Overview of mercury dry deposition, litterfall, and throughfall studies

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1   **Abstract**. The current knowledge concerning mercury dry deposition is reviewed, including dry

2   deposition algorithms used in chemical transport models (CTMs) and at monitoring sites and

3   related deposition calculations, measurement methods and studies for quantifying dry deposition

4   of gaseous oxidized mercury (GOM) and particulate bound mercury (PBM), and measurement

5   studies of litterfall and throughfall mercury. Measured median GOM plus PBM dry deposition in

6   Asia (10.7 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}) is almost double that in North America (6.1 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}) due to the higher

7   anthropogenic emissions in Asia. The measured mean GOM plus PBM dry deposition in Asia

8   (22.7 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}), however, is less than that in North America (30.8 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}). The variations

9   between the median and mean values reflect the influences that single extreme measurements

10   can have on the mean of a dataset. Measured median litterfall and throughfall mercury are 34.8

11   and 49.0 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}, respectively, in Asia, 12.8 and 16.3 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} in Europe, and 11.9 and 7.0

12   μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} in North America. The corresponding measured mean litterfall and throughfall

13   mercury are 42.8 and 43.5 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}, respectively, in Asia, 14.2 and 19.0 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} in Europe,

14   and 12.9 and 9.3 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} in North America. The much higher litterfall mercury than GOM

15   plus PBM dry deposition suggests the important contribution of gaseous elemental mercy (GEM)

16   to mercury dry deposition to vegetated canopies. Over all the regions, including the Amazon, dry

17   deposition, estimated as the sum of litterfall and throughfall minus open-field wet deposition, is

18   more dominant than wet deposition for Hg deposition. Regardless of the measurement or

19   modelling method used, a factor of two or larger uncertainties in GOM plus PBM dry deposition

20   need to be kept in mind when using these numbers for mercury impact studies.

1. Introduction

Atmospheric mercury (Hg) exists in three operationally defined forms - gaseous elemental mercury (GEM), gaseous oxidized mercury (GOM), and particulate bound mercury (PBM). Quantification of atmospheric deposition of the three forms of Hg to various underlying surfaces is needed to assess Hg effects on sensitive ecosystems and subsequent human health impact. Wet deposition of Hg can be quantified through analysis of precipitation chemistry (Prestbo and Gay, 2009). While the direct measurement of Hg dry deposition is technically challenging, a number of methods have been developed for approximate Hg dry deposition, such as micrometeorological, surrogate surface, litterfall, and throughfall measurements (Cobbett and Van Heyst, 2007; Marsik et al., 2007; Graydon et al., 2008; Huang and Gustin, 2015; Risch et al., 2012; Ma et al., 2016).

The approaches used by the above methods to measure mercury dry deposition vary considerably. Efforts are now underway to obtain a better understanding of the variability of estimates from these methods, in an effort to provide a constraint of measurement uncertainties (Marsik et al., 2009; Gustin et al., 2015). The relationships between some of these methods were briefly discussed in Zhang et al. (2012b) and are further illustrated below. Mercury dry deposited to a forest canopy-soil system includes uptake of Hg by leaf stomata and cuticle, tree bark, and underlying soil. Some of the deposited Hg may emit back into the atmosphere while some may be translocated to the branches, stems, and roots. Mercury in litterfall includes a portion of the dry deposited Hg as well as capture of Hg emitted from the soil, although it may not account for the mercury that has been translocated. Mercury in throughfall includes wet deposited Hg above the canopy and a portion of dry deposited Hg washed off from the canopy. Thus, litterfall Hg

44 likely represents the low-end of Hg dry deposition if Hg emission from the underlying soil is

45 small, although it can be higher than the actual dry deposition above the canopy due to the

46 interception of emitted Hg by forest leaves if soil Hg emissions are high and the ambient Hg

47 concentrations above the forests are low. The difference between throughfall and open-area wet

48 deposition, with the former collected inside and the latter outside a forest, should also represent a

49 portion of the dry deposition. Thus, on annual basis, dry deposition can be approximated as the

50 sum of litterfall and throughfall Hg minus wet deposited Hg.

51   In chemical transport models (CTMs) and at monitoring sites, Hg dry deposition is

52 commonly calculated using the inferential method, where it is the product of the dry deposition

53 velocity and the atmospheric Hg concentration (Fulkerson, 2006; Lyman et al., 2007; Marsik et

54 al., 2007; Engle et al., 2010; Huang et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2012b), or using the bi-directional

55 exchange scheme for GEM (Xu et al., 1999; Bash, 2010; Wang et al., 2014; Wright and Zhang,

56 2015). Development and validation of these schemes need field-measured Hg dry deposition

57 data, which unfortunately have larger uncertainties. The magnitudes of uncertainties are expected

58 to be similar between measurement and model estimates (Zhang et al., 2009; Fang et al., 2012b).

59   The present study provides a detailed review of current knowledge concerning Hg dry

60 deposition including numerical schemes used in CTMs and at monitoring sites, available field

61 measurements on Hg dry deposition, and litterfall and throughfall Hg measurements. Knowledge

62 gained from this study provides guidance for future research directions.

63 **2. Dry deposition algorithms and estimation**

64 **2.1 In chemical transport models**

65 There are several global and regional chemical transport models from Canada, the United States,

66   Europe, Russia, and Asia that include algorithms for the dry deposition of mercury. A summary

67   of the various models' schemes and their algorithms is provided in Table S1. In chemical

68   transport models, the approach for the calculation of the dry deposition velocities of GEM,

69   GOM, and PBM varies between models. For example, in GRAHM (Dastoor et al., 2015), GEOS-

70   Chem (Song et al., 2015), ECHMERIT (De Simone et al., 2014), and GNAQPMS-Hg (Chen et

71   al., 2015), the dry deposition velocity for GEM is calculated using the multiple resistance

72   analogy approach described in Wesely (1989), Zhang et al. (2003) or Kerkweg et al. (2006). In

73   the case of many regional models, GEM is still not considered in the simulations under the

74   assumption that the dry deposition of GEM is not important considering it is also emitted from

75   the surface, for example WRF/Chem-Hg (Gencarelli et al., 2015), TEAM (Seigneur et al., 2006),

76   REMSAD (Bullock et al., 2008), and CAMx (De Foy et al., 2014). CMAQ has implemented the

77   bi-directional scheme of Bash (2010) for its treatment of GEM (Bash et al., 2014). Wang et al.

78   (2014) have recently completed a sensitivity analysis of an updated bi-directional air-surface

79   exchange scheme for GEM. A similar resistance analogy for GEM is used to calculate GOM, for

80   example in GRAHM, GEOS-Chem, and many regional models. In other models, such as

81   WRF/Chem-Hg and CTM-Hg, the dry deposition velocity of GOM is assumed equal to HNO_3

82   due to their similar solubilities. A number of modelling studies have calculated the dry

83   deposition velocity of PBM using the size-segregated particle dry deposition model described in

84   Zhang et al. (2001b) or an earlier dry deposition and gravitational approach by Slinn and Slinn

85   (1980), including Han et al. (2008); Zhang et al. (2012a); De Simone et al. (2014); and Dastoor

86   et al. (2015). Two other approaches are to set the deposition velocity equal to the deposition

87   velocity of the relatively non-reactive sulphate (Bullock and Brehme, 2002; Christensen et al.,

88 2004; Chen et al., 2015) or to assume specific values over land ($0.1 \ cm \ s^{-1}$) and water ($0.01 \ cm \ s^{-1}$)

89 (Seigneur et al., 2001; 2004).

