

# Improving AQ Forecasting Through A Closer Integration Of Observations And Models

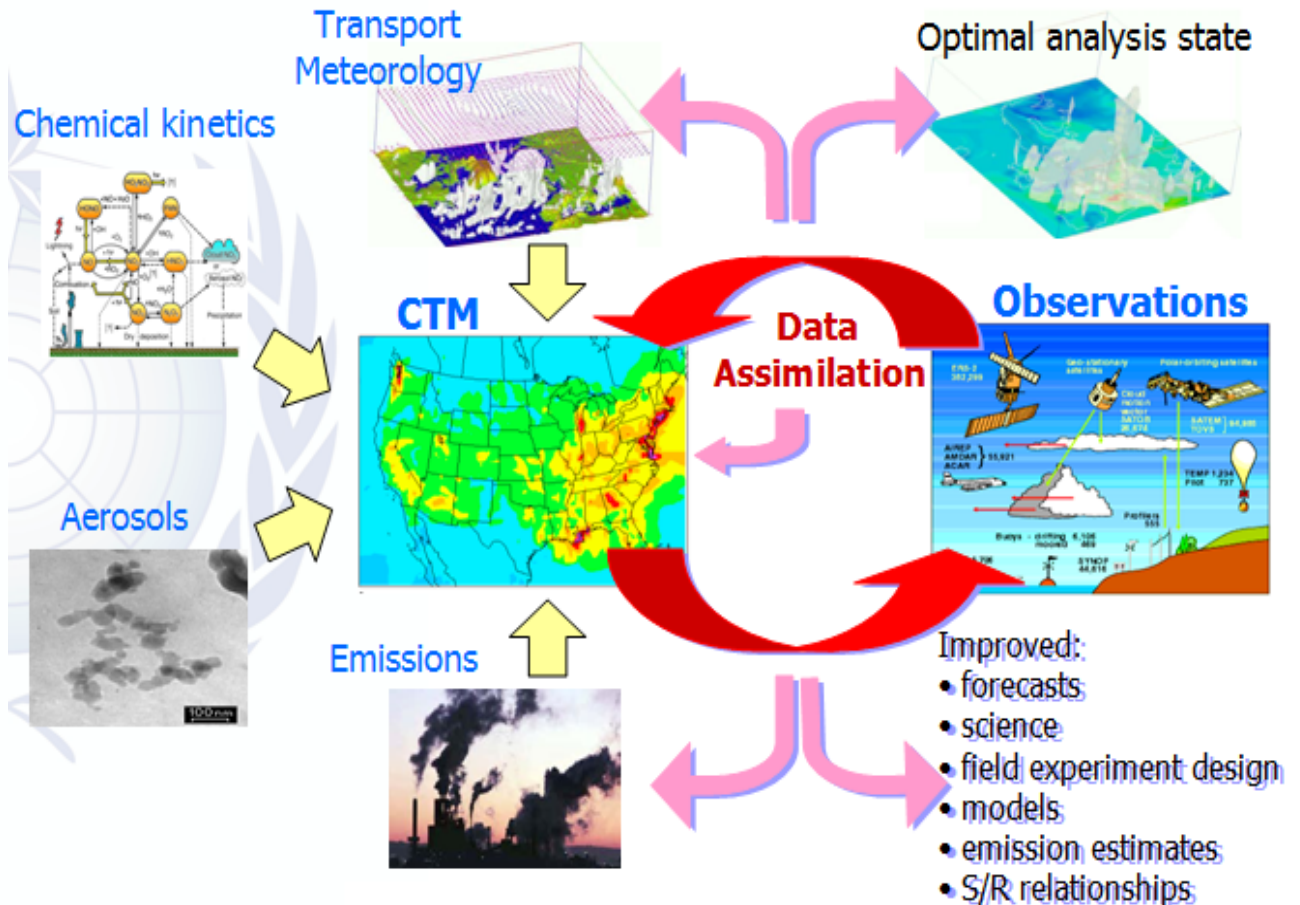
Volume 90 Number 9 September 2009

## BAMS

Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society

- NEW YORK CITY'S HEAT ISLAND
- ALPINE FORECASTS DEMONSTRATED
- GULF STREAM FIELD STUDY

**AIMING FOR BETTER PREDICTION**  
The Data Assimilation Research Testbed



*New requirements for NRT data, observing systems, and assimilation systems for chemical applications!!*

# Research Needs in AQ Data Assimilation

- **Met focused impacts (clouds, soil moisture, etc.)**
- **Chemical Techniques (ensemble, Var, hybrid)**
  - **Diversity of models (and components) with DA capabilities (e.g., Aerosol mod, radiation)**
  - **Control targets: initial, boundary, emissions**
  - **What existing data to assimilate (little experience in multiple species assimilations)**
- **Observing systems**
  - **Observation impact on analysis; quantify “value” of observations**
  - **Spatial, temporal value**
- **Better estimates of:**
  - **background errors (e.g., flow dependent, ...)**
  - **observational errors,**
  - **model errors, and**
  - **the impact of error misspecification on analysis**

# Research Needs in AQ Data Assimilation

- **New algorithmic developments:**
  - ability to deal with non-Gaussian uncertainty (e.g., particle filters);
  - ability to account for model errors (e.g., weakly constrained 4D-Var);
  - ability to quantify posterior errors (e.g., second order adjoint)
  - ability to integrate the lessons learned so far (e.g., hybrid variational-ensemble methods)
  - higher computational efficiency (e.g., reduced order models)
- **Challenges wrt to scales (resolution, multiscales,...)**
- **“coupled” met strategies (what species, techniques, impacts both ways, etc..)**
- **New computer science developments**
  - Data management
  - Exploit accelerator architectures (e.g., GPUs)
- **Computational resources/efficiency**
- **Testbeds**
- **Building community efforts – identity, articulation**

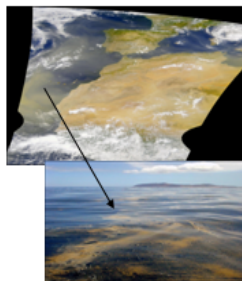
# FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR IMPROVING AIR QUALITY PREDICTIONS -- Summary



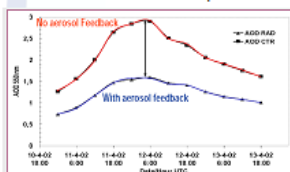
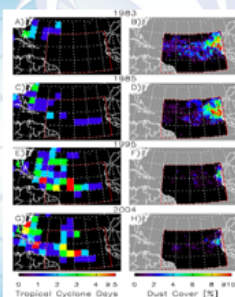
**Human Health** (Asthma, infections, Meningitis in Africa, Valley Fever in the America's)



**Agriculture** (negative & positive impacts)

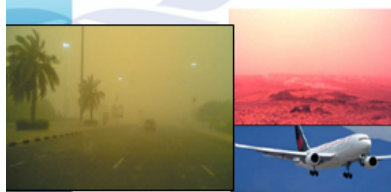


**Marine productivity** (negative & positive impacts)



**Improved Weather and Seasonal Climate prediction**

**Energy** (Thermal solar energy)



**Aviation** (air disasters)  
**Ground Transportation**  
Introduction and Overview of Course

✓ Further improvements will require reductions in key uncertainties (e.g., emissions, better basic understanding of some processes).

✓ There remain many observation needs and they need to be better articulated (NRT, 3-d components, geostationary)!

✓ Closer integration of observations is needed, including closer integration with AQ and met forecasting elements.

✓ A growing set of tools and techniques to assist and apply data assimilation are available (KPP- adjoints, models for background errors, EnKf wrappers, etc.), **BUT** more work on chemical aspects and techniques needed.

