

# GeoTASO/GCAS Flight Summary and NO<sub>2</sub> Retrieval Status

## Goals:

1. Summarize the flights and review sampling strategy
2. Talk about retrieval: giving a sense of the uncertainty
3. Data status and potential data uses

Laura Judd<sup>1,2</sup>, Jay Al-saadi<sup>2</sup>, Luke Valin<sup>3</sup>, Jim Szykman<sup>3</sup>, Scott Janz<sup>4</sup>, Matt Kowalewski<sup>4,5</sup>, Brad Pierce<sup>6</sup>, Brian McDonald<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>NASA Postdoctoral Program, <sup>2</sup>NASA Langley Research Center, <sup>3</sup>EPA ORD, <sup>4</sup>NASA Goddard Space Flight Center,

<sup>5</sup>Universities Space Research Association, <sup>6</sup>University of Wisconsin-Madison SSEC, <sup>7</sup>NOAA CIRES



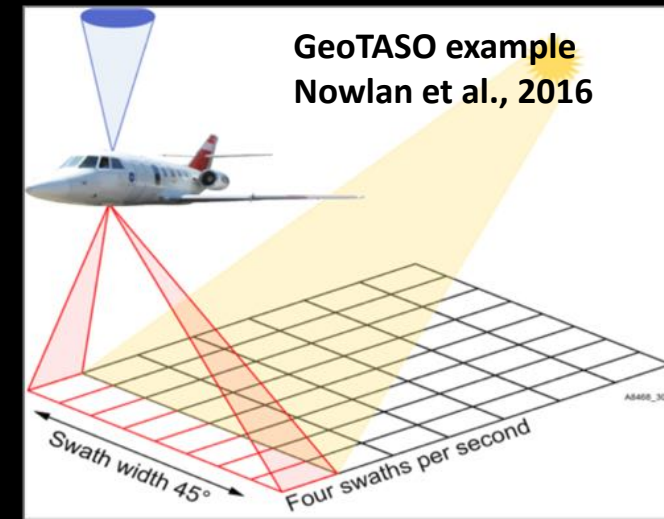
# Airborne Mapping Spectrometers

## GeoTASO

- Geostationary Trace gas and Aerosol Sensor Optimization
- UV-VIS
- Large—300+lbs
- **June and October 2018**

## GCAS

- GEOCAPE Airborne Spectrometer
- UV-VIS-NIR
- Small— ~100 lbs
- **July-October 2018**



### Trace gas retrievals:

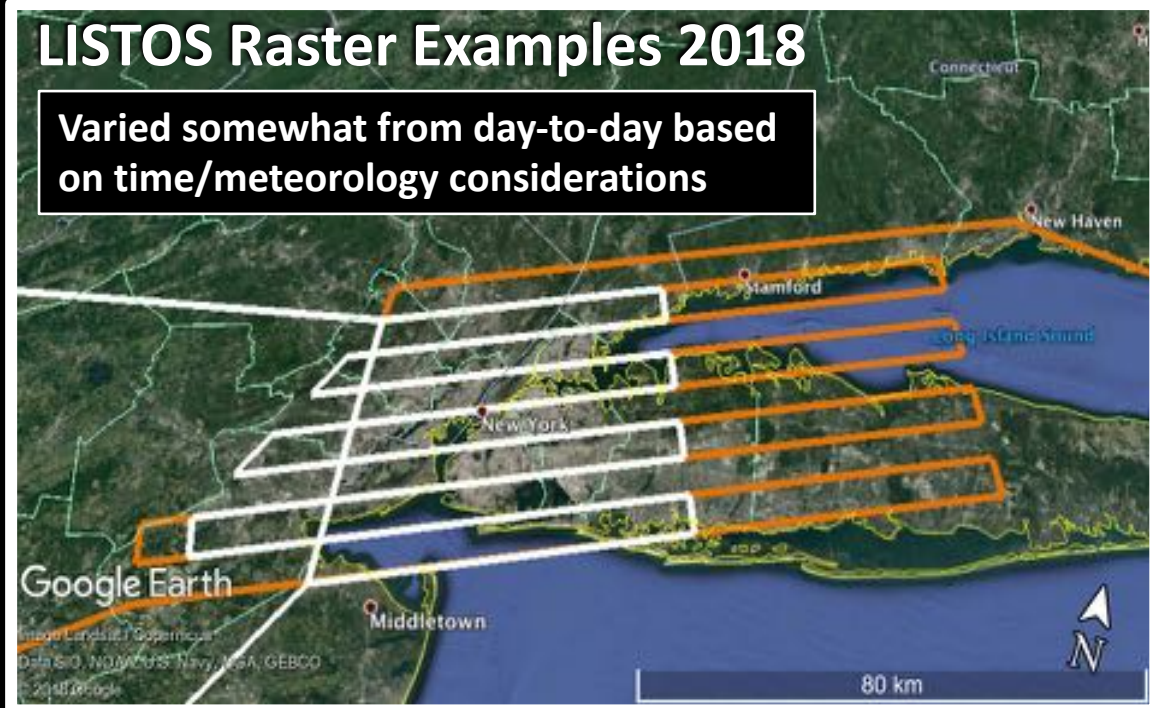
NO<sub>2</sub> columns at 250 x 250 m

- Current data status: Differential Slant Columns (DSCs) are in the archive
- I have preliminary vertical columns on a subset of flights. I will continue to improve and share this summer!

