

Atmospheric Chemical Mechanisms
Conference

Chemistry of Reactive Organic Gases in Mega-cities of China: Insights from Vertical Gradient and Eddy Covariance Flux Measurements

Bin Yuan

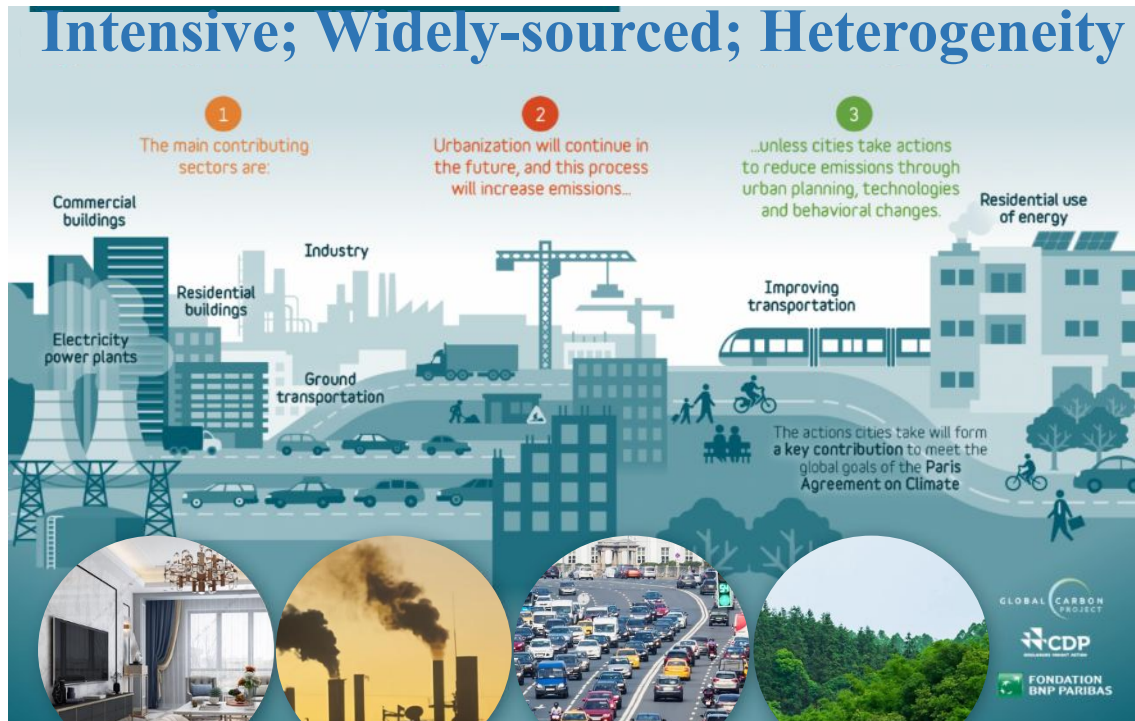
Institute for Environmental and Climate Research
Jinan University



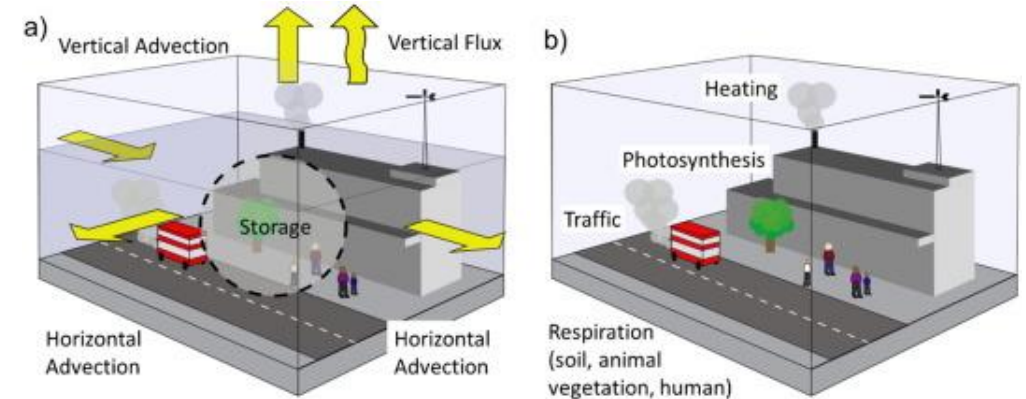
2022-12-7

Urban is one of the main components of ecosystem

- Urban ecosystem is the highest form of human settlement
- High energy use + Intensive human activities=Large GHG & air pollutant emission



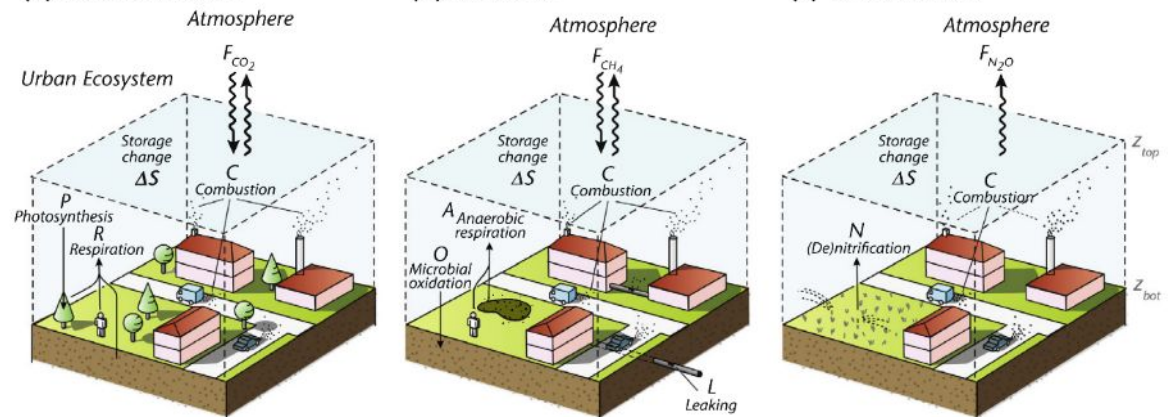
<http://outreach2018.globalcarbonatlas.org/en/content/global-cities-emissions>



(a) Carbon-dioxide

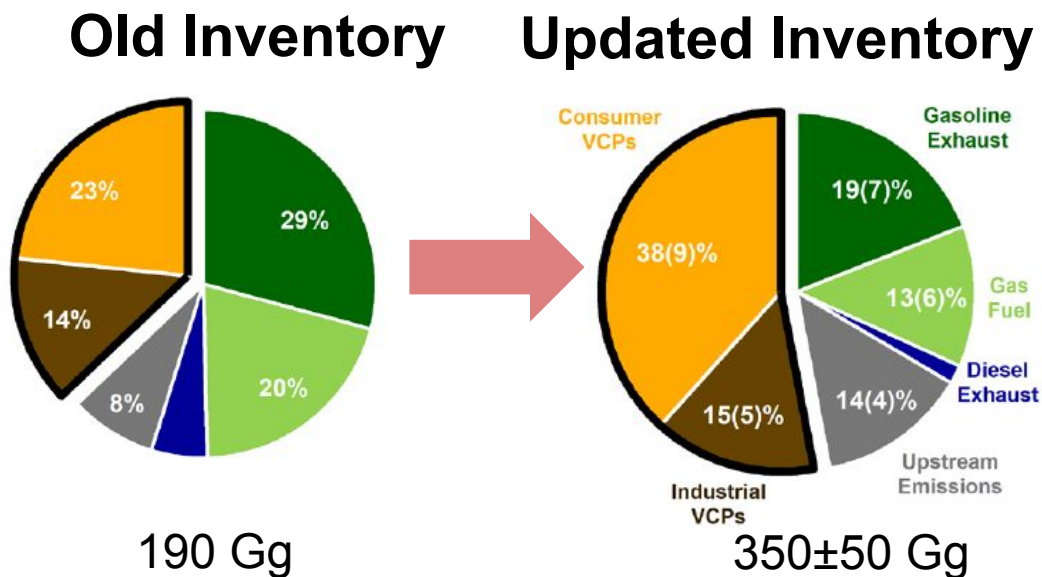
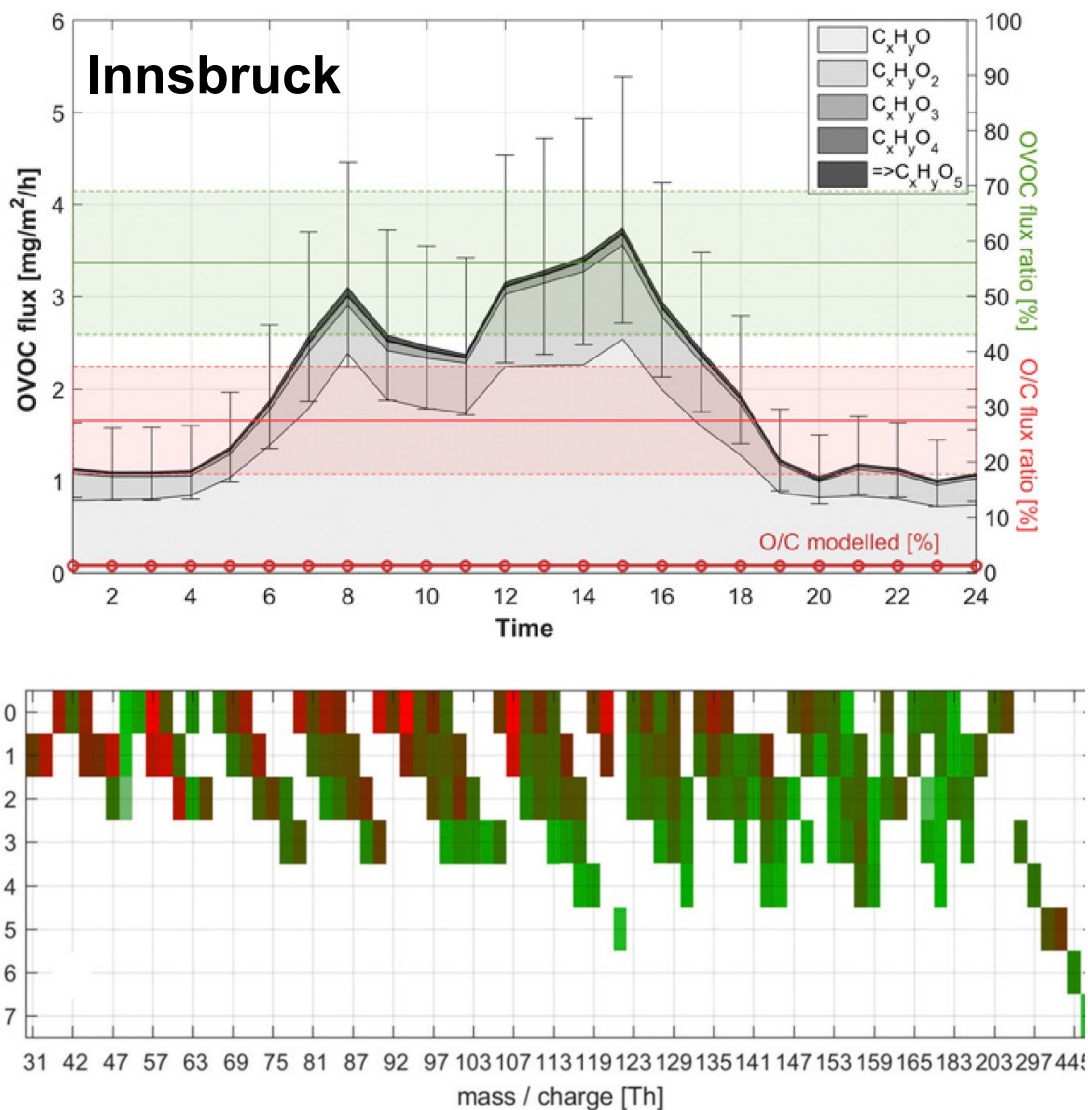
(b) Methane

