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# WINTER AND SUMMER MEASUREMENTS OF EUROPEAN VERY LOW ALTITUDE VOLUME SCATTERING COEFFICIENTS

**Richard W. Johnson**

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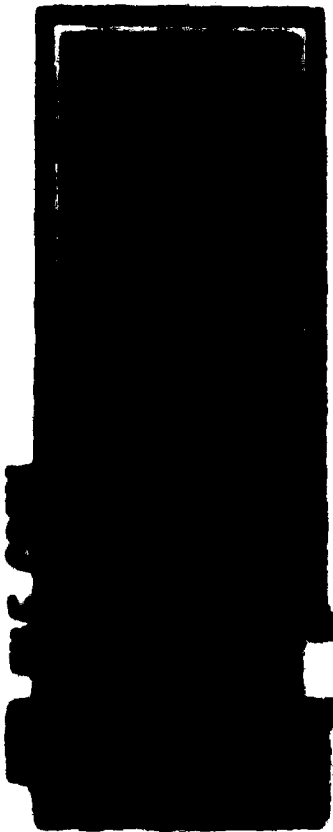
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Optical Physics Division

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Page 10 of 10

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

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WINTER AND SUMMER MEASUREMENTS  
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COEFFICIENTS

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Approximate geographic distribution of measurements

The present measurements of atmospheric volume scattering coefficients collected during winter and summer flights made during the Winter and Summer seasons of 1978 at two different European locations. The measurements were conducted during an instrumented aircraft high approach and landing at a staging airbase. The measurements were made using a nephelometer with spectral response and thus are suitable for comparison with data associated with standard visibility determinations or airfield visibility.

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20 ABSTRACT continued

The data illustrate that in twenty-six of twenty-nine cases, there was little or no significant variation in the value of scattering coefficient as the aircraft approached the surface from an altitude of several hundred meters.

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VERY LOW ALTITUDE VOLUME SCATTERING COEFFICIENTS**

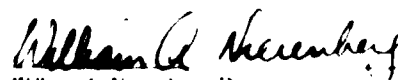
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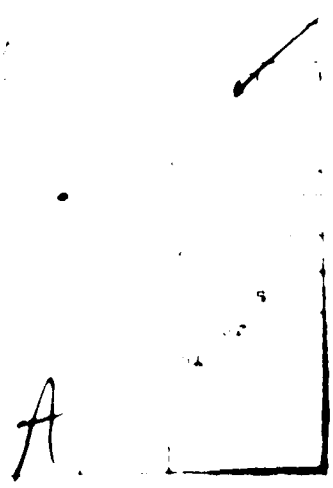
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## SUMMARY

This report, which describes portions of the Visibility Laboratory's Project OPAQUE effort, was prepared under AFGIL Contract F19628-78 C-0200. It contains a presentation of 29 low altitude scattering coefficient profiles and related meteorological data that were measured during the Winter and Summer seasons of 1978 at four different geographical locations. The measurements were conducted during an instrumented aircraft's approach and landing at four of the staging bases associated with the overall OPAQUE program. Johnson *et al.* (1979)

The nephelometer measurements of total volume scattering coefficient which are presented in this report were made using a pseudo-photopic spectral response having a mean wavelength of 557nm, and are thus suitable for comparison with data associated with standard visual determinations of airfield visibility. The temperature and dewpoint temperature measurements were made using an AN/AMQ-17 aerograph and a Cambridge Model 137-C3 Aircraft Hygrometer System. Measurements of horizon and terrain luminances which were also made during these aircraft descents are not included in this report but are available in the Visibility Laboratory's basic data base should their subsequent analysis become desirable.

The reported data illustrate that in twenty-six out of twenty-nine cases, there was little or no significant variation in the photopic scattering coefficient as one approaches the surface from an altitude of several hundred meters. Thus modelling approximations of low altitude haze properties based upon near surface measurements are in general appropriate for the range of meteorological conditions extant during these flights.



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# WINTER AND SUMMER MEASUREMENTS OF EUROPEAN VERY LOW ALTITUDE VOLUME SCATTERING COEFFICIENTS

Richard W. Johnson

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In the increasingly sophisticated world of electro-optical detection, search, and guidance, the requirement for establishing and predicting atmospheric influences on system performance continues to develop as a primary operational necessity. It is in support of this general context that the Visibility Laboratory in cooperation with, and under the sponsorship of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory has maintained an extensive program of airborne optical and meteorological measurements. In recent years this program has been conducted as an independent but cooperative effort [Johnson *et al.* (1979)] in conjunction with the NATO program OPAQUE (Optical Atmospheric Quantities in Europe), Fenn (1978). During the two year interval spanning the years 1977 and 1978, over 80 missions were flown documenting the vertical structure of the visible spectrum total volume scattering coefficient in the lower troposphere. Since a thorough awareness of this vertical structure is essential to the prediction of atmospheric influences on contrast transmittance through this regime, these data have been presented in a series of technical reports, the most recent of which is entitled "Airborne Measurements of Atmospheric Volume Scattering Coefficients in Northern Europe, Summer 1978", Johnson and Gordon (1980).

The optimum use of the experimental data presented in reports such as Johnson and Gordon (1980) is surely to establish the baseline assessment of those optical characteristics most influencing slant path contrast transmittance, and to develop from these assessments realistic predictive models. An initial effort in this model development, using both surface and profile data from the OPAQUE program is discussed in Johnson *et al.* (1979), and the further application of these data to contrast transmittance modelling is illustrated by Hering (1981).

A necessary but unfortunate artifact of the data presented in the report series referred to above, Johnson and Gordon (1980) etc. is that the measurements were always terminated at some significant altitude above

ground level. A necessary condition imposed by the safety of flight regulations which apply to a civil air space, and an unfortunate condition due to the extreme sensitivity of slant path contrast transmittances to variations in the near surface haze conditions. Thus, even though the structure of the atmospheric scattering coefficient profile has been well documented within the altitude regime between 6 km and about 1 km above ground level, the true character of the near surface layer has been relatively undetermined. Several methods of extrapolation from the lowest measured data value have been used to identify the most probable values of scattering coefficient within this region, as have intermittent instances of interpolation between airborne and surface measurements when both were available. Obviously, neither of these techniques addresses the determination of the shape of the profile within the first kilometer above the surface. Consequently, there exists a significant degree of uncertainty in how one should properly define this altitude regime when attempting to calculate or predict its optical properties. This uncertainty is particularly troublesome when one addresses operational scenarios involving low flying systems whose mission depends upon the adequate performance of its electro-optical devices.

