



# Validation and Early Applications of the Tropospheric Emission: Monitoring of Pollution

Nitrogen dioxide and Formaldehyde using Pandora and TropOMI

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Coauthors:

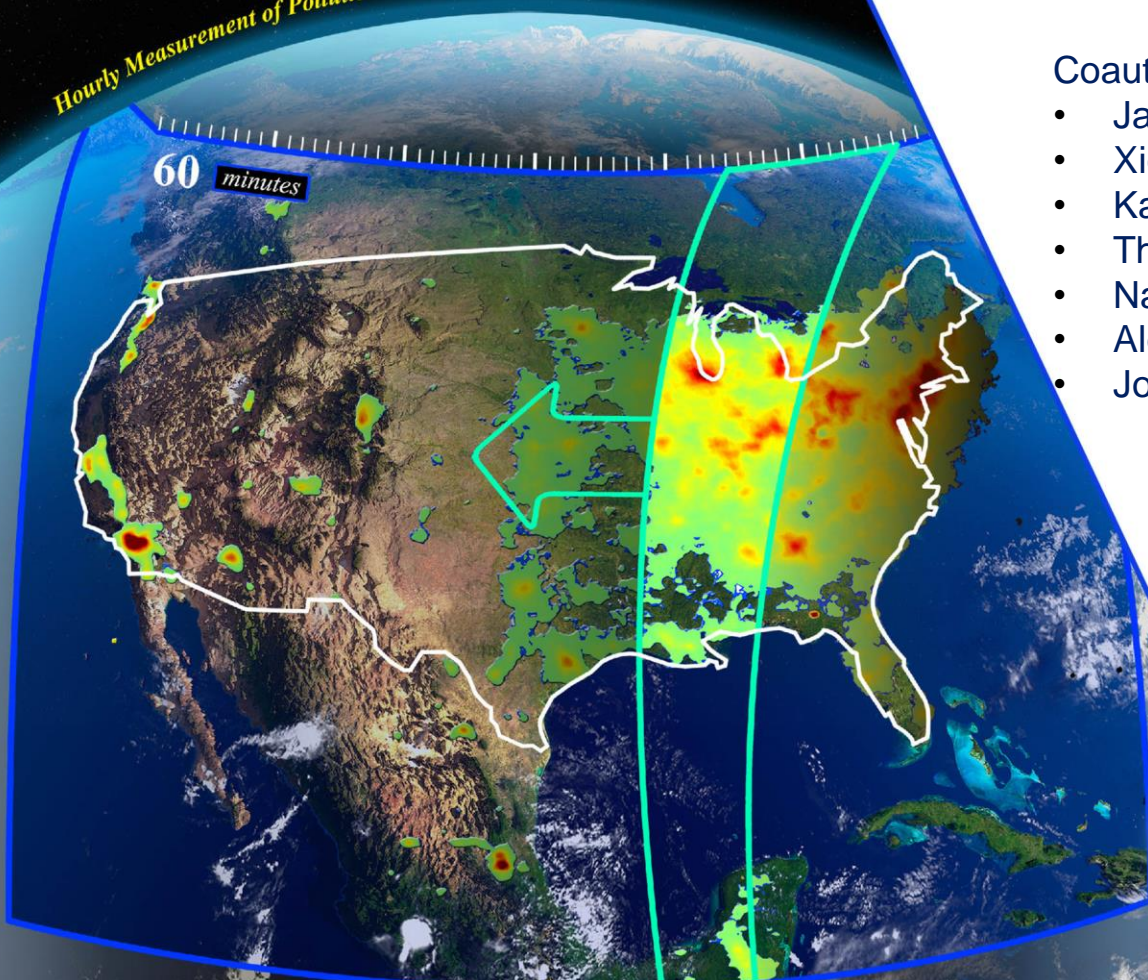
- James Szykman, Luke Valin, and Heather Simon, US EPA
- Xiong Liu, Kelly Chance, Gonzalo Gonzalez Abad, Caroline Nowlan, SAO TEAM
- Katherine Travis and Prajjwal Rawat, NASA LaRC
- Thomas Hanisco, NASA GSFC
- Nader Abuhassan, SciGlob
- Alexander Cede, LuftBlick
- Joshua Kumm and Zhen Qu, North Carolina State University

Thanks to the rest of the TEMPO Validation Team!

**Disclaimer:** *The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.*

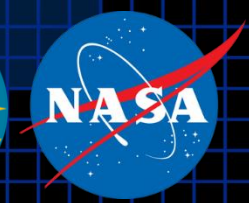
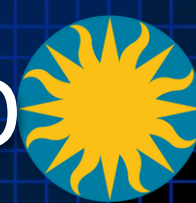
Hourly Measurement of Pollution

60 minutes





# Validation Efforts Help Advance TEMPO



## TROPOSPHERIC EMISSIONS:

### MONITORING OF POLLUTION (TEMPO) PROJECT

#### Validation and Quality Assessment of the TEMPO Level-2 Trace Gas Products

[December XX|2024]

Prepared by the TEMPO Validation Team and TEMPO Ad-hoc Validation Working Group

Plan: available – <https://tempo.si.edu> under documents

Report: Draft *under review*

#### ➤ **Validation TEAM enhanced TEMPO mission**

- 65+ contributors led by Jim Szykman (EPA) and Brad Pierce (UW-SEC) in collaboration with Science Team, NASA, NOAA, and SAO.
- Expanded the Pandora Global Network of Pandoras
- Feedback about version 1 priori profile and unrealistic AMF spatial variation helped improve versions 2 and 3
- Validation report submitted to NASA
- including results shown today...

#### ➤ ***EPA's Analysis System now V3***

- V3 Nitrogen dioxide correlates well with Pandora and TropOMI.
- V3 Formaldehyde correlates well with Pandora ...

#### ➤ ***Example Applications of TEMPO with CMAQ***

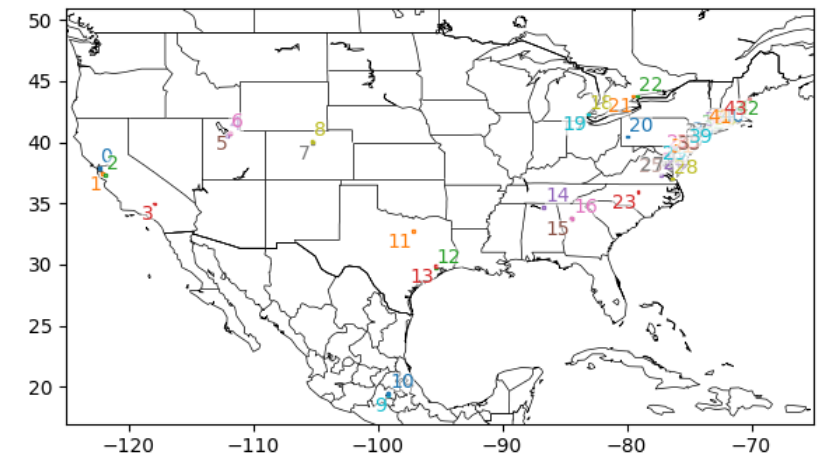
- Model evaluation and emissions inference.
- Surface concentration experiments
- *Very preliminary and expanding!*

#### ➤ ***Applications presume validation!***

## ➤ Correlative measurements : TropOMI and Pandora Spectrometers

- Pandora stations: best ground-based validation dataset available for total vertical columns.
- TropOMI: state-of-the-art satellite retrievals at similar spatial resolution.

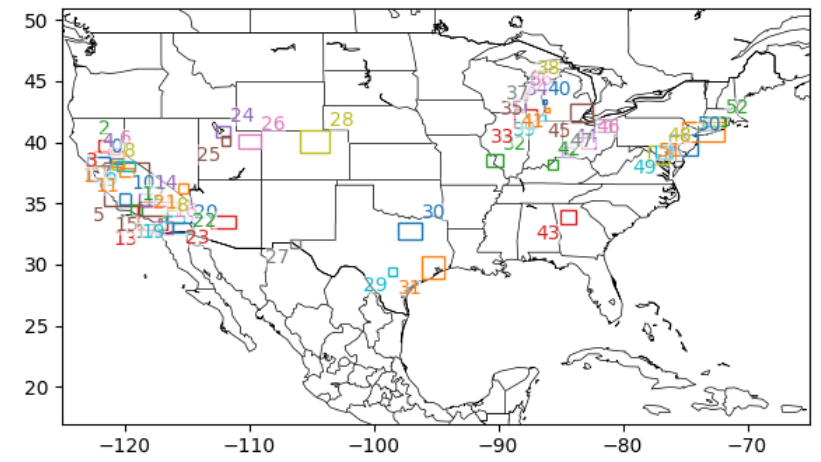
## ➤ 96 Analysis Regions: Pandonia Global Network and Ozone Nonattainment Areas.



- |                        |                         |                      |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 0: RichmondCA          | 15: AtlantaGA           | 30: BristolPA        |
| 1: MountainViewCA      | 16: Atl-S_DeKalb        | 31: NewBrunswickNJ   |
| 2: SanJoseCA           | 17: DearbornMI          | 32: BayonneNJ        |
| 3: EdwardsCA           | 18: SWDetroitMI         | 33: ManhattanNY-CCNY |
| 4: SouthJordanUT       | 19: Windsor-West        | 34: BronxNY          |
| 5: SLC-Hawthorne       | 20: PittsburghPA        | 35: QueensNY         |
| 6: SLC-UT              | 21: Downsview           | 36: WestportCT       |
| 7: BoulderCO           | 22: Toronto-Scarborough | 37: CornwallCT       |
| 8: BoulderCO-NCAR      | 23: ChapelHillNC        | 38: OldFieldNY       |
| 9: MexicoCity-UNAM     | 24: CharlesCityVA       | 39: NewHavenCT       |
| 10: MexicoCity-Vallejo | 25: WashingtonDC        | 40: MadisonCT        |
| 11: ArlingtonTX        | 26: BeltsvilleMD        | 41: LondonderryNH    |
| 12: HoustonTX          | 27: GreenbeltMD         | 42: EastProvidenceRI |
| 13: AldineTX           | 28: HamptonVA-HU        | 43: CapeElizabethME  |
| 14: HuntsvilleAL       | 29: PhiladelphiaPA      |                      |

• 44 Pandora stations  
 • Most stations in the east

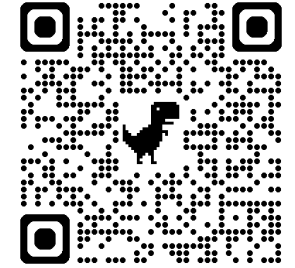
• 52 Nonattainment Areas  
 • Better spatial coverage  
 • Of special interest for emissions control



- |                   |                   |                   |                  |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 0: S.Franisco     | 14: East_Kern     | 28: Denver        | 42: Louisville   |
| 1: Sacramento     | 15: LA-Desert     | 29: S.Antonio     | 43: Atlanta      |
| 2: Tuscan_Buttes  | 16: S.Diego       | 30: Dallas        | 44: Cincinnati   |
| 3: Chico          | 17: Pechanga      | 31: Houston       | 45: Detroit      |
| 4: Sutter_Buttes  | 18: Morongo       | 32: St.Louis      | 46: Columbus     |
| 5: S.Joaquin      | 19: Coachella_Val | 33: Chicago       | 47: Cleveland    |
| 6: Nevada_Co      | 20: Imperial_Co   | 34: Milwaukee     | 48: Washington   |
| 7: Amador_Co      | 21: Las_Vegas     | 35: Sheboygan     | 49: Baltimore    |
| 8: Calaveras_Co   | 22: Yuma          | 36: Manitowoc_Co  | 50: Philadelphia |
| 9: Tuolumne_Co    | 23: Phoenix       | 37: Door_Co_Rev   | 51: New_York     |
| 10: S.Luis_Obispo | 24: Salt_Lake     | 38: Door_Co       | 52: Connecticut  |
| 11: Mariposa_Co   | 25: Provo         | 39: Benton_Harbor |                  |
| 12: Ventura_Co    | 26: Uinta_Basin   | 40: Muskegon      |                  |
| 13: LA-S_Coast    | 27: El_Paso       | 41: Allegan_Co    |                  |

## ➤ Get level 2 data for TEMPO, TropOMI, and Pandora

- Python bindings for EPA's Remote Sensing Information Gateway (pysig)
- Trainings available – see QR code



