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Urban aerosol number size distributions

T. Hussein¹, A. Puustinen¹, P. P. Aalto¹, J. M. Mäkelä², K. Hämeri^{1,3}, and M. Kulmala¹

¹Department of Physical Sciences, University of Helsinki, P.O. Box 64, FIN-00014, UHEL, Finland

²Institute of Physics, Tampere University of Technology, P.O. Box 692, FIN-33101 Tampere, Finland

³Physics Department, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Topeliuksenkatu 41a A, FIN-00250 Helsinki, Finland

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Abstract. Aerosol number size distributions have been measured since 5 May 1997 in Helsinki, Finland. The presented aerosol data represents size distributions within the particle diameter size range 8–400 nm during the period from May 1997 to March 2003. The daily, monthly and annual patterns of the aerosol particle number concentrations were investigated. The temporal variation of the particle number concentration showed close correlations with traffic activities. The highest total number concentrations were observed during workdays; especially on Fridays, and the lowest concentrations occurred during weekends; especially Sundays. Seasonally, the highest total number concentrations were observed during winter and spring and lower concentrations were observed during June and July. More than 80% of the number size distributions had three modes: nucleation mode ($D_p < 30$ nm), Aitken mode (20–100 nm) and accumulation mode ($D_p > 90$ nm). Less than 20% of the number size distributions had either two modes or consisted of more than three modes. Two different measurement sites were used; in the first (Siltavuori, 5.5.1997–5.3.2001), the arithmetic means of the particle number concentrations were 7000 cm^{-3} , 6500 cm^{-3} , and 1000 cm^{-3} respectively for nucleation, Aitken, and accumulation modes. In the second site (Kumpula, 6.3.2001–28.2.2003) they were 5500 cm^{-3} , 4000 cm^{-3} , and 1000 cm^{-3} . The total number concentration in nucleation and Aitken modes were usually significantly higher during workdays than during weekends. The temporal variations in the accumulation mode were less pronounced. The lower concentrations at Kumpula were mainly due to building construction and also the slight overall decreasing trend during these years. During the site changing a period of simultaneous measurements over two weeks were performed showing nice correlation at both sites.

1 Introduction

Atmospheric aerosol particles in urban areas cause the loss of visibility (e.g. Finlayson-Pitts and Pitts, 2000) and health effects (Dockery and Pope, 1994). Heavily industrialized areas suffer from pollution fogs (smogs) that are often related to coal burning and nowadays also to traffic. The most well-known example of such smogs is the London “pea-souper” smog, which occurred intermittently until the 50’s, when coal burning was forbidden. Besides visibility degradation, the London smog episodes caused serious health effects and “excess deaths”. A significant number of health problems related to atmospheric aerosols and fog droplets is believed to be due to particles having diameters less than $10 \mu\text{m}$, because these particles can penetrate deep into the respiratory system (Dockery and Pope, 1994). Peters et al. (1997) have indicated that many of the pollution-related adverse health effects may be closely related to the presence of ultrafine airborne particles. Recently, the role of ultrafine particles ($D_p < 100$ nm) in health related issues has been discussed (e.g. Katsouyanni et al., 2001; Samet et al., 2000; Pope and Dockery, 1999).

Routine monitoring of airborne particulate matter has generally been performed using PM_{10} and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ measurements (mass of particulate matter smaller than 10 and $2.5 \mu\text{m}$ in aerodynamic diameter). The number concentration and size distribution measurements are very rare. However, in rural areas there are several on-going measurements (see e.g. Mäkelä et al., 1997). In urban areas the results based on measurement campaigns have been typically reported. Wehner et al. (2002) performed particle size distribution measurements in a street canyon and Väkevä et al. (1999) measured the evolution of the number concentration also in a street canyon. Buzorius et al. (1999) studied the local and temporal variations of aerosol number concentrations in an urban area finding clear temporal variation with different frequencies.

Correspondence to: M. Kulmala
(Markku.kulmala@helsinki.fi)

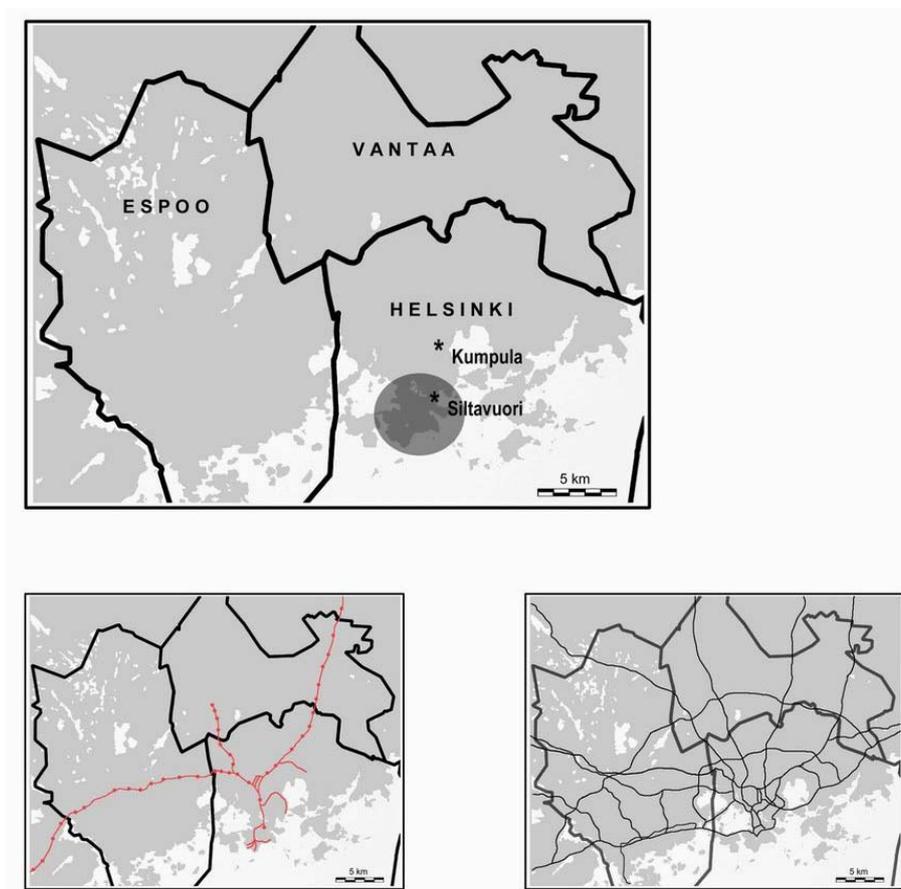


Fig. 1. A map of the Helsinki metropolitan area. The measurement site locations are indicated with a star in the (upper), and the dark circle is the downtown area. (Lower left) shows the railway routes, and (lower right) shows the main roads and highways. A more detailed map can be found from the Helsinki Area Council (YTV) web page (http://ilma.ytv.kaapeli.fi/english/research/area_map.php).

In rural areas typical aerosol particle concentrations are between 1000 and 10 000 cm^{-3} . In urban environments air quality is typically strongly influenced by motor vehicle emissions, and number concentrations of aerosol particles usually exceed 10⁴ cm^{-3} . Harrison et al. (1999) found that particle number concentration was 7.5 times higher than the background level near a busy road in Bristol, Rd Birmingham. Based on size distribution measurements Shi et al. (2001) found significant amounts of nanoparticles (<10 nm) in the urban atmosphere. Most of the particles emitted by engines are in the ultrafine range (Kittelson, 1998), and therefore not directly influenced by industrial emissions in urban environments. Over 80% of the airborne particles in the urban air are in the ultrafine size range (Morawska et al., 1998b; Shi et al., 2001).

Ruuskanen et al. (2001) showed that the median (30 November 1996–13 March 1997) of the hourly mean total number concentration at an urban site in Helsinki was 20 500 cm^{-3} (more than 80% were ultrafine particles), with a maximum value of about 145 000 cm^{-3} . In the same study (Ruuskanen et al., 2001), similar concentration lev-

els were observed in two other European cities (Alkmaar in Netherlands and Erfurt in Germany). In Brisbane, Australia, the concentration of submicrometer particles correlated strongly with the concentrations of NO_x and CO (Thomas and Morawska, 2002; Morawska et al., 1998b), suggesting that motor vehicle emissions constituted the main source of ultrafine particles. Under varying conditions, the number of emitted particles increased with increasing engine load, whereas the mean particle diameter decreased (Franz et al., 2000; Morawska et al., 1998a). In cities, cars are usually not driven at a constant speed; there is continuous acceleration and deceleration. In acceleration a higher number of smaller particles are probably emitted (Wehner et al., 2002).

Besides vehicles fuel combustions, industrial pollutants and long range transport (LRT) affect aerosol particle number and mass concentrations in urban areas. About 40–70% of PM_{2.5} in Finland is assumed to result from LRT (Tiitta et al., 2002; Vallius et al., 2002). Accumulation mode particles can transport to long distances, whereas the lifetime of Aitken and nucleation mode particles is much smaller that makes them lost and not transported within a large scale. Due

to coagulation and growth, nucleation mode particles may survive only for a few hours which correspond to a spatial scale of a maximum of a few hundred kilometers. Even if nucleation mode particles do not transport, the spatial scale of nucleation mode particles can still be thousands of kilometers (Mäkelä et al., 1998). The coarse fraction of PM_{10} do not normally travel more than a few tens of kilometers except for some special cases like Sahara dust episodes (Arimoto et al., 1995). In practice, LRT is affected by mesoscale meteorology. If the air masses come from areas with high emissions, air parcels contain more particles particularly in the accumulation mode (Kulmala et al., 2000). In Finnish conditions the position of the polar front is an important factor making changes to aerosol particle concentrations (Nilsson et al., 2001). The amount of particles which arrive at a certain location depends also on wet and dry deposition and cloud processes.

Meteorological conditions and seasonal changes have an influence on the aerosol particle emissions. In cities many people have their holidays in July which changes traffic emissions. On the other hand, in spring and summer higher concentration of aerosol precursor gases may allow photochemical reactions to produce condensable gases and subsequent nucleation and growth in urban air while it may be impossible in other conditions (Väkevä et al., 1999; Shi et al., 2001). Another example on the complexity is the background (regional) nucleation from urban areas. It increases particle concentration in cities even if the actual nucleation occurs in cleaner background areas. In this case particles grow due to higher urban pollutant concentrations, and the particle composition and mass will change.

The seasonal variation is well-known e.g. for re-suspended PM_{10} which is related to springtime snow melting governing the release of sand from wintertime gravelling. Natural primary emissions like sea-spraying have a strong annual cycle related to wind speed and sea-ice cover. The seasonal effect is also related to house heating. Small scale biomass burning is a significant emission source during the winter especially in the countryside. Particle concentrations are also affected by local mixing. If the boundary layer is stable, locally emitted or re-suspended particles stay in a smaller volume (Väkevä et al., 2000). In practice, mixing depend on wind speed, turbulence, and relative humidity (Pohjola et al., 2000).

