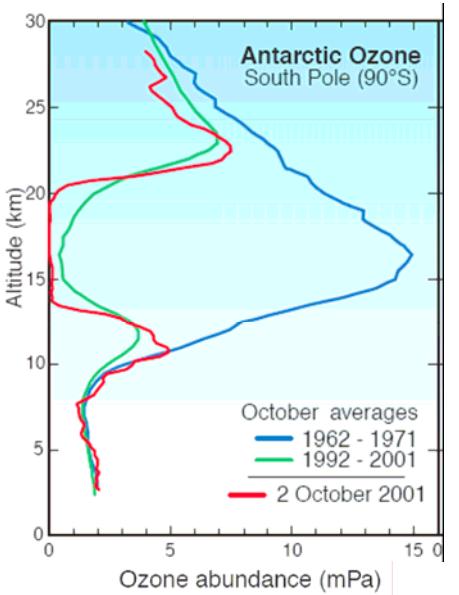
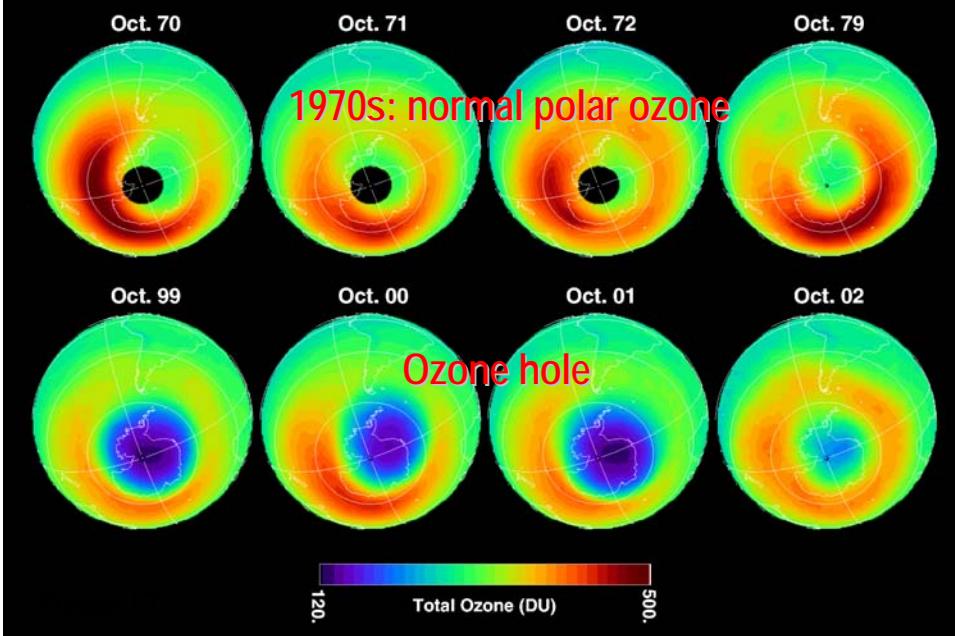


Vertical distribution of ozone at the South Pole

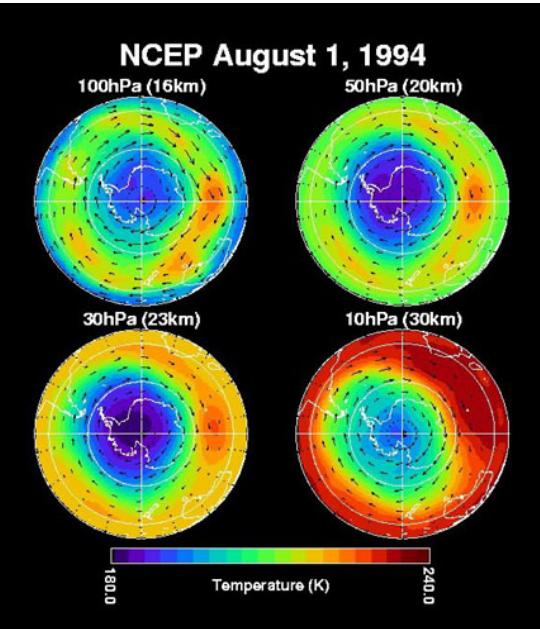


→ Depletion of Antarctic ozone column confined to 12-25 km

The Antarctic ozone hole viewed from space



The Antarctic Polar Vortex: Wind and temperature



- Lack of sunlight between June and September → cooling of Antarctic stratosphere and adiabatic downwelling
- Large latitudinal temperature gradient (sunlight/polar night) → strong zonal winds = Polar night jet (150 km/h at 20 km)
- Antarctic polar vortex: region poleward of polar night jet
- Isolation of polar vortex: little mixing of warmer air from lower latitudes occurs
- Sustained cold temperatures over Antarctica during winter (~183K at 20km in early August).

