Comparing Clear Sky Profiling with MIR and FIR Radiance Spectra

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Outline

- Quick review of Clear Sky Profiling
- Simulation Framework
 - Simulated FIR & MIR Sensor characteristics
 - A priori information for retrievals
 - Performance metrics
- MIR / FIR comparison results
- Conclusion

Clear Sky Profiling

 Non scattering, plane-parallel Radiative Transfer Equation for upwelling radiance (clouds, aerosols not included):

$$L^{\uparrow}(\mathbf{v}) = L^{\uparrow}_{s}(\mathbf{v})t^{*} + \int_{0}^{z_{T}} B(T,\mathbf{v})W^{\uparrow}(z,\mathbf{v})dz$$
$$W^{\uparrow}(z,\mathbf{v}) = \frac{d}{dz}e^{-\frac{1}{\mu}k(\mathbf{v})u(z)}$$

 Effective Profiling requires wide variety of weighting function shapes, via different values of the absorption coefficients, k(v)

Carbon Dioxide and Water Vapor abs. lines



Retrieval Framework

Gauss-Newton nonlinear Optimal Estimation (Rodgers 2000, Carissimo 2005)

 $\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{x}_0 = (\mathbf{B}^{-1} + \mathbf{K}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{S}^{-1} \mathbf{K})^{-1} \mathbf{K}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{S}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_0) = \mathbf{G} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_0)$ State vector (**x**) = temperature and ln(q) Measurement (**y**) = radiance spectrum Measurement covariance (**S**) = diagonal, NEdR Background covariance (**B**) = "prior covariance" Forward model Jacobian (**K**) from LBLRTM **x**₀, **y**₀ = state and meas. at prior mean (1st guess)

Example Upwelling Spectra



Example Jacobians (tropical atm.)





Both unapodized with OPD=1cm / Δv =0.5 cm⁻¹ (HeNe sampling frequency, 15799 cm⁻¹, same as AERI)

Background Covariance

- Realistic priors from ARM radiosonde:
 - Seasonal mean profile & covar. for troposphere
 - Standard atm. for stratosphere
- Synthetic prior Correlation exponentially decays with vertical separation (Lerner 2002 JGR)

$$B(i,j) = \sigma_i \sigma_j \exp\left(-\frac{\left|z_i - z_j\right|}{L}\right)$$

Framework applied identically to both simulated sensors

Example Background Covariance Matrices $\begin{bmatrix} T & TQ \\ TQ & Q \end{bmatrix}$

Measured - ARM Darwin DJF

Simulated AR



Performance Metrics

• Based on Averaging Kernel matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{K} \qquad \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)$$

- Rows of A = averaging kernels; FWHM around peak values gives estimate of vertical resolution
- Diagonal of A = "degrees of freedom for signal"
- Note all metrics depend on the assumed prior
 (B) as well as the sensor characteristics (S, K)

Performance Metrics



Performance Metrics



















Discussion (1)

- FIR has a small advantage over MIR
 - Primarily in upper troposphere/stratosphere
 - Relative increase (T vs Q) dependent on B
 - No sensitivity to lower troposphere in high water vapor climate
 - Higher performance instrument (higher spectral resolution or lower NEdR) shows increased information in tropopause / stratosphere

Discussion (2)

- However, strongly dependent on assumed S
 - Higher noise in FIR (x3) might be more realistic;
 FIR shows no clear advantage over MIR
 - The assumed MIR S is also poorer for Q retrieval compared to state of the art (CrIS, IASI, have separate detectors for the MIR carbon dioxide and water vapor bands)

Questions?

References:

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Additional Slides









