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GROUND-BASED AND SATELLITE REMOTE SENSING OF
PAROXYSMAL ERUPTIONS AT ETNA VOLCANO, 2011-2012.

By
Estelle Bonny

A THESIS
Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
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In Geology
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2013

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This thesis has been approved in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of
MASTER OF SCIENCE in Geology

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Finally, thanks Houghton for the best Winter and worst Spring!

Abstract

Mt Etna's activity has increased during the last decade with a tendency towards more explosive eruptions that produce paroxysmal lava fountains. From January 2011 to April 2012, 25 lava fountaining episodes took place at Etna's New South-East Crater (NSEC). Improved understanding of the mechanism driving these explosive basaltic eruptions is needed to reduce volcanic hazards. This type of activity produces high sulfur dioxide (SO_2) emissions, associated with lava flows and ash fall-out, but to date the SO_2 emissions associated with Etna's lava fountains have been poorly constrained. The Ultraviolet (UV) Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI) on NASA's Aura satellite and the Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS) on Aqua were used to measure the SO_2 loadings. Ground-based data from the Observatoire de Physique du Globe de Clermont-Ferrand (OPGC) L-band Doppler radar, VOLDORAD 2B, used in collaboration with the Italian National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology in Catania (INGV-CT), also detected the associated ash plumes, giving precise timing and duration for the lava fountains. This study resulted in the first detailed analysis of the OMI and AIRS SO_2 data for Etna's lava fountains during the 2011-2012 eruptive cycle. The HYSPLIT trajectory model is used to constrain the altitude of the observed SO_2 clouds, and results show that the SO_2 emission usually coincided with the lava fountain peak intensity as detected by VOLDORAD. The UV OMI and IR AIRS SO_2 retrievals permit quantification of the SO_2 loss rate in the volcanic SO_2 clouds, many of which were tracked for several days after emission. A first attempt to quantitatively validate AIRS SO_2 retrievals with OMI data revealed a good correlation for high altitude SO_2 clouds. Using estimates of the emitted SO_2 at the time of each paroxysm, we observe a correlation with the inter-paroxysm repose time. We therefore suggest that our data set supports the collapsing foam (CF) model [1] as driving mechanism for the paroxysmal events at the NSEC. Using VOLDORAD-based estimates of the erupted magma mass, we observe a large excess of SO_2 in the eruption clouds. Satellite measurements indicate that SO_2 emissions from Etna's lava fountains can reach the lower stratosphere and hence could pose a hazard to aviation.

1. Introduction

Basaltic volcanoes display a range of eruption styles, from relatively benign to highly explosive. Strombolian activity is characterized by short-lived, discrete explosions, whereas lava fountains involve more sustained jets of lava to heights of up to 1-2 km above the vent. Lava fountains can be sustained over several hours and expel molten clots of lava in a continuous shower (Vergnolle and Jaupart 1986; Vergnolle and Mangan 2000). They produce lava flows and gas emission (mainly water vapor [H_2O], carbon dioxide [CO_2] and sulfur dioxide [SO_2]) at the surface associated with ash plumes and fall-out deposits. According to Carn et al. (2008), SO_2 measurements are of great interest because they can act as a proxy for ash that is a hazard to aviation. Mt. Etna (Sicily, Italy; Fig. 2.1) is Europe's largest and most active volcano, and displays the full range of basaltic volcanic activity from quiescent, passive degassing to explosive lava fountains (or 'paroxysms'). With Etna it is not unusual for Catania airport to close during one of those paroxysms because of the emitted ash plume affecting aircraft. Furthermore, this kind of explosive basaltic eruption, increasingly common at Etna in recent years, can produce upper tropospheric plume altitudes (Bluth and Carn, 2008) and is therefore important for aviation hazard assessment. Despite this, gas and ash emissions from Etna paroxysms have not been studied in great detail to date.

SO_2 is a short-lived gas (Yan et al., 2012) that converts into sulfuric acid (sulfate) aerosols after a few days. Sulfate aerosol can have significant impacts on climate, the environment and health, providing motivation for measurement of volcanic SO_2 emissions. SO_2 is the easiest volcanic gas to measure via remote sensing techniques since it is usually absent in the ambient atmosphere, in contrast to H_2O and CO_2 . SO_2 is primarily released by anthropogenic activities (Cullis and Hirschler, 1980; Yan et al., 2012) such as fossil fuel burning and metal smelting. However, volcanic SO_2 has a much greater effect on climate due to its higher injection altitude, which prolongs its lifetime

and that of derived sulfate aerosol. When injected into the upper troposphere and lower stratosphere (UTLS) sulfate aerosol reflects incoming solar radiation (e.g. Laki eruption 1783; Sigurdsson, 1982), and can cause cooling of the earth for months or years. It is also important to monitor volcanic SO₂ emissions because its temporal changes can be precursors to volcanic eruptions and show variations in eruptive conditions (Young et al., 1998).

On the 12th of January 2011, Etna's new Southeast crater (NSEC) entered a new eruptive cycle and began a series of 25 paroxysms (lasting until April 24, 2012). Events typically started with Strombolian activity, evolving to lava fountains that fed dense ash and lapilli plumes. At the time of writing, Etna's New South-East Crater (NSEC) activity has started again after a quiescence of about 9 months and has already resulted in 13 further paroxysms. Although the volcanic activity is similar to the previous cycle (strombolian activity associated with lava fountains and lava flows), the current sequence features concurrent activity at the Bocca Nuova and/or the Voragine craters (Fig. 2.2). Therefore, in this study we focus on the previous eruptive cycle from January 2011 to April 2012.

In this project, I focus on satellite data from the Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI), which was able to measure SO₂ emissions for each Etna paroxysm. The aim was to quantify the mass of gas produced by Etna during those 25 events and to use the data to better constrain the driving mechanism of lava fountaining. To achieve this, the time of the eruption and plume altitude are the main parameters required to constrain the SO₂ mass as accurately as possible. The time of eruption was retrieved from ground-based Doppler radar data and the plume height from the online HYSPLIT trajectory model that can calculate archive trajectories of air parcels. Doppler radar has been found to be a very effective tool for measuring ejecta velocities, at high acquisition rates and close to the emission source, for both Strombolian and lava fountaining activity (Dubosclard et al. 2004; Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2011). The VOLDORAD (VOLcanological DOPpler RADar) 2B was installed in a collaborative effort between the Observatoire de Physique du Globe de Clermont-Ferrand (OPGC) and the Instituto Nazionale di Geofisica e

Vulcanologia - Catania (INGV-Catania) and allows us to precisely constrain the onset of each paroxysm.

Although OMI provides high sensitivity to volcanic SO₂ emissions, it currently suffers from an anomaly that precludes complete coverage of some volcanic clouds. To compensate for this, we use independent Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS) SO₂ measurements (Prata and Bernardo, 2007). Moreover, the combined use of two instruments in NASA's polar-orbiting A-Train satellites constellation, OMI and AIRS, give us critical information on volcanic cloud altitude (Carn et al., 2009) and permit comparison and validation of near-coincident satellite measurements (see Appendix 8.3, 8.4 and 8.5). The measurement of SO₂ released to the atmosphere by volcanic eruptions is important in term of risk management. Therefore, the main goal of this project was to track the SO₂ clouds produced by the NSEC paroxysms at Etna and calculate the mass liberated in the atmosphere. In this thesis, we present the results of both OMI and AIRS measurements and use those data to argue that the collapsing foam (CF) model (Parfitt, 2004) is the dominant driving mechanism of lava fountains at Etna, as also suggested by previous work on more limited datasets (e.g., Allard et al., 2005).

2. Geological settings

Mount Etna volcano is located in Sicily, Italy. Its summit is currently 3330 m above sea level, and on its South-East flank is Sicily's second largest city, Catania. This stratovolcano, which is the largest (1250 km²) and tallest volcano in Europe, has a very complex volcanic evolution and geological location. Etna is an intermediate and intraplate volcano. The subduction of the Ionian plate under the European plate creates the volcanism of the Aeolian Islands. The formation and location of Etna in this context is not well understood. According to Schiano et al. (2001), the source region of Etnean magmas is changing and is experiencing a growing influence of Ionian subduction. Another possible explanation, according to Gvirtzman and Nur (1999), is an asthenospheric window with uprising mantle under the African plate.

There are currently five craters at the summit of Etna: (1) the Northeast Crater was created in 1911 and is the highest point of the volcano; (2) the Voragine and (3) the Bocca Nuova are together in the Central craters and were formed respectively in 1945 and 1968; (4) the Southeast crater was created in 1971 but its activity stopped in 2007. (5) A new pit crater formed on its East flank in November 2009, called the New Southeast crater (NSEC), hosting the present activity. This part of the summit is rapidly changing due to intense and frequent eruptive activity (Figure 2.1).

Etna is known to have had many eruptions of effusive and Strombolian types from the summit craters which pose relatively minor hazards in comparison to large, lateral effusive eruptions (e.g. 1669, 1991-93, cf. Smithsonian Institution Global volcanism program; Corsaro et al., 1996; Bousquet and Lanzafame, 2001) that represent a much greater threat to the surrounding populations and infrastructure. Explosive eruptions generating ash plumes, even of moderate intensity, cause disruption to air traffic in the vicinity of the volcano.

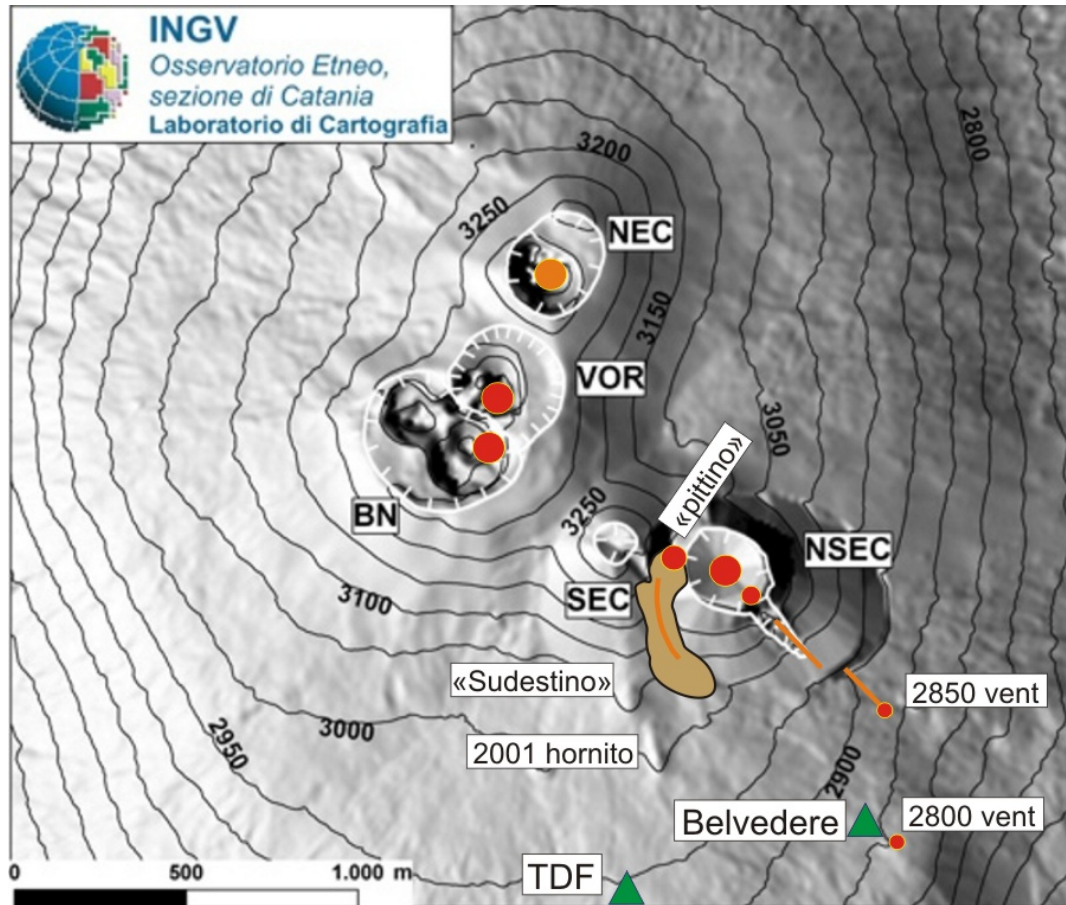


Figure 2.1: Map prepared by the Laboratorio di Cartografia of the INGV-OE of Etna's summit craters, showing the position of the eruptive vents active from February 20 to March 2, 2013. NEC=Northeast Crater; VOR=Voragine; BN=Bocca Nuova, SEC=Southeast Crater (not active since 2007); NSEC=New Southeast Crater; "Sudestino"=an eruptive vent that built a low cone at the southern base of the SEC cone in the spring of 2000; 2001 hornito=first eruptive vents to open during the 2001 flank eruption; 2850 vent and 2800 vent=eruptive vents that opened near the Belvedere monitoring station on 20-21 February 2013; TDF=Torre del Filosofo. Note that the vent of the NEC (shown in orange color) is open and contains degassing magma at depth since many years, but without any surface activity. Light brown area is the zone of the "saddle" between the two cones of the SEC, which collapsed during the 28 February 2013 paroxysm. Orange lines are eruptive fissures in the "saddle" and on the southeastern flank of the NSEC cone, which have been repeatedly active since the early morning paroxysm on 20 February 2013. © INGV - Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia - All rights reserved.

Etna has also produced Plinian eruptions in the past, as in 122 B.C when a violent explosive eruption took place which generated a sustained ash plume and caused fatalities (VEI 5 according to Smithsonian Institution; Coltelli et al., 1998). Moreover, the Valle del Bove is a depression of high interest because it is interpreted as the result of several caldera collapses occurring at the various secondary eruptive centers at the end of their

activity (80 ka - 64 ka BP; Klerkx, 1970; McGuire, 1982; Guest et al., 1984). Enhanced by erosion, this valley allowed volcanologists to study in the field the evolution of an ancient volcano (Trifoglieto; Calvari et al., 1994a).

Until 2000, typical activity of Etna was mainly effusive but since then its activity has changed in style and become accompanied by more explosive behavior. An increase in the frequency of effusive activity has also been noticed (Behncke et al., 2006, Andronico and Corsaro, 2011). The style of activity has implications for volcanic hazards since, while both lava flows and explosive activity pose hazards, the potential impacts and mitigation strategies differ. In terms of explosive activity, explosive events associated with the 2001 and 2002-2003 eruptions produced ash plumes that caused disruption of air traffic and closure of Catania's international airport (Calvari et al., 2011). Episodes of lava fountaining, which are also referred to as paroxysms, are often observed at the summit craters. They are also associated with fountain-fed lava flows and the generation of ash plumes, during their climax. A new cycle started in January 2011 and lasted for about 1.5 years, including a total of 25 paroxysms (e.g. Ganci et al., 2012), which are the focus of this study. Renewed fountaining activity at the NSEC began in February 2013, about 10 months after the previous paroxysm in April 2012. As of June 2013, 13 new paroxysms have taken place at the NSEC and 38 paroxysms since the beginning of lava fountaining in this new pit crater in January 2012. However, it is important to note that the activity has not been confined to the NSEC but has also occurred in the BN, the NEC and the Voragine. Such simultaneous volcanic activity in the NSEC and BN has not been seen in about 12 years. The activity at the BN restarted in July 2012 after 1 year of inactivity and is showing vigorous intracrater Strombolian explosions. For the Voragine, it started after 13 years of quiescence in February 2013.

INGV is in charge of continuously monitoring Etna and provides information in real-time to the Civil Protection. The instrumental network at Etna comprises traditional geophysical and remote sensing methods including arrays of broadband seismometers, infrasound sensors, thermal and visible cameras, and satellite data. Since July 2009,

OPGC also deployed a ground-based Doppler radar at La Montagnola (VOLDORAD 2B, Donnadieu et al., 2009; <http://www.obs.univ-bpclermont.fr/SO/televolc/voldorad/>) to help with monitoring the explosive activity of the summit craters in all weather conditions. The radar data are jointly exploited through a collaborative agreement between OPGC and INGV and were acquired by VOLDORAD 2B.

Finally, Etna is an excellent case study for SO₂ degassing since it is known as one of the strongest sources of volcanic SO₂ on the planet (Allard, 1997). This huge amount of gas can be released by continuous passive degassing but also during explosive eruptions that form volcanic clouds that can drift in the atmosphere for several days and travel long distances from Etna. The SO₂ emissions associated with Etnean lava fountains are not very well constrained but ground-based SO₂ measurements are currently made in real time by the INGV using UV spectrometers (mini-DOAS) to detect the SO₂ cloud. This network is called FLAME (FLux Automatic MEasurements) and was installed in 2004 on Etna flanks to measure SO₂ fluxes at high frequency (every ~6 minutes; Burton et al., 2004; Salerno et al., 2009b). However, this type of measurements is operating only during daylight hours and often misses the paroxysms if they occur at night. Another problem arises from the presence of ash plumes since this method requires a clear-sky background and the SO₂ plume can be quite wide. It can prevent SO₂ retrievals and therefore satellite remote sensing measurements are important to better constrain the SO₂ emissions.

3. Methodology

3.1 OMI

The Ozone Monitoring Instrument on NASA's EOS/Aura satellite was launched in July 2004. This UV/Visible Spectrometer can measure total column amounts of ozone and other trace gases such as SO₂, nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) BrO, and HCHO (S.Carn OMI data guide, 2012). OMI is of great interest since it retrieves SO₂ from space with a high spatial and spectral resolution (Krotkov et al. 2006), relative to previous UV satellite instruments, with daily global coverage until 2008 (see below). Previous instruments have been used to measure SO₂ in the atmosphere, such as the Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer (TOMS), but OMI's detection limit for SO₂ is about 2 orders of magnitude smaller than TOMS (Krueger et al. 1995).

The hyperspectral UV/Visible spectrometer has a 2600 km swath and detects backscattered solar radiation with a two-dimensional charge coupled device (CDD). In our project, we used data from the 310-365 nm UV-2 band with 0.42 nm spectral resolution (cf. Table 3.1 and figure 3.1). OMI is a pushbroom sensor that collected data for the swath in 2 seconds intervals, giving a 13 km along track resolution. The CCD pixels in one dimension are binned to create 60 cross-track positions corresponding to 24 km cross track resolution at nadir.

Level 2 (L2) OMI data (representing retrieved trace gas products) are publicly available and can be downloaded from the NASA GES DISC (Mirador) website <http://mirador.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/mirador/collectionlist.pl?keyword=omso2>. We are primarily interested in the OMSO2 swath data (OMI/Aura Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) Total Column 1-orbit L2 Swath 13x24 km). This gives us individual orbits that usually number 14-15 per day achieve global coverage. However, since May 2008, OMI measurements have been impacted by a row anomaly (a blockage in the sensor's field-of-view, which

varies dynamically over time) which results in a data gap affecting parts of the swath (OMSO2 Readme file; <http://www.knmi.nl/omi/research/product/rowanomaly-background.php>)

Table 3.1 : Aura and OMI principal parameters (OMI data guide, 2012).

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Orbit | Polar, sun-synchronous, in the 'A-Train' |
| Orbit altitude | 705 km |
| Ascending node | 13:42 local time |
| Viewing angle | 114° |
| Swath width | 2600km |
| Pixel size | 13 x 24 km at nadir |
| Wavelength ranges | 270-310 nm (UV1) |
| | 310-365 nm (UV2) |
| | 365-504 nm (Visible) |
| Spectral resolution | 0.42 nm (UV2) |

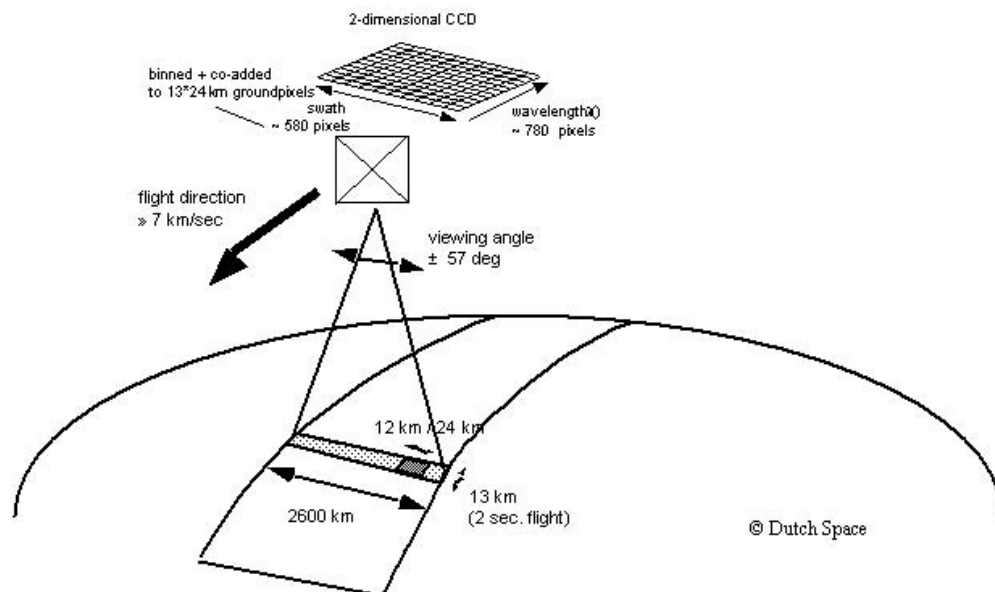


Figure 3.1: Sketch of the Aura Ozone Monitoring Instrument (Levelt et al., 2006; See Appendix 8.9 for documentation of permission to republish this material).

OMI allows volcanologist to study and track the SO₂ emission from volcanic eruptions almost anywhere in the world as well as passive degassing of volcanoes thanks to its high sensitivity (Krotkov et al. 2006). It is also sensitive enough to measure anthropogenic pollution produced by fossil fuel burning power plants and smelters (China; Krotkov et al., 2008).

The OMIPLOT software (Carn, 2011b) written in Interactive Data Language (IDL), permits OMI data processing and visualization of OMI data products including the column density of SO₂ in Dobson Units (1 DU = 2.69×10^{16} molecules/cm²) for 4 different altitudes: the Planetary Boundary Layer (PBL) corresponding to a Center of Mass Altitude (CMA) of 0.9 km, the Lower Troposphere (TRL) corresponding to a CMA of 2.5 km, the Middle troposphere (TRM) corresponding to a CMA of 7.5 km, and the Upper troposphere and Lower Stratosphere (STL) corresponding to 17 km. The altitude assumption is required since the retrieved SO₂ column is altitude-dependent, but since the injection height of volcanic SO₂ varies significantly the actual SO₂ altitude is not known (and cannot be realistically inferred) at the time of the OMI measurements.

OMIPLOT was used to analyze the L2 OMI SO₂ data files from NASA and create images of the SO₂ cloud transport. To date, two different algorithms have been used to produce operational SO₂ column data from OMI: the Band Residual Difference (BRD, Krotkov et al., 2006), and the Linear Fit algorithm (LF, Yang et al. 2007). OMIPLOT primarily uses the LF algorithm to produce the TRL, TRM and STL columns, which are the layers of most interest for the study of Etna's SO₂ volcanic emissions. Furthermore, the LF algorithm is more suitable for analysis of volcanic SO₂ emissions because it takes into account the non-linearity of SO₂ retrievals above ~20 DU (OMSO2 Readme file). Initially, the BRD technique was used for OMI SO₂ retrievals but the LF algorithm improved the measurements, especially for cases with high SO₂ column amounts like large volcanic eruptions (Yang et al., 2007; Krotkov et al, 2010). After Krotkov et al (2010), the LF algorithm calculates the radiance residuals as the difference between the measured and computed N values:

$N = -100 \times \log_{10}(I/F)$, where I is Earth radiance and F is solar irradiance.

To consider multiple Rayleigh scattering, ozone absorption, ring effect and surface reflectivity, this algorithm uses a vector forward radiative transfer model (Krotkov et al., 2010).

The aim of this project was to quantify the SO₂ mass produced by each paroxysm from the NSEC of Etna, using the Normalized Cloud-mass (NC) technique. From S.Carn (OMI guide, 2012), the procedure selects a region of interest encompassing the volcanic cloud and calculates the SO₂ mass (SO_{2cloud}) for a certain area (A_{cloud}), followed by a background region free of SO₂ with the same dimension and similar meteorological cloud features. The SO₂ mass of the background (SO_{2back}; corresponding to background retrieval noise) and its area (A_{back}) are used to deduce the SO₂ cloud mass using the following equation (see Appendix 8.2):

$$SO_2 \text{ cloud mass} = SO_{2cloud} - \left(\frac{A_{back}}{A_{cloud}} \times SO_{2back} \right)$$

3.2 HYSPLIT trajectory modeling

Since OMIplot calculates a mass of SO₂ at a certain prescribed altitude we need to correct for the actual altitude of the volcanic cloud. To estimate the latter, we used the online HYSPLIT trajectory model (http://ready.arl.noaa.gov/HYSPLIT_traj.php) that can reconstruct forward and backward air parcel trajectories for specified altitudes using model wind fields. From our OMI images of the volcanic clouds, we extracted the coordinates of the cloud location for the highest SO₂ columns at the leading edge (assuming that this was more accurate). HYSPLIT was then used to calculate back trajectories of the volcanic cloud at various altitudes from these coordinates and the date and time of the OMI overpass. The altitude of the trajectory that best matched Etna's location was assumed to represent the SO₂ cloud altitude. Sometimes, the INGV-Catania reports, which describe the volcanic activity for each paroxysm, also gave information on

the plume height at the vent. However, plume altitude can change during transport downwind from the vent.