Polar Stratospheric Clouds (PSC)



<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/>

Type I PSC

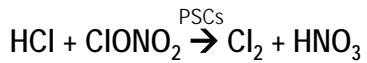
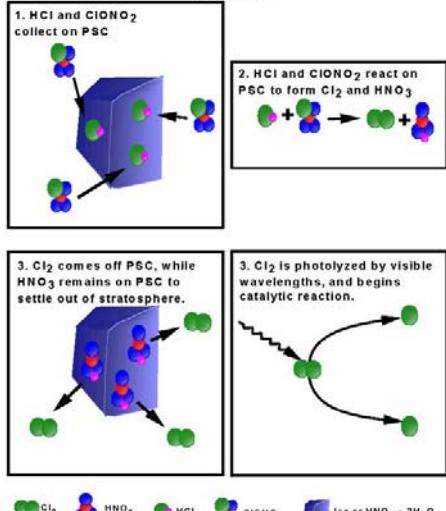
Composition:	Nitric Acid Trihydrate ($\text{HNO}_3 \cdot 3 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$) Ternary solution ($\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4, \text{HNO}_3$)
Formation Temp.:	195 K
Particle diameter:	1 μm
Altitudes:	10-24 km
Settling rates:	1 km/30 days

Type II PSC

Water Ice
188 K
>10 μm
10-24 km
> 1.5 km/day

Chlorine activation on polar stratospheric clouds

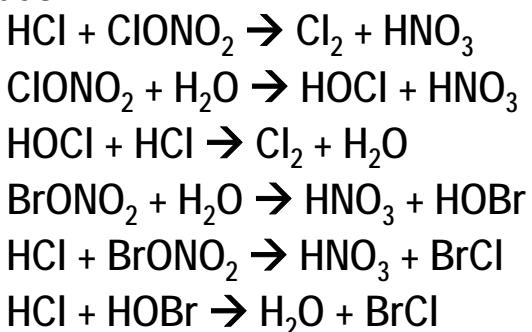
Polar Stratospheric Cloud Surface Reaction



Conversion of chlorine reservoirs HCl and ClONO₂ to Cl₂ and HNO₃ on PSCs
 \rightarrow Cl₂ photolyses in sunlight (spring) releasing Cl and catalytic ozone loss begins
 \rightarrow HNO₃ remains on PSCs and settles out of stratosphere suppressing NO_x levels: ClO + NO₂ + M \rightarrow ClONO₂ + M cannot deactivate ClO radicals.

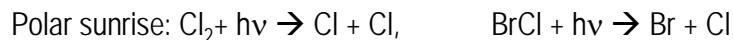
Chlorine activation on PSCs

Reactions taking place on polar stratospheric clouds:



Chlorine/Bromine activation + sequestration of HNO₃ in PSCs

Rapid ozone destruction mechanisms



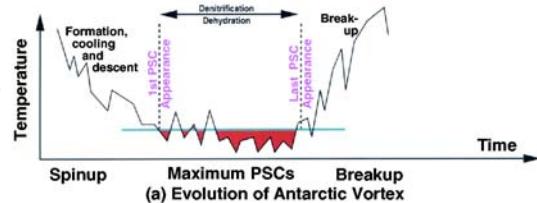
Molina and Molina (1987): ClO dimer catalytic cycle



