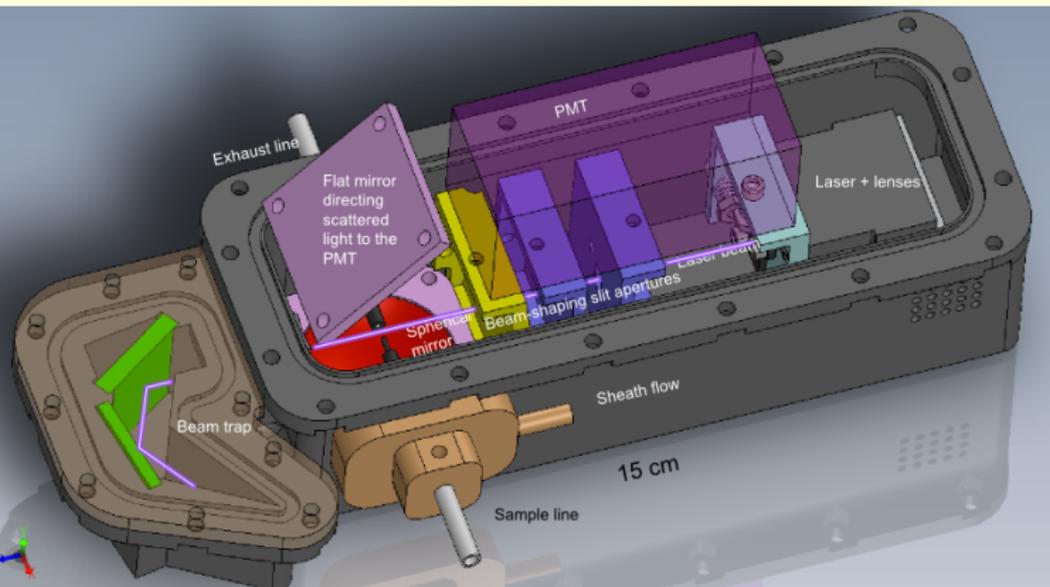


Printed Optical Particle Spectrometer

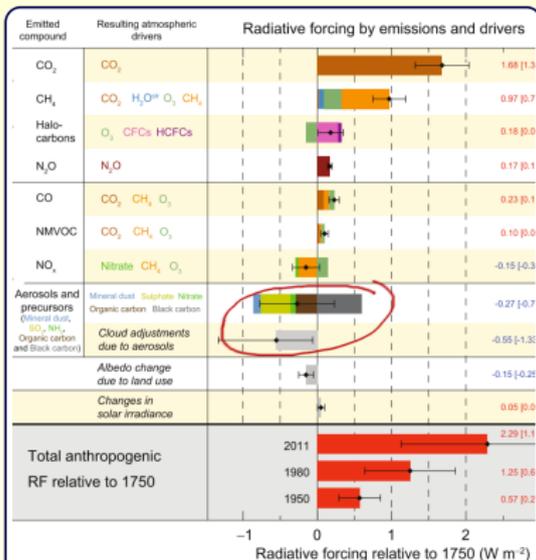
A small, sensitive, light-weight, and disposable aerosol spectrometer for balloon and UAV applications



Hagen Telg

Cooperative Institute
for Research in
Environmental
Sciences
NOAA Earth System
Research Laboratory
May 20, 2014

Motivation



IPCC: Summary for Policymakers. In: Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis

Why aerosols

⇒ large uncertainty about effect on radiative forcing

Scientific questions that are difficult to address with existing tools

- Aerosol profiles inside the Asian Monsoon → no aircraft excess
- Fire plume sampling → no aircraft excess
- Volcanic aerosol and ash quantification → no aircraft excess, monitoring needed
- Geo-engineering → monitoring needed

⇒ A small, light-weight, low cost, low power optical particle counter will help greatly

