

## SO<sub>2</sub> emissions and lifetimes: Estimates from inverse modeling using in situ and global, space-based (SCIAMACHY and OMI) observations

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[1] Top-down constraints on global sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions are inferred through inverse modeling using SO<sub>2</sub> column observations from two satellite instruments (SCIAMACHY and OMI). We first evaluated the SO<sub>2</sub> column observations with surface SO<sub>2</sub> measurements by applying local scaling factors from a global chemical transport model (GEOS-Chem) to SO<sub>2</sub> columns retrieved from the satellite instruments. The resulting annual mean surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios for 2006 exhibit a significant spatial correlation ( $r = 0.86$ , slope = 0.91 for SCIAMACHY and  $r = 0.80$ , slope = 0.79 for OMI) with coincident in situ measurements from monitoring networks throughout the United States and Canada. We evaluate the GEOS-Chem simulation of the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime with that inferred from in situ measurements to verify the applicability of GEOS-Chem for inversion of SO<sub>2</sub> columns to emissions. The seasonal mean SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime calculated with the GEOS-Chem model over the eastern United States is 13 h in summer and 48 h in winter, compared to lifetimes inferred from in situ measurements of  $19 \pm 7$  h in summer and  $58 \pm 20$  h in winter. We apply SO<sub>2</sub> columns from SCIAMACHY and OMI to derive a top-down anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emission inventory over land by using the local GEOS-Chem relationship between SO<sub>2</sub> columns and emissions. There is little seasonal variation in the top-down emissions (<15%) over most major industrial regions providing some confidence in the method. Our global estimate for annual land surface anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions ( $52.4 \text{ Tg S yr}^{-1}$  from SCIAMACHY and  $49.9 \text{ Tg S yr}^{-1}$  from OMI) closely agrees with the bottom-up emissions ( $54.6 \text{ Tg S yr}^{-1}$ ) in the GEOS-Chem model and exhibits consistency in global distributions with the bottom-up emissions ( $r = 0.78$  for SCIAMACHY, and  $r = 0.77$  for OMI). However, there are significant regional differences.

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### 1. Introduction

[2] Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from anthropogenic and natural sources are oxidized quickly in the atmosphere, leading to aerosol formation and acid deposition. Sulfate aerosols have highly uncertain effects on climate [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2007; U.S. Climate Change Science Program, 2009], are deleterious to human health [Katsouyanni *et al.*, 1997], and degrade visibility [Leaderer *et al.*, 1979]. Assessments of the implications of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions usually are based on “bottom-up” inventories as estimated by using geographical and statistical data to extrapolate measurements of emission factors, typically available only on a sparse spatial and temporal network and subject to uncertainty. Moreover, bottom-up SO<sub>2</sub> emission inventories for a specific year quickly become outdated in a rapidly industrializing economy or through sulfur-reducing policy. Emissions moni-

toring is a fundamental component to a successful emissions reduction program [Schakenbach *et al.*, 2006]. “Top-down” constraints on SO<sub>2</sub> emissions through inverse modeling of satellite observations could provide valuable data to inform emission inventory development and evaluation.

[3] Inverse modeling has become a standard tool for combining observations of atmospheric composition with knowledge of atmospheric processes (transport, chemistry) to derive quantitative constraints on emissions to the atmosphere [e.g., Müller and Stavrou, 2005; Henze *et al.*, 2007; Kopacz *et al.*, 2009]. It is implicitly assumed that the relationship between surface fluxes and atmospheric abundances is reasonably well predicted by the model, so that the biases between the model and the data are mostly due to errors in the emission inventories. Space-based observations of atmospheric trace gases have been used to provide top-down constraints on emissions including nitrogen oxides [e.g., Leue *et al.*, 2001; Martin *et al.*, 2003a; Jaeglé *et al.*, 2004; Müller and Stavrou, 2005], CO [e.g., Arellano *et al.*, 2004; Heald *et al.*, 2004; Pétron *et al.*, 2004; Kopacz *et al.*, 2009], and VOCs [e.g., Palmer *et al.*, 2003; Fu *et al.*, 2007; Millet *et al.*, 2008]. To date, most top-down constraints on SO<sub>2</sub> emissions have focused on active volcanoes [e.g., Carn *et al.*, 2005]. Top-down constraints of anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are challenging in part due to the greater confidence in SO<sub>2</sub> emissions than other species [Smith *et al.*, 2010]. However, there is a growing interest in the application of satellite SO<sub>2</sub> data for insight into anthropogenic emissions [e.g., Carn *et al.*, 2007; Georgoulias *et al.*, 2009; Li *et al.*, 2010].

[4] An important consideration is the quality of SO<sub>2</sub> observations and their relationship with surface sources. SO<sub>2</sub> retrievals have developed markedly over the last decade using spectroscopic data available from a new generation of satellite spectrometers such as the Global Ozone Monitoring Experiment (GOME) [e.g., Eisinger and Burrows, 1998; Khokhar *et al.*, 2005; Thomas *et al.*, 2005], Scanning Imaging Absorption Spectrometer for Atmospheric Cartography (SCIAMACHY) [e.g., Afe *et al.*, 2004; Richter *et al.*, 2006; Lee *et al.*, 2008], Ozone Measurement Instrument (OMI) [e.g., Krotkov *et al.*, 2006, 2008; Carn *et al.*, 2007; Yang *et al.*, 2007], and Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS) [e.g., Carn *et al.*, 2005]. Satellite retrievals of SO<sub>2</sub> columns have been evaluated with in situ SO<sub>2</sub> profile measurements from aircraft [Krotkov *et al.*, 2008; Lee *et al.*, 2009] and column measurements from ground-based instruments [Spinei *et al.*, 2010]. Aircraft data offer precise in situ measurements, but these campaign-based comparisons are limited by sparse spatial and temporal sampling and by the need to extrapolate below the lowest measurement altitude. Ground-based measurements of SO<sub>2</sub> columns are sparse. In situ surface SO<sub>2</sub> measurements from dense networks when coupled with observed altitude profiles can offer an excellent opportunity to evaluate satellite retrievals.

[5] The removal mechanisms of atmospheric SO<sub>2</sub> dictate its impact on the environment. SO<sub>2</sub> removed by dry deposition has a local acidifying action, but SO<sub>2</sub> converted to sulfate has radiative and hydrological impacts. Measured deposition velocities for SO<sub>2</sub> [Hicks, 2006; Myles *et al.*, 2007] are generally 0.4 cm/s or slower giving a lifetime of about 3 days for a 1000 m deep planetary boundary layer. If the overall lifetime of SO<sub>2</sub> is much shorter than this, then the

bulk of SO<sub>2</sub> is probably converted to sulfate with a longer lifetime and adverse impacts over a greater area. In situ measurements from the ground and aircraft offer a valuable data set to assess the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime.

[6] We develop here top-down SO<sub>2</sub> emission estimates. Section 2 presents the SO<sub>2</sub> column retrieved from the satellite instruments (SCIAMACHY and OMI). Section 3 describes the atmospheric chemistry model (GEOS-Chem) used in this work and evaluates the GEOS-Chem simulation of the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime. In section 4, we infer surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios from SCIAMACHY and OMI and evaluate the retrieved SO<sub>2</sub> columns with surface measurements. We estimate top-down SO<sub>2</sub> emissions and compare them with the bottom-up emissions in the GEOS-Chem model in section 5.