McElroy et al. (1986) and Tung et al. (1986): Bromine/chlorine coupling

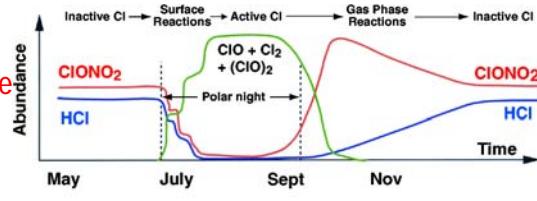


Evolution of Antarctic Vortex



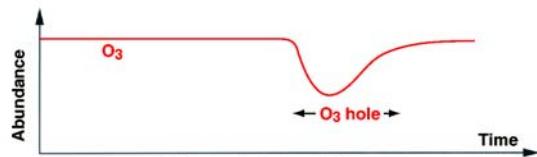
(a) Evolution of Antarctic Vortex

Reactive chlorine and chlorine reservoirs



(b) Chlorine Reservoirs in Antarctic Vortex

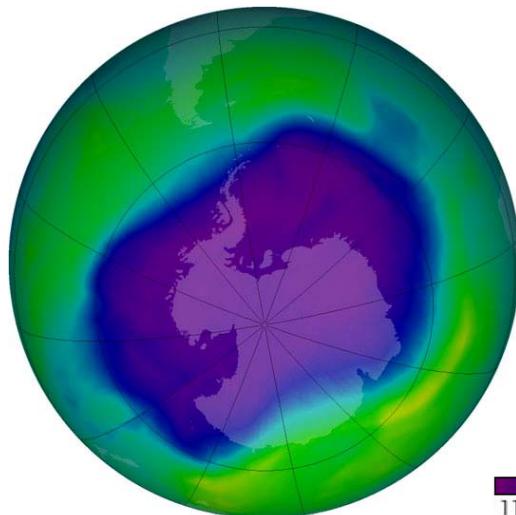
Ozone levels



(c) Ozone in Antarctic Vortex

Wallace & Hobbs

2006 Ozone hole – largest ever



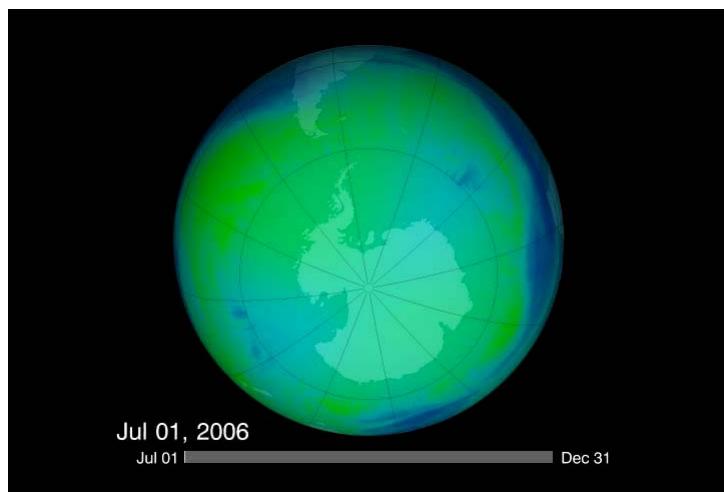
The 2006 ozone hole covered an area the size of the N. American continent (~11 million square miles).

Total Ozone (Dobson Units)

