Characterization of Aerosol Particles with Digital Holography

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Motivation

Goal: Characterization of aerosol particles *in situ*, e.g.,

particle size, shape, composition.

In principle, this information is contained in the elastic scattering pattern.

Unfortunately, such patterns can be very complicated, and thus difficult to interpret, i.e., *there is no general inversion technique*. two-dimensional (TAOS) scattering pattern of a single urban aerosol particle



K. B. Aptowicz, *et al.*, J. Geophys. Res. 111 D12212, pp, 1-13 (2006).



An alternative approach - digital holography



Once chemically processed, the hologram becomes a transmission diffraction-grating.



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Experiment 1









Validation



Cluster image reconstructed from the contrast hologram.

Standard optical microscope image of same particle cluster.



But we would like to do this without collecting particle on a slide...

Saharan sand aerosol particle



digital hologram

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Tunisian sand aerosol particle

















This is done computationally by varying the distance between the hologram and reconstruction plane.





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• A highly useful capability would be is to get a particle image *simultaneously* with some information about its composition.

• To do this, we propose to measure optical absorption by the particle using digital holography.

• The basic idea involves *interfering* two holographic images of a particle undergoing some change.



Consider the particle in 2 different physical states:





If the CCD is deliberately double-exposed, then reconstruction will produce both near-field waves superimposed.



$$K_{\text{tot}} = K_1 + K_2$$

The image produced will then be proportional to:

 $/K_{1}+K_{2}/^{2}$

which should show a profile of the particle superimposed with interference fringes.





Computational test



Computational test...





Computational test...





Computational test...





Illuminate the particle with a CO₂ laser pulse (10.6 um IR).

This heating will perturb the particle changing its physical state: expansion is size change in refractive index heating of the surrounding air (schlieren)

The perturbation of the particle will be related to its absorption of the IR heating pulse.

Thus, the interference fringes in the reconstructed particle image (due to this perturbation) should be connected to the absorption properties of the particle: a material-dependent quantity.





- Digital holographic imaging of aerosol particles can be done *in situ* with a simple optical arrangement.
- This imaging technique completely avoids the difficulties associated with interpreting scattering patterns.
- It may be possible to obtain particle image and composition information simultaneously.

a recent paper...

"Digital holographic imaging of aerosol particles in flight" J. Quant. Spectrosc. Radiat. Transfer **112** p. 1776-83 (2011)

> which is freely available at: http://sites.google.com/site/emscattering/

> > Acknowledgements

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