



# **Descriptive Model of PM Pollution in Baltimore**

**as derived from  
Analysis of Components of Discrete Episodes at  
the Ponca St. Supersite**

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# Baltimore Supersite Study Area

Typical MidAtlantic Seaport City  
Populous, heavy industry, So. Baltimore  
Complex meteorology  
Major N.-S. transportation corridor

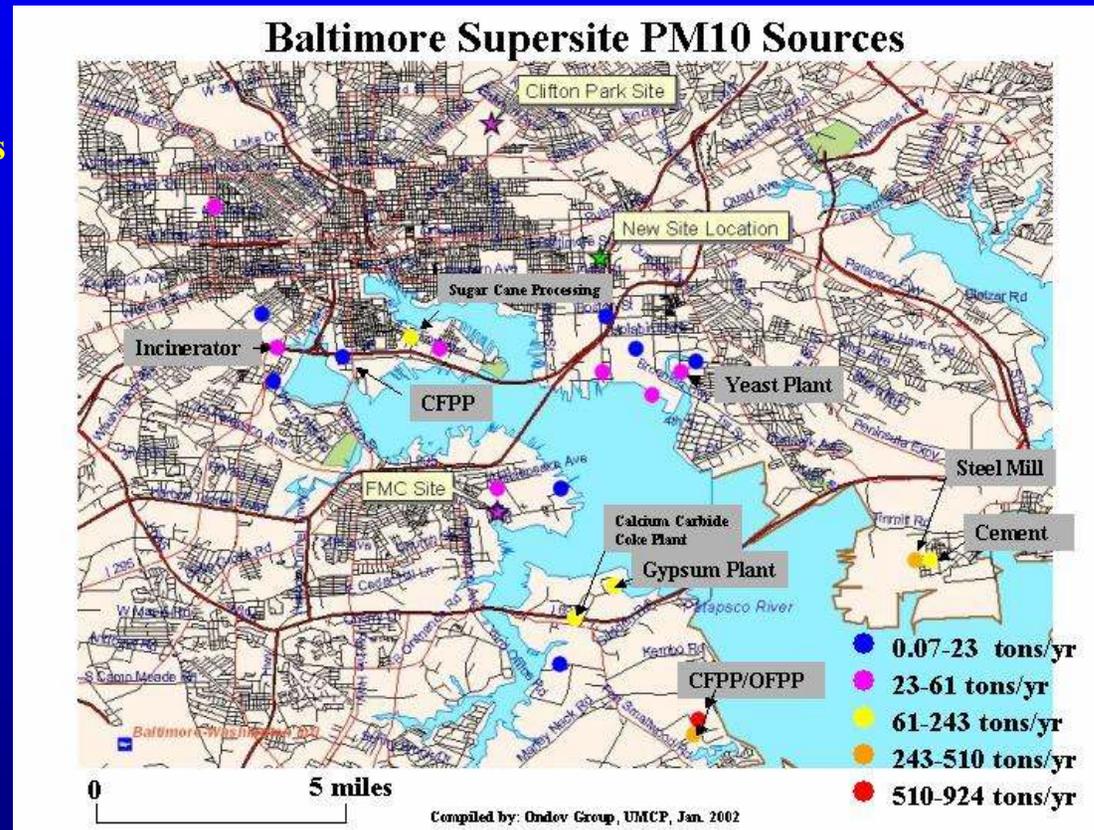
End member Washington - Boston Megalopolis

Variable Aerosol age  
local, 50 km, 100's km source regions  
Appalachian Cloud-processed sulfate

Environmental Justice  
Downtown, weakly influenced  
So. Baltimore 10-X PAH, Metals  
1.7-X deaths via pulmonary disease

Interpretive Context  
25 yrs receptor modeling in region  
EPA and AEOLUS studies in Baltimore  
IMPROVE site, Shennandoah Nat. Park

Health Effects Studies  
JHU & UMAB



**Strategically located to assess urban,  
industrial, and traffic influences**



**SAMPLING  
SITE**

Baltimore PM  
Supersite  
Location



## Measurements

- Primary Site: Ponca St., East Baltimore  
9.5 months: March – November, 2003
- Maximum temporal, size, compositional resolution
  - PM2.5, EC, OC, Nitrate, Sulfate,
  - Metals, Organic compounds
  - PAMS VOC, CO, NO<sub>x</sub>, NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>
  - LIDAR, Single Particle MS
  - SMPS + APS size distributions 10 nm to 20 μm
- Measurement resolution 5 min, 10 min, 30 min, 1 hr, 3 hr, plus 24 Hr FRM mass and speciation

## Interpretive Context

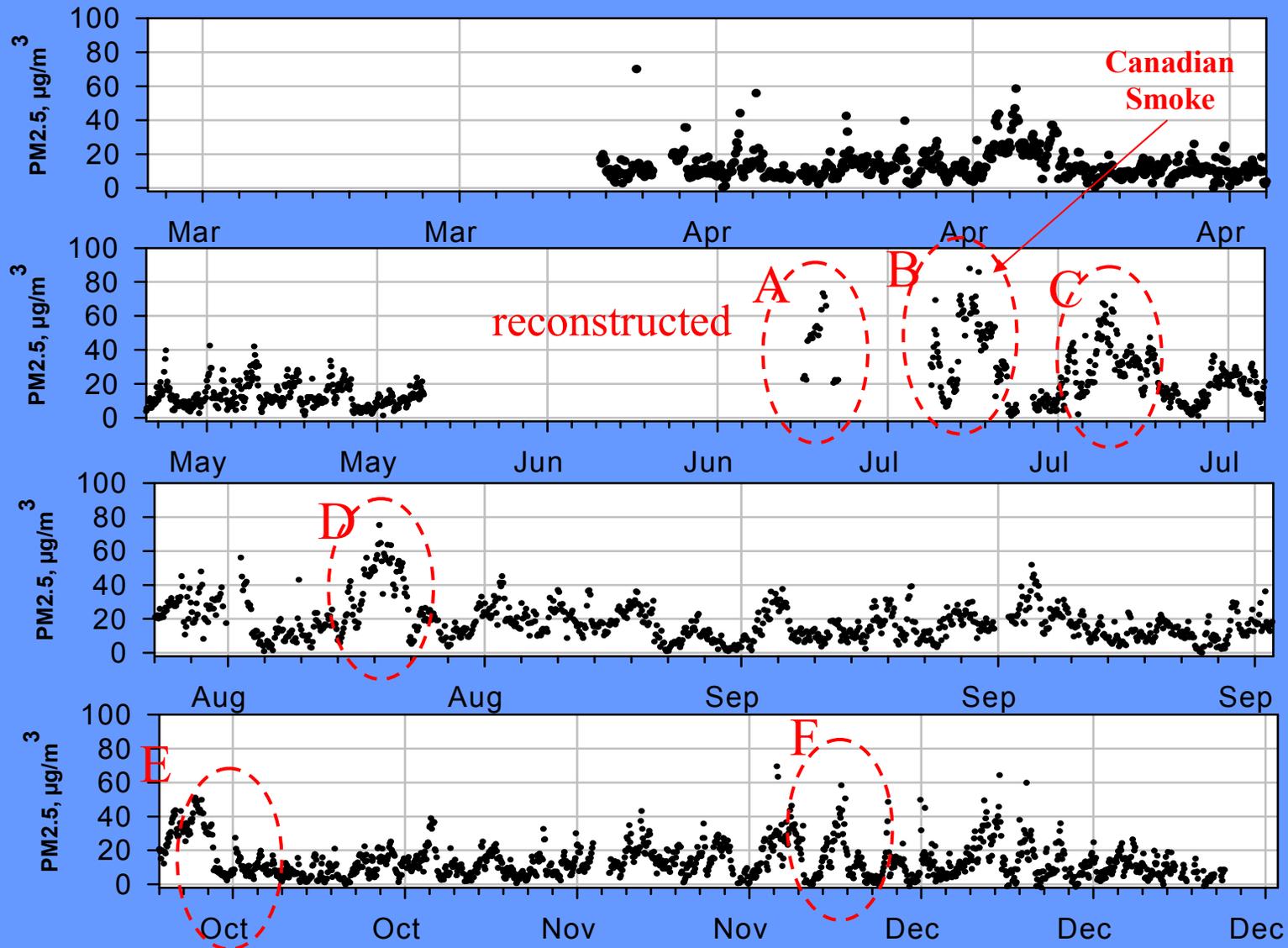
- PM air pollution may be viewed as occurring in a series of discrete meteorologically driven discrete episodes
- Transients often caused by one or two components
- Local vs. distant sources indicated by
  - Temporal behavior of constituents and marker species
  - Size distribution parameters
  - Detailed Analysis of episodes

# Outline

- PM2.5 Episodes in 2002 (30 min data)
- Summary of major features of 6 worst
- Detailed description of highly time resolved data for worst summer and cool weather episodes
- Features of major components