110 220 330 440 550

http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/ozone_record.html

Antarctic Ozone Hole: July 1-Dec 31 2006



Jul 01, 2006

Jul 01

Dec 31

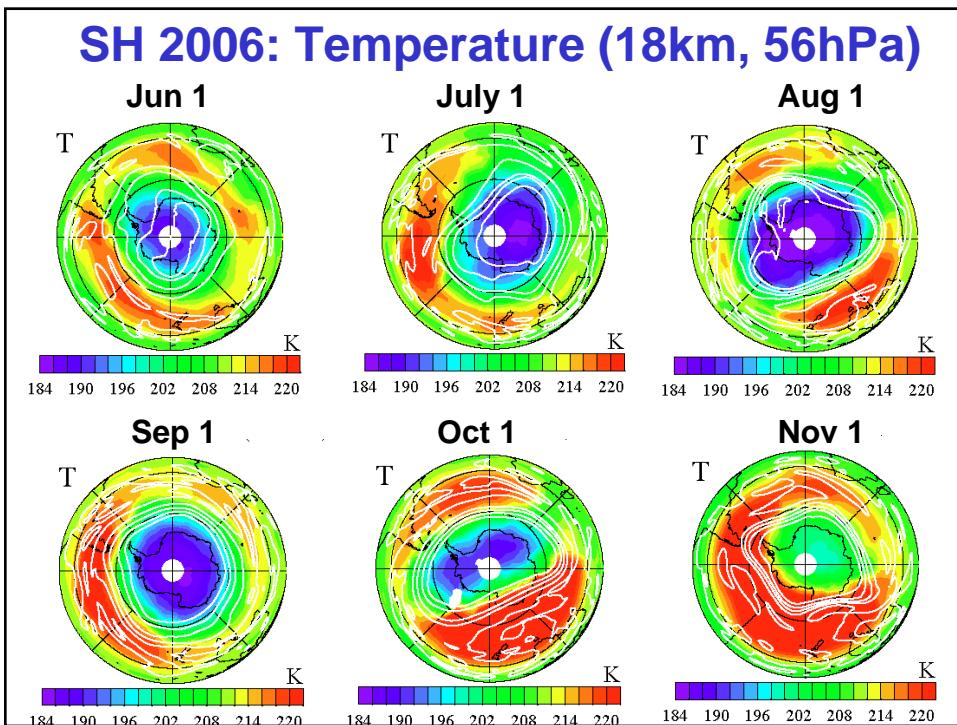
Total Ozone (Dobson Units)

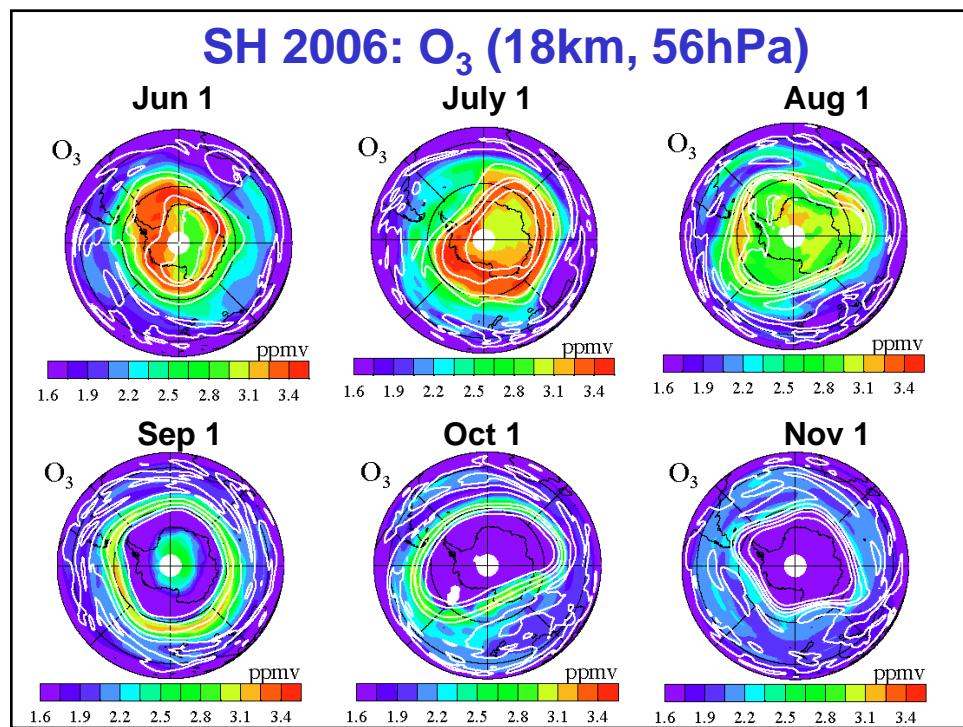
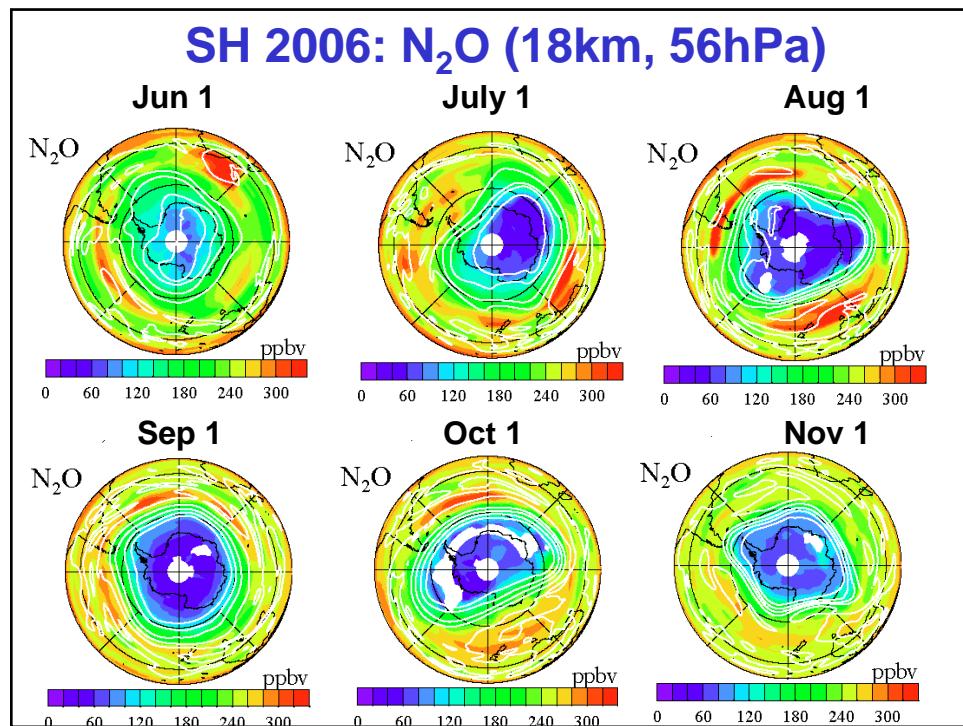
110 220 330 440 550