(c) Nitrous oxide



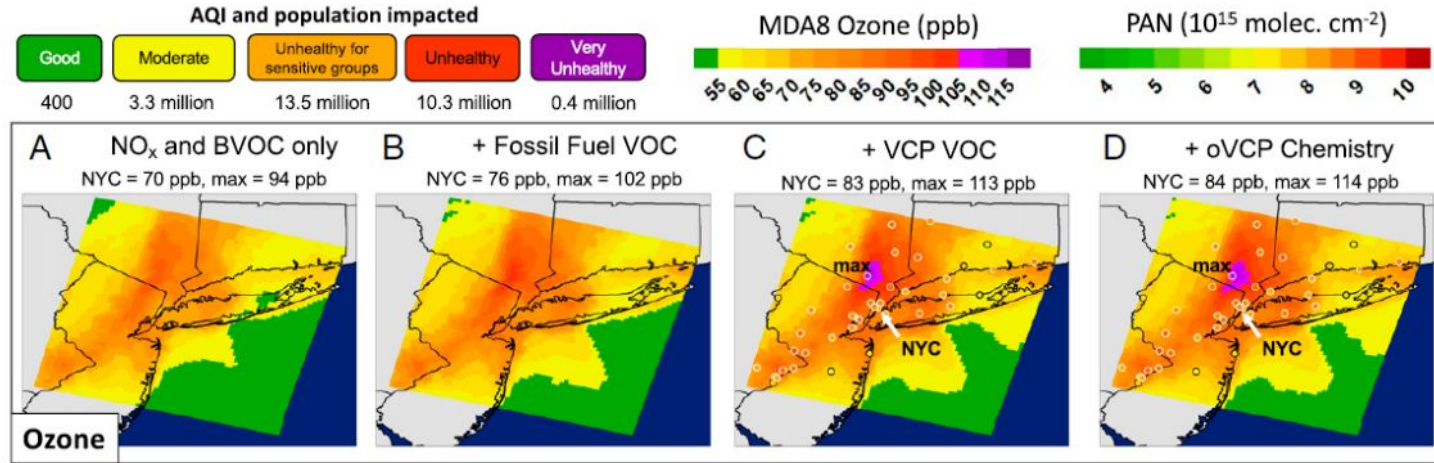
Urban flux study enhances the knowledge of emission and environmental impact

Significant “new” emissions of reactive organics in urban region



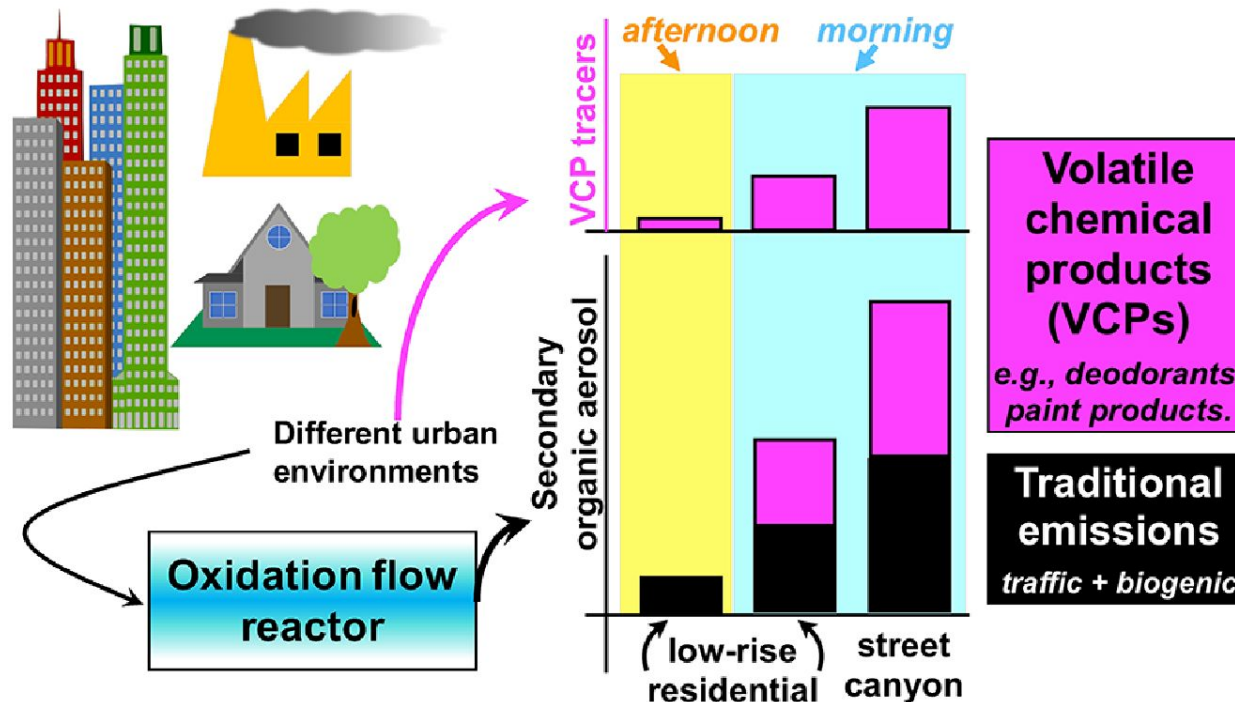
Urban oxygenated VOCs emission was significantly **underestimated**

