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die tatsächlichen Verhältnisse wieder, vor allem wegen des im Verhältnis zur Länge der Leitung dort erheblich zu großen Abstandes der Indifferenzzone von der Leitung.

Ist die Leitung nicht geradlinig auf der Elektrodenverbindungsline geführt, sondern geht im Bogen um das Untersuchungsgebiet herum, dann gelten im Prinzip die gleichen Verhältnisse, wie sie oben behandelt wurden, dagegen ist die Form der Flächen gleicher Induktionsstärke und damit der Verlauf der induzierten Stromwirbel entsprechend dem Verlauf der Leitung geändert. In dem inneren Teil des Leitungsbogens ist die Induktion ungleich stärker als bei gleicher senkrechter Entfernung von einer geradlinigen Leitung. Da außerdem die Richtung des induzierten Stromes bei solcher Leitungsführung im allgemeinen stark von der Richtung des von den Elektroden kommenden Stromes abweicht, wird infolge der Phasenverschiebung zwischen diesem Hauptstrom und dem induzierten Strom das Achsenverhältnis der resultierenden Schwingungsellipse einen beträchtlichen Wert annehmen. Die Folge davon ist außer dem Auftreten sehr breiten Minimums eine beträchtliche Verschwenkung der Ellipsenachsen gegen die eigentliche Stromrichtung des von den Elektroden kommenden Stromes. Dies bedingt bei Potentiallinienmessungen zwecks Aufsuchen von Einlagerungen abweichender Leitfähigkeit eine Verschwenkung der gemessenen Potentiallinien (richtiger: Minimumlinien), welche, wenn sie nicht gar zu groben Irrtümern führt, das Linienbild mindestens erheblich kompliziert und schwer deutbar macht. Somit erscheint auch die von manchen Autoren empfohlene Leitungsführung „in weitem Bogen herum und beiderseits längs der äußeren Verlängerungen der Elektrodenverbindungsline“ *) für die Messung nicht unbedenklich, und es erscheint sehr zweifelhaft, ob dadurch das Mittelfeld zwischen den Elektroden wirklich von Induktionswirkungen hinreichend frei bleibt.

Note on the Accuracy of Spectroscopic Measurements of the Amount of Ozone in the Atmosphere.

By **G. M. B. Dobson**, D. Sc. F. R. S.

A reply to criticism regarding the accuracy of spectroscopic measurements of the amount of ozone in the earth's atmosphere. It is shown that the observed changes are not due to effects of dust and haze.

In the Zeitschrift für Geophysik **3**, Heft 4, 1927, Herr Dr. O. Hoelper suggests that the large changes in the ozone content of the atmosphere which we have found to be associated with changes in the pressure distribution at the ground, are largely fictitious and are really mainly due to changes in the

*) Siehe z. B. **Ambrohn**, l. c. S. 130.

dustiness and haziness of the atmosphere. Fortunately, it is easily shown by several different arguments that this is not the case.

Firstly, as pointed out in our first paper, the ozone values calculated from several different and independent pairs of wavelengths are in good agreement, which could not occur unless the absorbing substance were either ozone or had an absorption curve closely similar to that of ozone, — a most unlikely occurrence.

Secondly, haze particles may be of all sizes, from those large compared to the wavelength of light, to those small compared to it. The first will scatter all wavelengths alike, while the latter will scatter an amount which is inversely proportional to the fourth power of the wavelength. Since the ozone is calculated from the difference in the absorption of two adjacent wavelengths, the maximum error will be produced by such small particles. Such scattering will cut down the logarithms of the intensity of the two wavelengths generally employed in the ratio of approximately 100 to 125, so that if there is an increase in haziness, causing a change in the relative intensities of the two wavelengths, there will also be a great reduction in the intensity of both wavelengths. Now at times when the ozone values are changing rapidly, owing to changing cyclonic conditions, it is easy to select pairs of photographs on adjacent days having the same length of exposure and for which the sun's altitude was nearly the same, the sky being clear in each case but one having much ozone and the other little. By comparing the actual intensities of the two wavelengths in such cases it is found the the long wavelength, which is slightly absorbed by ozone, is decreased by a very small amount on the day of much ozone, while the shorter wavelength is greatly decreased. The decrease in the intensity of the longer wavelength is no more than that caused by the small absorption by ozone in this region.

Thirdly, actual tests have been made to see the effect of thick cirro-stratus. It is probable that the particles in such a cloud are rather large, and would not be expected to produce a large effect on the calculated ozone, but photographs taken through thick Ci.-St., and others taken shortly after, with clear sky, gave identical ozone values. It is unfortunately not possible to make a similar test on haze, since days are usually wholly hazy or wholly clear, and any change in haziness generally accompanies a change of wind, caused by a change in the pressure distribution.

As regards the annual variation of ozone, with a maximum in spring and minimum in autumn, it is only necessary to point out that an increase in haziness, which may be expected in the autumn, will tend to produce a maximum ozone value not a minimum value.

Oxford, Boars's Hill, 1 st. Aug. 1927.
