

Total ozone measurements from the NDACC Izaña Subtropical Station: Visible spectroscopy versus Brewer and satellite instruments



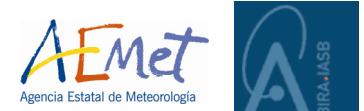
Manuel Gil-Ojeda¹, M. Navarro-Comas¹, A. Redondas², O. Puentedura¹, F. Hendrick³, M. Van Roozendael³, J. Iglesias¹ and E. Cuevas²

(1) National Institute for Aerospace Technology, (INTA), Madrid, Spain.

(2) Izaña Atmospheric Research Center, Meteorological State Agency of Spain (AEMET), Izaña, Spain

(3) Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy, 3 Ave. Circulaire, B-1180 Brussels, Belgium

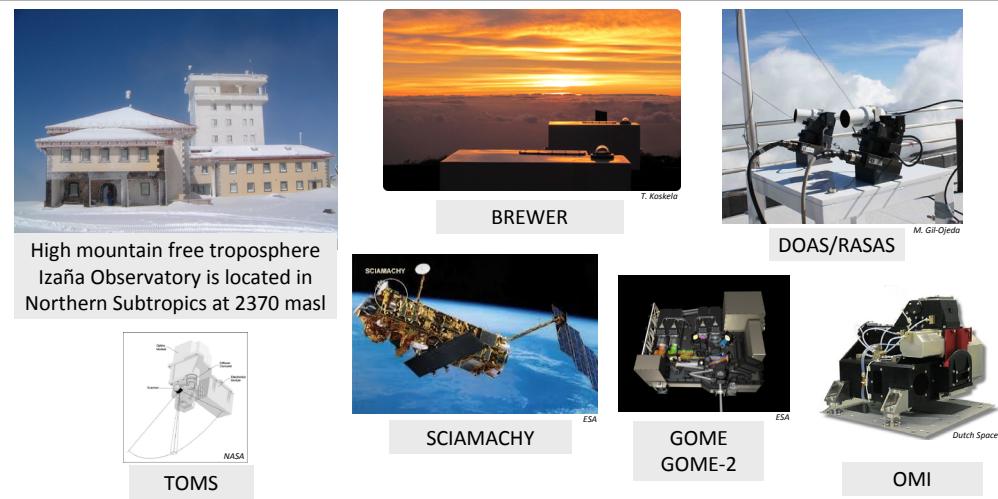
Contact: gilm@inta.es



Abstract

Ozone total columns measured at twilight using a zenith-sky UV-Visible spectrometer installed at the NDACC Izaña Subtropical Observatory (28°N , 16°W) in October 1998 are compared with the RBCC-E reference instrument Brewer #157 at the same location. DOAS retrievals were performed in the visible range (450–535 nm) according to improved settings recommended by the NDACC and using homogenized daily AMFs based on the TOMS V8 (TV8) column-resolved ozone profile climatology. The station is located at 2370 masl well above the Marine Boundary Layer and outside of pollution environment. Comparisons have been performed for the 13-years dataset using daily means to minimize the impact of instruments differences in measurements time. Overall results show an excellent agreement. The UV-Visible to Brewer mean difference is of +1.0% with a standard deviation of 3% and a slight dependence on the amount of ozone. Discrepancies on individual days due to changes in the tropospheric O₃ content and different air masses sampling in fast O₃ changing conditions were identified. The temperature dependence of the UV cross-sections has been found to have a negligible impact at these low latitudes. Seasonal discrepancies are of only few tens of a percent. The station being affected by desert dust from Sahara, cloud filtered data have been split in two sets to examine the potential influence of aerosol scattering and absorption on measurements. Results show a similar behaviour of both techniques also under high aerosol loading conditions. Comparisons with satellite instruments show an average agreement better than 1% for TOMS-V8, OMI and SCIAMACHY and of 1.1% and 1.6% for GOME and GOME-2, respectively with a standard deviation of 3%. However, considering that 2.7 to 3.0 % of the total column resides below the altitude of the station, these values actually point to an underestimation of the satellite instruments in comparison to our ground-based data. Possible causes of these differences are discussed.

