



## Overview of mercury dry deposition, litterfall, and throughfall studies

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Abstract. The current knowledge concerning mercury dry deposition is reviewed, including dry 1 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 Asia (10.7  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>) almost double that in North America (6.1  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>) due to the higher 6 7 anthropogenic emissions in Asia. Measured median litterfall and throughfall mercury are 22.3 and 56.5  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, in Asia, 12.8 and 16.3  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> in Europe, and 11.9 and 7.0 8  $\mu g m^{-2} yr^{-1}$  in North America. The much higher litterfall mercury than GOM plus PBM dry 9 10 deposition suggests the important contribution of gaseous elemental mercy (GEM) to mercury dry deposition to vegetated canopies. Over all the regions, including the Amazon, dry deposition, 11 estimated as the sum of litterfall and throughfall minus open-field wet deposition, is more 12 13 dominant than wet deposition for Hg deposition. Regardless of the measurement or modelling 14 method used, a factor of two or larger uncertainties in GOM plus PBM dry deposition need to be 15 kept in mind when using these numbers for mercury impact studies.

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## 17 **1. Introduction**

18 Atmospheric mercury (Hg) exists in three operationally defined forms - gaseous 19 elemental mercury (GEM), gaseous oxidized mercury (GOM), and particulate bound mercury 20 (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 21 22 impact. Wet deposition of Hg can be quantified through analysis of precipitation chemistry 23 (Prestbo and Gay, 2009). While the direct measurement of Hg dry deposition is technically 24 challenging, a number of methods have been developed for approximate Hg dry deposition, such 25 as micrometeorological, surrogate surface, litterfall, and throughfall measurements (Cobbett and 26 Van Heyst, 2007; Marsik et al., 2007; Graydon et al., 2008; Huang and Gustin, 2015; Risch et 27 al., 2012; Ma et al., 2016).

28 The approaches used by the above methods to measure mercury dry deposition vary 29 considerably. Efforts are now underway to obtain a better understanding of the variability of 30 estimates from these methods, in an effort to provide a constraint of measurement uncertainties 31 (Marsik et al., 2009; Gustin et al., 2015). The relationships between some of these methods were 32 briefly discussed in Zhang et al. (2012b) and are further illustrated below. Mercury dry deposited to a forest canopy-soil system includes absorption of Hg by leaf stomata and cuticle, tree bark, 33 and underlying soil. Some of the deposited Hg may emit back into the atmosphere. Mercury in 34 35 litterfall includes a portion of the dry deposited Hg as well as capture of Hg emitted from the 36 soil. Mercury in throughfall includes wet deposited Hg above the canopy and a portion of dry 37 deposited Hg washed off from the canopy. Thus, litterfall Hg likely represents the low-end of Hg 38 dry deposition if Hg emission from the underlying soil is small, although it can be higher than





the actual dry deposition above the canopy due to the interception of emitted Hg by forest leaves if soil Hg emissions are high and the ambient Hg concentrations above the forests are low. The difference between throughfall and open-area wet deposition, with the former collected inside and the latter outside a forest, should also represent a portion of the dry deposition. Thus, on annual basis, dry deposition can be approximated as the sum of litterfall and througfall Hg minus wet deposited Hg.

45 In chemical transport models (CTMs) and at monitoring sites, Hg dry deposition is commonly calculated using the inferential method, where it is the product of the dry deposition 46 47 velocity and the atmospheric Hg concentration (Fulkerson, 2006; Lyman et al., 2007; Marsik et 48 al., 2007; Engle et al., 2010; Huang et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2012b), or using the bi-directional 49 exchange scheme for GEM (Xu et al., 1999; Bash, 2010; Wang et al., 2014; Wright and Zhang, 50 2015). Development and validation of these schemes need field-measured Hg dry deposition 51 data, which unfortunately have larger uncertainties. The magnitudes of uncertainties are expected 52 to be similar between measurement and model estimates (Zhang et al., 2009; Fang et al., 2012b).

53 The present study provides a detailed review of current knowledge concerning Hg dry 54 deposition including numerical schemes used in CTMs and at monitoring sites, available field 55 measurements on Hg dry deposition, and litterfall and throughfall Hg measurements. Knowledge 56 gained from this study provides guidance for future research directions.

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

58 2.1 In chemical transport models

59 There are several global and regional chemical transport models from Canada, the United
60 States, Europe, Russia, and Asia that include algorithms for the dry deposition of mercury. A





61 summary of the various models and their algorithms is provided in Table S1. In chemical 62 transport models, the approach for the calculation of the dry deposition velocities of GEM, 63 GOM, and PBM varies between models. For example, in GRAHM (Dastoor et al., 2015), GEOS-Chem (Song et al., 2015), ECHMERIT (De Simone et al., 2014), and GNAQPMS-Hg (Chen et 64 al., 2015), the dry deposition velocity for GEM is calculated using the multiple resistance 65 analogy approach described in Wesely (1989), Zhang et al. (2003) or Kerkweg et al. (2006). Due 66 67 to uncertainties presented in Zhang et al. (2009), ECHMERIT sets a maximum allowed  $V_d$  for GEM of 0.03 cm s<sup>-1</sup> equal to the annual mean GEM deposition velocity from Selin et al. (2008). 68 Assumed values of 0.01 cm s<sup>-1</sup> over land and 0 cm s<sup>-1</sup> over the ocean for the dry deposition 69 70 velocity of GEM have been implemented in CTM-Hg (Seigneur et al., 2004). In the case of 71 many regional models, GEM is still not considered in the simulations under the assumption that 72 the dry deposition of GEM is not important considering it is also emitted from the surface, for 73 example WRF/Chem-Hg (Gencarelli et al., 2015), TEAM (Seigneur et al., 2006), REMSAD (Bullock et al., 2008), and CAMx (De Foy et al., 2014). CMAQ has implemented the bi-74 75 directional scheme of Bash (2010) for its treatment of GEM (Bash et al., 2014).

A similar resistance analogy for GEM is used to calculate GOM, for example in GRAHM, GEOS-Chem, and many regional models. In other models, such as WRF/Chem-Hg and CTM-Hg, the dry deposition velocity of GOM is assumed equal to HNO<sub>3</sub> due to their similar solubilities. A number of modelling studies have calculated the dry deposition velocity of PBM using the size-segregated particle dry deposition model described in Zhang et al. (2001b) or an earlier dry deposition and gravitational approach by Slinn and Slinn (1980), including Han et al. (2008); Zhang et al. (2012a); De Simone et al. (2014); and Dastoor et al. (2015). Two other





approaches are to set the deposition velocity equal to the deposition velocity of the relatively
non-reactive sulphate (Bullock and Brehme, 2002; Christensen et al., 2004; Chen et al., 2015) or
to assume specific values over land (0.1 cm s<sup>-1</sup>) and water (0.01 cm s<sup>-1</sup>) (Seigneur et al., 2001;
2004).

