

DEAP algorithm for the retrieval of aerosol extinction and NO₂ vertical profiles over the Po Valley



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DOAS-BO

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Why NO₂ measurements?

SOURCES

Combustion processes:

- Traffic
- Factories



RISKS

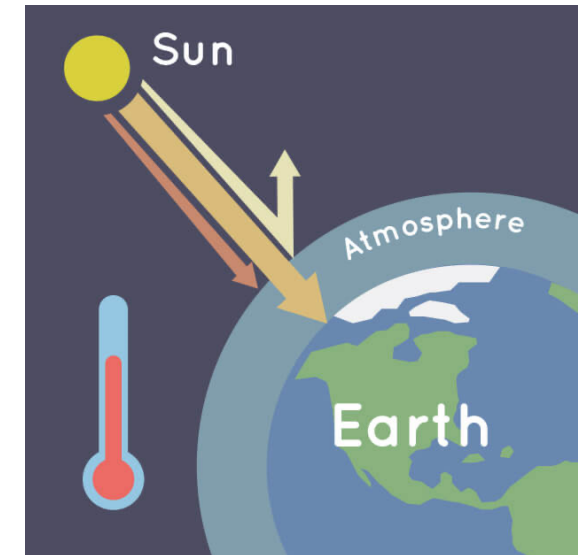
- Intensify responses to allergens
- Premature death
- Cardiopulmonary effects
- Respiratory symptoms



OTHER EFFECTS

Tropospheric O₃ formation:

- Respiratory symptoms
- Greenhouse effect



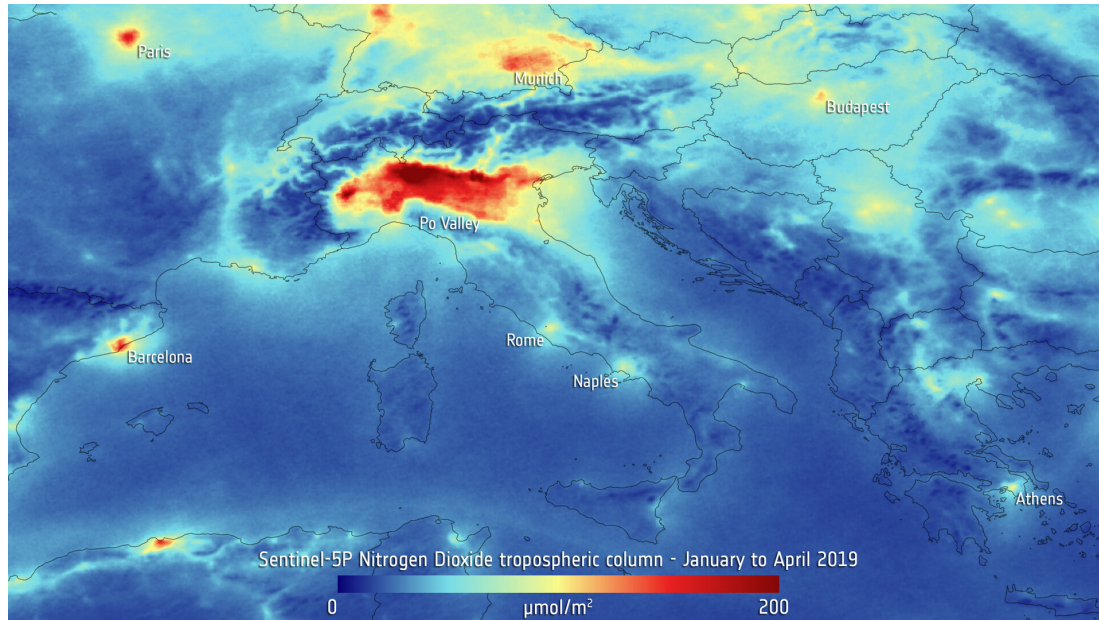
Why especially in the Po Valley?



- One of the most polluted regions in Europe.
- The most industrialized area in Italy.
- Geography prevents air mixing. The valley is closed between the mountains.
- Major problems in winter when thermal inversions and foggy days occur.

Most common NO₂ measurement methods

SATELLITE REMOTE SENSING



- Columnar concentrations
- Global coverage
- Low spatial and temporal resolution



IDEAS-QA4EO



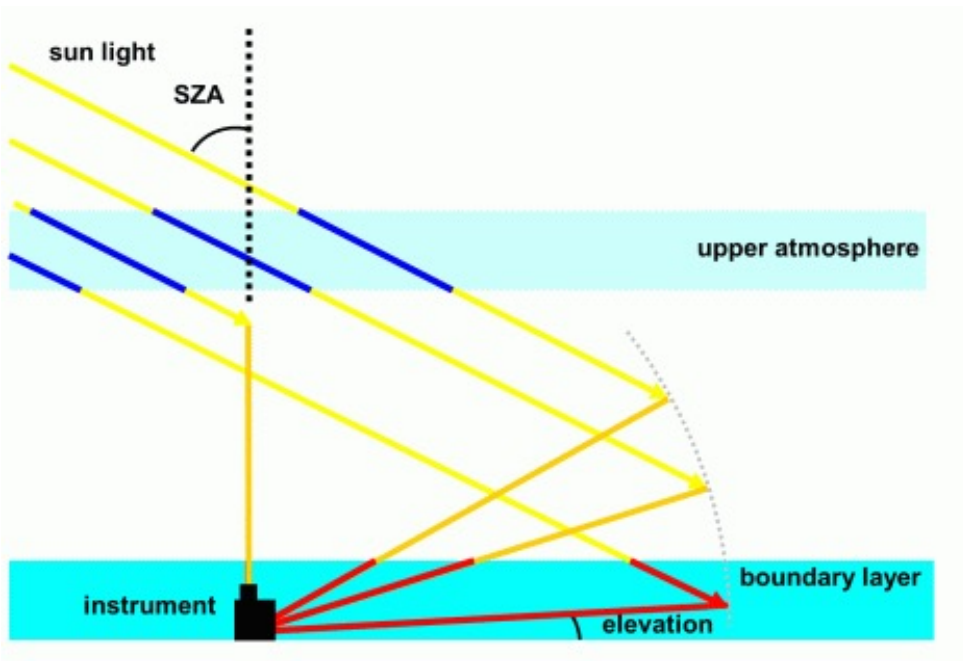
IN-SITU



- High temporal resolution
- High accuracy
- Poor vertical and horizontal coverage



Multi Axis (MAX)-DOAS measurements



For each scan, several spectra (VIS and UV) at different elevation angles are measured.



One vertical profile, of an absorbing gas, can be retrieved for each scan.

- Measurements sensitive to the lower troposphere (from 0 to 4 km).
- Information resolved along the vertical direction.
- Possibility to measure at different azimuth directions.
- High temporal resolution and sampling (about 2 minutes per scan).