“New” emissions of reactive organic gases affect air quality



Coggon et al., 2021

Ozone formation

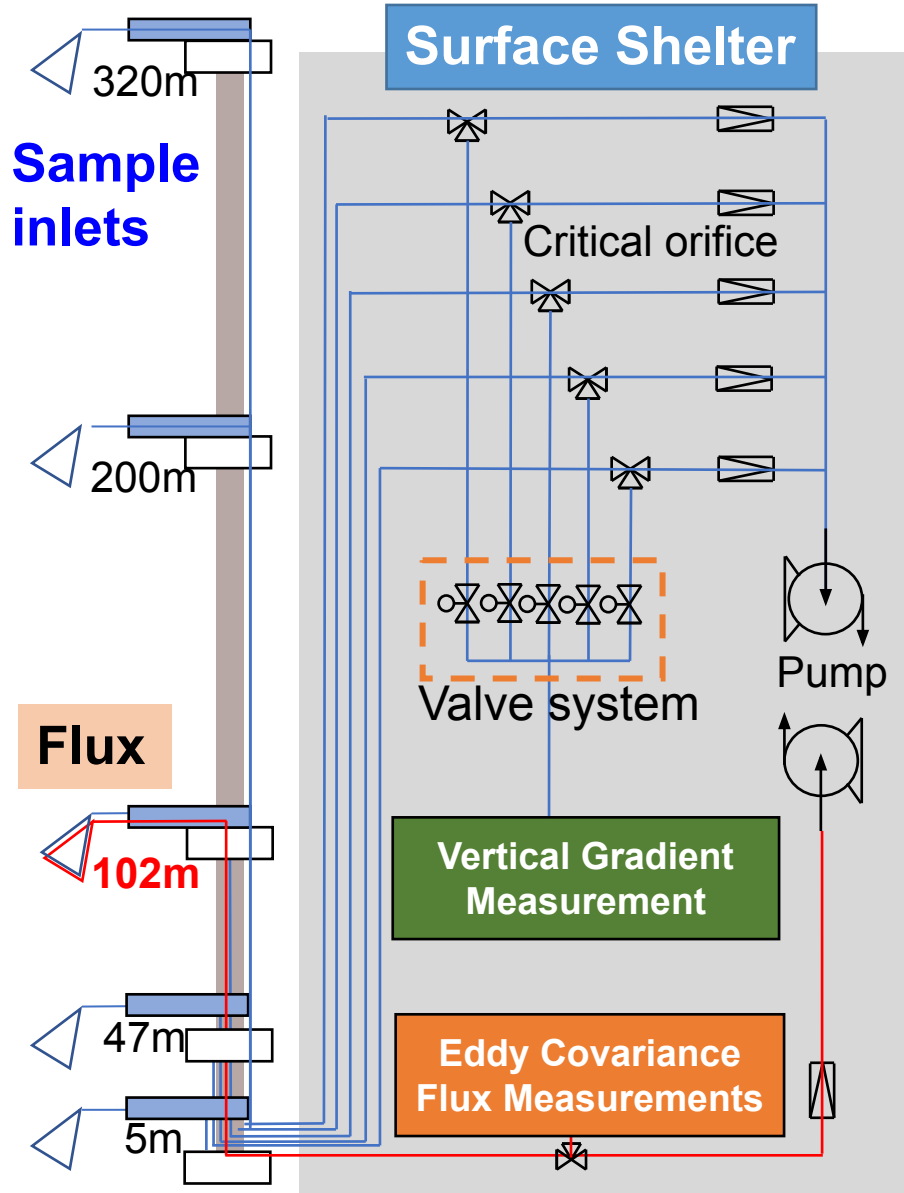


Shah et al., 2020

SOA formation

Flux and gradient measurements in urban of Beijing

Tower



Tower site and surrounding buildings



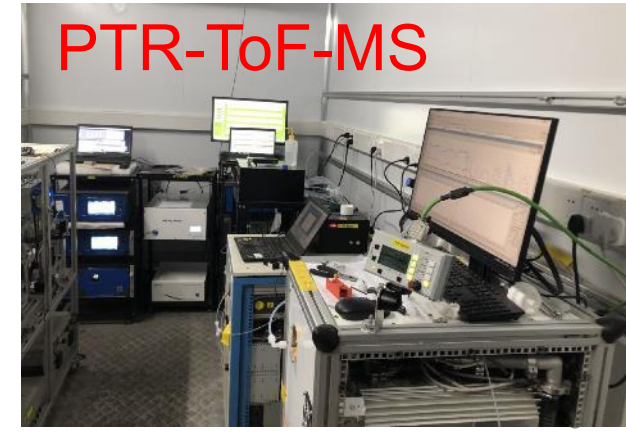
Flux



Gradient



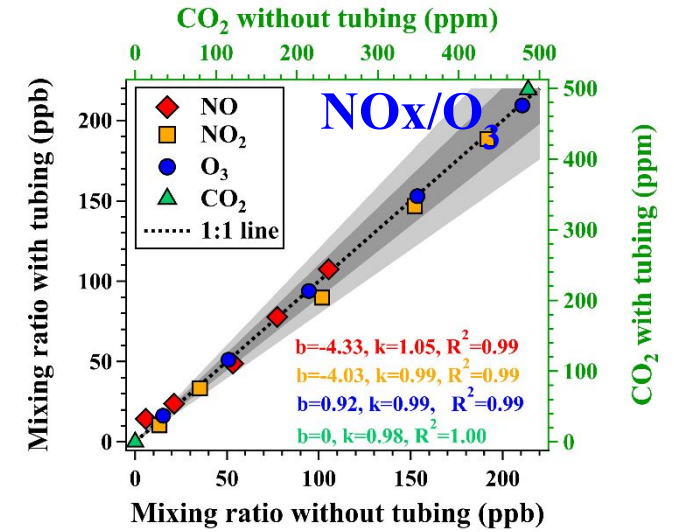
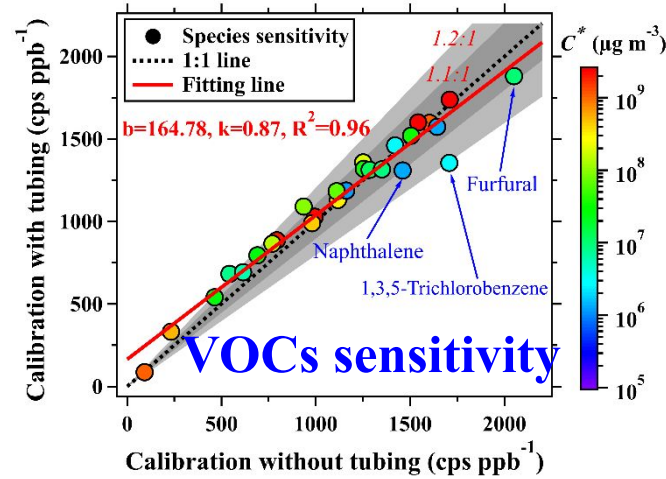
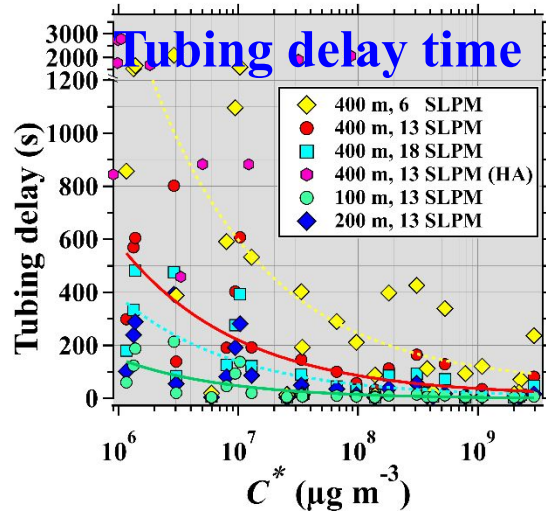
Instrumentation



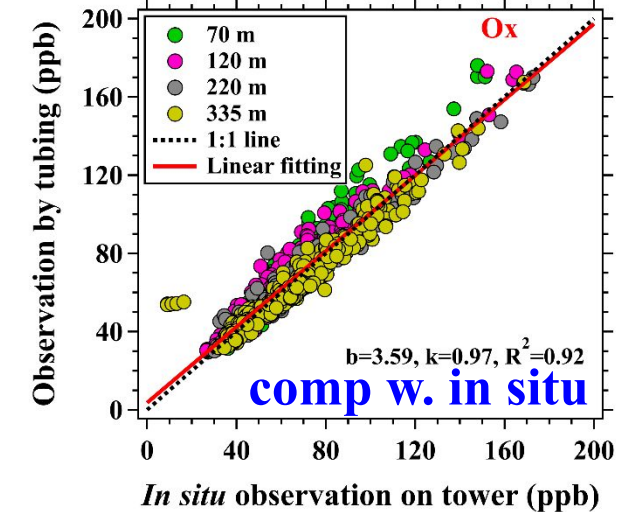
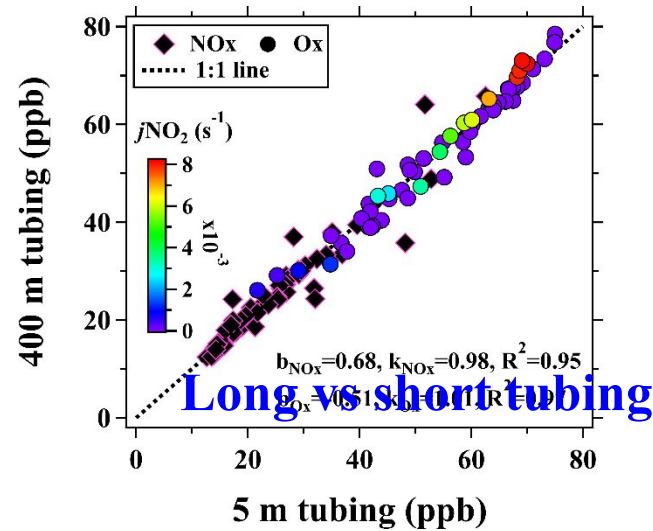
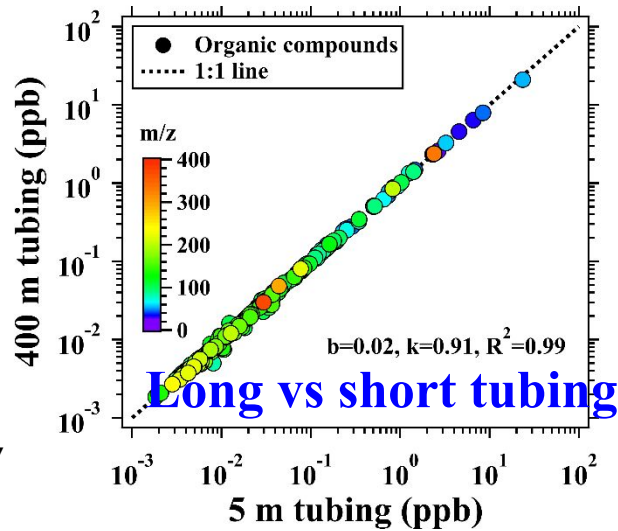
Long tubing assessment for gas measurements

- Negligible loss for most gas species, except for very reactive ones (NO, monoterpenes) in the daytime

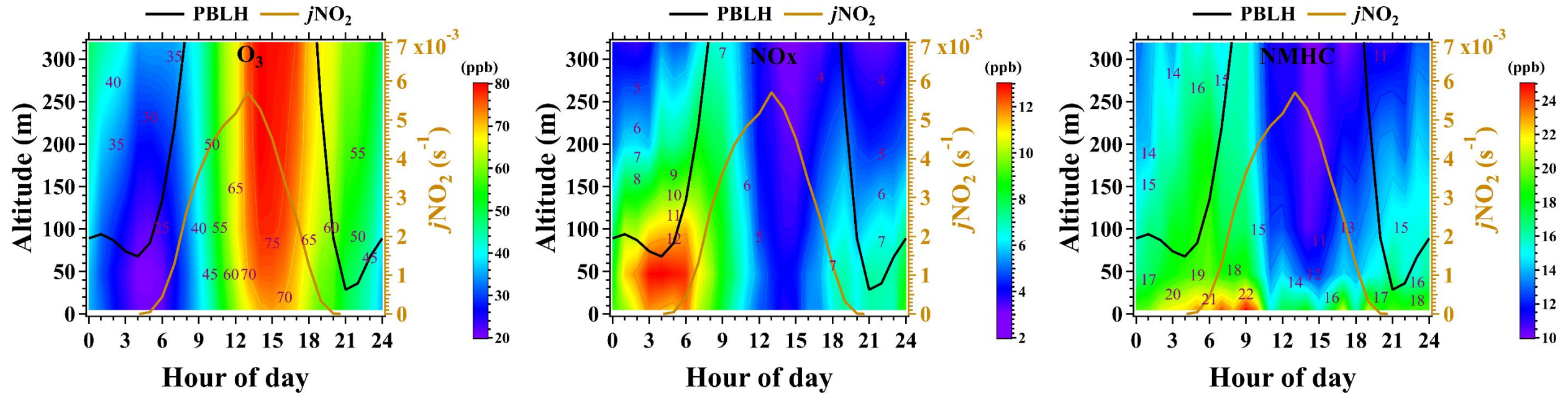
Laboratory assessment



Field evaluation

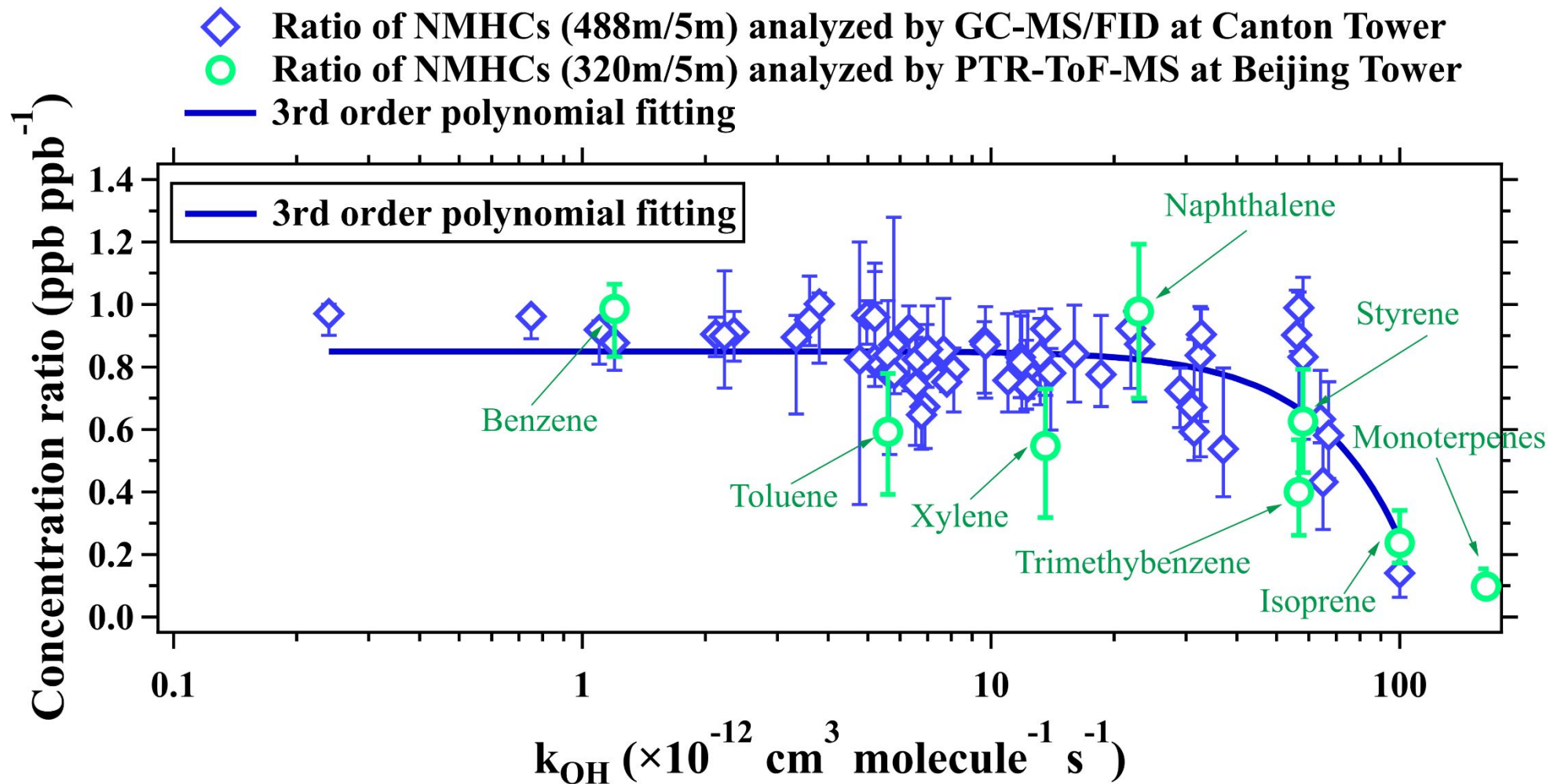


Vertical gradients of ozone and precursors are significant



- Strong gradient were observed at night
- Air pollutants are generally well mixed during the daytime

