High Mountain Observatories for monitoring gases and aerosol properties in Himalaya and Apennine regions

Paolo Bonasoni

National Research Council Institute for Atmospheric Sciences and Climate Bologna - Italy

and **EV-K²-CNR** Bergamo - Italy



BEOBAL 2007

"Climate change may be studied in mountain regions through a wide range of phenomena, including changes of average concentrations, variability, seasonality, the incidence of extreme events of polluted conditions, etc." (GTOS - Global Change and Mountain Regions, 1999). Mt. Cimone "O. Vittori" Station 44.1N, 10.4E; 2165 m asl Mt. Everest "ABC-Pyramid" 27.9N, 86.7E; 5079 m asl

High Mountain Observatories are sites where atmospheric background conditions and environmental change processes can be studied thanks to continuous monitoring activities that constitute also an important aid to understand global change processes.

WHY High Mountain Observatories ?

The HMO are above the atmospheric boundary layer for most of the year and can be considered representative of continental free troposphere.

What is the role of atmospheric physical and chemical processes in amplifying or damping climate change?

What effect do regional emissions, long-range transports, stratosphere-troposphere exchanges and chemical transformations have on the composition of the atmosphere?

"Likewise, in these stations the pollution degree of the free troposphere, more and more frequently subject to vertical exchange or horizontal long-range polluted air mass transports, can be quantified." (TOR - Final Report, 2003).





Mt. Cimone (44°12' N, 10°42' E, 2165 m asl) is the highest peak of the Northern Apennines, the border line of two different climatic regions: the continental Europe northwards and the Mediterranean Basin southwards.

The major towns, Bologna and Florence (500000 inhabitants) are situated in the lowlands about 60 km away.

Industrial area are not closer than 40 km and 2 km lower



The Mt. Cimone GAW Station is a high mountain research station operating for measurement activities to study the physical and chemical aspects of the atmospheric environment.



The station is characterised by a completely free horizon for the whole 360° interval

In <u>very clear sky</u> conditions, it is possible to see:





Thanks to its geographical position in South Europe and North Mediterranean, different aspects of the atmosphere can be studied at Mt. Cimone.

The Mt. Cimone activities are performed in two buildings:



1998, July 15: the CNR Station was named to *Ottavio Vittori* one of the first Italian atmospheric scientists, the first Director of CNR FISBAT Institute in Bologna.



Observatory of the Italian Air Force Meteorological Service

"O. Vittori" Station of the Italian National Research Council.

The "Ottavio Vittori" CNR Station building

> two gas-sampling laboratories
> an aerosol HVS/LVS sampling laboratory
> a chemical/aerosol sampling laboratory
> a computer room with local network and satellite connection
> a meteorological station
> a terrace equipped for experimental activities





1 small kitchen
2 bedrooms for 6 people
2 bathrooms





Measurements carried out at Mt. Cimone

O₃ and **CO** CNR and UniUrb

CO₂ by Italian Air Force Meteorological Service

Halocarbons: CFC-11, CFC-12, CFC-113, CFC-114, CFC-115, H-1211, H-1301, HCFC-22, HCFC-141b, HCFC-142b, HCFC-124, HFC-125, HCFC-152a, HFC-134a, HFC-143a, C2F6, SF6, CH3Cl, CH3Br, CHCl3, CH2Cl2 collaboration : Urbino University - CNR
 ⁷Be, ²¹⁰Pb, ²²²Rn collaboration: Bologna University - CNR

Aerosol: size distribution (OPC; DMPS) black carbon, Nephelometer CNR

PM10 collab. JRC Ispra - Bologna Univ.- CNR
NO₂ and O₃ total column (DOAS) CNR
Solar radiation CNR
Bioaerosol (pollen and spore) CNR
Meteorological parameters CNR and Italian Air Force Meteorological Service



Level of Scientific Understanding

European atmospheric background conditions

Comparison of trace levels (upslope/ downslope conditions) observed at Mt. Cimone (*MINATROC 2000, H. Fischer, MPI-Mainz*) with spring-summer observations at other remote mountain sites in Europe and the US.

