

Dear Ozonesonde fellows,

The 2005 NDSC scientific steering committee meeting was held in Tenerife 8-10 Nov. On 12 Nov. we were given a tour of Izaña observatory. Rene Stubi and I were in attendance to represent the ozone/aerosol sonde working group. Here is a brief report of that meeting and decisions/recommendations which may be of interest.

1) 23 station reports were submitted which accounts for nearly everyone in the network. A summary of these reports, available on the new web site, indicates:

- a) Data are archived at most stations through 2004 and many through 2005.
- b) The exceptions are La Reunion and OHP, with Sodankyla not indicating when the data area archived through.
- c) There were roughly 22 papers published or in press during the reporting period and 14 submitted. Some of these may be counted more than once, I didn't check.

2. The following questions were raised in the forms. They were discussed at the SCS meeting and the reply listed here was the decision of the SC committee.

- a) OHP is archiving in their data in HDF format in the NDSC database, and wonders if that is okay. **Recommendation** - OHP should obtain software to convert HDF to NASA Ames to maintain uniformity with rest of NDSC ozone data which is archived in NASA Ames format. In fact I am not sure it is possible to archive on the NDSC data base in HDF format since it is a relational data base.
- b) Hohenpeissenberg - Improve NDSC website. **Reply** - the NDSC web site is undergoing change. In addition the ozonesonde working group web site will be moved from NILU to Univ. Wyoming since Geir is no longer at NILU to keep the site up.
- c) NASA/GSFC/Wallops Flight Facility - Consider whether measurement frequency should be increased. **Reply** - This is a scientific question which individual investigator must determine based on resources and scientific objective.
- d) Neumayer - Data are sent nearly real time to WOUDC. Can NDSC take a copy from there automatically? **Reply** - No. The data are transferred from NDSC to WOUDC once a year, but the transfer does not go the other way.
- e) Ny-Ålesund - In case the outcome of BESOS are new SOPs, is this a problem for time series? **Reply** - possibly. Investigators must make reasoned individual decisions for their records. The BESOS investigators feel that each ozonesonde PI must use their best scientific judgment to decide what is best for their record. The BESOS investigators will not make a blanket recommendation, but will provide recommendations for the optimum use of the instrument.
- f) Izaña - BESOS report when will it be available?
- g) Sodankylä - QC matters, homogenisation of pre-flight preparation practices, SOPs?

3. Additional reply to e) - f). Work on the SOPs stalled after the BESOS/ASOPOS workshop in Sept. 2004. This is partly my fault, although others have also been preoccupied with other commitments. Information/recommendations on SOPs, data archiving, and supporting documentation will be forthcoming in the near future. I hope to have preliminary versions of some of these documents available on the new

ozonesonde web site within a few months. The formal documentation behind these recommendations, e.g. a WMO/GAW report on SOPs and scientific papers will be hopefully available in 2006.

4. Sam Oltmans would like to include his balloon-borne water vapor measurements in the NDSC data base and suggested that it might fit well within the sonde working group. **Reply:** Although the SC encourages Sam to apply for inclusion of his water vapor measurements in the NDSC data base, they felt a better approach, since it is a different species, is to form an ad hoc water vapor working group to consider how these and other measurements of water vapor should be included. Geir is taking the lead to organize this committee and Sam will receive an invitation to participate on that committee.
5. There was some discussion about data formatting since the satellite community is pushing somewhat hard to convert all data to HDF format for ease of use with satellite data. This is anticipated to be an evolution over several years. At present Bojan Bojkov has converters to convert NASA Ames 2160 and 2110 to HDF.
6. Concerning data format there is an incomplete action from 2004. Geir and I were to contact ozonesonde Pis with recommendations on the primary (independent) variable and on what variables and additional information should be included. This will be posted along with other relevant SOP information on my web site shortly, and will be open for discussion.