

# **NMED CAMx 2022v2 12/4 km**

## **CAMx 2022v2 12/4 km Base Case Simulation**

### **Model Performance Evaluation and Sensitivity Tests**

April 9, 2026

**RAMBOLL**

Bright ideas.  
Sustainable change.

# Content

- Preliminary assessment of Phase 2 CAMx 2022v2 12/4 km base case model performance

Phase	Modeling Platform	Identifier (short name)
Phase 2	2022v2 12/4 km with 4 km met & emissions	NMED_4km2022v2
Phase 1	2022v1 12/4 km with flexinest emissions	NMED_4kmflxNest
Phase 1	2022v1 12 km EPA Platform	12US2_4kmNMED

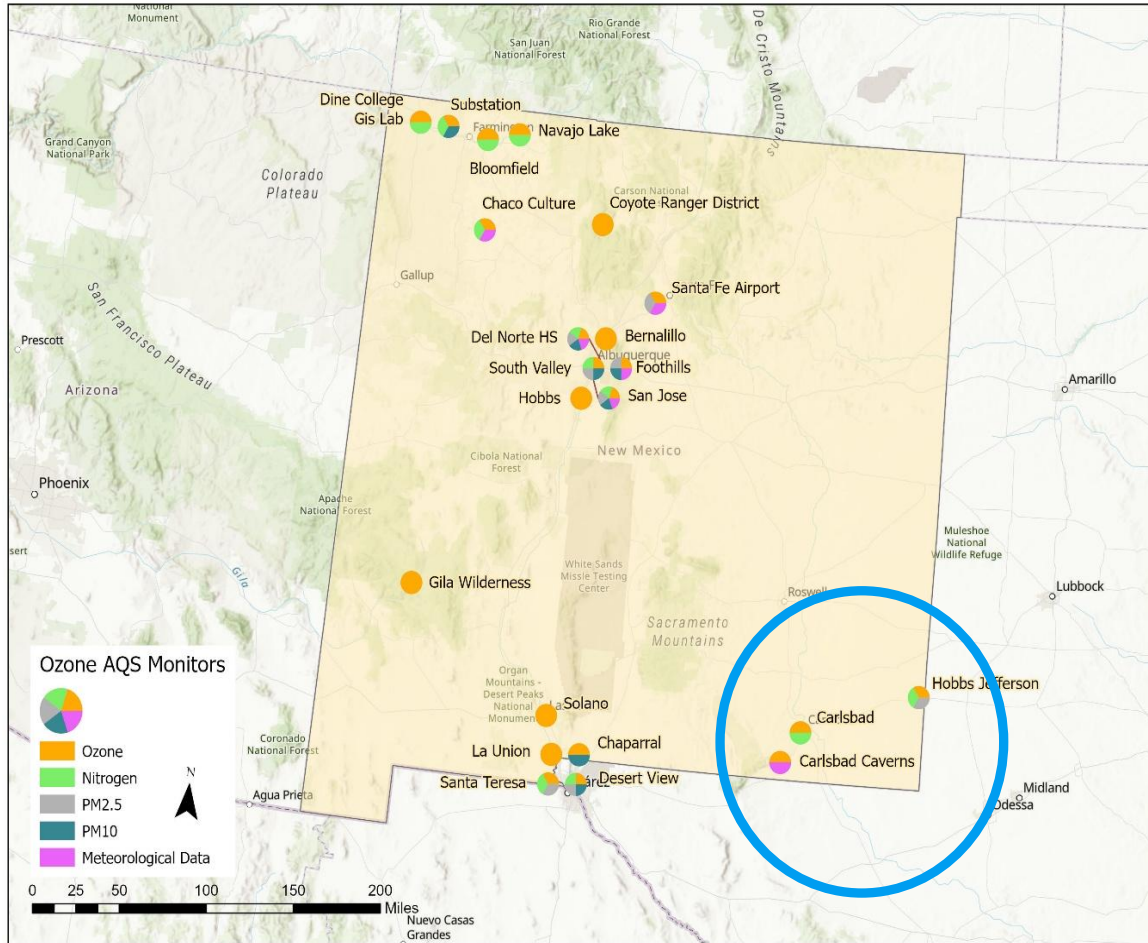
- Evaluation using AQS ozone and NO<sub>x</sub> measurements in Permian Basin
- Evaluation using 2021 CarCavAQS and 2023 HEI Loving, NM field study VOC and NO<sub>x</sub> data
- Relationship between ozone and temperature
- TROPOMI Satellite NO<sub>2</sub> and HCHO comparisons
- Selection of 20-day period for 2022 Sensitivity tests
- Initial CAMx 2022v2 12/4 km sensitivity tests
  - Vertical Mixing Sensitivities
  - Permian Basin O&G Emissions Sensitivities
- Next Steps:
  - Task E: Local Source Ozone Source Apportionment Modeling
  - Task F: State and International Ozone Source Apportionment Modeling

# Base Case Ozone Evaluation

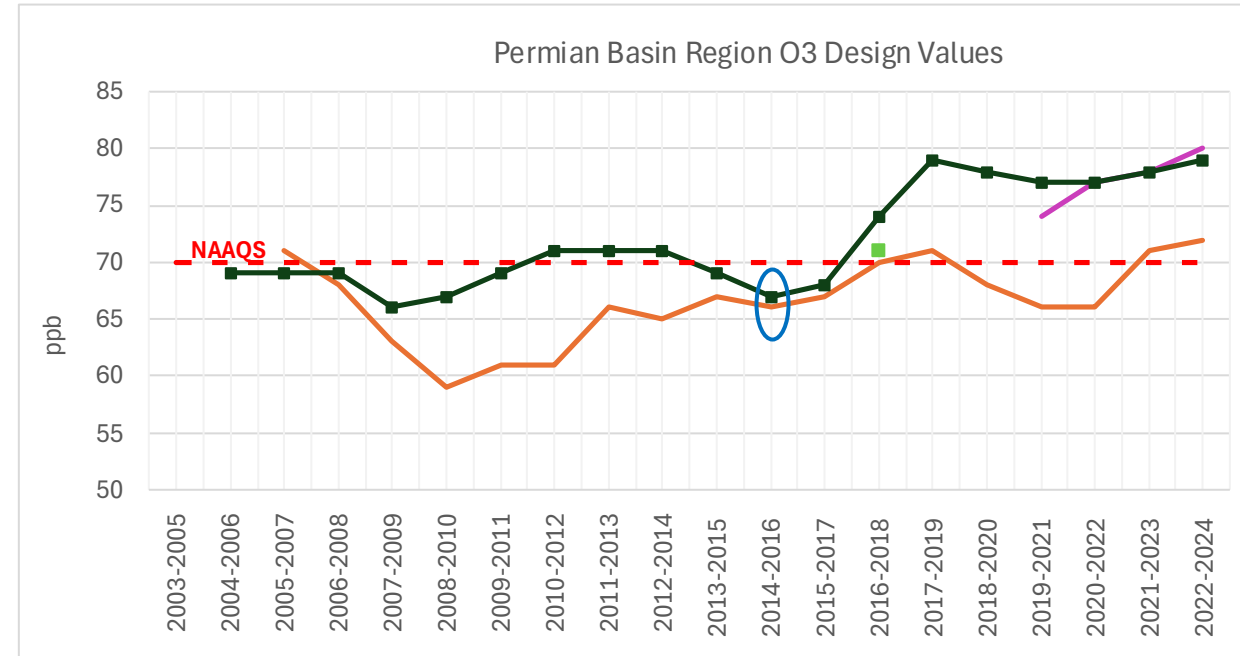
Phase I (4 km 2022v1 Flexinest) vs. Phase II (4 km 2022v2)

Phase II: May – September 2022 (5 months)

# Preliminary MPE focus on Ozone and NOx in NM Permian



Site ID	County	Location
350150010	Eddy	Carlsbad Caverns
350151005	Eddy	Carlsbad (City)
350250008	Lea	Hobbs Jefferson



— Hobbs Jefferson

— Carlsbad Caverns NP site Active

■ Carlsbad Caverns NP site

■ Carlsbad City

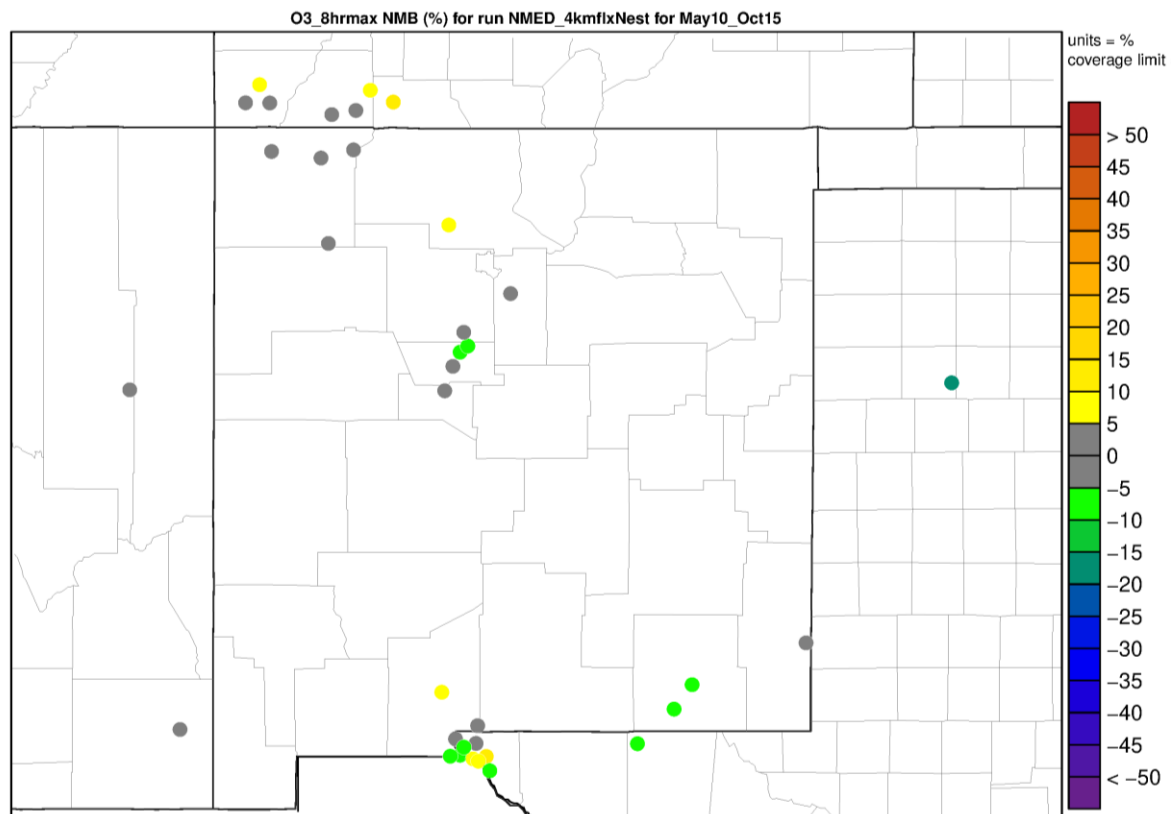
- Ozone nonattainment area designations based on 2014-2026 Design Values that were below 70 ppb 2015 ozone NAAQS
- Since 2018, ozone Design Values in Permian Basin have been exceeding the 2015 NAAQS

# MDA8 O3 Normalized Mean Bias (NMB)

Goal:  $NMB \leq \pm 5\%$   
Criterion:  $NMB \leq \pm 15\%$

## Phase I 4kmflexinest 2022v1 4 km Met / 12 km Emissions

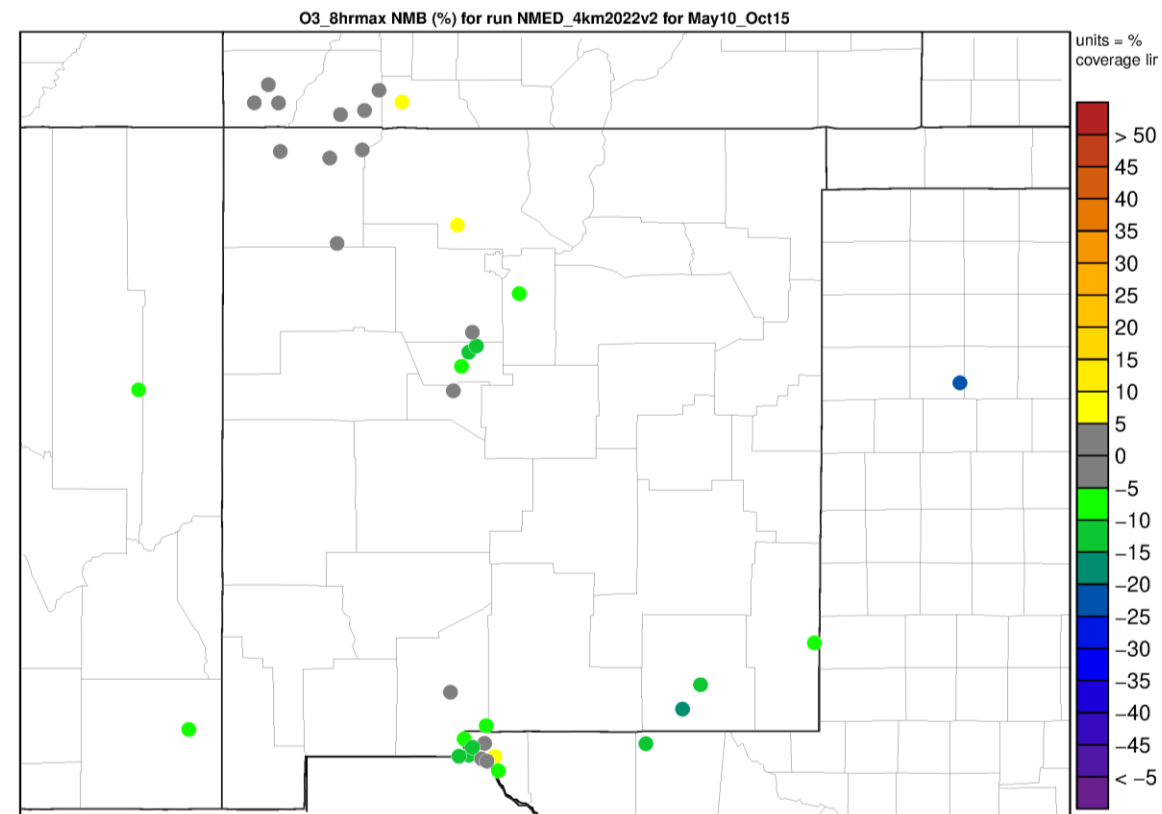
4kmflxnest: 12km Interpolated to 4 km  
(flexinest)



CIRCLE=AQS\_Daily\_O3;

## Phase II 4km2022v2 4 km Met & Emissions

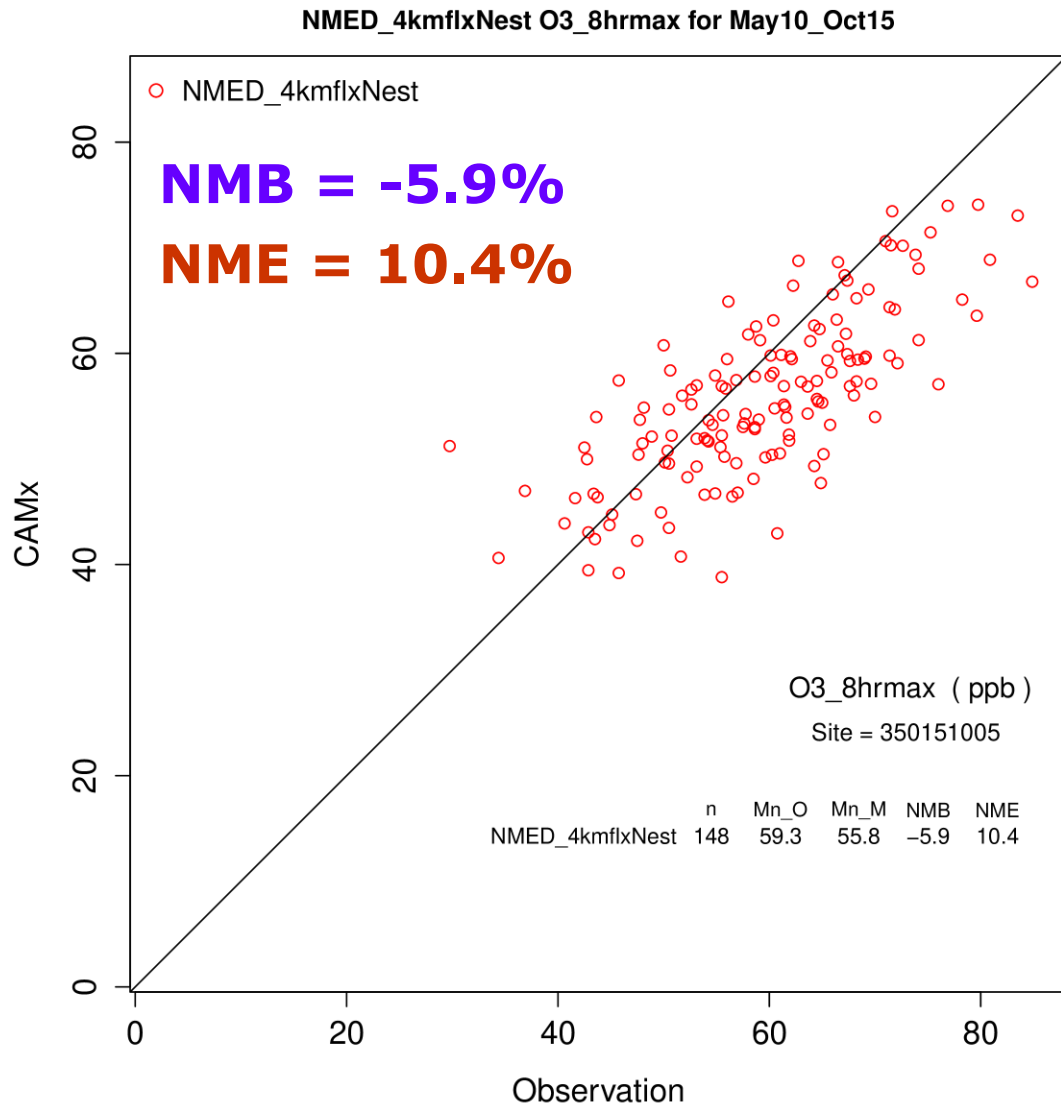
4km2022v2: Native 4 km



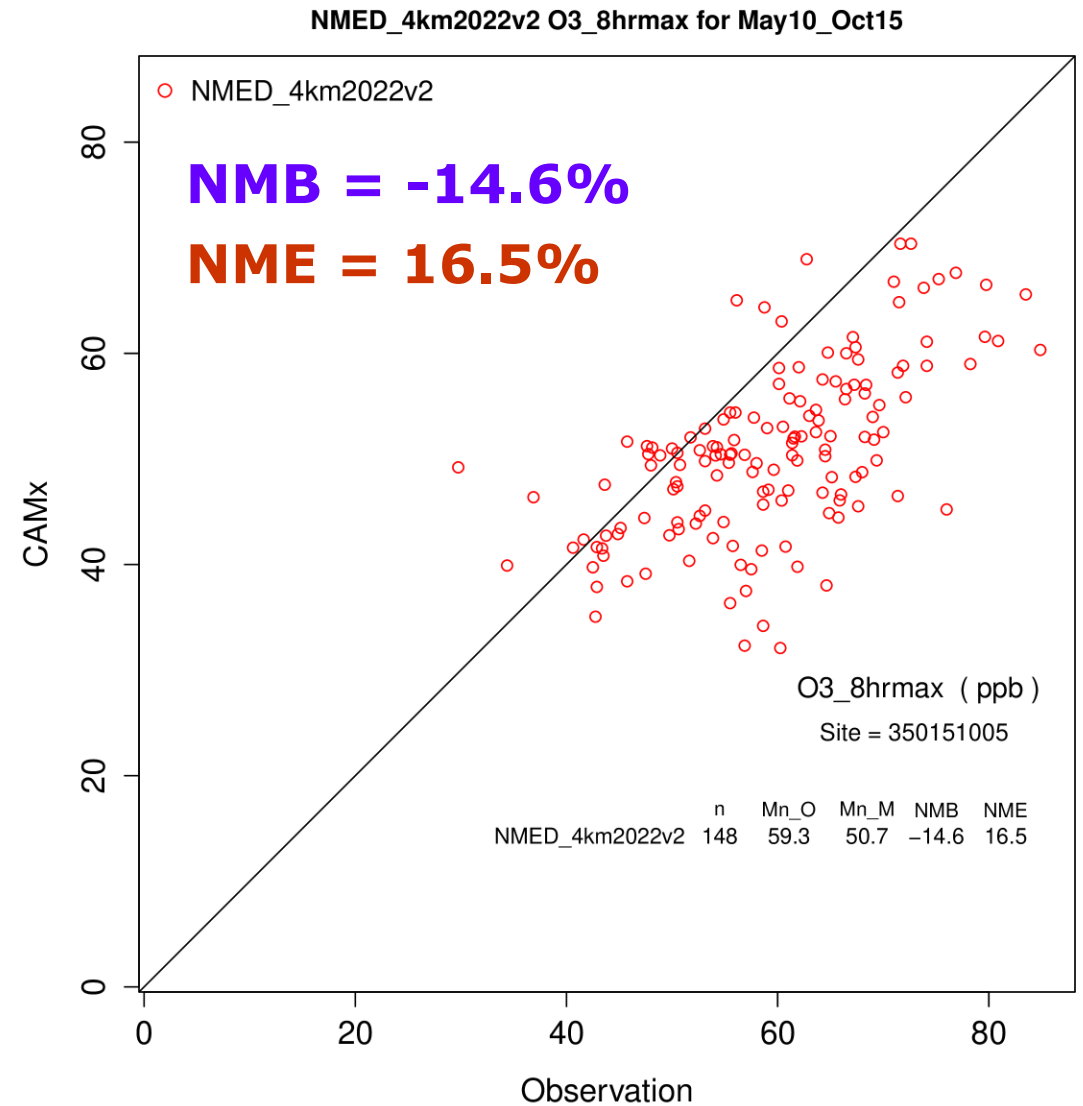
CIRCLE=AQS\_Daily\_O3;

# MDA8 O3 NMB May-Oct 2022: Carlsbad City

## Phase I: 4kmflxnest2022v1



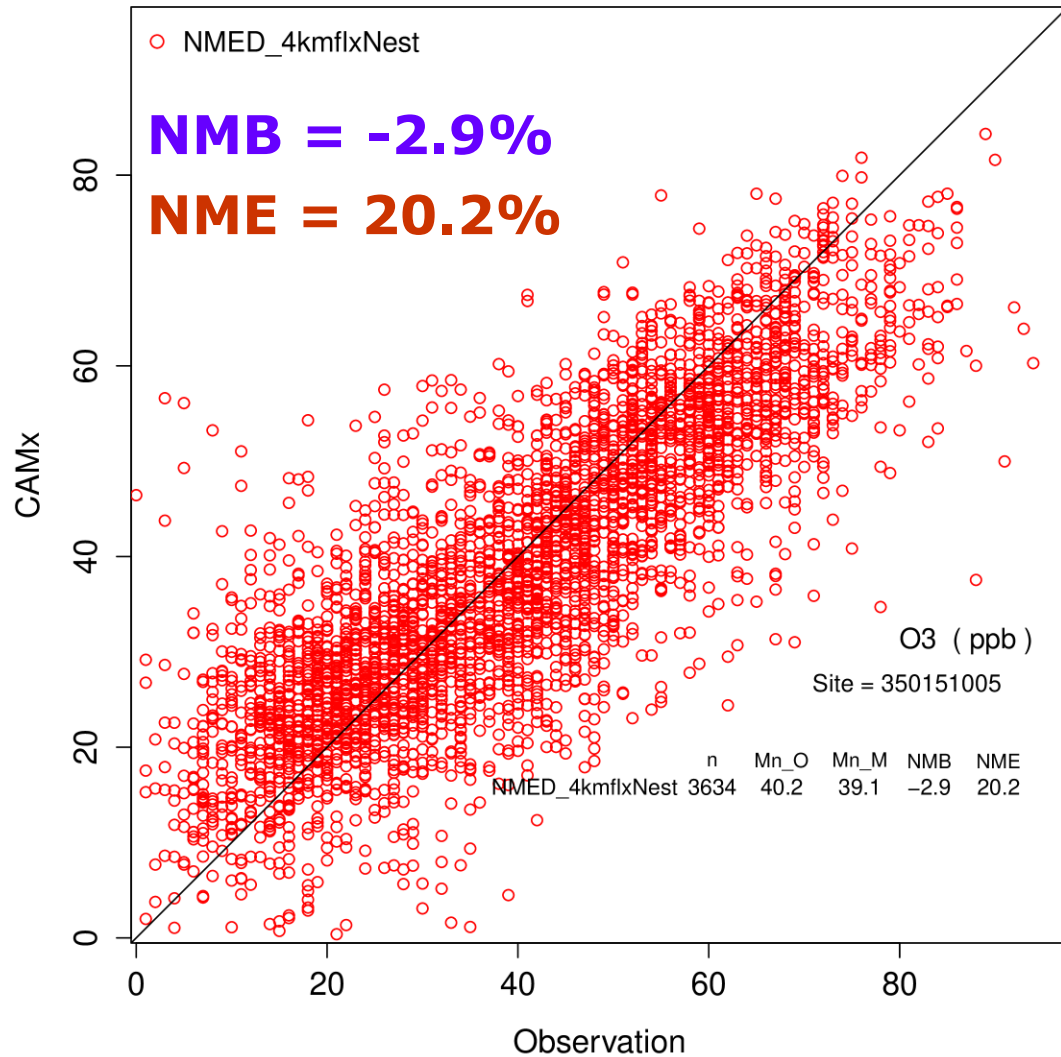
## Phase II 4km2022v2



# Hourly O3 May-Oct 2022: Carlsbad City

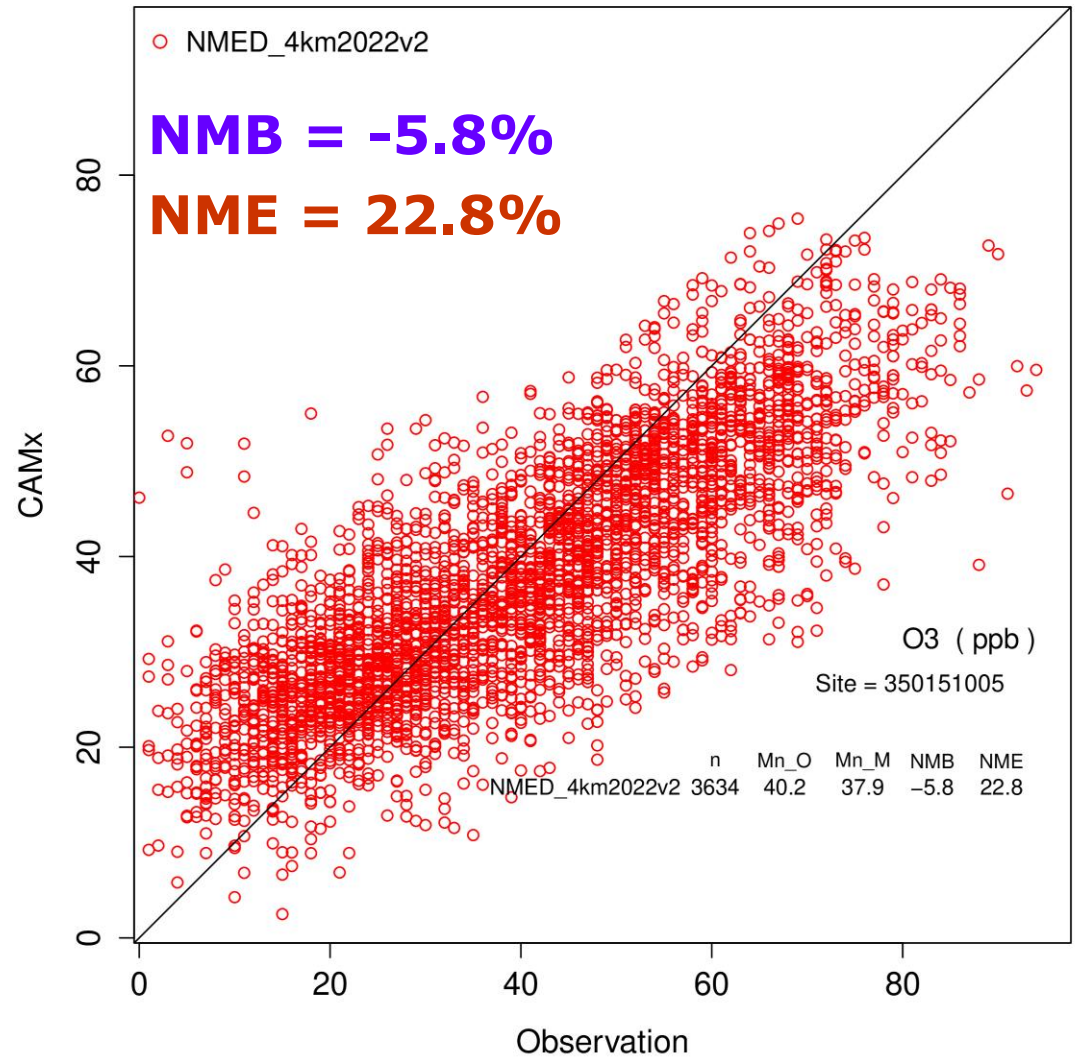
## 4kmflxnest 2022v1

NMED\_4kmflxNest O3 for May10\_Oct15



## 4km2022v2

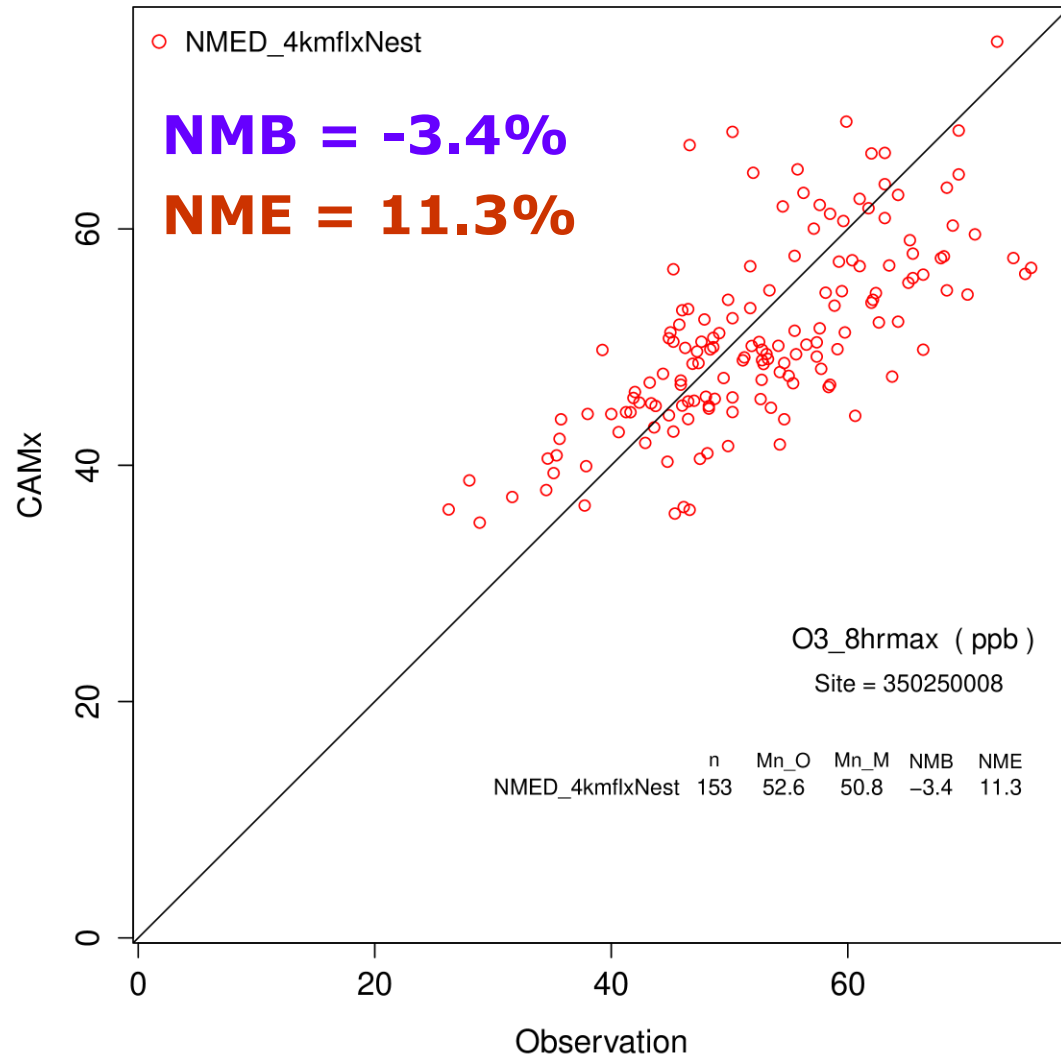
NMED\_4km2022v2 O3 for May10\_Oct15



# MDA8 O3 NMB May-Oct 2022: Hobbs

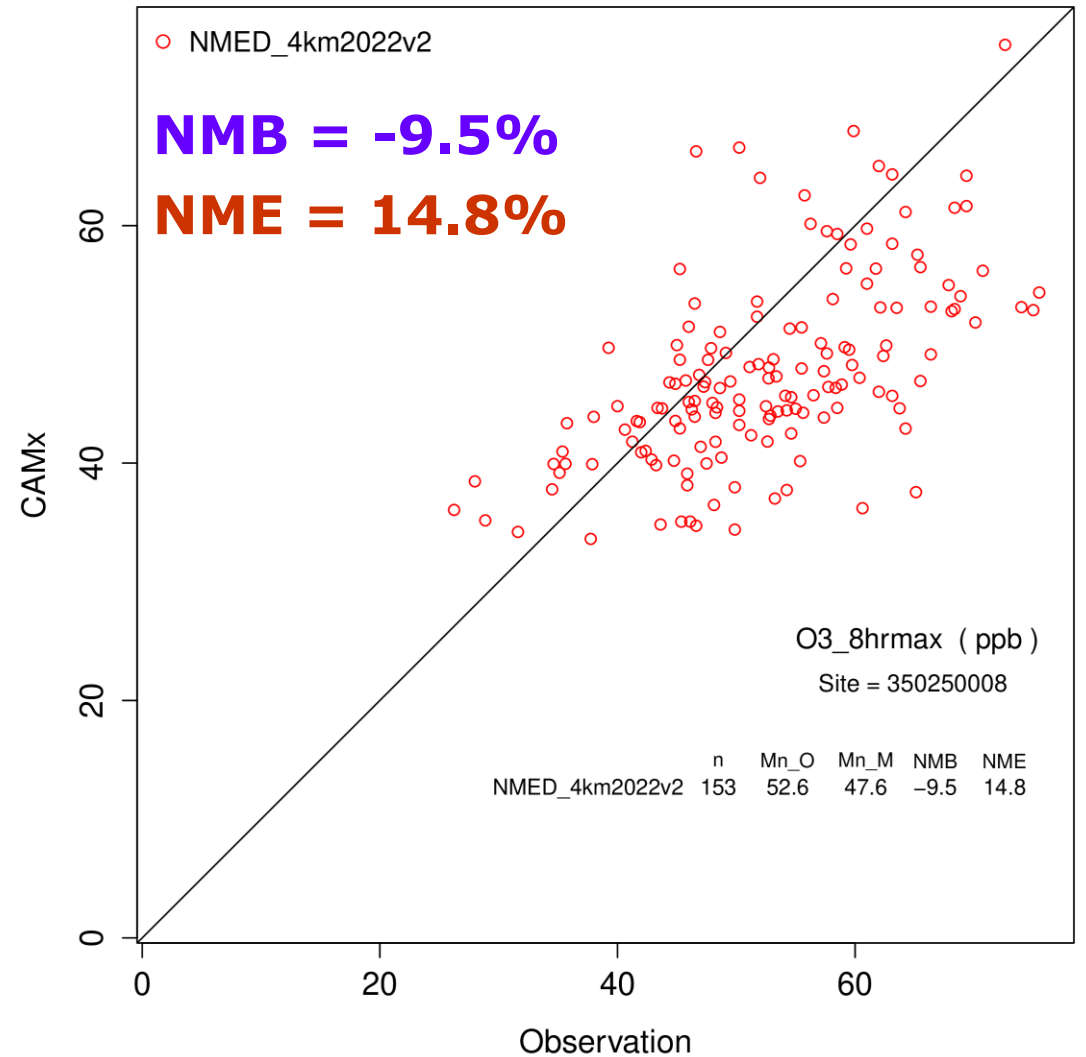
## 4kmflxnest 2022v1

NMED\_4kmflxNest O3\_8hrmax for May10\_Oct15



## 4km2022v2

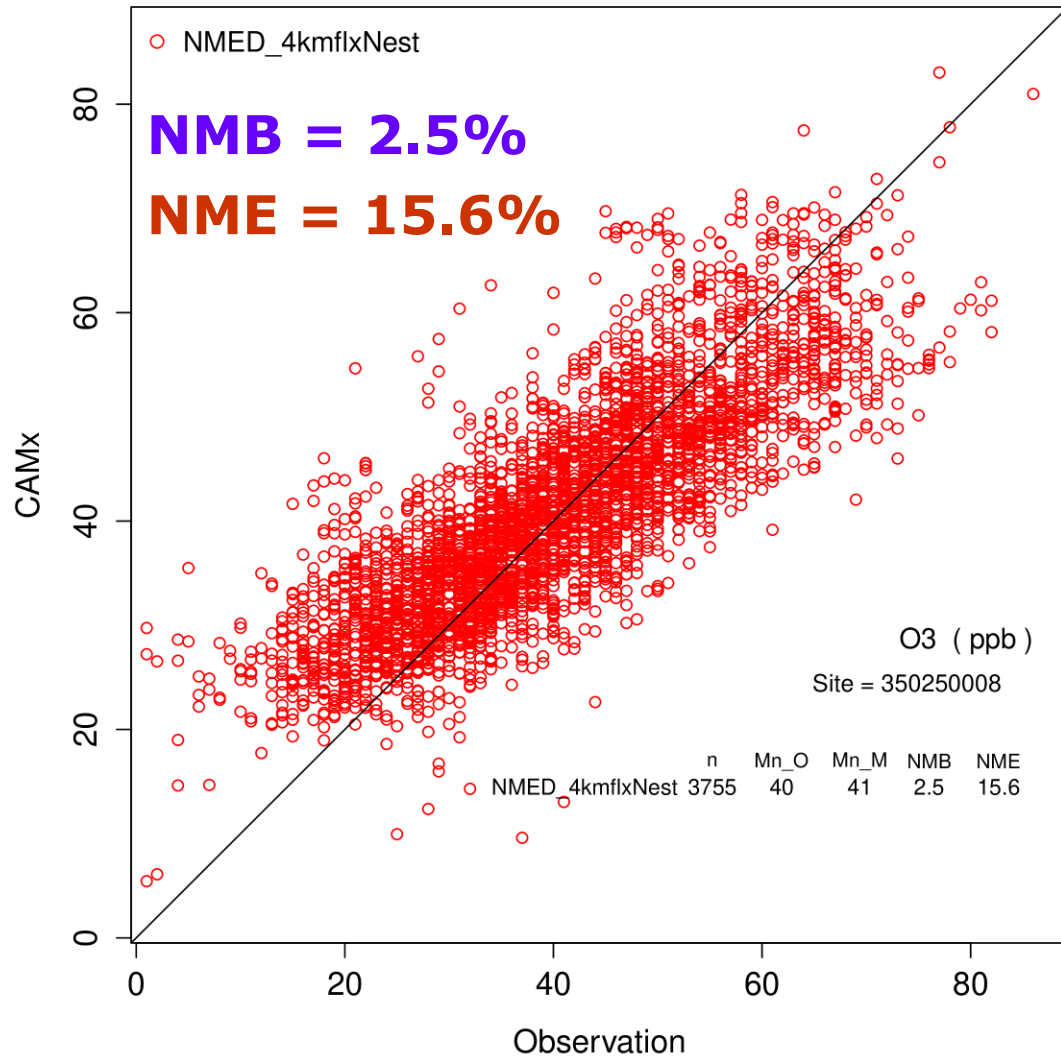
NMED\_4km2022v2 O3\_8hrmax for May10\_Oct15



# Hourly O3 May-Oct 2022: Hobbs

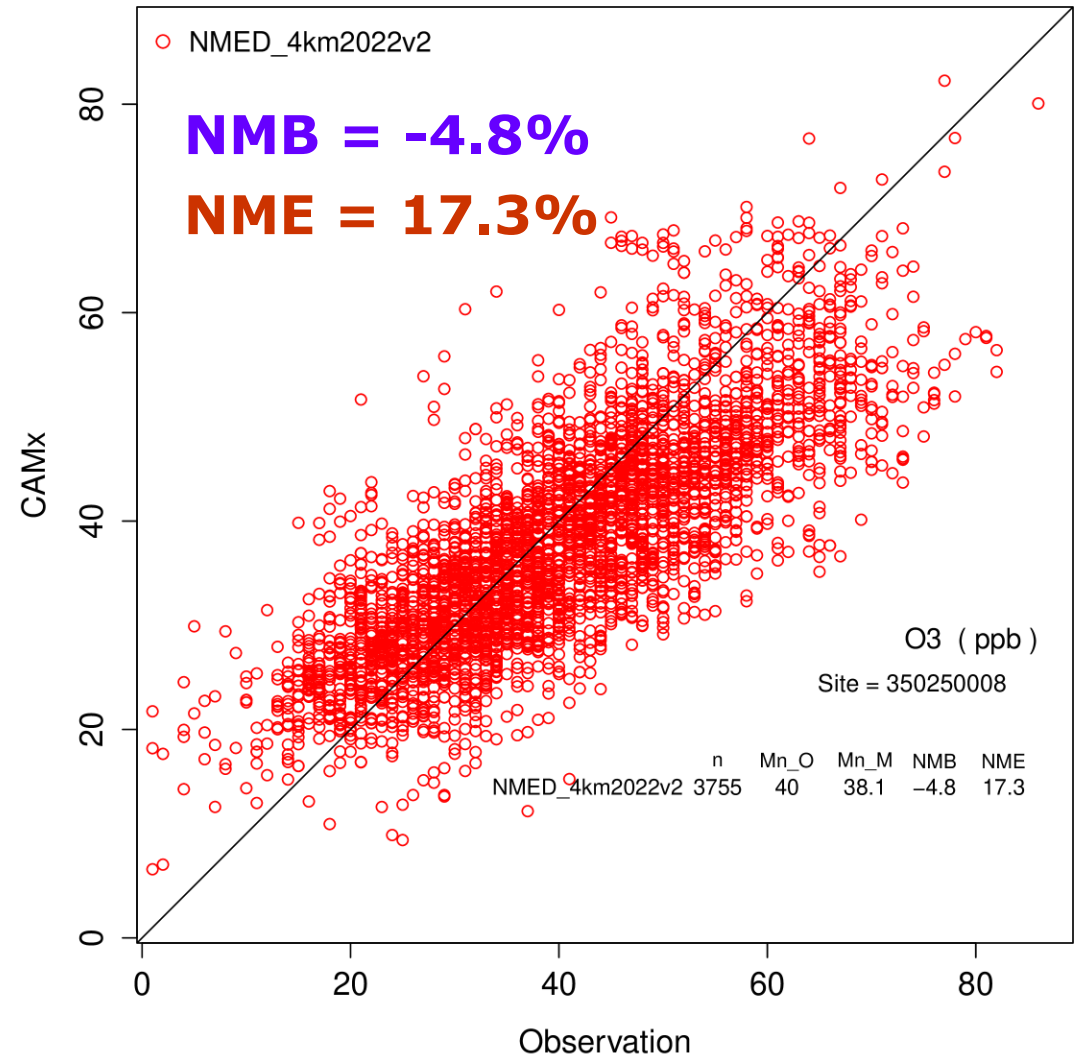
## 4kmflxnest 2022v1

NMED\_4kmflxNest O3 for May10\_Oct15



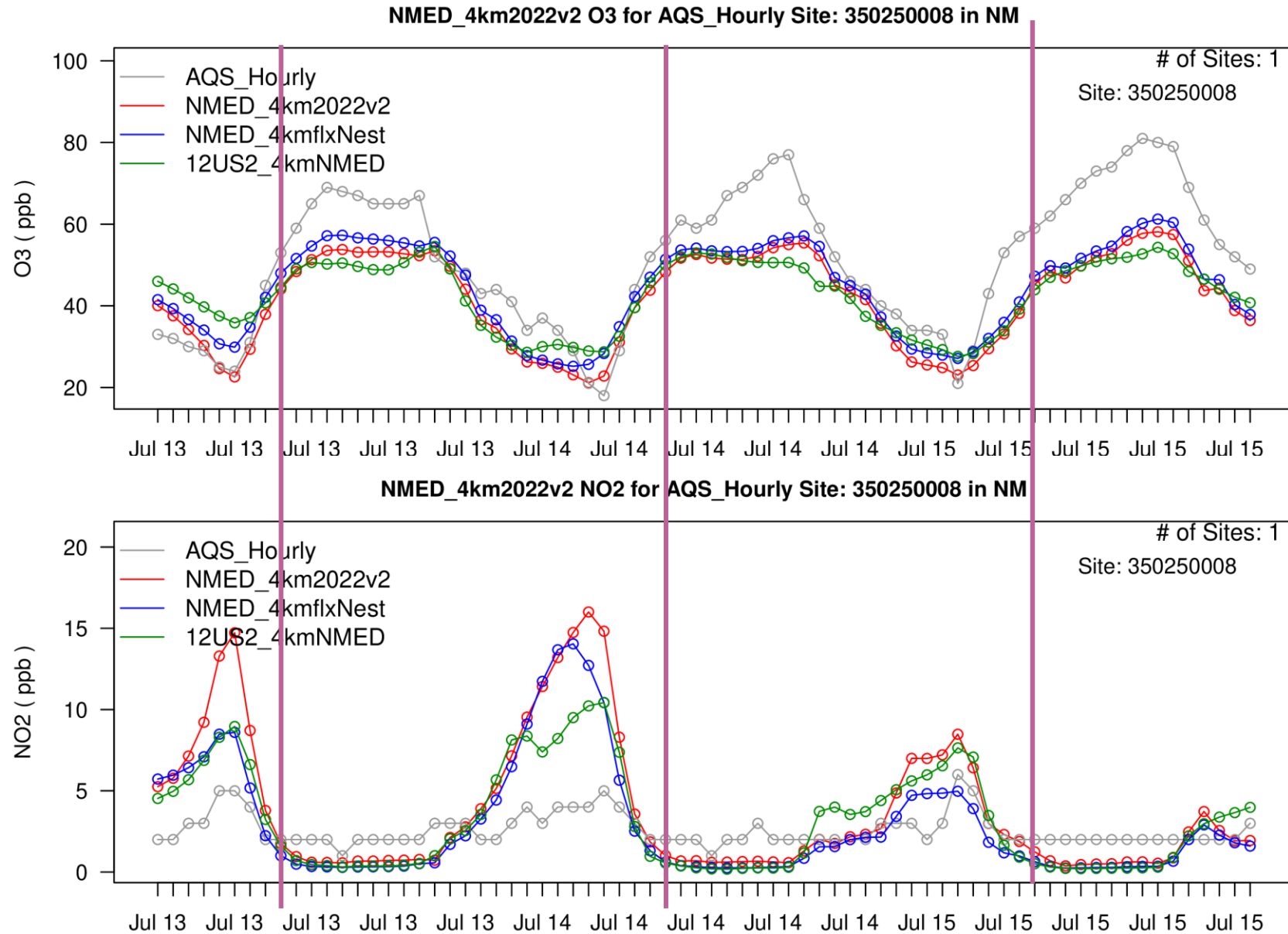
## 4km2022v2

NMED\_4km2022v2 O3 for May10\_Oct15





# July 13-15, 2022: Hobbs – Ozone (top) and NO<sub>2</sub> (bottom)?



# Preliminary Ozone and NO<sub>x</sub> MPE of Initial Phase 2 CAMx 12/4 km Simulation

- **Why did Phase I CAMx 2022v1 4 km flexinest obtain better ozone model performance than Phase II CAMx 4 km 2022v2?** 2022v2 4 km emissions degrade ozone model performance relative to the 2022v1 flexinest platform, particularly in the Permian Basin.
  - Carlsbad City MDA8 ozone NMB underprediction degrades from -6% to -15%
- 2022v2 New Mexico O&G non-point NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are 40% lower than 2022v1, excerpt from the [2022v2 EITSD](#), which may explain the weaker ozone performance

## 2.2.4 Nonpoint Oil and Gas Sector (np\_oilgas)

### 2022v2 updates relative to earlier 2022 emissions modeling platforms

The 2022v2 emissions changes for the non-point oil and gas sector included the following:

- Nonroad emissions factor correction which significantly reduced NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (about 74%) from drill rigs and hydraulic fracturing engines

- This implies a 74% reduction in drilling and fracing engine NO<sub>x</sub> emissions reduced Non-Point O&G NO<sub>x</sub> emissions by 40%, which seems reasonable. The higher O&G NO<sub>x</sub> emissions in 2022v1 explains the better ozone performance than obtained using the 2022v2 emission inventory

# Preliminary Ozone and NO<sub>x</sub> MPE of Initial Phase 2 CAMx 12/4 km Simulation

**What we learned from hourly timeseries:** Observed O<sub>3</sub> continues rising into the afternoon, while modeled O<sub>3</sub> stalls. During these hours, observed NO<sub>2</sub> remains elevated, but modeled NO<sub>2</sub> drops to near zero, shutting down NO<sub>2</sub> photolysis and halting ozone production.

## Outstanding Questions:

- Are Permian Basin O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and/or VOC emissions understated?
- Could observed NO<sub>2</sub> be higher than modeled simply due to the minimum detection level for NO<sub>2</sub> monitors, especially at Hobbs?
- Can there be NO<sub>2</sub> measurement interference with other species (e.g., PAN, PNA, HNO<sub>3</sub>) resulting in higher measured "NO<sub>2</sub>"?

