



Supplement of

Development and characterization of an aircraft inlet system for broader quantitative particle sampling at higher altitudes: aerodynamic lenses, beam and vaporizer diagnostics, and pressure-controlled inlets

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10 Supporting Information

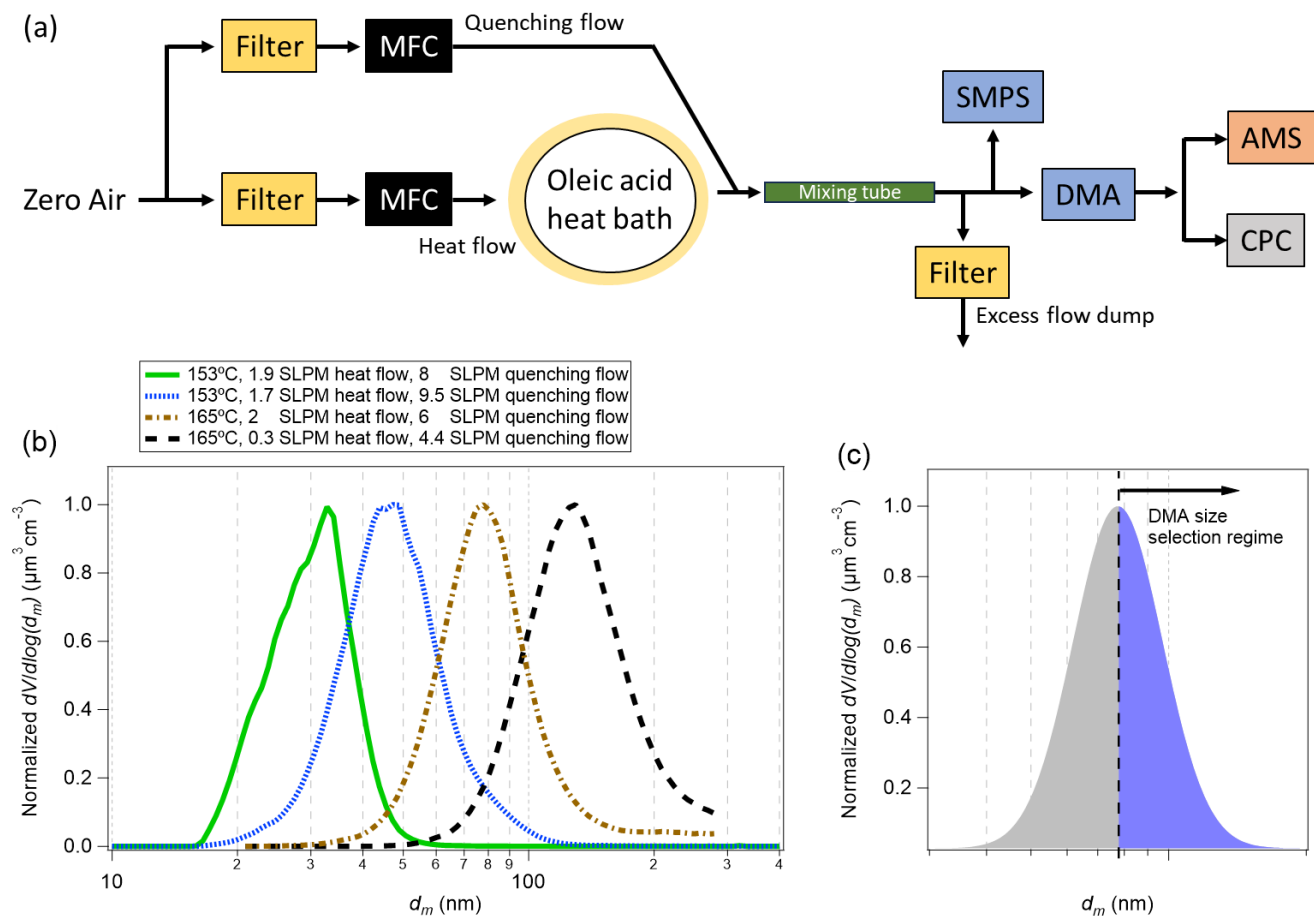
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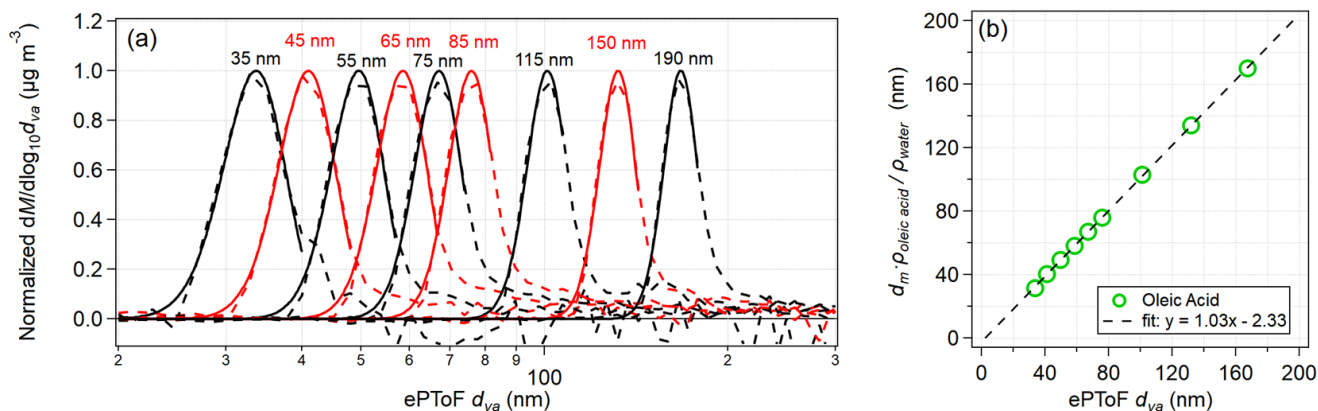
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S1. Small particle generation system

35 It is challenging to generate small monodisperse particles with the typical combination of a nebulizer and DMA-impactor system (TSI Inc.) which is not suitable for removing multiply charged particles below 150 nm d_m range. An evaporation-condensation system was used instead to generate monodisperse oleic acid particles for the characterization of the transmission efficiency in the 30-300 nm d_{va} range with minimal interference from multiply charged particles. Briefly, Zero Air (ZA) flows into a hot glass bulb containing oleic acid and then carries oleic acid vapor (heated flow). Evaporated oleic acid vapor inside
40 the heated bath is mixed with zero air (quenching flow) via a glass “Y” and quenched going through a mixing tube, resulting in condensation of oleic acid and particle formation and growth (Fig. S1a). In the system used in this study, an additional heater was added to the evaporation-condensation system used by Krechmer et al. (2017) and Hu et al. (2018b) to fully encapsulate the glass bulb for homogeneous heating and minimize perturbations by temperature variations in the laboratory. The heat/quenching flows and the temperature of the heat bath determine the particle size distribution of oleic acid downstream of
45 the evaporation-condensation system. The flows and temperatures were optimized for particle generation below 300 nm d_m by monitoring the particle size distribution using a scanning mobility particle sizer (SMPS) (Fig. S1b). Then the differential mobility analyzer (DMA) downstream of the small particle generator was used to select a particle size (larger than the peak diameter of the monomodal distribution) to minimize the population of doubly charged particles in the output (Fig. S1c). The monodispersity of the particle size distribution downstream of the DMA was routinely confirmed using AMS ePTof
50 measurements (Fig. S2).



55 **Figure S1.1:** (a) Evaporation-condensation system modified for small particle generation. (b) Oleic acid volume size distributions measured by SMPS generated from the evaporation-condensation system at different temperatures, heat flow, and quenching flow setups. Although the system's response to temperature and flows was highly nonlinear, higher temperature and lower heat flow yielded larger particles. The selected DMA sizes were larger than the peak diameter to minimize the population of doubly charged particles (c).



65 **Figure S1.2.** (a) Particle size distributions of the monodisperse oleic acid particles measured by ePToF (dotted lines). The
diameters denoted above the distributions are the mobility diameters selected by the DMA. The mean ePToF d_{va} was
determined by fitting with the Gaussian function (solid line). The fitting range was selected so that fitting the tailing on the
right shoulder is avoided. The tailing effect is due to the prolonged evaporation especially when the input aerosol concentration
is high. (b) The nominal d_{va} ($d_m \cdot \rho_{oleic\ acid} / \rho_{water}$) vs measured d_{va} using ePToF of the monodisperse oleic acid particles. ρ_{oleic}
70 $acid / \rho_{water}$ is 0.895. These are the data used for ePToF calibration of the PM₁ lens in Fig. 12d.

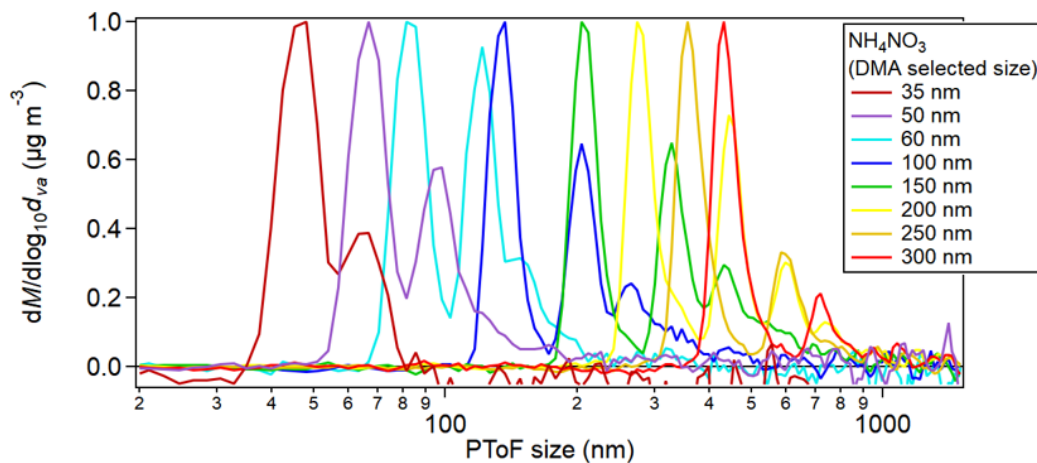


Figure S1.3. AMS PToF distribution of NH_4NO_3 particles used for monodisperse BWP in Fig. 9. These were generated with
a TSI atomizer and DMA without an impactor, hence multiply charged particles were present.

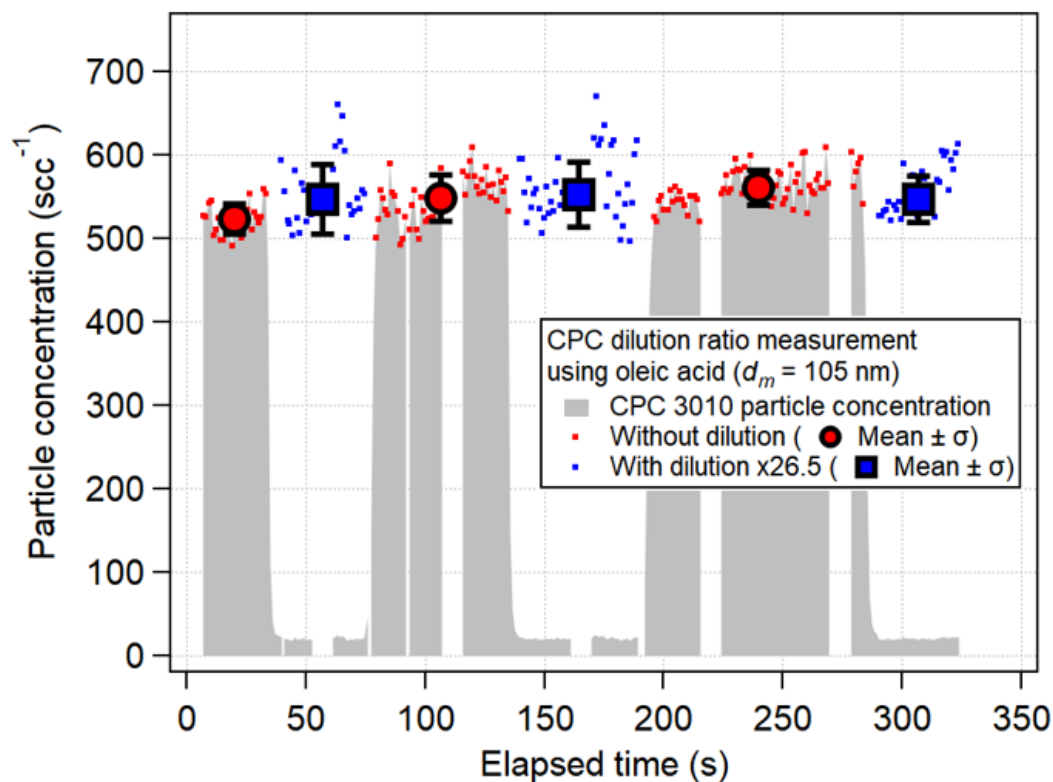


Figure S2.1. An example of particle dilution factor measurement of the particle dilution system in front of CPC 3010 (Fig.1) using 105 nm d_m oleic acid particles. The gray area indicates the measured particle counts while the dilution system is turned on and off. The red dots and markers are the particle concentrations without dilution and the blue dots and markers are particle counts multiplied by the dilution factor (26.5) during particle dilution. The dilution factor is the scaling factor applied to the diluted particle counts to match the undiluted particle counts. Measured dilution ratios were within the 25-27 range.

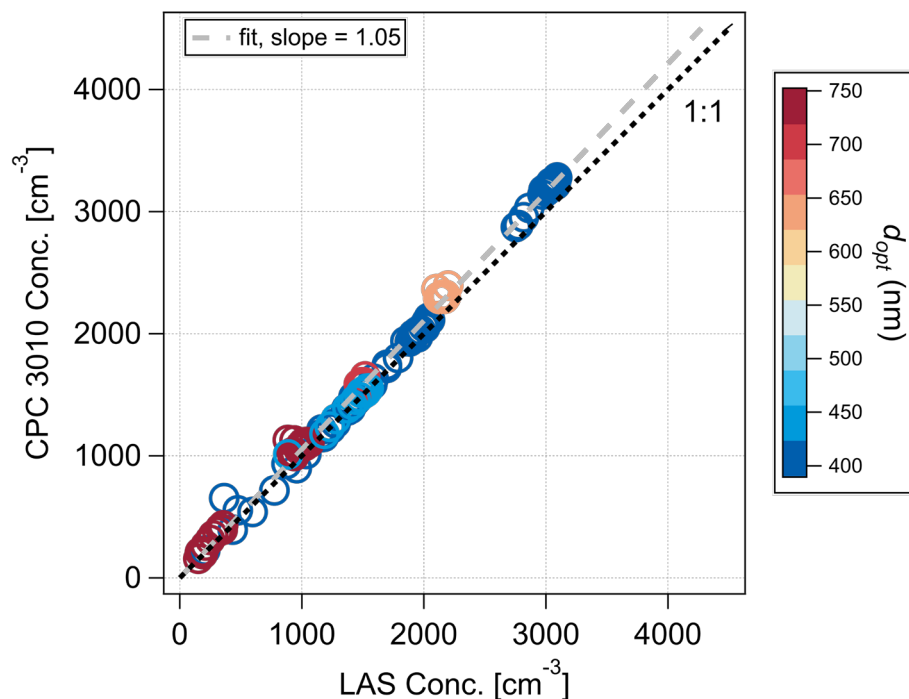


Figure S3.1. Scatter plot of particle concentrations from CPC 3010 and Laser aerosol spectrometer (LAS, TSI Inc.) using multiple PSL sizes. The data are colored by the optical diameter measured by the LAS. This comparison was performed to assess the particle losses in the sampling/dilution line between the AMS inlet and the CPC. The LAS was teed into the AMS inlet line (Fig. 1). If there were significant particle losses in the sampling line to the CPC, the losses of large particles would be more pronounced due to higher impaction losses. The absence of a systematic low bias for the CPC counts (especially the larger particles) indicates that the particle losses in the sampling line between CPC and AMS are negligible for submicron particles.

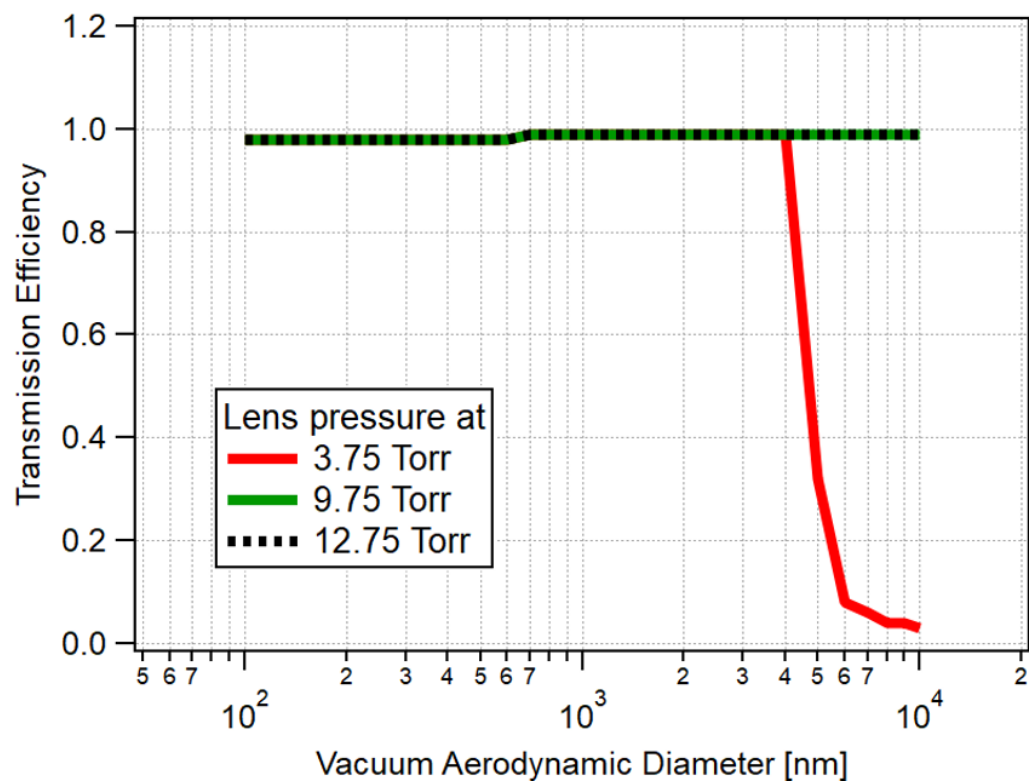


Figure S3.2. CFD modeling of particle transmission efficiency of the expansion volume version C (EV-C) with 120 μm critical orifice.

105 S4. Determination of the S , E_b , and RIE of test aerosols

In this study, oleic acid, NH_4NO_3 , $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$, and NH_4I were used to measure inlet transmission efficiencies. Quantification of NH_4NO_3 particles, extensively used for ionization efficiency calibration of AMS, is straightforward since it fully evaporates on the surface of the vaporizer without bouncing ($E_b = 1$). The Jayne shape factor (S) of NH_4NO_3 is known to be 0.8 (Jayne et al., 2000). Thus, the transmission measurements with NH_4NO_3 particles serve as reference and the parameters for
110 quantification of other test aerosols (S , E_b) were derived in comparison to the measurements with NH_4NO_3 and listed in Table S4.1. S of NH_4I and $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ were determined by comparing with the measured d_{va} by AMS (ePTof d_{va}) following Eq. 5 (Fig. S4.1a and c). $1/E_b$ of NH_4I and $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ is the scaling factor applied to match the transmission efficiency with NH_4I and $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ to the transmission efficiency measured with NH_4NO_3 (Fig. S4.1b and d). RIEs of I^- and SO_4^{2-} were measured relative to NH_4^+ . E_b of oleic acid is 1 (Alfarra, 2004; Matthew et al., 2008). RIE of oleic acid is assigned so that the transmission
115 efficiency is ~ 1 over the d_{va} range where E_L or $TE = 1$ (Fig. S4.1e). The measured values of E_b , RIE, and S in this work are summarized in Table S4.1 and Fig. S4.2. The measured RIE of oleic acid (3.58 ± 0.39) is within previously reported values, 3.0 (Xu et al., 2018), 3.18 ± 0.95 (Katz et al., 2021), and 3.94 (Nault et al., 2023).

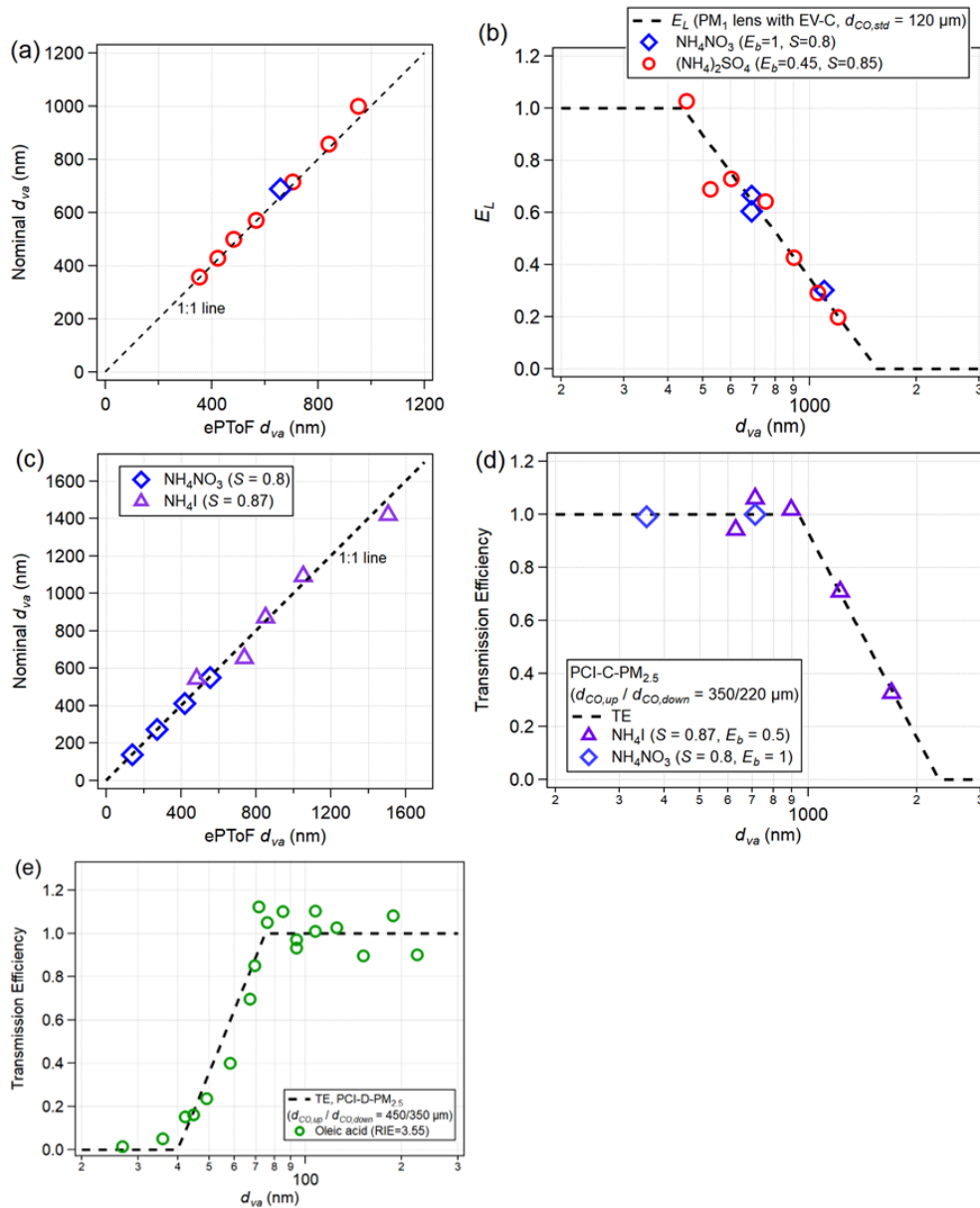


Figure S4.1. Examples of determination of the bouncing term of transmission efficiency (E_b), Jayne shape factor (S), and relative ionization efficiency (RIE) of the test aerosols. (a) Zoomed-in Fig. 12a on the large particle transmission and the data points are specified by the components. (b) The E_b of $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ particles were determined by scaling to the NH_4NO_3 particles. This specific case showed higher E_b for $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ than normal values (Fig. S4.2). (c) S of NH_4I was determined by measuring the d_{va} of test aerosols with ePToF and comparing them with the nominal d_{va} ($= \text{bulk density } (\rho_{bulk}) \cdot d_m \cdot S$). (d) The E_b of NH_4I was determined using the same method as in (b). (e) Determination of oleic acid RIE. The application of $\text{RIE}_{\text{oleic acid}} = 3.55$ achieved the plateau at $\text{TE} \sim 1$ over $d_{va} > 80 \text{ nm}$ which is considered beyond the partial transmission region.

