



Study of biomass burning emissions with Aqua/AIRS and MetOp-A/IASI

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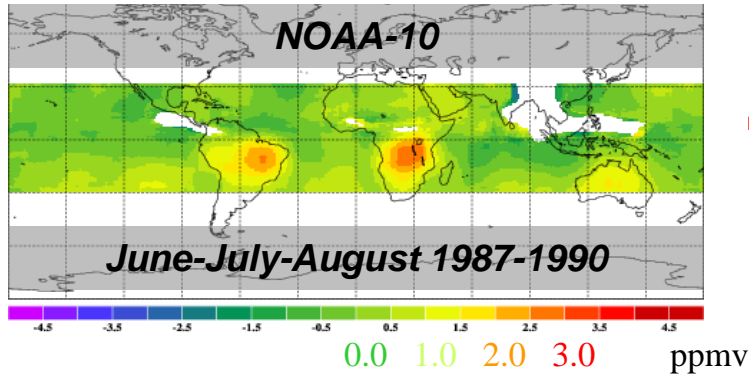
Laboratoire de Météorologie Dynamique (LMD) / CNRS / IPSL



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Contribution of IR sounders to the study of biomass burning emissions

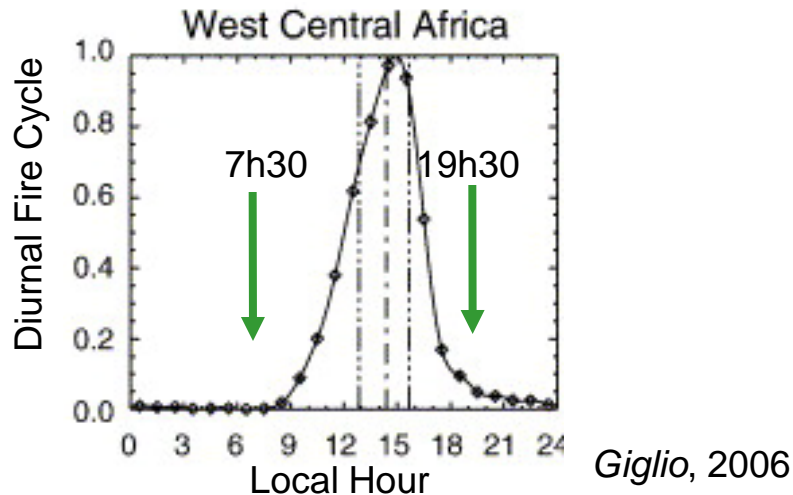
Night-Day CO₂ from TOVS



→ Daily Tropospheric Excess of CO₂
Chédin et al., 2005, 2008

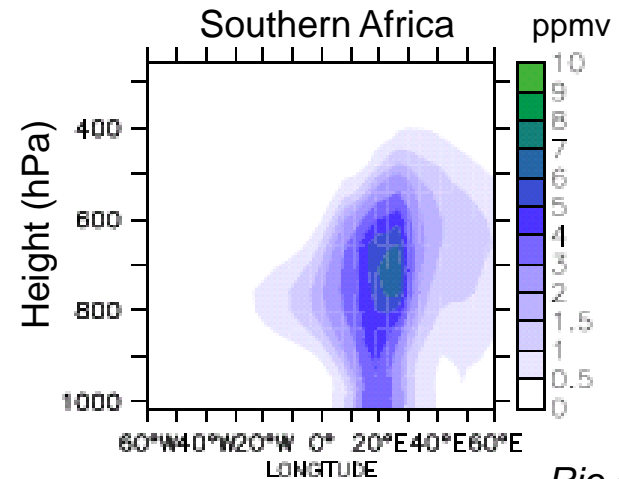
Diurnal cycle of fires

Diurnal cycle of fires in the surface and equator
crosstime of NOAA-10



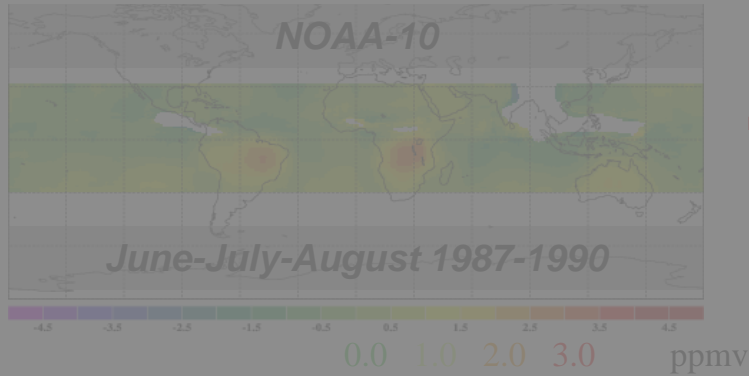
Convection of fires emissions in the troposphere

