

# Near-Road Monitoring of Ultrafine Particle Number from Heavy Duty Diesel Truck Traffic

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# Background

- Exposure to ultrafine particles (UFP) may contribute to heart and lung diseases leading to hospitalization and premature death
- UFP are/will be measured near California roadways by local air districts (USEPA Near-Road Monitoring Rule)
- Condensation Particle Counters (CPC) characterize UFP by measuring particle number (PN) concentrations
- <u>2011</u>: TSI released a water-based CPC (model 3783) intended for long-term, 24/7 operation (network use) in background and near-source (e.g. near-road) environments
- <u>2013</u>: TSI released updated version of model 3783

# **Study Outline**

- Collaboration between SCAQMD, ARB, UCLA, TSI and TAPI to study the performance reliability of the 3783 TSI model:
  - 2011 Study (Phase I): SCAQMD, UCLA, and ARB
    - May 16 to June 14
    - Three CPC models: 3781 (x3), 3783 (x3), and 3785 (x3)
    - Inter- and Intra-model variability
    - Pre-MATES IV evaluation
  - 2011 Study (Phase II): ARB, SCAQMD, TSI, and TAPI
    - o June 2011 to April 2012
    - 3783 model (x3)
    - Continued testing of durability
    - Stopped due to continual instrument breakdown
  - 2013 Study: ARB, SCAQMD, TSI, and TAPI
    - August 21, 2013 to April 17, 2014
    - Upgraded 3783 model (x3)
    - Testing of durability and precision







## **Site Location and Instrument Set-up**



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Site is downwind of the I-710 freeway ~50% of the time

# **Site Location and Instrument Set-up**







#### TSI Water CPC 3783

Min Detectable Diameter (D50)	7 nm
Maximum Detectable PN (#/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1 x 10 <sup>6</sup>
Particle Counting Errors	<b>± 10%</b> at 1x10 <sup>6</sup> /cm <sup>3</sup>
Aerosol Flow Rates (L/min) optics / sample fow	0.12 / 3.0



#### 2011 Study (Phase I; May 16 - June 14) TSI 3783 Variability



# **3783 WCPC Design Modifications**

- Longer growth tube & longer wick cartridge
- Vent Assist
- New protection filters for flow orifices
- New ejector pump for better reliability combined with lower water separator temp (7°C vs. 20°C)





Old (paper)



New (glass fiber)



# 2013 Study (August 21, 2013 – April 17, 2014) Upgraded TSI 3783 Performance

Set-up

- Three modified TAPI 651
- Improved meteorological data
- CPCs synced with ARB datalogger
- Objectives
  - Evaluate precision and durability
- August 21 to December 31, 2013: set-up issues (e.g. old firmware, shared pump)
  - Good durability but low precision
- January 1 to April 17, 2014: substantial work done to improve QA/QC procedures (e.g. new firmware, individual pumps, static dissipative tubing, consistent maintenance procedure)
  - Optimal configuration resulted in reduced intra-model variability

# 2013 Study (August 21, 2013 – April 17, 2014) **Upgraded TSI 3783 Performance**



CPC3, 100000

50000

0

0

%CV = 1.0

CPC1, PN/cm3

200000

%CV = 1.5

CPC2, PN/cm3

200000

100000

50000

0

0

n 100000

50000

0

%CV = 1.3

CPC1, PN/cm3

200000

criteria at network level for PM2.5 is 10%

#### 2013 Study (August 21, 2013 – April 17, 2014) Upgraded 3783 Performance



#### 2013 Study (August 21, 2013 – April 17, 2014) **Upgraded 3783 Performance** CPC1 vs CPC2



Excellent correlation even for 1-minute data between March 14 and April 17, 2014



 $R^2 = 0.995$ 



#### 2013 Study (August 21, 2013 – April 17, 2014) Upgraded 3783 Performance Lessons Learned – QA/QC

- Monthly cyclone cleaning is sufficient even at highly polluted locations
- Turn off vacuum pump when replacing wicks and performing inlet cleaning
- Service vacuum pump every year and provide backup pump at site
- Use datalogger when operating CPCs:
  - Time synchronization
  - Prompt review of diagnostic and PN data
- Periodic collocation with an independent CPC is recommended (no calibration standard available)
- An SOP summarizing these QA/QC checks is available

# All Vehicles vs. PN – All Lanes

Relationship of Total Number of Vehicles Passing by vs. Particle Number



# Wind Rose Plots I-710 freeway



# Northbound vs. Southbound



# Vehicle Number vs. PN by Lane



Lane 3-Truck vs. PN



# Trucks vs. PN – All Lanes (NB+SB)

Trucks vs PN- all lanes



### 2013 Study (August 21, 2013 – April 17, 2014) Upgraded TSI 3783 Performance Conclusions

- When proper QA/QC practices are followed the 3783 operates reliably for extended periods of time. >75% data capture can be expected. Meets the criteria for ambient air monitoring networks
- Better correlations of truck counts vs. PN compared to total vehicles counts vs. PN support the previous findings that overall on-highway diesel engines release more UFP compared to non-diesel engines in urban environments.
- Combining vehicle type traffic count information with real time PN provides a robust data set to assist regulators and researchers with better understanding of population exposure to ultrafine PN.

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#### Data Support

- Matthew Vona (ARB)
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# **Back-up Slides**



# NYSDEC – Peace Bridge US/CAN



# Weekday vs. Weekend

