

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.

**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**

J.-D. Paris et al.

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer: source characterization and plume evolution from airborne measurements

J.-D. Paris¹, A. Stohl², P. Nédélec³, M. Yu. Arshinov⁴, M. V. Panchenko⁴,
V. P. Shmargunov⁴, K. S. Law⁵, B. D. Belan⁴, and P. Ciais¹

¹Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l'Environnement/IPSL, CNRS-CEA-UVSQ, Orme des Merisiers, CEA Saclay, Gif sur Yvette, France

²Norwegian Institute for Air Research, Kjeller, Norway

³Laboratoire d'Aérodologie, CNRS-UPS, Toulouse, France

⁴Institute of Atmospheric Optics, SB-RAS, Tomsk, Russia

⁵UPMC Univ. Paris 06; Univ. Versailles St-Quentin; CNRS/INSU, LATMOS-IPSL, Paris, France

Received: 27 July 2009 – Accepted: 19 August 2009 – Published: 2 September 2009

Correspondence to: J.-D. Paris (jean-daniel.paris@Isce.ipsl.fr)

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 present airborne measurements of carbon dioxide (CO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O₃), equivalent black carbon (EBC) and ultra fine particles over North-Eastern Siberia in July 2008 performed during the YAK-AEROSIB/POLARCAT experiment.

5 During a “golden day” (11 July 2008) a number of biomass burning plumes were encountered with CO concentration enhancements of up to 500 ppb relative to a background of 90 ppb. Number concentrations of aerosols in the size range 3.5–200 nm peaked at 4000 cm⁻³ and the EBC content reached 1.4 μg m⁻³. These high concentrations were caused by forest fires in the vicinity of the landing airport in Yakutsk where
10 during the descent measurements in fresh smoke could be made. We estimate a combustion efficiency of 90±3% based on CO and CO₂ measurements. The emission factor of CO emitted was 59.6±15.2 g CO per kilogram of dry matter burned, suggesting an increase in the average northern hemispheric CO concentration of 3.0–7.2 ppb per million hectares of Siberian forest burned. For BC, we estimate an emission factor of 0.52±0.07 g BC kg⁻¹, comparable to values reported in the literature. The emission ratio of ultra-fine particles (3.5–200 nm) was 26 cm⁻³ (ppb CO)⁻¹, consistent with other
15 airborne studies.

The transport of identified biomass burning plumes was investigated using the FLEXPART Lagrangian model. Based on sampling of wildfire plumes from the same source
20 but with different atmospheric ages derived from FLEXPART, we estimate that the e-folding lifetimes of EBC and ultra fine particles (between 3.5 and 200 nm in size) against removal and growth processes are 5.1 and 5.5 days, respectively, supporting lifetimes estimates used in various modelling studies.

1 Introduction

25 Vegetation fires, either man-made or natural, constitute a major source of pollutants to the atmosphere and have an impact on air quality at the hemispheric scale. In particular

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Siberian forest fires are known to be a major extratropical source of carbon monoxide (CO), as well as a significant source of black carbon (BC; Lavoué et al., 2000) and other climate-relevant species to the atmosphere, dominating other biomass burning sources at high latitudes. Siberian fires emitted 26 ± 27 Tg CO per year on average (± 1 std dev) over the period 1997–2007, i.e. 56% of the total extratropical fire CO emissions in the Northern Hemisphere (46 ± 32 Tg CO; GFEDv2; van der Werf et al., 2006). The large interannual variability in fire occurrence over Siberia is a major driving factor for the variability of CO in the Northern Hemisphere atmosphere (Wotawa et al., 2001). Boreal forest fire plumes also degrade Arctic air quality (Wofsy et al., 1994; Stohl et al., 2006; Generoso et al., 2007; Quinn et al., 2008; Warneke et al., 2009).

Black carbon (BC) from boreal forest fires has a significant radiative impact on the Arctic atmosphere through mid-troposphere warming and deposition on snow (Quinn et al., 2008; Flanner et al., 2007), especially in spring. BC is a light-absorbing fraction of the total aerosol emitted by forest fires. It represents a highly variable fraction ($8\% \pm 6\%$) of the total aerosol mass (Reid et al., 2005), with the bulk (between half and two thirds) consisting of organic carbon. Little is known about emission, transport and deposition of BC from Siberian forest fires to the Arctic. Based on transport model calculations, Stohl (2006) argued that boreal forest fires, especially Siberian fires, are the largest source of BC to the Arctic in summer, exceeding all contributions from anthropogenic sources. In a measurement-based modelling study, Generoso et al. (2007) found that the 2003 Russian fires emitted 0.5 Tg C BC, and contributed about 40–56% of the total BC mass deposited north of 75° N. However, Koch and Hansen (2005) find this contribution generally secondary compared to South Asian anthropogenic and tropical biomass burning sources, due to efficient transport in their model.

The impact of Siberian wildfires on the atmospheric composition is very difficult to determine for a number of reasons. Characterization of fire plumes over Siberia is largely lacking (see e.g. Nédélec et al., 2005). Areas burned, biomass fraction consumed, combustion efficiency, height of plume injection into the atmosphere and emission ratios are all highly uncertain for Siberia. Ground-truth data from Siberia is largely

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



lacking. A few prescribed fires provided insight into Siberian forest fire processes and values for emission ratio of various species (FIRESCAN Science Team, 1996; Cofer et al., 1996, 1998; McRae et al., 2006). Annual areas burned are known to have been underestimated by earlier official data (Conard et al., 2002). Van der Werf et al. (2006) used burned area information from MODIS, but (1) the resolution of MODIS is coarse for this application, and (2) validation with high resolution Landsat data show for Africa an underestimation of burned area by 40% for 60% of land cover (Lehsten et al., 2009). Further, these detections do not fully capture the spatio-temporal variability of fires because of infrequent satellite overpasses or clouds. Furthermore, chemistry-transport models are very sensitive to the injection height of fire emissions (e.g. Turquety et al., 2007), which depends both on synoptic conditions and type of fire.

Although sparse, aircraft observations can provide valuable constraints on the emission factors (e.g. Ward et al., 1991), injection heights and subsequent transport (e.g. Andreae et al., 1998). Here we investigate the outflow from major fires burning in Siberia in July 2008. Our instrumented aircraft crossed several plumes originating from the same fire region. These observations provide insight in the injection of the forest fire plume, its transport toward the Arctic, its evolution and removal processes.

2 Methods

2.1 Field sampling

YAK-AEROSIB (Airborne Extensive Regional Observations in Siberia) performs a series of airborne measurement campaigns over Siberia. Two campaigns were carried out between 7 and 29 July 2008 in a collaborative effort with the POLARCAT (Polar Study using Aircraft, Remote Sensing, Surface Measurements and Models, of Climate, Chemistry, Aerosols, and Transport) programme, following three previous campaigns in 2006 and 2007 (Paris et al., 2008, 2009b). The campaign consisted of two large loops in North and Central Siberia (Fig. 1a), intended to document the distribution of CO₂,

CO and O₃ as well as aerosols in the Siberian troposphere. As a contribution to the POLARCAT programme, the flight route (which had to be fixed prior to the campaign) was chosen to sample as many different air masses as possible with a flight pattern consisting of frequent ascents and descents between close to the ground and 7 km altitude. Here we focus on data obtained during flight 17 on 11 July 2008, a south-bound leg starting from the Siberian Arctic coast. The aircraft departed from Chokurdakh (70° N, 147° E) and landed in Yakutsk (62° N, 130° E) (Fig. 1b). Fires were burning near Yakutsk (Fig. 1b), and several plumes from these fires were encountered during the flight.

2.2 Instruments

The airborne instruments are documented elsewhere (Paris et al., 2008, 2009a) and, thus, only short descriptions are provided here, except for the aethalometer measuring equivalent BC, which has not been described previously. Concentrations of ultra-fine and fine particles in three size ranges (3–5.5, 5.5–20.5, 20.5–200 nm) were measured with an automated diffusion battery (ADB; see Arshinov et al., 2007; Paris et al., 2009a, and references therein). The ADB coupled with a condensation particle counter (CPC) has an additional aspiration unit to compensate changing ambient pressure and changing flow rate. All particle concentrations are reported at standard pressure and temperature (STP) conditions. Particle concentrations in 15 size bins in the range 0.3–20 µm were measured using a GRIMM 1.108 instrument (GRIMM Aerosol Technik GmbH & Co. KG, Germany). Equivalent black carbon (EBC) mass concentration was measured using an aethalometer based on diffuse attenuation of light by particles after collection on a filter (Panchenko et al., 2000). The wavelength ranges between 0.4 and 1.1 µm with maximum near 0.9 µm. This instrument is sensitive to submicron particles. EBC mass concentration M_{BC} is converted from light absorption using Eq. (1):

$$M_{BC} = \frac{S_i \cdot \ln(I_1/I_2)}{k \cdot V \cdot t} \cdot 10^5 \quad (1)$$

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



where S_f is the filter area (cm^2), I_1 and I_2 the signal before and after pumping, k the mass coefficient ($28 \text{ cm}^2 \mu\text{g}^{-1}$) obtained during calibration, V the flow rate (l/min), and t the time of pumping (min). The sensitivity of the aethalometer is $\sim 0.01 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ EBC.

