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Monterey, California. Naval Postgraduate School

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OFFSHORE TRANSPORT AND DIFFUSION IN THE LOS ANGELES BIGHT - II, NPS DATA SUMMARY G.E. Schacher, K.L. Davidson '/ and C.A. Leonard D.E. Spiel and C.W. Fairall Environmental Physics Group Naval Postgraduate School Monterey, California

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I. Introduction

During January of 1981 the Environmental Physics Group of the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) and Aerovironment, Inc. conducted the second of two transport and dispersion experiments in the Santa Barbara Channel area of the California coast. The purpose of these operations was to perform offshore tracer experiments in order to parameterize dispersion models that are in current use and to build a data base for future model development. The purpose of this and the previous data report is to present the pertinent meteorological and source data for use by those who will be involved in the modeling effort. In the previous report only the basic data, reduced to engineering units, was presented. This report presents the second operations data in the same format and, in addition, includes mixed layer parameters for both operations. Application of these results to the models will be the subject of a future joint report by Aerovironment and NPS. A great deal of the discussion of the data in this report is the same as the first report and is included for the sake of completeness.

Although the data gathered in this experiment has much wider application, it was collected for the specific purpose of parameterizing models that will be used to assess the onshore impact of offshore oil exploration

and production sites. Such impact currently has great importance since many coastal areas are near the legal air pollution limit and any significant additional loading could push them over the limit. Air pollution models in current use have not been adequately validated for the overwater regime. The results of this study should remedy the inadequacy of the models.

During the tracer experiments SF_6 gas was released from the ship RV/Acania and tracked by an aircraft, a small boat, and one mobile and fixed stations on shore. Meteorological data was gathered on the ship and on the shore. This report contains shipboard meteorological data and gas source strength. Shore meteorological data and tracer results can be found in a report by Aerovironment.

II. Ship Operation Scenario

Since the impact of offshore sources on the shore is the purpose of these investigations the experiments must be performed during periods of onshore winds. These winds must be of a fairly long duration since it takes a minimum of 6 hours to gather enough data during any one experiment. The preliminary decision to release the tracer gas on any given day must be made on the previous day due to the time needed to prepare all of the sampling sites. Thus, the following schedule was used.

All Days

- 0800-1200-2000: radio shipboard meteorological data to shore.
- 2. 1000: Shore obtains weather forecast from Point Mugu.
- 1200: shore command center makes a go/no-go decision for a release on the following day.

Release Day

- 4. 0700: begin hourly wind reports to shore.
- 5. 1000: decision on release made by ship-shore communication, final decision made on shore.
- 6. Final positioning of ship.
- 7. 1100: start tracer gas release.
- 1800: end tracer gas release and hourly wind reports.

Due to the variability of the wind during the period it was normally not possible to start the release by 1100.

Because of difficulty in moving the shore stations, targeting of the plume was accomplished by moving the ship. This had to be done before the release was begun because moving the ship would introduce wander into the plume trajectory and contaminate the results. In order to hold the ship stationary to the degree needed it was anchored during a release.

Significant Events:

At times, the ship was peforming tasks not directly associated with this study or was in port. As an aid in interpreting the data we list times of "significant shipboard events" in Table 1.

1/5	0940	Underway from Monterey
1/6	1250	Arrive off Ventura
1/9	1820	Underway for Port Hueneme
	1955	Dock
1/13	0500	Underway
	0610	Arrive at operation area
1/15	1723	Underway for Port Hueneme
		operation completed

Table 1 - Significant Shipboard Events

III. Shipboard Equipment

We give here a brief description of the meteorological measurements that were made on the ship. Details of the equipment and calibration procedures can be found in a previous report. Two meteorological stations at heights of 7 m and 20.5 m above mean sea level were used. At each level the following parameters were measured:

relative wind speed

relative wind direction (upper level only)

air temperature

dew point

wind speed fluctuation

The following parameters were also measured:

sea surface temperature

ship roll

ship location

inversion height

temperature and humidity profiles to 5,000 ft. sky cloud cover

The temperature and humidity profiles were obtained by shipboard radiosonde launch and were taken every 12 hours. The temperature inversion height was determined by an acoustic sounder which gave a continuous strip chart record. Most data listed above was averaged for one half hour intervals. The exceptions were relative wind direction and ships roll. For both, 10 sec averages were obtained and recorded for the full period of a gas release.