# 30-min PM<sub>2.5</sub> Concentrations: 2002

show: series of discrete episodes of hours to 2 or 3 days duration



# PM2.5 Statistics: 9.5 months, 2002

	w/Canadian Smoke	w/o Canadian Smoke*
Daily means:	3.5 to 85.6	3.5 to 64
Annual mean	16.9	15.8±13
No. daily exceedences	2	~1
No. daily means > 30 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (i.e., 16.9 + 13)		29

**6 worst episodes described in Park et al., 2005**  
**2 will be described in this talk**

**\*Episode B; M\maximum 30 min concentration was 198 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**

## Characteristics of Six Worst PM<sub>2.5</sub> Episodes Baltimore Supersite, Ponca St., 2002

Episode	Date	Type	Ozone (ppb) <sup>1</sup>		Ambient temp (°C)		Relative humidity (%)		Maxima NO <sub>x</sub> and CO, ppb	
			Avg.	Range	Avg.	Range	Avg.	Range	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO
A	June 24-25	Regional Haze	84	26-132	29.8	23.7-35.4	57.5	32-77	110	800
B	July 6-8	Canadian Smoke	-	-	25.6	19.7-33.8	45.4	28-70	155	1600
C	July 18-19	Regional Haze	70	14-91	29	23.2-34.0	57.9	38-81	130	800
D	Aug.12-14	Reg Haze + Local Traffic	76	22-122	29.2	21.6-35.6	53.8	35-79	300	1800
E	Oct. 2-5	Regional Haze	35	1-57	24.8	17.5-30.4	69.2	36-91	180	1300
F	Nov. 20-21	Local Traffic	2	0-6	8.4	3.1-14.5	83.2	48-98	780	2800

<sup>1</sup> Ozone mixing ratios represent measurements made between 10:00 and 20:00 hours.

**Episode durations: 2 to 4 days**

**Summer haze: high O<sub>3</sub>, hot, low NO<sub>x</sub> & CO**

**Fall local sources: low O<sub>3</sub>, cool, high NO<sub>x</sub> & CO**

Concentrations 

Table 2. Concentrations of PM2.5 mass and major chemical species for 6 pollution episodes.

Episode	Interval	PM2.5, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$		Constituent expressed as indicated, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$			
		TEOM	Reconstructed	(NH4)2SO4	OM	EC	NH4NO3
A Regional Haze	Episode Avg. <sup>1</sup>	N/A	55 <sup>1</sup> , 62 <sup>2</sup>	36	16	1.2	1.7
	Episode Range <sup>1</sup>		43 - 77	28 - 60	11 - 22	0.6 - 2.8	0.6 - 5.2
	Bkgnd <sup>3</sup>	N/A	24	8.3	12	1.1	0.65
	Bkgnd Range		22 - 27	5.8 - 10	11 - 14	0.6 - 2.3	0.6 - 0.7
B Canadian Smoke	Episode Avg.	57 <sup>1</sup> , 86 <sup>2</sup>	55 <sup>1</sup> , 82 <sup>2</sup>	6.9	54	1.9	2.1
	Episode Range <sup>1</sup>	20 - 180	20 - 174	3.7 - 12	14 - 161	0.5 - 2.7	0.25 - 5.4
	Bkgnd <sup>3</sup>	19					
C Regional Haze	Episode Avg. <sup>1</sup>	49 <sup>1</sup> , 52 <sup>2</sup>					
	Episode Range <sup>1</sup>	24 - 72					
	Bkgnd <sup>3</sup>	23					
D Reg Haze + Local Traffic	Episode Avg. <sup>1</sup>	42 <sup>1</sup> , 57 <sup>2</sup>					
	Episode Range <sup>1</sup>	36 - 73					
	Bkgnd <sup>3</sup>	11					
E Regional Haze	Episode Avg. <sup>1</sup>	35 <sup>1</sup> , 35 <sup>2</sup>					
	Episode Range <sup>1</sup>	8.9 - 52					
	Bkgnd <sup>3</sup>	12					
F Local Traffic	Episode Avg. <sup>1</sup>	32 <sup>1</sup> , 32 <sup>2</sup>	34 <sup>1</sup> , 32 <sup>2</sup>	7	14	3.3	8.9
	Episode Range <sup>1</sup>	9.1 - 87	14.5 - 83	4.4 - 11	5.2 - 55	1.2 - 12	3.6 - 15
	Bkgnd <sup>3</sup>	9.6	14	4.7	4.8	1	3.2
	Bkgnd Range	7,8 - 12	13 - 14	4.2 - 5.0	4.7 - 5.1	0.8 - 1.1	2.5 - 4.3

**PM2.5,  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$**

**\* Summer ~20      mean ~60**

**Fall ~14              ~34**

**• Summer more sulfate**

**Fall comparable OM**

**more EC, nitrate**

<sup>1</sup>Average concentration during period of elevation

<sup>2</sup>Highest midnight to midnight (24-hr) average during episode

<sup>3</sup>Average before and after episode

<sup>4</sup>Estimated, see text.

### Table 3. Relative Composition of PM2.5

Episode	Interval <sup>1</sup>	Constituent, %			
		(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2</sup>	OM <sup>2</sup>	EC	NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2</sup>
A	Episode Avg.	65	29	2.3	3.3
	Episode Range	54 - 78	20 - 34	1.0 - 5.3	1.1 - 9.9
	Bkgnd	37	51	4.7	1.4
	Bkgnd Range	30 - 43	32 - 59	2.6 - 8.5	1.3 - 1.5
B	Episode Avg.	13	81	3	3.2
	Episode Range	3.8 - 30	65 - 92	1.4 - 6.2	1.2 - 9.0
	Bkgnd	25	70	2.8	1.5
	Bkgnd Range	15 - 36	60 - 81	2.6 - 3.0	1.2 - 1.7
C	Episode Avg.	71	25	2.1	2.3
	Episode Range	46 - 79	19 - 50	1.1 - 6.3	1.0 - 6.1
	Bkgnd	42	48	4.9	6.1
	Bkgnd Range	19 - 67	25 - 64	1.9 - 18	1.7 - 19

<sup>1</sup>Averages reflect periods when concentrations were elevated. Background values represents compositions before and after the episodoe.

<sup>2</sup>Estimated; see text.

**Table 3, continued.**

Episode	Interval <sup>1</sup>	Constituent, %			
		(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2</sup>	OM <sup>2</sup>	EC	NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2</sup>
D	Episode Avg.	49	42	3.8	4.5
	Episode Range	22 - 71	26 - 62	1.6 - 9.3	1.1 - 16
	Bkgnd	34	56	5.6	5
	Bkgnd Range	24 - 42	50 - 62	5.0 - 6.5	3.0 - 8.2
E	Episode Avg.	62	27	6	5.4
	Episode Range	47 - 77	19 - 34	2.9 - 11	1.4 - 13
	Bkgnd	44	44	6.4	5.2
	Bkgnd Range	30 - 55	38 - 51	3.7 - 11	2.2 - 12
F	Episode Avg.	22	41	9.6	27
	Episode Range	12 - 31	27 - 65	4.2 - 17	7.8 - 42
	Bkgnd	34	35	6.9	23
	Bkgnd Range	29 - 37	34 - 37	6.6 - 7.6	20 - 30

<sup>1</sup>Averages reflect periods when concentrations were elevated. Background values represents compositions before and after the episode.

<sup>2</sup>Estimated; see text.

# **PM Episode A**

## **June 24-26, 2002**

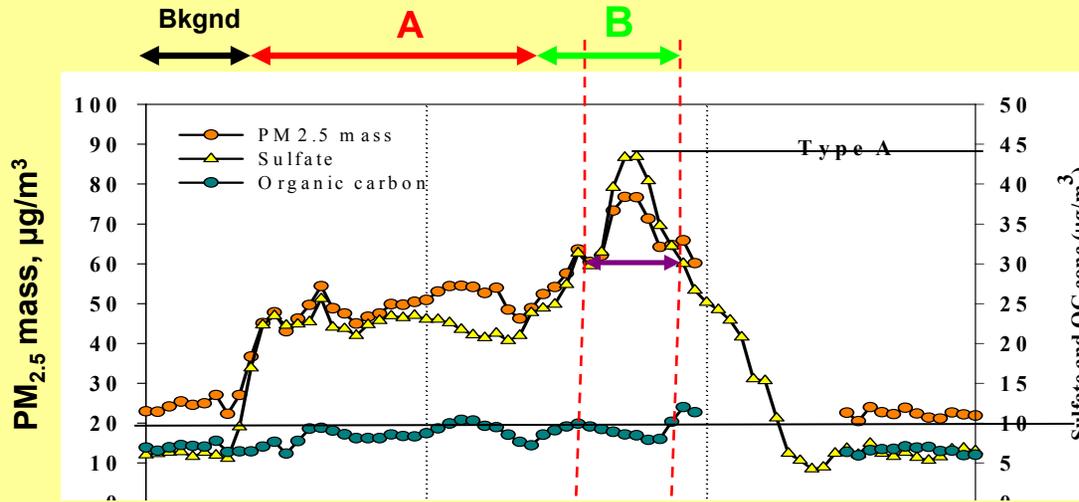
Summer Haze Episode, dominated by Sulfate,OM  
Influence of Local sources evident



