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tropospheric ozone
by synergism of IASI
and GOME-2

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Satellite observation of lowermost tropospheric ozone by multispectral synergism of IASI thermal infrared and GOME-2 ultraviolet measurements

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Abstract

We present a new multispectral approach for observing lowermost tropospheric ozone from space by synergism of atmospheric radiances in the thermal infrared (TIR) observed by IASI and earth reflectances in the ultraviolet (UV) measured by GOME-2. Both instruments are onboard the series of MetOp satellites (in orbit since 2006 and expected until 2022) and their scanning capabilities offer global coverage every day, with a relatively fine ground pixel resolution (12-km-diameter pixels spaced by 25 km for IASI at nadir). Our technique uses altitude-dependent Tikhonov-Phillips-type constraints, which optimize sensitivity to lower tropospheric ozone. It integrates the VLIDORT and KOPRA radiative transfer codes for simulating UV reflectance and TIR radiance, respectively. We have used our method to analyse real observations over Europe during an ozone pollution episode in the summer of 2009. The results show that the multispectral synergism of IASI (TIR) and GOME-2 (UV) enables the observation of the spatial distribution of ozone plumes in the lowermost troposphere (LMT, from the surface up to 3 km a.s.l., above sea level), in good quantitative agreement with the CHIMERE regional chemistry-transport model. When high ozone concentrations extend vertically above 3 km a.s.l., they are similarly observed over land by both the multispectral and IASI retrievals. On the other hand, ozone plumes located below 3 km a.s.l. are only clearly depicted by the multispectral retrieval (both over land and over ocean). This is achieved by a clear enhancement of sensitivity to ozone in the lowest atmospheric layers. The multispectral sensitivity in the LMT peaks at 2 to 2.5 km a.s.l. over land, while sensitivity for IASI or GOME-2 only peaks at 3 to 4 km a.s.l. at lowest (above the LMT). The degrees of freedom for the multispectral retrieval increase by 40 % (21 %) with respect to IASI only retrievals for atmospheric partial columns up to 3 km a.s.l. (6 km a.s.l.). Validations with ozonesondes show that our synergetic approach for combining IASI (TIR) and GOME-2 (UV) measurements retrieves lowermost tropospheric ozone with a mean bias of 2 % and a precision of 16 %, when smoothing by the retrieval vertical sensitivity (1 % mean bias and 24 % precision for direct comparisons).

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1 Introduction

Tropospheric ozone is currently one of the air pollutants posing greatest threats to human health and ecosystems (e.g. EEA, 2011). Exposure to ground-level ozone may irritate the respiratory system, aggravate asthmas and other lung diseases and even lead to premature mortality (e.g. WHO, 2003). Air pollution's most important damages on ecosystems are produced by ozone through eutrophication and acidification, leading to yield losses and damages to agricultural crops and forests (e.g. EEA, 2011). Ozone is a strong oxidising agent that plays a central role in atmospheric photochemical processes (e.g. Seinfeld and Pandis, 1997). Tropospheric ozone is not directly emitted into the atmosphere but either formed by a chain of photochemical reactions following emissions of precursor gases near the surface (nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide and volatile organic compounds) or transported from the stratosphere. Although emissions of most anthropogenic ozone precursors decreased substantially in the last decade in regions as Europe, this has not been reflected in observed annual average ozone concentrations (EEA, 2011).

Monitoring tropospheric ozone at the regional and global scale is a crucial societal issue. Only spaceborne remote sensing is adapted for observing tropospheric ozone at such scales. New satellite-based instruments (e.g. the Infrared Atmospheric Sounding Interferometer, IASI, onboard MetOp satellites, Clerbaux et al., 2009) offer spatial-temporal coverage particularly appropriate for monitoring air quality and for synergism with regional chemistry-transport models. For improving air quality forecasting, comprehensive pollution monitoring systems integrate satellite observations and models for inter-validation (e.g. Zyryanov et al., 2012) or for full data assimilation (e.g. Coman et al., 2012). Still, current spaceborne observations show limited sensitivity for ozone in the lowermost troposphere (LMT, here defined from the surface up to 3 km of altitude), which is the major concern for air quality. State-of-the-art methods for observing ozone mainly use spaceborne observations from only one spectral domain, either ultraviolet (UV) or thermal infrared (TIR). They are based on high spectral resolution

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80×40 km² for GOME-2, at nadir). This paper presents the capabilities of our new multi-spectral approach, so-called “IASI+GOME-2”, to probe lowermost tropospheric ozone (to the authors’ knowledge, the first validated method using real IASI and GOME-2 observations) and its first application for ozone pollution studies. The methodology implemented in the multispectral scheme of IASI+GOME-2 is described in Sect. 2. The performance of IASI+GOME-2 is described in Sect. 3 in terms of (i) spectral fitting, (ii) sensitivity enhancement of the IASI+GOME-2 with respect to single-spectral-band methods and (iii) a validation against ozonesondes. Section 4 presents an analysis of IASI+GOME-2 real observations for describing an ozone pollution outbreak over Europe in the summer of 2009. A comparison with CHIMERE regional chemistry-transport model outputs (Sect. 4.2) confirms the capability of IASI+GOME-2 to describe the spatial distribution of lowermost tropospheric ozone plumes at the regional scale.

2 Multispectral scheme of IASI+GOME-2

The IASI+GOME-2 multispectral scheme is constructed by adapting and merging together two state-of-the-art and thoroughly validated methods to retrieve ozone profiles using either only IASI observations in the spectral TIR region (described by Eremenko et al., 2008, hereafter referred as “IASI” method) or only GOME-2 measurements in the UV (based on Cai et al., 2012 for forward calculations, but here with a 1/8 finer pixel resolution and a Tikhonov-Phillips-type regularization, called in the following “GOME-2” retrieval). In the next sub-sections, we describe how these two methods are joined together into the IASI+GOME-2 algorithm (Sect. 2.1) and the specific developments necessary for building this multispectral inversion approach (i.e. regularization constraints and adequate fitting variables, Sects. 2.2 and 2.3).

2.1 Spectral measurements and forward simulations

For the IASI+GOME-2 approach, a so-called measurement vector \mathbf{y}_{UV+TIR} is built up by merging together IASI TIR atmospheric radiances \mathbf{y}_{TIR} with GOME-2 UV earth reflectances \mathbf{y}_{UV} , i.e. $\mathbf{y}_{UV+TIR} = [\mathbf{y}_{UV}^T \quad \mathbf{y}_{TIR}^T]^T$ (with T for transpose). For \mathbf{y}_{TIR} , we use calibrated level 1C data (from e.g. <http://www.pole-ether.fr/>) and for \mathbf{y}_{UV} the ratio between backscattered radiance and solar irradiance calibrated level 1B spectra (from e.g. <http://www.class.ncdc.noaa.gov/>). The spectral resolutions of \mathbf{y}_{TIR} and \mathbf{y}_{UV} are, respectively 0.5 cm^{-1} and $\sim 0.24 \text{ nm}$ after convolution by the instrument response function and the sampling intervals are 0.25 cm^{-1} and $\sim 0.12 \text{ nm}$. The criterion for combining IASI and GOME-2 spectra is based on the assumption that most sensitivity to ozone variability in the lowest atmospheric layers is likely provided by IASI measurements (as shown for single-band retrievals in Sects. 3.2 and 4). Thus, each IASI spectrum (12-km-diameter pixels) is matched with the co-located GOME-2 spectrum (for $80 \times 40 \text{ km}^2$ pixels) without any averaging. Typically, the same \mathbf{y}_{UV} is used 6 times with different \mathbf{y}_{TIR} . Tropospheric ozone retrievals of IASI+GOME-2 are then calculated at the IASI ground resolution. For each IASI pixel, multispectral retrievals are processed independently (in a sequential mode).