Reactive species decline more rapidly with height

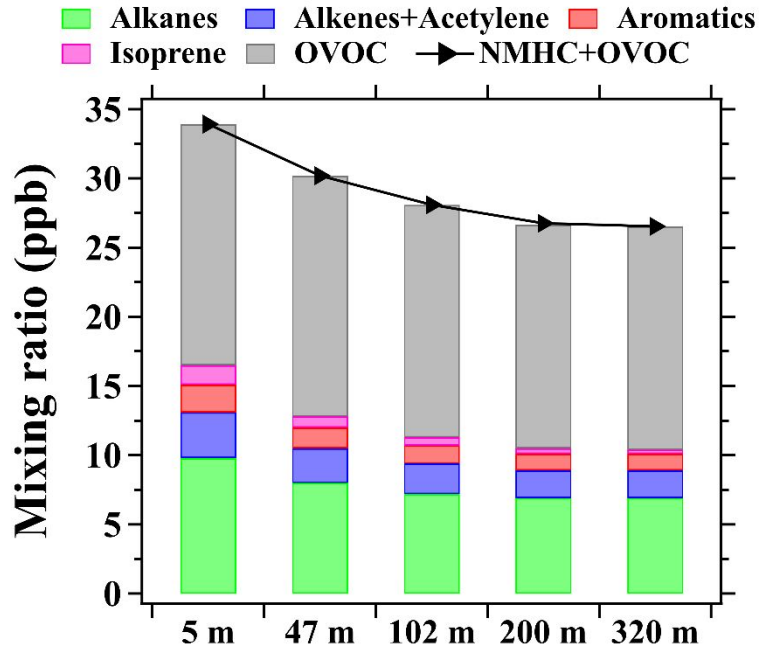


□ Stronger gradient is observed for more reactive species

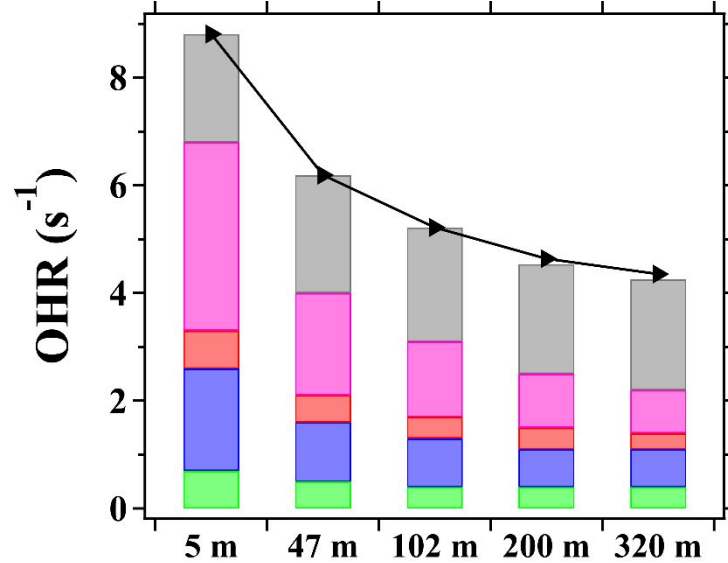
OVOC are more important in aloft atmosphere

LT 11:00-16:00

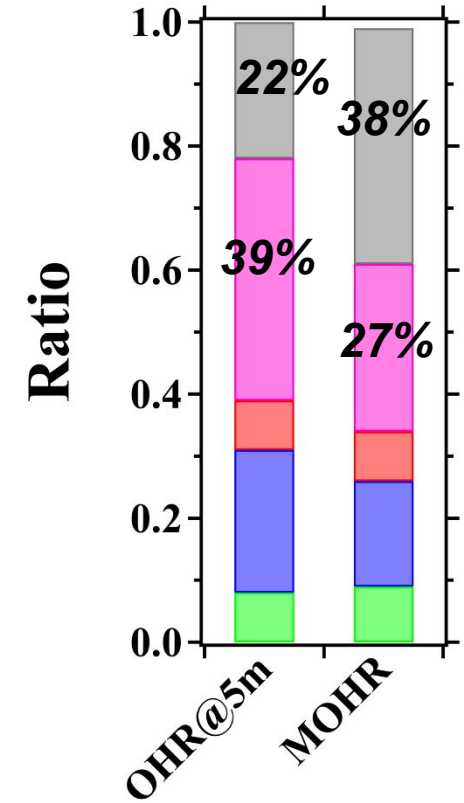
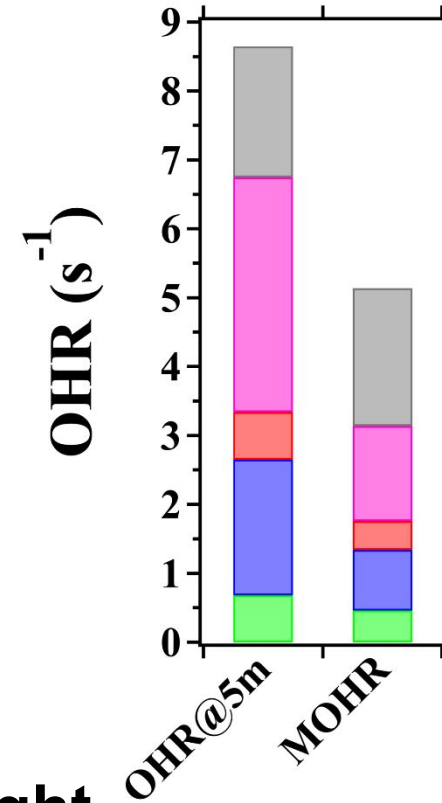
MOHR: Mean OHR between 5-320 m



OHR: OH reactivity



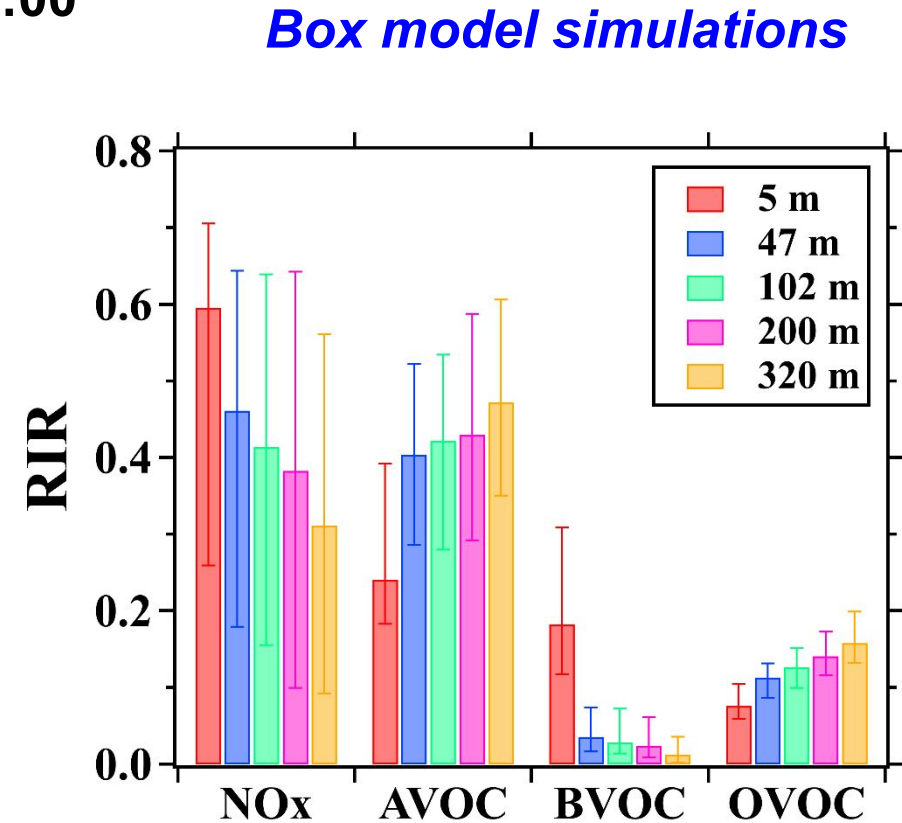
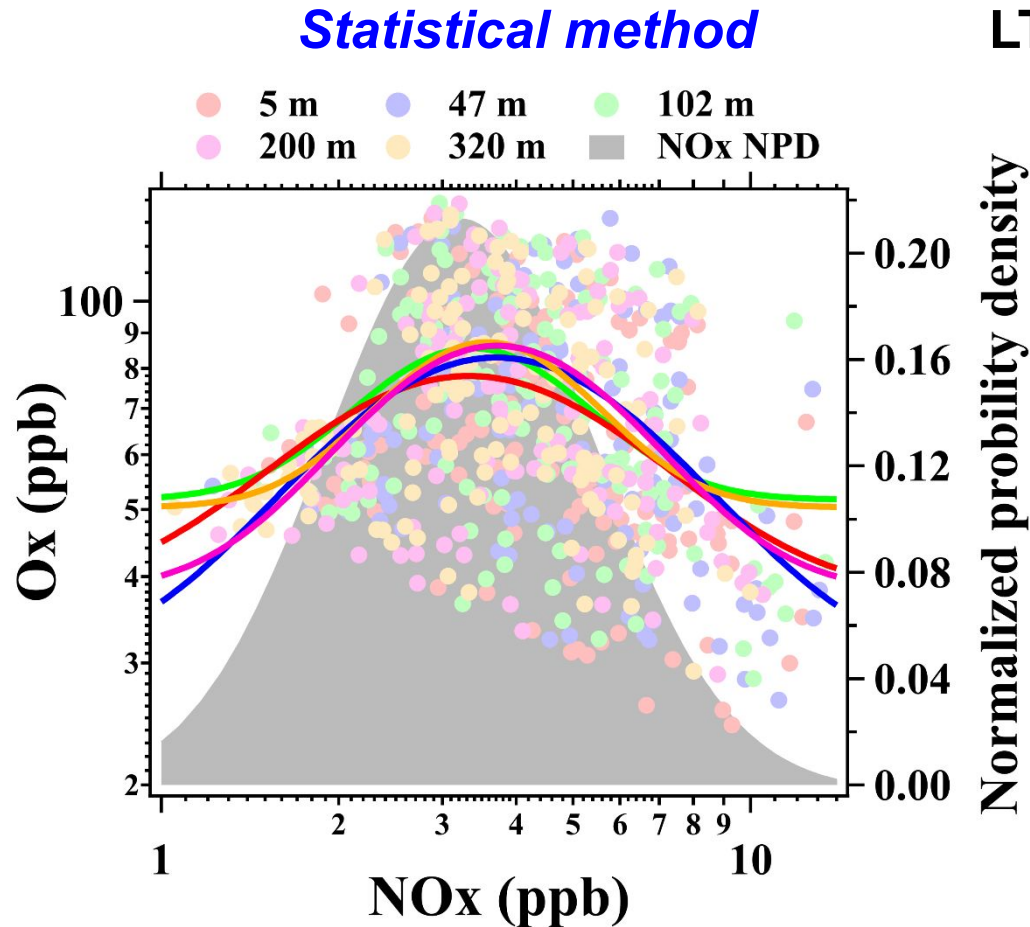
■ Alkanes ■ Alkenes+Acetylene ■ Aromatics ■ Isoprene
■ OVOC



□ Contributions of reactive VOCs to the total concentration and OHR rapidly decline with height