90   The largest major inter-model comparison study, the Intercomparison Study of Numerical

91 Models for Long-Range Atmospheric Transport of Mercury, involved eight regional,

92 hemispheric, and global models that compared both short and long term simulations over

93 Europe. This inter-comparison took place between 2000 and 2005 and was conducted in three

94 phases. The first was an examination of the physical and chemical schemes of Hg (Ryaboshapko

95 et al., 2002); the second phase compared short-term simulations (Ryaboshapko et al., 2007a);

96 and the third phase included simulations over an entire year (Ryaboshapko et al., 2007b). In this

97 latter study, the annual model results conducted over the full year (1999) of the dry deposition of

98 Hg were within ±50% of the observations; however, the range of the monthly modelled dry

99 deposition results varied by up to ±100% from observations. The large discrepancies observed

100 were attributed to two factors noted earlier, that not all of the models included the dry deposition

101 of GEM and that some models used a fixed deposition velocity over forests for GOM

102 (Ryabshapko et al., 2007b).

103   The North American Mercury Model Intercomparison Study involved three regional-

104 scale models (CMAQ, REMSAD, and TEAM) running simulations over North America using

105 the same initial/boundary conditions (Bullock et al., 2008; 2009). In this study, the dry

106 deposition results varied between the models by close to a factor of ten, with REMSAD

107 producing the smallest dry deposition fluxes. Only TEAM simulated dry deposition of GEM,

108 however the GEM results were not reported due to the assumption that most of the GEM dry

109 deposited was re-emitted back to the atmosphere (Bullock et al., 2008).

110   More recently, the Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution (HTAP) modelling

111   experiment, included inter-comparisons between GRAHM, GEOS-Chem, GLEMOS, CMAQ-

112   Hg, and ECHMERIT (Travnikov et al., 2010). Hg dry deposition varied between the models,

113   with GEOS-Chem simulating dry deposition fluxes between $\sim$5 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} over the Arctic to

114   almost 30 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} over East Asia. For comparison, CTM-Hg fluxes ranged between $\sim$2 μg m^{-2}

115   yr^{-1} over the Pacific and $\sim$15 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} over Europe and North Africa while GRAHM dry

116   deposition fluxes ranged between $\sim$2 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} over the Pacific and $\sim$12 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} over East

117   Asia. Over all of the regions, GLEMOS produced the smallest dry deposition fluxes ranging

118   between $\sim$1 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} over the Pacific to $\sim$8 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} over East Asia. In this study, mercury

119   deposition results reflected the different model parameterizations. For example, GRAHM

120   simulated higher mercury deposition in the Polar Regions due to the inclusion of AMDE events,

121   whereas the incorporation of sea salt aerosol scavenging resulted in higher deposition by GEOS-

122   Chem over oceans (Travnikov et al., 2010). The dry deposition varied by more than an order of

123   magnitude over Europe/North Africa, North America, East Asia, and South Asia. Therefore,

124   Travnikov et al. (2010) recommends the need for more measurements of dry deposition in these

125   regions.

126   In a regional model study by Zhang et al. (2012a), speciated mercury was modeled over

127   the Great Lakes using CMAQ2002, CMAQ2005, and GRAHM2005. The differences between

128   the estimations of dry deposition of GOM and PBM in the CMAQ models and GRAHM at the

129   regional scale were significant (up to a factor of two). For all three models, the differences

130   between modelled and measured GOM and PBM concentrations were between factors of two

131   and ten, whereas the GEM concentrations were within 30%.

132   As part of the Global Mercury Assessment (GMA), in 2013, three models (GLEMOS,

133   GEOS-Chem, and GMHG) were used to explore global mercury deposition (Travnikov et al.,

134   2015). These models simulated higher deposition fluxes over industrial sites and regions with

135   higher emissions, similar to trends observed in measurements over China (Fu et al., 2010a). The

136   largest contributions to dry deposition fluxes of GOM and PBM were over South Asia, East

137   Asia, and Europe. All three models included AMDE events where the highest dry deposition

138   fluxes in the Arctic were produced in the spring months. The focus of Travnikov et al. (2015)'s

139   study was more to use the three models as an ensemble to examine the global circulation of

140   mercury so the discussion was not on the differences between the models. However, individual

141   results from each model were included in the report. Examples of differences between the

142   models include the relative contribution of domestic and foreign anthropogenic sources to

143   mercury deposition over different regions for 2013. All three models produced the highest

144   contributions in East Asia from domestic anthropogenic sources and in the Arctic from foreign

145   anthropogenic sources. Differences between the models were observed for predicted deposition

146   in Europe, where GLEMOS and GEOS-Chem attributed the largest contribution to domestic

147   sources (>30% and 20%, respectively), whereas GMHG had foreign sources as the major

148   contributor. The other region with differences was South Asia, where again GLEMOS and

149   GEOS-Chem had domestic sources as the larger contributor and GMHG had foreign sources as

150   the major contributor.

151   Challenges still exist in modelling speciated mercury deposition in chemical transport

152   models. These uncertainties come from uncertainties in model-simulated GOM and PBM

153   concentrations (Baker and Bash, 2012; Holloway et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2012a, Kos et al.,

154   2013), uncertainties in existing dry deposition algorithms for GOM and PBM, and the lack of

155   proper dry deposition algorithms for GEM.   A better treatment of some of the processes

156   simulated in these models, based on new knowledge generated from analysis of large data sets of

157   recently collected speciated atmospheric data (Cheng et al., 2014; 2015), may improve model

158   performance in simulating GOM and PBM concentrations. For example, the fixed gas-particle

159   partitioning of oxidized Hg in some models (e.g., GRAHM) can be replaced with temperature-

160   dependant parameterizations described in Cheng et al. (2014). The coarse PBM fraction

161   neglected in many models (Zhang et al., 2012a) should also be addressed since coarse PBM

162   contributes significantly to Hg dry and wet deposition budget (Fang et al., 2012b; Cheng et al.,

163   2015). Validation and implementation of updated bi-directional air-surface exchange schemes

164   into chemistry transport models, such as the one for GEM by Wang et al. (2014), will be

165   beneficial in reducing these uncertainties.

166   The limited amount of measurement data inhibits the development and improvement of

167   chemical transport models. While speciated mercury data has been increasing rapidly in the

168   recent decade through enhanced monitoring networks (Gay et al., 2013) and increases in field

169   studies (Lindberg and Stratton, 1998; Kim et al., 2009; Maestas et al., 2011; Fu et al., 2015; Lee

170   et al., 2016), there is no practical way for direct dry deposition measurement as further illustrated

171   in Section 3. Besides, the monitored oxidized Hg concentration data, especially GOM, likely

172   have large uncertainties (Jaffe et al., 2014; Gustin et al., 2015) and caution should be made when

173   applying this data for model evaluation (Kos et al., 2013).

174   **2.2 At monitoring networks/sites**

175   An increase in the monitoring of speciated atmospheric Hg in the past decade has led to

176 an increase in the number of dry deposition estimations using the inferential method. There are

177 several monitoring networks that have been established to monitor speciated atmospheric Hg.