87 The largest major inter-model comparison study, the Intercomparison Study of Numerical Models for Long-Range Atmospheric Transport of Mercury, involved eight regional, 88 89 hemispheric, and global models that compared both short and long term simulations over 90 Europe. This inter-comparison took place between 2000 and 2005 and was conducted in three 91 phases. The first was an examination of the physical and chemical schemes of Hg (Ryaboshapko 92 et al., 2002); the second phase compared short-term simulations (Ryaboshapko et al., 2007a); 93 and the third phase included simulations over an entire year (Ryaboshapko et al., 2007b). In this 94 latter study, the annual model results conducted over the full year (1999) of the dry deposition of Hg were within  $\pm 50\%$  of the observations; however, the range of the monthly modelled dry 95 deposition results were up to  $\pm 100\%$  of the observations. The large discrepancies observed were 96 97 attributed to two factors noted earlier, that not all of the models included the dry deposition of 98 GEM and that some models used a fixed deposition velocity over forests for GOM (Ryabshapko 99 et al., 2007b).

100 The North American Mercury Model Intercomparison Study involved three regional-101 scale models (CMAQ, REMSAD, and TEAM) running simulations over North America using 102 the same initial/boundary conditions (Bullock et al., 2008; 2009). In this study, the dry 103 deposition results varied between the models by close to a factor of ten, with REMSAD 104 producing the smallest dry deposition fluxes. Only TEAM simulated dry deposition of GEM,





however the GEM results were not reported due to the assumption that most of the GEM drydeposited was re-emitted back to the atmosphere (Bullock et al., 2008).

107 More recently, the Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution (HTAP) modelling 108 experiment, included inter-comparisons between GRAHM, GEOS-Chem, GLEMOS, CMAQ-109 Hg, and ECHMERIT (Travnikov et al., 2010). Hg dry deposition varied between the models, with GEOS-Chem simulating dry deposition fluxes between  $\sim 5 \ \mu g \ m^{-2} \ yr^{-1}$  over the Arctic to 110 almost 30 µg m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> over East Asia. Over all of the regions, GLEMOS produced the smallest 111 dry deposition fluxes ranging between  $\sim 1 \ \mu g \ m^{-2} \ yr^{-1}$  over the Pacific to  $\sim 8 \ \mu g \ m^{-2} \ yr^{-1}$  over East 112 113 Asia. In this study, mercury deposition results reflected the different model parameterizations. 114 For example, GRAHM simulated higher mercury deposition in the Polar Regions due to the 115 inclusion of AMDE events, whereas the incorporation of sea salt aerosol scavenging resulted in 116 higher deposition by GEOS-Chem over oceans (Travnikov et al., 2010). The dry deposition 117 varied by more than an order of magnitude over Europe/North Africa, North America, East Asia, 118 and South Asia. Therefore, Travnikov et al. (2010) recommends the need for more measurements 119 of dry deposition in these regions.

In a regional model study by Zhang et al. (2012a), speciated mercury was modeled over the Great Lakes using CMAQ2002, CMAQ2005, and GRAHM2005. The differences between the estimations of dry deposition of GOM and PBM in the CMAQ models and GRAHM at the regional scale were significant (up to a factor of two). For all three models, the differences between modelled and measured GOM and PBM concentrations were between factors of two and ten, whereas the GEM concentrations were within 30%.

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





GEOS-Chem, and GMHG) were used to explore global mercury deposition (Travnikov et al., 127 128 2015). These models simulated higher deposition fluxes over industrial sites and regions with 129 higher emissions, similar to trends observed in measurements over China (Fu et al., 2010a). The 130 largest contributions to dry deposition fluxes of GOM and PBM were over South Asia, East 131 Asia, and Europe. All three models included AMDE events where the highest dry deposition 132 fluxes in the Arctic were produced in the spring months. The focus of Travnikov et al. (2015)'s 133 study was more to use the three models as an ensemble to examine the global circulation of 134 mercury so the discussion was not on the differences between the models. However, individual 135 results from each model were included in the report. Examples of differences between the 136 models include the relative contribution of domestic and foreign anthropogenic sources to 137 mercury deposition over different regions for 2013. All three models produced the highest 138 contributions in East Asia from domestic anthropogenic sources and in the Arctic from foreign 139 anthropogenic sources. Differences between the models were observed for predicted deposition 140 in Europe, where GLEMOS and GEOS-Chem attributed the largest contribution to domestic 141 sources (>30% and 20%, respectively), whereas GMHG had foreign sources as the major 142 contributor. The other region with differences was South Asia, where again GLEMOS and 143 GEOS-Chem had domestic sources as the larger contributor and GMHG had foreign sources as 144 the major contributor.

145 Challenges still exist in modelling speciated mercury deposition in chemical transport 146 models. These uncertainties come from uncertainties in model-simulated GOM and PBM 147 concentrations (Baker and Bash, 2012; Holloway et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2012a, Kos et al., 148 2013), uncertainties in existing dry deposition algorithms for GOM and PBM, and the lack of





proper dry deposition algorithms for GEM. A better treatment of some of the processes 149 150 simulated in these models, based on new knowledge generated from analysis of large data sets of 151 recently collected speciated atmospheric data (Cheng et al., 2014; 2015), may improve model 152 performance in simulating GOM and PBM concentrations. For example, the fixed gas-particle 153 partitioning of oxidized Hg in some models (e.g., GRAHM) can be replaced with temperature-154 dependant parameterizations described in Cheng et al. (2014). The coarse PBM fraction 155 neglected in many models (Zhang et al., 2012a) should also be addressed since coarse PBM 156 contributes significantly to Hg dry and wet deposition budget (Fang et al., 2012b; Cheng et al., 157 2015). Validation and implementation of updated bi-directional air-surface exchange schemes 158 into chemistry transport models, such as the one for GEM by Wang et al. (2014) will be 159 beneficial in reducing these uncertainties.

160 The limited amount of measurement data inhibits the development and improvement of 161 chemical transport models. While speciated mercury data has been increasing rapidly in the 162 recent decade through enhanced monitoring networks (Gay et al., 2013) and increases in field 163 studies (Lindberg and Stratton, 1998; Kim et al., 2009; Maestas et al., 2011; Fu et al., 2015; Lee 164 et al., 2016), there is no practical way for direct dry deposition measurement as further illustrated 165 in Section 3. Besides, the monitored oxidized Hg concentration data, especially GOM, likely have large uncertainties (Jaffe et al., 2014; Gustin et al., 2015) and caution should be made when 166 167 applying this data for model evaluation (Kos et al., 2013).

