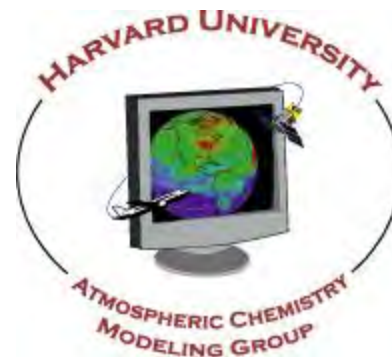


# Using GEOS-Chem and OMI HCHO to estimate isoprene emissions over Africa



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R. Koster, S. Mahanama, J. Mao, F. Paulot, A. Padmanabhan, D.J. Jacob

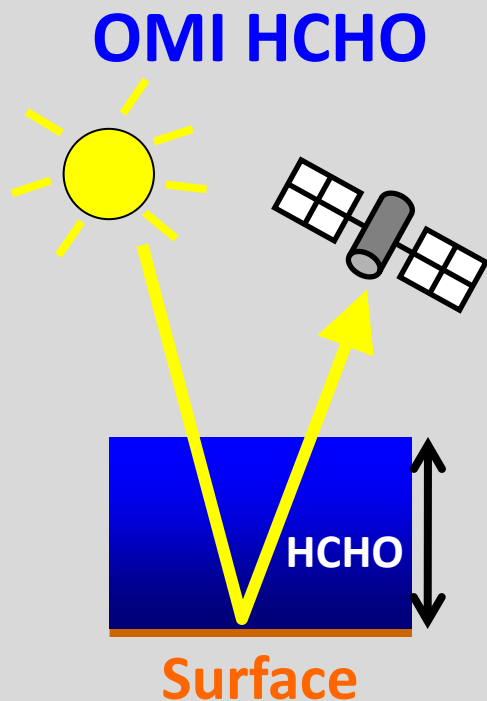
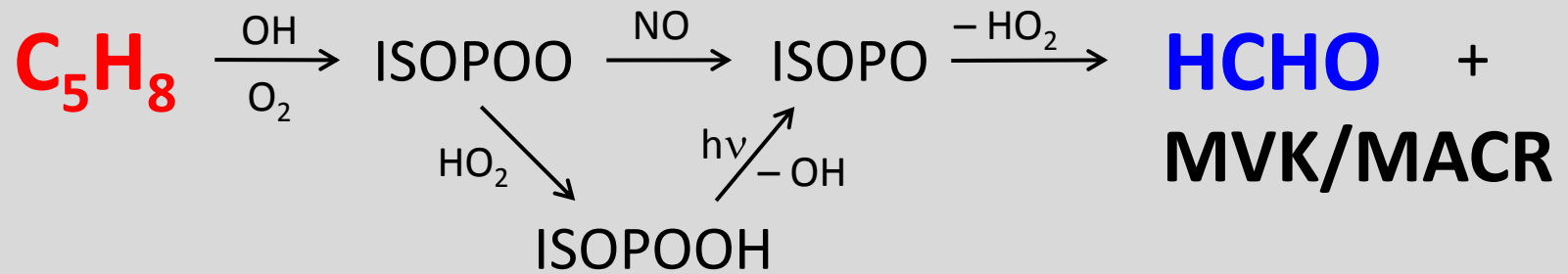


Project funded by **NASA ACMAP**

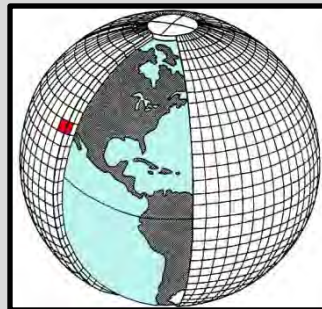
**5<sup>th</sup> International GEOS-Chem User's Meeting**

