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Evaluation of open and closed path sampling systems for determination of emission rates of NH_3 and CH_4 with inverse dispersion modelling

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Declaration of interest: none

Abstract

The gas emission rates of ammonia (NH_3) and methane (CH_4) from an artificial source covering a surface area of 254 m^2 were determined by inverse dispersion modelling (IDM) from point and line-integrated concentration measurements with closed and open-path analyzers. Eight controlled release experiments were conducted with different release rates ranging from 3.8 ± 0.21 to 17.4 ± 0.4 mg s^{-1} and from 30.7 ± 1.4 to 142.8 ± 2.9 mg s^{-1} for NH_3 and CH_4, respectively. The distance between the source and concentration measurement positions ranged from 15 m to 60 m. Our study consisted of more than 200 fluxes averaged intervals of 10 min or 15 min. The different releases cover a range of different climate conditions: cold (< 5°C), temperate (< 13 °C) and warm (< 18 °C). As the average of all releases with all instrument types, the CH_4 recovery rate Q_{bLS}/Q was 0.95 ± 0.08 (n = 19). There was much more variation in the recovery of NH_3, with an average of 0.66 ± 0.15 (n = 10) for all the releases with the line-integrated system. However, with an improved sampling line placed close to the source an average recovery rate of 0.82 ± 0.05 (n = 3) was obtained for NH_3. Under comparable conditions, the recovery rate obtained with an open-path analyzer was 0.91 ± 0.07 (n = 3). The effects of measurement distance, physical properties of the sampling line, and deposition are discussed.

Keywords: Method validation, Ammonia, Methane, Inverse Dispersion Method, Backward Lagrangian Stochastic, bLS

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1 Introduction

The global agricultural system is currently facing one of its biggest humanitarian challenges: feeding the world's rising population while preserving the environment and climate for future generations (FAO, 2017). The agricultural sector is a major contributor to global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (15%) and ammonia (NH_3) emissions (64%) (OECD and FAO, 2019), leading to air pollution, climate change, deforestation, and loss of biodiversity (Aneja et al., 2009).

The European Union has established a reduction target for 2030 to reduce the GHG emissions by at least 55% (EEA, 2019), compared to 1990, and NH_3 emissions by 19% (NEC Directive 2016/2284), compared to 2005. Agriculture must contribute to GHG emission reductions, and valid estimates of GHG emissions are important for national inventories regulation strategies and for selecting efficient mitigation techniques.

Choosing the appropriate methodology to quantify gaseous emissions can be a challenge. In particular agricultural sources are challenging as the sources often are small and inhomogeneous, exhibit non-steady emissions over time (e.g. NH_3 emissions after slurry application (Hafner, 2018)) and are influenced by other sources in close vicinity. Most of the methodologies have restrictions on the measurement location and/or the source and involve complex instrumentation set-up (e.g., fast-response analyzers, measurements at multiple heights). The micrometeorological mass balance (MMB) method (Desjardins et al., 2004) requires measuring concentration at multiple positions several meters above the ground, which is a challenge for obtaining high time resolution and it ignores the horizontal turbulent transport (Hu et al., 2014). The tracer flux ratio method (TRM), which has also been used to measure agricultural emissions (Vechi et al., 2022; Fredenslund et al., 2019; Delre et al., 2018), is a relatively labor and cost intensive method typically with short intense measurement periods. In case of dynamic emissions, this is not sufficient for resolving the temporal variations in emissions over days or weeks.

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The inverse dispersion method (IDM) based on backward Lagrangian Stochastic (bLS) dispersion modelling (e.g. Flesch et al., 2004, 1995) has been widely used for the assessment of NH_3 and methane (CH_4) emissions from many agricultural sources: dairy housing (Bühler et al., 2021; VanderZaag et al., 2014; Harper et al., 2009), cattle feedlot (McGinn et al., 2019; Todd et al., 2011; van Haarlem et al., 2008; Flesch et al., 2007; McGinn et al., 2007), application of liquid animal manure (Kamp et al., 2021; Carozzi et al., 2013; Sintermann et al., 2011; Sanz et al., 2010), grazed pasture (McGinn et al., 2011; Voglmeier et al., 2018), rice field (Yang et al., 2019), lagoon (Ro et al., 2014; Wilson et al., 2001), composting stockpiles (Sommer et al., 2004), agricultural biodigester (Baldé et al., 2016b; Flesch et al., 2011), farm (Flesch et al., 2005) and stored liquid manure (Lemes et al., 2022; Baldé et al., 2016a; Grant et al., 2015; McGinn et al., 2008).

IDM has been tested in controlled release experiments with different conditions: ground level source without obstacles (Flesch et al., 2014; McBain and Desjardins, 2005a; Flesch et al., 2004), ground level source surrounded by a fence (Flesch et al., 2005; McBain and Desjardins, 2005a), elevated source (Gao et al., 2008; McBain and Desjardins, 2005a), multiple emission sources (Hu et al., 2016; Ro et al., 2011; Gao et al., 2008) and to quantify the effect of NH_3 deposition (Häni et al., 2018).

IDM is a function of the geometry and location of source and downwind concentration sensor (including height for the sensor) and the turbulence characteristics in the surface layer. The statistical properties of the flow in the atmospheric surface layer for the IDM are defined by the friction velocity (u^*), roughness length (z_0), the Obukhov length (L), and wind direction (Flesch et al., 2004). Emissions are derived from concentration measurements up- and downwind of the source, which could be determined with point or line-integrated measurements from closed- or open-path analyzers. IDM assumes an ideal atmospheric surface layer, which means i) a horizontally homogeneous and flat surface, ii) homogeneity and quasi-stationarity with respect to the turbulence characteristics and iii) spatially uniform emissions from a confined source (Flesch et al., 2004). Therefore, there should not be any obstacles (e.g., trees, buildings) in close vicinity of the source to fulfil the required IDM assumptions.

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Additionally, IDM has the limitation that there should not be any other sources of the same gas species that affects up- and downwind concentration differently. The IDM is simple, flexible (Harper et al., 2011), robust even in no ideal conditions and has a reported accuracy of 100 ± 10% when it is properly used (e.g., place of instruments, filtering criteria) (Harper et al., 2010). Moreover, IDM is a direct measurement method that does not alter the physical properties of the source, and it is applicable for both small and large emissions of any shape of sources (Flesch et al., 2004) as opposed to indirect enclosure methods (e.g. chambers measurements).

