The OSIRIS Stratospheric Aerosol Record

Version 5, 6 and Merging with SAGE II

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Overview

OSIRIS on Odin

Version 5 aerosol retrieval overview/analysis

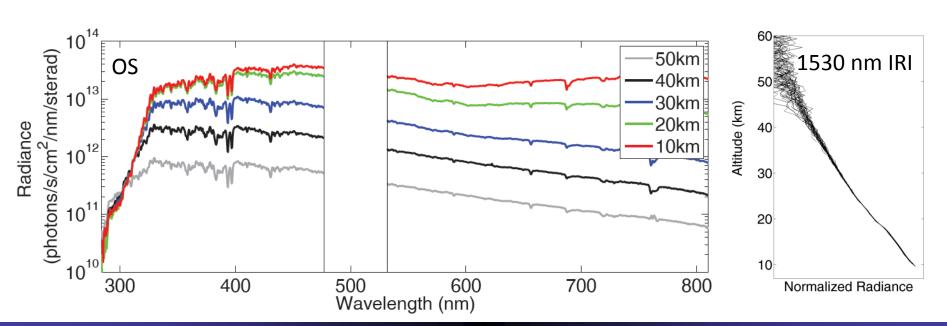
Version 6 aerosol retrieval overview/analysis

Towards merging the OSIRIS and SAGE II datasets

OSIRIS - Overview

Optical Spectrograph and InfraRed Imaging System

- Operational on Odin since late 2001 and continuing
- Measures limb scattered sunlight from 280 to 810 nm with approx. 1 nm resolution and 2 km vertical resolution
- 3 infrared channels at 1260,1270 and 1530 nm



OSIRIS - Coverage

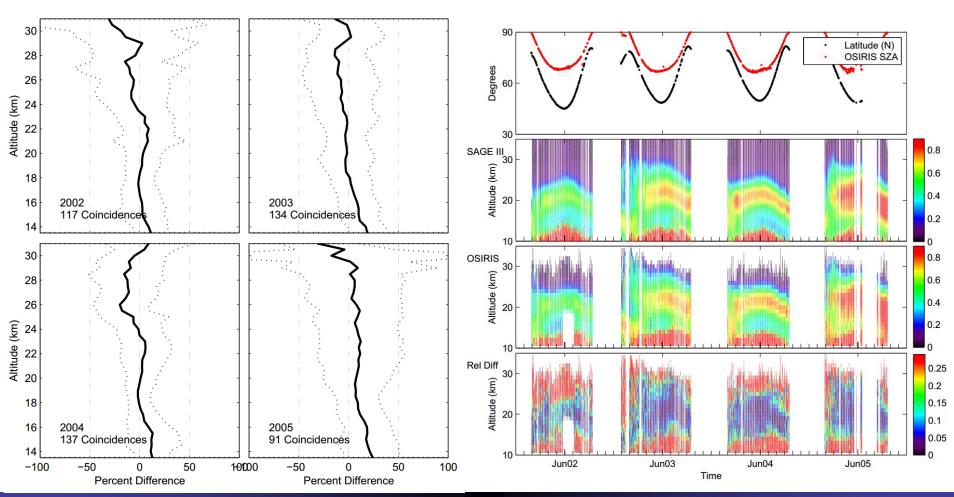
Optical Spectrograph and InfraRed Imaging System

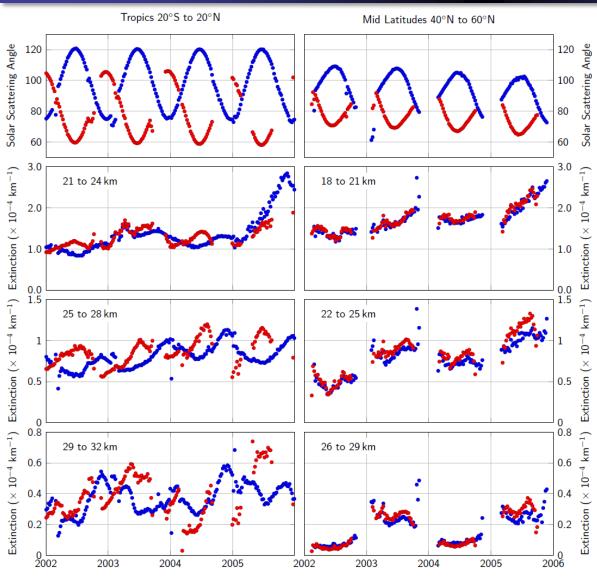
- Odin orbit provides daily coverage at 1800/0600h
- Only sunlit hemisphere can be measured
- Vertical profile every 90 seconds, typically 200-400 profiles per day
- 'Matched pairs' of measurements on ascending and descending orbit tracks allow for two measurements of the same location separated by 12hrs