## ➤ Select time intersections

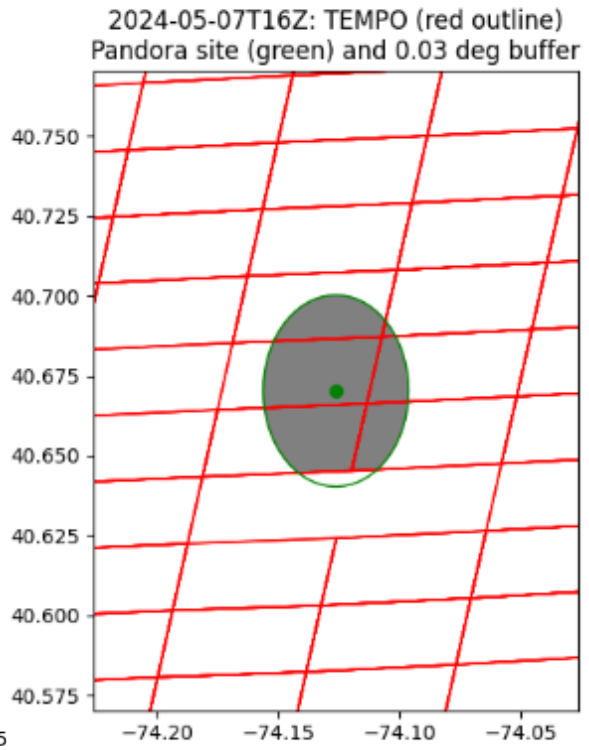
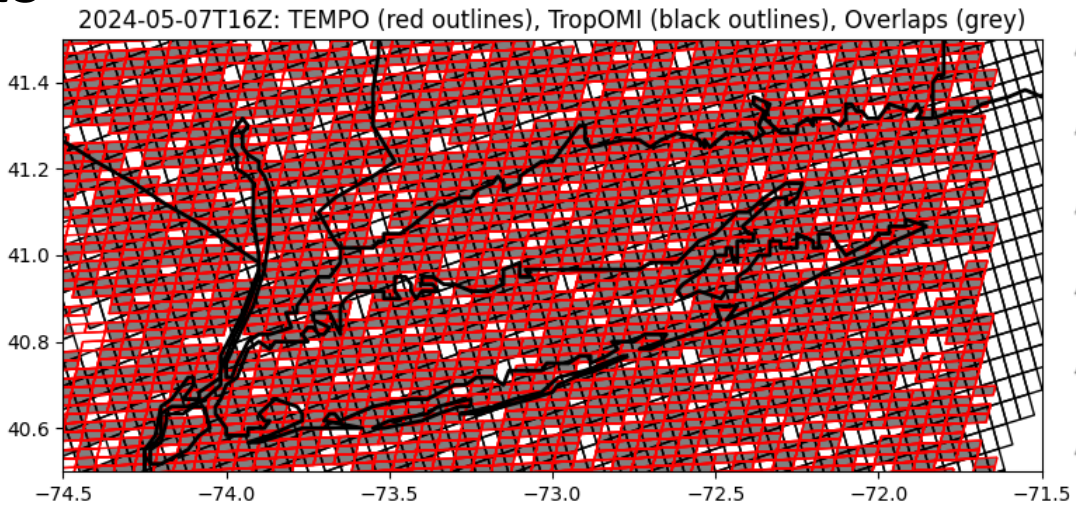
- TropOMI: same hour (e.g., 19:00:00Z to 19:59:59Z)
- Pandora: overpass within 15min of observation

## ➤ Select spatial intersections

- TropOMI: pixels overlap
- Pandora: overlap a buffer

## ➤ Pool intersections for statistical analyses

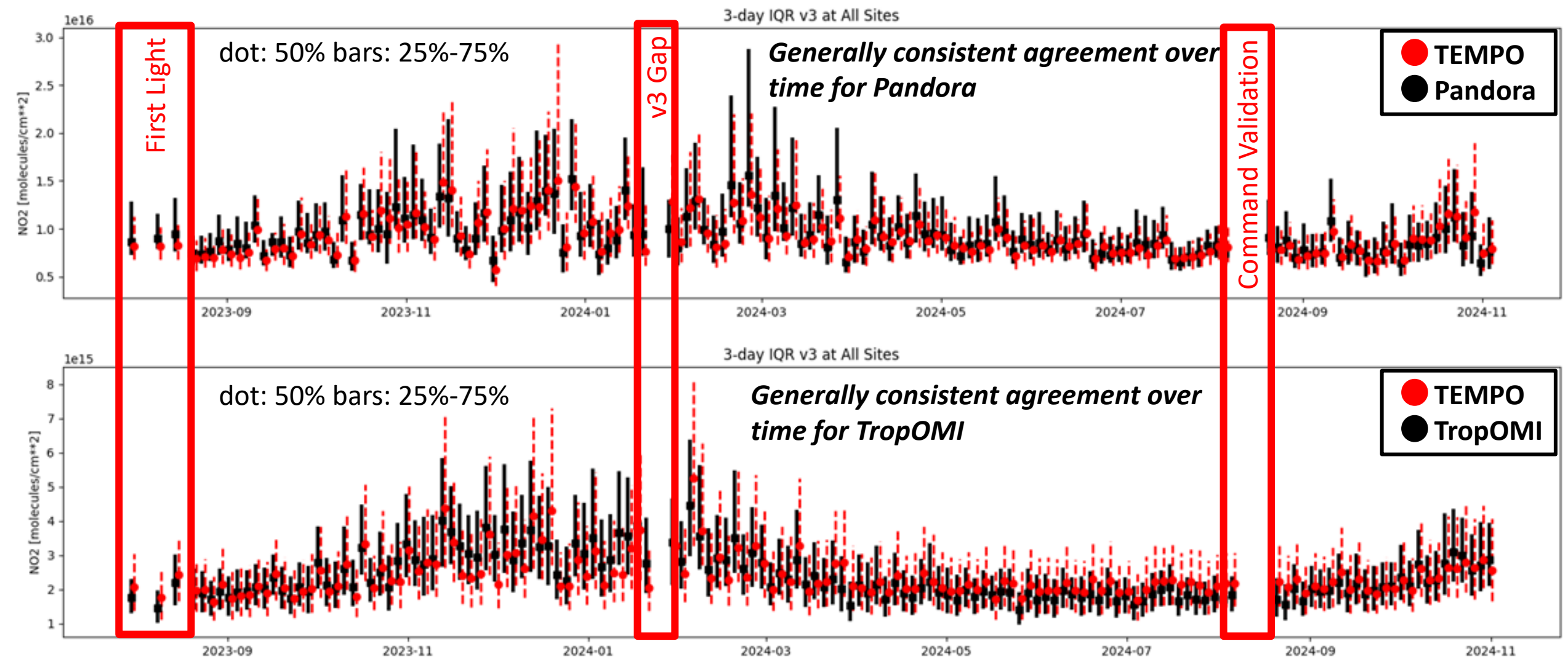
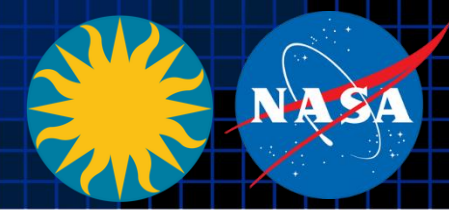
- Pixels near Pandora locations
- Pixels in Nonattainment areas





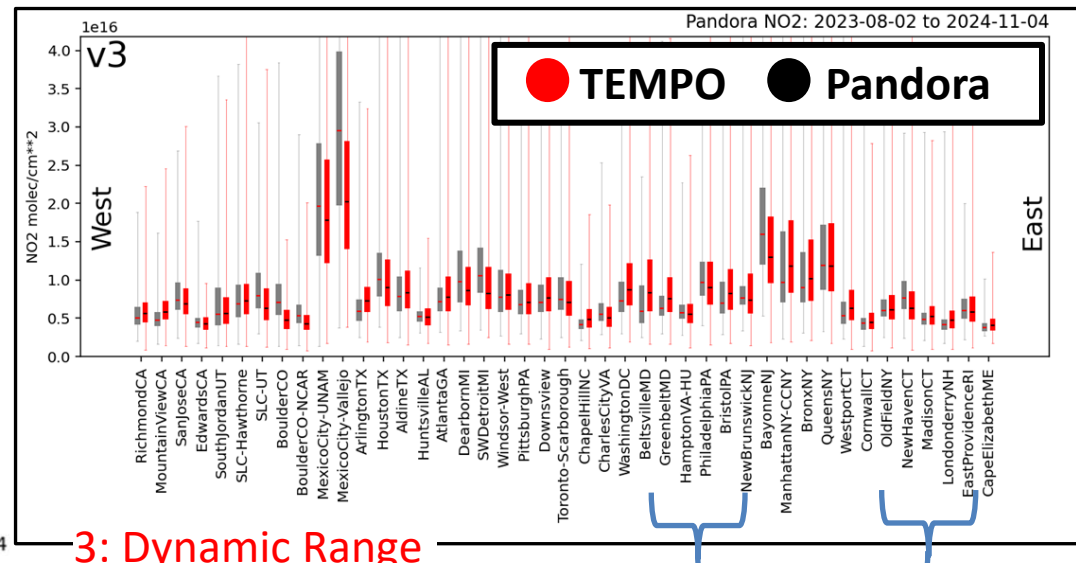
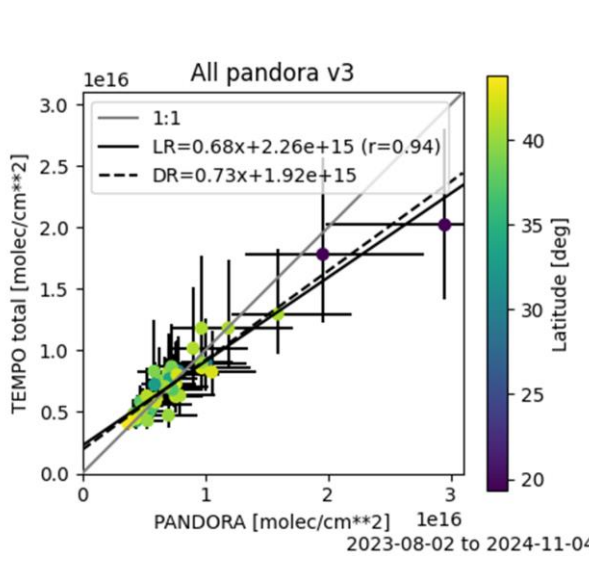
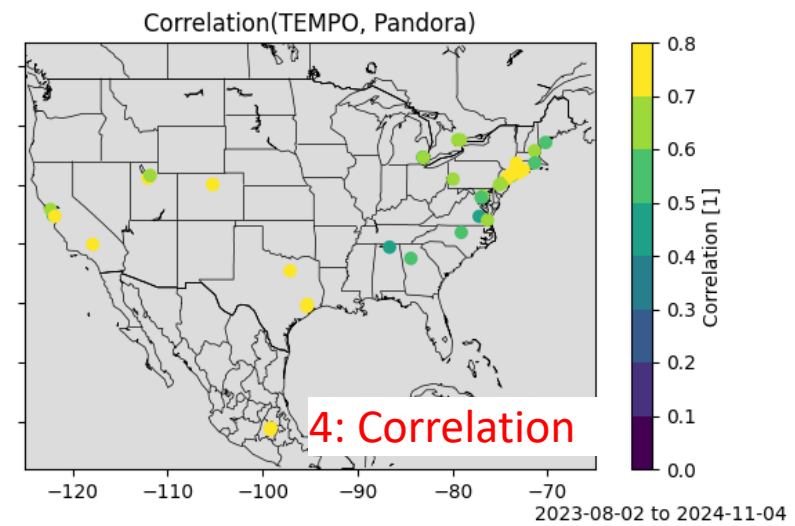
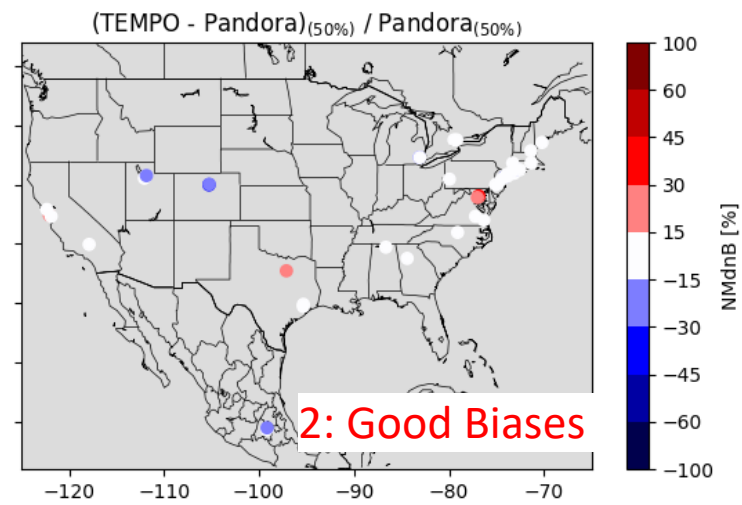
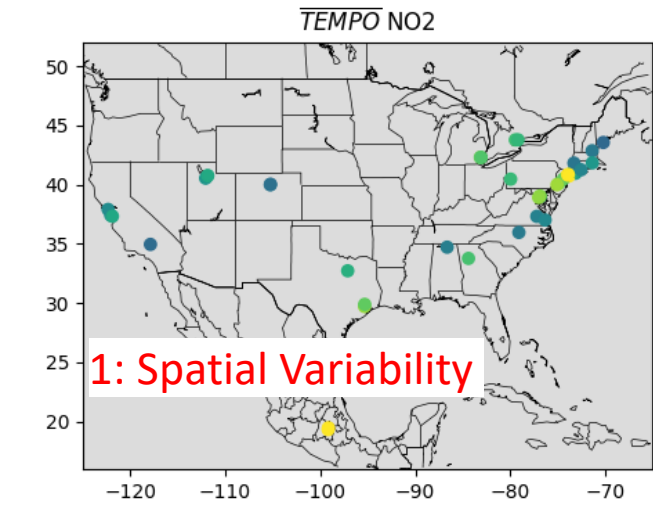
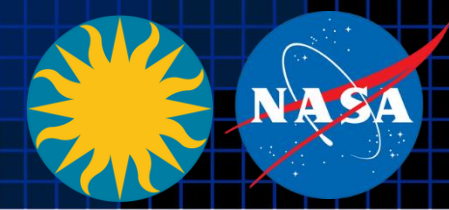
# NO2 Data Record Overview

