

# Mobile Observations of Ultrafine Particles (MOV-UP)

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# Study Objectives

- Study the implications of air traffic at Sea-Tac
- Assess the concentrations of ultrafine particulate matter (UFP) in areas surrounding and directly impacted by air traffic
- Distinguish between and compare concentrations of aircraft-related and other sources of UFP
- Coordinate with local governments, and share results and solicit feedback from community

# Community Engagement



Funding for the MOV-UP study was provided to the University of Washington by a proviso in the state budget.



Study Advisory Group

\*3 meetings to date



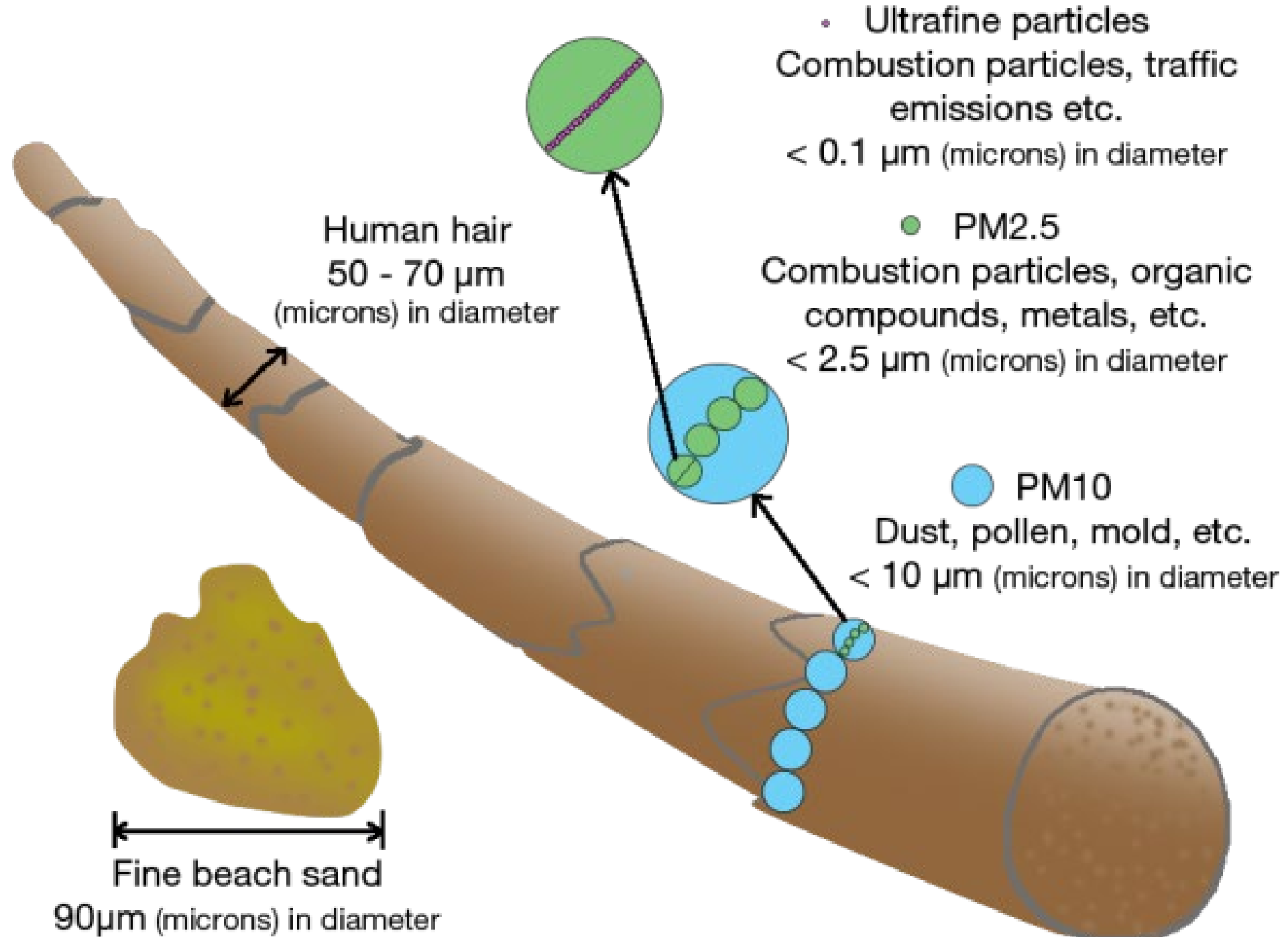
Ongoing communication with community

\*6 meetings to date

e.g., Highline Forum, Federal Way City Council, Seattle/King Board of Health, Airport Impacts Meeting



Media Coverage



Human hair  
50 - 70  $\mu\text{m}$   
(microns) in diameter

Fine beach sand  
90  $\mu\text{m}$  (microns) in diameter

• Ultrafine particles  
Combustion particles, traffic  
emissions etc.  
< 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  (microns) in diameter

● PM2.5  
Combustion particles, organic  
compounds, metals, etc.  
< 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  (microns) in diameter

● PM10  
Dust, pollen, mold, etc.  
< 10  $\mu\text{m}$  (microns) in diameter

# Important characteristic of Ultrafine Particles

- They have a large amount of surface area, relative to their size.
- They are small enough to enter the bloodstream, cross the placenta, and cross the blood-brain barrier.
- Because they are small, they have very little mass.
- Typically, they are measured differently than  $PM_{2.5}$ , which includes larger particles, and therefore has appreciable mass that can be weighed.