Concentration measurements are mostly done with an open-path optical system (e.g. Baldé et al., 2018; Bühler et al., 2021) because long path lengths (>50 m) enable a higher emission plume coverage and avoids internal surfaces (e.g. tubes, pumps) where NH_3 can adsorb (Shah et al., 2006; Vaittinen et al., 2014). However, open-path has a limitation on low concentration measurements (<10 ppb for CH_4 and NH_3) (Bai et al., 2022) and requires complex calibrations to reduce the uncertainty of the measurements (Häni et al., 2021; DeBruyn et al., 2020). In addition, it requires intensive labor to move and optically align the instruments to different positions depending on the predominant wind direction. Commercially available open-path analyzers exhibit limitations with respect to acceptable detection limits (Häni et al., 2021). Closed-path analyzers have rarely been used together with the IDM (Ro et al., 2011) due to its limitation caused by adsorption of NH_3 in the system. In addition, closed path analyzers have only been used for point measurements, which challenges the ability to catch the emission plume and makes it sensitive to wind direction accuracy.

Data filtering is needed to ensure accuracy of the IDM, which is related to the meteorological conditions (e.g., wind speed, atmospheric stability) and wind direction. The quality criteria for filtering are based on the atmospheric conditions in a measurement interval to ensure the assumptions of the model is adequately meet, which also lower the uncertainty of the resulting data. Different criteria have been used in previous studies: Flesch et al. (2005) recommend to remove data where $u^* < 0.15$ m s^{-1}, $|L| < 10$ m and $z_0 > 1$ m, whereas McBain and Desjardins, 2005 recommend $u^* < 0.19$ m s^{-1}, $|L| \leq 3$ m and $z_0 > 1$ m.

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Flesch et al. (2014) suggest the filtering criteria for the night of $u^* < 0.05$ m s^{-1} and the gradient between measured and MO-calculated temperature ($|\Delta\Delta T|_{thres}) = 0.05$ K. Bühler et al. (2021) removed data where $u^* < 0.05$ m s^{-1}, $|L| < 2$ m, $z_0 > 0.1$ m, standard deviation of the horizontal wind components (u, v) divided by $u^*(\sigma_{u,v}/u^*) > 4.5$ and Kolmogorov constant (C0) > 10.

This study aimed to assess the applicability and performance of a closed-path analyzer used with a sampling system that allows for line integrated concentration measurements used with the IDM for determining emission rates of CH_4 and NH_3. This novel measuring system will allow for measuring emissions from sources with low emission rates and will have good flexibility for moving it around the source depending on the wind direction in order to increase the probability of catching the emission plume. This novel method is assessed by eight controlled releases of CH_4 and NH_3 combined with up- and downwind measurements in different positions using point and line-average concentration provided with closed- and open-path analyzers. The use of CH_4 and NH_3 and open- and closed-path systems to measure concentration will give us an opportunity to: i) test the system of the line-average concentration measurement with a closed-path analyzer; and ii) evaluate potential loss of NH_3 downwind from the source by deposition and/or gas-to-particle conversion, processes that will not occur for inert CH_4. This controlled-release study is the first to compare the performances of open-path and line-integrated closed-path systems for measuring emissions of NH_3 and CH_4.

2 Material and methods

2.1 Site descriptions

From November 2019 to March 2022, eight controlled release experiments were performed at different grassland sites under varying conditions (see Table 1). Five releases (I-DK to IV-DK and VIII-DK) took place at AU campus Viborg, Denmark on two different fields (56°29'34.5"N / 9°34'28.3"E and 56°29'36.4"N / 9°34'15.9"E). Three releases (V-CH to VII-CH) were performed at Bern University of

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Applied Sciences, Switzerland (46°59'35.1"N / 7°27'43.1"E). At all sites, the terrain was horizontally flat, and the height of the canopy varied between 15 and 25 cm for the different experiments. Obstacles upwind of the artificial source were more than 100 m away in all experiments. There were no significant sources near the experiment sites.

2.2 Instrumentation

In this study, different models of cavity ring-down spectroscopy (CRDS) from Picarro (Picarro Inc., Santa Clara, CA, USA) were used to measure up- and downwind NH_3 and CH_4 concentration (Table 1). Model G2201-i and model G4301 measure CH_4 concentration, G2103 measures NH_3 concentration, and G2509 measures CH_4 and NH_3 simultaneously. The CRDS is a closed-path analyzer with continuous absorption that measure concentrations at approximately 0.5 Hz. The CRDS analyzer consists of a laser and an optical cavity chamber with highly reflective mirrors, which gives an effective path length of several kilometers. The light is absorbed in the cavity, and the decay of light intensity is called the ring-down time, which is directly related to the concentration of the specific compound. It has been frequently used to study agricultural emissions (e.g., Kamp et al., 2021; Pedersen et al., 2020; Kamp et al., 2019; Sintermann et al., 2011).

In experiments V-CH to VII-CH, the downwind CH_4 concentration was measured with three GasFinder3 analyzers (GF3, Boreal Laser Inc., Edmoton Canada) and the downwind NH_3 concentration with three miniDOAS instruments (Sintermann et al., 2016). The GF3 analyzer is an open-path tunable diode laser device that measures line-integrated CH_4 concentrations over path lengths of 5 to 500 m (i.e. single path length between sensor and retroreflector) with a temporal resolution of 0.3 to 1 Hz. The retroreflectors used in the experiments were equipped with seven corner cubes, suitable for path lengths around 50 m. The GasFinder devices have been widely used to measure emissions from different type of agricultural sources with the IDM (Bühler et al., 2021; McGinn et al., 2019; VanderZaag et al., 2014; Harper et al., 2010; Flesch et al., 2007). The performance of the GF3 instruments is discussed in detail by Häni et al. (2021).

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The miniDOAS instrument is an open-path device that measures NH_3, NO and SO_2 in the UV region between 190 and 230 nm based on the differential optical absorption spectroscopy (DOAS; Platt and Stutz, 2008) technique. It provides path-averaged concentrations for path lengths between 15 m and 50 m, with around 10 to 20 scans per second averaged over 1 minute. Ammonia emissions from agricultural sources (Kamp et al., 2021; Kupper et al., 2021; Voglmeier et al., 2018) and from an artificial source (Häni et al., 2018) have been measured with miniDOAS analyzers. Further details on the instrument is given in Sintermann et al. (2016).

2.3 Gas release from an artificial source

The artificial source area had a gas distributor unit at the center and eight 1/4" polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) tubes leave the distributor to get a circular shape of the source area. Each tube contained three critical orifices (100 µm diameter, stainless steel, LenoxLaser, USA) in series with 3 m distance between them. In total, the 24 orifices covered a circular area of 254 m^2.

Gas was released from a gas cylinder and the flow was controlled with a mass flow controller (in Denmark: Bronkhorst EL FLOW, Ruurlo, Netherlands; in Switzerland: red-y smart controller, Voegtlin Instruments GmbH, Aesch, Switzerland). The source height, the content of the gas cylinders, and the release rate for each experiment are given in Table 1.

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Table 1 Date, gas cylinders description, ammonia and methane release rate (RR), source and canopy height, downwind distance from source to instruments, type of system attached to the cavity ring-down spectroscopy (CRDS), and instrumentation of each controlled release experiment (CRE). G2103, G2202-i, G4301 and G2508 are different CRDS models, GF correspond to GasFinder and MD to miniDOAS.