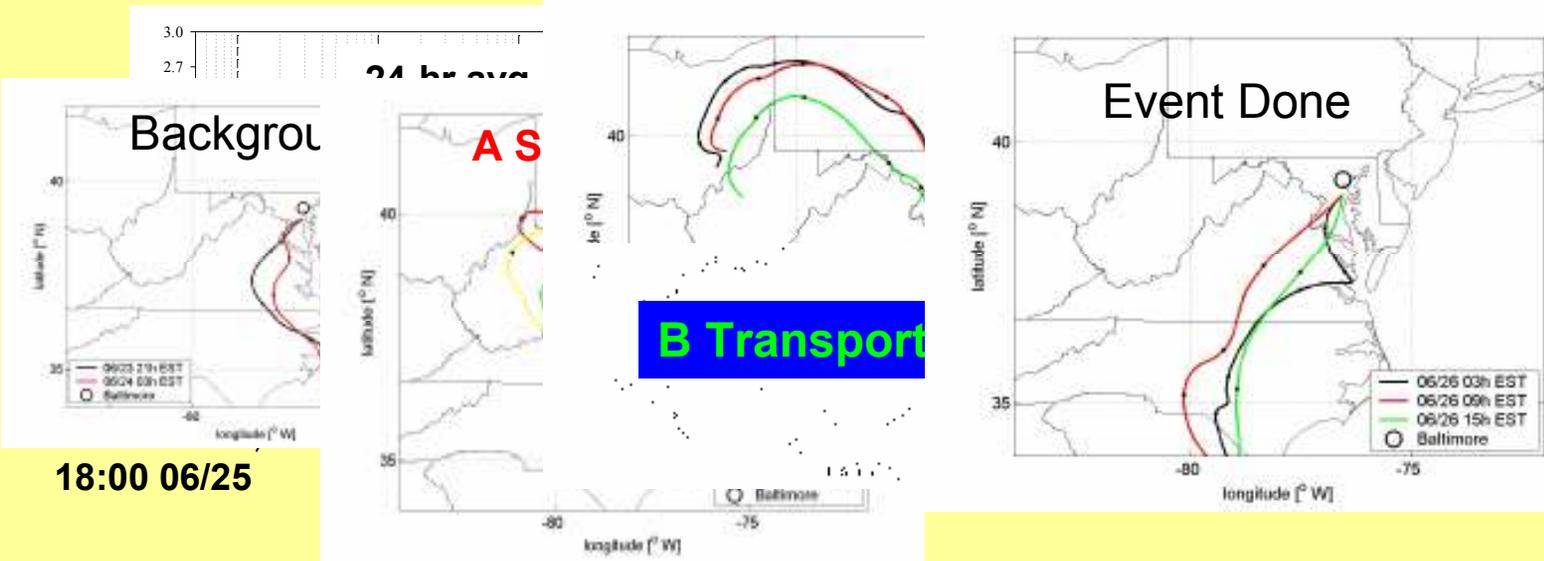
# Episode A: June 24-25: Sulfate Haze Event

Worst Episode in 9.5 month study (except Canadian Smoke)

Aged Local, regional, fresh local components



Local power plants  
 $44 - 31 = 13 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$   
 Inter-regional transport  
 $31 - 6 = 25 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$   
 Aged Local,  
 $24 - 6 = 18 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$   
 Bkgnd,  $6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



or local  
 to  $170^\circ$   
 $\approx 2 \text{ km}$   
 or plant 15  
 raise sulfate  
 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

# Some important points

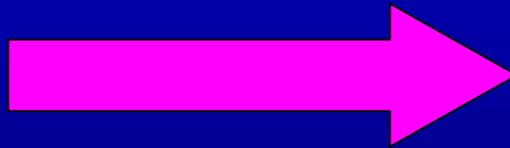
- Arguably, sources in the local region contributed substantial amounts of sulfate on day 1
- Arrival of polluted air mass increases sulfate 7x relative to background on day 2
- OC increase only 1.5x over background, to 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .

Whereas for Episode F, local (traffic) induces 3x increase in OC!

# **Influence of Traffic**

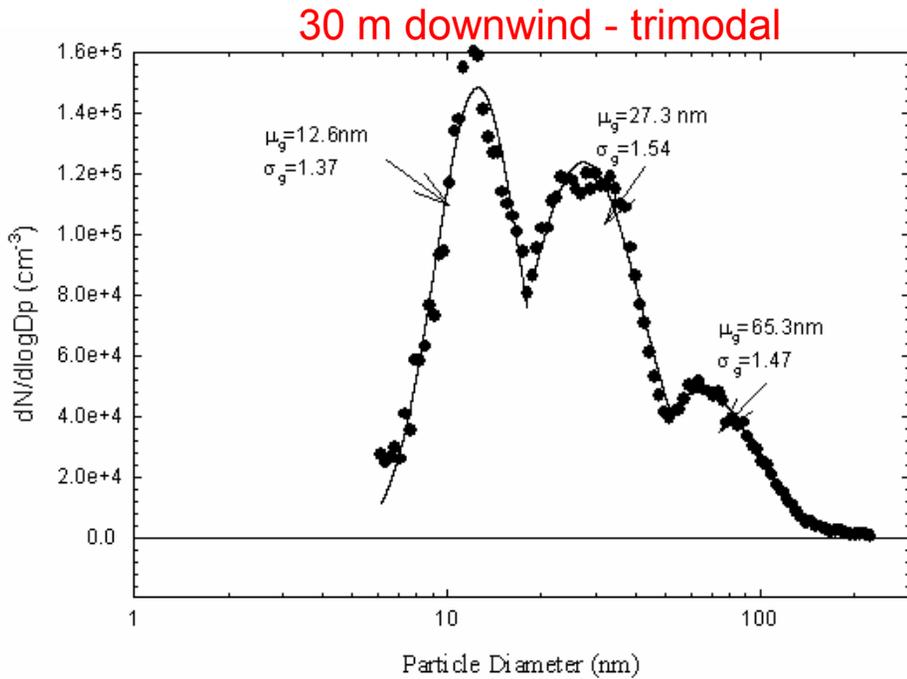
**revealed by  
characteristic size spectra, diurnal profiles  
show**

**EC, OC, Nitrate from traffic emissions heavily influence  
PM2.5 in cool, moist, low-mixing height periods  
i.e., Fall, Winter, Night time**



# LA: Size Distributions for motor vehicle traffic

## 3 narrow modes in ultrafine size range

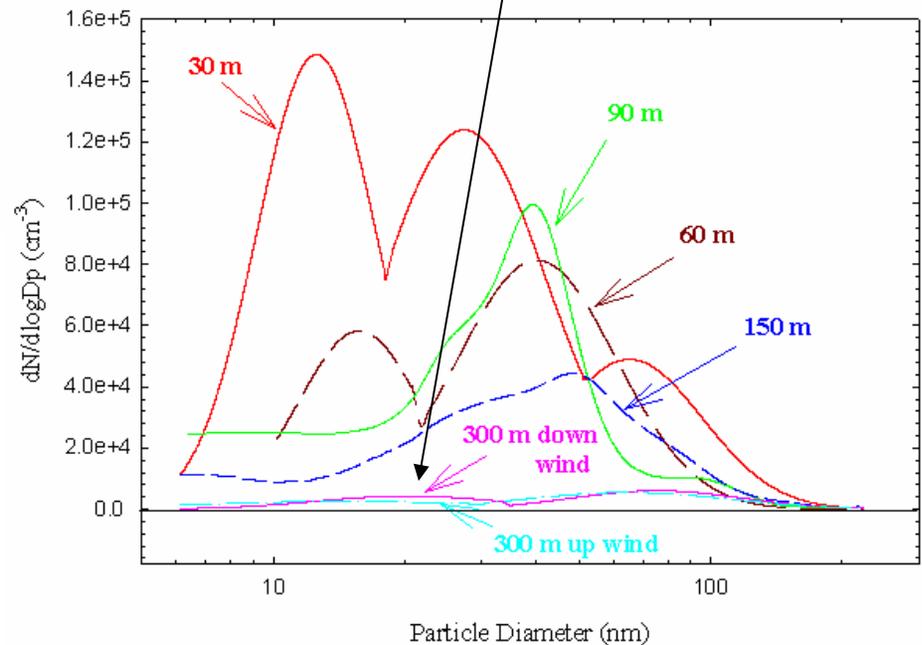


Fresh automobile aerosol Peaks

Modal diameter changes with distance due to evaporation/condensation of volatiles

