



### Understanding Urban Carbon Emissions with Space-Based Carbon Dioxide Observations

John C. Lin, Professor, Dept. of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Utah. John.Lin@utah.edu

June 2, 2022

#### Webinar Agenda

Part 1: An Introduction to XCO<sub>2</sub> with OCO-2 and OCO-3

- EDT (UTC-4:00)
- Tuesday, May 24, 2022
- Trainers: Vivienne Payne (JPL)
- Background of the XCO2 measurement and how it is measured
- Description of the OCO-2/OCO-3 sensors
- Characteristics, limitations and validation of the measurement
- Q&A

#### Part 2: A Demonstration on how to Access and Visualize OCO-2/OCO-3 Data

- EDT (UTC-4:00)
- Thursday, May 26, 2022
- Trainers: Karen Yuen (JPL)
- Use of Jupyter Notebook to access, search, filter and display XCO<sub>2</sub> data
- Q&A

Part 3: XCO<sub>2</sub> in Support of Global and Regional Climate-Related Studies

- EDT (UTC-4:00)
- Tuesday, May 31, 2022
- Trainers: Abhishek Chatterjee (JPL)
- Global and regional carbon flux estimation, and carbon cycle response to climate variability and changes in anthropogenic emissions
- Q&A

#### Part 4: XCO<sub>2</sub> in Support of Local and Regional Climate-Related Studies

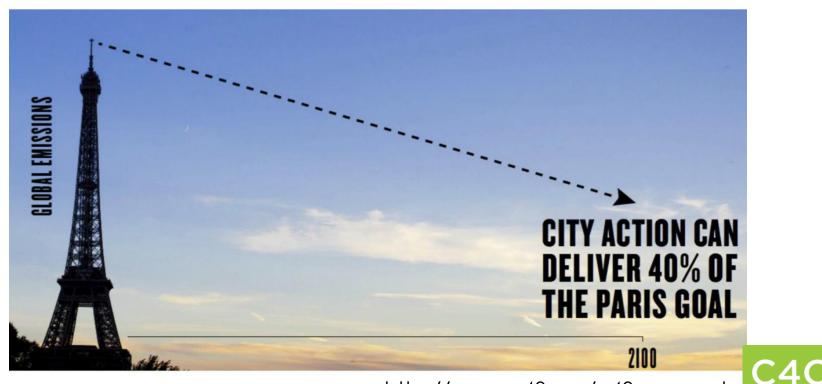
- EDT (UTC-4:00)
- Thursday, June 2, 2022
- Trainers: John Lin (University of Utah)
- Climate impacts from localized emissions, air quality, and urban density
- Q&A



## **URBAN areas**, where **more than HALF of the global population** resides, are responsible for **significant emissions of CO**<sub>2</sub>.

Air Quality issues are also magnified in cities, where pollutant emissions are concentrated and where exposure of large populations crammed into small areas are found.

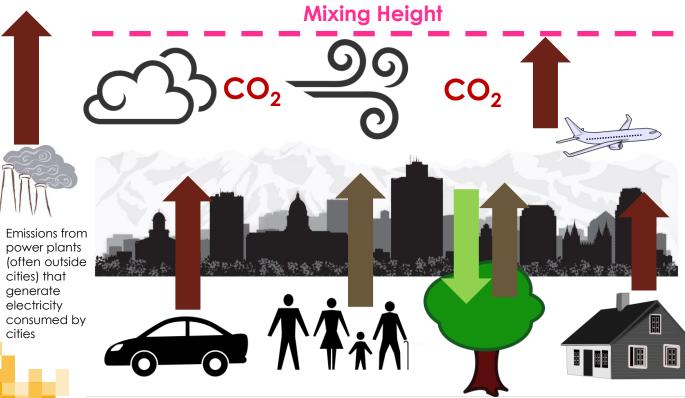
#### Significance of Urban Emissions



http://www.c40.org/c40\_research

CITIES

#### Sources of Carbon Emissions in Cities



#### CO<sub>2</sub> AND CARBON EMISSIONS FROM CITIES

Linkages to Air Quality, Socioeconomic Activity, and Stakeholders in the Salt Lake City Urban Area

JOHN C. LIN, LOGAN MITCHEL, ERK CROSHAN, DANIEL L. MENDOZA, MARTIN BUCHERT, RYAN BARES, BEN FASOLI, DAVID R. BOWLING, DIANE PATAKI, DOUGLAS CATHARINE, COURTENAY STRONG, KEVIN R. GURNEY, RISA PATAASJIK, MUNKHBAYAB BAASANDORJ, ALEXANDER JACQUES, SEBASTIAN HOCH, JOHN HOREL, AND JIM EHLERINGER

Observations and modeling of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> in the Salt Lake City, Utah, area help to quantify and understand urban carbon emissions and their linkage to air quality.

NASA's Applied Remote Sensing Training Program

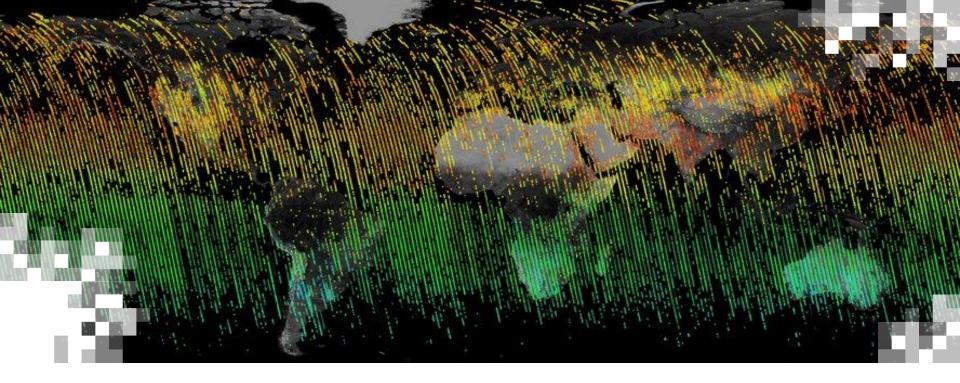
(Lin et al., BAMS, 2018)



### **Key Scientific Questions**

- How can atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> be used to understand urban carbon emissions?
- How do carbon emissions vary between different cities?
- How can co-benefits be realized in reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality?