Simulation of CO₂ fire plumes emissions



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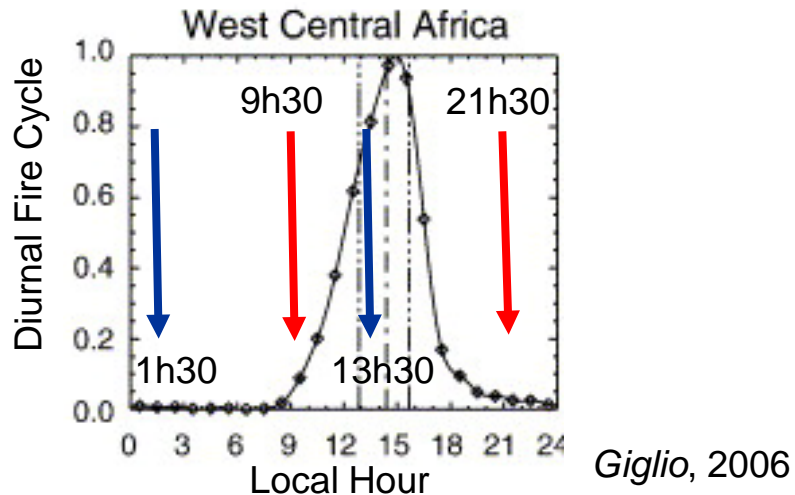
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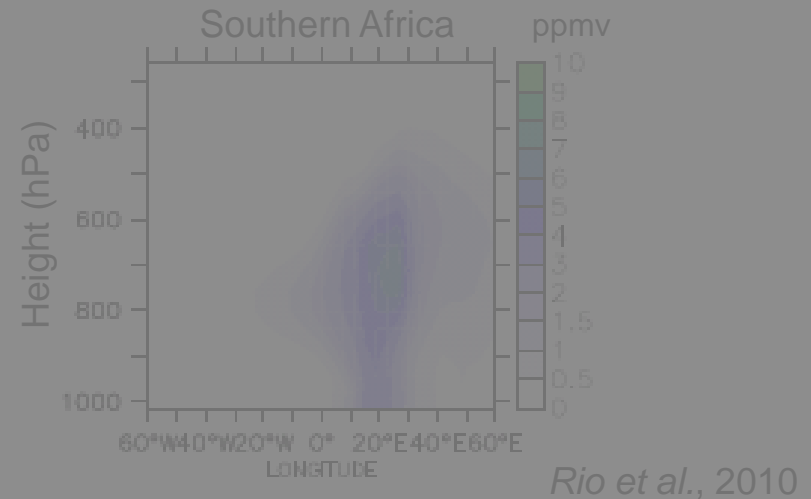
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Diurnal cycle of fires in the surface and equator crosstime of IASI and AIRS



Convection of fires emissions in the troposphere

Simulation of CO₂ fire plumes emissions



Contribution of AIRS and IASI to the study of biomass burning emissions

- Fire emissions :

- 90% CO₂ (flamming phase),
- 9% CO (smoldering phase),
- <1% CH₄, and other trace gases

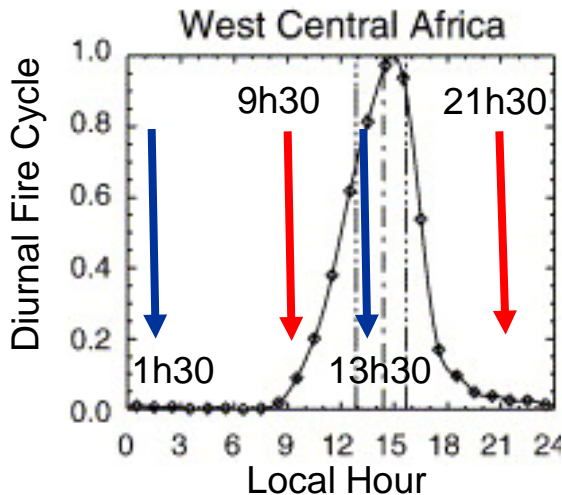
- At LMD, we retrieve **CO₂ and CO** from AIRS and IASI, and **CH₄** from IASI.