CRE	Date	Gas cylinder			NH_3 RR	CH_4 RR	Source height	Canopy height	Distance from source edge	System with CRDS	Instruments
		Content	[bar]	total	[mg s^{-1}]	[mg s^{-1}]	[cm]	[cm]	[m]		
I-DK	29-11-2019 11:50 – 12:50	5% NH_3 and 95% N_2 ± 2%*	62	1	4.6 ± 0.3	-	0	20	50	Point 40°C	2 G2103
II-DK	29-11-2019 14:00-14:30	99% CH_4 and 1% N_2 ± 2%*	62	1	-	30.7 ± 1.4	0	20	50	Point 40°C	G2201-i and G4301
III-DK	12-10-2020 11:45-15:15	5% NH_3 and 95% CH_4 ± 2%*	62	1	3.8 ± 0.21	68.7 ± 3.7	0	25	35 - 60	16m line 40°C (Line 1)	G2103, G4301 and G2508
IV-DK	20-07-2021 10:30-16:00	10% NH_3 and 90% CH_4 ± 2%*	62	2	17.4 ± 0.4	142.8 ± 2.9	50	18	15-30	12m line 40°C (Line 2)	G2103, G4301 and G2508
V-CH	09-10-2021 10:00-12:10	10% NH_3 and 90% CH_4 ± 2%+	27	2	15.2 ± 0.3	128.9 ± 2.7	0	15	15 - 30 - 60	16m line 40°C (Line 1)	G4301, G2508, 3 GF and 3 MD
VI-CH	09-10-2021 14:20-16:50	10% NH_3 and 90% CH_4 ± 2%+	27	4	13.2 ± 0.3	111.8 ± 2.2	0	15	15 - 30 - 60	16m line 40°C (Line 1)	G4301, G2508, 3 GF and 3 MD
VII-CH	09-10-2021 17:20-17:50 11-10-2021 15:10-16:20	10% NH_3 and 90% CH_4 ± 2%+	27	4	13.2 ± 0.3	111.8 ± 2.2	50	15	15 - 30 - 60	16m line 40°C (Line 1)	G4301, G2508, 3 GF and 3 MD
VIII-DK	22-04-2022 12:30-15:00	10% NH_3 and 90% CH_4 ± 2%*	62	2	14.5± 0.3	118.9 ± 2.8	50	7	15	12m line 40°C (Line 2)and 12m line 80°C with heated inlets (Line 3)	3 G2508

*Air Liquide, Horsens, Denmark
+Carbagas, Bern, Switzerland

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2.4 Set-up

In the upwind position of all the experiments and in the downwind position of the I-DK and II-DK experiment, the CRDS measured the concentration from a single point 1.5 m above ground through a polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) tube that was insulated and heated to approximately 40℃. In the rest of the experiments, the CRDS measured downwind concentration from a sampling line system of PTFE tubes insulated and heated (40℃ or 80℃). In the III-DK, V-DK, VI-CH, and VII-CH experiment, the sampling line system consisted of a 16 m tube with nine inlets, 2 m between each inlet (Line 1). In the IV-DK and VIII-DK experiment, the sampling lines were 12 m long with seven inlets, 2 m between each inlet (Line 2 and Line 3). The inlets are made of critical orifices (0.25 mm ID for I-DK to VII-CH and 0.5 mm ID for VIII-DK polyetheretherketone (PEEK)) that guarantee uniform flow through each inlet (Line 1, Line 2 and Line 3). In the VIII-DK experiment, the sampling line system including the inlets was heated to 80°C (Line 3).

Figure 1 shows the position of the source area relative to the sampling position and the arrow indicates the wind direction during the experiments. The downwind concentration were measured in one, two or three distance (Table 1). In the V-CH, VI-CH and VII-CH, downwind concentrations were measured at the same time at 15 m, 30 m and 60 m distance from the edge of the source with multiple GF3 and miniDOAS instruments; one CRDS instrument was placed 15 m downwind (Figure 1). The distance between the reflector and the laser/detector of the GF3 and miniDOAS at the downwind position parallel to the CRDS sampling line was also 16 m. For the other two downwind positions the path lengths were 15 m and 50 m, respectively. The height of the measurement paths of all the open-path instruments were between 1.2 and 1.5 m. The background concentration of NH_3 was stable with no sources in close vicinity, thus in the three experiments, the average concentration of each instrument 10 min before the release of each experiment was used as the NH_3 upwind concentration for the miniDOAS and the CRDS instruments . In the V-CH, VI-CH and VII-CH experiment the measured NH_3 background concentration was 2.7 and 4.1 mg m^{-3}, and 2.1 and 4.8 mg m^{-3} for the miniDOAS and the CRDS, respectively.

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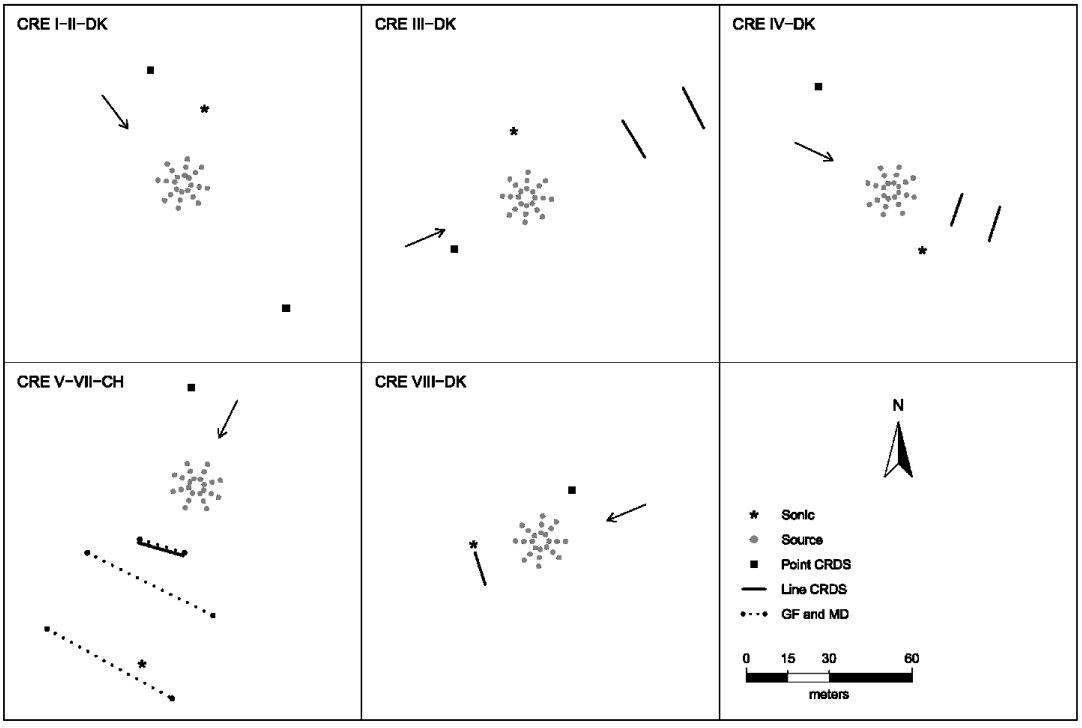