✓ Need to continue to build the community and share experiences!

**Air Quality ↔ Weather ↔ Climate**

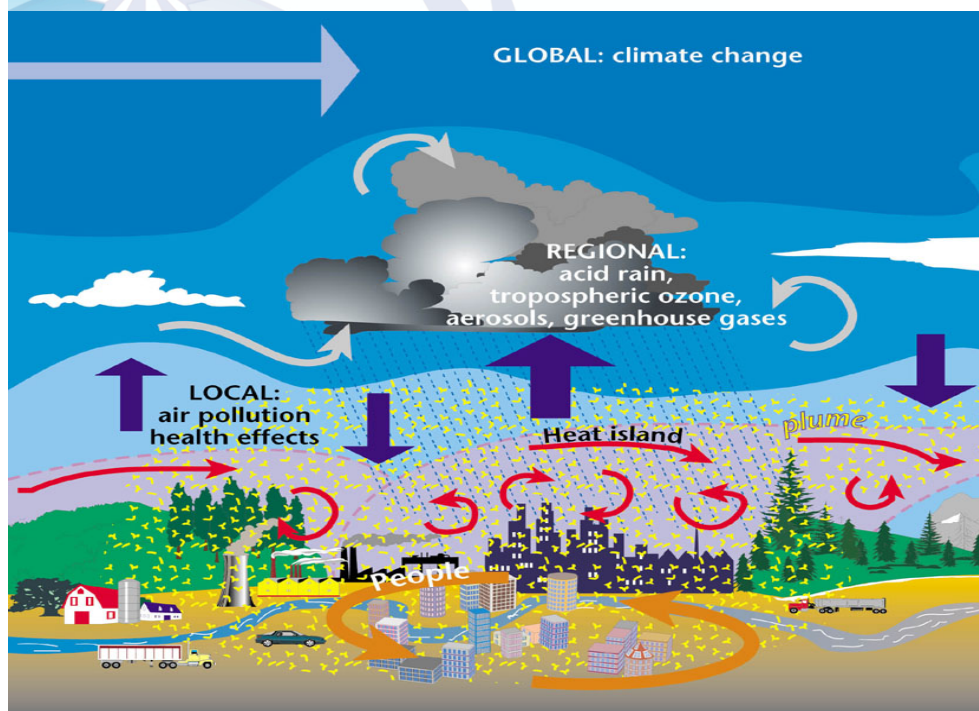


# Backup Slides



# *Chemical Weather* – A New Challenge/ Opportunity For Weather And Other Services

*Evolving complexity of observing systems, models, and applications.*



## Importance of Chemical Weather

- Effects of air quality and chemical exposure on **human health**.
- Effects of gases and aerosols on **ecosystems and agriculture**
- Effects of air quality and visibility on **tourism**
- Effects of UV radiation on **ecosystems and humans**
- Improvements of **numerical weather prediction models**

**WMO: GAW Urban Research Meteorology  
and Environment Project -- GURME**



# Major Challenge: Lack of Observations

What's wrong with this picture?

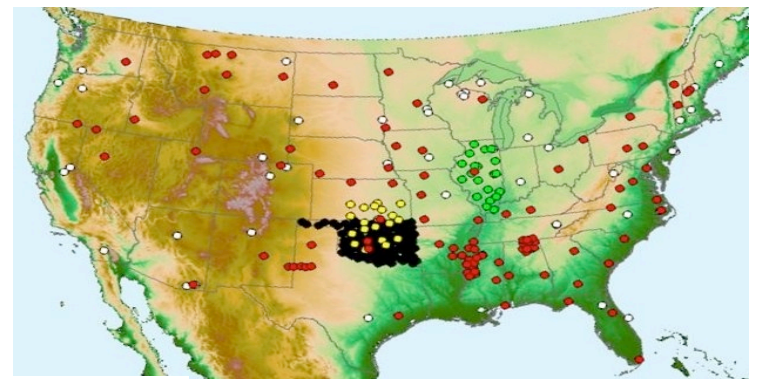
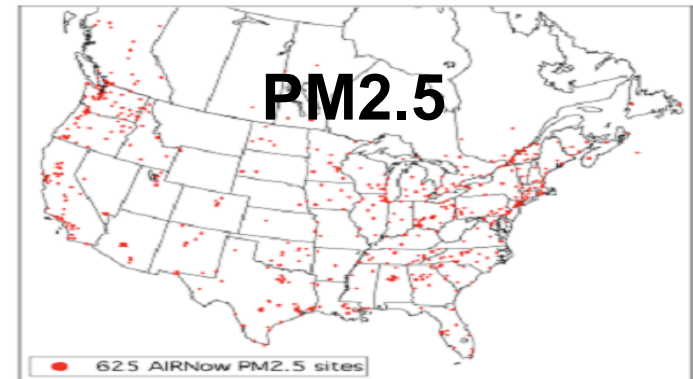
NAS -  
2009

## Observing Weather and Climate FROM THE GROUND UP A Nationwide Network of Networks

[www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12540](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12540)

### Focus in CTM-modelling vs NWP (from Ø. Hov)

Parameter	Numerical Weather Prediction	Chemical Transport Modeling
Wind speed	High wind speeds	Stagnant conditions
Wind direction	Not so important	Essential for S-R-relationships
Precipitation	Heavy rain	Length of dry periods; low intensity rain
Temperature	High and low temperatures, freezing	High temperatures – fast reactions and large biogenic emissions
Clouds	Cloud cover	Type, location, lifetime
Convection	Precipitation	BL ventilation
$T_{BL, res}$ , $H_{mix}$	Not so important	Important
Specific humidity	Not so important	Important for [OH]
Ground surface	Important for fluxes of heat, momentum, moisture	Important for deposition, biogenic emissions



Soil Moisture Networks

# Observations Priorities Stemming from Common Threads

## **MOST NEEDED:**

- Height of the planetary boundary layer
- Soil moisture and temperature profiles
- High resolution vertical profiles of humidity
- Measurements of air quality and atmospheric composition above the surface layer

## **NEEDED:**

- Direct and diffuse radiation
- Vertical profiles of wind
- Sub-surface temperature profiles (e.g., under pavement)
- Icing near the surface
- Vertical profiles of temperature
- Surface turbulence parameters



# Assimilation of Key Meteorological Parameters are Needed to Improve AQ Prediction Skill

## Design Period Simulations – Satellite Inputs

Retrospective – Data Assimilated for all Integration Period

*Example: impact of met parameters*

Geostationary Satellite Observations

- Insolation
- Skin temperatures
- Cloud Properties

MODIS

- Surface emissivity
- Surface albedo
- Skin temperatures

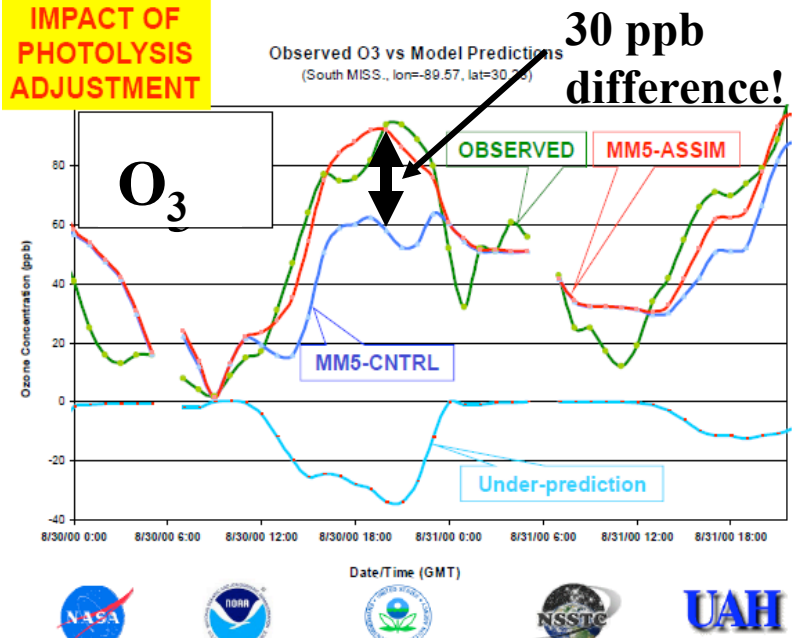
Satellite derived properties for photolysis rates