# Ultrafine Particles (UFPs)

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Ultrafine Particles unregulated but potentially important

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Health Effects more uncertain compared to PM<sub>2.5</sub>, but a growing body of evidence

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Diesel Engines emit ultrafine particles resulting in elevated levels near major roadways (within 200 meters downwind)

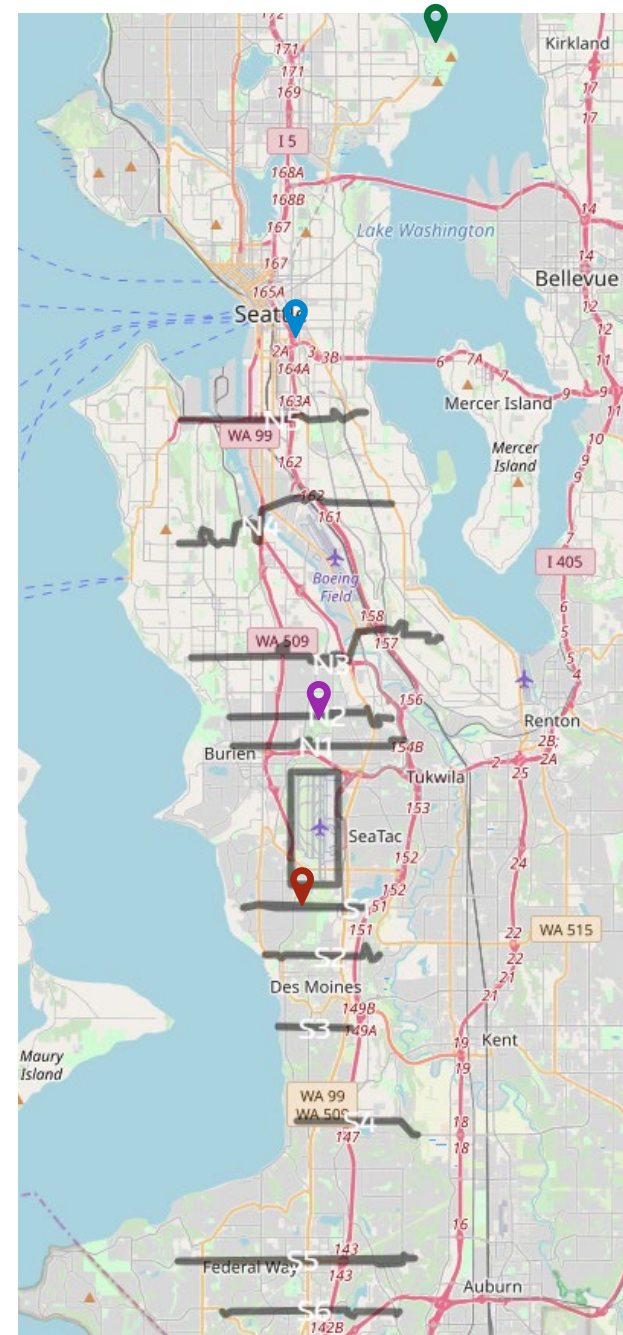
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Jet aircraft directly emit “ultra” ultrafine particles (< 30 nanometers)

# Study Region: Mobile Transects and Fixed Monitoring Site Locations

## Fixed Sites

-  SeaTac Community Center
-  Maywood School Building
-  Near Roadway Site
-  Background



# Mobile Monitoring Platform

Parameter	Instrument
<b><i>Mobile and Fixed sampling:</i></b>	
Particle number concentration (35 nm – 1 μm)	P-Trak 8525, w/ diffusion screens
Particle number concentration (20 nm – 1 μm)	P-Trak 8525
Particle number concentration (10 nm – 1 μm)	Condensation Particle Counter 3007
Black Carbon PM	Micro-Aethalometer AE51
CO2	LI-850 Gas Analyzer
Temperature & Humidity	Hobo T, RH datalogger
Position & Time tracking	GPS Receiver DG-500
<b><i>Fixed Location sampling:</i></b>	
Particle size distribution, 13 bins	NanoScan 3910