## All Intersections Aug 2023 to Oct 2024





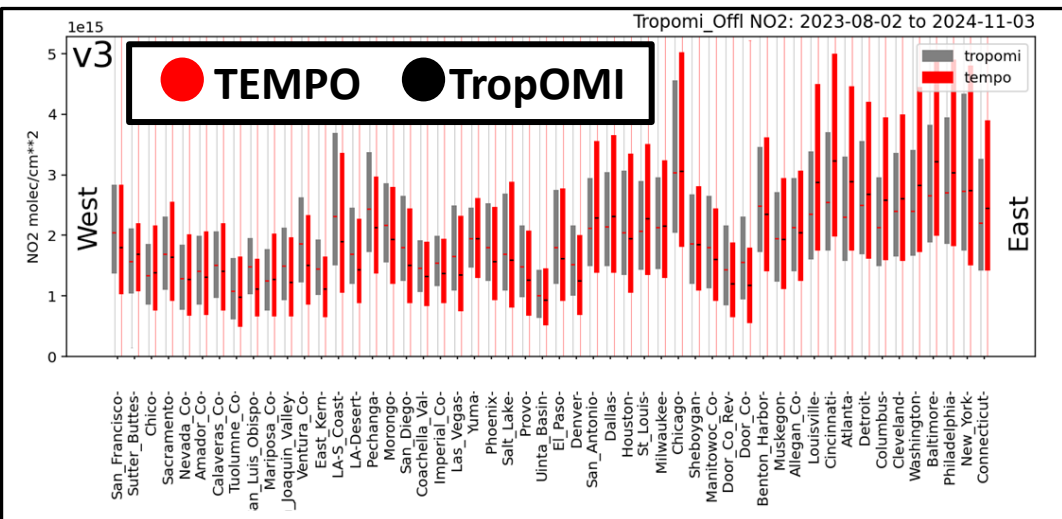
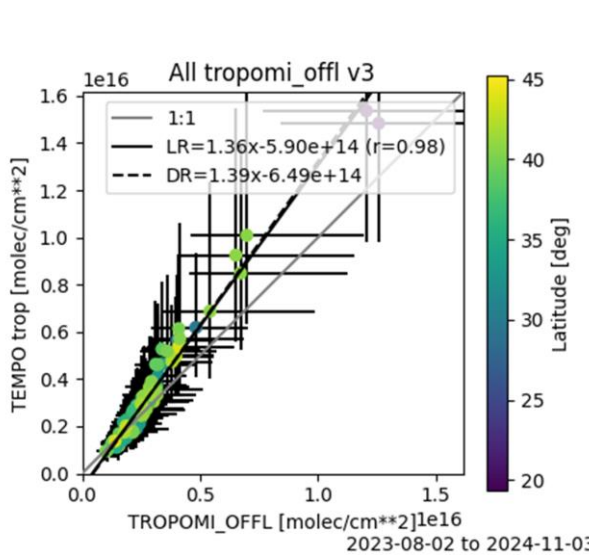
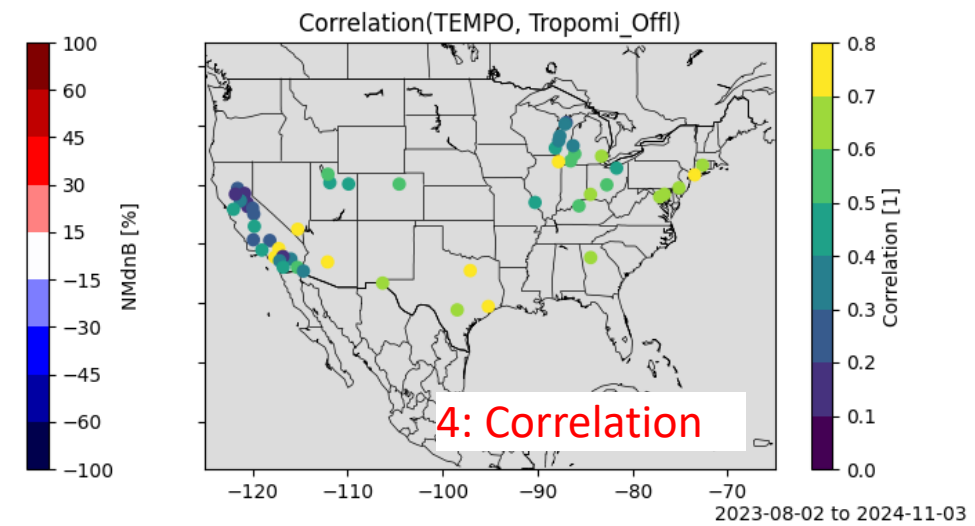
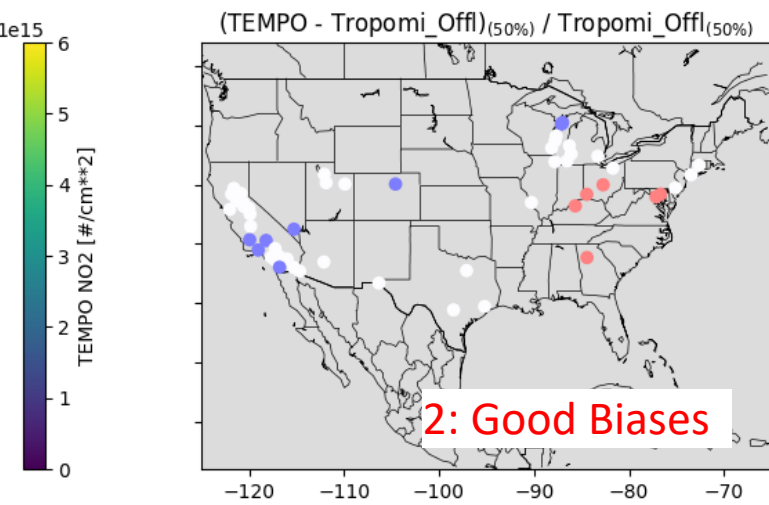
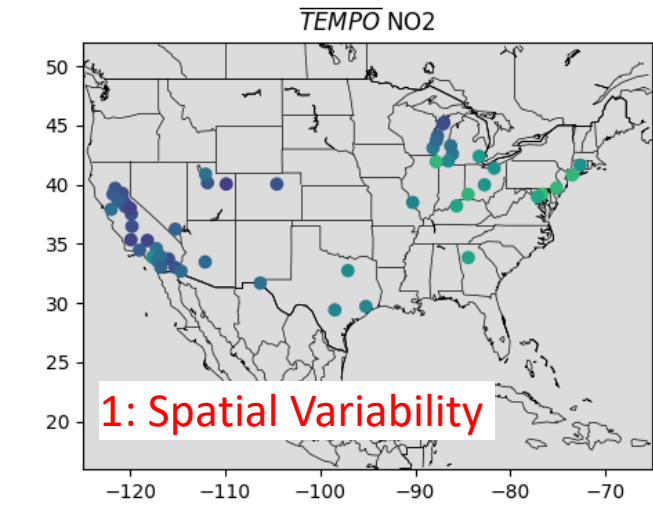
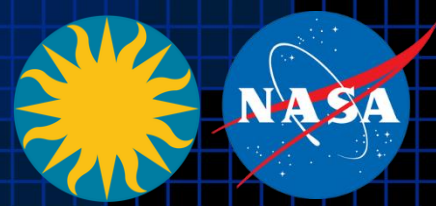
# TEMPO L2 NO<sub>2</sub> agrees well with Pandora



- Compared to Pandora direct sun measurements, TEMPO:
1. Reproduces spatial variability
  2. Low fractional biases by locations.
  3. Reproduces dynamic range by site
  4. Correlates well at most sites.
  5. Even reproduces relatively small intra-regional urban/rural gradients quite well.



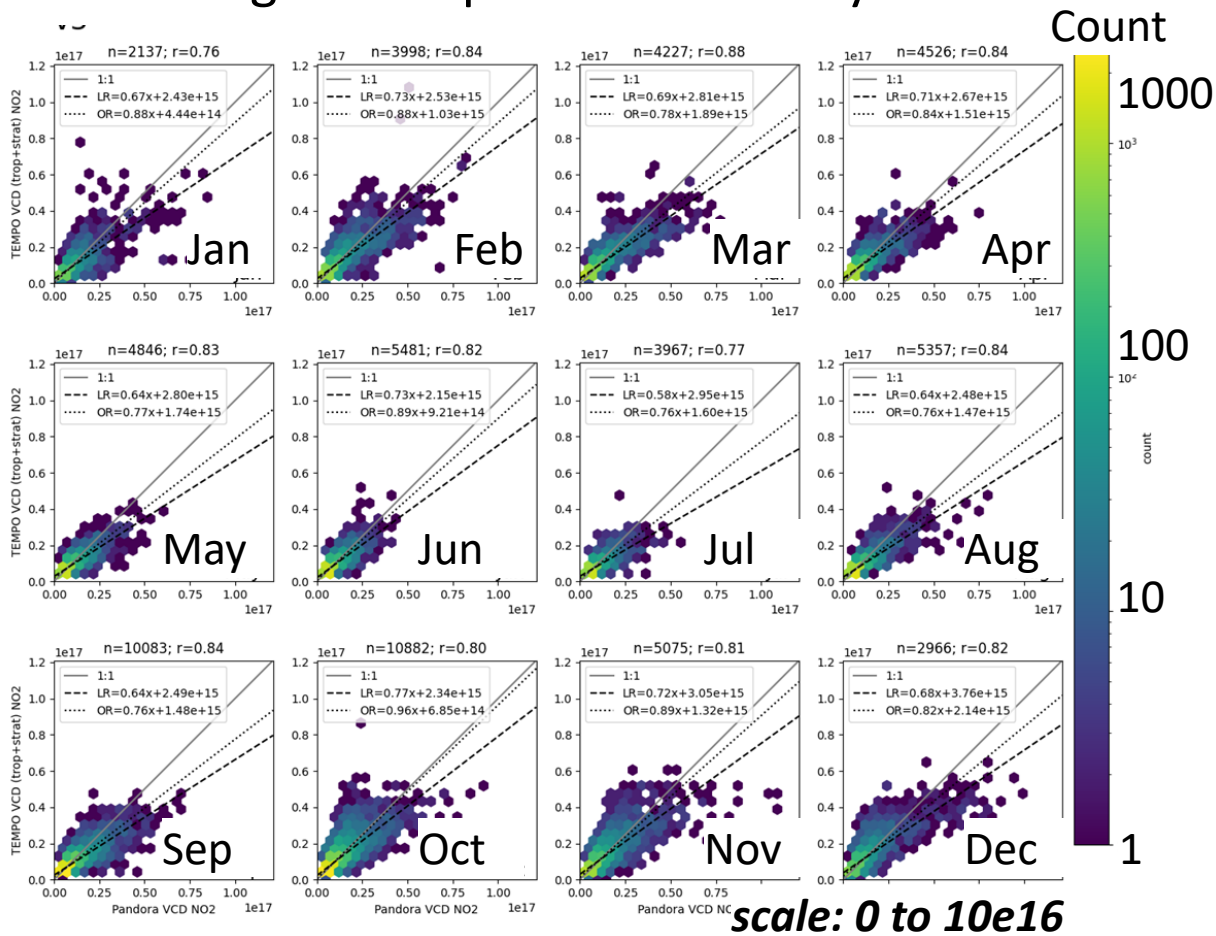
# TEMPO L2 NO<sub>2</sub> agrees well with TropOMI



- TropOMI correlation is useful because we don't have Pandora everywhere.
- Here we explore comparisons at Ozone Nonattainment Areas
- Similar story to Pandora/TEMPO, captures spatial variability, dynamic range with a mix of site-specific correlations.
- Higher slope than Pandora, but this is tropospheric column.

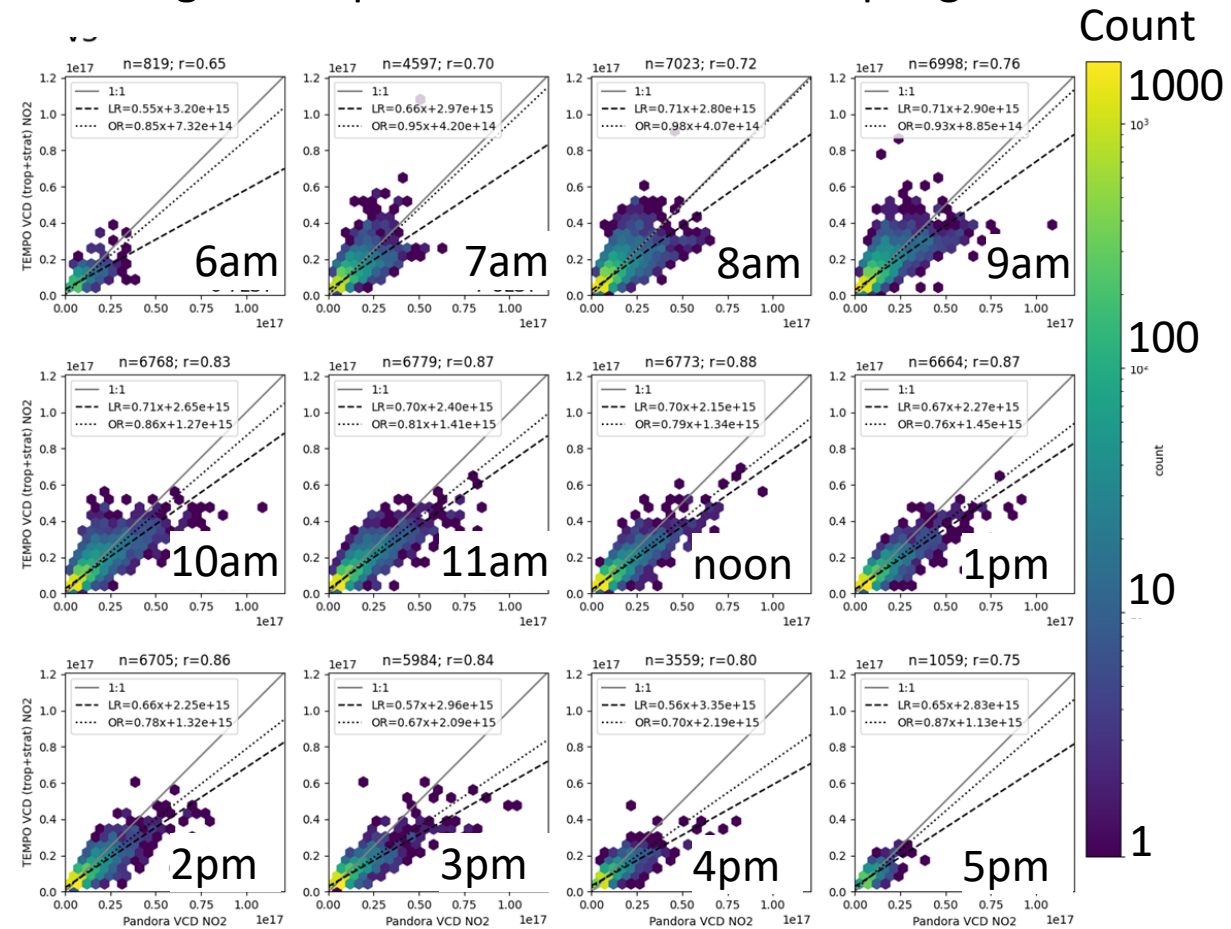
## Consistent monthly performance

- Dynamic range varies by month as expected
- Orthogonal slopes consistent by month



## Consistent diurnal performance

- Dynamic range varies by time of day as expected
- Orthogonal important due air mass sampling.