178 The largest network to date is the National Atmospheric Deposition (NADP)/Atmospheric

179 Mercury Network (AMNet), which includes more than 30 sites mostly in the United States (Gay

180 et al., 2013).   Other networks include the European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme

181 (EMEP) (Travnikov and Ilyin, 2009), the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP)

182 (Travnikov et al., 2015), and the Global Mercury Observation System (GMOS) (Sprovieri et al.,

183 2013). There have been several monitoring sites which have performed year-long measurement

184 campaigns of Hg dry deposition of GOM and PBM, such as over ten sites in Japan (Sakata and

185 Marumoto, 2004; 2005; Sakata and Asakura, 2008) and a number in Taiwan (Fang et al.. 2012a,

186 b; 2013; 2014; 2016). A comprehensive review of atmospheric GEM and TGM mercury

187 measurements, sites, and trends across the globe can be found in the literature (e.g. Sprovieri et

188 al., 2010). The majority of the Hg dry deposition studies using the inferential approach and

189 speciated ambient concentrations (referred to as modelled deposition below) were conducted for

190 GOM and PBM (Lindberg and Stratton, 1998; Fulkerson, 2006; Lyman et al., 2007, 2009;

191 Marsik et al., 2007; Han et al., 2008; Engle et al., 2010; Lombard et al., 2011; Castro et al., 2012;

192 Huang et al., 2012; Petersen et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2013; Huang and Gustin, 2015; Fang et

193 al., 2016), while a few studies also included GEM (Rea et al., 2001; Miller et al., 2005; Caldwell

194 et al., 2006; Holmes et al., 2011; Zhang et al., 2012b; Bieser et al., 2014; Enrico et al., 2016). A

195 summary of estimated dry deposition fluxes for GOM and PBM estimated using the data from

196 the various monitoring networks and other field campaigns is provided in Table S2.

197   Dry deposition flux estimations of GOM in North America range from 0.02 ng m^{-2} hr^{-1} to

198   5.91 ng m^{-2} hr^{-1} with one exception in Augusta, Georgia, where the maximum estimated GOM

199   dry deposition flux was 36.3 ng m^{-2} hr^{-1} over vents of a mercury chlor-alkali plant (Landis et al.,

200   2004). In China, the estimation is higher at 20.4 ng m^{-2} hr^{-1} (Huang et al., 2012). Dry deposition

201   flux estimations of PBM range from 0.003 ng m^{-2} hr^{-1} to 4.54 ng m^{-2} hr^{-1} in North America and

202   from 0.43 ng m^{-2} hr^{-1} to 46.46 ng m^{-2} hr^{-1} in East Asia. In Europe, the median of estimated

203   GOM+PBM dry deposition fluxes is 0.34 ng m^{-2} hr^{-1}. In most studies, dry deposition of GOM

204   has been estimated to be much higher than PBM due to the much higher deposition velocities of

205   GOM than PBM (Han et al., 2008; Engle et al., 2010; Huang et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2012b).

206   Another reason that needs to be emphasized is the exclusion of coarse PBM concentration in the

207   monitoring process in many studies (e.g., Zhang et al., 2012b). Differences between the

208   modelled and measured fluxes are typically at a factor of two or larger due to measurement

209   uncertainties and choice of model parameters (Lyman et al.; 2007; Marsik et al., 2007; Huang

210   and Gustin, 2015), although some studies obtained very close model-measurement values (Miller

211   et al., 2005; Lyman et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2012b).

212   Dry deposition is often assumed to be less important than wet deposition since earlier

213   studies only estimated GOM and PBM dry deposition. Using speciated Hg data at 19 monitoring

214   sites in North America, Zhang et al. (2012b) estimated speciated and total Hg dry deposition and

215   also used litterfall Hg measurements at the regional scale as a constraint for model estimation. In

216   the study of Zhang et al. (2012b), GEM was demonstrated to contribute much more than

217   GOM+PBM to the total dry deposition over vegetated surface. Thus, total dry deposition, when

218   including GEM, was much higher than wet deposition at the majority of the sites, a conclusion

219   that can be supported from litterfall (Risch et al., 2012) and somewhat by throughfall

220 measurements (see more discussion in Sections 5 and 6).

3. Deposition (flux), litterfall, and throughfall measurement methodologies

3.1. Micrometeorological approaches

223   The most common micrometeorological approach employed for the measurement of the
224 air-surface exchange of mercury is the flux-gradient approach. In a common application, time-
225 averaged fluxes of speciated mercury (typically reported in either nanograms (or picograms) per
226 meter squared per hour) are obtained using the relation:

$$F_{Hg,i} = -K_Z \frac{\Delta C_i}{\Delta Z}$$

227 where $F_{Hg,i}$ is the flux of a given mercury species, i, K_Z is the vertical eddy-transfer coefficient
228 and $\frac{\Delta C_i}{\Delta Z}$ is the time-averaged vertical gradient of the mercury species, in question.   Several
229 approaches have been used to determine the values of the stability-dependent eddy-transfer
230 coefficient K_Z, including the aerodynamic approach (e.g., Edwards, 2005; Marsik et al., 2005;
231 Fritsche et al., 2008) and the modified Bowen-ratio approach (e.g., Kim et al., 1995; Lindberg et
232 al., 1995; Meyers et al., 1996; Poissant et al. 2004; Fritsche et al., 2008). In each case, the
233 assumption is made that all scalar quantities are mixed in a similar fashion within the
234 atmospheric surface layer, and thus the vertical eddy-transfer coefficient for heat (or other
235 tracers, such as CO_2 or H_2O_v) can be used as a surrogate for the vertical eddy-transfer coefficient
236 for mercury.

237   The vertical gradient of mercury has been measured using either: (a) manual approaches
238 (such as gold-bead traps for GEM, KCl-coated denuders for GOM and quartz filters for PBM) or
239 (b) automated sampling systems (such as a Tekran® Model 2537A Mercury Vapor Analyzer
240 combined with a Tekran® Model 1110 Synchronized Two-Port Sampling Unit for GEM, a

241 Tekran® Model 1130 Mercury Speciation Unit for GOM, combined with a Tekran® Model

242 1135 Particulate Mercury Unit for PBM).

3.2. Dynamic gas flux chambers

245 Dynamic gas chambers, which have been used to study the flux of a number of gaseous

246 species from a variety of emitting surfaces, including leaves, soil and water, have been

247 successfully employed for use in the measurement of the air-surface exchange of GEM (e.g.,

248 Poissant and Casimir, 1998; Zhang et al., 2001a; Wallschläger et al., 2002; Marsik et al., 2005;

249 Eckley et al., 2011; Edwards and Howard, 2013). In a typical configuration for the measurement

250 of the air-surface exchange of GEM from soil or water surfaces, a polycarbonate flux chamber

251 (DFC) is placed on the emitting surface to be measured. Ambient air is drawn by vacuum

252 through the DFC at a constant flow rate, nominally 1.5 LPM. The concentration of GEM is

253 measured at both the inlet and outlet of the DFC, typically using an automated system, such as a

254 Tekran® Model 2537A Mercury Vapor Analyzer combined with a Tekran® Model 1110

255 Synchronized Two-Port Sampling Unit, though initial approaches used manual gold bead traps.

256 The resulting GEM flux (typically reported in nanograms per meter squared per hour) is

257 calculated using the relation:

$$F_{GEM} = \left[\frac{(C_O - C_i) \cdot Q}{A} \right]$$

258 where C_O is the concentration of GEM at the outlet, C_i is the concentration of GEM at the inlet,

259 Q is the volume flow rate through the DFC and A is the area of the footprint of the DFC on the

260 surface in question. As with other approaches, the final flux is determined using the above

261 equation, subtracting a sample blank value from measured value. Typically, DFC blanks are

262 obtained at the start and completion of a given sampling period by placing the DFC over a clean,

263   inert surface (e.g., Aluminum foil).