**Next Steps:** While developing 2032 emissions, investigate CAMx ozone model performance using additional performance approaches and conduct sensitivity tests for a selected episode in May-October 2022:

- Vertical mixing sensitivity tests: to check for NO<sub>2</sub> over-dilution
- Emissions sensitivity tests: because Permian Basin O&G emissions might be understated

# CarCavAQS Evaluation

2022 modeling VS. 2021 Measured VOC and NOx

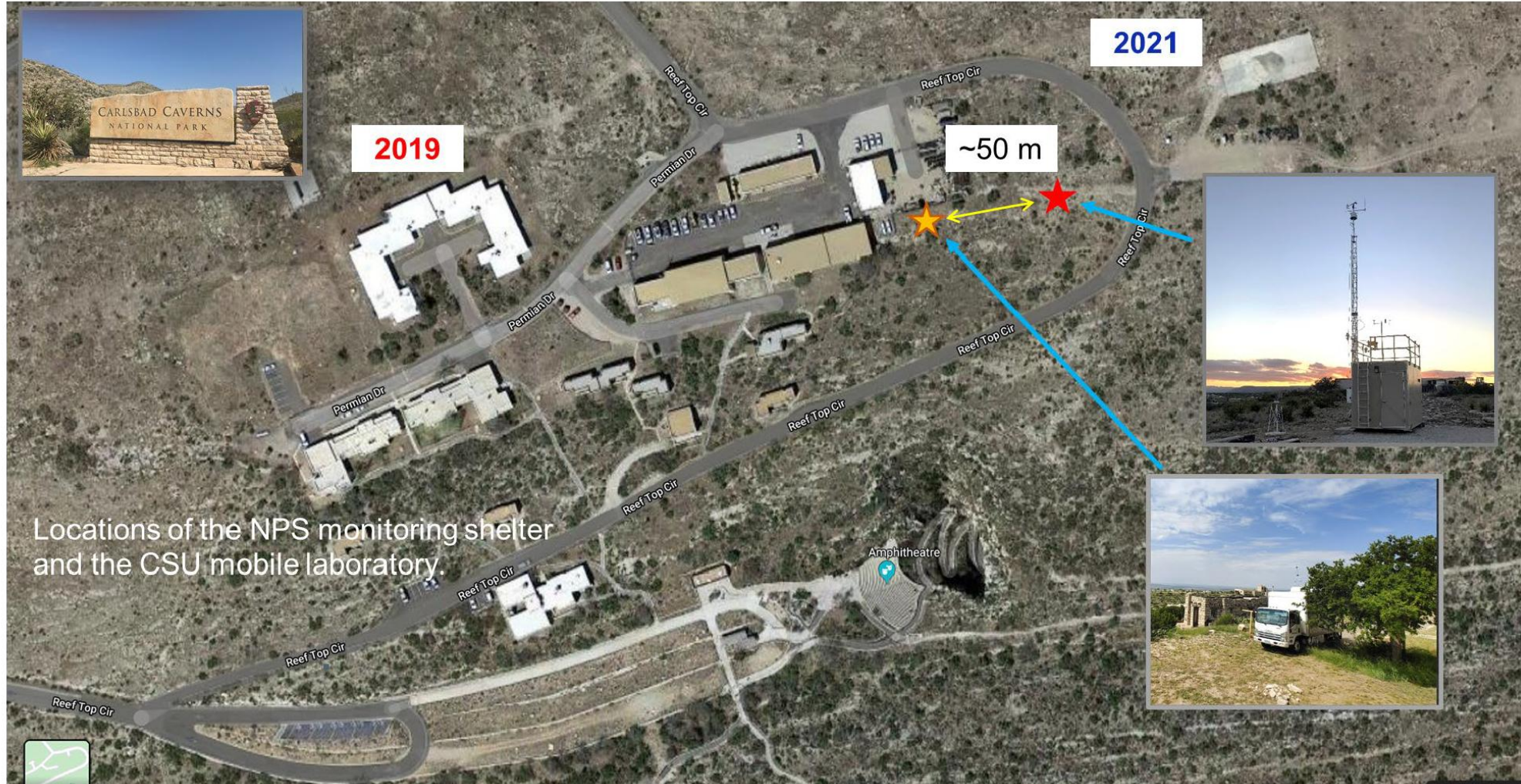
# Evaluation Against 2021 CarCavAQS Data

- CSU, NPS and others collected ozone, NOx and VOC samples during 2019 and 2021 summer periods at Carlsbad Caverns NP
- Although not concurrent with our summer 2022 modeling episode, comparing the distributions of concentrations provide indication of model performance for ozone precursors

<b>Carlsbad Caverns Intensive Air Quality Study</b>		
<b>2019</b> 7/24 → 9/3	<b>Measurements</b>	<b>2021</b> 7/17 → 8/19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>y</sub></li> <li>• CH<sub>4</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub></li> <li>• PAN, PPN</li> <li>• Real-time GC: C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> NMHCs, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl nitrates, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> halocarbons, OVOCs, etc.</li> <li>• PTR-MS: VOCs, OVOCs, S cmpds</li> <li>• PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass and composition (Na<sup>+</sup>, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, Acetate, Formate, Glycolate, Oxalate)</li> <li>• 24-hr NH<sub>3</sub>, HNO<sub>3</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, &amp; PM<sub>2.5</sub> composition</li> <li>• Carbonyl cartridges (10 AM – 5 PM)</li> <li>• Aethalometer (black carbon)</li> <li>• NPS/ARS operated real-time O<sub>3</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, CO and meteorology</li> <li>• GUMO O<sub>3</sub> and Meteorology</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>y</sub></li> <li>• CH<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub></li> <li>• Real-time GC: C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> NMHCs, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl nitrates, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> halocarbons, OVOCs, etc.</li> <li>• EPA Remotely Operated Canister Sampler (ROCS) – 4 locations</li> <li>• Sensor PM<sub>2.5</sub> &amp; PM<sub>10</sub> (CAVE &amp; GUMO)</li> <li>• NOAA GEM, THg &amp; RM</li> <li>• UNR Passive Hg Samplers (GUMO)</li> <li>• SENSIT SPOD</li> <li>• Entanglement AROMA-VOC</li> <li>• NPS/ARS operated real-time O<sub>3</sub> &amp; meteorology</li> <li>• GUMO O<sub>3</sub> and Meteorology</li> </ul>

# CarCavAQS 2019 and 2021 Monitoring Sites

## Measurement Locations at CAVE



# VOC Evaluation (MPE) using 2021 CarCavAQS

## The Challenge to Compare VOCs









- CAMx 2022v2 12/4 km uses the CB7r1 chemical mechanism.
- CB7r1 “lumps” thousands of individual VOCs into ~100 reactivity-based groups, limiting one-to-one comparison with observations.
- Only a handful of VOCs are treated explicitly, so evaluation must rely on these few species to infer broader model performance.

## CAMx VOCs Evaluation Process

The CAMx 2022v2 12/4 base case was evaluated for 8 explicit VOC species in the CB7r1 chemical mechanism using 2021 CarCavAQS measurement data

<b>MODEL (CAMX 2022 12/4KM)</b>	<b>OBSERVATIONS (CarCavAQS 2021)</b>	<b>COMPARISON METHOD</b>	<b>DIAGNOSTIC INSIGHT</b>
Explicit VOC outputs (8 species)	Field VOC measurements (July 17 - August 19, 2021)	Box-and-whisker plots	Distribution bias (under/over-prediction)
Hourly modeled concentrations	Hourly and integrated observations	Diurnal cycle analysis	Evaluates mixing and chemistry differences. Avoids time-alignment issues between model and observations

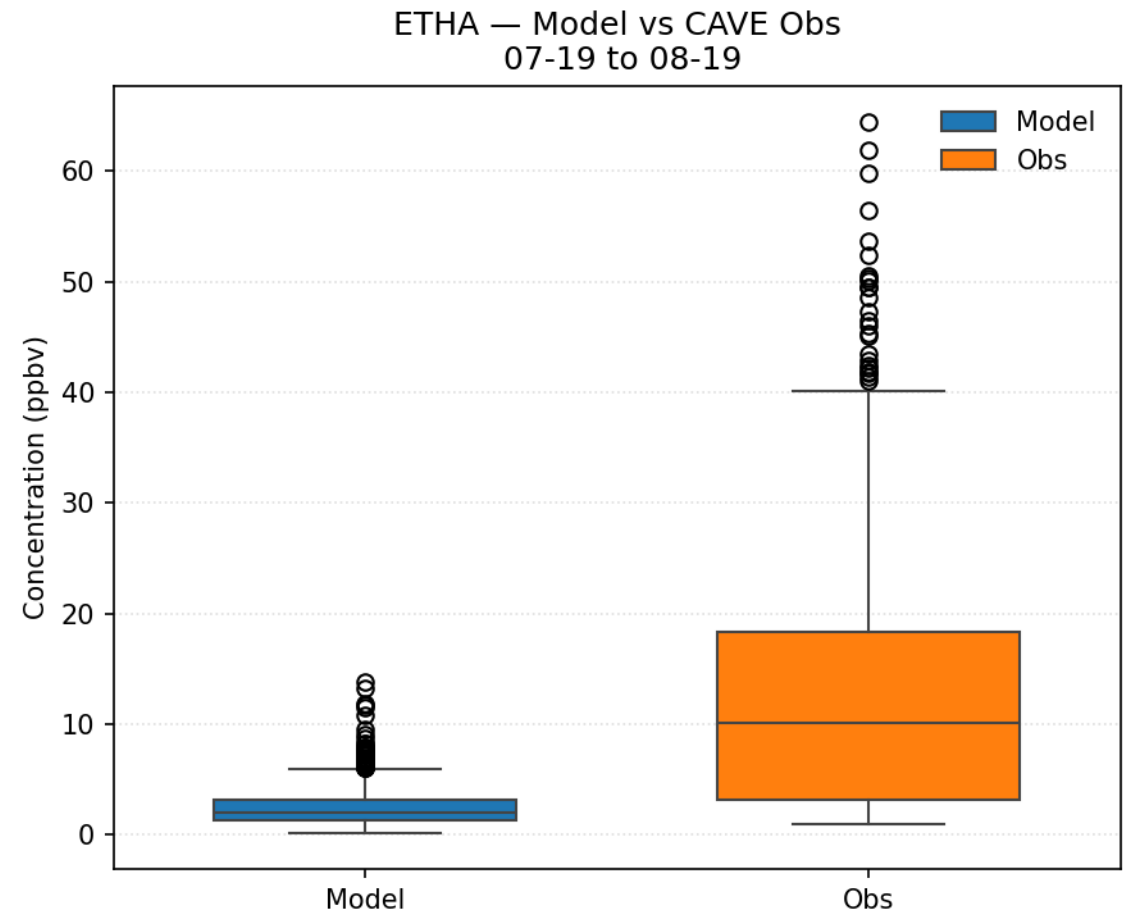
# Evaluation for 8 Explicit VOC Species in CB6r5

 <b>ETHANE (ETHA)</b> $C_2H_6$ Oil & Gas tracer (natural gas component)	 <b>PROPANE (PRPA)</b> $C_3H_8$ O&G tracer (gas processing/refining)	 <b>BENZENE (BENZ)</b> $C_6H_6$ Gasoline combustion tracer	 <b>ETHYNE (ETHY)</b> $C_2H_2$ Combustion tracer
 <b>ISOPRENE (ISOP)</b> $C_5H_8$ Biogenic VOC (vegetation emissions)	 <b>ETHENE (ETH)</b> $C_2H_4$ Industrial chemical compound	 <b>ACETONE (ACET)</b> $(CH_3)_2CO$ Solvent	 <b>ACETALDEHYDE (ALD2)</b> $CH_3CHO$ Naturally occurring aldehyde

# Example Box and Whisker Plot for Ethane (ETHA)

## Box and Whisker Plots

- The Box is the Interquartile Range (IQR) representing the 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> Percentiles of the distribution
- The Whiskers are highest (top) or lowest (bottom) value within  $1.5 \times \text{IQR}$
- Symbols above and below the Whiskers are "outliers"
- The line in the Box is the Median



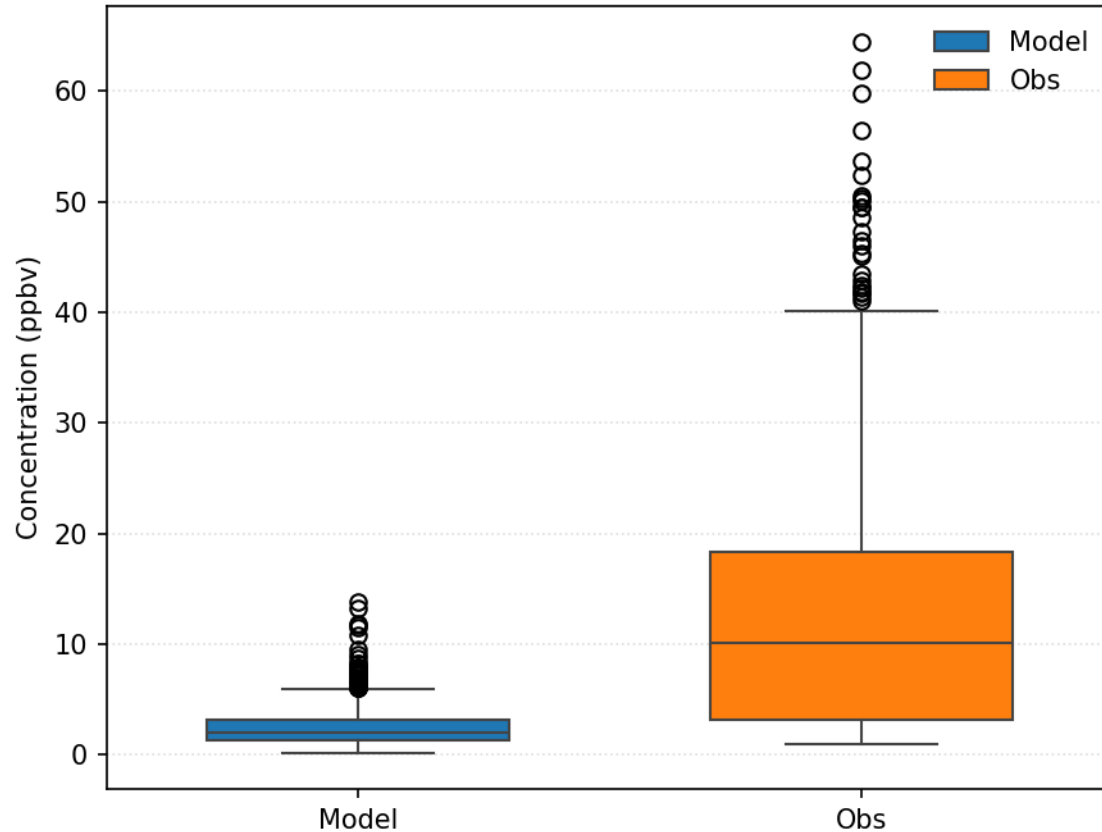
# Ethane (ETHA) and Propane (PRPA) -- Oil and Gas Tracers

Results suggests 2022 oil and gas VOC emissions inventory may be understated in the Permian Basin

## Ethane

- Median Underprediction: **5.3** times (10 vs 2 ppbv)
- Mean Underprediction: **5.2** times (13 vs 3 ppbv)

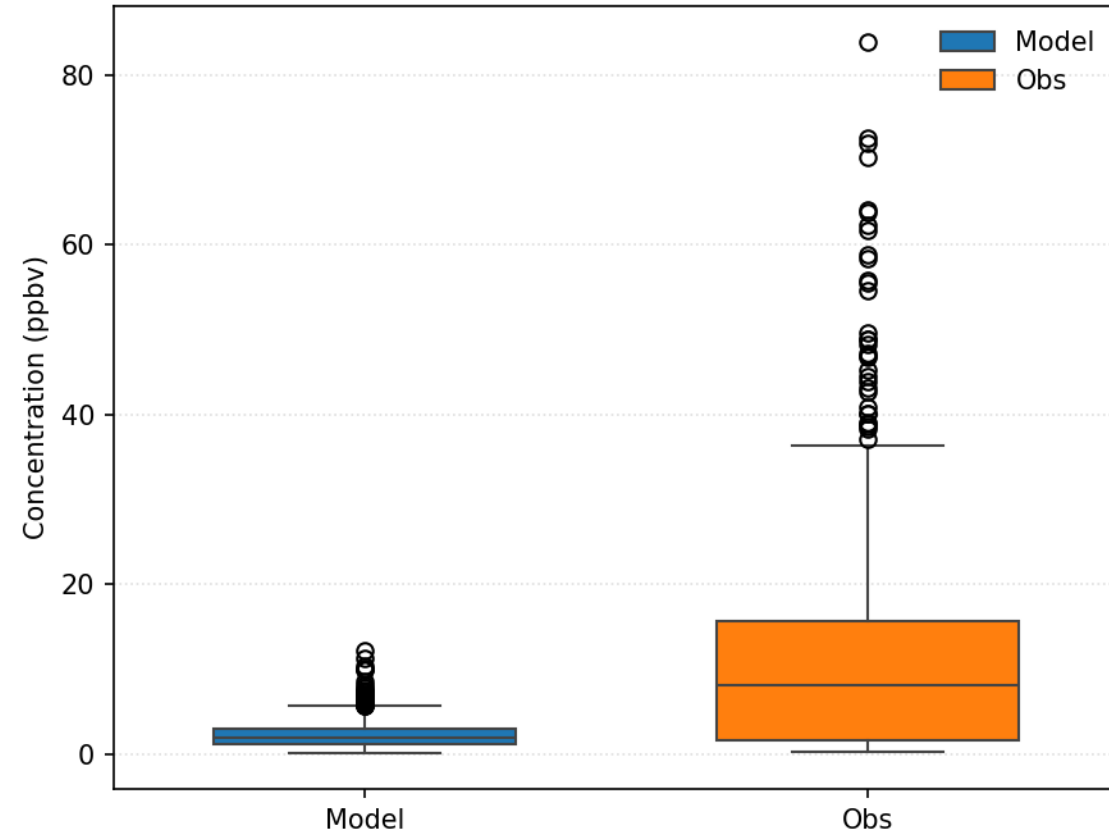
ETHA — Model vs CAVE Obs  
07-19 to 08-19



## Propane

- Median Underprediction: **4.4** times (8 vs 2 ppbv)
- Mean Underprediction: **5.2** times (12 vs 2 ppbv)

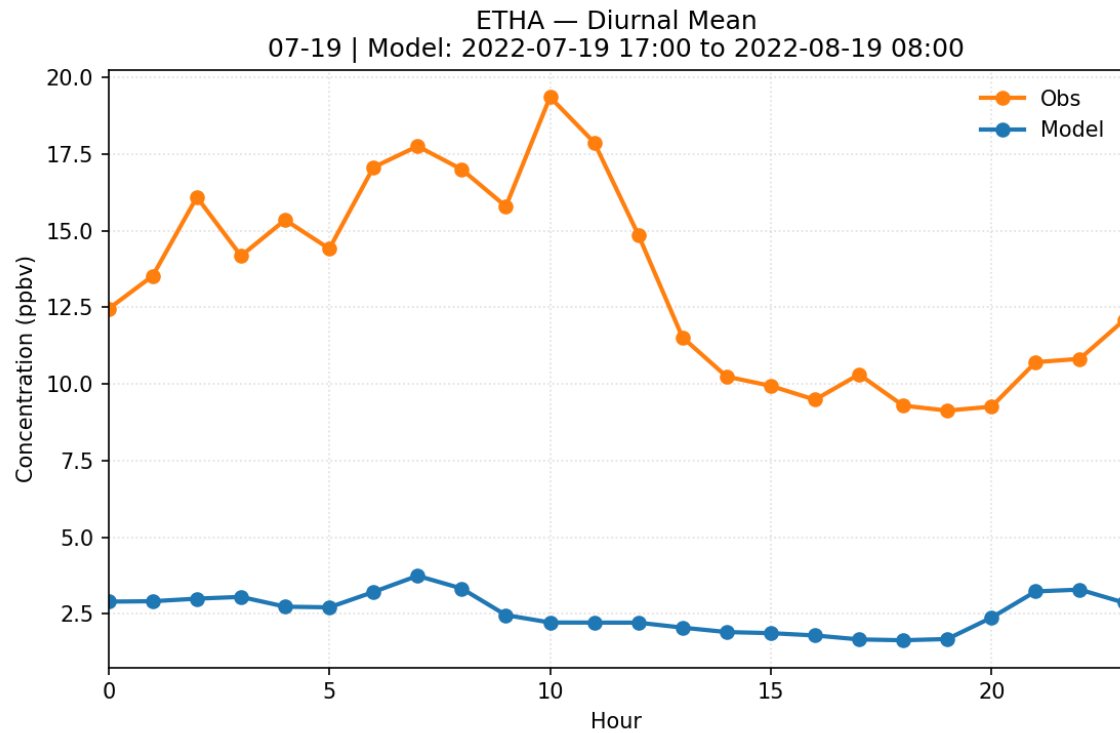
PRPA — Model vs CAVE Obs  
07-19 to 08-19



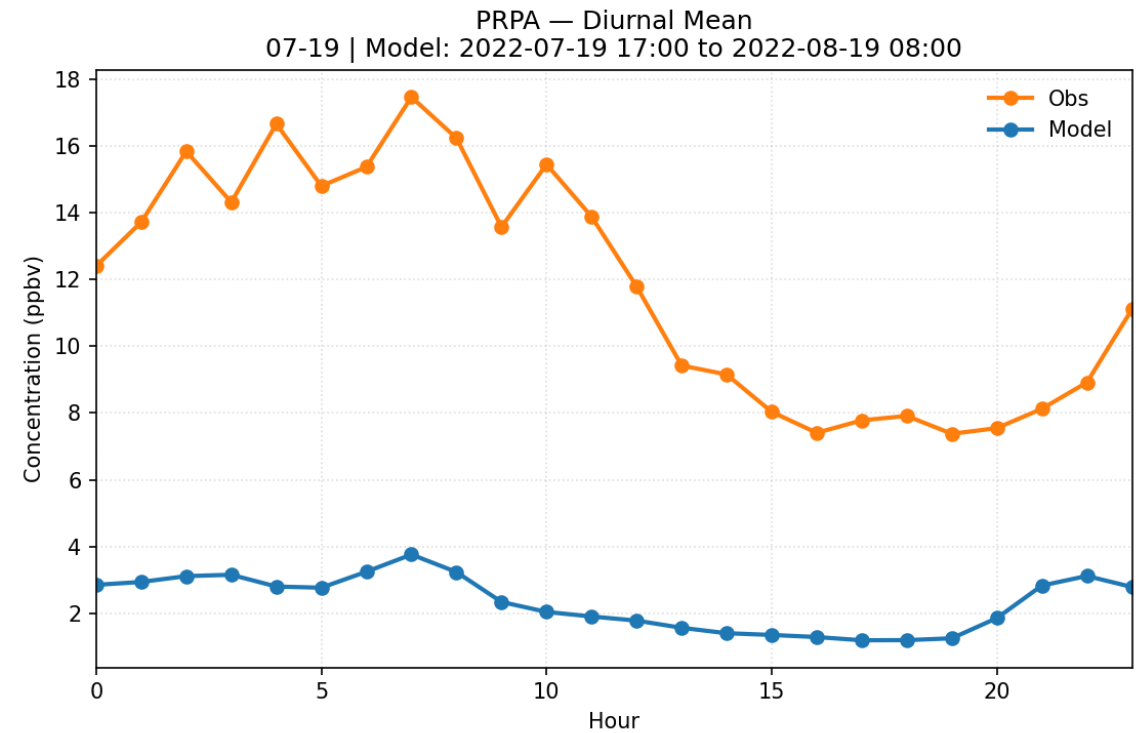
# Ethane and Propane Average Diurnal Variation (O&G)

- Observed >> modeled concentrations
- Afternoon decrease in both datasets
- Observed ~30% drop > modeled drop

## Ethane



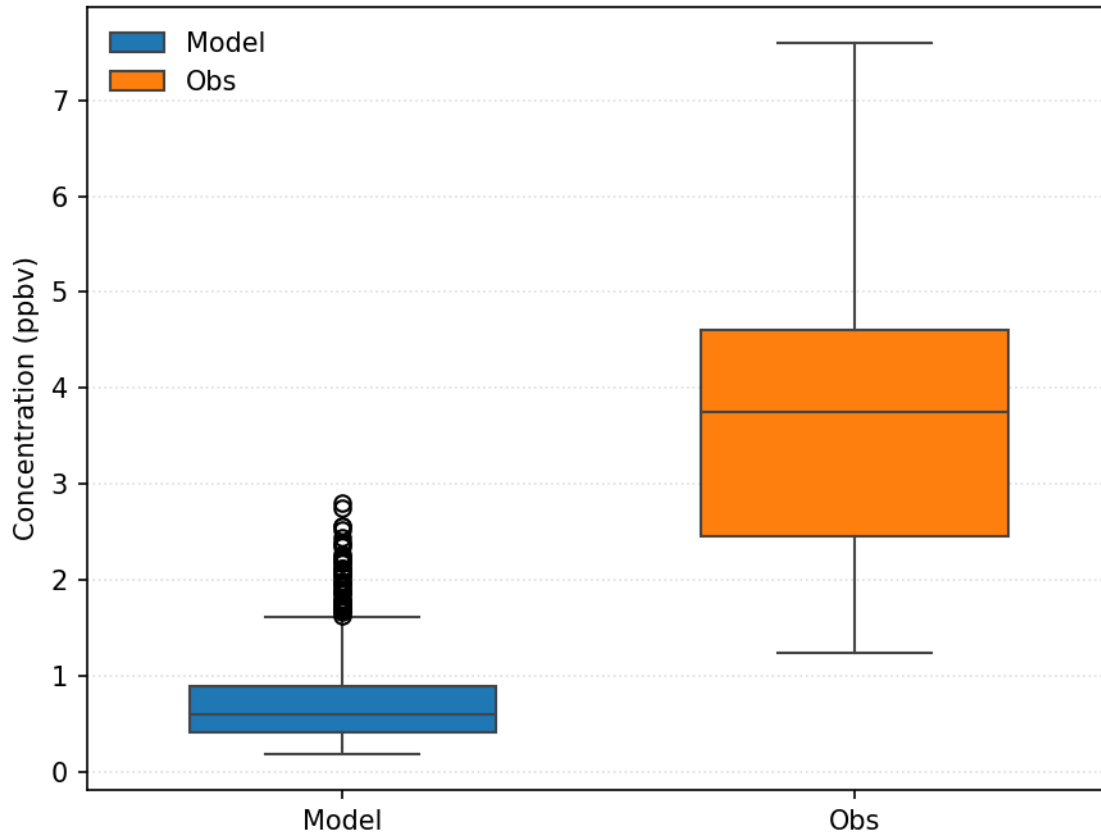
## Propane



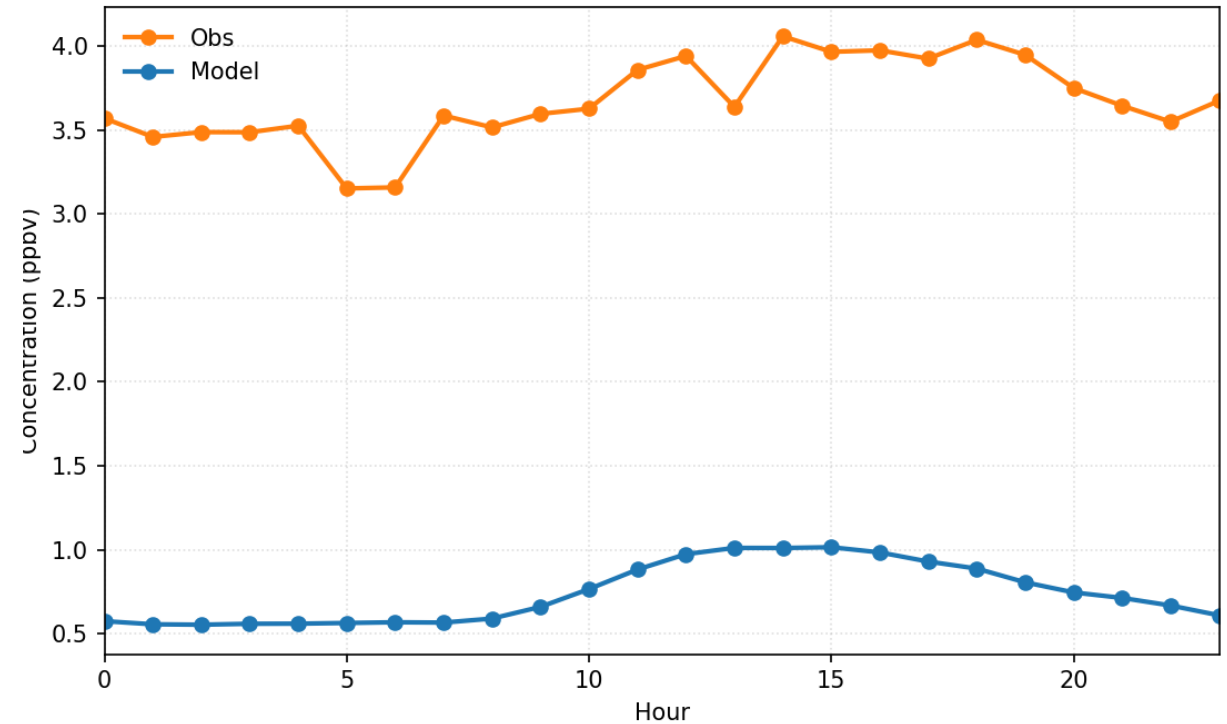
# Acetone – Solvent used in O&G production

- Acetone is greatly underestimated by the model by factor of **5-6** on average (3.7 vs. 0.7 ppb) with the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile modeled value below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile observed value

ACET — Model vs CAVE Obs  
07-19 to 08-19



ACET — Diurnal Mean  
07-19 | Model: 2022-07-19 17:00 to 2022-08-19 08:00

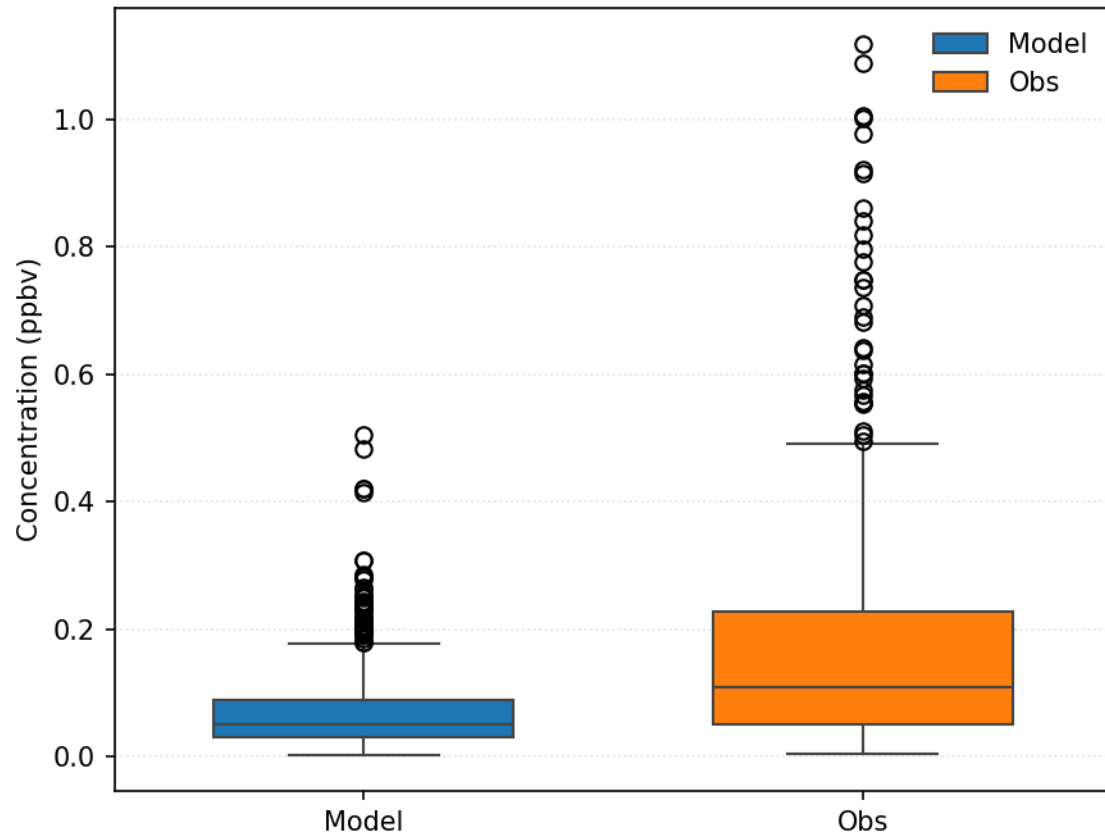


# Benzene (Gasoline Combustion) and Ethyne (Combustion)

## Benzene

- Median Underprediction: **2.2** times
- Mean Underprediction: **2.4** times

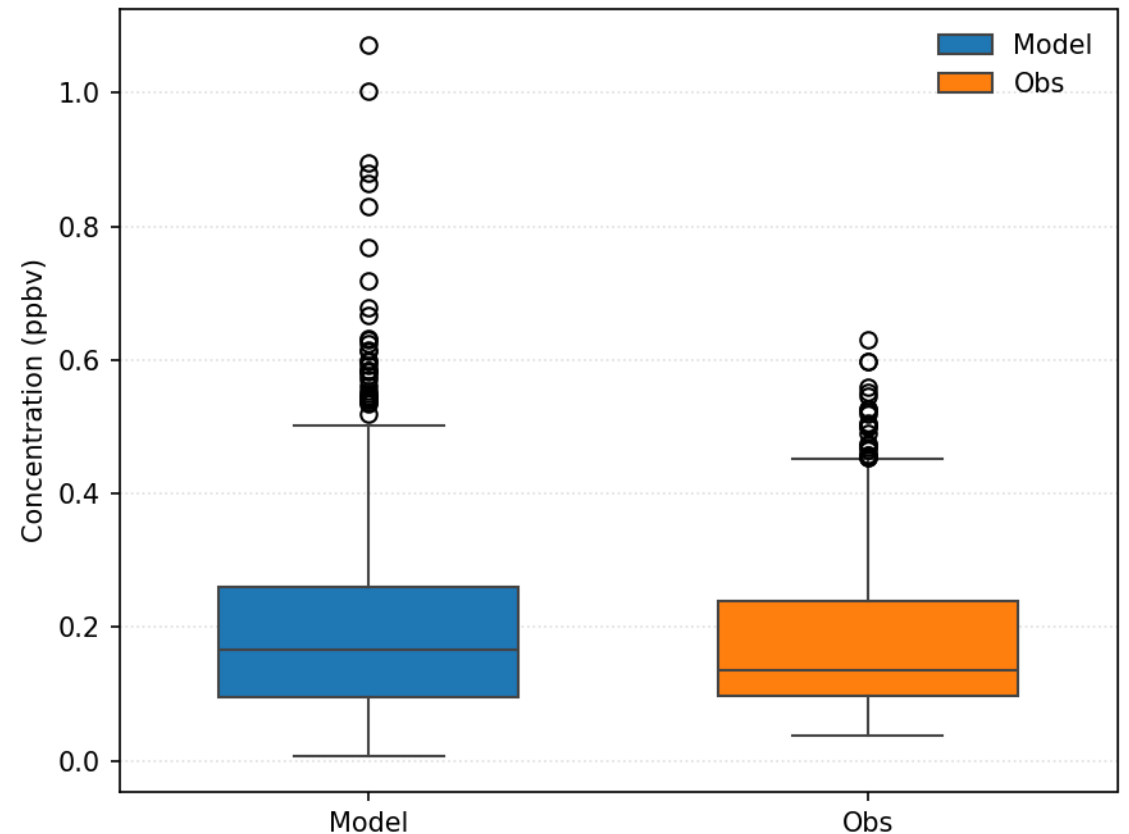
BENZ — Model vs CAVE Obs  
07-19 to 08-19



## Ethyne

- Good agreement: median and mean within 10 to 15%
- Good match in IQR: 25% to 75%

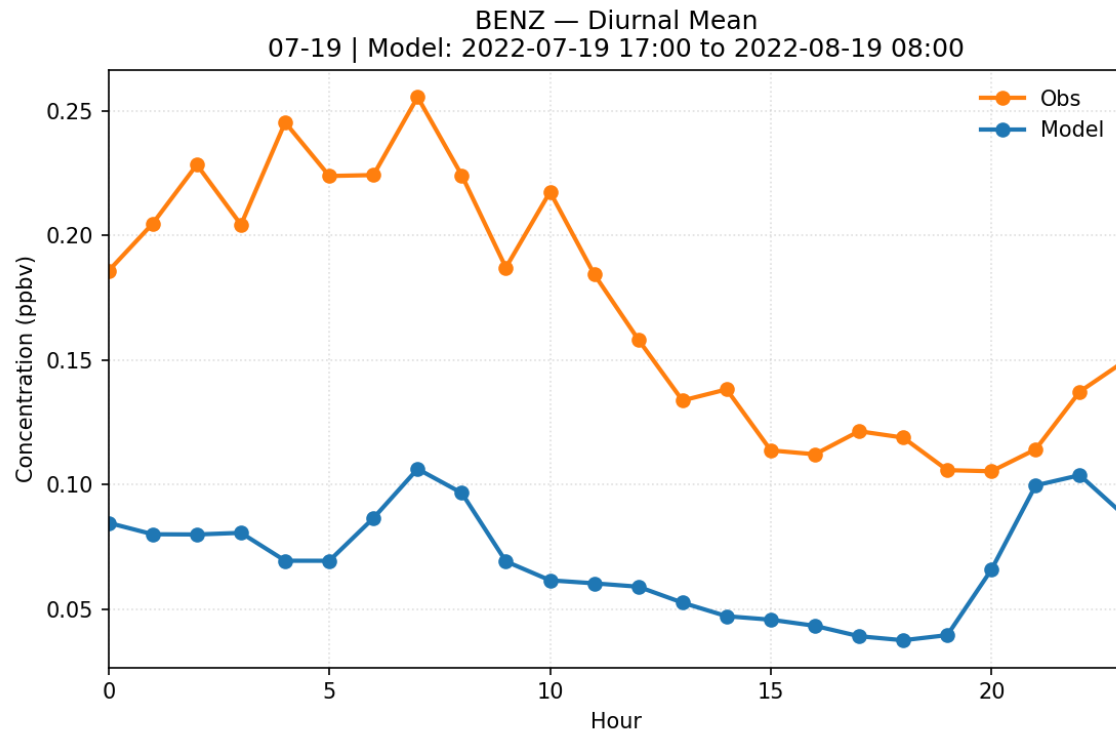
ETHY — Model vs CAVE Obs  
07-19 to 08-19



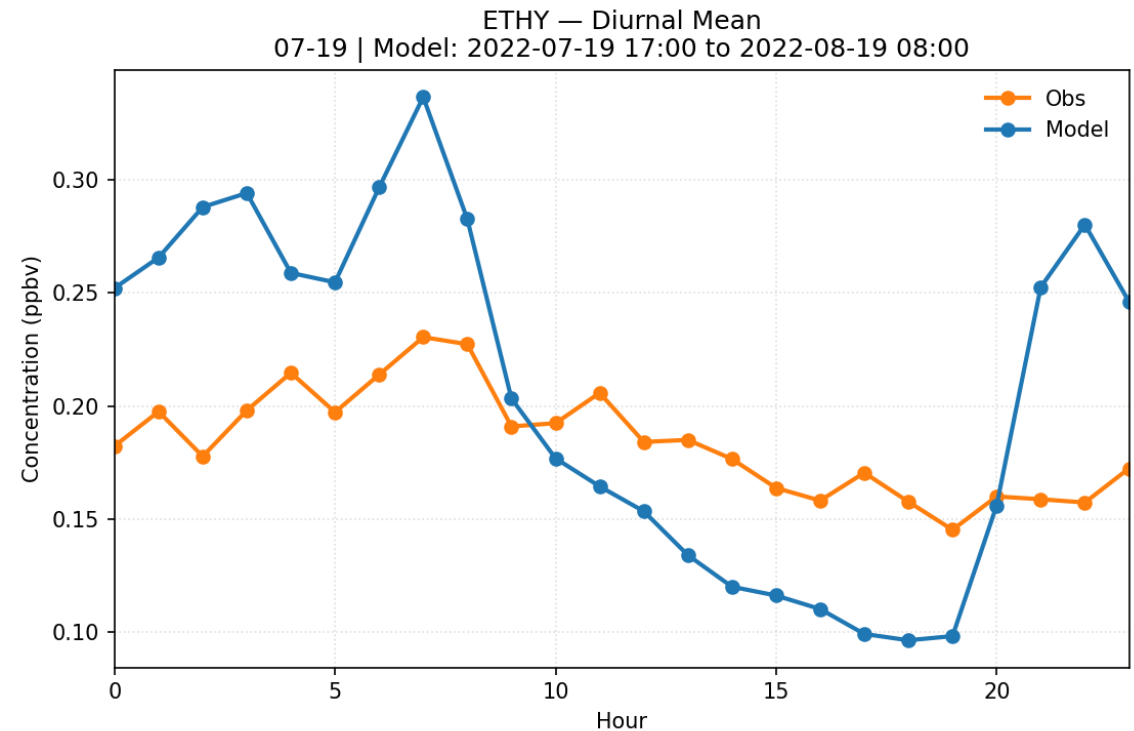
# Benzene (Gasoline Combustion) and Ethyne (Combustion)

- Morning and afternoon commute periods evident in both species
- Modeled afternoon Ethyne lower than observed

## Benzene



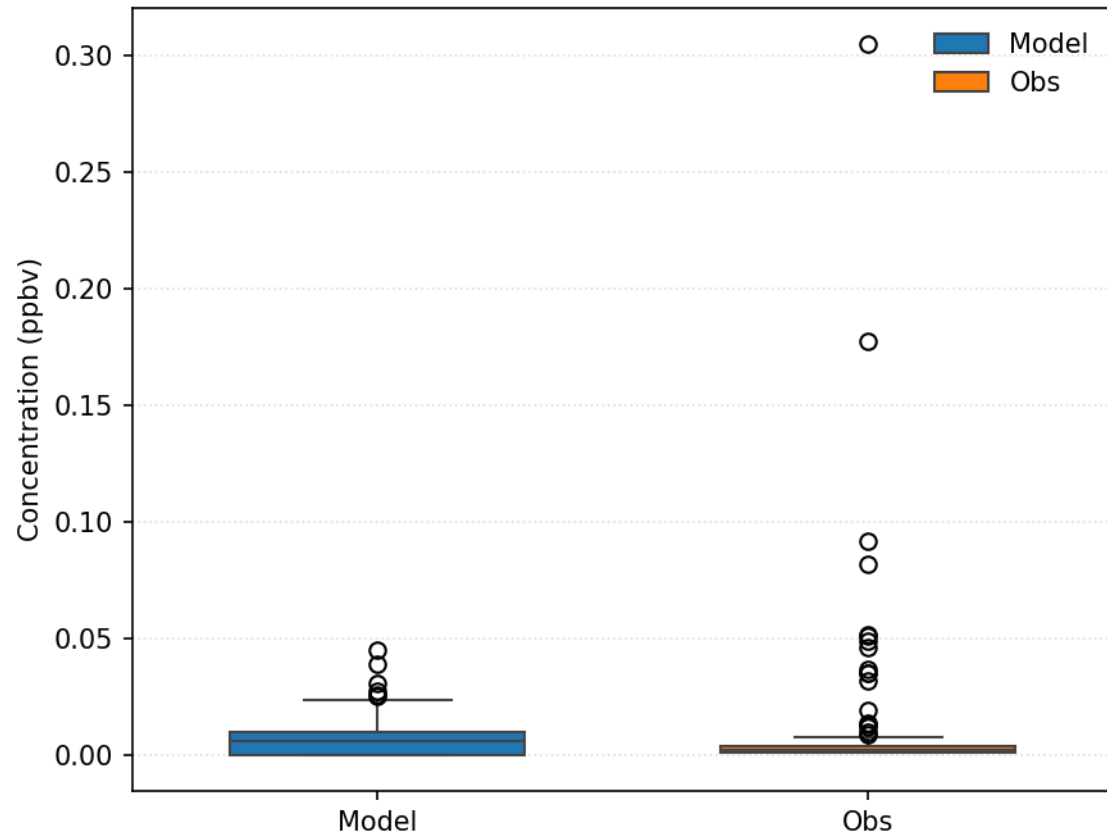
## Ethyne



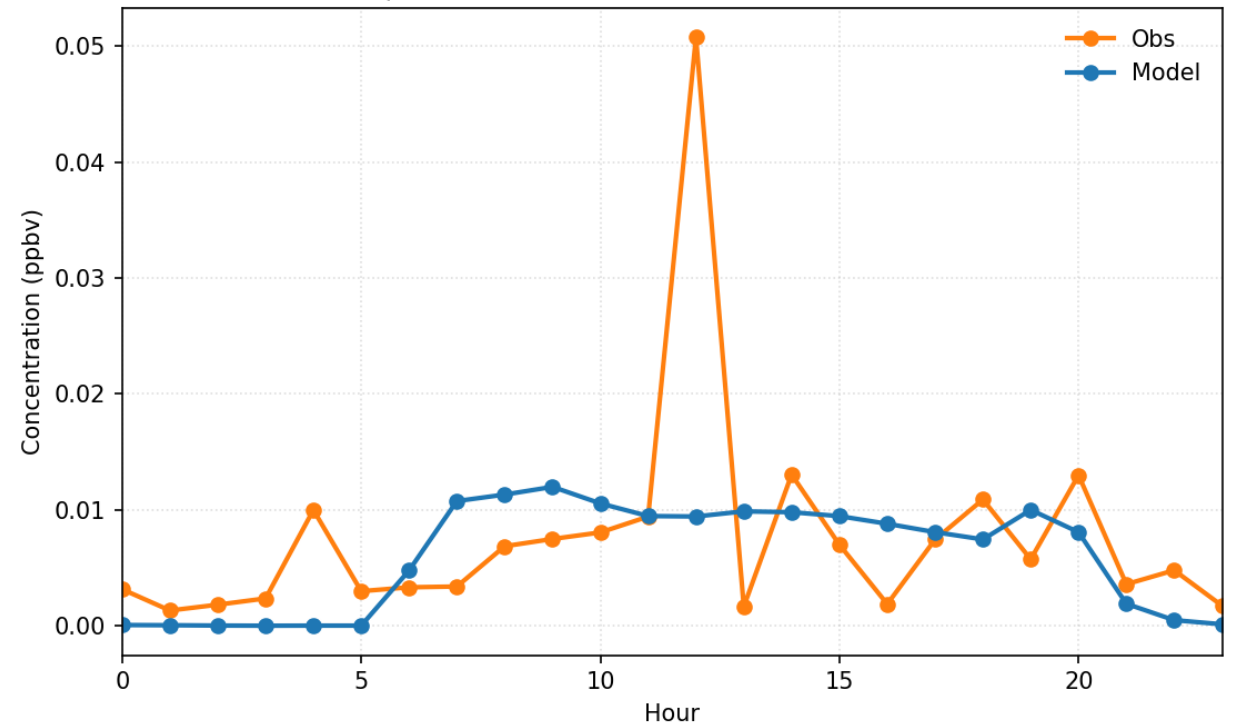
# Isoprene (Biogenic)

- **Observed and modeled isoprene are generally comparable**, both remaining at very low concentrations (<0.02 ppb). Observations show more outliers.
- **Average observed (0.009 ppb) and modeled (0.007 ppb) values are similar**, though the median observed (0.002 ppb) is lower than modeled (0.007 ppb), likely due to detection limits

ISOP — Model vs CAVE Obs  
07-19 to 08-19



ISOP — Diurnal Mean  
07-19 | Model: 2022-07-19 17:00 to 2022-08-19 08:00



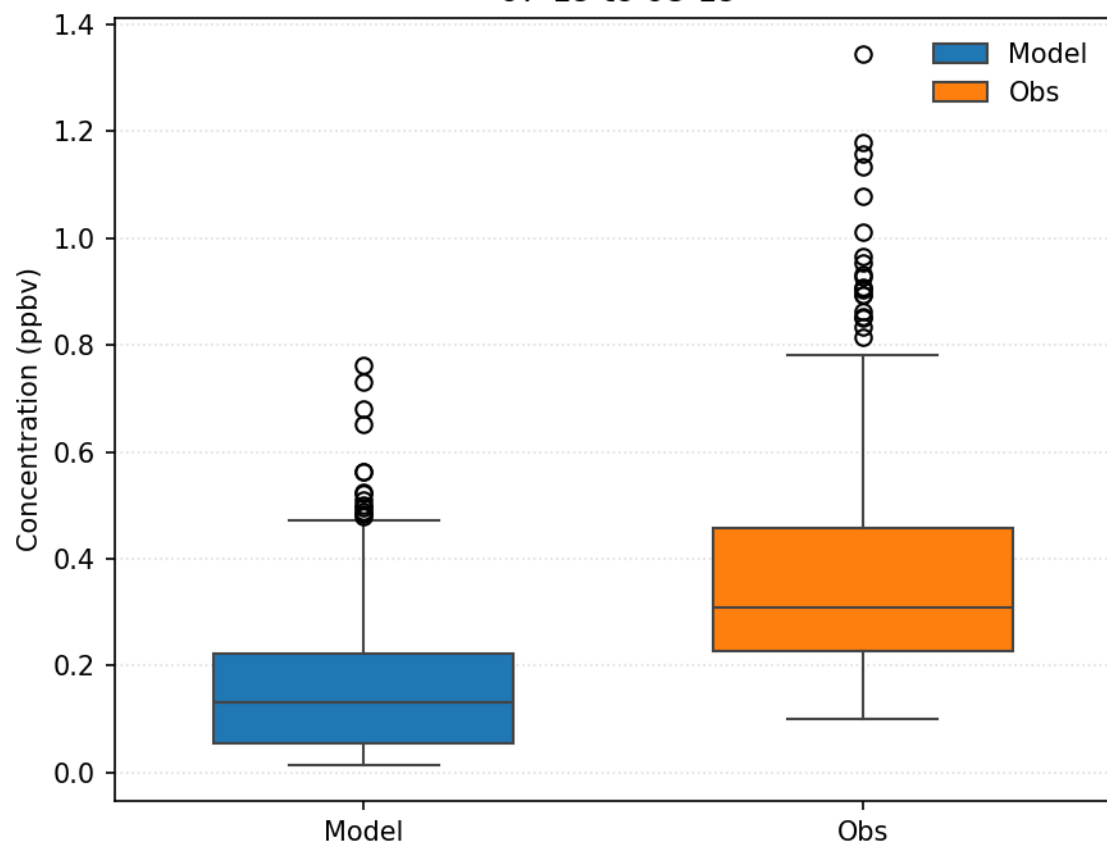
# Ethene/Ethylene (ETH)