**2-5 May 2011**

# Estimating isoprene emissions from GEOS-Chem

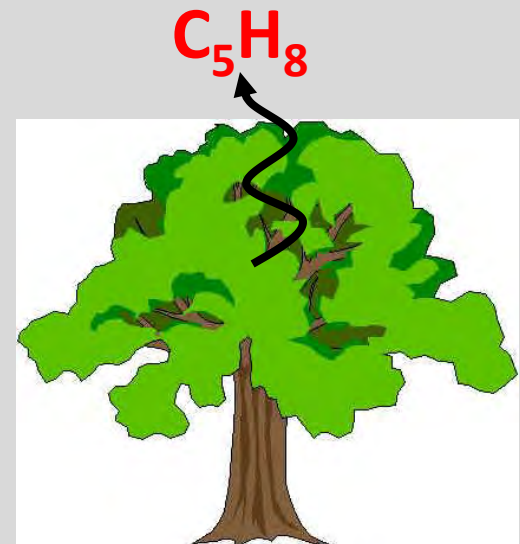


**GEOS-Chem**



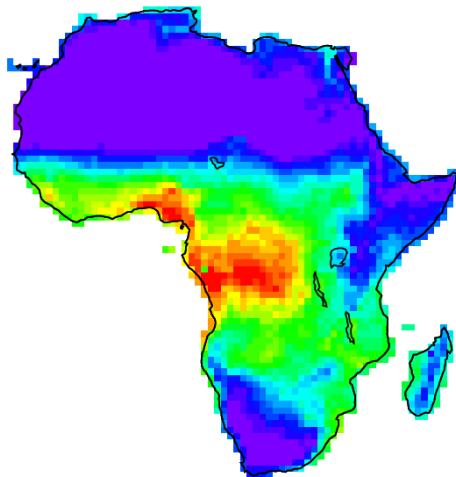
$$E_{\text{isop}} = \Omega_{\text{HCHO}} \times \frac{k_{\text{HCHO}}}{Y_{\text{Isop} \rightarrow \text{HCHO}}}$$

**OMI Isoprene emissions**



# Deriving a biogenic HCHO signal over Africa

Original OMI HCHO slant columns for 2005-2009



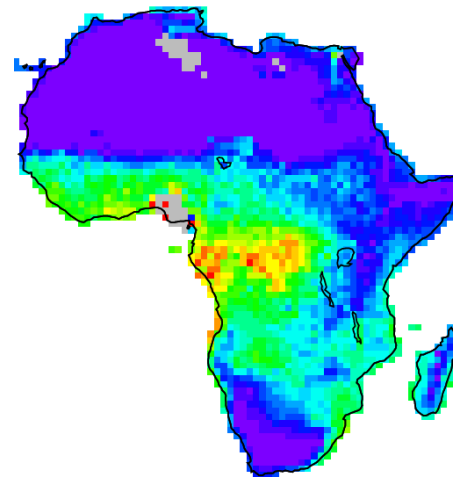
**Remove biomass  
burning and  
anthropogenic HCHO**



USE:

MODIS fire counts  
OMI AAOD  
AATSR fire counts

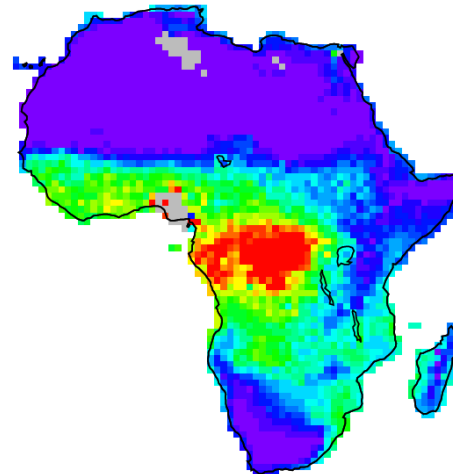
Biogenic OMI HCHO slant columns for 2005-2009



