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Field Approaches to Measure Hg Exchange Between Natural Surfaces and the Atmosphere—A Review

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This review focuses on a vital part of Hg (Hg) atmosphere-natural surface exchange field observational studies, namely the theory, applications, strengths, and limitations of the various experimental methodologies applied to gauge the flux process. We present an in-depth review, a comprehensive literature synthesis, and methodological and instrumentation advances for terrestrial and marine Hg flux studies in recent years. In particular, we outline the theory of a wide range of measurement techniques and detail the operational protocols.

KEY WORDS: air-water exchange, flux footprint, flux measurement tools, gaseous elemental mercury, mercury, micrometeorological techniques, terrestrial ecosystems

INTRODUCTION

Mercury (Hg) is a neurotoxic bioaccumulative trace element of human concern due to potential high-level exposure of methylHg primarily by fish consumption.¹ In the rather chemical inert elemental form (Hg^0) , it has extraordinary volatility among the heavy metals.² Atmospheric transport of $Hg⁰$

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associated with a generally slow oxidation allows Hg to be (dry or wet) deposited in areas very far (hemispherical scale) from where it was originally emitted to the atmosphere, 3 Therefore, Hg is considered a global pollutant. Nevertheless, the turnover time of Hg in the atmosphere (∼1 year) is short compared to the oceanic⁴ and terrestrial systems.⁵ Human activities have influenced its natural cycling in two interrelated ways: by altering the rate at which Hg is transported between different environmental compartments and by altering Hg into more labile, short-lived pools from those in which it was originally deposited. This implies that transformation of deposited Hg into volatile Hg species and secondary emissions of legacy Hg (deposited from anthropogenic emissions in the past) to the atmosphere occurred—so called re-emissions. Natural emission process and re-emissions are not distinguishable by analytical techniques and will here as elsewhere be treated together. In turn, natural emissions can be sub-divided into inputs of geogenic Hg sources such as volcanoes, weathering processes of Earth crust and forest fires, and the recycling of deposited Hg from the oceans and terrestrial environment. Together, these processes account for a large fraction (up to 60% of the total) of the global atmospheric Hg budget.⁶

In contrast to anthropogenic Hg emissions consisting of a mixture of $\mathrm{Hg^{0},}$ semi-volatile gaseous inorganic $\mathrm{Hg^{II}}$ compounds (gaseous oxidized $\mathrm{Hg^{II}}$ [GOM] aka reactive gaseous Hg [RGM]. GOM will be used in this review as it is a more appropriate term than $RGM⁷$) and Hg associated with aerosols (Hg-p), natural emissions occur predominantly as Hg^0 . The actual speciationfractionation of airborne Hg is essential to observe as it has a significant influence on depositional patterns to environmental surfaces. Dry deposition occurs due to turbulent transport and is therefore highly dependent on surface and meteorological conditions. Concerning Hg-p, coarse particles $(d_p >$ 2.5 μ m) deposit faster than those belonging to the accumulation mode (0.1 < $d_p < 1 \mu$ m). The corresponding velocity (w_d , see Eq. 1) is generally in the order GOM > Hg-p (0.1 < d_p < 1 μ m) \geq Hg⁰. Dry deposition velocities of Hg⁰ are generally very low, such as < 0.1 cm s^{-1} over bare soil, grasslands, snow, and water surfaces. 8 Concerning Hg 0 , the transfer processes at the interfaces of the lithosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere are largely bidirectional (i.e., potentially include both emission and dry deposition events).

To better understand the biogeochemical cycle of Hg in the natural environment, it is important to determine spatial and temporal variability in the air-surface exchange of $Hg⁰$ as it relates to environmental, physicochemical, meteorological factors as well as surface characteristics. The interactions between all these factors lead to highly variable Hg⁰ flux, making it imperative to perform experimental studies in a diversity of surfaces (landscapes, oceans, etc.) over a sufficiently long time-scale to pinpoint crucial regulating mechanisms. Over the last three decades, this field has attracted substantial research activities. The state of knowledge has been summarized in review papers including general overviews of Hg emissions from natural sources^{9,10} and more specifically for exchange of Hg between air and natural terrestrial surfaces, $11-13$ Hg air-water flux over oceans, $14,15$ Hg air-surface exchange in polar regions, $16,17$ Hg emissions from volcanoes¹⁸ and biomass burning¹⁹ as well as the current understanding of dry deposition of atmospheric Hg species.⁸ This review article focus on a vital part of Hg atmosphere-natural surface exchange field observational studies, namely the theory, applications, strengths, and limitations of the various experimental methodologies applied to gauge the flux process. Here, we present an indepth review including a comprehensive literature synthesis and document methodological and instrumentation advances for terrestrial and marine Hg flux studies in recent years. In particular, we outline the theory of a wide range of measurement techniques and detail the operational protocols.

Fluxes of Hg are expressed as emission or deposition rates per unit surface area, typically in nanograms per meter squared per hour. The sign convention treats an emission as a positive flux and a deposition as a negative flux. The flux (F_{Hg}) can be defined as the product of air concentration (C_{Hg}) , typically in ng m−³) and a bidirectional vertical surface-exchange velocity $(w, m s^{-1})$:

$$
F_{Hg}(z) = C_{Hg}(z) \cdot w(z) \tag{1}
$$

There exists various experimental approaches to gauge Hg environmental flux. Each approach has its niche:

- 1. Enclosure methods for small plots and small gas fluxes;
- 2. Optical long-path spectroscopic techniques (light detection and ranging [LIDAR], in differential absorption mode [DIAL] or ultraviolet differential optical absorption spectroscopy [UV-DOAS]) for point, line or small, welldefined, strong areal sources;
- 3. Micro-meteorological (relaxed eddy accumulation, modified Bowen-ratio and aerodynamic) methods for larger landscapes with homogeneous surface sources;
- 4. Bulk methods with major application for gas exchange over larger freshand sea-water bodies.

In Figure 1 the approximate length- and time-scales within which the various methods are operating are displayed. Each measurement method noted has its share of benefits and drawbacks (see Table 1 for a summary). Nevertheless, in addition to the given method categories, for specific areal sources or meteorological conditions, other approaches have in some instances been employed. Reviewed later in the section "Conservative tracers for non-turbulent conditions" is a ²²²Rn tracer technique used during periodswith a stable nocturnal boundary layer and found to be suitable in situations where the fluxes are small, or the surface is highly heterogeneous.²⁰ For relatively small, spatially heterogeneously distributed source areas, such as working face landfills, simple models have been implemented.²¹⁻²³ They

available.

TABLE 1. Evaluation of various techniques to measure mercury exchange between air and natural surfaces **TABLE 1.** Evaluation of various techniques to measure mercury exchange between air and natural surfaces

⁹Applies to REA with denuder front samplers (GOM).
⁶Nainly concerns MBR-method.
⁴Different strategies in order to filter out vertical bias from the w signal have been applied (see Bowling et al.¹¹⁷). *d*Different strategies in order to filter out vertical bias from the w signal have been applied (see Bowling et al.¹¹⁷). *b*Applies to REA with denuder front samplers (GOM). *c*Mainly concerns MBR-method. e ~15-60 k€. *e*∼15–60 k€.

*f*Includes automatized Hg analyzer ∼50–110 k€.

*g*A rough estimate based on individual new components only: 300 k€ and up.

FIGURE 1. Time- and length-scale niches of various methodologies to measure natural fluxes of trace gases.

involve single point Hg air sampling up- and downwind the area source combined with on-site meteorological data as input to predict dispersion parameters. These models are not explicitly discussed in this review and more information can be found elsewhere.^{24,25} However, they have points of contact with the source area models relevant for micro-meteorological techniques (see section "Footprint (source area) of MM-techniques") and are included in the summary of published articles on air-natural surface exchange of Hg presented in Table 2. Description of techniques utilized for estimating Hg emissions from natural high temperature processes (e.g., biomass wildfires or volcanic activity) is beyond the scope of this review and can be retrieved elsewhere.18,19,26

STRUCTURE OF ATMOSPHERIC BOUNDARY LAYER

The trace gas exchange at the Earth's surface creates local concentration surplus or deficit in the adjacent air layers. Usually, these effects are distributed very fast (in the timescale of min to hr) throughout the planetary boundary layer (PBL) by turbulent mixing. An idealized PBL thus represents a well-mixed closed chamber and the surface flux can be described according to Eq. 2. However, in real conditions (especially during daytime), the PBL is not constant in height and continuously mixes with overlying air layers while growing.²⁷ Additionally, horizontal advection cannot be neglected. The lowest 10% of the PBL height, where most of flux measurements are made, is

TABLE 2. A summary of air-surface mercury flux measurements for various marine, limnological, and terrestrial ecosystems reported in the literature. The flux values are in general given as mean, mean **TABLE 2.** A summary of air-surface mercury flux measurements for various marine, limnological, and terrestrial ecosystems reported in the literature The flux values are in oeneral otion as mean mean $+$ standard deviatio standard deviation or as a min–max range if not otherwise stated.

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Calculated at an averaged wind speed of 8.1 m s⁻¹ and for Scheldt Estuary, North Sea Southern bight and German bight a TGM conc. of 3.4, 1.8, and 1.2 ng *t*Calculated at an averaged wind speed of 8.1 m s−1 and for Scheldt Estuary, North Sea Southern bight and German bight a TGM conc. of 3.4, 1.8, and 1.2 ng darivo DFC systems were used in parallel. One system was kept stationary, while the other was in mobile status. Data for the stationary DFC tabulated *dd*Two DFC systems were used in parallel. One system was kept stationary, while the other was in mobile status. Data for the stationary DFC tabulated. *l*Exchange parameterization by Wanninkhof et al.184 Also see section "Bulk methods for Hg flux measurements over water surfaces." Exchange parameterization by Wanninkhof et al.¹⁸⁴ Also see section "Bulk methods for Hg flux measurements over water surfaces." m Data calculated during stable nocturnal conditions (>6 h) when 222 Rn showed an approximately linear accumulation in NBL *m*Data calculated during stable nocturnal conditions (>6 h) when 222Rn showed an approximately linear accumulation in NBL. "Thin-film model (see section "Bulk methods for Hg flux measurements over water surfaces"). *x*Thin-film model (see section "Bulk methods for Hg flux measurements over water surfaces"). Exchange parameterization by Liss and Merlivat,¹⁸¹ Wanninkhof,¹⁸² and Asher et al.²³⁶ *q*Exchange parameterization by Liss and Merlivat,181 Wanninkhof,182 and Asher et al.236 66 Average flux. Maximum flux \sim 70 ng m⁻² h⁻¹ after enhanced Hg deposition. *kk*Average flux. Maximum flux ∼70 ng m−2 h−1 after enhanced Hg deposition. ^{cc}Mean range from sampling campaign divided into five vegetative periods. *cc*Mean range from sampling campaign divided into five vegetative periods. ^pTransfer velocity 0.5-1.0 m day⁻¹ and a TGM conc. 1.9 ng m⁻³ utilized *y*Transfer velocity 0.5–1.0 m day−1 and a TGM conc. 1.9 ng m−3 utilized. *oo*Maximum deposition following a peak of 7.01 ng m−3 in TGM. ⁹⁹Maximum deposition following a peak of 7.01 ng m⁻³ in TGM ""Sampled by mist chamber method (Lindberg and Stratton¹²²). *mm*Sampled by mist chamber method (Lindberg and Stratton122). Based on a cumulative flux reported for a 2-week period. *jj*Based on a cumulative flux reported for a 2-week period. "Unit incorrectly given as ng m⁻² h⁻¹ in original paper. *ll*Unit incorrectly given as ng m−2 h−1 in original paper. "Sampled by annular denuder method Landis et al.¹²⁴ *ii*Sampled by annular denuder method Landis et al.124 Exchange parameterization by Nightingale et al.¹⁸³ *v*Exchange parameterization by Nightingale et al.183 PExchange parameterization by Wanninkhof.¹⁸² *p*Exchange parameterization by Wanninkhof.182 "Exchange parameterization by Borges et al.²⁴³ *u*Exchange parameterization by Borges et al.243 Exchange parameterization by Weiss et al.²⁵⁵ *z*Exchange parameterization by Weiss et al.255 Mean value for night and day, respectively. *r*Mean value for night and day, respectively. ^wGas exchange velocity of 3.7 cm h^{-1} used. *w*Gas exchange velocity of 3.7 cm h−1 used. bbThe flux calculation is based on leaf area. *bb*The flux calculation is based on leaf area. *s*Gas transfer velocities 0.5–1.0 m day−1. Gas transfer velocities 0.5–1.0 m day⁻¹ aa Area-weighted average flux. *aa*Area-weighted average flux. ^{pp}Growing season net flux. *pp*Growing season net flux. ⁸⁸Corn canopy present. *gg*Corn canopy present. Median ± IQR flux. *o*Median ± IQR flux. ee Unit: ng m⁻² h⁻¹. *ee*Unit: ng m−2 h−1. m⁻³, respectively. −3, respectively. bbMedian range. *hh*Median range. ^{un}Median flux *nn*Median flux 'Median flux *n*Median flux. θ Bare field. *ff*Bare field.