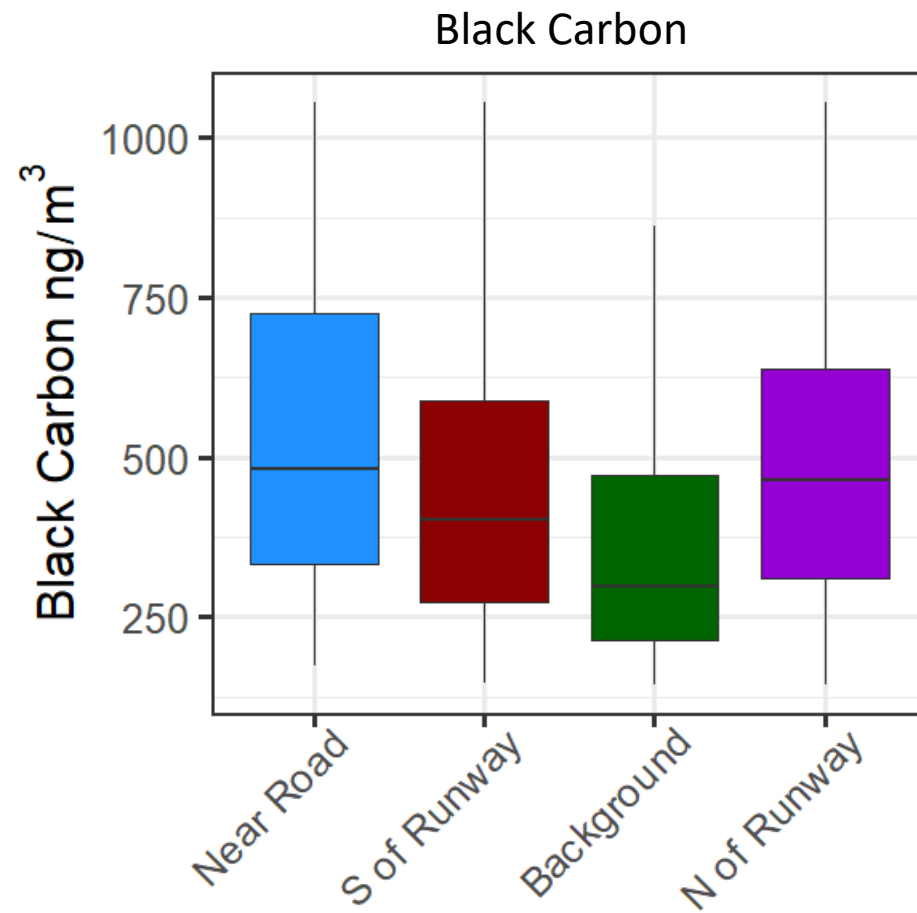
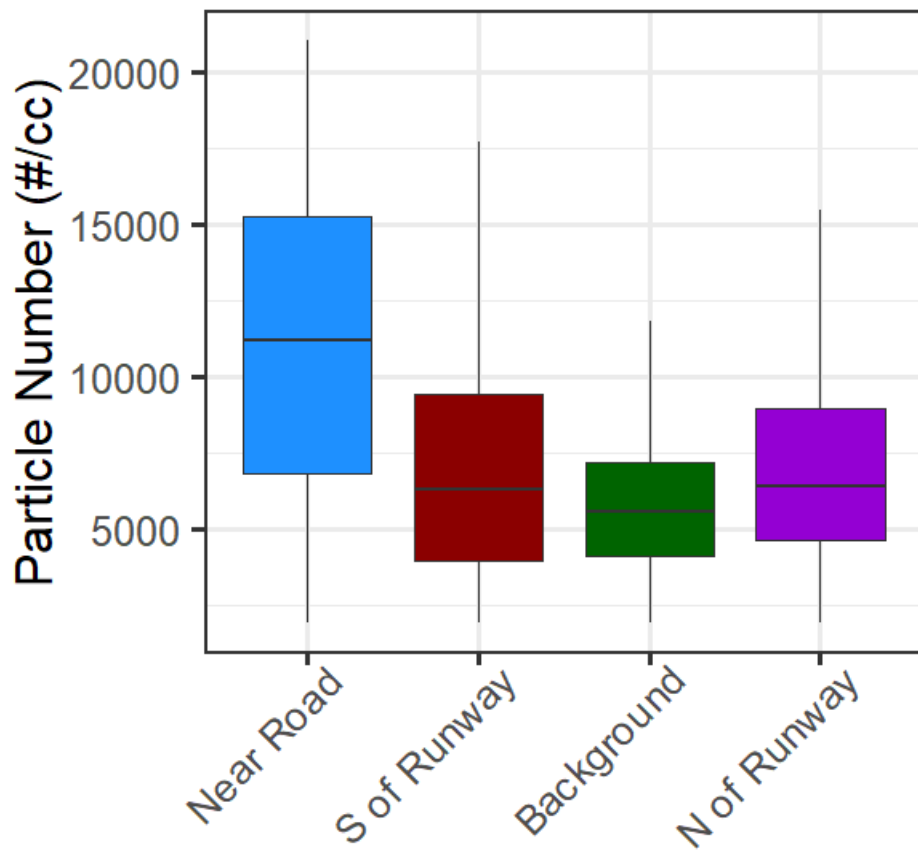
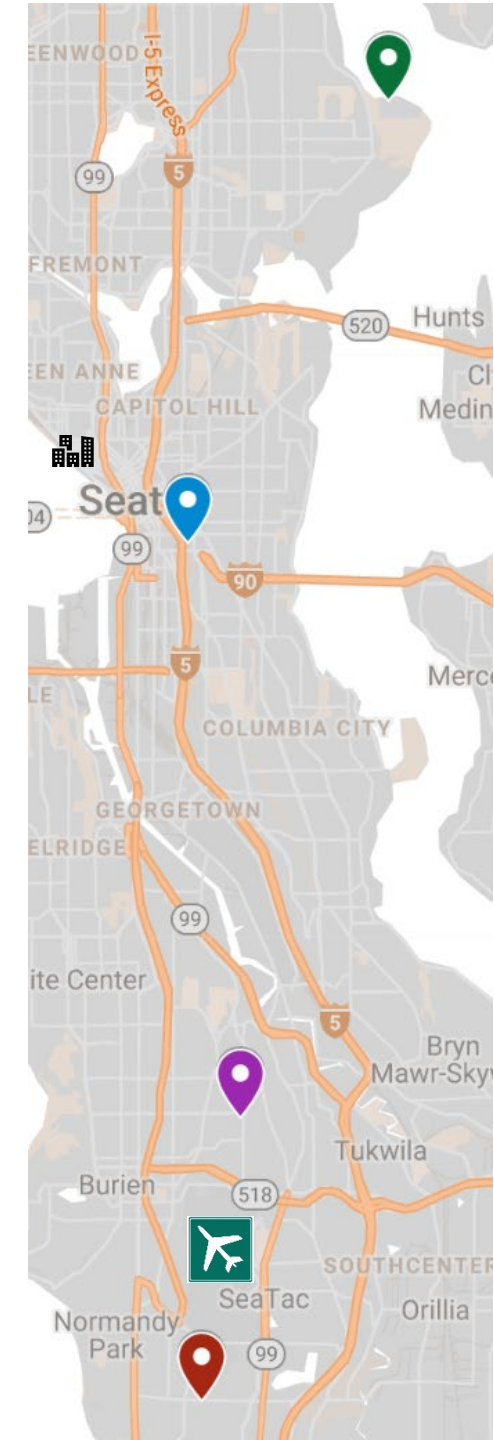


