



OMEGA/Mars Express Limb observations

T. Fouchet(1), B. Bézard(1), P. Drossart(1), F. Poulet(3), B. Gondet(3), Y. Langevin(4), M. Combes(1), F. Altieri(3), G. Bellucci(3), J.-P. Bibring(2), and THE OMEGA TEAM

(1) LESIA, Observatoire de Paris, (2) IAS-Orsay, (3) IFSI-Roma

OMEGA on board the Mars Express Orbiter routinely performs observations of the Martian atmosphere in limb viewing geometry. The sounding altitudes range from surface up to 70 kilometers at a vertical resolution of ~ 2 km. The OMEGA spectral range (0.35–5.1 μm) allows us to derive the dust opacity, particle size and chemical composition as a function of altitude. The vertical structure of the martian haze layer exhibits a large seasonal and local variability with evidences for several sedimentation events.