For simulating \mathbf{y}_{UV+TIR} , we use two radiative transfer models: the line-by-line Karlsruhe Optimized and Precise Radiative transfer Algorithm (KOPRA, Stiller et al., 2000; 2002) for \mathbf{y}_{TIR} and the Vector Linearized Discrete Ordinate Radiative Transfer (VLI-DORT, Spurr, 2006) code run in the full-polarization mode for \mathbf{y}_{UV} . Following the IASI only approach, \mathbf{y}_{TIR} include 7 spectral micro-windows between 980 and 1070 cm^{-1} . For \mathbf{y}_{UV} , we consider 2 micro-windows between 290 and 345 nm accounting for the Hartley and Huggins bands (from, respectively channels 1 and 2 of GOME-2, following Cai et al., 2012). The Jacobian matrix \mathbf{K}_{UV+TIR} is set up by putting together the Jacobians calculated by each code, i.e. $\mathbf{K}_{UV+TIR} = [\mathbf{K}_{UV}^T \quad \mathbf{K}_{TIR}^T]^T$. Analytical calculations are performed for geophysical variables (atmospheric profiles and surface properties) and finite differences for instrumental parameters (shifts and corrections, see Sect. 2.2).

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algorithm (Koelemeijer et al., 2001) using GOME-2 spectra of the O₂ A band at 762 nm. As a first guess for surface albedo in the UV, we extract the OMI climatology obtained by Kleipool et al., (2008) at 347 nm. We use a single scattering rotational Raman scattering model (Sioris and Evans, 2000) for simulating the ring spectrum (filling in of solar Fraunhofer lines and telluric absorption structures by inelastic rotational Raman scattering). Using daily solar irradiance spectra observed by GOME-2, the instrument response is estimated as an asymmetric Gaussian slit function with width, shifts and asymmetric parameters adjusted for each wavelength (Cai et al., 2012) by comparison with a reference solar spectrum (Chance and Kurucz, 2010). Moreover, a “soft” recalibration is applied to each UV spectrum, which is derived on the basis of daily comparisons between measured and simulated reflectance as a function of wavelength and cross-track position (Cai et al., 2012). Aerosols are not modelled directly within VLI-DORT, but their effects are partially taken into account by adjusting effective surface albedos and cloud fractions for each spectrum (Liu et al., 2010).

2.2 Retrieved variables

For each pixel, the IASI+GOME-2 retrieval scheme jointly retrieves the following state vector \mathbf{x}_{UV+TIR} ,

$$\mathbf{x}_{UV+TIR} = \left[\mathbf{x}_{O_3}^T \mathbf{x}_{H_2O}^T \mathbf{x}_{offsetTIR}^T \mathbf{x}_{shiftUV}^T \mathbf{x}_{ringUV}^T \mathbf{x}_{albedoUV}^T \mathbf{x}_{cloud}^T \right]^T \quad (1)$$

Thus we obtain the ozone profile \mathbf{x}_{O_3} (volume mixing ratios) by inverting \mathbf{y}_{UV+TIR} and jointly adjusting the water vapour profiles \mathbf{x}_{H_2O} , offsets $\mathbf{x}_{offsetTIR}$ for each TIR micro-window, wavelength shifts $\mathbf{x}_{shiftUV}$ for the UV radiance and irradiance spectra (1 per UV channel), multiplicative factors of the ring spectrum \mathbf{x}_{ringUV} (1 per UV channel), surface albedo multiplicative factors $\mathbf{x}_{albedoUV}$ (a constant for channel 1 of GOME-2 and 3 parameters of a 2nd degree polynomial function of wavelength for channel 2), and a factor for cloud fraction \mathbf{x}_{cloud} used in the UV forward calculations. The multiplicative factors \mathbf{x}_{ringUV} account for the multiple scattering contributions to the UV ring spectrum

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(e.g. Liu et al., 2010; Cai et al., 2012). Offsets for each TIR micro-window are meant to compensate potential effects of partial cloud cover and aerosols in the IASI spectra (Eremenko et al., 2008; Dufour et al., 2010).

First guess and a priori values for x_{O_3} are taken from the climatology of McPeters et al., (2007). We extract one climatological x_{O_3} for mid-latitudes (averaged over 30–60° N) and one for the tropics (20–30° N). They are used alternatively for pixels with tropopause heights below 14 km a.s.l. (proxy for mid-latitudes airmasses) or above (for tropical airmasses, as done by Sellitto et al., 2012a). Tropopause heights are derived from atmospheric temperature profiles retrieved from IASI spectra. For each pixel, we interpolate ECMWF analysis for obtaining first guess profiles for $x_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$. Initial values for $x_{\text{OffsetTIR}}$ and x_{shiftUV} are set to 0 and all multiplicative factors to 1.

2.3 Inversion and constraints

To invert $y_{\text{UV+TIR}}$, we implement a constrained least squares fit method using a Tikhonov-Phillips-type (Tikhonov, 1963; Kulawik et al., 2006) altitude-dependent regularization that optimizes sensitivity to lower troposphere ozone (as done for the TIR by Eremenko et al., 2008). It is numerically implemented using KOPRAFIT (the inversion module of KOPRA), adapted for the multispectral approach. The regularization matrix $R_{\text{UV+TIR}}^{\text{O}_3}$ constrains the zero, first and second order finite differences of the retrieved ozone profile, in adequacy with the information provided by $y_{\text{UV+TIR}}$. The strengths of the altitude-dependent constraints are a polynomial function of altitude (of 4th order), whose coefficients are derived by minimizing the following figure of merit

$$F = k_1 \frac{S_{\text{LMT}}^{\text{tot}}}{(\text{DOF}_{\text{LMT}})^N} + k_2 \frac{S_{\text{LT}}^{\text{tot}}}{(\text{DOF}_{\text{LT}})^N} + k_3 \frac{S_{\text{TOTAL}}^{\text{tot}}}{(\text{DOF}_{\text{TOTAL}})^N}. \quad (2)$$

When minimizing F , we maximize the degrees of freedom while minimizing the a posteriori total error (as done by Kulawik et al., 2006; Eremenko et al., 2008), simultaneously for several atmospheric columns. We consider the lowermost troposphere (LMT, below

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3 km a.s.l.), the lower troposphere (below 6 km a.s.l., indicated LT in the following) and the total column (up to 60 km a.s.l., called here TOTAL). Degrees of freedom DOF_{col} and estimates of a posteriori total errors $s_{\text{col}}^{\text{tot}}$ are calculated for each atmospheric column (indicated generally by the subscript $_{\text{col}}$). We choose the values of the coefficients $k_{1,2,3}$ and N for approximately matching $s_{\text{col}}^{\text{tot}}$ of IASI+GOME-2 with that for IASI only (detailed as LISA product in Dufour et al., 2012).

