

Protocol of the intercomparison at LKO, Arosa, Switzerland on July 16 to 25, 2012 with the travelling reference spectroradiometer QASUME from PMOD/WRC

Report prepared by Gregor Hülsen

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The purpose of the visit was the comparison of spectral global solar irradiance measurements between the 9 spectrophotometers participating in the 7th Regional Brewer Calibration Center – Europe (RBCC-E) Campaign (see Table 1) and the travel reference spectroradiometer QASUME at the Lichtklimatische Observatorium (LKO) in Arosa; Latitude 46.78 N, Longitude 9.68 E and altitude 1846 m.a.s.l.. The horizon of the measurement site is free down to ~80° solar zenith angle (SZA). Measurements between 4:00 UT and 19:00 UT have been analysed.

QASUME arrived at LKO in the morning of July 16, 2012. The spectroradiometer was installed in line to the Brewer spectrophotometers with the entrance optic of QASUME between 2 and 10 m away from the other instruments. The measurement campaign lasted seven days, from July 16 to the morning of July 25; the core UV comparison days were July 22 till 24.

QASUME was calibrated several times during the intercomparison period using a portable calibration system. Two lamps (T68522 and T68523) were used to obtain an absolute spectral irradiance calibration traceable to the primary reference held at PMOD/WRC, which is traceable to PTB. The daily mean responsivity of the instrument based on these calibrations varied by less than 1 % during the intercomparison period. The internal temperature of QASUME was 23.9±0.3 °C. The diffuser head was heated to a temperature of 28.5±1.6 °C.

The wavelength shifts relative to an extraterrestrial spectrum as retrieved from the SHICRivm analysis were between ±50 pm in the spectral range 290 to 400 nm.

Table 1: Participating Brewer spectrophotometers; 5 single and 4 double monochromators.

| Instrument ID | Institution | Operator | Country |
|---------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| #017-MKII (No Data) | IOS | Ken Lamb | Canada |
| #040-MKII | MeteoSwiss | Herbert Schill | Switzerland |
| #072-MKII | MeteoSwiss | Herbert Schill | Switzerland |
| #156-MKIII | MeteoSwiss | Herbert Schill | Switzerland |
| #066-MKIV (AAB) | Arpa Aosta | Henri Diemoz | Italy |
| #067-MKIV | Uni. Rome | Giuseppe Casale | Italy |
| #158-MKIII | K&Z | Clive Lee | Netherlend |
| #163-MKIII (ISQ) | PMOD/WRC | Julian Gröbner | Switzerland |
| #185-MKIII (IZ3) | INM IZANA | Alberto Redondas | Spain |

Protocol:

The measurement protocol was to measure one solar irradiance spectrum every 30 minutes from 290 to 400 nm, every 0.5 nm, and 3 seconds between each wavelength increment.

| DOY | Date | DAY | Weather | Comment |
|-----|--------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 198 | 16-Jul | Monday | Mostly clear sky with few cirrus clouds | Installed at 11:00 UT |
| 199 | 17-Jul | Tuesday | Mix of sun & clouds | Calibrated: 10:28 (T68523) Calibrated: 10:48 (T68522) |
| 200 | 18-Jul | Wednesday | Mostly clear sky with few cirrus clouds | 12-16 UT: Cooling Problem |
| 201 | 19-Jul | Thursday | Mix of sun & clouds Rain shower (afternoon) | |
| 202 | 20-Jul | Friday | Mix of sun & clouds Foog in the morning | Calibrated: 9:32 (T68523) |
| 203 | 21-Jul | Saturday | Mix of sun & clouds Rain during the day | (No Qasume Operator) Qasume Com.Error |
| 204 | 22-Jul | Sunday | Mix of sun & clouds Rain during the day | UV Days Cooling Problem |
| 205 | 23-Jul | Monday | Mostly clear sky | UV Days Calibrated: 6:11 (T68523) |
| 206 | 24-Jul | Tuesday | Clear sky (Morning) Mix of sun & clouds | Calibrated: 9:12 (T68523) |
| 207 | 25-Jul | Wednesday | Clear sky (Morning) Mix of sun & clouds Rain started 9:30 | Calibrated: 5:45 (T68523) Calibrated: 6:13 (T68522) End of Campaign: 10:00 UT |

Results:

In total 35 to 82 synchronised simultaneous spectra from QASUME and the Brewer spectrophotometers are available from the measurement period. Measurements between 4:00 and 19:00 UT have been analysed (SZA smaller than 90°).

Table 2: Mean values of the ratio Brewer/QASUME (305 – 320 nm), the diurnal variability and the wavelength shifts.

| Instrument ID | Brewer to QASUME [%] | Diurnal variability [%] | Wavelength shift [pm] |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| #017 | NaN | NaN | NaN |
| #040 | -5 | ±3 | -20 .. +40 |
| #072 | -6 | ±4 | -20 .. +40 |
| #156 | -4 | ±5 | -50 .. +50 |
| #066_AAB | -3 | ±2 | -20 .. +50 |
| #067 | 5 | ±2 | -50 .. +50 |
| #158 | -5 | ±4 | -70 .. +50 |
| #163_ISQ | NaN | NaN | NaN |
| #185_IZ3 | -4 | ±3 | -30 .. +30 |

Remarks:

1. The first day of the intercomparison was dedicated to the setup and training phase. The official “UV-days” were 22 and 24 July (204-206). However, synchronized UV scans are also available from the start of the campaign.
2. Although different calibrations and measurements were performed during the campaign, traffic on the roof could be limited. Therefore only few scans are disturbed.

Specific Remarks for the individual Brewer spectrophotometer:

1. Brewer #017 arrived at Arosa without electronic boards and case. The optical parts (front optics and spectrometer) of this reference instrument were used for ozone calibration but not for UV measurements.
2. Brewer #066 (AAB) and #158 show various spikes in the data during the campaign.
3. Brewer #156: The largest contribution to its measurement uncertainty arises from its exceptional large temperature dependence (see discussion on the next page). A temperature correction of the data is recommended.
4. Brewer #163 (ISQ) malfunctioned during the campaign. No reliable UV data could be recorded.
5. Brewer #185 (IZ3): On clear sky days (see for example DOY 205 and 206) the cosine error of the input optic of this instrument dominates its measurement uncertainty.

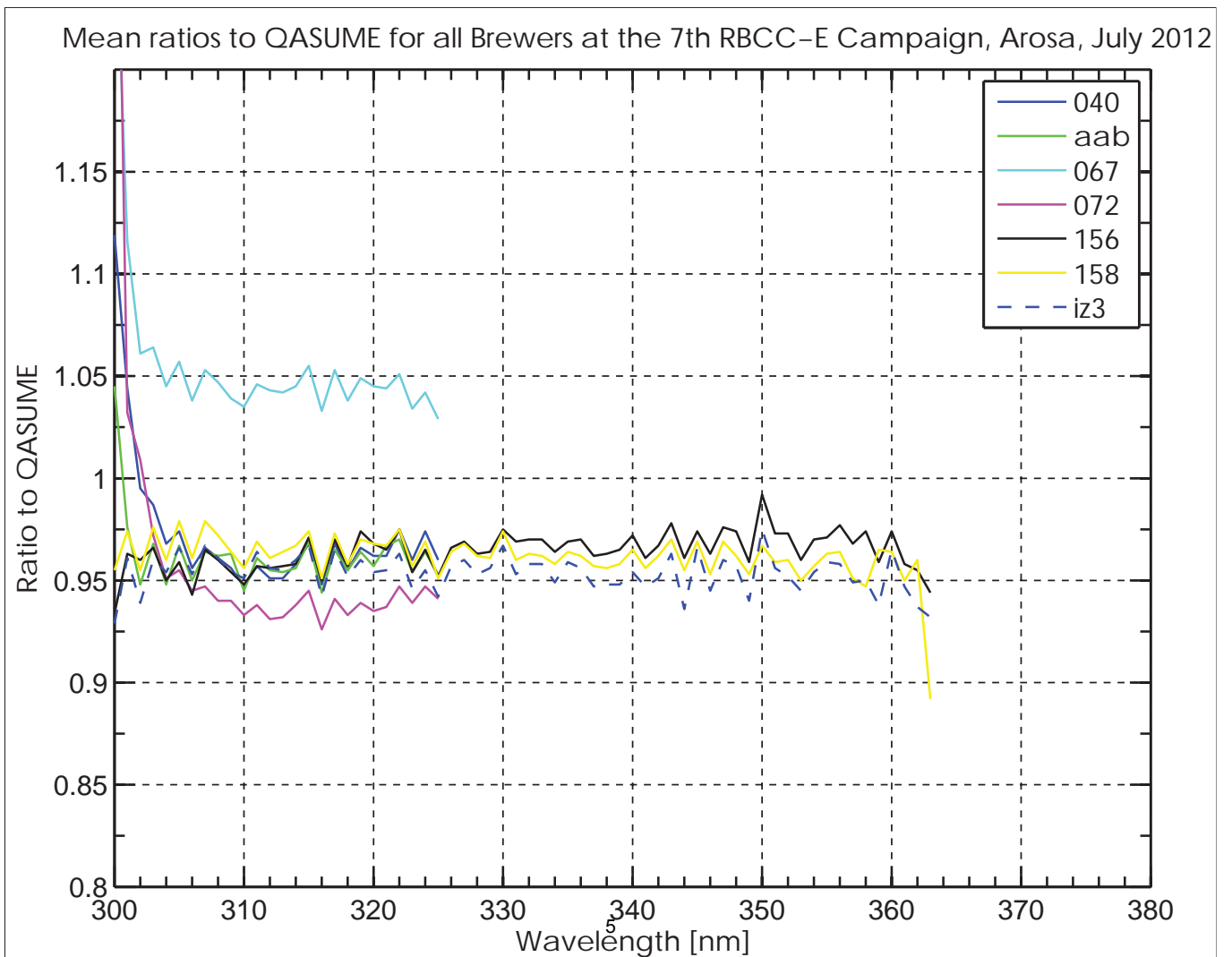
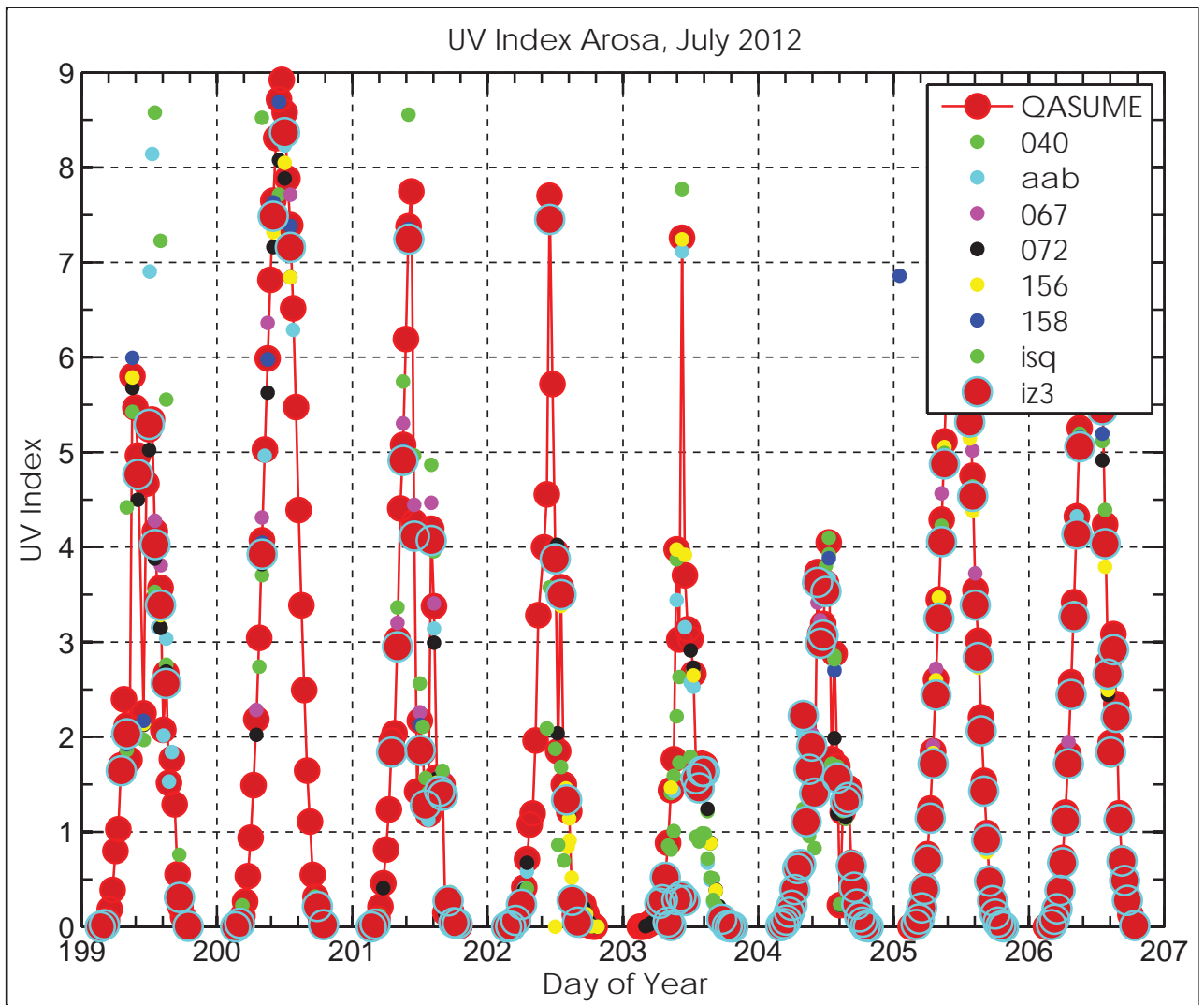
Brewer Temperature dependence:

The standard Brewer global UV measurement procedure does not take into account the dependence of the Brewer spectral responsivity to ambient temperature. However several studies have shown, that Brewer spectrophotometers have a temperature dependence which can be as large as 0.9%/K and which depends on wavelength (Cappellani, F., and C. Kochler (2000), Temperature effects correction in a Brewer MKIV spectrophotometer for solar UV measurements, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 105(D4), 4829–4831; Weatherhead, E., et al. (2001), Temperature dependence of the Brewer ultraviolet data, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 106(D24), 34,121–34,129).

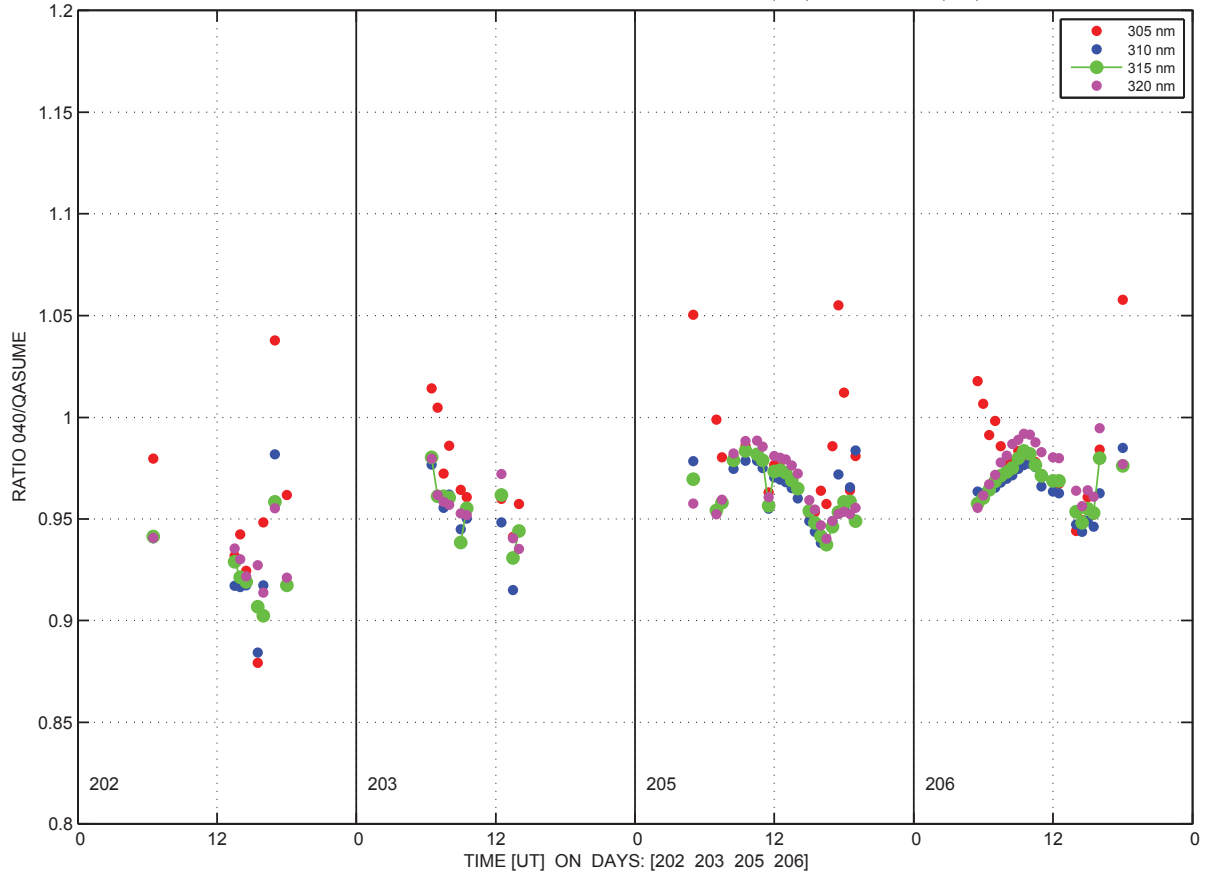
At Arosa, due to the high diurnal temperature variations, the temperature dependence of the Brewer spectrophotometers has therefore a significant influence on the global UV measurements as can be seen in the respective ratios relative to the QASUME spectroradiometer which is temperature stabilised. An example can be seen with Brewer #156 on the clear sky day 205 and 206 (see also protocol of the 3rd RBBC-E, Arosa 2008).

Recommendations:

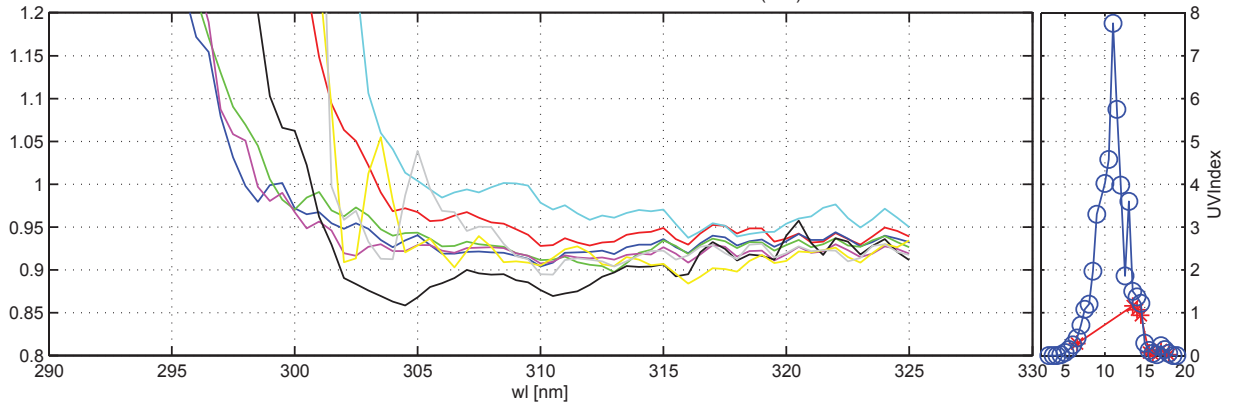
The variabilities observed between individual Brewer spectrophotometers relative to the QASUME spectroradiometer are due to ambient temperature variations on the one hand (see above paragraph), and to angular response errors which were not accounted for (See for example Gröbner, J., Improved entrance optic for global irradiance measurements with a Brewer spectrophotometer, *Applied Optics*, 42, 3516-3521, 2003). While a reliable correction of angular response errors requires the modification of the Brewer entrance optic, the temperature dependence can be corrected by applying a suitable spectral temperature correction to global UV measurements. This function should be determined individually for every Brewer using a measurement procedure as described in the refereed literature (see references).



