

The effect of a non-linearity in the radiometric response of the OMI instrument

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Definition

The non-linearity of the radiometric response is defined as the relative deviation of the instrument response from the radiometric input. Note that any requirement for the non-linearity has to be valid for the complete dynamic range.

Method

A typical non-linearity occurs when the instrument response is a quadratic function of the radiometric input, while a linear dependence is assumed. In this study such situation is considered in all simulations.

Then, for a certain maximum non-linearity \mathbf{m} radiometric input signal x , minimum signal x_{\min} , maximum signal x_{\max} , the instrument response y can be written as

$$y(x) = a \left(\frac{x - x_{\min}}{x_{\max} - x_{\min}} \right)^2 + b \left(\frac{x - x_{\min}}{x_{\max} - x_{\min}} \right) + c, \quad [1]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{where } a &= 2 \cdot (1 + \mathbf{m} - p) \cdot (x_{\max} + x_{\min}), \\ b &= (1 + \mathbf{m}) \cdot (x_{\max} - x_{\min}) - a, \\ c &= (1 + \mathbf{m}) \cdot x_{\min}. \end{aligned}$$

The deviation $z(x)$ of the response from a linear response is given by

$$z(x) = \frac{y(x) - x}{x}. \quad [2]$$

The parameter p is calculated from the following set of conditions :

$$\begin{aligned} z(x_{\min}) &= \mathbf{m} \\ z(x_{\max}) &= \mathbf{m} \\ z(x_e) &= -\mathbf{m} \text{ where } \frac{\partial z(x_e)}{\partial x} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad [3]$$

From this conditions follows the parameter p (calculated by Bert van den Oord) :

$$p = 1 - \mathbf{m} \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{x_{\max} - x_{\min}}{x_{\max} + x_{\min}} \right)^2}. \quad [4]$$

A set of 13 simulated GOME spectra is distorted according to equation 1 and the non-linearities in Table 1. For all these spectra profiles are retrieved and compared to the reference profile retrieved from the spectra without non-linearity. The deviations between these profiles are given in the Figures for each of the 13 spectra.