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Motivation

UAV



weather balloon



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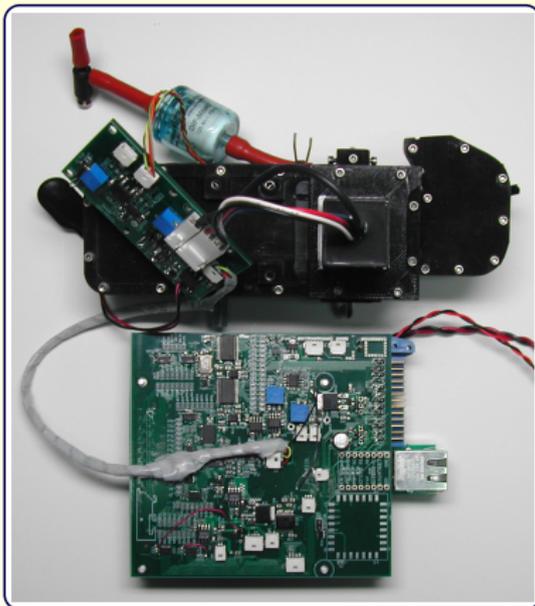
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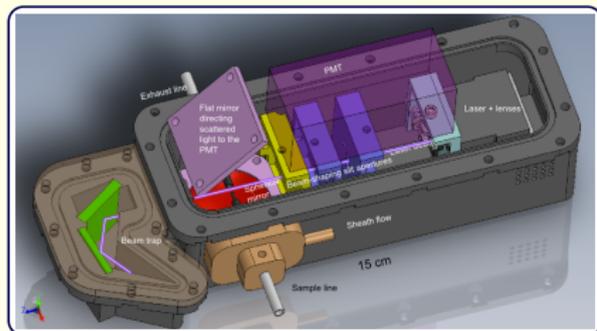
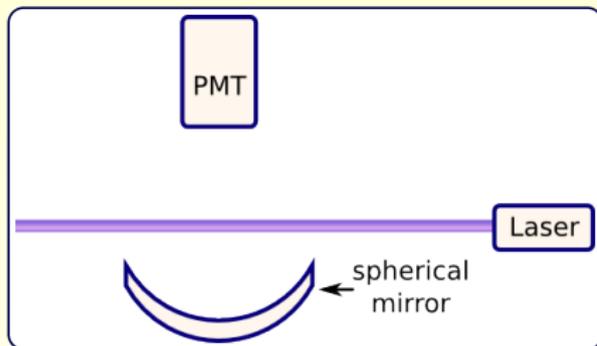
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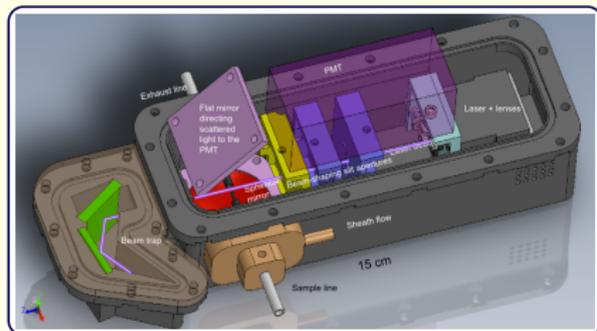
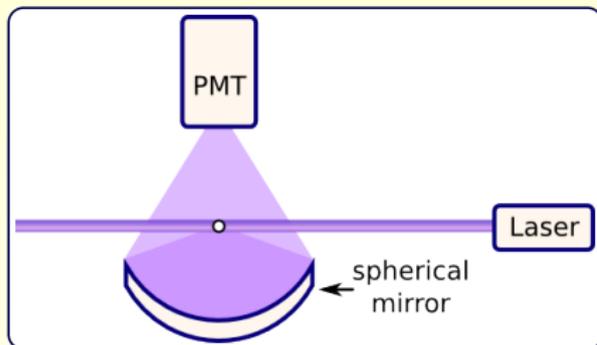
How POPS works



- light-source** 405 nm laser diode
- beam shaping** aspherical, and cylindrical lenses shape laser to line
- light collection** spherical mirror image scattered light on **Photomultiplier Tube**
- stray light** multiple slits suppress stray light

- signal processing** PMT output current converted to voltage → amplified → digitized (4 MHz; 16 bit) → analyzed on single-board computer → communicate via serial port
- sizing** intensity of scattered light depends on particle size