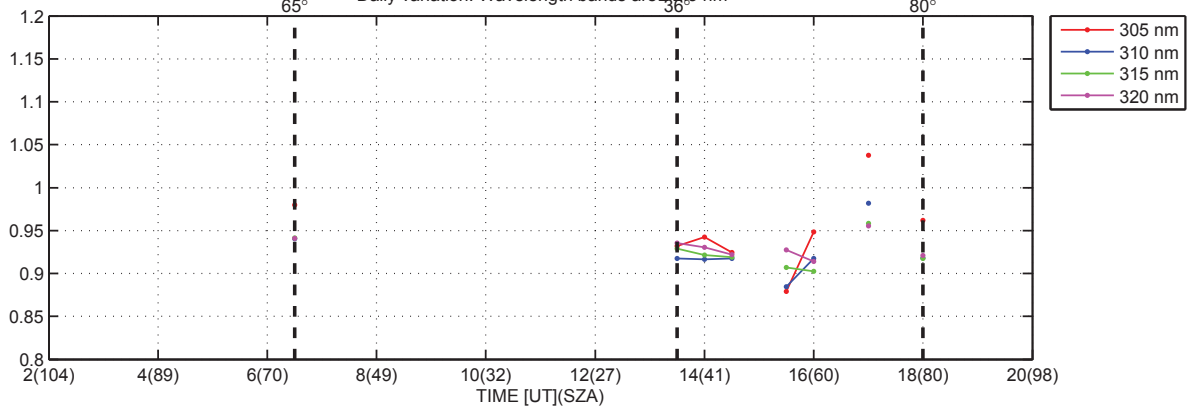
Global irradiance ratios 040/QASUME at Arosa:20-Jul-2012(202) to 24-Jul-2012(206)

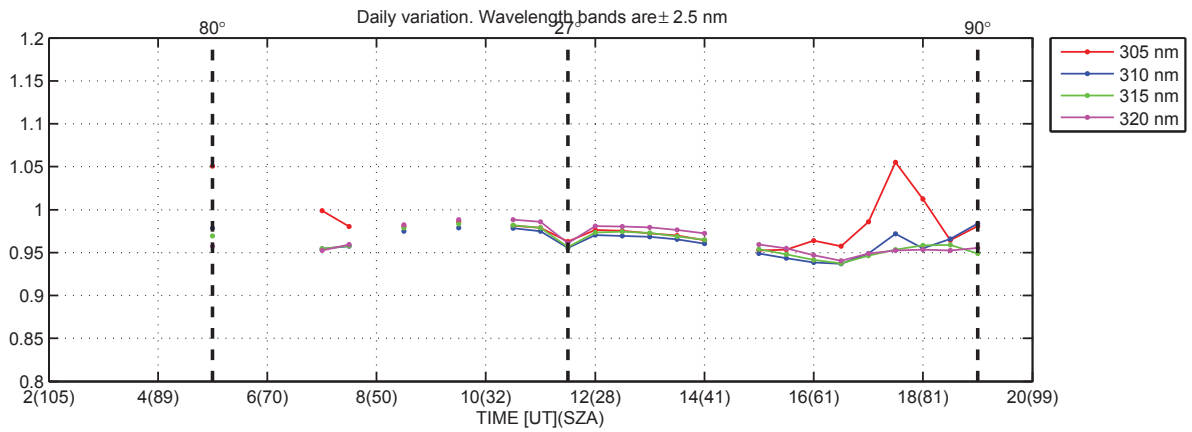
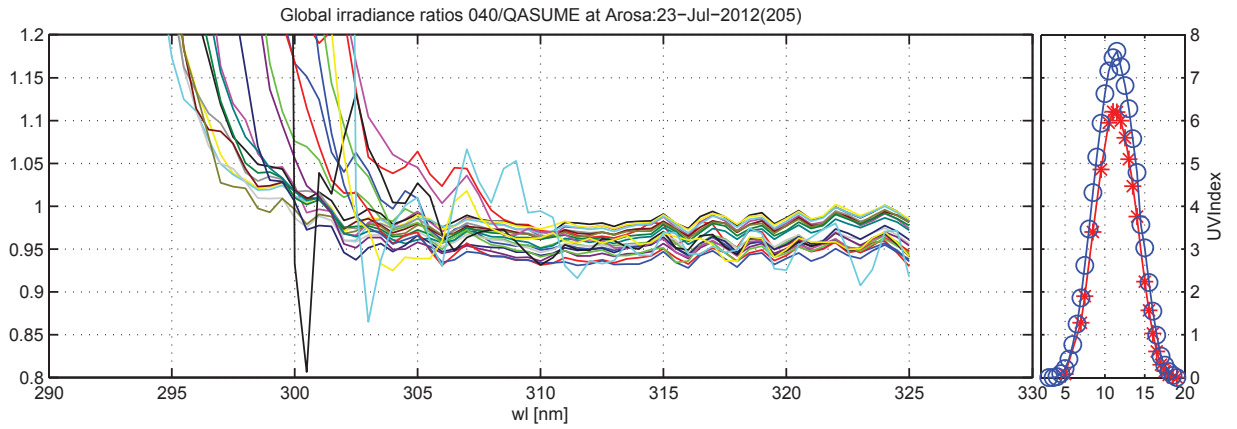
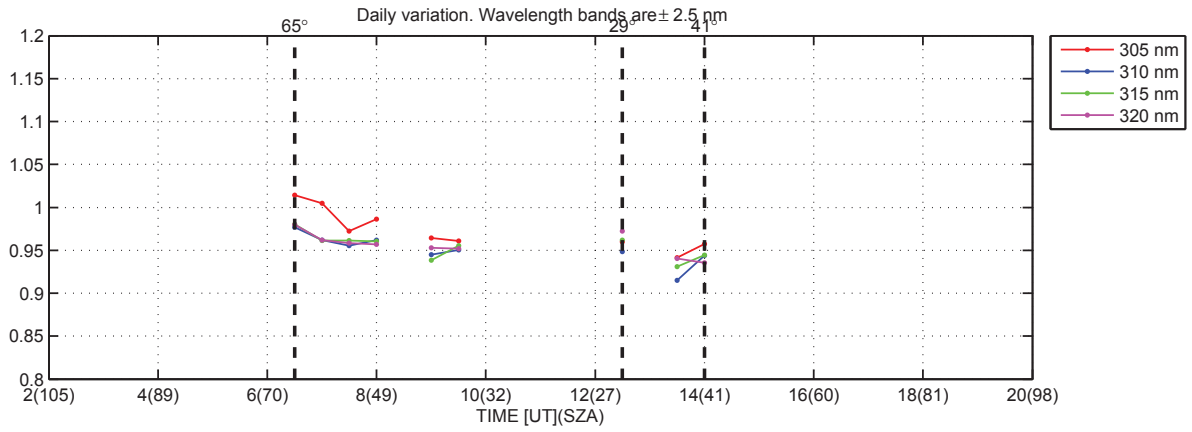
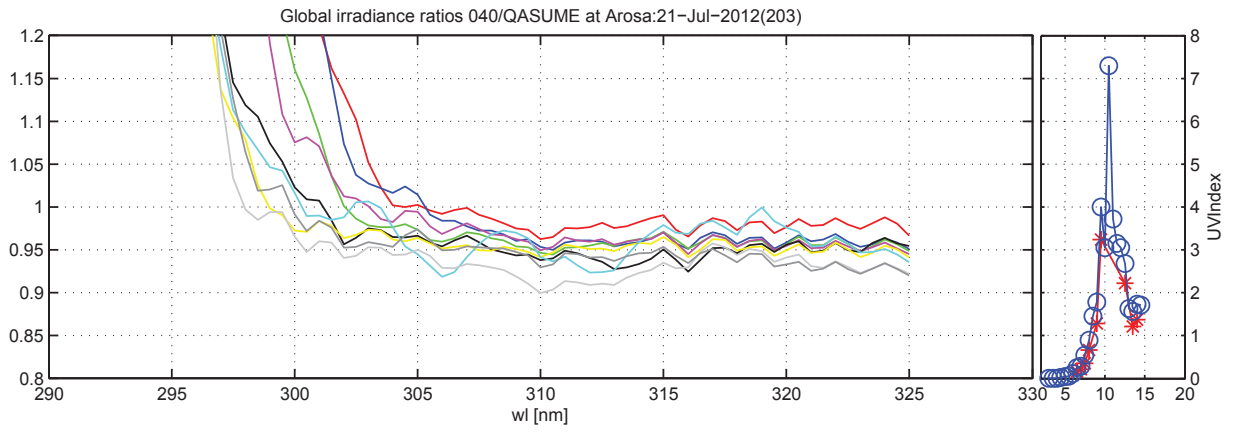


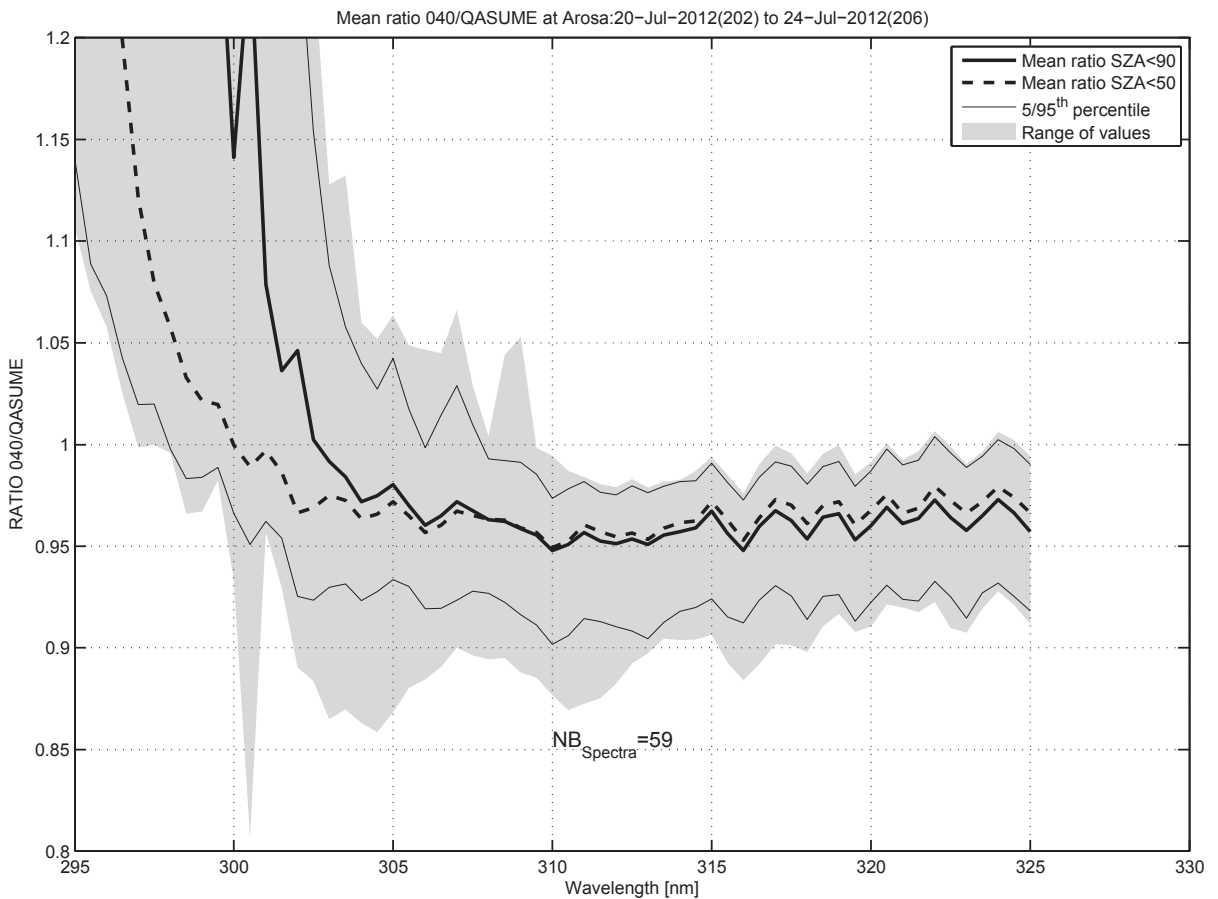
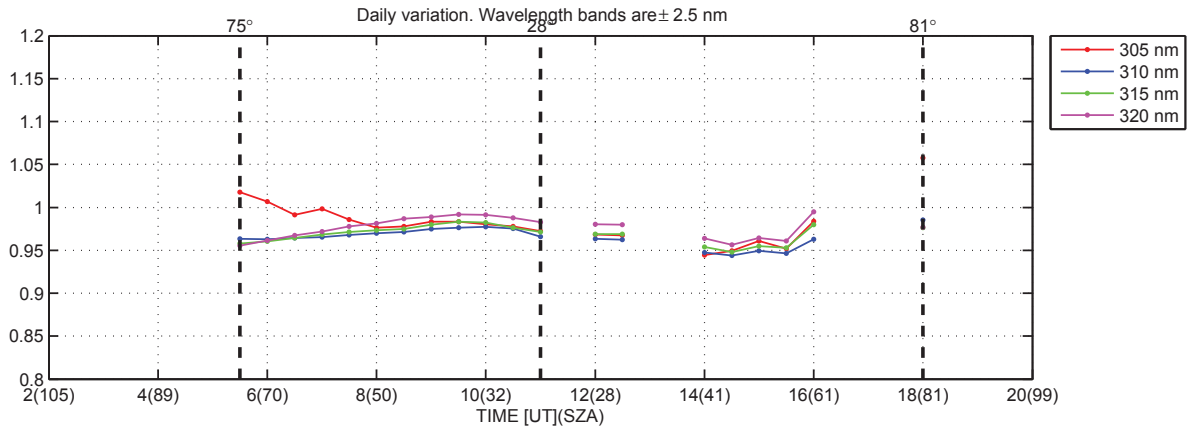
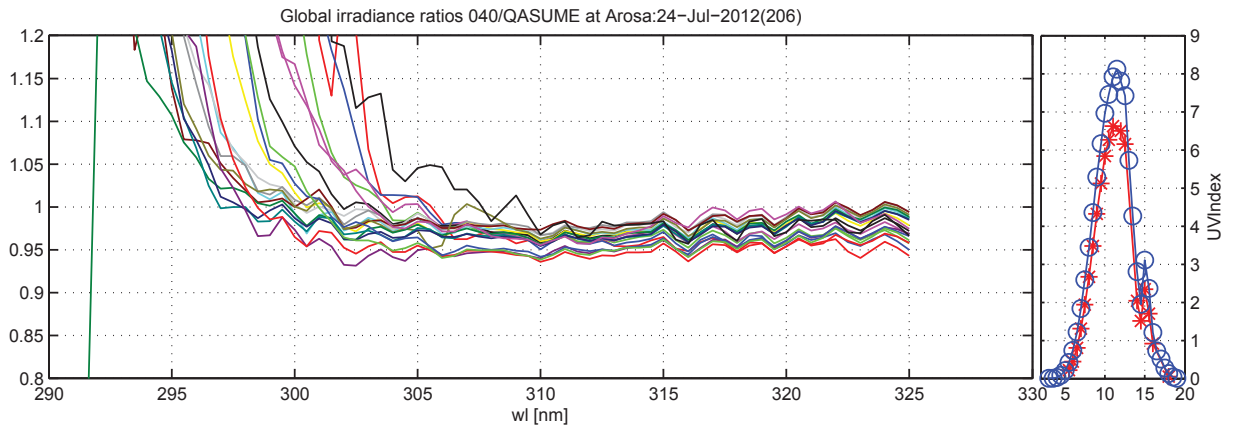
Global irradiance ratios 040/QASUME at Arosa:20-Jul-2012(202)



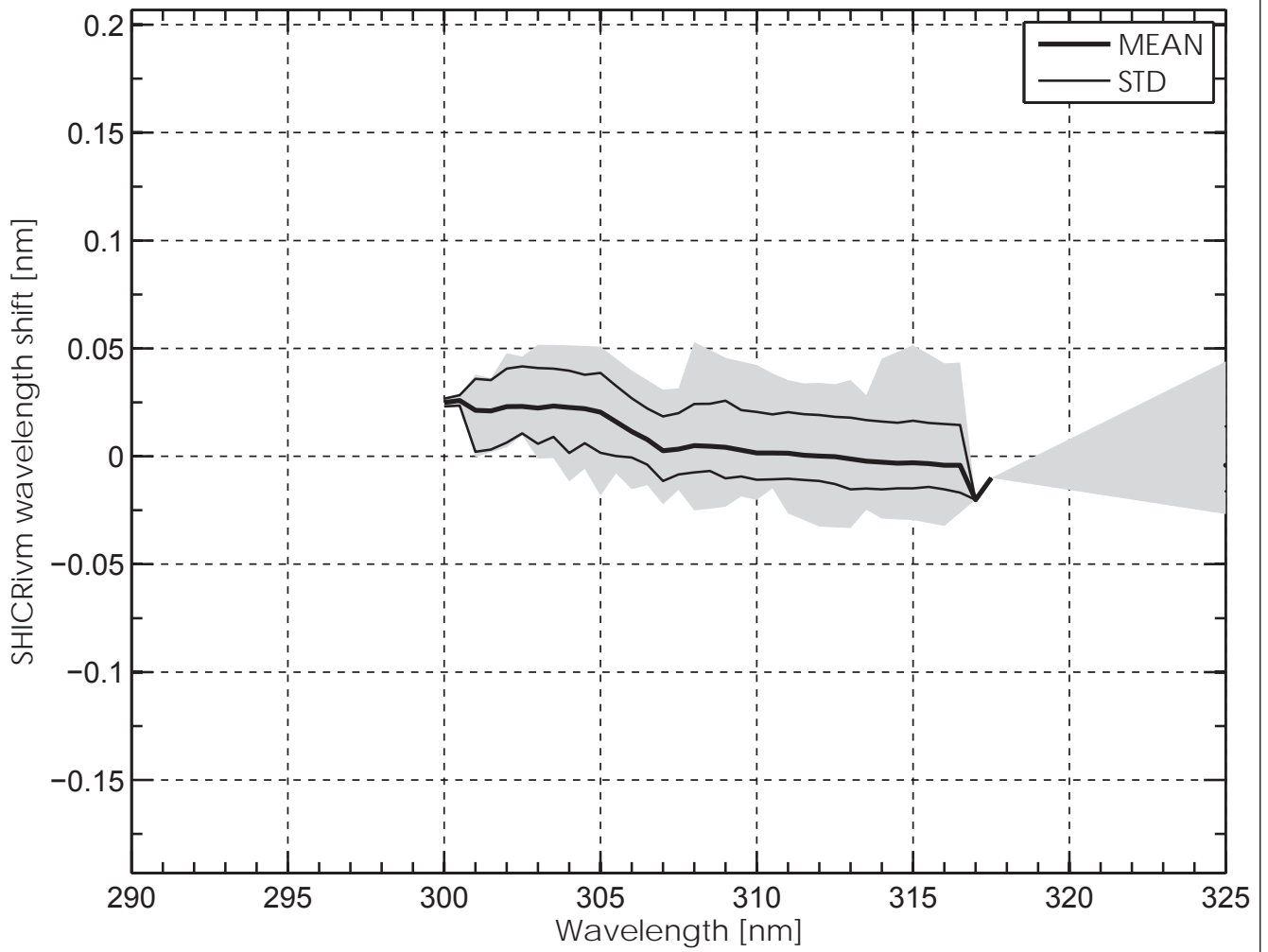
Daily variation. Wavelength bands are ± 2.5 nm



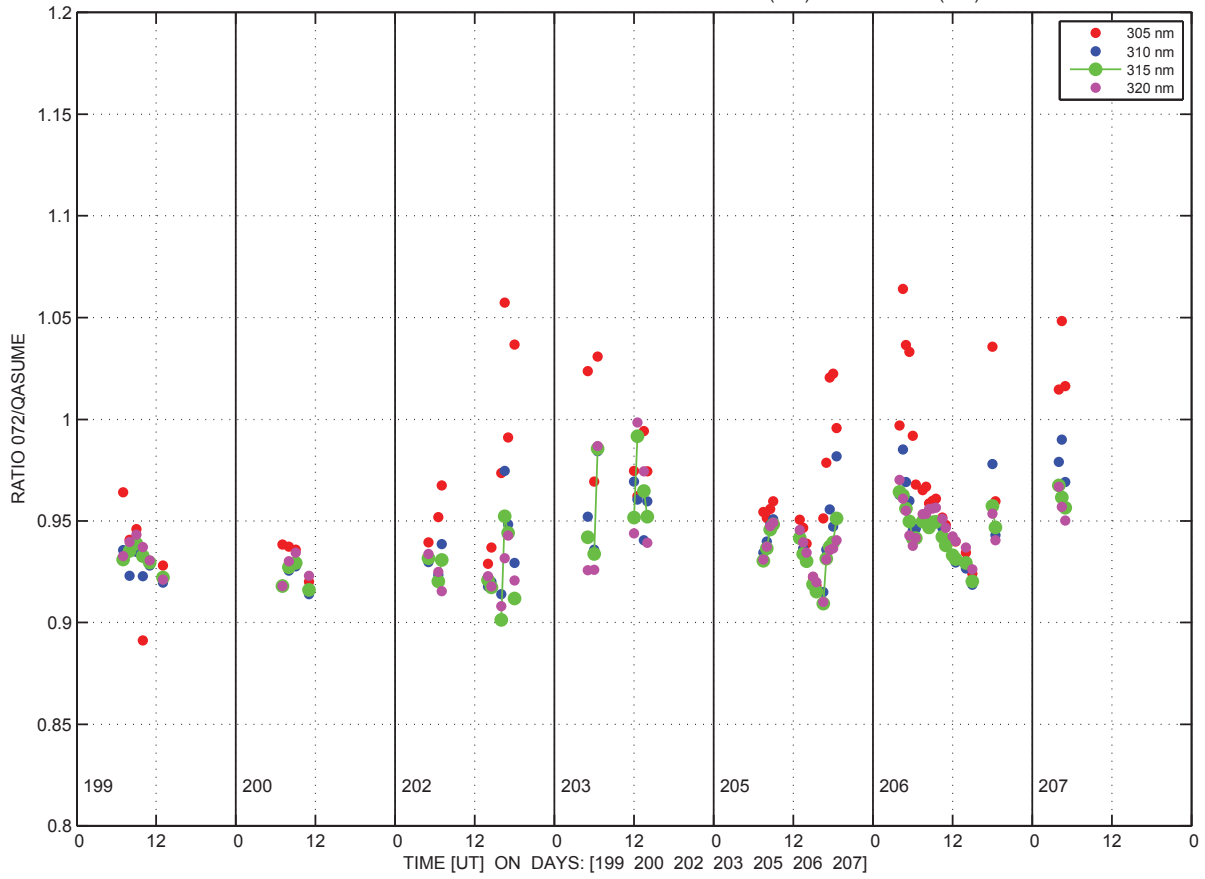




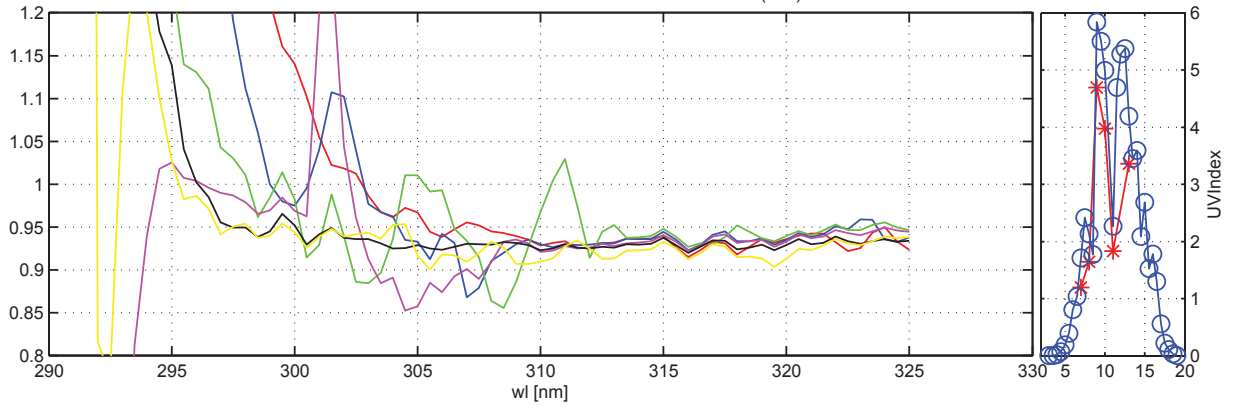
Arosa, 040, July 2012



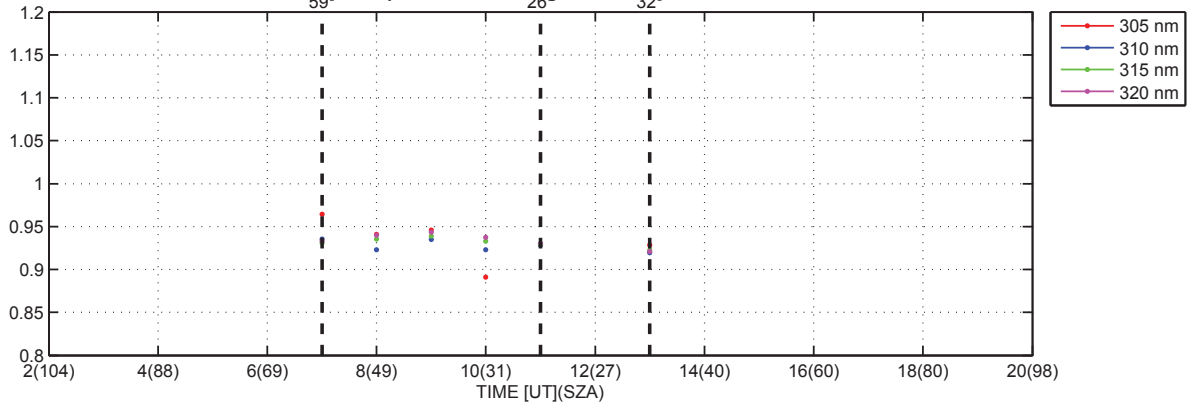
Global irradiance ratios 072/QASUME at Arosa:17-Jul-2012(199) to 25-Jul-2012(207)