## 2. Satellite Retrieval of SO<sub>2</sub> Columns

### 2.1. Satellite Instruments (SCIAMACHY and OMI)

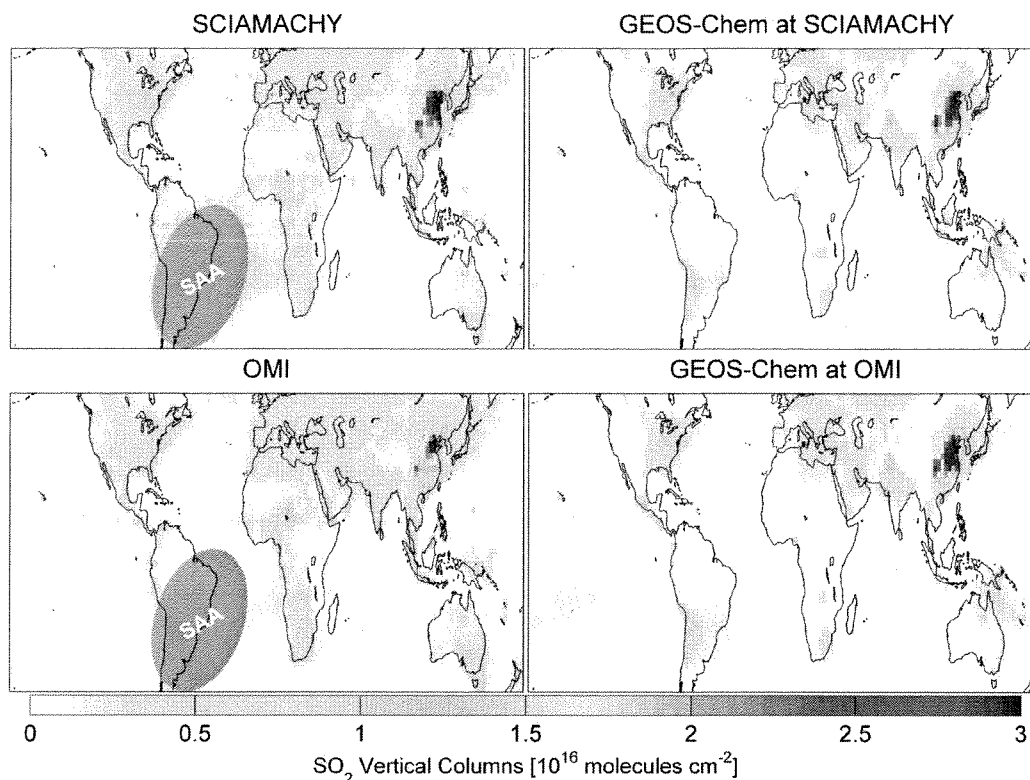
[7] The SCIAMACHY instrument, onboard ENVISAT, launched into a Sun-synchronous orbit in March 2002, provides the capability for solar observation of atmospheric SO<sub>2</sub> columns through observation of global backscatter [Bovensmann *et al.*, 1999]. SCIAMACHY observes the atmosphere in the nadir view with a typical surface spatial resolution of 30 km along track by 60 km across track, crossing the equator at 1000 local time (LT) in the descending node. Global coverage is achieved every 6 days.

[8] The OMI instrument onboard the Aura satellite is a nadir-viewing, imaging spectrometer that uses two-dimensional CCD detectors [Levelt *et al.*, 2006]. OMI measurements of the solar radiation backscattered by the Earth's atmosphere and surface can be applied to retrieve atmospheric SO<sub>2</sub> with a surface spatial resolution of up to 13 km by 24 km with global daily coverage. The Aura satellite was launched in July 2004 into a Sun-synchronous orbit with a local equator crossing time of 1330 LT in the ascending node.

### 2.2. SO<sub>2</sub> Retrieval From SCIAMACHY and OMI

[9] Satellite retrieval of total SO<sub>2</sub> columns from solar backscatter measurements used here involves three steps: (1) determining total SO<sub>2</sub> line-of-sight (slant) columns by spectral retrieval [Richter *et al.*, 2006; Krotkov *et al.*, 2006, 2008; Lee *et al.*, 2008], (2) removing the latitude-dependent offsets by using data from remote regions where the atmospheric contribution is small [Lee *et al.*, 2009], and (3) applying an air mass factor (AMF) to convert slant columns into vertical columns [Lee *et al.*, 2009].

[10] The SO<sub>2</sub> slant column retrieval for SCIAMACHY is based on the algorithms (Differential Optical Absorption Spectroscopy) of Richter *et al.* [2006] and Lee *et al.* [2008]. The wavelength range of 315–327 nm is used for the SO<sub>2</sub> fit which includes the SO<sub>2</sub> cross section (295 K) [Vandaele *et al.*, 1994], two ozone cross sections (223 K and 243 K) [Bogumil *et al.*, 2003], a synthetic Ring spectrum [Vountas *et al.*, 1998], an undersampling correction, and the polarization dependence of the SCIAMACHY instrument. Daily solar irradiance measurements taken with the ASM diffuser are used as the reference spectra. We use here the data taken at SZA <70° and cloud radiance fraction <0.2.



**Figure 1.** Annual mean SO<sub>2</sub> columns from SCIAMACHY, OMI, and GEOS-Chem for the year 2006 for cloud-radiance fraction <0.2. The right panels show GEOS-Chem SO<sub>2</sub> columns sampled coincidentally with (top) SCIAMACHY and (bottom) OMI.

[11] For OMI we use the publicly released Planetary Boundary Layer (PBL) OMI SO<sub>2</sub> Level 2 product. The OMI SO<sub>2</sub> slant column data are retrieved with the Band Residual Difference algorithm [Krotkov *et al.*, 2006, 2008], based on the OMI TOMS-V8 algorithm [Bhartia and Wellemeyer, 2002]. SO<sub>2</sub> slant columns are inferred from corrected differential residuals at three wavelength pairs with large differential SO<sub>2</sub> cross sections in the OMI UV2 spectral region (P1 = 310.8–311.9; P2 = 311.9–313.2, and P3 = 313.2–314.4 nm) and differential SO<sub>2</sub> cross sections at 275 K [Bogumil *et al.*, 2003]. We use here the data with near-nadir viewing angles (cross track position from 20 to 40) at SZA <70° and cloud radiance fraction <0.2.

[12] Lee *et al.* [2009] removed the latitude-dependent offsets in SCIAMACHY and OMI SO<sub>2</sub> slant columns by subtracting the columns taken over the Pacific from the total column on a daily time scale. Then the slant columns were converted to vertical columns with the coincident local AMF. The AMF calculation combined a radiative transfer model (LIDORT) [Spurr *et al.*, 2001; Spurr, 2002] with spatially varying geophysical fields to account for atmospheric scattering and for absorption by O<sub>3</sub>. The vertical distribution of SO<sub>2</sub> and aerosols for the local AMF calculation was locally determined with a global 3-D model of atmospheric chemistry GEOS-Chem (section 3.1). Here, we exclude SO<sub>2</sub> columns affected by eruptive volcanoes in SCIAMACHY and OMI measurements by excluding slant columns greater than 5 Dobson Units ( $1.34 \times 10^{17}$  SO<sub>2</sub>

molecules cm<sup>-2</sup>), which we empirically determined. Annual mean SO<sub>2</sub> columns from SCIAMACHY and OMI for the year 2006 are shown in Figure 1. The largest values of more than  $3 \times 10^{16}$  molecules cm<sup>-2</sup> are found over eastern China. Moderate enhancements of  $1\text{--}2 \times 10^{16}$  molecules cm<sup>-2</sup> exist over the eastern United States and South Africa.

[13] Lee *et al.* [2009] estimated the total error in the retrieval of SO<sub>2</sub> columns from SCIAMACHY and OMI. The retrieval error is dominated by the spectral fitting precision over remote regions. Over regions of enhanced SO<sub>2</sub> columns ( $>1 \times 10^{16}$  molecules cm<sup>-2</sup>) the AMF calculation becomes a more important contributor to the total error mostly due to uncertainty in clouds, SO<sub>2</sub> vertical profiles, surface reflectivity, and aerosols. The one-sigma SO<sub>2</sub> error from the AMF for individual, mostly clear (effective cloud fraction <0.2) observations over polluted regions is 20–40%, and likely contains a systematic component. Lee *et al.* [2009] evaluated the retrieved SO<sub>2</sub> columns with coincident airborne in situ measurements for campaigns over North America and the North Atlantic Ocean ( $r = 0.89$ , slope = 1.12 for SCIAMACHY and  $r = 0.92$ , slope = 0.95 for OMI) and east China ( $r = 0.9$ , slope = 1.0 for OMI).