	Mt. Cimone	Mauna Loa ¹	Izana ²	Jungfraujoch ³	Idaho Hill ⁴
Lat./Long.	44.18°N / 10.7° E	19.38°N/155.36°W	28.18°N/16.3°W	46.33°N / 7.59°W	39.5°N / 105.37°W
Altitude [m]	2165	3400	2370	3580	3070
Season	June 2000	July/Aug. 1992	July/August 1994	March/April 1998	Aug./Sept. 1993
O3 [ppbv]	56 / 60	33.8 / 35.6	38 / 40	57.8 / 59.8	51
CO [ppbv]	119 / 118	64 / 66	92 / 89	193 / 184	92
NOx [pptv]	267 / 197	50 / 26	76 / 47	297 / 59	2221 / 393
NOy [pptv]	897 / 1027	223 / 188	519 / 392	956 / 625	4315 / 1340
HCHO [ppbv]	1.4 / 1.1	0.3 / 0.15	1.4 / 1.1	n.a.	1.4 / 0.9

¹[Atlas and Ridley, 1996] ²[Fischer et al., 1998] ³[Zanis et al., 2000] ⁴[Centrell et al., 1997; Harder et al., 1997; Williams et al., 1997]



Summer view of the Po Valley from Mt. Cimone





Mt. Cimone & Mt. Waliguam Stations 2003 Surface Ozone and behaviour Be7/Pb210



Analyses and comparisons of variations of 'Be, ²¹⁰Pb, and 'Be/²¹⁰Pb with ozone observations at two Global Atmosphere Watch stations from high mountains

H. N. Lee,1 L. Tositti,2 X. Zheng,3 and P. Bonasoni4



Fig. 1. Box-and-whiskers analysis of hourly O_3 concentrations for summers 1996–2004 at MTC. The box and whiskers denote the 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th and 90th percentiles, the outliers the 5th and 95th percentiles and the bold lines the mean values of summer O_3 concentrations.

Anomalous high O3 concentrations recorded at a high mountain station in Italy in summer 2003 *P. Cristofanelli et al.*

Atmos. Env. 41 (2007) 1383–1394

MTC O3 concentrations

Summer 1996 – 2004



SAHATAN dust transports

MODIS **July 16, 2003**

Given its location in the Mediterranean region, Mt. Cimone is particularly suitable to study the transport of tropospheric air masses coming from the North Africa desert area. Mt. Cimone: concentrazione di particolato durante il trasporto del luglio 2003

cm³

Particelle

0

14





The percentage of day per month that Saharan dust was detected showed 2 main periods with high "dust activity":

from May to August and from October to December.



Saharan dust episodes: elemental concentrations

Concentrations of (a) PM10, (b) (b) S in PM10, (c) Si in PM10, and (d) Na in PM10 at Mt Cimone (dashed lines) and in Modena (dotted lines).

In Figure (b) the mixing height at San Pietro Capofiume (altitude above mean sea level) is also displayed (solid line).

"Characterization of atmospheric aerosols at Monte Cimone, Italy, during summer 2004: Source apportionment and transport mechanisms"

F. Marenco et al. JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 111, D24202, doi:10.1029/2006JD007145, 2006





Asian Brown Cloud

Haze over the lower Himalayas, south of Mt. Everest.

ASIA hosts more than 60% of the world's population live and is experiencing fast and rapid industrial growth

Asian haze, a 3 km thick brownish layer of pollutants hovering over most of tropical Indian Ocean, South, Southeast and East Asia.

Potential direct and indirect consequences of the haze involve regional and global climate change, impacts on ecosystem, the water cycle, agriculture and human health.

New programme to study atmospheric composition change in Himalaya and Karakorum mountain regions supported by Italian EV-K2-CNR committee with the specific aim of contributing to the ABC Project

Asian Brown Clouds

A programme called **ABC** has been initiated jointly by UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme, and Center for Clouds, Chemistry and Climate (C4) at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (C4/SIO).

Under Project ABC scientists plan to establish a network of ground-based monitoring stations throughout Asia to study the composition and seasonal pattern of the haze.

In the Himalayan area the continuous monitoring of atmospheric compounds represents a necessary action to well evaluate:

- ✓ the impact of the human activities on the environment
- ✓ the contribution of natural phenomena



However, due to technical and logistic difficulties to carry out continuous measurements at high altitude in Himalayas, no systematic observations of atmospheric constituents are available in this area till now.

SHARE – Asia Environmental Network



Pakistan









Nepal





Bhutan

Bangladest

Implementation Plan for the ABC-Pyramid Observatory

August 2002:

September 2003: December 2004: April 2005: May 2005:

May-September 2005: June- October 2005:

Sept.-Oct.-Nov. 2005: November 2005: January-February 2006: From March 2006: February Junch 2007:

2008 - 2xxx

EV-K2-CNR first contact with UNEP at Johannesburg World Summit

Yokohama: ABC accept Pyramid as "exploratory site" definition of the team CNR - ISAC & OPCG - CNRS 3-years contract is signed between CNR-ISAC and EvK2CNR The ABC-Pyramid site in the Himalayas has been chosen, in order to carry out representative measurements of atmospheric compounds

Scientific discussions for the implementation plan among partners

Acquisition and Construction of instrumentation and inlets. Development of data acquisition and trasmission procedures ABC-Pyramid laboratory mounted and tested in Bologna with full instrumentation

ABC-Pyramid laboratory sent to Nepal (20m³)

2006: ABC-Pyramid laboratory mounted and first measurements performed: all OK!!