IV. Tracer Release Data

Four separate experiments were performed. For each the gas was released through the exhaust of one of the ship's motor generator sets. The exhaust is inclined at an angle of 45° above the horizontal. The motor is a 2 cycle diesel so exhaust flow rate is obtained by multiplying 2/3 times the displacement times the revolutions per minute. The pertinent exhaust outlet data to characterize plum rise are:

rpm	displacement (Cu in)	Stack Temp. (°F)	Flow Rate (cu in/sec)	Diameter (in)
1500	426	250	7.13x10 ³	4.5

Table 2. Characteristics of exhaust used during tracer gas releases.

For a release, 4 tanks of SF_6 were connected to a single manifold. The manifold has a pressure gauge and two rotometers, one supplied by the manufacturer and one calibrated and supplied by Aerovironment. The second meter was used to set the flow rate the first to monitor it since it was less subject to fluctuations. The gas pressure to the rotometers was maintained at 25 lbs/in.

Using the data found in Table 4 the flow rates for the four releases were

Release	1	48.35	lbs/hr
Release	2	48.06	lbs/hr
Release	3	44.45	lbs/hr
Release	4	46.21	lbs/hr

During the releases the ship was anchored approximately 5 Nmi SWW of Ventura. As stated above the releases started at approximately 1100 and ended at approximately 1800. The exact times and locations are given in Table 3.

Release	Date	Latitude	Longitude	<u>Start Time</u>	End Time
1	1/6	34°15.0'N	119°20.0'W	1322	1800
2	1/9	34°14.4'N	119°20.3'W	1123	1800
3	1/13	34°14.4'N	119°20.3'W	1134	1702
4	1/15	34°11.4'N	119°19.4'W	1406	1700

Table 3. Exact locations and start and end times for each release. Times are local, Pacific Daylight Time.

Bottle Number	Initial Weight (lbs)	Release 1	Release 2	Weight after <u>Release 3</u>	<u>Release 4</u>
8	252				186
9	256				188
10	259	148			
11	252	139			
12	251		140		
13	254		142		
14	252		157		
15	260			185	
16	278			185	
17	250			175	
Total	Weight	224	318	243	134
Total Time	Release	4:38	6:37	5:28	2:54

Table 4. SF₆ bottle weights before and after the four releases. The total times for each release and the total weights of SF₆ used are also given.

V. <u>Wind Histories</u>

Hourly average wind histories taken aboard the RV/Acania are shown in Figures 1. The winds were recorded at least every hour and every half hour immediately before and during each release. These visual presentations were kept up to date on the ship and aided in the go/no-go decisions on release days.

If one compares these histories with those for the first operation during September 1980, it is immediately apparent that the wind was much less predictable during January. During the fall a well established land-sea breeze cycle existed. During the winter the sea breeze during the afternoon was not at all reliable in magnitude nor direction and, on some days, never became established at all.





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VI. Radiosonde Results

Radiosondes were released from the ship twice in each 24-hour period, generally at 0700 and 1900 PDT. Releases were made and interpreted by a Navy radiosonde team. Temperature and humidity were determined at standard levels and significant points. Since we are interested in the detailed structure of the boundary layer such a treatment is too coarse. Thus, the original strip chart output and the met team determined calibration points were used to construct fine scale graphs, which are presented in Figures 2.

There are two apparent sources of error in these radiosonde results. The lowest height reading, which is obtained at the ship, is subject to ships influence and should not be used. Thus, it is not possible to use the radiosonde to determine properties of the surface layer. The radiosonde humidity system was not capable of measuring a relative humidity below 20%. This is especially apparent in Figure 2i.


