- AIRS and IASI give access to 4 points a day : 1:30, 9:30, 13:30, 21:30

→ Study of the **diurnal cycle of the emissions** and the **different phases of the combustion**.

Diurnal cycle of fires

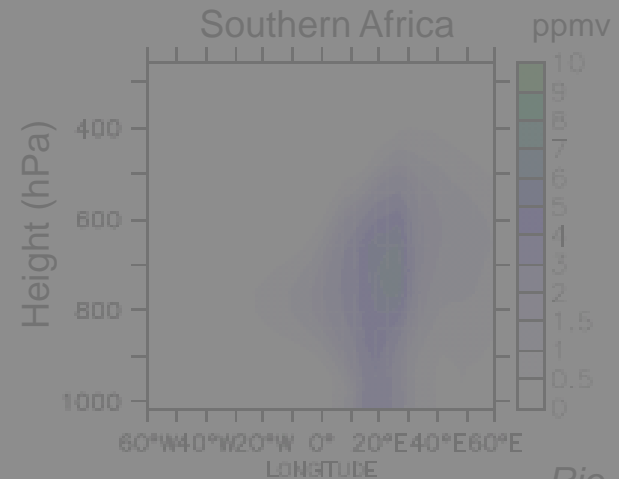
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Giglio, 2006

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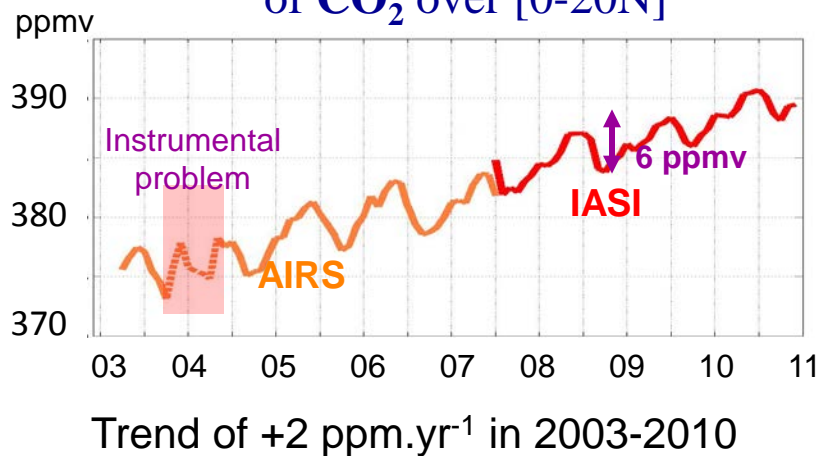


Rio et al., 2010

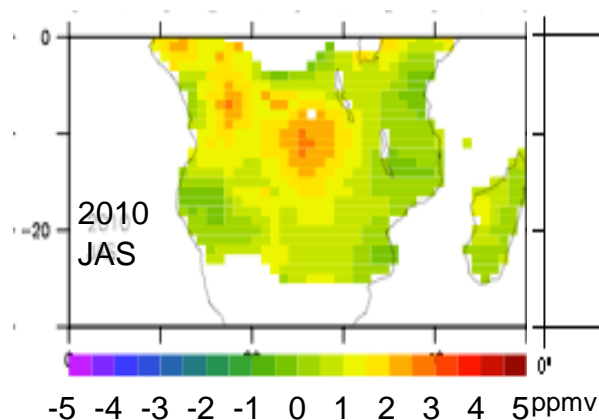
Contribution of AIRS and IASI to the study of biomass burning emissions

