

File Revision Date:

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Data Set Description:

PI: Andrea PAZMINO (Previous PI: Florence GOUTAIL)
SAOZ UV-Visible Spectrometer
Site(s): RIO GALLEGOS†† 51.601 S 69.319 W 15 m
Measurement Quantities: O3, NO2

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Instrument Description:

The SAOZ is made of a commercial Jobin-Yvon CP200 flat field spectrometer equipped with a holographic grating and a Hamamatsu diode array uncooled detector, with an entrance slit allowing an average resolution of the order of 1 nm in the range 300-600 nm. The first version (SAOZ-512) was using a 200 gr/mm grating associated to a 512 diode array detector and a 25 micron entrance slit and the second one (SAOZ-1024) was using a 360 gr/mm grating associated to a 1024 diode array detector and a 50 micron entrance slit allowing a better oversampling (2 instead of 1). The equipment which is ran in the outside, is placed in a sealed tight and dehydrated box on the top of which a quartz window is mounted in order to look at the zenith sky with a total field of view of 10°. As SAOZ was designed to

measure especially in the Polar Regions, sometimes of difficult access, the system is completely automated, maintenance is simple (mechanical shutter). The instrument is driven by an external computer which records and analyses the spectra in real time. Measurements are performed from sunrise to sunset up to a Solar Zenith Angle (SZA) of 94° . The exposure time is adjusted automatically between 0.1s to 60s according to the light level and the spectra are co-added in memory during a 60s duty cycle. The data from a GPS device is used for SZA and time calculation. Dark current spectra are measured each time the duration of exposure changes and subtracted. Averages of ozone and NO₂ morning and evening vertical columns measured between 86 and 91 SZA are calculated and transmitted in real time to the laboratory through internet. Columns transmitted to NDACC database are real time data. Every year data is reprocessed and submit to NDACC database.

Algorithm Description:

A new version of processed algorithm (V3) was developed in 2013 in the frame of NORS/EU project. †

This is the only version now available on NDACC for this station. The data processing is achieved into 3 steps:

1. Level 0: acquisition of the spectrum and other parameters as GPS location and temperature inside the instrument.

2. Level 1: Spectroscopic analysis using the DOAS technique.

++++++- Accurate wavelength alignment using Fraunhofer solar absorption lines

++++++- Division of the measured spectrum by a reference spectrum recorded at high sun on a clear and unpolluted day.

++++++- Monotonic large trends are removed by subtracting the same spectrum smoothed with a broad bandpass filter (40nm) resulting in an atmospheric differential spectrum, into which narrow features corresponding to absorption by ozone, nitrogen dioxide, O₄ (oxygen dimer), water vapor, O₂ and OCIO, are remaining.

++++++- Calculation of slant columns by least squares fitting between the signal and the differential cross sections of each absorber in an iterative process in which the contributions of the various species are calculated and removed sequentially. Ozone is measured in the Chappuis visible bands (450-550nm) where the cross sections are weakly dependent of the temperature; nitrogen dioxide in 410-530nm range; O₄ in 440-544nm; H₂O in 500-555nm and O₂ around 620nm.

3. Level 2: Conversion of slant columns into total columns using an Air Mass Factor (AMF).

- For ozone, daily AMF are calculated by UVSPEC/DISORT radiative transfer model (Mayer et Kylling, 2005). The model uses a multi-entry data-base from TOMS version 8 (TV8) ozone and temperature profiles climatology (Mc Peters et al. 2007). The TV8 is a monthly-zonal climatology sorted according to the ozone column. The parameters considered are fitting window central wavelength (510nm), station ground albedo and location (latitude, longitude, altitude), day of year, ozone slant column and SZA. The software is available on the Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomie (BIRA-IASB) web site (<http://uv-vis.aeronomie.be/groundbased/>)

- For NO₂, daily AMF are calculated by UVSPEC/DISORT radiative transfer model. The model uses a multi-entry data-base from NO₂ sunrise and sunset profiles climatology based on Satellite/SAOZ-balloon data and temperature profiles. The parameters considered are fitting window central wavelength (470nm), station ground albedo and location (latitude, longitude, altitude), day of year, time and SZA. The time of measurement is an important information since NO₂ displays a large diurnal variation. The software is available on the BIRA-IASB webpage.

Vertical columns are calculated by adding the residual amount of constituent still present in the reference spectrum and divided but the corresponding AMF.

Mean twilight vertical columns are obtained by averaging pondered individual measurements between 86 and 91° SZA.

NO₂ and O₃ vertical columns are computed using the last NDACC UV-Vis recommendations (spectral windows, cross-sections, climatological AMF, ...) available on the BIRA-IASB web site.

Expected Precision/Accuracy of Instrument:

The error budget of the measurements is obtained by considering error sources affecting the determination of the slant column densities (SCD), the residual amount in the reference spectrum (R), and the air mass factor (AMF). Fitting errors derived from the least-squares analysis typically give small uncertainties of the order of 3E14 molec/cm² for NO₂ SCDs and 5 DU for O₃SCDs. However results from intercomparisons exercises (e.g. Van Roozendaal et al., 1998; Vandaele et al., 2005; Roscoe et al., 2010) show that state-of-the-art instruments hardly agree to better than a few percent, even using standardized analysis procedures, which indicates that the actual accuracy on SCDs is limited by uncontrolled instrumental and/or analysis factors. More conservatively, and including uncertainties of absorption cross-sections and their temperature dependencies, an uncertainty can be quoted of the order 5% for NO₂ SCDs, and 2% for O₃ SCDs. The accuracy on R is mostly limited by the method used to derive the vertical column at the time of the reference spectrum acquisition (Langley-plot approach). The contribution from this error source to the total error budget is generally small (typically 1-2%), although it may become significantly larger for NO₂ when very low abundances are to be monitored. In most conditions, the major contribution to the error budget of both NO₂ and O₃ total columns is the AMF calculation which requires appropriate modelling of the diffuse radiance in the nadir direction. Published studies indicate that the sensitivity of the AMF to stratospheric profiles of pressure, temperature and the constituent itself accounts for an uncertainty of 10 % maximum for NO₂, and 4 % for O₃. In the case of NO₂, much larger errors can be obtained when tropospheric NO₂ is produced or transported above the station. Such pollution events are usually easily detected by inspection of the SZA dependency of the NO₂ SCDs and are filtered out in the analysis process. In summary total accuracy on vertical columns could be estimated in most cases better than 15% for NO₂, and better than 5% for O₃.

Instrument History:

Starting date: 2008/03/11

Spectrometer: Jobin Yvon CP200, grating: 360 gr/mm, 270-630nm,
measured FWHM: 0.9nm

Detector: NMOS, 1024 pixel

Entrance slit: 50 microns

Instrument n°: 26

Analysis software: L1/L2: SAM V5.9/Igor