Size distribution indistinguishable from upwind at 300 m downwind

Evolution w/distance

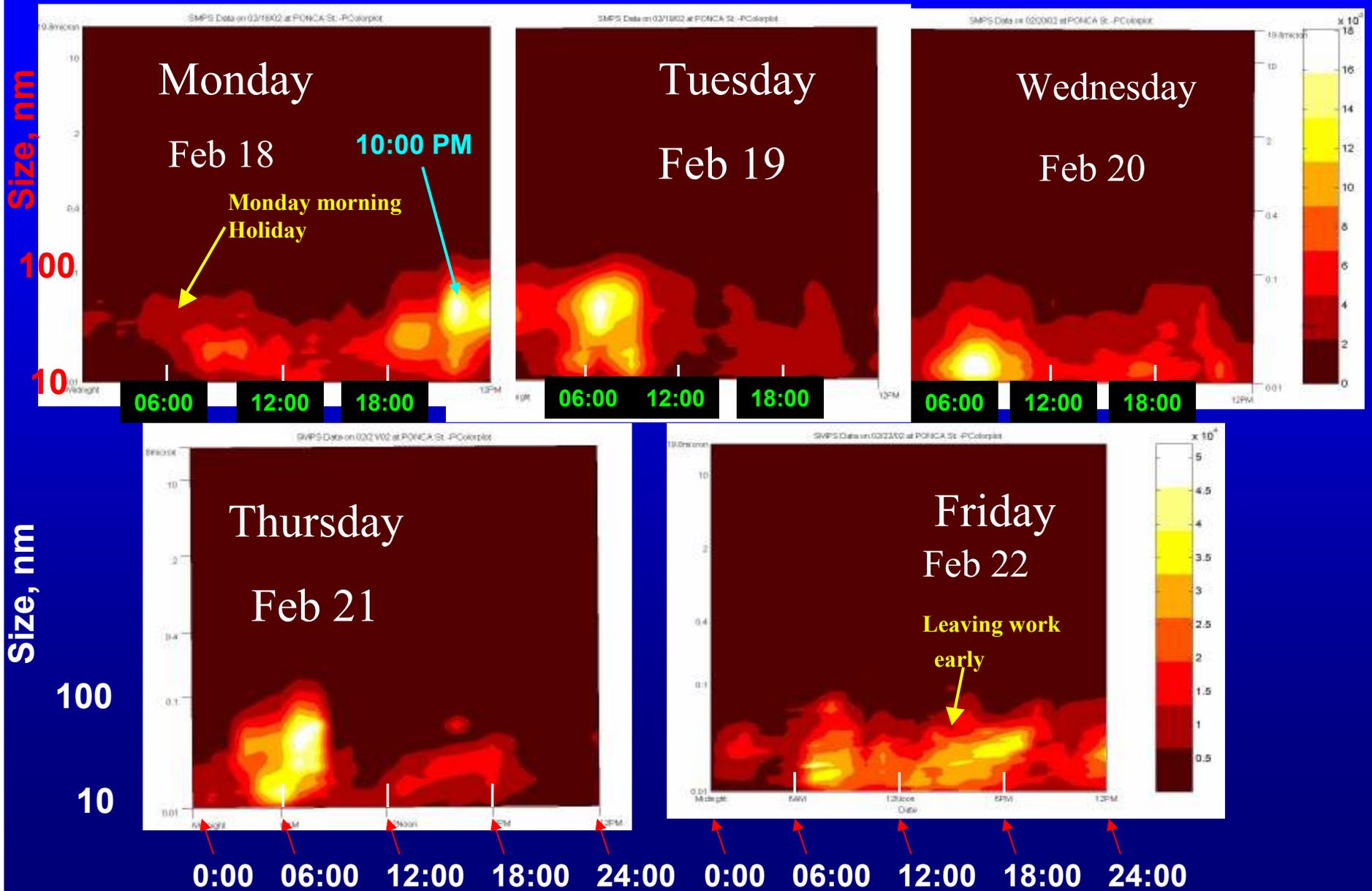


Source: LA Supersite/PM center, Sioutas

# Baltimore: Ultrafine particles indicate traffic in AM

Any day, most any wind direction!

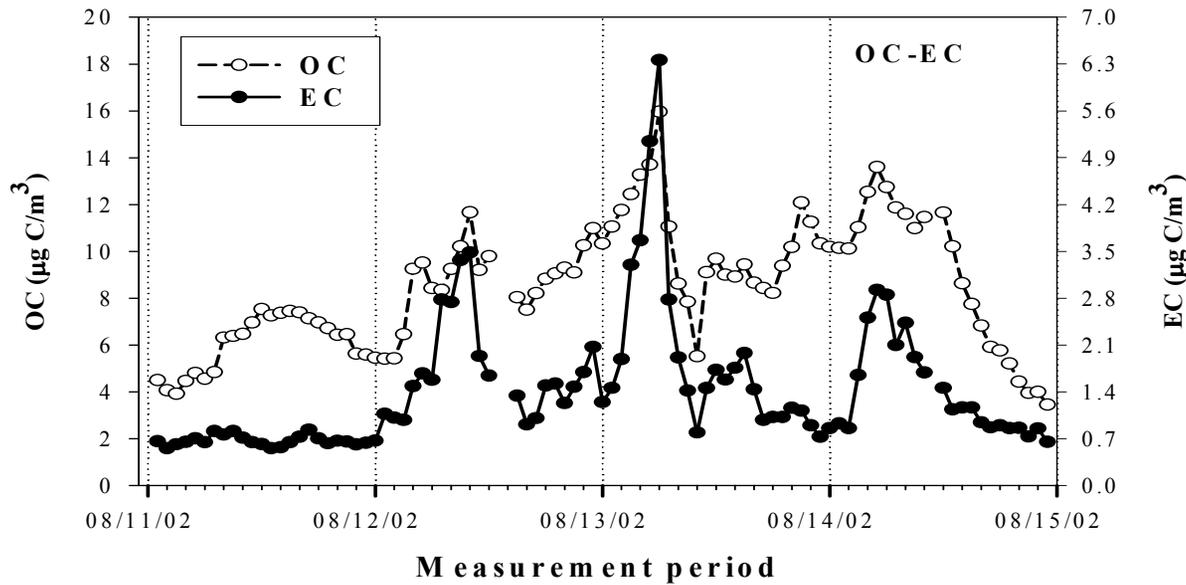
Less pronounced in afternoon, longer rush hour, greater mixing height and wind speeds



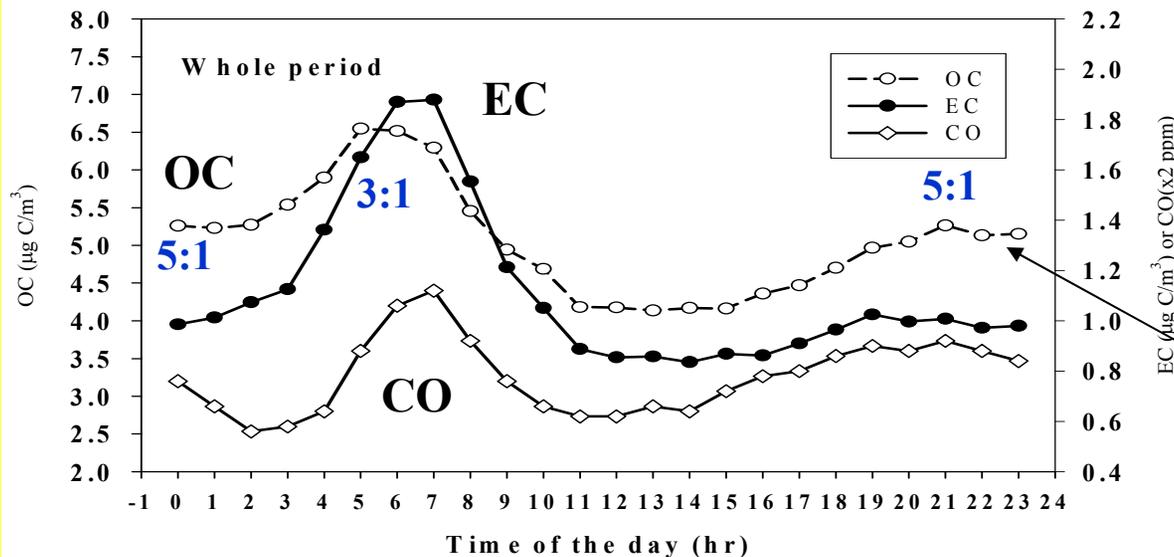


# Baltimore Ponca St: EC – Strong Diurnal Cycles

*Peaks correspond to morning Traffic*



Even in August



Average daily profile  
(9.5 months)

OC:EC ratio increases  
evenings & early AM

Night-time chemistry?



