

Tracing the ozone isotopic anomaly transferred to other atmospheric constituents

J. Savarino

Laboratoire de Glaciologie et Géophysique de
l'Environnement, CNRS/UJF, France

Kaplan workshop, Israel
March 2008



The polar regions: Interests

Arctic



- Ocean surrounded by continent
- Close to pollution sources
- Strong seasonal variations (Temp, light)
- Greenland Ice sheet → Ice core site

Antarctic



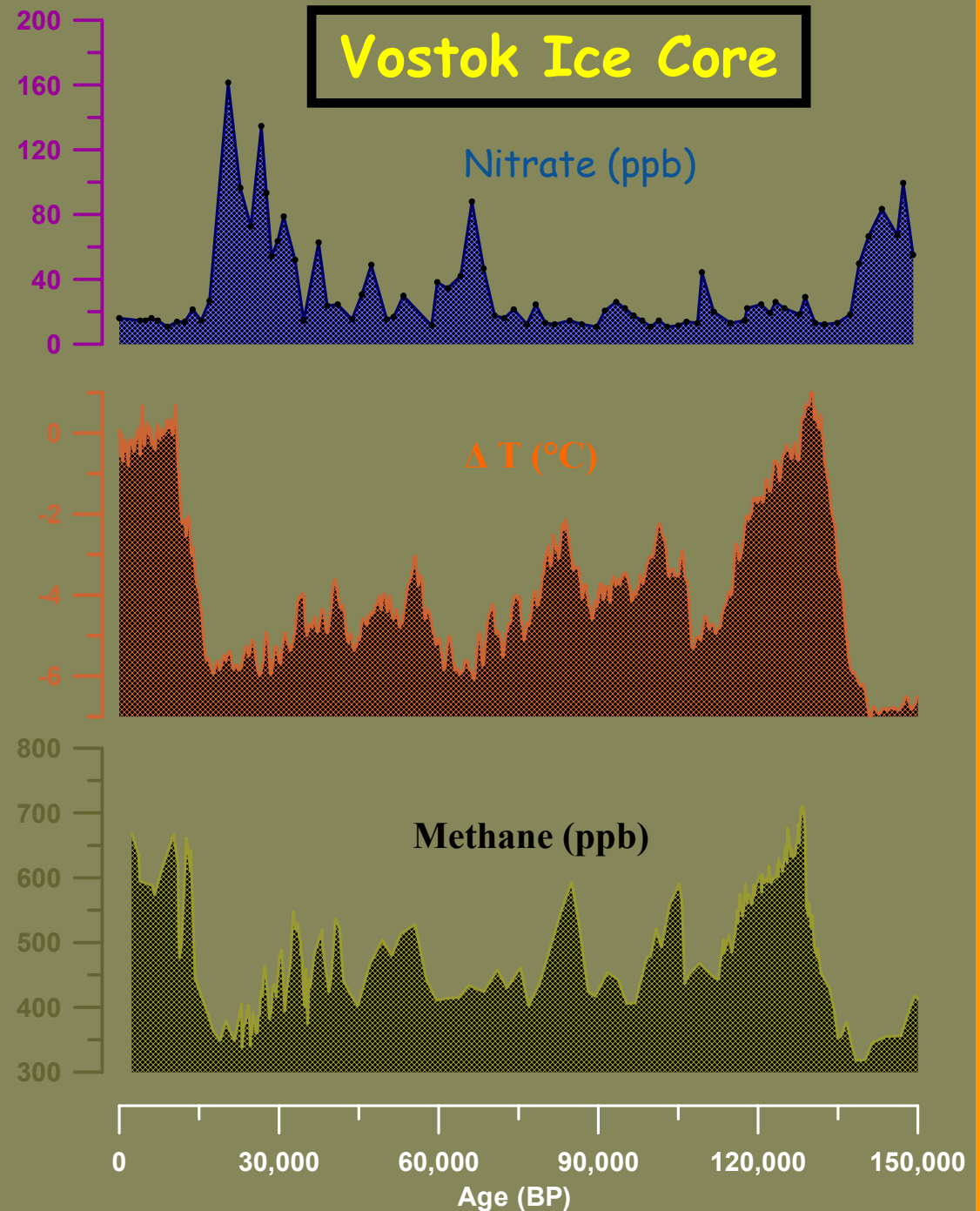
- Continent surrounded by oceans
- Far from pollution sources
- Strong seasonal variations (Temp, light)
- Antarctic Ice sheet → Ice core site

Extreme environment, strong contrast

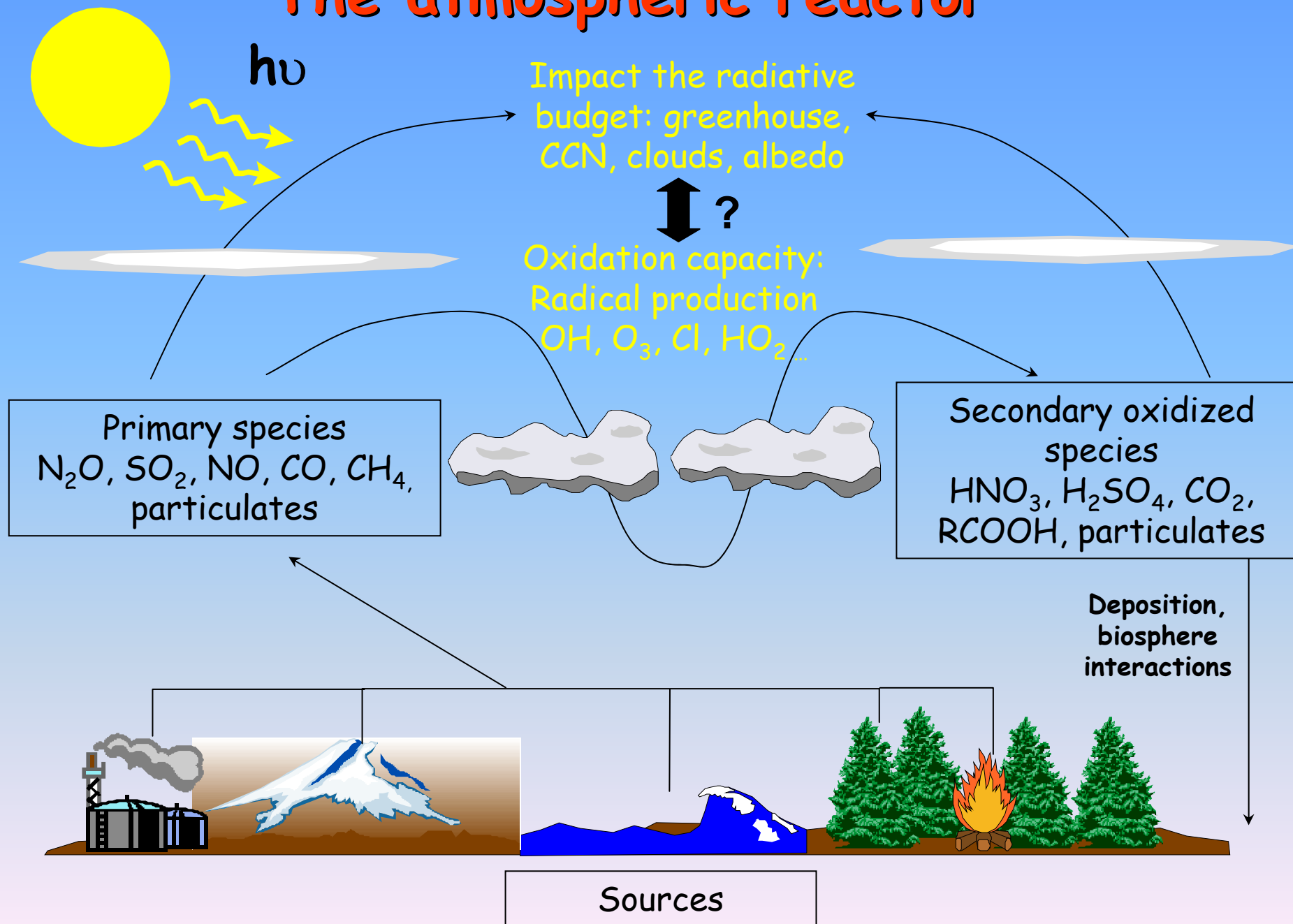
Unique and exceptional
paleoclimatic
information from Ice
Cores
(Temp., GHGs, Chem.)



... but unable to
connect chemistry and
climate because radical
chemistry missing



The atmospheric reactor



In the Earth's atmosphere
Oxidation = transfer of oxygen atoms



Stable oxygen isotopes as tracer of oxidation.
What is the best probe to study oxidation reaction?
pathways

Outlines

- Introduction: Stable isotopes, MDF, MIF
- The NO_x/NO_y Cycles and First ¹⁷O nitrate
- Isotope Anomaly Transfer O₃ → NO₂
- The Arctic Atmosphere
- The Antarctic Atmosphere

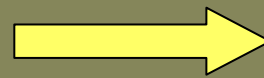
Oxygen Isotope Fractionation

- Three stable isotopes of oxygen: ^{16}O , ^{17}O , ^{18}O
- On Earth and The Moon, the bulk relative abundances are:

^{16}O : 99.759 %

^{17}O : 0.037 %

^{18}O : 0.204 %



2 ratios

$$\frac{^{17}\text{O}}{^{16}\text{O}} \quad \frac{^{18}\text{O}}{^{16}\text{O}}$$

- Diffusion, Phase Changes, Chemical Reactions, etc. act to alter the relative abundances - typically in the decimal places noted in red above: *"Isotope Effects"*

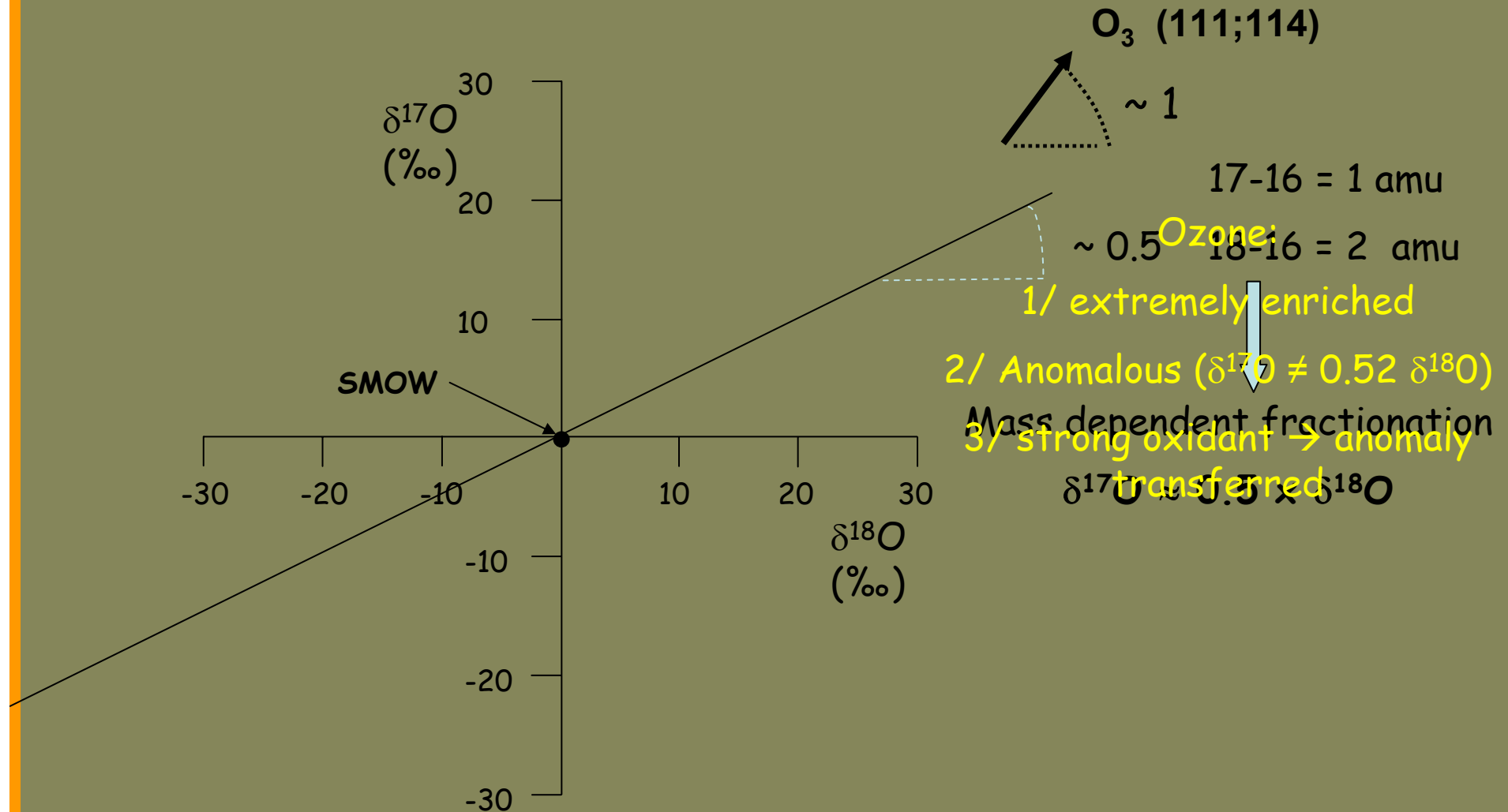
- Such small changes are measured **mass spectrometrically**:

$$\delta^{17}\text{O} = \left[\frac{(^{17}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{SAM}}}{(^{17}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{STD}}} - 1 \right]$$

