

This discussion paper is/has been under review for the journal *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics (ACP)*. Please refer to the corresponding final paper in *ACP* if available.

**Elemental and
reactive mercury in
New Hampshire**

J. M. Sigler et al.

Gaseous elemental and reactive mercury in southern New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler, H. Mao, and R. Talbot

Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans and Space Climate Change Research Center,
University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, USA

Received: 7 August 2008 – Accepted: 26 August 2008 – Published: 30 September 2008

Correspondence to: J. M. Sigler (jsigler@gust.sr.unh.edu)

Published by Copernicus Publications on behalf of the European Geosciences Union.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Abstract

We conducted measurements of Hg[°] and RGM at two inland sites, Thompson Farm (TF) and Pac Monadnock (PM), and a marine site (Appledore Island – AI) from the UNH AIRMAP observing network in New Hampshire in 2007. Measurements of other important trace gases and meteorological variables were used to help understand influences on the atmospheric Hg budget in New England. Seasonal variation in both species observed at TF and PM is attributable to such factors as seasonal variation in deposition strength, meteorological conditions and biogenic emissions. Hg[°] and RGM varied diurnally at TF, particularly in spring, following the trend in air temperature and jNO₂ and suggesting photochemical production of RGM. The diurnal patterns of Hg[°] and RGM at AI during summer were nearly opposite in phase, with Hg[°] decreasing through late afternoon, suggesting more significant photochemical oxidation of Hg[°] to RGM in the marine environment, likely due to the presence of marine halogen compounds. A strong relationship of RGM with SO₂ at TF suggests a strong contribution of RGM from anthropogenic sources. Significant levels of halogen compounds measured at TF in previous studies, as well as similar Hg[°] levels and Hg[°]-CO ratios at TF and AI may suggest that similar air masses are prevalent at these sites.

1 Introduction

Mercury (Hg) has been identified as a potentially hazardous contaminant. Hg is emitted to the atmosphere primarily by combustion sources, and the regional public health impact may be dependent on the chemical form of the emitted species (EPA, 1997). Total gaseous mercury (TGM) in the atmosphere consists of two primary forms, elemental Hg (Hg[°]) and divalent reactive gaseous Hg (RGM). Hg[°] reportedly comprises >95% of the global atmospheric pool of Hg, is thought to have a lifetime of several months to a year and can therefore be transported over long distances before deposition. RGM typically represents <5% of atmospheric Hg and has an atmospheric lifetime on the

ACPD

8, 17763–17802, 2008

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



order of hours to days.

A primary source of RGM is combustion, which comprises at least 50% and 60% of total Hg emissions from coal-fired power plants (Carpi, 1997) and municipal waste combustors respectively. RGM undergoes dry/wet deposition much faster than Hg⁰ because of its high solubility and thus deposits close (<100 km) to its emission source (Lindberg and Stratton, 1998). Ecosystems located near emission sources may receive strong inputs of reactive Hg, which can enter the food chain and pose a threat to ecosystem and public health (EPA, 1997). This is of particular concern in the northeastern United States, where high Hg emissions result from a large number of power plants and municipal waste combustors serving large populations (EPA, 1997; NESCAUM, 2005), and a number of biogenic Hg “hot spots” and other areas of concern have been identified in New York and throughout New England (Evers et al., 2007).

RGM can also be produced by local oxidation of Hg⁰ (Weiss-Penzias, 2003; Poissant et al., 2004). As a result, RGM concentrations are highly variable due to changes in local pollution sources and meteorology. Accurate quantification of Hg⁰ and RGM concentrations at fine time resolution and over long sampling periods (≥1 year) is therefore critical toward elucidating anthropogenic, chemical and meteorological influences on regional Hg budgets. This will help improve Hg modeling schemes and evaluate/develop regulatory strategies.

Relatively few field campaigns have conducted speciated Hg measurements. A majority of a limited number of studies in North America have been short-term intensive campaigns over periods of several weeks to months (e.g., Malcolm et al., 2003; Gabriel et al., 2005). Three recent studies undertook year-round measurements of Hg⁰, RGM and particulate Hg in Quebec, Canada (Poissant et al., 2005), the Ohio River Valley (Yatavelli et al., 2006), and in urban and rural sites in Michigan (Liu et al., 2007). These studies revealed imprints of both local and regional sources on atmospheric Hg and showed clear diurnal and seasonal variation in Hg⁰ and RGM. The results underscore the importance of long-term, high-resolution measurements of these species, especially in areas influenced by pollution from urban/industrial sectors.

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Elemental and reactive mercury in New HampshireJ. M. Sigler et al.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[⏪](#)[⏩](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

The AIRMAP program at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) conducts year-round, continuous air quality measurements at a network of sites in rural New England, USA. These sites are downwind of major urban and industrial pollution sources in the US northeastern corridor. Mao et al. (2008), using multiple years of continuous AIRMAP measurements of Hg° together with a suite of trace gases, showed distinct diurnal variability and seasonality in Hg° concentrations and quantified the regional background level of Hg° as well as the anthropogenic influence in northern New England. Their results also suggested a strong depositional sink for Hg° and the possible influence of halogen chemistry on Hg° mixing ratios near the coast. However, the study did not include RGM measurements, which are crucial toward a full understanding of physical and chemical processes influencing the regional atmospheric mercury cycling in New England.

In this study, we report on measurements of Hg° and RGM at three AIRMAP sites during 2006–2007. This study builds upon the work of Mao et al. (2008) and represents one of very few continuous, multi-site Hg° /RGM measurement campaigns in the US. The dramatic differences among measurement sites in terms of surface characteristics, elevation, and proximity to urban and marine environments provides a unique opportunity to examine the impact of local and regional-scale anthropogenic as well as natural and marine processes on atmospheric Hg. We describe and interpret observed trends in Hg° and RGM on diurnal and seasonal time scales, examine relationships of RGM with other pollutants as well as meteorological variables, and give consideration to geographical variation of Hg species in New Hampshire.

2 Materials and methods

2.1 Sampling sites

This study utilizes data collected at three very different sites in the AIRMAP network which provide a geographical transect from rural, high-elevation terrestrial environ-

Elemental and reactive mercury in New HampshireJ. M. Sigler et al.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

ments to the ocean (Fig. 1). Thompson Farm (TF) is located near the UNH campus in Durham, NH (43.11° N, -70.75° W, 24 m elevation) and approximately 25 km from the Gulf of Maine. TF is a rural site, surrounded by mixed hardwood/pine forest and agricultural fields and is a key site for tracking regional pollution events in northern New England (e.g., Mao and Talbot, 2004a, b; Fischer and Talbot, 2005; Talbot et al., 2005). Pac Monadnock (PM; 42.86° N, -71.88° W) is a heavily-forested site approximately 90 km inland near Peterborough, NH. PM is a high elevation site (700 m) and sits above the nocturnal inversion layer. In addition, we include measurements at the UNH site on Appledore Island (AI; 42.99° N, -70.61° W), located at the Shoals Marine Lab, Gulf of Maine. This site is ~10 km offshore and uniquely situated for observing a wide variety of air masses, including from the open ocean, coastal marine and polluted continental environments (Mao et al., 2004b).

2.2 Mercury measurements

Continuous measurements of atmospheric Hg (initially as TGM) have been made since November 2003 at TF, and December of 2004 at PM. In 2006, RGM measurements were added at TF and PM in November and December, respectively. At AI, Hg⁰ and RGM measurements were conducted during the warm season (May–October) of 2007.

TGM is measured via cold vapor atomic fluorescence spectrophotometry (CVAFS) with a mercury vapor analyzer (model 2537A, Tekran, Inc.) at 5-min intervals and with a detection limit of ~5–10 ppqv (1 ng Hg m⁻³ ~112 ppqv). Details of TGM measurements, including discussion of precision, accuracy and calibration, can be found in Mao et al. (2008). RGM is measured with a speciation unit (Tekran model 1130) consisting of a denuder and pump module installed upstream of the TGM analyzer. At TF and PM, the analyzer is housed in a temperature-controlled (~25°C) instrumentation shed. The denuder module is mounted on top of the shed at a height of approximately 5 m. At AI, the denuder module is mounted at the top of a World War II-era observation tower (~20 m), with the TGM analyzer installed inside the top floor.

The denuder module is attached to the pump module and TGM analyzer by a heated

(50°C) umbilical line. The KCl-coated denuder strips out RGM during a predetermined sampling period while the TGM analyzer continuously measures Hg⁰ (see Landis et al., 2002). Over the final 30 min of the sampling period, the denuder is flushed with zero air and heated to 500°C so that the RGM is thermally desorbed and sampled (as Hg⁰) by the TGM analyzer. We measure RGM over a 2-h sampling period at a rate of 10 L min⁻¹, and with a detection limit of ~0.1 ppqv, based on three times the standard deviation of the average blank (e.g., 0.003±0.03 ppqv, *n*=3626 at TF in 2007; Sigler et al., 2008).

Clean operation of the 1130 system is verified by flushing the system with zero air. Ideally, the resultant concentration during zero air flushes before and after denuder heating is 0 ppqv. To ensure clean operation, the denuders, denuder module glassware, impactor frits and sample filters are replaced and cleaned on a 10-day basis at TF and PM, and more often on a 2–3 week basis at AI. At TF and especially AI, high humidity may corrode zero air canisters, saturate soda lime and lead to poor blanks or enhance cartridge passivation. To minimize the potential of moisture damage and improve blank concentrations during desorption, the airstream leading into the 1130 pump module is cooled and dried using a custom-built refrigerator assembly and a canister of drierite. This system ensures that even when the drierite is exhausted, the relative humidity of the air entering the pump module is ~25% or less. At AI, humidity as well as sea salts led to high blanks during the first month of deployment in 2007. Addition of the refrigerator assembly along with replacement of an aging pump diaphragm on 9 August resulted in clean blank values (0 ppqv) on more than 80% of the RGM observations at AI for the remainder of the field campaign.

In our experience, concentrations of 0 ppqv are achieved for >99% of zero air flushes after desorption and for >94% of zero air flushes immediately before desorption at both TF and PM. When a concentration of 0 ppqv is not achieved, a blank correction is made to the resultant RGM concentration based on the average value of concentrations measured during zero air flushes before and after desorption.