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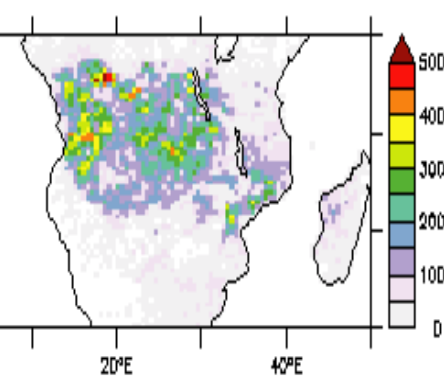
Averaged seasonal cycle (night+day) of CO₂ over [0-20N]



Night-day CO₂



MODIS fire pixels count



The fire signature on CO₂ and CH₄ is quite weak whereas CO is a well-known proxy of fire emissions. That's why we focus on CO to study the diurnal cycle of fire emissions.

Retrieval of CO, CO₂ and CH₄ from AIRS/IASI

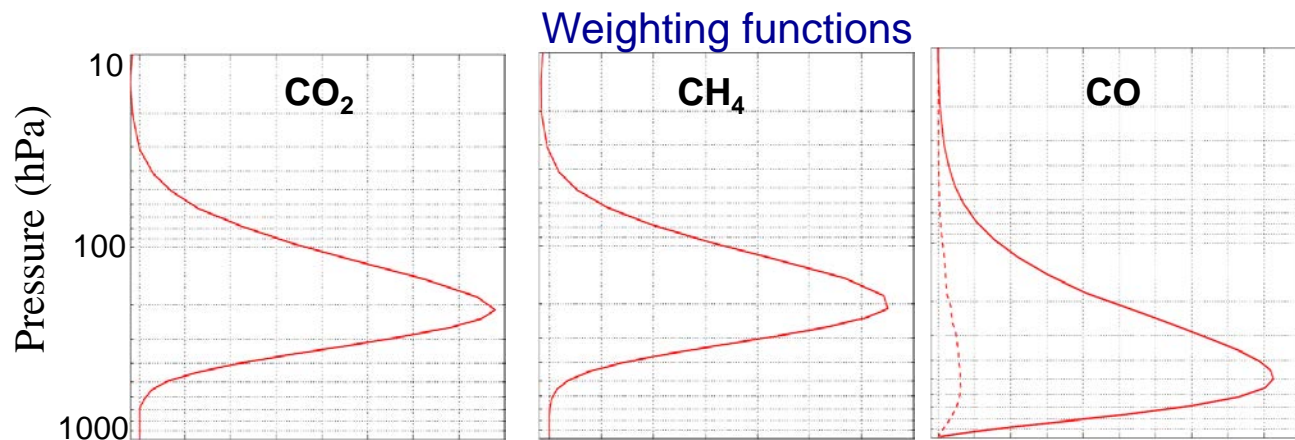
■ For **CO₂** (low signal) and for **CH₄** (interferences from other species), we use:

- Non linear inference scheme based on neural networks [*Crevoisier et al.*, 2004, 2009a/b].
- CO₂/CH₄ and T(p) are intimately correlated in the IR.
 - Use of IR (IASI/AIRS) and MW (AMSU) observations to decorrelate T from gas variations.
- The decorrelation between T/GHG is easier to do in the **tropics**.
 - ⇒ a better precision is expected there.

■ For **CO**, we use a double differential approach [*Thonat et al.*, sub.].

• We retrieve a **mid or upper-tropospheric content**:

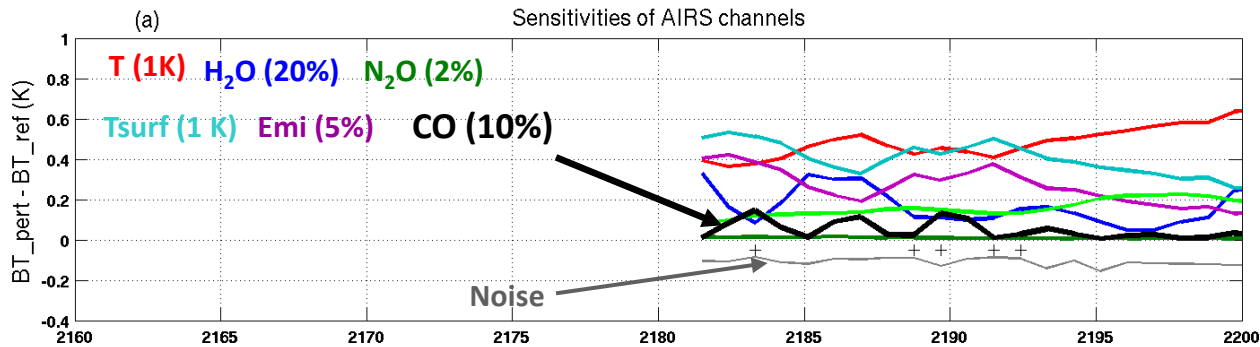
- in **clear sky only** (no clouds, no aerosols)
- in **day and night, over land and over sea**



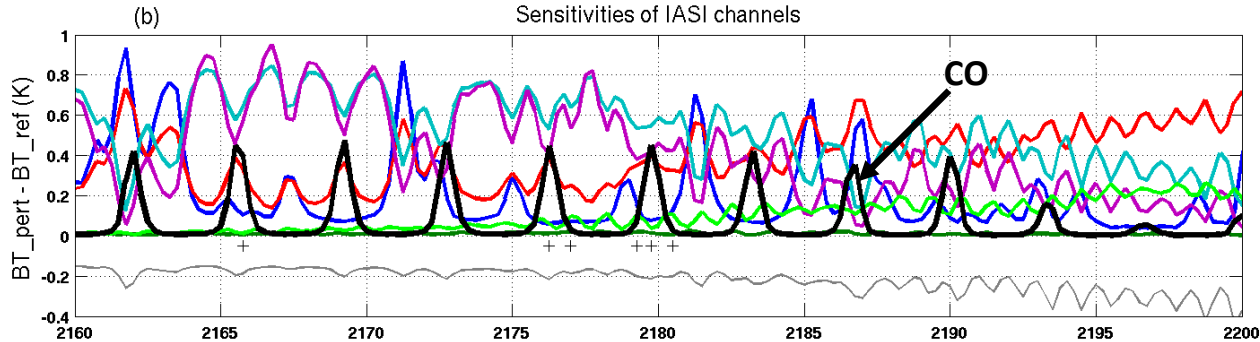
➔ We have now **~4 years** (July 2007-June 2011) of monthly averaged tropospheric integrated content of **CO₂, CO and CH₄** from **IASI**, and also **CO and CO₂** from **AIRS**.

AIRS and IASI characteristics - CO

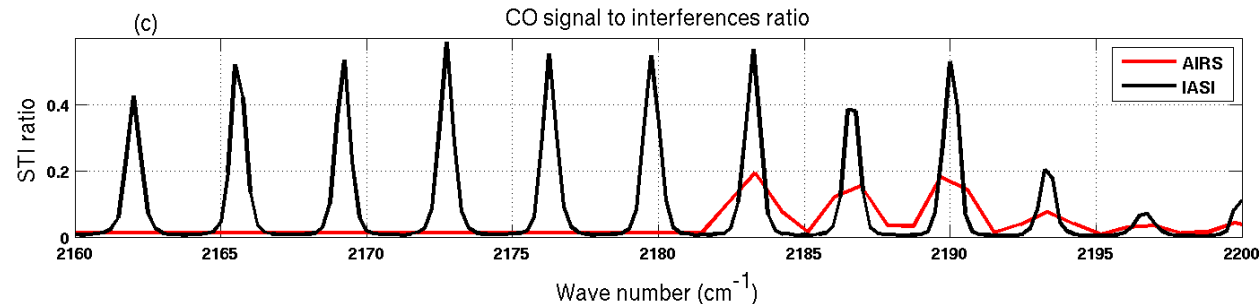
Sensitivities of AIRS and IASI channels to atmospheric and surface perturbations
(from LMD 4A radiative transfer model, based on the GEISA spectroscopic database and using the TIGR atmospheric dataset)



-AIRS resolution: **1.8 cm⁻¹**
-Coverage of the **end** of the CO absorption band



-IASI resolution: **0.25 cm⁻¹**
-Coverage of the **whole** CO band



IASI has a 3 times higher signal-to-noise ratio

Description of the CO retrieval method

Channels selection



Method based on 3 differences of 2 AIRS/IASI channels:

- Channel 1: sensitive to CO
- Channel 2: not sensitive to CO

ECMWF ERA-INTERIM Reanalyses:
T, H₂O and O₃ profiles

Colocalisation with AIRS/IASI and
interpolation on the 40 4A pressure levels

Estimation of Ts from one AIRS/IASI channel

Péquignot, private comm.