In spite of its importance, only some studies have concentrated on the seasonal variation of particulate mass (PM_x) or number of aerosol particles using long-term measurements spanning over several months or even a few years (Havasi and Zlativ, 2002; Hussein et al., 2002; Kimmel et al., 2002; Morawska et al., 2002; Yang, 2002; Zhang et al., 2002). Long-term studies provide sufficient information on the aerosol characteristics. Recently, Laakso et al. (2003) investigated the number and mass concentrations as well as correlations between different particle size classes (nucleation, Aitken, and accumulation modes) and between

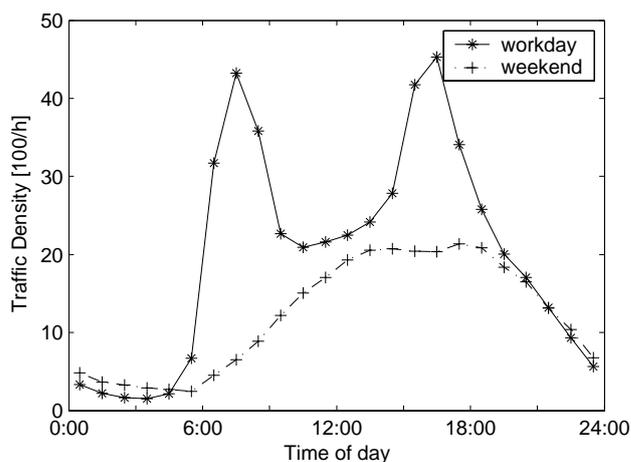


Fig. 2. Typical traffic density on a high way in Helsinki metropolitan area.

number and mass concentrations in different regions (urban, suburban, forest, and rural) in Finland. On the other hand the long-term studies of aerosol size distributions are missing. The objective of the present study is to characterize the aerosol number size distributions in the Helsinki urban area during a long-term period (6 years, 1997–2003) with continuous monitoring of the number size distributions (diameter <400 nm). This includes investigations on (1) year-by-year temporal variation of both aerosol particle number concentration and size distributions, (2) the seasonal variation within each year, (3) the difference between daily patterns of workday and weekends of aerosol number concentration, and (4) the behavior of the modal structure of aerosol particles during different times in the year, season, and day.

2 Methodology and experimental set-up

2.1 Measurement site location

The number size distributions were measured in Helsinki ($60^{\circ}10' \text{ N}$ and $24^{\circ}57' \text{ E}$); Finland. The measurements took place at the Physics Department of the Helsinki University, which was located on the bank hill Siltavuori. Siltavuori is approximately 20 m high peninsula that is located by the sea, and it was surrounded with urban sites including the downtown at a distance of a few hundred meters to the south west. Siltavuori is densely populated with residential and office buildings.

On 5 March 2001, the Physics Department was moved into a new building at Kumpula, which is located about 3 km north Siltavuori. The measurements were resumed in the fourth floor of the new building, which was located on a hill-top (~ 20 m high). At a distance of 200 m, there was one of the major highways providing significant source of traffic emissions. The area itself was populated with residential buildings in the northeastern side, and to the west it was full

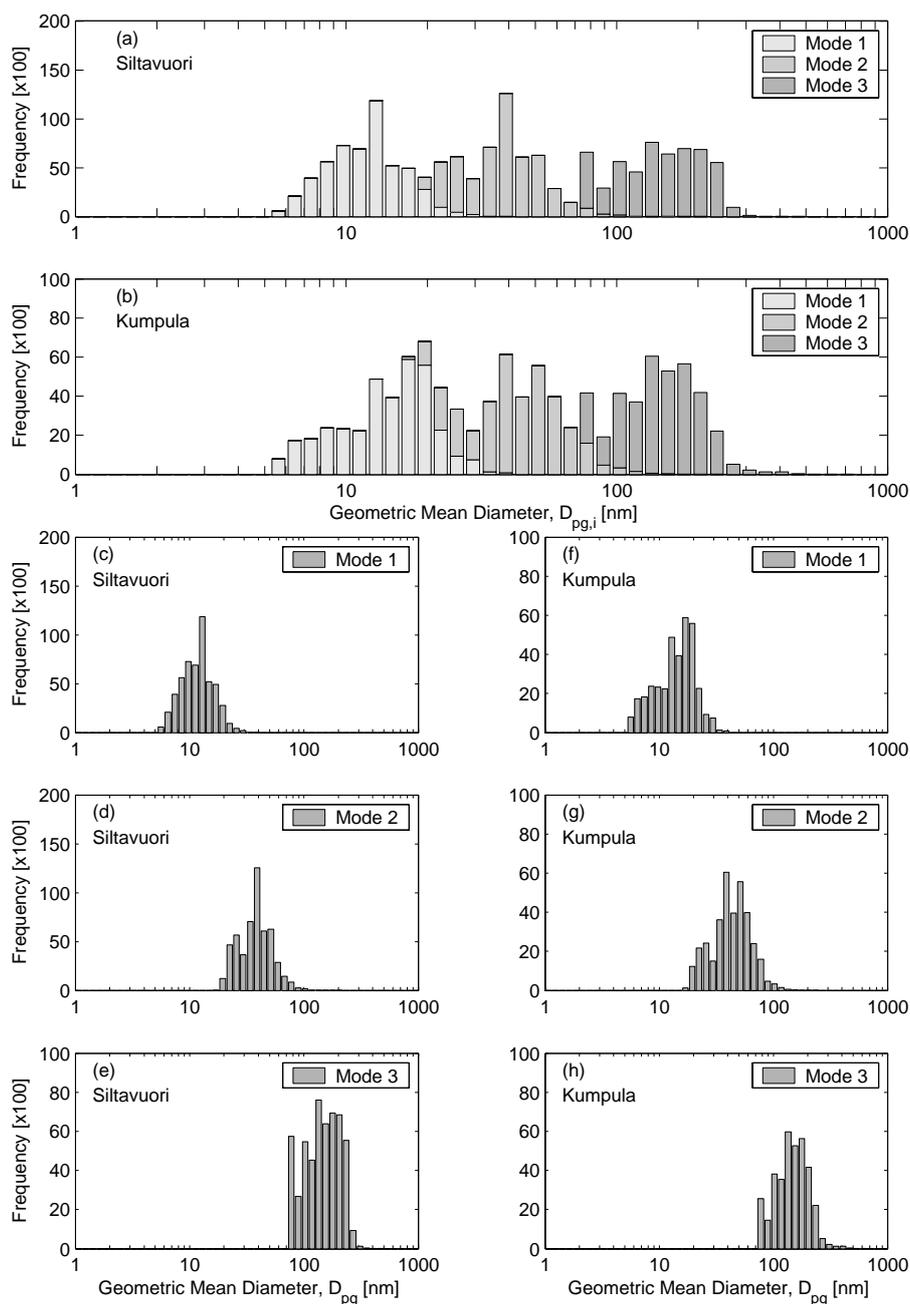


Fig. 3. Frequency histograms of the mode geometric mean diameter ($D_{pg,i}$) (a) at Siltavuori, (b) at Kumpula. The histogram for each individual mode are presented in (c)–(e) at Siltavuori and (d)–(f) at Kumpula.

of greenswards and mainly small forest mixed with houses (see also Fig. 1). Siltavuori and Kumpula can be considered as urban sites.

2.2 Aerosol particle measurements

The ultrafine and fine particle number size distributions have been measured continuously (5-minutes resolution) with a differential mobility particle sizer (DMPS) since 5 May

1997. There have been several time periods when there was no measurements due to instrument maintenance. In the early stages of the measurement, the instruments were under testing, and hence the reliable data were obtained since December 1997. In the present study we investigate measured size distributions until 28 February 2003.

2.2.1 Measurement of particle number size distributions

The differential mobility analysis of aerosol particles (e.g. Adachi et al., 1990; Winklmayr et al., 1991) instrumentation consisted of: (1) A bipolar charger for the particles, for which we used a 74 MBq KR-85 neutralizer (Liu and Pui, 1974). (2) Differential mobility analyzer (electrostatic Classifier TSI 3071) to classify particles according to their electrical mobility (Knutson and Whitby, 1975). (3) Condensation Particle Counter (CPC) TSI 3022 (Quant et al., 1992) that was Occasionally replaced by either CPC TSI 3025 (Kesten et al., 1991) or CPC TSI 3010 (Mertes et al., 1995).

The sampling line was approximately 2 m long Stainless Steel tube with 4 mm inner diameter. No special inlet was used; just a rain cover. The sheath flow of the classifier was 8.5 LPM and the aerosol flow was 1.5 LPM. The sheath flow was arranged as closed loop, the excess flow was circulated back to the classifier as sheath flow after drying and filtering (Jokinen and Mäkelä, 1997; Birmili et al., 1999). The excess flow rate was controlled with a critical orifice. The sheath flow pump was a diaphragm pump made by KNF. The sheath flow dryer acted as pulsation damper. The aerosol flow rate was controlled by the CPC's own pump. The measurement range covered a particle diameter range from 8 nm to 400 nm by using twenty channels. The waiting time after classifier voltage change was 15 s and after that particles were counted over a three second period. One measurement was then made in six minutes. There was some variation in the measurement range and time during the years.

In the weekly maintenance, aerosol and sheath flows were measured with a bubble flow meter and the CPC zero was checked by turning the classifier voltage to zero. Yearly maintenance included CPC and classifier calibration and thorough cleaning. CPC calibration included the particle detection efficiency calibration and the concentration calibration against the aerosol electrometer. Classifier calibration included transport loss calibration and the sizing accuracy calibration with PSL particles. The CPC was serviced and calibrated at the factory when needed.

2.2.2 Raw data handling and uncertainties

The raw data (voltage-concentration) had to be inverted in order to extract the particle size distribution. As input, the transfer function of the classifier had to be known as well as the particle charging probability, the CPC detection efficiency, and the transport losses in the sampling line and inside the classifier. For the transfer function we used functions by Stolzenburg (1988), and for charging probability the semi-empirical functions by Wiedensohler (1989). Transport line losses were calculated from the normal laminar flow tube diffusion loss equations, and for the classifier losses and CPC counting efficiency laboratory calibrations were implemented. The total losses for ten nanometer particles were

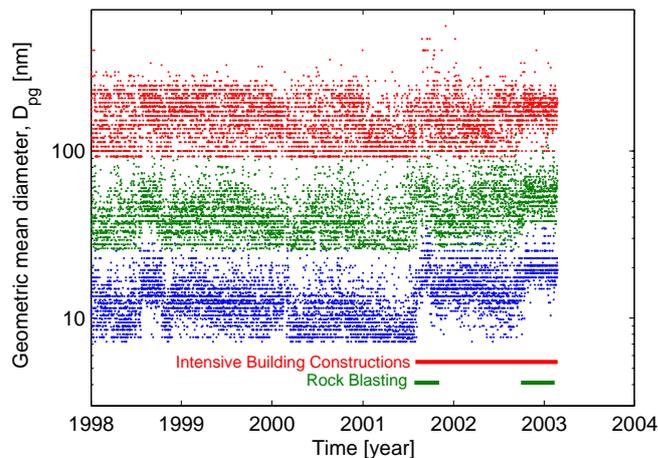


Fig. 4. Temporal variation of the mode geometric mean diameter at Siltavuori and Kumpula. The start of building construction is also indicated as well as the intensive rock blasting periods.

approximately 75%. The inversion was done by using the MatLab non negative least squares (NNLS) algorithm.