SkySpec-2D instrument in the Po Valley



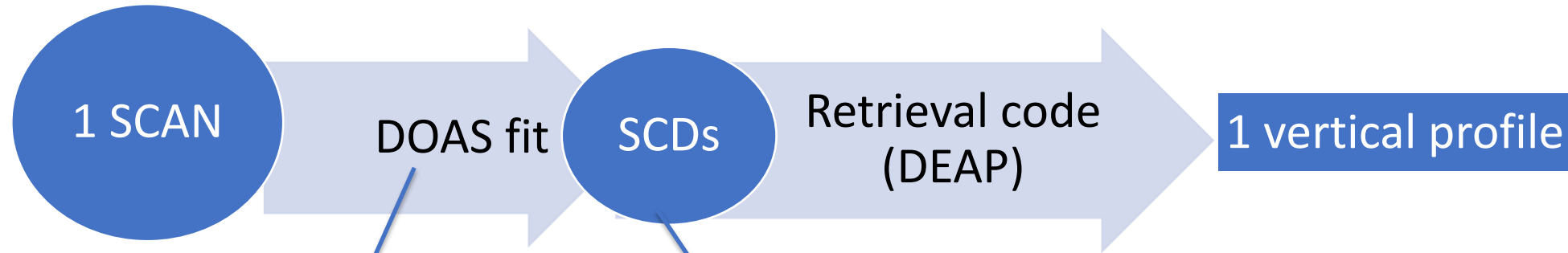
(Pettinari et al. 2022, Towards a new MAX-DOAS measurement site in the Po Valley: NO₂ total VCDs)

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| WHAT DOES IT MEASURE? | MAX-DOAS scans |
| AZIMUTH DIRECTIONS | 135°, 250°, 315° |
| ELEVATION ANGLES | 1°, 2°, 3°, 5°, 10°, 30°, 90° |
| SPECTRAL BANDS | VIS (410-550 nm) UV (305-405 nm) |
| SPECTRAL RESOLUTION | 0.6 nm |



IDEAS-QA4EO

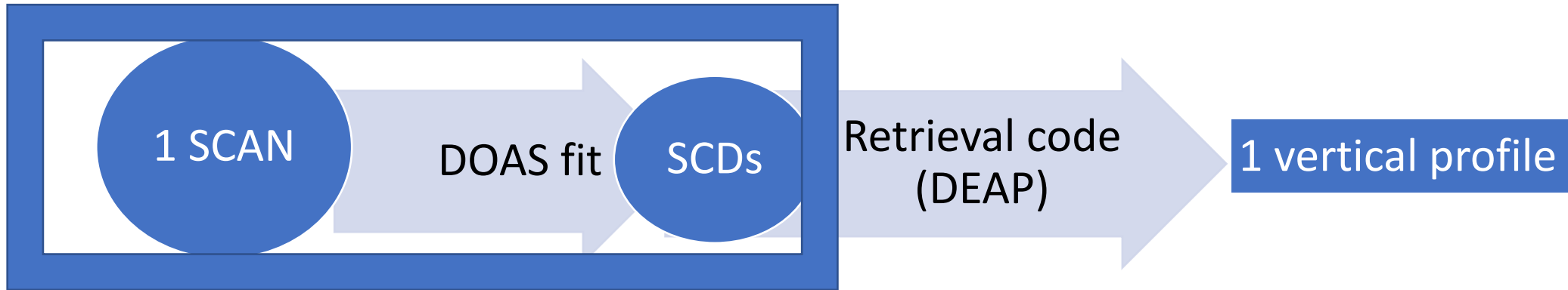
Retrieval method



Differential Optical Absorption Spectroscopy technique

Slant Column Densities (SCDs) are gas concentrations integrated along the slant path crossed by the light in atmosphere.

Retrieval method: DOAS fit



Measured spectrum

Reference spectrum

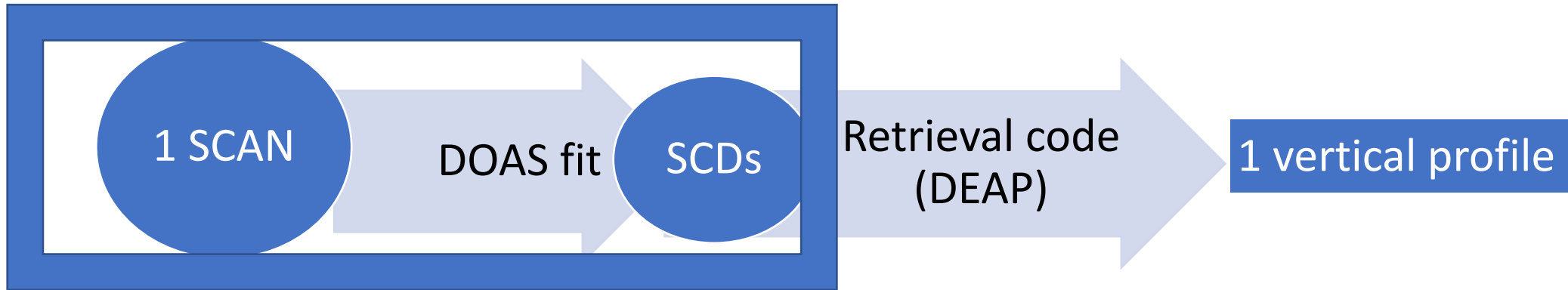
SCD of j^{th} gas

$$\ln\left(\frac{I^*(\lambda, L)}{I_0^*(\lambda, L)}\right) \approx \sum_j \bar{c}_j \Delta \ln \left[\int_{-\Delta\lambda}^{\Delta\lambda} e^{-\sigma'(\lambda-\lambda')} H(\lambda') d\lambda' \right]$$

Absorption cross section

Instrumental function

Retrieval method: DOAS fit



Measured spectrum

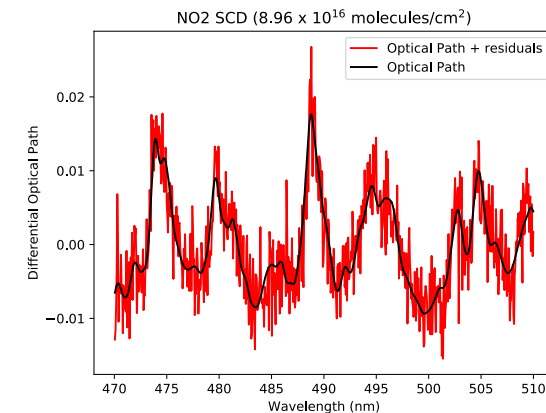
Reference spectrum

SCD of j^{th} gas

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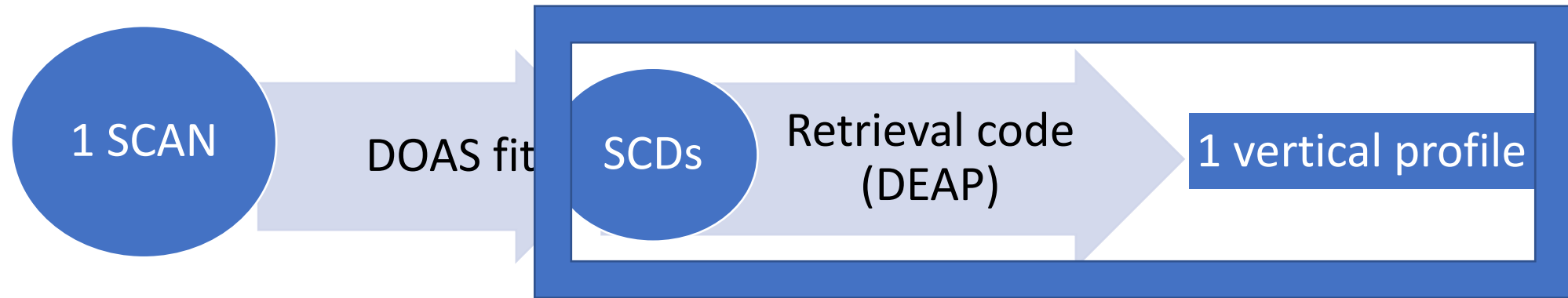
Absorption cross section