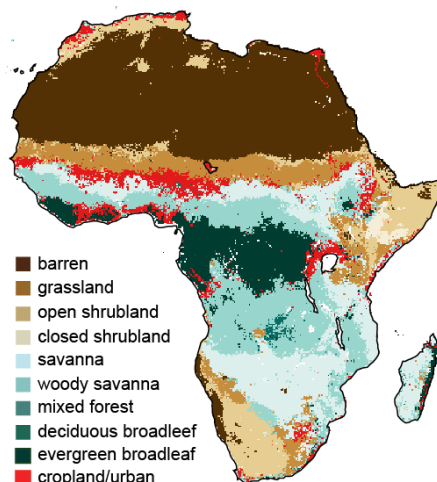
**Apply  
AMF**



Biogenic OMI HCHO vertical columns for 2005-2009



MODIS IGBP land cover data



**Spatial  
consistency**



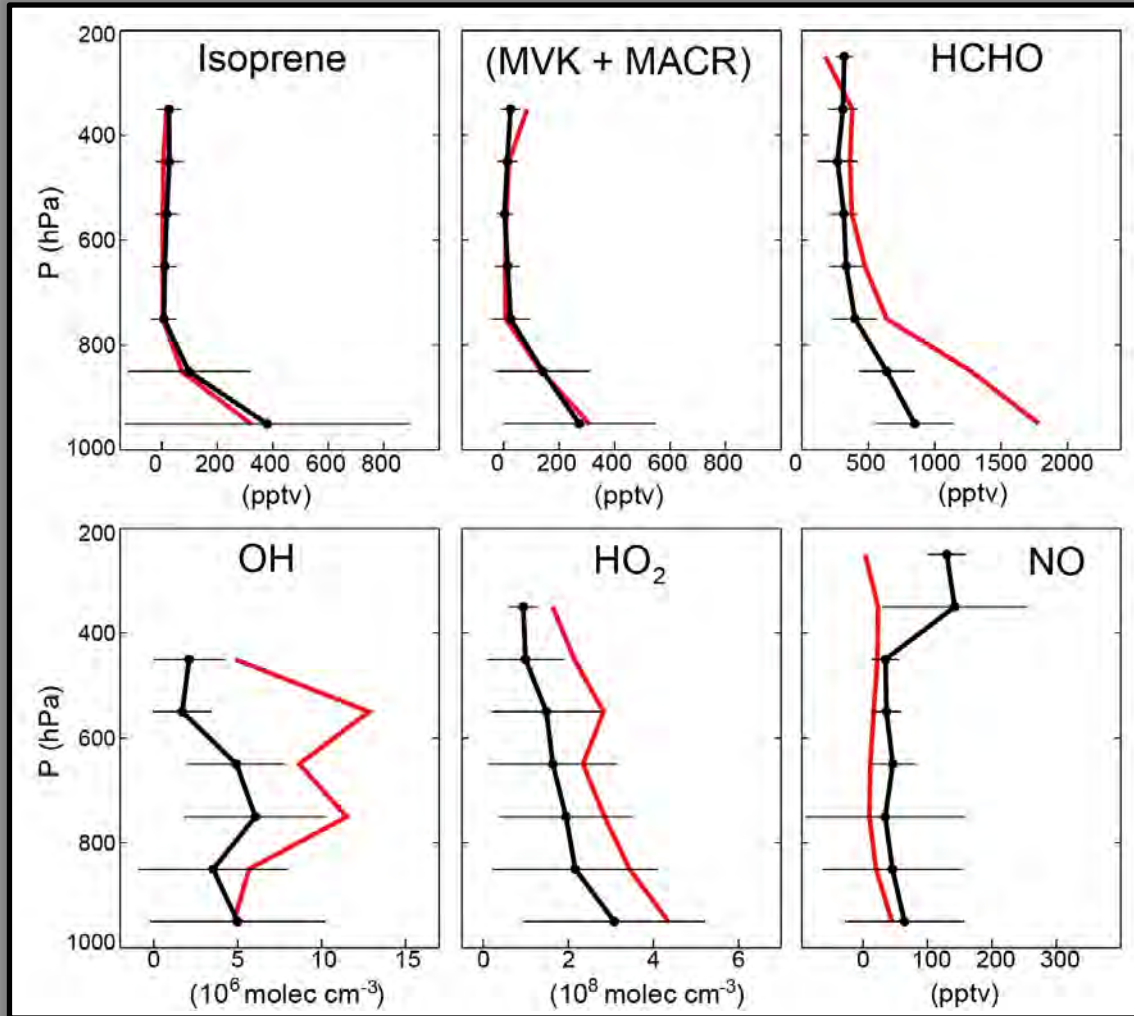
**with land  
cover data**



[  $10^{15}$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-2}$  ]

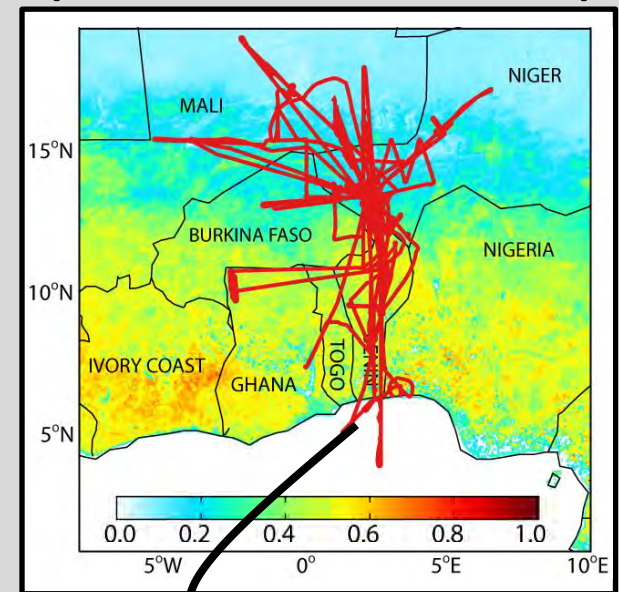
# Test GEOS-Chem using AMMA aircraft observations

Mean vertical profiles of species simulated by GEOS-Chem using **MEGAN** and the **Paulot et al. (2009) isoprene scheme** coincident with AMMA observations



—●— AMMA  
— GEOS-Chem

MODIS EVI for Jul-Aug 2006  
(West Africa wet season)

