



# **Evaluating the Relation Between Ozone, NO<sub>x</sub> and Hydrocarbons: The Method of Photochemical Indicators**



**EVALUATING THE RELATION BETWEEN OZONE, NO<sub>x</sub> AND  
HYDROCARBONS: THE METHOD OF PHOTOCHEMICAL INDICATORS**

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## **NOTICE**

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## ABSTRACT

The method of photochemical indicators is a way to evaluate the sensitivity of  $O_3$  to its two main precursors, nitrogen oxides ( $NO_x$ ) and reactive organic gases (ROG), directly from ambient measurements. The method is based on identifying measureable species or species ratios that are closely associated with  $O_3$ - $NO_x$ -ROG predictions in photochemical models. Several species of this type have been identified:  $O_3/NO_y$  (where  $NO_y$  is total reactive nitrogen),  $O_3/NO_z$  (where  $NO_z = NO_y - NO_x$ ),  $O_3/HNO_3$ ,  $H_2O_2/HNO_3$ ,  $H_2O_2/NO_z$ , and  $H_2O_2/NO_y$ . In each case, high values of the proposed indicator are associated with  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry in models and low values are associated with ROG-sensitive chemistry. This report presents a summary of  $O_3$ - $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity in models and the chemistry that motivate the choice of species as photochemical indicators. It shows the correlation between model  $NO_x$ -ROG predictions and indicator values for a variety of models, including simulations for Lake Michigan, the northeast corridor, Atlanta and Los Angeles. The indicator- $NO_x$ -ROG correlation remains consistent in model scenarios with radically different assumptions about anthropogenic and biogenic emission rates and meteorology and in models with different chemical mechanisms. The report shows correlations between  $O_3$ ,  $NO_z$  and  $H_2O_2$  in models and in ambient measurements, which provide a basis for evaluating the accuracy of critical assumptions associated with the indicator method. Case studies are described for Atlanta and Los Angeles in which measured values of indicator ratios were used as a basis for evaluating model scenarios. It is shown in which model scenarios with different  $NO_x$ -ROG predictions often give similar values for peak  $O_3$  but different values for indicator ratios. The case studies illustrate how comparisons between model results and measured indicator values can be used as a basis for model evaluation. Uncertainties associated with the indicator method (including measurement uncertainties, dry deposition and surface effects) are discussed.



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## SECTION 1

### OVERVIEW

For many years there has been uncertainty about the relation between low-level ozone and its two major anthropogenic precursors: reactive organic gases (ROG) and nitrogen oxides ( $\text{NO}_x$ ). It is generally known that for some conditions ozone concentrations increase with increasing  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions and are largely independent of ROG, while for other conditions ozone increases with ROG and does not increase (or may even decrease) with  $\text{NO}_x$ . However, it is difficult to determine whether individual air pollution events are dominated by  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive or ROG-sensitive chemistry.

The uncertain relationship between ozone, ROG and  $\text{NO}_x$  has made it especially difficult to develop effective control policies for ozone. Ozone as an air pollutant is responsible for widespread violations of air quality standards, affecting most major metropolitan areas in the U.S. A large effort has been made to reduce emission of ozone precursors, but it is unclear whether these efforts have been effective in controlling ozone levels (NRC, 1991). Because of the complex relationship between ozone and its precursors, there is far greater uncertainty about the effectiveness of control strategies for ozone than for other pollutants associated with air quality violations. A control strategy that relies on reductions in emissions of ROG will not be effective in a region where ozone concentrations are driven by  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry. Similarly, a control strategy that relies on  $\text{NO}_x$  reductions will not be effective during air pollution events with ROG-sensitive chemistry.

The task of analyzing the ozone- $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG relationship is commonly based on predictions from photochemical models. These models use estimates for emission rates of ozone precursors in combination with meteorological information (wind speeds, vertical diffusion, temperatures, etc.) and a representation of ozone chemistry in order to simulate the ozone formation process for a specific air pollution event. Predictions for the effectiveness of ROG vs.  $\text{NO}_x$  controls are derived by repeating the simulations with reduced emission rates for ROG or  $\text{NO}_x$ . The accuracy of these control strategy predictions has frequently been called into question, largely because of uncertainties

associated with emission inventories. Inventories for anthropogenic ROG emissions may be underestimated by up to a factor of two (Fujita et al., 1992), while recent research has shown that the emission rate for isoprene, the most important biogenic ROG, is approximately four times higher than previous estimates (Geron et al., 1994, 1995). Both of these uncertainties have a large impact on model predictions of the effectiveness of ROG vs. NO<sub>x</sub> controls. It is frequently possible to generate model scenarios with either NO<sub>x</sub>- and ROG-sensitive chemistry while remaining within the bounds of uncertainty associated with emissions and other model input.

A more fundamental problem with the model-based approach for O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity is the difficulty in evaluating model predictions against real-world measurements. There is no direct way to evaluate a control strategy prediction, because it is never possible to repeat an air pollution event with reduced ROG or NO<sub>x</sub> emissions and compare its outcome with model results. Model evaluations can only be done by comparing predictions from the model base case with ambient measurements. The problem with most model evaluations is that the accuracy of model predictions for the base case does not guarantee that model predictions for control strategies are also accurate. In particular, the most common test of model performance - comparison with ambient ozone - gives no basis for confidence in model predictions for control strategies. This is because different model scenarios often give similar values for ozone in the base case, while giving very different predictions for the response of ozone to reductions in ROG or NO<sub>x</sub>.

This report presents a new approach to the problem of evaluating O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity: the *method of photochemical indicators*. The goal of the method is to identify measureable species or species ratios that are closely linked to model control strategy predictions, so that NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive or ROG-sensitive chemistry can be associated with specific values of these species ratios. If successful, the method of photochemical indicators would provide a way to evaluate NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity based solely on ambient measurements, without using models. A more modest application of the method would be to evaluate the performance of model scenarios. The nature of the indicator ratios associated with this method is that they will always assume different values in models with NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry as opposed to models with ROG-sensitive chemistry. Thus, the indicator ratios (unlike ozone) provide a basis for choosing between NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive model scenarios.

The method of photochemical indicators is part of a broader attempt to develop observation-based methods (OBMs) that seek to analyze O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG chemistry based on extensive field measurements rather than model predictions (e.g. Cardelino et al., 1995).

The method of photochemical indicators was developed based on a series of photochemical model applications designed to represent a wide range of physical conditions and situations. These have included simulations for four metropolitan regions: the Lake Michigan airshed, the New York-Boston urban corridor, Atlanta and Los Angeles. They have included simulations with anthropogenic ROG emissions doubled from inventory estimates, reflecting uncertainty in inventories identified by Fujita et al. (1992). They have included scenarios with anthropogenic ROG emissions reduced by half from inventory estimates, reflecting conditions that may occur in Europe today or in the U.S. following the application of an effective ROG control program. They have included scenarios with biogenic ROG emissions based on the current BEIS2 inventory (Geron et al., 1994) and also on the older BEIS1 inventory with much lower emission rates (Pierce et al., 1990), and scenarios with zero biogenic emissions. They have included simulations with changed wind speeds and vertical mixing rates in order to represent conditions that might be either more or less stagnant than the events used as test cases. They have included results from two very different model types: a regional-scale model developed by Sillman et al. at the University of Michigan (Sillman et al., 1993) and the Urban Airshed Model (UAM-IV)(Morris and Myers, 1990), familiar to air pollution researchers. These two models include different representations of photochemistry: a mechanism based on Lurmann et al. (1986) (similar to the more familiar SAPRC mechanism) with various updates and isoprene chemistry based on work by Paulson and Seinfeld (1992) in the Michigan model; and the Carbon Bond IV mechanism (Gery et al., 1989) in UAM-IV.

Species and species ratios that can be used as indicators for NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity were sought based on an analysis of model results. In order to be useful as a photochemical indicator a species or species ratio must satisfy the following four criteria:

- (i) The indicator must involve measureable species.
- (ii) The indicator must consistently show different values in model scenarios with NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry as opposed to model scenarios with ROG-sensitive chemistry. The difference between NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive indicator values must also be large enough so that the NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indication is less likely to be obscured by uncertainties in measurement techniques.
- (iii) The correlation between indicator values and NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity must remain reasonably constant in models with widely different assumptions. The purpose of the method would be undermined if the indicator correlation were limited to models with a fixed range of assumptions, e.g. about biogenic ROG.

(iv) The indicator should be closely linked with the chemical factors that govern  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity. It should not just represent an empirical curve-fitting exercise or be an artifact of an individual model.

Two classes of species have been identified that appear to meet these criteria. These species are as follows.

A. *Ratios involving ozone and total reactive nitrogen:*  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_y}$ , where  $\text{NO}_y$  represents total reactive nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_x$ , PAN,  $\text{HNO}_3$ , alkyl nitrates and other nitrogen-containing species produced from  $\text{NO}_x$ );  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_z}$ , where  $\text{NO}_z$  represents  $\text{NO}_x$  reaction products,  $\text{NO}_y - \text{NO}_x$ ; and  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{HNO}_3}$ .

B. *Ratios involving hydrogen peroxide and total reactive nitrogen:*  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_z}$ ,  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_y}$ , and  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ .

In each case, a high value for the indicator ratio corresponds to a situation in which the ozone concentration is primarily sensitive to  $\text{NO}_x$ , while a low value corresponds to a situation in which  $\text{O}_3$  is primarily sensitive to ROG. This interpretation applies only for indicator values during the afternoon (concurrent with peak  $\text{O}_3$ ) and only for  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity at the same location as the indicator value.

Among these alternatives, the ratios involving hydrogen peroxide (especially  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ ) provide more consistent results in photochemical models and are more closely linked to the photochemical processes that drive  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry, but these are also more difficult to measure. Among the ratios involving ozone,  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_z}$  has a stronger link with  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry than  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_y}$ , but the latter has certain advantages associated with situations involving power plants.

An important component of the indicator method concerns the need to evaluate the accuracy of the indicator predictions. The correlation between  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity and the indicator ratios is based entirely on the results of photochemical models. As such, the indicator method faces the same type of challenge as the conventional photochemical models: how can the predicted  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity be proven?

Model results have suggested an important test for the validity of the method. The chemistry associated with  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity and the indicator ratios also suggests that a linear correlation should be found between  $\text{O}_3$  and the sum:  $\text{NO}_z + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , evaluated during the afternoon following a period of photochemical activity. This linear correlation is predicted in three-dimensional models that include both chemistry and transport, and is

shown in Section 4. The correlation is closely associated with the role of  $O_3$ ,  $NO_z$  and  $H_2O_2$  as indicators for  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity. It is well-known that  $O_3$  increases with  $NO_z$  but that the rate of increase ( $dO_3/dNO_z$ ) decreases at higher  $NO_z$  and is lower in some urban areas (e.g. Los Angeles) relative to rural sites (Trainer et al., 1993). The indicator method provides an additional interpretation: high  $O_3/NO_z$  ratios in rural areas represent  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry while low  $O_3/NO_z$  ratios in central Los Angeles represent ROG-sensitive chemistry. If this interpretation is valid, then the correlation between  $O_3$  and the sum  $NO_z+2H_2O_2$  will remain linear, even while the  $O_3$ - $NO_z$  slope varies. Thus, an examination of measured  $O_3$ ,  $NO_z$  and  $H_2O_2$  provides both a general evaluation of the indicator method and a test for problems (e.g. measurement errors or erroneous model assumptions) in each individual application of the method.

In summary, the indicator method provides several advantages over conventional methods of analysis of  $O_3$ - $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity. Unlike conventional photochemical models, the indicator predictions are not sensitive to assumptions about emission rates for anthropogenic or biogenic ROG. When used in combination with photochemical models the indicator method provides a meaningful evaluation of the accuracy of model  $NO_x$ -ROG predictions. Finally, the indicator method includes a diagnostic test for its own accuracy, based on the predicted linear correlation between  $O_3$ ,  $NO_z$  and  $H_2O_2$ . The indicator method can be applied based on measurements for just three species,  $O_3$ ,  $NO_x$  and  $NO_y$ , although the inclusion of measurements of  $H_2O_2$ ,  $HNO_3$  and CO would improve the reliability of the method.

The indicator method, like any new approach, involves problems and uncertainties that are not present in other methods. The following is a list of caveats for researchers who seek to use the indicator method.

- (1) The indicator method provides information about  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity only at the time and place of the measurements. It is well known that  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity varies with location within a metropolitan area, with ROG-sensitive chemistry more likely in the urban center and  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry more likely downwind (Milford et al., 1989). Thus, it is inaccurate to infer  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity for an entire metropolitan area from measurements at a small number of locations.  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity can also vary from event to event and changes with time of day. Illustrations of this will be shown in the report below.
- (2) The indicator method as presented here is designed to estimate  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity associated with ozone concentrations, not the instantaneous rate of ozone production. The  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity of ozone concentrations depends on photochemistry over an extended time period (typically 1-2 days) and transport from a significant distance upwind.



This impact of upwind transport and photochemistry is included in the models that were used to derive the indicator correlations.

(3) The indicator method is critically dependent on the accuracy of measurements, especially  $\text{NO}_y$ . Luke and Dickerson (1987) have warned that certain types of measurement systems characteristically underestimate  $\text{NO}_y$ , because  $\text{HNO}_3$  (a major  $\text{NO}_y$  component) is deposited on the inlet tube. This type of measurement error would invalidate the use of  $\text{NO}_y$  as a  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG indicator.

Model results suggest that values for  $\text{O}_3/\text{NO}_y$  and  $\text{O}_3/\text{NO}_z$  associated with  $\text{NO}_x$ - and ROG-sensitive chemistry differ by a factor of two, and values for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{HNO}_3$  and other ratios with peroxides show an even larger difference between  $\text{NO}_x$ - and ROG-sensitive locations. Errors in measurements are likely to be important only if they are significant in comparison with this range of variation, i.e. 25% or higher. However errors in measurements are especially troublesome if they might lead to a systematic overestimate or underestimate in measured indicator ratios, since these would cause bias in the indicator  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG interpretation.

Because of potential problems with  $\text{NO}_y$  measurements it is important to carefully evaluate measurement accuracy. One possible method for evaluating the accuracy of measured  $\text{NO}_y$  is to include simultaneous measurements of CO and  $\text{SO}_2$  and examine correlations of these species with  $\text{NO}_y$ . Previous studies have identified a correlation between these species, reflecting their common anthropogenic origin (Parrish et al., 1991, Buhr et al., 1995). A deviation from the expected correlation between these species might be used to identify erroneous measurements.

Because these three species have a common anthropogenic origin, it should be possible to identify a consistent correlation between them, which could then be used to evaluate the accuracy of individual  $\text{NO}_y$  measurements.

(4) Species ratios that use  $\text{NO}_x$ , PAN or  $\text{NO}_x$ +PAN in place of  $\text{NO}_y$ ,  $\text{NO}_z$  or  $\text{HNO}_3$  do not correlate well with  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity and should not be used as photochemical indicators. This is a problem because  $\text{NO}_y$  measurements that rely on older techniques have been found to represent the sum  $\text{NO}_x$ +PAN rather than true  $\text{NO}_x$  or  $\text{NO}_y$  (Logan, 1989). Recent reports have also erroneously used the ratio  $\text{O}_3/\text{NO}_2$  as a  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG indicator (LADCO, 1994). Also, species ratios must be based on simultaneous measurements (rather than  $\text{O}_3$  in the afternoon versus  $\text{NO}_y$  in the morning or at a different location).

(5) Many of the species associated with the indicator method ( $\text{NO}_y$ ,  $\text{NO}_z$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$ ) can be rapidly removed from the atmosphere (and removed at varying rates) by surface deposition or deposition on aerosols. This may represent a major uncertainty for

the method. Correlations between  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity and indicator values may change significantly if changes are made to model surface deposition rates. In addition, surface-level measurements at night cannot be used as  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG indicators because the indicator concentrations at night are dominated by surface deposition processes.

(6) The indicator method was derived from models that did not include aerosol nitrates ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ ) which are formed from gas-phase  $\text{HNO}_3$ . It is therefore appropriate to include aerosol nitrate (converted to gas-phase equivalent units) in the sum for  $\text{NO}_z$ , and interpret  $\text{HNO}_3$  in the indicator ratios as representing the sum of  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NO}_3^-$ . Failure to include aqueous chemistry represents an additional source of uncertainty in the method.

(7) Surface measurements of  $\text{NO}_y$  are sometimes dominated by  $\text{NO}_x$  sources close to the measurement site. This would interfere with the direct use of  $\text{NO}_y$  in indicator ratios (e.g.  $\text{O}_3/\text{NO}_y$  or  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{NO}_y$ ). This problem can be avoided by using  $\text{NO}_z$  (based on simultaneous measurement of  $\text{NO}_x$  and  $\text{NO}_y$ ) instead of (or in addition to)  $\text{NO}_y$ .

This report presents a summary of research on the indicator method to date. Section 2 provides background information on the chemistry of  $\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_x$  and ROG that serves as a motivating factor for the selection of the various indicator ratios. This section also presents a concise summary of the current understanding of  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity that has emerged in recent years. The state of science associated with  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry has seen great changes in the past ten years. The summary in Section 2 may serve both as an introduction to the field and a review for experienced researchers and regulators.

Section 3 presents the correlation between  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG predictions and the various indicator ratios in photochemical models. It includes a description of the models used, general results for  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity, the extent of variation of the indicator- $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG correlation in different model scenarios, and methods for quantitatively identifying the indicator values corresponding to the transition between  $\text{NO}_x$ - and ROG-sensitive chemistry. It also shows results for alternative choices ( $\text{NO}_y$ , AIRTRAK,  $\text{O}_3/\text{NO}_x$ ,  $\text{ROG}/\text{NO}_x$ ) which do not perform as well as the recommended indicator ratios. A complete presentation of model results is also included in the Appendix.

Section 4 examines the correlation between  $\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_z$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  as predicted by photochemical models and as observed during field measurement campaigns. As described above, this correlation represents a critical test for the accuracy of the indicator method. Section 5 shows results from applications of the indicator method for specific events in Atlanta and Los Angeles. These results include comparisons between predicted indicator values from a series of model scenarios, each designed to give different predictions for  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry. These predictions are compared with measured indicator species

and ratios, which are used as a basis for accepting the results of some model scenarios and rejecting others. The comparison between model and measured values of photochemical indicators associated with predicted and observed (non-paired) peak O<sub>3</sub> is proposed as a criterion for evaluating model performance. This criterion provides a much stronger basis for model evaluation than criteria based solely on model vs. measured O<sub>3</sub>. It is hoped that these case studies can be used as examples for future applications.

The contents of this report are based models and measurements for the northeast corridor and Lake Michigan (Sillman, 1995a), Atlanta (Sillman et al., 1995b, 1997a), New York and Los Angeles (1997a). More recent results from the Middle Tennessee Ozone Study (Sillman et al., 1997b) have been included only in summary form.

## SECTION 2

### CHEMISTRY OF O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> AND ROG

This section includes two parts. The first part provides a summary of the various factors that can affect O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity, based on results from photochemical models. The original understanding that NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity is determined by ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios has been greatly modified in recent years. Additional factors include the impact of biogenic ROG, the geographical variation in NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG chemistry as an air mass ages and moves downwind from an urban center, and the influence of meteorological stagnation in causing day-to-day variations in NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG chemistry. An understanding of these factors can be of great help to researchers and to regulators who need to interpret the results of models or other NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG analyses.

The second part analyses the specific chemical reactions and reaction sequences that create the division into NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive regimes. This section also provides the theoretical basis for the link between NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity and the identified indicator ratios. As discussed below, O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG chemistry is derived from reaction cycles involving odd hydrogen radicals (OH, HO<sub>2</sub> and RO<sub>2</sub>, where R represents a carbon-hydrogen chain). NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry occurs when radical-radical reactions (HO<sub>2</sub>+HO<sub>2</sub> and HO<sub>2</sub>+RO<sub>2</sub>, making peroxides) are the dominant sink for odd hydrogen, while ROG-sensitive chemistry occurs when nitrate-forming reactions (OH+NO<sub>2</sub>, making nitric acid) are the dominant sink. From these chemical reaction sequences it is possible to derive a theoretical relationship between NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity and the species ratios that have been identified as photochemical indicators: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>. Section 3 will show how the correlation between NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity and photochemical indicators also appears in more complete photochemical simulations.

A more complete review of the state of science associated with O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG is given in Sillman (1997c).

## 2.1. Factors affecting O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity in urban locations

For purposes of this study the terms "NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive" and "ROG-sensitive" will be defined based on the predicted response of ozone concentrations to a moderate (usually 35%) reduction in anthropogenic emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> or ROG. Locations will be defined as NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive if the model results with reduced NO<sub>x</sub> show a greater decrease of O<sub>3</sub> than the same percent reduction of ROG. However it should be recognized that the NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive labels also depend on the size of the reductions. In general, NO<sub>x</sub> reductions are more likely to result in reduced O<sub>3</sub> if a large percent reduction is applied. Roselle et al. (1995) have reported cases where a 25% reduction in ROG is predicted to result in lower O<sub>3</sub> than a 25% reduction in NO<sub>x</sub>, but where a 75% reduction in NO<sub>x</sub> results in lower O<sub>3</sub> than a 75% reduction in ROG.

The following discussion describes individual factors that have a large impact on NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG predictions in models. The discussion refers to the the impact of each individual factor in isolation; i.e. all other things being equal, a change in the individual factor will tend to shift model responses in the direction of NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive or ROG-sensitive chemistry. These should not be used to infer NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity for individual locations, which result from the combination of many factors.

**ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios:** It is well known that the division between NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive ozone photochemistry is closely associated with ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios (e.g. NRC, 1991). The O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG relationship is conveniently summarized by isopleth plots, a form of which is shown in Figure 2-1. These plots show that the rate of ozone formation as a function of NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG is highly nonlinear. When ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios are high the rate of ozone production increases with increasing NO<sub>x</sub> but shows little sensitivity to ROG (NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive regime). When ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios are low the rate of ozone formation increases with increasing ROG and decreases with increasing NO<sub>x</sub> (ROG-sensitive regime). Early analyses suggested that ROG-sensitive chemistry could be associated with ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratio lower than 10 in an urban center during the morning hours while NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry could be associated with ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios greater than 20 (Blanchard et al., 1991).

The view that morning (6-9 a.m.) ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios can be used to determine NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity has been largely discredited (NRC, 1991, and references below). The problems with ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> concentration ratios as a NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indicator include the following:

- (i) It fails to account for the impact of biogenic ROG, which are mainly emitted during the midday and afternoon hours rather than at 6-9 a.m. and which are also disproportionately reactive (Chameides et al., 1988, 1992).
- (ii) It fails to account for variations in ROG reactivity, which may occur either due to variations between urban areas or to changes in estimates of the speciation of emitted ROG (Chameides et al., 1992, Carter et al., 1994, 1995)
- (iii) It fails to account for the geographic variation of  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity within a metropolitan area (Milford et al., 1989).
- (iv) It fails to explain the fact that  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity can vary from event to event, even for the same metropolitan area. Event-by-event variations in  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity have been found in photochemical models, even though the ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  emission ratios and morning concentrations do not vary (Milford et al., 1994, Roselle et al., 1995).
- (v) It fails to account for the impact of multiday transport, which usually has greater sensitivity to  $\text{NO}_x$  than single-day events (Sillman et al., 1990a).

Despite these flaws, the morning ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratio continues to be used, inappropriately, to analyze ROG- $\text{NO}_x$  sensitivity (Hanna et al., 1996). Because of its repeated misuse, it is important to understand both the rationale for its use (i.e. the isopleth diagram) and its flaws.

**Biogenic ROG and ROG reactivity:** Chameides et al. (1988) showed that biogenic ROG, especially isoprene, have a significant impact on ozone chemistry in urban areas. More recently, results from the Ozone Transport and Assessment Group (OTAG) demonstrated that a switch from the older BEIS1 emission inventory to the newer BEIS2 inventory (with four times higher emission rates for isoprene) causes a shift from ROG-sensitive chemistry to  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry in models for several urban areas (OTAG, 1996). Similar results from Sillman et al. (1995b) for Atlanta, are included in this report.

Two aspects of biogenic ROG are especially important to understand. First, emission rates for isoprene, the most important biogenic ROG, are zero at night and very low during the morning. The maximum emission rate occurs during early afternoon (Geron et al., 1994, 1995). Consequently, analyses based on measured ROG during the morning hours would seriously underestimate the impact of biogenics. Second, isoprene and other biogenic ROG are extremely reactive, and their impact on photochemistry is therefore larger than would be suggested by their atmospheric concentration in comparison with anthropogenic ROG. When speciated ROG measurements are weighted according to reactivity or ozone-forming potential (Chameides et al., 1992, Carter et al., 1994, 1995) the impact of biogenic ROG always appears much larger than it would without reactivity-weighting.

**Geographical variation and photochemical aging:** A central feature of  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry is the tendency for air parcels to change from ROG-sensitive chemistry to  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry as they age. Thus, an air parcel frequently has ROG-sensitive chemistry while it is close to its emission sources and increasingly  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry as it moves downwind.

Milford et al. (1989) demonstrated the resulting geographical variation in  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry in a model for Los Angeles. As shown in Figure 2-2, model-derived isopleth plots show strongly ROG-sensitive chemistry for locations near downtown and  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry at downwind sites. This split between ROG-sensitive downtown and  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive downwind has appeared repeatedly in model applications and is a central feature of  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry.

A similar, better-known pattern appears for power plant plumes. Power plants typically cause a decrease in  $\text{O}_3$  in the fresh plume immediately downwind of the power plant, followed by an increase in  $\text{O}_3$  relative to the background concentration as the plume moves further downwind (White et al., 1983). Although the decrease in  $\text{O}_3$  in the fresh plume is due to NO titration (via the reaction  $\text{NO} + \text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{NO}_2$ ) rather than  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry, the fresh plume also exhibits ROG-sensitive chemistry with respect to ozone formation, while the downwind plume with enhanced  $\text{O}_3$  has  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry.

The evolution towards  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry as air moves downwind is due largely to the removal of  $\text{NO}_x$  as the air mass ages.  $\text{NO}_x$  has a relatively short photochemical lifetime (3-6 hours) while many ROG species have lifetimes of 1 day or longer. Consequently, ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratios always increase as an air mass ages. The addition of biogenic ROG as the air mass moves downwind also contributes to the conversion from ROG-sensitive to  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry. The increase in ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratios with age is illustrated in Figure 2-1, which shows calculated ROG and  $\text{NO}_x$  concentrations in simulated air parcels, superimposed on isopleths that give the ozone production rate as a function of ROG and  $\text{NO}_x$ . In these model calculations, air parcels were initialized with an ROG- $\text{NO}_x$  mix that would initially exhibit ROG-sensitive chemistry, but they evolve towards a higher ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratio and  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry over the simulated 8-hour period.

It is generally accepted that rural locations are characterized by  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry, except in locations that are directly impacted by urban or power plant plumes (e.g. Sillman et al., 1990a, McKeen et al., 1991, Roselle et al., 1995). Rural air masses are typically far downwind from emission sources (except for biogenics) and show the chemical characteristics of aged air (Trainer et al., 1993), which includes  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry. Because these air masses frequently have 80-100 ppb ozone they can be

associated with regional transport and can have a significant impact on  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry even in downwind urban areas (Sillman et al., 1990a). Similarly, events involving transport for periods of longer than one day are more likely to be  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive. ROG-sensitive chemistry is more likely in events dominated by local photochemical production rather than transport.

**Meteorological stagnation and density of emissions:** A little-known feature of ozone photochemistry is the tendency for extremely stagnant episodes (i.e. with light winds and low mixing heights) in locations with high emission rates to exhibit ROG-sensitive chemistry, while episodes with greater meteorological dispersion or lower emission rates show  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry. This feature needs to be distinguished from the effects of chemical composition (i.e. ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratios and biogenic ROG) or transport vs. local photochemistry.

Milford et al. (1994, see also Sillman et al., 1993) demonstrated the tendency for model calculations with high ROG and  $\text{NO}_x$  concentrations to exhibit ROG-sensitive chemistry while events with lower ROG and  $\text{NO}_x$  concentrations but with the same initial ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratio would show  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry. This is also illustrated in the air parcel calculations in Figure 2-1. The series of air parcels shown here initially had the same ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratio but different concentrations. Following an 8-hour simulation the air parcels with higher initial concentrations (corresponding to stagnant meteorology) still had ROG-sensitive chemistry while the parcels with lower initial concentrations (corresponding to greater meteorological dispersion) had  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry. Milford et al. also found that ROG- and  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry in models is correlated with high and low values of  $\text{NO}_y$  respectively (see Figure 2-3). The higher  $\text{NO}_y$  corresponded to stagnant meteorology while lower  $\text{NO}_y$  corresponded to locations with greater dispersion.

Similar results were found in the ROM simulation by Roselle et al. (1995). Roselle et al. showed that events with the highest  $\text{O}_3$  concentrations were more likely to exhibit ROG-sensitive behavior, while events with lower  $\text{O}_3$  (corresponding to the 99th and 95th percentile of  $\text{O}_3$  in the simulation) were more likely to show  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive behavior. The difference between the higher and lower  $\text{O}_3$  in these simulations corresponded to stagnant events in contrast to events with greater dispersion.

The difference in  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry between stagnant events and events with dispersion explains the tendency for models to predict different  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry in the same location for different events. It also explains the tendency for ROG-sensitive chemistry to be associated with the largest cities while  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry is more often associated with smaller cities (e.g. Roselle and Schere., 1995).



The connection between  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry and meteorological stagnation adds an additional dimension of uncertainty to the  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG predictions of photochemical models, especially when model accuracy is evaluated solely in terms of ozone concentrations. Dispersion rates are especially difficult to estimate when winds are light and variable, and simulated peak ozone increases sharply as wind speed is decreased. This dependency of ozone on wind speed increases as wind speeds get lower. Models can simulate correct ozone through a series of compensating errors, e.g. overly stagnant meteorology in combination with underestimated biogenic ROG or underestimated regional transport; or vice versa. These types of compensating errors would cause changes in model predictions for  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity.

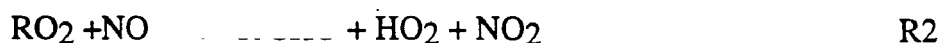
The association between ROG-sensitive chemistry, large cities and stagnant meteorology is due in part to the influence of biogenic ROG. Stagnant events tend to have higher concentrations of anthropogenic  $\text{NO}_x$  and ROG, whose sources are concentrated near urban centers, but not biogenic ROG which have a more ubiquitous source. However, there is also a factor directly related to photochemistry. Events with higher  $\text{NO}_x$  tend to have slower, less efficient chemistry (on the basis of ozone production per  $\text{NO}_x$ ) (Liu et al., 1987, Lin et al., 1988) and consequently have a slower rate of evolution towards  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry.

**Summary:** The above description creates an image of the type of situations that are more likely to be associated with ROG-sensitive chemistry as opposed to  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry. ROG-sensitive chemistry is associated with: low ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratios; relatively low impact of biogenic hydrocarbons; locations close to emission sources as opposed to downwind; situations dominated by short-term local photochemistry as opposed to multiday transport; and large cities with stagnant meteorology.  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry is associated with the opposite. However, these characterizations should be used as a general basis for understanding the behavior of photochemical models and not as predictions for specific locations.  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG predictions are subject to a great deal of uncertainty and need to be examined individually for each location. The description given here is only useful as a basis for understanding the impact of individual factors in isolation and for understanding differences in  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG predictions between various model scenarios. Subsequent sections (Section 3 and the Appendix) will show  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG predictions from individual model scenarios with varying ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  emission ratios, biogenic ROG, location, vertical mixing rates and wind speeds. The differences between scenarios are consistent with the general description given here.

## 2.2 Chemistry of O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG and its relation to photochemical indicators.

The chemistry of O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG and its division into NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive regimes can be derived directly from the reaction sequences that produce ozone. The analysis of NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG chemistry in terms of reaction sequences, presented here, is important only in terms of theory. However it provides a rationale for the selection of specific species ratios as NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indicators. While the justification for NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indicators comes from results of more complete photochemical simulations, it is useful to show that the identified species are linked to NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG chemistry in a more general sense than can be shown just from model results.

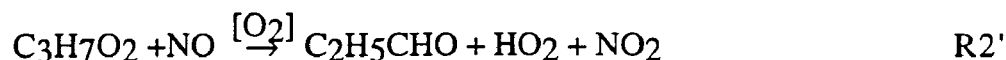
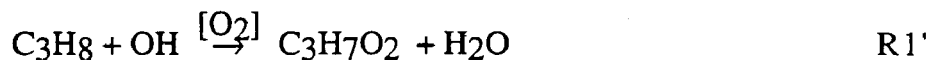
The chemistry of ozone formation can be understood from the following simplified reaction sequence.



RH represents a generic hydrocarbon chain, and RO<sub>2</sub> represents an organic peroxy radical. Most hydrocarbon reaction sequences follow this format. The sequence is initiated by a reaction between a primary hydrocarbon and the OH radical, creating an RO<sub>2</sub> chain, and followed by a rapid reaction of the RO<sub>2</sub> with nitric oxide. The RO<sub>2</sub>+NO reaction leads to the production of HO<sub>2</sub>, which also reacts with NO to return the original OH radical. The RO<sub>2</sub>+NO reaction also leads to the production of intermediate ROG species (represented here as R'CHO), which continue to react via a similar sequence until it is oxidized to CO or CO<sub>2</sub>\*.

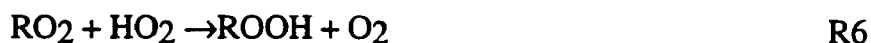
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\* For example, here is the reaction sequence for propane (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>):

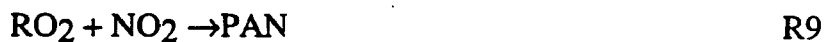


Reactions R2 and R3 are the ozone-producing reactions, because the conversion from NO to NO<sub>2</sub> is followed by photolysis of NO<sub>2</sub> (NO<sub>2</sub>+hν→NO+O, O+O<sub>2</sub>+M→O<sub>3</sub>+M). In this simplified version, the rate of ozone production can be associated with the rate of reaction R1, or with the summed rates of R2 and R3.