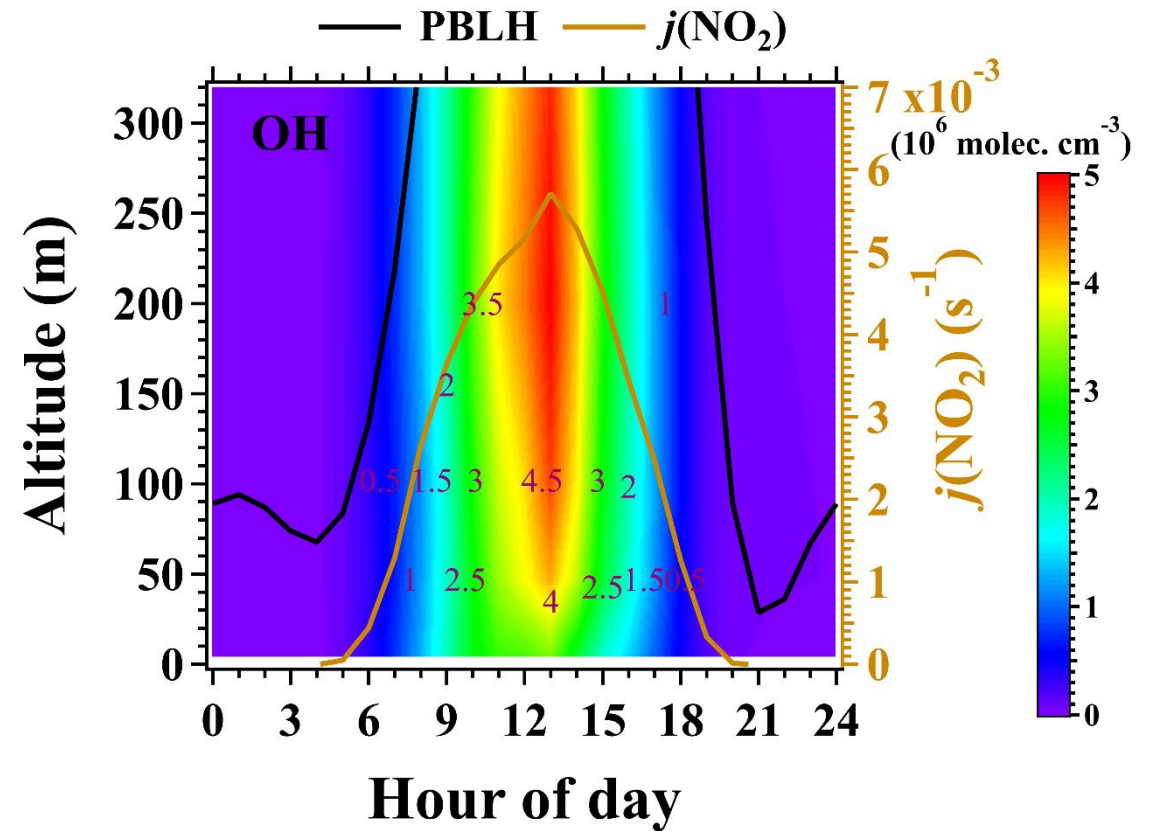
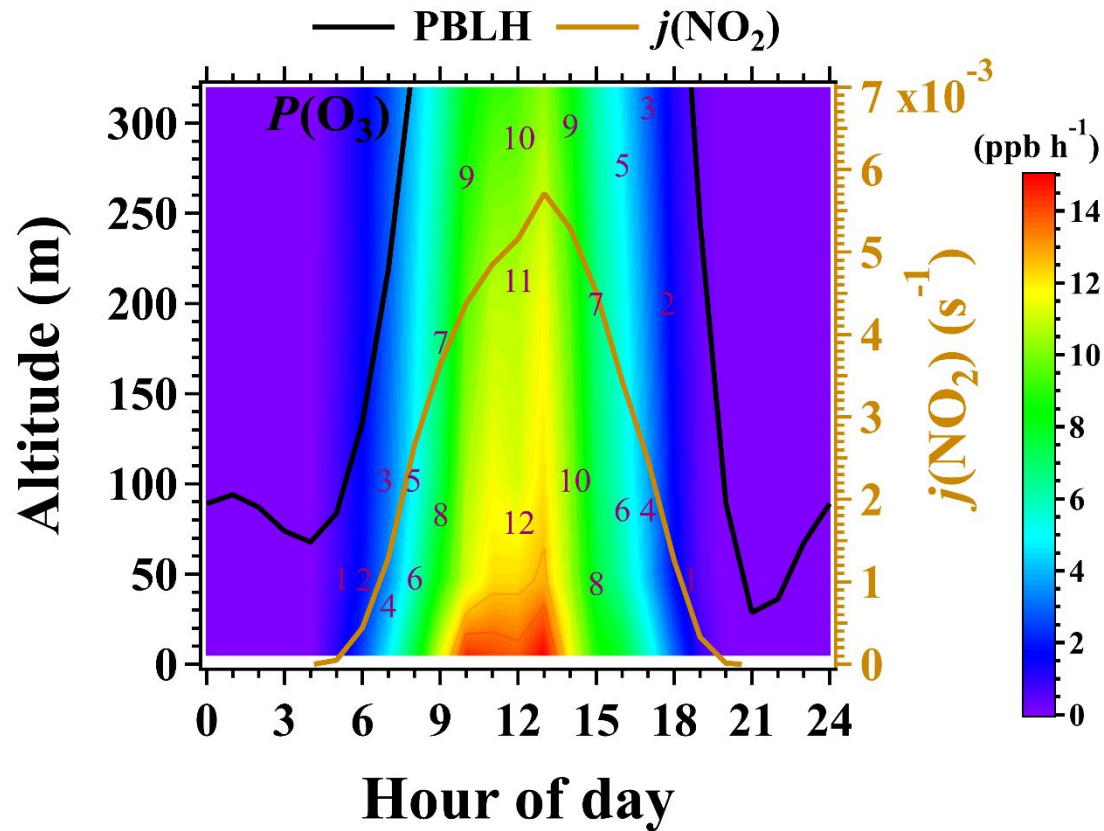
□ OVOCs account for larger fractions in OHR in higher altitudes

Vertical distributions of ozone formation sensitivity



- Ozone formation exhibits insignificant vertical discrepancy in the lower BL
- Ozone formation is more sensitive to changes in AVOC and OVOC in higher altitudes

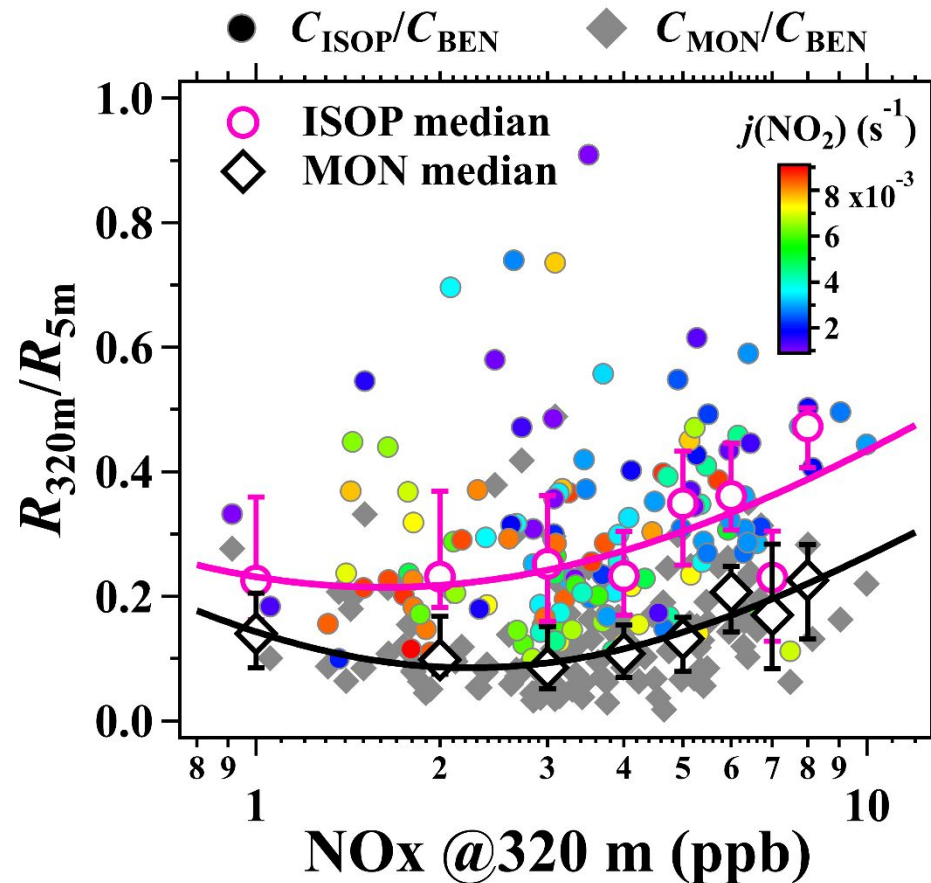
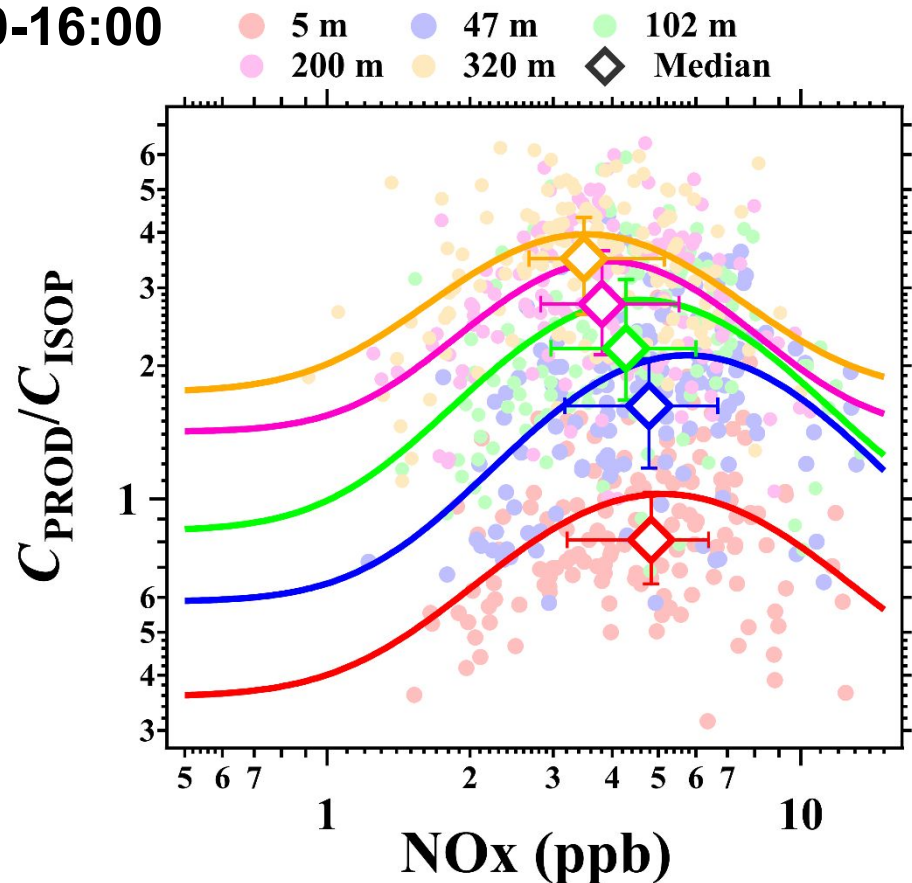
Strong aloft photochemical formation of ozone



- Ozone production rates decline with height but is still large in aloft
- OH concentrations increase with height