The counting statistics caused uncertainty in the size distribution. The uncertainty was dependent on the amount of counted particles per channel and varied typically between two and ten percents. The uncertainties of transport efficiency calibration and classifier voltage setting accuracy caused error for particle sizes below 15 nm. The degree of this uncertainty was not very well known. Error of one volt in the classifier voltage could cause an error of half a nanometer in sizing at ten nanometer particle diameter. The uncertainties in transport efficiency calibration were as large as ten percent. The cooperative action of all the uncertainties was complicated. Therefore, the results from the particle sizes below 15 nm must be treated with caution.

2.3 Data analysis

Aerosol data consisted of number size distributions (8–400 nm in diameter) during six years (1997–2003). This aerosol data is considered quite huge to analyze. It required careful handling and great care during the analysis. The first step of the data analysis was performed as follows:

1. The aerosol data was first stored in separate daily files; i.e. each year has 365 (366 for leap years) separate data files that contain the measured number size distributions.
2. The aerosol data was checked for quality assurance according to the reliability of the measurement and data inversion.
3. The data was prepared for processing, which required relatively long time.

4. The data was accumulated in larger yearly files.
5. Half-hourly, hourly, daily, and monthly means, medians, standard deviations and several percentiles were evaluated.
6. The total number concentration of fine particles was integrated from the number size distributions.
7. The aerosol data showed lognormal distributions. Standard central measures were then either represented by the geometric mean (GM) and its geometric standard deviation (GSD), or simply the median. The arithmetic mean (AM) and arithmetic standard deviation (ASD) were not representative of the central measures. The GM and GSD were evaluated according to

$$\log_{10}(GM_x) = \frac{1}{N_x} \sum_{i=1}^{N_x} \log_{10}(x_i) \quad (1)$$

$$\log_{10}(GSD_x) = \frac{1}{N_x} \sum_{i=1}^{N_x} [\log_{10}(x_i) - \log_{10}(GM_x)]^2 \quad (2)$$

where \log_{10} is the base 10 logarithm, GM_x and GSD_x are respectively the geometric mean and geometric standard deviation of a group of variables x that has N_x elements.

The second step of the data analysis was performed as follows:

1. The data was investigated separately for workdays (Monday–Friday) and weekend (Saturday and Sunday).
2. The diurnal patterns were evaluated.
3. Seasonal analysis was performed.
4. The annual variation was investigated.
5. Multi-lognormal fitting was performed for the number size distributions.

Number size distributions were fitted to a multi-lognormal distribution function in the form (Seinfeld and Pandis, 1998)

$$\frac{dN}{d(\log(D_p))} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{N_i}{\sqrt{2\pi} \log(\sigma_{g,i})} \exp \left[-\frac{(\log(D_p) - \log(\bar{D}_{pg,i}))^2}{2 \log^2(\sigma_{g,i})} \right] \quad (3)$$

where D_p [nm] is the particle diameter, and the three parameters that characterize an individual mode i are: the total number concentration N_i [cm^{-3}], the geometrical variance $\sigma_{g,i}^2$ [nm^2], and the geometrical mean diameter $\bar{D}_{pg,i}$ (nm). n is the number of possible individual modes. We will recall these parameters in this study without the subscript “ i ”; i.e. N , D_{pg} , and σ_g . In some places of this study, we will use GMD instead of the geometric mean particle diameter or D_{pg} .

2.4 Weather conditions in Helsinki during 1997–2002

The weather conditions (temperature, pressure, and wind speed and direction) were available from the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI) in Helsinki. Throughout the five years (1997–2002), the daily mean pressure varied between 980 and 1040 hPa. The coldest period was during January and February. The mean wind direction was southwesterly and the daily mean wind speed was lower than 9 m/s. The daily mean temperature varied between -10 and 25°C ; seldom was lower than -10°C observed in the wintertime.

An annual periodicity was observed in the daily mean temperature, which was best fit to the periodic function

$$T(d) = 280.35 + 12.0 \cdot \sin \left[2\pi \frac{d}{366} + \frac{4}{3}\pi \right] \quad (4)$$

where T [Kelven] is the daily mean temperature and d is the day number starting by 1 for 1 January 1997.

2.4.1 Seasonal periods in Helsinki according to the temperature variation

According to the temperature variation, the seasons are defined by the daily mean temperature. However, with this method the length of different seasons might vary considerably from year to year. In the southern part of Finland, winter usually begins during November and ends by late March. Spring starts in early or mid April and ends in mid May, when summer usually begins and lasts until mid September. Autumn begins around the last week of September. Detailed information about the weather changes and climate can be found from the web page of the Finnish Meteorological Institute http://www.fmi.fi/weather/climate_4.html.

In summary, the thermal seasonal periods can be called for short as NDJFM, A(M), (M)JJAS, and SO respectively for winter, spring, summer, and autumn. We put “(M)” to indicate that the season starts/ends in mid May.

2.5 Traffic density in Helsinki metropolitan area during 1997–2002

Traffic density in Helsinki showed slightly increasing trend between 1997 and 2001. The annual increase was about 2% on average (Lilleberg and Hellman, 2003). In the year 2002 the traffic density in Helsinki decreased about 3%. The mean constitution of all vehicles in the city center during 2000–2002 was: passenger cars 81%, vans 10%, trucks 3% and buses 6%. When moving away from the city center towards the city border the amount of passenger cars was 83%, vans 9%, trucks 6% and buses 2%.

2.5.1 Traffic density during workdays (Monday–Friday)

The daily mean (1997–2002) traffic density of all vehicles varied between 463,000 and 525,000 vehicle/day during September on the outer motorways inside the Helsinki

Table 1. GM's of the fitting parameters of each mode.

		Siltavuori			Kumpula		
		σ_g	D_{pg} [nm]	N [cm ⁻³]	σ_g	D_{pg} [nm]	N [cm ⁻³]
Nucleation mode	Mode 1	1.71	11.7	7100	1.63	13.8	5670
	Mode 1a (fresh mode)	–	–	–	–	8.9	–
	Mode 1b	–	11.7	–	–	17.7	–
Aitken mode	Mode 2	1.78	37.3	6320	1.71	42.5	4050
	Mode 2a (Extra mode)	–	25.9	–	–	24.4	–
	Mode 2b	–	43.8	–	–	48.1	–
Accumulation mode	Mode 3	1.60	150.5	960	1.54	151.8	900

metropolitan. The daily mean traffic density in the city center varied between 360,000 and 260,000 vehicle/day. Among the workdays, the traffic density was highest during Wednesday through Friday. Among the months, the traffic density was highest during May and June and lowest during July (summer holiday), right after Christmas, and February (ski holidays).

Among the day, the traffic density was lowest during the late night time (after 22:00) and early morning (before 04:30). The highest traffic activity was during the morning (05:00–09:00) and afternoon (13:00–17:00) rush hours. During the late morning and midday (09:00–13:00), the traffic activity was approximately half its value during the rush hours.

2.5.2 Traffic density during weekend (Saturday and Sunday)

The traffic density during the weekend was lower than that during workdays. The traffic density during weekends was higher in the city center than on the outer motorways inside the Helsinki metropolitan. The main differences in traffic density between workdays and weekends were: (1) the traffic density was higher than the weekly average during workdays and lower during weekends, (2) the traffic density decreased towards city center during workdays while it increased towards city center during weekends, and (3) the daily pattern of the traffic density during workdays consisted of two peaks (morning and afternoon rush hours), while the daily pattern during weekend days consisted of a wide shallow peak (see Fig. 2).

3 Results and discussion

3.1 Particle number size distributions

Multi-lognormal fitting was performed on the half-hourly means of the number size distribution. About 18% of the fitting cases required either two or more than three modes to best fit the number size distribution. The requirement of more than three modes was due to the very dynamic

feature of urban aerosols. In urban conditions, the particle size distributions vary rapidly in shape and magnitude following the instantaneous traffic variation and local meteorology. Therefore, running half-hour means, which may include six measured instantaneous number size distributions, sometimes produce artificial mean number size distributions that may consist of more three modes of aerosol particles.

The analysis with respect to the mode GMD showed the existence of three main characteristic modes: mode 1 (nucleation mode) that existed within particle diameter smaller than 30 nm, mode 2 (Aitken mode) within 20–100 nm, and mode 3 (accumulation mode) within particles larger than 90 nm. The GMD of the accumulation mode was not observed within particle diameters larger than 350 nm. The frequency histograms of the mode GMD are presented in Fig. 3, and mean values are shown in Table 1. The monthly GM and GSD values of the D_{pg} , σ_g , and N are presented in Appendix A. The geometric mean of the σ_g was about 1.71, 1.78, and 1.60 respectively for the nucleation mode, Aitken mode, and accumulation mode at Siltavuori, and about 1.63, 1.71, and 1.54 for the same order at Kumpula.

As can be seen from Fig. 3, the nucleation mode consisted of two submodes at Kumpula and one mode at Siltavuori. The nucleation submode 1 (Mode 1a; fresh mode) existed with a GMD of 8.9 nm at Kumpula. The corresponding Mode 1a at Siltavuori was not observed because it is smaller than the measured particle size range. This nucleation submode represented the fresh nucleation mode, which is produced by direct traffic emissions and gas to particle conversion. The nucleation submode 2 (Mode 1b) existed with a GMD of about 11.7 nm at Siltavuori and 17.7 nm at Kumpula.

The GMD of the Aitken mode (Mode 2b) was about 43.8 nm at Siltavuori and 48.1 nm at Kumpula. An extra mode (Mode 2a, extra mode) was observed with a GMD of about 25 nm. The accumulation mode GMD was about 150 nm at both sites. The extra mode (Mode 2a) is believed to be of a regional origin because it existed with an equal percentage (about 25% of Mode 2) at both sites. The accumulation mode was also observed with similar characteristics at both sites, which is an indication of a regional characteristic in this mode.

