# Observing the Amazon from Space: A UK perspective

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#### Atmospheric remote sensing over rainforests



#### An integrated observing/modelling system



### UK trace gas/aerosol/cloud retrievals

- National Centre for Earth Observation Atmosphere Theme
  - List not exhaustive; other non-NCEO retrievals exist

Group	Satellite(s)	Product	Profile/Column	
U. Leicester	GOSAT/SCIAMACHY	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub>	Total Columns	
	GOME-2	НСНО СНОСНО	Tropospheric columns	
	IASI	CO/organics	Columns	
	MIPAS	Organics (e.g., PAN, acetone, formic acid)	Profiles (UT/LS)	
RAL	GOME-2	Ozone	Tropospheric / total columns	
	IASI	502, CH <sub>4</sub>	Total columns	
U. Oxford	MIPAS	p & T, $H_2O$ , $O_3$ , $HNO_3$ , $CH_4$ , $N_2O$ , $NO_2$ CFC-11, CFC-12, $CIONO_2$ , $N_2O_5$ and $CO$ .	Profiles (UT/LS)	
	AATSR (ORAC) (with RAL)	Aerosol (AOD, R <sub>EFF</sub> , type) Surface albedo (550,660,870,1600 nm)	-	
		Cloud (top-height & pressure, optical depth, T, ice/water path, phase, R <sub>EFF</sub> )	-	
U. York	ACE	+18 species plus, T & P	Profiles (UT/LS)	

#### Mapping isoprene emissions from space using HCHO

-0.50

0.00

0.50

1.00

1.50

2.00

2.50



- Formaldehyde is a high-yield product of isoprene oxidation
- Isoprene emissions are the main driver of variability in observed HCHO columns
- Must use a chemistry-transport model (CTM) to invert HCHO columns to 'get' the top-down isoprene emission estimates



### Unusual seasonal variation of HCHO columns





- Long-term HCHO seasonal cycle shows unexpected low columns during wet-to-dry transitional period
  - Fire scenes are excluded using firecounts & NO<sub>2</sub> columns
- HCHO oscillates in phase with vegetation
  - Majority of isoprene emitting species undergo leaf flushing (new leaf growth) prior to dry season in anticipation of light-rich conditions

#### Can we learn anything from the top-down estimates?



### The GEOS-Chem Amazon nested grid



- Use CTM to produce ensemble of top-down isoprene emission estimates
  - Using different sensors, model settings, inversion techniques
- GEOS-Chem supposed to be state-of-theart but struggles to reproduce limited observations
  - OH &  $NO_x$  too low, isoprene + OVOCs too high
  - Model HCHO columns 10-100% too high!



First time a CTM has been driven by both of these isoprene emissions inventories

### Model performance @ TROFFEE (~60W,2S)



#### In situ observations are needed to understand diurnal photochemistry



Chemistry: Caltech BVOC Emissions: MEGAN PCEEA Dry deposition: Old ('slow') scheme BL mixing: full-mixing

### GOME-2 HCHO retrievals at U. Leicester



## Tropical leaf phenology inferred from MODIS LAI

Process based model which predicts phenology as an optimal strategy for carbon gain.

Model fitted to 5 years of MODIS LAI data using a Bayesian algorithm

In wet tropical forests we predict an increase in LAI in response to light during the dry season



The model estimates the frequency distribution of leaf ages



Contact: Silvia Caldararu of U. Edinburgh

Caldararu et al, BGD, 2012

#### Estimating pyroconvection from fire radiative power



- $\frac{1}{2}$  million global FRP and fire area observations in 2006 from MODIS (Wooster et al. 2005).
- Over South America CHF is typically 1--80 kW/m<sup>2</sup> and fire size is <5 ha</li>
- Pyroconvection injection heights are typically < 3 km.
- We now assess the impact of pyroconvection on biomass burning emission estimates inferred from MOPITT CO column measurements.