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



2.3 Supporting measurements

Over 180 chemical species are measured at TF, including (and relevant to this study) CO, CO₂, NO_y, O₃ and SO₂. At PM, a much more limited suite of species are measured, including CO, CO₂, NO and O₃. Measurements at AI were limited to CO, CO₂ and O₃. The calibration and measurement details for these gases can be found in previous studies for O₃ and CO (Mao and Talbot, 2004a, b), NO and NO_y (Mao and Talbot, 2004b) and CO₂ (Talbot et al, 2005). SO₂ is measured with a pulsed fluorescence analyzer (model 450C, Thermo Scientific Inc.). Standard meteorological measurements (Davis, Inc.) including air temperature, pressure, relative humidity, wind speed and direction are measured at 1-min resolution at each site. All instruments are automated and controlled with National Instruments LabView hardware with custom software, and most data are available on-line in near real time (<http://airmap.unh.edu>).

3 General characteristics

Mean Hg^o mixing ratios of 161 (±30) and 157 (±21) ppqv were measured at TF and PM, respectively, from December 2006 to December 2007 (Table 1). These mean values are slightly lower than mean concentrations at other background sites in the eastern US (i.e., Kim et al., 1995; VanArsdale et al., 2005; Sigler and Lee, 2006a). The difference in mean between the two sites is small (4 ppqv) but statistically significant ($p < 0.01$). At AI, mean Hg^o (July–September) was 139 (±31) ppqv, which is not significantly different from the means at both TF and PM during the same time period (Tables 1 and 2), and somewhat lower than Hg^o measured at other coastal (e.g., ~112–435 ppqv, Malcolm et al., 2003; ~200 ppqv, Laurier and Mason, 2007) or oceanic sites (e.g., ~280 ppqv, Laurier et al., 2003).

Mean RGM mixing ratios at TF during 2007 were 0.41 (±0.93) ppqv and ranged from 0–22 ppqv. RGM mixing ratios at PM were significantly ($p < 0.01$) lower than at TF, with a mean of 0.13 (±0.25) ppqv and a median below the detection limit (0.1 ppqv).

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



RGM mixing ratios at TF and PM were comparable to measurements at other rural locations in the northeastern US (Han et al., 2004) and southeastern Canada (Poissant et al., 2005). Approximately two-thirds of all RGM observations at PM were below the detection limit, compared to ~40% at TF. Mean RGM at AI during July–September was 0.76 (± 0.88) ppqv, significantly higher ($p < 0.01$) than at TF and PM during the same time period, and comparable to mean RGM measured at other oceanic sites (e.g., ~0.6–1.0 ppqv, Laurier et al., 2003; Laurier and Mason, 2007). At each site, the RGM mixing ratio represented $< 1\%$ of observed Hg^0 on average during the study period, and was never higher than 11% at TF, 7% at AI and 3% at PM.

3.1 Seasonal variation

Time series of RGM and Hg^0 mixing ratios at TF, PM and AI are shown in Fig. 2, and seasonal statistical summaries in Table 2. Strong seasonality in Hg^0 was observed at TF and to a lesser extent at PM, with higher mixing ratios in winter and lower in summer and fall (Table 2). Variation in seasonal means (Table 2) was statistically significant ($p < 0.01$) at both sites. This seasonal pattern has been observed consistently since 2004 (Mao et al., 2008). The overall time series in Hg^0 at both TF and PM are well-correlated ($r = 0.77$, $p < 0.01$) except during summer ($r = 0.4$, $0.1 > p > 0.05$) when Hg^0 decreased significantly at TF (Fig. 2). As in other years, this is the only season in which Hg^0 tends to be consistently higher at PM (Mao et al., 2008). The overall variation at PM was much smaller than that at TF, with higher minima (~100 ppqv) and rarely exceeding 250 ppqv. Precipitous day-to-day dips and peaks were accentuated during the warmer seasons at TF (note larger range in Hg^0 concentrations in spring and summer, Table 2) while less variation in Hg^0 occurred at PM standard deviation was lower (Table 2). This is mainly because, unlike the elevated site PM, the strong nocturnal inversion in summer and fall at TF effectively inhibits the exchange between near surface and the free troposphere resulting in little replenishment of Hg^0 from the regional pool above (Mao et al., 2008).

Seasonal variation in RGM was also observed at TF and PM, with larger mixing

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



ratios in winter and early spring, and lower in summer, similar to Hg° . Season to season variation in mean RGM was significant ($p < 0.01$) at both sites, except from summer to fall at PM, when RGM was often not detected. At TF, monthly mean RGM increased from December through April, and decreased from April to July (Fig. 3), somewhat similar to trends observed at other rural locations (Kim et al., 1995; Poissant et al., 2005) and roughly the inverse of the monthly mean temperature trend (not shown). This may suggest the influence of local and regional RGM emissions from combustion sources related to wintertime heating (see Sect. 4) and slower removal processes on RGM measurements at TF, as well as meteorological factors or photochemical production from high biogenic emissions of Hg° in early spring (see Sect. 5.1).

A contrary pattern of higher RGM in warmer months than colder months has been observed in studies conducted near urban areas or significant point combustion sources (e.g., Lindberg and Stratton, 1998; Liu et al., 2007) and is possibly explained by differing seasonal variation of atmospheric oxidants, removal processes and/or point source emissions. Small (compared to TF) but significant ($p < 0.01$) seasonal variation in RGM was observed at PM (Table 2, Fig. 4). Similar to TF, higher RGM was observed at PM in winter and spring, although mean monthly RGM peaked in February (not shown) as opposed to April at TF. In summer and fall, very little RGM was present at PM, as the median and mean concentrations (Table 2) as well as approximately 80% of all instantaneous measurements were below the detection limit, compared with 10% for winter and spring. Absence of RGM at PM during summer and fall may reflect negligible contribution from large combustion sources in the region, or enhanced removal processes. Little correlation was observed between RGM mixing ratios at both sites except during spring ($r = 0.75$, $p < 0.01$) when that correlation was strongly driven by several large events.

3.2 Diurnal variation

Seasonally averaged daily cycles of both Hg° and RGM at TF indicate clear diurnal patterns in summer–fall and less pronounced ones in winter–spring (Fig. 4a, c) in con-

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



trast to virtually no diurnal variability year-round at PM. Hg^o mixing ratios at TF tend to decrease at night to a minimum just before sunrise, and then increase significantly through mid-afternoon, similar to diurnal cycles observed elsewhere (Kellerhals et al., 2003; Kim et al., 2005; Poissant et al., 2005). This pattern is especially pronounced during summer, when the mean amplitude of the diurnal Hg^o profile was ~32 ppqv (compared to 12 and 7 ppqv during spring and winter, respectively) and was more pronounced than during the summers of 2004–2006 (20–25 ppqv, Mao et al., 2008). As aforementioned, the significant decline in Hg^o at night is largely attributable to dry deposition under nocturnal inversions without replenishment from the regional air above, which is a common feature at low elevation sites in New England during summer and fall (Talbot et al., 2005; Mao et al., 2008).

RGM at TF (Fig. 4c) follows a diurnal pattern that approximates the diurnal trends in temperature and solar radiation (Sect. 5.1), similar to the finding from a Maryland coastal site in Laurier et al. (2007). Diurnal RGM variation was significant, ranging from ~0.5 (winter, summer, fall) to 1.4 ppqv (spring) and typically peaked at midday (12:00–14:00 EST) with seasonal daily maxima ranging from ~0.5 ppqv (summer/fall) to 1.6 ppqv (spring). RGM was minimal at night, typically below the detection limit during summer and fall, likely as a result of dry deposition and little production. Rapid increase in RGM during the morning likely reflects downward convective mixing and photochemical production.

At PM, diurnal patterns in both Hg^o and RGM were largely absent (Fig. 4b, d), because the high-elevation site is above the nocturnal inversion layer at night and in the convective boundary layer during the day and thus constantly samples regional air. Although RGM peaks at PM may be attributable to sparse local or regional combustion sources, photochemical production and general contributions from anthropogenic sources appear to be minimal, and RGM is rarely detectable during summer and fall. This likely reflects the sites' distance from major combustion source areas as well as marine-derived halogens, which can lead to photochemical production of RGM.

The distinct diurnal pattern in Hg^o at AI during summer 2007 (Fig. 5) was different

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

from that observed at TF (Fig. 4c). At AI, Hg° reaches peak values during the early morning and then decreases throughout the day to a minimum in the late afternoon, and then steadily increases at night. Also, daytime Hg° mixing ratios in the marine boundary layer (MBL) were slightly suppressed relative to the inland sites, as mean mixing ratios in late afternoon ($\sim 16:00\text{--}18:00$ EST) at AI were ~ 8 ppqv and 5 ppqv lower on average than those at TF and PM, respectively. Hg° variation over the day (~ 8 ppqv) was much less than at TF. RGM at AI was typically anti-correlated with Hg° , reaching peak mixing ratios in the late afternoon, roughly coincident with the diurnal minimum of Hg° (Fig. 5). The diurnal cycle of jNO_2 at AI (see Sect. 5.1) was also opposite in phase with that of Hg° . This suggests a strong daytime sink of Hg° and source of RGM which is more significant than at TF and PM and likely arises from photochemical oxidation in the presence of marine-derived halogen species (e.g., BrO , Cl^{\cdot} , Br^{\cdot} , Cl_2 , Br_2 , BrCl), possibly resulting in more efficient loss of Hg than at inland sites (Pszenny et al., 1993; Knipping et al., 2000; Mason and Sheu, 2002; Laurier et al., 2003). In the MBL, halogen radicals are the primary Hg° oxidants, and their ambient levels are light-dependent. For example, the mixing ratio of BrO in the mid-latitude MBL reportedly varies from ~ 1 pptv at night to ~ 6 pptv in the first hours after sunrise followed by a secondary maximum around noon and is light- and wind speed-dependent (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2006). Previous measurements at AI revealed significant levels of marine halogen compounds (e.g., CHBr_3 , CH_2Br_2) which have a short photochemical lifetime (Zhou et al., 2005, 2008). The presence of these compounds at TF (Zhou et al., 2005, 2008), at times in significant quantities (e.g., Sigler et al., 2008), as well as the somewhat similar Hg° levels and $\text{Hg}^{\circ}\text{-CO}$ ratios at TF and AI seems to suggest that similar air mass characteristics are often observed at these sites. Not only does polluted continental air impact AI, but maritime air masses may have an impact on Hg cycling at TF.

