

Dust size measurements over Austral Ocean, Xiamen 2-9 march 2007

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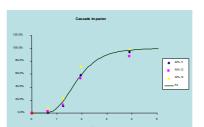
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Abstract: Measurements of dust over remote oceanic regions of the South Hemisphere is still a difficult task because of very low atmospheric load, but is useful to compute dust deposition and nutrient input to the global ocean. Here we present results from a measurement campaign around Kerguelen Region in the Austral Ocean (60%, 70%) during January and February 2005. Aerosol samples were taken on the French Marion Dufresne' research vessel during the KEOPS cruise using a specially designed system to prevent on board contamination. Four samples were simultaneously collected on filters for further laboratory analyses and a particle counter was running continuously. One filter was used for single particle analyses with TEM (transmission electronic microscopy) coupled with chemical analysis, and the other was analyzed by X-Ray fluorescence (XRF) for bulk chemical composition determination. At the same time, a bulk filter and a cascade impactor sampling systems were operated on the Kerguelen Island 12 km West of the French base "Port aux Français" during the KEPHIREN campaign. Analyses were also performed using XRF. Measured concentration of crustal dust, including Al and Fe, was the same at both sampling sites. Size distribution determined by cascade impactor and microscopy were also he same showing a single mode with a median diameter between 1 and 2 µm, as well as the thin mode measured by the particle counter. Among the measured elements, only sulphur exhibits a submircronic mode. Large particles of sea salf were recorded on the ship, but not at the ground based station situated at 270 m above the mean sea level. The average total amount of dust measured (~50 ng/m3) was much lower than simulated by models.



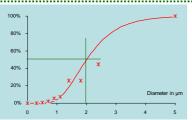


Sampling site and location at Kerguelen

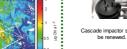
Mass size distribution of Al in cascade impactors sampled at Kerguelen Island. I1 is 25/01/2005 to 29/01/2005; 12 is 29/01/2005 to 06/02/2005 and I3 is 08/02/2005 to 12/02/2005.

Lognormal fit is obtained with a median value of 1.8 um and a standard deviation of 0.4 µm













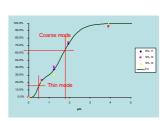


Fit has a median diameter of 2um and a standard deviation of 40%

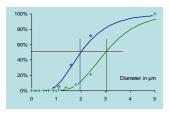
Mass size distribution of detected clay minerals obtained with Transmission Electronic Microscopy measurements during the KEOPS and BIOSOPE cruise. To compute the mass size distribution, particles were assumed ellipsoidal with a density of 2.5 g/cm³. Dots are experimental values, line are lognormal fit. Except the sample collected close to the Chilian coast (BIOSOPE, green), both BIOSOPE and KEOPS size distributions are quite similar.

Comparisons with BIOSOPE cruise (november 2004)

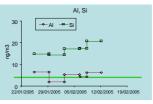


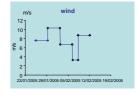


Sulfur size distribution shows two lognormal modes: the first (thin mode) is centered on 0.5 µm with a standard deviation of 40% and weight 30%. The second (coarse mode) is centered on 1.8 µm with a standard deviation of 30% and weight 70%.







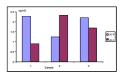


Details of inside the protective box. Wind is continuously monitored and in case of wrong direction (out of a 120° fi sector), pumping is stopped and clean air is blowed arou the sampling filters through an EPA 99.999% filter.



During both KEOPS and BIOSOPE cruise, filters are colected on board on 4 parallel devices enclosed a protective box. One is mounted with Nucleopro** polycarbonate membrane filter and a second with Zefflor** [PIER** Tefflor** filter. Pars of each collected filter is deposited on a copper grid, gold metalisa and the polycarbonate dissolved with chloroform. TEM analyses are performed on a JEOL 100 CXII microscope quipped with micro analyze. Particles are measured in size and if recognized as non sea salt, analyzed with the micro-probe. All non sea-salt particles seen are clay minerals with a very close relative response of major elements (A), SI, Fe) to the micro analyze. Mass conversion was done assuming some hypothesis on the average shape and density of the particles.

The Telfon filter was analyzed in aluminum and sulfur by X-Ray fluorescence (Phillips Pan-Analytical 2440). Bulk aluminum measurement are in good agreement with aluminum calculated from TEM size distribution counting assuring a 7% mass ratio of the element.



Conclusions: During the austral summer 2004-2005, the particles observed over the South Pacific and Austral Ocean are sea salt (almost only), thin sulfur or long range transported clay minerals with a size distribution centered around 1.8-2 µm.

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