

Aircraft Engine Particle Emissions during the 2023 NASA-Boeing ecoDemonstrator Field Measurements

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INTRODUCTION

- Aircraft engines emit soot particles and nucleation mode droplets that are responsible for the formation of contrail cirrus clouds.
- In October 2023, NASA collaborated with Boeing **ecoDemonstrator** program conducting a contrail research campaign to study the **impact of different jet fuel compositions on aircraft particle emissions and contrail properties.**



METHODS

- The NASA DC-8 aircraft was used to sample Boeing ecoDemonstrator Explorer 737-10 **engine exhausts** which alternatively burned: 1) **100% HEFA SPK Paraffinic Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)**, 2) **Low sulfur Jet-A**, and 3) **Conventional Jet-A.**



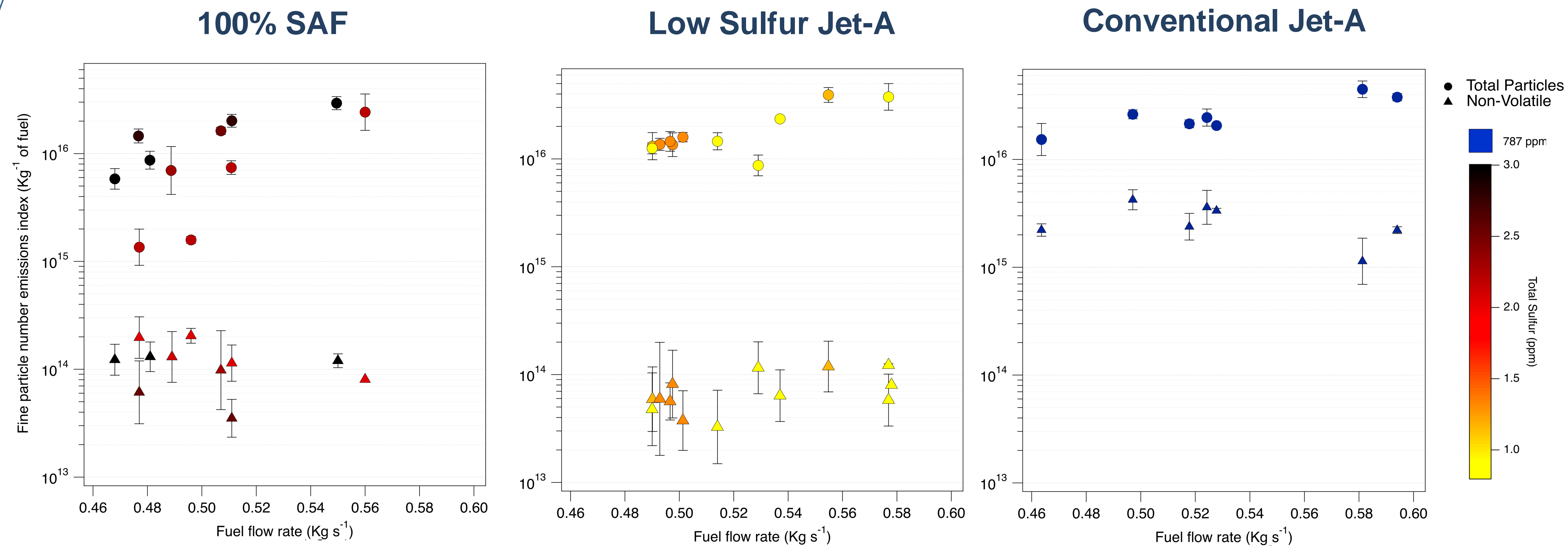
- Here, we use in situ aerosol and CO₂ measurements collected during 11 research flights to quantify how **changes in fuel chemistry impact particle emission index, particle size distribution, and volatile fraction.**

RESULTS & CONCLUSIONS

Clear impact of fuel chemistry on:

- Emission Indices:** Non-volatile particles EI for 100% SAF ~25 times lower than for conventional Jet-A
- Size Distribution:** **total particle** → mode < 10 nm for SAF vs > 10 nm for conventional Jet-A **non-volatile particle** → minor contribution and mode > 10nm for SAF vs enhanced emission of particles with $D_p \sim 6\text{nm}$ for non conventional Jet-A

