

Continental Transport of Wildfire Smoke and Impact on Air Quality observed by ground-based and satellite sensors in New York



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Abstract

This study presents a synergistic observation of aloft aerosol plume, long-range transport and potential impacts on the local air quality by the ground-based and satellite sensors in New York City. Two episodes of smoke plumes transported from the NW US and Canada are investigated on June 22-23 and Sep.5, 2017. The time-height distribution of the plumes and their dispersion, subsidence and mixing process into the PBL are characterize from a combined ceilometer and lidar. The PM_{2.5} concentrations indicate coincident increase from 5- to 20~30 µg/m³ and good correlation (R=0.8) in the NYC urban and upwind rural area which implies the regional transport. At the upwind rural Pinnacle site, the PM2.5 and CO indicate consistent enhancement and strong correlation (R=0.85-0.93) which mean to the smoke-associated transport. The wildfires sources and smoke transport path are demonstrated from the satellite and HYSPLIT product

CCNY-lidar and co-located ground-based instruments

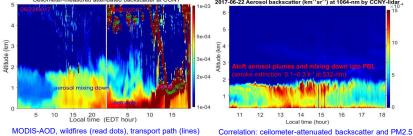
- 1. A three-wavelength Elastic-Raman Lidar: 2-3 day/week, daytime (10~17:00 LT)
 - + 1064-, 532-, 355-, 387- and 407-nm (3-elastic & 2-Raman ch. from N₂ & H₂O);
 - ◆ Profiling aerosol extinction, backscatter and Angstrom exp., lidar-ratio; PBLH & H₂O(night)
- 2. A Ceilometer (Vaisala-51 & 31): 24-hr/7-day automatic run.
- **♦**PBLH, near surface aerosols and cloud height up to 7.5 km altitude.
- 3. A CIMEL sunphotometer (SP) (AERONET-CCNY and LISCO sites)
- → AOD at 340~1020 nm, Angstrom exponent, water vapor content;
- → Inversion data (volume size distribution, refractive index, SSA).
- 4: Air quality monitoring station (NYSDEC): surface PM_{2.5}, O₃, CO.
- 5. Microwave radiometer (MWR-3000a, T, RH, liquid water)

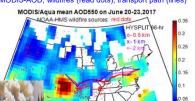




Smoke plumes transport and impacts on air quality

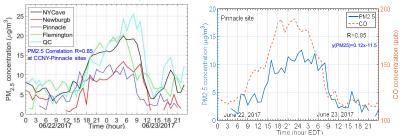
Episode-1: Aerosol plumes mixing down into PBL and transport from the west US





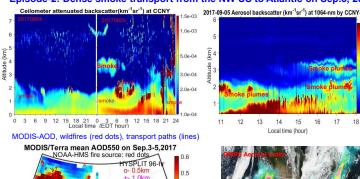
7=23796.33X-2.0 R= 0.92 montly RH <75% montly RH <7

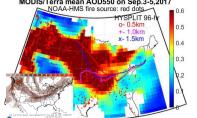
Coincident increase of ground PM2.5 and CO in NYC and upwind rural area

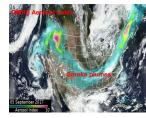


- Smoke transport and mix in the PBL observed from the ceilometer-lidar, originating from the wildfires in the west US
- Coincident increase of ground PM2.5 in NYC and upwind area (non-urban, Newburgh, Pinnacle, Flemington sites.
 Correlation at CCNY and Newburgh: R=0.85 indicating the regional transport.
- Increase of average PM2.5 in NYC from 5 μg/m³ to 20 μg/m³. Good corr. between the attenuated backscatter and PM2.5
 Consistent increase trend of PM2.5 with CO at Pinnacle site, strong correlation R=0.85 indicating the smoke-associated
- transport (PM2.5 vary from 3 to 12 µg/m³).

Episode-2: Dense smoke transport from the NW US to Atlantic on Sep.5, 2017







-co

Coincident increase of ground PM2.5 and CO in NYC and upwind area

30

CCNY

OC

PS19

PM2.5 R=0.81

15 at Urban-Flemington sites

Day in Sep.,2017

Conclusion

- Continental-scale transport of smoke plumes and mixing down PBL are observed from the ceilometer-lidar in NYC, they are originated from the wildfires in the NW US and/or SW Canada from the satellite/HYSPLIT data
- Ground PM2.5 show coincident increase in NYC (5 µg/m³ to 20-25 µg/m³) and upwind area (non-urban, Newburgh, Flemington, and Pinnacle (from 10 to 43 µg/m³)); the good correlation (R=0.81-0.85) of PM2.5 at CCNY and the upwind rural sites indicate the recipional transport.
- Ground PM2.5 and CO at Pinnacle site show consistent increase with the strong correlation R=.85-0.93, indicating the smoke-associated transport.