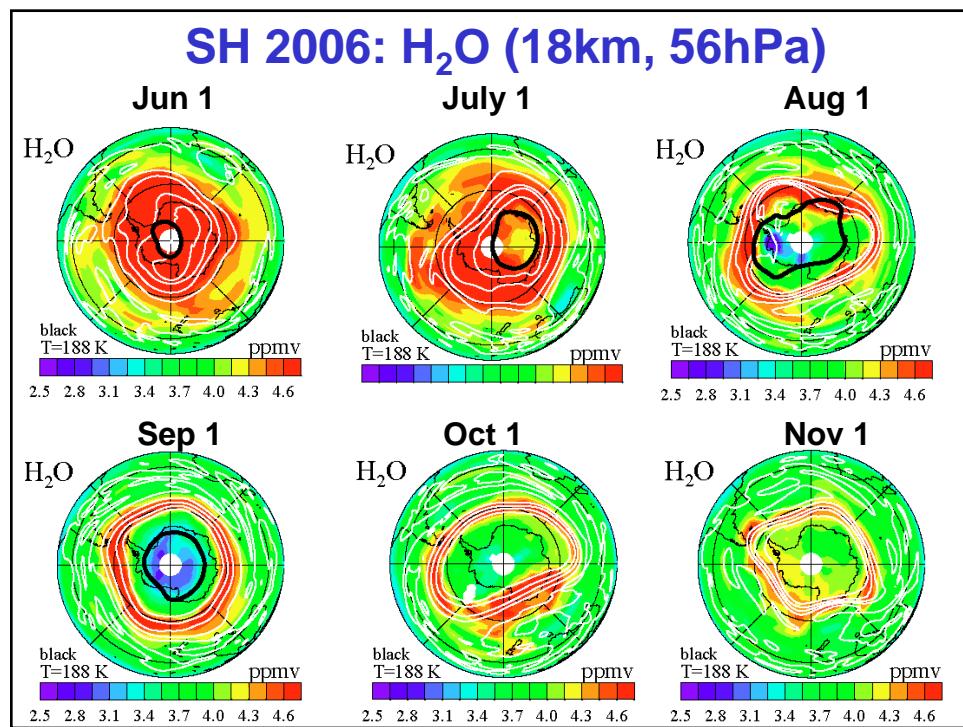
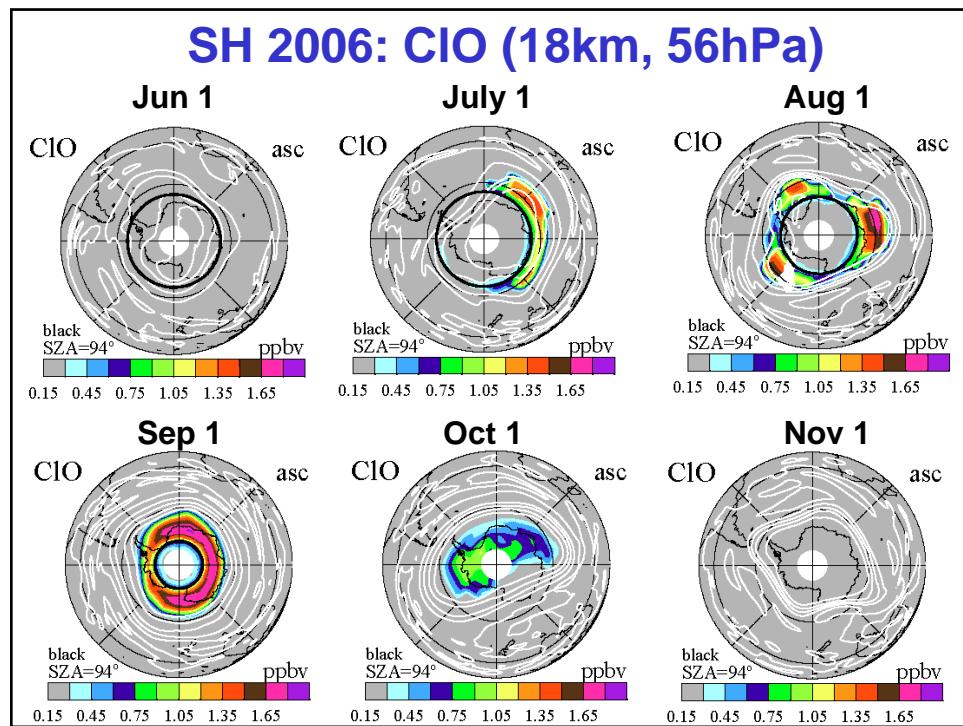
<http://ozonewatch.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