## Nitrate is more complicated

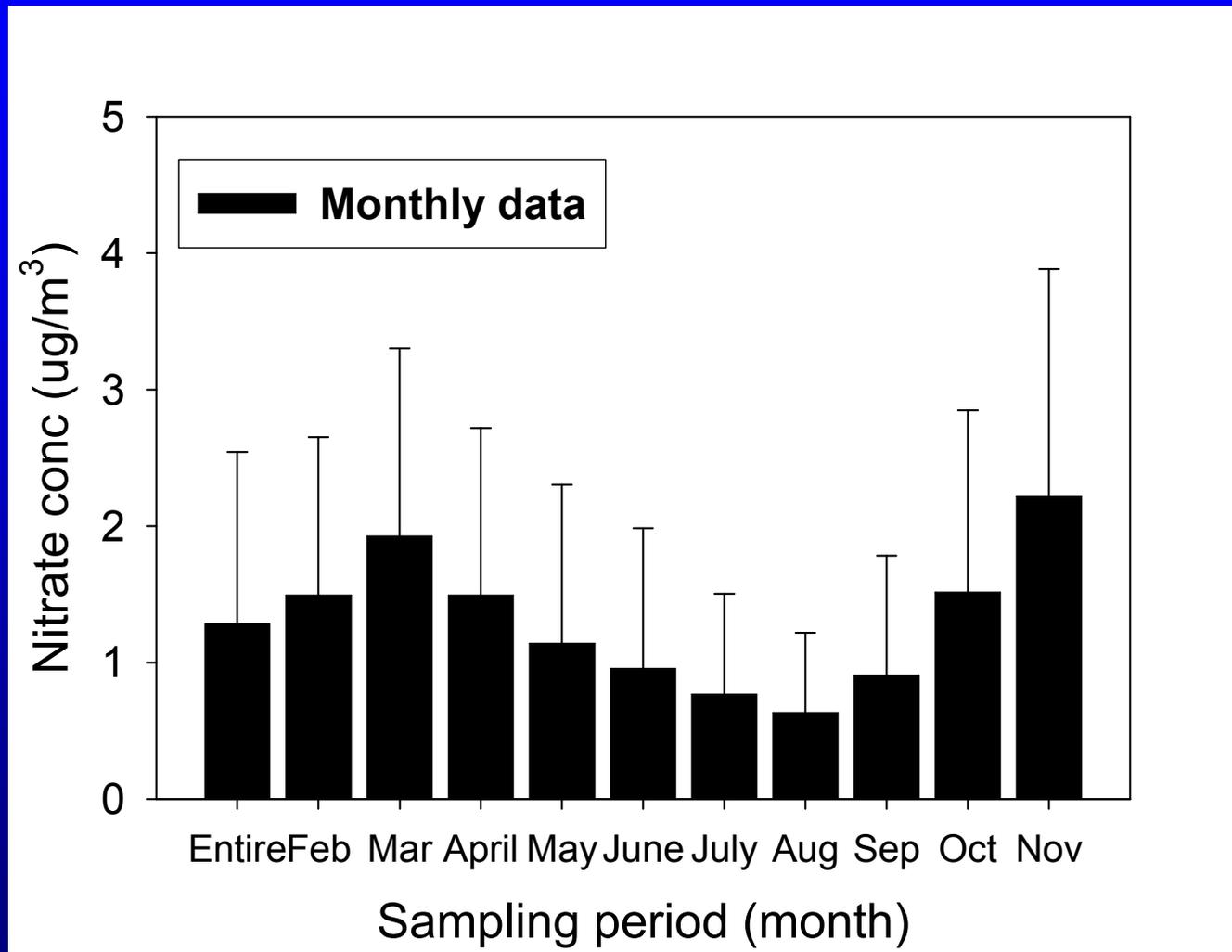
NO<sub>x</sub> converted to nitrate 10x faster than SO<sub>2</sub> to sulfate, therefore local sources much more important for nitrate

NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> dissociation equilibrium favors nitrate at low T, high RH

Night time radical chemistry forms nitric acid from NO<sub>2</sub> when temperatures are typically cooler and RH higher



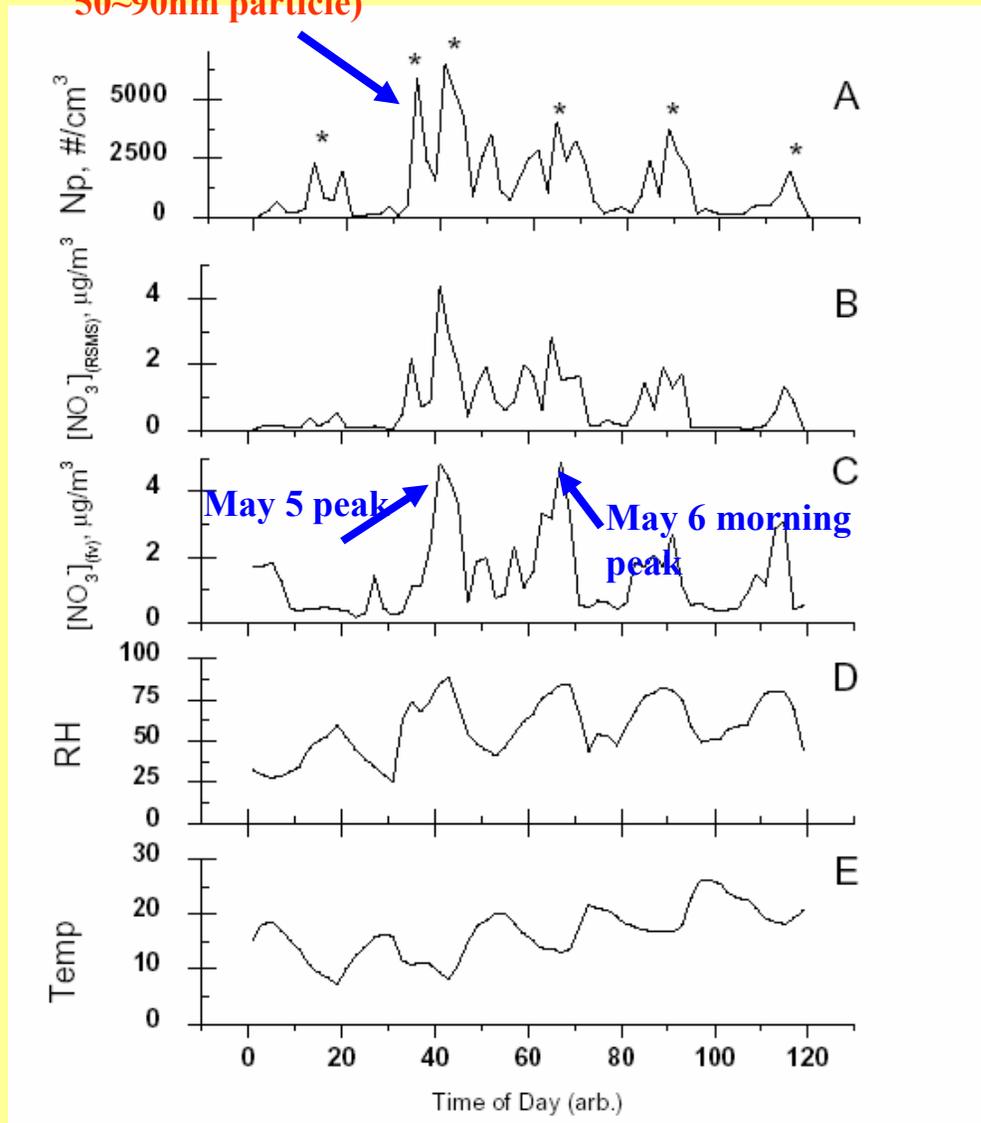
## Monthly trend of Nitrate concentration at Ponca



Lower concentrations in summer when ammonium nitrate more volatile

“Pure” Nitrate particles correlate with PM2.5 Nitrate peaks:  
occur at high RH, low temperatures

#concentration (“pure nitrate”  
50~90nm particle)