Following Rodgers' (2000) formalism, we estimate the a posteriori total error matrix \mathbf{S}^{tot} as the sum of the errors due to smoothing $\mathbf{S}^{\text{smooth}}$, measurement noise \mathbf{S}^{mes} , cross-state uncertainties in water vapour $\mathbf{S}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{\text{cross}}$ and other fitting variables $\mathbf{S}_{\text{param}}^{\text{cross}}$ (both calculated following Worden et al., 2007a) and systematic errors in carbon dioxide $\mathbf{S}_{\text{CO}_2}^{\text{sys}}$ and atmospheric temperature $\mathbf{S}_{\text{T}}^{\text{sys}}$ profiles used in the retrieval (other systematic errors are assumed negligible). As for TIR or UV only, $\mathbf{S}^{\text{smooth}}$ and \mathbf{S}^{mes} are the principal contributions to \mathbf{S}^{tot} . For a partial atmospheric column col, we obtain $s_{\text{col}}^{\text{tot}}$ as the root sum of the diagonal elements of \mathbf{S}^{tot} (as done by e.g. Steck, 2002; Liu et al., 2010). We use DOF_{col} to describe the sensitivity of the ozone retrieval (see Sect. 3.2), as it is the number of independent pieces of information available at each atmospheric column col from the measurements. Following Rodgers (2000), it is calculated as the trace of the so-called averaging kernel matrix \mathbf{A} (also called AVK) over the range of col. The AVK matrix represents the sensitivity of the retrieval to the true atmospheric state and it is calculated by a classical expression (e.g. Steck and von Clarmann, 2000; Steck, 2002), here given for matrices of the multispectral approach,

$$\mathbf{A} = \left[\mathbf{K}_{\text{UV+TIR}}^{\text{T}} \quad (\mathbf{S}_{\text{UV+TIR}}^{\varepsilon})^{-1} \quad \mathbf{K}_{\text{UV+TIR}} + \mathbf{R}_{\text{UV+TIR}} \right]^{-1} \mathbf{K}_{\text{UV+TIR}}^{\text{T}} \quad (\mathbf{S}_{\text{UV+TIR}}^{\varepsilon})^{-1} \quad \mathbf{K}_{\text{UV+TIR}} \quad (3)$$

We also characterize the height of maximum sensitivity to ozone $H_{\text{col}}^{\text{max}}$ for the partial column col as the height of the maximum of the corresponding AVK (the sum of rows of \mathbf{A} for col). The constraints for the elements of $\mathbf{x}_{\text{UV+TIR}}$ (except for \mathbf{x}_{O_3} and $\mathbf{x}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$) are

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pixels with low cloud fraction ($< 30\%$), typical root-mean-square (RMS) spectral residuals between observed and fitted spectra are $\sim 6.5\%$ and $\sim 0.20\%$ for, respectively the shorter and longer UV wavelengths and $\sim 0.35\%$ for TIR wavenumbers. Residuals are mostly random (see examples in Fig. 1b) and systematic features (only slightly apparent for longer UV wavelengths) remain within the order of magnitude of the radiometric noise. These levels of fitting residuals are reached for all pixels shown in Sect. 3.3 (i.e. a validation against ozonesondes) and Section 4 (i.e. regional analyses of IASI+GOME-2 retrievals). Moreover, the horizontal distribution of fitting residuals is mostly homogeneous for clear-sky pixels, without any particularities for y_{UV+TIR} constructed with different y_{TIR} and the same y_{UV} (neither seen for IASI+GOME-2 retrievals, see Sect. 4).

3.2 Sensitivity enhancement to lowermost tropospheric ozone

The combination of the UV and TIR measurements in the IASI+GOME-2 approach allows a significant enhancement of sensitivity to ozone over the whole atmospheric column (see Table 1). The total column DOF_{TOTAL} for IASI+GOME-2 is typically ~ 5.2 (in average over land), thus $\sim 50\%$ higher than for IASI or GOME-2 only retrievals. For the lowest atmospheric layers, a remarkable sensitivity gain is as well observed for IASI+GOME-2 with respect to single-band retrievals. Both over land and over ocean, the mean DOF_{LMT} for IASI+GOME-2 is higher by at least 40% than for IASI only (a factor 3 higher than for GOME-2 only, see Table 1). This is illustrated in Figure 2, which shows a comparison between typical AVKs up to 12 km a.s.l. for IASI+GOME-2 (red), IASI (green) and GOME-2 (blue) over land (top) and ocean (bottom). For the multi-spectral retrieval, a clear increase and shift of sensitivity (higher AVK values) towards the lowest layers of the troposphere is clearly depicted (particularly for the LMT over land, see Fig. 2a). In the example over land, IASI+GOME-2 AVKs for the lowest layers peak around 2 km a.s.l. (Fig. 2a), thus 1 km below those for IASI (Fig. 2b) and 2 km below the ones for GOME-2 (Fig. 2c). Both over land and over ocean, we may notice 2 semi-independent partial columns (two relative peaks, one up to 6 km a.s.l. and

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for DOF_{LT} and $H_{\text{LT}}^{\text{max}}$, see also Table 1). For GOME-2 only (Fig. 4e), sensitivity changes less between land and ocean, but with regional enhancements of DOF_{LT} likely depending on the ozone vertical distribution (e.g. around 45–50° N 20° E and 38–45° N 8° W in Figs. 4e and 7e). Higher spatial variability is observed for $H_{\text{LT}}^{\text{max}}$ (Fig. 4, right panels) than for DOF_{LT} (Fig. 4, left panels), depending on the atmospheric and surface conditions. For southern (western) European regions over land as Spain (France), relatively high (moderate) surface temperatures and thermal contrasts of 11.5 K (2.4 K) induce $H_{\text{LT}}^{\text{max}}$ of ~ 1.9 km a.g.l. (~ 2.8 km a.g.l.) for IASI+GOME-2 whereas ~ 2.4 km a.g.l. (~ 3.8 km a.g.l.) for IASI only.

For the LMT partial column (see Fig. 5), the sensitivity enhancement of IASI+GOME-2 with respect to IASI is more marked than for the LT over the whole continent. For IASI+GOME-2, $H_{\text{LMT}}^{\text{max}}$ is located in average at 2.2 km a.g.l., 400 m below $H_{\text{LT}}^{\text{max}}$ and in all cases over land within the LMT. In Spain (France), $H_{\text{LMT}}^{\text{max}}$ for IASI+GOME-2 reaches ~ 1.6 km a.g.l. (~ 2.6 km a.g.l.). For the single-band approaches, the heights of maximum sensitivity for the LMT and LT partial columns are practically the same and above the LMT upper boundary at 3 km a.s.l. (Fig. 4d, and 5d).

Note that all calculations of the AVK matrices account for all variables in the state vector (including all instrumental parameters, see Eq. 1). Indeed, if we had neglected the uncertainties of the parameters different from ozone (as sometimes done in sensitivity studies), we would have obtained a significant overestimation of the degrees of freedom (e.g. 37 % in the LMT) and underestimations of the sensitivity height (e.g. by 500 m for the LMT).

3.3 Validation against ozonesondes

In this sub-section, we analyse the quality of the IASI+GOME-2 ozone retrieval by comparison with reference ozonesonde measurements. We consider all ozonesondes provided by the World Ozone and Ultraviolet radiation Data Centre (WOUDC, <http://www.woudc.org>) for the summer 2009 from 10 different launching sites (spread from 40° N to 60° N): Ankara (Turkey), De Bilt (Holland), Hohenpeissenberg (Germany),

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Legionowo (Poland), Lerwik (Scotland), Lindenberg (Germany), Madrid (Spain), Pay-
 5 erne (Switzerland), Uccle (Holland) and Valentia (Ireland). The accuracy of the ozone
 concentration measurement is expected to reach $\pm 5\%$ (Deshler et al., 2008), as most
 ozonesondes use the electrochemical concentration cell technique (except for Hohen-
 10 peissenberg with Brewer Mast sondes). Ozonesonde profiles have a vertical resolution
 of about ~ 150 m and typically extend from the surface up to 30 km a.s.l. For the com-
 parison, we follow the methodology used for validating several IASI scientific ozone
 products (Keim et al., 2009; Dufour et al., 2012). Coincidence criteria are spatial co-
 localization within ± 110 km and a time frame of 7 h from the MetOp-A morning over-
 15 pass (at 09:30 LT). We only use IASI+GOME-2 pixels with low cloud fraction ($< 30\%$)
 that pass a series of quality checks (for discarding unphysical and aberrant retrievals).
 The comparison is made for each ozonesonde with the average of collocated satellite
 retrievals.