HCHO columns: Scott Janz will talk this later today

## LISTOS Raster Examples 2018

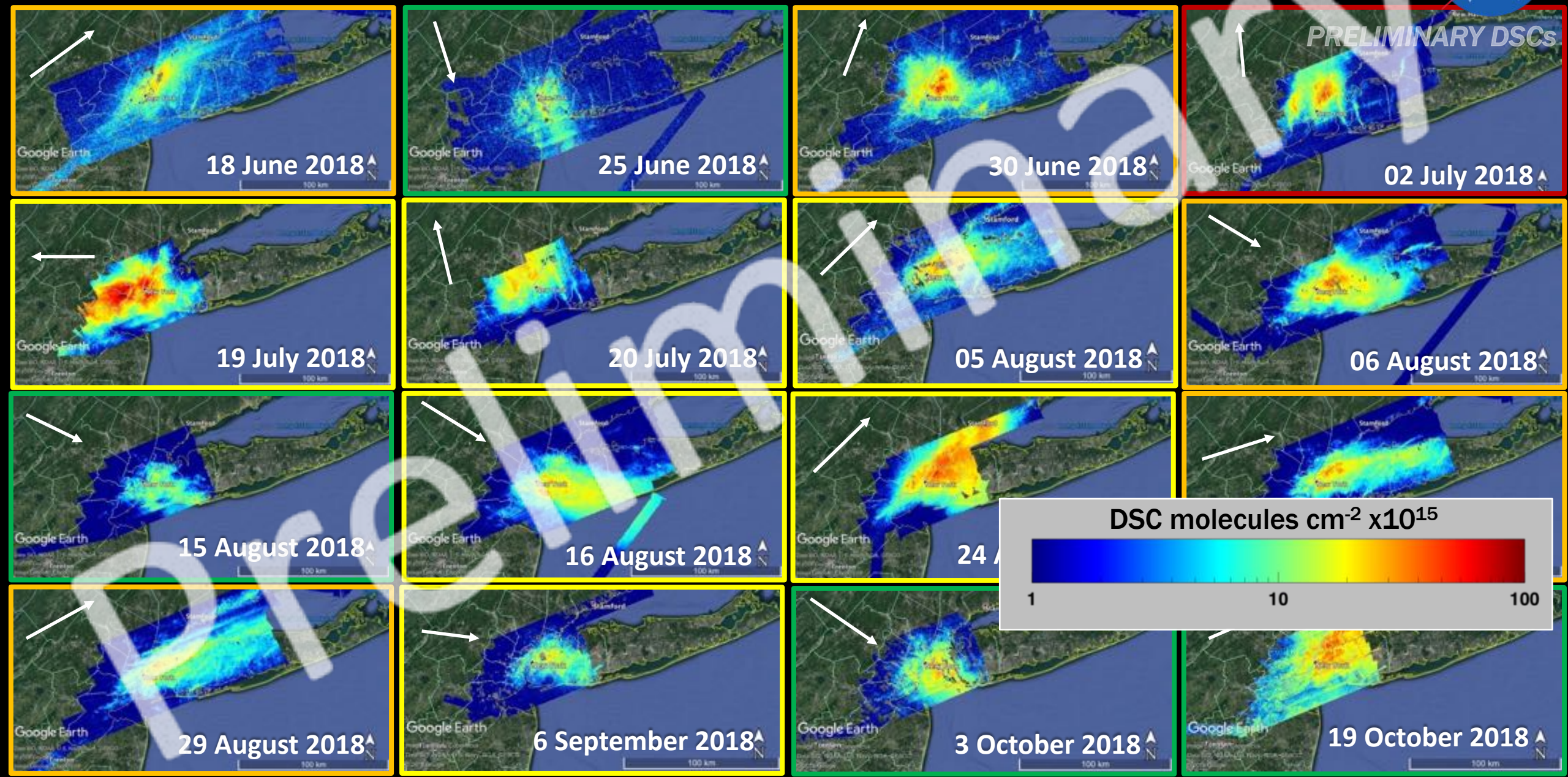
Varied somewhat from day-to-day based on time/meteorology considerations