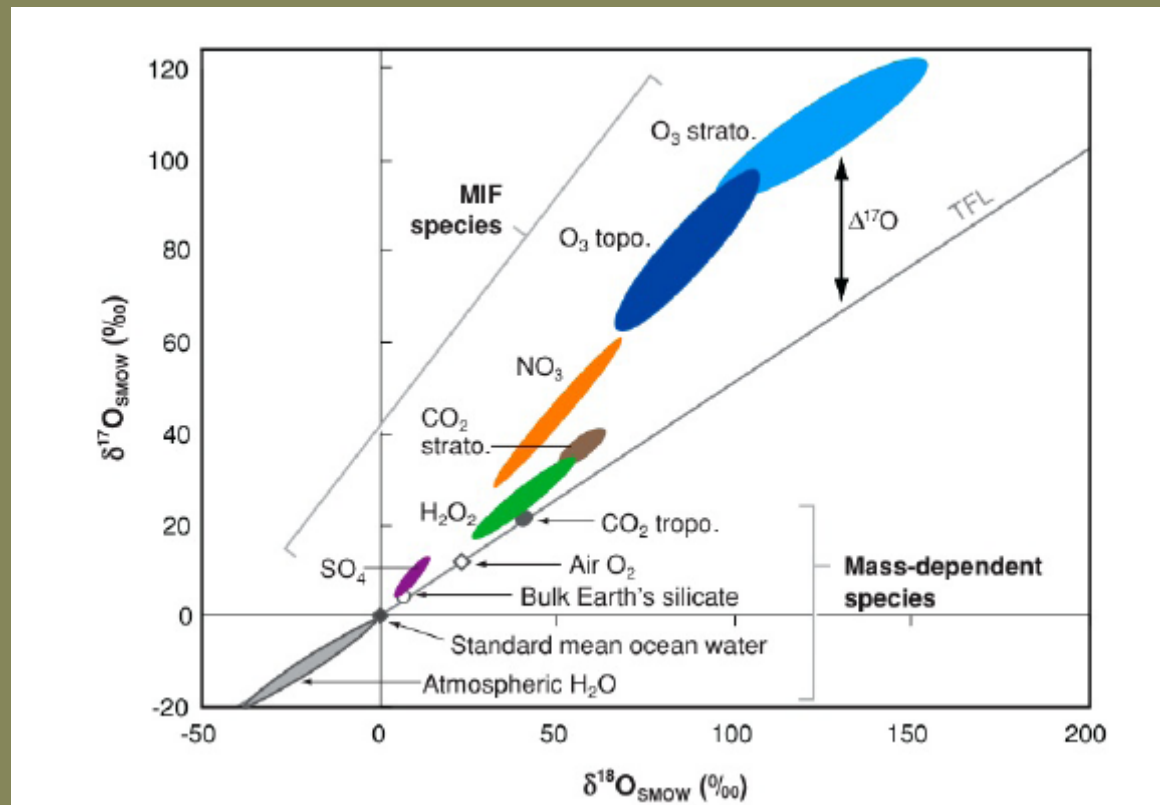
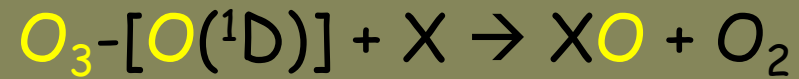
$$\delta^{18}\text{O} = \dots$$