The IASI+GOME-2 validation results are summarized in Tables 2 and 3. The num-
 15 ber of days with coincident IASI and GOME-2 pixels with ozonesondes is 57 and the
 number of ozonesondes after screening cloudy scenes is 119. Tables 2 and 3 con-
 sider, respectively ozonesonde profiles vertically smoothed by convolution with each
 IASI+GOME-2 AVK matrix and “raw” ozonesonde measurements. Both comparisons
 show good agreement between IASI+GOME-2 retrievals and ozonesondes, with very
 20 similar results as for the IASI only retrieval for mid-latitudes (see LISA product in Du-
 four et al., 2012). Accounting for the retrieval sensitivity (Table 2), the mean bias of
 the multispectral retrievals in the LT is -4% , the RMS difference is below 18% and
 the correlation coefficient R is 0.7 (see scatter plot in Fig. 6a). Integrated ozone up to
 30 km a.s.l. (named UPTO30) agrees with ozonesondes with a mean bias of -1.8% ,
 25 RMS below 6% and 0.93 of correlation. Only a slightly higher mean bias (-7.5%) is
 observed for the TROPO (up to 12 km a.s.l.). For the LMT, the IASI+GOME-2 retrievals
 show a good performance with a relatively high linear correlation (0.87), a low bias
 (-2.1%) and similar RMS (17%) with respect to smoothed ozonesondes (see Table 2
 and Fig. 6b). Direct comparisons with raw ozonesondes (Table 3) show that the mean

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biases of IASI+GOME-2 retrievals also remain very low without smoothing by the retrieval sensitivity (below 1 % in the LMT and below 4 % in the LT, see Table 3 and Figs. 6c, d). As expected by the influence of the smoothing error, linear correlations (0.75 in the LMT and 0.58 in the LT) and RMS (24 % in the LMT and 20 % in the LT) are slightly degraded (with respect to Table 2). Table 3 shows that RMS differences with raw ozonesondes are generally greater than a posteriori error estimates $s_{\text{col}}^{\text{tot}}$, as they also include errors in the ozonesondes ($\sim 5\%$) and ozone variability within the spatial-temporal coincidence criteria (or due to eventual underestimations of $s_{\text{col}}^{\text{tot}}$). For the LMT and LT, RMS differences for direct comparisons (Table 3) are consistent with the sum of the smoothing error $s_{\text{col}}^{\text{smooth}}$ and the RMS differences with smoothed ozonesondes (see Tables 2 and 3, the root sum of variances is 2.4 DU and 4.4 DU for, respectively the LMT and the LT). Subtracting the variance from ozonesonde errors, we estimate a precision of the IASI+GOME-2 retrievals in the LMT of 23.7 % for direct comparisons and 15.7 % when smoothing by the retrieval sensitivity. Moreover, a posteriori total errors $s_{\text{col}}^{\text{tot}}$ remain as low as the ones for IASI only (see Dufour et al., 2012), as expected from the design of the multispectral retrieval constraints (Sect. 2.3).

Table 4 presents additional tests on the potential effects on the multispectral ozone retrieval due to inconsistencies in the UV/TIR spectroscopic parameters. According to laboratory studies, spectral discrepancies between UV cross-sections databases and TIR line intensities (e.g. HITRAN 2004) may reach 4 to 5 % (Picquet-Varrault et al., 2005; Gratien et al., 2010). The consequences of such incompatibilities are not straightforward, since several fitting parameters modify the absolute calibration of the spectra (i.e. TIR spectral offsets, fitting effective UV surface albedos and UV soft recalibration). Thus, we verify the overall effects by comparing ozonesonde measurements (119 sondes) with the multispectral ozone retrieval either using HITRAN 2000 (with TIR line intensities approximately +4 % higher than HITRAN 2004) or changing the UV cross-sections by –5 %. The results in Table 4 indicate that these changes in the spectroscopic databases induce negative (–2.5% for HITRAN 2000) and positive (1.5 % with –5 % UV cross-sections) corrections for the UPTO30 partial column (partially including

the stratospheric ozone layer). However, aberrant retrievals are obtained in the troposphere for both corrections. Table 4 shows strong negative biases in the LMT, LT and TROPO (between -10% and -19%), higher RMS and much lower linear correlations. Among the tested databases, only HITRAN 2004 and BRION1993 enable a good match between the IASI+GOME-2 approach and ozonesondes (shown in Tables 2 and 3).

4 Lowermost tropospheric ozone observed by IASI+GOME-2

In this section, we illustrate the capacities of the IASI+GOME-2 multispectral approach to characterize ozone pollution events at the regional scale. We analyse LT and LMT ozone observations for a typical ozone pollution outbreak over Europe during summer. It is a moderate ozone event, mainly occurring on 19 and 20 August 2009 (also analysed by Sellitto et al., 2012a). Surface ozone concentrations occasionally reached 90 ppb (the ozone information threshold, e.g. EEA, 2011). It occurs during typical summer anticyclonic conditions and relatively high surface temperatures over Western Europe (Foret et al., personal communication, 2013).

First, we describe the ozone pollution event as seen by different satellite observations (Sect. 4.1). Then, we compare IASI+GOME-2 observations with the state-of-the-art regional chemistry-transport model CHIMERE (Schmidt et al., 2001; Bond et al., 2007) in Sect. 4.2. This comparison verifies the inter-consistency of IASI+GOME-2 and CHIMERE for describing the spatial distribution of ozone plumes and it illustrates the potential of IASI+GOME-2 for evaluating air quality models or for data assimilation (e.g. Zyryanov et al., 2012; Coman et al., 2012). CHIMERE runs with a horizontal resolution of $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$ and 17 vertical levels from the surface up to 200 hPa. It is driven by ECMWF meteorological analysis and it uses boundary conditions every 3 h, supplied by the global model MOZART (Model for Ozone and Related chemical Tracers, Horowitz et al., 2003; Emmons et al., 2010). CHIMERE outputs for 19–20 August 2009 have been exhaustively validated against surface and ozonesonde measurements, showing

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very similar agreement as obtained for previous studies (Zyryanov et al, 2012). For the comparison, we use CHIMERE outputs at 10:00 UTC.

4.1 Satellite retrieval of LT ozone

Figure 7 shows LT ozone retrievals by IASI+GOME-2 (top), IASI (middle) and GOME-2 (bottom) for the 2 days of the ozone pollution event. The main ozone pollution plume over Western Europe is consistently observed over land by both IASI and IASI+GOME-2. On 19 August, it is located over Spain (centred at 38° N 5° W) and France (44–50° N 0–5° E). The day after, it is observed over Germany and Denmark (49–55° N 10° E) following an eastward travelling meteorological front originating from the Atlantic (see the white cloudy band over UK, 55° N 2° W). This ozone plume is not clearly made evident by GOME-2 only retrievals, as may be expected due to its small sensitivity in the LT (see Table 1). IASI+GOME-2 observations show slightly higher (3–10%) ozone concentrations within the plume than detected by IASI. Note that both observations are not directly comparable due to differences in the AVKs. The larger values for IASI+GOME-2 are consistent with the sensitivity gain in the lowest layers, which enables the observation of higher ozone concentrations produced near the surface.