CO and O_3 mixing ratios were measured by modified commercial gas analysers Thermo 48C and Thermo 49 (Thermo Environmental Instruments, USA; see Nédélec et al., 2003; Paris et al., 2008). CO_2 was measured using a modified Li-Cor 6262 improved with pressure and flow rate control and temperature stability, as well as three calibration gases with concentrations bracketing ambient ones (Paris et al., 2008). The instrument precision is ~ 0.15 ppm.

2.3 Modelling of air mass transport

The origin of air masses and the contribution of biomass burning to CO enhancements was investigated using the FLEXPART Lagrangian model (Stohl et al., 2005; Seibert and Frank, 2004). FLEXPART calculates the trajectories of tracer particles using the mean winds interpolated from the analysis fields plus random motions representing turbulence. Results presented here use ECMWF (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts) analysis fields, although GFS (Global Forecast System of NOAA/NCEP) fields were used, too, as differences between the two simulations allow estimating the transport error. Both backward and forward simulations were performed. While the forward simulations served to investigate the extension of fire plumes, the backward simulations were used to analyse transport pathways from potential source regions to the aircraft position. Each backward simulation consists of 40 000 particles released whenever the aircraft has moved 0.15° in latitude or longitude, or 10 hPa in altitude. Released particles were followed 10 d backward in time and an emission sensitivity (ES) was calculated, which can be folded with available emission fluxes to calculate source contributions (e.g., Stohl et al., 2007). Results are available at <http://zardozi.nilu.no/~andreas/YAK/>. Biomass burning (BB) emission estimates for CO are based on active fire detections by the

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



MODIS instruments onboard the Aqua and Terra satellites (Giglio et al., 2003) (see http://maps.geog.umd.edu/products/MODIS_Fire_Users_Guide_2.2.pdf) and using the algorithm described by Stohl et al. (2007). Forest fire emissions are injected homogeneously between the ground and 3 km altitude, as we found that it provided a significant improvement over simple ground-level injection in the simulation of the smoke plumes. Anthropogenic emissions were taken from the EDGAR 3.2 Fast Track 2000 dataset (Olivier et al., 2001). The “age” of each fire plume identified in this study was calculated by taking the average age of the FLEXPART fire CO tracer at the time of the maximum observed CO.

For the forward simulations, a CO and a BC tracer were initialized at the location of every fire detected in the Northern Hemisphere, with emissions estimated as described above. The simulation covered the period March–July 2008 and particles in this simulation were dropped from the simulation after 20 d. A maximum of 18 million particles were simultaneously present in the simulation. The BC tracer was subject to wet and dry deposition parameterizations in FLEXPART, while the CO tracer was only removed when particles were dropped after 20 d.

3 Results and discussion

Figure 2 shows the frequency distributions of aerosols and trace gases in Siberia during the 2008 campaign flights. A CO background emerges from this distribution, with median concentrations generally between 90 and 100 ppb. Comparing the CO distribution with that of the three previous measurement campaigns (Paris et al., 2008, 2009b), irrespective of altitude, suggests that overall CO concentrations observed during this campaign were within the range observed during previous summer campaigns (Fig. 3). Higher CO concentrations (~160–180 ppb) were only observed in April 2006, a consequence of the seasonal cycle of CO. The measurements are not biased by sampling strategy because the campaign itinerary needs to be announced to Russian authorities a long time in advance and therefore targeting of particular plumes is impossible.

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Figure 3 also reveals that northern Siberia CO concentrations are consistently lower than those sampled in central Siberia, probably due to the sampling of a different air mass within the polar dome at the northern leg of the flight track.

Analysing the trace gas and aerosol distribution during the 2008 campaigns on a flight by flight basis, more elevated CO concentrations are found in eastern-central Siberia (Fig. 2a, flights 17–19) and at low level over Lake Baikal (flights 23–24) than in other regions. CO₂ and O₃ concentrations vary considerably and are not well correlated with CO and are suggested to be determined largely by the variability in exchange processes at the surface. For instance, flights over Northern Siberia and tundra typically revealed vertical profiles with weak or absent CO₂ gradient toward the ground, whereas at lower latitudes CO₂ decreases strongly towards the ground because of efficient CO₂ uptake by trees for photosynthesis. Similarly, O₃ variability in the lower troposphere could be largely driven by deposition processes.

The more elevated CO levels during flights 17–19 are associated with strongly enhanced EBC and ultrafine particles concentrations, which can be attributed to influence from biomass burning. Of the three flights, flight 17 is clearly the one with the strongest CO and EBC enhancements and, thus, the remainder of this paper analyzes the data obtained during this flight in detail.

3.1 Identification of biomass burning influence

Figure 4 shows the CO, O₃ and aerosol concentrations measured along flight 17. Large CO enhancements were encountered during this flight, with maximum CO concentrations of about 600 ppb, an enhancement of almost 500 ppb over a background of 90 ppb. Over Siberia, remote from anthropogenic emission sources, elevated CO likely originates from wildfires. The origin of these elevated CO plumes was tested with the FLEXPART Lagrangian model (Fig. 4a). According to the model anthropogenic emissions had a negligible influence during the entire flight in this remote region, with a predicted median anthropogenic CO contribution (integrated over the last 10 d before the flight) of 0.6 ppb (interquartile range 0.5–2.4 ppb; black shading in Fig. 4a).

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**J.-D. Paris et al.

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

On the contrary, FLEXPART suggests substantial influence from biomass burning (median 2.4 ppb, interquartile range 0.4–9.5 ppb; grey shading in Fig. 4a). The simulated high CO concentrations due to the influence of biomass burning (BB) plumes correctly match some of the CO enhancements in the data (Fig. 4a). The modelled amplitude of CO concentrations, however, appears to be often over- or underestimated and a thin smoke layer shortly after take-off in Chokurdakh is missed altogether by the model. Reasons for the model shortcomings in addition to potential transport errors are (1) the high uncertainty of the emissions associated with an individual fire detection from satellite, (2) the poor temporal resolution of the MODIS fire detections and missing detections in the presence of clouds, and (3) uncertain injection heights into the atmosphere of the biomass burning emissions.

The results of a FLEXPART forward run are broadly consistent with our observations (Fig. 5). For instance, the thin smoke layer labeled plume 1 is found near the edge of an aged and re-circulated biomass burning plume advected from the north. Ageing of the fire plume is denoted by the decrease in BC relative to CO in older plumes, in agreement with the measurements (early in the flight, after take-off in the north). The FLEXPART forward simulation is also in agreement with the smoke patterns seen in a MODIS image (Fig. 6) and with spaceborne CO measurements taken on the same day by the IASI (Interféromètre Atmosphérique de Sondage Infrarouge) instrument (Pommier et al., 2009), illustrating the dominant fire origin of the CO enhancements. Emissions from fires located near Yakutsk at the time of the campaign were transported to the north on average but significant frontal activity sheared and isolated the BB emissions in several separate plumes. According to the Russian Hydrometcenter weather chart, a strong low at 110° E, 67° N was centered to the west of the flight, provoking vigorous frontal activity and attracting the fire plumes close to the source. A cold front was located in the middle of the flight track, which marks correspondingly the steep gradient between smoke and clean air in the cold air mass, and an occluded front was located near Yakutsk, where the highest CO and BC concentrations are found (Fig. 5). Consequently, a thick cloud deck was present over large parts

of the flight (Fig. 6).

3.2 Characterization of individual plumes

We identified six distinct (from the aircraft sampling perspective) BB plumes for further analysis (Fig. 4a). Concentrations in plumes are mostly reported as excess above background. The CO background was determined to be 90 ppb based on a “flat” signal in apparently clean areas of the flight. The ultra fine (3–200 nm) particles’ background concentration was taken at 400 cm^{-3} , which is approximately the 20th percentile of the distributions, and reflects typical concentrations in CO-poor regions (Fig. 4b). Similarly, the observed EBC background is estimated to be $\sim 2 \times 10^{-2} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, near detection limit.