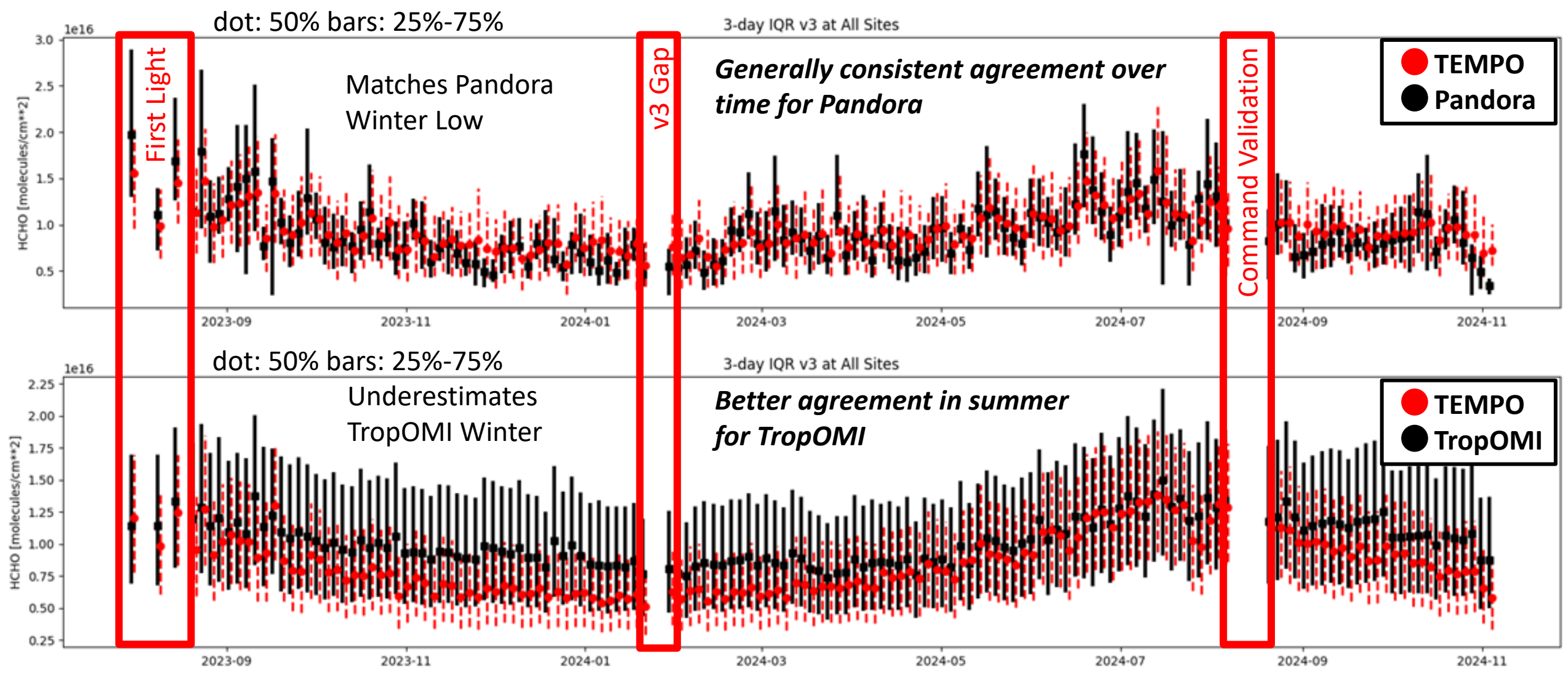
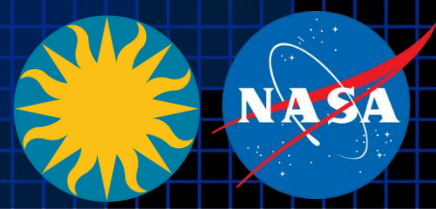






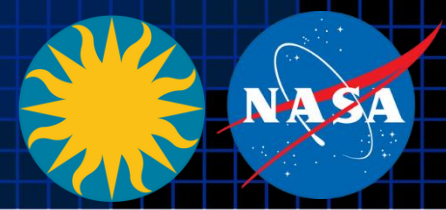
# HCHO Data Record Overview

## All Intersections Aug 2023 to Oct 2024

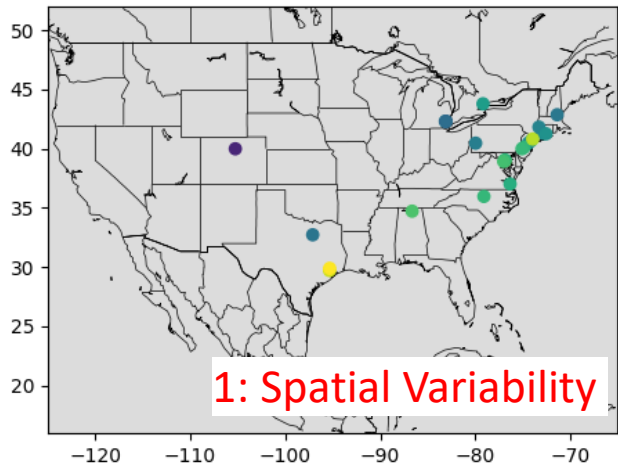




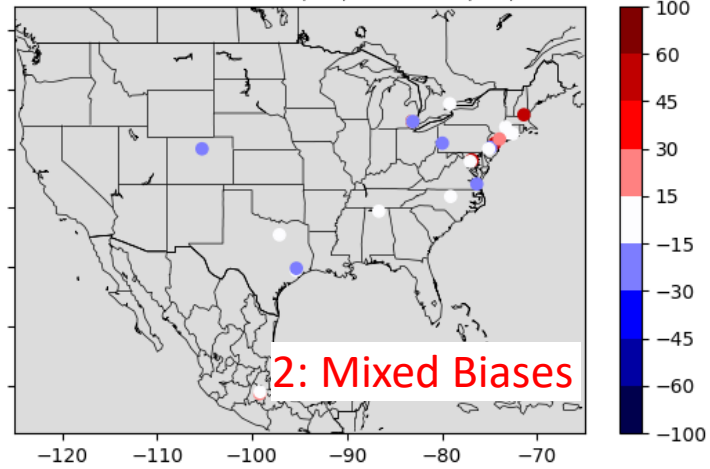
# TEMPO L2 HCHO agrees with Pandora



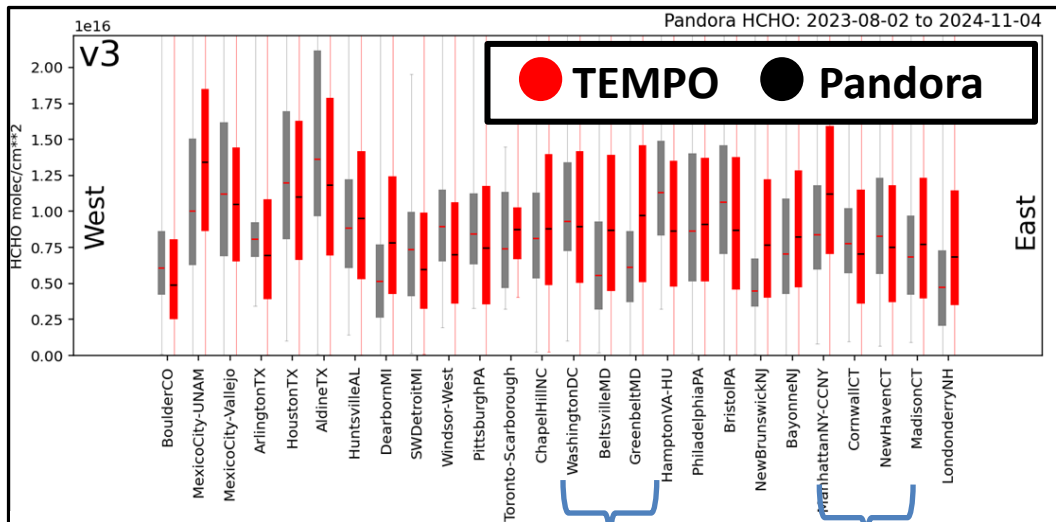
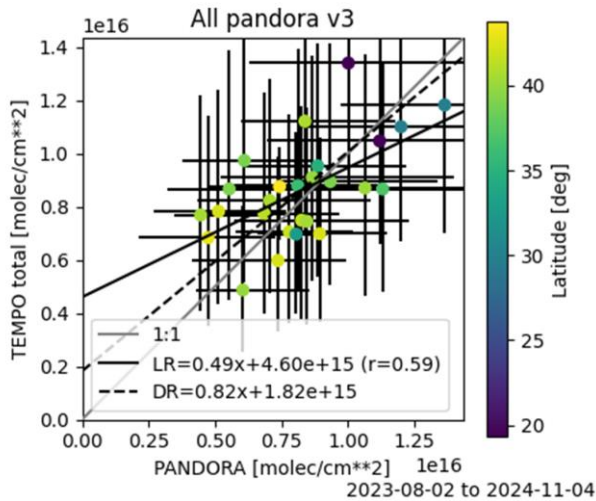
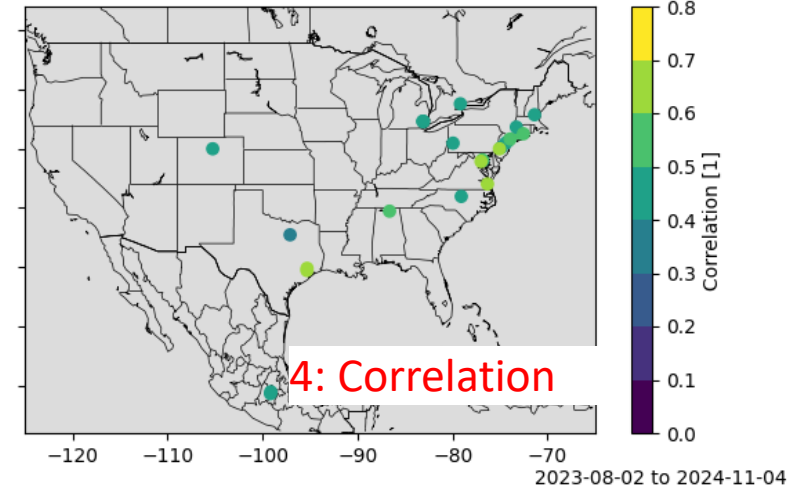
TEMPO HCHO



(TEMPO - Pandora)<sub>(50%)</sub> / Pandora<sub>(50%)</sub>



Correlation(TEMPO, Pandora)