The diurnal amplitude of RGM was 0.8 ppqv, while the amplitude for Hg° was ~ 8 ppqv (Fig. 5). Previous studies have suggested that in the MBL, a significant amount of Hg° is oxidized to RGM and further to particulate Hg (Hg^{P}) during the day (Laurier and

Mason, 2007; Malcolm et al., 2003). If indeed the loss of Hg° over the day was the gain of RGM, then the large discrepancy of the diurnal amplitude between the two implies the rapid removal of RGM to sea salt aerosols and the ocean surface.

4 Relationship of Hg species with key trace gases

5 The relationships of Hg° with CO and CO_2 at TF and PM for previous years were documented and discussed by Mao et al. (2008), and observations from 2007 largely reinforce those findings. Briefly, Hg° was well-correlated (r -value ranging from 0.46 – spring – to 0.75 – fall –, $p < 0.01$) with carbon monoxide (CO) at PM during 2007 (Fig. 6 shows regressions for winter and fall, which represented minimum and maximum emission ratios during 2007). During wintertime, when biogenic impact on carbon and Hg° is minimal, the Hg° -CO ratio at PM is taken as representative of regional anthropogenic influence. The ratio derived for winter 2007 ($\sim 0.26 \text{ fmol nmol}^{-1}$, $r = 0.63$) was similar to previous years (Mao et al., 2008) suggesting fairly consistent regional anthropogenic contribution from year-to-year. The Hg° -CO ratio at PM was also very consistent from season to season, varying by no more than $\sim 10\%$, suggesting little seasonal variation in regional anthropogenic influence (Fig. 6).

Hg° was correlated with CO_2 at PM ($r = 0.27\text{--}0.59$, $p < 0.01$), particularly during winter ($r = 0.59$, $p < 0.01$) (not shown). The wintertime Hg° - CO_2 ratio ($\sim 1.8 \text{ fmol } \mu\text{mol}^{-1}$) can also be used as a tracer for regional anthropogenic contribution (e.g., Sigler and Lee, 2006a) as biogenic impacts on CO_2 are minimal. As a rough comparison, we combined the wintertime Hg° -CO and Hg° - CO_2 slope values at PM with latest available inventory emissions of CO_2 ($\sim 1.28 \times 10^8 \text{ Mg}$; EPA, 2008a) and CO ($\sim 3.11 \times 10^6 \text{ Mg}$; EPA, 2008b) from states (NH, ME, MA, VT) in the regional air shed (e.g. Sigler and Lee, 2006a) to estimate total annual Hg emission of approximately 6 tons and 8.5 tons for CO and CO_2 ratios, respectively, which are of similar magnitude.

25 Compared to PM, the wintertime Hg° -CO relationship at TF was much weaker with r and the slope values lower by nearly a factor of two ($\sim 0.14 \text{ fmol nmol}^{-1}$) likely owing to

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



local sources (Mao and Talbot, 2004b; Mao et al., 2008). Hg° was positively correlated with CO_2 during wintertime at TF ($r=0.37$, $p<0.01$) due to dominant anthropogenic contribution and minimal biological biogenic influence.

The strength of the Hg° -CO relationship at AI during summer ($r=0.33$, $p<0.01$) was intermediate between TF and PM, while the ratio ($0.16 \text{ fmol nmol}^{-1}$) was closer to those observed at TF. Compared to PM, the more diffuse relationship at TF and AI is likely due to the interference of other possible processes, such as stronger oxidation of Hg° and oceanic emissions, and the proximity of the two sites (Mao et al., 2008). The stronger Hg° -CO relationship at AI than at TF indicates that the site, despite being oceanic, is under anthropogenic influence from several anthropogenic source regions (Mao and Talbot 2004a).

SO_2 and Hg species are co-emitted from combustion sources, and a significant correlation between these two species might be expected at a rural or urban site subject to anthropogenic influences (e.g., Carpi, 1997). Measurements at TF suggested a strong RGM- SO_2 correlation, particularly during summer (Table 3), at SO_2 mixing ratios >2 ppbv, which indicates that the correlation is primarily controlled by a small number of enhanced SO_2 events. This is similar to previous studies in rural (Manolopoulos et al., 2007a), urban (Liu et al., 2007) and coastal sites (Engle et al., 2008) in the US and indicates, in part, local or regional transport of RGM and SO_2 directly emitted by anthropogenic sources or chemical conversion of Hg° within pollution plumes. The likely influence of anthropogenic sources is underscored by the tendency for enhanced mixing ratios of both species under south-southwesterly to westerly flow (see Sect. 5.3) which transports air masses from the northeastern urban corridor. Hg° was poorly correlated with SO_2 at TF, except during wintertime ($r=0.43$, $p<0.01$), likely reflecting the longer lifetime of SO_2 in winter (Mao et al., 2008).

The relationship between atmospheric ozone (O_3) and Hg species is unclear. O_3 may act as an oxidant of Hg° to RGM, particularly in urban locations or with photochemically processed air masses (Lynam and Keeler, 2005) or may play an indirect role in the conversion of Hg° to RGM in Arctic environments (e.g., Lindberg et al.,

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

2002). Han et al. (2004) indicated no clear relationship between Hg species and O₃. Our measurements revealed a diffuse but positive correlation between Hg species and O₃ at TF and PM in 2007 (Table 3). RGM generally was better correlated with O₃ than was Hg⁰, which is not surprising given the levels of Hg⁰ (two orders of magnitude
5 larger than RGM) and therefore relatively small reduction due to oxidation. Moreover, although O₃ is an oxidant of Hg⁰ and may contribute in some way to local RGM levels, the reaction is possibly too slow to be of primary importance to daytime RGM production compared to halogen radicals (e.g., Malcolm et al., 2003; Calvert and Lindberg, 2005; Mao et al., 2008).

10 At TF, RGM was most strongly correlated with O₃ during spring and weakest during winter. Hg⁰ also showed stronger correlation with O₃ during the warmer months and was not correlated during the winter (Table 3). A somewhat similar trend was observed at PM although the correlations were generally weaker. The stronger Hg⁰-O₃ relationship during summer likely reflects not only light-dependence of both O₃ and Hg⁰ during
15 the day (see Sect. 5.1) but, perhaps more significantly, similar nighttime depositional loss under a stable nocturnal boundary layer (Mao et al., 2008). This is further verified by the stronger correlation ($r=0.7$, compared to $r=0.5$ for all data, Table 3) between Hg⁰ and O₃ during the early morning hours (03:00–07:00 EST).

20 The positive RGM-O₃ correlation, particularly during warmer periods, is similar to those reported for both urban (Lynam and Keeler, 2005) and rural locations subject to anthropogenic influence (Han et al., 2004; Yatavelli et al., 2006). This correlation seems to reflect similar strong light-dependence as both species tend to peak in early to mid-afternoon. At AI, O₃ was weakly correlated with both Hg⁰ ($r=0.26$, $p<0.01$) and RGM ($r=0.36$, $p<0.01$). In the marine boundary layer, O₃ can be both destroyed
25 and produced through reactions involving halogen compounds. The weak, positive correlation between Hg⁰ and O₃ at AI could reflect their oxidation by halogen radicals, which has also been postulated to play an important role at TF (Mao et al., 2008).

Relationships between reactive nitrogen species (NO_y=NO_x+PAN+HNO₃+NO₃+...) and Hg⁰ can also be used to identify the anthropogenic contribution (Mao et al.,

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



2008). This is because one of the main components, NO_x , as with SO_2 , may be co-emitted with mercury from combustion sources (e.g., Carpi, 1997) and the majority of it is quickly converted to other reactive nitrogen species. The TF measurements suggested weak correlation of NO_y with Hg° , particularly during winter (Table 3). The Hg° – NO_y relationship at TF, also observed in previous years as described by Mao et al. (2008), is driven mainly by similar nighttime depositional loss, as loss of NO_y is driven by fast deposition of HNO_3 and N_2O_5 . The Hg° – NO_y ratio was much higher during the warmer months ($2.59 \text{ fmol nmol}^{-1}$ in spring, $2.42 \text{ fmol nmol}^{-1}$ in summer) than during winter ($1.05 \text{ fmol nmol}^{-1}$) and fall ($1.76 \text{ fmol nmol}^{-1}$). This may also reflect high solubility and nighttime loss of NO_y species (HNO_3 , PAN, N_2O_5) during the warmer months when dew frequently forms or enhanced anthropogenic emission of NO_x during winter.

The lifetimes of NO_y and RGM are too different for the two species to be strongly related in the atmosphere, which was confirmed by the very weak correlation ($r < 0.2$). However, in summer there was a weak positive correlation between the two species, likely due to dry depositional loss at night. Moreover, during nighttime hours (18:00–08:00 EST), RGM and NO_y showed a stronger, though still weak, positive relationship (r -value ranging from 0.14, $p < 0.01$ – winter – to 0.3, $p < 0.01$ – summer). Overall, these relationships suggest dry deposition is a common loss mechanism for NO_y , RGM and Hg° at night and highly different chemical sources and sinks during the day.

5 Relationship of Hg species with selected meteorological variables

5.1 Temperature

Instantaneous RGM and Hg° measurements showed no correlation with temperature when regressed over all of 2007. However, the relationship was stronger over shorter time scales. In the case of Hg° , the correlation with temperature was progressively stronger over 10, 20 and 30-day moving averages (not shown), suggesting that pro-

cesses on monthly to seasonal time scales impact the Hg-temperature relationship. Therefore, we examined the relationship on seasonal and diurnal time scales. RGM was weakly correlated with ambient temperature at TF in all seasons and during winter and fall at PM, while Hg^o was significantly correlated with temperature during spring and fall at both sites (Table 4). These observations are generally consistent with those reported for other rural sites in North America (Han et al., 2004; Poissant et al., 2005). Diurnally, RGM and Hg^o were both strongly related to the diurnal temperature trend at TF, and the relationships vary significantly among seasons (Fig. 7). In general, these observations suggest that the seasonal change in solar angle plays an important role in the variation in Hg^o and RGM mixing ratios at TF.

