

# Particle Size Distribution Measurements with the Novel 1 nm-SMPS

## Fast Scanning at few Nanometers

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UNDERSTANDING, ACCELERATED



# Motivation

*Enable research towards understanding where particles come from – formation and growth*

## + Basic research applications

- + Atmospheric research, health effect studies, combustion emissions research and filtration research

## + Industrial applications

- + Material Science: Particle source characterization (e.g. flame synthesis, spark generation), NP functionalization, coating of nanoparticles, reaction kinetics

- + Products: catalysts, cancer drugs, OLEDs, storage, pigments, ...



# SMPS – Theory of Operation

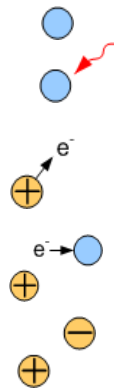
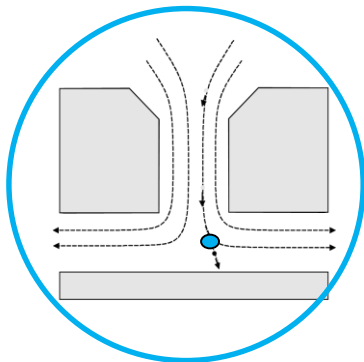
*Uses 1<sup>st</sup> principle „Electrical Mobility“ method for particles sizing and counting → no calibration needed*