Table S4.1. The bulk density (ρ_{bulk}), Jayne shape factor (S), collection efficiency that accounts for particle bouncing at the vaporizer (E_b), and relative ionization efficiency (RIE) of test aerosols. The E_b and RIE of PSL were not investigated because PSL was only used for PToF particle size calibration purposes where E_b and RIE are not needed. The RIE of NH_4^+ is determined by comparison of NO_3^- mass in NH_4NO_3 particles. Once the RIE of NH_4 is determined, RIEs of I^- and SO_4^{2-} are determined by comparing to NH_4^+ mass in NH_4I and $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ particles. Error bars indicate the standard deviation of measured values. E_b of dry $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ particles reported in this study is consistent with other studies, *e.g.*, 0.25–0.5 (2008), 0.4–0.5 (Hu et al., 2017) and 0.37 ± 0.13 (Day et al., 2022). Note that S of dry $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ particles is typically assumed to be 1 when estimating E_b from mass-based comparison between AMS and CPC, in which case the reported E_b is $E_b \cdot S$. In this study, S was measured with from ePToF (Fig. S4.1) and applied to Eq. 10 when estimating E_b from AMS and CPC mass comparison.

Compound	ρ_{bulk} (g cm ⁻³)	S	E_b	RIE
PSL	1.055	1	-	-
Oleic acid	0.895	1	1	3.58 ± 0.39 (OA*)
NH_4NO_3	1.72	0.8	1	-
$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$	1.77	0.83 ± 0.05	$0.35 \pm 0.06^*$	1.38 ± 0.01 (SO_4^{2-})
NH_4I	2.51	0.82 ± 0.07	0.54 ± 0.15	0.79 ± 0.19 (I^-)

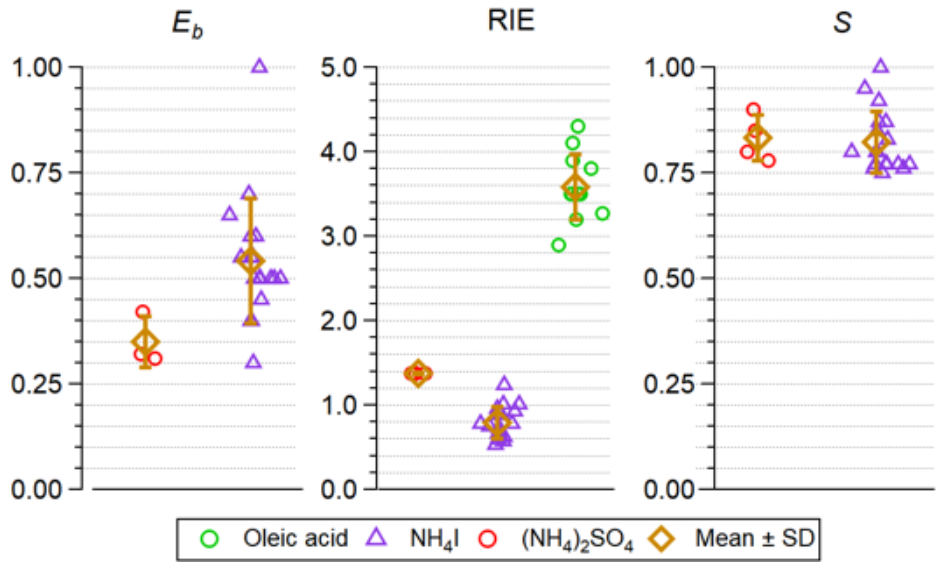


Figure S4.2. The E_b RIE and S data are measured with three ADLs (PM₁, PM_{2.5} lens, and HPL), with and without PCI, and with two standard vaporizers. The mean values \pm standard deviation are listed in Table S4.1.

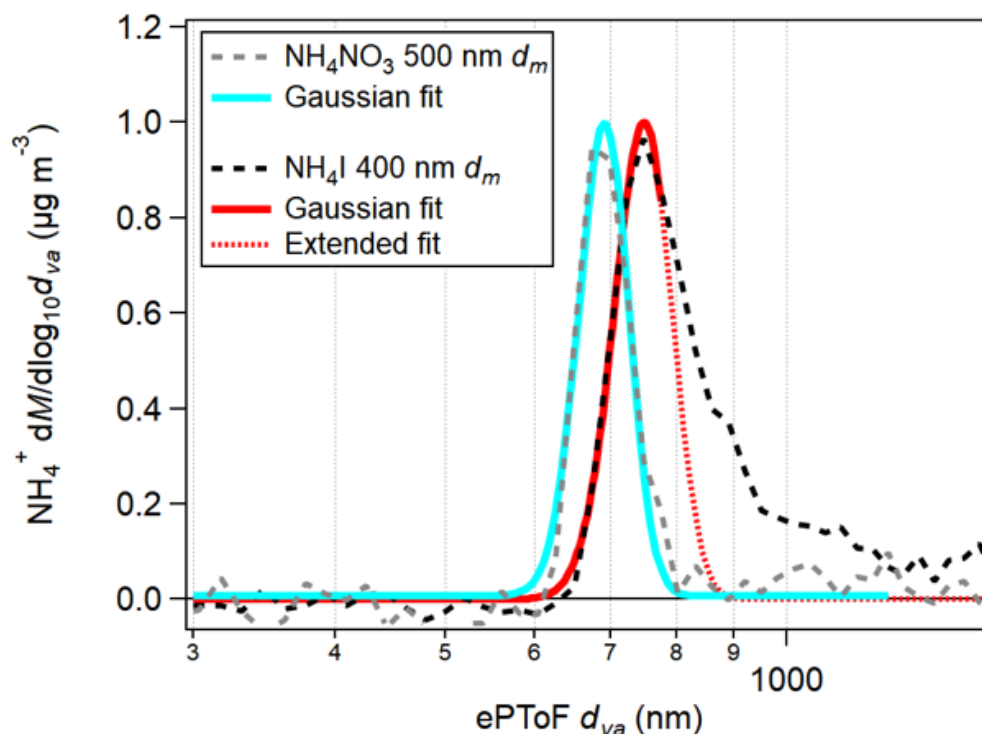
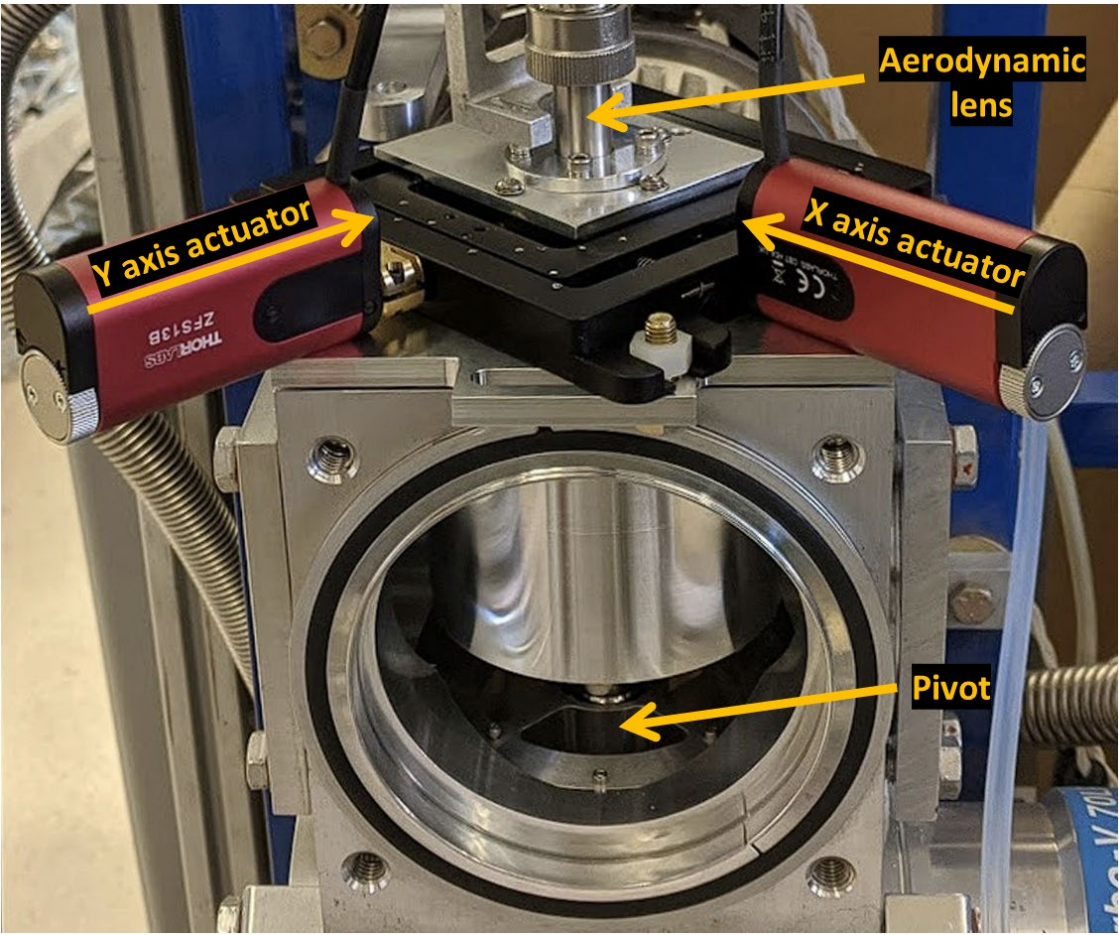


Figure S4.3. Gaussian fitting of inorganic species for ePToF d_{va} measurements. Volatile inorganic species (NH_4NO_3) were fitted with a full data range. The less/non-volatile inorganic species (NH_4I and $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$) were fitted up to a few measurement points beyond the peak (thick red line) so as not to include the broadening on the right shoulder. The right shoulder is an indication of delayed evaporation of less/non-volatile particles on the vaporizer (Drewnick et al., 2015) and thus excluded in the fitting to minimize the potential overestimation of particle size. The measurement of ePToF d_{va} is used to estimate the Jayne shape factor (S) which enters into the conversion of d_{mob} to d_{va} and the calculation of particle mass (Eq. 5 and Eq. 10).



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Figure S5.1. Picture of the 2D lens scan stage assembly shown in Fig. 3. During operation, the electronic actuator pushes the ADL, changing the aerosol beam direction as its pivot is fixed. During a lens scan, the Y actuator sweeps each leg at 0.05 mm s^{-1} , and then at the end of each Y sweep, the X actuator moves 0.1 mm (Fig. 6). The length from the actuator to the end of ADL is 0.138 m and the length from the end of ADL (pivot) to the vaporizer is 0.348 m . Thus, the displacement of the aerosol beam position at the vaporizer plane is equal to -2.65 (negative sign means the actuator direction and beam movement direction are opposite due to the pivot) times the displacement of the actuator.

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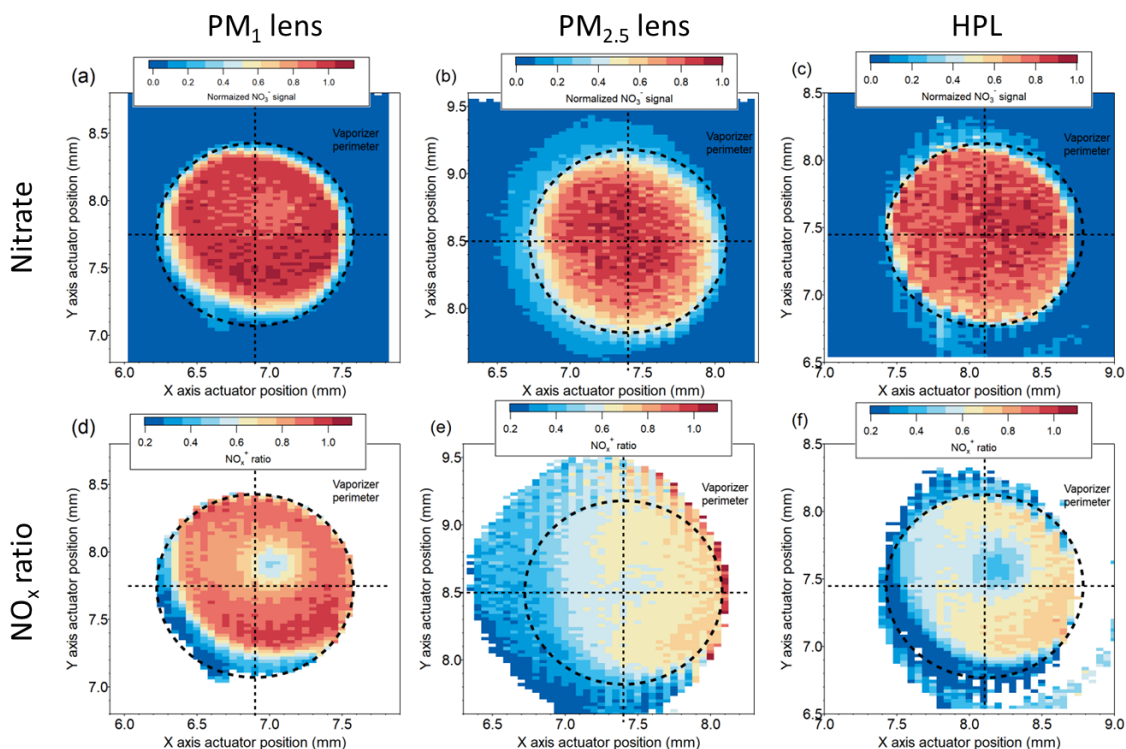


Figure S5.2. Lens scan results from the PM_1 lens, $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ lens, and HPL (left, middle, right column) that are also partially shown in Fig. 7. The top row shows the particle signals normalized by particle concentration, and the bottom row shows the vaporizer position-dependent NO_x^+ ratios.

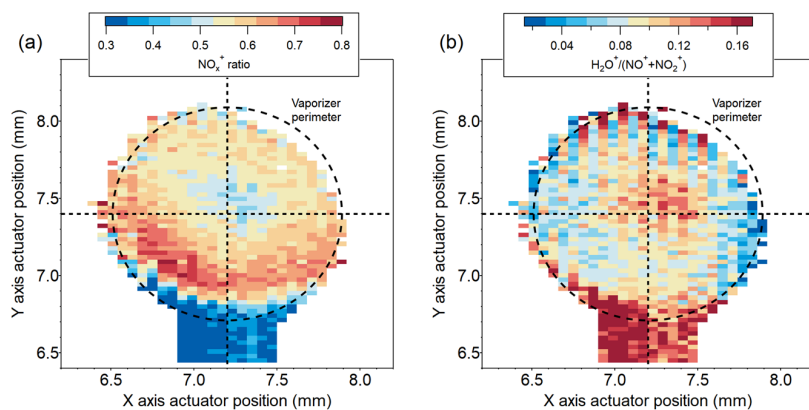


Figure S5.3. (a) NO_x ratio and $\text{H}_2\text{O}^+ / (\text{NO}^+ + \text{NO}_2^+)$ from lens scan with a new, not tilted, standard vaporizer used for the TI^3GER campaign. These results are from the $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ lens and $500 \text{ nm } d_m \text{ NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ particles. The new standard vaporizer shows a lower NO_x ratio at the vaporizer center. This confirms that the results and conclusions made with lens scans in this work are not specific to the vaporizer used here and, thus, can be applied to standard vaporizers in general.

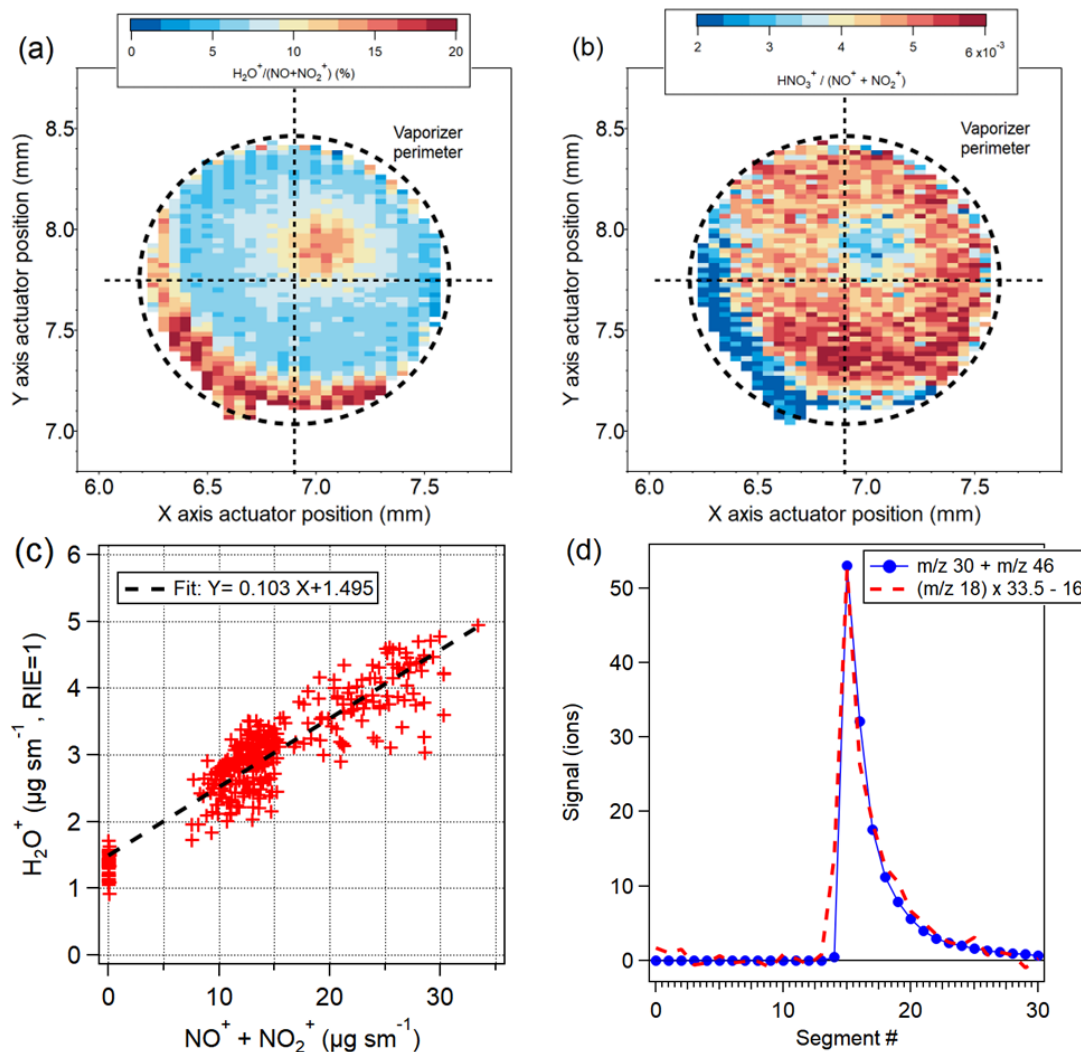
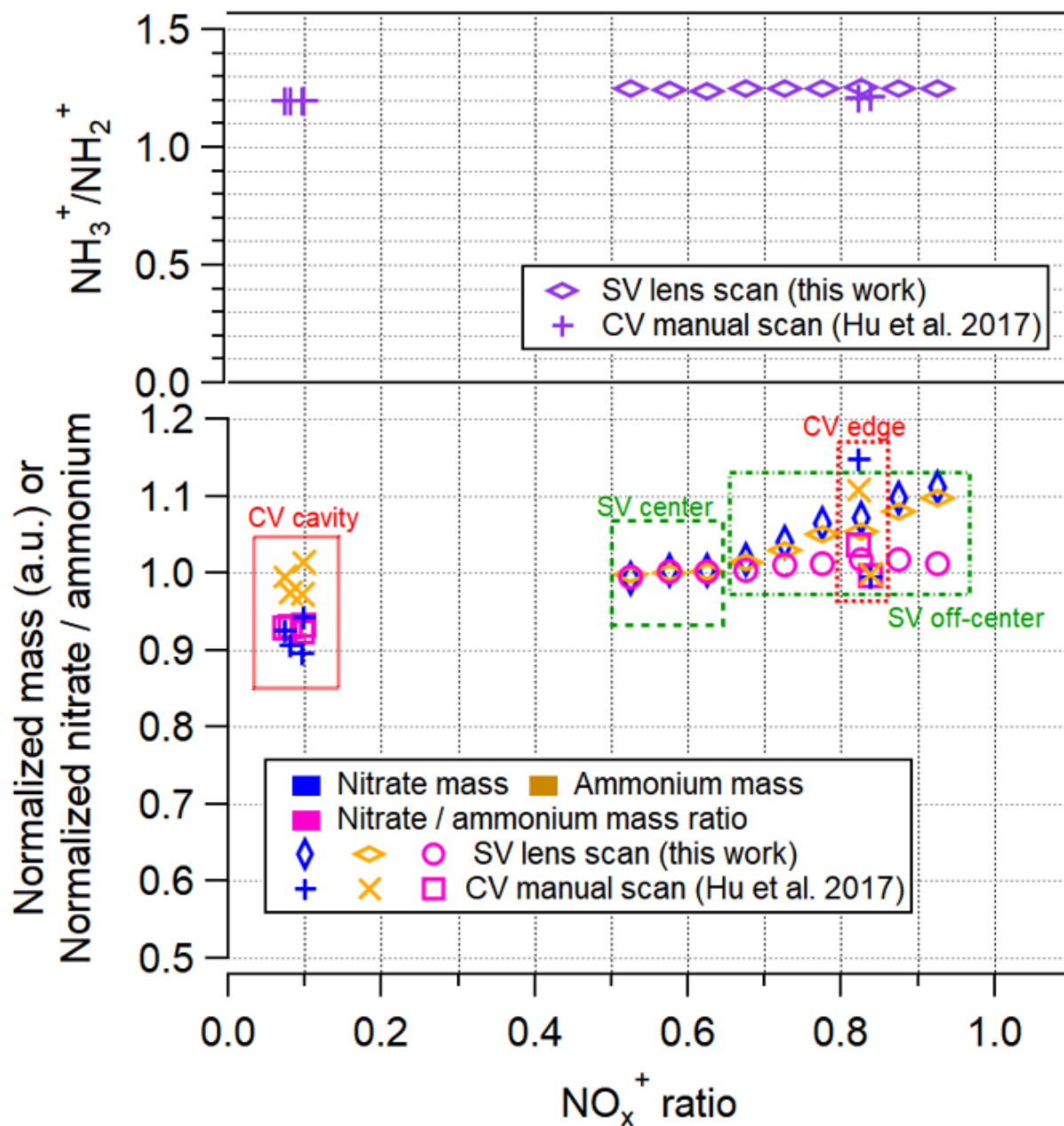


Figure S5.4. Lens scan results are shown for (a) $\text{H}_2\text{O}^+/\text{NO}_x^+$ and (b) $\text{HNO}_3^+/\text{NO}_x^+$. (a) and (b) are results from the same lens scan as Fig. S5.2a. Near the vaporizer center, the H_2O^+ signal was $\sim 10\%$ of major nitrate fragments, similar to the MS mode case. At the center of the vaporizer, the fraction increases up to 14-15%. Although noisier than (a), (b) shows a decrease in the HNO_3^+ signal at the center of SV due to higher thermal decomposition of NH_4NO_3 . Compared to off-center positions, $\sim 25\%$ of the signal drop was observed. (c) Scatter plot of H_2O^+ and NO_x^+ taken in bulk MS mode using fast mode acquisition. (d) Comparison of nitrate signal (m/z 30 and 46 that correspond to NO^+ and NO_2^+ ions) and water signal (m/z 18 that corresponds to H_2O^+) after background subtraction during event trigger (ET) mode with 500 nm d_m NH_4NO_3 particles. The ion signal is recorded once a single particle is detected. The H_2O^+ signal during ET mode was $\sim 3\%$ of major nitrate fragmentation ions. The same aerosol source was used for (c) and (d). ET mode and MS mode were alternated 3 times. In fast mode, the H_2O^+ signal was $\sim 10\%$ of major nitrate fragments.