# Fixed Monitoring Results

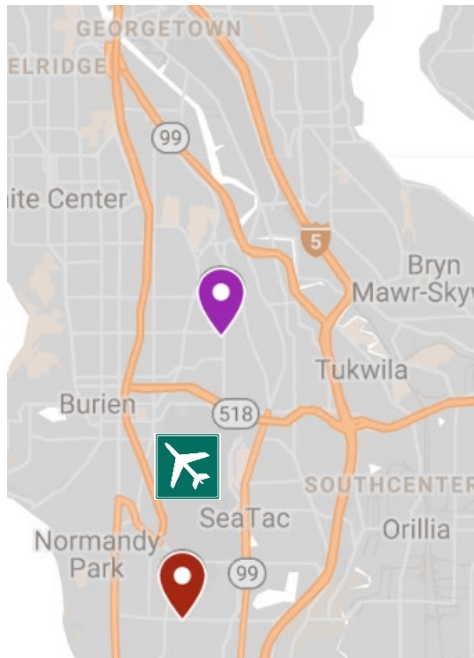
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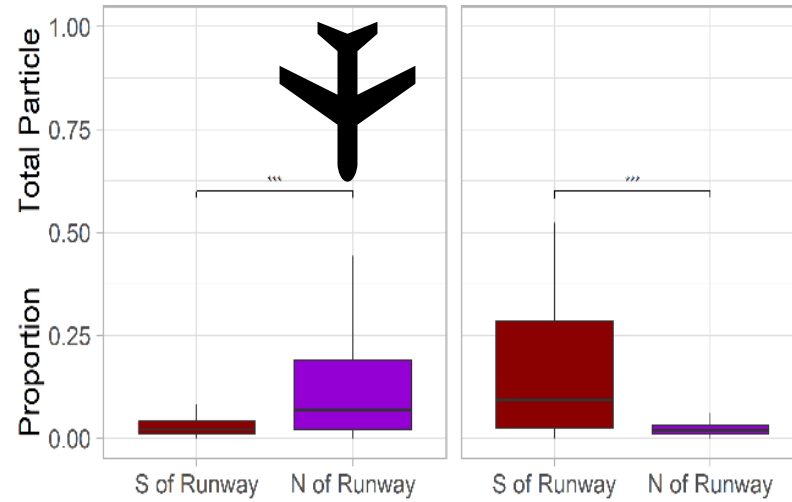
# Fixed Site Monitoring Results



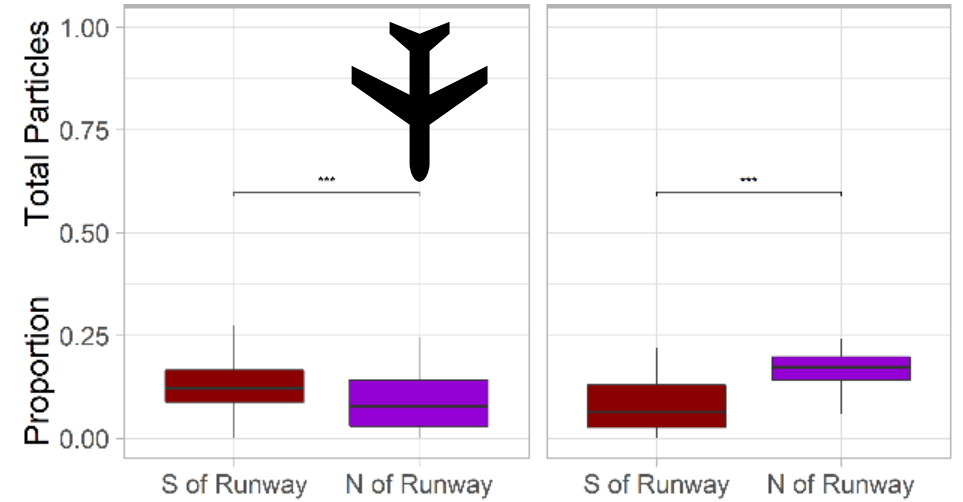
# Smaller Sized Particles Near SeaTac Associated with Jet Landings



11.5 nm particles (% of UF)



65 nm particles (% of UF)



# Mobile Monitoring Results

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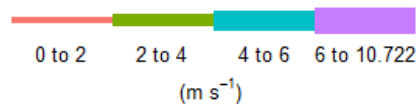
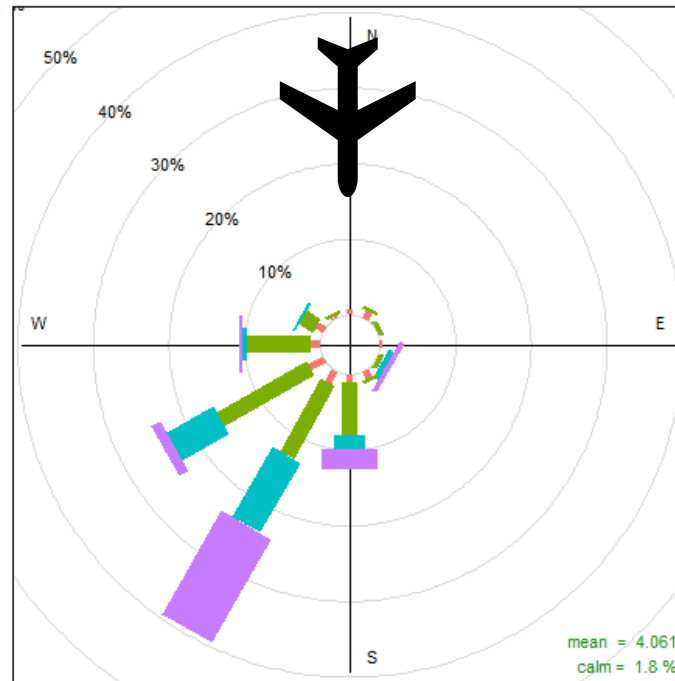
# Mobile Monitoring Results: Monitoring Summary



	Sampling Day	Second Car (%)	Start Hour	End Hour	Temp (F)	RH	South Flow Operation
Winter	21 days	62%	14:00	16:30	51F	62%	59%
Spring	14 days	71%	11:00	16:30	65F	50%	52%
Summer	16 days	81%	11:00	17:00	73F	47%	75%
Fall	12 days	83%	11:00	17:00	54F	78%	91%

