

Multiphase Chemistry & Open Access at the Interface of Earth & Life Science

Ulrich Pöschl

*Max Planck Institute for Chemistry
Mainz, Germany*

*www.mpic.de
u.poschl@mpic.de*

Copernicus Medal Lecture, 16 April 2015

Acknowledgements

**Copernicus Medal: Copernicus Gesellschaft,
Medal Committee, Nominators & Laudator**

Multiphase Chemistry: MPIC Team & Partners

*P. Crutzen, M. Andreae, J. Abbatt, M. Ammann, D. Knopf,
T. Koop, S. Martin, E. Mikhailov, M. Molina, C. Pfrang,
Y. Rudich, M. Weller, D. Worsnop, Y. F. Cheng, J. Fröhlich,
C. Kampf, G. Lammel, K. Lucas, M. Shiraiwa, H. Su, B. Weber
& many more*

**Open Access: ACP Editorial Board, EGU Council &
Pub. Comm., Copernicus Team, Family & Friends**

*P. Crutzen, A. Richter, T. Koop, K. Carslaw, R. Sander, W. Sturges,
M. Weller, M. Rasmussen, N. Töpfer, K. Gänger, Andrea, Martin
& many more*



Outline

Multiphase Chemistry

- atmospheric & biological multiphase processes
- bioaerosols, clouds & precipitation
- reactive oxygen & nitrogen species
- human health & allergies in the Anthropocene

Open Access

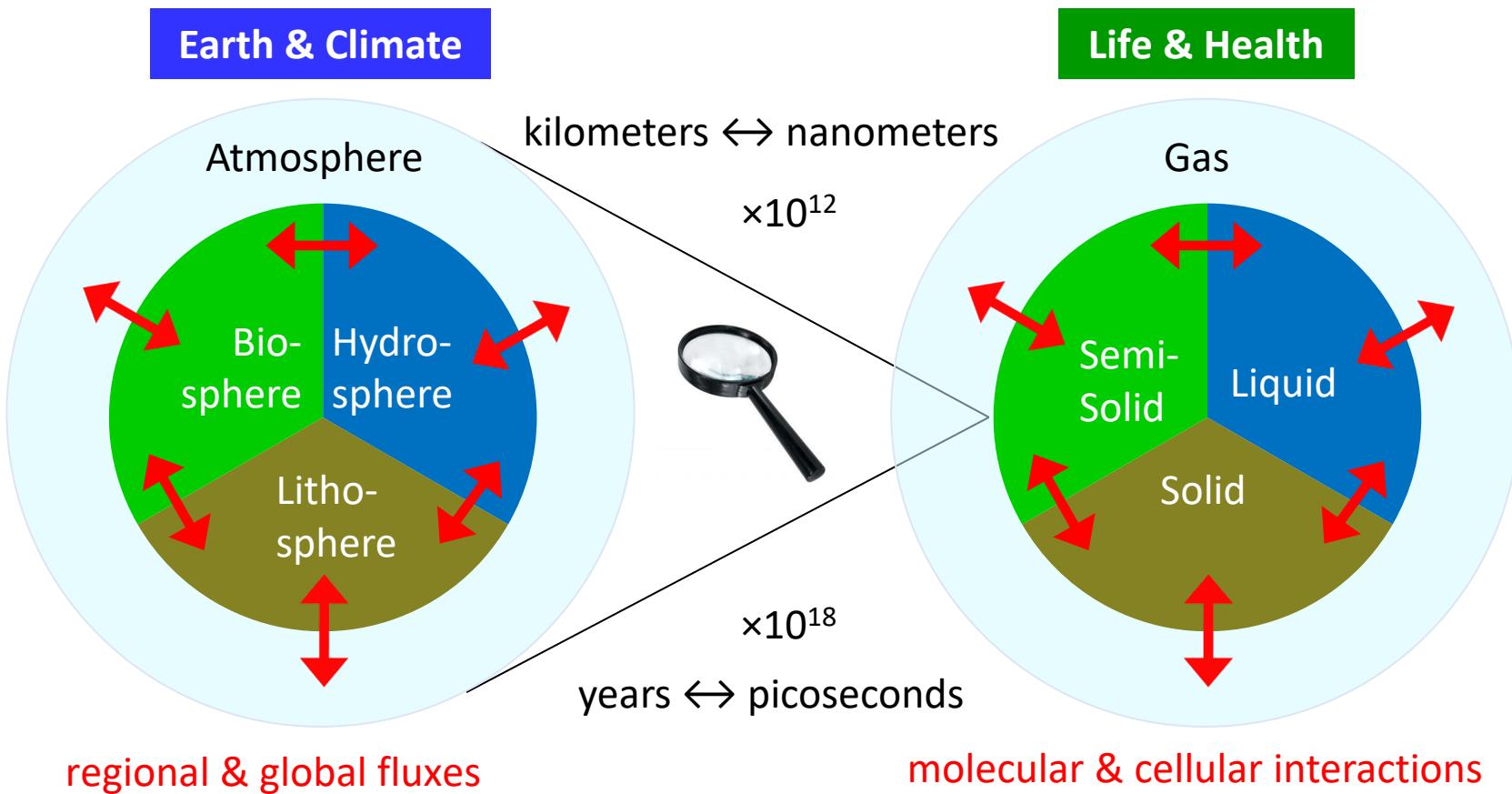
- motivation, achievements & perspectives

Conclusions & Outlook

- scientific research & communication

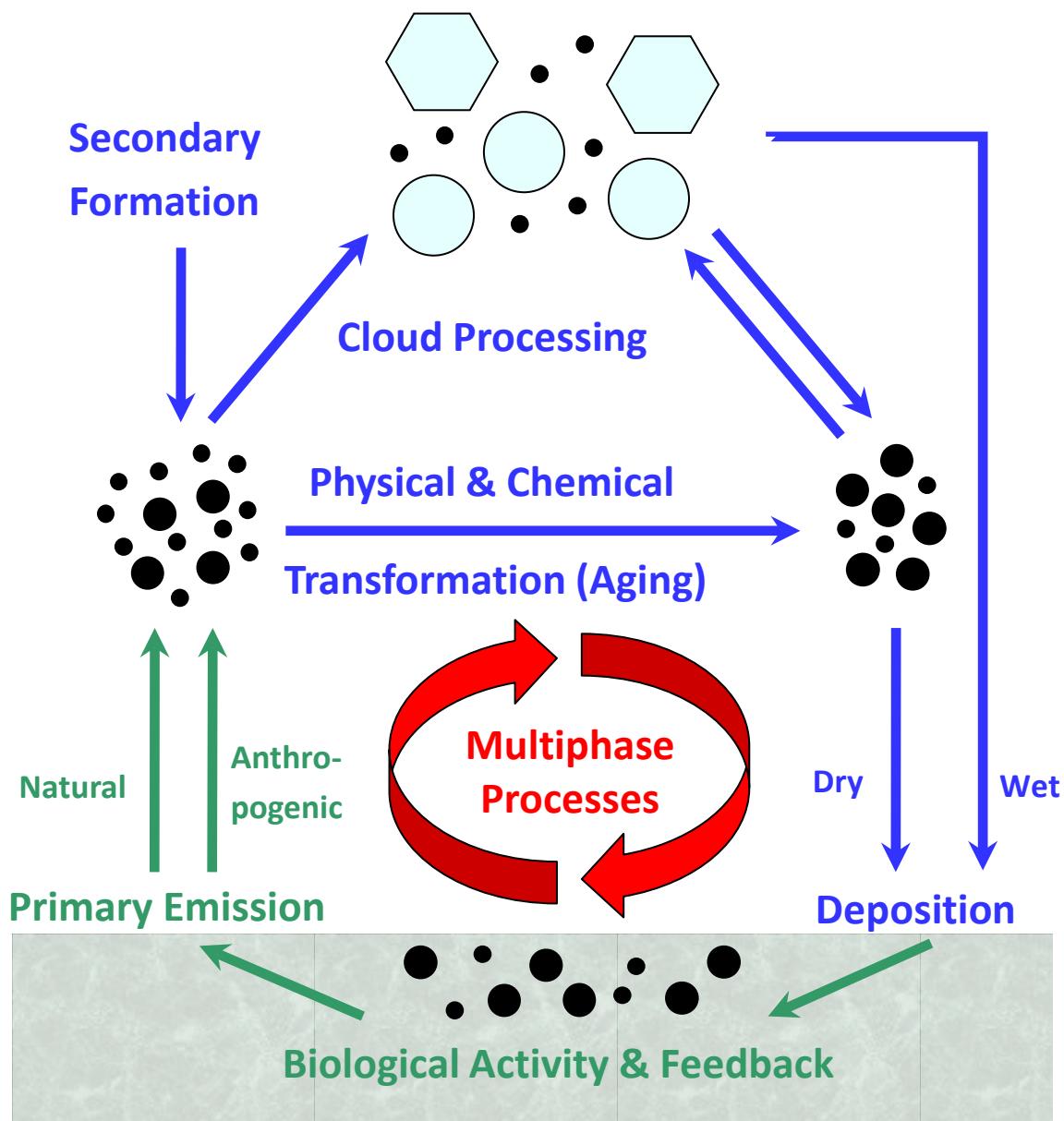
Multiphase Chemistry

Interaction & transformation of gases, liquids & solids:
chemical reactions, mass transport & phase transitions



Central Question: How does multiphase chemistry influence the Earth system & human life, especially in the interplay of atmosphere, biosphere, climate, immune system & public health?

