



Ministry of the
Environment

ADEOS-II/ILAS-II

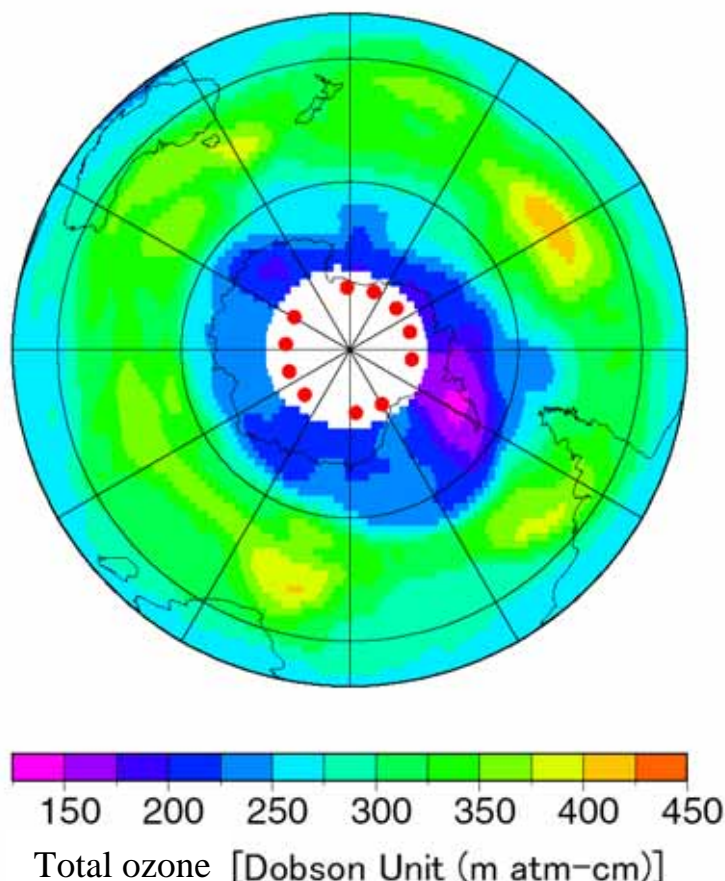
Advanced Earth Observing Satellite-II
Improved Limb Atmospheric Spectrometer-II



National Institute for
Environmental Studies

Fig. 3 Distribution of Total Ozone over Antarctica as Observed by Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer

Aug. 25, 2003



Distribution of total ozone (total amount of ozone from the Earth's surface to midair) over Antarctica on August 25, 2003, as observed by the total ozone mapping spectrometer (TOMS), an ozone observation sensor mounted on the US satellite Earth Probe. It has become evident that a low ozone area with less than 200 Dobson Unit (m atm-cm) has covered part of the Antarctic Continent, showing that the ozone hole in Antarctica is already in the process of forming. The white portion of the figure shows areas that are not exposed to any sunlight in the polar night; therefore, they cannot be observed by TOMS. The red dot in the white portion shows the areas observed by ILAS-II during the same day.