Supplement of Atmos. Chem. Phys., 22, 8009–8036, 2022 https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-22-8009-2022-supplement © Author(s) 2022. CC BY 4.0 License.





Supplement of

Characteristics and evolution of brown carbon in western United States wildfires

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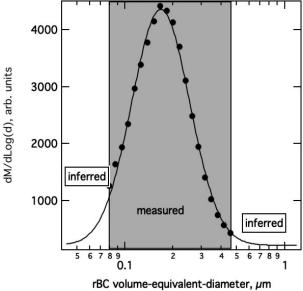


Figure S1. Mass size distribution of rBC measured for a flight. A log normal fit over the valid range of detection is used to infer the rBC mass undetected in the population.

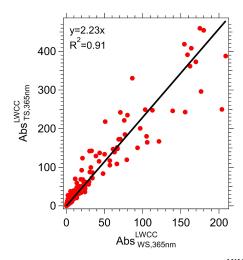


Figure S2. Comparison of TS BrC ($Abs_{TS,365nm}^{LWCC}$) and WS BrC ($Abs_{WS,365nm}^{LWCC}$) at 365 nm (total soluble=water soluble + methanol soluble) for all FIREX-AQ identified smoke plumes. The line represents the orthogonal distance regression of the data forced through zero.

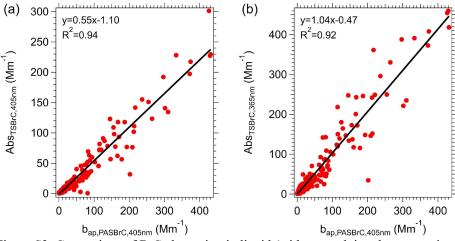


Figure S3. Comparison of BrC absorption in liquid (without applying the conversion factor K) at (a) 405 nm and at (b) 365 nm with BrC absorption inferred from the PAS at 405 nm.

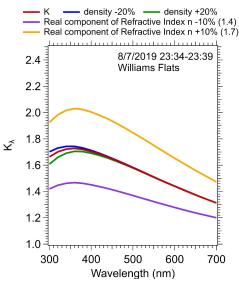
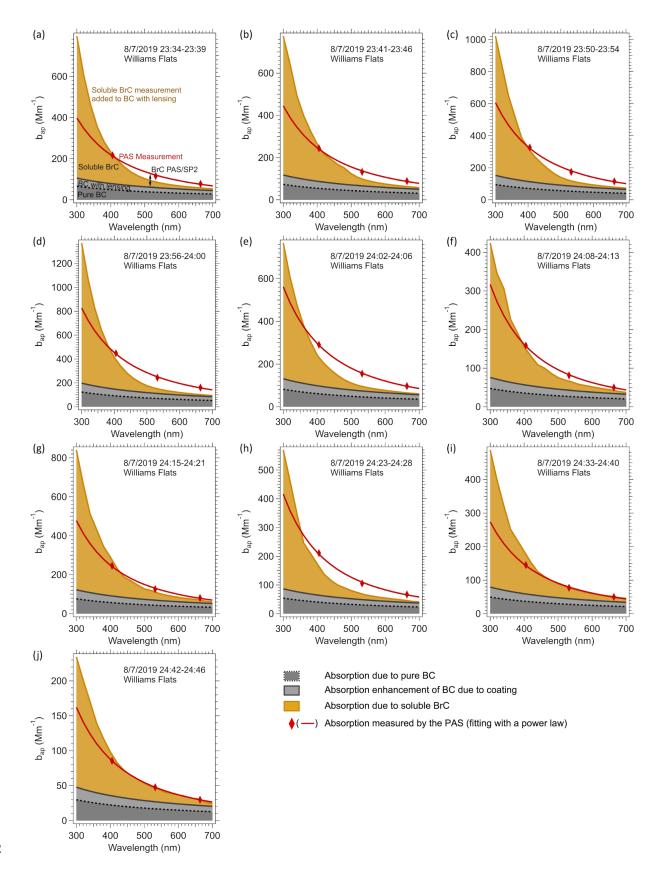
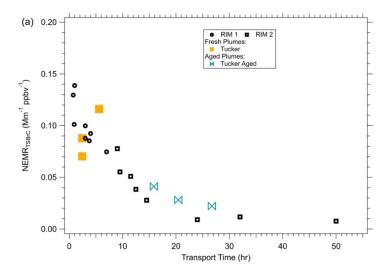


Figure S4. Sensitivity analysis of the conversion factor from absorption in liquid to aerosol based on Mie theory. The red curve, which is the same as the one in Figure 4, with assumptions that n=1.55, and density is 1.4 g cm⁻³. Tuning the particle density by up (green) or down (blue) by 20% only results in less than 5% change. Altering the real component of the refractive index (n) up (yellow) or down (purple) by 10% can lead to ~20% of variation.



- 54 Figure S5. Closure analysis of aerosol absorption measurements for the Williams Flats fire airborne measurements
- starting on 7 Aug. 2019. Each plot is the average of a plume transect starting from near to further from the fire. This
- 56 fire had high BC concentrations relative to BrC.





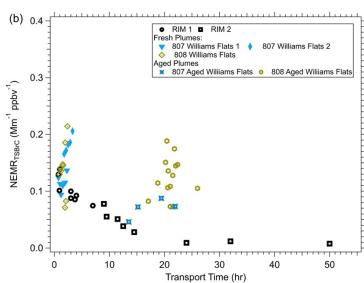


Figure S6. NEMR_{TSBrC} at 365 nm measured in liquid extracts (conversion factor K is not applied) versus smoke transport time for (a) just the Tucker fire and (b) the Williams Flats fires measured on 7 and 8 of Aug. Results from the RIM fire measured during the SEAC⁴RS campaign reported by Forrister et al. (2015) are also shown.