Atmosphere-Biosphere Exchange



Atmosphere & Climate

- aerosols & gases
- clouds & precipitation
- radiation & dynamics

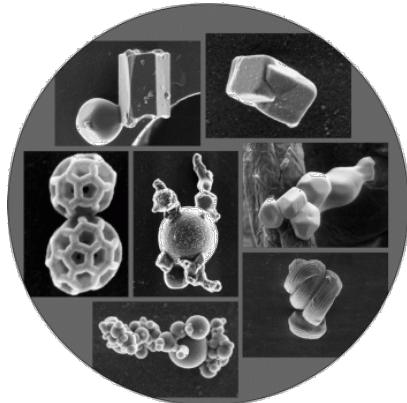
*Mechanistic understanding,
quantitative prediction
& human influence ?*

- spread & change of organisms & ecosystems
- human, animal & plant diseases

Biosphere & Public Health

Atmospheric & Biological Particles

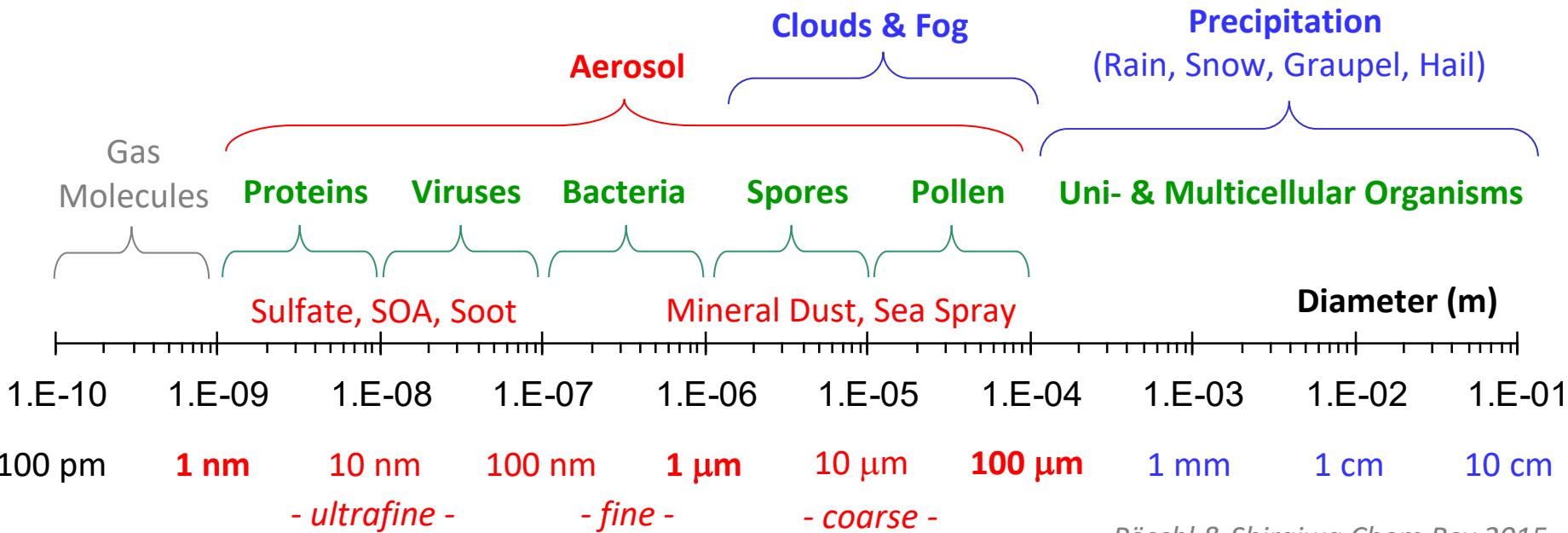
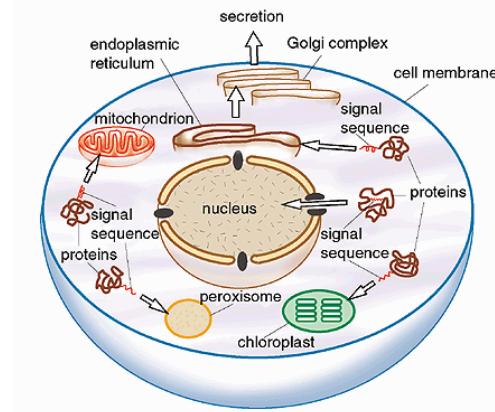
Aerosols: solid & liquid nano- & micro-particles



Clouds, Fog & Precipitation:
dilute aqueous particles



Cells & Organelles: semi-solid & liquid nano- & micro-particles



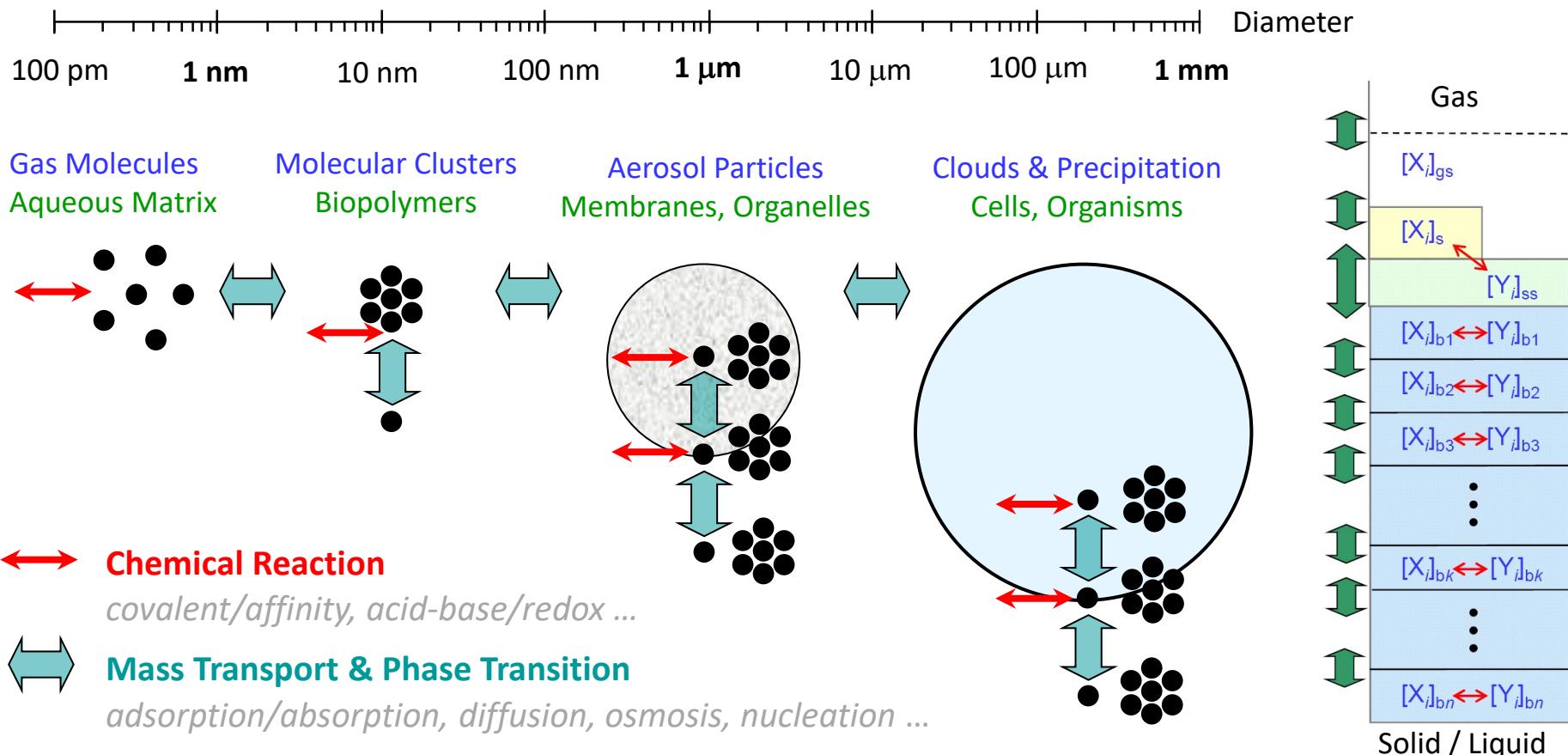
Atmospheric & Biological Processes

Atmosphere:

formation & interaction of gases, aerosols, clouds & precipitation

Biosphere:

metabolism & signaling of cells & organisms



Common Denominator: analytical techniques, chemical kinetics & molecular dynamics, kinetic & thermodynamic models (KM-GAP ...)

Multiphase Chemistry Department @ MPIC Mainz

Earth Science

Aerosols & Regional Air Quality

*Y. Cheng et al.
Minerva Group*



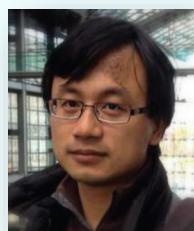
regional & global cycling



Semivolatile Organic Compounds
G. Lammel et al.

Aerosol, Cloud & Biosphere Interactions

H. Su et al.



clouds, precipitation,
nanoparticles

Cryptogamic Covers

*B. Weber et al.
Crutzen Stipend*



reactive nitrogen,
surface exchange



Multiscale Interactions & Integration
U. Pöschl et al.



reaction kinetics & mechanisms,
reactive oxygen species & radicals

Life Science

Aerosols & Regional Air Quality

*Y. Cheng et al.
Minerva Group*

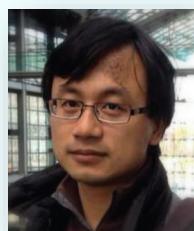
clouds, precipitation,
nanoparticles

regional & global cycling

gas-particle partitioning

Organic Aerosols & Oxidants

M. Shiraiwa et al.



reactive nitrogen,
surface exchange



*B. Weber et al.
Crutzen Stipend*



microorganisms,
biodiversity
ice nuclei



Bioaerosols & Microbiology
J. Fröhlich et al.



