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Abstract

Novel measurements of aspects of surface atmosphere exchange of aerosol are presented. These were gathered using a custom designed and built eddy covariance system based around a modified commercially available particle counter.

Aerosol flux measurements have been made above a managed grass canopy of variable height. The analysis shows that accumulation mode ($0.1 \mu\text{m} < D_p < 0.2 \mu\text{m}$) aerosol deposition velocities are 1.13 mm s^{-1} and 0.87 mm s^{-1} to long and short grass canopies respectively. The corresponding fine mode deposition velocities are 0.275 mm s^{-1} and 0.066 mm s^{-1} , where the long canopy height is $0.65 \text{ m} - 1.0 \text{ m}$ with a roughness length of 0.063 m and the short canopy height $0.07 \text{ m} - 0.14 \text{ m}$ with a roughness length of 0.022 m . These fine mode fluxes are shown to be representative of aerosol in the diameter range $11 \text{ nm} < D_p < 100 \text{ nm}$.

Fertilisation of the short grassland with 100 kg N ha^{-1} is shown to cause aerosol growth, the postulated cause being simultaneous condensation of ammonia and nitric acid onto the surface of existing particles. Diameter growth rates at 11 nm were calculated, ranging between zero and around 3490 nm hr^{-1} . This large systematic growth is shown to persist for around five days following fertilisation of the canopy.

Measurements have been made above the City of Edinburgh (UK). Aerosol concentration, number flux and emission velocity ($11 \text{ nm} < D_p < 3 \mu\text{m}$; D_3) are presented, and the results shown to be representative of the sub- 100 nm size interval. Aerosol (D_3) concentrations are found typically to range between $3,000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ and $20,000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$. The mean D_3 aerosol flux is found to be $42,500 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$, with the mode being $30,000 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and a typical range of $9,000 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ to $90,000 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$. The mean and mode emission velocities are 45 mm s^{-1} and 35 mm s^{-1} respectively, typically ranging from 20 mm s^{-1} to 75 mm s^{-1} . It is shown that urban aerosol concentration can be adequately modelled by the following, where ζ is the stability parameter, $A = 13,000$, $b = 1.6$, \bar{U} = wind speed and χ = concentration (cm^{-3}):

$$\chi = A \cdot e^{bT} / \bar{U}^{-0.3} \cdot 11 \cdot e^{(-\zeta)^{-0.3}} - 3 \quad \zeta < 0$$

$$\chi = A \cdot e^{bT} / \bar{U}^{-0.3} \cdot (80 - 45 \cdot (\zeta)^{0.36}) \quad \zeta \geq 0$$

The energy balance for an urban area is examined. It is demonstrated that the non-radiative heating is equivalent to the addition of 44 W m^{-2} to the system. Of this additional energy, which is assumed to be anthropogenic in origin, it is estimated that around 30% is derived from fossil fuel combustion within the city.

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Aerosol Exchange	2
1.1.1	Deposition	2
1.1.2	Micrometeorological Deposition Measurements	3
1.2	Ammonia – Aerosol Interactions	3
1.3	Urban Aerosol	4
2	Micrometeorology	5
2.1	The Boundary Layer	5
2.1.1	Turbulence structure	5
2.1.2	Boundary Layer Wind Speed Profile	6
2.2	Atmospheric Stability	8
2.2.1	Introduction	8
2.2.2	Virtual Potential Temperature	9
2.2.3	Obukhov Length and the Stability Parameter	10
2.2.4	Monin – Obukhov Similarity Theory	11
2.2.5	Townsend’s Hypothesis and Similarity	12
2.2.6	Stability Correction	12
2.3	Gradient Flux Measurements	13
2.3.1	Introduction	13
2.3.2	Gradient Method Theory	14
2.4	Eddy Covariance	16
2.4.1	Introduction	16
2.4.2	Eddy Covariance Definition	17
2.4.3	Sensible Heat Flux	18
2.4.4	Latent Heat Flux	18
2.4.5	Aerosol Number Flux	19
2.4.6	Vertical Sensor Alignment	20

