

Protocol of the solar UV intercomparison at INTA, El Arenosillo, Spain from June 15 to 27, 2025, with the travelling reference spectroradiometer QASUME from PMOD/WRC

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The purpose of the visit was the comparison of spectral global solar irradiance measurements between the 20 spectrophotometers participating at the 20th Regional Brewer Calibration Center – Europe (RBCC-E) Campaign and the travel reference spectroradiometer QASUME. In addition, 8 BTS spectroradiometers from Gigahertz Optik GmbH participated to the campaign. Three BTS recorded global UV irradiance and five direct solar irradiance. One day was selected to measure global irradiance for all BTS.

The measurement site is located at El Arenosillo; Latitude 37.10 N, Longitude 6.73 W and altitude 50 m a.s.l.

The horizon of the measurement site is free down to at least 85° solar zenith angle (SZA). Measurements between 6:00 UT and 19:00 UT have been analysed.

QASUME arrived at INTA in the morning of June 15, 2025. The spectroradiometer was installed in line to the Brewer spectrophotometers with the entrance optic of QASUME between 2 and 20 m away from the other instruments. The measurement campaign lasted 13 days, from noon of June 15 to the afternoon of June 27.

QASUME was calibrated several times during the intercomparison period using a portable calibration system. Four lamps (T61251, T68523, T153061 and T153062) 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 31.2 ± 0.1 °C and the diffuser head was heated to a temperature of 29.1 ± 0.7 °C.

The wavelength shifts relative to the QASUMEFTS (Gröbner et al., 2017) spectrum as retrieved from the MatSHIC analysis were between ± 50 pm in the spectral range 290 to 400 nm.

Table 1: Participating Brewer spectrophotometers; 12 single and 8 double monochromators. Instruments in *Italic* are not used for UV measurements and don't require UV calibration.

Instrument ID	Institution	Operator	Country
#001-MKIV	Academy of Athens	Ilias Fountoulakis	Greece
#033-MKII	AEMET Santa Cruz	Jose Maria San Atanasio	Spain
#063-MKII	<i>Felice Dipace</i>	<i>Centro Aeronautica Militare di Montagna</i>	<i>Italy</i>
#070-MKIV	AEMET Coruna	Jose Maria San Atanasio	Spain
#071-MKIV	<i>Kenya Meteorol. Dep.</i>	<i>Syprose Nyadida</i>	<i>Kenya</i>
#075-MKIV	<i>UKMO</i>	<i>Richard Kift</i>	<i>U.K.</i>
#109-MKIV	<i>IOS</i>	<i>Volodia Savastiok</i>	<i>Canada</i>
#117-MKIV	AEMET MURCIA	Jose Maria San Atanasio	Spain
#126-MKII	<i>UKMO</i>	<i>Richard Kift</i>	<i>U.K.</i>
#143-MKIV	EGY	Ayman	Egipty
#150-MKIII	INTA HUELVA	Jose Manuel Vilaplana	Spain
#151-MKIV	AEMET Madrid	Jose Maria San Atanasio	Spain
#166-MKIV	AEMET Zargoza	Jose Maria San Atanasio	Spain
#172-MKIII	UKMO	Richard Kift	U.K.
#185-MKIII (IZ3)	AEMET IZAÑA	Alberto Redondas	Spain
#186-MKIII	AEMET Madrid	Jose Maria San Atanasio	Spain
#201-MKIII	Sida Lamine BAIKA	MeteoAlgerie	Algerie
#202-MKIII	DNK	Nils	Denmark
#228-MKIII	<i>DNK</i>	<i>Nils</i>	<i>Denmark</i>
#257-MKIII	AEMET IZAÑA	Alberto Redondas	Spain

Table 2: Participating BTS spectrophotometers.

Instrument SN	Mode	Institution	Operator	Country
40557	Direct	PMOD/WRC	Luca Egli	Switzerland
45633	Direct	INTA	Jose Manuel Vilaplana	Spain
58887	Global	AEMET IZAÑA	Alberto Redondas	Spain
62602	Direct	UKMO	Richard Kift	U.K.
63783	Global	CIEMAT	Jose Balenzategui	Spain
63784	Direct	CIEMAT	Jose Balenzategui	Spain
66639	Global	WMO	Voltaire Velasco	Germany
71187	Direct	AEMET IZAÑA	Alberto Redondas	Spain

150		257	151	33					
	185				71	QASUME			
		186	70	166			CRN		
172					143	BTS AEMET			
		228	75	117			BTS CIEMAT		
	201				63				
		202	126	1		N			
					109		BTS IZO		
	BTS WMO	BTS UK	CIMEL						
	Roof								
	Access	legend							
		BTS on his own tripod	Single Brewer	Double Brewer	EKO2AP tracker w/ht radiation instruments				

Figure 1: Roof setup at INTA

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. The official UV days were scheduled from Monday, 23rd to Friday, 27th June. However, UV scans were performed throughout the campaign.

