



1 Data flow of spectral UV measurements at Sodankylä and

2 Jokioinen

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15 Abstract

16 We describe the steps that are used at the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI) to process
17 spectral ultraviolet (UV) radiation measurements made with its three Brewer
18 spectrophotometers, located in Sodankylä (67°N) and Jokioinen (61°N). The spectrum is
19 measured many times a day, following a pre-programmed schedule. Multiple corrections are
20 made to the data in near real time (dark current, dead time, stray light, noise spikes,
21 temperature, and cosine correction) and quality control is also performed automatically. The
22 Brewers are integrated into the operational control systems at FMI, allowing both quick
23 responses to malfunctions and quick dissemination of the data products. Several data products
24 are produced, including the near-real-time UV index and various daily dosages. The daily
25 doses are calculated each morning for the previous day's data. Once per year the responses of
26 the Brewers are recalculated, and the corrected data are uploaded to the European UV
27 database hosted by FMI.

28



291 Introduction

30

31 The Brewer spectrophotometer (Brewer) (Bais et al. 1996; Brewer, 1973) is originally
32 designed to measure total ozone, but has also been developed to measure the spectral UV
33 irradiance and sulfur dioxide (SO₂). At present there are over 220 instruments set up by
34 research institutes all over the world (<http://kippzonen-brewer.com/>). These instruments form
35 an important network for monitoring changes in the total ozone column and, e.g., are used as
36 validation measurements for satellite retrievals. The Finnish instruments were set up in 1990
37 and 1995, in Sodankylä and Jokioinen, respectively, to respond to the need to monitor total
38 ozone and UV radiation after the discovery of the Arctic ozone loss. Nowadays, these
39 spectral UV time series of over twenty years are unique and among the longest measured in
40 the Arctic. The homogenized time series have been used for several international studies
41 related to Arctic ozone loss (e.g., Bernhard et al. 2013; Manney et al. 2011; Knudsen et al.
42 1998), satellite data validation (Hassinen et al. 2008), biological (e.g., Lappalainen et al.
43 2010; Martz et al. 2009), material (Heikkilä 2014) and health research (Kazantzidis et al.
44 2009).

45

46 The high dynamical range of UV radiation reaching the surface of the Earth sets challenges
47 to the instruments, which are designed to monitor both the short UV-B wavelengths (290-315
48 nm) and the longer UV-A wavelengths (315-400 nm). Also the Brewer is a versatile and an
49 extremely complex instrument, with many intermediate steps and corrections in the
50 processing chain from data acquisition to final data dissemination. High quality data can only
51 be ensured after careful characterization of the instrument, correction of known measurement
52 errors and careful quality control (QC) and quality assurance (QA). (Seckmeyer et al. 2001;
53 Garane et al. 2006; Lakkala et al. 2008; Webb et al. 2003).

54

55 In particular, keeping a Brewer absolutely calibrated is difficult (Bernhard and Seckmeyer
56 1999, Webb et al. 1998). International campaigns are organized to evaluate the calibration and
57 measurement procedures performed by different Brewers and institutes. The difficulty of the
58 absolute calibration was seen in the last European Brewer comparison organized by the COST
59 1207 project in El Arenosil, Spain. There, 6 Brewers from 18 differed more than 10% from
60 the reference, when using the calibration provided by the operator. During the comparison
61 campaign, each instrument was recalibrated against a common calibration lamp. The



62 calibration procedure was performed by only one operator. The results showed that the
63 difference between the two calibrations could be even more than 20%. When using the
64 calibration based on the common lamp, the difference between most of the Brewers
65 diminished to be within $\pm 6\%$ (Julian Gröbner, personal communication). The remaining
66 difference could result from different data correction and data processing procedures, e.g.,
67 differences in the way to take into account the temperature dependence and the angular
68 response of the instrument.

69

70 To enable Brewer data from around the world to be comparable, it is necessary to very
71 carefully document the traceability of the calibration and how the data has been processed.
72 Careful documentation should be part of routine QC/QA procedures at each site. This allows
73 anyone to audit all steps which have been taken before delivering the data, and allows
74 changes to be made in post-processing without starting everything from the beginning.

