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# An approach to retrieve information on the carbonyl fluoride (COF<sub>2</sub>) vertical distributions above Jungfraujoch by FTIR multi-spectrum multi-window fitting

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Received: 7 October 2008 - Accepted: 10 December 2008 - Published: 30 January 2009

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Published by Copernicus Publications on behalf of the European Geosciences Union.

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### Abstract

We present an original multi-spectrum fitting procedure to retrieve volume mixing ratio (VMR) profiles of carbonyl fluoride ( $COF_2$ ) from ground-based high resolution Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) solar spectra. The multi-spectrum approach consists of simultaneously combining, during the retrievals, all spectra recorded consecutively during the same day and with the same resolution. Solar observations analyzed in this study with the SFIT-2 v3.91 fitting algorithm correspond to more than 2900 spectra recorded between January 2000 and December 2007 at high zenith angles, with a Fourier Transform Spectrometer operated at the high-altitude International Scientific Station of the Jungfraujoch (ISSJ, 46.5° N latitude, 8.0° E longitude, 3580 m altitude), Switzerland. The goal of the retrieval strategy described here is to provide information about the vertical distribution of carbonyl fluoride. The microwindows used are located in the  $v_1$  or in the  $v_4$  COF<sub>2</sub> infrared (IR) absorption bands. Averaging kernel and eigenvector analysis indicates that our FTIR retrieval is sensitive to COF<sub>2</sub> inver-

- <sup>15</sup> sion between 17 and 30 km, with the major contribution to the retrieved information always coming from the measurement. Moreover, there was no significant bias between COF<sub>2</sub> partial columns, total columns or VMR profiles retrieved from the two bands. For each wavenumber region, a complete error budget including all identified sources has been carefully established. In addition, comparisons of FTIR COF<sub>2</sub> 17–30 km partial
- <sup>20</sup> columns with KASIMA and SLIMCAT 3-D CTMs are also presented. If we do not notice any significant bias between FTIR and SLIMCAT time series, KASIMA COF<sub>2</sub> 17–30 km partial columns are lower of around 25%, probably due to incorrect lower boundary conditions. For each times series, linear trend estimation for the 2000–2007 time period as well as a seasonal variation study are also performed and critically discussed.
- <sup>25</sup> We further demonstrate that all time series are able to reproduce the COF<sub>2</sub> seasonal cycle, which main seasonal characteristics deduced from each data set agree quite well.

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### 1 Introduction

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Over the past few decades, the major sources of fluorine in the stratosphere are the man-made chlorofluorocarbons CFC-12 (CCl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>) and CFC-11 (CCl<sub>3</sub>F), which have been widely emitted at ground level by human activities. Photolysis of these compounds leads to release of chlorine atoms, while the fluorine is, for the first steps, present in the form of carbonyl compounds like carbonyl chlorofluoride (COCIF) and carbonyl fluoride (COF<sub>2</sub>). These two species are long-lived enough to be detectable from the ground (Mélen et al., 1998) or by in situ techniques (Wilson et al., 1989) and their photolysis further liberates fluorine atoms, which are quickly converted to HF. Its extreme stability makes HF the largest fluorine reservoir in the stratosphere, but COF<sub>2</sub> also makes a large contribution to the inorganic fluorine budget F<sub>y</sub>, because of its slow photolysis (Sen et al., 1996): the COF<sub>2</sub> molecule has been shown to be the second most abundant stratospheric fluorine reservoir (Kaye et al., 1991). The maximum contribution of COF<sub>2</sub> to F<sub>y</sub> is in the tropics, where it accounts for about 32% at its peak

- <sup>15</sup> altitude near 40 km (Nassar et al., 2006). At midlatitudes, the  $COF_2$  vertical distribution has a maximum around 30 km where it contributes to almost 25% to  $F_y$  (Nassar et al., 2006). Despite the fact that fluorine does not directly participate in ozone depletion, measurement of the concentrations of individual fluorine-bearing species in different altitude ranges of the atmosphere is important: (1) to quantify the strengths of the various sources and to compare with emission inventories, (2) to assess their partitioning
- during the transformation from sources to sink species.

Measurements of  $COF_2$  are however still sparse. Rinsland et al. (1986) were the first to detect  $COF_2$  in the Earth's stratosphere and to produce a carbonyl fluoride vertical profile obtained from ATMOS/Spacelab 3 space observations using line parameters derived from laboratory spectra. These observations were in good agreement with model predictions published by Kaye et al. (1991). In addition, a comparison between mean  $COF_2$  vertical distributions for different latitudinal regions recorded in 1985 and



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1992 during the ATMOS/Spacelab 3 and ATMOS/Atlas 1 space missions, respectively,

has been discussed by Zander et al. (1994). The Atmospheric Chemistry Experiment Fourier transform spectrometer (ACE-FTS), onboard the SCISAT-1 satellite, is the first instrument since the last ATMOS flight in 1994 to obtain COF<sub>2</sub> vertical profiles from space (Bernath et al., 2005). Launched in August 2003, the ACE-FTS has been reg-<sup>5</sup> ularly taking COF<sub>2</sub> measurements with global coverage since early 2004. A paper by Walker et al. (2008) will exploit the v.3 of the ACE-FTS data to study the global distribution of carbonyl fluoride (K. Walker, private communication, 2008).

Several COF<sub>2</sub> IR absorption lines can also be used to determine its total column from ground-based Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) observations. In this context, dif-

- ferent studies concerning the measurement of the COF<sub>2</sub> total column above various sites were published during the nineties: Rinsland et al. (1991) were the first to report a mean COF<sub>2</sub> total column measured above Kitt Peak (31.9° N latitude, 111.6° W longitude, 2090 m altitude) and to confront their results with calculations made by the two dimensional Atmospheric and Environmental Research (AER) model (Ko et al.,
- <sup>15</sup> 1989). A subsequent paper by Reisinger et al. (1994) proposed innovative  $COF_2$  measurements using the  $v_4$  absorption features at 1234 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Independently Notholt et al. (1995) have exploited a pair of  $COF_2$  microwindows located either in the  $v_1$  (1935 and 1950 cm<sup>-1</sup> regions) or the  $v_4$  (1235 cm<sup>-1</sup> region) band to publish total column values measured at high northern latitude during summer 1993 and 1994. No significant
- <sup>20</sup> bias between the two time series was found. The first contribution dealing with the full characterization of the seasonal variability and the global trend of carbonyl fluoride is a paper by Mélen et al. (1998). These authors have exploited two microwindows located in the  $v_1$  band to produce a time series covering the 1985–1995 time period from solar spectra recorded at the Jungfraujoch. One year later, Mélen et al. (1999) compared
- <sup>25</sup> COF<sub>2</sub> total columns above Jungfraujoch derived from the  $v_1$  and the  $v_4$  bands and found a bias of 6%, with the  $v_4$  band results being lower than those derived from the  $v_1$  band. In addition, no information on the COF<sub>2</sub> vertical distribution could be retrieved following any of the studies described above.

