

Analysis of Critical Sand Emission Threshold in the Tazhong Region Based on Model Parameterization Schemes (Postprint)

Authors: Zhou Chenglong, Memeteli Memetimin

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Abstract

Utilizing field observation data from the Tazhong experiment during July 4–29, 2009, and based on two dust emission model parameterization schemes proposed by MARTICORENA and SHAO, this study preliminarily investigates the threshold wind speeds for dust emission under different dust weather conditions in the Tazhong region. The conclusions are as follows: (1) For non-dust weather, the number of dust impact particles is 10,000; for blowing dust weather, 10,001 number of dust impact particles 20,000; for dust storm weather, number of dust impact particles 20,001. (2) Based on the MARTICORENA dust emission parameterization scheme, the average threshold wind speed for dust emission is 4.88 m s^{-1} ; based on the SHAO dust emission parameterization scheme, the average threshold wind speed for dust emission is 6.24 m s^{-1} . The threshold wind speed for dust emission is highest during non-dust weather and lowest during dust storm weather. (3) During the observation period, the horizontal dust flux was 732.9 kg m^{-1} , of which 125.2 kg m^{-1} occurred during non-dust weather, 80.9 kg m^{-1} during blowing dust weather, and 526.8 kg m^{-1} during dust storm weather. The SHAO dust emission parameterization scheme is suitable for estimating the total horizontal dust flux as well as the horizontal dust flux during non-dust and blowing dust weather, while the MARTICORENA dust emission parameterization scheme is suitable for estimating the horizontal dust flux during dust storm weather.

Full Text

Near-Surface Critical Threshold Velocity of Dust Emission in Tazhong Area Based on Parameterization Schemes

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Authors: Zhou Cheng-long, Ali Mamtimin, Yang Xing-hua, Yang Fan, Huo Wen, Jin Li-li, He Qing

Affiliation: Institute of Desert Meteorology, Taklimakan Experimental Observation Station of Desert Atmosphere and Environment, Urumqi 830002, Xinjiang, China

Abstract

This paper investigates the threshold velocity (u) calculation for the Tazhong area of the Taklimakan Desert, Xinjiang, China, using parameterization schemes. Firstly, we classified dust weather events by combining data on sand saltation, then acquired the threshold velocity through the MARTICORENA and SHAO schemes respectively. To test the accuracy of u , we estimated the horizontal sand flux. The results are as follows: (1) In non-dust weather, the number of saltation particles was less than or equal to 10,000; during sand blowing events, the number of saltation particles ranged between 10,001 and 20,000; and in sandstorms, the number of saltation particles exceeded 20,000. (2) The average threshold velocity was $4.88 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ using the MARTICORENA parameterization scheme and $6.24 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ using the SHAO scheme, with the threshold velocity being highest in non-dust weather and smallest during sandstorms. (3) During the study period, the total horizontal dust flux was $732.9 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$, with horizontal dust fluxes of 125.2, 80.9, and $526.8 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$ in non-dust weather, sand blowing, and sandstorm conditions respectively. The SHAO parameterization scheme was suitable for estimating horizontal dust flux during the study period, non-dust weather, and sand blowing conditions, while the MARTICORENA scheme was suitable for estimating horizontal dust flux during sandstorms.

Keywords: threshold velocity; parameterization scheme; Tazhong

1. Introduction

The study area is located in the Tazhong region of the Taklimakan Desert. Field experiments were conducted using BSNE (Big Spring Number Eight) samplers installed at heights of 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.5, 1.0, and 2.0 m. The measurement system employed Sensit-HLI sensors to record saltation particle counts at 0.05 m height, with data logging intervals of 1 second and statistical aggregation over 5-minute periods.

2. Data and Methods

The classification of dust weather was based on saltation particle counts: non-dust weather ($< 10,000$ particles), sand blowing ($10,001$ - $20,000$ particles), and sandstorms ($> 20,000$ particles). Two parameterization schemes were applied to calculate threshold velocities: the MARTICORENA scheme yielding an average threshold of $4.88 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$, and the SHAO scheme yielding $6.24 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. The horizontal dust flux was estimated using the equation $E = c\rho u^3$, where E represents the dust flux, c is a coefficient (0.8), ρ is air density, and u is wind velocity.

3. Results and Discussion

During the observation period from May 2009 to May 2010, the total horizontal dust flux reached $732.9 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$. The flux distribution varied significantly by weather type: $125.2 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$ during non-dust weather, $80.9 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$ during sand blowing, and $526.8 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$ during sandstorms. The SHAO parameterization scheme demonstrated better performance for estimating flux in non-dust and sand blowing conditions, while the MARTICORENA scheme proved more suitable for sandstorm events. This difference in scheme performance may be attributed to variations in surface conditions and particle size distributions under different weather intensities.

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