4A simulations of BT and Jacobians

Clear sky
detection

AIRS/IASI
Observations

*IASI from Ether Centre, via Eumetcast
AIRS from the NASA Mirador data center*

$$\Delta BT = (BT^{4A} - BT^{\text{Sounder}})_{\text{chan1}} - (BT^{4A} - BT^{\text{Sounder}})_{\text{chan2}}$$

for 3
couples
of
channels

$$\Delta qCO = \Delta BT \text{ (K)} / (\text{Sens}_{\text{chan1}} - \text{Sens}_{\text{chan2}}) \text{ (K/ppbv)}$$

qCO

Precision: 2.5 ppbv (~3 %)

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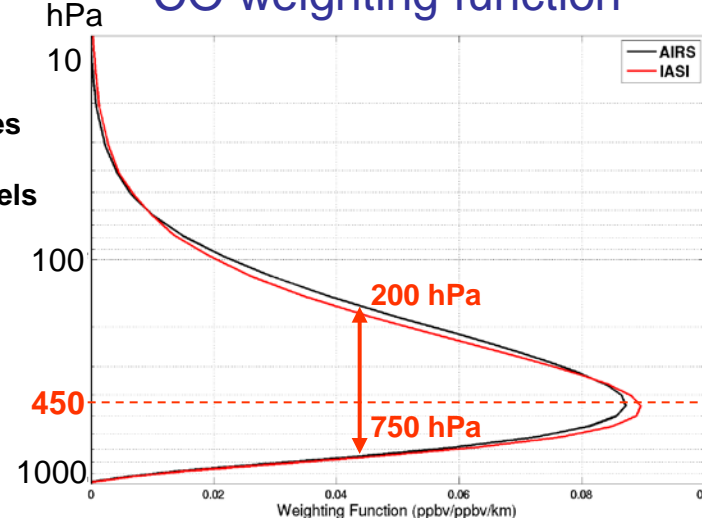
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CO weighting function



AIRS and IASI CO

Monthly means of mid-tropospheric CO (July 2007 – June 2011)