168 2.2 At monitoring networks/sites

169 An increase in the monitoring of speciated atmospheric Hg in the past decade has led to 170 an increase in the number of dry deposition estimations using the inferential method. There are





171 several monitoring networks that have been established to monitor speciated atmospheric Hg. 172 The largest network to date is the National Atmospheric Deposition (NADP)/Atmospheric 173 Mercury Network (AMNet), which includes more than 30 sites mostly in the United States (Gay 174 et al., 2013). Other networks include the European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme 175 (EMEP) (Travnikov and Ilvin, 2009), the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP) 176 (Travnikov et al., 2015), and the Global Mercury Observation System (GMOS) (Sprovieri et al., 177 2013). There have been several monitoring sites which have performed year-long measurement 178 campaigns of Hg dry deposition of GOM and PBM, such as over ten sites in Japan (Sakata and 179 Marumoto, 2004; 2005; Sakata and Asakura, 2008) and a number in Taiwan (Fang et al.. 2012a, 180 b; 2013; 2014; 2016). A comprehensive review of atmospheric GEM and TGM mercury 181 measurements, sites, and trends across the globe can be found in the literature (e.g. Sprovieri et 182 al., 2010). The majority of the Hg dry deposition studies using the inferential approach and 183 speciated ambient concentrations (referred to as modelled deposition below) were conducted for 184 GOM and PBM (Lindberg and Stratton, 1998; Fulkerson, 2006; Lyman et al., 2007, 2009; 185 Marsik et al., 2007; Han et al., 2008; Engle et al., 2010; Lombard et al., 2011; Castro et al., 2012; 186 Huang et al., 2012; Petersen et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2013; Huang and Gustin, 2015; Fang et 187 al., 2016), while a few studies also included GEM (Rea et al., 2001; Miller et al., 2005; Caldwell 188 et al., 2006; Holmes et al., 2011; Zhang et al., 2012b; Bieser et al., 2014; Enrico et al., 2016). A 189 summary of estimated dry deposition fluxes for GOM and PBM estimated using the data from 190 the various monitoring networks and other field campaigns is provided in Table S2.

191 Dry deposition flux estimations of GOM in North America range from 0.02 ng m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> to 192 5.91 ng m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> with one exception in August, Georgia, where the maximum estimated GOM dry





deposition flux was 36.3 ng m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> over vents of a mercury chlor-alkali plant (Landis et al., 193 2004). In China, the estimation is higher at 20.4 ng  $m^{-2}$  hr<sup>-1</sup> (Huang et al., 2012). Dry deposition 194 flux estimations of PBM range from 0.003 ng m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> to 4.54 ng m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> in North America and 195 from 0.43 ng m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> to 46.46 ng m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup> in East Asia. In Europe, the median of estimated 196 GOM+PBM dry deposition fluxes is 0.34 ng m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup>. In most studies, dry deposition of GOM 197 198 has been estimated to be much higher than PBM due to the much higher deposition velocities of 199 GOM than PBM (Han et al., 2008; Engle et al., 2010; Huang et al., 2012; Zhang et al., 2012b). 200 Another reason that needs to be emphasized is the exclusion of coarse PBM concentration in the 201 monitoring process in many studies (e.g., Zhang et al., 2012b). Differences between the 202 modelled and measured fluxes are typically at a factor of 2 or larger due to measurement 203 uncertainties and choice of model parameters (Lyman et al.; 2007; Marsik et al., 2007; Huang 204 and Gustin, 2015), although some studies obtained very close model-measurement values (Miller 205 et al., 2005; Lyman et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2012b).

206 Dry deposition is often assumed to be less important than wet deposition since earlier studies only estimated GOM and PBM dry deposition. Using speciated Hg data at 19 monitoring sites in 207 208 North America, Zhang et al. (2012b) estimated speciated and total Hg dry deposition and also 209 used litterfall Hg measurements at the regional scale as a constraint for model estimation. In 210 thestudy of Zhang et al. (2012b), GEM was demonstrated to contribute much more than 211 GOM+PBM to the total dry deposition over vegetated surface. Thus, total dry deposition, when 212 including GEM, was much higher than wet deposition at the majority of the sites, a conclusion 213 that can be supported from litterfall (Risch et al., 2012) and somewhat by throughfall 214 measurements (see more discussion in Sections 5 and 6).





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

#### 216 3.1. Micrometeorological approaches

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

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

where  $F_{Hg,i}$  is the flux of a given mercury species, *i*,  $K_Z$  is the vertical eddy-transfer coefficient 221 and  $\frac{\Delta C_i}{\Delta Z}$  is the time-averaged vertical gradient of the mercury species, in question. Several 222 223 approaches have been used to determine the values of the stability-dependent eddy-transfer coefficient  $K_Z$  including the aerodynamic approach (e.g., Edwards, 2005; Marsik et al., 2005; 224 225 Fritsche et al., 2008) and the modified Bowen-ratio approach (e.g., Kim et al., 1995; Lindberg et 226 al., 1995; Meyers et al., 1996; Poissant et al. 2004; Fritsche et al., 2008). In each case, the 227 assumption is made that all scalar quantities are mixed in a similar fashion within the 228 atmospheric surface layer, and thus the vertical eddy-transfer coefficient for heat (or other 229 tracers, such as  $CO_2$  or  $H_2O_y$ ) can be used as a surrogate for the vertical eddy-transfer coefficient 230 for mercury.

The vertical gradient of mercury has been measured using either: (a) manual approaches (such as gold-bead traps for GEM, KCl-coated denuders for GOM and quartz filters for PBM) or (b) automated sampling systems (such as a Tekran® Model 2537A Mercury Vapor Analyzer combined with a Tekran® Model 1110 Synchronized Two-Port Sampling Unit for GEM, a Tekran® Model 1130 Mercury Speciation Unit for GOM, combined with a Tekran® Model





236 1135 Particulate Mercury Unit for PBM).