264   **3.3. Surrogate surface approaches**
265
266   A number of studies considered in this manuscript have utilized surrogate surface

267   measurement approaches to provide a direct measurement of mercury to the Earth's surface. The

268   designs of the various surrogate surfaces tend to favor the quantification of one form of mercury

269   over the others, while not being able to totally rule out a contribution from one of the other

270   forms.   Intercomparison studies have suggested that the different approaches provide relatively

271   consistent results (Marsik, 2009; Gustin et al., 2015), though care must be taken when

272   interpreting surrogate surface results due to the differences in surrogate surface designs.

273   There are a variety of surrogate surface approaches that have been used to directly

274   measure the dry deposition of mercury. The general classes of approaches can be categorized in

275   the following manner: (a) water/solution-based surfaces, (b) filter-based surfaces, (c) membrane-

276   based surfaces and (d) turf-based surrogate surfaces.   A brief discussion of each of these

277   approaches is presented below.

278
279   **a. Water/solution-based surfaces**
280
281   Water- or solution-based surrogate surfaces have been used by a number of groups

282   (Sakata and Marumoto, 2005; Marsik et al., 2007; Lai et al., 2011) for the quantification of the

283   dry deposition of mercury. In general, these approaches deploy a given volume of ultra-pure

284   water in a reservoir that is part of an aerodynamic sampler design. Following a specified period

285   of deployment, the sample solutions are retrieved and the amount of mercury within the sample

286   solution is quantified. In most cases, the final results are "bias-corrected", meaning that the

287   average amount of mercury found in a subset of unexposed solutions is subtracted from the

288   exposed solution to obtain a net amount of mercury which is assumed to be due to that dry

289   deposited to the exposed solution. Some approaches utilize a static amount of solution which is

290   deployed in a fixed reservoir within the sample holder (Marsik et al., 2007; Lai et al., 2011).

291   Other water/solution-based systems approaches use a more dynamic approach for the

292   measurement of the dry deposition of mercury and other species, in which the sample solution is

293   continuously-circulated through the sampling apparatus, with the exposed surface area remaining

294   constant through the sample period (e.g., Sakata and Marumoto, 2004).

295   In general, surrogate water surface approaches using "ultra-pure" water are considered to

296   collect both GOM and PBM, with limited uptake expected from GEM due to the relatively

297   insolubility of this latter species. In most cases, the resultant deposition flux of mercury (in

298   picograms per square meter per hour) is determined by

299

$$Deposition\ flux = \left[\frac{(Hg_{Sample} - Hg_{Blank})}{A \cdot T} \right]$$

300

301   where Hg_{Sample} is the amount of mercury in the sample solution, Hg_{Blank} is the amount of

302   mercury in the sample blank, A is the exposed surface area of the solution and T is the length of

303   time over which the sample was exposed to the ambient air.

304   It should be noted that some approaches use slightly acidified solutions for the purpose of

305   "fixing" deposited mercury to avoid volatilization after deposition to the exposed solution. It is

306   possible that such dilute-acid solutions may lead to an enhanced uptake of GEM due to the

307   fixation of any GEM which may even temporarily become dissolved in the solution.

308

309 **b. Filter-based surfaces**
310
311   A number of filter-based approaches have been used in the collection of mercury dry-

312   deposition (Lai et al., 2011). The general concept of this approach is that the three-dimensional

313   structure of the filters will lead to a capture of GOM and PBM. Like the water/solution-based

314   approaches, the filter surfaces are exposed for a given amount of time and then returned to the

315   analytical laboratory at the end of the sampler period, with subsequent quantification of the

316   amount of mercury deposited to the surface, followed by a bias-correction for the average

317   amount of mercury found in a subset of unexposed filters. As before, the mercury dry-deposition

318   flux is quantified as:

319

$$Deposition\ flux = \left[\frac{(Hg_{Sample} - Hg_{Blank})}{A \cdot T} \right]$$

320

321   where Hg_{Sample} is the amount of mercury on the exposed sample filter, Hg_{Blank} is the amount of

322   mercury on the sample filter blank, A is the exposed surface area of the filter and T is the length

323   of time over which the sample was exposed to the ambient air.

324   While some of the filter-based approaches utilize the filter surfaces as received from the

325   manufacturer, some approaches coat the filter surfaces either with a solution (that is subsequently

326   allowed to dry) or, in some cases, with a fine film of gold. In these latter cases, the goal is to

327   enhance the collection of GEM mercury that would otherwise be missed by the other filter-based

328   approaches.

329 **c. Membrane-based surfaces**
330

331   One of the more recently developed approaches uses cation exchange membranes as the

332   exposed deposition surfaces (e.g., Lyman et al., 2007; Castro et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2013;

333   Huang and Gustin, 2015). These membranes have been designed to specifically favor the uptake

334   of GOM over either GEM or PBM, using the assumption that the deposition of mercury is

335   dominated by the former species. This class of filters is typically deployed facing downward,

336   which serves to reduce contamination by large particles and by precipitation. An example of one

337   such filter (Pall Corporation, P/N ICD45S3R) was employed by Lyman *et al*. (2007) and is

338   constructed out of negatively-charged polysulfane on one side, with a non-woven polyester

339   backing on the other. As before, the resultant deposition flux of mercury (in picograms per

340   square meter per hour) is determined by

341

$$Deposition\ flux = \left[\frac{(Hg_{Sample} - Hg_{Blank})}{A \cdot T}\right]$$

342

343   where Hg_{Sample} is the amount of mercury on the exposed sample filter, Hg_{Blank} is the amount of

344   mercury on the sample filter blank, A is the exposed surface area of the filter and T is the length

345   of time over which the sample was exposed to the ambient air. The inverted sampler design

346   employed with cation exchange membrane samplers protects the membranes from contamination

347   by rainfall, thus allowing these samplers to be deployed for long periods of time and thus

348   providing a long-term integrated measure of Hg dry deposition.

349   **d. Turf Surrogate Samplers**

350   Much in the way that cation-exchange membrane surfaces were developed in a way that

351   protects them from contamination by rainfall, the turf surrogate samples (TSS) approach was

352 developed to allow for dry deposition measurements to be performed in such a way that the

353 samplers could remain deployed during both dry- and precipitating-periods (Marsik et al., 2009;

354 Lynam et al., 2015), thus allowing its application for long-term (days to week) quantification of

355 Hg dry deposition. In addition to reducing the amount of person-hours required to cover

356 surrogate surfaces in the advent of precipitation, this approach also sought to characterize dry-

357 deposition to wetted surfaces which can occur following instances of dewfall or rainfall. TSS

358 utilize circular disks of artificial turf (e.g., polyethylene Astro Turf®, GrassWorx, LLC, St.

359 Louis, MO), which serve as three-dimensional deposition surfaces. The turf has approximately 2-

360 cm high polyethylene "blades of grass" which are placed into a Teflon well-style insert (such as

361 that used in the surrogate water-based samplers noted above) that is part of an aerodynamic

362 airfoil. The backing of the turf has a lattice-like construction which allows precipitation to flow

363 through the turf surface into a "throughfall" sample bottle which is included as part of the sample

364 train.