Continuous in situ measurements

ABC-Pyramid instrument calibration and field campaign

The ABC-Pyramid scientific goals:

To determine the physical, optical and chemical properties of <u>aerosol</u> and investigate the relationships between them.



Aerosol Forcings Cause the Largest Uncertainty in the Earth's Radiation Budget

WHERE the ABC-Pyramid observatory?

Lat. N 27°57' Lon. E 86°48' Altitude: 5079 m asl Khumbu Valley (Nepal), not far from the Pyramid

ala Pattar

WHERE the ABC-Pyramid observatory?

Nepal

KHUMBU GLACIER

Tibet

The Observatory is unique for investigating atmospheric composition changes

and providing the opportunity to look at both polluted and clean air masses depending upon the season.



The tracking:

6 days from Lukla (2820) to Pyramid (5050), sleeping in Nepalese lodges





HOW the ABC-Pyramid observatory works?





In the Himalayas the activity employ renewable energy from 96 photovoltaic panels and 120 electric storage cells.



HOW the ABC-Pyramid observatory works?

the he -







HOW the ABC-Pyramid observatory works?

Data acquisition and communication systems



The data are sent to the CNR Institute where they can be accessed by different Institutions that provide QA/QC.

The remote control of the instruments is possible from CNR and CNRS Institutes.

4 INLETS on the roof:

TPS (OPC)

Ozone and Black Carbon

PM₁₀ (HV sampler)



(DMPS - Nephelometer)



Continuous measurements of PM, CN, σabs, σdiff, dN/dLogD, O3, meteo, AOD, particle composition, GHG and Halogenated compounds

2.4 m

4 m



The instrumental set up concerns the measurement of atmospheric aerosol, tropospheric ozone and halocarbons defined also in accordance with the ABC project

Weather Station



Vaisala WAS 425

Black Carbon Aerosol light absorption properties



MAAP 5012 Thermo Electron Corp. Multi Angle Absorption Photometer AOD: Atmospheric Optical Depth

Sun Photometer CIMEL CE 318

Size Distribution 0.25-32 µm

Thermo

al Dust Monitor

GRIMM Aerosol Technik

Confier

OPC GRIMM Dust Monitor 190

Ev-K³-CN

Aerosol physical properties

Size distribution 15-500nm SMPS / DMPS

Surface OZONE

Thermo Electron 49C U.V. Photometric gas analyzer





Aerosol integral scattering coefficient TSI 3563 Integrating Nephelometer

Halocarbon GHG compounds

Steel flask sampling (Nepal) Gas analysis AGILENT GC-MS at Mt. Cimone CNR Station (Italy)

25 Halocarbons relevant for climate issues will be analysed in flask samples collected weekly **Aerosol Chemistry** (CI, WSOC, WIOC, metals...)

HV PM₁₀ sampler (Nepal) Analysis at ISAC (Bologna) and Urbino University

C2F6, SF6, HFC-23, Halon 1301, CFC-115, HFC-125, HFC-143, CFC-12, HCFC-22, CH3CI, HFC-134a, Halon 1211, HFC-152b, CFC-114, CH3Br, HCFC-142b, HCFC-124b, CFC-11, CH3I, CH2CI2, HCFC-141b, CFC-113, CHCI3, CCI4, CHCCI3, CH3CCI3, C2CI4



CALIBRATION AND QUALITY CONTROL

The whole instrumentation has been pre-calibrated and tested in Bologna (Italy)

In situ all the flow rates have been checked and regulated

Routine maintenance is carried out by local Nepalese personnel; all instruments are accessed directly through satellite connection from ISAC in Italy and from OPGC in France

Field campaign are planned for calibration, implementation and intensive studies (First field campaign occurred in Feb-March 2007)



CALIBRATION AND QUALITY CONTROL

The instrumental set up, quality control for the instrumentation and data reduction has been defined and performed following the ABC project recommendations, EUSAAR/GAW/AGAGE procedures concerning the measurement of atmospheric aerosol properties, tropospheric ozone, halocarbons and other greenhouse gases

(WMO/GAW, 2003; WMO, 1992; ABC, 2003)



2000-2004 @ Pyramid EV-K2-CNR

WINTER (DRY SEASON) December - February

PRE-MONSOON March - May

MONSOON June - September

POST - MONSOON November - December



2000-2004 @ Piramid EV-K2



Number of hours per day with RH>95% (26% of days with 24h/24)