Impactor

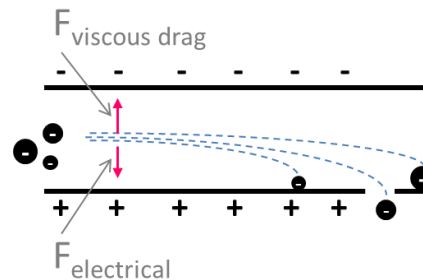
Neutralizer

DMA

CPC



Differential  
Mobility Analyzer

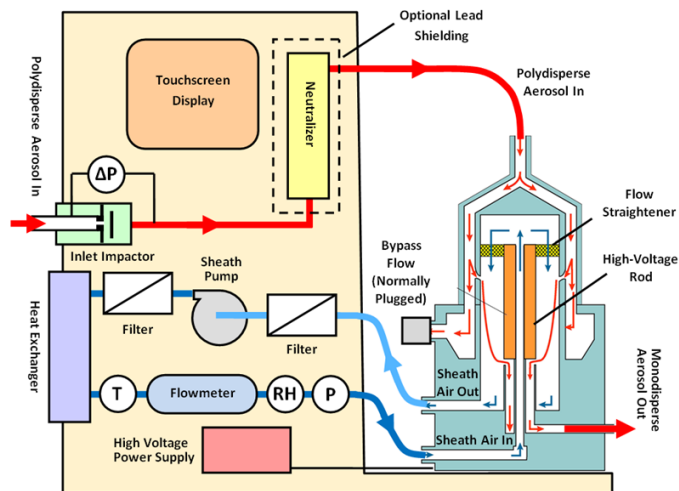


Condensation  
Particle Counter



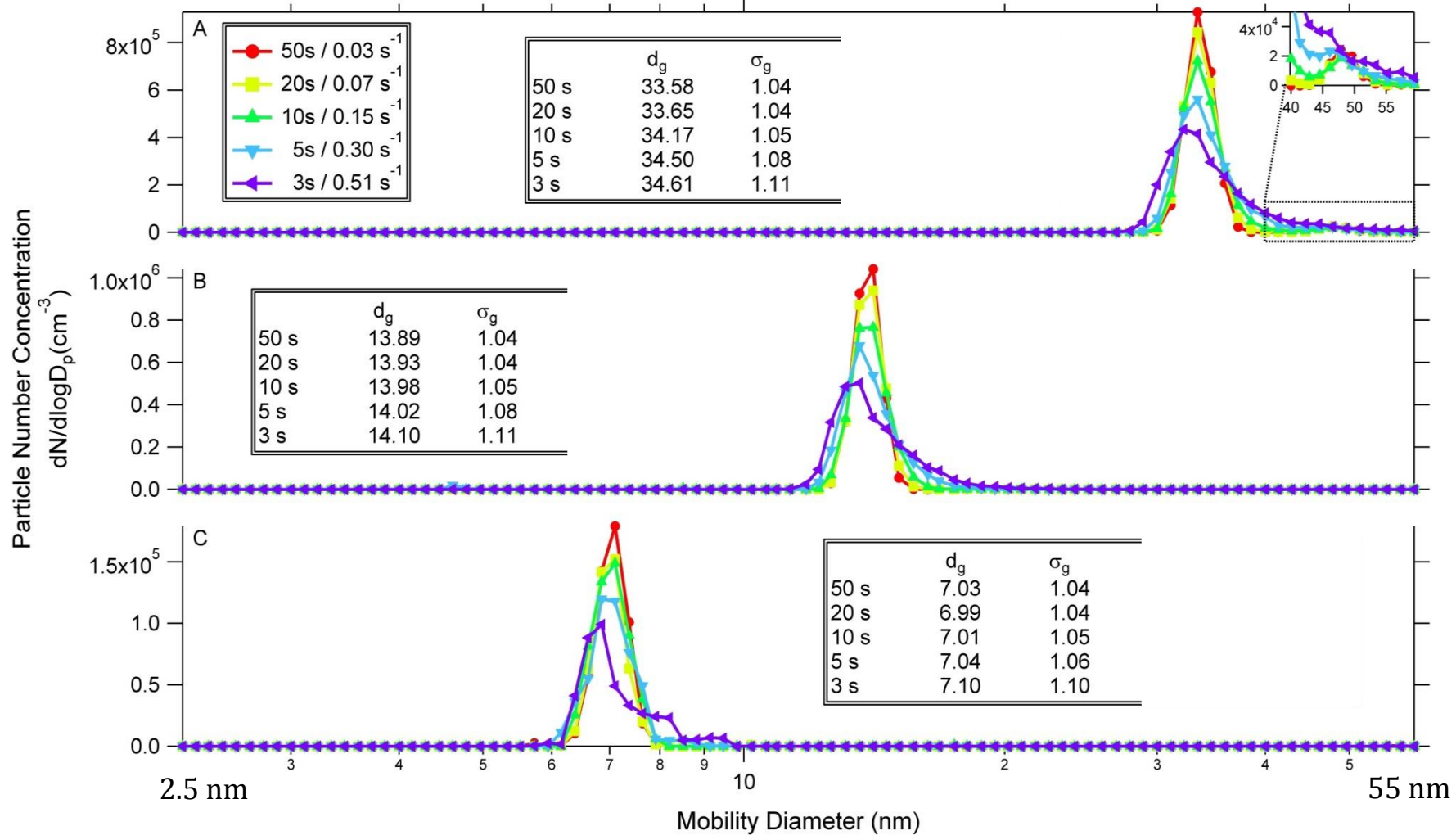
# Instrument Characterization

## Nano-SMPS

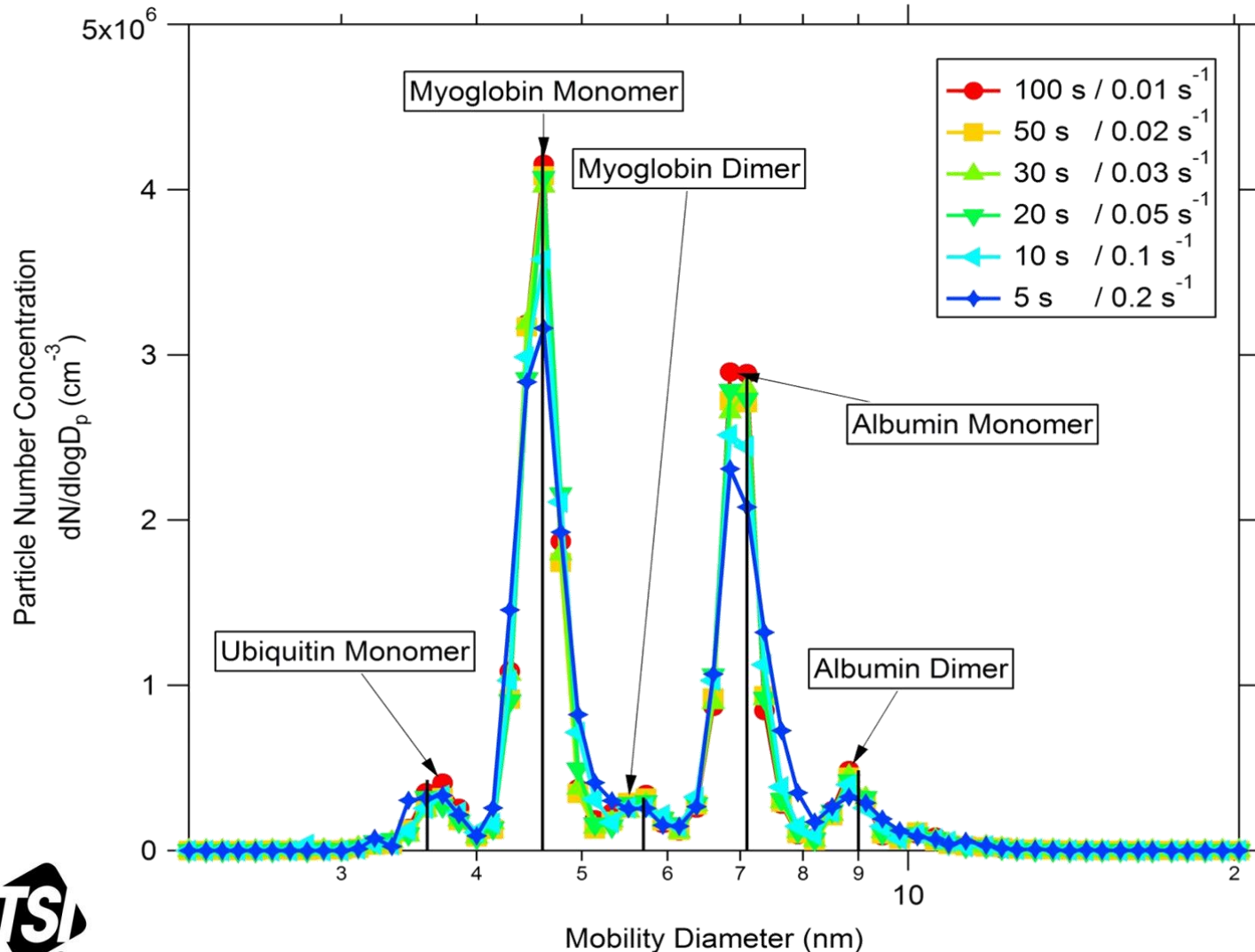


Fast and Precise Measurement in the sub-20 nm Size Range using a Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer (Tröstl et al. 2015, JAS)

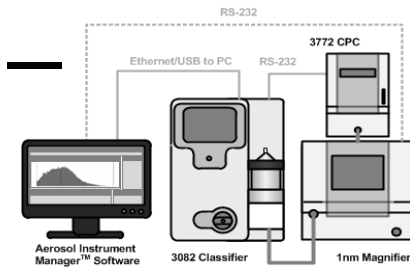
# Monodisperse Sucrose solutions with different scan times



# Fast Sizing & High Accuracy Protein Mix

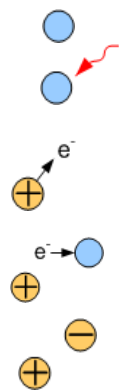
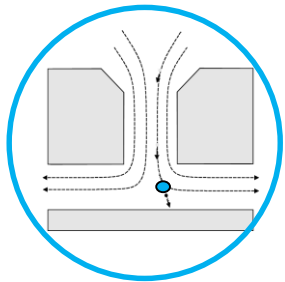


# 1 nm SMPS with DEG CPC – Theory of Operation

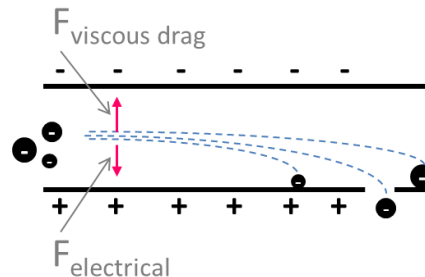


1 nm DMA

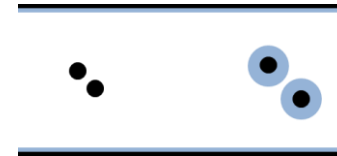
1 nm CPC



Differential Mobility Analyzer



Working fluid DEG (Diethylene glycol)  
Grows ~100 nm droplets



Working fluid Butanol. Grows  $\mu\text{m}$  particles and counts them

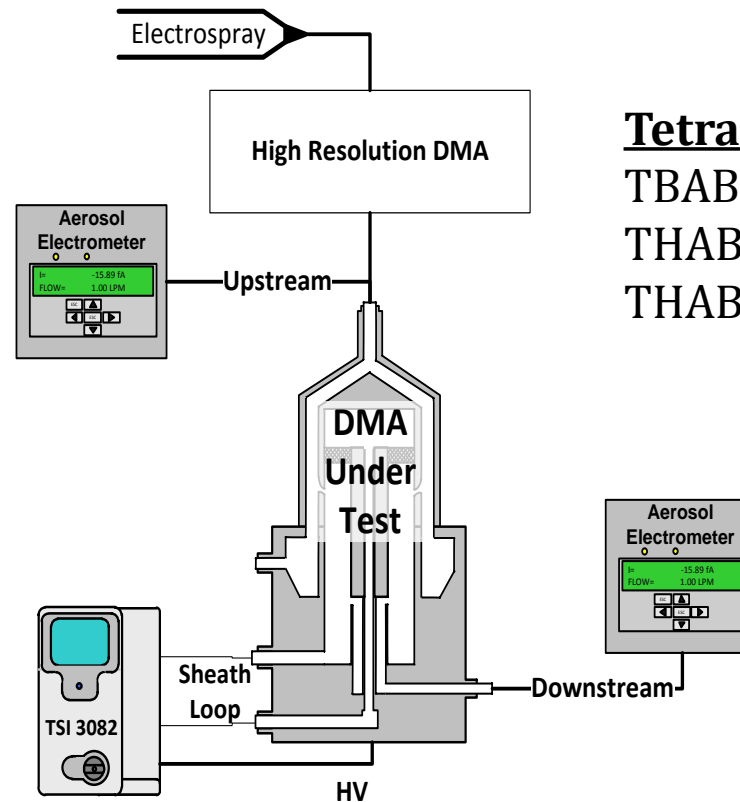
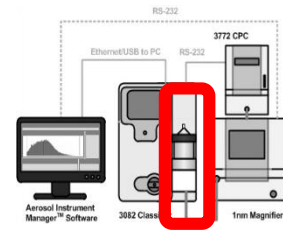


Jiang, Kuang, Attoui & McMurry (2011) AS&T 45 (4)

Iida, Stolzenburg & McMurry (2009) AS&T 43 (1)

Dahlkötter et al., Extending Particle Size Distribution Measurements down to 1nm, NOSA 2016

# Characterization 1 nm DMA Resolution Setup



## Tetra-Alkyl Ammonium Ions

TBAbR monomer: 1.24 nm

THAbR monomer: 1.47 nm

THAbR dimer: 1.74 nm

Setup and methodologies based on Jiang et al (2011), AS&T 45:4, 480-492

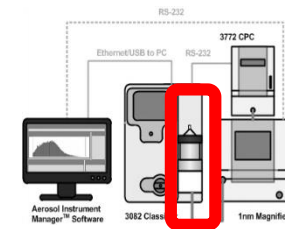


Stolzenburg, Attoui, Han, Spielvogel and Scheckman (2016), J. Aero. Sci, In Preparation