The plume numbered I has a very high CO enhancement above background (up to $\Delta\text{CO}=500$ ppb, average 362 ppb; see Table 1). This plume has a thickness of ~ 500 m, and was encountered at 3 km altitude (Fig. 7). Plume I is associated to a well correlated ($R^2=0.78$, $p=0.007$, $n=10$) negative (~ -20 ppb) O_3 excursion, resulting in a low concentration of 24.7 ppb. The O_3/CO regression slope is -0.04 ppb $\text{O}_3/\text{ppb CO}$. No enhancement of particle concentration was observed, probably due to wet scavenging from the plume. CO_2 enhancement in this plume appears to be very weak relative to surrounding air, difficult to quantify due to the absence of a well defined background. No EBC observations were available for this plume.

Plume I is predicted with a very low CO excess ($\Delta\text{CO}=8$ ppb) by the FLEXPART backward simulations and its age is 13 d. The observed low number concentration of fine aerosol is consistent with an aged plume. As discussed above, these measurements were likely made at the edge of a major plume predicted in the FLEXPART forward run just to the north of the flight track, over the East Siberian Sea (Fig. 5). The model suggests no BC in this plume but a significant CO enhancement (30–40 ppb, 1 km thick) near the flight track (much higher concentrations further north), consistent with the measurements (fine particle number concentrations near background levels; EBC data missing). The vertical curtain plots in Fig. 5 suggest that plumes I and II are simulated at altitudes matching well the observations, albeit plume I is slightly too high

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



by ~ 1.5 km.

Plume II corresponds to an upper-tropospheric CO enhancement of 57 ppb (Table 1), encountered at 6 km altitude (Fig. 7). It is capped by a layer with a stratospheric signature, identified by increasing O₃ concentrations (up to 220 ppb, Fig. 7) and decreasing relative humidity, at flight ceiling. This stratospheric signature is further confirmed by the FLEXPART backward simulation, with more than 60% of particles originating from the stratosphere one day or less before measurement. In addition to elevated CO the fire plume has a weak BC enhancement of $0.02 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. The FLEXPART simulation indicates that the BB-related CO enhancement in this air mass occurred 10 d prior to encounter (Table 1). O₃ average concentration in this plume is 81.2 ppb. CO is negatively correlated both with CO₂ ($R^2=0.84$; $p \leq 0.001$; $n=32$, slope = -27.9 ± 2.1) and O₃ ($R^2=0.24$; $p=0.004$; slope: -0.79 ± 0.13). An explanation for this is partial mixing of the plume with air of recent stratospheric origin immediately above, consistent with the anticorrelations with both O₃ and CO₂.

Plume III shows no correlation between CO and O₃. CO₂ data are scarce for this plume because of a concurrent in-flight calibration. This plume was encountered on a flight plateau at 3.5 km altitude and was not found above this altitude on descent to/ascent from this plateau. A slight BC increase was observed for this plume ($0.17 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). FLEXPART overestimated the BB CO enhancement in this plume (~ 100 ppb) compared to the measurements (39 ppb).

Plume IV differs significantly from plumes II and III since CO is positively correlated to CO₂ ($R^2=0.84$; $p \leq 0.001$; $n=13$; slope: 57.8 ± 8.1) and to O₃ ($R^2=0.40$; $p=0.02$; $n=13$; slope: 7.2 ± 2.0). It has a strong excess of ultrafine particles, with particles in the range 20–200 nm totalling 2000 cm^{-3} . EBC excess is also significant with $0.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. It constitutes a thin layer of 400 m thickness at 6 km altitude.

As the aircraft was descending toward Yakutsk, close to the fire source area (Fig. 1), high CO concentrations were observed below 3 km (Fig. 8, plumes V and VI). Plume V exhibits a CO concentration up to 600 ppb and caps a couple of other high-CO plumes (varying between 150 and 300 ppb) down to the surface (labelled “VI” in Fig. 4a). The

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



layering of plumes V and VI is explained by the presence of two temperature inversion layers at corresponding heights (not shown). FLEXPART estimates the age of these plumes at less than 1 day. High tracer concentrations, strong correlation of CO with particles concentrations, EBC and CO₂ observed in plumes V and VI, combined with the <1 day of travel time from the fire suggest that these observations can be used to determine the emission ratios of the species observed.

3.3 Emission ratio, emission factor and combustion efficiency

Emission factors were calculated using the carbon mass balance method (Ward et al., 1991). This method is based on the partial oxidation of combustion fuel into CO₂ and other incomplete combustion products, including CO, hydrocarbons and particulate matter. The emission factor (EF) of a species *X* corresponds to the mass of C emitted per mass of dry matter burned according to Eq. (2).

$$EF_X = \frac{[X]}{C_{[CO_2]} + C_{[CO]} + C_{[CH_4]} + C_{[NMHC]} + C_{[PC]}} \quad (2)$$

The emission ratios for CO and particles relative to CO₂ are given according to Eq. (3)

$$ER_X = \frac{[X]}{C_{[CO_2]}} = \frac{\Delta[X]/M_X}{\Delta[CO_2]/M_{CO_2}} \quad (3)$$

Where M_X is the molecular mass of compound *X*. Estimates for the terms of Eqs. (2) and (3) are provided by the measurement of the excess concentrations of these compounds in very recent smoke close to the source. Excess concentrations are considered relative to a surrounding clean air background. Due to its high temporal (depending on recent ecosystem net primary production) and spatial variability (due to the gradient across the boundary layer entrainment zone), the CO₂ background cannot be readily estimated from measurements in surrounding air masses. We interpolated a relevant background value from measurements in clean air (CO<110 ppb) within the

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



boundary layer elsewhere during the campaign, at similar local time and latitude. The resulting CO₂ background valid for recent smoke observed at low levels during the flight on 11 July (plumes V–VI) is 372.3±2.5 ppm (median±std dev). We observe from the particular profile an apparent background of ~374 ppm (Fig. 8). In order to account for such potential error, we will consider a range of background values (372–374 ppm) instead of a single value.

The CO emission per kg dry biomass burned (EF) can alternatively be derived from the ER. Here we use the following equation:

$$EF_{CO} = M_{CO} \times \frac{EF_{CO_2}}{M_{CO_2}} \times ER_{CO} \quad (4)$$

Because we do not observe directly EF_{CO₂}, we hypothesize that values from the literature for Siberia can be applied. From prescribed forest fire experiments in Siberia, Cofer et al. (1996) suggest a value of 1475±40 g kg⁻¹, lower than in a more recent experiment with EF_{CO₂}~1650 g kg⁻¹ (McRae et al., 2006) The latter further identified a large range of EF_{CO₂} depending on the fuel type, ranging from 1060 g kg⁻¹ for moss and lichen to 1717 g kg⁻¹ for rotten wood. Separating crown and smoldering fires, Cofer et al. (1998) report 1500±50 g kg⁻¹ for crown fire and 1100±50 g kg⁻¹ for smoldering emissions. Here we consider a range of EF_{CO₂} values between 1475 and 1650 g kg⁻¹, from the two prescribed burning in Siberian forest available in the literature (FIRESCAN Science Team, 1996; McRae et al., 2006).

Accounting for observational and methodological errors, we obtained an EF_{CO} of 59.6±15.2 g CO kg⁻¹. Our CO emission factor is at the lower end of values reported in the literature for boreal forest fires. Observed EF_{CO} values range from 68.8 g kg⁻¹ (Cofer et al., 1989) up to 350±45 g kg⁻¹ (Cofer et al., 1998) for Siberian smoldering Taïga fires. Andreae and Merlet (2001) found an average of 107±37 g kg⁻¹ for extratropical forest fires. In their prescribed burning experiments, McRae et al. (2006) found a range of EF_{CO} between 98 and 135 g kg⁻¹. However, the vast majority of data on

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



boreal emission factors used as reference were obtained from North American boreal forest fires (Andreae and Merlet, 2001).

During Siberian boreal forest fires, the total fuel consumption (ground, surface and aerial) likely ranges between 2.5 kg m^{-2} dry matter (Cahoon et al., 1994) and 3.7 kg m^{-2} (FIRESCAN Science Team, 1996). An average of 45% of C in dry fuel (Cahoon et al., 1994) suggests that $1.1\text{--}1.7 \text{ kg C m}^{-2}$ are available to combustion. As a result, a total of between 1.25 and $3.10 \text{ t CO (ha burned)}^{-1}$ were emitted by the forest fires during this period. This must be put in perspective with the $5\text{--}10 \text{ Mha}$ burnt each year (with large interannual variability) in Siberia (Conard et al., 2002). This can also be expressed as a northern hemispheric $3.0\text{--}7.2 \text{ ppb CO}$ increase per million ha burned, a range higher than found in a regression analysis by Wotawa et al. (2001) for Russian fires ($3 \text{ ppb CO Mha}^{-1}$).