*in parts per thousand
or "per mil" $\equiv \text{‰}$*

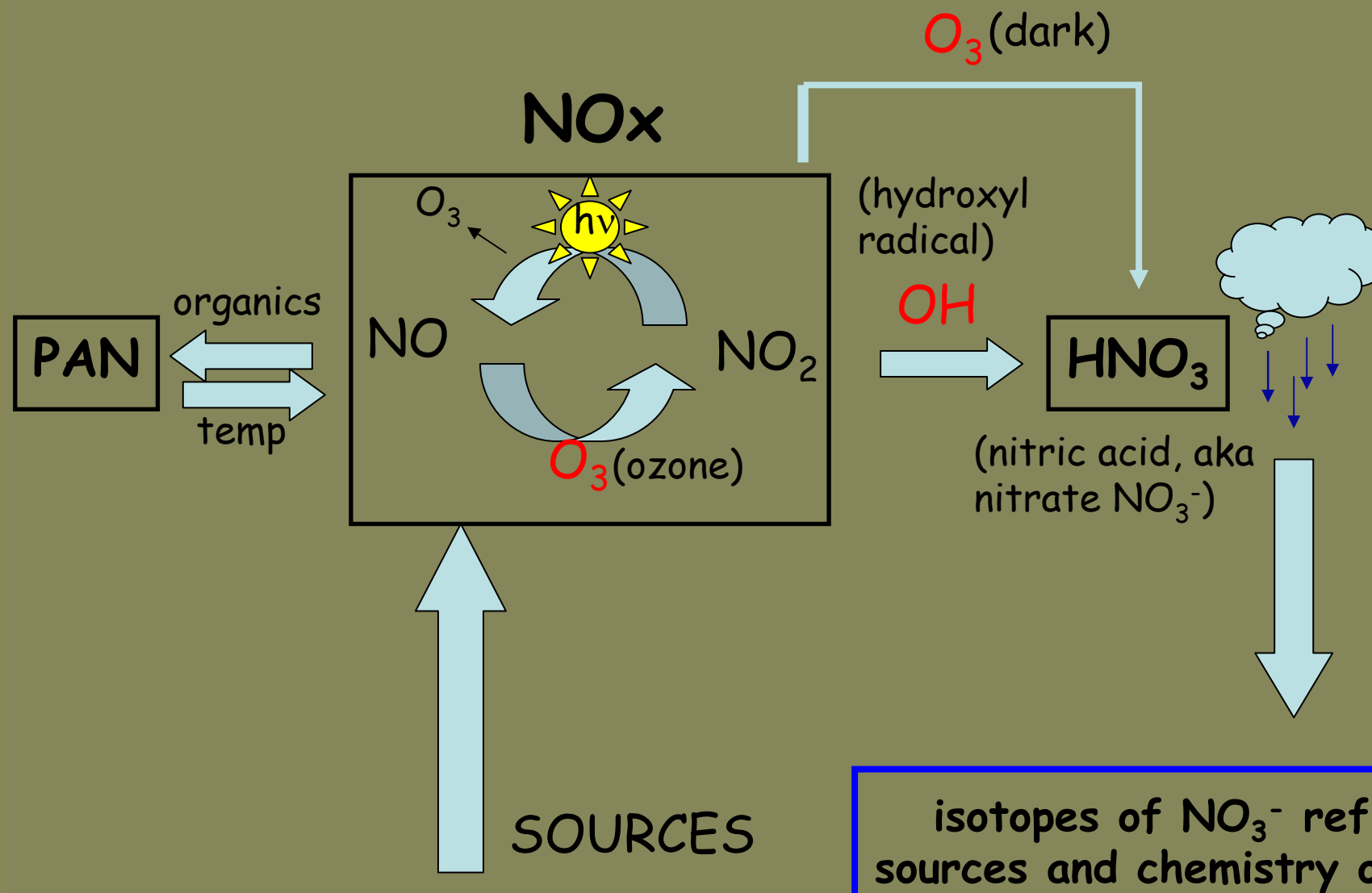
The Oxygen Isotopic Anomaly



Transfer of O_3 Isotopic Anomaly to Other Constituents

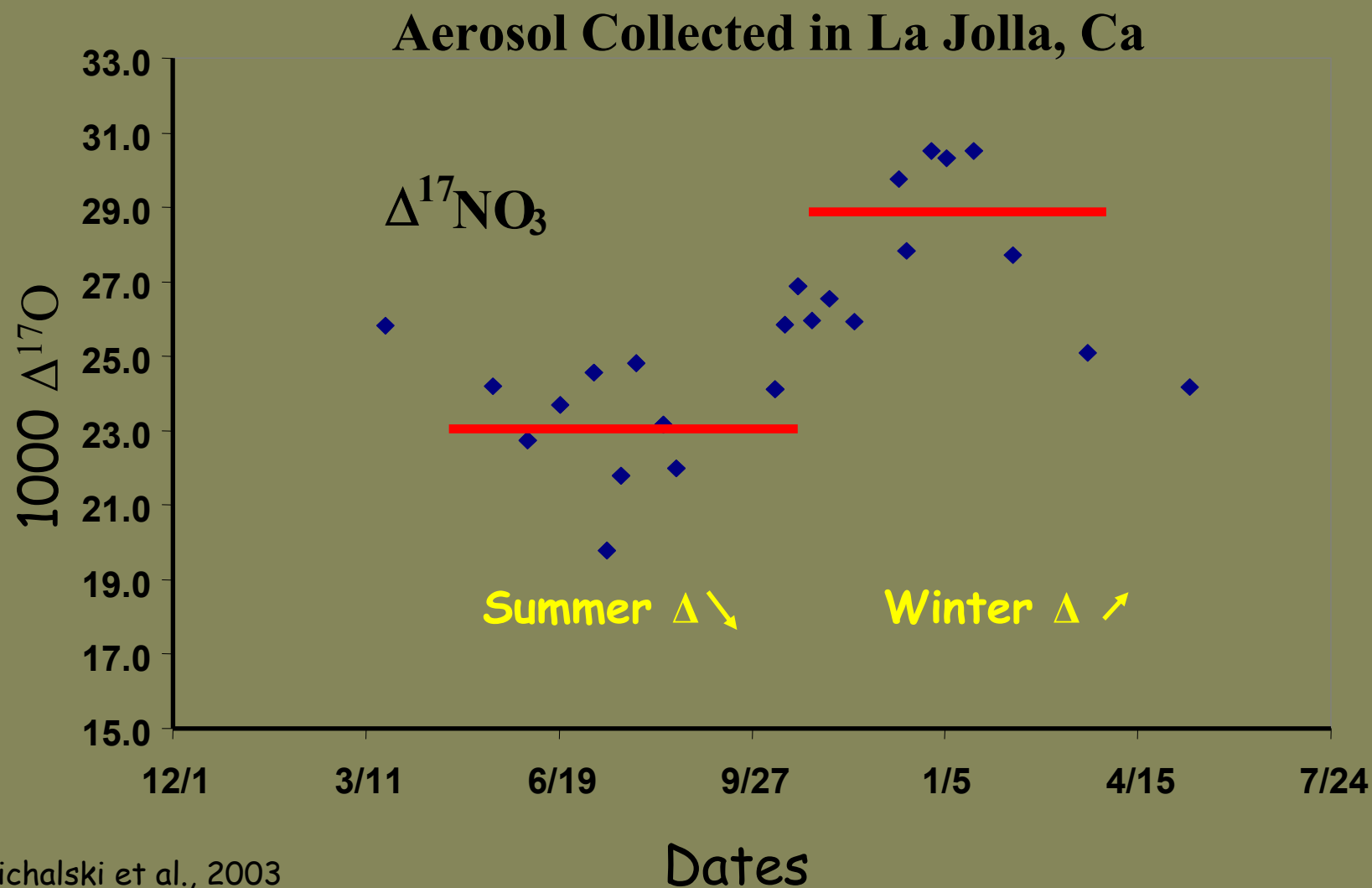


Nitrogen oxides = $\text{NO}_x = \text{NO} + \text{NO}_2$



Courtesy: M. Hastings

First Measurements and Observations

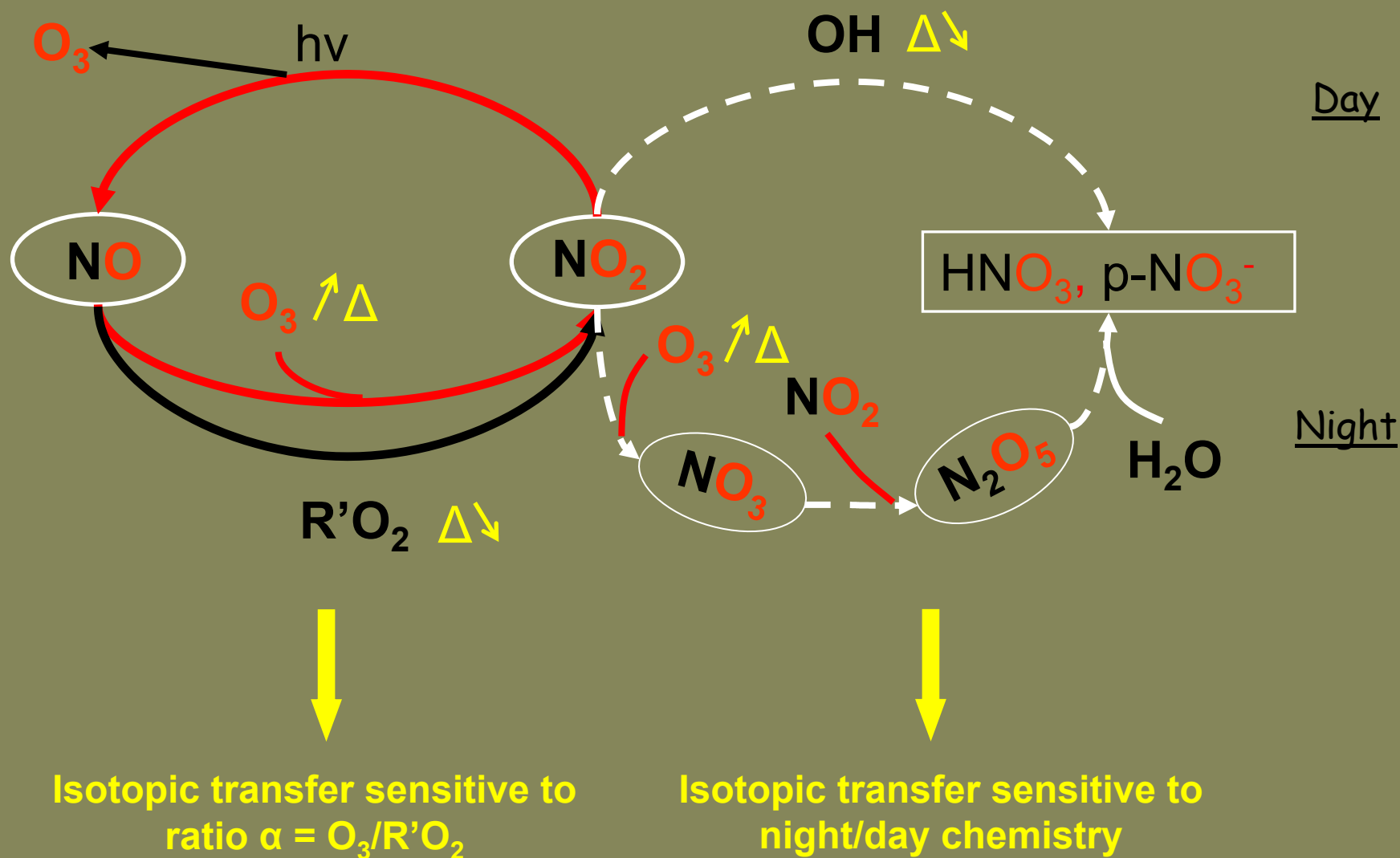


Michalski et al., 2003

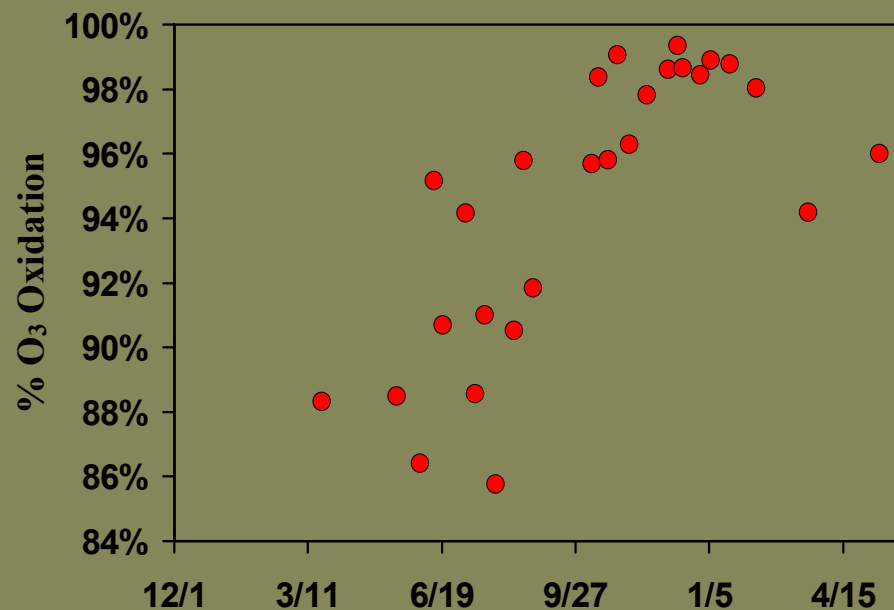
The Nitrate Oxidation Scheme

Precursor Photochemical Equilibrium

Termination reactions



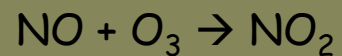
NO_x/O₃/HO_x Interactions



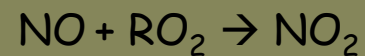
MBL model gives

$$\alpha = \frac{NO + O_3}{\sum NO_{oxidation}}$$

Hypothesis

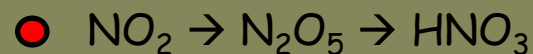
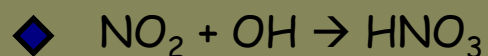
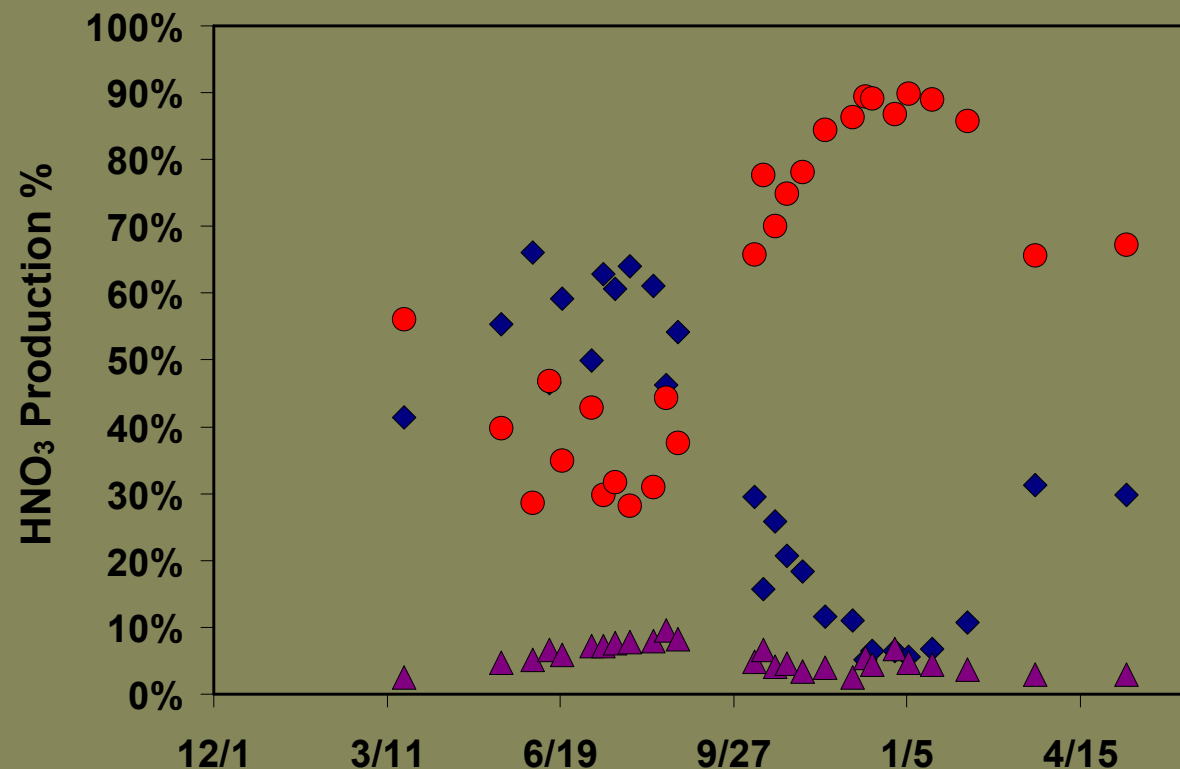


$$\Delta^{17}O(NO_2) = \Delta^{17}O_3$$



$$\Delta^{17}O(NO_2) = \Delta^{17}O(RO_2) = 0$$

Termination Reactions



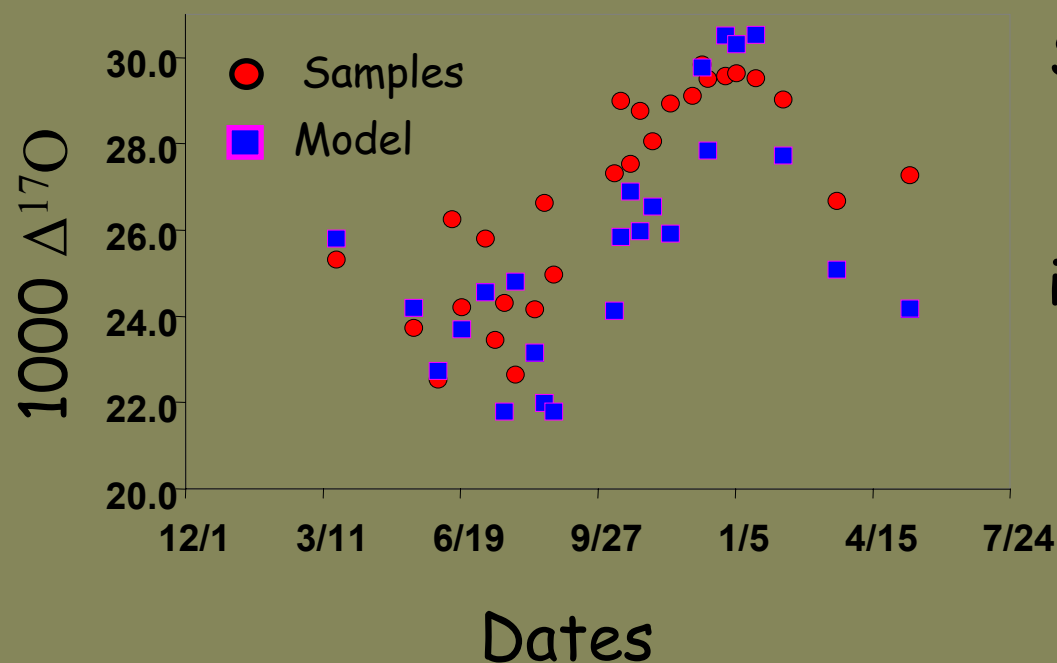
By simple consideration on the origin of the oxygen atom

$$\Delta^{17}\text{HNO}_3 = \frac{2}{3} \Delta^{17}\text{NO}_2$$

$$\Delta^{17}\text{HNO}_3 = \frac{2}{3} \Delta^{17}\text{NO}_2 + \frac{1}{6} \Delta^{17}\text{O}_3$$

$$\Delta^{17}\text{HNO}_3 = \frac{2}{3} \Delta^{17}\text{NO}_2 + \frac{1}{3} \Delta^{17}\text{O}_3$$

Model Results based on Polluted MBL:



Samples well modeled but using a ozone anomaly of 35 ‰ while is only 25‰ in the troposphere and on unverified assumptions notably the anomaly transfer

$$\Delta^{17}\text{O}(\text{NO}_2) = \Delta^{17}\text{O}(\text{O}_3)$$

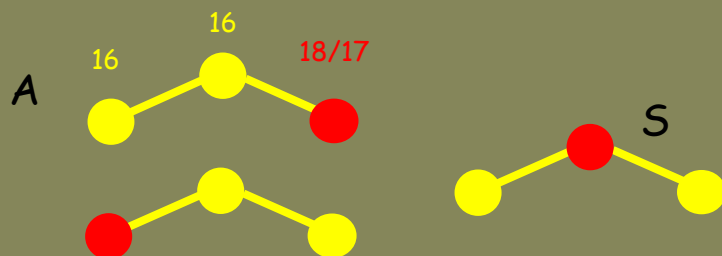
We have studied the $\text{NO} + \text{O}_3$ isotope transfer in laboratory



To Predict
isotopic transfer



Intramolecular
distribution of O_3

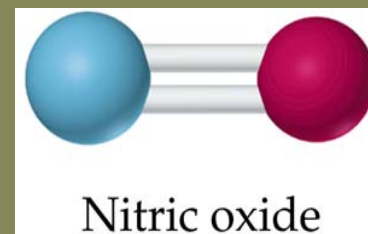


Atom abstracted
by NO





Lab Set Up



- Ozone made by electrical discharge, by varying P & T → control isotopic anomaly
- NO of known isotope composition is mixed with O_3 in a 10 l dark cell at stoichiometry quantity
- Products NO_2 and O_2 are collected & analyzed for O isotopes