To our knowledge, no study about the inversion of COF<sub>2</sub> vertical distributions from

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ground-based FTIR spectra has been published to date. This study deals with the possibility of such inversions using, simultaneously, a multi-microwindow and a multi-spectrum fitting procedure. A selection of microwindows in the so-called InSb (2– $5.5 \mu$ m, including the  $v_1$  COF<sub>2</sub> band) and MCT (7–14  $\mu$ m, including the  $v_4$  COF<sub>2</sub> band) spectral ranges, a complete discussion of the data characterization (e.g. information content and error budget) and typical examples of COF<sub>2</sub> retrieved products from ground-based FTIR spectra are presented here. Comparisons with KASIMA and SLIMCAT models data are also included.

#### 2 Retrieval strategy

- <sup>10</sup> All the results produced in this study have been derived from high resolution solar spectra recorded at the International Scientific Station of the Jungfraujoch (ISSJ, Swiss Alps; 46.5° N latitude, 8.0° E longitude, 3580 m altitude) under clear-sky conditions with a commercial Bruker IFS 120HR spectrometer between January 2000 and December 2007. For the present work, two sets of spectral microwindows have been defined and selected in the  $v_1$  and the  $v_4$  COF<sub>2</sub> absorption bands. Table 1 summarizes the main characteristics of each set. Since COF<sub>2</sub> absorption lines are quite weak, only spectra with solar zenith angles greater than 70° and up to 90° have been analyzed. Spectral resolutions, defined as the inverse of twice the maximum optical path difference, are 2.85 and 4.40 millicm<sup>-1</sup> for the InSb set, and 4.00 and 6.10 millicm<sup>-1</sup> for the MCT microwindows. For each detector band, two different spectral resolutions are
- used, pending of the time of measurements (low or high sun in the sky) and weather conditions (clear or partly cloudy conditions).

The COF<sub>2</sub> column retrievals and profile inversions have been performed using the SFIT-2 v3.91 fitting algorithm. This retrieval code has been specifically developed to derive volume mixing ratio (VMR) profiles of atmospheric species from ground-based FTIR spectra. Inversion of vertical distributions from infrared measurements is often an ill-conditioned problem. Regularization methods are therefore frequently used to



improve the conditioning of the solution (Ceccherini, 2005). The SFIT-2 algorithm employs a semi-empirical implementation of the Optimal Estimation Method (OEM) developed by Rodgers (2000), as well as error evaluation as discussed in Connor et al. (1995). The OEM is a regularization method that retrieves VMR profiles from a statistical weighting of a priori information and the measurements. The weighting matrix (called the averaging kernel, AvK) produced during the iterative process can be further used to characterize the information content of the retrievals. A more complete description of the SFIT-2 code can be found, for example, in Pougatchev and Rinsland (1995), Pougatchev et al. (1995) and Rinsland et al. (1998). During our retrievals, only the COF<sub>2</sub> vertical distribution has been fitted, while the a priori VMR profiles corresponding to interfering species were simply scaled. The synthetic spectra were calculated with the spectroscopic line parameters available in the latest 2004 version of the HITRAN compilation (Rothman et al., 2005). During the retrievals, all microwindows of each set were fitted simultaneously. In addition, we have also per-

- formed multi-spectrum retrievals during which several FTIR spectra, recorded during the same day at identical resolutions and similar solar zenith angles, are fitted together to increase the information content (see Sect. 3). However, for the InSb set, spectra recorded during the morning and during the afternoon have to be retrieved separately, due to the high variability of water vapor, a significant interference in the 1936 cm<sup>-1</sup> mi-
- <sup>20</sup> crowindow. Between 15 and 37 km, the adopted a priori COF<sub>2</sub> profile is a zonal mean (for the 41–51° N latitude band) of more than 300 occultations recorded by the ACE-FTS instrument between February 2004 and September 2005. The ACE-FTS COF<sub>2</sub> profiles used in this study consist in a research version of ACE-FTS v.2.2 products. They differ from the standard 2.2 version by higher retrieval heights for COF<sub>2</sub>. Below
- <sup>25</sup> 15 km, ACE-FTS VMR values have been smoothly connected to reach VMR values of about  $1.5 \times 10^{-13}$  at the altitude of the site (3.58 km), which corresponds to the COF<sub>2</sub> ground value used by Mélen et al. (1998). Above 37 km (this altitude corresponds to the highest ACE-FTS analyzed measurement), the a priori COF<sub>2</sub> profile used by ACE-FTS is scaled during its retrieval procedure (C. Boone, private communication,





- 2008). These scaled profiles (once again, for all ACE-FTS occultations located in the 41–51° N latitude band) have then been averaged in order to construct our own a priori  $COF_2$  profile above 37 km. The a priori covariance matrix **S**<sub>a</sub> has been derived from the same set of ACE-FTS measurements used for the construction of the a priori  $COF_2$
- <sup>5</sup> profile. Each diagonal element of the S<sub>a</sub> matrix has also been weighted by the square root of the corresponding atmospheric layer thickness, to account for variable layer thicknesses. A Gaussian inter-layer correlation of 2 km has further been implemented, estimated from the 3D VMR-altitude correlation matrix, as calculated from the ACE-FTS observations. Top panel of Fig. 1 illustrates the COF<sub>2</sub> a priori VMR and variability
- <sup>10</sup> profiles (this latter one corresponding to diagonal elements of the  $S_a$  matrix) used for our retrievals. Background horizontal lines reproduce the 41 atmospheric layer scheme used during the retrieval procedure. The COF<sub>2</sub> VMR-altitude correlation matrix as seen by the ACE-FTS instrument and from which the correlation length parameter has been deduced is illustrated on the bottom panel of Fig. 1. The adopted pressure-temperature 15 (*p*-*T*) profiles were those provided by the National Centers for Environmental Predic-
- (p-1) profiles were those provided by the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP, Washington, DC; see http://www.ncep.noaa.gov), specifically computed for the Jungfraujoch site on a daily basis. The signal-to-noise ratio used during the retrievals was fixed to 250, following the L-curve method (for example, Steck, 2002; Ceccherini, 2005).

#### 20 3 Information content and error budget

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Under the input and observational conditions described here above, each microwindow set has been completely characterized in terms of information content. Table 2 objectively demonstrates the benefits of using, simultaneously, a multi-microwindow (MW) and a multi-spectrum (MS) approach for  $COF_2$  retrievals. The last column of Table 2 provides, for each selected microwindow, typical values for the degrees of freedom for signal (DOFS) when the retrieval is done using this single microwindow alone: this parameter indicates how many independent pieces of information of the target gas dis-



tribution (computed here for partial columns) may be derived. Values between brackets  $(\lambda_1)$  correspond to the first eigenvalue of the corresponding **AvK** matrix and indicate the fraction of the information coming from the measurement.