Using direct sun with pixel averaging

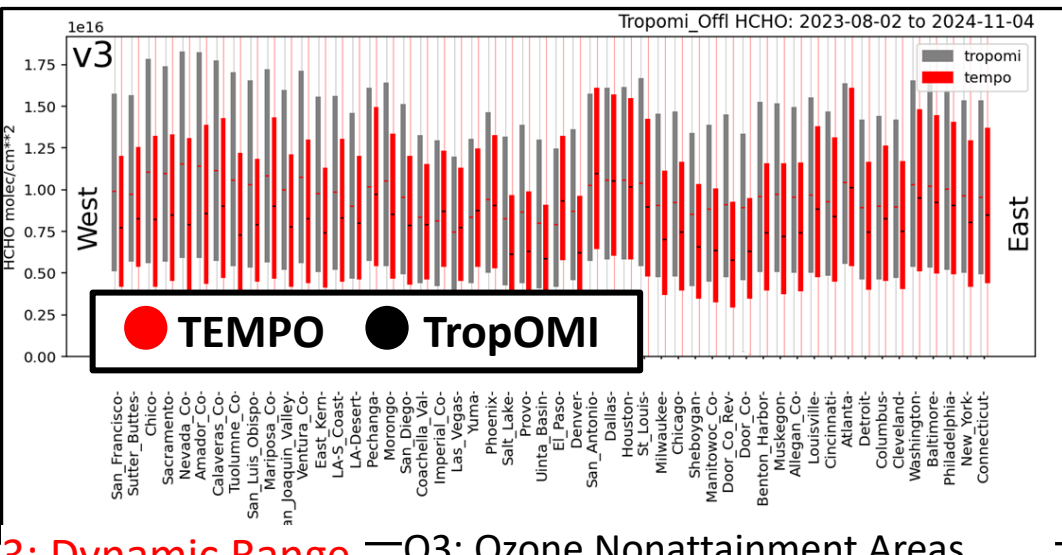
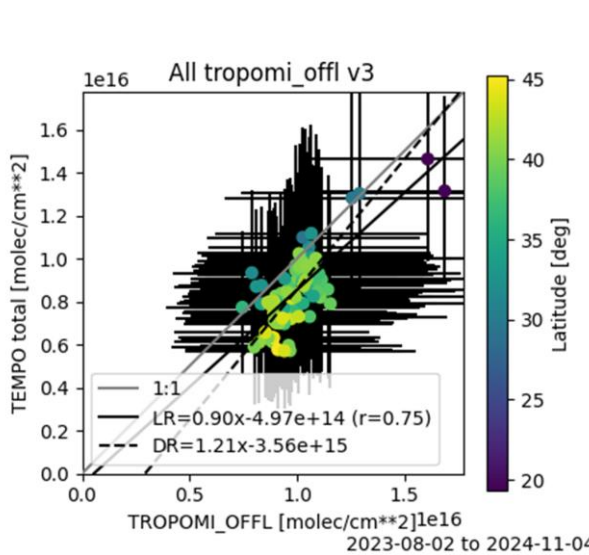
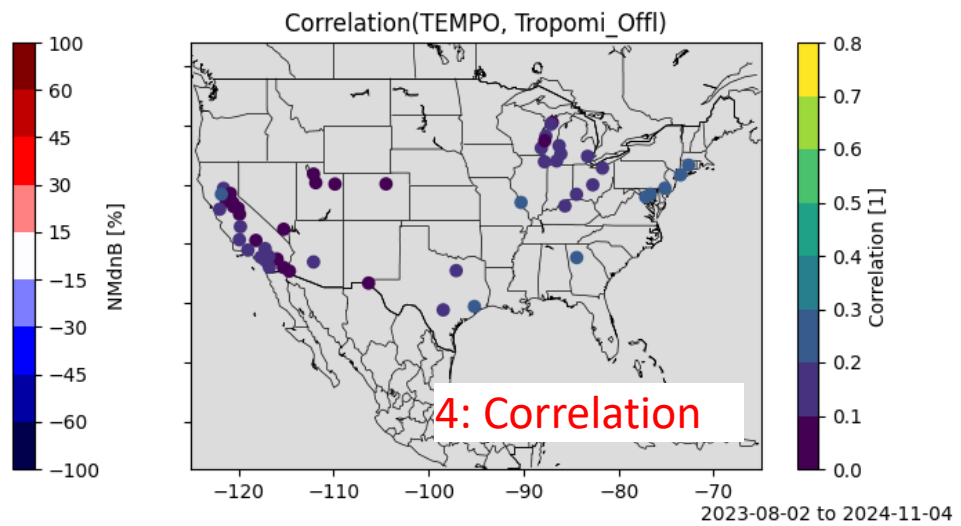
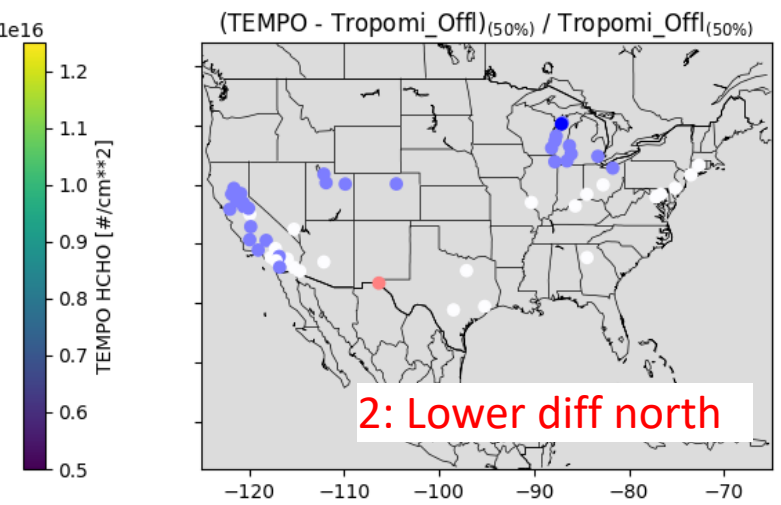
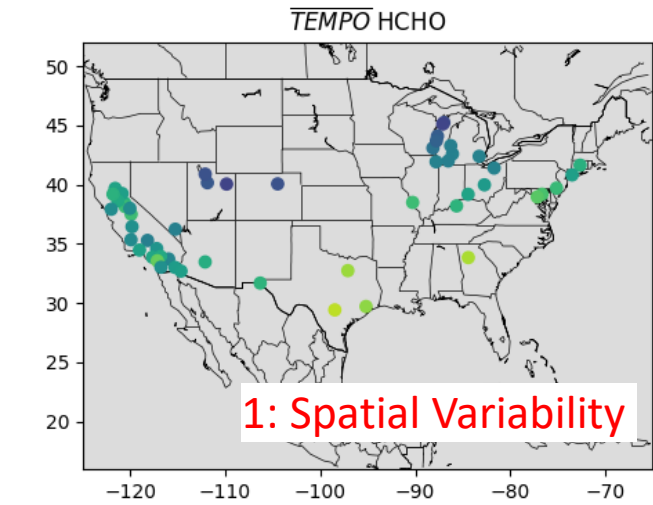
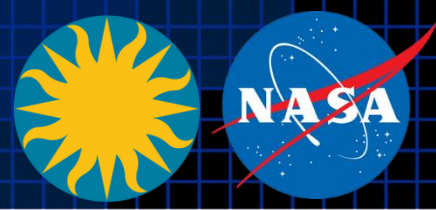
- Site selection: direct sun vs sky scan
- See Prajjwal Rawat for more details

Compared to Pandora, TEMPO:

1. Correlates at the site-level
2. Has reasonable bias with some individual sites needing investigation.
3. Captures regional-specific dynamic range.
4. Site-specific time correlation.
5. Intra-regional site-level gradients are challenging, perhaps due to pixel averaging



# TEMPO L2 HCHO agrees with TropOMI



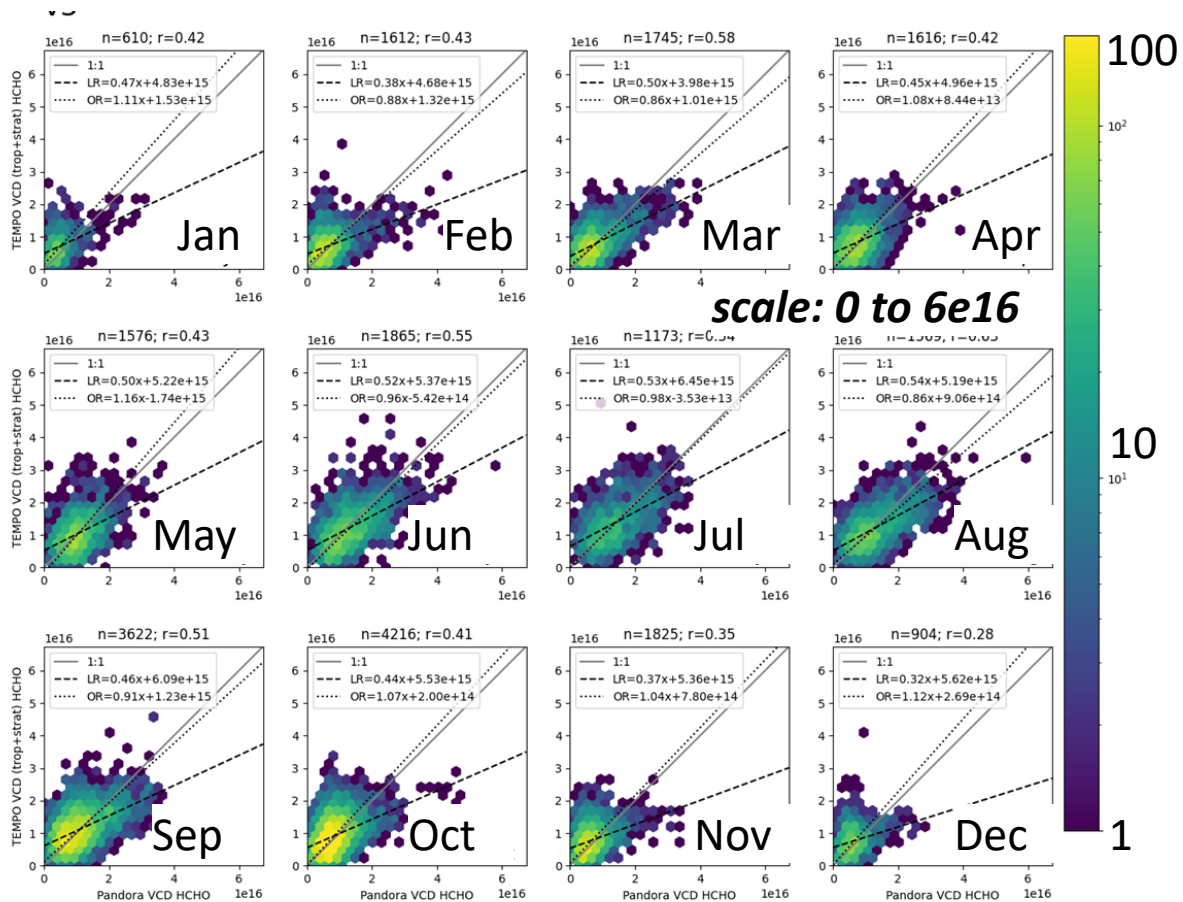
- TropOMI correlation is useful because we don't have Pandora everywhere.
- Here we explore comparisons at Ozone Nonattainment Areas
- Unlike NO2, the diurnal cycle of HCHO is not strong many places which implicitly makes temporal correlation more challenging.

3: Dynamic Range — O3: Ozone Nonattainment Areas

## TEMPO L2 vs Pandora Total HCHO

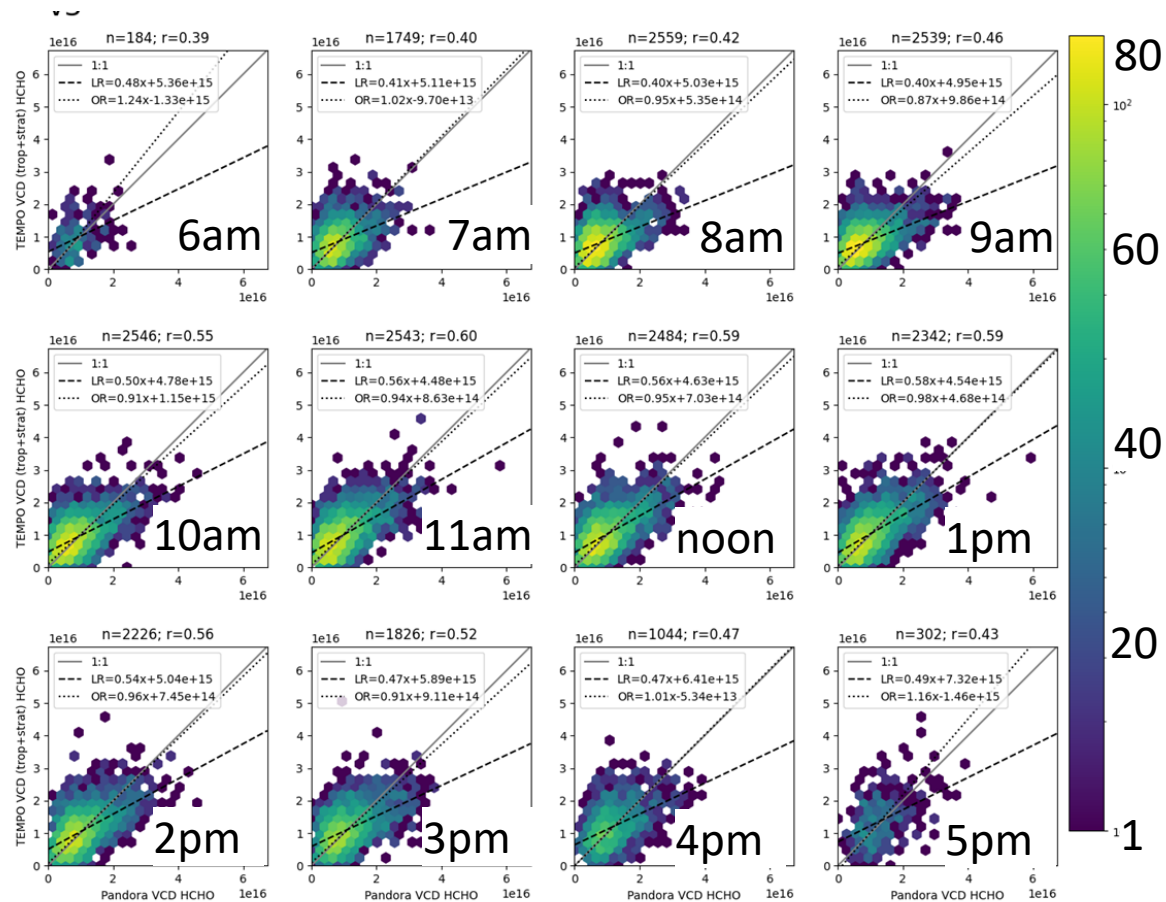
### Consistent monthly performance

- Dynamic range varies by month as expected
- Orthogonal slopes consistent



### Consistent diurnal performance

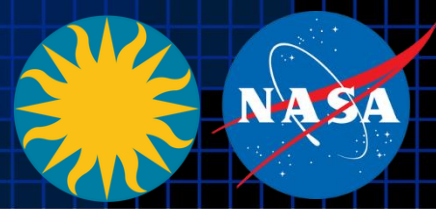
- Dynamic varies less by time of day
- Orthogonal important due airmass sampling.