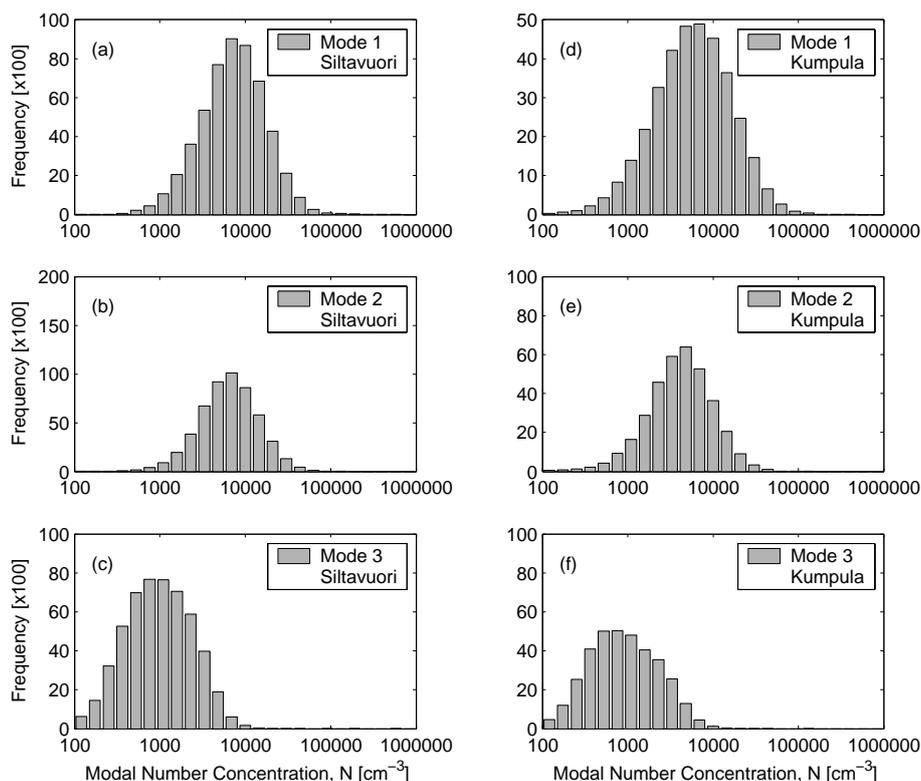


Fig. 5. Frequency histograms of the mode number concentrations (N_i) at Siltavuori (a)–(c) and at Kumpula (d)–(f).

Table 2. Annual means and medians of the total number concentrations [cm^{-3}]. From 1 January 1998 to 5 March 2001 the measurement was at Siltavuori, and after that it has been at Kumpula.

Year	Median	Geometric mean	Arithmetic mean
1998	12 993	13 819	17 590
1999	13 587	14 265	17 812
2000	13 042	13 313	16 450
2001	11 418	12 230	16 093
2002	9553	10 077	13 588

The GMD at Kumpula were larger than those at Siltavuori, which was due to the evolution of the aerosol particles while transported from its origin; i.e. the ultrafine particles ($D_p < 100$ nm) at Kumpula were a bit older than those at Siltavuori and their GMD values were shifted to larger particle diameters. Another reason for the difference in the GMD values between both sites is the building constructions that took place nearby the measurement site at Kumpula. In Fig. 4 we see clearly, the changes in the GMD values of the nucleation and Aitken modes at Kumpula during the construction of a new building nearby the measurement site. This was particularly clear during the intensive rock blasting, which produced higher concentrations of big particles causing a higher coagulation sink to eat up smaller particles in nucleation mode

and also hindering formation of new particles (see e.g. Kulmala et al., 2001).

On the other hand, the landscape and measurement elevations played a role in the GMD shift. Siltavuori was an open area directly exposed to the traffic emissions from the downtown area from the northern side and densely office and apartment buildings with many roads and streets from the southern side. The northern side of Kumpula was mainly park fields that were partly covered with trees, while a dense tree strip (about 200 m width) separated between the physics department building at Kumpula from the main highway on the southern side. Also, the measurements at Kumpula were held at the fourth floor level (about 15 m) above the ground level. Recently formed ultrafine particles may grow by condensation and coagulation resulting in a shift of the maximum diameter of the number size distribution (Kulmala et al., 2004; Wehner et al., 2002; Wu et al., 2002; Zhang and Wexler, 2002). Therefore, during transport from the street portion to the urban background, several processes may influence the number size distributions, such as coagulation, condensational growth, plume dilution, and vertical mixing (Turco and Fangqun, 1999). However, the building construction nearby will produce a large amount of dust and coarse particles increasing the coagulation sink and reduce the number concentration of smaller particles; especially ultrafine particles (Jung et al., 2002).

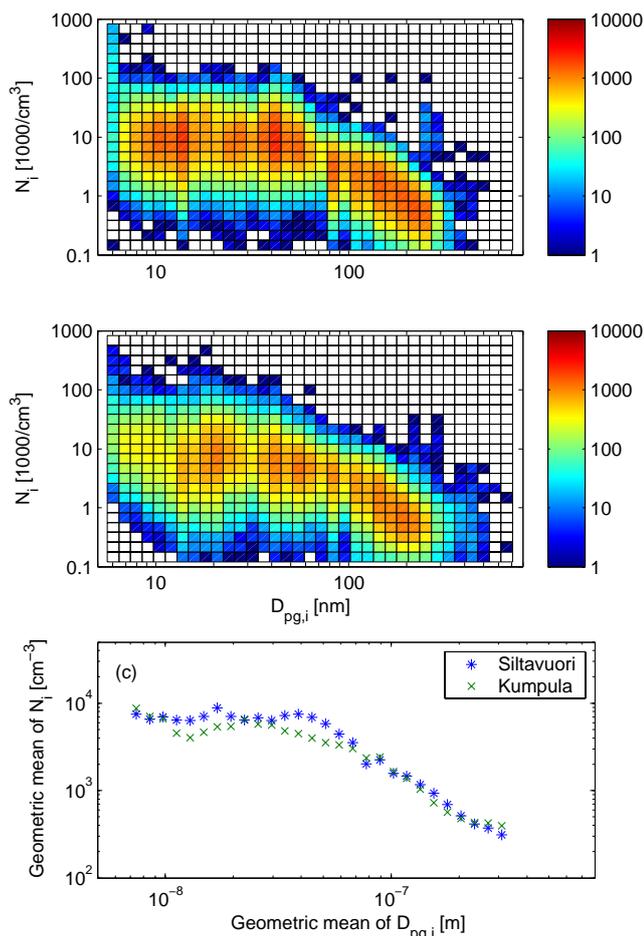


Fig. 6. Frequency histograms within a certain modal concentration range (N_i) and a modal geometric mean diameter range ($D_{pg,i}$) (a) at Siltavuori and (b) Kumpula. (c) The geometric mean of (N_i) versus the geometric mean of the geometric mean diameter (D_{pg}).

The mode number concentration showed lognormal characteristics (Fig. 5). The geometric mean of the mode number concentrations were about 7000 cm⁻³, 6500 cm⁻³, and 1000 cm⁻³ respectively for the nucleation mode (Mode 1), Aitken mode (Mode 2), and the accumulation mode (Mode 3) at Siltavuori, and about 5500 cm⁻³, 4000 cm⁻³, and 1000 cm⁻³ at Kumpula respectively for the same order. The mode number concentration variation with respect to its GMD showed relatively similar characteristics at both sites (Fig. 6). The largest number concentrations were observed for modes with GMD smaller than 100 nm. The mode number concentration within the accumulation mode (Mode 3) decreased when the GMD increased. Some differences between the two sites were observed. The mode number concentration was about 2000 cm⁻³ higher at Siltavuori than at Kumpula within the GMD ranges 10–20 nm and 30–60 nm (Fig. 6c). There was also a slight difference within the GMD range 150–200 nm (Fig. 6c). The smaller concentrations at Kumpula were mainly due to the slight decreasing trend during the latest years.

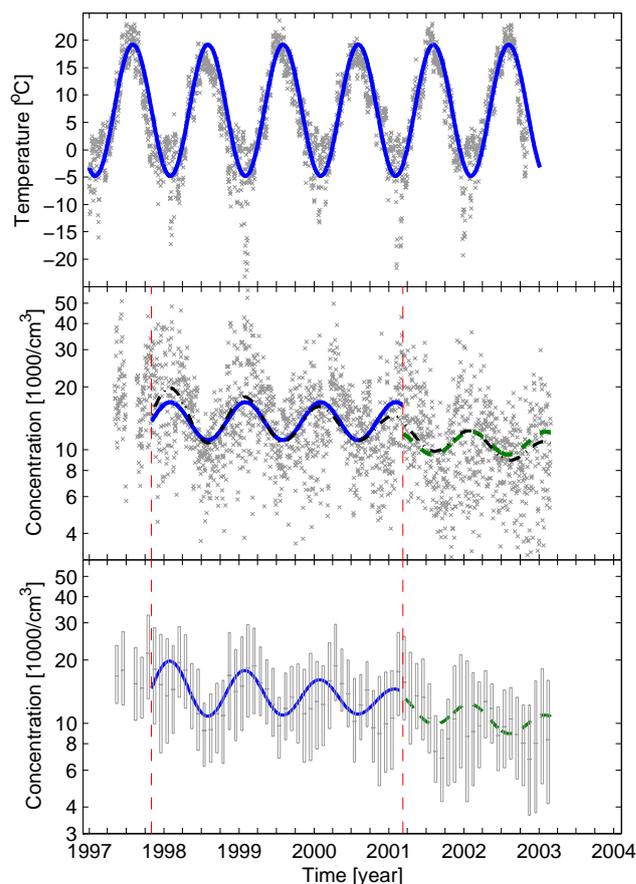


Fig. 7. (a) Temporal variation of the temperature. Temporal variation of the total number concentration ($8 \text{ nm} < D_p < 400 \text{ nm}$) presented as (b) daily medians and (c) monthly medians (with 25% as the lower limit of the box plot and 75% as the upper limit).

3.2 Total number concentrations

Monthly arithmetic mean, standard deviation, and medians with different percentiles (5%, 25%, 75%, and 95%) of the total number concentrations were evaluated from the hourly medians (Appendix B). The minimum 30-minute value was around 1000 cm⁻³ and the maximum was around 60 000 cm⁻³. The monthly total number concentrations showed a decreasing trend accompanied by a periodic behavior. This was observed at both Siltavuori and Kumpula (Fig. 7).

On the annual basis (Table 2), the geometric mean value of the total number concentrations increased by about 3% in year 1999, and then decreased by 7% in year 2000. The decreasing trend in the total number concentration continued in the following years to be about 17% in year 2002. The annual variation in the number concentration was clearly related to the traffic density and vehicle engine type as well as the new technology used in engine performance. In Helsinki,

Table 3. Multi-lognormal fitting parameters of the mean number size distributions during different seasons.

