

1 Interactive comment on “Assessing the role of planetary and gravity waves on the vertical  
2 structure of ozone over central Europe” by Peter Križan –referee 1

3  
4 The manuscript describes statistics of the lamina appearance in the ozone vertical distribution  
5 in dependence of the lamina origin (due to planetary or gravity waves). Thus the subject is  
6 well suited to the journal scientific profile. The author uses the methodology elaborated by  
7 Teitelbaum et al (1995) to classify the lamina based on the correlation coefficient between  
8 vertical profiles of ozone and potential temperature. The reviewer has found interesting and  
9 worth publishing results. However, there is a serious problem with selection of the profile  
10 data. Thus, the manuscript is not ready for publishing. It may have potential after additional  
11 work and resubmission. Table 3 clearly shows that the vertical resolution of the profile should  
12 be lower than 100 m for proper identification of the lamina with size less than 1 mPa and less  
13 than 500 m for the lamina size in the range 1-4 mPa. Figure 12 illustrates strong  
14 inhomogeneity of the vertical resolution for all the stations. The same is also seen from Table  
15 2. Lindenberg profiles should be excluded from the analysis because of the large and variable  
16 vertical resolution. Thus, the analysed data are not homogeneous that may influence the  
17 results. A scale of this effect needs to be evaluated in the revised paper or only the latest  
18 results with the high resolution of the ozone profiles should be a subject of analysis. It means  
19 that the results shown in Fig.6 should be valid for only two stations since 1990 for the lamina  
20 size < 1mPa. For laminae in the range 1-4mPa the analyses will be possible for 3 stations  
21 since 1970. Thus in present form Fig. 6 is wrong especially for Lindenberg.

22  
23 **We excluded the station Lindenberg from the paper and we use only the stations Payerne,  
24 Uccle and Legionowo in the period 1995-2016 where the vertical resolution of the ozone  
25 profile is about 100 m.**

26  
27 Minor problems: 1.1-2The title is not proper: Hohenpeissenberg, Payern, and Uccle are  
28 located in the western part of Europe. It is better to change the title to "the midlatitudinal  
29 Europe".

30 **The title of the paper was changed**

31  
32 1.112-116. Have you excluded from the analyses evidently wrong profiles with the correction  
33 factor far from 1 (a case for early Legionowo and Lindenberg ozone profiles)?

34  
35 **These profiles were excluded from the analyses.**

36  
37 1.158- 185. This section should be rewritten. In fact, Hohenpeissenberg profiles are not proper  
38 for analyses of laminae with size <2 mPa as for almost the whole period the vertical  
39 resolution is~500 m (see Fig.12). The Hohenpeissenberg data are proper for analysis of the  
40 laminae with the size > 2 mPa. The author could not state that similar results were derived for  
41 other stations, as for Lindenberg (all observations) and Legionowo (early observations before  
42 1990) were not possible to identify correctly lamina with the size <2 mPa.

43  
44 **We use here the station Uccle in the period 1995-2016, so this problem is solved.**

45  
46 1. 190 -197. Trend values should appear (% for 10 yr.) with their error estimates to discuss the  
47 trend significance. The two-joint lines trend model with the turning point in the mid1990s  
48 needs to apply also for the gravity waves laminae for better comparison with PL laminae. If  
49 you calculate the trend based on single line approach for the PL laminae you will probably  
50 result with small negative trend as you discussed for the case of the GL lamina trend.

51 From figure 11 we see principally different trends for PL and GL. So the piecewise regression  
52 is suitable only for PL laminae. This regression is not suitable for GL. In this case it gives  
53 insignificant trend before 1995 and insignificant change in 1995. On the other hand, the  
54 classical regression is erroneous for PL and the most suitable for GL where it gives significant  
55 negative trend.

56  
57 1. 215- 220. The discussion is not correct for Payern as this station is located in the valley  
58 between the Jura Mountains and Alps.

59  
60 This sentence was changed.

61 Thank you for all your comments. They make my paper better.

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68 Interactive comment on “Assessing the role of planetary and gravity waves on the vertical  
69 structure of ozone over central Europe” by Peter Križan –referee 2

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72 Anonymous Referee #2  
73 Based on the Teitelbaum method, this manuscript studies the characteristics of ozone lamina  
74 under the influence of planetary and gravity waves. This article seems to have done a lot of  
75 work. Even though I'm not an expert in this area (ozone lamina), there are a few things that  
76 make me confused.

77 Major comments: 1 The formation mechanism of ozone lamina. Tomikawa et al. (2002)  
78 reported that the formation of the ozone laminae is closely related to the vertical shear of the  
79 subtropical jet. I strongly suggest the authors to discuss in the introduction about the  
80 formation mechanisms of the ozone lamina and in which the role of wave activities play.  
81 Tomikawa, Y. , Sato, K. , Kita, K. , Fujiwara, M. , Yamamori, M. , & Sano, T. . (2002).  
82 Formation of an ozone lamina due to differential advection revealed by intensive  
83 observations. J. Geophys. Res., 107(D10).

84  
85

86 This paper is referred to in Discussion.

87  
88 2. Lines 101-108, need some references (at least one) or make some explanation: e.g. Why  
89 choose 5-15km and 17-22km height area to distinguish. If the identification process is  
90 proposed by the author, it appears from the description that the author only uses ozone thin  
91 layers at different height region to define whether the ozone laminae is caused by gravity or  
92 planetary waves. This makes it very puzzling because gravity waves almost exist anywhere in  
93 the earth's atmosphere.

94  
95

96 I did the research for all heights from the ground to the 5 km below the highest profile point.  
97 The intervals 5-15 km and 17-22 km were chosen because the correlation here is sufficiently  
98 high (above 0.7) or low (below 0.3) for detection of gravity and planetary waves. In these  
99 intervals the ozone profile is **strongly** influenced by atmospheric waves. Outside these  
100 intervals the profile is not so strongly influenced as in these intervals. The atmospheric  
waves can occur outside intervals, but they do not influence the ozone vertical profile.

101 3. The authors have only mentioned the thin layer of ozone caused by gravitational and  
102 planetary waves, but I think that some other meso-and small-scale atmospheric processes

101 (such as strong convection, tropopause folding, strong wind shear, stratospheric streamers,  
102 etc.) may also responsible for the formation of ozone laminae.