The line "3MW" gives the DOFS and  $\lambda_1$  resulting when all microwindows are fitted si-<sup>5</sup> multaneously. In the InSb case, a multi-microwindow fit provides a significant increase in the DOFS, but has a minor impact on the first eigenvalue. Only a multi-spectrum fitting procedure allows a larger fraction of the information to come from the measurement (see line "3MW+MS<sub>[3obs]</sub>" in Table 2; values reported are from the inclusion of 3 spectra). For the MCT range, a multi-microwindow fit doubles the DOFS and the  $\lambda_1$ value compared to the single MW fits and an even larger improvement is obtained by applying the multi-spectrum approach. It is therefore possible to compute one COF<sub>2</sub> partial column (DOFS greater or close to 1) when such a multi-spectrum procedure is

adopted, with very limited impact from the adopted a priori.

More complete statistics have been established by analyzing FTIR spectra recorded at the Jungfraujoch during the January 2000–December 2007 time period. For the solar zenith angle range adopted here, our database contains 884 spectra recorded over 252 days for the InSb domain, and 2062 FTIR observations recorded over 439 days for the MCT range. Corresponding mean DOFS values are  $1.23\pm0.17$  and  $1.16\pm0.30$  for the InSb and MCT regions, respectively. For the InSb range, the minimum value of 0.88 for the DOFS is observed when combining 2 spectra and the maximum value of 200, respectively. For the MCT case, the minimum value of the DOFS is 0.60 for 2 FTIR spectra fitted simultaneously, while the maximum value peaks at 1.95 for the combination of 15 spectra in the retrievals. Corresponding  $\lambda_1$  values are 0.56 and 0.99, respectively. It thus clearly appears that, for the same number of FTIR spectra combined during the retrieval procedure, the COF<sub>2</sub> lines selected in the  $\nu_1$  band provide

more information than the  $COF_2$  absorptions selected in the  $v_4$  region. Among the factors explaining why the InSb microwindows bring higher information content, are: (1) the weakness of  $COF_2$  absorption lines in the MCT region as compared to the lines

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selected in the InSb range (InSb COF<sub>2</sub> lines are stronger by almost a factor 2) and, (2) the higher spectral resolution of the ISSJ observations performed in the InSb region (as already mentioned in Sect. 2). For the time period under investigation here, three spectra can be combined in almost 80% of cases for the InSb region, and in 48% of cases for the MCT range. In both spectral domains, the fraction of occurrences for which spectra are combined only in pairs never exceeds 12%.

For typical VMR averaging kernels, the first eigenvector of the **AvK** matrix and partial error budgets are plotted in the top panel of Fig. 2 for the InSb range, in its lower panel for the MCT region. All these curves have been simulated by using 3 FTIR spectra in the multi-microwindow multi-encoder fitting precedure, as defined in Table 2. The ab

- <sup>10</sup> the multi-microwindow multi-spectra fitting procedure, as defined in Table 2. The observational conditions (including the resolutions) used for the simulation are indicated above each panel. Averaging kernels have been calculated for the altitude ranges defined in the legend. They indicate a good sensitivity of the ground-based FTIR observations for  $COF_2$  retrievals between 17 and 50 km. Outside of this altitude range, the
- sensitivity to the measurement is quite poor. However, the half-width at half-maximum of the first eigenvector curve (middle frame) suggests that FTIR measurements are mostly sensitive between 17 and 30 km, with the maximum sensitivity observed around 25 km. Corresponding first eigenvalues indicate that in both spectral ranges, the largest fraction of the information is coming from the measurement (contributions of 92% and
- <sup>20</sup> 85% for the InSb and MCT domains, respectively). The value of the DOFS obtained in each case (1.24 and 1.00, as mentioned in the legend of Fig. 2) indicates that one partial column can be extracted from COF<sub>2</sub> FTIR measurements, when performing a retrieval using the multi-microwindow multi-spectrum approach. The altitude limits of such a partial column could be, for example, the ones we have chosen to plot the
- <sup>25</sup> non zero averaging kernels illustrated on the left part of Fig. 2, i.e. 17–30 km. Another way to highlight the altitude sensitivity range of our set of COF<sub>2</sub> absorption lines is to plot the K matrix weighting function characterizing our COF<sub>2</sub> vertical profile inversions. A typical example of a K matrix for the COF<sub>2</sub> retrieval using the multi-microwindow multi-spectrum approach is reproduced on the background colored plots of Fig. 3. For

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each microwindow of our set (left column: InSb range; right column: MCT range) black and red traces (slightly vertically scaled, for clarity) reproduce all gases and COF<sub>2</sub> absorption contributions, respectively. These traces correspond to simulated spectra performed for a solar zenith angle close to 80°. Significant interference gases for which VMR profiles are scaled during the retrieval procedure are also labeled with black arrows. It clearly appears from Fig. 3 that our FTIR measurements using the multi-microwindow multi-spectrum approach are most sensitive to COF<sub>2</sub> inversions between 17 and 30 km.

Finally, a typical example of the error budget for the retrieved COF<sub>2</sub> VMR profiles is given in the right frames of Fig. 2. Only contributions to the total error of the three most common random error components (namely, smoothing error, measurement error and forward model parameter error) are plotted; for the InSb range, these together correspond typically to 8% and 11% of the COF<sub>2</sub> total and 17–30 km partial columns, respectively. Due to lower information content and spectral resolution, the correspond-

- <sup>15</sup> ing errors for the MCT range are a little higher, with typical values for total error of 11% and 15%, respectively. Three additional random error sources, namely errors associated with the temperature profiles used in the physical model adopted for the retrievals, with the instrument line shape (ILS) and with the solar zenith angle (SZA), have also been evaluated by using a perturbation method. To quantify the effect of
- <sup>20</sup> temperature profile errors on  $COF_2$  total and partial columns, we have included the temperature uncertainties provided by the NCEP in our retrieval procedure. The ILS error has been evaluated by assuming an effective apodization error of ±10%, compared to a perfectly aligned instrument. For the time period studied here, this ±10% value is consistent with the analysis of HBr cell spectra made with the LINEFIT v.8.2
- <sup>25</sup> algorithm (Hase et al., 1999). These cell spectra were recorded to characterize the instrumental line shape of the Jungfraujoch Bruker FTS. The SZA error impact on  $COF_2$ retrievals has been deduced by assuming an accuracy of ±0.2° for zenith angles associated with each FTIR spectrum. This accuracy is compatible with the experimental observation conditions. To complete our error budget, the impact of two systematic