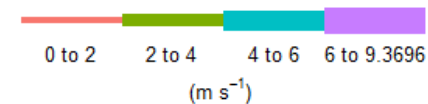
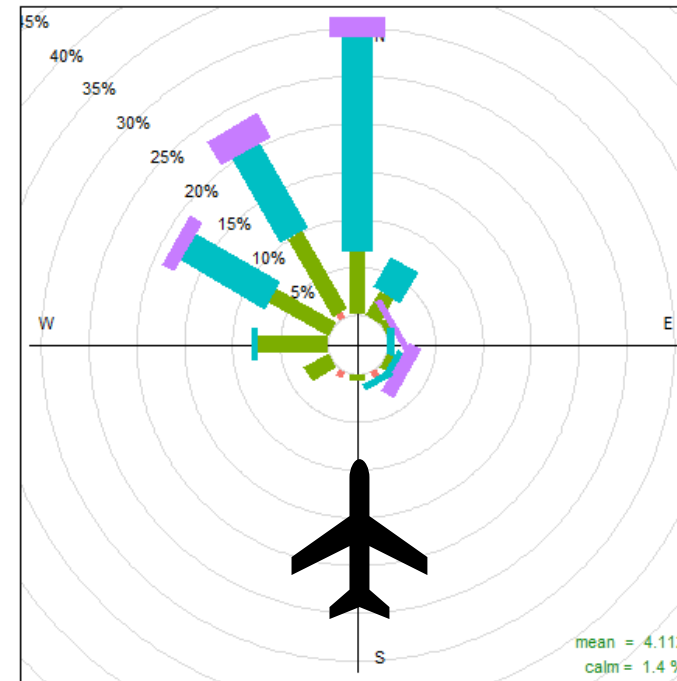
Wind roses indicate the speed and direction the wind is blowing “from”.

South-Flow Air Traffic



Landing from the North

North-Flow Air Traffic



Landing from the South



# Traffic Related Pollutants Spatial Distribution

## Total Particle Number\*



## Black Carbon

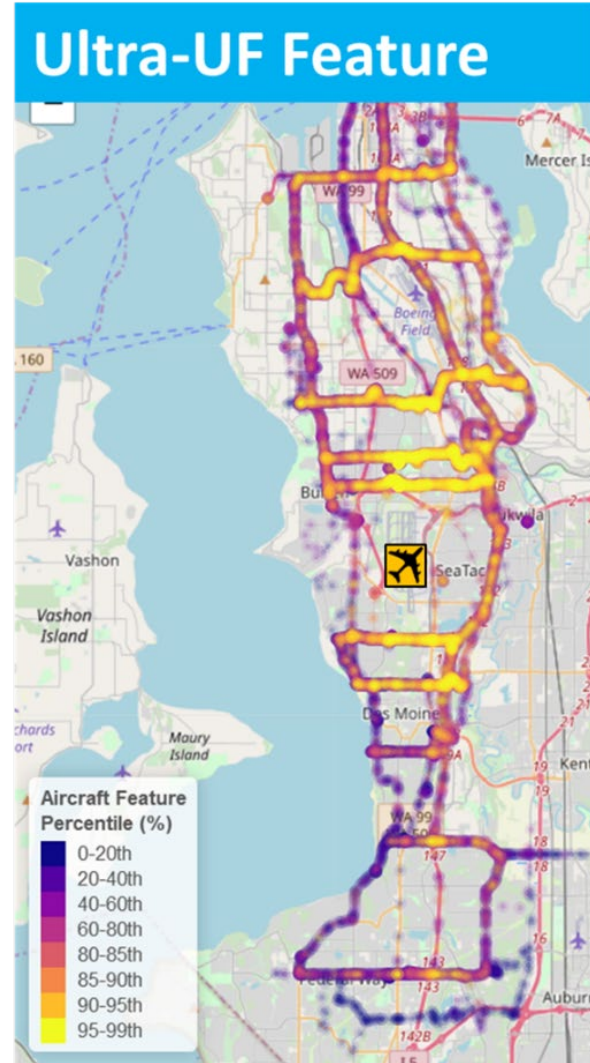
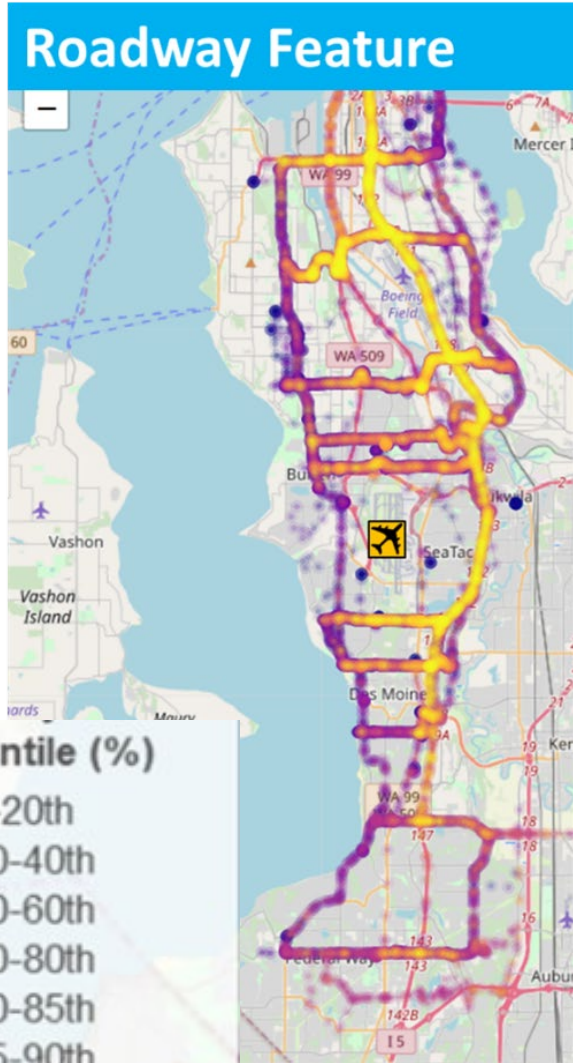


\* Total Particle Number refers to particles with 10 - 1,000 nm diameter

# Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

- **Goal:** Combining particle size and other pollutant characteristics collected from mobile monitoring to characterize the source of pollutant
- **Method:** Perform a PCA with varimax-rotation to identify features or “fingerprints” that reflect pollutant source.
- **Result:** We can plot the contributions from each feature on a map