Flight Date (both AM/PM)	Instrument/Platform	Sampling Strategy	Air Quality Conditions (general patterns from AirNow.gov)	Raster Break (approximate)
June 18	GeoTASO/HU-25	Large Raster 2x	USG up I95 corridor	
June 25	GeoTASO/HU-25	Large Raster 2x	Clean-off shore flow	
June 30	GeoTASO/HU-25	Large Raster 2x	USG NYC: Stagnant to SW flow	
July 2	GCAS/HALO/B200	Large Raster 2x	Very Unhealthy north of NYC	
July 19	GCAS/HALO/B200	Small Raster 4x	Moderate NYC	Flight 1: 13.6 UTC Flight 2: 18.8 UTC
July 20	GCAS/HALO/B200	Small Raster 4x	Moderate North of NYC/CT Coast	Flight 1: 13.6 UTC Flight 2: 19.0 UTC
August 5	GCAS/HALO/B200	Small Raster 4x	Moderate throughout domain	Flight 1: 14.9 UTC Flight 2: 19.8 UTC
August 6	GCAS/HALO/B200	Small Raster 2x Large Raster 1x	USG through most domain	Flight 1: 14.0 UTC
August 15	GCAS/HALO/B200	Small Raster 4x	Clean	Flight 1: 13.6 UTC Flight 2: 19.1 UTC
August 16	GCAS/HALO/B200	Large Raster 1x	Moderate with some USG on CT Coast	
August 24	GCAS/HALO/B200	Small Raster 4x	Moderate in the region	Flight 1: 13.5 UTC Flight 2: 18.4 UTC
August 28	GCAS/HALO/B200	Large Raster 2x	Classic LIS event: USG levels w/ some unhealthy	
August 29	GCAS/HALO/B200	Large Raster 2x	Classic LIS event: USG levels w/ some unhealthy	
September 6	GCAS/HALO/B200	Large Raster 2x	Classic LIS event: USG levels	
October 3	GCAS/GeoTASO/B200	Small Raster 4x	Clean	Flight 1: 14.9 UTC Flight 2: 20.0 UTC
October 19	GCAS/GeoTASO/B200	Small Raster 3x	Clean	Flight 2: 18.6 UTC



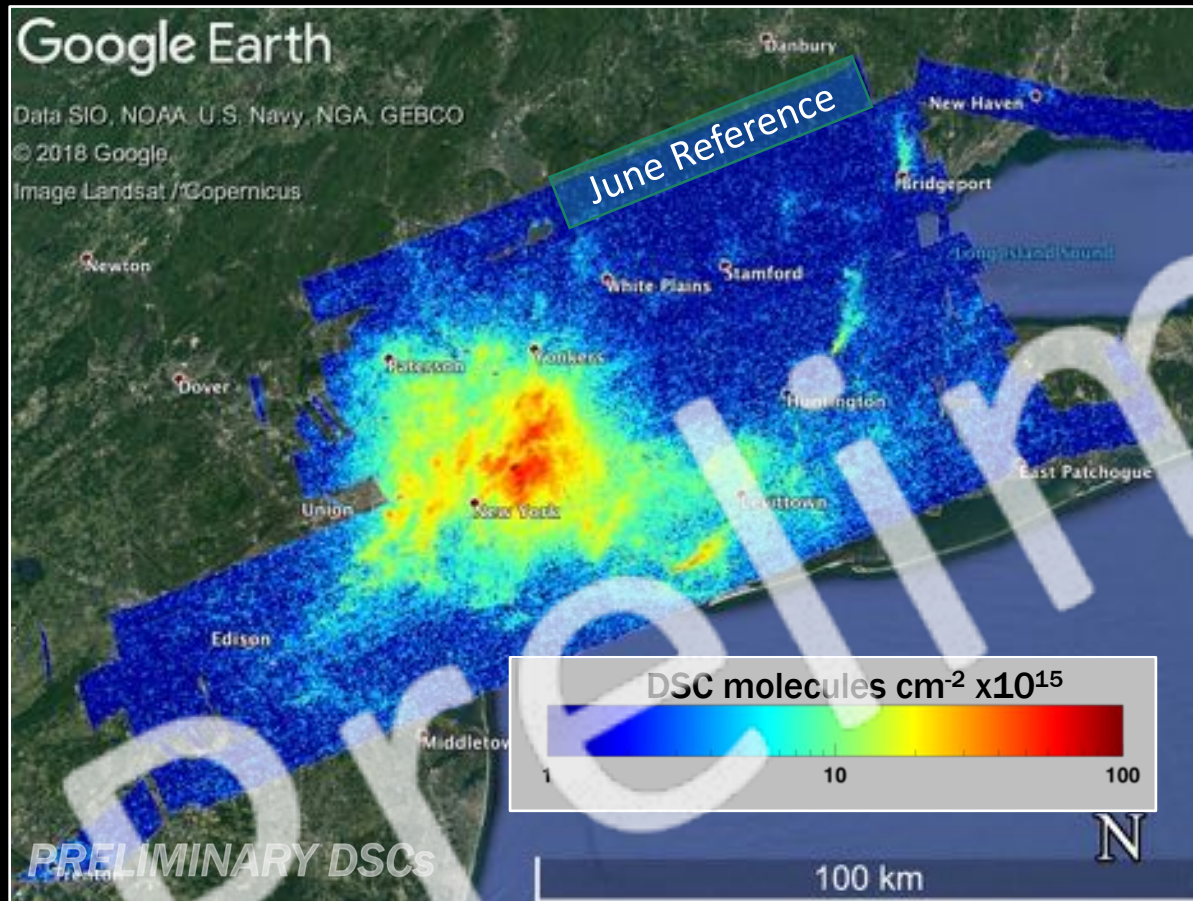
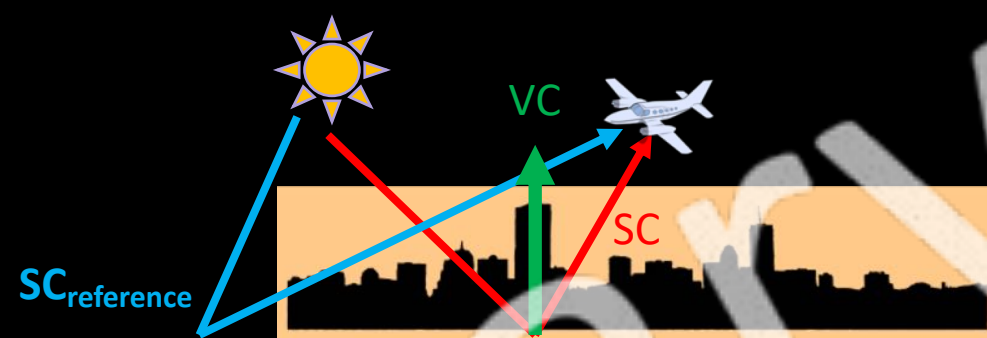
In 2018, we mapped 2-4x per day on 16 days with conditions ranging from clean air to unhealthy ozone events. These images show the early afternoon rasters of NO<sub>2</sub> (satellite overpass time).