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error sources has also been evaluated: the shape of the  $COF_2$  a priori vertical distribution and the uncertainty affecting the COF<sub>2</sub> line intensities. Their magnitudes have also been estimated through sensitivity tests. To quantify the impact of the COF<sub>2</sub> a priori VMR profile on COF<sub>2</sub> retrieved products we have used the same COF<sub>2</sub> a priori distribution derived by Mélen et al. (1998) from the ATMOS/SL3 1985 experiment instead 5 of the mean COF<sub>2</sub> VMR profile derived from ACE-FTS measurements that we have adopted in our FTIR analysis (described in the previous section). The shapes of these two profiles are slightly different. In particular, the COF<sub>2</sub> profile derived from ATMOS measurements peaks at higher altitude (close to 35 km). In practice, this 20-year old profile has also been horizontally scaled in order to obtain a more realistic COF<sub>2</sub> total 10 column, close to the value deduced from the ACE-FTS profile. To quantify the impact of the uncertainty in the COF<sub>2</sub> line intensities on our retrievals, we have modified the HITRAN 2004 spectroscopic line list in accordance with the intensity uncertainty indices reported in Table 5 of Rothman et al. (2005). For all COF<sub>2</sub> lines included in our InSb microwindows, these authors quote uncertainties on the line intensities of greater 15

- than 20%. For all  $COF_2$  lines included in our MCT microwindows, the corresponding HITRAN 2004 indices indicate that intensity uncertainties are between 10 and 20%. We have thus included line intensities in our retrievals modified by 25% for the InSb domain, and by 15% for the MCT range.
- For each spectral range, Table 3 provides contributions from each random or systematic error, listed above, on COF<sub>2</sub> total and 17–30 km partial columns. For each wavenumber region, these error values have been obtained by using representative subsets of FTIR spectra covering various observational and fitting conditions (SZA range, spectral resolution, period of the year, time of the day, number of spectra com-
- <sup>25</sup> bined during the multi-spectrum fit approach). When taking into account the six error sources presented in Table 3, the total random error affecting our  $COF_2$  retrieved total columns is close to 10% for both spectral ranges. For the  $COF_2$  17–30 km partial columns, the total random error is a little higher, with values around 12% and 15% for InSb and MCT regions, respectively. Considering the very weak absorptions of  $COF_2$  in





our selected microwindows, the precision obtained for carbonyl fluoride column values with the multi-spectrum approach is very good: for comparison, the retrieval approach used by Mélen et al. (1998) reported a total random error of 23% in the  $COF_2$  total columns. The situation is not so good for systematic errors: the high error values observed are mainly due to large uncertainties of up to 30% in the  $COF_2$  lines intensities in the InSb range. Mélen et al. (1998) reports a total systematic error affecting their  $COF_2$  total column of 18%, with a spectroscopic uncertainty of only 10%. However, this value seems a rather optimistic, since no major updates for  $COF_2$  lines intensities (and their corresponding uncertainties) in the  $v_1$  band have occurred between the 1996

and 2004 versions of HITRAN line list (see also the end of the next section). Finally, for each random or systematic error source discussed, corresponding vertical distributions are very similar in both spectral domains, with peak values always observed within the FTIR sensitivity range.

#### 4 Discussion of line parameters and retrieval approach

- <sup>15</sup> We have shown in the previous section that the multi-spectrum retrieval approach is the most sensitive to  $COF_2$  between 17 and 30 km, with the largest fraction of the retrieved information always coming from the measurement. Using a simple example, we will further demonstrate that this sensitivity is also sufficient to distinguish between different air mass types, such as polar and midlatitude air masses. The top panel of Fig. 4
- shows the evolution of the polar vortex for the last seven days of January 2005 over Western Europe. The Jungfraujoch station is identified by a white circle on each map. Potential vorticity (PV) maps over Europe used here are provided by the European Center for Medium range Weather Forecasting (ECMWF; see http://www.ecmwf.int/). The potential temperature level of these maps (475 K, which corresponds to an altitude
- of about 20 km) is the level generally used to follow polar airmasses. As the edge of the vortex (characterized by higher PV values – see colored legend of PV maps on the right part of Fig. 4) passes over the Jungfraujoch site on 27 January, enhancement





in stratospheric  $COF_2$  VMR is observed in the corresponding carbonyl fluoride profile retrieved from ISSJ spectra by using both sets of microwindows and the multi-spectrum approach (lower panel of Fig. 4: left: InSb range; right: MCT range). As these polar airmasses, enriched in fluorine compounds, leave the Jungfraujoch region, the  $COF_2$ 

VMR decreases to values more in line with typical values observed during this period of the year (for each daily COF<sub>2</sub> VMR profile presented on Fig. 4, corresponding 17–30 km partial column is also noted in the legend). Information content obtained from the multi-spectrum approach is sufficient to catch such special atmospheric events. We also see from Fig. 4 that the consistency (e.g. in terms of profile shape) between the COF<sub>2</sub> vertical profiles retrieved from both wavenumber regions is very good.

We have mentioned previously (Sect. 1) that a systematic bias of 6% was observed by Mélen et al. (1998) between  $COF_2$  total columns independently derived from InSb and MCT regions. However, this bias was not found by Notholt et al. (1995). In order to compare the behavior of our time series with these previous results, we have

- <sup>15</sup> computed the relative differences between  $COF_2$  profiles retrieved from InSb and MCT microwindows for the 215 common measurement days in each time series over the period studied. The result corresponding to the sensitivity range (from 17 to 30 km) is plotted in red in frame (A) of Fig. 5. Error bars correspond to a  $1-\sigma$  standard deviation on the mean. Throughout the entire altitude range, we do not find any significant bias
- <sup>20</sup> between the two data sets. In the sensitivity range, the relative mean difference has a maximum of around 12% in the lower stratosphere.

A similar agreement is found when comparing total and partial columns derived from both spectral ranges for the same set of all common days between January 2000 and December 2007. Relative mean differences computed as [(InSb-MCT)/MCT]×100 for

<sup>25</sup> COF<sub>2</sub> 17–30 km partial columns (see frame B of Fig. 5) and for COF<sub>2</sub> total columns (see frame C of Fig. 5) are  $0.3\pm7.3\%$  and  $1.0\pm6.5\%$ , respectively. In frames (B) and (C) of Fig. 5, the solid and dotted lines represent the mean value and  $1-\sigma$  standard deviation on the mean, respectively. For the time period studied here, no significant bias has thus been observed between the COF<sub>2</sub> total columns derived from the InSb ( $v_1$ )

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and the MCT ( $v_4$ ) bands, in agreement with Notholt et al. (1995), but contrary to Mélen et al. (1999). The COF<sub>2</sub> spectroscopic parameters used by Mélen et al. (1999) were from the 1996 version of the HITRAN line list (Rothman et al., 1998). In the present study, we have used the HITRAN 2004 edition, as mentioned in Sect. 2. Table 4 com- $_{\rm 5}$  pares the number of COF<sub>2</sub> lines available in the 1996 and 2004 versions of HITRAN, in the wavenumber limits of each set of microwindow used for our retrievals. The last column provides relative mean differences and  $1-\sigma$  standard deviations observed for the COF<sub>2</sub> lines intensities, calculated as [(HIT04-HIT96)/HIT96]×100 (%). The number N of lines common to both compilations and used to compute relative mean differences is given in parentheses. For the InSb region, line width parameters for COF<sub>2</sub> are the 10 same in the 1996 and 2004 versions of HITRAN. However, a major update occured with the number of  $COF_2$  lines increasing by almost a factor 2. Corresponding line intensities have also been revised by almost 3%. For all microwindows in the MCT range, the 1996 and 2004 versions of HITRAN are identical. However, these spectroscopic differences are not sufficient to completely explain the 6% bias observed by Mélen et al. (1999) between COF<sub>2</sub> total columns derived from the  $v_1$  and the  $v_4$  bands. For one