Inflammatory Processes
K. Lucas et al.

proteins,
allergens,
pathogens

Outline

Multiphase Chemistry

- atmospheric & biological multiphase processes
- **bioaerosols, clouds & precipitation**
- reactive oxygen & nitrogen species
- human health & allergies in the Anthropocene

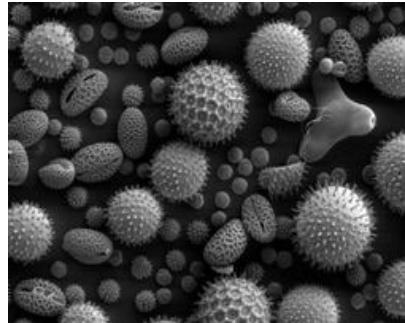
Open Access

- motivation, achievements & perspectives

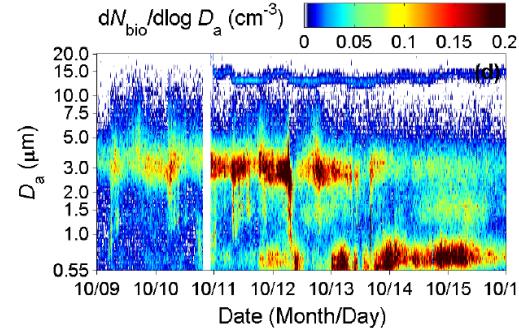
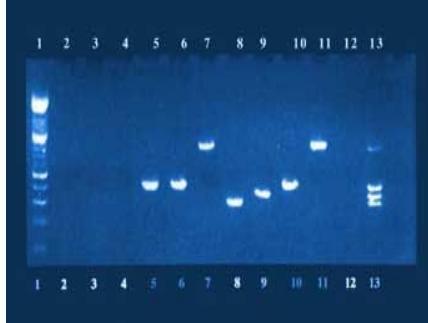
Conclusions & Outlook

- scientific research & communication

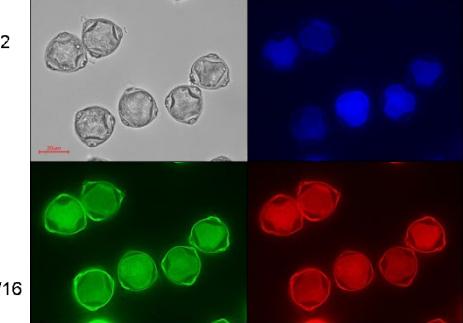
Bioaerosols



DNA & Protein Analysis



Fluorescence Spectroscopy & Microscopy



High abundance, diversity & fluxes of airborne bacteria & fungi

$\sim 1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, $\sim 10 \text{ L}^{-1}$, $\sim 10^2 \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$, $> 10^3$ species (urban PM)

“Life is in the Air”: $\sim 10 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ DNA

\Rightarrow inhalation of $\sim 1 \mu\text{g}/\text{day}$ \equiv

$\sim 10^6$ bacterial genomes/day

Pathogens: permanent challenge

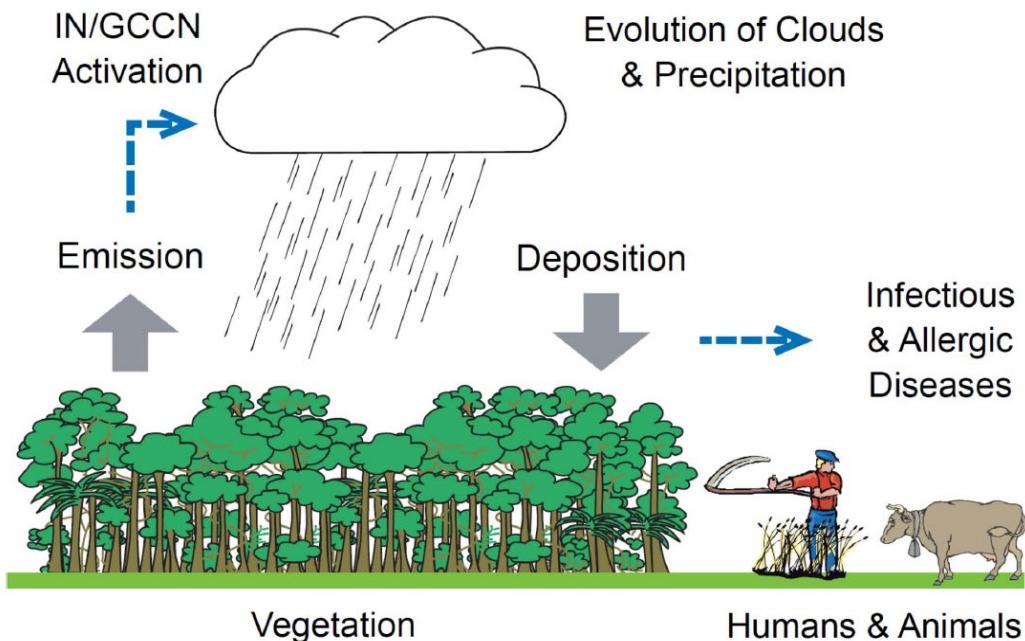
\Rightarrow infectious & allergic diseases

Cloud condensation & ice nuclei:

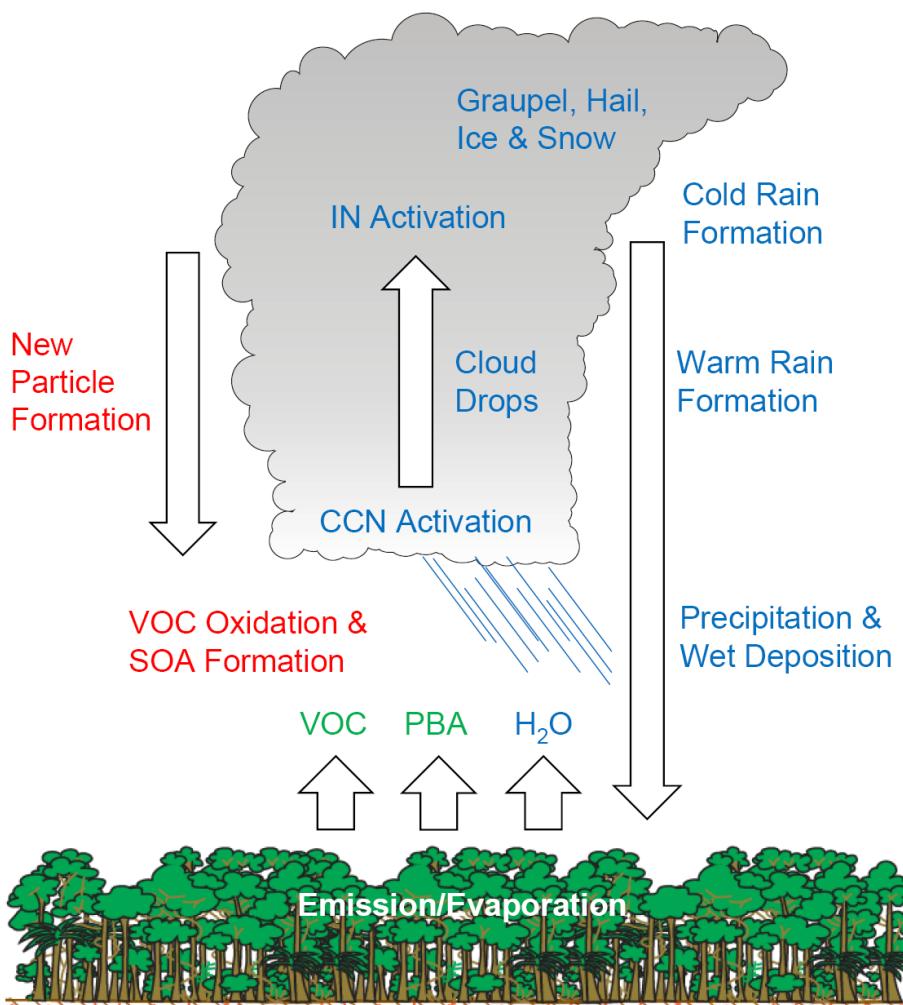
co-evolution of life & climate

\Rightarrow bioprecipitation cycle

Elbert et al. ACP 2007, Fröhlich et al. PNAS 2009,
BG 2012, 2014, Despres et al. Tellus 2012
Pöhlker et al. AMT 2012, 2013, Science 2012,
Huffman et al. ACP 2013, Morris et al. GCB 2014

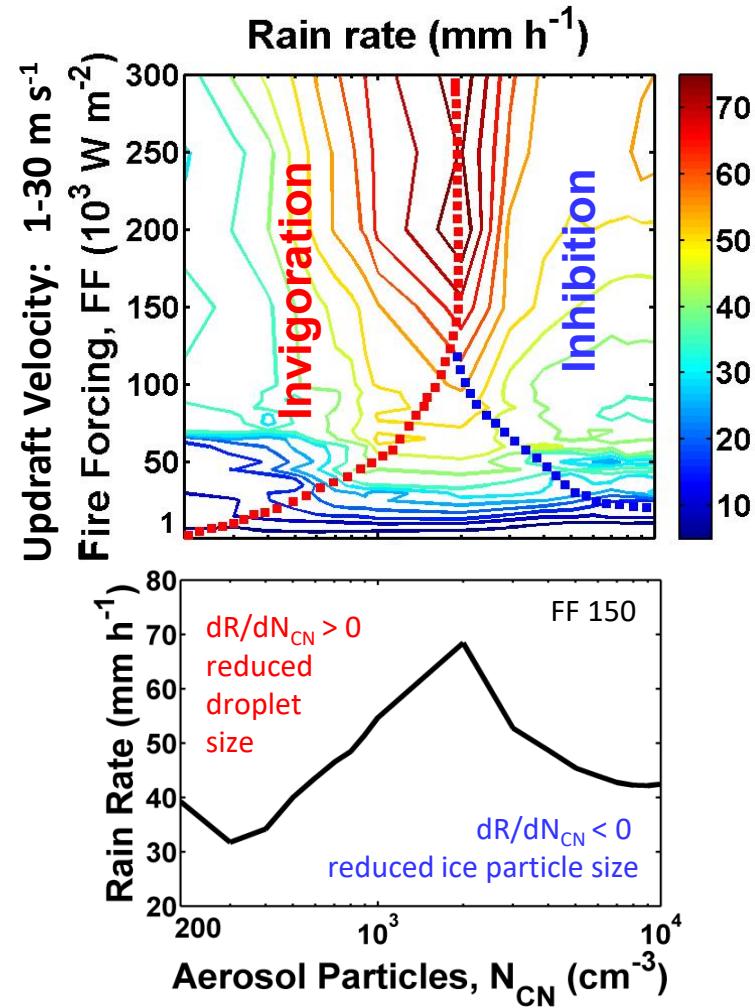


Aerosol-Cloud-Precipitation Interactions



Amazon rainforest as biogeochemical reactor
generating nuclei for clouds, ice & precipitation