180 **Figure S5.5.** (Top) $\text{NH}_3^+/\text{NH}_2^+$ and (Bottom) normalized nitrate mass, ammonium mass, and their ratio from NH_4NO_3 particles as a function of NO_x^+ ratio ($\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+$) on a standard vaporizer (SV) and capture vaporizer (CV). In the bottom plot, SV values were normalized by the values at the SV center positions (NO_x^+ ratio ~ 0.5 – 0.65). Outside of the CV (on the edge of the entrance), the NO_x^+ ratio was comparable to that of off-center positions on SV. CV values were normalized to match the SV values at the CV edge NO_x^+ ratio (0.8 – 0.85). The CV data was adopted from Hu et al. (2017). Nitrate to ammonium ratio was

185 used to track the nitrate sensitivity due to thermal decomposition (indicated by NO_x^+ ratio). Thermal decomposition if
ammonium was constant (as indicated by the $\text{NH}_3^+/\text{NH}_2^+$ fragmentation ratio) and thus there is negligible variance in the
species of gases ionized after evaporation. However, ammonium mass was $\sim 10\%$ lower at the SV center compared to SV off-
center positions for unidentified factors, other than thermal decomposition. Therefore, nitrate was normalized by ammonium
in this analysis, to minimize the influence from these unidentified factors. Inside the CV cavity, the NO_x^+ ratio was below 0.1
190 due to the significant thermal decomposition of $\text{HNO}_3(\text{g})$. The nitrate/ammonium ratio was $\sim 7\text{--}10\%$ lower than the CV edge
than SV (assuming that this is not driven by the losses of nitrogen oxides inside the cavity). On the SV center, the ratio was \sim
 3% lower than off-center positions. This is probably because the ionized gases consist of less $\text{HNO}_3(\text{g})$ and more $\text{NO}_2(\text{g})$ and
 $\text{NO}(\text{g})$ in case of more thermal decomposition of nitrate (lower NO_x^+ ratio), such as inside the CV cavity and SV center.

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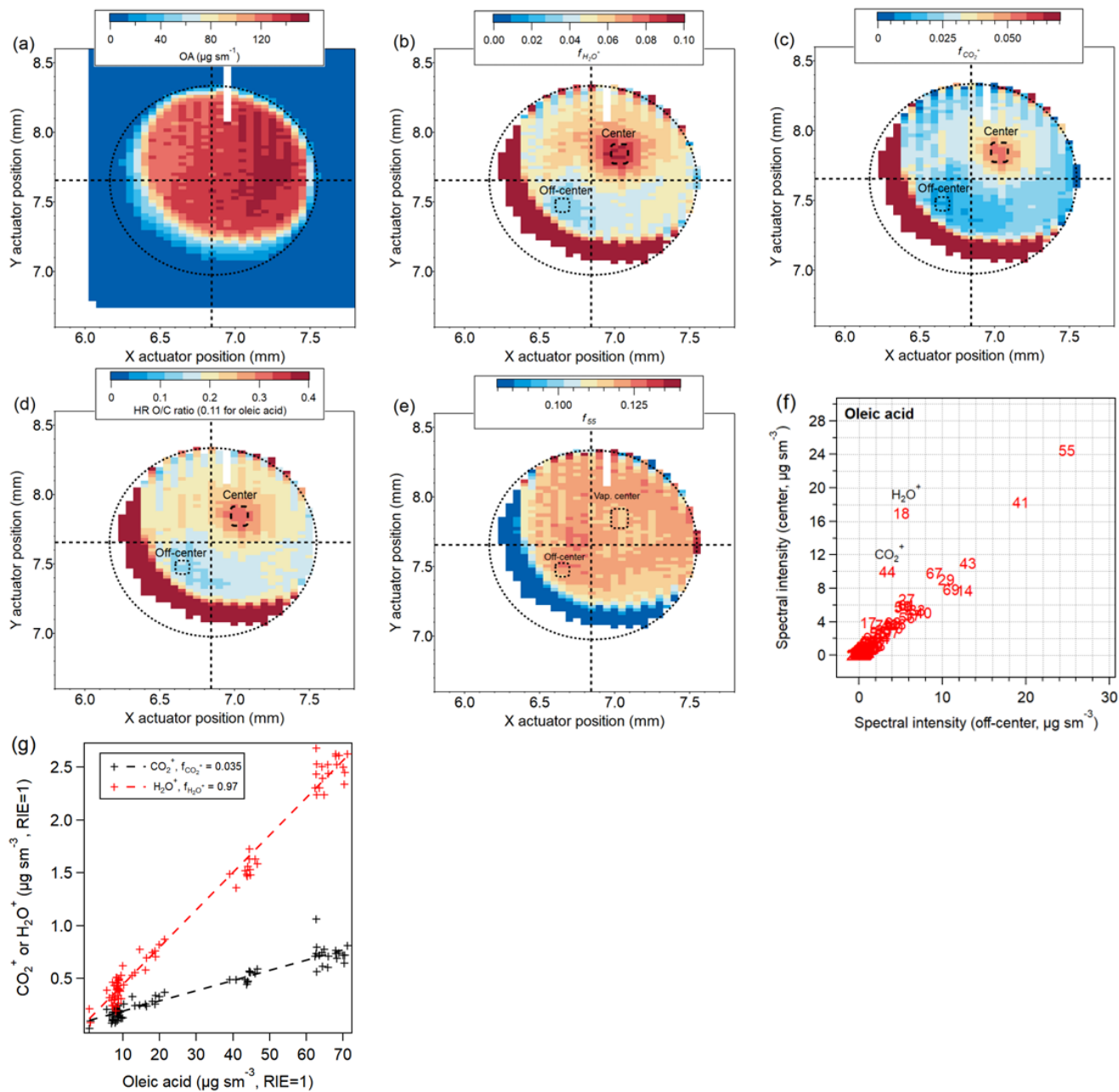


Figure S5.6. Lens scan results of (a) oleic acid mass concentration, (b) $f_{\text{H}_2\text{O}^+}$, (c) $f_{\text{CO}_2^+}$, (d) O/C atomic ratio, from PM_{10} lens and 260 nm d_m oleic acid particles, (e) f_{55} . (f) comparison of spectral intensity from oleic acid at the vaporizer center vs. off-center position. The O/C ratio was calculated using the $f_{\text{CO}_2^+}$ parametrization from (Canagaratna et al., 2015). Similar to the NH_4NO_3 case, oleic acid particles produce higher H_2O^+ and CO_2^+ when hitting the vaporizer center, indicating further fragmentations. Higher CO_2^+ results in both higher f_{44} and hence O/C estimation, up to ~ 6 and 2 times higher, respectively,

compared to the off-center position. This suggests that the organic CO_2^+ signal may be affected by the particle beam position when measuring ambient organic aerosols, resulting in potentially some instrument to instrument variability in the reported O/C for less oxidized OA as shown in Crenn et al. (2015). Note that during this lens scan, the inlet was pulled by a plumbing
205 line when actuator positions were low. While that resulted in a somewhat distorted lens scan image, it does not affect the results discussed here. (g) linearity between fragment signal (H_2O^+ and CO_2^+) and oleic acid mass at a fixed lens position. The $\text{H}_2\text{O}^+/\text{CO}_2^+$ ratio from this study that used evaporation-condensation for oleic acid particle generation is ~ 2 and Hu et al. (2018a) that used nebulization with hexane solvent was 2.1.

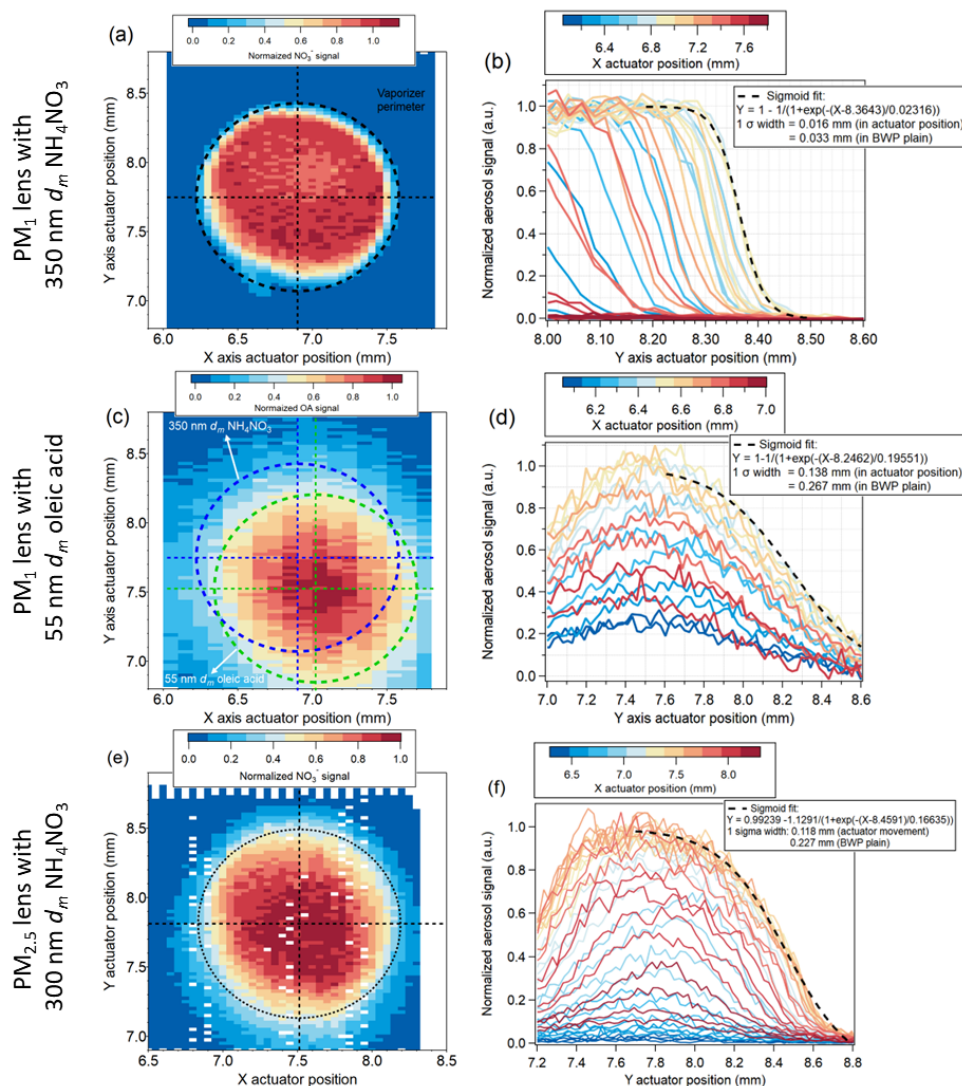


Figure S5.7. The left column shows lens scan results of the normalized signal of oleic acid or nitrate aerosol. The right column shows the normalized particle signal vs. Y axis actuator position colored by X actuator position during each lens scan. The first row shows lens scan results with the PM_1 lens and $350 \text{ nm } d_m \text{ NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ particles. The second row shows results with the PM_1 lens and $55 \text{ nm } d_m$ oleic acid particles. The third row shows results with the $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ lens and $300 \text{ nm } d_m \text{ NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ particles. The sigmoidal fit of the Y sweep when the X actuator position corresponds to the vaporizer center shows that the 1σ beam width of the PM_1 lens can be as sharp as 0.033 mm in the BWP plane. The beam width measurement of $55 \text{ nm } d_m$ oleic acid with lens scan is not reliable since the beam was too wide that a plateau regime across y actuator position was not obvious. However, the difference in beam center position was identified (Fig. 11b). The beam width of $300 \text{ nm } d_m \text{ NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ particles was much wider than that from (b) which is consistent with BWP-based beam width measurements (Fig. 11a). More beam width measurements from lens scan are included in Fig. 11a.

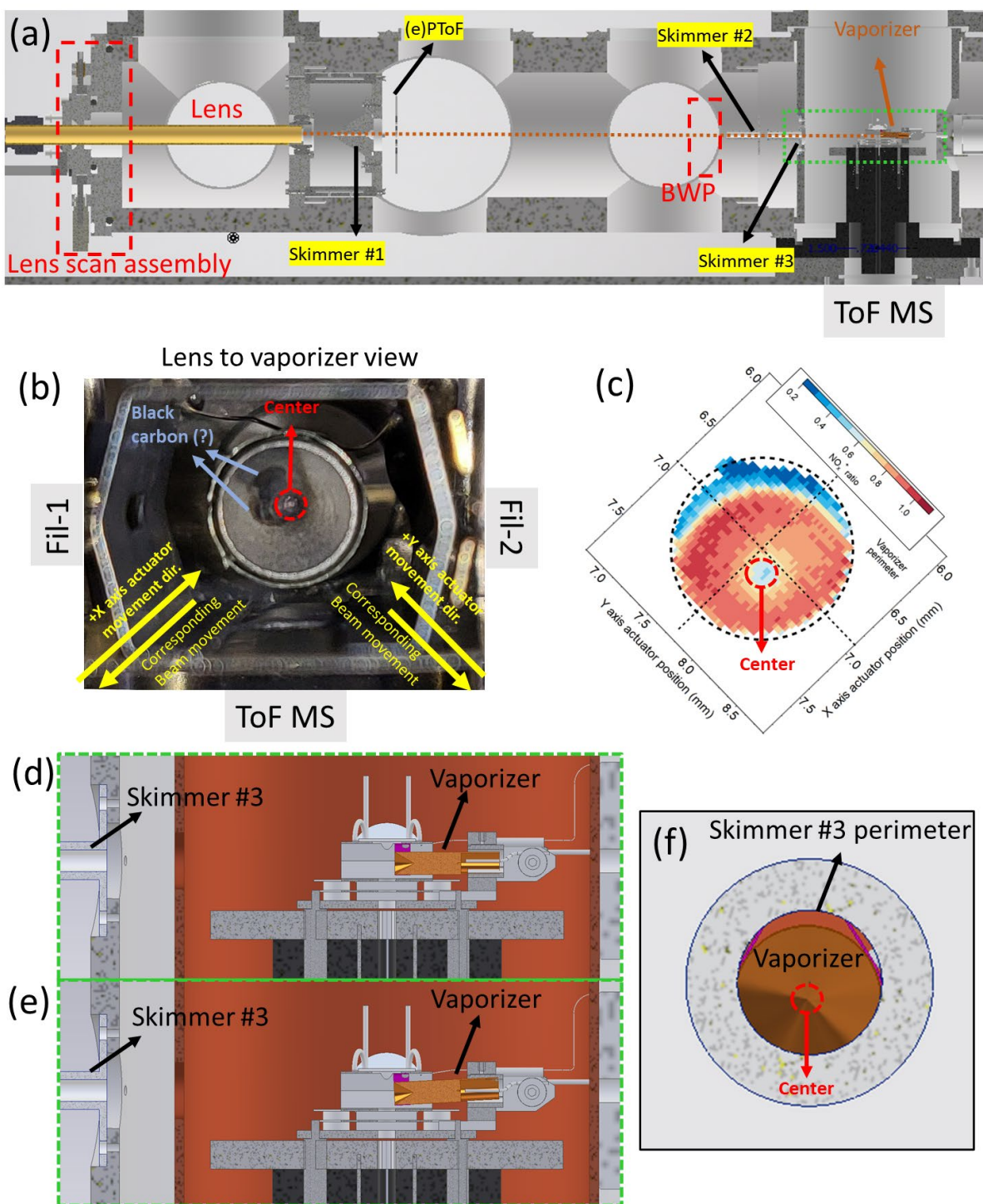
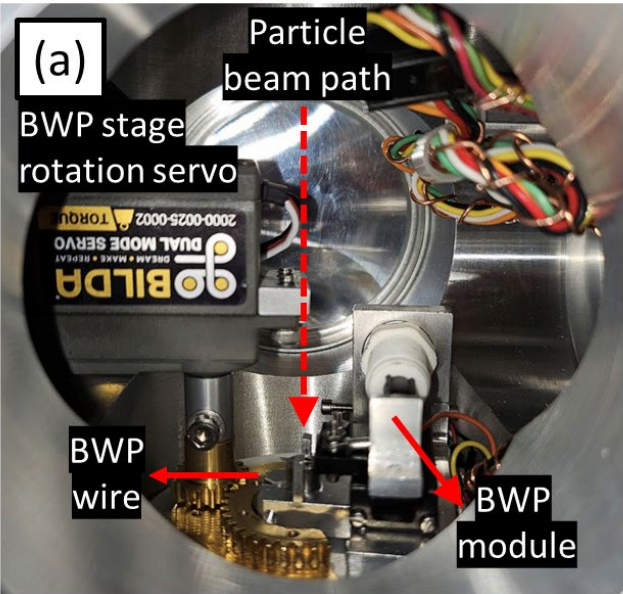


Figure S5.8. (a) Diagram of AMS cross section including the positions of skimmers and vaporizer. (b) Picture of the vaporizer used for all the lab characterizations of the different lenses shown above (which was replaced for the TP³GER campaign). (c)

Lens scan with PM_1 lens and mapped by NO_x^+ ratio. Zoomed in figures of the green dotted box in (a) with different vaporizer misalignment cases: (d) the vaporizer with 0.45 mm higher location and (e) the vaporizer tilted 2.75 degrees downward. (f) Vaporizer blocked by the skimmer #3 as a result of vaporizer misalignments in (d) and (e). The position where the NO_x^+ ratio is low (higher thermal decomposition) is likely the (projected) center of the vaporizer. The fact that the location of the physical center and the center the lens scan do not match indicates that the particle beam is hitting the vaporizer at a certain angle (up to ~ 3 degrees) and/or height of the vaporizer is misaligned (up to ~ 0.5 mm). The absence of $\sim 60\%$ vaporizer perimeter during lens scan suggests that the $\sim 60\%$ of the vaporizer edge was blocked by the third skimmer which implies that the skewed NO_x^+ ratio image from lens scan could be more attributed to the translated vaporizer position.

S6. BWP rotation stage and wire position measurement



Lens to vaporizer view

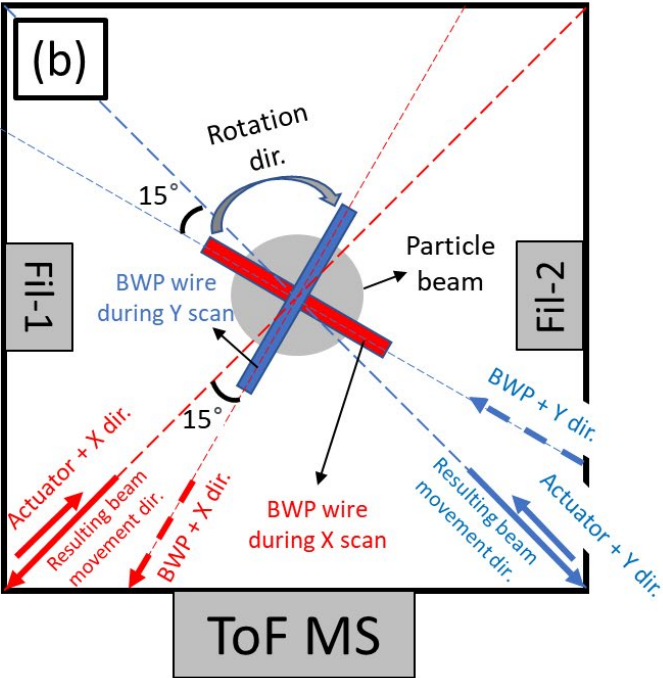


Figure S6.1. (a) Picture of the Aerodyne BWP and the custom-built BWP rotation assembly. (b) Schematic diagram of BWP axes and lens scan actuator axes as aligned for the TI³GER mission (ideally the two coordinate systems are set on top of each other).

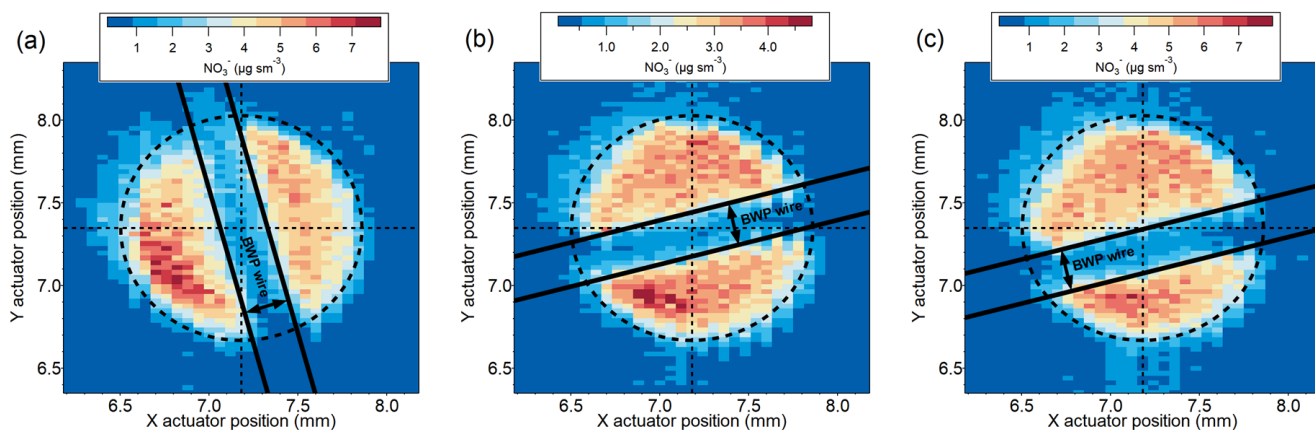


Figure S6.2. Lens scan imaging used to measure the offset of the BWP relative to the vaporizer coordinate system. Ideally, the zero BWP position is located on the line between the lens exit nozzle and the center of the vaporizer. The offset in BWP position can be attributed to many factors including the off-center vaporizer installation and the potential inherent offset in BWP hardware. The lens scan stage was run with the BWP wire parked at a certain position and the BWP was imaged to measure the BWP position relative to the vaporizer center. (a-c) shows the rotation of the beam wire (parked in the center position blocking the middle of the particle beam) while running a sweep with the lens scan, allowing to relate both coordinate systems to each other. Results of lens scans with the BWP wire parked along (a) X axis at +0.5 mm wire position (b) Y axis at +0.6 mm wire position (c) Y axis +0.8 mm wire position. We found that for the TI³GER configuration, the BWP wire set positions along the X and Y axes, +0.5 mm and +0.6 mm, correspond to the vaporizer center position in our setup. As illustrated in Fig. S6.1(b), BWP X and Y axes were 15 degrees off from the lens scan actuator X and Y axes. Notably, the BWP wire position difference between (b) and (c) measured by the lens scan is 0.198 mm which is close to the set wire position difference (0.2 mm). Lens scans were performed with 500 nm d_m NH_4NO_3 particles with $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ lens.

