

A synthesis of the cloud morphology investigations by Venus Express

D. Titov (1), H. Svedhem (1), W.J. Markiewicz (2), G. Piccioni (3) and C. Wilson (4)

(1) ESA, ESTEC, Keplerlaan 1, 2201 AZ Noordwijk; (2) Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research, Max Planck
Strasse 2, 37191 Katlenburg-Lindau, Germany; (3) IASF-INAF, Via del Fosso del Cavaliere 100, Rome 1-00133, Italy; (4)
AOPP, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK; (Dmitri.Titov@esa.int)

Abstract

During more than 6 years of observations Venus Express provided a great amount of imaging and spectral data about the Venus clouds. Observations by the Venus Monitoring Camera revealed variety of morphological features at the cloud tops. VIRTIS imaging in the near-IR range enabled sounding of the cloud depth. The cloud structure and morphology show strong spatial, latitudinal and temporal variability. The paper will give a synthesis of the cloud investigations as well as present some recent images.