

# HYSPLIT Inverse Modeling

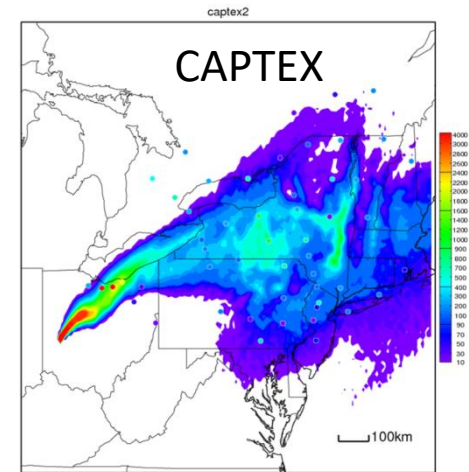
Tianfeng Chai<sup>1,2</sup>, Ariel Stein<sup>2</sup>, and Fong Ngan<sup>1,2</sup>

1:Cooperative Institute for Climate & Satellites –  
Maryland, University of Maryland

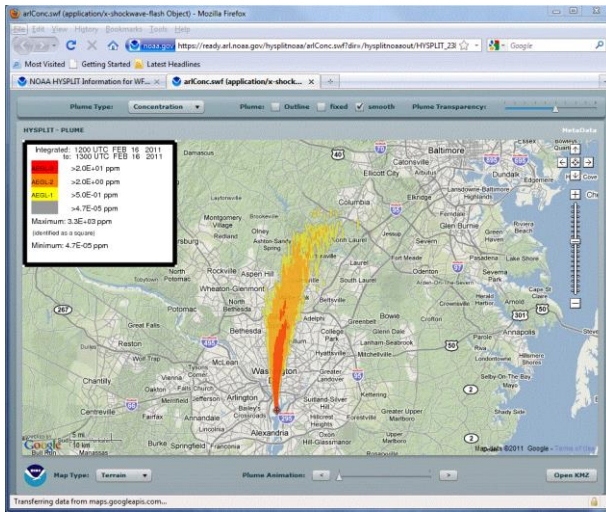
2: NOAA Air Resources Laboratory

# HYSPLIT

- HYSPLIT model allows Lagrangian representations of the transported air masses w/ 3D particles, puffs, or a hybrid
- Applications include the simulation of atmospheric tracer release experiments, radionuclides, smoke originated from wild fires, volcanic ash, mercury, and wind-blown dust, etc.



## Emergency Response Chemical Releases



ready-testbed.arl.noaa.gov/CTBTO/CTBT\_display.php

NOAA Backtracking Support to CTBTO using HYSPLIT

CTBTO  
PREPARATORY COMMISSION

1: Display & Check CTBTO request email

For authentication purposes, this mail message is also available on the web site:  
<https://fts.ctbto.org/atm/WMO-Cooperation/Notification/notificationmail.lev5.20141110.0001.txt>

Source-receptor matrix results are requested for 007 stations

#	CON	LAT	ID	Measurement	Start/stop time (YYYYMMDD hh)
001	139.08	36.30	JFP38	20141101 06	20141102 06
002	139.08	36.30	JFP38	20141102 06	20141103 06
003	132.00	44.15	RUP58	20141102 03	20141103 03
004	127.90	26.50	JFP37	20141102 00	20141103 00
005	155.79	53.06	RUP60	20141101 00	20141103 00
006	144.93	13.57	USP80	20141102 06	20141103 06
007	139.08	36.30	JFP38	20141103 04	20141104 06

Please calculate backward to 20141024 00

Please upload data within 24 hours

==RESPONSE FORM==

WMO Centre response form

Please send back this form

to the sender of the request as soon as possible

(x) We will send our contributions within the time limit (default)

MODIFY AND SAVE Check location and time

Related Pages: NOAA ARL HYSPLIT , Comprehensive nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

# HYSPLIT Inverse Modeling

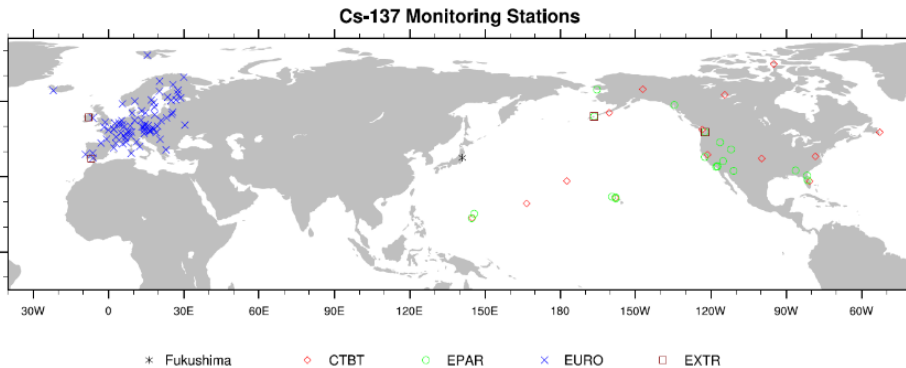
- In a top-down approach, the unknown emission terms are obtained via searching the emissions that would provide the best model predictions closely matching the observations by minimizing a cost function  $\mathcal{F}$ .

$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{(q_{ikt} - q_{ikt}^b)^2}{\sigma_{ikt}^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{m=1}^M \frac{(c_{nm}^h - c_{nm}^o)^2}{\epsilon_{nm}^2} + \mathcal{F}_{other}$$

- Unknowns: emission rate  $q_{ikt}$  at location  $i$ , at height  $k$  and period  $t$ .  $c_{nm}^o$  is the  $m$ -th observed concentration or mass loading at time period  $n$  and  $c_{nm}^h$  is the HYSPLIT counterpart;
- A background term is included to measure the deviation of the emission estimation from its first guess  $q_{ikt}^b$ . The background terms ensure that the problem is well-posed even when there are not enough observations available.
- The background error variances  $\sigma_{ikt}^2$  measure the uncertainties of  $q_{ikt}^b$ . The observational error variances  $\epsilon_{nm}^2$  represent the uncertainties from both the model and observations as well as the representative errors.
- $\mathcal{F}_{other}$  refers to the other regularization terms that can be included in the cost function.
- The optimization problem can be solved using many minimization tools, such as L-BFGS-B package, to get the final optimal emission estimates.

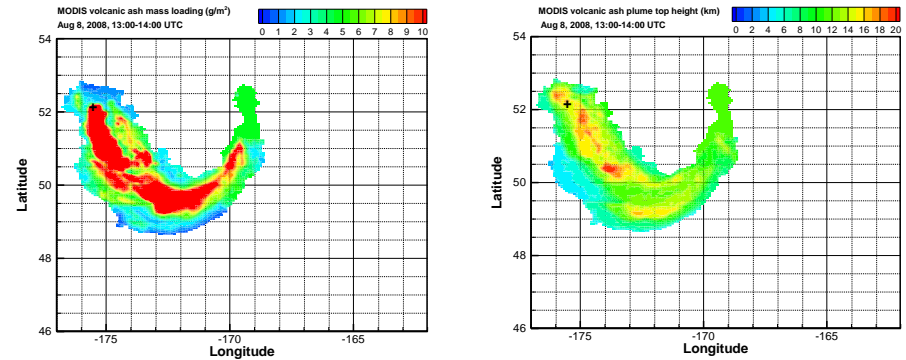
# HYSPLIT inverse modeling

## 1. Fukushima source term estimation



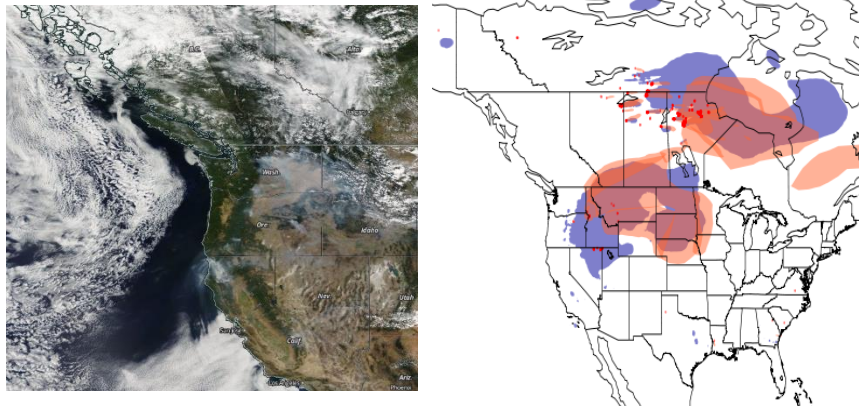
Source term estimation using air concentration measurements and a Lagrangian dispersion model—Experiments with pseudo and real cesium-137, T Chai, R Draxler, A Stein – Atmos. Environ., 2015