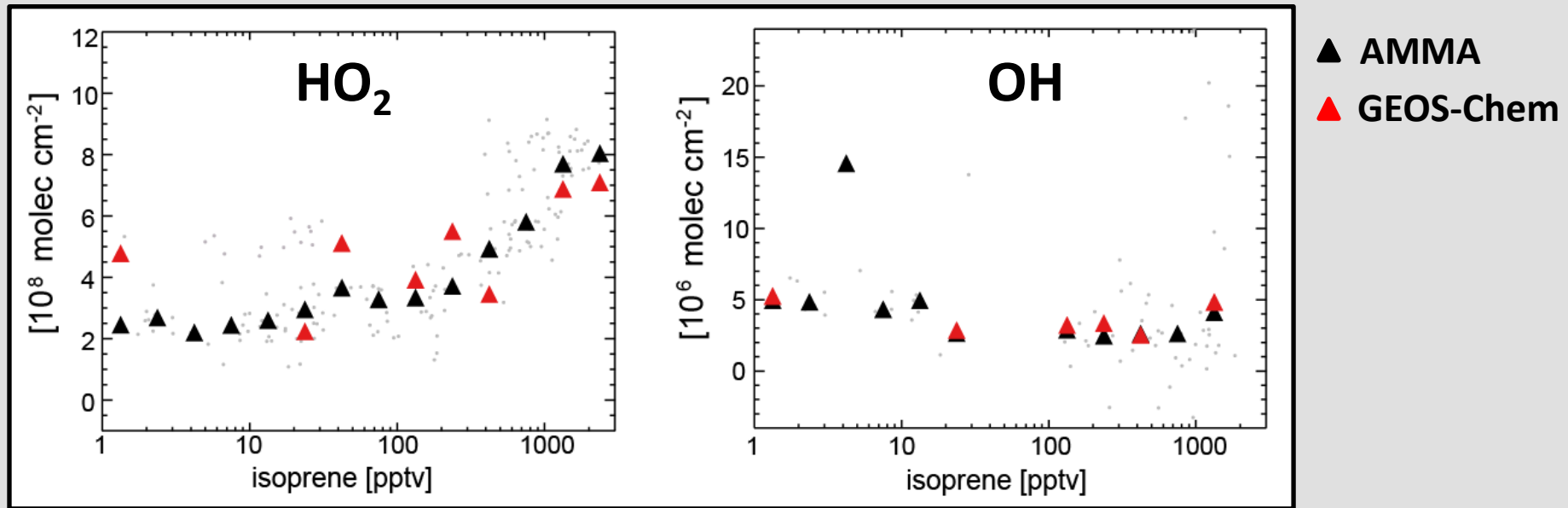


Flight tracks

Isoprene and (MVK+MACR) show good agreement, but large discrepancies between model and observations in the HCHO vertical profile over the AMMA domain.

# OH and HO<sub>2</sub> dependence on isoprene

HO<sub>2</sub> and OH variability below 950 hPa as a function of isoprene during AMMA