		Mode 1 (Nucleation)			Mode 2 (Aitken)			Mode 3 (Accumulation)		
		σ_g	D_{pg} [nm]	N_{tot} [cm ⁻³]	σ_g	D_{pg} [nm]	N_{tot} [cm ⁻³]	σ_g	D_{pg} [nm]	N_{tot} [cm ⁻³]
Siltavuori, workday	Season 1 (Winter)	1.90	11.0	11 126	1.90	30.8	11 690	1.79	135.0	1246
	Season 2 (Spring)	1.90	11.4	14 360	1.90	35.2	10 358	1.90	115.0	1717
	Season 3 (Summer)	1.69	11.4	6059	1.90	37.6	8584	1.83	118.0	1486
	Season 4 (Autumn)	1.62	11.7	5391	1.90	31.6	10 339	1.90	109.0	1812
Siltavuori, weekends	Season 1 (Winter)	1.90	10.9	7255	1.90	35.7	6545	1.72	155.0	878
	Season 2 (Spring)	1.90	9.7	9750	1.90	33.8	7642	1.90	104.0	2189
	Season 3 (Summer)	1.77	11.1	4196	1.90	42.0	6158	1.84	110.0	1173
	Season 4 (Autumn)	1.87	12.5	5588	1.90	45.2	6098	1.65	158.0	749
Kumpula, workday	Season 1 (Winter)	1.80	19.5	10 128	1.80	50.2	2124	1.80	150.0	801
	Season 2 (Spring)	1.80	17.0	8999	1.80	58.5	3554	1.80	101.0	900
	Season 3 (Summer)	1.80	14.5	5847	1.80	55.4	4000	1.80	126.0	1300
	Season 4 (Autumn)	1.65	17.0	7100	1.65	50.0	2701	1.80	130.0	901
Kumpula, weekends	Season 1 (Winter)	1.65	17.5	3581	1.65	55.0	1705	1.53	191.0	457
	Season 2 (Spring)	1.75	17.5	3900	1.75	55.5	3950	1.57	172.0	543
	Season 3 (Summer)	1.80	15.5	2600	1.70	55.0	3000	1.75	125.0	1200
	Season 4 (Autumn)	1.80	17.0	3700	1.65	55.0	1801	1.65	140.0	600

the cars have been renewed continuously, and because new cars are less harmful to environment due to their engine type, this would lead to a decrease in the pollutants due to traffic combustion.

A characteristic periodic behavior was observed in the daily mean total number concentration (Fig. 7). The total number concentration was higher during the wintertime and lower during the summertime. A periodic function was used to fit the total number concentrations daily medians. At Siltavuori the periodic variation was best represented by

$$\log_{10} \left[\frac{N_{tot}(d)}{1 \text{ cm}^{-3}} \right] = 4.1369 - 0.0903 \cdot \sin \left[2\pi \frac{d}{366} + \frac{4}{3}\pi \right] \quad (5)$$

and for that at Kumpula

$$\log_{10} \left[\frac{N_{tot}(d)}{1 \text{ cm}^{-3}} \right] = 4.0323 - 0.0547 \cdot \sin \left[2\pi \frac{d}{366} + \frac{4}{3}\pi \right] \quad (6)$$

where N_{tot} [cm⁻³] is the daily median total number concentration, d is the day number starting by 1 for 1 January 1997.

It was difficult to observe the weekly pattern in the total number concentrations, because the temporal variation of the total number concentrations was larger than the weekly variation. Therefore, the annual variation had the strongest signal in the analysis. Clearly, the annual periodic behavior of the total number concentration was inversely related to that of the temperature, which was represented by a sinusoidal function of the same period but they were out of phase (180°).

3.3 Seasonal variation

The aerosol particle characteristics (modal structure and temporal variation) showed distinct differences during different

times in the year. This represented the seasonal variation of the aerosol particles in Helsinki. The first period was 1 November–28 February (NDJF), which was called Season 1, with lower total number concentrations during November and higher concentrations during February. The second period (Season 2) was 1 March–31 May (MAM) followed by Season 3 1 June–15 August (JJ“A”) and then Season 4 15 August–31 October (“A”SO). The thermal seasons were defined in a slightly different way. In the thermal seasons, the seasons are defined according to the daily mean temperature variation during the year, which was in the Helsinki area following the order NDJFM, A(M), (M)JJAS, and SO. In our present study the seasons were chosen according to the change in the aerosol characteristics (daily pattern and modal structure).

Figure 8 presents median particle number size distributions within selected hours during workdays, and those during weekends are presented in Fig. 9. The background particle number size distributions were observed during the early hours of the day (between 01:00 and 04:00) regardless of whether it was a workday or weekend. During these hours, the number concentrations of the nucleation and Aitken modes were the lowest. During different hours of the day, the particle number distributions exhibited different characteristics. These characteristics were directly related to the traffic activity in Helsinki. For example, the high concentrations of the ultrafine particles were observed during the traffic rush hours, whether it was a workday or at weekends. The concentrations were significantly lower during weekends than workdays, which are also correlated to lower traffic activity during weekends. As can be seen from Figs. 8 and 9,

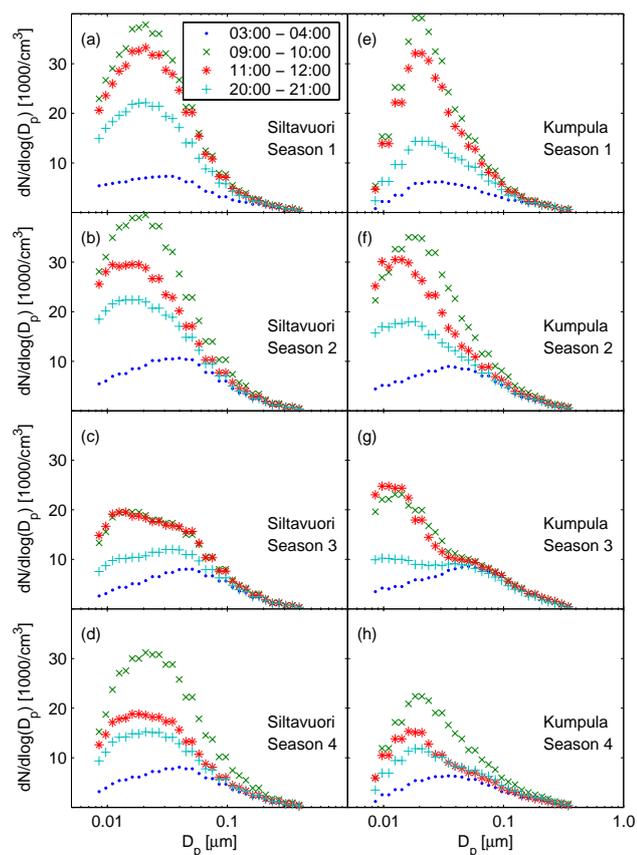


Fig. 8. Particle number size distributions during different hours of the workdays and also seasons. (a)–(d) Siltavuori and (e)–(h) Kumpula.

the difference in the particle number size distributions during different hours of the day is less during the Season 3 than other seasons. For example, the size distributions were closely similar at all times of the weekend during Season 3 (Fig. 9c and g).

Laboratory test have shown diesel engine combustion signature to be lognormal with mean diameters ranging from 60 to 120 nm, whereas those from a gasoline engine exhaust tend to have smaller mean diameters ranging from 40 to 80 nm (Harris and Maricq, 2001). The strongest signal of the traffic emissions was observed during the workdays' morning traffic rush hours. During midday hours, the traffic signal was weaker, because of lower traffic density during those hours. In the late evening hours, the nucleation mode and Aitken mode particles seemed to be dispersed and vanished to retain the background number size distributions. During weekend's at daytime, the signal from traffic combustion was observed during midday hours and afternoon, but with lower number concentrations compared to workdays (Fig. 9).

The median particle number size distributions were averaged during the different seasons at Siltavuori and Kumpula (Fig. 10). The mean number size distributions were then

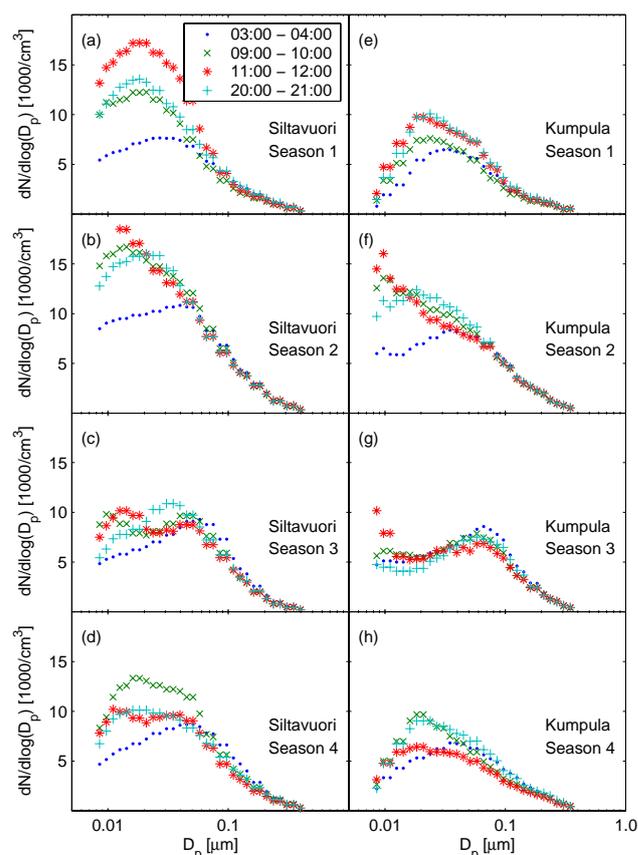


Fig. 9. Particle number size distributions during different hours of the weekends and also seasons. (a)–(d) Siltavuori and (e)–(h) Kumpula.

fitted to the multi-lognormal function described in equation (3). The modal parameters $D_{pg,i}$, $\sigma_{g,i}$, and N_i of the seasonal particle number size distributions are presented in Table 3. As postulated previously in this study, the differences in the particle number distribution characteristics between Siltavuori and Kumpula were clear in the GMD shift to larger values at Kumpula, and higher ultrafine concentrations at Siltavuori.

The daily patterns of aerosol concentrations showed a direct relationship with the traffic density. The total number concentrations had higher values during the day time; from 05:00 to 18:00 on workdays and 07:00–20:00 on weekends. On a seasonal basis, the aerosol daily patterns showed different characteristic patterns in different seasons (Figs. 11 and 12). The daily variation in the accumulation mode particles was not significant. The variation was larger in the ultrafine particles; especially nucleation mode particles. Table 4 presents mean total particle number concentrations during different hours of the day and season.