- year of observations at ISSJ (namely, 2005 for which the available number of suitable spectra is a maximum), we have compared COF<sub>2</sub> columns retrieved by using the two spectroscopic parameters sets: the change in spectroscopic parameters causes mean
  differences of only 1.4±3.0% for COF<sub>2</sub> total columns, and of only 0.9±4.1% for COF<sub>2</sub>
  17, 20 lum partial solutions. We mention and the spectroscopic parameters causes in a difference of only 1.4±3.0% for COF<sub>2</sub> total columns, and of only 0.9±4.1% for COF<sub>2</sub>
- 17–30 km partial columns. We may thus suppose that, in addition to the spectroscopic updates (for  $COF_2$  and interfering gas lines in our microwindows), it is the retrieval procedure and the use of different input parameters (i.e. a priori  $COF_2$  VMR profile and the sets and limits of microwindows selected for the retievals) that is responsible of the better agreement between  $COE_2$  abundances retrieved in the two spectral ranges
- $_{\rm 25}$  better agreement between  $\rm COF_2$  abundances retrieved in the two spectral ranges.

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#### 5 Comparisons with model data

Our daily mean FTIR  $COF_2$  17–30 km partial columns have also been confronted with daily values specifically computed for the Jungfraujoch location using the KASIMA (Karlsruhe Simulation model of the Middle Atmosphere) and SLIMCAT models.

- <sup>5</sup> The KASIMA model used in this study is a global circulation model including stratospheric chemistry for the simulation of the behavior of physical and chemical processes in the middle atmosphere (Reddmann et al., 2001; Ruhnke et al., 1999). The meteorological component is based on a spectral architecture with the pressure altitude  $z=-Hln\left(\frac{p}{p_0}\right)$  as vertical coordinate where H=7 km is a constant atmospheric scale
- <sup>10</sup> height, *p* is the pressure, and  $p_0=1013.25$  hPa is a constant reference pressure. A horizontal resolution of T21 (about  $5.6 \times 5.6$  degrees) has been used. In the vertical regime, 63 levels between 10 and 120 km pressure altitude and a 0.75 km spacing from 10 up to 22 km with an exponential increase above were used. The meteorology module of the KASIMA model consists of three versions: the diagnostic model, the
- <sup>15</sup> prognostic model and the nudged model which combines the prognostic and diagnostic model (Kouker et al., 1999). In the version used here, the model is nudged towards the operational ECMWF analyses of temperature, vorticity and divergence between 18 and 48 km pressure altitude. Below 18 km, the meteorology is based on ECMWF analyses without nudging, above 48 km pressure altitude, the prognostic model has been
- <sup>20</sup> used. The rate constants of the gas phase and heterogeneous reactions are taken form Sander et al. (2003). The photolysis rates are calculated online with the fast-j2 scheme of Bian and Prather (2002). The distributions of the chemical species in this model run were initialized on 30 April 1972, with data from a long-term KASIMA run.

The 3-D SLIMCAT CTM uses various data (including meteorological data such as <sup>25</sup> winds and temperature, emission scenario of the source gases, chemistry schemes, etc.) to derive the atmospheric transport and to calculate abundances of tropospheric and stratospheric gases. The first description of SLIMCAT appears in Chipperfield et al. (1993). During the last years, the SLIMCAT runs have already been exploited to

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perform comparisons of fluorine species abundances with satellite and ground-based observations (Chipperfield et al., 1997). More recently, it has also been used to derive long-term trends of atmospheric compounds (Feng et al., 2007). All information concerning the SLIMCAT model version used in this work can be found in Chipper <sup>5</sup> field (2006) or on the SLIMCAT website (see http://www.env.leeds.ac.uk/slimcat).

As we have shown in the previous section that there is no significant difference between InSb and MCT retrieved  $COF_2$  partial columns, the InSb and MCT datasets have been merged to obtain a denser FTIR time series, more appropriate for trend studies and for comparisons with model or experimental datasets. So, between January 2000

- and December 2007, there are 475 days available for direct comparisons with daily KASIMA and SLIMCAT simulations. As KASIMA and SLIMCAT models use ECMWF analyses to force their meteorology, their COF<sub>2</sub> VMR profiles have been converted into partial columns using pressure and temperature profiles from ECMWF operational analyses.
- <sup>15</sup> Figure 6 plots the merged FTIR time series with coincident KASIMA and SLIMCAT data. For the Jungfraujoch time series, error bars reproduce one mean standard deviation; FTIR data points without error bars correspond to days with only one measurement. It clearly appears from Fig. 6 that a significant perturbation affects the middle of the SLIMCAT time series. This could be explained by the fact that the ECMWF
   <sup>20</sup> meteorological analyses used by the SLIMCAT model are not an homogeneous set, as ECMWF has changed their vertical resolution several times (W. Feng, private communication, 2008). These changes cover three time periods, namely January 2000–December 2001, January 2002–January 2006 and February 2006–onwards and cause a decrease in the SLIMCAT COF<sub>2</sub> columns from 2002 to 2006. However, the KASIMA
- time series is not affected by these changes in ECMWF vertical resolution, probably because, before KASIMA runs, ECMWF data are nudged to the KASIMA model environment in order to yield a realistic age of air (R. Ruhnke, private communication, 2008). Furthermore, although the KASIMA time series seems to be able to reproduce special events (linked for example to particular air mass conditions), one can see in

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Fig. 6 that the KASIMA variability is significantly less than in the other two time series. Seasonal variations and trends in each data set have been fitted with a function C(t) that combines a polynomial of degree  $n C_n(t)$  and a cosine term,  $C_{cos}(t)$ :

$$C_n(t) = c_0 + c_1(t - t_0) + c_2(t - t_0)^2 + \dots + c_n(t - t_0)^n$$
(1)

$$_{5} C_{\cos}(t) = A\cos(2\pi(t-t_{0})-t_{1})$$
(2)