103

104 Various mechanisms of lamina formation are described in the Discussion

105

106 4. Gravity and planetary waves run through the title and the paper, but there is no evidence of  
107 their existence in the manuscript (even though the authors indicate that the ozone profile can  
108 be used to detect fluctuations)

109

110 This title of paper was recommended by editor.

111

112 5. Reading the manuscript, I still didn't understand how gravity and planetary waves affect  
113 and lead to ozone laminae. Personally, a detailed case is necessary.

114

115 This problem is theoretically solved in Teitelbaum paper.

116

117 Minor comments: 1. Lines 44-46, as you mentioned, it is the large lamina that has a close  
118 correlation with the total ozone content, not the narrow lamina. The actual significance of  
119 narrow lamina still not clear throughout the manuscript.

120

121 We were interested in laminae of various sizes because according to theory gravitational  
122 waves produce predominantly small size laminae. On the other hand, planetary waves are able  
123 to form also the large laminae.

124

125 2. Lines 47-48, needs relevant references (at least one), especially about the influence of  
126 waves on the laminae.

127

128 The references were given in the Introduction.

129

130 3. Line 75 from-> on ?

131 4. Line 76 for the approximating-> for approximating

132

133 This grammar mistakes were corrected

134

135 5. Line 125 partitioning of laminae-> partitioning laminae?

136

137 We can say partitioning of laminae or lamina partitioning but not partitioning laminae

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139 6. Conclusion: as mentioned in the introduction, if the Teitelbaum method is suitable for  
140 central Europe? And how well?

141

142 Teitelbaum method was demonstrated for data at the Sodankyla (northern Finland) and this  
143 method was able to detect atmospheric waves in the ozone profile. Grant et al. (1998) used the  
144 same method for the tropical stations and this method brought reasonable results. So we  
145 suppose this method is suitable also for the stations in Europe, because we obtained results  
146 which were expected in the case of well working method,

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## Assessing the role of planetary and gravity waves on the vertical structure of ozone over midlatitudinal Europe

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### Abstract

*Planetary and gravity waves play an important role in the dynamics of the atmosphere. They are present in the atmospheric distribution of temperature, wind and ozone content. These waves are detectable also in the vertical profile of ozone and they cause its undulation. One of the structures occurring in the vertical ozone profile is laminae, which are narrow layers of enhanced or depleted ozone concentration in the vertical ozone profile. They are connected with the total amount of ozone in the atmosphere and with the activity of the planetary and the gravity waves. The aim of this paper is quantifying these processes in the central Europe. We compare the occurrence of laminae induced by planetary waves (PL) with the occurrence of these induced by gravity waves (GL). We show that the PL are 3-5 times more frequent than the gravity wave ones. There is a strong annual variation of PL, while GL exhibit only a very weak variation. With the increasing lamina size the share of GL decreases and the share of PL increases. The vertical profile of lamina occurrence is different for small planetary wave and gravity wave laminae. The trend of large lamina occurrence frequency is given by the trend in PL, not by GL.*

**Key words:** ozone lamina; vertical ozone profile, planetary wave activity, gravity waves

### 1. Introduction

There are various structures in the vertical profile of ozone affected by the activity of the planetary and gravity waves. Ones of them are narrow layers of the enhanced or depleted ozone concentration in the ozone vertical profile, which are called ozone laminae. The first investigation of these structures was made by Dobson (1973), who found that they occur predominantly in a cold half of the year. The existence of laminae was confirmed by lidar and satellite measurements (Bird et al., 1997, Orsolini et al., 1997, Kar et al., 2002). They were found also in water vapour in the stratosphere (Teitelbaum et al., 2000). The dynamics of the stratosphere plays a crucial role in a lamina formation. This finding was confirmed by the ability of dynamical models to capture these narrow layers (Manney et al., 2000, Orsolini et al., 2001). The number of large laminae is strongly correlated with the total ozone content and it is the reason why we have been interested in laminae (Križan and Lastovicka, 2005).

The laminae are not only the indicator of the atmospheric ozone content but also they are connected with the gravity and planetary wave activity. Teitelbaum et al. (1995) developed a identification procedure which enable us to detect the planetary and gravity wave activity in the ozone vertical profile. In this paper we apply this method to ozone laminae and each lamina we sort to the one of the following groups: laminae induced by gravity wave activity (GL), by planetary wave activity (PL) and laminae which are neither induced by the gravity waves nor

201 by the planetary waves. Similar method was used by Grant et al., (1998) and Pierce and Grant  
 202 (1998) but only for the Wallops Island station. The aim of this paper is finding the  
 203 characteristics of GL and PL in central Europe in the period 1970-2016. At first we test if the  
 204 Teitelbaum method is suitable for central Europe. Next the annual variation of GL and PL is  
 205 examined. Then we explore the dependence of lamina composition on their size. We also  
 206 compare the vertical distribution of GL and PL. We deal with their trends. The content of this  
 207 paper is as follows: section 2 describes methods and data, section 3 gives results, in section 4  
 208 the results are discussed and the last section is conclusions.

## 211 2. Methods and data

212  
 213 Now we shortly describe the lamina searching procedure. Each positive lamina consists of the  
 214 three main points: the lower minimum, the main maximum and the upper minimum. The depth  
 215 of lamina must be between 500 and 3500 m due to the vertical resolution of the ozonsondes  
 216 (lower limit) and due to the fact that the ozone lamina is a narrow layer of the enhanced ozone  
 217 concentration (upper limit). The size of laminae is given as a difference between the ozone  
 218 concentration in the main maximum and the average concentration from both minima. More  
 219 about the lamina searching procedure can be found in (Krizan and Lastovicka, 2004) and  
 220 (Lastovicka and Krizan, 2005).