RSMSIII

R&P 8400N

**These data suggest  
that much of the  
nitrate is formed by  
nucleation of new  
particles!**

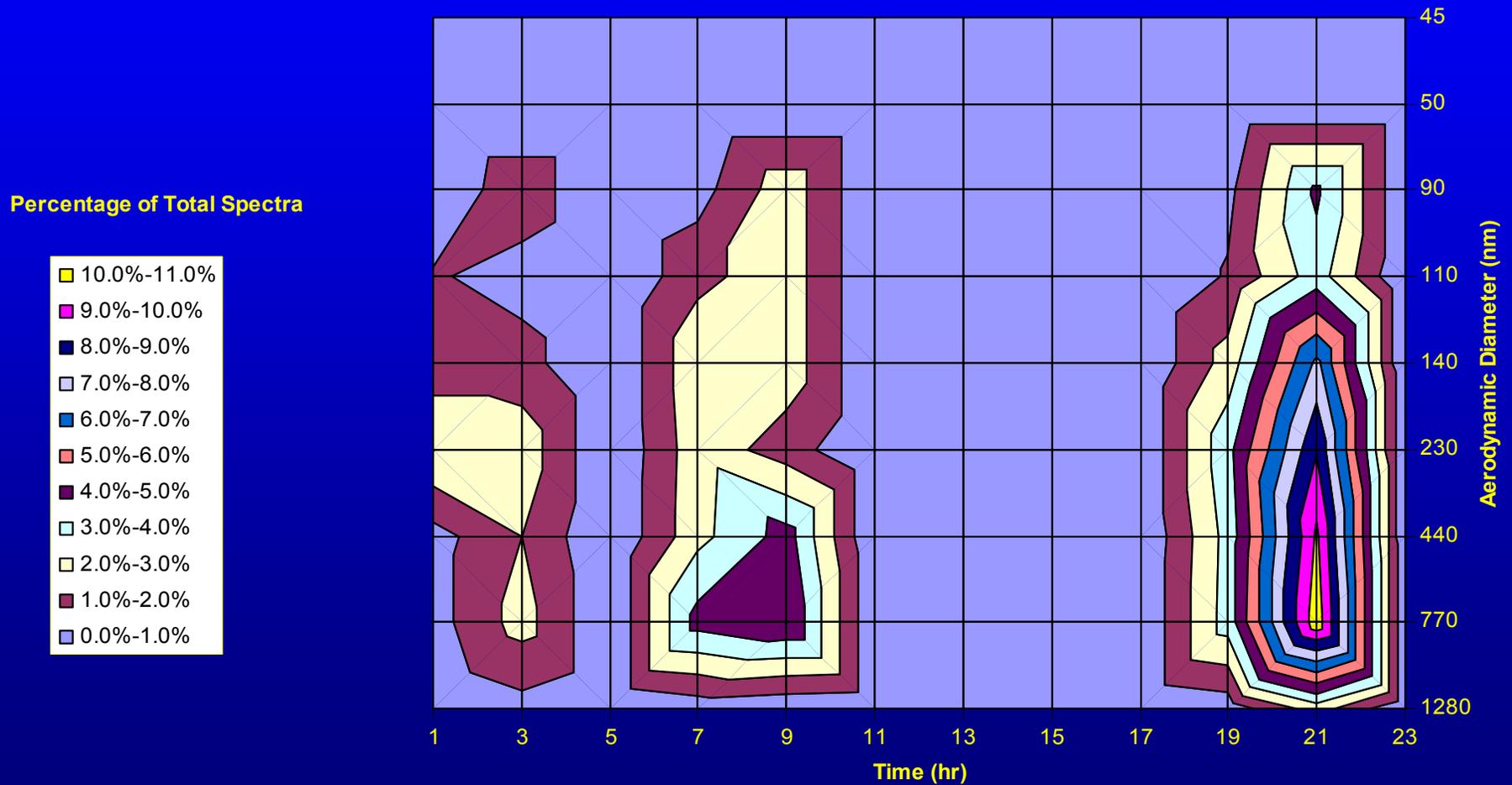
*Tolocka et al., Submitted*

**May 3-8, 2002**

But other times – much forms on “droplet” mode

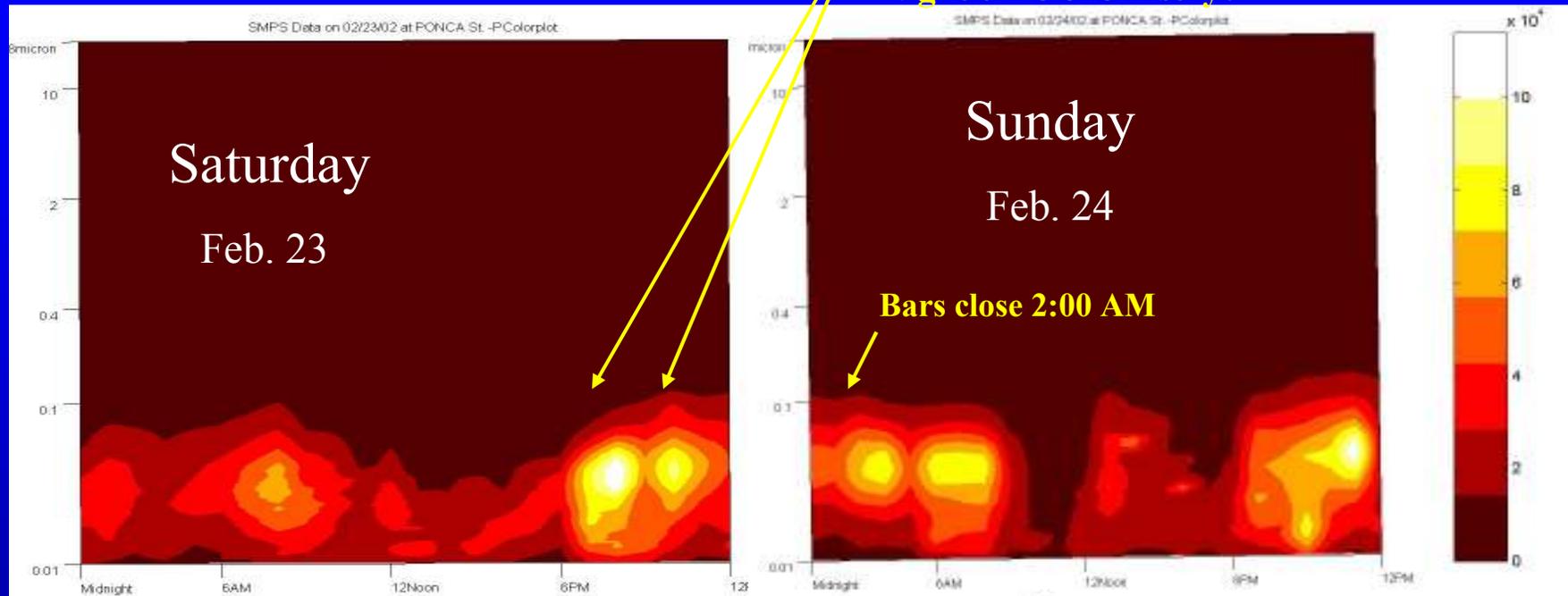
# Fraction of Particles in Nitrate Class vs. Size / Time of Day

Nitrate Class April 16th, 2002



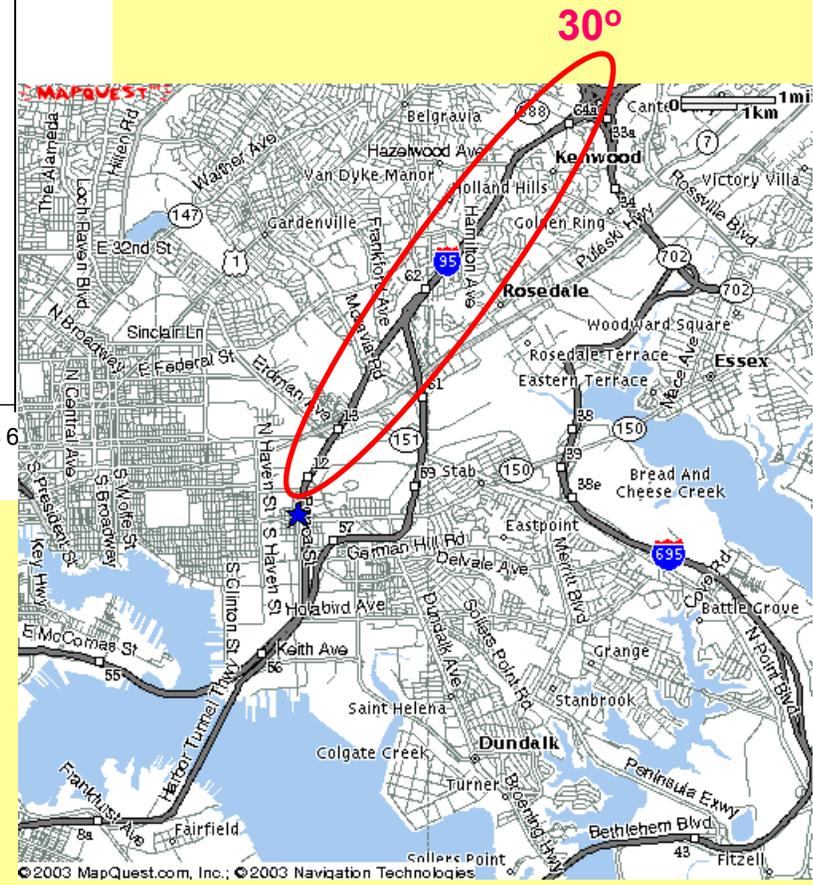
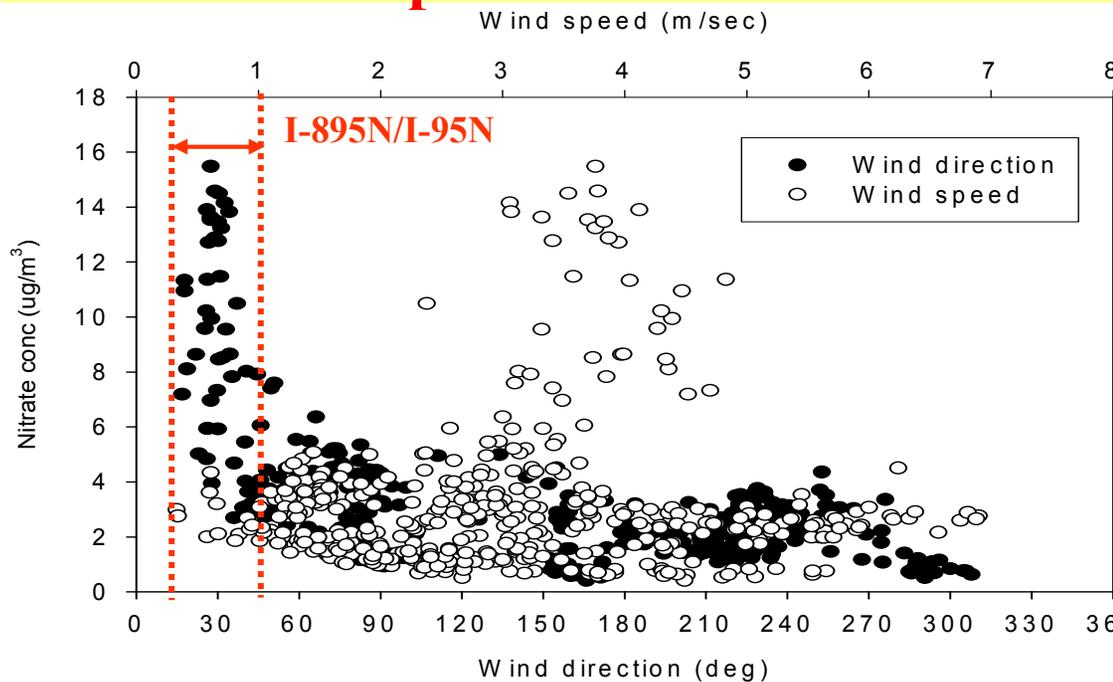
## Weekend patterns