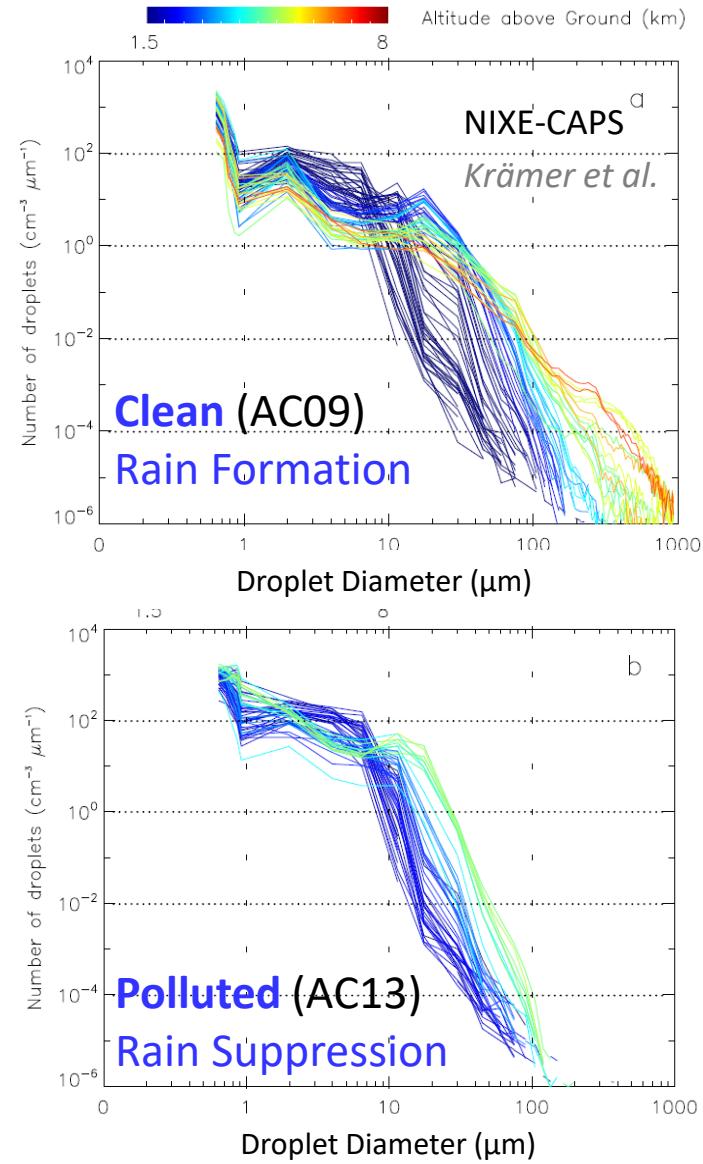
Pöschl et al. Science 2010



Aerosol effects on rainfall in convective clouds
with charact. regimes of invigoration (clean)
& inhibition (polluted)

Reutter et al. ACP 2014; Chang et al. ACPD 2014

Comprehensive Profiling of Aerosols, Clouds & Precipitation



ACRDICON-CHUVA campaign: HALO research aircraft, September 2014, collaboration with GoAmazon/IARA, large international team (Brazil, Germany, USA ...)

Wendisch et al. BAMS 2015

Outline

Multiphase Chemistry

- atmospheric & biological multiphase processes
- bioaerosols, clouds & precipitation
- **reactive oxygen & nitrogen species**
- human health & allergies in the Anthropocene

Open Access

- motivation, achievements & perspectives

Conclusions & Outlook

- scientific research & communication

Reactive Oxygen & Nitrogen Species

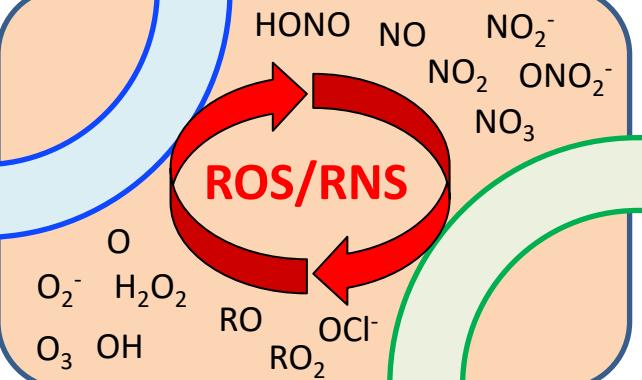
Earth &
Climate

Atmospheric Effects:

- atmospheric oxidation & self-cleaning
- formation & aging of organic aerosols
- formation of hazardous compounds

Atmospheric Sources:

- radical & photochemistry
- gas phase & multiphase processes
- fossil fuel combustion & biomass burning



Physiological Sources:

- redox homeostasis & inflammation
- intracellular metabolism & cytosolic enzymes
- infectants, toxins, therapeutics, radiation

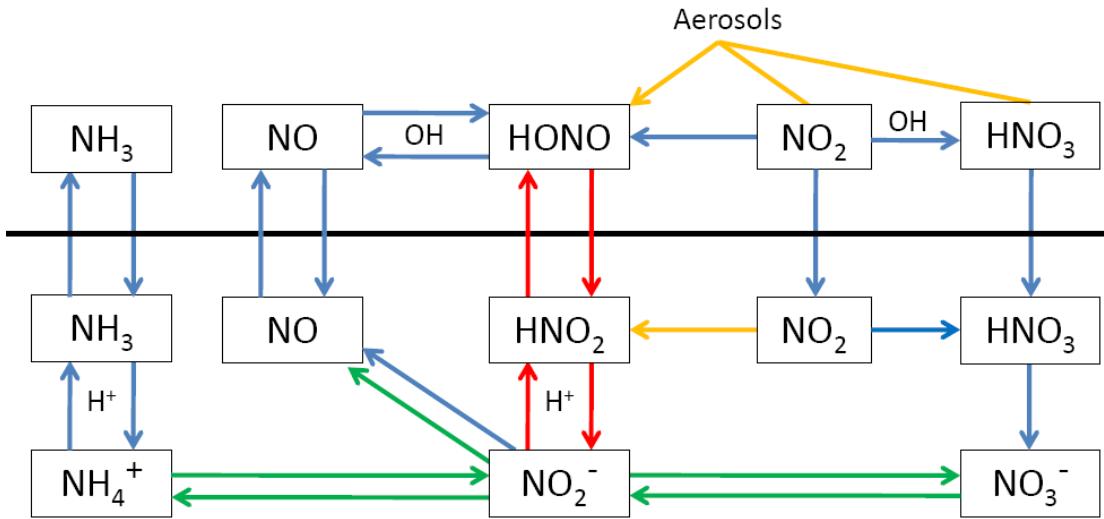
Physiological Effects:

- oxidative & nitrosative stress
- cell signaling & regulation
- immune response & inflammation
- biological aging, disease & cell death

Direct link between
atmospheric &
physiological chemistry

Life &
Health

Nitrogen Cycling through Soil & Cryptogamic Covers

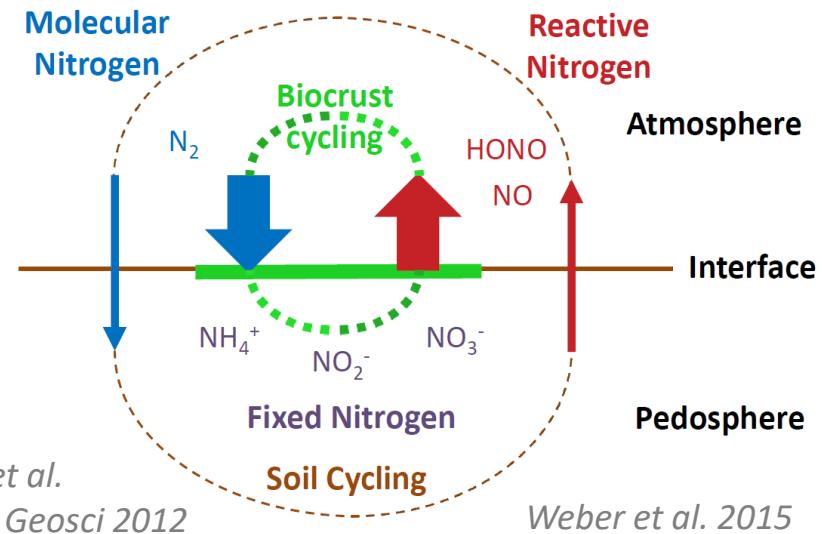


Nitrous acid emissions from soil nitrite & microbes:
major source of atmospheric RNS & ROS (OH radicals)

*Su et al. Science 2011,
Oswald et al. Science 2013*



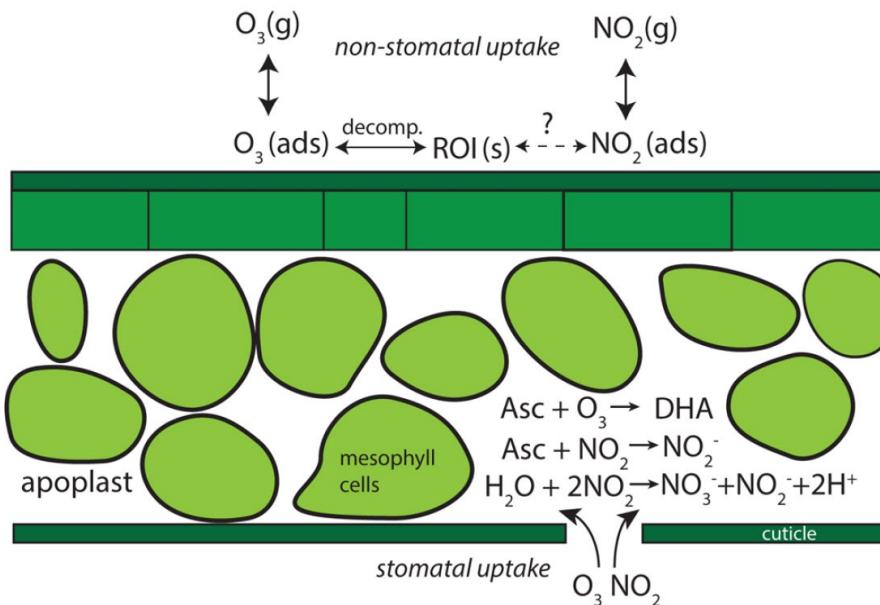
*Elbert et al.
Nature Geosci 2012*



Weber et al. 2015

Cryptogamic covers on soil, rock & plants (lichens, mosses, cyanobacteria ...):
major contributors to N₂ fixation (up to ~50% of global terr. BNF) & RNS emissions ?