The EBC emission ratio is estimated to $0.52 \pm 0.07 \text{ g BC kg}^{-1}$. This is in line with the results of Andreae and Merlet (2001) who obtained the value $0.56 \pm 0.19 \text{ g BC kg}^{-1}$. This suggests a total of $0.05\text{--}0.09 \text{ t BC (ha burned)}^{-1}$ were emitted during the period.

3.4 Aerosol removal time scales

As we have shown in Figs. 4 and 9 (forward and backward model runs, respectively), the aircraft sampled several smoke plumes that were emitted in the same fire region, between Lake Baikal and Yakutsk. However, these plumes have different ages ranging between 1 and 13 days, and a decrease in EBC mass concentration and particles number concentration is expected due to removal and mixing processes. Figure 10 shows aerosol enhancements ΔN and ΔEBC as well as the enhancement ratios $\Delta N / \Delta \text{CO}$ and $\Delta \text{EBC} / \Delta \text{CO}$ as a function of plume age (Table 1). EBC concentrations decrease exponentially with time. The exponential fit model explains $R^2 = 63\%$ of the variance of the signal for ΔEBC (Fig. 10a text inset). Over 10 d, ΔEBC decreases by slightly less than two orders of magnitude and $\Delta \text{EBC} / \Delta \text{CO}$ enhancement ratio by roughly one order of magnitude. The e-folding lifetime of EBC against removal processes is estimated at 5.1 d (see text inset in Fig. 10c) using the exponential fit of $\Delta \text{EBC} / \Delta \text{CO}$ ($R^2 = 0.43$).

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



The stronger reduction of EBC concentrations relative to enhancement ratios is due to plume dilution by mixing with background air, which affects both EBC and CO.

The decrease of biomass burning EBC with transport time is attributed to mixing and removal processes enhanced by coating of particles by hydrophilic organics. Jacobson (2001) found in a modelling study (including internal mixing and removal processes such as coagulation, condensation, deposition, equilibrium water uptake and rainout) that only 20% by mass of the primary submicron BC remain after 5 d. This suggests that our estimated BC lifetime against removal is valid for BC particles in the submicron range. Our estimated EBC lifetime of 5.1 days supports assumed BC lifetime in other studies. Stohl (2006) reviewed lifetimes used in three modelling studies ranging between 3 and 7 d; respectively 6 ± 2 d (Park et al., 2005), 3–4 d (Liu et al., 2005), and 7.3 d (Koch and Hansen, 2005).

Ultrafine particle number concentrations are also decreasing with plume age (Fig. 10b and d), with an exponential fit that explain $R^2=0.59$ of the variance between age and the $\Delta N/\Delta CO$ ratio. The lifetime implied by the exponential fit is 5.5 d (Fig. 10d). Possible sinks for particles in this size range are coagulation onto pre-existing larger particles or removal processes. The intercept indicates that ultra fine particle emission ratio was $\sim 26 \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$. The values found for $\Delta N/\Delta CO$ are consistent with other estimates at various plume ages, obtained essentially in the tropics (Andreae et al., 1994, 2001). For example Andreae et al. (1994) found for plumes of age 2–6 d a $\Delta N/\Delta CO = 2\text{--}8 \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for particles with size $> 1 \mu\text{m}$ and 8–18 for Aitken nuclei (more comparable to our case). In our estimates of lifetimes, the error in the regression of the concentration ratios is linked to the imprecision of air mass age determination (error estimated to ± 1 d) and to the value chosen as a background for particles concentrations (within $\pm 50 \text{ cm}^{-3}$).

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



4 Conclusions

In the framework of the YAK-AEROSIB/POLARCAT experiments we carried out intensive airborne campaigns to measure the tropospheric distribution of trace gases and aerosols including equivalent black carbon (EBC). The background concentrations of trace gases were generally similar to previous YAK-AEROSIB summer campaigns. However, several layers with high CO, aerosol and BC concentrations were observed on three flights, which were caused by forest fires in Eastern Siberia near Yakutsk. During one flight, on 11 July 2008, several plumes were observed that all originated from the same fires but took different atmospheric transport routes.

Based on the data acquired during a vertical profile close to the fires, we derived emission factors for CO equal to 59.6 ± 15.2 g CO per kilogram of dry matter burned. This CO emission factor, although rather low compared to values in the literature, suggests that fires in Siberia could cause an increase in northern hemispheric CO concentrations of 3.0–7.2 ppb/Mha burned, with up to ~ 10 Mha burning annually in Siberia. For EBC we obtained an emission factor of 0.52 ± 0.07 g BC kg⁻¹. The emission ratio of ultra-fine particles (3.5–200 nm) was $26 \text{ cm}^{-3} (\text{ppb CO})^{-1}$, consistent with other airborne studies.

A variety of plumes were encountered during the 11 July flight. Their ages ranged from less than 1 d to 13 d, as determined from backward simulations with the Lagrangian particle dispersion model FLEXPART. The most aged plumes were found in the free troposphere near the Siberian Arctic coast at approximately 70° N, while the freshest plumes were found near Yakutsk, not far from the fires. Smoke plumes were lifted by several frontal systems passing through the study area.

High EBC concentrations were observed near the fire (up to $1.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$), whereas aged plumes had near-background EBC concentrations ($0.02 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). Using an exponential fit to the observed time dependence of EBC and ultrafine particle enhancement ratios with CO, our observations suggest lifetimes in the Siberian troposphere of 5.1 d for EBC and 5.5 d for ultrafine particles. The most aged plume (13 d) had a strong

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



negative correlation between CO and O₃ ($R^2=0.78$) with a O₃/CO regression slope of -0.04 ppb O₃/ppb CO, indicating that O₃ destruction dominated over photochemical production in this aged plume.

Acknowledgements. We thank the scientific and flight crews for carrying out successfully the campaigns. Burnt area product was provided by Anatoly I. Sukhinin. Thanks to Doug McRae and Brian J. Stocks for useful discussions and support. Michel Ramonet, Jean-Luc Teffo, Igor G. Granberg, Georgi. S. Golitsyn are acknowledged for their contribution to the YAK-AEROSIB project. This study was funded by ANR as a part of POLARCAT France (grant BLAN06-1_137670), by the Norwegian Research Council as part of POLARCAT-Norway, and by CEA, CNRS, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (grants 07-05-00645, 08-05-10033 and 08-05-92499), and the Russian Academy of Science.



The publication of this article is financed by CNRS-INSU.

References

- Andreae, M. O., Anderson, B. E., Blake, D. R., Bradshaw, J. D., Collins, J. E., Gregory, G. L., Sachse, G. W., and Shipham, M. C.: Influence of plumes from biomass burning on atmospheric chemistry over the equatorial and tropical South Atlantic during CITE 3, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 99(D6), 12793–12808, 1994.
- Andreae, M. O. and Merlet, P.: Emission of trace gases and aerosols from biomass burning, *Global Biogeochem. Cy.*, 15(4), 955–966, 2001.
- Andreae, M. O., Artaxo, P., Fischer, H., Freitas, S. R., Gregoire, J. M., Hansel, A., Hoor, P., Kormann, R., Krejci, R., Lange, L., Lelieveld, J., Lindinger, W., Longo, K., Peters, W., de

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**J.-D. Paris et al.

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

Reus, M., Scheeren, B., Dias, M. A. F. S., Strom, J., van Velthoven, P. F. J., and Williams, J.: Transport of biomass burning smoke to the upper troposphere by deep convection in the equatorial region, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 28(6), 951–954, 2001.

Arshinov, M., Belan, B. D., Nédélec, P., Paris, J.-D., and Machida, T.: Spatial distribution of nanoparticles in the free troposphere over Siberia, in: *Nucleation and Atmospheric Physics*, 17th International Conference on Nucleation and Atmospheric Aerosols, edited by: O'Dowd, C. D., Wagner, P. E., Springer, 819–823, 2007.

Cahoon Jr., D. R., Stocks, B. J., Levine, J. S., Cofer III, W. R., and Pierson, J. M.: Satellite analysis of the severe 1987 forest fires in northern China and southeastern Siberia, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 99, 18627–18638, 1994.

Cofer III, W. R., Levine, J. S., Sebacher, D. I., Winstead, E. L., Riggan, P. J., Stocks, B. J., Brass, J. A., Ambrosia, V. G., and Boston, P. J.: Trace gas emissions from chaparral and boreal forest fires, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 94, 2255–2259, 1989.

