



New particle formation events in the Siberian boreal zone

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One of the main problems relating to climate radiative forcing is associated with a low level of understanding of indirect effect of tropospheric aerosols. This problem is also complicated by a poor predictability of nucleation and new particle formation (NPF) events. The number concentration of newly formed particles in turn can increase the number of cloud condensation nuclei. It is known that nucleation is widely observed over forested regions (Mäkelä et al., 1997; Dal Maso et al., 2002, 2008). Siberia occupies the vast forested areas of the Northern Eurasia, but only a few literature data on ultrafine aerosol particles and their size distribution are available for this region (Bashurova et al., 1992; Koutsenogii and Jaenicke, 1994; Koutsenogii, 1997). The most detailed data on new particle formation and growth in the troposphere over Siberian forests were reported by Dal Maso et al. (2008).

In 2010, we started to carry out continuous measurements of atmospheric aerosols in a wide range of sizes in order to fill up this gap in data. Two devices are used for aerosol measurements. An automated diffusion battery (Ankilov et al., 2002a, 2002b) coupled with a TSI (TSI Inc., USA) Model 3781 Water-based Condensation Particle Counter (WCPC) measures the size distribution of aerosol nanoparticles in the size range of 3–200 nm and total number concentration of particles as well. The inversion algorithm of the ADB data to particle size distribution was developed by Eremenko and Ankilov (1995). When calculating size spectra the counting efficiency of ultrafine particles of the Model 3781 WCPC is taken into account. The GRIMM (Grimm Aerosol Technik GmbH & Co. KG, Germany) Model 1.109 Aerosol Spectrometer is used to detect and count aerosol particles in 31 size ranges from 0.25 to 32 μm .

One-year monitoring nearby Tomsk showed that new particle formation events in Siberia were more often observed during spring (from March to May) and autumn (secondary frequency peak in September). The most strong nucleation bursts occurred in April. The observed seasonal pattern of event frequencies is similar to one observed in Hyytiälä (Kulama et al., 2001). This fact reflects the similarity in the new particle formation processes occurred in the boreal forests of Sothern Finland and West Siberia. The highest formation and growth rates of ultrafine particles measured in Siberia reached values of 2.3 $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$ and $\approx 25 \text{ nm h}^{-1}$ (in April) and 1.1 $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$ and $\approx 9 \text{ nm h}^{-1}$ (in September), respectively.

This work was funded by Presidium of RAS (Program No 4), Brunch of Geology, Geophysics and Mining Sciences of RAS (Program No 5), Russian Foundation for Basic Research (grants No 11-05-00470 and 11-05-00516), and Ministry of Education and Science of Russia (State Contracts No 02.740.11.0674 and 14.740.11.0204).

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