



# MONITORING AIR POLLUTION FROM THE GROUND UP!!!

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FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Birmingham City Council

London Air

## 30 SECOND SUMMARY

Surface  
observations  
are sparse  
and  
inconsistent



Satellites  
provide long-  
term global  
observations



Validation of  
satellite  
observations  
with surface  
observations



Apply  
satellite  
observations  
to monitor air  
quality

## REFERENCES

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- Celarier et al., JGR, doi:10.1029/2007JD008908, 2008
- Geddes et al., EHP, doi:10.1289/ehp.1409567, 2016
- Ul-Haq et al., AIM, doi:10.1155/2015/959284, 2015
- Birmingham City Council <https://bit.ly/2KbBNTI>
- Pope et al., ASL, doi:10.1002/asl.817, 2018
- DEFRA report <https://bit.ly/2HU4cPI>

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- Each year **40,000** early deaths in UK and **1.2 million** in India are attributed to fine particles, ozone and **NO<sub>2</sub>** pollution; Associated health cost in UK : **£6 billion**; dominant NO<sub>2</sub> sources: diesel (UK), industry, coal combustion, vehicles, biomass burning (India)
- Here we choose 4 cities at different stages of development: **London** (developed, PM<sub>2.5</sub>:**12** µg/m<sup>3</sup>) and **Birmingham** (urban renewal, PM<sub>2.5</sub>:**10** µg/m<sup>3</sup>) in the UK, and **New Delhi** (semi-developed, PM<sub>2.5</sub>:**143** µg/m<sup>3</sup>) and **Kanpur** (developing, PM<sub>2.5</sub>:**173** µg/m<sup>3</sup>) in India
- Space-based instruments provide long-term (2005-2018) observations of NO<sub>2</sub> to assess the effect of rapid development and policy on air quality; we validate and use satellite observations to assess air quality in London and Birmingham