Cofer III, W. R., Winstead, E. L., Stocks, B. J., Overbay, L. W., Goldammer, J. G., Cahoon, D. R., and Levine, J. S.: Emissions from boreal forest fires: are the atmospheric impacts underestimated?, in: *Global Biomass Burning and Global Change*, edited by: Levine, J. S., MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 834–839, 1996.

Cofer III, W. R., Winstead, E. L., Stocks, B. J., Goldammer, J. G., and Cahoon, D. R.: Crown fire emissions of CO₂, CO, H₂, CH₄, and TNMHC from a dense jack pine boreal forest fire, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 25, 3919–3922, 1998.

Conard, S. G., Sukhinin, A. I., Stocks, B. J., Cahoon, D. R., Davidenko, E. P., and Ivanova, G. A.: Determining effects of area burned and fire severity on carbon cycling and emissions in Siberia, *Clim. Change*, 55, 197–211, 2002.

FIRESCAN Science Team: Fire in Ecosystems of Boreal Eurasia: The Bor Forest Island Fire Experiment, Fire Research Campaign Asia-North (FIRESCAN), in: *Biomass Burning and Global Change*, edited by: Levine, J. S., MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 848–873, 1996.

Flanner, M. G., Zender, C. S., Randerson, J. T., and Rasch, P. J.: Present day climate forcing and response from black carbon in snow, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 112, D11202, doi:10.1029/2006JD008003, 2007.

Generoso, S., Bey, I., Attié, J.-L., and Bréon, F.-M.: A satellite- and model-based assessment of the 2003 Russian fires: Impact on the Arctic region, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 112, D15302, doi:10.1029/2006JD008344, 2007.

Giglio, L., Descloitres, J., Justice, C. O., and Kaufman, Y.: An enhanced contextual fire detection

- algorithm for MODIS, *Rem. Sens. Environ.*, 87, 273–282, 2003.
- Jacobson, M. Z.: Strong radiative heating due to the mixing state of black carbon in atmospheric aerosols, *Nature*, 409, 695–697, 2001.
- Koch, D. and Hansen, J.: Distant origins of Arctic Black Carbon: A GISS ModelE experiment, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 110, D04204, doi:10.1029/2004JD005296, 2005.
- Lavoué, D. C., Liousse, C., Cachier, H., Stocks, B. J., and Goldammer, J. G.: Modelling of carbonaceous particles emitted by boreal and temperate wildfires at northern latitudes, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 105, 26871–26890, 2000.
- Lehsten, V., Tansey, K., Balzter, H., Thonicke, K., Spessa, A., Weber, U., Smith, B., and Ar-
neth, A.: Estimating carbon emissions from African wildfires, *Biogeosciences*, 6, 349–360,
2009,
<http://www.biogeosciences.net/6/349/2009/>.
- Liu, X. H., Penner, J. E., and Herzog, M.: Global modeling of aerosol dynamics: Model descrip-
tion, evaluation, and interactions between sulfate and nonsulfate aerosols, *J. Geophys. Res.*,
110(D18), D18206, doi:10.1029/2004JD005674, 2005.
- McRae, D. J., Conard, S. G., Ivanova, G. A., Sukhinin, A. I., Baker, S. P., Samsonov, Y. N.,
Blake, T. W., Ivanov, V. A., Ivanov, A. V., Churkina, T. V., Hao, W. M., Koutzenogij, K. P., and
Kovaleva, N.: Variability of fire behavior, fire effects, and emissions in scotch pine forests of
Central Siberia, *Mitig. Adapt. Strategies Glob. Chang.*, 11(1), 45–74, doi:10.1007/s11027-
006-1008-4, 2006.
- Nédélec, P., Cammas, J. P., Thouret, V., Athier, G., Cousin, J. M., Legrand, C., Abonnel, C.,
Lecoeur, F., Cayez, G., and Marizy, C.: An improved infrared carbon monoxide analyser
for routine measurements aboard commercial Airbus aircraft: technical validation and first
scientific results of the MOZAIC III programme, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 3, 1551–1564, 2003,
<http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/3/1551/2003/>.
- Nédélec, P., Thouret, V., Brioude, J., Sauvage, B., Cammas, J. P., and Stohl, A.: Extreme
CO concentrations in the upper troposphere over northeast Asia in June 2003 from the in
situ MOZAIC aircraft data, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 32(14), L14807, doi:10.1029/2005GL023141,
2005.
- Olivier, J. G. J. and Berdowski, J. J. M.: Global emissions sources and sinks, in: *The Climate
System*, edited by: Berdowski, J., Guicherit, R., and Heij, B. J., A. A. Balkema Publish-
ers/Swets & Zeitlinger Publishers, Lisse, ISBN 905809255 0, 33–78, 2001.
- Panchenko, M. V., Kozlov, V. S., Terpugova, S. A., Shmargunov, V. P., and Burkov, V.

**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**J.-D. Paris et al.

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

**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**J.-D. Paris et al.

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

V.: Simultaneous measurements of submicron aerosol and absorbing substance in the height range up to 7 km, in: Tenth ARM Science Team Meeting Proceeding, available at http://www.arm.gov/publications/proceedings/conf10/extended_abs/panchenko_mv.pdf, San Antonio, Texas, 13–17 March 2000.

5 Paris, J.-D., Arshinov, M., Ciais, P., Belan, B., and Nédélec, P.: Large-scale aircraft observations of ultra-fine and fine particle concentrations in the remote Siberian troposphere: New particle formation studies, *Atmos. Environ.*, 43(6), 1302–1309, doi:10.1016/j.atmosenv.2008.11.032, 2009a.

10 Paris, J.-D., Stohl, A., Ciais, P., Nédélec, P., Belan, B. D., Arshinov, M. Y., and Ramonet, M.: Source-receptor relationships for airborne measurements of CO₂, CO and O₃ above Siberia: a cluster-based approach, *Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss.*, 9, 6207–6245, 2009b, <http://www.atmos-chem-phys-discuss.net/9/6207/2009/>.

15 Paris, J.-D., Ciais, P., Nédélec, P., Ramonet, M., Belan, B. D., Arshinov, M. Yu., Golitsyn, G. S., Granberg, I., Stohl, A., Cayez, G., Athier, G., Boumard, F., and Cousin, J.-M.: The YAK-AEROSIB transcontinental aircraft campaigns: new insights on the transport of CO₂, CO and O₃ across Siberia, *Tellus B*, 60(4), 551–568, doi:10.1111/j.1600-0889.2008.00369.x, 2008.

20 Park, R. J., Jacob, D. J., Palmer, P. I., Clarke, A. D., Weber, R. J., Zondlo, M. A., Eisele, F. L., Bandy, A. R., Thornton, D. C., Sachse, G. W., and Bond, T. C.: Export efficiency of black carbon aerosol in continental outflow: global implications, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 110, D11205, doi:10.1029/2004JD005432, 2005.

Quinn, P. K., Bates, T. S., Baum, E., Doubleday, N., Fiore, A. M., Flanner, M., Fridlind, A., Garrett, T. J., Koch, D., Menon, S., Shindell, D., Stohl, A., and Warren, S. G.: Short-lived pollutants in the Arctic: their climate impact and possible mitigation strategies, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 8, 1723–1735, 2008,

25 <http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/8/1723/2008/>.

Real, E., Law, K. S., Weinzierl, B., Fiebig, M., Petzold, A., Wild, O., Methven, J., Arnold, S., Stohl, A., Huntrieser, H., Roiger, A., Schlager, H., Stewart, D., Avery, M., Sachse, G., Browell, E., Ferrare, R., and Blake D.: Processes influencing ozone levels in Alaskan forest fire plumes during long-range transport over the North Atlantic, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 112, D10S41, doi:10.1029/2006JD007576, 2007.

30 Reid, J. S., Koppmann, R., Eck, T. F., and Eleuterio, D. P.: A review of biomass burning emissions part II: intensive physical properties of biomass burning particles, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 5, 799–825, 2005,

**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**J.-D. Paris et al.

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

<http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/5/799/2005/>.

Seibert, P. and Frank, A.: Source-receptor matrix calculation with a Lagrangian particle dispersion model in backward mode, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 4, 51–63, 2004,
<http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/4/51/2004/>.

5 Stohl, A.: Characteristics of atmospheric transport into the Arctic troposphere, *J. Geophys. Res.* 111, D11306, doi:10.1029/2005JD006888, 2006.

Stohl, A., Forster, C., Frank, A., Seibert, P., and Wotawa, G.: Technical note: The Lagrangian particle dispersion model FLEXPART version 6.2, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 5, 2461–2474, 2005,
<http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/5/2461/2005/>.