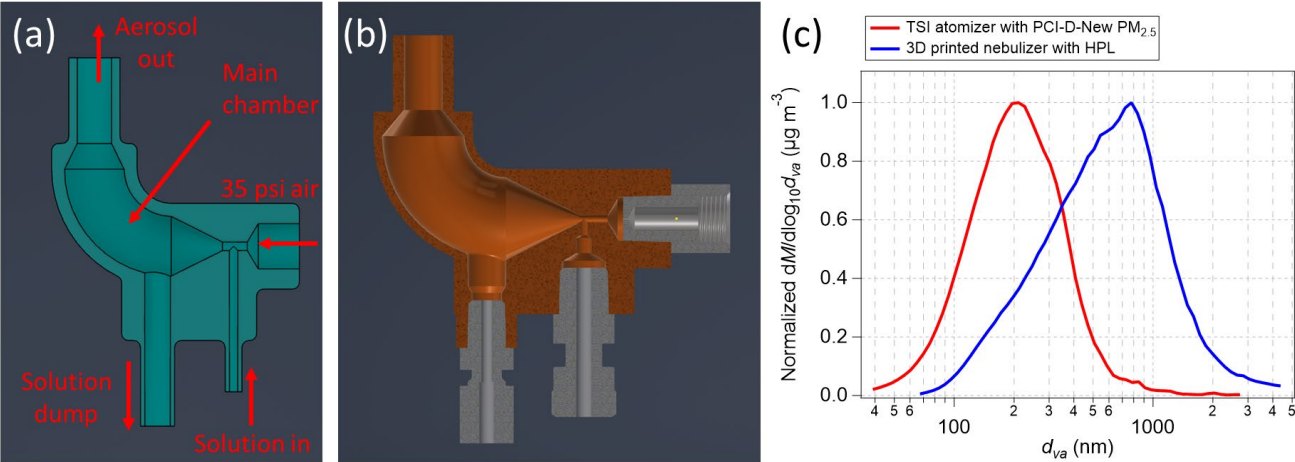


Figure S7.1. (a) Cross-section of the 3D printed nebulizer in Rösch and Cziczó (2020). (b) A modified 3D printed nebulizer used in this work. The diameter of the main chamber is 1.111 cm in the original design and 1.715 cm in our modified version, which uses different fittings to interface with the rest of our setup and the critical orifice mount discussed - but not shown - in Rösch & Cziczó. (c) Mass size distribution of NH_4NO_3 particles generated by the customized 3D printed nebulizer (b) (blue) and the TSI atomizer (model 3076, red). Most of the measured distributions were within $\sim 100\%$ transmission efficiencies of the inlet used for each nebulizer. The nebulizers were operated at ~ 35 psi nozzle pressure.

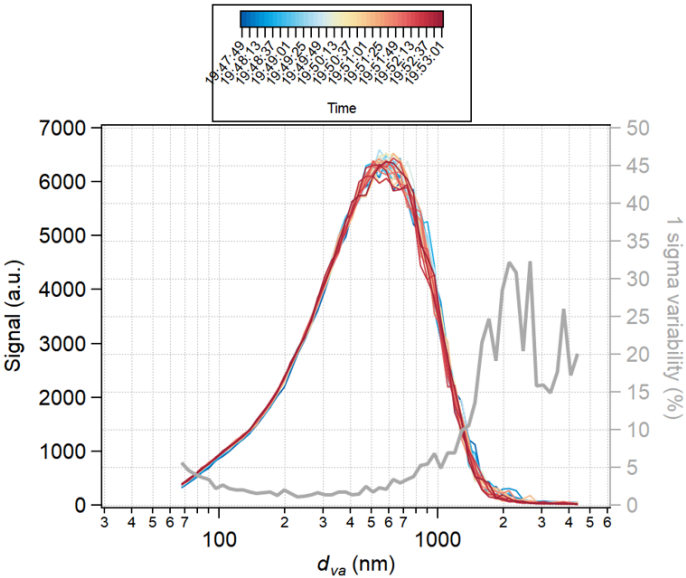


Figure S7.2. Reference size distributions and 1 sigma variability (%) of the regular, unperturbed PToF distributions during the scan along the X axis in Fig. 8.

S8. Validation of particle beam model with TE and particle deposition

In this section, we investigate a case study of an HPL equipped with PCI-D ($d_{CO,up}/d_{CO,down} = 500/400 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$, $P_{Lens} = 21 \text{ mbar}$) and compare the TE estimated by the particle beam model constrained by 2D-SR-BWP (Sect. 2.3.3) with the measured TE.

270 Fig. S8.1a shows the beam center position vs. d_{va} . TE in the model accounts for particle losses due to failing to hit the vaporizer due to wide beam widths (especially for smaller particles) and/or the center position of the beam being too far off from the vaporizer center. The modeled TE here only describes transmission losses after the exit of the lens and hence does not account for the loss of particles by impaction in either the PCI or within the lens itself, which affects the transmission of particles larger than $\sim 500 \text{ nm } d_{va}$ (Fig. S8.1b).

275 Fig. S8.1b also shows the measured particle beam center positions and beam width (σ_{IDG}) as measured with 2D-SR-BWP. The model then simulates the BWP measurement of the Gaussian beam to retrieve the experimental particle beam parameters. The slight mismatch between the input position/width and the simulated position/width for the smallest particles ($d_{va} < 150 \text{ nm}$) indicates that the measured beam is too broad or too close to the vaporizer edge and that the reconstructed beam is biased toward more centered positions with a narrower width. The mismatch also indicates that, during the 2D-SR-BWP
280 measurements, the measured position and width may have been potentially biased in the same direction for the same reasons. Thus, when the measured and simulated positions/width mismatch, the simulated TE can be overestimated. Although the higher modeled TE below $150 \text{ nm } d_{va}$ may be attributed to the measurement bias of beam width, the modeled TE follows the decreasing trend of measured TE providing a reasonable estimation of the lower-end transmission curve.

TE modeling can be useful to estimate the small particle transmission, which is important when measuring Aitken
285 mode particles, without having to generate monodisperse aerosols below $200 \text{ nm } d_m$ (without doubly charged particles) which is challenging outside of the laboratory. Another useful feature of the model is that it can diagnose particle losses due to failing to hit the vaporizer when the beam center positions approach the edge of the diameter (see Fig. 14).

For further validation, the particle beam model was applied to reconstruct particle deposition images taken by Aerodyne as part of the lens quality control process. Particle deposition pattern images in Fig. S8.2a-c were made by impacting
290 polydisperse NH_4NO_3 aerosol sampled through the $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ lens and HPL, 41 cm after the exit of the lens on a glass surface (Fig. S8.3). The white circle indicates the scaled perimeter of the standard vaporizer. The HPL deposition image shows the shift of center position between small particles (wider width) and larger particles (smaller width) which is consistent with Fig. 11b.

Simulated particle deposition images for each lens for each lens are shown in Fig. S8.2c-d. For these model runs, the size distribution from the TSI atomizer measured in our laboratory (Fig. S7.1c) was combined with the beam profiles shown
295 in Fig. 11, but the profiles were adjusted to the center of the vaporizer. In the simulation, the total deposition was normalized to the highest intensity and the contour lines indicate 20, 40, 60 and 80% of the maximum particle deposition. The particle deposition simulations are generally consistent with the deposition images. Some differences between the simulations and measurements may result from the potential differences in the aerosol size distributions used in both tests. Also, while the

model assumes the deposited aerosol mass is proportional to the intensity in the image, the particle image intensity may not be
 300 proportional to the deposited mass.

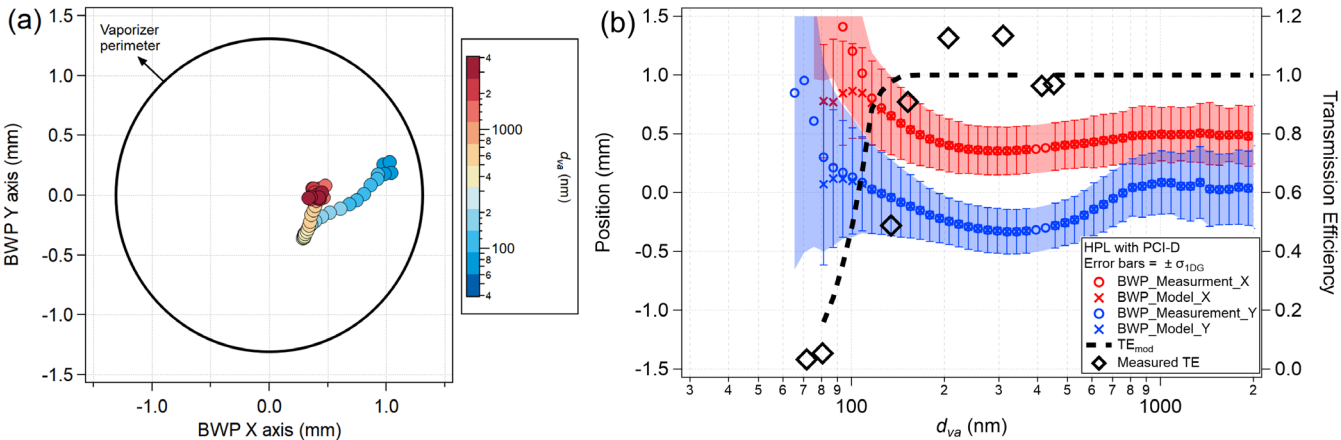
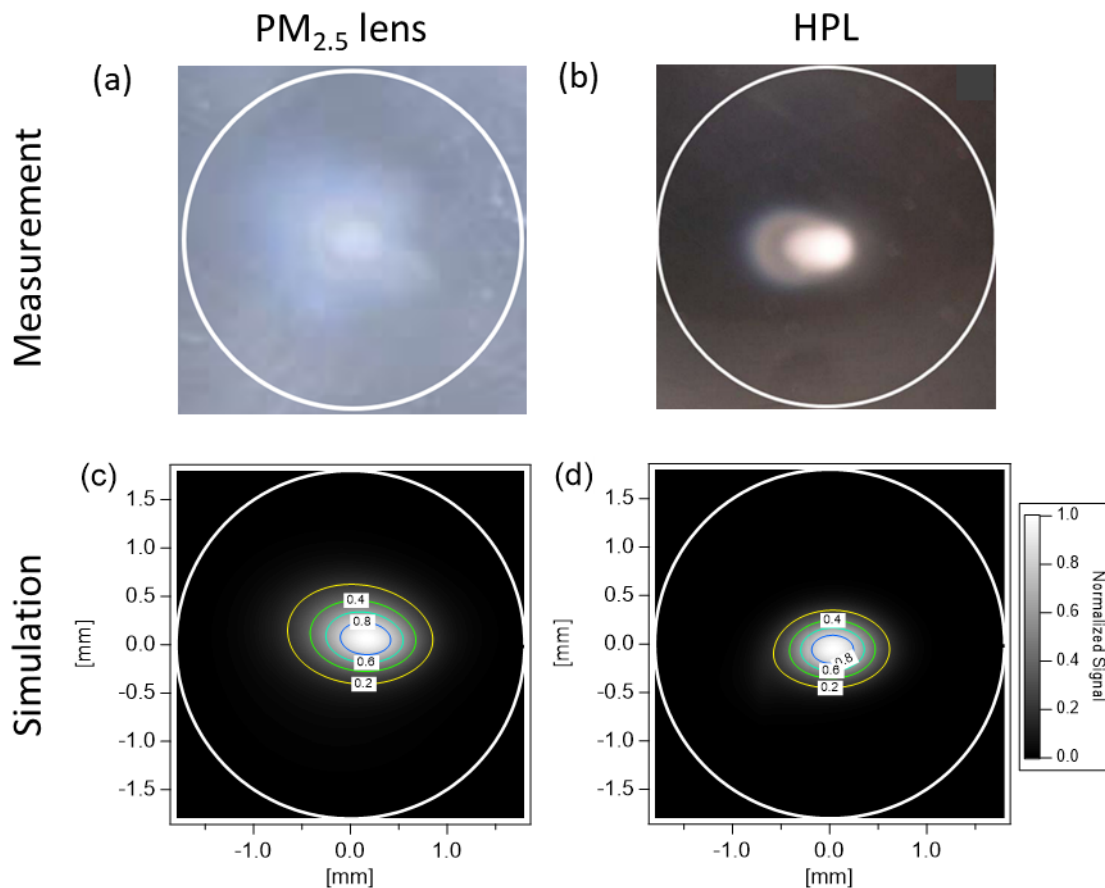
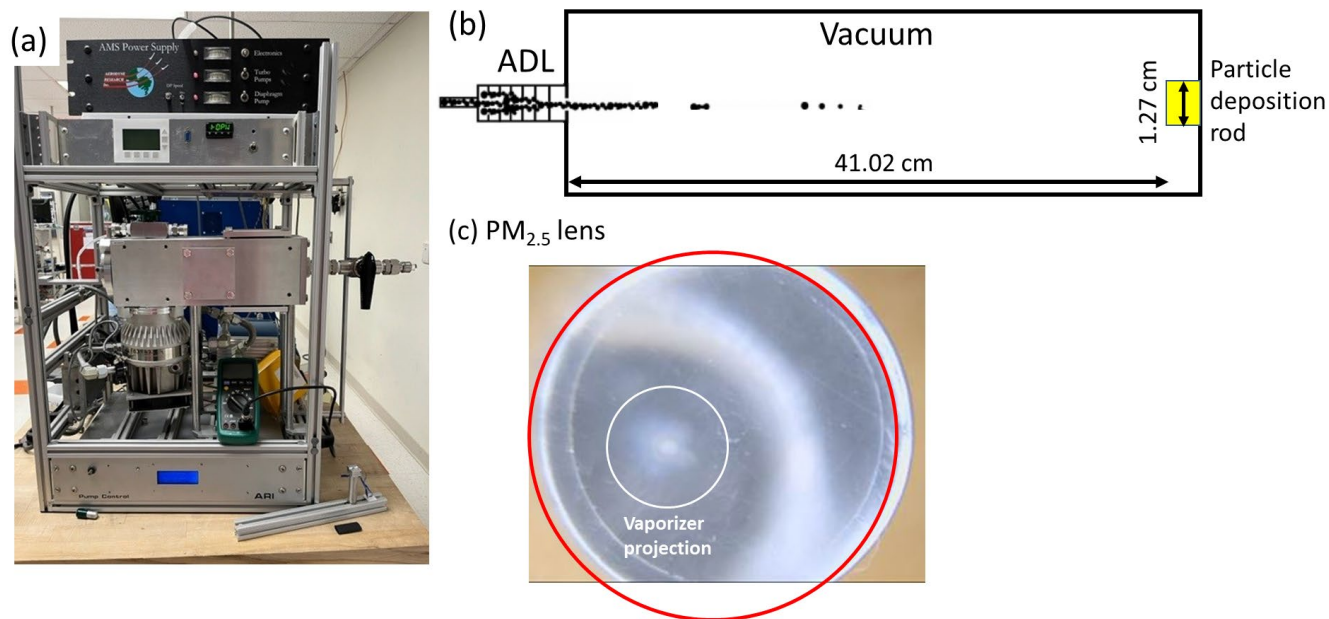


Figure S8.1. (a) Particle beam center position trajectories from HPL with PCI-D as a function of d_{va} , as measured by 2D-SR-BWP. The nitrate concentration during the lens scan is also shown as an image plot in the background. The vaporizer edge is
 305 shown as a dotted green line, as determined from the lens scan. (b) Modeled and measured TE of the inlet. Also shown are measured center positions and reconstructed beam center positions in the model. Bars and shading represent 1σ of the Gaussian fitting.



310 **Figure S8.2.** Deposition patterns of polydisperse NH_4NO_3 transmitted by the lens system for (left) $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ lens, (right) HPL
 with spot check images (top) and simulated particle deposition (bottom). The contour lines indicate where the aerosol
 deposition is 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, and 0.8 fraction of the highest aerosol deposition. The HPL spot check image was adopted from
 Williams et al. (2013).



315 **Figure S8.3.** (a) A picture of the particle deposition system. (b) Schematic diagram of the Aerodyne particle deposition system.
 (c) The original image of particle deposition tests and the vaporizer perimeter projection (white circles) on the deposition rod
 were measured with the $PM_{2.5}$ lens beam deposition image. The red solid circles are the perimeter of the particle deposition
 rod (12.7 mm diameter). Only the particle deposition images within the projected vaporizer perimeters are shown in Fig. S8.2.
 The distance between the lens nozzle and rod distance is 0.4102 m. In the CU-HR-AMS system, the nozzle-to-vaporizer
 320 distance is 0.3545 m. Assuming radial expansion of the aerosol beam at the end of the nozzle, the projected vaporizer diameter-
 to-rod diameter ratio is 0.328.

S9. Characterizations of standalone ADLs

Table S9.1. The approximate particle diameter range ($E_L = 50\%$) of the aerodynamic lens transmission efficiency curves is shown in Fig. 12.

Aerodynamic lens type	Reference	$d_{va,50,low}$ (nm)	$d_{va,50,high}$ (nm)	P_{lens} (mbar)	$d_{CO,std}$ (μm)
PM ₁ lens	Zhang et al. (2004)	45	-	-	-
	Liu et al. (2007) ^a	63	900	-	-
	Liu et al. (2007) ^b	95	650	1.73	100
	Knote et al. (2011)	63	1060	-	-
	This work	47	830	2	120
PM _{2.5} lens	Xu et al. (2017)	150	4000	5.1	-
	Molleker et al. (2020)	< 200	2600	-	100
	This work	55	2700	5.1	120
HPL	Williams et al. (2013)	85	> 3000	18.4	100
	This work	120	> 1500	21	120

325 ^aat 780 mbar ambient pressure. ^bat 1013 mbar ambient pressure.

Table S9.2. The trapezoid curves in Fig. 12. consist of: – 0 % transmission below $d_{va,0,low}$; – linear increase in transmission vs $\log(d_{va})$, from 0 % at $d_{va,0,low}$ to 100 % at $d_{va,100,low}$; – 100 % transmission from $d_{va,100,low}$ up to $d_{va,100,high}$; – linear decrease in transmission vs $\log(d_{va})$, from 100% at $d_{va,100,low}$ to 0 % at $d_{va,0,high}$.

ADL	$d_{va,0,low}$ (nm)	$d_{va,100,low}$ (nm)	$d_{va,100,high}$ (nm)	$d_{va,0,high}$ (nm)
PM ₁ lens	34	64	440	1550
PM _{2.5} lens	36	82	1500	5000
HPL	85	170	> 1500	> 1500

Table S9.3. This table shows the ePToF parameters applied to derive Fig. 12(d). The v_l values for PM_{2.5} lens and HPL were adopted from Xu et al. (2017) and Williams et al. (2013), respectively. The v_g values were measured by AMS PToF. The D_b and b values were fitted by Eq. 4.

ADL	P_{Lens} (mbar)	v_g (m s ⁻¹)	v_l (m s ⁻¹)	D_b (nm)	b (unitless)
PM ₁ lens	2	746.14	15	4.7305	0.43836
PM _{2.5} lens	5.1	702	15.59	13.045	0.46917
HPL	21	746.1	78.50	30.321	0.73314

335 **Table S9.4.** Measured E_L of PM₁, PM_{2.5} lens, and HPL shown in Fig. 12.

PM ₁ lens			PM _{2.5} lens			HPL		
d_{va} (nm)	E_L	Compound	d_{va} (nm)	E_L	Compound	d_{va} (nm)	E_L	Compound
31.33	0.024	Oleic acid ^a	35.80	-0.007	Oleic acid ^c	71.60	0.0168	Oleic acid ^c
44.75	0.545	Oleic acid ^a	40.28	0.059	Oleic acid ^c	80.55	0.0436	Oleic acid ^c
49.22	0.742	Oleic acid ^a	44.75	0.126	Oleic acid ^c	98.45	0.1862	Oleic acid ^c
53.70	0.910	Oleic acid ^a	49.22	0.316	Oleic acid ^c	116.35	0.4851	Oleic acid ^c
71.60	1.308	Oleic acid ^a	55.49	0.481	Oleic acid ^c	134.25	0.6646	Oleic acid ^c
107.40	0.853	Oleic acid ^a	62.65	0.688	Oleic acid ^c	161.10	0.8962	Oleic acid ^c
179.00	1.140	Oleic acid ^a	71.60	0.842	Oleic acid ^c	179.00	1.1081	Oleic acid ^c
451.35	1.067	(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ ^b	80.55	0.999	Oleic acid ^c	223.75	0.9829	Oleic acid ^c
526.58	0.716	(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ ^b	89.50	1.009	Oleic acid ^c	268.50	1.0781	Oleic acid ^c
601.80	0.758	(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ ^b	107.40	1.028	Oleic acid ^c	290.88	0.9345	Oleic acid ^c
688.00	0.605	NH ₄ NO ₃	134.25	1.002	Oleic acid ^c	550.40	0.8714	NH ₄ NO ₃
688.00	0.666	NH ₄ NO ₃	179.00	0.934	Oleic acid ^c	602.40	0.8044	NH ₄ I ^f
752.25	0.667	(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ ^b	502.00	0.989	NH ₄ I ^d	688.00	1.0294	NH ₄ NO ₃
902.70	0.443	(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ ^b	688.00	0.980	NH ₄ I ^d	688.00	1.0511	NH ₄ NO ₃
1053.15	0.304	(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ ^b	753.00	0.804	NH ₄ NO ₃	803.20	0.9968	NH ₄ I ^f
1100.80	0.301	NH ₄ NO ₃	1004.00	0.738	NH ₄ I ^d	825.60	1.1114	NH ₄ NO ₃
1203.60	0.204	(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ ^b	1100.80	0.900	NH ₄ NO ₃	963.20	1.1589	NH ₄ NO ₃
			1255.00	1.000	NH ₄ I ^d	1004.00	1.0924	NH ₄ I ^f
			1255.00	0.909	NH ₄ I ^d	1100.80	0.9889	NH ₄ NO ₃
			1506.00	1.062	NH ₄ I ^d	1204.80	1.0327	NH ₄ I ^f
			1757.00	0.991	NH ₄ I ^d	1405.60	0.8910	NH ₄ I ^f
			2008.00	0.731	NH ₄ I ^d	1606.40	0.7943	NH ₄ I ^f
			2008.00	0.732	NH ₄ I ^d			
			2259.00	0.651	NH ₄ I ^d			

^aRIE = 3.5. ^b S = 0.85, E_b = 0.43. ^cRIE = 3.5. ^d S = 1, E_b = 0.55. ^eRIE = 3.04. ^f S = 0.87, E_b = 0.32. S and E_b of NH₄NO₃ are 0.8 and 1 for all the transmission measurements.

S10. 2D-SR-BWP results from ADLs

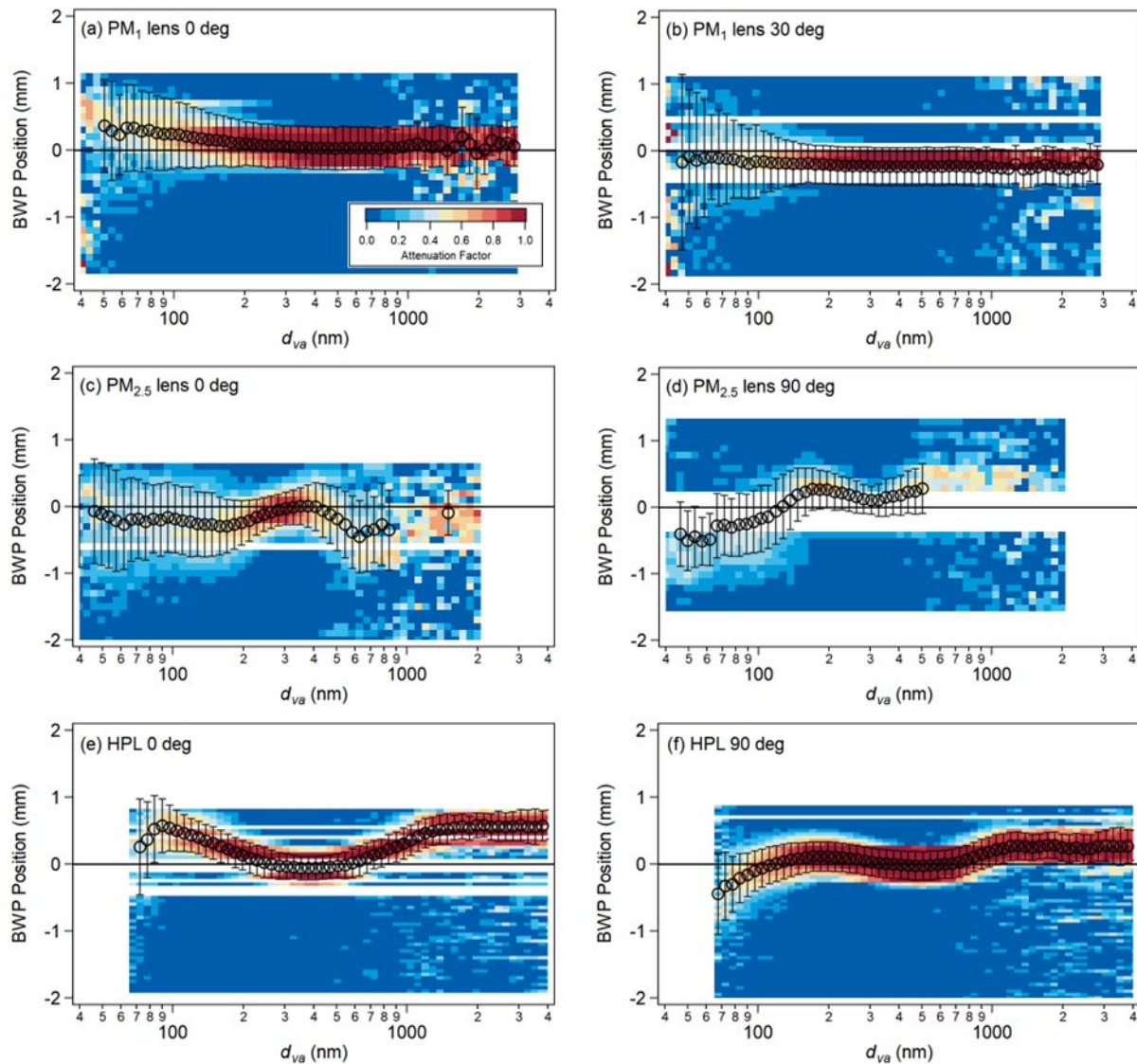


Figure S10.1. The raw SR-2D-BWP signal attenuations from polydisperse NH_4NO_3 with PM_1 lens (1st row), $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ lens (2nd row), and HPL (3rd row) in 0 (left column) and 90 degrees (right column) rotated axis except for (b) which is 30 degree rotation from X axis. Markers and error bars represent fitted center positions and 1 standard deviation from Gaussian fit at each d_{va} size bin. Smoothed signal attenuations by Gaussian fitting are shown in Fig. 10.

