

# HARP – Actinic Flux in the near-infrared

















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- Cloud enhances all wavelengths
- 300-600 nm (traditional wvls) well-calibrated







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#### **Relative comparisons**

- Solar absorption features are similar in magnitude
- Clear-sky absorption features are generally deeper than with cloud below







#### Water vapor in the atmosphere

- Highly variable
- Absorption a function of humidity profile

## Oxygen in the atmosphere

- Low variability
- Absorption a function of air density
- Oxygen absorption represents a pathlength weighted by air density

# **Cloud vs clear comparisons**

- Clouds ≠ water vapor
- Clouds below scatter light from above
  - Thus, the pathlength is reduced and absorption is restricted
- Clear-sky allows a longer pathlength
  - Down and up
  - Higher density air below (more H<sub>2</sub>O and O<sub>2</sub>)
  - Thus, total absorption increased







## Compare on/off line

- On-line near peak absorption (spectro dependent)
- Off-line isolated from spectral features
- 589 nm water band is very weak but available in past data sets for up and downwelling





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#### Percent change in signal from absorption features

• Kona – Guam (significant water vapor variability)





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## Percent change in signal from absorption features

- Kona Guam (significant water vapor variability)
- Water bands (strong 718 nm and weak 589 nm) show similar features





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## Notable features

- High clouds decrease pathlength resulting in reduced absorption
- Takeoff and landing show enhanced absorption (multiscattering between clouds?)
- Oxygen A-band is nearly flat (20:30-23:30)
  - Cloud-free below so (nearly) constant pathlength
  - Water vapor absorption structure
- Oxygen A-band absorption decreases slowly with time
  - Tracks sun rising from from 55° to 4° SZA
  - Higher sun = shorter pathlength



# HARP – Actinic Flux: UV/VIS/NIR measurements





## **Limitations**

- Non-pointing actinic flux
- Low spectral resolution
- Limited characterization of wavelengths and power
- Filter transmission sensitivity
- Very low sensitivity at 950 nm
- Sensitive to attitude changes (requires level flight)
- QuickTUV does not include O2 or water absorption

# **Retrieval examples**

- Cloud detection
- Water vapor profile (relative scale)
- Clouds and aerosols: height, thickness, profiles
- Surface pressure
- Chlorophyll fluorescence
- Ocean color

# **Future**

- 589 nm water band available in past datasets (up/down)
- 5 extended wavelength spectrometers





Normalized PDF (above 10 km)



# Probability Density Function of jNO<sub>2</sub> meas/model

- All research flights above 10 km
- Variability is primarily from upwelling
- Downwelling optic degraded due to water leak
- Correction greatly improves high altitude relationship to clear-sky model (TUV)

# Photolysis frequencies final data

- Mean reductions of 5-15% from field data
- Species corrections vary with spectral dependencies
- Uncertainties increase by ~5% (high sun) due to angular response and calibration



# HARP – Actinic Flux: Spectral vs jNO2 measurements





## jNO2 derived photolysis frequencies in the UTLS

- Common technique when jNO2 is the only available measured or model-derived photolysis frequency
- How well does jNO2 represent the suite of photolysis frequencies?
- Compare with spectral data



# HARP – Actinic Flux: Spectral vs jNO2 measurements

















#### ACCLIP NCAR GV RF02 20220804 30 jNO3 jHONO 20 jCH2O jO3 % diff of j[X] (meas vs jNO $_2$ calc) iNO2 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 2 6 3 5 7 8 4 UTC hours

#### Calculate j-values from jNO2

 $j[X]_{inferred} = j[NO_2]_{HARP} \times \frac{j[X]_{TUV}}{j[NO_2]_{TUV}}$ 

Calculate % difference from spectrally derived j-value % diff =  $\frac{(j[X]_{HARP} - j[X]_{inferred})}{j[X]_{HARP}}$ 

## Calculate change in % diff from cloud to clear

J-value	In cloud – clear:
jNO3	-24%
jhono	+4%
jCH2O	+10%
j03	+22%



## Summary

- NIR actinic flux calibrations require additional work for absolute accuracy
- Water vapor and oxygen A-band absorption is clearly present in the data. How can we use this effectively?
- ACCLIP photolysis frequencies have been significantly corrected from the field data
- Calculating a suite of photolysis frequencies from jNO2 requires some care. Many models have limited capability to do so.