An example of this back trajectory technique is shown in Figure 3.2 and 3.3 for the case of the 9th paroxysm (August 5, 2011) corresponding to the 4th day of SO₂ plume dispersion. This analysis was conducted for each paroxysm and each day of OMI images since the plume altitude is often variable during its dispersion in the atmosphere (see Appendix 8.1)

Using the HYSPLIT-derived plume height for each paroxysm, we then linearized the SO₂ mass for the estimated altitude using the two OMI CMAs bracketing this altitude (e.g. if the estimated plume height was 10 km, we used the SO₂ mass calculated at 7.5 (TRM) and 17 km (STL)). We thus derived the corrected SO₂ mass for each OMI SO₂ image.

This type of calculation is influenced by errors. In this case, the main source of error is the plume height since the LF algorithm gives different SO₂ column retrievals for different altitudes. We estimated the SO₂ mass error to be about $\pm 20\%$. The altitude-related error is largest for SO₂ altitudes below ~ 5 km. But other factors such as ash interference and opacity of the initial plume can also affect our measurements for OMI overpass close to the onset of the eruption and lead to some underestimation of the SO₂ mass calculation. This is only valid when the plume is close to the vent since the ash seems to fall out quite rapidly during the paroxysms once the plume has drifted away from Etna.

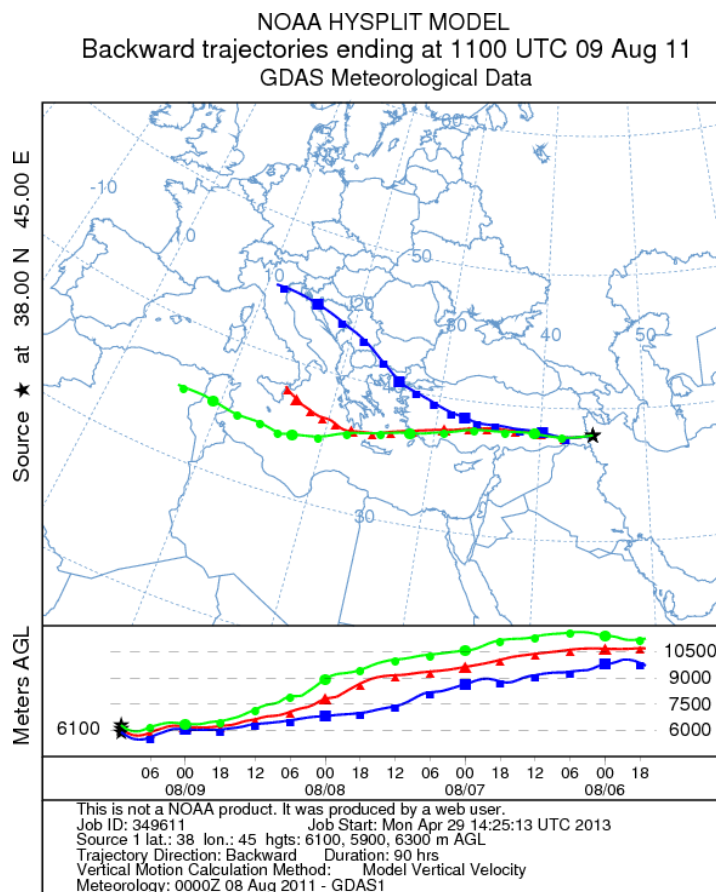


Figure 3.2: HYSPLIT trajectory model for the case of the 9th paroxysm on August 5, 2011. The red line passing above Ettna (6100 m) is the selected plume height for August 9 at 11:00 UTC.

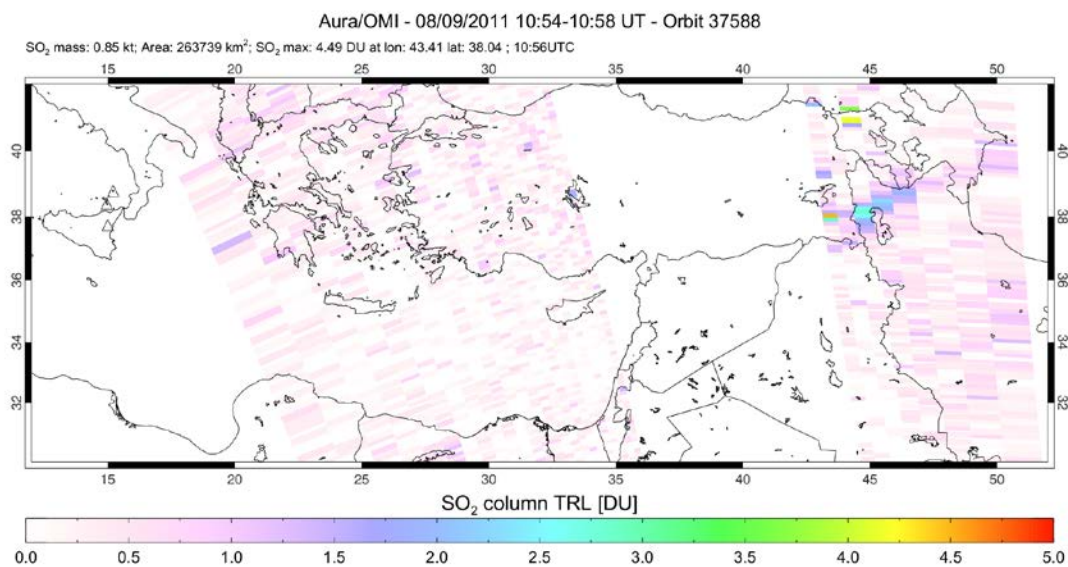


Figure 3.3: OMI SO₂ image showing the location of the SO₂ plume on August 9, 2011 at 10:54 UT used for the HYPLIT back trajectory estimation.

3.3 AIRS

To compensate for data gaps due to the OMI row anomaly, where all or part of the SO₂ cloud may be missed, we use IR (AIRS data). This instrument flies on Aqua in a sun-synchronous polar orbit with a local equator crossing time of 13:30 (Prata and Bernardo, 2007). Like Aura, Aqua is part of the A-Train satellite fleet, flying ~15 minutes ahead of Aura. Thus AIRS and OMI make measurements within ~15 minutes of each other (actually ~8 minutes in recent years due to a new A-Train configuration). AIRS is an echelle grating spectrometer that covers the strong SO₂ absorption band at 1362 cm⁻¹ (v3-band), permitting measurements of SO₂ column abundance (Prata and Bernardo, 2007). The instrument scans with the following parameters: swath of 49° from nadir, 1.1° field of view, and 15x15 km² pixel dimensions at nadir.

The advantage of AIRS is it provides 2 images per day, one during the day and one at night, unlike OMI that requires UV (sunlight) to make measurements. However, the sensitivity of AIRS to SO₂ is lower than OMI with an accuracy of about 6 D.U (Prata and Bernardo, 2007) and it therefore has greater errors. Nevertheless, AIRS data were used to track SO₂ clouds on days affected by the OMI row anomaly, and also to increase the number of observations for all paroxysms (see Appendix 8.3, 8.4 and 8.5).

AIRS data are also publicly available online from NASA and the specific data product used here is the AIRS/Aqua Level 1B (L1B) Infrared Radiances (<http://mirador.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/mirador/homepageAlt.pl?keyword=AIRIBRAD>).

These data are geolocated and calibrated radiances and the processed images have 2378 channels (high spectral resolution) comprised of 90 pixels by 135 lines (Manning, 2002; Prata and Bernardo, 2007). All our L1B AIRS data were processed using the Prata and Bernardo (2007) retrieval algorithm using a r² correlation threshold of 0.5 that can detect weak volcanic activity with a minimum of 100 tons of SO₂. This method of retrieval created by Prata and Bernardo (2007) also considers the effect of water vapor across the

wavelength band.

Another goal of this project was to compare the OMI and AIRS SO₂ retrievals for Etna's eruption clouds to see how well they agree. However, some prior studies by Prata and Bernardo (2007) and Carn et al (2005) show that for SO₂ above 8 km altitude the two techniques are in good agreement and below 8 km, AIRS values are 2 to 3 times lower than OMI.

3.4 SO₂ decay rate

The last stage of the analysis is to find the initial SO₂ mass for the onset of the eruption. For that, both OMI and AIRS measurements were corrected for each paroxysm by assuming exponential SO₂ loss to infer the amount of SO₂ emitted at the beginning of the paroxysm (Krotkov et al., 2010). SO₂ is a short-lived gas in the lower troposphere with an annual average lifetime of 1-3 days (Chin et al., 2000; Barrie et al., 2001) but it has a much longer lifetime when released by large volcanic eruptions since it can reach the stratosphere (Prata and Bernardo, 2007). Unfortunately, use of an exponential fit was precluded for some paroxysms due to insufficient data points; we therefore had to do some extrapolations for those cases. Different methods were used such as: the average exponential decay rate, or the plume height decay rate. The first technique was based on the average of all the paroxysms that had at least 2 data points and we used this value to extrapolate for the other cases (with only one data point available); this was made for the two instruments OMI and AIRS but mainly used for AIRS measurements. For the second technique, we identify the paroxysm with the closest plume altitude and detection time and use the corresponding SO₂ decay rate to estimate the initial SO₂ mass (since AIRS doesn't give an accurate altitude, this was used only for the OMI measurements). This last method was preferred for the estimation of the initial SO₂ mass for OMI data because we supposed that the SO₂ decay rate is related on the cloud altitude (theoretically the higher the altitude is, the lower decay rate we should get and the longer residence time of the SO₂ in the atmosphere).

3.5 OMI-AIRS validation

The near-coincident measurements by OMI and AIRS in the A-Train permit inter-comparison and validation of the UV and IR SO₂ retrievals. Although comparisons of total SO₂ mass in a volcanic cloud are useful (e.g., Prata and Bernardo, 2007), in this work we use an IDL routine to compare the OMI and AIRS SO₂ data on a pixel-by-pixel basis in a number of Etna's eruption clouds. For each SO₂ cloud with matching AIRS and OMI data (the daytime AIRS overpass corresponding to the OMI overpass), we were able to examine the correlation between the 2 methods. In our approach, for each OMI pixel the code finds the AIRS pixel with the closest SO₂ column amount at a range of distances from the OMI pixel center (distances of 0.1°, 0.2°, 0.3°, 0.4° and 0.5° are used). For each distance, a plot of AIRS SO₂ vs. OMI SO₂ is produced, and if there is a good correlation a linear regression correlation coefficient is added to the plot. Usually the correlation will improve as the distance from the OMI pixel increases because the possibility of finding the same SO₂ column amount increases. It is also due to the 15 minutes delay between the OMI and AIRS retrievals, since the cloud can be moving quite fast during this interval. The plot symbols are color-coded and represents the OMI cross-track pixel position i.e., it varies from 1-60 with 30 being nadir and 1 and 60 being extreme off-nadir positions. We generally expect a poor correlation between OMI and AIRS SO₂ columns for the off-nadir pixels as the OMI pixel size becomes very large and quite different from the AIRS pixel size and shape. Near nadir, the OMI and AIRS pixel sizes are more similar. It is possible to change the number of data points that are used in the linear regression by using a lower threshold of OMI SO₂ column amount. Different thresholds were tested such as 1 DU, 5 DU and 10 DU, to see how the correlation was affected.

3.6 Doppler Radar

Doppler radar principles and retrieved parameters

The radar installed on Mount Etna is a VOLcanological DOppler RADar (VOLDORAD 2B) located at La Montagnola ~3 km South-East of the NSEC. This ground-based pulse radar records continuously using the L-Band (wavelength = 23.5 cm) and is able to monitor all types of explosive activity (Donnadieu et al., 2009). It was created by the OPGC and set-up on Etna in collaboration with the INGV-Catania during June 2009 to monitor the eruptive activity of the summit craters.

Table 3.2: Characteristics of the VOLDORAD 2B radar created by OPGC and continuously recording Mt Etna's activity since 2009.

| Characteristics | Symbole | Voldorad 2B |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Transmitted frequency (MHz) | ft | 1274 |
| Peak power (W) | Pt | 60 |
| Wavelength (cm) | λ | 23.5 |
| Antenna beam elevation (deg) | θ | 15.5 |
| Antenna beam width (deg) | α | 9 |
| Antenna beam azimuth (deg) | | 350 |
| Pulse repetition period (μ s) | tr | 100 |
| Pulse duration (μ s) | T | 1 |
| gate width (m) | L | 150 |
| thermal camera elevation angle (deg) | 15 | |
| thermal camera fov (deg) | 18,8° (v) - 25° (h) | |

The advantages of VOLDORAD are (Donnadieu et al., 2005): i) it can detect emissions of particles even in harsh weather conditions, ii) it can monitor volcanic activity remotely (from a distance of 0.3 – 11 km), and (iii) it can provide quantitative parameters in real-time. The radar has an elevation angle of 15.5° and a beam angle of 9° (Table 3.2). Each pulse lasts 1 μ s and the pulse is emitted every 100 μ s which makes the radar gate 150 m deep ($(c \times d_{pulse})/2 = 150$ m, where c is the speed of light and d_{pulse} is the pulse duration). VOLDORAD 2B is able to detect particles crossing the antenna beam in up to 11 range gates ranging from 3135 m to 4635 m (these being slant distances from the radar) with G1 and G2 (at 3135 and 3285 m) being closer to the NSEC, as shown by the highest power recorded in these gates during all eruptions of NSEC.

During short duration deployments of the radar (Donnadieu et al., 2003, 2005, 2011; Donnadieu, 2012; Dubosclard et al., 2004; Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2008, 2010, 2011; Mora et al., 2009; Valade and Donnadieu, 2011; Valade et al., 2012), temporal series of the raw signal (.srt data) were recorded. Because the monitoring is continuous at Mt Etna, the data format had to be modified to save storage memory. The spectra (.spe data, power spectral density as a function of the radial velocity range) are directly calculated and only the power values of each velocity class (64) are recorded, thus limiting the memory space requirements to 1 Gb/day. Therefore, with the radar spectrum we can use Fortran software called CALPV (Calcul de Puissance et Vitesse) to extract the power and radial velocity parameters for each time step and each gate. We then obtain processed temporal series of Power and Velocity to compare all eruptions (cf. reports of the OPGC on VOLDORAD website) and infer their dynamics.

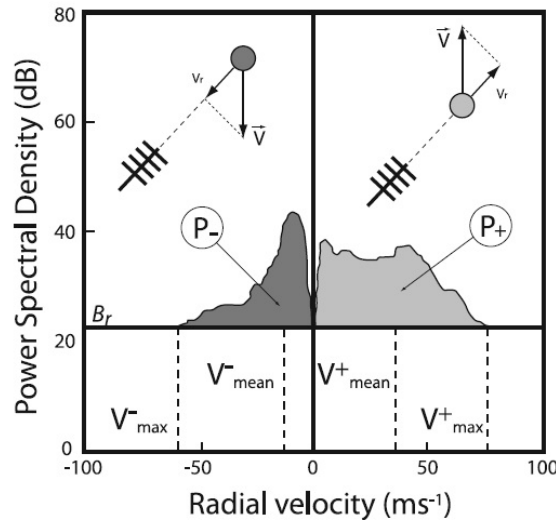


Figure 3.4: typical Doppler spectrum (Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2008). See Appendix 8.8 for documentation of permission to republish this material.

From Dubosclard et al. (2004), a target moving in one of the range gates produces a frequency Doppler shift Δf between the transmitted and received frequency equal to:

$\Delta f = -2ft \times (Vr/c)$ where c is the speed of light, ft the transmitted frequency and Vr the radial velocity of the target, i.e. the velocity component along the antenna beam

direction. Radial velocities are determined from the Doppler shift (Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2010). Therefore, particles moving away from the antenna (having a positive radial velocity) will induce a negative Doppler shift and vice versa. Furthermore, the negative velocity field ($V_{\text{max}} \leq V_r \leq 0$) corresponds to particles with a component of motion toward the antenna and the positive velocity field ($0 \leq V_r \leq V_{\text{max}}$) to particles with a component of motion away from the antenna (Dubosclard et al., 2004). In the particular configuration given in Figure 3.4, and for ballistic bombs and blocks in particular, ascending particles above the crater will have mainly positive radial velocities (away from the antenna) and descending particles will have mainly negative radial velocities (towards the antenna). This is more complex in the case of plumes where ash and lapilli are entrained in eddies while rising because of convection and turbulence, and also strongly influenced by the wind advection.

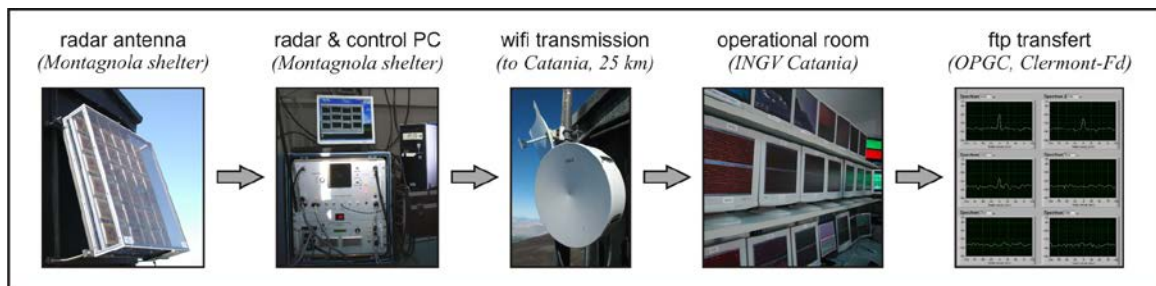


Figure 3.5: Operational diagram illustrating the successive steps of radar data acquisition and transfer. The radar antenna (without its radome here), located on Etna's southern flank (La Montagnola), transmits an electromagnetic wave and receives the echoes backscattered by the particles in the beam. The radar then amplifies, filters, and digitizes the received signal, which appears in real-time as Doppler spectra on the control PC in the shelter. Data are stored on a server in the shelter. From there the data is transmitted by WIFI to INGV's operational room in Catania (Sicily). At last, they are transferred to the OPGC (Clermont-Ferrand, France) by FTP, and displayed every 2 min on its website (<http://www.obs.univ-bpclermont.fr/SO/televolc/voldorad/TRetna.php>). Modified from Valade 2012.

INGV-Catania receives the radar signal in their operations room which is permanently occupied (in continuous 8 hours shifts). A real time monitoring alert message is automatically sent by email at the beginning and the end of the eruptive signal (Figure 3.5).

Modeling

To estimate eruptive parameters such as the mass, particle concentration and mass flux from the paroxysms of Etna's NSEC, we decided to use a model based on a monodisperse (single particle size) particle-size distribution (PSD). Previous work on the grain size and density can be used to retrieve particle loading parameters with a faster but less accurate monodisperse model than polydisperse (Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2008). We can use either the Rayleigh or Mie (1908) electromagnetic scattering model to provide synthetic data of power backscattered by particles (Pr). A good approximation for small particles is the Rayleigh scattering theory, the validity limit of which depends on the radar wavelength (Sauvageot, 1992). Here, we can use this approximation for particles of diameter smaller than $\lambda/4$ which corresponds to about 5.9 cm called the validity limit (D_L) (Figure 3.6; Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2006).

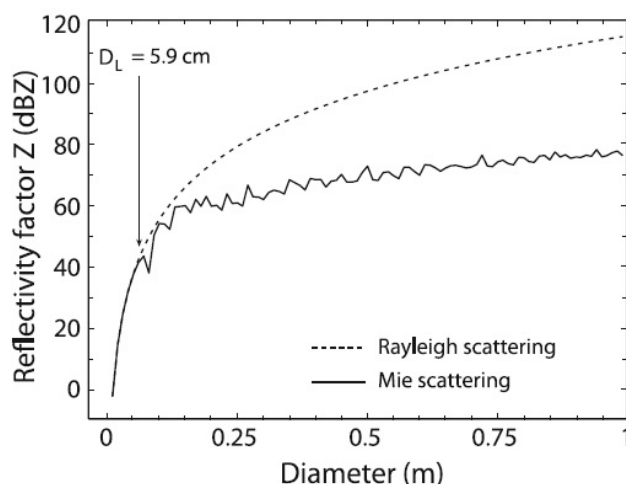


Figure 3.6: Synthetic reflectivity factor (Z , expressed in dBZ) as a function of particle diameter. Note the large overestimation of Z for large diameters when computed using the Rayleigh approximation [Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2006].

If we assume that we can use the value of grain-size from samples of the 12th paroxysm of the NSEC (29 August 2011) for every episode, with a mean particle size between 11.2 and 16 mm (Bonny, 2012), the Rayleigh theory is a good approximation for the proximal part of the ash and lapilli plume fed from the lava fountains. However, to model the lava fountain (with larger particles) we need to use Mie theory with a diameter about 0.1 m.

The aim is to find a synthetic power equal to that observed during the given paroxysm and to extract the eruptive parameters. In this model, the synthetic power is defined as $Pr = Cr \times (\eta/r^4)$ where Cr is the radar constant, η is the radar reflectivity and r the slant distance between the radar and the target. The reflectivity factor Z is defined by Sauvageot (1992) as a function of the radar reflectivity (η), the radar wavelength λ , and the particle complex dielectric factor K ($Z = \int N(D) D^6 dD$; see Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2008 for more information about the model). There are two important requirements to use this model (Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2008): i) the power used as input to the inversion model is defined carefully and ii) the reflected power is integrated throughout the entire duration of the explosion as the uprising plume passes vertically across the range gates concerned.

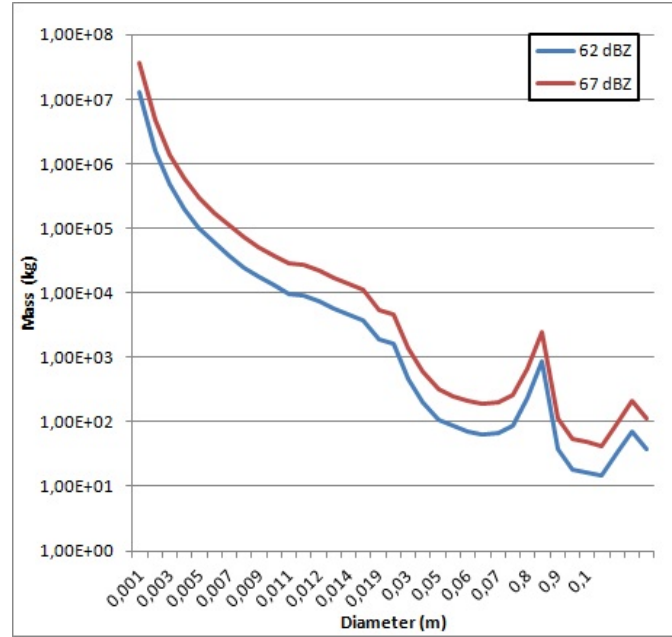


Figure 3.7: Mass against particle diameter for a given reflectivity factor Z . The red line of 67 dBZ corresponds to the maximum power of lava fountain and the blue line to the convecting plume.

In figure 3.7, we can see that the estimation of the mass increases rapidly when we have small particles. Above a size of 0.02 m Mie theory is applied because a small difference is found with the Rayleigh theory. This graph shows that the mass of small particles required to generate a given reflectivity can be up to several orders of magnitude higher

than the mass of larger particles giving the same reflectivity (Gouhier and Donnadieu, 2008). Small particles play an important role in the estimation of the mass because they contribute most to the total estimated mass. For instance, a reflectivity of 67 dBZ requires $3.74 \cdot 10^7$ kg of 0.001 m particles compared to $3.74 \cdot 10^4$ kg of 0.01 m particles a difference of 3 orders of magnitude. It is therefore important to know in our modeling because we have particles of about 1 cm. Moreover, the two curves follow the same trend: the red curve, corresponding to the lava fountains with high reflectivity, is above the blue curve of the convective plume with a constant offset between the two.

4. Results

4.1 HYSPLIT

Based on the OMI images, given a reference point, and the HYSPLIT trajectory model (http://ready.arl.noaa.gov/HYSPLIT_traj.php), we estimate the plume height for each day of each paroxysm (41 points). The HYSPLIT back trajectories also provide an estimation of the onset of the paroxysm, given by the time at which the trajectory intersects Etna, which we compare with our Doppler radar data. Since the time is estimated ‘visually’ from the HYSPLIT trajectories, there is some error involved (we assume ± 2 -3 hours). Figure 4.1 shows a good agreement between the two methods, with the majority of the data having time differences less than 5 hours. We conclude that SO₂ emissions detected from space by OMI generally coincide with the peak lava fountain intensity detected by VOLDORAD 2B on the ground. Scatter in Fig. 4.1 is likely due to our use of a single reference point in each SO₂ cloud, and could perhaps be reduced by calculating multiple back-trajectories for each volcanic plume. However, ground-based and satellite-based measurements appear to be in agreement about the onset of the eruption at Etna’s NSEC.