Instrumental function

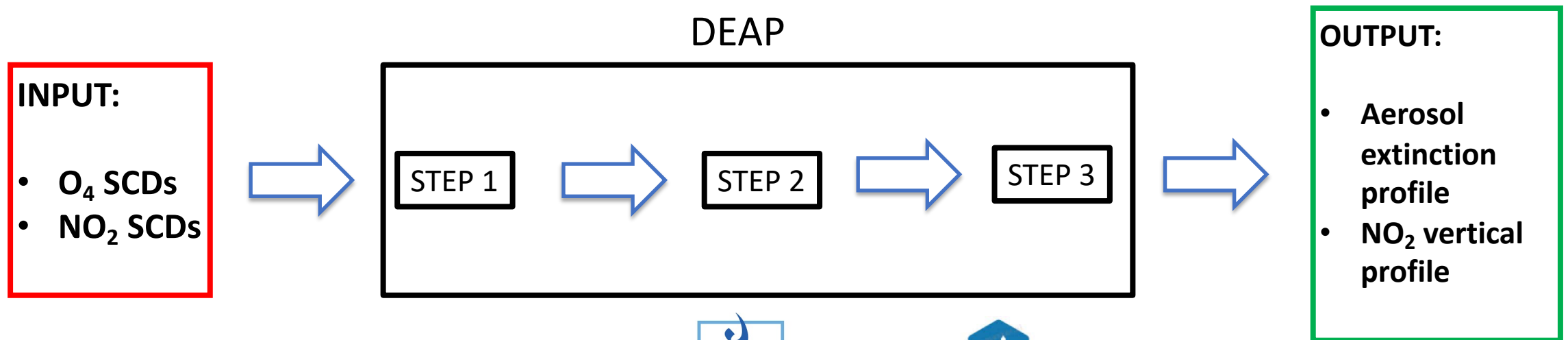


This part is no time-consuming (order of seconds!!)

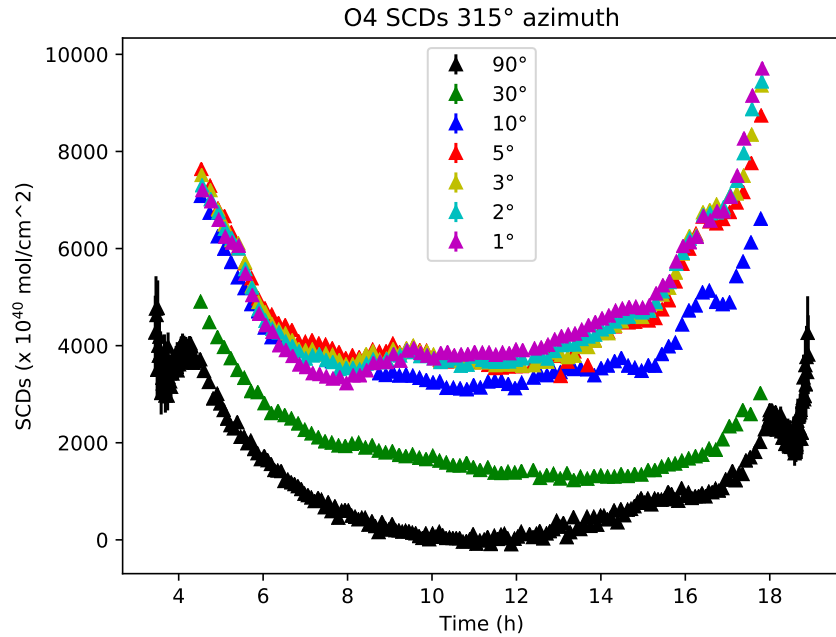
Retrieval method: DEAP retrieval



The DEAP (DOAS optimal Estimation Atmospheric Profile retrieval) code is an Optimal Estimation algorithm that exploits the SCIATRAN code (Rozanov et al. 2014) as forward model. **Time-consuming part (about 15 min. per profile!!).**



DEAP retrieval: step 1 (retrieval of aerosol extinction profile from O₄ SCDs)



Why O₄ SCDs for aerosol?

$$x_{i+1} = x_i +$$

$$(K^T S_y^{-1} K + S_0^{-1} + g K^T S_y^{-1} K)^{-1}$$

$$(K^T S_y^{-1} (y - y_i) - S_0^{-1} (x_i - x_0))$$

y=O₄ SCD

K=d O₄ SCD/ d aer_ext

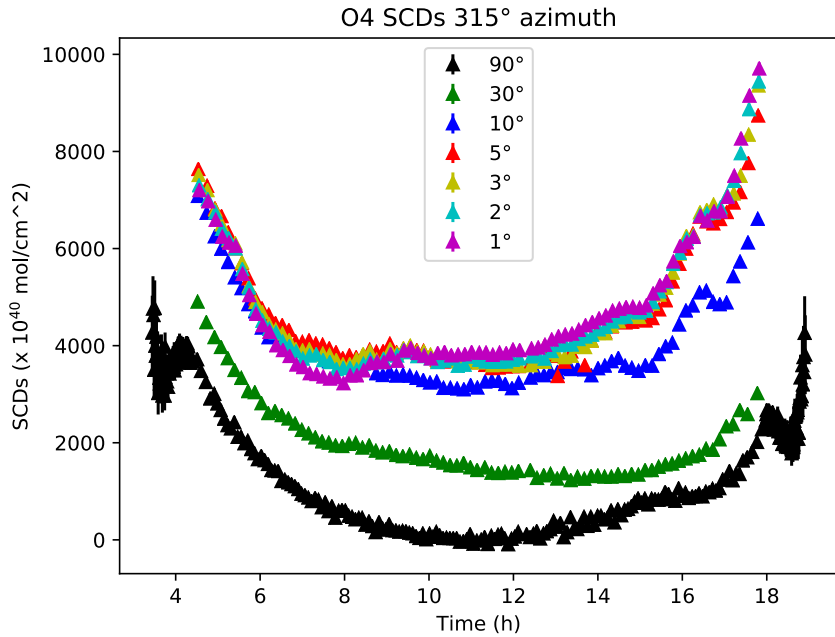
x =aer_ext



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DEAP retrieval: step 1 (retrieval of aerosol extinction profile from O₄ SCDs)