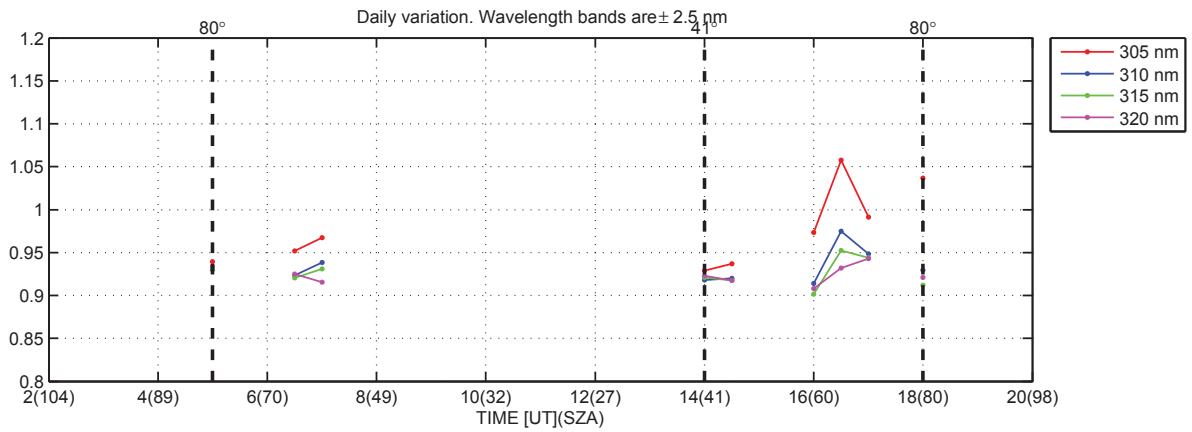
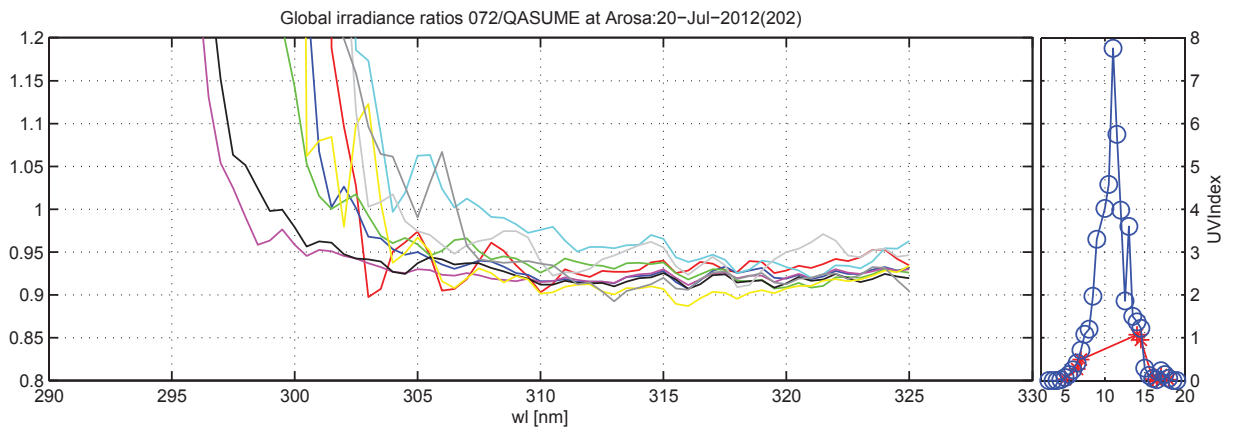
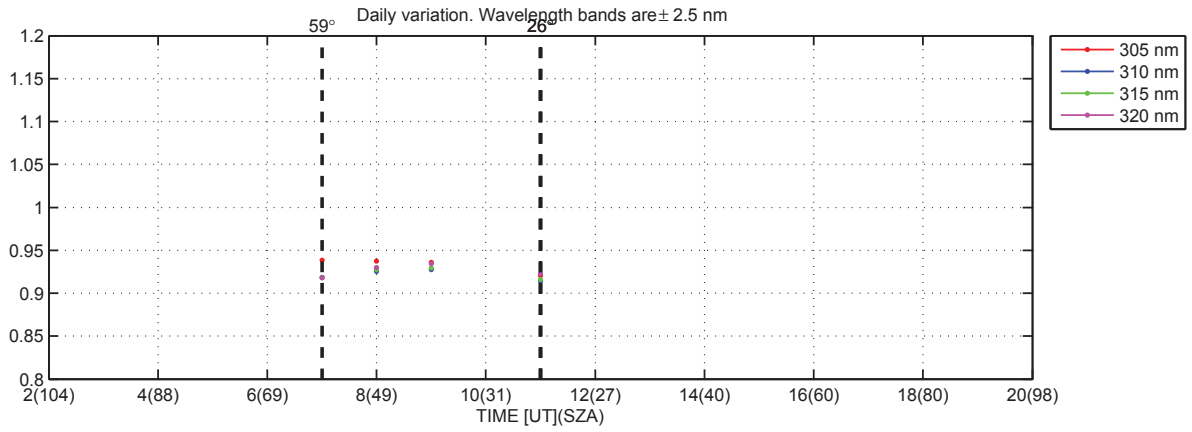
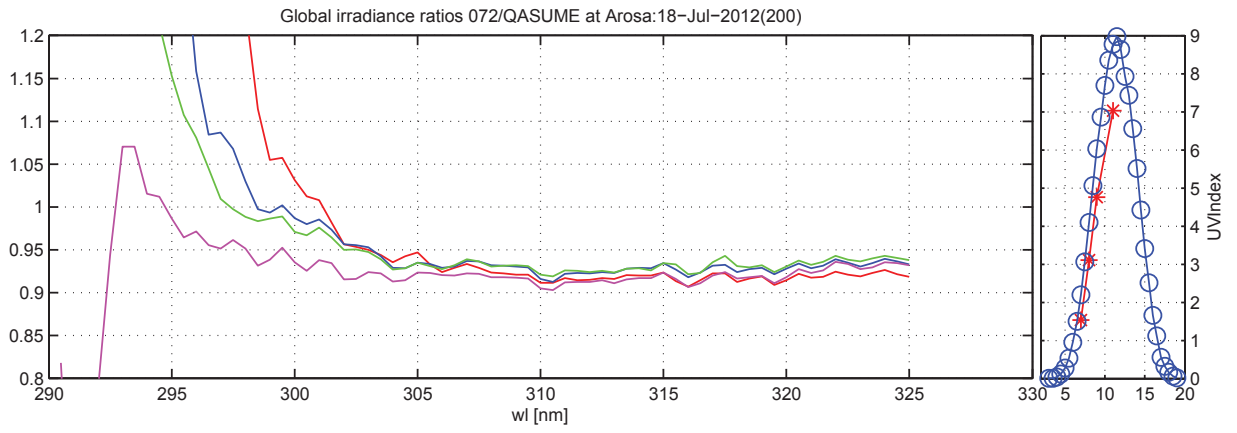


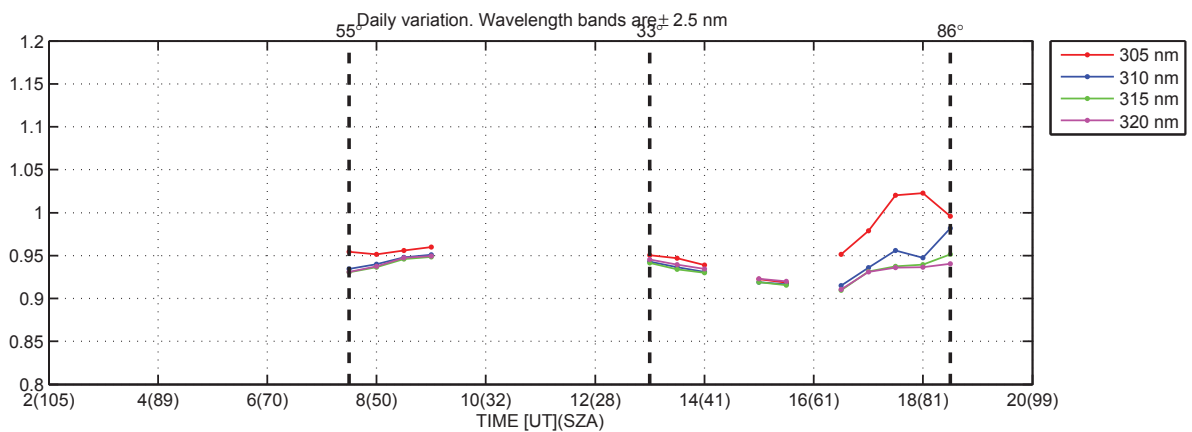
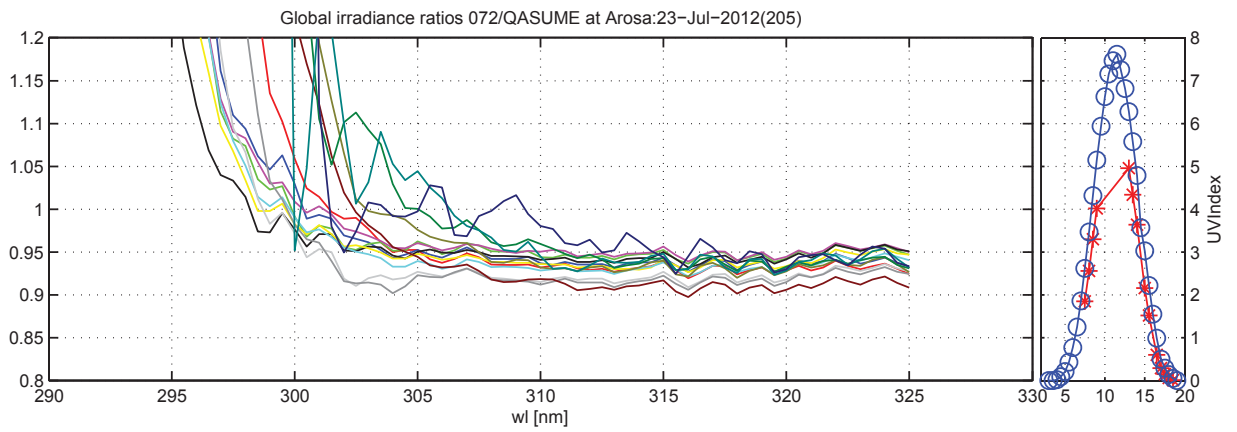
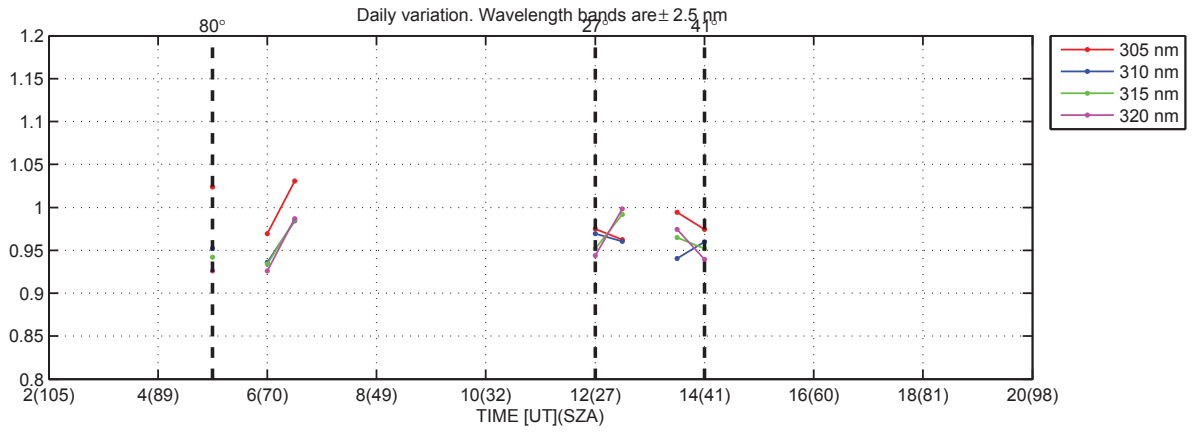
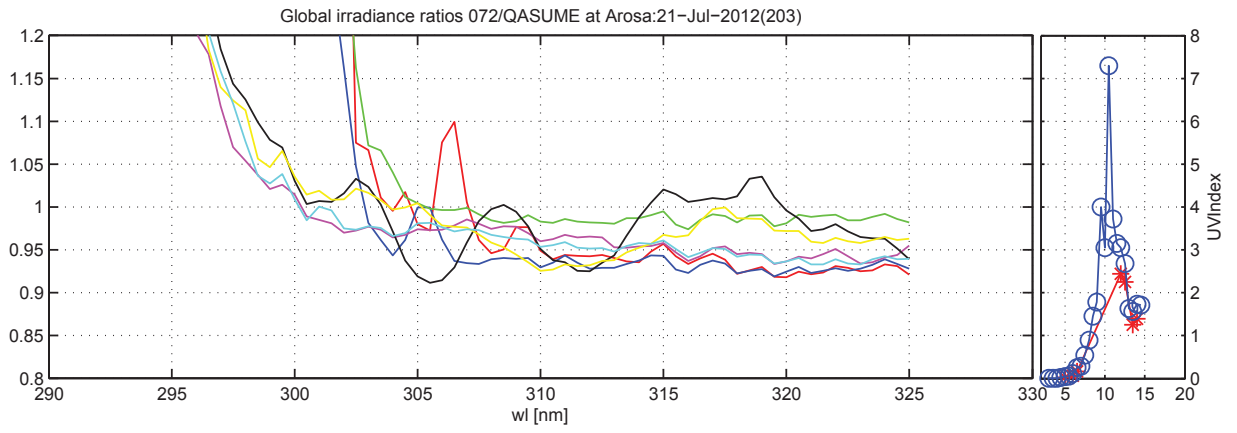
Global irradiance ratios 072/QASUME at Arosa:17-Jul-2012(199)

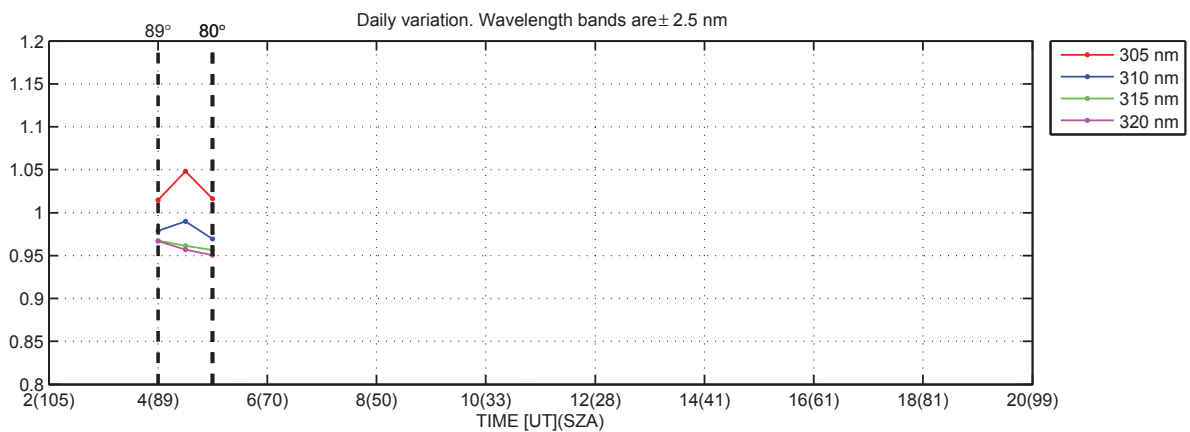
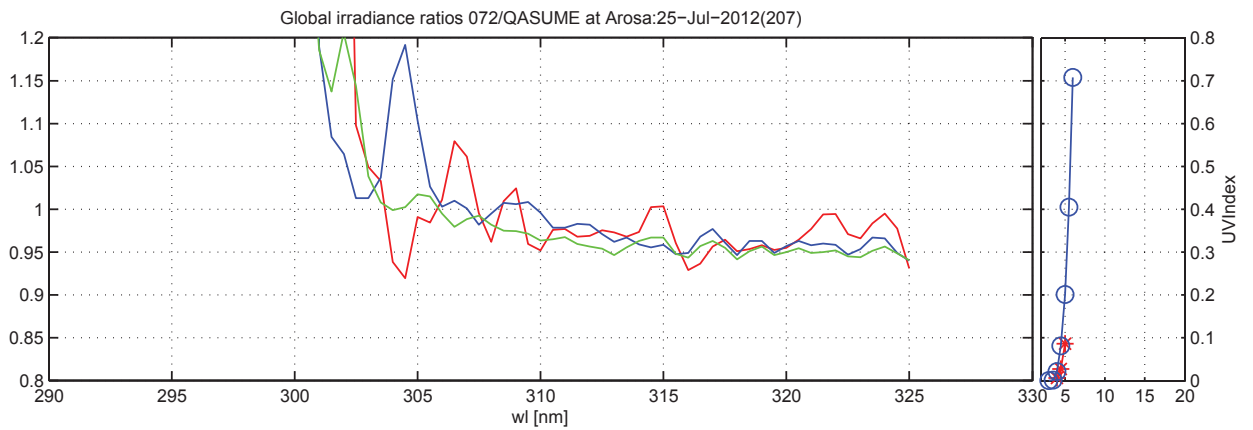
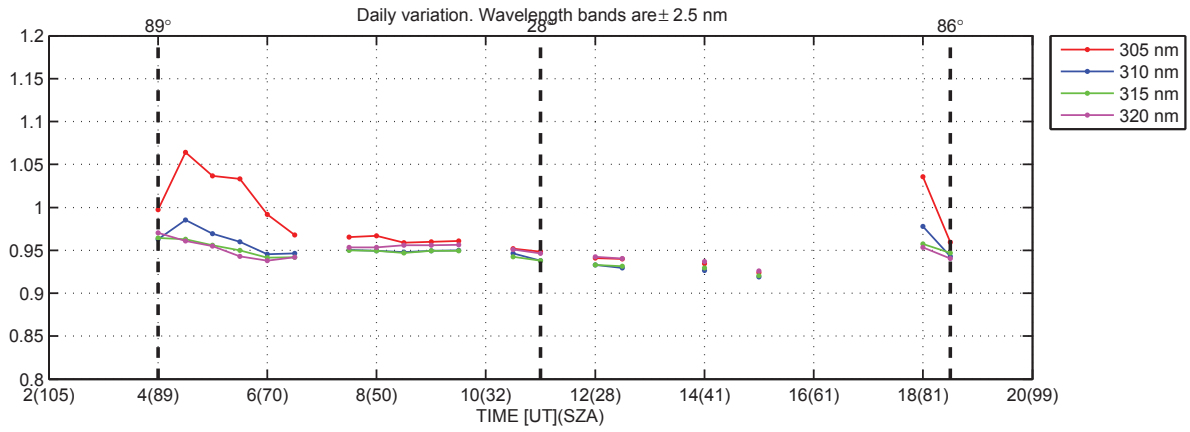
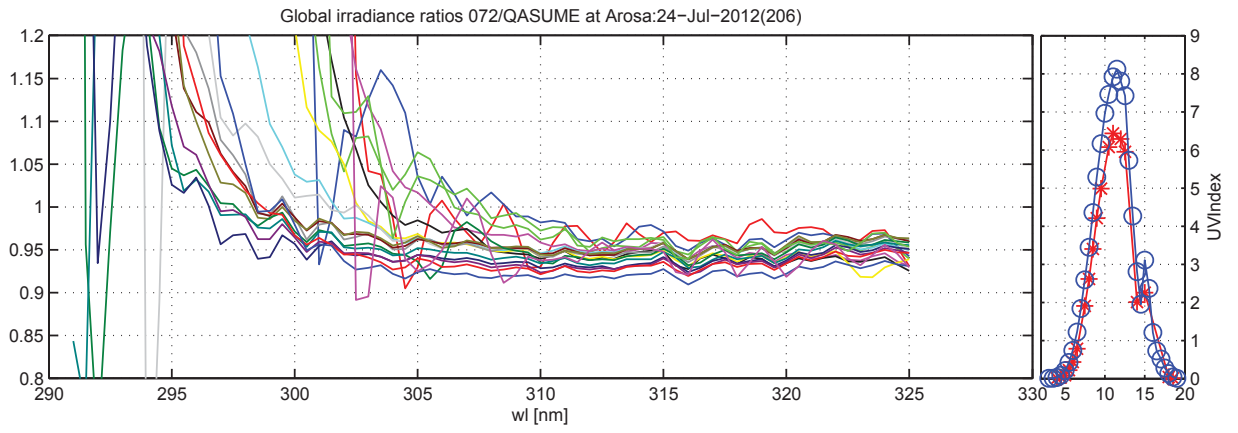