# NO<sub>2</sub> retrieval process:

Differential Slant Column (DSC) = SC - SC<sub>reference</sub>



June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Saturday Afternoon: GeoTASO

$$\text{TropVC} = \frac{\text{DSC} - \text{stratospheric SC} + \text{reference}}{\text{AMF below}}$$

DSCs are already in the archive for science team use

Stratospheric Slant Column (SC). I estimate from the Prathmo climatology (Prather, 1992; McLinden et al. 2000) plus a calculated stratospheric AMF (~ geometric)

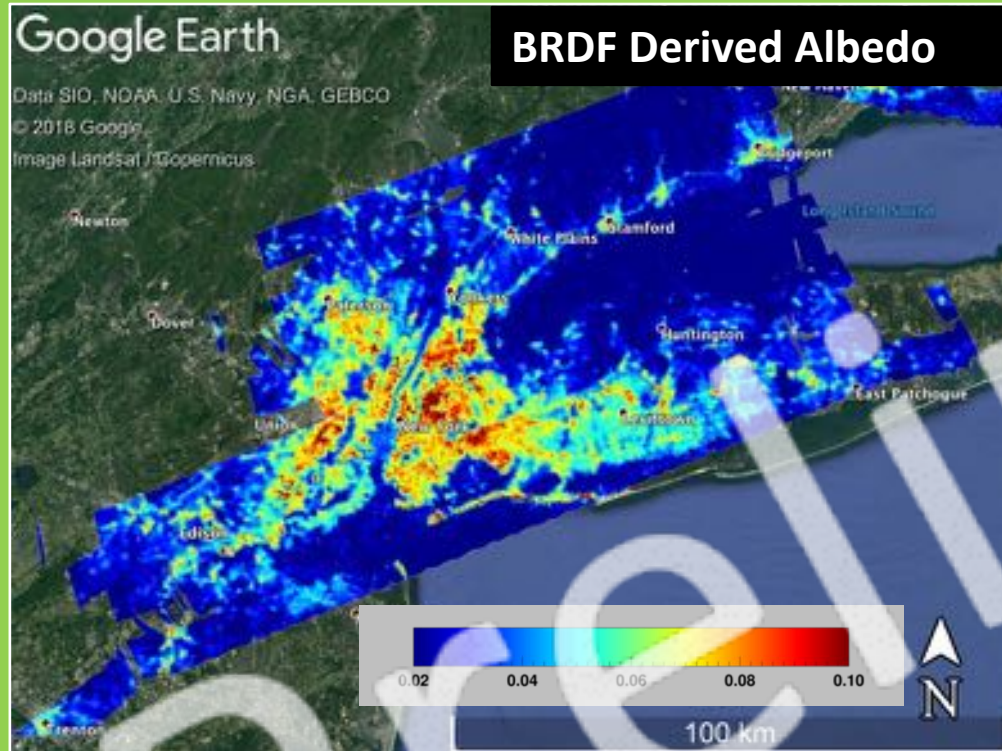
Reference would be an offset. The maps shown yesterday and today assume a reference column of 0. (realistically > 0)

Air Mass Factor, or AMF, is the ratio of the mean path length light traveled through the atmosphere and the vertical path length. It is calculated with assistance from a radiative transfer model.

# AMFs are dependent on:

I have a backup slide that shows the influence of model choice

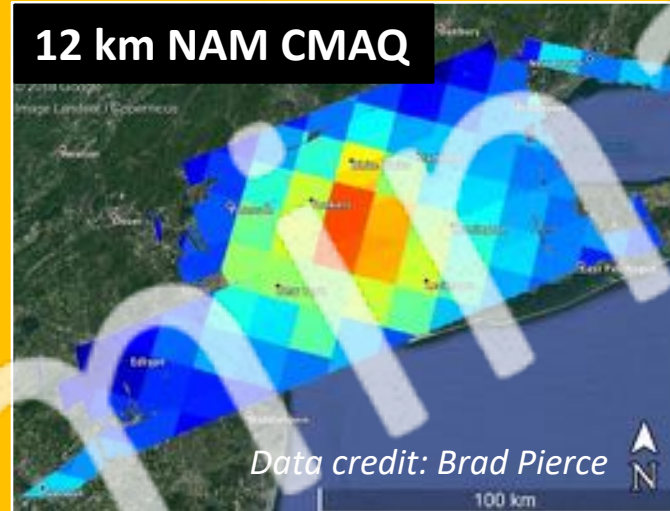
Surface reflectivity: averaged MODIS BRDF  
MCD43A1 daily L3 500m v006 product