 $C(t) = C_n(t)[1 + C_{\cos}(t)]$ 

where  $c_0$  is the COF<sub>2</sub> partial column at an arbitrary reference time  $t_0$  (taken as 2000, the beginning of the time period studied). A is the relative amplitude of the seasonal variation and  $t_1$  is the fraction of the calendar year corresponding to the seasonal maximum. Results of such fits are represented by solid lines in Fig. 6. For each time series, the best agreements are obtained (on the basis of correlation coefficient values) when using a polynomial function of order 6 in Eq. (1). Seasonal variations are well captured in each case. Table 5 summarizes the fitted values of the main parameters appearing in Eq. (2), that characterize the seasonal variations of each time series. With a value close to 15%, the relative amplitude of the seasonal variation in the KASIMA data set is more than twice the values obtained from the other two time series (5 and 6%, for FTIR and SLIMCAT, respectively). We have compared these values to the one published by Mélen et al. (1998). The fitting approach used by Mélen et al. (1998) is based on two microwindows located in the  $v_1$  band and fitted separately during the retrieval procedure. For the 10-year time period (1985–1995) 20 covered in that paper, Mélen et al. (1998) found a mean amplitude of about 9% for the seasonal cycle, i.e. just in the middle of the amplitude ranges deduced from the present study. For the phase of the seasonal cycle, the FTIR and KASIMA data give COF<sub>2</sub> maximum values between mid- and end of February while the SLIMCAT model predicts maximum values in the second part of March (Table 5). From these results, 25 it can be seen that the maximum COF<sub>2</sub> abundances occur during or at the end of winter, when photodissociation process are at their minimum, while the minimum COF<sub>2</sub>

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(3)



concentrations occur in late summer. Mélen et al. (1998) have deduced a seasonal maximum value equal to 0.17 (in fractional calendar year units), which corresponds to 3 March.

To estimate linear trends (reproduced with dashed lines in Fig. 6), the seasonal variations of each time series have been removed. Linear trends for the time period 2000-2007 are  $3.5\pm1.8\%$  and  $2.7\pm1.5\%$  for the FTIR and KASIMA time series, respectively. This corresponds to linear COF<sub>2</sub> increases of  $0.4\pm0.2\%$ /year and  $0.3\pm0.2\%$ /year, for FTIR and KASIMA data sets, respectively. A negative trend of  $-4.0\pm0.3\%$  (or  $-0.5\pm0.0\%$ /year) is found from the SLIMCAT time series. This is probably a consequence of the discontinuity in the meteorological data used by the SLIMCAT model, as already described above. The very low uncertainty (when considering only one significant digit) affecting the SLIMCAT annual trend probably reflects the limited variability characterizing COF<sub>2</sub> profiles deduced from SLIMCAT runs.

Linear  $COF_2$  trends deduced from the present study are considerably lower than the value found by Mélen et al. (1998) 10 years ago, who observed an average  $COF_2$  linear trend equal to  $4.0\pm0.5\%$ /year for the 1985–1995 time period. This slowing down of this  $COF_2$  linear trend, between 1985–1995 and 2000–2007, results from the phase out of its principal source gases (CFC-12 and CFC-11). Figure 1-1 of the WMO report (2007) shows the trends for these two species during the 1980–2005 time period. Data repro-

- <sup>20</sup> duced in that figure are those provided by the Advanced Global Atmospheric Gases Experiment (AGAGE) network (Prinn et al., 2000), as well as by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Earth System Research Laboratory (NOAA/ESRL Montzka et al., 1999; Thompson et al., 2004) and the University of California at Irvine (UCI D. R. Blake et al., 1996; N. J. Blake et al., 2001). A small but obvious de-<sup>25</sup> crease in the abundance of CFC-11 is observed since the middle of the nineties, and
- the rate of growth of CFC-12 has slowed down since the end of the nineties. Table 1-2 of WMO (2007) also reports a grow rate of the CFC-11 mole fraction (expressed in ppt) of around -0.7%/year, for the 2003-2004 time period; the corresponding values published for CFC-12 are inconsistent: while AGAGE measurements give a slight de-

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crease of 0.1%/year, an increase of 0.3%/year results from UCI analysis. No trend is observed from NOAA data. In addition, the annual changes in the CFC-12 vertical abundance above central Europe and from 1987 to 2005 can be also found in Zander et al. (2005); these authors report a decrease of 0.16%/year in the CFC-12 vertical to-

- tal column (in molec./cm<sup>2</sup>) for the 2003–2004 time period. Whatever the CFC-12 trend value, a stabilization of the CFC-12 mole fraction at around 540 ppt between 2003 and 2005 is clearly visible in Fig. 1-1 of WMO (2007). Until now, the decrease or the stabilization observed for these two major fluorine-containing source gases (CFC-12 and CFC-11) has only been partially compensated for by increases in CFC substitutes
- <sup>10</sup> (such as HCFC-22 and HCFC-134a), so that a slowdown of the increase in total inorganic fluorine  $F_y$  is observed (Fig. 1-19 of WMO, 2007). Decreases observed in the COF<sub>2</sub> rates derived from FTIR and KASIMA time series presented in this study are a direct consequence of these changes.
- While FTIR and SLIMCAT data sets do not show significant relative differences (mean relative difference computed over 17–30 km partial columns as [(FTIR-SLIMCAT)/SLIMCAT]×100 is -3.5±10.6%), it is obvious from Fig. 6 that a large bias (around 25%) exists between the FTIR and KASIMA. Two main possibilities could explain this KASIMA underestimation (R. Ruhnke, private communication, 2008). The first one is that KASIMA uses the wrong COF<sub>2</sub> VMR values at its lowest altitude level
- (i.e. 7 km). This could cause biased COF<sub>2</sub> abundances in the upper troposphere/lower stratosphere (UTLS). The second possibility is that the KASIMA partitioning between fluorine species (i.e. HF, COF<sub>2</sub> and COCIF) could be erroneous. As we have shown previously (Sect. 3) that FTIR retrievals have no sensitivity to COF<sub>2</sub> below 17 km, it is not possible to directly compare FTIR and KASIMA COF<sub>2</sub> UTLS partial columns,
- to check the validity of the first hypothesis. However, as previous comparisons have demonstrated the good agreement between FTIR and KASIMA abundances for HF (Ruhnke et al., 2007), we thus have compared COCIF partial columns computed by the KASIMA model with ACE-FTS satellite data in order to check on the validity of the second hypothesis (Fig. 7). Satellite data are well suited for this exercise (Rinsland et

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al., 2007; Fu et al., 2008) as water vapor interferences make the detection of COCIF from FTIR ground-based spectra difficult. Only ACE-FTS occultations located in the 40–50° N latitude band have been compared with KASIMA data, which represents a set of 64 coincident points. Partial column limits (15–25 km) used are representative
of the altitude range where the ACE-FTS instrument is able to record COCIF vertical profiles. The top panel of Fig. 7 plots relative differences for the two time series. The mean relative difference value (6.9±15.2%) indicates that there is no significant bias

- between the data sets and thus suggests that the second hypothesis mentioned above should be rejected. Moreover, very recent redesign of the KASIMA chemistry module
- <sup>10</sup> has indicated that the lower boundary value of COF<sub>2</sub> within the troposphere indeed significantly affects KASIMA COF<sub>2</sub> total columns (R. Ruhnke, private communication, 2008). For the 64 coincident days evoked above, corresponding COCIF partial columns computed by the SLIMCAT model are also reproduced on Fig. 7 (light blue dots). As for the KASIMA time series, no significant bias with respect to the ACE-FTS data is ob-
- 15 served, confirming the good agreement existing for COCIF between model calculations and satellite measurements.