called the surface layer (SL) or Prandtl layer. The variability of flux with height in SL is low and thus fluxes in the SL, for many reasons, are treated as constant with height. The constant flux layer concept represents the basis for several micrometeorological (MM) flux measurement techniques. The time averaged statistics of air flow in SL over homogeneous surfaces are described by Monin-Obukhov similarity theory (MOST; see section "Turbulent transport in the planetary boundary layer"). However, it has been known for decades that MOST formulae fail near rough surfaces such as urban areas, vegetation canopies or surface waves. The failure is most often that turbulent fluxes are higher than MOST would predict from the observed mean gradients. Even a homogeneous surface has roughness elements that create characteristic concentration and windfield patterns around them and therefore SL has to be divided into inertial and roughness sub-layer.²⁸ Due to the strong friction effects, the airflow is mainly laminar within few mm above surface structures (quasi-laminar boundary layer) while the roughness sublayer above including a chaotic time-mean streamline pattern is called Lagrangian turbulence.²⁹ Figure 2shows a visualization of PBL.

Similar to trace gases, energy in different forms is absorbed or emitted at the surface. The energy exchange is of special importance for the understanding and determination of the trace gas fluxes for several reasons. First, it determines the microclimatic state of a vegetated surface (e.g., radiation, humidity, leaf, and soil temperature) and the overlying air layers (thermal turbulence production) and, thus, influences the exchange processes decisively. Secondly, the transport of mass related (sensible and latent) energy in the air is supposed to be analogous to the transport of trace compounds. 30 This analogy is helpful for the determination of exchange characteristics, because the energy content of the air can usually be measured more easily and accurately than trace gas concentrations. Moreover, there are independent methods for the determination and verification of energy fluxes, which do not exist for trace compounds. In contrast to trace gases, energy can be transported in several different forms. The energy balance equation at Earth's surface is:

$$
H + \lambda E = R_n - G - \Delta S \tag{2}
$$

where R_n is net radiation, *G* is conductive heat flux into soil, *H* and λE are turbulent transport flux of sensible (enthalpy, appearing as temperature change) and latent (evaporation of water) heat respectively with the air through the top of the canopy. ΔS describes the energy storage change within the canopy (the SI (le système International d'unités) unit for the individual terms is W m⁻²). Short-wave radiation from the sun is the main external controlling factor for the surface energy budget and creates a characteristic diurnal variation. Energy forms may also be transferred in reversed, which mainly happens during night when no solar radiation is coming in. The Earth's surface

FIGURE 2. Structure of planetary boundary layer (PBL). The surface layer (the lowest 10% of PBL) is divided into roughness sublayer (influenced by single roughness elements) and inertial sublayer (vertically and horizontally constant flux). For the definition of potential temperature, θ, See section "Turbulent transport in the planetary boundary layer" (Color figure available online).

also emits thermal radiation in the long-wave range according to its temperature and absorption/emission properties. Whether it is transported mainly as sensible or as latent heat strongly depends on the vegetation type and activity as well as on the availability of water. The Bowen-ratio ($\beta = H/\lambda E^{31}$) is, therefore, a widely used parameter for characterizing vegetated surfaces. The closure of the energy budget (i.e., the validity of Eq. 2) can be used to test the quality of flux measurements if all components are determined individually. Alternatively, one unknown energy flux can be calculated as residual of Eq. 2.

ENCLOSURE METHODS

Chambers (and mass balance) methods rely on the conservation of mass and therefore the most intuitive compared to the MM methods, which are based on theories of turbulent transport in the atmosphere and have limitations when meteorological conditions are unfavorable. However, chambers are intrusive per se and modify the local meteorological conditions over the plot studied. Eq. 3 shows the law of mass conservation:

$$
V\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\left\langle C_{Hg}\right\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{m} A_i \cdot F_{Hg,i}
$$
 (3)

The mass change (where *C_{Hg}* is the Hg vapor concentration, typically in ng m−³) in a reference volume *V* is equal to the net inward flux through

FIGURE 3. Illustration of the mass conservation of a trace gas with concentration ρ_c within a reference volume *V* directly above the surface; $F_{Hg, surf}$ surface exchange flux, $F_{c,i}$ fluxes through volume boundary areas A_i . Modified from Ammann.¹¹⁹ (Color figure available online).

its boundary areas A_i . The triangular brackets around C_{Hg} signify a spatial average over *V*. For an enclosure volume directly above the surface, Eq. 1 can be rearranged for the surface exchange flux F_{Hg} , $_{surf}$, which is defined upward by convention (i.e., the flux into the volume *V* through the bottom area A_0 , unit m²):

$$
F_{Hg, surf} = F_{Hg,0} = \frac{1}{A_0} \left\{ V \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left\langle C_{Hg} \right\rangle_v - \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \cdot F_{Hg,i} \right\} \tag{4}
$$

This is depicted in Figure 3. The simplest application of Eq. 4 is represented by the so-called static chamber method. The chamber is placed on the investigated surface and is closed against the surrounding air:

$$
F_{Hg, surface} = \frac{V}{A_0} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \langle C_{Hg} \rangle_v = b_{encl} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \langle C_{Hg} \rangle_v \tag{5}
$$

In Hg research, however, flow-through (dynamic) rather than closed (static) enclosures have been employed by numerous groups since the seminal work by Schroeder et al.³² and Xiao et al.³³ In general, the flow-through dynamic flux chambers (DFCs) employed are of small size and cover a surface area of ≤ 0.1 m². The temporal derivative in Eq. 4 is, for this application, set to zero by creating stationary conditions inside the enclosure. This is obtained by a continuous flushing of the chamber at an appropriate rate, replacing the air volume typically one or more times per minute.³⁴ More specifically, Eckley et al.³⁵ recommended DFC turnover times of 0.3–0.8 min. Enclosure techniques may not only be applied to bare soil, water or surfaces with low vegetation but also to surfaces of individual plants (canopies, etc.). The enclosures of the latter group (dynamic flux bags [DFB]) have typical dimensions to include the canopy of a small plant or a section of a larger one.36–39 Concerning the application of DFC to bare soil surfaces, the investigation by Gillis and Miller⁴⁰ showed that insertion of the chamber edges 1 cm into the soil provided a reliable seal against air intrusion. Nevertheless, the specific manipulation undertaken to achieve ground-chamber contact differs between operators (e.g., Carpi and Lindberg, 34 Gustin et al., 41 Rinklebe et al., 42 Wallschläger et al. 43), while it is in many publications vaguely described or unaccounted for. Improper deployment of a DFC as a source of bias has received little attention in studies concerning Hg. However, the broader literature covering enclosure studies of trace gas exchange address this matter in more detail.⁴⁴ The airflow in and out of the enclosure can be guided through tubes, where the volume flow rate Q (typically in the unit $\mathrm{m}^3 \ \mathrm{h}^{-1}$) and the Hg vapor concentrations can be easily measured, are maintained by a constant flow rate (*Q*) of outside air through it. Generally air is sucked through the chamber by a pump, but there are designs in which air is pushed through.³⁶ Eq. 4 is, in this case, approximated by:

$$
F_{Hg, surface} \cong \frac{Q}{A_0} \cdot (C_{Hg,out} - C_{Hg,in} - blank)
$$
 (6)

where the indices in and out represent air entering and exit the enclosure respectively. The operation of a DFC can readily be automatized by directing air to a Hg vapor analyzer using time-controlled magnetic switches in such a way that samples for in and out air are collected sequentially.⁴⁵ The blank term represents the spurious adsorption/desorption of Hg vapor at inner walls. For DFCs, it is determined by sealing the open bottom to a clean surface. The magnitude of the system blank (frequently reported in the interval 0.1–0.5 ng m⁻² h⁻¹) sets a lower limit of the flux possible to resolve by the method. In field measurements over substrates with very low Hg content, observed fluxes are often at or below the DFC system detection limit.⁴⁶ Most enclosure studies employ mass flow controllers (MFCs in the Hg analyzer as well as to regulate main flow) calibrated with dry air (at T_0 and P_0 , STP (standard temperature and pressure, 273.15 K and 100 kPa)). If this is the case, concerning a DFC/DFB, a correction term for the density effect of ambient air water vapor of $1.85R_dT_0C_{Hg}F_{H2O}/P_0$ should be added to Eq. 6 following Lee⁴⁷ (R_d is the ideal gas law constant for dry air, P₀ and T₀ are the pressure and temperature at 100 kPa and 0[°]C, respectively, $\overline{C_{Hg}}$ is the average ambient air $Hg⁰$ mass concentration (at STP) over the flux averaging interval and *FH2O* is the corresponding water vapor flux). Only if moisture is removed can this correction be avoided. Analogous to all methods involving non-synchronous gas analysis, deriving fluxes from temporarily separated C_{Hg,in} and C_{Hg,out} sample collection are subject to significant uncertainties under restrictive conditions, such as a high variability in ambient air Hg^{0} concentration. Consequently, Eckley et al.³⁵ proposed the criteria to accept a flux measurement only when $|C_{Hg, out} - C_{Hg}| > |\Delta C_{Hg, in}|$, where $\Delta C_{Hg, in}$
represents the difference between the two $C_{Hg,in}$ samples surrounding a *CHg,out* sample in time. Chamber materials with low blanks (i.e., after appropriate cleaning procedures) and high radiation transmission properties are generally chosen, such as FEP Teflon durafilm^{34,48}, Propafilm-C,³⁶ Tedlar,³⁸ quartz, 49 Plexiglas, $50-52$ polypropane, 53 and polycarbonate. 54 , 55 Carpi et al. 56 advocated Teflon films considering the low blanks and transmission properties at shortwave radiation (UV-B (ultraviolet B, 280–315 nm)) in preference to less expensive polycarbonate that, however, gained broad acceptance in groups most active in this field.^{55,57,58} UV-B radiation has been implicated as the wavelength band that is most significant in the soil emission process. Graydon et al.³⁶ used intermittently film filters (for UV-A (ultraviolet A, 315–400 nm) and UV-B) that draped highly transparent Propafilm-C chambers to determine the importance of UV wavelengths on Hg flux.

As pointed out by Eckley et al., 35 a standard operating protocol and design for DFCs does not exist, and as a result there is a large diversity in methods described in the literature. The theory of flux chamber measurements demands that the air moves through the chamber without a vertical component,⁵⁹ and ideally in the form of a plug so that no stagnant air zones are present. The layouts of DFC (for non-plant applications) are generally rectangular parallelepiped (cylindrical and hemispherical designs have also been used), where the difference in *V* and *Q* used spanned over an order of magnitude and the resulting chamber turnover times varied by over 2-orders of magnitude.³⁵ A general observation by many researchers is that *FHg,surf* increases with Q . Zhang et al.⁶⁰ and Lindberg et al.⁶¹ applied a two-resistance exchange interface model to simulate DFC measurement of the flux process and recommended high Q (~1–2.5 m³ h⁻¹) and high *V*/*A*₀ ratios not to underestimate flux. Engle et al.⁶² pointed out that low Q is acceptable when sampling from a low Hg content substrate. Other than the different characteristics of the soil substrates being measured, there are two major issues causing uncertainties:

- Different flow rates yield different flux results for the same soil substrate. Eckley et al.³⁵ suggested the choice of an optimum Q coinciding with the emergence of a regime of constant $C_{Hg,out} - C_{Hg,in}$.
- The chamber design and the materials used for the chamber construction affect the chamber aerodynamic behavior. In general, less attention has been paid to facilitate a uniform air-flow over the surface investigated, thereby eliminating zones of stagnant air.

