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Correction

In the article by M. Jonasz and G. Fournier (June 1996: Volume 41, p. 744–754), we described an algorithm permitting automated decomposition of a frequency size distribution of marine particles into a sum log-normal functions. Subsequently, we discovered an error in the program that performs the decomposition. This error caused, in some cases, the sum-of-components fit to be selected as an approximation of a size distribution instead of the statistically equivalent and simpler log-normal fit to all data in that size distribution. We here report adjustments to certain numerical results of our paper. Our conclusions remain fully supported by the new results.

The adjustments are caused by a reduction in the number of components of 412 frequency particle size distributions, $FD(D)$, from 902 to 728 components. The allocation of components between the size distributions is shown in Table 1. Out of 728 components only 662 were classified as log-normal, using a criterion expressed in equation 7 of our original paper. Thus, ~9% of the new total number of components can be classified as hyperbolic components. The peak diameter, D_{peak}, of the standard component No. 1, has been reduced to ~0.38 μm (from 0.65 μm). The σ parameter of this component has been increased to ~0.75 (from 0.675).

Table 1. Allocation of all 728 components between the 412 particle size distributions (PSDs).

No. of components per PSD	No. of PSDs	% of the total No. of PSDs
1	257	62.4
2	56	13.6
3	55	13.4
4	27	6.6
5	16	3.9
6	1	0.2

The linear regression equations 8–11 of our earlier paper for 662 log-normal components become

$$B_1 = (4.709 \pm 0.532) - (1.433 \pm 0.011)B_0, \quad (8)$$

$$B_2 = -(5.390 \pm 0.478) + (0.522 \pm 0.010)B_0, \quad (9)$$

and

$$B_2 = -(3.412 \pm 0.321) - (0.380 \pm 0.005)B_1, \quad (10)$$

with r^2 respectively of 0.962, 0.807, and 0.915. A single SD is given following the ± sign.

A regression equation (not reported in our original paper) leading to equation 11 changed from $\ln w = (0.313 \pm 0.021) + (0.899 \pm 0.003)\ln D_{peak}$ to $\ln w = (0.349 \pm 0.018) + (0.798 \pm 0.005)\ln D_{peak}$.

The former equation ($r^2 = 0.991$) was based on 893 components out of 902. The missing components were those for which the log-normal parameters: Fd_{max}, D_{peak}, and σ could not be calculated. The latter equation ($r^2 = 0.973$), based on 662 log-normal components, yields

$$w = 1.42 D_{peak}{}^{0.8}. \quad (11)$$

The equation of the regression line in figure 10 becomes $\ln FD_{max} = (7.986 \pm 0.118) - (2.327 \pm 0.035)\ln D_{peak}$ with $r^2 = 0.873$ for 662 components. The equation of the regression line in figure 11 becomes $\sigma = (0.644 \pm 0.007) - (0.113 \pm 0.002)\ln D_{peak}$ with $r^2 = 0.809$ for 662 components.

—Miroslaw Jonasz and George Fournier