It is obvious that the rate of the above reaction sequence is controlled by the availability of odd hydrogen (or odd-H) radicals (OH, HO<sub>2</sub> and RO<sub>2</sub>). The sum of odd-H radicals (OH+HO<sub>2</sub>+∑RO<sub>2</sub>) is conserved in each of the above reactions. The behavior of the reaction system can be understood in terms of the following reactions that act as odd-H sinks or sources (Kleinman et al., 1986, Sillman et al., 1990a, 1995a):



Photolysis of ozone (R8) is often the largest source of odd-H radicals. Photolysis of intermediate hydrocarbons (chiefly formaldehyde, HCHO, and other aldehydes) also provides a significant radical source and may exceed R8 in urban locations. The two major sinks for radicals are the formation of peroxides (R5 and R6) and the formation of nitric acid (R7). Net formation of PAN can also be a significant radical sink (Sillman et al., 1995c). The PAN reactions are included here for completeness:



Because the odd hydrogen radicals are short-lived, reactions R5-R8 form a steady state in which the radical source reaction (R8) is balanced by the radical sinks (R5, R6 and R7, along with net production of PAN). The resulting equation for odd-H radicals is:

$$\text{SH} = \text{PHNO}_3 + 2\text{PH}_2\text{O}_2 + 2\text{PROOH} + \text{PPAN} \quad (2-1)$$

where  $S_H$  represents the odd-H source (equal to  $j_8[O_3]$  with photolysis rate  $j_8$  for reaction R8),  $PHNO_3$  represents the production rate for  $HNO_3$  (equal to  $k_7[OH][NO_2]$  with rate constant  $k_7$  for reaction R7),  $PH_2O_2$  and  $PROOH$  represents the production rate for peroxides (equal to  $k_5[HO_2]^2$  and  $k_6[HO_2][RO_2]$ , respectively) and  $PPAN$  represents net production of PAN and other PAN-like species.

The split into  $NO_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive regimes for ozone can be derived directly from the above analysis of odd-H radicals. When peroxides represent the dominant sink for radicals, then equation (1) reduces to:

$$S_H = PROOH = 2k_5[HO_2]^2 + 2k_6[HO_2][RO_2] \quad (2-2)$$

In this situation the sum  $[HO_2] + [RO_2]$  will be largely unaffected by ROG and  $NO_x$ , being determined entirely by the size of the radical source ( $S_H$ , dependent on sunlight,  $H_2O$  and  $O_3$ ). The rate of ozone production, equal to the summed rates of reactions R2 ( $=RO_2 + NO$ ) and R3 ( $=HO_2 + NO$ ), will increase in direct proportion with  $NO_x$  and will show little dependence on ROG. ROG contributes to ozone production only to the extent that it increases the radical source ( $S_H$ ), and even this impact is reduced by the quadratic term for  $HO_2$ . This corresponds to the  $NO_x$ -sensitive regime for ozone.

When nitric acid represents the dominant sink for radicals the situation is very different:

$$S_H = PHNO_3 = k_7[OH][NO_2] \quad (2-3)$$

Here the concentration of the OH radical decreases with increasing  $NO_x$ . OH may also increase slightly with increasing ROG because ROG adds to the radical source ( $S_H$ ). Since the rate of ozone production is approximately equal to the rate of reaction R1 ( $=RH + OH$ ), ozone production will decrease with increasing  $NO_x$ . Ozone production will also increase with increasing ROG, possibly in a more-than-linear fashion. This corresponds to the ROG-sensitive regime.

A complete solution for the above nine-reaction system (Sillman, 1995a) showed that the split between the ROG-sensitive and  $NO_x$ -sensitive regimes occurs when the radical sinks through the formation of peroxides (R5 and R6) and the radical sink through the formation of nitric acid (R7) are exactly equal. Since each peroxide represents a sink for two odd-H radicals the transition from ROG- to  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry corresponds to

$$PHNO_3 = 2(PH_2O_2 + PROOH) \quad (2-4)$$

The instantaneous rate of production of  $O_3$  will be  $NO_x$ -sensitive whenever the instantaneous rate of production of peroxides ( $PH_2O_2 + PROOH$ ) is greater than the instantaneous rate of production of nitric acid ( $PHNO_3$ ) multiplied by 0.5, and that the rate of production of  $O_3$  will be ROG-sensitive whenever the rate of production of nitric acid multiplied by 0.5 is greater than the rate of production of peroxides. This result suggests that the  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity of ozone concentrations (as opposed to the instantaneous production rate) might be correlated with the ratio  $\frac{H_2O_2}{HNO_3}$ , using measured  $H_2O_2$  and  $HNO_3$  concentrations rather than production rates. Both of these species are relatively long-lived (1-2 days in the convective mixed layer, assuming dry deposition velocities of 1.0 cm/sec for  $H_2O_2$  and 2.5 cm/sec for  $HNO_3$ ). Deposition represents the largest sink for both species. The 1-2 day lifetime suggests that  $\frac{H_2O_2}{HNO_3}$  will represent photochemical conditions representative of ozone formation over a 1-2 day period, which is appropriate for a diagnosis of  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity for ozone concentrations. The validity of  $\frac{H_2O_2}{HNO_3}$  as an indicator for  $NO_x$ -ROG chemistry will be examined in Section 3.

The theoretical basis for  $O_3/NO_z$  and  $O_3/HNO_3$  as  $NO_x$ -ROG indicators can also be derived from the steady-state equation for odd-H radicals. Assuming that the radical source ( $S_H$ ) is due to ozone photolysis, R8, the radical equation (2-1) can be rewritten as

$$j_8[O_3] = PHNO_3 + 2PH_2O_2 + 2PROOH + PPAN \quad (2-1a)$$

Since the transition between the  $NO_x$ - and ROG-sensitive regimes occurs when the radical sink terms for peroxides and nitric acid are equal to each other (equation 2-4), the  $NO_x$ -ROG transition also corresponds to:

$$j_8[O_3] = 2PHNO_3 + PPAN \quad (2-5a)$$

or

$$\frac{[O_3]}{2PHNO_3 + PPAN} = \frac{1}{j_8} \quad (2-5b)$$

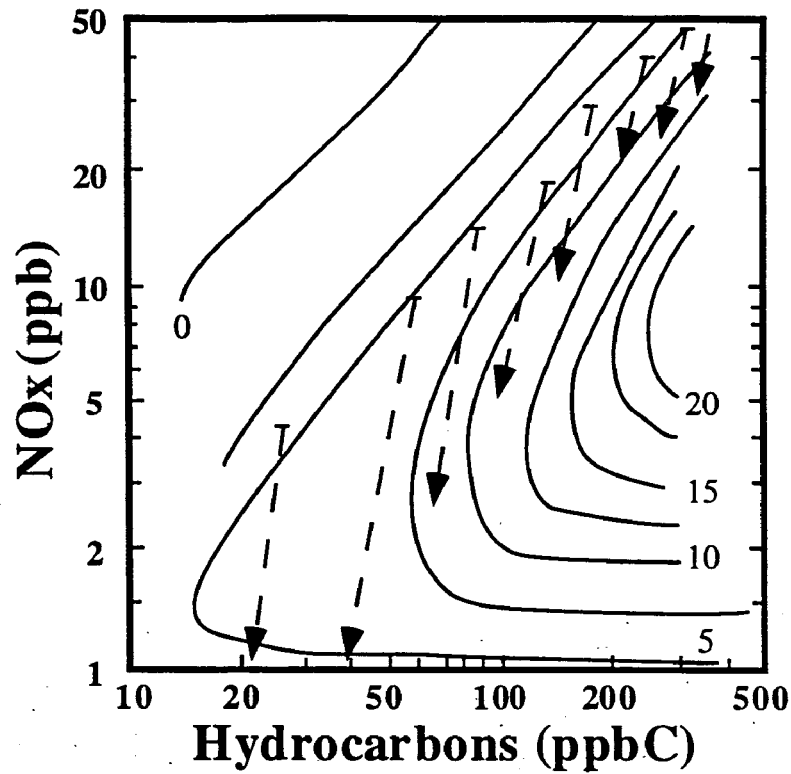
This result suggests the use of either  $O_3/NO_z$  or  $O_3/HNO_3$  as a  $NO_x$ -ROG indicator. A low value for  $O_3/NO_z$  or  $O_3/HNO_3$  suggests that the ratio  $\frac{[O_3]}{2PHNO_3 + PPAN}$  was low for much of the air mass history, corresponding to ROG-sensitive chemistry, while a high value for  $O_3/NO_z$  or  $O_3/HNO_3$  suggests that the ratio  $\frac{[O_3]}{2PHNO_3 + PPAN}$  was high for much of the air mass history, corresponding to  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry. As was the case

for  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ , the indicator ratios  $\text{O}_3/\text{NO}_z$  and  $\text{O}_3/\text{HNO}_3$  both involve species with a 1-2 day lifetime and therefore reflect the chemistry associated with a cumulative period of ozone production. Unlike  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ , the equation for  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_z}$  suggests that the  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition may vary with cloud cover or with water vapor, both of which affect the reaction rate parameter,  $j_8$ .

The linear correlation between  $\text{O}_3$  and the sum  $2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{NO}_z$ , proposed as an evaluation for the indicator method, is also based on the theoretical analysis of the steady-state radical equation (2-1). The radical equation suggests that there should be a linear correlation between  $\text{O}_3$  and  $(2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{NO}_z)$  because the former represents the odd-H radical source and the latter represents the sum of radical sinks. Since the indicator method is linked in theory to the role of these species as radical sources and sinks, it is important that the measured correlation between these species show reasonable correspondence with model results. The slope between  $\text{O}_3$  and  $(2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{NO}_z)$  is expected to vary with water vapor concentration because the rate of the photolysis reaction R8 includes dependence on water vapor. The slope should also vary from day to day based on cloud cover (which also affects the photolysis reaction) and rainfall (which removes  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$ ). However it should show relatively little variation between rural and urban locations during the same time period. This predicted linear correlation should contrast with the relation between  $\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{NO}_z$ , which often shows a decreasing  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_z$  slope as  $\text{NO}_z$  increases (Daum et al., 1996). The slope between  $\text{O}_3$  and  $(2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{NO}_z)$  might be expected to increase slightly in urban locations due to the added radical source associated with hydrocarbons.

The above analysis has identified correlations between  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity and indicator ratios based solely on an analysis of ozone production. It has not included the impact of  $\text{NO}_x$  titration, i.e. removal of ozone through the reaction  $\text{O}_3 + \text{NO}$  which is commonly associated with power plants and other large  $\text{NO}_x$  emission sources. Subsequent results are based on models with a more complete representation of photochemistry and include this effect. However the indicator- $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG correlations (for both  $\text{O}_3/\text{NO}_z$  and  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ ) show a characteristic failure in locations where  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_z$ -ROG chemistry is dominated by ozone destruction via the  $\text{O}_3 + \text{NO}$  reaction rather than by photochemical production of ozone. Since  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry is primarily of interest in situations dominated by ozone production this problem should not limit its use. The indicator correlations shown in the next section appear to function correctly in models that include large area  $\text{NO}_x$  sources (i.e. large cities). However care must be taken when

indicator measurements are made in the immediate vicinity of a large  $\text{NO}_x$  point source, e.g. a power plant.



**Figure 2-1.** Isopleths showing net rates of ozone production in ppb/hour, averaged over an 8-hour daytime period, as a function of  $\text{NO}_x$  and ROG concentrations. Isopleths range from 0 to 20 ppb/hour in intervals of 2.5 ppb/hr. The dashed lines represent calculated evolution of  $\text{NO}_x$  and ROG concentrations over an eight-hour period for air parcels with an initial ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratio of 5:1, adapted from Milford et al. (1994).



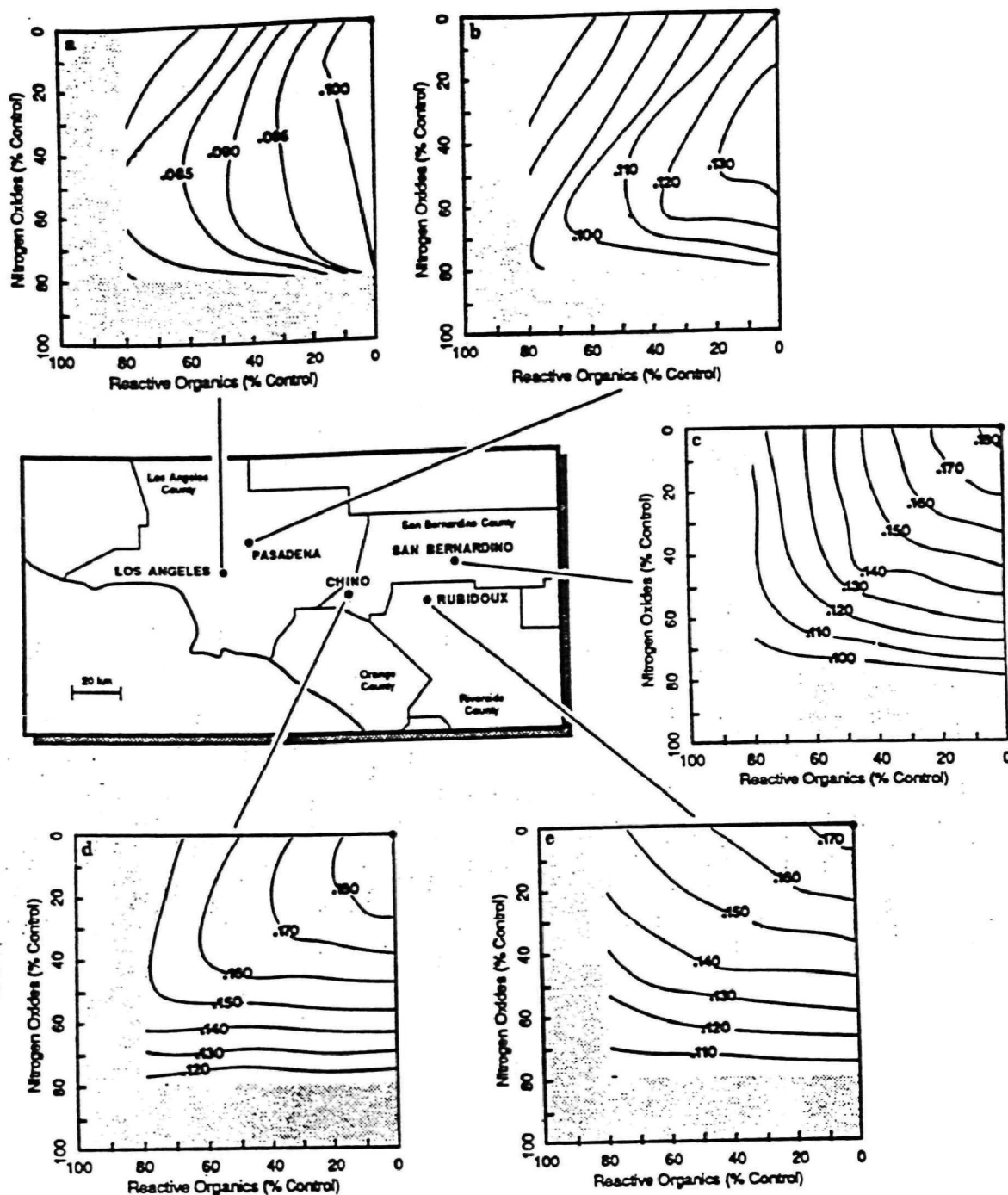
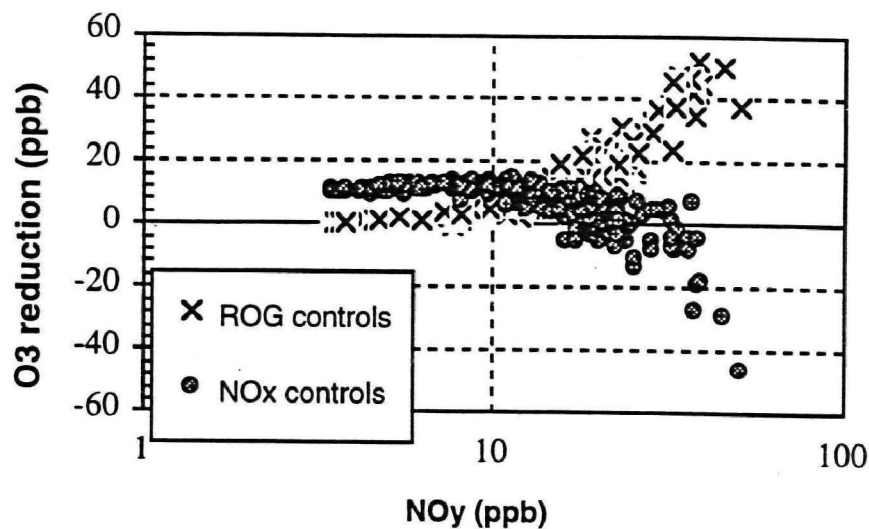
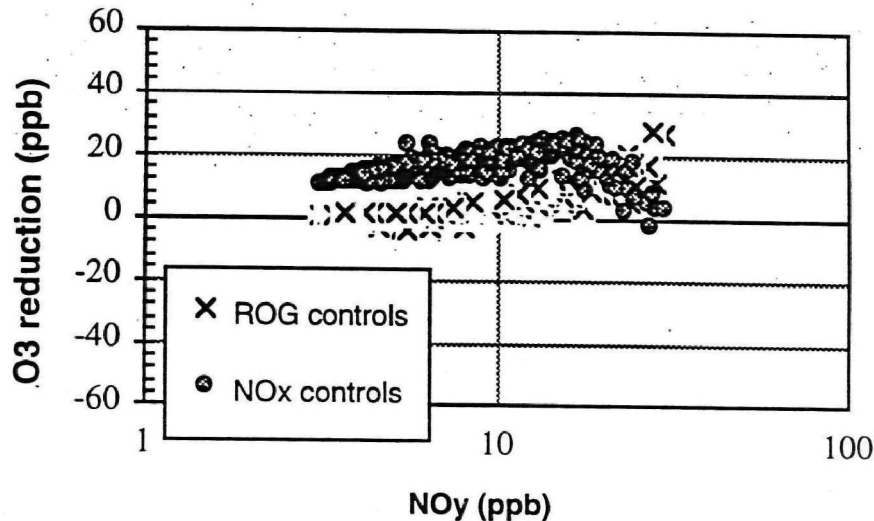


Figure 2-2. Predicted response of peak ozone concentrations (ppm) at locations across the Los Angeles basin, to spatially uniform  $\text{NO}_x$  and ROG emissions reductions. The upper right-hand corner of each response diagram corresponds to the base case. (a) Downtown Los Angeles; (b) Pasadena; (c) San Bernadino; (d) Chino; (e) Roubidoux. From Milford et al., 1989.



(a) Lake Michigan regional simulation - base case



(b) Northeast corridor regional simulation - base case

**Figure 2-3.** Predicted reduction in peak O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against NO<sub>y</sub> (ppb) coincident with the ozone peak. Simulations are described in Section 3.1. From Sillman (1995a) based on Milford et al. (1994) and Sillman (1993).

## SECTION 3

### RESULTS FROM PHOTOCHEMICAL SIMULATIONS

This section will present results for O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity from a series of photochemical simulations and analyze the correlation between NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity and the various photochemical indicators as predicted by the models.

Results will be based on groups of three simulations: an initial scenario, a simulation with anthropogenic ROG emissions reduced by a fixed percentage (usually 35%) relative to the initial scenario, and a simulation with anthropogenic NO<sub>x</sub> emissions reduced by the same percentage relative to the initial scenario. Results will be shown for a specific hour (usually in the afternoon, and corresponding to the time of peak O<sub>3</sub> occurring in the initial model scenario). ROG-sensitivity will be reported as the difference between O<sub>3</sub> in the initial scenario and O<sub>3</sub> in the simulation with reduced ROG at the same time and location. NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitivity will be similarly reported as the difference between O<sub>3</sub> in the initial scenario and O<sub>3</sub> in the simulation with reduced NO<sub>x</sub>. These results for model ROG- and NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitivity will be presented in comparison with values for photochemical indicators at the same time and location in the initial model scenario. Results will typically be reported for every location in the model domain or sub-region of interest.

Complete graphical results will be shown for two indicator ratios:  $\frac{O_3}{NO_x}$  and  $\frac{H_2O_2}{HNO_3}$ .

Results for the other indicator ratios are visually very similar to these two, and will be presented in abbreviated form. In addition, a concise method for tabulating results of the NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG-indicator correlation will be developed, based on a statistically defined transition between indicator values associated with ROG-sensitive chemistry and indicator values associated with NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry. This statistically defined transition point will be used to summarize results from all model scenarios and for each indicator ratio. Graphical results will also be shown for indicator ratios that did not correlate well with NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity:  $\frac{O_3}{NO_x}$  and the ratio of reactivity-weighted hydrocarbons to NO<sub>y</sub>.

The simulation results shown here should not be interpreted as recommendations for specific ozone abatement strategies or as statements about NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity in specific locations. Many of the simulations use outdated inventories for anthropogenic emissions. Most of the simulations use the BEIS1 inventory for biogenics, which underestimates isoprene by a factor of three or more (Geron et al., 1994) and consequently causes model results to be biased in favor of ROG controls. In addition, the selection of model scenarios for the NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG analysis deliberately favored ROG-sensitive scenarios, especially for Atlanta. A meaningful evaluation of NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indicators is only possible in model scenarios that include both NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive subregions, which did not occur in some of the NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive scenarios. Despite these caveats, the model NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG results are offered as meaningful indications of NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity in relation to each other; i.e., the differences in NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity between model scenarios represent tendencies that are likely to be reproduced in other NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG models.

### **3.1 Description of photochemical simulations**

Results are based on five separate model applications: a regional-scale simulation for the Lake Michigan airshed, a regional-scale simulation for the northeast corridor, an urban-scale (UAM-IV) simulation for New York, an urban-scale (UAM-IV) simulation for Atlanta, and an urban-scale (UAM-IV) simulation for Los Angeles. Preliminary results are also shown for the Middle Tennessee Ozone Study in Nashville. A detailed description of each simulation is given here.

#### **(a) Lake Michigan regional simulations:**

**Event:** August 1-2, 1988.

**Model:** Regional-scale model developed at the University of Michigan.

**Chemistry:** Lurman et al. (1986) with various updates, including reaction rates from DeMore et al. (1992), added RO<sub>2</sub>+HO<sub>2</sub> reactions from Jacob and Wofsy (1988), isoprene chemistry from Paulson and Seinfeld (1992), photolysis rates from Madronich (1987), column ozone equal to 325 DU, aerosol optical depth 0.68, representing moderately polluted conditions, clear skies. Dry deposition velocities over land were: O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>, 0.6 cm s<sup>-1</sup>; NO, 0.1 cm s<sup>-1</sup>; HNO<sub>3</sub>, 2.5 cm s<sup>-1</sup>; PAN, 0.25 cm s<sup>-1</sup>; and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 1.0 cm s<sup>-1</sup>. Deposition velocities over water were reduced to 0.05 cm s<sup>-1</sup> for all these species, reflecting a probable surface inversion over cold water during the simulated events.

**Grid resolution and domain size:** 20x20 km horizontal resolution, 3 vertical layers.

The vertical structure accounts for stable conditions over Lake Michigan during the daytime and generates a confined sub-layer for urban emissions from Chicago, with typical heights 200-500 meters. The vertically confined Chicago plume is consistent with recent aircraft measurements by Hillery (1995). The domain extends from south of Chicago to the northern end of Lake Michigan, 220x380 km. This was combined with a coarse-resolution model for regional transport that included most of the eastern U.S. (Sillman et al., 1990b). NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity was based on reduced emissions throughout both model domains.

**Horizontal advection:** Smolarkiewicz (1983) for the local domain, Prather (1986) for regional transport.

**Meteorology:** Winds were interpolated from measurements at sites in the Lake Michigan region and from regional measurements from the National Weather Service. Some modifications were made in wind speeds to improve model performance vs. measured ozone. Mixing heights were based on measured vertical temperature profiles at land-based sites, along with the assumption that growth of the mixed layer ceases as air travels over Lake Michigan.

**Emissions:** Anthropogenic emissions are from the NAPAP 1980 inventory (EPA, 1986). Biogenic emissions are derived from data by Lamb et al. ((1985) in combination with land use data by Matthews (1983), similar to BEIS1.

**Alternate scenarios:** Modified scenarios include doubled anthropogenic ROG emissions and anthropogenic emissions reduced by half. NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG results are reported for 6 pm, which corresponded to peak or near-peak O<sub>3</sub> in all scenarios.

**Reference:** Sillman et al., 1993.

**(b) Northeast corridor regional simulations:**

**Event:** June 14-15, 1988.

**Model:** Regional-scale model developed at the University of Michigan.

**Chemistry:** Lurman et al. (1986) with various updates, including reaction rates from DeMore et al. (1992), added RO<sub>2</sub>+HO<sub>2</sub> reactions from Jacob and Wofsy (1988), isoprene chemistry from Paulson and Seinfeld (1992), photolysis rates from Madronich (1987), column ozone equal to 325 DU, aerosol optical depth 0.68, representing moderately polluted conditions, clear skies. Dry deposition velocities over land were: O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>, 0.6 cm s<sup>-1</sup>; NO, 0.1 cm s<sup>-1</sup>; HNO<sub>3</sub>, 2.5 cm s<sup>-1</sup>; PAN, 0.25 cm s<sup>-1</sup>; and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 1.0 cm s<sup>-1</sup>. Deposition velocities over water were reduced to 0.05 cm s<sup>-1</sup>.

for all these species, reflecting a probable surface inversion over cold water during the simulated events.

**Grid resolution and domain size:** 20x20 km horizontal resolution, 3 vertical layers.

The vertical structure accounts for stable conditions over the Atlantic Ocean during the daytime and generates a confined sub-layer for land-based emissions. The domain extends from south of Chicago to the northern end of Lake Michigan, 480x560 km. This was combined with a coarse-resolution model for regional transport that included most of the eastern U.S. (Sillman et al., 1990b). NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity was based on reduced emissions throughout both model domains.

**Horizontal advection:** Smolarkiewicz (1983) in the local domain, Prather (1986) for regional transport.

**Meteorology:** Winds were interpolated from measurements at sites along coastal New England and from regional measurements from the National Weather Service. Some modifications were made in wind speeds to improve model performance vs. measured ozone. Mixing heights were based on measured vertical temperature profiles at land-based sites, along with the assumption that growth of the mixed layer ceases as air travels over the Atlantic Ocean.

**Emissions:** Anthropogenic emissions are from the NAPAP 1980 inventory (1986).

Biogenic emissions are derived from data by Lamb et al. ((1985) in combination with land use data by Matthews (1983), similar to BEIS1.

**Alternate scenarios:** Modified scenarios include the following: a scenario with zero biogenic emissions; a scenario with doubled isoprene emissions and mixed layer heights reduced by half; a scenario with wind speeds reduced by half; a scenario with increased deposition velocities ( $4 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$  for H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and HNO<sub>3</sub> over land) and wind speeds reduced by half. NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG results are reported for 6 pm, which corresponded to peak or near-peak O<sub>3</sub> in all scenarios.

**Reference:** Sillman et al., 1993.

**(c) New York urban simulations:**

**Event:** July 21, 1980.

**Model:** Urban Airshed Model (UAM-IV).

**Chemistry:** Carbon Bond IV.

**Grid resolution and domain size:** 8x8 km horizontal grid cell resolution, 5 or 7 vertical layers. The domain extends from central New Jersey to eastern Connecticut and Long Island (248x200 km). Upwind conditions were derived from the Regional

Oxidant Model, with nominal 20x20 km horizontal grid resolution and domain covering the eastern half of the U.S.

**Horizontal advection:** Different scenarios use either Smolarkiewicz (1983) or Bott (1989).

**Meteorology:** Two scenarios were included with different meteorology. One used the UAM-IV diagnostic wind processor in combination with measured vertical profiles of temperature and wind speeds from the National Weather Service. The other scenario used results from a dynamic mesoscale meteorological model (MMM) by Ulrickson and Hass (1990), including four-dimensional data assimilation.

**Emissions:** Anthropogenic emissions are from the Rao and Sistla (1993). Biogenic emissions are from BEIS1 (Pierce et al., 1990).

**Alternate scenarios:** Two scenarios were included: a scenario with five model vertical layers and meteorology from the UAM diagnostic wind processor ("DWM-5") and a scenario with seven model vertical layers and meteorology from the mesoscale meteorological model ("MMM-7"). The latter scenario had lower wind speeds and resulted in higher ozone. NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG results are reported for 5 pm. Peak O<sub>3</sub> occurred at 3 pm.

**(d) Atlanta urban simulations:**

**Event:** August 9-11, 1992.

**Model:** Urban Airshed Model (UAM-IV).

**Chemistry:** Carbon Bond IV.

**Grid resolution and domain size:** 4x4 km horizontal resolution, 5 or 7 vertical layers in different scenarios. The domain includes metropolitan Atlanta (108x140 km) but does not include regional-scale chemistry and transport. Upwind conditions had O<sub>3</sub>=55 ppb, based on measurements upwind of Atlanta, and NO<sub>x</sub>=1 ppb. In addition, the scenarios included here have upwind H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (=1 ppb), HNO<sub>3</sub> (=2 ppb) and PAN (=0.75 ppb). These modified upwind concentrations were derived from correlations between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> (Trainer et al., 1993) and O<sub>3</sub> and PAN (Roberts et al., 1995) at rural sites in eastern North America.

**Horizontal advection:** Smolarkiewicz (1983).

**Meteorology:** UAM-IV diagnostic wind processor in combination with measured vertical profiles of temperature and wind speeds. Mixing heights based on measured vertical profiles and methods described by Marsik et al. (1995).

**Emissions:** Anthropogenic emissions are from Cardelino et al. (1994). Biogenic emissions are from BEIS1 (Pierce et al., 1990).

**Alternate scenarios:** The scenarios shown here all had mixing heights reduced by 20% relative to the base case, in order to enhance model sensitivity to ROG. They include a scenario with BEIS1 biogenics and a scenario with tripled emission rates for isoprene, approximately equal to the BEIS2 inventory (Geron et al., 1995). NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG results are reported for 5 pm.

**Reference:** Sillman et al., 1995b, 1997a.

**(e) Los Angeles urban simulations:**

**Event:** August 26-29, 1987.

**Model:** Urban Airshed Model (UAM-IV).

**Chemistry:** Carbon Bond IV.

**Grid resolution and domain size:** 5x5 km horizontal grid cell size, 5 vertical layers. The domain includes metropolitan Los Angeles (180x325 km). Boundary conditions were 30 ppb O<sub>3</sub>.

**Horizontal advection:** Different scenarios use either Smolarkiewicz (1983) or Bott (1989).

**Meteorology:** UAM-IV diagnostic wind processor in combination with measured vertical profiles of temperature and wind speeds.

**Emissions:** Anthropogenic emissions are from the Southern California Air Quality Study (SCAQS) (Lawson et al., 1990, Wheeler et al., 1992). Biogenic emissions are from BEIS1 (Pierce et al., 1990).

**Alternate scenarios:** The scenario by Godowitch and Vukovich (1994) uses a version of UAM-IV with horizontal advection based on Bott (1989). Scenarios by Wagner et al. (1992) use the standard UAM-IV with horizontal advection based on Smolarkiewicz (1983). The scenarios by Wagner et al. include a base case, a case with doubled anthropogenic ROG and a case with tripled anthropogenic ROG. Simulated control strategies are based on 25% reductions relative to the initial scenarios, rather than 35% in the other case studies. NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG results are reported for 3 pm.

**Note:** Recent, more detailed photochemical models for Los Angeles have been developed by Harley et al. (1993), Kumar et al. (1994) and Lu and Turco (1995).

**Reference:** Godowitch and Vukovich (1994), Wagner et al. (1992).



**(f) Nashville simulations (preliminary):**

**Event:** July 11-13, 1995.

**Model:** Nested urban and regional-scale model developed at the University of Michigan.

**Chemistry:** Lurman et al. (1986) with various updates, including reaction rates from DeMore et al. (1992), added  $\text{RO}_2+\text{HO}_2$  reactions from Jacob and Wofsy (1988), isoprene chemistry from Paulson and Seinfeld (1992), photolysis rates from Madronich (1987), column ozone equal to 325 DU, aerosol optical depth 0.68, representing moderately polluted conditions, clear skies. The chemistry for this simulation also includes modified  $\text{RO}_2\text{-RO}_2$  reactions and rates recommended by Kirchner and Stockwell (1996), which were not included in previous cases with this model. Dry deposition velocities over land were:  $\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $0.6 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ ;  $\text{NO}$ ,  $0.1 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ ;  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $2.5 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ ; PAN,  $0.25 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ ; and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ,  $2.5 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ . Deposition velocities for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  were increased in comparison with (a) and (b) above, based on recent work by Hall et al. (1997).

**Grid resolution and domain size:** 5x5 km horizontal resolution, 3 vertical layers. The domain is 180x180 km, centered on downtown Nashville. This was combined with a coarse-resolution model for regional transport that included most of the eastern U.S. (Sillman et al., 1990b).  $\text{NO}_x\text{-ROG}$  sensitivity was based on reduced emissions throughout both model domains.

**Horizontal advection:** Smolarkiewicz (1983) for the local domain, Prather (1986) for regional transport.

**Meteorology:** Winds and mixing heights were derived from the Rapid Update Cycle (RUC) prognostic model (Benjamin, 1994), with modifications based on on-site measurements in the Nashville area.

**Emissions:** Anthropogenic emissions are from the NAPAP 1990 inventory (EPA, 1993) for the regional background. Emissions for the Nashville urban domain are from an inventory developed as part of the 1988 State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Nashville, developed by W. Davis (University of Tennessee, Knoxville) and used with permission from J. Walton (Tennessee Department of Environmental Quality). Biogenic emissions are from BEIS2 (Geron et al., 1994).

**Alternate scenarios:** Modified scenarios include cases with dry deposition of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$  increased to  $4 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ , cases without the  $\text{RO}_2\text{-RO}_2$  reactions recommended by Kirchner and Stockwell, cases with changed wind speeds and with reduced emission of biogenic hydrocarbons.  $\text{NO}_x\text{-ROG}$  results are reported for 4 pm, July 13, which corresponded to peak or near-peak  $\text{O}_3$  in all scenarios.

**Reference:** Sillman et al., 1997b. This publication has been recently submitted for publication and has not yet been through peer review. Only preliminary results are included here.