Recently, Lin et al.⁶³ implemented a DFC of novel design for measuring Hg^0 flux over soil that enabled precise control of internal shear properties by the flow-through rate. In turn, a methodology that utilizes the measured DFC flux to infer the flux under atmospheric conditions was proposed (see section "Results of field measurements of Hg flux").

Another category of enclosures was primary developed to investigate Hg in soil or snow gas in order to potentially estimate air-substrate Hg^0 flux. Up to date, the number of studies in this field is comparatively scarce⁴², $52, 64-69$ involving background and contaminated substrates. The devices, ranging from wells and tube probes to flasks and chambers, are semistatic or operated by actively drawing air from the substrate. In order to sample the interstitial Hg^0 vapor present in pores and avoid significant dilution by the intrusion of ambient air, the collection requires low gas-flow rates or small gas samples. Johnson et al.⁶⁵ inserting Teflon wells to two depths (\sim 20 and ∼40 cm) of contaminated soil and withdrawing 50 mL soil gas samples with gas-tight glass syringes for Hg^0 analysis. Hg^0 flux was calculated by the soil profile method initially applied for CO_2^{70} with measured soil Hg gas gradient (∂*C Hg*(*g*),*soil*/∂*z*) and soil characteristics influencing the effective diffusion coefficient (D_{Hg}^0 , _{soil air} typical unit cm² s⁻¹) as input:

$$
F_{Hg} = D_{Hg^0, \text{ solid air}} \cdot \frac{\partial C_{Hg(g), \text{ solid}}}{\partial z} \tag{7}
$$

The soil Hg^0 efflux calculated from DFC was more than one order of magnitude higher than and not correlated with that obtained from the diffusion model, indicating that the process was not diffusion-controlled. Sigler and Lee 68 modified a flask sampling technique previously used for $\mathrm{CO_2}^{71}$ to sample (at ~30 mL min⁻¹) and analyze Hg⁰ at depth in soil. Soil gas Hg⁰ concentrations at ∼2-cm depth were correlated with Hg⁰ flux measured by a DFC unit. The study of Sigler and Lee⁶⁸ revealed clear Hg⁰ soil gas gradients, where large changes were observed in the shallow layers (<10 cm) underscore the importance of a fine, vertical resolution. In addition to the application of a regular Plexiglas DFC, Wallschläger et al.⁵² measured Hg $(Hg⁰ + (CH₃)₂Hg)$ in contaminated floodplain soil gas by drawing air (at 1.5 L min−¹) through Teflon-coated steel tubes directly into an Hg vapor analyzer. The measured Hg concentrations were diluted by the intrusion of ambient air due to the high flow rate and sample volume. In order to compensate for this effect, an extrapolated Hg-soil gas concentration $C_{Hg(g),\,soli}$ (to zero sampling volume) was obtained from consecutive samples at a specific plot depth showing a systematic concentration trend. A surface film approach was used to semiquantitatively estimate Hg air-soil flux deriving from laminar diffusion:

$$
F_{Hg} = \frac{D_{Hg^0, \, soil \, air} \cdot (C_{Hg(g), \, soil} - C_{Hg, \, air})}{z} \tag{8}
$$

where z (typical unit cm) is the thickness of the laminar boundary film and finally $C_{Hg, soil}$ is the surface air concentration at the top of the film. In studies of Hg volatilization from heavily contaminated floodplain soils along the river Elbe, Böhme et al.⁶⁴ applied a "gas suck-up chamber" to estimate the potential for Hg emissions of a site. More recently, Rinklebe et al.⁴² modified this setup without ambient air inlet to a closed chamber equipped with an air circulating system including a loop through Hg sampling traps during sampling duration $(1-2 \text{ hr})$. The chamber was fixed via a Teflon gasket to an in-ground cylinder that prevents lateral flow of soil gas in to the sampling plot. This method has some points in common with that of Di Francesco et al.,⁷² which is restricted to heavy contaminated soil. For the sampling of vertical profiles of gaseous Hg in snowpacks, Dommergue et al.^{69,73} developed a tube probe device and observed elevated concentrations of Hg^0 in the firn air of a snowpack compared to those of ambient air during the annual melting period in Canadian sub-Arctic. Snow-air fluxes were calculated with a laminar diffusion approach (see Eq. 7) using the $Hg⁰$ concentration gradient in the upper 40 cm of the snowpack. For a closed chamber using a conventional MFC to regulate air circulation, correction for air density effects should be implemented following Lee. 47 This formula also applies for corresponding micro-meteorological systems.

OPEN-PATH LASER OPTICAL SPECTROSCOPIC METHODS

Hg is the only noninert pollutant that exists in the atmosphere in atomic form. Background mixing ratios are in the order of sub-parts per trillion (ppt). Because the whole transition oscillator strength is aggregated in a single line apart from isotopic shifts and hyperfine structures at ∼254 nm (resonance transition $6s^1S_0 \rightarrow 6p^3P_1$) rather than distributed on thousands of vibrational-rotational transitions in a molecule (e.g., $HgCl₂$), even such low concentrations can be assessed by long-path optical spectroscopy.⁷⁴ Several commercial Hg vapor analyzers utilizing pulsed Zeeman modulation of the 254-nm resonance transition in Hg⁰ (Z-AAS) have similar detection limit,⁷⁵ in addition the interference of other species exhibiting high optical cross section at this line with the determinations of Hg^0 was eliminated. Besides laboratory-based less portable apparatus for small volume "point" measurements of ambient Hg^0 concentrations with laser powered ring-down cavity enhanced techniques⁷⁶ and 2-Photon LIF,⁷⁷ more versatile mobile LIDAR systems^{78–81} have been developed by the Svanberg group at Lund University of Technology, Sweden, to study geophysical Hg^0 vapor emissions from area sources (mining sites, geothermal sites, fumaroles, etc.). In optical remote sensing measurements of fugitive emissions from Hg-cell chlor-alkali plants, in addition to $DIAL^{82}$ recently also commercial systems (Opsis AB, Furulund, Sweden) utilizing UV-DOAS have been employed.⁸³

DIAL and DOAS measurements of Hg^0 evasive flux are performed in absorption and the Beer–Lambert law yields a simple connection between the absorbed light fraction and the path integrated concentration profile. After the light, with an intensity of I_0 , has travelled a path length *L*, $I_0(\lambda, L)$ is reduced to $I(\lambda, L)$ as expressed from Eq. 9 using the Beer–Lambert law:

$$
I(\lambda, L) = I_0(\lambda, L) \cdot e^{-\int\limits_{\ell=0}^{\ell=L} (\sigma_{Hg}(\lambda, p, T) \cdot \rho_{Hg}(\ell) + \varepsilon_R(\lambda, \ell) + \varepsilon_M(\lambda, \ell))d\ell} + N(\lambda)
$$
(9)

where σ_{Hg} (λ , p , T) is the absorption cross-section (cm² atom⁻¹) of Hg⁰, which depends on the wavelength λ (nm), the pressure p (hPa) and the temperature *T* (K), $\rho_{Hg}(\ell)$ the number density (cm⁻³) at the position ℓ along the light path of total length *L* (cm). Light scattering by Rayleigh-extinction and Mie-extinction are described by the ε_R and ε_M coefficients respectively. *N*(λ) is the photon noise dependent on $I(λ, L)$.

In a DIAL system housed in a vehicle, a tuneable optical parametric oscillator laser system that is pumped at 20 Hz by a frequency-tripled injection seeded neodymium-yttrium-aluminum-garnet (Nd:YAG) laser and equipped with doubling and mixing crystal units is employed as a light source.⁸¹ In a DIAL system designed to measure sub-ppt levels of Hg 0 , Nayuki et al. 84 used the third harmonic of a tuneable dye laser with LDS 765 dye pumped by the second harmonic of an Nd:YAG laser as the source for the emitted light beam. DIAL-Hg is performed using two wavelength, one on the $6s¹S₀ \rightarrow 6p³P₁$ absorption line ($\lambda_{on} = 253.65$ nm) and the other slightly off (λ _{off}). The latter is at a longer wavelength to avoid interference with a close-lying, weak oxygen absorption line.⁷⁹ An internal calibration unit using small Hg-vapor saturated cells with known lengths and temperatures was used to monitor and compensate for small laser wavelength and line width changes. The outgoing laser beam is directed coaxially with a vertically mounted telescope and transmitted into the atmosphere via a large flat mirror in a retractable transmitting/receiving dome on the roof. Stepping motors are used to turn the dome and to tilt the mirror. The LIDAR signal was then collected time-resolved to obtain a range-resolved measurement. By forming the ratio between the on and off signals $I(\lambda_{on})/I(\lambda_{off})$, a DIAL curve is obtained, being flat where no Hg is present and sloping downwards in the presence of Hg. As visualized in Figure 4, each DIAL measurement, in a certain direction, gives the range-resolved Hg concentration along the laser beam. Two-dimensional images of the Hg distribution in the spreading plume can be produced by scanning the laser beam in a vertical plane. Such a sweep gathered in 3–5 min, yielding a cross-section of the distribution of Hg in the air mass, which in-turn is area-integrated. Several sweeps with a horizontal reference plane are required to enclose a point or an areal welldefined Hg source. In order to calculate a flux integrated over an area, the surficial $Hg⁰$ concentrations have to be multiplied by the wind field orthogonal to the corresponding plane. In Bennett et al., 85 the preferences using a Doppler LIDAR system versus anemometer measurements of the wind profile is discussed. In addition, wind directions within a $20-30°$ sector of the scanning beam are less favorable for the flux calculation.

FIGURE 4. A Schematic of the operation of a differential absorption LIDAR system. Depicted is a mobile DIAL when scanning with the laser beam in a vertical plane in order to obtain a concentration cross-section of the mercury plume. The mercury flux is estimated by area integration of the concentration and multiplication by the wind speed component perpendicular to the cross-section surface. To contain a source with areal extension, sweeps over different sections of horizontal reference plane are required (Color figure available online).

MICROMETEOROLOGICAL (MM) TECHNIQUES

The MM techniques for flux measurements depend on transport processes in the atmosphere and are affected by conditions of atmospheric stability. In this section, the driving force of turbulent transport in PBL, its relation to atmospheric stability, and the measurement area of interest are elaborated. This is followed by a discussion of various MM techniques that have been applied for Hg flux measurement to date.

Turbulent Transport in the Planetary Boundary Layer

Persisting atmospheric turbulence mainly occurs near the ground because the surface provides the principal forcing effects for turbulent motion.³⁰ The first driving force is shear stress in the mean horizontal air motion that is produced by friction at the surface, which depends on windspeed and surface roughness and being associated with the mean vertical gradient in the windspeed profile ($\partial \bar{u}/\partial z$), where *u* (m s⁻¹) is the horizontal wind. The second driving force for turbulence is buoyancy effect due to air density variations with height. It occurs mainly during daytime, when the surface, together with the lowest air layers, is heated by solar radiation. The warmer air at the ground is less dense than the layers above and rises to induce a turbulent turnover. This process is called *thermal turbulence production* or *free convection*. The buoyancy of an air parcel depends not only on its temperature (*T*), but also on the pressure (*p*) and the humidity conditions. Over land surfaces, the influence of humidity is usually small and often ignored.⁸⁶ Therefore, the

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buoyancy can be quantified by the potential temperature θ (K) referring to a standard pressure $p_0 = 1000$ hPa: $\theta = T \cdot (p_0/p)^{0.286}$. The mean vertical gradient of the potential temperature $(\partial \bar{\theta}/\partial z)$ determines the static stability of an air layer. Thermal turbulence production occurs only if the gradient is negative (unstable stratification). A zero gradient indicates neutral and a positive gradient stable stratification. In the latter case, with dense cold air at the ground and warmer layers above, the negative buoyancy force dampens or even inhibits vertical turbulent mixing.