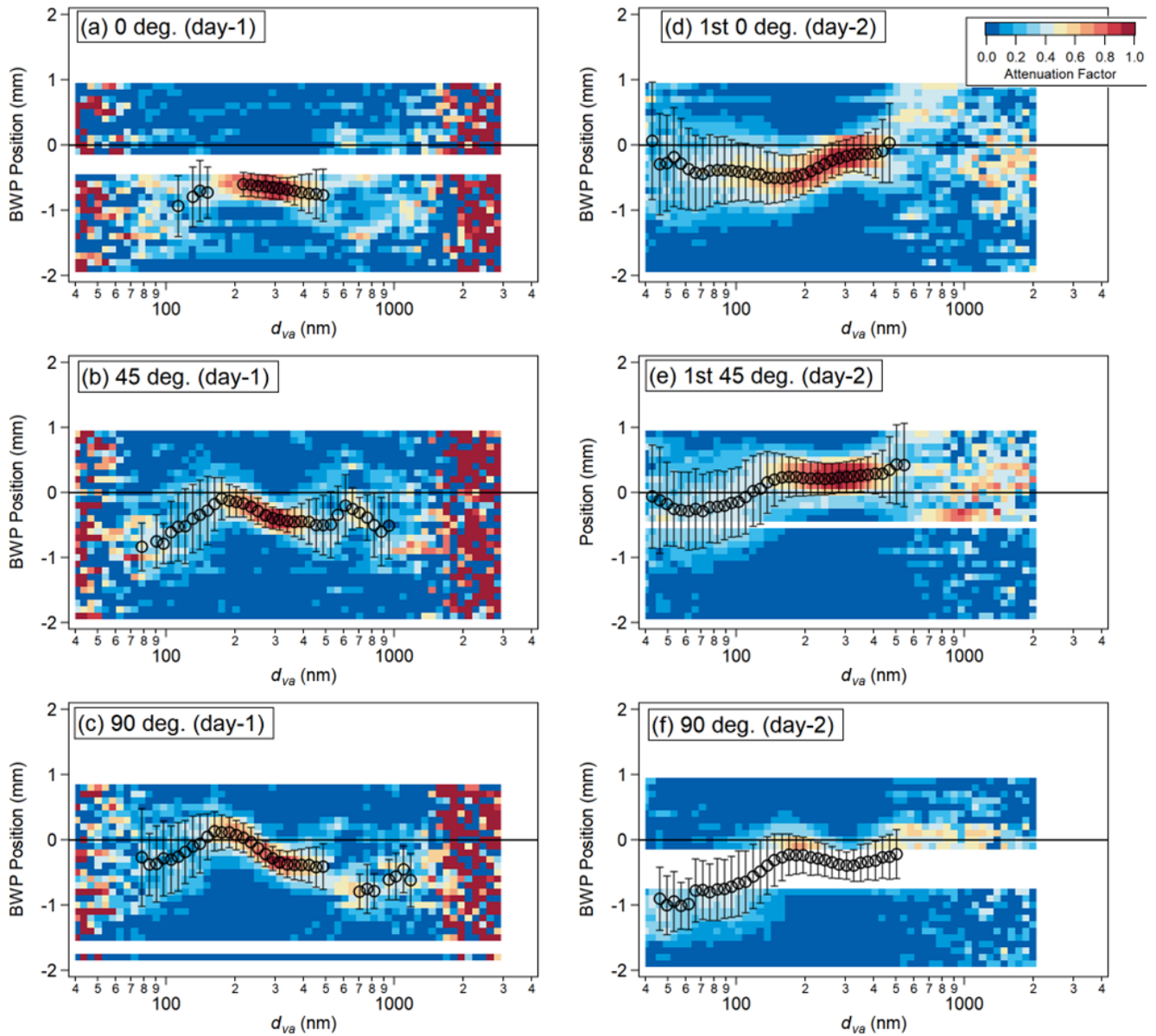


Figure S10.2. Raw profiles of PM_{2.5} lens in 3 different BWP angles on two different days. The 3D nebulizer performance was compromised for unknown reasons for these experiments and the beam profile signal to noise is low above ~ 800 nm d_{va} . Day-2 profiles were measured after re-installing the lens, hence the orientation of the lens is not the same as Day-1.

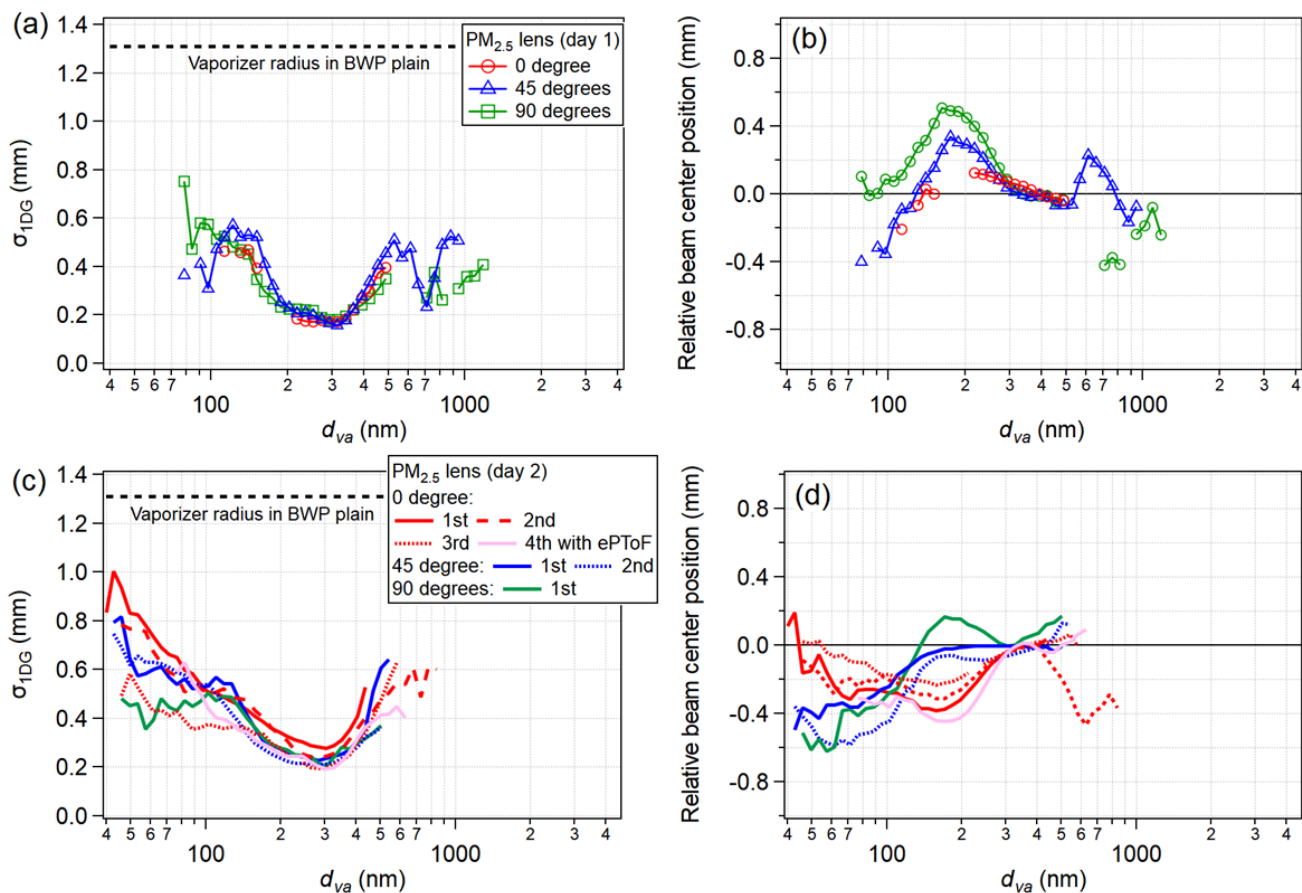


Figure S10.3. Beam center positions and width as a function of d_{va} shown in Fig. S10.2. Relative center positions are center positions relative to the position at 400 nm d_{va} . The beam width reached a minimum of around 300 nm d_{va} .

S11. PCI comparison

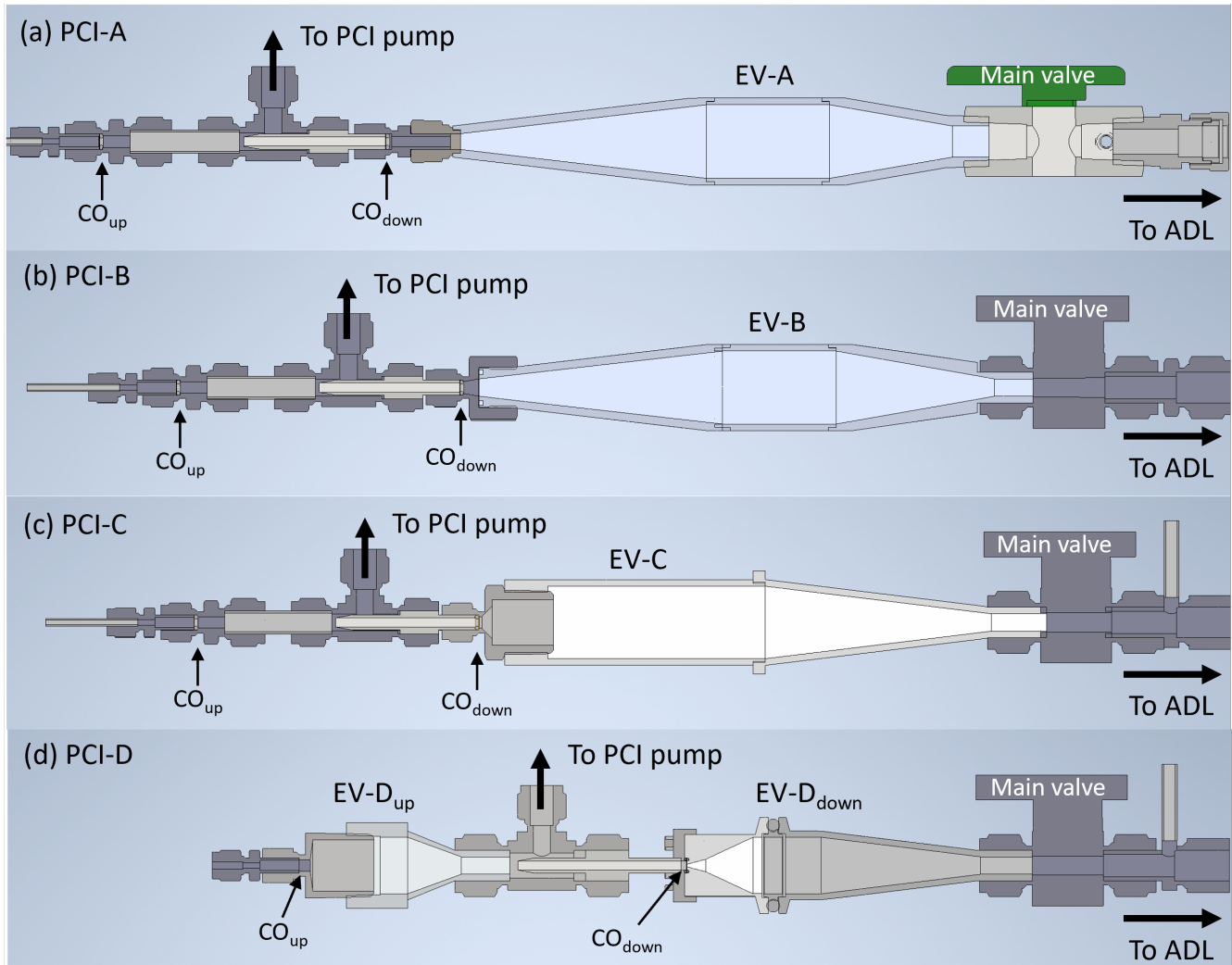


Figure S11.1. Solid models of the four PCIs deployed with CU-HR-AMS during previous field campaigns, following Guo et al., (2021) Fig. S7: (a) PCI-A, (b) PCI-B, (c) PCI-C, and (d) PCI-D. All PCIs consist of a PCI pump port between two critical orifices (CO_{up} and CO_{down}) as well as a custom-designed expansion volume downstream of CO_{down} to minimize particle losses. Details on expansion volume designs for PCI-A, PCI-B, and PCI-C are discussed in Guo et al. (2021). Another expansion volume was added to PCI-D downstream of CO_{up} since it significantly reduced particle losses. More operational details on the four PCIs can be found in Table S11.1.

Table S11.1. Comparison of setup and performance of PCIs (and ADLs) utilized for CU-HR-AMS airborne measurements in various field campaigns. The optimal altitude range is the altitude range where P_{PCI} can be kept constant during flight (assuming ambient $T = 0^{\circ}\text{C}$). During the ATom-1 campaign, both PCI-B (for the earlier part) and PCI-C (for the later part) were used.

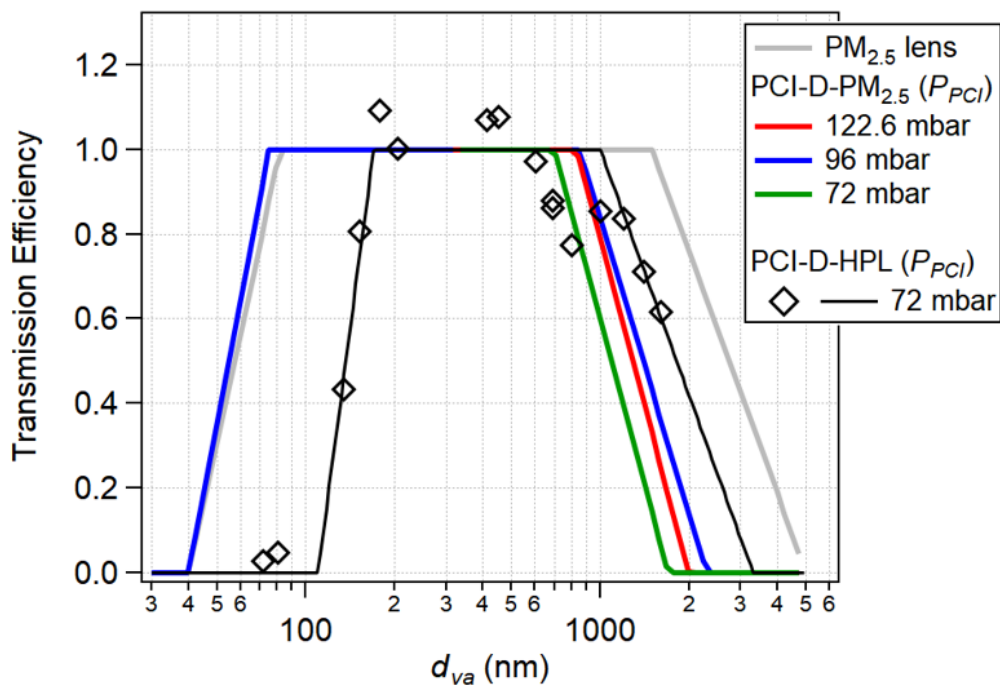
PCI name used in this work	PCI-Bahreini	PCI-A	PCI-B	PCI-C	PCI-D	
Reference	a, b, c	d	d,e,f	d	This work	
Field campaigns deployed	MILAGR O, INTEX-B	ARCTA S, DC3	SEAC ⁴ RS, WINTER, KORUS-AQ ATom-1 (first half)	ATom-1 (second half) ATom 2-4, FIREX-AQ	TI ³ GER	
ADL type	PM ₁				PM _{2.5}	
P_{lens} (mbar)	1.9–2.1				5.1	
$d_{CO1/dCO2}$ (μm)	180/150	300/250	300/250 (SEAC ⁴ RS, ATom-1) 300/170 (WINTER, KORUS-AQ)	350/220	450/350	450/300
Set P_{PCI} (mbar)	466.7	122	122 (SEAC ⁴ RS, ATom-1), 425 (WINTER, KORUS-AQ)	250	96	122.6
Optimal altitude range (km)	0 - 5.7	0-13	0-13, 0-8	0 - 10	1.7 - 16	0 - 14.6
$d_{va,50,low}$ (nm)	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	50	60	60
$d_{va,50,high}$ (nm)	> 500	N/A	500-600, 850	750 (ATom 1-2) 770 (ATom 3) 920 (Atom 4) 960 (FIREX-AQ)	1400	1300

370 a: Bahreini et al. (2008), b: DeCarlo et al. (2008), c: Dunlea et al. (2009), d: Guo et al. (2021), e: Schroder et al. (2018), f: Nault et al. (2018), *Although $d_{va,50,low}$ values were not measured, these are expected to be similar to $d_{va,50,low}$ of PM₁ lens (~50 nm).

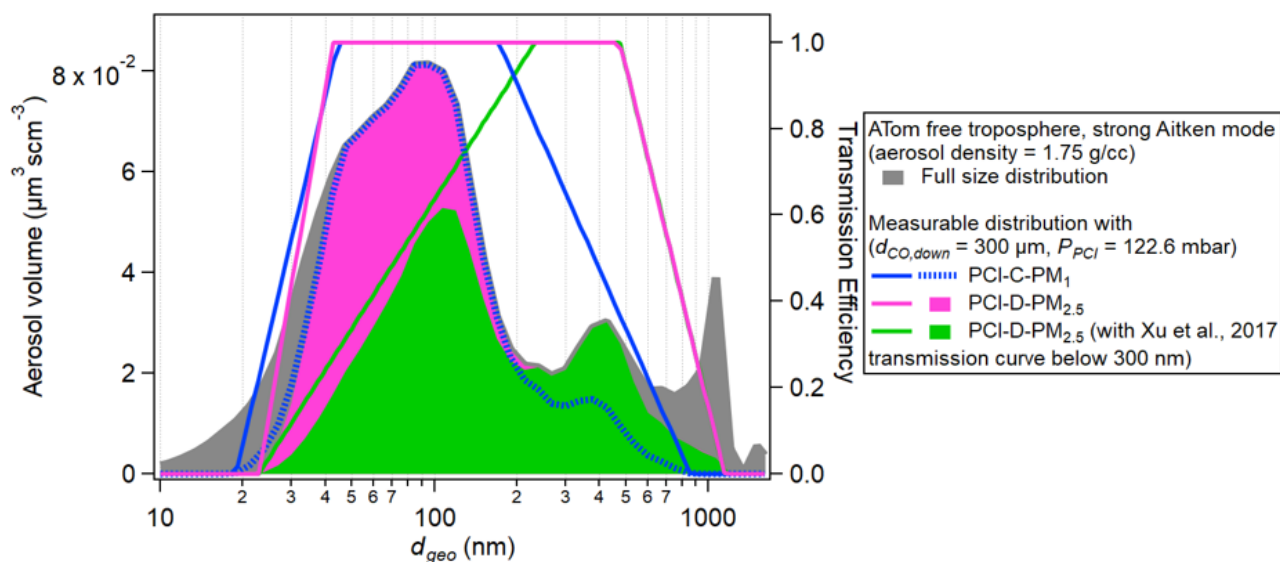
Table S11.2. The trapezoid curves in Fig. 13 consist of: – 0 % transmission below $d_{va,0,low}$; – linear increase in transmission vs $\log(d_{va})$, from 0 % at $d_{va,0,low}$ to 100 % at $d_{va,100,low}$; – 100 % transmission from $d_{va,100,low}$ up to $d_{va,100,high}$; – linear decrease in transmission vs $\log(d_{va})$, from 100% at $d_{va,100,low}$ to 0 % at $d_{va,0,high}$.

PCI-ADL	$d_{CO1}/d_{CO2}(\mu m)$	$d_{va,0,low}$ (nm)	$d_{va,100,low}$ (nm)	$d_{va,100,high}$ (nm)	$d_{va,0,high}$ (nm)
PCI-C-PM ₁	350/220	33	78	550	1700
	350/300	-	-	300	1500
	350/350	-	-	230	1500
	500/400*	30	65	150	3500
PCI-C-PM _{2.5}	350/220	-	-	750	2500
	350/300	-	-	400	2500
	350/350	40	80	250	2300
	500/400*	50	80	200	6000
PCI-D-PM _{2.5}	350/300	-	-	830	2000
	350/350	40	75	830	2300
	500/400	-	-	700	1700
PCI-D-HPL [†]	500/400	110	170	1000	3300

*Does not follow a trapezoid curve, see Fig. 13. [†]See Fig. S11.2.



380 **Figure S11.2.** Transmission efficiency of PCI-D-HPL ($P_{PCI} = 72$ mbar) in comparison to PCI-D-PM_{2.5} at different P_{PCI} .



385 **Figure S11.3.** Measurable size distribution with three different inlet configurations in the upper troposphere when there was strong Aitken mode aerosols during ATom campaign. Compared to the inlet with PM₁ lens, sampling efficiency of Aitken mode aerosols with PCI-D-PM_{2.5} inlet was not significantly compromised. If the transmission efficiency measured by Xu et al. (2017) is applied (below 300 nm) to the inlet, Aitken mode sampling efficiency is significantly compromised.

S12. Inlet residence time

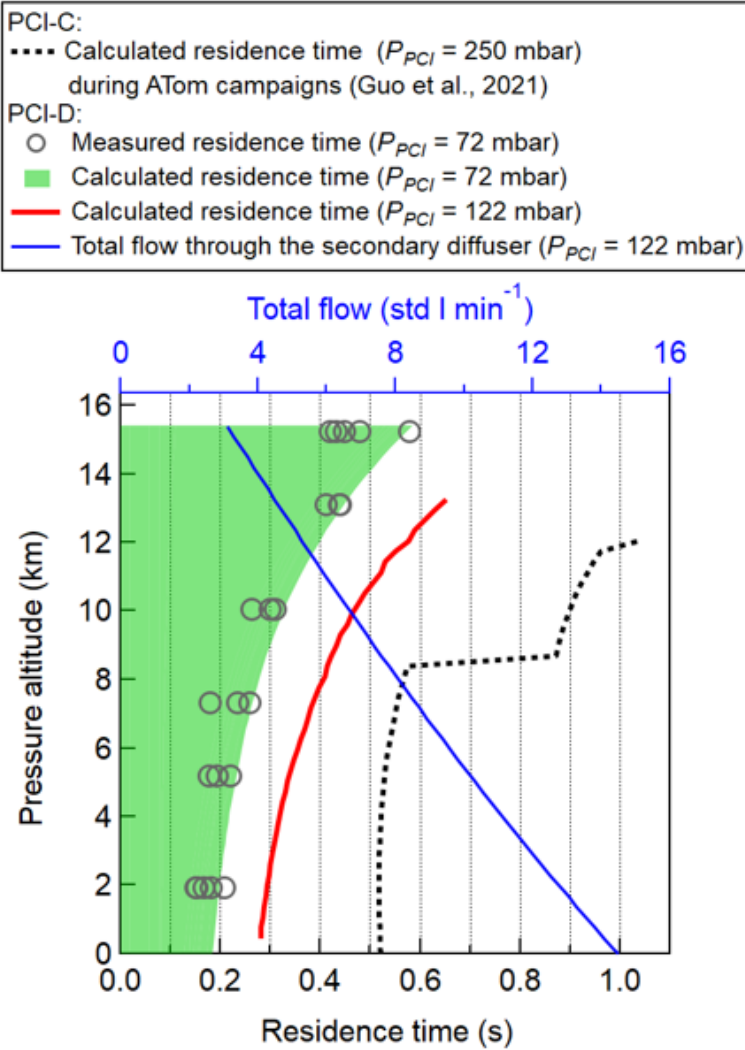


Figure S12.1. The residence time (RT) of the PCI design in Bahreini (2008) is long (~ 5s) due to a large internal volume. For the PCI-C, the residence time has been improved by reducing both the length and ID and using an improved internal takeoff design, to achieve an internal volume of only 3.5 cm³ (vs. ~30 cm³ in Bahreini et al., 2008) (Guo et al., 2021). In this work, the residence time (from the entrance of PCI, *i.e.*, CO_{up}, to the AMS vaporizer) of PCI-D has been calculated using simple linear plug flow assumptions and experimentally measured using calibration particle puffs (Fig. S12.2). RT of PCI-D is 0.2-0.5s depending on the altitude (inlet pressure) which is ~ half of PCI-C. The shortened residence time was achieved mostly due to the reduced expansion volume and lower PCI pressure.