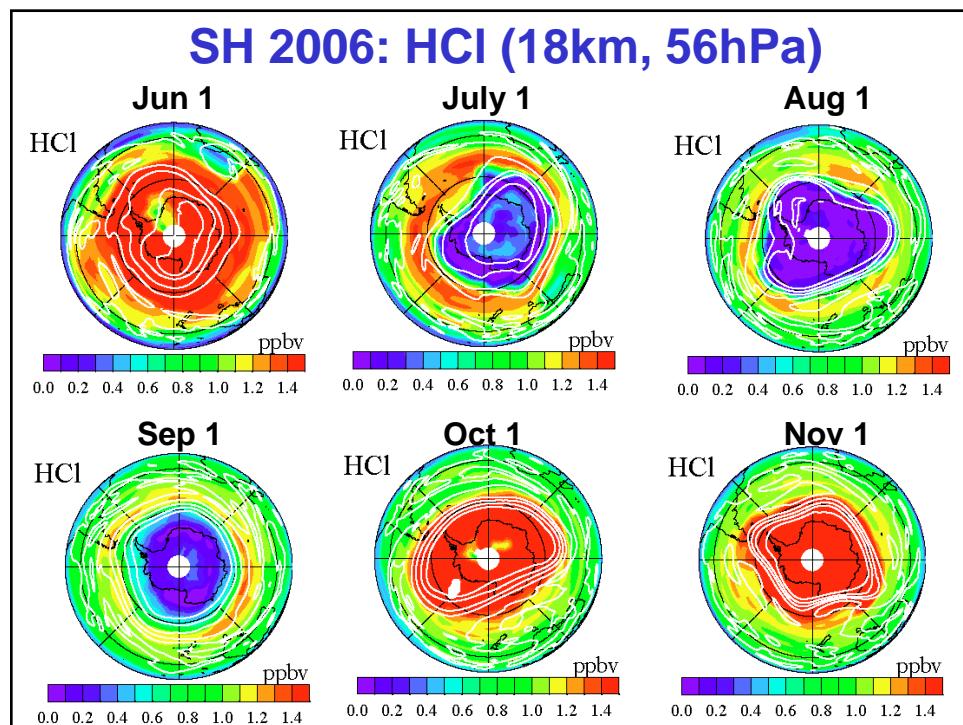
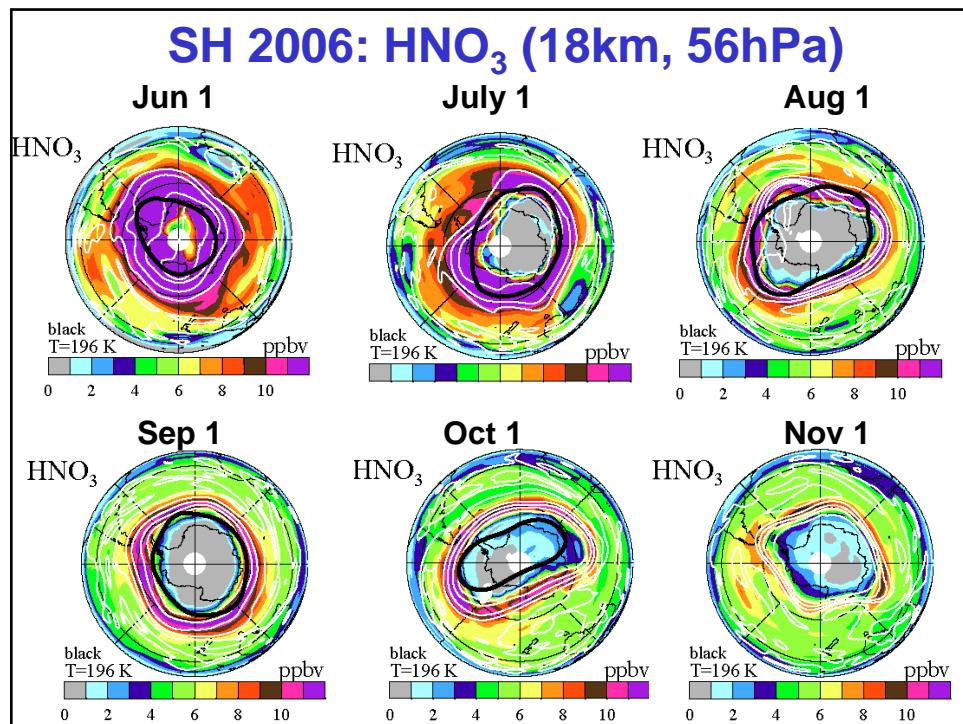
Satellite observations of the 2006 ozone hole