### Part 1: Examples of Studies from Salt Lake City, Utah







Credit: NASA Earth Observatory/NOAA NGDC







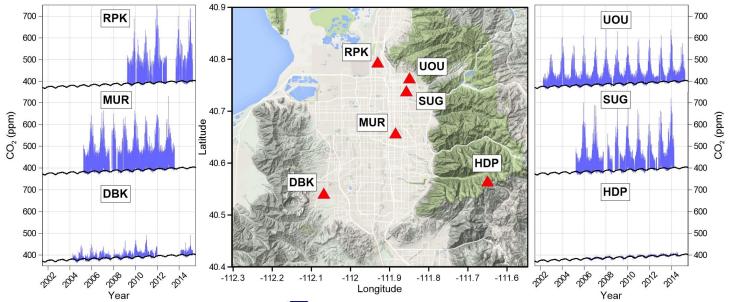


 Salt Lake Valley  $CO_2$  Observational Network (Among the longest-running urban  $CO_2$  networks in the world)

"If you can't measure it, you can't improve it." - Peter Drucker



### Salt Lake City – CO<sub>2</sub> Long-Term Trends at various sites (3-letter site codes below)



Long-term urban carbon dioxide observations reveal spatial and temporal dynamics related to urban characteristics and growth

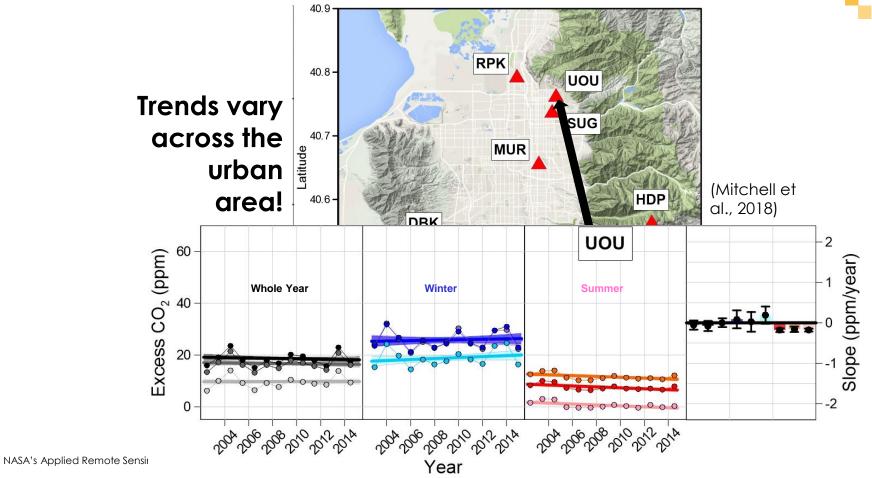
Logan E. Mitchell<sup>a,1</sup>, John C. Lin<sup>a</sup>, David R. Bowling<sup>b</sup>, Diane E. Pataki<sup>b</sup>, Courtenay Strong<sup>a</sup>, Andrew J. Schauer<sup>c</sup>, Ryan Bares<sup>a</sup>, Susan E. Bush<sup>b</sup>, Britton B. Stephens<sup>d</sup>, Daniel Mendoza<sup>a</sup>, Derek Mallia<sup>a</sup>, Lacey Holland<sup>a,e</sup>, Kevin R. Gurney<sup>f</sup>, and James R. Ehleringer<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112; <sup>b</sup>Department of Biology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112; <sup>b</sup>Department of Earth and Space Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195; <sup>c</sup>National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, CO 80307; <sup>c</sup>Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI 96822; and <sup>f</sup>School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 8287

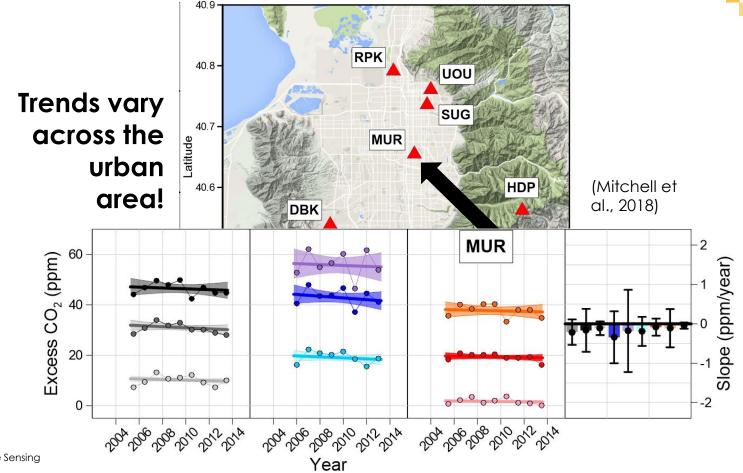


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#### Salt Lake City – CO<sub>2</sub> Long-Term Trends

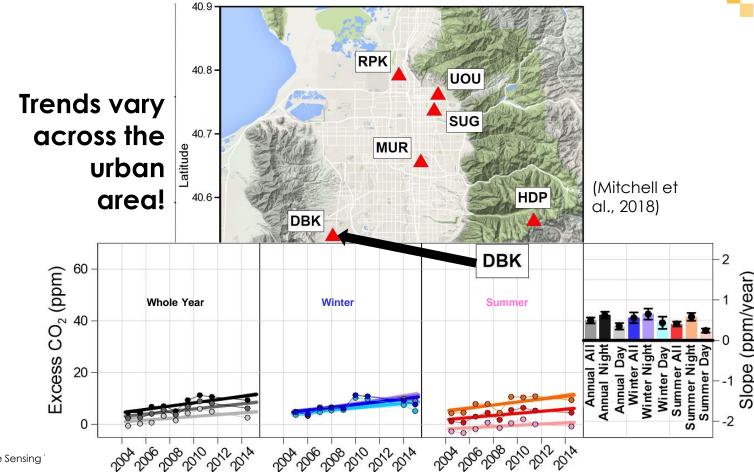


#### Salt Lake City – CO<sub>2</sub> Long-Term Trends



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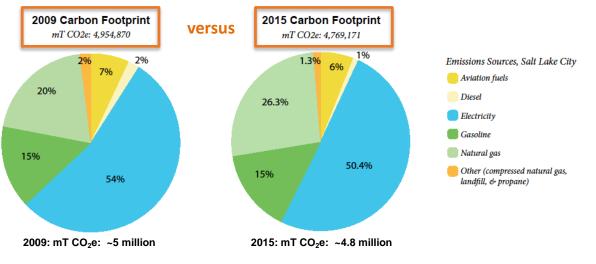
#### Salt Lake City – CO<sub>2</sub> Long-Term Trends



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#### Comparison Against Salt Lake City Government's Estimates of Carbon Emissions

The following pie charts represent most Scope I and Scope II emissions for the Salt Lake City community. The charts include fuels combusted locally, as well as upstream emissions associated with electricity generation. Scope III emissions such as those associated with the production of food and goods consumed locally are important contributors to climate change, but are not quantified in this report.