How POPS works

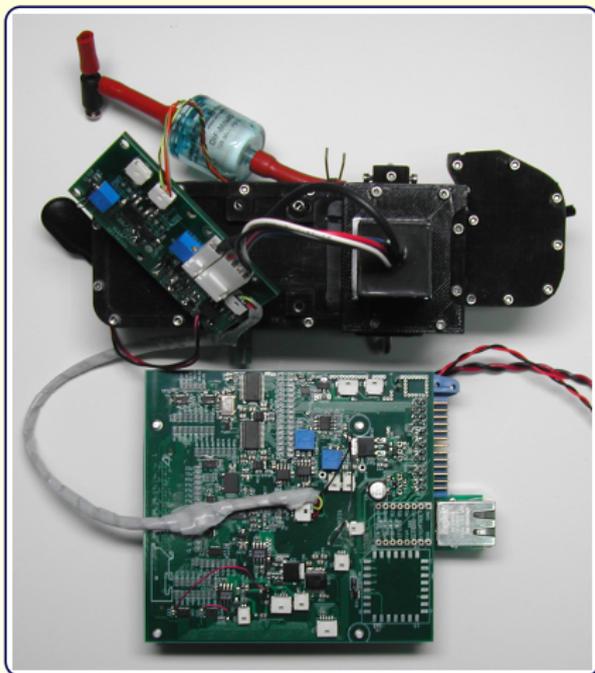


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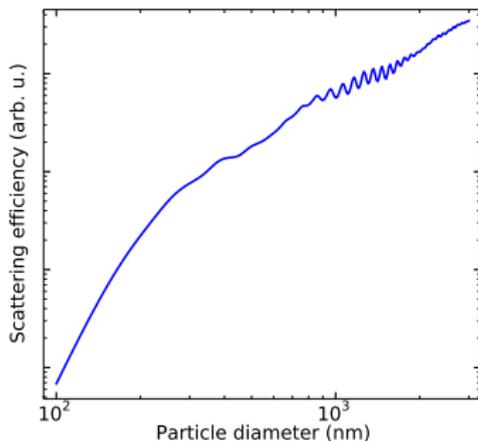
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How POPS works

Mie scattering simulation



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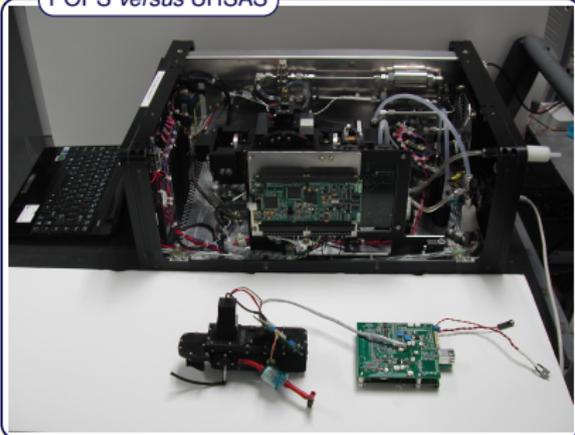
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How POPS works

POPS *versus* UHSAS



dimensions	15x6x6 cm
weight	< 1 kg
cost*	~2500 \$
power	3 W

* labor excluded

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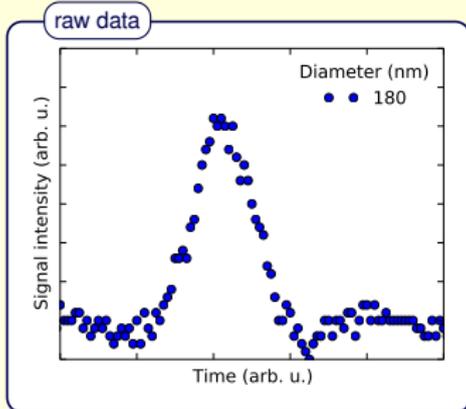
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how POPS performs

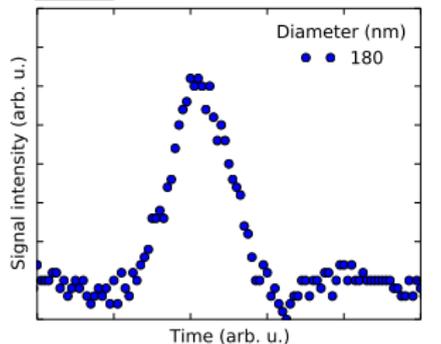


- single particles are resolved
- good diameter resolution
 $\Delta d/d \approx 15\%$
- minimum measurable diameter
< 150 nm
- agreement with theory
- comparison to UHSAS shows good agreement in absolute counts (down to 190 nm)