The data contained in this report are intended to reduce, at least in part, the uncertainties in the structure of the near surface scattering coefficient profile. These data, identified in Table I.1, represent measurements made following each experimental data flight during the instrumented aircraft's approach and landing sequences. Thus the measurements were made in the specific region of interest, *i.e.* between the approach pattern altitude of approximately 1200 ft and the surface, and can be used directly to identify the optical characteristics of this tactically critical transition zone. The flights indicated in Table I.1 are all from the OPAQUE IV and V deployments, Johnson and Gordon 1979 and 1980, and thus represent only a sub-set of the total available data base. A second report, currently in preparation, will present similar data for the predominantly Spring and Fall time periods.

**Table 1.1. Flight Identification Data**

Aerodrome Identification	Flight No	Flight Date	Landing Time (GMT)
Sigonella, Sicily 37°24'N 14°55'E 24m MSL	432	03 Feb 78	150001
	433	17 Feb 78	130853
	434	18 Feb 78	140005
	460	02 Aug 78	154910
	461	03 Aug 78	124724
	462	05 Aug 78	132230
	463	07 Aug 78	134112
Wunstorf, Germany 52°28'N 09°25'E 57m MSL	451	22 Mar 78	144535
	452	23 Mar 78	160830
	454	28 Mar 78	141440
	456	31 Mar 78	163702
	465	14 Aug 78	153657
	466	15 Aug 78	134150
	468	21 Aug 78	131440
Memmingen, Germany 47°59'N 10°13'E 634m MSL	435	23 Feb 78	104356
	436	23 Feb 78	152402
	437	27 Feb 78	135823
	439	01 Mar 78	145643
	471	11 Sep 78	092904
Mildenhall, England 52°22'N 00°29'E 10m MSL	473	11 Sep 78	163609
	443	09 Mar 78	155711
	444	11 Mar 78	162448
	445	13 Mar 78	132659
	447	15 Mar 78	150413
	448	17 Mar 78	144958
	475	15 Sep 78	174646
476	16 Sep 78	153834	
477	18 Sep 78	152524	

Note: GMT times are indicated in Hours-Minutes-Seconds

**2. PROCEDURES & INSTRUMENTATION**

The general flight sequences conducted during the OPAQUE measurement program have been reported in several preceding reports as noted in bottom row entries of Table 2.1. In these earlier reports, measurements of atmospheric volume scattering coefficient and natural irra-

diance levels were presented for a broad variety of geographical and seasonal conditions. The general locale for these data missions is illustrated in Fig. 2-1 which has been abstracted from Johnson *et al.* (1979). The aerodromes at which the approach data were measured are indicated by the symbol, ★.

The instrumentation used during these flight episodes has been described adequately in the previously referenced reports [Johnson and Gordon (1980), etc.] and will not be further elaborated upon herein. Suffice it to say that the entire instrument system was mounted on an Air Force C-130 aircraft and included, but was not limited to, the following listed items:

- a. A multi-channel, multi-spectral nephelometer for the measurement of atmospheric total volume scattering coefficient and directional scattering functions,
- b. multi-spectral scanning radiometers for the measurement of sky and terrain radiances,
- c. a multi-spectral, two channel flat plate irradiator for the measurement of upwelling and downwelling irradiance levels, and
- d. meteorological transducers for the measurement of ambient temperature, dewpoint temperature and atmospheric pressure.

A special measurement sequence was associated with most flights discussed in these earlier reports, but its resultant data were not included as part of the standard flight package, nor included in those reports. These specialized data resulted from having the airborne optical, meteorological, and data logging instrumentation operational during the aircraft's landing approach and touchdown. Thus, since the aircraft was staging out of an airfield generally remote from the standard OPAQUE flight tracks shown in Fig 2-1, two separate and independent data sets were collected during most missions. The

**Table 2.1. Geographical and Seasonal Distribution of Low Altitude Scattering Coefficient Profiles**

Aerodrome Locations (see Fig 2.1)	Attempted Low Altitude Data Sequences				Totals
	Spring, 1976	Fall, 1976	Summer 1977 & 1978	Winter 1978	
Sigonella, Sicily	0	0	4*	4*	8
Toulon, France	0	4	3	0	7
Memmingen, Germany	0	0	6*	6*	12
Wunstorf, Germany	3	5	13*	4*	25
Snoeterberg, Netherlands	1	0	0	0	1
Mildenhall, England	4	0	1*	6*	11
Vaerlose, Denmark	2	1	4	0	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>70</b>
Related Data Reports	APGL TR 77-0078	APGL TR 77-0219	APGL TR 78-0168 APGL TR 80-0207	APGL TR 79-0159	APGL TR 79-0228

\* Asterisk indicates those subsets from which the data in this report were chosen