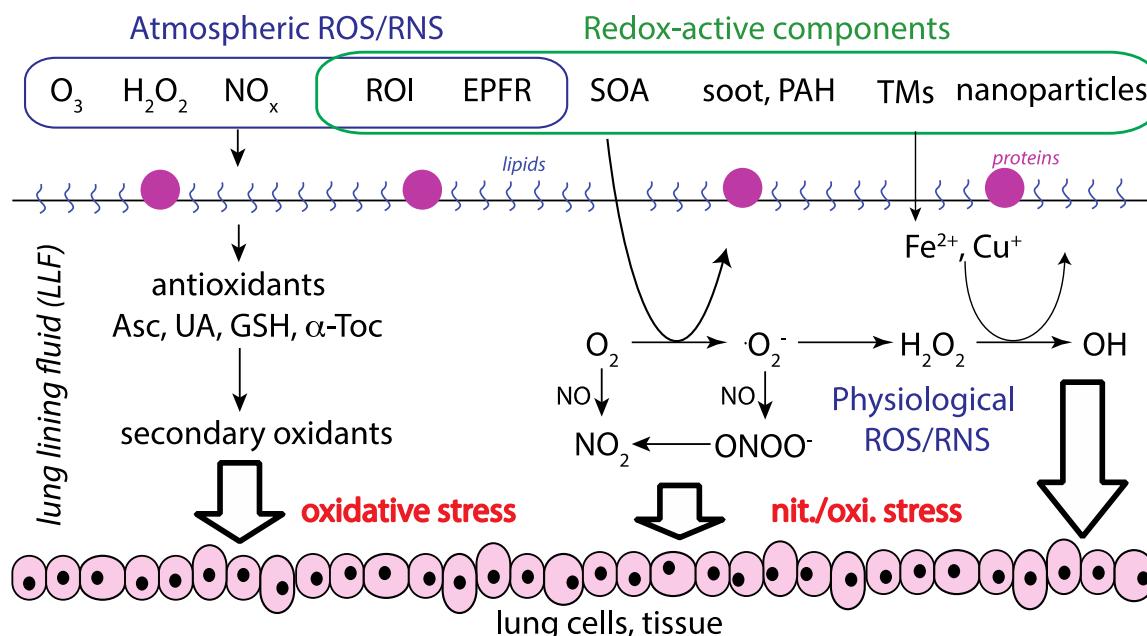
ROS/RNS Cycling through Plant Leaves & Human Lungs



Uptake of O_3 & NO_2 by plant leaves:

- bulk uptake through plant stomata & reaction with ascorbic acid
- surface reaction involving reactive oxygen intermediates ?

Pöschl & Shiraiwa Chem Rev 2015



Oxidative stress in human lungs:

- inhalation of atmospheric ROS/RNS only partly buffered by antioxidants
- formation of ROS/RNS through aerosol particle reactions (soot, metals, ...)
- quantification & health effects ?

Pöschl & Shiraiwa Chem Rev 2015
Lakey et al. 2015

Outline

Multiphase Chemistry

- atmospheric & biological multiphase processes
- bioaerosols, clouds & precipitation
- reactive oxygen & nitrogen species
- **human health & allergies in the Anthropocene**

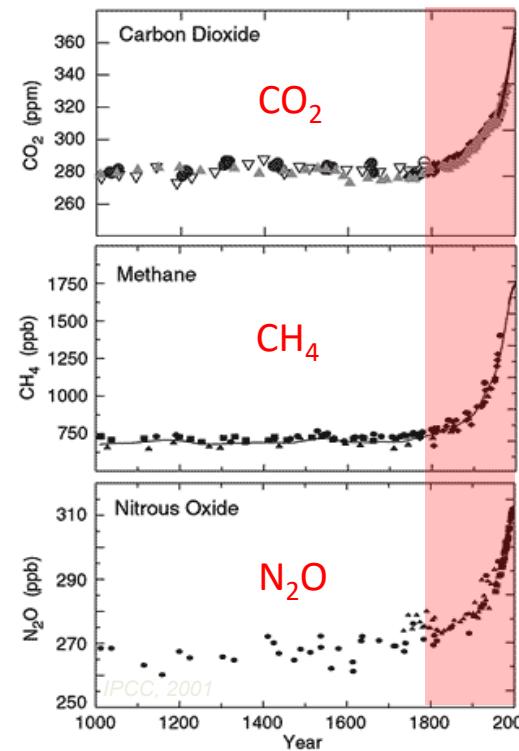
Open Access

- motivation, achievements & perspectives

Conclusions & Outlook

- scientific research & communication

The Anthropocene – A New Age in Earth & Human History



Paul Crutzen, Anthropocene
Symposium, Mainz, Dec. 2013

Scientific curiosity meets practical challenges: Earth System Science & Global Change from scientific discovery to political & societal action

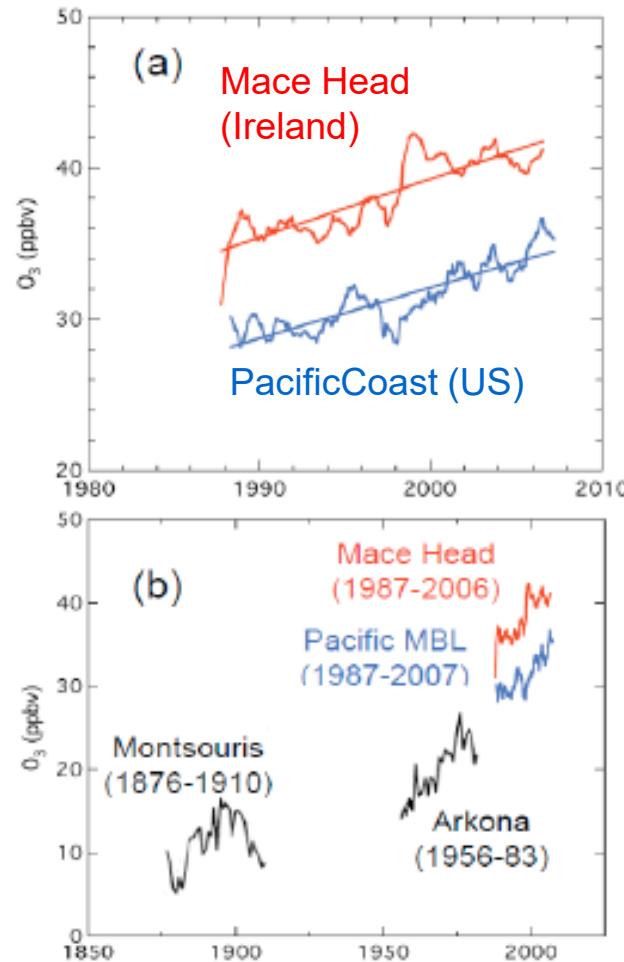
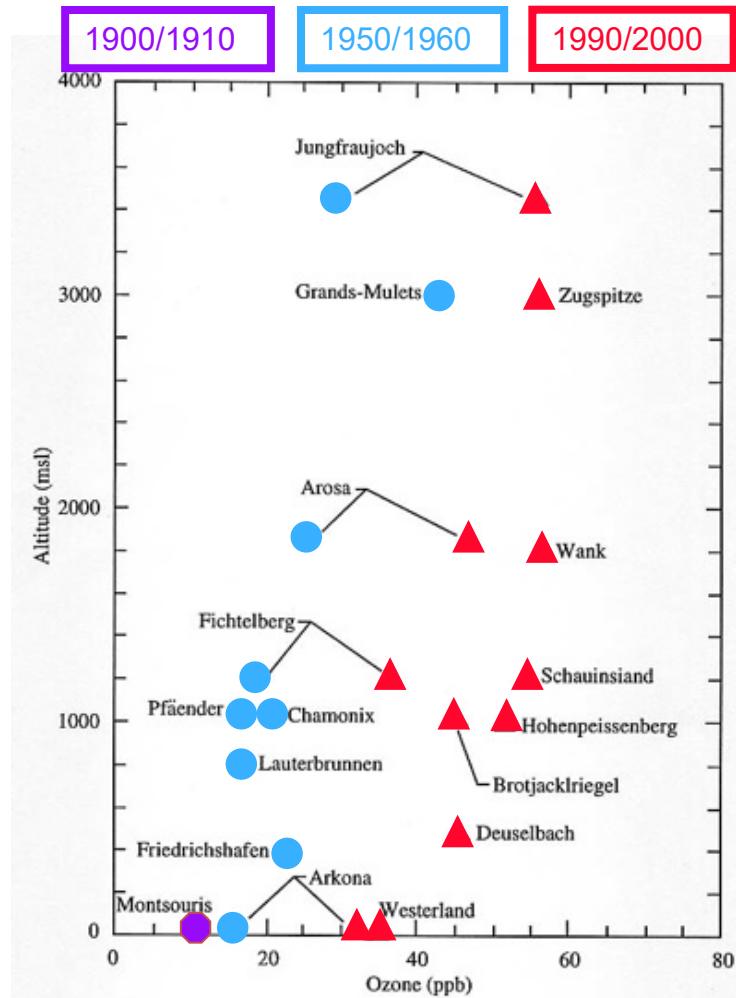
Ozone Hole & CFC: success story – discovery, controversy & discussion, solution

Climate Change & GHG: political & scientific struggle – complexity & predictability

Public Health & PM/ROS: new challenges – oxid. stress, allergy & chronic inflammation

Scientific & societal message: We are shaping the planet, so let's get it right ...