### 3.2 Results

(a)  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ ,  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  and  $\frac{O_3}{HNO_3}$ :

Figure 3-1 shows the correlation between model  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity and  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  for six model scenarios. The figure shows the reduction in  $O_3$  associated with a particular percentage reduction in anthropogenic ROG or  $NO_x$  emissions (usually 35%), defined as the difference between  $O_3$  in the initial scenario and  $O_3$  in the scenario with reduced ROG or  $NO_x$  at the same time and location. Negative values represent locations in which reduced anthropogenic emissions results in an increase in  $O_3$ . The simulated  $NO_x$ -ROG reductions are plotted for all locations in the model domain, in comparison with  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  in the initial model scenario at the same time and location.

Each simulation shows a similar pattern. Locations with larger ozone reductions in response to reduced ROG rather than reduced  $NO_x$  (i.e. locations with ROG-sensitive chemistry) also have low  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  (<8) in the initial simulation, while locations with larger ozone reductions in response to reduced  $NO_x$  (i.e. locations with  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry) also have high  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  (>10). There is also a well-defined value for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  that defines the transition between  $NO_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive regions. This transition value remains the same in simulations for different metropolitan areas and for different model scenarios.

Figure 3-1 also shows that the correlation between  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity and the indicator ratio  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  remains consistent in model scenarios with very different overall  $NO_x$ -ROG results. For example: the Lake Michigan base case (Figure 3-1a) has primarily ROG-sensitive chemistry, especially in the locations with highest ozone in the plume from Chicago. When the Lake Michigan simulation is repeated with initial doubled ROG emissions (Figure 3-1b) the predicted  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity changes and the locations with highest ozone show approximately equal sensitivity to reductions in  $NO_x$  and ROG. A comparison of these two scenarios shows that  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  also changes from low values in the ROG-sensitive scenario to higher values in the more  $NO_x$ -sensitive scenario. The change

in  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  between the two scenarios is consistent with the overall correlation between  $NO_x$ -ROG chemistry and  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ , and suggests that measured  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  might be used as a basis for choosing between the  $NO_x$ -ROG predictions of these two model scenarios.

Results from the two simulations for New York (Figures 3-1c and 3-1d) illustrate the impact of meteorology on  $NO_x$ -ROG predictions. The northeast corridor base case (Figure 3-1c) is characterized by relatively strong winds and vigorous vertical mixing, and results in a largely  $NO_x$ -sensitive simulation. The New York UAM scenario (with MMM-7 meteorology) has lighter winds and results in a largely ROG-sensitive simulation. The ROG-sensitive simulation also shows low  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  while the  $NO_x$ -sensitive simulation shows high  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ . As with the Lake Michigan case, the change in  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  between these two scenarios is consistent with the overall correlation between  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  and  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity. Although these two results were produced with different photochemical models the difference between  $NO_x$ -ROG predictions appears to be due to the difference in meteorology between the two events rather than to differences between the models. When the northeast corridor simulation is repeated with lower wind speeds it shows ROG-sensitive chemistry, and when the New York UAM scenario is repeated with stronger wind speeds it shows  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry. (Results for these scenarios are shown in Appendix B). The correlation between  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  and  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity appears consistent between the two models.

Lastly, the contrast between simulations for Atlanta and Los Angeles (Figures 3-1e and 3-1f) illustrates the differences between cities with characteristics that favor  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry as opposed to ROG-sensitive chemistry. Los Angeles as an urban area has several characteristics that favor ROG-sensitive chemistry based on the description in Section 2: a large city with high density of emissions; limited vertical dilution; relatively low emission rates of biogenic ROG in comparison with anthropogenic ROG; and domination by local chemistry rather than regional transport. By contrast, Atlanta is a relatively smaller city with lower emission density; higher ventilation rates than Los Angeles, and high rates of biogenic emissions. The simulation results in Figures 3-1e and 3-1f reflect these differences, showing extensive  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry in Atlanta and extensive ROG-sensitive chemistry in Los Angeles. The simulations show a similar difference between high  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  in Atlanta in association with  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry and low  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  in Los Angeles in association with ROG-sensitive chemistry. This difference in

$\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  between Atlanta and Los Angeles, predicted by photochemical models, is also consistent with ambient measurements (see Section 5).

Although the correlation between  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  and  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity appears consistently in all six simulations, there are a few locations in the Los Angeles simulation (Figure 3f) that violate the general pattern. These locations are characterized by high  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  (>12) and ROG-sensitive chemistry. These locations are all characterized by a large negative response to reduced  $NO_x$ , i.e. reduced  $NO_x$  causes a significant increase in simulated  $O_3$  at these locations. These exceptional points occur in locations where  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity results are dominated by titration of  $O_3$  by direct emissions from a local  $NO_x$  source. As explained in Section 2, the association between  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  and  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity is derived in theory from the chemistry of ozone production and does not include  $NO_x$  titration. The same type of exception appears in results with most of the other indicator ratios (e.g. see Figure 3-4f). The exceptions do not appear in results for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$ , illustrated in Figure 3-2, because locations dominated by  $NO_x$  titration all have characteristically high  $NO_y$  and low  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$ .

Results from other simulations for the indicator ratios  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ ,  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  and  $\frac{O_3}{HNO_3}$  are all visually similar to the results in Figures 3-1 and 3-2. Complete results are shown in the Appendix. Summary transition values for  $NO_x$ - vs ROG-sensitive chemistry are: 8-10 for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ ; 6-7.5 for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$ ; and 10-15 for  $\frac{O_3}{HNO_3}$ .

A useful way to describe the correlation between  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity and indicator ratios is to compare the statistical distribution of indicator values associated with  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry with the distribution of indicator values associated with ROG-sensitive chemistry in individual photochemical simulations. The distribution of  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  for  $NO_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive locations in the simulation for Los Angeles is shown in Figure 3-3. The following definition is used for this analysis: a location is defined as *NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive* if  $O_3$  in the simulation with reduced  $NO_x$  emissions is lower than  $O_3$  in both the initial simulation and the simulation with reduced ROG by at least 5 ppb. Similarly, a location is *ROG-sensitive* if  $O_3$  in the simulation with reduced ROG emissions is lower than  $O_3$  in both the initial simulation and the simulation with reduced  $NO_x$  by at least 5 ppb. Results of this analysis (Figure 3-3) show that a large majority of ROG-sensitive locations have much lower  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  than the  $NO_x$ -sensitive locations and there is

relatively little overlap between the range of  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  for ROG-sensitive locations and the range of  $\sqrt{f(O_3, NO_z)}$  for  $NO_x$ -sensitive locations. The 92nd percentile of the distribution of  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  for ROG-sensitive locations (8.25) is almost identical with the 8th percentile of the distribution of  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  for  $NO_x$ -sensitive locations (8.16). In other words, 92% of the ROG-sensitive locations have  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  below this value while 92% of the  $NO_x$ -sensitive locations have  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  above this value.

The presentation of model results in terms of percentile distributions of  $NO_x$ - and ROG-sensitive indicator values also provides a concise way of tabulating the indicator- $NO_x$ -ROG correlation from individual simulations. Table 3-1 shows the 95th percentile indicator values for ROG-sensitive locations and the 5th-percentile indicator values for  $NO_x$ -sensitive locations for each model scenario. A comparison between the 95th and 5th percentile values provides an estimate for the extent of overlap between ROG-sensitive and  $NO_x$ -sensitive indicator values; i.e. when the 95th percentile ROG-sensitive value is equal to or lower than the 5th percentile  $NO_x$ -sensitive value there is little overlap between  $NO_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive indicator values. The 95th and 5th percentile values also define the transition point between  $NO_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive indicator values in each scenario and provide a convenient basis for comparison between indicator transition points in each simulation. This information is also presented graphically in Figure 3-4. The information in Figure 3-4 can be easily understood if it is kept in mind that 95% of the locations with ROG-sensitive chemistry in each simulation have indicator values below the solid line in the figure, while 95% of location with  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry have indicator values above the dashed line.

As shown in Table 3-1 and Figure 3-4 the correlation between  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity and the indicator ratios  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ ,  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  and  $\frac{O_3}{HNO_3}$  remains consistent for a wide range of simulations, including scenarios for different cities, different meteorology, widely varying anthropogenic emission rates, ROG/ $NO_x$  ratios and biogenic emission rates. The transition point between  $NO_x$ - and ROG-sensitive chemistry shows relatively little variation among the model scenarios. The values for the  $NO_x$ -ROG transition for each indicator, cited above, also appear clearly in Figure 3-4. The subsequent notes focus results that represent exceptions to this generally consistent pattern. The first three issues below (multiday transport, deposition rates and particulate nitrate) relate to uncertainties in science. The others (Smolarkiewicz advection and upwind boundary conditions) relate to model artifacts.

(1) The simulation for the northeast corridor with zero isoprene also shows  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition values that are significantly higher than the other scenarios. The apparent reason for this discrepancy is that the urban plume from the New York metropolitan area still has ROG-sensitive chemistry even after 24 hours of downwind transport. Consequently the  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition is affected by nighttime chemistry. In the other scenarios, plumes that are more than 24 hours downwind from emission sources are either all  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive (due to photochemical aging and loss of  $\text{NO}_x$  at night) or else have exited from the model domain. The  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition in a 2-day-old plume may occur at a higher indicator ratio due to more rapid removal of  $\text{HNO}_3$  relative to  $\text{O}_3$  as the plume ages.

(2) The simulation for the northeast corridor with increased dry deposition rates for  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  has a higher  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition point than the other scenarios. This may represent a significant scientific uncertainty. The uncertain removal rate for  $\text{HNO}_3$  is also related to uncertainties in the interpretation of particulate nitrate measurements, discussed below. In a sensitivity test shown here, increased deposition causes the  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition to increase by only 10%, but the change in deposition was relatively small (4 cm/s for  $\text{HNO}_3$  vs 2.5 cm/s in the base case). Preliminary results for Nashville, included in Table 3-1, also has higher  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition points in a scenario with high deposition.

(3) None of the simulations shown here include particulate nitrate. It is unclear whether particulate nitrate should be included implicitly in  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_z$  or  $\text{NO}_y$ . To the extent that particulate nitrate is formed directly from  $\text{HNO}_3$  and is ultimately derived from  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions, it should be either represented as a loss term for  $\text{HNO}_3$  in model calculations or else included implicitly in model gas-phase  $\text{HNO}_3$ . But if particulate nitrate is emitted directly into the atmosphere, this directly emitted nitrate should not be included in the indicator ratios. Parrish et al. (1993) found that particulate nitrate was small compared to  $\text{HNO}_3$  and other components of  $\text{NO}_z$  at rural sites in eastern North America, but Tuazon et al (1980, 1981) found that  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  aerosols accounted for a significant fraction of total reactive nitrogen (assumed to include  $\text{NO}_3^-$  but not  $\text{NH}_3$  or  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) at one site (but not all sites) in Los Angeles. Interpretation of particulate nitrate represents a significant uncertainty.

(4) The UAM-IV simulations for Los Angeles from Wheeler et al. (1992) generated much greater overlap between ROG-sensitive and  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive indicator values than any of the other simulations. The degree of overlap in the Wheeler et al. simulations might be due to the Smolarkiewicz advection calculation in combination with the extremely sharp gradients in  $\text{O}_3$  and reactive nitrogen in the simulations. These simulations included gradients in ozone concentrations of 50 ppb or higher between adjacent 5x5 km horizontal

grid cells, with corresponding gradients in reactive nitrogen and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. In the Smolarkiewicz advection calculation the presence of steep concentration gradients can cause results for individual locations to be affected by the concentrations of neighboring grid cells. This may be the cause of the imprecise NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG-indicator correlation in the simulations by Wheeler et al. The simulation by Godowitch et al. represents the same event and uses similar meteorology and the same photochemical model, but advection is calculated based on Bott (1989) instead of Smolarkiewicz. The resulting simulation shows much less overlap between NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive indicator values. Imprecision associated with the Smolarkiewicz advection calculation has been cited elsewhere (Chock, 1991).

Results tend to be somewhat better for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  than  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ , especially for the Los Angeles simulations by Wagner et al. Despite this, it is recommended that  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  be used as in indicator rather than (or in addition to)  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  whenever possible. This recommendation is partly based on the fact that a useful correlation has been found in measurements between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> (see the Los Angeles case study in Section 5, also Figures 4-3 and 4-4 and results in Trainer et al., 1993). In addition, measured  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  at surface sites may be dominated by on-site NO<sub>x</sub> emissions.

In situations where only NO and NO<sub>y</sub> measurements are available a useful approximation for NO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> might be made by using the steady-state relation between O<sub>3</sub>, NO and NO<sub>2</sub>:

$$\frac{NO}{NO_2} \leq \frac{j_{11}}{k_{12}O_3} \quad (3-1)$$

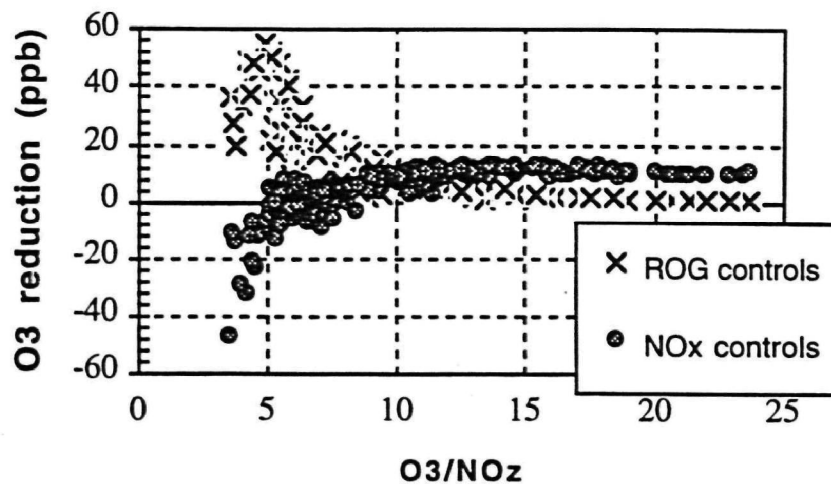
where j<sub>11</sub> and k<sub>12</sub> are the reaction rates for NO<sub>2</sub>+hν→NO and NO+O<sub>3</sub>→NO<sub>2</sub>, respectively. Chameides et al. (1990), Ridley et al. (1992) and others have found that the above equation underestimates  $\frac{NO}{NO_2}$  in rural locations by ~30% due to the ozone-producing reactions (HO<sub>2</sub>+NO→OH+NO<sub>2</sub>). The underestimate is lower in urban centers. A plausible approximation for NO<sub>x</sub> as a function of NO would be:

$$NO_x = NO(1+0.05 O_3) \quad (3-2)$$

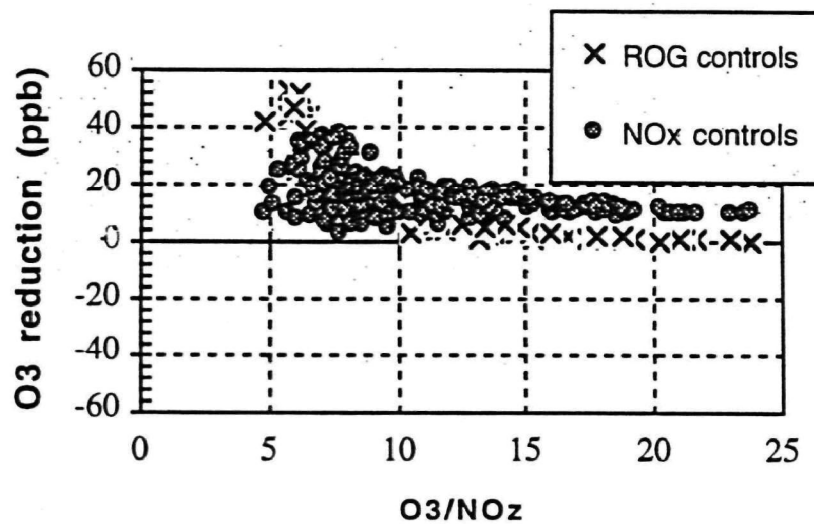
where the coefficient 0.05 represents the ratio j<sub>11</sub>/k<sub>12</sub> during full sunlight. This approximation tends to underestimate NO<sub>x</sub>. This type of approximation has never been used as a basis for analyzing data sets in the absence of NO<sub>2</sub> and therefore must be

regarded as speculative. However it might provide a basis for evaluating the accuracy of measured  $\text{NO}_y$  and for identifying cases where measured  $\text{NO}_y$  may be dominated by on-site  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions.



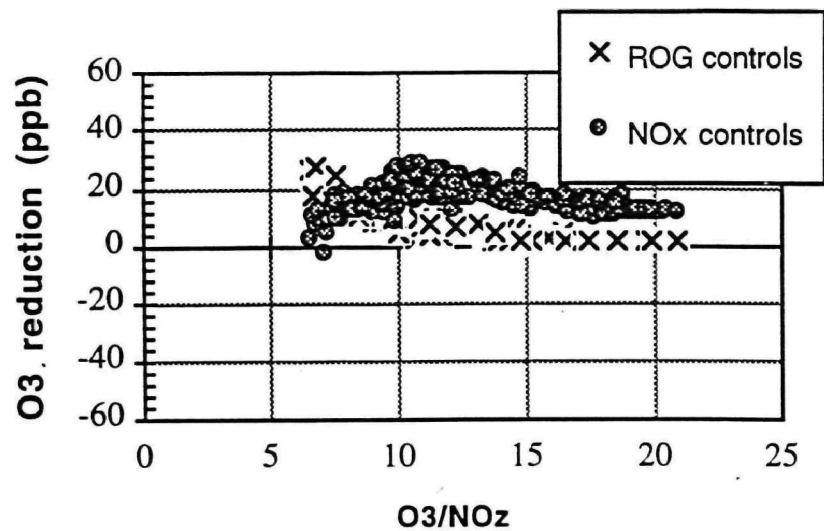


(a) Lake Michigan regional simulation - base case (6 pm)

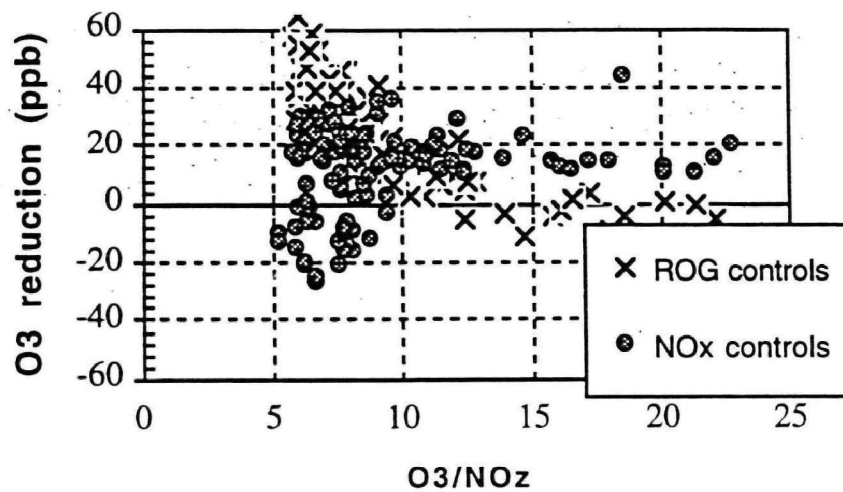


(b) Lake Michigan regional simulation - doubled ROG (6 pm)

**Figure 3-1.** Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> at the same time and location. Simulations are described in Section 3.1. From Sillman (1995a, 1997a).

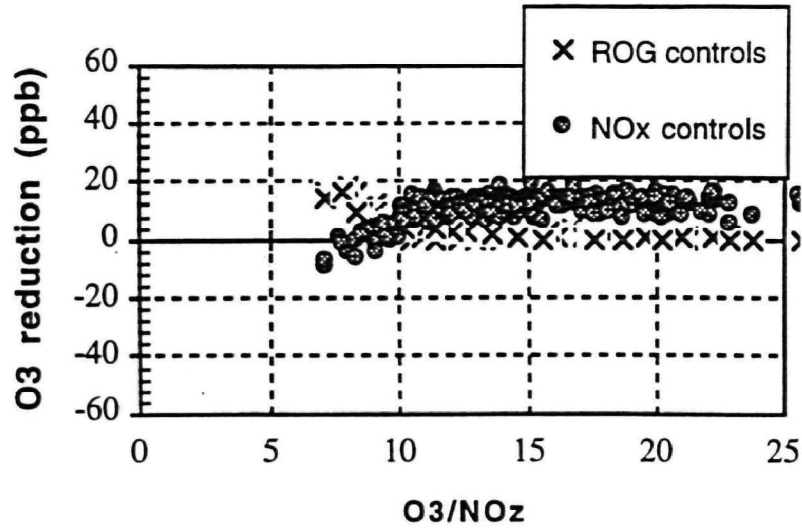


(c) Northeast corridor regional simulation - base case (6 pm)

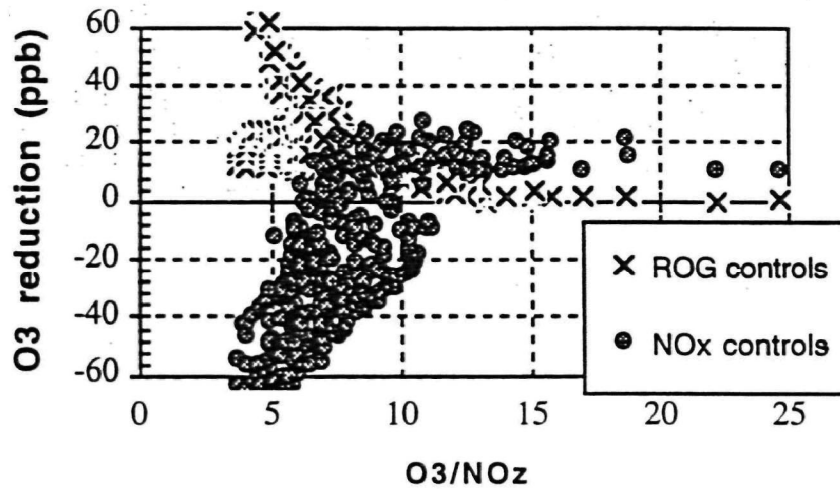


(d) New York urban simulation - "MMM-7" meteorology (5 pm)

**Figure 3-1** (continued): Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> at the same time and location. Simulations are described in Section 3.1. From Sillman (1995a, 1997a).

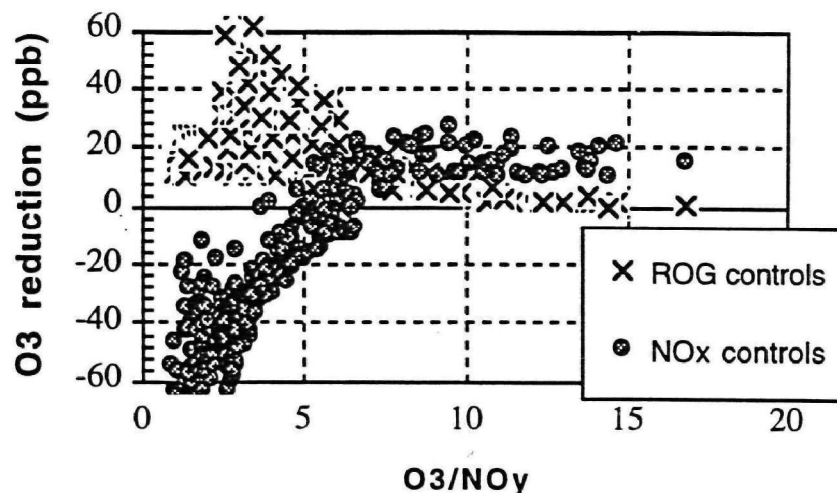


(e) Atlanta urban simulation - BEIS1 and low mixing height (5 pm)

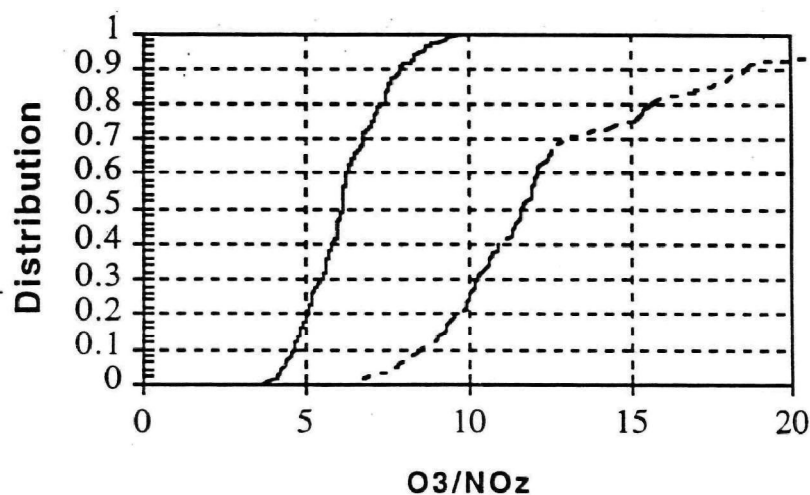


(f) Los Angeles urban simulation - Godowitch and Vukovich(1994) base case (3 pm)

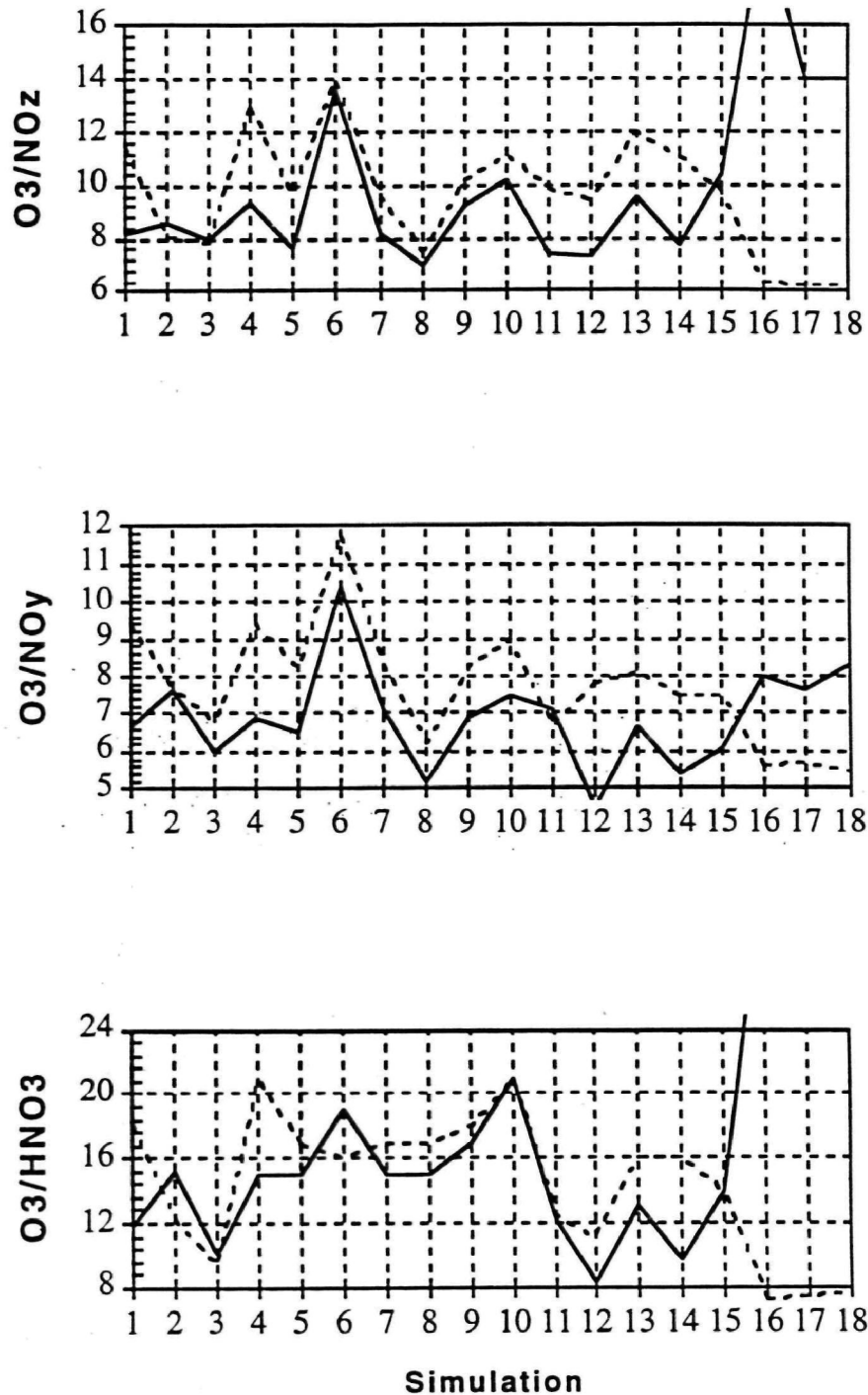
**Figure 3-1** (continued): Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> at the same time and location. Simulations are described in Section 3.1. From Sillman (1995a, 1997a).



**Figure 3-2 :** Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> at the same time and location. Results are for the Los Angeles urban simulation by Godowitch and Vukovich (1994). From Sillman et al. (1997a).



**Figure 3-3 :** Cumulative percentile distribution of O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> for locations with ROG-sensitive chemistry (solid line) and for locations with NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry (dashed line). Percentiles represent the fraction of the total array with O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> lower than the specified value. Results are for the Los Angeles urban simulation by Godowitch and Vukovich (1994) and based on analysis reported in Sillman et al. (1997a).



**Figure 3-4:** 95th-percentile indicator value for ROG-sensitive chemistry (solid line) and 5th percentile indicator value for NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry (dashed line) from 18 model scenarios identified in Table 3-1, for the indicator ratios O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>. In each simulation 95% of the locations with ROG sensitive chemistry have indicator ratios below the solid line, while 95% of the locations with NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry have indicator ratios above the dashed line.

**Table 3-1**  
**NO<sub>x</sub>- and ROG-sensitive values for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$ ,  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  and  $\frac{O_3}{HNO_3}$  as photochemical indicators**

The table gives the 95th percentile value for the distribution of each indicator ratio over ROG-sensitive locations and the 5th percentile value for NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive locations for various model scenarios.

Model scenario	$\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$		$\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$		$\frac{O_3}{HNO_3}$	
	95th ROG	5th NO <sub>x</sub>	95th ROG	5th NO <sub>x</sub>	95th ROG	5th NO <sub>x</sub>
Lake Michigan regional simulations:						
1. Base case	8.2	11.5	6.7	9.4	11.8	18.1
2. Doubled ROG	8.6	8.1	7.6	7.7	15.2	12.4
3. ROG reduced by half	7.9	7.8	6.0	6.8	10.1	9.4
4. Base case at 12:00 pm.	9.3	13.0	6.9	9.4	15	21
Northeast corridor regional simulations:						
5. Base case	7.6	9.7	6.5	8.2	15	17
6. Zero isoprene	13.6	14.0	10.4	11.8	19	16
7. Low mixing	8.2	9.6	7.1	8.4	15	17
8. Doubled isoprene and low mixing	7.0	7.5	5.2	6.2	15	17
9. Reduced wind speeds	9.2	10.2	6.9	8.2	17	18
10. Increased deposition, reduced winds	10.2	11.1	7.5	9.0	21	21
New York urban simulations:						
11. MMM-7 meteorology	7.4	9.9	7.1	6.7	12.1	12.6
12. DWM-5 meteorology	7.3	9.4	4.5	7.8	8.4	11.1
Atlanta urban simulations:						
13. BEIS1	9.6	12	6.7	8.1	13	16
14. Tripled isoprene	7.7	11	5.4	7.5	9.8	16
Los Angeles urban simulations:						
15. Godowitch base case	10.4	9.8	6.1	7.5	14	14
16. Wagner base case	20	6.3	8.0	5.6	34	7.3
17. Wagner, doubled ROG	14	6.2	7.6	5.7	38	7.4
18. Wagner, tripled ROG	14	6.2	8.3	5.5	48	7.7
Nashville (preliminary)						
19. Base case	5.6	7.1	7.3	8.4	9.1	12
20. Older chemistry	5.8	7.0	7.4	8.1	9.5	12
21. Higher deposition (4 cm s <sup>-1</sup> )	6.4	8.4	8.6	10.2	11	15

(b)  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ ,  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_z}$  and  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_y}$  :

The correlation between  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity and  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$  is shown in Figure 3-5. Complete results are shown in the Appendix. The correlation for  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_z}$  and  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_y}$  is visually similar to  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$  but with a different value for the transition between ROG-sensitive and  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry. The  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition points are identified through the 95th percentile ROG-sensitive and 5th percentile  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive indicator values, which are shown in Figure 3-7 and Table 2. As was the case for  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_z}$ , the ratio  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$  is strongly correlated with  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity in model results, and the correlation remains consistent for different locations, model types and model scenarios. Changes in model assumptions that cause a shift in  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity also cause an equivalent change in the ratio  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ . The same pattern is repeated for the other  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  ratios. As described in Section 2.1, the correlation between  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$  and  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity is derived directly from the chemistry of ozone production and consequently has a strong theoretical justification. Model results show that  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_z}$  and  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_y}$  correlate with  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity equally well, although the theoretical justification is derived from  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ .

The ratios involving  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  have two important advantages over  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_z}$  and its equivalents as an indicator for  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry. First, the  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG correlation is stronger for the indicators involving  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ . A comparison of Figures 3-1 and 3-5 shows that the difference between  $\text{NO}_x$ - and ROG-sensitive values is much larger for the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -based indicators than for the  $\text{O}_3$ -based indicators, making the possibility of error due to imprecise measurement less. The transition region between  $\text{NO}_x$ - and ROG-sensitive chemistry is also smaller in comparison to the difference between  $\text{NO}_x$ - and ROG-sensitive values for the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -based indicators. The 95th percentile ROG and 5th percentile  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive values in Table 2 demonstrate the small extent of overlap between  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive and ROG sensitive values for the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -based indicators. Second, species correlations involving  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  provide an important diagnostic test for the validity of the indicator method, transition points and the accuracy of measurements. This is described below in

Section 4. The inclusion of tests for the accuracy of method rather than simply accepting the indicator  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG correlation "on faith" is an important advantage for data sets that include  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ . However  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  measurements are more difficult and less accurate than  $\text{O}_3$ , and the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -based indicators are more sensitive to model uncertainties, especially with regard to deposition rates (see below).