The multispectral retrieval IASI+GOME-2 (Figs. 7a, b) shows additional LT ozone plumes both over land and over ocean, which are not clearly depicted by the single-band approaches (Figs. 7c–f). Over ocean, this is the case over the Mediterranean (Fig. 7a particularly north-east of Italy, 42° N 3° E), over the Atlantic (45° N 3° W), over the North Sea (55° N 3° E) and over the Black Sea (45° N 30° E). This retrieval also enables the observation of a continuous structure of high ozone concentration zones between ocean and land (e.g. on 19 August over the Atlantic, the North Sea and the Black Sea). Over land, only IASI+GOME-2 clearly depicts an ozone plume over Eastern Europe (e.g. Fig. 7a over Poland and Hungary, 45–52° N 20° E). It is consistently seen on both days (moving eastwards) and for 2 successive MetOp-A overpasses on each day. In this region (47° N 22° E), IASI retrievals show a weak concentration increase within the background variability and less marked than the western plume over

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Spain and France (Fig. 7c, d). GOME-2 retrievals suggest high ozone concentrations for the Northeastern part of the plume (50° N 20–35° E, Fig. 7e, f).

4.2 Comparison of IASI+GOME-2 with simulated LMT ozone

Figures 8 and 9 present a comparison of IASI+GOME-2 (Figs. 8a and 9a) ozone partial columns in the LMT (up to 3 km a.s.l.) and the corresponding CHIMERE outputs (smoothed by the IASI+GOME-2 AVKs in Figs. 8b and 9b). A remarkable overall agreement in the ozone plume structures is observed for the 2 days of the pollution event. The Western (over France and Spain on 19 August) and Eastern (over Poland and Hungary on 19 August) ozone plumes over land are both depicted with very similar structures in the observed and simulated LMT ozone columns. A particularly good agreement is seen for the shape of the ozone plumes on the west and southwest of France and west of Spain (Figs. 8a–c). According to CHIMERE outputs without smoothing, the Eastern plume over Hungary (47° N 22° E) is located below 3 km a.s.l. (in the LMT, see Figs. 8c and 9c). This is consistent with the fact that this plume is clearly made evident only by IASI+GOME-2 (on both days). On 20 August, ozone plumes shift eastwards (Fig. 9). Both CHIMERE simulations and IASI+GOME-2 observations show higher ozone concentrations below 3 km a.s.l. at the centre of the ozone plume over Northern Germany and Denmark (50–55° N 6° E in Fig. 9a–c).

Over sea surfaces, the ozone plumes only seen by IASI+GOME-2 are simulated by CHIMERE, over the Mediterranean, the Atlantic, the Black Sea and the North Sea (see Fig. 8c). Particularly, high concentrations observed by IASI+GOME-2 over the Mediterranean are also indicated by CHIMERE in the LMT (see CHIMERE RAW Surface – 3 km a.s.l., Figs. 8c and 9c). The ocean-land continuity of the plumes over the Atlantic and the Black Sea (Fig. 8) is clearly identified by CHIMERE and IASI+GOME-2. Interestingly, also large sea-land gradients between the Adriatic Sea and Italy as well as Western Mediterranean and Spain appear both in IASI+GOME-2 LMT observations and in smoothed CHIMERE simulations. These differences are both due to

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larger LMT ozone concentrations over the sea and to larger sensitivities over land than over sea.

In terms of absolute ozone concentrations, IASI+GOME-2 (Figs. 8a and 9a) and CHIMERE outputs smoothed by IASI+GOME-2 sensitivity (Figs. 8b and 9b) show a general good agreement (mean bias below 1 % over the whole region). Some differences in the background concentrations (around 1 to 2 DU) are observed locally, as expected by the uncertainties in both data. In general, IASI+GOME-2 ozone columns show more horizontal variability, which could be linked to retrieval noise ($s_{\text{LMT}}^{\text{tot}}$ is ~ 2 DU) or also possibly to smoothed model outputs.

According to CHIMERE raw outputs (Figs. 8d and 9d), the ozone plumes reaching altitudes between 3 and 6 km a.s.l. correspond to the ones clearly observed over land by both IASI and IASI+GOME-2 (i.e. the Western ozone plume in Fig. 7). Since DOF_{LMT} for IASI+GOME-2 is lower than 1, multispectral outputs in the LMT (Figs. 8a and 9a) are expected to depend as well on ozone concentrations up to 5 or 6 km a.s.l. (see AVKs over land of Fig. 2). Thus, IASI+GOME-2 retrievals alone cannot tell whether the ozone plumes are located in the LMT or between 3 and 6 km a.s.l. However, one may identify ozone plumes located below 3 km a.s.l. as they are clearly depicted by IASI+GOME-2, but not by IASI.

5 Summary and perspectives

We have presented a new multispectral approach IASI+GOME-2 to observe ozone in the lowermost troposphere, by combining the information provided by IASI (TIR) and GOME-2 (UV) spaceborne observations. The information content enhancement for IASI+GOME-2 enables an increase of sensitivity to ozone in the whole atmospheric column and especially below 3 km a.s.l. (LMT), which is particularly valuable for ozone pollution studies. Sensitivity in the LMT shows a striking enhancement of at least 40 % (in terms of DOF_{LMT}), with a relative maximum peaking on average at 2.2 km a.g.l. over land (thus at least 800 m below than the single-band methods). Validation against

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Table 2. Validation of IASI+GOME-2 ozone retrievals against ozonesonde measurements smoothed by IASI+GOME-2 averaging kernels. We consider 119 ozonesondes launched between June and August 2009 from 10 stations over Europe. Cloudy pixels and aberrant satellite retrievals are screened out. The comparison is expressed in Dobson Units (DU) and in percentage (in parenthesis) in terms of mean bias, root mean square differences (RMS) and linear correlation coefficients R .

Validation of IASI+GOME-2 ozone retrieval vs. ozonesondes smoothed by the retrieval AVK			
Atmospheric column	Bias	RMS	R
LMT	−0.21 (−2.1 %)	1.7 (16.5 %)	0.87
LT	−0.9 (−4.1 %)	3.8 (17.2 %)	0.70
TROPO	−3.5 (−7.5 %)	7.0 (15.2 %)	0.89
UPTO30	−4.6 (−1.8 %)	14.8 (5.7 %)	0.93

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Table 3. Direct comparison of IASI+GOME-2 ozone retrievals against raw ozonesonde measurements. The same as Table 2 but without smoothing ozonesonde profiles with IASI+GOME-2 averaging kernels. We also provide estimations of the a posteriori total and smoothing errors, $s_{\text{col}}^{\text{tot}}$ and $s_{\text{col}}^{\text{smooth}}$, for the IASI+GOME-2 retrievals used in the comparison.