Physical Model  
Recreates Physical Atmosphere

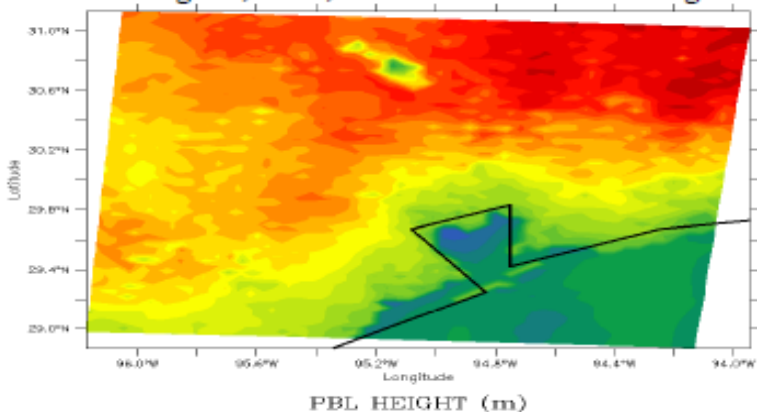
Chemical Model  
Recreates Chemical Atmosphere



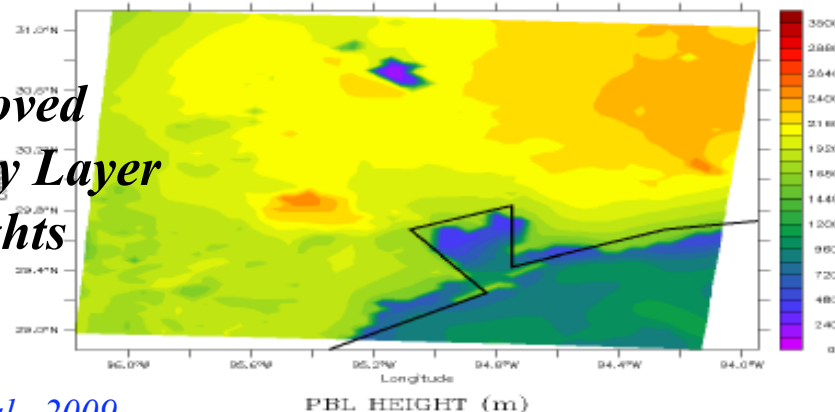
### IMPACT OF PHOTOLYSIS ADJUSTMENT



Model BL Heights (CNTRL)  
Aug. 26, 2000, 19:00-21:00 GMT averaged



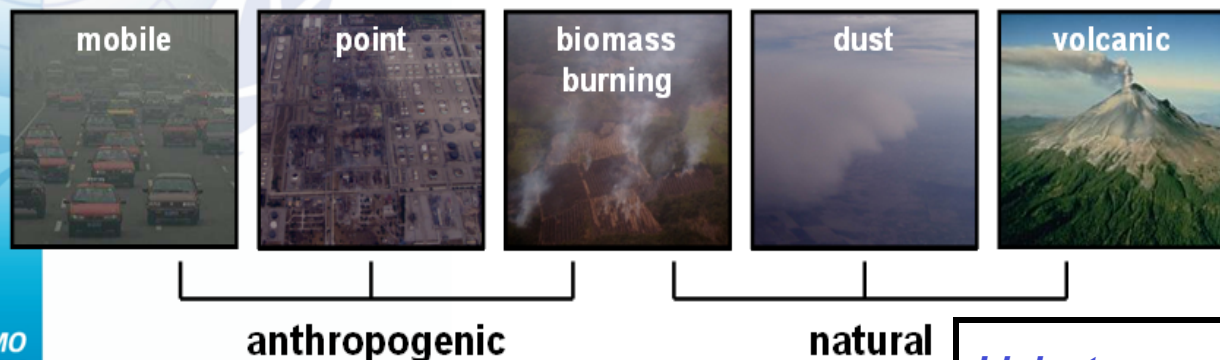
Model BL Heights (assimilated)  
Aug. 26, 2000, 19:00-21:00 GMT averaged



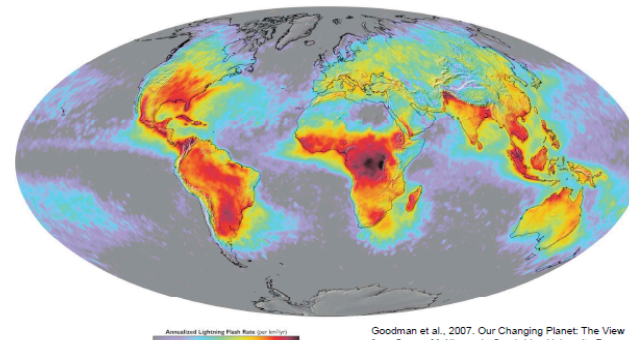
*Improved  
Boundary Layer  
Heights*

McNider et al., 2009

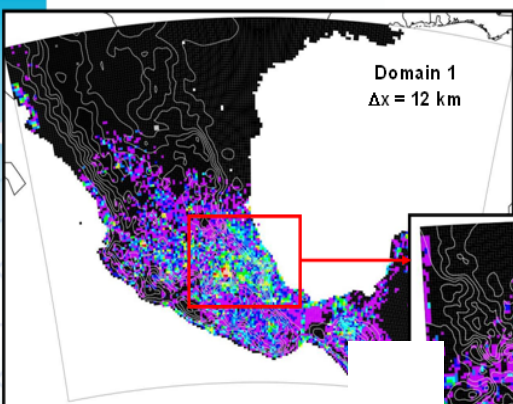
# Major Challenge: Need to Estimate ALL Emissions at Appropriate Scales (*places new responsibilities for NMHCs*)



Global Distribution of Lightning Activity

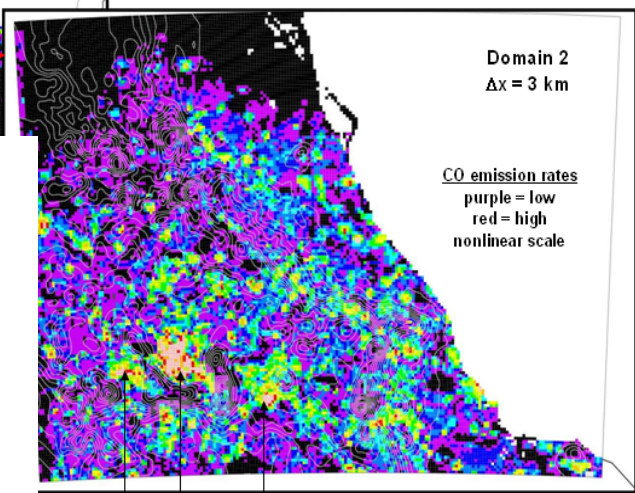


Goodman et al., 2007, Our Changing Planet: The View from Space, M. King, ed., Cambridge University Press  
Mean annual global lightning flash rate (flashes km<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>) derived from a combined 8 years from April 1995 to February 2003. (Data from the NASA OTD instrument on the OrbView-1 satellite and the LIS instrument on the TRMM satellite.)