75

76 This paper documents the steps that are involved in the acquisition, processing, storage, and
77 dissemination of data from the Finnish Brewers, located in Sodankylä and Jokioinen. The
78 observatory at Jokioinen is in the process of being shut down, and the spectral UV
79 measurements have been moved to Helsinki. Thus, this paper also serves as a historical
80 description of the Jokioinen measurements. A detailed description will be given of the process
81 flow from the raw photon counts to the calibrated spectral UV irradiances and UV products.
82 We also describe the quality control and quality assurance systems that are used to ensure
83 valid output. In a companion paper (Mäkelä et al. 2015, this issue) we describe how the
84 calibration and homogenization of the data is made. In another companion paper (Heikkilä et
85 al. 2015, this issue) we describe how the data are further processed in the EUVDB database.

86

872 **Description of the stations**

88 In Brewers of the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI) are operated at two sites: Sodankylä
89 and Jokioinen. Below we briefly describe the site characteristics and which instruments are
90 used at each site.



912.1 2.1 The Sodankylä station (Brewer #037 and #214)

92The Finnish Meteorological Institute's Arctic Research Centre is located at 67.37°N, 27.63°E,
93altitude 179 m above sea level, in Sodankylä. It has had an operating Brewer Mark II since
941990. The station is described e.g. in Lakkala et al 2003. The near surroundings are pine
95forest, and at the South-West flows the river Kitinen. The area is surrounded by a large
96peatland area in the East. There is snow cover from October to late April. The sun is just
97below the horizon from mid-December to mid-January. Temperatures are ranging from -40C
98in winter to +30C in summer.

99Two Brewers are currently operated at this site: #037 and #214. They are located on the roof
100of the sounding station (see Figure 1). Brewer #037 has a single monochromator and the
101wavelength range is 290-325 nm. The instrument has a Teflon diffuser and the width of the
102slit function is 0.56 nm at FWHM. the later Brewer, #214, has been set up in 2012, in order
103to work in tandem with Brewer #037 and measure the longer wavelength part of the UV-
104radiation, as it measures the UV spectrum up to 365 nm. The slit function of the new Brewer
105is 0.55 nm at FWHM.

1062.2 2.2 The Jokioinen station (Brewer #107)

107The meteorological observatory in Jokioinen (60.82°N, 23.50°E) is at an altitude of 107 m
108above sea level. The observatory is located in a rural area surrounded by fields and mainly
109coniferous forest. The ground is covered by snow most of the time during December-March.
110Temperatures can range from -20C to +30C. The observatory will be shut down in the near
111future and the Brewer was moved to Helsinki in November 2015. The Brewer was located on
112the roof of the sounding station (see Figure 2 and Figure 3).

113

114The FMI acquired the current Mk III Brewer #107 in the observatory in Jokioinen in 1995.
115Brewer #107 has a double monochromator. It collects UV radiation with a hemispherical
116field-of-view through a PTFE diffuser enclosed in a quartz dome. It originally operated in the
117wavelength range 286.5-363 nm, but the optics were changed in April 1997, and its
118wavelength range since then is 286.5-365- nm. The width of the slit function is 0.59 nm at
119FWHM.

120



1213 **Data processing**

1223.1 **Obtaining raw data**

123Figure 4 shows the main data flow of the Brewers at FMI. The Brewers have their own
124operating computers, but the processing of all the data from both stations is done at a single
125central Unix server. The central computer checks the operational computers every 5 minutes.
126Any new data are uploaded, and UV data processing begins. The data products are stored at
127the central computer. Applications that use the data products (see Section 3.4) may access the
128central computer at any time and are given the latest valid data.

129

130Each Brewer is associated with a nearby automatic weather station (AWS) which measures
131the visibility according to its own schedule (currently every ten minutes). This information
132and the total ozone calculated by the Brewer is used in the cosine correction procedure. As
133auxiliary measurements, a broadband UVB radiometer (Solar Light SL501A) and CM11
134pyranometer (Kipp & Zonen), which measures global radiation (305–2800 nm), are
135synchronized to the Brewer measurements. The measurements of the operational SL501A
136radiometer of the site are used in non-realtime quality assurance procedures to identify
137erroneous measurements.

138

139The Brewer operational computers work autonomously, and make measurements based on
140schedules that are predefined by the operator. Over the years, a variety of schedules have been
141used, and the schedules for the two sites have supported slightly different research targets at
142different times. For example, at Jokioinen, more frequent measurements have been made near
143sunrise and sunset, and at constant air masses, as well as at time of the smallest solar zenith
144angle (SZA). At Sodankylä, measurements have generally been spread out more evenly
145throughout the day. However, in terms of the long-term statistical quality of the data, these
146differences do not matter. At both sites, there has been a measurement at least every half hour
147during daylight (which can be short in the winter, in particular in Sodankylä due to its
148location just north of the Arctic circle) and a measurement at midday. The exact number of
149measurements at Jokioinen, for example, may range from about 8 in winter to more than 30 in
150summer.