HO<sub>x</sub> levels from GEOS-Chem are consistent with observations

OH and HO<sub>2</sub> from GEOS-Chem do not exhibit an isoprene-dependent bias

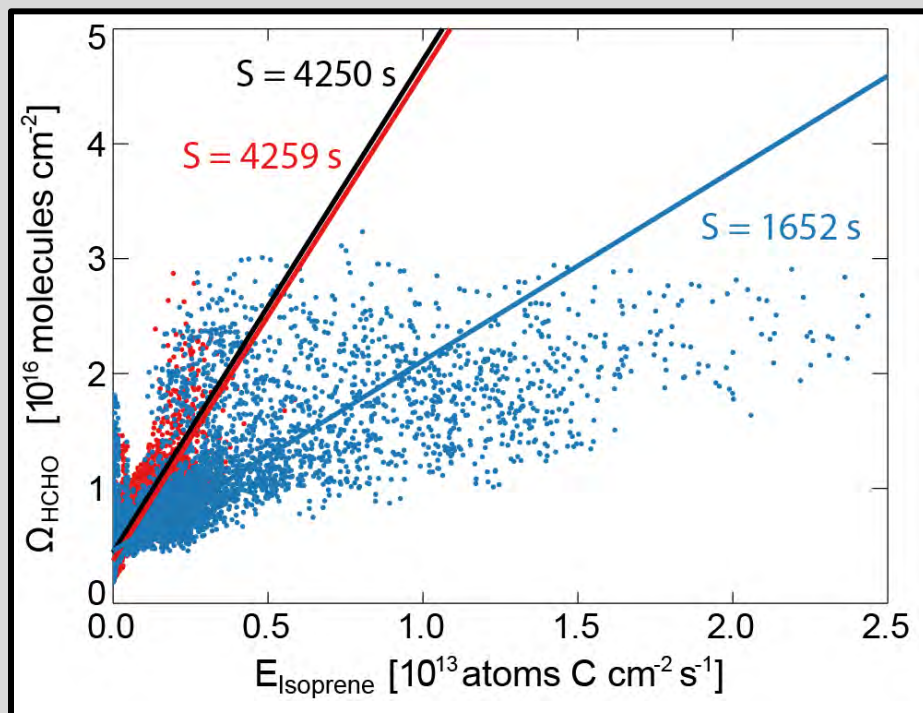
# Estimate HCHO yields using GEOS-Chem

Estimate the yield of HCHO from MEGAN isoprene emissions using the relationship between  $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}}$  and  $E_{\text{isoprene}}$  in the model:

$$\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} = S E_{\text{isoprene}} + B$$

$$S = \frac{Y_{\text{isoprene} \rightarrow \text{HCHO}}}{k_{\text{HCHO}}}$$

HCHO from GEOS-Chem as a function of  
Eisoprene from MEGAN over Africa in Jan



- $\text{NO}_x < 0.01 \text{ ppbv}$
- $0.01 < \text{NO}_x < 0.1 \text{ ppbv}$
- $\text{NO}_x > 0.1 \text{ ppbv}$

HCHO yields affected by  $\text{NO}_x$  in the model due to **smearing** of the HCHO signal in the model



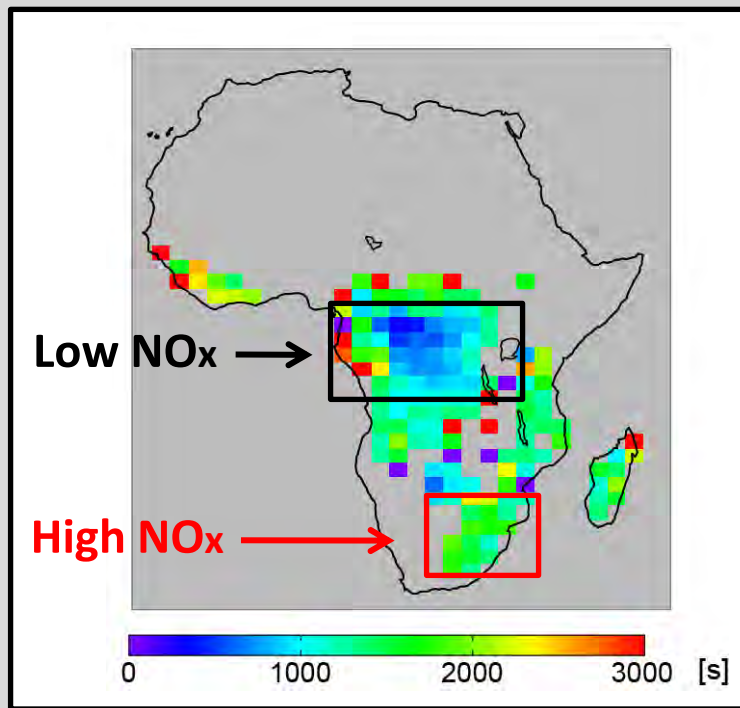
# Slope values over Africa for January 2006

Instead use the relationship between (MVK+MACR) and isoprene emissions in the model:

$$S = \frac{Y_{\text{isoprene} \rightarrow \text{HCHO}}}{k_{\text{HCHO}}} = \frac{Y_{\text{isoprene} \rightarrow (\text{MVK} + \text{MACR})}}{k_{(\text{MVK} + \text{MACR})}} \times \frac{k_{(\text{MVK} + \text{MACR})}}{k_{\text{HCHO}}}$$

Accounts for the difference in loss rates of HCHO and (MVK+MACR)

**Spatial variability of  $S$  for**  
 $E_{\text{isop}} > 2 \times 10^{12} \text{ atoms C cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$



Yields reflect spatial variability of  $\text{NO}_x$  over Africa – higher (lower) yields are obtained over high (low)  $\text{NO}_x$  regions.