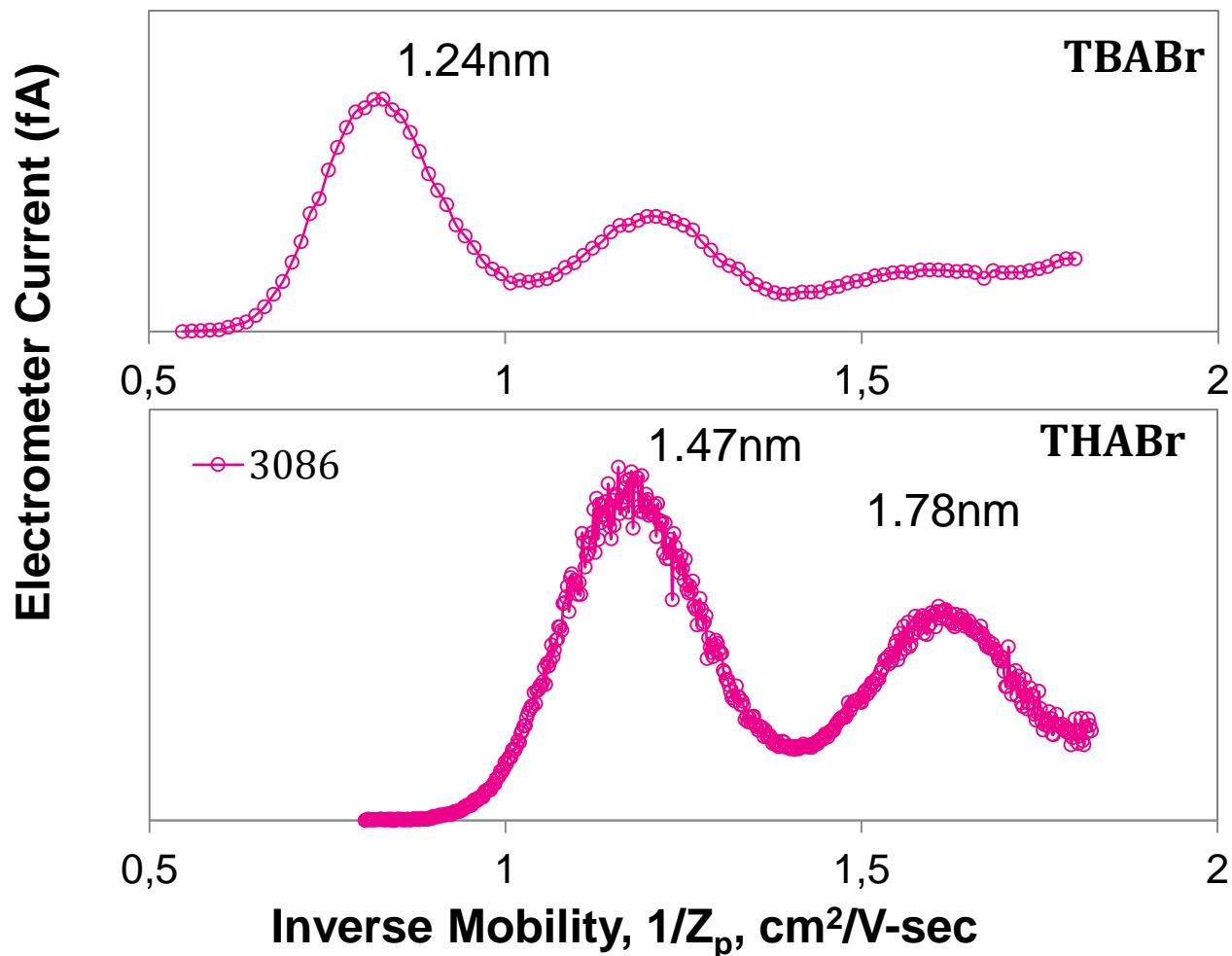


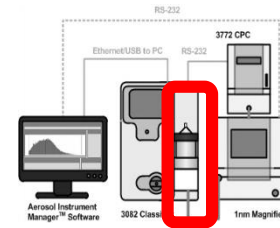
# 1 nm DMA Characterization

## Sizing Scans of Ions



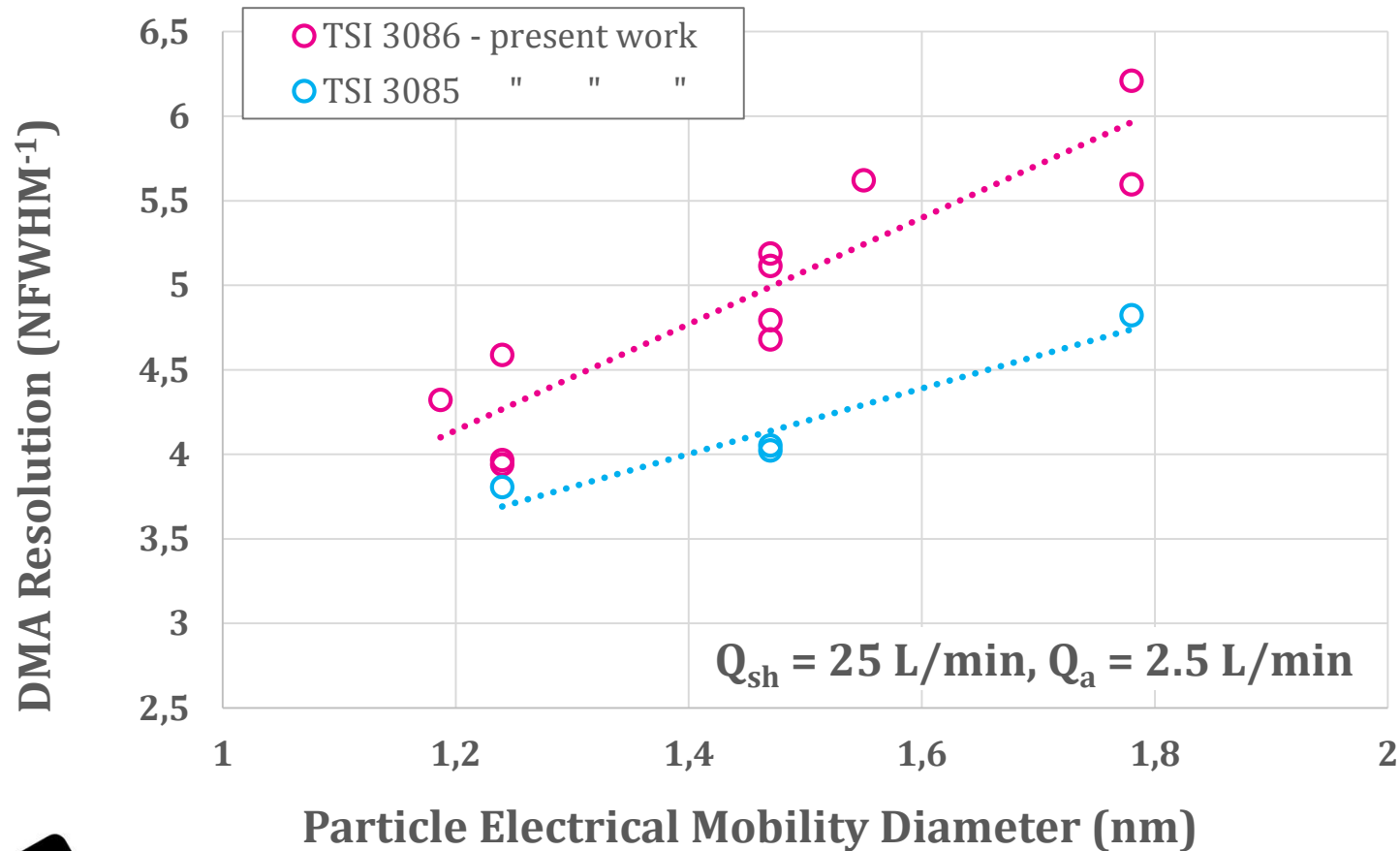
**Tetra-alkyl ammonium ions**





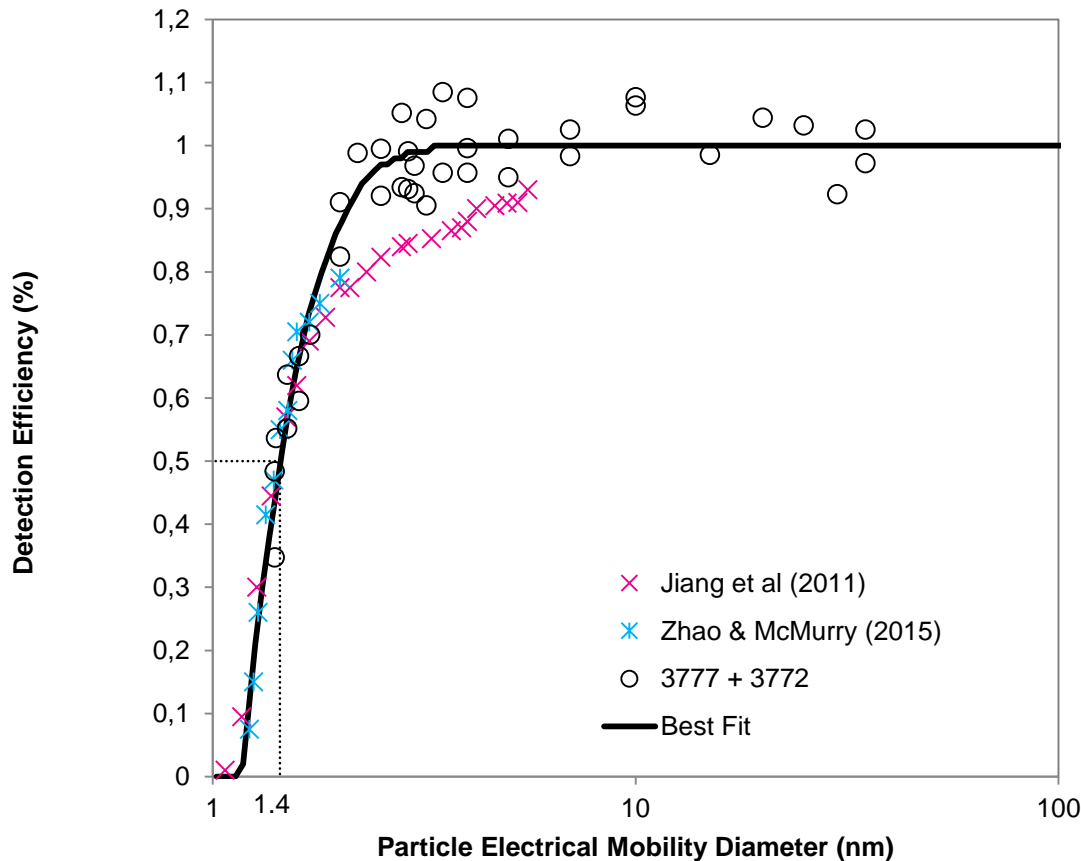
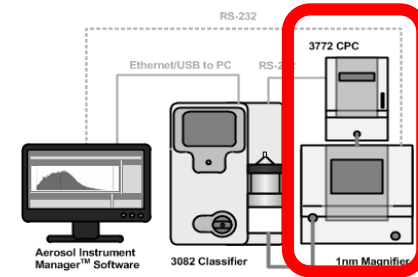
# 1 nm DMA Resolution