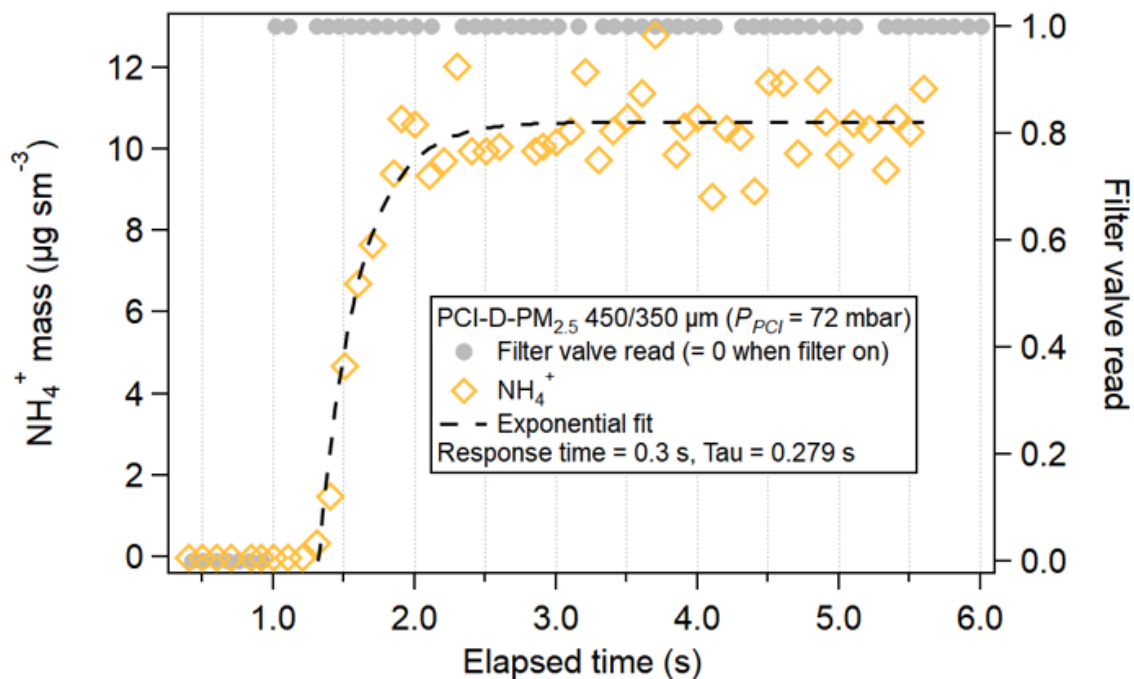


Figure S12.2. An example of residence time measurement with NH_4NO_3 shown in Fig. S12.1. Both filter valve status and AMS data are acquired at 10 Hz. The tau from exponential fit is the characteristic residence time of aerosol downstream of CO_{up} .

S13. Effect of P_{Lens} on small particle transmission

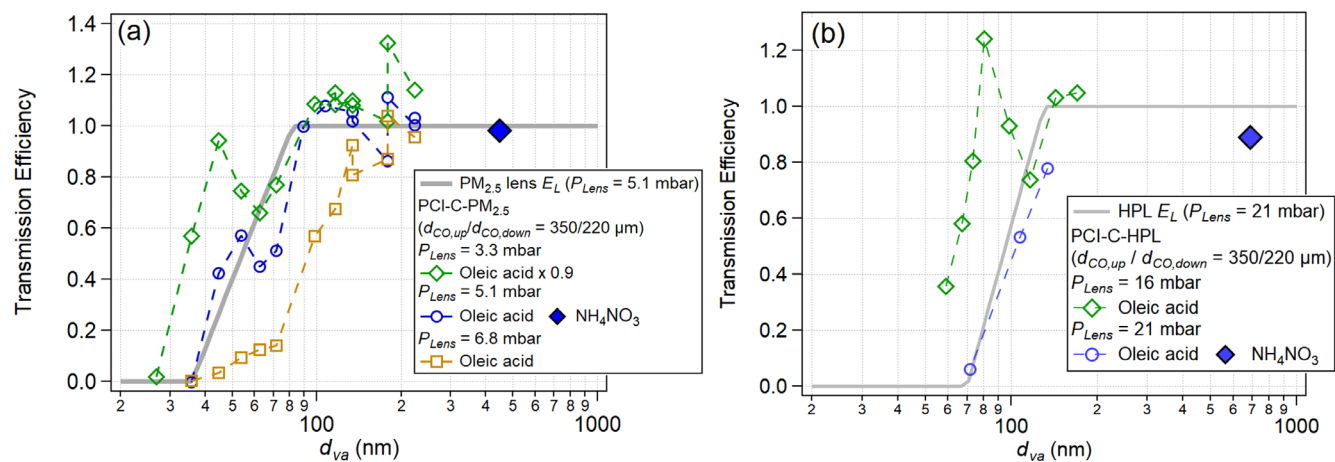
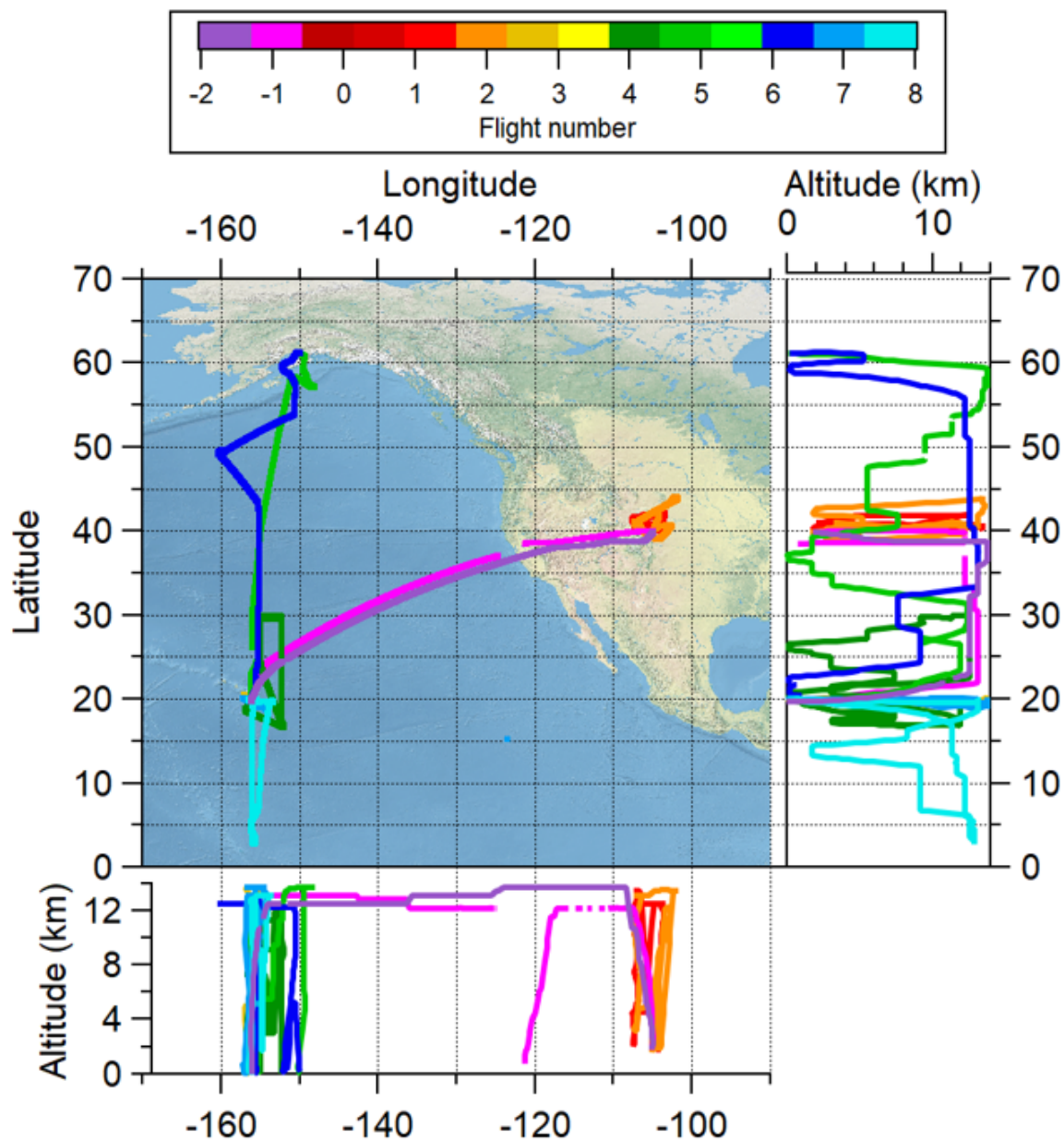


Figure S13.1. Particle transmission of PM_{2.5} lens and HPL was measured at different lens pressures. PCI-C was used to reduce lens pressure.

Table S14.1. Location and critical orifice configuration for each flight during TI³GER. RF: Research Flight, FF: Ferry Flight between CO and HI.

Flight number	Date	Location	d_{CO1}/d_{CO2} (μm)
RF01	04/02/2022	CO	450/350
RF02	04/07/2022	CO	450/350
FF01	04/11/2022	CO to HI	450/350
RF03	04/13/2022	HI	450/350
RF04	04/15/2022	HI	450/350
RF05	04/20/2022	HI to AK	450/300
RF06	04/21/2022	AK to HI	450/300
RF07	04/23/2022	HI	450/300
RF08	04/27/2022	HI	450/300
FF02	04/29/2022	HI to CO	450/300



410

Figure S14.1. Flight track and altitude during the TP³GER campaign. The positive flight numbers are research flight numbers. The negative numbers stand for the ferry flights from CO to HI (FF01, “-1”) and HI to CO (FF02, “-2”), respectively. Note that data were gathered during the ferry flights and were included in the analysis of this study.

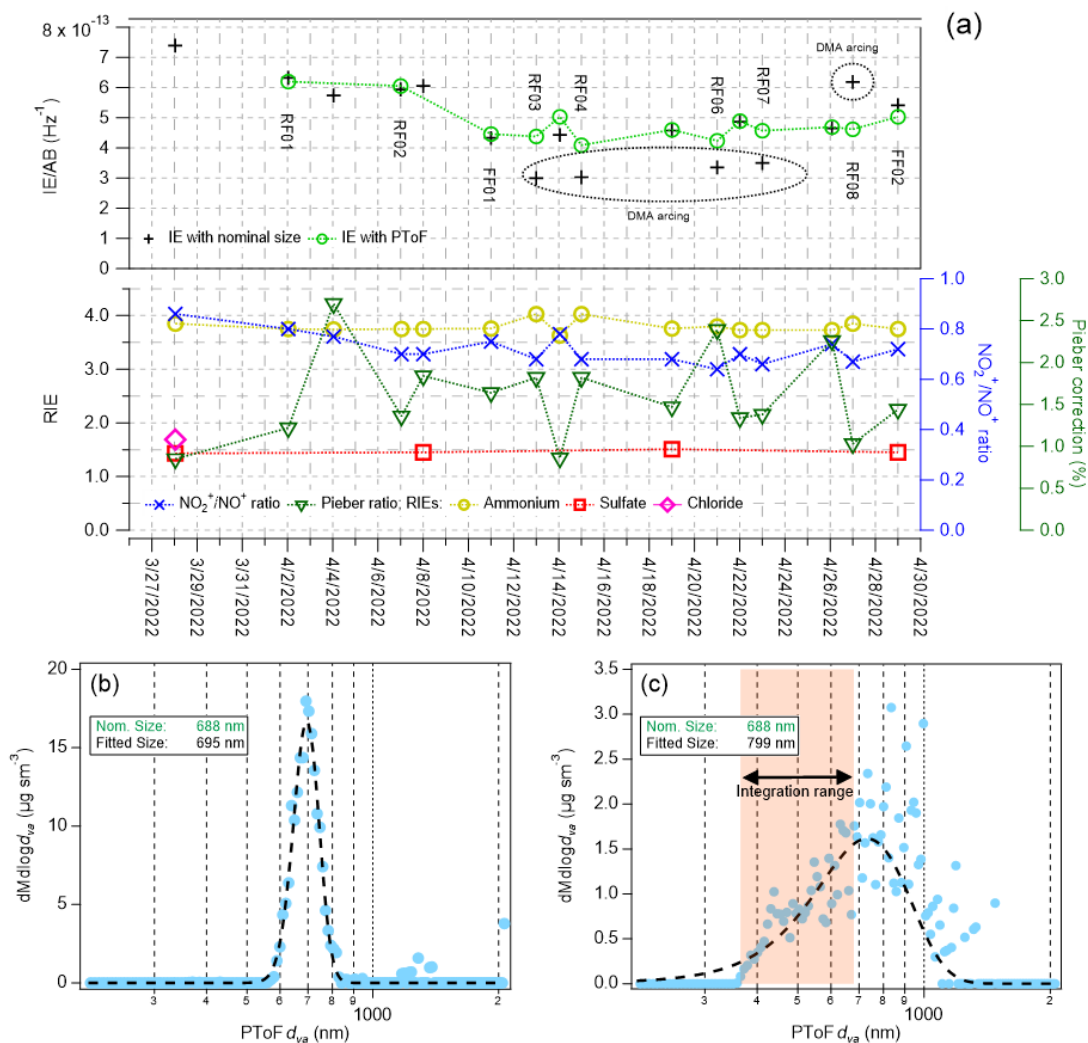


Figure S15.1. (a) Ionization efficiency (IE) and relative ionization efficiency (RIE) of major species during the TI³GER campaign. The Pieber correction is the amount of CO_2^+ signal generated by nitrate reaction on the vaporizer (Pieber et al., 2016). For the event trigger (ET) calibrations after flights, the DMA was placed outside the airplane and the particles were delivered to the AMS inside the airplane. In HI (after RF03-RF08), the DMA output was not very stable showing signs of arcing as shown in (c), potentially due to nitrate evaporation in the hot DMA. When the output of DMA was not monodisperse, IE was estimated based on the particle sizes measured by PToF during ET cycles (green circles). The particle size range where the distribution is reasonable without too much noise was selected. Particles outside of the size range were excluded from the IE analysis. When the DMA output was monodisperse, as shown in (b), the mobility diameter was used to calculate the volume of calibration aerosol (black cross in (a)). In those cases, both methods yield comparable IE.

S16. BWP results during the TI³GER campaign

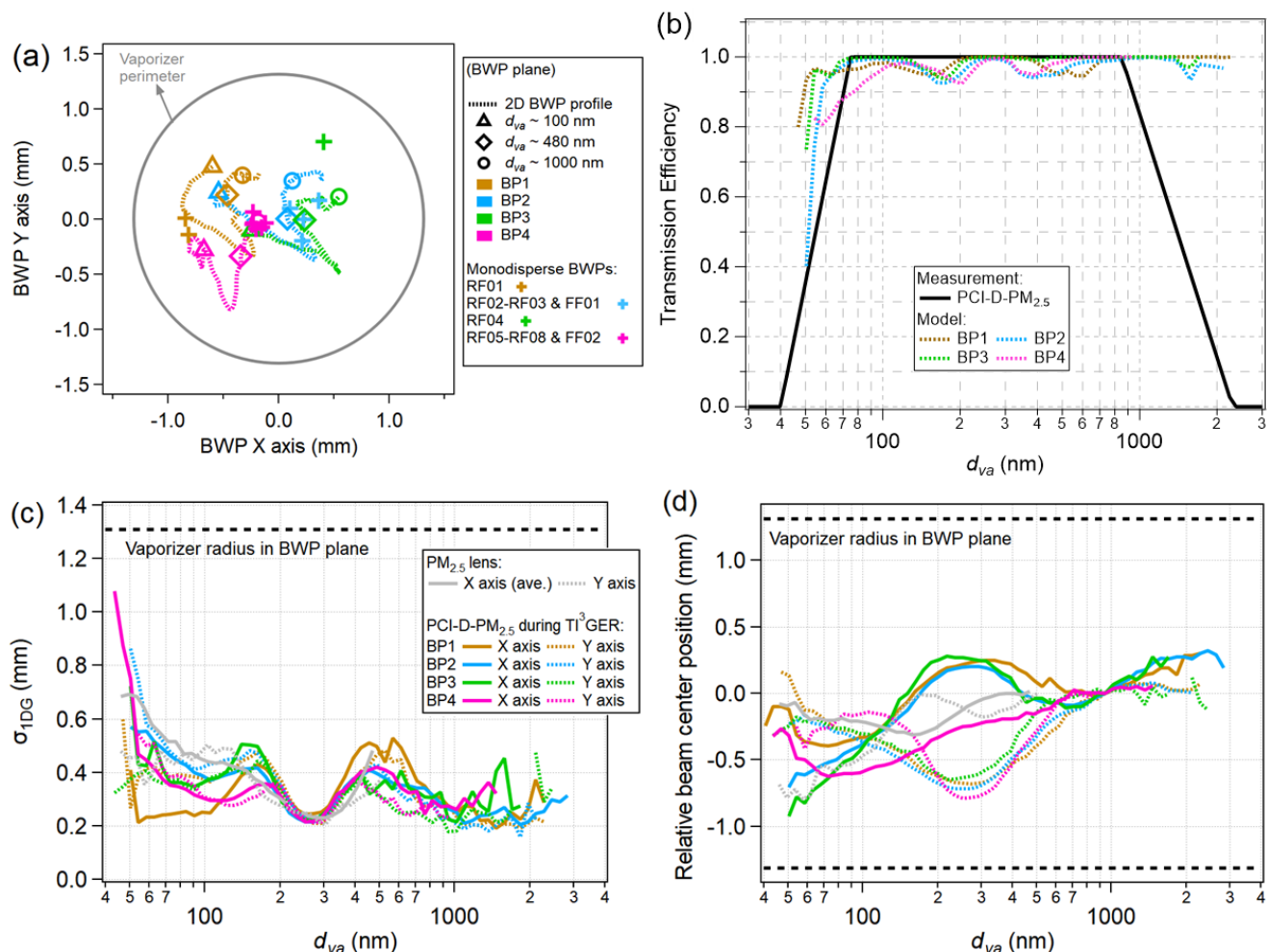


Figure S16.1. (a) Compilation of beam center positions as a function of d_{va} measured from 2D-SR-BWP analysis during TI³GER campaign (dashed lines). The gray circle is the vaporizer perimeter at the BWP plane. The triangle, diamond and circle markers represent beam center positions of ~ 100 , ~ 480 , and ~ 1000 nm d_{va} , respectively, from each beam profile from 2D-SR-BWP (BP1-BP4). Cross markers are beam positions of 2D-BWP with monodisperse aerosols after flights. After performing each 2D-SR-BWP, the inlet system was secured with screws which can move the lens during the process. In order to obtain the beam profiles after securing the lens, the profiles were moved to match with the monodisperse 2D-BWP after flights (Fig. 14). These four 2D-SR-BWP measurements were performed on 4/4 (between RF01 and RF02), 4/5 (between RF01 and RF02), 4/14 (between RF03 and RF04), and 4/16/2022 (between RF04 and RF05), respectively. After BP1, PCI was cleaned and re-installed. BP2 was measured after lens adjustment toward the center. BP3 was measured just for check without changes in the inlet. However, the lens seemed to be moved during inlet lockdown after BP3 or during RF04 for some

reason. BP4 was measured after switching CO_{down} from 350 μm to 300 μm . Also, CO_{up} was cleaned after BP4. (b) Modeled particle transmission (markers) from the four 2D-SR-BWPs and the measured TE (solid line) of PCI-D- $PM_{2.5}$ with 450/350 μm ($d_{CO,up} / d_{CO,down}$). These TEs are before correcting the profiles to match with monodisperse 2D-BWPs. (c) σ_{IDG} and (d) relative beam center position of BP1-BP4 and the $PM_{2.5}$ lens in the X and Y axes as a function of d_{va} . The results from the $PM_{2.5}$ lens are from Fig. S10.3c-d. There were several reconfigurations of the AMS inlet since the experiments in Fig. S10.3c-d, thus the rotational orientation of the $PM_{2.5}$ lens in those experiments was different from the TI³GER configuration, and thus, X and Y axes do not necessarily represent the same axial beam information between the two cases. Regardless, (c) shows that beam width in two different axes are similar (i.e., beam cross section is circular) and the addition of PCI-D does not significantly change the beam width. In (d), the $PM_{2.5}$ lens in the Y axis shows a similar degree of shift in beam center position across d_{va} than PCI-D- $PM_{2.5}$ while the shift in the X axis is less variable than that of PCI-D- $PM_{2.5}$. However, since the $PM_{2.5}$ lens was not installed in the same rotational orientation, it is not appropriate to conclude that the use of PCI-D magnifies the shifts in beam center positions.

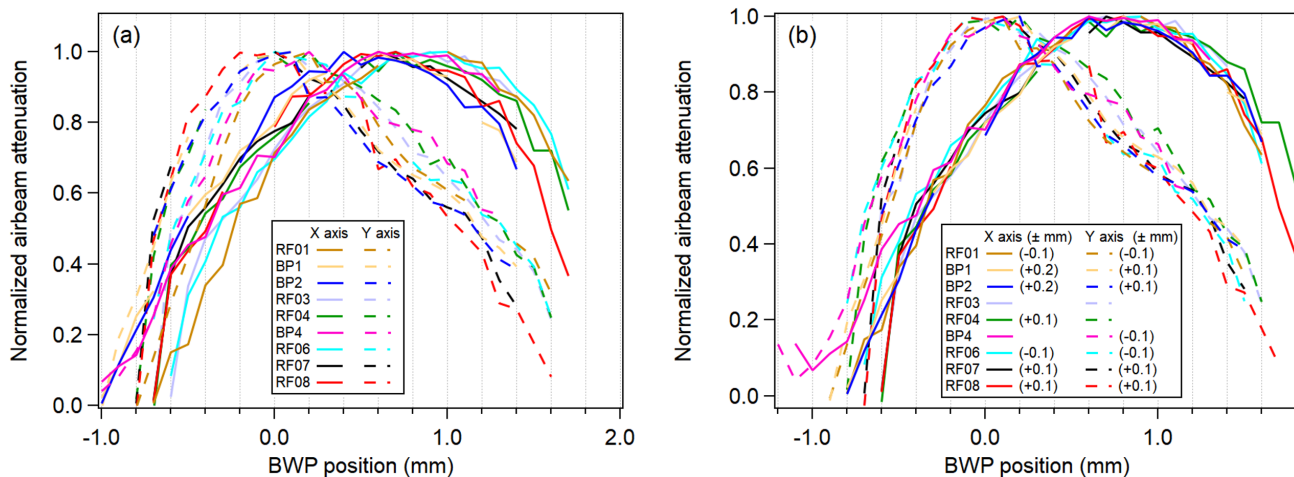


Figure S16.2. (a) Air beam (AB) signal with the default offset correction (-0.5 mm in X axis, -0.6 mm in Y axis). (b) The same graph with additional corrections (within ± 0.2 mm) for better alignment in the air beam profile. Careful inspection of the BWP AB recorded at high resolution for many runs revealed what appears to be inconsistent zeroing of the BWP in the control software, with a maximum variability of 0.2 mm. Hence all data shown here has been corrected using the BWP AB as datum.

