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1. Data Set Description:

The Harvard/EPA Annular Denuder System (HEADS), model URG-2000-30DI, was used to collect the PM_{2.5} mass concentration data episodically from December 6, 2001 - August 21, 2002. It was also used to collect sulfate and nitrate ions at Claremont between September 28, 2001 and August 6, 2002, at Riverside from March 14 - June 6 2001, and the University of Southern California from October 8, 2002 - June 11, 2003. The Harvard/EPA Annular Denuder System (HEADS) uses chemically coated annular denuder tubes to selectively remove gaseous pollutants before particulate matter.

The overall objective of the **Southern California Supersite (SCS)** was to conduct research and monitoring that contributes to a better understanding of the measurement, sources, size distribution, chemical composition, physical state, spatial and temporal variability, and health effects of suspended particulate matter (PM) in the Los Angeles Basin (LAB). Intensive aerosol measurements, well beyond the traditional PM_{2.5} mass, sulfate and nitrate concentrations, were conducted in several areas of the LAB. These included particle number concentrations, size distributions, and detailed PM chemical composition as a function of particle size. Sampling locations were chosen to provide wide geographical and seasonal coverage, including urban "source" sites and downwind "receptor" sites. The primary sampling facility, a mobile Particle Instrumentation Unit (PIU), was deployed to several locations to conduct a wide range of PM measurements. Sampling in each site lasted for 6-12 months. Intensive PM measurements were also conducted up and downwind of several freeways of the LAB, to characterize near-roadway exposure environments and to support several in vivo and in vitro health studies. The monitoring activities of the SCS were linked with toxicology studies in the LAB using a mobile PM Concentrator facility to investigate health effects associated with exposures to ultrafine, fine and coarse particles. Finally, the PIU facility was successfully used as a platform to develop, test, and evaluate numerous PM measurement instruments and sampling technologies, including several monitors for semi-continuous size fractionated mass and chemistry, personal PM exposure monitors, particle concentration technologies, and particle counting devices.

The [U.S. EPA Particulate Matter \(PM\) Supersites Program](#) was an ambient air monitoring research program from 1999-2004 designed to provide information of value to the atmospheric sciences, and human health and exposure research communities. Eight geographically diverse projects were chosen to specifically address these EPA research priorities: (1) to characterize PM, its constituents, precursors, co-pollutants, atmospheric transport, and its source categories that affect the PM in any region; (2) to address the research questions and scientific uncertainties about PM source-receptor and exposure-health effects relationships; and (3) to compare and evaluate different methods of characterizing PM including testing new and emerging measurement methods. Data collected by these projects are publicly available at the NARSTO Permanent Data Archive, NASA Langley Atmospheric Science Data Center. Data users should acknowledge the U.S. EPA Particulate Matter (PM) Supersites Program and the project investigator(s) listed below.

The data set should be cited as follows:

Sioutas, Constantinou, Rong Chun (RC) Yu. 2010. NARSTO EPA_SS_LOS_ANGELES PM_{2.5} Composition and Mass Data (HEADS). Available on-line from [NARSTO Data and Information](#) at the Atmospheric Science Data Center at NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, Virginia, U.S.A.

More information can be found at the [Southern California Particle Center](#).

2. Sample Data Record/Data Format:

Data files are in the NARSTO Data Exchange Standard (DES) format that is described in detail on the [NARSTO Quality Systems Science Center \(QSSC\) web site](#). The files follow a tabular layout and are stored as ASCII comma-separated values files (.csv). The DES does not rely on row position to identify specific information, but uses a tag to describe the information contained in the row. The DES is a self-documenting format with three main sections: the header contains information about the contents of the file and the data originator; the middle section contains metadata tables that describe/define sites, flags, and other codified fields; and the final section is the main data table that contains key sampling and analysis information and the data values. Descriptions of the standardized metadata fields are also available on



the QSSC web site.

3. References:

TBD

4. Contact Information:

Investigator(s) Name and Title:

Name: Sioutas, Dr. Costas
E-mail: sioutas@rcf.usc.edu
Name: Yu, Dr. Rong Chun
E-mail: TBD

Data Center:

The User and Data Services Office at the Langley Atmospheric Science Data Center is involved throughout the system to monitor the quality of data on ingest, to ensure prompt replies to user questions, to verify media orders prior to filling them, and to ensure that the needs of the users are being met.

If you have a problem finding what you need, trouble accessing the system, or need an answer to a question concerning the data or how to obtain data, please contact the User and Data Services staff.

Telephone: (757) 864-8656
FAX: (757) 864-8807
E-mail: support-asdc@earthdata.nasa.gov
URL: <http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov>

5. Acknowledgement:

When data from the Langley Atmospheric Science Data Center are used in a publication, we request the following acknowledgment be included: "These data were obtained from the NASA Langley Research Center Atmospheric Science Data Center".

The Langley Data Center requests a reprint of any published papers or reports or a brief description of other uses (e.g., posters, oral presentations, etc.) of data that we have distributed. This will help us determine the use of data that we distribute, which is helpful in optimizing product development. It also helps us to keep our product-related references current.

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Author: Langley Data Center User and Data Services Office
Langley DAAC Help Desk: Phone (757) 864-8656; E-mail: support-asdc@earthdata.nasa.gov