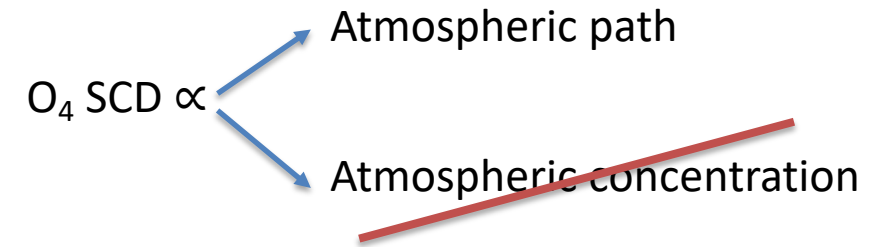


$$x_{i+1} = x_i + (K^T S_y^{-1} K + S_0^{-1} + g K^T S_y^{-1} K)^{-1} (K^T S_y^{-1} (y - y_i) - S_0^{-1} (x_i - x_0))$$

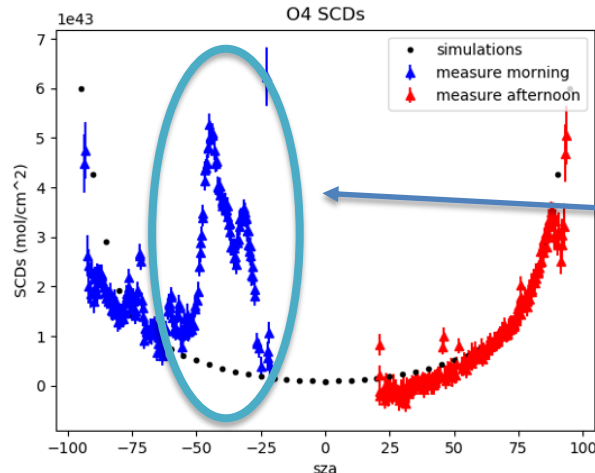
$y = \text{O}_4 \text{ SCD}$
 $K = d \text{ O}_4 \text{ SCD} / d \text{ aer_ext}$
 $x = \text{aer_ext}$

Clouds and aerosol affect the O₄ SCDs

Why O₄ SCDs for aerosol?



Assumption: constant O₄ distribution in time and space.



Effect of clouds

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DEAP retrieval: step 2 (Box-AMFs simulation)

What are box-AMFs (Air Mass Factors)?

- Defined for each retrieval layer
- Depend on scattering processes (aerosol content, surface albedo ...)
- Ratio between SCD and VCD

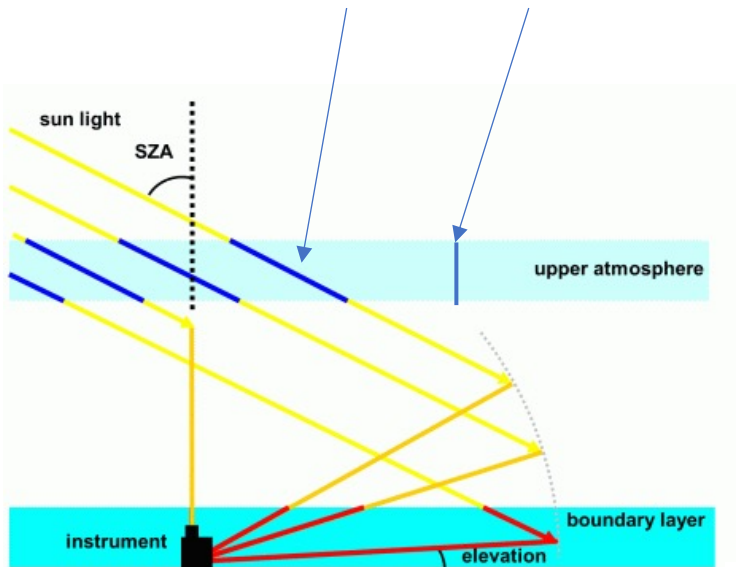
How simulate them?

- SCIATRAN code that accounts for scattering processes
- Aerosol extinction profile retrieved in step 1 used as input for simulation

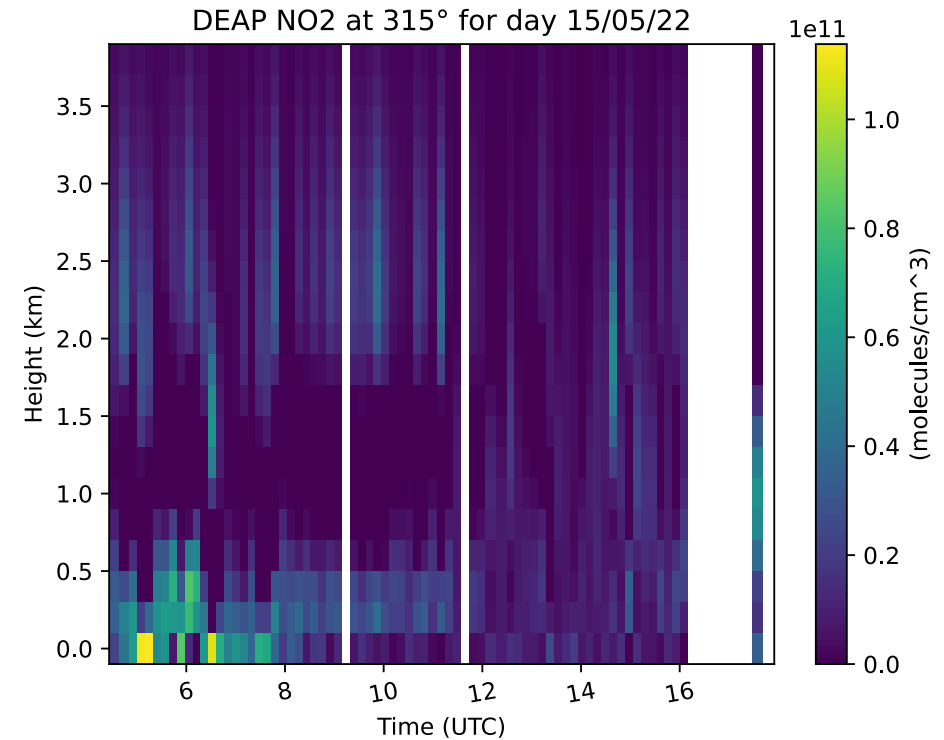
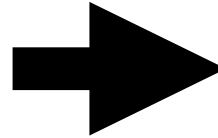
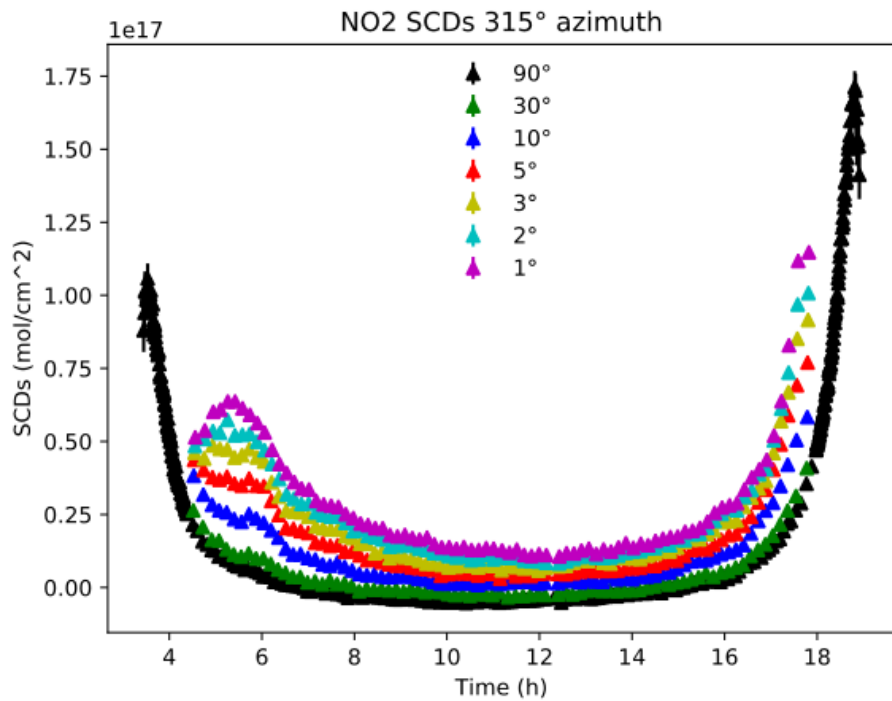
Why simulate them?