S17. Aircraft inlet logs during the TI³GER campaign

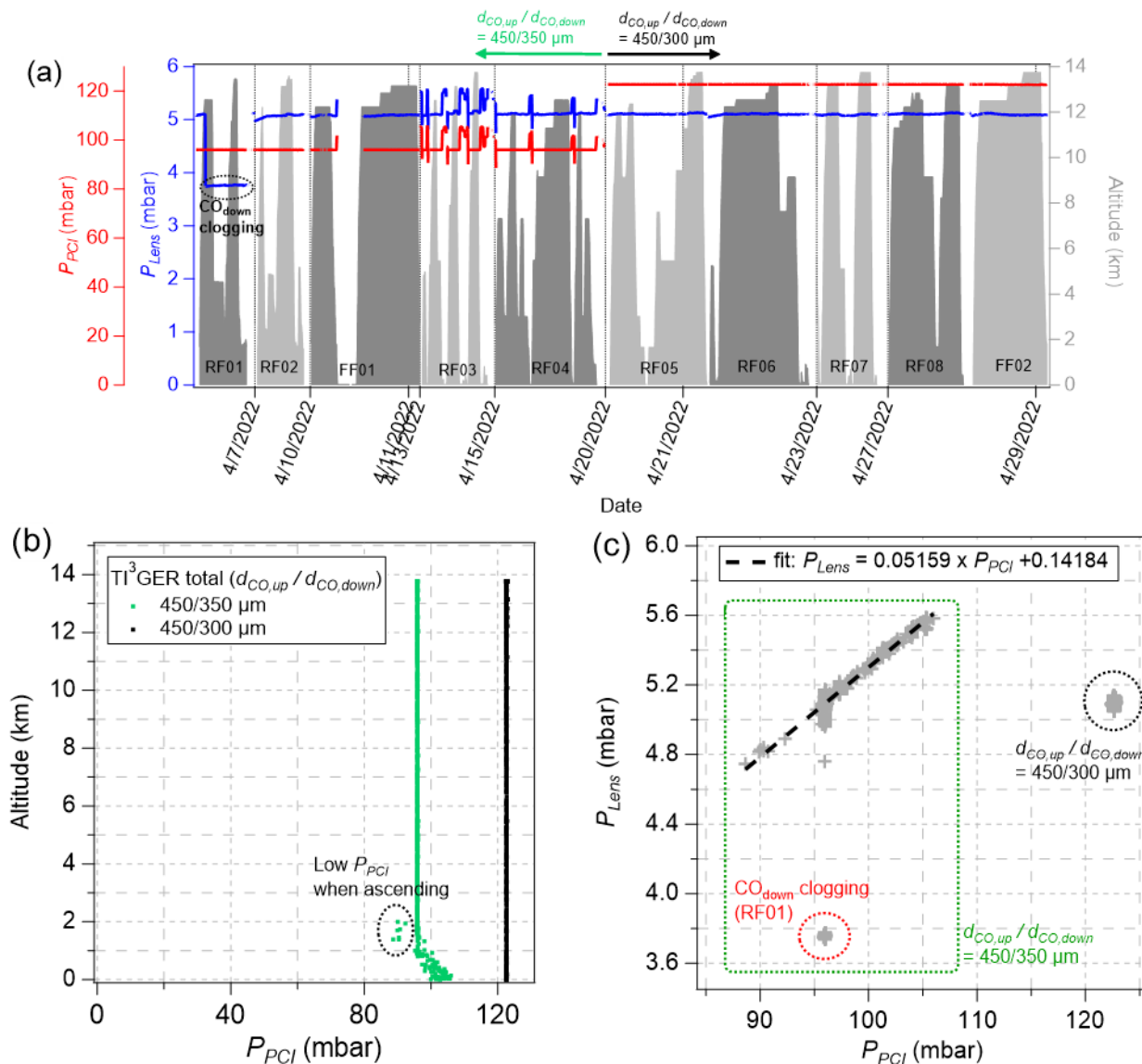
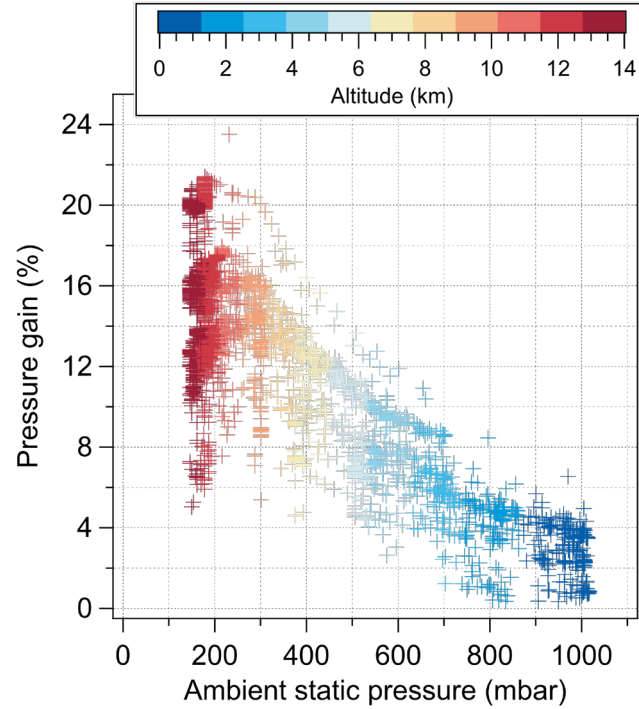


Figure S17.1. (a) Time series of P_{PCI} , P_{Lens} , and altitude. The CO_{down} clogging (RF01) occurred ~ 40 minutes after the flight and was resolved during landing (before IE calibration & 1D-BWPs). The CO_{up}/CO_{down} configuration of PCI-D was 450/350 μm ($P_{PCI} = 96$ mbar) during RF01-RF04 & FF01 (ferry flight from Colorado to Hawaii) and 450/300 μm ($P_{PCI} = 122.6$ mbar) for RF05-RF08 & FF02 (ferry flight from Hawaii to Colorado). The PCI-D of both critical orifice configurations successfully maintained the constant P_{PCI} at high altitudes during the campaign (maximum ~ 13.8 km). The 450/350 μm configuration failed to maintain the constant P_{PCI} below 1.6 km altitude due to the pressure drop at the PCI flowmeter and the limitation in

pumping capacity of the PCI pump. This increased the P_{Lens} up to 5.7 mbar at sea level. The increased P_{Lens} ($\sim 10\%$) might have affected the $d_{va,50,low}$ negatively but not significantly (Fig. S13.1). (b) Altitude vs. P_{PCI} for both critical orifice configurations. In the 450/350 μm configuration, the PCI pumping control did not work smoothly when G-V was ascending above 1 km altitude, resulting in lower P_{PCI} than the set value. (c) P_{Lens} vs. P_{PCI} . In 450/350 μm configuration, P_{Lens} responded linearly to the higher (below 1.6 km altitude) and lower (ascending above 1 km altitude) P_{PCI} than the set P_{PCI} .



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Figure S17.2. The optimal operation altitude ranges in Fig. 13d were calculated as an altitude at which ambient pressure is equal to P_{PCI} without considering the pressure gain due to ram pressure. The measured pressure gain due to the ram pressure during the flight as a function of ambient pressure is shown here, following $\text{Pressure gain (\%)} = 100 \times (\text{sampling line pressure downstream of HIMIL} - \text{ambient static pressure}) / \text{ambient static pressure}$. This means that with CU-AMS inlet configuration during TI³GER on G-V, the actual optimal altitude range is ~ 1 km higher.

480

S18. Particle transmission through sampling lines during TI3GER

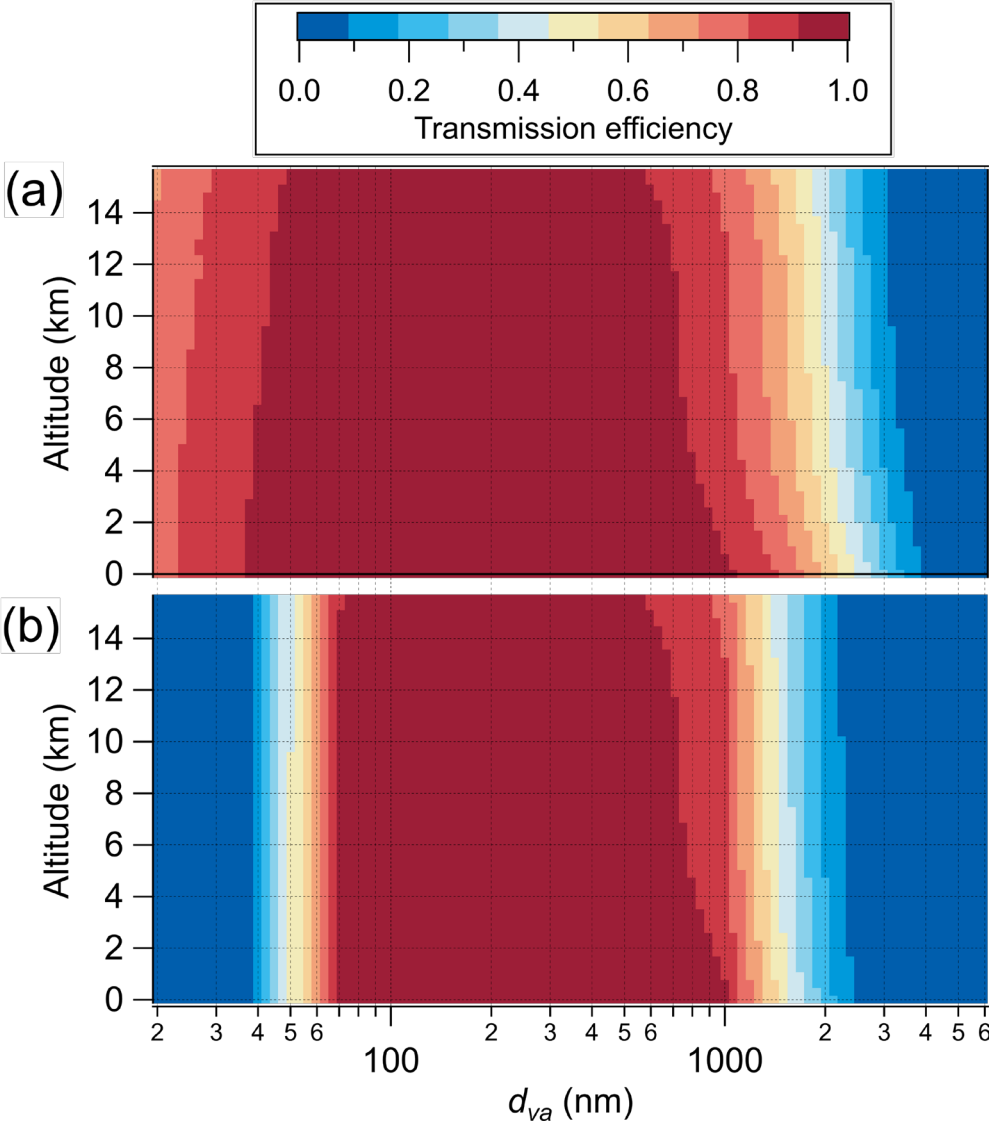


Figure S18.1. Calculated aerosol transmission through (a) the plumbing upstream of PCI and (b) the whole inlet (including
485 PCI-D-PM_{2.5}) as a function of altitude. In addition to the particle losses in PCI and ADL, particles are lost in the sampling
lines downstream of the tip of the secondary diffuser, while there are small particle concentration effects at the takeoffs. Losses
in the HIMIL (before the secondary diffuser) were not included. Calculations were performed with a custom fluid-dynamics
equation package, as described in Guo et al. (2021) and Bourgeois et al. (2022).

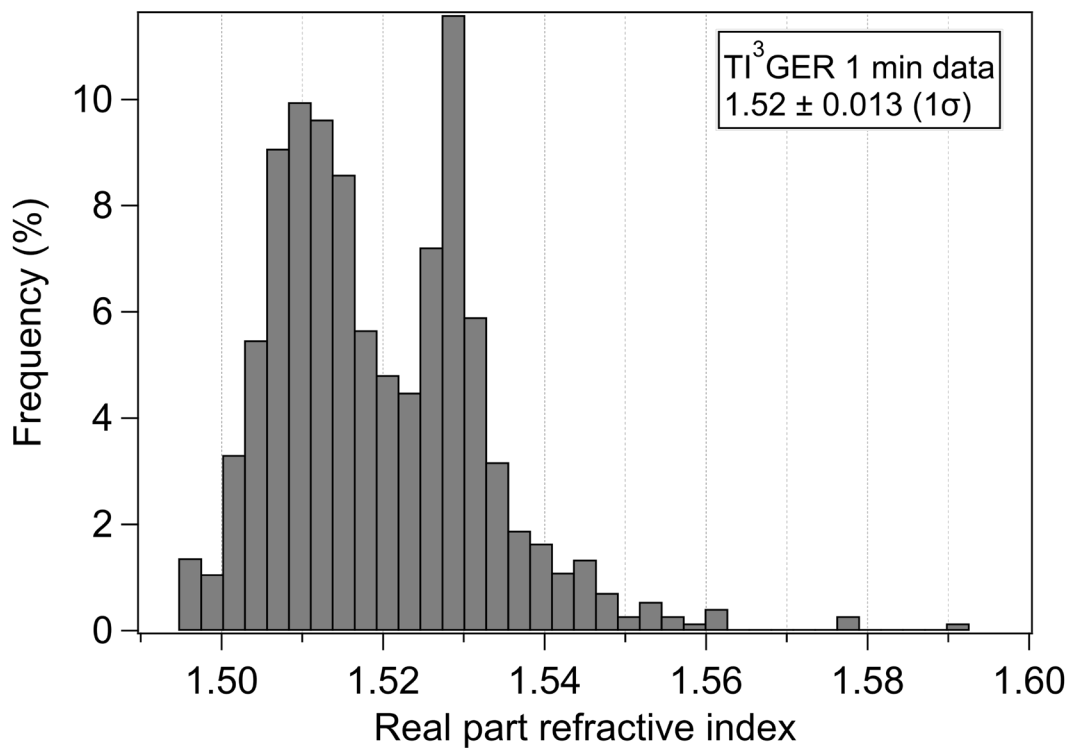


Figure S19.1. Histogram of the estimated real part of the refractive index of the particles sampled during the TI³GER campaign (see Sect. 2.6.2 for a description of the method).

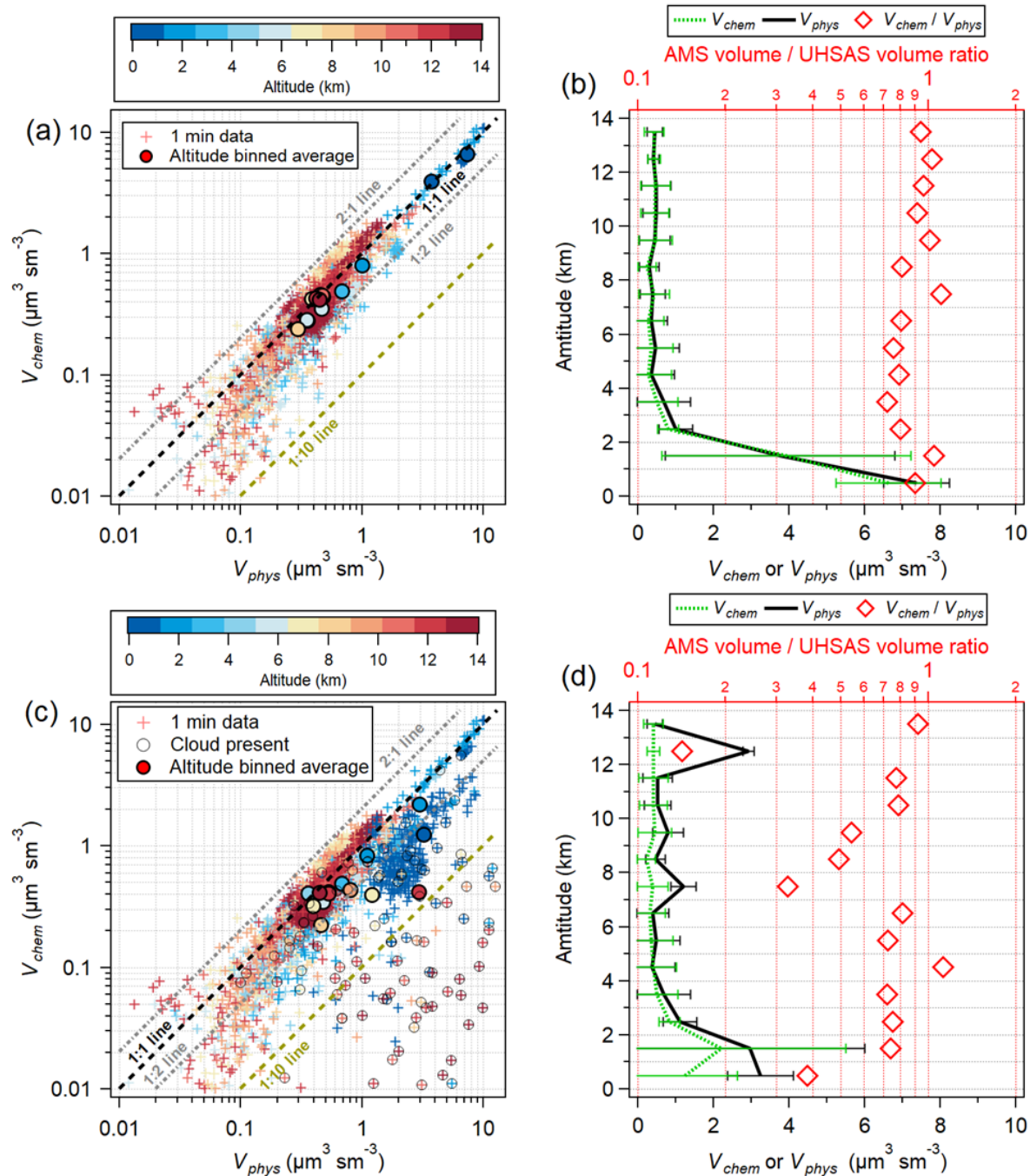


Figure S19.2. Aerosol volume concentrations measured by AMS (V_{chem}) vs. by UHSAS (RI-corrected, V_{phys}) as a function of altitude. (a-b) Aerosol volume comparison excluding data with the presence of cloud particles (identified by cloud droplet probe) in log scale (see Fig. 15b for linear scale). (c-d) Aerosol volume comparison with all data.

500 S20. Post-campaign characterization of air slowdown inside the HIMIL

HIAPER Modular Inlet (HIMIL) (Fig. 2 and Fig. S20.1) is a flow-through inlet facing flight direction with a diffusing nozzle upstream and a converging nozzle downstream which is broadly used for in-situ sampling on research aircraft (Stith et al., 2009). They are typically flown with a choice of two spacers, a standard one (19 cm above the fuselage) and a tall one (29.5 cm above the fuselage), the one used for both the TI3GER AMS sampling and the characterization here is the latter one, with
505 less chance of boundary layer contamination. The HIMIL is used both for gas-phase and particle-phase species, with the gas-phase version using a larger nozzle ID ($\frac{1}{2}$ " vs $\frac{3}{8}$ ") and an active choke on the exhaust; these measurements focus on the original version optimized for aerosols. As a sharp-edged diffuser inlet, the HIMIL that could potentially exhibit directional losses for larger particles (Baumgardner and Huebert, 1993). During the Pacific Dust Experiment (PACDEX) four HIMILs were deployed. The calculated particle passing efficiencies of approximately 94 to 110% for particles 1 μm diameter and smaller,
510 over the range of typical G-V sampling altitudes (sea level to 12 km) and airspeeds (120–260 m s^{-1}) (Stith et al., 2009).

Several cross-comparisons of aerosol measurements between HIMIL and different types of inlets such as Blunt-body Aerosol Sampler (Moharreri et al., 2013), Submicron Aerosol Inlet (Ortega et al., 2019), and NASA Langley Aerosol Research Group inlet (Guo et al., 2021) have been reported. Guo et al. (2021) showed that using a completely different inlet with proven supermicron transmission (McNaughton et al., 2007; Brock et al., 2019) while maintaining the same conditions in the
515 downstream plumbing, had no appreciable impact on the intercomparisons with other optical aerosol instruments during back-to-back inlet switches. However, to the best of our knowledge, there has been no experimental characterization of the HIMIL inlet itself. Since quantitative, unbiased sampling thru the secondary diffuser using for AMS operation depends on roughly matching the flow speed in the HIMIL and the secondary diffuser, the air slowdown factor of the HIMIL (or the air speed inside HIMIL) at each altitude needs to be known. An estimated slowdown of ambient air from plane airspeed by a factor of
520 3-4 inside the diffuser has been suggested (D. Rogers, NCAR, personal communication) while assuming laminar flow expansion in the diffuser would suggest a slowdown factor as high as 11.75.

For TI³GER, the flow is then sampled into a straight, sharp-edged 3.8 mm internal diameter (ID) stainless steel tube pointing in the flow direction (called here the “secondary diffuser”) (Guo et al., 2021). The small particle losses through the HIMIL and secondary diffuser are negligible due to fast residence time. Large particle ($\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ diameter) transmission can be
525 affected by the particle transmission through the tip of the HIMIL as the air slows down (passing efficiency), over/undersampling at the tip of the secondary diffuser depending on the flowrate at the secondary diffuser, and the impaction loss in the particle sampling line downstream of the secondary diffuser. The particle impaction at the 90-degree bend at the secondary diffuser inside HIMIL (Fig. S20.1) is the largest loss, especially for larger particles. Thus, reducing the flow rate at the secondary diffuser, while maintaining near isokinetic sampling at the secondary diffuser is the key to enhancing large
530 particle transmission.

The objective of the characterization in this section is to evaluate the flow velocity along the centerpiece of the HIMIL (where the secondary inlet is normally placed), in order a) to determine to what extent flow speeds are slowed down in the

HIMIL compared to the ambient flow speed and b) to evaluate the symmetry of the flow profile and the likelihood of flow separation (or “jetting”). In this section, we present the airspeed measurements inside HIMIL as a function of height and its dependency on the angle of attack at the U.S. Air Force Academy (USAFA). Airspeed was calculated based on the measured ram pressure (or stagnation pressure, P_t) from a (ID: 1.34 mm, OD: 1/16”) and static pressure (P_s) measured at the HIMIL inside wall, following Eq. S20.1 which is valid for Mach numbers < 0.3 (measured flow velocities inside the HIMIL were < 0.1 Mach).

$$u = \sqrt{\frac{2(P_t - P_s)}{\rho_{air}}}, \quad (\text{Eq. S20.1})$$

where u is the speed of air and ρ_{air} is the density of air after being corrected by temperature and pressure. The air speed inside HIMIL over a range of external air speeds was measured at three pitot tube locations (referred to as front, middle, and back positions; Fig. S20.2a).