The HYSPLIT method is less accurate than the radar since it has a precision of only 2-3 hours, and there is some uncertainty in the model wind fields. The points that deviate from the VOLDORAD eruption timings by more than 5 hours could be explained by trajectory predictions that do not come directly from Etna, or as indicated by thermal camera videos of some paroxysms from INGV, some gas release may occur before radar detection of the lava fountain.

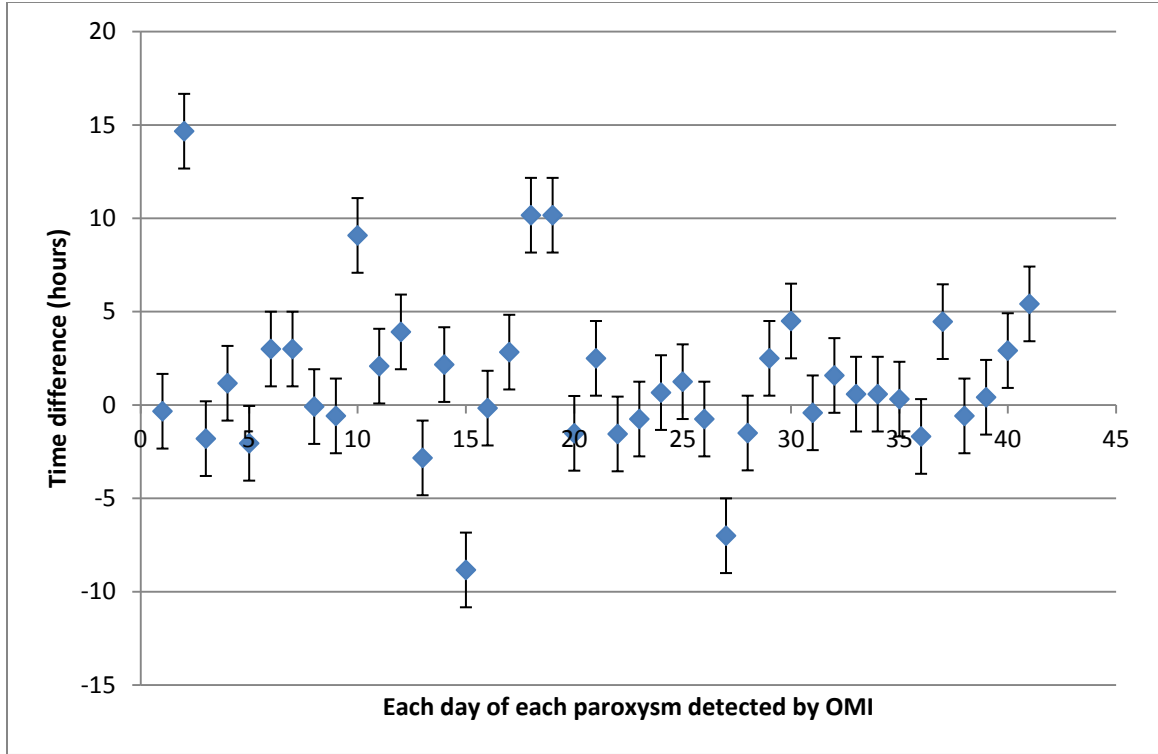


Figure 4.1: Graph showing the difference between the HYSPLIT estimation of the onset of the eruption and the radar for each measurement point starting with the 1st paroxysm on January 12, 2011. The negative time difference corresponds to early HYSPLIT prediction and positive difference to late prediction. Error bars of ± 2 hours.

4.2 SO_2 mass retrieval (OMI and AIRS)

OMI and AIRS SO_2 measurements allowed us to track the SO_2 clouds from Etna's NSEC for up to 4 days after emission (in the case of the 22 and 25th paroxysms). As examples, we show here 5 paroxysms where the OMI and AIRS coverage was able to follow the SO_2 cloud for the longest time and without data gaps, which corresponds to the 9th, 12th, 21st, 22nd and 25th paroxysms or respectively 5 August 2011, 29 August 2011, 4 March 2012, 18 March 2012 and 24 April 2012.

For the 2 first cases (9th and 12th paroxysms), the synergistic use of both OMI and AIRS data is useful because AIRS is able to give insight into the beginning of the eruption. For

instance, for the 9th paroxysm, in Figure 4.2a and 4.2b, AIRS is able to track the cloud the day after the eruption, whereas OMI was affected by the row anomaly. Likewise in Figure 4.3a and b, AIRS provides information on the cloud location for the 1st day of the eruption. In both cases, the cloud was better seen using OMI images from the TRL layer which correspond to a CMA of 2.5 km.

Furthermore, the SO₂ mass decay rate for the combined dataset gives a better correlation coefficient than the separate case (see Figure 4.4). For instance, if we only take into account the OMI values, as for paroxysm number 9, the corrected SO₂ mass at the onset of the paroxysm is 6430 tons with a $R^2=0.78$ with a decay rate of -0.018 but for OMI and AIRS together the corrected mass is 4400 tons with a $R^2=0.81$ and a decay rate of -0.013.

For the 12th paroxysm, the corrected SO₂ mass for both OMI and AIRS is 4230 tons with $R^2=0.88$ with a decay rate of -0.028, which we consider to be more accurate than the SO₂ mass derived from OMI data alone (with only 2 data points). Finally, it is not possible in these cases to compare the 2 methods of SO₂ retrievals since we don't have the AIRS overpass corresponding to the OMI overpass but the data are complementary.

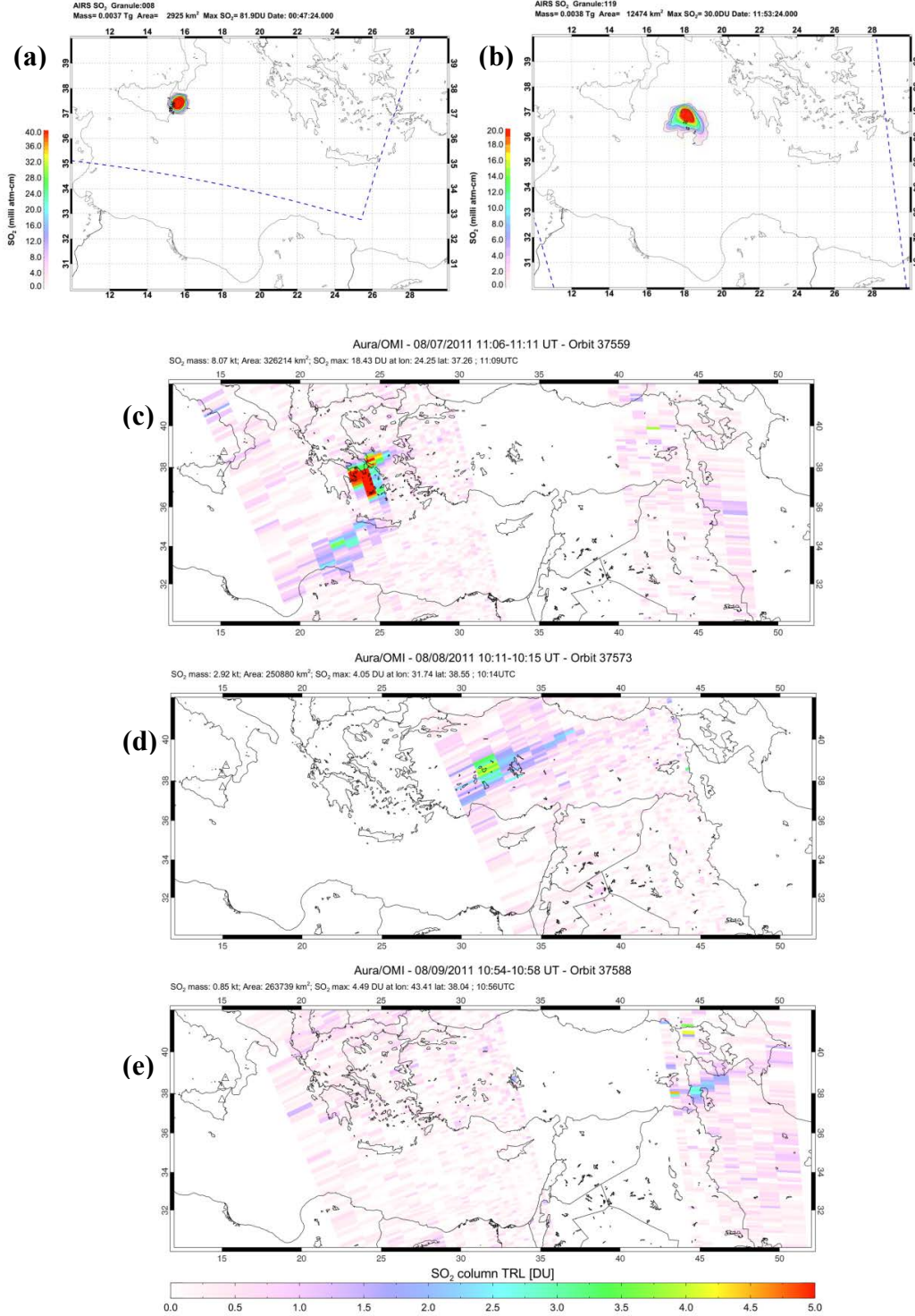


Figure 4.2: SO₂ plume track from the 9th paroxysm. (a) AIRS overpass at 00:47 UT on August 6, 2011. Color scale shows retrieved SO₂ vertical column amount in milli atm cm (equivalent to Dobson Units); (b) AIRS overpass at 11:53 UT on August 6; (c), (d) and (e) OMI overpasses from the next days. A black triangle indicates location of Etna; Note the different scale for OMI and AIRS images.

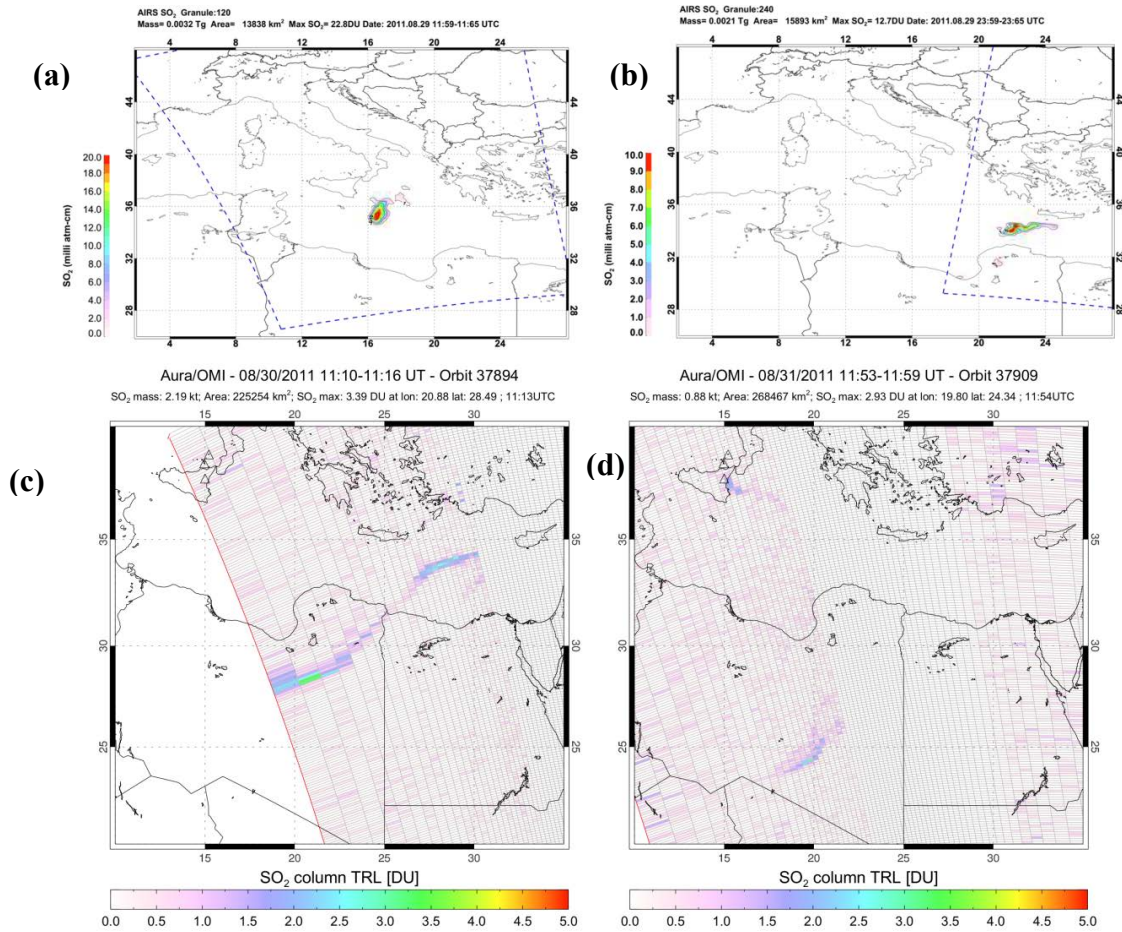


Figure 4.3: SO₂ plume track from the 12th paroxysm on August 29, 2011. (a) AIRS overpass at 12:00 UT on August 29, 2011; (b) AIRS overpass at 00:00 on August 30, 2011; (c) and (d) OMI overpasses from the next 2 days. Note the different scale for OMI and AIRS images.

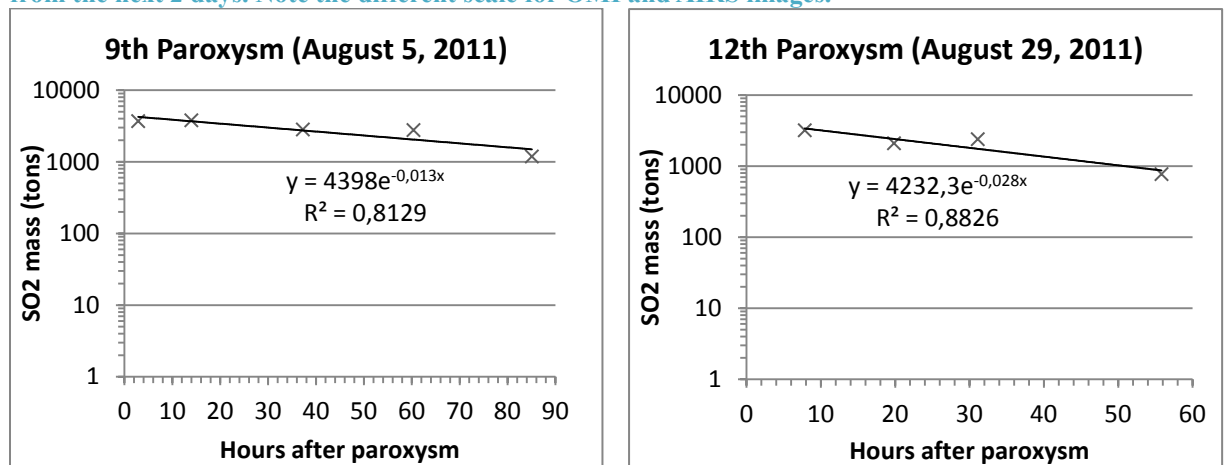


Figure 4.4: Graphs of the SO₂ decay from the combined data of OMI and AIRS.

21st Paroxysm (4 March 2012): The SO₂ cloud generated during this paroxysm was tracked further from Etna than any other in our study. The plume was observed over China approximately 2.5 days after the eruption (figure 4.5). The OMI images show the TRM SO₂ columns (7.5 km) and show the importance of monitoring volcanic SO₂ to prevent aviation hazards since this cloud was located at an altitude of 7-9.8 km during its propagation.

It is possible for this case to constrain the SO₂ cloud altitude better with the aid of AIRS data. In Table 4.1 the data show that AIRS consistently measures a lower mass of gas although it is comparable to OMI. This agrees with the idea that the cloud has reached the UTLS (above 5 km), and confirms the altitude estimation derived from HYSPLIT (http://ready.arl.noaa.gov/HYSPLIT_traj.php).

Based on the exponential SO₂ decay rate calculated from OMI observations, the mass emitted by Etna at the onset of the paroxysm was 9860 tons with $R^2=0.84$ (figure 4.6). It is however quite different from the equivalent AIRS estimate since the last 2 images give lower amounts of SO₂, the corrected mass being 5170 tons with $R^2=0.05$. Therefore, the link between this cloud and the paroxysm from the 6th of March, which is found very far from Etna, is questionable. Even though, HYSPLIT trajectories seem consistent with an origin from Etna and not an East African volcano, an increase of SO₂ gas after a few days in the atmosphere is unexpected.

In this case, we could get a near-coincident image of the volcanic cloud from AIRS and OMI, therefore the location of the plume can be compared. We find that in AIRS data, even if they are collected before OMI, the SO₂ cloud extent is smaller because AIRS has a higher limit of detection (another example can be seen in Appendix 8.6). However, the plume can be seen at the same location (figure 4.7). For instance, on March 6 at about 9:00 UTC, AIRS detected only 2600 tons of SO₂ whereas OMI measured 3960 tons.

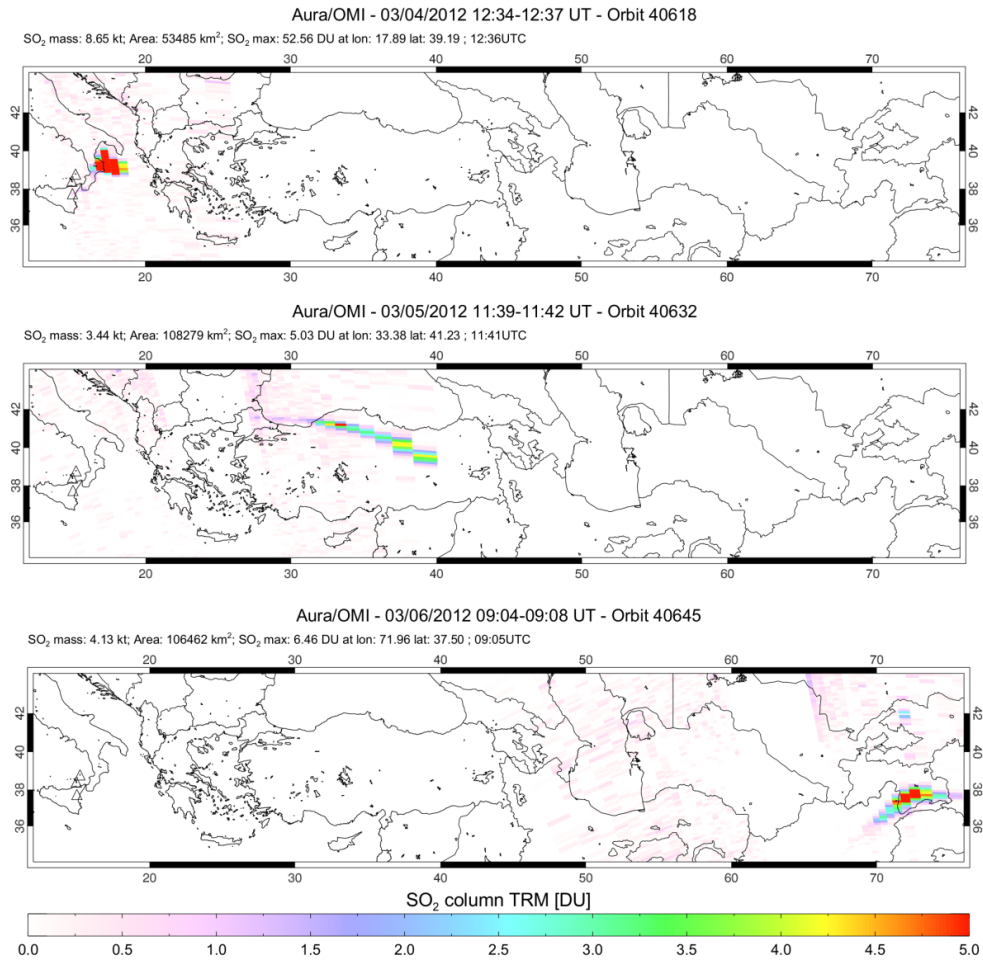


Figure 4.5: OMI images from the 21st paroxysm of the NSEC from the 4th of March, 2012.

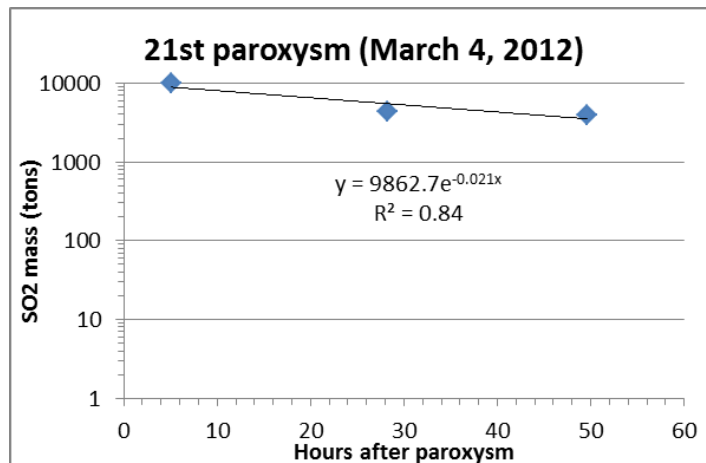


Figure 4.6: Graph of OMI SO₂ mass data from the 21st paroxysm. The exponential decay regression line with the equation is shown as well as the correlation coefficient.

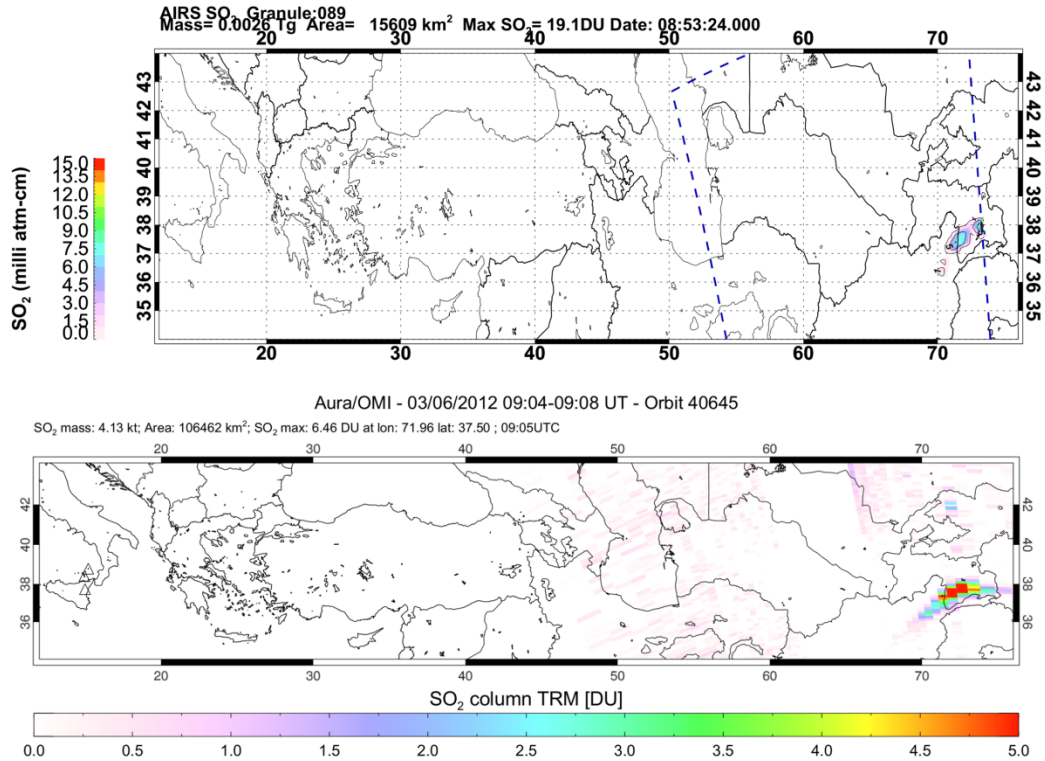


Figure 4.7: Comparison between AIRS and OMI images from March 6, 2012 (2 days after the onset of the eruption). Note the different SO₂ scale (milli atm-cm is the same as DU).

22nd Paroxysm (March 18, 2012): The SO₂ cloud from this paroxysm reached the highest altitude of any detected during this cycle; reaching an altitude of 11.2 km (UTLS). This is a good example since we have the most data points (10 in total with OMI and AIRS) that track the plume for 3 full days. In Figure 4.8, we can see the OMI images showing the dispersal of the cloud towards the South East, and it was last detected at the border between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan at 7.5 km altitude.

