

| Flag Value | Source |
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| 1 | SAGE II |
| 2 | CLAES empirically scaled to 1020 nm |
| 3 | HALOE empirically scaled to 1020 nm |
| 4 | Equivalent latitude reconstruction |
| 5 | ASAP-based tropical lidar fill data for the Pinatubo period, it is used in part in the June 1991 to September 1991 period |
| 6 | Pinatubo June fix where data from May 1991 is used where no SAGE II observations occur rather than interpolating between very clean May 1991 and very volcanic July 1991 |
| 7 | 525 estimates from valid 1020 nm data |
| 8 | CALIPSO converted to 525 nm extinction using a backscatter to extinction ratio of 53. |
| 9 | OSIRIS 525 nm data set scaled by 0.8 |
| 11/12 | Linearly interpolated from points within 2 months. No additional interpolation involving altitude or latitude is included |
| 13 | Values at 1020 nm estimated from OSIRIS and/or CALIPSO previously inferred at 525 nm |
| 14 | SAM II/SAGE data from January 1979 through December 1981 |
| 15 | Replicated (same value) downward in Lidar period (1982–1984); mostly only below 10 km and at higher latitudes |
| 16 | 1000 nm SAM II extinction and extinction inferred from airborne and ground-based lidar (January 1982 and October 1984) |
| 17 | Mean of OSIRIS and CALIPSO scaled as above |
| 20 | High-altitude climatology; average of data between 1984 and 1990 and between 1995 and 2005 |
| 21 | Quality controlled data, values removed and interpolated across. |
| 22 | Some individual holes in otherwise continuous data patched using adjacent grid spots |
| 23 | Replicated (same value) downward in early OSIRIS/CALIPSO era; mostly below 10 km or so and at higher latitudes |
| 24 | Estimated 525 nm data where 1020 nm data exists during the Pinatubo period |
| 25 | Smoothed tropical OSIRIS data in June 2005 due to some anomalous behavior; a quality control activity |
| 26 | November and December 2016 are replicated data from October 2016 due to missing data |