221 The method used in this paper for the searching the activity of gravity and planetary waves in  
 222 the ozone profile is a modification of the methods given by Teitelbaum et al. (1995). Figure 1  
 223 (upper panel) shows the real ozone profile at Hohenpeissenberg on February 2, 1970. We use  
 224 the linear interpolation with the step 50 m for approximating the ozone profile with the high  
 225 vertical resolution. Then the 50 point moving average (2500 m in vertical) is applied to this real  
 226 profile to obtain the smooth profile. This smooth profile is also displayed in fig.1 (upper panel).  
 227 The same procedure is applied to the potential temperature and the results are given in fig. 1  
 228 (lower panel). In the next step we compute the differences between the high resolution profile  
 229 and the smooth profile for the ozone partial pressure (fig 2 upper panel) and the potential  
 230 temperature (fig 2 lower panel). The differences are much higher for the ozone profile than for  
 231 the potential temperature profile. The differences in the vertical gradients of the ozone partial  
 232 pressure and the potential temperature must be taken into account. So we must apply the  
 233 following correction factor to the potential temperature perturbations:

$$234$$

$$235$$

$$236 R(z) = [(1/O_{3avg}) * (dO_3/dz)] * [(1/\Theta_{avg}) * (d\Theta/dz)] \quad (1, 1)$$

$$237$$

238 where  $O_{3avg}$  ( $\Theta_{avg}$ ) is the average ozone partial pressure (potential temperature) profile in the  
 239 layer with the width  $dz$ . The vertical distribution of this correction is given in fig.3 (upper  
 240 panel). The correction is the highest in the lower stratosphere where the vertical gradient of  
 241 ozone is strong. Above 20 km we observe the negative values of this factor, which is  
 242 predominantly given by the negative gradient of the ozone partial pressure and the strong  
 243 positive gradient of the potential temperature. When we multiply the potential temperature  
 244 perturbations with this correction, we obtain the perturbations, which are shown in fig. 3 (lower  
 245 panel). These new perturbations are not similar to that given in fig.2 –lower panel. In each point  
 246 of the high resolution ozone profile we compute the correlation coefficient between the ozone  
 247 perturbations and the scaled potential temperature perturbation up to 5 km above this point.  
 248 The vertical dependence of this correlation coefficient from the ground to the point which is  
 249 situated 5km below the highest ozone profile point is seen in fig.4. If the correlation coefficient  
 250 is greater than 0.7, the vertical ozone profile in this point is influenced by the gravity waves. In

251 fig 4 the correlations are higher than 0.7 at some altitudes above 5 km and below 15 km. If the  
252 lamina maximum is situated in this high correlation area, we conclude this lamina is induced  
253 by the gravity waves. On the other hand, if these correlations are low (between -0.3 and 0.3),  
254 we consider the ozone profile to be influenced by the planetary waves in this point (from 17 to  
255 22 km on fig. 4) and again if there is a lamina maximum there we consider this lamina as the  
256 one induced by the planetary waves. When the correlation coefficient is above 0.3 and below  
257 0.7 or below -0.3 we are not able to evaluate what type of laminae is present and call them  
258 indistinguishable laminae. The boundary values of correlation coefficients were taken from  
259 Teitelbaum et al. (1995)

260 We are going to apply this procedure to the following European midlatitudes stations:  
261 Hohenpeissenberg (Germany, 1970-2016, 5166 files), Payerne (Switzerland, 1970-2016, 5998  
262 files), Uccle (Belgium, 1970-2015, 6221 files), Lindenberg (Germany, 1975-2013, 2380 files)  
263 and Legionowo (Poland, 1979-2016, 1728 files). These data were taken from WOUDC Toronto  
264 (<http://woudc.org/archive/Archive-NewFormat/>). During the research some problems with a  
265 vertical resolution of ozone profile were occurred and so at the end we exclude the data from  
266 the station Lindenberg. The Hohenpeissenberg data was used only for large laminae.

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### 270 3. Results

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#### 272 3.1. Performance of method

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274 At first we must answer the question if the procedure used in the paper is successful in  
275 partitioning of laminae to the groups. If the procedure is suitable, the number of the  
276 indistinguishable laminae cannot be very high. The performance of this procedure is given in  
277 tab.1 for Hohenpeissenberg for each month and for all laminae regardless the size. The results  
278 at the other stations are very similar. From this table we see that approximately 47 % of all  
279 laminae are PL, while GL laminae formed about 10 % and the share of indistinguishable  
280 laminae is about 43 %. It means more than 50 % of all laminae can be divided into the laminae  
281 induced by the gravity or the planetary wave activity. So we can conclude this procedure is  
282 successful in lamina partitioning, because nobody can expect only GL and PL will be present  
283 and no indistinguishable laminae. Practically there is no yearly course in the lamina  
284 composition.

285

#### 286 3.2. Vertical resolution and number of laminae

287

288 At first we must look at the homogeneity of the sonde vertical resolution used in this  
289 paper. The results are given in fig. 5. We see the resolution is not homogenous and the resolution  
290 increases (vertical distance decreases) in the period 1970-2016. And thus we must ask the  
291 question if this resolution change has effect on a number of laminae detected in the profile. We  
292 have computed correlation coefficient between the yearly values of lamina number and vertical  
293 resolution. If these correlations are significant the resolution influences the lamina number and  
294 vice versa. We did the correlations for the following groups of laminae: small (<1 mPa),  
295 medium (1-4 mPa) and large (>4 mPa). The results are shown in tab.1. The number of small  
296 laminae is strongly correlated with vertical resolution. It means the numbers of small laminae  
297 are affected by the resolution. With increasing size of laminae these correlations decrease. For  
298 large laminae the results are station dependant. These results are a bit surprising because one  
299 expects negative correlations of lamina number with resolution and these negative correlations  
300 were observed only for small laminae. For the explanation of these results we must look at the



301 average lamina depth in small, medium, and large laminae (table 2), which was obtained for  
302 the best vertical resolution (below 100 m). We can see the increase of lamina depth with  
303 increasing size. When the depth of laminae is small (small laminae), the vertical resolution  
304 strongly influences the lamina number, because with decreasing resolution the number of  
305 detected laminae decreases. On the other hand, the average depth of large laminae is above the  
306 worst vertical resolution (800 m- fig.5) and so the increasing resolution does not influence  
307 significantly the number of detected laminae.

