Global information about ambient PM_{2.5} made possible with satellite products of aerosol optical depth



[Image source: Van Donkelaar et al., 2010]

Progressed from broad regional (>100 km) to urban and borough/suburb (<10 km) scales



Individual instruments provide long (10+ years) and consistent records



TROPOMI (3.5 km x 5.5 km, 2017-present)

OMI (24 km x 13 km, 2004-present) GOME-2 (80 km x 40 km, 2007-present)

SCIAMACHY (200 km x 30 km, 2002-2012)

GOME (320 km x 40 km, 1995-2001)

Data at a range of user capabilities are increasingly **open access**

[Images source: K. Vohra, PhD thesis, University of Birmingham, 2021]

Addresses monitoring gaps and data access and quality issues of surface networks



Space-based observations of NO₂ (Apr-Sep 2018)



Combine with surface observations, models, statistical and gridding techniques to achieve finer scales and quantify air pollutant abundances, trends and sources, and impacts on global health

The future is bright: Geostationary instruments with hourly observations during daylight hours and satellite missions designed with air quality and health communities

Future constellations of low-Earth and geostationary orbiting satellites







[Image source: Liu and Diner, 2017]

[Image source: ceos.org, accessed 28 April 2022]