Turbulent motions can be decomposed into a mean part \bar{a} and a random fluctuating part *a* . The application requires averaging rules (Reynold's postulates), such as $\overline{a \cdot b} = \overline{a} \cdot \overline{b} + \overline{a' \cdot b'}$ that is, in-turn, the basis for Eddy Covariance technique described below in the following section ("Footprint (source area) of MM-techniques") According to the MOST, 87 the statistics of SL turbulence with respect to *z* (height above surface), *g*/*T* (buoyancy parameter, vertical acceleration due to density variations), $u'w'$ (vertical surface flux of momentum; mechanical turbulence), $w'T'$ (vertical surface flux of sensible heat; thermal turbulence) as dependent variables with length, time and temperature as independent dimensions can be described by the single dimensionless parameter *z*/*L*. The characteristic length scale *L* (m) is called the Obukhov length. Here expressed with air density correction due to water vapor content:

$$
L = -\frac{u_*^3 \cdot T \cdot \rho_{air} \cdot c_p}{k \cdot g \cdot H}
$$
 (10)

where u ^{*} (m s⁻¹) is the friction velocity $\sqrt{\tau/\rho_{air}}$ (τ being the flux of momentum between the atmosphere and the surface), ρ_{air} (kg m⁻³) is the density of air, *k* is von Kármán's constant (∼0.4, representing the ratio between the effective turbulent mixing length and the distance to the surface), g (m s⁻²) is the acceleration due to gravity, *T* (K) is ambient air temperature, c_p (J kg⁻¹) K⁻¹) is the specific heat of air at constant pressure, H (W m^{-2}) is the vertical flux of sensible heat. In neutral conditions, $z/L = 0$; in stable conditions, z/L > 0 ; in unstable conditions, $z/L < 0$. Obukhov length represents the height of an air column in which the production $(L < 0)$ or loss $(L > 0)$ of turbulent kinetic energy by buoyancy force is equal to the dynamic production of turbulent kinetic energy per volume unit at any measuring height *z* multiplied by *z.* L is thus proportional to the height of the inertial sublayer but not identical to it.²⁵

Footprint (Source Area) of MM Techniques

The most direct physical approach for the measurement of turbulent trace gas fluxes is the application of Eq. 1 for a horizontal reference plane on a certain height (*z*) with a vertical wind component (*w*) within the constant flux layer. However, the irregularity of turbulent motion implies a strong variation of the instantaneous vertical transport in time as well as in space. Hence certain averaging procedures have to be applied in order to get useful flux estimates. Ideally, an ensemble average should be determined:

$$
F_{Hg} = \langle w(z) \cdot C_{Hg}(z) \rangle_{\text{ens}} \cong \langle w(z) \cdot C_{Hg}(z) \rangle_{\text{spatial}} \cong \langle w(z) \cdot C_{Hg}(z) \rangle_{\text{temporal}}
$$
\n(11)

under stationary conditions, where turbulent motion over a homogeneous surface represents an *ergodic* system, signifying that the ensemble average is about equal to the respective spatial or temporal average. In MM-flux studies, the time average is typically applied, since it allows determining a representative flux with a sensor system fixed at one single point within the inertial sublayer. The contribution of sources at different distances from the sensor "footprint" is a complex function of the sensor height, surface roughness length and canopy structure together with meteorological conditions (wind speed and direction, turbulence intensity and atmospheric stability).⁸⁸ A simple rule of thumb is the concept of cumulative footprint^{89,90} that uses analytical solutions of the diffusion equation for near-neutral conditions and averaged wind velocity $(\bar{u}, m s^{-1})$. In this ideal simplified case for low canopies, the cumulative normalized contribution to flux measurements (CNF, %) can be expressed as:

$$
CNF(x_L) = \int_0^{x_L} \frac{\bar{u}(z-d)}{u_* k x^2} e^{-\bar{u}(z-d)/ku_*x} dx = e^{-\bar{u}(z-d)/ku_*x_L}
$$
(12)

where x_L is distance from the sensor (m), z is measurement height (m), u^* is friction velocity (m s⁻¹), *d* is displacement height (m; see section "Aerodynamic (AER) method"), *k* is von Kármán's constant. Eq. 12 roughly predicts 80–85% of the flux "seen" at z comes from within a distance (x_L) of 100 · *z* upwind, with the largest contribution occurring at a distance x_L ∼10 · *z*; in unstable conditions *z*/*L* < 0, the footprint is somewhat smaller and in stable conditions $z/L > 0$, considerably larger. In most MM studies on Hg flux, it is not specifically stated if a footprint model is utilized (e.g., for compensating for limited fetch). If so, $41,50,91-\overline{94}$ Gaussian dispersion estimates were generally applied.^{89,90,95,96} In long-term studies of Hg⁰ flux over forest canopies, Bash and Miller $91,97$ used the footprint climatology by Amiro, 98 relying on observations of the stratification and the standard deviation of the lateral wind component. Both long-term and short-term observations have changing atmospheric conditions in the data set. Every new atmospheric condition leads to a different footprint and there is a need for a large set of footprint calculations. Fritsche et al.⁹⁴ used the model of Kljun et al.,⁹⁹ which presents a scaling procedure that provides a tool to estimate footprint variations in time for a given measuring height and roughness length, without

the need to re-calculate the footprint every time the atmospheric conditions change. The model can be retrieved online.¹⁰⁰

Eddy Covariance (Eddy Correlation) Technique

The eddy covariance (or eddy correlation [EC]) technique estimates Hg flux according to Eq. 11 as the integral covariance of the time series $w(t)$ and $C_{Hg}(t)$ over a suitable time interval Δt :

$$
F_{Hg} = \overline{w'C'_{Hg}} = \overline{cov(w, C_{Hg})} \cong \frac{1}{\Delta t} \int_{\Delta t} w(t)C_{Hg} dt = (13)
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} [(w_k - \overline{w_k}) (C_{Hg,k} - \overline{C_{Hg,k}})]
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{N-1} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} w_k C_{Hg,k} - \frac{1}{N} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} w_k \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} C_{Hg,k} \right) \right]
$$

To apply Eq. 13, the distribution of the different eddy sizes (fluctuation periods) and their contribution to turbulent mixing must be known. The time average interval Δt has to be long enough to cover the contribution of the largest eddies while keeping the temporal resolution of the measurements sufficiently high (typically at 10 Hz) to detect the contribution of the smallest eddies. The choice for Δt is depending on stratification and measurement height. However, using a constant averaging time of 30 min during the whole day will not introduce significant error and is now in general recommended.²⁵ Hence, a turbulence frequency spectrum over more than four orders of magnitude (∼0.0005–10 Hz) has to be resolved. This is accomplished by a fast three-axis sonic open-path anemometer that determines the direction of vertical wind velocity. Such a three-dimensional (3D) anemometer is required as knowing all three orthogonal wind components (*u*, *v*, *w*) provides the capability to align EC measurements with the mean wind streamlines, forcing \bar{v} and \bar{w} to zero (planar-fit method¹⁰¹). Today there is fast (>10 Hz), sensitive, portable, and reliable equipment for measuring only a few trace gas fluxes (with open-path, e.g., CO_2 , H_2O , CH_4 , and with closed path laser system, e.g., N₂O, O₃) by EC. The strict requirements for an Hg⁰ analyzer of high sensitivity, temporal resolution and precision combined with compactness to make it viable for EC application have turned out be extremely challenging to all fulfill. Although advocated by Bauer et al.77,102 with 2-photon laser induced fluorescence (LIF) technique, its application as an Hg sensor for $Hg^{0}-EC$ flux has so far not been realized.¹⁰³ Recently, Faïn et al.⁷⁶ and Pierce et al. 104 reported progress towards using a cavity ring-down spectroscopic $(CRDS)$ sensor for a future Hg⁰-EC flux application.

Relaxed Eddy Accumulation (REA) Technique

The lack of a fast response and sensitive Hg vapor sensor for the EC method can be substituted by using fast response solenoid valves in a conditional technique named relaxed eddy accumulation (REA). REA is a simplified version of eddy accumulation (EA^{105}) . The basic idea of EA is to interpret the vertical turbulent covariance flux (Eq. 13) as a weighted mean concentration with the vertical windspeed (w) as weighting factor. Since w shows positive (updrafts, \uparrow) and negative (downdrafts, \downarrow) values, they must be separated in order to obtain the net weighting factors:

$$
F_{Hg} = \overline{w'C'_{Hg}} = \frac{1}{N} \left(\sum_{w > 0} |w| \cdot C_{Hg} - \sum_{w < 0} |w| \cdot C_{Hg} \right) \tag{14}
$$

Air associated with updrafts and downdrafts is sampled by a pump into two bins at a flow rate proportional to $|w|$. Introducing weighted mean concentration for each of the bins $\overline{C_{Hg,\uparrow}^w}$ and $\overline{C_{Hg,\downarrow}^w}$ measured at the end of the sampling period with high resolution (but not necessarily fast response) Hg analyzer or extracted online onto manually handled traps. Since $\sum_{w>0} |w| = \sum_{w<0} |w| = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |w_i| = \frac{N}{2} |\bar{w}|$, Eq. 14 can be rewritten:

$$
F_{Hg} = \frac{|\bar{w}|}{2} \left(\overline{C_{Hg,\uparrow}^w} - \overline{C_{Hg,\downarrow}^w} \right) \approx 0.4 \sigma_w \left(\overline{C_{Hg,\uparrow}^w} - \overline{C_{Hg,\downarrow}^w} \right) \tag{15}
$$

where the last term is valid for a Gaussian distribution ($|\bar{w}|/\sigma_w = \sqrt{2/\pi} \approx 0.798$) and σ_w (m s⁻¹) represents the standard deviation of *w*. In practice, technical limitations in valve technology make EA hard to apply. Therefore, a "relaxed" version of EA was introduced, 106 where the average concentration of updraft and downdraft air is determined without a weighting by the vertical windspeed. The flow control is more easily handled compared to EA, where the performance of proportional sample flow control solenoids is not able to meet all requirements. Equation 14 has also been adopted for REA and the effect of the non-proportional sampling was expressed through an empirical factor *b*:

$$
F_{Hg} = b \cdot \sigma_w \left(\overline{C_{Hg, \uparrow}} - \overline{C_{Hg, \downarrow}} \right) \tag{16}
$$

The *b*-factor is well defined with a value of 0.627 ($\sqrt{2\pi}/4$) for an ideal Gaussian joint frequency distribution (JFD) of w and C^{107} However, turbulent transport, especially over rough surfaces, often violates the underlying assumption of a linear relationship between w and C^{108} Excursions from the linear relation occur due to non-Gaussian behavior of turbulence and result in smaller *b*-factors in the parameterization.¹⁰⁹ For many experimental data, *b* was found to range from 0.54 to 0.60,^{110–113} which restricts the use of a fixed factor. Therefore, most investigators determine *b* in situ from EC and REA measurements of a suitable scalar quantity χ (e.g., sensible heat flux (H) or CO₂ flux) according to:

$$
b_{\chi} = \frac{\overline{w' \chi'}}{\sigma_w \left(\overline{\chi_{\uparrow}} - \overline{\chi_{\downarrow}} \right)} \tag{17}
$$

The loss of proportional sampling in the REA technique—compared to the original EA concept—results in an increase of the coefficient in Eqs. 16 to 17 from 0.4 to approximately 0.6. Hence the concentration difference that has to be measured is reduced by a factor of about 1.5. This effect can be partly or fully compensated by the use of a threshold (*deadband*) at $w = 0$ (alternatively at the mean value for vertical wind calculated from e.g. moving average filters), where neither the up-draft nor downdraft sampling is active. The wind-deadband is normally recursively scaled with σ_w and $\leq \alpha \cdot |w/\sigma_w|$, where α is typically 0.5 (*dynamic* deadband). In addition to diminishing the relative contribution of error from the chemical analysis, the use of a deadband reduces the frequency of valve switching that improves sample segregation significantly and alleviate the potential risk of smearing of small eddies inside the sample tubing. In addition to reducing the numerical value of *b,* employment of a dynamic deadband also makes the value largely independent on the friction velocity and atmospheric stability, resulting in an approximately constant b^{114} :

$$
F_{Hg} \cong 0.42 \sigma_w \left(\overline{C_{Hg, \uparrow}(w > \sigma_w/2)} - \overline{C_{Hg, \downarrow}(w < -\sigma_w/2)} \right) \tag{18}
$$

The fast response vertical anemometry to sense upward and downward air motions is in REA combined with fast switching of intake air to isolate the air from the upward and downward motions. The concentration scalar material carried in the isolated upward and downward moving air is then accumulated into separate reservoirs or sampled from the isolated lines. Three basic criteria need to be fulfilled:

- 1. Sampling must be done at constant flow rate,
- 2. Sample segregation must be at an accurate timing, and
- 3. Addition due to contamination or loss of the Hg form of interest (e.g., Hg^0 , GOM) due to reaction-absorption during sample passage in the system should be minimized.