## 2. Volcanic ash application-Kasatochi eruption



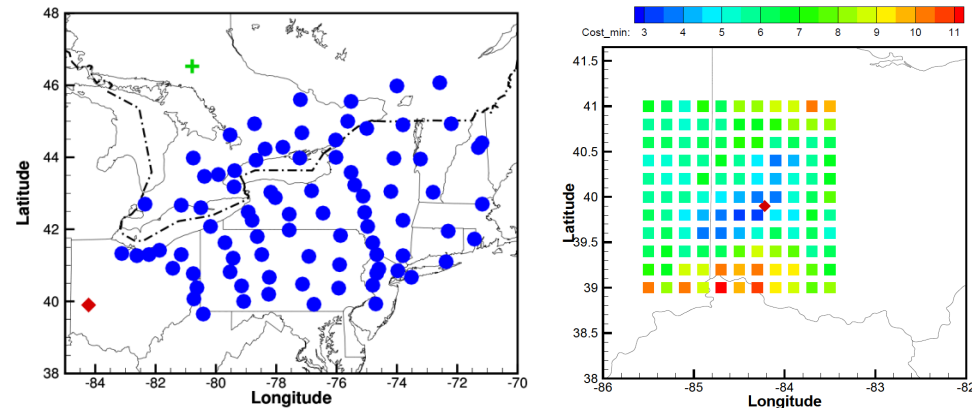
Improving volcanic ash predictions with the HYSPLIT dispersion model by assimilating MODIS satellite retrievals, Chai, T., et al. Atmos. Chem. Phys. 17, 2017

## 3. Smoke forecast with top-down emissions



NOAA Award NA16OAR4590121: “Top-down estimation of wildfire smoke emission based on HYSPLIT model and NOAA NESDIS GOES Aerosol/Smoke products (GASP) to improve smoke forecasts in the US”

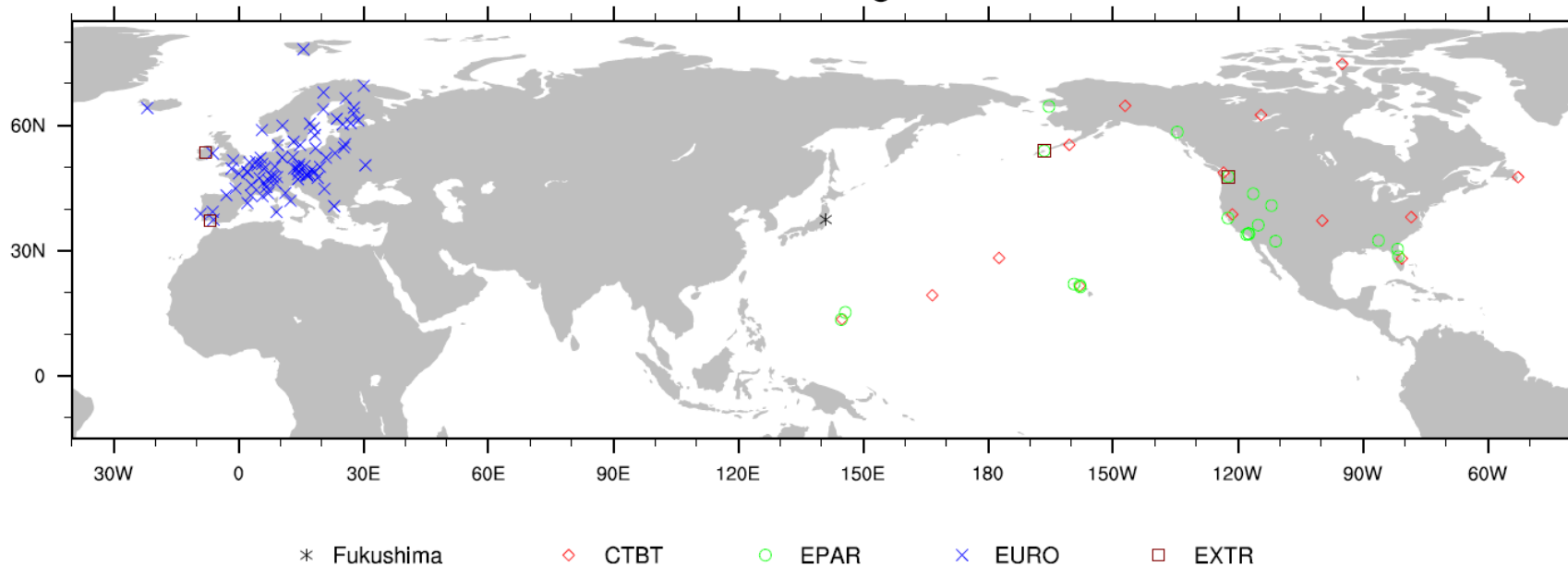
## 4. Model uncertainty study using CAPTEX data



Weak-constraint inverse modeling using HYSPLIT Lagrangian dispersion model and Cross Appalachian Tracer Experiment (CAPTEX) observations – Effect of including model uncertainties on source term estimation, Chai, T., A. Stein, and F. Ngan, *Geosci. Model Dev.*, <https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-2018-159>, 2018

# Fukushima air concentration measurements

Cs-137 Monitoring Stations

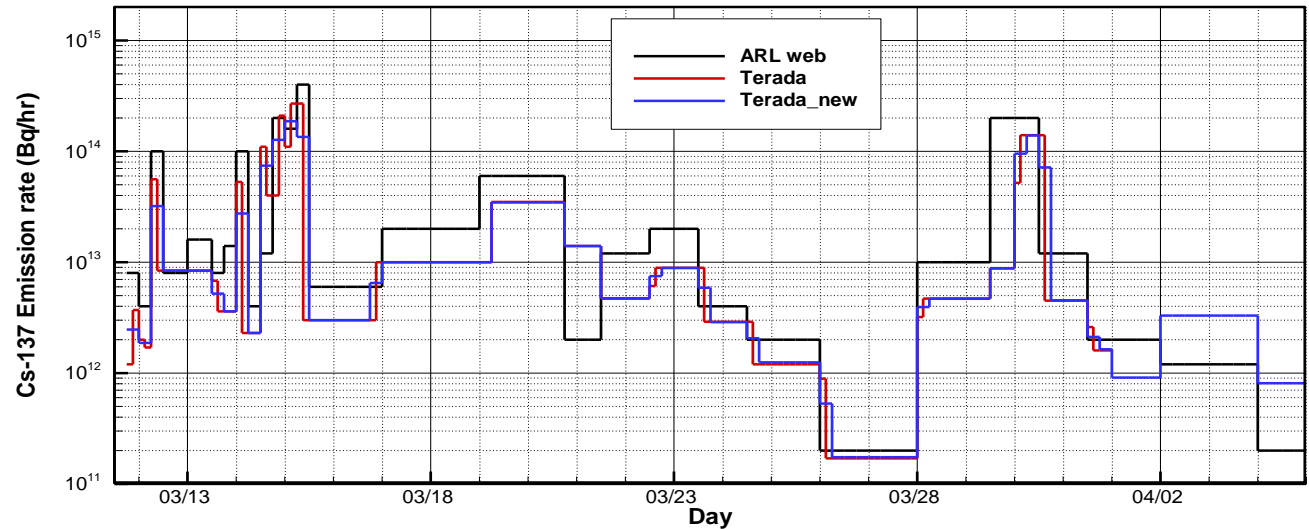


Data source	Number of monitoring stations	Count of total samples
CTBT	14	417 (421)
EPAR	19 (20)	35 (39)
EURO	78 (80)	785 (797)
EXTR	4	59 (61)
Total	115 (118)	1296 (1318)