308 According to the resolution results we can select periods used in this paper because we  
309 are interested also in small and medium laminae number of which is resolution dependant. To  
310 exclude this dependence, the vertical resolution of sonde must be comparable or smaller than  
311 the average depth of laminae and thus one can see (table 2) the maximal vertical resolution in  
312 the case of small laminae must be 100 m and for medium laminae 500 m. The depth of large  
313 laminae is above the worst vertical resolution so the large lamina results are not resolution  
314 dependant. Originally we considered also the station Lindenberg but it had to be excluded due  
315 to large and variable vertical resolution. The station Hohenpeissenberg is suitable only for  
316 several years after 2010. Only the stations Payerne and Uccle have suitable vertical resolution  
317 in the period 1990-2016 and the station Legionowo in the period 1995-2016. Because we must  
318 do compromise between the quality and amount of data we take into account only these three  
319 stations in the period 1995- 2016 for the small and medium laminae and the Hoheinpeissenberg  
320 data for the large ones.

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### 323 **3.3. Annual variation of laminae induced by the gravity and the planetary wave activity**

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325 Figure 6 shows the annual variation of the number of laminae larger than 2 mPa for GL  
326 and PL at all stations used in this paper. The group of lines with the strong annual variation  
327 with maximum in winter and minimum in summer/autumn are PL while the lines with the only  
328 very weak variation belong to GL. This different behaviour of the annual variation is the  
329 evidence that the both type of laminae are formed by different processes.

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### 332 **3.3. Dependence of lamina type on the size of laminae**

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334 In this section we deal with the lamina type occurrence frequency in the selected classes of  
335 lamina size. The laminae were sorted to the following groups: small (<1 mPa), medium size (1-  
336 4 mPa) and large (>4 mPa) and in each group we found the occurrence frequency of different  
337 types of laminae. The results are presented in fig.7. The results are almost identical for all  
338 stations. The share of GL is decreasing with the increasing size and the opposite is true for PL.  
339 The performance of used procedure increases with the increasing lamina size (the share of  
340 indistinguishable laminae decreases). The gravity waves are able to produce predominantly  
341 small laminae, while the planetary waves produce also the large ones. Similar results were also  
342 obtained by Teitelbaum et al. (1995).

343

### 344 **3.4. Vertical dependence of the occurrence of advection and gravity wave laminae**

345

346 Now we examine the altitudinal dependence of occurrence of GL and PL at the stations  
347 used in this paper for all seasons. March, April and May form spring, June, July, August are  
348 summer months, September, October and November are the autumn ones and December,  
349 January and February is winter. We divided the ozone vertical profile into 2 km wide intervals  
350 and in each interval we search for the lamina occurrence. The results are displayed as the

351 percentage of all laminae which occur in the individual altitude interval. We grouped laminae  
352 into two groups: small (<2 mPa) and large (>2 mPa) and in each group we are searching for the  
353 lamina occurrence. The results are displayed only for the station Uccle, because at the other  
354 stations the results are similar. The winter results are given in fig. 8 for the large (upper panel)  
355 and the small (lower panel) laminae. The large laminae have similar behaviour both for GL and  
356 PL. Their maximal occurrence is observed in the lower stratosphere and there are no large  
357 laminae in the troposphere. On the other hand, the occurrence of the small laminae is different.  
358 GL have maximal occurrence in the troposphere where the occurrence of PL is small. Small  
359 PL have the maximal occurrence in the lower stratosphere, where the small gravity wave  
360 laminae are rare. In the troposphere there is local minimum in small PL and the main maximum  
361 in the small gravity wave occurrence. Spring (fig.9) behaviour of the lamina occurrence is  
362 similar to the winter one. In summer (fig.10) the large GL have broad stratospheric maximum  
363 and the smaller maximum is observed in the troposphere. Large GL have sharper stratospheric  
364 maximum and they are very little present in the troposphere. Small PL maximum is observed  
365 in the stratosphere, while the small GL have tropospheric maximum. At the nearly same height  
366 we observe local minimum in small GL and maximum in the gravity wave ones. In autumn  
367 (fig.11) the behaviour of large laminae is a bit similar to the summer one and the main maximum  
368 in occurrence of small PL is higher than that of the laminae induced by the planetary wave.  
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### 371 **3.5 Trend of the large laminae**

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373 Now the long-term of the large laminae occurrence (larger than 4 mPa) is investigated.  
374 The results are shown in fig. 12. A change in the trend of the PL in the mid-1990s is seen.  
375 Before the mid-1990s the negative trend is observed, while after this point the positive one is  
376 present. This fact confirms the findings of Krizan and Lastovicka (2006). But this is not the  
377 main message of this paper. The main message of this paper concerning the trend is the  
378 following: we observe a huge difference in the long- term trend between GL and PL: trend of  
379 PL has the sharp change in the mid-1990s, which is confirmed by significant negative trend of  
380 the lamina number before 1995 and the significant change of this trend in 1995 (tab.4), while  
381 GL has a bit smaller insignificant negative trend before 1995 and insignificant trend change in  
382 1995. So in the case of PL we observe change in trend in 1995, but in the case of GL no change  
383 occurred. The piecewise regression model is suitable only for PL. On the other hand, the most  
384 proper model for GL is the standard regression for the period 1970-2016. In this case we obtain  
385 significant negative trend of lamina number about 17 % / decade.  
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## 389 **4. Discussion**

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391 We found the occurrence frequency of PL to be about 4-6 times larger than that of GL.  
392 The most frequent way of formation of the laminae induced by planetary waves is vertically  
393 different advection of air with the various ozone content (Manney et al., 2000). Tomikawa et  
394 al. (2002) proposed as one of lamina formation mechanism vertical shear of the subtropical jet.  
395 In these processes we observe transformation of the horizontal gradient of the ozone  
396 concentration into the vertical one. The air with the high ozone concentration comes to the  
397 central Europe in winter from the edge of the polar vortex (Orsolini et al., 2001). On the other  
398 hand, the low ozone air has its origin inside the polar vortex and it is transported to the mid  
399 latitudes (Reid and Vaughan, 1991) or it is the air from the low latitudes where ozone  
400 concentration is low (Orsolini et al., 1995).



401 The strong source of gravity waves is orography (Smith et al., 2008), especially passing  
402 the air through a mountain range when the gravity waves occur in the downwind side of the  
403 ridge. For stations used in this paper the most important mountains are the Alps. These stations  
404 are situated in a such way during prevailing west winds they are not on the leeward side of the  
405 Alps and the share of gravity wave laminae are practically the same for all stations. The same  
406 is true for the laminae induced by planetary waves. In this case all stations are practically under  
407 the same conditions. So we cannot expect large interstation differences in lamina partitioning.  
408 It will be reasonable to do this investigation at the stations which lie on the leeward side of  
409 mountains or at stations which are in hot spots of the gravity wave activity (Sacha et al., 2016).  
410 The other sources of the gravity waves are jet stream and convection (Guest et al. 2000; Yoshiki  
411 et al. 2004). Their conditions are the same for all stations used in this study. In the troposphere  
412 the stratosphere-troposphere exchange may cause the positive laminae and in the stratosphere  
413 this exchange may lead to formation of negative laminae (Kritz, 1991).

