



Examining HSRL measurements of aerosol optical and microphysical properties and surface PM2.5 during the DISCOVER-AQ deployments

Richard Ferrare¹, Chris Hostetler¹, John Hair¹, Amy Jo Scarino, Sharon Burton¹, Dave Harper, Anthony Cook, Tim Berkoff, Shane Seaman, Ray Rogers, Mike Obland, Marta Fenn², Detlef Müller, Eduard Chemyakin, Bruce Anderson, Andreas Beyersdorf, Luke Ziemba

¹NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA USA
 ²SSAI, Hampton, VA USA
 ³NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD USA



Airborne HSRL-2 Aerosol Measurements





- NASA/LaRC King Air
- Flight altitude ~ 9 km
- Nadir pointing lidar
 HSRL Technique:
- Independently measures aerosol backscatter, extinction, and optical thickness

HSRL Aerosol Data Products:

- Backscatter coefficient (355, 532,1064 nm)
- Depolarization (355, 532, 1064nm)
- Extinction Coefficient (355,532nm)
- Optical Depth (AOD) (355,532nm)
- Aerosol Typing
- Mixed Layer (ML) Heights





AOT = $\int \alpha(z) dz$

AOT $\approx \alpha_{H}(\text{ambient RH}) \times H$

Assume: α_{SFC} (ambient RH) ~ α_{H} (ambient RH)

 α_{SFC} (ambient RH) = f(RH) x α_{SFC} (dry)

Assume: α_{SFC} (dry) ~ b_{sca} (dry)

bsca(dry) = SSC x PM2.5

AOT \approx f(RH) x SSC x H x PM_{2.5}

Where:

 α = aerosol extinction b_{sca} = aerosol scattering SSC = specific scattering coefficient f(RH) = aerosol humidification factor H = height of aerosol layer



What to use for H? PBL height (z_{PBL}) or height of maximum aerosol

gradient (z_{AG}) ?

Can we assume that surface extinction is about the same as the mean extinction in aerosol layer?

 α_{SFC} (ambient RH) ~ α_{H} (ambient RH) ?

How well is surface extinction related to $PM_{2.5}$? Can we estimate SSC? α_{SFC} (dry) ~ SSC x $PM_{2.5}$?

```
How well is AOT correlated with:
\alpha_{SFC} (ambient RH), \alpha_{SFC} (dry), PM<sub>2.5</sub>?
```







Aerosol Layer Height



We investigate the impact of layer height by examining the correlation between AOT and

We examine AOT / H vs. $\alpha_H(ambient RH) \bullet$ Where H = z_{PBL} and H = z_{AG}



Relationship between mean layer extinction and surface extinction



Average aerosol extinction (532 nm) in Aerosol Layer (km⁻¹)

- Surface extinction is well correlated with mean aerosol extinction in the layer
- Surface extinction is slightly lower than mean extinction in the layer in DC-Balt
 - HSRL data sometimes show increase in extinction with height in aerosol layer
 - This increase likely associated with higher RH near the top of the layer
- Surface extinction slightly higher than mean extinction in San Joaquin Valley due to higher RH near surface in some cases



Correlation between near-surface extinction and surface PM_{2.5} concentrations

- HSRL measurements of extinction near the surface were correlated with hourly surface $\text{PM}_{\rm 2.5}$ data
- Correlations performed using extinction at ambient RH as well as dry (RH=20%) extinction estimated using average humidification factors obtained from P3 in situ data



Correlation between near-surface extinction and surface PM_{2.5} concentrations

San Joaquin Valley

Ambient RH (%)

Denver

- HSRL measurements of extinction near the surface were correlated with hourly surface PM_{2.5} data
- PM_{2.5} correlated well with both ambient and dry aerosol extinction



Correlation between HSRL AOT and PM_{2.5}

- In some cases, surface PM_{2.5} can be inferred from measurements of AOT and height of the aerosol layer
- However, HSRL data show PM2.5 is better correlated with near surface extinction than AOT scaled by aerosol layer or PBL heights
- Correlations may improve with:
 - -higher temporal resolution surface $PM_{2.5}$ data
 - -use of individual f(RH, z) measurements rather than an average f(RH)

(HSRL AOT / PBL height) vs. PM 2.5 1.4 DC-Baltimore San Joaquin Valley 1.2 Houston 🔪 Denver AOT / PBL height (km⁻¹) 1.0 0.8 0.6 0.4 0.2 = 0.0914 + 0.0058*x; r² = 0.2024 0.0 0 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 10 20 $PM_{25} (\mu g/m^3)$

HSRL near-surface extinction (ambient RH) vs. PM 2.5

Median Aerosol Extinction Profiles

- DC-Baltimore had wide range of aerosol extinction values throughout lowest two kilometers
- San Joaquin Valley was unusual in that aerosols were confined to shallow layer near surface