### 3. Atmospheric Chemistry Model

#### 3.1. GEOS-Chem

[14] The estimation of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from satellite observation of SO<sub>2</sub> columns requires independent informa-

**Table 1.** Annual Global Sulfur Emissions in the GEOS-Chem Model for the year 2006

Source	Emission Rate, Tg S yr <sup>-1</sup>
Fossil fuel on land	51.55
Ships <sup>a</sup>	4.72
Biomass burning	1.22
Biofuel burning	0.12
Aircraft	0.07
Volcano	6.55
Dimethyl sulfide (DMS)	21.05

<sup>a</sup>Emissions for ships are 1.7 Tg in coastal regions and 3.0 Tg in open ocean.

tion on the relationship of SO<sub>2</sub> columns to SO<sub>2</sub> emissions. A global 3-D model of tropospheric chemistry is the best source of this information considering the sparseness of in situ measurements and the large variability of SO<sub>2</sub> vertical profiles. We use the GEOS-Chem chemical transport model [Bey et al., 2001] v8-01-04 (<http://geos-chem.org>) to obtain the SO<sub>2</sub> vertical distribution.

[15] GEOS-Chem is a global 3-D model of atmospheric composition driven by assimilated meteorological observations from the Goddard Earth Observing System (GEOS-4) at the NASA Goddard Global Modeling Assimilation Office (GMAO: <http://gmao.gsfc.nasa.gov/>). The GEOS-Chem model version used here has 30 vertical levels and a horizontal resolution of 2° latitude by 2.5° longitude. The aerosol simulation in GEOS-Chem includes the sulfate-nitrate-ammonium system [Park et al., 2004], carbonaceous aerosols [Park et al., 2003], sea salt [Alexander et al., 2005], and mineral dust [Fairlie et al., 2007]. The aerosol and oxidant simulations are coupled through formation of sulfate and nitrate [Park et al., 2004], heterogeneous chemistry [Jacob, 2000; Evans and Jacob, 2005], and aerosol effects on photolysis rates [Martin et al., 2003b; Lee et al., 2009].

[16] Table 1 contains the global annual sulfur emissions used in the model. The global anthropogenic emission inventory for NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, and CO is based on EDGAR [Olivier et al., 2001] for the base year of 2000. The global inventory is replaced with regional inventories from NEI2005 (<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/chieff/net/2005inventory.html>) over the United States for 2005, BRAVO [Kuhns et al., 2005] over Mexico for 1999, CAC ([http://www.ec.gc.ca/pdb/cac/cac\\_home\\_e.cfm](http://www.ec.gc.ca/pdb/cac/cac_home_e.cfm)) over Canada for 2005, Streets [Zhang et al., 2009] for eastern Asia for 2006, and EMEP (<http://www.emep.int>) over Europe for 2005. All regional and global inventories are scaled from their respective base year to 2006 following van Donkelaar et al. [2008]. We replace the EDGAR ship emission inventory with the International Comprehensive Ocean-Atmosphere Data Set (ICODS) [Wang et al., 2008]. Natural sources of sulfur in the model include volcanoes and atmospheric oxidation of dimethyl sulfide (DMS) from phytoplankton. The oceanic water emission of DMS is calculated as the product of local seawater DMS concentration and sea-to-air transfer velocity [Park et al., 2004]. Volcanic emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> from continuously active and sporadically erupting volcanoes are included from the database of Andres and Kasgnoc [1998] and the Global Volcanism Program (GVP: <http://www.volcano.si.edu/>) [Lee et al., 2009].

[17] The GEOS-Chem sulfur simulation has been evaluated in a number of previous studies. GEOS-Chem generally

gives unbiased simulation of sulfate aerosol concentrations over North America [Park et al., 2004; Heald et al., 2006]. The model can reproduce with no significant bias the observed vertical profiles of SO<sub>x</sub> from aircraft campaigns of TRACE-P [Park et al., 2004], INTEX-A [Lee et al., 2009], and INTEX-B [van Donkelaar et al., 2008; Lee et al., 2009], although there is evidence that SO<sub>2</sub> oxidation may be too rapid over the North Pacific in spring [Heald et al., 2006; van Donkelaar et al., 2008].

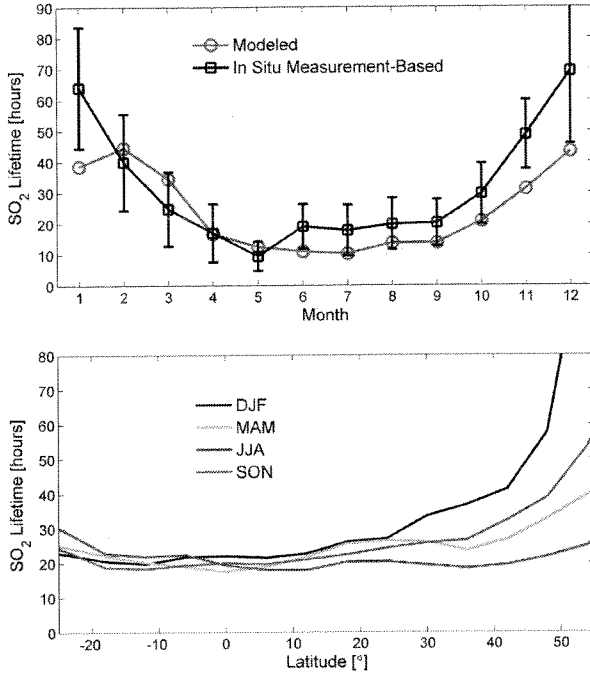
[18] Figure 1 shows the annual mean of simulated SO<sub>2</sub> columns sampled coincidentally (same day and time) with the SCIAMACHY and OMI observations. The coincident sampling used here reduces the effects of clouds and meteorology on the comparison of simulated and observed values. Noncoincident sampling would change the mean simulated values by <10% over most regions. Diurnal variation in the simulated SO<sub>2</sub> column from morning (SCIAMACHY) to afternoon (OMI) typically is <5%. The global distribution of the GEOS-Chem SO<sub>2</sub> columns is generally consistent with the observed columns from SCIAMACHY ( $r = 0.79$ , slope = 1.59, offset =  $1 \times 10^{15}$  molecules cm<sup>-2</sup>) and OMI ( $r = 0.77$ , slope = 0.89, offset =  $2 \times 10^{15}$  molecules cm<sup>-2</sup>). However, there are notable differences over China.

### 3.2. Evaluation of SO<sub>2</sub> Lifetime in GEOS-Chem

[19] The SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime is a critical parameter in the inversion of SCIAMACHY and OMI SO<sub>2</sub> columns for SO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Here we evaluate the GEOS-Chem simulation of the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime by comparison with that inferred from in situ measurements.

[20] Hains [2007] analyzed SO<sub>2</sub> vertical profiles measured from aircraft to calculate the in situ measurement-based lifetime. The aircraft campaigns [Taubman et al., 2006; Hains et al., 2008] were conducted from June to August 1995–2005 in the mid-Atlantic region (35.21°N – 44.51°N, 68.41°W–81.61°W). Over 50% of the spirals were made in Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania. All flights were made during daytime (midmorning or midafternoon) on days when smog events were forecast. Flights were made between small regional airports. Spirals made over the airports from the surface to roughly 3 km above sea level were completed within 30 min. The SO<sub>2</sub> instrument (TEI Model 43C) was zeroed at the bottom and top of each spiral. Flight patterns were generally chosen to capture transport of pollutants to locations downwind of urban locations, thus flights conducted in the morning (before noon EST) were typically upwind of urban areas in the mid-Atlantic, while flights conducted in the afternoon (after noon EST) were typically downwind of urban locations (mainly the Baltimore, Washington, and Philadelphia metropolitan areas).