Average 20% improvement in DMA resolution



Stolzenburg, Attoui, Han, Spielvogel and Scheckman (2016), J. Aero. Sci, In Preparation

# CPC Characterization - Efficiency



- + D50 of 1.4 nm mobility diameter (geom. 1.1 nm)
- + False count rate  $< 0.01$   $\#/cm^3$  (12 hour average)
- + Unattended operation for 1 week minimum
- +  $300\,000$  particles/ $cm^3$  (with CPC 3772)

Aerosol: negatively charged NaCl particles

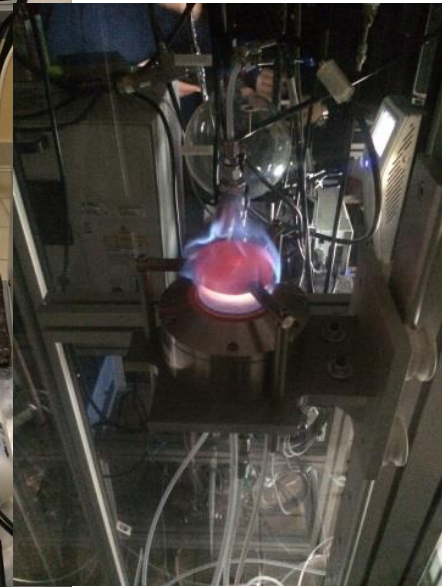
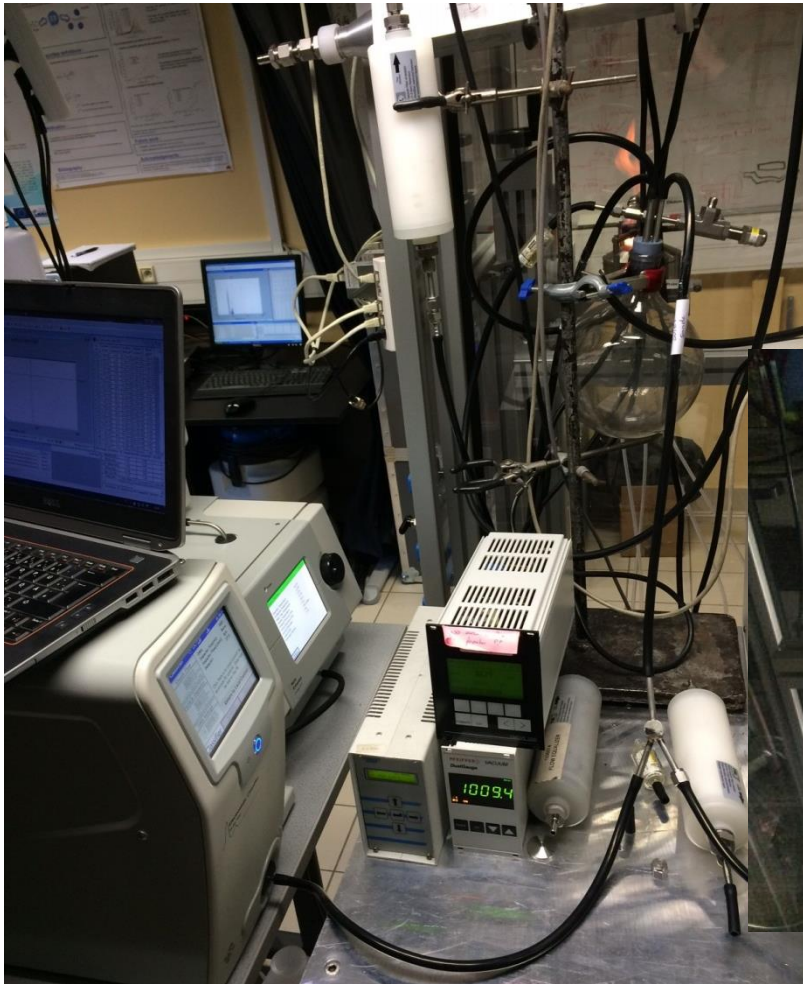


Zhao et al (2015) AAAR Annual Conference, Minneapolis  
Jiang et al (2011) AS&T, 45(4)



# Applications: Flame Aerosol

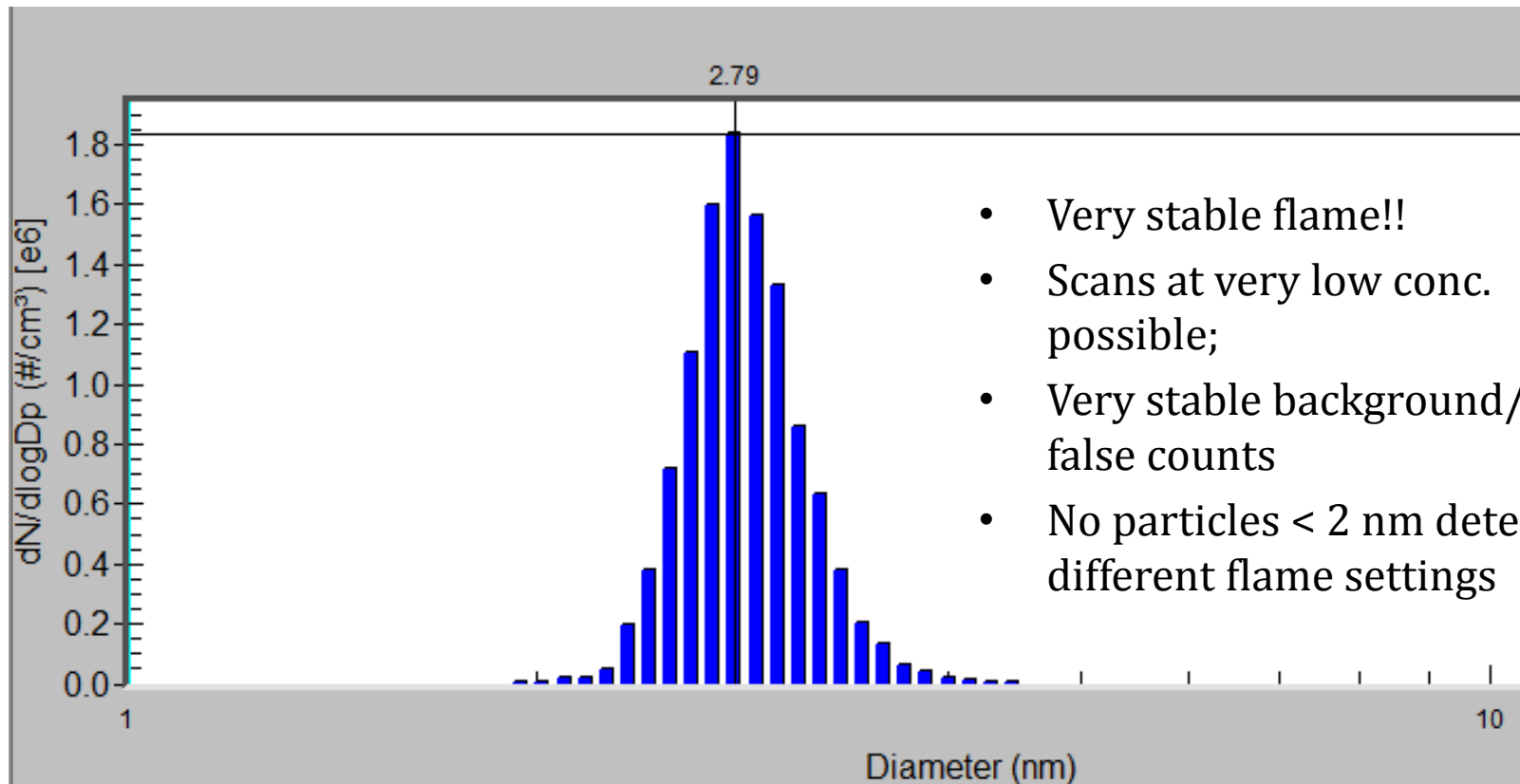
## First 1 nm SMPS Test Uni. Lille, France



- TSI demo setup: 308202, 3088, 3085, 3777 with 3772
- Sample Aerosol from Ethylene-Air or Butane-Air premixed flame at Cerla