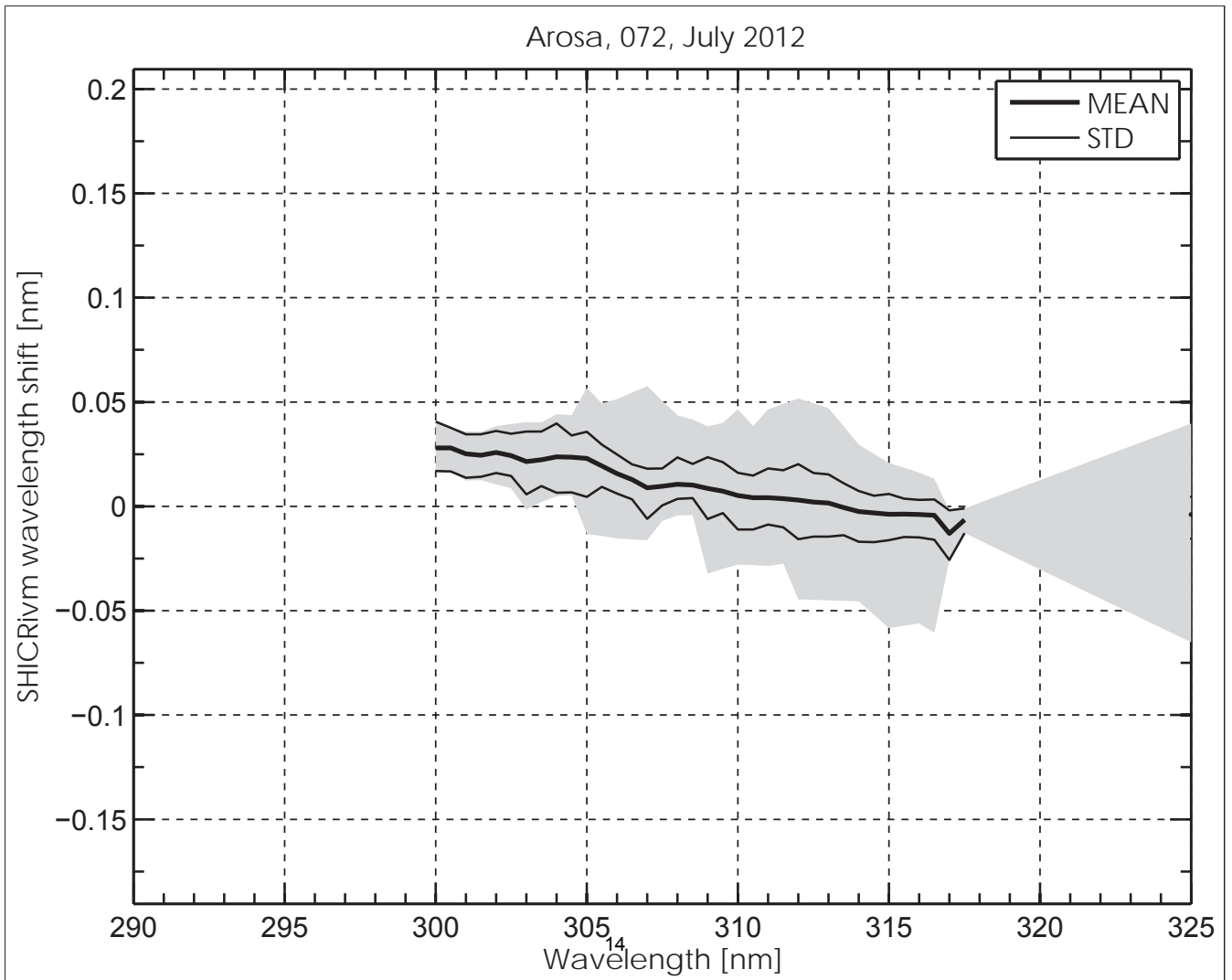
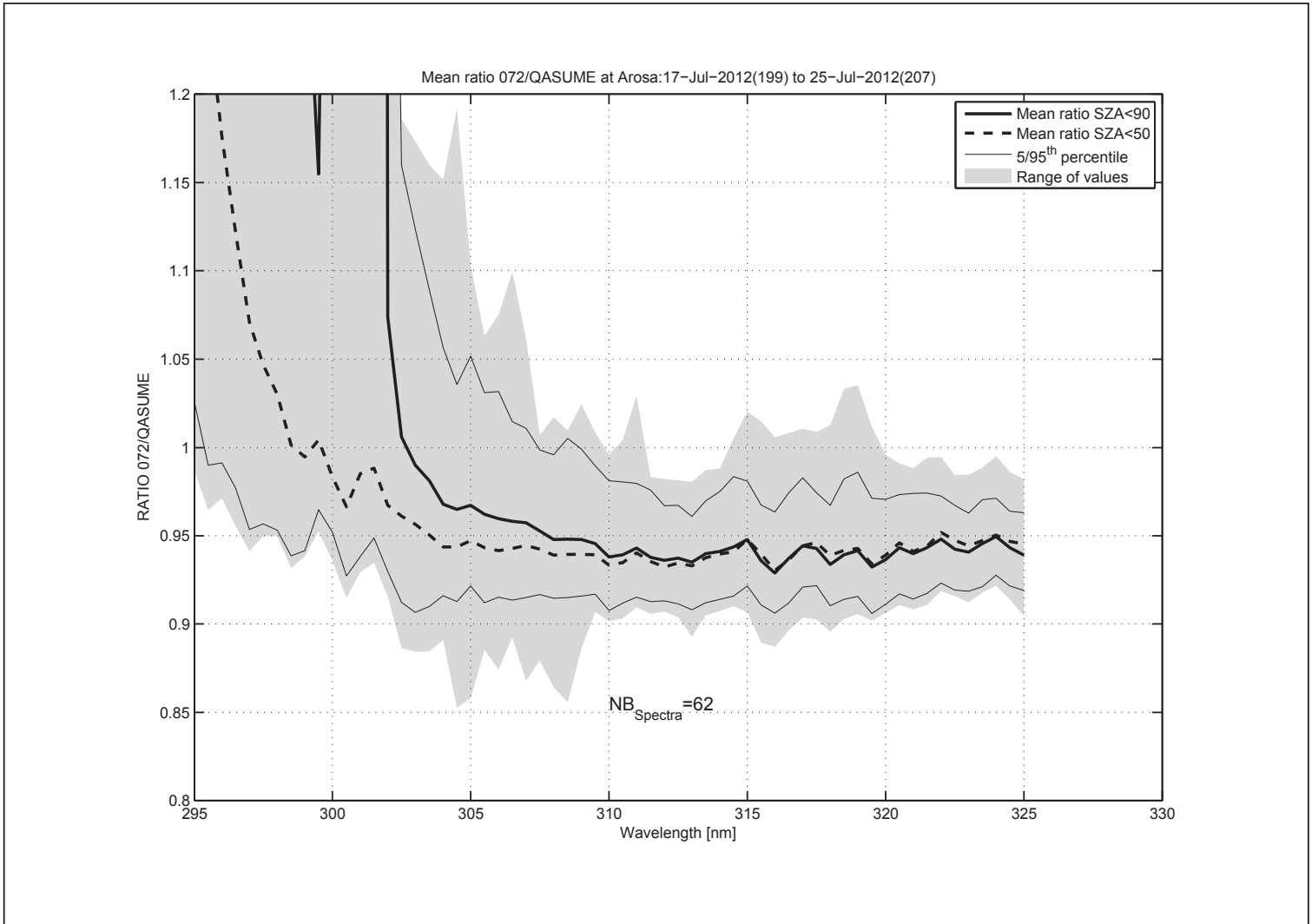
Daily variation. Wavelength bands are ± 2.5 nm



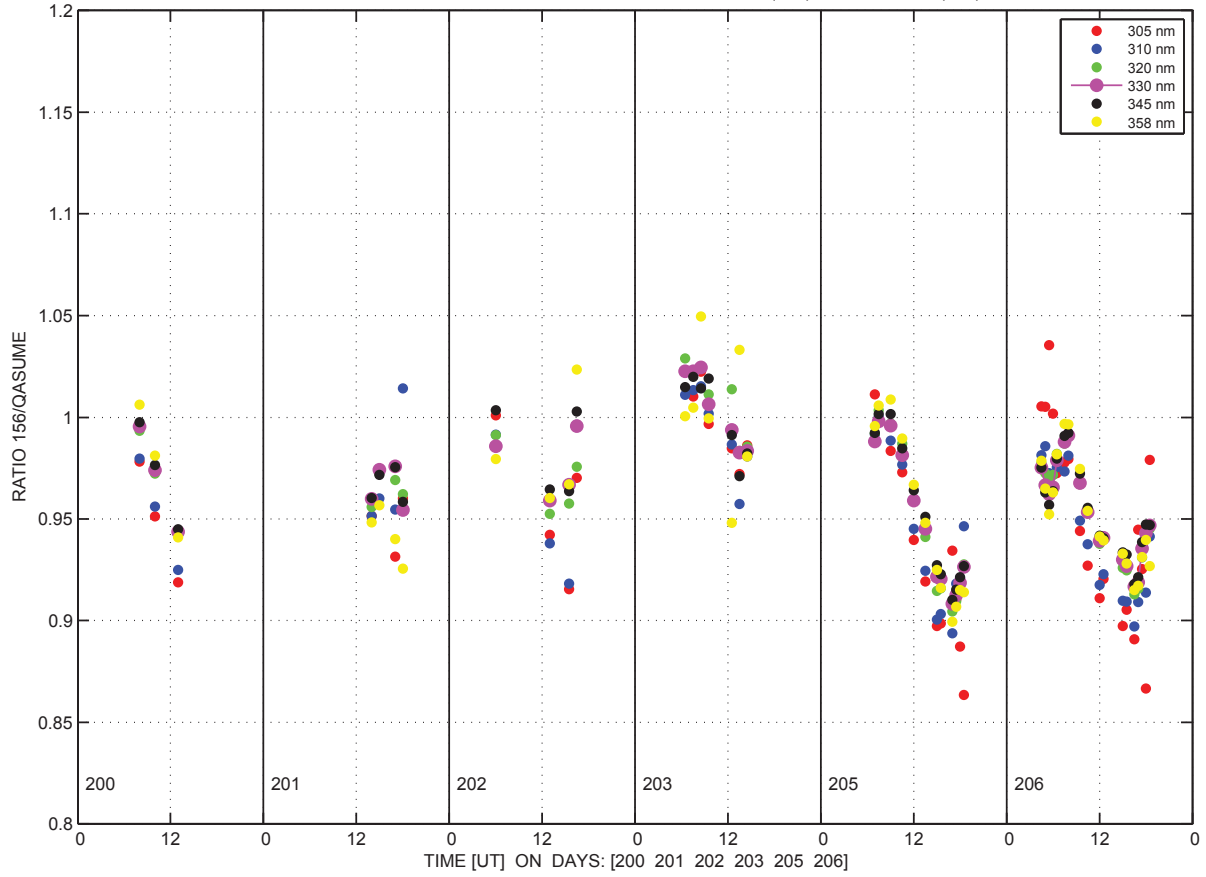




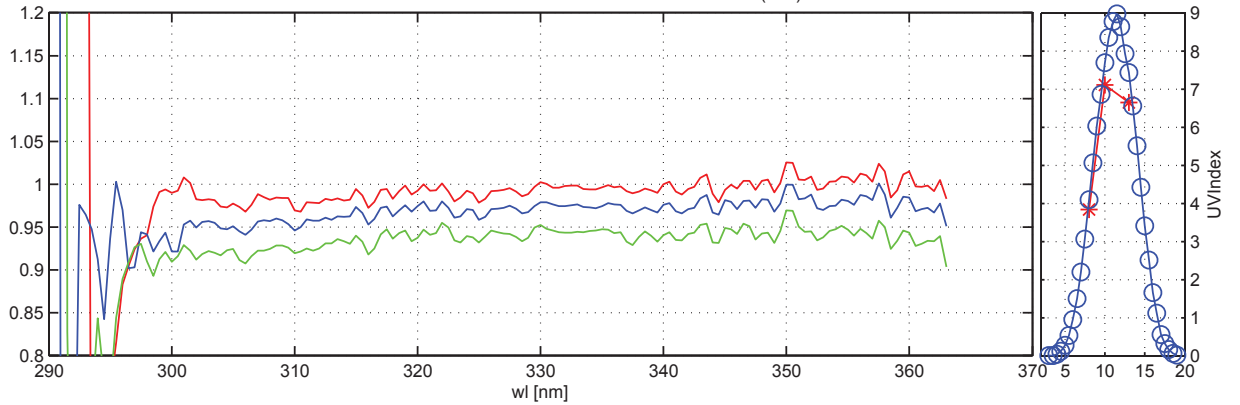




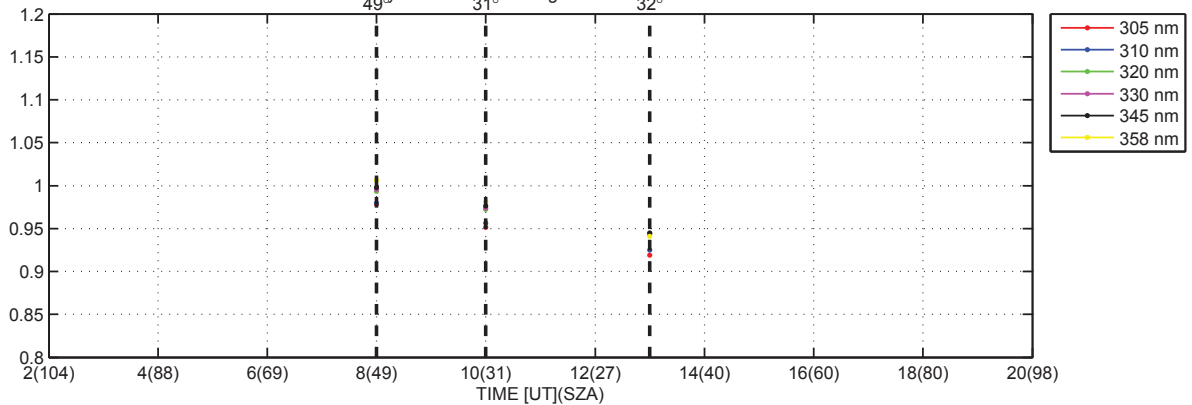
Global irradiance ratios 156/QASUME at Arosa:18-Jul-2012(200) to 24-Jul-2012(206)

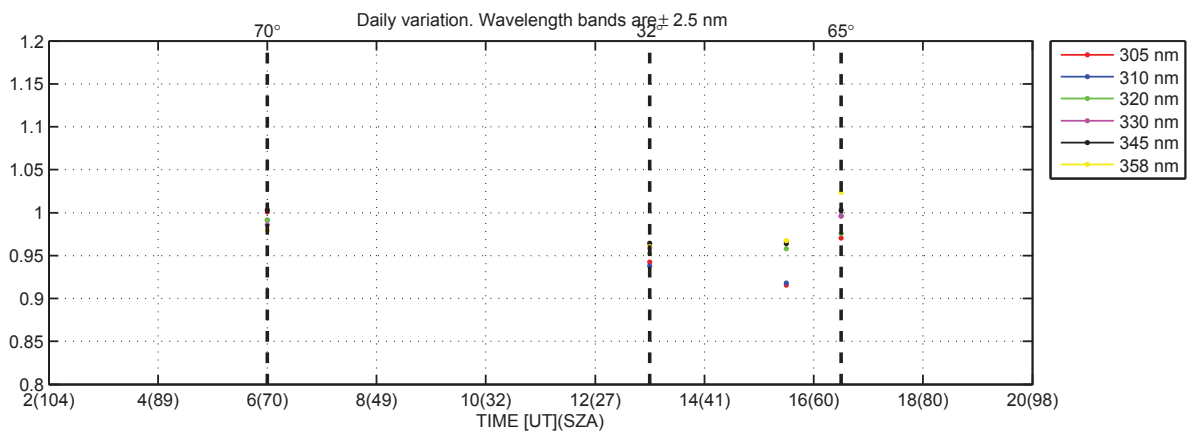
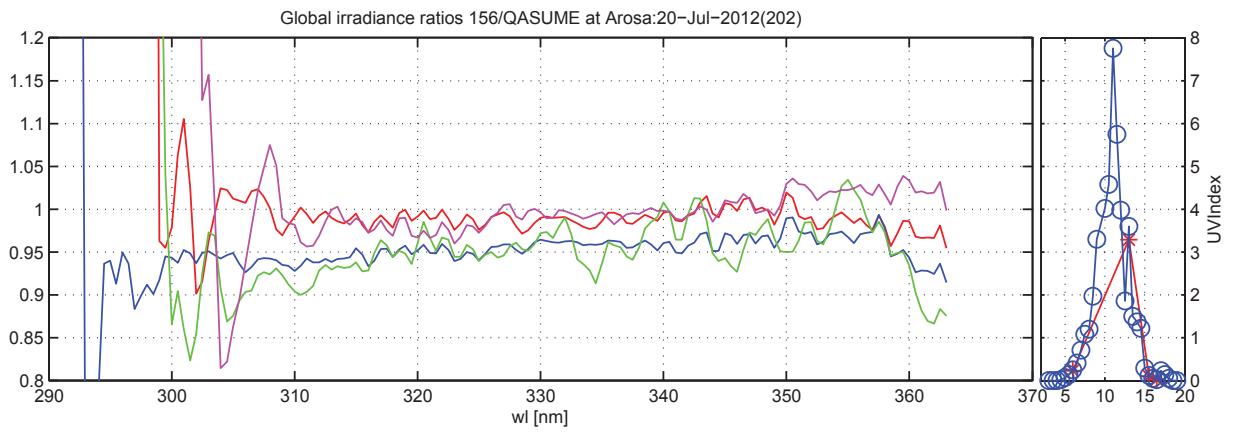
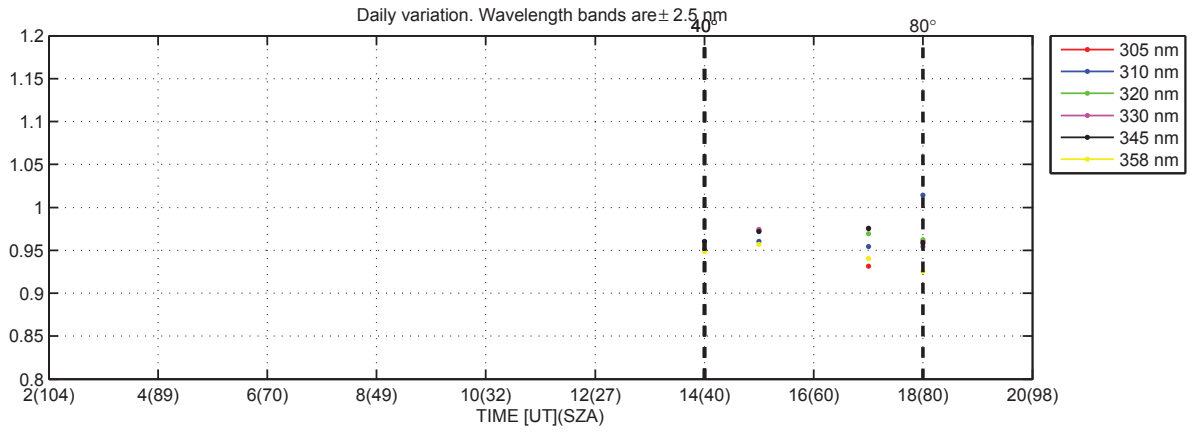
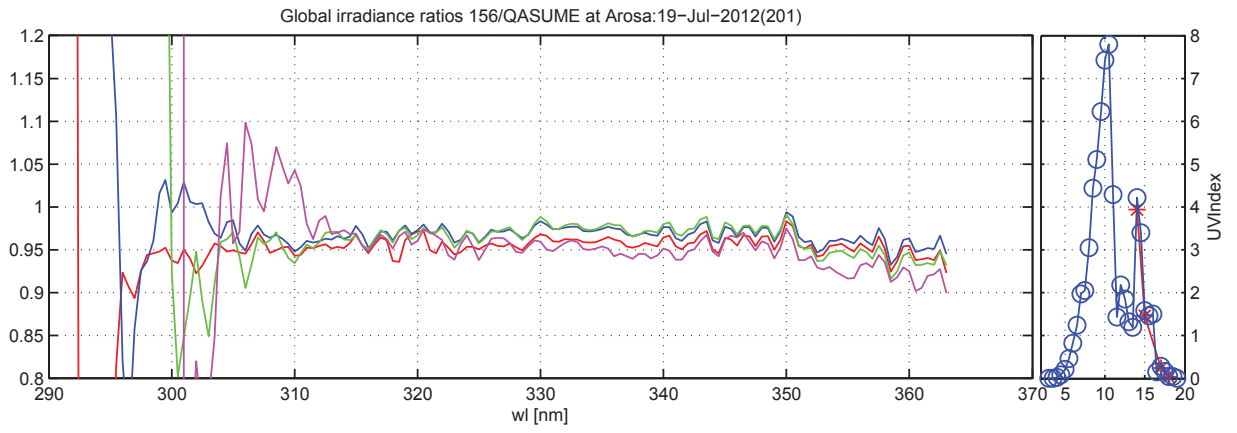