2.4.7	Sensor Requirements	21
2.4.8	Eddy Covariance Limitations	23
2.4.9	Stationarity	23
2.4.10	Fetch and Honegeneity	24
2.5	Interpretation of Fluxes	25
2.5.1	Deposition Velocity	25
2.5.2	Resistance Analogy	27
2.6	Fourier Analysis	30
2.6.1	Power Spectrum	30
2.6.2	Properties of the Atmospheric Power Spectrum	31
2.6.3	Co-spectral Analysis	34
2.7	Probability Density Analysis	35
3	Aerosol Flux Measurement System	37
3.1	Introduction	37
3.1.1	Necessity for Measuring Fluxes Using a CPC	37
3.2	Principles of the CPC	38
3.3	Flux Measurement Using a CPC	40
3.4	CPC Flux System Software	42
3.4.1	Logging Software	42
3.4.2	Flux Calculation Software	46
3.4.3	Fourier Analysis Tools	48
3.4.4	Data Visualisation	48
4	Aerosol Deposition to Grassland	49
4.1	Introduction	49
4.1.1	Aims of the Integrated Experiment	49
4.1.2	The Site	50
4.1.3	Measurements	53
4.1.4	Management Practices	54

4.2	Accumulation Mode Results	55
4.2.1	Surface Deposition Velocity	55
4.2.2	Deposition Velocity Above a Managed Grass Canopy	56
4.3	Performance of the CPC System	58
4.3.1	Power Spectral Analyses	59
4.3.2	Vertical Wind Speed Power Spectra	60
4.3.3	Aerosol Concentration Power Spectra	61
4.3.4	Aerosol Flux Co-spectrum	63
4.3.5	Interpretation of Diameter Range of Aerosol Measurements	66
4.4	Fine Mode Results	67
4.5	Aerosol Deposition Model	68
4.6	Fine Mode Deposition Velocity Trends	70
4.7	Summary of Results	71
5	Direct Aerosol – Ammonia Interactions	73
5.1	Introduction	73
5.1.1	Measurements	75
5.2	Apparent Emissions Following Fertilisation	75
5.2.1	Mechanism of Aerosol Growth	76
5.3	Aerosol Growth Model	77
5.4	Availability of Charge Balancing Ions	81
5.5	Aerosol Growth Rate Calculation	83
5.6	Aerosol Growth Results	87
5.7	Location of Aerosol Growth	91
5.8	Summary of Results	95
6	Urban Aerosol Fluxes	97
6.1	Introduction	97

6.1.1	Measurement and Interpretation	99
6.1.2	Scope of the Analysis	100
6.2	Measurement Site and Methods	101
6.2.1	Instrumentation	103
6.3	Results	106
6.3.1	Typical Urban Aerosol Fluxes and Concentrations	106
6.3.2	Dependence of Fluxes on Traffic Activity	110
6.3.3	Aerosol Emission Velocity	112
6.3.4	Bi-directionality of Aerosol Fluxes	116
6.4	Aerosol Concentration Parameterisation	120
6.5	Concluding Discussion	122
6.6	Further Work	123
7	Urban Micrometeorology	124
7.1	Introduction	124
7.1.1	Background	124
7.1.2	Investigations of the Urban Heat Balance	124
7.2	Urban Heat Balance	125
7.3	Power Spectral Behaviour	128
7.3.1	Vertical Wind Speed	129
7.3.2	Air Temperature	130
7.3.3	Fine Aerosol Concentration	131
7.4	Co-spectral Behaviour	131
7.4.1	Sensible Heat Flux	131
7.4.2	Fine Aerosol Flux	133
7.5	Probability Density Analysis	135
7.5.1	Temperature	135
7.5.2	Aerosol Concentration	138
7.6	Summary	142

8	Conclusions and Further Work	143
8.1	Summary	143
8.1.1	Aerosol Deposition to Grassland	144
8.1.2	Ammonia – Aerosol Interactions	144
8.1.3	Urban Aerosol Production	145
8.1.4	Urban Micrometeorology	146
8.2	Further Work	147
8.2.1	Aerosol Fluxes Over Semi-natural Surfaces	147
8.2.2	Urban Aerosol	148

Appendices

A	–	Aerosol Deposition Model	150
		Model Equations	150
		Summary	153
B	–	A Note on Notation	155
C	–	List of Symbols	156
		Roman Alphabet	156
		Greek Alphabet	160

	Acknowledgements	162
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	References	163
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