Optical Remote Sensing with DIfferential Absorption Lidar (DIAL)

Part 2: System Design and Applications

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Outline

- DIAL system components
- DIAL instruments at NOAA/ESRL
- Applications of airborne ozone DIAL

DIAL system components: Transmitter (1)



Narrow absorption line



Broad absorption feature

- Δλ ≈ 50 pm
- No correction for differential backscatter or extinction needed
- Transmit laser needs to be tunable
- High frequency stability, narrow bandwidth, high spectral purity

- Δλ =10 nm
- Correction for differential backscatter or extinction necessary
- Fixed wavelength lasers OK
- High frequency stability, narrow bandwidth, high spectral purity not needed

DIAL system components: Transmitter (2)

- □ High laser power (high pulse energy or lower pulse energy & high rep rate)
- □ Tunable laser or appropriate fixed frequencies

Species	Laser transmitter	Wavelengths
O ₃	4x Nd:YAG / Excimer + Raman shift	Fixed: 266 – 359 nm
	OPO, CeLiCAF, 3x Ti:Sapphire	Tunable: 280 – 320 nm
H ₂ O	Ti:Sapphire, Alexandrite, OPO, Fiber laser	720 – 940 nm, 1.5 μm
CH ₄	OPO	1.67 µm, 3.3 µm
CO ₂	Fiber laser, OPO, Tm:Ho:YLF	1.57 µm, 2.05 µm
VOCS	Dye lasers	Mid-IR @ several µm
NH ₃	Dye laser, CO ₂ laser	208 nm, 9 – 10 µm

OPO = Optical Parametric Oscillator

□ Large telescope

- □ Narrow field of view to suppress background light
- Combination of near and far channels to compress large dynamic range



DIALs at NOAA/ESRL/CSD: Water Vapor

CODI = COmpact DIAL (prototype of small, autonomous H_2O DIAL system)



wavelength	823 nm
output pulse energy	~0.15 μJ
pulse duration	600 ns
pulse repetition freq.	8 – 10 kHz
telescope diameter	34 cm
field-of-view	180 μRad





DIALs at NOAA/ESRL/CSD: Ozone

TOPAZ = Tunable Optical Profiler of Aerosol and oZone

- > Tunable, all-solid state, compact O_3 DIAL
- > Replaced previous fixed-wavelength O_3 lidar in 2006
- Size & weight were reduced significantly

TOPAZ Specifications			
Wavelengths	3		
Wavelength tuning range	285-310 nm		
Pulse energy	0.2-0.8 mJ/pulse		
Pulse rate	1 kHz with pulse-to-pulse tuning capability		
Minimum/maximum range	0.3 km / 5 km		
Eye-safe range	~150 m		
System weight	~800 lbs (including chiller and control electronics)		
Output	Ozone and aerosol backscatter profiles		
Vertical/horizontal resolution (O_3)	90 m / 600 m		
Precision (O ₃)	3 - 15 ppbv		





TOPAZ Ozone Lidar

2006 – 2011: Airborne deployments on NOAA Twin Otter



2012: Conversion to truck-based, scanning instrument







TOPAZ is a tunable, multi-wavelength DIAL system

Advantages of tunability:

- Wavelengths can be optimized for given atmospheric ozone loading
- Minimize interference from other trace gases, e.g. SO₂

Advantages of multi-wavelength capability:

- Allows simultaneous measurement of 2 species (O₃ & SO₂)
- Dual-DIAL application to minimize uncertainties due to aerosol backscatter and extinction corrections



Ozone DIAL Application: Regional Air Quality



Ozone non-attainment areas in the US



Area is in non-attainment if 3-year average of the annual 4th highest daily maximum 8-hr ozone concentration exceeds 75 ppbv.

Ozone lidar science objectives

3-d distribution of ozone

- Horizontal and vertical transport of ozone on local and regional scales
- Validation of air quality forecasting models

TexAQS 2000 - Local Transport: Sea-breeze re-circulation of pollutants near Houston, TX



Air Quality forecast model comparison with O₃ DIAL



AQ model prediction

TexAQS 2000 & 2006 - Regional Transport: Estimating ozone exported from Houston



Horizontal ozone flux and impact on regional air quality





An ozone flux of $3.2 \cdot 10^{26}$ molec s⁻¹ emitted over 12 hours is equivalent to a 10 ppbv increase in ozone over a ~ 40,000 km² area, assuming a 1.5-km deep mixed layer.

Front Range Air Quality Study 2008: Transport of O_3 into and over the mountains



3-d distribution of O₃ from TOPAZ lidar

Front Range Air Quality Study 2008: Comparison of O_3 DIAL measurements with air quality model predictions



TOPAZ lidar measurement



WRF-FLEXPART model results

CalNex 2010: Export of O_3 from the Los Angeles Basin

TOPAZ lidar:

Ozone profiles



U of Leeds Doppler lidar:

Wind speed & direction profiles



Pollution export pathways from the LA Basin



2 July 2010 O_3 distribution over L A Basin and Mojave Desert



2 July 2010: Transport thru Banning Pass and along/over San Bernardino Mtns



2 July 2010: Transport thru Banning Pass



2 July 2010: Transport along/over San Bernardino Mtns



DIAL transmitters (slide 4)

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NOAA/ESRL/CSD DIAL systems (slides 6 - 10)

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Ozone DIAL applications (slides 11-25)

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