

Figure 1: Time series of methanol (green curve), formic acid (blue curve) and carbon monoxide (black curve) monthly mean total columns for three different areas associated with biomass burning (Brazil, Congo and SE Asia). Carbon monoxide total columns were divided by 100 for comparison. The left scale and gray curves correspond to the sum of the AATSR fire counts for each month.

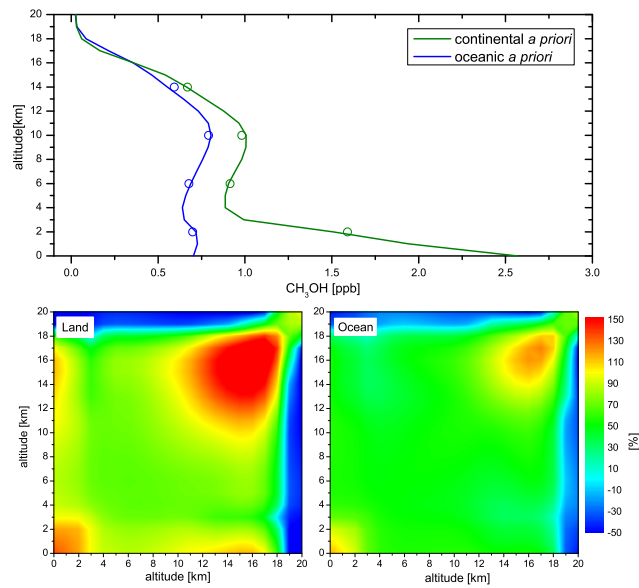


Figure 2: *Top panel* Illustration of the two CH_3OH a priori profiles (continental and oceanic) derived from the IMAGESv2 CTM model for the year 2007. Open circles represent the a priori on the 4 layers retrieval grid. *Bottom panel* Plot (expressed in %) of the associated covariance matrices (left: land, right: ocean) that illustrates the variability through the diagonal elements and the correlation between the different levels with off-diagonal values.