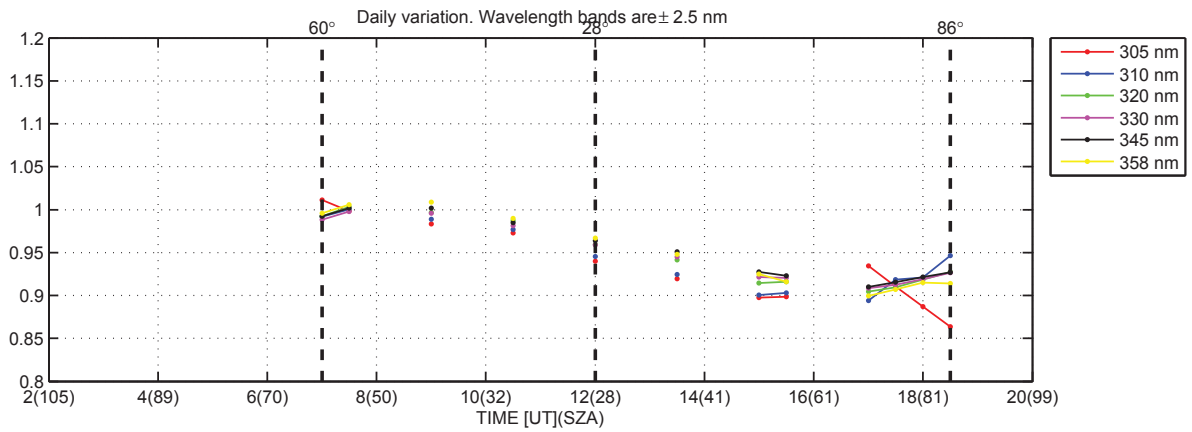
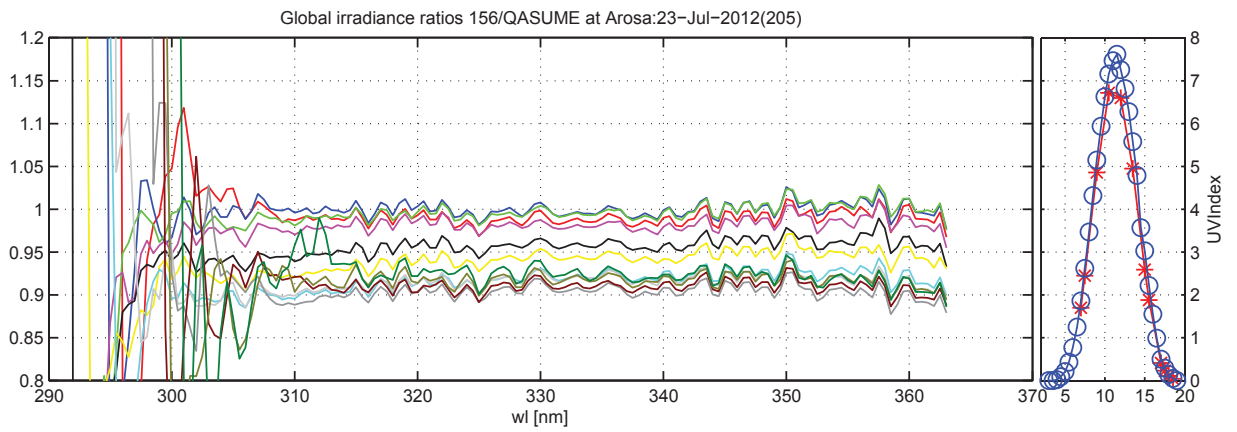
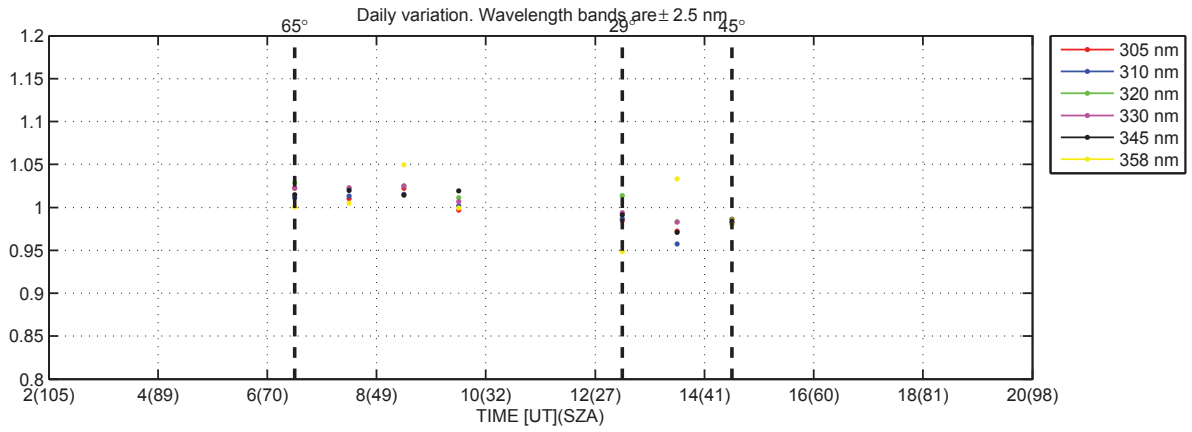
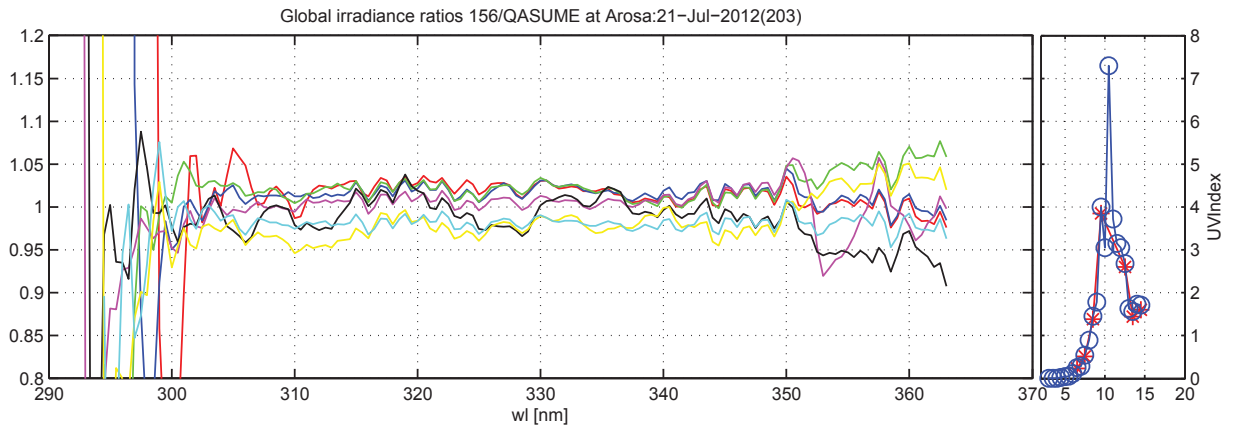
Global irradiance ratios 156/QASUME at Arosa:18-Jul-2012(200)

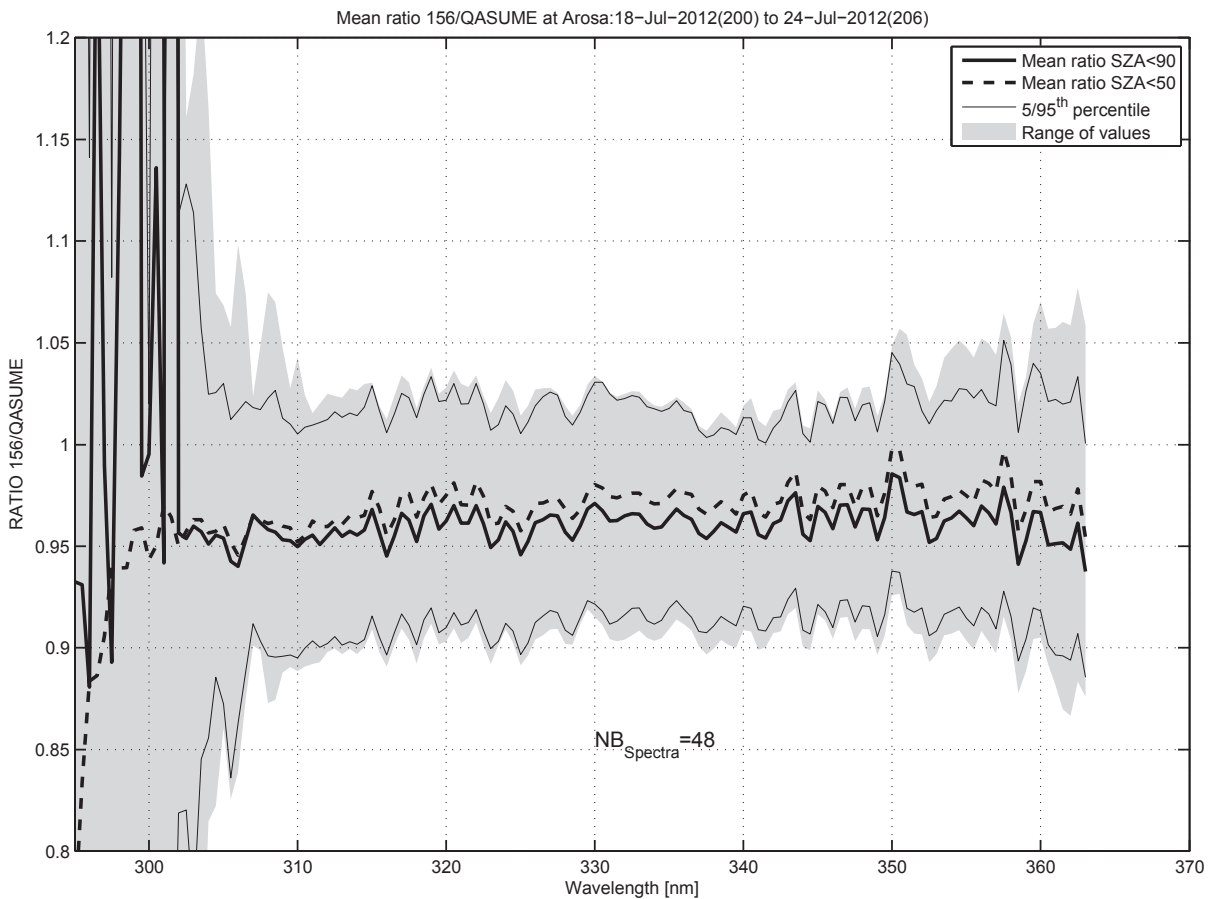
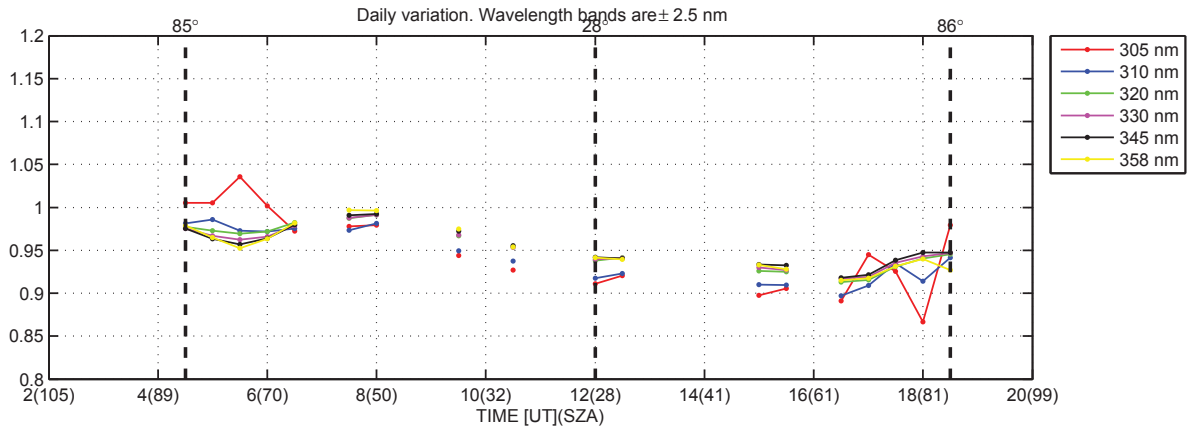
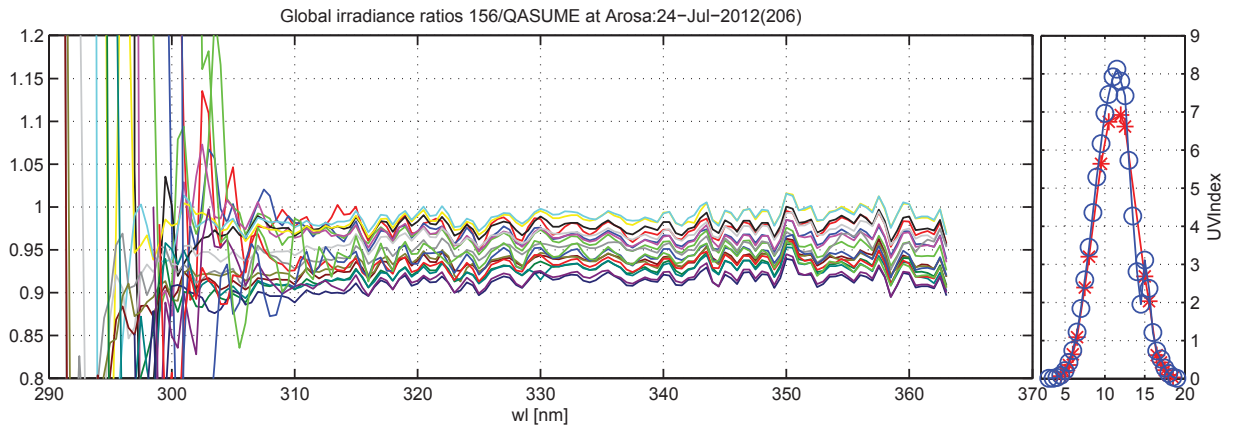


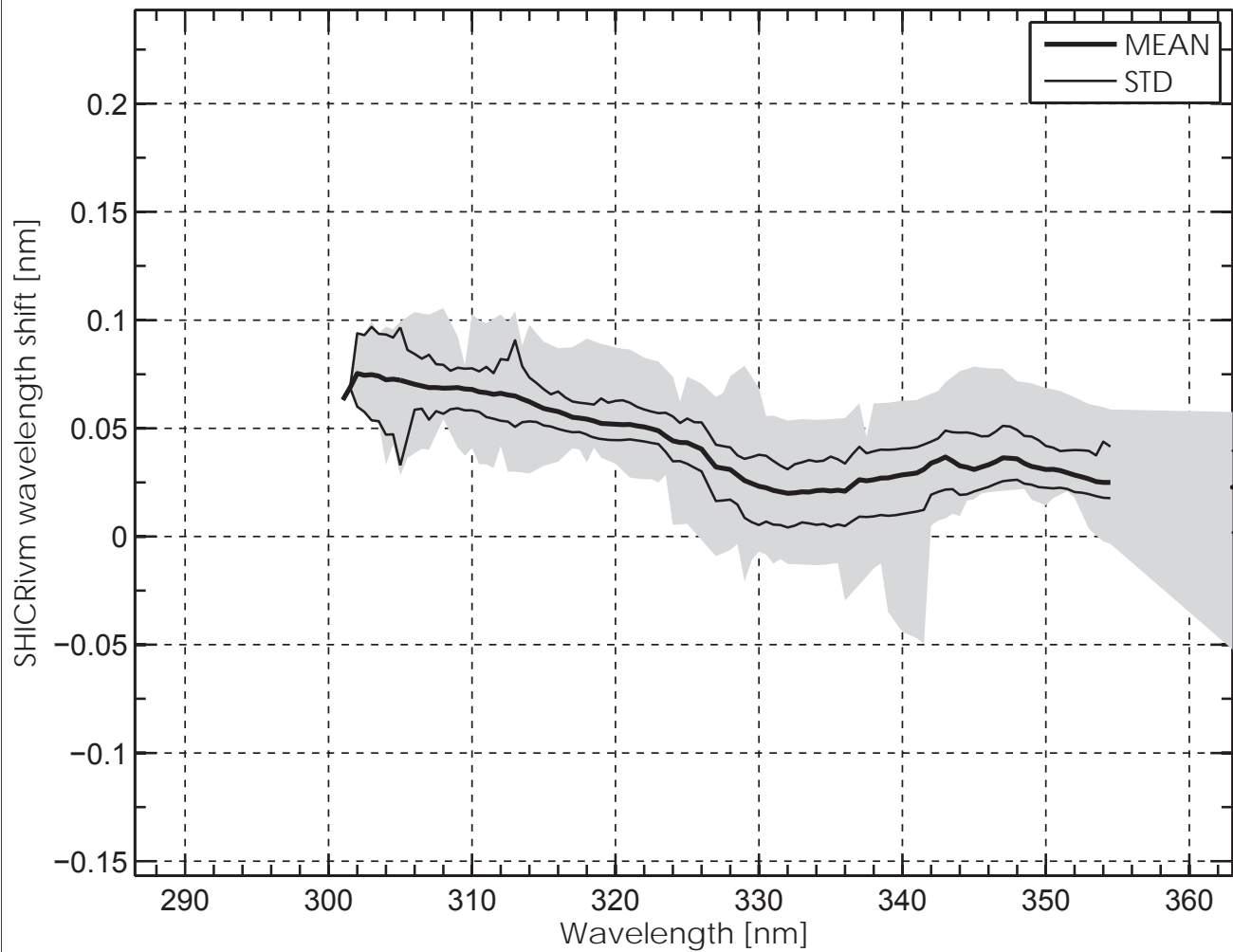
Daily variation. Wavelength bands are ± 2.5 nm



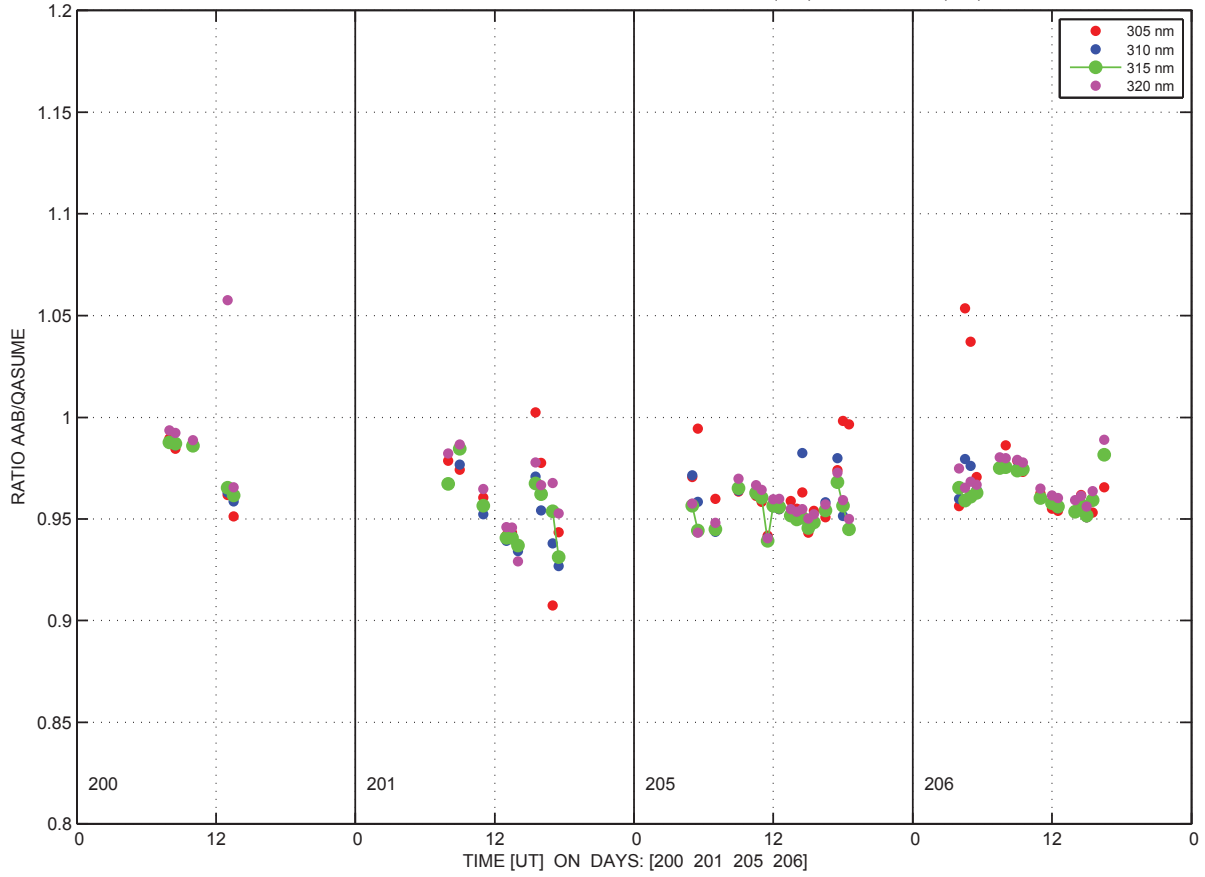




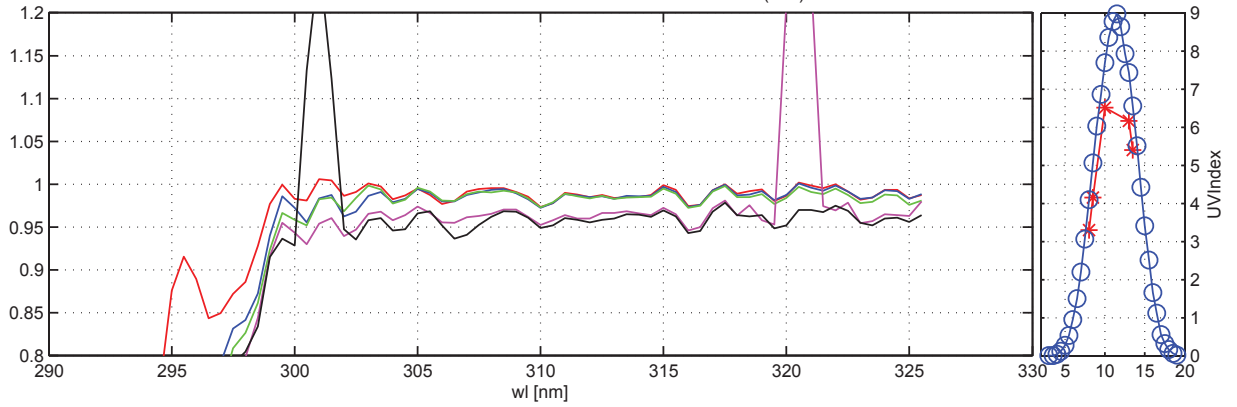




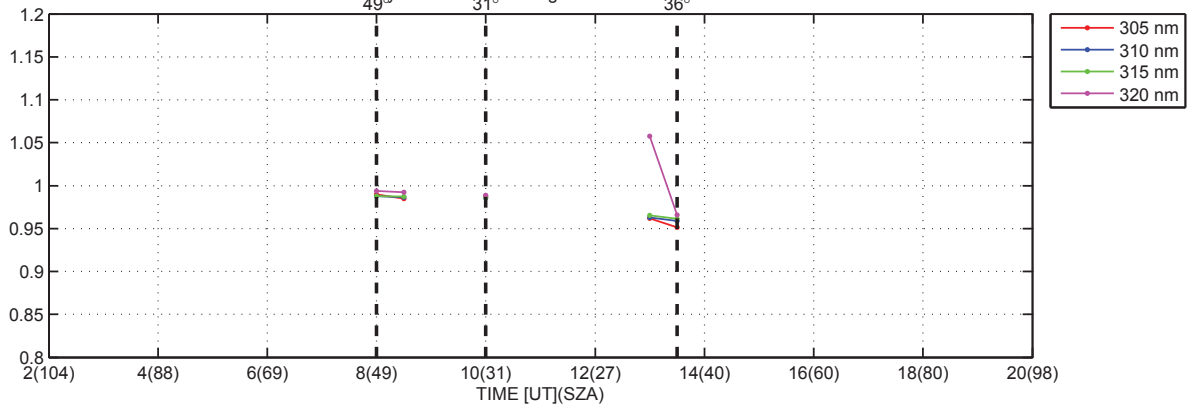
Global irradiance ratios AAB/QASUME at Arosa:18-Jul-2012(200) to 24-Jul-2012(206)