414 Laminae greater than 2 mPa occur very predominantly in the stratosphere where the  
415 ozone concentration is high. When the ozone concentration is high, the probability of large  
416 lamina formation increases. The confirmation of this rule is also the yearly course of PL where  
417 the maximal occurrence is observed when the ozone concentration is the highest (winter and  
418 spring). On the other hand, in the troposphere we observe neither the PL large laminae nor the  
419 large GL due to small ozone concentration. Similarly, we observe less large PL in the  
420 stratosphere in summer and fall. This dependence of the lamina occurrence on the background  
421 ozone concentration is valid only for PL, not for the gravity wave ones.

422 For the laminae smaller than 2 mPa the situation is different. We observe the differences  
423 in the vertical distribution of PL and GL. In winter the maximal occurrence is observed in the  
424 lower stratosphere in the case of PL, while gravity wave laminae have its occurrence maximum  
425 in the tropopause. In spring the small GL maximum lies lower than in winter. In summer the  
426 occurrence distribution has bimodal structure with one maximum in the troposphere and the  
427 other one in the stratosphere. In fall the stratospheric mode is dominant.

428 In summer and fall there is no polar vortex. Vortex remnants (Durry et al., 2005) may  
429 form the positive laminae in the stratosphere while the advection of air from low latitudes (Koch  
430 et al., 2002) creates layers with the low ozone concentration.

431 In the troposphere the situation is different. Positive laminae are created by various  
432 processes: the stratosphere-troposphere exchange (Manney et al., 2000), the advection of  
433 polluted air from the boundary layer (Oltmans et al, 2004; Collete et al., 2005) or in situ ozone  
434 production (Li et al., 2002). Tropospheric gravity waves occur predominantly in the transition  
435 region from the troposphere to the stratosphere where there is a strong change in the  
436 atmospheric stability

437 Our paper is based on the lamina searching procedure introduced by Teitelbaum et al.  
438 (1995). In their paper no climatological results are presented. They illustrated the method for  
439 partitioning of laminae for several case studies. The goal of our paper is to use this method for  
440 obtaining the climatological results from the mid-Europe ozonsonde stations. Similar  
441 searching method was used by Grant et al. (1998) and Pierce and Grant (1998) but for tropical  
442 and low latitudes stations. The authors found rare occurrence of PL and majority of laminae  
443 was induced by gravity waves. We found more PL compared to the gravity induced ones,  
444 because our investigation was done in middle latitudes, not in the low and tropical ones. The  
445 activity of planetary waves is stronger in mid latitudes compared to the low and equatorial ones.

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## 449 5. Conclusions

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451 The main results of this paper are:

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453 • The most often the laminae are induced by the planetary wave activity (45-50 %),  
454 following by the indistinguishable ones (about 40 %). The share of the gravity wave  
455 laminae is about 10 %.

456 • There is a pronounced annual variation in the occurrence frequency of PL, while there  
457 is no such variation for GL

458 • With increasing lamina size the share of gravity wave and indistinguishable laminae  
459 decreases while the share of the planetary wave laminae increases.

460 • The vertical distribution of lamina number for large laminae has maximum in the  
461 stratosphere while the distribution of small laminae is type and season dependant.

462 • There are huge differences in trend patterns of PL and GL in the period 1970-2016.

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#### 464 **Competing interests**

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466 The author declare that he has no conflict of interest

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#### 474 **Acknowledgement**

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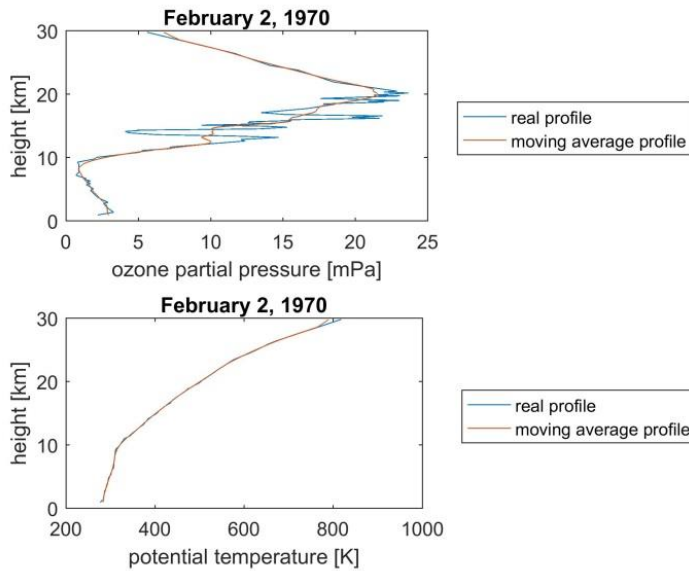
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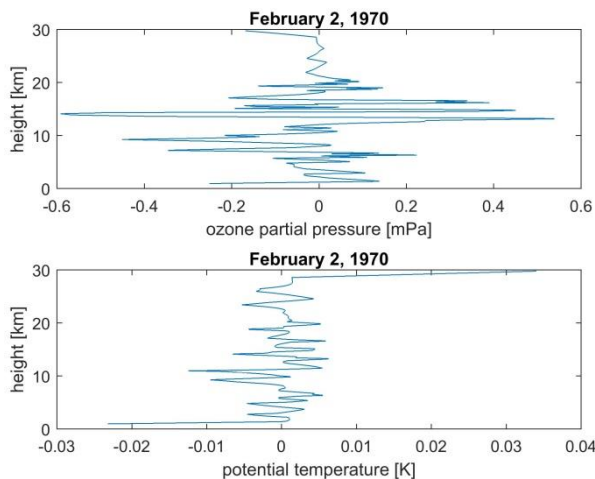
557 **Figure 1:** Real and smooth ozone (upper panel) and potential temperature (lower panel)  
558 vertical profile at the Hohenpeissenberg from February 2, 1970.