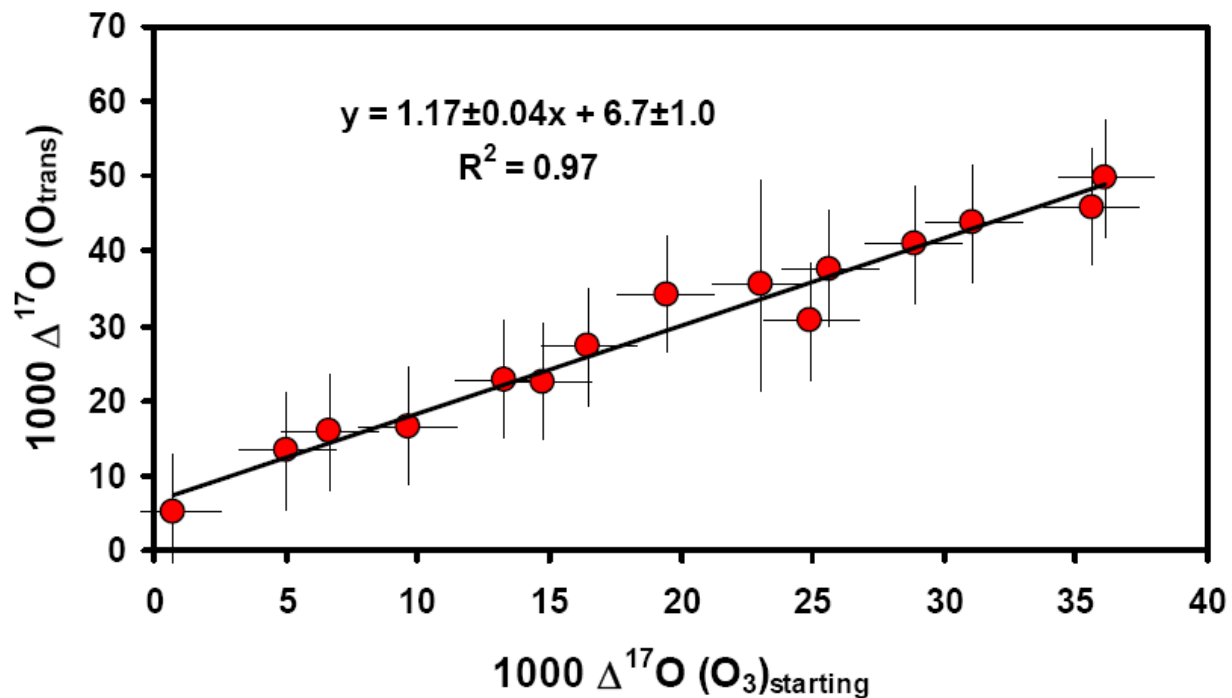


Knowing isotope composition
of reactants and products

→ anomaly transfer

→ mechanism of reaction

Macroscopic view: Anomaly Transfer from O_3 to NO_2



$$\Delta^{17}O(NO_2) = 1.17 \Delta^{17}O(O_3) + 6.7$$

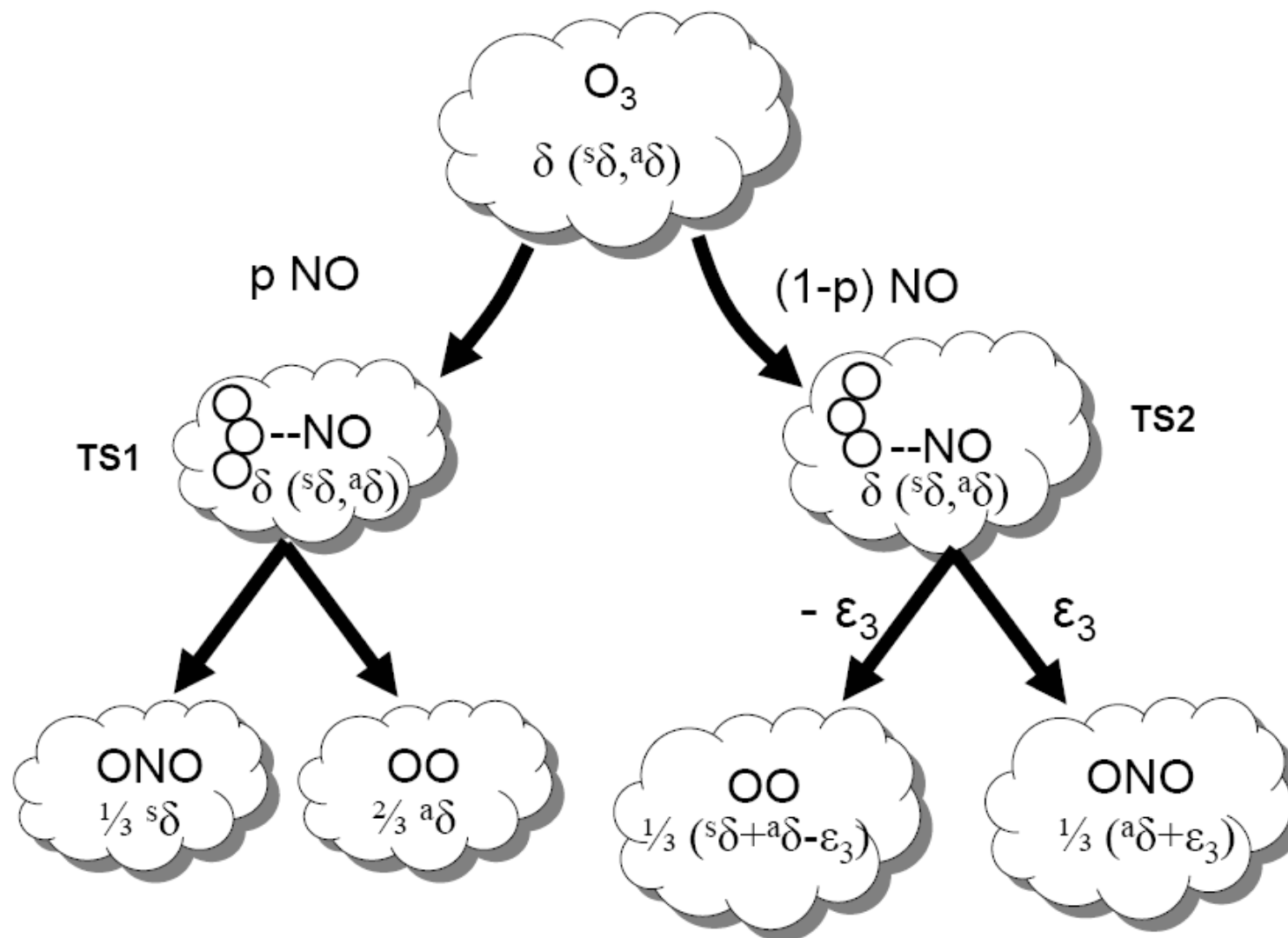
Michalski

$$\Delta^{17}O(NO_2) = \Delta^{17}O(O_3) = 35 \text{ ‰}$$

Our result using $\Delta^{17}O(O_3) = 25 \text{ ‰}$

$$\Delta^{17}O(NO_2) = 36 \text{ ‰}$$

Microscopic view: Mechanism

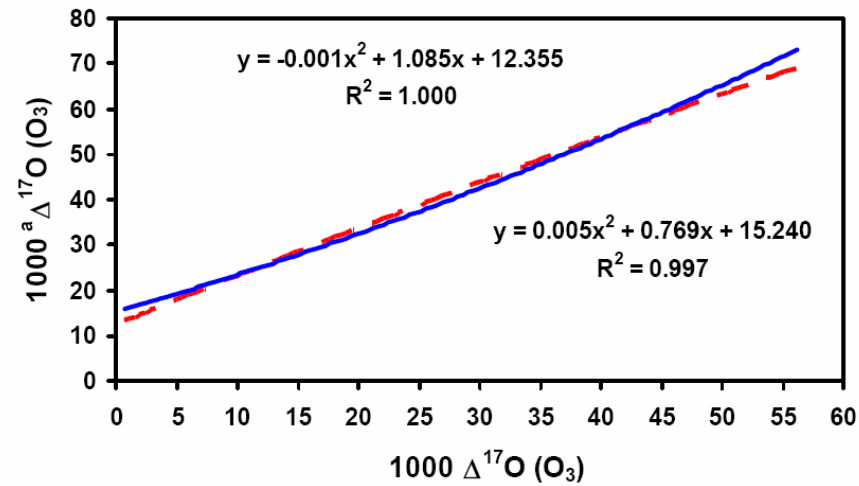


$$\Delta^{17}\text{O}(\text{O}_{\text{trans}}) = p \, s\Delta^{17}\text{O}(s\text{O}_3) + (1-p) \, a\Delta^{17}\text{O}(a\text{O}_3)$$

With p : probability to react with central atom

Three unknowns but only two are independents:

$$p, (s\Delta^{17}\text{O}, a\Delta^{17}\text{O})$$

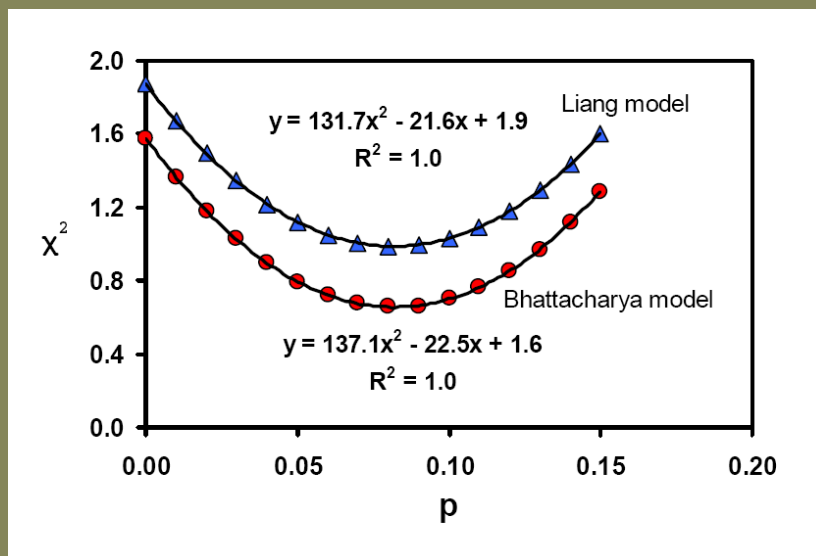


Connect bulk $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$
with $a\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ & $s\Delta^{17}\text{O}$

Models of internal ozone isotope distribution

(Bhattacharya et al, 2008, Liang et al, 2006)

Statistical treatment



$$p = 8 \pm 5 \%$$

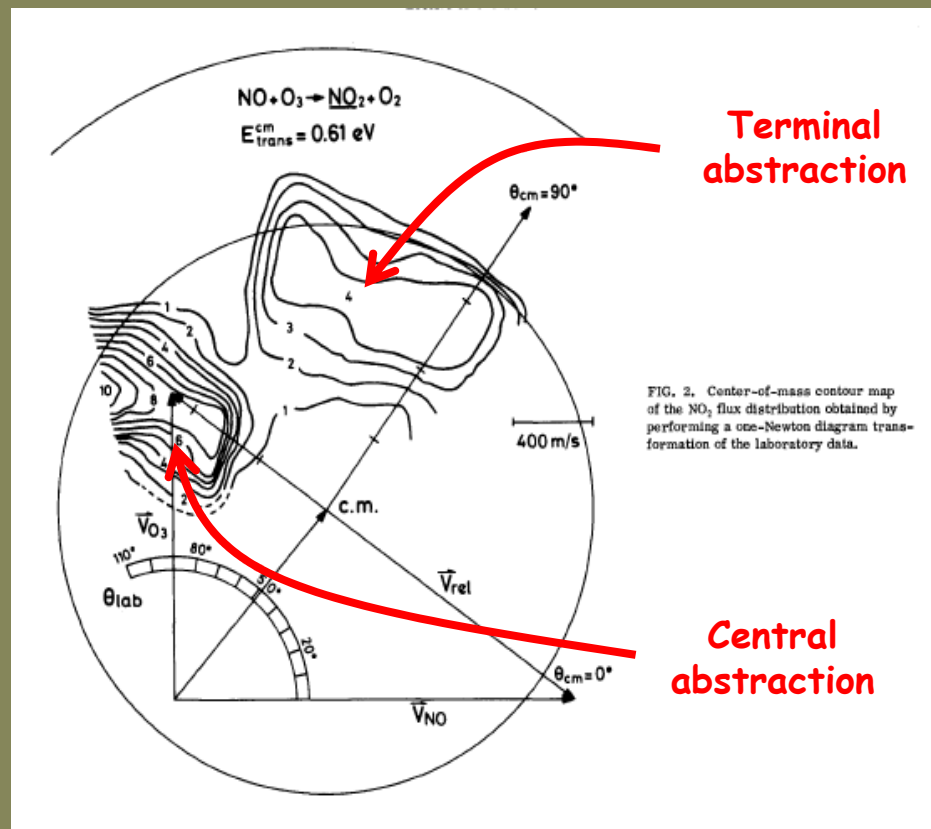
Central atom takes
part in the reaction
!!!

Supported by:

- the non-Arrhenius behavior of the kinetic rate reaction → two step mechanisms
- Molecular beam reactions showing two preferential scattering angles for products

Molecular Beam Scattering Experiment

(van den Ende et al., 1982)

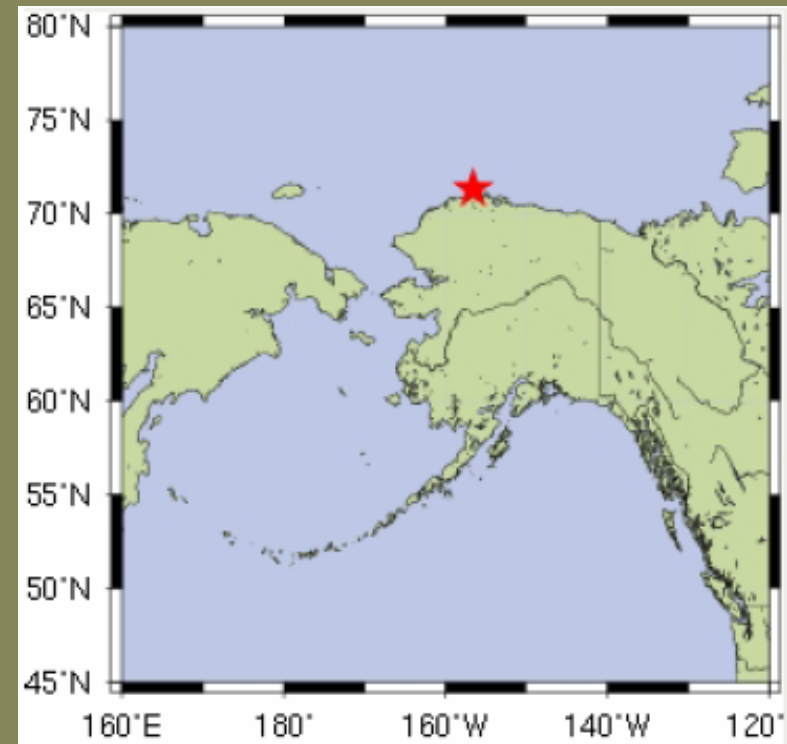


Quote "... the NO molecule with "head" orientation strikes in a central collision (...) abstracts the central O atom to form NO_2 and recoils backwards.