- POSITIVELY correlated with Black Carbon and Total Particle Number Concentration
- Median diameter from Nanoscan is approximately 30 nm

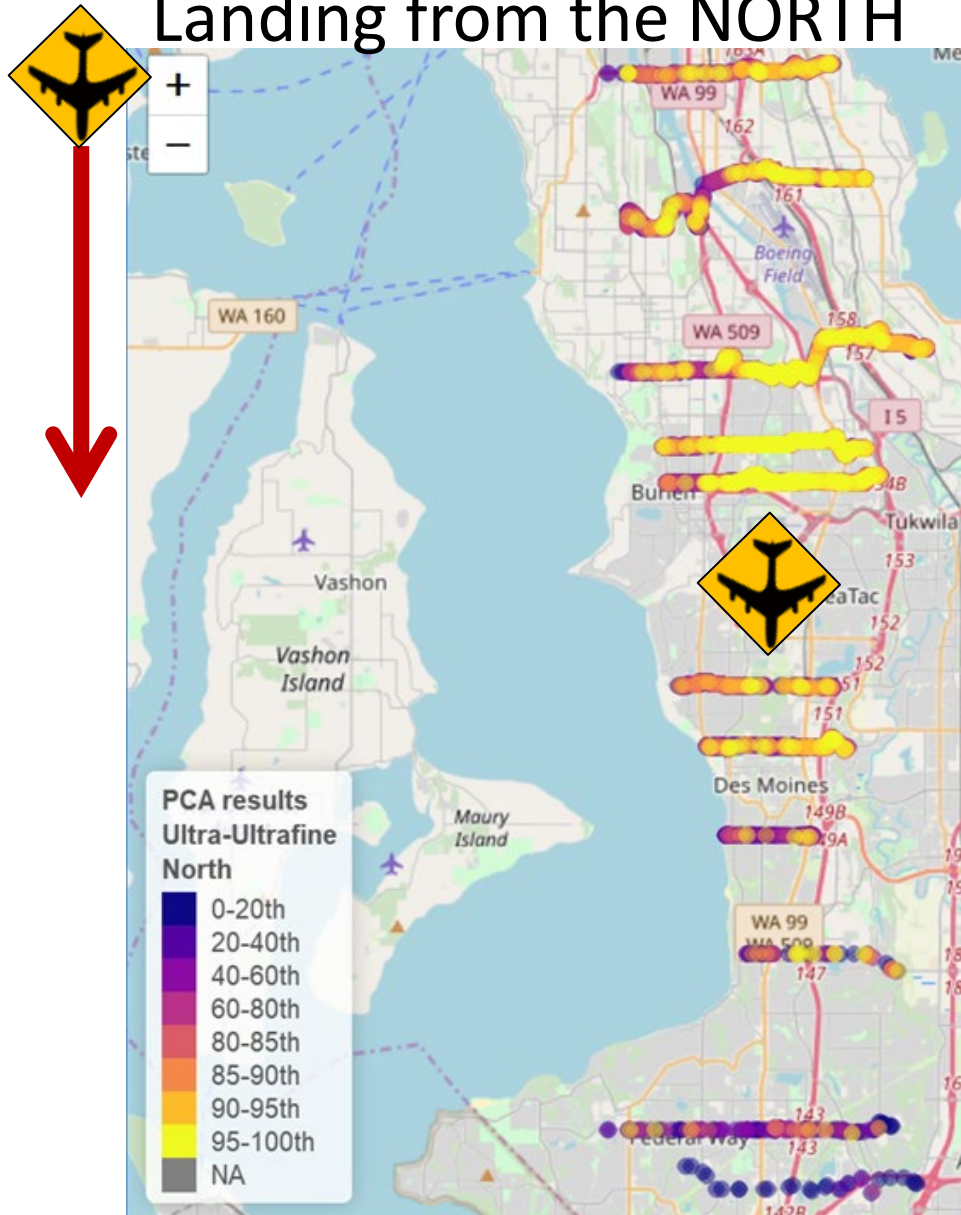


- POSITIVELY correlated with ultra-UF particles
- NEGATIVELY correlated with Black Carbon
- Median diameter from Nanoscan is approximately 15 nm