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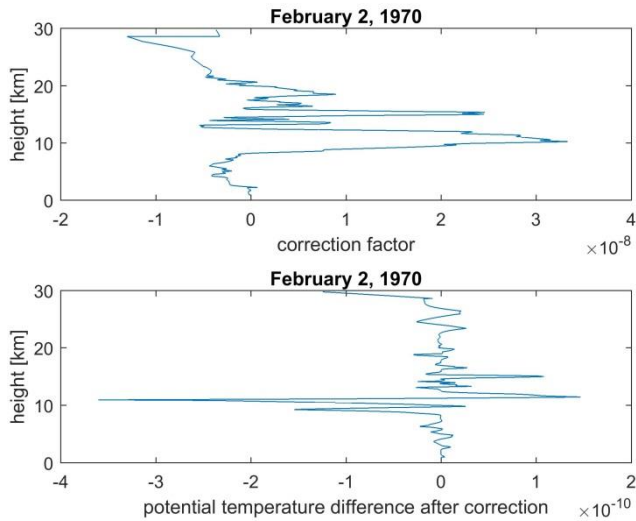
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565 **Figure 2:** Differences between real and smooth vertical profile from February 2, 1970 for  
566 ozone (upper panel) and potential temperature (lower panel)

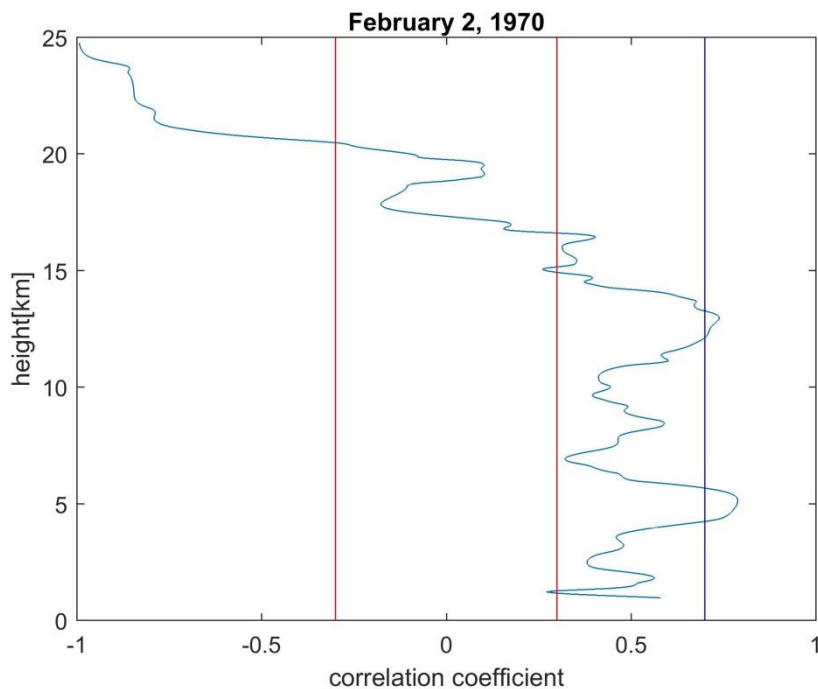
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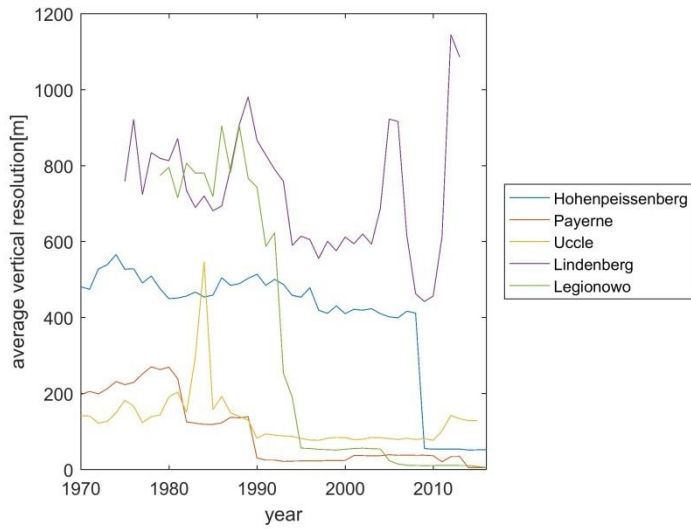
**Figure 3:** Vertical profile of potential temperature correction factor (upper panel) and vertical profile of differences between real and smooth potential temperature profile (lower panel) after correction.



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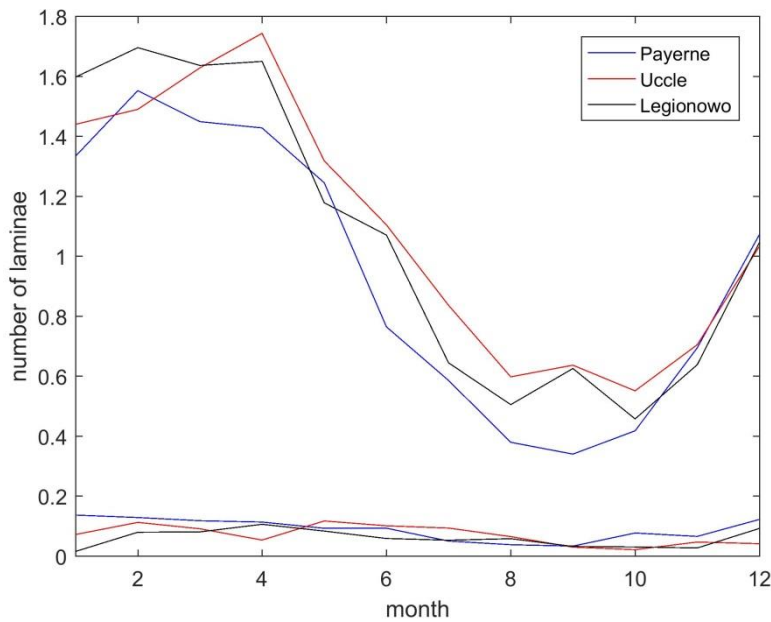
**Figure 4:** The vertical profile of correlations between the corrected potential temperature differences and the ozone differences from February 2, 1970 at Hohenpeissenberg. The red vertical lines are the borders for the laminae induced by the planetary waves and the blue vertical line is the border for gravity wave ones.