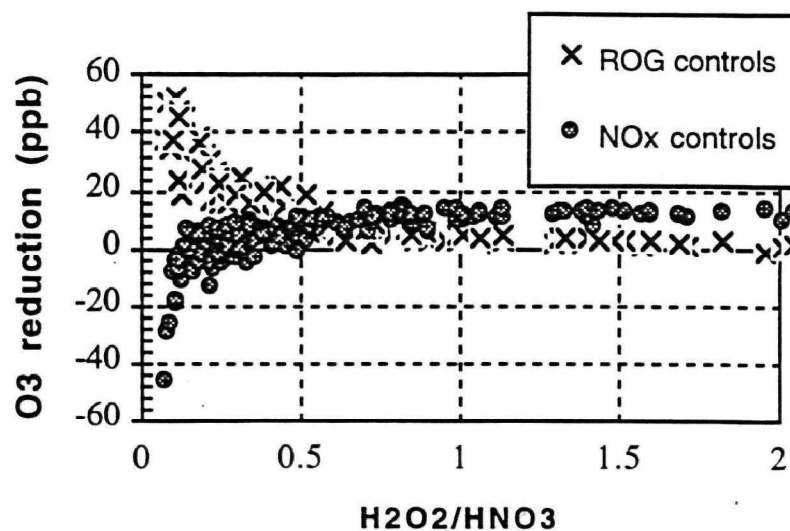
Most of the uncertainties described above in connection with the  $\text{O}_3$ -based indicators also apply to the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -based indicators. As shown in Figure 3-4 for Los Angeles, an exception to the indicator  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG correlation occurs for location where  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity is due to titration by direct  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions rather than by differing rates of ozone production. These exceptions do not appear in the  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG correlation for the ratio  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_y}$  (Figure 3-5), although  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$  has a stronger theoretical justification. The model results shown here do not include particulate nitrate, and it is uncertain whether particulate nitrate should be included in the indicator ratios. In addition, deposition rates for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$  represent a greater uncertainty for the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -based indicators than for the ratios involving  $\text{O}_3$ . Results from Hall and Claiborn (1997) show that the dry deposition rate for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  should be equal to the rate for  $\text{HNO}_3$  and may have very high values ( $4 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$  or more). Scenarios with increased deposition of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (including both the scenario for the northeast corridor with increased deposition and the Nashville base case) have  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition values lower by 25%. The ratio  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_y}$  is especially sensitive to changes in assumed deposition rates.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  is also affected by wet deposition, not included here.

An additional uncertainty for the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -based indicators is the interpretation given to  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  in models. Many photochemical mechanisms, including the CB-IV mechanism used in the UAM, do not include formation of organic peroxides. In these mechanisms  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  should be interpreted as representative of the sum of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and organic peroxides. Simulations with a more complete representation of organic peroxides (Sillman et al., 1995b, 1997b) have predicted that  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  will represent 50%-70% of total peroxides.

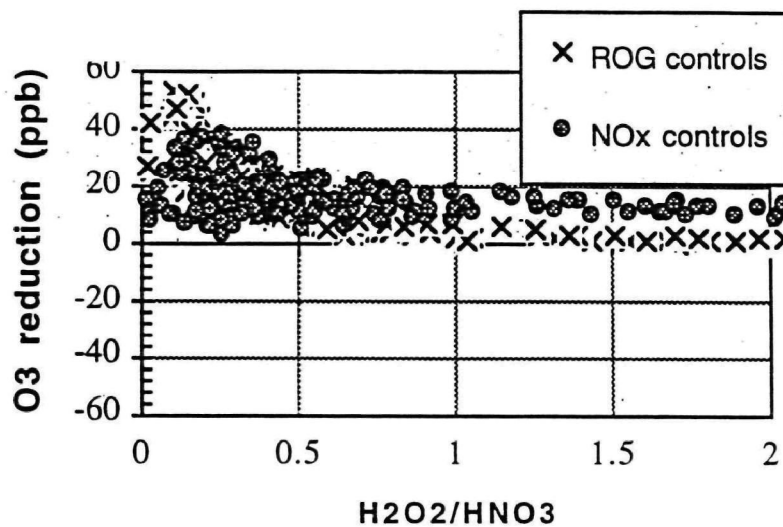
$\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition values for  $\text{NO}_x$ - vs ROG-sensitive chemistry based on the simulations used in this study are: 0.3-0.6 for  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ ; 0.2-0.35 for  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_z}$ ; and 0.2-0.3 for  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_y}$ . These transition values appear clearly in Figure 3-7. However preliminary results from Nashville (in simulations with updated photochemistry and higher dry deposition rates) have resulted in a lower estimate for  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition values: 0.2-0.3 for  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{HNO}_3}$ ; 0.15-0.20 for  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_z}$ ; and 0.13-0.17 for  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_y}$ . The difference



between the transition values for Nashville and the earlier estimates represents a major uncertainty and may lead to future modifications.

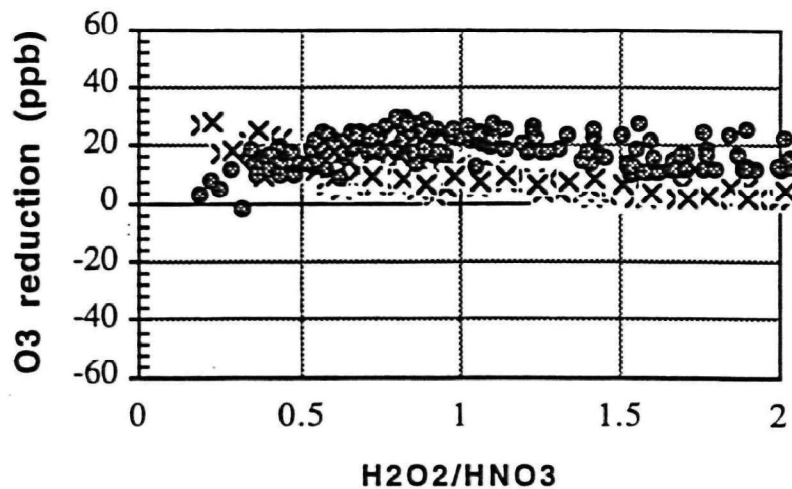


(a) Lake Michigan regional simulation - base case (6 pm)

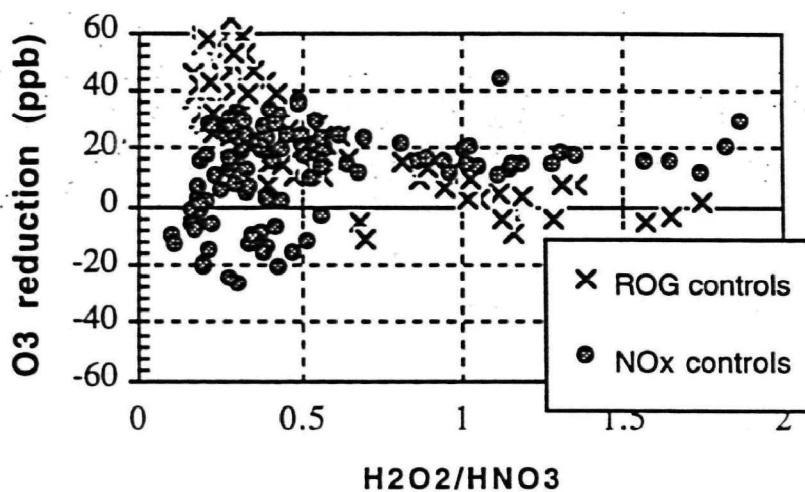


(b) Lake Michigan regional simulation - doubled ROG (6 pm)

**Figure 3-5.** Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub> at the same time and location. Simulations are described in Section 3.1. From Sillman (1995a, 1997a).

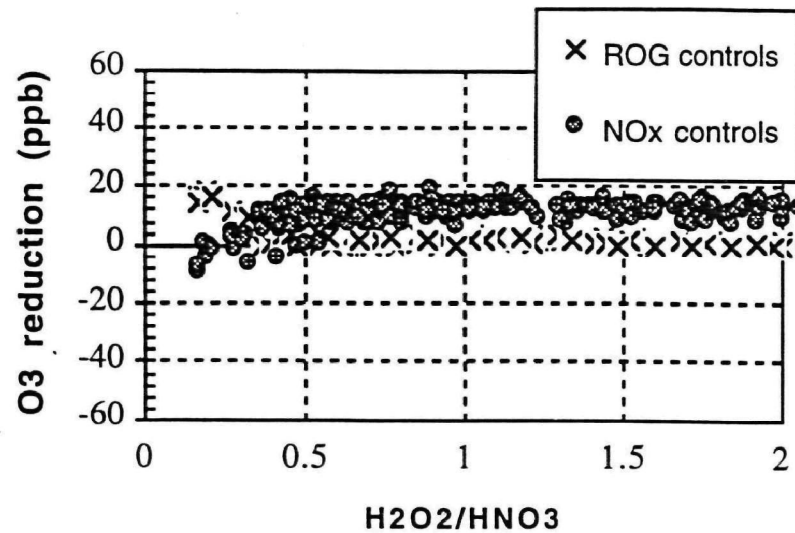


(c) Northeast corridor regional simulation - base case (6 pm)

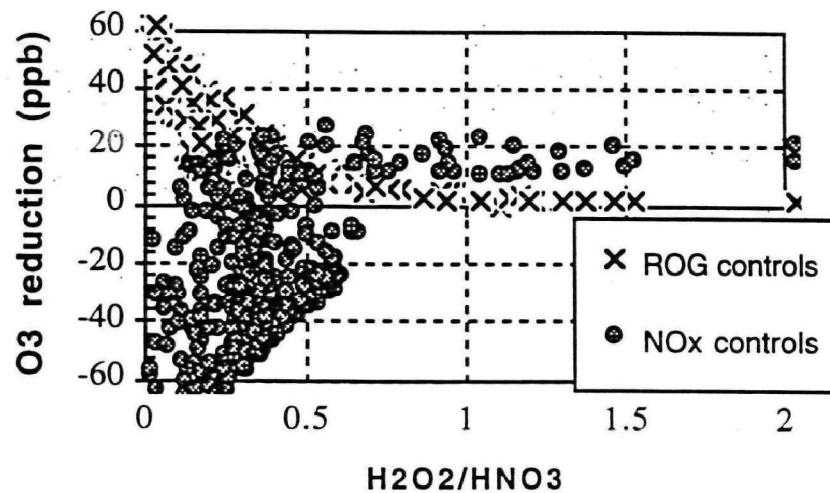


(d) New York urban simulation - "MMM-7" meteorology (5 pm)

**Figure 3-5** (continued): Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub> at the same time and location. Simulations are described in Section 3.1. From Sillman (1995a, 1997a).

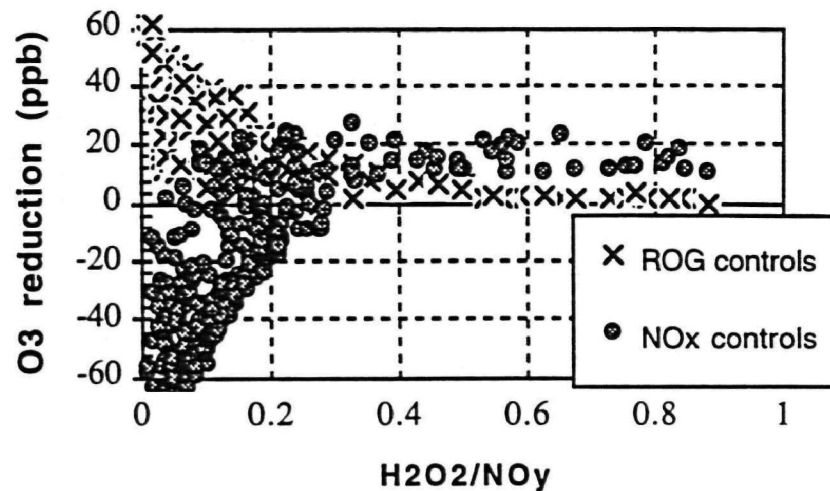


(e) Atlanta urban simulation - modified upwind conditions. (5 pm)

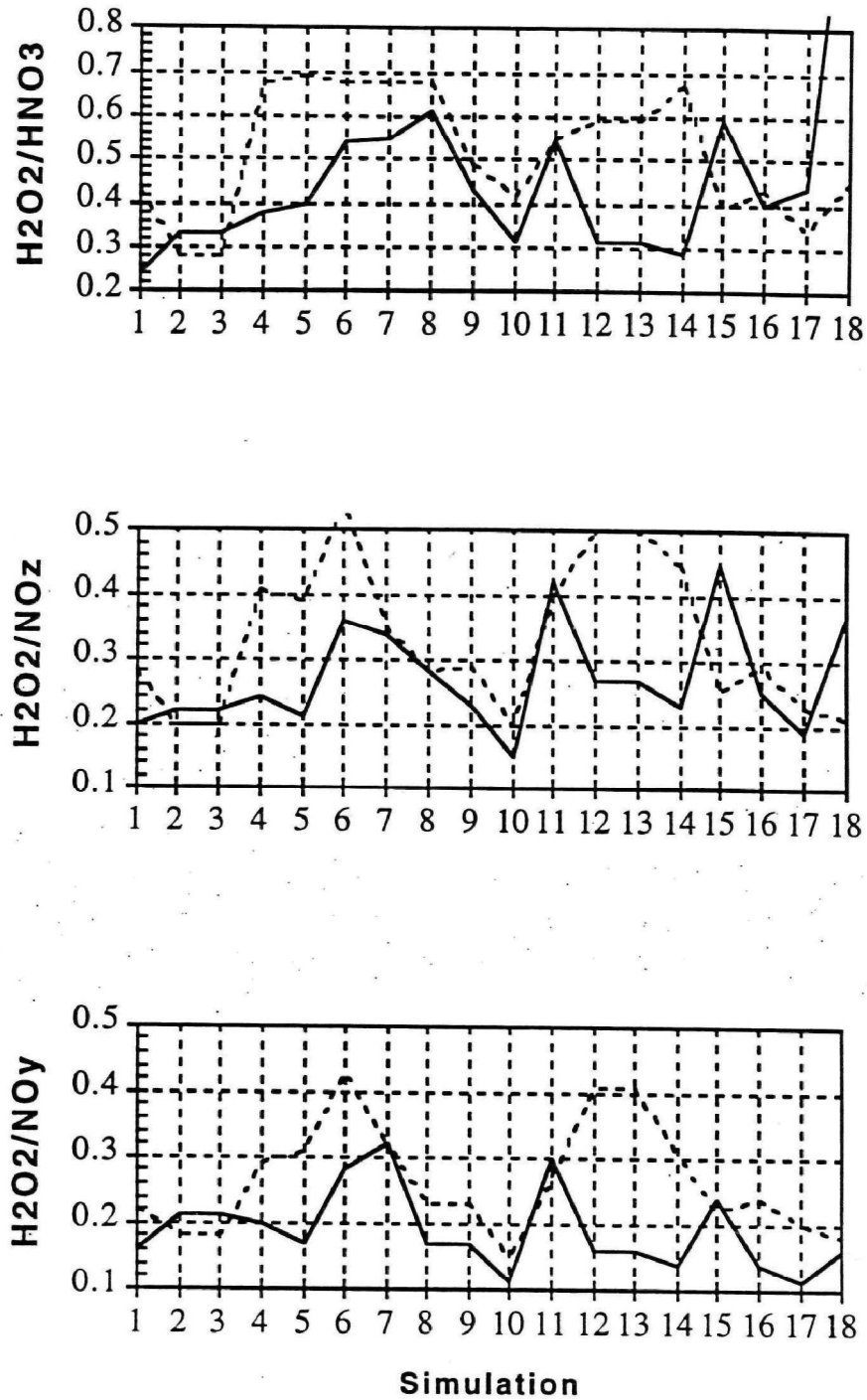


(f) Los Angeles urban simulation - Godowitch and Vukovich(1994) base case (3 pm)

**Figure 3-5** (continued): Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub> at the same time and location. Simulations are described in Section 3.1. From Sillman (1995a, 1997a).



**Figure 3-6 :** Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> at the same time and location. Results are for the Los Angeles urban simulation by Godowitch and Vukovich (1994). Based on the analysis reported in Sillman et al. (1997a).



**Figure 3-7:** 95th-percentile indicator value for ROG-sensitive chemistry (solid line) and 5th percentile indicator value for NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry (dashed line) from 18 model scenarios identified in Table 3-2, for the indicator ratios  $H_2O_2/HNO_3$ ,  $H_2O_2/NO_z$ ,  $H_2O_2/NO_y$ . In each simulation 95% of the locations with ROG sensitive chemistry have indicator ratios below the solid line, while 95% of the locations with NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry have indicator ratios above the dashed line.

**Table 3-2**  
**NO<sub>x</sub>- and ROG-sensitive values for  $\frac{H_2O_2}{HNO_3}$ ,  $\frac{H_2O_2}{NO_z}$  and  $\frac{H_2O_2}{NO_y}$  as**  
**photochemical indicators**

The table gives the 95th percentile value for the distribution of each indicator ratio over ROG-sensitive locations and the 5th percentile value for NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive locations for various model scenarios.

Model scenario	$\frac{H_2O_2}{HNO_3}$		$\frac{H_2O_2}{NO_z}$		$\frac{H_2O_2}{NO_y}$	
	95th ROG	5th NO <sub>x</sub>	95th ROG	5th NO <sub>x</sub>	95th ROG	5th NO <sub>x</sub>
Lake Michigan regional simulations:						
1. Base case	.24	.43	.20	.28	.16	.22
2. Doubled ROG	.33	.28	.22	.20	.21	.18
3. ROG reduced by half	.15	.27	.12	.22	.11	.20
4. Base case at 12:00 pm.	.38	.68	.24	.41	.20	.29
Northeast corridor regional simulations:						
5. Base case	.40	.69	.21	.39	.17	.31
6. Zero isoprene	.54	.68	.36	.54	.28	.43
7. Low mixing	.55	.68	.34	.35	.32	.32
8. Doubled isoprene, low mixing	.61	.68	.28	.28	.17	.23
9. Reduced wind speeds	.43	.49	.23	.29	.17	.23
10. Increased deposition, reduced winds	.31	.42	.15	.20	.11	.15
New York urban simulations:						
11. MMM-7 meteorology	.55	.55	.42	.40	.30	.27
12. DWM-5 meteorology	.31	.59	.27	.50	.16	.41
Atlanta urban simulations:						
13. BEIS1	.51	.56	.42	.43	.18	.29
14. Tripled isoprene	.29	.67	.23	.45	.14	.31
Los Angeles urban simulations:						
15. Godowitch base case	.59	.39	.45	.25	.24	.22
16. Wagner base case	.40	.43	.25	.29	.14	.24
17. Wagner, doubled ROG	.44	.34	.19	.23	.11	.20
18. Wagner, tripled ROG	1.3	.45	.37	.21	.16	.18
Nashville (preliminary)						
19. Base case	.23	.30	.19	.21	.12	.17
20. Older chemistry	.24	.38	.19	.25	.14	.20
21. Higher deposition (4 cm s <sup>-1</sup> )	.23	.34	.18	.21	.11	.16

(c) Other indicators:

**NO<sub>y</sub>:** Milford et al. (1994) recommended the use of NO<sub>y</sub> as a NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indicator. As shown above in Figure 2-3, NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry is associated with low NO<sub>y</sub> and ROG-sensitive chemistry is associated with high NO<sub>y</sub>. The 95-th percentile NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and 5th-percentile ROG-sensitive values for NO<sub>y</sub> are shown in Table 3-3 and Figure 3-11 below. NO<sub>y</sub> succeeds as a NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indicator because ROG-sensitive chemistry is associated with urban centers and large cities, which have characteristically high NO<sub>y</sub>, while NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry is associated with smaller cities and downwind and rural locations that have low NO<sub>y</sub>. However the NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG transition for NO<sub>y</sub> changes significantly in models when emission rates of anthropogenic and/or biogenic ROG are changed. The variation in the NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG transition for NO<sub>y</sub> is illustrated in Table 3-3 and Figure 3-11 below and in Sillman (1995a). This report recommends the use of  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  rather than NO<sub>y</sub> as a NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indicator because the former shows less sensitivity to model assumptions.

**$\frac{O_3-O_{3b}}{NO_y}$  and AIRTRAK:** Graham Johnson (1984, 1990, see also Blanchard et al., 1993) developed a correlation between NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity and measured parameters based on a series of smog chamber experiments. In the Johnson formulation, NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry is expected when chemistry has run to completion, i.e. most of the initially emitted NO<sub>x</sub> has been converted to NO<sub>z</sub> species. For NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive conditions the rate of ozone production per emitted NO<sub>x</sub> is expected to reach a constant, maximum value (~4 in smog chamber experiments). For ROG-sensitive conditions the rate of ozone production per emitted NO<sub>x</sub> is expected to be lower. More sophisticated model calculations by Liu et al. (1987) and Lin et al. (1988) suggest that the ozone production efficiency (defined as the rate of ozone production per NO<sub>x</sub> removal, and associated with the slope of ozone vs. NO<sub>z</sub>) shows significant variation.

The AIRTRAK method can be evaluated by using the ratio  $\frac{O_3-O_{3b}}{NO_y}$  as a NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indicator in the photochemical models described in this report. The parameter O<sub>3b</sub> represents background ozone, i.e. upwind conditions in the simulations (usually 40 ppb). The exact formulation by Johnson is slightly different from  $\frac{O_3-O_{3b}}{NO_y}$  because it includes modifications for production of particulate nitrate (assumed to be zero in the models used



here). The correlation between model  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity and  $\frac{\text{O}_3 - \text{O}_{3b}}{\text{NO}_y}$  is shown in Figures 3-8, Figure 3-11 and Table 3-3.

Results show that  $\frac{\text{O}_3 - \text{O}_{3b}}{\text{NO}_y}$  does correlate successfully with  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity. The  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition point (3.5-5.5) is comparable with results from smog chambers (4.1). The  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG correlation is less precise than the correlations for  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_y}$  shown above. There is also greater overlap between the  $\text{NO}_x$ -and ROG-sensitive values of  $\sqrt{(\text{O}_3 - \text{O}_{3b}, \text{NO}_y)}$ .

**$\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_x}$  and  $\frac{\text{ROG}}{\text{NO}_x}$  ratios:** Results for these ratios show a poor correlation with model  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity. Results are shown in Figures 3-9 and 3-10.

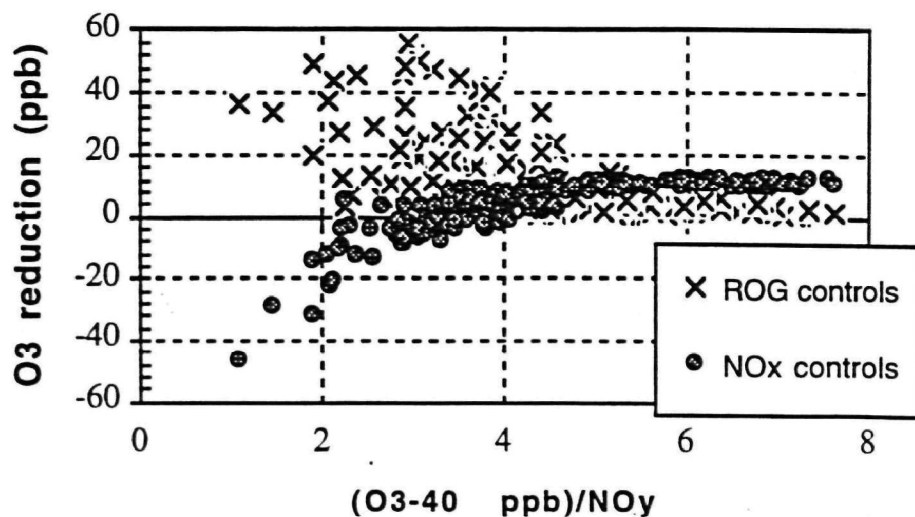
The use of  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_x}$  as a  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG indicator has never been formally suggested, but in recent years it has been used as a popular substitute for  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_y}$  when  $\text{NO}_y$  measurements are not available (LADCO, 1994). Results (Figure 3-9) show that  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_x}$  does not correlate well with  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity. The ratio  $(\text{O}_3, \text{NO}_x + \text{PAN})$  also does not correlate well with  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity.

$\text{ROG}/\text{NO}_x$  ratios have frequently been used to evaluate  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity, especially in regulatory applications (Blanchard et al., 1991). Correlations between  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity and various forms of the  $\text{ROG}/\text{NO}_x$  ratio, including  $\text{ROG}/\text{NO}_y$  and reactivity-weighted ROG (expressed as propene-equivalent carbon, defined by Chameides et al. (1992)) were tested in photochemical simulations. Results (Figure 3-10) show that  $\text{ROG}/\text{NO}_x$  ratios correlate poorly with model  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity. It has previously been shown that the  $\text{ROG}/\text{NO}_x$  ratio in the morning is a poor predictor of  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity at the time of maximum ozone (see Section 2.1). Figure 3-10 suggests that  $\text{ROG}/\text{NO}_x$  ratios during the afternoon also correlate poorly with concurrent  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity even when the reactivity of the ROG mix is taken into account. The poor correlation occurs because the various  $\text{ROG}/\text{NO}_x$  ratios are associated with instantaneous  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry at the time and place of measurement but not with the process of ozone production over a full day. It is possible that future research will identify ways of using this  $\text{ROG}/\text{NO}_x$  ratios as indicators for  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG dependence of instantaneous rates of ozone production (as opposed to  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity of ozone concentrations, which has been investigated here.)

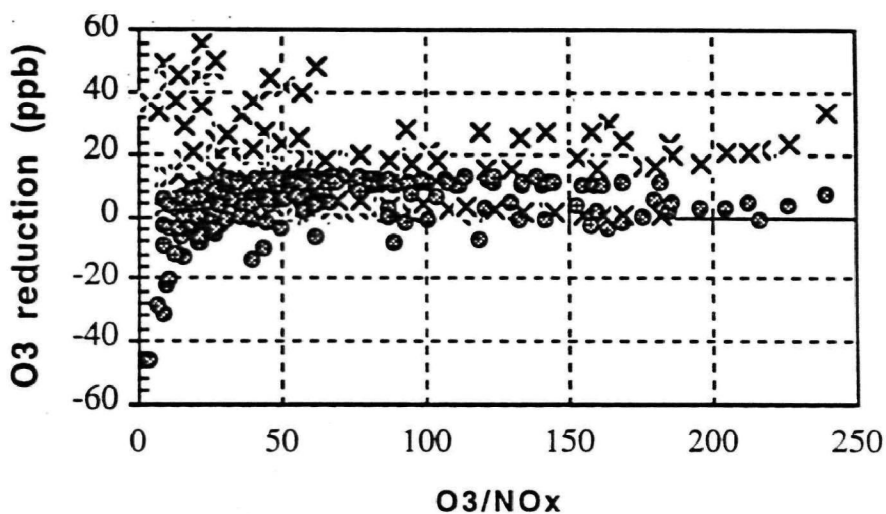
Cardelino et al. (1995) developed an observation-based method for evaluating  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry based on measured  $\text{NO}_x$  and ROG, which are readily available

through the PAMS network. Their method includes an extensive analysis of instantaneous NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG chemistry (derived from NO<sub>x</sub> and ROG measurements) to determine the cumulative NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity of ozone that is produced over a multi-hour period. The poor results for ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios as photochemical indicators in this study does not have any implications concerning the accuracy of the method of Cardelino et al. (1995). Measured ROG (especially speciated ROG and biogenics) and NO<sub>x</sub> should also be an important part of model evaluations. However the conventional use of ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios as a "rule of thumb" for NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG chemistry is inaccurate.

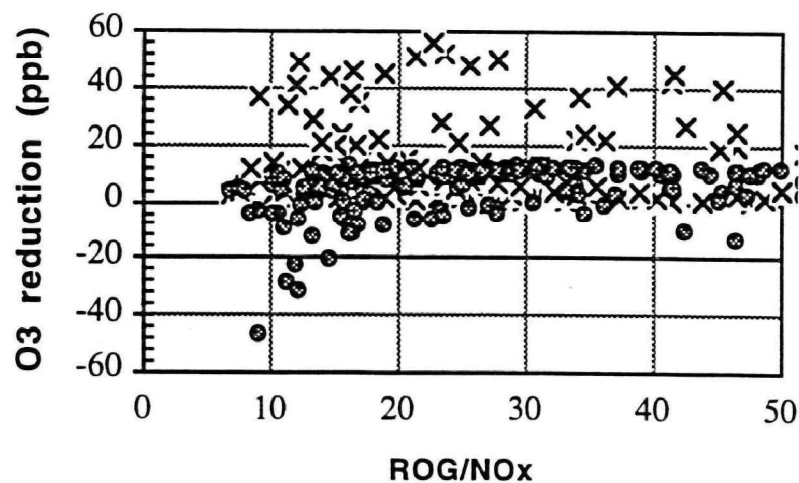
Sillman (1995a) used the ratio  $\frac{\text{HCHO}}{\text{NO}_y}$  as a NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG indicator. This gave better results than the other ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios because HCHO is related both to ROG reactivity and the chemistry over a period of several hours. Results have been included in Table 3-3 and Figure 3-11. The correlation between  $\frac{\text{HCHO}}{\text{NO}_y}$  and NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity is plausible but not as strong as the other indicators.



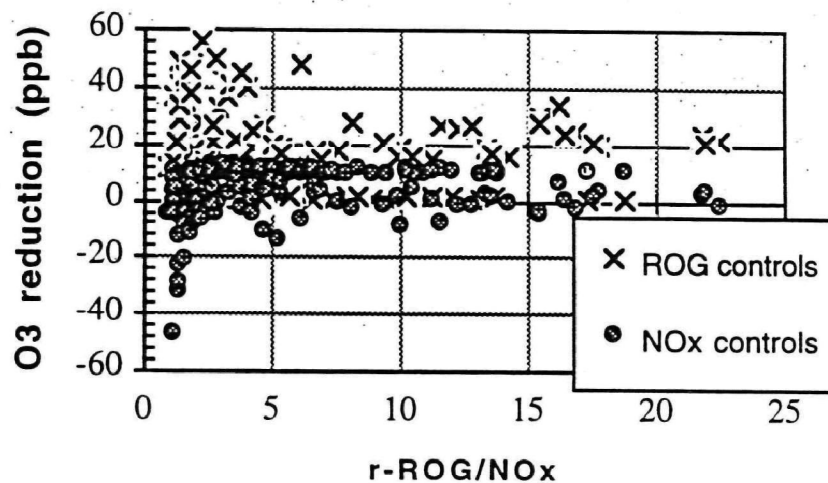
**Figure 3-8 :** Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against  $(O_3 - 40 \text{ ppb}) / NO_y$  at the same time and location. Results are for the Lake Michigan urban simulation. From Sillman (1995a).



**Figure 3-9 :** Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against  $O_3 / NO_x$  at the same time and location. Results are for the Lake Michigan urban simulation.

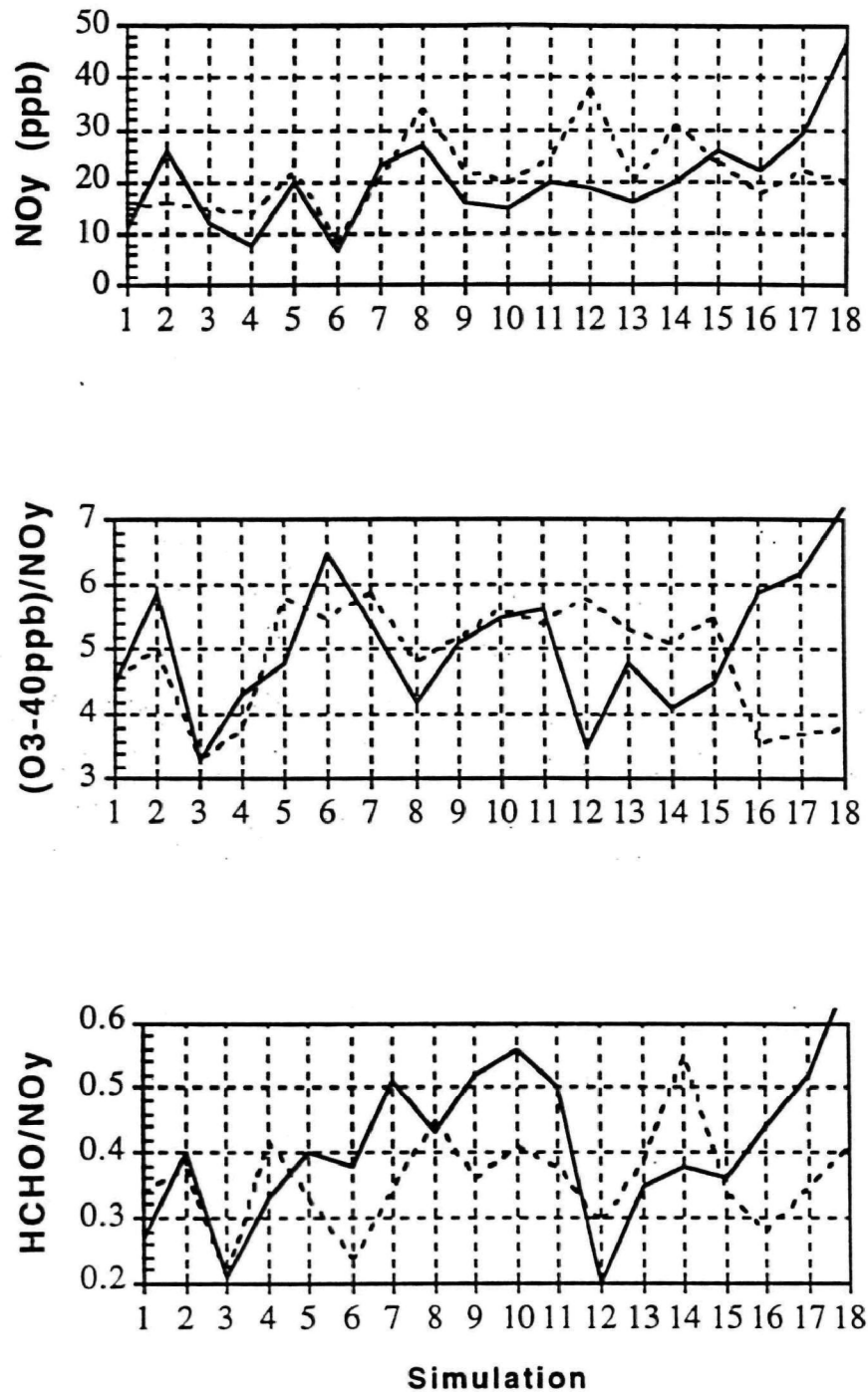


(a)



(b)

**Figure 3-10** : Predicted reduction in afternoon O<sub>3</sub> (in ppb) resulting from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for anthropogenic ROG (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in the emission rate for NO<sub>x</sub> (circles) plotted against (a) ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> and (b) rROG/NO<sub>y</sub> at the same time and location, where rROG represents reactivity-weighted ROG as propene equivalent carbon (Chameides et al. (1992) in ppbC. Results are for the Lake Michigan urban simulation. Based on results in Sillman (1995a).