[21] The measured SO<sub>2</sub> profiles show little difference between the morning and afternoon. Both profiles show greater values near the surface that decrease with altitude, possibly resulting from oxidation by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in fair weather cumulus (common under summertime high-pressure systems and often encountered during these flights) as SO<sub>2</sub> mixes vertically. Assuming that SO<sub>2</sub> in the lower troposphere is destroyed on time scales fast relative to advection from the region (and then the rate of emissions into the atmosphere is equal to the rate of loss in the atmosphere), the calculated lifetime is  $19 \pm 7$  h on average (at the 95% confidence level) [Hains, 2007].



**Figure 2.** (top) Monthly SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime in the daytime mixed layer over the eastern United States (35.2°N–44.5°N, 68.4°W–81.6°W). The in situ measurement-based lifetime as calculated with equation (1) is indicated with black squares. Red circles indicate the lifetime from the GEOS-Chem simulation. Error bars are given by  $\tau_{\text{Mon}} \times \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_{\text{JJA}}}{\tau_{\text{JJA}}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_{\text{Mon}}}{C_{\text{Mon}}}\right)^2} \times \frac{1}{n}$ , where  $\tau_{\text{Mon}}$  is monthly mean lifetime of SO<sub>2</sub>,  $\sigma_{\text{JJA}}$  is the standard deviation of 7 h of SO<sub>2</sub> summer lifetime ( $\tau_{\text{JJA}} = 19$  h) from Hains [2007], and  $\sigma_{\text{Mon}}$  is the standard deviation of mean daytime SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios ( $C_{\text{Mon}}$ ) at in situ measurements sites over the eastern United States. (bottom) Seasonal zonal mean lifetime of SO<sub>2</sub> in the boundary layer from the GEOS-Chem model for December–February (DJF), March–May (MAM), June–August (JJA), and September–November (SON) for the year 2006.

[22] The mean SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime from our GEOS-Chem simulation over the mid-Atlantic region for daytime (0900–1700) of June–August 2006 is 13 h, within the range inferred by Hains [2007]. The shorter lifetime in the model is consistent with previous indications that GEOS-Chem SO<sub>2</sub> oxidation may be too rapid [Heald *et al.*, 2004; van Donkelaar *et al.*, 2008]. Sampling the model on days similar to the flight conditions (daily afternoon O<sub>3</sub> > mean June–August afternoon O<sub>3</sub>) decreases the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime in GEOS-Chem by <3 h.

[23] Of interest for our work is the seasonal variation of the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime. For that purpose we use ground-based in situ measurements from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Air Quality System (AQS). SO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the eastern United States vary by less than 20% throughout the year [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2009]. Thus the monthly variation in the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime is linearly proportional to the monthly SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio  $C_{\text{Mon}}$  after correcting for monthly variation in the boundary layer height

$H_{\text{Mon}}$ , and assuming no seasonal change in the rate of mixing between the boundary layer and the free troposphere. We extend the in situ measurement-based SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime  $\tau_{\text{JJA}}$  of 19 h for July to August from Hains [2007] to the rest of the year 2006 by using observed surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios and boundary layer heights from the GEOS-4 assimilation. Assuming SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are seasonally invariant, the in situ measurement-based SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime  $\tau_{\text{Mon}}$  can be given by

$$\tau_{\text{Mon}} = \tau_{\text{JJA}} \times \frac{C_{\text{Mon}}}{C_{\text{JJA}}} \times \frac{H_{\text{JJA}}}{H_{\text{Mon}}} \quad (1)$$

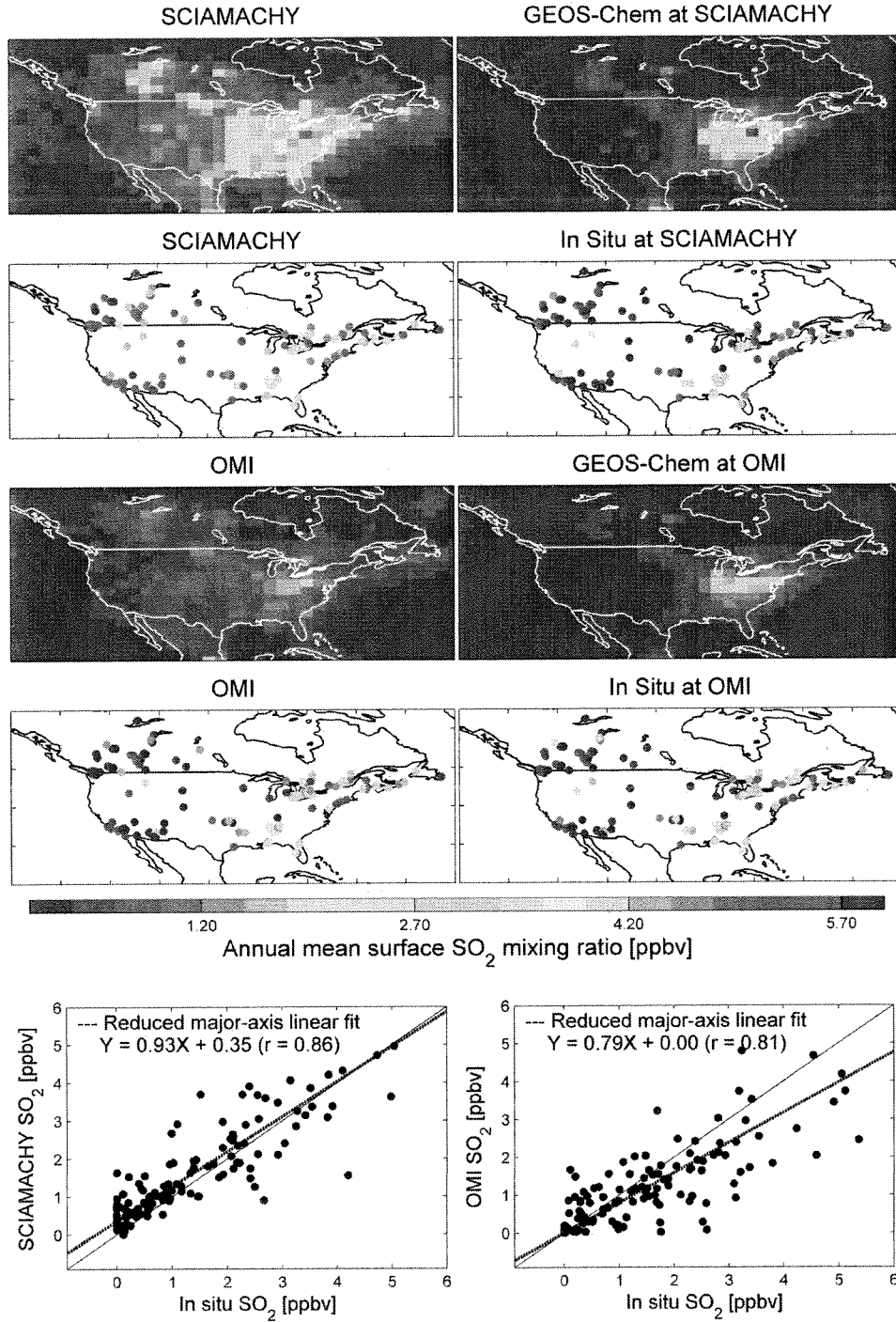
where subscript “Mon” and “JJA” denote month and mean for June to August, respectively.  $C$  is obtained from in situ surface SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at 14 in situ measurement sites from the AQS network and a research site [Schwab *et al.*, 2009] within the mid-Atlantic region (35.21°N–44.51°N, 68.41°W–81.61°W), and  $H$  is taken from GEOS meteorological fields over the same area.