On workdays (Fig. 11), the daily pattern of aerosols during Season 1 was characterized by two peaks (maximum at 09:00 and minimum at 03:00) representing the traffic rush

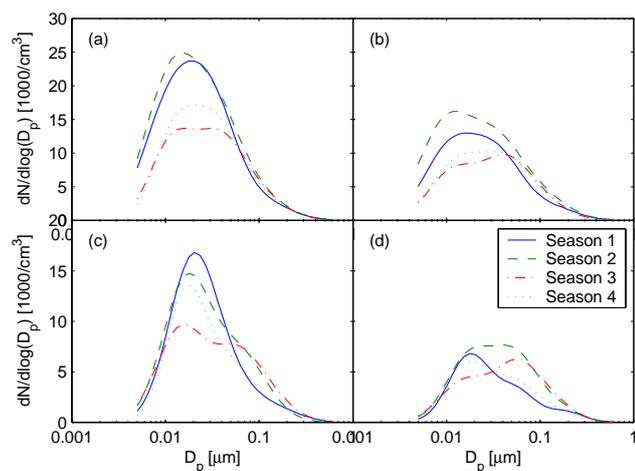


Fig. 10. Seasonal number size distributions at Siltavuori during (a) workdays and (b) weekends. (c) and (d) are the same but for Kumpula.

hours. The morning peak became larger during Season 2 and then. Both peaks were reduced during Season 3, and then in Season 4, the first peak was very clear with higher concentrations. On weekends (Fig. 12), the daily pattern of aerosols was characterized by a wide peak (maximum between 12:00 and 18:00 and minimum at 06:00) that dominated the daytime. The peak became wider with lower concentrations during season 2. Then the wide peak was not clear during Season 3 (the total number concentration at both sites did not exceed $10\,000\text{ cm}^{-3}$), when the number concentrations stayed relatively constant (Fig. 12c and g).

4 Summary and Conclusions

Long-term and continuous aerosol particle number size distribution measurements were performed in Helsinki, Finland since 5 May 1997. The aerosol data until 28 February 2003 was analyzed. The measurements were performed at Siltavuori during 1997–2001. After March 2001, the measurement site was at Kumpula. The temporal, diurnal, seasonal and annual variations of particle size distributions and total number concentrations were investigated. Investigations of long-term aerosol data sets are not sensitive to uncommon weather or emission conditions like campaign type observations.

In the Helsinki urban area, over 80% of the number size distributions consisted of three modes: nucleation mode ($D_p < 30\text{ nm}$), Aitken mode (20–100 nm) and accumulation mode ($D_p > 90\text{ nm}$). Less than 20% of the number size distributions either consisted of two modes or four modes. At Siltavuori, the modal GMD values were 11.7 nm for nucleation mode, 37.3 nm for Aitken mode and 150.5 nm for accumulation mode. The mode GMD values at Kumpula were 13.8 nm for nucleation, 42.5 nm for Aitken and 151.8 nm for accumu-

Table 4. Mean total particle number concentration [cm^{-3}] during different hours of the day and seasons.

			Siltavuori	Kumpula
Workdays	Season 1	01:00	7500	5000
		03:00 (minimum)	5000	4000
		Morning (maximum)	25 000	22 000
		Afternoon (maximum)	23 000	15 000
		Midnight	10 000	6000
Season 2	Season 2	01:00	10 000	9000
		03:00 (minimum)	9000	7500
		Morning (maximum)	30 000	28 000
		Afternoon (maximum)	21 000	17 500
		Midnight	12 500	10 000
Season 3	Season 3	01:00	7500	8000
		03:00 (minimum)	6000	7500
		Morning (maximum)	17 500	20 000
		Afternoon (maximum)	15 000	15 000
		Midnight	8000	8000
Season 4	Season 4	01:00	7500	6000
		03:00 (minimum)	7500	5000
		Morning (maximum)	25 000	17 500
		Afternoon (maximum)	15 000	10 000
		Midnight	8000	6000
Weekends	Season 1	01:00	8000	5000
		06:00 (minimum)	5000	3500
		12:00–18:00 (maximum)	12 500	10 000
		Midnight	7500	4000
		Season 2	Season 2	01:00
06:00 (minimum)	10 000			7500
12:00–18:00 (maximum)	14 000			10 000
Midnight	12 000			10 000
Season 3	Season 3			01:00
		06:00 (minimum)	7000	6000
		12:00–18:00 (maximum)	8000	6000
		Midnight	9000	9000
		Season 4	Season 4	01:00
06:00 (minimum)	7000			5000
12:00–18:00 (maximum)	7500			6000
Midnight	8000			7000

lation modes. The fresh nucleation mode was observed at Kumpula with a GMD 8.9 nm. This mode was not observed at Siltavuori because it was smaller than the measured size range. The GMD of the aged nucleation mode was 13.8 nm at Siltavuori and 17.7 nm at Kumpula. There was also a young Aitken mode (extra mode) that was observed with 25 nm a GMD at both sites. The aged Aitken mode was observed at GMD 43.8 nm at Siltavuori and 48.1 nm at Kumpula.

In other European cities, the fresh mode was observed at 5.9 nm GMD, and the aged nucleation mode was seen at 15.8 nm (Birmili et al., 2001). In the same study, the Aitken

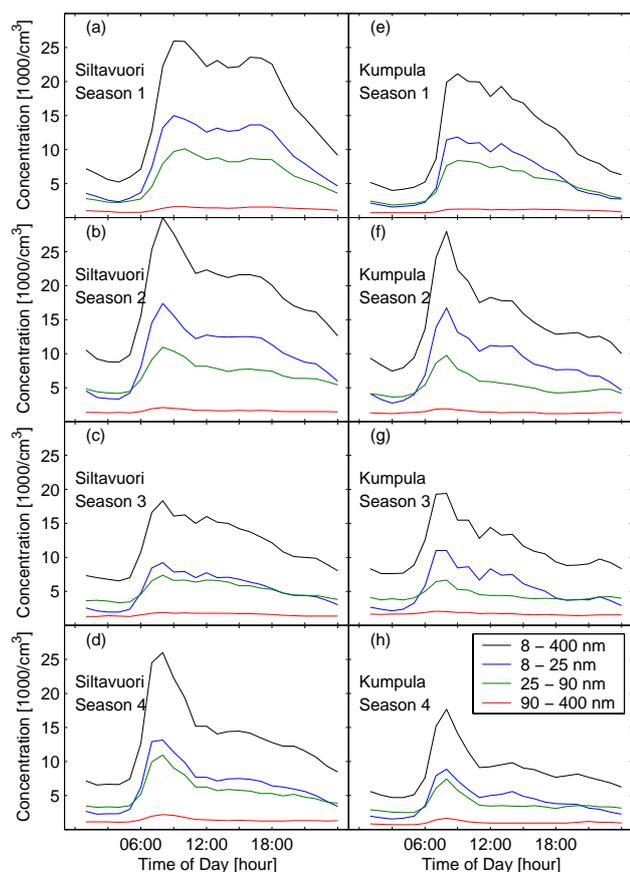


Fig. 11. Daily patterns of the total number concentration on work-days during the different seasons. (a)–(d) Siltavuori and (e)–(h) Kumpula.

mode GMD ranged between 58 nm and 76 nm depending on the air mass origin, and the accumulation mode existed with larger GMD ranging from 187 nm to 218 nm (Birmili et al., 2001). An even larger GMD for the accumulation mode was observed in Leipzig-Germany (Wehner and Wiedensohler, 2003). Wehner and Wiedensohler (2003) have shown that the nucleation mode GMD existed within 11 nm and 18 nm, whereas for the Aitken mode it was between 39 nm and 68 nm.

The small GMD of the Aitken mode observed at Helsinki seems to be characteristic of Scandinavian conditions. Tunved et al. (2003) have shown that two Aitken modes existed in five background locations spread out from south to north Scandinavia. For north-east air masses, the first Aitken mode had a GMD ranging from 30 nm and 40 nm, whereas the second Aitken mode 40 nm to 55 nm. These values stay more comparable to what we have found at Helsinki. Furthermore, the nucleation mode observed by Tunved et al. (2003) was also in the same range of the aged nucleation mode observed at Helsinki. But the accumulation mode GMD was larger than 165 nm in the background areas in

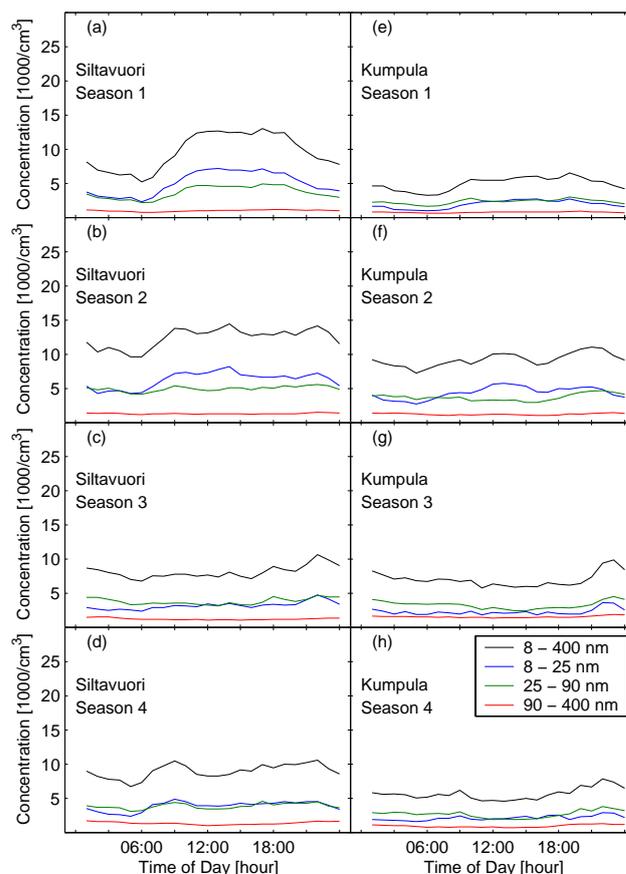


Fig. 12. Daily patterns of the total number concentration on weekends during the different seasons. (a)–(d) Siltavuori and (e)–(h) Kumpula.

Scandinavia compared to what we have observed at Helsinki (GMD \sim 150 nm). However, when the air mass originated from south-west, the GMD values of all the modes were shifted to larger values that coincide with the characteristics observed by Birmili et al. (2001) and Wehner and Wiedensohler (2003).

The arithmetic mean values of the mode number concentrations observed at Siltavuori were about 7000 cm^{-3} , 6500 cm^{-3} and 1000 cm^{-3} respectively for nucleation, Aitken and accumulation modes. At Kumpula they were about 5500 cm^{-3} , 4000 cm^{-3} and 1000 cm^{-3} . The difference between the two sites was mainly due to the fact that at Kumpula the building constructions in the vicinity produced big particles (like building dust) caused a large coagulation sink to eat up a significant fraction of the ultrafine particles and a large condensation sink to prevent new particle formation. On the other hand, the larger GMD values at Kumpula were due to the evolution of the aerosol particles during transportation from their origin; i.e. the ultrafine particles ($d_p < 100\text{ nm}$) at Kumpula were a bit older than those at Siltavuori.

