

CROATIA

Introduction

UV-B monitoring and research activities in Croatia are conducted by Meteorological and Hydrological Service of Croatia (MHSC) and Geophysical Institute of the University of Zagreb.

Continuous tropospheric ozone measurements are conducted by Meteorological and Hydrological Service of Croatia (MHSC), Rudjer Boskovic Institute of Physics and Chemistry (RBI), Zagreb and Institute of Medical Research and Occupational Medicine (IMI).

Generally, there is continuous cooperation and exchange of information between institutes and research groups. Scientific and research activities are supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning.

Total column ozone concentrations are not measured since these measurements are highly resource demanding. Hence, there is no plan in the near future to start these measurements. Data needed for the analysis and research are inferred from web sites that provide free access to satellite data and ground level based stratospheric ozone observations.

Ground based UV-B measurements

Meteorological and Hydrological Service of Croatia and Geophysical Institute carry out continuous measurements of UV-B. At present there are three operational sites – one in Zagreb (GI) operating since mid 1998 (UV-Biometer) and two (UVB Pyranometers) along the Northern part of Croatian Adriatic coast line operating since 1997 and 1999 (MHSC).

Table 1. Currently operating UVB stations in Croatia

| Station | Latitude | Longitude | Hight a.s.l. (m) | Operate since | Instruments |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Opatija | 45° 20' | 14° 19' | 5 | 1997 | Kipp&Z., at 306 nm |
| Umag | 45° 27' | 13° 32' | 10 | 1999 | Kipp&Z., at 306 nm |
| Zagreb | 45° 50' | 16° 01' | 158 | 1998 | Solar Light |

The new UV-B monitoring network is under development and will be established within a national meteorological monitoring network by the end of 2002 (Table 2). Spatial site distribution is given at Figure 1.

Table 2. New Croatian UV-B monitoring network

| Station | Latitude (N) | | Longitude (E) | | Measurements |
|-----------|--------------|------|---------------|------|-----------------------------------|
| | deg. | min. | deg. | min. | |
| Bilogora | 45 | 53 | 17 | 12 | UVA, UVB |
| Zagreb | 45 | 49 | 15 | 59 | global, direct, diffuse, UVA, UVB |
| Parg | 45 | 36 | 14 | 38 | UVA, UVB |
| Pula | 43 | 30 | 17 | 8 | UVB |
| Zadar | 44 | 8 | 15 | 13 | global, diffuse, UVA, UVB |
| Hvar | 43 | 10 | 16 | 27 | UVB |
| Dubrovnik | 42 | 39 | 18 | 5 | UVB |

Research

The main goal for conducting continuous measurements of UV-B in Croatia is to establish, evaluate and describe the processes that control UV-B levels and develop predictive capability for a short time range. At present, UV-B index forecasting for public for the summer period is under development.

In addition, measurements should encourage and support the analysis and investigation of the effects of UV-B radiation on the terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems as well as human health.

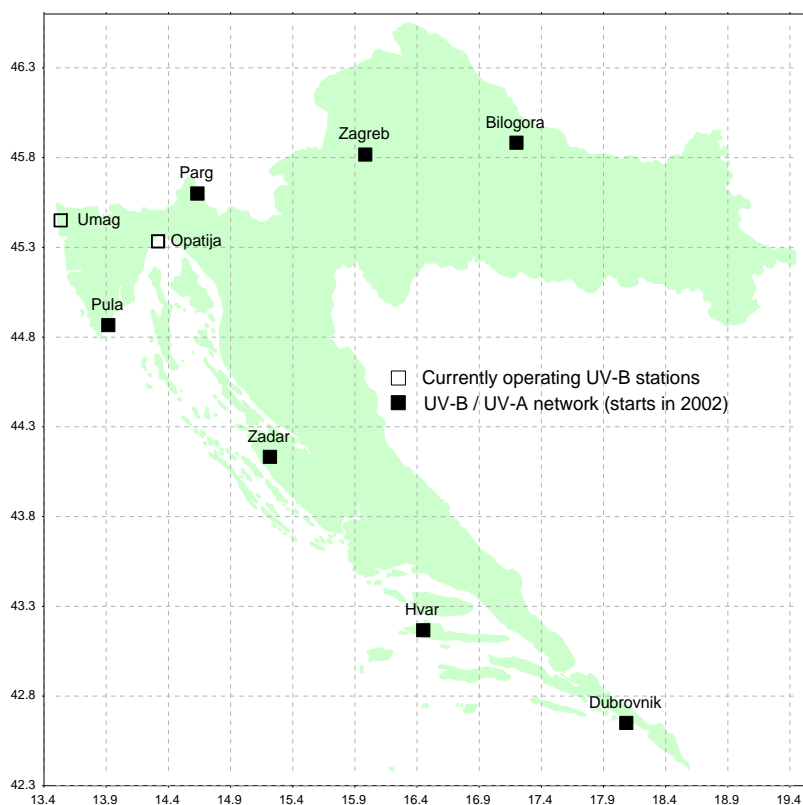


Figure 1. Spatial distribution of UV-B monitoring sites in Croatia

Sonja Vidic, Meteorological and Hydrological Service of Croatia
Gric 3, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia
Tel. +385 1 4565 719, Fax. +385 1 4565 630
e-mail: vidic@cirus.dhz.hr