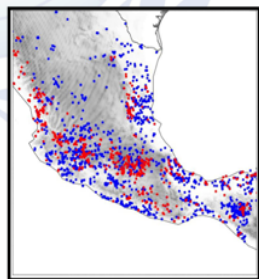


Anthropogenic: NEI99  
Biomass Burning: MODIS hotspot  
Dust: f(u\*)  
Volcanic: SO<sub>2</sub> estimated  
Biogenic: none at present

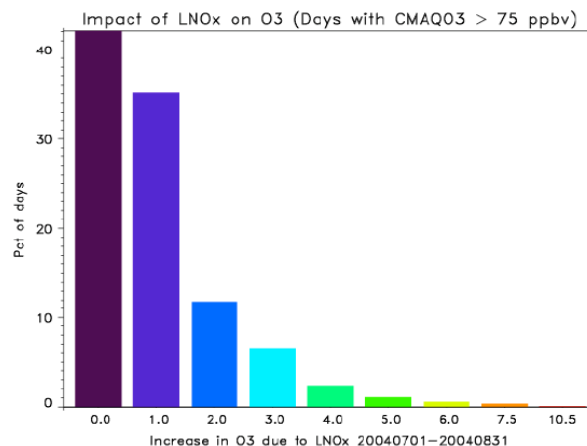
Links to meteorological parameters (T, RH, WS, Radiation, etc.)



Fires detected by MODIS

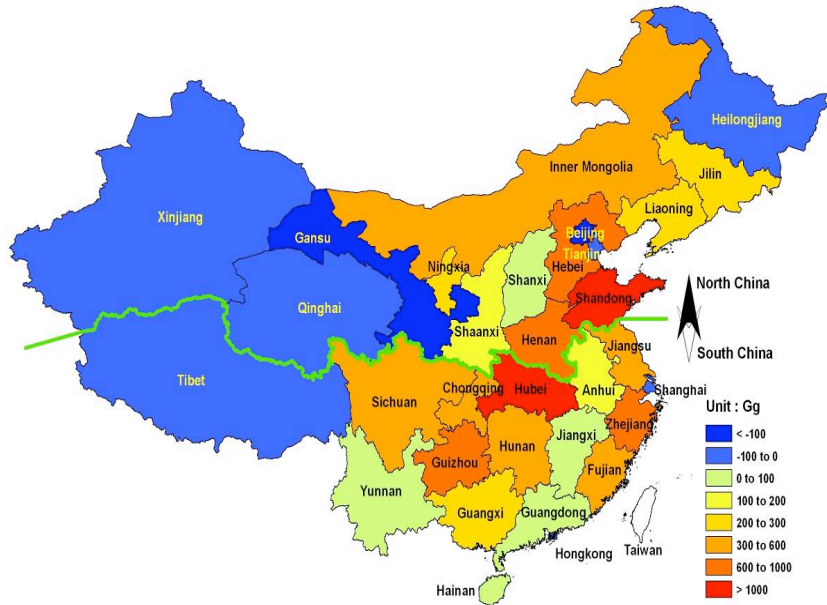


Toluca    Mexico City    Puebla

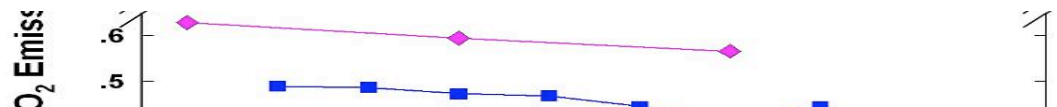
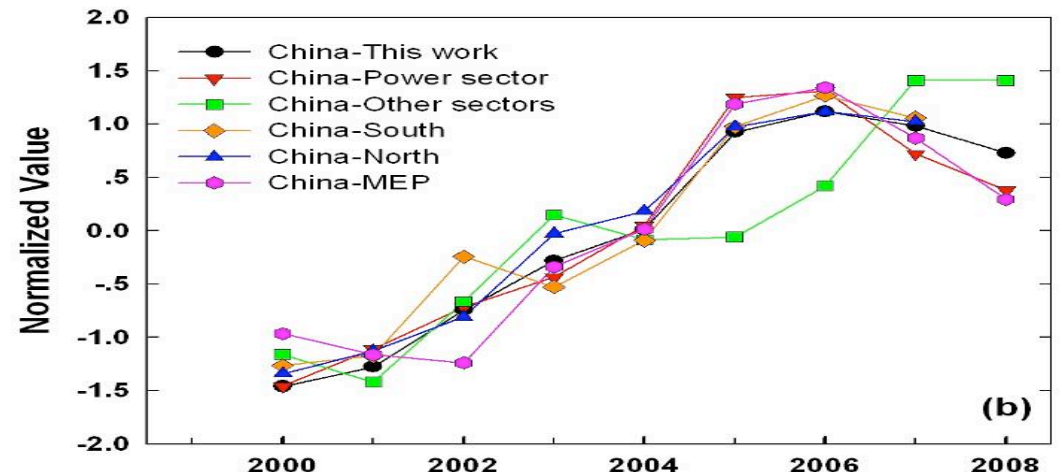
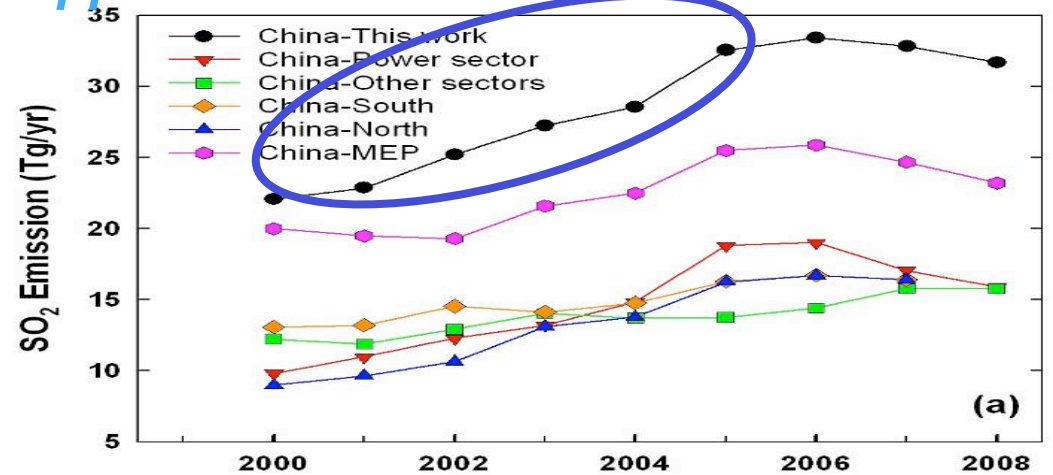


Pickering et al., 2009

**Major Challenge:** Emissions are a large source of uncertainty in AQ  
**Forecasting:** *Emissions change over scales often not captured in current inventories, but updated inventories are needed for many applications*