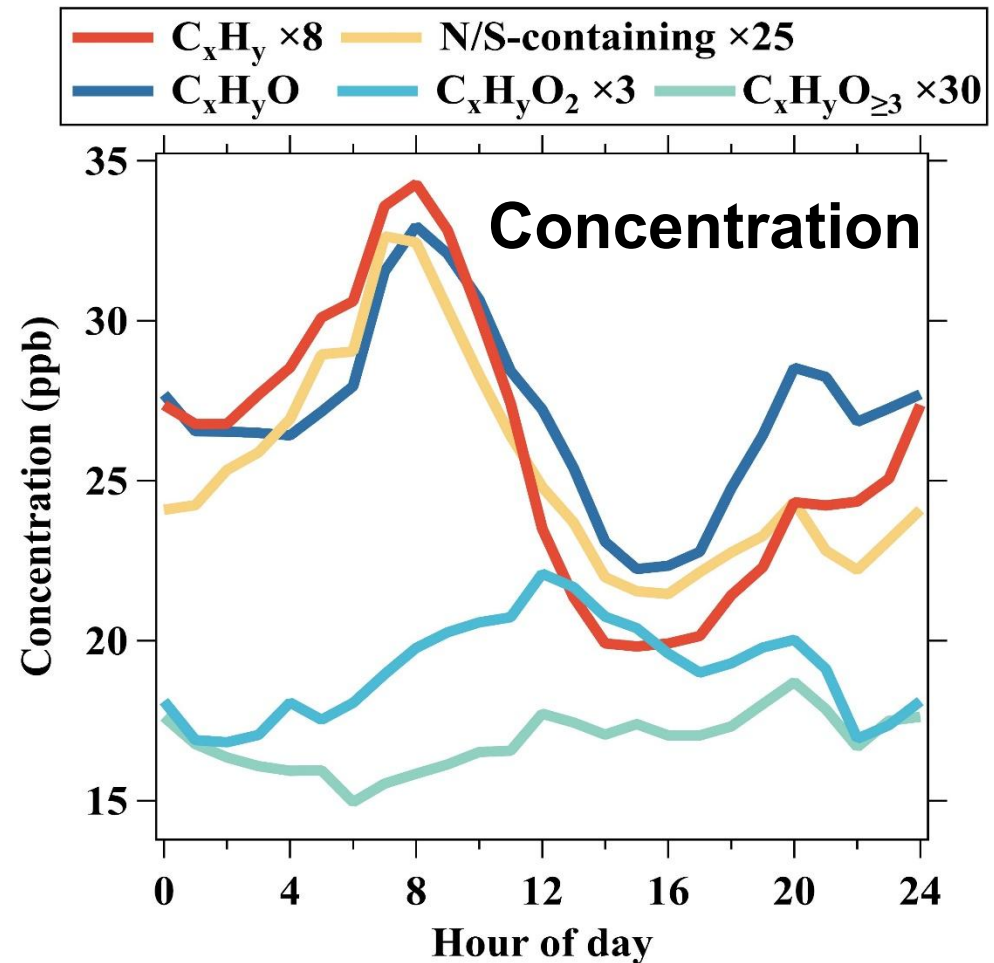
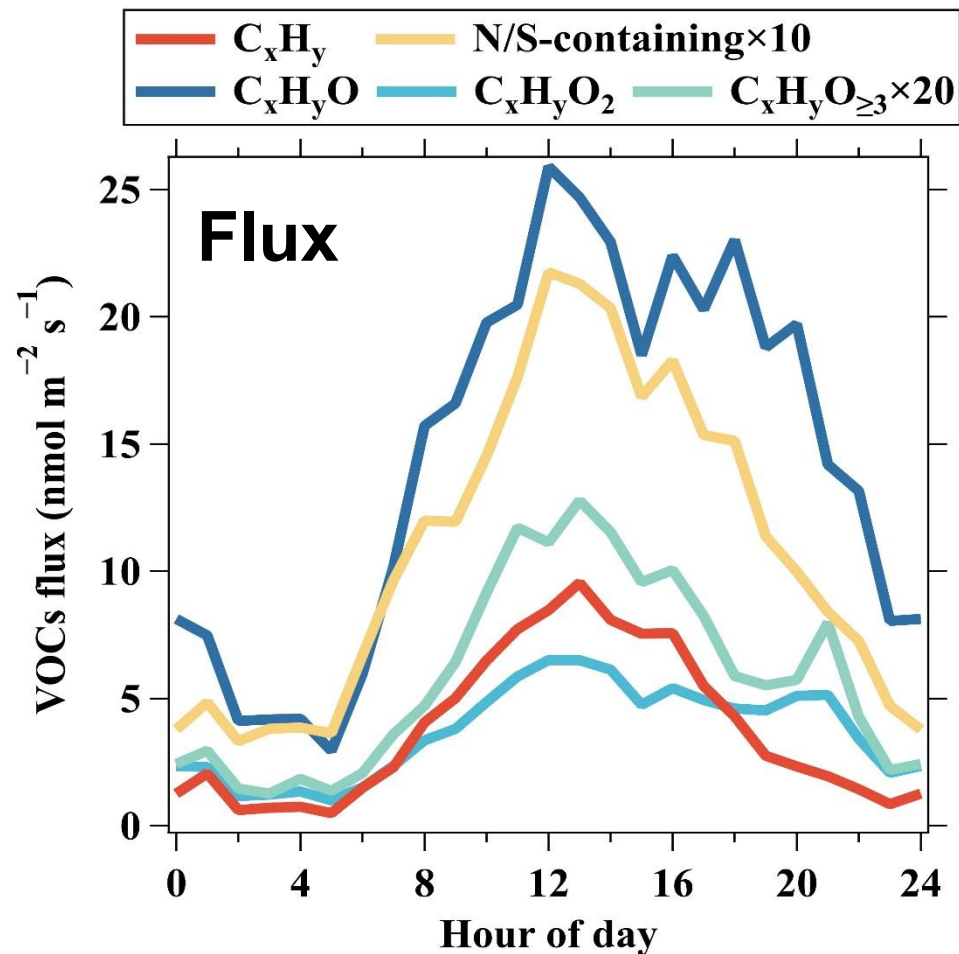
Vertical gradient indicates NO_x-dependence of oxidation capacity

LT 11:00-16:00



- The tuning points of oxidation capacity decrease with height.
- Significant fraction of time for chemistry is in the low-NO_x regime for urban Beijing

VOCs fluxes and concentrations: different diurnal variations



VOCs fluxes were higher in the day and lower at night, decoupling with boundary layer

VOCs fluxes and concentrations: different compositions

VOCs fluxes (fresh emission)

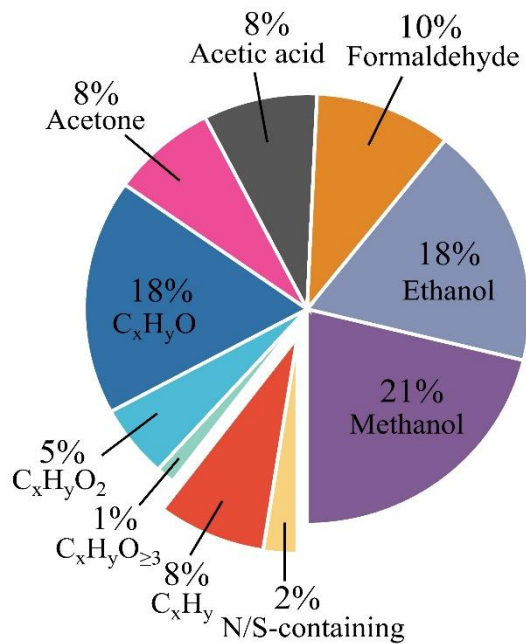
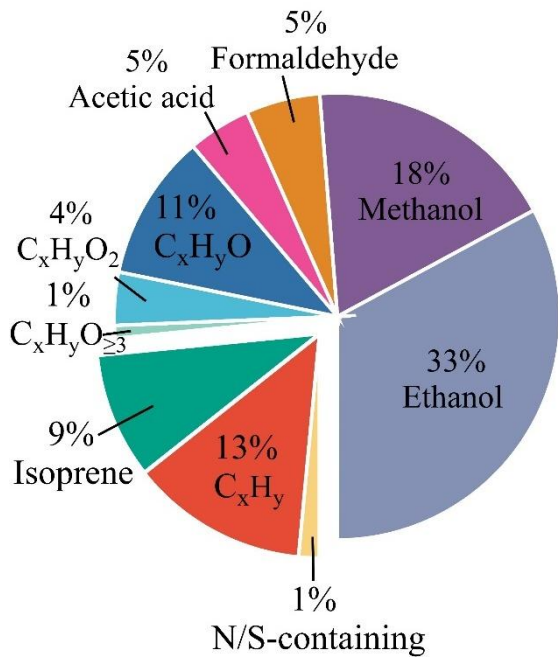


VOCs concentrations (aged air)

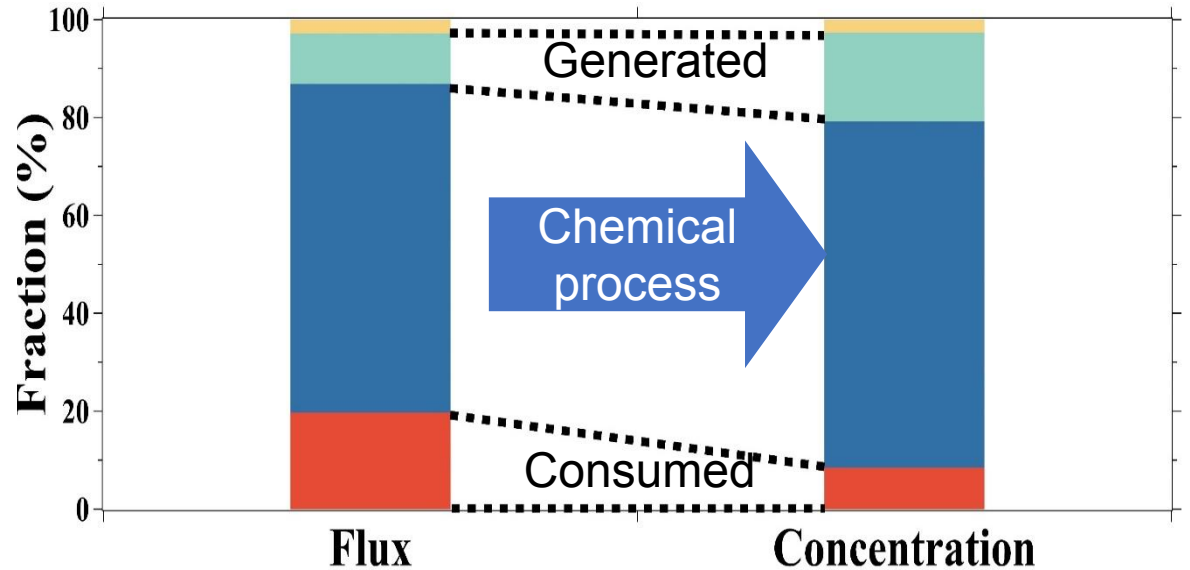
Flux

Concentration

Evolution from fluxes to concentrations



N/S-species $C_xH_yO_{\geq 3}$ $C_xH_yO_2$ C_xH_yO C_xH_y



OVOCs dominated VOCs fluxes (77%)