Therefore, apply  $\text{NO}_x$ -dependent yields of HCHO from GEOS-Chem over Africa to estimate isoprene emissions from OMI HCHO

# Concluding Remarks

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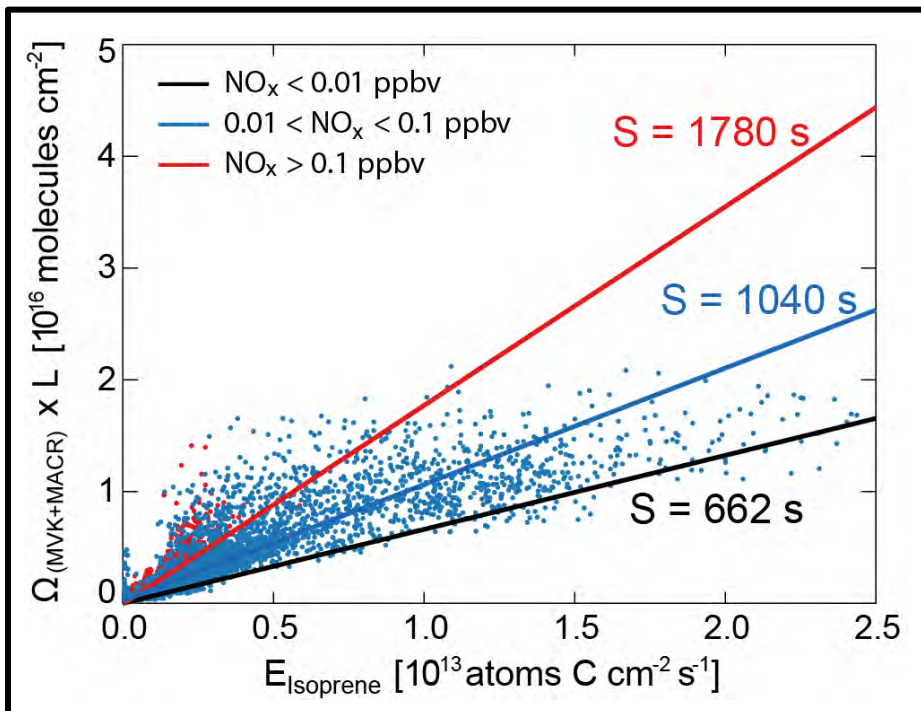
- The model is able to capture the variability of isoprene and (MVK+MACR) over the AMMA domain
- OH and HO<sub>2</sub> are well reproduced in the model as a function of isoprene concentration in a region that is subject to low-NO<sub>x</sub> and high-NO<sub>x</sub> reaction pathways
- (MVK+MACR) columns from GEOS-Chem can be used to obtain Nox-dependent yields of HCHO from isoprene

Future Work: Estimate NO<sub>x</sub>-dependent yields of isoprene from GEOS-Chem to calculate annual isoprene emissions over Africa from the OMI HCHO biogenic vertical columns for comparison with MEGAN.