- Microwave Limb Sounder
- Onboard NASA's AURA satellite
- http://mls.jpl.nasa.gov/plots/mls/mls_plot_locator.php
- Temperature, O₃, N₂O, ClO, HCl, HNO₃

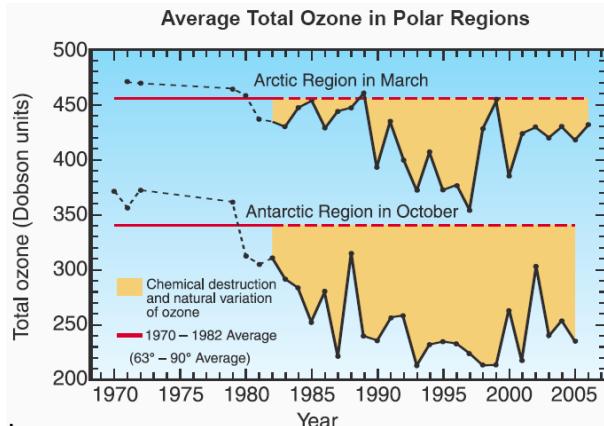








An Arctic ozone hole?



Arctic vortex:

- No land mass (warmer)
- Less symmetric
- Planetary wave activity (Tibet, North America...)

→ Overlap between cold temperatures and sunlight are limited in the Arctic and ozone depletion episodic and minor

Arctic Ozone depletion: March