- Important for the step 3:

$$\text{NO}_2 \text{ SCD} \propto \begin{cases} \text{Atmospheric path (known!)} \\ \text{Atmospheric NO}_2 \text{ concentration} \end{cases}$$



DEAP retrieval: step 3 (retrieval of NO₂ vertical profile from NO₂ SCDs and box-AMFs)

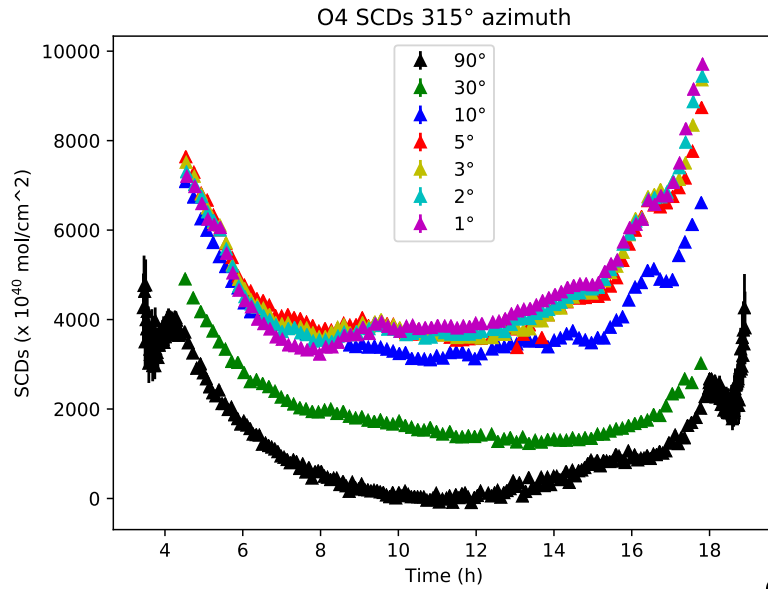


$$x_i = x_0 + S_0 K^T (K S_0 + S_0 K^T + g S_y)^{-1} (y - K x_0)$$

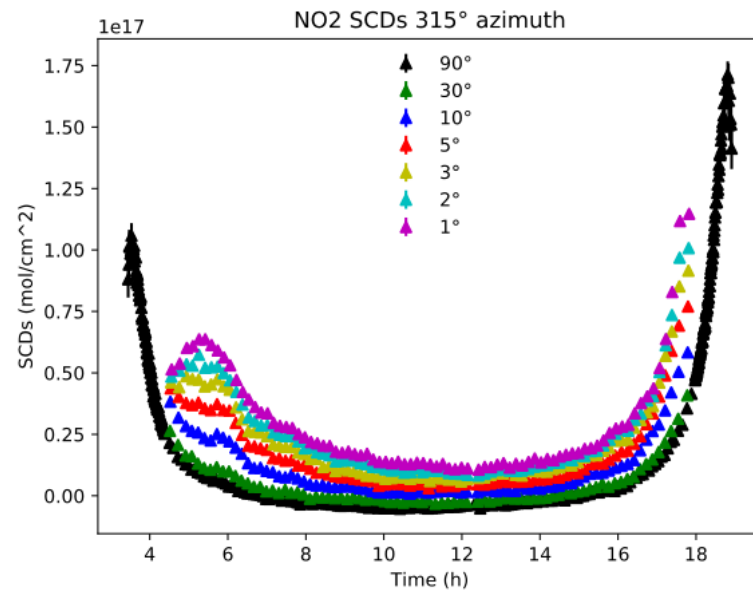
y = NO₂ SCD
 K = NO₂ box-AMF
 x = NO₂_conc



DEAP retrieval: summary



SCDs



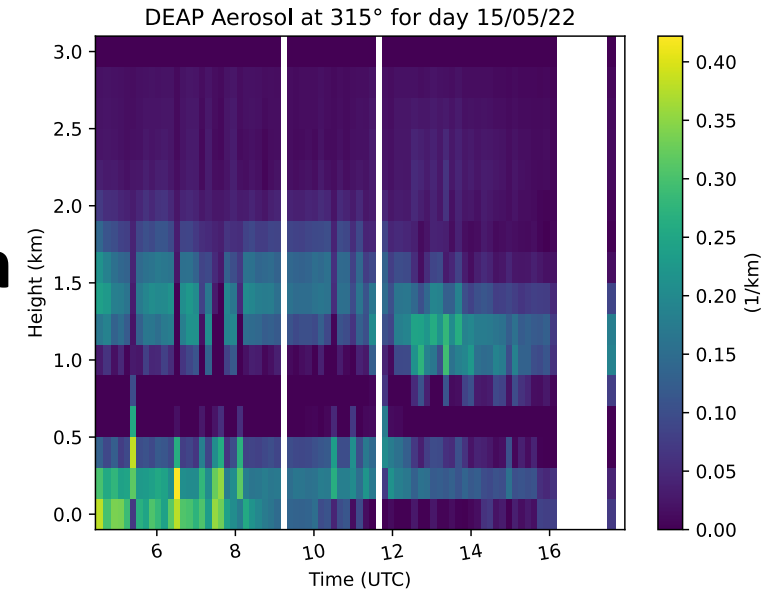
DEAP
retrieval
algorithm



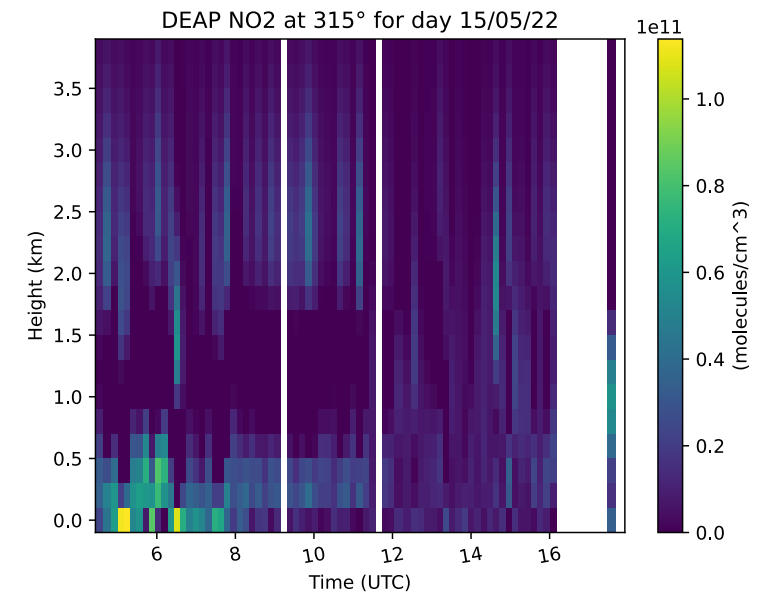
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Aerosol
Extinction

