



Vertical Profiles of minor Atmospheric Constituents Measured from a Balloon Borne FIR Interferometer over the Mediterranean Region

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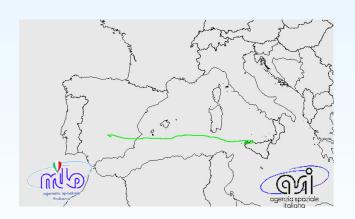






- A Balloon-Borne FIR interferometer
- Limb Scanning from a float altitude of ~40 Km
- Observing at the frequencies 23 and 120 cm⁻¹





- Launched from Milo (Sicily) July 29 2002 by the Italian Space Agency
- Flight ended after 20 hours in Spain
- Due to weather condictions, no substantial MIPAS overpass were espected
- Data from the the 23 cm⁻¹ are presented here
- Data from the 120 cm⁻¹ will be analyzed soon





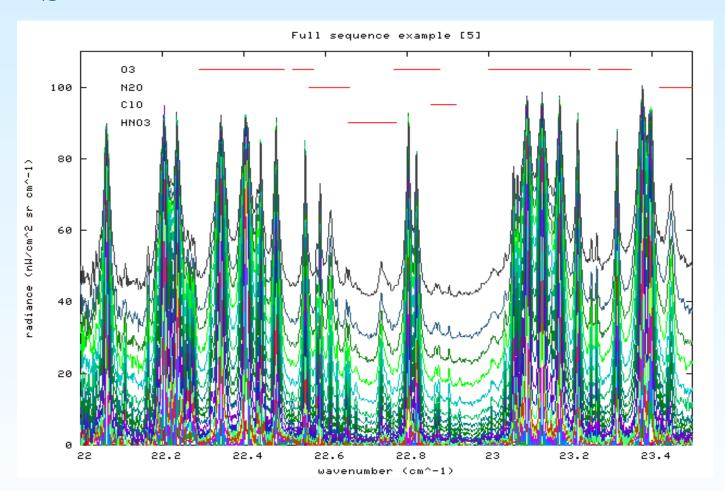


- 8 Hours of quality data.
- 8 Limb Scan Sequences ranging from +1° to -4.8° || 19 spectra per sequence.
- Data from the on board Data Storage were analyzed to get L1 products.
- Vertical profile retrival has been done using the same package used by SAFIRE-A (Dev. in Bologna and based on the know-how of the near real time MIPAS inversion package written in Florence)
- Small Field of View (12 arc-min) let us use a grid of 1.5 Km. All data points are independent.
- Retrieval uses a "mild" Tikhonov regularization.









A Full limb scanning sequence.

Altitude 39.8 Km

UTC 2:39

Lat. 37.6 N

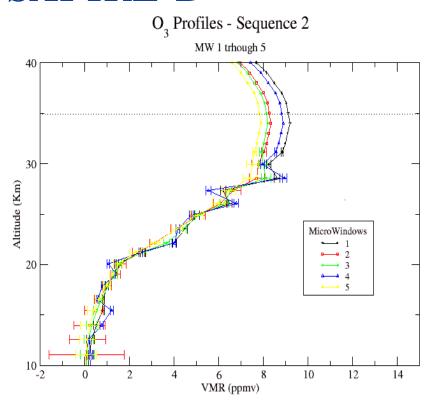
Lon. 9.1 E

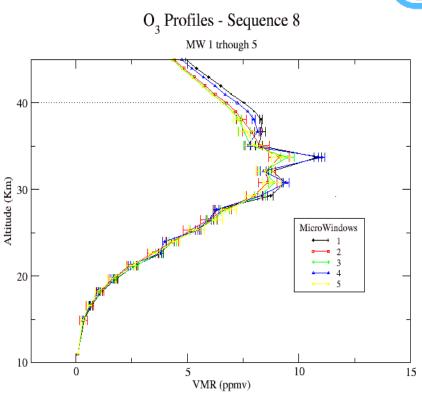
Microwindows of retrieved elements are shown in red