[24] The black lines in Figure 2, top, show that the resulting lifetime values range from 15 h in summer to 65 h in winter. The red lines show the daytime SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime over the same domain from the GEOS-Chem simulation as determined by gas-phase oxidation, dry deposition, and aqueous oxidation in clouds. The simulated and measurement-based lifetimes exhibit a high degree of consistency. The RMS difference is 2.2 h. The longer SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime in winter reflects reduced oxidation by both aqueous (i.e., H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) and gas-phase (i.e., OH) processes.

[25] Figure 2, bottom, shows the seasonal zonal mean lifetime of SO<sub>2</sub> calculated using the GEOS-Chem model during the daytime of 0900–1700 LT for the rest of the world. The lifetime is within the range of previous results for the global averages of 0.6–2.6 days [e.g., Chin and Jacob, 1996; Restad *et al.*, 1998; Berglen *et al.*, 2004]. The lifetime at northern midlatitudes where anthropogenic emissions dominate is 16–40 h exhibiting clear seasonal variation with a maximum in winter (DJF) and a minimum in summer (JJA). Values for spring (MAM) are similar to fall (SON). The 24 h SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime is within 10% of that shown here for daytime. Chin *et al.* [1996] explain the longer SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime in winter due to slower dry deposition velocities, and reduced supply of oxidants (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and OH) in winter. Alexander *et al.* [2009] used isotopic measurements to infer a significant role for transition metal-catalyzed oxidation of atmospheric SO<sub>2</sub>; neglect of this mechanism here may contribute to an overestimate of the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime at high latitudes in winter.

#### 4. Evaluation of SCIAMACHY and OMI SO<sub>2</sub> With Surface Measurements

[26] Aircraft measurements reveal that SO<sub>2</sub> within the boundary layer typically makes a dominant contribution to SO<sub>2</sub> columns over land except in volcanic regions [Taubman *et al.*, 2006; Hains *et al.*, 2008; Lee *et al.*, 2009]. GEOS-Chem simulations of annual mean SO<sub>2</sub> columns and of surface SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations exhibit significant spatial correlations over land ( $r = 0.95$ ,  $n = 13,104$ ) and over North America ( $r = 0.97$ ,  $n = 325$ ). Thus we infer surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios from SCIAMACHY and OMI observations of



**Figure 3.** Annual mean of surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios for the year 2006. The left column contains surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios inferred from SCIAMACHY and OMI for cloud-radiance fraction <0.2. The right column contains coincident surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios from GEOS-Chem simulations and in situ measurements. The bottom row shows the scatterplots of annual mean surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios from SCIAMACHY and OMI versus those from the in situ measurements. In the scatterplots, the solid lines represent the  $Y = X$  line, and the dotted lines were calculated with reduced major-axis linear regression [Hirsch and Gilroy, 1984].



SO<sub>2</sub> columns for evaluation with ground-based in situ measurements over North America.

#### 4.1. Ground-Based in Situ Measurement

[27] Hourly measurements of SO<sub>2</sub> are obtained from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Air Quality System (AQS) and Environment Canada's National Air Pollution Surveillance (NAPS) network. We average the hourly in situ measurements over a 2 h period (0900–1100 LT for SCIAMACHY and 1300–1500 LT for OMI) to correspond with respective satellite observation times over North America.

#### 4.2. Surface SO<sub>2</sub> Inferred From Satellite Observations

[28] We use the GEOS-Chem local SO<sub>2</sub> profile to estimate surface-level SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios from retrieved SO<sub>2</sub> columns. Similar applications have been conducted for aerosol [Liu *et al.*, 2004; van Donkelaar *et al.*, 2006, 2010] and NO<sub>2</sub> [Lamsal *et al.*, 2008]. Local SO<sub>2</sub> profiles coincident with the SCIAMACHY or OMI observations are taken from the GEOS-Chem simulation. A general equation to infer the surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio  $S_{Sat}$  from the satellite-measured SO<sub>2</sub> columns  $\Omega_{Sat}$  is

$$S_{Sat} = \frac{S_{GC}}{\Omega_{GC}} \times \Omega_{Sat} \quad (2)$$

where subscript "GC" denotes GEOS-Chem. The satellite derived surface SO<sub>2</sub> represents the mixing ratio at the lowest vertical layer (100 m) of the model. Spatial variation in the satellite observations within 2° × 2.5° resolution of the GEOS-Chem simulation reflects spatial variation of SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios in the boundary layer.

[29] Lamsal *et al.* [2008] developed a scheme to infer surface NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at the OMI measurement resolution, accounting for variation of the profiles within a GEOS-Chem grid. Here we apply it to infer surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios at the satellite measurement resolution. Assuming that the simulated free tropospheric SO<sub>2</sub> column  $\Omega_G^F$  is horizontally invariant over a GEOS-Chem grid, reflecting the longer SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime in the free troposphere, the corresponding surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio  $S'_{Sat}$  is given by

$$S'_{Sat} = \frac{\nu \cdot S_{GC}}{\nu \cdot \Omega_{GC} - (\nu - 1)\Omega_G^F} \times \Omega_{Sat} \quad (3)$$

where  $\nu$  represents the ratio of the local satellite SO<sub>2</sub> column to the mean satellite field over the GEOS-Chem grid. Equation (3) equals equation (2) for a unity value of  $\nu$ . SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios calculated with equation (3) differ from those calculated with equation (2) by up to ±20% in polluted areas.

[30] Annual mean surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios inferred from SCIAMACHY and OMI over North America are shown in 1st and 3rd rows of Figure 3, regridded onto the GEOS-Chem grid of 2° by 2.5°. Both SCIAMACHY and OMI show enhanced SO<sub>2</sub> over industrial regions of the eastern United States, and are highly correlated ( $r = 0.89$ ) with each other. However, the SCIAMACHY-derived SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios tend to be higher by 2.6 times (2.5 ppbv) than those from OMI over industrial regions of the eastern United States. Contributing factors include diurnal variation in mixed layer depth and chemistry, and errors in the SO<sub>2</sub>

column retrievals. The GEOS mixed layer depth sampled at OMI overpass is typically 25–30% higher than at SCIAMACHY overpass. Simulated SO<sub>2</sub> sampled at SCIAMACHY overpasses over those regions is twice (1.5 ppbv) those at OMI overpasses, reflecting diurnal variation in both chemistry and mixed layer depth. Retrieval bias may contribute to the remaining differences between SCIAMACHY and OMI.

[31] The 2nd and 4th rows of Figure 3 show the annual mean surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios inferred from the ground-based in situ measurements at AQS/NAPS network sites throughout the United States and Canada. Satellite measurements with pixel centers within 15 km of the measurement sites are used for the comparison. We exclude sites with <20 coincident measurements over the year. SO<sub>2</sub> inferred from satellite observations is in relatively poor ( $r < 0.4$ ) temporal agreement with in situ measurements for the year 2006, reflecting relatively high uncertainty in individual retrievals. However, Figure 3, bottom, indicates that the annual mean surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios from SCIAMACHY and OMI are spatially well correlated with coincident in situ measurements ( $r = 0.86$ , slope = 0.93,  $n = 115$  for SCIAMACHY and  $r = 0.81$ , slope = 0.79,  $n = 121$  for OMI). The better correlation and slope for SCIAMACHY than OMI could reflect the use of longer wavelengths in the SCIAMACHY retrieval that are more sensitive to SO<sub>2</sub> in the boundary layer. The mean bias (satellite/in situ) is 1.19 for SCIAMACHY and 0.79 for OMI. Simulated surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios also exhibit consistency ( $r = 0.83$ , slope = 0.84 for SCIAMACHY sampling and  $r = 0.83$ , slope = 0.81 for OMI sampling) with the in situ measurements. The less than unity slope in both the modeled and retrieved values could reflect unresolved subgrid variability.