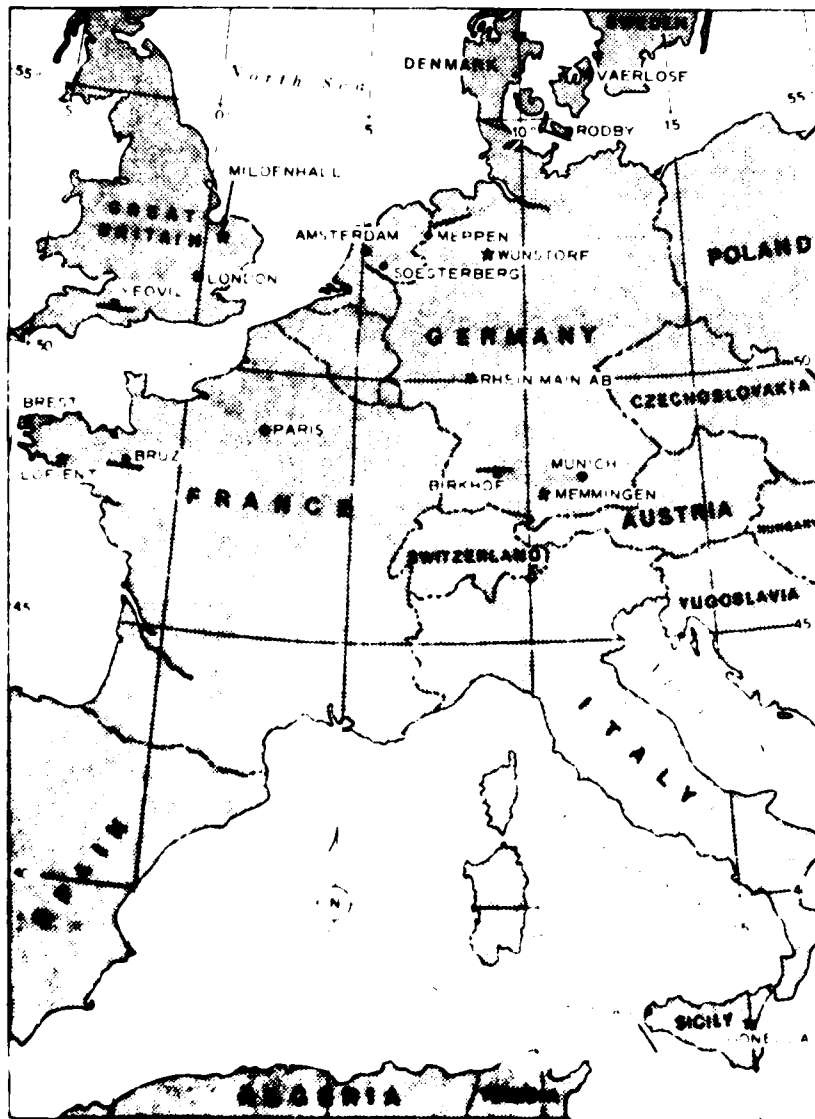


Fig. 1. Typical OPAQUE High Tracks

first was the rather extensive, multi-spectral set of measurements made along the indicated tracks between 6.0 and 10.0 kilometers in altitude, and the second was the smaller, more selective set made at the local staging base between about 6.7 and 9.0 kilometers. This second set of measurements, made only in the photopic spectral band, is nominally referred to as the APPROACH data.

There were several special considerations imposed during the collection of the APPROACH measurements which distinguish these data from the larger set previously reported. In general, they were as follows:

1. Measurements were made in only one spectral band. During the APPROACH descent from approximately 1200 ft AGL to the surface, the structural character of the scattering coefficient profile was the datum most desired. Thus the integrating nephelometer was pre-set to make continuous measurements of the photopic ( $\lambda = 557\text{ nm}$ ) total scattering coefficient throughout the descent. By not switching optical filters, all measurements were accomplished with the optimum spatial resolution.

2. Measurements were made with pre-set, static optical configurations. This consideration was also imposed

to eliminate unnecessary time sharing sequences and thus optimize the detection of profile variations during the relatively short descent episodes. Thus the nephelometer was pre-set to measure total scattering coefficient only without cycling through the directional channels, the scanning radiometers were pre-set to stare at the sky and terrain directly ahead of the aircraft, approximately 5° above and 5° below the local horizon, and the dual channel irradiator was pre-set to measure total downwelling irradiance throughout the descent.

3. Data logging began shortly before the initiation of the aircraft's final descent for landing and continued throughout the descent and actual aircraft touchdown on the runway. Some editing has been required to eliminate spurious pre-descent and post-landing data which were adversely influenced by abnormal aircraft attitudes during initial line up and prop reversal influences during roll-out.

Post deployment data processing of these data has been handled in a manner similar to that described in Johnson and Gordon (1979). Calibration data for each deployment set is the same as was used for the parent data sets as referenced in each of the Related Data Report entries of Table 2.1. Readers are referred to these more detailed reports for supplementary background information where required.

### 3. WEATHER SUMMARY

The weather conditions existing during each of the flight episodes from which the APPROACH profiles have been extracted are discussed in detail in Johnson and Gordon (1979 and 1980). These parent reports include data from daily surface and 500 millibar charts, surface observations, pilot reports, vertical cross sections and radiosonde launches. The bulk of these data were provided by the U.S. Air Force Environmental Technical Applications Center (USAF/ETAC) at Scott Air Force Base, and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration via the National Climatic Center in Asheville, North Carolina.

Comparisons between the C-130 and RAOB airborne measurements of temperature, dewpoint temperature, and the derived values of relative humidity for each of the winter and summer flights preceding these APPROACH episodes have been made in the parent reports referenced above. However, several additional comparisons are summarized herein which relate more directly to the actual landing circumstances.

Measured values of temperature (t), dewpoint temperature (dp), and atmospheric pressure (p), that were recorded at the exact moment of landing touchdown have been compared with the equivalent values reported by the host aerodrome for eighteen of the flights reported in Sec-

tion 4. These flights were those for which the flight dynamics data permitted a specific and unambiguous determination of the exact instant of landing. Those flights for which the landing time was for any reason not specific were not included in the comparison, even though their data might in fact be suitable in all other respects. These comparisons are listed in Table 3.1. In all cases the differences,  $\Delta t$ ,  $\Delta dp$  and  $\Delta p$  represent the aerodrome measurement minus the C-130 measurement.

The data summarized in Table 3.1 indicate that the airborne and aerodrome measurements were, on the average in reasonable agreement. The temperature differences indicate a systematic difference of about 1°C between the C-130 and aerodrome measurements, however, the dewpoint and pressure measurements indicate no such systematic offset.

**Table 3.1** Comparison of Aerodrome & C-130 Data (Temperature Measurements During Landings)

Aerodrome	Flight Number	Temperature $\Delta t$ (°C)	Dew Point $\Delta dp$ (°C)	Pressure $\Delta p$ (mb)
Sigonella	432	+1.9	0	0
	433	+0.2	+0.7	0
	461	+2.7	+4.4	0
	463	+1.0	+2.7	0
Wunstorf	451	+0.6	-0.4	0
	454	+4.0	0	0
	468	+2.7	0	0
	469	+1.0	-2.5	0
Memmingen	435	+0.2	0	+4
	436	+0.3	0	0
	437	+3.0	0	0
	470	+1.9	+1.9	0
Mildenhall	440	+1.4	+0.8	0
	444	+1.3	0	0
	445	+0.9	0	0
	475	+0.2	-0.7	0
	476	+1.1	0	0
477	+0.2	-0.4	0	
Overall Average	18 Flights	+1.1	-0.1	0

Note:

1.  $\Delta t$  is positive for all 18 flights in part, systematic error in low measurement by the C-130 system.
2.  $\Delta dp$  &  $\Delta p$  reflect both positive and negative differences throughout the 18 flights.

Since the staging aerodromes for most of these flights were generally remote from the primary data tracks, selected supplemental weather data related specifically to the APPROACH site have been included herein. Short summaries of the meteorological observations taken at the staging aerodrome, at or near the time of landing, are presented in Table 3.2. A glossary of the most often used symbols is included in Appendix A for the reader's convenience. All data were reported in Greenwich Civil Time (GCT), which is equivalent to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), the terminology used in Table 3.2.