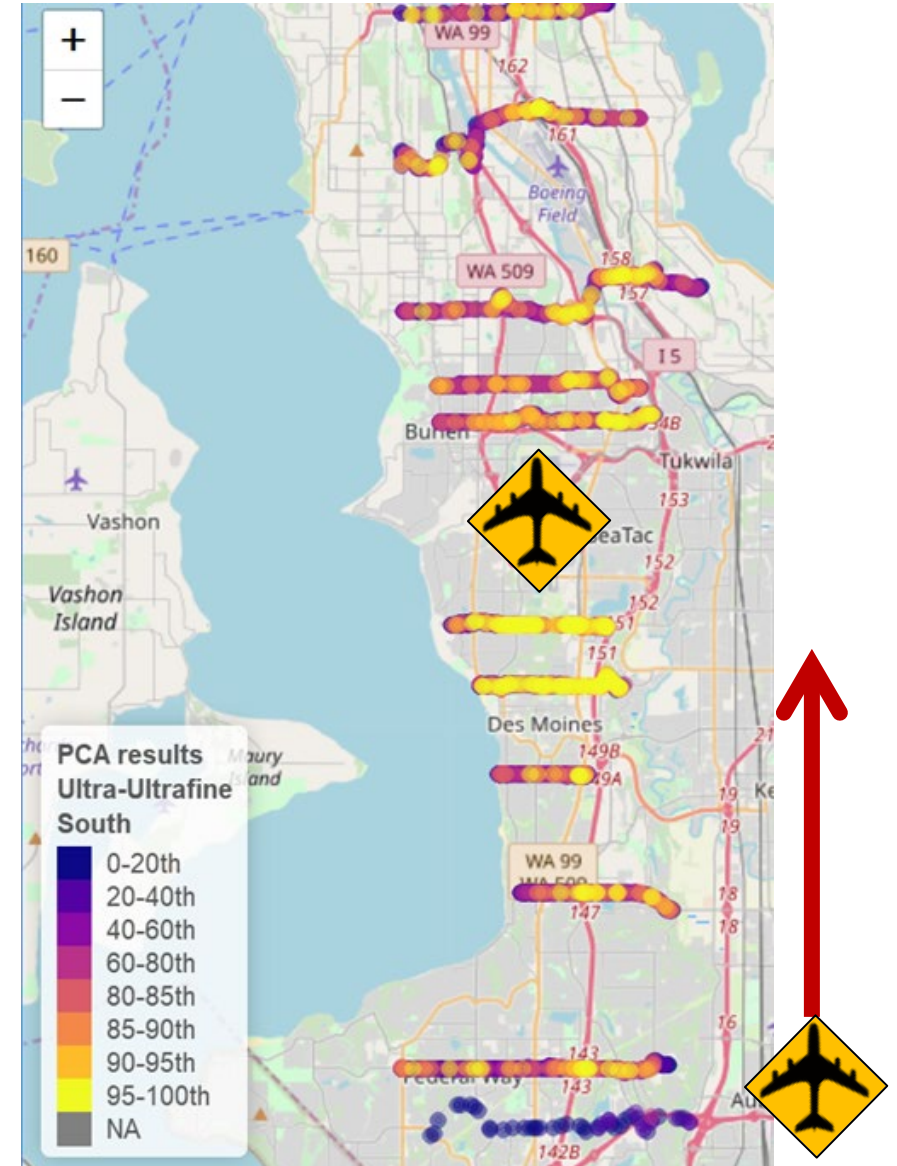


# “Ultra-UFP” tracks landing direction

## Landing from the NORTH

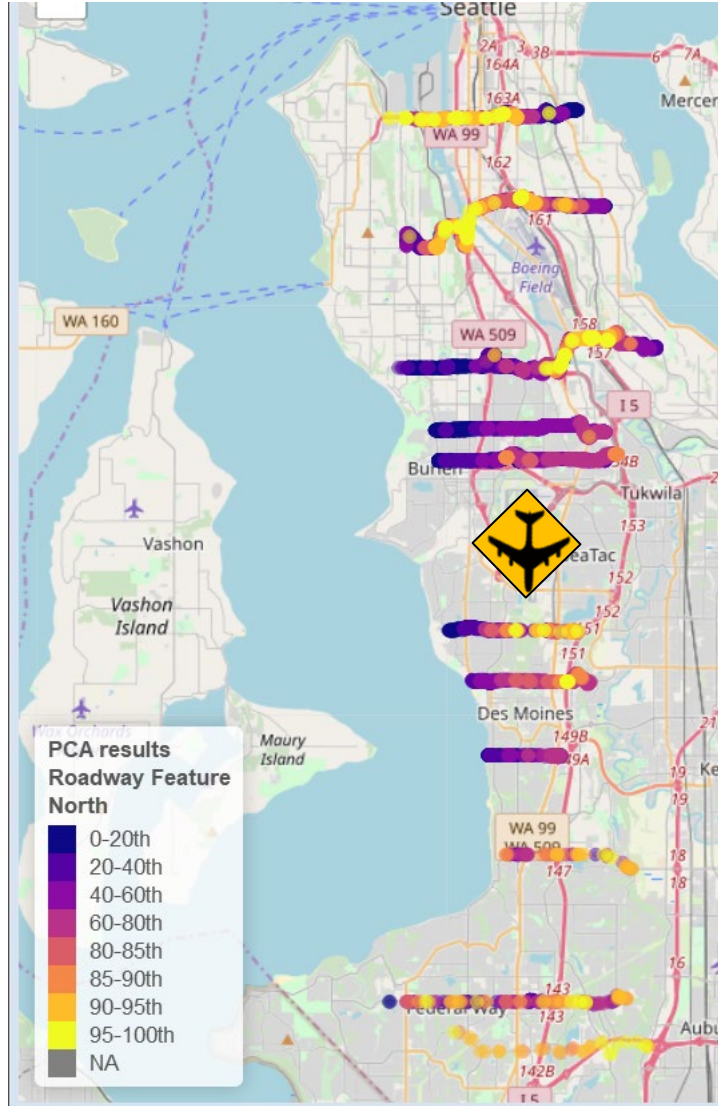
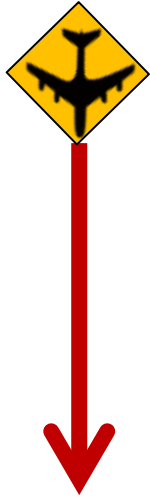