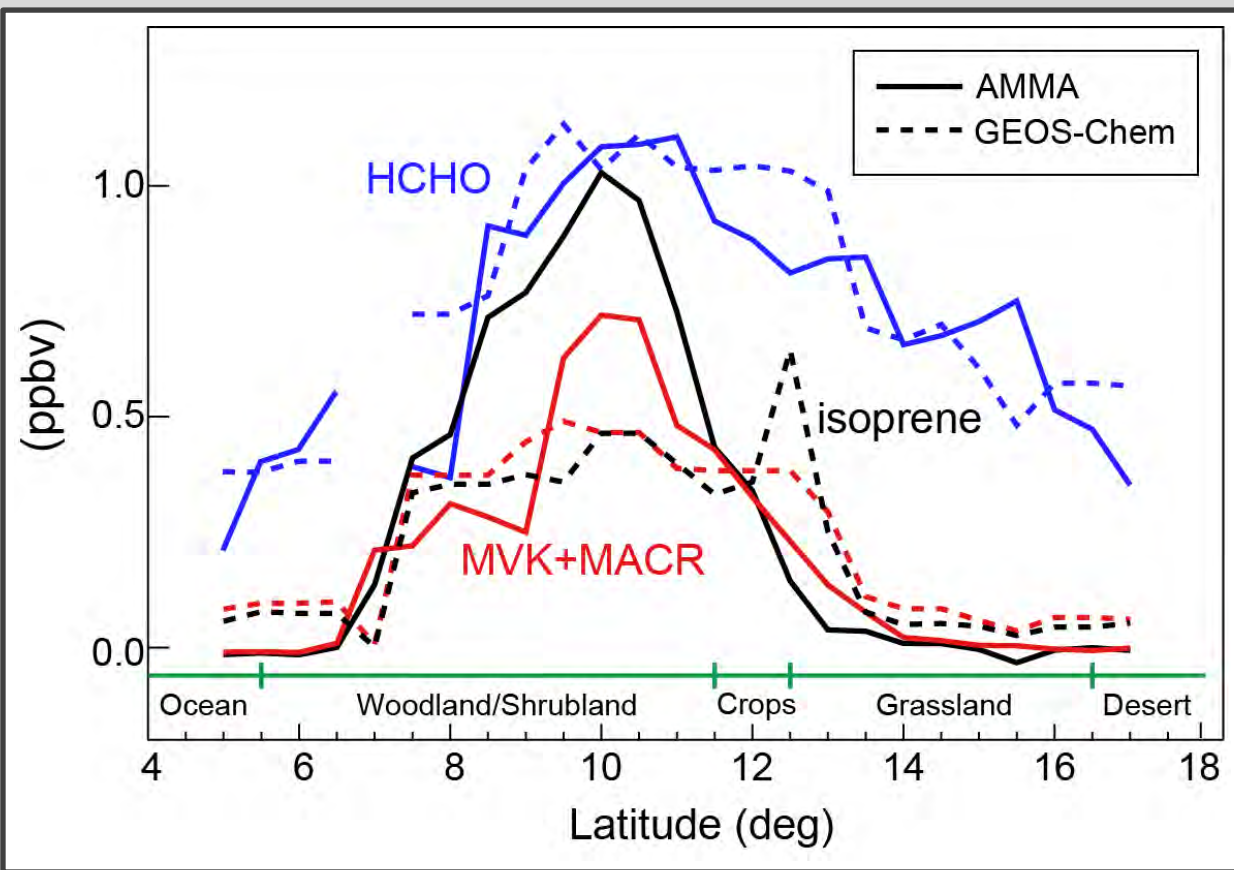
# **Additional Slides**

## Variability of $S$ as a function of $\text{NO}_x$



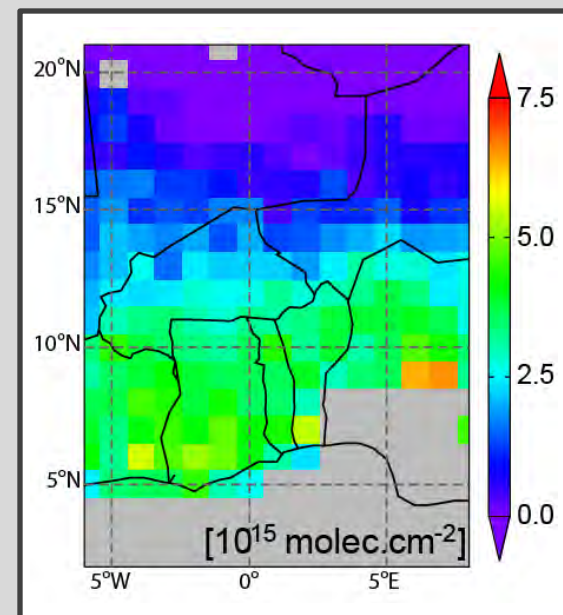
# Latitudinal profile of isoprene, (MVK+MACR) and HCHO

Isoprene, (MVK+MACR) and HCHO  
averaged over 0.5° latitude bins



→ GC HCHO divided by 2 in plot for visual comparison

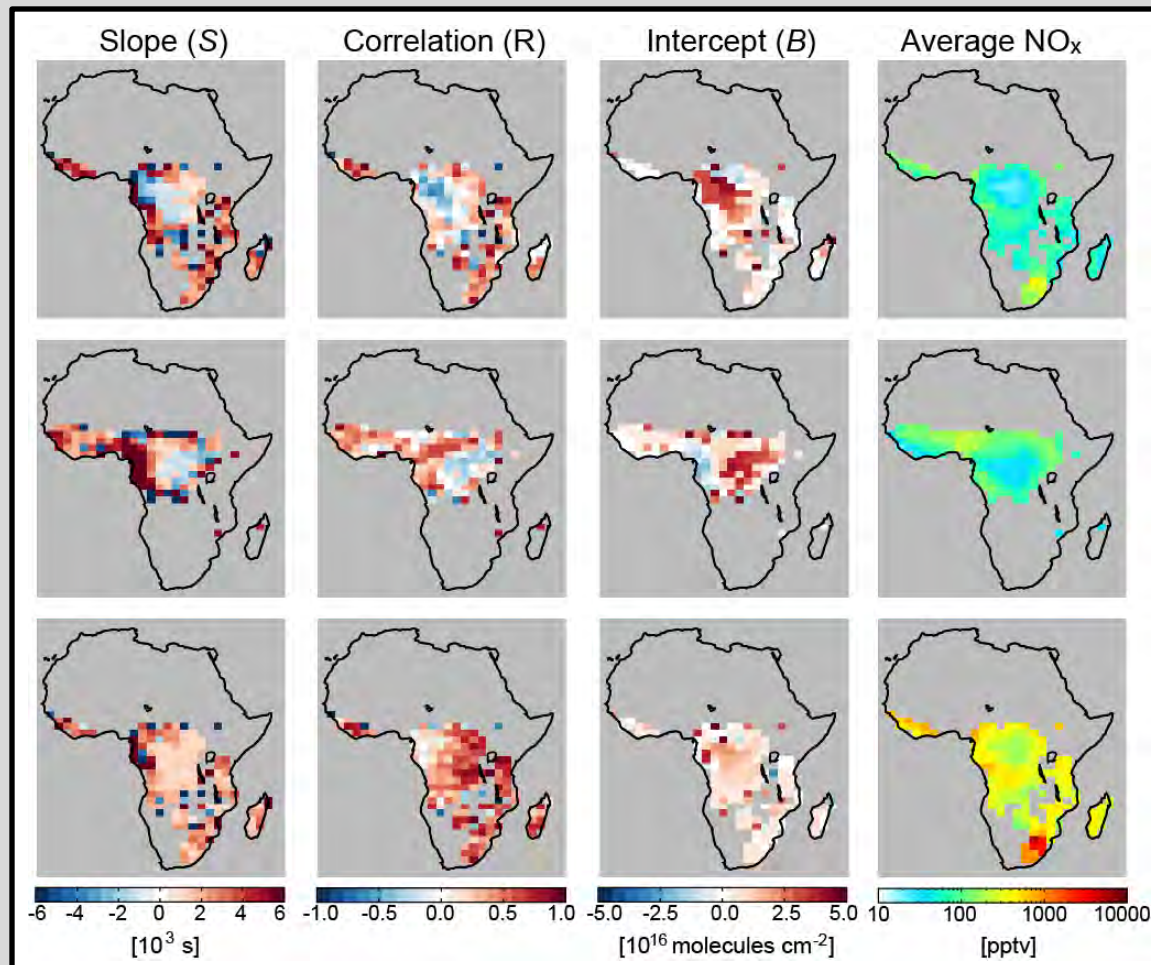
OMI biogenic HCHO for  
July – Aug 2005-2009