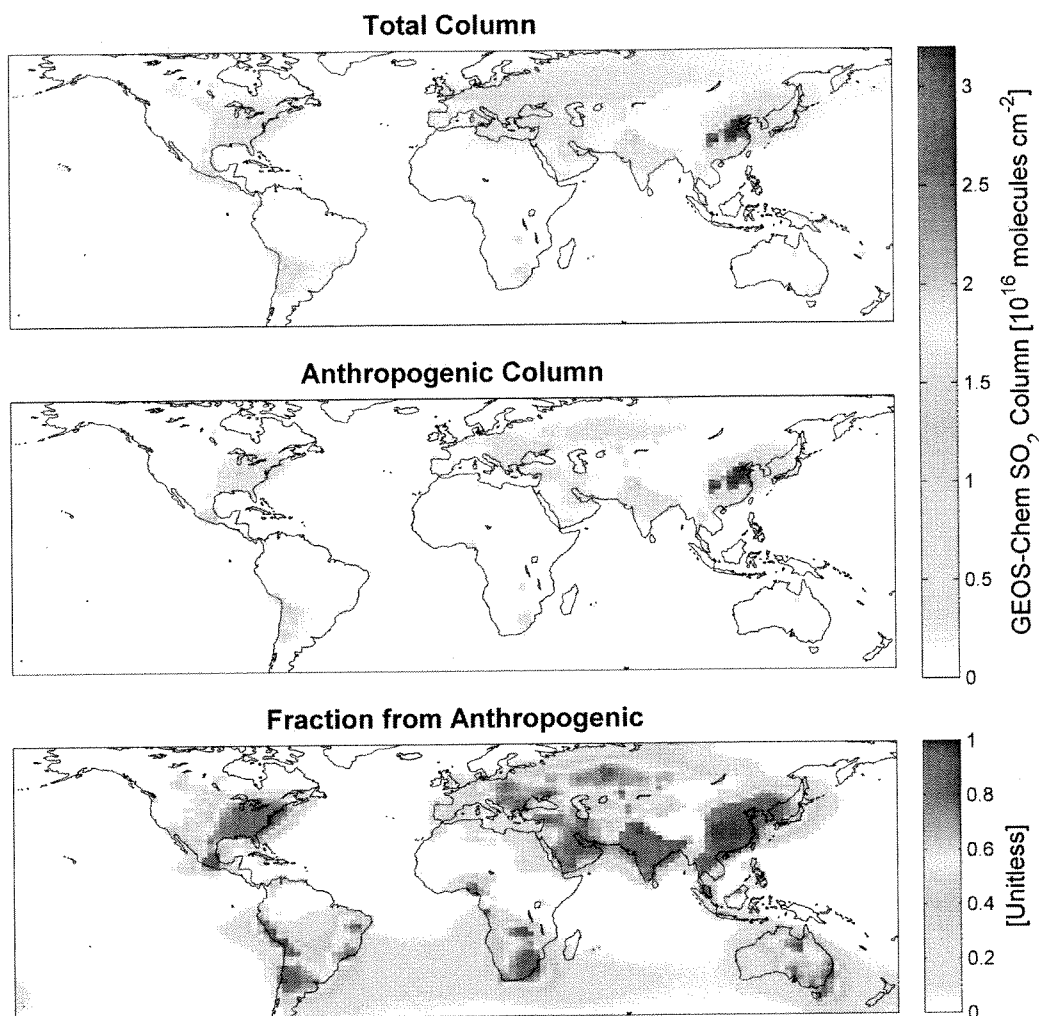
[32] Although our objective here is application of surface SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations for evaluation of satellite observations, the satellite-derived surface SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations could be of value for long-term estimates of air pollution. The spatial distribution of GEOS-Chem simulations of annual mean surface SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are well correlated with annual mean surface sulfate concentrations over North America ( $r = 0.90$ ,  $n = 325$ ) and over land globally ( $r = 0.86$ ,  $n = 13104$ ).

## 5. Seasonal Bottom-Up and Top-Down Emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>

[33] We go on to infer top-down emissions from the satellite SO<sub>2</sub> columns through inverse modeling. We first evaluate the fraction of the SO<sub>2</sub> column from anthropogenic activity to guide the emission analysis. Then we describe the approach to estimate the top-down emissions from SCIAMACHY and OMI observations of SO<sub>2</sub> columns. The seasonal satellite-based top-down estimates are compared with the seasonal bottom-up emission inventories described in section 3.

### 5.1. Anthropogenic Fraction of SO<sub>2</sub> Column

[34] Figure 4, top, shows annual mean SO<sub>2</sub> columns simulated with GEOS-Chem for the year 2006. The standard emission inventory in the GEOS-Chem model including volcanoes and DMS is used here as the bottom-up inventory (section 3). Most SO<sub>2</sub> enhancements exist over and immediately downwind of industrial regions including the eastern United States, eastern China, and northern India.



**Figure 4.** Annual mean SO<sub>2</sub> columns determined from the GEOS-Chem model for the year 2006 with (top) the standard SO<sub>2</sub> emissions inventories as described in section 2, and (middle) anthropogenic emission inventories only. (bottom) The fraction of SO<sub>2</sub> columns from the anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions is calculated by dividing Figure 4, top, by Figure 4, middle.

Figure 4, middle, shows a sensitivity simulation with anthropogenic emissions only. The fraction of SO<sub>2</sub> columns from anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions is shown Figure 4, bottom. Anthropogenic activities contribute >60% of total SO<sub>2</sub> columns over large regions of all continents. Exceptions are over regions with low SO<sub>2</sub> columns such as the Sahara and Amazon. The anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> fraction rarely exceeds 40% over the open ocean. We focus our anthropogenic emission analysis over land.

## 5.2. Top-Down Emissions From SCIAMACHY and OMI SO<sub>2</sub> Columns

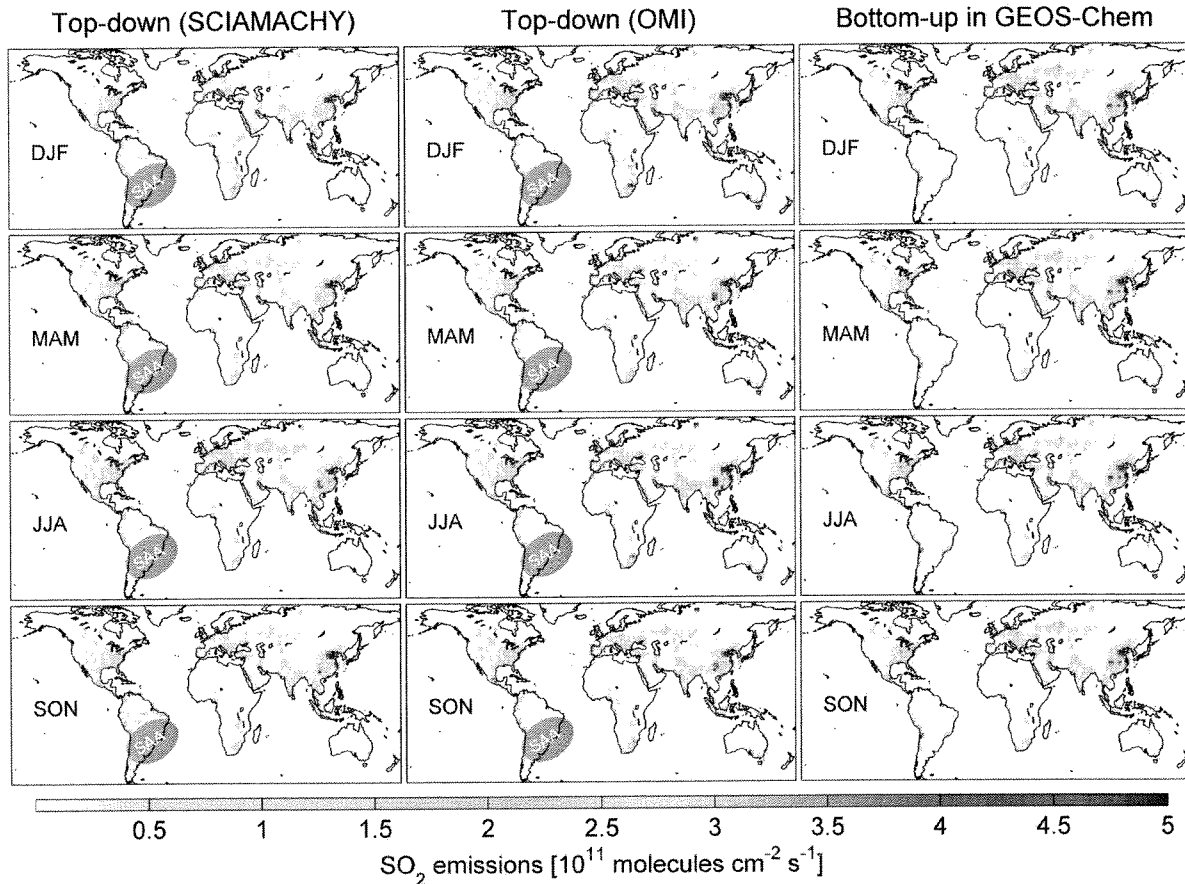
[35] We infer a top-down SO<sub>2</sub> emission inventory  $E_T$  from satellite SO<sub>2</sub> columns  $\Omega_{\text{sat}}$  using the mass balance approach following *Martin et al.* [2003a],