## Ethene

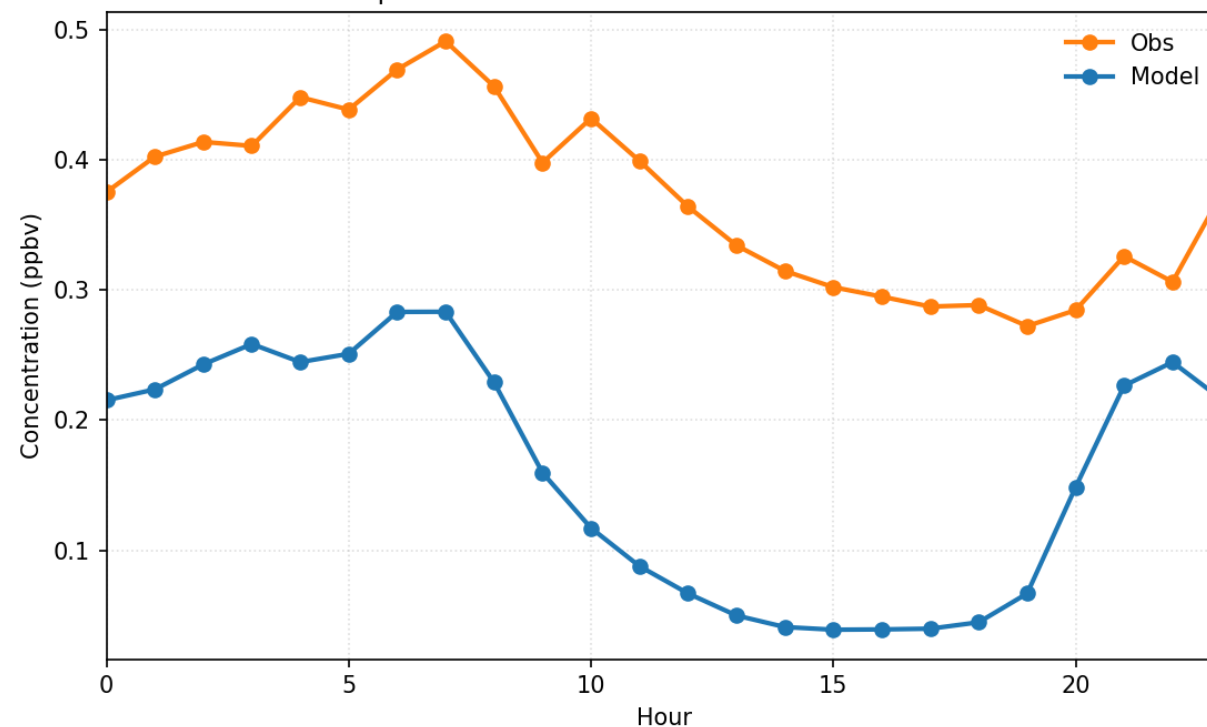
- Median Underprediction: **2.4** times (0.31 vs 0.13 ppb)
- Mean Underprediction: **2.4** times (0.36 vs 0.15 ppb)

Similar diurnal profiles. Observed concentrations are 50 to 100% higher than modeled

ETH — Model vs CAVE Obs  
07-19 to 08-19



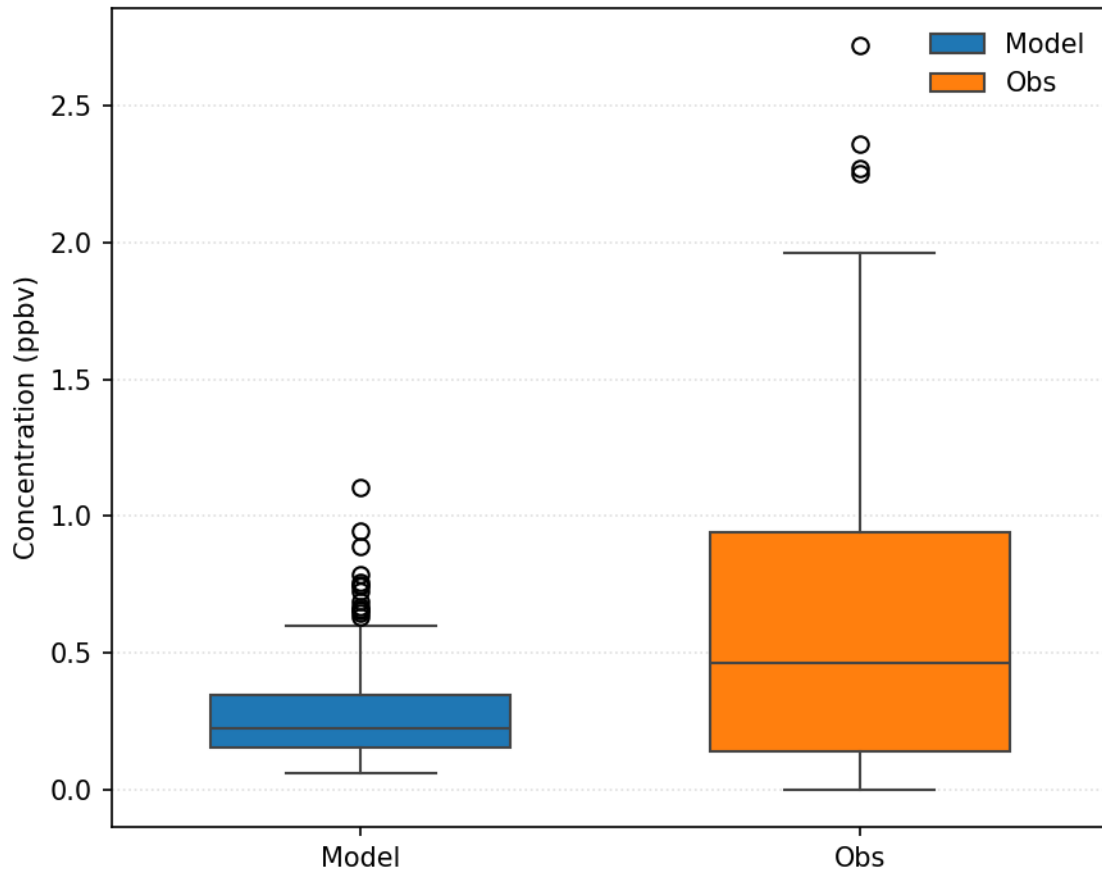
ETH — Diurnal Mean  
07-19 | Model: 2022-07-19 17:00 to 2022-08-19 08:00



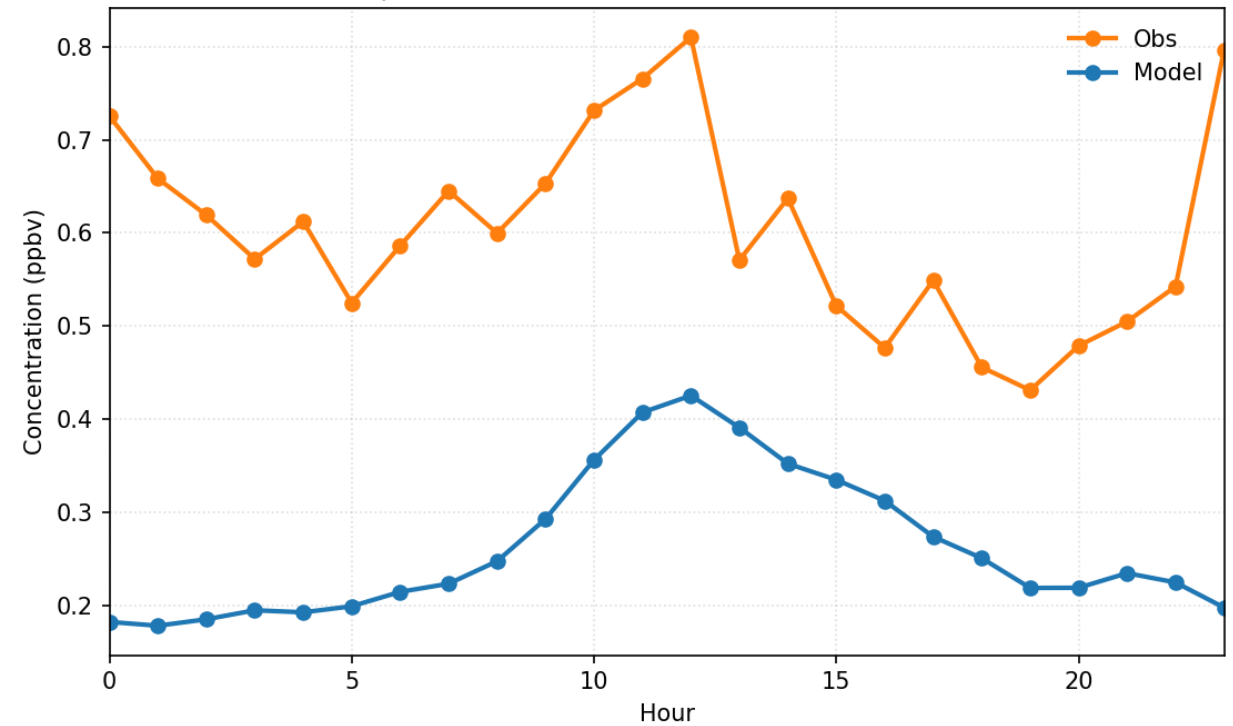
# Acetaldehyde (ALD2)

- ALD2 is underestimated by approximately a factor of **2** (2.1 median and 2.3 mean)
- Approximately 50% of ALD2 is secondarily formed much of it from Alkanes so this underestimation may be related to understated O&G VOC emissions

ALD2 — Model vs CAVE Obs



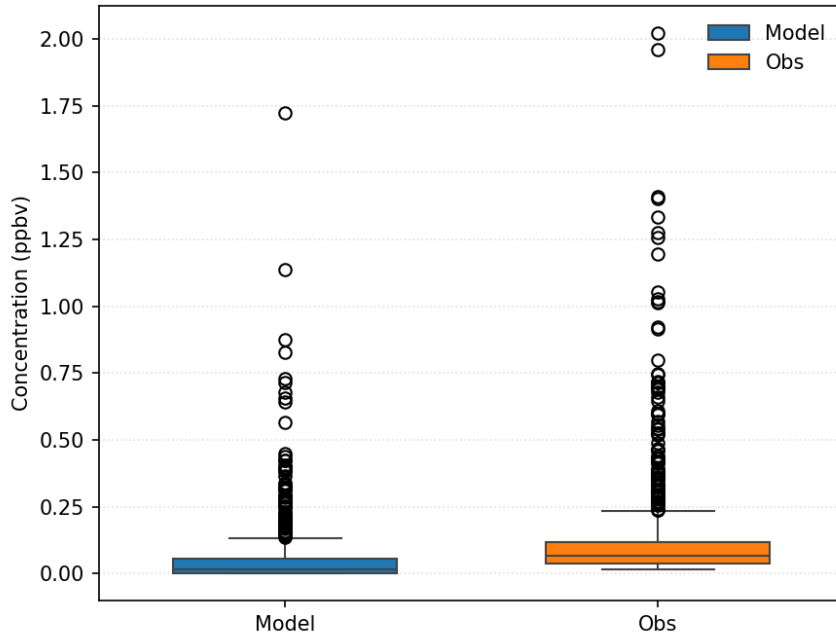
ALD2 — Diurnal Mean  
07-19 | Model: 2022-07-19 17:00 to 2022-08-19 08:00



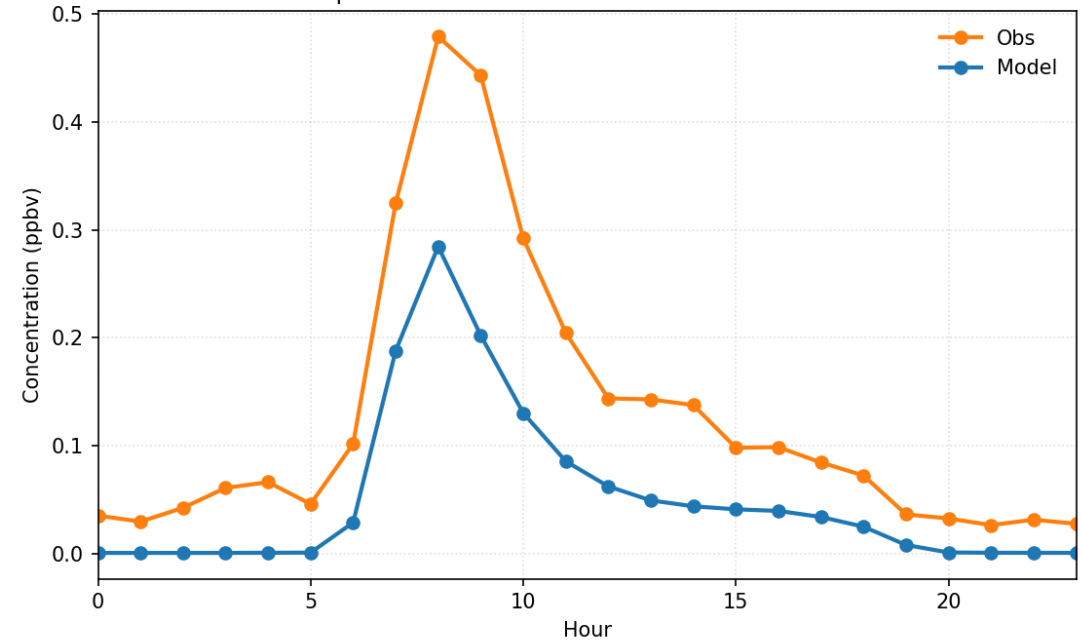
# NO & NO<sub>2</sub>

- NO shows a wide range of concentrations due to its primarily emitted nature
- NO is underestimated by  $\sim 4.1\times$  (median) and  $\sim 2.5\times$  (mean)
- Underestimation of primary emitted species is common in grid models
- NO<sub>2</sub> is underestimated by  $\sim 1.5\times$  (median) and  $\sim 1.8\times$  (mean).

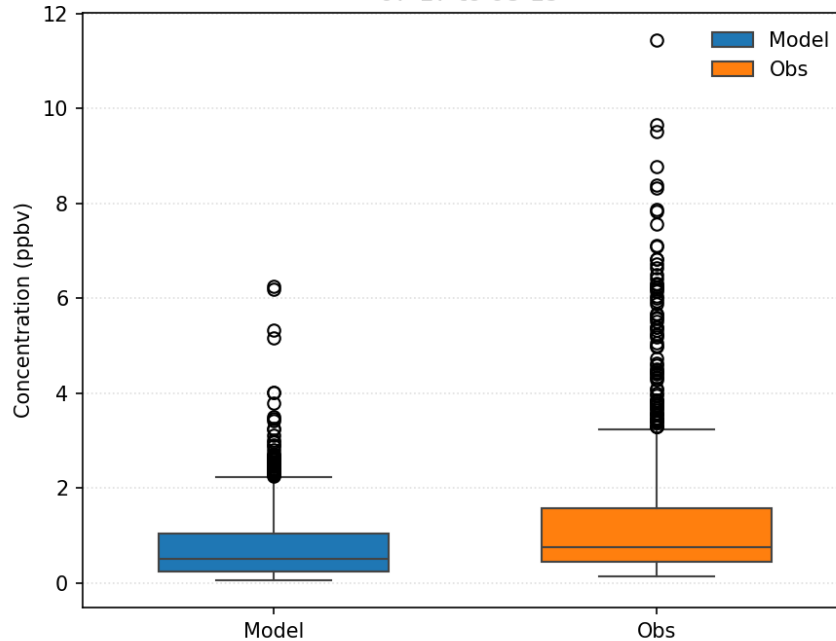
NO — Model vs CAVE Obs  
07-17 to 08-19



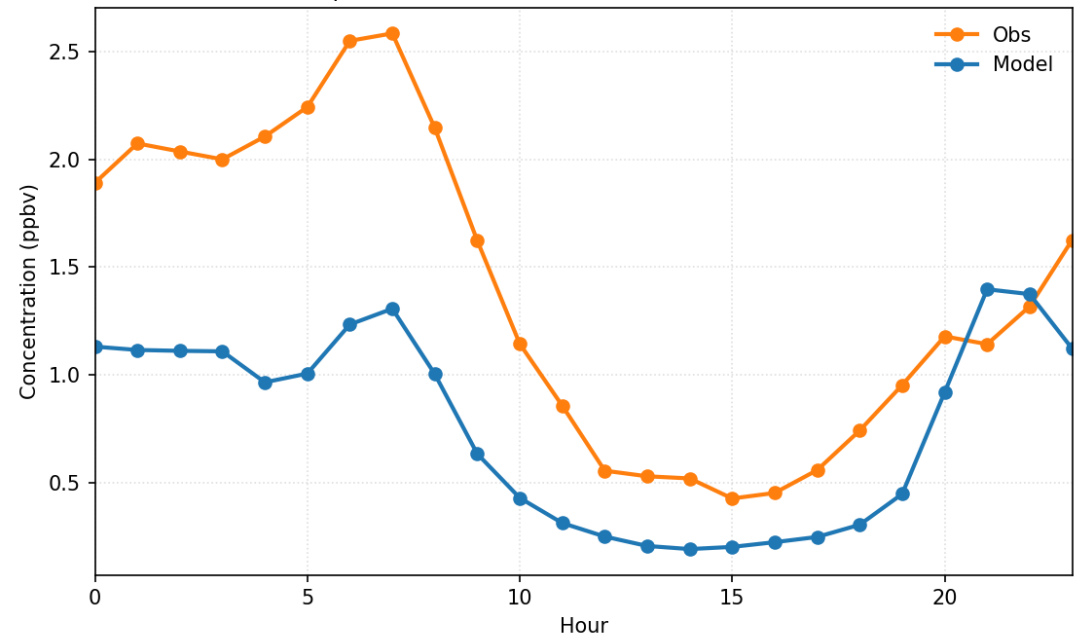
NO — Diurnal Mean  
07-17 | Model: 2022-07-17 21:00 to 2022-08-18 16:00



NO<sub>2</sub> — Model vs CAVE Obs  
07-17 to 08-19

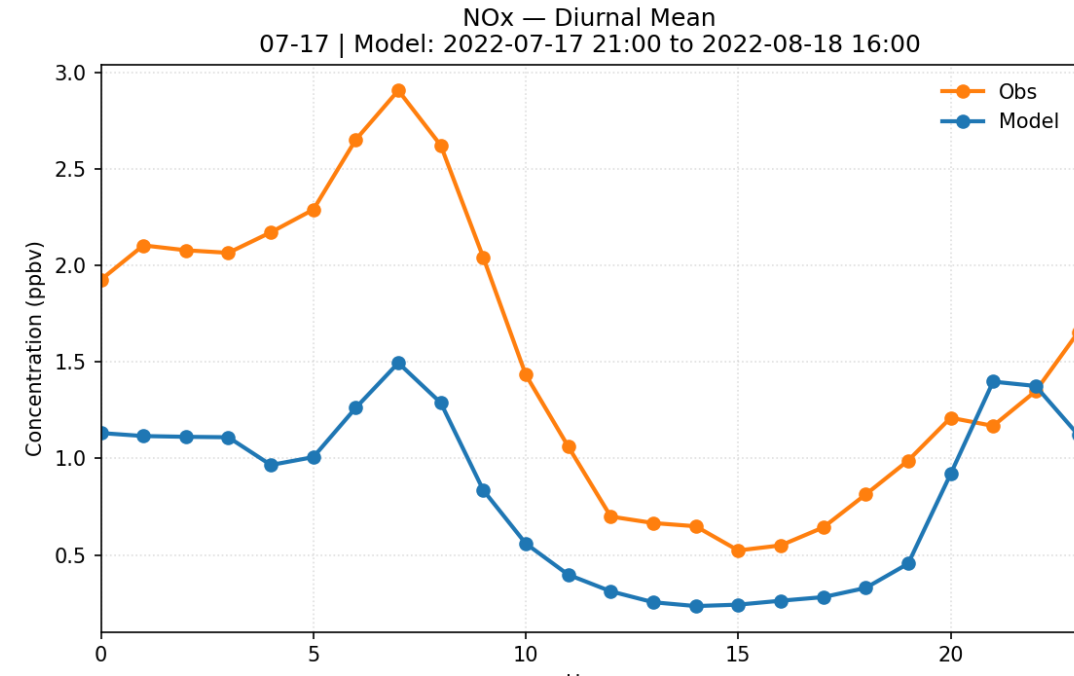
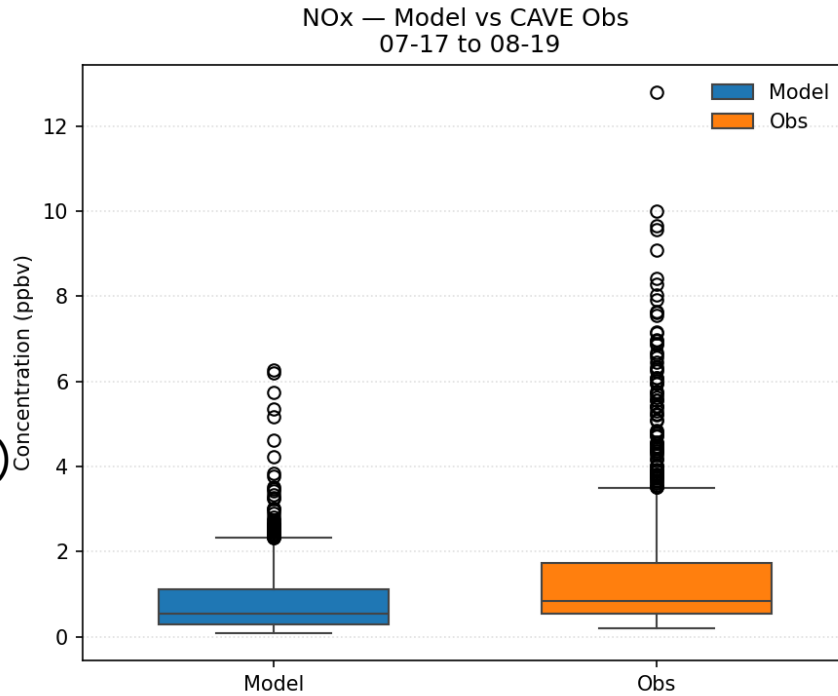


NO<sub>2</sub> — Diurnal Mean  
07-17 | Model: 2022-07-17 21:00 to 2022-08-18 16:00

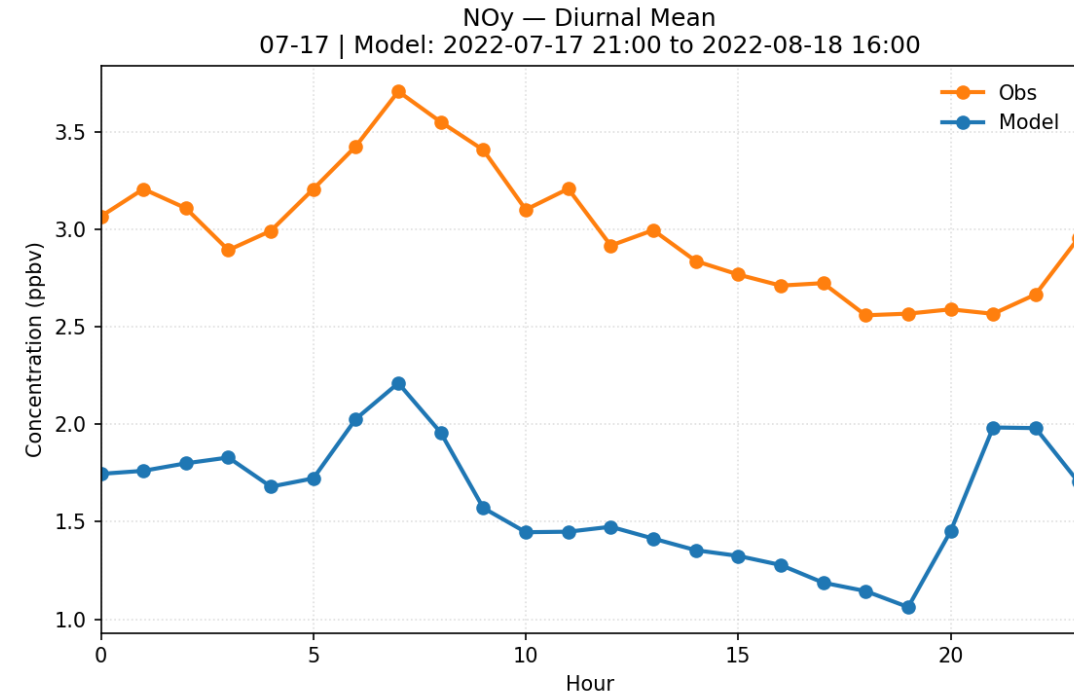
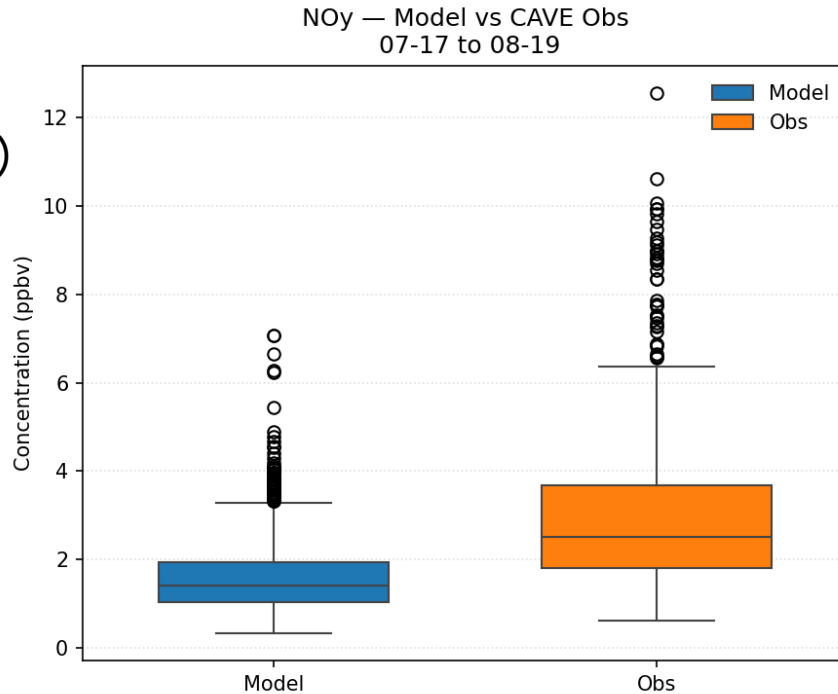


# NO<sub>x</sub> & NO<sub>y</sub>

- NO<sub>x</sub> follows NO<sub>2</sub> performance: underestimated by factors of **1.6** (median) and **1.9** (mean)



- NO<sub>y</sub> performance similar to NO<sub>x</sub> underestimated by factors of **1.8** (median) and **1.9** (mean)



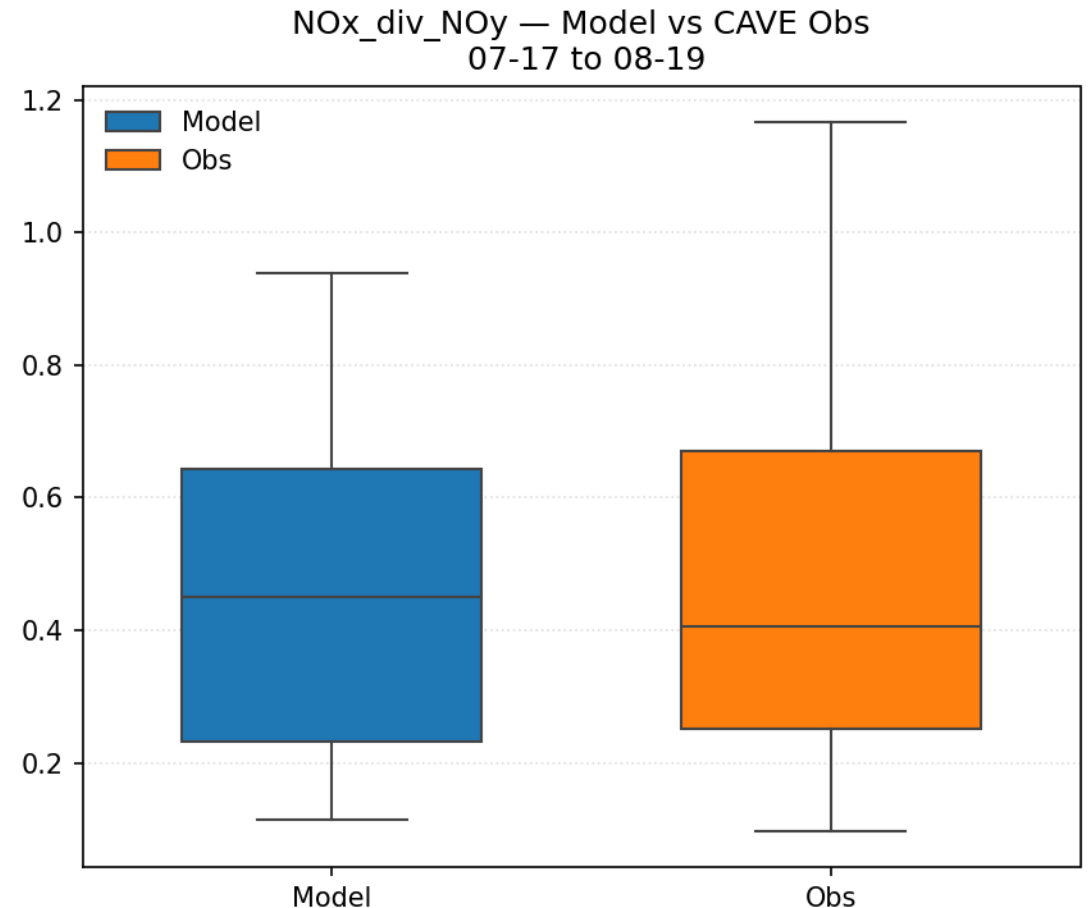
$$\text{NO}_x = \text{NO} + \text{NO}_2$$

$$\text{NO}_y = \text{NO}_x + \text{PAN} + \text{PPN} + \text{HNO}_3 + \text{etc.}$$

# Conclusions CarCavAQS VOC/NO<sub>x</sub> Model Evaluation

- O&G VOC tracers (Ethane and Propane) are underestimated by a factor of  $\sim 5$  at the Carlsbad Caverns site
  - Suggests 2022v2 O&G VOC emissions are understated
- Combustion tracers underestimated by factor of  $\sim 2$  (Benzene) to good agreement on average (Ethyne) – could be related to 4 km grid cell averaging in model
- Isoprene (Biogenic) concentrations are very low and model has good agreement with observations
- Acetone has large underestimation (5x) – used in O&G production
- NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> show slight underestimation
  - May be due to grid cell dilution

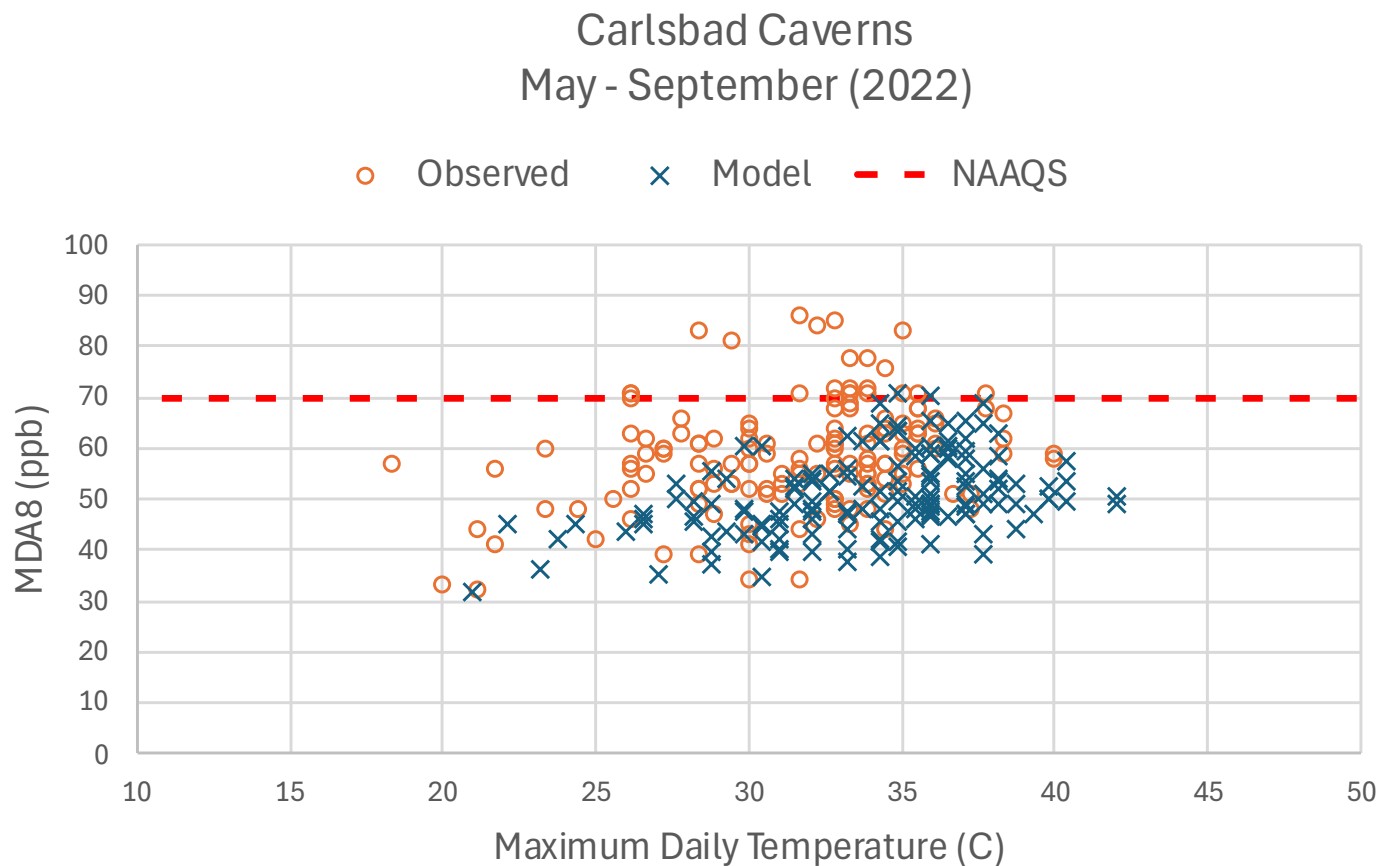
**NO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> Ratios** – measure of aging of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions with good agreement (within 10% on average between observations and model  $\sim 0.4$ )



# Ozone vs Daily Temperature Evaluation

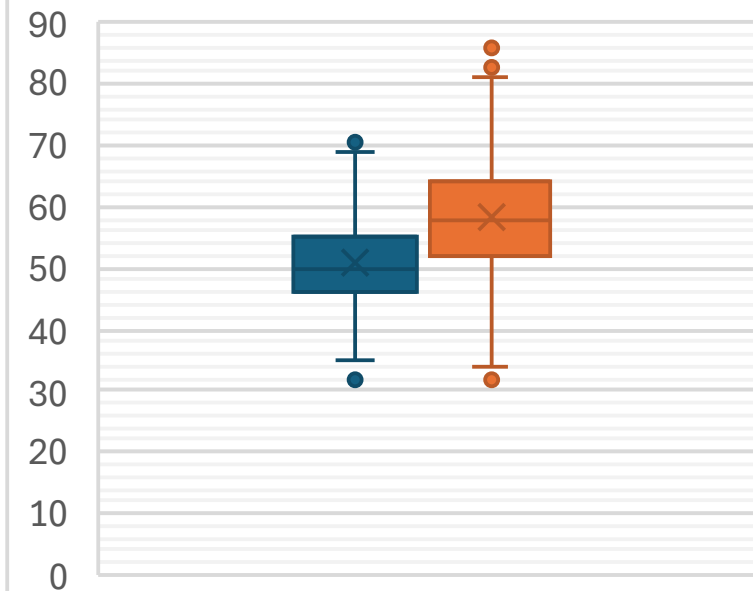
# MDA8 O<sub>3</sub> vs. Max Daily Temperature – Carlsbad Caverns

- Modeled O<sub>3</sub> rarely achieves 70 ppb; observed O<sub>3</sub> has many exceedances (Top Whisker at ~80 ppb)
- Observed exceedances mostly occur under temperatures of 27-35 C (81-95 F)
- Model shows higher maximum daily temperatures (40 C = 104 F)



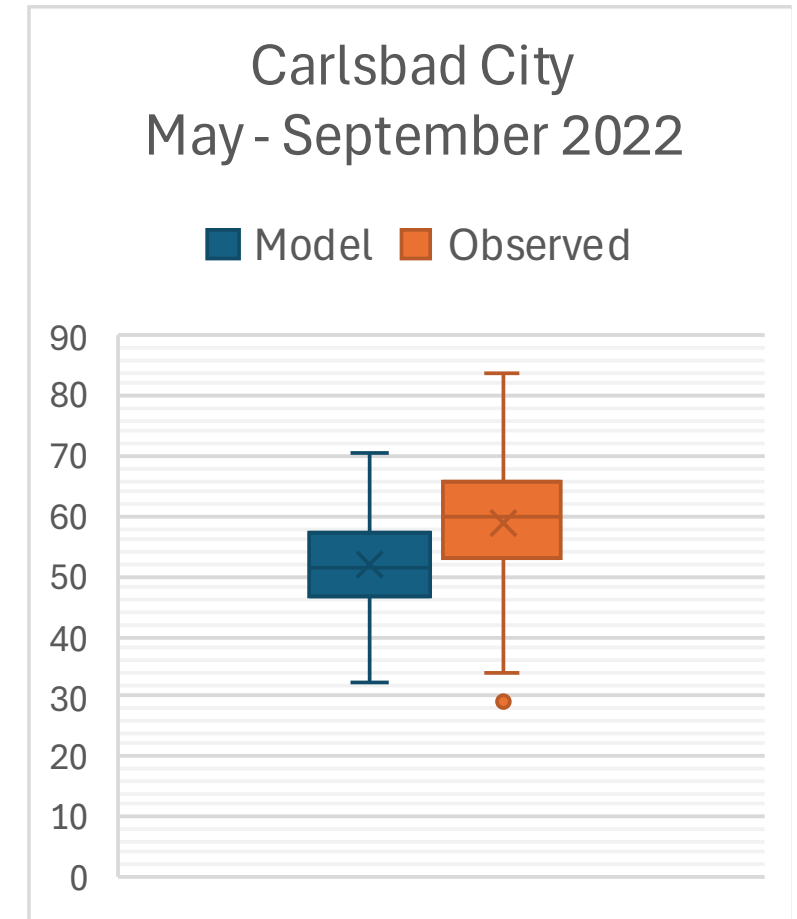
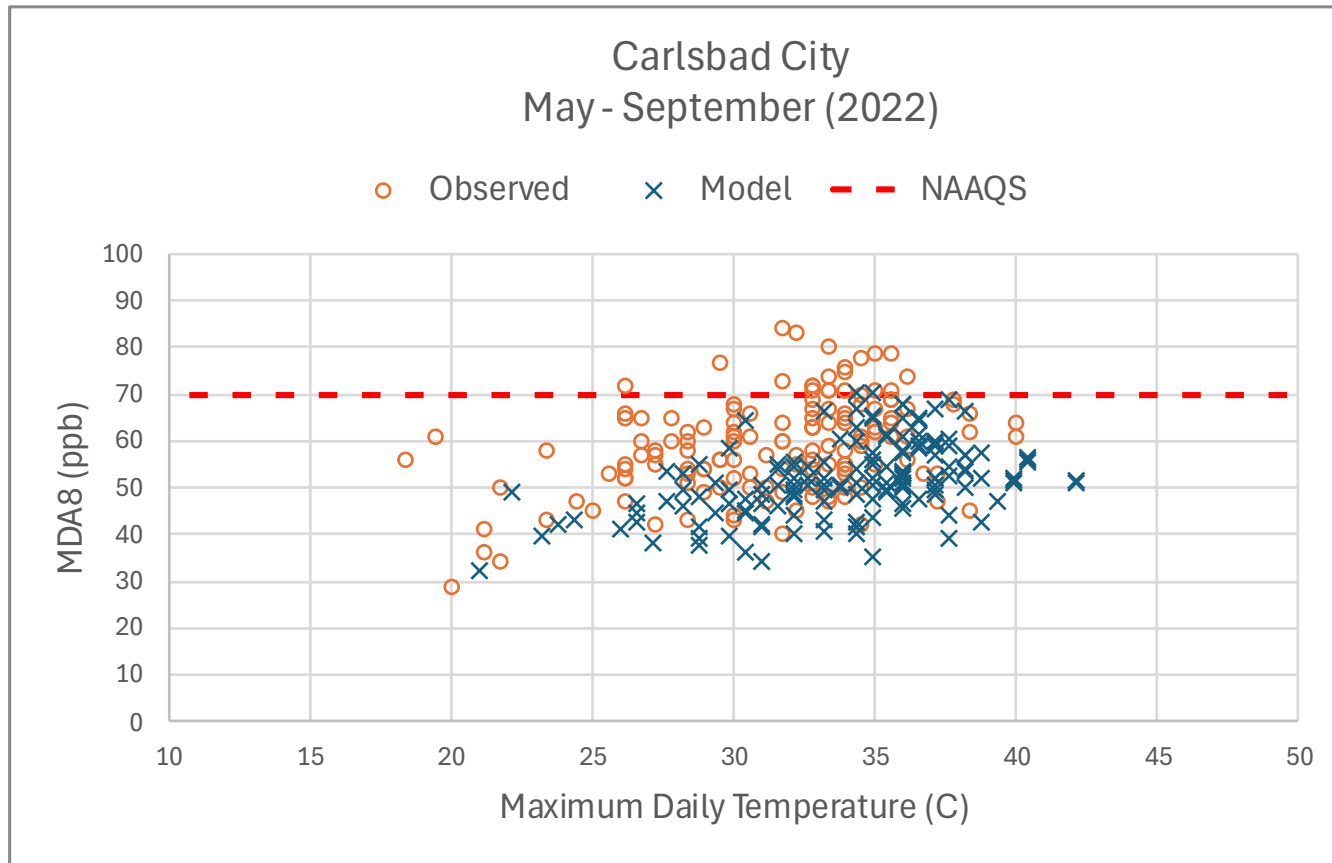
Carlsbad Caverns  
May - September 2022

■ Model    ■ Observed



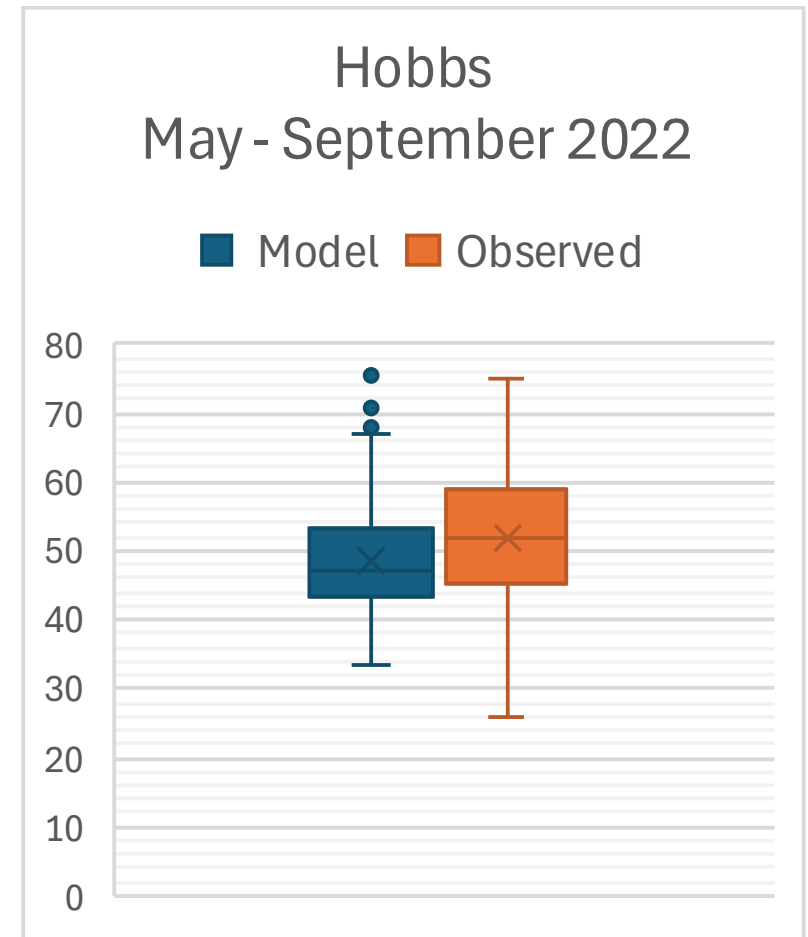
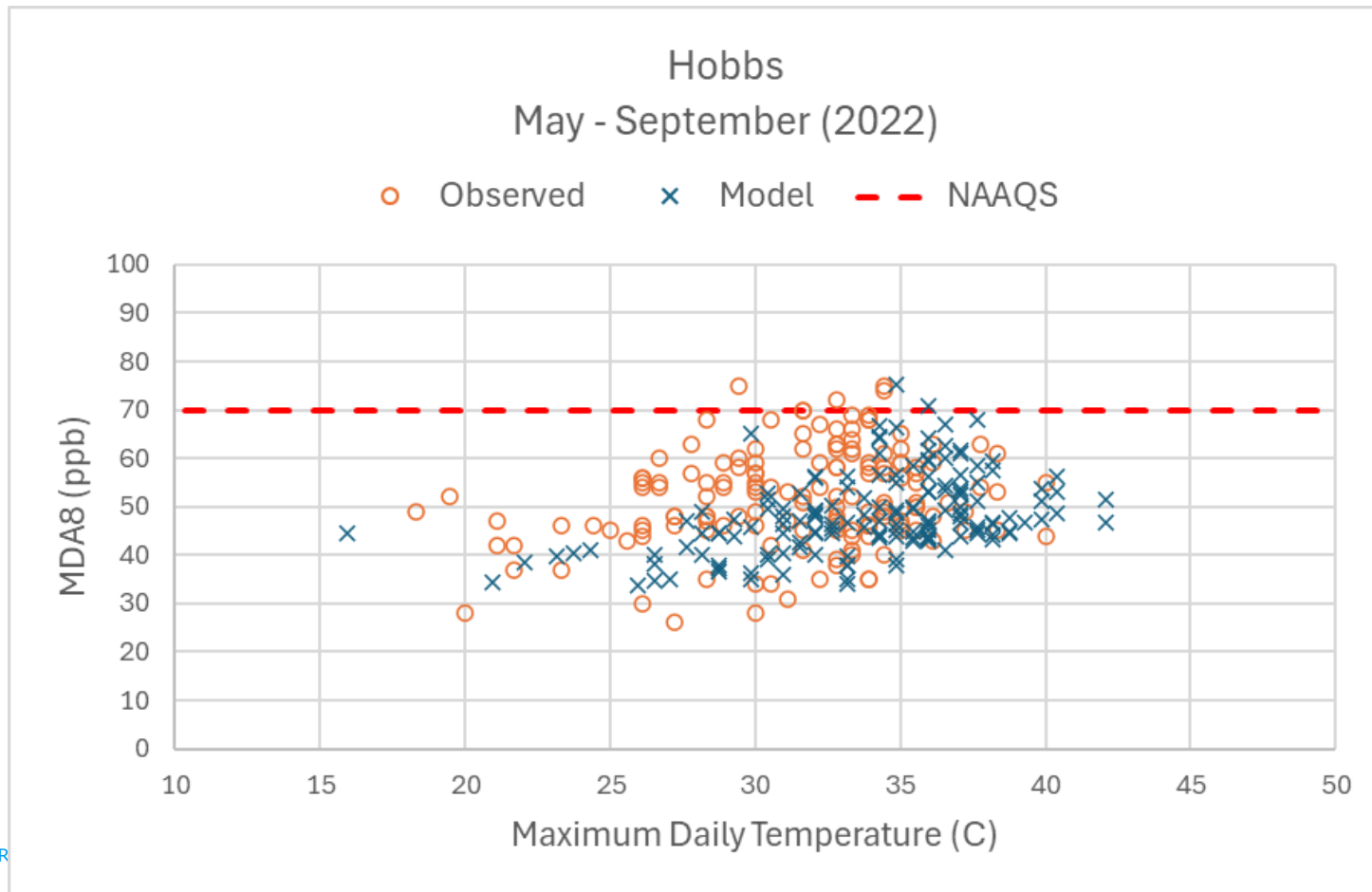
# MDA8 O<sub>3</sub> vs. Max Daily Temperature – Carlsbad City

- Modeled O<sub>3</sub> rarely achieves 70 ppb; observed O<sub>3</sub> has many exceedances (Top Whisker of ~84 ppb)
- Observed exceedances mostly occur under temperatures of 27-37 C (81-98 F)
- Model shows higher maximum daily temperatures