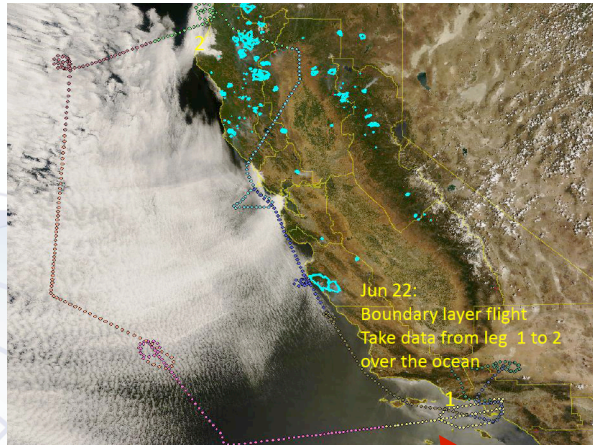


Change of SO<sub>2</sub> emission in China between 2000 and 2007

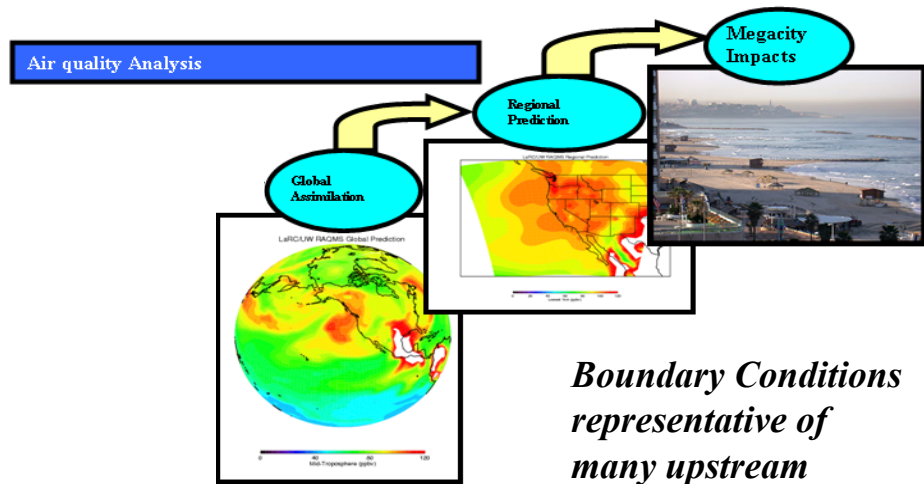
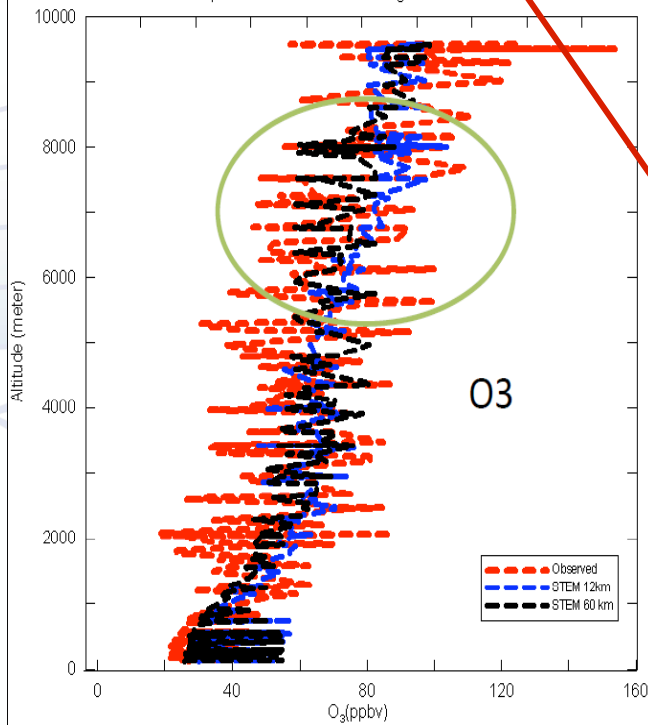




# Major Challenge: Scales

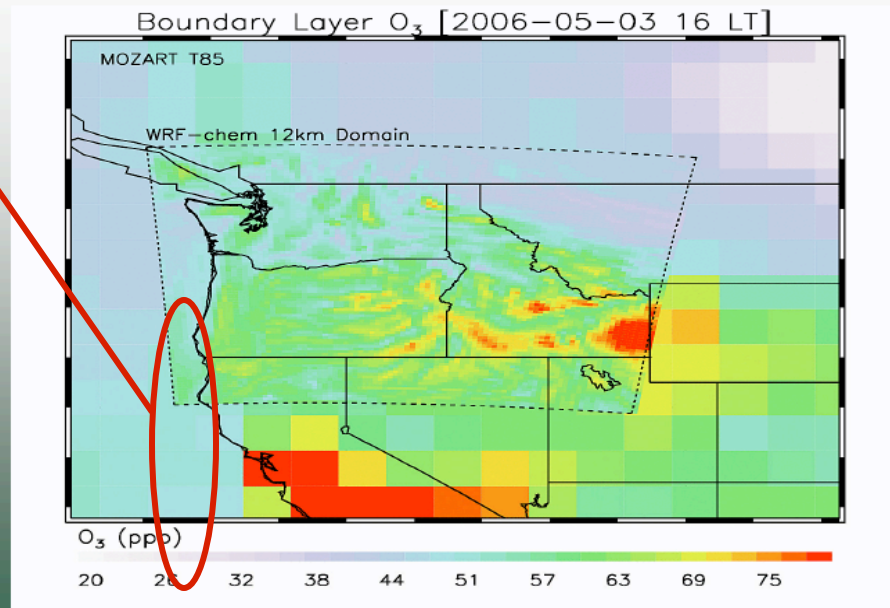


Vertical profile for all CARB DC-8 flights and model



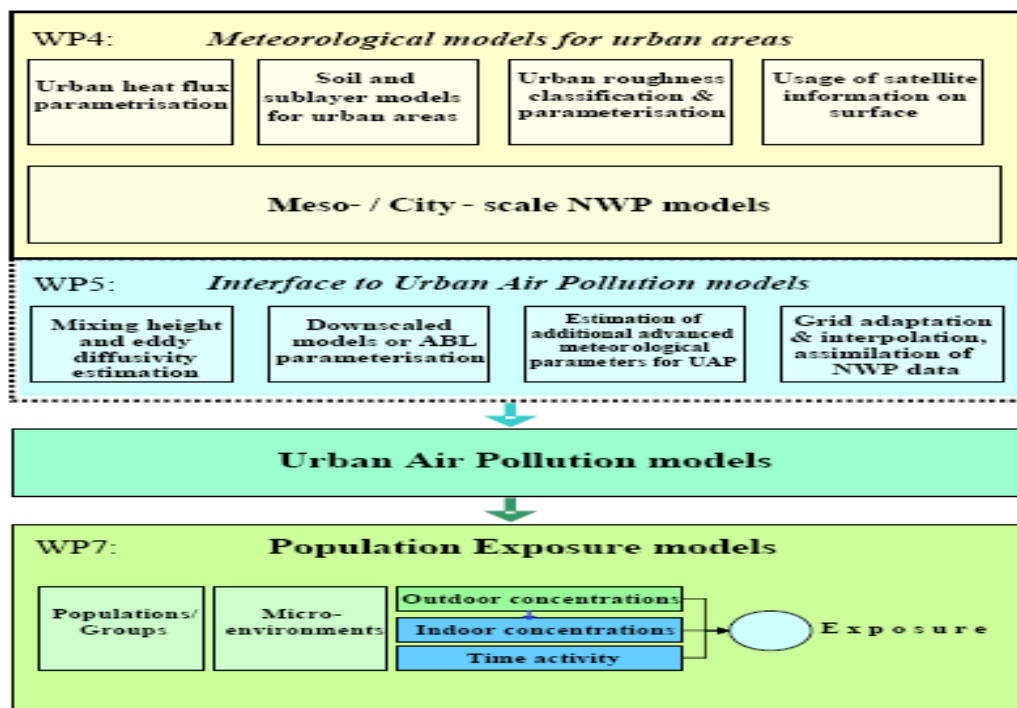
*Boundary Conditions  
representative of  
many upstream  
processes are needed  
in AQ applications*