$$E_T = \frac{E_B}{\Omega_{\text{GC}}} \times \Omega_{\text{sat}} \quad (4)$$

where  $E_B$  is the bottom-up emission inventory described in section 3 and  $\Omega_{\text{GC}}$  is the simulated SO<sub>2</sub> column. The ratio of  $E_B/\Omega_{\text{GC}}$  is an effective, first-order, SO<sub>2</sub> rate constant that accounts for local SO<sub>2</sub> chemistry and transport.  $\Omega_{\text{GC}}$  is sampled coincidentally with  $\Omega_{\text{sat}}$ . The smearing length scale [*Palmer et al.*, 2003] is of order 100 km comparable to the GEOS-Chem resolution used here. Therefore we neglect smearing in this initial analysis. Smearing is of most concern in winter when wind speeds are higher and the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime is longer. Annual mean SO<sub>2</sub> columns simulated from the GEOS-Chem model exhibit significant spatial correlation with the bottom up SO<sub>2</sub> emissions over land ( $r = 0.85$ ,  $n = 13104$ ), over North America ( $r = 0.88$ ,  $n = 325$ ), and over eastern China ( $r = 0.90$ ,  $n = 154$ ).

[36] We apply this method to land surface and coastal ship emissions only. Inferring SO<sub>2</sub> from DMS oxidation and ship emissions over the open ocean would involve a more sophisticated inversion, such as an adjoint [e.g., *Henze et al.*,





**Figure 5.** Seasonal mean anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from land with  $2^\circ \times 2.5^\circ$  horizontal resolution for the year 2006: (left) top-down emissions from SCIAMACHY, (middle) top-down emissions from OMI, and (right) bottom-up emissions in the GEOS-Chem model.

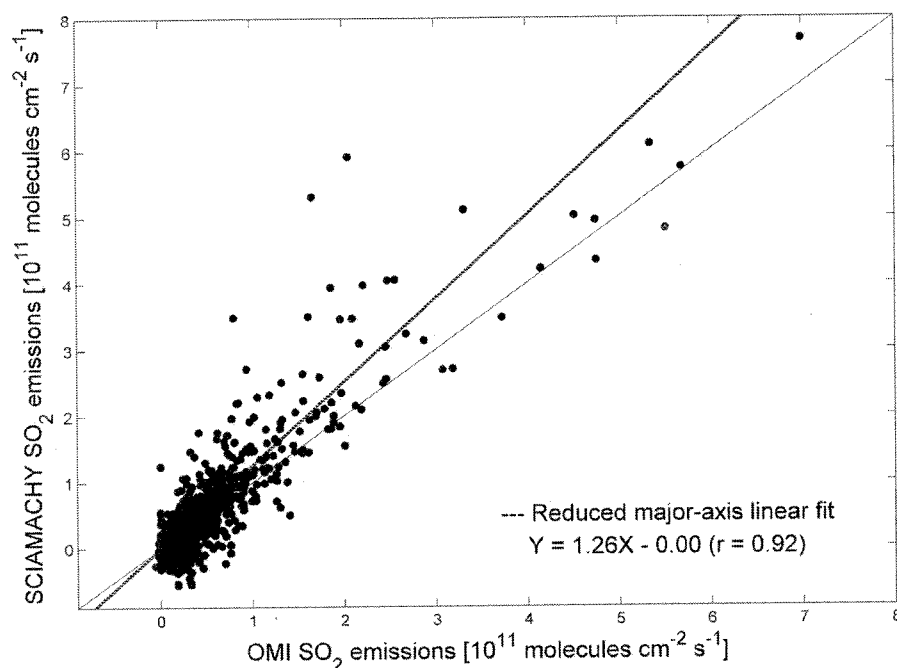
2007]. Land surface sources here include contributions from fossil fuels including coastal ships, biomass burning, biofuel burning, and continuously active volcanoes; it excludes contributions from ships in the open ocean, aircraft, or eruptive volcanoes. The mass balance approach is separately applied here to both SCIAMACHY and OMI. A better understanding of the differences between SCIAMACHY and OMI SO<sub>2</sub> columns is needed before exploiting diurnal variation in the inversion.

[37] Figure 5 presents the spatial and seasonal variation of top-down SO<sub>2</sub> emissions derived from SCIAMACHY and OMI, and the bottom-up SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in GEOS-Chem. Global annual anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions over land and coastal ocean are 52.4 Tg S yr<sup>-1</sup> from SCIAMACHY, 49.9 Tg S yr<sup>-1</sup> from OMI, and 54.6 Tg S yr<sup>-1</sup> from the bottom-up inventories. In support of the mass balance approach used here, there is little evidence in winter of greater smearing which would appear as reduced SO<sub>2</sub> emissions over sources, and enhanced SO<sub>2</sub> emissions downwind. The bottom-up emissions inventory exhibits little seasonal variation over major industrial regions [e.g., Morris *et al.*, 2007; Zhang *et al.*, 2009]. The weak seasonal variation in the top-down emissions (<15%) from both SCIAMACHY and OMI over major industrial regions pro-

vide confidence in the top-down approach. An exception is the Noril'sk smelter in Siberia (62.33°N, 88.22°E) where top-down emissions have a large seasonal component. Possible explanations are errors in the seasonal variation of simulated SO<sub>2</sub> oxidation, of retrieved SO<sub>2</sub> columns, or in the mass balance approach due to neglect of smearing. The global distribution of both top-down emissions are generally consistent ( $r = 0.78$  for SCIAMACHY and  $0.77$  for OMI) with the bottom-up emissions. Higher correlations exist for the United States ( $r = 0.96$  for SCIAMACHY and  $r = 0.94$  for OMI) and China ( $r = 0.90$  for SCIAMACHY and  $r = 0.93$  for OMI). However, there are some significant regional differences discussed in the following paragraphs.

[38] Figure 6 evaluates the top-down inventories by intercomparing them. The top-down SO<sub>2</sub> emissions inferred from SCIAMACHY measurements are highly correlated ( $r = 0.92$ ) with those from OMI measurements. However, the SCIAMACHY emissions are 20% higher than those from OMI, and there are regional differences (e.g., over Australia) which cannot be reconciled with the different overpass times of SCIAMACHY and OMI and may indicate satellite retrieval biases.

