Interactive comment on “Sub-micron atmospheric aerosols in the surroundings of Marseille and Athens: physical characterization and new particle formation” by T. Petäjä et al.

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Received and published: 26 January 2007

The authors would like to thank ref 2 for comments and suggestions.

The main criticism of the referee points to the length of the manuscript. This is due to relatively large dataset consisting of two separate field campaigns. The aim of this paper is two-fold, firstly it presents the average properties of sub-micron particle population and hygroscopicity, which is relatively poorly known in the Mediterranean area, and secondly the paper concentrates in more detail to new particle formation, growth and participating compounds in these processes. The latter part is scientifically more of a hot topic, but this does not mean that information on average properties are not needed. The length is a direct result of this need to meet both of these goals.
To further streamline and separate the aforementioned aims, the section "4.2.2 Aerosol hygroscopicity" was moved as a chapter "4.2 Average hygroscopic properties". Now chapters 4.1 and 4.2 are related to general features of the data and average properties. The chapter 4.3 is now only concentrating on formation, growth and hygroscopicity in particularly during events.

Editorial comments:

Spelling errors were corrected. Figure 3 was re-drawn and caption now describe colors.

Figure 9 was deleted completely.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 6, 8605, 2006.