# 1 nm SMPS – Butane-Air flame



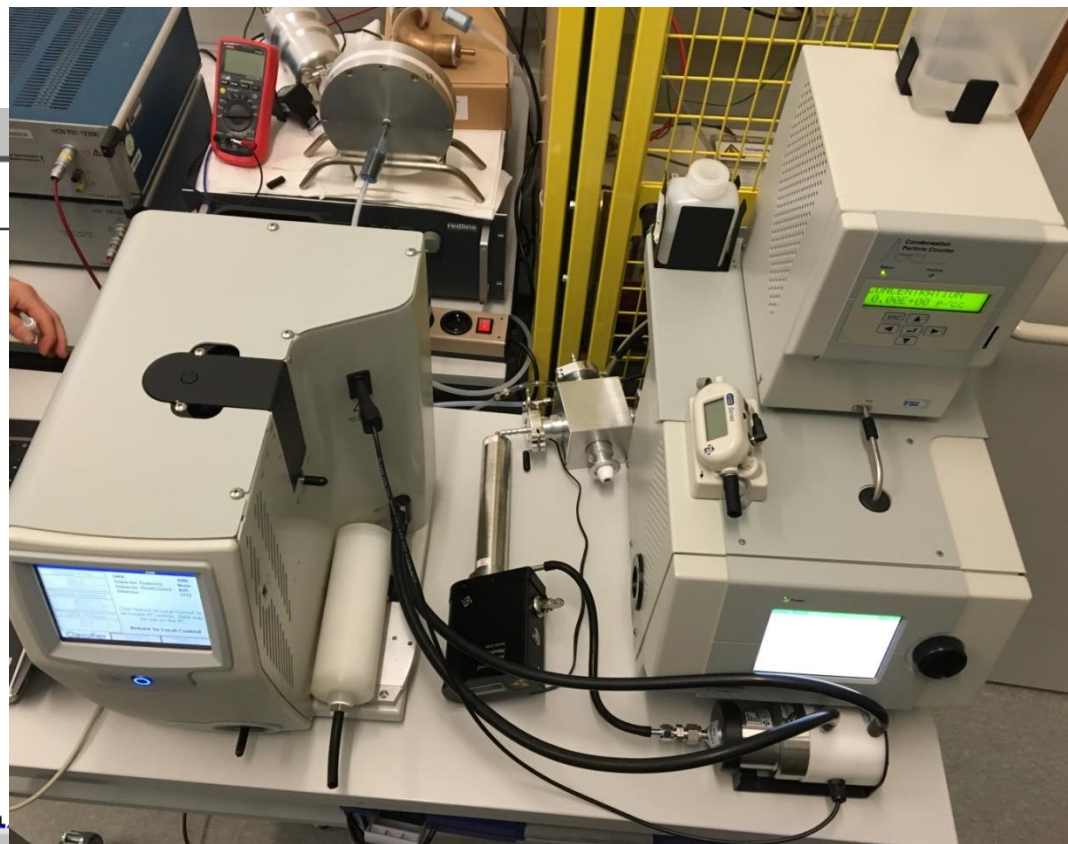
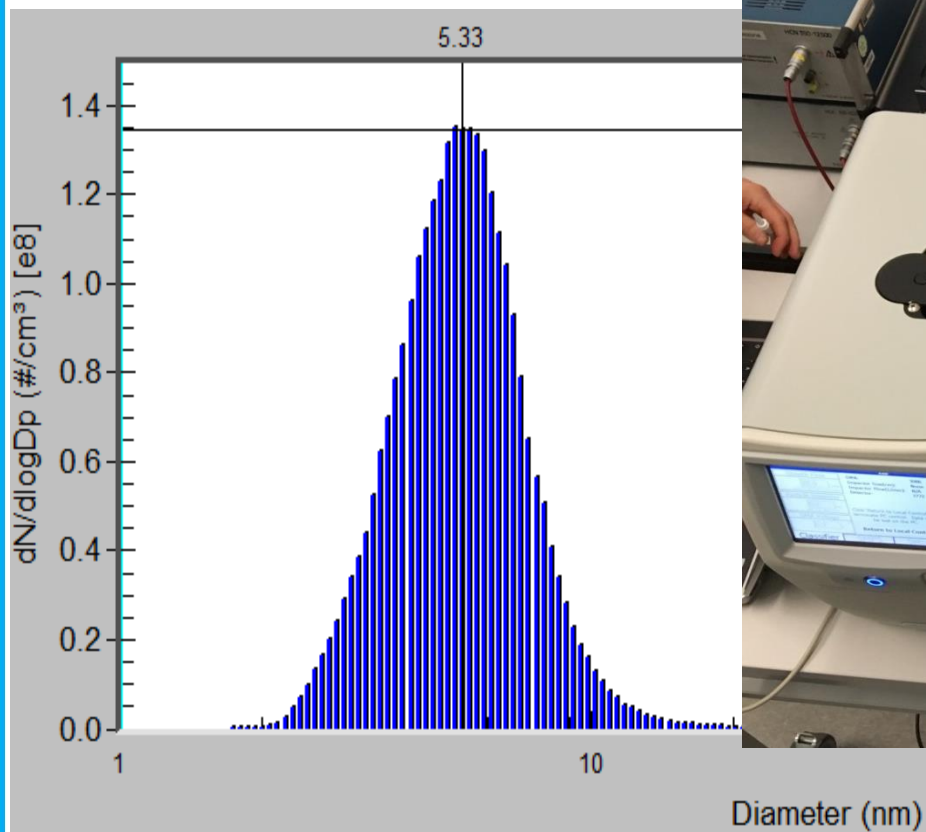
- Very stable flame!!
- Scans at very low conc. possible;
- Very stable background/ low false counts
- No particles < 2 nm detected in different flame settings



# Applications: Metal-Nanoparticle

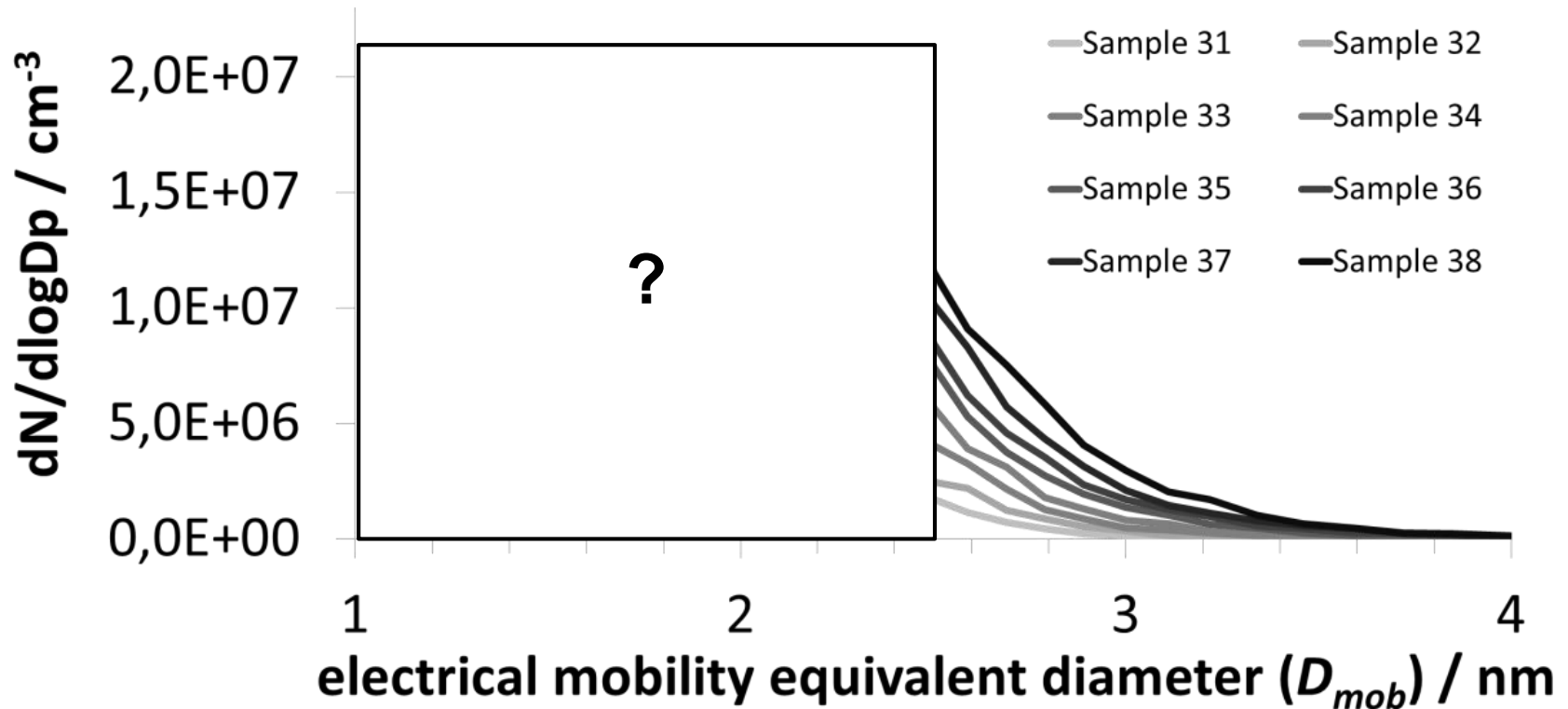
## TU-Clausthal, Germany

Silver spark generator Size Distr.