Table 1.2a Sigonella, Sicily - Standard Meteorological Data Sheet - (Lat. 37°45'N Long. 15°15' E) - 1978

Time	Flight No.	Date	Weather and Remarks	Wind		Cloud		Remarks
				Speed (Kts)	Direction	Base (ft)	Top (ft)	
Summer - 1978								
1500	400	18 August 1978						
1500	400	18 August 1978						Light rain
1500	400	18 August 1978						Light rain
1500	400	18 August 1978						Light rain
The following Meteorological Reports Reported 18 August 1978 during the afternoon								
1500	400	18 August 1978						
1500	400	18 August 1978						
1500	400	18 August 1978						
1500	400	18 August 1978						
The following Meteorological Reports Reported 18 August 1978 during the afternoon								
1500	400	18 August 1978						
1500	400	18 August 1978						
1500	400	18 August 1978						
Winter - 1978								
1500	400	18 February 1978						
1500	400	18 February 1978						Light rain
1500	400	18 February 1978						Light rain
1500	400	18 February 1978						Light rain

Table 1.2b Memmingen, Germany - Standard Meteorological Data Sheet - (Lat. 47°50'N Long. 10°15' E) - 1978

Time	Flight No.	Date	Weather and Remarks	Wind		Cloud		Remarks
				Speed (Kts)	Direction	Base (ft)	Top (ft)	
Summer - 1978								
1500	471	18 September 1978						
1500	471	18 September 1978						Light rain
1500	471	18 September 1978						Light rain
Winter - 1978								
1500	435	23 February 1978						
1500	435	23 February 1978						Light rain
1500	436	23 February 1978						Light rain
1500	437	27 February 1978						Light rain
1500	437	27 February 1978						Light rain
1500	439	1 March 1978						Light rain
1500	439	1 March 1978						Light rain

Table 1.2: Standard Meteorological Data Sheet - Lat 52°30'N - Long 00°25'W - 5/16

Station 100

Time	Temp	Wind	Pressure	Humidity	Clouds	Remarks
0000	10.0	10	1010	80	1-2	
0100	9.5	10	1010	78	1-2	
0200	9.0	10	1010	76	1-2	
0300	8.5	10	1010	74	1-2	
0400	8.0	10	1010	72	1-2	
0500	7.5	10	1010	70	1-2	
0600	7.0	10	1010	68	1-2	
0700	6.5	10	1010	66	1-2	
0800	6.0	10	1010	64	1-2	
0900	5.5	10	1010	62	1-2	
1000	5.0	10	1010	60	1-2	
1100	4.5	10	1010	58	1-2	
1200	4.0	10	1010	56	1-2	

Station 100

Time	Temp	Wind	Pressure	Humidity	Clouds	Remarks
1300	3.5	10	1010	54	1-2	
1400	3.0	10	1010	52	1-2	
1500	2.5	10	1010	50	1-2	
1600	2.0	10	1010	48	1-2	
1700	1.5	10	1010	46	1-2	
1800	1.0	10	1010	44	1-2	
1900	0.5	10	1010	42	1-2	
2000	0.0	10	1010	40	1-2	
2100	-0.5	10	1010	38	1-2	
2200	-1.0	10	1010	36	1-2	
2300	-1.5	10	1010	34	1-2	

Table 1.2: Standard Meteorological Data Sheet - Lat 52°30'N - Long 00°25'W - 5/16

Station 100

Time	Temp	Wind	Pressure	Humidity	Clouds	Remarks
0000	-2.0	10	1010	32	1-2	
0100	-2.5	10	1010	30	1-2	
0200	-3.0	10	1010	28	1-2	
0300	-3.5	10	1010	26	1-2	
0400	-4.0	10	1010	24	1-2	
0500	-4.5	10	1010	22	1-2	
0600	-5.0	10	1010	20	1-2	
0700	-5.5	10	1010	18	1-2	
0800	-6.0	10	1010	16	1-2	
0900	-6.5	10	1010	14	1-2	
1000	-7.0	10	1010	12	1-2	
1100	-7.5	10	1010	10	1-2	
1200	-8.0	10	1010	8	1-2	

Station 100

Time	Temp	Wind	Pressure	Humidity	Clouds	Remarks
1300	-8.5	10	1010	6	1-2	
1400	-9.0	10	1010	4	1-2	
1500	-9.5	10	1010	2	1-2	
1600	-10.0	10	1010	0	1-2	
1700	-10.5	10	1010	-2	1-2	
1800	-11.0	10	1010	-4	1-2	
1900	-11.5	10	1010	-6	1-2	
2000	-12.0	10	1010	-8	1-2	
2100	-12.5	10	1010	-10	1-2	
2200	-13.0	10	1010	-12	1-2	
2300	-13.5	10	1010	-14	1-2	

## 4 DATA PRESENTATION

### 4.1 Data and Flight Summary

During the summer of 1978 (2 Aug through 26 Sept) twenty flights were made in northern Europe of which nineteen contained usable lidar data. These data were reported in Johnson and Leckner (1981). The nineteen flights contained considerable approach profiles. These thirteen flights are listed in Table 1.

During the following period (19 Aug through 10 Sept) twenty seven flights were made in the same European regions of which twenty contained useable lidar data. These data were reported in Johnson and Leckner (1979). If these data were not contained in separate approach profiles, which are listed with the aircraft descriptions in Table 1.

### 4.2 Description of Data Tables and Graphs

The flight data in the APPENDIX II approach profiles were collected during the summer of 1978 and 1979. The data include aircraft identification, aircraft type, altitude, and summer measurements of which the measurements apply to the approach phase of the flight.

The following tables in this section present the data for the summer of 1978 and 1979. The data are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981). The data are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981). The data are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981).

### 4.3 Supplementary Data Tables

The data in this section are additional profiles have been collected in other parts of the world. The data are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981).

and profiles reported in the same section are abstracted from Table 1. The data in the ground level scattering profiles are also presented in Table 1. The supplementary data are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981).

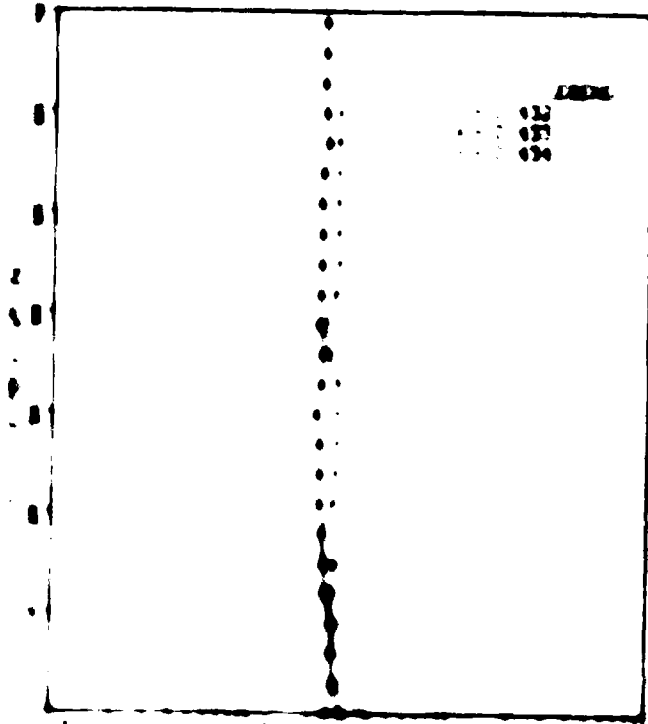
as discussed in Johnson and Leckner (1981). The data in Table 1 are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981). The data are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981). The data are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981).