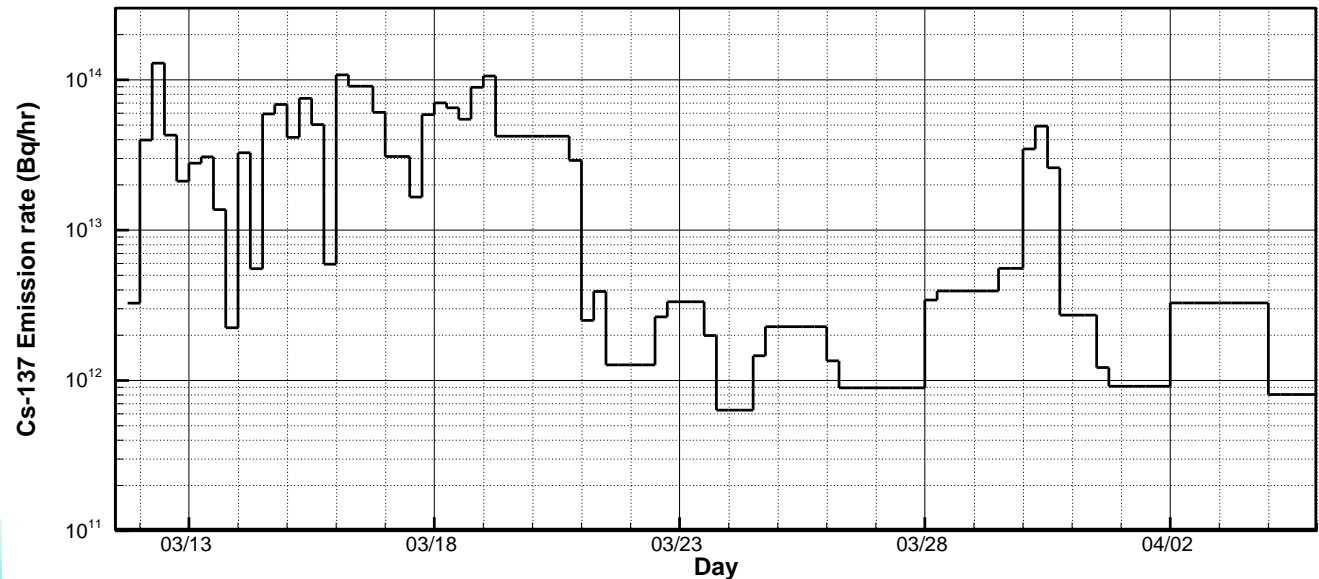


# Cs-137 emission rates

Chino et al. (2011);  
Katata et al. (2012);  
Terada et al. (2012)

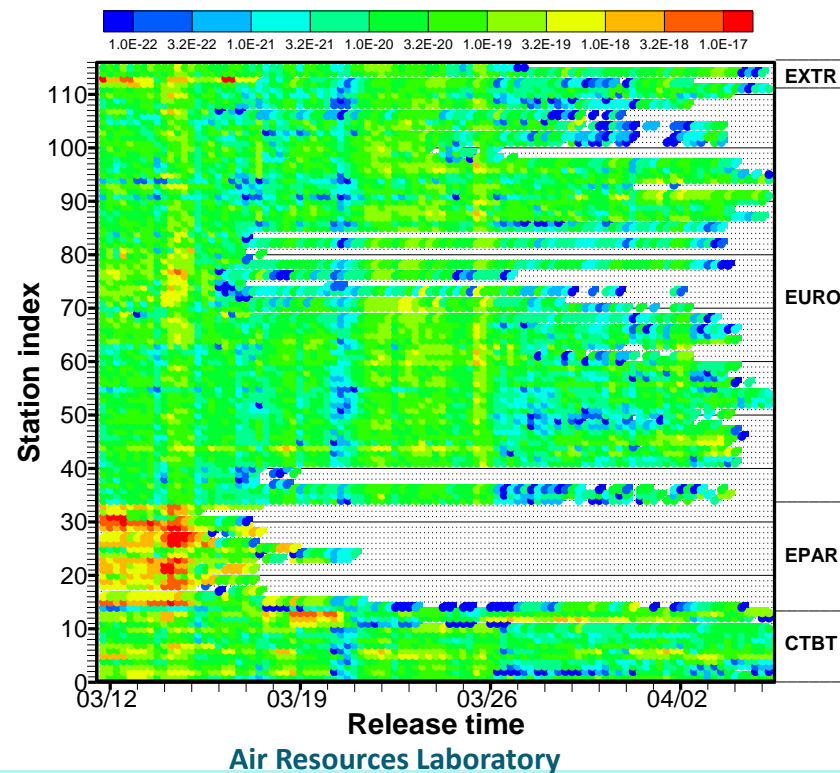


Katata et al. (2015)

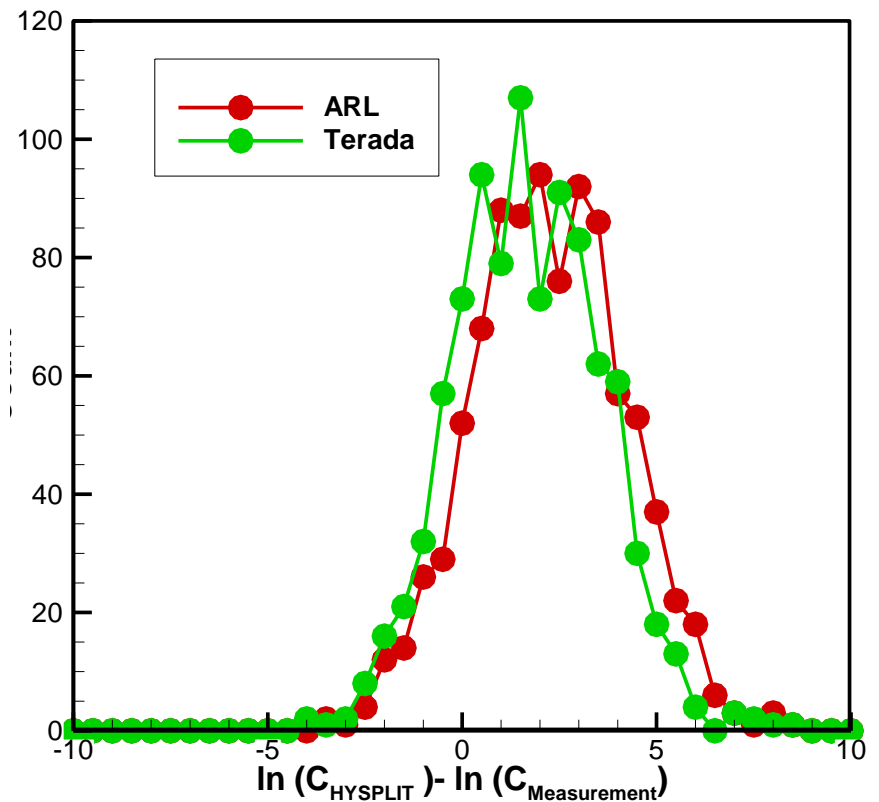
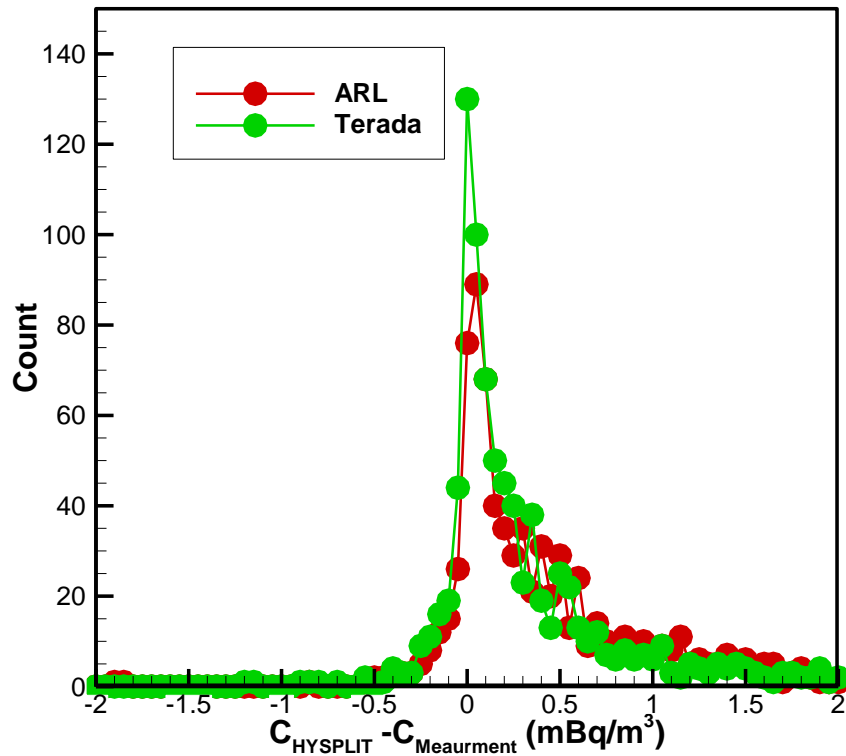


# Transfer coefficient matrix (TCM)

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1^h \\ c_2^h \\ \vdots \\ c_M^h \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} H_{1,1} & H_{1,2} & \cdots & H_{1,N} \\ H_{2,1} & H_{2,2} & \cdots & H_{2,N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ H_{M,1} & H_{M,2} & \cdots & H_{M,N} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ \vdots \\ q_N \end{pmatrix}$$



# Metric variable – C or $\ln(C)$ ?





# Twin experiments

- In twin experiments, pseudo-observations are generated with known sources

$$\mathbf{c}^p = \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{q} + \varepsilon$$

Where  $\varepsilon_m^p = (f_m^p \times c_m^p + a_m^p) \times r_m, \quad m = 1, \dots, M$

- They are used to address the following issues:
  1. How to measure the concentration/release differences?
  2. How does the cost functional approach compare to SVD?
  3. Will the results be sensitive to measurement errors?
  4. Will the results be sensitive to the first guess?

