

Interactive comment on “Classifying previously undefined days from eleven years of aerosol-particle-size distribution data from the SMEAR II station, Hyytiälä, Finland” by S. Buenrostro Mazon et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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General Comments: This manuscript describes a refinement of a scheme for classifying event and non-event days as they pertain to episodes of new particle formation and applies the methodology to the SMEAR II data set, further elucidating various meteorological and aerosol parameters that control new particle formation. This manuscript is well written and provides a logical subdivision of previously classified non-event days.

Specific Comments: In the discussion section, the authors make reference to the work of Hyvonen et al. (2005) in describing parameters that predict new particle formation such as relative humidity and the condensation sink. In this light, reference should also

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be made to the work of McMurry et al. (2005, A criterion for new particle formation in the sulfur-rich Atlanta atmosphere, JGR), which provides a simple dimensionless parameter L that accounts for the probability that nucleated particles will coagulate with pre-existing particles before they grow to a detectable size.

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