**Figure 3-11:** 95th-percentile indicator value for ROG-sensitive chemistry (solid line) and 5th percentile indicator value for NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry (dashed line) from 18 model scenarios identified in Table 3-3, for the indicators: NO<sub>y</sub>, (O<sub>3</sub>-40ppb)/NO<sub>y</sub>, HCHO/NO<sub>y</sub>. Results for NO<sub>y</sub> show the 95th percentile value for NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry (solid line) and 5th percentile for ROG-sensitive chemistry because ROG-sensitive chemistry is associated with higher values for this indicator.

Table 3-3

**NO<sub>x</sub>- and ROG-sensitive values for other photochemical indicators.**

The table gives the 95th percentile value for the distribution of each indicator ratio over ROG-sensitive locations and the 5th percentile value for NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive locations for various model scenarios. the indicator s shown here are not recommended for use.

Model scenario	NO <sub>y</sub> *		$\frac{\text{O}_3-40 \text{ ppb}}{\text{NO}_z}$		$\frac{\text{HCHO}}{\text{NO}_y}$	
	95th NO <sub>x</sub>	5th ROG	95th ROG	5th NO <sub>x</sub>	95th ROG	5th NO <sub>x</sub>
<b>Lake Michigan regional simulations:</b>						
1. Base case	11	15	4.5	4.6	.27	.34
2. Doubled ROG	26	16	5.9	5.0	.40	.38
3. ROG reduced by half	12	15	3.3	3.3	.21	.21
4. Base case at 12:00 pm.	7.8	14	4.3	3.8	.33	.42
<b>Northeast corridor regional simulations:</b>						
5. Base case	20	22	4.8	5.8	.40	.33
6. Zero isoprene	6.9	8.6	6.5	5.5	.38	.24
7. Low mixing	23	21	5.4	5.9	.51	.35
8. Doubled isoprene, low mixing	27	34	4.2	4.8	.43	.45
9. Reduced wind speeds	16	22	5.1	5.2	.52	.36
10. Increased deposition, reduced winds	15	20	5.5	5.6	.56	.41
<b>New York urban simulations:</b>						
11. MMM-7 meteorology	20	25	5.6	5.4	.50	.38
12. DWM-5 meteorology	19	38	3.5	5.8	.20	.29
<b>Atlanta urban simulations:</b>						
13. BEIS1	16	20	4.8	5.3	.35	.39
14. Tripled isoprene	20	31	4.1	5.1	.38	.55
<b>Los Angeles urban simulaions:</b>						
15. Godowitch base case	26	24	4.5	5.5	.36	.34
16. Wagner base case	22	18	5.9	3.6	.44	.28
17. Wagner, doubled ROG	29	22	6.2	3.7	.52	.35
18. Wagner, tripled ROG	47	20	7.2	3.8	.67	.41

\* Results for NO<sub>y</sub> give the 95th percentile for NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive locations and the 5th percentile for ROG-sensitive locations because low NO<sub>y</sub> corresponds to NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry.

## SECTION 4

### SPECIES CROSS-CORRELATIONS AS A BASIS FOR EVALUATING THE INDICATOR METHOD

Significant insights into the chemistry of ozone production can be gained by examining cross-correlations between various species associated with ozone chemistry. The use of species cross-correlations has been developed largely by Trainer et al. (1993) and Parrish et al. (1993) who analyzed correlations between ambient ozone,  $\text{NO}_y$  and  $\text{NO}_z$ . In this section it will be shown that the method of photochemical indicators is closely related to a predicted correlation between three species:  $\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_z$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ . This predicted correlation can be used to evaluate the viability of the indicator method in general, and can also be used as a diagnostic tool to evaluate the accuracy of individual field measurements.

Trainer et al. (1993) has shown that measured  $\text{O}_3$  consistently increases with  $\text{NO}_z$  in measurements of photochemically aged air (defined by  $\frac{\text{NO}_x}{\text{NO}_y} < 0.4$ ) during the afternoon at rural sites in eastern North America. As shown in Figure 4-1, the slope of  $\text{O}_3$  vs.  $\text{NO}_z$  tends to be highest at low  $\text{NO}_z$  (<5 ppb) and decreases at higher  $\text{NO}_z$ , giving the  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_z$  correlation a nonlinear or "bent-over" appearance. Trainer et al. speculated that the difference in the  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_z$  slope at low and high  $\text{NO}_z$  was related to the switch between  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive chemistry. They also reported that  $\text{O}_3$  increased with  $\text{NO}_z$  in the Los Angeles basin with a slope that was significantly lower than the slope at rural eastern sites.

Results from this report and from Sillman (1995a) suggest that  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry is correlated with the absolute value of the  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_z}$  ratio rather than the slope between  $\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{NO}_z$  for an individual data set. As shown in Figure 4-2, model  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_z$  correlations show an ambiguous pattern when compared with model  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity. The characteristic nonlinear "bend-over" in the  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_z$  correlation can appear for both  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive conditions, depending on the  $\frac{\text{O}_3}{\text{NO}_z}$  ratio. As shown in

Figures 4-1 and 4-2, there is a characteristic decrease in the slope between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> as NO<sub>z</sub> increases from 3 to 10 ppb, even though these represent likely NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive rural measurements (Figure 4-1, Trainer et al., 1993) and NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive simulation results. By contrast, O<sub>3</sub> increases at a near-constant rate as NO<sub>z</sub> increases from 15 to 30 ppb in Figure 4-2, even though this region represents ROG-sensitive simulation results. From Figure 4-2, it might be possible to associate NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive locations with a high slope between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub>, ROG-sensitive locations with a lower slope, and the region of transition between NO<sub>x</sub>- and ROG-sensitive chemistry with a change in slope. However a stronger correlation with NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG chemistry can be found by using the  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  ratio rather than the slope as an indicator (see also Figures 3-1a and 3-8).

The theory associated with photochemical indicators suggests that O<sub>3</sub> should increase with NO<sub>z</sub> for both NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive chemistry but that the rate of increase should be lower for ROG-sensitive chemistry. Under NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive conditions O<sub>3</sub> is expected to increase with NO<sub>z</sub> at a rate determined by the production efficiency for ozone (defined by Lin et al. (1988) as the rate of production of ozone divided by the rate of removal of NO<sub>x</sub>,  $\frac{P(O_3)}{L(NO_x)}$ ). But for ROG-sensitive conditions the correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> is determined by the supply of odd-H radicals, where the source is proportional to O<sub>3</sub> and the NO<sub>z</sub> represents the accumulated sink. The sum of odd-H sinks, approximately equal to the sum NO<sub>z</sub>+2H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, should increase linearly with O<sub>3</sub>. The predicted linear correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and the sum NO<sub>z</sub>+2H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is a central feature of the indicator theory.

As shown in Figure 4-3, correlations between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> should show a range of variation between a maximum O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>z</sub> slope, representing NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry, and a minimum O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> ratio that represents the ROG-sensitive limit. The correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and the sum NO<sub>z</sub>+2H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> shows a linear increase and represents the ROG-sensitive limit for the  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  ratio (since for the ROG-sensitive limit NO<sub>z</sub>>>H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>). The transition between NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive chemistry occurs when  $\forall(O_3, NO_z)$  is greater than  $\forall(O_3, NO_z+2H_2O_2)$  by 50%, i.e. the NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive region is defined by:

$$\frac{O_3}{NO_z} > 1.5 \frac{O_3}{NO_z+2H_2O_2}$$

In simulations with high deposition (4 cm/sec for both H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and HNO<sub>3</sub>) the ratio  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z+2H_2O_2}$  was found to decrease by 25%. The NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG transition point for  $\frac{H_2O_2}{HNO_3}$  also decreased by 25% but the NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG transition point for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  decreased by only 10% (see Tables 3-1 and 3-2). It is not yet clear whether the criteria given above



(  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z} > 1.5 \frac{O_3}{NO_z + 2H_2O_2}$  ) can be used to establish the  $NO_x$ -ROG transition but it represents an important test for the theory.

The predicted linear correlation between  $O_3$  and the sum  $NO_z + 2H_2O_2$  provides the following tests for the indicator theory:

(1) The predicted linear correlation should be confirmed by ambient measurements. If confirmed, the linear correlation provides evidence that the interpretation of  $O_3$ ,  $NO_z$  and  $H_2O_2$  as  $NO_x$ -ROG indicators is consistent with the ambient behavior of these species.

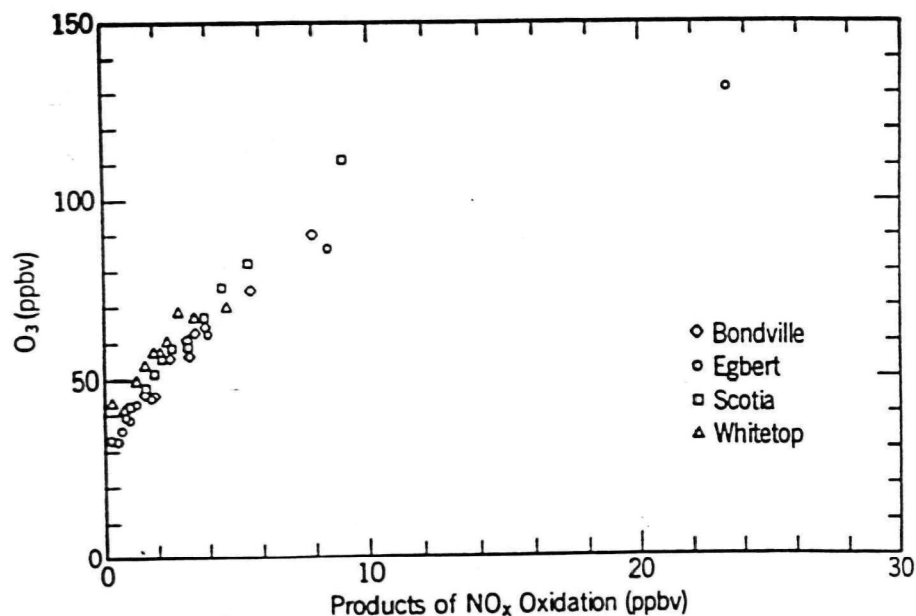
(2) It provides independent confirmation of the  $NO_x$ -ROG transition point for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ .

The  $NO_x$ -ROG transition points identified in Section 3.0 are sensitive to model assumptions about sunlight, water vapor and dry deposition rates. These can be evaluated for individual data sets by comparing the ratio  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z + 2H_2O_2}$  with ratios in photochemical models. The  $NO_x$ -ROG transition point for an individual data set can be established from the formula:  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z} = 1.5 \frac{O_3}{NO_z + 2H_2O_2}$ . This can be compared to the transition points from the photochemical models in Section 3.

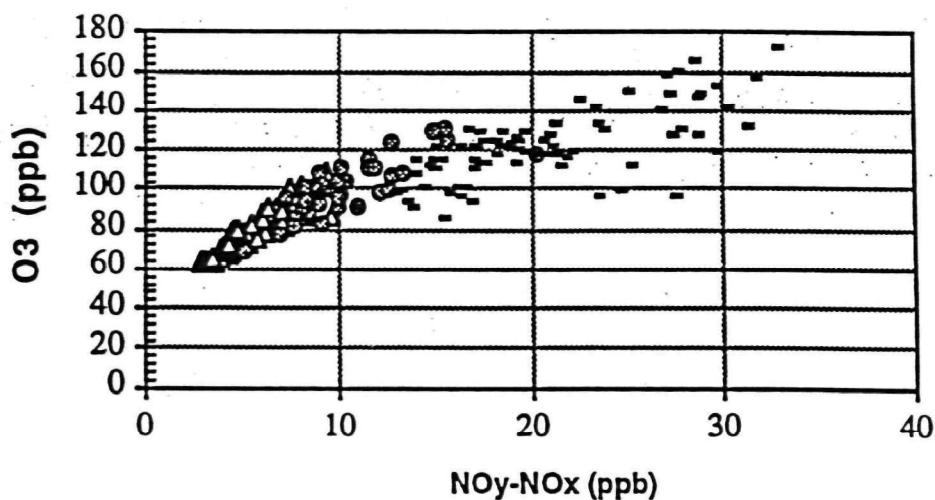
(3) It provides a diagnostic test for the accuracy of individual measurements. Deviation from the expected correlation between  $O_3$ ,  $NO_z$  and  $H_2O_2$  may provide evidence that an individual set of measurements is flawed. Similar diagnostic tests might be performed by comparing  $O_3$  -  $NO_z$  correlations with previous ambient measurements by Trainer et al.

Recent aircraft measurements by Daum et al. (1996) provide important confirmation for the method. Daum et al. measured  $O_3$ ,  $NO_x$ ,  $NO_y$  and  $H_2O_2$  over the Atlantic Ocean between Cape Cod and Nova Scotia, corresponding to air exported from the northeastern U.S. The resulting correlation for  $O_3$  vs.  $NO_z$  (Figure 4-4) shows a nonlinear increase, comparable to the results from Trainer et al. (1993), with the slope for  $O_3$  vs.  $NO_z$  decreasing at high  $NO_z$ . The same series of measurements showed a linear correlation between  $O_3$  and the sum  $NO_z + 2H_2O_2$  (Figure 4-5). The ratio  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z + 2H_2O_2}$  varies from 7 at low  $O_3$  to 5 at high  $O_3$  (110 ppb). These measurements show excellent agreement with the photochemical model from Sillman (1995a), shown in Figure 4-3 ( $\frac{O_3}{NO_z + 2H_2O_2} = 6$ ). Staffelbach et al. (1997a,b) also measured  $O_3$ ,  $NO_x$ ,  $NO_y$  and  $H_2O_2$  during an air pollution event in Switzerland. They found a similar linear correlation between  $O_3$  and the sum  $NO_z + 2H_2O_2$  but with a higher ratio ( $\frac{O_3}{NO_z + 2H_2O_2} = 10$ ). The higher ratio is attributed to higher deposition rates.

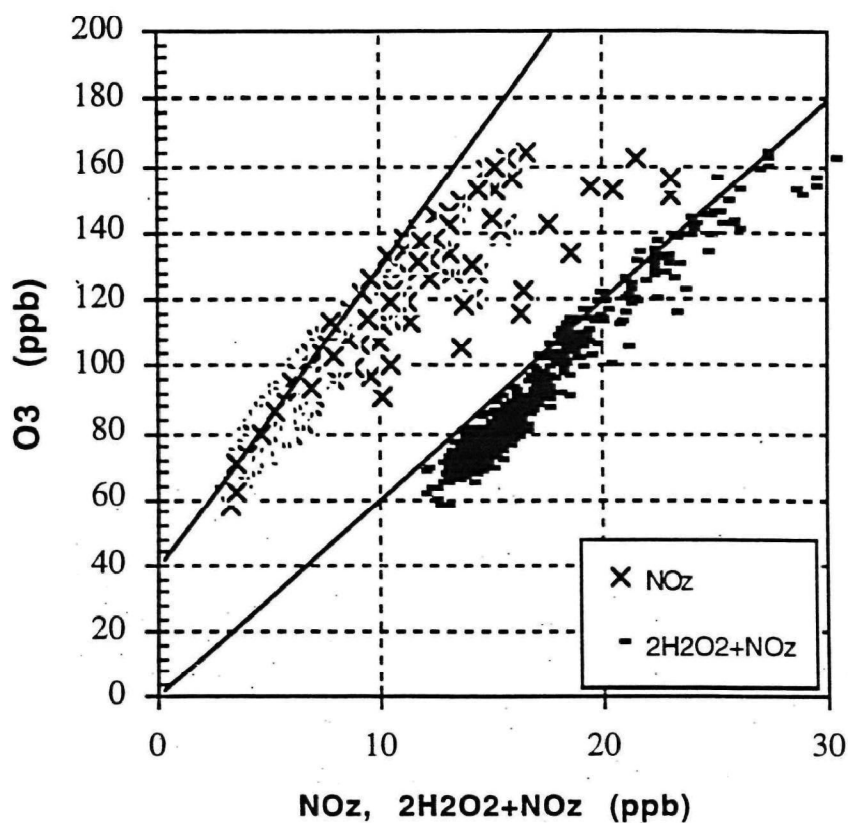
The recent field measurement campaign (1995) in Nashville, TN, associated with the Southern Oxidant Study, included extensive measurements of O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>y</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and other related species (PAN, HNO<sub>3</sub>). Preliminary results (Sillman et al., 1997b) showed a linear correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and the sum NO<sub>z</sub>+2H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, similar to the results reported by Daum et al. (1996) but with a slightly higher ratio ( $\frac{O_3}{NO_z+2H_2O_2} = 7$ ). This pattern is consistent with model results for Nashville and with results shown here, though it supports the use of higher dry deposition estimates. A similar correlation and ratio was found in aircraft measurements on two separate days (July 11 and 13, 1995). Aircraft measurements during a third day (July 18) reported significantly higher ratio ( $\frac{O_3}{NO_z+2H_2O_2} = 9$ ), possibly due to rainout of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure 4-1 :** Measured ozone as a function of  $NO_z$  at four rural sites in eastern North America (Bondville, IL, Egbert, ON, Scotia, PA and Whitetop, NC). For Whitetop  $NO_z$  is represented as the sum of measured PAN,  $HNO_3$  and  $NO_3^-$ . For the other sites  $NO_z$  is the difference between measured  $NO_y$  and  $NO_x$ . From Trainer et al. (1993).



**Figure 4-2 :** Simulated afternoon concentrations of  $O_3$  vs.  $NO_z$  for locations with  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry (triangles), ROG-sensitive chemistry (points) and intermediate chemistry (circles) from the Lake Michigan regional simulation base case (Sillman et al., 1993).



**Figure 4-3.** Correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> (crosses) and O<sub>3</sub> and the sum 2H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+NO<sub>z</sub> (dashes), all in ppb, from the northeast corridor regional simulation base case. The lines correspond to an slope between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> of 9:1 and a ratio of 6:1, representing maximum and minimum values of O<sub>3</sub> vs. NO<sub>z</sub> in NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive and ROG-sensitive regions respectively.

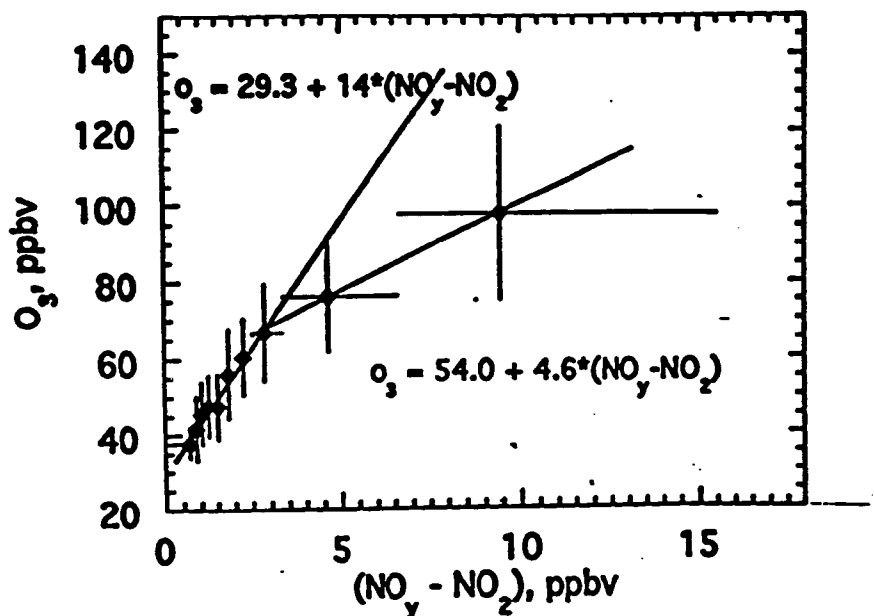


Figure 4-4 :  $O_3$  concentration (ppb) vs  $(NO_y - NO_2)$  from aircraft measurements over the Atlantic Ocean. The data were collected at 10-second intervals, ordered by  $(NO_y - NO_2)$  concentrations and divided into 10 intervals. Each point on the plot represents the average  $NO_y - NO_2$  corresponding to one of those intervals. Horizontal bars represent the range of  $NO_y - NO_2$  included in each interval; vertical bars represent the standard deviation of the  $O_3$  concentration measured over the interval. Slope and intercept were calculated from the individual data points. From Daum et al. (1996).

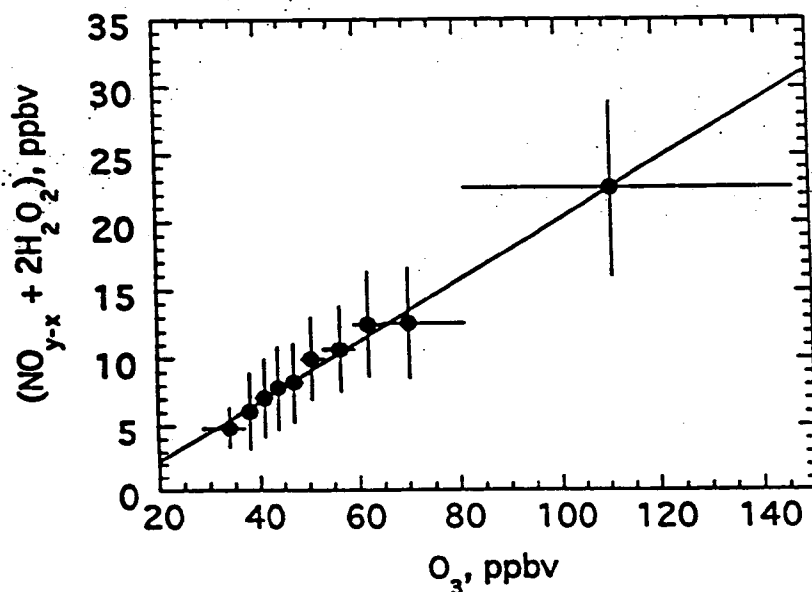


Figure 4-5 : The sum  $NO_z + 2H_2O_2$  vs.  $O_3$  (ppb) from aircraft measurements over the Atlantic Ocean. Sixty second ordered by  $O_3$  concentrations and divided into 10 intervals. Each point on the plot represents the average  $O_3$  corresponding to one of those intervals. Horizontal bars represent the range of  $O_3$  included in each interval; vertical bars represent the standard deviation of the  $NO_z + 2H_2O_2$  sums over the interval. Slope and intercept were calculated from the individual data points. From Daum et al. (1996).

## SECTION 5

### CASE STUDIES OF THE INDICATOR METHOD FOR ATLANTA AND LOS ANGELES

This section presents two case studies that illustrate the possible use of the method of photochemical indicators. The case studies are based on field measurement campaigns during specific air pollution events in Atlanta and Los Angeles. Measured  $O_3$ ,  $NO_x$  and  $NO_y$  have been used in combination with photochemical models to evaluate  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity in each city. It is hoped that these methods will serve as examples for similar studies elsewhere.

An important facet of the case studies shown here is the development of a series of model scenarios with different ROG- $NO_x$  chemistry. In the case study for Atlanta a deliberate effort was made to generate plausible scenarios with both  $NO_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive chemistry. This was achieved by varying the assumed rate of anthropogenic and biogenic emissions (including both the BEIS1 and BEIS2 inventories) and by varying wind speeds and mixed layer heights by 20%. In the case study for Los Angeles scenarios were generated with anthropogenic ROG emissions increased by up to a factor of three, resulting in a significant change in the predicted  $NO_x$ -ROG response. Each of these model scenarios generated different values for the indicator ratios  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  and  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  which can then be evaluated against ambient measurements. A central feature of the method is the development of model scenarios with different  $NO_x$ -ROG responses, rather than an attempt to "validate" a single model scenario or to only include scenarios with identical  $NO_x$ -ROG responses.

Results of this section also demonstrate that the measured indicator ratio  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  has different values in a likely  $NO_x$ -sensitive environment (Atlanta) in comparison with a likely ROG-sensitive environment (Los Angeles). The difference in measured  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  between Atlanta and Los Angeles corresponds closely to the difference between  $NO_x$ - and ROG-

sensitive environments predicted by the photochemical models in Section 3. However, the  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG predictions are subject to a number of caveats: (1)  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity varies greatly from event to event, so that events in Atlanta with more stagnant meteorology might have ROG-sensitive chemistry. (2)  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity has been shown to vary with location in Los Angeles (Milford et al., 1989), and downwind locations in the Los Angeles basin are likely to have  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry. (3) The  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG sensitivity results are critically dependent on the accuracy of measured  $\text{NO}_y$ .

The methods shown here would be strengthened if measured  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  were also included. This is because the indicator ratios with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  show a stronger correlation with  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG chemistry and are less dependent on model assumptions, and because measured  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  would allow the field measurements to be evaluated in terms of the  $\text{O}_3$ - $\text{NO}_z$ - $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  correlation. The Nashville field measurement campaign associated with the Southern Oxidant Study should provide an example of an analysis based on  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (Sillman et al., 1997b). A case study based on  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  was also carried out by Jacob et al. (1995) in rural Virginia. They found that  $\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}{\text{NO}_y}$  shifts from values associated with  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive chemistry in summer to values associated with ROG-sensitive chemistry in fall, possibly associated with a seasonal change in photochemistry.

## 5.1 Atlanta

Model scenarios were developed for the air pollution episode of August 9-11, 1992 in Atlanta. The simulations are based on the Urban Airshed Model (UAM-IV) and are described in detail in Section 3. Simulations were performed using two different inventories for anthropogenic emissions: an inventory developed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (1987) based on the NAPAP 1985 national inventory (R) and an updated inventory developed by Cardelino et al. (1994). Estimates for  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions from both point and area sources differ by a factor of two between the inventories, and similar differences are found for ROG/ $\text{NO}_x$  ratios. Smaller differences are found for individual ROG. Separate model scenarios were also generated with biogenic emissions from the BEIS1 inventory and with tripled isoprene emissions, comparable to the newer BEIS2 inventory (Geron et al., 1995). Additional scenarios were generated with the height of the daytime mixed layer reduced by 20% from the initial estimate. The 20% reduction was used to generate a plausible scenario with ROG-sensitive chemistry, and lies within the range of uncertainty for vertical mixing identified by Marsik et al. (1995). The resulting six scenarios are:

(A1) 1987 anthropogenic emission inventory, and BEIS1 biogenic inventory, equivalent to the base case in Sillman et al (1995b).

(A2) 1987 anthropogenic emission inventory with tripled isoprene.

(B1) 1994 anthropogenic emission inventory, BEIS1 biogenics.

(B2) 1994 anthropogenic emission inventory with tripled isoprene.

(C1) 1994 inventory with mixing heights reduced by 20%.

(C2) 1994 inventory with mixing heights reduced by 20% and tripled isoprene.

Aircraft-based measurements for O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> were made downwind of Atlanta between 4:15 and 5:15 pm on both August 10 and August 11 (Imhoff et al., 1995). NO<sub>y</sub> was measured using a gold tube converter with CO injection (Bollinger et al., 1983) which was mounted external to the helicopter in the free air stream. The NO produced was drawn through ~6 m of Teflon tubing to a Thermo Electron Instruments Model 42 nitrogen oxides analyzer. Tests indicated that very little O<sub>3</sub> (<3 ppb) survived the gold-tube converter and therefore no adjustment was applied for the possible reduction of NO with O<sub>3</sub> in the tubing. Wind direction was from the north on August 10 and from the southwest on August 11, and the location of the measurements was correspondingly different. On both days the measurements covered a region extending from near downtown Atlanta to approximately 40 km downwind. The spatial pattern of measured O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> confirmed that the aircraft regularly intercepted a plume of polluted air, which was believed to be associated with Atlanta. The measurements were made at 500-600 m. altitude above ground.

Figure 5-1 shows measured values for O<sub>3</sub> vs. NO<sub>y</sub> on August 10, 1992 in comparison with model results from each of the six model scenarios. The measured O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>y</sub> correlations show a broad region in which O<sub>3</sub> increases with NO<sub>y</sub>, generally associated with NO<sub>y</sub> between 5 and 15 ppb. This O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>y</sub> correlation is consistent with previous rural measurements (Trainer et al., 1993). The measurements also show a range of locations in which O<sub>3</sub> does not increase with NO<sub>y</sub>, typically associated with higher NO<sub>y</sub>. These uncorrelated points may represent locations close to emission sources where NO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> is large, so that photochemical production of O<sub>3</sub> that would otherwise be associated with the observed NO<sub>y</sub> has not yet occurred. The use of O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> as a photochemical indicator suggests that the locations with high NO<sub>y</sub> and low O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> may also represent ROG-sensitive chemistry.

The model results in Figure 5-1 represent a subset of the model domain including downtown Atlanta and the downwind urban plume, at the same time (4-5 pm) and altitude (600 km) as the measurements but not necessarily at the same horizontal location. Results for all model scenarios show that O<sub>3</sub> increases with NO<sub>y</sub> in a pattern broadly consistent



with the observed O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>y</sub> correlation. However, there are some differences between the simulated and observed O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>y</sub> correlation and differences between individual simulations. The models show a much smaller region with uncorrelated O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub>, possibly because the model grid resolution (4x4 km) is too coarse to include NO<sub>x</sub> plumes from individual emission sources. Model scenarios with the BEIS1 biogenic inventory all show a lower rate of increase of O<sub>3</sub> with NO<sub>y</sub>, both in comparison with the model scenarios with increased isoprene and in comparison with measurements. Peak O<sub>3</sub> occurred further downwind in the model (40 km south of the Georgia Tech campus) than in measurements (20 km south of Georgia Tech), but the region with measured high O<sub>3</sub> (>140 ppb) extends south and overlaps with the location of the model peak.

The most important evaluation for the six model scenarios is an examination of measured O<sub>3</sub> and concurrent NO<sub>y</sub> in the vicinity of the measured peak O<sub>3</sub>, in comparison with peak O<sub>3</sub> and concurrent NO<sub>z</sub> in each model scenario. This comparison is especially important because the model behavior in the vicinity of peak O<sub>3</sub> has a dominant impact on NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG control strategies, and the difference in the NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG responses of the six model scenarios is most obvious for the peak O<sub>3</sub> in each scenario. The near-continuous sampling of O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> in the aircraft-based measurements provides an excellent basis for characterizing the region of the Atlanta urban plume associated with peak O<sub>3</sub>. Because photochemical models use 4 km grid resolution, we have used the range of measured O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> within 4 km of the measured peak O<sub>3</sub> as a basis for characterizing the peak-O<sub>3</sub> region. As shown in Figure 5-2, ozone within 4 km of the measured peak varies by 20 ppb (130-150 ppb) while NO<sub>y</sub> varies between 7 and 15 ppb. This range of O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> is used as a basis for evaluating the performance of individual model scenarios, i.e. model peak O<sub>3</sub> and concurrent NO<sub>y</sub> is expected to fall within the range of measured O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>y</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> ratios found within 4 km of the measured peak O<sub>3</sub>.

Results (Figure 5-2) show that several model scenarios (B1, C1) generate peak ozone that is close to the observed peak, but with concurrent NO<sub>y</sub> that is significantly higher than the observed value. The poor performance of these scenarios in comparison with measured O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> can also be seen in the complete data set (Figure 5-1), but is highlighted when the evaluation focuses on peak O<sub>3</sub> and concurrent NO<sub>y</sub>. Other model scenarios (A1, A2) show good agreement with both peak O<sub>3</sub> and concurrent NO<sub>y</sub>.

The indicator ratio  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  associated with peak O<sub>3</sub> shows great variation among the six model scenarios, reflecting the difference in model NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity. The NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive model scenarios (A1, A2 and B2) all show  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  greater than the NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG transition ratio (7). The ratios for scenarios A1 and A2 (11-13) are significantly higher

than the transition ratio. By contrast the ROG-sensitive scenario (C1) has a  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  (=5.5) lower than the transition ratio. This correlation between  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  and  $NO_x$ -ROG sensitivity is consistent with the results of Section 3.

Measured  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  in the vicinity peak O3 shows a range of values (10-20) that is significantly higher than the  $NO_x$ -ROG transition. This high  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  is consistent with  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry. The measurements show good agreement with the strongly  $NO_x$ -sensitive model scenarios (A1 and A2) and show poor agreement with the ROG-sensitive scenario (C1). It is important to note that the ROG-sensitive scenario shows good agreement with measured peak O3. If model performance was evaluated solely in terms of measured peak O3, then scenarios A1, A2, B1 and C1 would all be acceptable even though they show different  $NO_x$ -ROG responses. The model-measurement comparison for the indicator ratio  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  in connection with peak O3 provides a stronger basis for evaluating model scenarios.

Results for both August 10 and August 11 are summarized in Table 2, are similar to August 10. The model results and measurements both suggest that August 11 is more likely to have  $NO_x$ -sensitive chemistry than August 10.