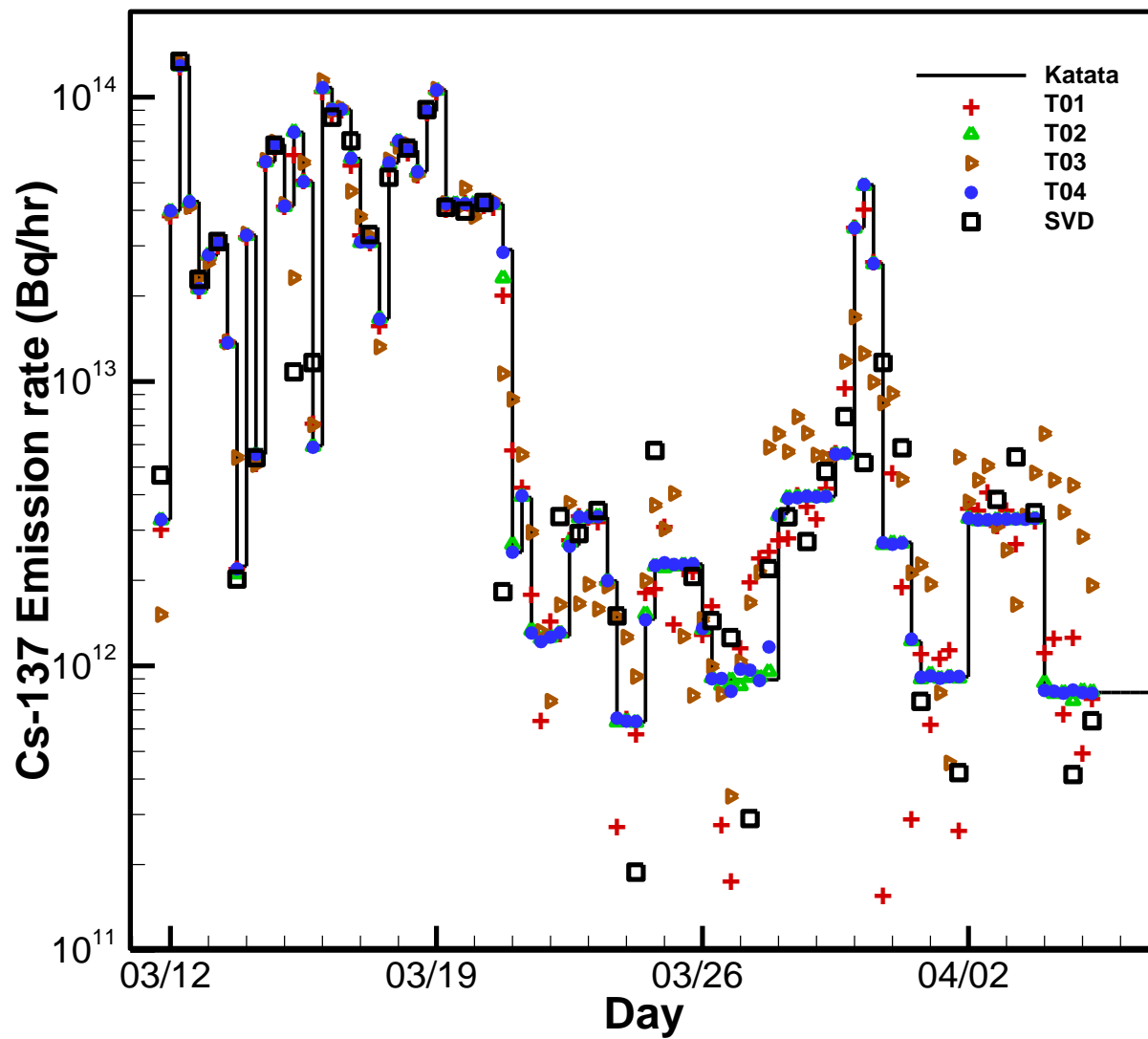


# Control and metric variables

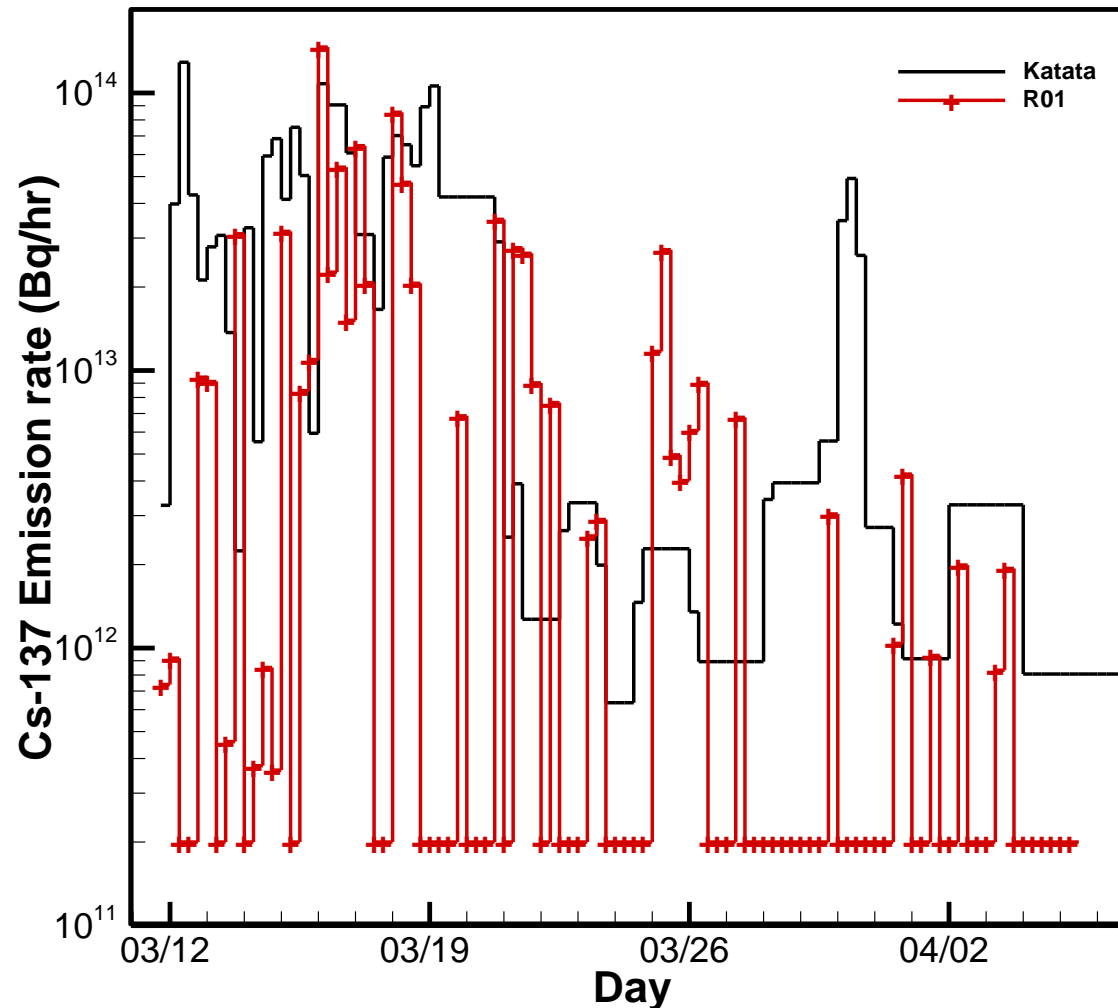
Case	x	y	$f_m^p$	$a_m^p$	$f_m^c$	$a_m^c$	$f_i^q$	$a_i^q$	$q^b$
T01	q	c	0	0	0.001	$10^{-5}$	$10^5$	$10^9$	$10^{13}$
T02	q	ln(c)	0	0	0.001	$10^{-5}$	$10^5$	$10^9$	$10^{13}$
T03	ln(q)	c	0	0	0.001	$10^{-5}$	$10^5$	$10^9$	$10^{13}$
T04	ln(q)	ln(c)	0	0	0.001	$10^{-5}$	$10^5$	$10^9$	$10^{13}$