## Landing from the SOUTH

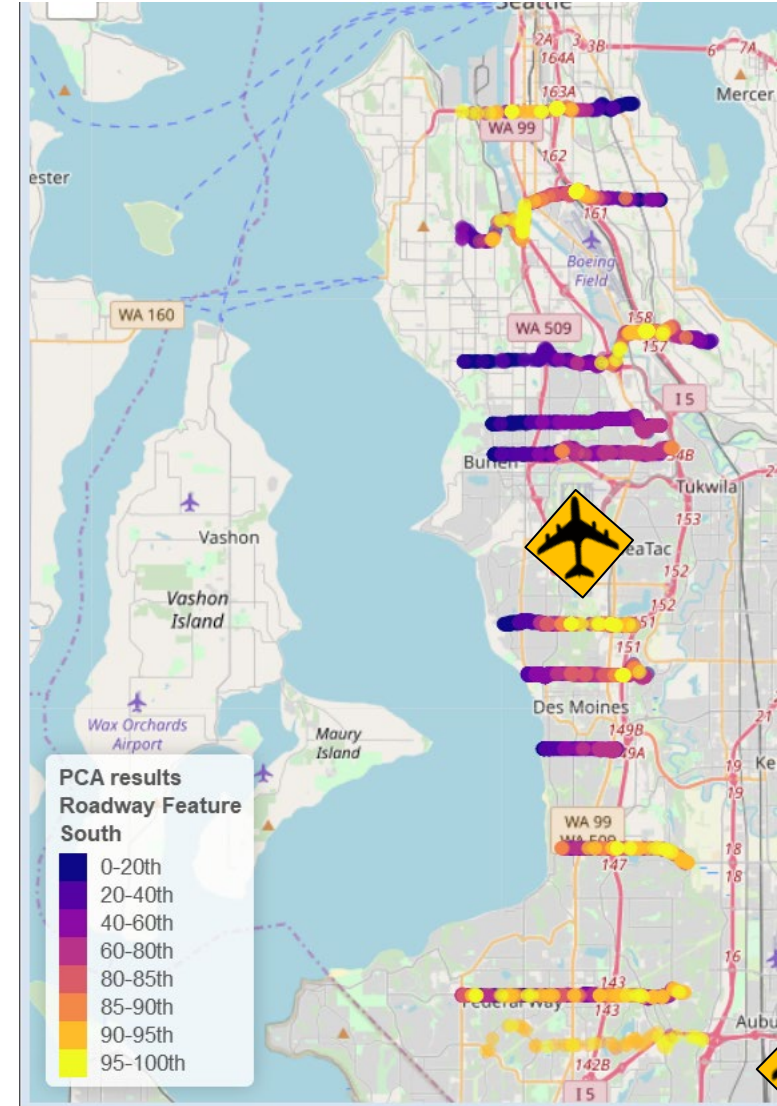


# “Roadway” is invariant to landing direction

Landing from the NORTH



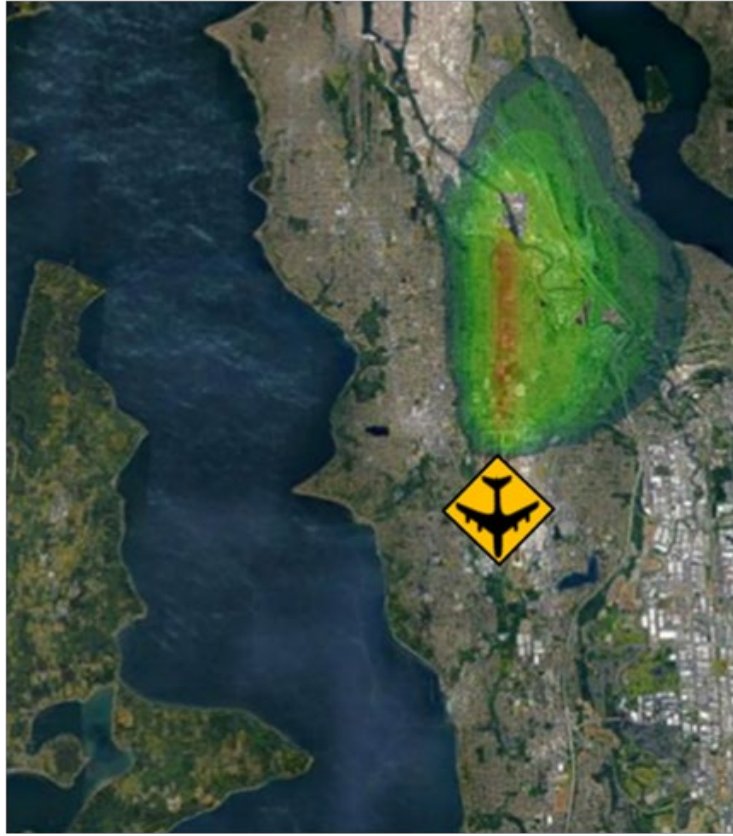
Landing from the SOUTH





# AERMOD Model of “Ultra-UFP” concentrations during landings from the North

## Predicted\*



## Predicted vs Measured



\*\*Average over all hours on all sampling days

# Summary

- Ultrafine particles (UFP) are emitted from both traffic and aircraft sources.
- Total concentration of UFP (10 - 1000 nm) did not distinguish roadway and aircraft features.
- The spatial impact of traffic and aircraft UFP emissions can be separated using a combination of mobile monitoring and standard statistical methods.
- There are key differences in the particle size distribution and the black carbon concentration for roadway and aircraft features.
- Fixed site monitoring confirms that aircraft landing activity is associated with a large fraction of particles between 10-20 nm.
- Mobile derived Fuel Based Emissions Factor ( $\# \text{ Ultra UF}/\text{kg}_{\text{Fuel}}$ ) may lead to future air quality modeling scenarios (Findings in the Project Report).

MOV-UP Project Website

<https://deohs.washington.edu/mov-up>

# Uncertainties and Caveats

- In this study, there was no measured single indicator of aircraft impact.
- This study provides information on the spatial distribution of ambient air quality impacts but does not provide a precise way to assign exposure estimate to specific locations or populations.
- This study provides a representative sample of pollutant distribution over the past year. Important uncertainties emerge in trying to predict distributions for past or future years.

# Knowledge Gaps

## **Gap # 1: What are the health effects of aircraft UFP?**

- What are the chemical and laboratory-based toxicological differences of UFP from roadway traffic and aircraft sources?
- Are short-term human health responses to roadway traffic and aircraft particles different?
- Are there long-term health impacts of exposure to traffic and aircraft UFP?

# Knowledge Gaps

## **Gap # 2: What can we do to reduce human exposures to UFP?**

- How much of UFP infiltrates into indoor spaces, particularly schools, daycares, elderly facilities and medical centers where potentially vulnerable populations may be exposed?
- What are the short-term and long-term interventions that effectively reduce UFP exposures?
- Are the same interventions effective in reducing exposures to both UFP and Ultra-UFP in community settings?

# Knowledge Gaps

## **Gap # 3: How are concentrations of UFP changing in different communities?**

- Are there important daily and seasonal time trends in UFP distributions?
- Are there important spatial differences in UFP distributions?
- Can communities use information about UFP distributions to identify solutions and vulnerabilities?