150

150

200

200

- Highest aerosol extinction values found in San Joaquin Valley
- Median mixed layer heights for DC-Balt, Houston, Denver were around 1 km ± 0.5 km
- Mixed layer heights in San Joaquin Valley were generally at or below 0.5 km

Median Aerosol Optical Thickness Profiles

DAQ AOT fraction 532 nm all cases DAQ AOT fraction 532 nm all cases DAQ AOT fraction 532 nm all case DAQ AOT fraction 532 nm all 4.5 4.5 3.5 3.: Altitude (km AGL) Altitude (km AGL) 3 2.5 1.5 San Joaquin Valley 0.5 0.: **DC** - Baltimore 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 AOT (532 nm) below each altitude AOT (532 nm) below each altitude DAQ AOT fraction 532 nm all cases DAQ AOT fraction 532 nm all cases DAQ AOT fraction 532 nm all case DAQ AOT fraction 532 nm all cases 4.5 Altitude (km AGL) 3.5 Altitude (km AGL) 3 Denver Houston 1.: 1.5 0.5 0.50` 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.1 AOT (532 nm) below each altitude AOT (532 nm) below each altitude

- DC-Baltimore had largest median column AOT values
- Median AOT values in the later three campaign were comparable
- With exception of San Joaquin Valley, median profiles show that about only about 20-65% of AOT was within mixed layer; much of AOT was above mixed layer
- In San Joaquin Valley, most (>80%) of AOT was within mixed layer

HSRL-2 Multiwavelength Aerosol Retrievals

- HSRL-2 multiwavelength measurements of aerosol backscatter and extinction were used to retrieve fine mode aerosol volume concentration and effective radius (e.g. Müller et al., 2014) (see poster by Sawamura et al. for evaluation of these retrievals)
- In this example, these results show changes in particle size and concentration in SJV
- Sawamura et al. poster shows the retrievals compare reasonably well with corresponding values derived from P-3 in situ data

HSRL-2 Retrieval of PM_{2.5}

- HSRL-2 multiwavelength retrievals of fine mode volume concentration were used, along with an assumed particle density of 1.65 g/cm³, to derive PM_{2.5} concentrations
- The derived concentrations vary spatially and vertically throughout the SJV
- PM_{2.5} concentrations derived near the surface compare reasonably well with hourly values measured near the surface

Decrease in fine mode particle size due to decrease in RH

Morning

Madera City

- In his Fall 2013 AGU presentation, Tom Eck noted the decrease in AOT and fine mode size over the southern portion of DRAGON on Feb. 4
- This decrease occurred as fog processed and/or humidified aerosols transitioned to dried aerosol

Temporal and spatial variability in column average particle size

Column Average Reff (fine)

- Highest RH occurred over the southeastern portion (Porterville, Shafter) and this RH decreased with time
- Consequently, fine mode particle size was largest the southeastern portion and decreased with time Both HSRL-2 and AERONET found:
 - Decrease in fine mode effective radius associated with decrease in RH over the southeastern portion
 - No change in particle size over the northwestern portion where RH was lower

- Volume concentration, extinction, and lidar ratio also increased with high RH
- Extinction Angstrom exponent (355-532) decreased with RH as fine mode particle size increased

Extinction and Backscatter Angstrom exponents behave different as RH increases

Extra slides

HSRL-2 Aerosol Retrievals

- HSRL-2 multiwavelength measurements of aerosol backscatter and extinction were used to retrieve aerosol concentration and effective radius (e.g. Müller et al., 2014) (see poster by Sawamura et al. for evaluation of these retrievals)
- In this example, these results show changes in particle size and concentration in SJV

HSRL-2 Retrieval of PM_{2.5}

PM_{2.5} (μg/m³) (measured)

Median vertical variability of aerosol optical properties during DAQ missions

Estimation of PM_{2.5} from AOT: Questions addressed using HSRL data

What to use for H? PBL height (z_{PBL}) or height of maximum aerosol gradient (z_{AG}) ?

Can we assume that surface extinction is about the same as the mean extinction in aerosol layer?

 α_{SFC} (ambient RH) ~ α_{H} (ambient RH) ?

How well is surface extinction related to $PM_{2.5}$? Can we estimate SSC? α_{SFC} (dry) ~ SSC x $PM_{2.5}$?