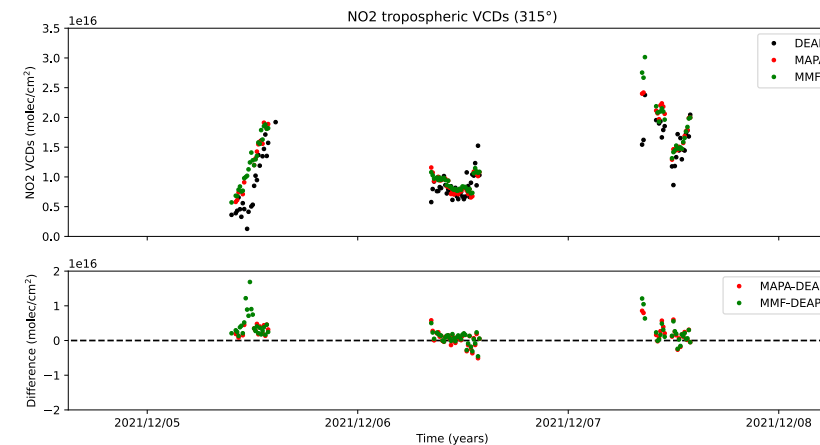
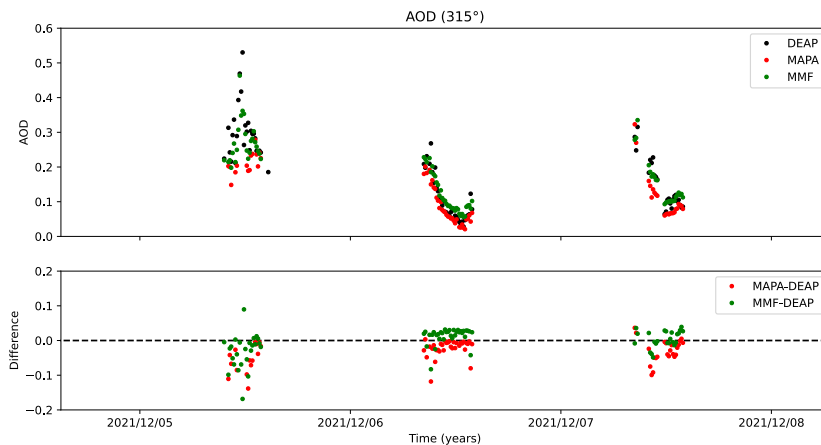
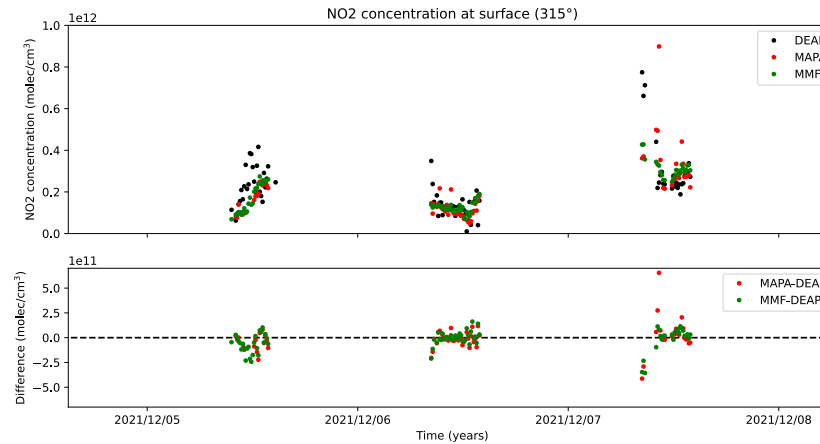
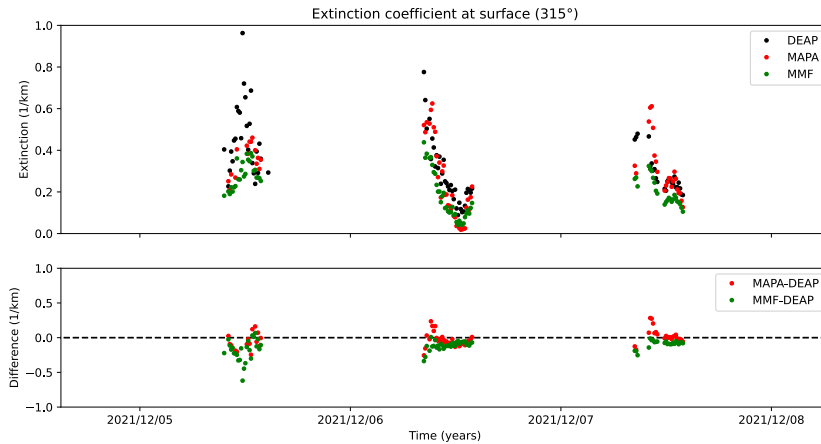


NO₂



Comparison with MMF and MAPA (315° azimuth)

MMF and MAPA are the reference retrieval algorithms used for the Fiducial Reference Measurements for DOAS (FRM4DOAS) centralized processing.