Descending Track — Ascending Track

- Single measurement vector retrieval based on spectral ratio of 470 and 750 nm radiances
- Particle size is assumed to be single mode lognormal with mode radius of 80 nm, mode width of 1.6
 - Mie scattering phase functions and cross sections
- Extinction is retrieved at 750 nm using Multiplicative-Algebraic Reconstruction Technique (MART)

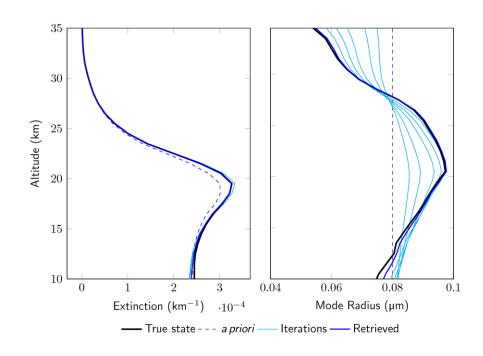
 Good results in mid-to-high latitudes and low volcanic loading conditions (SAGE III comparisons at 750 nm over 4 years)

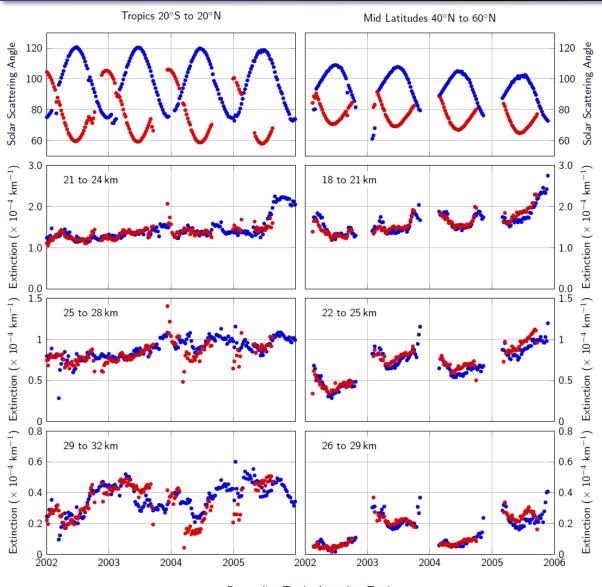




 Comparison of measurements at different viewing geometries shows systematic bias in the retrievals due to particle size assumptions

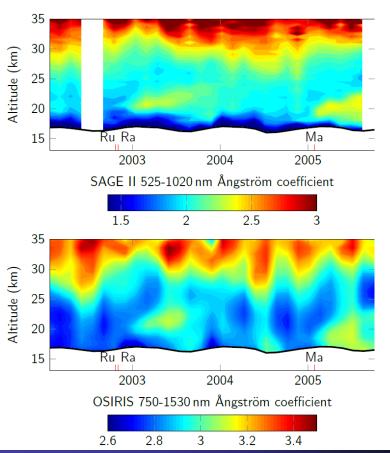
- Version 6 incorporates 1530 nm infrared imager channel to retrieve particle size information as well as extinction
- Single mode lognormal distribution is still assumed with a fixed mode width of 1.6
- Mode radius and number density are adjusted in the model, with extinction and the Angstrom coefficient as the two retrieved parameters (these are more robust to model assumptions)





Comparison of ascending and descending track measurements is greatly improved, particularly in the tropics

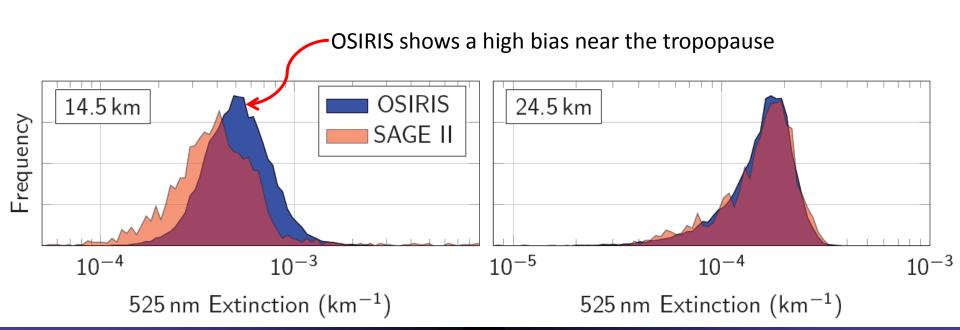
 Comparison of retrieved Angstrom coefficients shows good qualitative agreement with SAGE II, however some issues remain