Surface Ozone & Aerosol Increase in the Anthropocene

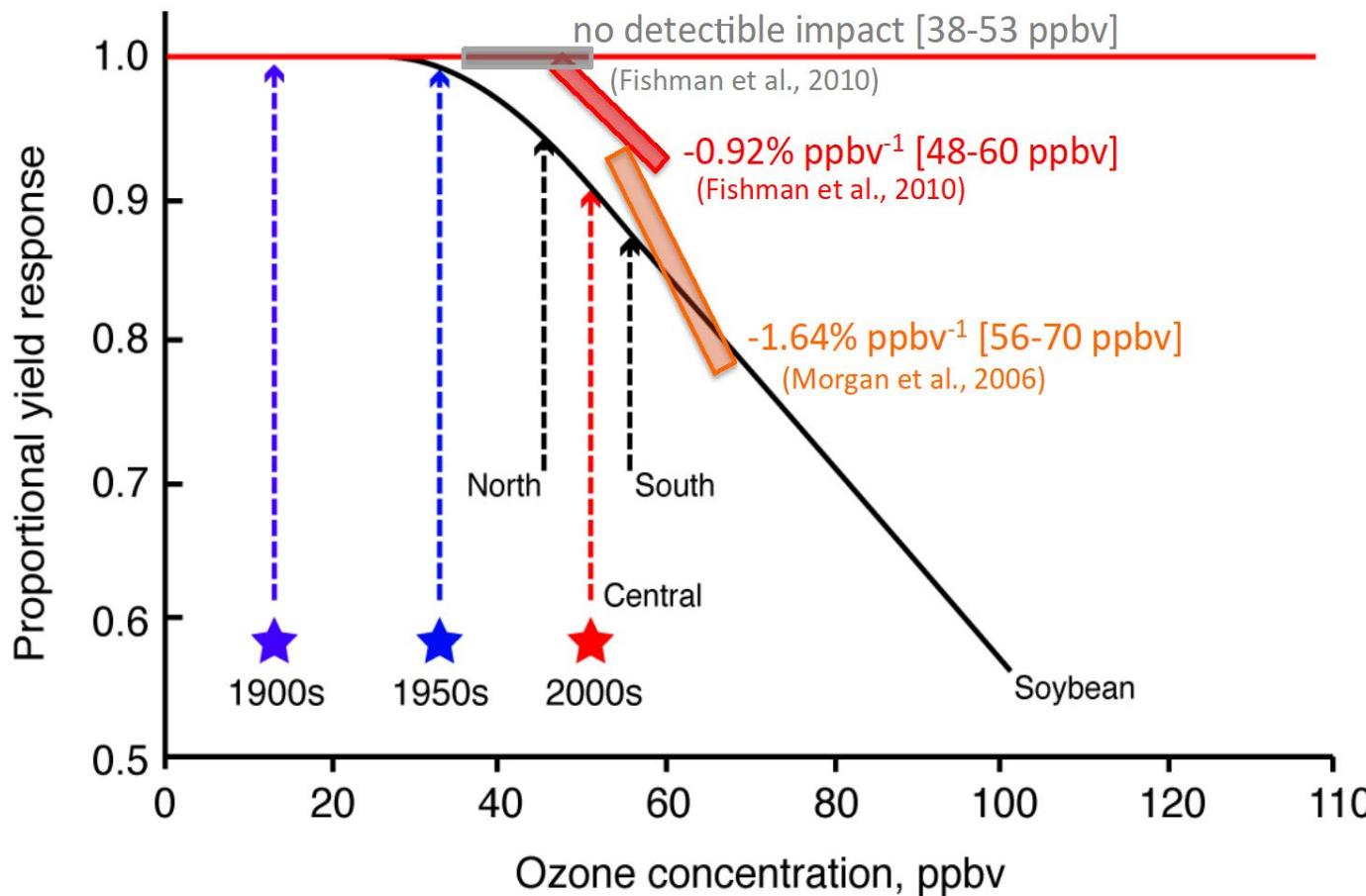


Ozone: **2-fold background increase** (from 10-20 ppb to 30-40 ppb)

Aerosol: **10-fold enhancement in polluted regions**

(10^3 – 10^5 cm^{-3} & 10 – $100 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ vs. 10^2 – 10^3 cm^{-3} & ~ 1 – $10 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)

Decreasing Crop Yields due to Ozone



Toxic ozone background concentrations in southern USA reduce yields of various crops (soy, wheat, cotton, potato, etc.):

Are we creating a toxic atmosphere?

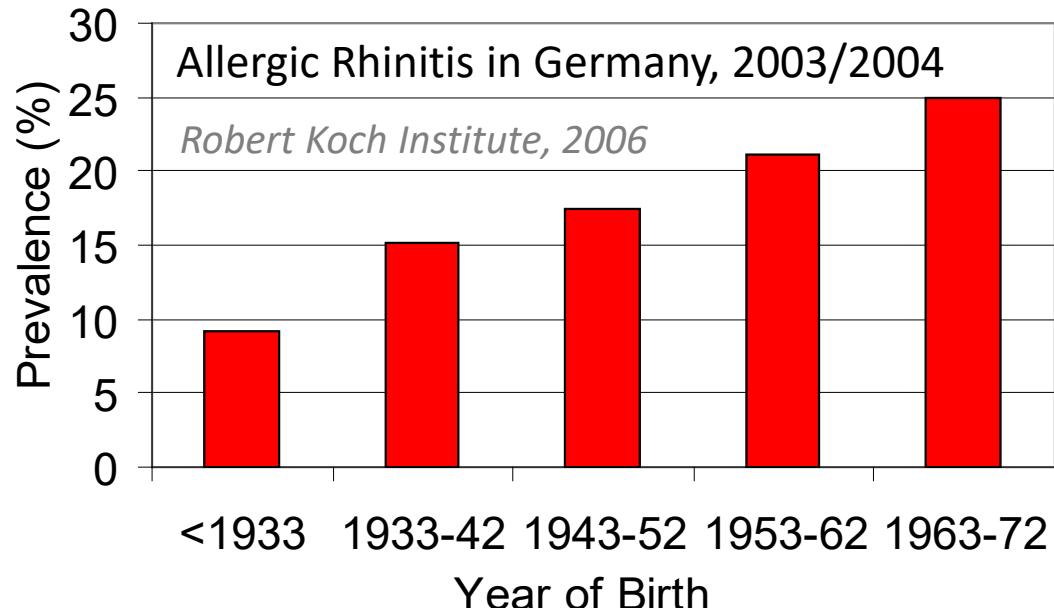
Increasing Allergies due to Air Pollution ?

High Prevalence

~ 30 % of population in
W. Europe & N. America
affected by allergic diseases
(*rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis;*
food allergies, etc.)

Steep Increase

~ 3 % per decade over past 50 years
⇒ 50% prevalence by 2050,
“epidemic of 21st century” ?



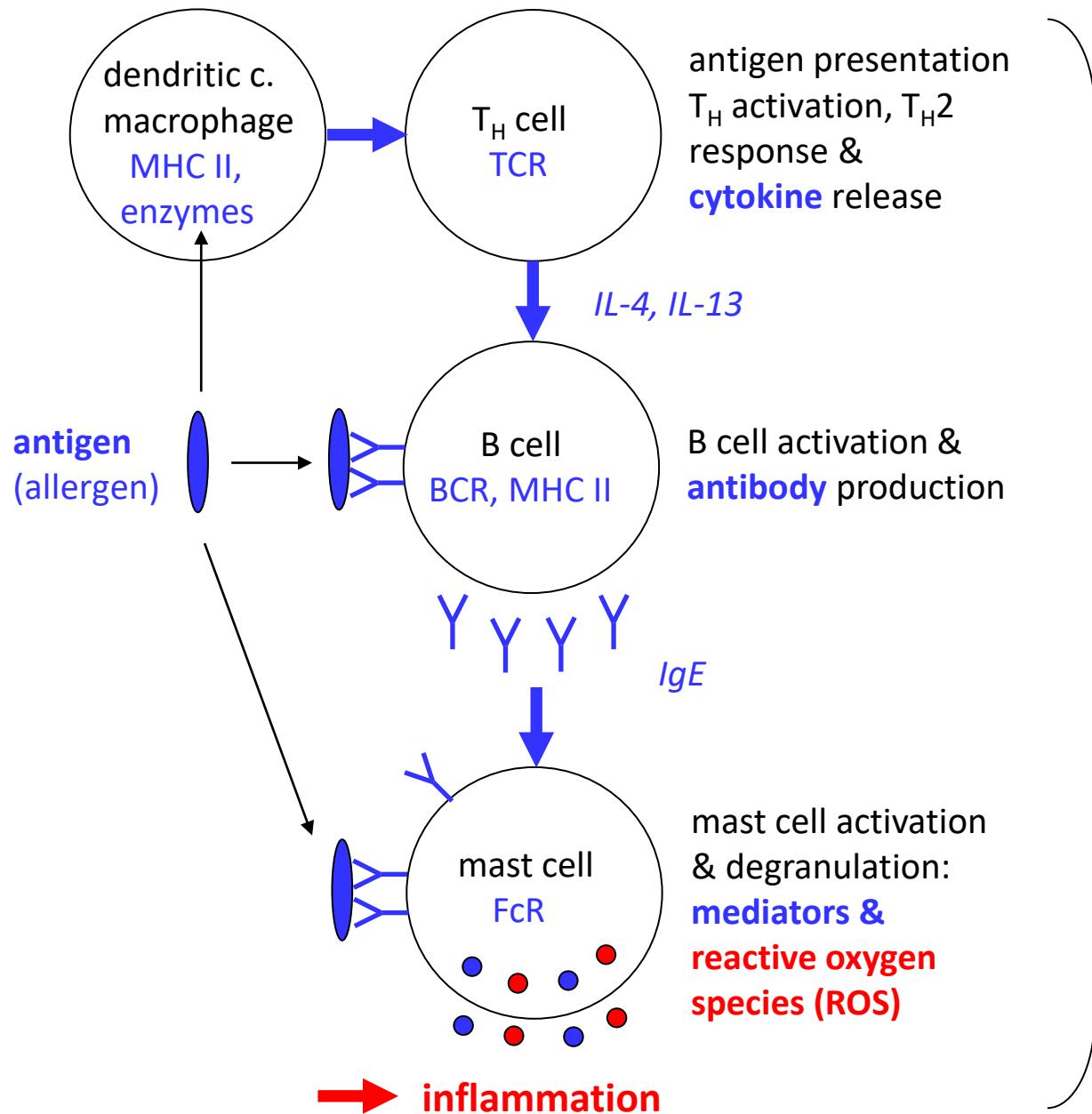
Negative Social & Economic Effects

impairment of personal well-being & workforce productivity, health care expenses, etc.
⇒ estimated macroeconomic costs: 25 billion EUR/yr for EU (similar for US)

Correlation with Urbanization & “Western Lifestyle”

trends in E. Europe, Asia & developing countries similar to W. Europe & N. America
⇒ ***no solid explanation, just hypotheses: hygiene, nutrition, stress, pollution***
⇒ ***chemical mechanism of air pollutant effects?***