DOY	Date	DAY	Weather	Comment (time in UT)
166	15-Jun	Sunday	Mix of sun & clouds Clear sky in the evening	Installed at 09:00 Calibrated: 14:43 using T153061
167	16-Jun	Monday	Mix of sun & clouds Mostly clear sky in the afternoon	
168	17-Jun	Tuesday	Mostly clear sky	
169	18-Jun	Wednesday	Mostly diffuse sky Some direct sun around noon	
170	19-Jun	Thursday	Mostly clear sky Diffuse sky (morning)	
171	20-Jun	Friday	Clear sky	Calibrated: 14:33 using T153061
172	21-Jun	Saturday	Clear sky with few cumulus clouds	Calibrated: 10:15 using T68523 Calibrated: 14:23 using T153061
173	22-Jun	Sunday	Clear sky Some clouds around noon	Calibrated: 08:14 using T68523 Calibrated: 08:29 using T153062 Calibrated: 08:43 using T153061
174	23-Jun	Monday	Mostly diffuse sky	Calibrated: 10:14 using T153061 Calibrated: 10:44 using T61251
175	24-Jun	Tuesday	Diffuse sky in the morning Clear sky after 15:00	Calibrated: 15:15 using T153062
176	25-Jun	Wednesday	Clear Sky	Calibrated: 11:12 using T153061
177	26-Jun	Thursday	Clear Sky	Calibrated: 14:57 using T153062
178	27-Jun	Friday	Clear Sky in the morning	Calibrated: 08:35 using T153062 End of Campaign 13:42

Brewer Intercomparison Results:

Up to 156 synchronised simultaneous spectra from QASUME and the Brewer spectrophotometers are available from the measurement period. Measurements between 6:30 and 18:00 UT have been analysed (SZA smaller than 90°).

Brewer Data Processing:

- The data of all Brewers were processed with Eubrewnet Level 2.0, however because of missing input data some are only processed to Level 1.0.
- The data from Brewers #117, #151, #166, 185, 186 and 257 were correct for cosine error (Eubrewnet L 1.6).

Table 3: UV corrections applied in the Eubrewnet processing (median over all scans)

Instrument ID	UVflag	Cosine	Temperature	Straylight	Shicrivm
#001-MKIV	1	0	0	1	0
#033-MKII	33	0	0	1	1
#070-MKIV	33	0	0	1	1
#117-MKIV	41	1	0	1	1
#143-MKIV	1	0	0	1	0
#150-MKIII	36	0	1	0	1
#151-MKIV	41	1	0	1	1
#166-MKIV	41	1	0	1	1
#172-MKIII	32	0	0	0	1
#185-MKIII (IZ3)	40	1	0	0	1
#186-MKIII	40	1	0	0	1
#201-MKIII	0	0	0	0	0
#202-MKIII	32	0	0	0	1
#257-MKIII	40	1	0	0	1

More information can be found here:

<https://eubrewnet.aemet.es/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=codes:uvaccess>

https://eubrewnet.aemet.es/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=codes:uvaccess#process_uvl1

https://eubrewnet.aemet.es/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=codes:uvaccess#uv_corrections_flag

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RitZadF38CQhpnoA3vFugaHFSlaDys4p/view?usp=sharing>

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZaLHi5eGPvdadnCkE84ldp8_5V111B4Z/view?usp=sharing

Brewer Intercomparison Conclusion:

The comparison between the Brewers and QASUME was very successful, and consistent with the results obtained in previous visits (see [Figure 2-X](#) of the Annex).

The angular response correction was applied to the solar UV spectra of six Brewers and show a considerably improvement to the comparison to QASUME. Remaining uncertainties are the stray-light for single monochromator brewers and the temperature dependence.

BTS (UV global) Intercomparison Results:

All participating six BTS were compared to Qasume, however only BTS 45633 and 63783 of them measured global UV irradiance throughout the campaign. The four BTS measuring direct solar irradiance were put into global mode only for 1-2 days.

Between 6 to 182 synchronised simultaneous spectra from QASUME and the BTS spectrophotometers are available from the measurement period. Measurements between 6:30 and 18:00 UT have been analysed (SZA smaller than 90°).

BTS Data Processing:

The data of all BTS were processed by the individual operators.

BTS Intercomparison Conclusion:

The comparison between the BTS and QASUME was only successful for the two global BTS. The alignment of the direct BTS was too unprecise to gain comparable data (62602, 63784 and 71187).

The timing of the BTS 45633 and 63783 were operated by older software needed an adjustment scan time stamp as shown in the following table:

BTS	Time shift (UVB-Range) in seconds	Time shift (UVA-Range) in seconds
45633	2	3
63783	1	3

References:

Gröbner, J., Kröger, I., Egli, L., Hülsen, G., Riechelmann, S., and Sperfeld, P.: The high-resolution extraterrestrial solar spectrum (QASUMEFTS) determined from ground-based solar irradiance measurements, *Atmos. Meas. Tech.*, 10, 3375-3383, <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-10-3375-2017>, 2017.

Appendix

Detailed results for all Brewer spectrophotometers with respect to the reference spectroradiometer QASUME









































