Direct comparison of IASI + GOME-2 ozone retrieval vs. raw ozonesondes					
Atmospheric column	Bias	RMS	R	$s_{\text{col}}^{\text{tot}}$	$s_{\text{col}}^{\text{smooth}}$
LMT	−0.1 (−0.7%)	2.4 (24.2%)	0.75	2.0 (20.2%)	1.8 (18.0%)
LT	−0.7 (−3.2%)	4.4 (20.4%)	0.58	2.6 (12.2%)	2.2 (10.3%)
TROPO	−2.0 (−4.5%)	6.9 (15.6%)	0.86	3.8 (9.0%)	3.3 (7.7%)
UPTO30	−4.7 (−1.8%)	15.4 (5.7%)	0.92	7.4 (2.9%)	6.2 (2.5%)

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Table 4. Evaluation of potential effects of spectroscopic incoherencies between the UV and TIR datasets on the multispectral ozone retrieval. The same comparison (119 ozonesondes smoothed by the retrieval AVKs) as in Table 2 is performed, but for 2 test cases: (left) either using TIR spectroscopic parameters from HITRAN 2000 or (right) decreasing UV cross-sections by -5% with respect to BRION1993.

IASI+GOME-2 with HITRAN 2000/with -5% UV cross sections vs. ozonesondes smoothed by the retrieval AVK			
Atmospheric column	Bias	RMS	<i>R</i>
LMT	$-1.6 / -1.2$ ($-14.7\% / -12.0\%$)	$2.7 / 2.4$ ($24.9\% / 22.8\%$)	$0.69 / 0.78$
LT	$-4.3 / -2.9$ ($-18.5\% / -13.0\%$)	$6.2 / 5.1$ ($26.8\% / 22.9\%$)	$0.40 / 0.54$
TROPO	$-5.4 / -4.4$ ($-10.9\% / -9.6\%$)	$8.7 / 7.7$ ($17.4\% / 16.4\%$)	$0.85 / 0.88$
UPTO30	$-6.6 / 4.0$ ($-2.5\% / 1.5\%$)	$16.6 / 14.8$ ($6.2\% / 5.7\%$)	$0.91 / 0.93$

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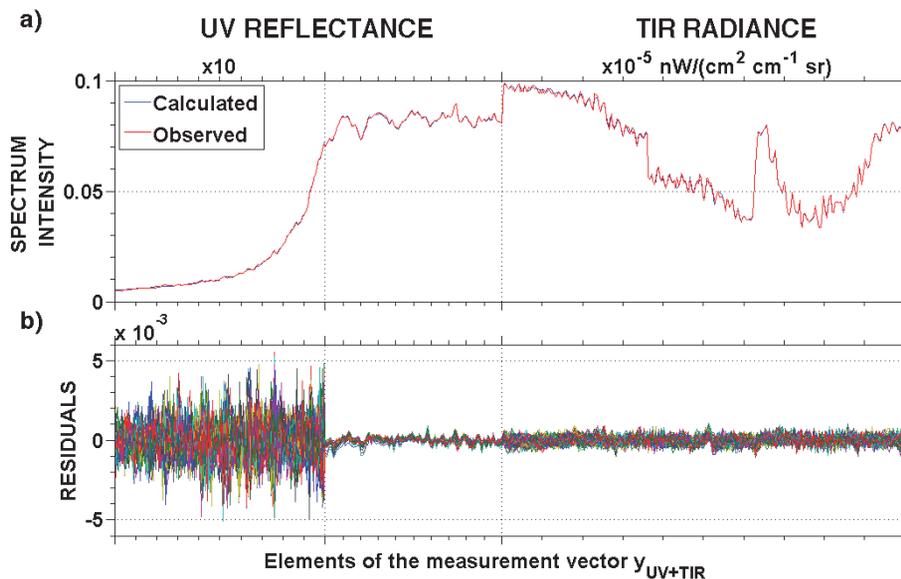


Fig. 1. Typical examples of co-localized radiance and reflectance spectra observed, respectively by IASI and GOME-2 instruments and fitted by the IASI+GOME-2 approach. **(a)** Observed (red) and calculated (blue) elements in the IASI+GOME-2 measurement vector y_{UV+TIR} including UV reflectances in the Hartley (left, multiplied by 10) and Huggins (middle) bands and TIR radiances (right, divided by 10^5). **(b)** Fitting residuals of 200 typical spectra in the same units as **(a)**.

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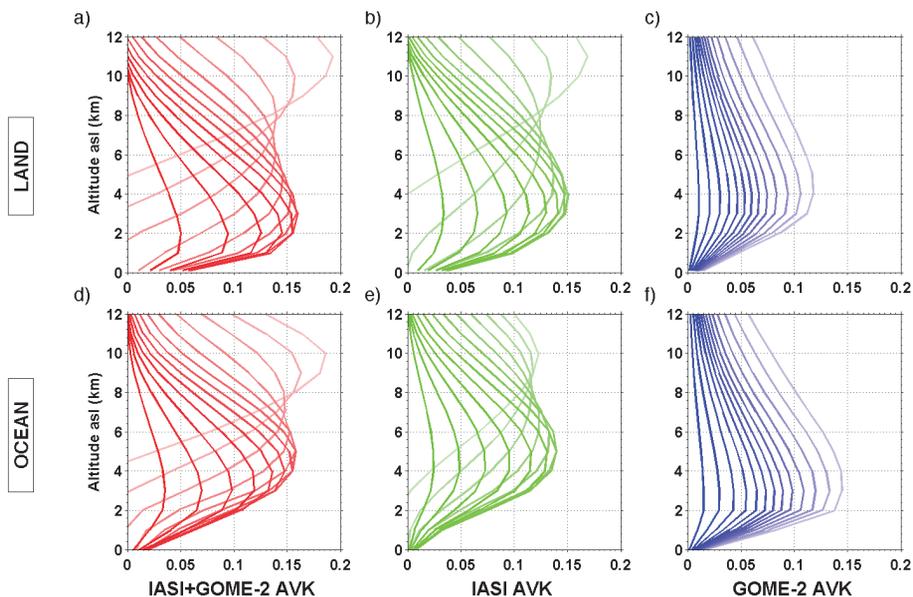


Fig. 2. Typical examples of averaging kernels (AVK) between the surface and 12 km a.s.l. for (a and d) IASI+GOME-2, (b and e) IASI only and (c and f) GOME-2 only ozone retrieval methods, over land (top) and over ocean (bottom). Lighter colours are given for AVK's rows at higher altitudes.

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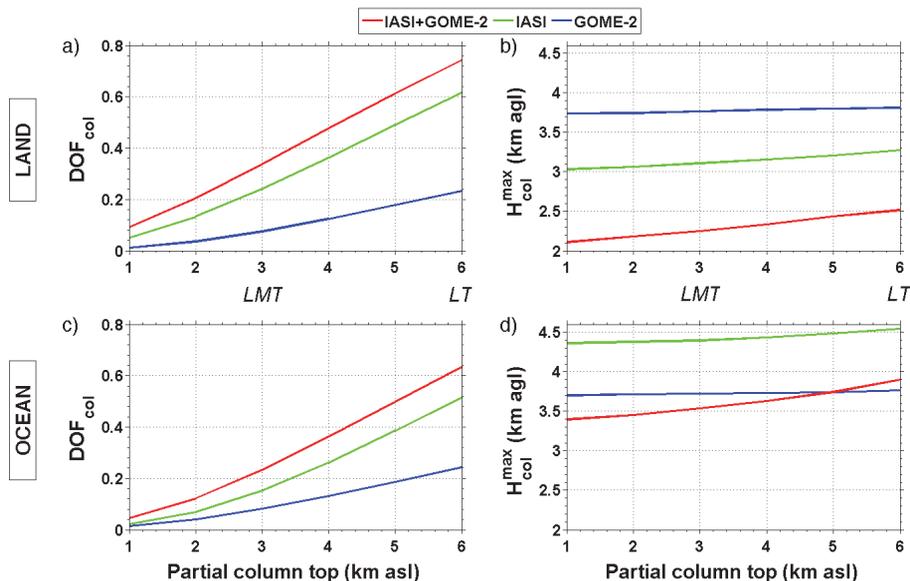


Fig. 3. Sensitivity comparison in terms of **(a,c)** degrees of freedom DOF_{col} and **(b,d)** heights of maximum AVK (km a.g.l.) $H_{\text{col}}^{\text{max}}$ for partial columns from the surface up to the altitude indicated in abscissa (from 1 to 6 km a.s.l.) for IASI+GOME-2 (red), IASI only (green) and GOME-2 (blue) ozone retrievals for an average of pixels over land (top) and over ocean (bottom) over Europe on 19–20 August 2009.