151The stability of the Brewer is monitored by measuring an internal lamp (typically about 2-5
152times per day, see Figure 5) at the six wavelengths used for total ozone retrieval. The
153information about the stability is used for the post processing of total ozone measurements,
154during which the effect of changes in the instrument can be corrected. In addition, every three
155weeks a more extensive stability check is made using external 50 W lamps. Then, the whole
156UV wavelength range is measured, and possible drifts in the spectral response of the Brewer
157can be detected and corrected afterwards during the post processing of UV spectra.

1583.2 Processing of spectral data

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160The spectral processing is done using custom-made software, which is based on the original
161software provided by the manufacturer, mostly perl and shell scripts. In addition to the near-
162real-time measurements, every morning the data from the previous day is reprocessed and
163checked, and all relevant databases updated. The algorithms have been described in detail by
164Lakkala et al. (2008), and only key points will be summarized here (see Figure 6).

165

166Scans are performed from small to larger wavelengths. The Brewer also returns the dark
167current for each scan. The total scanning time is about 4 minutes for Brewer #037 and 5
168minutes for Brewers #107 and #214 due to the larger wavelength range. The noise spikes are
169removed based on the method of Meinander et al. (2003). The dark current count is subtracted
170from measured counts. The dead time is measured daily, and the data are corrected using an
171iteration of an exponential function including the number of counts and the dead time values.
172The stray light is calculated as the average of all counts below 292 nm (#107 and #214) or
173293 nm (#037). Since #107 and #214 have a double monochromator, the stray light counts
174are small, while the Sodankylä Brewer #037 has a single monochromator, and the stray light
175counts are larger (Bais et al. 1996).

176

177The counts are then converted to irradiances by dividing the counts by the daily response. The
178determination of the daily response is briefly described in Lakkala et al. (2008) and is covered
179in more detail in the companion paper (Mäkelä et al. 2015, this issue). The temperature and
180cosine corrections are then made to the spectral irradiances.



1813.3 Data products

182

183The Brewer UV spectra are used to calculate dose rates and daily doses using at least the
184following action spectra:

- 185 • Erythema (CIE weighting function, McKinlay et al. 1987)
- 186 • Skin cancer in mice corrected for human skin, 299 nm normalization (de Gruijl, F.R.
187 and J.C. van der Leun, 1994)
- 188 • UVB non weighted 290-320 nm
- 189 • UVB non weighted 290-315 nm
- 190 • UVA non weighted 315-400 nm
- 191 • Generalized plant response (normalised at 300 nm) (Caldwell et al. 1986)
- 192 • DAN damage (Setlow 1974)
- 193 • Photosynthesis inhibition (Mitchell 1990)
- 194 • Spore dosimetry AS SIDv2.2 (Munakata et al. 2000)
- 195 • Previtamin D (CIE 2006)

196

197In addition the UV index is calculated by multiplying the CIE erythemally weighted UV
198irradiance in Wm^{-2} by 40 (WMO 1997).

199Data are uploaded to the following databases.

- 200 • The IDEAS database for quick and long-term quality control: every five minutes
- 201 • The FMI climate database (UVI index) every time a new UVI measurement is made.
- 202 • The EUBREWNET database for collaboration with the international Brewer
203 community within the COST 1207 project: every 20 minutes
204 (<http://rbce.aemet.es/eubrewnet>)
- 205 • The database of the FMI-Arctic Research Centre (<http://litdb.fmi.fi/>): Sodankylä data,
206 once a year
- 207 • The European UV database (<http://uv.fmi.fi/uvdb/>): once a year

208

2093.4 IDEAS: Real-time QA and monitoring

210In 2015 a new software has been introduced to facilitate both quick and long term quality
211control of data, and to improve the potential of the Brewers to work as real-time operational
212devices. IDEAS is a tool for cheking that the Brewer is functioning correctly. The Brewer
213itself makes several check measurements during the day, and these measured parameters are
214used to monitor the stability of the instrument.