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## **3.2. Dynamic gas flux chambers**

239 Dynamic gas chambers, which have been used to study the flux of a number of gaseous 240 species from a variety of emitting surfaces, including leaves, soil and water, have been 241 successfully employed for use in the measurement of the air-surface exchange of GEM (e.g., 242 Poissant and Casimir, 1998; Zhang et al., 2001a; Wallschläger et al., 2002; Marsik et al., 2005; 243 Eckley et al., 2011; Edwards and Howard, 2013). In a typical configuration for the measurement 244 of the air-surface exchange of GEM from soil or water surfaces, a polycarbonate flux chamber 245 (DFC) is placed on the emitting surface to be measured. Ambient air is drawn by vacuum 246 through the DFC at a constant flow rate, nominally 1.5 LPM. The concentration of GEM is 247 measured at both the inlet and outlet of the DFC, typically using an automated system, such as a 248 Tekran® Model 2537A Mercury Vapor Analyzer combined with a Tekran® Model 1110 249 Synchronized Two-Port Sampling Unit, though initial approaches used manual gold bead traps. 250 The resulting GEM flux (typically reported in nanograms per meter squared per hour) is 251 calculated using the relation:

$$F_{GEM} = \left[\frac{(C_0 - C_i) \cdot Q}{A}\right]$$

where  $C_0$  is the concentration of GEM at the outlet,  $C_i$  is the concentration of GEM at the inlet, *Q* is the volume flow rate through the DFC and *A* is the area of the footprint of the DFC on the surface in question. As with other approaches, the final flux is determined using the above equation, subtracting a sample blank value from measured value. Typically, DFC blanks are obtained at the start and completion of a given sampling period by placing the DFC over a clean, inert surface (e.g., Aluminum foil).





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#### 258 **3.3. Surrogate surface approaches**

A number of studies considered in this manuscript have utilized surrogate surface measurement approaches to provide a direct measurement of mercury to the Earth's surface. The designs of the various surrogate surfaces tend to favor the quantification of one form of mercury over the others, while not being able to totally rule out a contribution from one of the other forms. Intercomparison studies have suggested that the different approaches provide relatively consistent results (Marsik, 2009; Gustin et al., 2015), though care must be taken when interpreting surrogate surface results due to the differences in surrogate surface designs.

There are a variety of surrogate surface approaches that have been used to directly measure the dry deposition of mercury. The general classes of approaches can be categorized in the following manner: (a) water/solution-based surfaces, (b) filter-based surfaces, (c) membranebased surfaces and (d) turf-based surrogate surfaces. A brief discussion of each of these approaches is presented below.

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#### 273 a. Water/solution-based surfaces

275 Water- or solution-based surrogate surfaces have been used by a number of groups 276 (Sakata and Marumoto, 2005; Marsik et al., 2007; Lai et al., 2011) for the quantification of the 277 dry deposition of mercury. In general, these approaches deploy a given volume of ultra-pure 278 water in a reservoir that is part of an aerodynamic sampler design. Following a specified period 279 of deployment, the sample solutions are retrieved and the amount of mercury within the sample 280 solution is quantified. In most cases, the final results are "bias-corrected", meaning that the 281 average amount of mercury found in a subset of unexposed solutions is subtracted from the 282 exposed solution to obtain a net amount of mercury which is assumed to be due to that dry





deposited to the exposed solution. Some approaches utilize a static amount of solution which is deployed in a fixed reservoir within the sample holder (Marsik et al., 2007; Lai et al., 2011). Other water/solution-based systems approaches use a more dynamic approach for the measurement of the dry deposition of mercury and other species, in which the sample solution is continuously-circulated through the sampling apparatus, with the exposed surface area remaining constant through the sample period (e.g., Sakata and Marumoto, 2004).

In general, surrogate water surface approaches using "ultra-pure" water are considered to collect both GOM and PBM, with limited uptake expected from GEM due to the relatively insolubility of this latter species. In most cases, the resultant deposition flux of mercury (in picograms per square meter per hour) is determined by

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

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where  $Hg_{sample}$  is the amount of mercury in the sample solution,  $Hg_{Blank}$  is the amount of mercury in the sample blank, A is the exposed surface area of the solution and T is the length of time over which the sample was exposed to the ambient air.

It should be noted that some approaches use slightly acidified solutions for the purpose of "fixing" deposited mercury to avoid volatilization after deposition to the exposed solution. It is possible that such dilute-acid solutions may lead to an enhanced uptake of GEM due to the fixation of any GEM which may even temporarily become dissolved in the solution.

302 b. Filter-based surfaces

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304 A number of filter-based approaches have been used in the collection of mercury drydeposition (Lai et al., 2011). The general concept of this approach is that the three-dimensional 305 306 structure of the filters will lead to a capture of GOM and PBM. Like the water/solution-based 307 approaches, the filter surfaces are exposed for a given amount of time and then returned to the 308 analytical laboratory at the end of the sampler period, with subsequent quantification of the 309 amount of mercury deposited to the surface, followed by a bias-correction for the average 310 amount of mercury found in a subset of unexposed filters. As before, the mercury dry-deposition 311 flux is quantified as:

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

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where  $Hg_{sample}$  is the amount of mercury on the exposed sample filter,  $Hg_{Blank}$  is the amount of mercury on the sample filter blank, A is the exposed surface area of the filter and T is the length of time over which the sample was exposed to the ambient air.

While some of the filter-based approaches utilize the filter surfaces as received from the manufacturer, some approaches coat the filter surfaces either with a solution (that is subsequently allowed to dry) or, in some cases, with a fine film of gold. In these latter cases, the goal is to enhance the collection of GEM mercury that would otherwise be missed by the other filter-based approaches.

322 c. Membrane-based surfaces

One of the more recently developed approaches uses cation exchange membranes as the
exposed deposition surfaces (e.g., Lyman et al., 2007; Castro et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2013;





326 Huang and Gustin, 2015). These membranes have been designed to specifically favor the uptake 327 of GOM over either GEM or PBM, using the assumption that the deposition of mercury is 328 dominated by the former species. This class of filters is typically deployed facing downward, 329 which serves to reduce contamination by large particles and by precipitation. An example of one 330 such filter (Pall Corporation, P/N ICD45S3R) was employed by Lyman et al. (2007) and is 331 constructed out of negatively-charged polysulfane on one side, with a non-woven polyester 332 backing on the other. As before, the resultant deposition flux of mercury (in picograms per 333 square meter per hour) is determined by

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

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where  $Hg_{sample}$  is the amount of mercury on the exposed sample filter,  $Hg_{Blank}$  is the amount of mercury on the sample filter blank, A is the exposed surface area of the filter and T is the length of time over which the sample was exposed to the ambient air. The inverted sampler design employed with cation exchange membrane samplers protects the membranes from contamination by rainfall, thus allowing these samplers to be deployed for long periods of time and thus providing a long-term integrated measure of Hg dry deposition.