In Figure 4.9, 2 images of the 19th of March 2012, from OMI and AIRS allow us to see that the OMI row anomaly does not actually hide a part of the volcanic cloud since we have the coincident AIRS image. This also tells us that the SO₂ has reached the UTLS and detection by AIRS therefore confirms our plume height estimation. The AIRS image shows the same location of the SO₂ cloud about 15 min before the corresponding OMI overpass, although the SO₂ columns measured by OMI appear lower. This is verified by

the SO₂ mass retrieval where we can see that the AIRS SO₂ loading calculation is higher than the OMI SO₂ mass (except for the last day on March 21, 2012), 8800 tons measured by AIRS against 4790 tons by OMI. This difference with the previous paroxysm (#21) might be due the higher altitude of the volcanic cloud that makes it easier to detect by AIRS.

The SO₂ mass decreases with time and distance away from Etna (as expected) and the corrected SO₂ mass at the beginning of the volcanic activity estimated by OMI is 7210 tons with $R^2=0.97$ (Figure 4.10). The AIRS measurements gave also a good correlation coefficient of 0.92 but estimate a higher amount of SO₂ (14220 tons). The combined methods however, give a lower correlation number, therefore the OMI retrieval seems to be the most accurate. The higher estimate based on AIRS data is likely due to the lower sensitivity of AIRS to SO₂ relative to OMI, causing a more rapid ‘decay’ in the measured SO₂ mass and a possible overestimate of the paroxysmal SO₂ emission.

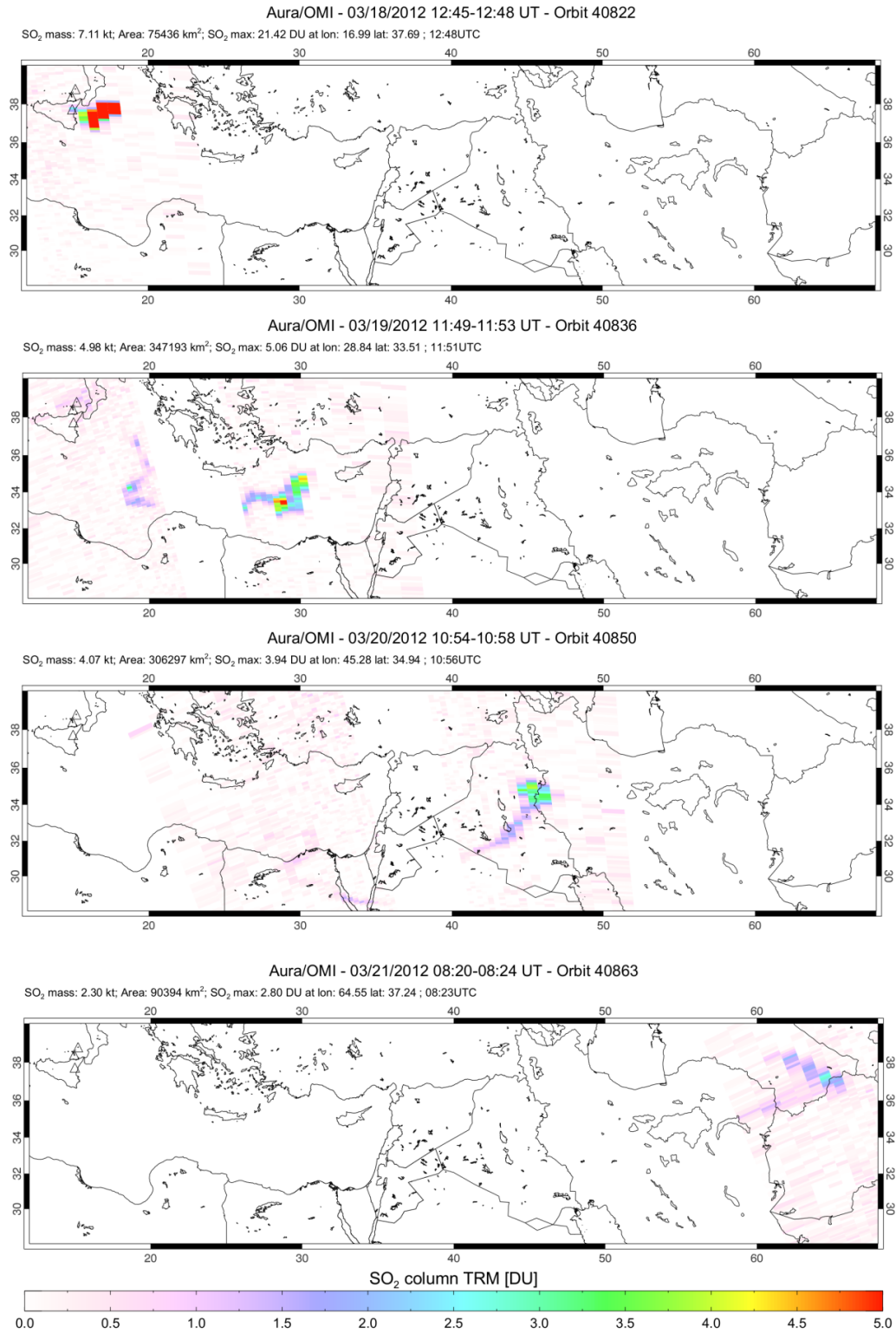


Figure 4.8: OMI images from the 22nd paroxysm of the NSEC.

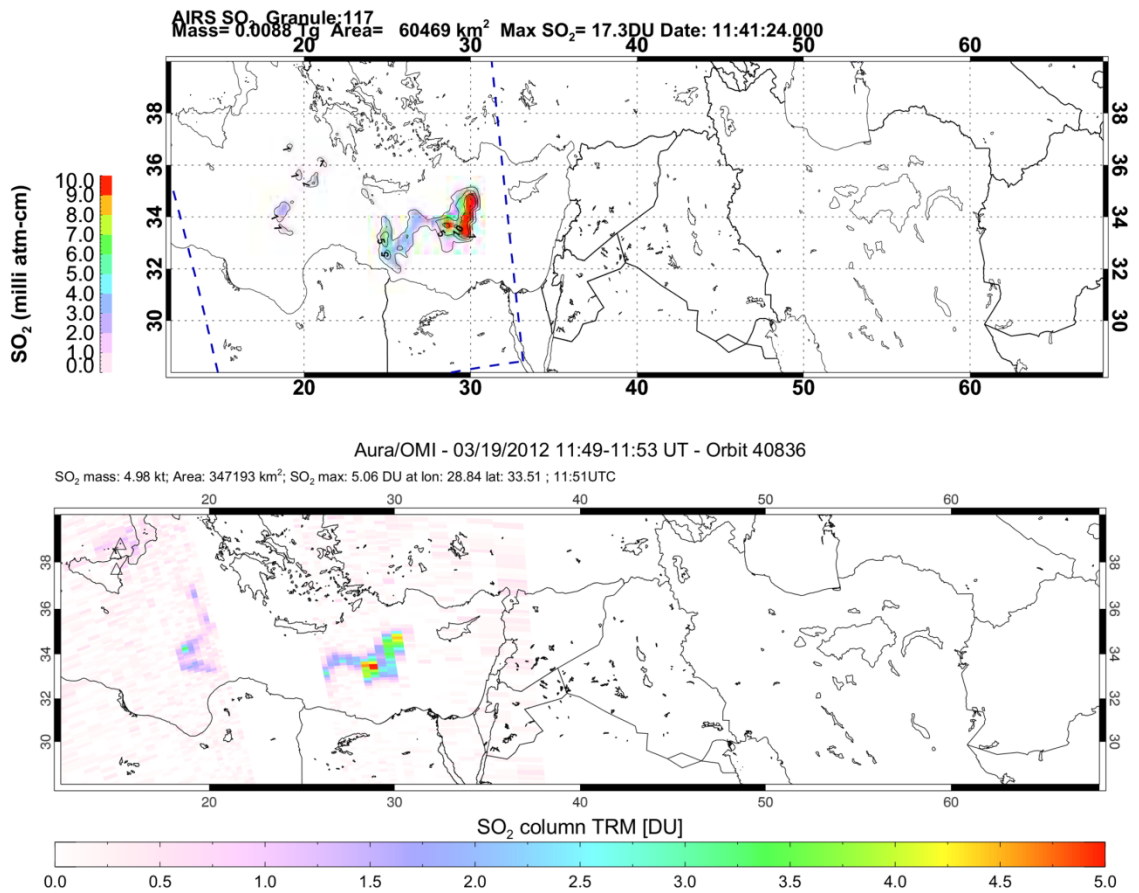


Figure 4.9: Comparison between AIRS and OMI images from March 19, 2012 (1 day and a few hours after the onset of the eruption). Note the different SO₂ scale in the 2 images.

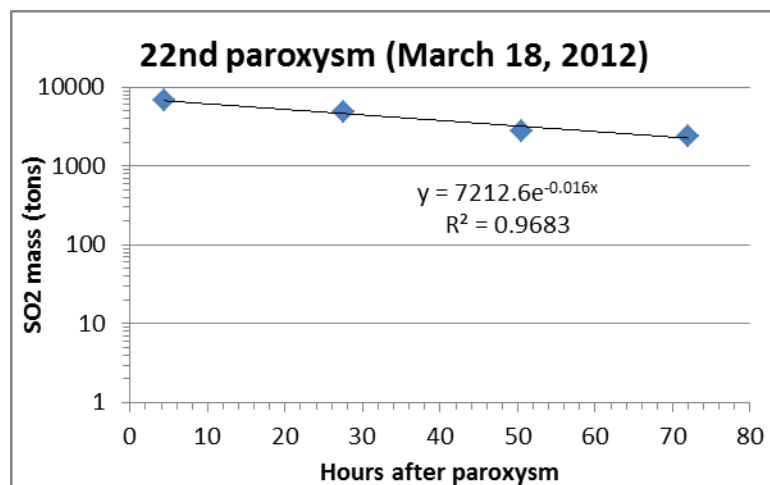


Figure 4.10: Graph of OMI SO₂ mass against time for the 22nd paroxysm. The exponential decay regression line with the equation is shown as well as the correlation coefficient.

25th paroxysm (April 24, 2012): This paroxysm started early in the evening of April 24. Lava fountains generated a volcanic cloud that rose up to 11 km altitude and drifted South East of Etna. About 3.5 days after the onset of the eruption, low SO₂ column amounts (2 DU) are visible in OMI data at the border of Iran and Turkmenistan. In Figures 4.11 and 4.12, we can see for the 2 first images taken by OMI and AIRS about 15 min apart, the SO₂ cloud is in about the same location but AIRS measures higher SO₂ columns and shows lower plume dispersion (similar to the example of the 21st paroxysm). The higher SO₂ columns measured by AIRS are surprising because they should be lower, if the sensitivity is lower. This may arise from a problem with the AIRS SO₂ algorithm that produces some anomalous AIRS pixels (where the retrieval failed) perhaps due to cloud interference. For the corresponding images, the SO₂ mass from AIRS is approximately double that measured by OMI, although the plume is estimated to be at 7.3 km and then 11 km altitude respectively. Furthermore, it is possible to estimate the plume linear velocity based on the observed distance travelled by the SO₂ in sequential images. A good estimation of the cloud dispersion is 13 m/s.

The SO₂ burden retrieval for this paroxysm from OMI has a robust correlation coefficient ($R^2=0.99$) and yields a corrected mass at the onset of the eruption of 12050 tons, as shown in figure 4.13. For AIRS, the corrected mass is 28110 tons with a $R^2=0.90$ which is quite good but lower than using OMI. The observed differences between OMI and AIRS provided motivation for more detailed pixel-by-pixel comparisons between the retrievals, as discussed in the next section.

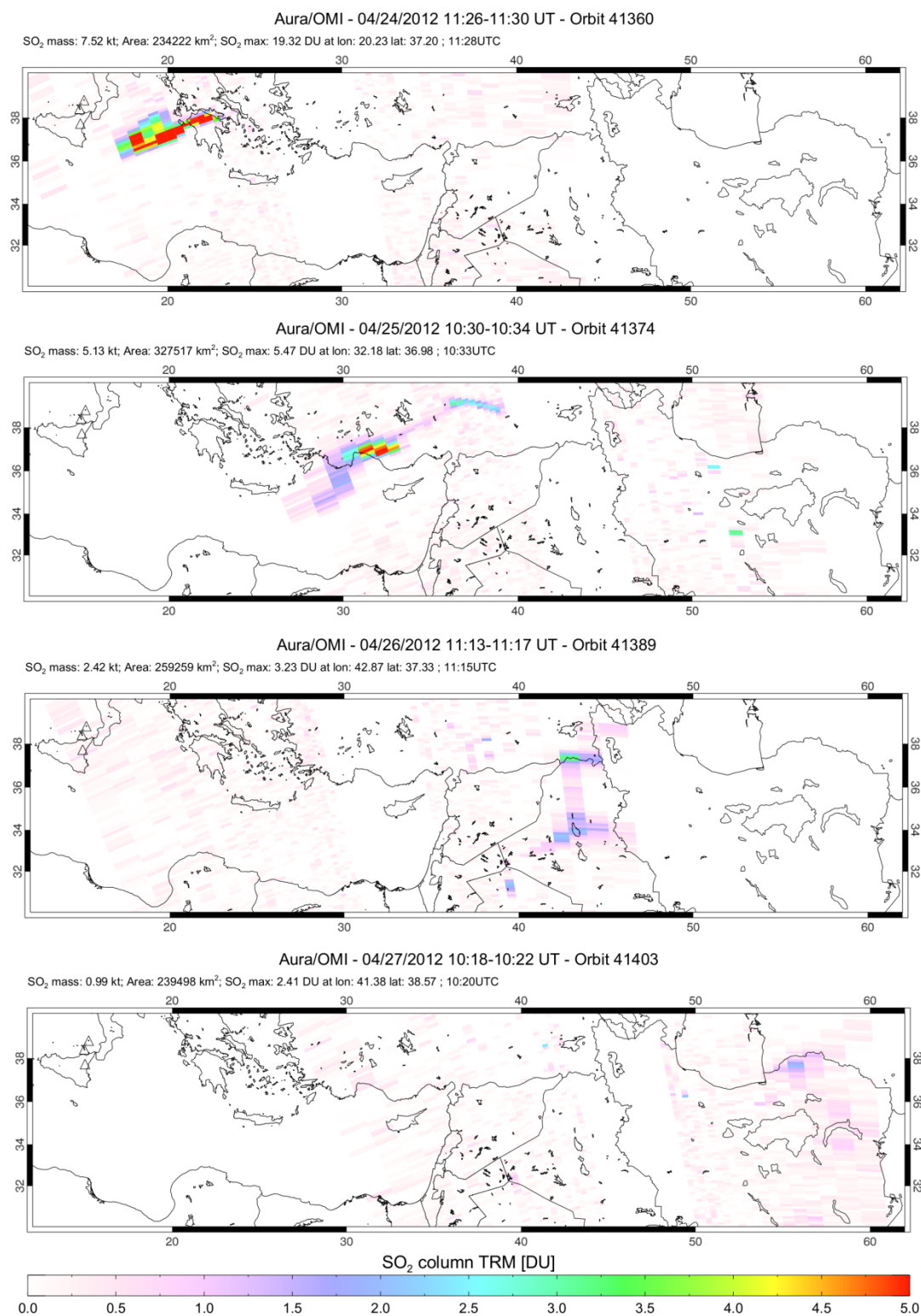


Figure 4.11: OMI images of the SO₂ cloud from the 25th paroxysm of the NSEC.

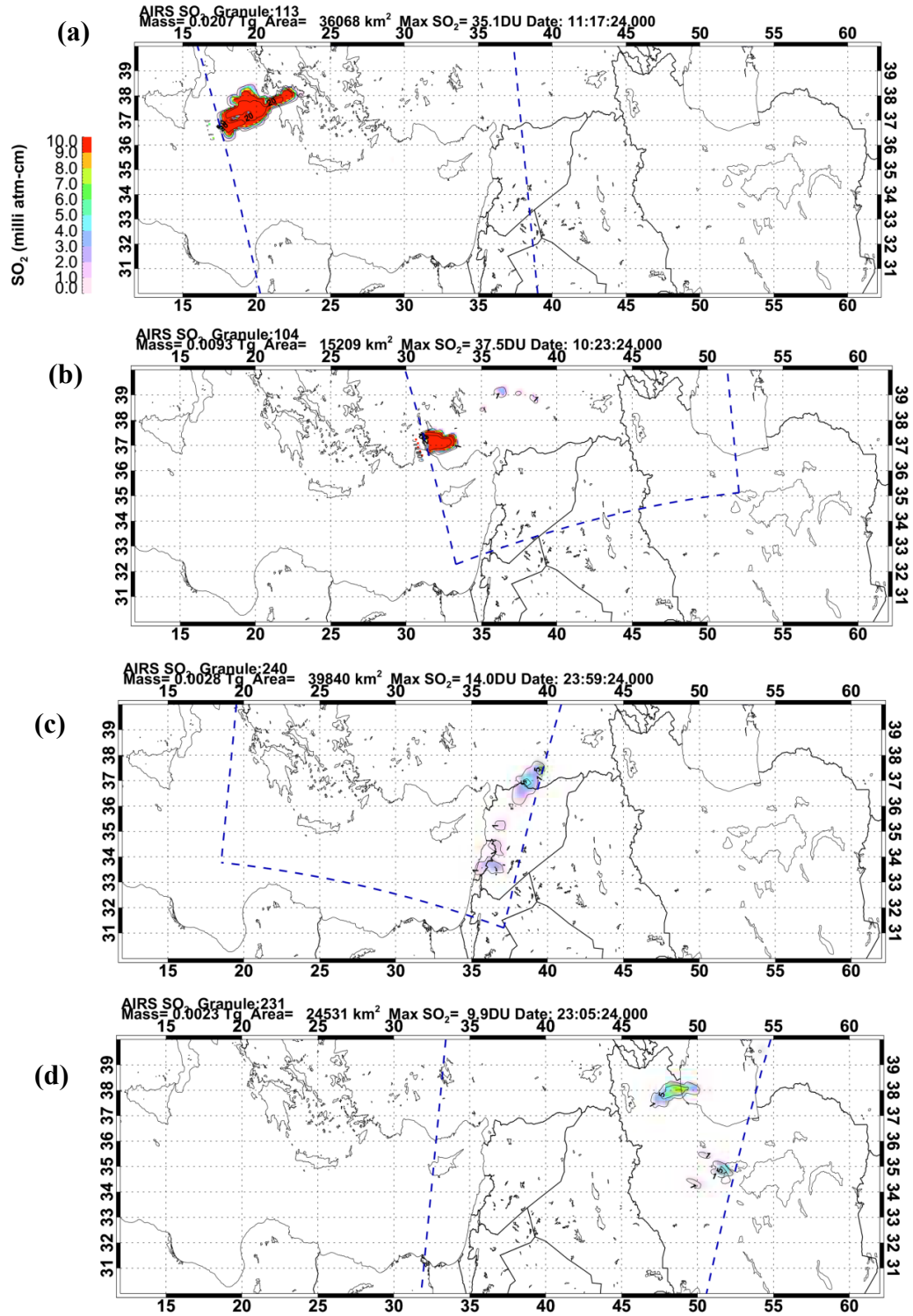


Figure 4.12: AIRS measurements of the SO₂ plume from the 25th paroxysm. (a) overpass at 11:17 UT on April 24, 2012; (b) overpass at 10:23 UT on April 25; (c) overpass at 23:59 UT on April 25; (d) overpass at 23:05UT on April 26; with (a) and (b) corresponding to the OMI overpass.

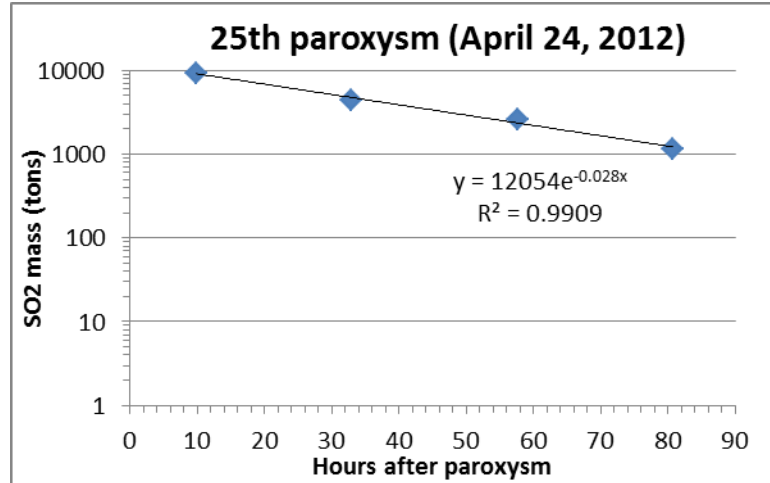


Figure 4.13: Graph of OMI SO₂ mass data from the 25th paroxysm. The exponential decay regression line with the equation is shown as well as the correlation coefficient.

A summary of all the SO₂ loadings calculated for each paroxysm from OMI and AIRS is shown in Table 4.1. Only one event, on October 8, 2011, could not be processed from either of the 2 instruments to estimate the SO₂ mass because it experienced the cloudiest conditions and the HYSPLIT model does not show a trajectory that fit Etna (no AIRS data and OMI was affected by the row anomaly). The plume altitudes are indicated only for the OMI observations and were determined using HYSPLIT. It is important to constrain the altitude of the volcanic cloud since it is a proxy for eruption intensity; the following equation established by Wilson et al. (1978) is showing this relationship:

$$H = 0.236 M_f^{1/4} \text{ where } H \text{ is the plume height (in km) and } M_f \text{ is the mass flux (in kg/s).}$$

Use of multiple consecutive SO₂ images allows us to constrain the SO₂ loss rate in the drifting volcanic clouds after emission from the lava fountains. In some cases, events were only detected on one image, which does not permit estimation of the decay rate and the corrected SO₂ mass at the onset of the paroxysm. Therefore, in such cases we explored different extrapolations (e.g., average exponential decay rate and plume height; see section 3.4) to estimate the initial SO₂ mass released (italicized values in Tale 4.1 indicate the best estimates). When more than one image was available, we used the

exponential decay rate derived for the specific paroxysm (in this case we report only one number Table 4.1). Since neither OMI nor AIRS gives direct information on the plume altitude, we also looked at CALIPSO data to have more information but none of the plumes were detected. This might be due to the generally small size of Etna's plume and the satellite is therefore missing it. In Table 4.1, the SO₂ mass retrievals for each paroxysm are shown, and the data in italics corresponds to the initial SO₂ mass that we used in the next section 4.4 (plume height extrapolation with OMI and average decay with AIRS).