# Applications: Metal-Oxide Nanoparticles

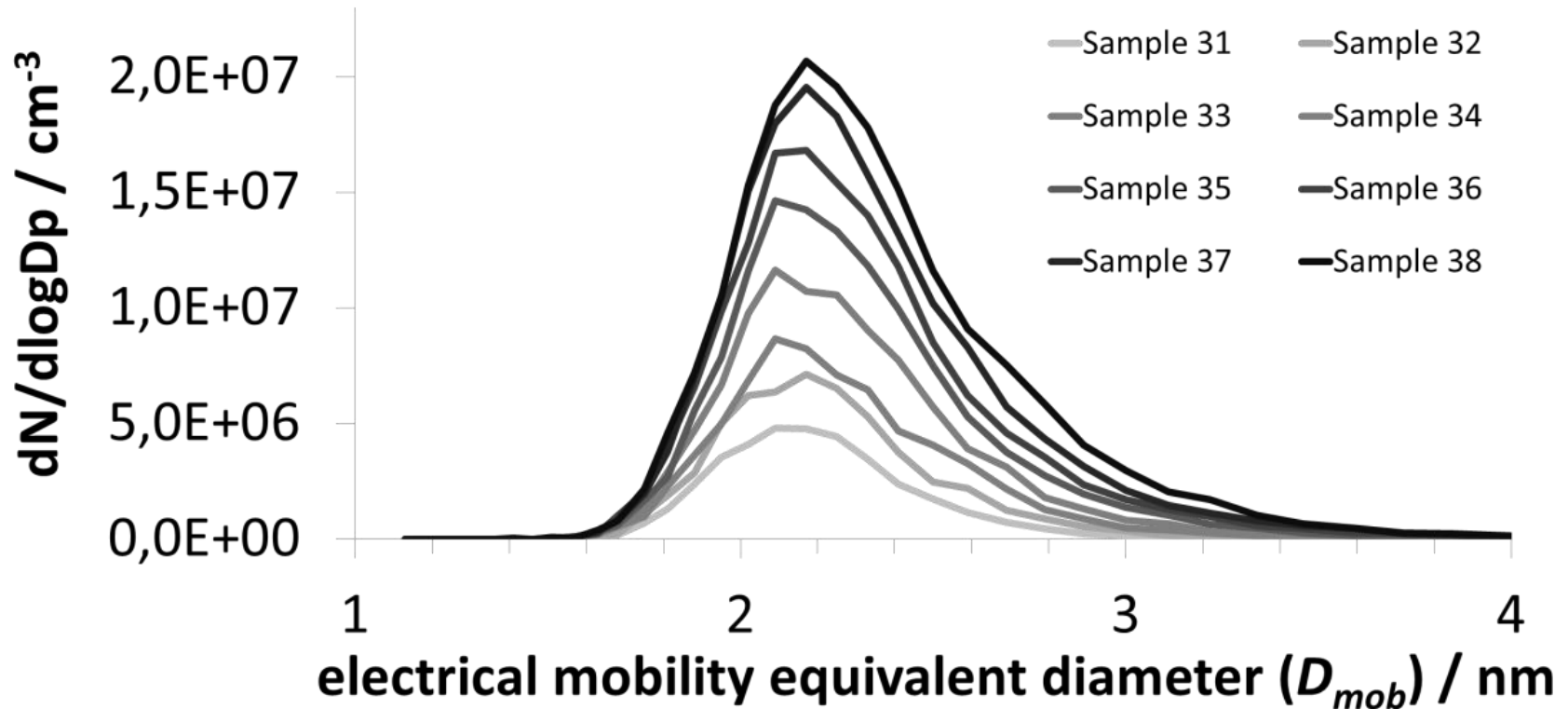
## SMPS measurements of $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ particles



Particles generated by Dielectric Barrier Discharge (DBD)

# Applications: Metal-Oxide Nanoparticles

## SMPS measurements of $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ particles



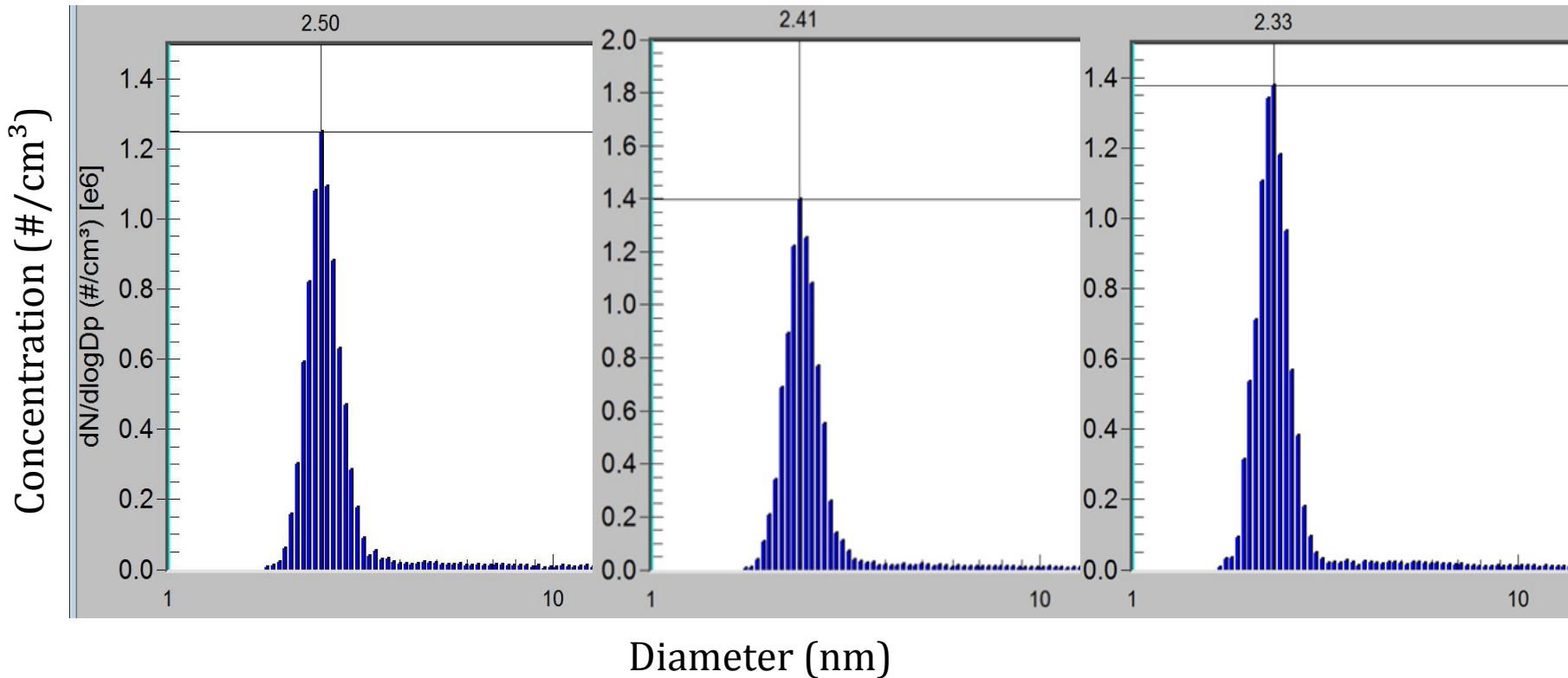
Particles generated by Dielectric Barrier Discharge (DBD)