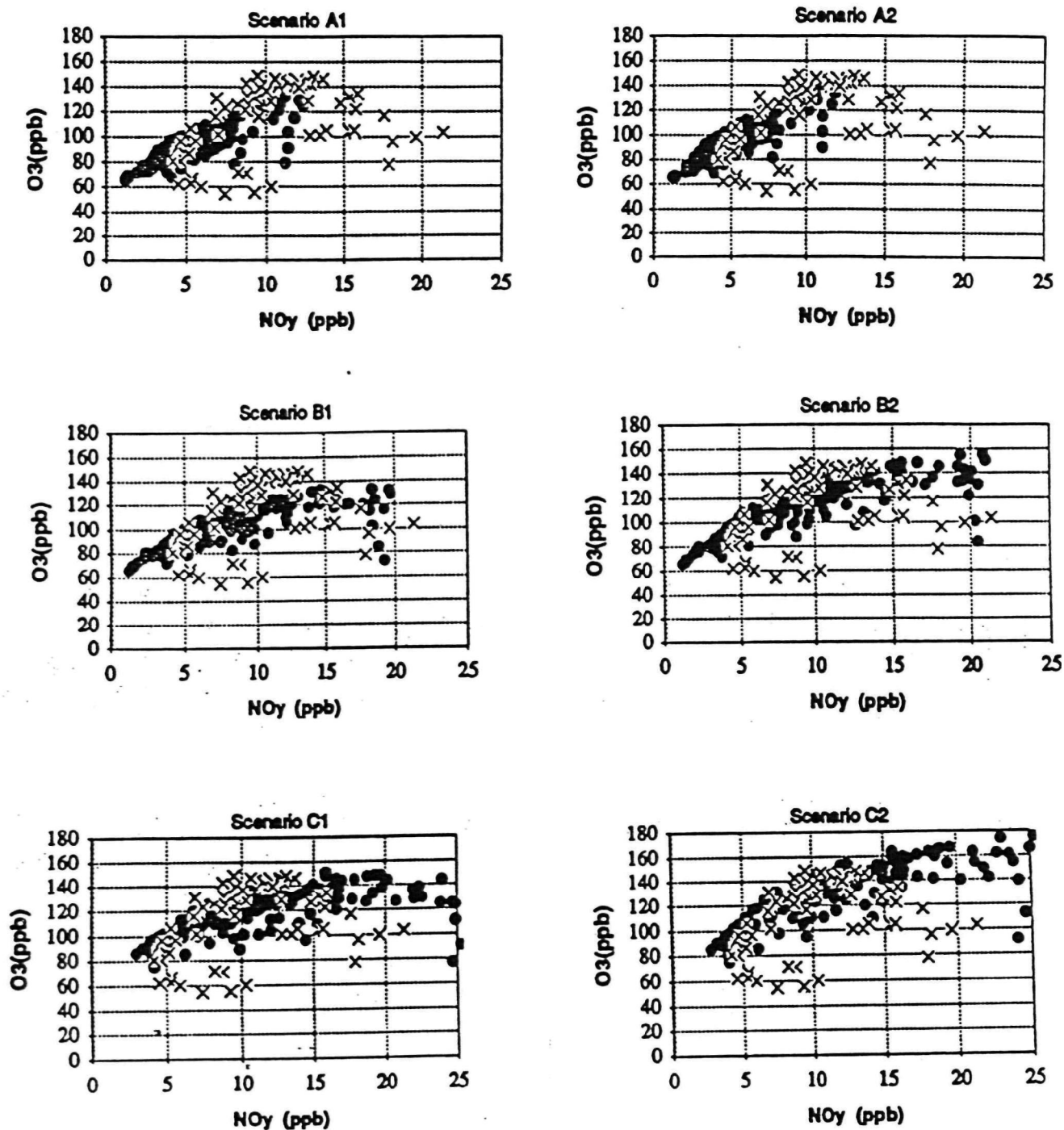
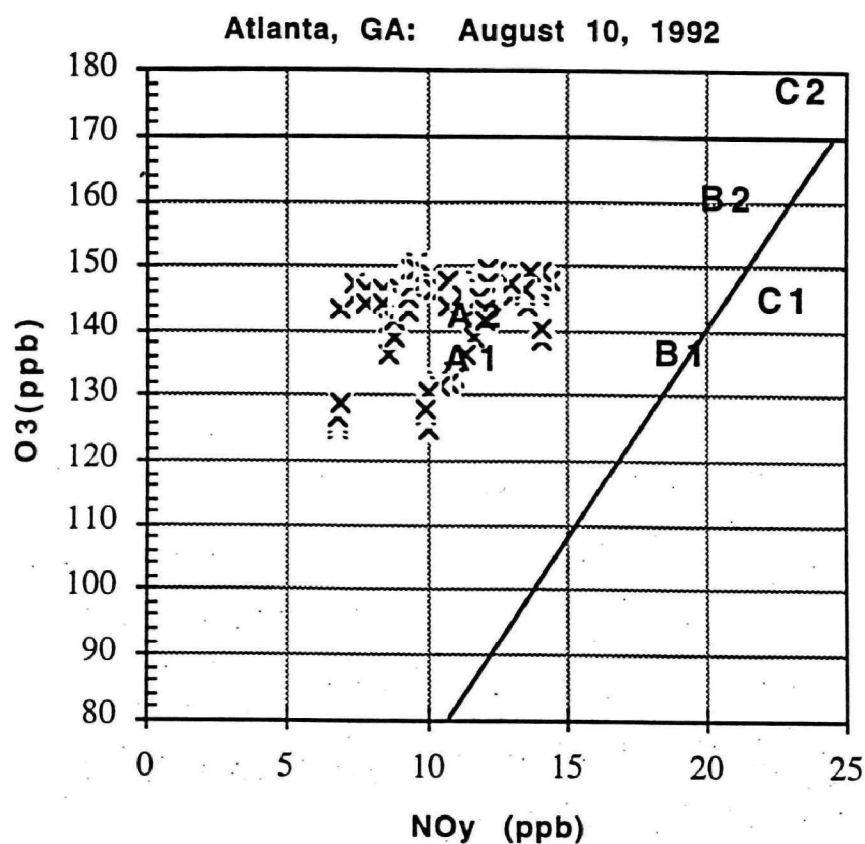


Figure 5-1. Correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> (ppb) in the urban plume 10 to 40 km south of Atlanta, measured by aircraft 600 m. above ground at 4:00-5:20 pm, August 10, 1992 (crosses), compared with simulated O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> (solid circles) from six model scenarios described in the text. From Sillman et al. (1997a) based on measurements by Imhoff et al. (1995).



**Figure 5-2.** Peak O<sub>3</sub> and concurrent NO<sub>y</sub> (ppb) in the Atlanta urban plume on 8-10-92. The crosses represent measurements at 600 m elevation, 4-5 pm, for locations within 4 km of the measured peak O<sub>3</sub>. Bold letters represent domain-wide peak O<sub>3</sub> and concurrent NO<sub>y</sub> at 600 m elevation, 4-5 pm for the model scenarios identified in the text. The line (O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>=7) corresponds to the transition point between NO<sub>x</sub>- and ROG-sensitive chemistry based on O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> as a photochemical indicator.

**Table 5-1**  
**O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>y</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity in simulations for Atlanta**

The table gives simulated peak O<sub>3</sub>, concurrent NO<sub>y</sub>, peak O<sub>3</sub> in simulations with 35% reductions in anthropogenic ROG emissions and peak O<sub>3</sub> in simulations with 35% reductions in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, for six model scenarios. Scenarios A1 and A2 use anthropogenic emissions from Georgia<sup>9</sup>; the other scenarios use Cardelino<sup>11</sup>. Scenarios C1 and C2 have daytime mixing heights reduced by 20% relative to the base case. Scenarios A1, B1 and C1 have biogenic emissions from (BEIS)<sup>12</sup>; scenarios A2, B2 and C2 have isoprene emissions increased by a factor of three. Observed values give the range of measured values within 4 km of observed peak O<sub>3</sub>.

Scenario	peak O <sub>3</sub>	August 10, 1992			August 11, 1992			
		NO <sub>y</sub>	reduced ROG	reduced NO <sub>x</sub>	peak O <sub>3</sub>	NO <sub>y</sub>	reduced ROG	reduced NO <sub>x</sub>
A1	132	11	126	118	131	9	128	112
A2	141	11	137	122	136	9	132	113
B1	132	15-21	126	127	147	12	141	128
B2	157	22	150	144	166	17	163	145
C1	149	16-27	143	147	165	16	159	153
C2	177	25	167	164	184	19	180	160
Observed	130-150	7-15			123-148	8-12		

## 5.2 Los Angeles

Results for Los Angeles are based on simulations for the event of August 26-29, 1987 developed by Godowitch and Vukovich and by Wagner et al. (1992), described in Section 3. These models used an anthropogenic emission inventory for southern California developed in association with the Southern California Air Quality Study (SCAQS). In addition, Wagner et al. (1992) generated alternative scenarios with emissions of anthropogenic ROG increased by factors of two and three relative to the initial estimate. NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG responses were tested relative to each of these cases.

Measurements of O<sub>3</sub>, NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, PAN, HNO<sub>3</sub> and aerosol nitrate were made at eight surface sites in the Los Angeles basin (Lawson et al., 1990). The measurement sites were: downtown Los Angeles, Hawthorne, Long Beach City College, Anaheim, Burbank, Azusa, Claremont and Rubidoux. HNO<sub>3</sub> and particulate nitrate were measured using a transition-flow reactor (Ellestad et al., 1989), and O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and PAN were measured using a Luminol detector (R-30). In this report it is assumed that NO<sub>y</sub> is equal to the sum of the five measured nitrogen-containing species. Parrish et al. (1993) found that these five species account for 90% of measured NO<sub>y</sub> in the eastern U.S. Aerosol nitrate is not included in model photochemistry, but it is appropriate to assume that model HNO<sub>3</sub> is equal to the sum of measured HNO<sub>3</sub> and aerosol nitrate in model-measurement comparisons.

Figure 5-3 shows measured O<sub>3</sub> vs. NO<sub>y</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> vs. NO<sub>z</sub> from all eight surface measurement sites in the Los Angeles basin during the hours of 1-5 pm, August 27, 1987. The combined results from all sites provide enough measurements to identify correlations among the species. Virtually no correlation appears between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub>, but there is a strong correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub>. A similar correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> has appeared in previous measurements in Los Angeles (Tuazon et al., 1981, Trainer et al., 1993).

As reported by Trainer et al., the correlation between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> in Los Angeles is similar to the O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>z</sub> correlations at rural sites in eastern North America. However  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  in Los Angeles is much lower than either the measured ratios at rural eastern sites and also much lower than  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$  reported above for Atlanta. The O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> measurements for Los Angeles from Figure 5-3 have an average O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> ratio equal to 4, and  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  associated

with peak O<sub>3</sub> is equal to 6. This contrasts with both Atlanta ( $\frac{O_3}{NO_y} = 14$ , above) and with the rural eastern sites from Trainer et al. shown in Figure 4-1 ( $\frac{O_3}{NO_z} = 15$ ). If the O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> ratio is interpreted as a photochemical indicator, the low  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  in Los Angeles would suggest ROG-sensitive chemistry, in contrast with the higher  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  and NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry in Atlanta and the rural eastern sites. Measured  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  in Los Angeles is also comparable with measured values for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z + 2H_2O_2}$  over the Atlantic Ocean from Daum et al. (1996), presented above (Figure 4-5). The latter ratio represents a likely limiting value for  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  under ROG-sensitive conditions.

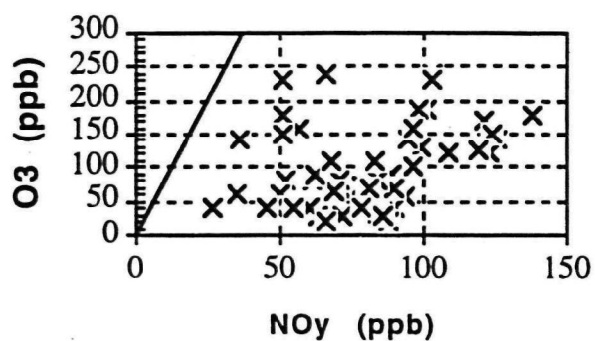
Figure 5-4 shows O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>z</sub> from simulations for Los Angeles by Wagner et al. (1992) including scenarios with anthropogenic emissions equal to the base case and with anthropogenic ROG increased by factors of two and three. The simulated values represent the same time period (1-5 pm) and the same locations as the measurements. A comparison between Figures 5-3 and 5-4 is used to evaluate the performance of model scenarios. It is apparent that the base case represents a significant underestimate of peak O<sub>3</sub>, although the  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  ratio associated with peak O<sub>3</sub> ( $\frac{O_3}{NO_z} = 5$ ) is reasonable in comparison with measurements. The scenario with doubled anthropogenic ROG shows good agreement both with measured O<sub>3</sub> and with  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  (average  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z} = 6$ ,  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z} = 5$  concurrent with peak O<sub>3</sub>). The simulation with tripled anthropogenic ROG significantly overestimates  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$  (average O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub> = 7,  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z} = 9$  concurrent with peak O<sub>3</sub>). This scenario shows greater sensitivity to NO<sub>x</sub> (see Wheeler et al., 1992), which is consistent with the higher  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ .

In contrast with the Atlanta event, evaluation of the three model scenarios for Los Angeles are consistent with evaluations based solely on measured O<sub>3</sub>. The model evaluation shown in Figures 5-3 and 5-4 suggest that the scenario with doubled ROG is more accurate than either the base case or the scenario with tripled ROG. This conclusion is consistent with the original analysis by Wheeler et al. (1992) and also with the analysis of emission rates in southern California by Fujita et al. (1992). Fujita et al. found that measured ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios during the morning lower than ROG/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios in the UAM base case by approximately a factor of two.

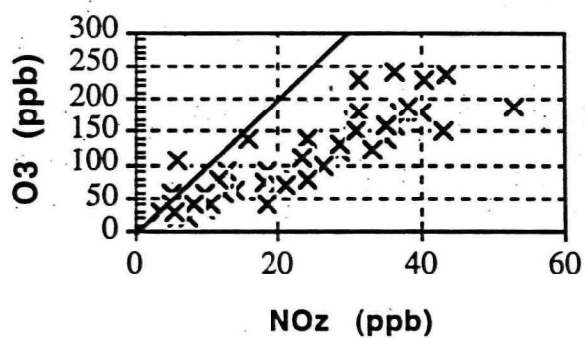
Results from this case study were constrained by the limited geographical extent of the measurements. Milford et al. (1989) has shown that model NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity in

Los Angeles shows great geographical variation with ROG-sensitive chemistry downtown and NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry at downwind sites. The measurement sites included in this analysis were almost all located in the region identified as ROG-sensitive in Milford et al. A more complete analysis would require measurements that would identify the region of transition between ROG-sensitive and NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry.



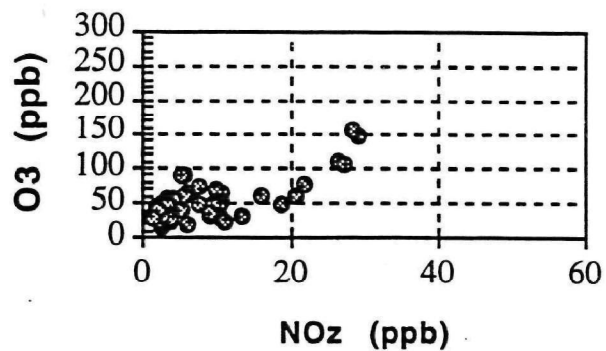


(a)

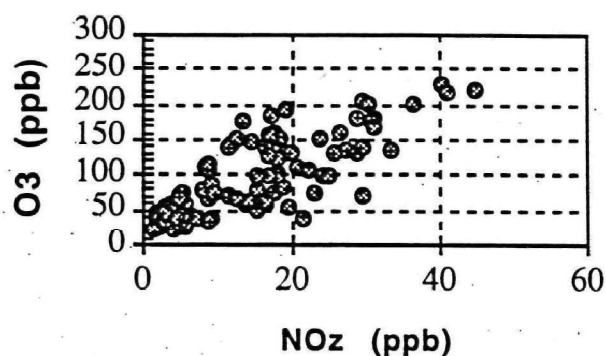


(b)

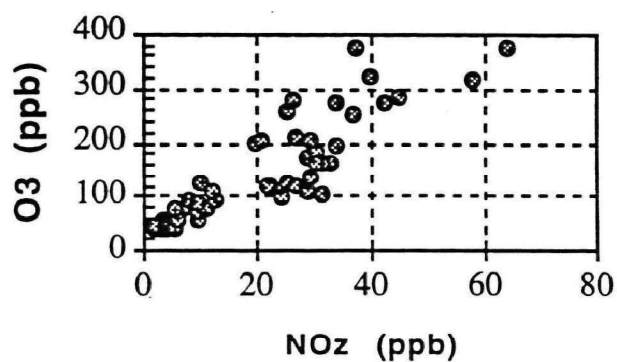
**Figure 5-3:** Measured  $O_3$  and concurrent  $NO_y$  (ppb) and  $O_3$  versus  $NO_z$  at 1-5 pm August 27, 1987 at eight sites in the Los Angeles basin. The line represents the transition between  $NO_x$ - and ROG-sensitive chemistry based on  $O_3/NO_y$  and  $O_3/NO_z$  as photochemical indicators



(a)



(b)



(c)

**Figure 5-4:** Simulated O<sub>3</sub> versus NO<sub>z</sub> during the afternoon of August 27, 1987 for locations corresponding to measurements shown in Figure 6, from simulations by Wagner et al. (1992) using (a) base case emissions, (b) doubled ROG emissions and (c) tripled ROG emissions.

## SECTION 6

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This report has presented a series of results associated with the use of photochemical indicators as a basis for investigating O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity. The method of photochemical indicators seeks to identify species or species ratios that are closely associated with NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG predictions in models. A successful correlation between model NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG predictions and indicator values has been found for six species ratios:  $\frac{O_3}{NO_y}$ ,  $\frac{O_3}{NO_z}$ ,  $\frac{O_3}{HNO_3}$ ,  $\frac{H_2O_2}{HNO_3}$ ,  $\frac{H_2O_2}{NO_z}$ , and  $\frac{H_2O_2}{NO_y}$ . In each case, high values are associated with NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive model predictions for ozone and low values are associated with ROG-sensitive predictions. The close correlation between NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG predictions and indicator values suggests that measured indicator values can be used as a basis for evaluating the accuracy of model NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG predictions.

Indicator-NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG correlations have been examined for a wide variety of model applications, including two different model types (UAM-IV and a regional model developed at the University of Michigan) with different photochemical mechanisms. They have been examined for several locations (Lake Michigan, northeast corridor, Atlanta and Los Angeles). They have been examined in model scenarios with a range of assumptions about emission rates, including scenarios with anthropogenic ROG emissions doubled or reduced by half in comparison with inventory values and scenarios with radically different emission rates for biogenic ROG. They have been examined in scenarios with changed wind speeds and vertical mixing heights. They have been examined in scenarios with strongly ROG-sensitive chemistry and in scenarios in strongly NO<sub>x</sub>-sensitive chemistry. In all these cases, the correlation between model NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG predictions and indicator values remains largely unchanged, even though the model NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG predictions vary.

It is especially noteworthy that changes in model assumptions that affect NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG predictions also cause a corresponding change in the model values for photochemical indicators. This feature is especially striking in the Atlanta case study (Table 5-1 and Figure 5-2). In this case, model predictions for O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub> concurrent with peak O<sub>3</sub> varied

from 13 in the strongly  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive model scenarios to 6 in the ROG-sensitive scenario. The Atlanta case study is especially important because the  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive scenarios each give similar predictions for peak  $\text{O}_3$ , suggesting that an evaluation vs. measured  $\text{O}_3$  does not provide a basis for confidence in model  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG predictions. A similar contrast between  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive scenarios is apparent in the scenarios for Lake Michigan with different ROG emission rates (Figures 3-1a and b) and in the simulations for New York /northeast corridor for events with different meteorology (Figures 3-1c and 3-1d). The predicted contrast in indicator values between  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive locations is partially confirmed by measurements in Atlanta and Los Angeles. Model results (Figures 3-1e and 3-1f) predict high values for  $\text{O}_3/\text{NO}_z$  in Atlanta and low values in Los Angeles. This prediction is consistent with measurements (Figures 5-1, 5-2 and 5-3).

This study has identified a several factors that might be sources of error in the indicator method. A list of caveats is given in Section 1. The most important uncertainties are associated with the removal rate for the indicator species (especially through wet and dry deposition); the possible role of particulate nitrate as a sink for  $\text{NO}_y$ ; and uncertainties associated with the chemistry of organic peroxides, which are not represented in some of the chemical mechanisms that are frequently used for air quality analysis (e.g. CB-IV). It is especially important to identify uncertainties that might lead to bias in the  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG interpretation of indicator values.

A more general problem associated with the method of photochemical indicators is that, as with all methods designed to predict the sensitivity of  $\text{O}_3$  to  $\text{NO}_x$  and ROG, it is very difficult to find direct confirmation that the predictions are accurate. This report has recommended investigation of model and measured correlations between  $\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_z$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  as a basis for evaluating model assumptions that represent uncertainties in the indicator method. The models that were used to derive indicator- $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG correlations also predict a linear correlation between  $\text{O}_3$  and the sum:  $\text{NO}_z + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ . This prediction should be verified vs. measurements. In addition, model results predict that the ratio  $\text{O}_3/(\text{NO}_z + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2)$  should have similar values in  $\text{NO}_x$ -sensitive and ROG-sensitive locations (although it may show diurnal variations and day-to-day variation in responses to changing cloud cover and the effect of wet deposition). Because this ratio is closely associated with the proposed indicators (especially with  $\text{O}_3/\text{NO}_z$ ), it might also be used as a basis for evaluating the accuracy of the proposed  $\text{NO}_x$ -ROG transition values associated with the indicators.

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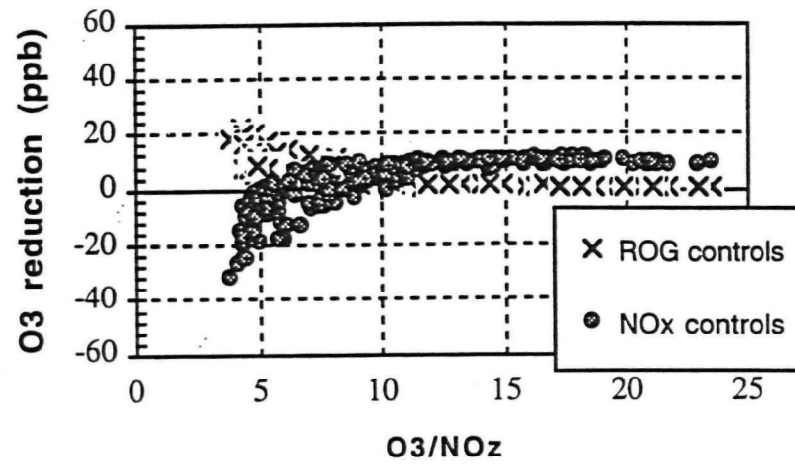
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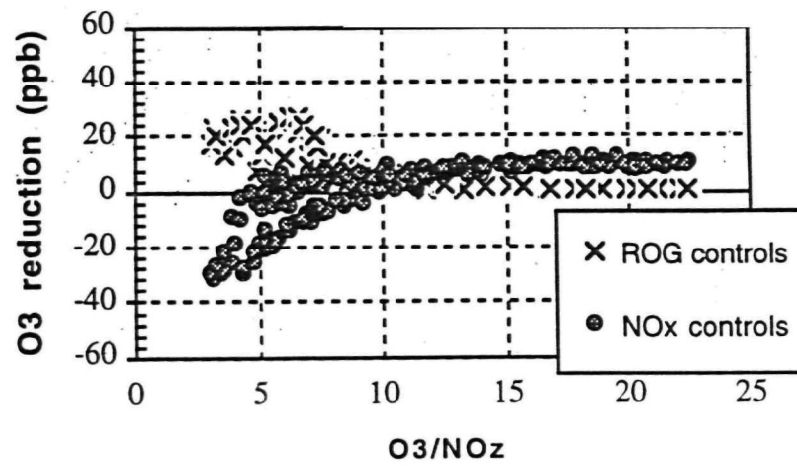
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**APPENDIX:**  
**ADDITIONAL PLOTS OF NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG SENSITIVITY vs.**  
**PHOTOCHEMICAL INDICATORS**

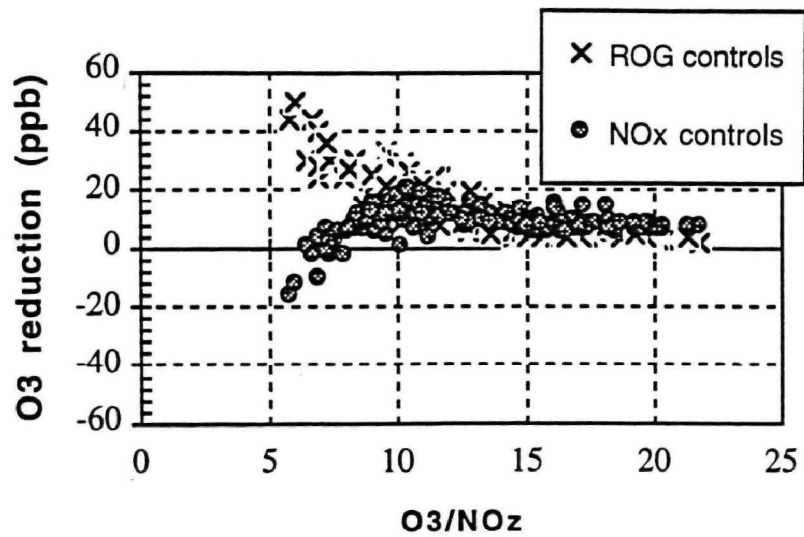
The appendix shows correlations between NO<sub>x</sub>-ROG sensitivity and photochemical indicators for the complete set of model results. Each figure shows the predicted reduction in O<sub>3</sub> for the specified hour (usually 3-6 pm) resulting from a 35% reduction in anthropogenic ROG emissions (crosses) and from a 35% reduction in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (circles) at each location in the model domain. The simulated ozone reductions are plotted vs. the simulated value for the specified indicator ratio in the initial model scenario (without emission reductions) at the same time and location. Simulations are described in Section 3.1.



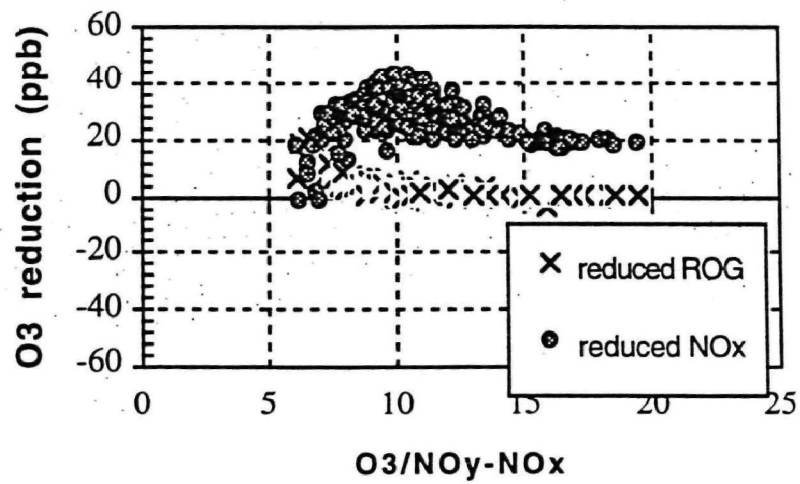
Lake Michigan, ROG reduced by half - O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>



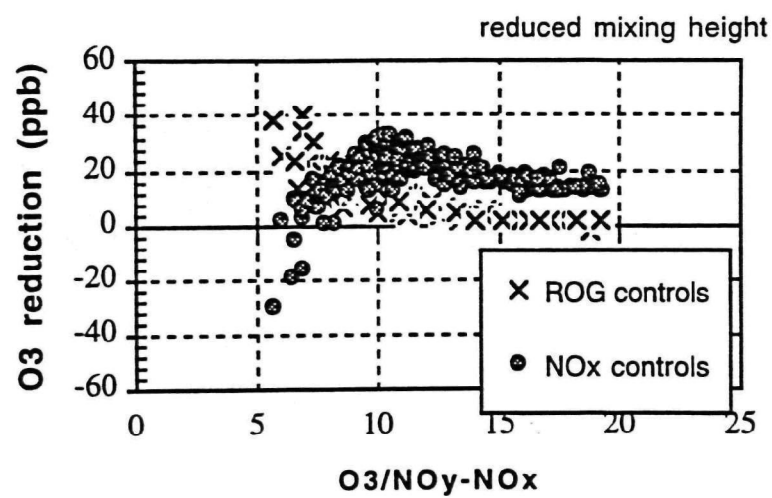
Lake Michigan, base case at noon - O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>



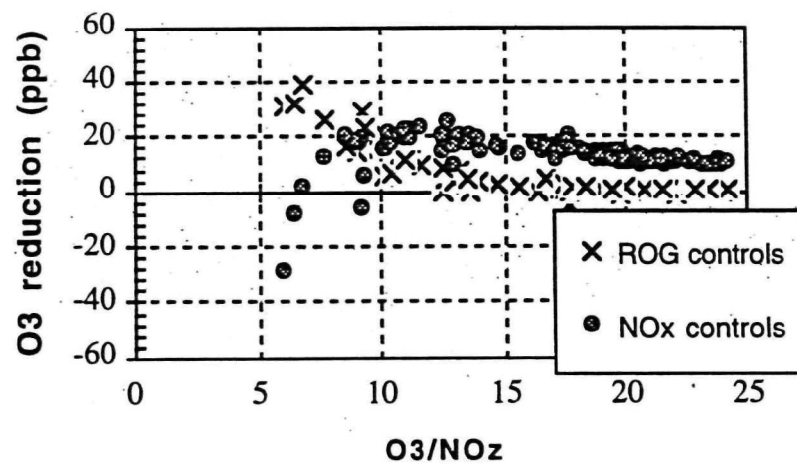
Northeast corridor, zero isoprene - O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>



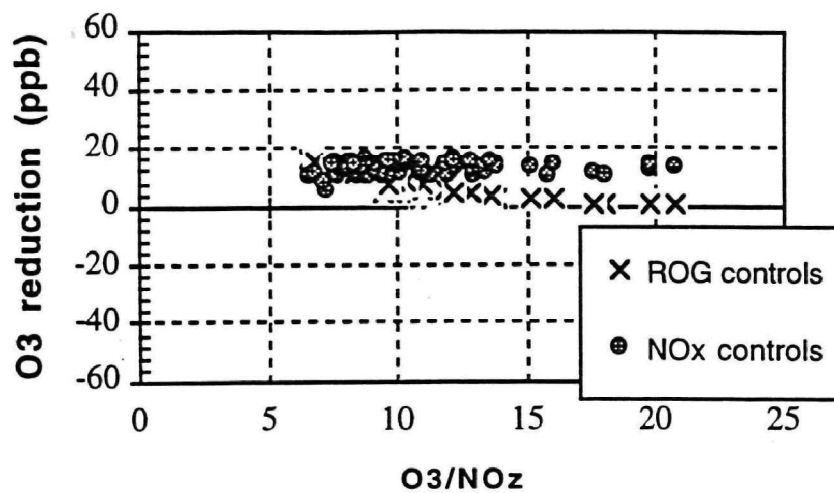
Northeast corridor, doubled isoprene: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>



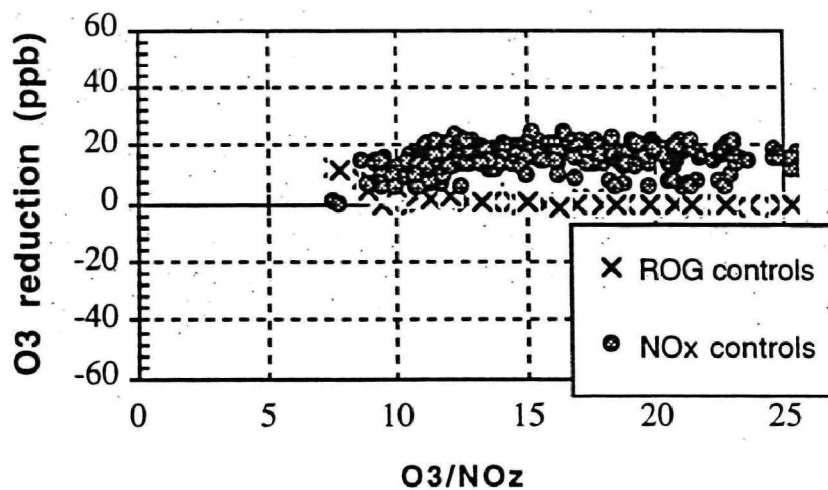
Northeast corridor, low mixing: O3/NO<sub>z</sub>



Northeast corridor, light winds and high deposition: O3/NO<sub>z</sub>

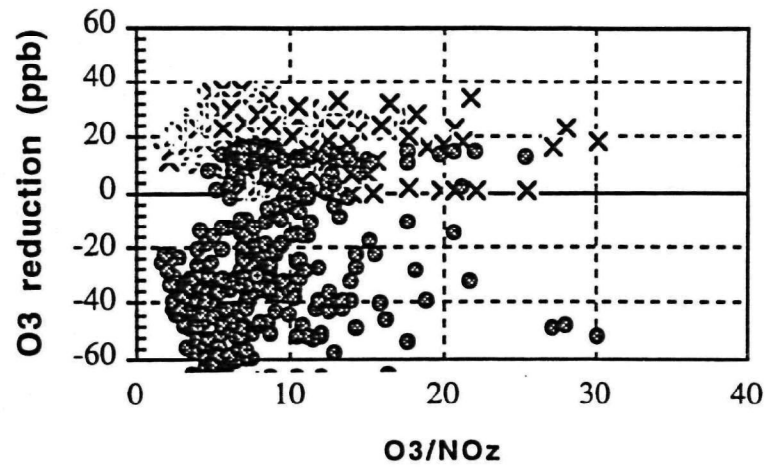


New York, DWM-5 meteorology: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>

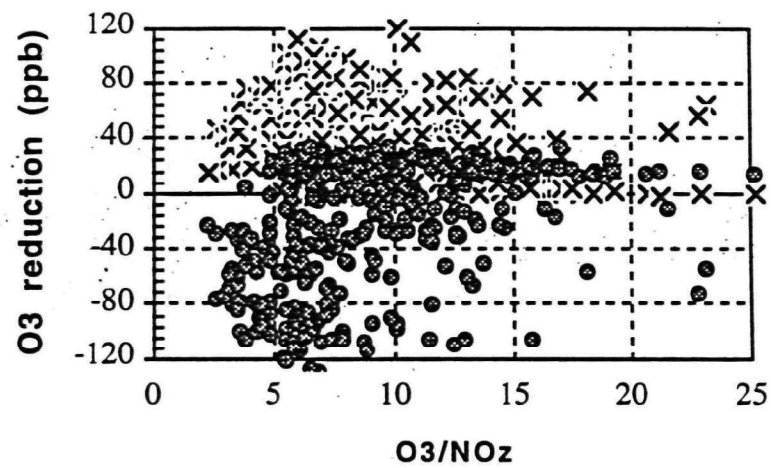


Atlanta, increased isoprene: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>