During the past decade, REA was applied toward measuring Hg⁰ fluxes over soils and canopies^{91, 92, 97, 115} and measuring GOM fluxes during polar Hg depletion events in the Arctic.¹¹⁶ The REA-system employed by Bash and Miller⁹¹ is a modified version of that of Cobos et al.¹¹⁵ according to a suggestion of Bowling et al.¹¹⁷ and Nie et al.¹¹⁸ to eliminate negative pressure

FIGURE 5. Schematics of the Hg⁰-REA system employed by Bash and Miller⁸⁹ (a) and by Olofsson et al.⁹⁰ (b). The Bash and Miller⁸⁹ system is modified from that of Cobos et al.¹¹³ The location of Hg zero-air injection valve introduced by Bash and Miller⁸⁹ is indicated. (Color figure available online).

that builds up behind the sampling valve. In a simple sketch of Bash and Miller⁹¹ system (left panel of Figure 5), the additional valve marked as 3b is a zero Hg concentration air three-way valve. The twin 2L Teflon reservoir tanks used by Cobos et al .¹¹⁵ to minimize fluctuations in pressure caused by the valve switching become obsolete in the set-up of Bash and Miller.⁹¹ These REA-systems are of a design with one inlet and without the capability of allowing the isolation of a wind-deadband. By using a combination of two three-way solenoid valves, controlled by a relay driver connected to an automatized Hg vapor analyzer (e.g., Tekran 2537A, Tekran Instruments Corp., Toronto, Canada), one sample line is routed through the analyzer while the other is vented out of the system through a vacuum pump, then the REA measurement can be accomplished. The non-simultaneous (sequential) sample collection and chemical analysis leading to that the numerical strength of updraft versus downdraft samples is separated over the averaging period $\Delta t = 30$ min. Cobos et al.¹¹⁵ set the *b*-factor to a constant $b = 0.56$ during experiments while Bash and Miller⁹¹ used three months of sensible heat flux (*H*) data from the experimental site to calculate $b = 0.474 \text{ (R}^2 \sim 0.96)$ according to Eq. (17).

Cobos et al.¹¹⁵ studied the evolution of Hg^0 flux over agricultural soil in Minnesota planted with corn, while Olofsson et al. 92 investigated modified (Hg contaminated) soil substrates in western Sweden (chlor-alkali waste repository and sewage sludge amended salix field). Both studies report diurnal patterns in Hg vapor fluxes correlated with solar radiation. The work of Bash and Miller⁹¹ is oriented toward long-term Hg^{0} REA measurements from a 40-m tower over a red maple (*Acer rubrum*) forest in Connecticut. During the growing season, there is a trend from net dry deposition in early summer to net evasion in the late summer and early fall before complete senescence.⁹⁷ The REA-system employed by Olofsson et al.,⁹² shown in the right panel of Figure 5, used separate inlets for updraft and downdraft air samples and in addition a valve for wind-dead band. Every 30 seconds, the band threshold = 0.5 $\vert w/\sigma_w \vert$ was updated using wind data from the last 5 minutes. This system is in this aspect identical to earlier reports, ^{95, 119, 120} exhibiting an approximately constant *b*-factor of 0.42 as repetitively derived from momentum or sensible heat fluxes. In contrast to the setup of Bash and Miller, 91 they (Olofsson et al.) used sub-sample loops that continuously circulate air to the automized Hg vapor analyzers (Tekran® 2537A) from each of the reservoirs buffering segregated air from updrafts and downdrafts, respectively. The analyzer flow rates (0.75 L min⁻¹) were considerably smaller than the main sampling flow rate.¹²¹ Hence, simultaneous and synchronous sample collection and chemical analysis for $Hg⁰$ were obtained. By using two chemical analyzers working in tandem, where one is dedicated for updraft and the other for downdraft analysis only, the performance of the instruments needs to be carefully investigated in order to assess errors of three types:

- 1. Dissimilar performance of the two Hg sampling cartridges for each instrument,
- 2. Bias between the instruments (instruments tend to have greater relative accuracy [precision] than absolute accuracy 122), and
- 3. Spurious contribution from the sampling system due to light- and/or temperature induced degassing/adsorption of Hg 0 .

Sommar et al.¹²³ found that a dual analyzer system was unpropitious since it suffered from an inherent variability and drift of sensitivity of the Hg^0 analyzers, which was unpractical to compensate by calibration measures. In turn, they developed a system of whole-air type drawing air at high velocity to the Hg⁰-REA sampling apparatus, where only a sub-stream was conditionally sampled, thus allowing for the rejection of samples associated with *w*-fluctuations around zero (dead-band). Conditional sampling was executed with 10-Hz resolution by two fast-response three-way solenoid valves in parallel configuration connected to zero Hg^0 air through their normally open ports (see Figure 6).

The relative concentration difference measured by the REA technique is directly related to the respective flux-concentration ratio (w_d) in the following way:

$$
\left|\overline{C_{Hg,\uparrow}} - \overline{C_{Hg,\downarrow}}\right| / C_{Hg, \textit{amb}} = \frac{1}{b\sigma_w} \frac{F_{Hg}}{C_{Hg, \textit{amb}}}
$$
(19)

FIGURE 6. Schematics of the Hg⁰-REA design employed by Sommar et al.¹²³ (Color figure available online).

In contrast to Hg⁰ with low w_d , GOM exhibits high dry deposition velocities approaching those of strong acids ($HNO₃$ or HCl) with almost negligible surface resistance (R_c) .⁸ Given the typical variability of the b-factor and of σ_w , Eq. 19 predicts satisfactory prerequisite of GOM for REA measurements. In this case, REA concentration gradients exceeding 3% should be observed that are resolvable by annular denuder samplers.¹²⁴ In the REA-system developed by Skov et al.116 for GOM, the accumulation devices were placed directly as air inlets before the conditional sampling valves, as indicated in Figure 7. Hence GOM could be sampled without first passing long tubes, valves, or pumps. However, with such an arrangement the accumulating units experience a fluctuating airflow. The performance of the impregnated annular denuder to matrix GOM relying on diffusive transport through a narrow cylindrical slit. In order to accomplish diffusive transport rather than a turbulent one, the flow has to be laminar. The time it takes the build up laminar flow put an upper limit of the sampling frequency of the 3D-anemometer. As an optimum compromise between the meteorological measurements and chemical sample collection, Skov and co-workers¹¹⁶ used an eddy capture frequency of 1 Hz and a dynamic deadband threshold of $(1/\alpha)$ · $|w/\sigma_w|$ (α $= 2$ or 3). The estimated uncertainty in the REA flux calculation was ∼50%. Primarily, the GOM-REA set-up was designed to study the behavior and fate of GOM produced from atmospheric surface layer $Hg⁰$ by reactions involving

FIGURE 7. Simplified sketch of the REA-system used by Skov et al.¹¹⁴ to sample GOM flux. (Color figure available online).

reactive bromine species during polar spring. Rather unexpectedly, both dry deposition and emission of GOM were encountered. The emissions were attributed to chemical formation of GOM at or near the snow surface (see Table 2).

Micrometeorological Flux-Gradient Methods

MOST may be used to relate turbulent fluxes to mean quantities (mean profiles and gradients) that can be measured accurately enough with slow response instruments. According to MOST, mean vertical concentration gradient $\partial \bar{C}/\partial z$ can be expressed as:

$$
\frac{\partial \bar{C}}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{k \cdot z}{C^*} = \Phi_C(z/L) \tag{20}
$$

where C^* is the trace gas concentration scale $\left(-\overline{w'C'}\middle/u_*\right)$ and Φ_C are functions valid for stable $(z/L > 0)$ and unstable $(z/L < 0)$ conditions, respectively. They were found to be generally equal for scalar quantities (gases Φ_C , potential temperature Φ_H), but not for momentum (Φ_m) in unstable conditions. An often-used form of Φ_m is $1/\sqrt[4]{1 + \gamma (z/L)}$, called Dyer-Businger relations,^{125,126} where the coefficient γ is determined experimentally. Under unstable conditions, $\Phi_C \approx \Phi_H \approx \Phi_m^2$. To get an analytical formula for the profile $C(z)$, the differential relationship in Eq. 20 has to be integrated over z . It is only meaningful to integrate between two heights ($z₁$) and z_2) within the inertial sublayer and therefore in general only a relationship for a profile difference is obtained. In the simple case of neutral stability $(z/L = 0)$, a logarithmic profile function is obtained:

$$
\Delta \bar{C} = \frac{C^*}{k} \cdot \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \frac{dz}{z} = \frac{C^*}{k} ln(z_2/z_1)
$$
 (21)

The corresponding logarithmic expression for momentum flux from a height z_0 up to a height z is

$$
u(z) - u(z_0) = u(z) = \frac{u_*}{k} ln(z/z_0)
$$
 (22)

where z_0 is the height of the extrapolated logarithmic wind profile where $u(z_0) = 0$ as illustrated in Figure 8. This is the so-called "roughness" length/height." The general (non-neutral) profile function contains additional terms, which represent the deviation from the ideal logarithmic shape:

$$
\Delta \bar{C} = \frac{C^*}{k} \left[ln(z_2/z_1) - \Psi_C(z_2/L) + \Psi_C(z_1/L) \right]
$$
(23)

where Ψ -functions are called integrated "stability correction functions" representing the deviation from the neutral logarithmic profile (Eq. 21). The turbulent trace gas fluxes can be related to a measured profile difference by solving Eq. 23 for the scaling quantity *C*[∗] and inserting it into the definition of trace gas concentration scale. This results in an integral flux-profilerelationship:

$$
\overline{w'C'} = -\underbrace{\left(\frac{u_* \cdot k}{\ln(z_2/z_1) - \Psi_C(z_2/L) + \Psi_C(z_1/L)}\right)}_{v_{tr}} \Delta \bar{C}
$$
\n(24)

FIGURE 8. Schematic profile of wind speed $u(z)$ in the inertial and roughness sublayer (height *z*∗) above and within a crop canopy, with indication of the displacement height *d* and the roughness length z_0 . Solid blue line = real profile; dashed red line = ideal extrapolated near-logarithmic profile function. (Color figure available online).

where v_{tr} is called "transfer velocity" since it has the unit of m s⁻¹. The corresponding differential flux-profile-relationship has the form:

$$
\overline{w'C'} = -\underbrace{\left(\frac{u_* \cdot k \cdot z}{\Phi_C(z/L)}\right)}_{K_C} \cdot \frac{\partial \overline{C}}{\partial z}
$$
\n(25)

where K_c (m² s⁻¹) in analogy to the similar form in Fick's law for molecular diffusion is called 'turbulent diffusion coefficient' or 'eddy diffusivity'. The relationship between Ψ_c and Φ_c is:

$$
\Psi_C(z/L) = \int_{z_0/L}^{z/L} \left[1 - \Phi_C(\varsigma)\right] \frac{d\varsigma}{\varsigma}
$$
\n(26)

Two techniques for the measurement of Hg vapor fluxes according to Eq. 20 have been employed, namely the aerodynamic (pure profile) method and the modified Bowen ratio (scalar analogy) method. These techniques differ in the way v_{tr}/K_c is determined and will be discussed later.

