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ABSTRACT

This study presents novel information **on the spatial and temporal variability of** sub-10µm (PM₁₀), fine (PM_{2.5}) and submicron (PM₁) particulate matter fractions in Cyprus based on measurements performed at urban, industrial and background environments. Notably, the multiannual (1998-2015) PM₁₀ average of 28.7±5.0 μg m⁻³ observed at the regional background site Cyprus Atmospheric Observatory (CAO or AGM_{BGR}) in Cyprus, is higher than the majority of rural sites in central and northern Europe and the west Mediterranean basin. CAO is a member of the **ACTRIS** (European Research Infrastructure for the observation of Aerosol, Clouds, and Trace gases) and the EMEP (European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme) networks. Our data show that dust emanating from regional transport from eastern Asia and Northern Africa is responsible for a significant part, equal to 33.6 \pm 5.2% (or about 10 µg m⁻³) of the annual PM₁₀ reported values. At CAO, significant decreasing trends of 0.7 μ g m⁻³ y⁻¹ have been observed for the PM₁₀ (1998-2015) and PM_{2.5} (2006-2015) fractions indicating contribution from both natural and anthropogenic sources to this tendency. On average, around 40% of the observed PM₁₀ levels at the urban and industrial locations is estimated to originate from local anthropogenic and/or natural emissions. These localized emissions are almost equally distributed in the fine and coarse fractions. The above results highlight significant emissions from both fine mode (e.g. residential heating and traffic) and coarse mode urban emissions (e.g. dust resuspension, wear and tear in brakes and tires, respectively) in urban and industrial locations in Cyprus.

GOAL OF THE STUDY

The goal of the study is:

- a) To acquire new information on the **spatial** and temporal variability of PM concentrations over Cyprus
- b) To **identify trends** in PM variability in Cyprus
- c) To quantify the contribution of the **local** and **regional** sources on the observed PM daily and annual exceedances.



BACKGROUND PM CONCENTRATIONS AND TRENDS

- \Box The average PM₁₀ concentration at Agia Marina for the eighteen years (1998-2015) of observations was 28.2±5.0 µg
- \Box If the entire period under investigation is considered (1998- %2015) the average annual PM₁₀ at CAO is higher than the $\frac{1}{20}$ majority of rural sites in central and northern Europe (Barmpadimos et al., 2012; Putaud et al., 2010) and the west Mediterranean basin (Querol, et al., 2009a).
- **On a regional level,** CAO Cyprus **exhibited approximately the** same PM₁₀ levels with the remote site Finokalia in Crete, Greece located west of (28-31 μ g m⁻³ for 2001-2006; E Gerasopoulos et al., 2006; 2007; Querol et al., 2009a), and $\exists 30^{-1}$ the rural site Erdemli in Turkey, located north of Cyprus, 🔆 20higher (36 μg m⁻³ for 2001-2002; Koçak et al., 2007).
- □ Higher levels have also been reported for rural sites in western Saudi Arabia (95±78 µg m⁻³; Lihavainen et al., 2016) and background sites outside of Cairo for the period 1998-2007 (ranging between 120-150 μg m⁻³; Safar and Labib, 2010).
- □ These results are consistent with Querol et al. (2009a) that reported a positive gradient in the Mediterranean from west to east.



Years At CAO/AGM_{BGR} (bottom inner panel), significant decreasing trends of **0.7 μg m⁻³ y⁻¹** have been observed for the sub-10 μ m (PM₁₀: 1998-2015, top panel) and fine (PM_{2.5}: 2006-2015, bottom panel) particulate matter fractions indicating contribution from both natural and anthropogenic sources to this tendency.







- concentrations (blue line)

moderate fine and coarse PM fractions at Agia Marina (background) and Nicosia (Urban), respectively.

Nicosia are in the coarse $(PM_{2.5-10})$ mode from dust re-suspension.

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