198

199 *Figure 1 – Position of the orifices of the artificial source, ultrasonic anemometer (sonic), and the*
200 *concentration analyzer used in the eight controlled release experiments (CRE) of this study. Three*
201 *types of analyzers have been used: cavity ring-down spectrometer (CRDS), GasFinder (GF) and*
202 *miniDOAS (MD). The arrow indicates the wind direction during each experiment.*

203 In Denmark, the three wind components were measured at 16 Hz with a 3D ultrasonic anemometer
204 (WindMaster, Gill, Hampshire, UK) at 1.5 and 1.7 m height. In addition to concentration and wind, air
205 temperature, and atmospheric pressure were also measured. In Switzerland, the wind components were
206 measured at 20 Hz with a 3D ultrasonic anemometer (WindMaster, Gill, Hampshire, UK) at 2 m height.
207 Air temperature and atmospheric pressure were obtained from a meteorological station nearby the
208 experiment site.

209 A Global Positioning System (in Denmark: GPS Trimbel R10, Sunnyvale, California, USA; in
210 Switzerland: GPS Trimble Pro 6, Sunnyvale, California, USA) was used to record the position of all
211 instruments and the individual critical orifices of the source.

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2.5 Inverse dispersion method

The measured gas emission rates (Q) from the artificial source were calculate in 15 min (experiments conducted in Denmark) or 10 min average intervals (experiments conducted in Switzerland) using the R (R Core Team, 2018) package bLSmodelR (https://github.com/ChHaeni/bLSmodelR; version 4.3) as described by Häni et al. (2018). The simulation was performed with six million backward trajectories (N) and the source area defined as 24 individual circles of 5 cm radius as described by Häni et al. (2018) with a high performance computer cluster (PRIME - Programming Rig for Modern Engineering, Aarhus University).

The emissions rate (Q) is proportional to the difference between measured concentration downwind ($C_{downwind}$) from the source and the measured background concentration (C_{upwind}), and the dispersion factor (D):

$$Q = \frac{C_{downwind} - C_{upwind}}{D} \quad (1)$$

The dispersion factor (D) is calculated as:

$$D = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{TDinside} \left| \frac{2}{w_{TD}} \right| \quad (2)$$

where N is the number of backward trajectories from the downwind analyzer location. The summation refers to the trajectories touching inside the source area (TDinside) taking the vertical velocity(w_{TD}) at touchdown into account. The calculation of D includes determination of wind profiles and turbulence statistics that are based on the Monin-Obukhov Similarity Theory (MOST).

2.6 Surface deposition velocity

Ammonia is a relatively short lived gas in the atmosphere and can either be chemically converted, or subjected to dry or wet deposition. The dry NH_3 deposition rate is usually expressed with a deposition velocity (υ_d^*). It is a complicated phenomenon that is controlled by both atmospheric and land surface

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processes (e.g. wind speed, solar radiation, vegetation reactivity). In this study, we assume υ_d takes place uni-directionally and it is calculated with the canopy resistances:

$$\upsilon_d = \frac{1}{R_a + R_b + R_c} \quad (3)$$

where R_a is the aerodynamic resistance, R_b is the quasi-laminar boundary resistance and R_c is the bulk canopy resistance. R_a is a function of wind speed and friction velocity (Baldocchi et al., 1987) that is included in the bLS model, therefore Eq. 3 can be simplified as:

$$\upsilon_d^* = \frac{1}{R_b + R_c} \quad (4)$$

According to Garland (1977), R_b can be calculated with Eq. 5 as a function of the roughness length (z_0), the friction velocity (u^*), the kinematic viscosity of air (ν) and the molecular diffusivity of NH_3 in air (δ_{NH_3}).

$$R_b = \frac{1.45\left(\frac{z_0 u_*}{\nu}\right)^{0.24}\left(\frac{\nu}{\delta_{NH_3}}\right)^{0.8}}{u^*} \quad (5)$$

Regarding R_c, it is related to the chemical characteristics of the studied gas and the characteristics of the leaf (e.g. type, size). There are different models to calculate R_c. Due to the complexity and the uncertainty of the determination of the resistance, R_c was calculated following the same procedure as by Häni et al. (2018) with the bLSmodelR. It was assumed that $Q_{bLS}/Q < 1$ was solely due to dry deposition. A similar approach is used here, where 12 values of R_c from 0 to 500 s m^{-1} were tested in the bLS model that includes ammonia deposition to estimate the R_c giving $Q_{bLS}/Q = 1$ in all intervals. This was done with linear interpolation between the two points closest to Q/Q = 1. Using this estimated R_c and the calculated R_b value for each interval, υ_d^* was estimated for all intervals with all instruments. The υ_d^* values are compared to previously reported values for NH_3.

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Another approach for calculating the R_c is with empirical equation, which will be used for calculating values for υ_d^*. These calculated values will be compared to the values obtained with the bLS model. It is assumed that R_c unidirectional and equal to the sum of the stomatal resistance R_s and the cuticular resistance R_w, see Eq.6.

$$\frac{1}{R_c} = \frac{1}{R_s} + \frac{1}{R_w} \tag{6}$$

The stomatal resistance R_s is calculated with equation Eq.7 (Wesely, 2007):

$$R_s = R_{s(min)} \left[1 + \left(\frac{200}{SR + 0.1}\right)\right]^2 \frac{400}{T_s(40 - T_s)} \tag{7}$$

where $R_{s(min)}$ is minimum bulk canopy R_s for water vapour that is assumed to be equals to 250 s m^{-1} (Lynn and Carlson, 1990), SR is the solar radiation, and T_s is the soil temperature.

The cuticular resistance is calculated with Eq. 8 (Massad et al., 2010):

$$R_w = \frac{R_{w(min)}\ e^{a\,(100-RH)}\ e^{0.15T}}{(LAI)^{0.5}} \tag{8}$$

where $R_{w(min)}$ is the minimum cuticular resistance, a is an empirical factor, RH is the relative humidity, T is the air temperature, and LAI is the leaf are index. The parameters $R_{w(min)}$ (10 s m^{-1}), a (0.110) and LAI (2 m^2 m^{-2}) were obtained from Massad et al., 2010, Table 1.