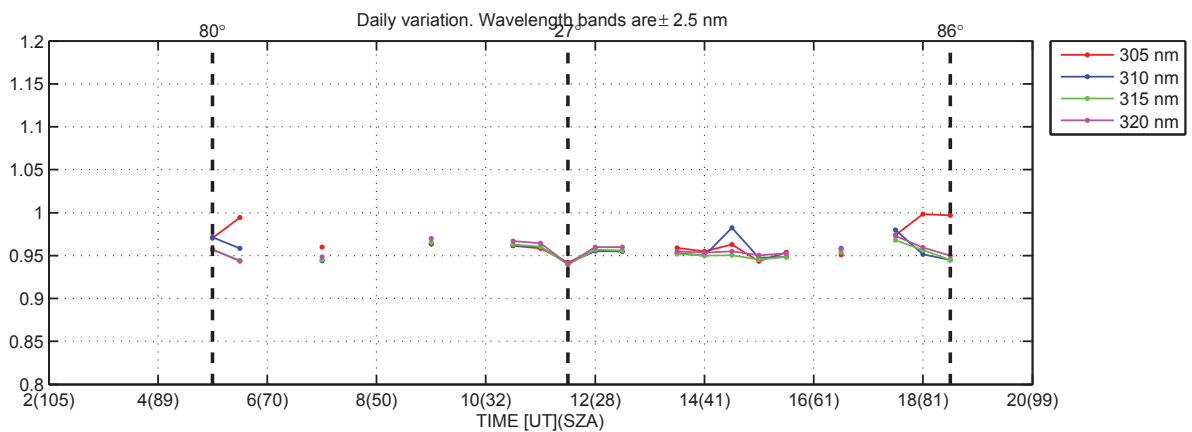
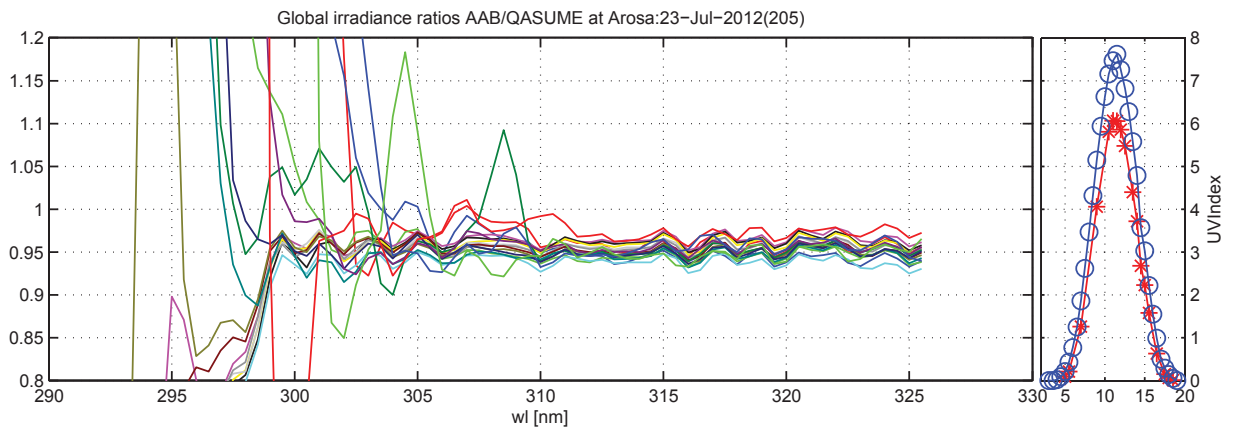
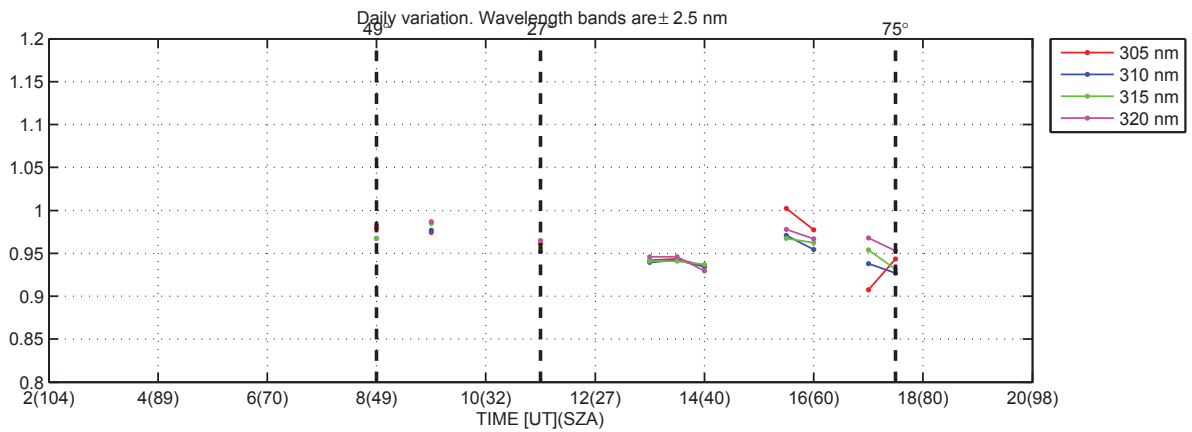
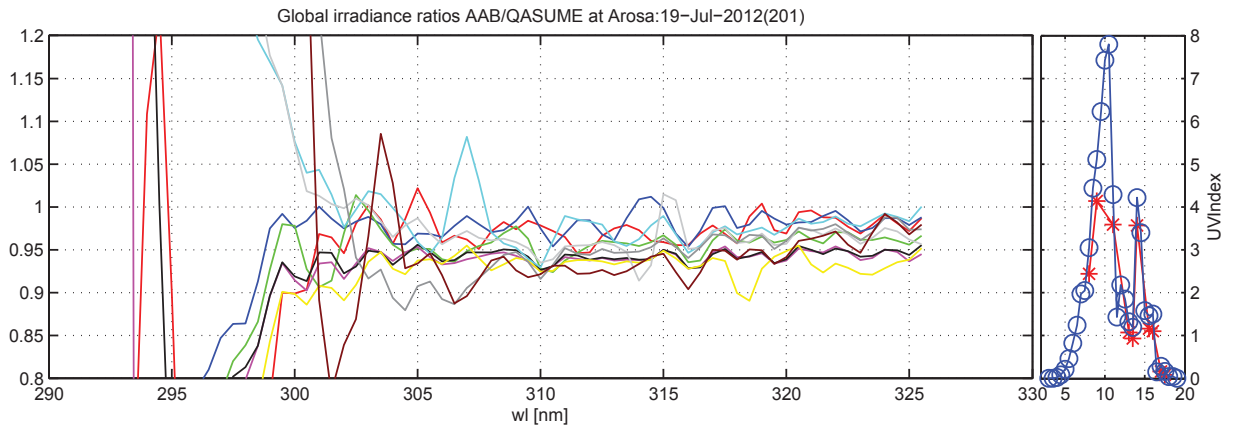


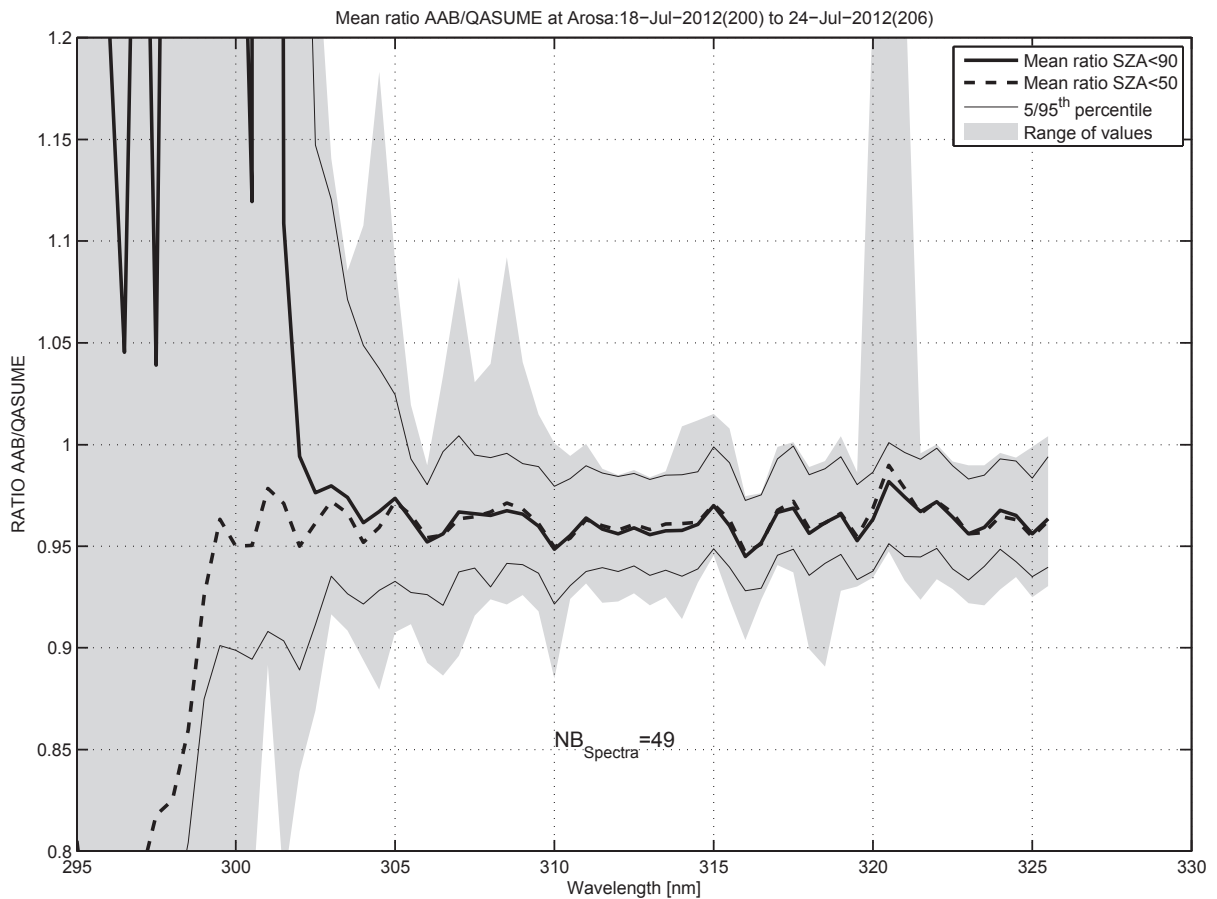
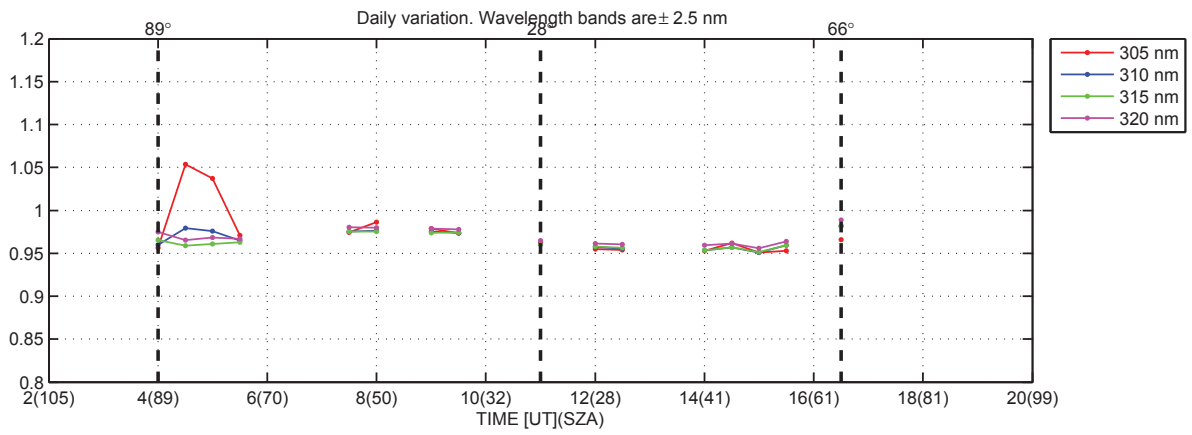
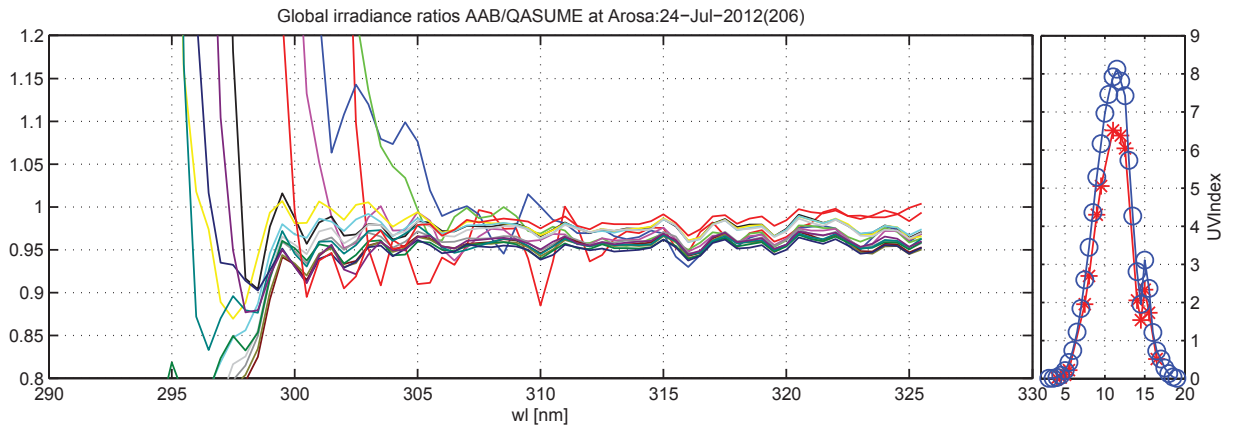
Global irradiance ratios AAB/QASUME at Arosa:18-Jul-2012(200)