# HCHO yields over Africa from GEOS-Chem

$$\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} = SE_{\text{Isoprene}} + B$$

Spatial variability of  $S$  where  $E_{\text{Isoprene}} > 2 \times 10^{12} \text{ atoms C cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$



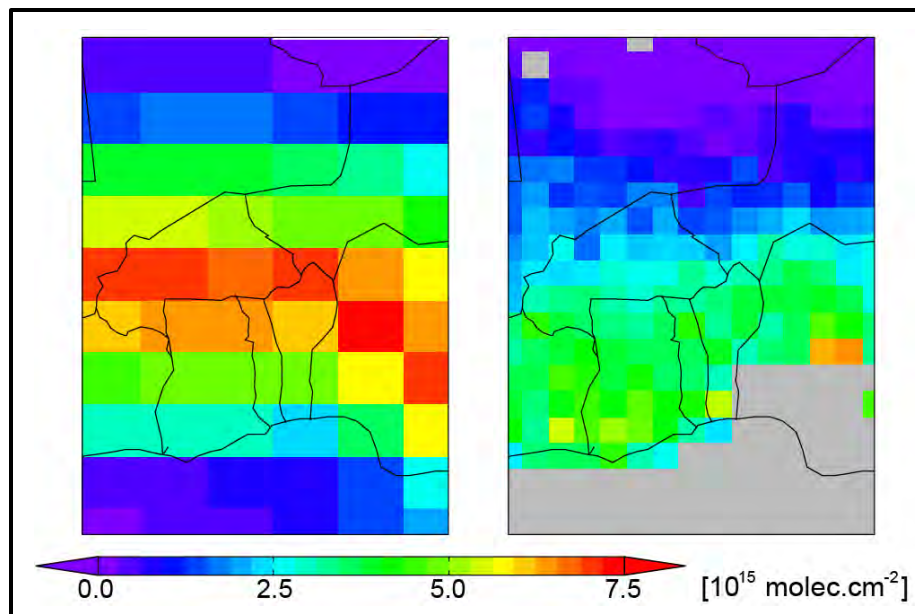
Poor correlation between HCHO and isoprene emissions in regions with low NO<sub>x</sub>, due to delay in HCHO formation

Apply single HCHO yield over Africa to avoid introducing spatial variability from the model  
( $S = 1.9 \times 10^3 \text{ s}$ )

HCHO columns from GEOS-Chem (left) and OMI HCHO (right) over the AMMA domain from July-August.

2°×2.5° resolution (2006)

1°×1° resolution (2005-2009)



Yields of HCHO over the US are lower ( $1.5 \times 10^3$  s) than those obtained using  $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}}$  ( $2.1 \times 10^3$  s) due to additional formation of second-generation HCHO.

Use ratio value of 1.4 for the US to adjust the yield and apply to all NO<sub>x</sub> regimes:

$$\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} = 1.4 \times SE_{\text{isoprene}}$$