# Influence of Aerosol Flow

## Silver Nanoparticles at different Bypass Flows

Bypass Flow: 0 L/min → 2.5 L/min → 7.5 L/min

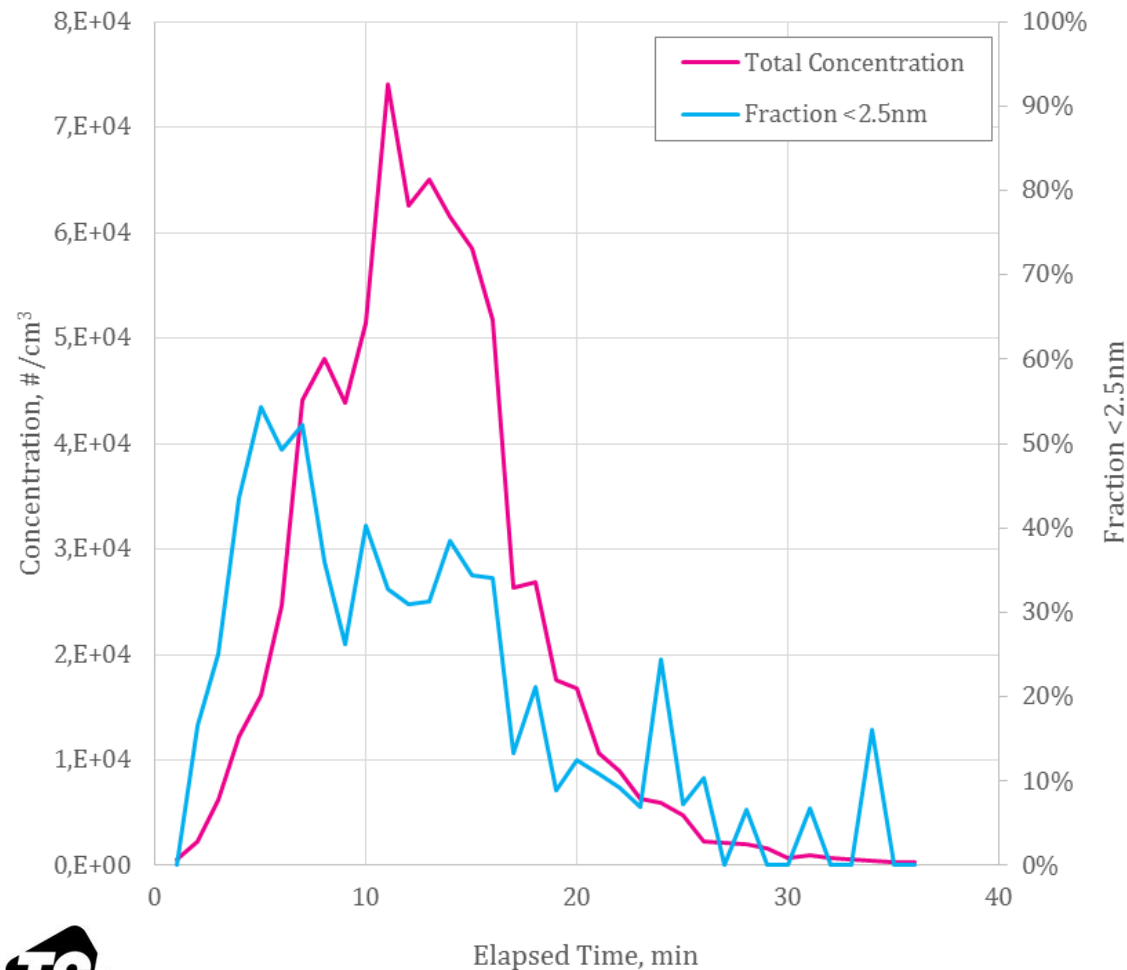


Smallest size bin found in these experiments: 1.68 nm  
Particles generated by Dielectric Barrier Discharge (DBD)



# Applications: Indoor Air Quality

## Emissions from household cooking appliance



Rise to concentration peak from heating DeLonghi toaster oven (oven door open) set on Bake at 400 °F.

Note the number of particles below 2.5 nm.



Thanks to Lance Wallace for this data

# Summary

## + Nano-SMPS characterization

- Fast scanning advantages, 3-5 second scans in the 3-20 nm range possible
- High accuracy of size scans



1nm-CPC, Model 3777-72

## + NEW 1 nm SMPS (3938E77) → SMPS Size distribution measurements starting at 1 nm

- New Nano Enhancer (Model 3777)
- New 1 nm DMA (Model 3086)



1nm-SMPS, Model 3938E77

## + First field applications confirm improved performance compared to Nano-SMPS

- Enables research towards understanding of nanoparticle formation and growth



# Thank you! Any Questions?

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1nm-SMPS, Model 3938E77

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# Key References

Iida, K., Stolzenburg, M. R., and McMurry, P. H., 2009, "Effect of Working Fluid on Sub-2 nm Particle Detection with a Laminar Flow Ultrafine Condensation Particle Counter," *Aerosol Science and Technology*, 43(1): 81–96

Jiang, J., Attoui, M., Heim, M., Brunelli, N. a., McMurry, P. H., Kasper, G., Flagan, R. C., Giapis, K., and Mouret, G., 2011, "Transfer Functions and Penetrations of Five Differential Mobility Analyzers for Sub-2 nm Particle Classification," *Aerosol Science and Technology*, 45(4): 480–492

Jiang, J., Chen, M., Kuang, C., Attoui, M., and McMurry, P. H., 2011, "Electrical Mobility Spectrometer Using a Diethylene Glycol Condensation Particle Counter for Measurement of Aerosol Size Distributions Down to 1 nm," *Aerosol Science and Technology*, 45(4): 510–521

Jiang, J., Zhao, J., Chen, M., Eisele, F. L., Scheckman, J., Williams, B. J., Kuang, C., and McMurry, P. H., 2011, "First Measurements of Neutral Atmospheric Cluster and 1–2 nm Particle Number Size Distributions During Nucleation Events," *Aerosol Science and Technology*, 45(4): ii–v

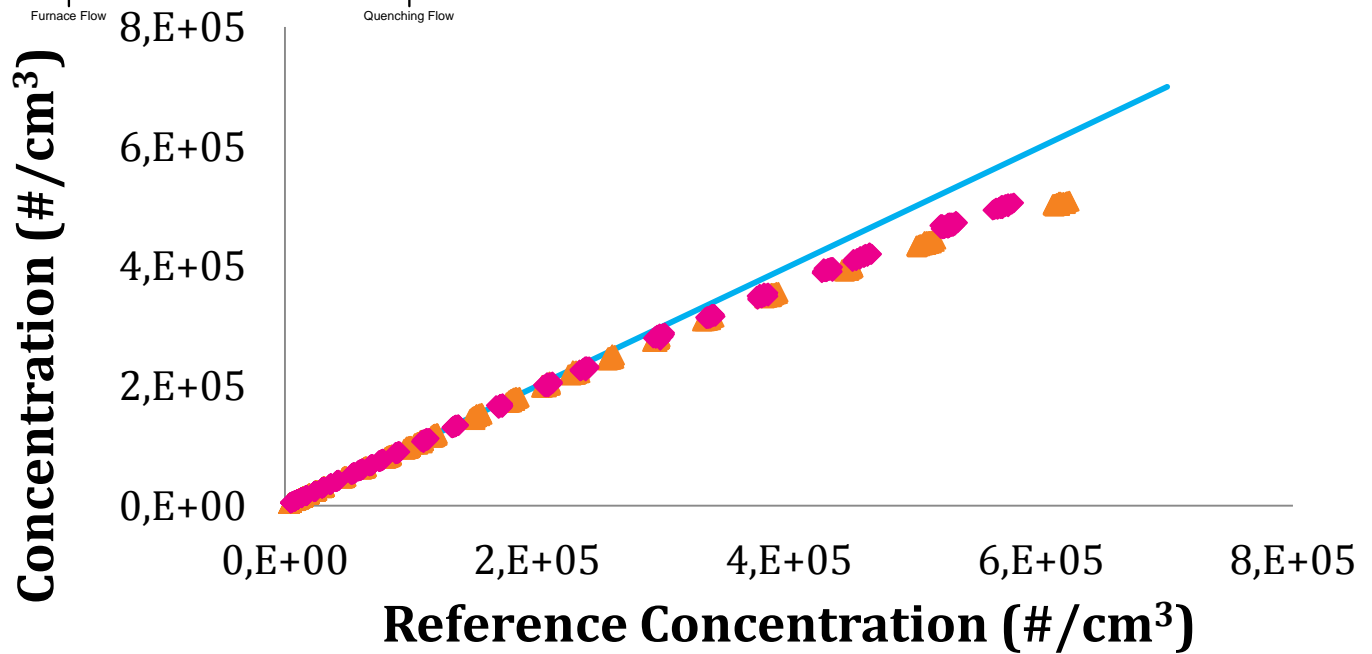
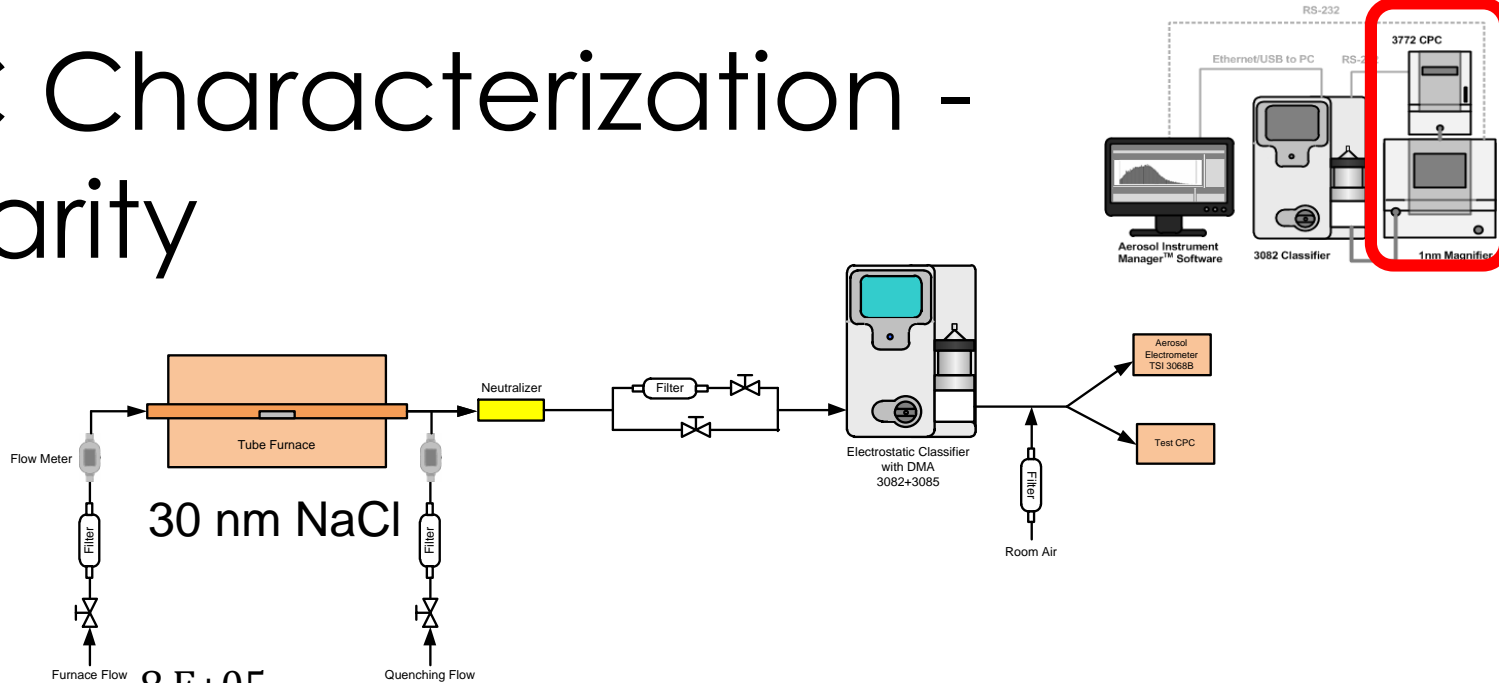
Tröstl, J., Tritscher, T., Bischof, O.F., Horn, H.-G., Krinke, T., Baltensperger, U., and Gysel, M., 2015. Fast and precise measurement in the sub-20nm size range using a Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer. *Journal of Aerosol Science* 87, 75-87