# MDA8 O<sub>3</sub> vs. Max Daily Temperature – Hobbs

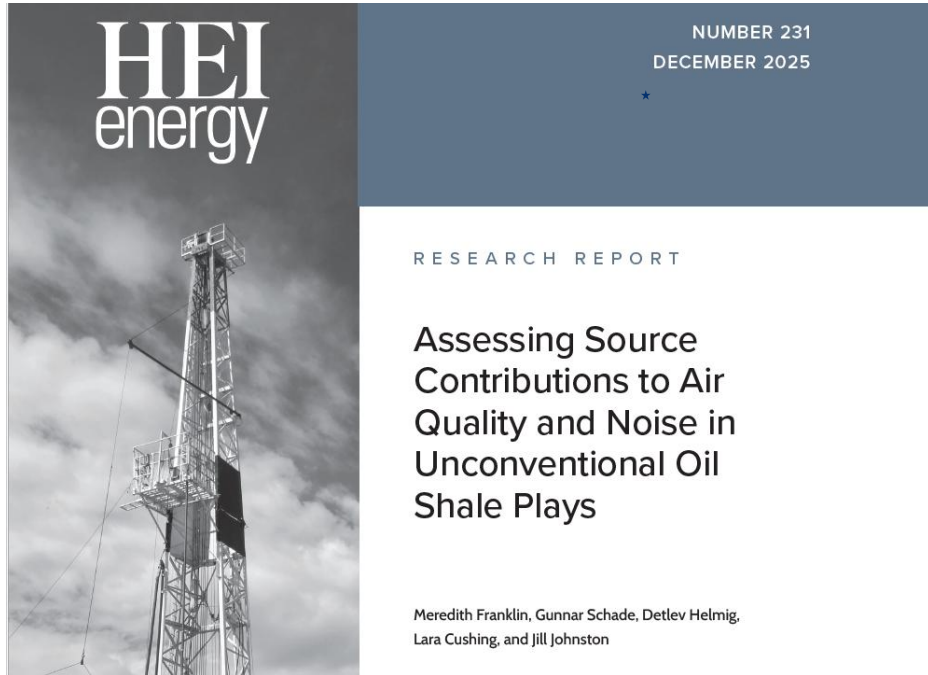
- Modeled O<sub>3</sub> rarely achieves 70 ppb; observed O<sub>3</sub> also not as many exceedances as Carlsbad
- Observed 75<sup>th</sup> percentile O<sub>3</sub> (~60 ppb) higher than modeled (~53 ppb)
- Model shows higher maximum daily temperatures



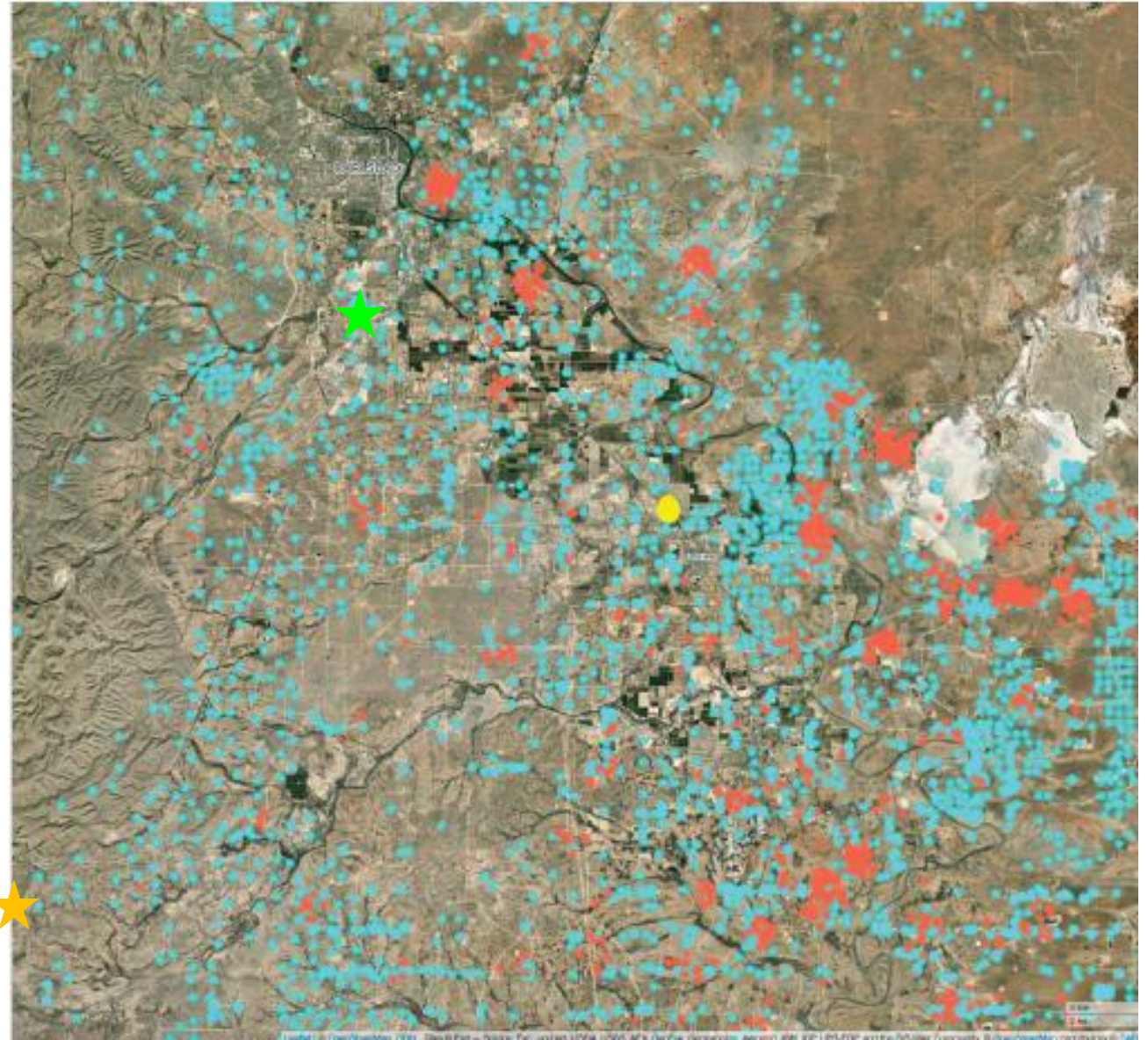
# Boulder Air Evaluation

2022 modeling VS. 2023-2024 Measured VOC and NOx at Loving, NM

# Loving, NM (LNM) VOC and NO<sub>x</sub>: May 2023 – June 2024



- Yellow Circle = Loving, NM site
- Green Star = Carlsbad City Site
- Orange Star = CarCavAQS Site (further west)
- Cyan Dots = Active Wells
- Red Dots = Satellite Flare Detection

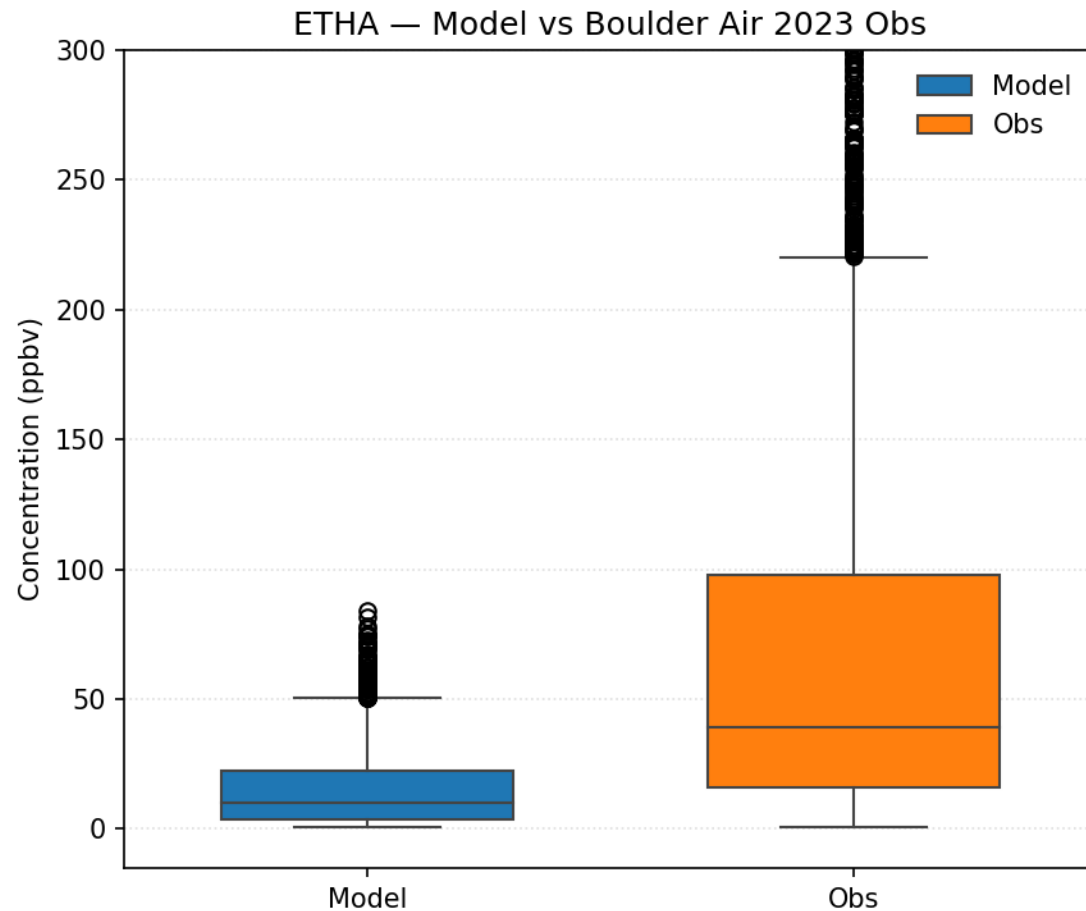


# LNМ Ethane and Propane -- Oil and Gas Tracers

Results suggests 2022 oil and gas VOC emissions inventory may be understated in the Permian Basin

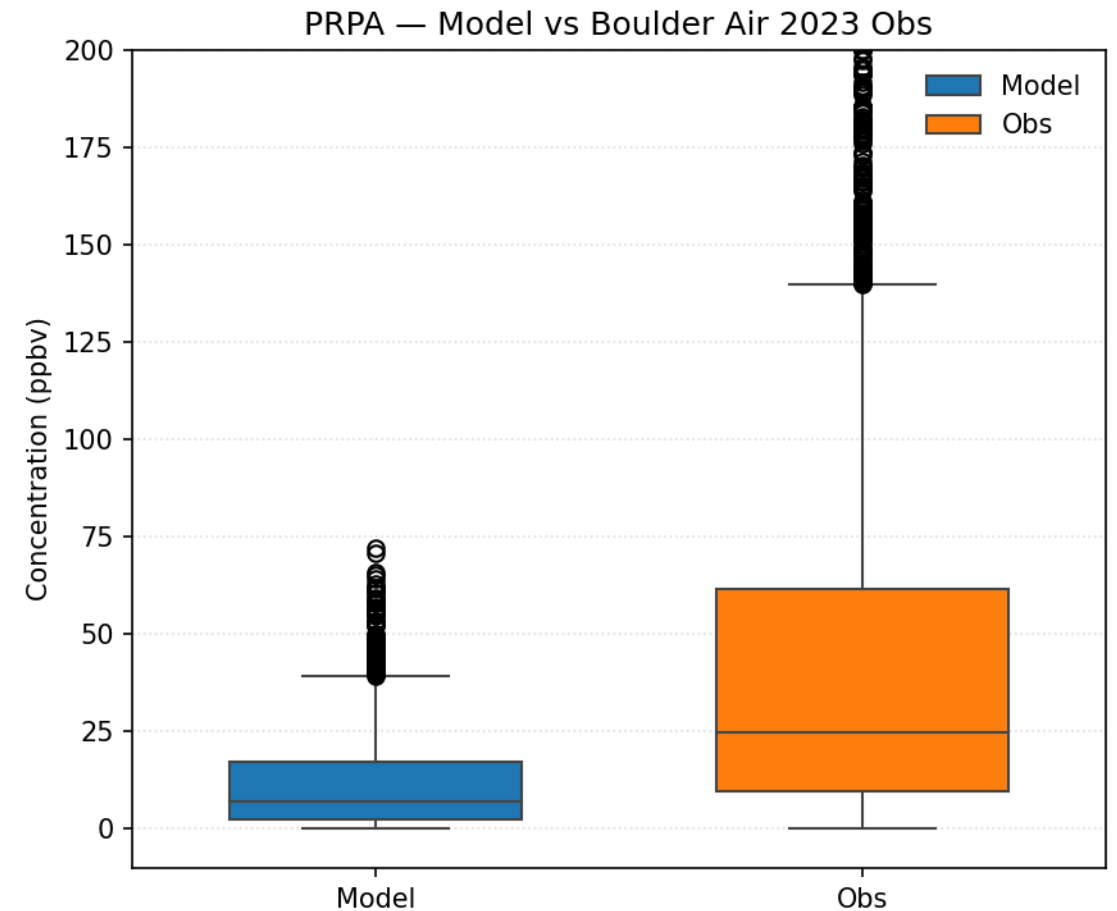
## Ethane

- Median Underprediction: **4.0** times (39 vs 10 ppbv)
- Mean Underprediction: **5.4** times (79 vs 15 ppbv)



## Propane

- Median Underprediction: **4.4** times (8 vs 2 ppbv)
- Mean Underprediction: **5.2** times (12 vs 2 ppbv)

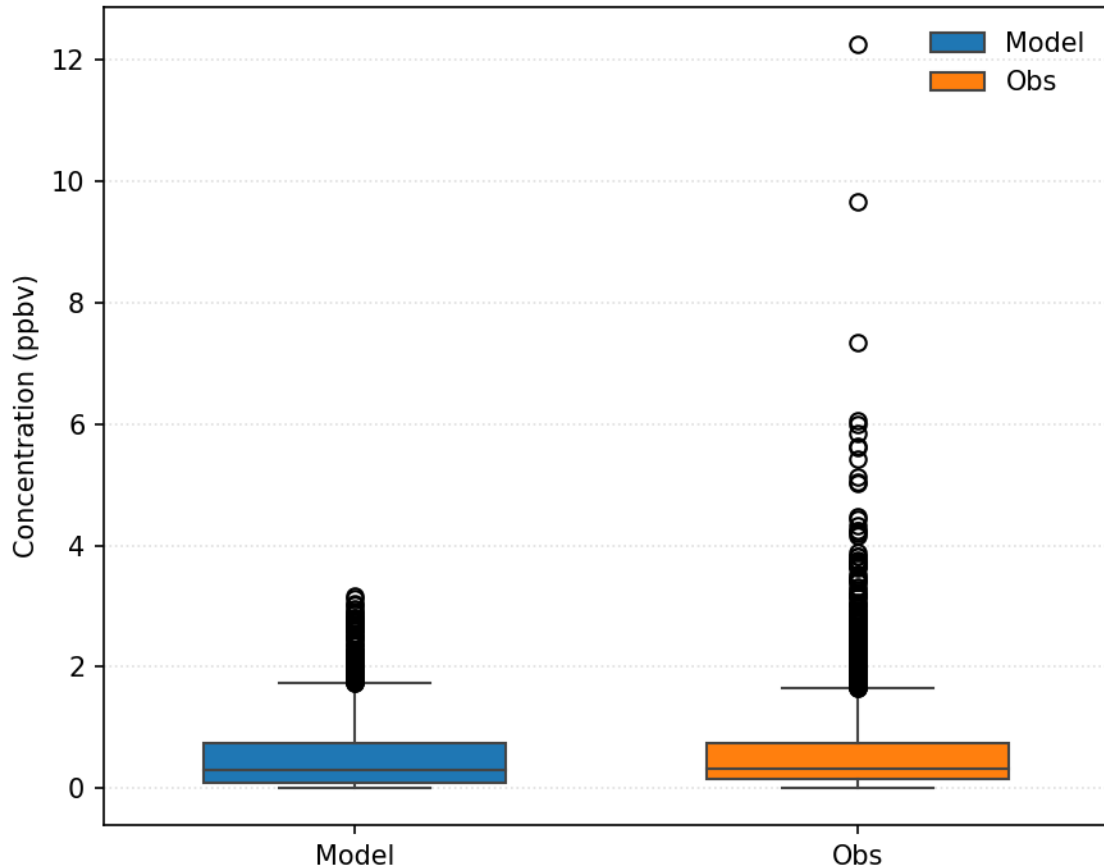


# LNМ Benzene (Gasoline Combustion) and Ethene

## Benzene

- Median Within 10% (**1.1** times)
- Mean Within 20% (**1.2** times)

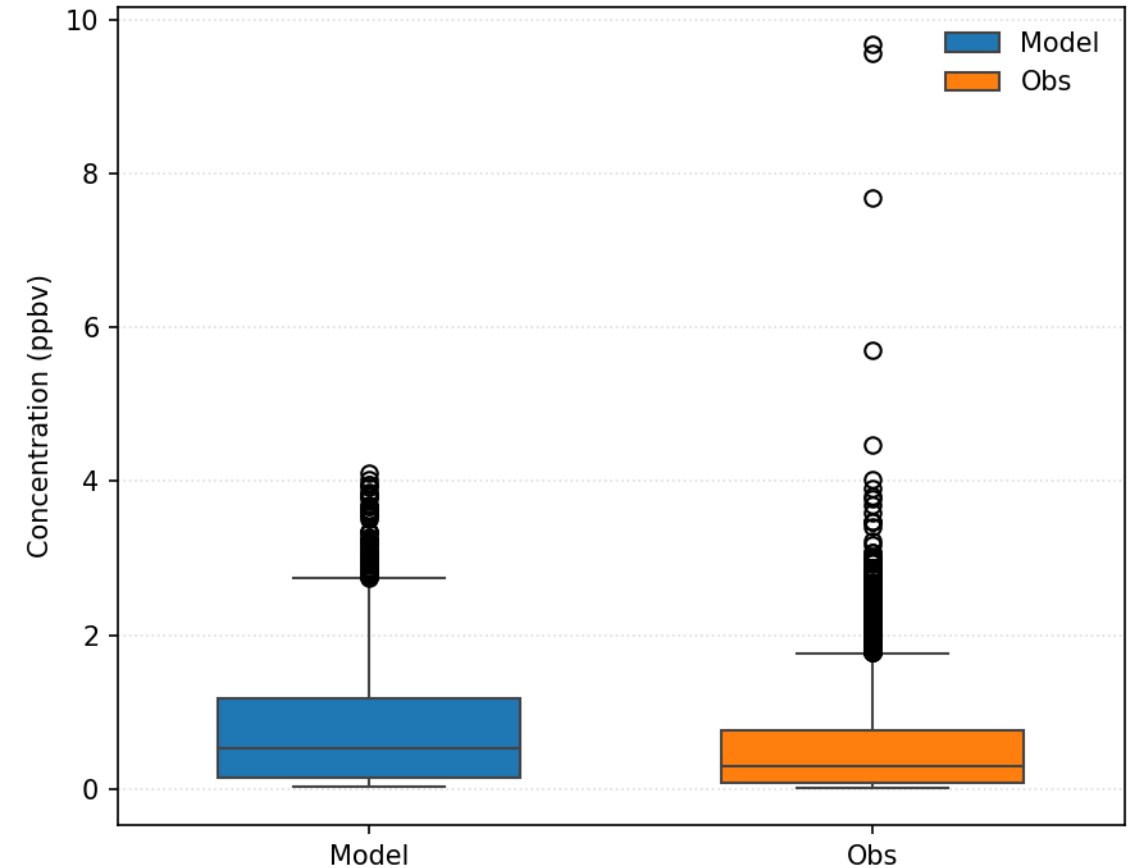
BENZ — Model vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



## Ethene

- Median Understated (**0.6** times)
- Mean Understated (**0.7** times)

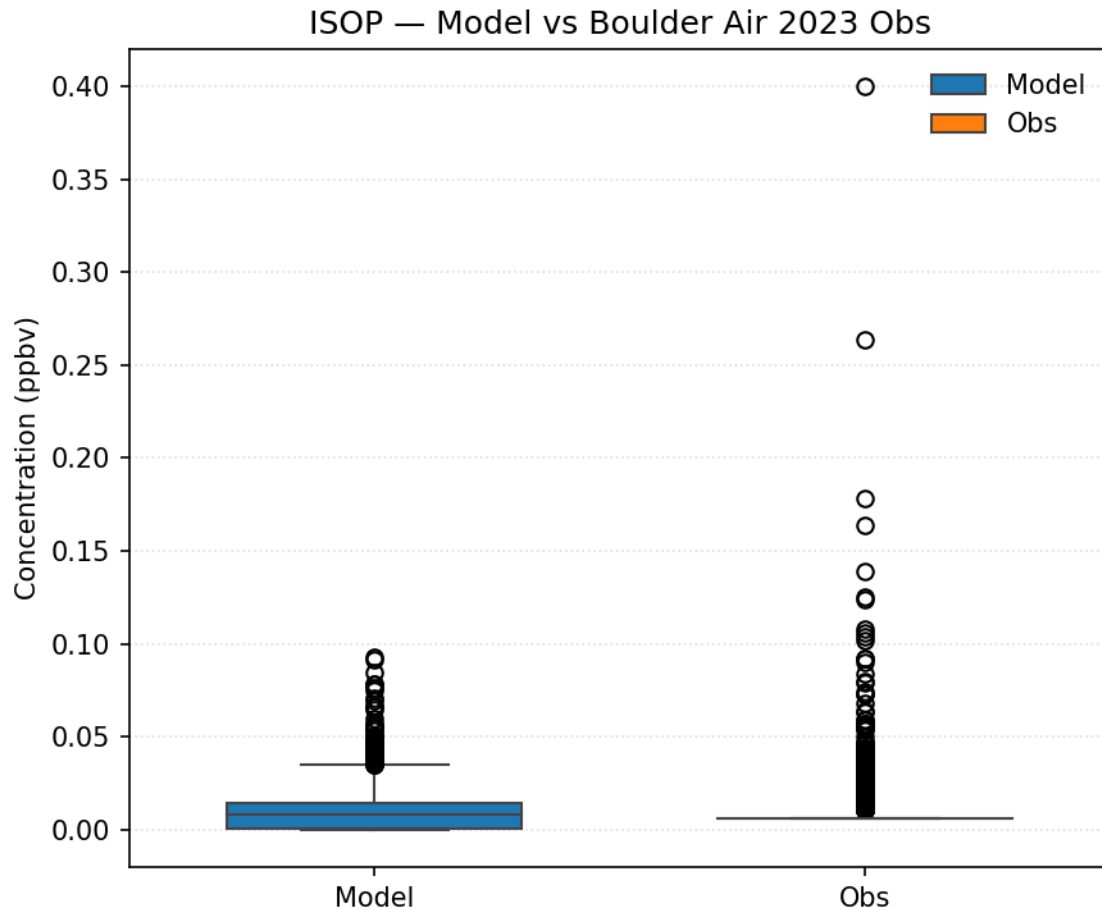
ETH — Model vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



# LNМ Isoprene (Biogenic) and Nitric Oxide (NO)

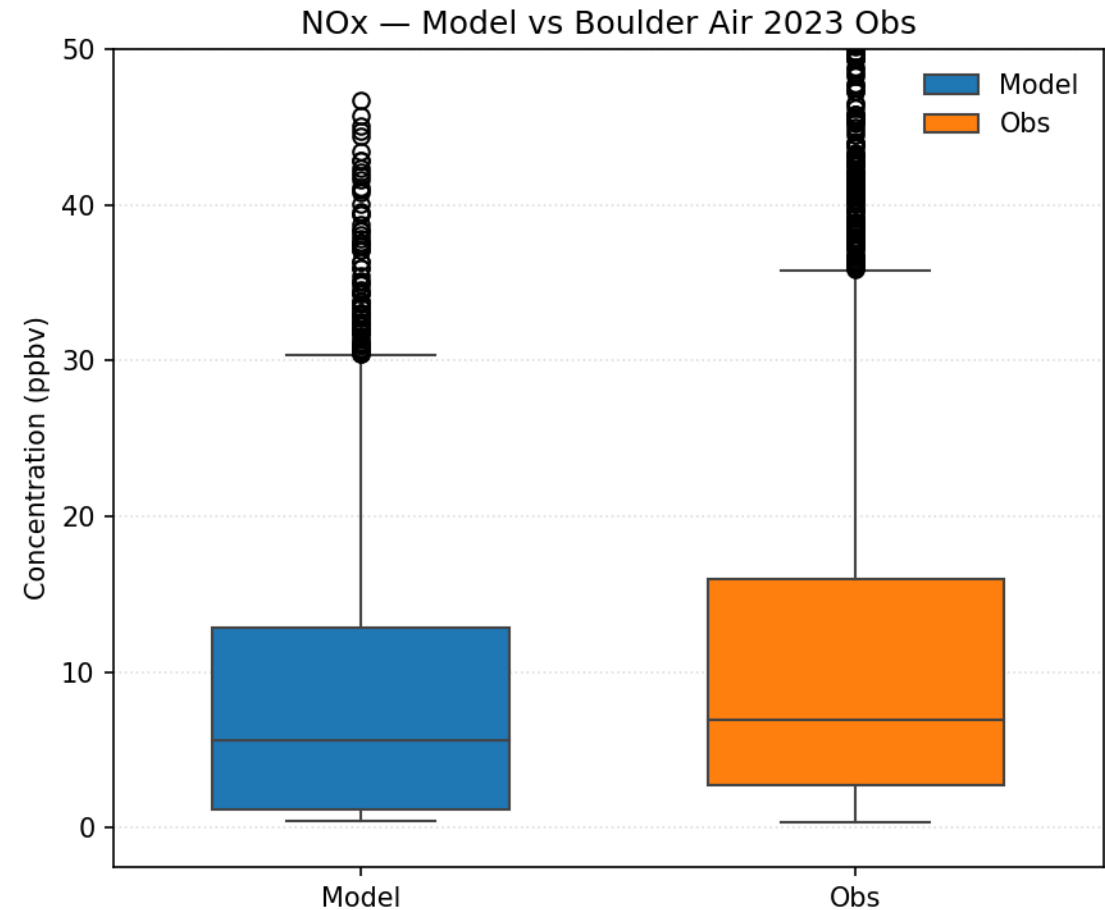
## Isoprene

- Median Obs & Model Low (0.008 vs. 0.006 ppb)
- Mean Low and Identical (0.0096 vs. 0.0095 ppb)



## Nitric Oxide

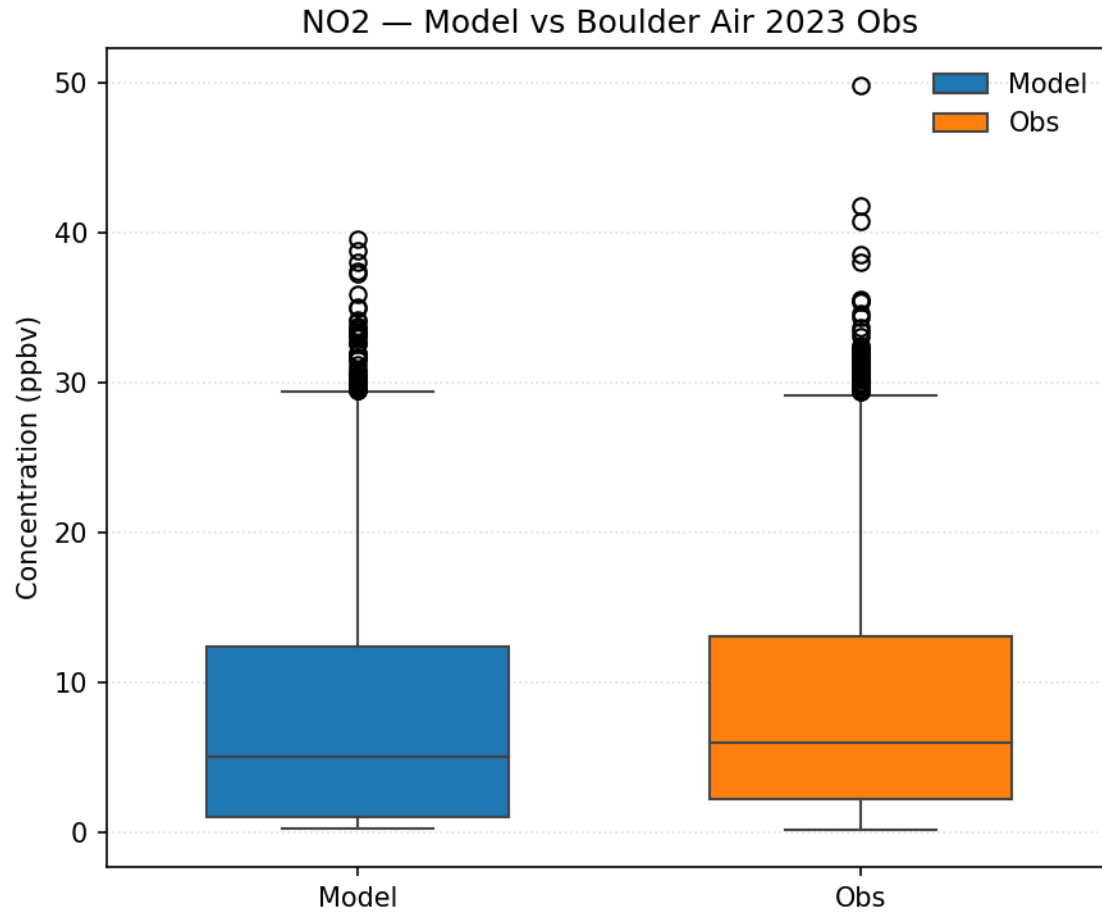
- Median Underprediction: **2.9** times (0.5 vs 0.2 ppb)
- Mean Underprediction: **5.9** times (11.7 vs 8.2 ppb)



# LNМ NO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>

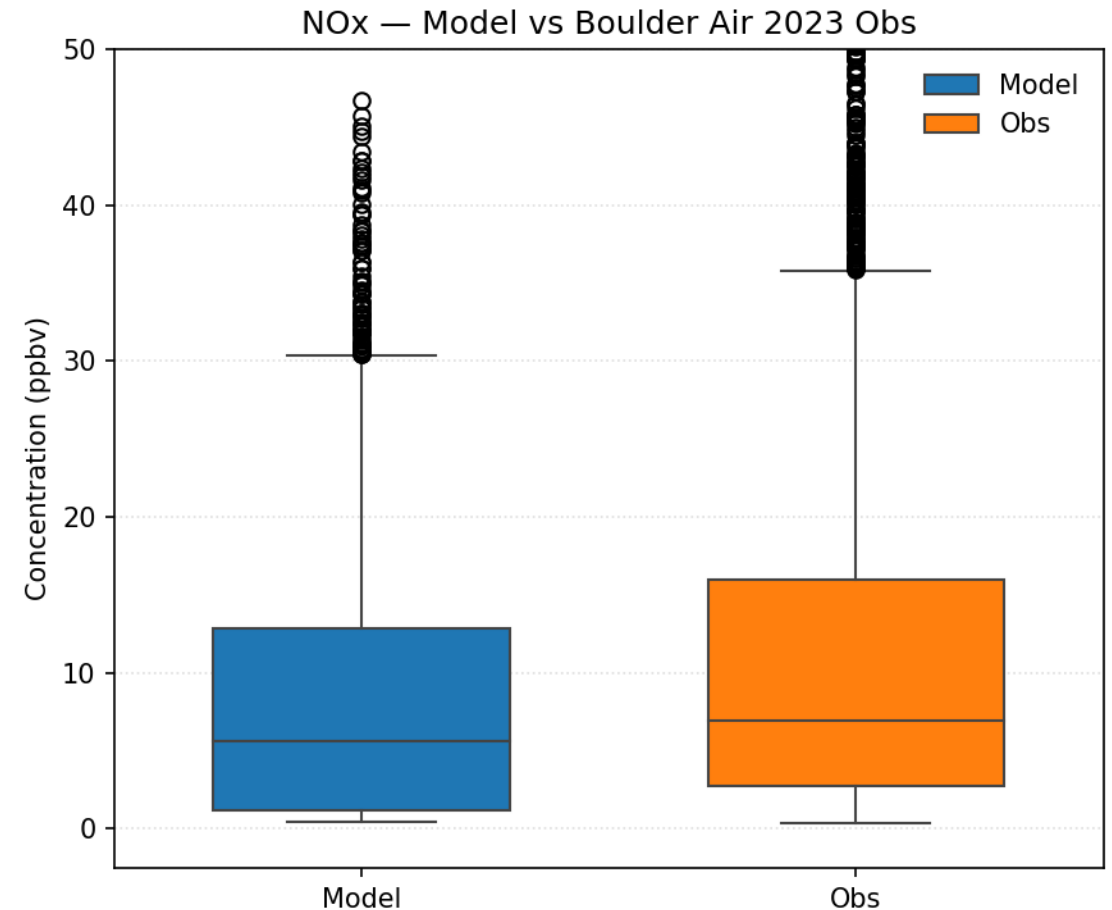
## NO<sub>2</sub>

- Median Underprediction: **1.2** times (6.0 vs 5.1 ppb)
- Mean Underprediction: **1.1** times (8.5 vs 7.6 ppb)



## NO<sub>x</sub>

- Median Underprediction: **1.2** times (7 vs 6 ppb)
- Mean Underprediction: **1.4** times (12 vs 8 ppb)



# Conclusions: Loving, NM VOC/NO<sub>x</sub> Evaluation

**Key Takeaway: Both special field study monitoring datasets indicate that Permian Basin O&G VOC emissions in the 2022v2 platform are understated. O&G NO<sub>x</sub> emissions may also be understated**

LNM much closer to O&G activities than CarCavAQS so measures higher concentrations

Species/O&G Tracer	Observed LNM vs CarCavAQS	Model LNM vs CarCavAQS	Model Bias (against Obs)
Ethane	4-6× higher	5-6× higher	~4-5× too low
Propane	3-4× higher	4-5× higher	~4-5× too low
Benzene	3x Higher	6-7x Higher	2× low @ CarCavAQS
NO <sub>x</sub>	8x Higher	10x Higher	~1.5-2× too low

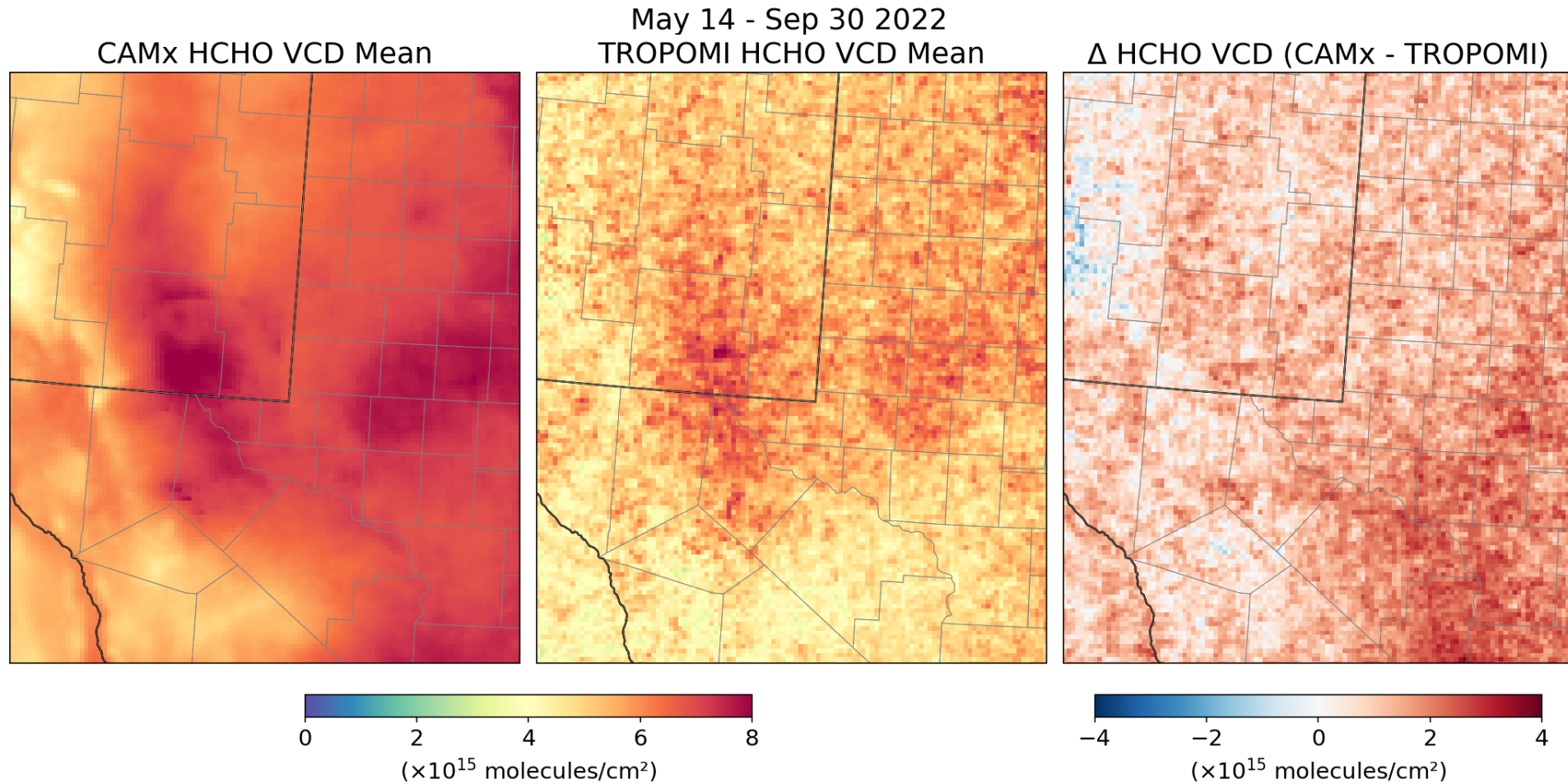
# TROPOMI Satellite Evaluation

# TROPOMI Satellite Evaluation NO<sub>2</sub> & Formaldehyde (HCHO)

- Tropospheric Monitoring Instrument (TROPOMI) satellite measures vertical column density (VCD) of **NO<sub>2</sub>** and **HCHO** (formaldehyde) one time per day at a  $\sim 7 \times \sim 3.5$  km<sup>2</sup> resolution
- TROPOMI was launched in October 2017 so was available during summer 2022 modeling period
  - Newer TEMPO satellite launched late 2023 satellite provides higher horizontal and temporal resolution
- CAMx 2022v2 12/4 km base case (4km2022v2) obtained 3-D concentration output that were processed to obtain modeled VCD of NO<sub>2</sub> and HCHO for comparison with TROPOMI
- Comparing TROPOMI VCD NO<sub>2</sub> provides an evaluation of the NO<sub>x</sub> emission inventory
  - Satellite observations have high uncertainties and can have interference (e.g., clouds)
- HCHO originates from direct primary sources and, more significantly, formed secondarily in the atmosphere from VOC oxidation (e.g., isoprene and methane)
- Comparing the HCHO to NO<sub>2</sub> ratios (FNR) provides an indication of whether ozone formation is more NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive or VOC-sensitive.

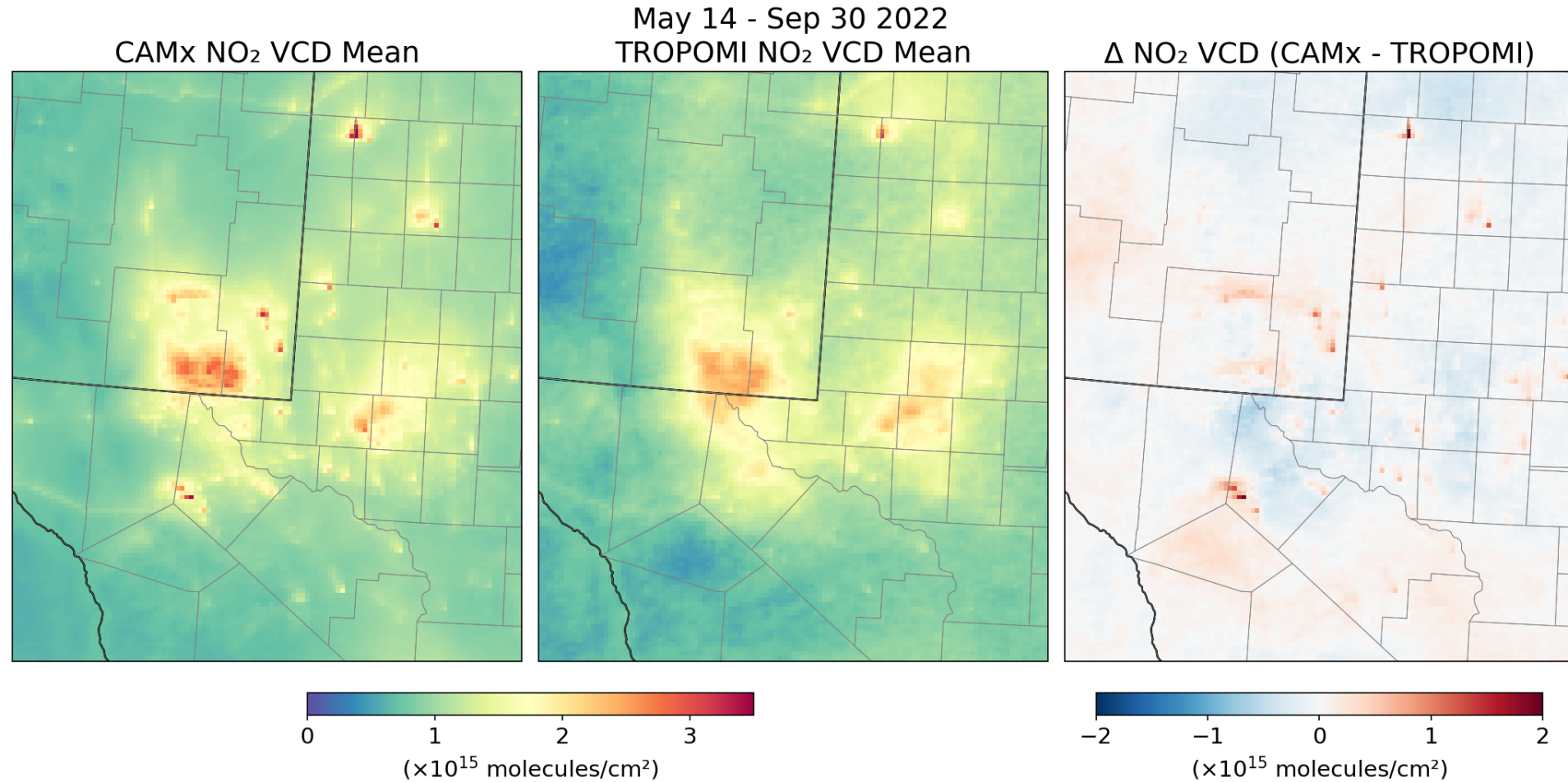
# CAMx-TROPOMI VCD HCHO May 14 – Sep 30, 2022

- CAMx HCHO mostly higher than TROPOMI in Eddy and Lea Counties



# CAMx-TROPOMI VCD NO<sub>2</sub> May 14 – Sep 30, 2022

- CAMx NO<sub>2</sub> sometimes higher and sometimes lower than TROPOMI
- O&G area in southern Eddy County CAMx tends to be higher than TROPOMI but lower next door in TX

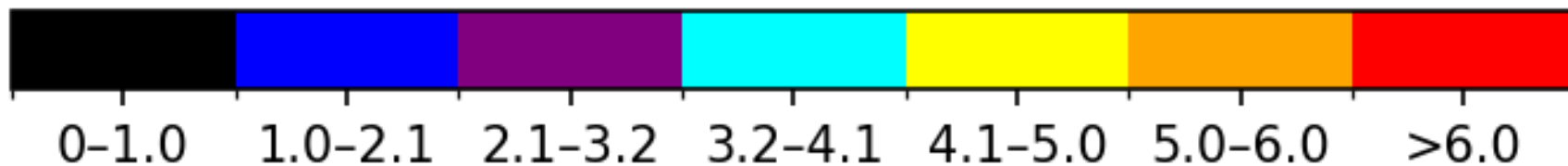


# FNR (HCHO/NO<sub>2</sub>) Indicator of Ozone NO<sub>x</sub>/VOC Regime

- Several researchers have proposed alternative FNR cut-points that indicate when ozone formation is more NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive or more VOC-sensitive [this is an inexact science and usually ozone formation has elements of both]

Reference	Data	VOC-sensitive	Transition	NO <sub>x</sub> -sensitive
Duncan et al., 2010	Model, OMI	FNR < 1.0	1.0 < FNR < 2.0	FNR > 2.0
Jin et al., 2020	Surface Obs	FNR < 3.2	3.2 < FNR < 4.1	FNR > 4.1
Souri et al., 2020	Box Model+	FNR < 1.0	1.0 < FNR < 4.0	FNR > 4.0

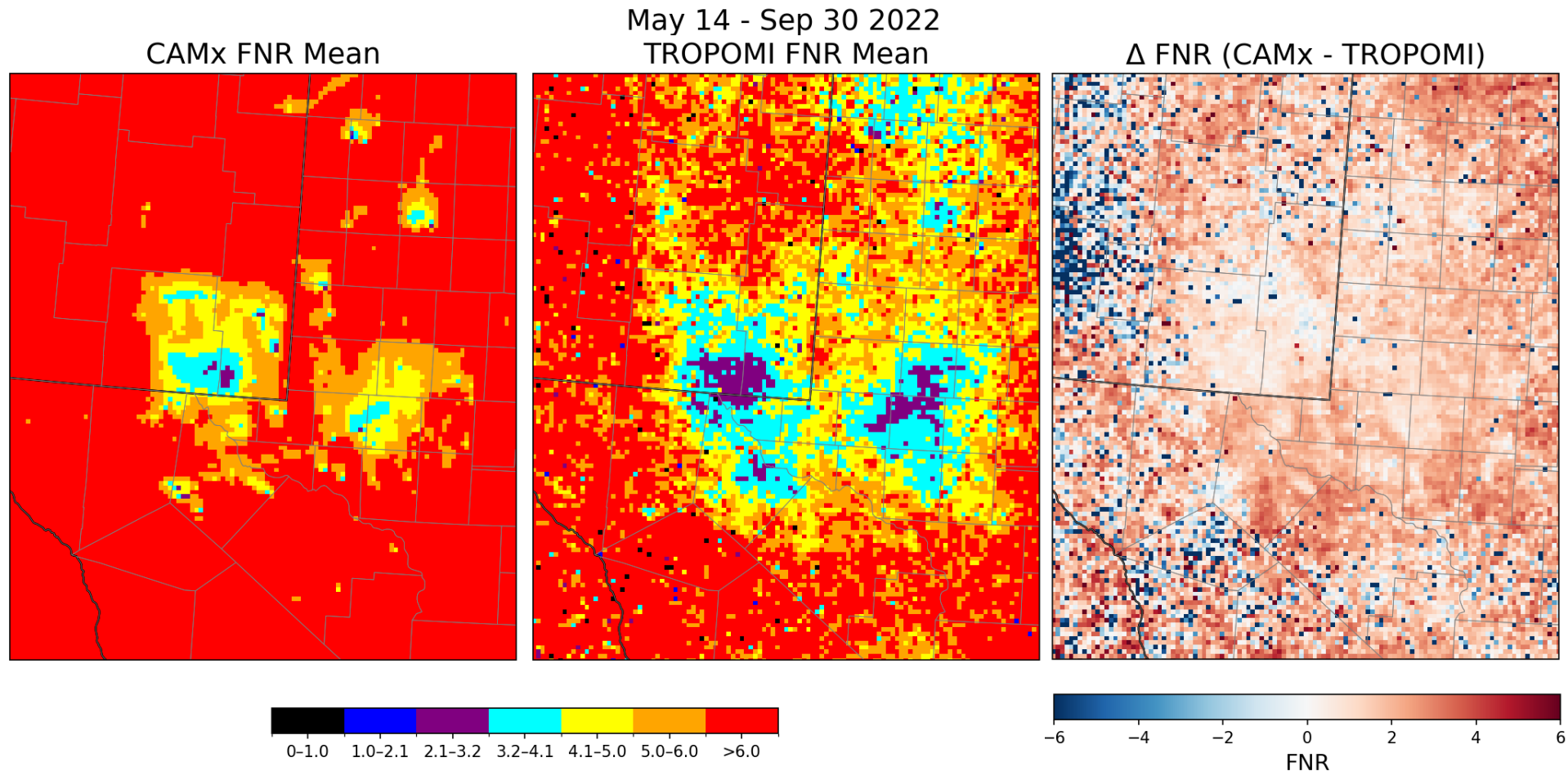
- For plotting the FNR we have adopted the following scale:



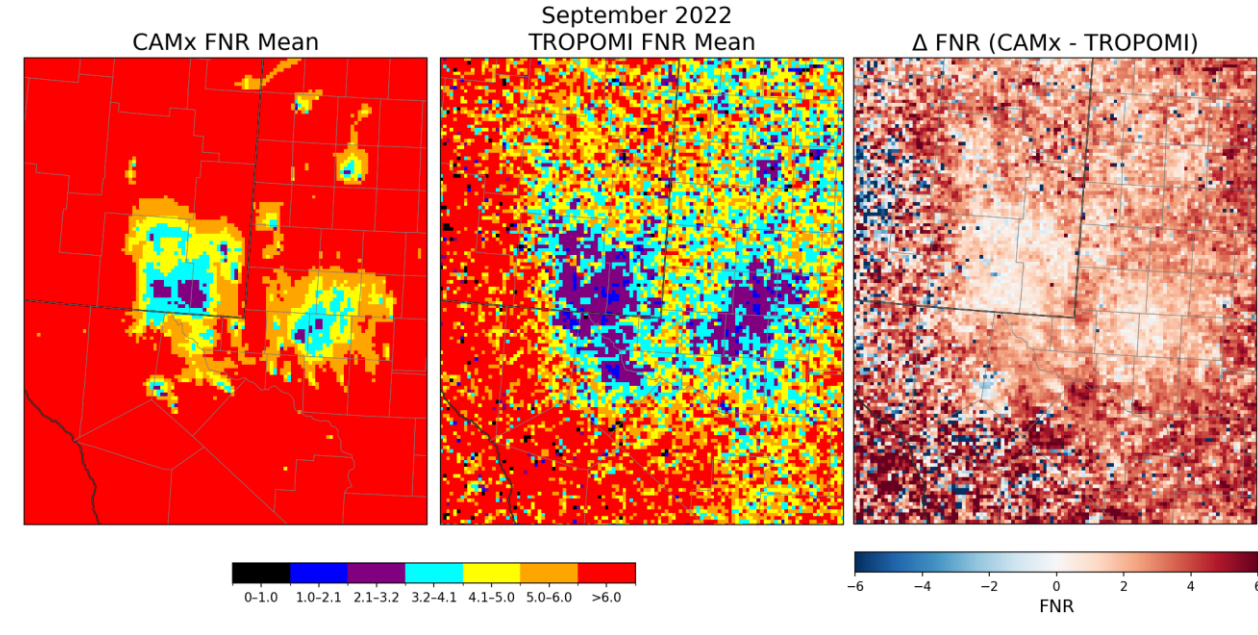
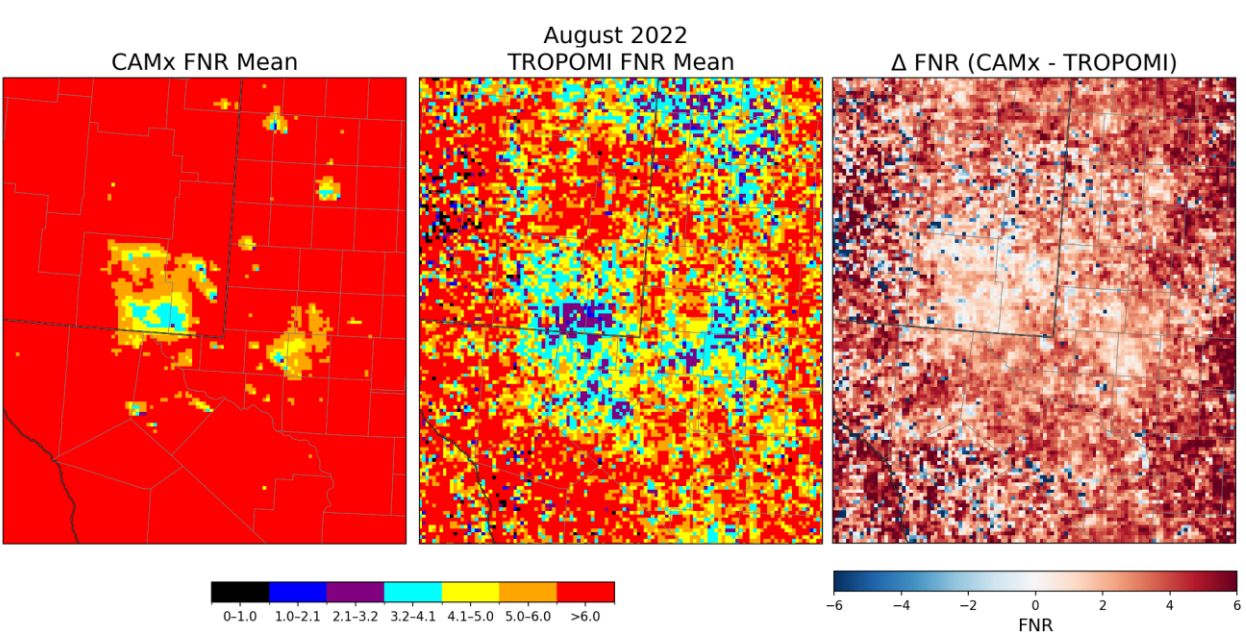
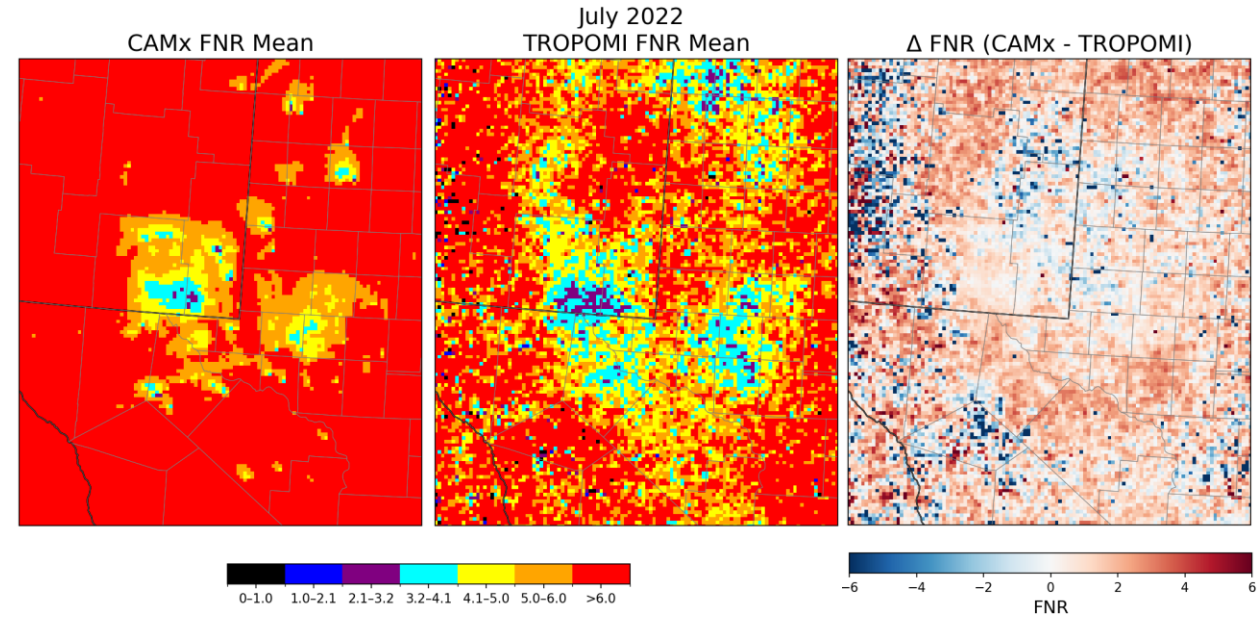
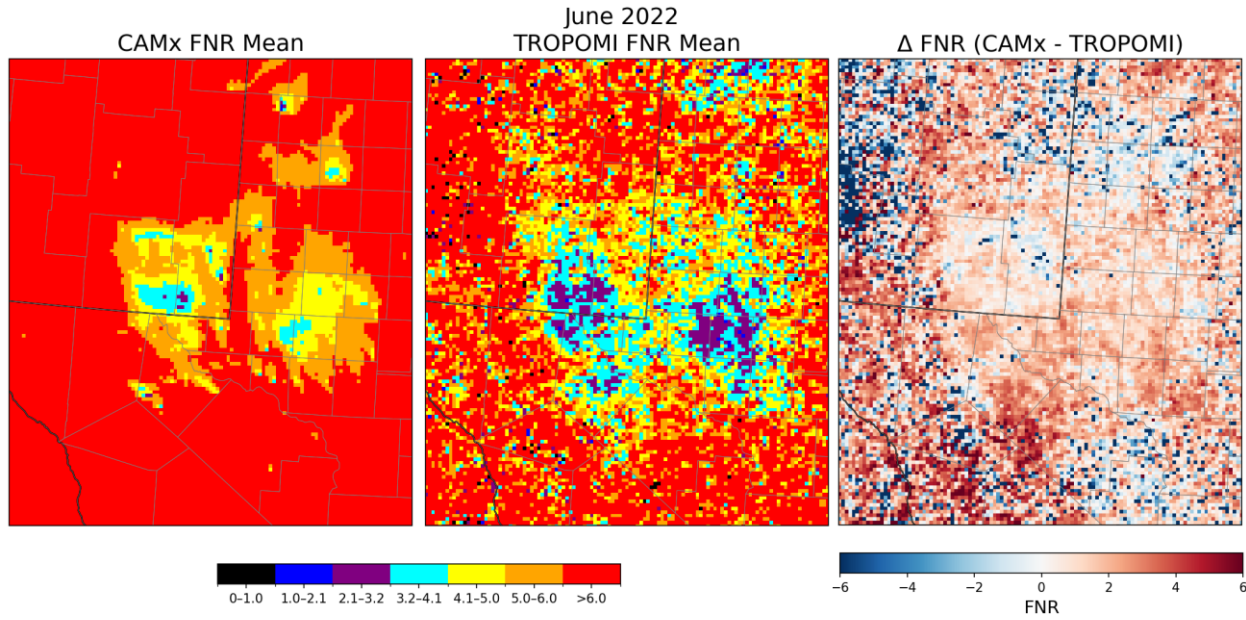
- **Black**: clearly VOC-sensitive
- **Dark Blue**: likely VOC-sensitive but may be Transition
- **Purple**: likely Transition but may be VOC-sensitive
- **Light Blue**: Transition
- **Yellow**: likely NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive
- **Orange** and **Red**: clearly NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive

# CAMx-TROPOMI FNR May 14 – Sep 30, 2022

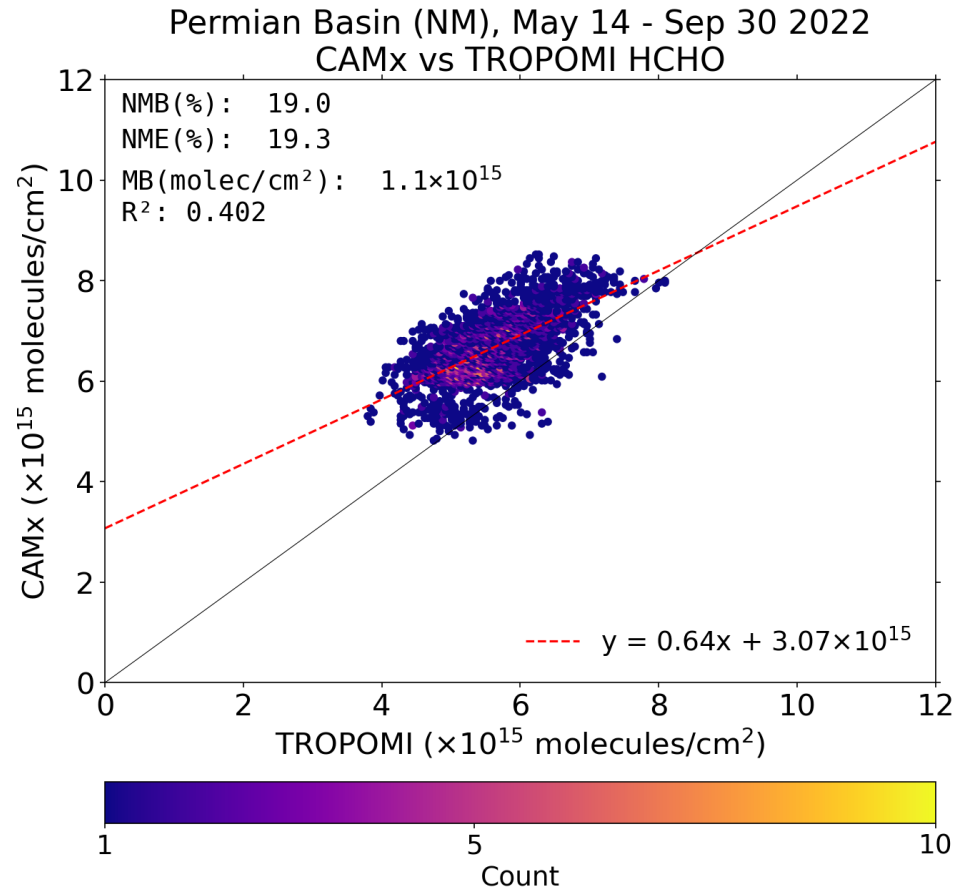
- Observed FNR has more likely VOC-sensitive ozone formation (dark) in southern Eddy and southwest Lea counties than modeled FNR
- Larger FNR ozone formation transition area in observations compared to model
- Model may understate benefits of VOC controls in the Permian Basin for reducing ozone concentrations



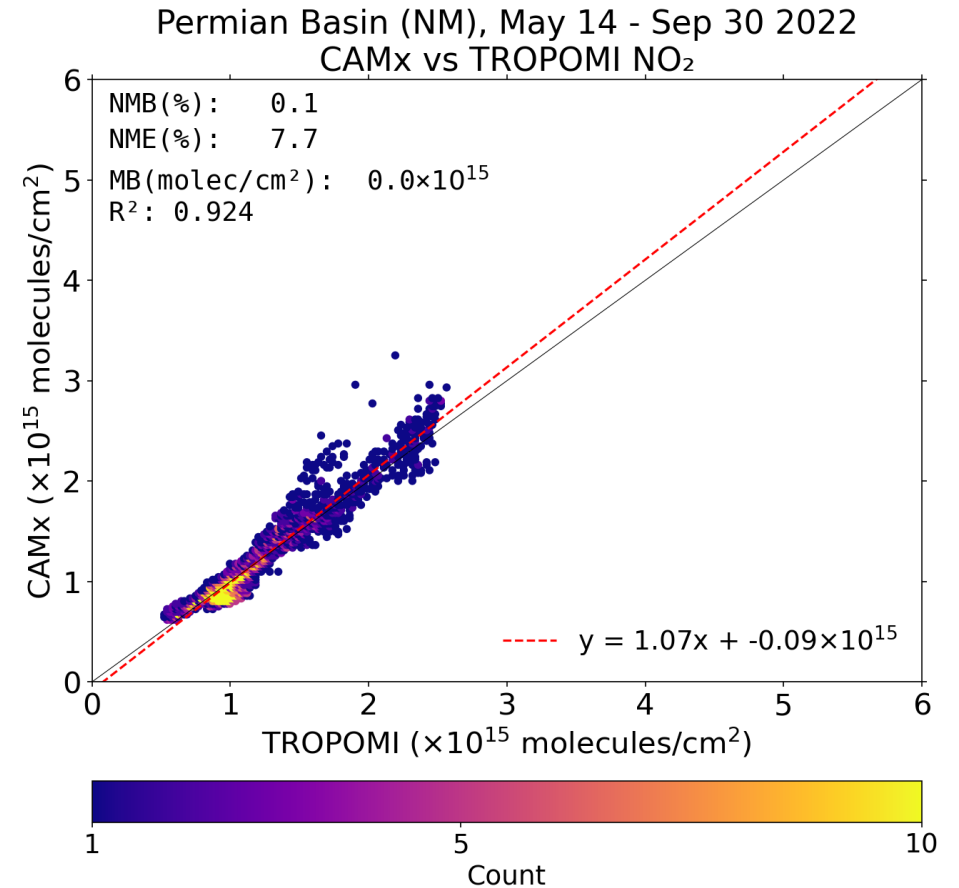
# Monthly 2022 FNR Comparisons: Jun, Jul, Aug and Sep



# Scatter: CAMx vs TROPOMI New Mexico Permian Basin

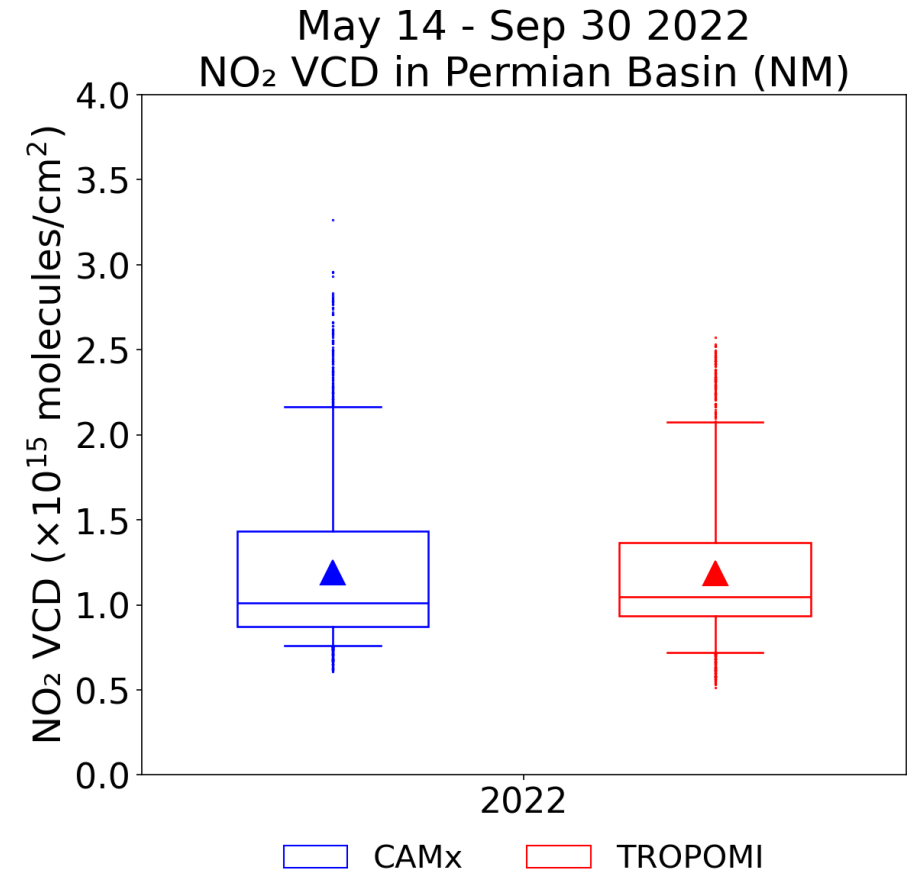
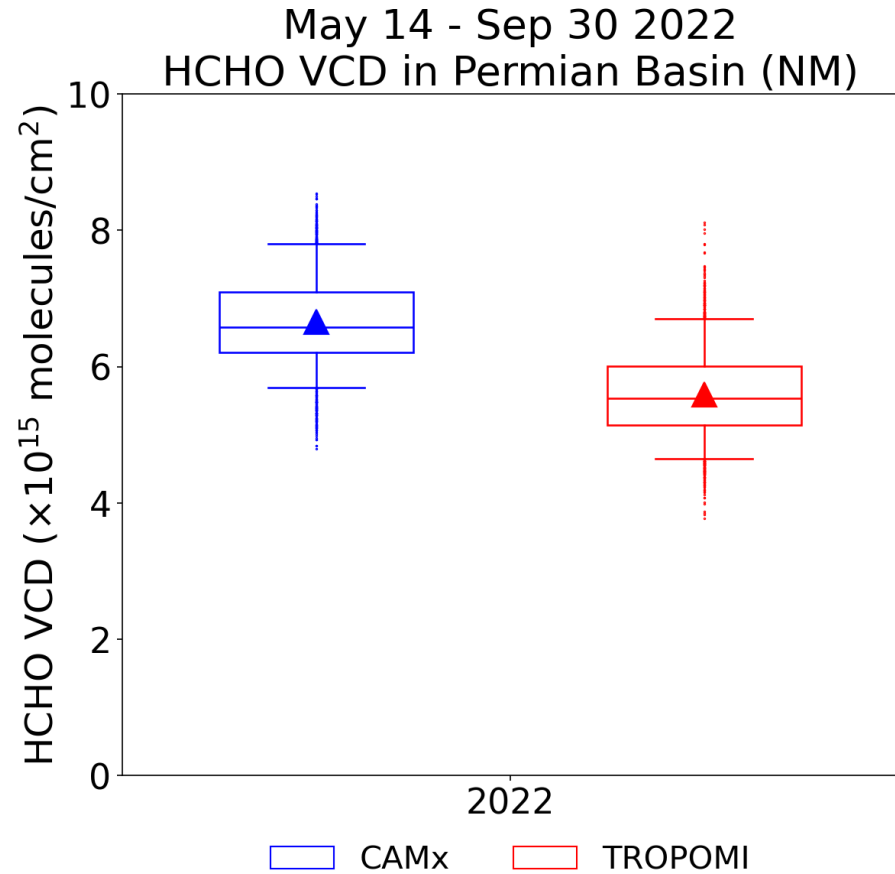


Modeled HCHO columns higher than observed



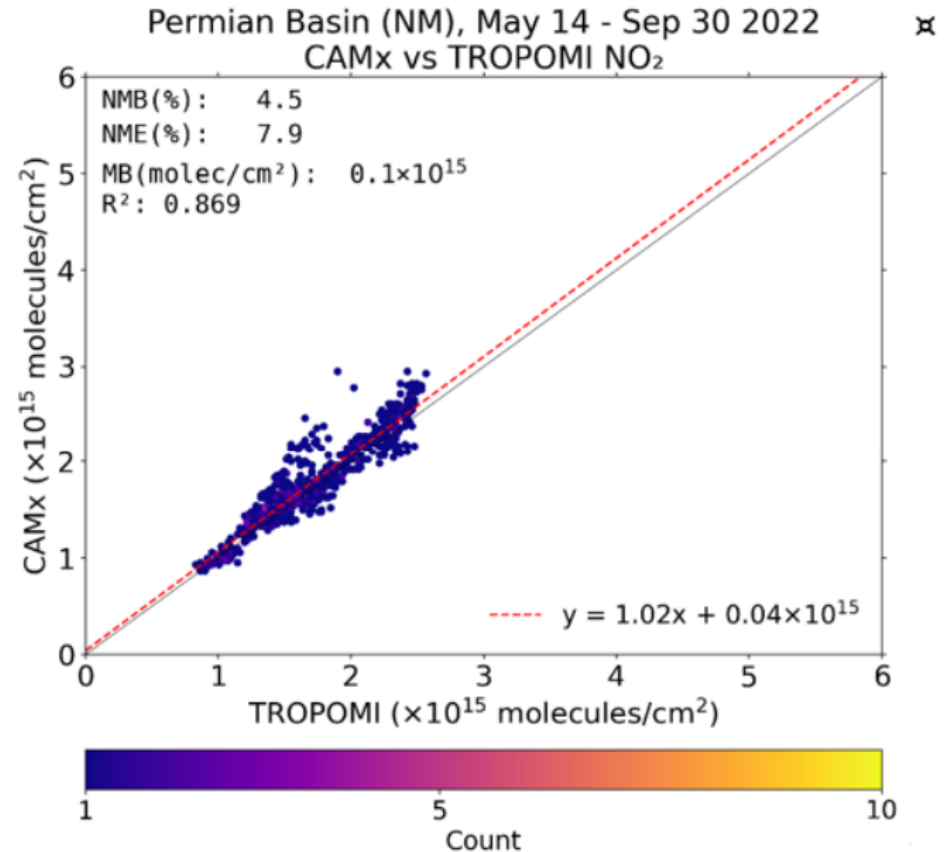
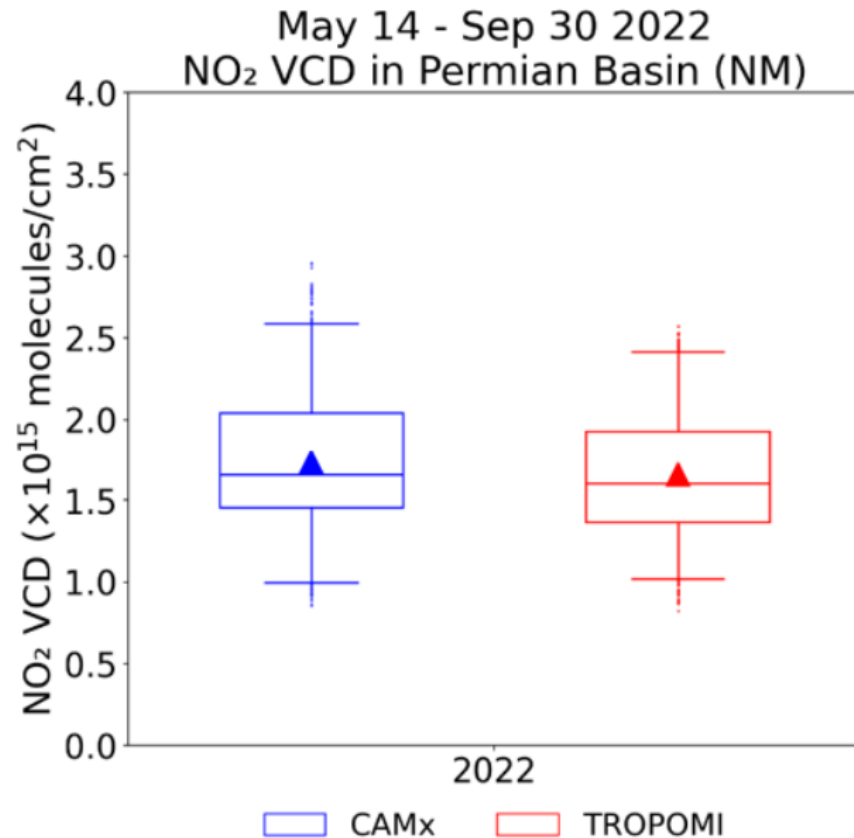
Good agreement for NO<sub>2</sub> columns between CAMx and TROPOMI

# Box/Whisker: CAMx vs TROPOMI in NM Permian Basin



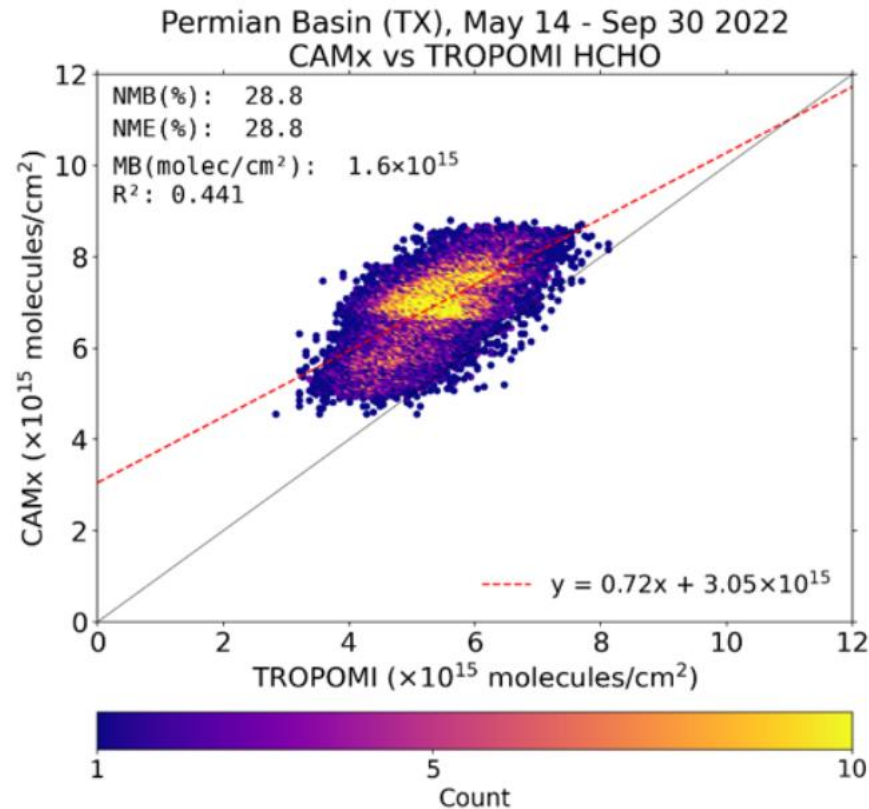
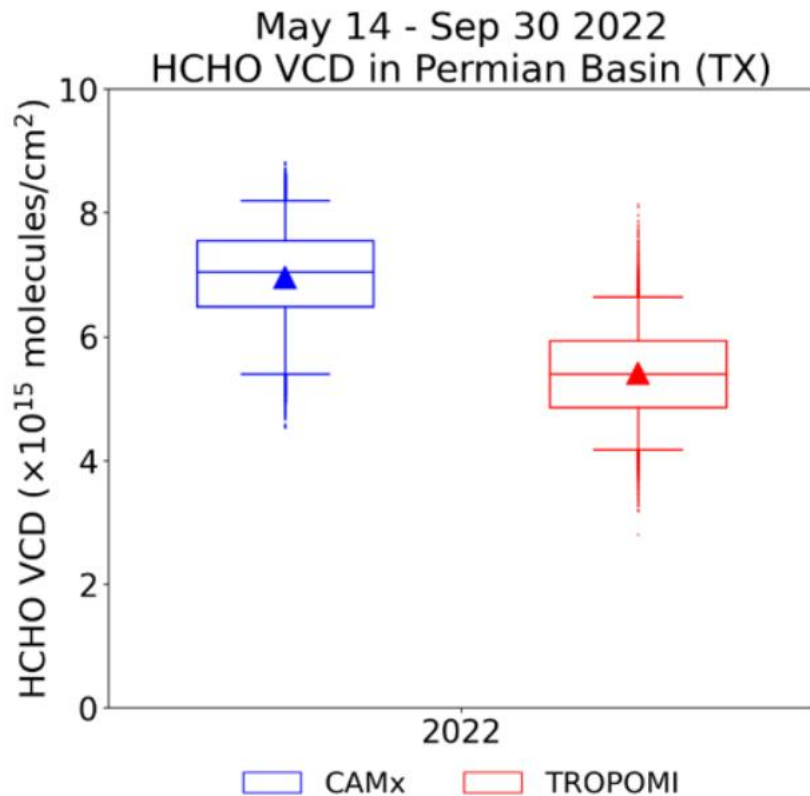
# CAMx vs. TROPOMI NO<sub>2</sub> when O&G NO<sub>x</sub> > 0.02 TPD

- CAMx higher VCD NO<sub>2</sub> at locations of larger point NO<sub>x</sub> point sources due to higher horizontal resolution in CAMx (4 km) than TROPOMI



# CAMx vs TROPOMI HCHO Texas Permian Basin

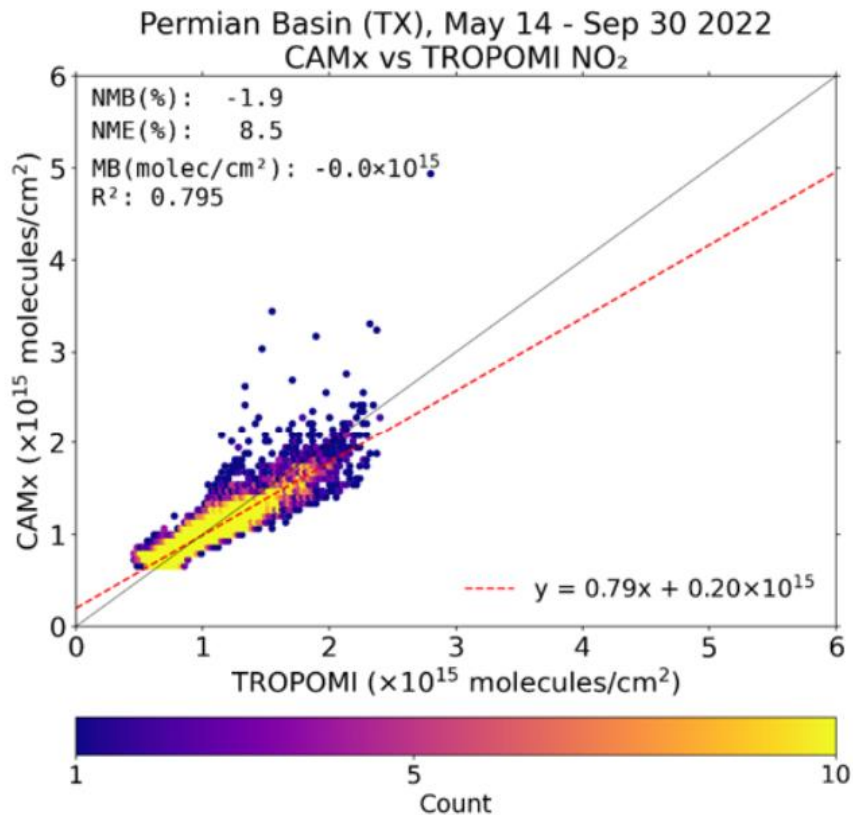
- CAMx formaldehyde higher than TROPOMI over Texas portion of the Permian Basin
- More biogenic VOC emissions in Texas than New Mexico portions of the Permian Basin isoprene oxidation is a major source of atmospheric formaldehyde concentrations



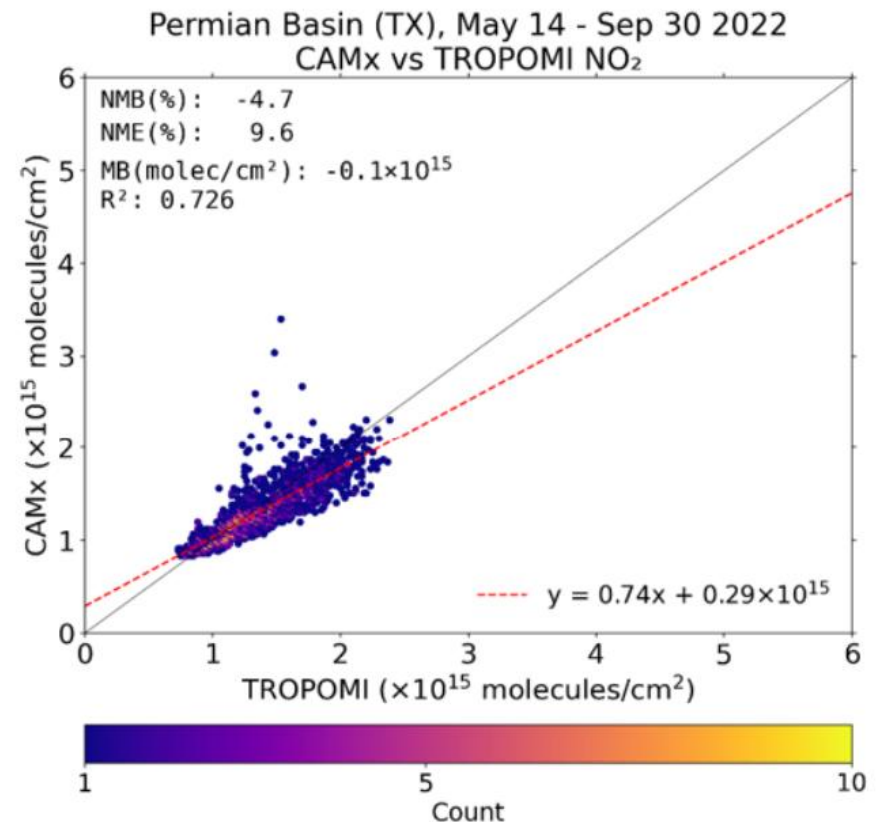
# CAMx vs. TROPOMI NO<sub>2</sub> Texas Permian Basin

- CAMx NO<sub>2</sub> less than TROPOMI, especially in grid cells containing O&G emissions:
  - Underestimation bias understated due to higher resolution in CAMx producing higher NO<sub>2</sub> over major NO<sub>x</sub> sources than TROPOMI

## All Texas Permian Basin



## TX PB when O&G NO<sub>x</sub> > 0.02 TPD



# TROPOMI Satellite Evaluation Conclusions

## Overall Performance

- HCHO performance is difficult to interpret because TROPOMI are highly pixelated. CAMx tends to show higher HCHO than TROPOMI
- CAMx and TROPOMI NO<sub>2</sub> columns show reasonably good agreement

## Ozone Formation Insights (FNR)

- TROPOMI FNR indicates more transitional, and in some areas clearly VOC-sensitive, ozone formation conditions in New Mexico Permian Basin than CAMx
  - This suggests VOC controls may be more effective at reducing ozone concentrations in the Permian Basin than estimated by the model

## Implications for Emissions Evaluation

- Preliminary satellite comparisons do not show widespread systematic underestimation of Permian Basin O&G NO<sub>x</sub> emissions; however, some local understatement may exist and may not be captured by TROPOMI
- Satellite observations carry higher uncertainties, and additional analysis with higher-resolution instruments (e.g., TEMPO) is needed

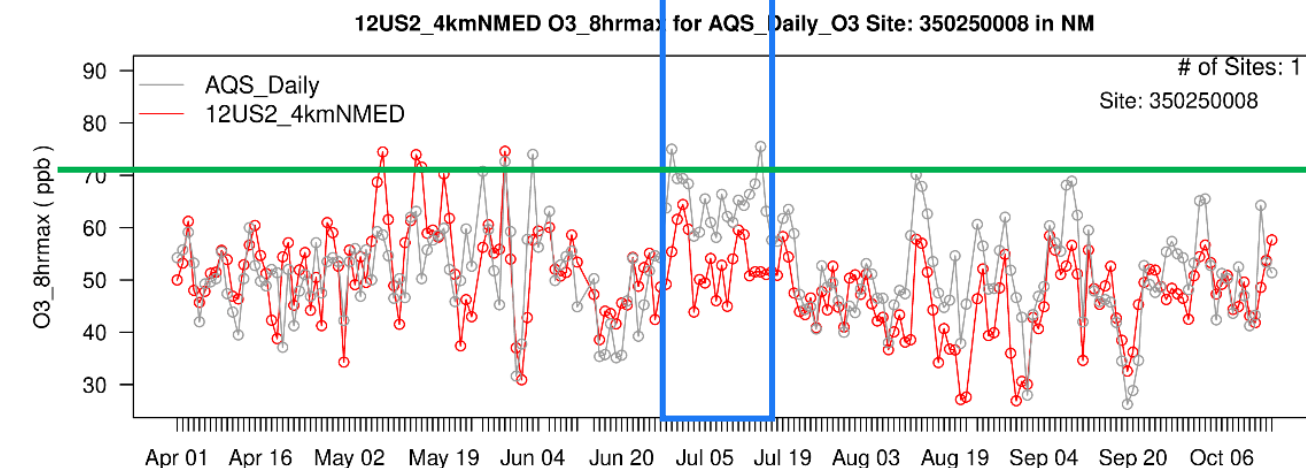
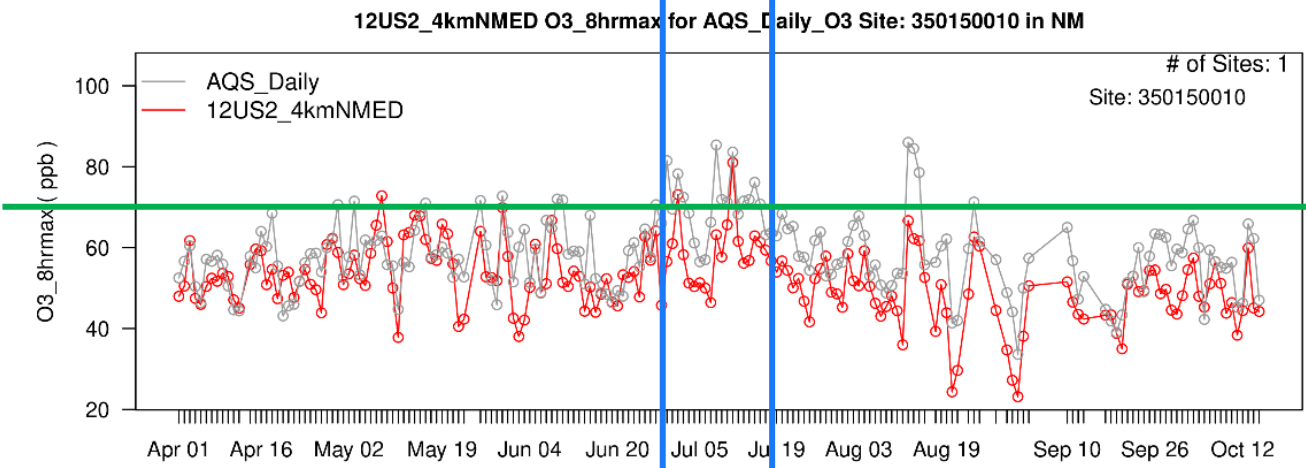
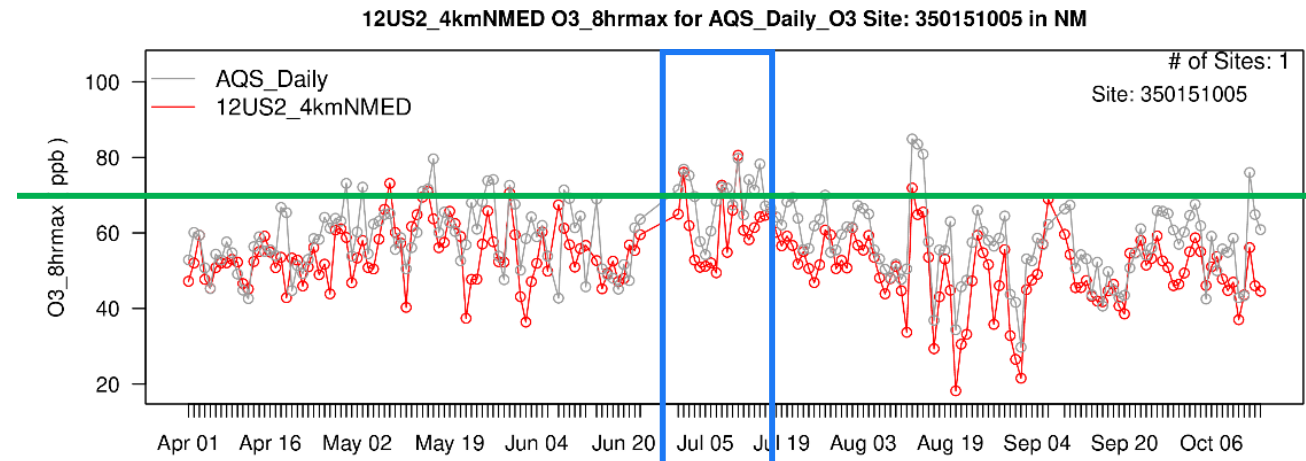
# Selection of Episode Period for Sensitivity Tests

**June 28 – July 17, 2022: 20 days**

**Blue box:**

June 28 – July 17  
20-day episode of high  
observed/modeled  
ozone in Permian  
Basin

**Grey** = Observed  
**Red** = 2022\_4km  
**Green** = 70 ppb



350150010	Eddy	Carlsbad Caverns
350151005	Eddy	Carlsbad (City)
350250008	Lea	Hobbs Jefferson

# Observed Ozone Exceedances in the Permian Basin

## June 28 – July 17, 2022: 20-day Episode for Sensitivity Modeling (red)

- 20-days out of 157 day May 10 – Oct 14, 2022 modeling period (**13% of days**)
- Carlsbad City has 23 ozone exceedance days in 2022 (and the 157-day modeling period)
  - 20-day episode has 10 exceedance days (**43% of the exceedance days** in 2022)

Local Name:	Carlsbad Cavern	Carlsbad City	Hobbs	HMS
County:	Eddy	Eddy	Lea	Smoke
Site ID:	35-015-0010	35-015-1005	35-025-0008	Density
4/30/2022	70	73	53	Light-Medium
5/3/2022	71	72	56	None
5/14/2022	64	71	63	Light
5/15/2022	68	71	50	Light-Medium
5/16/2022	71	79	55	Light-Medium
5/26/2022	71	73	70	Light-Medium
5/27/2022	60	74	59	Medium-Heavy
5/30/2022	72	72	72	Light
6/4/2022	51	59	74	Light
6/9/2022	72	71	52	Light
6/10/2022	71	69	54	Light
6/15/2022	68	69	50	Light
6/29/2022	81	77	75	Light
6/30/2022	69	71	69	Light
7/1/2022	78	76	69	Light
7/2/2022	72	75	68	Light
7/8/2022	85	72	66	None
7/9/2022	71	71	62	Light
7/10/2022	71	67	61	Light
7/11/2022	83	79	65	Light
7/13/2022	71	74	66	Light
7/14/2022	71	71	68	Light
7/15/2022	76	78	75	Light
8/12/2022	86	84	70	Light
8/13/2022	84	83	67	Light
8/14/2022	78	80	62	Light
8/24/2022	71	66	56	None
9/8/2022	83	NA	68	Light
10/13/2022	65	76	64	None
<b>#Exceedances</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	

Date	Obs	4kmflxnst	Bias%	12kmv1	Bias%
5/10/2022	58.8	62.5	6.5%	57.3	-2.4%
5/11/2022	50.5	43.5	-13.9%	40.3	-20.2%
5/12/2022	56.1	64.9	15.6%	61.7	10.0%
5/13/2022	60.1	59.8	-0.6%	64.8	7.8%
5/14/2022	71.0	70.6	-0.5%	69.5	-2.2%
5/15/2022	71.6	73.5	2.6%	71.0	-0.9%
5/16/2022	79.6	63.6	-20.2%	63.7	-20.0%
5/17/2022	60.1	57.8	-3.8%	56.1	-6.7%
5/18/2022	65.5	59.3	-9.4%	57.5	-12.2%
5/19/2022	62.8	68.8	9.6%	65.8	4.8%
5/20/2022	60.4	63.1	4.5%	62.5	3.5%
5/21/2022	52.6	56.6	7.5%	59.1	12.3%
5/22/2022	56.9	49.6	-12.8%	37.4	-34.2%
5/23/2022	68.0	56.0	-17.6%	47.7	-29.8%
5/24/2022	61.0	50.5	-17.2%	47.8	-21.7%
5/25/2022	68.3	57.3	-16.0%	57.0	-16.4%
5/26/2022	73.8	69.3	-6.1%	65.8	-10.8%
5/27/2022	74.1	61.3	-17.4%	57.7	-22.2%
5/28/2022	53.9	52.0	-3.6%	52.4	-2.8%
5/29/2022	47.6	50.4	5.8%	52.3	9.7%
5/30/2022	72.6	70.2	-3.4%	70.6	-2.7%
5/31/2022	67.6	59.3	-12.3%	59.5	-12.0%
6/1/2022	50.1	49.7	-0.9%	43.1	-14.0%
6/2/2022	58.5	48.1	-17.8%	36.4	-37.8%
6/3/2022	64.3	49.3	-23.2%	47.1	-26.6%
6/4/2022	59.0	53.7	-8.9%	52.0	-11.9%
6/5/2022	62.0	59.7	-3.7%	60.3	-2.8%
6/6/2022	53.9	46.6	-13.5%	49.9	-7.4%
6/8/2022	42.8	50.0	16.9%	67.4	57.7%
6/9/2022	71.4	59.8	-16.2%	61.3	-14.2%
6/10/2022	69.1	59.7	-13.7%	56.9	-17.7%
6/11/2022	61.4	56.9	-7.3%	51.0	-17.0%
6/12/2022	64.5	55.7	-13.7%	55.8	-13.4%
6/13/2022	45.8	57.4	25.5%	56.7	23.9%
6/15/2022	69.0	59.5	-13.8%	52.7	-23.6%

Date	Obs	4kmflxnst	Bias%	12kmv1	Bias%
6/16/2022	50.5	49.6	-1.9%	45.2	-10.5%
6/17/2022	48.9	52.1	6.6%	49.3	0.9%
6/18/2022	48.0	51.5	7.2%	52.5	9.4%
6/19/2022	45.1	44.7	-0.9%	47.1	4.4%
6/20/2022	51.6	40.7	-21.1%	47.9	-7.1%
6/21/2022	47.4	46.7	-1.5%	56.8	20.0%
6/22/2022	61.4	55.1	-10.2%	55.4	-9.8%
6/23/2022	63.6	56.9	-10.6%	59.5	-6.5%
6/30/2022	71.5	70.2	-1.8%	65.0	-9.2%
7/1/2022	76.9	74.0	-3.8%	76.1	-1.0%
7/2/2022	75.3	71.5	-5.0%	61.9	-17.7%
7/3/2022	69.6	57.1	-18.0%	52.8	-24.2%
7/4/2022	57.8	54.3	-6.1%	50.9	-11.8%
7/5/2022	54.3	51.6	-4.8%	51.2	-5.6%
7/6/2022	60.5	54.8	-9.4%	52.1	-13.9%
7/7/2022	68.4	59.4	-13.1%	49.4	-27.7%
7/8/2022	72.1	59.1	-18.1%	72.7	0.7%
7/9/2022	71.9	64.2	-10.7%	54.9	-23.7%
7/10/2022	67.4	66.9	-0.7%	66.0	-2.0%
7/11/2022	79.8	74.1	-7.1%	80.6	1.0%
7/12/2022	64.8	62.3	-3.8%	60.7	-6.3%
7/13/2022	74.1	68.0	-8.2%	58.2	-21.5%
7/14/2022	71.4	64.4	-9.8%	61.4	-13.9%
7/15/2022	78.3	65.1	-16.8%	64.2	-17.9%
7/16/2022	67.1	67.4	0.4%	64.7	-3.6%
7/17/2022	66.5	68.6	3.2%	65.2	-1.9%
7/18/2022	64.3	62.6	-2.5%	60.1	-6.4%
7/19/2022	62.1	59.5	-4.3%	56.6	-8.9%
7/20/2022	68.3	65.2	-4.4%	59.2	-13.3%
7/21/2022	69.4	66.0	-4.8%	56.7	-18.3%
7/22/2022	63.9	61.2	-4.3%	51.7	-19.0%
7/23/2022	55.6	54.1	-2.7%	55.0	-1.1%
7/24/2022	55.9	56.7	1.4%	50.6	-9.4%
7/25/2022	61.9	52.3	-15.4%	46.9	-24.2%
7/26/2022	63.6	54.3	-14.7%	51.6	-18.9%
7/27/2022	70.0	54.0	-22.9%	60.8	-13.2%
7/28/2022	54.9	57.9	5.5%	59.5	8.4%
7/29/2022	55.5	52.2	-5.9%	50.5	-8.9%
7/30/2022	59.6	50.1	-15.9%	52.7	-11.5%
7/31/2022	61.6	53.9	-12.5%	50.7	-17.7%

Date	Obs	4kmflxnst	Bias%	12kmv1	Bias%
8/1/2022	61.5	54.9	-10.7%	61.3	-0.3%
8/2/2022	67.3	61.9	-8.0%	56.7	-15.7%
8/3/2022	66.5	60.7	-8.8%	55.4	-16.6%
8/4/2022	65.0	55.3	-14.9%	59.3	-8.7%
8/5/2022	55.5	56.9	2.5%	53.6	-3.5%
8/6/2022	53.1	51.9	-2.3%	48.1	-9.4%
8/7/2022	50.4	50.8	0.8%	43.9	-12.9%
8/8/2022	48.1	54.9	14.0%	47.9	-0.4%
8/9/2022	51.8	56.0	8.2%	51.1	-1.2%
8/10/2022	47.8	53.7	12.5%	44.7	-6.4%
8/11/2022	50.5	54.7	8.3%	33.7	-33.3%
8/12/2022	84.9	66.8	-21.3%	71.9	-15.3%
8/13/2022	83.5	73.0	-12.5%	64.9	-22.3%
8/14/2022	80.9	68.9	-14.9%	65.5	-19.0%
8/15/2022	57.6	53.4	-7.4%	53.6	-7.0%
8/16/2022	36.9	47.0	27.4%	29.4	-20.4%
8/17/2022	55.5	38.8	-30.1%	43.1	-22.4%
8/18/2022	55.4	51.1	-7.7%	53.1	-4.1%
8/19/2022	63.0	57.3	-9.0%	44.8	-28.8%
8/20/2022	34.4	40.6	18.2%	18.2	-47.1%
8/21/2022	45.8	39.2	-14.3%	30.6	-33.2%
8/22/2022	47.5	42.2	-11.1%	33.2	-30.1%
8/23/2022	57.5	53.0	-7.8%	47.3	-17.7%
8/24/2022	66.0	65.6	-0.6%	59.4	-10.1%
8/25/2022	60.4	58.2	-3.7%	54.8	-9.3%
8/26/2022	58.0	61.8	6.5%	51.6	-11.0%
8/27/2022	56.5	46.4	-17.8%	35.8	-36.7%
8/28/2022	58.6	53.0	-9.6%	46.0	-21.5%
8/29/2022	64.5	57.4	-11.0%	55.6	-13.8%
8/30/2022	43.8	46.4	6.0%	32.8	-25.0%
8/31/2022	41.6	46.3	11.2%	26.5	-36.3%
9/1/2022	29.8	51.2	72.2%	21.6	-27.6%
9/2/2022	53.1	57.0	7.2%	45.0	-15.3%
9/3/2022	52.6	55.2	4.8%	47.5	-9.7%
9/4/2022	58.6	57.8	-1.4%	49.0	-16.3%
9/5/2022	56.9	57.5	1.0%	57.1	0.4%
9/6/2022	62.3	66.4	6.7%	68.9	10.7%
9/9/2022	66.4	63.2	-4.8%	59.7	-10.1%
9/10/2022	67.4	59.9	-11.1%	54.3	-19.4%
9/11/2022	50.6	58.4	15.3%	45.5	-10.1%
9/12/2022	54.3	53.7	-1.1%	45.5	-16.1%
9/13/2022	53.1	49.3	-7.3%	47.4	-10.7%
9/14/2022	43.6	54.0	23.7%	43.2	-0.9%
9/15/2022	52.3	48.3	-7.6%	42.0	-19.7%

# Sensitivity Tests

**June 28 – July 17, 2022: 20 days**

# Vertical Mixing Sensitivity Tests for 20-day Episode

Is the modeled too low afternoon NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations due to excessive vertical mixing?