The choice of appropriate measurement heights for the gradient techniques requires careful consideration. First, the measurement level should

FIGURE 9. Schematic source areas for a single point (EC, REA) and a profile (MBR, AER) MM measurement system (Color figure available online).

have a large vertical distance in order to obtain sufficiently large concentration differences that can be resolved accurately with the available sensors. According to the near logarithmic profile shapes (Eq. 21) the differences are largest near the surface and decrease quickly with height. Therefore, it would be desirable to set the lower measurement level close to the surface. However, all MM measurements should be made above the roughness sublayer height *z*[∗] (see Figures 2 and 8), which depends strongly on the size, form, and distribution of roughness elements and has for tall vegetation and forests a thickness [∼]1.5−2.5 of the canopy height (*h*).¹²⁷ Consequently, tall vegetation,such as forests, the lowest level in the gradient methods often has to be set within the roughness sublayer due to limitations of tower height and sensor resolution. Below the roughness sublayer the profile equation (Eq. 20) is not valid and has to be corrected.²⁸ A main problem for the gradient methods is that each measurement level has its own distinct source footprint. As shown in Figure 9, it is smaller and closer to the tower for low profile levels than for the higher ones. Under spatial inhomogeneous conditions, the profile levels may sense different surface types and no meaningful flux may result.

5.5.1. MODIFIED BOWEN-RATIO (MBR) TECHNIQUE

Modified Bowen-ratio (MBR) technique is performed under the assumption of equality among the scalar transfer velocities (scalar analogy hypothesis):

$$
-v_{tr} = \frac{\overline{w'T'}}{\Delta \overline{\theta}} = \frac{\overline{w'C'_{H_2O}}}{\Delta \overline{C_{H_2O}}} = \frac{\overline{w'C'_{CO_2}}}{\Delta \overline{C_{CO_2}}} = \frac{F_{Hg}}{\Delta \overline{C_{Hg}}}
$$
(27)

MBR typically requires the measurement of the flux of some reference scalar quantity (χ) on which EC can be performed (e.g., *H*, CO₂, λ E, H₂O), and the two-height concentration gradient of that same quantity and $\mathrm{Hg^0}$. Turbulent transport coefficients for the non-Hg⁰ quantity (χ) are determined from the scalar fluxes and concentration gradients:

$$
F_{Hg} = \frac{\overline{w' \chi'}}{\Delta \bar{\chi}} \Delta \overline{C_{Hg}}
$$
 (28)

From Eq. 28 it is obvious that the MBR application is problematic, when the reference flux is small.¹²⁸ MBR has been employed by in measuring Hg^0 fluxes over both contaminated⁹³ and background forest soils,¹²⁹, over a boreal forest lake,¹³⁰ over young and mature forest canopies,¹³¹ and over wetland vegetation.¹³² In earlier works, researchers collected up to six replicate manual samples from each level in Hg⁰ gradient measurements with a limited resolution of 1–3 hr with a precision of 1.4 \pm 0.3%,¹²⁹ but eventually employed an automated approach for which inlet bias were typically $<$ 0.01 ng m⁻³ using appropriately cleaned sampling lines and a single Hg analyzer sampling sequentially at two heights.¹³³ Given the uncertainties in the transfer velocity (v_{tr}) determined for H₂O and CO₂, the probable error in MBR Hg⁰ gradient measurements was estimated at \sim 15%,^{128,133} Two groups at the Nevada Study and Tests of the Release of Mercury From Soil (STORMS) flux intercomparison campaign (see section "Results of field measurements of Hg flu") also used MBR to quantify Hg⁰ fluxes over naturally enriched desert soil.^{41,134} In an adjacent area (Carson River superfund site), Gustin et al.¹³⁵ utilized automatized Hg⁰ and auxiliary MBR measurements at $2-4$ heights to estimate Hg^0 emissions from, for example, reprocessed mill tailings (0–150 ng m⁻² h⁻¹). Poissant et al.¹²² used a gradient setup installed on the prow of a ship cruising coastal Lake Ontario and upper St. Lawrence River during July 1998. Using intakes at ∼2.7 and ∼4.2 m above water surface level, small median gradients (≤ 0.04 ng m⁻³) were observed for all of the cruise sections. Fritsche et al.^{94,136} employed both MBR and aerodynamic (AER) methods to assess Hg⁰ flux over temperate grassland along the Alps. $CO₂$ was used as a reference species measured with EC. Vertical concentration profiles were established by measuring at 5 heights. Tubings of equal length were connected to a five-port solenoid switching unit and downstream a Hg vapor analyzer (at 5 min per sample) was connected in series with a closed path infrared gas (CO_2, H_2O) analyzer (at 1 Hz). Duplicate samples of $C_{Hg}(z)$ were obtained in the sequence z_1 - z_4 - z_2 - z_5 - z_3 , where z_1 and z_5 represent the lowest and highest level respectively, translating into a complete profile measurements every 50 min. A minimum resolvable gradient for Hg⁰ was determined to 0.02 ng m⁻³. Using the same instrument to determine the concentrations at all levels removes the influence from the Hg analyzer's systematic detection limit bias (typically [∼]0.1 ng m−³ for Tekran 2537 using 5-min sampling) on the resolvable gradient, 137 but mentioned previously, a flux determination based on gas sampling not overlapping in time are sensitive to fluctuating conditions within the averaging period. For such MM-measurements, for example nonstationarity in turbulence and intermitted concentration variations are thus of concern. A general presentation of QC-QA (Quality Control-Quality Assurance) measures for MM-systems including e.g. tests of developed turbulence can be found elsewhere.^{25,86,138}

Considering speciated Hg (GOM and Hg-p) flux, Lindberg and Strat- tan^{139} utilized mist chamber technique to sample GOM gradients at a grassland and a forest site in connection with MBR technique. The mist chamber technique has since then been found less suitable to determine GOM and has in general been replaced by a KCl-impregnated annular quartz denuder technique.¹²⁴ Poissant et al.¹⁴⁰ carried out synchronous gradient measurements of GOM and Hg-p by means of automated Hg speciation systems (Tekran®) operating in tandem at 1.5 and 3.0 m, respectively, as input for MBR-technique using water vapor as a reference component to assess exchange flux over a wetland adjacent to St. Lawrence River.

AER Method

In AER method, *vtr* is calculated according to Eq. 24 as a function of *u*[∗] and *L*. Generally EC technique is used for determining *u*[∗] and *L* is in turn calculated from Eq. 8. For a vegetated area, the zero-level for the wind field is no longer the ground but within the plant foliage. Instead of the geometric scale *z*, an effective aerodynamic scale *z*' is introduced with $z'(d) = 0$ and consequently $z = z' + d$. The (a priori) unknown parameter *d* is called the displacement height *d*. For low vegetation with a canopy height of *h*, Eq. 22 is in geometric scale given by:

$$
u(z) = (u_*/k) \ln \left(\frac{z - d}{z_0 - d}\right)
$$
 (29)

where $u(z_0 + d) = 0$ and z_0 can be roughly determined by $z_0 \approx [z_0 + d]$ $-2h/3$.

Two groups at the Nevada STORMS flux campaign 1999 used the AER method in connection with chambers^{41,50} to measure Hg^{0} fluxes over naturally enriched desert soil. The Gustin group utilized Hg vapor measurements at four heights, air temperature and wind velocity at six heights to estimate flux according to the Thornthwaite-Holzman's gradient-flux equation (see Eq. 32) yielding a fetch of ∼250 m. The Edwards group choose two low heights above the surface $z_1 = 0.1$ m and $z_2 = 0.4$ m to look at small footprints, typically <50 m of fetch. The flux was calculated according to

Eq. 30:

$$
F_{Hg} = \frac{u_* k \left(C_{Hg}(z_1) - C_{Hg}(z_2) \right)}{\left[ln(z_2/z_1) - \Psi_H(z_2/L) + \Psi_H(z_1/L) \right]}
$$
(30)

The stability correction functions Ψ from Businger et al.¹²⁵ used in Eq. 30 have numerical forms depending on stability: $\Psi = -4.7 \cdot (z/L)$ for z/L $> 0, \Psi = 2 \cdot \ln((1 + x^2)/2)$ and $x = \sqrt[4]{1 - 15(z/L)}$ for $z/L < 0$. A more detailed account on the design and evaluation of this AER system is given in Edwards et al.¹³⁷ Two-, three-, and four-point profiling systems were employed during the various field studies. They intermittently imposed a correction factor of ~1.3 on F_{Hg} according to Eq. 30.¹⁴¹ The gradient gas sampling and measurement system was lined with Teflon (solenoid valve, needle valve, pump, etc.). To avoid the creation of an artificial flux due to flow distortion, the intakes were designed to decrease flow by splitting the intakes into four inlets. The air sample was dried by Nafion bundle (Perma Pure Inc., Toms River, NJ, USA) prior to chemical analysis. Hence, the requirement for correction of water vapor content was avoided.⁴⁷ Edwards and co-workers reported a gradient resolution of [∼]0.01 ng m−³ translating into a method detection limit (MDL) of ~1.5 ng m^{−2} h^{−1} (u ^{*} = 0.1 m s^{−1}, z_1 $= 0.15$ m and $z_2 = 0.4$ m). Typically, flux was calculated with an averaging time of 90 min. Lee et al.¹⁴² used AER in a biannual study of Hg⁰ flux over coastal saltmarsh vegetation in New England. Similar to Edwards et al., 50 the use of a solenoid valve enabled two height levels sampling (here $\Delta z \sim$ 1.9 m) by an automated Hg vapor analyzer (Tekran $^{\circledR}$). A resistance approach including an aerodynamic resistance was used in the flux calculation:

$$
F_{Hg} = -K(z)\frac{\partial C_{Hg}}{\partial z} = -\int_{z_1}^{z_2} dC_{Hg} / \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \frac{dz}{K(z)}
$$
(31)

$$
= (C_{Hg}(z_1) - C_{Hg}(z_2)) / \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \frac{dz}{K(z)}
$$

where K (m² s⁻¹) was determined with the EC data with correction for air stability following the functions of Businger and Dyer. The effect of sequential compared to continuous sampling of the gradient was simulated for sensible heat flux, whereby AER was found biased high with 6%. Mean flux bias were estimated to 0.4 and 0.6 ng m⁻² h⁻¹ for the two consecutive years based on an averaged $1/dz / \int_{z_1}^{z_2} dz / K(z)$ of 0.06 m s⁻¹. In eastern Asia, Kim et al.^{143,144} performed AER measurements of Hg⁰ flux over a vast rice paddy located on an island proximate to the Yellow Sea. Hourly measurements at two heights

 $(z_1 = 1 \text{ m and } z_2 = 5 \text{ m})$ were accomplished by two automatized Hg analyzers (AM-2, Nippon Instruments Co., Japan) during spring of two consecutive years. Kim's group has also investigated fluxes over landfills^{145,146} and urban settings¹⁴⁵ with this technique. Kim and Kim¹⁴⁷ introduced the percent gradient concept $100 \left[\left(C_{Hg}(z_1) - C_{Hg}(z_2) \right) \middle/ C_{Hg}(z_1) \right]$ to readily assess if the gradient observations exceeded the precision of their system of typically ∼ 2%. The Reinfelder group applied AER to study volatilization of Hg^{0} in maritime settings of New Jersey. Goodrow et al.148 (part of the Reinfelder Group) investigated the contribution of the land-applied stabilized dredged material originated from New York/New Jersey harbor to local Hg emission budget while Smith and Reinfelder¹⁴⁹ studied Hg vapor flux from tidally exposed salt marshes with sparse low vegetation. These authors used a modified Thornthwaite-Holzman's gradient-flux equation¹⁵⁰ to calculate Hg⁰ flux:

$$
F_{Hg} = ku_* \left(C_{Hg} (z_1) - C_{Hg} (z_2) \right) / \left[\varphi_w (z/L) \cdot \ln(z_2/z_1) \right]
$$
(32)

where φ_w is a atmospheric stability correction factor accounting for the change in curvature of the wind profile away from neutral conditions for water vapor used as a proxy for Hg vapor. The gradient resolution reported range from ≤ 0.02 to 0.09 ng m⁻³ using a Tekran[®] 2537 analyzer. The substrates investigated exhibited significant light-driven volatilization of Hg^0 .