VII. Acoustic Sounder Results

The acoustic sounder was operated continuously throughout the cruise and Figures 3 are photographs of the strip chart output. As can be seen there was very seldom a well defined return that would allow one to easily determine the boundary layer depth. In Table 5 we list the heights of detectable acoustic returns. In many cases the returns were so weak that one is not certain if they indicate the height of the base of the inversion. Also listed in the table are the heights of the base and top of the temperature inversion as determined from the radisondes. These are designated with an R in the table. The radiosonde determined heights are listed as an aid since it is very difficult to determine the boundary layer depth from sounder data alone for these cases. Figure 3a

.



Figure 3b





Table 5. Heights of acoustic echo return from the acoustic sounder. Also listed, and designated with an R, are the heights of the base and top of the temperature inversion as determined from the radiosondes.

DATE	TIME	Z(m)		DATE	TIME	Z(m)	
1/6	1230	120		1/8	1936	R 32	0-600
	1300	140	a second		2000	330	
	1330	140			2100	320	
	1400	160			2200	320	
	1700	180			2230	240	
	1730	180			2300	270	
	1800	240			2330	360	
	1830	160				1	
	1900	300		1/9	0430	200	
	1930	280			0500	190	
		R 0-2	00		0530	200	300
	2000	300 1			0600	200	300
the second s	2030	200			0630	160	240
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		-			0800	160	
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	1130				1230	$\frac{120}{140}$	
	1200				1/20	$-\frac{1}{100}$	
	1220	-100	180	-	1520	$-\frac{100}{260}$	
	1200	$-\frac{100}{200}$			1600	200	
	1500			-	1620	$\frac{300}{110}$	200
the state of the second se	1500	$-\frac{200}{360}$ -			1700	$\frac{140}{180}$	2/10
	1500	200	in the second		1720	$-\frac{100}{200}$	
	$\frac{1000}{1720}$	$-\frac{200}{160}$ -		-	1800	$-\frac{300}{260}$	
	1120	$-\frac{100}{120}$	650		1000	$\frac{200}{P00.16}$	0 220 200
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					0330	250	
1/8	0030				0400	200	
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	0130	$-\frac{240}{100}$ -			0500	$-\frac{220}{100}$	
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	0400				1900	120	
	0530	260			1930	100	
<u> </u>	0830				2000	140	
	0845	R70-160,5	560-900			R 15	0-350

DATE	TIME	<u>Z(m)</u>		DATE	TIME	Z(m)	
1/13	2030	160		1/15	1200	120	*
	2100	200			1230	160	
[2130	180 -			1300	200	
	2330	180 -			1530	$-\frac{1}{100}$	
[1				$\frac{1500}{1600}$		
1/14	0130	-100			1630	$-\frac{350}{260}$	
	-0200-	180			$\frac{1050}{1700}$	$-\frac{200}{150}$	
	0230	$-\frac{100}{180}$ -			$\frac{1700}{2018}$	$\frac{150}{P}$ Nore	
	- 0200	$-\frac{100}{160}$ -			010	<u>R NOLE</u>	
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	0400	-100		1/10	0045	$-\frac{R}{5}$ 400	0-620
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	0030	$\frac{160}{1}$			1130	400	
	0823	R 30-4	20		1330		
	1000	200			2005	<u>R 480</u>	0-700
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	1130	160			2230	160	260
	1200	100			2300	100	
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	0930	140		1			

VIII. Meteorological Data

Table 6 presents the basic meteorological data and calculated parameters. Only data taken during the tracer gas release periods are included. Wind speed, relative humidity, and air temperature values are those measured at the upper level (20.5 m). All calculated parameters were determined using the bulk aerodynamic method.

The boundary layer mixing rate and mixing height depend on the boundary layer depth, Z_i . We have already mentioned the difficulty in determining the depth for these data. We have used a combination of the radisonde data and the acoustic sounder data to find Z_i , and, unless a radiosonde was launched close to the time of interest, the value used was only an estimate. Thus, most of the mixing rate values, w*, and the mixing times, t, are suspect.