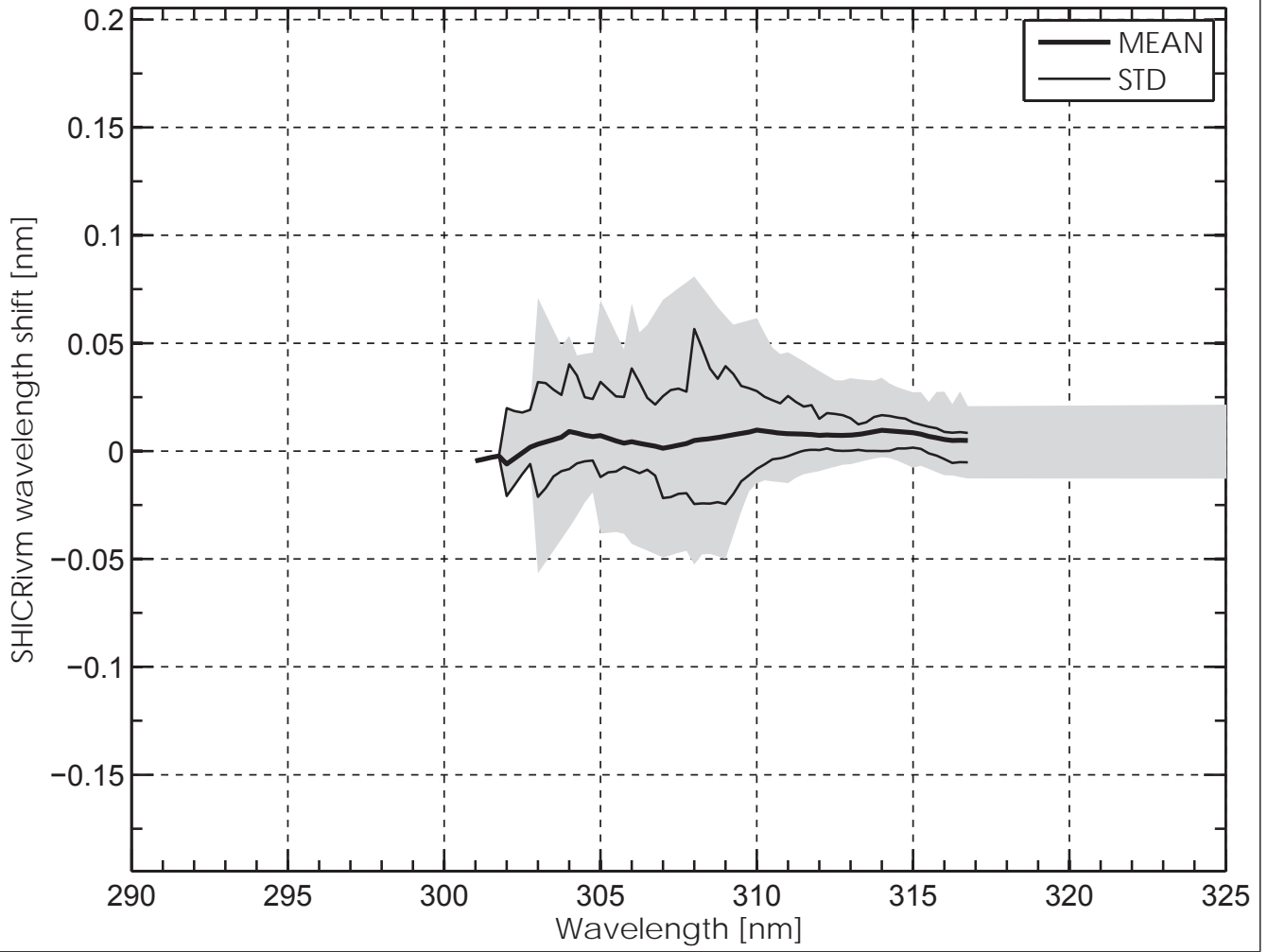


Daily variation. Wavelength bands are ± 2.5 nm

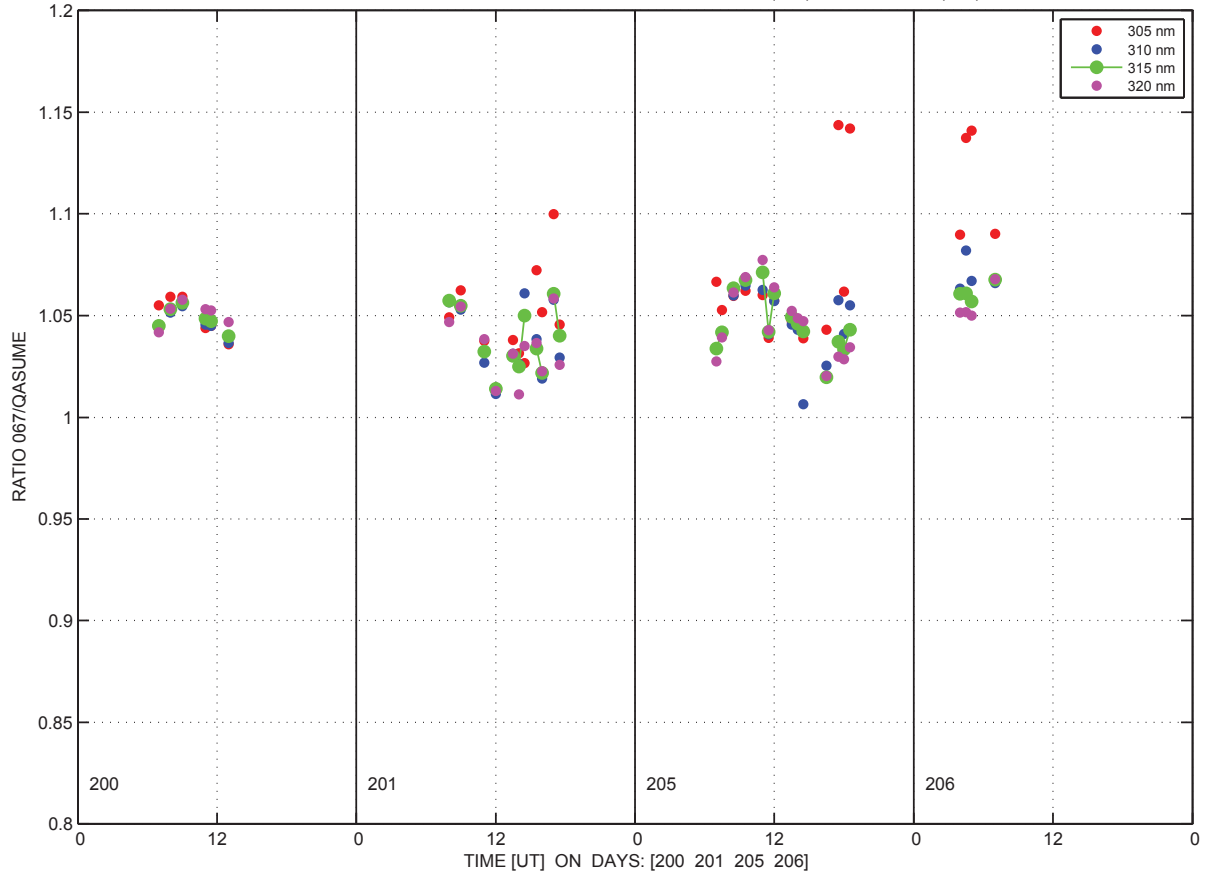




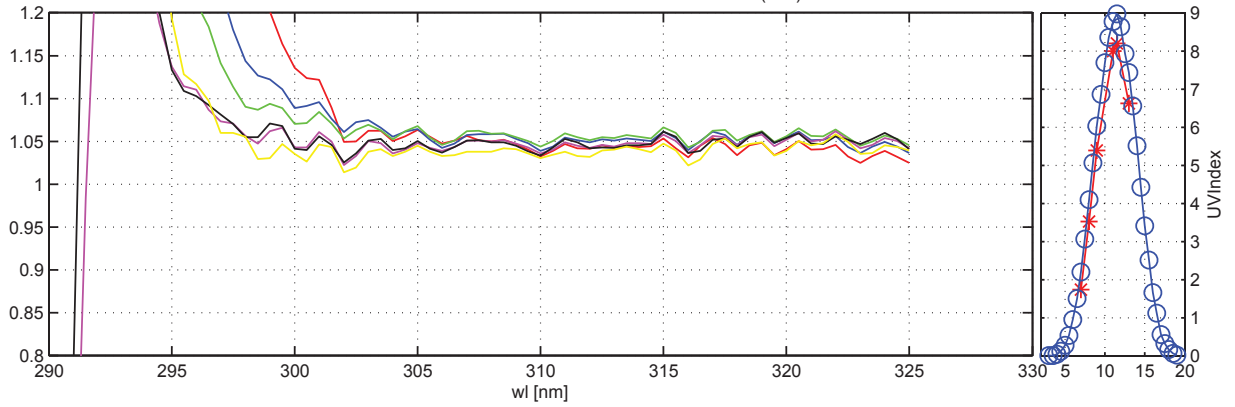




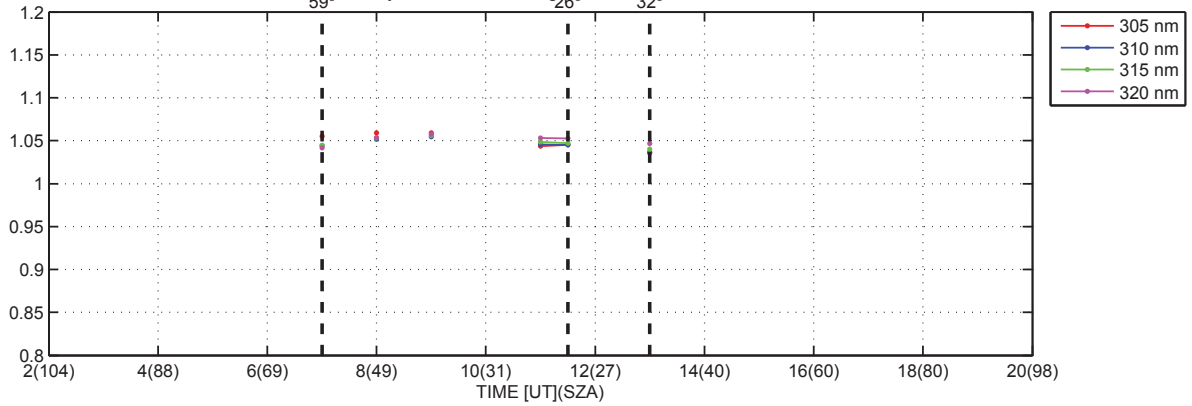
Global irradiance ratios 067/QASUME at Arosa:18-Jul-2012(200) to 24-Jul-2012(206)

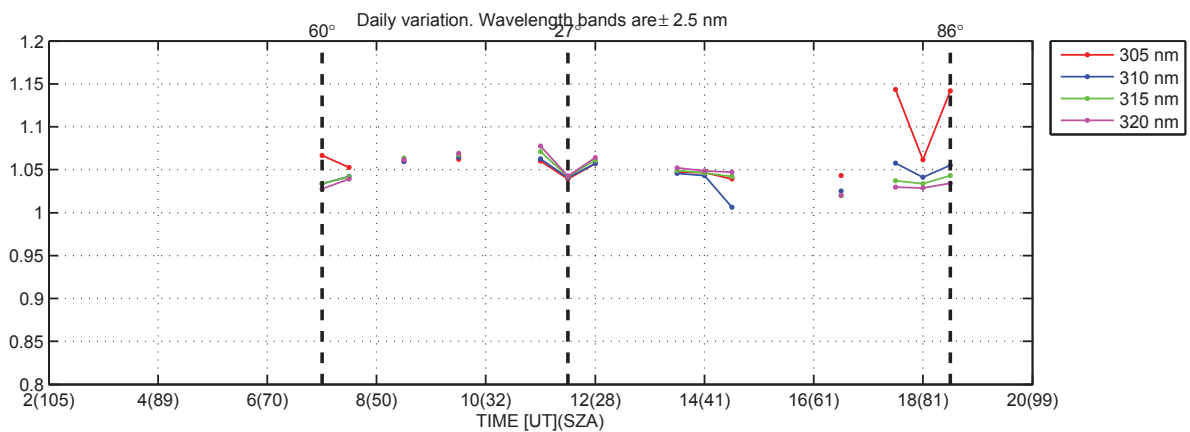
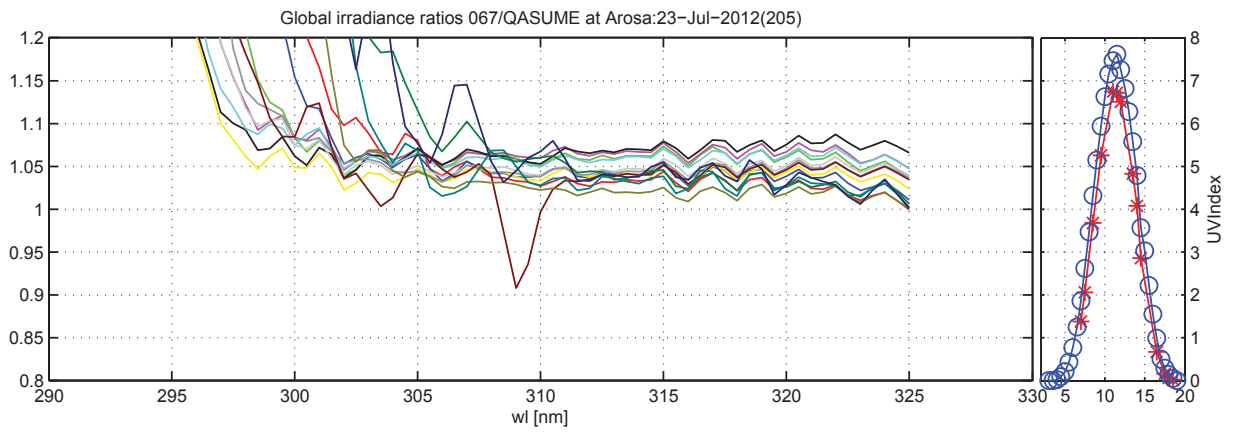
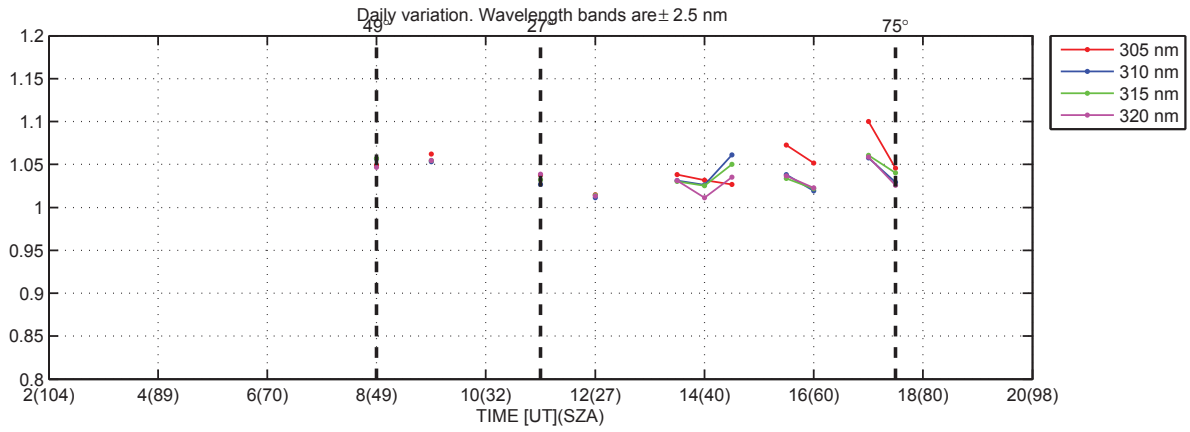
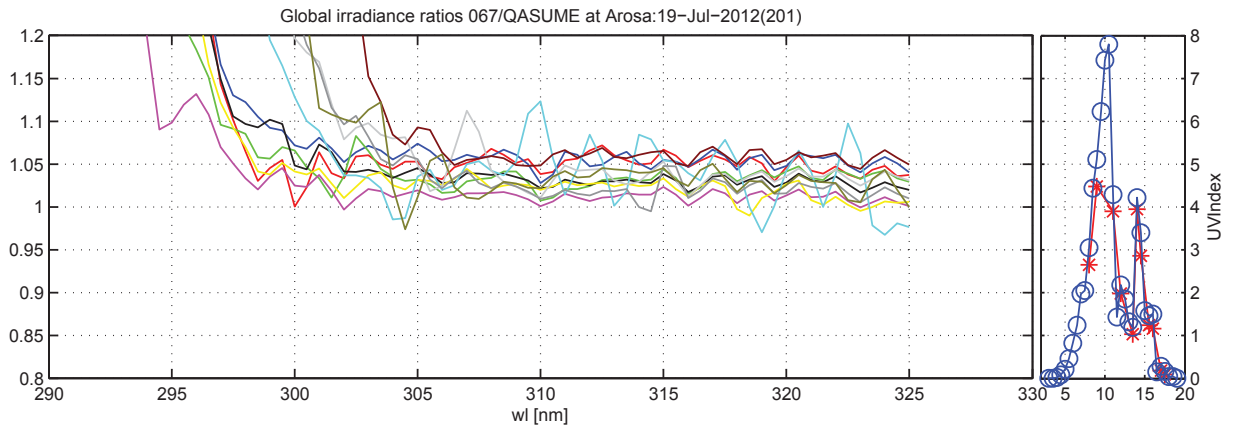


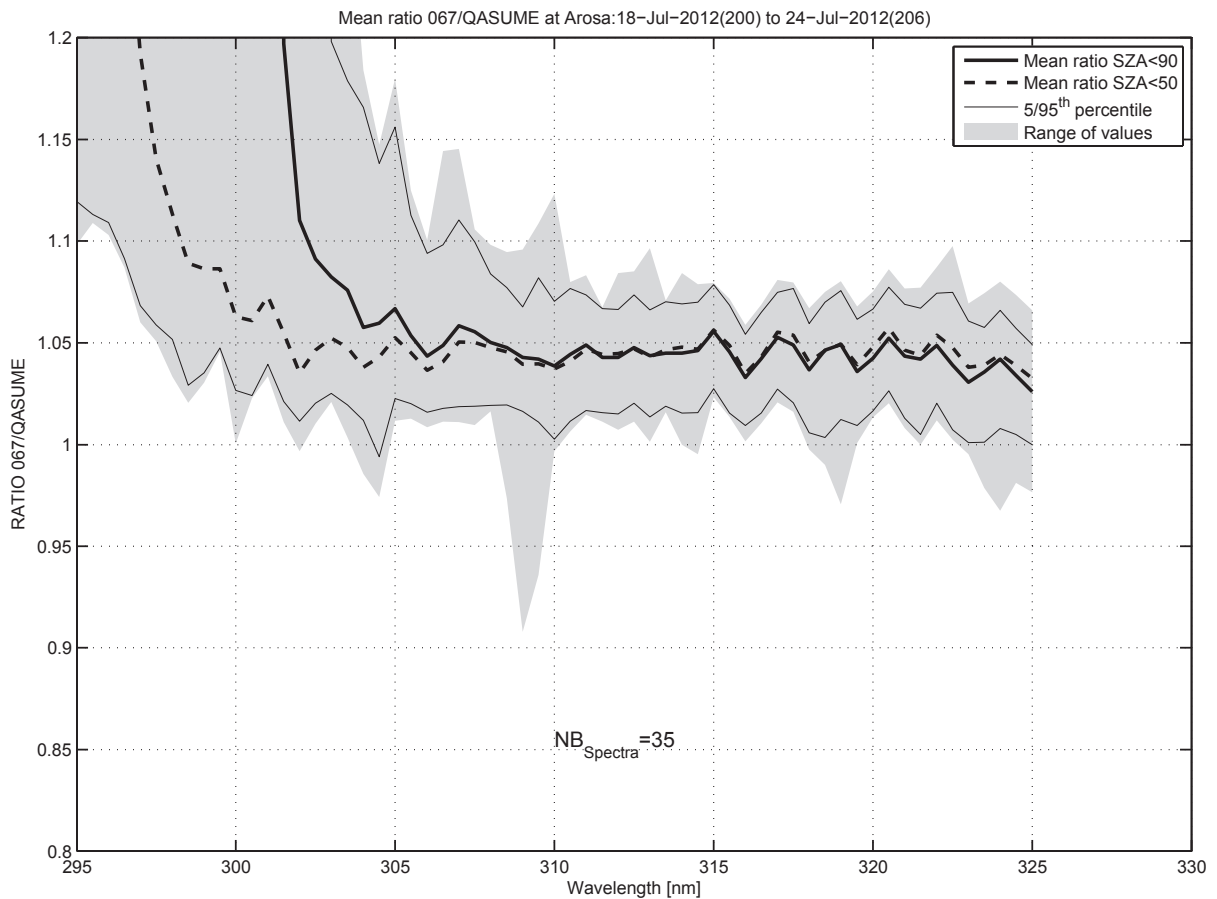
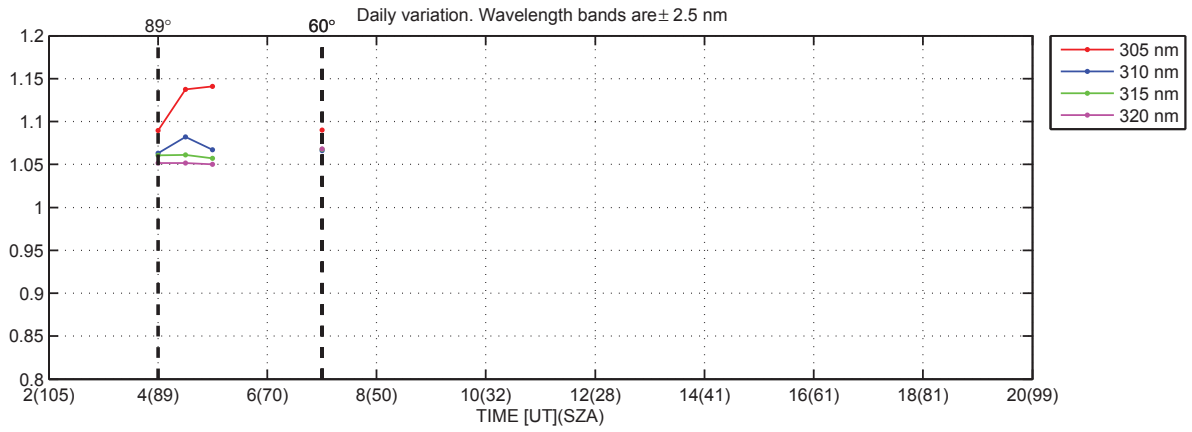
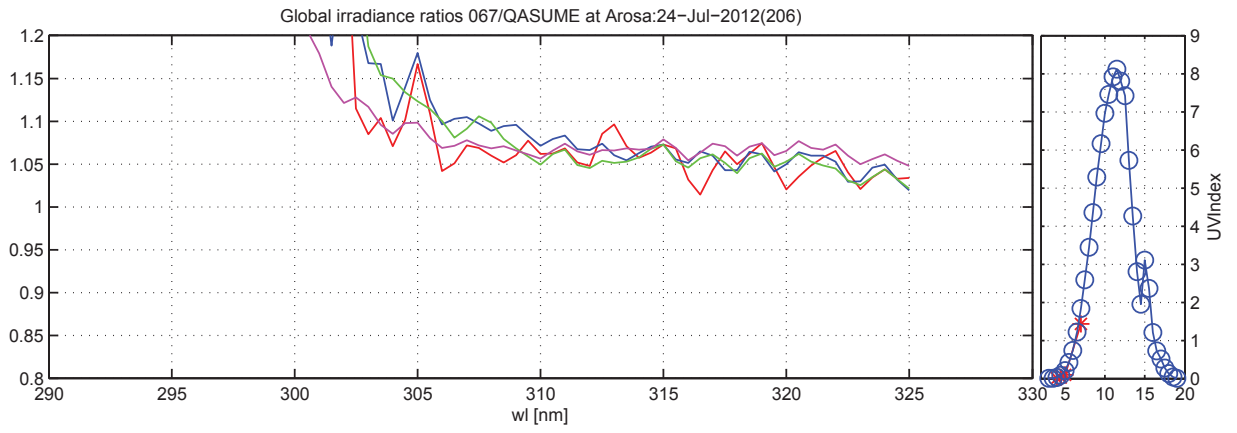
Global irradiance ratios 067/QASUME at Arosa:18-Jul-2012(200)



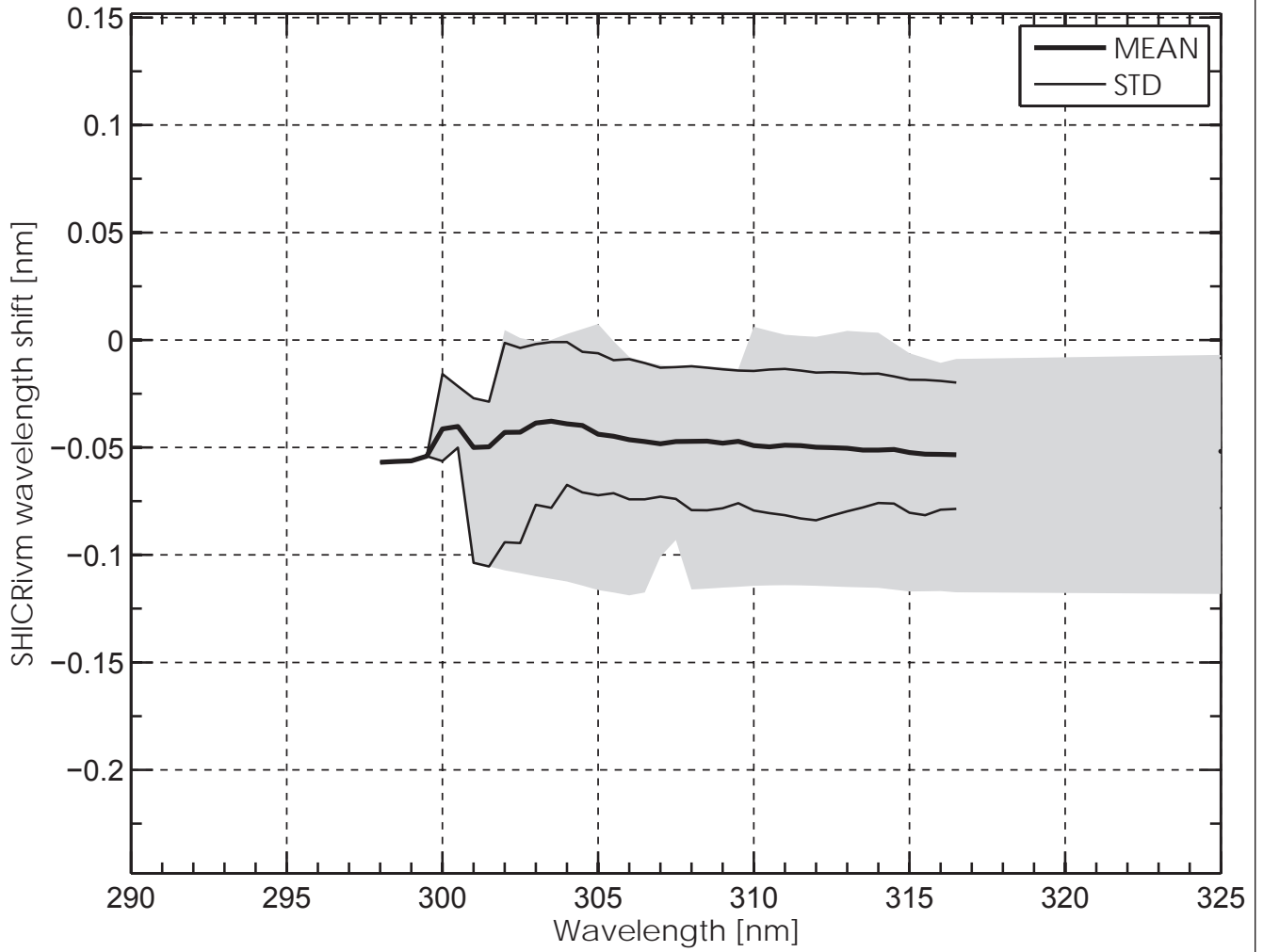
Daily variation. Wavelength bands are ± 2.5 nm