Allergic Reaction = Protein Multiphase Chemistry

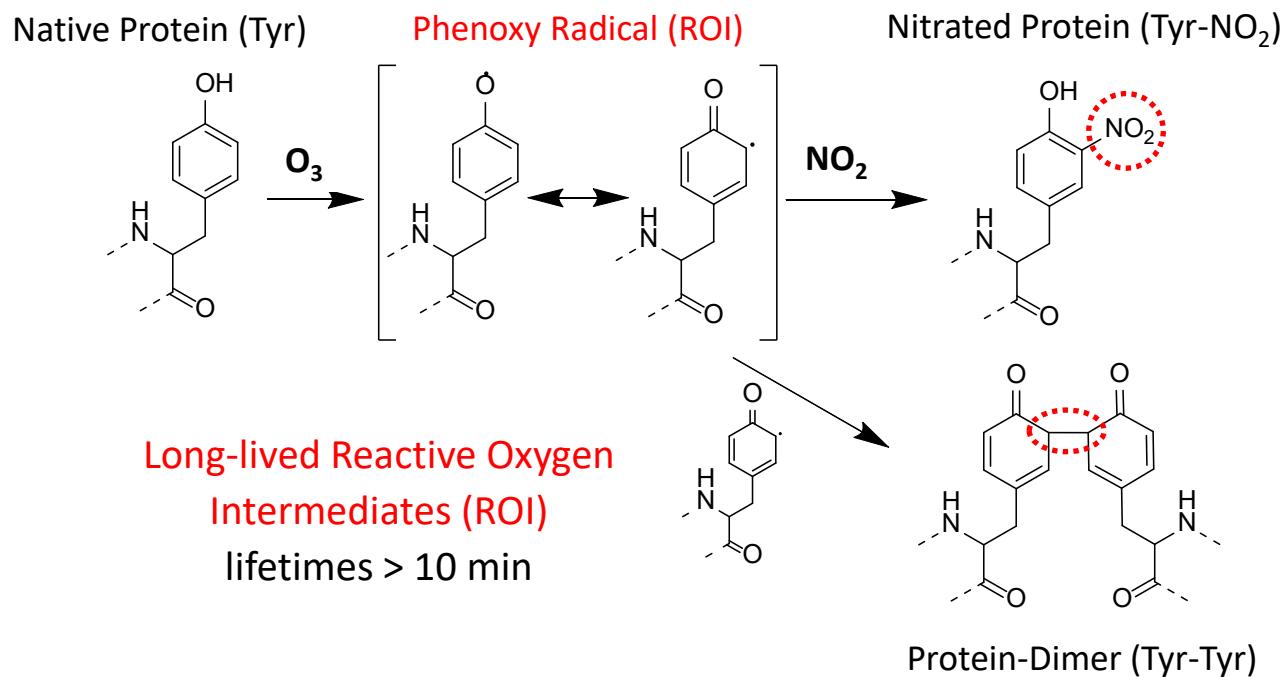
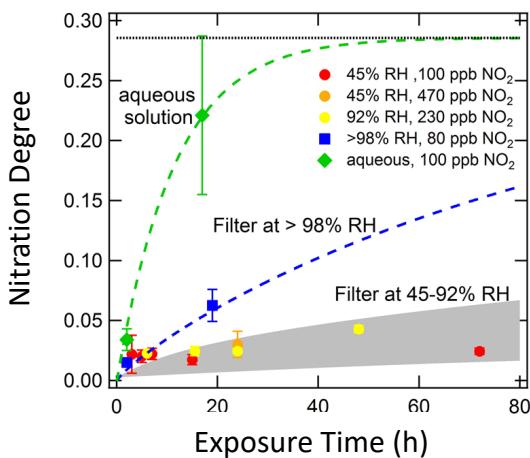
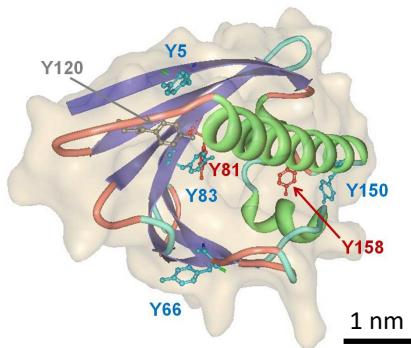
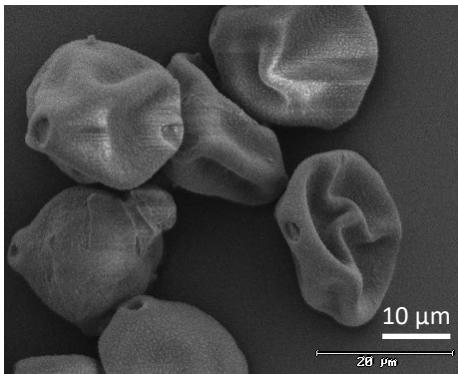


Regulation & signaling of immune system = multiphase chemistry of protein molecules in liquids & semi-solids

Chemical modification
can influence each step of **protein interaction**
(affinity binding)

Normal function of IgE & inflammation:
parasite defense
allergy = false alarm

Protein Nitration & Oligomerization

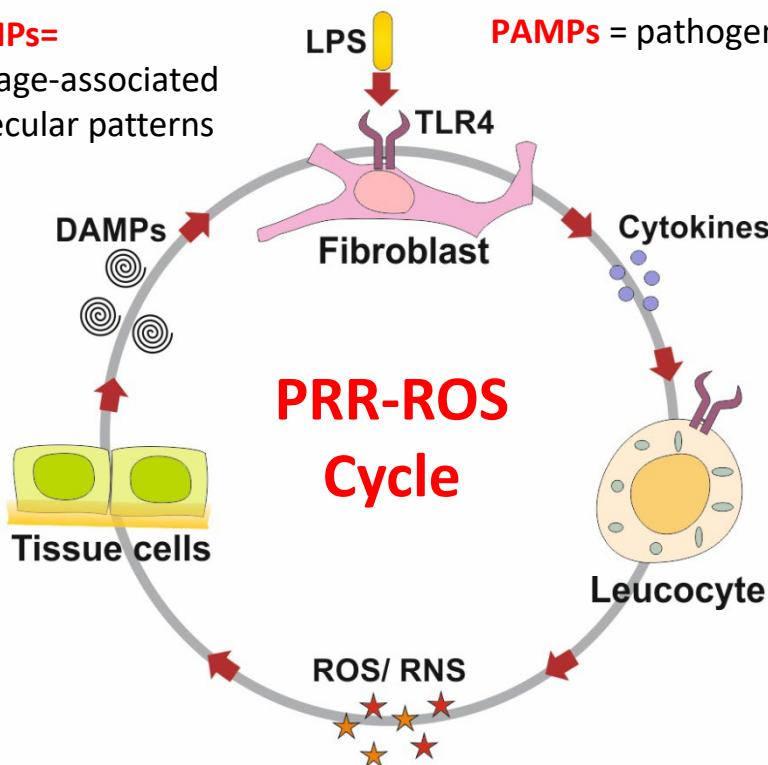


Birch pollen allergen Bet-v-1 exposed to O₃ + NO₂

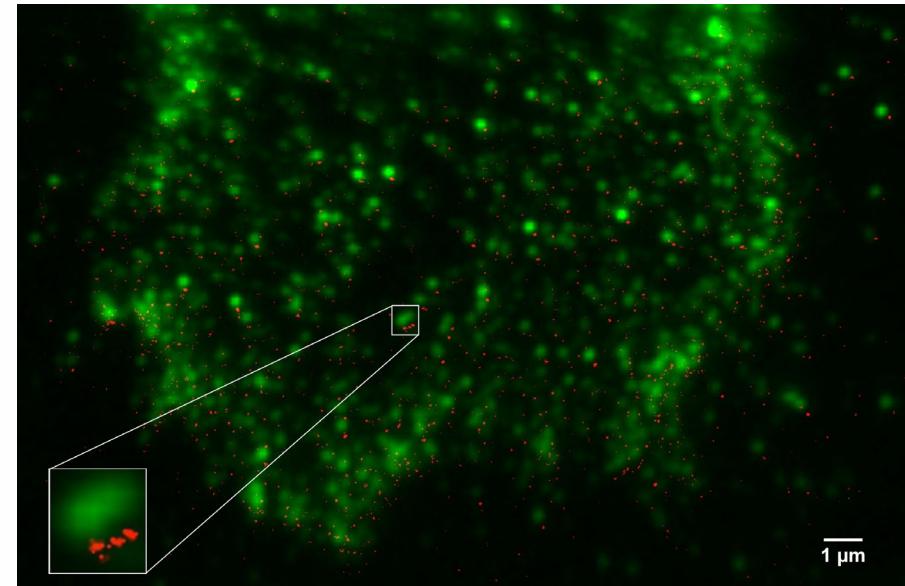
- ⇒ enhanced allergenicity of nitrated & oligomerized products
- ⇒ mechanistic rationale for promotion of allergies by large-scale air pollution in the Anthropocene
- ⇒ concentration thresholds for adverse health effects & chemical reaction pathways of immune response ?

Chemical Pathways of Human Immune Response

DAMPs= damage-associated molecular patterns



PAMPs = pathogen-associated molecular patterns, e.g., LPS = lipopolysaccharide



Fluorescence detection of toll-like receptors (TLR/PRR)

Chemical amplification & feedback through pattern recognition receptors (PRR)
⇒ allergies & chronic inflammation

Quantify & simulate reaction kinetics & amplification factors (KM-SUB-PRR)

Localize reaction sites by immunostaining & superresolution microscopy (~10-100 nm)

IMB Mainz, U Heidelberg, C. Cremer et al.

Interrupt cycle by receptor blocking (herbal extracts) & ROS quenching (molec. hydrogen)

⇒ **Mainz Center for Chemical Allergology**, JGU Translational Immunology, D. Schuppan et al.

Outline

Multiphase Chemistry

- atmospheric & biological multiphase processes
- bioaerosols, clouds & precipitation
- reactive oxygen & nitrogen species
- human health & allergies in the Anthropocene

Open Access

- **motivation, achievements & perspectives**

Conclusions & Outlook

- scientific research & communication

Motivation for Open Access

Scientific, educational & economic advantages of free online availability & usability of (publicly funded) research publications.