Case	Cs-137 release			
	MAE	RMSE	MRE	R
T01	$0.90 \times 10^{12}$	$1.88 \times 10^{12}$	0.229	0.998
T02	$0.11 \times 10^{12}$	$0.61 \times 10^{12}$	0.012	1.000
T03	$3.32 \times 10^{12}$	$7.66 \times 10^{12}$	0.740	0.965
T04	$0.03 \times 10^{12}$	$0.08 \times 10^{12}$	0.011	1.000
SVD	$3.57 \times 10^{12}$	$9.06 \times 10^{12}$	0.588	0.952

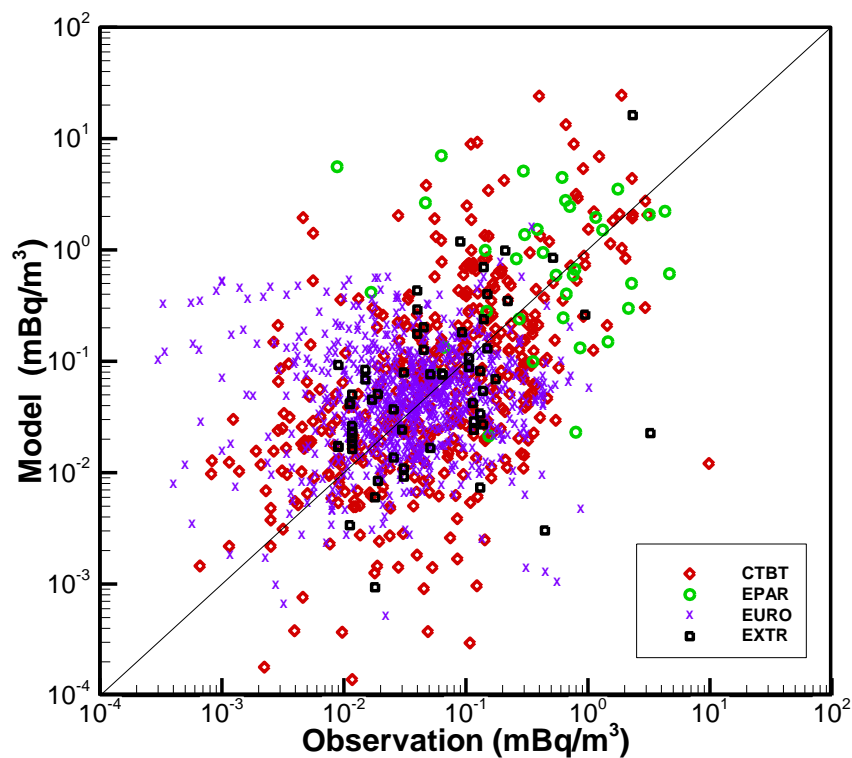
MAE: mean absolute error; RMSE: root-mean-square error; MRE: mean relative error; R: linear correlation coefficient. Units of MAE and RMSE: mBq/m<sup>3</sup> for concentrations, Bq/h for releases.



# R01: without smoothness

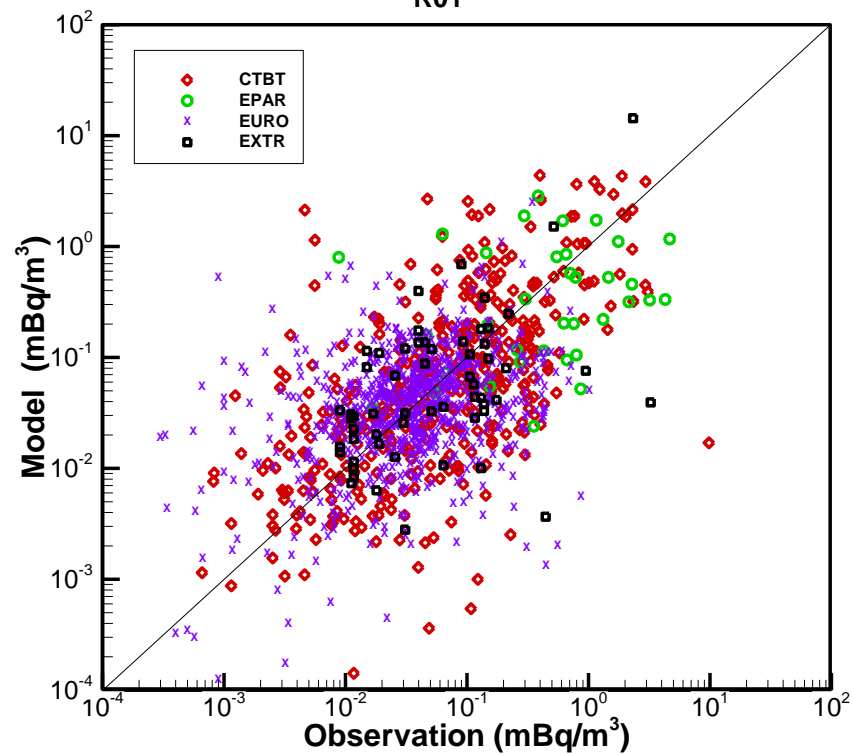


Katata et al. (2015)