365   For the period over which the TSS was exposed to ambient air, the estimated dry

366 deposition of mercury is calculated as:

367

$$Dry\ Deposition\ Flux = \ Hg\ flux_{TSS} + Hg\ flux_{TF} - Hg\ flux_{WO}$$

368

369 where $Hg\ flux_{TSS}$ is the flux of mercury to the TSS over the period of exposure, $Hg\ flux_{TF}$ is

370 the flux of mercury captured within the throughfall bottle and $Hg\ flux_{WO}$ is the flux of mercury

371 captured with a collocated wet-only precipitation sampler. In this case, the wet-only

372 measurement is used to remove the wet-deposited mercury flux from the throughfall

373   measurement, which would contain a combination of both wet- and dry-deposited mercury. All

374   components of the TSS system are acid-cleaned prior to deployment, with field blanks collected

375   for the circular pieces of turf, the throughfall samples and the wet-only precipitation samples.

376   The appropriate corrections are then made to the data in the determination of the final estimation

377   of the measured flux.

378   **3.4. Litterfall and throughfall-based approaches**

379   There are several methods for collecting litterfall: manual sampling of leaves using

380   gloves (Roulet et al., 1998; 1999; Kalicin et al., 2008; Michelazzo et al., 2010; Ding et al., 2011;

381   Juillerat et al., 2012; Obrist et al., 2011; 2012; Melendez-Perez et al., 2014; Jiskra et al., 2015);

382   nylon nets attached to aluminium frames placed a certain distance from the ground (Iverfeldt et

383   al., 1991; Munthe et al., 1995; Lee et al., 2000; Nóvoa-Muñoz et al., 2008; da Silva et al., 2009;

384   Wang et al., 2009; Fisher and Wolfe, 2012); litterfall traps/collectors (Rea et al., 1996; Grigal et

385   al., 2000; St. Louis et al., 2001; Johnson, 2002; Sheehan et al., 2006; Silva-Filho et al., 2006;

386   Bushey et al., 2008; Graydon et al., 2008; Larssen et al., 2008; Selvendiran et al., 2008; Fu et al.,

387   2010a; Risch et al., 2012; Zhou et al., 2013); funnel and net combinations (Schwesig and

388   Matzner 2000; 2001); and the use of litterbags (Hall and St. Louis, 2004; Demers et al., 2007;

389   Pokharel and Obrist, 2011). Fresh foliage was cut directly from trees and shrubs manually from

390   inside branches and outside branches (McLaughlin et al., 2008); from the crowns of the trees

391   (Mélières et al., 2003; Michelazzo et al., 2010; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b; Fostier et al.,

392   2015; Luo et al., 2015); middle branches (Rasmussen et al., 1991; 1995; Rea et al., 2002;

393   Richardson and Friedland, 2015); lower tree branches (Michelazzo et al., 2010; Obrist et al.,

394   2012; Gong et al., 2014; Hutnik et al., 2014; Fostier et al., 2015); or shot down with a pellet gun

395   (Bushey et al., 2008; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015a).

396   Mercury that is dry deposited to leaves, needle surfaces, branches, and trunks gets

397   washed off during precipitation events. This Hg-enriched rain then lands on the surface and

398   becomes throughfall (Rea et al., 2000; 2001; Mélières et al., 2003; da Silva et al., 2009; Risch et

399   al., 2012). The Hg in the throughfall is then either adsorbed by the litter or forest floor or re-

400   volatized (Demers et al., 2007). In addition to dry deposition to the leaf/needle surface, foliar

401   leaching was thought to be a possible source of Hg in throughfall but was found to be negligible

402   (Rea et al., 2001). Throughfall Hg is calculated by multiplying the volume-mean-weighted Hg

403   concentration in throughfall by the total throughfall volume. In throughfall field studies, sampler

404   are collected weekly (Choi et al., 2008; Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Luo et al.,

405   2015), bi-weekly (Kolka et al., 1999; Grigal et al., 2000; Schwesig and Matzner, 2000; Witt et

406   al., 2009; Åkerblom et al., 2015); monthly (Munthle et al., 1995; Fostier et al., 2000; Lee et al.,

407   2000; Larssen et al., 2008); on an event basis (Rea et al., 2001; Demers et al., 2007; Kalicin et

408   al., 2008); or the funnels are covered between precipitation events to avoid contamination by dry

409   deposition of Hg on the funnels (Rea et al., 1996). Lengths of campaign measurements vary

410   between a single growing season (Munthe et al., 1995; Rea et al., 1996; 2001; Fostier et al.,

411   2000) to up to a five-year period (Lee et al., 2000; Porvari and Verta, 2003), with the current

412   majority of throughfall studies having been for a one-year length (Larssen et al., 2008; Wang et

413   al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Fisher and Wolfe, 2012; Åkerblom et al., 2015; Blackwell and

414   Driscoll, 2015b; Luo et al., 2015). The time schedule for throughfall collection is important as

415   there is the opportunity for coniferous forests to scavenge atmospheric Hg outside of the growing

416   season if the field studies last for longer than just the growing season (Fisher et al., 2012). The

417 sampling frequency can affect the measured throughfall Hg as there is the possibility of

418 contamination by Hg dry deposition occurring if the samplers are not covered during extensive

419 dry periods (Rea et al., 1996). Over long-term studies however, sample-to-sample throughfall Hg

420 concentrations may vary on a smaller timescale (i.e. one month) using different sampling

421 frequencies but the cumulative Hg throughfall deposition will be statistically insignificant (Choi

422 et al., 2008).

423 **4. Oxidized mercury flux measurements**

424 Measurements of GEM flux have been reviewed in Zhu et al. (2016) so this section only

425 focuses on GOM and PBM. The majority of the dry deposition flux measurement campaigns for

426 GOM and PBM (88%) have used surrogate surface techniques, with 67% of them being at sites

427 in North America and 33% of them at sites in Asia. These measurement studies have included

428 several long-term campaigns of up to three years in length in both North America (Lyman et al.,

429 2009; Castro et al., 2012; Peterson et al., 2012; Weiss-Penzias et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2013;

430 2014; Wright et al., 2014; Huang and Gustin, 2015) and Asia (Sakata and Asakura, 2008; Fang et

431 al., 2016; Han et al., 2016). Current knowledge on particle size distribution of PBM, although

432 limited, has started to be studied in more depth in recent years (Keeler et al., 1995; Ames et al.,

433 1998; Feddersen et al., 2012; Kim et al., 2012). Although PBM mass distributes more in fine

434 ($PM_{2.5}$) than coarse particles (>2.5 μm), dry deposition from fine and coarse PBM are equally

435 important due to the faster deposition velocity of coarse particles (Fang et al., 2012a). An

436 increase in North American PBM studies would be beneficial in further exploration of these

437 trends. For a detailed summary of the measured dry deposition fluxes of GOM and PBM (ng m^{-2}

438 hr^{-1}), as well as the measured concentrations of GOM and PBM (pg m^{-3}), see Table S3.

439   In North America, the median and mean values are 6.1 and 30.8 $\mu g\ m^{-2}\ yr^{-1}$ with a range

440   between 0.26 and 520 $\mu g\ m^{-2}\ yr^{-1}$. Long term studies have shown a stronger dependence on

441   GOM dry deposition (40-57%) to the total Hg deposition over arid regions, such as the Four

442   Corners and Nevada (Caldwell et al., 2006; Lyman et al., 2007; Sather et al., 2014) than in more

443   humid regions such as Texas and Oklahoma (5-27%) and Florida (Lyman et al., 2007; Marsik et

444   al., 2007; Peterson and Gustin, 2008; Weiss-Penzias et al., 2011; 2012; Sather et al., 2014).

