

## Can one sounder meet the needs of the weather and composition community? Should it?

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## Synergy of weather and composition

- The ability of a single sensor depends critically on the problem to be addressed.
- The operational requirements for weather have been extensively studied.
- What are the operational requirements for composition in general and greenhouse gases in particular?

### Greenhouse gas prediction, monitoring, or both?



## Race to the bottom

NASA Science Community Workshop on Polar Orbiting IR and MW Sounders held in Nov 2010

- Specifically focused on weather, climate, and composition from hyperspectral sounders
- A common theme between weather and composition is the need for greater sensitivity to boundary layer processes at higher spatial resolution

## Interplay of dynamics and carbon



Sarrat et al, 2007

Spatially-resolved attribution of eco-system, oceanic, and anthropogenic source distribution from atmospheric CO2 concentrations depend on knowledge of tracer advection, vertical mixing and planetary boundary level (PBL) height.

## Multi-spectral sounding strategy

Earth Spectrum (Tropical noon, albedo 0.8)



Combination of Thermal IR with NIR channels can be used to discriminate boundary layer CO2.

Strategy has been proposed by Christi and Stephens, 2004

Thermal IR + NIR approach has been demonstrated for MOPITT CO





# Impact of CO-CO<sub>2</sub> correlations

Correlations between  $CO-CO_2$ induced through common dynamical processes can significantly improve  $CO_2$  flux estimates. (Wang *et al*, 2009, JGR)

Correlations between errors in paired CO and CO<sub>2</sub> species between 24 and 48 hour forecasts, i.e.,  $E[\Delta CO\Delta CO_2]$  (NMC method)

Application of correlations to flux estimate results in improvements up to 60% relative to using  $CO_2$  alone

Exploitation of correlations in combustion sources depends on source homogeneity and knowledge of scale factor







### NASA Carbon Monitoring Flux Pilot Project





Spatially resolved attribution of CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes depend on
Spatial-temporal distribution of the observing system

• Accuracy of *tracer* transport (meteorology) in the adjoint

Differences in tracer transport can lead to flux estimate uncertainties that exceed the uncertainties from the observing system

Houweling et al, 2010



#### Spatial Footprint has a big impact on throughput for $CO_2$



<sup>1</sup>J. Krijger et. al, The effect of sensor resolution on the number of cloud-free observations from space, Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 6, 4465-4499, 2006, net/6/4

### Trade between Spatial Resolution and/or Coverage



• Whiskbroom: Wide field slows scan, enabling higher spatial resolution

• Pushbroom: Wide field directly extends E/W Swath

## LEO approaches for a multispectral strategy



Evolutionary Approach using New Technology: Wide Field Optics + Large Format FPA's =

Wide Field OCO
High Resolution AIRS (Atmospheric Remote-sensing Imaging Emission Sounder (ARIES))

Note: OCO-WF requires 15x higher spectral resolution than ARIES hence reduced swath

	000	OCO-WF	AIRS	ARIES
IFOV	2 km	2 km	13.5 km	1 km
Swath	10 km	200 km	1750 km	2330 km
Nchan	3048	3048	2378	4096
SNR/NEdT	360	360	0.2K	0.2K
Polarization	Linear	Dual	N/A	N/A



Simultaneous measurements of meteorological variables along with greenhouse gases and atmospheric chemical species in geo-stationary orbit could dramatically improve regional scale flux estimates





# NASA Conclusions

- The inference of surface fluxes from CO2 concentrations requires both accurate measurements and transport models
- A multi-spectral strategy that combines IR and NIR capabilities constrains the CO2 profile
- Correlative tracer measurements, e.g., CO, can help reduce flux uncertainties
- High spatial resolution reduces cloud contamination and PBL variability
- Improved meterological constraints are needed for tracer transport.
- There are technical solutions in both LEO and GEO that could combine these capabilities into a single instrument.





- 1/ Meteorology
- 2/ Climate/Atmospheric chemistry
- 3/ Operational applications





Cathy Clerbaux, NASA Workshop, Nov 2010





- Requirements depend on the goal.
- NASA workshop results?
- ♦ Higher spatial resolution for Weather→clouds
- Boundary layer processes are becoming a key driver of requirements for both weather and composition
- Key differences from an assimilation perspective
  - weather prediction is driven by an initial condition problem
  - atmospheric composition is driven equally by a boundary value problem
- Role of Earth System Modeling to understand and predict changes in the Earth System
  - Need for Earth System Assimilation
  - Need for an Earth System Observing Network (ESON)
  - Hyperspectral sounders provide the foundation and the glue of an ESON.
  - Schlussel-EUMETSAT "Evolution of NWP models from atmospheric data assimilation towards Earth system analyses and