## Vertical Mixing in CAMx

- CAMx vertical mixing algorithm uses vertical turbulent coefficient (diffusivities or Kv) that are defined in WRFCAMx using two options: YSU or CMAQ
- A minimum Kv is imposed of 0.1 m<sup>2</sup>/s
- To account for urban heat island effect, a “KvPatch100” program is used to set a minimum Kv in the lowest 100 m of the atmosphere from 0.1 to 2.0 m<sup>2</sup>/s depending on fraction of urban landuse in the grid cell (100% urban = 2.0 m<sup>2</sup>/s)

## Vertical Mixing Sensitivity Tests

4km20202v2 = Base Case: Kv(YSU) with KvPatch100

4km2022v2\_sens1 = Kv(YSU) no KvPatch100

4km2022v2\_sens2 = Kv(CMAQ) no KvPatch100

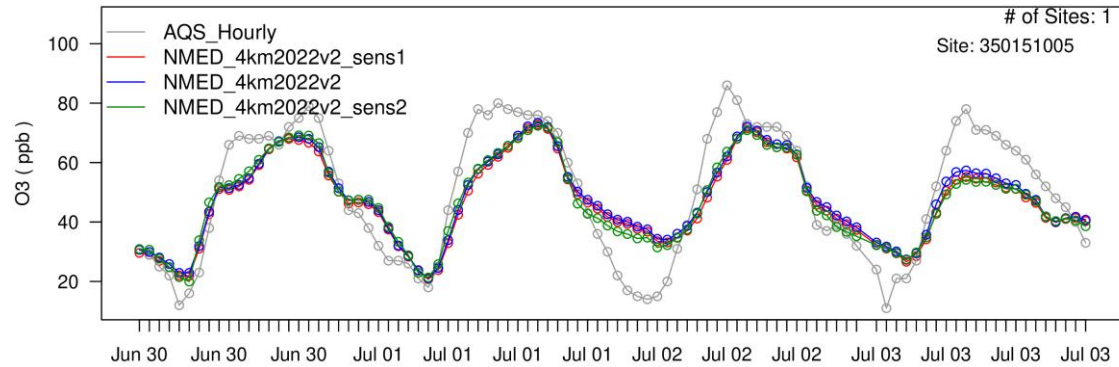
- All tests use CAMx 2022v2 12/4 km base case configuration (4km2022v2) with only **different Kv profiles** in sens1 and sens2
- Examine hourly ozone and NO<sub>2</sub> time series at Carlsbad City site for several 4-day periods

# Vertical Mixing Sensitivity Ozone and NO<sub>2</sub> @ Carlsbad City

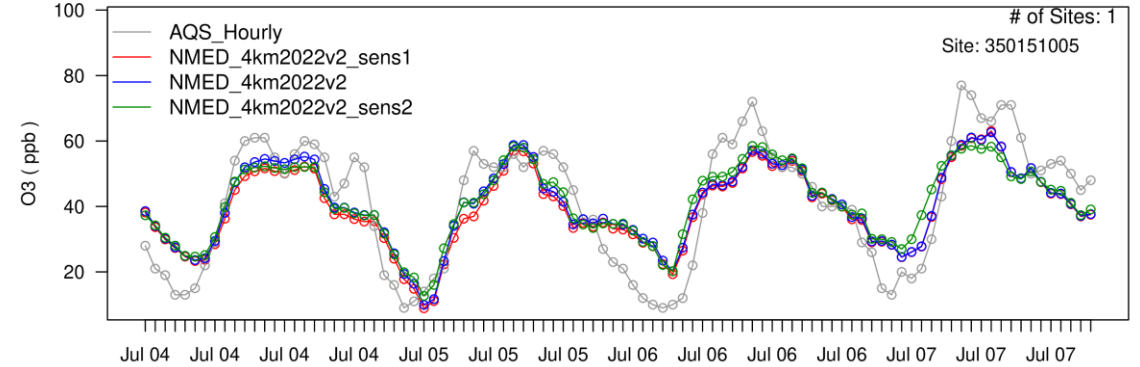
**Base Kv(YSU) KvPatch100; Sens1 Kv(YSU) No KvPatch; Sens2 Kv(CMAQ) No KvPatch**

- Small differences in CAMx 2022v2 4 km ozone/NO<sub>2</sub> at Carlsbad City due to alternative vertical mixing approaches – not significant amount of urban landuse so KvPatch has little effect

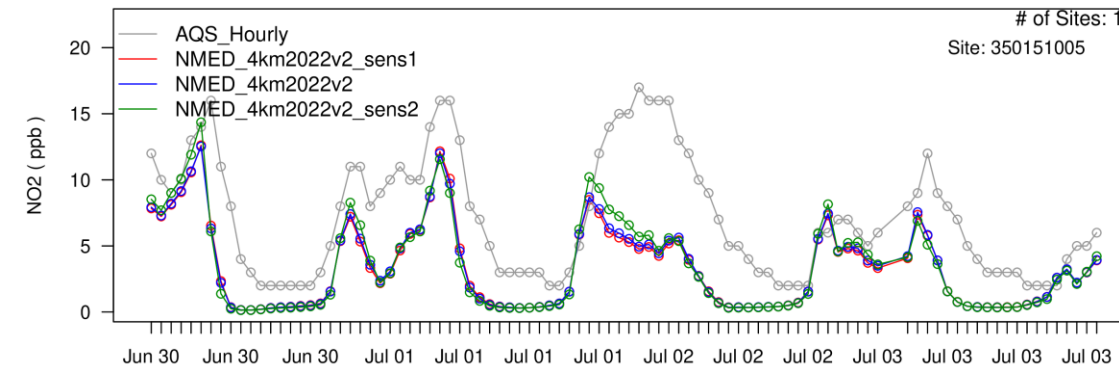
NMED\_4km2022v2\_sens1 O3 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM



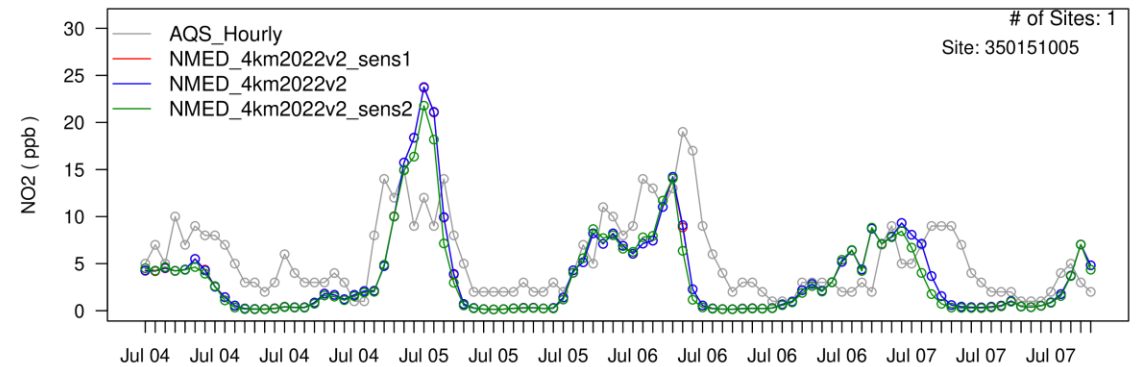
NMED\_4km2022v2\_sens1 O3 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM



NMED\_4km2022v2\_sens1 NO2 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM



NMED\_4km2022v2\_sens1 NO2 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM

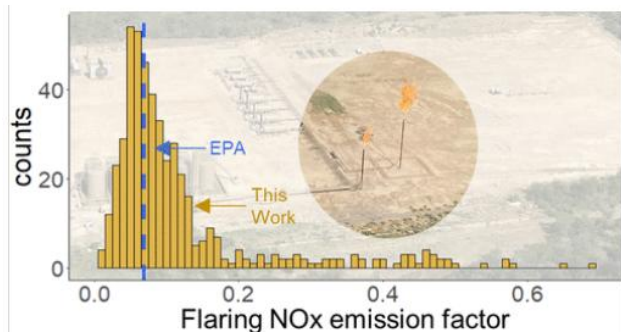


# Permian Basin Emissions are Likely Underestimated in 2022 Platform

ENERGY AND CLIMATE | January 8, 2024

## In Situ Sampling of NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions from United States Natural Gas Flares Reveals Heavy-Tail Emission Characteristic

Genevieve Plant\*, Eric A. Kort\*, Alan M. Gorchov Negron, Yuanlei Chen, Graham Fordice, and Colin Harkins



Numerous reported excess emissions leading to potential fines that represent a fraction of the actual excess emissions

### Recent Major Penalties and Settlements (2023–2025):

- **Targa Northern Delaware, LLC (Dec 2024):** \$47.8 million penalty for excessive emissions in Lea County, NM.
- **Ameredev II LLC (April 2024):** \$24.5 million settlement for state air regulation violations.
- **Apache Corporation (Feb 2024):** \$4 million in penalties with \$5.5 million for compliance, totaling \$9.5M.
- **Mewbourne Oil Company (Aug 2023):** \$5.5 million penalty and \$4.6 million in compliance costs.
- **Callon Permian LLC (July 2023):** \$1.285 million penalty for violations involving tank pressure and emissions.
- **Permian Resources (March 2023):** \$610,000 penalty for air pollution violations.
- **Matador Production Company (March 2023):** \$1.15 million penalty. [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(... +4](#)



ELSEVIER

## Remote Sensing of Environment

Volume 334, 1 March 2026, 115229



## Space-based assessment of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from global oil and gas fields: Bridging the gap in current emission inventories

Piyushkumar N. Patel <sup>a1</sup> ✉, Ritesh Gautam <sup>a b</sup> ✉, Mark Omara <sup>a b</sup>

- Top-down satellite-based analysis reveals current bottom-up inventories underestimate NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from Oil & Gas basins by 61-92%.

Rambc

## Satellite-based Quantification of NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions from Global Oil and Gas Fields

ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES CLIMATOLOGY (GLOBAL CHANGE) EMISSIONS ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
NO<sub>x</sub> OIL AND GAS REMOTE SENSING SATELLITE DATA

Piyushkumar Patel ✉, Ritesh Gautam, Mark Omara

December 26, 2024 – ESS Open Archive

Delaware Basin NO<sub>x</sub> emissions underestimated by 91-95% based on TROPOMI

62

# Targa Red Hills Processing Plant ~50 km SE of Carlsbad Site

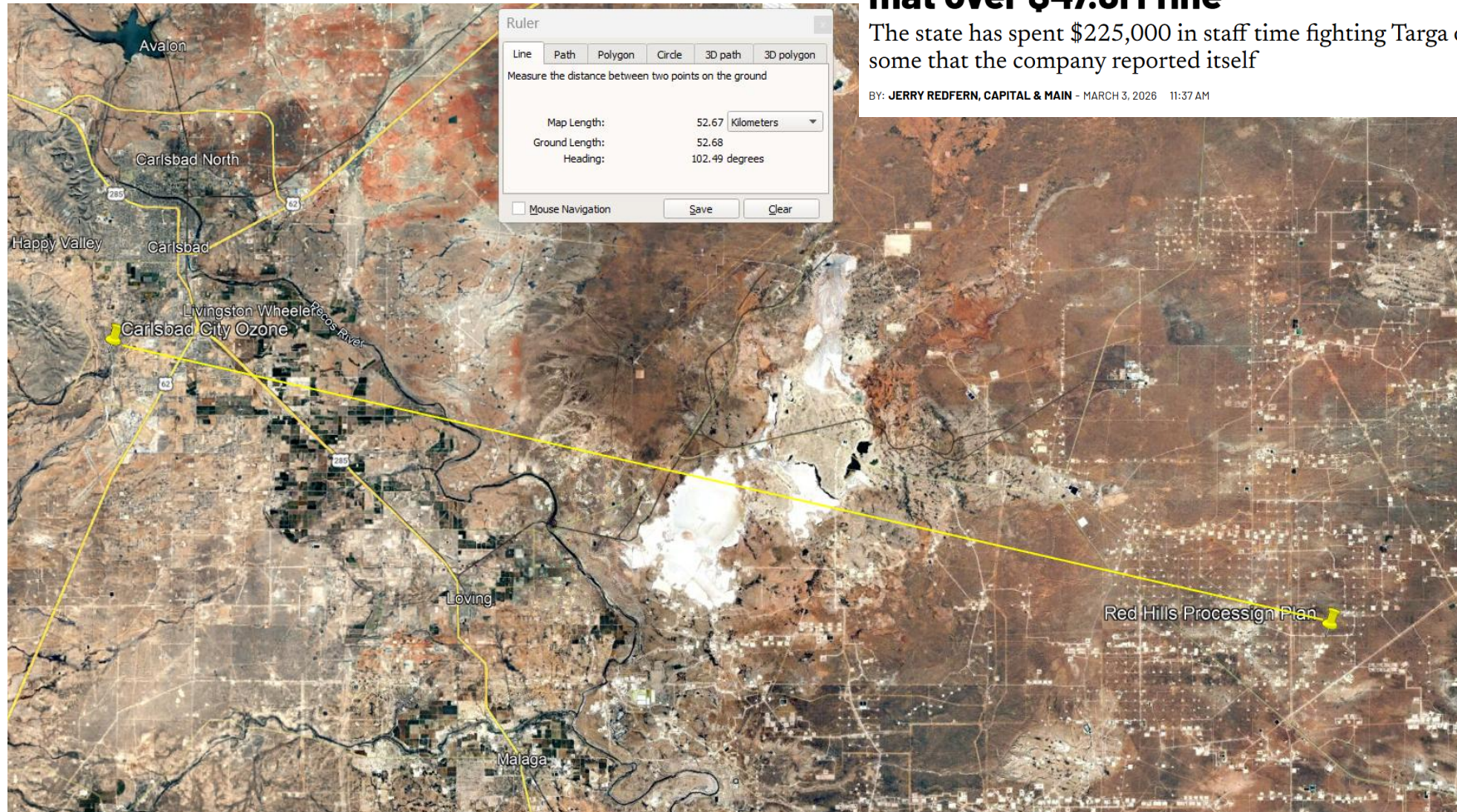
- Targa Red Hills Natural Gas Processing Plant has reported known excess emissions > million pounds
- These excess emissions occurred in several years, including 2022
- Red Hills Plant ~50 km SE of Carlsbad City Site

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

## In New Mexico, natural gas transporter goes to the mat over \$47.8M fine

The state has spent \$225,000 in staff time fighting Targa over emission infractions, some that the company reported itself

BY: JERRY REDFERN, CAPITAL & MAIN - MARCH 3, 2026 11:37 AM



# Emission Sensitivity Tests

## Permian Basin (PB) O&G Emissions Sensitivity Tests

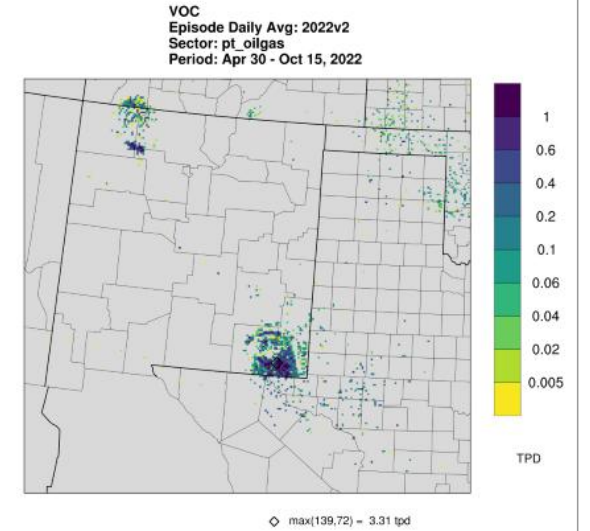
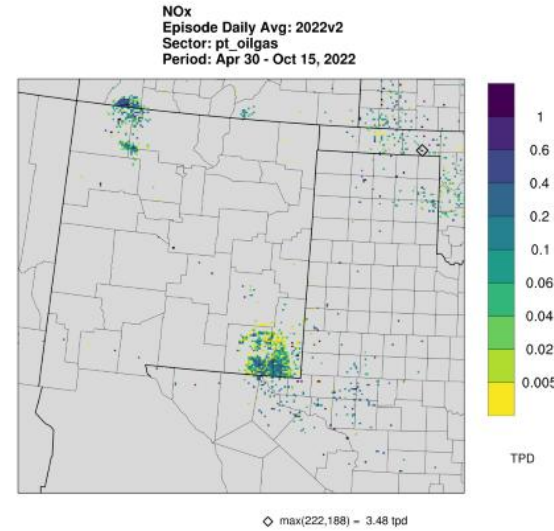
Increase New Mexico (NM) or Texas (TX) portions of Permian Basin (PB) O&G emissions by a factor of 3

- 4km2022v2 = Base Case 2022v2 PB O&G
- Sens3 = 3 x 2022v2 NM PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub>
- Sens4 = 3 x 2022v2 NM PB O&G VOC
- Sens5 = 3 x 2022v2 NM PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> & VOC
- Sens7 = 3 x 2022v2 TX PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> & VOC
- The factor of 3 is arbitrary and the locations of the missing O&G emissions likely don't align with the spatial distribution of the 2022v2 O&G emissions

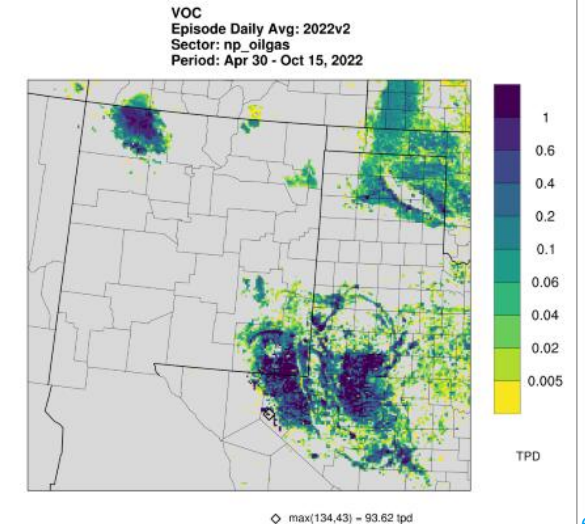
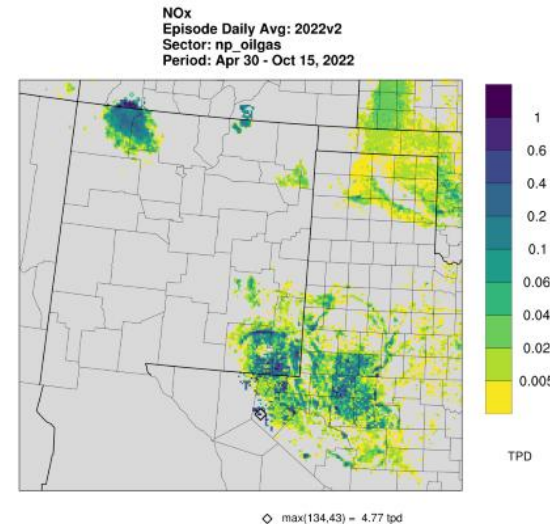
## 2022v2 O&G NO<sub>x</sub>

## VOC

pt\_oilgas



np\_oilgas

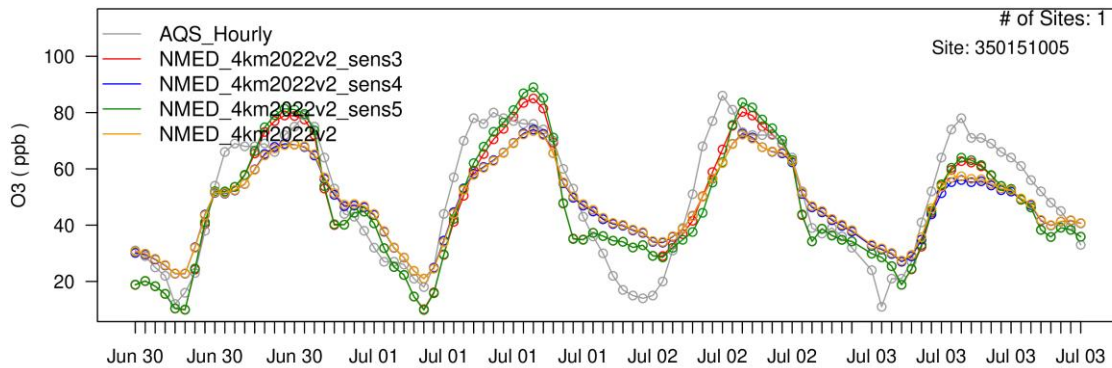


# Carlsbad City NM PB O&G Sensitivities O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>

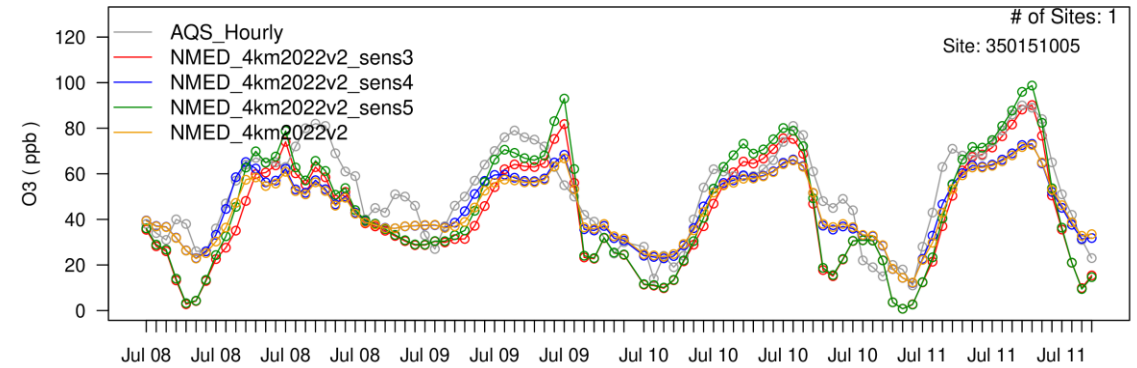
2022v2 Base Case; Sens3 3 x NO<sub>x</sub>; Sens4 3 x VOC; Sens5 3 x NO<sub>x</sub> & VOC

- Better ozone performance with 3 x NO<sub>x</sub> O&G (**Sens3** and **Sens5**), but some NO<sub>2</sub> overestimation (3x to high?)
- **Sens5** produces lower nighttime ozone than the other tests. Ozone performance improves across the full concentration range, not just at the high end. Modeled afternoon NO<sub>2</sub> still lower than observed.
- 3 x VOC O&G (**Sens4**) has small effect on ozone (will show later that model understates VOC-sensitivity)

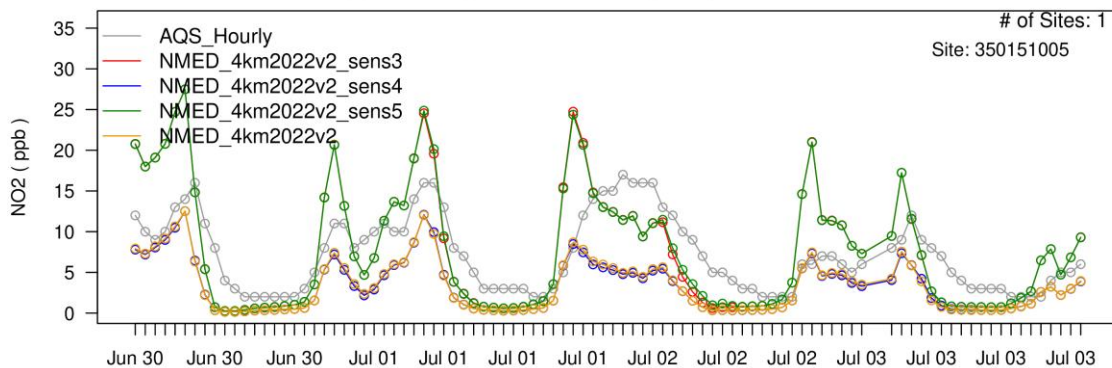
NMED\_4km2022v2\_sens3 O3 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM



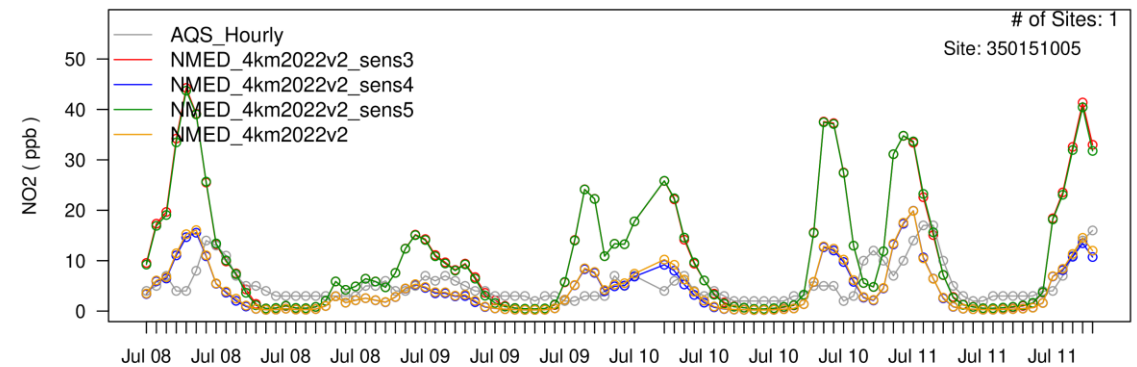
NMED\_4km2022v2\_sens3 O3 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM



NMED\_4km2022v2\_sens3 NO2 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM



NMED\_4km2022v2\_sens3 NO2 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM



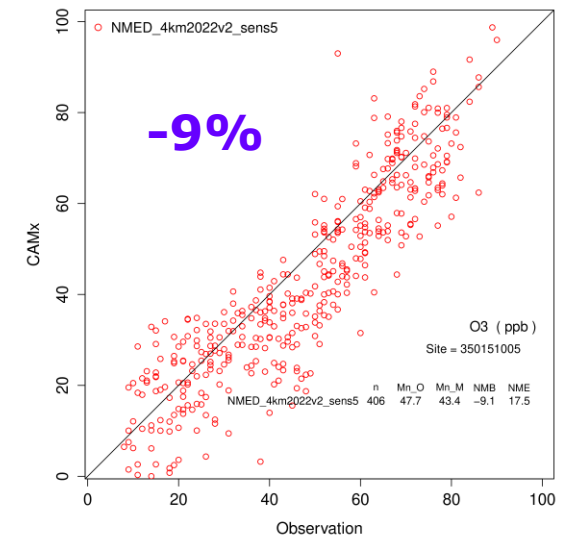
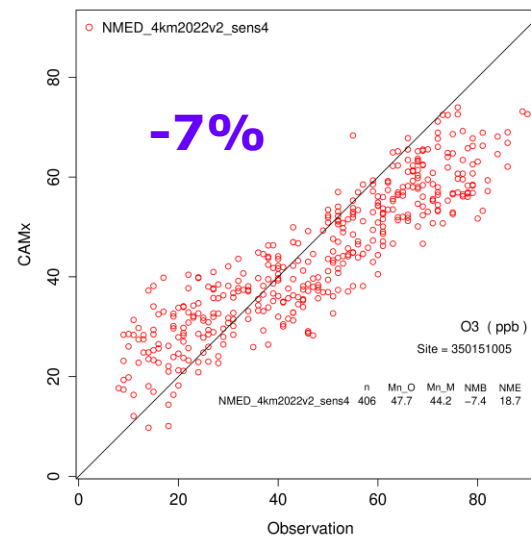
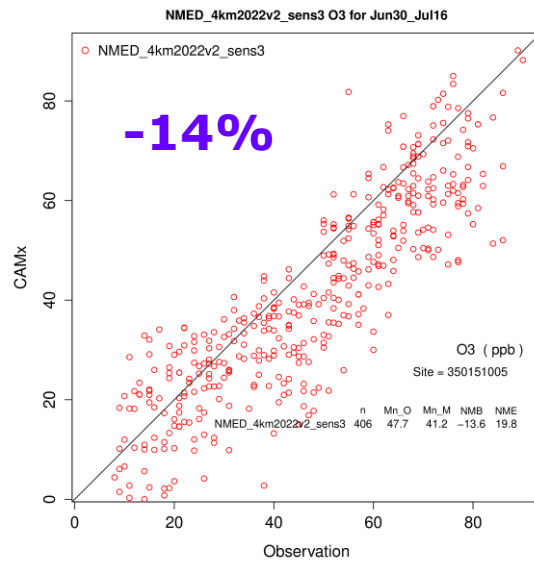
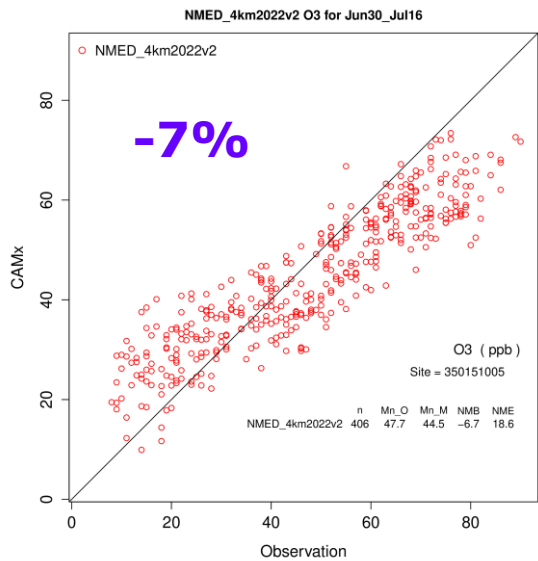
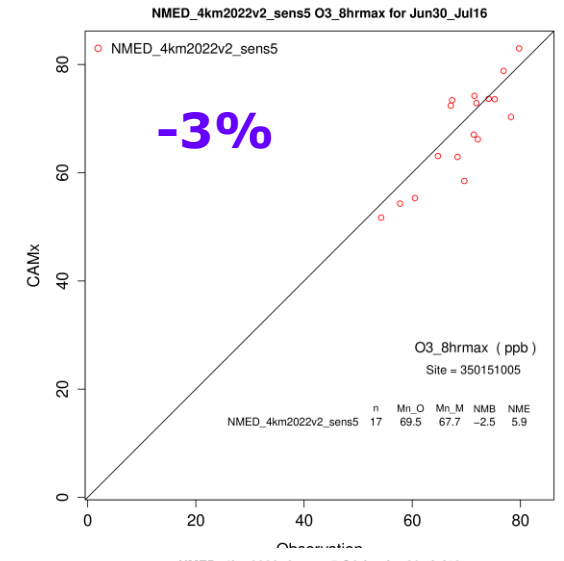
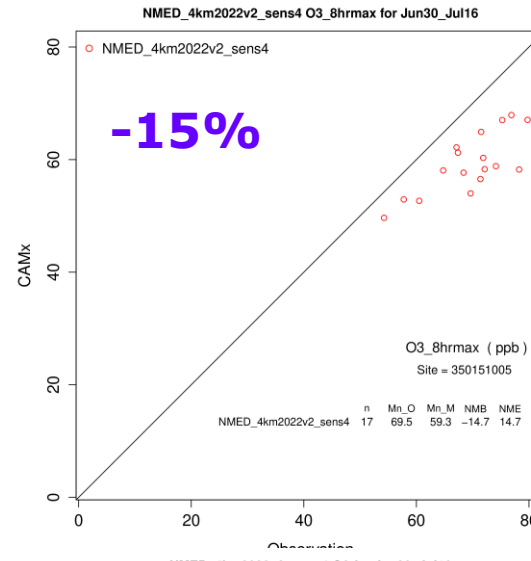
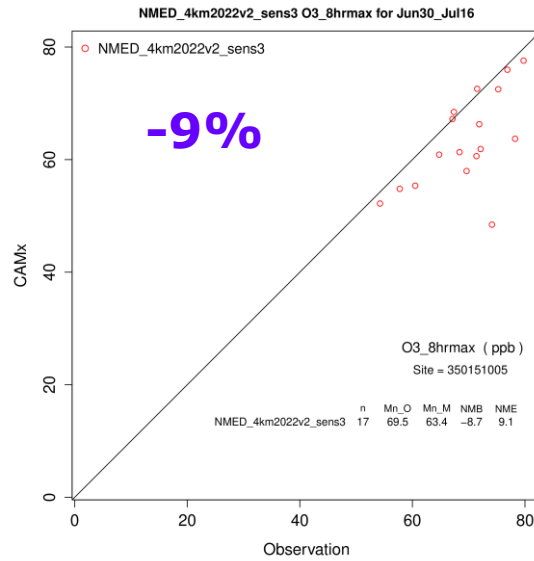
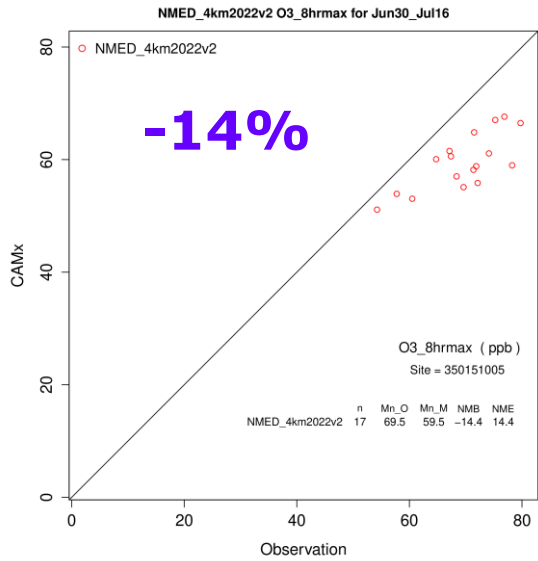
# NM PB O&G: Carlsbad City MDA8 (Top) & Hourly (Bottom) O<sub>3</sub>

## 4km2022v2

## 3 x NO<sub>x</sub> O&G

## 3 x VOC O&G

## 3 x NO<sub>x</sub> & VOC O&G



# LNМ Oil and Gas Tracers – 2022v2 Base & Sens5 vs. Obs

Even with 3 x NM Permian Basin O&G VOC emissions, model still underestimates ethane and propane

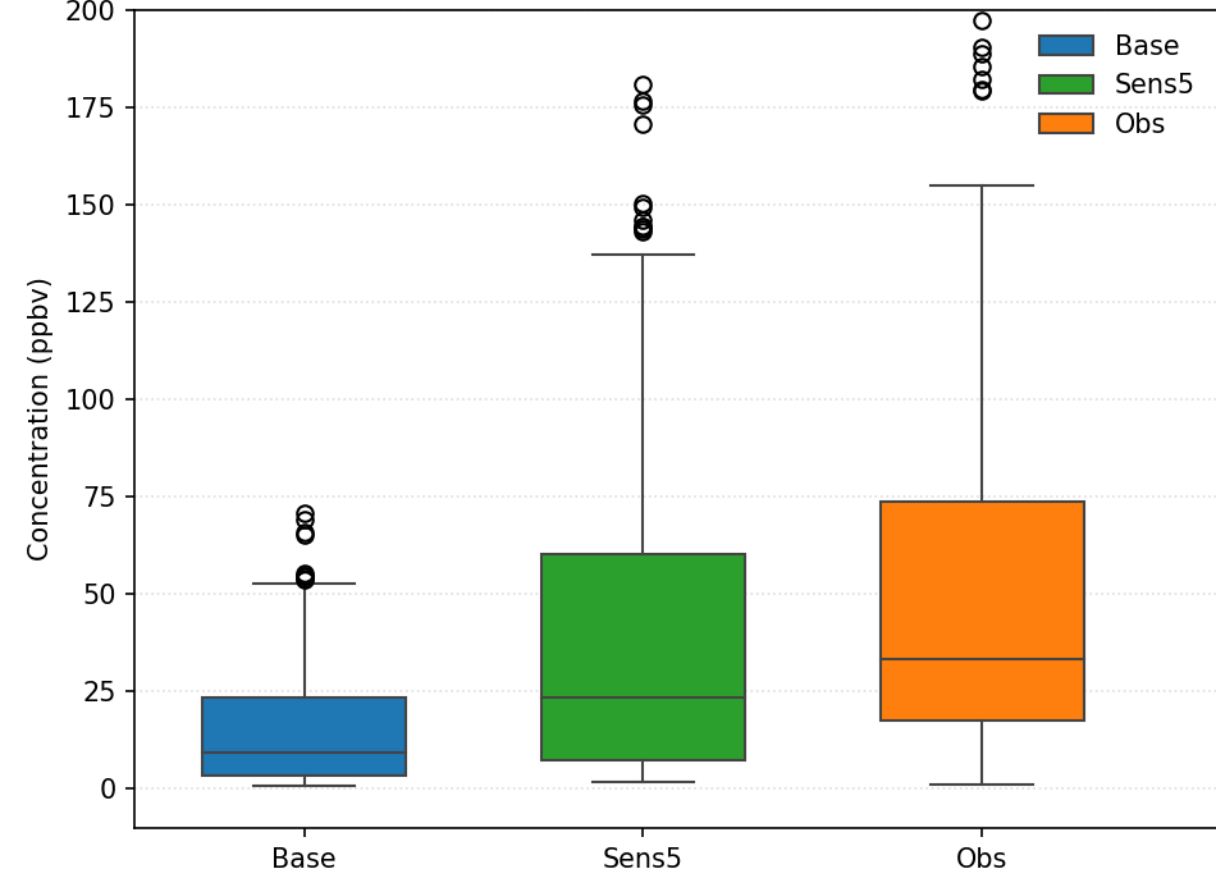
## Ethane

- Median Underprediction: **1.4** times (33 vs 24 ppbv)
- Mean Underprediction: **1.5** times (58 vs 39 ppbv)

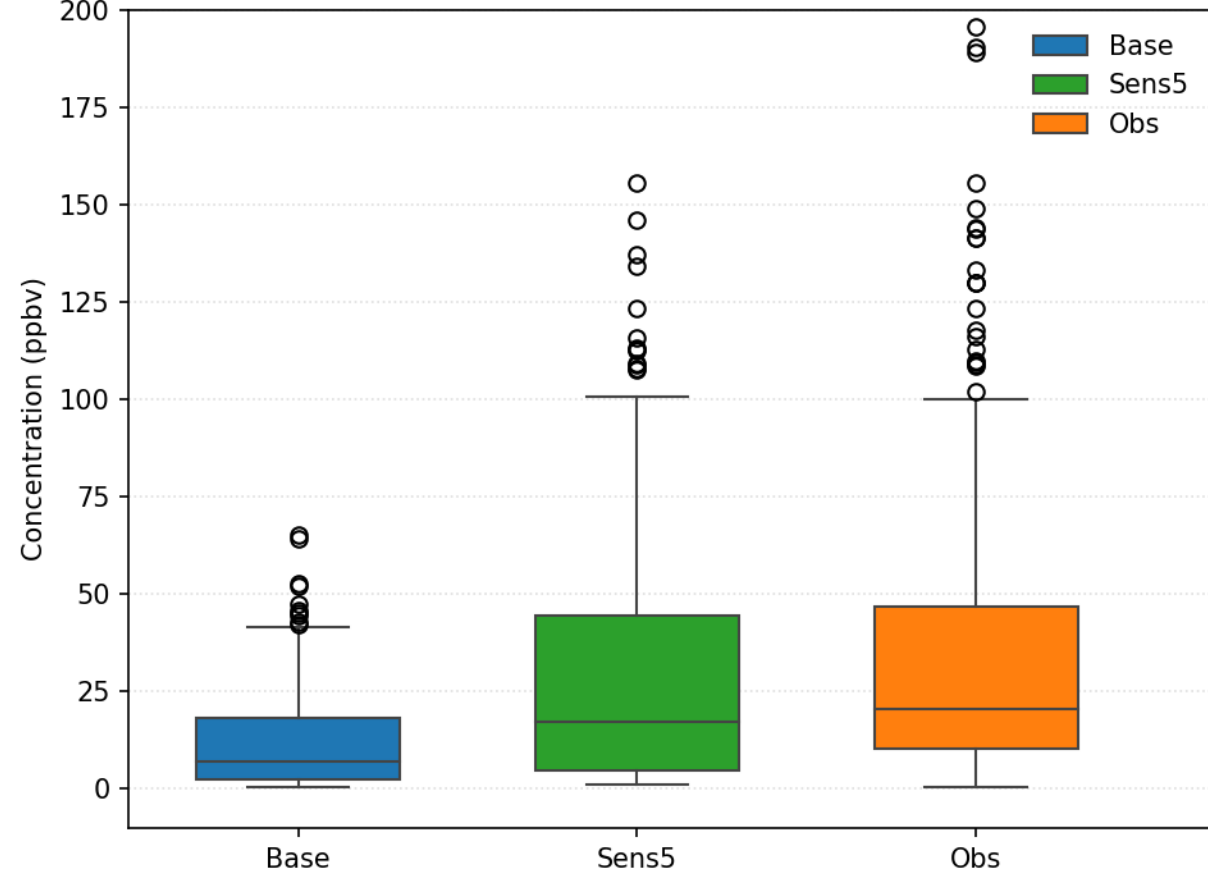
## Propane

- Median Underprediction: **1.2** times (20 vs 17 ppbv)
- Mean Underprediction: **1.2** times (36 vs 29 ppbv)

ETHA — Base vs Sens5 vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



PRPA — Base vs Sens5 vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



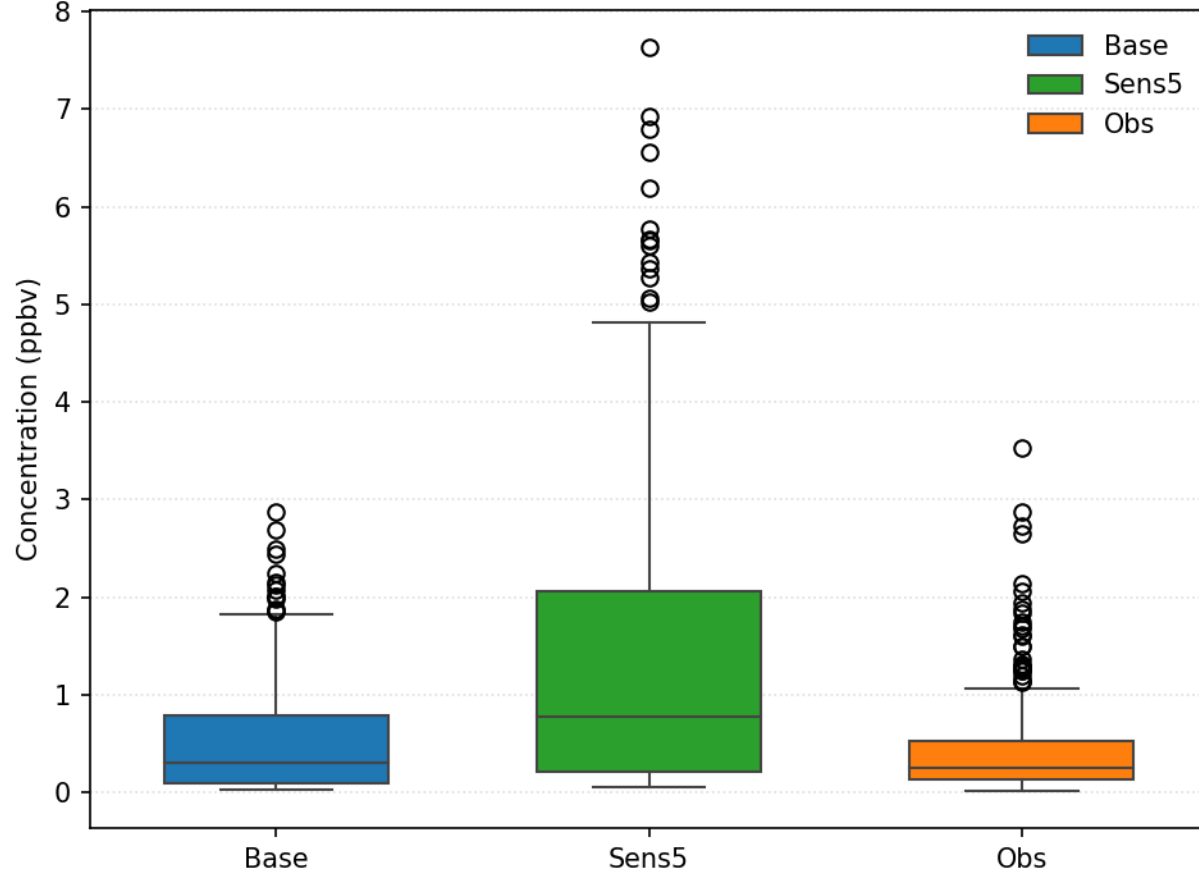
# LNМ Benzene (Gasoline Combustion) and Ethene

3 x NM Permian Basin O&G VOC results in overstated BENZ and ETH

## Benzene

- Model overestimates by factor of  $\sim 3$

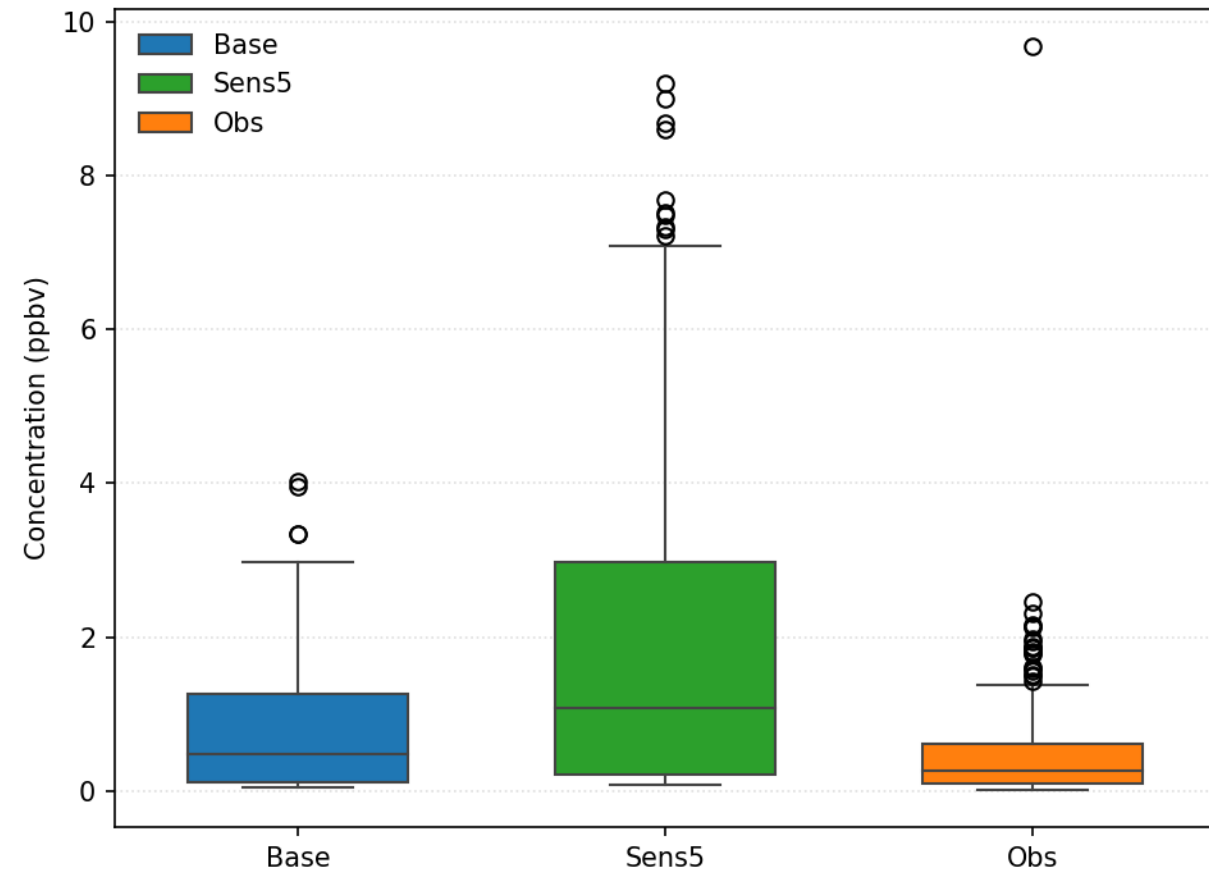
BENZ — Base vs Sens5 vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