In a second configuration, ..., the NO molecule strikes in a broad side tail orientation, ..., abstracts an end-O-atom and recoil sideways

No branching ratio given !!!!!

Sampling Sites



Total inorganic nitrate
aerosols collected on
glass fiber filter

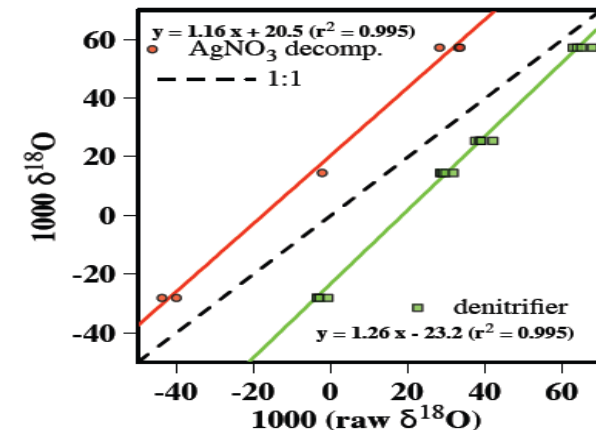
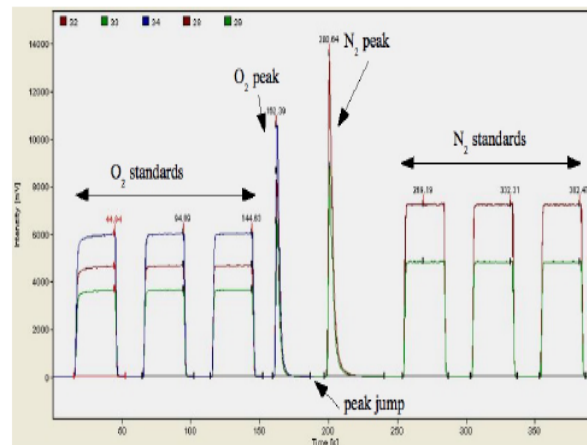
Analytical procedure

Based on the denitrifier method (Sigman, Caciotti, Kaiser)

100 nmol of nitrate + 10 ml of denitrifying bacteria solution

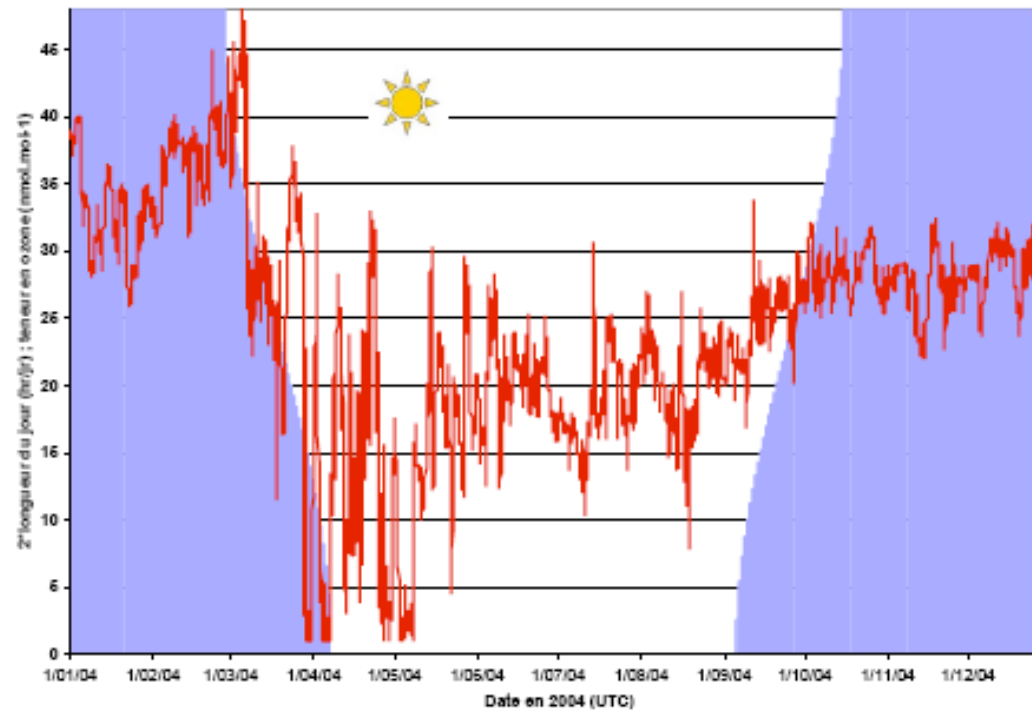
Flushed with He to Au catalyst ← Produce N_2O ←
Produce $\text{N}_2 + \text{O}_2$ → To MS: $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, $\delta^{17}\text{O}$, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$

Not quantitative → calibration



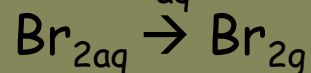
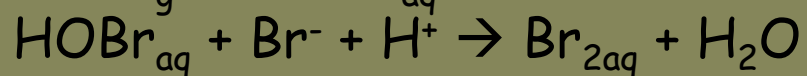
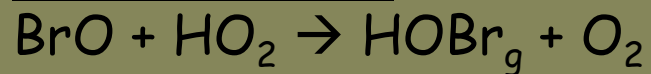
Ozone Depletion Events (ODEs)

High Arctic, at polar sunrise → destruction of surface ozone

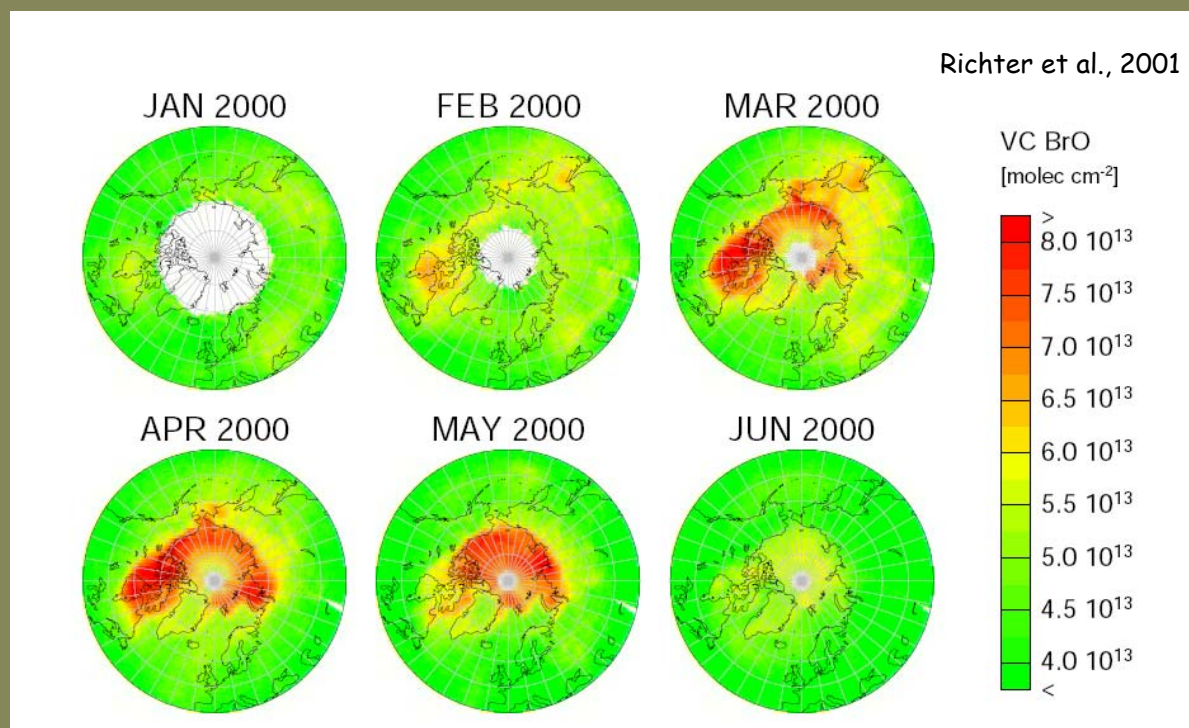
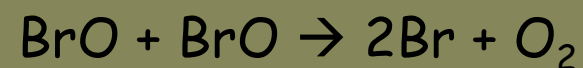
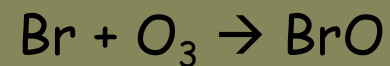


"Bromine explosion"

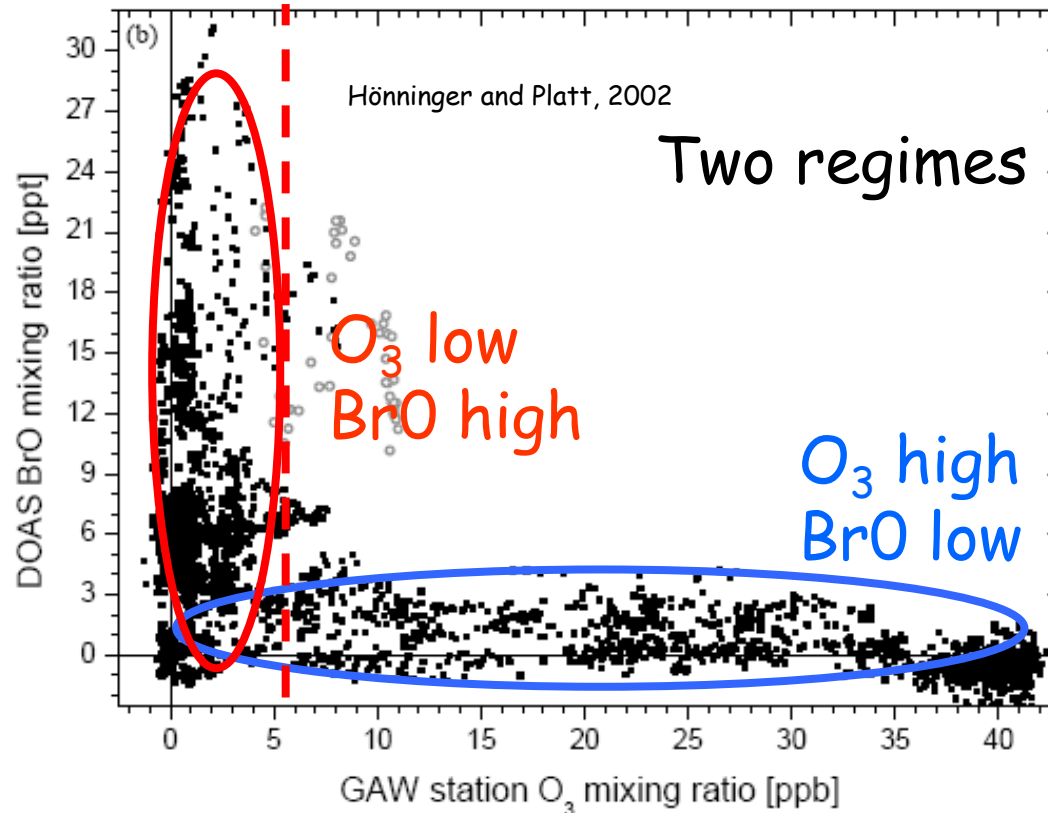
Bromine source



Catalytic destruction

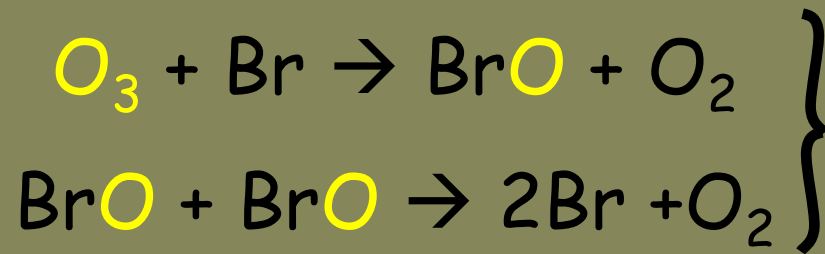


BrO/O₃ Relationship



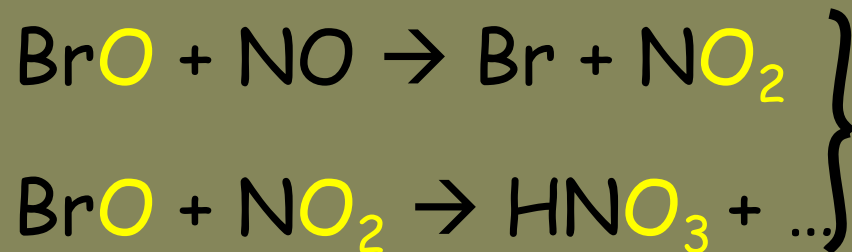
Ozone and BrO cannot coexist
both at high concentration