Consistent with observed flat trends in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> in Salt Lake City

Climate Positive

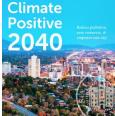
2040

### Salt Lake City's Climate Commitment (Climate Positive 2040)

"Our city... is committed to powering 50% of municipal operations with renewables by 2020. We have set another goal of transitioning the entire community's electricity supply to 100 percent clean energy by 2032, followed by an overall reduction of community greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2040."

-Jackie Biskupski, Former Mayor of Salt Lake City





Seen as Nature Lovers' Paradise, Utah Struggles With Air Quality



Scott G. Winterton/Deseret News

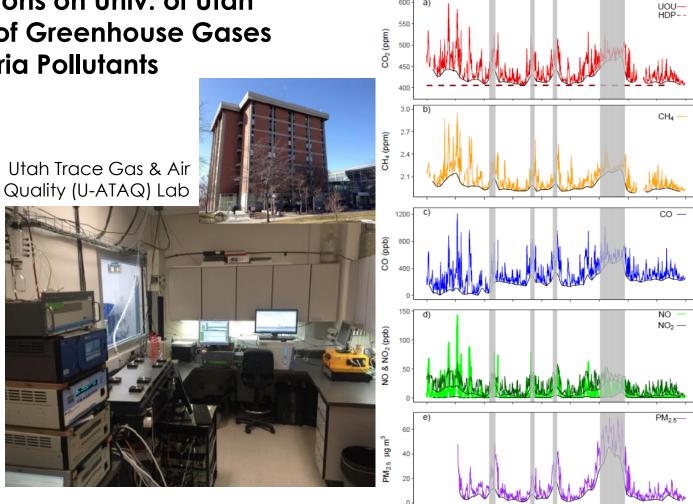
Along the Wasatch Front, the corridor where most Utahans live, weather and geography often help trap bad air.

#### By DAN FROSCH

Published: February 23, 2013 New York Times

https://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/24/us/utah-a-nature-lovers-haven-is-plagued-by-dirty-air.html

**Observations on Univ. of Utah Campus of Greenhouse Gases** and Criteria Pollutants

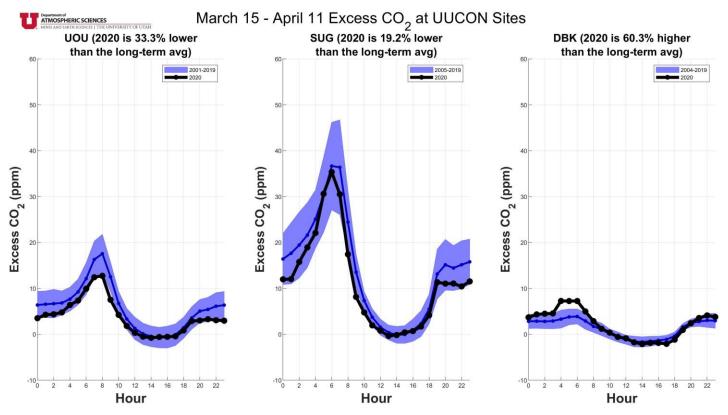


12/28/15 a) 600 -

12/28/15 01/04/16 01/11/16 01/18/16 /08/16 02/15/16 02/22/16 02/29/16 (Bares et al., 2018) Date (MST)

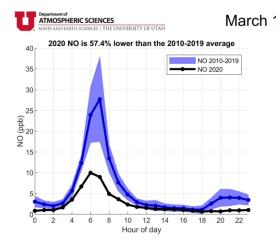
1/16 01/18/16 01/25/16 02/01/16 02/08/16 02/15/16 02/22/16 02/29/16

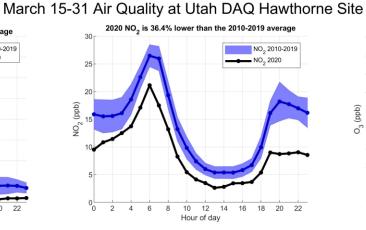
#### **COVID Shutdown Signal**

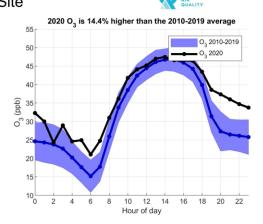


L. Mitchell, Unpublished: <u>https://atmos.utah.edu/air-quality/covid-19\_air\_quality.php</u>

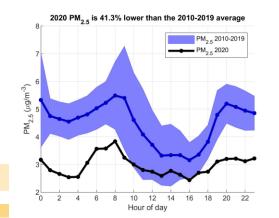
### **COVID Shutdown Signal**







L. Mitchell, Unpublished: https://atmos.utah.edu/air-quality/covid-19\_air\_quality.php





#### TRAX Monitoring of Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases in the Salt Lake Valley



Atmospheric Environment 187 (2018) 9-23



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
Atmospheric Environment

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/atmosenv

Monitoring of greenhouse gases and pollutants across an urban area using a light-rail public transit platform



ATMOSPHERIC

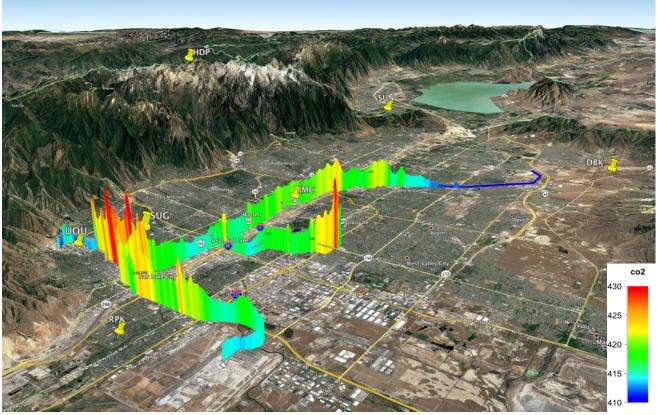
Logan E. Mitchell<sup>a,\*</sup>, Erik T. Crosman<sup>a</sup>, Alexander A. Jacques<sup>a</sup>, Benjamin Fasoli<sup>a</sup>, Luke Leclair-Marzolf<sup>a</sup>, John Horel<sup>a</sup>, David R. Bowling<sup>b</sup>, James R. Ehleringer<sup>b</sup>, John C. Lin<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, United States <sup>b</sup> Department of Biology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, United States