215The IDEAS software is also used e.g. to calculate the daily mean of total ozone, which can be
216directly submitted to databases. Every measurement of the Brewer and process of the
217operating software is recorded in addition to appropriate data files. These are stored as so-
218called B-files, and updated to the server in which IDEAS is running.

219

220Two sample screenshots are shown (Figure 7 and Figure 8) as an example of possible
221warnings and total ozone calculation and comparison with satellite (OMI-instrument) total
222ozone. IDEAS is integrated with the real-time 7/24 operational control system of FMI.
223Automatic warnings of malfunctions of the Brewer are generated within 20 minutes and sent
224to the control center. If the personnel there are unable to solve the problems, stand-by Brewer
225specialists can be alerted by text messages when needed.

226

2274 **Annual quality assurance**

228

229The responsivity times series of the Brewers are recalculated typically once a year. During the
230process, the drifts of the instruments or the calibration lamps are taken into account. The
231spectra are recalculated with the methods described in a companion paper (Mäkelä et al 2015,
232this issue). If necessary, a wavelength correction is made using the SHICRIVM algorithm
233(Slaper et al 1995). The dose rates are compared with reconstructed UV, model calculations
234of clear sky UV and global radiation, global radiation and broad band UV data in order to
235distinguish erroneous measurements. In addition each spectrum is checked by eye and bad
236measurements are excluded.

237

2385 **Conclusions**

239The FMI has operated Brewer spectrophotometers since the 1990's in two locations,
240Jokioinen and Sodankylä. During that time, FMI has implemented all corrections and
241improvements that have been identified by the Brewer community. The outputs are used to
242calculate multiple UV products which require spectral data. A special new focus is being put
243on real-time quality control, with the IDEAS software allowing warnings of malfunctions to
244be sent to operators very rapidly. Although the measurements at the Jokioinen station has



245been stopped, Sodankylä will continue to provide one of the longest continuous spectral UV
246time series in the world, and new time series will start in Helsinki.

247

248**Acknowledgements**

249Professor Esko Kyrö is acknowledged for starting the Brewer measurements at Sodankylä.
250We are grateful to the operators at Sodankylä and Jokioinen stations for daily maintenance
251and for performing the calibrations of the Brewers. We thank the Brewer community within
252the COST 1207 project for sharing expertise related to Brewer measurements.

253

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359Figure 1. View of Sodankylä observatory. The Brewer is located on the roof in the enclosure on the left.

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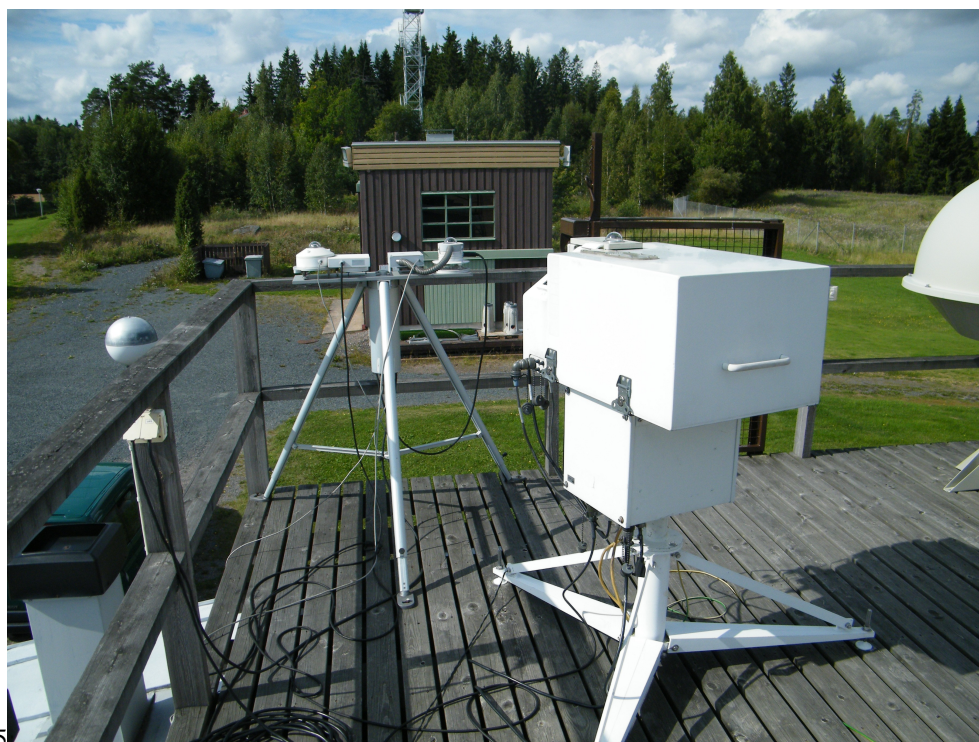


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363 Figure 2. View of Jokioinen observatory. The Brewer is located on the roof in the enclosure on the left.