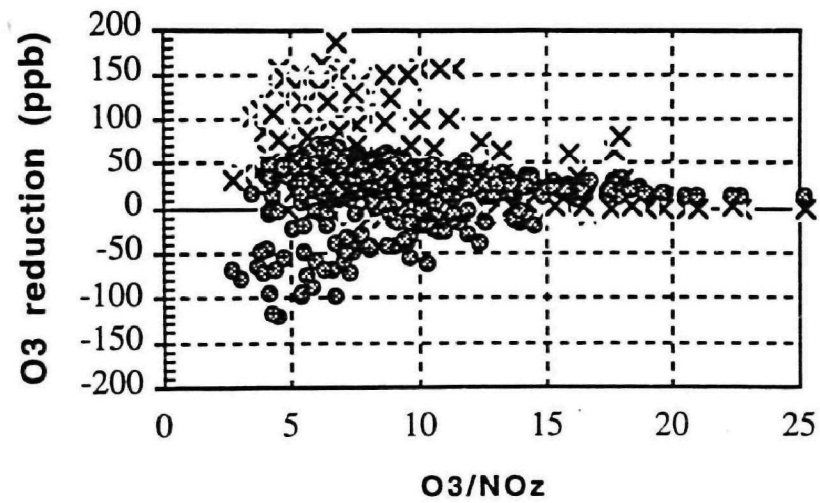




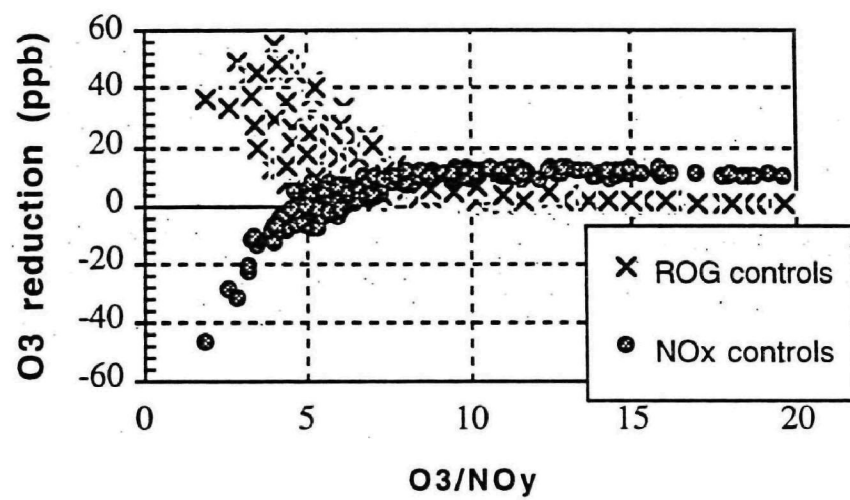
Los Angeles, Wagner base case: O3/NOz



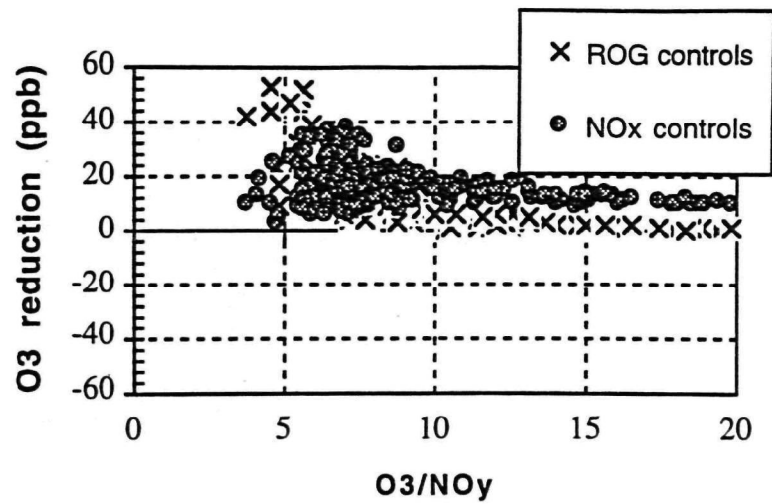
Los Angeles, Wagner with doubled ROG: O3/NOz



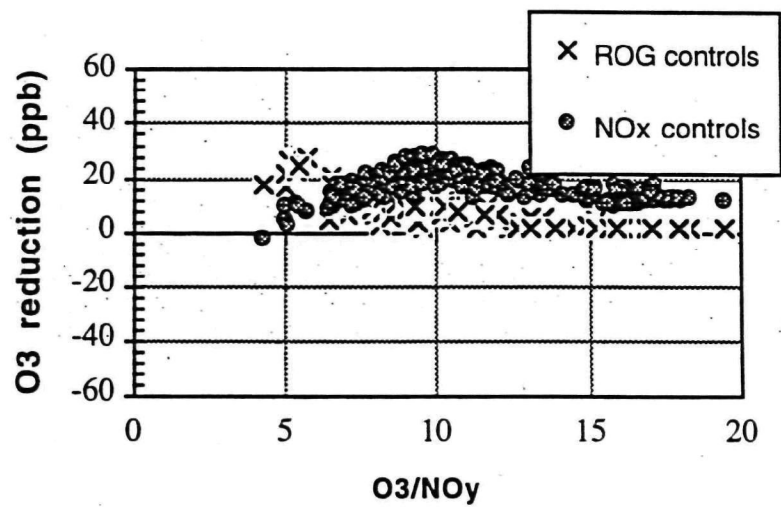
Los Angeles, Wagner with tripled ROG: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>



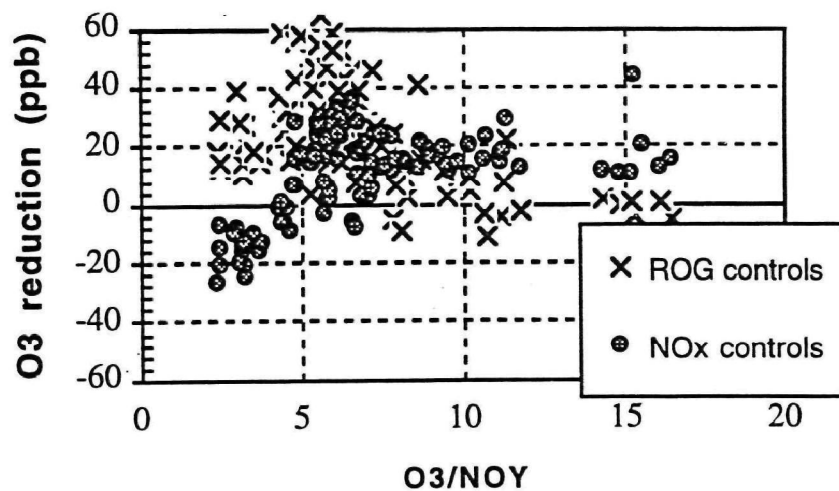
Lake Michigan base case O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



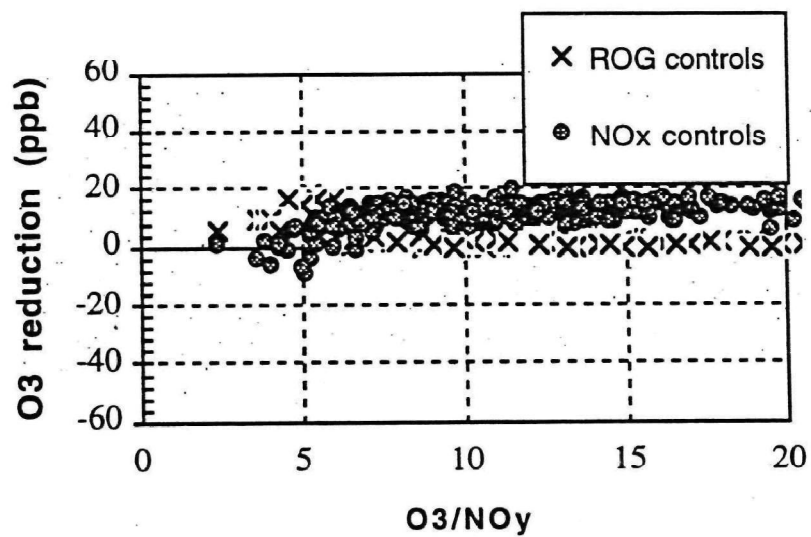
Lake Michigan, doubled ROG emissions: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



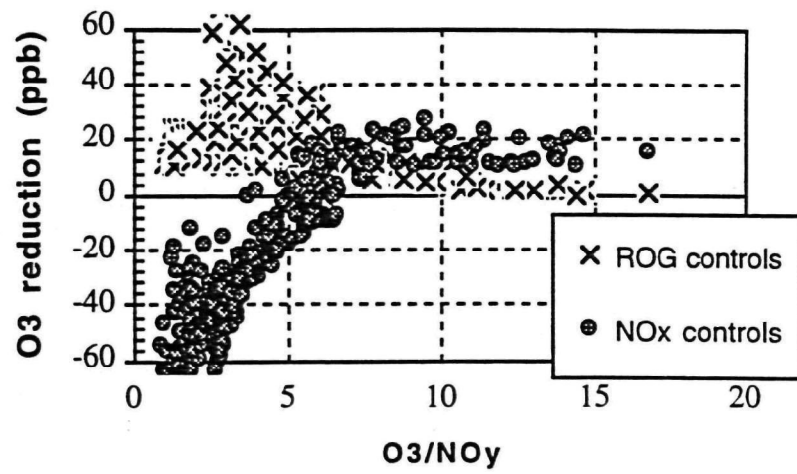
Northeast corridor base case O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



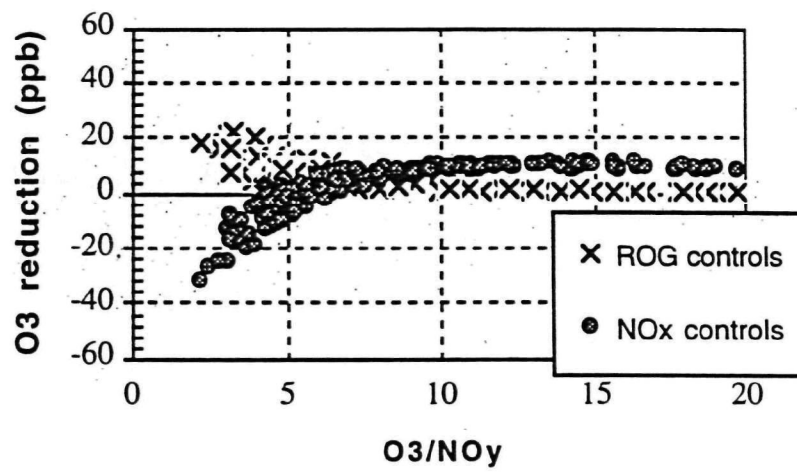
New York with MM7 meteorology: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



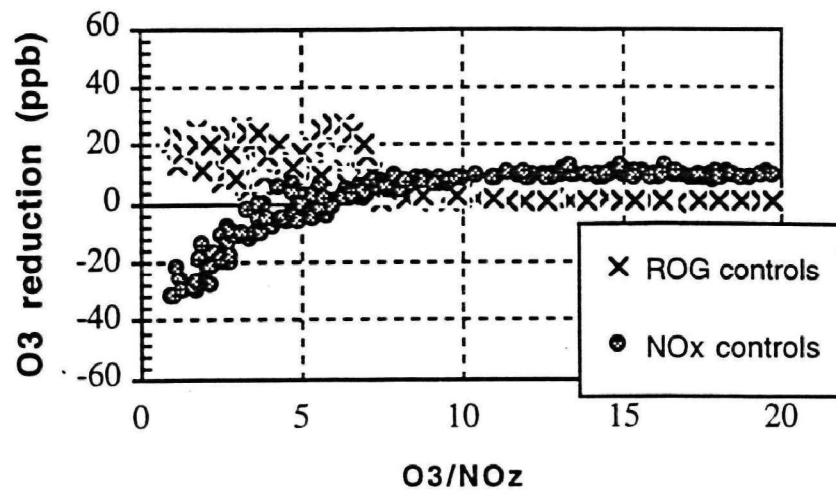
Atlanta, BEIS1 biogenics: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



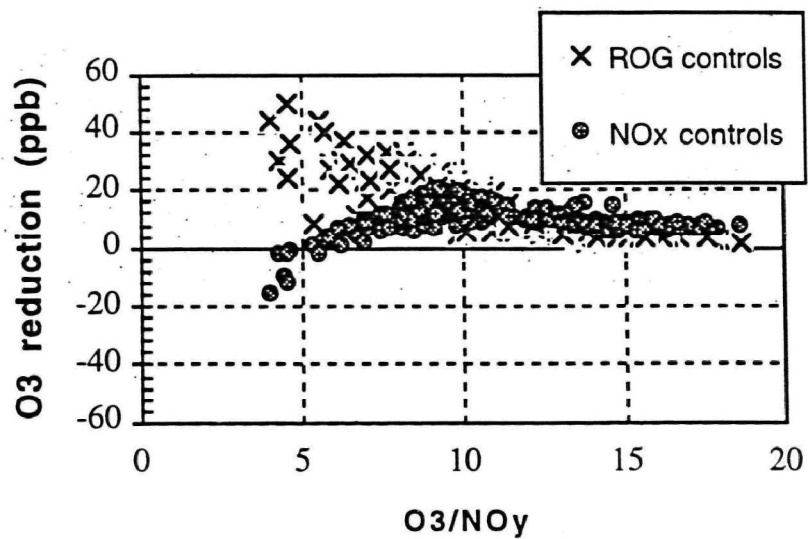
Los Angeles (Godowitch): O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



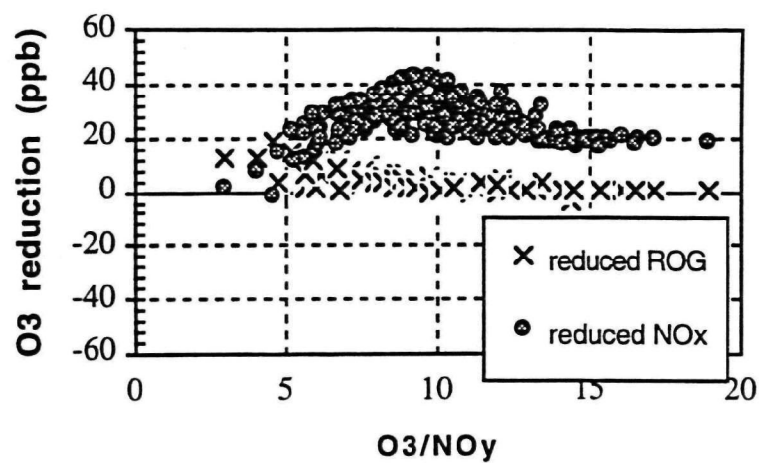
Lake Michigan, ROG reduced by half - O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



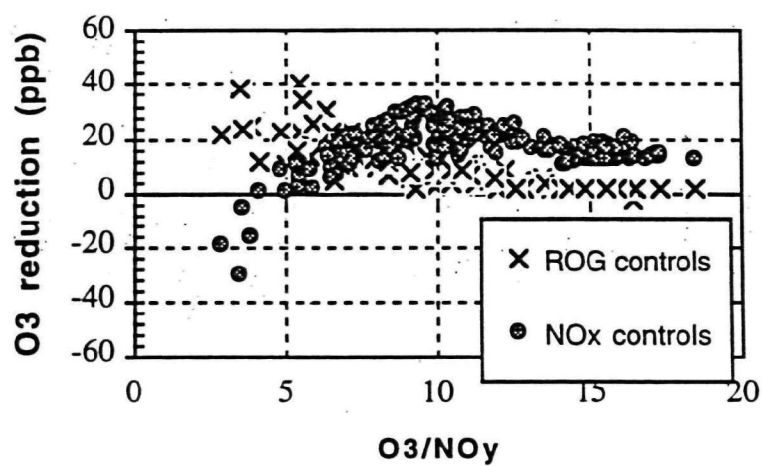
Lake Michigan, base case at noon - O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>



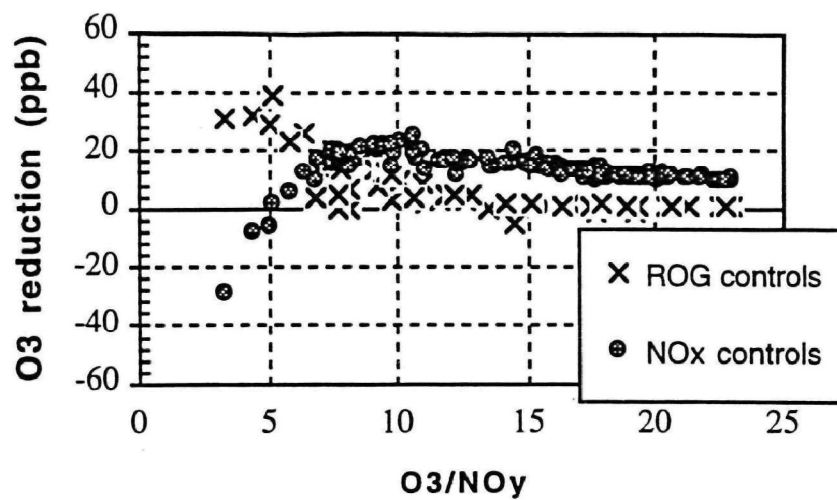
Northeast corridor with zero isoprene - O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



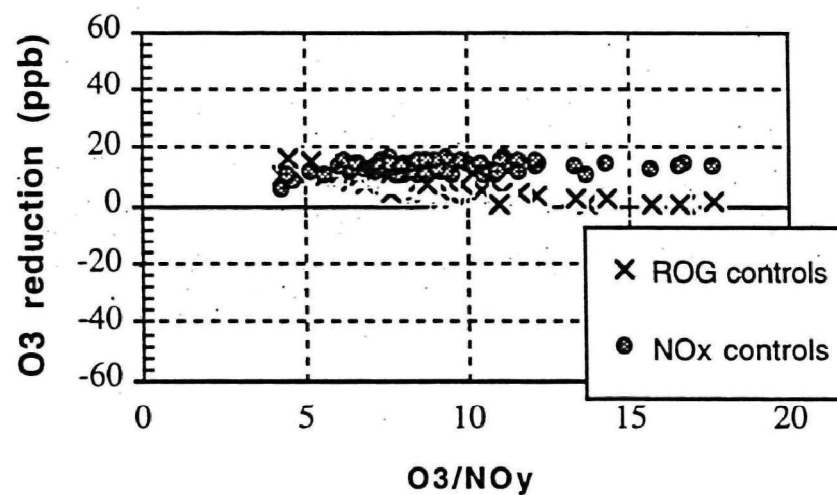
Northeast corridor, low mixing and doubled isoprene: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



Northeast corridor, low mixing: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>

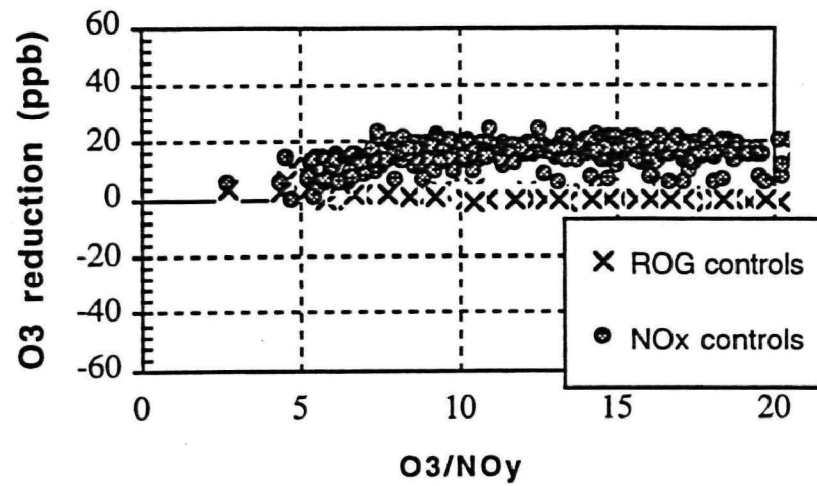


Northeast corridor, light winds and high deposition: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>

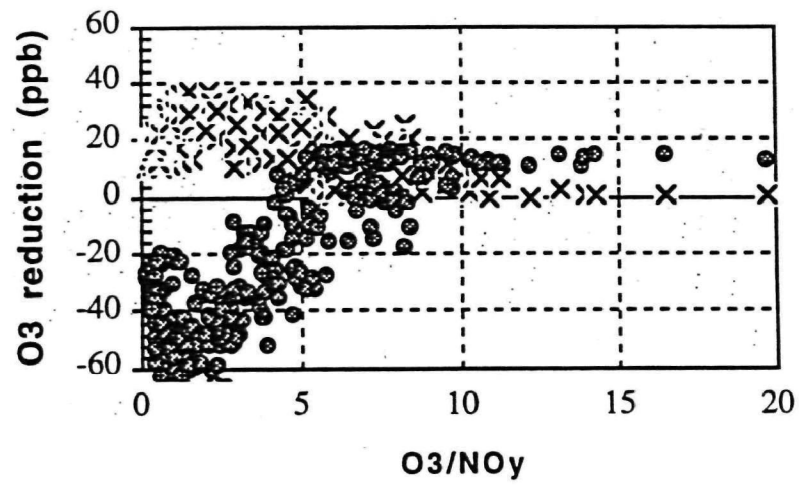


New York DWM-5 meteorology: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>

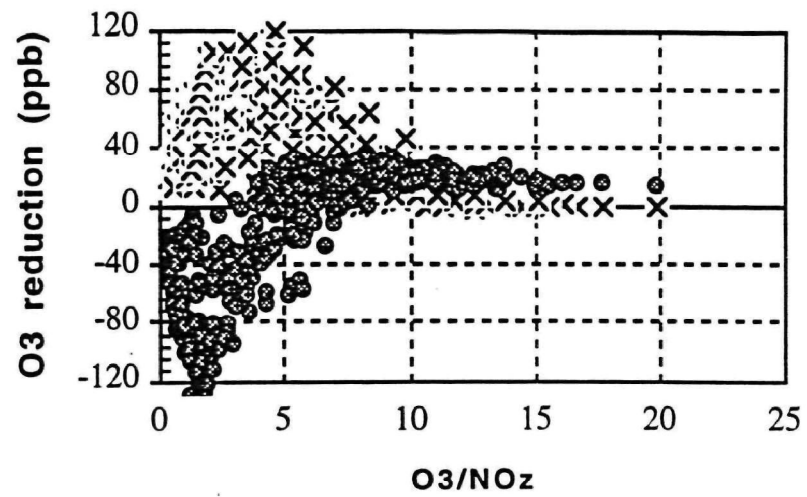




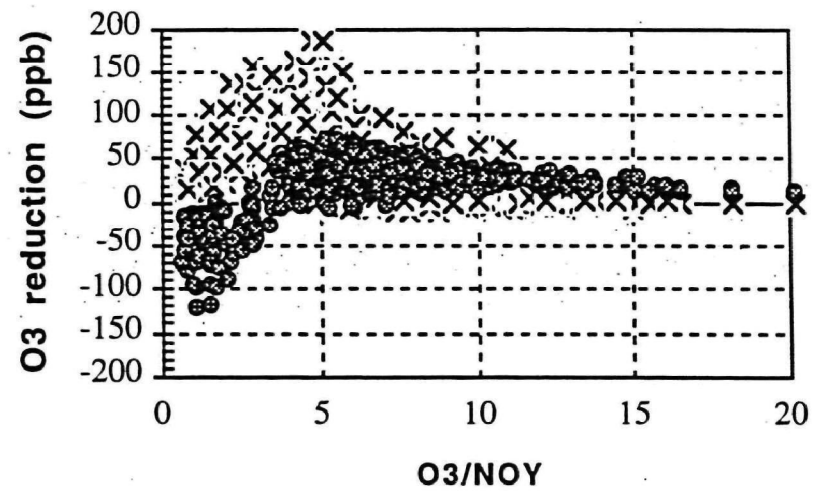
Atlanta, increased biogenesis: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



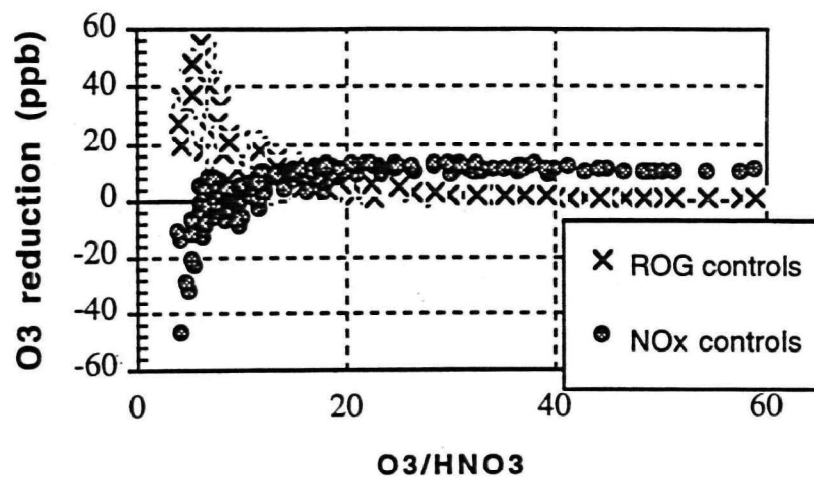
Los Angeles, Wagner base case: O<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>y</sub>



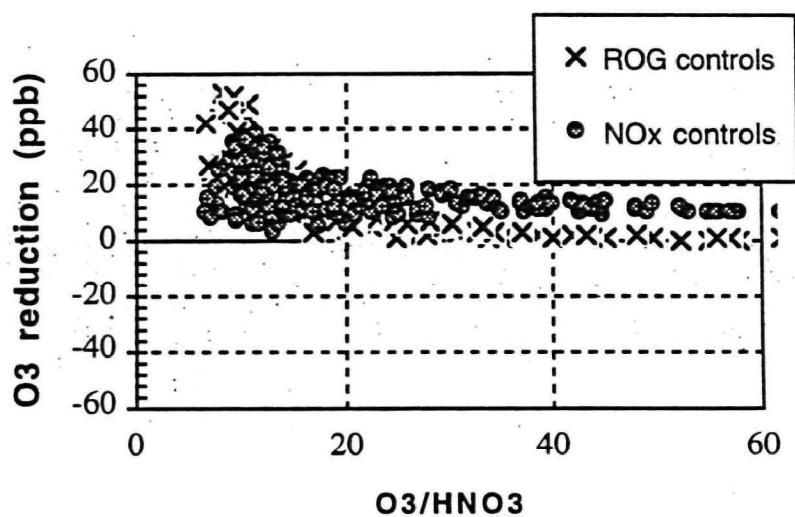
Los Angeles, Wagner with doubled ROG: O3/NOY



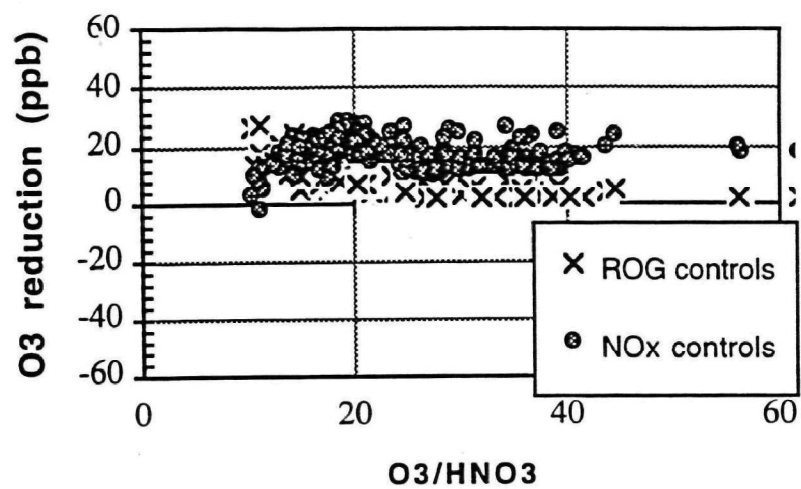
Los Angeles, Wagner with tripled ROG: O3/NOy



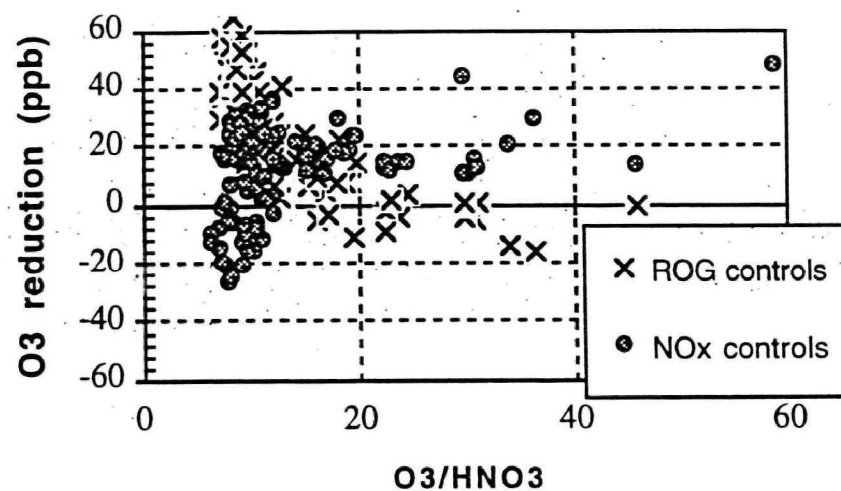
Lake Michigan base case: O<sub>3</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>



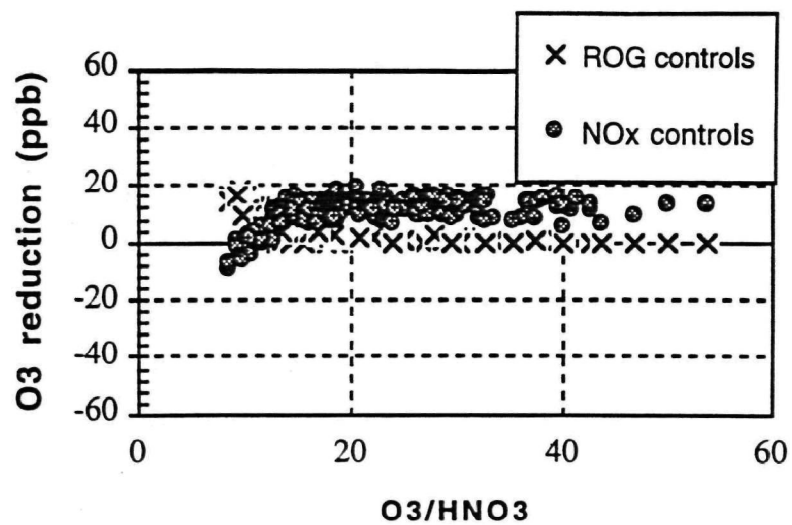
Lake Michigan, doubled ROG emissions: O<sub>3</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>



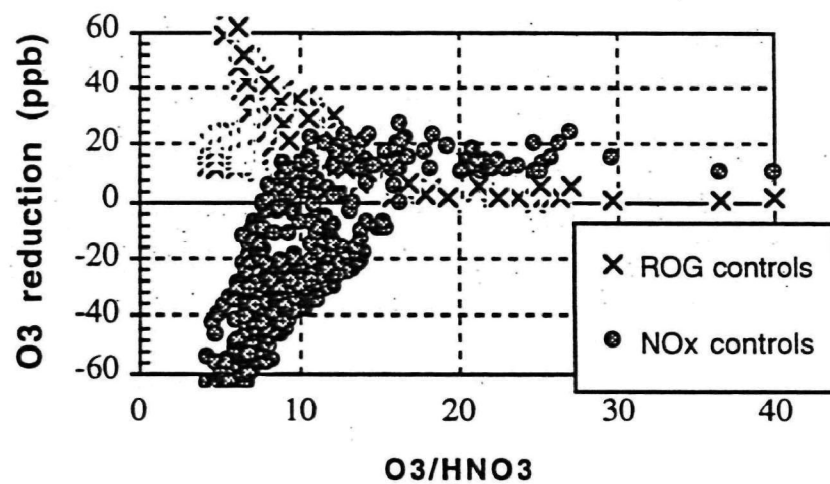
Northeast corridor base case: O<sub>3</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>



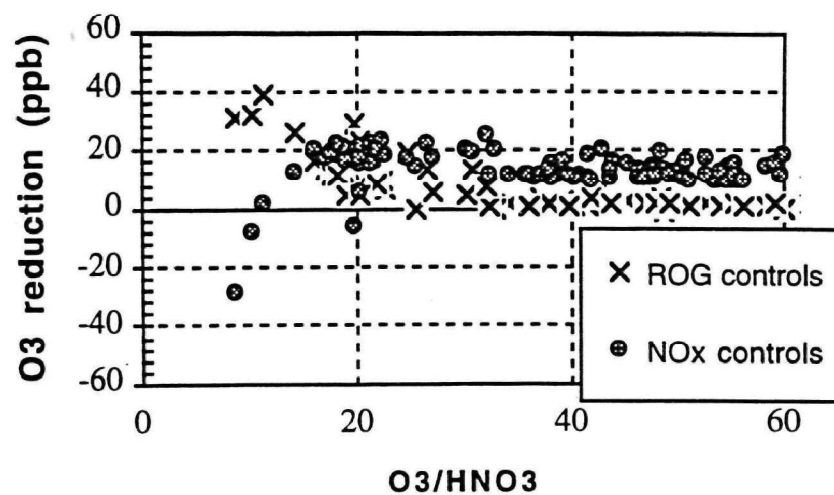
New York with MM7 meteorology: O<sub>3</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>



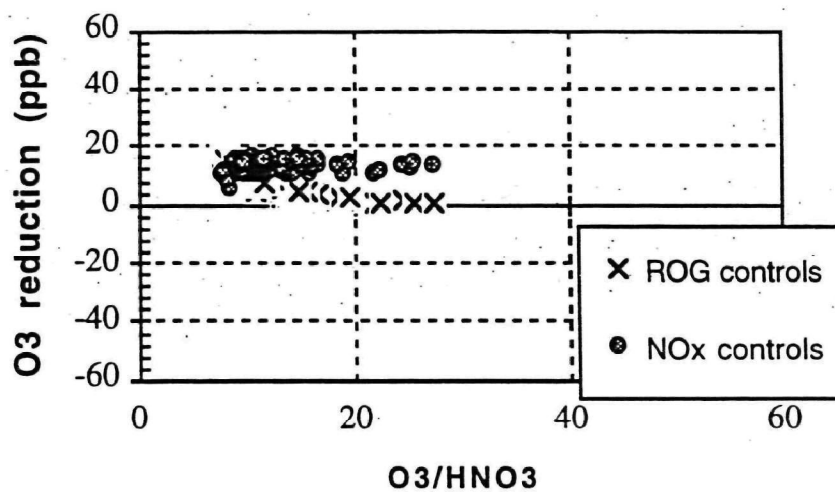
Atlanta, BEIS1 biogenics: O<sub>3</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>