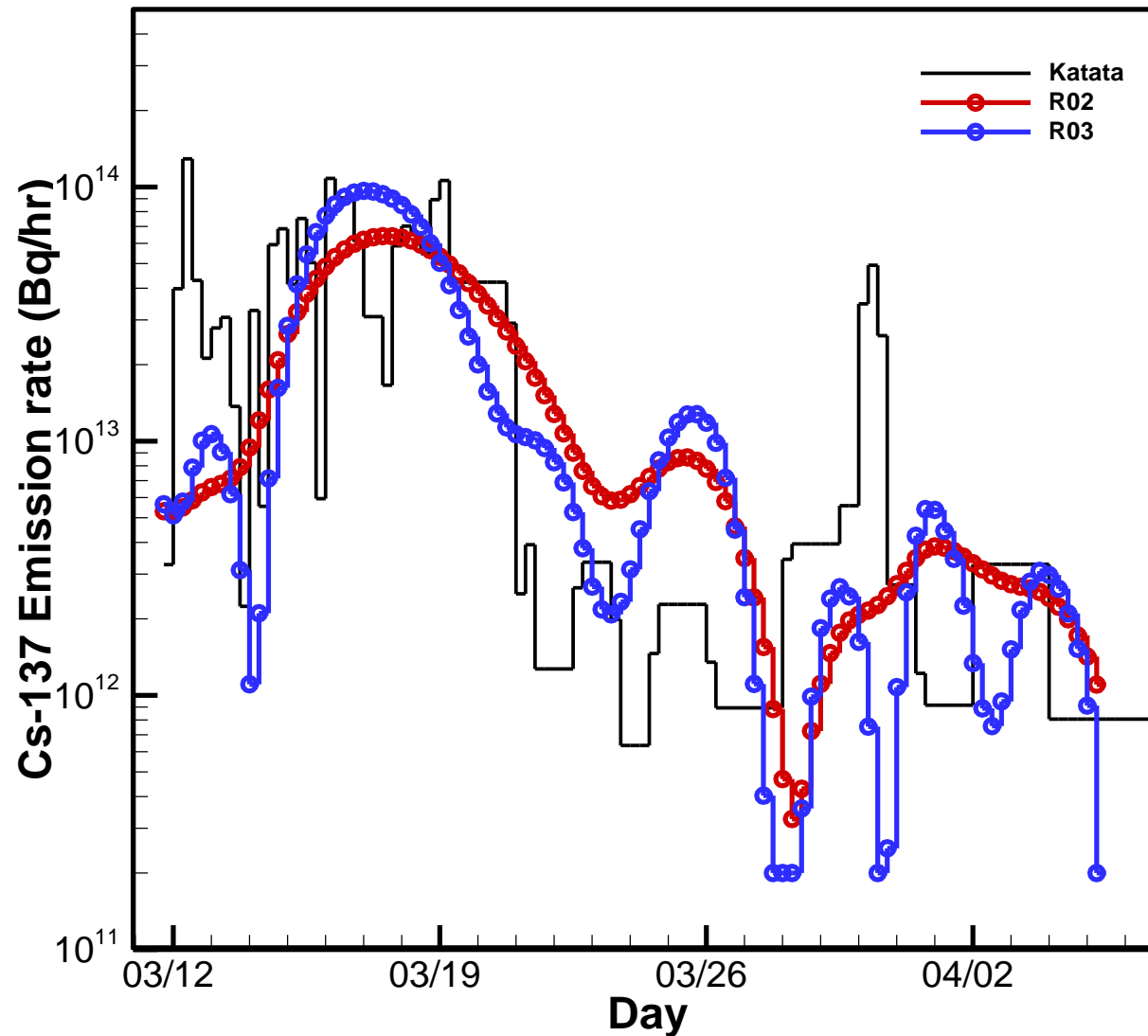
$R_c=0.255$ ,  $R_{ln(c)} = 0.376$

R01



$R_c=0.327$ ,  $R_{ln(c)} = 0.518$

# Smoothness penalty term

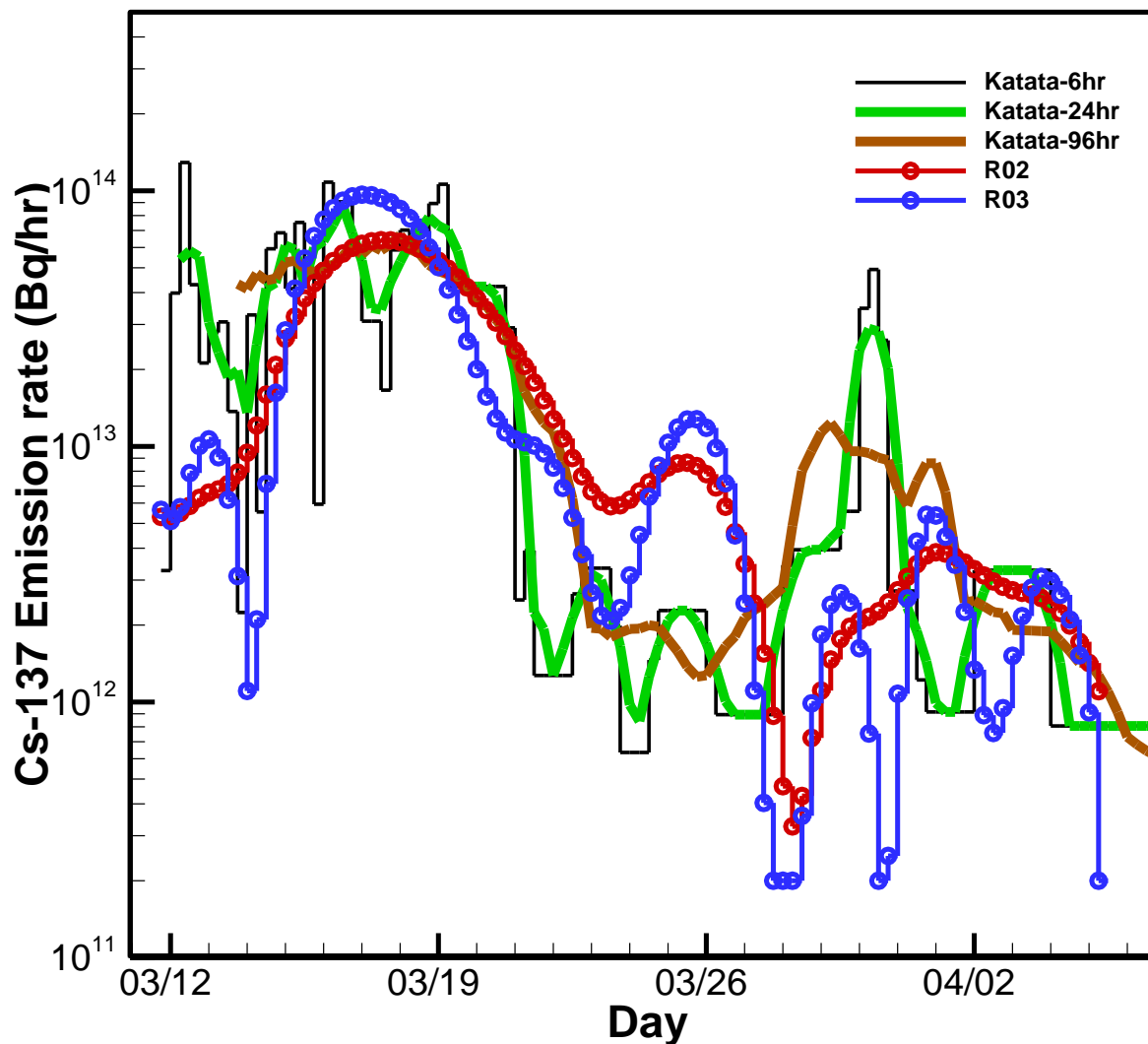


R02:  $C_{sm} = 1.0$

R03:  $C_{sm} = 0.1$



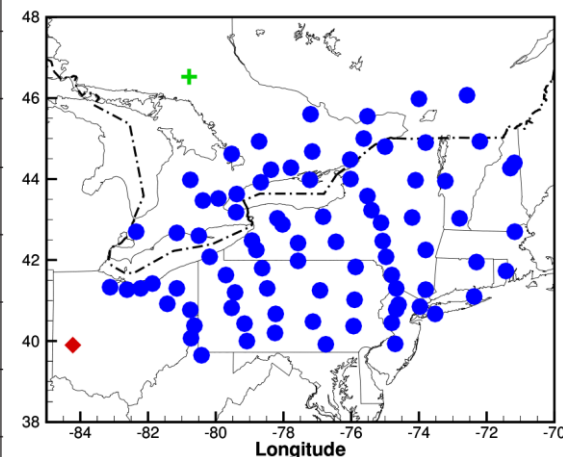
# Compared to running-average



# Cross Appalachian Tracer Experiment (CAPTEX)

- It consisted of a near-surface release of the inert tracer perfluoromonomethylcyclohexane (PMCH), from Dayton, Ohio, USA and Sudbury, Ontario, Canada;
- Samples were collected at 84 different measurement sites distributed from 300 to 800 km downwind of the emission source, as either 3- or 6-hour averages up to 60 hours after each release.

#	Site (latitude, longitude)	Release time	Amount	$M_{obs}$
1	Dayton (39.80°, -84.05°)	1700-2000Z, Sep. 18, 1983	208 kg	395
2	Dayton (39.90°, -84.22°)	1705-2005Z, Sep. 25, 1983	201 kg	400
3	Dayton (39.90°, -84.22°)	1900-2200Z, Oct. 02, 1983	201 kg	404
4	Dayton (39.90°, -84.22°)	1600-1900Z, Oct. 14, 1983	199 kg	367
5	Sudbury (46.62°, -80.78°)	0345-0645Z, Oct. 26, 1983	180 kg	357
6	Dayton (39.90°, -84.22°)	1530-1600Z, Oct. 28, 1983	32 kg	-
7	Sudbury (46.62°, -80.78°)	0600-0900Z, Oct. 29, 1983	183 kg	358





# Inverse results with $\varepsilon = f^o \times c^o + a^o$

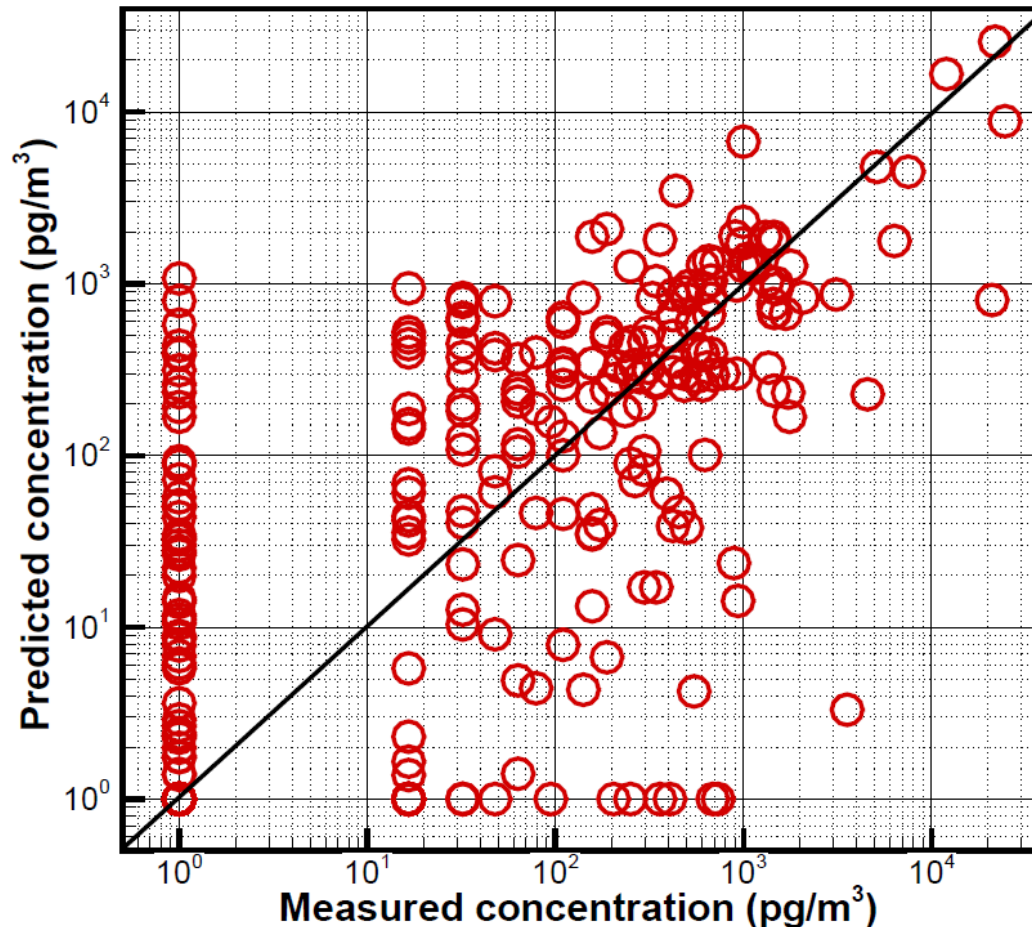
Release strength estimates of R2. Concentration is used as the metric variable.