10 Stohl, A., Berg, T., Burkhardt, J. F., Fjæraa, A. M., Forster, C., Herber, A., Hov, Ø., Lunder, C., McMillan, W. W., Oltmans, S., Shiobara, M., Simpson, D., Solberg, S., Stebel, K., Ström, J., Tørseth, K., Treffeisen, R., Virkkunen, K., and Yttri, K. E.: Arctic smoke – record high air pollution levels in the European Arctic due to agricultural fires in Eastern Europe. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* 7, 511–534, 2007.

15 Stohl, A., Andrews, E., Burkhardt, J. F., Forster, C., Herber, A., Hoch, S. W., Kowal, D., Lunder, C., Mefford, T., Ogren, J. A., Sharma, S., Spichtinger, N., Stebel, K., Stone, R., Ström, J., Tørseth, K., Wehrl, C., and Yttri, K. E.: Pan-Arctic enhancements of light absorbing aerosol concentrations due to North American boreal forest fires during summer 2004, *J. Geophys. Res.* 111, D22214, doi:10.1029/2006JD007216, 2006.

20 Sukhinin, A. I., French, N. H. F., Kasischke, E. S., Hewson, J. H., Soja, A. J., Csiszar, I. A., Hyer, E. J., Loboda, T., Conrad, S. G., Romasko, V. I., Pavlichenko, E. A., Miskiv, S. I., and Slinkina, O. A.: AVHRR-based mapping of fires in Russia: New products for fire management and carbon cycle studies, *Remote Sens. Environ.*, 93, 546–564, 2004.

Turquet, S., Logan, J. A., Jacob, D. J., Hudman, R. C., Leung, F. Y., Heald, C. L., Yantosca, R. M., Wu, S. L., Emmons, L. K., Edwards, D. P., and Sachse, G. W.: Inventory of boreal fire emissions for North America in 2004: Importance of peat burning and pyroconvective injection, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 112(D12), D12S03, doi:10.1029/2006JD007281, 2007.

25 van der Werf, G. R., Randerson, J. T., Giglio, L., Collatz, G. J., Kasibhatla, P. S., and Arellano, A. F.: Interannual variability in global biomass burning emissions from 1997 to 2004, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 6, 3423–3441, 2006,
<http://www.atmos-chem-phys.net/6/3423/2006/>.

30 Ward, D. E., Setzer, A., Kaufman, Y. J., and Rasmussen, R. A.: Characteristics of smoke emissions from biomass fires of the Amazon region-Base-A experiment, in: *Global Biomass*

- Burning, edited by: Levine, J. S., MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 394–402, 1991.
- Warneke, C., Bahreini, R., Brioude, J., Brock, C. A., De Gouw, J., Fahey, D. W., Froyd, K. D., Holloway, J. S., Middlebrook, A., Miller, L., Montzka, S., Murphy, D. M., Peischl, J., Ryerson, T. B., Schwarz, J. P., Spackman, J. R., and Veres, P.: Biomass burning in Siberia and Kazakhstan as an important source for haze over the Alaskan Arctic in April 2008, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 36, L02813, doi:10.1029/2008GL036194, 2009.
- 5 Wofsy, S. C., Fan, S.-M., Blake, D. R., Bradshaw, J. D., Sandholm, S. T., Singh, H. B., Sachse, G. W., and Harriss, R. C.: Factors influencing atmospheric composition over subarctic North America during summer, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 99(D1), 1887–1897, 1994.
- 10 Wotawa, G., Novelli, P. C., Trainer, M., and Granier, C.: Interannual variability of summertime CO concentrations in the Northern Hemisphere explained by boreal forest fires in North America and Russia, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 28, 4575–4578, 2001.

ACPD

9, 18201–18233, 2009

**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**

J.-D. Paris et al.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

Table 1. Species concentrations and enhancements above background, ratio to reference species CO and CO₂ and FLEXPART age of plumes.

Plumes	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
CO ₂ (ppm)	383.5	380.8	377.6	382.5	379.7	375.4
ΔCO ₂ (ppm)	– ^a	8.5	5.3	10.2	7.4	3.1
ΔCO (ppb)	362	57	39	85	333	91
ER _{CO} (mmol/mol)	–	–	–	–	70.7	46.1
O ₃ (ppb)	24.7	81.2	59.5	84.1	69.0	42.4
N _{3–5 nm} (cm ^{–3})	90	398	118	596	385	528
N _{3–200 nm} (cm ^{–3})	270	760	819	1971	3796	2688
BC (μg m ^{–3})	– ^b	0.02	0.17	0.30	1.37	0.62
ΔBC/ΔCO (ng m ^{–3} ppb ^{–1})	– ^b	0.3	4.4	3.5	4.1	6.8
Flexpart age (d)	13	10	5	2	1	1

^a No background was applicable to Plume 1.

^b No data available

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**

J.-D. Paris et al.

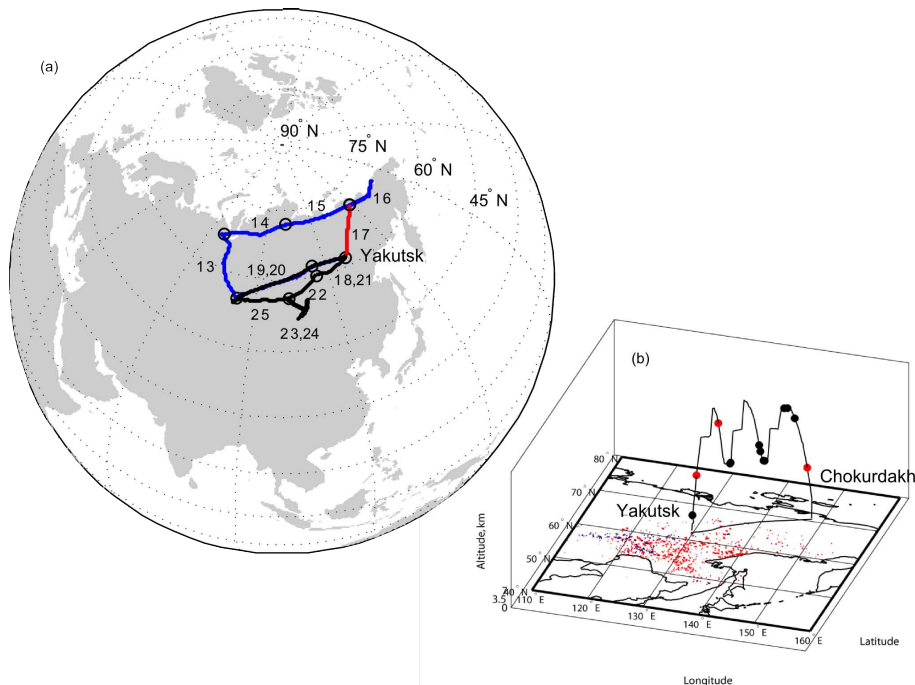


Fig. 1. (a) Flight route for the July 2008 campaigns. In blue: northern Siberia loop; in black: central Siberia loop. Flight 17 on 11 July is highlighted in red. (b) Itinerary of flight 17 from Chokurdakh (North) to Yakutsk. Area burnt by forest fires (Sukhinin et al., 2004) during the period 1–7 July is indicated in red, between 7–14 July in blue. Along the aircraft trajectory, individual plumes with CO > 120 ppb are marked by black dots, and CO > 150 ppb by red dots.

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

Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

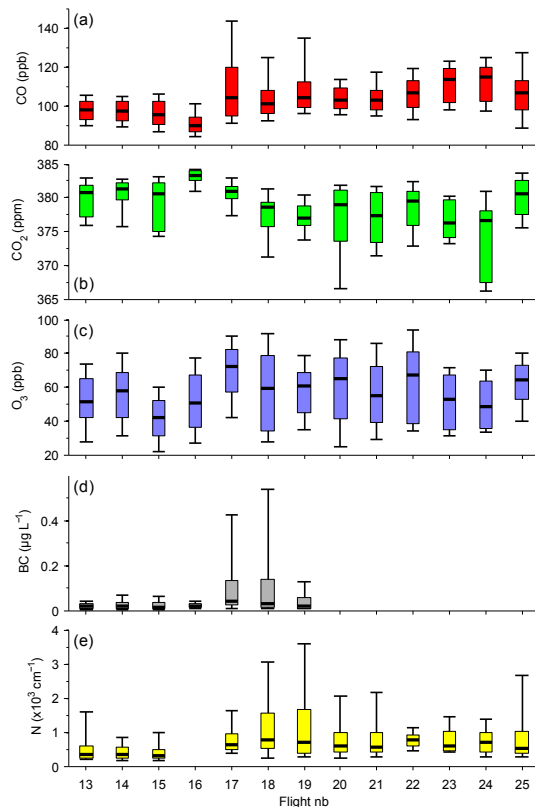


Fig. 2. Statistical summary of all observations for each flight in July 2008. The central bar indicates the median, the box indicates the inter-quartile range, and the error bars extend from the 10th to the 90th percentiles. **(a)** CO, **(b)** CO₂, **(c)** O₃, **(d)** EBC, **(e)** ultrafine (between 3 and 200 nm) particle total number concentrations. BC data are not available for flights 20–25, and particle number concentrations are not available for flight 16.