## Ethene

- Model overestimates by factor of  $\sim 4$

ETH — Base vs Sens5 vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



# LNM Isoprene (Biogenic) and Nitric Oxide (NO)

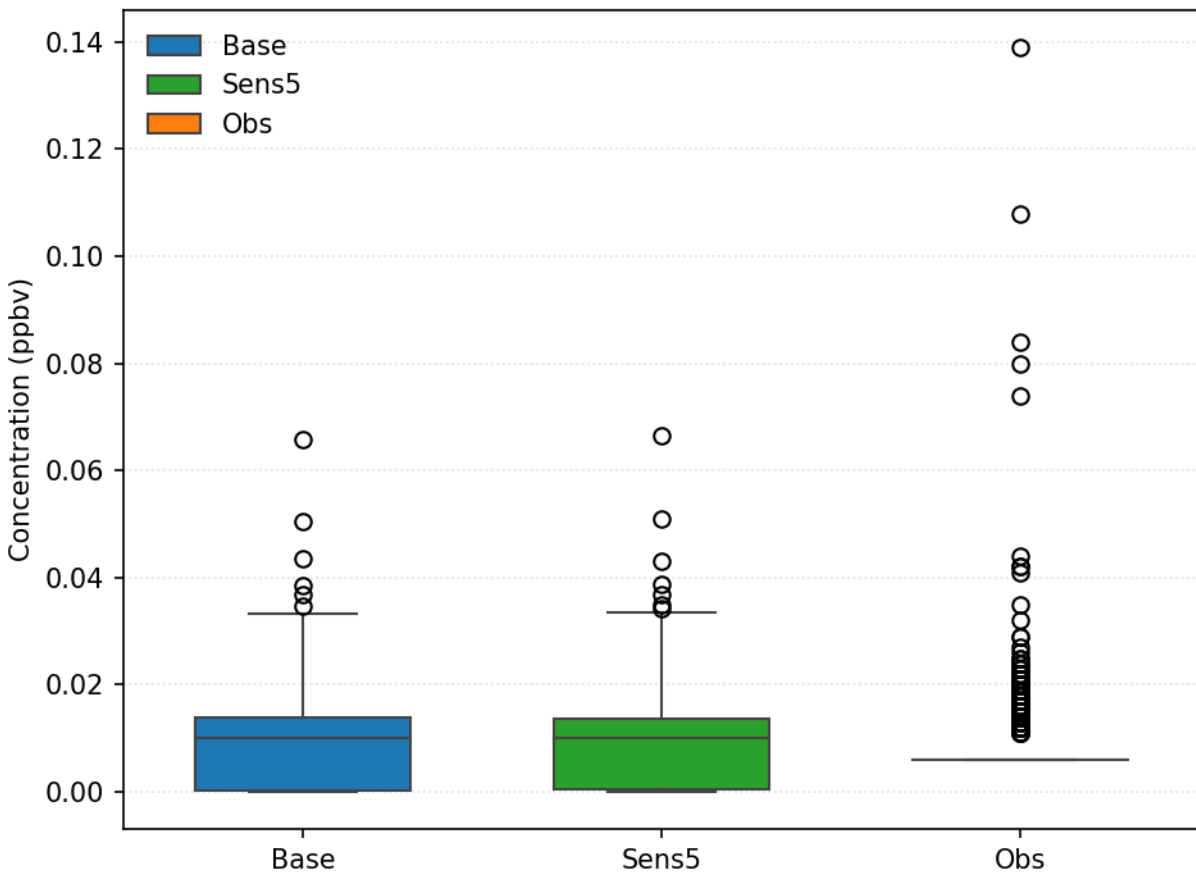
## Isoprene

- 3 x NM PB O&G VOC has little effects on ISOP

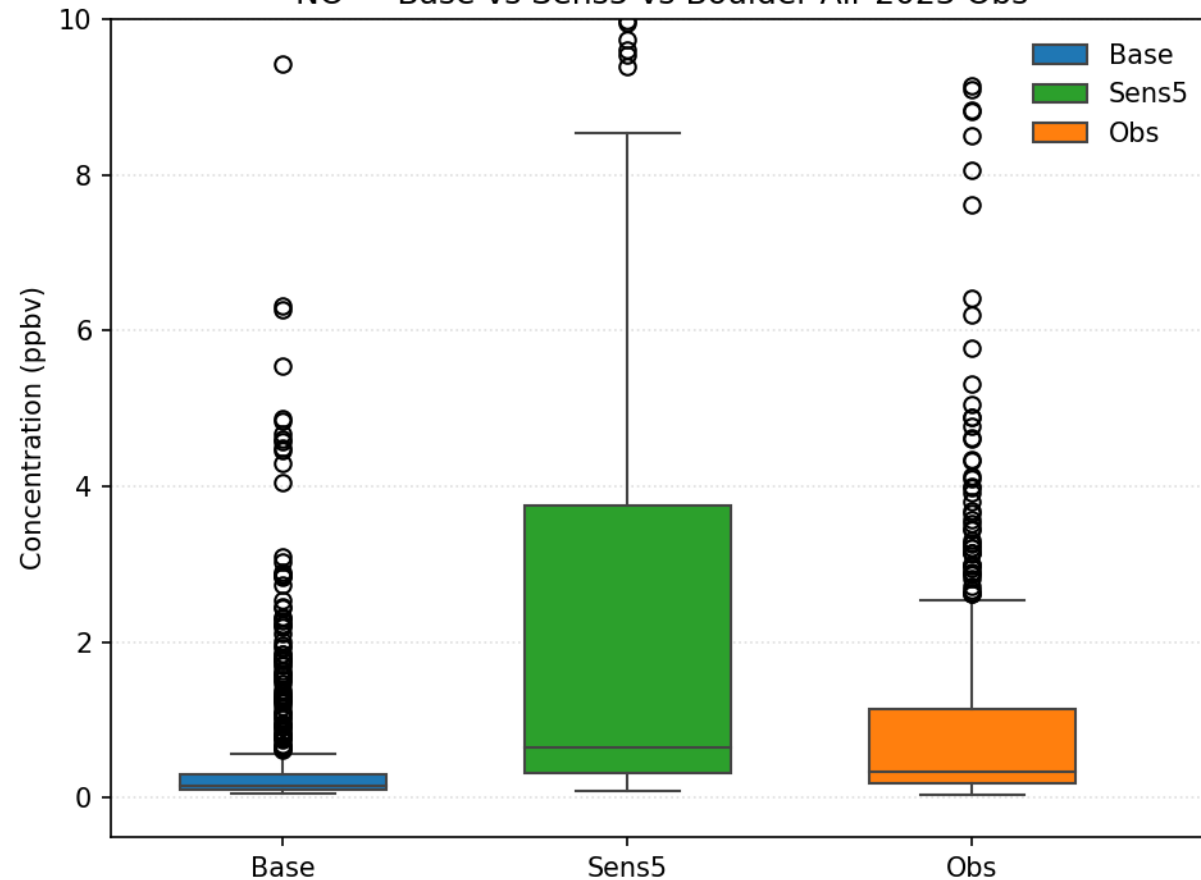
## Nitric Oxide

- 3 x NM PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> results in overstated NO by factor of 2 (median) to 3.5 (mean)

ISOP — Base vs Sens5 vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



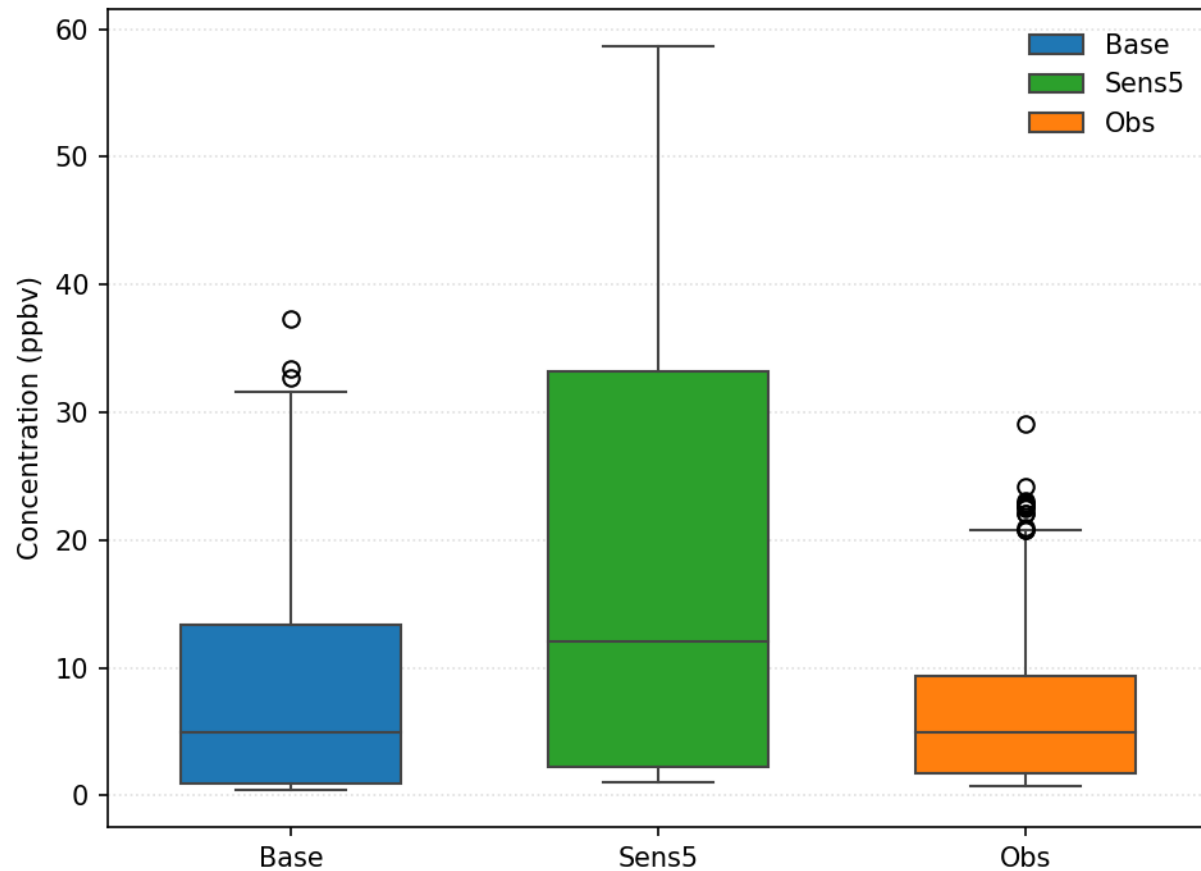
NO — Base vs Sens5 vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



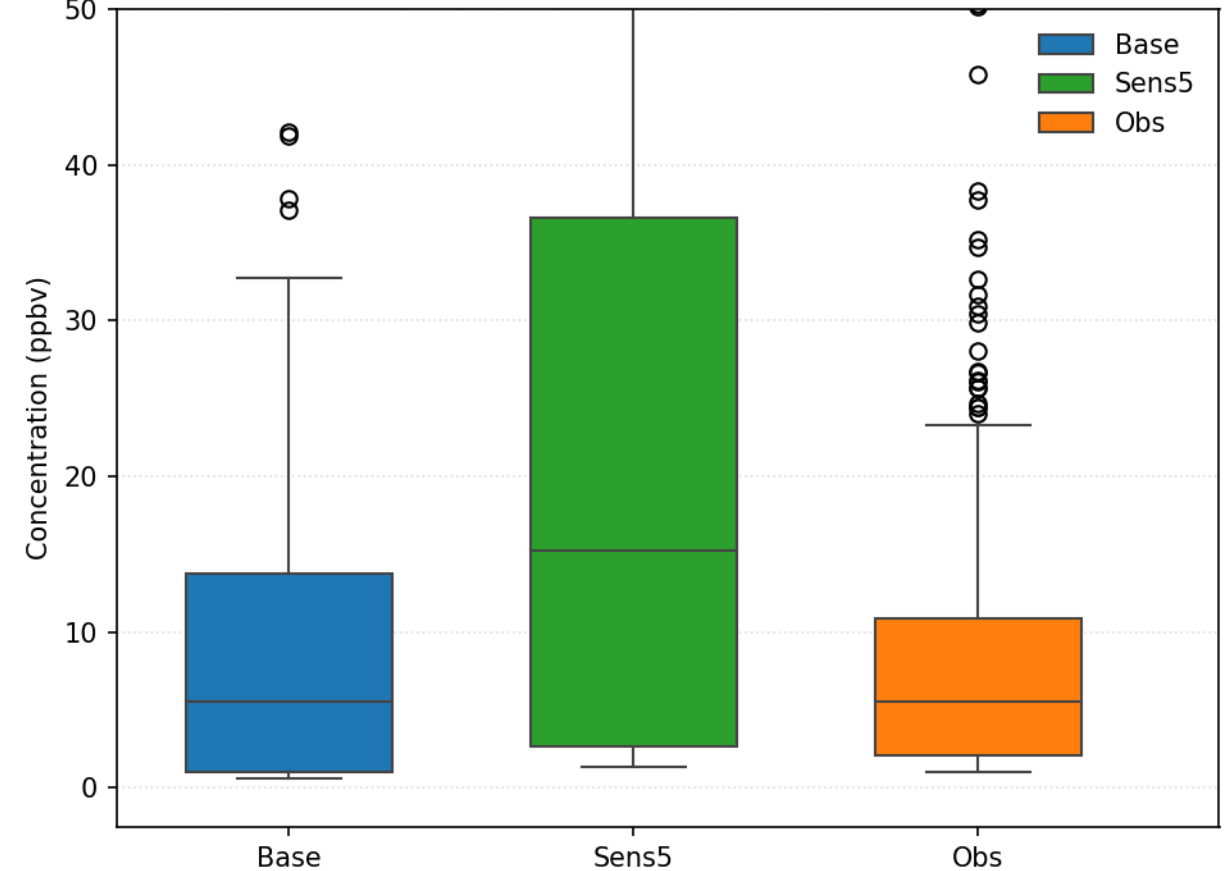
# LNM NO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> – 3 x NM PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC

3 x NM PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> overstates observed NO<sub>x</sub>

NO<sub>2</sub> — Base vs Sens5 vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



NO<sub>x</sub> — Base vs Sens5 vs Boulder Air 2023 Obs



# Sens7: 3 x Texas Permian Basin O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC

- Increase O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC in Texas Permian Basin improves ozone model performance
- Carlsbad City NMB from -14% to -9%; Hobbs NMB from -14% to -7%
- Missing O&G emissions from TX PB in 2022v2 platform may be part of the CAMx 2022v2 ozone underestimation issue

## Carlsbad City, NM

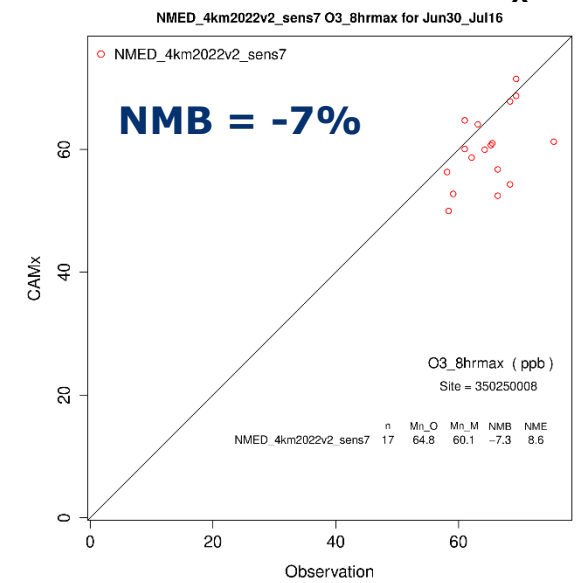
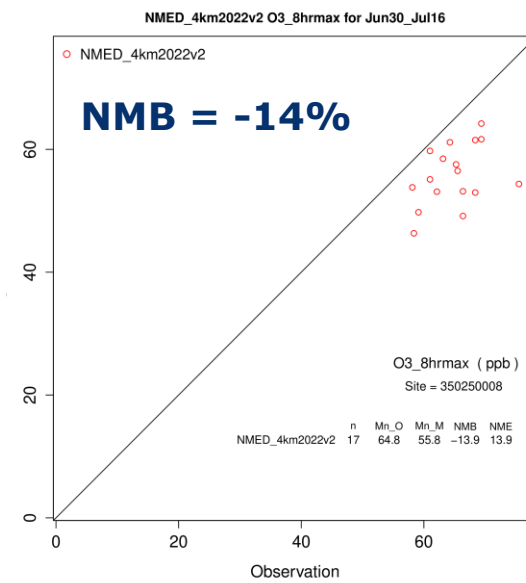
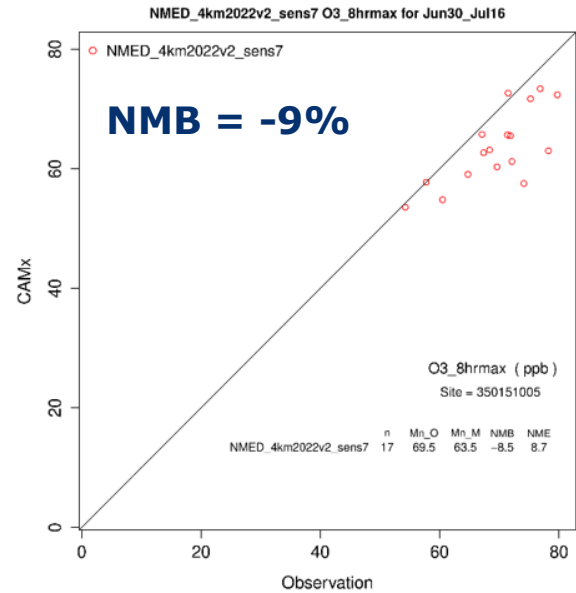
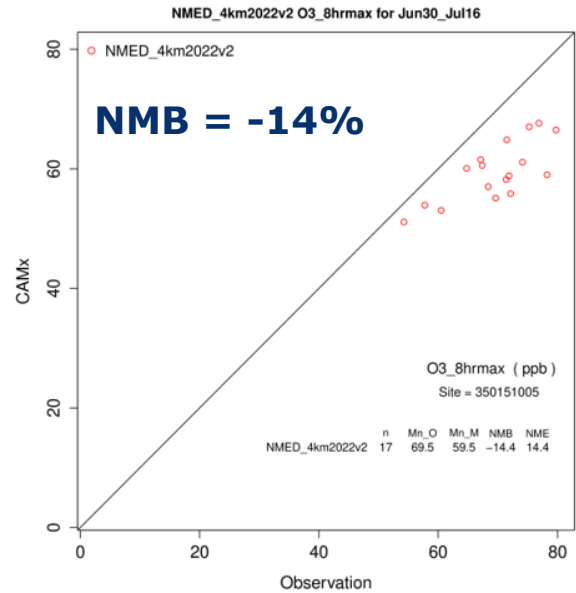
## Hobbs, NM

2022v2 12/4 Base Case

Sens7: 3 x TX PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub>/VOC

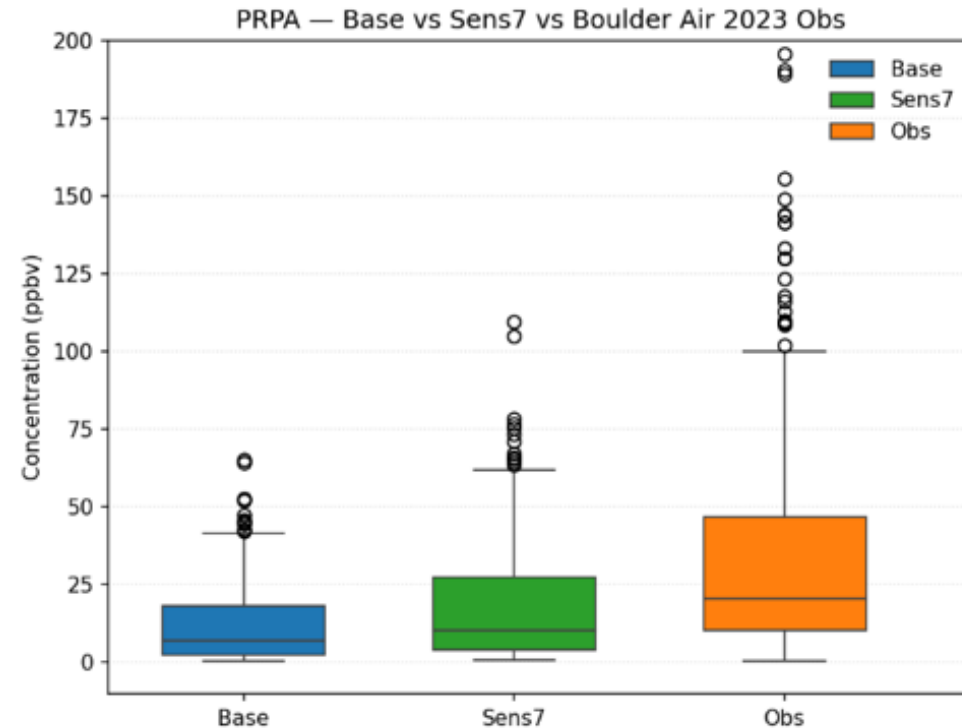
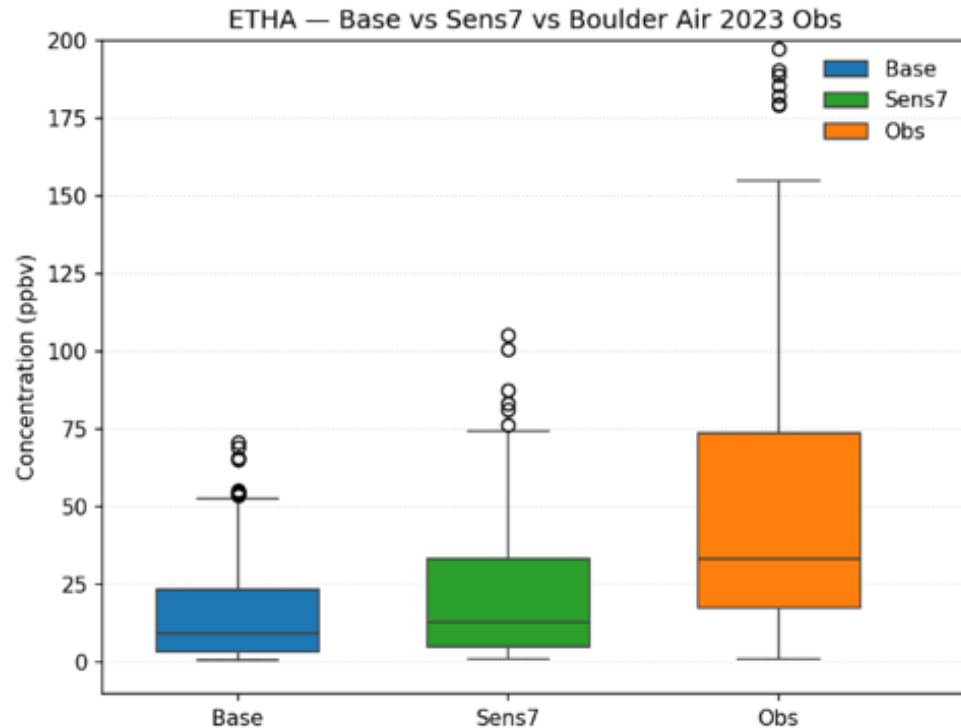
2022v2 12/4 Base Case

Sens7: 3 x TX PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub>/VOC



# Sens7: 3 x Texas Permian Basin O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC

- During June 30 – July 17, 2022 20-day sensitivity test episode period, the Sens7 3 x TX PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC sensitivity test reduced the Ethane and Propane underestimation bias:
  - Ethane underestimation bias reduced from factor of 4 to 3
  - Propane underestimation bias reduced from factor of 3 to 2



# Assessment of NM and TX 3 x PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC

- Sens5 with 3 x NM PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC Emissions:
  - Much improved ozone performance
  - Reduced Ethane and Propane underestimation bias
    - Still have underestimation
  - Results in Benzene overestimation
  - Results in NO<sub>x</sub> overestimation
- O&G sources of ethane and propane (and methane) different than primary sources of benzene and NO<sub>x</sub>
  - HEI study conducted Receptor Modeling of Boulder AIR VOC measurements from Loving, New Mexico:
    - Ethane and Propane mainly from from Venting
    - A majority of Benzene from Produced Water, Combustion and Traffic
    - NO<sub>x</sub> from Combustion and Traffic
- Sens7 3 x TX PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC Emissions:
  - Improves Ozone, Ethane and Propane Performance

- VOC Receptor Modeling (NMF) Source Apportionment Modeling at Loving, New Mexico
- (Source: Franklin, et. al., 2025; HEI Report No., 231, December 2025)

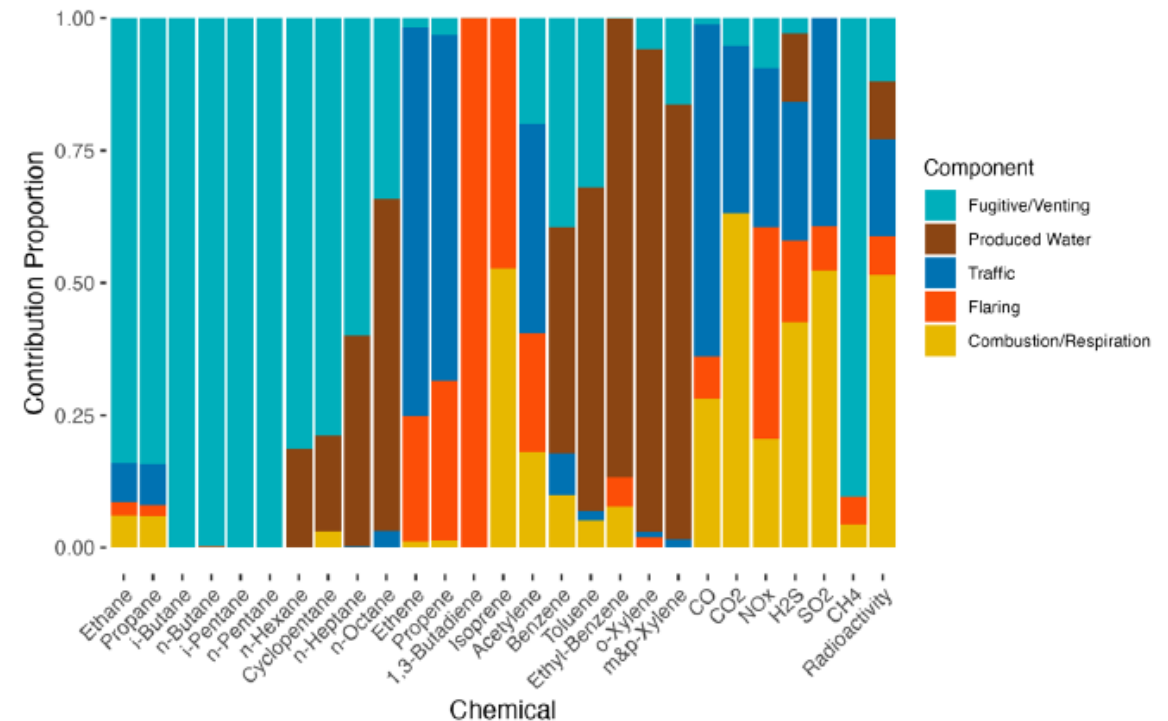


Figure 32. Contribution proportions of each compound to the five NMF-derived source factors at LNM.

# Permian Basin O&G NO<sub>x</sub>/VOC Sensitivity Tests

## What we know about the emissions

Permian Basin O&G emissions in the 2022v2 are understated

- Reported and not reported excess emissions are not included in the 2022v2 emissions inventory
- This is a bigger issue for VOC than NO<sub>x</sub> emissions

## What sensitivity tests show

- The 3 x NM PB Basin O&G NO<sub>x</sub> emissions produced better ozone model performance at the New Mexico Permian Basin ozone monitoring sites whether alone (Sens3) or with 3 x VOC (Sens5)
- 3 x NM PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> produced some NO<sub>2</sub> overestimation, but 3 x TX PB O&G NO<sub>x</sub> does not
- 3 x NM PB O&G VOC much better performance for O&G tracers (ETHA and PRPA)
- 3 x NM or TX O&G NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC produce better ozone and ethane/propane model performance

## Implications for future modeling

- Unclear how to use this information to improve the Permian Basin O&G emissions inventory
  - Could try and include the reported excess emissions in the emissions inventory, but that would be resource intensive and just a snapshot, and it only represents part of the missing excess emissions
  - When interpreting the CAMx 2022v2 12/4 km modeling results, need to recognize that the Permian Basin O&G emissions are understated

# Next Steps

# Next Steps (April 6, 2026)

- Prepare draft report on the CAMx 2022v2 4 km base case modeling and model performance evaluation
- Post results to date on WESTAR website:
  - WESTAR suggested either the [ADMS](#) or [Regional Ozone Analysis](#) (where NMED OAI resides) webpages
- Develop 2032 emission inputs for the 12 km CONUS and 4 km New Mexico domains
- Conduct CAMx **2022 and 2032 Local Source** ozone source apportionment modeling
- Conduct CAMx **2022 State-Specific and International Emissions** ozone source apportionment modeling
- Prepare displays and dashboards of ozone source apportionment modeling results
- Prepare draft report on CAMx ozone source apportionment modeling results

# Develop 2032 Emissions for 12/4 km Domains

- 2032 Oil and Gas (O&G) On-the-Book (OTB) projections in the New Mexico 4 km domain
  - Similar approach as used for the BLM Carlsbad FO RMP Modeling only applied to entire New Mexico 4 km domain
  - Currently treating OOOOb/c O&G controls as OTB even though current Administration trying to rescind them (doesn't affect NM Permian Basin O&G due to OAI but does affect TX PB O&G)
- Project 2022v2 mobile source emission to 2032 using MOVES5
  - SMOKE-MOVES used with 2032 MOVES5 Emissions Factors and 2022 4 km Meteorology
- Prepare remainder 2032 emissions for 4 km domain (some based on 2026v1)
  - Process 2032 emissions for 4 km New Mexico domain using SMOKE

# 2032 Emissions for 12/4 km Domains

- Slight reductions in New Mexico anthropogenic NO<sub>x</sub> (-8%) and VOC (-6%) emissions between 2022 and 2032
  - NM NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC reductions driven mainly by On-Road (-68% and -45%) and Non-Road (-33% and -6%)
  - Total O&G NO<sub>x</sub> increases 8% and O&G VOC decreases -26% between 2022 and 2032
- Documentation of 2032 emissions developed under development

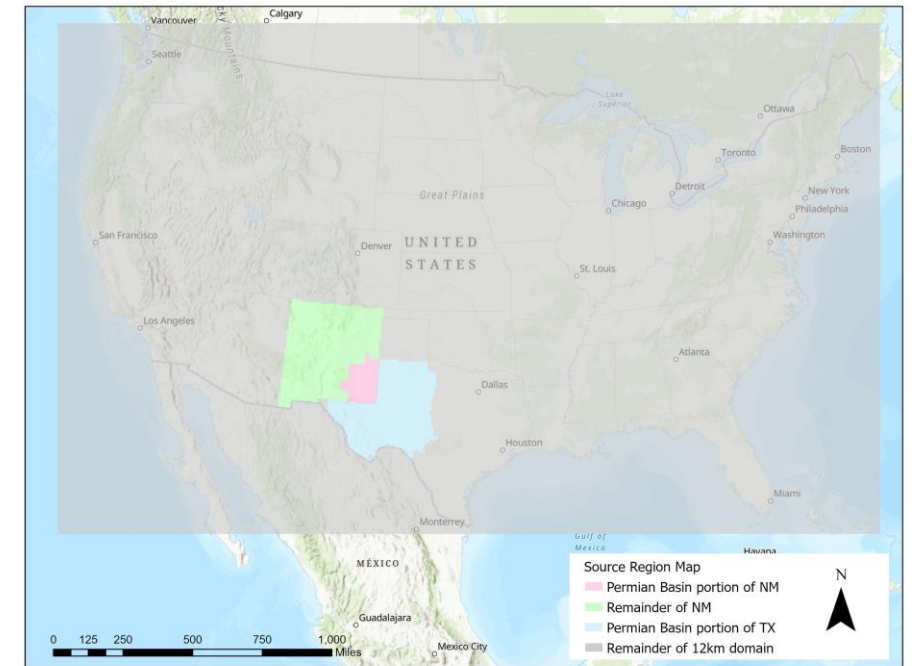
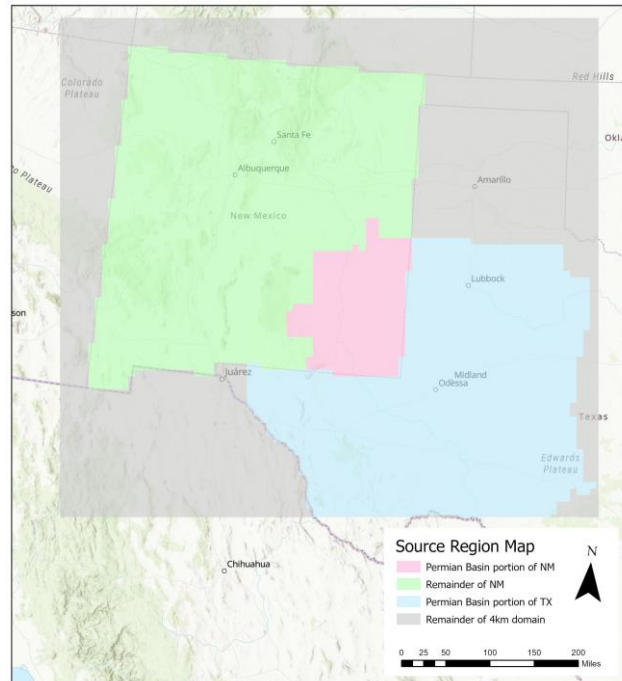
Sectors	2022v2		2032		Difference	
	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC
	(tpd)		(tpd)		(%)	
Airports	1.7	1.0	1.8	1.1	6.0%	5.6%
Biogenic	58.8	1,567.6	58.8	1,567.6	0.0%	0.0%
Livestock <sup>#</sup>	0.0	9.1	0.0	9.1	0.0%	0.0%
Non-Point	10.2	42.0	9.8	44.8	-4.1%	6.8%
Non-Road Mobile	12.0	14.1	8.1	13.3	-32.6%	-6.0%
O&G Pre-Production	36.0	36.8	33.5	35.4	-7.0%	-3.8%
O&G Production	134.3	748.2	148.3	548.8	10.4%	-26.6%
Solvents	0.0	50.7	0.0	53.2	0.0%	4.8%
On-Road Mobile	79.7	35.6	25.7	19.7	-67.7%	-44.6%
Open Burning <sup>#</sup>	0.7	1.2	0.7	1.2	0.0%	0.0%
O&G Midstream	95.8	174.8	105.4	129.2	10.0%	-26.1%
Ag Fire*	0.2	0.9	0.2	0.9	0.0%	0.0%
EGU Point	19.1	0.6	14.5	0.7	-23.9%	18.7%
Rx Fire*	0.1	2.2	0.1	2.2	0.0%	0.0%
Wildfire*	64.0	1,871.6	64.0	1,871.6	0.0%	0.0%
Non-EGU Point	7.0	5.5	6.7	5.5	-4.4%	0.7%
Rail	44.0	1.8	43.7	1.8	-0.8%	-0.8%
RWC <sup>#</sup>	0.4	5.0	0.4	5.0	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>4,569</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>4,311</b>	<b>-7.5%</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>

# Task E: Local Source Ozone Source App. Modeling

- **June 1 – August 15, 2022** Modeling Period and **2022 and 2032** Emission Years (2 Runs)
  - Although some high ozone in May 2022, Phase I CAMx 2026v1 12 km ozone source apportionment modeling showed it was mainly due to international emissions (i.e., BCs)
- **Four Source Regions** focusing on Permian Basin and New Mexico: (1) New Mexico Permian Basin; (2) Remainder New Mexico; (3) Texas Permian Basin; and (4) Remainder 12/4 km domain

- **Ten Source Categories:**

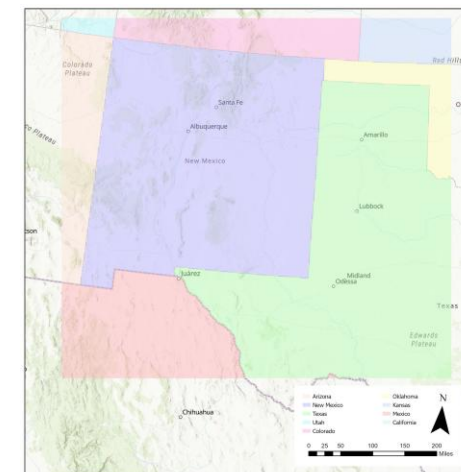
1. Natural (Biogenic + LNOx)
2. Fires
3. O&G Pre-Production
4. O&G Production
5. O&G Midstream
6. EGU Point
7. Non-EGU Point
8. On-Road Mobile
9. Non-Road Mobile
10. Remainder Anthropogenic



- Results in separate ozone contributions from 42 Source Groups (= 4 x 10 + 2) (simulation takes ~2 weeks elapsed time)

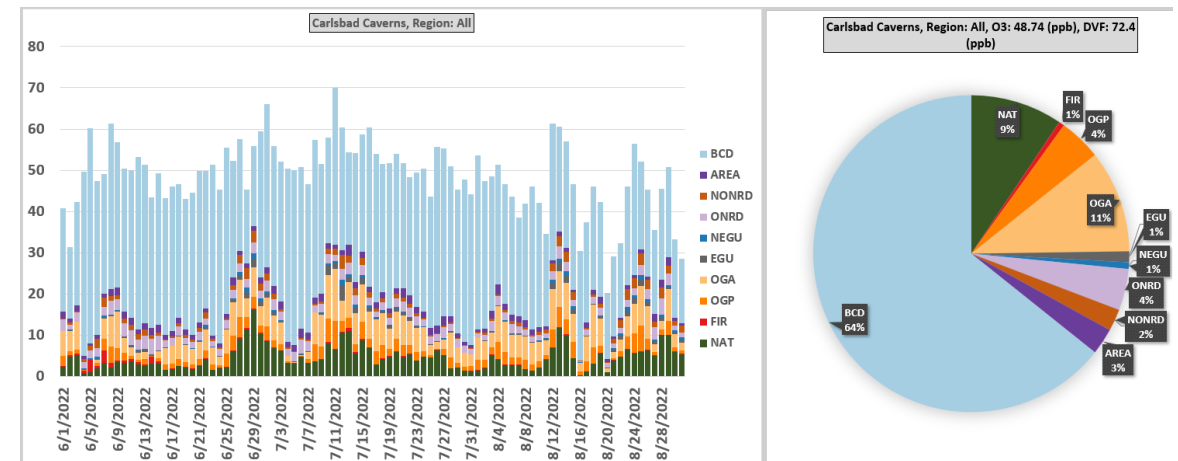
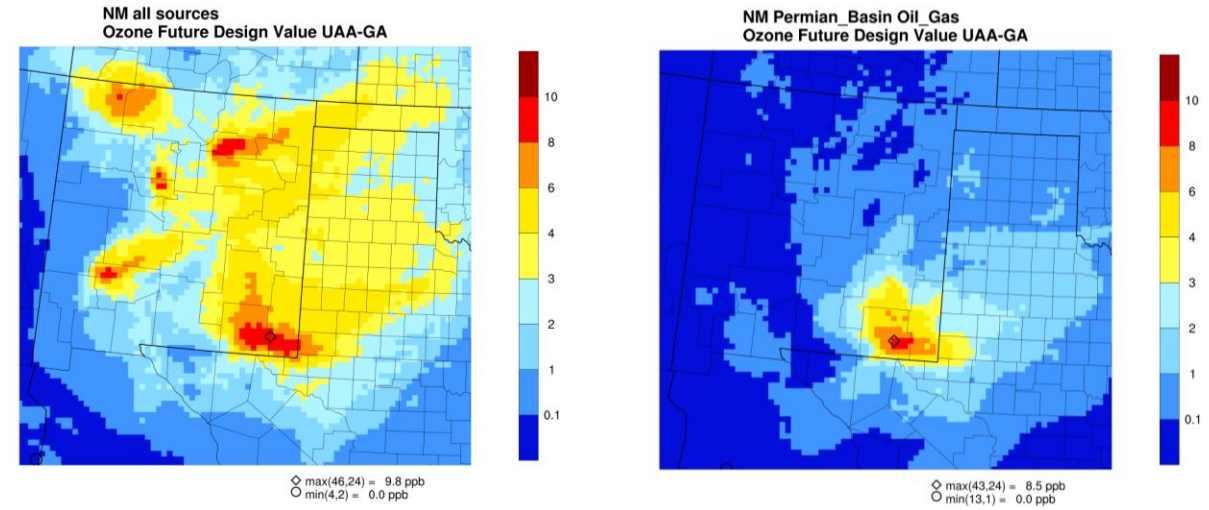
# Task F: State & International Ozone SA Modeling

- Run CAMx in a similar fashion as EPA's Good Neighbor Plan modeling
- Emissions Year: **2022**
- **May 1 – August 15, 2026** Modeling Period
- **3 Source Categories:** (1) Biogenic; (3) Fires+LNOx; (3) Anthropogenic
- **10 Source Regions:** 9 Western States, Mexico and Remainder 12 km Domain
- 35 Source Groups (3 x 10 + 2)
- EPA has run 2022 HCMAQ with no international anthropogenic emissions (for Intl Anthro in BCs) but it is being reviewed by EPA upper management and likely won't be released in time for NMED Phase II



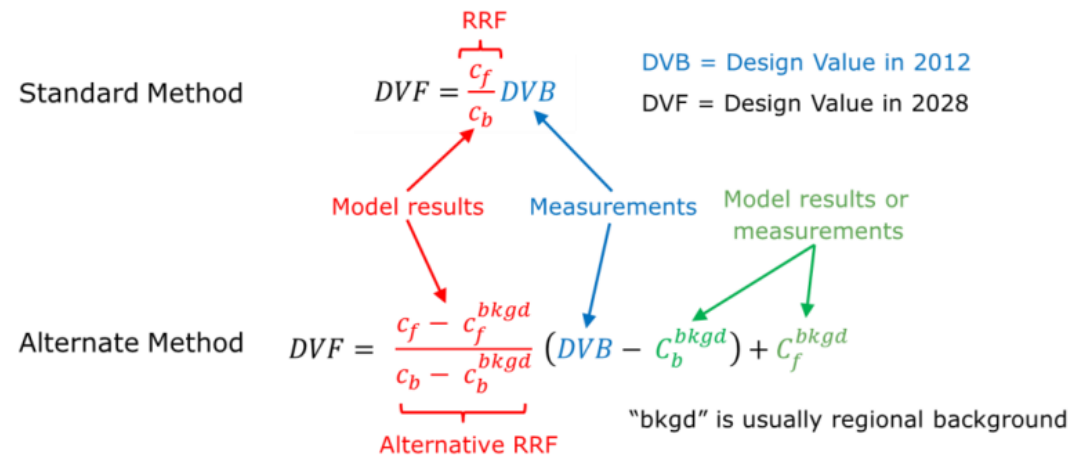
# Post-Processing Local Source 2022/2032 O<sub>3</sub> SA Modeling

- Software for Modeled Attainment Test (SMAT)
  - EPA ozone DV Projection Tools
  - Unmonitored Area Analysis (UAA)
  - Contributions to base year 2020-2024 ozone DVB
  - Contributions to projected 2032 ozone DVF
- Contributions at the Monitoring sites
  - Excel Dashboards
  - 2022 and 2032
- Pseudo-Receptors in Permian Basin
  - Extract 2022 and 2032 ozone SA results at receptors across Permian Basin (Eddy & Lea Counties)
  - Make Dashboard for displays at pseudo receptors



# Post-Processing Local Source 2022/2032 O<sub>3</sub> SA Modeling

- Alternative 2032 Ozone DVF projection approach
  - Similar approach to that used CRC A-112 Study
    - [https://crcao.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/CRC\\_A-112\\_Executive-Summary\\_22Oct18-1.pdf](https://crcao.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/CRC_A-112_Executive-Summary_22Oct18-1.pdf)
    - <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2590162119300322?via%3Dihub>
  - Decompose 2020-2024 ozone DVB into local and background (regional) components
    - 2020-2024 DVB = DVB<sub>Local</sub> + DVB<sub>Regional</sub>
  - Use CAMx 2022 and 2032 4 km ozone source apportionment results to develop separate RRFs for projecting the DVB<sub>Local</sub> (anthropogenic from NM PB, TX PB and Remainder NM regions) and DVB<sub>Regional</sub> (natural, remainder domain region and BCs) to develop separate RRFs for local and regional



# Post-Processing State-Specific/Intl 2022 O<sub>3</sub> SA Modeling

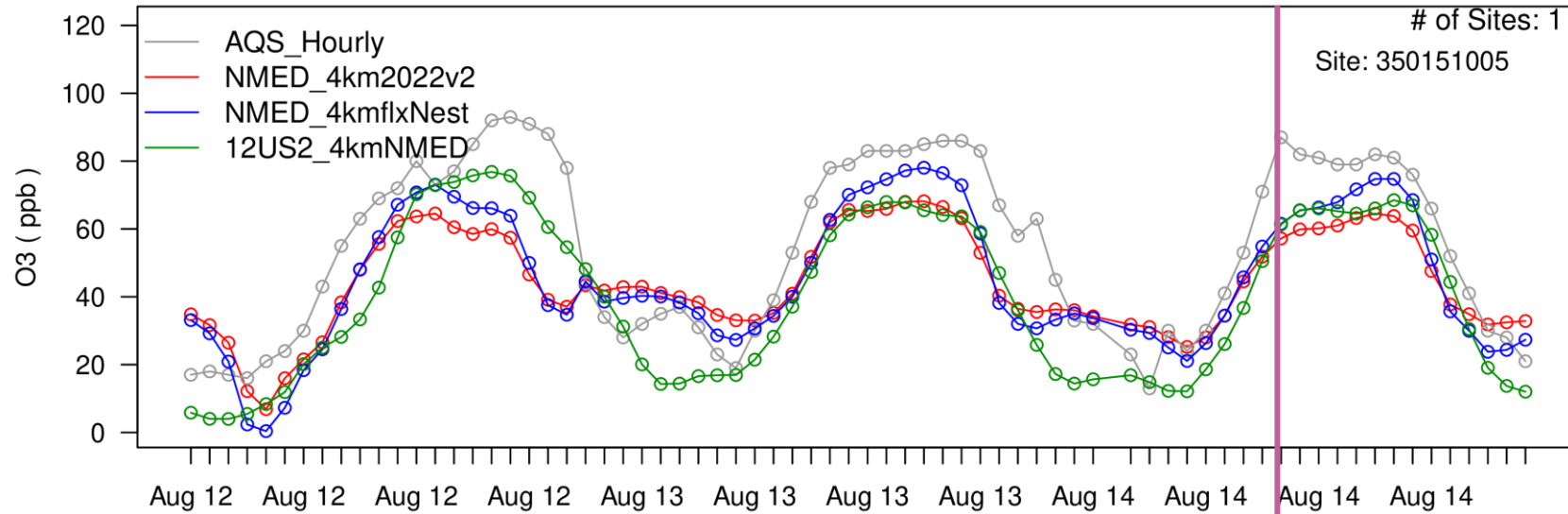
- Process results into Dashboards for monitoring in the New Mexico 4 km domain
- Use Contribution Factor (CF) to obtain upwind state anthropogenic emissions contributions to 2020-2024 ozone DVB at ozone monitoring sites within and outside of New Mexico
  - Compare with 2024 Good Neighbor Plan 2023 state contributions
- Obtain contribution of Mexico anthropogenic emissions to 2020-2024 ozone DVB in New Mexico 4 km domain

# Additional Slides

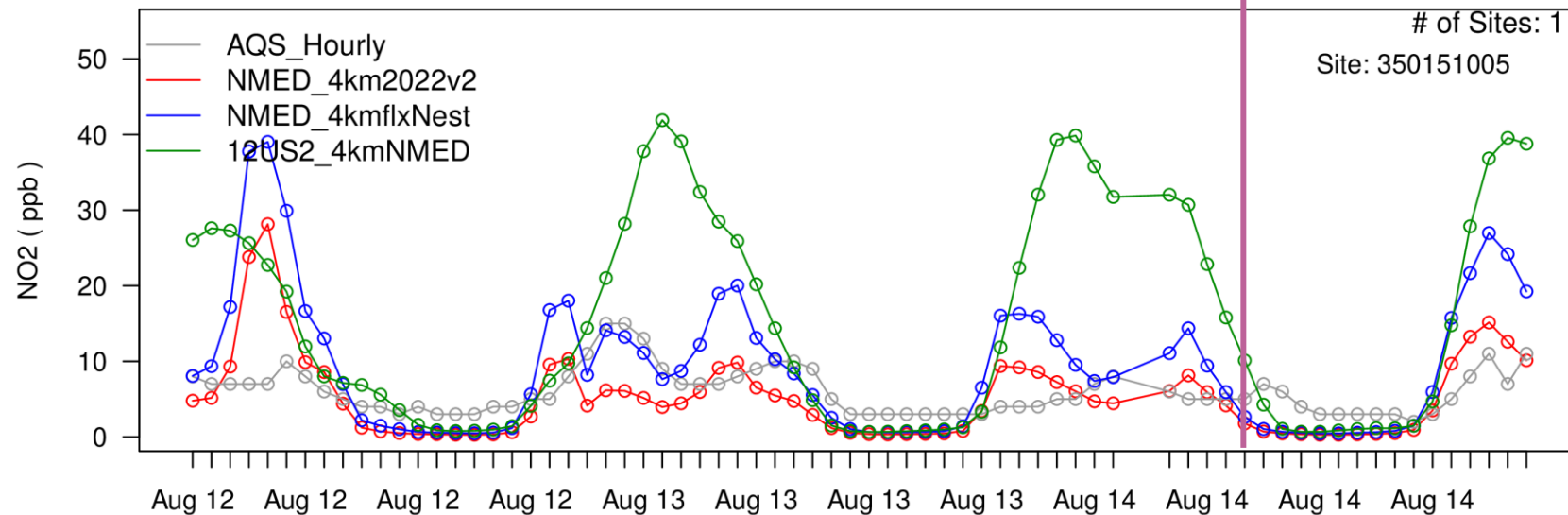
CAMx 2022v2 12/4 km base case  
ozone and NO<sub>2</sub> hourly ozone time  
series at PB sites

