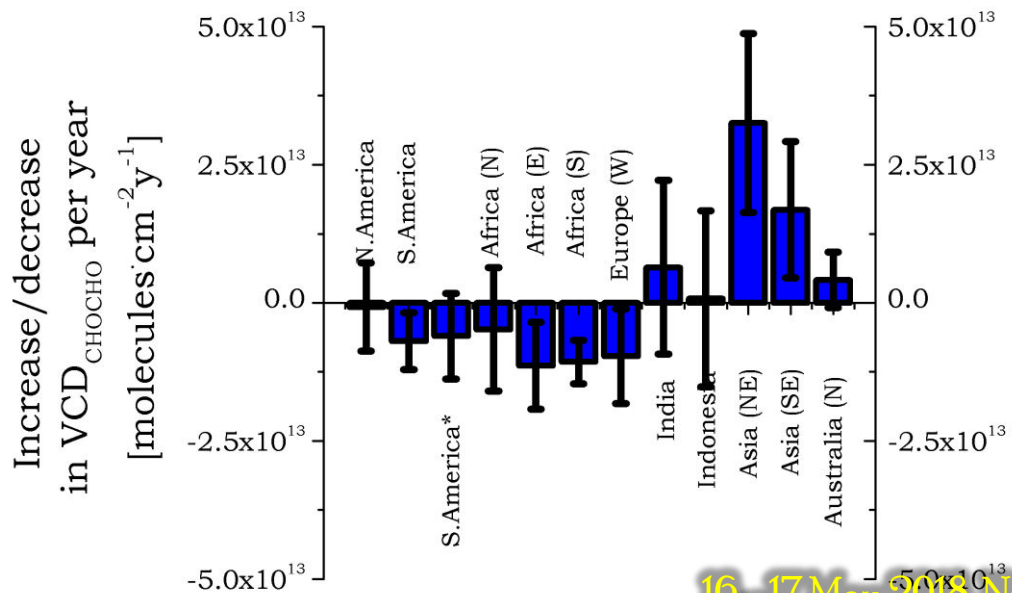
$(3.2 \pm 1.6) \cdot 10^{14} \text{ molec} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$

Average annual changes of  $VCD_{CHOCHO}$



4-10 times  
underestimation of  
aromatics emissions  
over China

Liu, Z., et al. (2012), Exploring the missing source of glyoxal ( $CHOCHO$ ) over China, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, **39**, L10812, doi:10.1029/2012GL051645



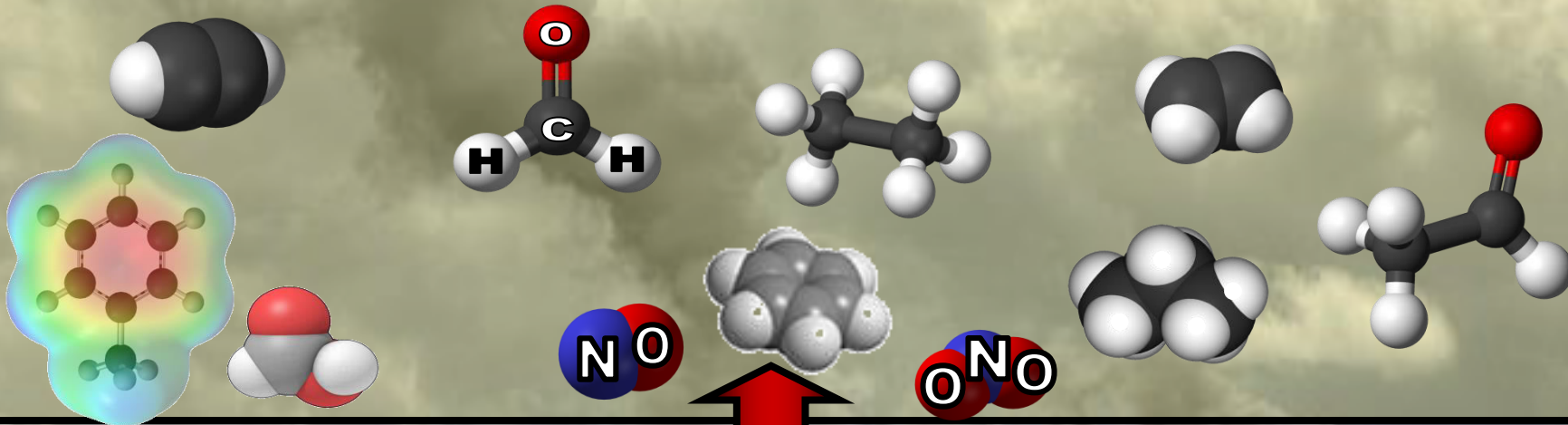
16-17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus

# Sources of HCHO and CHOCHO



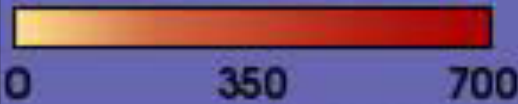
- i) Anthropogenic**
- ii) Biogenic**
- iii) Biomass Burning**

# Anthropogenic

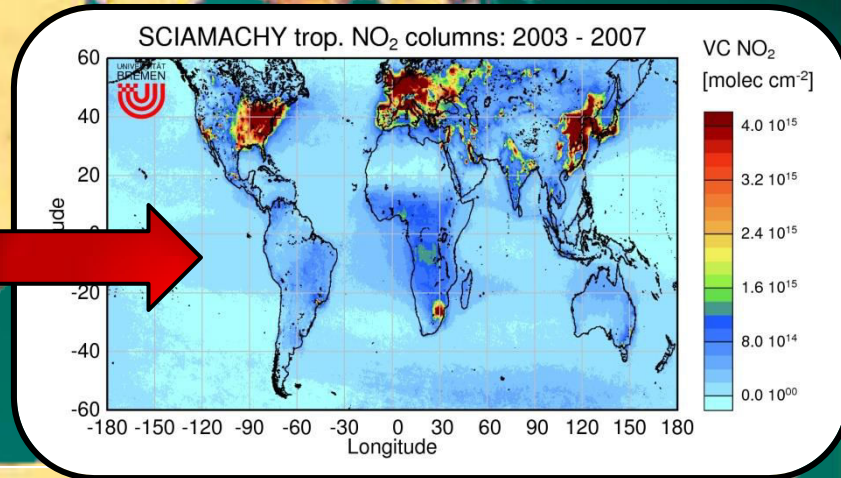
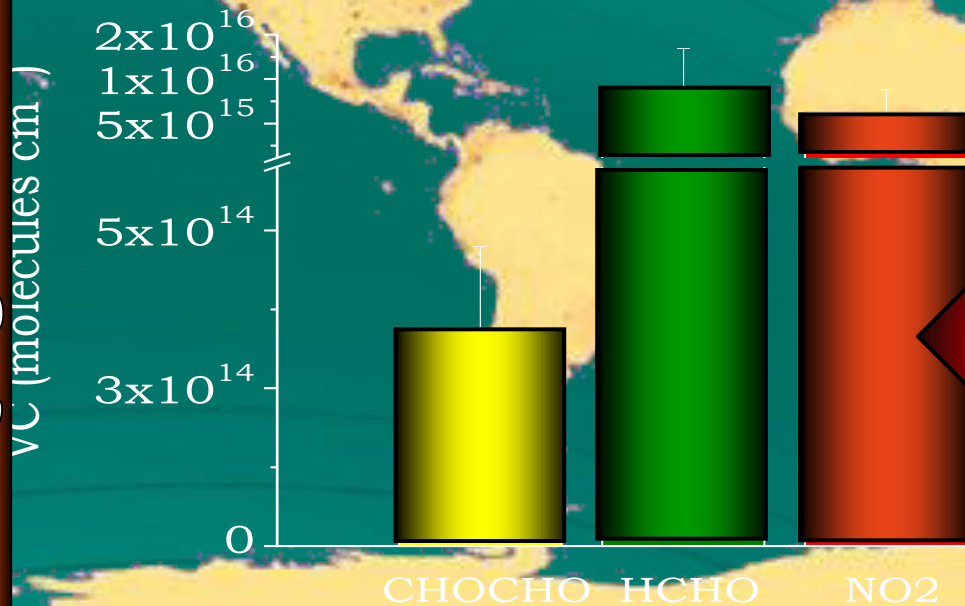