3 Results and discussion

3.1 Recovered fractions of Ammonia and Methane

The accuracy of the bLS model is evaluated by the recovered NH_3 and CH_4 fractions, Q_{bLS}/Q, and the standard deviation $\sigma_{QbLS/Q}$ (±) for all the releases. In all experiments except I-DK and II-DK (Table 1), NH_3 and CH_4 were released simultaneously. The use of these two gases give us the additional opportunity

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to assess potential loss of NH_3 downwind from the source by deposition or gas-to-particle conversion, processes that will not occur for CH_4 due to its inertness. As the average of all releases and measurement systems, the CH_4 recovery rate was 0.95 ± 0.08 (n = 19) (Figure 4). This recovery is similar to 0.93 ± 0.14 (n = 8) observed by Gao et al. (2008) with a different controlled releases configuration and ground-level sources. There was more variation in the recovery of NH_3, with an average of 0.66 ± 0.15 (n = 10) for all the releases with the line-integrated system. However, the improved sampling lines (Line 2 and 3) placed at 15 m downwind from the source had an average recovery of 0.82 ± 0.05 (n = 3) for NH_3 (Figure 2). Under comparable conditions, the NH_3 recovery rate obtained with the miniDOAS (MD) was 0.91 ± 0.07 (n = 3). Häni et al. (2018) observed almost the same recovered fraction, 0.91 ± 0.12, at 15 m from the edge of the source with the MD. The recovery rates of all experiments in this study are shown in Figure 2, Figure 3 and Figure 4, whereas climate conditions such as wind direction, friction velocity u_*, air temperature, relative humidity (RH), soil temperature and solar radiation (SR) from each experiment are presented in Table 2. I-DK and II-DK were conducted during cold conditions (~ 5°C) with RH ranging from 65 % to 71 %, whereas IV-DK and VIII-DK were conducted in warm conditions (14 – 18°C) with RH between 48 % and 63 %. The other releases were conducted under moderate temperature conditions (10 – 13°C) with RH between 39% and 89%.

Additional information on the atmospheric conditions, weather conditions, and recovery fraction rates for each average time interval for each release are shown in Table S1 in the Supplementary Information.

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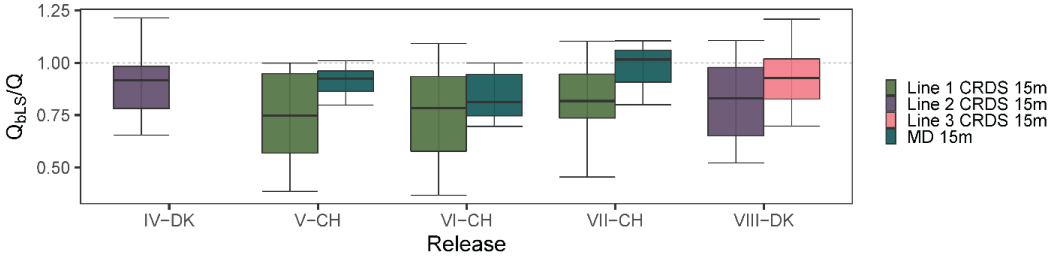

285
286 *Figure 2 .- The recovered fractions Q_{bLS}/Q of ammonia from the releases where line 1, 2 and 3, and*
287 *miniDOAS (MD) are placed 15 m from the edge of the source. Line 1 had a length of 16 m, and it was*
288 *heated to 40 ºC. Line 2 had the same temperature as Line 1, but it was 12 m long. Line 3 had the same*
289 *length as Line 2, but was heated to 80 ºC.*

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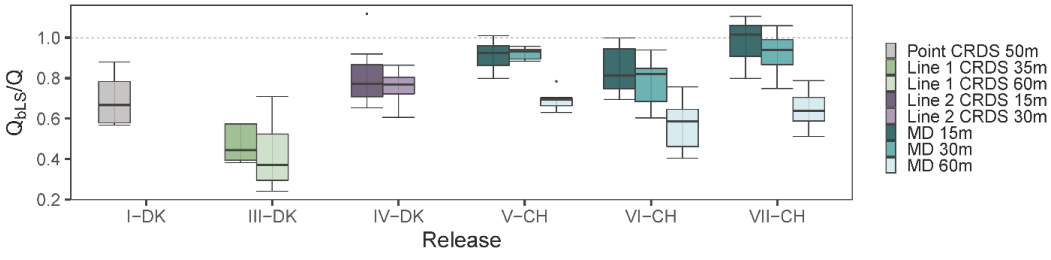

291
292 *Figure 3 .- The recovered fractions Q_{bls}/Q of ammonia from the releases where point concentration*
293 *measurement was used and where concentration downwind distance was measured in two or three*
294 *distances from the edge of the source. Line 1, Line 2 and Line 3 are described in the Figure 2 caption.*

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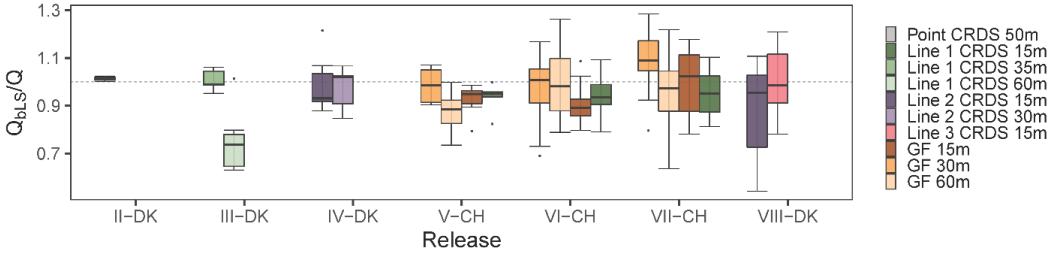

296

297 *Figure 4 .- The recovered fractions Q_{bLS}/Q of methane for each release and analyzer. The downwind*
298 *distance from the source to the analyzer is indicated in the legend. Line 1, Line 2 and Line 3 are*
299 *described in the Figure 2 caption.*

300

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Table 2 – Atmospheric and weather conditions in terms of friction velocity (u^*), wind speed (WS), air temperature (T_{air}), air pressure (P_{air}), soil temperature (T_{soil}), solar radiation (SR) and relative humidity (RH) during each release of this study.