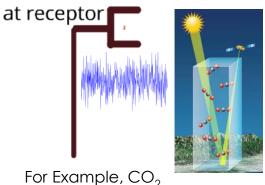
## Spatial Distribution of $CO_2$ as Observed on Light Rail Routes (July and August 2015)



### Information in Atmospheric CO2 Observations

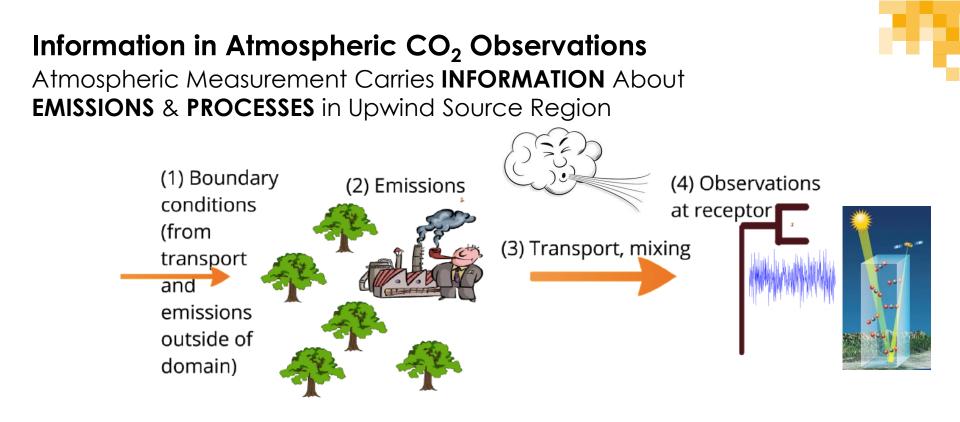
Atmospheric Measurement Carries **INFORMATION** About **EMISSIONS** & **PROCESSES** in Upwind Source Region

#### (4) Observations

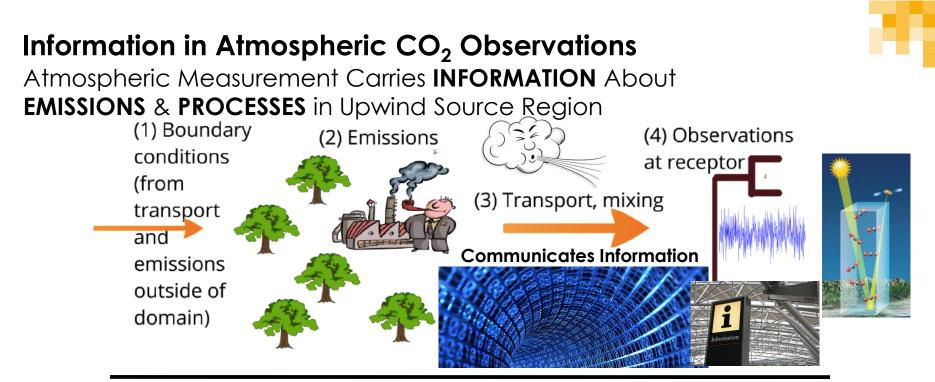




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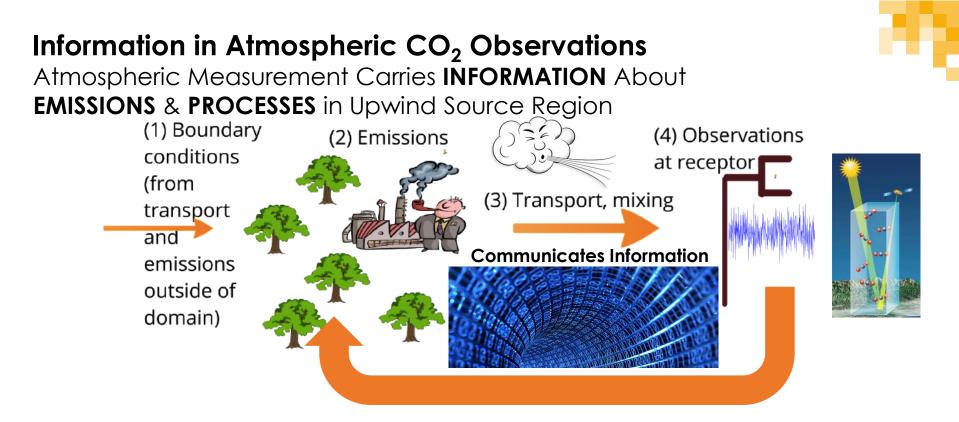
#### Information on:

- Carbon emissions, fluxes
- Ecosystem stress
- Pollution, air quality
- Hydrology
- Etc.

The atmospheric observations can be:

- CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>
- CO, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, NOx
- H<sub>2</sub>O, D<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O
- And many others...





**BUT** the atmosphere is an **IMPERFECT** communication channel (loss of info through mixing); **AND** our ability to decode the information through atmosphere modeling is subject to uncertainties.