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The four supplementary profiles in this section are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981). The data are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981). The data are presented in a form which is similar to that in Johnson and Leckner (1981).

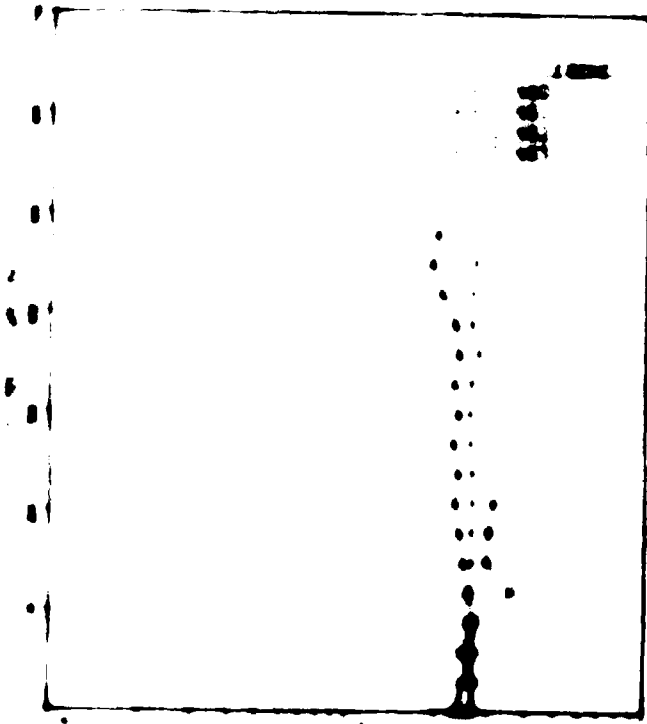


APPENDIX B: FURTHER GRAPHICAL



Vertical Axis

Horizontal Axis

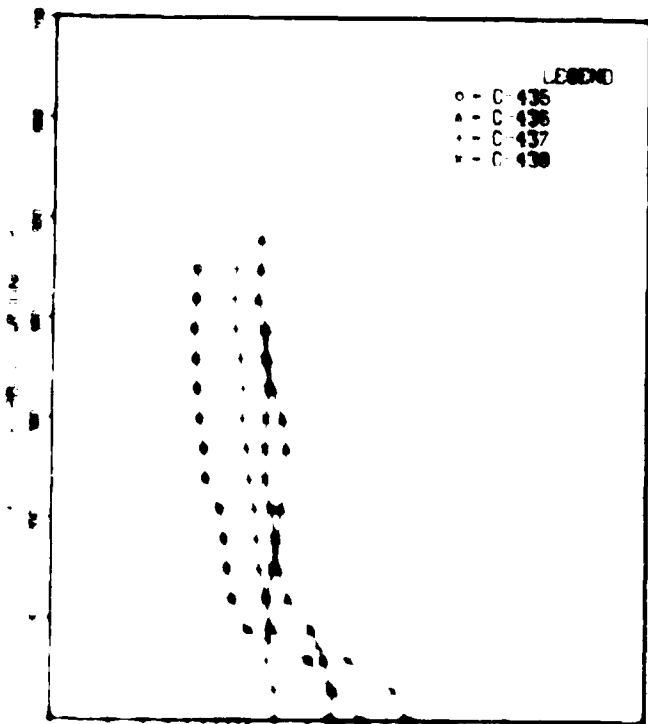


Vertical Axis

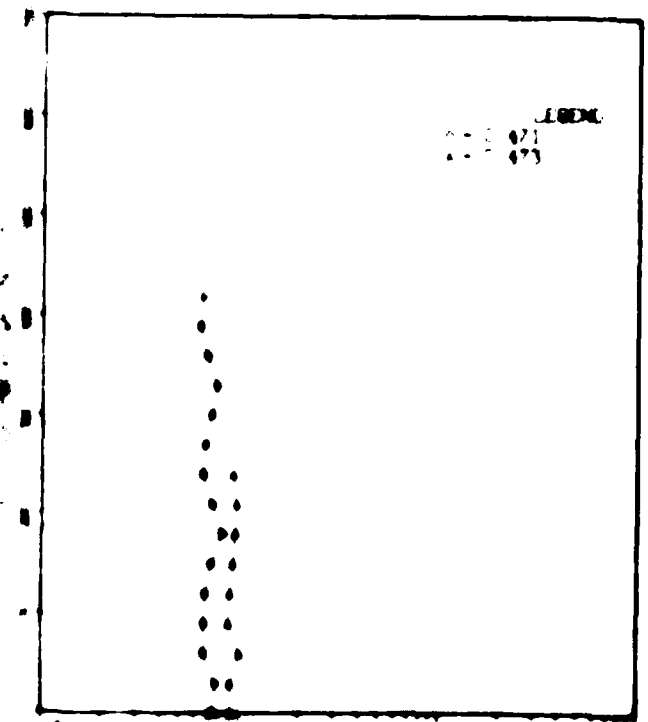
Horizontal Axis



Fig 42  
**APPROACH PROFILES - GRAPHICAL**



Minsingen, Germany  
 Winter 1978



Minsingen, Germany  
 Summer 1978

Table 4.2

APPROACH PROFILES - TABULAR

Münchingen, Germany

Winter 1978

Altitude (m) AGL	Total Volume Scattering Coefficient (m <sup>-1</sup> )			
	(415)	(436)	(457)	(478)
480		1.00E-04		
450	5.274E-05	1.00E-04	8.28E-05	
420	5.299E-05	1.00E-04	8.227E-05	
390	5.100E-05	1.197E-04	8.321E-05	1.147E-04
360	5.279E-05	1.215E-04	8.363E-05	1.09E-04
330	5.490E-05	1.277E-04	9.167E-05	1.227E-04
300	5.566E-05	1.456E-04	9.077E-05	1.192E-04
270	5.867E-05	1.516E-04	9.570E-05	1.100E-04
240	5.699E-05	1.476E-04	9.842E-05	1.106E-04
210	5.990E-05	1.436E-04	1.060E-04	1.275E-04
180	7.465E-05	1.560E-04	1.081E-04	1.190E-04
150	7.21E-05	1.400E-04	1.16E-04	1.100E-04
120	8.264E-05	1.582E-04	1.299E-04	1.210E-04
90	9.817E-05	2.064E-04	1.261E-04	1.290E-04
60	2.000E-04	2.411E-04	1.227E-04	1.231E-04
30	3.67E-04	2.613E-04	1.51E-04	5.413E-04
0	2.014E-04	1.775E-04	1.56E-04	6.409E-04
Visibility (km)	2112	2112	2112	2112
Visual Range (km)	11	8	22	5
Maximum (ft)	5100	14000	24000	2100
Landing Time (KMBT)	63	1524	1198	1456