Emission ( <i>kg/hr</i> )	$a^o = 10 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^o = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^o = 50 \text{ pg/m}^3$
$f^o = 10\%$	7.1	11.1	17.4
$f^o = 20\%$	4.1	7.1	12.6
$f^o = 30\%$	2.9	5.2	10.0
$f^o = 50\%$	1.8	3.4	7.1

Release strength estimates of R2. Logarithmic concentration is used as the metric variable.

Emission ( <i>kg/hr</i> )	$a^o = 10 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^o = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^o = 50 \text{ pg/m}^3$
$f^o = 10\%$	115.2	119.8	124.7
$f^o = 20\%$	106.3	112.9	119.8
$f^o = 30\%$	101.2	108.5	116.3
$f^o = 50\%$	94.4	101.2	109.6

# HYSPLIT predictions with exact source terms



$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{(q_{ij} - q_{ij}^b)^2}{\sigma_{ij}^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^M \frac{(c_m^h - c_m^o)^2}{\epsilon_m^2}$$

Comparison between the predicted and measured concentrations for Release 2 during the CAPTEX experiment. In the HYSPLIT simulation, at the exact release location, an emission rate of 67 kg/hr was applied from 17Z to 20Z on September 25, 1983.



With “dynamic”  $\varepsilon^2 = (f^o \times c^o + a^o)^2 + (f^h \times c^h + a^h)^2$

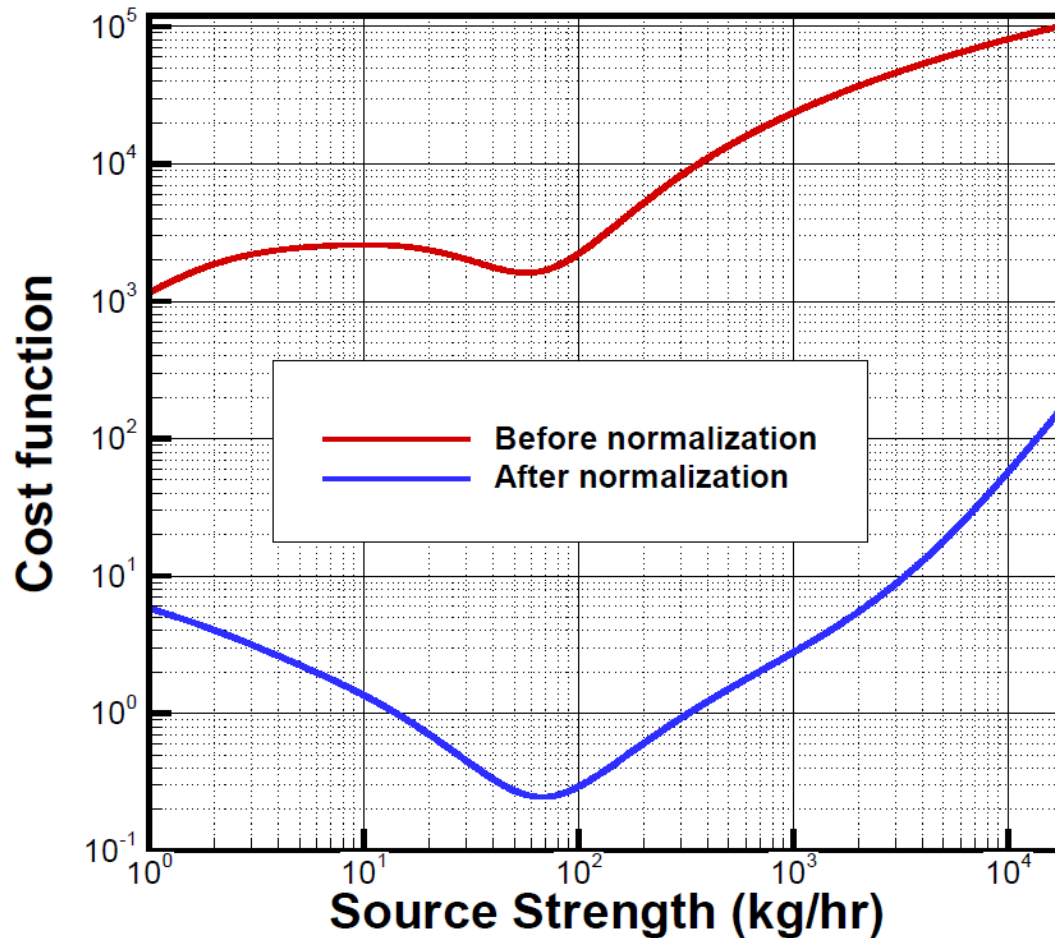
Release estimates of R2. Concentration is used as the metric variable.  $f^o = 20\%$ ,  $a^o = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$ .

Emission ( <i>kg/hr</i> )	$a^h = 10 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^h = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^h = 50 \text{ pg/m}^3$
$f^h = 0$	7.7	9.1	13.6
$f^h = 10\%$	15.9	22.1	32.9
$f^h = 20\%$	48.5	50.4	53.5
$f^h = 50\%$	114.0	111.8	104.3

Estimates of R2. Logarithmic concentration is used as the metric variable.  $f^o = 20\%$ ,  $a^o = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$

Emission ( <i>kg/hr</i> )	$a^h = 10 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^h = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^h = 50 \text{ pg/m}^3$
$f^h = 0$	64.7	58.5	53.5
$f^h = 10\%$	61.5	55.7	49.4
$f^h = 20\%$	58.5	53.0	46.6
$f^h = 50\%$	55.1	49.4	42.6

# Cost function normalization



$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{(q_{ij} - q_{ij}^b)^2}{\sigma_{ij}^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^M \frac{(c_m^h - c_m^o)^2}{\epsilon_m^2} \times \frac{\sum_{m=1}^M \frac{1}{\epsilon_m^{b/2}}}{\sum_{m=1}^M \frac{1}{\epsilon_m^2}}$$

Cost function as a function of source strength before and after cost function normalization, with  $f_h = 0$ ,  $a_h = 50$  pg/m<sup>3</sup>,  $f_o = 10\%$ , and  $a_o = 20$  pg/m<sup>3</sup>.





# Results with cost function normalization

Release estimates of R2. Concentration is used as the metric variable.  $f^0 = 20\%$ ,  $a^0 = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$ .