Table 6. Meteorological Data

BLM II-81 Release #1

Date/Time	U (m/sec)	RH (%)	Т (С)	Ts (C)	Zi (m)	U* (m/sec)	т* (С)	10†3*Qo (m/secK)	z/L	w* (m/sec)	t (min)
01/06 1355 01/06 1425 01/06 1455 01/06 1542 01/06 1612 01/06 1642 01/06 1712 01/06 1742 01/06 1812	5.6 5.3 4.3 2.6 5.4 4.7 5.3 4.5 4.8	66 66 60 64 53 58 61 61 52	16.7 16.8 17.3 17.1 17.7 17.3 17.1 17.2 18.0	15.6 15.7 15.8 15.7 15.6 15.6 15.6 15.6	160 160 160 160 170 170 180 180 180	0.175 0.163 0.118 0.057 0.157 0.132 0.159 0.128 0.137	$\begin{array}{r} -0.039 \\ -0.041 \\ -0.051 \\ -0.036 \\ -0.056 \\ -0.056 \\ -0.051 \\ -0.050 \\ -0.064 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} -18.6 \\ -21.5 \\ -30.6 \\ -19.6 \\ -42.2 \\ -34.1 \\ -29.4 \\ -30.5 \\ -42.2 \end{array} $	7.40E-02 9.79E-02 2.65E-01 7.39E-01 2.05E-01 2.35E-01 1.40E-01 2.24E-01 2.72E-01	0.3 0.3 0.2 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.3 0.4	8.0 8.0 8.3 11.9 7.2 8.1 8.2 8.8 7.4
01/06 1842 01/06 1912 01/06 1942	3.7 2.7 1.6	66 69 55	16.7 16.5 16.0	15.5 15.5 15.4	160 140 140	0.101 0.066 0.053	-0.041 -0.032 -0.015	-22.5 -16.9 18.7	2.65E-01 4.74E-01 -7.62E-01	0.3 0.2 0.2	9.5 10.8 14.9

Date/Time	U (m/sec)	RH (%)	Т (С)	T'S (C)	Zi (m)	U* (m/sec)	т* (С)	10+3*Qo (m/secK)	z/L	w* (m/sec)	t (min)
01/09 1149 01/09 1221 01/09 1309 01/09 1339 01/09 1409 01/09 1439 01/09 1509 01/09 1539 01/09 1609 01/09 1639	(m/sec) 3.7 4.1 4.1 4.6 4.7 4.6 5.0 4.2 3.2 2.9	(%) 79 84 85 87 88 87 88 87 84 85 85 85 83	(C) 14.0 14.0 14.1 14.2 14.2 14.2 14.4 14.6 14.8 15.0 15.2	(C) 15.4 15.3 15.3 15.3 15.3 15.3 15.3 15.4 15.3 15.3 15.3 15.3	(m) 80 180 200 240 240 250 260 260 200 180 160	(m/sec) 0.122 0.134 0.137 0.154 0.156 0.153 0.166 0.136 0.101 0.091 0.131	0,046 0.042 0.037 0.036 0.033 0.028 0.019 0.014 0.008 0.001	68.9 59.9 54.2 51.0 47.1 42.0 34.0 28.2 21.0 15.0 15.7	-5.49E-01 $-3.94E-01$ $-3.42E-01$ $-2.53E-01$ $-2.30E-01$ $-2.13E-01$ $-1.45E-01$ $-1.79E-01$ $-2.43E-01$ $-2.10E-01$ $-1.07E-01$	0.2 0.3 0.3 0.4 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.2 0.1 0.1	5.4 9.2 10.2 11.2 11.5 12.6 14.2 16.7 18.9 32.2 18.3
01/09 1709 01/09 1739 01/09 1809	4.1 4.7 5.2	87 88 85	15.0 15.0	15.3	120 100	0.154 0.170	0.008	18.6	-9.16E-02 -7.25E-02	0.2	11.9 11.5

