

## Looking For Signs of Ozone Recovery

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Data from merged satellite records, as well as ground-based stations from the last 8 years, show a general increase in total column ozone levels for most of the world. This very roughly coincides with the peak and beginning of the decline in effective equivalent stratospheric chlorine (Figure 1).

Whether “trends” over such a short period of time should be considered recovery is highly dependent on our understanding of all of the processes that affect ozone. Factors such as the recovery from Mt. Pinatubo, the solar cycle that peaked during the last half of this time period, temperature and dynamical changes are all important in trying to understand the data. A summary of what the satellite and ground-based data are showing and some of the factors that may be influencing the data will be presented. The expectations from current 2-D and 3-D models will also be shown to help put these data into context and clarify our expectations for future recovery.

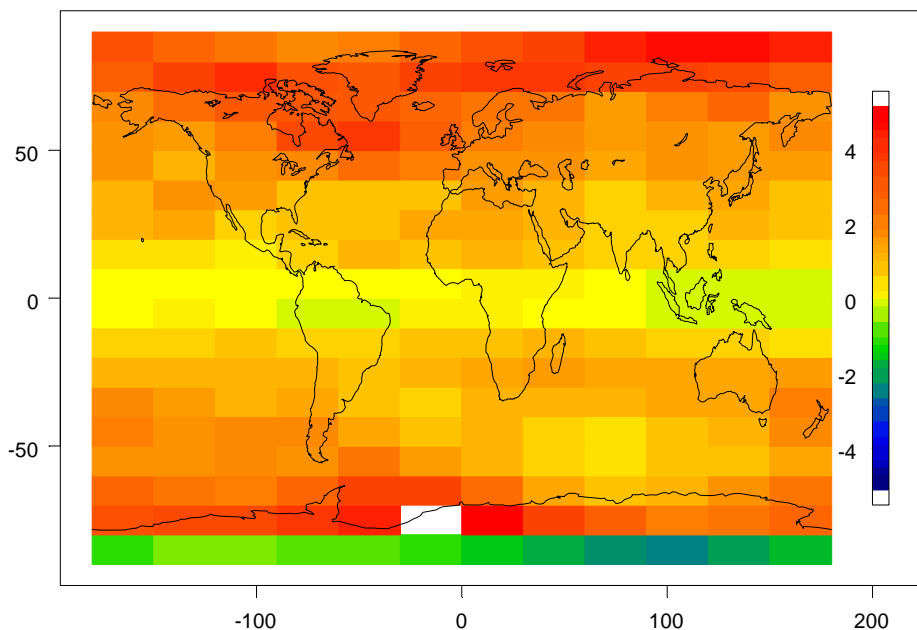


Figure 1. Trends from the merged TOMS/SBUV(/2) total column ozone records show a general increase over the last 8 years. The results are presented in Dobson Units (DU) per year and include the removal of seasonal cycle and some Pinatubo effects.