# a) Anthropogenic

Population Density  
(People/ km<sup>2</sup>)



## 36 cities/areas

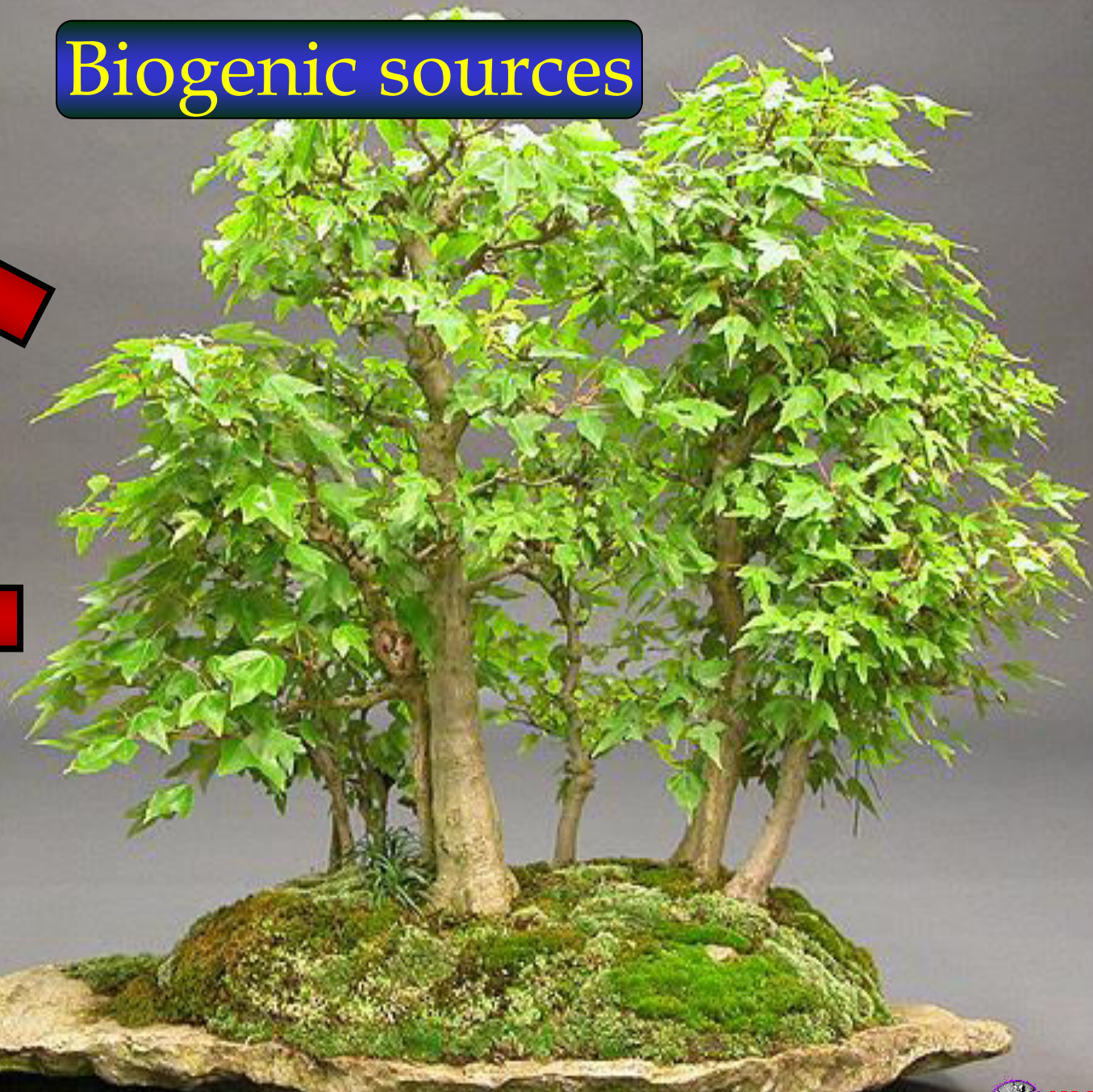
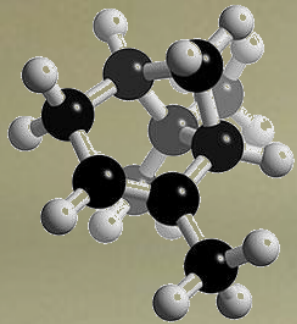
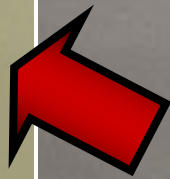
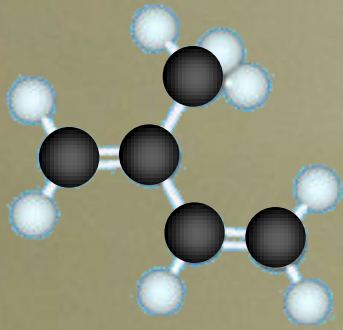