# Stochastic Time-Inverted Lagrangian Transport (STILT) Model Simulation:

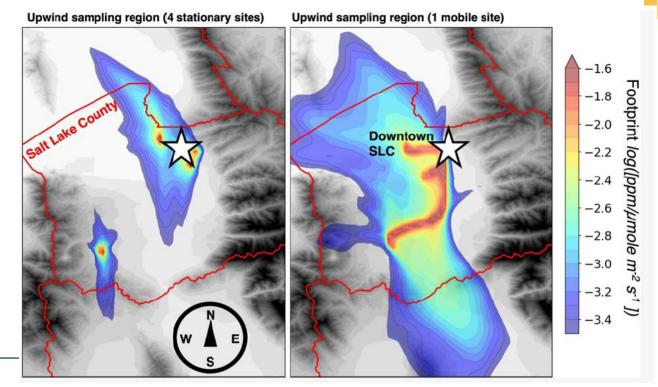


**Determining Source Region** 



https://uataq.github.io/stilt

### **STILT-Simulated Atmospheric Footprints of Observations**



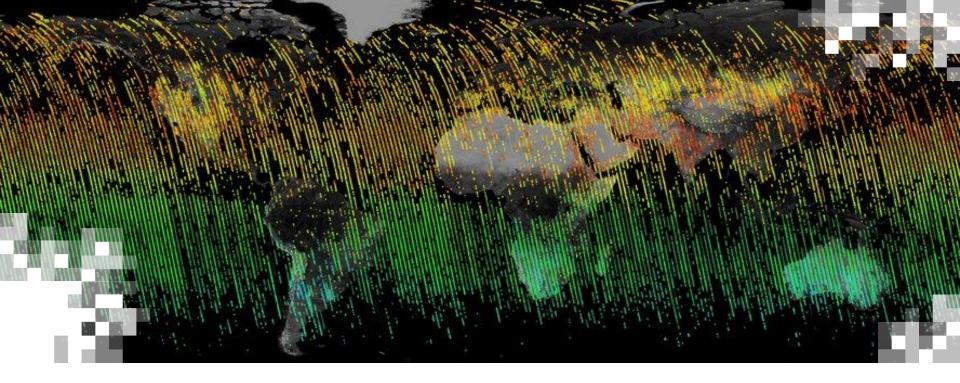


pubs.acs.org/est

## Constraining Urban CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Using Mobile Observations from a Light Rail Public Transit Platform

Derek V. Mallia,\* Logan E. Mitchell, Lewis Kunik, Ben Fasoli, Ryan Bares, Kevin R. Gurney, Daniel L. Mendoza, and John C. Lin





## Part 2: Understanding Carbon Emissions from Cities Around the World











Credit: NASA Earth Observatory/NOAA NGDC



## Problem: Lack of High-Precision CO<sub>2</sub> Measurements in Most Cities Around the World!



**Jet Propulsion Laboratory** California Institute of Technology

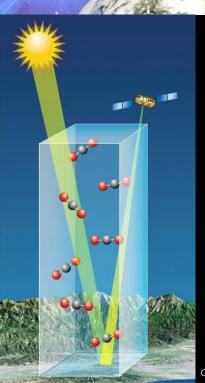
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 Video

Watching the Earth breathe... mapping CO2 from Space

OCO-2 Orbiting Carbon Observatory

# Satellites to the Rescue



Launched on July 1st, 2014



Credits: NASA-JPL/Caltech

#### Global Coverage from Space-Based CO<sub>2</sub> Measurements

Orbiting Carbon Observatory - 2 Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide Concentration (09/06/14 - 07/30/2017)

## Parts Per Million by Volume 07/01/2017 to 07/30/2017 390 395 400https://ocov2.jpl.nasa.gov/galleries/data-products/

#### How Do Emissions Vary Between:









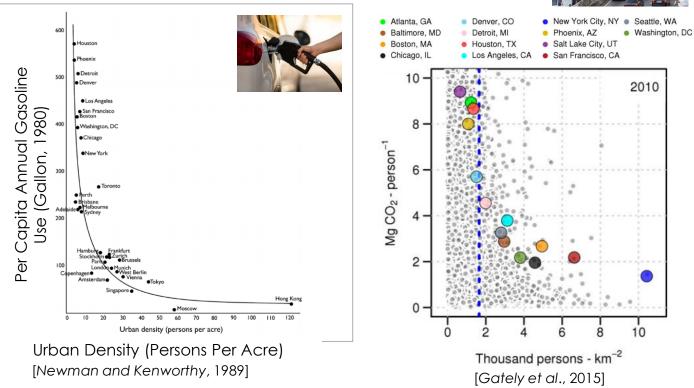
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#### How Do Emissions Vary Between:





# Do Denser Cities Emit Less Carbon to the Atmosphere (Per Capita)?



Geosci. Model Dev., 11, 4843–4871, 2018 https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-11-4843-2018 © Author(s) 2018. This work is distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License.





#### A Lagrangian approach towards extracting signals of urban CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from satellite observations of atmospheric column CO<sub>2</sub> (XCO<sub>2</sub>): X-Stochastic Time-Inverted Lagrangian Transport model ("X-STILT v1")

Dien Wu<sup>1</sup>, John C. Lin<sup>1</sup>, Benjamin Fasoli<sup>1</sup>, Tomohiro Oda<sup>2</sup>, Xinxin Ye<sup>3</sup>, Thomas Lauvaux<sup>3</sup>, Emily G. Yang<sup>4</sup>, and Eric A. Kort<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, USA

<sup>2</sup>Goddard Earth Sciences Technology and Research, Universities Space Research Association, Columbia, Maryland/Global Modeling and Assimilation Office, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland, USA
 <sup>3</sup>Department of Meteorology and Atmospheric Science, Pennsylvania State University, USA
 <sup>4</sup>Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA

Correspondence: Dien Wu (dien.wu@utah.edu)





College of Earth and Mineral Sciences Department of Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