Sea salt chemistry



Effect 1: Destroy O_3 , $\Delta \downarrow$

But

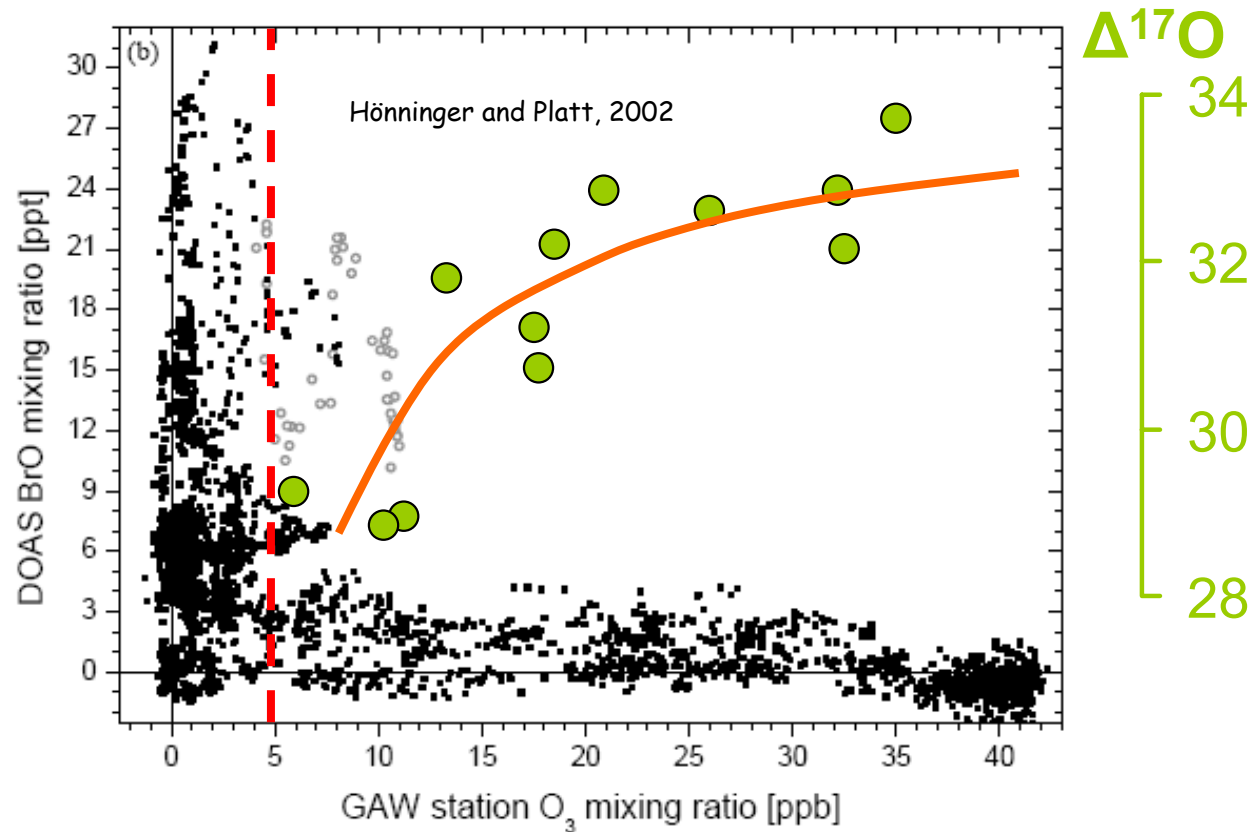


Effect 2: Transfer $\Delta \uparrow$



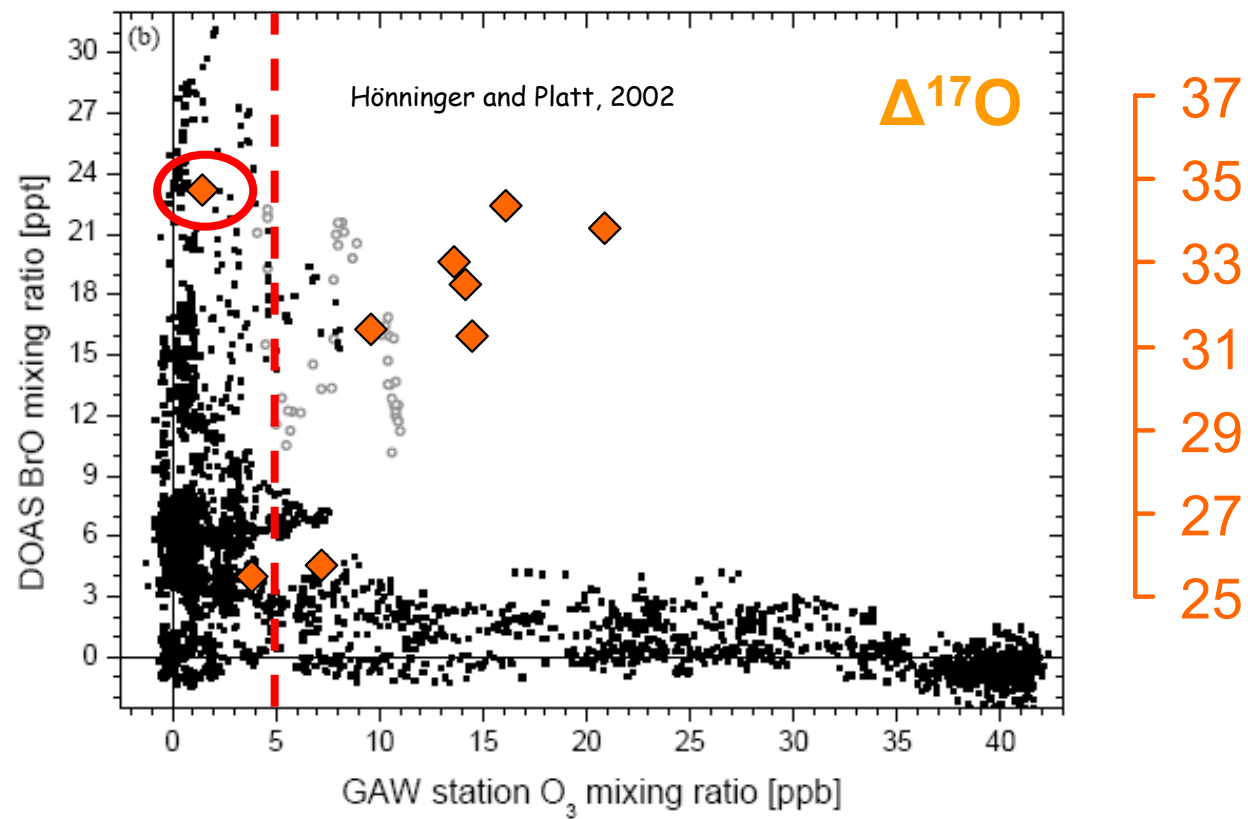
Bromine : 2 opposing effects

OOTI 2004 - Alert, Canada



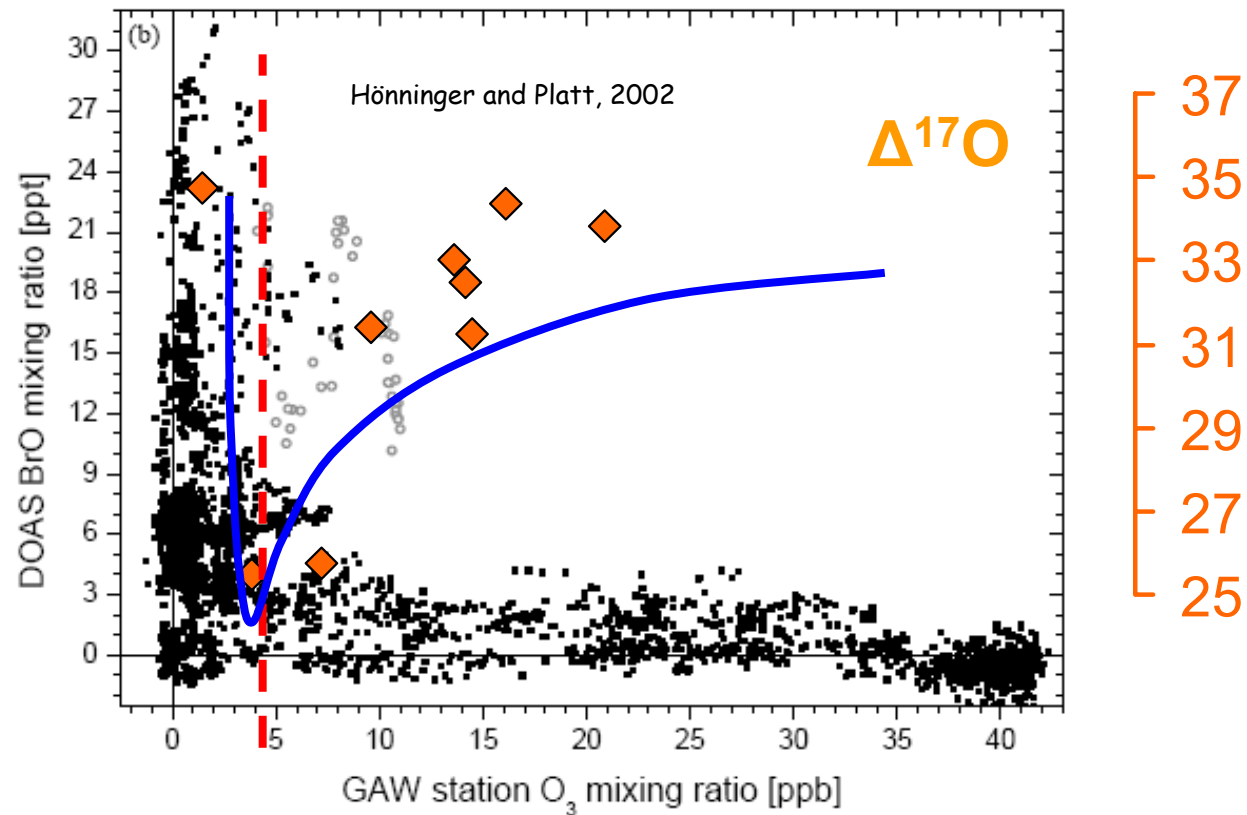
$$\Delta^{17}O_{NO_3^-} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\Delta^{17}O_{NO-O_3} k_{NO+O_3} [O_3]}{k_{NO+O_3} [O_3] + k_{NO+HO_2} [HO_2]} + cst$$

IOANA 2005 - Barrow, Alaska



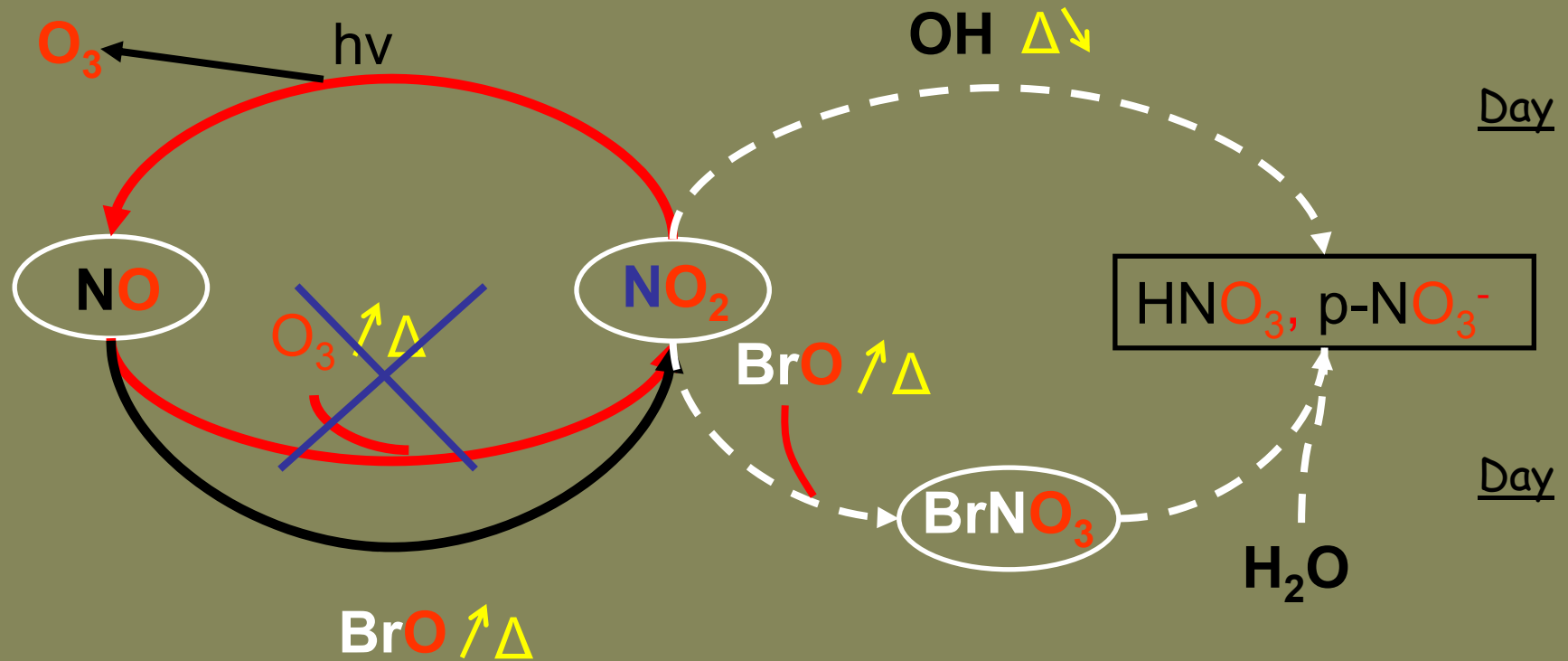
Indicates a change in the way nitrate is formed