TOTAL and NON-VOLATILE PARTICLE EMISSION INDICES



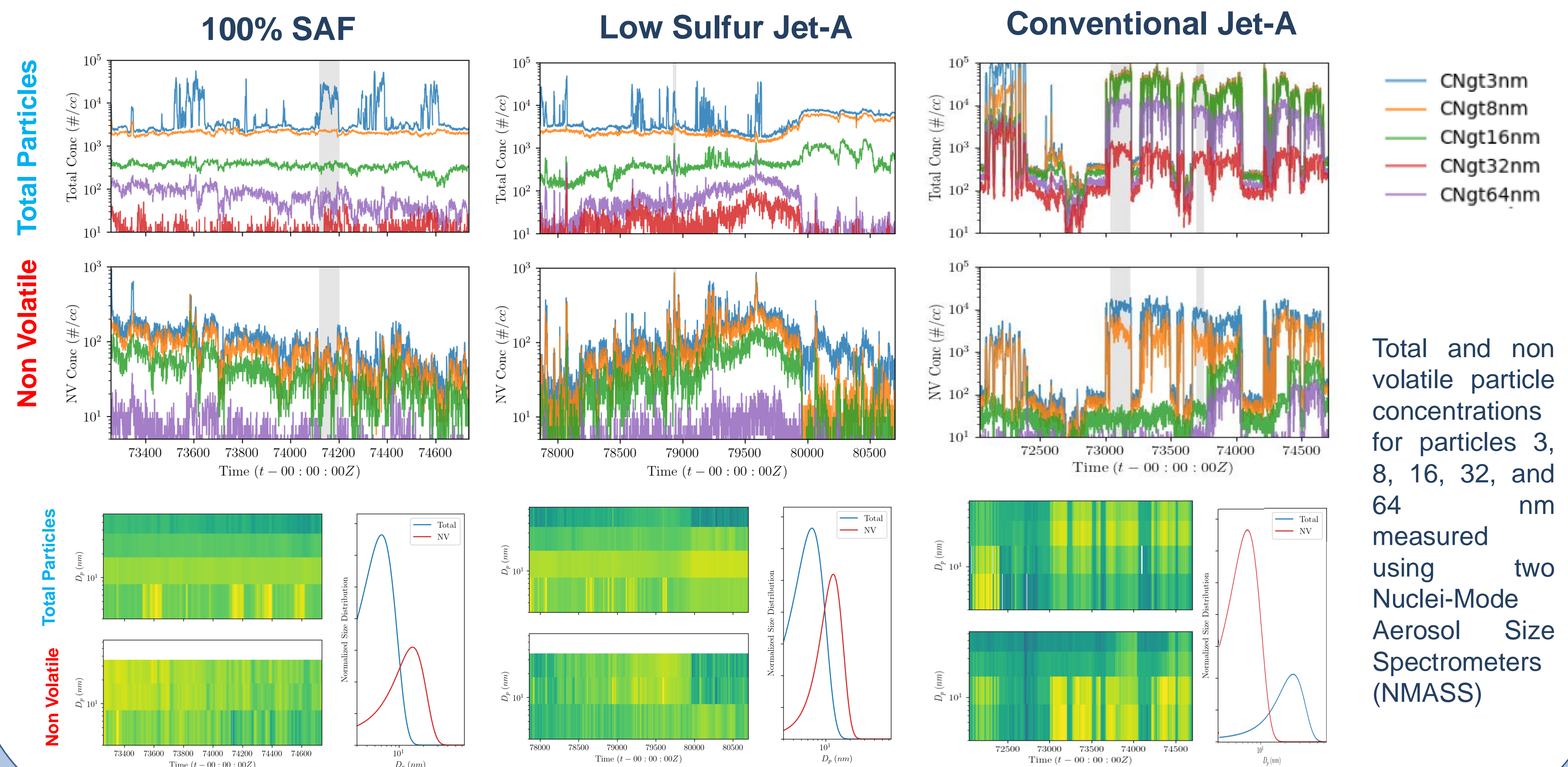
Fine particle emission index calculated article emissions indexes are calculated following Moore et al., 2013: $EI_X = \frac{\Delta X \cdot V_m}{\Delta CO_2 \cdot M_{CO_2}} (EI_{CO_2})$

where, SAF $EI_{CO_2} = 3107 \text{ gCO}_2 \text{ kg-fuel}^{-1}$

Low Sulfur Jet-A $EI_{CO_2} = 3175 \text{ gCO}_2 \text{ kg-fuel}^{-1}$

Conventional Jet-A $EI_{CO_2} = 3162 \text{ gCO}_2 \text{ kg-fuel}^{-1}$

TOTAL AND NON-VOLATILE PARTICLE SIZES



Total and non volatile particle concentrations for particles 3, 8, 16, 32, and 64 nm measured using two Nuclei-Mode Aerosol Size Spectrometers (NMASS)