During the wind tunnel experiments at USAFA, a pressure sensor (KMPS-4-64-XX-Y series, Kulite Inc.), acquiring at 250 Hz sample rate, was used for differential pressure measurements. The full vertical profiles of air speed inside the HIMIL over a range of wind tunnel air speeds were measured at the front, middle, and back locations. Four wind speeds (100 m s^{-1} , 125 m s^{-1} , 150 m s^{-1} , and 180 m s^{-1}) were chosen for the vertical profile measurements to cover the range of typical airspeeds at the HIMIL tip from various aircraft research platforms (NSF GV, NSF C130, NASA DC-8) while probing the lower 5 km of the atmosphere. Given the limitations of the tunnel (ambient T and P, max Mach number of 0.55), these experiments do not cover conditions in the upper troposphere and stratosphere (Fig. S20.3). Before each vertical profile measurement, the pitot tube was placed at the center height measuring the HIMIL internal air speed as the wind tunnel air speed increase by $\sim 10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ step (“speed run”). After the wind tunnel air speed reached the maximum speed (180 m s^{-1}), the wind tunnel air speed slowed down to the four selected speeds and the pitot tube height measured the airspeed profile at each speed. Measurement at each speed was averaged for 5-10 s. Up to 180 m s^{-1} (Mach 0.52), flow separation (or “jetting”) was not observed, although the airspeed vertical profile was asymmetric in the front position (Fig. S20.4a) (this could partially be related to a slight deformation to the front cone during the experiments, see Fig. S20.2c). The symmetry of the vertical profile is achieved as the air travels further back (Fig. S20.4c). The “speed run” data at the three pitot positions shows that the air speed slowdown ratio of the HIMIL is about a factor of 7.4 (Fig. S20.4d) at the position of the tip of the secondary diffuser. The air speed decreased towards the back of the HIMIL by $\sim 35\%$, almost approaching the full expansion value. The reason behind the airspeed slowdown in the back side of HIMIL could not be conclusively assessed. On the other hand, the static pressure measurements on the front, middle, and back positions were nearly identical indicating the air speed would have been similar among the three locations. This discrepancy will be investigated in future studies. Leaks around HIMIL component fittings were not found. The air speed inside HIMIL decreased as the pitch angle deviated from 0 degree, up to $\sim 15\%$ (at $+7$ degrees; Fig. S20.5).

During the T³GER campaign, the air speed at the tip of the secondary diffuser (determined by the flow rate) was faster than the air speed around the tip (estimated by the wind tunnel data, grey marker, Fig. S20.6). From the extrapolation of the wind tunnel data, this indicates that there may have been a minor degree of undersampling of particles near $\sim 1 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ volume

equivalent diameter (d_{ve}) by the secondary diffuser, although the flow field during actual flight conditions (low temperature and pressure) could deviate from the extrapolation. However, such undersampling is minor and the contribution of particles with $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ d_{ve} ($\sim 1.6 \mu\text{m}$ d_{va}) to mass in accumulation mode aerosols is a small fraction (Fig. 15). Thus, this effect does not meaningfully affect aerosol quantification compared to the particle losses in the sampling line downstream of the secondary diffuser. In future campaigns, the sampling flow rate from the secondary diffuser can be adjusted to minimize the particle losses in the sampling downstream of the secondary diffuser while achieving near isokinetic sampling.

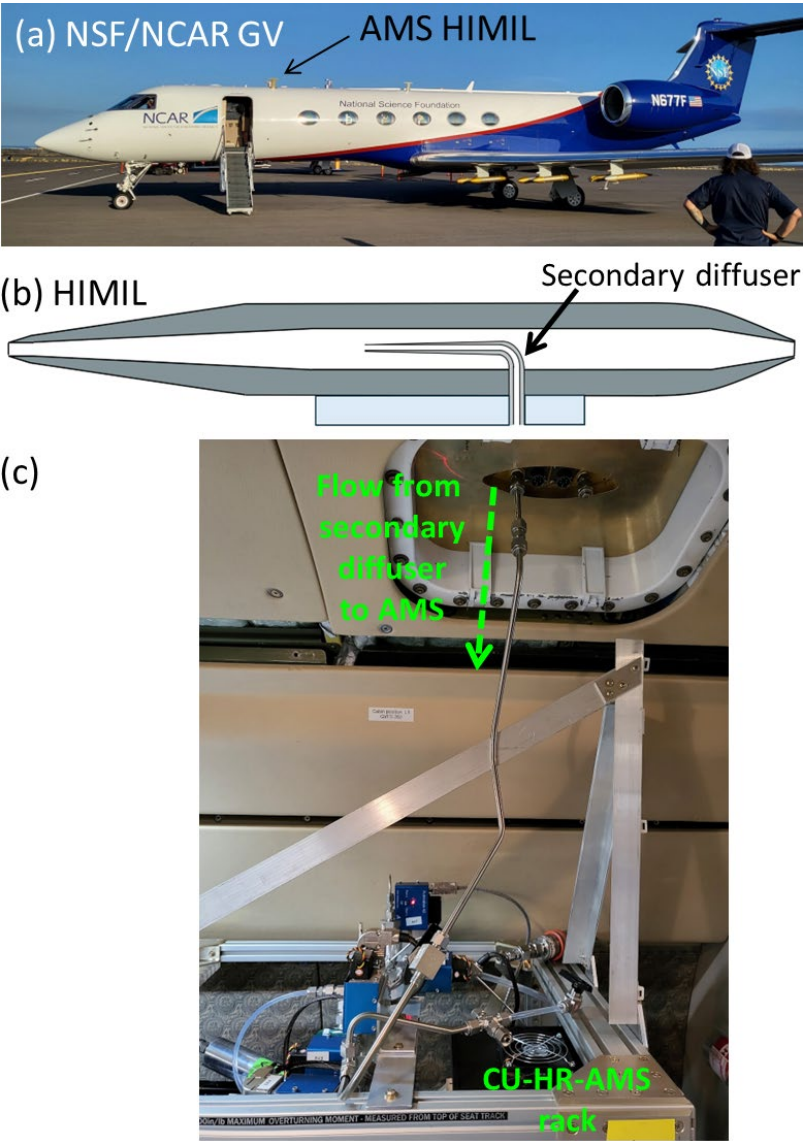


Figure S20.1. (a) Location of HIMIL for CU-HR-AMS on GV. (b) Cross section of HIMIL and the location of the secondary diffuser. (c) Aerosol sampling line downstream of the secondary diffuser.

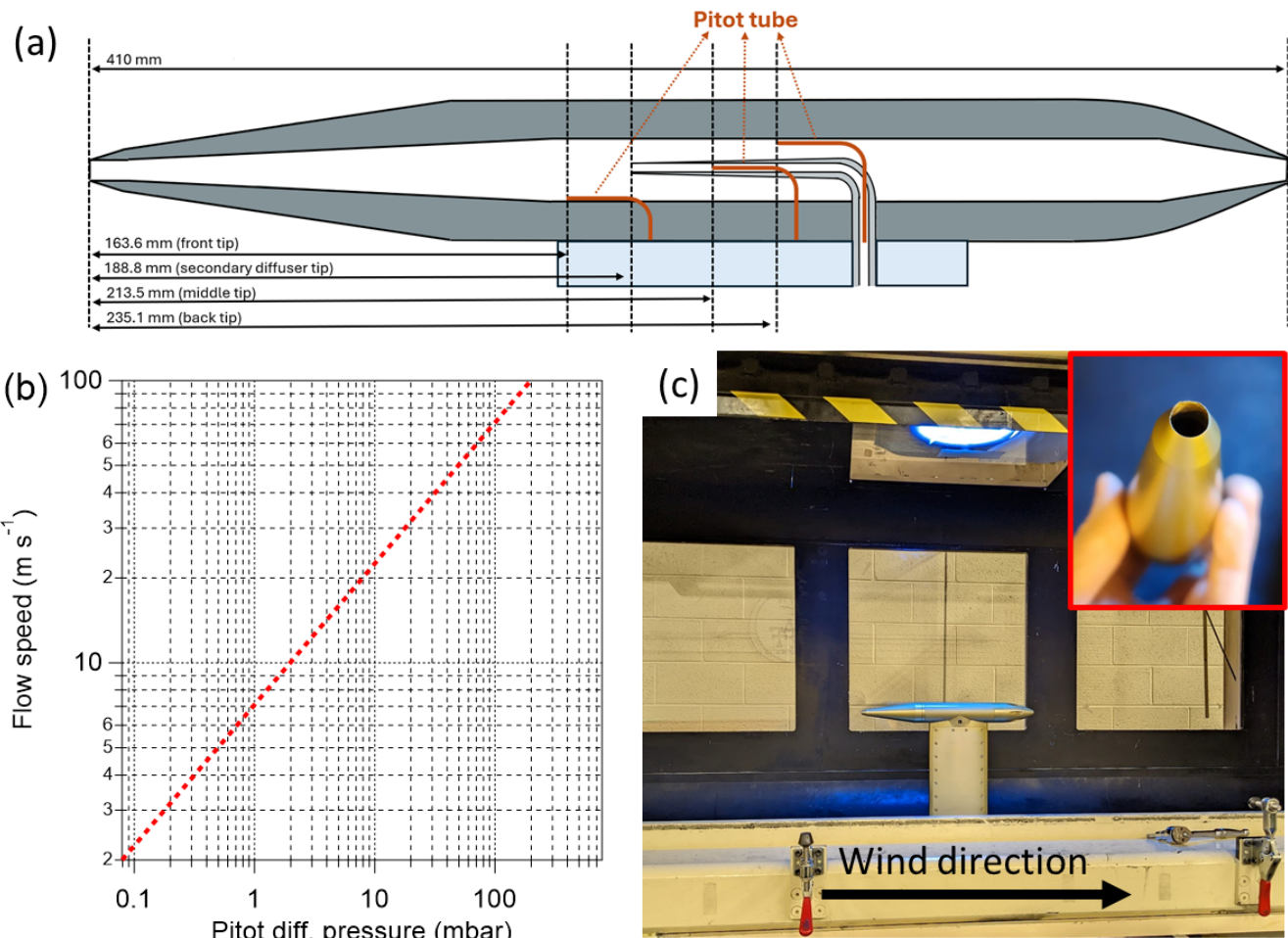


Figure S20.2. (a) Locations of three pitot tube positions (front, middle, and back) inside HIMIL. When conducting ram pressure measurement at one pitot tube position, another port is used for static pressure measurement and the other port is blocked. (b) The relationship between the measured differential pitot pressure and the flow speed (Eq. S20.1). (c) HIMIL installed inside the wind tunnel at the U.S. Air Force Academy. The inset picture in red box shows the slightly deformed front cone of the HIMIL tested and deployed during the TI³GER.

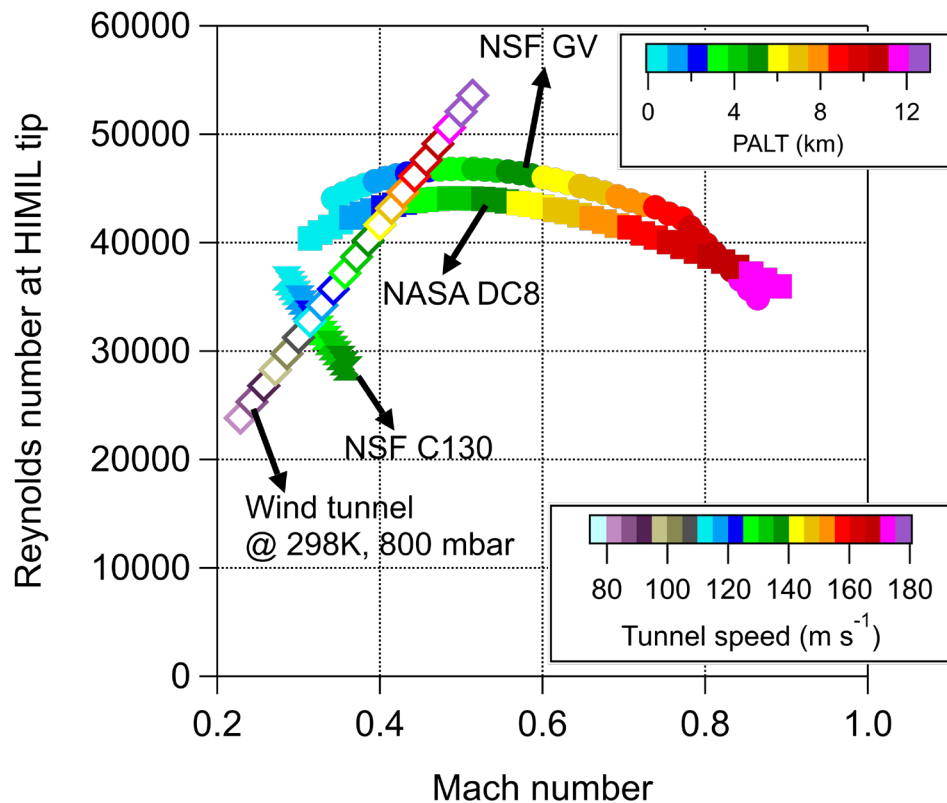


Figure S20.3. Reynolds number at the HIMIL tip vs Mach number for the polar of different aircraft platforms compared to the range of conditions accessible by the wind tunnel. The wind tunnel condition overlap with the inlet conditions of research aircraft at lower altitudes (below ~5 km). This suggests that the HIMIL experiment with wind tunnel is more representative of low altitude condition and, at higher altitude, the wind tunnel result on air speed slowdown could deviate from research flight conditions.

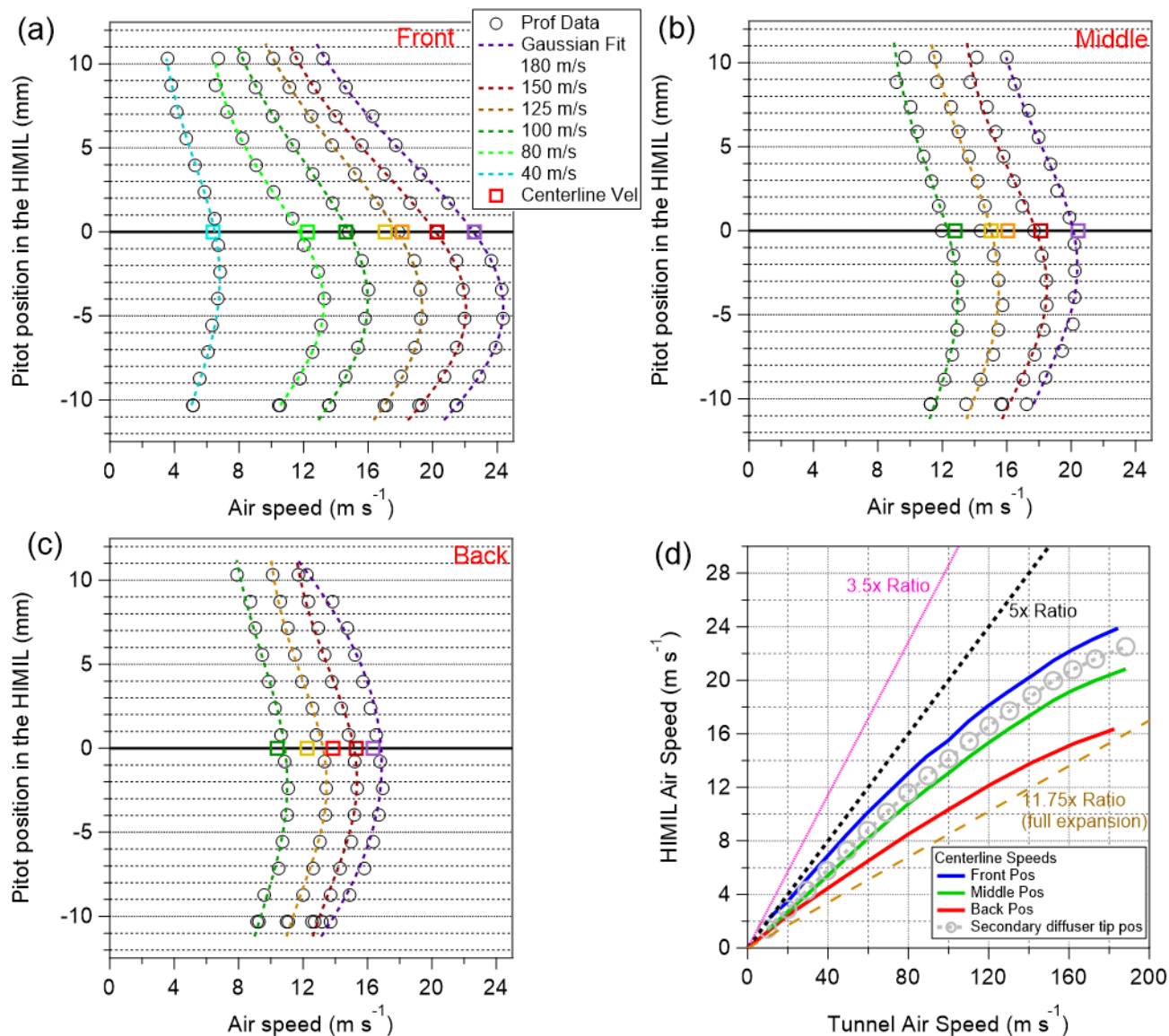


Figure S20.4. The wind tunnel measurement of air speed vertical profile inside HIMIL at (a) front, (b) middle, (c) back positions. Centerline velocity is air speed measured during the continuous “speed run” cycle at the same tunnel air speed where profile measurements were conducted. The fact that the air speed from profiles and “speed run” agree indicates that the air speed measurement is reproducible. (d) HIMIL air speed vs tunnel air speed at the front, middle, and back pitot positions at the center height. HIMIL air speed decreased toward the back side of HIMIL. Gray markers are the estimated HIMIL air speed at the location of the tip of the secondary diffuser.

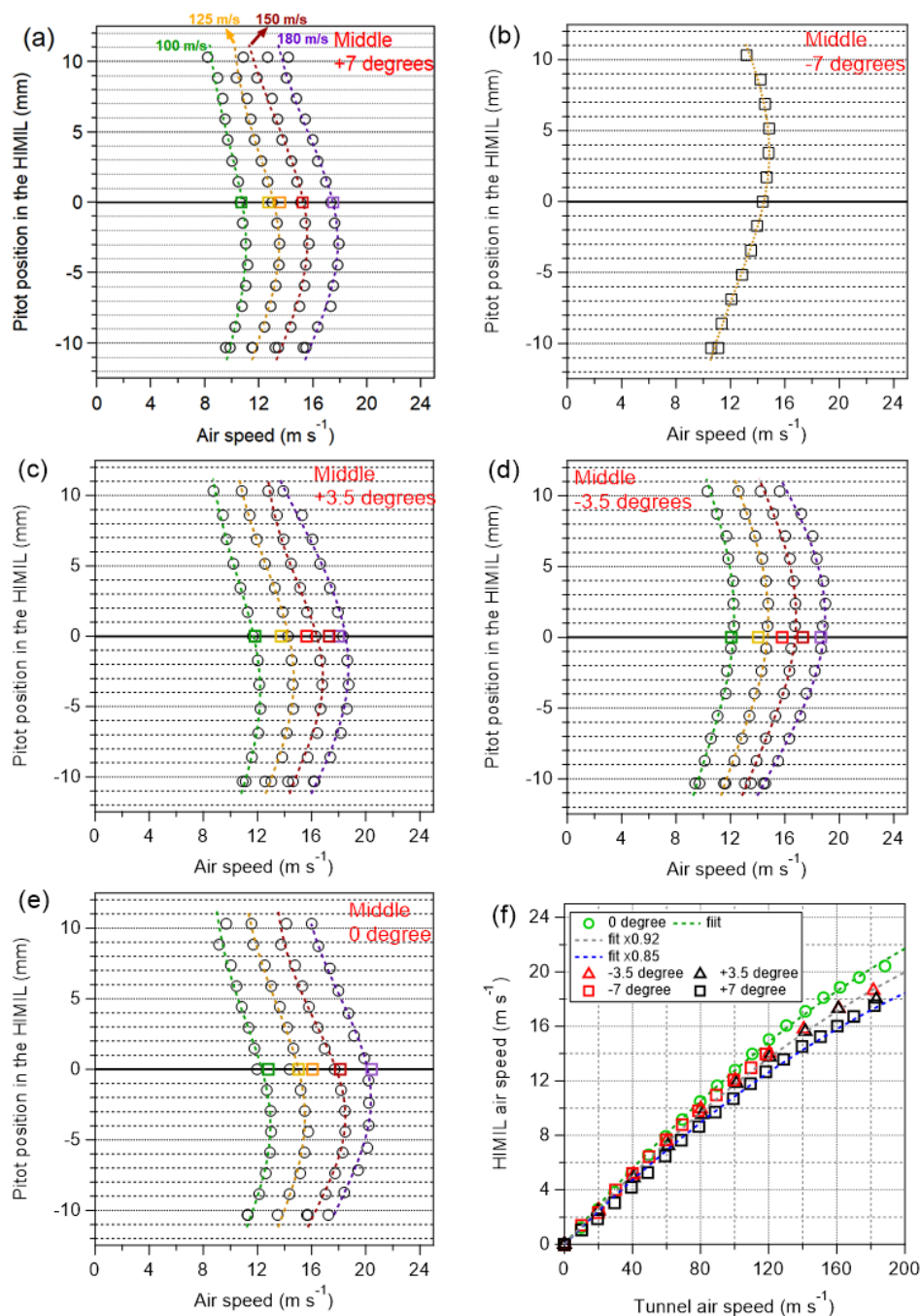
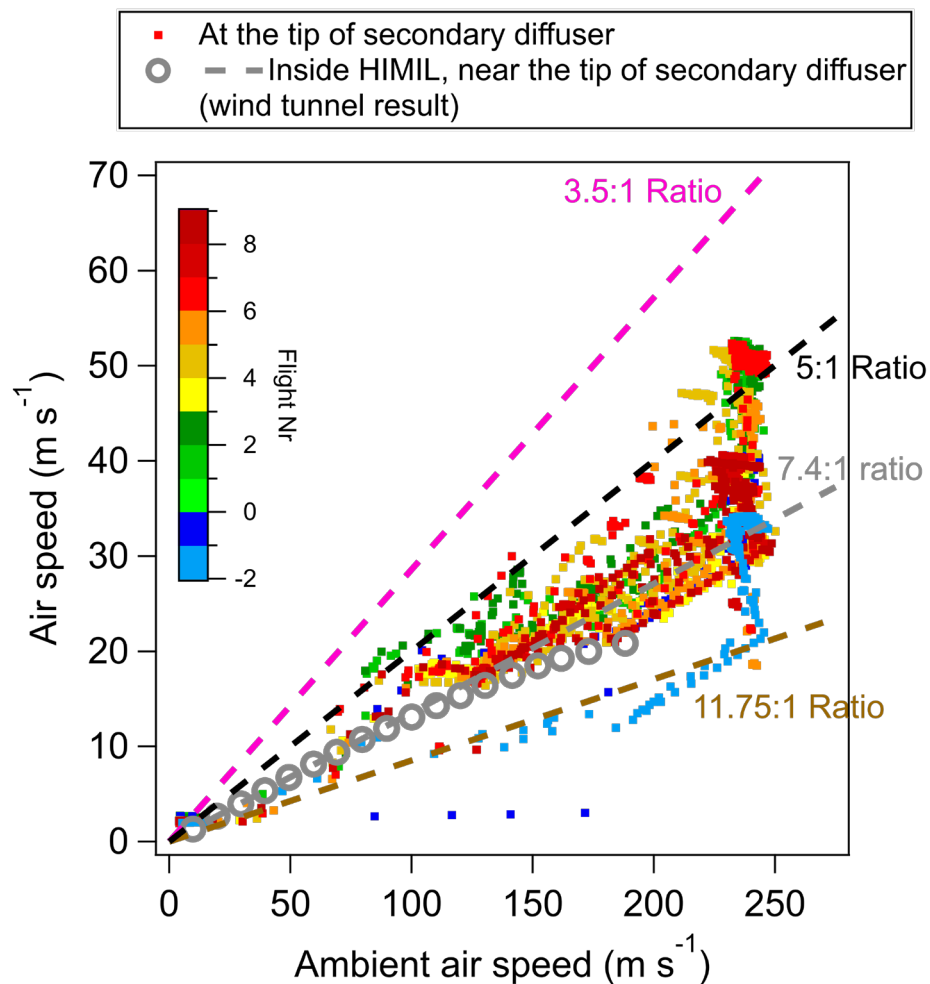


Figure S20.5. The wind tunnel measurement of airspeed profile inside HIMIL at different pitch angles for the middle pitot position. Profiles of 0, +3.5, +7.5 degrees are skewed towards the bottom by similar amounts. The +7 deg pitch is noticeably slower than 0 deg (by ~ 15 %). -7.5 deg on the other hand looks like expected. The overall effect on air speed, especially for realistic pitch angles (e.g. -3.5 to +3.5 deg) is modest (within ~ 8 %).



605 **Figure S20.6.** The calculated air intake speed at the tip of the secondary diffuser during the TI³GER campaign and the extrapolated air speed inside the HIMIL at the location of the tip of the secondary diffuser from the wind tunnel experiment.

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