IOANA 2005 - Barrow, Alaska



$$\Delta^{17}\text{O}_{\text{NO}_3^-} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\Delta^{17}\text{O}_{\text{NO}-\text{O}_3} k_{\text{NO}+\text{O}_3} [\text{O}_3] + \Delta^{17}\text{O}_{\text{NO}-\text{BrO}} k_{\text{NO}+\text{BrO}} [\text{BrO}]}{k_{\text{NO}+\text{O}_3} [\text{O}_3] + k_{\text{NO}+\text{HO}_2} [\text{HO}_2] + k_{\text{NO}+\text{BrO}} [\text{BrO}]} + \text{cst}$$

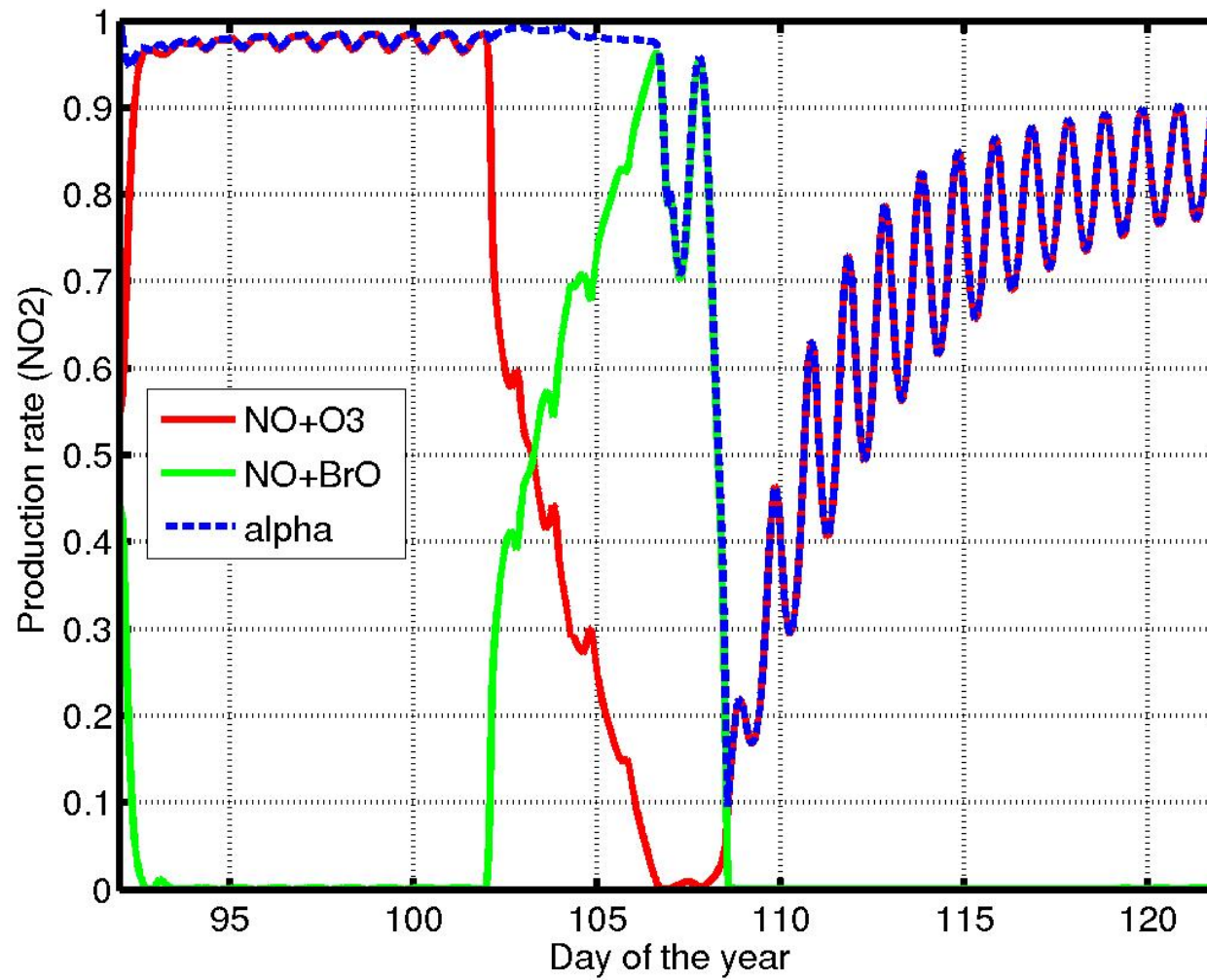
Strong ODE chemistry

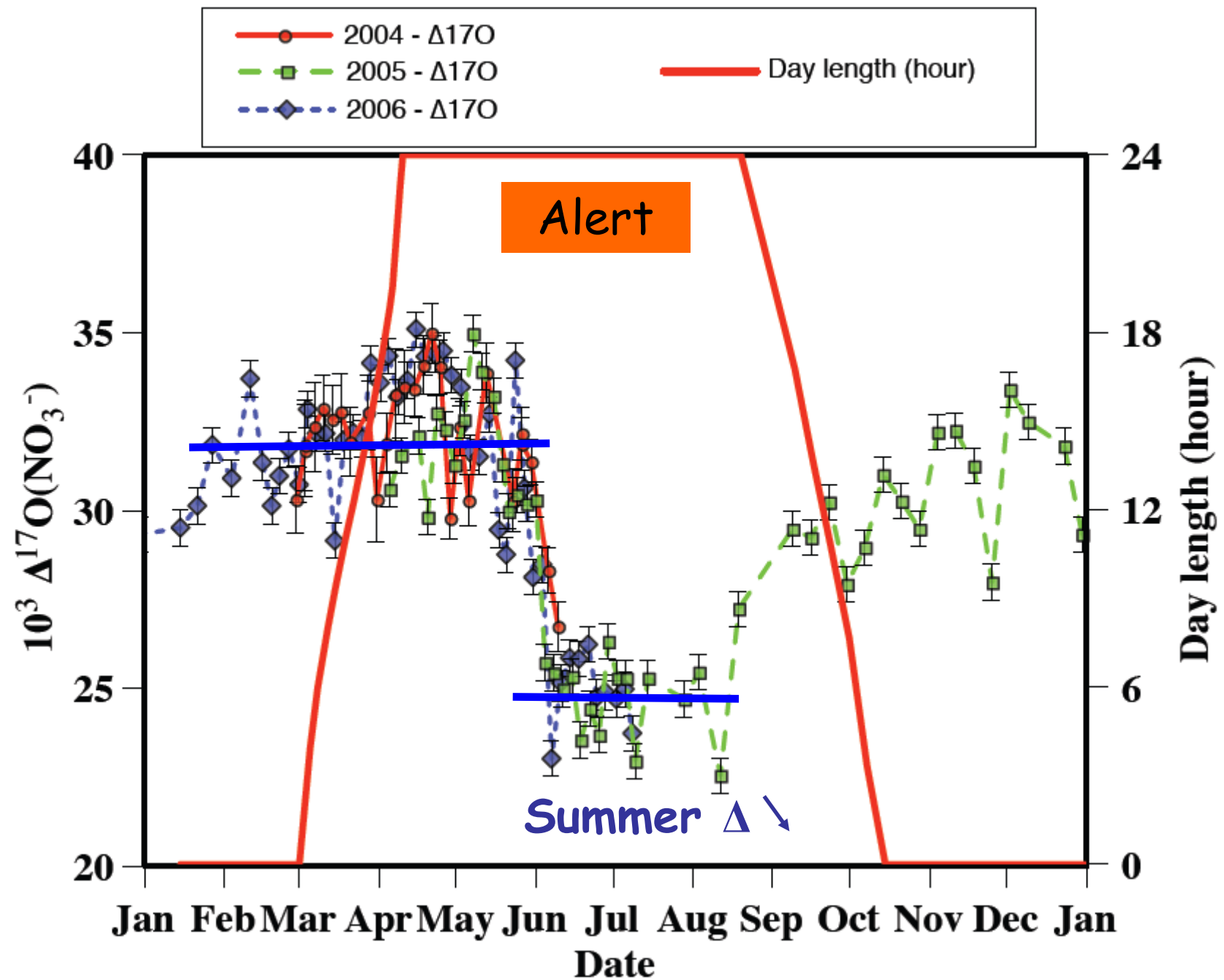


BrO replaces O_3 in oxidizing NO

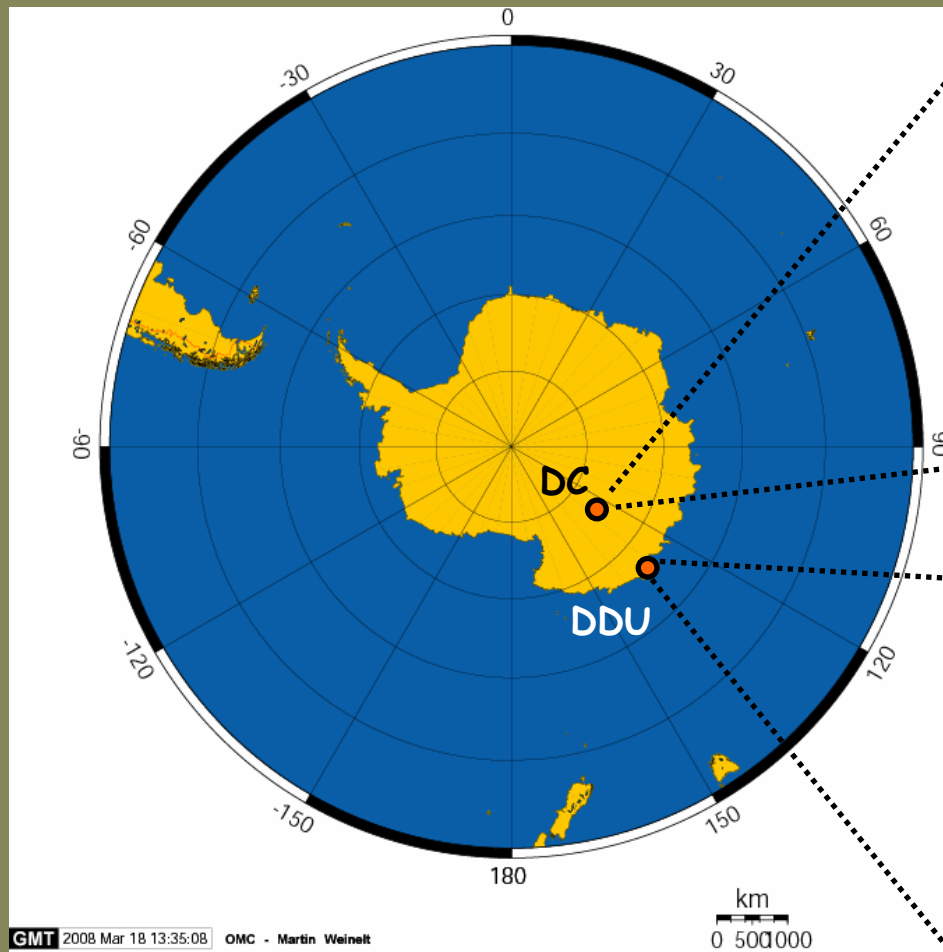
BrNO₃ branch 100 times faster than OH branch