342 d. Turf Surrogate Samplers

Much in the way that cation-exchange membrane surfaces were developed in a way that protects them from contamination by rainfall, the turf surrogate samples (TSS) approach was developed to allow for dry deposition measurements to be performed in such a way that the samplers could remain deployed during both dry- and precipitating-periods (Marsik et al., 2009;





Lynam et al., 2015), thus allowing its application for long-term (days to week) quantification of 347 348 Hg dry deposition. In addition to reducing the amount of person-hours required to cover 349 surrogate surfaces in the advent of precipitation, this approach also sought to characterize dry-350 deposition to wetted surfaces which can occur following instances of dewfall or rainfall. TSS 351 utilize circular disks of artificial turf (e.g., polyethylene Astro Turf®, GrassWorx, LLC, St. 352 Louis, MO), which serve as three-dimensional deposition surfaces. The turf has approximately 2-353 cm high polyethylene "blades of grass" which are placed into a Teflon well-style insert (such as 354 that used in the surrogate water-based samplers noted above) that is part of an aerodynamic 355 airfoil. The backing of the turf has a lattice-like construction which allows precipitation to flow 356 through the turf surface into a "throughfall" sample bottle which is included as part of the sample 357 train.

For the period over which the TSS was exposed to ambient air, the estimated dry deposition of mercury is calculated as:

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

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where  $Hg flux_{TSS}$  is the flux of mercury to the TSS over the period of exposure,  $Hg flux_{TF}$  is the flux of mercury captured within the throughfall bottle and  $Hg flux_{WO}$  is the flux of mercury captured with a collocated wet-only precipitation sampler. In this case, the wet-only measurement is used to remove the wet-deposited mercury flux from the throughfall measurement, which would contain a combination of both wet- and dry-deposited mercury. All components of the TSS system are acid-cleaned prior to deployment, with field blanks collected





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

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

- of the measured flux.
- 371 **3.4. Litterfall and throughfall-based approaches**

372 There are several methods for collecting litterfall: manual sampling of leaves using gloves (Roulet et al., 1998; 1999; Kalicin et al., 2008; Michelazzo et al., 2010; Ding et al., 2011; 373 374 Juillerat et al., 2012; Obrist et al., 2011; 2012; Melendez-Perez et al., 2014; Jiskra et al., 2015); 375 nylon nets attached to aluminium frames placed a certain distance from the ground (Iverfeldt et 376 al., 1991; Munthe et al., 1995; Lee et al., 2000; Nóvoa-Muñoz et al., 2008; da Silva et al., 2009; 377 Wang et al., 2009; Fisher and Wolfe, 2012); litterfall traps/collectors (Rea et al., 1996; Grigal et 378 al., 2000; St. Louis et al., 2001; Johnson, 2002; Sheehan et al., 2006; Silva-Filho et al., 2006; 379 Bushey et al., 2008; Graydon et al., 2008; Larssen et al., 2008; Selvendiran et al., 2008; Fu et al., 380 2010a; Risch et al., 2012; Zhou et al., 2013); funnel and net combinations (Schwesig and 381 Matzner 2000; 2001); and the use of litterbags (Hall and St. Louis, 2004; Demers et al., 2007; Pokharel and Obrist, 2011). Fresh foliage was cut directly from trees and shrubs manually from 382 383 inside branches and outside branches (McLaughlin et al., 2008); from the crowns of the trees 384 (Mélières et al., 2003; Michelazzo et al., 2010; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b; Fostier et al., 385 2015; Luo et al., 2015); middle branches (Rasmussen et al., 1991; 1995; Rea et al., 2002; 386 Richardson and Friedland, 2015); lower tree branches (Michelazzo et al., 2010; Obrist et al., 387 2012; Gong et al., 2014; Hutnik et al., 2014; Fostier et al., 2015); or shot down with a pellet gun 388 (Bushey et al., 2008; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015a).

389

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





390 washed off during precipitation events. This Hg-enriched rain then lands on the surface and 391 becomes throughfall (Rea et al., 2000; 2001; Mélières et al., 2003; da Silva et al., 2009; Risch et 392 al., 2012). The Hg in the throughfall is then either adsorbed by the litter or forest floor or re-393 volatized (Demers et al., 2007). In addition to dry deposition to the leaf/needle surface, foliar leaching was thought to be a possible source of Hg in throughfall but was found to be negligible 394 395 (Rea et al., 2001). Throughfall Hg is calculated by multiplying the volume-mean-weighted Hg 396 concentration in throughfall by the total throughfall volume. In throughfall field studies, sampler 397 are collected weekly (Choi et al., 2008; Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Luo et al., 398 2015), bi-weekly (Kolka et al., 1999; Grigal et al., 2000; Schwesig and Matzner, 2000; Witt et 399 al., 2009; Åkerblom et al., 2015); monthly (Munthle et al., 1995; Fostier et al., 2000; Lee et al., 400 2000; Larssen et al., 2008); on an event basis (Rea et al., 2001; Demers et al., 2007; Kalicin et 401 al., 2008); or the funnels are covered during precipitation events to avoid contamination by dry 402 deposition of Hg on the funnels (Rea et al., 1996). Lengths of campaign measurements vary 403 between a single growing season (Munthe et al., 1995; Rea et al., 1996; 2001; Fostier et al., 404 2000) to up to a five-year period (Lee et al., 2000; Porvari and Verta, 2003), with the current 405 majority of throughfall studies having been for a one-year length (Larssen et al., 2008; Wang et 406 al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Fisher and Wolfe, 2012; Åkerblom et al., 2015; Blackwell and 407 Driscoll, 2015b; Luo et al., 2015).

## 408 4. Oxidized mercury flux measurements

Measurements of GEM flux have been reviewed in Zhu et al. (2016) so this section only
focuses on GOM and PBM. The majority of the dry deposition flux measurement campaigns for
GOM and PBM (88%) have used surrogate surface techniques, with 67% of them being at sites





412 in North America and 33% of them at sites in Asia. These measurement studies have included 413 several long-term campaigns of up to three years in length in both Asia (Sakata and Asakura, 414 2008; Fang et al., 2016; Han et al., 2016) and North America (Lyman et al., 2009; Castro et al., 415 2012; Peterson et al., 2012; Weiss-Penzias et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2013; 2014; Wright et al., 416 2014; Huang and Gustin, 2015). Dry deposition fluxes of GOM+PBM are the highest in Asia where median and mean values are 10.7 and 22.7  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>, with a range between 2.4 and 463 417  $\mu g m^{-2} yr^{-1}$ . In North America, the median and mean values are 6.1 and 30.8  $\mu g m^{-2} yr^{-1}$  with a 418 range between 0.26 and 520  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>. Long term studies have shown a stronger dependence on 419 420 GOM dry deposition (40-57%) to the total Hg deposition over arid regions, such as the Four 421 Corners and Nevada (Caldwell et al., 2006; Lyman et al., 2007; Sather et al., 2014) than in more 422 humid regions such as Texas and Oklahoma (5-27%) and Florida (Lyman et al., 2007; Marsik et 423 al., 2007; Peterson and Gustin, 2008; Weiss-Penzias et al., 2011; 2012; Sather et al., 2014). 424 Current knowledge on particle size distribution of PBM, although limited, has started to be 425 studied in more depth in recent years (Keeler et al., 1995; Ames et al., 1998; Feddersen et al., 426 2012; Kim et al., 2012). Although PBM mass distributes more in fine  $(PM_{2.5})$  than coarse 427 particles (>2.5  $\mu$ m), dry deposition from fine and coarse PBM are equally important due to the faster deposition velocity of coarse particles (Fang et al., 2012a). An increase in North American 428 429 PBM studies would be beneficial in further exploration of these trends. For a detailed summary of the measured dry deposition fluxes of GOM and PBM (ng m<sup>-2</sup> hr<sup>-1</sup>), as well as the measured 430 concentrations of GOM and PBM (pg m<sup>-3</sup>), see Table S3. 431