AIRS 1:30

IASI 9:30

AIRS 13:30

IASI 21:30

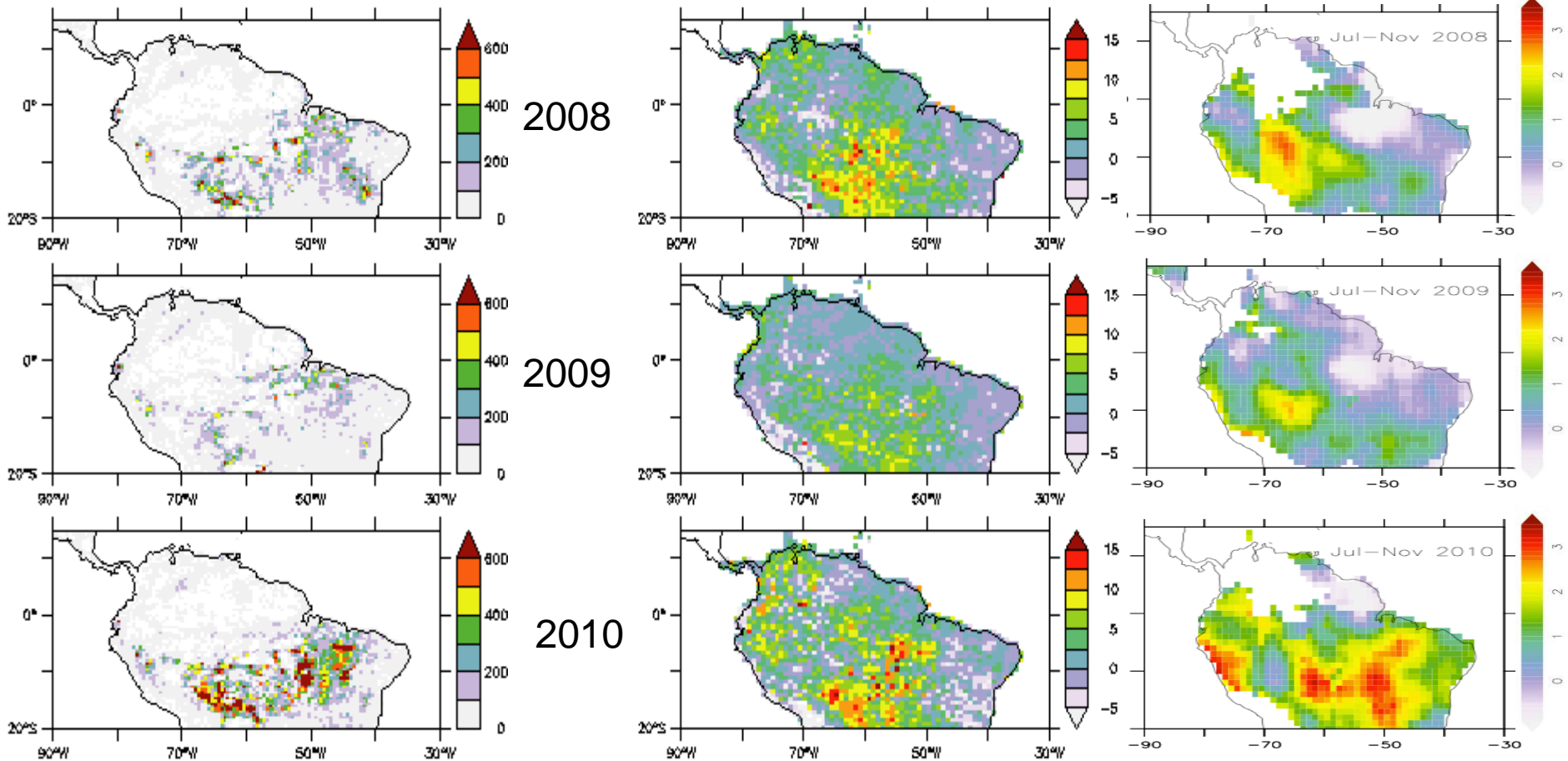
Results from IASI over South America (2008-2010)

Fire season (July-Nov)