Münchingen, Germany

Summer 1978

Altitude (m) AGL	Total Volume Scattering Coefficient (m <sup>-1</sup> )			
	(47)	(47)	(47)	(47)
420	6.700E-05			
390	1.183E-04			
360	6.894E-05			
330	6.81E-05			
300	7.154E-05			
270	6.671E-05			
240	6.400E-05	9.302E-05		
210	7.14E-05	9.694E-05		
180	8.17E-05	9.585E-05		
150	7.752E-05	9.889E-05		
120	6.67E-05	8.889E-05		
90	6.66E-05	8.879E-05		
60	6.62E-05	1.017E-04		
30	7.61E-05	9.932E-05		
0	1.100E-04	9.117E-05		
Visibility (km)	2112	2112		
Visual Range (km)	41	11		
Maximum (ft)	49100	14000		
Landing Time (KMBT)	1079	1636		

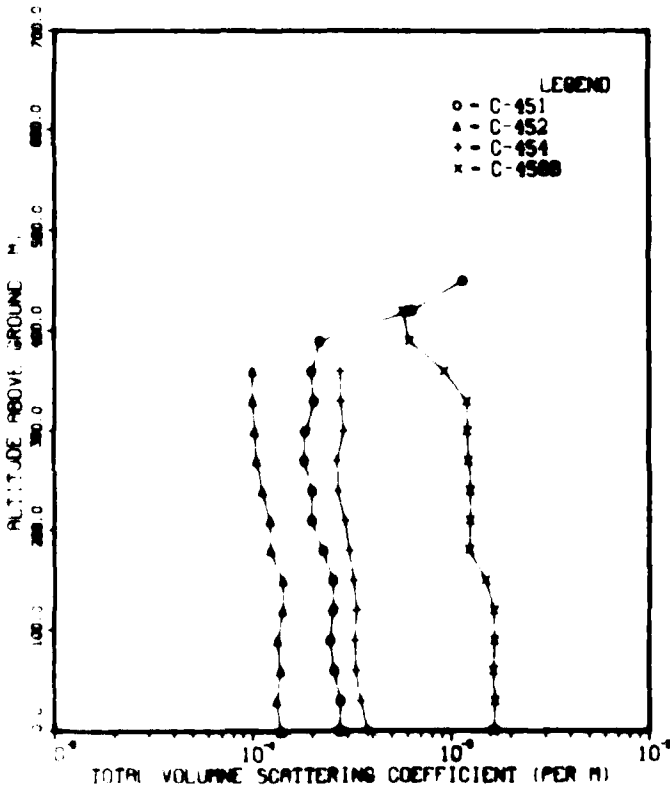
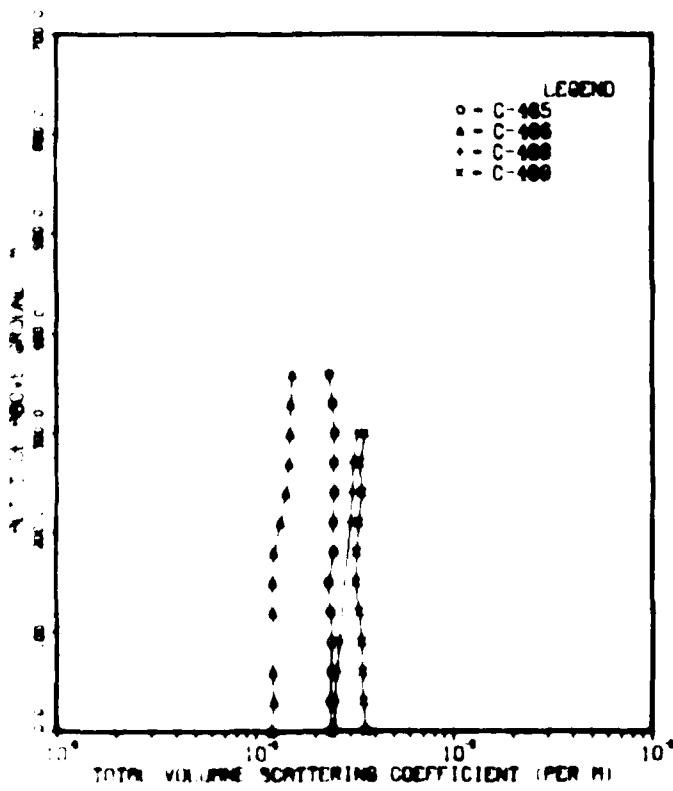


Fig 4-1  
**APPROACH PROFILES - GRAPHICAL**

Wunstorf, Germany  
 Winter, 1978



Wunstorf, Germany  
 Summer, 1978

Table 4.3.

APPROACH PROFILES - TABULAR

Wunstorf, Germany

Winter 1978

Altitude (m) AGL	Total Volume Scattering Coefficient (m <sup>-1</sup> )			
	(45)	(45)	(45)	(45)
450	1.130E-01			
420	6.100E-04			5.610E-04
380	2.150E-04			6.000E-04
340	1.000E-04	9.997E-04	2.700E-04	9.132E-04
310	2.011E-04	9.994E-04	2.743E-04	1.192E-03
280	1.811E-04	1.020E-04	1.050E-04	1.210E-03
250	2.515E-04	4.00E-04	1.000E-04	1.470E-03
220	1.527E-04	1.407E-04	1.160E-04	1.630E-03
200	2.451E-04	1.20E-04	1.200E-04	1.640E-03
180	2.127E-04	1.300E-04	1.300E-04	1.640E-03
160	2.500E-04	1.300E-04	1.405E-04	1.653E-03
140	2.200E-04	1.300E-04	1.703E-04	1.627E-03
Visibility (km)	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Visual Range (km)	11	21	8	2
Thunderstorm (km)	4100	6000	4120	1000
Landing Time (GMT)	44	1608	414	1617