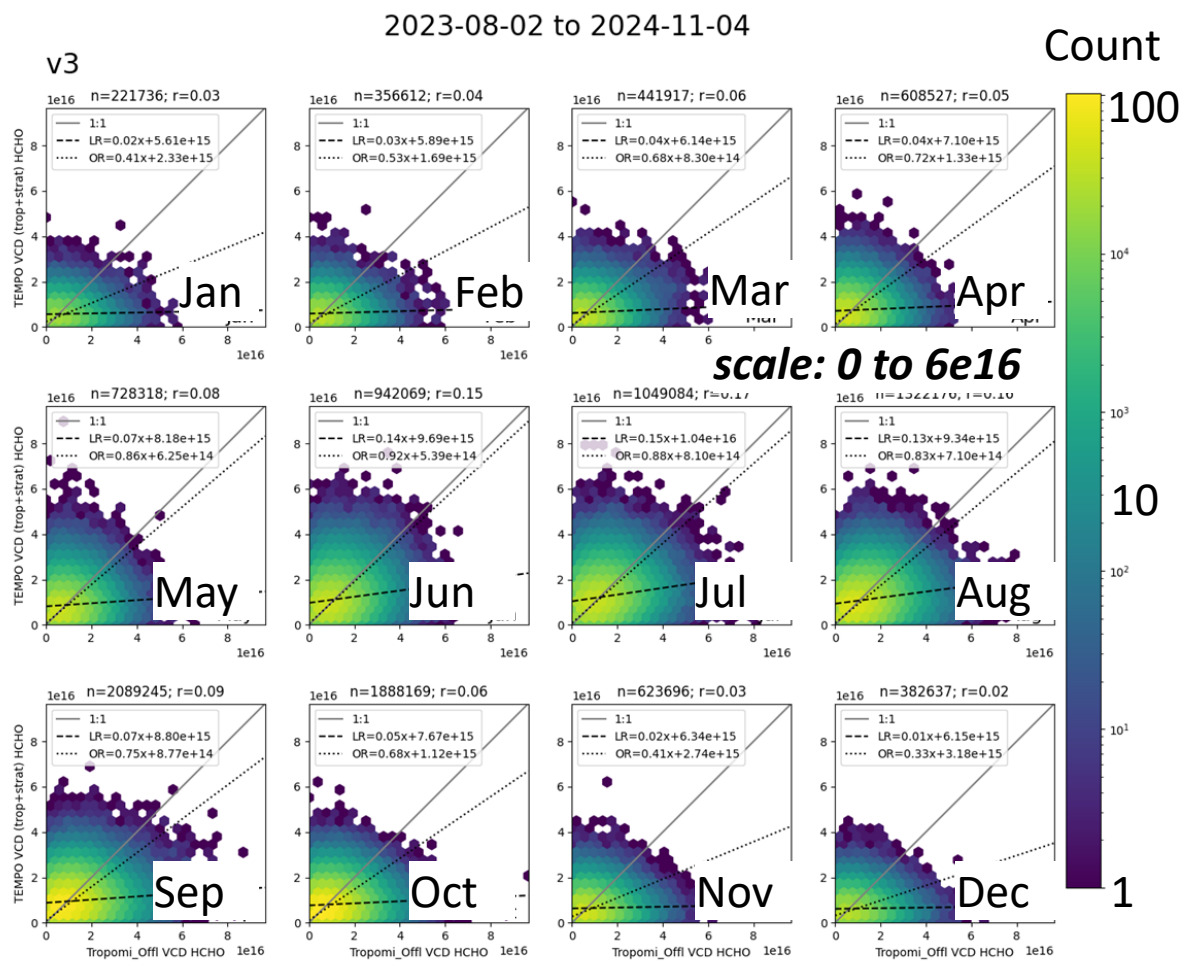
# Seasonal and Diurnal Performance is Consistent

## TEMPO L2 vs TropOMI Total HCHO



### Better Agreement in Summer

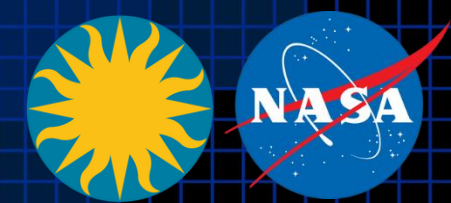
- Dynamic range varies by month as expected
- Larger seasonal changes in TEMPO than TropOMI.
- Orthogonal slopes lowest in winter
  - Steadily increasing from January to May
  - Decreasing after August
- By comparison, Pandora slopes were quite consistent.
- Suggest looking into potential TropOMI high-bias in Winter/Spring





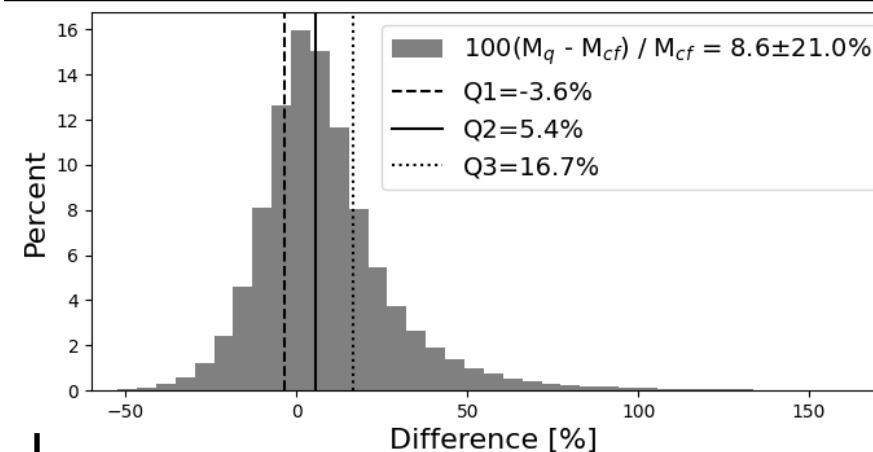
# Early Applications

## TEMPO L2 vs Preliminary CMAQ Application

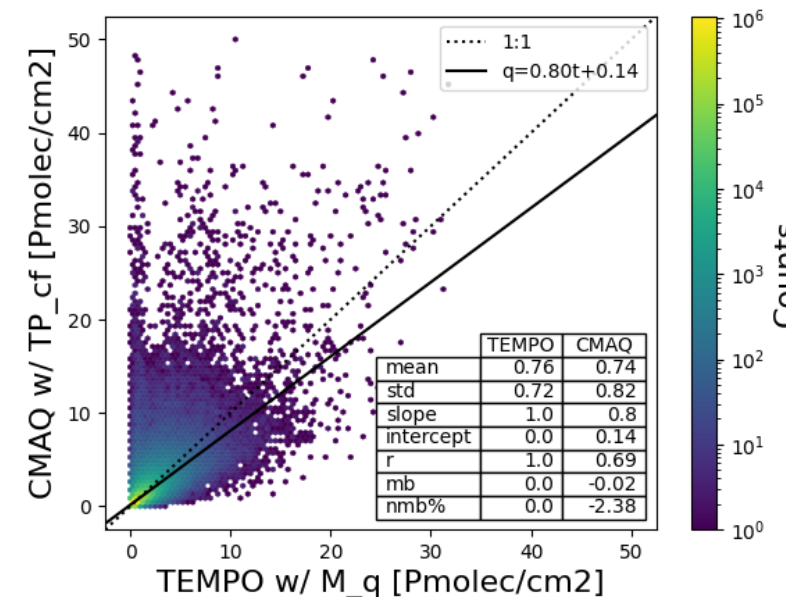


- Focusing on NO2 Applications
  - Model performance evaluation (are columns similar?)
  - Dynamic evaluation (do columns respond to emissions similarly? Using weekend vs weekday)
- Case study of convenience Sept 2023
  - Expediated Modeling of Burn Events Results (EMBER)\*
    - 2018 anthropogenic emissions
    - 2023 preliminary fire inventory
  - *Longer analysis would be ideal*
- Consistent Atmospheric Shape Factor
  - CMAQ TropVCD:  $\sum \Omega_{z,q}$
  - TEMPO TropVCD: TropSCD /  $M_q$
  - Air Mass Factor:  $M_q = \sum w_z \Omega_z \alpha(T_z) / \sum \Omega_{z,q}$
  - where  $z : P_{z,mid} > P_{tropopause,cf}$

Air Mass Factor differences from TEMPO prior



CMAQ compared to TEMPO

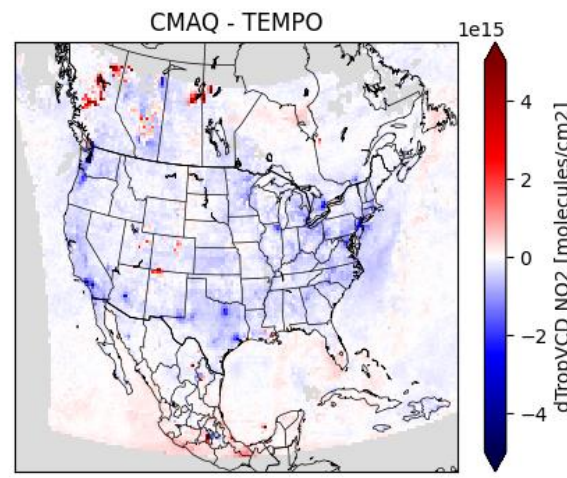
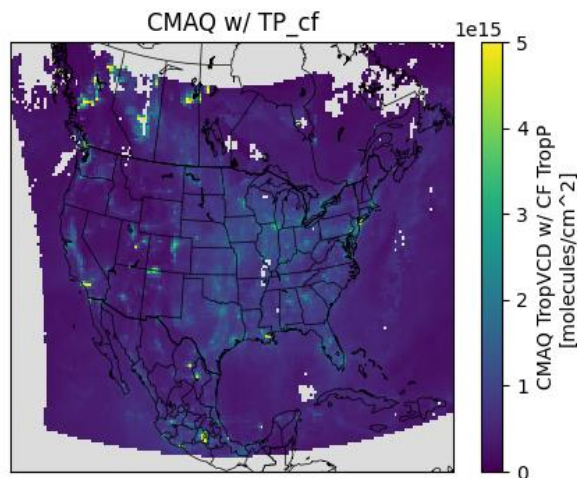
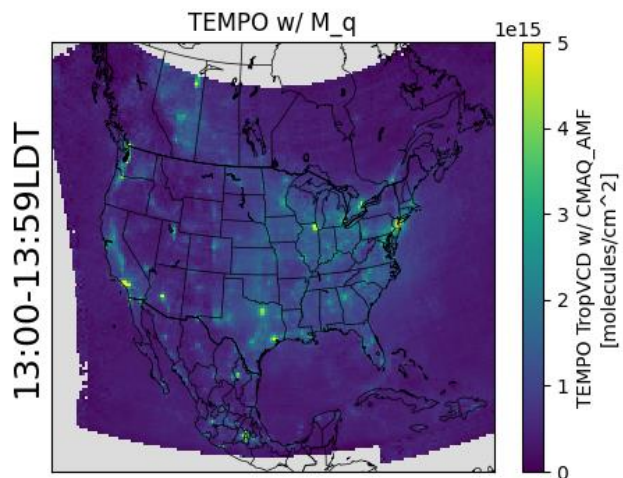
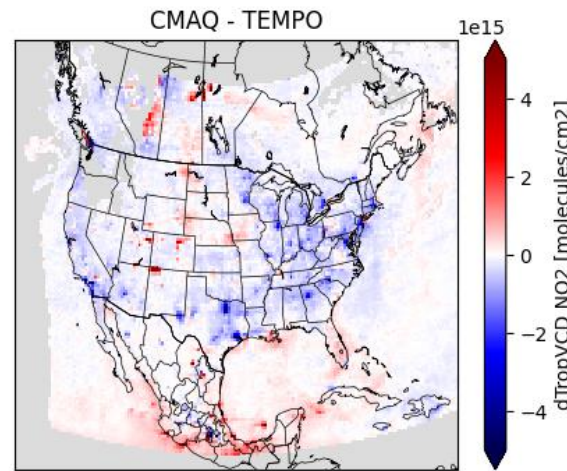
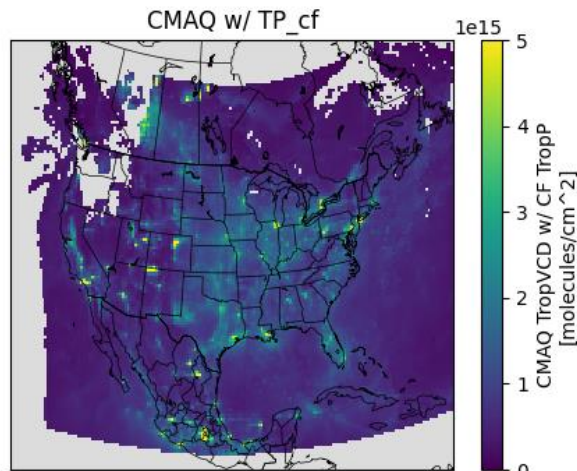
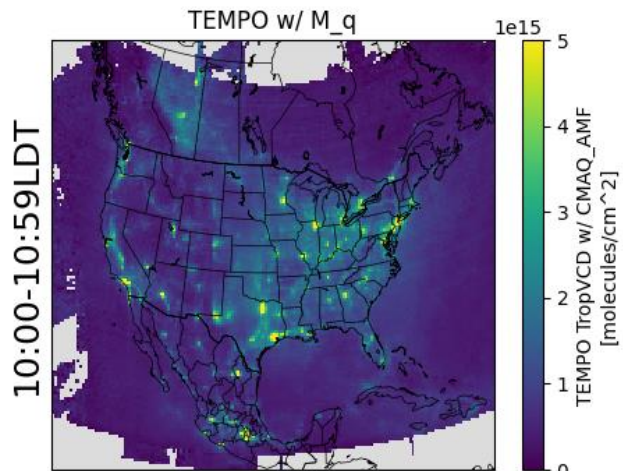
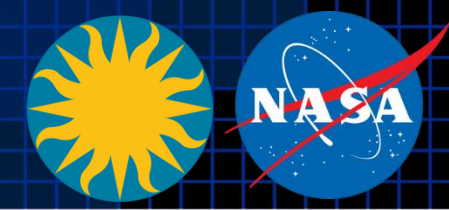


