

Airborne Measurements of Ozone and Other Trace Gases during the California Baseline Ozone Transport Study (CABOTS)





Flight paths flown by AJAX in support of CABOTS



Vertical profiles of O_3 measured both offshore and inland in the SJV, highlighting the differences in O_3 structure. See teal and green flight tracks above.

- **Background**: Western states are challenged to meet lowered National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for O_3 , as O_3 can be transported across the Pacific or from the stratosphere. CABOTS sponsored by the Cal Air Resources Board (CARB) seeks to understand how well global models reproduce the daily variability of O_3 and if transported O_3 affects surface sites in the San Joaquin Valley.
- AJAX is supporting CABOTS by measuring O_3 , CO_2 , CH_4 , &
- HCHO during 9 flights to follow transport eastward, from offshore to the SJV. Through vertical profiles and horizontal transects, AJAX data are compared to coastal O_3 sonde launches (SJSU) and O_3 lidar measurements in the SJV (NOAA).
- Data consistently show O_3 laminae at varying altitudes offshore and high O_3 near the surface at Visalia, but reveal that these locations appear to be in different meteorological regimes.
- AJAX data uniquely characterize these air masses and the latitudinal and longitudinal heterogeneity in O₃ across California.
- This unique data set, as well as data from any additional future flights, will contribute significantly to the to understanding of ozone transport in California. We hope to make this data widely available to CARB and other researchers exploring CA air quality in spring and summer.