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Date/Time	U	RH	T	1's	Zi	U*	T*	10+3*20	z/L	W*	t (min)
	(m/sec)	(%)	<u>(C)</u>	(C)	(m)	(m/sec)	(0)	(m/seck)	-	(11/500)	(man)
01/13 0852	3.9	70	14.4	15.0	180	0.129	0.021	44.1	-3.14E-01	0.3	11.7
01/13 0948	3.0	79	15.1	15.0	100	0.090	-0.007	7.5	-1.06E-01	.0.1	13.0
01/13 1049	3.3	67	16.0	15.2	100	0.096	-0.024	-6.2	8.59E-02	0.2	8.4
01/13 1119	4.5	78	15.5	15.2	100	0.141	-0.014	-0.2	2.68E-03	0.2	8,9
01/13 1239	4.9	73	16.0	15.3	100	0.152	-0.024	-9.0	4.79E-02	0,2	7.2
01/13 1309	5.4	77	15.9	15.4	100	0.172	-0.022	-8.2	3.42E-02	0.2	7.1
01/13 1339	5.3	71	16.3	15.4	100	0.167	-0.030	-14.8	6,49E-02	0.3	6.5
01/13 1409	6.1	61	17.0	15.4	100	0.194	-0.046	-27.5	8.83E-02	0.3	5,3
01/13 1439	5.5	64	16.9	15.5	100	0.171	-0.045	-26.6	1.10E - 01	0.3	5.6
01/13 1509	5.6	71	16.5	15.5	100	0,176	-0.036	-20.5	8.02E-02	0.3	6.0
01/13 1521	5.1	81	16.1	15.4	100	0.157	-0.027	-16.4	8.07E-02	0.2	6.9
01/13 1559	5.4	83	15.9	15.3	130	0,169	-0.023	-13.2	5.58E-02	0.3	8.4
01/13 1629	4.0	87	15.7	15.4	130	0.120	-0.015	-6.8	5.71E-02	0.2	10.9
01/13 1659	4.3	83	15.8	15.4	130	0.132	-0.014	-4.7	3.32E-02	0.2	10.7
01/13 1729	4.4	83	15.7	15.4	130	0.137	-0.013	-2.2	1.52E-02	0.2	11.0

BLM II-81 Release #3

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Rele	a	s	e	÷	ŧ	4

Date/Time	U (m/sec)	RH (१)	Т (С)	Тs (С)	2i (m)	U* (m/sec)	т* (С)	10+3*Qo (m/secK)	z/L	w* (m/sec)	t (min)
01/15 1441	3.3	86	14.8	15.7	150	0.106	0.026	40.2	-4.23E-01	0.2	10.4
01/15 1500	4.8	84	14.8	15.7	200	0.160	0.026	41.1	-1.90E-01	0.3	10.9
01/15 1552	4.0	85	15.1	15.6	100	0.128	0.013	26.2	-1.87E-01	0.2	9.4
01/15 1622	5.3	85	14.9	15.6	360	0.176	0.021	34.6	-1.32E-01	0.4	16.8
01/15 1652	6.2	85	14.8	15.6	260	0.210	0.022	35.6	-9.56E-02	0.3	12.6
01/15 1722	5.9	85	14.8	15.5	120	0.200	0.021	34.9	-1.02E-01	0.3	7.8

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IX. Mixed Layer Parameters

It is very important in understanding transport and dispersion to determine whether the boundary layer is well mixed. We do this by examining the virtual potential temperature and water vapor mixing ratio. These parameters will be well mixed in the well mixed boundary layer and will, then, be constant with height. The two parameters have been determined from the radiosonde results and are shown in Figures 4a-q. Again note that the lowest point for each sounding is not reliable. These results can be easily used to determine if the boundary layer is well mixed.



































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Appendix A. BLM-1 Radiosonde and Mixed Layer Parameter Results

The radiosonde results for BLM-1 have been reprocessed by computer in order to put them in the same format as used here for BLM-II results. Also the mixed layer parameters have been calculated. These results are shown in Figures 5.



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