The total number concentrations in the nucleation and Aitken modes were significantly higher on workdays than weekends. The difference in accumulation mode was not significant. At Siltavuori and Kumpula, the temporal variation of the total number concentrations and ultrafine particle concentrations followed closely the traffic density variation. Among the workdays, the highest concentrations were observed on Fridays, and among weekends the lowest concentrations were observed on Sundays. Seasonally, the lowest total number concentrations were observed during summer-holiday months (June–July) and the highest total number concentrations during March–April. This was also because of lower traffic density during summer holidays in Helsinki. Also the peak numbers concentrations occurred during rush hours.

The total number concentration observed in Helsinki seems to be lower than what can be found in other urban conditions in the European countries. For example, Wehner and Wiendensohler (2003) have shown that during the night, the mean total number concentration was about $23\,500\text{ cm}^{-3}$ during the winter workdays and about $16\,200\text{ cm}^{-3}$ during the summer workdays. However, the daily patterns seemed to be similar in Leipzig and Helsinki.

Within Finland (Laakso et al., 2003), the total number concentration was about the 2000 cm^{-3} in a background location (Hyytiälä) in southern Finland, and it was about 1000 cm^{-3} in the background conditions in the northern part of Finland (Värriö and Pallas). The daily patterns of the total number concentrations were clearly negligible at these background stations. The daily patterns of PM_{10} concentrations at a background station in the Helsinki outskirts was less than $15\text{ }\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ with a minimum less than $10\text{ }\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^3$ at noon and a maximum at midnight, whereas at Siltavuori, the daily pattern of the PM_{10} showed similar variation as those observed for the total number concentrations (Laakso et al., 2003).

An understanding of the particle size distributions provides more information on the type of atmospheric processes resulting in aerosols. The modal structure of the particle size distribution is one such aspect that has been associated with aerosol formation mechanisms (e.g. Mäkelä et al., 1997). Knowledge and understanding of the presence and location of modes in particle size distributions is of importance not only for understanding the mechanisms of atmospheric processes, but also, for exposure and risk assessment. Complex size distributions of airborne particles in ambient air result from a multiplicity of sources generating particles of different composition as well as of different size and concentration characteristics.

In order to be able to study urban aerosol dynamics and the possible health effects of aerosol particles long continuous data sets are needed. The present data is a good example of this kind of data set, which can be used for different purposes, e.g. the observed 95% value of number concentration can be used when new air quality directives are considered. On the other hand the effect of traffic density and building

construction can be seen and the local air quality information can be given according to known activities. In addition, urban air quality models can be tested against representative continuous data sets.

Appendix A

Monthly GM±GSD of the modal D_{pg} , σ_{pg} , and N

1997	D_{pg} [nm]			σ_g			N_i [cm ⁻³]		
	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3
January	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
February	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
March	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
April	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
May	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
June	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
July	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
August	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
September	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
October	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
November	10.71±1.48	36.77±1.35	150.95±1.40	1.70±1.12	1.78±1.08	1.58±1.12	14371.±4.	8317.±3.	1291.±2.
December	9.76±1.58	38.27±1.42	145.12±1.41	1.64±1.15	1.78±1.08	1.60±1.12	17001.±6.	7159.±3.	1393.±2.

1998	D_{pg} [nm]			σ_g			N_i [cm ⁻³]		
	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3
January	10.73±1.49	35.14±1.33	136.25±1.45	1.72±1.14	1.77±1.09	1.58±1.12	10991.±4.	6789.±2.	1018.±2.
February	11.86±1.32	34.21±1.30	146.13±1.40	1.72±1.09	1.81±1.07	1.62±1.14	9108.±3.	7065.±2.	782.±3.
March	12.27±1.32	36.17±1.31	140.97±1.43	1.71±1.09	1.79±1.08	1.58±1.14	10918.±2.	9524.±2.	994.±3.
April	10.80±1.35	36.19±1.42	135.35±1.41	1.70±1.10	1.77±1.09	1.61±1.13	10984.±2.	7871.±2.	1452.±2.
May	10.11±1.29	34.40±1.36	126.05±1.45	1.71±1.09	1.81±1.08	1.61±1.13	8428.±2.	6518.±2.	1072.±3.
June	11.73±1.31	39.89±1.32	138.25±1.44	1.72±1.10	1.78±1.08	1.56±1.12	5354.±2.	5964.±2.	1012.±3.
July	13.92±1.34	44.93±1.35	154.42±1.42	1.68±1.10	1.76±1.09	1.53±1.13	3890.±2.	4586.±2.	710.±2.
August	16.12±1.24	47.19±1.23	168.16±1.39	1.61±1.08	1.70±1.07	1.47±1.10	4528.±2.	4662.±2.	499.±2.
September	16.27±1.26	47.49±1.28	168.00±1.34	1.63±1.09	1.69±1.09	1.48±1.10	4723.±2.	5248.±2.	607.±2.
October	13.23±1.39	39.46±1.35	149.76±1.36	1.70±1.09	1.75±1.08	1.54±1.13	5740.±2.	4814.±2.	555.±2.
November	11.70±1.32	35.57±1.34	151.82±1.42	1.72±1.09	1.80±1.08	1.61±1.14	9544.±2.	7676.±2.	886.±2.
December	13.67±1.25	37.92±1.29	162.72±1.33	1.66±1.07	1.78±1.08	1.58±1.13	7735.±2.	5940.±2.	725.±2.

1999	D_{pg} [nm]			σ_g			N_i [cm ⁻³]		
	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3
January	13.51±1.27	39.49±1.27	163.90±1.35	1.67±1.08	1.77±1.08	1.58±1.13	8294.±2.	7630.±2.	855.±2.
February	14.38±1.34	40.37±1.30	156.25±1.36	1.69±1.09	1.74±1.08	1.57±1.13	9018.±3.	8896.±2.	1044.±2.
March	13.42±1.33	41.54±1.35	155.80±1.41	1.66±1.10	1.77±1.08	1.56±1.12	9372.±3.	8035.±2.	1275.±2.
April	12.60±1.28	41.94±1.40	151.13±1.44	1.65±1.09	1.77±1.08	1.55±1.12	8686.±2.	6973.±2.	1011.±3.
May	12.48±1.30	38.96±1.32	143.68±1.44	1.68±1.10	1.75±1.09	1.54±1.12	7778.±2.	6178.±2.	874.±2.
June	12.30±1.30	43.52±1.38	138.98±1.47	1.68±1.10	1.79±1.08	1.56±1.12	5076.±2.	6200.±2.	1427.±2.
July	12.80±1.30	43.40±1.33	142.27±1.44	1.70±1.10	1.70±1.11	1.50±1.12	4276.±2.	4793.±2.	842.±3.
August	12.52±1.28	41.22±1.29	143.21±1.42	1.67±1.10	1.78±1.09	1.54±1.12	6018.±2.	5819.±2.	950.±2.
September	12.83±1.31	42.76±1.32	156.01±1.37	1.68±1.09	1.78±1.08	1.58±1.13	6144.±2.	6867.±2.	1123.±3.
October	11.97±1.31	37.05±1.36	151.21±1.41	1.74±1.09	1.79±1.09	1.58±1.14	7400.±2.	5799.±2.	664.±2.
November	11.43±1.34	36.63±1.35	153.81±1.41	1.75±1.09	1.79±1.08	1.59±1.14	6362.±3.	5490.±3.	736.±2.
December	11.65±1.33	35.27±1.31	145.09±1.40	1.76±1.08	1.81±1.08	1.61±1.14	6864.±3.	5598.±2.	734.±2.

2000	D_{pg} [nm]			σ_g			N_i [cm ⁻³]		
	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3
January	12.52±1.25	35.05±1.26	148.62±1.25	1.68±1.08	1.79±1.08	1.54±1.11	6611.±2.	5712.±2.	602.±2.
February	13.00±1.26	36.82±1.27	150.03±1.28	1.70±1.08	1.78±1.07	1.54±1.12	5909.±2.	6139.±2.	613.±2.
March	10.00±1.41	29.89±1.35	128.13±1.38	1.75±1.10	1.79±1.09	1.62±1.13	10796.±3.	6568.±2.	939.±2.
April	8.70±1.31	30.85±1.37	123.95±1.41	1.70±1.10	1.80±1.09	1.66±1.13	13316.±2.	9287.±2.	1640.±3.
May	9.90±1.36	35.95±1.39	126.79±1.48	1.75±1.10	1.73±1.11	1.54±1.13	9196.±2.	7506.±2.	1014.±3.
June	10.27±1.38	38.60±1.37	126.37±1.44	1.75±1.11	1.74±1.10	1.56±1.13	6964.±2.	7044.±2.	1170.±3.
July	10.44±1.39	37.12±1.39	136.18±1.40	1.73±1.10	1.77±1.10	1.61±1.13	5519.±2.	5009.±2.	1114.±2.
August	10.47±1.41	36.49±1.40	126.28±1.43	1.73±1.10	1.79±1.09	1.61±1.14	6141.±2.	5740.±2.	1325.±2.
September	11.28±1.36	38.23±1.35	135.43±1.42	1.74±1.09	1.80±1.08	1.59±1.14	7279.±2.	7160.±2.	1162.±3.
October	11.08±1.32	39.34±1.42	151.70±1.34	1.73±1.09	1.83±1.07	1.70±1.13	4272.±2.	4734.±2.	1298.±2.
November	10.56±1.31	38.90±1.39	160.11±1.38	1.73±1.09	1.79±1.09	1.67±1.14	4759.±3.	4939.±3.	1037.±2.
December	9.93±1.29	33.58±1.37	152.70±1.39	1.71±1.09	1.81±1.08	1.67±1.14	5954.±2.	4923.±2.	897.±2.

2001	D_{pg} [nm]			σ_g			N_i [cm ⁻³]		
	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3
January	9.50±1.27	29.90±1.34	130.19±1.31	1.74±1.09	1.80±1.08	1.69±1.11	6242.±2.	4919.±2.	1226.±2.
February	9.31±1.28	27.83±1.30	115.22±1.27	1.74±1.09	1.74±1.08	1.63±1.10	11793.±2.	8741.±2.	1340.±2.
March	9.46±1.36	29.23±1.41	123.68±1.31	1.71±1.10	1.74±1.09	1.64±1.11	12575.±2.	6951.±2.	1395.±2.
April	8.17±1.32	31.00±1.48	117.70±1.37	1.69±1.11	1.77±1.09	1.64±1.11	9455.±3.	6449.±2.	1696.±3.
May	7.87±1.33	30.10±1.43	112.40±1.36	1.65±1.11	1.73±1.10	1.57±1.11	11821.±2.	6342.±2.	1140.±3.
June	7.84±1.29	32.29±1.47	109.33±1.37	1.66±1.10	1.77±1.10	1.58±1.11	9316.±2.	6359.±2.	1887.±2.
July	9.17±1.35	39.00±1.48	128.81±1.32	1.68±1.11	1.75±1.11	1.57±1.11	5831.±2.	4716.±2.	1851.±2.
August	15.39±1.38	53.04±1.37	151.92±1.45	1.62±1.11	1.69±1.10	1.49±1.11	3272.±2.	3368.±2.	707.±3.
September	20.46±1.28	54.14±1.32	162.06±1.41	1.59±1.09	1.70±1.09	1.52±1.10	2650.±2.	2772.±2.	598.±2.
October	15.20±1.23	45.56±1.30	173.05±1.40	1.58±1.09	1.71±1.08	1.52±1.12	3940.±2.	4050.±2.	568.±2.
November	14.61±1.24	37.81±1.37	145.80±1.30	1.61±1.08	1.65±1.09	1.57±1.10	6590.±3.	3197.±3.	714.±2.
December	16.40±1.21	42.99±1.30	155.47±1.28	1.59±1.07	1.66±1.09	1.57±1.10	6853.±3.	4003.±2.	991.±2.