# August 12-13, 2022: Carlsbad City

NMED\_4km2022v2 O3 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM

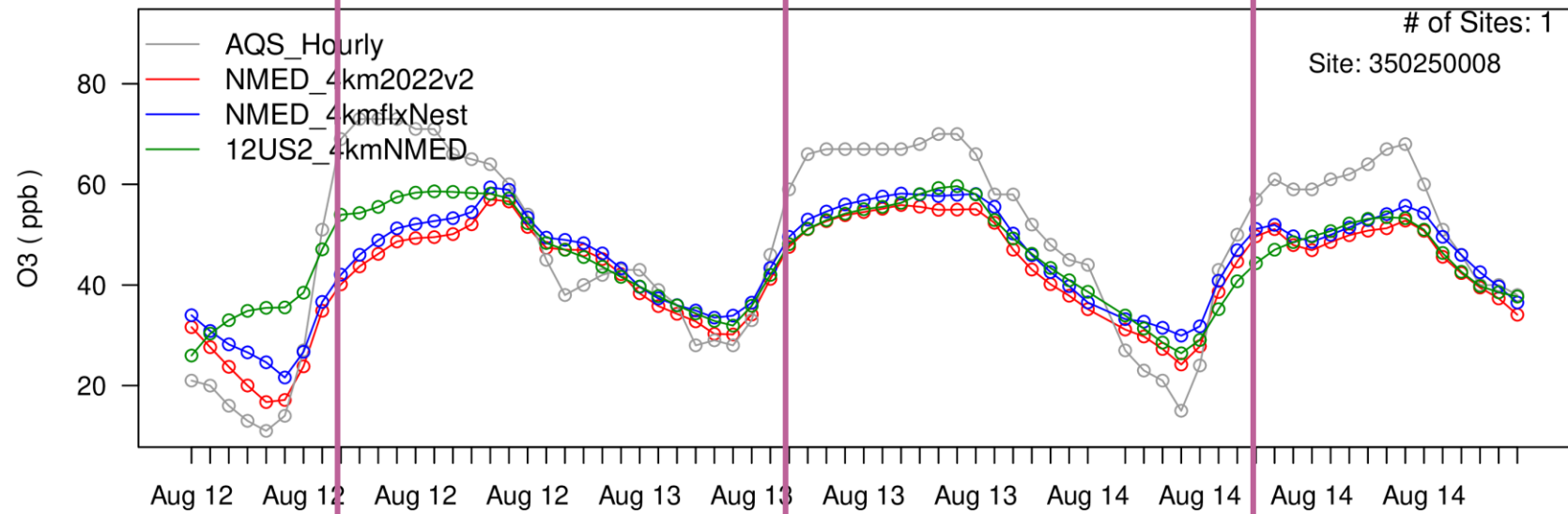


NMED\_4km2022v2 NO2 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350151005 in NM

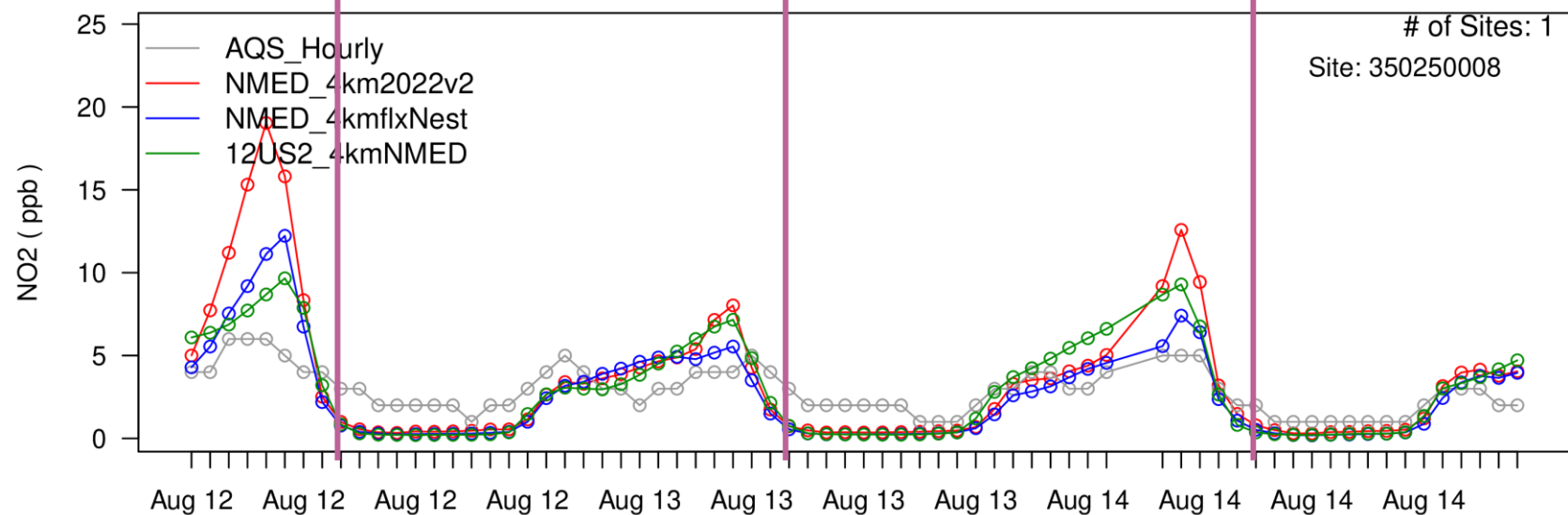


# August 12-13, 2022: Hobbs

NMED\_4km2022v2 O3 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350250008 in NM

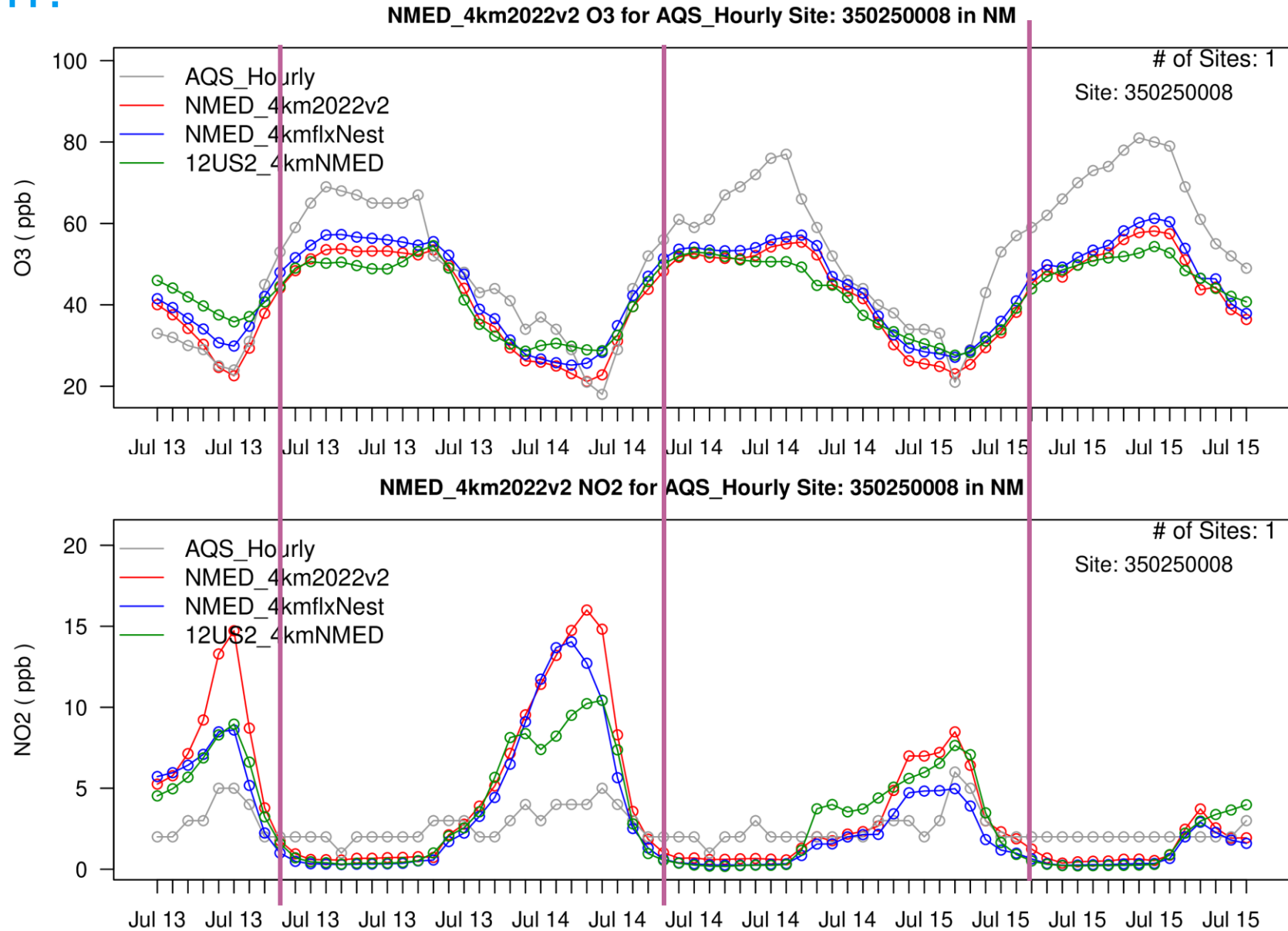


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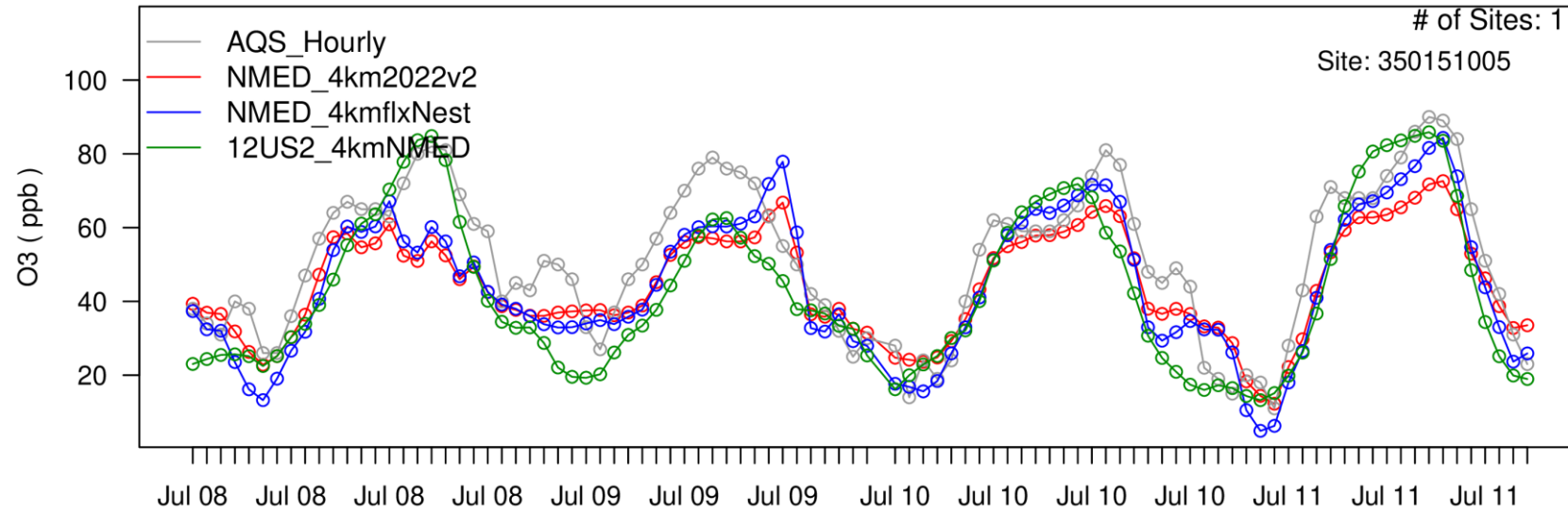




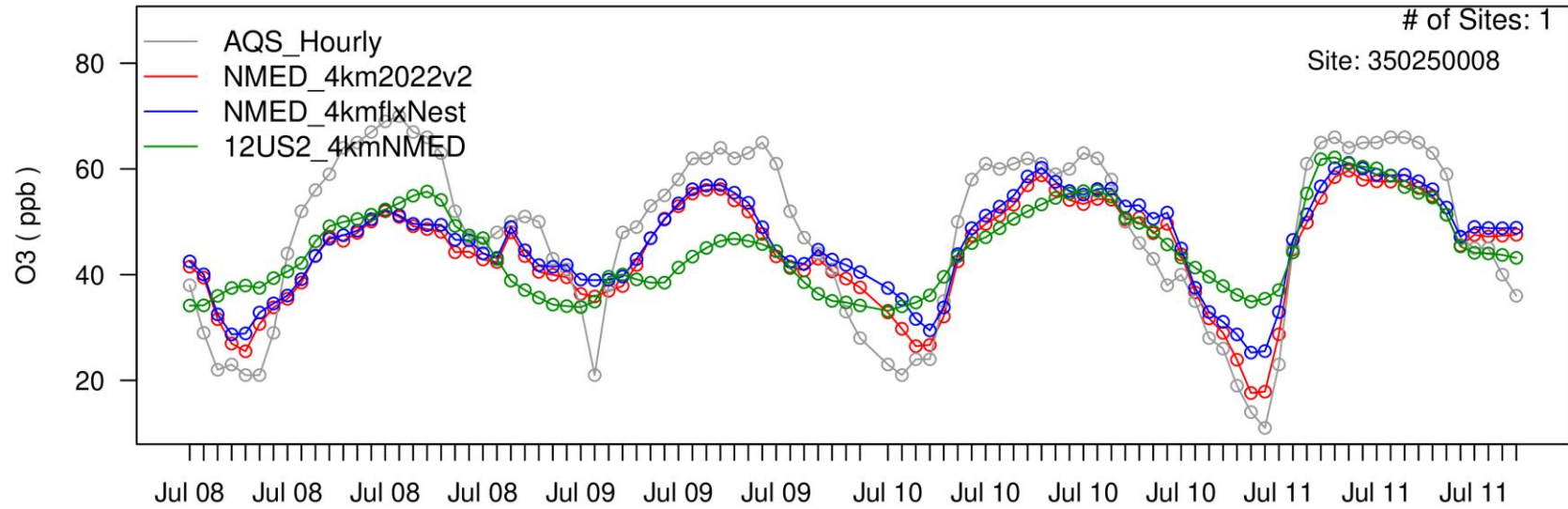
# July 13-15, 2022: Hobbs – Obs NO2 at 2 ppb near detection?



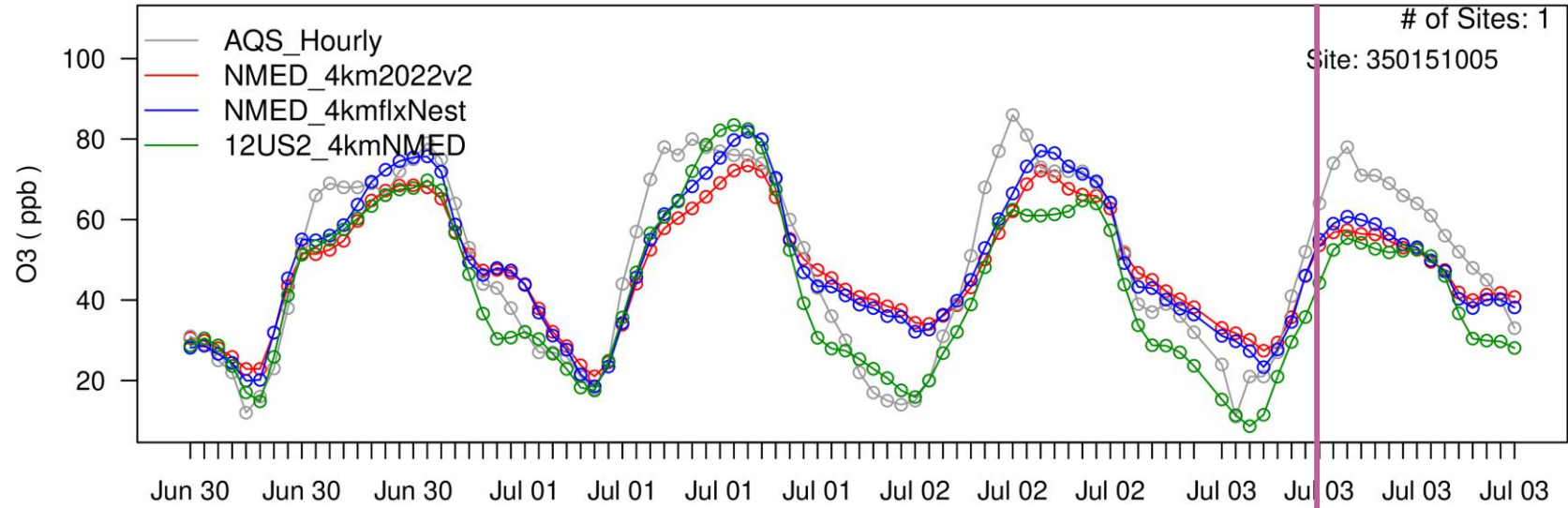
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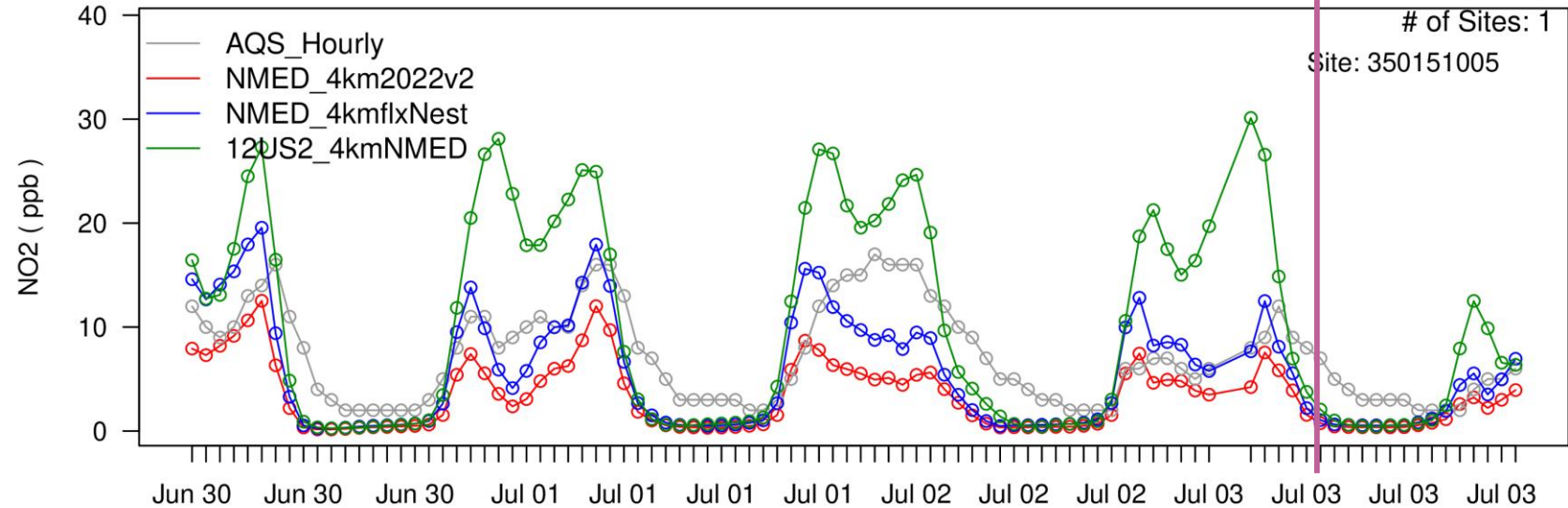
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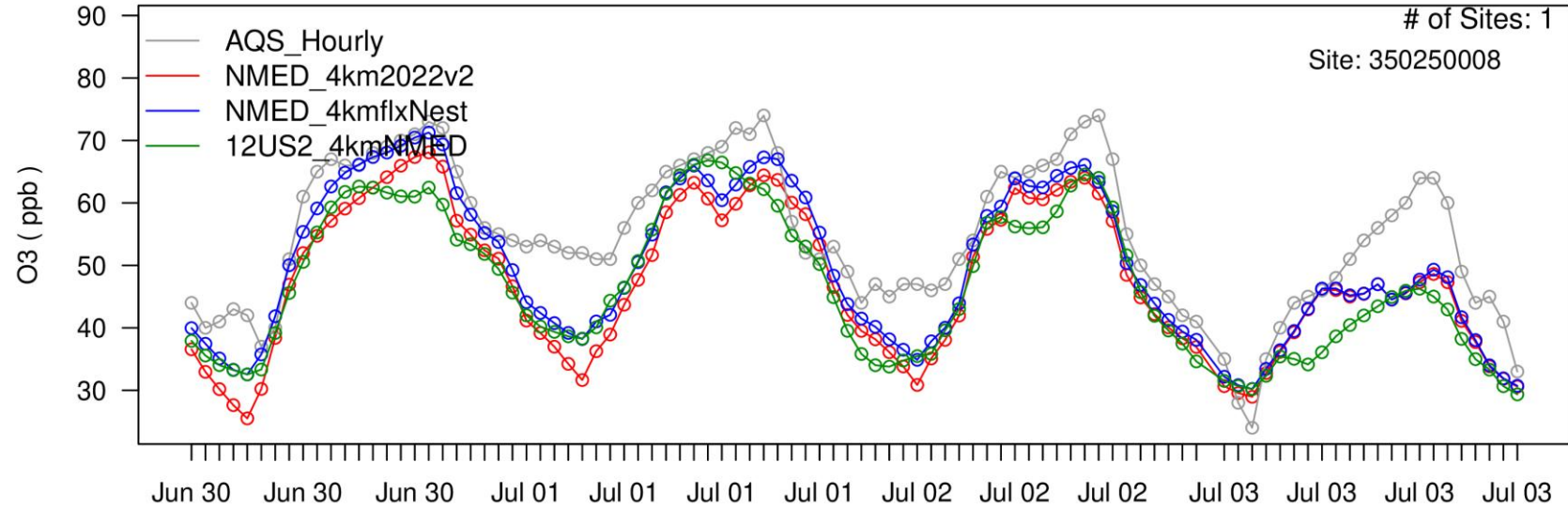
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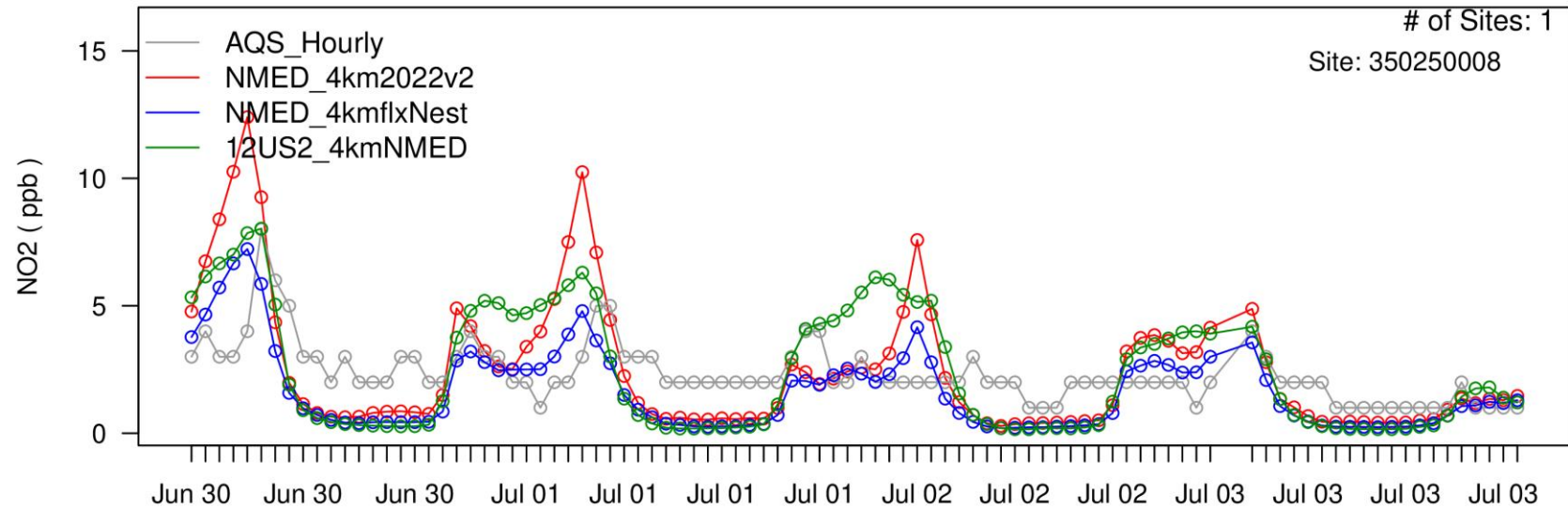
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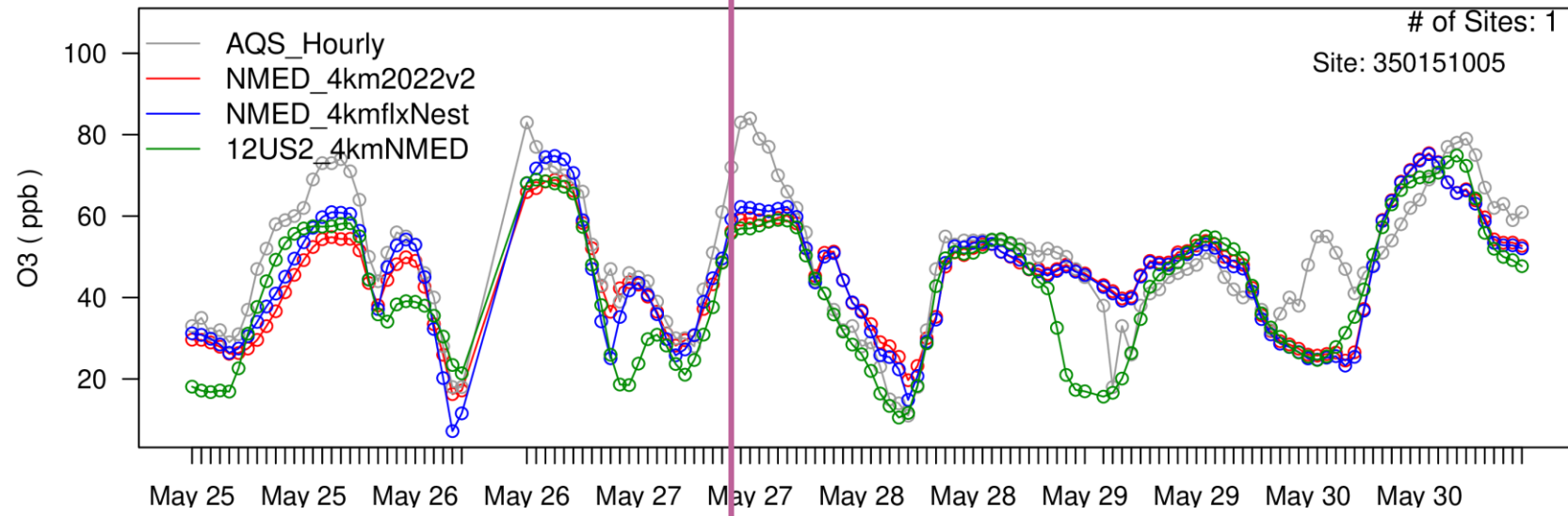
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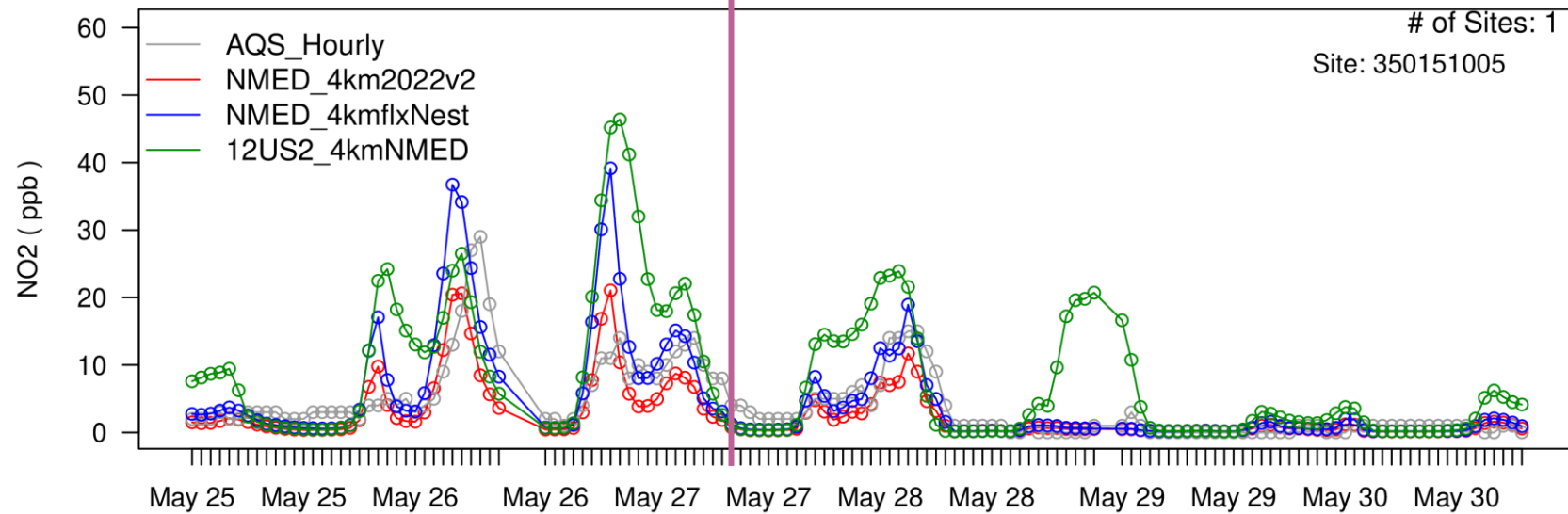
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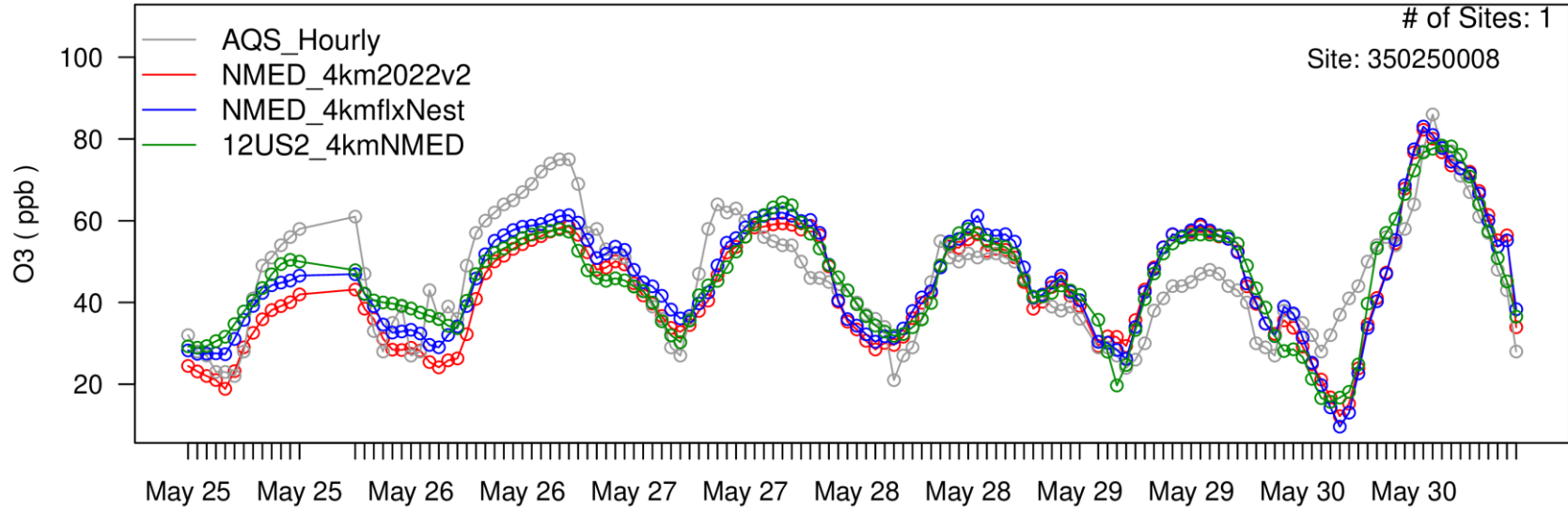
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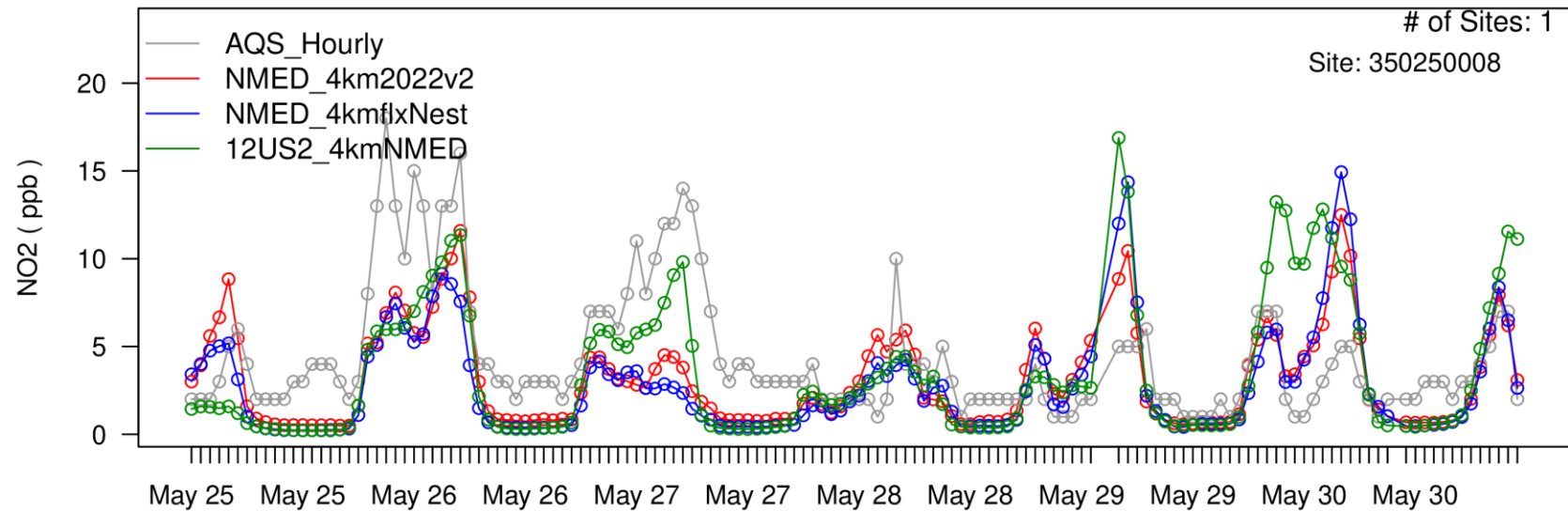
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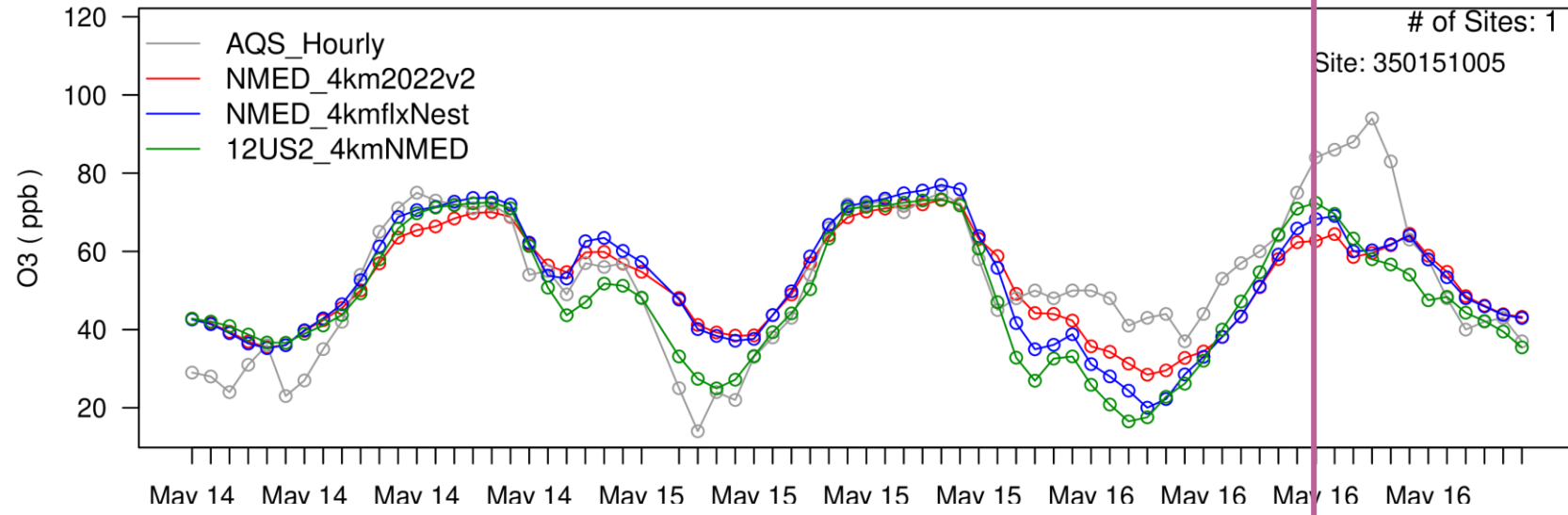
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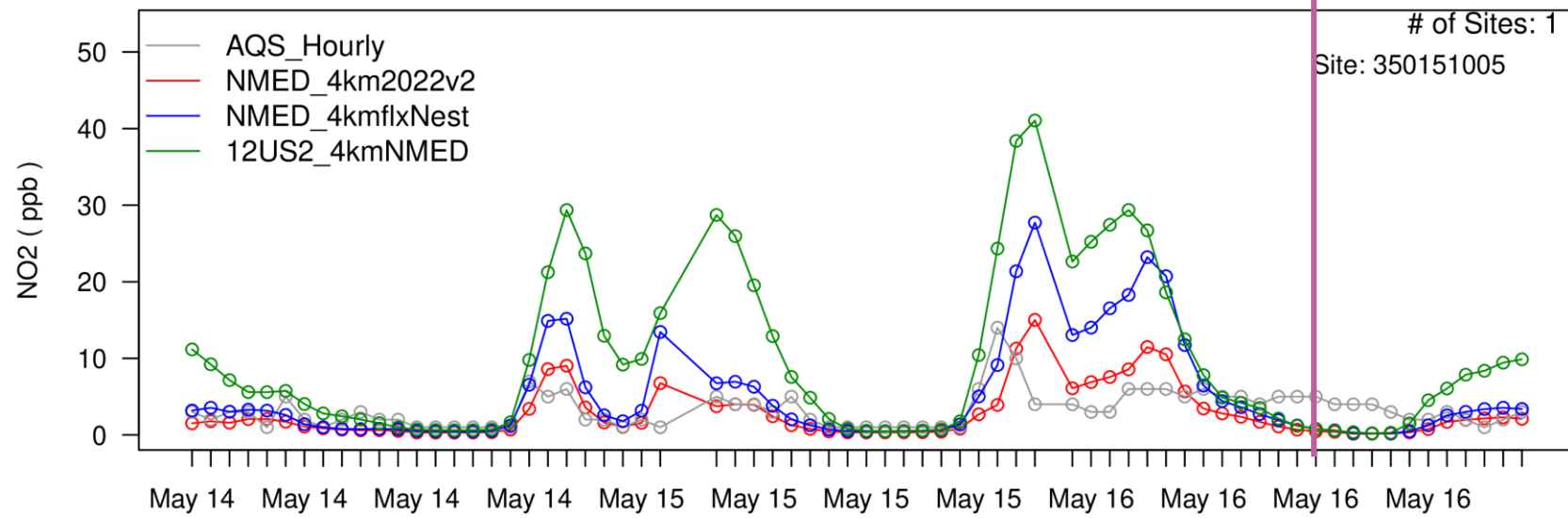
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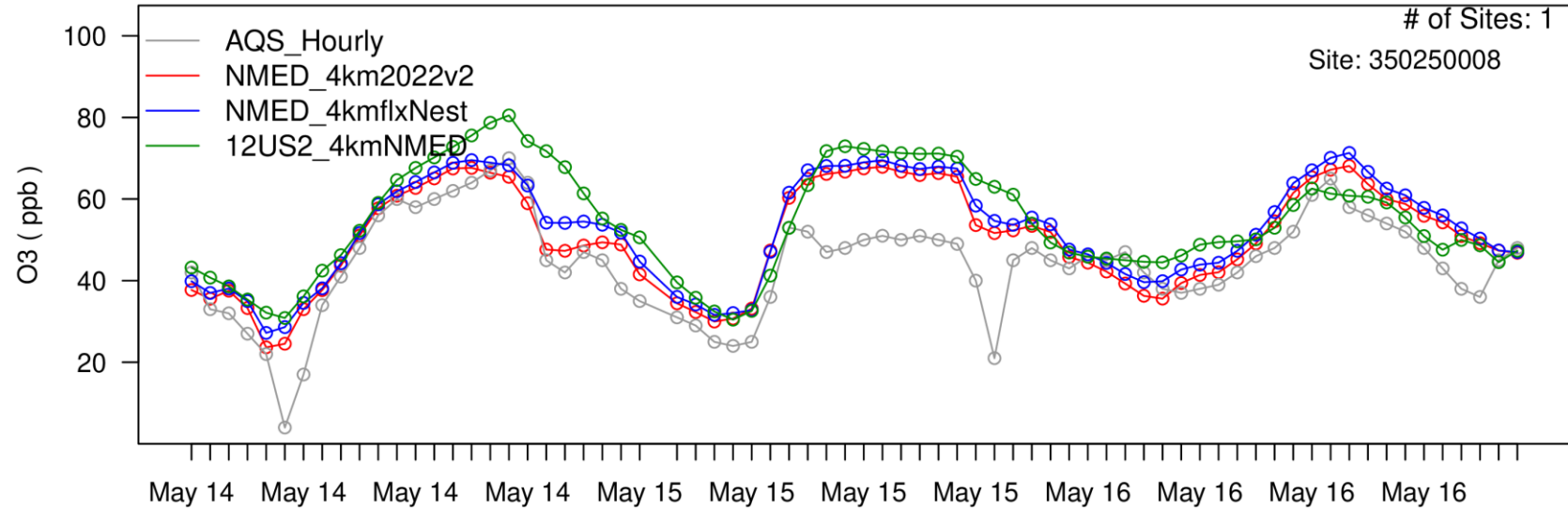
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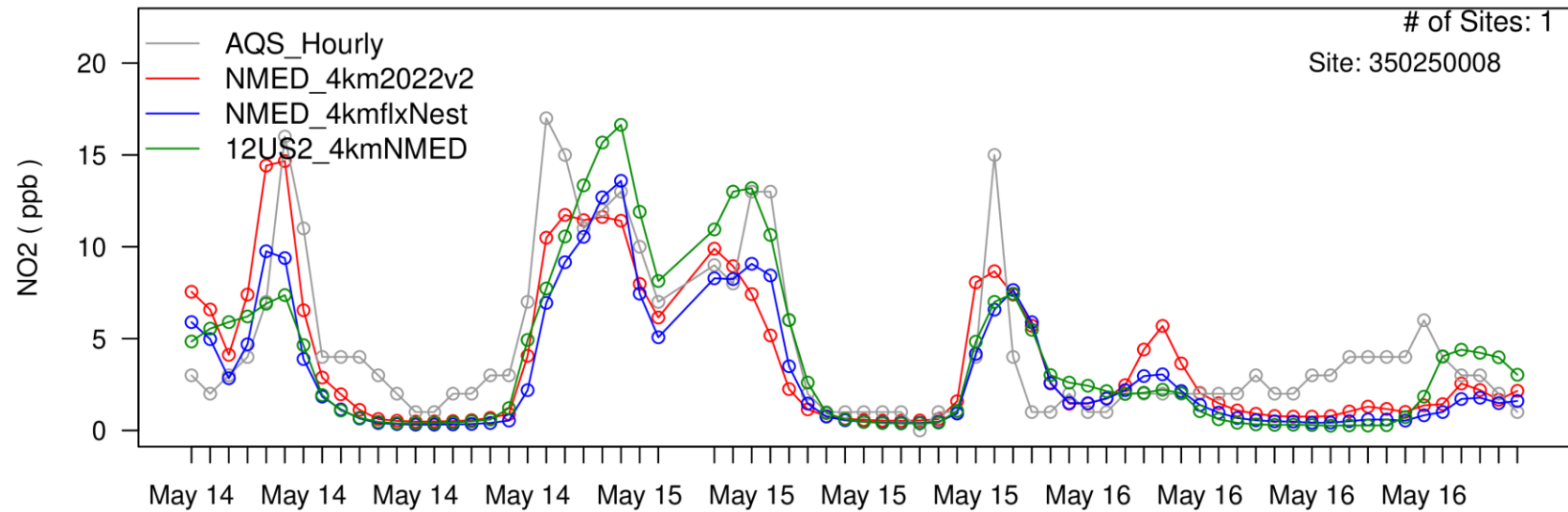
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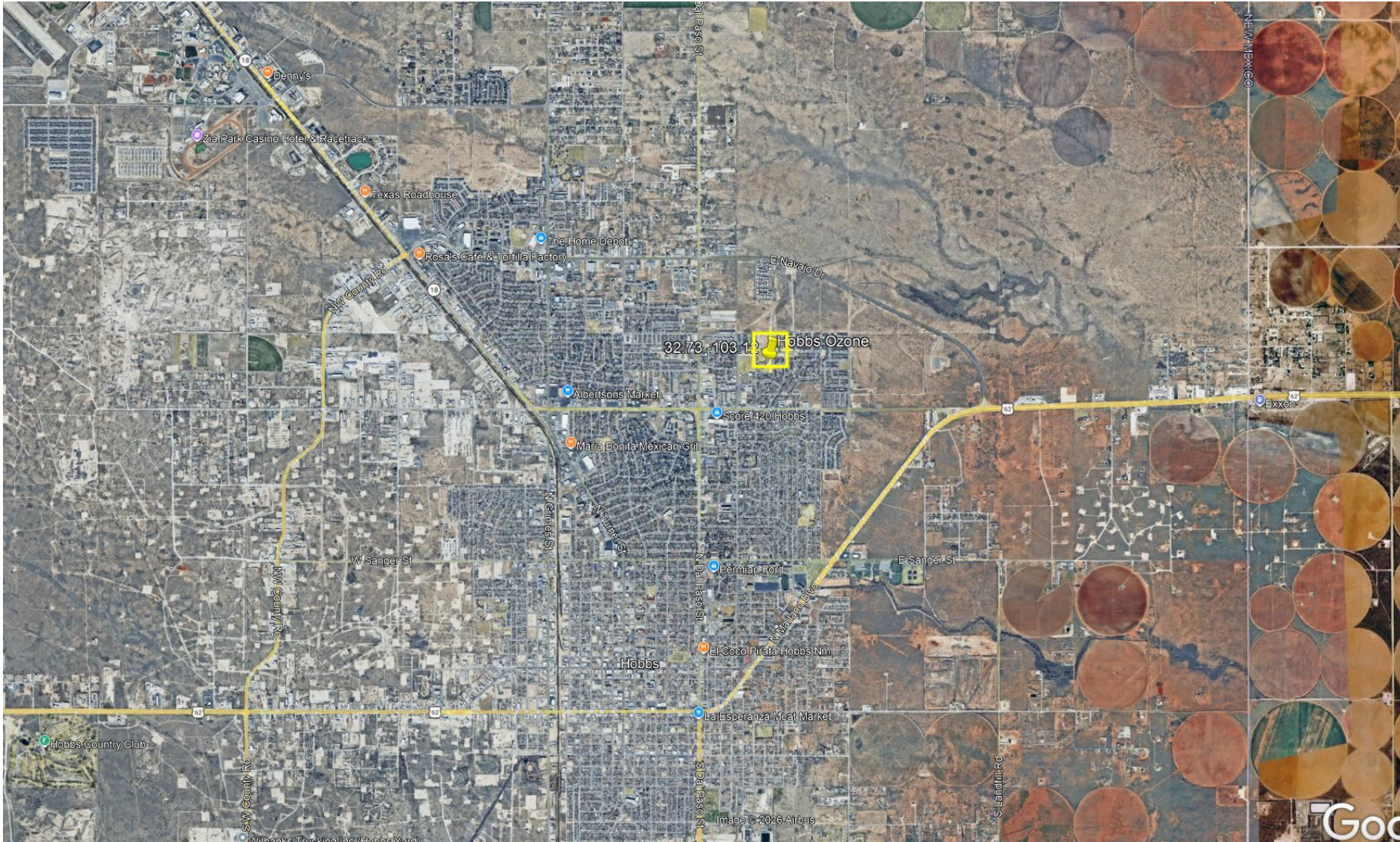
NMED\_4km2022v2 O3 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350250008 in NM



NMED\_4km2022v2 NO2 for AQS\_Hourly Site: 350250008 in NM



# Hobbs Ozone Site



## Evaluation for 8 Explicit VOC Species in CB6r5

- **Ethane – ETHA** ( $C_2H_6$ ) is a major component of natural gas and is a tracer for the oil and gas (O&G) Source Sector
- **Propane – PRPA** ( $C_3H_8$ ) is a by product of natural gas processing and oil refining and is a tracer for the oil and gas (O&G) Source Sector
- **Benzene – BENZ** ( $C_6H_6$ ) is a natural component of crude oil and gasoline and is a tracer for gasoline combustion.
- **Ethyne or Acetylene – ETHY** ( $C_2H_4$ ) is widely used as a fuel and Fresno can be a combustion tracer.
- **Isoprene – ISOP** ( $C_5H_8$ ) is primarily emitted from plants (broad leaf trees and shrubs) in the afternoon and is a biogenic tracer
- **Ethene or Ethylene – ETH** ( $C_2H_4$ ) is widely used in the chemical industry and is the most produced organic compound in the world.
- **Acetone – ACET** [ $(CH_3)_2CO$ ] is primarily used as a solvent
- **Acetaldehyde – ALD2** ( $CH_3CHO$ ) is one of the most important aldehydes that occurs naturally in nature and secondary product of many VOCS (e.g., Alkanes)