Release	u* [m s^{-1}]	WS [m s^{-1}]	T_{air} [°C]	P_{air} [hPa]	T_{soil} [°C]	SR [W m^{-2}]	RH [%]
I-DK	0.23 ± 0.05	2.4 ± 0.5	4.5 ± 0.3	993.6 ± 0.3	5.5 ± 0.1	167.5 ± 34.4	69.6 ± 1.7
II-DK	0.19 ± 0.03	1.8 ± 0.1	4.8 ± 0.1	995.4 ± 0.1	5.6 ± 0.1	117.1 ± 8.4	64.7 ± 0.2
III-DK	0.22 ± 0.03	2.2 ± 0.3	11.7 ± 3.1	1005.3 ± 0.3	10.3 ± 0.2	139.5 ± 50.7	76.7 ± 1.3
IV-DK	0.45 ± 0.04	5.1 ± 0.5	17.9 ± 0.4	1009.1 ± 0.1	17.6 ± 0.2	378.8 ± 152.1	66.7 ± 2.4
V-CH	0.36 ± 0.03	4.5 ± 0.1	9.4 ± 0.3	958.9 ± 0.1	11.8 ± 0.0	238.3 ± 47.8	86.5 ± 1.7
VI-CH	0.20 ± 0.04	2.3 ± 0.4	11.1 ± 0.3	959.6 ± 0.0	12.7 ± 0.2	178.7 ± 41.4	75.5 ± 1.8
VII-CH	0.26 ± 0.08	3.2 ± 1.0	12.8 ± 0.9	959.4 ± 0.1	11.5 ± 0.9	340.8 ± 161.7	52.1 ± 13.2
VIII-DK	0.43 ± 0.05	4.7 ± 0.3	13.9 ± 0.6	1008.9 ± 0.2	8.7 ± 0.3	691.7 ± 53.2	51.4 ± 2.4

3.2 Sampling systems for closed-path measurement

Three different CRDS sampling line systems have been used from III-DK to VIII-DK. The difference between the lines was the length and the heating temperature. Line 1 had a length of 16 m, and it was heated to 40 ºC. Line 2 had the same temperature as Line 1, but it was 12 m long. Line 3 had the same length as Line 2, but was heated to 80 ºC, and the critical orifices have a higher inflow than Line 1 and Line 2 (see section 2.4 Set-up). We expect that decreasing the length and increasing the heating temperature of the line will improve Q_{bLS}/Q for NH_3 (no expected effect for CH_4) by avoiding adsorption and reducing the response time in the sampling line.

Line 1 was used with the source at ground level and elevated (Table 1), whereas the other two lines only with the source elevated. When the source was at ground level, Line 1 had a recovery rate ranging from 0.42 ± 0.17 to 0.60 ± 0.10 and from 0.75 ± 0.13 to 1.01 ± 0.05 for NH_3 and CH_4, respectively. The lowest and the highest NH_3 recovery rate of Line 1 are directly related to the furthest (60 m) and the shortest (15 m) downwind distance measurement from the source. In addition, the standard deviation $\sigma_{QbLS/Q}$ at the furthest position is higher than at the closest position, which is in accordance with the results from Häni et al. (2018). High uncertainty of the Q_{bLS}/Q is related to a smaller difference in concentration between downwind and background concentrations and due to smaller D-values (Häni et al., 2018). This is also the

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reason for the low CH_4 recovery rate of Line 1 in III-DK at 60 m (0.75 ± 0.13), downwind concentration is only 4 – 10% higher than upwind concentrations since this is one of the lowest CH_4 releases rate (Table 1). This is in line with Coates et al. (2021), who observed that the bLS model underestimated 49% of CO_2 released at 50 m fetch distance partially because the measured downwind concentration was close to the background level. Therefore, in this study, the accuracy of Q_{bLS} is mainly influenced by the uncertainty of the concentration measurement, hence the downwind distance is limited by the properties of the gas analyzers and the size of the emission strength of the source. This means the system can be limited in use if the emission source has a large height and low emission strength where, as a rule of thumb, measurements should be conducted at a distance from the source at least 10 times the height of the source (Harper et al., 2011).

In VII-CH, Line 1 was used with the source elevated and had a recovery rate of 0.69 ± 0.12 for NH_3 and 0.95 ± 0.10 for CH_4. Line 2 had a numerically higher recovery rate than Line 1, ranging from 0.76 ± 0.08 to 0.81 ± 0.16 and from 0.89 ± 0.20 to 0.99 ± 0.12 for NH_3 and CH_4, respectively in IV-DK and VIII-DK. As expected, the lowest NH_3 recovery rate of Line 2 was at the furthest downwind measurement position (30 m). The length of the line appears to affect the NH_3 recovery rate; this might be due to the increased surface area that NH_3 can adsorb to stick, and there is a lower flow in each of the critical orifices that decreases the response time of the system (Shah et al., 2006; Vaittinen et al., 2014). Looking at the measured NH_3 rates over time (Figure 5), higher emissions are reached with Line 3 for the first hour indicating a faster time response compared to Line 2. However, after an hour there was not a clear difference between the lines. The results indicate that increasing the sampling line temperature to 80 °C had a positive effect on the recovery, which reached 87 % at a distance of 15 m. From the data obtained by the open-path analyzer (MD), we can conclude that deposition can cause a reduction in recovery in the order of 2-16% (Figure 2). Thus, the recovery obtained with the improved line (Line 3) approaches the recovery obtained with the open-path analyzer. It should be noted that a direct comparison between Line 3 and the open-path analyzer (MD) has not been made and further improvement can still be suggested for the CRDS sampling

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line system. Specifically, increasing the flow on the sampling line will reduce NH_3 adsorption in the tubing material. This can be achieved by increasing the flow through the tubing and the critical orifices but maintaining an even flow distribution through the discrete sampling inlets in the sampling line must still be maintained.

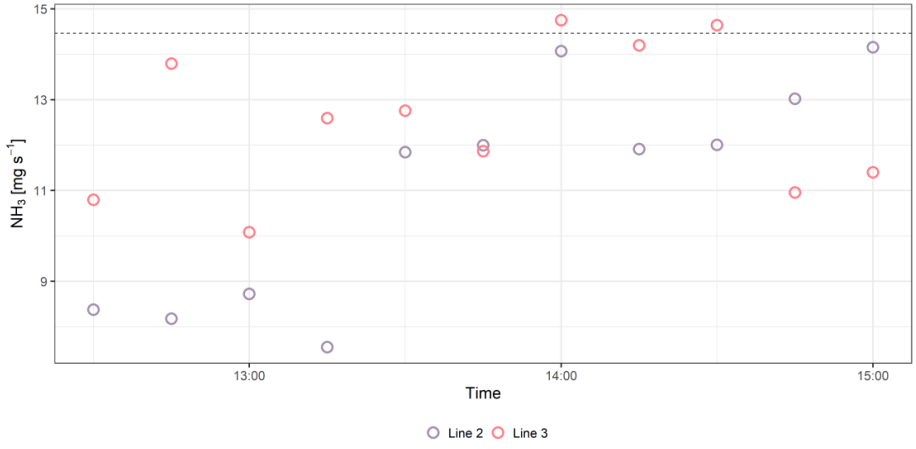

Figure 5 .- Ammonia (NH_3) fluxes measured with Line 2 and Line 3 in 10 min intervals average in VIII-DK.