### 6 Conclusions and perspectives

This paper describes the advantages of using a new approach to inverse  $COF_2$  vertical distributions from ground-based FTIR solar spectra. The idea is to combine data from several spectral microwindows and all available spectra, recorded at the same resolution during the same day, in the retrievals in order to increase the information content. We have selected two sets of three microwindows, located either in the  $v_1$  or in the  $v_4$  COF<sub>2</sub> absorption bands, and have demonstrated that there is a gain in information content in this multi-microwindows multi-spectrum fitting strategy. In each case, a significant improvement in DOFS and first eigenvalues is obtained, allowing us to derive one COF<sub>2</sub> partial column between 17 and 30 km. Mean DOFS values computed for the January 2000–December 2007 time period are 1.23±0.17 and 1.16±0.30 for InSb



 $(2-5.5 \,\mu\text{m})$  and MCT  $(7-14 \,\mu\text{m})$  regions, respectively. In all cases, the largest fraction of the information comes from the measurement rather than the a priori. We have also shown that the information content in the multi-spectrum approach is sufficient to observe special atmospheric events, such as polar vortex overpasses. In the  $v_4$  region, total random errors affecting COF<sub>2</sub> 17–30 km partial columns and COF<sub>2</sub> total columns

- are close to 12% and 8%, respectively. In the  $v_1$  region, the corresponding values are 15% and 12%. For both spectral ranges, the highest systematic total errors have been observed (ranging from 15% to 40%), mainly due to high uncertainties characterizing COF<sub>2</sub> lines intensities reported in the HITRAN 2004 database. Comparisons of
- <sup>10</sup> COF<sub>2</sub> vertical profiles retrieved between 17 and 30 km as well as corresponding partial columns derived from both spectral ranges do not show any significant bias. The same conclusion can be made for total columns. This latter result is in agreement with results from Notholt et al. (1995) but is not consistent with the systematic 6% mean bias observed between COF<sub>2</sub> total columns derived from the  $v_1$  and the  $v_4$  absorp-
- <sup>15</sup> tion bands by Mélen et al. (1999). This difference in behavior between our results and those obtained by Mélen et al. (1999) cannot be attributed totally to the difference in spectroscopic parameters used for the retrievals. It seems that a different choice of input parameters and the multi-microwindow multi-spectrum procedure leads to a better agreement between  $COF_2$  columns derived from the  $v_1$  and the  $v_4$  absorption bands.
- <sup>20</sup> Comparisons of the merged FTIR data set (i.e. obtained by averaging  $COF_2$  data coming from  $v_1$  and  $v_4$  bands) with  $COF_2$  17–30 km partial columns generated by the KASIMA and SLIMCAT 3-D CTMs has also been presented. We did not notice any significant bias between the FTIR and SLIMCAT time series. However, a significant bias of about 25% has been observed between the FTIR and KASIMA data sets, with
- KASIMA giving lower COF<sub>2</sub> 17–30 km partial columns. It seems that this bias could be attributed to incorrect lower boundary conditions used in the KASIMA model. Linear trends over the 2000–2007 time period as well as the main seasonal variation parameters have also been derived for each time series. Except for the SLIMCAT time series, very low COF<sub>2</sub> growth rates have been derived from FTIR and KASIMA time series

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 $(0.4\pm0.2\%/\text{year} \text{ and } 0.3\pm0.2\%/\text{year}, \text{ respectively})$ . A negative trend  $(-0.5\pm0.0\%/\text{year})$  has been obtained from the SLIMCAT data set. However, this is probably due to discontinuities in the ECMWF data, which significantly decreases COF<sub>2</sub> SLIMCAT columns from 2002 to 2006. Decreases in the COF<sub>2</sub> growth rate can be mainly attributed to the stabilization of the CFC-12 tropospheric concentration and to the recent decrease observed in the CFC-11 atmospheric abundance.

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Finally, the three time series all display the  $COF_2$  seasonal cycle. The relative amplitudes range from 5 to 15%, with a seasonal maximum between mid-February and the end of March. These seasonal cycle results agree quite reasonably with the pre-

- vious study by Mélen et al. (1998). However, it should be kept in mind that the time periods under investigations are not the same. In the future, it would be interesting to use the multi-microwindow multi-spectrum approach at other ground-based FTIR stations. This will serve to demonstrate the effectiveness of this fitting procedure and to increase the coverage of ground-based COF<sub>2</sub> measurements. This could be used to
   extend this study of COF<sub>2</sub> seasonal and latitudinal variability as well as the long-term
- trend at different sites. In addition, the use of a multi-microwindow multi-spectrum fitting procedure could increase the vertical information content for other atmospheric gases that have weak signatures in FTIR solar spectra.

Acknowledgements. We would like to thank the International Foundation High Altitude Re search Stations Jungfraujoch and Gornergrat (HFSJG, Bern) and the University of Liège for supporting the facilities needed to perform the observations and their analyses. University of Liège work is supported primarily by the Belgian Federal Science Policy Office. Financial support by projects Prodex-ACE and SECPEA as well as GEOMON is further acknowledged. Thanks are also extended to all collaborators having contributed to the observations at the
 Jungfraujoch. The Atmospheric Chemistry Experiment (ACE), also known as SCISAT, is a

Canadian-led mission mainly supported by the Canadian Space Agency and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. The authors also thank the ECMWF for providing the PV maps used in this work.

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**Table 1.** Microwindows selected (in InSb and MCT ranges) for  $COF_2$  profile inversions. Second column lists the interfering gases adjusted during the retrieval process. For each microwindow, examples of simulated spectra (for a solar angle close to 80°) with the contribution of  $COF_2$  are reproduced on Fig. 3.

Range (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Interfering species			
InSb range (2–5.5 $\mu$ m)				
1936.15–1936.34	$O_3$ , $CO_2$ , $H_2O$ , solar lines			
1951.89–1952.05	$O_3$ , $H_2O$ , solar lines			
1952.62–1952.78	$O_3, CO_2$ , solar lines			
MCT range (7–14 $\mu$ m)				
1230.75-1231.20	$CH_4$ , $O_3$ , $CO_2$ , $H_2O_2$ , $N_2O_3$			
1233.90-1234.20	$CH_4$ , $O_3$ , $CO_2$ , $H_2O_2$ , $N_2O_3$ , solar lines			
1234.35-1234.63	$CH_4, O_3, CO_2, H_2O_2, N_2O, CH_3D$			

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**Table 2.** Typical information content of microwindows sets selected for  $\text{COF}_2$  profile inversions. Second column gives the degrees of freedom for signal (DOFS) and the fraction of information coming from the measurement ( $\lambda_1$ ) when each interval is fitted separately. Lines "3MW" and "3MW+MS<sub>[3obs]</sub>" indicate the DOFS and  $\lambda_1$  when a multi-microwindow (including the 3 microwindows of the previous lines) and a multi-microwindow multi-spectrum (including 3 FTIR observations) fitting procedure is adopted, respectively. Solar zenith angles of the spectra used for these simulations are close to 78°.