Marsik et al.¹⁵¹ employed gradient measurements at two heights with an average inlet bias of 0.01 ng m⁻³ over a mixed sawgrass/cattail marsh in the Everglades, Florida. Van Heyst and co-workers used a similar system to that of Edwards et al.¹³⁵ to quantify Hg^0 fluxes over a snow surface in Nunavut, Canada,¹⁵² and an agricultural field (soya bean/corn) amended with biosolids.^{153,154} During the first half of 2008, Steen et al.¹⁵⁵ investigated $Hg⁰$ flux over a snow-covered surface under polar night and day at a site in the European high Arctic impacted by Hg depletion events (MDEs). $17,156$ For a system similar to that of Edwards et al.,¹³⁷ Steen et al.¹⁵⁵ reported a MDL of ~5 ng m⁻² h⁻¹. The measurements were biased by inconsistent Hg⁰ concentration profiles ($z \le 0.5$ m) explained by a non-stationary turbulence regime. AER and MBR methods have been compared for a full year over a sub-alpine grassland in central Switzerland.^{94,136} The time series of AER and MBR Hg $⁰$ fluxes compared favorably in general. However, during spring and</sup> summer AER fluxes were consistently higher, which derives from the very small H_g0 gradients measured. The computation of the GEM fluxes with the AER and the MBR methods yielded random errors in the order of 43% and 14%, respectively. Nevertheless, it was suggested that the AER method yields more reliable Hg⁰ fluxes than the MBR method. Converse et al.¹⁵⁷ used AER and MBR technique to measure gaseous Hg fluxes over mixed vegetation in a high-elevation meadow in seasonal campaigns during one year. Comparable

fluxes were reported during spring and summer campaigns. However, when the reference $(H_2O, evaporation)$ flux for MBR was low during fall and winter the AER method was found to be more reliable.

CONSERVATIVE TRACERS FOR NONTURBULENT CONDITIONS

The very stable boundary layer with prevalence during nighttime eludes modeling attempts due to the limitation of existing formulations of turbulence. An additional measurement method, the so-called ²²²Rn/Hg⁰ method, has recently been used for the measurement of $Hg⁰$ fluxes at a grassland site in Seebodenalp, Switzerland, and at the city center of Basel, Switzerland.²⁰ It was used during periods with a stable nocturnal boundary layer (NBL) and was found to be an effective method for the measurement of Hg^0 fluxes in situations where the atmospheric conditions are nonturbulent, the fluxes are small, or the surface is highly heterogeneous. One of the assumptions of the method are that the lower NBL is reasonably well mixed so that potentially different source areas for 222 Rn (emitted primarily from soils) and Hg^{0} (emitted and exchanged by soils, plants, and anthropogenic sources such as combustion processes) would not accumulate in different heights in the NBL. The noble gas 222 Rn is a decay product of 238 U, has a relatively constant emission rate from soils,¹⁵⁸ and has a half-life time of [∼]4 days. Accumulation of 222Rn in the air is indicative of reduced vertical mixing in the atmospheric boundary layer. Air concentrations of Hg⁰ and 222 Rn were sequentially sampled with a 5-min resolution, whereby Hg^0 flux was calculated as the ratio of Hg^0 to ²²²Rn concentration change in the NBL multiplied by the ²²²Rn source strength:

$$
F_{Hg} = \frac{\Delta \overline{C_{Hg}}}{\Delta \overline{C_{222_{Rn}}}} \cdot F_{222_{Rn}} \tag{33}
$$

The latter quantity (F_{222_Rn}) was measured with a small static enclosure connected to a 222 Rn ionization chamber. Periods with significant linear accumulation of 222 Rn were used to delineate stable NBLs and to calculate Hg⁰ fluxes. Linear regression analysis of 222 Rn concentration change over >6 h was employed.

BULK METHODS FOR HG FLUX MEASUREMENTS OVER WATER SURFACES

Methods for estimating air-water exchange of Hg (Hg⁰) are generally bulk or enclosure approaches although MM techniques have been used in a few cases. Examples of the application of the both latter techniques for

air-water exchange studies have been given in previous sections. The bulk methods are discussed below. The flux of a trace gas between air and water is controlled by two main factors: the difference in concentration (ΔC_{Hg0}) of the gas in air and in water and the overall gas transfer velocity (k_{tot} , typically in cm h^{-1}):

$$
F_{Hg} = k_{tot} \Delta C_{Hg^0} = k_{tot} (C_{Hg^0, water} - C_{Hg^0, air} / H_{Hg^0})
$$
(34)
=
$$
\frac{k_{tot} C_{Hg^0, air}}{H_{Hg^0}} \left(\frac{S}{100} - 1\right)
$$

The right term in Eq. 34 including ΔC_{Hg0} is expressed as function of the Hg⁰ saturation level (S in %), where H_{Hg0} is the (dimensionless) Henry's law coefficient for Hg^0 . This coefficient has recently been experimentally determined as function of water temperature (T, K) and salinity.¹⁵⁹ A saltingout effect was observed for Hg⁰ in 1.5 M NaCl solution, where $ln(H_{Hg0}) =$ 5.28 – 1871.6/*T*. For pure water, the determination by Andersson et al.¹⁵⁹ compares favorably with that of Sanemasa.¹⁶⁰

In the two-film model originally proposed by Lewis and Whitman,¹⁶¹ it is common to express the total resistance as a sum of air and water resistances:

$$
R_{tot} = R_{water} + R_{air}; \ 1/k_{tot} = 1/k_{water} + 1/(k_{air}H)
$$
\n
$$
(35)
$$

For a sparingly soluble gas such as ${\rm Hg^0},$ R_{water} is the dominant resistance and *ktot* in Eq. 34&35 can be approximated by the water-transfer velocity (*kwater*). In the seminal work by Fitzgerald et al.¹⁶² and Kim and Fitzgerald¹⁶³ estimating Hg⁰ flux over the equatorial Pacific, k_{water} is calculated from Fickian molecular diffusion of Hg 0 ($D_{Hg^0,\mathrm{water}},\,\mathrm{cm^2\,s^{-1}}$) across a stagnate surface film (thickness z_d):

$$
k_{water} = D_{Hg^0, water} / z_d, \quad Sc_{Hg^0} = \nu / D_{Hg^0, water}
$$
 (36)

Sc is the Schmidt number, which is the ratio of momentum diffusivity (kinematic viscosity of water, *v*) to D_{Hg^0 , water. The aqueous diffusion coefficient D_{Hg0} ,_{water} has not been experimentally determined and as such has to be approximated by empirical molecular volume- or mass-based methods. Kim and Fitzgerald¹⁶³ used the Othmer-Thakar equation¹⁶⁴ while numerous of later works on air-water exchange^{165–168} rely on the Wilke-Chang methodology described in Reid et al.¹⁶⁹ Poissant et al.¹²² estimated Sc_{Hg0} from a linear and an exponential function for v^{170} and $D_{Hg^0,\text{water}}$, 163 respectively, which is similar to the approach of Costa and Liss.¹⁷¹ This simplistic approach has been implemented in an early version of the GEOS-Chem global 3-D model for Hg¹⁷² but in a later version,¹⁷³ it was revised to include the Wilke-Chang approximation. Schroeder et al.¹⁷⁴ applied a mass-based approximation proposed by Liss and Slater¹⁷⁵ for low molecular gases on Hg^0 , accordingly D_{Hg^0 , water is inversely proportional to the molecular mass.

Kuss et al.¹⁷⁶ performed molecular dynamic simulations of the diffusivity of Hg⁰ yielding $D_{Hg^0,\text{water}}$ (cm² s⁻¹) in freshwater and seawater fitted by Arrhenius expressions of $0.01768 \cdot \exp(-2042.22/T(K))$ and $0.02293 \cdot \exp(-5000)$ 2136.03/T(K)), respectively. Their results fall in-between those obtained with the volume and the mass approximations, which in-turn being significantly higher and lower (∼83 and ∼78% at 20◦C), respectively. Moreover, in fresh water, the predicted SC_{Hg0} was found to compare well with experimentally derived SC_{CO2} ¹⁷⁷ in the temperature range of 10–25°C.

It is evident that the surface film model oversimplifies the gas exchange dynamics.¹⁷⁸ Baeyens et al.¹⁷⁹ and Baeyens and Leermakers¹⁸⁰ used a classical shear turbulence model and a wave breaking model to calculate air-sea exchange of Hg over the North Sea and adjacent waters. Later works on $\mathrm{Hg^{0-}}$ gas exchange over (large) water surfaces using concurrent measurements of $C_{Hg0}}$ *air* and C_{Hg0} *water* normally rely on parameterizations of k_{water} obtained from proxy tracers formulated in terms of wind speed at 10 m height under neutral air boundary condition (*u10n*). Of these parameterizations, the three most frequently used for sea surfaces are the three-segment, piecewise linear u_{10n} relation developed by Liss and Merlivat,¹⁸¹ the quadratic u_{10n} function proposed by Wanninkhof¹⁸² and grade two polynomial u_{10n} function of Nightingale et al.¹⁸³ For shallow water bodies (lakes, etc.), gas exchange parameterizations, such as that of Wanninkhof et al.,¹⁸⁴ obtained empirically from SF_6 tracer experiments over a lake are preferred. See Table 2 for the gas exchange model used in the specific studies. The transfer velocity *kwater* (u_{10n}) is in practice calculated normalized for CO₂ at 20[°]C in either freshwater ($Sc = 600$; k_{600}) or in seawater ($Sc = 660$; k_{600}). The species-specific k_{water} for Hg⁰ is subsequently calculated (here in the case of sea water) from:

$$
k_{water}(Hg^0) = k_{660} \left(\frac{Sc_{Hg^0}}{660}\right)^{-n}
$$
 (37)

where Sc_{Hg}^0 is given at the appropriate temperature and if relevant recalculated to apply for seawater according to Wanninkhof.¹⁸² The exponent n in Eq. 37 is usually set at 0.5 (2/3 for the smooth segment in the model of Liss and Merlivat¹⁸¹). A recent review has suggested that the model developed by Nightingale et al.¹⁸³ best represents the simulations made for Hg evasion.¹⁴

During the last decade, methods have been developed to obtain near real-time analysis of $C_{Hg0, water}$ (dissolved gaseous Hg, DGM) in discrete water samples, flow-through devices or *in-situ* the surface water. They rely either on quantitative Hg^0 extraction procedures (using Hg^0 free purging gas)^{185–187} or by utilizing the phase partitioning equilibrium of Hg^0 between air and water.188–191 The automatized DGM sampling systems developed by Andersson et al.¹⁹¹ and Kuss and Schneider¹⁹⁰ have been operated during extensive oceanographic cruises.^{192,193} The former system includes a jacketed cylindrical extractor, which being continuously pumped by a high flow of surface water entering at the top of the inner cylinder. A stream of pressurized ambient air with considerably lower flow rate is dispersed as tiny bubbles at the bottom of this water column by using a pore size P0 glass frit. The contact time obtained between the streams by the opposite flow operation was sufficient for the gas exiting the system with respect to Hg^0 vapor to attain phase equilibrium with the water. Moreover, the downstream water in the outer cylinder acts insulating on the media in the inner one with respect to heat transfer from surrounding air (at room temperature). The concentration of Hg0 in the outgoing air (*C*eq) is analyzed and used to calculate *C Hg*0, w*ater* according to:

$$
C_{Hg^0, \, water} = C_{eq} / H(T_w) \tag{38}
$$

where T_w is the temperature of the surface water conserved during the extraction procedure. Using an automatized Hg vapor analyzer (Tekran[®]), an analytical cycle for DGM is typically completed every 10 min. The sampling efficiency of DGM was stated to ~99%. The latter system^{190,194} employs a static air head-space continuously sprayed with surface water in a glass bottle equipped with a water drain during 1-h equilibrium time. Subsequently, the drain is closed and the rising water level supply equilibrated air for Hg^0 analysis without dilution or contamination by ambient air. Again, Eq. 38 is utilized to calculate $C_{Hg^0, water}$ corresponding to a time resolution of 75 min of DGM determinations.