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

**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**

J.-D. Paris et al.

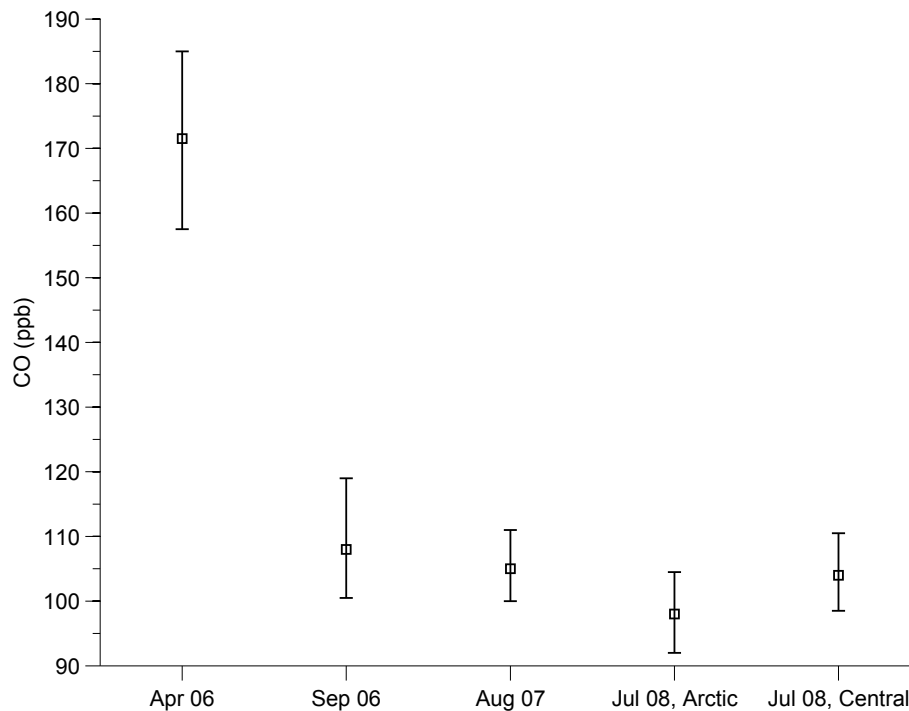


Fig. 3. Comparison of CO median concentrations and interquartile range (error bars) for July 2008 and previous YAK-AEROSIB campaigns.

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

Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

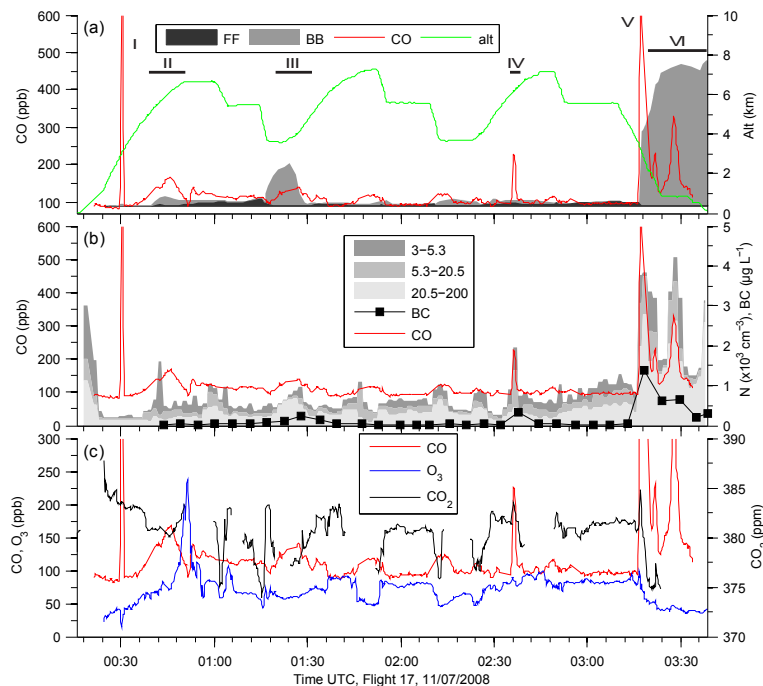


Fig. 4. Tracer time series during flight 17 on 11 July 2008. **(a)** observed CO (red line) and CO concentrations simulated with FLEXPART (shaded area). Simulated CO concentrations from BB (light grey) and FF (dark grey) were accounted for during the last 20 days before the flight and an arbitrary background of 90 ppb was added. Aircraft altitude is shown in green. Six events numbered I–VI correspond to high CO plumes encounter. Events II, III, IV and VI are highlighted (thick bars) where FLEXPART identifies a dominant BB contribution. **(b)** Observed ultra-fine particles number concentration (shaded area) and black carbon. CO is plotted again in red. The particles are divided in three size bins: 3–5.3 nm (dark grey), 5.3–20.5 nm (medium grey) and 20.5–200 nm (light grey). **(c)** Observed concentrations of CO₂, O₃ and CO.

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

Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

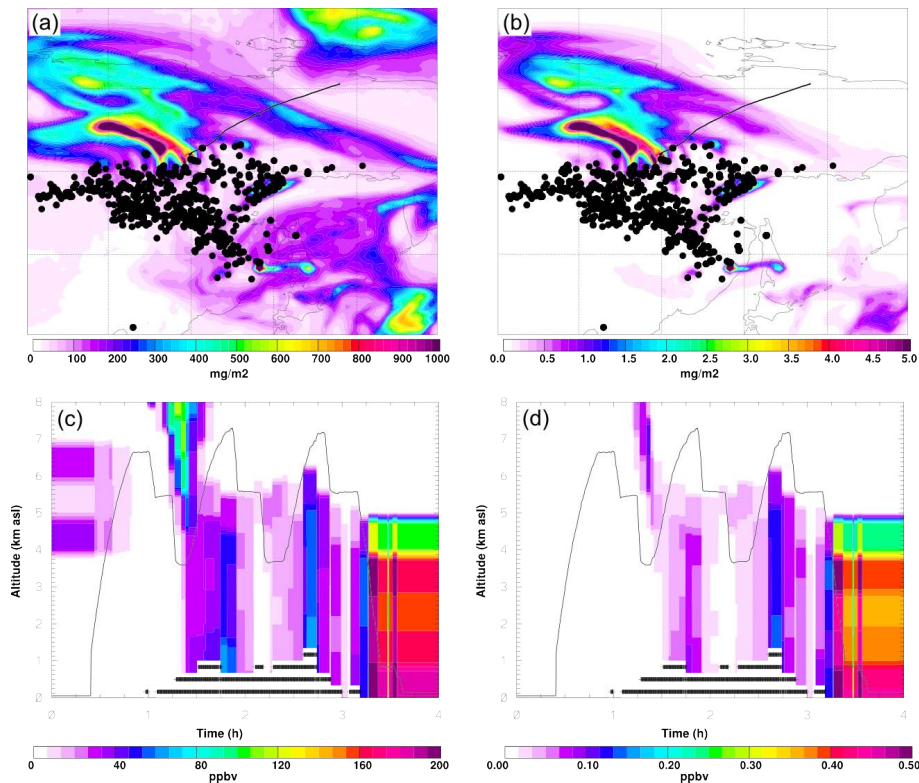


Fig. 5. Results from the FLEXPART forward simulation of biomass burning CO (left) and BC (right) tracers over Northern Siberia on 11 July 2008. Upper panels show total atmospheric columns, lower panels are curtains through the model output along the flight track. The flight track is shown as a black line in all panels; striped areas in the lower panels indicate model topography.