## WRF-Chem (12 km) in MOZART (T85)

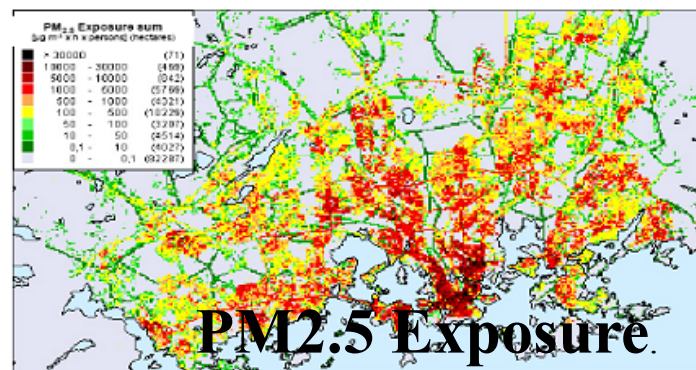
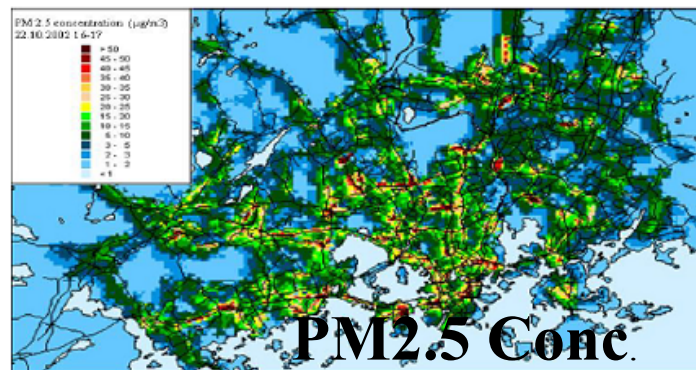




# Major Challenge: Linking Meteorology, Air Quality and Human Health



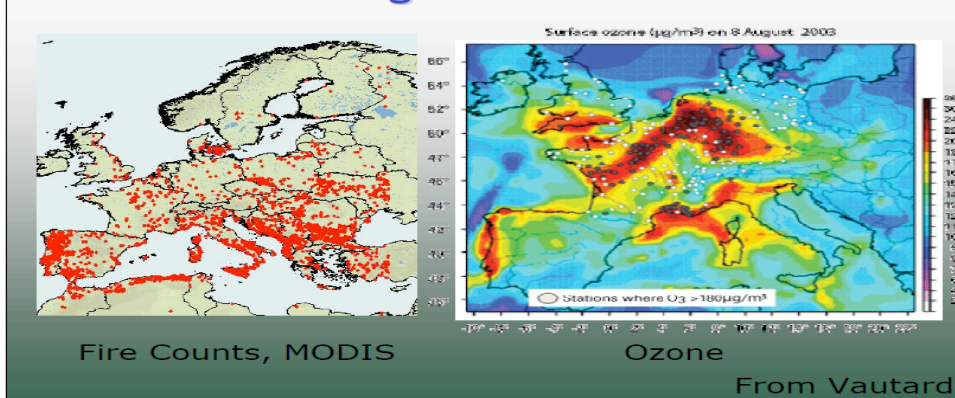
*Additional measurement and modeling requirements are needed for urban applications*



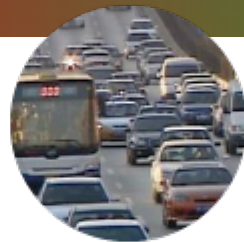
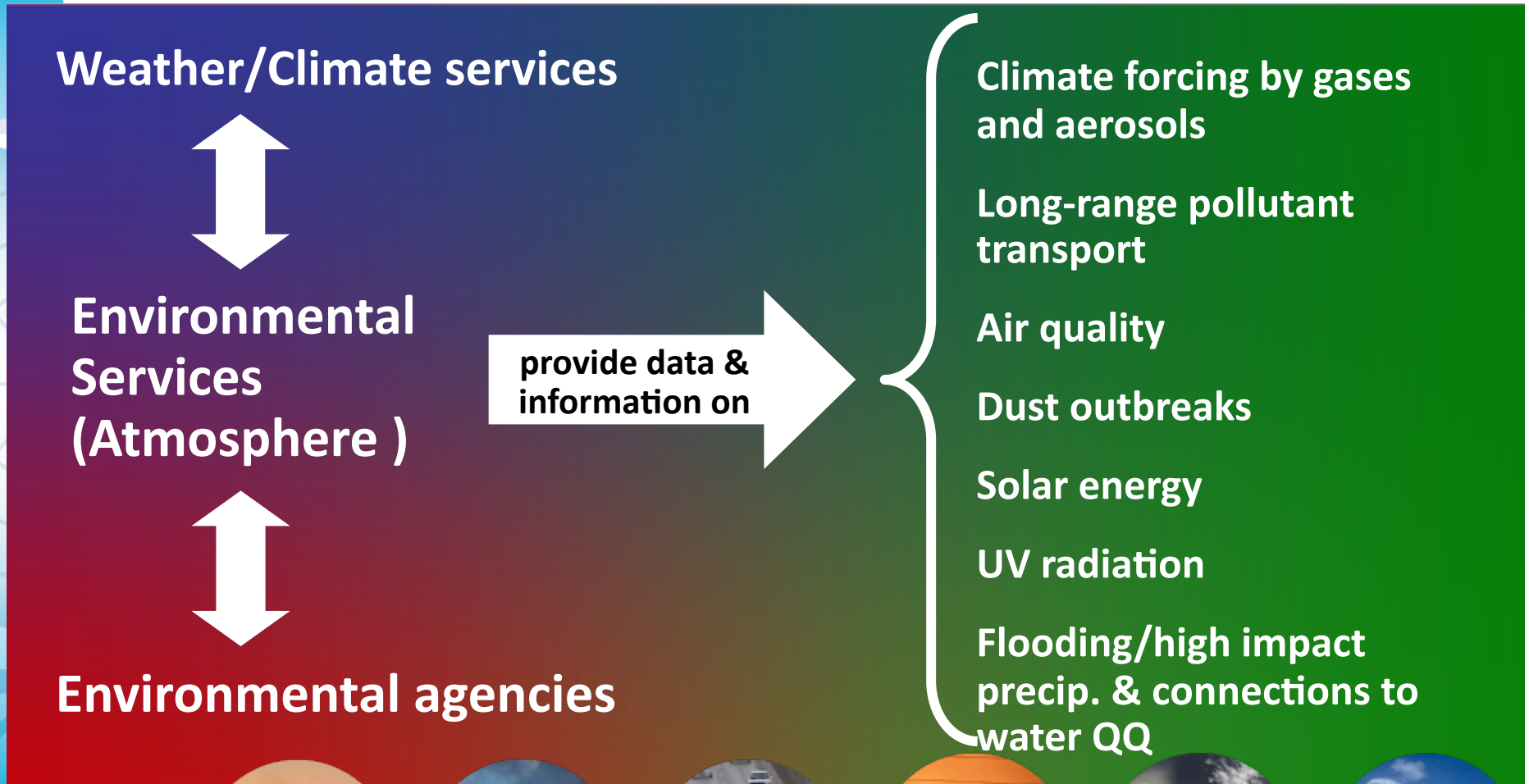
*Baklanov et al., ACP, 2007*

