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# Glyoxal tropospheric vertical column retrievals from S5p/TROPOMI observations

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Glyoxal retrievals from TROPOM

#### Sources:

- Oxidation of other NMVOCs (from natural or human emissions)
- Direct emissions (combustion processes)

 $\rightarrow$  Information on NMVOC emissions and SOA budget.





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### Inter-satellite consistency



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- Glyoxal algorithm applied to different sensors with consistent DOAS settings:
  - Scientific product TROPOMI [ESA innovation project] (2018-present)
  - Scientific product OMI (2005-2018)
  - GOME2A/B operational records [AC-SAF] (2007-2017/2013-2020)
- TROPOMI has better S/N ratio, spatial resolution and provides huge amount of obs.
- $\rightarrow$  Much more details in the retrieved glyoxal fields.

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### Inter-satellite consistency



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GLYOX41



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## Product validation



- Consistent TROPOMI and MAX-DOAS seasonal cycles. Indication for a negative bias during wintertime at mid/high latitude (e.g. Bremen).
- Large biases in Phimai and Pantnagar not fully understood. Related to different MAX-DOAS retrieval strategies?



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### Tracking VOC emissions from fires 🔝



- Climate change leads to more frequent and more intense wild fires  $\rightarrow$  huge impact on ecosystems and air quality.
- Not only a local issue: enhanced CHOCHO and HCHO signals are sometimes observed at long distances from fire sources (Alvarado et al., ACP, 2020).



TROPOMI observations - 12-17 July 2022

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CHOCHO SCD (molec./cm<sup>2</sup>) 4e+15

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5e+14

## Spatial distribution of glyoxal and formaldehyde

- Direct emissions from fires larger for CHOCHO than for HCHO
- → Clear CHOCHO hot spots near the fire sources.
- → The CHOCHO/HCHO ratio (Rgf) typically has maximum values near the fires and decreases downwind.

Note: Differences of sensitivity between Visible and UV spectral ranges are accounted for by computing Rgf as:

#### Australian wildfires – 05/12/2019



$$R_{gf} = \frac{SCD_{CHOCHO}}{SCD_{HCHO}} \times \frac{SCD_{NO2}(UV)}{SCD_{NO2}(Visible)}$$





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### Impact of PyroCb events

- Record-breaking number of pyrocumulonimbus (PCb) formed during the 2019/2020 Australian "Black summer".
- Such clouds form above intense heat source such as fires. Because of the strong involved convective processes, humid air condenses at high altitudes on the large amounts of injected particles.
- Occurring more and more frequently, they become a significant source of particles in the UTLS.



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### Glyoxal depletion near strong fire sources

#### Australian wildfires – 04/01/2020





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### Glyoxal depletion near strong fire sources

#### California wildfires – 05/09/2020



VIIRS True color









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### Glyoxal depletion near strong fire sources

- July 2018 December 2021; global scale.
- Filters applied to keep TROPOMI data only near fire sources (glyoxal signal expected to be high).
- CHOCHO SCD decreases when effective scene altitude is high, as opposed to HCHO. Rgf follows the same pattern.

#### Glyoxal removal is very fast

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- → OH oxidation, photolysis or conversion to SOA 10 processes are too slow to explain the sudden 3 8 reductions. 6
- → Glyoxal is likely captured in cloud droplets (high solubility) and in ice particles (high retention efficiency).



Global - July 2018-December 2021

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## Summary and outlook

• The TROPOMI glyoxal product offers an additional detailed view on VOC emissions. In general, TROPOMI columns present similar variability as MAX-DOAS retrievals.

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- Wild fires are important sources of pollutants, including glyoxal. In addition to tracking the transport of fire plumes, the TROPOMI high resolution allows identifying and studying smaller scale effects.
- The product is getting pre-operational with the transfer of the algorithm to the ESA PAL platform.
- Glyoxal is one of the ECV considered by the new Precursor\_cci+ project:
  - → Further homogenization and extension of the individual satellite data sets.
  - $\rightarrow$  Development and production of merged L3 records.





Extra slides



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#### Australian wildfires – 21/12/2019







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#### Australian wildfires – 4/01/2020

04/01/2020

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