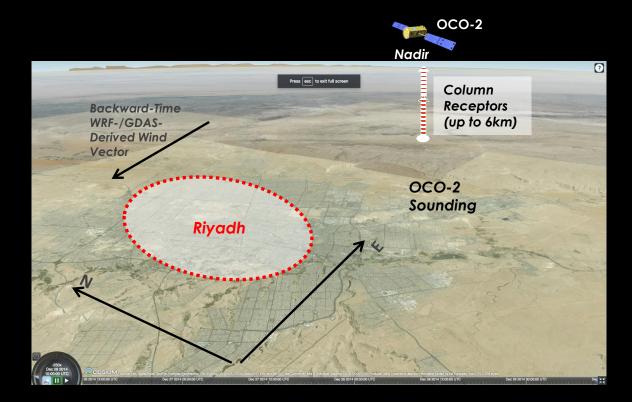






#### X-STILT to interpret OCO-2



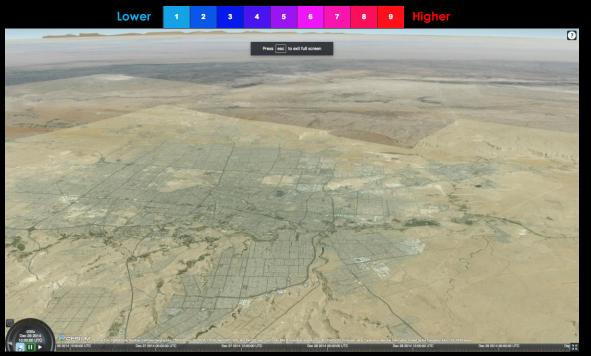




### X-STILT to interpret OCO-2

- 22

CO<sub>2</sub> enhancement for each air parcel due to anthropogenic emissions



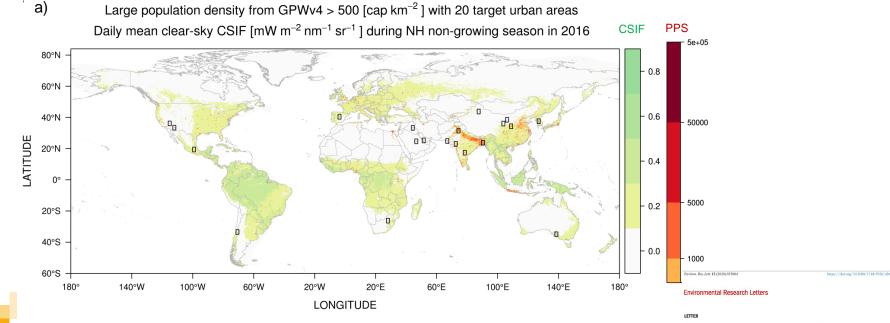


## **Target Cities for Analysis**

Relatively Large Population density (PPS)

- Minimal Biospheric Interference
  - Non-Growing season
  - Continuous Solar-Induced Fluorescence (CSIF)

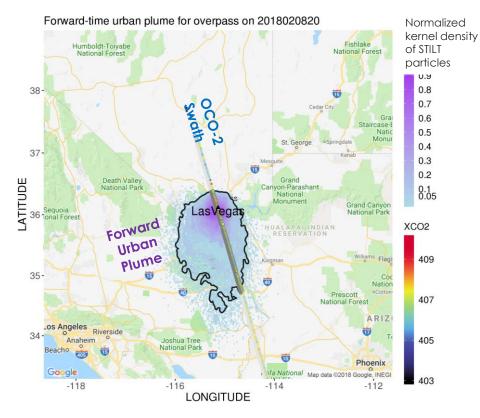
- 20 cities
- 6-9 tracks/city
- 2 by 3 degrees small area



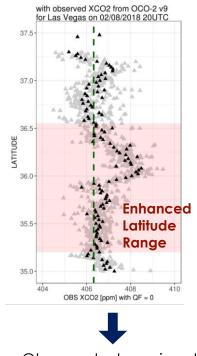
Space-based quantification of per capita  $\mbox{CO}_2$  emissions from cities

Dien Wu<sup>1,5</sup>0, John C Lin<sup>1</sup>0, Tomohiro Oda<sup>2,3</sup> and Eric A Kort<sup>4</sup>

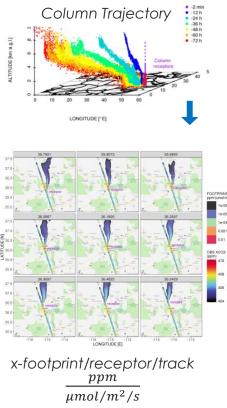
#### Methodology – Estimate Urban Signals

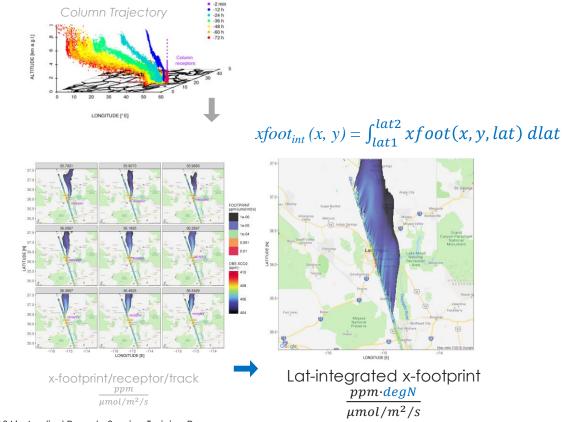


#### 02/08/2018 Las Vegas



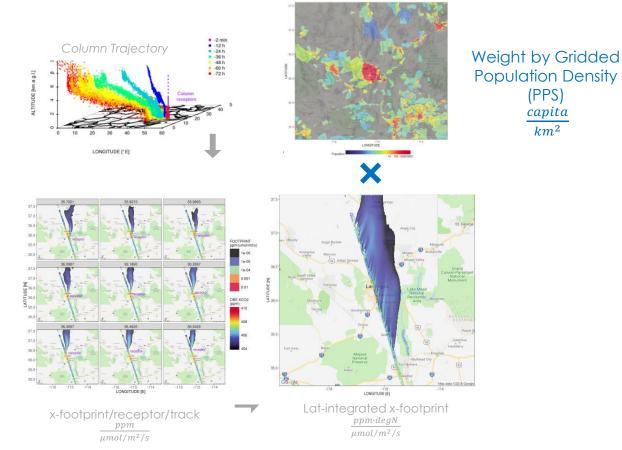
Observed urban signals  $(XCO_{2.ff} \text{ with lat-integration})$  $ppm \cdot degN$ 



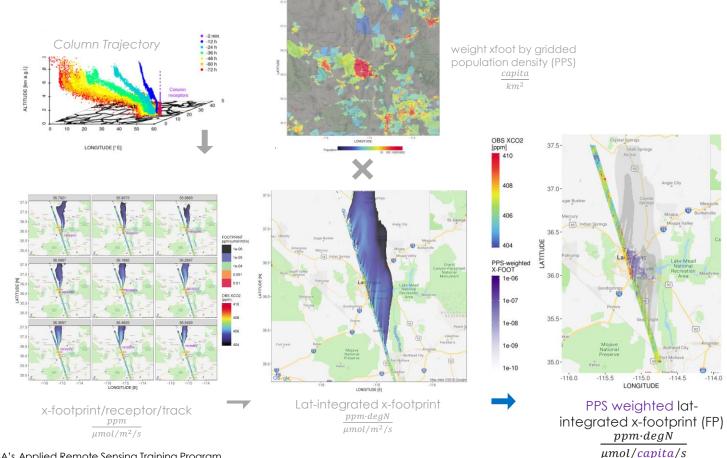


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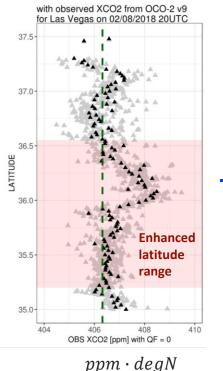