Rather than suggesting a direct thermal impact of temperature on RGM production, the correlation between RGM/Hg^o and temperature may imply that these variables are both primarily driven by solar radiation. Specifically, in rural coastal regions RGM is produced as a result of Hg^o oxidation by halogen radical concentrations that are generated through photochemical processes and photosynthesis in sea water, which are likely present in significant levels at TF (Mao et al., 2008). This is further substantiated by the strong similarity between time series of RGM and jNO₂ (Fig. 8), particularly during summer. With regard to the high Hg^o levels at warmer temperatures, it may result from thermally and/or photochemically mediated release from soil (e.g., Poissant and Casimir, 1998; Sigler and Lee, 2006b). For example, although typical daytime Hg^o mixing ratios were 170–175 ppqv in Spring (Fig. 4), mixing ratios exceeding 200 ppqv during the daytime were common during the first warm and dry period of the year (~20 April and extending into June). This may suggest enhanced emission of Hg from soils and vegetation (Lindberg et al., 1992, 1998; Sigler and Lee, 2006b).

The strong relationship between hourly mean RGM and Hg^o with temperature observed at TF was not observed at AI during summer (not shown), although this may be influenced by the smaller diurnal temperature variation as well as the significant daytime decrease in Hg^o (Fig. 5). However, absolute RGM and Hg^o mixing ratios were weakly correlated with temperature ($r \sim 0.2$, $p < 0.01$). RGM was more strongly corre-

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



lated ($r=0.3$, $p<0.01$) with jNO_2 at AI, reflecting photochemical production of RGM during the afternoon.

5.2 Relative humidity

The diurnal pattern of RGM (Fig. 4) is opposite in phase of that for relative humidity (RH) at TF and PM, which is relatively high and consistent at night ($>90\%$ during summer at TF), when RGM is quickly lost by deposition. During the daytime at all sites, RH varies significantly depending on local weather conditions (RH is typically 100% during precipitation events). To better elucidate potential impact of humidity on RGM mixing ratios, we exclusively examined daytime observations.

A significant, negative relationship of RGM with RH was observed during the daytime at all three sites in 2007 (Table 4). In summer, the negative relationship was slightly stronger at AI ($r=-0.35$) than at PM or TF ($r=-0.29$), despite smaller diurnal variation ($\sim 15\%$, compared to $\sim 40\%$ at TF and 25% at PM) and a different diurnal pattern (RH tends to peak at 08:00–10:00 EST at AI, rather than during the night). A significant contributing factor to this relationship appears to be the nearly complete washout of RGM during rain events. Very low levels of RGM have previously been observed during rain events in both continental (Yatavelli et al., 2006) and marine atmospheres (Laurier et al., 2007). At TF in 2007, mean RGM during rain events was $\sim 0.07 \pm 0.14$ ppqv ($n=337$, median/mode=0 ppqv) which is below the detection limit of the instrumentation. This is owed to the high solubility of Hg^{2+} and therefore its efficient removal from the atmosphere by wet precipitation.

Our data also suggest differences in this removal mechanism depending on precipitation type. In fact, during snow events at TF in 2007, not only was RGM not removed but was on average slightly higher (0.48 ± 0.48 ppqv) than the wintertime mean (0.4 ppqv). During mixed precipitation events, mean RGM was 0.24 ± 0.3 ppqv, intermediate between rain and snow events. These results seem to suggest that Hg^{2+} is scavenged less efficiently when precipitation is frozen.

Conversely, very weak, positive correlation of Hg^0 with RH during the daytime was

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



observed at each site (Table 4). At TF and PM, this may reflect small (typically ≤ 25 ppqv) enhancements that in Hg° were observed during some rain events, probably due to enhanced emission from wet soil (e.g., Lindberg et al., 1999; Gustin and Stamenkovic, 2005) or vegetation (e.g., Bash and Miller, 2008). In some cases, Hg° at both TF and PM were enhanced due to transport from the marine boundary layer during strong storms (Sigler et al., 2008).

5.3 Wind direction

Hg° and RGM mixing ratios showed some dependence on wind direction at each site, which can be best illustrated by examining high- Hg° and RGM events. Wind roses of Hg° mixing ratios above the 85th percentile value for each season at TF and PM are shown in Fig. 9. These represent $\sim 14\%$ of all observations at each site during 2007. High Hg° events were observed under southerly to westerly flow patterns in spring and fall (Fig. 9b, d), while none in summer with all values < 230 ppqv (Fig. 9c). This could suggest the dominant role of localized sinks at TF in warm seasons (Mao et al., 2008). PM exhibited a more pronounced directional dependence for each season with comparatively few high- Hg° events from the southwest and west (not shown).

High RGM events showed a more pronounced dependence on wind direction at TF and PM (e.g., Fig. 10). At TF, high RGM events were observed more frequently from the southwest and west during each season. A similar pattern was observed at PM (not shown), although very few events were observed in summer and fall when RGM in general was rarely detected at PM. We hypothesize that these events, which exert a significant influence on the mean RGM levels at each site, are related to transport from combustion sources, which strongly emit RGM and SO_2 (see Sect. 4). To further illustrate, Fig. 11 depicts wind roses for RGM mixing ratios at TF during periods in which the SO_2 mixing ratio was above the 85th percentile value for each season. These represent $\sim 15\%$ of all 2-h average SO_2 observations. RGM was often significantly elevated during these high SO_2 events, ranging on average from two to four times higher than the seasonal mean, and these events occurred most commonly under southwesterly

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



or westerly flow. This strong directional dependence suggests influence from local or regional combustion sources, such as the Merrimack power station in Pembroke, NH (~50 km west of TF), or urban areas south, southwest or west of the site (e.g., Boston, Springfield, MA/Hartford, CT, Albany (~120 km west of PM)). The Merrimack power station in particular is the main contributor to the biogenic Hg “hotspot” in the Merrimack watershed as identified by Evers et al. (2007). In fact, a somewhat stronger tendency for the occurrence of events from easterly sectors observed at PM compared to TF (not shown) could be explained by anthropogenic sources between PM and TF (e.g., the Merrimack power station, ~50 km northeast of PM, or sources in Manchester). It is also notable that Hg^o was typically not elevated during these high-SO₂/RGM events and rarely correlated with SO₂ at TF (see Sect. 4), emphasizing the importance of speciated Hg measurements in tracking local pollution (as in Manolopoulos et al., 2007a).

At AI, high-Hg^o and RGM episodes during summer were most common under southerly or southwesterly flow patterns (not shown). These are possibly cases of anthropogenic pollution plumes from Boston and urban Massachusetts influencing AI, as described in Mao and Talbot (2004b).

6 Summary

A full year of Hg^o and RGM measurements were conducted at two inland sites, TF and PM, from the UNH AIRMAP observing network in New Hampshire throughout 2007, and at a marine site, AI, during summer. We investigated the salient features of Hg^o and RGM mixing ratios at these sites, including seasonal and diurnal variation. Measurements of other trace gases, e.g., CO, CO₂, O₃, NO_y, and SO₂, and meteorological variables were employed in order to better explain this variation as well as natural and anthropogenic controls on the atmospheric Hg budget in New England.

Seasonal variation in both species was observed at TF and PM with higher levels in winter and spring and lower in summer. We attribute this to seasonal variation in deposition strength, meteorological conditions, local anthropogenic sources and bio-

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

genic emissions. Pronounced diurnal patterns in both Hg° and RGM were observed at TF, particularly in spring, and roughly correlated with air temperature and jNO_2 , likely reflecting downward mixing from aloft, enhanced soil emissions and photochemical production. During summer at AI, the diurnal patterns of Hg° and RGM were nearly opposite in phase, with Hg° decreasing through late afternoon, suggesting strong photochemical oxidation of Hg° to RGM in the marine boundary layer.

Strong correlation of Hg° and CO indicates strong contributions from regional anthropogenic emission sources, particularly at PM. At AI, this correlation suggests significant anthropogenic influence in the marine boundary layer in the Gulf of Maine. A positive relationship of RGM with O_3 at TF and PM indicates similar photochemical production as well as fast nighttime deposition of these species.

The strong RGM- SO_2 relationship at TF, particularly during summer, was driven primarily by a small number of events, suggesting local or regional transport of RGM and SO_2 directly emitted by anthropogenic sources. Enhanced mixing ratios of both species were often observed under south-southwesterly to westerly flow patterns. Enhanced RGM observed at PM under westerly, southwesterly and easterly flow suggest common influence of combustion sources to the west and southwest of both sites.

The weak, negative relationship of RGM with relative humidity observed at each site may be partly explained by the washout of RGM which frequently occurred during rain events. At TF in 2007, mean RGM during rain events was below the detection limit of the instrumentation, and is owed to the efficient removal of Hg^{2+} from the atmosphere by wet precipitation. Future studies of Hg in wet deposition samples at TF are needed to better understand and quantify this removal process.

During summer 2007, mean RGM at AI was significantly higher than at the other two sites and, TF and PM, the diurnal pattern of Hg° and RGM at AI were nearly opposite in phase. The decrease Hg° in the afternoon seems to indicate a photochemical sink that is far more significant than at TF and PM. This is likely due to the presence of halogen radicals derived from marine halogen compounds (e.g., CHBr_3 , CH_2Br_2) which have a short photochemical lifetime and have previously been observed in significant levels at

AI (Zhou et al., 2005, 2008).

The presence of halogen compounds at TF, as well as similar Hg⁰ levels and Hg⁰-CO ratios at TF and AI suggests that similar air masses are prevalent at these sites. Ongoing, year-round measurements at TF and AI are intended to better understand the interplay of continental and maritime air masses on atmospheric Hg species at coastal and oceanic sites. In addition, future measurement campaigns are planned with the goal of understanding the particulate component of Hg in the MBL and the degree to which RGM deposits to sea salt aerosols.