Table 4.1: SO₂ mass retrievals from OMI and AIRS instruments for all the 25 paroxysms from Etna's NSEC during the 2011-2012 cycle.

| paroxysm number | date paroxysm (radar) UTC | Paroxysm duration (min) | Paroxysm repose time (days) | date images | acquisition time | plume height (km) | SO ₂ cloud mass calculation (tons) | hours since start of paroxysm | corrected SO ₂ mass exponential (tons) | corrected SO ₂ mass OMI-height (tons) | corrected mass AIRS-exponential (tons) | corrected SO ₂ image s OMI/AIRS (tons) | corrected SO ₂ mass exponential combined (tons) |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| 1 | 01/12/11 21:50-23:21 | 91 | 60 | 01/13/11 | 1:29 | | 7000 | 3.7 | | | 9880 AIRS | | |
| | | | | 01/13/11 | 12:29 | | 3900 | 14.7 | | | AIRS | | |
| | | | | 01/14/11 | 0:29 | | 1300 | 26.7 | | | AIRS | | |
| 2 | 02/18/11 07:20-10:50 | 210 | 36 | 02/18/11 | 11:59 | | 600 | 4.7 | | | 750 AIRS | | |
| | | | | 02/18/11 | 12:12 | 8 | 3390 | 4.9 | 3390 | | OMI | | |
| | | | | 02/19/11 | 11:05 | | 200 | 23.1 | | | AIRS | | |
| | | | | 02/19/11 | 11:17 | 3 | 3340 | 27.9 | | | OMI | | |
| 3 | 04/10/11 10:48-12:37 | 109 | 51 | 04/10/11 | 12:35 | | 3000 | 1.8 | | | 3370 AIRS | | 2360 |
| | | | | 04/10/11 | 12:42 | 4 | 1970 | 1.9 | 2010 | 2020 | OMI | | |
| | | | | 04/11/11 | 0:35 | | 3300 | 13.8 | | | AIRS | | |
| | | | | 04/11/11 | 11:41 | | 3900 | 24.9 | | | AIRS | | |
| 4 | 05/12/11 01:50-03:20 | 90 | 30 | 05/12/11 | 12:42 | 7.5 | 1150 | 10.9 | 1670 | 1570 | OMI | | |
| 5 | 07/09/11 14:03-15:14 | 71 | 58 | 07/10/11 | 1:11 | | 300 | 11.1 | | | 3710 AIRS | | |
| | | | | 07/10/11 | 12:11 | | 30 | 22.1 | | | AIRS | | |
| | | | | 07/10/11 | 12:26 | 6.5 | 2670 | 22.4 | 5710 | 4370 | OMI | | |
| 6 | 07/19/11 00:00-02:30 | 150 | 9.5 | 07/19/11 | 12:05 | | 300 | 12.1 | | | 670 AIRS | | |
| | | | | 07/20/11 | 11:23 | 4.5 | 1650 | 35.4 | 5510 | 8420 | OMI | | |
| 7 | 07/25/11 04:00-05:30 | 90 | 6 | 07/25/11 | 11:29 | | 200 | 7.5 | | | 330 AIRS | | |
| | | | | 07/25/11 | 11:40 | 7 | 2930 | 7.7 | 3800 | 3440 | OMI | | |
| 8 | 07/30/11 19:35-21:15 | 100 | 5 | 07/31/11 | 10:53 | | 700 | 15.3 | | | 1920 AIRS | | |
| | | | | 07/31/11 | 11:05 | 6 | 4970 | 15.5 | 12570 | | OMI | | |
| | | | | 08/01/11 | 10:13 | 4.8 | 1240 | 38.6 | | | OMI | | |
| 9 | 08/05/11 21:55-23:10 | 75 | 6 | 08/06/11 | 0:47 | | 3700 | 2.9 | | | 4470 AIRS | | 4400 |
| | | | | 08/06/11 | 11:53 | | 3800 | 14.0 | | | AIRS | | |
| | | | | 08/07/11 | 11:10 | 10 | 2830 | 37.3 | 6430 | | OMI | | |
| | | | | 08/08/11 | 10:16 | 7.7 | 2780 | 60.4 | | | OMI | | |
| | | | | 08/09/11 | 10:59 | 6.1 | 1190 | 85.1 | | | OMI | | |
| 10 | 08/12/11 08:50-10:05 | 117 | 7 | 08/12/11 | 11:29 | 2.5 | 3220 | 2.7 | 3430 | | OMI | | |
| | | | | 08/13/11 | 0:59 | | 5600 | 16.2 | | | 29190 AIRS | | |
| | | | | 08/13/11 | 11:59 | | 1600 | 27.2 | | | AIRS | | |
| | | | | 08/13/11 | 12:11 | 6.5 | 2540 | 27.4 | | | OMI | | |
| | | | | 08/14/11 | 0:05 | | 500 | 39.3 | | | AIRS | | |
| | | | | 08/14/11 | 11:19 | 3 | 1720 | 50.5 | | | OMI | | |
| 11 | 08/20/11 07:10-07:35 | 25 | 8 | 08/20/11 | 12:05 | | 6200 | 4.9 | | | 9310 AIRS | | |
| | | | | 08/20/11 | 12:17 | 10 | 3560 | 5.1 | 5530 | | OMI | | |
| | | | | 08/21/11 | 1:47 | | 6700 | 18.6 | | | AIRS | | |

Table 4.1 continued

| | | 08/21/11 | 12:47 | 2100 | 29.6 | | AIRS | | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----------|-------|----------|---------|------|------------|------|-------|-----------|------------|-------|
| 12 | 08/29/11 04:10-04:45 | 08/21/11 | 13:02 | 9 | 29.9 | | OMI | | | | | |
| | | 08/29/11 | 12:00 | | 3200 | 7.8 | 4210 AIRS | | | | | |
| | | 08/30/11 | 0:00 | | 2100 | 19.8 | AIRS | | | | | |
| | | 08/30/11 | 11:16 | 4.5 | 2400 | 31.1 | OMI | | | | | |
| | | 08/31/11 | 11:59 | 4 | 770 | 55.8 | OMI | | | | | |
| 13 | 09/08/11 07:31-08:17 | 09/08/11 | 12:35 | | 9000 | 5.1 | 11940 AIRS | | | | | |
| | | 09/09/11 | 0:35 | | 2300 | 17.1 | AIRS | | | | | |
| | | 09/09/11 | 11:41 | | 1400 | 28.2 | AIRS | | | | | |
| | | 09/09/11 | 11:53 | 6.5 | 3790 | 28.4 | OMI | | | | | |
| | | 09/10/11 | 12:35 | 6.5 | 2210 | 53.1 | OMI | | | | | |
| 14 | 09/19/11 12:30-12:50 | 20 | 11 | 09/20/11 | 11:38 | 9.5 | 1340 | 23.1 | 2930 | 9770 | OMI | 5610 |
| 15 | 09/28/11 19:33-19:55 | 22 | 9.5 | 09/29/11 | 0:11 | | 3500 | 4.6 | | 4750 AIRS | | |
| | | | | 09/29/11 | 11:17 | | 7700 | 15.7 | | AIRS | | |
| | | | | 09/29/11 | 11:31 | 10 | 3080 | 16.0 | 5300 | 8700 | OMI | |
| 16 | 10/08/11 14:45-15:10 | 25 | 10 | 10/09/11 | anomaly | | | | | | | |
| 17 | 10/23/11 18:45-20:15 | 90 | 15 | 10/24/11 | 11:23 | 5.5 | 2270 | 16.6 | 4000 | 6170 | OMI | |
| 18 | 11/15/11 11:20-12:25 | 65 | 23 | 11/16/11 | 0:12 | | 4800 | 12.9 | 2490 | 1860 | 11210 AIRS | 21560 |
| | | | | 11/16/11 | 9:50 | 9 | 1560 | 22.5 | | | OMI | |
| 19 | 01/05/12 05:45-06:45 | 60 | 50 | 01/05/12 | 12:41 | | 19800 | 6.9 | | | 37160 AIRS | 30300 |
| | | | | 01/06/12 | 0:47 | | 6600 | 19.0 | | | AIRS | |
| | | | | 01/06/12 | 10:20 | 7.5 | 4280 | 28.6 | 11310 | 8030 | OMI | |
| 20 | 02/09/12 01:00-06:00 | 300 | 35 | 02/09/12 | 11:35 | | 1000 | 10.6 | | | 2010 AIRS | |
| | | | | 09/02/12 | 11:47 | 5 | 2620 | 10.8 | 3780 | 5010 | OMI | |
| 21 | 03/04/12 07:30-09:30 | 120 | 23 | 03/04/12 | 12:23 | | 7500 | 4.9 | | | 5170 AIRS | 6650 |
| | | | | 03/04/12 | 12:37 | 7 | 9920 | 5.1 | 9860 | | OMI | |
| | | | | 03/05/12 | 0:23 | | 6900 | 16.9 | | | AIRS | |
| | | | | 03/05/12 | 11:29 | | 1400 | 28.0 | | | AIRS | |
| | | | | 03/05/12 | 11:42 | 8.4 | 4340 | 28.2 | | | OMI | |
| | | | | 06/03/12 | 8:53 | | 2600 | 49.4 | | | AIRS | |
| | | | | 03/06/12 | 9:07 | 9.8 | 3960 | 49.6 | | | OMI | |
| | | | | 06/03/12 | 20:53 | | 6300 | 61.4 | | | AIRS | |
| 22 | 03/18/12 08:25-09:40 | 75 | 14 | 03/18/12 | 12:35 | | 10300 | 4.2 | | | 14220 AIRS | 10290 |
| | | | | 03/18/12 | 12:48 | 9.5 | 6830 | 4.4 | 7210 | | OMI | |
| | | | | 03/19/12 | 11:41 | | 8800 | 27.3 | | | AIRS | |
| | | | | 03/19/12 | 11:54 | 11.2 | 4790 | 27.5 | | | OMI | |
| | | | | 03/19/12 | 23:41 | | 5100 | 39.3 | | | AIRS | |
| | | | | 03/20/12 | 10:47 | | 4700 | 50.4 | | | AIRS | |
| | | | | 03/20/12 | 10:58 | 10.2 | 2820 | 50.5 | | | OMI | |
| | | | | 03/20/12 | 22:47 | | 2700 | 62.4 | | | AIRS | |
| | | | | 03/21/12 | 8:11 | | 1800 | 71.8 | | | AIRS | |

Table 4.1 continued

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|------|----------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|-------|------|-----|-------|
| 23 | 04/01/12 02:41-03:35 | 54 | 14 | 03/21/12 | 8:24 | 10:8 | 2420 | 72.0 | | 7130 | AIRS | OMI | 7910 |
| | | | | 04/01/12 | 11:11 | | 6700 | 8.5 | | | | | |
| | | | | 04/01/12 | 11:23 | 10:5 | 7410 | 8.7 | 12990 | | | | |
| | | | | 04/02/12 | 10:11 | | 3000 | 31.5 | | | | | |
| | | | | 04/02/12 | 10:29 | 9 | 1660 | 31.8 | | | | | |
| | | | | 04/02/12 | 22:17 | | 3800 | 43.6 | | | | | |
| 24 | 04/12/12 14:32-15:10 | 38 | 10.5 | 04/13/12 | 0:35 | | 200 | 10.1 | | 390 | AIRS | | |
| | | | | 04/13/12 | 11:50 | 8.8 | 2670 | 21.3 | 5500 | | | | |
| 25 | 04/24/12 01:35-02:15 | 40 | 11.5 | 04/24/12 | 11:17 | | 20700 | 9.7 | | 28110 | AIRS | | 18580 |
| | | | | 04/24/12 | 11:30 | 7.3 | 9100 | 9.9 | 12050 | | | | |
| | | | | 04/25/12 | 10:23 | | 9300 | 32.8 | | | | | |
| | | | | 04/25/12 | 10:34 | 11 | 4470 | 33.0 | | | | | |
| | | | | 04/25/12 | 23:59 | | 2800 | 46.4 | | | | | |
| | | | | 04/26/12 | 11:20 | 9 | 2640 | 57.7 | | | | | |
| | | | | 04/26/12 | 23:05 | | 2300 | 69.5 | | | | | |
| | | | | 04/27/12 | 10:22 | 10 | 1150 | 80.8 | | | | | |

In Table 4.2, we summarize all the exponential decay coefficients derived from both OMI and AIRS measurements. We note that the exponential decay rate from either instrument does not show an obvious dependence on the season of the year, or on the plume altitude. Furthermore, the coefficient of correlation R^2 is given only when we have more than 2 points.

Table 4.2: Summary of the SO₂ mass exponential decay rate for each paroxysm with 2 or more data points.

| Paroxysm number | date | corrected SO2 mass | Exponential decay rate | R^2 | |
|-----------------|----------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 01/12/11 | 9880 | -0.073 | | AIRS |
| 2 | 02/18/11 | 3390 750 | -0.0006 -0.048 | | OMI AIRS |
| 5 | 07/09/11 | 3710 | -0.226 | | AIRS |
| 8 | 07/30/11 | 12565 | -0.06 | | OMI |
| 9 | 08/05/11 | 6430 3670 4400 | -0.018 0.0024 -0.013 | 0.7824 0.8129 | OMI AIRS combined |
| 10 | 08/12/11 | 3430 29190 | -0.013 -0.104 | 0.9765 0.9976 | OMI AIRS |
| 11 | 08/20/11 | 5530 9310 | -0.086 -0.042 | 0.6372 | OMI AIRS |
| 12 | 08/29/11 | 9950 4210 4230 | -0.046 -0.035 -0.028 | 0.8826 | OMI AIRS combined |
| 13 | 09/08/11 | 7020 11940 | -0.022 -0.081 | 0.9432 | OMI AIRS |
| 19 | 01/05/12 | 37160 | -0.091 | | AIRS |
| 21 | 03/04/12 | 9860 5170 | -0.021 -0.007 | 0.84 0.0495 | OMI AIRS |
| 22 | 03/18/12 | 7210 14220 | -0.016 -0.026 | 0.9683 0.9193 | OMI AIRS |
| 23 | 04/01/12 | 12990 7130 | -0.065 -0.019 | 0.6467 | OMI AIRS |
| 25 | 04/24/12 | 12050 28110 | -0.028 -0.039 | 0.9909 0.8994 | OMI AIRS |

4.3 OMI-AIRS validation

The large number of Etna's SO₂ clouds detected by both OMI and AIRS provide a good opportunity for comparison and validation of the UV and IR SO₂ retrievals. We compared the OMI SO₂ data and the AIRS SO₂ data pixel by pixel (section 3.5) for each case with near-coincident OMI and AIRS measurements in the A-Train. Out of a total of 23 cases used to test the validation of AIRS with OMI, 7 days give a good correlation between the 2 techniques ($R^2 \geq 0.5$) with 4 of these days being in our best paroxysms (i.e. Table 4.1 in bold font).

The first day of the 21st paroxysm (March 3, 2012) shows good agreement between the 2 methods at 0.2° distance from each OMI pixel. Figure 4.14 shows, as expected, that the correlation coefficient increases with distance from OMI pixel from 0.80 at 0.2° to 0.98 at 0.5°, using data points with OMI SO₂ ≥ 5 DU (see section 3.5). The same trend can be seen when using a threshold of 10 DU instead (Figure 4.15) with R^2 increasing from 0.83 at 0.2° to 0.97 at 0.5°. We observe a difference between the correlation coefficients when we change the number of data points included in the linear regression. On this day, the total SO₂ mass measured by AIRS was lower than OMI, and Figures 4.15 shows that the AIRS SO₂ columns were indeed lower than OMI for the larger SO₂ column amounts. It is important to note that the data are color coded according to OMI cross-track scan position, with dark blue corresponding to off-nadir positions; comparisons between AIRS and OMI are expected to be less robust for off-nadir pixels.

For the case of the 22nd paroxysm, it was possible to compare AIRS and OMI on more than one day; March 18 and 19, 2012 respectively. However, it was possible to find good agreement between the 2 methods only when using data points with OMI SO₂ ≥ 1 DU, the correlation for higher SO₂ column amounts was not good enough. As shown in Figure 4.16, the correlation coefficient for March 18 is 0.66 and for the next day it is higher with 0.87. This can be explain by looking at the OMI pixel position, since we have more points close to nadir on March 19 (light green to yellow) than on March 18, the 2

instruments have more similar measurements. Since AIRS retrievals are more sensitive to SO₂ altitude than OMI, another possible explanation for retrieval differences is the altitude of the plume, which was on March 19 (9.5 km altitude on March 18 and 11.2 km on the following day).

The example of the first day of the last paroxysm of the cycle (April 24, 2012) shows a better correlation between OMI and AIRS considering data points with OMI SO₂ ≥ 5 DU, as shown in Figures 4.17 and 4.18. Indeed, we don't have a good agreement at 0.4° for 1 DU which is not the case for 5 DU with a $R^2 = 0.68$. As for the 21st paroxysm, the correlation coefficient increases with distance from the OMI pixels. For a 1 DU threshold, at 0.4° distance the correlation is poor ($R^2 < 0.5$) whereas and at 0.5° the correlation coefficient increases to 0.69. For a 5 DU threshold, at 0.4° $R^2=0.68$ and then at 0.5° it increases to 0.90. The OMI cross-track pixel positions in these cases (Figures 4.17 and 4.18) are off nadir (positions 42 to 54) but we still find a good correlation between OMI and AIRS measurements. This implies a relatively homogenous SO₂ cloud with similar column amounts present over large areas.

We conclude that AIRS SO₂ retrievals can be validated using OMI SO₂ retrievals but that pixel-by-pixel comparisons require particular conditions. SO₂ cloud homogeneity, altitude and meteorological cloud conditions are probably the key factors. We found the best correlation for high altitude SO₂ clouds as suggested by Prata and Bernardo (2007). Therefore, it is good to use AIRS data to better constrain the plume altitude and track the cloud when OMI images are lacking but quantitative estimation of the SO₂ burdens is more reliable using OMI measurements in all cases and especially for low altitude clouds.

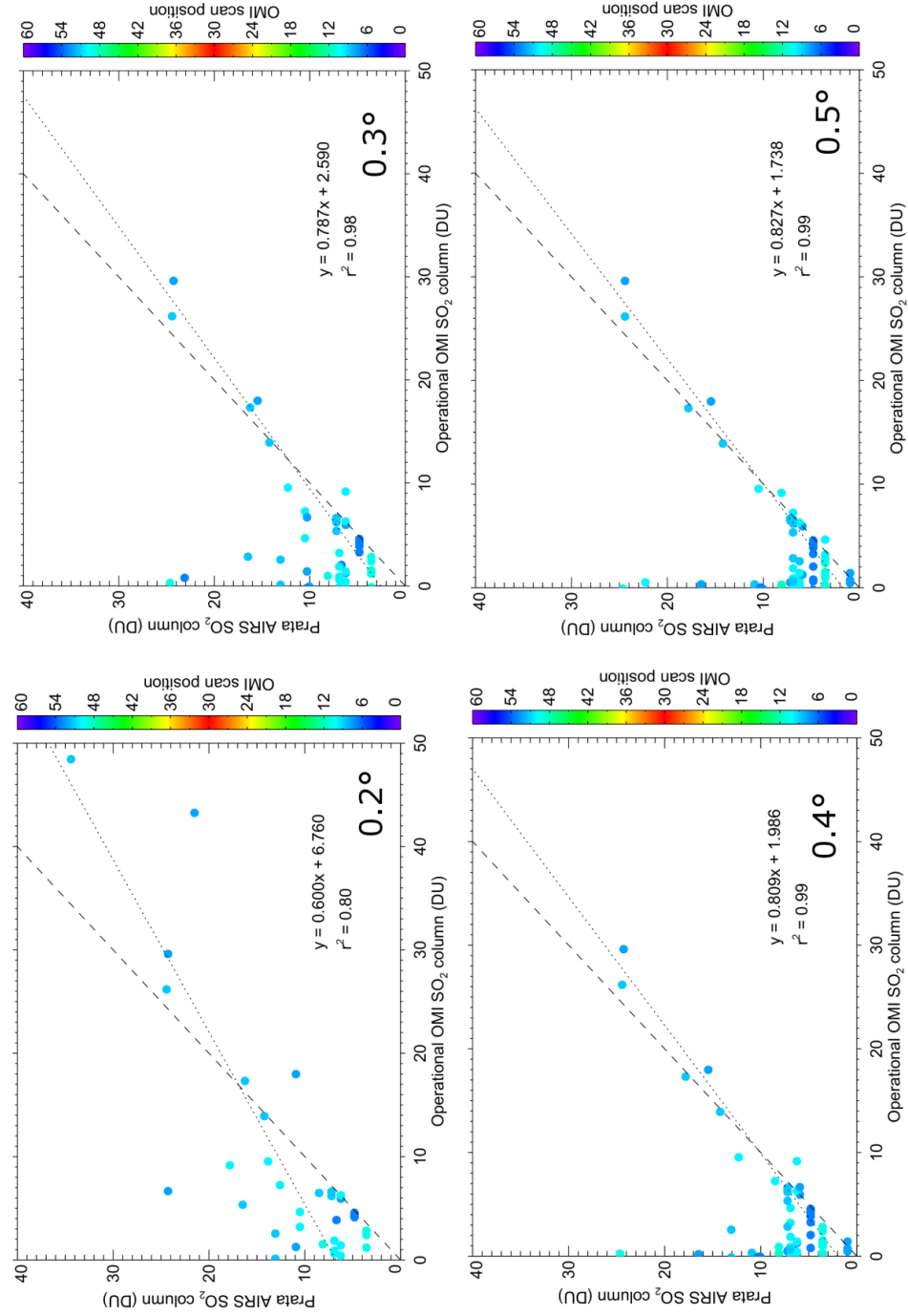


Figure 4.14: Graphs showing the correlation between OMI SO₂ data and AIRS SO₂ data from the 4th of March 2012 for different distances from OMI pixels and data points with OMI SO₂ ≥ 5 DU. On each plot, the dashed line is the 1:1 line, and the dotted line is the best-fit linear regression line.

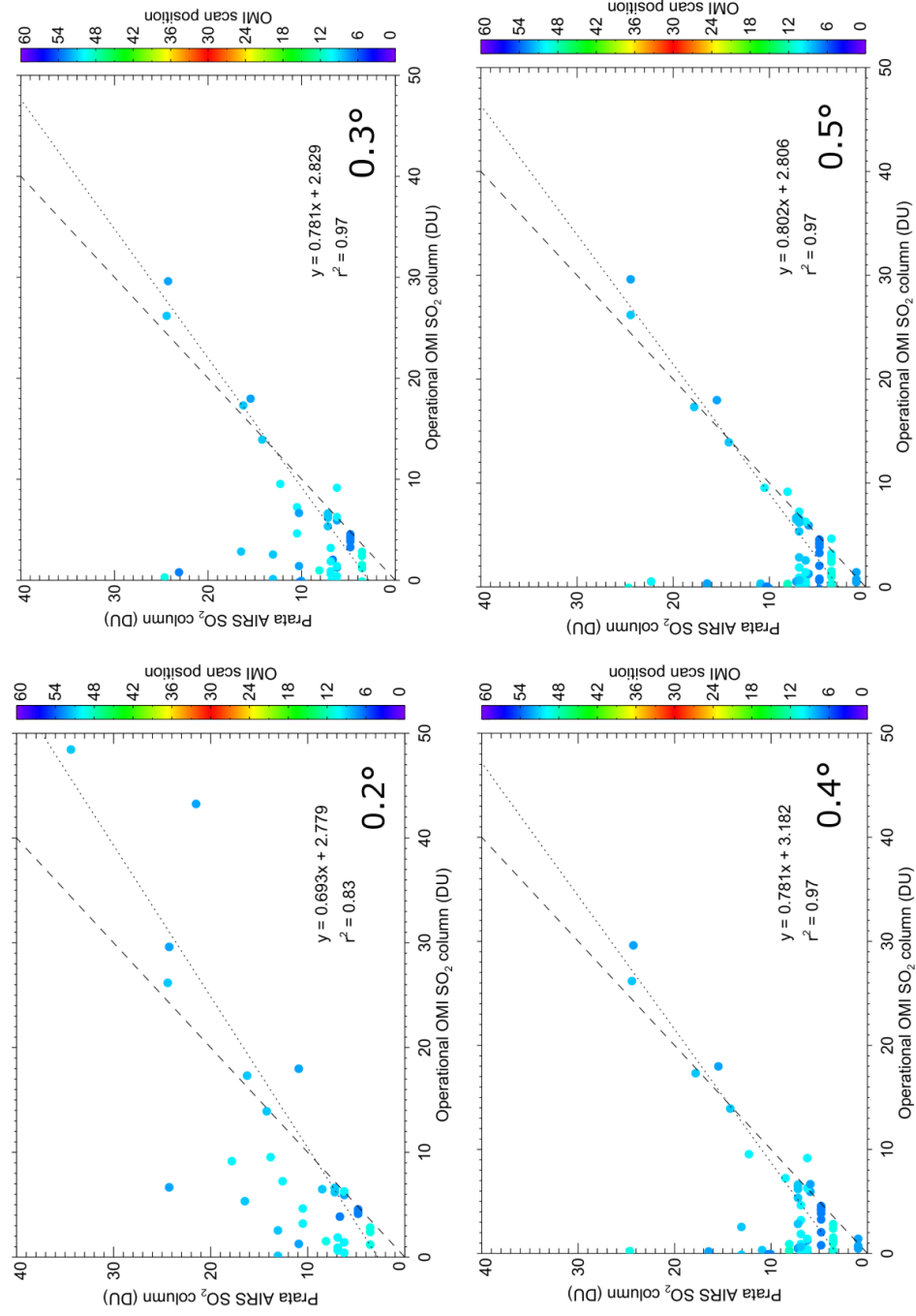


Figure 4.15: Graphs showing the correlation between OMI SO₂ data and AIRS SO₂ data from the 4th of March 2012 for different distances from OMI pixels and data points with OMI SO₂ ≥ 10 DU. On each plot, the dashed line is the 1:1 line, and the dotted line is the best-fit linear regression line.