MODIS fire pixels count

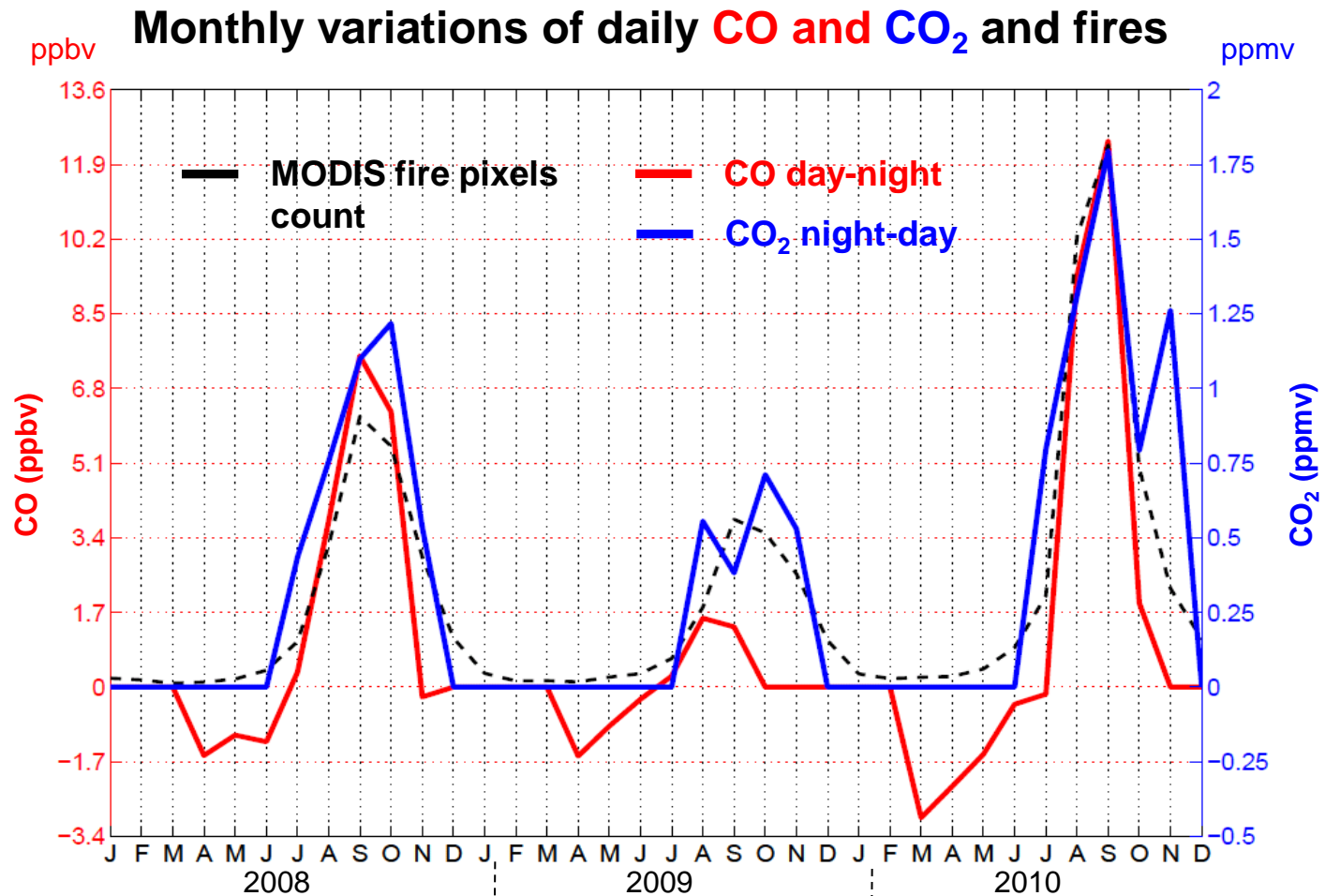
Day-night CO (ppbv)

Night-day CO₂ (ppmv)



Effects on CO and CO₂ emissions of the 2010 severe drought in Amazonia

Spatio-temporal evolution averaged over Amazonia



- Very good agreement between the diurnal variations of CO and CO₂ and fires
- These diurnal cycles are of opposite signs: more **CO** for the **daytime** observation; more **CO₂** for the **nighttime** observation.
- This might be due to the different combustion phases (**smoldering** vs. **flamming**), and to the different parts of the troposphere seen for each gas.

Conclusion

We have retrieved tropospheric integrated content of CO_2 , CO and CH_4 from **MetOp-A/IASI** and CO_2 and CO from **Aqua/AIRS** observations, from July 2007 to June 2011. We have used these retrievals to study the **link between CO , CO_2 and biomass burning emissions**.

These results have highlighted:

- the interest of coupling AIRS (1:30, 13:30) and IASI (9:30, 21:30) observations to study the diurnal cycle of CO and the interest of retrieving simultaneously CO , CO_2 and CH_4 from IASI.
- the diurnal cycle of tropospheric CO and CO_2 over the tropical regions
- a temporal and spatial variation of this signal, in agreement with fire activity
- however, the diurnal cycles of CO and CO_2 are of opposite signs, which gives complementary information on the phases of combustion.

Perspectives of this work:

- extension to NPP/CrIS and MetOp-B/IASI observations
- study of the **vertical transport** of gases emitted by fires
- further study of the **correlations** between CO_2 , CO and CH_4

Annex

Daily Variations of CO

More CO seen by day than by night

CO is mainly emitted in the **smoldering phase** of combustion :

- low-temperature process
- burns the organic layer, after the aboveground biomass was consumed in the daytime releasing mostly CO₂
- conditions of higher moisture



CO is emitted mostly at night and **trapped into the boundary layer** until the next morning, and then uplifted by convection

Case of a wildland biomass fire in Alaska (*Ferguson et al., 2003*)