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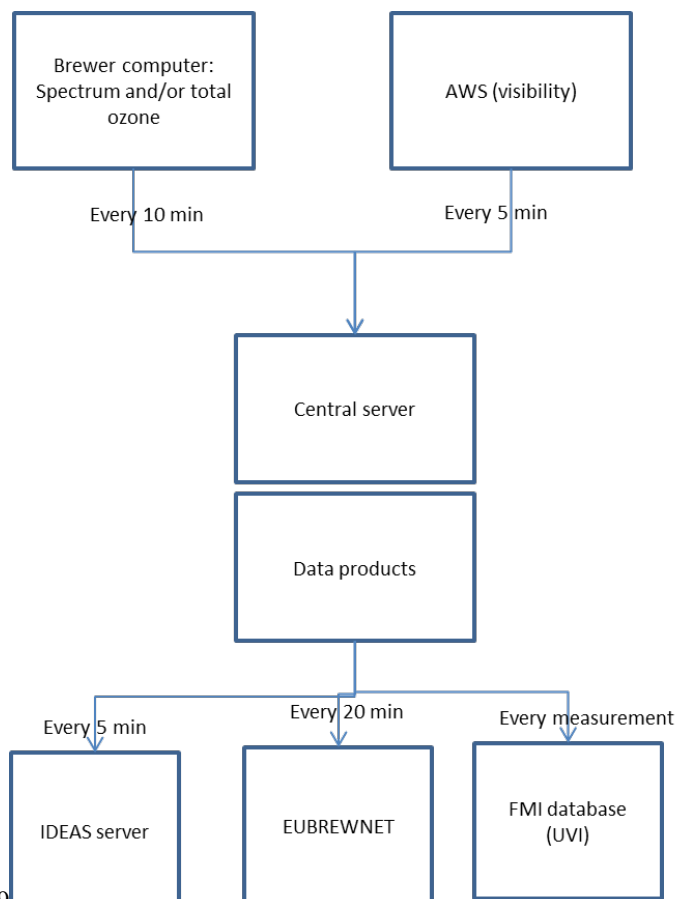
365

366Figure 3. Close up of Brewer # 107 on the roof of the Jokioinen observatory.



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371 Figure 4. Main data flow of Brewer measurements at the FMI.

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Standard lamp R6 (0 sec)

File name	Count	Serial	Expected (+/-20)	Measured	30-day history
B25915_037	12	#037	1670	1874	
B25915_107	10	#107	470	452	
B25915_214	13	#214	240	236	

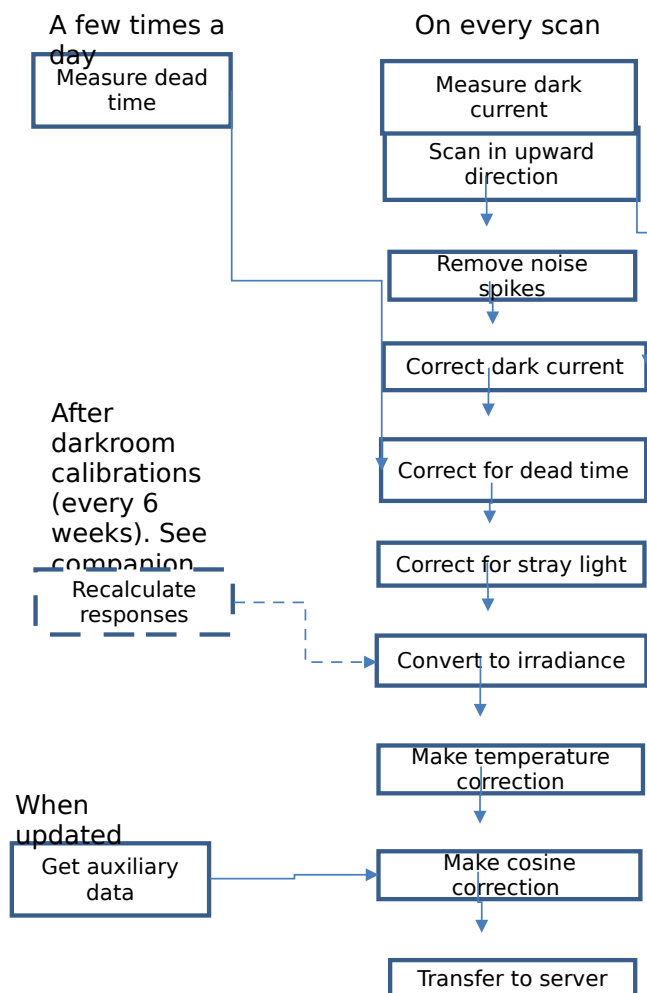
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381Figure 5. The stability of the Brewers can be traced e.g. by using the R5 and R6 values of the internal standard
382lamp (output from IDEAS).