445   Higher GOM and PBM concentrations and dry deposition fluxes have been observed in the close

446   proximity to, or downwind from, point source emissions (Huang et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2014)

447   than at rural sites (Castro et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2014). GOM concentration and dry

448   deposition have shown positive correlations to wind speed (Lyman et al., 2010; Gustin et al.,

449   2012; Sather et al., 2014; Huang and Gustin, 2015) and higher elevations (Huang and Gustin,

450   2015). Diel trends in GOM and PBM have shown higher concentrations in the morning and

451   afternoon (Lindberg and Stratton, 1998; Poissant et al., 2004; Liu et al., 2007; Peterson and

452   Gustin, 2008; Lai et al., 2011; Weiss-Penzias et al., 2011; Gustin et al., 2012; Fang et al., 2013;

453   Fu et al., 2016) and then a decrease at night, potentially due to a reduction in photochemical

454   production of GOM at night (Weiss-Penzias et al., 2011) or due to nighttime inversion (Huang

455   and Gustin, 2015). The seasonal changes in the fluxes depend on geography and site

456   characteristics where, in general, the fluctuations in the GOM and PBM dry deposition seasonal

457   variations have been observed to be more pronounced in arid regions. Higher GOM deposition

458   has been observed in the spring due to GOM events and long-range transport (Liu et al., 2007;

459   Lyman et al., 2009; Weiss-Penzias et al., 2011; Castro et al., 2012; Gustin et al., 2012; Peterson

460   et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2013; Huang and Gustin, 2015).

461   There are some physical aspects of the various measurement techniques that have been

462   observed to affect measured values. The direction that the filter in the cation-exchange

463   membrane is facing can alter amount of deposited particles, with lower measured dry deposition

464   fluxes of GOM and PBM in downward facing membranes (Lyman et al., 2007; 2009; Weiss-

465   Penzias et al., 2011; Gustin et al., 2012; Huang et al., 2012; Peterson et al., 2012; Sather et al.,

466   2013; 2014; Huang and Gustin, 2015) than upward facing (Huang et al., 2012). In addition to

467   direction of the membrane, higher deposition rates have been observed for rectangular mounts

468   than aerodynamic mounts, possibly due to artificial turbulence created by the rectangular mounts

469   (Lyman et al., 2009). The length of deployment times for surrogate surfaces is under debate, with

470   recommendations that a minimum sampling time of two weeks be implemented at rural sites

471   (Huang et al., 2012; Huang and Gustin, 2015) and for passive samplers (Lyman et al., 2010).

472   Improvements and changes in sampling techniques continue. For example, the ICE 450 passive

473   sampler, used in several GOM studies (e.g. Castro et al., 2012; Huang et al., 2012; Sather et al.,

474   2013; 2014), was replaced in July 2013 with the Mustang S passive sampler (Huang and Gustin,

475   2015), where fortunately no significant differences in the measurement results from the two

476   samplers have been observed (Huang and Gustin, 2015). Clearly, surrogate surfaces may differ

477   significantly from the real-world natural surfaces, and choices of surrogate surfaces and

478   instrument setup can both affect the measured deposition values.

479   In Asia, dry deposition fluxes of GOM+PBM are higher than in North America where

480   median and mean values are 10.7 and 22.7 $\mu g\ m^{-2}\ yr^{-1}$, with a range between 2.4 and 463 $\mu g\ m^{-2}$

481   yr^{-1}. Similar to North America, in Asia, GOM and PBM concentrations and dry deposition fluxes

482   have been observed to be up to five times greater at urban and industrial sites due to the close

483   proximity to, or downwind from, point source emissions (Sakata and Marumoto, 2005; Liu et al.,

484   2007; Sakata and Asakura, 2008; Fang et al., 2012a) than at rural sites (Sakata and Marumoto,

485   2005; Sakata and Asakura, 2008). At three sites in Taiwan, PBM concentrations were highest in

486   November and December and in the summer due to industry, such as coal-fired power plants,

487   and GOM events (Fu et al., 2016). Higher PBM has been measured in the winter due to increases

488   in the winter in the use of vehicles, biomass burning, electricity consumption such as home

489   heating, or due to an accumulation in PBM because of lower temperatures and solar radiation

490   (Sakata and Asakura, 2008; Fang et al., 2012a; Fu et al., 2016; Han et al., 2016).

491   **5. Litterfall measurements**

492   Litterfall Hg represents Hg collected by and retained in leaves. It has been observed in

493   recent years to be an important pathway for Hg input from the atmosphere to the floor of forest

494   ecosystems via plant litter. Litterfall is comprised of senesced leaves and needles, twigs, and

495   branches, and other plant tissues. Litterfall Hg can be transmitted to the soil as the litter

496   decomposes. Litterfall Hg is determined by the concentration of Hg in the leaf litter (Rea et al.,

497   1996; Sheehan et al., 2006; Silva-Filho et al., 2006; Wang et al., 2009; Niu et al., 2011). Another

498   method for estimating litterfall Hg has been to multiply the Hg concentration in fresh foliage by

499   1.5 to account for the assumption that the Hg accumulates in the leaf linearly over an average six

500   month growing season (Fu et al., 2010b; Gong et al., 2014). It is important to note that a litterfall

501   deposition value estimated through multiplying the fresh foliage value by 1.5 does have an

502   associated error factor that comes with it. Litterfall measurement campaigns have ranged from

503   the growing season (Rea et al., 1996; 2002; Fostier et al., 2003; Larssen et al., 2008; Ding et al.,

504   2011; Fisher and Wolfe, 2012) to long-term studies of a year (Schwesig and Matzner , 2000;

505 2001; St. Louis et al., 2001; de Oliveira et al., 2006; Silva-Filho et al., 2006; Sheehan et al.,

506 2006; da Silva et al., 2009; Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; Teixeira et al., 2012; Zhou et al.,

507 2013; Lang, 2014; Luo et al., 2015) to two years or more (Xiao et al., 1998; Lee et al., 2000; Hall

508 and St. Louis, 2004; Graydon et al., 2008; Selvendiran et al., 2008; Obrist et al., 2011; Risch et

509 al., 2012; Hutnik et al., 2014; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b; Richardson and Friedland, 2015).

510 A summary of available measurements of Hg concentrations in leaves and litter (ng g^{-1}) and

511 litterfall Hg (μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}) is provided in Table S4.

512 Litterfall Hg measurements are highest in Asia, where the median and mean values from

513 20 sites (34.8and 42.8 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}, respectively) are approximately two to three times higher than

514 the measured litterfall Hg in Europe over 14 sites, (12.8 and 14.2 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}, respectively) and

515 more than three times higher than in North America over 92 sites (11.9 and 12.9 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1},

516 respectively). Litterfall Hg range from 4.2 – 219.9 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} in Asia to 0.05 – 42 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} in

517 Europe. In North America, litterfall Hg ranges between 0.02 and 57.1 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}, respectively.