Acknowledgements. Financial support for this study was provided through the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under AIRMAP grant #NAO6OAR4600189 to UNH. We thank K. Carpenter, S. Whitlow, K. Garrison, C. Parker, P. Kelly and others who have contributed to the mercury measurements and management of the extensive AIRMAP database.

References

- Bash, J. O. and Miller, D. R.: A relaxed eddy accumulation system for measuring surface fluxes of total gaseous mercury, *J. Atmos. Ocean. Tech.*, 25, 244–257, 2008.
- Calvert, J. G. and Lindberg, S. E.: Mechanisms of mercury removal by O₃ and OH in the atmosphere, *Atmos. Environ.*, 39, 3355–3367, 2005.
- Carpi, A.: Mercury from combustion sources: a review of the chemical species emitted and their transport in the atmosphere, *Water Air Soil Poll.*, 56, 745–767, 1997.
- Engle, M. A., Tate, M. T., Krabbenhoft, D. P., Kolker, A., Olson, M. L., Edgerton, E. S., DeWild, J. F., and McPherson, A. K.: Characterization and cycling of atmospheric mercury along the central US Gulf Coast, *Appl. Geochem.*, 23, 419–437, 2008.
- EPA: Mercury Study Report to Congress, United States Environmental Protection Agency, available at: www.epa.gov/mercury.html (last access July 2008), Washington, D.C., USA, 1997.
- EPA: US Greenhouse Gas Inventory Reports, United States Environmental Protection Agency, available at: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/userinventoryreport.html> (last access June 2008), Washington, D.C., USA, 2008a.

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



EPA: National Emissions Inventory, United States Environmental Protection Agency, available at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/chief/net/2002inventory.html> (last access June 2008), Washington, D.C., USA, 2008b.

Evers, D. C., Han, Y., Driscoll, C. T., Kamman, N. C., Goodale, M. W., Lambert, K. F., Holsen, T. M., Chen, C. Y., Clair, T. A., and Butler, T.: Biological mercury hotspots in the northeastern United States and southeastern Canada, *BioScience*, 57, 29–43, 2007.

Fischer, E. and Talbot, R.: Regional NO_3^- events in the northeastern United States related to seasonal climate anomalies, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 32, L16804, doi:10.1029/2005GL023490, 2005.

Gabriel, M. C., Williamson, D. G., Brooks, S., and Lindberg, S. E.: Atmospheric speciation of mercury in two contrasting southeastern US airsheds, *Atmos. Env.*, 39, 4947–4958, 2005.

Gustin, M. S. and Stamenkovic, L.: Effect of watering and soil moisture on mercury emissions from soils, *Biogeochem.*, 76, 215–232, 2005.

Han, Y. J., Holsen, T. M., Lai, S. O., Hopke, P. K., Yi, S. M., Liu, W., Pagano, J., Falanga, L., Milligan, M., and Andolina, C.: Atmospheric gaseous mercury concentrations in New York State: relationships with meteorological data and other pollutants, *Atmos. Environ.*, 38, 6431–6446, 2004.

Kellerhals, M., Beauchamp, S., Belzer, W., Blanchard, P., Froude, F., Harvey, B., McDonald, K., Pilote, M., Poissant, L., Puckett, K., Schroeder, B., Steffen, A., and Tordon, R.: Temporal and spatial variability of total gaseous mercury in Canada: results from the Canadian Atmospheric Mercury Measurement Network (CAMNet), *Atmos. Environ.*, 37, 1003–1011, 2003.

Kim, K.-H., Lindberg, S. E., and Meyers, T. P.: Micrometeorological measurements of mercury vapor fluxes over background forest soils in eastern Tennessee, *Atmos. Environ.*, 29, 267–282, 1995.

Kim, K. H., Ebinghaus, R., Schroeder, W. H., Blanchard, P., Kock, H. H., Steffen, A., Froude, F. A., Kim, M. Y., Hong, S. M., and Kim, J. H.: Atmospheric mercury concentrations from several observatory sites in the Northern Hemisphere, *J. Atmos. Chem.*, 50, 1–24, 2005.

Knipping, E. M., Lakin, M. J., Foster, K. L., Jungwirth, P., Tobias, D. J., Gerber, R. B., Dabdub, D., and Finlayson-Pitts, B. J.: Experiments and simulations of ion-enhanced interfacial chemistry on aqueous NaCl aerosols, *Science*, 288, 301–306, 2000.

Landis, M. S., Stevens, R. K., Schaedlich, F., and Prestbo, E. M.: Development and characterization of an annular denuder methodology for the measurement of divalent inorganic reactive

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



- gaseous mercury in ambient air, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 36(13), 3000–3009, 2002.
- Laurier, F. J. G., Mason, R. P., and Whalin, L.: Reactive gaseous mercury formation in the North Pacific Ocean's marine boundary layer: a potential role of halogen chemistry, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 108(D17), 4529, doi:10.1029/2003JD003625, 2003.
- 5 Laurier, F. and Mason, R.: Mercury concentration and speciation in the coastal and open ocean boundary layer, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 112, D06302, doi:10.1029/2006JD007320, 2007.
- Lindberg, S. E., Meyers, T. P., Taylor, G. E., Turner, R. R., and Schroeder, W. H.: Atmosphere-surface exchange of mercury in a forest: Results of modeling and gradient approaches, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 97, 2519–2528, 1992.
- 10 Lindberg, S. E. and Stratton, W. J.: Atmospheric mercury speciation: concentrations and behavior of reactive gaseous mercury in ambient air, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 32, 49–57, 1998.
- Lindberg, S. E., Hanson, P. J., Meyers, T. P., and Kim, K.-H.: Air/surface exchange of mercury vapor over forests – The need for a reassessment of continental biogenic emissions, *Atmos. Environ.*, 32(5), 895–908, 1998.
- 15 Lindberg, S. E., Zhang, H., Gustin, M., Vette, A., Marsik, F., Owens, J., Casimir, A., Ebinghaus, R., Edwards, G., Fitzgerald, C., Kemp, J., Kock, H. H., London, J., Majewski, M., Poissant, L., Pilote, M., Rasmussen, P., Schaedlich, F., Schneeberger, D., Sommar, J., Turner, R., Wallschläger, D., and Xiao, Z.: Increases in mercury emission from desert soils in response to rainfall and irrigation, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 104(D17), 21 879–21 888, 1999.
- 20 Lindberg, S. E., Brooks, S., Lin, C. J., Scott, K. J., Landis, M. S., Stevens, R. K., Goodsite, M., and Richter, A.: Dynamic oxidation of gaseous mercury in the arctic troposphere during polar sunrise, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 36(6), 1245–1256, 2002.
- Liu, B., Keeler, G. J., Dvonch, J. T., Barres, J. A., Lynam, M. M., Marsik, F. J., and Morgan, J. T.: Temporal variability of mercury speciation in urban air, *Atmos. Environ.*, 41, 1911–1923, 2007.
- 25 Lynam, M. M. and Keeler, G. J.: Automated speciated mercury measurements in Michigan, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 39, 9253–9262, 2005.
- Malcolm, E. G., Keeler, G. J., and Landis, M. S.: The effects of the coastal environment on the atmospheric mercury cycle, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 108, 4357, doi:10.1029/2002JD003084, 2003.
- 30 Manolopoulos, H., Schauer, J. J., Purcell, M. D., Rudolph, T. M., Olson, M. L., Rodger, B., and Krabbenhoft, D. P.: Local and regional factors affecting atmospheric mercury speciation at a remote location, *J. Environ. Eng. Sci.*, 6, 491–501, 2007a.

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

- Manolopoulos, H., Snyder, D. C., Schauer, J. J., Hill, J. S., Turner, J. R., Olson, M. L., and Krabbenhoft, D. P.: Sources of speciated atmospheric mercury at a residential neighborhood impacted by industrial sources, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 41, 5626–5633, 2007b.
- Mao, H. and Talbot, R.: O₃ and CO in New England: Temporal variations and relationships, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 109, D21304, doi:10.1029/2004JD004913, 2004a.
- Mao, H. and Talbot, R.: Role of meteorological processes in two New England ozone episodes during summer 2001, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 109, D20305, doi:10.1029/2004JD004850, 2004b.
- Mao, H., Talbot, R. W., Sigler, J. M., Sive, B. C., and Hegarty, J. D.: Seasonal and diurnal variations of Hg⁰ over New England, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 8, 1403–1421, 2008, <http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/8/1403/2008/>.
- Mason, R. P. and Sheu, G.-R.: Role of the ocean in the global mercury cycle, *Global Biogeochem. Cy.*, 16(4), 1093, doi:10.1029/2001GB001440, 2002.
- NESCAUM: Inventory of anthropogenic mercury emissions in the northeast, Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management, www.nescaum.org (last access June 2008), Boston, MA, USA, 2005.
- Obrist, D., Conen, F., Vogt, R., Siegwolf, R., and Alewell, C.: Estimation of Hg⁰ exchange between ecosystems and the atmosphere using ²²²Rn and Hg⁰ concentration changes in the stable nocturnal boundary layer, *Atmos. Environ.*, 40, 856–866, 2006.
- Poissant, L. and Casimir, A.: Water-air and soil-air exchange rate of total gaseous mercury at background sites, *Atmos. Environ.*, 32, 883–893, 1998.
- Poissant, L., Pilote, M., Xu, X., Zhang, H., and Beauvais, C.: Atmospheric mercury speciation and deposition in the Bay of St. Francois wetlands, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 109, D11301, doi:10.1029/2003JD004364, 2004.
- Poissant, L., Pilote, M., Xu, X., Beauvais, C., Constant, P., and Zhang, H.: A year of continuous measurements of three atmospheric mercury species in southern Quebec, Canada, *Atmos. Environ.*, 39, 1275–1287, 2005.
- Pszenny, A. A. P., Keene, W. C., Jacob, D. J., Fan, S., Maben, J. R., Zetwo, M. P., Springer-Young, M., and Galloway, J. N.: Evidence of inorganic chlorine gases other than hydrogen chloride in marine surface air, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 20, 699–702, 1993.
- Saiz-Lopez, A., Shillito, J. A., Coe, H., and Plane, J. M. C.: Measurements and modelling of I₂, IO, OIO, BrO and NO₃ in the mid-latitude marine boundary layer, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 6, 1513–1528, 2006, <http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/6/1513/2006/>.