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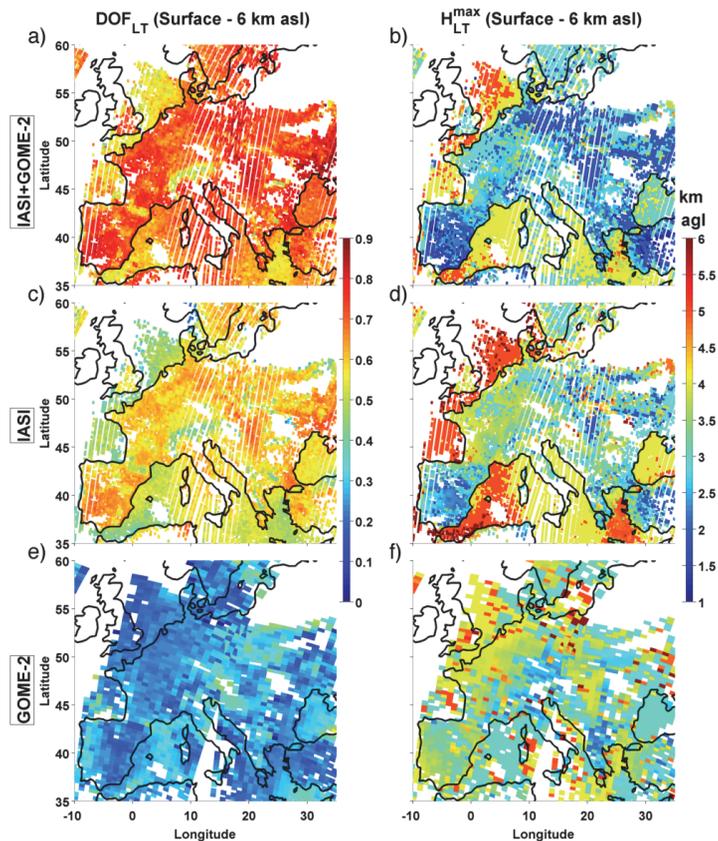


Fig. 4. Degrees of freedom DOF_{LT} (left) and heights of maximum AVK (km a.g.l.) H_{LT}^{max} (right) in the lower troposphere (LT, from the surface up to 6 km a.s.l.) for **(a,b)** IASI+GOME-2, **(c,d)** IASI only and **(e,f)** GOME-2 only ozone retrievals over Europe on 19 August 2009.

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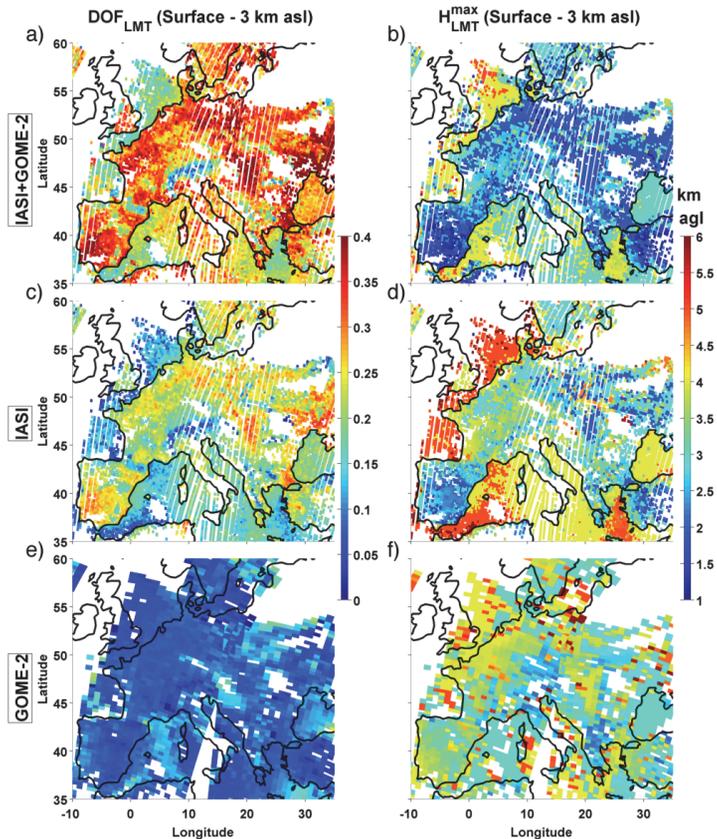


Fig. 5. Same as Fig. 4, but for the lowermost troposphere (LMT, from the surface up to 3 km a.s.l.).

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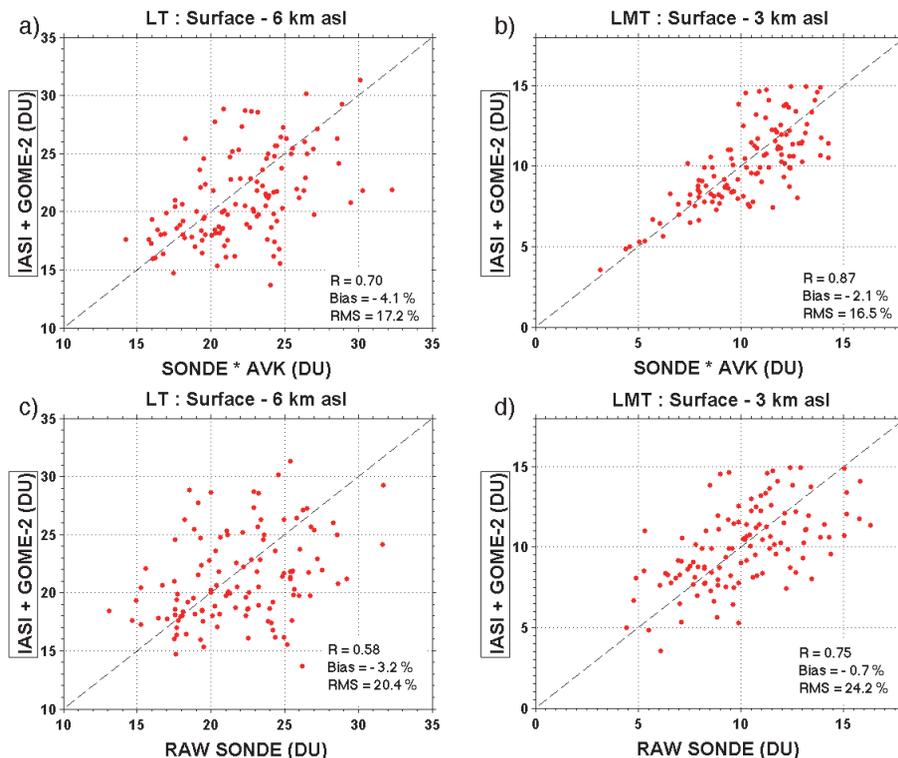


Fig. 6. Validation of IASI+GOME-2 ozone retrievals in the (a and c) lower troposphere (LT, up to 6 km a.s.l.) and (b and d) lowermost troposphere (LMT, up to 3 km a.s.l.) against ozonesonde measurements over Europe during the summer of 2009 (119 sondes launched from 10 stations during 57 different days). In upper panels (a,b), ozonesonde are smoothed by IASI+GOME-2 AVKs and in lower panels (c,d), raw ozonesonde measurements are considered. Dashed lines are straight lines crossing zero with slope equal to one.

