

TRACER-AQ HGB Technical Information Meeting July 28, 2022

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What is TRACER-

Tracking Aerosol Convection ExpeRiment- Air Quality

- Collaboration between TCEQ, NASA, DOE, and Texas universities.
- Many platforms on land, over water and in the air!
- Research activities taking place September 2021 and Summer 2022.





Goals of TRACER-AQ

- Investigate ozone photochemistry and meteorology;
- Evaluate models and satellite data; and
- Understand the intersection of air quality and socioeconomic factors.

More information: https://www-air.larc.nasa.gov/missions/tracer-aq/



How has ozone formation changed over time?



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

How does ozone formation vary spatially?









How does the coastal environment influence ozone formation?



How do pollutants vary spatially, vertically, and temporally?

Aircraft remote sensing data example: September 8, 2021

• Courtesy of Dr. Laura Judd, NASA.



 NO_2 = Nitrogen Dioxide







How are pollutants distributed vertically?

Ozonesondes Drone (2022) Pandora (2021-22) Lidar (2021) (2021-22)Dr. Alex Kotsakis, NASA 4000 3500 90 3000 75 2500 60 2000 1500 - 30 1000 Altitude (km) · 15 0000 500 0.75 1.25 1.5 Mood ×10⁻⁴ Partial NO, Columns [moles/m²] Tower 0000 0000 3500 0000 0000 3000 0000 0000 2500 0000 0000 Ê 2000 0000 0000 Alt 0000 1500 0000 0000 1000 500 75 100 125 150 [O₃] (ppbv) & RH (%) 79-09 10 109-09 12 09-09 14 09-09-20 29-09 26 09-09 22 3-09 02 00 06 09 08 Dr. Paul Walter, St. Edward's TEXAS COMMISSION ON Dr. John Sullivan, NASA

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

125

45

Is our emissions inventory accurate?

New in 2022: FluxSense Mobile Lab

- Estimate VOC, SO₂, NO₂, HCHO emission rates.
- Compare to emissions estimates and modeling inputs.







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Case Study: September 9, 2021 Ozonesondes

- 9 ozonesonde launches:
 - 3 Gulf, 2 Galveston Bay, 2 UH, 2 La Porte.
- Boundary layer height was 370 m in the Gulf.









Preliminary Findings

Nighttime Isoprene



Ship Emissions



High Ethylene Concentrations



Monitor	Peak ethene,	Peak ethene,
	Sept 27	2011-2020
	(ppbv)	(ppbv)
Deer Park	2500	60
HRM16 in Deer Park	1300	NA
Milby Park	220	26
Cesar Chavez HS	180	56

University of Houston



2022 TRACER-AQ

TRACER-AQ Observing System







Resources

• TRACER-AQ 2021 data:

https://www-air.larc.nasa.gov/missions/tracer-aq/

• DOE TRACER Campaign:

https://www.arm.gov/research/campaigns/amf2021tracer



Thank you for your attention.

Questions?

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