



Climatology of the aerosol loading in the upper haze of Venus from SOIR measurements on-board Venus Express

Valérie Wilquet (1), Arnaud Mahieux (1), Séverine Robert (1), Rachel Drummond (1), and Ann Carine Vandaele (1)

(1) IASB - BIRA, Atmosphere, Brussels, Belgium (arnaud.mahieux@aeronomie.be, +32 23730426), (2) LATMOS, 11 Boulevard D'Alembert, 78280 Guyancourt, France, (3) IPSL, Université UVSQ, 78 Saint-Quentin en Yvelines, 78280 Guyancourt, France

The climatology of the aerosol loading in the mesosphere of Venus is investigated from data obtained with SOIR, a channel of the SPICAV instrument suite on-board Venus Express.

Although SOIR alone is less informative in terms of micro-physical properties of the particles than the use of all three channels of the instrument, a large set of data has now been accumulated with the SOIR channel allowing the study of geo-temporal variability of the upper haze.

Vertical profiles of the aerosol extinction are retrieved from a spectral window around $3.0 \mu m$ recorded in many solar occultations (~ 200) from September 2006 till September 2010. For this period, the continuum of light absorption is analyzed in terms of spatial and temporal variations of the upper haze of Venus.