GOM and PBM concentrations and dry deposition fluxes have been observed to be up to
five times greater at urban and industrial sites due to the close proximity to, or downwind from,





434 point source emissions (Sakata and Marumoto, 2005; Liu et al., 2007; Sakata and Asakura, 2008; 435 Fang et al., 2012a; Huang et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2014) than at rural sites (Sakata and 436 Marumoto, 2005; Sakata and Asakura, 2008; Castro et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2014). GOM 437 concentration and dry deposition have shown positive correlations to wind speed (Lyman et al., 438 2010; Gustin et al., 2012; Sather et al., 2014; Huang and Gustin, 2015) and higher elevations 439 (Huang and Gustin, 2015). Diel trends in GOM and PBM have shown higher concentrations in 440 the morning and afternoon (Lindberg and Stratton, 1998; Poissant et al., 2004; Liu et al., 2007; 441 Peterson and Gustin, 2008; Lai et al., 2011; Weiss-Penzias et al., 2011; Gustin et al., 2012; Fang 442 et al., 2013; Fu et al., 2016) and then a decrease at night, potentially due to a reduction in 443 photochemical production of GOM at night (Weiss-Penzias et al., 2011) or due to nighttime 444 inversion (Huang and Gustin, 2015).

445 The seasonal changes in the fluxes depend on geography and site characteristics, where in 446 general, the fluctuations in the GOM and PBM dry deposition seasonal variations have been observed to be more pronounced in arid regions. Higher GOM deposition has been observed in 447 448 the spring due to GOM events and long-range transport (Liu et al., 2007; Lyman et al., 2009; 449 Weiss-Penzias et al., 2011; Castro et al., 2012; Gustin et al., 2012; Peterson et al., 2012; Sather et 450 al., 2013; Huang and Gustin, 2015; Han et al., 2016). At three sites in Taiwan, PBM 451 concentrations were highest in November and December and in the summer due to industry, such 452 as coal-fired power plants, and GOM events (Lindberg and Stratton, 1998; Fu et al., 2016). 453 Higher PBM has been measured in the winter due to increases in the winter in the use of 454 vehicles, biomass burning, electricity consumption such as home heating, or due to an 455 accumulation in PBM because of lower temperatures and solar radiation (Liu et al., 2007; Sakata





456 and Asakura, 2008; Fang et al., 2012a; Fu et al., 2016; Han et al., 2016).

457 There are some physical aspects of the various measurement techniques that have been 458 observed to affect measured values. The direction that the filter in the cation-exchange 459 membrane is facing can alter amount of deposited particles, with lower measured dry deposition 460 fluxes of GOM and PBM in downward facing membranes (Lyman et al., 2007; 2009; Weiss-461 Penzias et al., 2011; Gustin et al., 2012; Huang et al., 2012; Peterson et al., 2012; Sather et al., 462 2013; 2014; Huang and Gustin, 2015) than upward facing (Huang et al., 2012). In addition to 463 direction of the membrane, higher deposition rates have been observed for rectangular mounts 464 than aerodynamic mounts, possibly due to artificial turbulence created by the rectangular mounts 465 (Lyman et al., 2009). The length of deployment times for surrogate surfaces is under debate, with 466 recommendations that a minimum sampling time of two weeks be implemented at rural sites 467 (Huang et al., 2012; Huang and Gustin, 2015) and for passive samplers (Lyman et al., 2010). 468 Improvements and changes in sampling techniques continue. For example, the ICE 450 passive 469 sampler, used in several GOM studies (e.g. Castro et al., 2012; Huang et al., 2012; Sather et al., 470 2013; 2014), was replaced in July 2013 with the Mustang S passive sampler (Huang and Gustin, 471 2015), where fortunately no significant differences in the measurement results from the two 472 samplers have been observed (Huang and Gustin, 2015). Clearly, surrogate surfaces may differ significantly from the real-world natural surfaces, and choices of surrogate surfaces and 473 474 instrument setup can both affect the measured deposition values.

- 475 **5. Litterfall measurements**
- 476 Litterfall Hg represents Hg collected by and retained in leaves. It has been observed in477 recent years to be an important pathway for Hg input from the atmosphere to the floor of forest





478 ecosystems via plant litter. Litterfall is comprised of senesced leaves and needles, twigs, and 479 branches, and other plant tissues. Litterfall Hg can be transmitted to the soil as the litter 480 decomposes. Litterfall Hg is related to the concentration of Hg in the leaf litter (Rea et al., 1996; 481 Sheehan et al., 2006; Silva-Filho et al., 2006; Wang et al., 2009; Niu et al., 2011). Another 482 method for estimating litterfall Hg has been to multiply the Hg concentration in fresh foliage by 483 1.5 under the assumption that the Hg accumulates in the leaf linearly over an average six month 484 growing season (Fu et al., 2010b; Gong et al., 2014). Litterfall measurement campaigns have 485 ranged from the growing season (Rea et al., 1996; 2002; Fostier et al., 2003; Larssen et al., 2008; 486 Ding et al., 2011; Fisher and Wolfe, 2012) to long-term studies of a year (Schwesig and 487 Matzner, 2000; 2001; St. Louis et al., 2001; de Oliveira et al., 2006; Silva-Filho et al., 2006; 488 Sheehan et al., 2006; da Silva et al., 2009; Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; Teixeira et al., 489 2012; Zhou et al., 2013; Lang, 2014; Luo et al., 2015) to two years or more (Xiao et al., 1998; 490 Lee et al., 2000; Hall and St. Louis, 2004; Graydon et al., 2008; Selvendiran et al., 2008; Obrist 491 et al., 2011; Risch et al., 2012; Hutnik et al., 2014; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b; Richardson 492 and Friedland, 2015). A summary of available measurements of Hg concentrations in leaves and litter (ng  $g^{-1}$ ) and litterfall Hg ( $\mu g m^{-2} yr^{-1}$ ) is provided in Table S4. 493

