

Interactive comment on “Winter and summer time size distributions and densities of traffic-related aerosol particles at a busy highway in Helsinki” by A. Virtanen et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 1 March 2006

General: The articles touch two topics interesting to the aerosol community. First, the formation of nucleation mode particles related to traffic was studied, and second the density of the nucleation mode and Aitken mode was investigated.

The article need however some re-structuring to make it easier to understand and to read.

I suggest following:

The authors should more explain why they studied the mean geometric diameter of

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traffic-related particles again, although they have been so many studies on it before. So, what is new? For ACP, it is important to demonstrate a general importance of the study.

The introduction in general is too superficial. Many general statements and citations are given, which do not say very much to the reader. So, please motivate the study better!!

The author should concentrate the major part of the state of the art literature in the introduction. It is quite confusing to have the large part of the discussion only state of the art citations.

The author should also describe the method how the density is determined. This part is actually the most interesting of the article. The article should be a self-standing study and not too much depending on publication elsewhere.

English: I do not want to repeat all the typos that referee 5 has given. The English must be improved. I suggest that a native speaker reads through the article.

Figures: the graphs have in general a quality, which is not good enough, at least when I printed out them.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 6, 549, 2006.

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