Contact: Sigfried Gonzi of U. Edinburgh



### Observing atmospheric $CH_4$ using GOSAT



Next generation: Tropical Carbon Mission (TCM)

A proposed bilateral mission between the UK (Edinburgh, Leicester, SSTL) and JPL/NASA **Primary objectives**: Measure densely-sampled CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and CO columns over Tropics to improve understanding of tropical carbon cycle Contact: Hartmut Boesch of U.Leciester

### AATSR Land Surface Temperature (LST)



absorption in adjacent channels

Contact: John Remedios of U.Leciester

 LST can be used to drive/constrain land-surface models (e.g., UK Met Office's JULES model)

#### Detection of vegetation stress arising from hydrocarbon seepage in the Amazon rainforest



- Hydrocarbon seepage from geological reservoirs to the surface can cause vegetation stress - can this be detected from space?
- Preliminary results show a high reflectance response in areas influenced by hydrocarbons (spill and geological fault).
  - A reduction in the vegetation pigments (chlorophyll) is an indicator of vegetation stress correlates well with affected areas
- Field campaign to collect bio-physical/chemical parameters.
  - Scaling-up process to obtain reflectance at top-of-canopy using leaf/canopy RTMs.
- Use modelled reflectances to determine seepage areas from hyperspectral satellite images (Hyperion, EO-1)





Contact: Paul Arellano / Kevin Tansey of U. Leciester

#### Some things to think about...

- Surface emissions and tropospheric photochemistry in tropical environments are still very uncertain (despite all recent papers)
- Satellite observations put campaign data into a wider context
- Satellite observations allow examination of seasonal and inter-annual variability
- Satellite observations (usually) require models
  - In the retrievals themselves (a priori constraints)
  - To get to the science (e.g., top-down emissions)
- Not enough observations to validate satellite products
  - Especially  $NO_x$ , HCHO + other OVOCs
- Not enough observations to constrain models
  - Especially type, duration, vertical extent, diurnal cycle
- UK remote sensing groups welcome collaboration
  - Think broader than just measurements of gases/aerosols (e.g., LST)
  - How can UK data be used in ongoing/future Brazilian research?

### ...and a (selfish) personal wish list

- Build firm links to Brazilian groups
  - Knowledge exchange
  - Data exchange (EO and model simulations)
  - Inclusion/collaborative research proposals
  - Access to Brazilian models (if required)
- Long term measurements sampling full diurnal cycle (but anything is a bonus)
  - Isoprene / monoterpene fluxes
  - Isoprene + OVOCs concentrations (in and above canopy, BL)
  - Concentrations of standard tracers ( $O_3$ , CO,  $NO_x$ , etc.)
  - OH/HO<sub>2</sub> would be great :0)
  - Soil  $NO_x$  emissions
  - Micro-meteorological conditions
  - LAI and leaf fall
- Establish DOAS instrument for satellite validation (permanent/temporary)

### Thank you for listening. Any questions?



Chemistry: Caltech BVOC Emissions: MEGAN PCEEA Dry deposition: Old ('slow') scheme BL mixing: full-mixing

#### A wealth of HCHO column observations



GOME 1996-2004 SCIAMACHY 2004-2010

OMI 2005-present

GOME-2 2007-present

2011

1996

Instrument	Platform	Spectral Resolution (nm)	Fitting window (nm)	Global coverage	Pixel size (km)	Swath (km)	Equator crossing time
GOME	ERS-2	0.17/0.29	337.35 356.12 <sup>1</sup>	3 days	40×320	960	10.30
SCIAMACHY	ENVISAT	0.26/0.44	328.50346.00 <sup>2</sup>	6 days	30×60	960	10.00
OMI	AURA	0.42/0.63	327.50356.50 <sup>3</sup>	daily	13×12; 13×128	2600	13:45
GOME-2	MetOp-A	0.28/0.54	328.50346.00 <sup>2</sup>	~daily	40×80	960	09:30

<sup>1</sup> Chance et al 2008 <sup>2</sup> De Smedt et al 2008 <sup>3</sup> OMI ATBD (T. Kuroso)



### **GABRIEL:** Caltech vs. Peeters





#### A standard approach for inferring emissions



#### Is this a disaster?

Synthetic HCHO profile over land



#### LIMO Scheme



#### Air mass factor (AMF) calculation



$\omega(p)$ describes the sensitivity of backscattered spectrum to species	<i>S(p)</i> normalized vertical distribution (shape factor) of
at pressure p	species

- Atmospheric scattering critical for interpretation of solar backscatter UV-VIS spectra
  - AMF is sensitive to the vertical distribution of (optically thin) species
- Calculation requires:
  - HCHO profile (error ~10%)
  - UV albedo (error ~10%)
  - Aerosol AODs (error 10-40%)
  - Cloud information (error 20-30%)
- AMF for each scene computed as weighted sum of AMFs for clear and cloudy fractions (using reflectivity)

 $AMF = \frac{AMF_aR_a(1-f) + AMF_cR_cf}{R_a(1-f) + R_cf}$