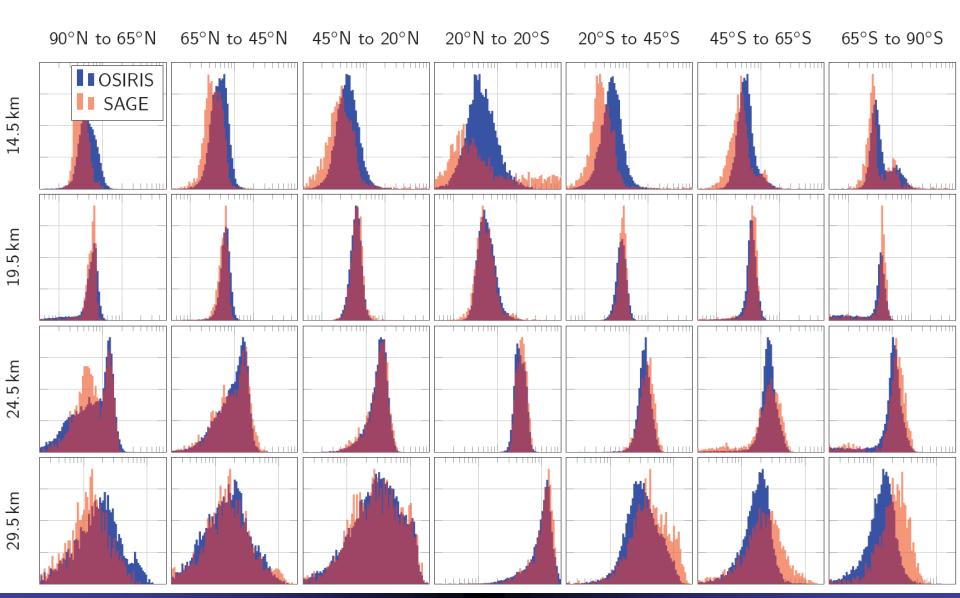


- Lack of 1530 nm albedo measurements leads to systematic biases
- Assumption of single mode lognormal with fixed mode width not perfect
- IR detector saturates under high aerosol loading at low altitudes

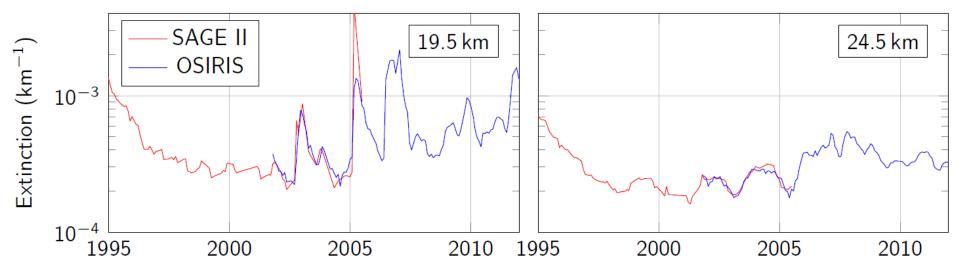
- Work has begun on a merged 525nm stratospheric aerosol extinction data set spanning from 1984 to present
- High quality and long overlap (~3.5 years) of the data sets makes for (relatively) easy merging with a few exceptions
 - Coverage is sparse in the winter polar regions for both instruments, limiting coincidences
 - OSIRIS must be extrapolated to 525nm using the retrieved Angstrom coefficient

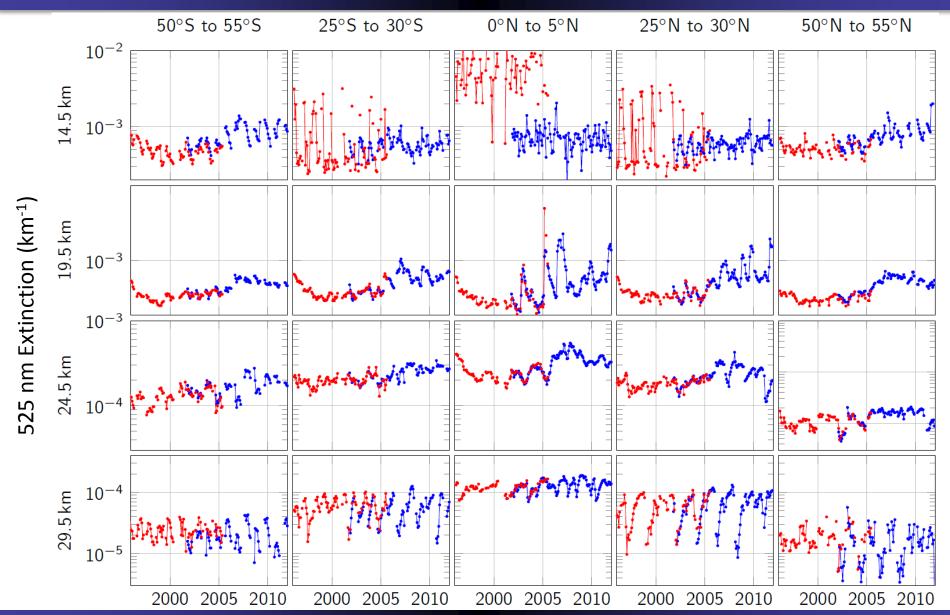
- SAGE II and OSIRIS measurements show good agreement, both in mean and standard deviations over most altitude and latitudes
- Measurements from 20 to 45°N for 2002-2005 are shown in the histograms below



