Jet engine lubrication oil as major component of aircraft exhaust nanoparticles

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Conclusions

From the ambient measurements near a runway,

- Modal diameters in the aircraft exhaust plumes were \approx 10 nm or smaller
- Aircraft exhaust nanoparticles are OC-rich. Consistent with the volatility of nanoparticles
- Half the organic compounds in the nanoparticles (D < 30 nm) can be attributed to unburned jet lubrication oil

Implications

- Superior technologies for controlling oil emissions (e.g., through a breather vent) may greatly reduce aircraft nanoparticle emissions
- Reduction in the oil emissions would be beneficial in mitigating health risk since oils contain toxic materials (e.g., TCP)
- Environmental (health and climate) impacts near airports and in the upper troposphere



Related publication

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Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics

Identification of jet lubrication oil as a major component of aircraft exhaust nanoparticles

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Related presentation in this conference

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