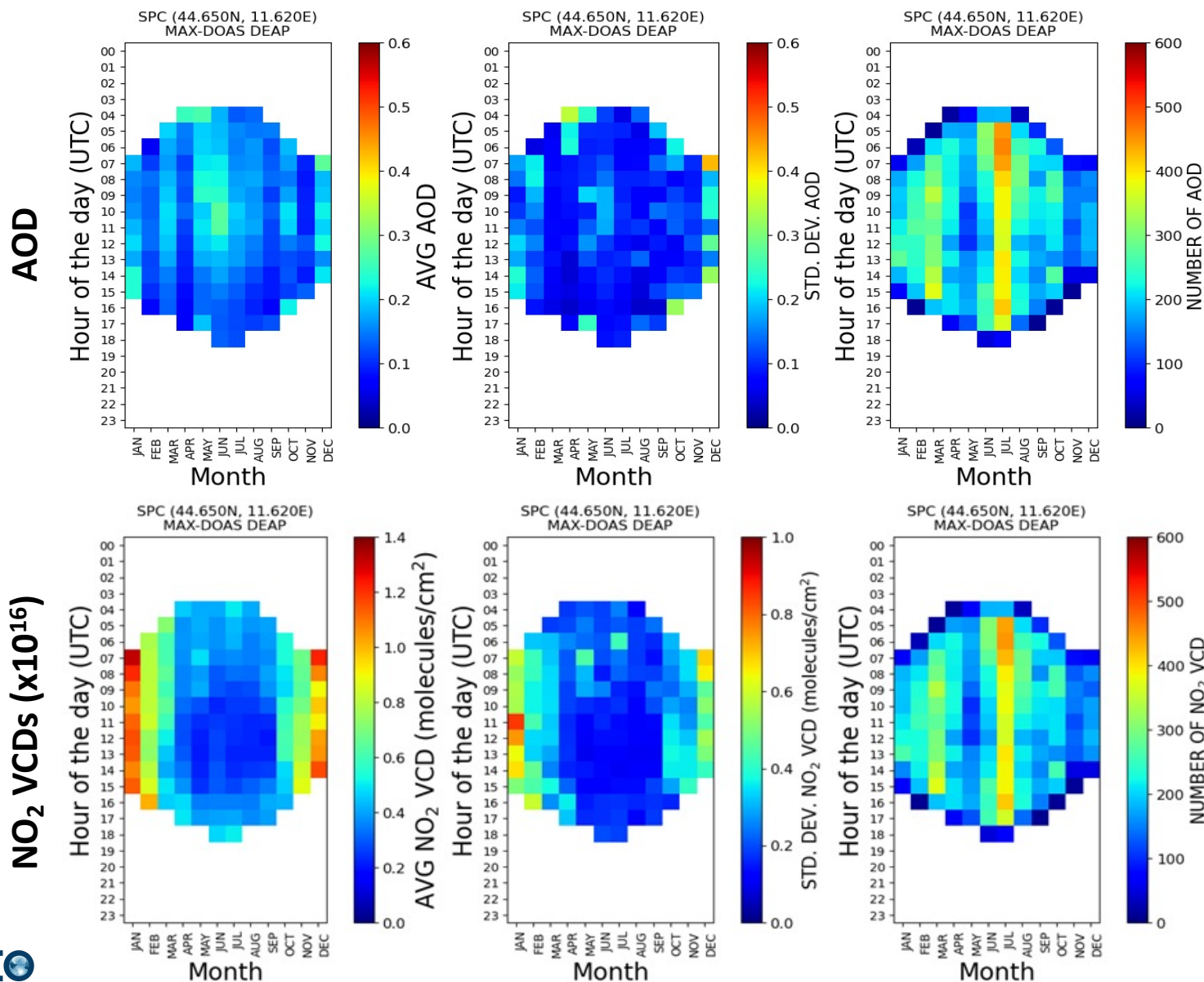
Results from 1 October 2021 to 23 March 2022

| | | MAPA vs DEAP | MMF vs DEAP |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| EXT SURF | CORR | 0.79 | 0.82 |
| | BIAS (1/km) | -0.025 | -0.08 |
| AOD | CORR | 0.54 | 0.94 |
| | BIAS | 0.025 | 0.007 |
| NO₂ SURF | CORR | 0.61 | 0.73 |
| | BIAS (x10¹⁰ molec/cm³) | 4.2 | 2.1 |
| NO₂ VCDs | CORR | 0.71 | 0.56 |
| | BIAS (x10¹⁵ molec/cm²) | 1.3 | 2.2 |



Tropospheric AOD and NO₂ VCDs in the Po Valley

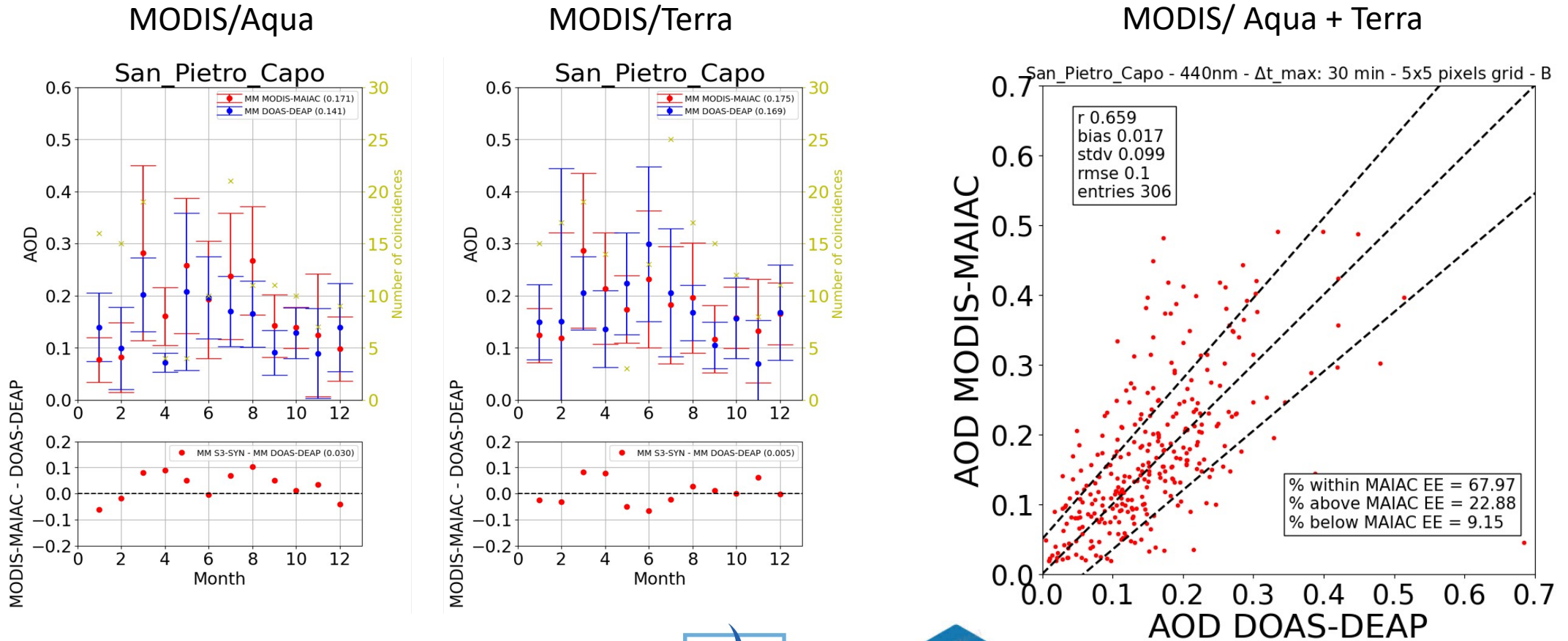
- Vertical profiles used to compute integrated tropospheric quantities (AOD and NO₂ VCDs)
- The whole dataset goes from 1 October 2021 to now.
- Here, we show 1 year of data (from 1 October 2021 to 31 September 2022)
- All data in the three azimuth directions averaged.