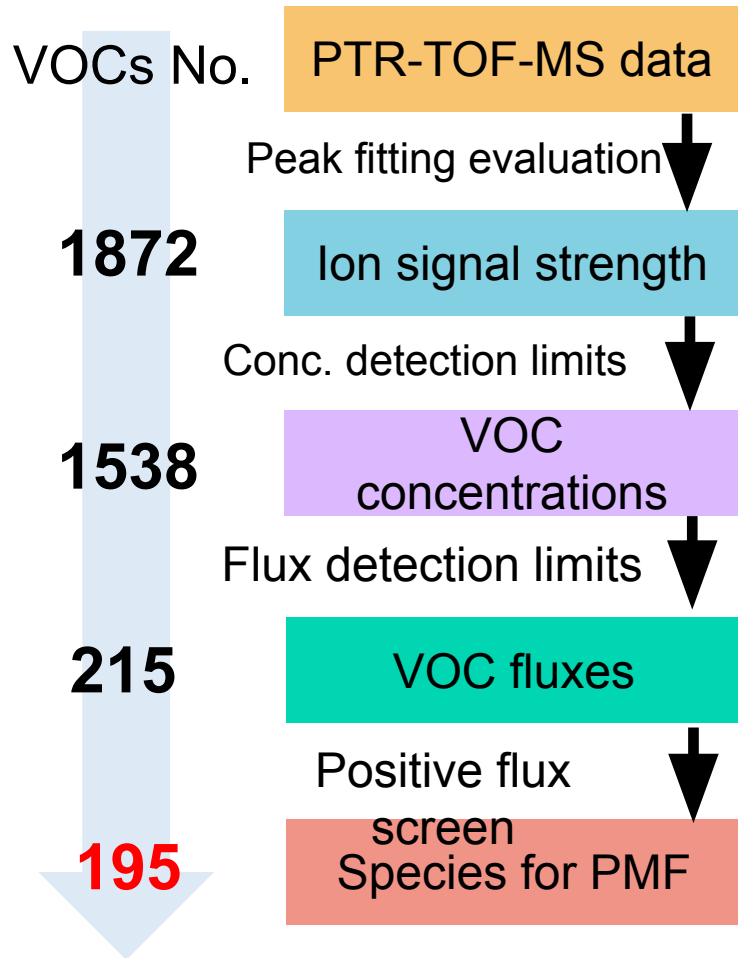
Hydrocarbons ↓

OVOCs ↑

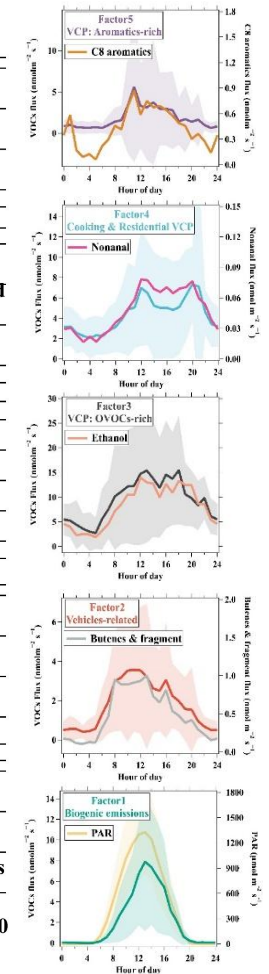
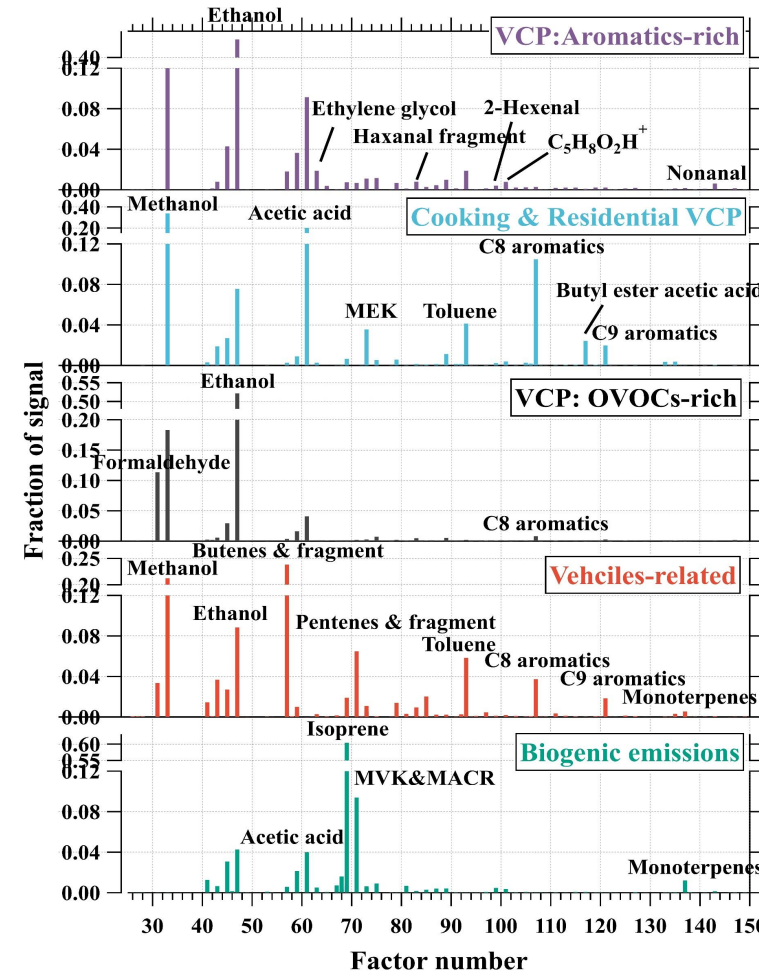
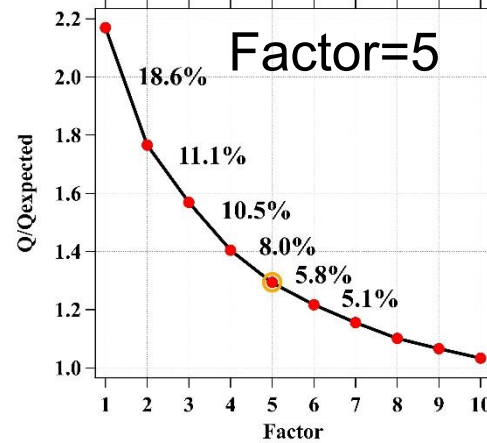
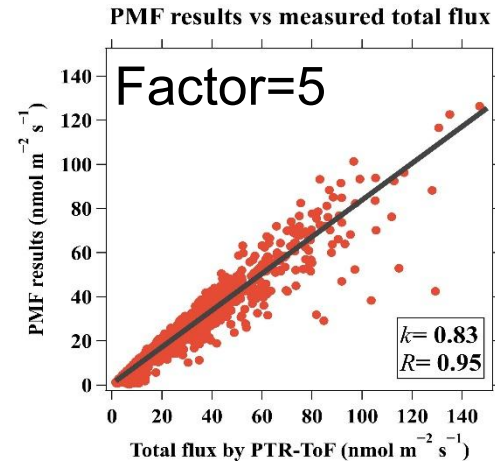
The composition differences indicates chemical processes of VOCs in the air

Source apportionment of VOCs based on flux data

VOCs species screen



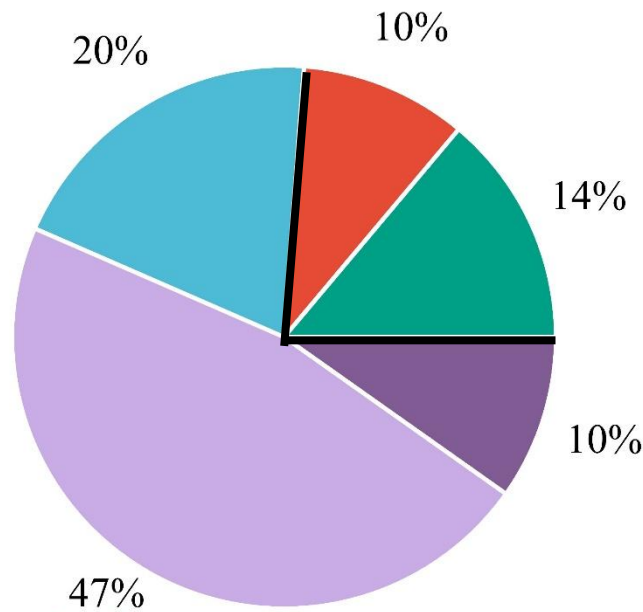
- ❑ Determine factor No. based on the expected residual
- ❑ Identify factors according to tracer and spectrum



Urban VOCs source structure has changed quietly

❑ Flux-based PMF analysis revealed current VOCs source structure

PMF results
of VOCs fluxes

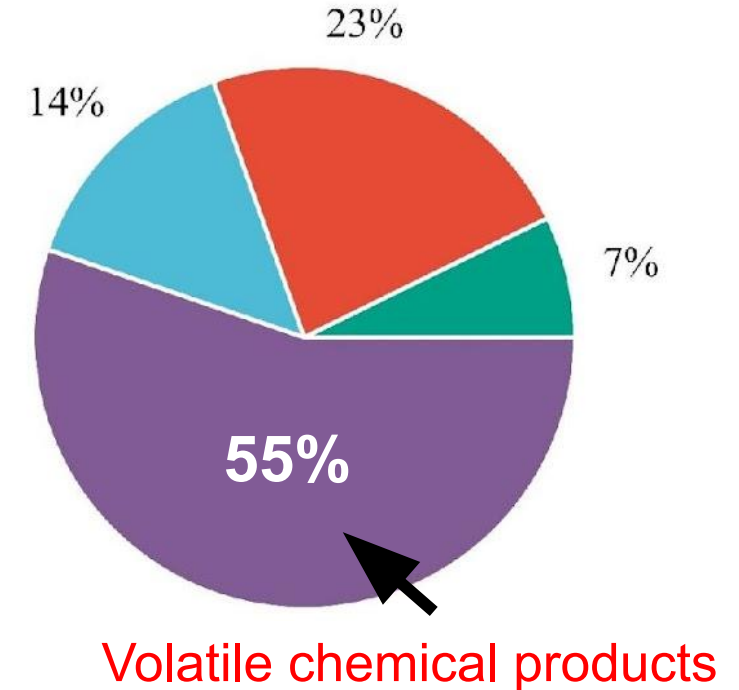


Integration of similar
source profiles

Fill out the unmeasured
key VOCs species

Vehicles-related
Biogenic emissions
Cooking & Residential VCP
VCP: OVOCs-rich
VCP: Aromatics-rich