518 Measurements of litterfall Hg in the Amazonian rainforest have been reviewed in detail by

519 Fostier et al. (2015). Atmospheric Hg concentrations affect the levels of Hg concentrations in

520 foliage and leaf litter with higher litterfall Hg in urban forests than remote forests (Fostier et al.,

521 2003; 2015; Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Gong et al., 2014); higher Hg

522 concentrations in close proximity to degassing vents and during eruption activity of volcanoes

523 (Martin et al., 2012); and higher Hg concentrations at intermediate altitudinal mountain zones

524 (Szopka et al., 2011). It is important to note, however, that the atmospheric Hg concentration is

525 not the only factor that affects the levels of Hg concentrations in foliage and leaf litter, as

526 discussed below. In Europe, a decrease in litterfall Hg has been associated with the decrease in

527   Hg emissions in recent years (Larssen et al., 2008).

528   Due to coniferous needles remaining on trees for longer periods than deciduous trees

529 (years vs. one season), needle litter tends to have higher Hg concentrations than leaf litter (Grigal

530 et al., 2000; Sheehan et al., 2006; Niu et al., 2011; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b; Fisher and

531 Wolfe, 2012; Obrist et al., 2012). This, however, does not translate directly to higher litterfall Hg

532 in coniferous forests due to the contribution from the higher mass of leaf litter than needle

533 litter.As a result, litterfall Hg in deciduous forests has been found to be higher than in coniferous

534 forests (Schwesig and Matzner, 2000; Demers et al., 2007; Kalicin et al., 2008; Fisher and

535 Wolfe, 2012; Obrist et al., 2012; Richardson and Friedland, 2015).

536   Correlations between Hg concentrations and age of the foliage have been observed with

537 concentrations increasing with age (Barghigiani et al., 1991; Roulet et al., 1999; Ericksen et al.,

538 2003; Larssen et al., 2008; Ding et al., 2011; Martin et al., 2012) and higher in litter than foliage

539 (Iverfeldt, 1991; Bushey et al., 2008; Michelazzo et al., 2010; Ding et al., 2011; Melendez-Perez

540 et al., 2014; Luo et al., 2015).

541   In three urban forests in Asia, annual litterfall Hg deposition was found to account for up

542 to 75% of the total Hg input fluxes to the forests (Wang et al., 2009). The contribution of Hg

543 from litterfall has been found to be three times the amount from throughfall (Fu et al., 2010a)

544 and anywhere from two times up to 14 times the contribution from wet deposition (Wang et al.,

545 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; Zhou et al., 2013). A detailed review of litterfall, throughfall, and

546 precipitation studies in China can be found in Fu et al., 2015. In Europe, litterfall Hg has been

547 found to represent between 27% and 90% to the total deposited Hg (Schwesig and Matzner,

548 2000; 2001; Jiskra et al., 2015), from equal to 1.5 times the deposited throughfall Hg and two

549 times the open-field precipitation (Iverfeldt et al., 1991; Munthe et al., 1995; Lee et al., 2000). In

550 the Amazonian rainforest, litterfall Hg has been observed to be twice the contribution from wet

551 deposition (da Silva et al., 2009) and more than doubled during the dry season (Silva-Filho et al.,

552 2006). In North America, some studies have found contributions to the deposition flux from

553 litterfall and throughfall equal (Iverfeldt et al., 1991; Rea et al., 1996; Grigal et al., 2000; Lee et

554 al., 2000), whereas in other studies, litterfall has contributed up to two times more Hg than

555 throughfall (St. Louis et al., 2001; Johnson, 2002; Fisher and Wolfe, 2012).

556 Median litterfall deposition of 12.3 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} accounted for 55% of the Hg deposition to

557 deciduous forest floors at 23 sites in eastern USA (Risch et al., 2012). In this study that spanned

558 15 states over three years, litterfall Hg ranged between 3.5 and 23.4 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}. Litterfall Hg was

559 found to be more correlated to the amount of litter collected (i.e. the sample catch) than Hg wet

560 deposition, with the highest median litterfall Hg deposition (14.7 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}) found in deciduous

561 forests. Mixed forests and coniferous forests had the same median litterfall Hg concentration

562 (38.6 ng g^{-1}) but the mixed forest litterfall Hg was higher (9.3 vs. 7.0 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}) due to the

563 higher sample catch. Of the deciduous sites, oak-hickory forests had higher litterfall Hg than

564 maple-beech-birch forests and aspen-birch forests. Litterfall Hg deposition was more dependent

565 on the forest cover type than geographical region. Intraseasonal variations were observed with

566 higher litterfall Hg concentrations in the first autumn sampling than the second. Interannual

567 variations were observed for the sample catch but were not significant for litterfall Hg

568 concentrations.

569 **6. Throughfall measurements**

570 Factors that affect throughfall Hg deposition include: canopy type, with higher

571 concentrations in coniferous canopies than deciduous canopies due to a combination of higher

572 Hg scavenging efficiency in coniferous forests over deciduous forests and larger surface areas

573 (Kolka et al., 1999; Rea et al., 1996; Grigal et al., 2000; Schwesig and Matzner, 2000; 2001;

574 Johnson, 2002; Demers et al., 2007; Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Fisher and

575 Wolfe, 2012; Åkerblom et al., 2015; Luo et al., 2015); canopy density, with Hg throughfall

576 concentrations increasing with canopy density (Grigal et al., 2000; Witt et al., 2009);

577 meteorology, with higher throughfall concentrations under drier conditions, resulting from

578 increased dry deposition to the foliage (Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b); and location, with higher

579 concentrations in regions with high atmospheric Hg emissions or close to point sources, such as

580 urban forests (Wang et al., 2009; Luo et al., 2015). A summary of available measurements Hg

581 concentrations in throughfall (ng L^{-1}) and throughfall Hg (μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}) is provided in Table S5.

582   In Asia, median and mean throughfall Hg for this region are 49.0 and 43.5 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1},

583 respectively, with a range in the means between 10.5 and 71.3 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}. These median and

584 mean are more than two to three times the European values (16.3 and 19.0 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1} for the

585 median and mean, respectively), where the range is between 12.0 and 40.1 μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}. For

586 throughfall, the median and mean throughfall Hg in Asia are eight and five times larger,

587 respectively, than those reported in North America, likely due to heavier atmospheric Hg

588 loadings in Asia than North America (Fu et al., 2010b). Fu et al. (2010b) found that while the

589 throughfall in remote regions of China were smaller than in urban regions of China, they were

590 still up to two times higher than in remote regions of North America. Industrial and urban

591 pollution, density of the population, and coal combustion and mining have all resulted in China

592 having the highest Hg emissions in the world (Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; Fu et al.,

593   2015). A modelling study by Seigneur et al. (2003) found that Hg emissions from Asia were the

594   largest contributor outside of the United States to Hg deposition in New York due to long-range

595   transport. This is similar to detailed discussions in Fu et al. (2015) on the effects of trends in

596   increasing Hg emissions in China on the patterns of long-range transport. In North America, the

597   median and mean values are the lowest at 7.0 and 9.3 $\mu g\ m^{-2}\ yr^{-1}$, respectively, with a range

598   between 2.1 and 26.6 $\mu g\ m^{-2}\ yr^{-1}$. The only throughfall Hg measurement in South America is an

599   estimate of 72.0 $\mu g\ m^{-2}\ yr^{-1}$ in the Brazilian Amazon (Fostier et al., 2000), which has been

600   suggested to be an overestimation due to the temporal sampling distribution where higher Hg

601   concentrations were observed in samples that had a several-day dry period immediately prior to

602   sampling. Without any other Amazonian throughfall studies, it is not known whether this is a

603   typical value for this rainforest or if the high value was related to the monthly collection. In Asia

604   and Europe, Hg contributions from throughfall are higher than from wet deposition, with

605   throughfall ranging from approximately two to four times the wet deposition (Munthe et al.,

606   1995, Lee et al., 2000; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Wang et al., 2009). In North America, the

607   throughfall-precipitation ratio has been found to differ with forest type, where based upon

608   throughfall measurements, dry deposition was found to be less than wet deposition in deciduous

609   forests (Demers et al., 2007; Kalicin et al., 2008; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b) and greater than

610   precipitation in coniferous forests (Demers et al., 2007; Kalicin et al., 2008; Witt et al., 2009)

611   and over watersheds (Lindberg et al., 1994; Rea et al., 1996; 2001; Grigal et al., 2000; Graydon

612   et al., 2008).