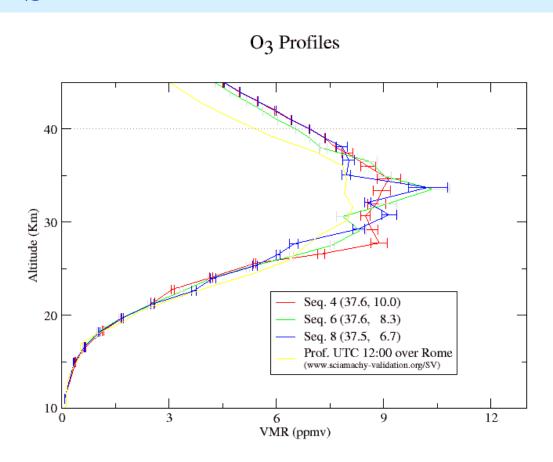


O3 Retrieval consistency check: same sequence on different microwindows









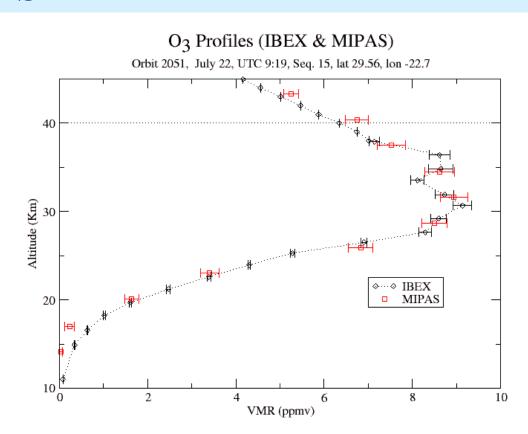
O₃ Profiles

- 3 sequences are plotted
- An in situ measurement taken in Rome on the same day is reported (yellow).
- Structures in O3 distribution are resolved









O₃ Profiles & MIPAS

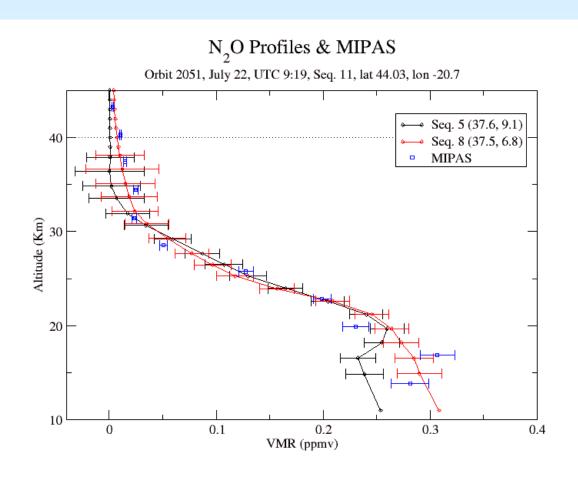
Safire-B Ozone profile is compared to MIPAS after altitude offset of 1.1 Km has been applyed

Better comparison will be done when MIPAS data for July 29 will be available









N₂O Profiles & MIPAS

Two profiles are presented.

Retrieval is done on only one micro-window

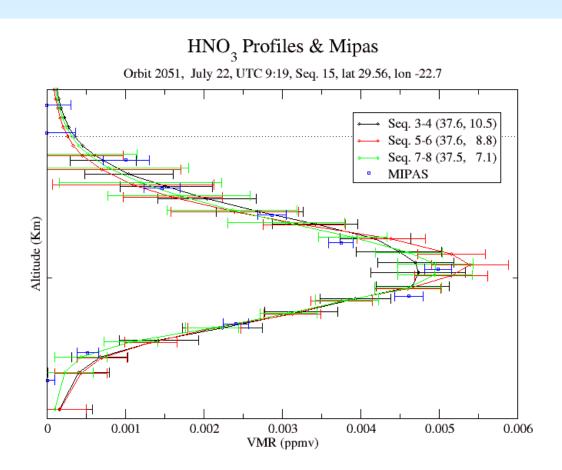
Second MW is not used at the moment due to an O_3 lines. Will be used in the second stage analysis

Planned consistency checks: second MW & comparison with other exp. (SAFIRE-A)









HNO₃ Profiles & MIPAS

Three profiles are presented.

Each profile is the average of two.

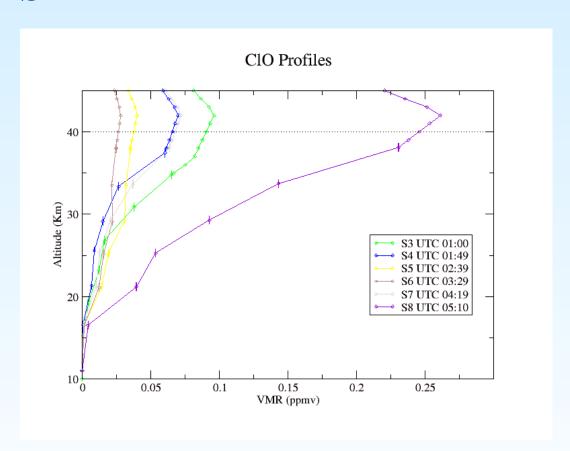
HNO₃ rotational emission lines are good calibrators (compared to vibrational lines)

Consistency check as for N₂O









ClO Profiles

show a time dependence during the flight.

The relative abundance decreases during night to increase after sunrise.

The effect seen is in agreement with what is to be expected from photo-chemical models







We presented a preliminary analysis

Second stage analysis will be carried out soon. It will include consistency checks with data from other experiments.

The high frequency channel data will be analysed (H2O and HCl)

We acknowledge here the financial support of the Italian Space Agency and the technical support of people at the launch base

A great help came from colleagues, scientific and technicians, without who the flight could never have been done.