

Aerosol detection with IR limb measurements in the troposphere and stratosphere

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Envisat MIPAS



- Envisat MIPAS: 2002–2012
- infrared limb sounder
 4-16 µm (2410-685 cm⁻¹)
- 14 orbits per day
- global coverage day and night
- high spectral resolution: 0.0625 cm⁻¹
- limb geometry: 5 70 km
- 1.5 km vertical sampling in the UTLS



















Cloud Index versus Aerosol-Cloud Index



Aerosol-Cloud index values lower 7 indicate aerosol and clouds.











Aerosol Detections



grey: ice, optically thick blue: clear air dark red/purple: sulfate aerosol orange/red: NAT/STS PSCs



Method Verification - Location



alt in km MIPAS sulfate aerosol detections for Grimsvötn eruption in May 2011 in Iceland.



Method Verification - Location

Grímsvötn SO₂



^I Griessbach et al.: Infrared limb emission measurements of aerosol in the troposphere and stratosphere, Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss., 8, 4379-4412, doi:10.5194/amtd-8-4379-2015, 2015



Method Verification - Altitude



Lidar data by courtesy of J.-P. Vernier

- 1146 1234 matches with CALIPSO between 0-50 N and 06–08/2011
- top altitude +1 km -2.5 km, median -0.6 - -0.9 km
- 85 % underestimate top altitude
- bottom altitude -0.5--1.0±1.0 km

P. Achtert, C. Rolf, P. Seifert

- 34(L) + 7(J) + 2(E) matches between 08/2011–02/2012
- top and bottom altitude differences depend on aerosol extinction

















Ten years MIPAS aerosol observations



Reconstruction of volcanic plumes: Nabro





Puyehue-Cordón Caulle



Volcanic ash and aircraft corridors (IEEE VIS contest) http://www.viscontest.rwth-aachen.de



Summary

Detection Method:

- 1: improved aerosol detection method
- 2: discrimination between ice and aerosol
- good agreement with AIRS, CALIPSO and lidar
- method applicable to other IR-limb instruments e.g. GLORIA

Ten years MIPAS measurements:

- vertically resolved daily global coverage at day and night
- mainly volcanic aerosol, but also mineral dust and wild fires

Outlook:

 aerosol extinction and size retrieval in upper troposphere and stratosphere