AMFs ↓: dark surfaces; AMFs ↑: bright surfaces

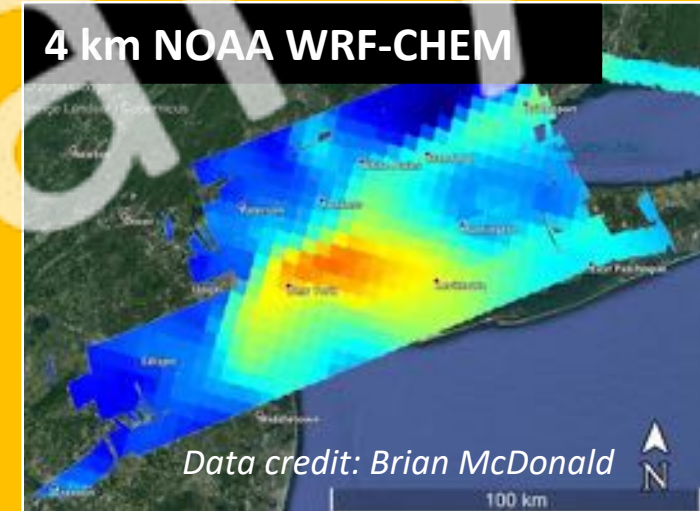
NO<sub>2</sub> profiles: relative distribution