The point CRDS system had a recovery rate of 0.70 ± 0.22 and 1.01 ± 0.05 for NH_3 and CH_4, respectively. The benefit of the point CRDS system is mainly that increasing the flow in the tubing is less limited, since there are no critical orifices for which equal flow must be maintained. However, comparing point and line CRDS systems by the modelled concentration distribution (Figure 6), the line-integrated measurement system covers a larger part of the emission plume from the source in a higher wind direction range. In addition, a line-integrated measurement system can reduce uncertainty in the IDM (Flesch et al., 2004), since it is less sensitive to error in the measured wind direction. This is in accordance with Ro et al. (2011), who observed an almost double recovery value of a line-integrated measurement system for CH_4 compared to a point measurement system using a photoacoustic gas monitor.

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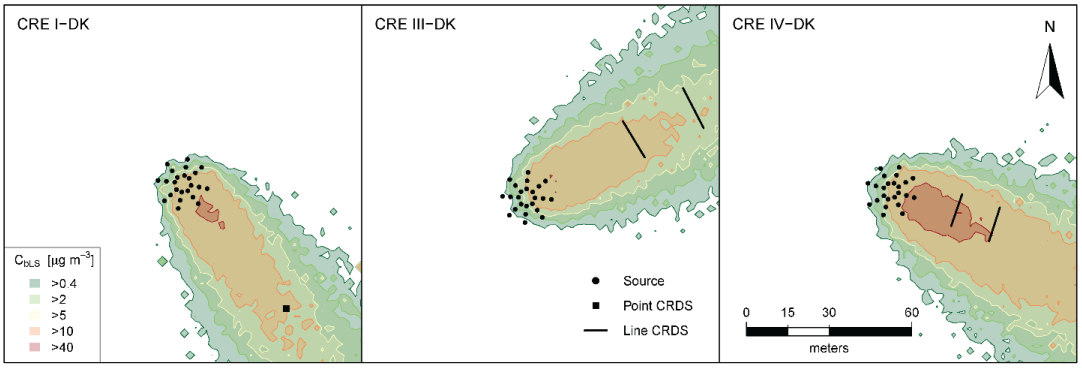

Figure 6.- Contours of the modelled concentration distribution (C_{bLS}) for CRE I-DK, CRE III-DK and CRE IV-DK.

3.3 Open-path measurement systems

The recovery rates for the GFs (CH_4) ranged from 0.87 ± 0.10 to 1.08 ± 0.15. In V-CH to VII-CH, the corresponding standard deviation $\sigma_{QbLS/Q}$ of GF 15 m varies from 0.07 to 0.18, while Line 1 (placed parallel to GF 15 m) ranges from 0.06 to 0.10. These standard deviations $\sigma_{QbLS/Q}$ are comparable with those measured by Gao et al. (2009) (1.03 ± 0.16).

In V-CH and VI-CH (source at ground), the MDs (NH_3) had recovery rates ranging from 0.57 ± 0.12 to 0.93 ± 0.03. In VII-CH, MDs exhibit higher recoveries ranging from 0.64 ± 0.09 to 0.98 ± 0.10 since the source was elevated. Generally, it is recommended to do a release experiment above ground level to reduce the probability of deposition close to the release area (McBain and Desjardins, 2005b). As expected, the recovery rate decreased with downwind distance of the sampling position due to NH_3 deposition, which will be evaluated in section 3.4. Comparing MD at 15 m and Line 1 (placed in parallel) in V-CH to VII-CH (Figure 2), the recovery rates are higher for MD. The highest difference between MD and Line 1 was in V-CH, where there were the highest RH (87%). However, there are no clear patterns explaining the difference between emissions from the different measurement systems based on atmospheric conditions (Supplementary information, Figure S2). Although, the improved recovery with Line 2 (0.81 ± 0.16) and Line 3 (0.87 ± 0.11) in IV-DK and VIII-DK could be influenced by the warmer

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conditions and solar radiation (Table 2), it is plausible that the line improvements caused the increase. An increased flow through the orifices and higher temperature of the sampling line will lead to less NH_3 adsorption thereby getting a better recovery from the release.

This results show the advantage of an open-path instrument compared to a closed-path instrument to measure NH_3 emissions (Figure 2), since open-path avoids prolonged response caused by the adsorption of NH_3 to sampling materials (Shah et al., 2006; Vaittinen et al., 2014). However, it is more difficult to evaluate the quality of measurements by an open-path instrument due to complexity of the calibration that depends on the path length between the sensor and reflector (DeBruyn et al., 2020) or the need of another instrument for intercomparison (Häni et al., 2021). In addition, the closed-path system presented in this study (line CRDS) is more flexible with respect to moving the sampling line around the source depending on the predominant wind direction. This factor has different impact in different countries, e.g. in the case in Denmark wind direction change quite more often than in Switzerland.

3.4 Surface deposition velocity

The corresponding surface deposition velocities (υ_d^*) required to have a recovery rate $Q_{bLS}/Q = 1$ are presented in Figure 7. This approach assumes a complete recovery for each of the measurement systems when taking deposition into account, which is not completely correct for closed-path sampling. In the following, therefore, we refer to deposition velocity required to achieve $Q_{bLS}/Q = 1$ as the *apparent* deposition velocity (υ_{ad}^*). This is included to provide data on deposition velocities for ammonia for which data is currently very limited. The recovery rates observed in Figure 3 show that the MD performed best, whereas lower Q_{bLS}/Q were seen in the sampling lines, thus the lowest υ_{ad}^* is expected from MD. Additional information of R_c and υ_{ad}^* for each time intervals in each experiment is shown in Table S1 in the Supplementary Information. The apparent surface deposition velocities ranged from 0.2 to 2.2 cm s^{-1} for open-path data and from 0.2 to 4.7 cm s^{-1} for the line sampling, respectively. Häni et al. (2018) reported υ_{ad}^* in the range from 0.3 to 1.1 cm s^{-1}. In all the releases where downwind concentrations were

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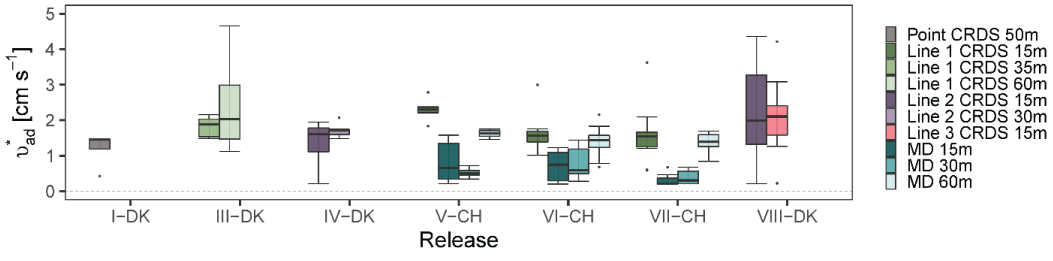
406 measured at different positions, υ^*_{ad} appears to increase with distance increases, with many cases. For
407 example, in VI-CH, υ^*_{ad} is 0.7 ± 0.4, 0.8 ± 0.4 and 1.4 ± 0.4 cm s^{-1} at 15 m, 30 m and 60 m, respectively.
408 This is in line with the outcome of Asman and van Jaarsveld. (1991); a significant fraction of the emitted
409 NH_3 is deposited near the source, which supports the regulations that do not allow livestock sources near
410 sensitive eutrophic ecosystems (NEC Directive 2016/2284).