Wunstorf, Germany

Summer 1978

Altitude (m) AGL	Total Volume Scattering Coefficient (m <sup>-1</sup> )			
	(45)	(45)	(45)	(45)
450	2.300E-04	5.25E-04		
420	2.000E-04	4.25E-04		
380	2.500E-04	4.40E-04	1.200E-04	1.555E-04
340	2.000E-04	4.70E-04	1.100E-04	1.162E-04
310	2.000E-04	4.17E-04	1.050E-04	1.260E-04
280	4.70E-04	1.10E-04	1.22E-04	1.110E-04
250	2.000E-04	2.16E-04	1.920E-04	1.257E-04
220	2.000E-04	2.20E-04	2.200E-04	1.240E-04
200	1.800E-04	2.21E-04	2.200E-04	1.140E-04
180	2.00E-04	2.20E-04	2.000E-04	1.000E-04
160	2.000E-04	2.10E-04	2.100E-04	1.000E-04
140	1.91E-04	2.45E-04	2.17E-04	1.160E-04
120	4.00E-04	2.00E-04	2.17E-04	1.001E-04
Visibility (km)	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Visual Range (km)	12	12	12	8
Thunderstorm (km)	2150	6000	1300	7000
Landing Time (GMT)	16	1617	1314	1600

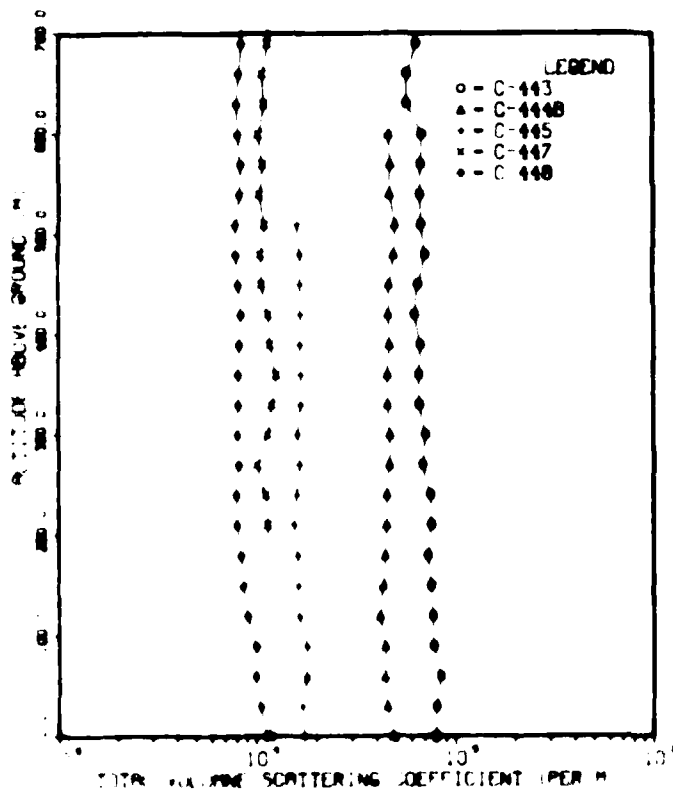
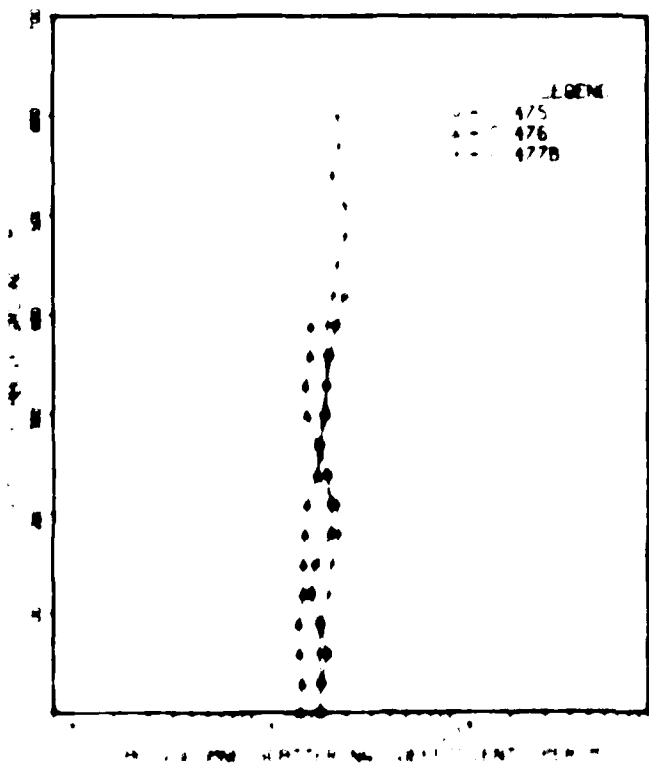


Fig 44  
 APPROACH PROFILES - GRAPHICAL

Wickenhall, England  
 Winter 1978



Wickenhall, England  
 Summer 1978

Table 4.4.  
**APPROACH PROFILES - TABULAR**

**Mildenhall, England**

Winter 1978

Altitude (m. AGL)	Time to Wake Wastling (seconds)				
	1.041	1.045	1.047	1.047	1.048
810			11.60	11.60	
780			11.20	11.20	
750			10.80	10.80	
720			10.40	10.40	0.0018
690	0.0050		10.00	10.00	0.0050
660	0.0100		9.60	9.60	0.0100
630	0.0200		9.20	9.20	0.0200
605	0.0300	0.0010	8.80	8.80	0.0300
570	0.0400	0.0020	8.40	8.40	0.0400
540	0.0500	0.0030	8.00	8.00	0.0500
510	0.0600	0.0040	7.60	7.60	0.0600
480	0.0700	0.0050	7.20	7.20	0.0700
450	0.0800	0.0060	6.80	6.80	0.0800
420	0.0900	0.0070	6.40	6.40	0.0900
390	0.1000	0.0080	6.00	6.00	0.1000
360	0.1100	0.0090	5.60	5.60	0.1100
330	0.1200	0.0100	5.20	5.20	0.1200
300	0.1300	0.0110	4.80	4.80	0.1300
270	0.1400	0.0120	4.40	4.40	0.1400
240	0.1500	0.0130	4.00	4.00	0.1500
210	0.1600	0.0140	3.60	3.60	0.1600
180	0.1700	0.0150	3.20	3.20	0.1700
150	0.1800	0.0160	2.80	2.80	0.1800
120	0.1900	0.0170	2.40	2.40	0.1900
90	0.2000	0.0180	2.00	2.00	0.2000
60	0.2100	0.0190	1.60	1.60	0.2100
30	0.2200	0.0200	1.20	1.20	0.2200
0	0.2300	0.0210	0.80	0.80	0.2300
Values in Y-axis Range (m)	0	0	0	0	0
Maximum (m)	0.50	0.50	1.50	1.50	2.00
Landing Time (MFT)	11	6.24	11.6	11.6	14.00