12 km NAM CMAQ



Data credit: Brad Pierce

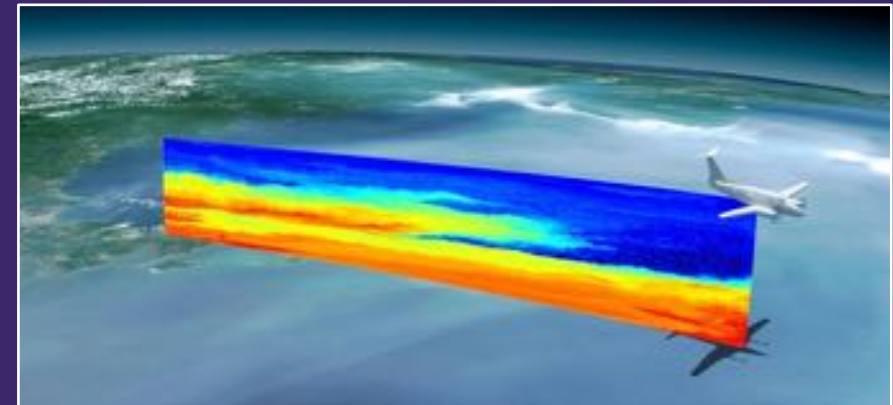
4 km NOAA WRF-CHEM



Data credit: Brian McDonald

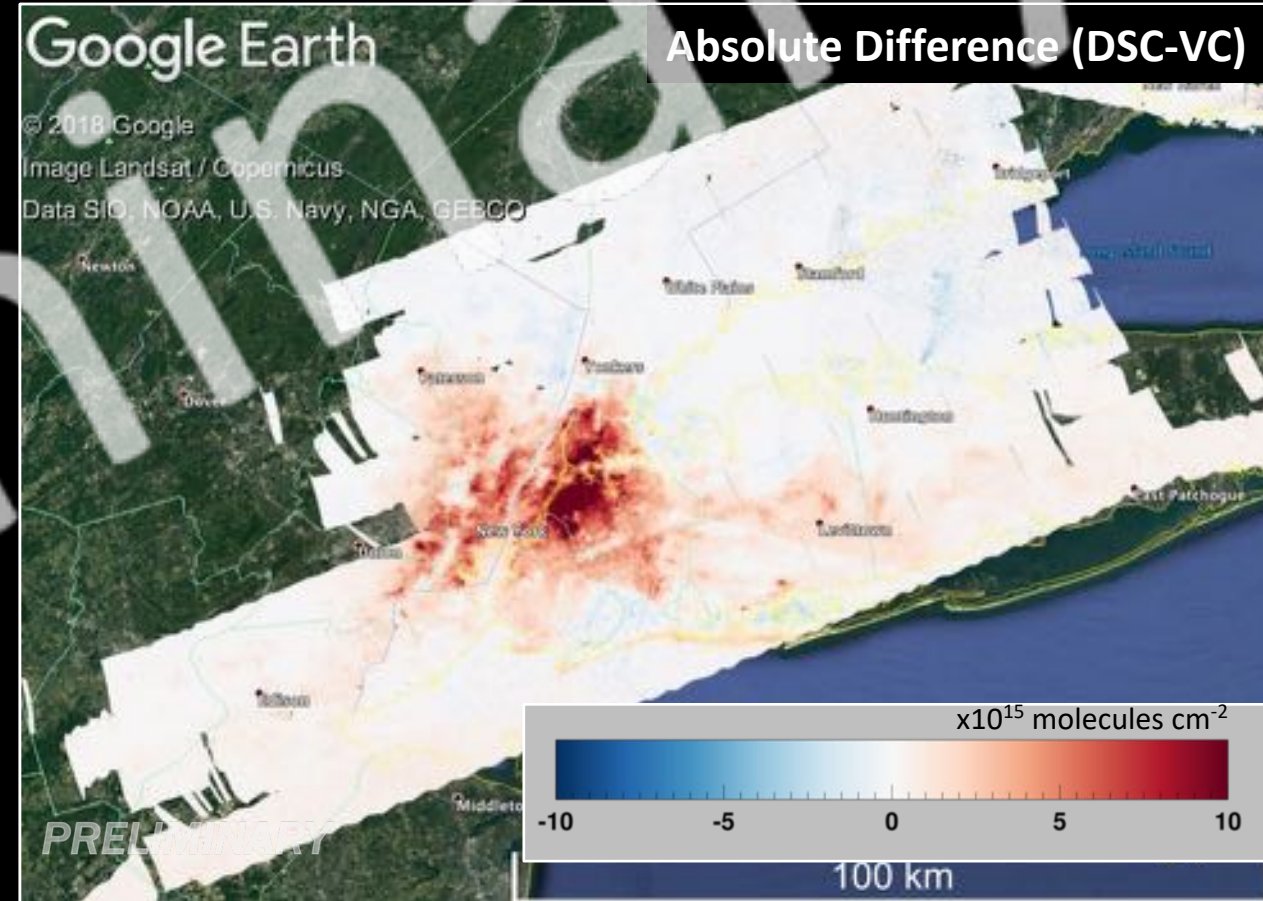
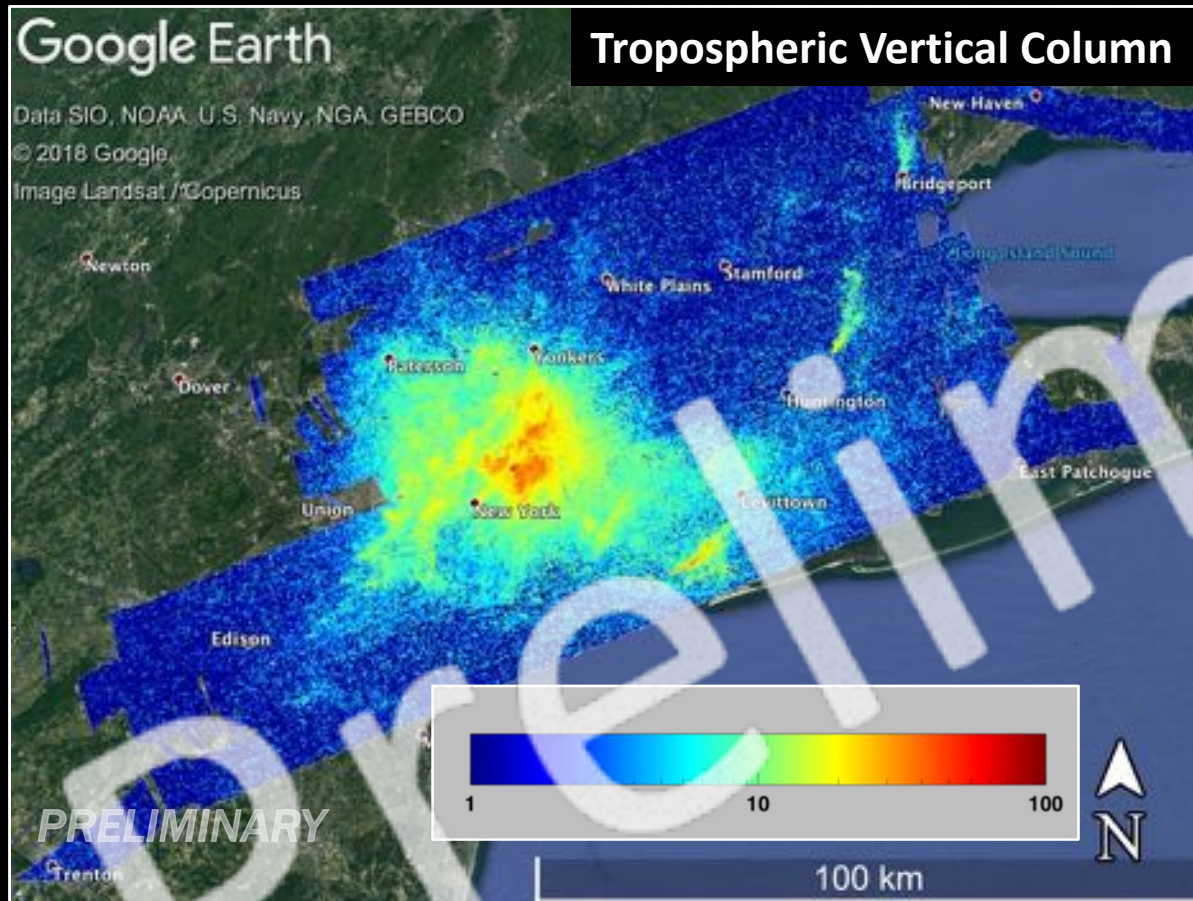
AMFs ↓: NO<sub>2</sub> weighted near surface; AMFs ↑: less NO<sub>2</sub> near surface