Saturday night  
entertainment traffic or  
Night time chemistry?



# Locally Produced Nitrate concentrations frequently observed at 30° and at wind speeds 0 to 1 m/s

## Example: March 23 – 25 data



*Park et al., Atmos. Environ. 39:2011, 2005:*

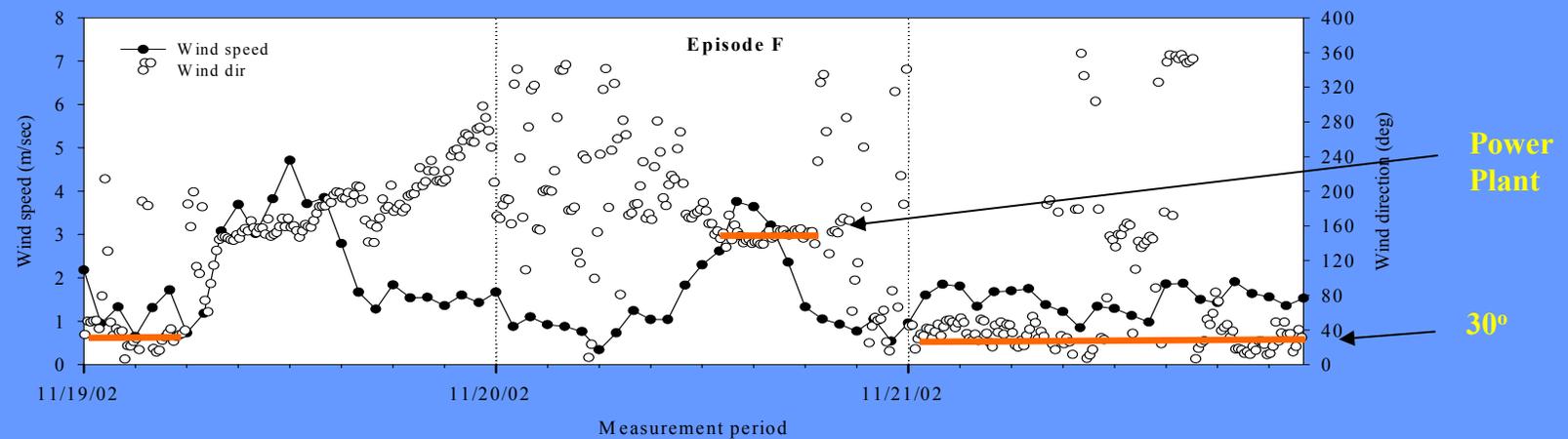
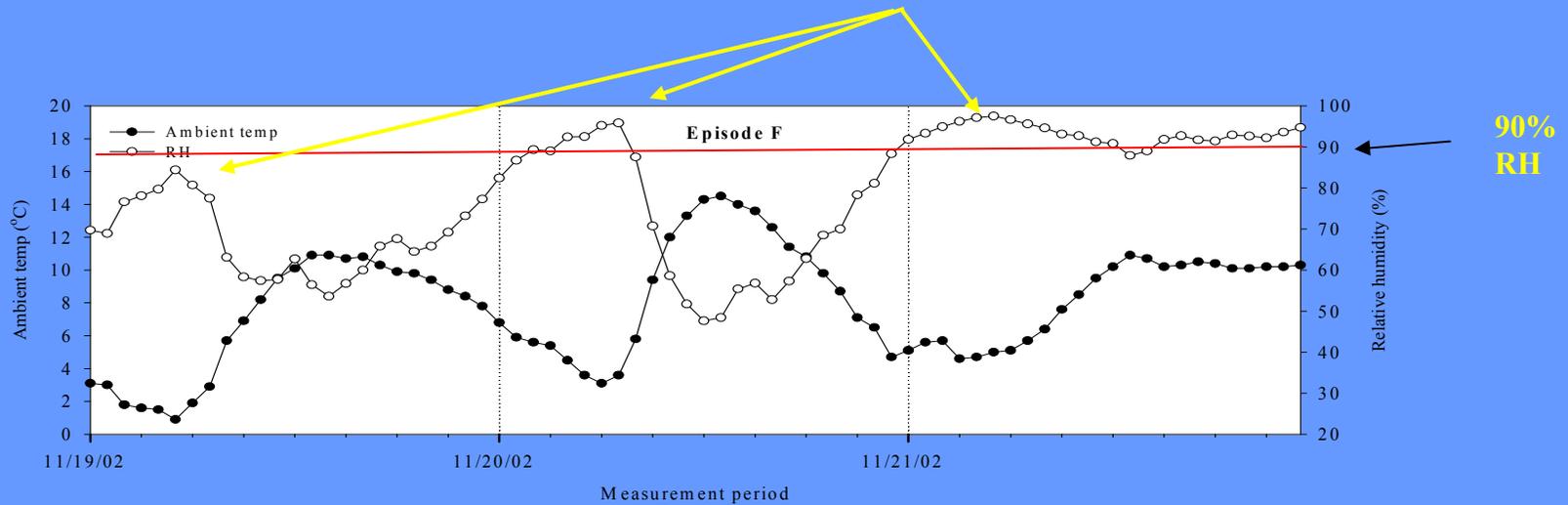
- 32% of Nitrate transients were > 1  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- 64% w high/NO<sub>x</sub> between 5 – 8 AM
- 26% between 10 PM – 2 AM

# Episode F: November 20, 21

Cool Temperatures, Morning RH >90%

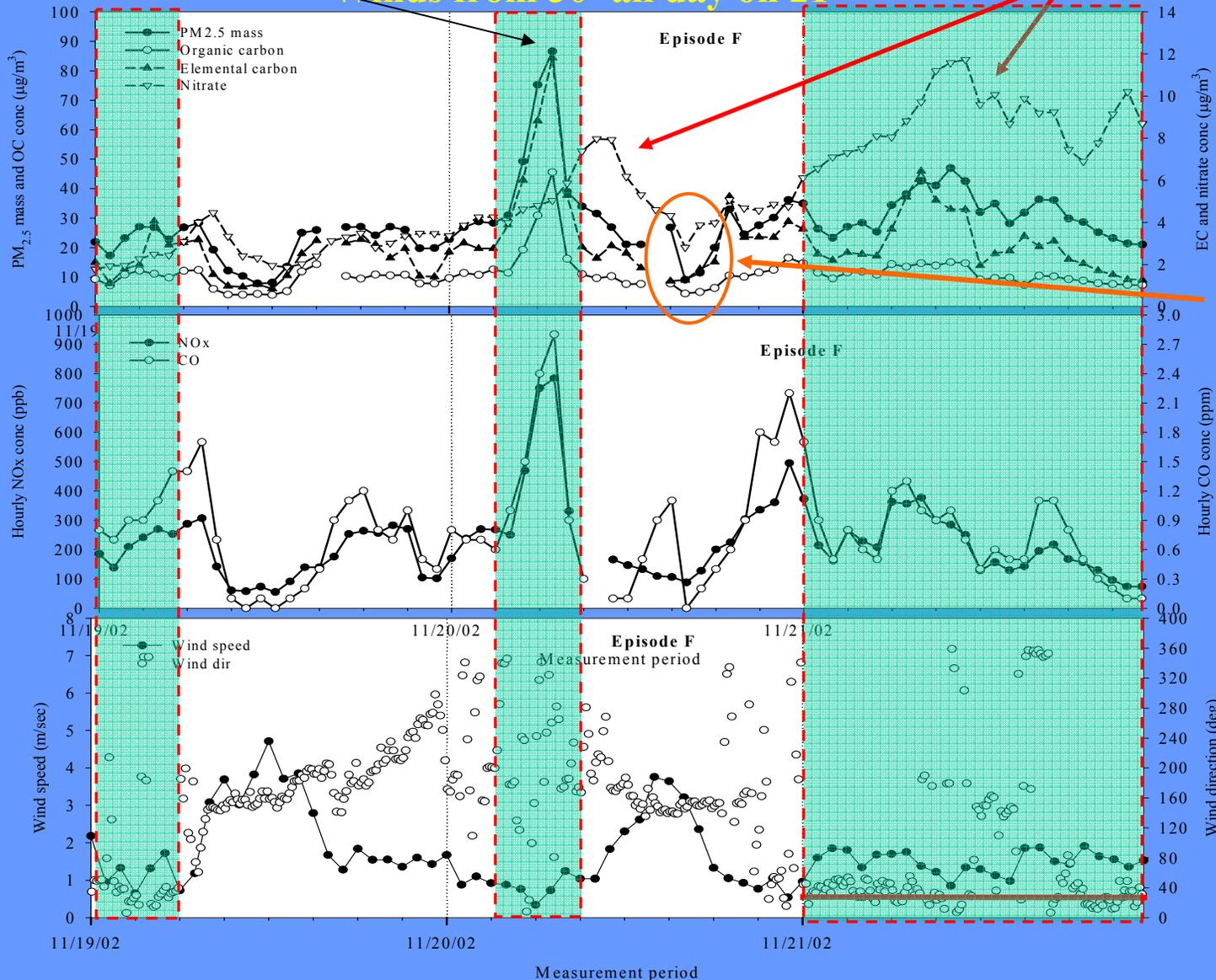
Winds light, variable on 20<sup>th</sup>,