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

- Sigler, J. M. and Lee, X.: Recent trends in anthropogenic emission in the northeast United States, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 111, D14316, doi:10.1029/2005JD006814, 2006a.
- Sigler, J. M. and Lee, X.: Gaseous mercury in background forest soil in the northeastern United States, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 111, G02007, doi:10.1029/2005JG000106, 2006b.
- 5 Sigler, J. M., Mao, H., Sive, B. C., and Talbot, R. W.: Oceanic influence on atmospheric mercury at coastal and inland sites: A springtime noreaster in New England, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, in review, 2008.
- Talbot, R., Mao, H., and Sive, B.: Diurnal characteristics of surface level O₃ and other important trace gases in New England, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 110, D09307, doi:10.1029/2004JD005449, 10 2005.
- Valente, R. J., Shea, C., Humes, K. L., and Tanner, R. L.: Atmospheric mercury in the Great Smoky Mountains compared to regional and global levels, *Atmos. Environ.*, 41, 1861–1873, 2007.
- VanArsdale, A., Weiss, J., Keeler, G., Miller, E., Boulet, G., Brulotte, R., and Poissant, L.: 15 Patterns of mercury deposition and concentration in northeastern North America (1996–2002), *Ecotoxicology*, 14, 37–52, 2005.
- Weiss-Penzias, P., Jaffe, D. A., McClintick, A., Prestbo, E. M., and Landis, M. S.: Gaseous elemental mercury in the marine boundary layer: Evidence for rapid removal in anthropogenic pollution, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 37, 3755–3763, 2003.
- 20 Yatavelli, R. L. N., Fahrni, J. K., Kim, M., Crist, K. C., Vickers, C. D., Winter, S. E., and Connell, D. P.: Mercury, PM_{2.5} and gaseous co-pollutants in the Ohio River Valley region: Preliminary results from the Athens supersite, *Atmos. Environ.*, 40, 6650–6665, 2006.
- Zhou, Y., Varner, R. K., Russo, R. S., Wingenter, O. W., Haase, K. B., Talbot, R., and Sive, B. C.: Coastal water source of short-lived halocarbons in New England, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 110, 25 D21302, doi:10.1029/2004JD005603, 2005.
- Zhou, Y., Varner, R. K., Mao, H., Russo, R. S., Blake, D. R., Wingenter, O. W., Haase, K. B., Talbot, R., and Sive, B. C.: Bromoform and dibromomethane measurements in the seacoast region of New Hampshire, 2002–2004, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 113, D08305, 30 doi:10.1029/2007JD009103, 2008.

Table 1. Statistical summary of Hg° (5-min data) and RGM measurements at Thompson Farm, Pac Monadnock, and Appledore Island, 2007 (note that 1 ng Hg m⁻³ ~ 112 ppqv at STP).

	Hg° (ppqv)	RGM (ppqv)
Thompson Farm		
Median	164	0.15
Mean	161	0.4
σ	30	0.9
Range	21–660	0–22
No. observations	75717	4229
Pac Monadnock		
Median	157	0.05
Mean	157	0.13
σ	21	0.3
Range	98–289	0–3.7
No. observations	70 319	3708
Appledore Island ^a		
Median	138	0.55
Mean	139	0.76
σ	31	0.88
Range	66–298	0–8.8
No. observations	19 298	608

^a Appledore Island data are summertime only.

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Table 2. Seasonal statistical summary of Hg^o and RGM measurements at Thompson Farm and Pac Monadnock, 2007.

	Thompson Farm				Pac Monadnock			
	Median	Mean	σ	Range	Median	Mean	σ	Range
Hg ^o (ppqv)								
Winter	181	182	18	102–330	174	175	14	106–289
Spring	173	172	23	99–660	165	164	15	108–281
Summer	143	139	28	21–217	140	142	17	98–242
Fall	144	144	28	31–430	140	142	13	104–211
RGM (ppqv)								
Winter	0.25	0.4	0.5	0–6	0.13	0.2	0.3	0–2.8
Spring	0.3	0.8	1.6	0–22	0.05	0.16	0.4	0–3.7
Summer	0.01	0.2	0.5	0–7.2	0.03	0.07	0.1	0–1
Fall	0.07	0.2	0.5	0–7.6	0.02	0.06	0.1	0–1

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Table 3. Correlation coefficients (r) for Hg° and RGM with selected trace gases, 2007. Hg° correlations are five-minute averages, RGM are two-hour averages.

	Thompson SO_2	O_3	Farm NO_y	Pac Monadnock O_3
Hg°				
Winter	0.4 ^a	0	0.5 ^a	-0.1
Spring	0.1	0.3 ^a	0.3 ^a	0.2 ^a
Summer	0.1 ^a	0.5 ^a	0.2 ^a	0.5 ^a
Fall	0.1 ^a	0.3 ^a	0.3 ^a	-0.1
RGM				
Winter	0.5 ^a	0.3 ^a	0.1	0.1 ^a
Spring	0.3 ^a	0.6 ^a	0.1 ^a	0.5 ^a
Summer	0.8 ^a	0.4 ^a	0.2 ^a	0.2 ^a
Fall	0.7 ^a	0.4 ^a	0.04	0.4 ^a

^a $p < 0.01$

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

Table 4. Correlation coefficients (r) for Hg° and RGM with relative humidity (daytime only) and air temperature, 2007. Hg° correlations are five-minute averages, RGM are two-hour averages.

	Thompson Farm		Pac Monadnock	
	T_{air}	RH	T_{air}	RH
Hg°				
Winter	0.4 ^a	0.2 ^a	0.4 ^a	0.2 ^a
Spring	0	0.1 ^a	0	0.1 ^a
Summer	0.5 ^a	0.2 ^a	0.5 ^a	0.3 ^a
Fall	0.1 ^a	0.2 ^a	0	0.3 ^a
RGM				
Winter	0.2 ^a	-0.4 ^a	0.2 ^a	-0.3 ^a
Spring	0.3 ^a	-0.5 ^a	0.2 ^a	-0.5 ^a
Summer	0.3 ^a	-0.3 ^a	0	-0.3 ^a
Fall	0.3 ^a	-0.3 ^a	0.2 ^a	-0.4 ^a

^a $p < 0.01$

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

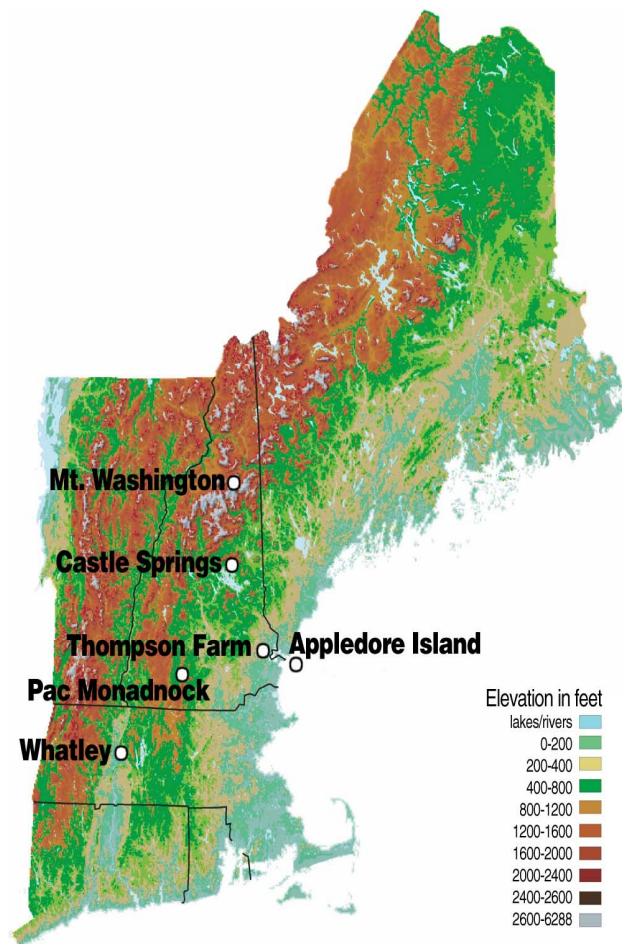


Fig. 1. AIRMAP monitoring network (Hg is measured at Thompson Farm, Pac Monadnock and Appledore Island).

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

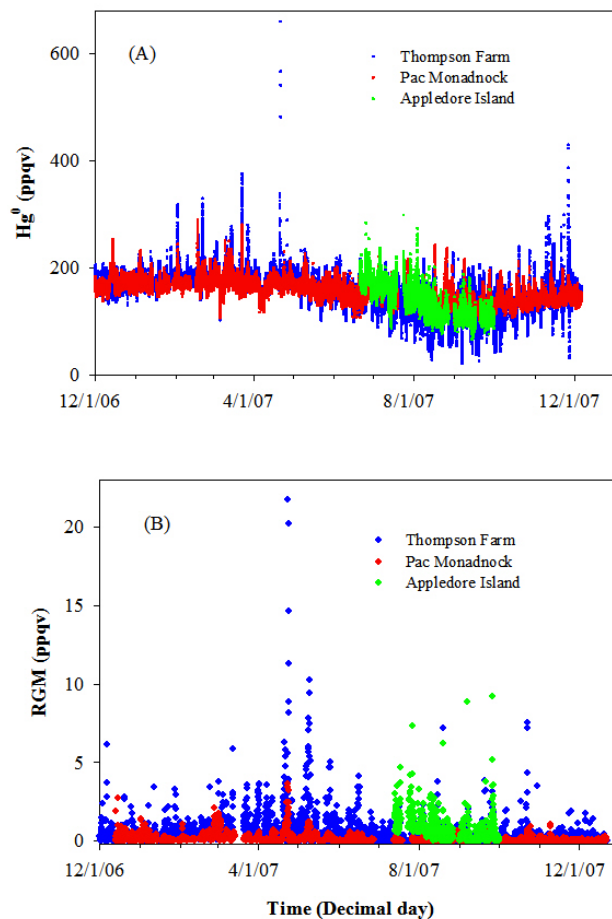


Fig. 2. Time series of (a) Hg^0 (five-minute data) and (b) RGM (2-h sample time) at Thompson Farm, Pac Monadnock (December 2006–2007) and Appledore Island (June–September 2007).