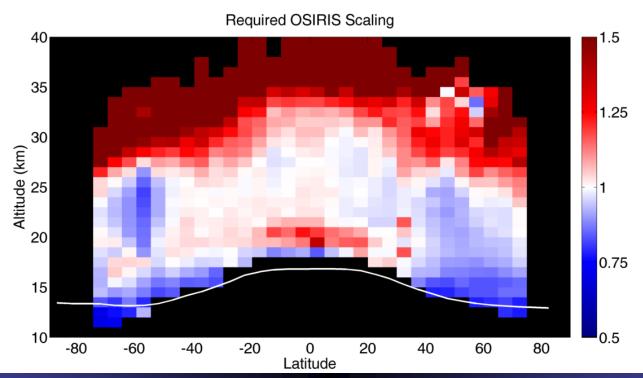


- 525 nm extinction time series at various altitude and latitude bins shows excellent agreement
- Figure shows two altitudes at 0-5N before OSIRIS data has been corrected



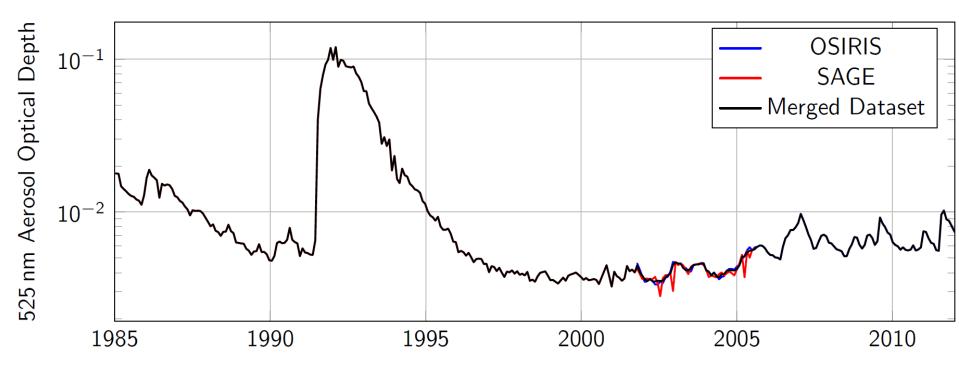


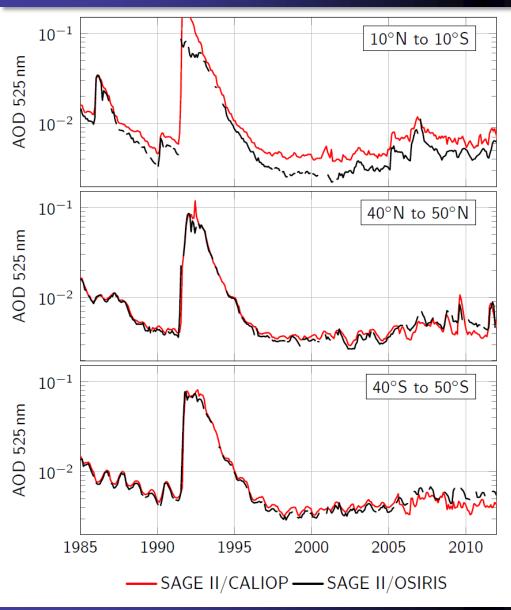
- For merging OSIRIS data was scaled to the SAGE II extinction so that the mean extinction value in each 5 degree latitude bin and 1km altitude bin are equal
- For the bulk of the stratosphere OSIRIS is within 10% of SAGE
 II with a couple exceptions



To avoid low altitude biases only data above the tropopause is used in the merge

Aerosol Optical Depth from 50°S and 50°N





- Comparisons with the merged SAGE II/CALIOP AOD from 15-40 km show good agreement
- SAGE II/CALIOP generally higher due to AOD calculated from 15km and up, rather than from tropopause - particularly in the tropics

Conclusions

- Version 6 OSIRIS aerosol provides improved extinction measurements over the bulk of the mission as well as qualitative Angstrom measurements
- Work continues on the version 6 data set to improve measurements where the IR channel saturates
- Merging the SAGE II and OSIRIS datasets provides a nice long term aerosol record, provided only values above the tropopause are used.