RESULTS OF FIELD MEASUREMENTS OF HG FLUX

There have been a substantial number of field studies of Hg fluxes over various surface types using several different measurement methods. In Table 2, a large selection of such investigations reported in the literature has been listed with brief supplementary information and sorted by substrate type. The data sets vary largely in time duration from sporadic samples during a short period to full-seasonal studies. Further on in this section, it is appropriate to talk over intercomparisons of field flux methods. A number of groups have made sideby-side comparison of the flux-gradient MM techniques.^{94,136,157} An extensive field intercomparison campaign (Nevada STORMS) involving four groups using both MM and DFC techniques in one cluster and three groups using DFCs only in another was conducted during fall of 1997.¹⁹⁵ The MM techniques compared favorably (averaged fluxes within 15% of each other) with the exception one setup consistently recording much lower fluxes. Given the highly

heterogeneous soil concentration in the landscape, the result has been explained largely by spatial differences in fetch. $41,50$ The comparison of DFCs with various design and standard operating procedures during the same campaign showed that calculated Hg fluxes using different chambers varied over an order of magnitude.^{43,195} The significant difference ($p < 0.05$) between DFCs was partially explained by substrate heterogeneity. Rinklebe et al. 42 and Magarelli and Fostier¹⁹⁶ deployed replicate chambers in multiple site studies and found a general high coefficient of variability between site replicates (maximum 137–250%). The spatial variability has also been assessed by monitoring flux from two colocated polycarbonate DFC systems interfaced by automatized Hg analyzers and subsequently moving one system around while having one remain stationary.197,198 In studies of litter-covered background soils in the eastern United States, Kuiken et al.¹⁹⁷ found fluxes observed with the non-stationary DFC in comparison were slightly more variable and for three out of six sites the mean flux observed by the two systems exhibited statistically significant differences. The MM systems applied during Nevada STORMS campaign measured diurnal Hg fluxes about 3 times higher than those measured with $DFCs$, ⁴¹ while a subsequent intercomparison study involving dry and wet conditions at the site showed that fluxes derived from a small-volume polycarbonate DFC (air turnover time 0.2 min) were not significantly different $(p < 0.05)$ from those derived simultaneously and within the footprint of a MBR system. 13 One of the participating groups of Nevada STORMS had previously found that MBR and a novel designed DFC applied over a rural grassland in southern Quebec in general were well correlated with a slight discrepancy during night.¹⁹⁹ Carpi and Lindberg²⁰⁰ reported agreeable Hg^0 fluxes derived from MBR and DFC over a sludge amended field. In multisite study over Canada, Edwards et al.¹³⁷ achieved a good comparison between DFC and AER methods concerning low-emitting homogeneous substrate sites. Gillis and Miller^{40} pointed out that airflow rates through the chamber and chamber exposure to ambient wind could potentially account for the poor agreement between DFC flux and that derived from MM techniques. Moreover, Wallschläger et al. 43 found a significant correlation between ambient wind speed and flux despite the fact that chambers exclude most wind. Recently, polycarbonate DFCs with aerodynamic design to create a regular air-flow field over the flux measurement zone have been fabricated by two groups and verified by computational fluid dynamics computational simulations.^{63,201} Assuredly of similar shape, the DFC design of Lin et al. 63 nevertheless comparatively enables an appreciably more uniform flow field to establish. Capitalizing on the predictable surface shear properties inside this type of DFC (with a internal height and a length of 3 cm and 30 cm, respectively), a scaling procedure using overall mass transfer coefficients to link the measured flux (F_{DEC}) to atmospheric surface layer flux (F_{atm}) was introduced:

$$
F_{atm} = F_{DFC} \frac{k_{atm}}{k_{DFC}} = \frac{Q\left(C_{Hg, out} - C_{Hg, in}\right)}{A} \frac{\left[4.86 + \frac{3.625 \cdot 10^{-6} (u_*/z_0 D_{Hg, air})}{1 + 3.911 \cdot 10^{-5} (u_*/z_0 D_{Hg, air})^{2/3}}\right]}{\left[4.86 + \frac{3.633 \cdot 10^{-2} (Q/D_{Hg, air})}{1 + 1.818 \cdot 10^{-2} (Q/D_{Hg, air})^{2/3}}\right]}
$$
(39)

where k_{DFC} (m s^{−1}) is the overall mass transfer coefficient in DFC, k_{atm} (m s^{−1}) is the corresponding coefficient under atmospheric conditions and *DHg,air* is the diffusion coefficient of Hg⁰ in air (1.194 × 10⁻⁵ m² s⁻¹).

SUMMARY

Hg is the only noninert element that besides the noble gases is predominantly in the gaseous atomic form in the atmosphere. Long-path optical laser spectroscopy can be used to detect Hg^0 at high frequency to levels approaching the ambient sub-ppt background mixing ratios. For decades, the DIAL technique has proven to be efficient tool for 3D mapping of atmospheric $Hg⁰$ in Hg impacted sites yielding reliable integrated flux determinations. The DIAL technique is however too imprecise for measurements of background diffuse areal Hg^0 fluxes, for which enclosure or conditional MM techniques and additionally bulk methods for water surfaces being employed. Benefiting from smaller and easily field deployable equipment, the standard procedure of sampling ambient air Hg^0 is by enhancement collection onto collectors containing gold in manual or automated systems. Moreover, background monitoring of Hg⁰ without preconcentration can be performed by Z-AAS instruments (e.g. Lumex RA-915AM, Lumex Ltd., St. Petersburg, Russia^{75,202}). Interfacing a flux sampling system with automatized Hg gas analyzer alleviates the otherwise tedious and time consuming work with processing a large number of manual traps analytically. This implementation is however associated with a significant cost, for which the expense of the analyzer is a few to several times that of the essential flux system (see Table 1).

Enclosures, representing the smallest scale ($\ll 1$ m²), are by far the most common tools in terrestrial field research. Open flow-through DFCs are the most frequently employed. In contrast to many other trace gases (CH_4 , N_2O , etc.), closed (static or dynamic) enclosures have so far received very limited attention for Hg 0 . In their simplest form including manual Hg gas analysis by traps, enclosure methods are of relatively low cost. The enclosures are portable and permit process studies and experiments with many treatments. However, they also suffer from several disadvantages, including their intrusive nature, influence on the microclimate over the plot studies ("greenhouse effect"), isolation from outside air. Given the small footprint of enclosures and that Hg^0 gas exchange fluxes over terrestrial surfaces are profoundly variable in space and time, replication measurements are thus preferred but often not carried out (see section "Results of field measurements of Hg flux"). Another issue is that no standard design and corresponding operation procedures have been implemented for field studies with DFCs. Although a large number of field investigations with this technique have been performed, many of the various flux data sets are not readily comparable due to divergent operating parameters.

Given the lack of a fast response ambient Hg^0 sensor precluding the possibility to perform Hg⁰-EC flux, the MM techniques employed for measuring Hg gas fluxes on large landscape scales are restricted to REA and flux–gradient methods. EC is the micrometeorologist's preferred technique because it is a direct measurement at a point. There is no problem with different footprints for different measurement heights as there can be for flux–gradient techniques, it is not impaired by a number of the simplifying assumptions as other MM approaches such as similarity between the eddy diffusivities for different entities, and it is independent of atmospheric stability.

REA technique substitutes fast-response solenoid valves for a fastresponse gas sensor. Air is sampled at a constant rate at a point and is directed into "up" and "down" bins (reservoirs) depending on the direction of the vertical wind. The gas flux is calculated as the product of the standard deviation of w and the concentration difference between the bins, multiplied by an in situ determined or empirical coefficient. Advantages of the method include its insensitivity to different footprints for different sensor heights and stability conditions, and the ability of preconditioning the air samples before analysis. However, the implementation of fast response solenoid valves, if not carefully configured, can introduce severe fluctuation in sampling flow that violates the fundamental requirements of the REA measurement. Other sources of systematic error are the potential offset in wmeasurements and improper time delay between the wind speed measurement and corresponding conditional sampling (execution of fast-response valves). The applicability of MM technique in measuring background $Hg⁰$ fluxes is strongly dependent on the minimum resolvable concentration difference (gradient) that can be achieved. It is thus very important to exercise a stringent QA/QC-protocol on the gas sampling and chemical analytical system. For REA, when the precision of the chemical analyzer is limited, it is viable to increase the concentration difference between the updraft and downdraft bins by disposal of air in a wind deadband (i.e., for $w < |w_0|$).

In flux–gradient approaches, fluxes are calculated as the product of the eddy diffusivity and the vertical concentration gradient of Hg^0 or transfer velocity and the difference in Hg^0 concentration between two heights (AER method), or in the case of MBR-method as the product of a tracer flux (typically that of heat, water vapor or $CO₂$ measured with EC) and the ratio of concentration differences of tracer and $Hg⁰$ between two heights measured simultaneously. In the AER method, the eddy diffusivity/transfer velocity can be inferred from turbulence measurements made with a fast response 3D anemometer. Corrections are needed to account for the effects of atmospheric stability.

Precautions are ordered in applying flux–gradient techniques over (high) canopies. In principle, measurements need to be conducted above the roughness sublayer height. However, given small gradients in this zone and limitations of tower height, often at least the lowest level has to be set within the roughness sublayer to satisfy a limited chemical sensor precision. In addition, the application of AER technique requires knowledge of *d* and $z₀$, which is not the case for MBR. On the other hand, in periods where the tracer flux is small, AER tends to be more reliable than the MBR-technique. Flux–gradient systems for Hg^0 normally employ interchange gear to measure concentrations at different heights with the same instrument resulting in non-synchronous concentration measurements. However, the resolvable concentration gradient obtained by employing two instruments operating in tandem is often insufficient because the individual instrumental (squared) errors are added in the calculation.

In contrast to enclosure techniques, the MM techniques allow spatially averaged measurements over a large area without disturbing ambient conditions and may serve as independent tests of process-based models, but are in-turn technically more demanding and require detailed knowledge of the prevailing micrometeorological conditions and the source area (see Table 1). The personal expense for technical maintenance and support of a MM system is likely to be higher. In general, enclosures can detect fluxes that are smaller than the lower limit for MM techniques. Moreover, the flux measured with a MM system will be the same as that at the bulk surface only if the flux is constant with height. Changes of fluxes with height are expected to be of consideration when obstructions exist in the upwind fetch, the surface has non-uniform vegetation or roughness or if adjacent strong point sources are present. Therefore, a MM sampling site must be chosen with care, still often compromises are necessary in the measurements such as excluding wind sectors and unfavorable meteorological conditions (inclusive of precipitation events during which the essential wind anemometer may exhibit frequent malfunction). Obviously, MM techniques are best suited for estimating terrestrial net ecosystem Hg gas exchange as the measured flux includes the contribution from the all present various surface (vegetation, soil, etc.) processes. Given the biomes complexity, however, a broad seasonal record of data is preferred to temporarily limited studies. As only dry deposition can be measured by MM techniques, co-located sampling of wet deposition is required to provide complementary information about inputs in order to judge if an ecosystem acts as a sink or as a source of Hg. Contrary to enclosures, there are thus site conditions and logistical considerations for which MM techniques are not appropriate. Enclosure techniques have their main niche to gauge fluxes over defined surfaces or at spatial scales below the resolution possible with MM techniques. Nevertheless, by combining data from appropriate sampling allocations, enclosure measurements can potentially be used to estimate net Hg gas exchange over a large area.

 $Hg⁰$ is ubiquitous in the surface waters of the oceans and of fresh water systems in concentrations exceeding those expected as if it were in equilibrium with the atmosphere. In water, enclosures can only be used during relatively calm conditions, which make direct surveys of the influence of wind and waves on the Hg^0 gas exchange less viable. This is particularly of concern for the application for seawater surface, where the transfer of gases between water and atmosphere is largely governed by events associated with high wind speed and breaking waves. For larger water bodies, bulk methods have been widely applied. They generally combine measurements of Hg^{0} in air and surface water with gas transfer-wind speed relationships obtained for studies of proxy tracers. A significant source of uncertainty stems from the aqueous diffusion coefficient of Hg^0 , which has not been experimentally determined. The methods used in the literature for estimation produce largely divergent results. In recent years, progress has been made to measure Hg^0 in surface water with automated techniques to better match the time-resolution permissible by using on-line instrument for monitoring Hg^0 in ambient air.

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