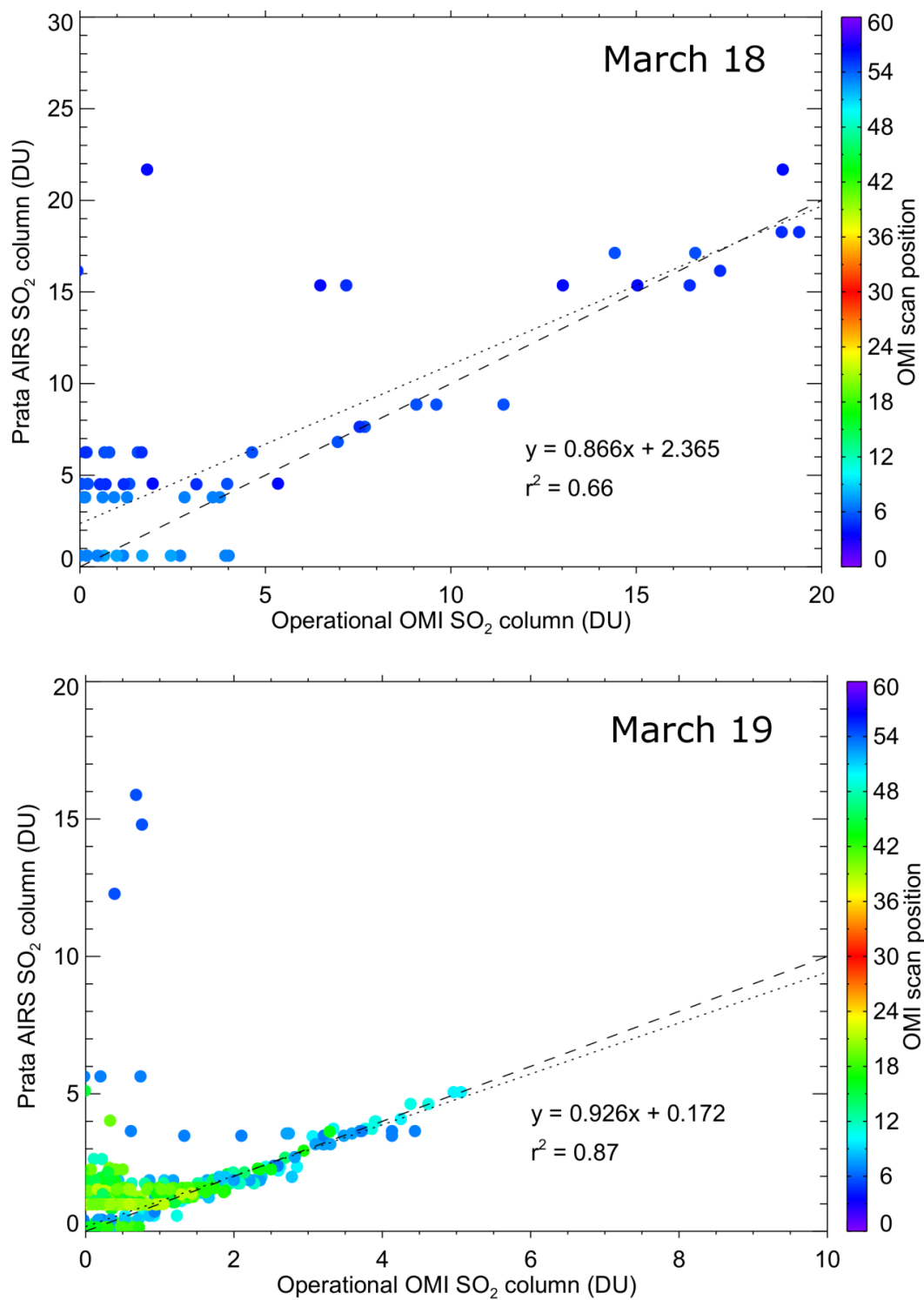


Figure 4.16: OMI AIRS validation for 0.5° with 1 DU threshold from the 22nd paroxysm and the 2 first days of cloud tracking. On each plot, the dashed line is the 1:1 line, and the dotted line is the best-fit linear regression line.

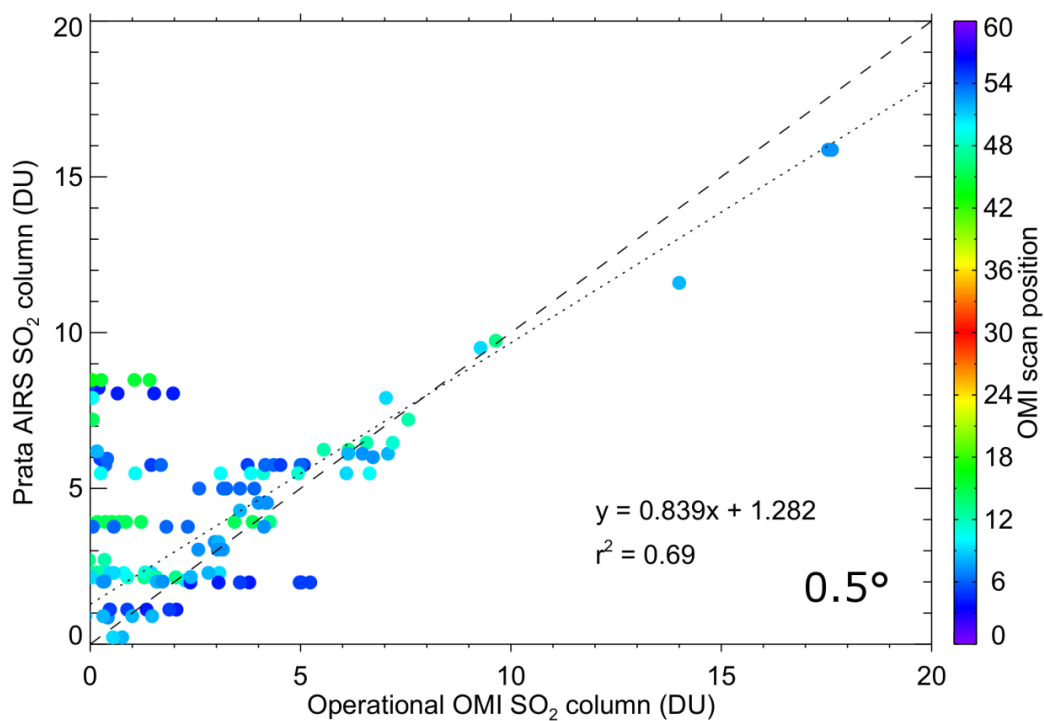
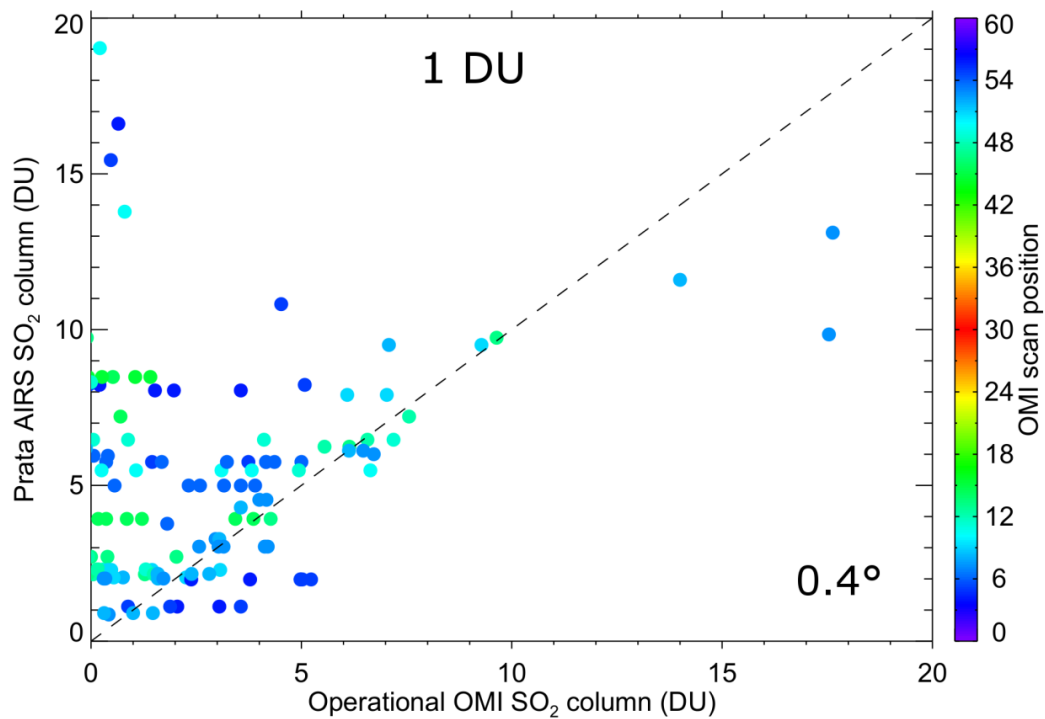


Figure 4.17: OMI AIRS validation for 0.5° and 0.4° with 1 DU limit from the 25th paroxysm (April 24, 2012). On each plot, the dashed line is the 1:1 line, and the dotted line is the best-fit linear regression line.

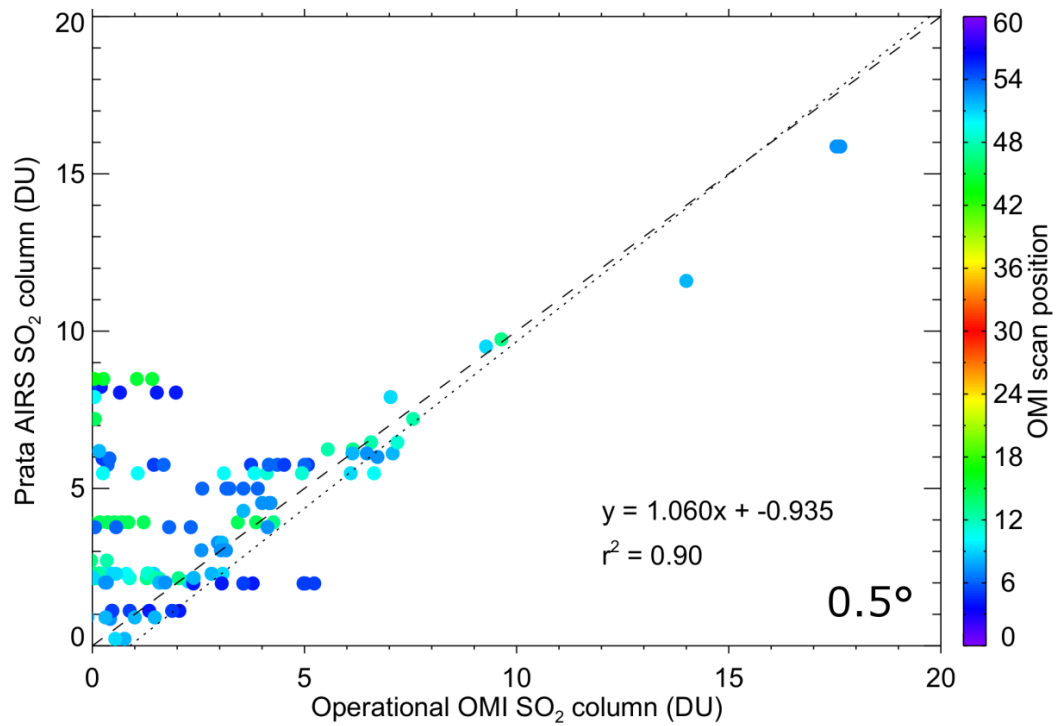
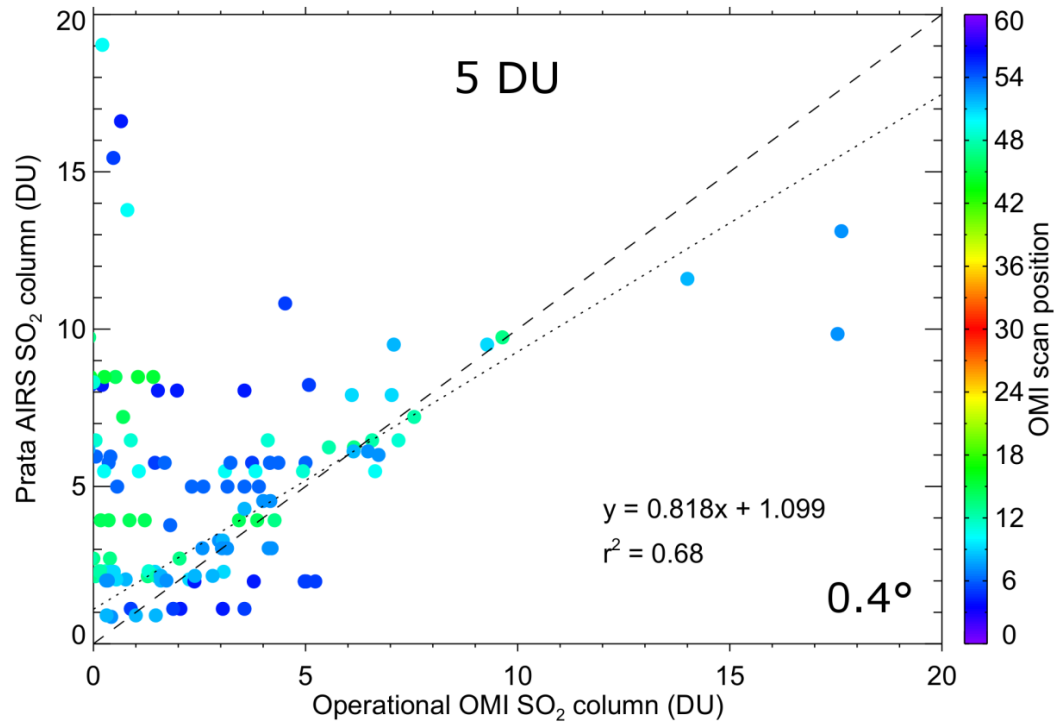


Figure 4.18: OMI AIRS validation for 0.5° and 0.4° with 5 DU limit from the 25th paroxysm (April 24, 2012). On each plot, the dashed line is the 1:1 line, and the dotted line is the best-fit linear regression line.

4.4 Driving mechanism for lava fountains

Two different models have been suggested to explain the mechanism of explosive basaltic eruptions (Parfitt, 2004): the Rise Speed Dependent (RSD) model and the Collapsing Foam (CF) model. The RSD model states that the type of explosive activity depends mainly on the rise speed of the magma ascending to the surface. The magma contains dissolved volatiles (i.e., H_2O , SO_2 , and CO_2) at depth, but as it rises, the gases exsolve and create homogeneous two phase flow. In this model, it is assumed that the rise speed of the magma is sufficiently fast that the bubbles cannot rise far relative to the magma and therefore the bubbles are considered locked in the magma (Parfitt, 2004). The explosive activity results, in this case, from the fragmentation of fast-rising bubbly melt (Bonaccorso et al., 2011) due to decompression and expansion of the gas while accelerating as it rises. The CF model proposes an alternative driving mechanism. This model considers a separate two-phase flow where the magma and bubbles behave differently (Parfitt, 2004). This model was developed by Jaupart and Vergnolle, (1988, 1989) and assumes that the magma is stored at depth, where volatiles exsolve and bubbles rise to the top of the storage area to form a foam layer. When bubbles are closely packed together and the layer reaches a critical thickness, the foam collapses and ascends the conduit to drive a lava fountain (Parfitt, 2004). Strombolian eruptions are also linked with this type of behavior where repeated partial foam collapse forms small gas pockets that ascend the conduit as a slug flow before bursting at the surface (Figure 4.20). However, if the viscosity of the magma is low, then a single gas pocket surrounded by liquid can form, this behavior is called annular flow and is linked with Hawaiian eruptions (Parfitt, 2004).

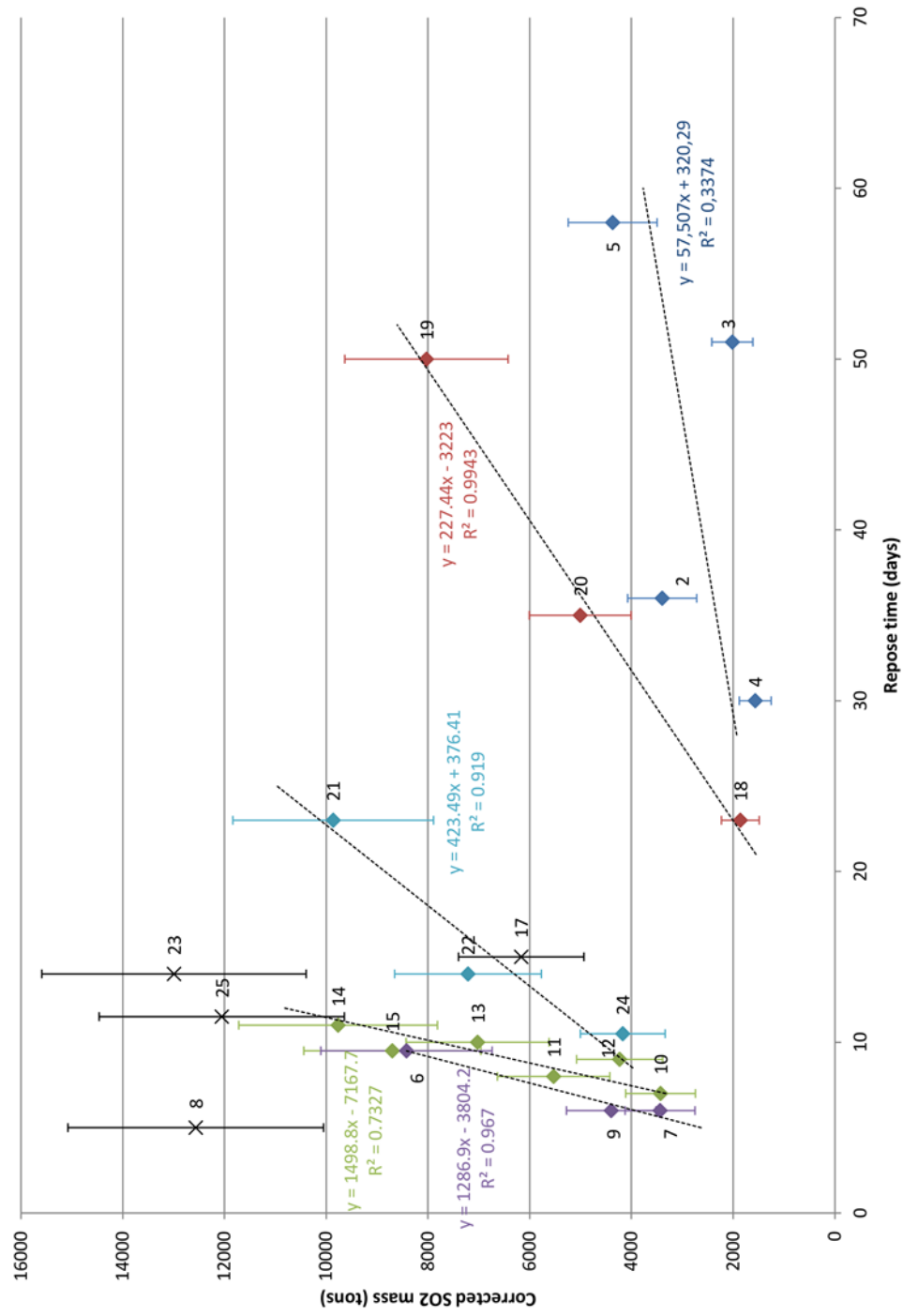


Figure 4.19: Graph of the SO₂ mass against inter-paroxysm repose time using OMI data with extrapolated values (plume height and combined extrapolation). Paroxysm number is indicated next to the data points and 20% error is assumed on the SO₂ mass.

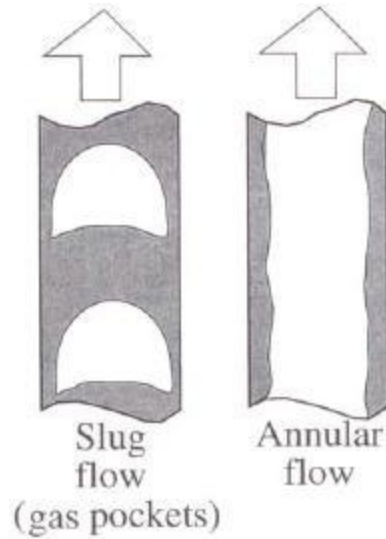


Figure 4.20: Schematic diagram showing two examples of separated, two-phase flow: slug and annular flow, adapted from Vergnolle and Jaupart, 1986.

Etna's frequent paroxysms, particularly since January 2011, provide an opportunity to improve understanding of the driving mechanism of lava fountains. They have therefore been studied by many authors and using many different approaches such as volcanic tremor (Alparone et al., 2003), geochemical analysis (Allard et al., 2005), analysis of erupted products (Andronico and Corsaro, 2011) as well as multidisciplinary studies (Aiuppa et al., 2010; Bonaccorso et al., 2011). Whilst other studies have generally investigated the driving mechanism of Etnean lava fountains for individual eruptive events (e.g., Allard et al., 2005; Bonaccorso et al., 2011; Calvari et al., 2011), our dataset provides information on SO₂ emissions for an entire sequence of paroxysms. Bonaccorso et al. (2011) studied the case of the 10 April 2011 eruption and they suggest that the lava fountains was driven by a separated two-phase flow that accumulated at the top of a shallow magma storage region at about 2 km a.s.l (Vergnolle and Ripepe, 2008; Allard et al., 2005; Bonaccorso et al., 2011b), which supports the CF model.

Using our satellite-derived SO₂ burdens corrected for emission time, the accurate timing of the lava fountains by the OPGC VOLDORAD 2B, as well as the inter-paroxysm repose time, we find a correlation exists between SO₂ emissions and repose time (Fig. 4.19). As shown in Figure 4.19, the SO₂ mass for each paroxysm retrieved from OMI

measurements seems to increase with the repose time, but with distinct trends for different sequences of paroxysms, e.g., 18-20-19 or 10-12-11-13-15-14. These trends could represent different rates of gas accumulation in the magma storage region, influenced by changing plumbing system geometry and/or rates of fresh magma supply. This relationship between the mass of SO₂ emitted and the inter-paroxysm repose time supports the CF model for lava fountains at Etna, since it is consistent with a model of progressive gas accumulation over time, with longer repose times resulting in the release of large amounts of stored gas.

In this study, we also used the corrected SO₂ mass based on AIRS SO₂ data with the inter-paroxysm repose time to see if the same correlation is observed. Figure 4.21 shows the same correlation but since the mass retrieval from AIRS is generally less precise it is less clear than in the OMI data (accuracy of about 6 DU, Prata and Bernardo, 2007). The study of the SO₂ emitted by Etna's NSEC during each lava fountain episodes (paroxysm) was carried out to try to better understand their driving mechanism and identify the right model. We suggest that our data tend to be in agreement with the CF model of Jaupart and Vergnolle (1989).

We also used the corrected SO₂ burdens to check for any correlation with the duration of each paroxysm estimated using VOLDORAD 2B, which might be expected for gas-driven lava fountains. In Figure 4.22, we present data from both techniques (OMI and AIRS). While there is no clear overall relationship between the amount of SO₂ emitted and the duration of the paroxysm, clusters of events do appear to show a relationship. OMI SO₂ burdens seem to show a broad correlation with paroxysm duration. However, a drawback of our dataset is that it accounts for only one volatile species (SO₂), whereas CO₂ and H₂O likely also play a role in driving lava fountains. Hence different trends in the data in Figs. 4.19, 4.21, and 4.22 could indicate accumulation and release of stored gas with variable SO₂/CO₂ and SO₂/H₂O. With this data set, it is therefore hard to make a definitive conclusion on the driving mechanism of lava fountains at Etna's NSEC, although in general the CF model appears more appropriate.

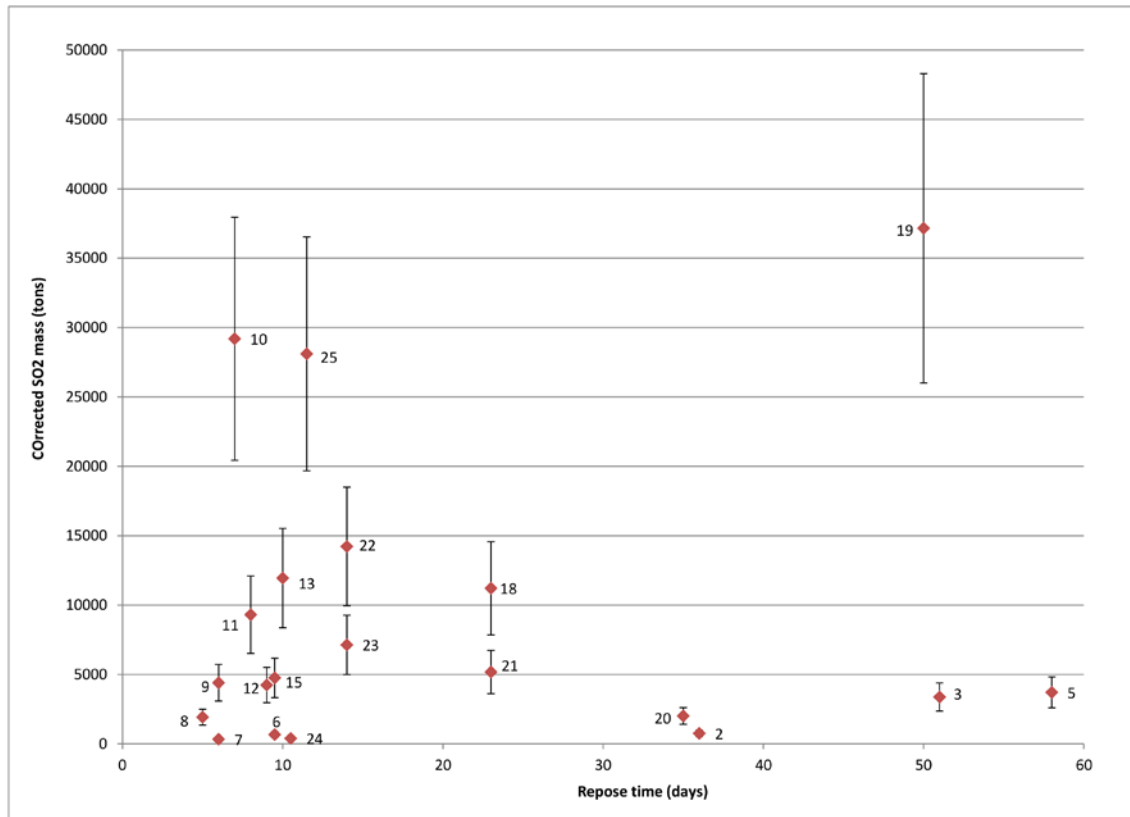


Figure 4.21: Graph of the SO₂ mass against the inter-paroxysm repose time using AIRS data with extrapolated values (average decay and combined extrapolation). Paroxysm number is indicated next to the data points and 30% error is assumed on the SO₂ mass.