*COST 728 & MEGAPOLI related*

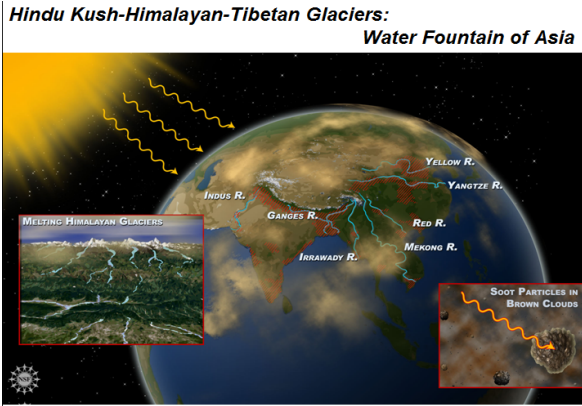
**Ozone During the 2003 Heat Wave**



# Environmental Prediction into the Next Decade: Weather, Climate and the Air We Breathe (*Day 2 Summary*)



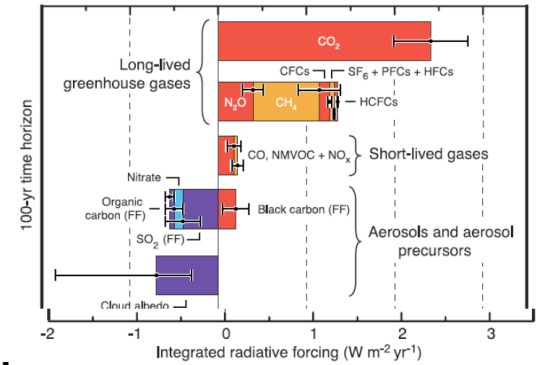




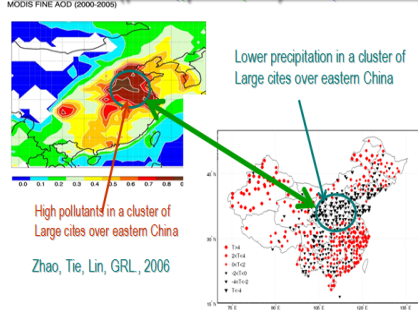
# A Major Challenge: Characterizing The Interactions Between Air Pollution, Weather And Climate That Are Many And Complex

Based on P. Cox, 2004

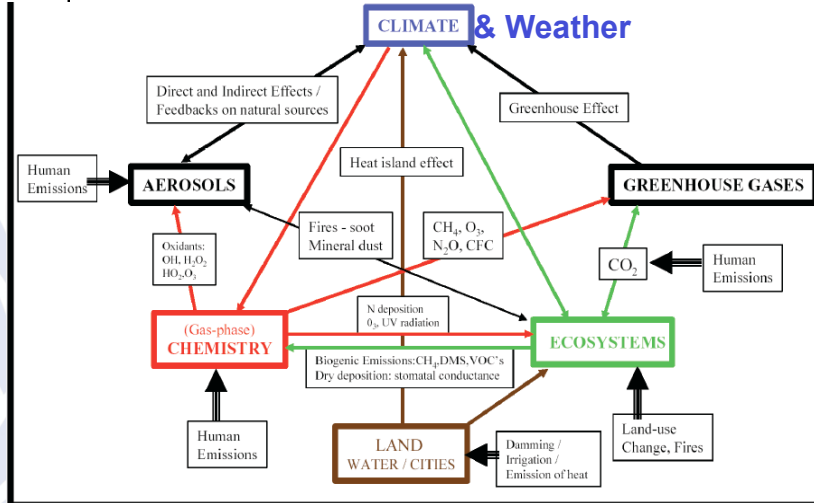
100-yr integrated radiative forcing for  
year 2000 global emissions



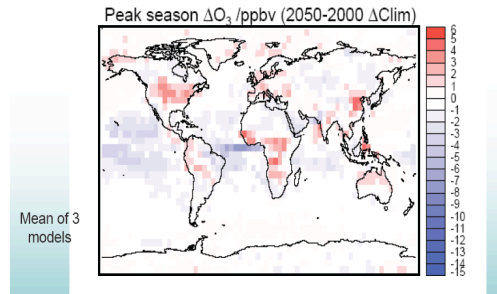
Both effect on regional weather  
and climate (precipitation)



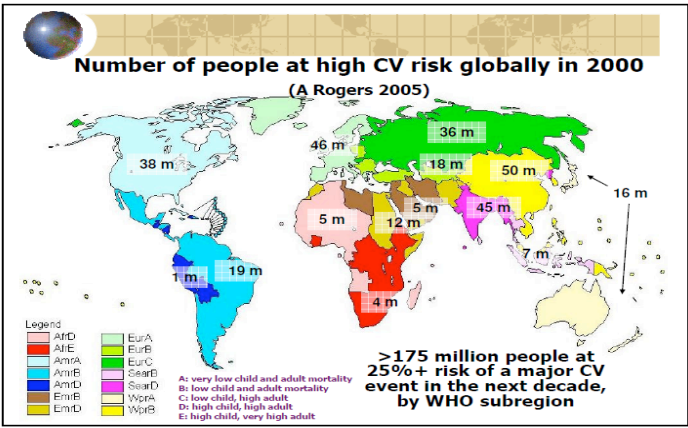
Study shows that heavy aerosol loading in east China increases atmospheric stability and reduces Precipitation in this region



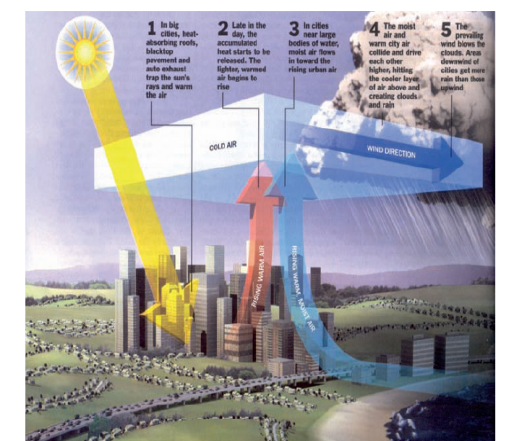
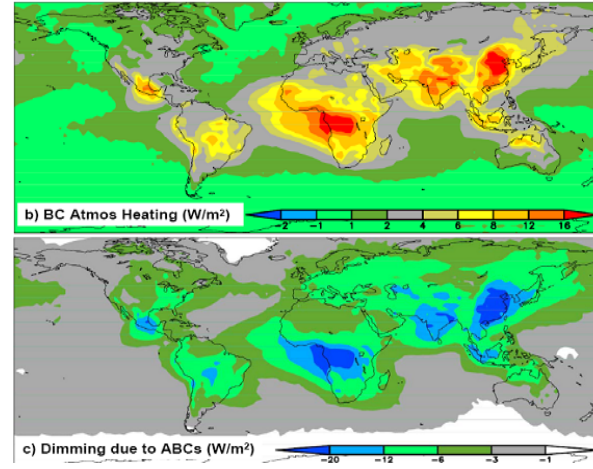
Projected changes in surface O<sub>3</sub> (2050-2000) during  
the peak O<sub>3</sub> season due to *climate change*



Impact of 2000-2050 climate change only  
(prescribed future climate: HadGEM SRES A1B)