(project report: Valeri M. et al., Report on the intercomparison results between ground-based and satellite measurements)

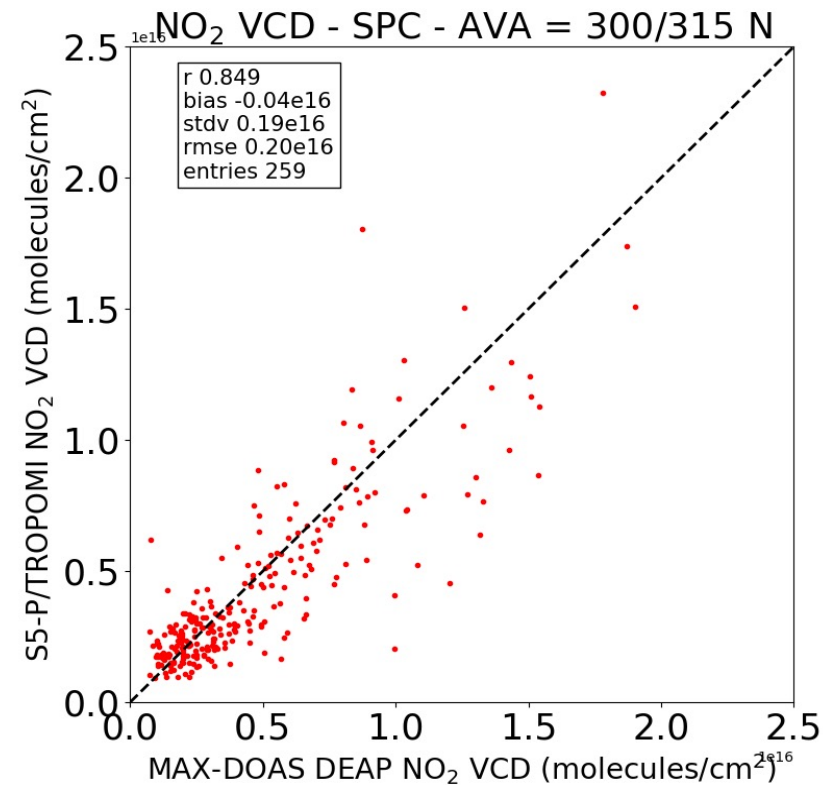
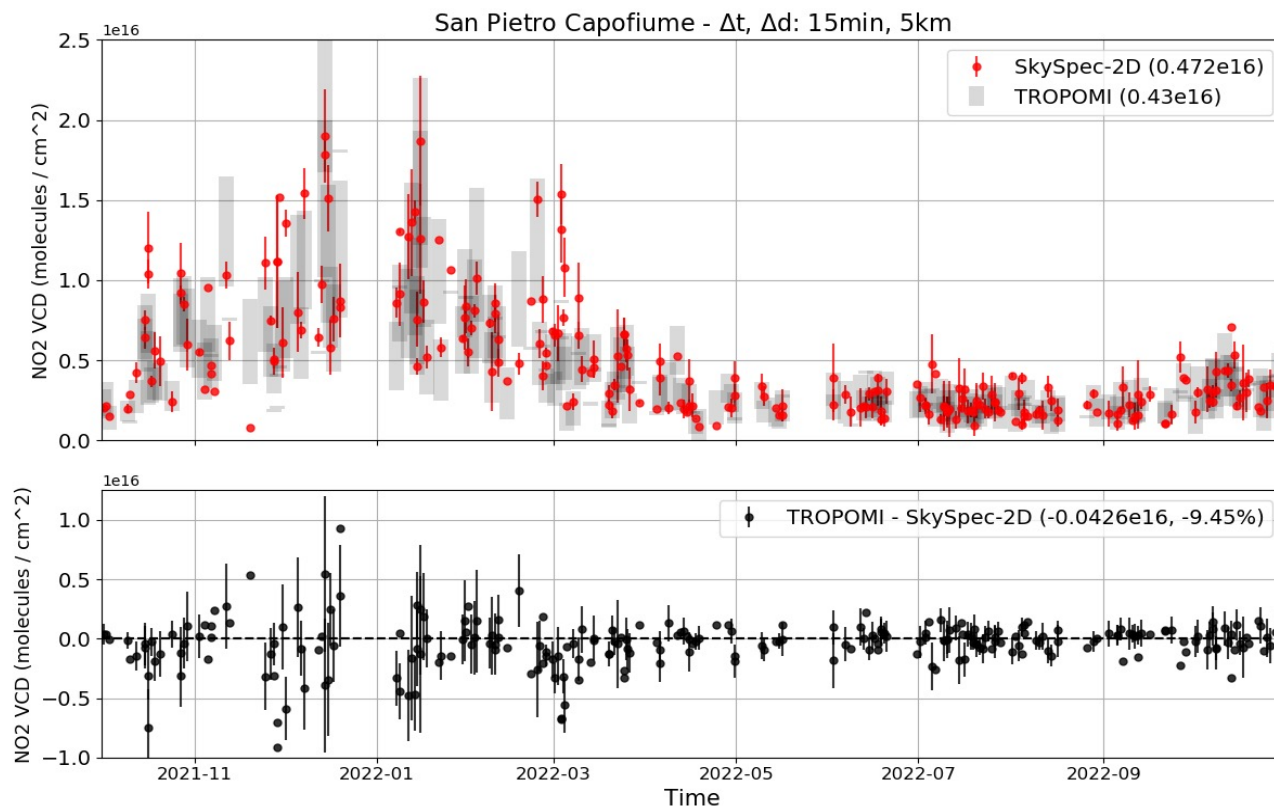
Comparison with satellite data (MODIS): AOD ($0.47 \mu m$)

1 year of data – all three directions - MODIS data within a 5x5 km² pixel around station are averaged – MAX-DOAS data within ± 30 min. around MODIS overpass are averaged



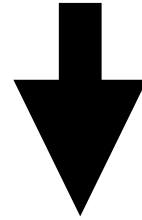
Comparison with satellite data (Tropomi): NO₂ VCDs

1 year of data - only direction at 315° - TROPOMI data within a radius of 5 km around station are averaged – MAX-DOAS data within ± 15 min. around Tropomi overpass are averaged

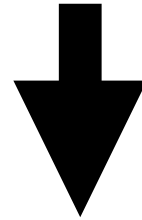


ITINERIS project for the future

The Italian Integrated Environmental Research Infrastructures Systems (ITINERIS) is a project coordinated by the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR) with the purpose to build an Italian hub of research infrastructures in the environmental scientific domain.



A new Fourier Transform Infra-Red (FTIR) spectrometer will be acquired in the next future.



- Infra-red spectra measured with a high spectral resolution compliant to NDACC
- Useful to measure many other trace gases present over the Po Valley.

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Spectral resolution | 0.0063 cm ⁻¹ |
| Spectral range | 800 - 14,000 cm ⁻¹ |

Conclusions

- DEAP algorithm is used to retrieve aerosol extinction and NO₂ vertical profiles from MAX-DOAS scans (about 15 min. per scan).
- At the moment, DEAP retrieved data over the Po Valley from 1 October 2021 till now.
- DEAP in good agreement with the reference algorithms MAPA and MMF.
- Good agreement between DEAP and TROPOMI NO₂ tropospheric VCDs (corr=0.85). TROPOMI underestimates the NO₂ of about 10%.
- Good agreement between DEAP and MODIS AOD (corr=0.66). DEAP has a negative bias of about 0.03 (MODIS/Aqua) and 0.005 (MODIS/Terra).
- Recently, DEAP was also exploited to retrieve NO₂ and extinction vertical profiles from MAX-DOAS scans acquired in Tor Vergata (Rome).

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS:

- Improve the DEAP algorithm (speed, convergence)
- Exploit DEAP to retrieve Formaldehyde (HCHO) in the Po Valley
- Measurement of new species over the Po Valley (ITINERIS project)