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388 Figure 6. Detailed data flow of Brewer UV measurements at FMI.

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393

Critical warnings from b-files' comments for days between 2015257 and 2015259 (1 sec, 10 rows)

Type	Comment	count	priority	fname	location	serial	time	value	min	max
fz:	Suppressed oscillation of filter wheel.	7	5	B25715.107	Jokio	#107	05:04:32	1	-1	
fz:	Suppressed oscillation of filter wheel.	7	5	B25815.107	Jokio	#107	05:33:54	1	-1	
fz:	COUNTS TOO HIGH - aborting	6	5	B25815.107	Jokio	#107	05:35:05	1	-1	
ds:	DS intensity too low (13/cy), skipping.	9	99	B25815.037	Sodan	#037	05:39:58	1	-1	
ds:	DS intensity too low (23/cy), skipping.	30	99	B25715.037	Sodan	#037	05:41:44	1	-1	
ds:	DS intensity too low (28/cy), skipping.	16	99	B25915.037	Sodan	#037	05:43:34	1	-1	
ds:	DS intensity too low (54/cy), skipping.	9	99	B25715.214	Sodan	#214	05:38:43	1	-1	
ds:	DS intensity too low (77/cy), skipping.	11	99	B25915.214	Sodan	#214	05:46:57	1	-1	
rt:	2015 257 22 21 02 New value set for watermark LOOPRUN.TIME: 699.000025 millisecc.	6	5	B25815.214	Sodan	#214	22:09:48	1	-1	
rt:	2015 256 22 28 01 New value set for watermark LOOPRUN.TIME: 673.000050 millisecc.	7	5	B25715.214	Sodan	#214	22:10:07	1	-1	

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395Figure 7. Sample output from IDEAS software. Critical warnings. This information can be sent to operators in
 396real time.

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Ozone comparison with OMI for the last week (0 sec, 21 rows)

Location	Serial Date	YYYYJJJ	OMI ozone	Brewer ozone	Percent difference	Cloudiness range (of 8)	Cloudiness most of the day	Average T	Visibility range, km	Average pressure, hPa
Jokioinen	107	2015-09-15	2015258	291+/-3	294+/-1.8	-1.0	0-0	16.1	20-20	1014
Sodankyla	037	2015-09-15	2015258	290+/-4	299+/-1.3	-3.0	0-0	15.0	20-20	1020
Sodankyla	214	2015-09-15	2015258	290+/-4	306+/-1.3	-5.2	0-0	15.0	20-20	1020
Jokioinen	107	2015-09-14	2015257	292+/-4	298+/-2.5	-2.0	0-0	16.0	20-20	1024
Sodankyla	037	2015-09-14	2015257	292+/-4	301+/-3.4	-2.9	0-0	14.6	20-20	1024
Sodankyla	214	2015-09-14	2015257	292+/-4	310+/-3.1	-5.8	0-0	14.6	20-20	1024
Jokioinen	107	2015-09-13	2015256	299+/-3	300+/-2.7	-0.3	0-0	16.1	20-20	1029
Sodankyla	037	2015-09-13	2015256	290+/-2	294+/-3.6	-1.3	0-0	15.1	20-20	1030
Sodankyla	214	2015-09-13	2015256	290+/-2	303+/-3.2	-4.2	0-0	15.1	20-20	1030
Jokioinen	107	2015-09-12	2015255	293+/-5	302+/-5.9	-2.9	0-0	16.9	11-20	1035

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399Figure 8. Sample output from IDEAS software. Comparison of measured ozone to reference ozone from OMI
 400satellite.