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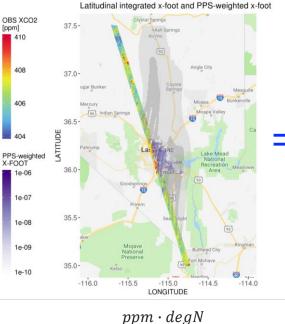


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# Satellite-observed urban signals in the atmosphere



Population-weighted and lat-integrated x-footprint



µmol/capita/s

#### Per Capita Emissions

**\_\_\_**μmol/capita/s

rr. 15 (2020) 035004

https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ab68e

**Environmental Research Letters** 

LETTER

Space-based quantification of per capita CO2 emissions from cities

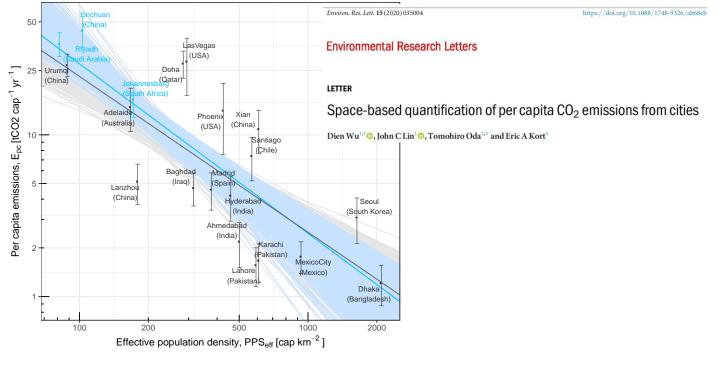
Dien Wu<sup>1,5</sup><sup>(0)</sup>, John C Lin<sup>1</sup><sup>(0)</sup>, Tomohiro Oda<sup>2,3</sup> and Eric A Kort<sup>4</sup>

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#### **Results: Urban Scaling Relations**

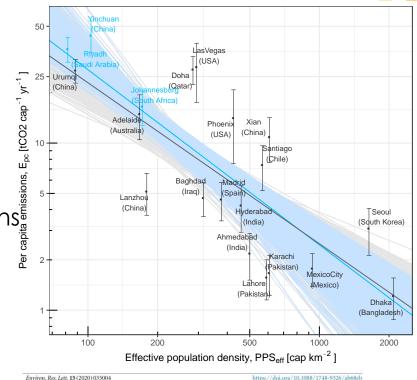
□ Epc vs. effective PPS (xfoot-weighted PPS, capita km<sup>-2</sup>)

Error bars (observation + simulation errors)



#### Summary

- ■Sub-linear relation between urban emissions & population derived for the first time from space-based measurements for 20 cities
- □Cities with large shares for power industry → higher per capita emissions
- □ Denser cities indeed appear to emit less CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere!



#### **Environmental Research Letters**

#### LETTER

Space-based quantification of per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from cities



Dien Wu<sup>1,5</sup><sup>(0)</sup>, John C Lin<sup>1</sup><sup>(0)</sup>, Tomohiro Oda<sup>2,3</sup> and Eric A Kort

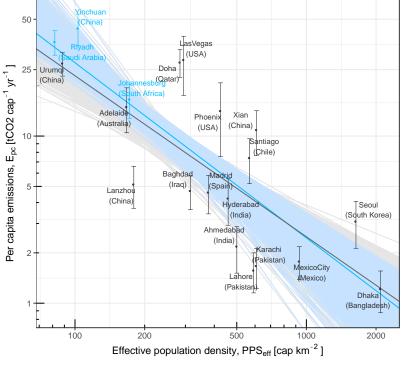
#### Summary

- Sub-linear relation between urban emissions & population derived for the first time from space-based measurements for 20 cities
- □Cities with large shares for power industry → higher per capita emission
- □ Denser cities indeed appear to emit less CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere!

#### Limitations

- Limited sample size of cities
- No temporal variation
- Direct emissions ≠ carbon footprint

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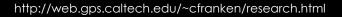


Cities with heavy power industries 📼 FALSE 📼 TRUE

#### But will be addressed soon!

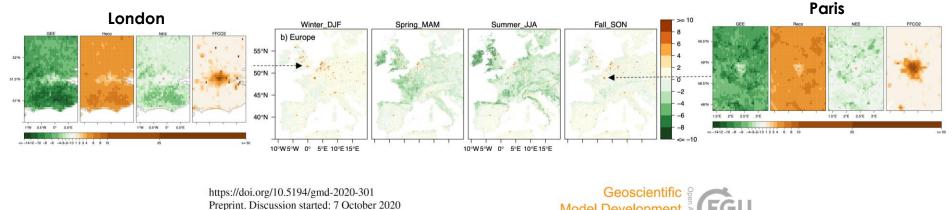


# Satellite-Observed Solar-Induced Fluorescence (SIF) as a Proxy for Photosynthesis/GPP





### Urban Biological Carbon Fluxes from SIF (SMUrF)





(c) Author(s) 2020. CC BY 4.0 License.

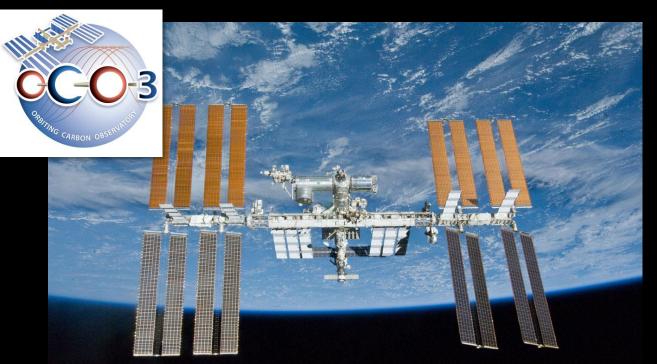


#### A Model for Urban Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> Fluxes: Solar-Induced Fluorescence for Modeling Urban biogenic Fluxes (SMUrF v1)

Dien Wu<sup>1,\*</sup>, John C. Lin<sup>1</sup>, Henrique F. Duarte<sup>1,‡</sup>, Vineet Yadav<sup>2</sup>, Nicholas C. Parazoo<sup>2</sup>, Tomohiro Oda<sup>3,4,5</sup>, and Eric A. Kort<sup>6</sup>