Wimmer, D., Lehtipalo, K., Franchin, A., Kangasluoma, J., Kreissl, F., Kürten, A., Kupc, A., Metzger, A., Mikkilä, J., Petäjä, T., Riccobono, F., Vanhanen, J., Kulmala, M., and Curtius, J.(2013): Performance of diethylene glycol-based particle counters in the sub-3 nm size range, *Atmospheric Measurement Techniques*, 6, 1793-1804, doi:10.5194/amt-6-1793-2013

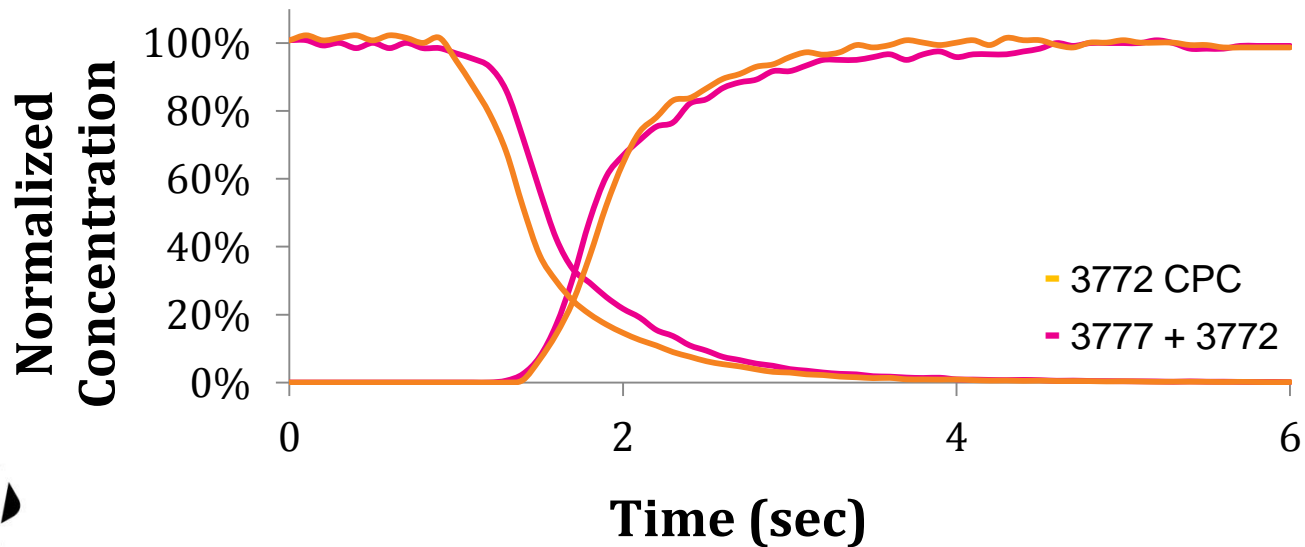
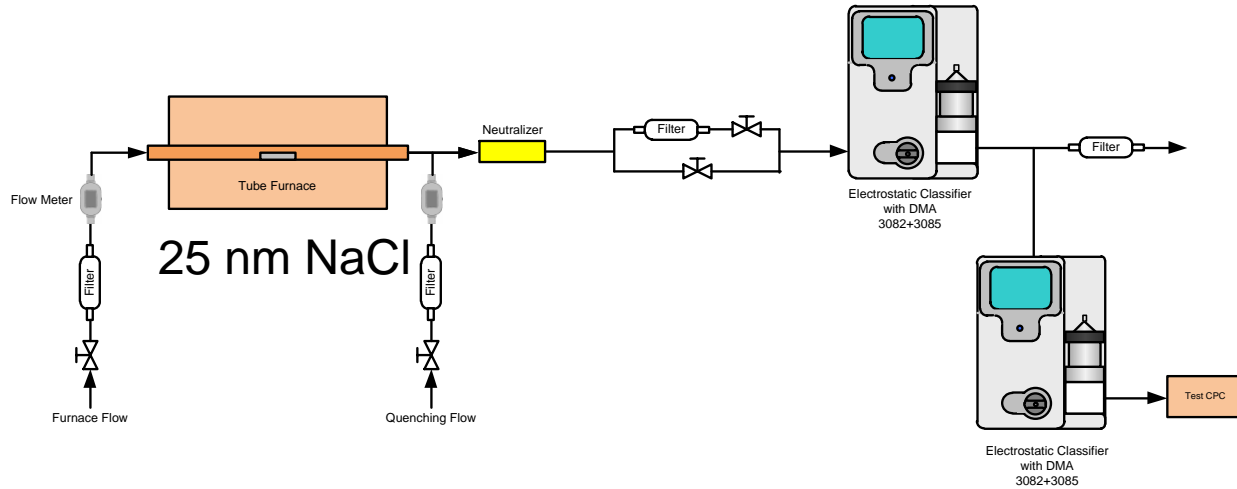
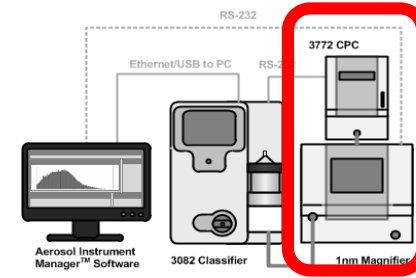


# CPC Characterization - Linearity

Setup:



# CPC Characterization – Response Time





# MODEL 3777 NANO ENHANCER



## Particle Size Range

Min. Detectable

Particle ( $D_{50}$ ): 1.4 nm (electrical mobility diameter, 1.1 nm geometric diameter), verified with NaCl particles

## Flow

Aerosol Flow Rate 2.5 L/min  
Aerosol Outlet Flow Rate 1.0 L/min  
Transport Flow Rate 1.5 L/min  
Flow source External vacuum  
Flow Control Volumetric flow control of transport flow internal critical orifices. Aerosol flow rate controlled by 3772 CPC.

## Aerosol Medium

Recommended for use with air; safe for use with inert gases such as nitrogen, argon, and helium (performance specifications are for air)

## Condensing Liquid

Working Fluid Diethylene Glycol (DEG,  $\geq 99\%$ )  
Filling System Electronic liquid-level sensor initiates automatic filling as needed, requires connection to fill bottle  
Water Removal Sheath air is dried using a water separator and refillable desiccant dryer

## Communications

Protocol Command set based on ASCII characters  
Interfaces RS-232 9-pin, D-sub connector



Further details on [www.tsi.com](http://www.tsi.com)

# 1nm CPC SYSTEM (MODEL 3777 NANO ENHANCER AND MODEL 3772 CPC)



## Particle Size Range

Min. Detectable

Particle ( $D_{50}$ ): 1.4 nm (electrical mobility diameter, 1.1 nm geometric diameter), verified with NaCl particles

## Particle Concentration Range

0 to  $3 \times 10^5$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>, single particle counting with continuous, live-time coincidence correction

## Particle Concentration Accuracy

$\pm 10\%$  at  $< 1.65 \times 10^5$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>  
 $\pm 15\%$  at  $3 \times 10^5$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>

## Response time

$< 4s$  to 95% in response to concentration step change

## False Background Counts

$< 0.01$  particle/cm<sup>3</sup>, based on 12-hr average

# SPECIFICATIONS

## Size range

1 to 50 nm

## Resolution

R=4.7 at 1.47 nm

## Flow rate range

(flows provided by Model 3082 Classifier and/or external source)

Aerosol flow rate 0.1 to 2.5 L/min  
Sheath flow rate 2 to 25 L/min  
Bypass flow rate 0 to 12 L/min