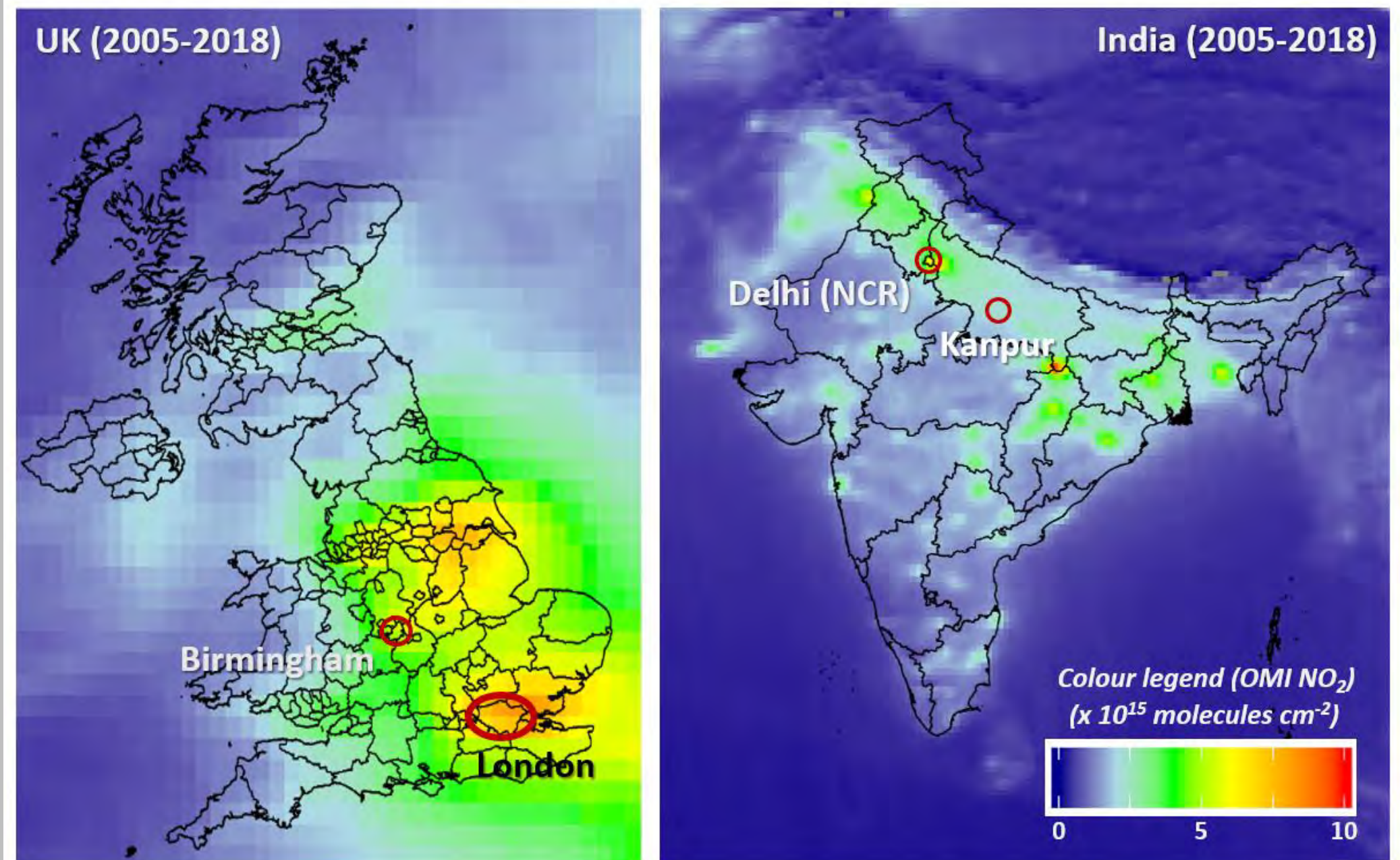


Figure 1. Maps of the UK and India showing hotspots of NO<sub>2</sub> pollution as observed from space

## 2. METHODOLOGY

- Process GBs of long-term satellite data using BEAR resources (processing time 2-5 days depending on size of city)
- Validate satellite observations of NO<sub>2</sub> from the **Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI)** on-board **NASA's Aura satellite** with **DEFRA, Birmingham City Council** and **London Air Quality Network** ground-based observations
- Quantify the long-term (2005-2018) trend in OMI NO<sub>2</sub> for selected cities in the UK and India

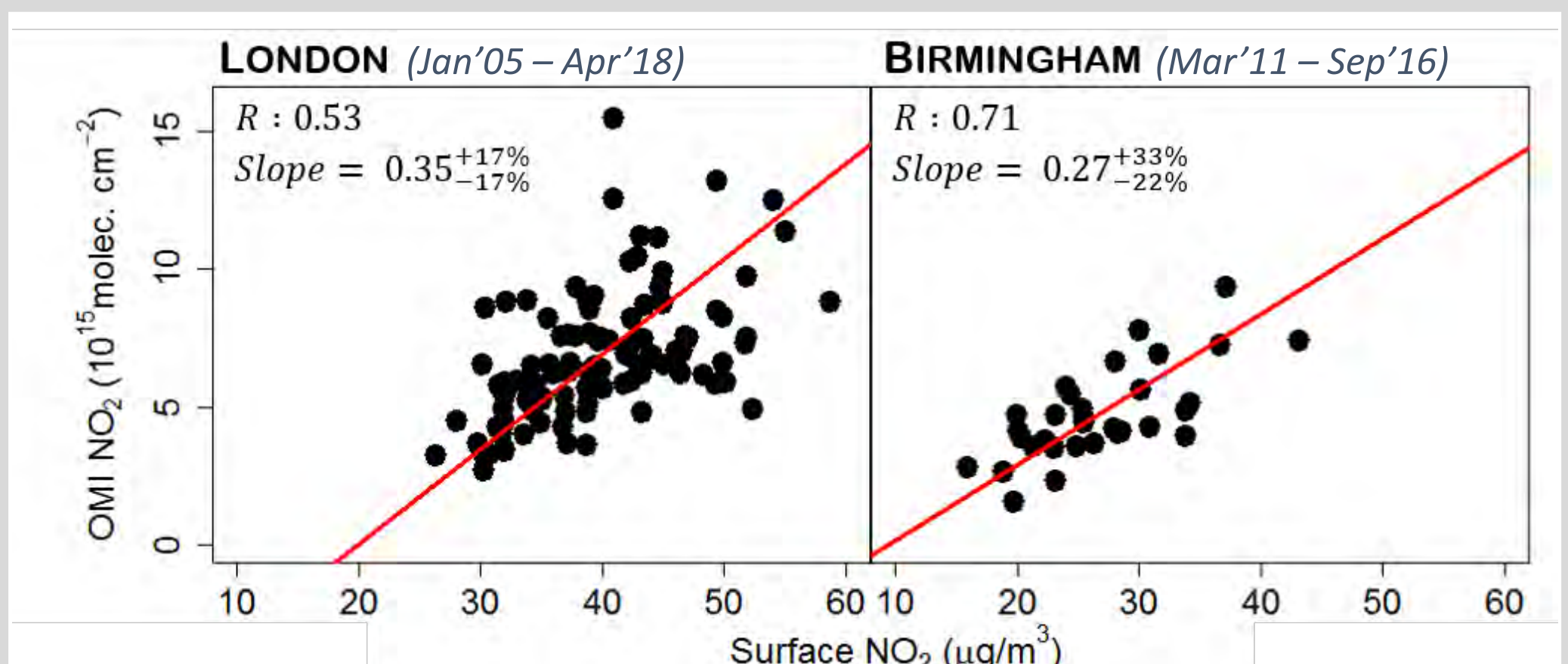


Figure 2. Evaluation of monthly means of satellite-based NO<sub>2</sub> against surface NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations

## 3. TRENDS IN SATELLITE-BASED NO<sub>2</sub> IN THE UK AND IN INDIA

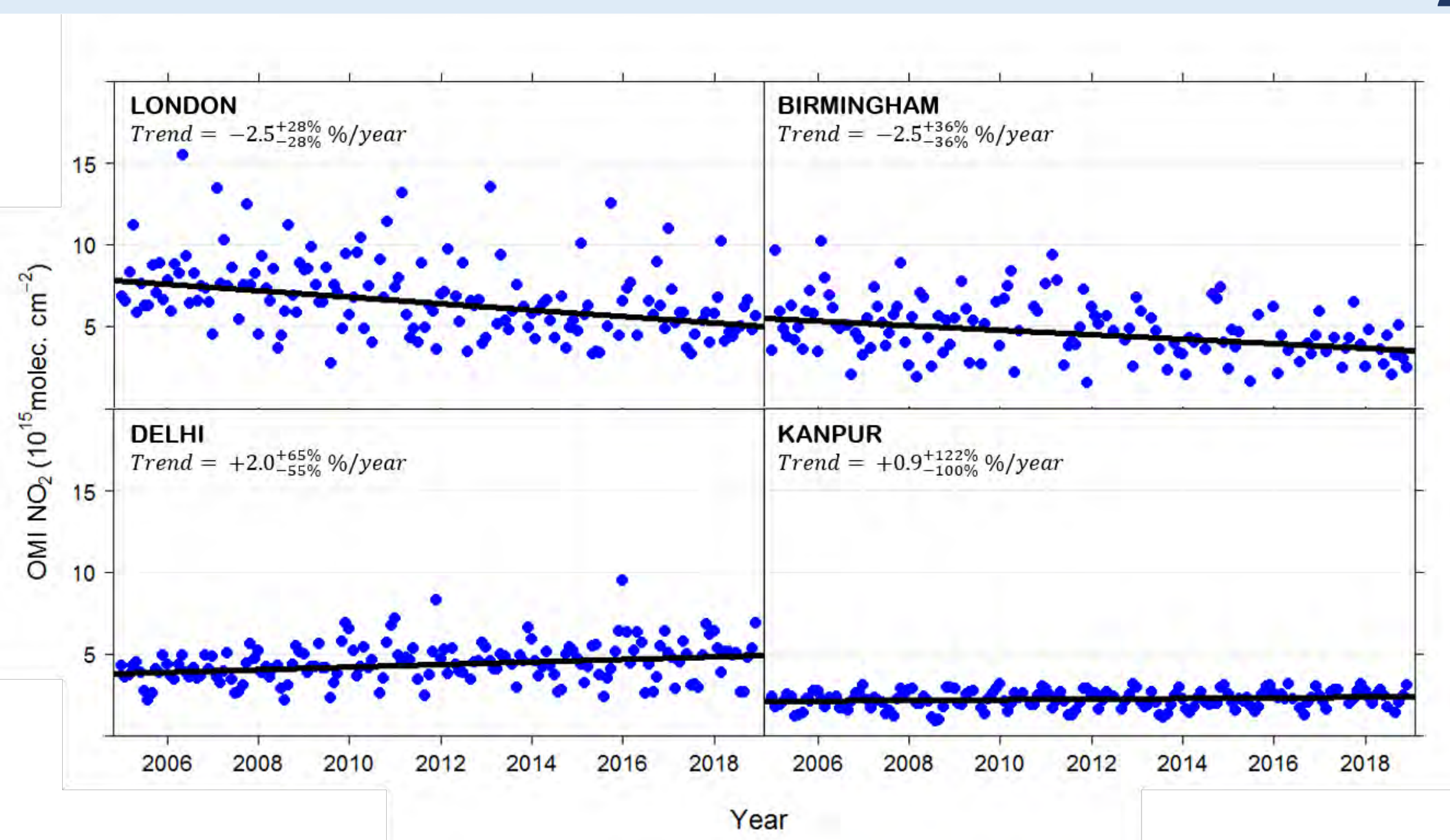


Figure 3. Linear trends in monthly means of satellite-based NO<sub>2</sub> levels in target cities of the UK and India

- We observe linear trends in monthly means of OMI NO<sub>2</sub> in the target cities; OMI NO<sub>2</sub> decreased by **35 %** for both London and Birmingham (2005-2018); Significant increase (**28 %**) in OMI NO<sub>2</sub> levels in Delhi compared to no significant change in Kanpur for 2005-2018
- OMI NO<sub>2</sub> levels are similar now over London and Delhi
- Our work shows that **NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations** and **NO<sub>x</sub> precursor emissions** in UK cities have decreased by **2.5 %/year**. This is less than the UK-wide decrease in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from the **national bottom-up emission inventory (3.9 %/year)**, and, for London, it is more than the decline obtained with the **surface network (1.8 %/year)**
- Annual trends in OMI NO<sub>2</sub> for Delhi and Kanpur from 2005 to 2015 are comparable to Ul-Haq et al., 2015 (**2.1 %** for Delhi and **0.5 %** for Kanpur)

## 4. NEXT STEPS

- Validate satellite-based NO<sub>2</sub> observations for **New Delhi** and **Kanpur** and evaluate existing **air quality models**
- Extend analysis to other compounds visible from space: ammonia, aerosol optical depth (AOD), and formaldehyde