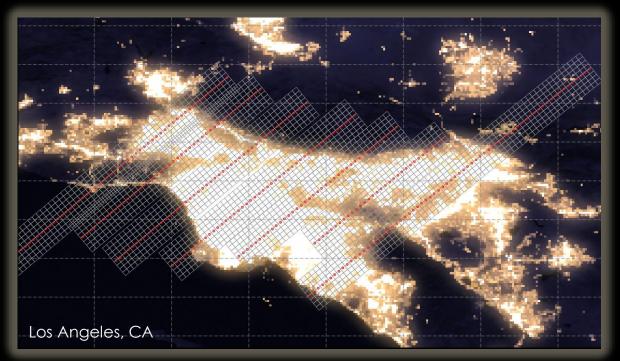
# Exciting New Datastream: OCO-3 on the International Space Station (ISS)



Credit: NASA Launched on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from Kennedy Space Center



### OCO-3 Snapshot Area Map (SAM) Coverage – Los Angeles



OCO-3 Center Footprints

OCO-3 Cross-Track Pixels: ~14km width; 8 pixels. (image rotation pending)

#### Slide from Thomas Kurosu, NASA-JPL



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## OCO-3 Snapshot Area Map (SAM) Coverage – Los Angeles

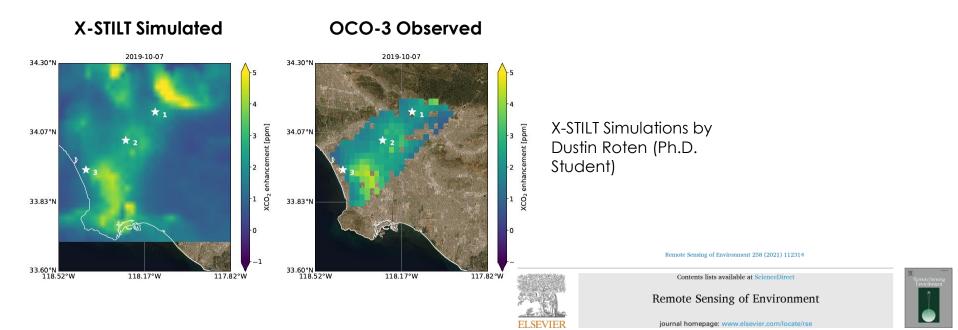


OCO-3 Center Footprints OCO-3 Cross-Track Pixels: ~14km width; 8 pixels. (image rotation pending) Slide from Thomas Kurosu, NASA-JPL



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### Simulated versus Observed XCO<sub>2</sub> from OCO-3

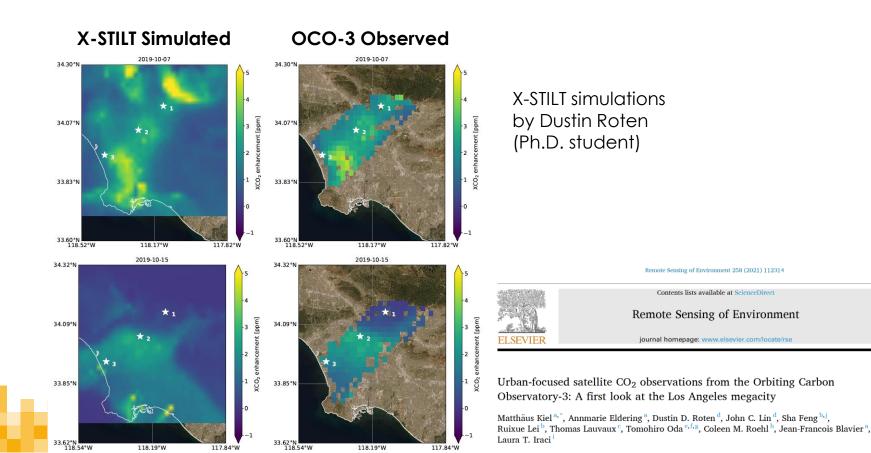


Urban-focused satellite  $CO_2$  observations from the Orbiting Carbon Observatory-3: A first look at the Los Angeles megacity Check for updates

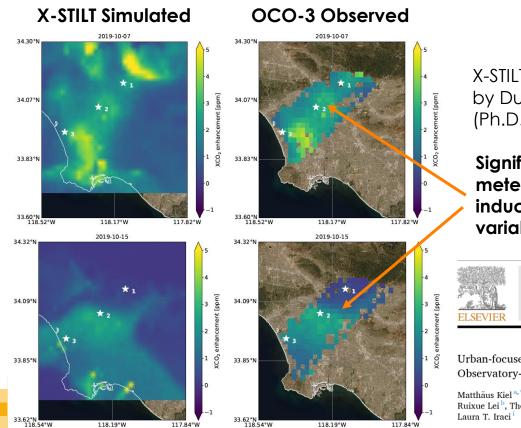
NASA's Applied Remote Sensing Training Program

Matthäus Kiel <sup>a,\*</sup>, Annmarie Eldering <sup>a</sup>, Dustin D. Roten <sup>d</sup>, John C. Lin <sup>d</sup>, Sha Feng <sup>b,j</sup>, Ruixue Lei <sup>b</sup>, Thomas Lauvaux <sup>c</sup>, Tomohiro Oda <sup>e,f,g</sup>, Coleen M. Roehl <sup>h</sup>, Jean-Francois Blavier <sup>a</sup>, Laura T. Iraci <sup>i</sup>

#### Simulated versus Observed XCO<sub>2</sub> from OCO-3



#### Simulated versus Observed XCO<sub>2</sub> from OCO-3

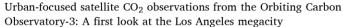


X-STILT simulations by Dustin Roten (Ph.D. student)

Significant meteorologyinduced variability!

Remote Sensing of Environment 258 (2021) 112314





Matthäus Kiel <sup>a,\*</sup>, Annmarie Eldering <sup>a</sup>, Dustin D. Roten <sup>d</sup>, John C. Lin <sup>d</sup>, Sha Feng <sup>b,j</sup>, Ruixue Lei <sup>b</sup>, Thomas Lauvaux <sup>c</sup>, Tomohiro Oda <sup>e,f,g</sup>, Coleen M. Roehl <sup>h</sup>, Jean-Francois Blavier <sup>a</sup>, Laura T. Iraci <sup>i</sup>



### Land-Atmosphere Interactions Research (LAIR) Group

DEPARTMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES | THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH











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#### Contacts

- Trainers: •
  - John Lin: john.lin@utah.edu

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