\* Simon et al. (10.1016/j.dib.2024.111208) Data in Brief



# Model Performance Evaluation

## TEMPO L2 vs Preliminary CMAQ Application



TEMPO TropVCD

CMAQ TropVCD

CMAQ - TEMPO

### Sept 2023 average

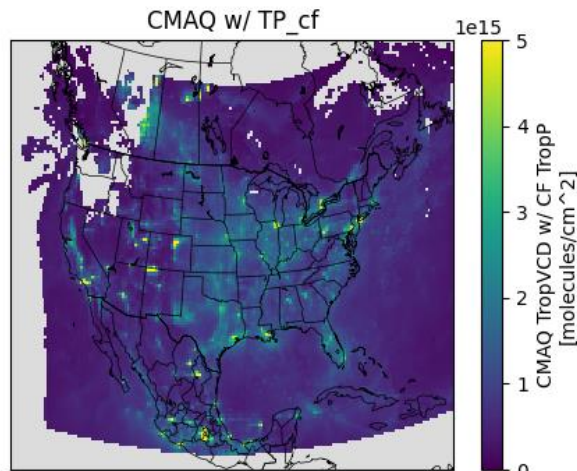
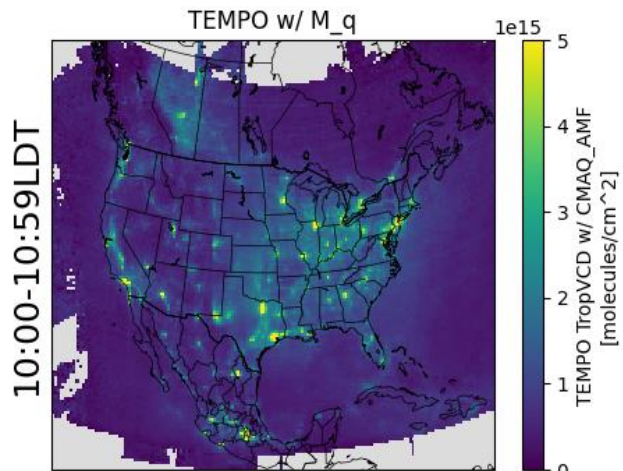
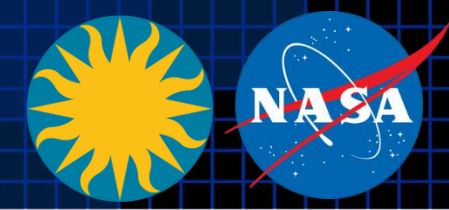
- CMAQ has low biases in many major cities
- TEMPO and CMAQ have larger tropospheric columns in the morning hours (10-11LDT) than at polar overpass.
- Morning differences are larger in absolute scale.

Consistent w/ Nash et al. 2024 (10.5194/egusphere-2024-554), corrects low ozone bias that is largest in the west.

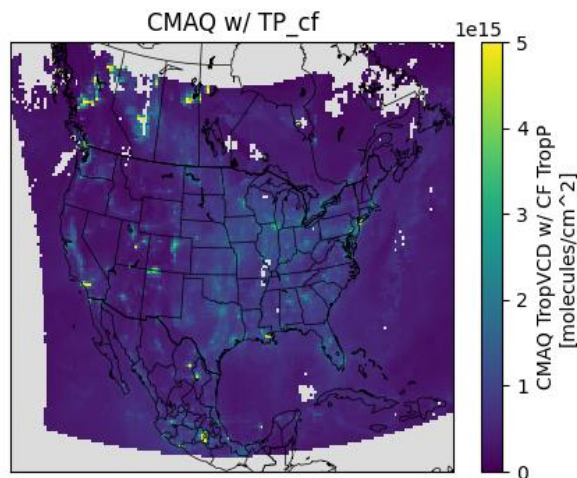
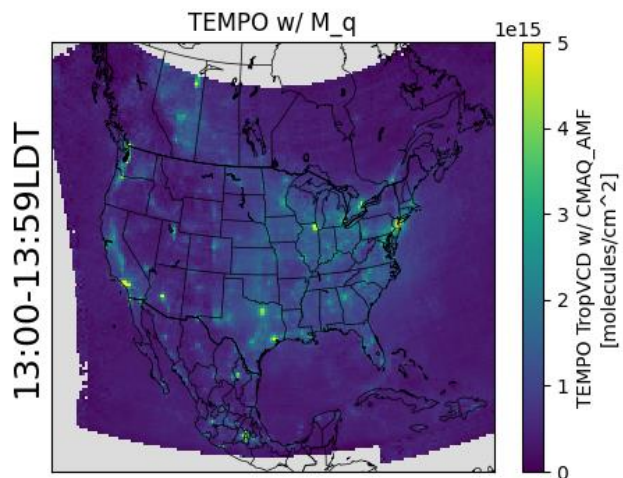
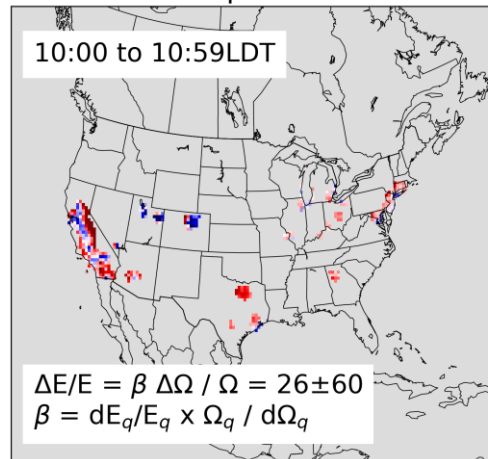


# Model Performance Evaluation

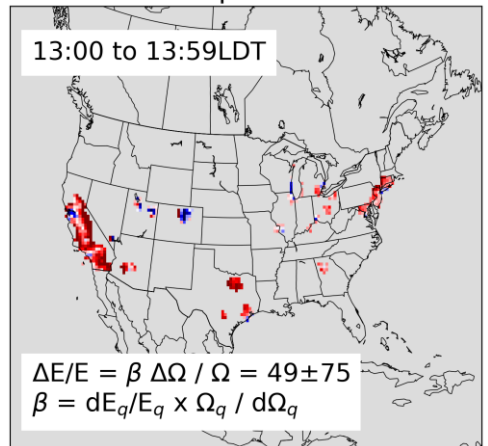
## TEMPO L2 vs Preliminary CMAQ Application



Ozone NAA Top-down Emissions



Ozone NAA Top-down Emissions



### Sept 2023 average

- CMAQ has low biases in many major cities
- TEMPO and CMAQ have larger tropospheric columns in the morning hours (10-11LDT) than at polar overpass.
- Morning differences are larger in absolute scale.
- Mass balance inversion

TEMPO TropVCD

CMAQ TropVCD

CMAQ – TEMPO

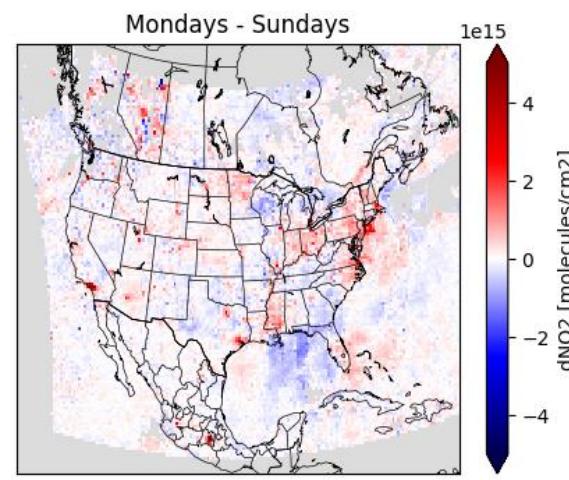
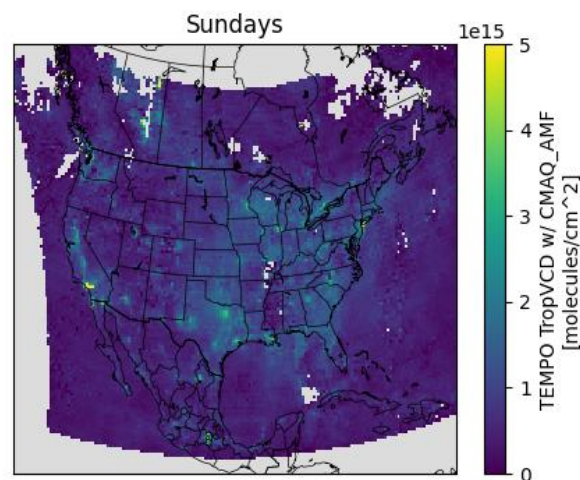
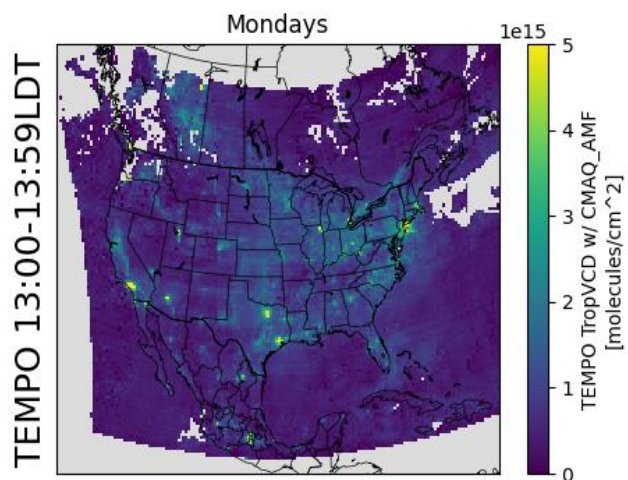
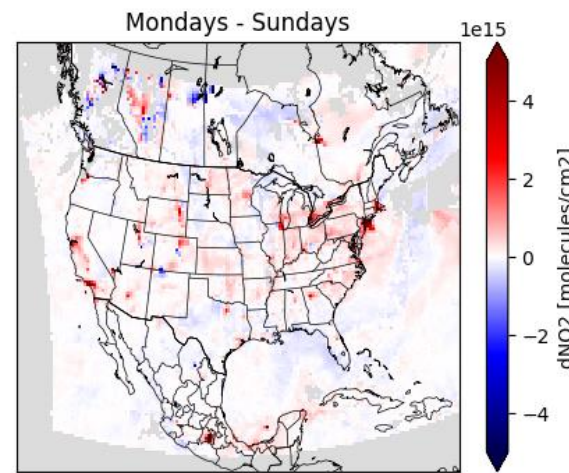
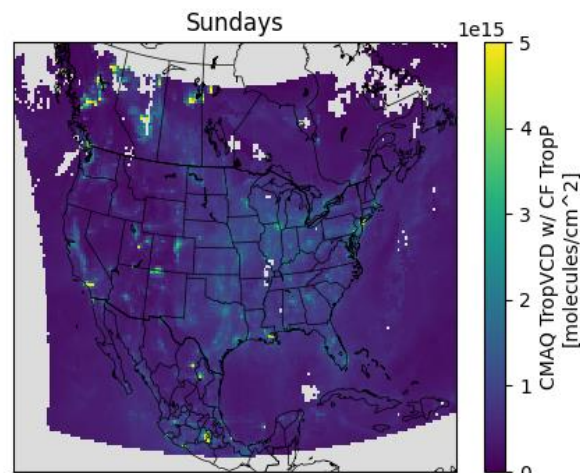
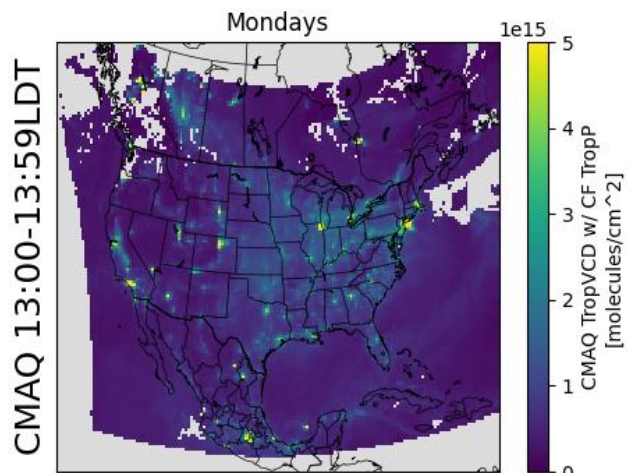
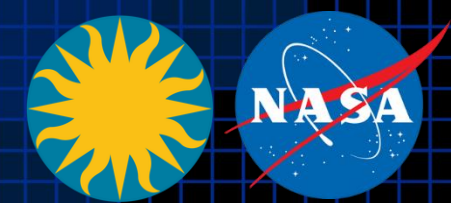
Consistent w/ Nash et al. 2024 (10.5194/egusphere-2024-554), corrects low ozone bias that is largest in the west.