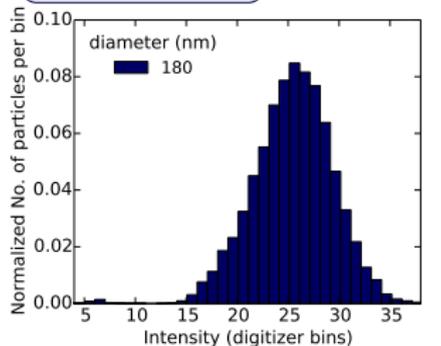
how POPS performs

raw data



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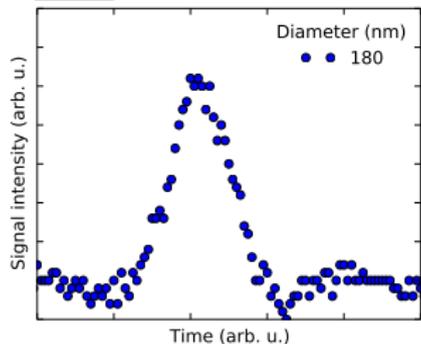
peak height histogram





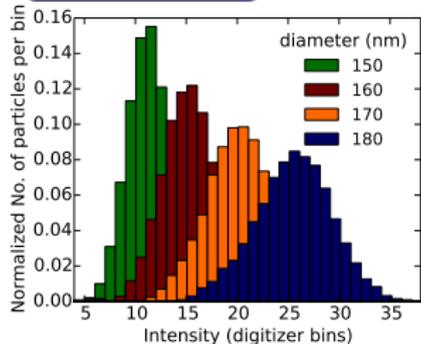
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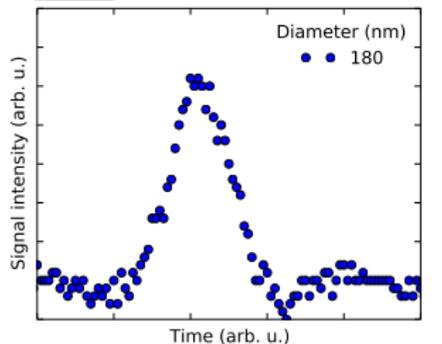
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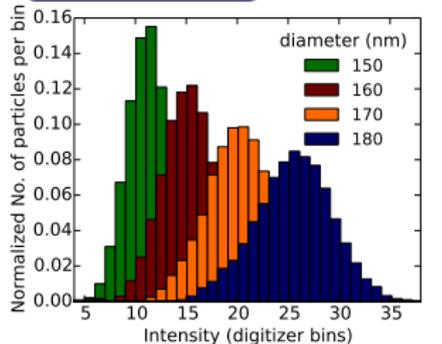
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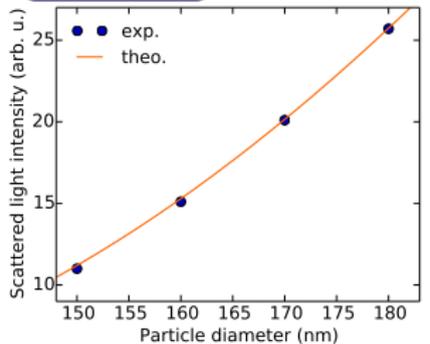


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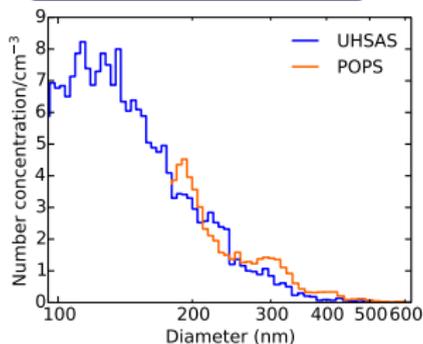


exp. versus theo.

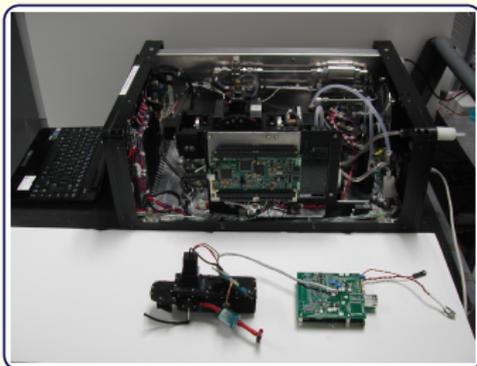


how POPS performs

POPS versus UHSAS @ room air



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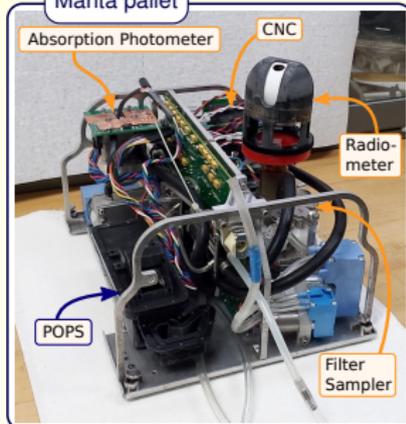