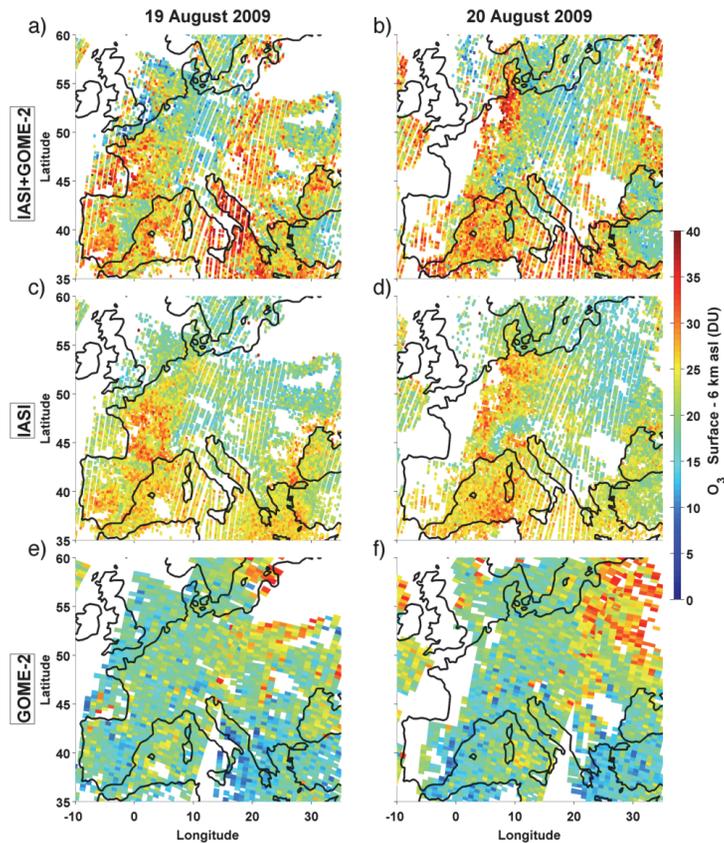


Fig. 7. Ozone observations (DU) in the lower troposphere partial column (LT, up to 6 km a.s.l.) over Europe on 19 (left) and 20 (right) August 2009 from **(a,b)** IASI+GOME-2, **(c,d)** IASI only and **(e,f)** GOME-2 only approaches.

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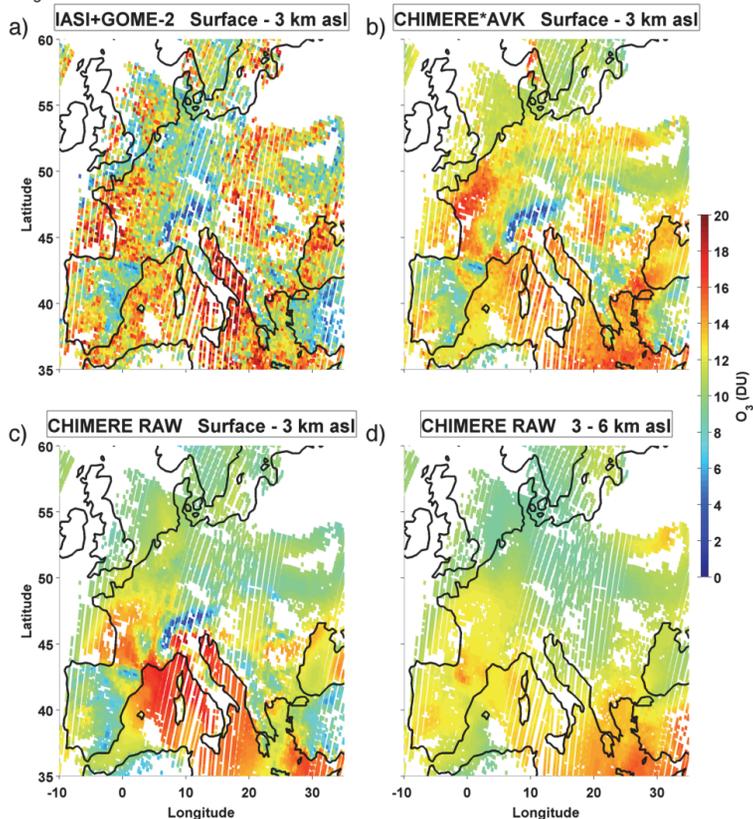


Fig. 8. (a) Ozone observations (DU) in the lowermost troposphere (LMT, up to 3 km a.s.l.) from IASI+GOME-2 multispectral approach over Europe on 19 August 2009. (b) CHIMERE model outputs in the LMT (up to 3 km a.s.l.) smoothed by IASI+GOME-2 AVKs. (c) CHIMERE raw outputs in the LMT. (d) CHIMERE raw outputs integrated between 3 and 6 km a.s.l.

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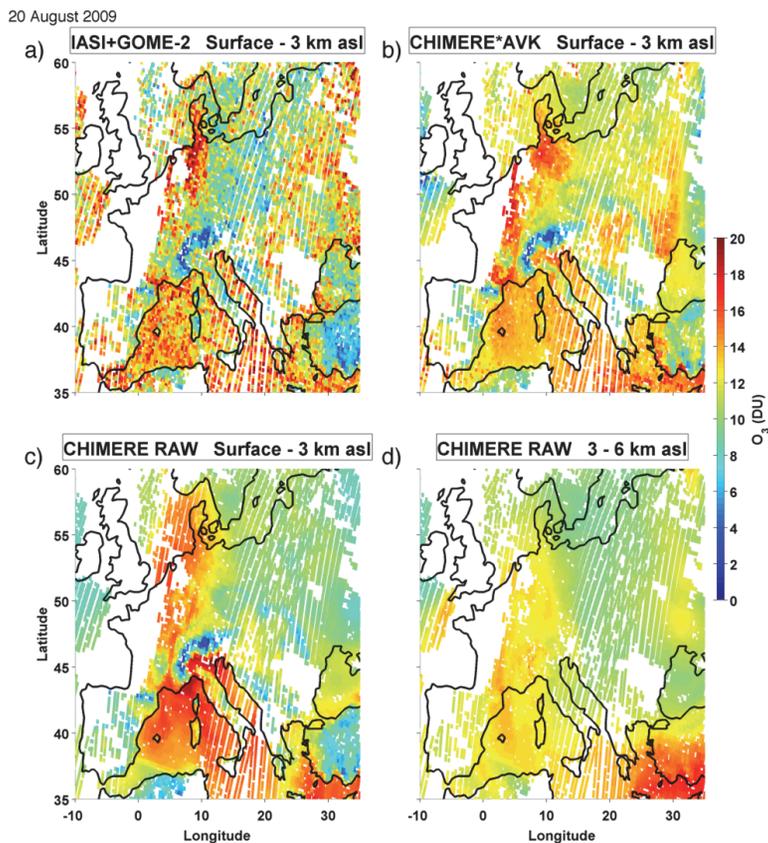


Fig. 9. Same as Fig. 8, but for 20 August 2009.

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