2006

Pre-monsoon season before May 25

Monsoon season after May 24



1- Differentiate 3 main periods Pre-Monsoon and Monsoon and post Monsoon



1- Differentiate 3 main periods Pre-Monsoon and Monsoon and post Monsoon



2- Identification of mesoscale-scale pollution episodes (from Pakistan)



Episodes from long-range transport: mixed dust/carbonaceous aerosol (12-18 June, 28-29 April)









11th – 12th March 2006: POSSIBLE INTRUSION FROM UPPER TROPOSHERE – LOWER STRATOSPHERE



Total ozone column= 292 DU

3- Identification of FT background



•Background period with modes at 30 nm and 60 nm

•Particle concentration down to 300 part. cm-3

- BC concentrations down to 20 ng/m3
- •PM1 : < 1µg m-3

• Single scattering albedo : 0,98

4- Ventilation from BL driven by upslope/downslope circulation



•Very high PM concentrations locally

•Mixture of local dust and combustion aerosols

•Resilience of BL aerosol in FT and regional impact ?

3- Particle formation at the BL/FT interface



•Very high CN concentrations locally

•Role of Meteorological conditions and dynamics

 Next step: Identification of precursors Dust transport event26th – 30th April 2006aerosol volume size distribution: 19 April - 1 May 2006





Crustal matter

25 total unaccounted CO3 20 crustal matter minor soluble ions 15 SO4 hg/m3 NO3 NH4 10 ■ WINSOM WSOM 5 0 PYR- PYR- PYR-QTZ- QTZ- QTZ-PYR-QTZ-PYR-PYR-PYR-PYR-PYR-PYR-QTZ- QTZ- QTZ-15 27 45 QTZ-QTZ-QTZ-09 12 30 51 06 18 33 night integral sampling morning afternoon

Mg
 Fe
 Ca
 Na
 K

AI

🗖 Si

© 2006 Europa Technologies Image © 2006 NASA Image © 2006 TerraMetrics

tore 38°43'09.68" N 35°18'13.06" E

Streaming |||||||||| 100%



Alt 6833.98

C 2006

HYSPL

4- Complex mixtures of aerosol material

Absorbing material from BC and Dust.

Elevated fraction of carbonaceous material in PM10.

Dust events clearly identified

 Local versus long-range contributions to be determined

Long-range transport of both dust and carbon material





MTCABC-Pyramid





The ABC-PYR laboratory - 5079 m asl lat: 27.95N lon: 86.82E

A scientific laboratory for the study of atmospheric composition change and climate

Real-time data, weather and satellite maps, back-trajectories and STE forecasts (ETHZ) available at: http://evk2.isac.cnr.it/

Mt. Cimone → http://www.isac.cnr.it/cimone/

The ABC-Pyramid Observatory and the atmospheric research project



P. Bonasoni1, P. Laj2, U. Bonafè1, F. Calzolari1, P. Cristofanelli1, S. Decesari1,
L.Emblico1, MC. Facchini1, S. Fuzzi1, GP. Gobbi1, F., Angelini1, V. Mancinelli1,
M. Rinaldi1, A. Marinoni1, F. Roccato1, JM. Pichon2, K. Sellegri2, H. Venzac2,
J. Arduini3, M. Maione3, M. Sprenger4, GP.Verza5 and E. Vuillermoz5

 CNR - Institute for Atmospheric Sciences and Climate, Bologna, Italy 2 - CNRS - Université Blaise Pascal, Aubière Cedex, France
 Urbino University, Department of Environmental Science, Urbino, Italy 4- ETHZ - Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, Switzerland 5 - EV-K2-CNR Committee, Bergamo, Italy



Part of these studies were carried out within the framework of the Ev-K²-CNR Project in collaboration with the Nepal Academy of Science and Technology as foreseen by the Memorandum of Understanding between Nepal and Italy, and thanks to contributions from the Italian National Research Council and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Footpath of the Atmosphere

Since 2004, it is possible for school pupils to see **"where"** and **"how"** measurements concerning climate and atmosphere are carried out!

A footpath - the "Trip of the Atmosphere" going up the north- western ridge of the mountain, brings the people to the Mt. Cimone top and to the <u>CNR Research Station</u> and the <u>Air Force Meteorological Observatory</u>

Along the **Trip of the Atmosphere**", 10 panels introduce the trippers to the "secrets" of the atmosphere and climate change.

> Info and booking: http://www.isac.cnr.it/cimone/sa

Monte Cimone

mosfere



Global warming, greenhouse gases, ozone hole, global and local pollution, aerosols... Not only the *Trip of the Atmosphere*, but also a **meeting point near to Mt. Cimone** (Sestola) to introduce and discuss the "secrets" of the atmosphere and climate change.

Thank you

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