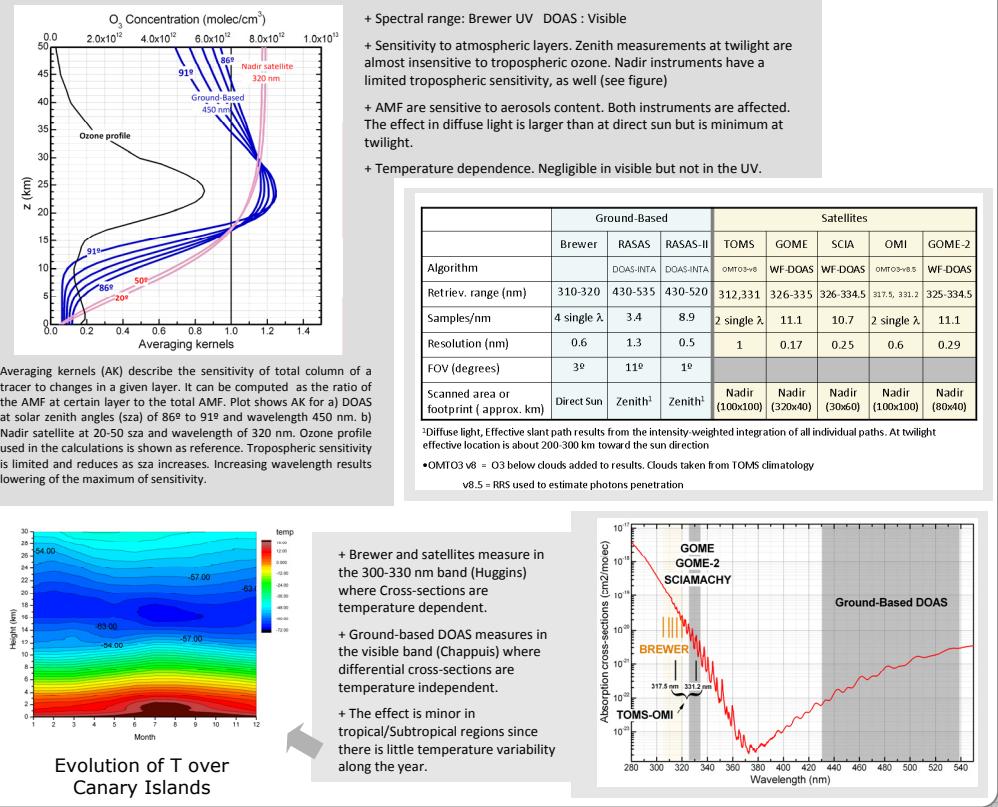
Station and Instruments



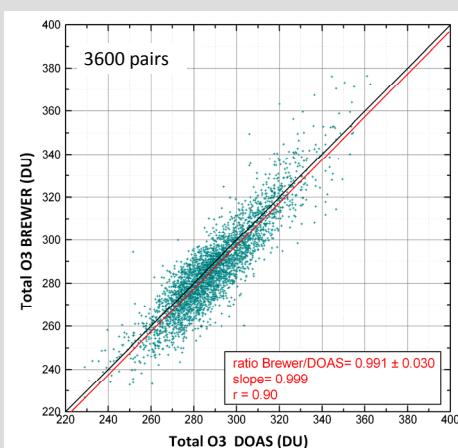
Introduction

- + In last years, recommendations have been made to improve O₃ measurements quality to converge up to 1% as required for trends studies (IGACO-2004, GMES Atmospheric Core Service 2009)
- + NDACC Izaña Observatory host high quality instrumentation in the UV (Brewer #157 operated by AEMET), Visible (DOAS/RASAS operated by INTA) and IR (FTIR operated by IMK) spectral ranges. In addition, regular Ozone sounding are performed once a week since 1992, providing a good climatology on ozone vertical distribution.
- + Previous studies have intercompared Brewer to FTIR (Schneider et al., 2008, Viatte et al., 2011) finding a -4.5% systematic difference due to cross-sections differences in both spectral ranges but very good precision (0.4%).
- + The aim of this work is to carry-out a similar analysis with the zenith DOAS instrument running since 1999.
- + DOAS standard analysis consist in a two-step process. First, slant columns are retrieved by a non-linear fitting. Secondly, Air Mass Factors are applied to refer to a vertical column density (VCD) or TOC.
- + In standard mode, DOAS operates during twilight. Two measurements per day (am, pm) obtained as the average of individual measurements between Solar Zenith Angles of 88° to 91° (typically, 5). For comparison purposes, a daily mean is obtained as the am and pm average.
- + Satellite O₃ instruments operating in nadir mode have been included in the analysis.