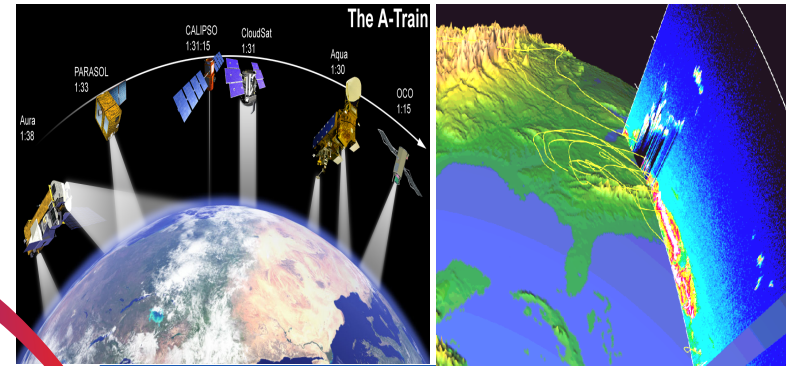
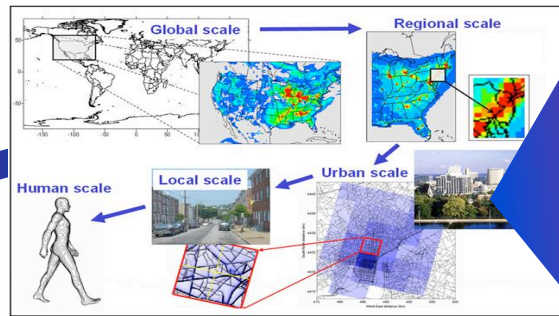


**~800,000 excess deaths per year globally  
no region immune!**



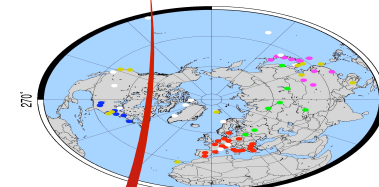
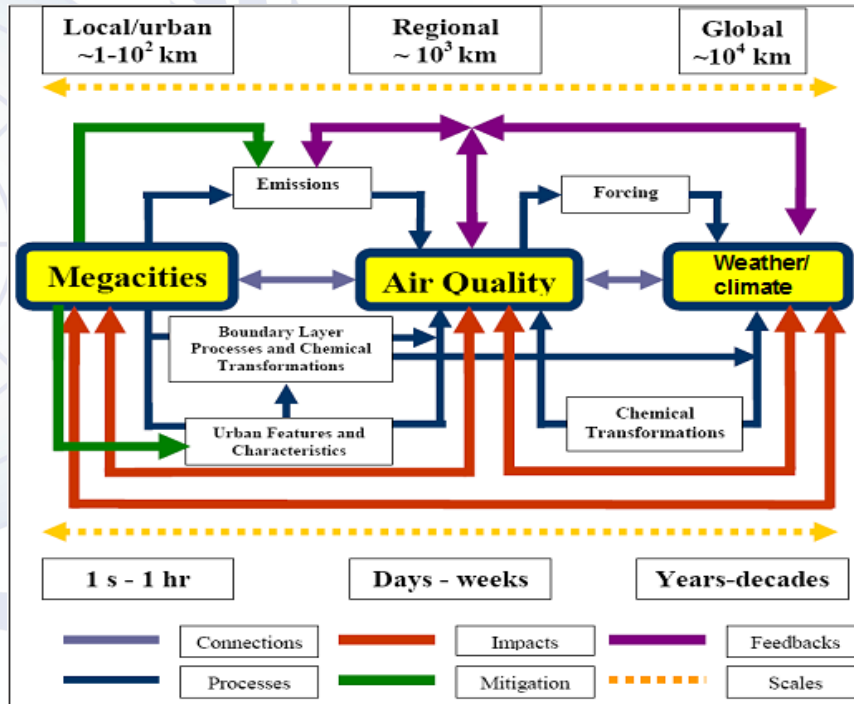
# Integrated Air Quality – Weather – Climate Services for the Betterment of Both

AQ  
Services

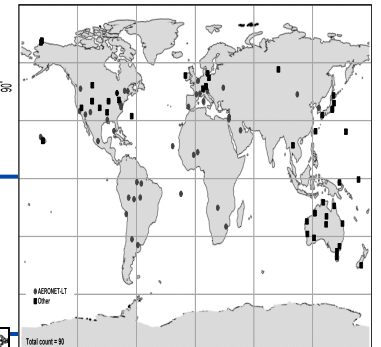


Three dimensional observing systems & Geostationary Satellite Obs

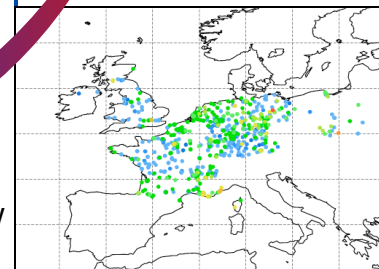
Linkages  
GHGs  
Air polls.



GALION  
Surface-based  
LIDAR



GAW/AERONET/  
SKYNET  
Surface-based  
AOD



PM

Integrated Air Quality Met. Models and assimilation systems

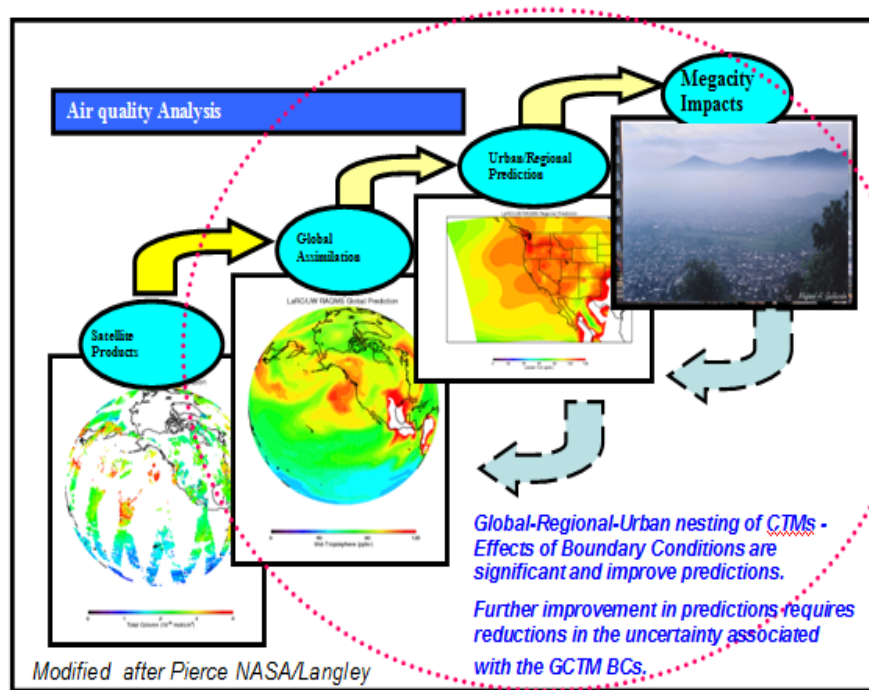
Rear & NRT data flows

Section 3 – Introduction and Overview



# Environmental Prediction into the Next Decade: Weather, Climate and the Air We Breathe (*Day 2 Summary*)

## Prediction: A Challenge of Scales and Integration



## Common Challenges

- More Observations (x 10?)
    - Atmosphere
    - Ocean
    - Terrestrial
    - Satellites
    - Improved Instrumentation
  - Improved Modeling to Serve Smaller Footprints
    - Transport (÷ 10?)
    - Boundary Layer Understanding
    - Assimilation, Inversion, Diagnosis
    - Prediction
  - Enhanced Computing Capacity
- QA/QC, Data Management  
**NRT data flows**
- But larger geographic extents*

Air Quality ↔ Weather ↔ Climate