How well is AOT correlated with: α_{SFC} (ambient RH), α_{SFC} (dry), PM_{2.5}? AOT = $\int \alpha(z) dz$

HSRL Mean Aerosol Extinction in PBL (km⁻¹)

Aerosol Layer Height

We examine AOT / H vs. α_H (ambient RH) Where H = z_{PBL} and H = z_{AG}

AOT/z_{AG} vs. mean extinction in

Aerosol Layer

AOT / Aerosol Layer Height (km⁻¹)

0.5

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1

0.0

0.00

1.0

AOT / PBL height (km⁻¹) 70 90 80 80 80

0.0

- We investigate the impact of layer height by examining the correlation between AOT and mean extinction within PBL and aerosol layer
- Height of the maximum aerosol gradient (aka aerosol layer) is a better measure of scale height than PBL height (but not the best)

Relationship between mean layer extinction and surface extinction

- Surface extinction is well correlated with mean aerosol extinction in the layer
- Surface extinction is generally lower than mean extinction in the layer
 - HSRL data often show increase in extinction with height in aerosol layer
 - This increase likely associated with higher RH near the top of the layer

Correlation between near-surface extinction and surface $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations

- HSRL measurements of extinction near the surface were correlated with hourly surface PM_{2.5} data from four stations (Beltsville, Fairhill, Edgewood, UMBC)
- Average humidification factor was obtained from P3 in situ data
- Correlations would likely improve with higher temporal resolution surface $PM_{2.5}$ data

(recall from Hoff et al. Nov. 3 presentation SSC from surface BAM = 3.2 ± 1.3 m²/g)

where:

α = aerosol extinction
 SSC = specific scattering coefficient
 f(RH) = humidification factor

- Surface PM_{2.5} can be inferred from measurements of AOT and height of the aerosol layer
- Highest correlation between HSRL AOT scaled by height of aerosol layer and HSRL near-surface extinction
- Correlations would likely improve with:
 - -higher temporal resolution surface $\text{PM}_{\rm 2.5}$ data
 - -use of individual f(RH, z) measurements rather than an average f(RH)

(HSRL AOT / aerosol layer height) vs. PM 2.5

80<RH<90 RH>90 Slope = 0.0076 (m²/g x 0.001)

Intercept = -0.0012 (km⁻¹)

50

60

0.04

0.00

0.08

0.12

HSRL Near-Surface Extinction (dry) (km⁻¹)

0.16

0.20

0.24

40

0.6

0.5

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1

0.0

0

RH<40</p>

40<RH<60

10

20

60<RH<70

70<RH<80

HSRL AOT / height of aerosol layer (km⁻¹)

30 PM 2.5 (ug/m³)

r = 0.7

Impact of High Relative Humidity Feb. 4, 2013

February 4 - Morning and Afternoon

- Aerosols more stratified during the morning
- Over southeastern portion (Porterville, Bakersfield) AOT 2 to 3 times higher in the morning than during the afternoon <u>due to higher RH</u>
- Higher AOT values along eastern leg

AOT = $\int \alpha(z) dz$

H = height of aerosol layer

AOT

AOT $\approx \alpha_{H}$ (ambient RH) x H Assume: α_{SFC} (ambient RH) ~ α_{H} (ambient RH) α_{SFC} (ambient RH) = f(RH) x α_{SFC} (dry) Assume: α_{SFC} (dry) ~ b_{sca} (dry) $b_{sca}(dry) = SSC \times PM_{2.5}$ AOT ≈ f(RH) x SSC x H x PM2.5 Where: α = aerosol extinction b_{sca} = aerosol scattering SSC = specific scattering coefficient f(RH) = aerosol humidification factor

Aerosol humidification can impact ability to infer PM2.5 from AOT

Large decrease in RH over Porterville decreases correlation between $PM_{2.5}$ and AOT

Temporal and spatial variability in column average particle size

- Large changes in RH occurred over the southeastern portion (Porterville, Shafter)
- Little or no change in RH over the northwestern portion (Tranguility)
- Consequently, changes in fine mode particle size were found over the southeastern portion
- Both HSRL-2 and AERONET found:
 - Increase in column aerosol extinction Angström exponent and decrease in fine mode effective radius associated with the decrease in RH over the southeastern portion
 - No change in particle size over the northwestern portion where RH was lower

HSRL-2 reveals temporal, horizontal, and vertical variability in extinction Angström exponent

- Morning Low extinction Angstrom exponent over southeastern portion (Porterville, Bakersfield)
- Afternoon Increase in extinction Ansgtröm exponent over southeast as RH decreased
- Northwestern portion (Tranquility) consistently high values of extinction Angström exponent associated with lower RH

HSRL-2 reveals temporal, horizontal, and vertical variability in fine mode effective radius

- Morning Larger fine mode aerosols over southeastern portion (Porterville, Bakersfield)
- Afternoon Decrease in fine mode particle size over southeast as RH decreased
- Northwestern portion (Tranquility) consistently smaller fine mode particles associated with lower RH