Aerosols: Input from HALO during GCAS flights



Solar and viewing geometry are important!  
...easy to calculate

# Comparing Differential Slant Columns to Vertical Columns



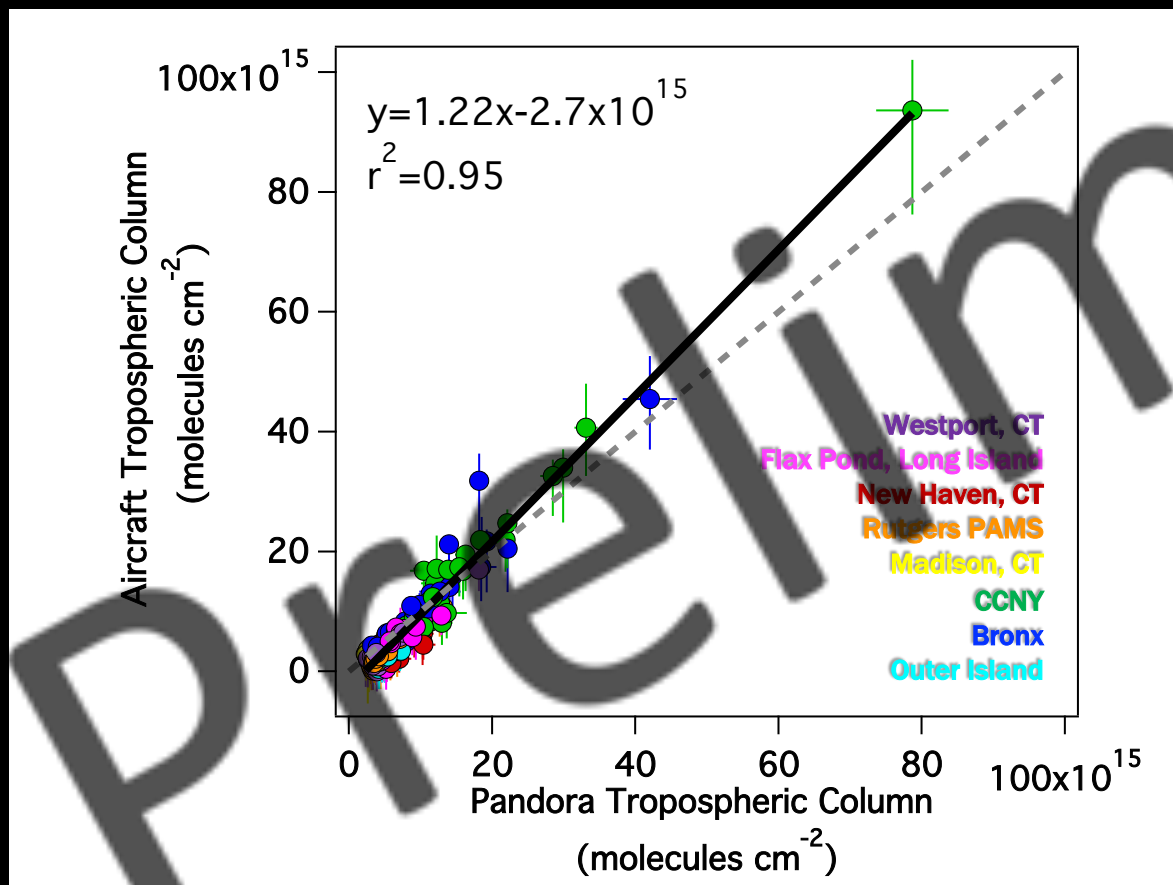
Converting DSC to TropVC doesn't change the spatial distribution of  $\text{NO}_2$  but it does change the magnitude

Red :  $\text{DSC} > \text{TropVC}$   
Blue :  $\text{DSC} < \text{TropVC}$



# GeoTASO/GCAS v. Pandora: Tropospheric Vertical Column

*Pandora spectrometers are used as a validation standard for airborne spectrometers and future/present satellite products*



## Coincidence Criteria:

- Median GeoTASO/GCAS data within **1000 m** from the site for each individual overpass (the distance assumption does not significantly alter results at least up to a 1 km radius)
- Closest in time Pandora coincidence (must be within 5 minutes of the overpass)
- Bars indicate the stddev of the data within the spatial/temporal constraints stated above [*Spatiotemporal variability!*]

Very well correlated with a 20% slope bias.

Excluding the most polluted point still results in a 20% bias. Cause of this bias is still TBD.

Negative offset likely caused by uncertainty in the reference spectrum. Assume a reference amount from NOAA's 4km WRF-Chem output:  $1.4\text{-}3.0 \times 10^{15}$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-2}$ . The next round of the retrieval, I will be more strategic in my reference location (hoping for coincident Pandora data)