613   **7. A brief comparison of dry, litterfall, throughfall and wet deposition**

614   The annual contributions to Hg deposition from wet deposition, throughfall, litterfall, and

615   dry deposition ($\mu g\ m^{-2}\ yr^{-1}$) are shown in Figure 1 for various sites in (a) Asia, (b) Europe, (c)

616   North American deciduous forests, and (d) North American coniferous forests. Figure 1 includes

617   sites for which measurements for litterfall, throughfall, and dry and wet deposition have all been

618   measured. This figure is provided to give a representation of the range of values for the various

619   measurement methods. In these figures, the wet deposition represents open-field wet deposition

620   measurements, with the exception of the measurements at Whiteface Mountain, in the

621   Adirondack Park, NY (Blackwell et al., 2015b), where the wet deposition at this site is from

622   cloud water. The estimated dry deposition shown in this figure is the sum of the litterfall Hg and

623   throughfall Hg minus the wet deposited Hg.

624   In China, dry deposition accounted for between 25% up to 90% of the total Hg deposited

625   to subtropical forested catchments. Litterfall Hg was the dominant pathway in these forests

626   contributing between 53 and 90% of the dry deposition to these forests. In forested watersheds in

627   Germany, wet deposition played a stronger role, accounting for 78% of the total Hg deposition in

628   Steinkreuz and almost twice as much at Lehstenbach. At the other European sites, wet deposition

629   only represented between 9 and 45% of the total Hg deposition. At all of the European sites,

630   litterfall Hg was the dominant pathway at 64 to 98% of the dry deposited Hg, with the exception

631   of Buskerud, Norway where wet deposition was not reported, preventing an accurate estimate of

632   dry deposition (Larssen et al., 2008). In North America, the dry deposition of Hg ranged between

633   13 and 83% of the total deposited Hg over deciduous forests and 15 and 70% over coniferous

634   forests, with the primary factor in these variances being proximity to sources. Exceptions to these

635   values were at Whiteface Mountain, as mentioned above, where wet deposition is reported as

636   high elevation cloudwater Hg rather than open-field precipitation. The contributions from net

637 throughfall Hg (throughfall Hg – wet deposition) were higher in the coniferous forests than the

638 deciduous forests. In the deciduous forests, litterfall Hg accounted for between 46 and 95% of

639 total deposited Hg.

640 **8. Summary and recommendations**

641   The modelling of GOM and PBM dry deposition on regional and global scales using

642 various chemical transport models shows inconsistencies between the models, up to a factor of

643 ten in some cases, which are caused by differences in model simulated GOM and PBM

644 concentrations and in selected dry deposition algorithms. Recent analysis of large data sets of

645 speciated atmospheric mercury has provided some needed knowledge for improving these

646 models. However, measurement uncertainties in ambient GOM and PBM concentrations, and

647 the significant lack of measurements over the oceans, the Polar Regions, the Southern

648 Hemisphere, Europe, and Asia are inhibiting further evaluation of the models. Progress has been

649 made on the inferential estimation of speciated and total Hg dry deposition at monitoring sites or

650 networks. GEM deposition to forest canopies is more important than previously assumed in

651 chemical transport models. Further development of dry deposition algorithms, especially the bi-

652 directional exchange for GEM, is still needed, but reliable Hg flux data is lacking in validating

653 such models.

654   Surrogate surfaces are the current preferred method for measuring the dry deposition of

655 GOM and PBM, with a new turf surrogate surface showing promise in extending the length of

656 the sampling times to longer campaigns. Uncertainties in the measured GOM and PBM dry

657 deposition associated with the selected surrogate surfaces and instrument setup are larger than a

658 factor of two. Measurements of PBM dry deposition are very limited around the world due to the

659 challenges associated with making these measurements. Measured GOM and PBM dry

660 deposition are strongly correlated to emissions from local point sources due to their short lifetime

661 in air. GOM deposition can play a significant role in total Hg deposition, contributing to more

662 than half of Hg dry deposition in some regions, and having been found to be higher than wet

663 deposition in some arid regions and lower in more humid regions due to the high solubility of

664 GOM.

665 There has been a large increase in the number of field campaigns measuring litterfall and

666 throughfall mercury in Asia, Europe, the Amazon, and North America. Generally, litterfall and

667 throughfall Hg are higher in urban regions of Asia as a result of the high levels of atmospheric

668 Hg in Asia, followed by remote regions in Asia, then Europe, and North America. As can be

669 seen in North American field studies, litterfall Hg is more dominant than throughfall Hg over

670 deciduous canopies due to the larger amounts of litter under these canopies, whereas throughfall

671 is the primary pathway for mercury deposition over coniferous canopies. Net throughfall Hg is

672 the throughfall Hg minus the Hg in precipitation. This deposition, combined with the deposition

673 of litterfall Hg is higher than the precipitation Hg over all canopies and regions. The

674 measurement of litterfall, throughfall and open-field precipitation Hg,and the subsequent

675 comparison with modelled Hg dry deposition, is an effective way of improving our

676 understanding of the mechanisms involved in these transfers.

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Table 1: Summary of estimated and measured mercury dry deposition, and measured mercury in litterfall and throughfall in Asia, Europe and North America (converted to annual value in the unit of µg m^{-2} yr^{-1}).

	Asia			Europe			North America		
	Median, Mean	Range	*n*	Median, Mean	Range	*n*	Median, Mean	Range	*n*
Modelled GOM+PBM	34.5, 83.8	3.8 – 407	12	3.0, 3.8	0.1 – 17.5	27	2.6, 8.7	0.05 – 318	157
Measured GOM+PBM	10.7, 22.7	2.4 – 463	50				6.1, 30.8	0.26 – 520	105
Litterfall	34.8, 42.8	4.2 – 219.9	20	12.8, 14.2	0.05 – 42.0	14	11.9, 12.9	0.02 – 57.1	92
Throughfall	49.0, 43.5	10.5 – 71.3	11	16.3, 19.0	12 – 40.1	17	7.0, 9.3	2.1 – 26.6	32

Figure 1: Contributions to the mercury deposition flux (μg m^{-2} yr^{-1}) from wet deposition, throughfall Hg, litterfall Hg, and dry deposition in: Asia, Europe and North American deciduous forests and North American coniferous forests. *References in order of appearance: Fu et al., 2010a, b; Wang et al., 2009; Luo et al., 2015; Schwesig and Matzner, 2000, 2001; Hultberg et al., 1995; Lee et al., 2000; Larssen et al., 2008; orvari and Verta, 2003; Iverfeldt, 1991; Lee et al., 1998; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b; Choi et al., 2008; Demers et al., 2007; Kalicin et al., 2007;Graydon et al., 2008; Grigal et al, 2000; Fisher and Wolde, 2012; Lindberg et al., 1996; Rea et al., 1996, 2001; Johnson et al., 2007; St. Louis et al., 2001.*