TABLE OF CONTENTS

page

ABSTRACT iii

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS iv

LIST OF TABLES x

LIST OF FIGURES xi

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS xix

1 INTRODUCTION 1

2 BACKGROUND 5

2.1 Introduction 5

2.2 Stratospheric Aerosol 8

2.2.1 Aerosol Sources 9

2.2.2 Aerosol Microphysics 10

2.2.3 Climate Effects 12

2.3 Aerosol Measurements 14

2.3.1 In-situ-Based Measurements 14

2.3.2 Occultation 15

2.3.3 Lidar 17

2.3.4 Limb Scatter 18

2.4 Radiative Transfer 21

2.4.1 Scalar Radiative Transfer 21

2.4.2 Vector Radiative Transfer 25

2.4.3 Rayleigh Scattering 27

2.4.4 Mie Scattering 27

2.4.5 SASKTRAN Radiative Transfer Model 30

2.5 Inversion Techniques 31

2.6.1 Optimal Estimation 32

2.6.2 Levenberg-Marquardt 33

2.6.3 Multiplicative Algebraic Reconstruction Technique 33

2.6 ALI Prototype Instrument and Stratospheric Balloon Flight 34

2.6.1 ALI Specifications 34

2.6.2 ALI Instrument Design Process Overview 36

3 INSTRUMENT DESIGN 38

3.1 Introduction 38

3.2 AOTF Theory and Background 38

3.2.1 Solution to the Acoustic Equation 39

3.2.2 Diffraction Efficiency 44

3.2.3 Diffraction Angle 45

3.2.4 Tuning Curve 48

3.3 Optical Chain Development 50

3.3.1 AOTF Operation 51

3.3.2 Telecentric System Prototype 53

3.3.3 Telescopic System Prototype 60

3.3.4 ALI Optical Design 65

3.3.5 Correction to the Optical Design 70

3.4 Opto-Mechanical Design and Thermal Balancing 71

3.4.1 Opto-Mechanical Design 72

3.4.2 Baffle Design 77

3.4.3 Light Tight Case 82

3.4.4 Thermal Considerations 83

4 CALIBRATIONS AND CONTROL SOFTWARE 85

4.1 Introduction 85

4.2 Control Software 85

4.3 AOTF Calibration 89

4.3.1 Tuning Curve Analysis 89

4.3.2 Point Spread Function 93

4.3.3 Diffraction Efficiency 94

4.4 ALI Calibrations and System Test 95

4.4.1 Exposure Time Determination 95

4.4.2 DC Offset Removal 97

4.4.3 Dark Current Correction 98

4.4.4 Stray Light Calibration 99

4.4.5 Relative Flat-Fielding Correction 101

4.5 Integrated Testing 104

5 STRATOSPHERIC BALLOON FLIGHT AND AEROSOL RETRIVALS 106

5.1 Stratospheric Balloon Flight 106

5.1.1 Preflight Preparations 106

5.1.2 Balloon Flight 110

5.2 Limb Measurements 113

5.3 Aerosol Retrievals 119

5.3.1 Aerosol Extinction Retrieval Methodology 120

5.3.2 Particle Size Retrieval Methodology 124

5.3.3 Aerosol Extinction Retrievals 128

5.3.4 A Sample Particle Size Retrieval 133

5.4 Results and Future Improvements 134

6 THE SENSITIVITY TO POLARIZATION IN STRATOSPHERIC AEROSOL RETRIEVALS FROM LIMB SCATTERED MEASUREMENTS 137

6.1 Introduction 137

6.2 Background and Forward Model 138

6.2.1 Polarized Scattered Sunlight and Stratospheric Aerosols 138

6.2.2 SASKTRAN-HR Model 143

6.2.3 Model Scenarios 144

6.3 Methodology 146

6.4 Analysis 150

6.4.1 Difference in Scalar Retrievals using a Scalar or Vector Model 150

6.4.2 Fraction of Limb Signal due to Aerosol 152

6.4.3 Potential for Retrieval Bias 157

6.4.4 Precision Analysis 159

6.5 Conclusions 164

7 CONCLUSION 166

LIST OF REFERENCES 170

A ALI HARDWARE COMPONENTS 183

A.1 Optical Components 183

A.1.1 Optical Lenses 183

A.1.2 Polarizers 183

A.1.3 AOTF 184

A.2 Opto-Mechanical and Electrical Components 185

A.2.1 RF Driver 185

A.2.2 QSI CCD Camera 185

A.2.3 OCELOT Computer 185

A.2.4 Opto-Mechanical Pieces 186

B ALI SOFTWARE COMMANDS 187

B.1 List of Commands for ALI Software 187

B.1.1 EnableScience 188

B.1.2 DisableScience 188

B.1.3 EnableRF 188

B.1.4 DisableRF 189

B.1.5 EnableAutoSendStats 189

B.1.6 DisableAutoSendStats 189

B.1.7 SetScienceMode 189

B.1.8 ReloadConfig 190

B.1.9 LdCusCnf 190

B.1.10 LdCusExp 190

B.1.11 GetFile 191

B.1.12 EndCurrentScienceCycle 191

B.1.13 SetExposureScaleFactor 191

B.1.14 UpdateExposureTimeCurve 191

B.1.15 EnableCheckRfTemps 192

B.1.16 DisableCheckRfTemps 192

B.1.17 ResetHousekeeping 192

B.1.18 DumpConfig 192

B.1.19 SetBitsPerSecond 192

B.1.20 EnableAutomation 193

B.1.21 DisableAutomation 193

B.1.22 SetAutomationTimeout 193

B.1.23 EnableGps 193

B.1.24 DisableGps 193

B.1.25 EnablePulse 193

B.1.26 DisablePulse 193

B.2 List of ALI Science Modes 194

B.2.1 Invalid Mode 194

B.2.2 Calibration Mode 194

B.2.3 Aerosol Mode 195

B.2.4 H2O Mode 195

B.2.5 O2 Mode 196

B.2.6 Custom Mode 197

B.2.7 Aerosol Constant Exposure Time Mode 197

B.3 List of ALI Exposure Modes 197

B.3.1 Invalid Mode 197

B.3.2 Calibrated Exposure Mode 198

B.3.3 Custom Exposure Mode 198