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

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

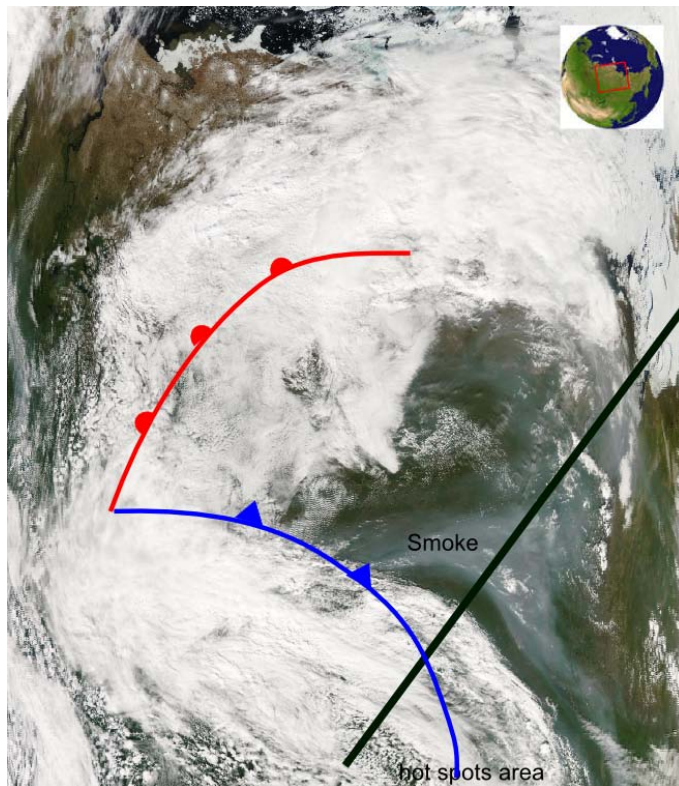


Fig. 6. Aqua/MODIS image over Siberia at 2008/193 (11 July 2008) at 04:45 UTC, showing an area coincident with flight 17 (approximate flight track is shown in black). Approximative delineation of the fronts present at 12 UTC is shown in blue and red. A higher resolution version with hot spots indicated is available at <http://rapidfire.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov/realtime/2008193/>.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**

J.-D. Paris et al.

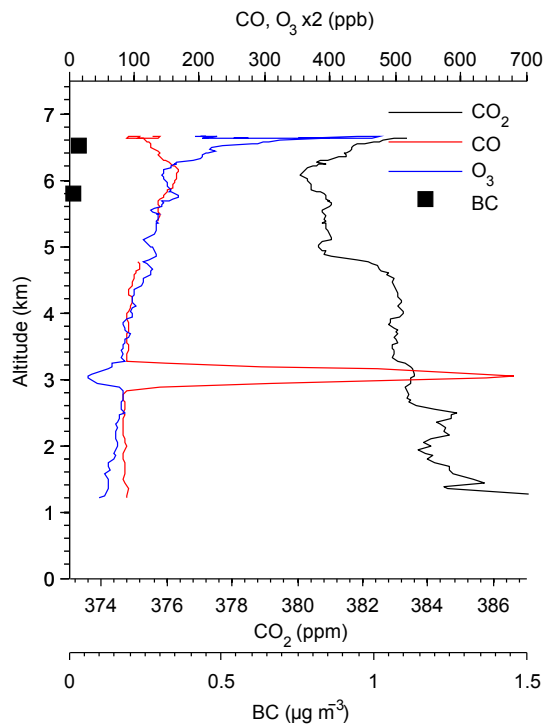


Fig. 7. Vertical profiles of CO (red line), CO₂ (black line), O₃ (blue line) and EBC (black squares) shortly after take off from Chokurdakh.

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

**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**

J.-D. Paris et al.

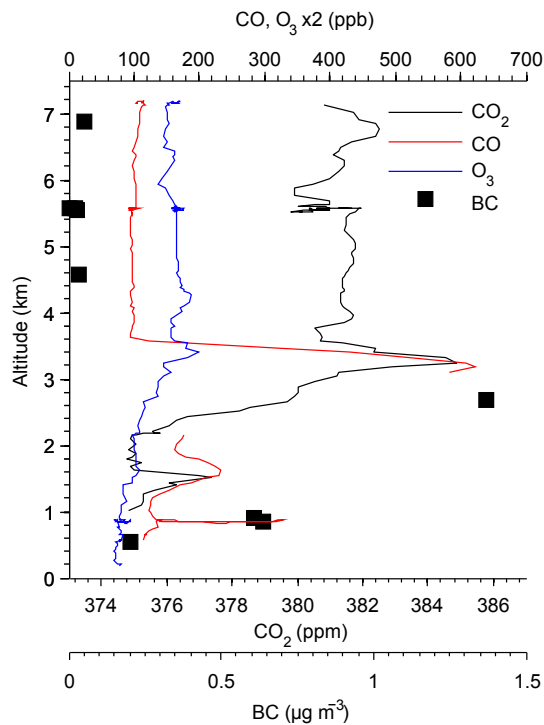


Fig. 8. Vertical profiles of CO (red line), CO₂ (black line), O₃ (blue line) and EBC (black squares) shortly before landing in Yakutsk.

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

**Wildfire smoke in the
Siberian Arctic in
summer**

J.-D. Paris et al.

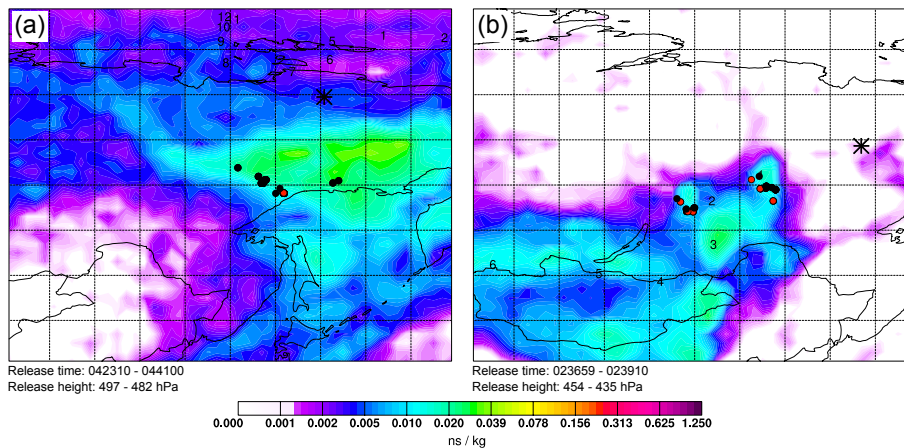


Fig. 9. Examples for the emission sensitivities for different plumes. Left: Plume II; right: Plume IV (see Fig. 4).

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

Wildfire smoke in the Siberian Arctic in summer

J.-D. Paris et al.

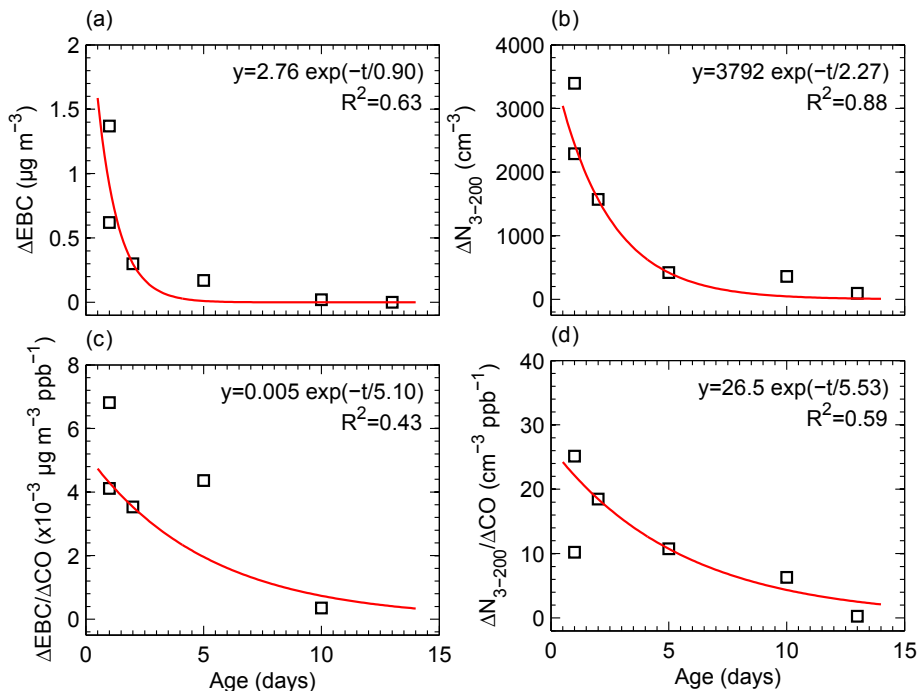


Fig. 10. Aerosol concentration enhancements observed during flight 17 as a function of FLEX-PART transport time for **(a)** ΔEBC , **(b)** ΔN_{3-200} of ultrafine and accumulation mode particles (between 3 and 200 nm size), and enhancement ratios for **(c)** $\Delta\text{EBC}/\Delta\text{CO}$, **(d)** $\Delta N_{3-200}/\Delta\text{CO}$ as a function of transport time. An exponential function is fitted to the data (red line).

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