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

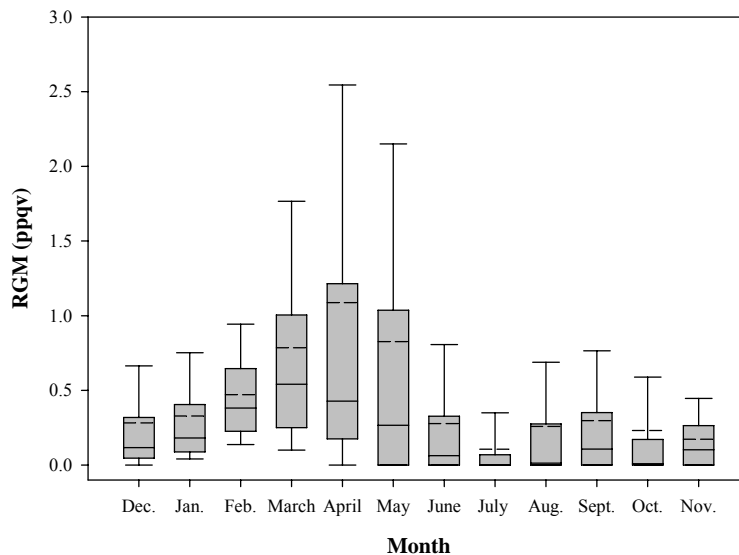


Fig. 3. Monthly variation in RGM at Thompson Farm. The solid lines within each box represent the median mixing ratio, dashed line represents the mean, boundaries of the box represent 25th and 75th percentile, and whiskers indicate 10th and 90th percentile.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

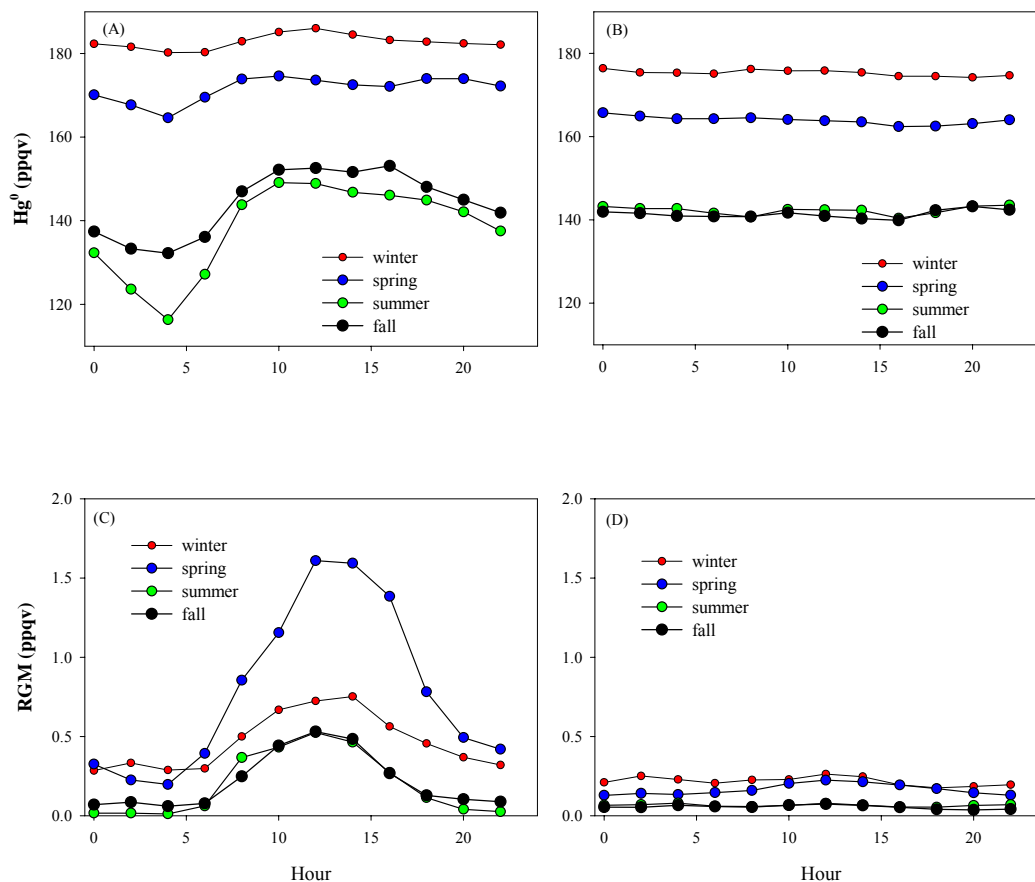


Fig. 4. Seasonally averaged diurnal profiles of Hg⁰ (two-hour averages) and RGM at Thompson Farm (a) and (c) and Pac Monadnock (b) and (d) during 2007. Time is EST.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

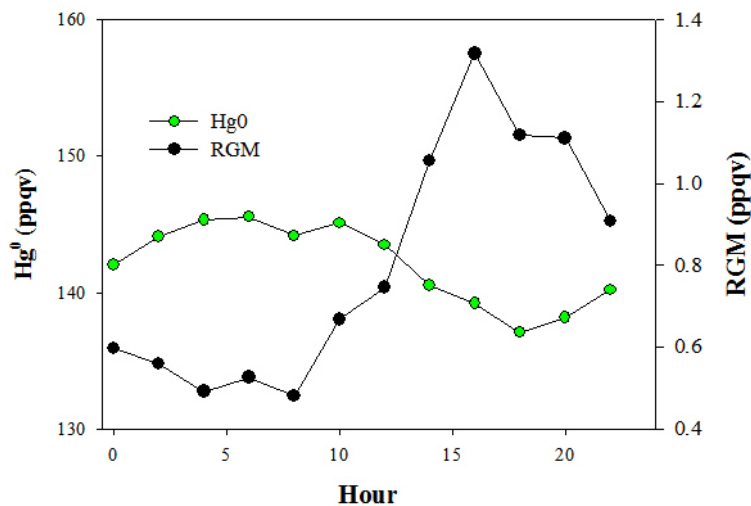


Fig. 5. Average diurnal profiles of Hg⁰ (two-hour averages) and RGM at Appledore during summer 2007. Time is EST.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[⏪](#)[⏩](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

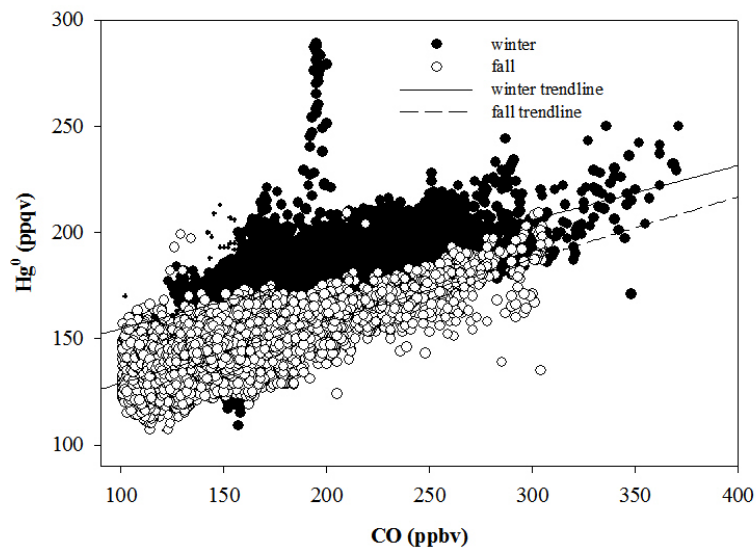


Fig. 6. Hg⁰-CO relationships at PM during winter ($y=0.256x+129.1$, $r=0.63$) and fall ($y=0.292x+100$, $r=0.75$) 2007. Data are 5-min averages.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

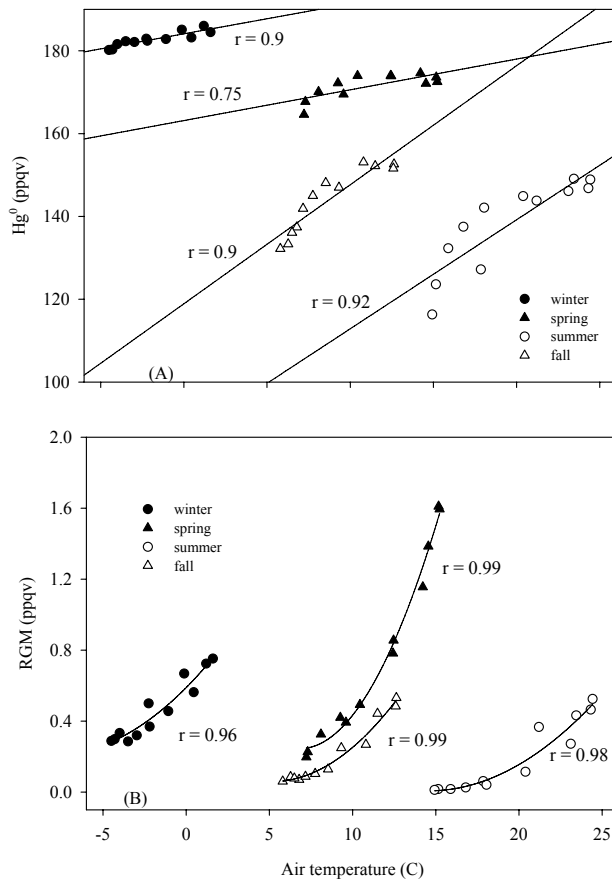


Fig. 7. Regressions of seasonal mean hourly (a) Hg^0 and (b) RGM with air temperature at TF, 2007. Data are two-hour averages.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