2002	D_{pg} [nm]			σ_g			N_i [cm ⁻³]		
	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3
January	15.98±1.27	42.93±1.42	156.36±1.45	1.67±1.08	1.74±1.10	1.59±1.13	5485.±4.	3226.±3.	838.±2.
February	16.03±1.29	41.60±1.34	142.22±1.26	1.64±1.09	1.66±1.09	1.47±1.09	5326.±3.	3445.±2.	590.±2.
March	16.07±1.29	45.23±1.41	142.92±1.29	1.61±1.09	1.69±1.10	1.48±1.09	5099.±3.	3340.±2.	768.±3.
April	16.15±1.33	47.93±1.40	144.72±1.33	1.64±1.10	1.71±1.10	1.52±1.10	6237.±2.	4668.±2.	1272.±3.
May	14.98±1.32	45.95±1.39	127.91±1.33	1.64±1.11	1.69±1.10	1.47±1.08	5464.±3.	4448.±3.	963.±3.
June	13.50±1.33	47.76±1.36	138.70±1.37	1.67±1.11	1.73±1.10	1.49±1.10	3741.±2.	3766.±2.	948.±2.
July	13.69±1.35	52.67±1.40	162.70±1.42	1.67±1.11	1.72±1.09	1.50±1.11	4440.±3.	4476.±2.	987.±3.
August	12.70±1.36	47.89±1.41	152.62±1.42	1.68±1.10	1.76±1.09	1.54±1.12	5075.±2.	4329.±2.	1258.±2.
September	16.05±1.27	49.58±1.37	154.10±1.36	1.57±1.10	1.66±1.10	1.46±1.08	4823.±2.	2988.±2.	577.±3.
October	18.34±1.27	50.24±1.26	177.03±1.23	1.53±1.07	1.64±1.08	1.45±1.08	4577.±2.	2478.±2.	427.±2.
November	20.08±1.16	54.44±1.24	184.44±1.19	1.48±1.07	1.63±1.08	1.44±1.06	3483.±3.	2038.±3.	466.±2.
December	20.26±1.17	54.38±1.24	174.77±1.22	1.51±1.07	1.63±1.07	1.45±1.07	4045.±3.	2625.±3.	508.±2.

2003	D_{pg} [nm]			σ_g			N_i [cm ⁻³]		
	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3	Mode 1	Mode 2	Mode 3
January	20.54±1.22	52.53±1.25	173.94±1.21	1.54±1.08	1.63±1.07	1.45±1.07	5010.±3.	3096.±3.	508.±2.
February	19.81±1.19	56.91±1.27	174.49±1.29	1.55±1.07	1.66±1.08	1.45±1.08	4086.±3.	2778.±3.	588.±2.
March	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
April	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
May	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
June	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
July	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
August	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
September	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
October	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
November	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
December	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Appendix B

Monthly statistical values of the total number concentrations [$8 < D_p < 400$ nm] evaluated from the hourly medians. Arithmetic mean (AM) and standard deviation (STD) are the arithmetic mean and arithmetic standard deviation. N_x is the number of events.

1997									
	Min.	5%	25%	Median	75%	95%	Max.	AM±STD	N_x
January	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
February	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
March	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
April	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
May	3940	7950	12 400	16 800	23 500	38 200	57 600	19 500±9730	593
June	1030	6150	12 200	17 900	27 300	42 100	59 500	20 500±11 100	649
July	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
August	4710	6750	10 300	15 400	22 900	33 300	53 000	17 600±8890	247
September	1130	5550	10 600	14 700	20 700	32 200	59 400	16 500±8630	711
October	1830	6350	13 100	21 500	32 800	47 500	59 600	23 700±12 800	711
November	1890	4250	9950	18 100	28 500	48 100	59 000	20 800±13 300	663
December	1700	2850	7250	15 300	26 500	47 400	59 700	18 800±13 900	670

1998									
	Min.	5%	25%	Median	75%	95%	Max.	AM±STD	N_x
January	1250	3750	8050	13 500	25 200	44 400	59 800	18 100±13 200	650
February	1200	4050	8950	14 500	23 500	44 500	59 300	18 100±12 400	587
March	1870	6450	13 300	19 500	28 900	44 100	59 200	22 100±11 800	613
April	3610	6350	11 800	17 900	26 400	39 900	59 500	20 200±10 700	687
May	2270	5950	9450	13 700	19 300	28 300	52 000	15 300±7650	743
June	2290	3750	7450	11 100	18 100	31 000	54 100	13 800±8920	684
July	2910	4250	6250	9250	12 500	19 600	40 100	10 200±5150	579
August	1920	4150	6550	9350	13 800	23 800	48 700	11 100±6360	742
September	2330	4250	7250	11 100	15 500	24 900	55 300	12 400±7130	716
October	1170	3250	6450	10 900	16 000	27 800	50 600	12 500±7840	697
November	2240	4250	9350	16 900	27 000	45 100	59 900	19 800±13 100	702
December	1850	3750	8250	14 200	22 500	38 200	58 600	16 900±11 200	738

1999									
	Min.	5%	25%	Median	75%	95%	Max.	AM±STD	N_x
January	1190	4350	9250	15 000	25 800	47 800	59 700	18 900±12 900	703
February	1620	4350	10 700	18 400	29 500	46 800	59 800	21 100±13 200	625
March	2590	4950	11 100	18 800	28 400	44 100	60 000	20 900±12 200	732
April	2980	6350	10 900	15 600	23 100	36 800	58 900	18 200±9780	714
May	1670	5550	9950	14 600	20 100	32 000	55 500	16 000±8130	742
June	3040	4950	8650	12 300	18 300	29 200	48 700	14 200±7510	720
July	2630	4350	6850	9750	13 300	21 100	39 400	10 900±5530	744
August	2440	4750	8350	11 800	17 300	29 000	59 400	13 900±8070	741
September	2290	5050	9250	13 300	18 700	32 700	57 400	15 300±8870	676
October	1610	3750	8050	12 200	19 200	34 000	53 000	14 900±9400	724
November	1300	3350	6550	11 100	18 100	32 900	57 000	14 000±9800	652
December	1150	3250	6650	11 700	21 600	38 500	58 000	15 400±11 200	726

2000									
	Min.	5%	25%	Median	75%	95%	Max.	AM±STD	N_x
January	1740	3650	7550	12 700	19 700	30 500	48 500	14 500±8720	712
February	2220	4450	7850	12 300	18 800	29 400	46 900	14 200±7990	445
March	2150	4550	9450	15 900	24 200	38 600	59 800	17 800±10 600	712
April	2830	6550	12800	18 800	29 600	45 900	58 800	21 900±12 200	681
May	4770	7050	11 400	15 400	22 600	34 200	53 700	17 700±8580	708
June	3300	6050	9650	13 800	20 000	32 900	58 500	16 000±8660	690
July	1410	3950	6550	10 200	16 400	28 300	46 100	12 600±8020	665
August	2480	4650	8350	12 200	17 100	29 100	49 500	13 800±7400	736
September	3940	6450	9650	14 400	19 700	33 600	56 400	16 100±8670	652
October	1450	3050	6550	9550	14 300	23 200	55 400	11 200±7070	594
November	1020	2650	5050	8950	16 700	33 400	59 900	12 400±10 300	712
December	1340	2850	5850	9950	17 500	30 500	55 400	12 700±9170	709

2001									
	Min.	5%	25%	Median	75%	95%	Max.	AM±STD	N_x
January	1280	2250	6050	10 600	17 800	32 000	55 600	13 200±9570	689
February	2610	5250	10 900	17 600	27 100	43 600	58 700	20 200±11 900	624
March	2990	5550	10 400	15 700	25 900	43 700	58 300	19 300±11 800	718
April	2360	4350	7950	12 400	21 800	41 300	57 500	16 400±11 400	669
May	2880	5650	9450	13 500	19 300	35 500	58 100	15 900±9400	740
June	3820	5150	8350	13 300	20 200	39 100	59 500	16 200±10 600	712
July	2580	4450	7250	10 600	15 400	27 600	54 600	12 700±7640	703
August	1320	3450	5250	7350	10 900	19 000	50 600	8980±5500	506
September	1180	2250	4250	6850	9350	15 500	39 100	7540±4430	576
October	1460	3050	5050	8450	13 000	25 300	57 200	10 400±7480	698
November	1050	2450	5250	10 500	18 800	39 800	58 800	14 000±11 600	665
December	1030	2850	6150	12 100	21 200	41 800	59 600	15 600±12 100	737

2002									
	Min.	5%	25%	Median	75%	95%	Max.	AM±STD	N_x
January	1190	2050	4250	8650	19 800	37 700	59 400	13 500±12 000	722
February	1300	2650	5050	9150	17 400	38 100	59 100	13 100±11 000	640
March	1410	3150	6150	9750	15 800	32 400	59 900	12 600±9620	737
April	2060	5350	8550	12 700	17 800	34 400	58 900	15 000±9360	704
May	1690	4250	8050	11 800	15 400	29 300	53 100	13 200±7760	728
June	2100	3550	5950	8750	12 000	20 200	36 900	9860±5330	688
July	2380	3550	6150	9650	14 400	30 300	50 900	11 900±8210	741
August	2650	4050	6750	10 500	14 800	29 800	57 000	12 200±7910	643
September	1130	3250	5450	8850	13 300	26 100	55 300	10 800±7550	705
October	1210	2450	5050	8050	12 200	22 800	48 100	9680±6610	738
November	1040	1550	3650	6750	12 200	23 400	38 000	9000±7050	709
December	1050	1450	3750	8050	15 900	32 500	57 400	11 400±9980	694

2003									
	Min.	5%	25%	Median	75%	95%	Max.	AM±STD	N_x
January	1080	2150	5150	10 700	18 200	30 700	58 500	13 000±9930	742
February	1010	1850	4150	8350	16 000	30 800	52 400	11 400±9290	548
March	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
April	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
May	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
June	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
July	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
August	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
September	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
October	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
November	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
December	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

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