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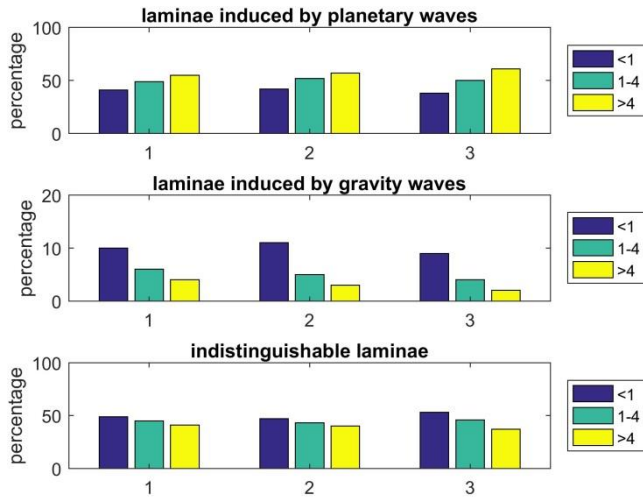
**Figure 5:** Long term evolution of average vertical resolution of profiles at the European ozonsonde stations.



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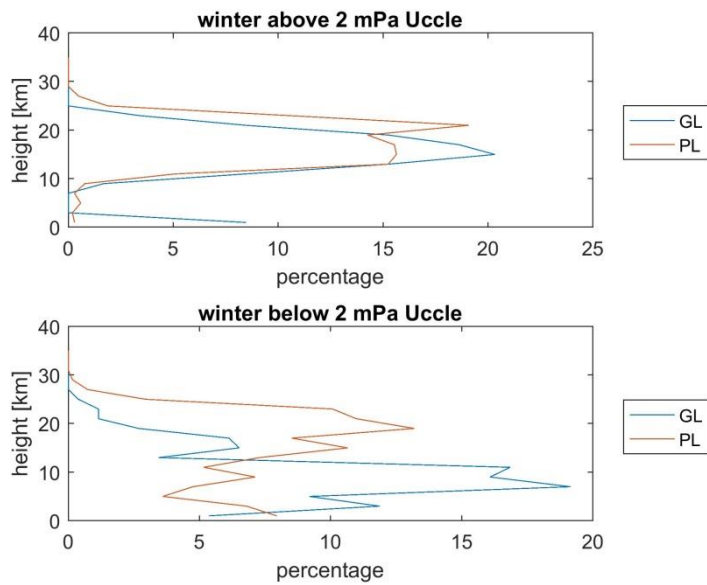
**Figure 6:** The annual variation of the lamina number per ozone profile for PL (group of lines with the strong variation) and for GL (group of lines with the weak variation) at the European ozonsonde stations.





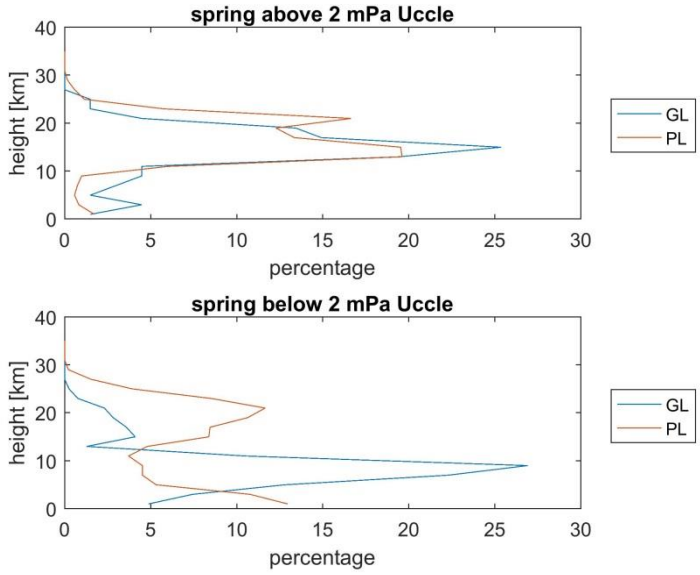
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**Figure 7:** The dependence of the lamina composition on a lamina size for PL (upper panel), GL (middle panel) and indistinguishable laminae (lower panel) at the European stations (1-Payerne, 2 – Uccle, 3 –Legionowo)



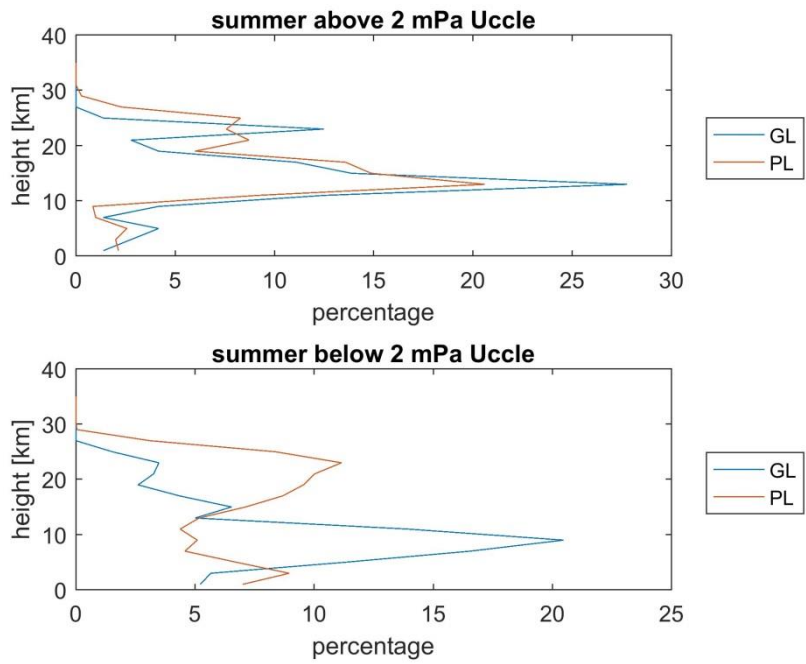
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**Figure 8:** The vertical dependence of the occurrence of the laminae induced by the gravity waves and the ones induced by planetary waves at Uccle the period 1995-2016 in winter in terms of percentage of all GL and all PL.



