



FIRST GLOBAL MEASUREMENT OF MIDTROPOSPHERIC CO2 FROM NOAA POLAR SATELLITES: TROPICAL ZONE

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NOAA CMDL CCGG Cooperative Air Sampling Network



TOVS CO2- channels selected

Radiative transfer model simulations from a tropical atmosphere data base



Retrieval method of CO₂ from NOAA polar satellites

A non-linear regression approach : Multilayer Perceptron (Rumelhart, 1986)



> MLP trained on the TIGR data set with variable q_{co2} drawn at random (341 \rightarrow 369 ppm)

> Noised T_{B} (instrumental and model noises)

> 49 MLPs trained (6 surface elevations (1013 to 875 hPa) over land and one over sea, and 7 viewing angles (from nadir to 40°))

Application of Neural Network to observations requires knowledge of systematic biases between simulations and observations

(Simulations - Observations) systematic biases calculation



these biases allow connection between 'simulations world' and 'observations world' $T_{R}s$ in NN inputs are $T_{R}obs + Mean$ (calc. – Obs.)

Global Maps of Mid-to-High tropospheric CO₂

Monthly - 15°X15° (1° moving average)

CO_2 (ppmv)

Number of items averaged



Global Maps of Mid-to-High tropospheric CO₂

Monthly - 15°X15° (1° moving average)



Number of items averaged



Dispersion of CO₂ retrievals

Global Maps 15°X15° (1° moving average)



Minima in summer maxima in spring Stdv of the method (Std_M) ~ 3 ppm

Is the natural variability the only cause of the difference?

Stdv in ppmv



Dispersion of CO₂ retrievals



Stdv in ppmv



higher Stdv often localised in regions of CO2 strong gradients

causes other than natural variability have been considered (tropospheric ozone variation, aerosols)

Mean Seasonal Cycles

2 ppmv 20N-15N 15N-10N 10N-5N 5N-EQ EQ-5S 5S-10S 10S-15S 15S-20S Ν D S 0 MONTH

As seen by NOAA-10 (5-14 km; 1987-1991)

As measured in situ (8-13 km; 1993-1999)



Commercial aircrafts (Matsueda et al., 2002)

Time variations of the CO₂ concentration as seen by NOAA-10



CO₂ Growth Rate as seen by NOAA-10 (1987-1991)



Mean Northern hemisphere 1.76 ppm/yr

Mean Southern hemisphere 1.80 ppm/yr

Values consistent with the one observed at the surface = 1.75ppm/yr (Conway et al., 1994)

CO_2 and ENSO



Conclusions and perspectives

The method used to infer CO_2 from NOAA polar satellites has proven its ability to retrieve important features of the distribution of CO_2 and its time evolution (monthly, seasonaly and yearly):

> Mean rate of rise of CO_2 of 1.78 ppm/yr over NOAA-10 period

> Seasonal cycle and impact of ENSO in agreement with Matsueda findings from in situ observations

And now ?

Analyze CO_2 data in the tropics and elucidate factors influencing its variation (sources, sinks, transport)

Extend the period to the 25 years of NOAA/TOVS observations (1979-2003)