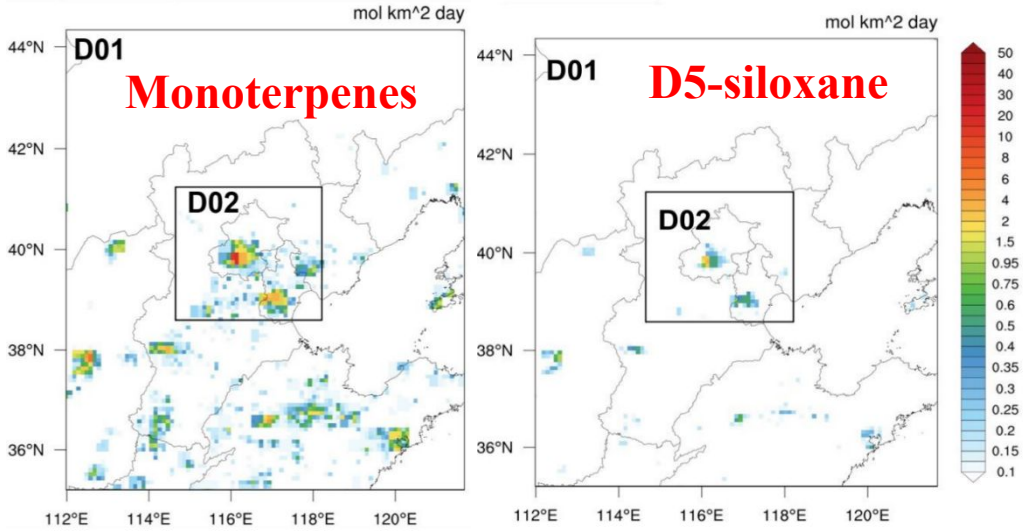
Source contribution
after integration



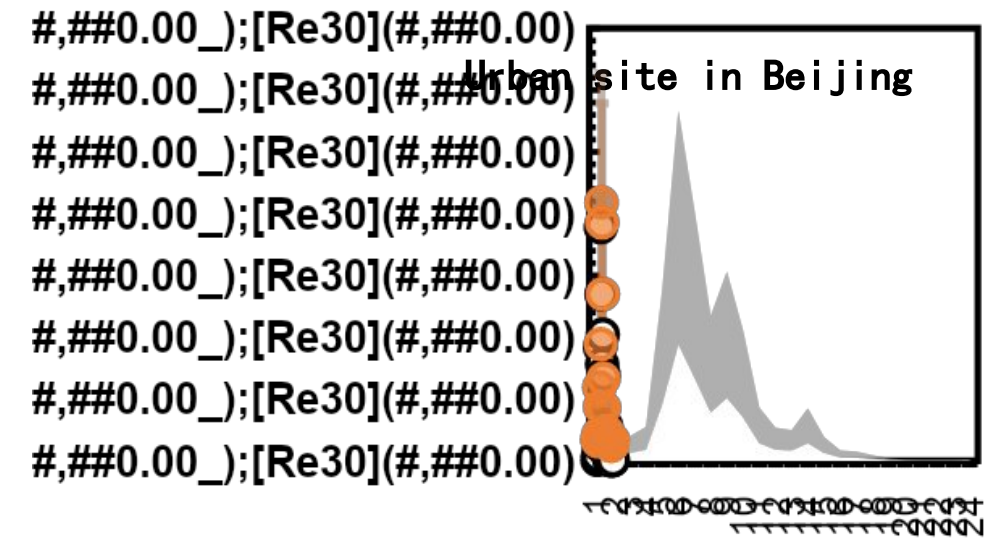
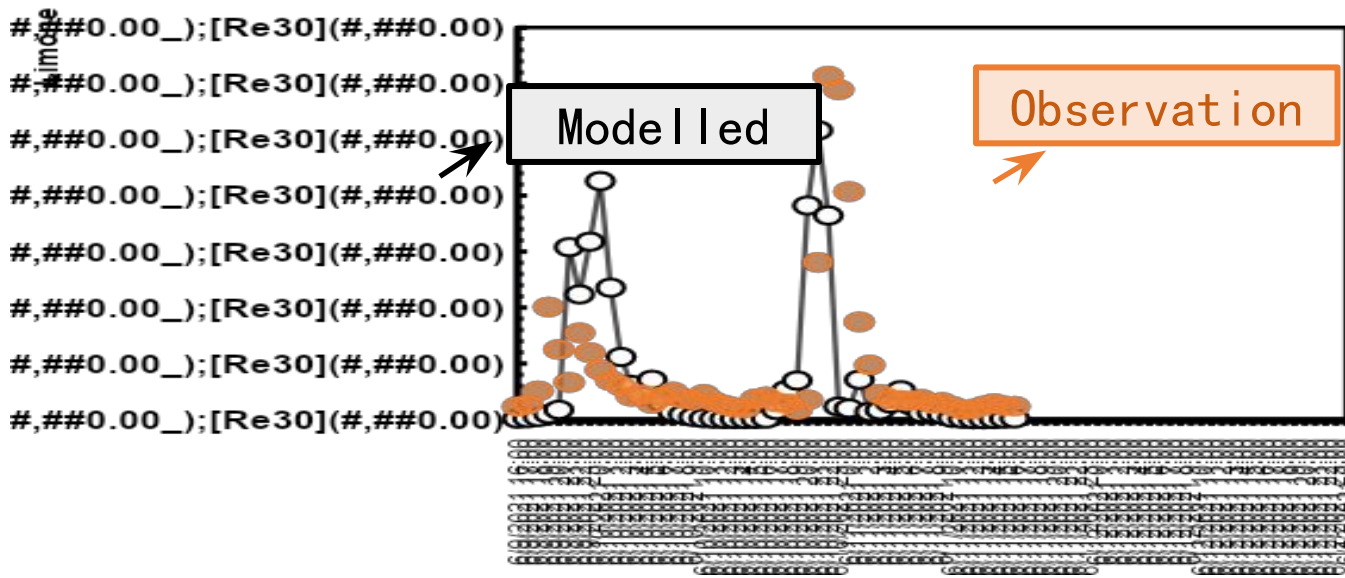
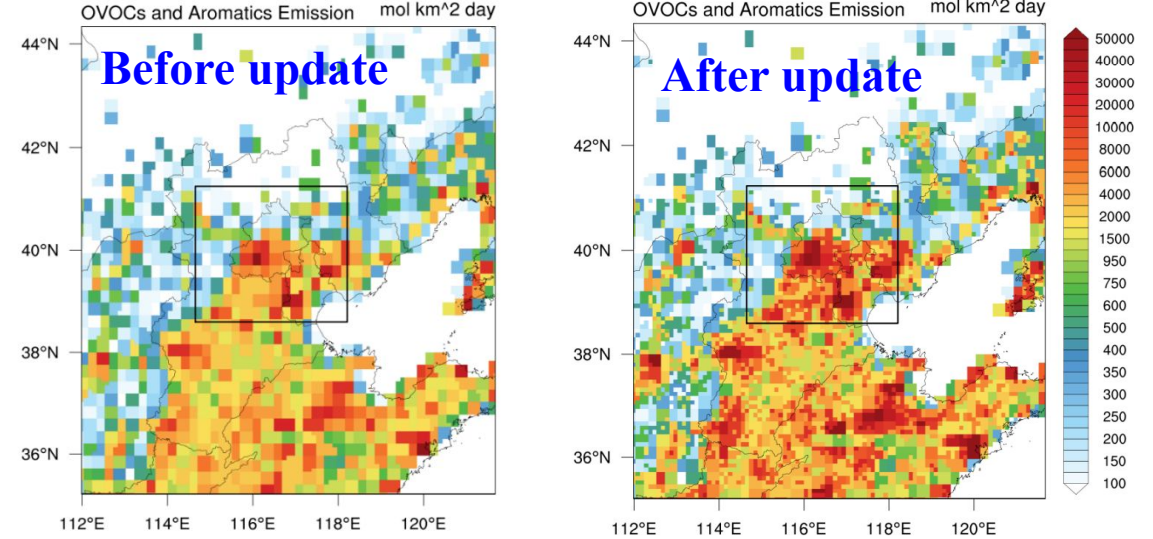
Volatile chemical products (VCPs) dominate VOCs emission in urban Beijing

Validation of key VOCs concentration in the model

Add new VOCs species and their mechanisms

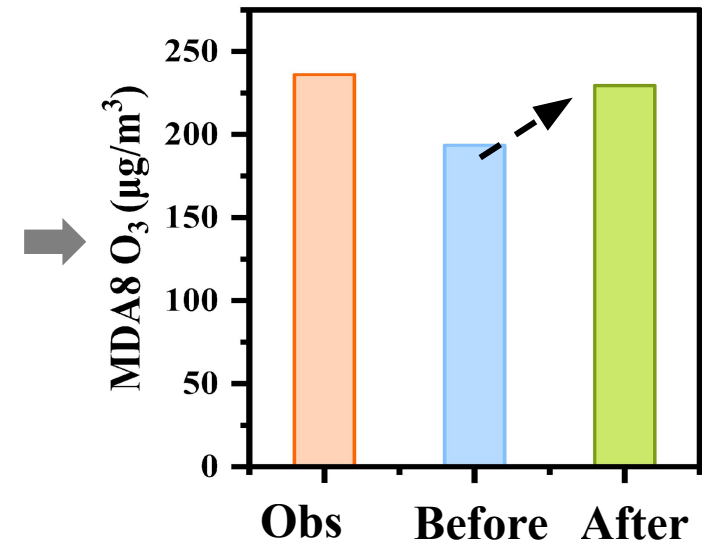
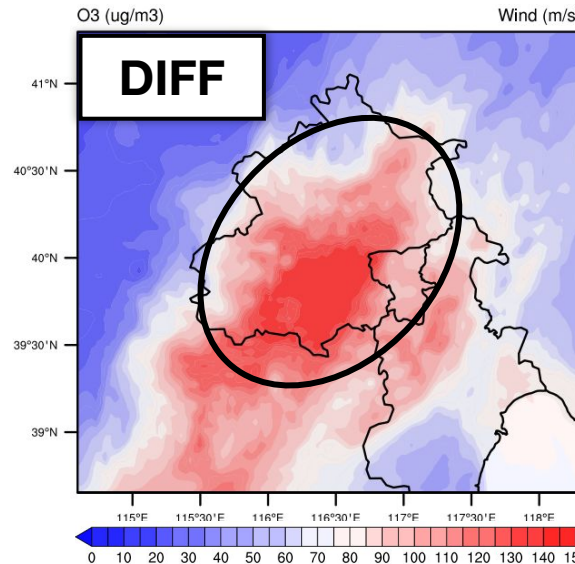
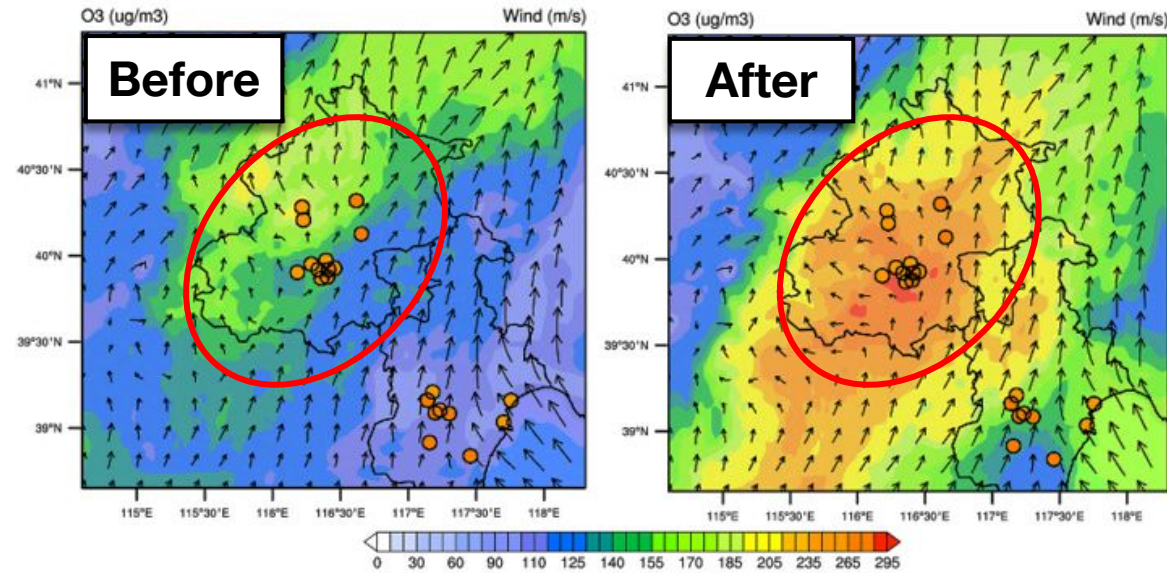


Update VOCs emission inventory



Inventory update improved O₃ simulation performance

- Update anthropogenic emission inventory in the regional air quality model



Summary

- **Reactive species are consumed rapidly with the increase of height**
- **OVOCs play more important roles in sustaining atmospheric oxidation capacity aloft**
- **Source analysis of VOCs based on flux data provides new insights into VOCs emissions**
- **Regional air quality simulation can be improved with measured VOC flux information**



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Thank you for your time !

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