# Dynamic Evaluation

## TEMPO L2 vs Preliminary CMAQ Application



Monday Magnitude

Sunday Magnitude

Weekday Increment

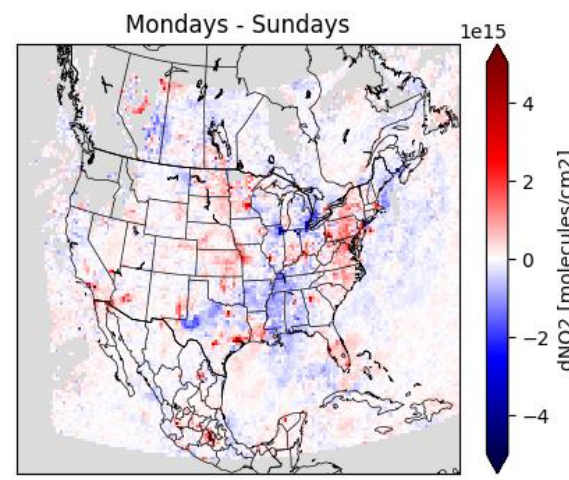
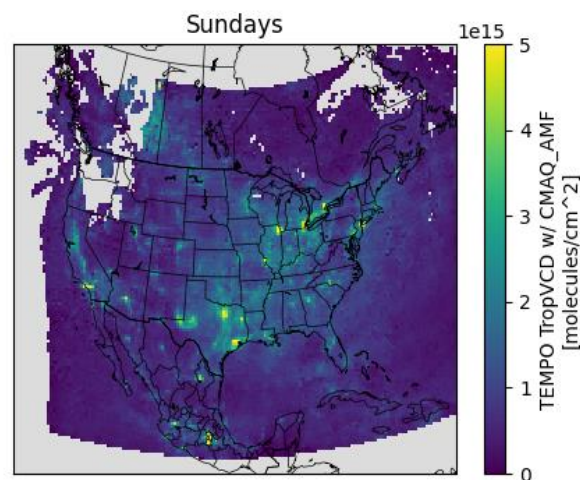
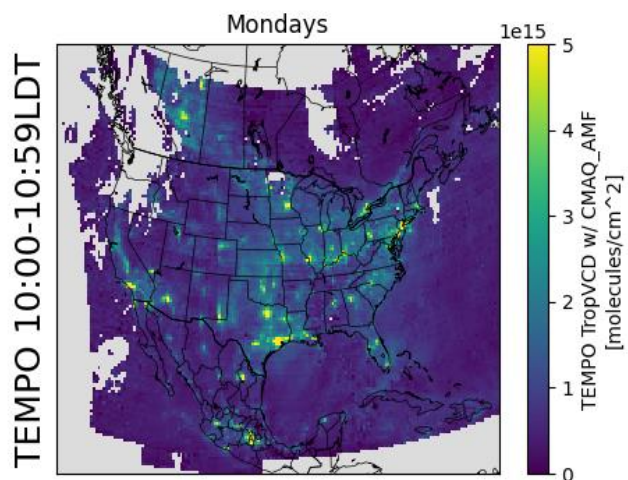
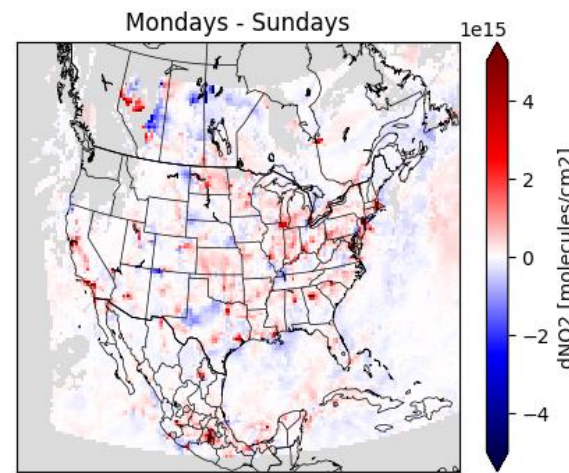
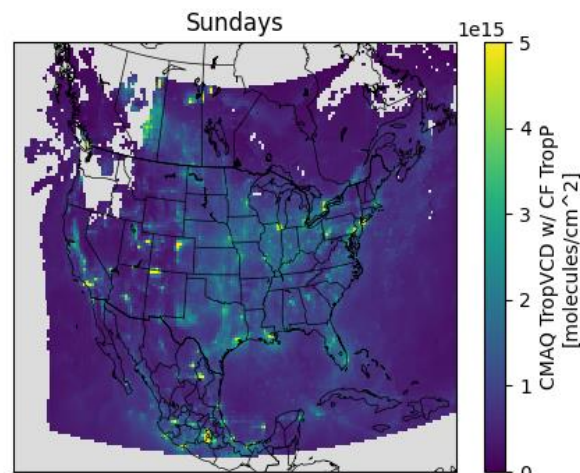
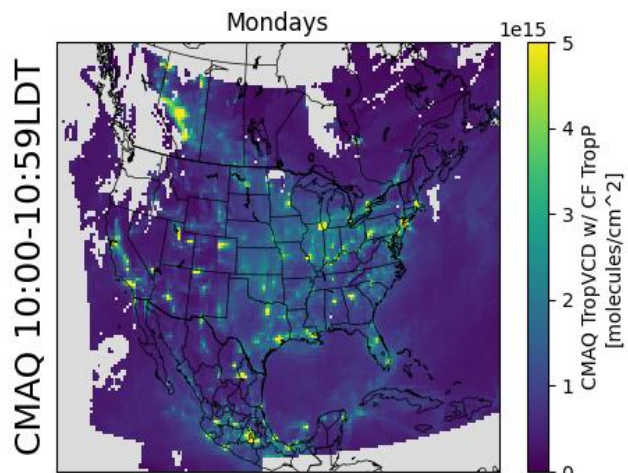
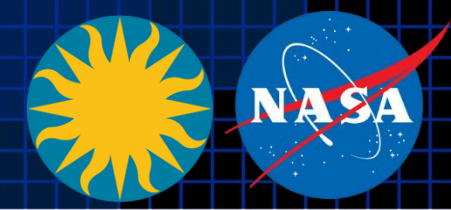
### 1PM overpass

- Weekday/weekend analysis (n=4)
- Tropospheric columns in major cities stand out in both TEMPO and CMAQ
- Mondays larger than Sundays in polluted scenes
- Unexpected differences in Mississippi



# Dynamic Evaluation

## TEMPO L2 vs Preliminary CMAQ Application



Monday Magnitude

Sunday Magnitude

Weekday Increment

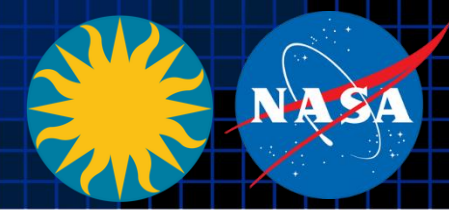
### At morning scan

- Weekday/weekend analysis (n=4)
- TEMPO and CMAQ increments over cities are more similar at 10LDT than at 13LDT
- TEMPO has more negative increments than CMAQ in general and over the southeast and Great Lakes in particular.
- TEMPO Chicago increment looks suspect.
- Need longer data to isolate variability vs true difference.



# Simple TEMPO Surface NO<sub>2</sub>

## TEMPO L2 vs Preliminary CMAQ Application

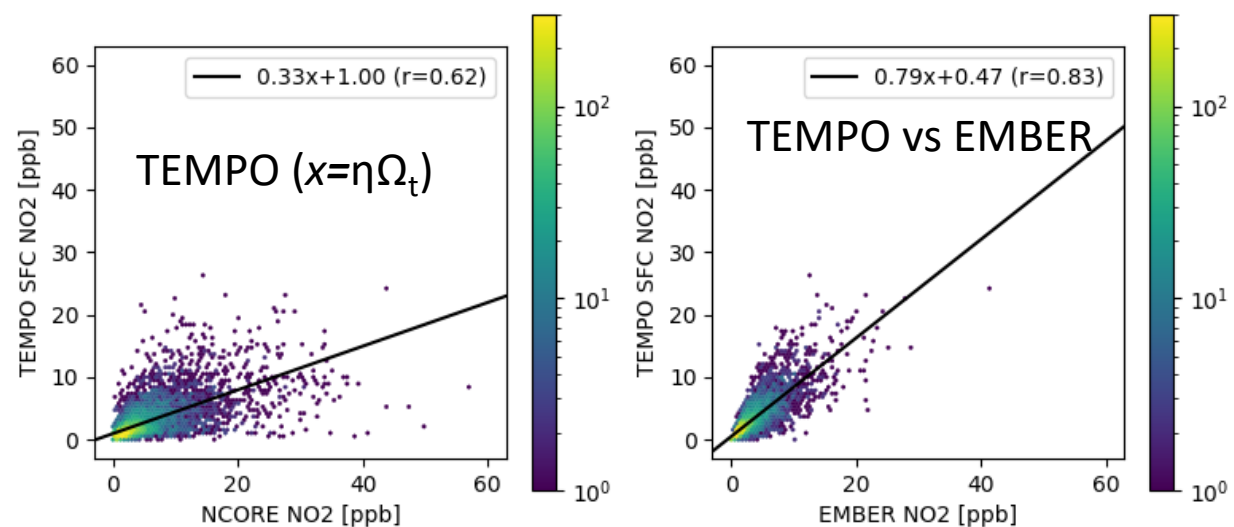
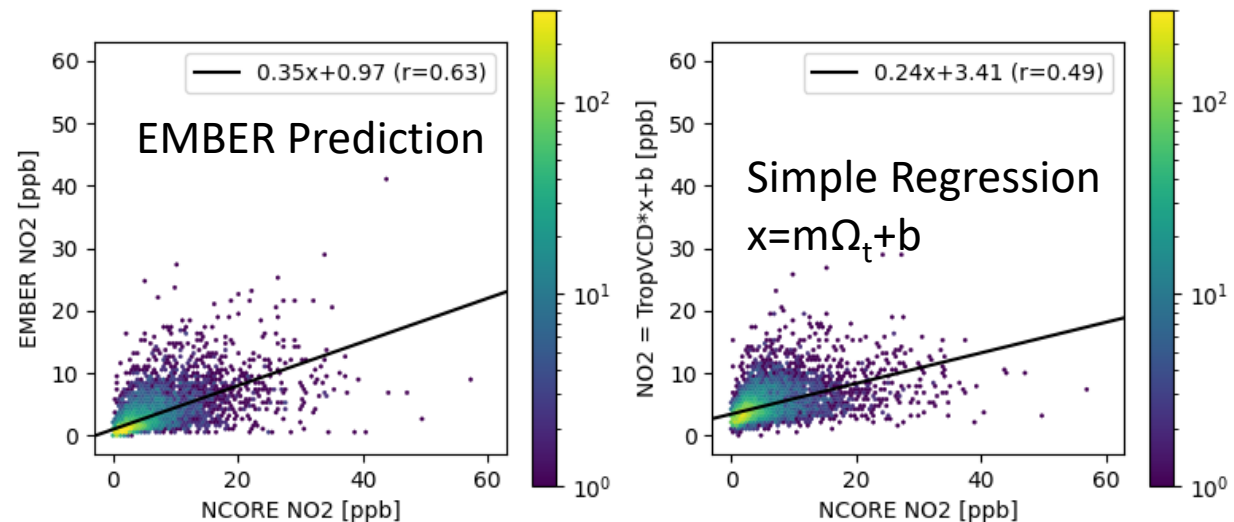
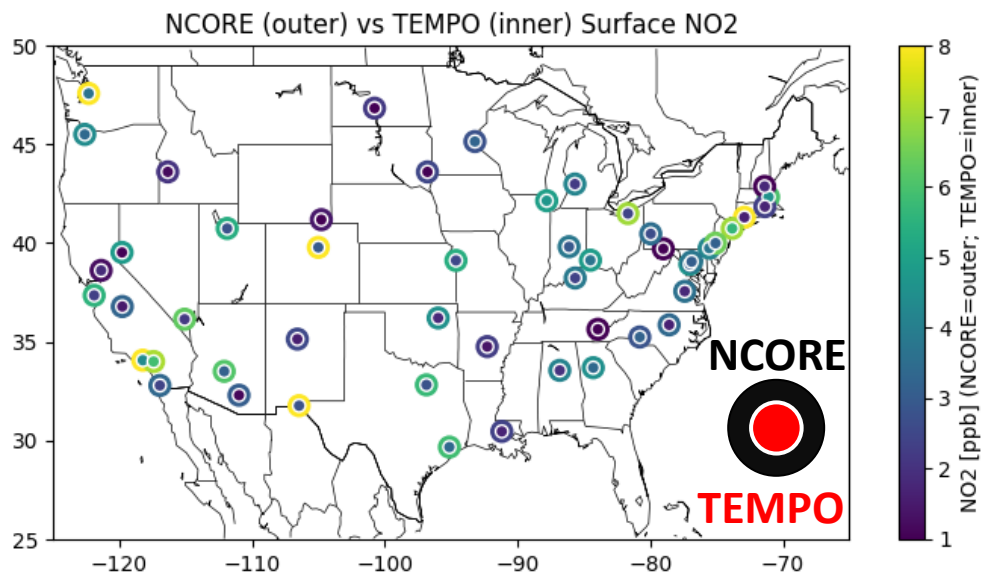


### Physical surface NO<sub>2</sub> translation from EMBER: $x = \eta \Omega_t$

- Surface to tropospheric column from EMBER ( $\eta = x_q / \Omega_q$ )
- Tropospheric Column from TEMPO ( $\Omega$ )
- Coarse resolution (36km): exploring NCORE sites only

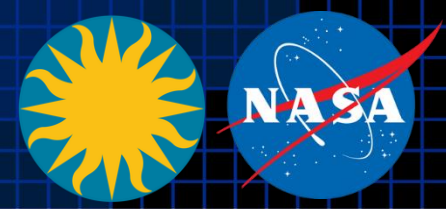
### Findings

- Physical translation improves on simple regression
- Disagreement in Washington, Colorado and El Paso
- Performance should be enhanced with landuse regression





# Summary



- Community led validation TEAM helped TEMPO meet validation goals
  - Nitrogen dioxide and formaldehyde results contribute to both the beta and provisional maturity levels.
  - Assessing bias, precision and uncertainty (NO<sub>2</sub>-02, NO<sub>2</sub>-04, HCHO-02 and HCHO-04)
  - Inter-site gradients contributes to urban/rural gradient assessments (NO<sub>2</sub>-01 and HCHO-01)
  - Large pixel-to-pixel variation and data striping remains
  - Reveals strong disagreement between TEMPO and TropOMI HCHO, which is likely an improvement.
- TEMPO shows 2023 CMAQ simulation low-bias
  - Confirms TropOMI results (Kumm A24A-04 Tue 4:30pm)
  - Geostationary coverage would increase direct assimilation influence on ozone.
- Inferred Surface NO<sub>2</sub> shows moderate skill
  - Traditional physical translation improves on simple regression
  - Likely needs additional information from landuse regression to improve (e.g., Anenberg 2022)
- Thanks to:
  - Kelly Chance, SAO, NASA and all the people who helped deliver on the promise of TEMPO!
  - NASA LaRC ASDC for assistance to connect TEMPO to RSIG APIs and increase accessibility!
  - Pandonia Global Network and State and Local agencies for working with EPA to expand Pandora measurements!
  - Research groups and researchers who have contributed their time and analysis in support of TEMPO validation!

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