Range (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	DOFS $(\lambda_1)$				
InSb range (2–5.5 $\mu$ m)					
1936.15–1936.34	0.53 (0.49)				
1951.89–1952.05	0.58 (0.53)				
1952.62–1952.78	0.60 (0.54)				
3MW	0.94 (0.53)				
3MW+MS <sub>[3obs]</sub>	1.24 (0.92)				
MCT range (7–14 $\mu$ m)					
1230.75-1231.20	0.37 (0.35)				
1233.90-1234.20	0.35 (0.33)				
1234.35-1234.63	0.35 (0.33)				
3MW	0.68 (0.63)				
3MW+MS <sub>[3obs]</sub>	0.95 (0.81)				

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**Table 3.** Major random and systematic error sources and resulting relative uncertainties (%) affecting  $COF_2$  total and 17–30 km partial columns derived from InSb and MCT spectral ranges. For both domains, these values have been obtained by using the multi-microwindow multi-spectrum approach running with a representative subset of the whole FTIR database analyzed in this study (see text for details).

Error source	Error on COF <sub>2</sub> total column (%)		Error on COF <sub>2</sub> 17–30 km partial column (%)	
Random errors	InSb	MCT	InSb	MCT
Smoothing error	4.8	8.5	7.9	11.1
Measurement error	6.4	7.5	8.1	9.6
Model parameter error	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
NCEP T profiles	0.4	2.5	0.8	2.2
ILS	1.3	2.4	1.5	2.8
SZA	1.2	1.8	1.5	2.1
TOTAL	8.2	12.0	11.5	15.3
Systematic errors	InSb	MCT	InSb	MCT
COF <sub>2</sub> a priori VMR profile	0.8	1.9	5.2	7.0
COF <sub>2</sub> line parameter uncertainties	27.9	12.9	34.4	15.8
TOTĀL	28.7	14.8	39.6	22.8

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**Table 4.** Number of  $COF_2$  lines in each InSb and MCT microwindow, as listed in the HI-TRAN 1996 (second column) and HITRAN 2004 (third column) spectroscopic line lists. The 2004 version has been used in this study while the work by Mélen et al. (1999) was based on the 1996 compilation. The last column provides mean relative differences and  $1-\sigma$  standard deviations observed on the line intensities (calculated as [(HIT04-HIT96)/HIT96]×100). The number N of lines common to both compilations and used to compute relative mean differences is given in parentheses. No updates have been observed for  $COF_2$  lines located in the MCT range.

Microwindow limits (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	# COF <sub>2</sub> lines (HIT-1996)	# COF <sub>2</sub> lines (HIT-2004)	Intensity relative differences ( <i>N</i> )
InSb range 1936.15–1936.34 1951.89–1952.05 1952.62–1952.78	52 23 23	80 42 42	2.80±0.02 (52) 2.80±0.02 (23) 2.80±0.02 (23)
MCT range 1230.75—1231.20 1233.90—1234.20 1234.35—1234.63	136 96 86	136 96 86	0.00±0.00 (136) 0.00±0.00 (96) 0.00±0.00 (86)

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**Table 5.** Main seasonal characteristics of the time series fits presented in Fig. 6. For each data set, second column (*A*) provides relative amplitude of the seasonal variation while third column  $(t_1)$  gives the time (expressed in fractional calendar year units) when the cosine component of each fit reaches its maximum value. This time is converted into calendar days in the last column.

Data set	A (%)	t <sub>1</sub>	t <sub>1</sub>
FTIR	5.30	0.13	16 February
KASIMA	15.42	0.16	27 February
SLIMCAT	6.62	0.21	18 March





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**Fig. 2.** Typical information content for COF<sub>2</sub> retrievals from ISSJ spectra using the InSb (top panel) and the MCT (lower panel) regions. For each spectral range, these curves have been calculated by applying simultaneously the multi-microwindow and multi-spectra fitting procedure on 3 FTIR spectra recorded at high and similar mean solar zenith angles, on 30 January 2006 for the InSb range, on 8 March 2002 for the MCT range.



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**Fig. 3.** Selection of microwindows in InSb (left column) and MCT (right column) ranges for  $COF_2$  profile inversions. For each microwindow, black and red traces (slightly vertically scaled, for clarity) reproduce all gases and  $COF_2$  absorptions, respectively (simulated spectra performed for a solar zenith angle of 80°). All atmospheric interference gases for which VMR profiles are scaled during the retrieval procedure are indicated with black arrows (minor interferences due to solar lines are not represented for clarity). Background colored plots reproduce, for each microwindow, corresponding typical **K** matrix weighting functions and highlight the altitude sensitivity range of each  $COF_2$  absorption line.





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**Fig. 4.** Example of COF<sub>2</sub> vertical profiles derived by applying the multi-spectrum approach to FTIR ground-based observations performed at ISSJ during January 2005 (lower panel). The overpass, above the Jungfraujoch (white circle on ECMWF PV maps at 475 K level on top panel), of the edge of the vortex on 27 January is well captured by the FTIR measurements (low panel: left: COF<sub>2</sub> profiles derived from the InSb set of microwindows; right: COF<sub>2</sub> profiles derived from the MCT set of microwindows).



**Fig. 5.** Frame (A): relative mean differences (calculated as [(InSb-MCT)/MCT]×100) between  $COF_2$  vertical profiles retrieved from InSb and MCT spectral ranges using simultaneously a multi-microwindow and a multi-spectrum approach. The sensitivity range of the retrievals is plotted in red. Error bars indicate  $1-\sigma$  standard deviation around the mean; frame (B): relative mean differences between  $COF_2$  17–30 km partial columns derived from both spectral ranges for the 215 common measurement days of the January 2000–December 2007 time period; frame (C): relative mean differences between  $COF_2$  total columns derived from both spectral ranges for the 215 common measurement days of the January 2000–December 2007 time period. In frames (B) and (C), solid and dashed lines represent the mean value and  $1-\sigma$  standard deviation around the mean, respectively.

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**Fig. 6.**  $COF_2$  17–30 km partial column time series as observed by the FTIR instrument operated at the Jungfraujoch station (yellow dots) and as computed by the KASIMA and SLIMCAT 3-D CTM models (white and blue dots, respectively). Solid lines reproduce seasonal variations adjusted for each data set while dashed lines correspond to a linear trend for the de-seasonalized time series.

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**Fig. 7.** COCIF 15.5–25.5 km partial columns time series as observed by the ACE-FTS space instrument (green dots) and as computed by the KASIMA and SLIMCAT 3-D CTM models (white and light blue dots, respectively). Top panel reproduces relative differences between ACE-FTS data and model data (solid line: mean relative difference; dotted lines:  $1-\sigma$  standard deviation on the mean).