Technical differences between Brewer, DOAS and satellites



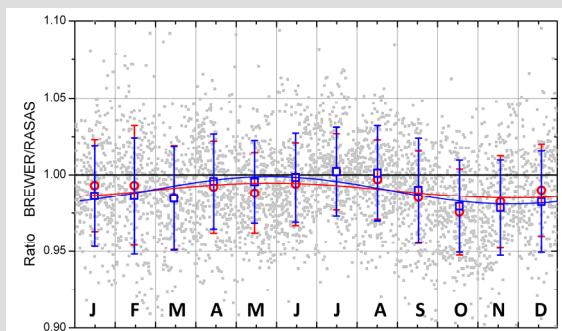
DOAS & Brewer



* Agreement to 0.9%

* Departure from diagonal at large values due to occasional pollution events not captured by DOAS (little tropospheric sensitivity)

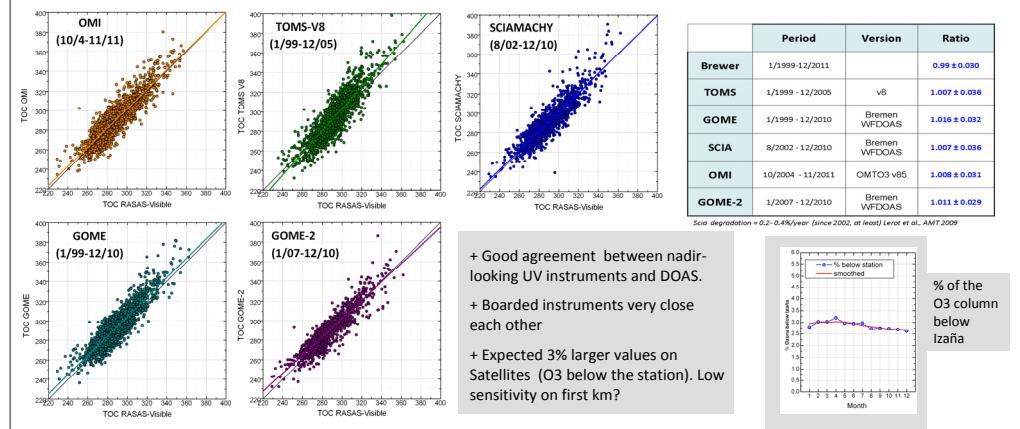
* Identified real differences due to a) differences in time b) differences in space (observation geometry makes that DOAS scanned air masses are 200-300 km apart from the station)



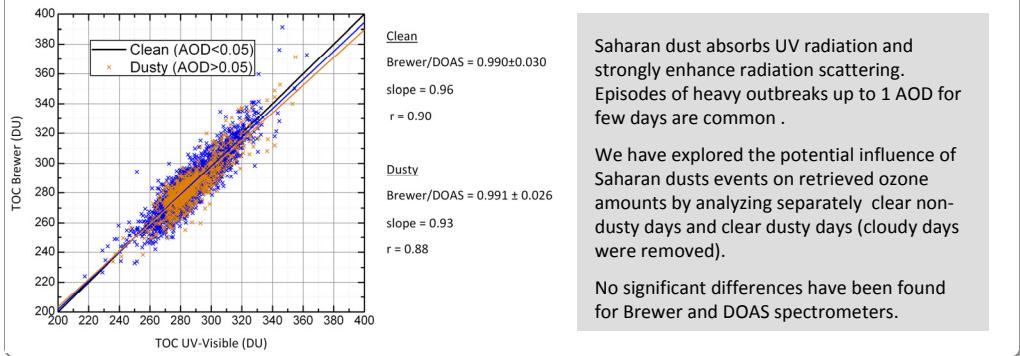
Conclusions

- + O₃ data from DOAS instruments (RASAS and RASAS-2) operating at Izaña Observatory since late 1998 have been compared to the RBCC-E Brewer #157 and nadir satellite overpassing data.
- + Agreement between all instruments intercompared are within 1% with a standard deviation of 3%.
- + Satellite data are 1% lower than ground-based if we consider that 3% of the ozone column resides below the station.
- + No difference in the agreement between UV-direct Sun (Brewer) and Zenith visible (DOAS) has been found under Saharan dust conditions with respect to normal no-dust conditions (AOD < 0.05)
- + The excellent O₃ agreement between instruments (keeping in mind differences in spectral range, cross-sections, geometry, FOV, evaluation procedures, etc) shows that the aim of reaching measurements at the 1% level can be reached at Subtropical latitudes where tropospheric O₃ variability is small.
- Future work:**
This work will be completed by including the FTIR instrument on the DOAS intercomparison.

DOAS & Nadir-looking Satellite Instruments



Effect of Saharan dust on ozone retrievals: Differences Brewer & DOAS



Saharan dust absorbs UV radiation and strongly enhance radiation scattering. Episodes of heavy outbreaks up to 1 AOD for few days are common .

We have explored the potential influence of Saharan dust events on retrieved ozone amounts by analyzing separately clear non-dusty days and clear dusty days (cloudy days were removed).

No significant differences have been found for Brewer and DOAS spectrometers.

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Acknowledgements:

- We acknowledge IUPB for providing GOME, GOME- and SCIAMACHY overpassing data. Url: <http://www.iup.uni-bremen.de/gome/wfdoas/merged/>.
 OMII and TOMS data are from overpassing as well. Url: <http://avdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/index.php?site=830165109>.
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