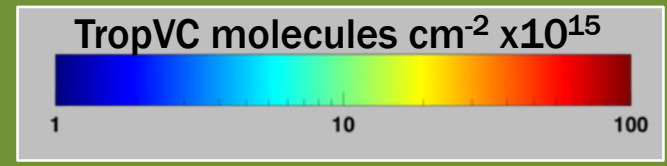
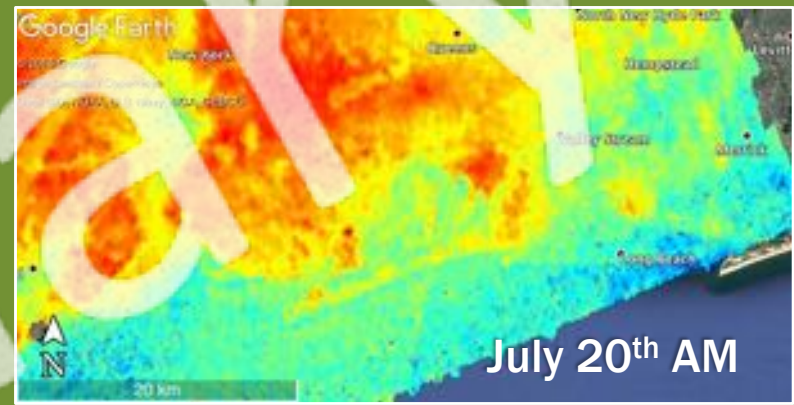
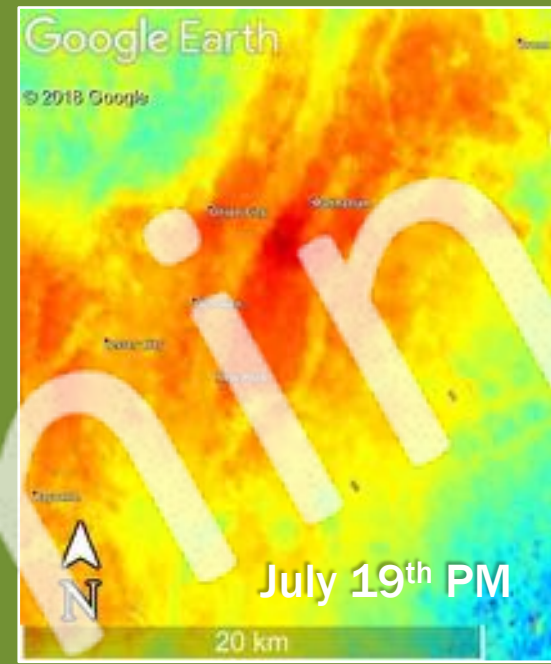
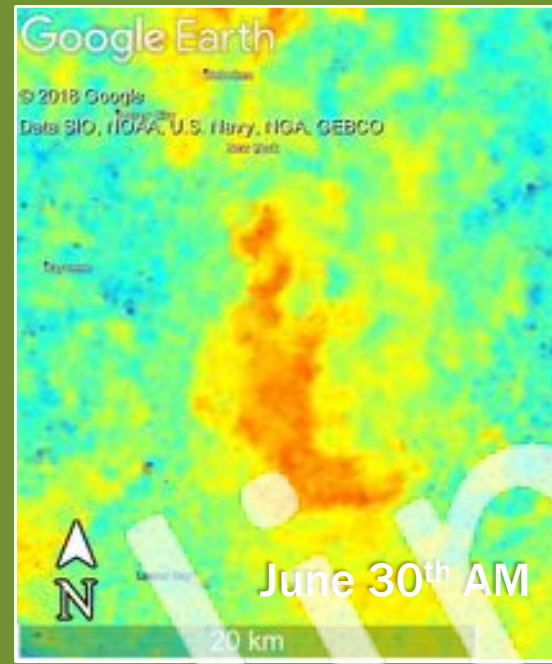
Note: these artifacts only show up when there is a decent amount of NO<sub>2</sub> in the column

# Beware of Potential Artifacts:

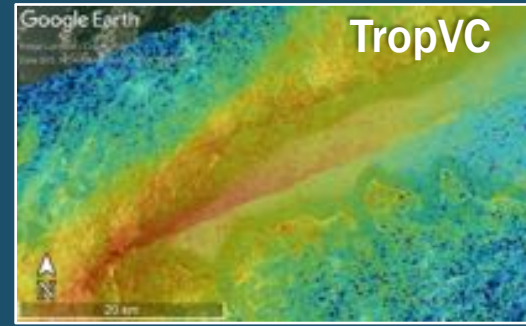
## Surface Features:

- Definitely in the DSCs!
- Don't 100% disappear in this first attempt for a vertical column. Up for a discussion on which ones are real and which are artifact!

*Potential Causes: uncertainty in BRDF or NO<sub>2</sub> column*



Sun glint: will need to work to characterize how this changes water albedo  
Example from June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 AM Flight



*There could be more, but I haven't stumbled across them yet. Let me know if any of you stumble across anything that looks erroneous after the TropVC release.*

*All data shown is preliminary*



# Next Steps:

## Data Status

- L1b spectra are currently being processed at GSFC for the first post-campaign iteration.
- I will update DSCs and add preliminary vertical columns this summer for the science team to look at and use with the 12 km NAM-CMAQ a priori
- Goal would be to have a fully processed vertical column NO<sub>2</sub> data public in Fall 2019
  - Can easily do multiple iterations with different NO<sub>2</sub> profile input

## Data use in research

- Overview paper that would include sensitivity studies on a priori assumptions (e.g., model resolution, aerosols)
- TROPOMI Validation:
  - This data was collected in part for our participation in the Sentinel-5 Precursor Validation Team.
  - May be combined with overview paper
- Integrated observations (ground, aircraft, satellite)
- Potential studies with the need for modeling collaborators:
  - Emission sector studies
  - Testing/Improving model abilities for recreating observed scenarios
  - Data assimilations and emission flux inversions to see influence on modeling air quality events
- Excited to discuss additional collaborations with science team members