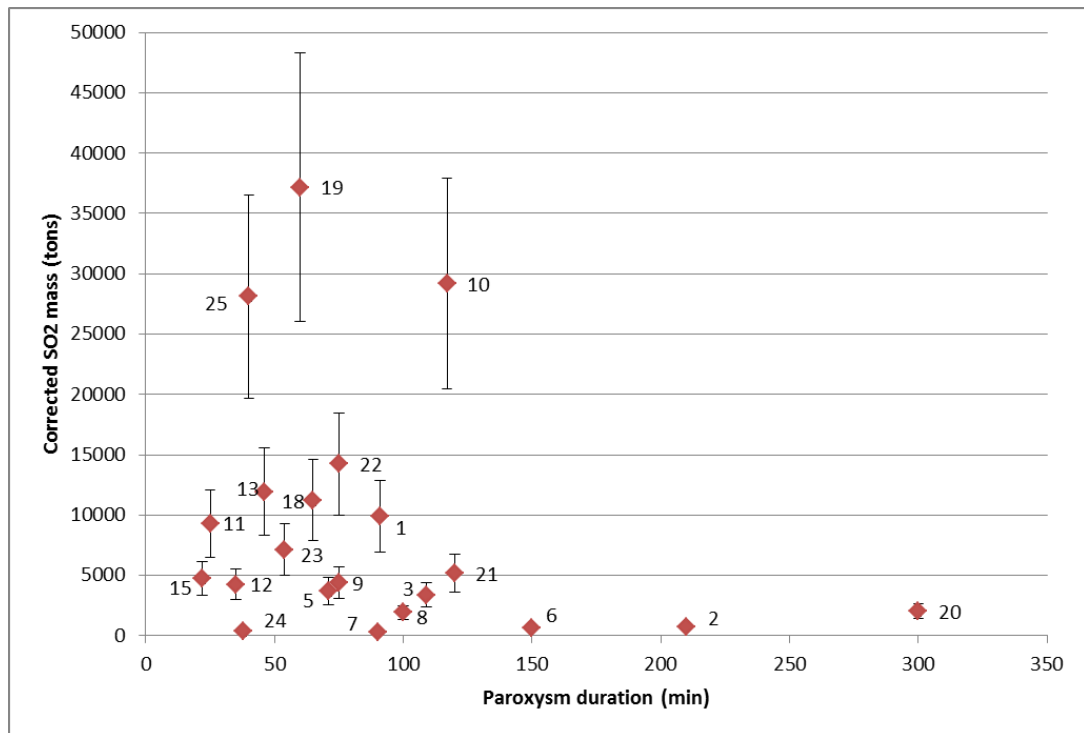
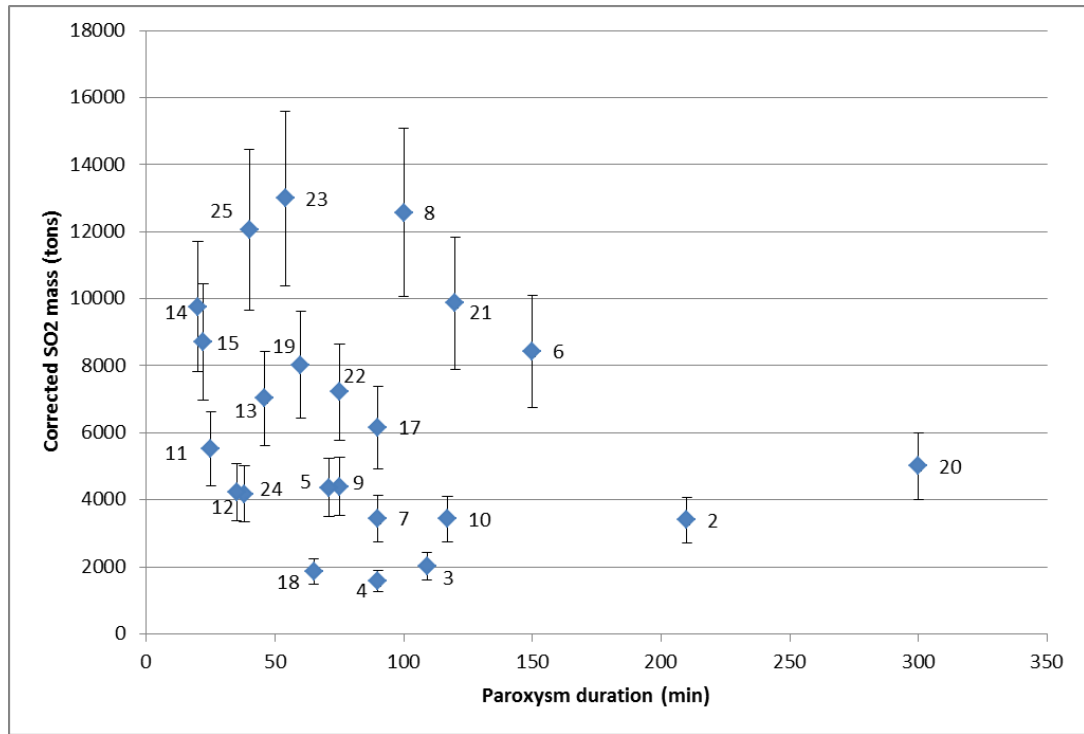


Figure 4.22: Graphs showing the corrected SO₂ mass as a function of paroxysm duration from OMI SO₂ data (in blue) and AIRS SO₂ data (in red) for all paroxysms of the 2011-2012 NSEC cycle. Paroxysm number is indicated next to the data points.

5. Discussion

A unique feature of the Etna paroxysms is the availability of satellite measurements of SO₂ emissions and ground-based Doppler radar (VOLDORAD 2B) measurements of the lava fountain at the vent. We therefore have constraints on the gas (OMI/AIRS) and particle (radar) emissions from each paroxysm, permitting analysis of the mass balance of the gas and solid phases. Using the mean primary sulphur content in Etnean magma given by Bonaccorso et al. (2011) as 0.3 wt%, we can estimate the amount of SO₂ that could be released by the lapilli cloud detected by Doppler radar. We select the 1st paroxysm for comparison owing to better data availability. In my previous study (Bonny, 2012), based on the VOLDORAD 2B data, I estimated a total mass of lapilli ejected of 3.85×10^6 kg, assuming a density of 550 kg/m³ and monodisperse particle size distribution with a diameter of 11.2 mm (Appendix 8.7). To determine the amount of SO₂, we multiply the sulphur content in typical Etna magma by our total mass of particles emitted and multiply the result by 2 (SO₂ molar mass is twice the one of sulphur); assuming that it would give us a first order estimation, although it is likely that a significant fraction of the plume did not cross the radar beam. This yields an estimated 23 tons of SO₂ that could have been sourced from the lava emitted by the 1st paroxysm, which is much lower than AIRS assessment of 7000 tons. This vast excess of gas emission compared to the radar data provides more support for the hypothesis that a gas-rich foam layer drives the lava fountains (the CF model), and is also consistent with suggestions that Etna releases gas from unerupted magma. In fact, Bonaccorso et al. (2011) estimated that the ratio between degassed and erupted volumes, for Etna's NSEC lava fountains of 10 April 2011, is about 10:1.

All paroxysms (except one) were recorded by VOLDORAD 2B and the radar power time series were processed. Each time-series is specific for the paroxysm and they show different shapes and durations. We can classify them based on the outline shape of the gate with the maximum power (mainly the 1st and 2nd gates) in 3 different groups: top-hat shape, and asymmetric triangular with sharp increase or sharp decrease. Most of the

eruptions show a top-hat shape (about 50%) and the rest splits equally between the other two shapes. An example of a radar power time-series from the 1st paroxysm is shown in Figure 5.1 that shows a top-hat shape (this was also studied by Calvari et al., 2011). It is however not possible to find a correlation between the radar power outline and the corrected SO₂ mass that we calculated with OMI and AIRS. Therefore, this suggests i) either that the particle emission and gas emission do not follow the same mechanism – which could be explained by the separation of ash and SO₂ that may occur under conditions of vertical wind shear (Carn et al., 2009; Constantine et al., 2000) –, or (2) other factors that were not taken into account may have a significant influence: a fraction of the plume might have remained undetected (out of beam); the particle size retrieved from the analysis of proximal deposits of the August 29 2011 eruption was not representative of the plume content at beam level, hence errors on mass estimates. However, a problem with this comparison is that the satellite measurements, unlike the radar time-series, do not provide high temporal resolution of SO₂ release (i.e., eruption dynamics) during the paroxysm, only an average SO₂ emission rate.

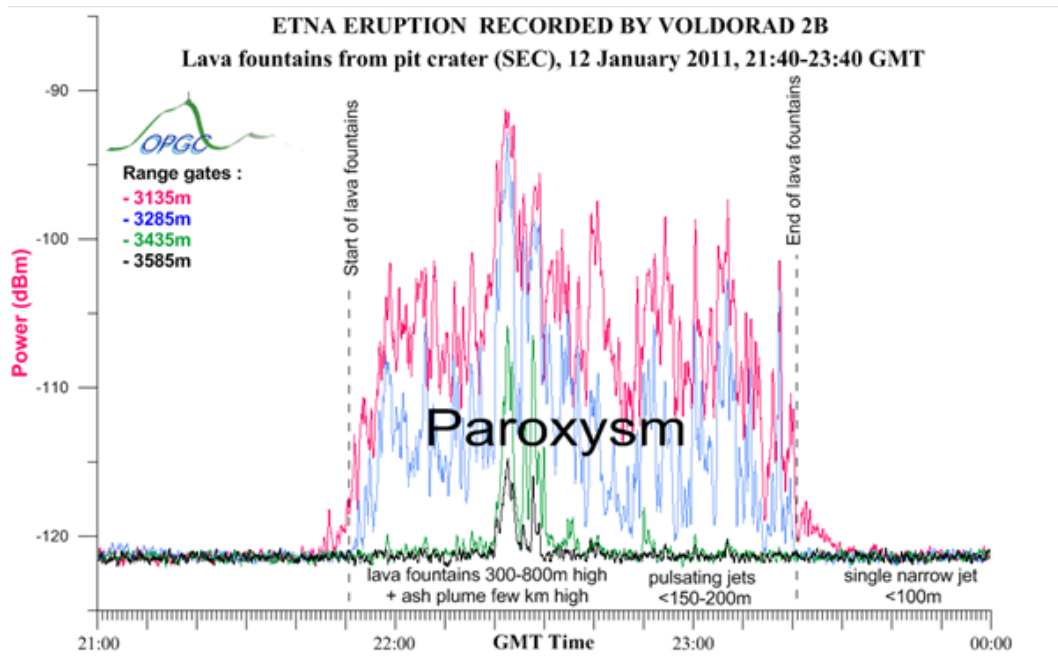


Figure 5.1: Radar power time series of the 1st paroxysm (January 12, 2011) detected by VOLDORAD 2B from the NSEC's at Etna volcano.

HYSPLIT trajectory model to obtain more precise estimation of altitude, which gives a value for every day after the explosion since the plume height can vary with time. Those estimations were also used to extrapolate the corrected SO₂ mass for the paroxysms that did not have enough OMI data. AIRS data were mainly used to track the volcanic cloud but it also helped to constrain the plume height when used in combination with OMI data (Carn et al., 2009).

Volcanic cloud altitude also determines the effect of eruptions on aviation and climate as well as being a proxy for eruption intensity (Carn et al., 2009b). Explosive magmatic eruptions, such as lava fountains, produce volcanic clouds containing ash and gas (H₂O, CO₂ and SO₂), that can reach aircraft cruising altitudes (9-11 km) and therefore the presence of SO₂ generally indicates that ash is also present. In our cases, the OMI Aerosol Index (AI) did not detect significant ash content in the Etna eruption clouds, and we infer that most ash falls out near the vent and little remains for long-range transport. Hence, whilst some of the Etna plumes appear to have reached cruising altitudes, they may not be a major hazard to aviation except close to the source. The effect of volcanic ash on airplanes is well known, especially after the Eyjafjallajökull crisis in 2010 (Stohl et al. (2011), Thomas and Prata (2011), Langmann et al. (2012)), but the effects of SO₂ are still controversial. Sulfate aerosol could cause airframe damage, overheating and power loss according to Carn et al. (2009). It is therefore important to track SO₂ clouds from volcanic eruptions to prevent any aviation hazard caused by the gas itself or volcanic ash. UV measurements from OMI as well as IR AIRS data are produced in near real-time to be used by Volcanic Ash Advisory Centers (VAACs) for aviation hazard mitigation. For instance, Catania's international airport (about 35 km away from Etna's summit) has suffered repeated temporary closures because of the hazard that gas and ash pose to aviation (Bonaccorso et al., 2011).

Lava fountains have been a recurrent phenomenon at Etna's summit craters in recent decades (Bonaccorso, 2006), including the 2000 cycle, 2001, 2008, 2011-2012 cycles,

and the 2013 sequence that is still ongoing. They produce a jet of hot pyroclasts ejected at high altitude above the vent (hundreds of meters) associated with an ash plume and fallout that pose a hazard to aviation. Therefore, it is important to study and understand the driving mechanism of this explosive activity, in order to recognize possible precursors. Previous work on Etna's lava fountains includes Allard (1997), Allard et al. (2005), Vergnolle and Ripepe (2008), Bonaccorso et al. (2011), whilst Parfitt (2004) studied Hawaiian lava fountains at Kilauea. Two different driving mechanisms have been proposed (the RSD and CF models) but previous studies have suggested that Etna's paroxysms are driven by a gas phase that accumulated before eruption in a storage zone at about 2 km depth below the summit. The RSD model can explain paroxysms at any open system but the CF model requires a gas accumulation in a deeper storage area, which is apparently the case for Etna. However, it is important to note that there is not one model better than the other and one doesn't have to explain all the Strombolian eruptions (Parfitt, 2004). Another point of view regarding Etna's eruptions states that the eruptive episode starts with strombolian activity, which becomes more and more frequent and transitions to nearly continuous activity generating lava fountains (Bertagnini et al. 1990, the 1989 eruptive sequence) but these are older eruptions. Therefore this might suggest that perhaps the system has changed and produced a change in the volcanic activity. This fast transition in activity has been explained by a rapid variation in the rise speed of the magma, which is the essence of the RSD model. These observations cannot be explained by the CF model since it depends on magma viscosity and gas accumulation that is not a fast process (Parfitt, 2004). In summary, in this project our data set suggests that the CF model is the more likely driving mechanism for the 2011-2012 cycle of lava fountains at Etna. Our data provides the first evidence of gas accumulation (i.e., the CF model) driving an entire sequence of lava fountain events.

A recent paper from Ganci et al. (2012) gives information about erupted volumes and mean output rates during one year of lava fountaining at Mount Etna (January 2011 to January 2012) using high temporal resolution thermal data (SEVIRI). We used their

estimation of total lava volume erupted and the duration of eruptions to compare the intensity and sulphur mass balance of the paroxysms with our datasets. We used the same technique, as with radar data, to estimate how much SO₂ would have been emitted by their calculated total dense rock lava volume of $28 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ and we found that about 450 ktons of SO₂ would have been released for those 19 paroxysms. For the same episodes, OMI and AIRS detected about 100 ktons of SO₂. However, there are also other factors to consider, like the crystal content of the lava (30% is assumed for Etna lavas). Since only the non-crystallized fraction of the magma can degas, this also affects the calculations. Also, the percentage of sulphur degassing from the lava may not be 100%. Using all these assumptions, we finally estimated that about 200-300 ktons would have been emitted. Therefore, our calculations suggest that the estimated SO₂ emissions from Ganci et al.'s data are maybe a factor of 2-3 higher, so not hugely different. This can easily be explained by passive degassing of the stored magma before each paroxysm since Etna typically emits about 2000 tons of SO₂ per day; therefore a difference of 100 to 200 ktons could be reached in about 50 to 100 days which is reasonable for the time interval of a year for Etna volcano.

We also wanted to compare our data with their mean output rate and the data are shown in Table 5.1. We can see that the intensities calculated with the satellite data are a lot higher than the estimation made by Ganci et al. (2012). This intensity comparison is certainly problematic due to the differences in duration from the radar and thermal IR data. As Ganci et al. point out in their paper, the IR signal can saturate and/or be obscured by the plume at the peak of activity (which is what the radar and gas data are most sensitive to), so their intensities may be underestimates of peak intensities. Furthermore, it is probable that the paroxysm duration that VOLDORAD 2B detected does not correspond to Phase 1 and Phase 2, like they used for their calculations, but only Phase 2

Table 5.1 : Intensity comparison between OMI, AIRS data and SEVIRI data (from Ganci et al., 2011) based on paroxysm duration detected by Doppler radar for 19 paroxysms.

| Date | VOLDORAD 2B | | OMI | | AIRS | | SEVIRI (Ganci et al., 2011) | |
|------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Paroxysm duration (min) | paroxysm duration (s) | SO ₂ mass (tons) | Intensity (kg/s) | SO ₂ mass (tons) | Intensity (kg/s) | duration phase 1 and 2 (min) | Mean output rate (m ³ /s) |
| 1/12/2011 | 91 | 5460 | | | 8500 | 1556.8 | 255 | 101.2 |
| 2/18/2011 | 210 | 12600 | 3390 | 269.0 | 750 | 59.5 | | |
| 4/10/2011 | 109 | 6540 | 2020 | 308.9 | 3360 | 513.8 | 495 | 29.5 |
| 5/12/2011 | 90 | 5400 | 1570 | 290.7 | | | 570 | 43.1 |
| 7/9/2011 | 71 | 4260 | 4370 | 1025.8 | 3710 | 870.9 | 243 | 102.3 |
| 7/19/2011 | 150 | 9000 | 8420 | 935.6 | 650 | 72.2 | 240 | 148.5 |
| 7/25/2011 | 90 | 5400 | 3440 | 637.0 | 320 | 59.3 | 630 | 26.1 |
| 7/30/2011 | 100 | 6000 | 12570 | 2095.0 | 1870 | 311.7 | 810 | 45.7 |
| 8/5/2011 | 75 | 4500 | 4400 | 977.8 | 4450 | 988.9 | 270 | 98 |
| 8/12/2011 | 117 | 7020 | 3430 | 488.6 | 29190 | 4158.1 | 210 | 226.7 |
| 8/20/2011 | 25 | 1500 | 5530 | 3686.7 | 9310 | 6206.7 | 330 | 70.8 |
| 8/29/2011 | 35 | 2100 | 4230 | 2014.3 | 4210 | 2004.8 | 255 | 113.7 |
| 9/8/2011 | 46 | 2760 | 7020 | 2543.5 | 11940 | 4326.1 | 180 | 112.6 |
| 9/19/2011 | 20 | 1200 | 9770 | 8141.7 | | | | |
| 9/28/2011 | 22 | 1320 | 8700 | 6590.9 | 4710 | 3568.2 | 228 | 29.7 |
| 10/8/2011 | 25 | 1500 | | | | | 465 | 30.2 |
| 10/23/2011 | 90 | 5400 | 6170 | 1142.6 | | | 150 | 145.7 |
| 11/15/2011 | 65 | 3900 | 1860 | 476.9 | 10970 | 2812.8 | 273 | 110.4 |
| 1/5/2012 | 60 | 3600 | 8030 | 2230.6 | 37160 | 10322.2 | 318 | 78.3 |

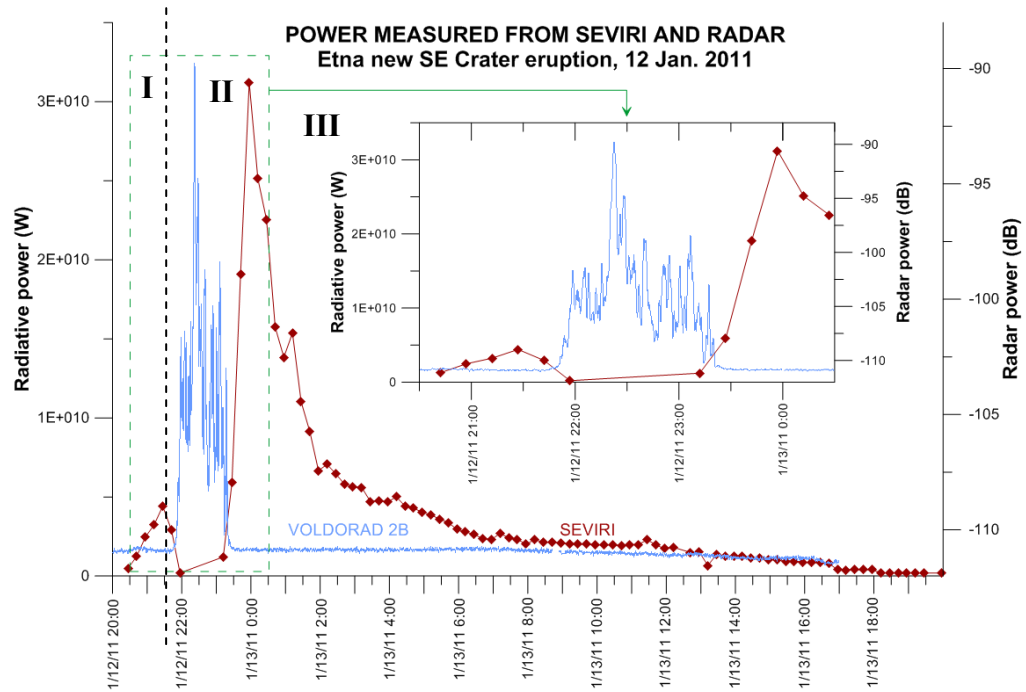


Figure 5.3: Plot showing the radiative power detected from SEVIRI and the radar power detected by VOLDORAD 2B for the 1st paroxysm on January 12, 2011 against time. The 3 different phases defined by Ganci et al. (2012) are shown in bold font, the green box correspond to phase 1 and 2. Modified from S. Valade thesis (2012).

with the higher heat flux. This can be seen in Figure 5.3 with an example from the 1st paroxysm of the cycle with VOLDORAD detection starting at the beginning of phase 2. We can also notice that the radar could help to constrain information about the intensity of the eruption when the thermal measurements cannot give information. This could be studied in further detail as part of a future work.

6. Conclusion

SO₂ retrievals were processed for paroxysmal degassing of Etna's NSEC in 2011-2012 using satellite data from the UV OMI and IR AIRS instruments in NASA's A-Train spacecraft constellation. OMI allows daily global coverage at the highest sensitivity in near real time and was able to track Etna's SO₂ plumes for several days. Back trajectories calculated using the HYSPLIT trajectory model was used to constrain the altitude of the SO₂ clouds. Ground-based data retrieved from VOLDORAD 2B constrain precisely the time of each paroxysm and we find that the radar measurements are in global agreement with the trajectory estimation, indicating that most SO₂ release coincides with peak lava fountain intensity. SO₂ loadings were derived from both OMI and AIRS allow parameterization of the exponential SO₂ decay rate for each paroxysm. In addition to providing additional constraints on SO₂ loadings, use of the IR AIRS data along with OMI allowed us to exploit the synergy between these sensors and constrain the altitude of the emitted SO₂. We also showed that some validation of AIRS SO₂ retrievals is possible using OMI, but it is more robust for high altitude clouds, consistent with previous work. Our observation of a correlation between the corrected SO₂ mass at the onset of each eruption and the inter-paroxysm repose time validates the CF model as driving mechanism for explosive basaltic eruptions at Etna. The observed correlation between ejection velocity and plume altitude also confirms the utility of ground-based Doppler radar data (VOLDORAD 2B) as a tool for aviation hazard mitigation. Hence this study of gas emissions from space, combined with different geophysical techniques, improves our understanding of the driving mechanism of explosive basaltic eruptions.