Winds light, 30°, very high RH, on 21<sup>st</sup>



# Episode F: November 20, 21

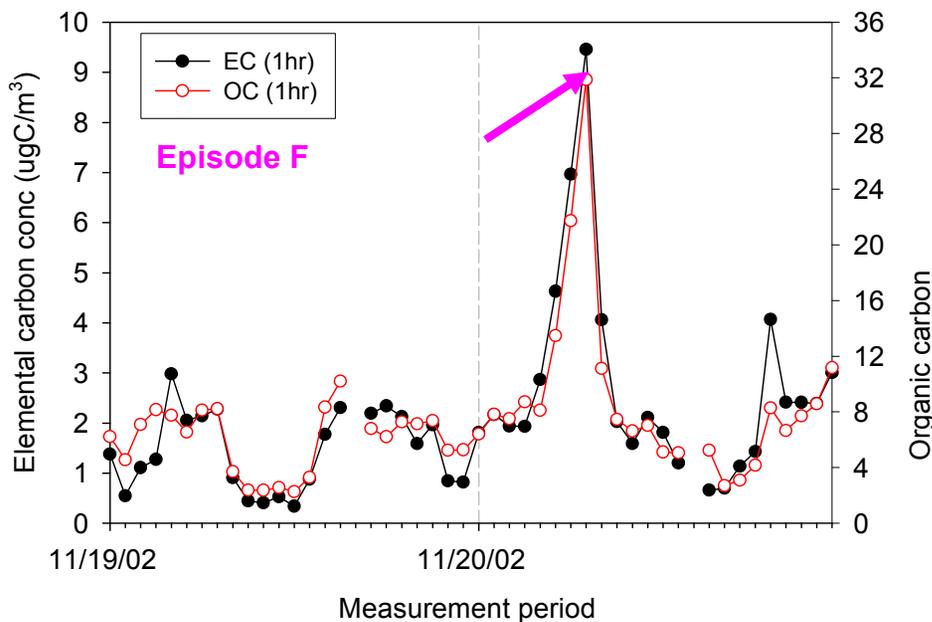
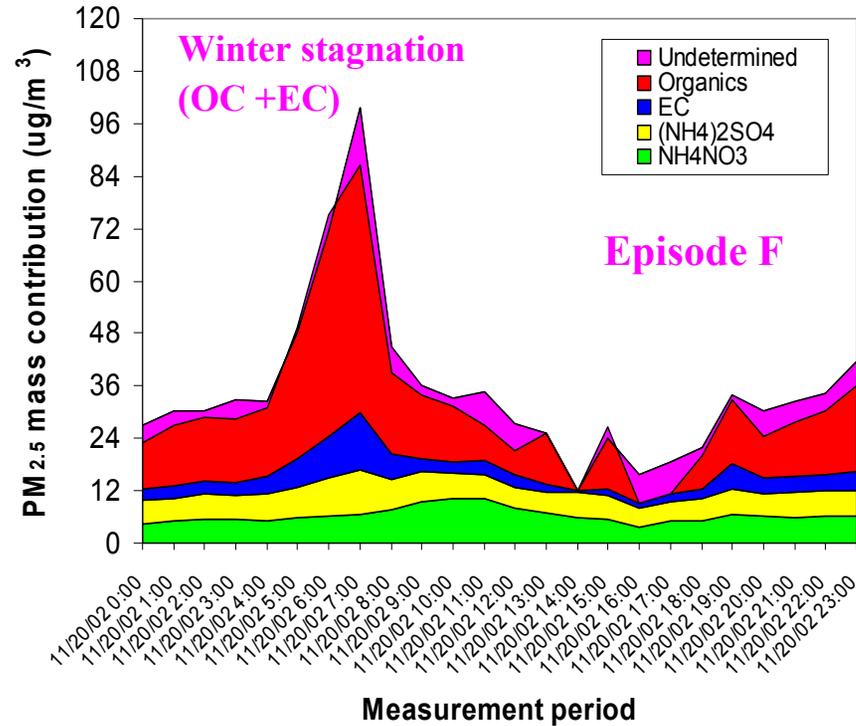
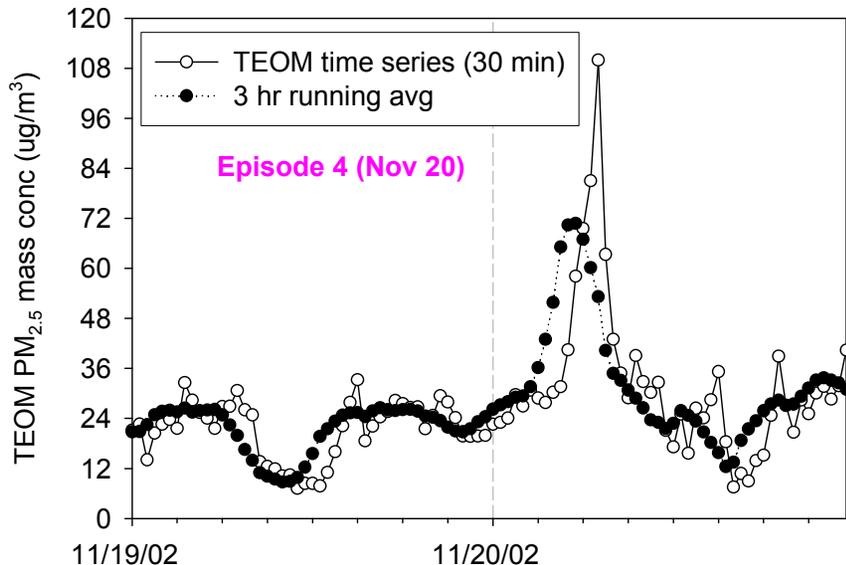
**Highest PM2.5 max** Cool Temperatures, Stagnation, High RH, morning traffic peak;  
Nitrate deposits on wet particles;  
Winds from 30° all day on 21<sup>st</sup>



Nitrate (lags NO<sub>x</sub>)

No obvious power plant influence; mixing hgt too low

# Episode F : well correlated EC, OC, PM2.5 (Local traffic): Max conc



$$\text{TEOM } (\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3) = 7.39 \text{ EC } (\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3) + 13.92 \quad R^2=0.85$$

$$\text{TEOM } (\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3) = 2.57 \text{ OC } (\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3) + 10.53 \quad R^2=0.88$$

# Summary

- 24-hr PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard rarely exceeded during 2002 at Ponca st. – Episode A, max 24-hr PM<sub>2.5</sub> was ~65 ug/m<sup>3</sup>
- 9.5-month 30-min average barely exceeded annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard.
- Episodes occur during periods of stability/stagnation  
Summer episodes caused by stationary fronts; end by break by passage of cold fronts
- Local sources – traffic; So. Baltimore industry; and local regional sources contribute substantially, to EC, OC, Nitrate, especially in fall, winter, spring
- Major summer haze events; dominated by sulfate & OC – worst event after air stagnant over Ohio Valley arrived in Baltimore w/local wind direction from So. Baltimore; but Local So. Baltimore sources contributed ≥5% of PM<sub>2.5</sub> – enough to trip standard
- Urban traffic corridor creates PM “hot spots.”