# R<sub>GF</sub> ratio → sources

Vrekoussis, M., Wittrock, F., Richter, A., and Burrows, J. P.: GOME-2 observations of oxygenated VOCs: what can we learn from the ratio glyoxal to formaldehyde on a global scale?, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 10, 10145-10160, doi:10.5194/acp-10-10145-2010, 2010.

Anthropogenic sources

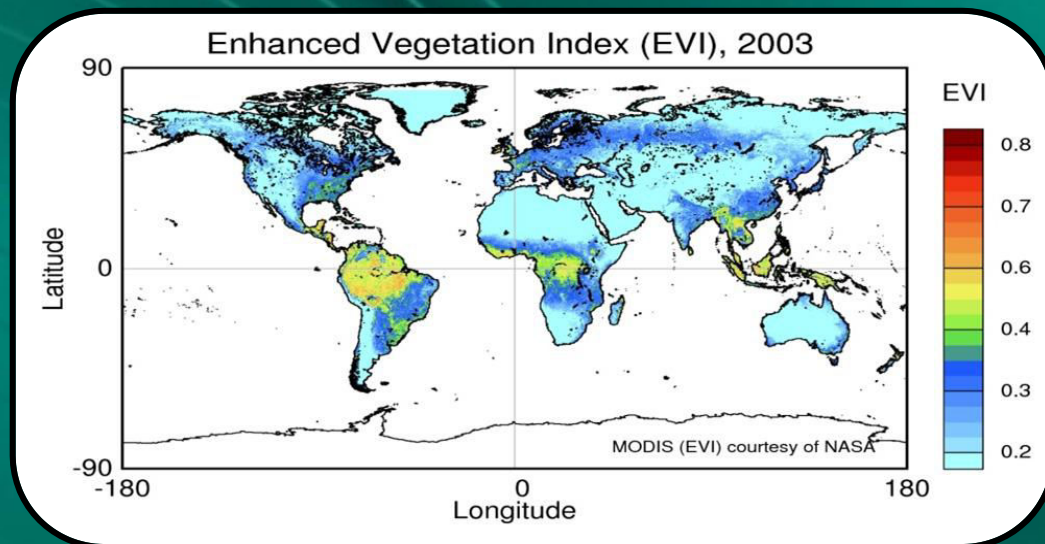
# Biogenic sources



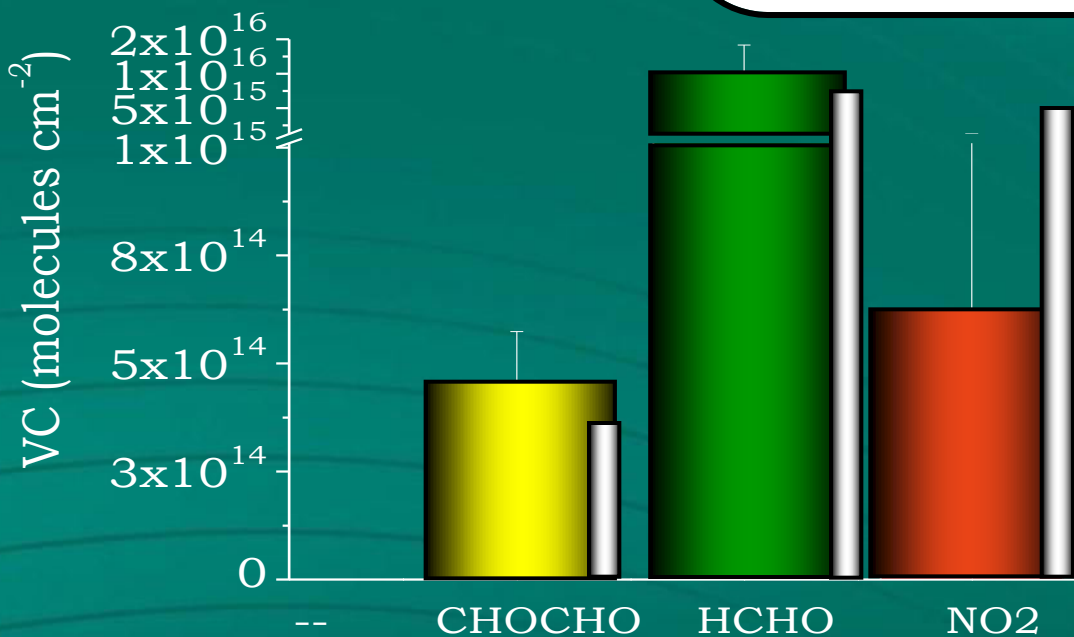