Educational:

- inform & stimulate interested public (*school teachers, students, et al.*)
- equal opportunities in the information society (*global & social*)
- re-integrate scholarly & common knowledge (*wikipedia, etc.*)

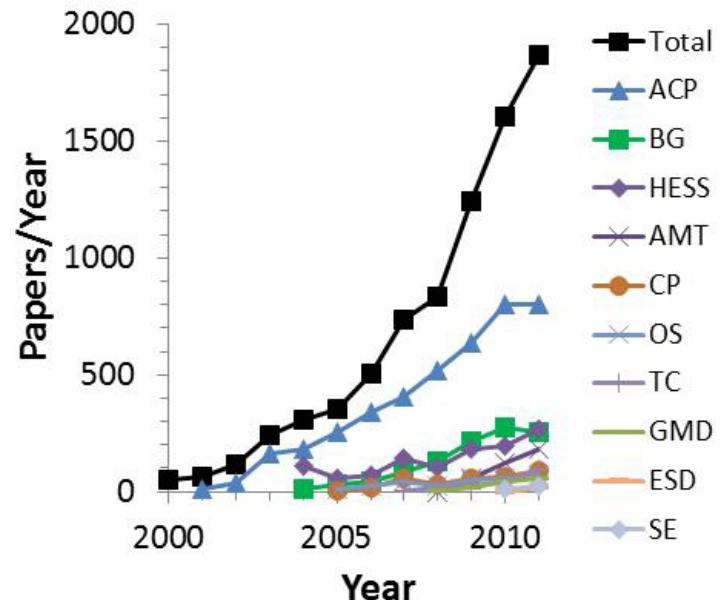
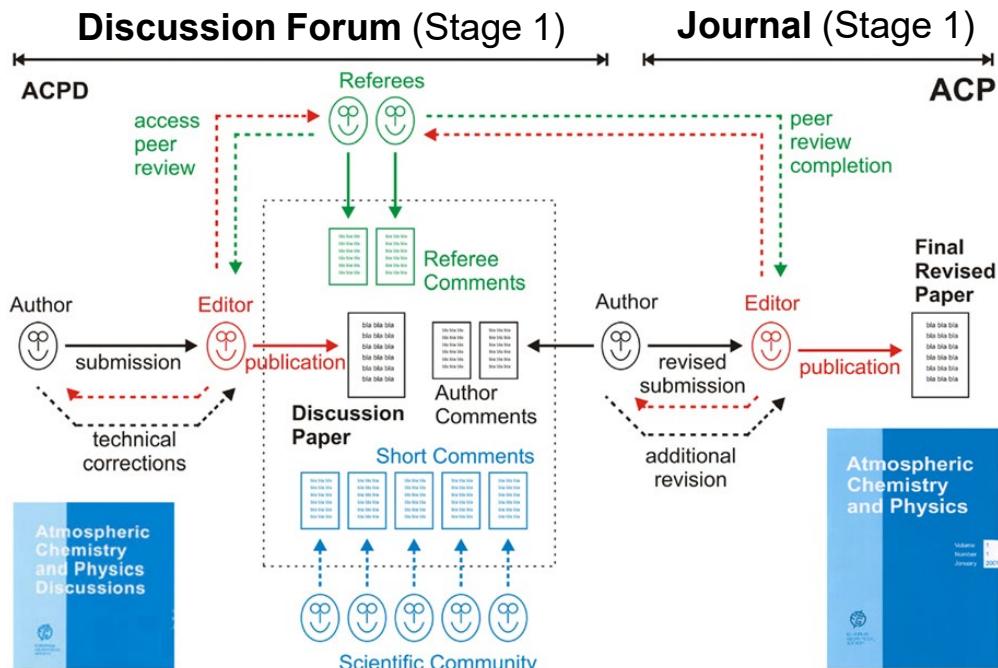
Economic & Technological:

- liberate distorted scientific information market (*prod., distrib., copyright, archiving*)
- facilitate technological applications & innovations (*text mining by SME, etc.*)

Scientific:

- enhance interdisciplinary exchange (*access & usage*)
- foster discussion & peer review (*public commenting, etc.*)
- advance evaluation & quality assurance (*machine-reading & statistics, transparency & new metrics beyond citation counting oligopoly*)

Interactive OA Publishing & Public Peer Review



Combine strengths of traditional peer review with virtues of transparency & self-regulation

Key features: free speech & high speed; public scrutiny & interactive discussion

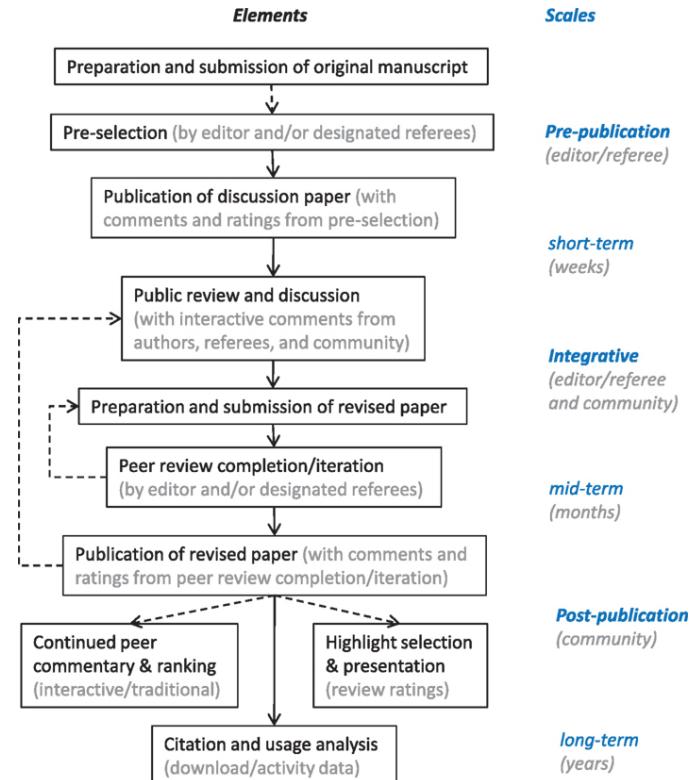
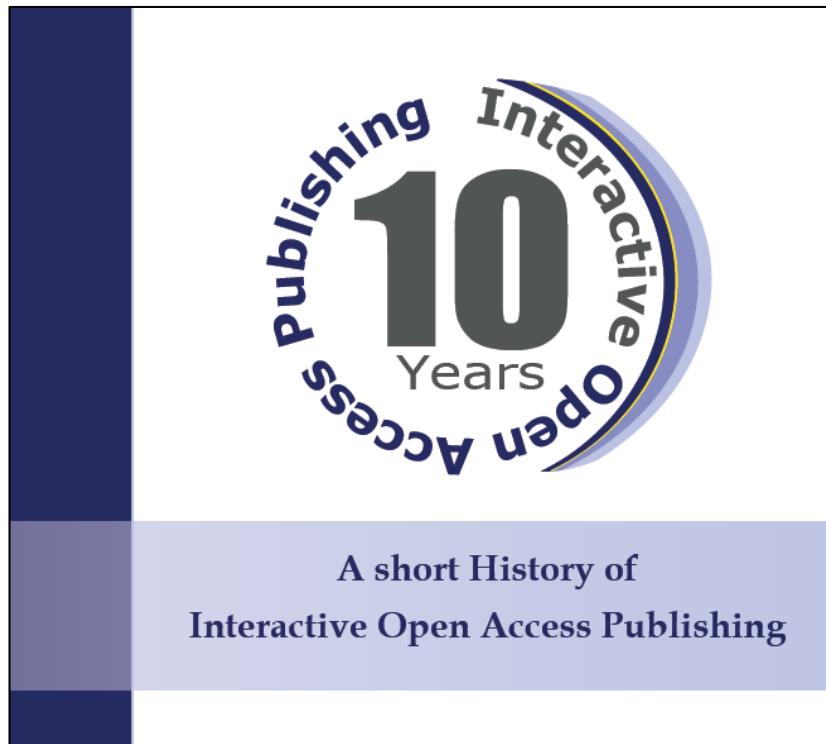
⇒ save refereeing capacities; maximize quality assurance & information density

⇒ document open questions, controversial opinions & scientific discourse

Unique combination of achievements:

top speed, top impact & visibility, large volume, low rejection rates

Past Developments & Future Perspectives



Short history booklet: origins & background of an amazing journey (*Paul Crutzen*)

http://www.copernicus.org/A_short_History_of_Interactive_Open_Access_Publishing.pdf

Multi-stage open peer review article: repositories (*arXiv.org*), rankings & usage statistics ...

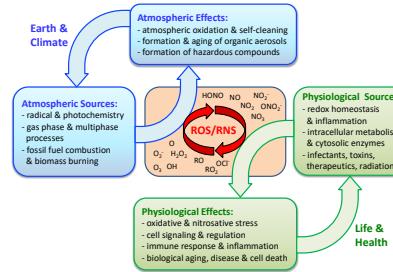
<http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fncom.2012.00033/abstract>

Vision: promote scientific & societal progress through global information commons
⇒ **epistemic web** (along & beyond web 2.0/3.0, semantic web ...)

Conclusions & Outlook

Interdisciplinarity in Earth & Life Science:

The grass is always greener under the fence;
lots of exciting research & discoveries ahead.



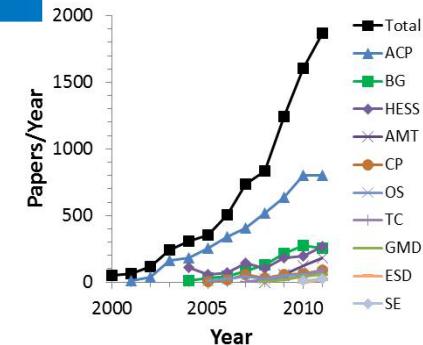
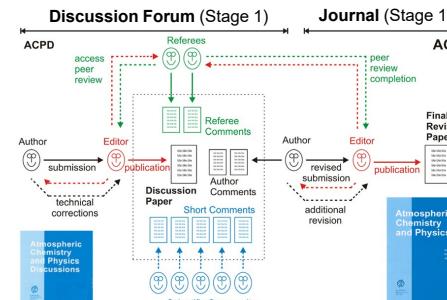
Climate & Health in the Anthropocene:

We are shaping the planet, so let's get it right.

- with special thanks to Paul Crutzen

Open Access & Public Peer Review:

Let's share more & better information
for the benefit of science & society.



Innovation:

Think big, go for it & do it yourself.

- with special thanks to Arne Richter