Litterfall Hg measurements are highest in Asia, where the median and mean values (22.3 and 26.7  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively) are approximately two times higher than the measured litterfall Hg in Europe (12.8 and 14.2  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively) and North America (11.9 and 12.9  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively). Litterfall Hg range from 4.2 – 70.6  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> in Asia to 0.05 – 42  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> in Europe. In South America, litterfall Hg ranges between 43 and 184  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. Measurements of litterfall Hg in the Amazonian rainforest have been reviewed in





detail by Fostier et al. (2015). Atmospheric Hg concentrations affect the levels of Hg concentrations in foliage and leaf litter with higher litterfall Hg in urban forests than remote forests (Fostier et al., 2003; Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Gong et al., 2014); higher Hg concentrations in close proximity to degassing vents and during eruption activity of volcanoes (Martin et al., 2012); and higher Hg concentrations at intermediate altitudinal mountain zones (Szopka et al., 2011). In Europe, a decrease in litterfall Hg has been associated with the decrease in Hg emissions in recent years (Larssen et al., 2008).

507 Due to coniferous needles remaining on trees for longer periods than deciduous trees 508 (years vs. one season), needle litter tend to have higher Hg concentrations than leaf litter (Grigal 509 et al., 2000; Sheehan et al., 2006; Niu et al., 2011; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b; Fisher and 510 Wolfe, 2012; Obrist et al., 2012). This, however, does not translate directly to higher litterfall Hg 511 in coniferous forests due to the contribution from the higher mass of leaf litter than needle 512 litter.As a result, litterfall Hg in deciduous forests has been found to be higher than in coniferous forests (Schwesig and Matzner, 2000; Demers et al., 2007; Kalicin et al., 2008; Fisher and 513 514 Wolfe, 2012; Obrist et al., 2012; Richardson and Friedland, 2015).

515 Correlations between Hg concentrations and age of the foliage have been observed with 516 concentrations increasing with age (Barghigiani et al., 1991; Roulet et al., 1999; Ericksen et al., 517 2003; Larssen et al., 2008; Ding et al., 2011; Martin et al., 2012) and higher in litter than foliage 518 (Iverfeldt, 1991; Bushey et al., 2008; Michelazzo et al., 2010; Ding et al., 2011; Melendez-Perez 519 et al., 2014; Luo et al., 2015).

In Asia, annual litterfall Hg deposition can account for up to 75% of the total Hg input
fluxes to urban forests (Wang et al., 2009). The contribution of Hg from litterfall has been found





to be three times the amount from throughfall (Fu et al., 2010a) and anywhere from two times up 522 to 14 times the contribution from wet deposition (Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; Zhou et al., 523 524 2013). In Europe, litterfall Hg has been found to represent between 27% and 90% to the total 525 deposited Hg (Schwesig and Matzner, 2000; 2001; Jiskra et al., 2015), from equal to 1.5 times 526 the deposited throughfall Hg and two times the open-field precipitation (Iverfeldt et al., 1991; 527 Munthe et al., 1995; Lee et al., 2000). In the Amazonian rainforest, litterfall Hg has been 528 observed to be twice the contribution from wet deposition (da Silva et al., 2009) and more than 529 doubled during the dry season (Silva-Filho et al., 2006). In North America, some studies have 530 found contributions to the deposition flux from litterfall and throughfall equal (Iverfeldt et al., 531 1991; Rea et al., 1996; Grigal et al., 2000; Lee et al., 2000), whereas in other studies, litterfall 532 has contributed up to two times more Hg than throughfall (St. Louis et al., 2001; Johnson, 2002; 533 Fisher and Wolfe, 2012).

Median litterfall deposition of 12.3  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> accounted for 55% of the Hg deposition to 534 deciduous forest floors at 23 sites in eastern USA (Risch et al., 2012). In this study that spanned 535 15 states over three years, litterfall Hg ranged between 3.5 and 23.4  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>. Litterfall Hg was 536 found to be more correlated to the amount of litter collected (i.e. the sample catch) than Hg wet 537 deposition, with the highest median litterfall Hg deposition (14.7  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>) found in deciduous 538 forests. Mixed forests and coniferous forests had the same median litterfall Hg concentration 539 (38.6 ng g<sup>-1</sup>) but the mixed forest litterfall Hg was higher (9.3 vs. 7.0  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>) due to the 540 higher sample catch. Of the deciduous sites, oak-hickory forests had higher litterfall Hg than 541 542 maple-beech-birch forests and aspen-birch forests. Litterfall Hg deposition was more dependent 543 on the forest cover type than geographical region. Intraseasonal variations were observed with





544 higher litterfall Hg concentrations in the first autumn sampling than the second. Interannual 545 variations were observed for the sample catch but were not significant for litterfall Hg 546 concentrations.

## 547 **6. Throughfall measurements**

548 Factors that affect throughfall Hg deposition include: canopy type, with higher 549 concentrations in coniferous canopies than deciduous canopies due to a combination of higher 550 Hg scavenging efficiency in coniferous forests over deciduous forests and larger surface areas 551 (Kolka et al., 1999; Rea et al., 1996; Grigal et al., 2000; Schwesig and Matzner, 2000; 2001; 552 Johnson, 2002; Demers et al., 2007; Wang et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Fisher and 553 Wolfe, 2012; Åkerblom et al., 2015; Luo et al., 2015); canopy density, with Hg throughfall 554 concentrations increasing with canopy density (Grigal et al., 2000; Witt et al., 2009); 555 meteorology, with higher throughfall concentrations under drier conditions, resulting from 556 increased dry deposition to the foliage (Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b); and location, with higher 557 concentrations in regions with high atmospheric Hg emissions or close to point sources, such as 558 urban forests (Wang et al., 2009; Luo et al., 2015). A summary of available measurements Hg concentrations in throughfall (ng  $L^{-1}$ ) and throughfall Hg (µg  $m^{-2}$  yr<sup>-1</sup>) is provided in Table S5. 559

In Asia, median and mean throughfall Hg for this region are 56.5 and 47.1  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, with a range in the means between 10.5 and 71.3  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>. These median and mean are more than two to three times the European values (16.3 and 19.0  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> for the median and mean, respectively), where the range is between 12.0 and 40.1  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>. In North America, the median and mean values are the lowest at 7.0 and 9.3  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, with a range between 2.1 and 26.6  $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>. The only throughfall Hg measurement in South