# b) Biogenic

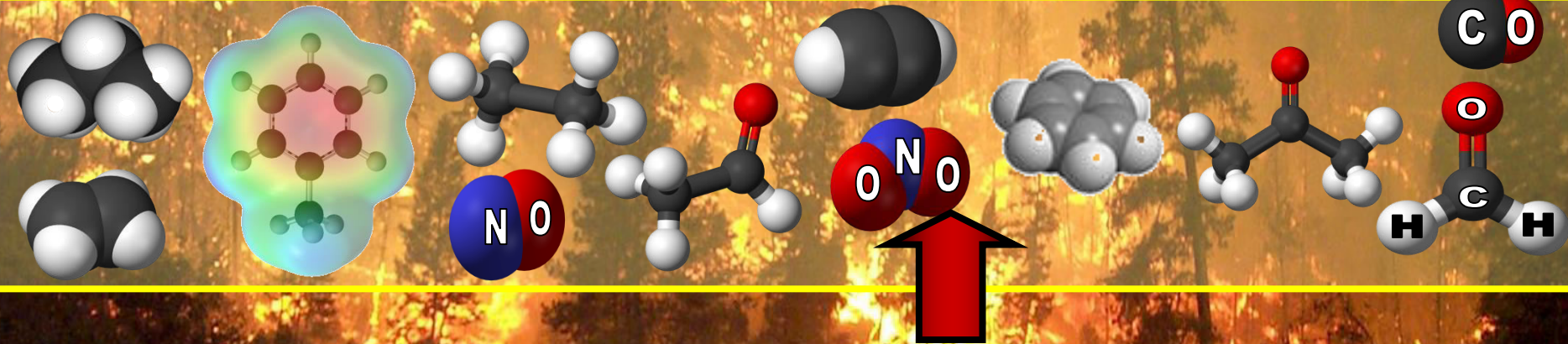
# EVI



Biogenic sources



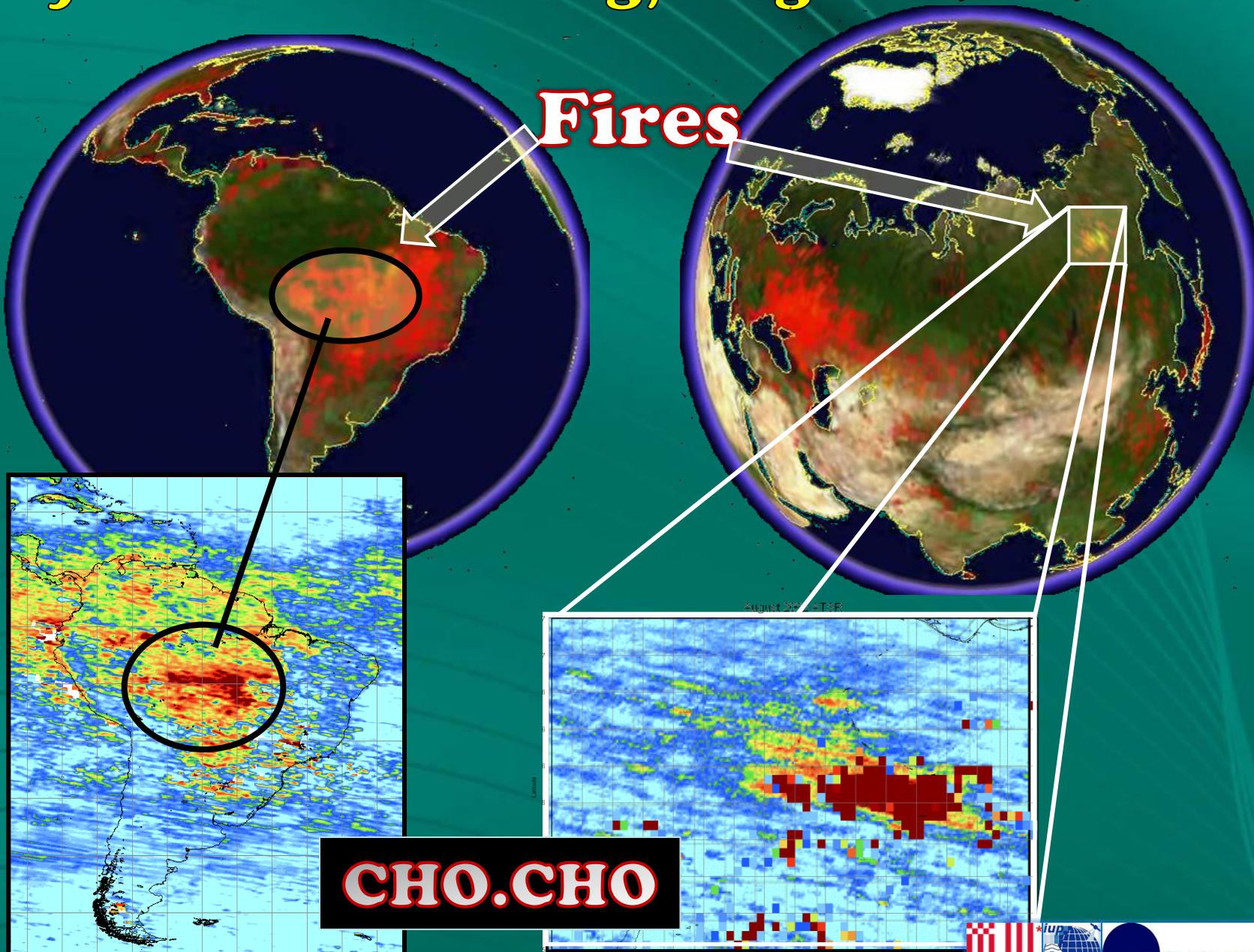
# Biomass burning



# c) Biomass burning, August 2002

Pyrogenic sources

**Fires**



**CHO.CHO**

16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus



# Conclusions

16 - 17 May 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus



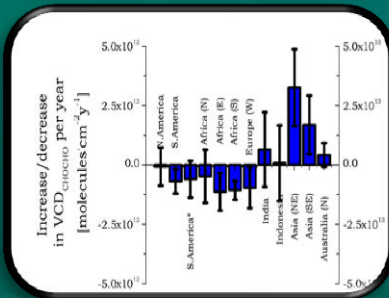