411 In V-CH, VI-CH and VII-CH, υ^*_{ad} from Line 1 are 2.8, 2.2 and 5.1 times higher than MD at 15 m.
412 As expected υ^*_{ad} was higher for Line 1 as the Q/Q was lower for Line 1 compared to MD in these
413 experiments. Line 1 (VII-CH) had υ^*_{ad} of 1.6 ± 0.9, whereas Line 2 and Line 3 (VIII-DK) had υ^*_{ad} of 2.2
414 ± 1.4 and 2.1 ± 1.0 cm s^{-1}, respectively, when measuring 15 m from the elevated source. During VII-CH
415 and VIII-DK the temperature differed 1°C and the relative humidity was approximately the same, but
416 wind speed and solar radiation differed (Table 2). However, comparing the apparent deposition velocities
417 from these experiments show comparable values for Lines 2 and 3, but higher values for Line 1. Overall,
418 the Q/Q values for Line 1 were worse than MD and Lines 2 and 3, which is reflected it in the higher
419 apparent deposition velocities.



420

421 *Figure 7 .- Corresponding apparent surface deposition velocities (υ^*_{ad}) required to have a recovery rate*
422 *Q_{bLS}/Q closest to 1 in all the releases. All values are shown in Table S1 in the Supplementary Information.*

423 Many factors affect the deposition velocity, but it is possible to calculate υ^*_{ad} from empirical
424 models as explained previously (see section 2.6). *Figure 8* shows υ^*_{ad} for MDs in V-CH, VII-CH, and
425 VIII-CH compared to υ^*_{ad} calculated with the empirical models (equations 3-8). Using the empirical
426 models, υ^*_{ad} varies from 0.13 to 1.02 cm s^{-1}, increasing with the relative humidity (87%, 76% and 52%

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RH in V-CH, VI-CH and VII-CH, respectively). The difference between the two ways of estimating υ^*_{ad} highlights the complexity and uncertainty for these methods. In addition, an artificial source has higher υ^*_{d} than what is expected from a real agricultural source (Häni et al., 2018). This is seen with the higher υ^*_{ad} values found in these experiments compared to the calculated values with the empirical models. The height of the source might also have an influence on υ^*_{ad}. This is indicated by the lowest υ^*_{ad} in VII-CH, where the source was elevated compared to V-CH and VI-CH, where the gas was released on the surface. Placing the source above ground level will reduce the obstacles (crop on the field) for gas dispersion, reducing surface deposition. However, the bLS model does not consider the height of the source. For example, evaluating emissions from the application of liquid animal manure (ground level source) or a dairy housing (elevated source) will have different υ^*_{ad}.

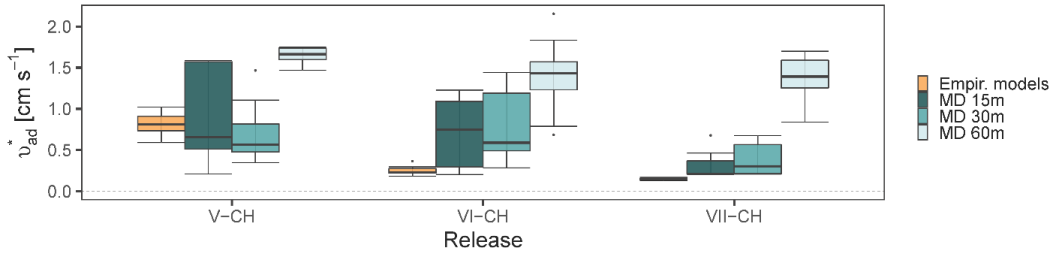

Figure 8.- Corresponding apparent surface deposition velocities (υ^*_{ad}) required to have a recovery rate Q_{bLS}/Q closest to 1 for miniDOAS (MD) in release V-CH, VI-CH and VII-CH and υ^*_{ad} calculated with an empirical models.

3.5 Sensitivity analysis

A sensitivity analysis of the bLS model was based on the resulting Q/Q ratio when changing the inlet height of the analyzer and the wind direction offset compared to the valid measured values in release VIII-DK. This was done for 11 fluxes average intervals of 15 min, where all emissions were estimated again with the bLS model. For the assessment of the influence of the input for the measurement height all other variables were kept constant. Likewise, for the influence of the wind direction, all other variables

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were kept constant while the wind direction offset was changed. The results are presented in Figure S4 in the Supplementary Information, where it can be seen that Q/Q was most sensitive to the changes in wind direction offset, stressing the importance of the true offset in wind direction. Therefore, the wind direction must be thoroughly evaluated for the accuracy of emission estimation since more or less trajectories have touchdowns inside of the source area for the dispersion factor (Eq. 2). In addition, the uncertainty of Q/Q ratio increases as wind direction offset increases. The emission estimation accuracy from point systems is more sensitive to error in the measured wind direction (Flesch et al., 2004).

The accuracy of the emission estimation also depends on the detection limits of the concentration sensor analyzer, especially when the downwind concentration is close to the background level, as it was shown previously (see section 3.2). Therefore, it is recommended to conduct concentration and turbulence measurements not far from the source but minimum 10 times the source height according to Harper et al. (2011) at a known height to reduce the uncertainty of the calculated emissions rates.

4 Conclusion

Line-average concentration measurement with a closed-path analyzer is comparable with an open-path system, as the average of all releases with all instrument types, the CH_4 recovery rate Q_{bLS}/Q was 0.95 ± 0.08 (n = 19). Under comparable conditions, an average NH_3 recovery rate of 0.82 ± 0.05 (n = 3) and 0.91 ± 0.07 (n = 3) was obtained with the closed-path and open-path line integrated system, respectively. The implementation of the new method presented in this study will enable measurement of fluxes of multiple gases from different type of sources and evaluate the effects of mitigation strategies on emissions. In addition, this method allows for continuous online measurements that resolve temporal variation in NH_3 emissions and the peak emissions of CH_4.

A significant fraction of the emitted NH_3 is deposited near the source. Consequently, including the deposition algorithm in the bLS model will have a greater influence on the emission evaluation at ground level sources (e.g. application of liquid animal manure), compared to elevated sources (e.g. slurry tank).

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The present study shows that the deposition algorithm included in the bLS model estimates correct NH_3 emissions that considers surface deposition. In addition, the wind direction must be thoroughly evaluated for the accuracy of emission estimation with the bLS model.

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