Global Modeling and Assimilation Office

Sulfur Dioxide and Sulfate in the 7km GEOS-5 Nature Run

More than 90% of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions come from human sources including coal-burning power plants, smelters, and other industrial sources. SO₂ can act as a pollutant near the surface with adverse health and acidifying effects. Oxidation quickly converts SO₂ gas to light-scattering sulfate (SO₄) particles that reflect sunlight back into space.