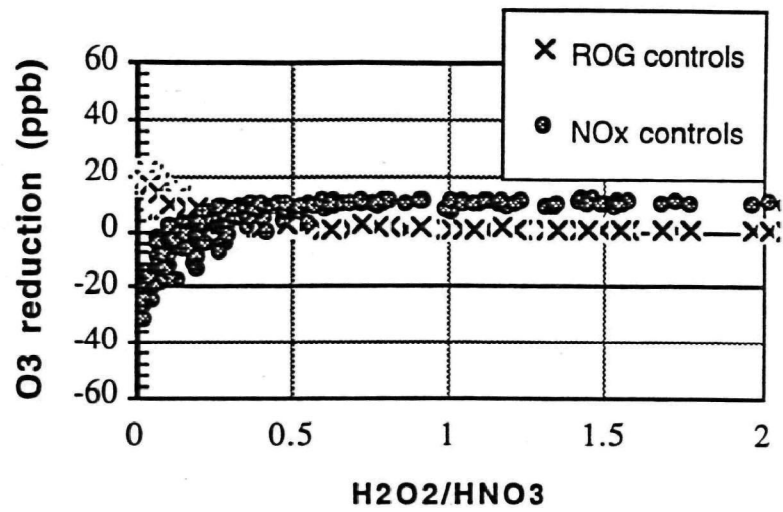
Los Angeles (Godowitch): O<sub>3</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>



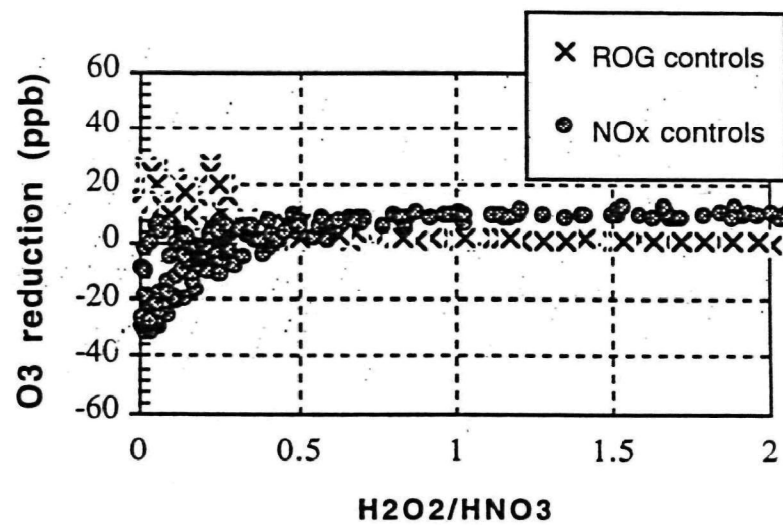
Northeast corridor, light winds and high deposition: O<sub>3</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>



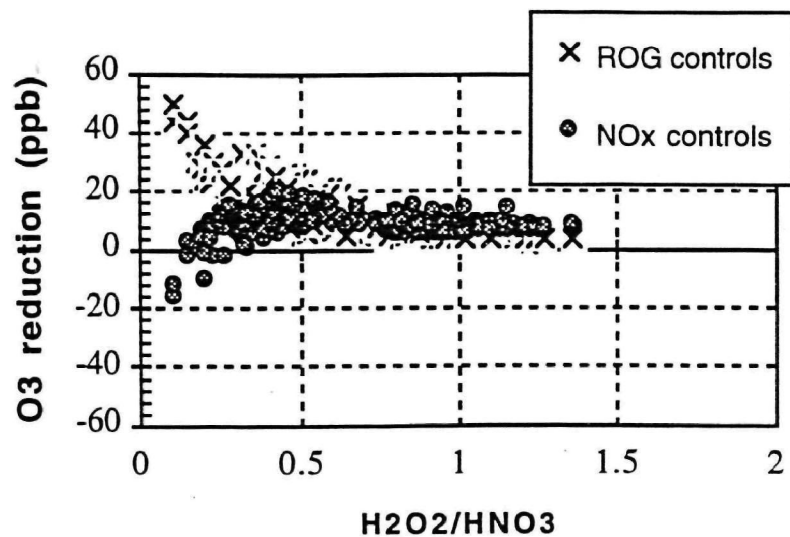
New York, DWM-5 meteorology: O<sub>3</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub>



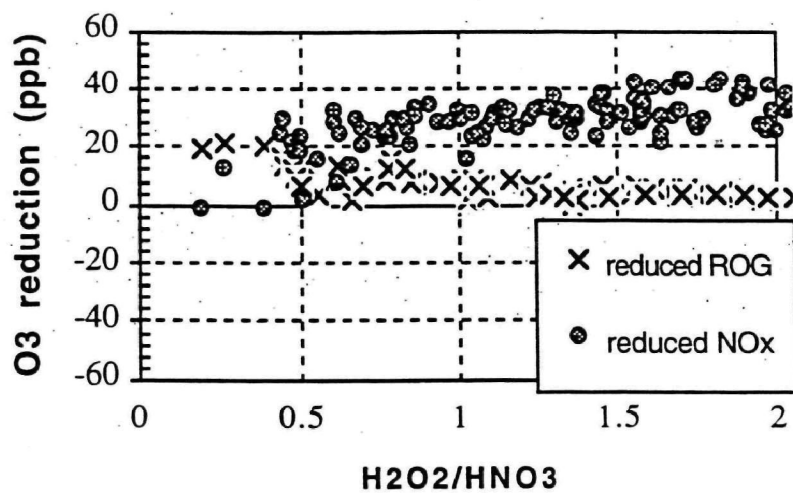
Lake Michigan, ROG reduced by half:  $H_2O_2/HNO_3$



Lake Michigan, base case at noon:  $H_2O_2/HNO_3$

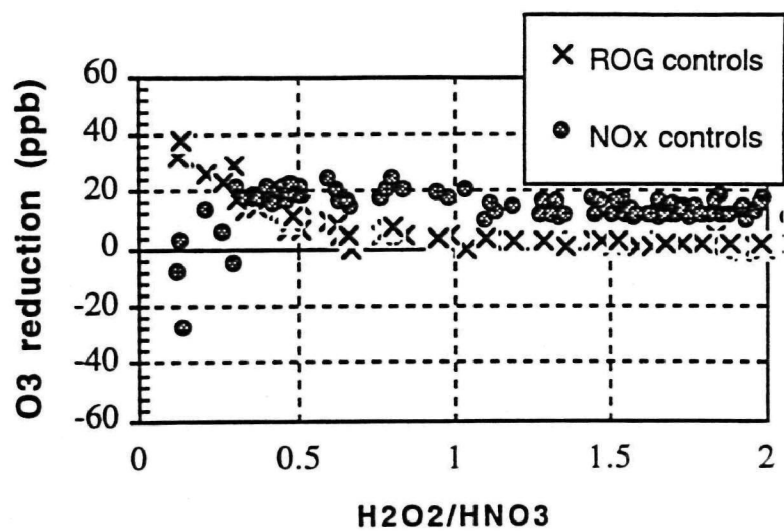


Northeast corridor with zero isoprene:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{HNO}_3$

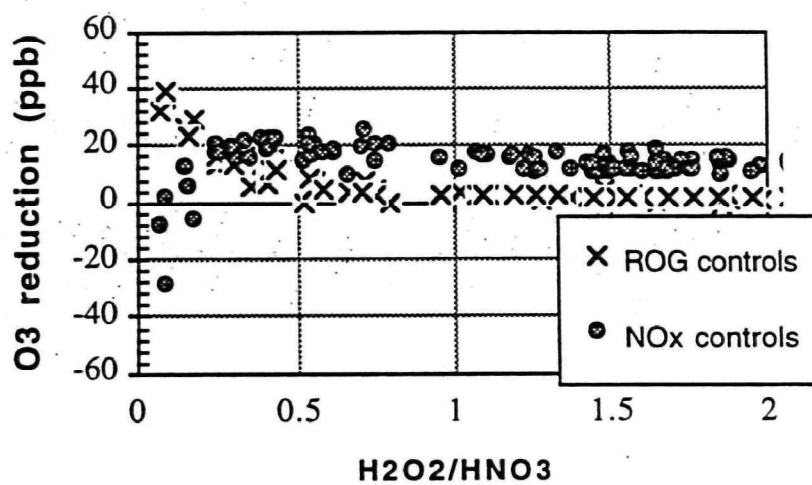


Northeast corridor, low mixing and doubled isoprene:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{HNO}_3$

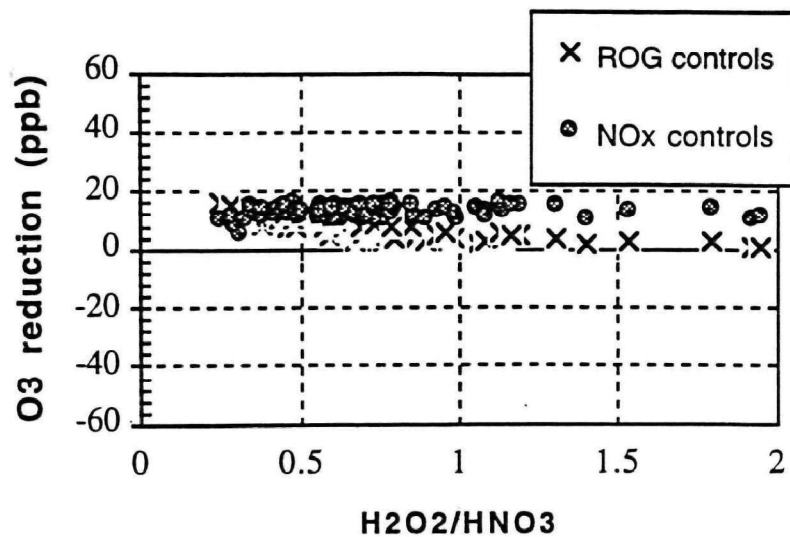




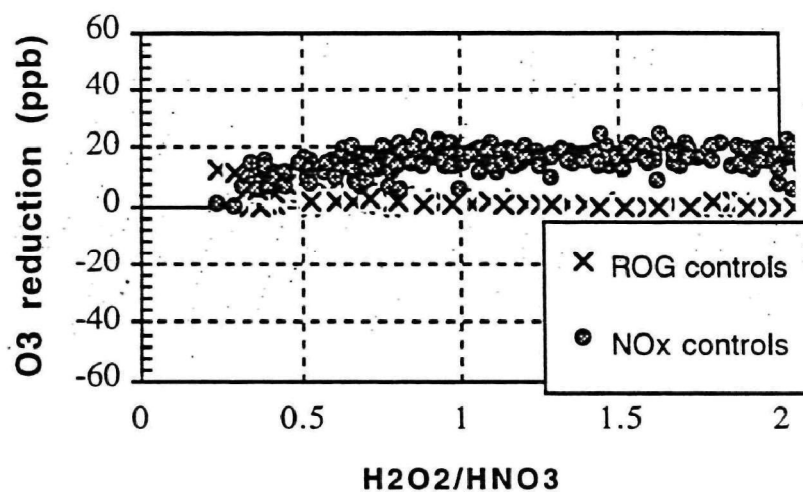
Northeast corridor, light winds:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{HNO}_3$



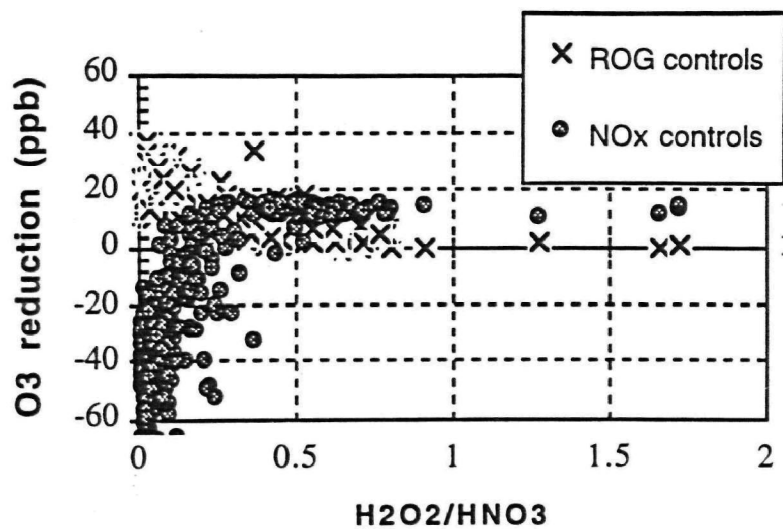
Northeast corridor, light winds and high deposition:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{HNO}_3$



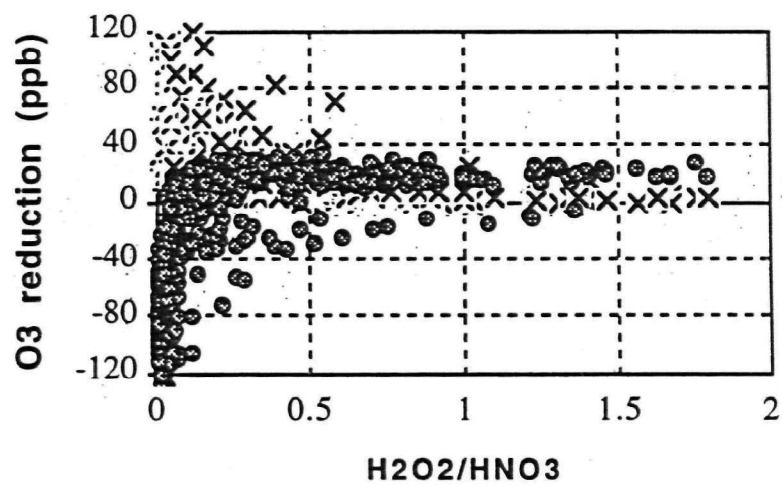
New York DWM-5 meteorology:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{HNO}_3$



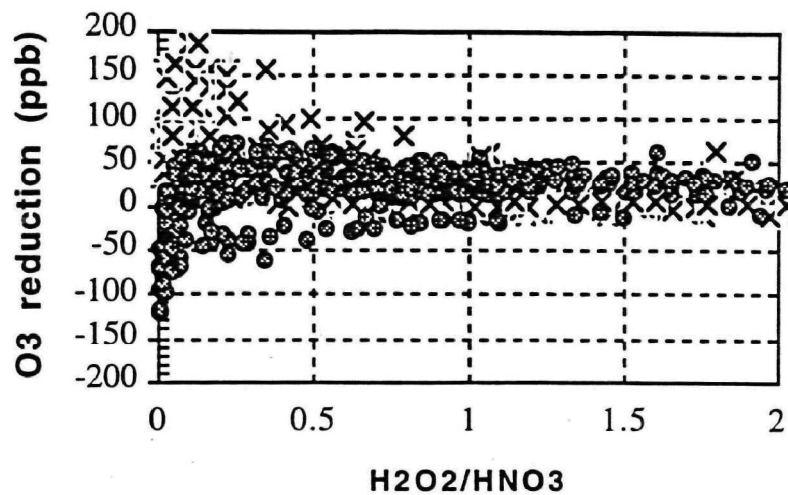
Atlanta, increased biogenics:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{HNO}_3$



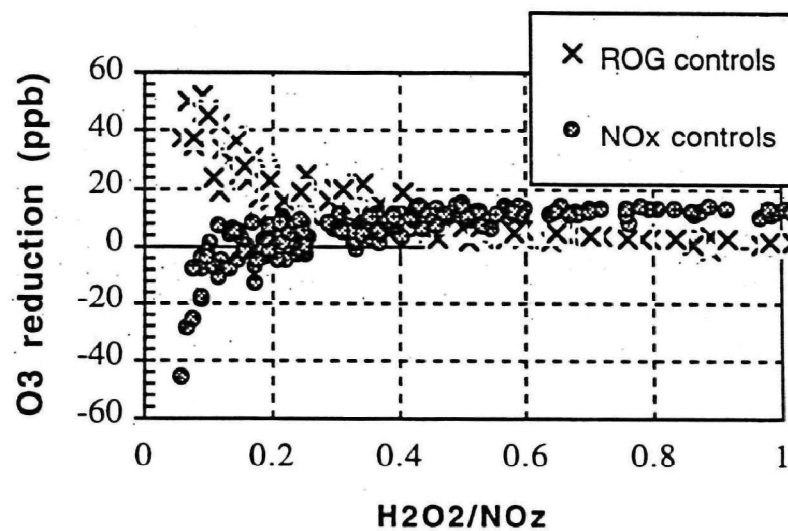
Los Angeles, Wagner base case:  $H_2O_2/HNO_3$



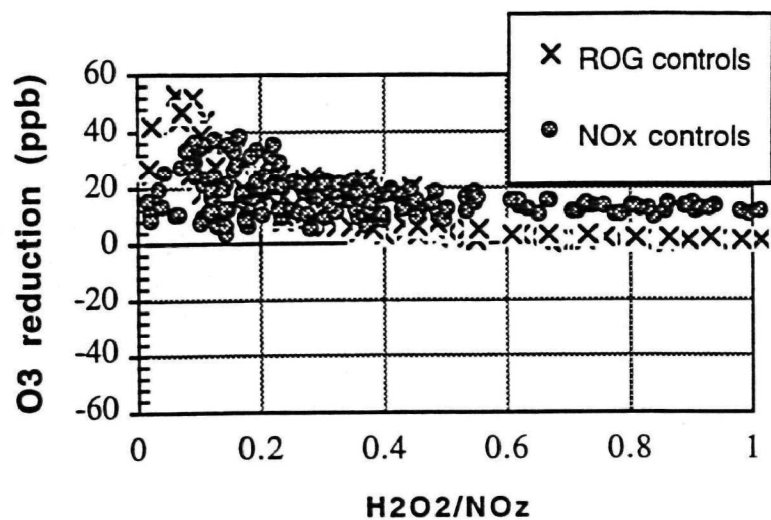
Los Angeles, Wagner with doubled ROG:  $H_2O_2/HNO_3$



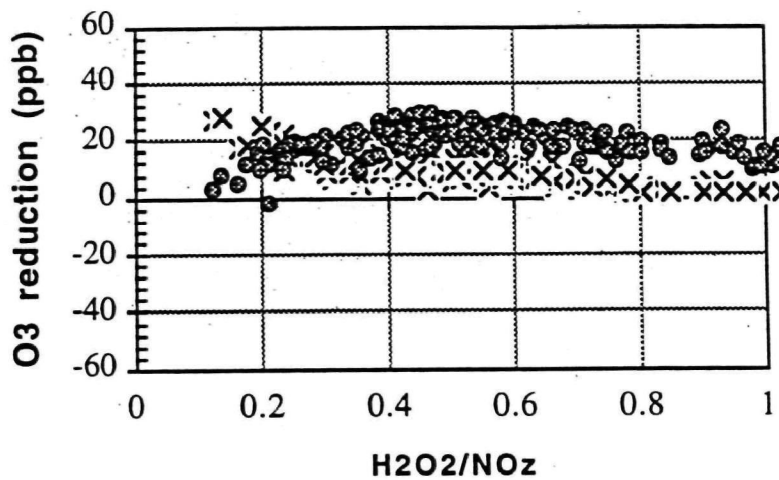
Los Angeles, Wagner with tripled ROG:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{HNO}_3$



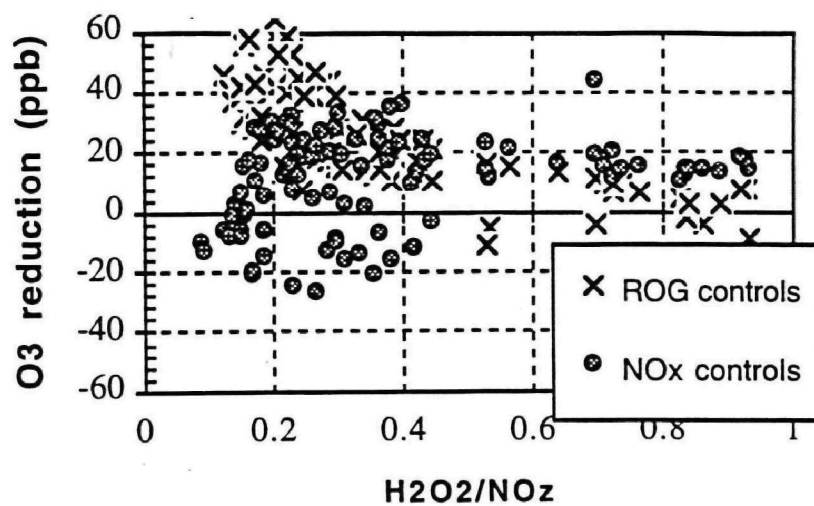
Lake Michigan base case  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{NO}_x$



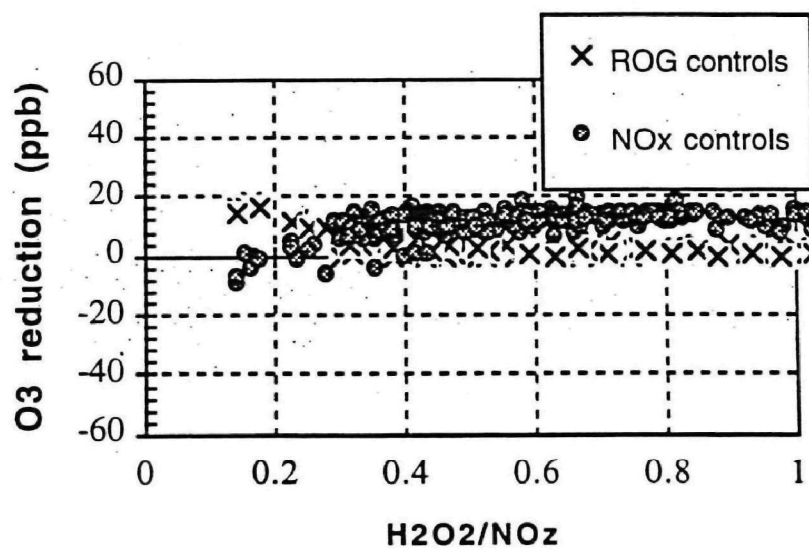
Lake Michigan, doubled ROG emissions:  $H_2O_2/NO_z$



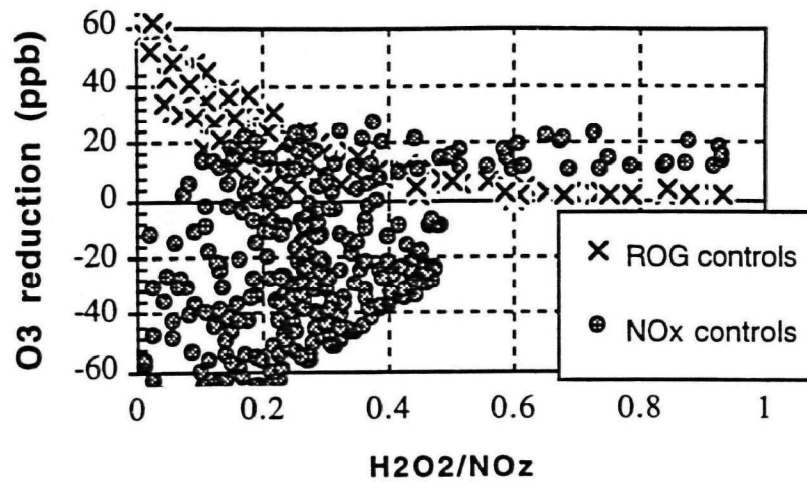
Northeast corridor base case,  $H_2O_2/NO_z$



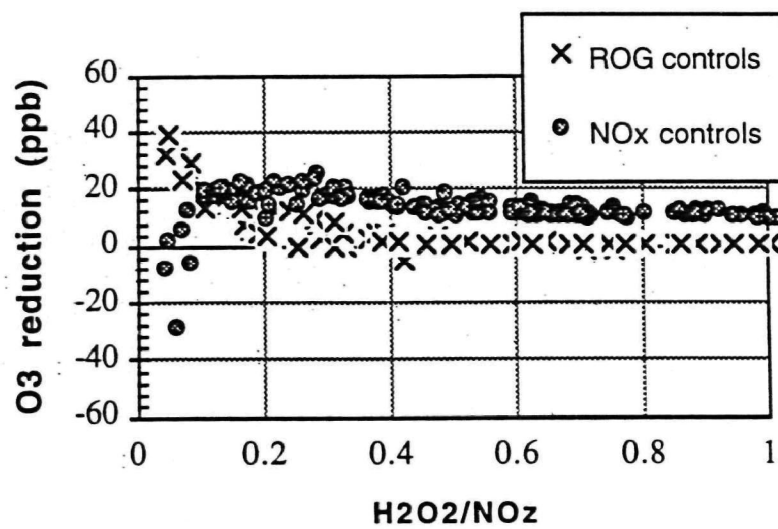
New York MM7: H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>



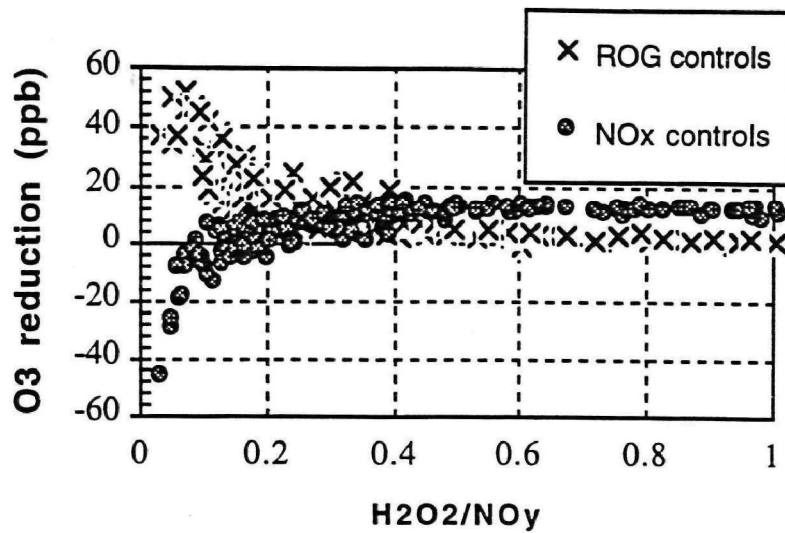
Atlanta, BEIS1 biogenics - H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>z</sub>



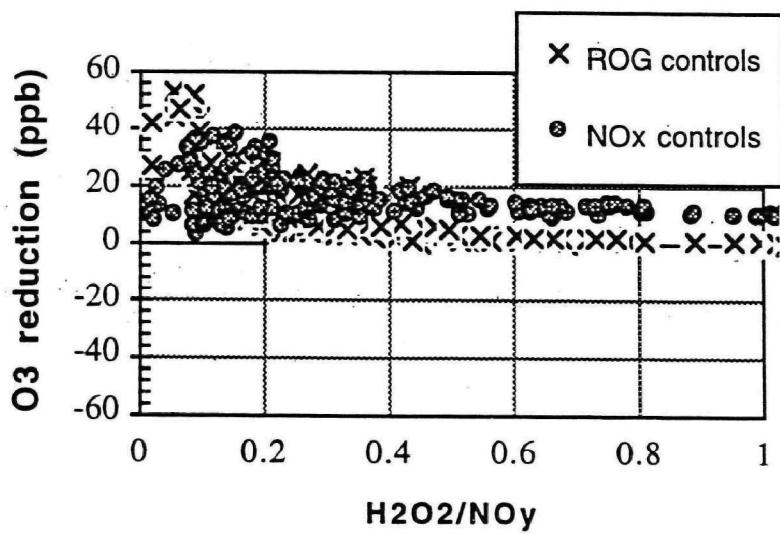
Los Angeles (Godowitch):  $H_2O_2/NO_z$



Northeast corridor, light winds and high deposition,  $H_2O_2/NO_z$

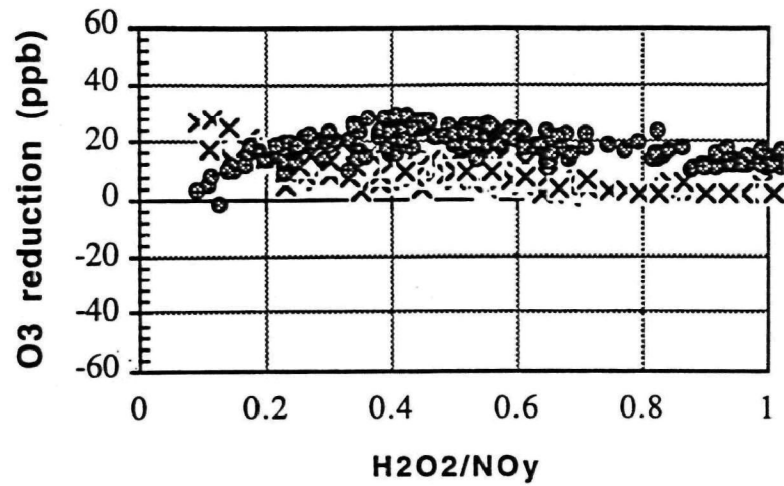


Lake Michigan base case  $H_2O_2/NO_y$

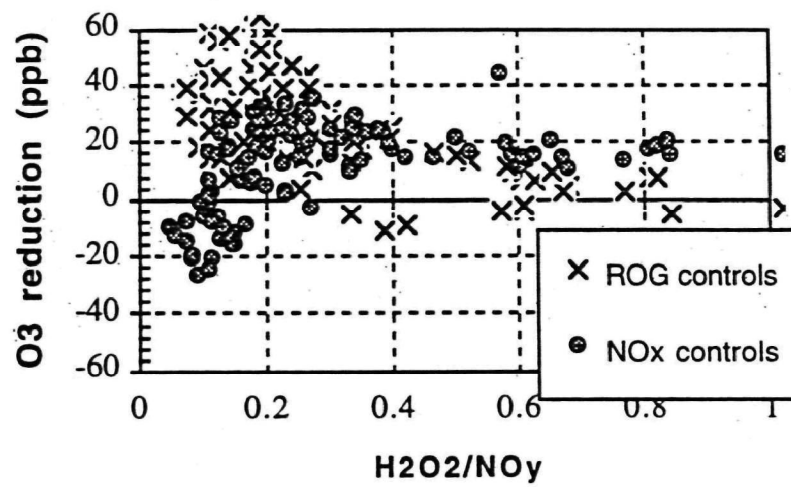


Lake Michigan, doubled ROG:  $H_2O_2/NO_y$

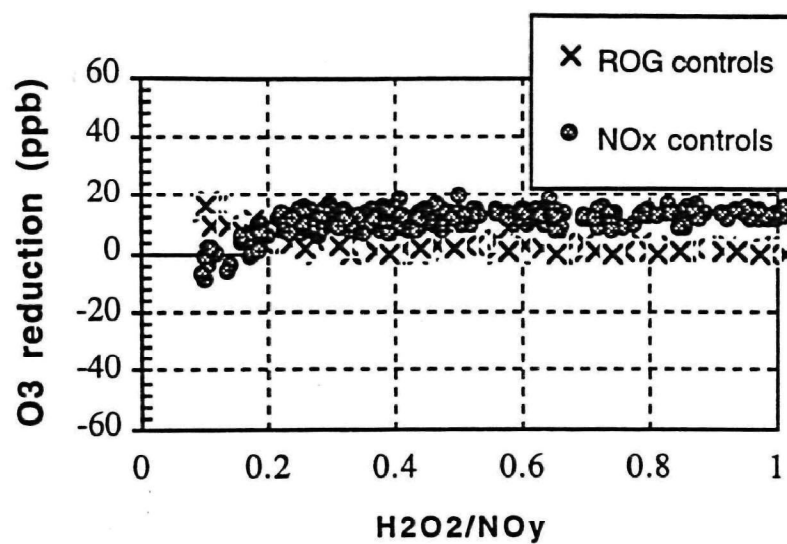




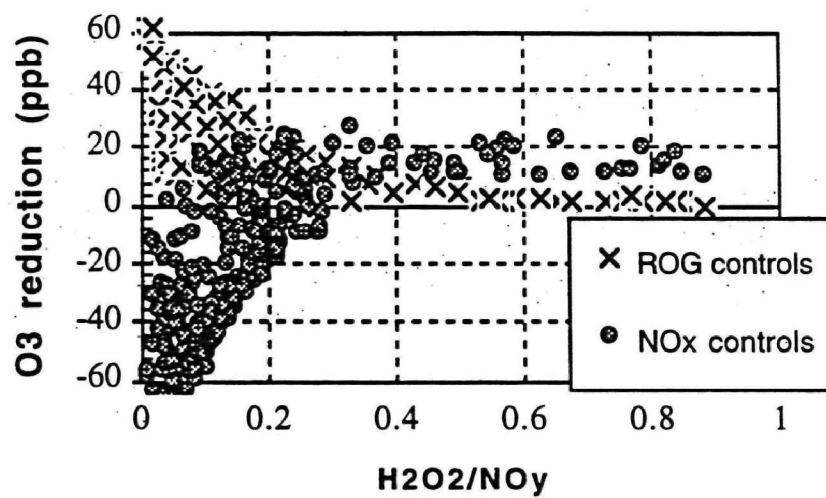
Northeast corridor base case  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{NO}_y$



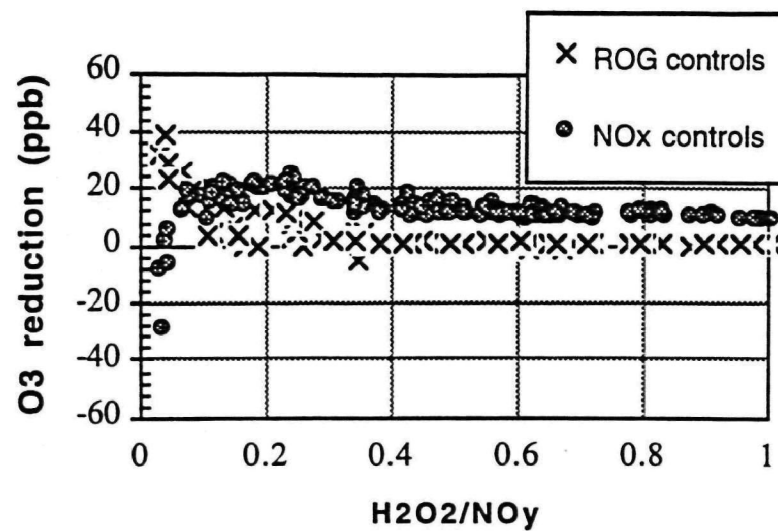
New York MM7 simulation:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{NO}_y$



Atlanta, BEIS1 biogenics:  $H_2O_2/NO_y$



Los Angeles (Godowitch):  $H_2O_2/NO_y$



Northeast corridor, light winds and high deposition,  $H_2O_2/NO_y$