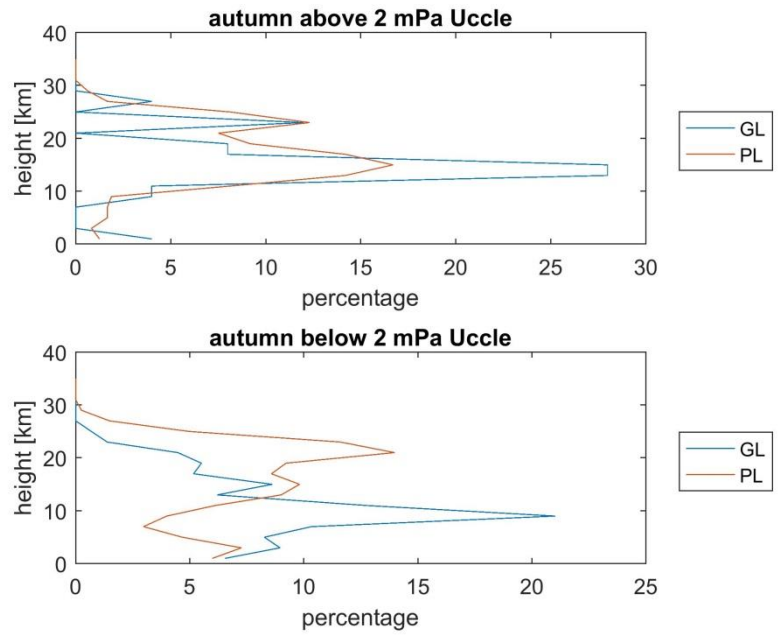
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**Figure 9:** The same as fig.7 but for spring



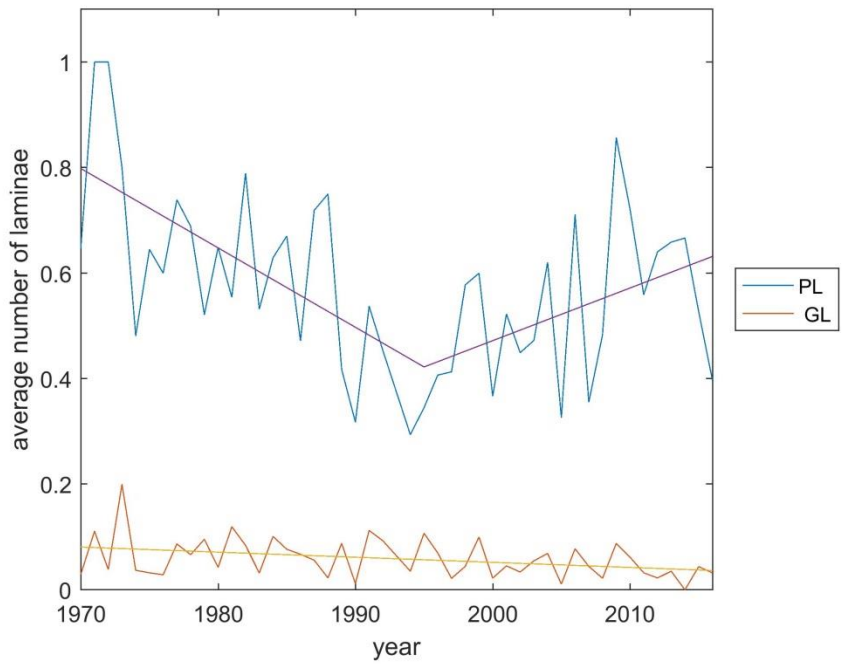
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**Figure 10:** Vertical dependence of lamina occurrence in summer.



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**Figure 10:** The same as fig. 9, but in autumn.



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639 **Figure 11:** Trend of the number of laminae per ozone profile induced by the planetary waves  
 640 (PL) and by the gravity waves (GL) for laminae greater than 4 mPa at Hoheinpeissenberg in  
 641 the period 1970-2016.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
advect	48	49	48	48	45	41	44	46	47	46	47	48
gravity	10	10	11	10	11	11	10	11	10	11	9	10
undist	42	41	41	42	44	48	46	43	43	43	44	42

644  
 645 **Table 1:** Monthly composition of laminae (%) at Hohenpeissenberg in the period 1970-2016  
 646 (advect- advection laminae, gravity – gravity waves laminae, undist- undistinguishable  
 647 laminae)

	<1mPa	1-4 mPa	>4 mPa
Hohenpeissenberg	<b>-0.95 /-0.68</b>	<b>-0.57/0.55</b>	<b>-0.09/0.25</b>
Payerne	<b>-0.49/-0.37</b>	<b>-0.50/0.29</b>	<b>0.32/0.58</b>
Uccle	<b>-0.66/-0.61</b>	<b>0.57/-0.07</b>	0.00/0.16
Lindenberg	<b>-0.79/-0.51</b>	<b>-0.88/-0.54</b>	<b>-0.76/0.14</b>
Legionowo	<b>-0.81/-0.80</b>	<b>-0.77/-0.07</b>	<b>0.31/0.19</b>

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 650 **Table 2:** Correlation coefficient of lamina number and average vertical resolution at the  
 651 European mid latitudes stations from the period 1970-2016 (before slash - advective laminae,  
 652 after slash – gravity wave laminae). Significant correlation coefficient values are in bold.

	<1 mPa	1-4 mPa	>4 mPa
Hohenpeissenberg	198/203	733/1021	1895/2057
Payerne	112/144	486/597	1874/1803
Uccle	121/206	486/761	1832/1775
Legionowo	104/142	535/702	1909/1983

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 657 **Table 3:** Average lamina depth (m) in the selected lamina size intervals at the European middle  
 658 latitude stations for the vertical resolution below 100m (before slash - advective laminae, after  
 659 slash – gravity wave laminae).

	till 1995	change in 1995	after 1995
PL	<b>-18</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>
GL	<b>-16</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-20</b>

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 664 **Table 4:** Results of piecewise linear regression applied to the yearly means of the large lamina  
 665 number in the period 1970-2016 at the station Hoheinpeissenberg. The trend is expressed as a  
 666 percentage per 10 years. Significant trends are expressed in bold.

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