Box model ODE

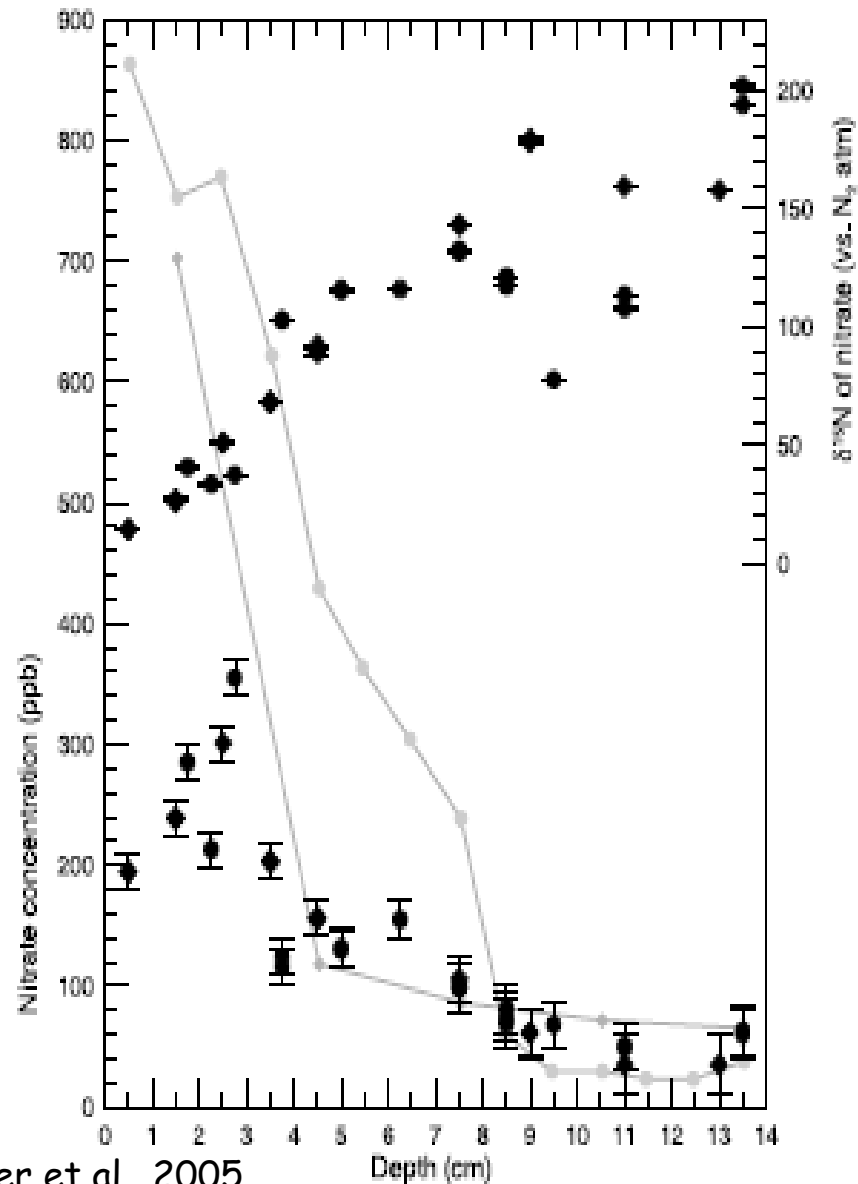




The Antarctic Environment



^{15}N Snow surface DC



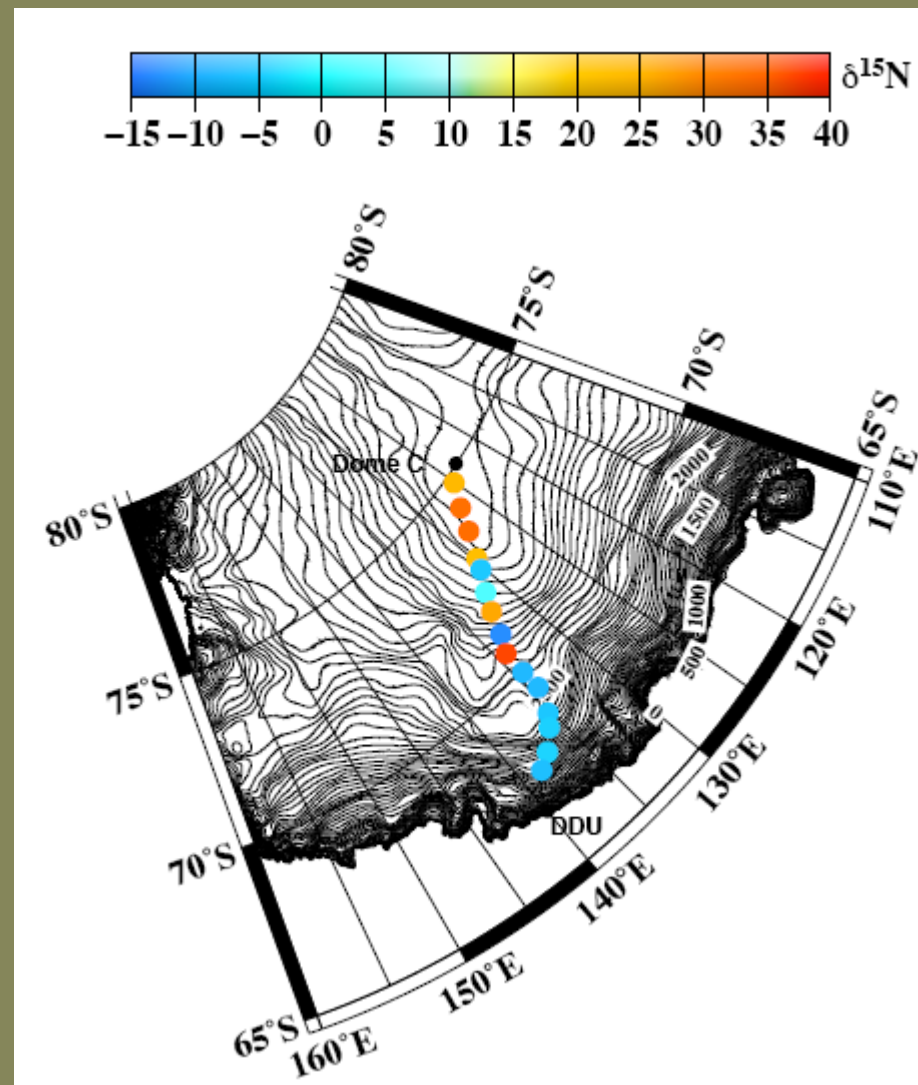
Blunier et al., 2005

Strong post
depositional effects

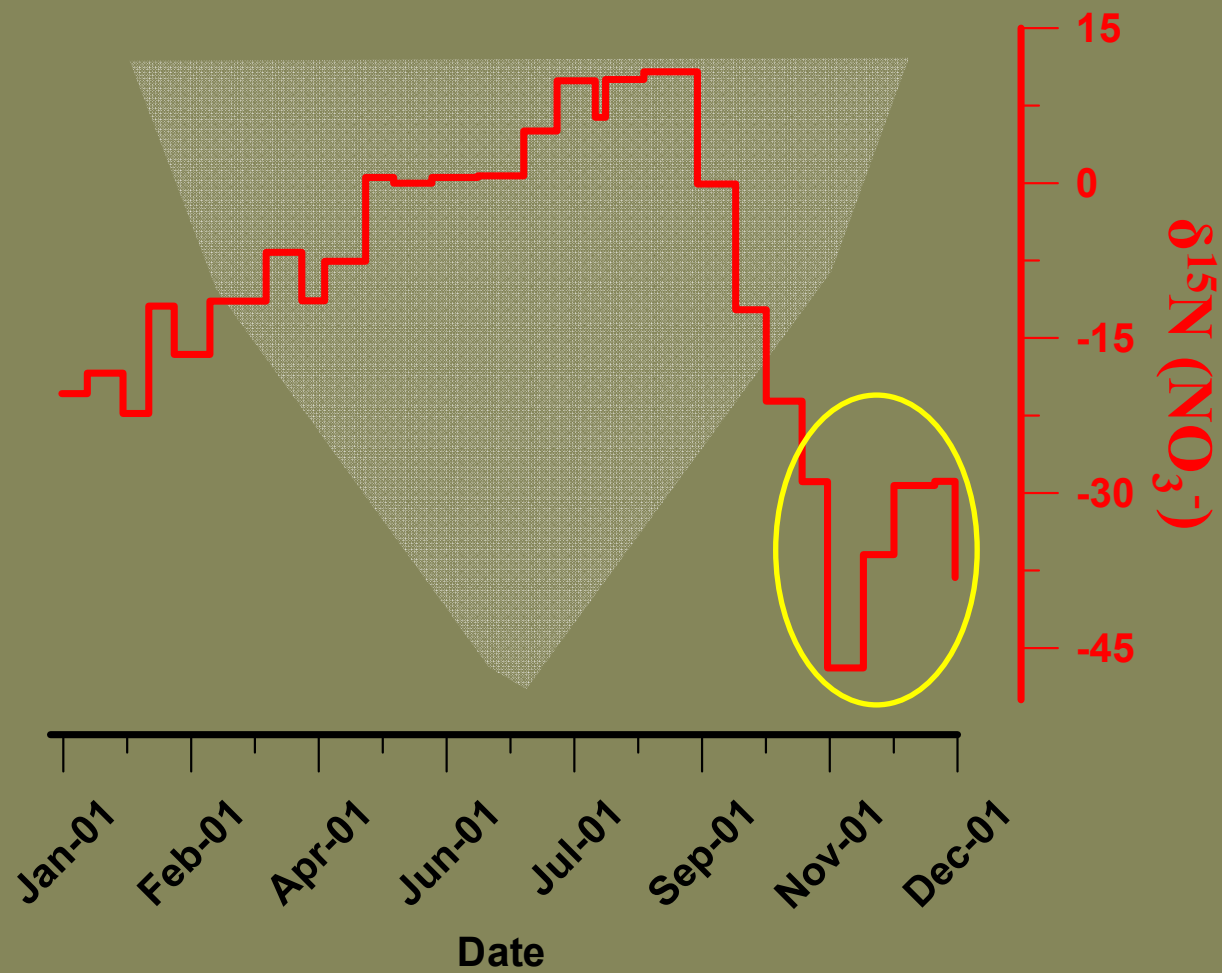
- 95% of NO_3^- lost
- ^{15}N jumps for 0 to 200 ‰



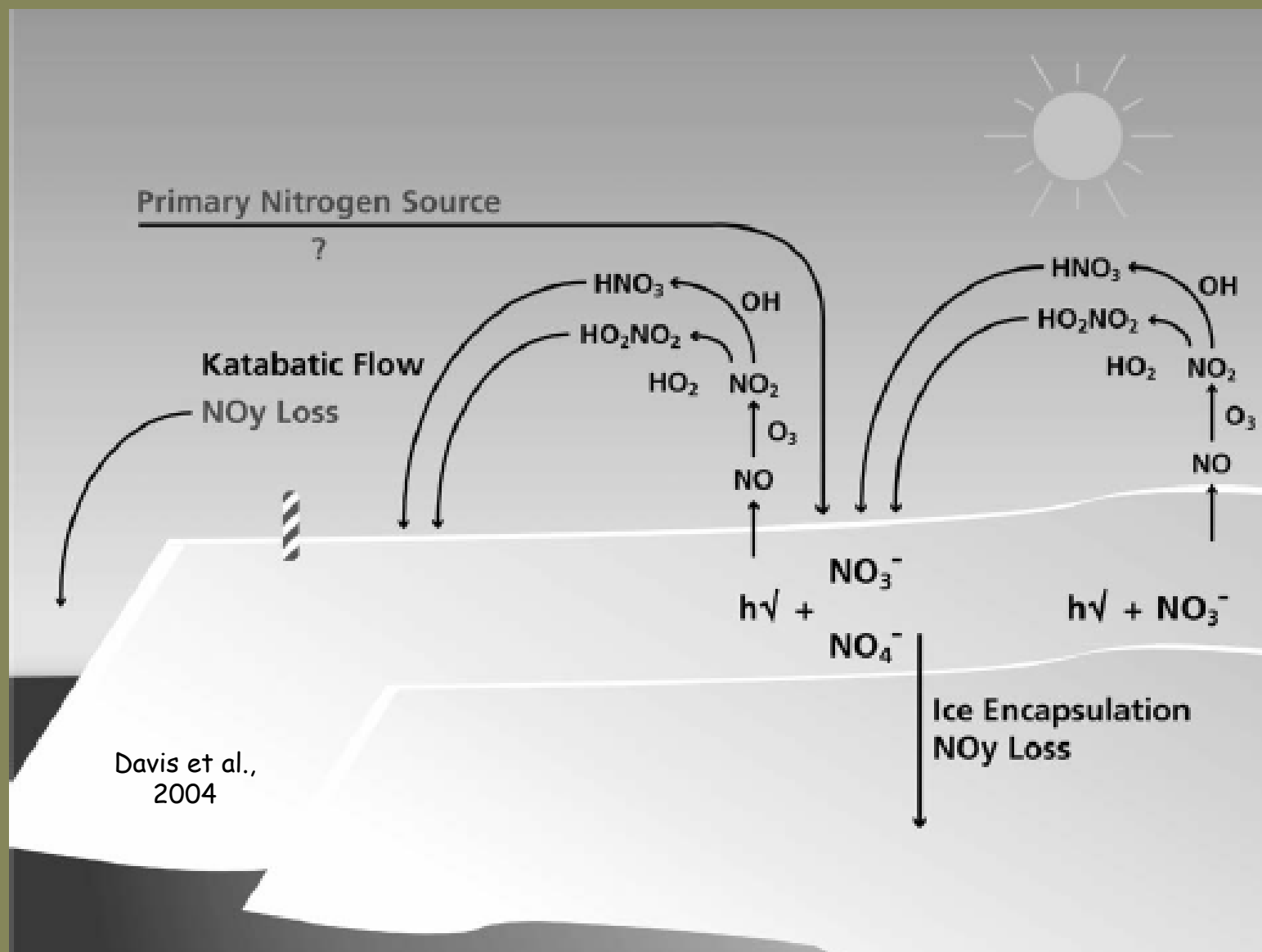
^{15}N DDU-DC Traverse



^{15}N of nitrate aerosol at DDU



Nitrogen budget schematic and the recycling of reactive nitrogen on the Antarctic plateau



Conclusions

- Oxygen isotopic anomalies (excess ^{17}O) are very sensitive to oxidation processes
- Not only sensitive to the isotopic composition but also to radical concentrations
- May be used in the future as a marker of the OCA of paleo atmospheres

Acknowledgements

Funding agencies



CEFIPRA | IFCPAR

Collaborators

M. Thiemens

S. Morin

M. Frey

J. McCabe

J. Kaiser

S. Battacharya

J-F Doussin

Thank you for your attention ...