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8. Appendix

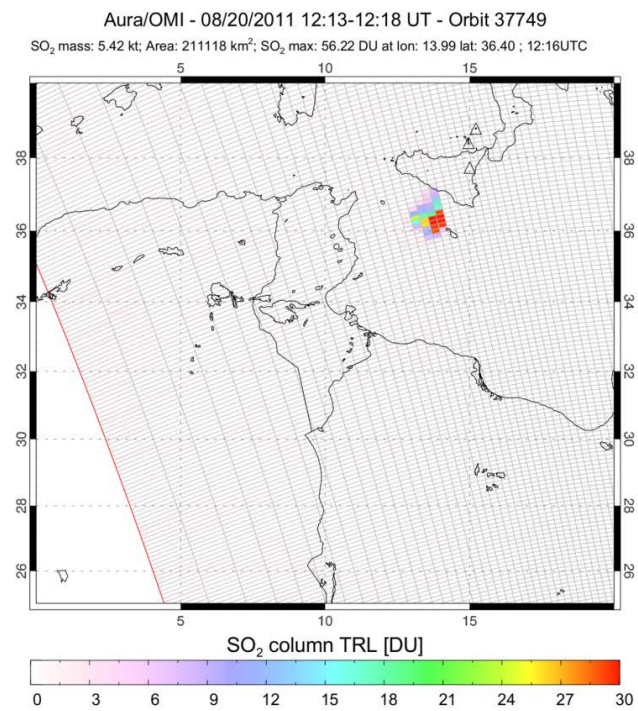
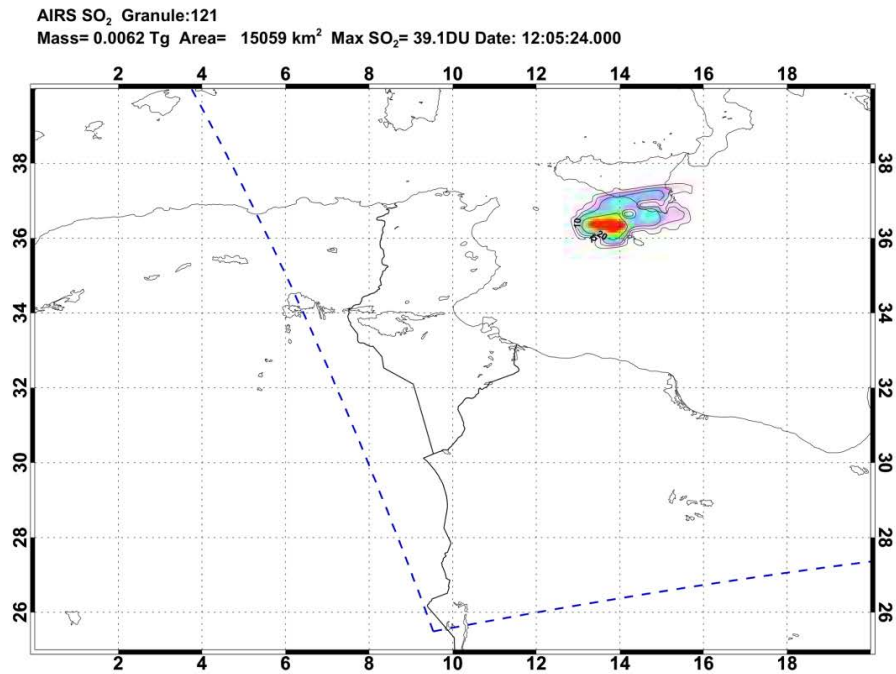
8.1 Hysplit table

| Paroxysm number | Date paroxysm | Paroxysm phase (radar) UTC | date Omi images | starting point (lat) | starting point (long) | ending time | altitude (m) | plume height above Etna (m) | supposed emission time | time difference radar and hysplit (hours) |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1 | 12/01/11 | 1:50-23:21 | 13/01/11 | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 18/02/11 | 7:20-10:50 | 18/02/11 | 36,42 | 13,97 | 12:12 | 8000 | 7000 | 07:00 | -0,333 |
| | | | 19/02/11 | 32,5 | 24,5 | 11:17 | 3000 | 1500 | 18/02/2011 22:00 | 14,666 |
| 3 | 10/04/11 | 0:48-12:37 | 10/04/11 | 36,7 | 15,5 | 12:42 | 4000 | 3500 | 09:00 | -1,8 |
| 4 | 12/05/11 | 1:50-03:20 | 12/5/11 | 31 | 22,5 | 12:42 | 7500 | 8400 | 03:00 | 1,166 |
| 5 | 09/07/11 | 4:03-15:14 | 10/7/11 | 30,2 | 10,5 | 12:26 | 6500 | 6600 | 12:00 | -2,05 |
| 6 | 19/07/11 | 0:00-02:30 | 19/07/11 | | | | | | | |
| | | | 20/07/11 | 26,5 | 22,5 | 11:23 | 4500 | 5800 | 18/07/2011 21:00 | 3 |
| 7 | 25/07/11 | 4:00-05:30 | 25/07/11 | 39 | 20,4 | 11:40 | 7000 | 7000 | 07:00 | 3 |
| 8 | 30/07/11 | 9:35-21:15 | 31/07/11 | 42 | 27 | 11:05 | 6000 | 6500 | 19:30 | -0,083 |
| | | | 01/08/2011 | 47,8 | 42 | 10:13 | 4800 | 5800 | 19:00 | -0,583 |
| 9 | 05/08/11 | 1:55-23:10 | 6/8/11 | 35,5 | 17 | 12:05 | | | | |
| | | | 7/8/11 | 38,5 | 24 | 11:10 | 10000 | 10800 | 06/08/2011 07:00 | 9,083 |
| | | | 8/8/11 | 38,6 | 31,8 | 10:16 | 7700 | 10500 | 06/08/2011 00:00 | 2,083 |
| | | | 09/08/11 | 38 | 45 | 10:59 | 6100 | 10500 | 18:00 | 3,916 |
| 10 | 12/08/11 | 8:50-10:05 | 12/8/11 | 37 | 15,5 | 11:29 | 2500 | 2300 | 06:00 | -2,833 |
| | | | 13/8/11 | 31,5 | 28 | 12:11 | 6500 | 9000 | 11:00 | 2,166 |
| | | | 14/8/11 | 28 | 32 | 11:19 | 3000 | 5000 | 12/08/2011 00:00 | -8,833 |
| 11 | 20/08/11 | 7:10-07:35 | 20/8/11 | 36,5 | 14 | 12:17 | 10000 | 9500 | 07:00 | -0,166 |
| | | | 21/8/11 | 27 | 6 | 13:02 | | | | |
| 12 | 29/08/11 | 4:10-04:45 | 29/08/11 | 34,5 | 30,5 | 11:00 | 6800 | 9600 | 07:00 | 2,833 |
| | | | 30/08/11 | 28 | 21 | 11:16 | 4500 | 5100 | 28/08/2011 18:00 | 10,166 |
| | | | 31/08/11 | 24 | 20 | 11:59 | 4000 | 6000 | 28/08/2011 18:00 | 10,166 |
| 13 | 08/09/11 | 7:31-08:17 | 8/09/11 | 35,5 | 16 | 12:48 | 7500 | 7500 | 06:00 | -1,516 |
| | | | 9/9/11 | 34,2 | 19 | 11:53 | 6500 | | | |
| | | | 10/9/11 | 35,5 | 22,5 | 12:35 | | | | |
| 14 | 19/09/11 | 2:30-12:50 | 20/09/11 | 51 | 16 | 11:38 | 9500 | 9500 | 15:00 | 2,5 |
| 15 | 28/09/11 | 9:33-19:55 | 29/09/11 | 38 | 24 | 11:31 | 10000 | 10500 | 17:00 | -1,55 |
| 16 | 08/10/11 | 4:45-15:10 | 9/10/11 | 35,8 | 28 | 12:00 | | | | |
| 17 | 23/10/11 | 8:45-20:15 | 24/10/11 | 35,5 | 22 | 11:23 | 5500 | 6200 | 18:00 | -0,75 |
| | | | 25/10/11 | 36,2 | 27 | 12:05 | | | | |
| 18 | 15/11/11 | 1:20-12:25 | 15/11/11 | | | | | | | |
| | | | 16/11/11 | 37 | 46 | 09:50 | 9000 | 10500 | 12:00 | 0,666 |
| 19 | 05/01/12 | 5:45-06:45 | 5/1/12 | 34,5 | 14,5 | 12:54 | 11300 | 11500 | 07:00 | 1,25 |
| | | | 6/1/12 | 34 | 39 | 10:20 | 7500 | 9000 | 05:00 | -0,75 |
| 20 | 09/02/12 | 1:00-06:00 | 9/2/12 | 35 | 12 | 11:47 | 5000 | 6200 | 08/02/2012 18:00 | -7 |
| 21 | 04/03/12 | 7:30-09:30 | 4/3/12 | 39,3 | 17,7 | 12:37 | 7000 | 6000 | 06:00 | -1,5 |
| | | | 5/3/12 | 39,5 | 40 | 11:42 | 8400 | 8700 | 10:00 | 2,5 |
| | | | 6/3/12 | 38 | 72 | 09:07 | 9800 | 11500 | 12:00 | 4,5 |
| 22 | 18/03/12 | 8:25-09:40 | 18/3/12 | 37,4 | 16,8 | 12:48 | 9500 | 9400 | 08:00 | -0,416 |
| | | | 19/3/12 | 34,5 | 30 | 11:54 | 11200 | 11700 | 10:00 | 1,583 |
| | | | 20/3/12 | 34,5 | 46 | 10:58 | 10200 | 11600 | 09:00 | 0,583 |
| | | | 21/3/12 | 37,5 | 65 | 08:24 | 10800 | 11500 | 09:00 | 0,583 |
| 23 | 01/04/12 | 2:41-03:35 | 1/4/12 | 34 | 21 | 11:23 | 10500 | 11000 | 03:00 | 0,316 |
| | | | 2/4/12 | 31,2 | 42,8 | 10:29 | 9000 | 9800 | 01:00 | -1,683 |
| 24 | 12/04/12 | 4:32-15:10 | 13/04/12 | 28 | 37 | 11:50 | 8800 | 9300 | 19:00 | 4,466 |
| 25 | 24/04/12 | 1:35-02:15 | 24/04/12 | 38 | 22,5 | 11:30 | 7300 | 7500 | 01:00 | -0,583 |
| | | | 25/04/12 | 38,5 | 39 | 10:34 | 11000 | 11500 | 02:00 | 0,416 |
| | | | 26/04/12 | 34 | 44 | 11:20 | 9000 | 11000 | 04:30 | 2,916 |
| | | | 27/04/12 | 37,8 | 56 | 10:22 | 10000 | 12000 | 07:00 | 5,416 |

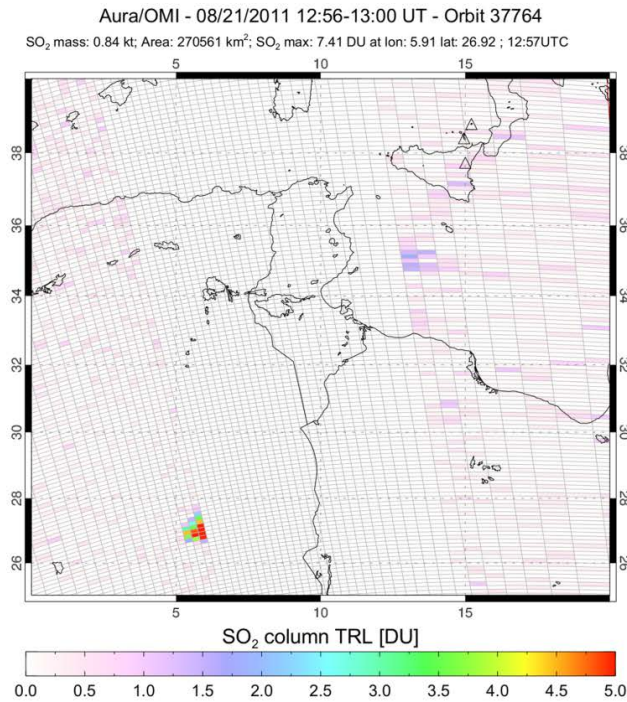
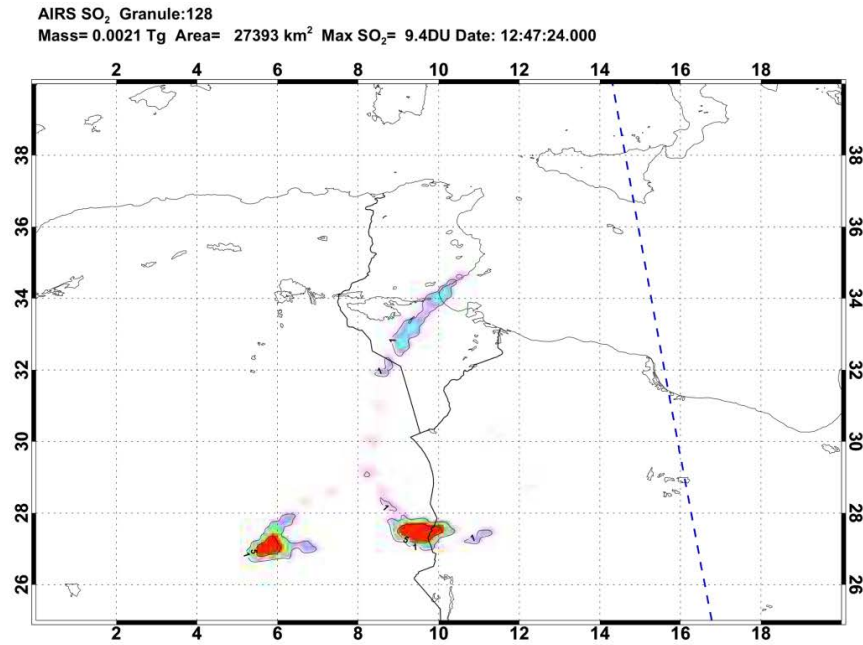
8.2 SO2 mass table OMI background.

| Date | paroxysm | Phase | Paroxsm (radar) UTC | date | Omi images | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud (km2) | window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) FOV method | area cloud window | background (ktons) FOV method | SO2 area back mass | SO2 cloud (ktons) |
|------|----------|-------|---------------------------|------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------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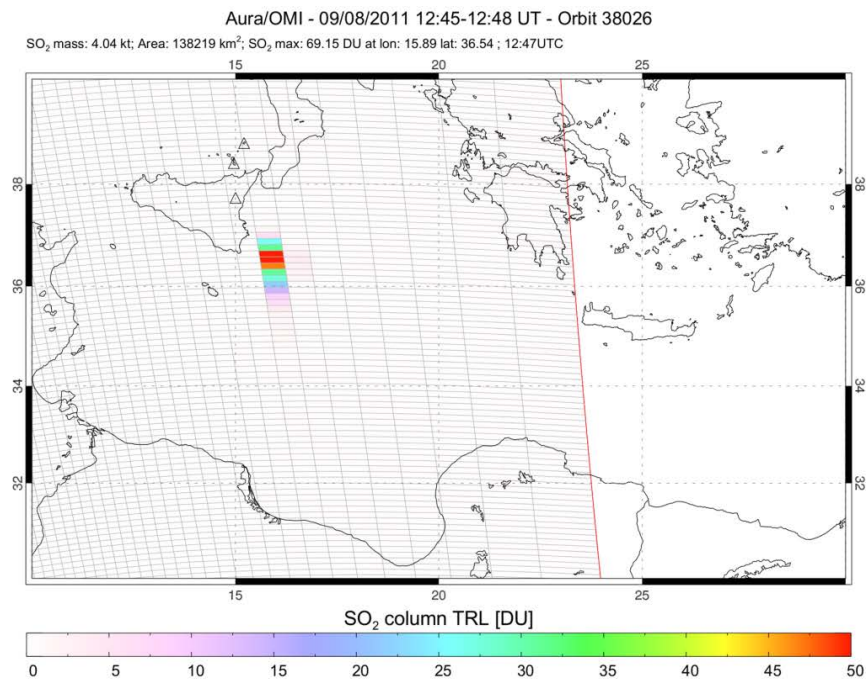
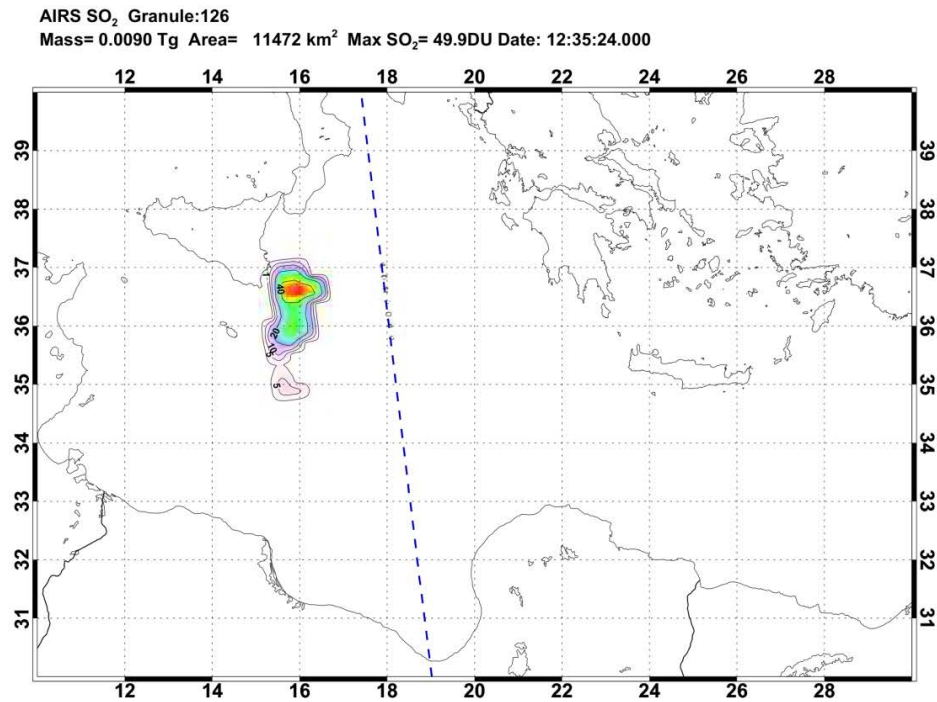
8.3 *Plume track from the first day of the 11th paroxysms (August 20, 2011): AIRS and OMI overpass at 12:05 and 12:13 UT respectively showing how AIRS can help to see the cloud when OMI has an anomaly.*



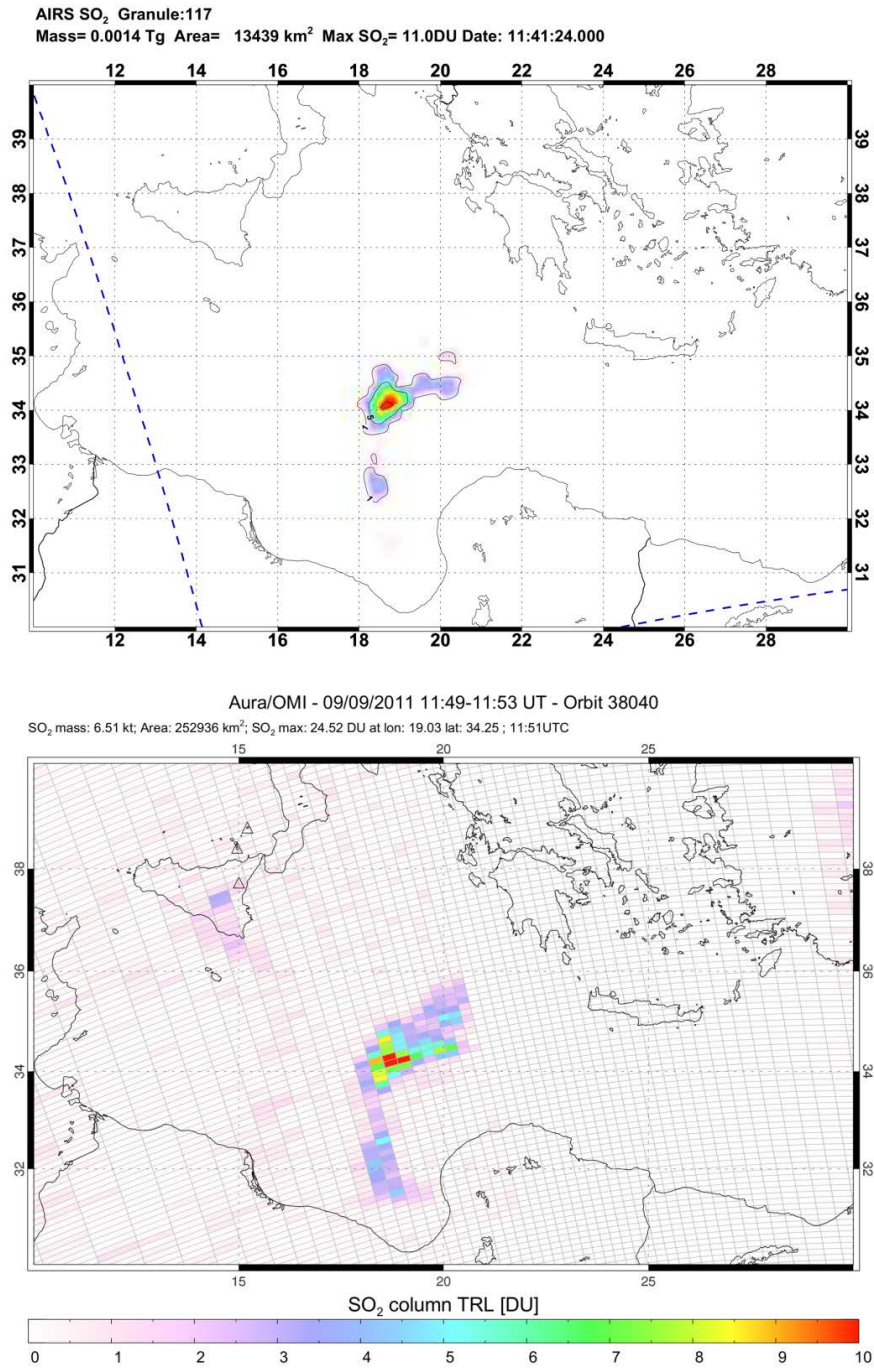
8.4 Plume track from the second day of the 11th paroxysms (August 21, 2011):
*AIRS and OMI overpass at 12:47 and 12:56 UT respectively showing how
 AIRS can help to see the cloud when OMI has an anomaly.*



8.5 Plume track from September 8, 2011 (13th paroxysm): AIRS and OMI overpass at 12: 35 and 12: 45 UT respectively. OMI shows an anomaly that AIRS completes.



8.6 *Plume track from September 9, 2011 (13th paroxysm): AIRS and OMI overpass at 11: 41 and 11: 49 UT respectively. OMI SO₂ detection is more sensitive than AIRS.*



8.7 Radar mass calculation 1st paroxysm

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----|----------|--|----------|--|----------|--|--------------------------------|--|---------------|----------|----------------|----------|------------------|--|---------|--|
| 11,2 mm | | 1/12/2011 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| jet <i>Rayleigh</i> | P3135 | | | | P3285 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | mean | | mW | | max | | mW | | mean | | max | | sum 2 gates | | | | | | | | | |
| | 21:40-22:20 | | -107.9 | 1.62E-11 | | -96 | 2.55E-10 | | 3.66E-12 | | 7.87E-11 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Nb part | | 8.66E+05 | | | | 1.36E+07 | | | | 1.96E+05 | | 4.21E+06 | | Mtot jet mean | 463.0 | | | | | | |
| | Vtot (m3) | | 0.637 | | | | 10.0338 | | | | 0.1442 | | 3.0955 | | Mtot jet max | 9.52E+03 | | | | | | |
| | Mtot (kg) | | 350.3751 | | | | 5.52E+03 | | | | 79.2997 | | 1.70E+03 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Concentration (kg/m3) | | 1.23E-05 | | | | 1.93E-04 | | | | 2.53E-06 | | 5.43E-05 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 22:30-23:40 | | -107.3 | 1.86E-11 | | -94 | 4.20E-10 | | 4.43E-12 | | 1.26E-10 | | Masse panache lapilli (11,2mm) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Nb part | | 9.95E+05 | | | | 2.25E+07 | | | | 2.32E+05 | | 6.74E+06 | | MTOTAL mean | 1.87E+05 | Mass flux mean | 1.56E+04 | | | | |
| | Vtot | | 0.7319 | | | | 16.522 | | | | 0.1703 | | 4.9581 | | MTOTAL max | 3.85E+06 | max | 3.21E+05 | | | | |
| fontaine <i>Mie (0,1m)</i> | P3135 | | | | P3285 | | | | P3435 | | | | P3585 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 22:20-22:30 | | -98 | 1.67E-10 | | -89 | 1.23E-09 | | 6.32E-11 | | 1.13E-09 | | 4.80E-12 | | 1.09E-10 | | 2.09E-12 | | 1.11E-11 | | | |
| | Nb part | | 23 | | | | 171 | | | | 11 | | 189 | | 1 | | 22 | | 1 | | 3 | |
| | Vtot | | 0.012 | | | | 0.0895 | | | | 0.0058 | | 0.099 | | 5.24E-04 | | 0.0115 | | 5.24E-04 | | 0.0016 | |
| | Mtot | | 6.6235 | | | | 49.2445 | | | | 3.1678 | | 54.4281 | | 0.288 | | 6.3355 | | 0.288 | | 0.8639 | |
| | Concentration (kg/m3) | | 2.32E-07 | | | | 1.72E-06 | | | | | | | | | | | | Mtot mean | | 10.3673 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Mtot max | | 110.872 | |
| | Vgate (m3) | | 3135 | | 2.86E+07 | | | | dt | | 5.96733 | | | | Fountain | | | | | | | |
| | | | 3285 | | 3.14E+07 | | | | | | 86.6667 | | | | MTOTAL mean | | 898.50 | | mass flux (kg/s) | | 150.57 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | MTOTAL max | | 9608.91 | | max | | 1610.25 | |

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