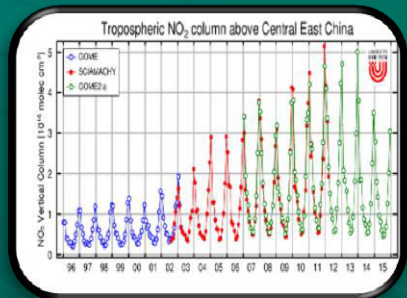
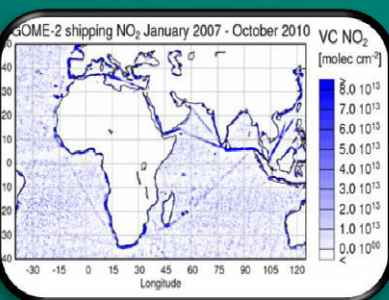
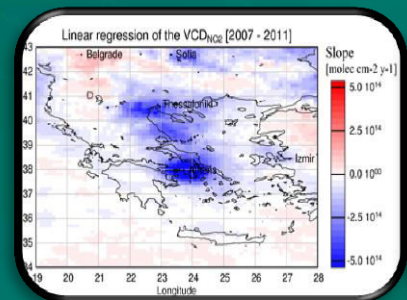
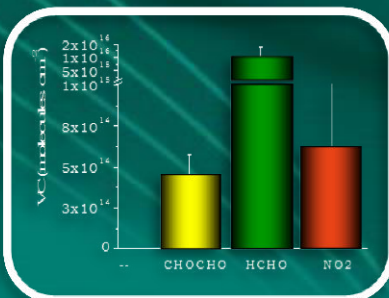
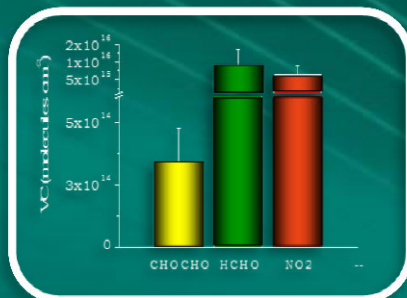
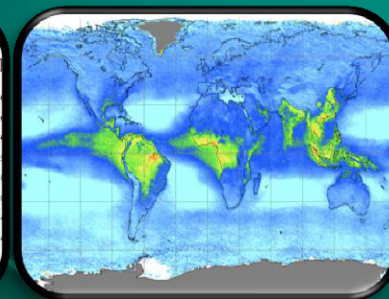
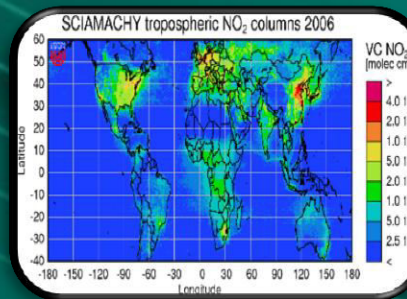


We can detect  $\text{NO}_2$ , HCHO and CHOCHO from space.

Their global maps reveal sources of anthropogenic, biogenic and biomass burning origin

The economic crisis is visible from space over land and sea

The multiannual analysis of the  $\text{VCD}_s$  revealed differences at the trends, absolute values and seasonal behaviour.



Thank you for your attention

THE END

Mihalis Vrekoussis

[mvrekous@uni-bremen.de](mailto:mvrekous@uni-bremen.de) &

<http://www.iup.uni-bremen.de/lamos/>

[vrekoussis@cyi.ac.cy](mailto:vrekoussis@cyi.ac.cy)