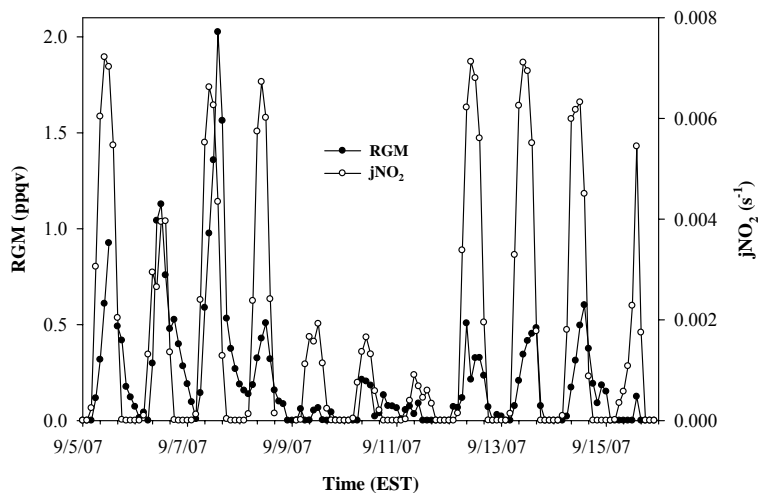


Fig. 8. Time series of $j\text{NO}_2$ and RGM at Thompson Farm during selected period in September 2007. Data are two-hour averages.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

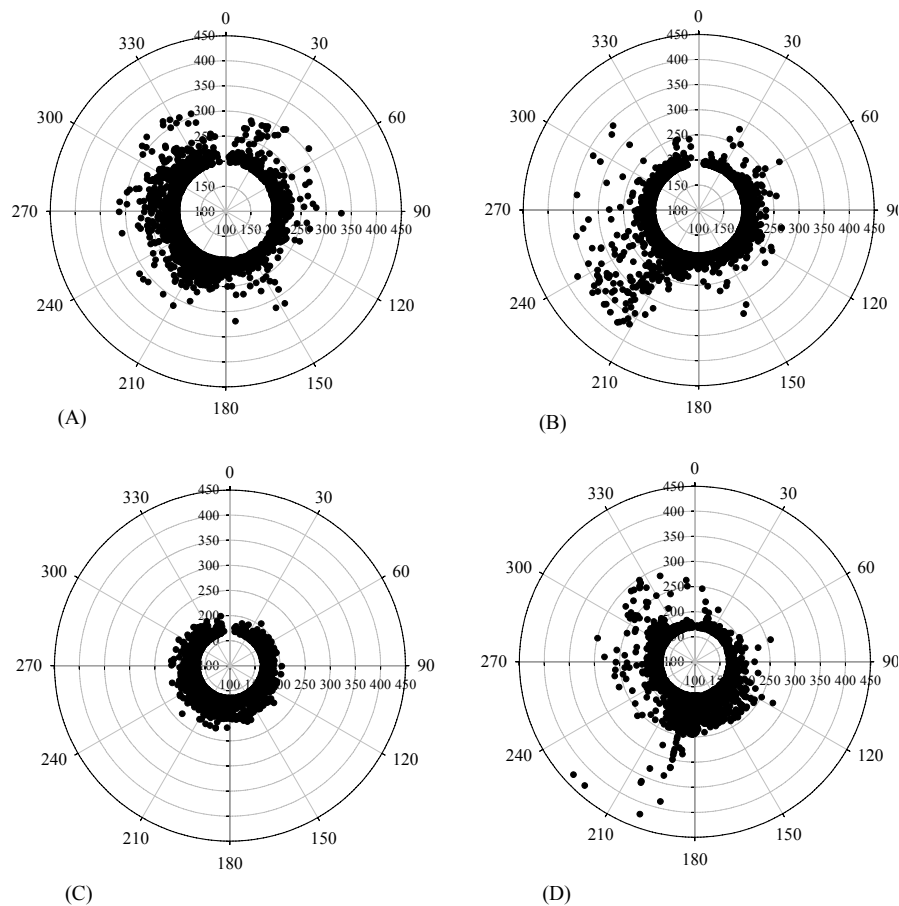


Fig. 9. Wind roses for high-Hg^o events (above seasonal 85th percentile value) at Thompson Farm during (a) winter, (b) spring, (c) summer and (d) fall 2007. Data are 5-min averages.

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

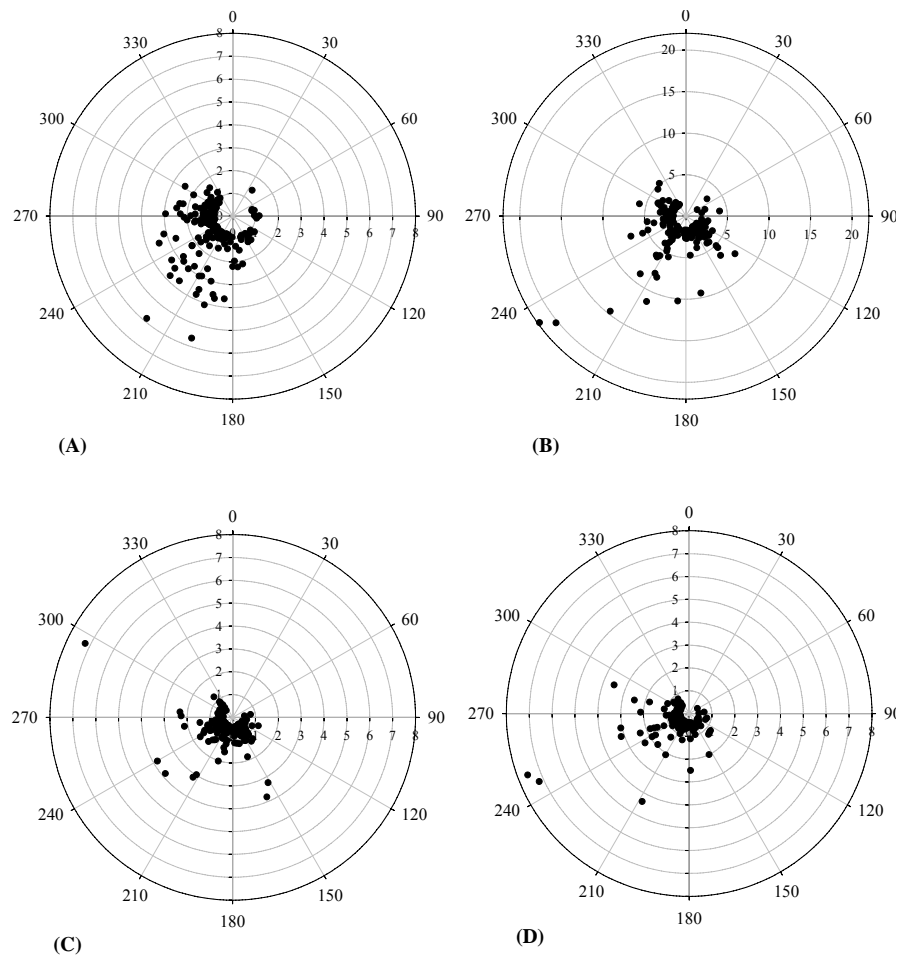


Fig. 10. Wind roses for high-RGM events (above seasonal 85th percentile value) at Thompson Farm during (a) winter, (b) spring, (c) summer and (d) fall 2007.

17801

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)

Elemental and reactive mercury in New Hampshire

J. M. Sigler et al.

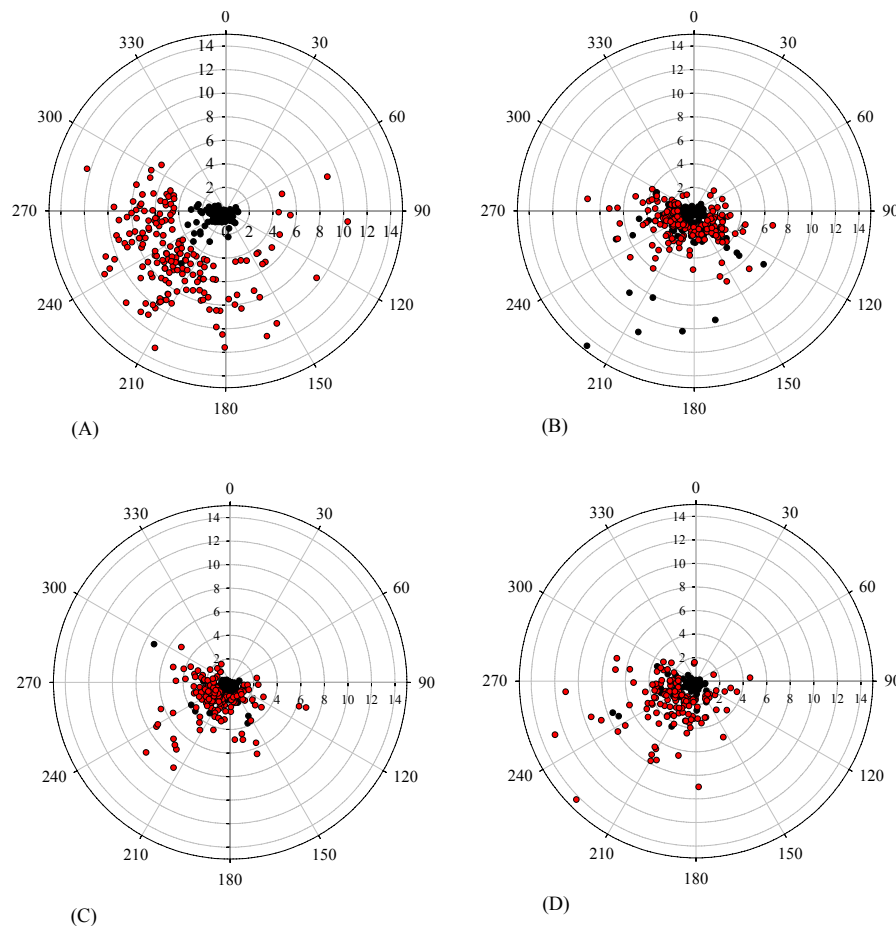


Fig. 11. Wind roses for high-SO₂ events (above seasonal 85th percentile value) at Thompson Farm during (a) winter, (b) spring, (c) summer and (d) fall 2007. Angular radius indicates SO₂ (red symbols) in ppbv, RGM (black symbols) in ppqv (two-hour averages).

[Title Page](#)[Abstract](#)[Introduction](#)[Conclusions](#)[References](#)[Tables](#)[Figures](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[◀](#)[▶](#)[Back](#)[Close](#)[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)