**Mildenhall, England**

Summer 1978

Altitude (m. AGL)	Time to Wake Wastling (seconds)		
	1.071	1.076	1.078
810			11.50
780			11.10
750			10.70
720			10.30
690			9.90
660			9.50
630			9.10
600	0.0050		8.70
570	0.0100	0.0010	8.30
540	0.0150	0.0020	7.90
510	0.0200	0.0030	7.50
480	0.0250	0.0040	7.10
450	0.0300	0.0050	6.70
420	0.0350	0.0060	6.30
390	0.0400	0.0070	5.90
360	0.0450	0.0080	5.50
330	0.0500	0.0090	5.10
300	0.0550	0.0100	4.70
270	0.0600	0.0110	4.30
240	0.0650	0.0120	3.90
210	0.0700	0.0130	3.50
180	0.0750	0.0140	3.10
150	0.0800	0.0150	2.70
120	0.0850	0.0160	2.30
90	0.0900	0.0170	1.90
60	0.0950	0.0180	1.50
30	0.1000	0.0190	1.10
0	0.1050	0.0200	0.70
Values in Y-axis Range (m)	0	0	0
Maximum (m)	0.50	0.50	0.50
Landing Time (MFT)	10	11	11.2



## 5. DATA DISCUSSION

As noted in the introductory remarks of section 1, the accurate specification of the atmospheric volume scattering characteristics at very low altitudes can be critical to the determination of slant path contrast transmittances through this near surface regime. It is of major importance for one to know, or be able to reliably deduce, the occurrence of major variations in the vertical structure of the atmospheric aerosol. The flight data represented in the earlier referenced reports (Johnson and Gordon, 1980 etc.) have provided extensive samples of these variations and thus have served as the case studies required for developing reasonable modelling representations. A preliminary discussion of a proposed modelling technique was originally discussed in Johnson *et al.* (1979) has been amplified upon in Johnson and Hering (1981) and is described further in Hering (1981).

Since the profile data upon which the Hering model was developed terminated at 500 to 1000 ft (150-300m) above the ground, the confidence with which one could specify the low level scattering properties from these data was somewhat compromised. The data presented in section 4 of this current report specifically address the resolution of the uncertainty of this specification. They support the contention that the cases (initial measurements of atmospheric volume scattering coefficient made within the 50-900m AGL altitude regime) may be reliably extrapolated down to the surface with only marginal risk of overestimation. In the context of small model performance, both the winter and summer profiles (as shown in section 4) only show the winter measurements. Measurements show marked increases in low level haze. There is additionally one minor increase at the surface (caused by flight 434 over the Sigonella) but this is not a deep or extensive shift as indicated in the March 1981 measurements. The specific conditions underlying these near surface low altitude phenomena have not yet been identified.

The other major aspects of this admittedly limited data sample are the seasonal spread in the near additional moderate implications of the seasonal spread in the seasonal variation of the scattering coefficient. With the singular exception of the Sigonella data, the winter measurements represent a considerably broader variation in scattering coefficient values than do the summer measurements. This is particularly true of the Model data and is especially true if one considers the data set upon which greater confidence may be placed as the sample increases. As noted in the following section, for each flight, these data represent a large number of measurements, for the most part, and the seasonal spread in the case of well mixed vertically stable conditions (which would reflect the near surface conditions) is not particularly surprising in evening heavy overcast.

### 5.1. Summary

Two winter vertical profiles of the photopic atmospheric volume scattering coefficient representing both

winter and summer conditions at four separate European aerodromes have been presented for evaluation. The basic question to be addressed is whether or not the scattering coefficient profile remains reasonably constant as one approaches the surface from an altitude of several hundred meters and if not, what is the character of the vertical structure. These data indicate that in twenty six out of twenty nine instances, the profiles are essentially constant in value and thus the modelling approach proposed by Hering (1981) is in fact an appropriate procedure. The identification of the conditions resulting in the three profiles showing abrupt near surface increases in haze should be addressed as a separate problem when the larger four season data base has been developed.

## 6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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 Press

**APPENDIX A**

**METEOROLOGICAL GLOSSARY & ABBREVIATIONS**

**SEA AND ICEING**

See also: *Sea and Iceing* (under **SEA**)  
 See also: *Sea and Iceing* (under **ICEING**)

See also: *Sea and Iceing* (under **SEA**)  
 See also: *Sea and Iceing* (under **ICEING**)

See also: *Sea and Iceing* (under **SEA**)  
 See also: *Sea and Iceing* (under **ICEING**)

See also: *Sea and Iceing* (under **SEA**)  
 See also: *Sea and Iceing* (under **ICEING**)

**RELATIVE HUMIDITY (RH)**

Reported in percent and computed from temperature and  
 dewpoint

**VISIBILITY (VM)**

Reported in kilometers

**WEATHER AND OBSTRUCTION  
 TO VISION SYMBOLS**

W	Clear
CU	Clouds
BR	Braking rain
DR	Drizzling rain
GS	Blowing snow
SI	Snow
SN	Snow showers
SH	Snow pellets
PL	Ice pellets
GR	Grains
RA	Rain
SHRA	Showering rain
SHSN	Showering snow
SHSR	Showering sleet
SHSNR	Showering snow and rain
SHSNRR	Showering snow, rain and sleet
SHSNRR	Showering snow, rain and sleet

**CLOUD ABBREVIATIONS**

Al	Altostratus	Ci	Cirrus
As	Altostratus	Co	Cumulus
Co	Cumulus	Nb	Nimbostratus
Fr	Fragments	Sc	Stratus
Sc	Stratus		

**WIND**

Direction in degrees from true north, speed in  
 meters per second (mps). A 1000 indicates calm. A  
 indicates gusts. A 10 indicates squalls. Peak  
 speed of gusts when reported for days 1 through 7. The  
 infraction 9999 is reserved for days 8 through 10.  
 All indicates a shift and 10 time of occurrence

Examples: 110 15 10 degrees 10 mps  
 180 10 10 10 degrees 10 mps gust  
 180 10 10 10 degrees 10 mps gust  
 180 10 10 10 degrees 10 mps gust

0000 Data missing or no gusts within

## APPENDIX B

### VISIBILITY LABORATORY CONTRACTS AND RELATED PUBLICATIONS

#### Previous Related Contracts:

F19628-73-C-0013, F19628-76-C-0004

#### PUBLICATIONS

- Duntley, S. Q., R. W. Johnson, and J. I. Gordon (1972). "Airborne Measurements of Optical Atmospheric Properties in Southern Germany". University of California at San Diego, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Visibility Laboratory, SIO Ref. 72-64, AFCL-72-0255.
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