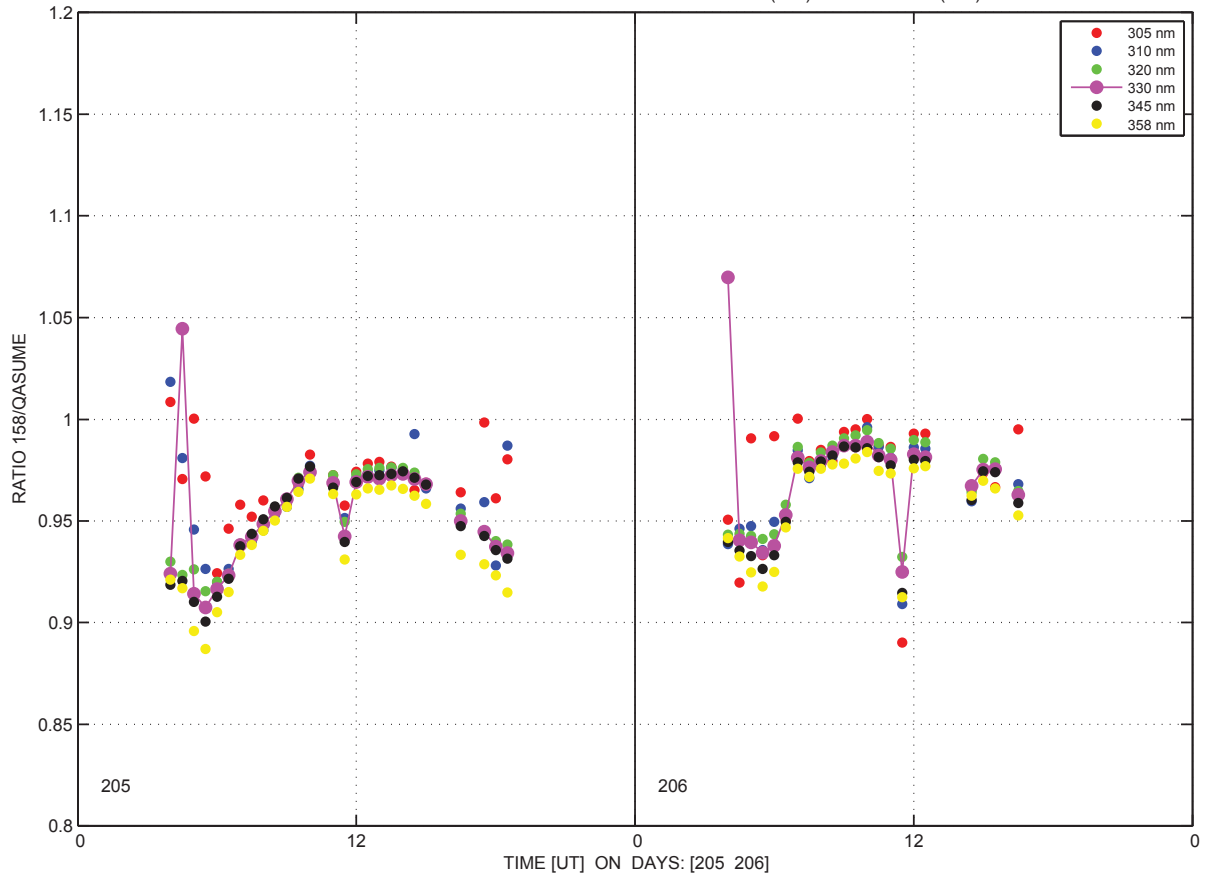




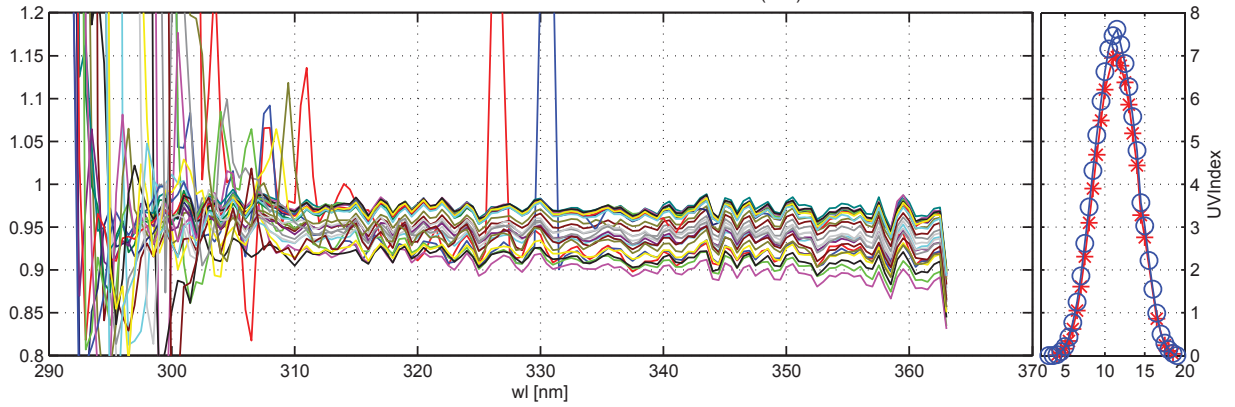
Arosa, 067, July 2012



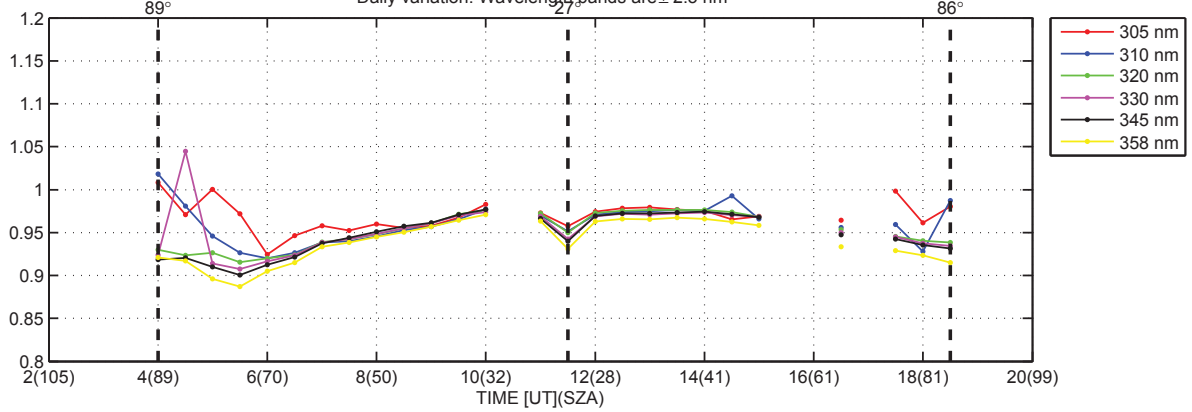
Global irradiance ratios 158/QASUME at Arosa:23-Jul-2012(205) to 24-Jul-2012(206)

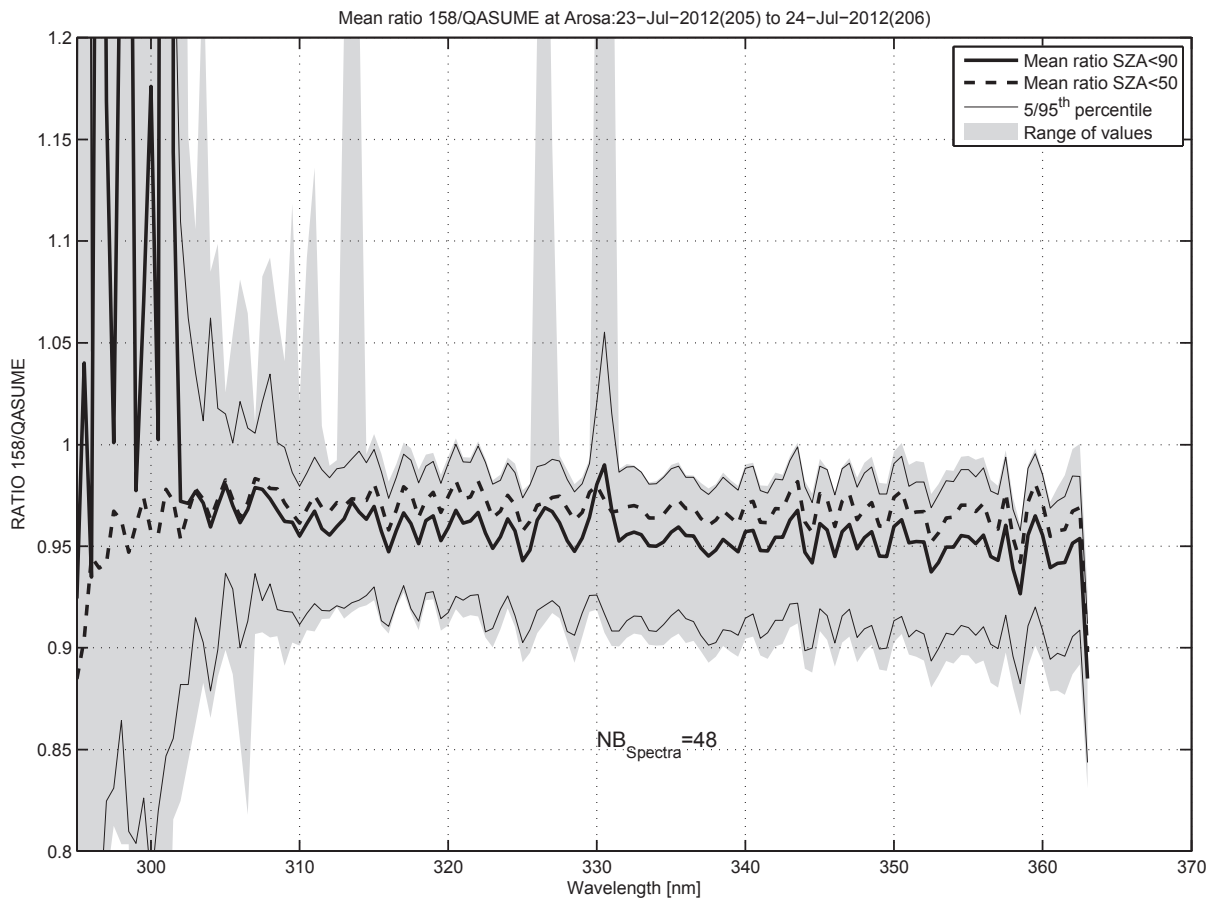
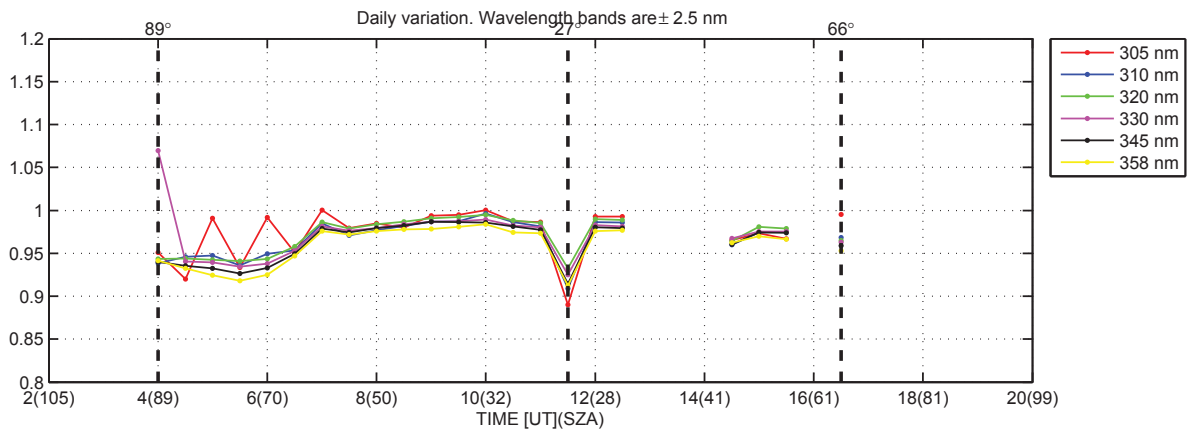
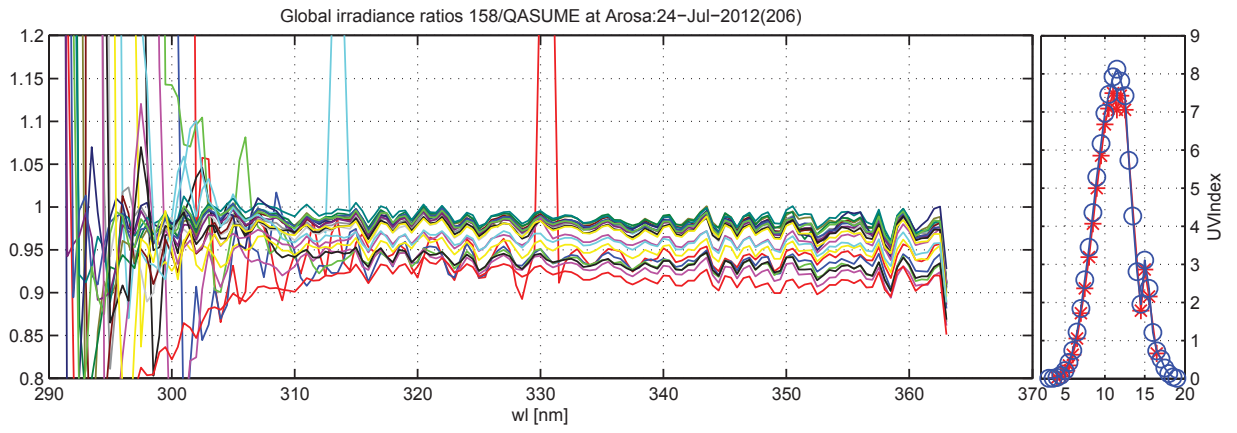


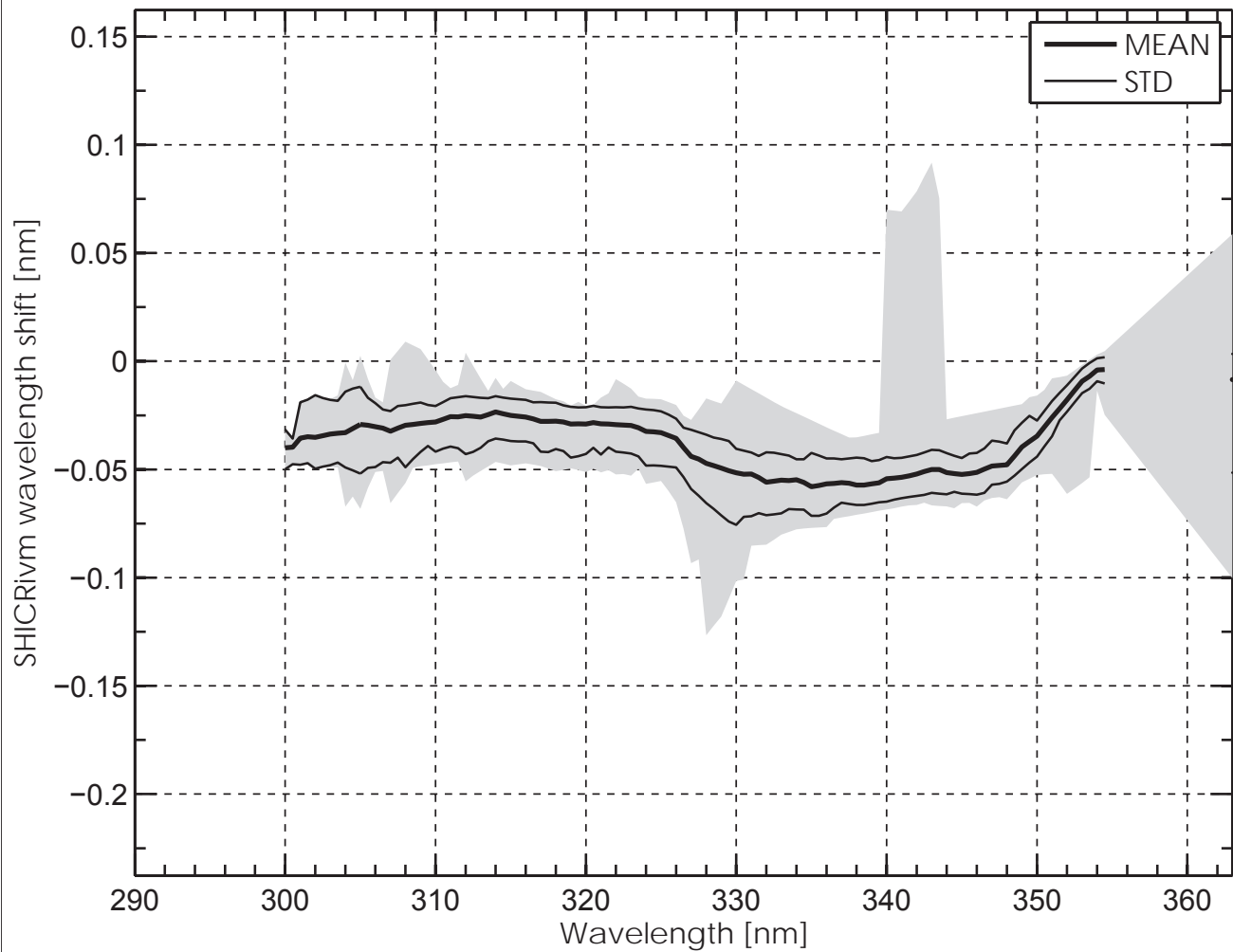
Global irradiance ratios 158/QASUME at Arosa:23-Jul-2012(205)



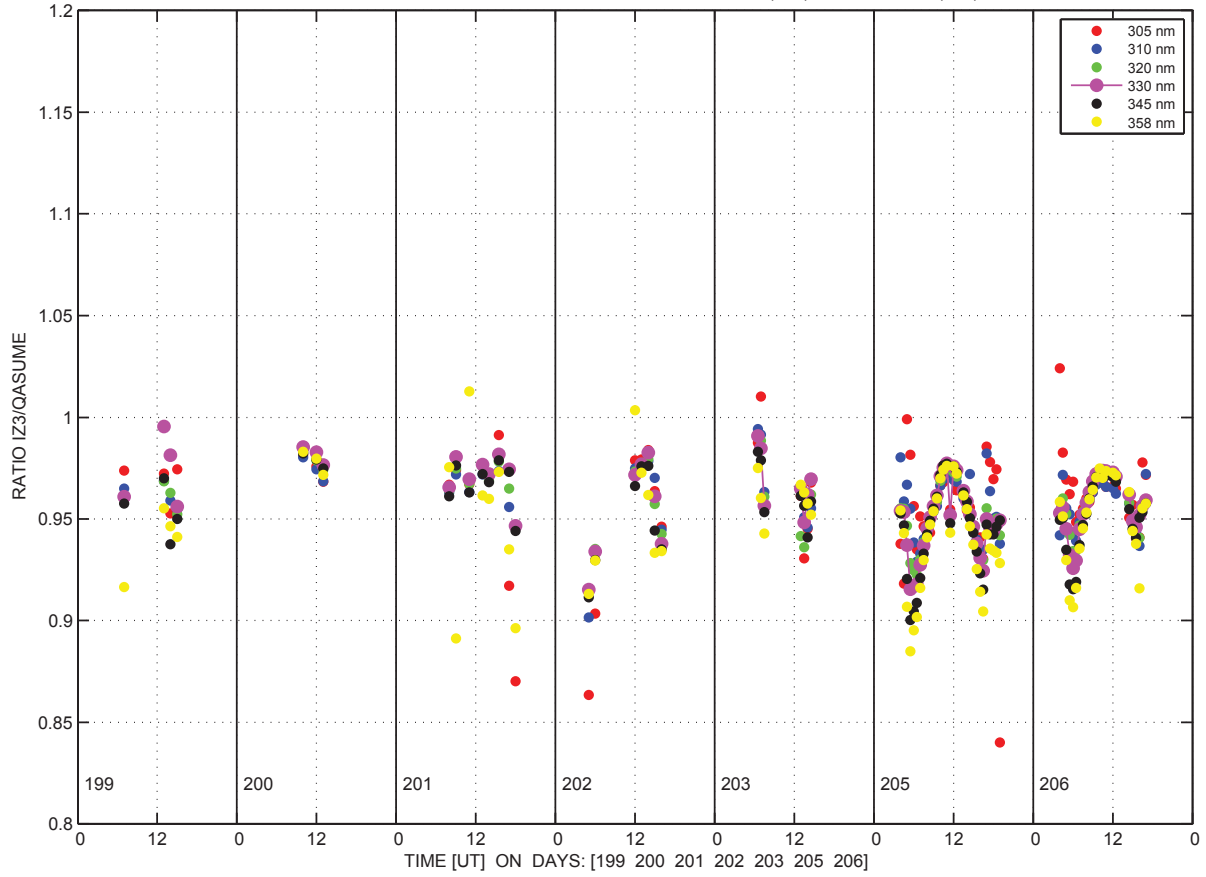
Daily variation. Wavelength bands are ± 2.5 nm



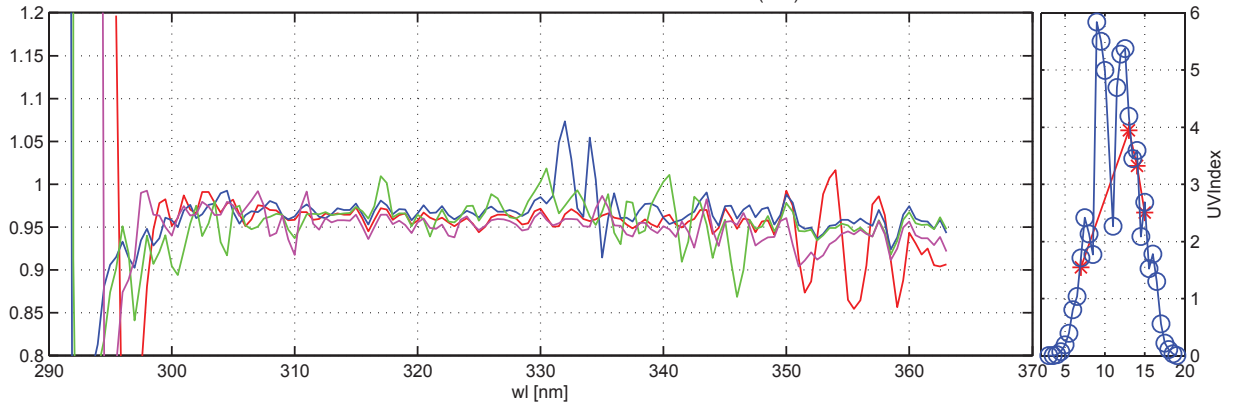




Global irradiance ratios IZ3/QASUME at Arosa:17-Jul-2012(199) to 24-Jul-2012(206)



Global irradiance ratios IZ3/QASUME at Arosa:17-Jul-2012(199)



Daily variation. Wavelength bands are ± 2.5 nm