[39] Figure 7 shows the differences between the annual top-down and bottom-up emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>. Here we



**Figure 6.** Scatterplot of the annual mean SO<sub>2</sub> emissions inferred from SCIAMACHY and OMI retrievals. The solid line represents the  $Y = X$  line, and the dotted line was calculated with the reduced major-axis linear regression [Hirsch and Gilroy, 1984].

exclude winter observations ( $SZA > 50^\circ$ ) which have higher uncertainty, and focus on regions where both SCIAMACHY and OMI have consistent results. Both top-down emissions are 10% lower over the eastern United States, within the uncertainty in the inversion and in the retrievals. The top-down emissions in China are lower by 50% for SCIAMACHY and 30% for OMI, except for near Beijing where they are higher by 30%. The bias over Nigeria may reflect effects of volcanic emissions in 2006. Several regions, such as the Highveld Plateau of South Africa, Mexico City, and northern India, have local differences of a factor of 2 that warrant further investigation.

## 6. Conclusion

[40] We produced a global top-down inventory of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from satellite (SCIAMACHY and OMI) observations of SO<sub>2</sub> columns, through inverse modeling with a global chemical transport model (GEOS-Chem).

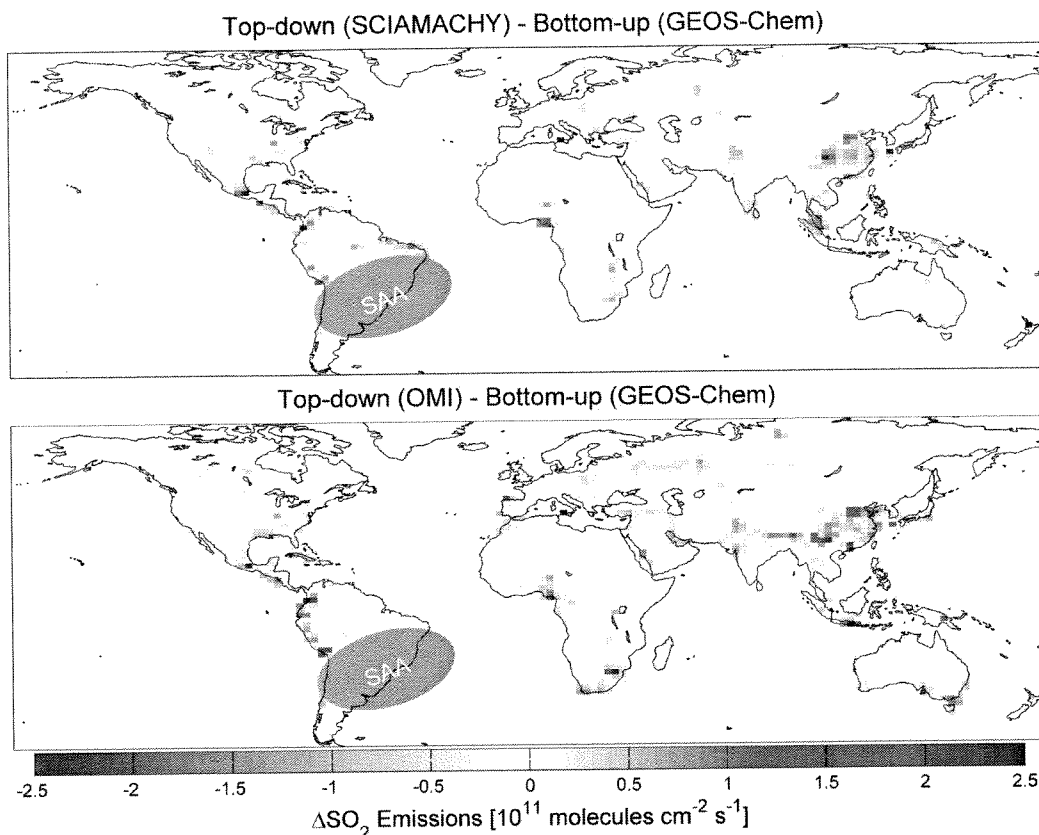
[41] We first evaluated the GEOS-Chem simulation of the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime. The modeled SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime of 13 h for summer 2006 over the eastern United States is within 6 h (and within the 95% confidence level) of the in situ measurement-based SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime inferred from aircraft measurements for June to August, 1995–2005. We used the seasonal variation in the measured SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio over the eastern United States to estimate the seasonal variation in the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime. The seasonal variation of the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime inferred over the eastern United States from in situ measurements and from the GEOS-Chem simulation both indicate the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime in winter is about three times as long as in summer. Thus the seasonal variation in SO<sub>2</sub> columns at northern midlatitudes

is primarily driven by seasonal variation in the SO<sub>2</sub> loss rate, since SO<sub>2</sub> emissions exhibit little seasonal variation.

[42] We evaluated the SO<sub>2</sub> columns from the SCIAMACHY and OMI satellite instruments with surface SO<sub>2</sub> measurements. The surface SO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios were derived from SCIAMACHY and OMI observations of SO<sub>2</sub> columns by applying coincident GEOS-Chem SO<sub>2</sub> profiles as a transfer function. The annual mean surface SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations from SCIAMACHY and OMI for 2006 exhibit a significant spatial correlation ( $r = 0.86$ , slope = 0.91 for SCIAMACHY and  $r = 0.81$ , slope = 0.79 for OMI) with the coincident in situ measurements throughout the United States and Canada from the U.S. EPA Air Quality System (AQS) and Environment Canada's National Air Pollution Surveillance (NAPS) networks.

[43] Sensitivity simulations reveal anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are dominant in the SO<sub>2</sub> column over most land areas. We used SO<sub>2</sub> columns from SCIAMACHY and OMI to derive seasonal top-down constraints for anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions over land through inversion using the GEOS-Chem model. Global annual anthropogenic SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are 52.4 Tg S yr<sup>-1</sup> from SCIAMACHY, 49.9 Tg S yr<sup>-1</sup> from OMI, which are compared with the bottom-up emissions in the GEOS-Chem (54.6 Tg S yr<sup>-1</sup>).

[44] The global distribution of the annual top-down emissions is spatially consistent with the bottom-up emissions ( $r = 0.78$  for SCIAMACHY and 0.77 for OMI). The lack of seasonal variation in the top-down emissions (<10%) from both SCIAMACHY and OMI over most industrial regions provides some confidence in the top-down inventory. For the continental United States whose emission inventories are considered well-determined, top-down



**Figure 7.** Difference between annual (top) SCIAMACHY and (bottom) OMI top-down and bottom-up emissions for the year 2006. Observations at solar zenith angles  $>50^\circ$  are excluded.

emissions are highly consistent with bottom-up emissions ( $r = 0.96$  for SCIAMACHY and  $r = 0.94$  for OMI), with an overall bias of  $<20\%$ . Top-down emissions for China which has higher SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are also highly spatially correlated ( $r = 0.90$  for SCIAMACHY and  $r = 0.93$  for OMI) with bottom-up emissions, but they are lower by 50% for SCIAMACHY and 30% for OMI, except for near Beijing where they are higher by 30%.

[45] This study could benefit from future work in several areas. Differences between SCIAMACHY and OMI SO<sub>2</sub> columns need to be reconciled. An a posteriori estimate that combines bottom-up and top-down emissions, weighted by their uncertainties, would better represent the true emission distribution. Inversion at higher spatial resolution should better account for spatial variance in the SO<sub>2</sub> lifetime. A more sophisticated inversion could improve its accuracy, could better account for smearing, and could enable extension to open ocean. A better understanding of SO<sub>2</sub> loss processes in winter is needed.

[46] **Acknowledgments.** We thank three anonymous reviewers for helpful comments. The publicly released Planetary Boundary Layer (PBL) OMI SO<sub>2</sub> Level 2 VC products were obtained from GES Data and Information Service Center (<http://disc.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov/>). SO<sub>2</sub> slant columns from SCIAMACHY were obtained from the Institute of Environmental Physics and Remote Sensing, University of Bremen, Germany (<http://www.iup.uni-bremen.de/>). This work was supported by Health

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