America is an estimate of 72.0 µg m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> in the Brazilian Amazon (Fostier et al., 2000), which 566 has been suggested to be an overestimation. Without any other Amazonian throughfall studies, it 567 568 is not known whether this is a typical value for this rainforest or if the high value was related to 569 the monthly collection. In Asia and Europe, Hg contributions from throughfall are higher than from wet deposition, with throughfall ranging from approximately two to four times the wet 570 571 deposition (Munthe et al., 1995, Lee et al., 2000; Fu et al., 2010a; 2010b; Wang et al., 2009). In North America, the throughfall-precipitation ratio has been found to differ with forest type, 572 where based upon throughfall measurements, dry deposition was found to be less than wet 573 574 deposition in deciduous forests (Demers et al., 2007; Kalicin et al., 2008; Blackwell and Driscoll, 2015b) and greater than precipitation in coniferous forests (Demers et al., 2007; Kalicin et al., 575 576 2008; Witt et al., 2009) and over watersheds (Lindberg et al., 1994; Rea et al., 1996; 2001; 577 Grigal et al., 2000; Graydon et al., 2008).

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

The annual contributions to Hg deposition from wet deposition, throughfall, litterfall, and dry deposition ( $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>) are shown in Figure 1 for various sites in (a) Asia, (b) Europe, (c) North American deciduous forests, and (d) North American coniferous forests. In these figures, the wet deposition represents open-field wet deposition measurements, with the exception of the measurements at Whiteface Mountain, in the Adirondack Park, NY (Blackwell et al., 2015b), where the wet deposition at this site is from cloud water. The estimated dry deposition shown in this Figure is the sum of the litterfall Hg and throughfall Hg minus the wet deposited Hg.

586 In China, dry deposition accounted for between 25% up to 90% of the total Hg deposited 587 to subtropical forested catchments. Litterfall Hg was the dominant pathway in these forests





588 contributing between 53 and 90% of the dry deposition to these forests. In forested watersheds in 589 Germany, wet deposition played a stronger role, accounting for 78% of the total Hg deposition in 590 Steinkreuz and almost twice as much at Lehstenbach. At the other European sites, wet deposition 591 only represented between 9 and 45% of the total Hg deposition. At all of the European sites, 592 litterfall Hg was the dominant pathway at 64 to 98% of the dry deposited Hg, with the exception of Buskerud, Norway where wet deposition was not reported, preventing an accurate estimate of 593 594 dry deposition. In North America, the dry deposition of Hg ranged between 13 and 83% of the 595 total deposited Hg over deciduous forests and 15 and 70% over coniferous forests. Exceptions to 596 these values were at Whiteface Mountain, as mentioned above, where wet deposition is reported 597 as high elevation cloudwater Hg rather than open-field precipitation. The contributions from net 598 throughfall Hg (throughfall Hg – wet deposition) were higher in the coniferous forests than the 599 deciduous forests. In the deciduous forests, litterfall Hg accounted for between 46 and 95% of 600 total deposited Hg.

## 601 8. Summary and recommendations

602 The modelling of GOM and PBM dry deposition on regional and global scales using 603 various chemical transport models shows inconsistencies between the models, up to a factor of 604 ten in some cases, which are caused by differences in model simulated GOM and PBM 605 concentrations and in selected dry deposition algorithms. Recent analysis of large data sets of 606 speciated atmospheric mercury has provided some needed knowledge for improving these 607 models. However, measurement uncertainties in ambient GOM and PBM concentrations, and 608 the significant lack of measurements over the oceans, the Polar Regions, the Southern 609 Hemisphere, Europe, and Asia are inhibiting further evaluation of the models. Progress has been





made on the inferential estimation of speciated and total Hg dry deposition at monitoring sites or networks. GEM deposition to forest canopies is more important than previously assumed in chemical transport models. Further development of dry deposition algorithms, especially the bidirectional exchange for GEM, is still needed, but reliable Hg flux data is lacking in validating such models.

Surrogate surfaces are the current preferred method for measuring the dry deposition of 615 616 GOM and PBM, with a new turf surrogate surface showing promise in extending the length of 617 the sampling times to longer campaigns. Uncertainties in the measured GOM and PBM dry 618 deposition associated with the selected surrogate surfaces and instrument setup are larger than a 619 factor of two. Measurements of PBM dry deposition are very limited around the world due to the 620 challenges associated with making these measurements. Measured GOM and PBM dry 621 deposition are strongly correlated to emissions from local point sources due to their short lifetime 622 in air. GOM deposition can play a significant role in total Hg deposition, contributing to more 623 than half of Hg dry deposition in some regions, and having been found to be higher than wet 624 deposition in some arid regions and lower in more humid regions due to the high solubility of 625 GOM.

There has been a large increase in the number of field campaigns measuring litterfall and throughfall mercury in Asia, Europe, the Amazon, and North America. Generally, litterfall and throughfall Hg are higher in urban regions of Asia as a result of the high levels of atmospheric Hg in Asia, followed by remote regions in Asia, then Europe, and North America. As can be seen in North American field studies, litterfall Hg is more dominant than throughfall Hg over deciduous canopies due to the larger amounts of litter under these canopies, whereas throughfall





- 632 is the primary pathway for mercury deposition over coniferous canopies. Net throughfall Hg is
- 633 the throughfall Hg minus the precipitation. This deposition, combined with the deposition of
- 634 litterfall Hg is higher than the precipitation Hg over all canopies and regions. A combination of
- 635 litterfall, throughfall and open-field precipitation Hg measurements and a comparison with
- 636 modelled Hg dry deposition is an effective way of improving our understanding of the
- 637 mechanisms involved in these transfers.
- 638

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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  $\mu g m^{-2} yr^{-1}$ ).

	Asia		Europe		North America	
	Median, Mean	Range	Median, Mean	Range	Median, Mean	Range
Modelled GOM+PBM	34.5, 83.8	3.8-407	3.0, 3.8	0.1 – 17.5	2.6, 8.7	0.05 - 318
Measured GOM+PBM	10.7, 22.7	2.4 - 463			6.1, 30.8	0.26 - 520
Litterfall	22.3, 26.7	4.2 - 70.6	12.8, 14.2	0.05 - 42.0	11.9, 12.9	0.02 - 57.1
Throughfall	56.5, 47.1	10.5 - 71.3	16.3, 19.0	12 - 40.1	7.0, 9.3	2.1 - 26.6







**Figure 1:** Contributions to the mercury deposition flux (μg m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>) from wet deposition, throughfall Hg, litterfall Hg, and dry deposition in: (**a**.) Asia, (**b**.) Europe, (**c**.) North American deciduous forests, and (**d**.) 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))