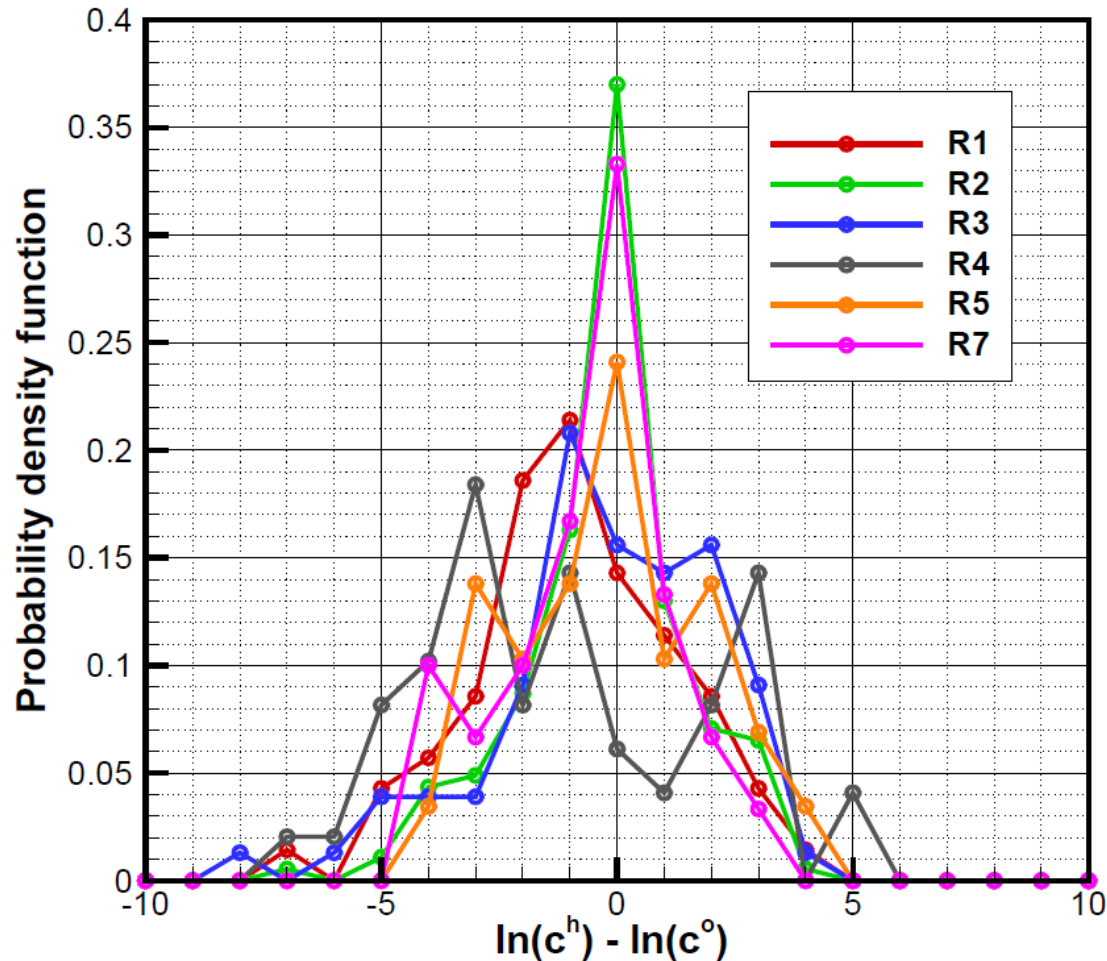
Emission ( $kg/hr$ )	$a^h = 10 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^h = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^h = 50 \text{ pg/m}^3$
$f^h = 0$	7.7	9.1	13.6
$f^h = 10\%$	10.9	15.1	26.4
$f^h = 20\%$	32.9	35.6	41.3
$f^h = 50\%$	64.7	64.7	65.3

Estimates of R2. Logarithmic concentration is used as the metric variable.  $f^0 = 20\%$ ,  $a^0 = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$ .

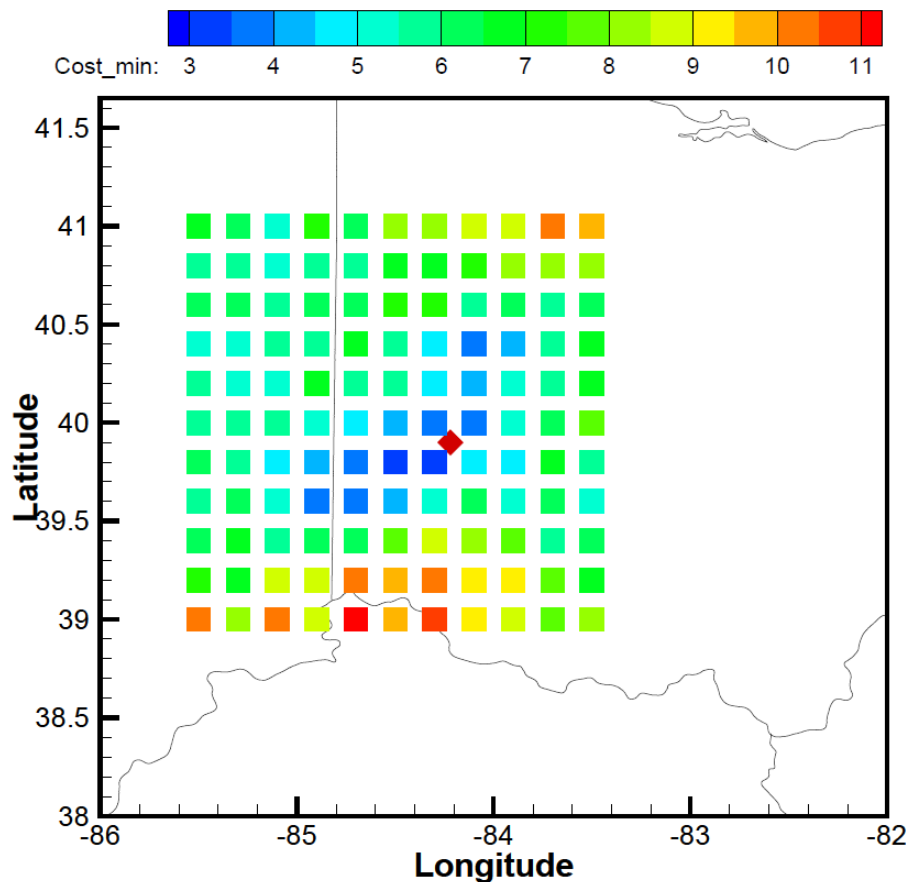
Emission ( $kg/hr$ )	$a^h = 10 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^h = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$	$a^h = 50 \text{ pg/m}^3$
$f^h = 0$	69.3	64.0	62.1
$f^h = 10\%$	67.3	63.4	60.9
$f^h = 20\%$	65.3	61.5	59.1
$f^h = 50\%$	61.5	58.0	55.1

# Why is it better to choose $\ln(c)$ as metric variable ?

Probability density function (pdf) of  $\ln(c_h) - \ln(c_o)$  for the six CAPTEX releases



# Source location identification



Distribution of 121 candidate source locations for release 2. The minimal cost function at each location associated with an optimal release strength is indicated by color. The cost function defined in Equation 5 is calculated with  $f^o = 20\%$ ,  $a^o = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$ ,  $f^h = 20\%$ , and  $a^h = 20 \text{ pg/m}^3$ . The actual source location, Dayton, Ohio, U.S., is shown as a red diamond.



# Inverse results for all releases

The source location (latitude, longitude) and release rate  $q_{min}$  identified by the minimal normalized cost function  $F_{min}$  for each CAPTEX release  $\Delta$  is the distance between the point with  $F_{min}$  and the actual release site.  $q'$  is the estimated release rate by assuming that the actual release location is known. Logarithm concentration is taken as the metric variable.

	Source location (latitude, longitude)		$\Delta$ (km)	Release rate (kg/hr)			
#	Actual	Estimated		Actual	$q_{min}$	$q'$	$\epsilon_{q'}$
1	39.80°, -84.05°	41.0°,-83.9°	134.2	69.3	23.9	106.3	6.2
2	39.90°, -84.22°	39.8°,-84.5°	26.4	67.0	48.5	61.5	1.8
3	39.90°, -84.22°	40.8°,-85.3°	135.8	67.0	63.4	41.7	2.6
4	39.90°, -84.22°	40.2°,-85.5°	114.1	66.3	185.7	75.1	4.6
5	46.62°, -80.78°	46.2°,-81.0°	49.7	60.0	72.9	42.6	3.0
7	46.62°, -80.78°	47.4°,-81.2°	92.5	61.0	201.0	66.0	3.9



# Summary

- HYSPLIT inverse modeling was applied to the Fukushima nuclear accident and the release estimation agrees well with others;
- It is found that computing  $\ln(c)$  differences between model and observations is better than using the concentration differences;
- Using CAPTEX data, concentration metric variable results in severe underestimation while  $\ln(C)$  metric results in overestimation before introducing model uncertainty terms;
- Adding “dynamic” model uncertainty terms improves results for both choice of the metric variables in the cost function while  $\ln(C)$  metric variable gives better results;
- A cost function normalization scheme is introduced to avoid spurious minimal source term solutions and proves to be effective;
- At last, the system is tested for its capability to find a single source location as well as its source strength.



*Thank you!*