field test on Manta UAV

Manta & launcher



Manta pallet



package

- POPS
- **Condensation Nuclei Counter**
- 3 wavelengths aerosol absorption photometer → like CLAP
- aerosol filter sampler → 6 filters
- Radiometer

outcome

- POPS functional
- but interference with UAV communication and other instruments → bursts of noise
- ⇒ improve shielding



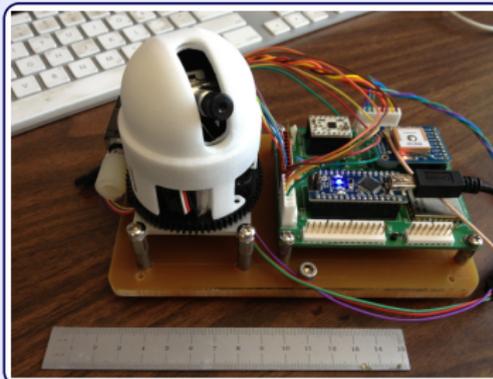
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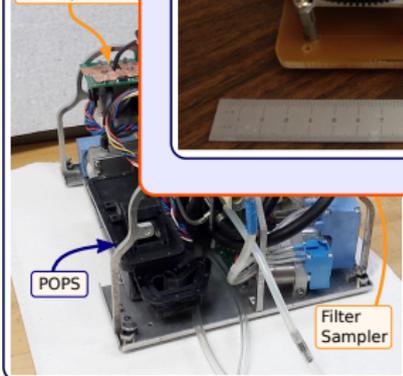
package

poster by D. Murphy
presented by R.S. Gao



Manta pa

Absorption Ph



POPS

Filter
Sampler

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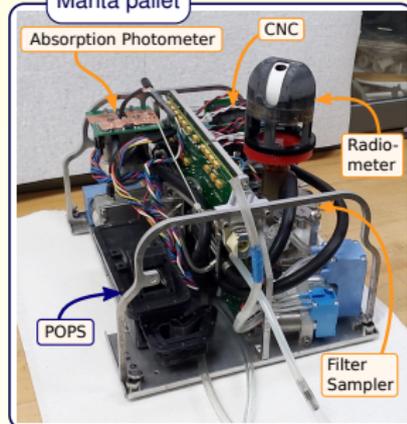
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summary

Printed Optical Particle Spectrometer

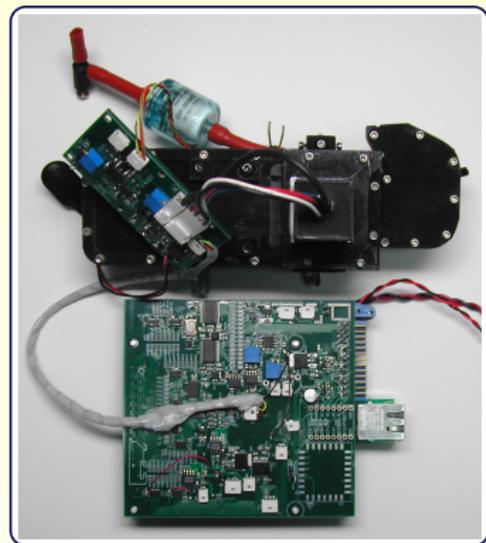
light weight < 1 kg \Rightarrow light enough for small weather balloon or UAV

low cost \sim 2500 \$ \Rightarrow disposable

diameter range 150 - 2500 nm

tested Manta UAV

POPS will be fully functional in a couple of months!



acknowledgment



- Ru-Shan Gao
- Laurel Watts
- Steven Ciciora
- Richard McLaughlin
- Matt Richardson
- Joshua Schwarz
- Anne Perring
- Charles Brock
- Nick Wagner



- Tim Bates
- James Johnson

