CCN characteristics during the Indian Summer Monsoon over a rain-shadow region

Venugopalan Nair Jayachandran[1], Mercy Varghese[1], Palani Murugavel[1], Kiran S. Todekar[1], Shivdas P. Bankar[1], Neelam Malap[1], Gurnule Dinesh[1], Pramod D. Safai[1], Jaya Rao[1], Mahen Konwar[1], Shivsai Dixit[1], Thara V. Prabha[1],

[1]Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Ministry of Earth Science, India.

Correspondence to: V. Jayachandran (jayanspl@gmail.com)

Abstract. Continuous aerosol and Cloud Condensation Nuclei (CCN) measurements carried out at the ground observational facility situated in the rain-shadow region of the Indian sub-continent are illustrated. These observations were part of the Cloud-Aerosol Interaction Precipitation Enhancement EXperiment (CAIPEEX) during the Indian Summer Monsoon season (June to September) of 2018. Observations are classified as dry-continental (monsoon break) and wet-marine (monsoon active) according to air mass history. CCN concentrations measured for a range of supersaturations (0.2-1.2 %) are parameterized using Twomey's empirical relationship. CCN concentrations at low (0.2 %) supersaturation (SS) were high (>1,000 cm^{-3}) during continental conditions and observed together with high black carbon (BC~2,000 ng m^{-3}) and columnar aerosol loading. During the marine air mass conditions, CCN concentrations diminished to ~350 cm^{-3} at 0.3 % SS and low aerosol loading persisted (BC~900 ng m^{-3}). High CCN activation fraction (AF) of $\cong 0.55$ (at 0.3 % SS) were observed before the monsoon rainfall, which reduced to $\cong 0.15$ during the marine air mass and enhanced to $\cong 0.32$ after that. Mostly mono-modal aerosol number-size distribution (NSD) with a mean geometric mean diameter (GMD) of $\cong 85$ nm, with least ($\cong 9$ %) contribution from nucleation mode (<30 nm) particles persisted before monsoon, while multi-mode NSD with $\cong 19$ % of nucleation mode particles were found during the marine air mass. Critical activation diameters (d_{cri}) for 0.3 % SS were found to be about 72, 169, and 121 nm prior, during and, after the marine conditions, respectively. The better association of CCN with aerosol absorption, and the concurrent accumulation mode particles during continental conditions, point to the possibility of aged (oxygenated) carbonaceous aerosols enhancing the CCN activity prior to the monsoon. An enhancement in CCN concentration and k-values during daytime along with absorption Angstrom exponent was observed during the marine conditions. Best closure obtained using measured critical diameter, and ammonium sulfate composition during continental conditions emphasize the role of aged aerosols contributing to the accumulation mode, enhancing the CCN efficiency. The over-estimation of CCN and less hygroscopicity of accumulation mode aerosols during the marine air mass indicate the role of size-dependent aerosol composition in CCN activity during the period.

1 Introduction

Atmospheric aerosol particles (AP) emitted from both natural and anthropogenic sources, affect the radiation budget as well as the hydrological cycle of Earth, mainly through its direct and indirect effects. Those AP or condensation nuclei (CN) which act as the Cloud Condensation Nuclei (CCN) at a specific supersaturation (SS) can indirectly affect the climate by altering the cloud micro-physical properties. In general, an increase in AP increases the cloud droplet number concentration and decreases the size of droplets (Twomey and Warner, 1967) for a fixed liquid water content, which in turn increases the cloud albedo (Twomey, 1977) and cloud lifetime (Albrecht. 1989). In the real atmosphere, the superstaturation measurements are seldom possible and the large disagreements between the CCN and cloud droplet number concentration remains elusive (Moore et al., 2013). All these effects eventually modify the precipitation pattern (Lohmann and Feichter, 2005; Rosenfeld et al., 2008). Some of these aerosol indirect effects are moderately understood, while others are not, which contribute to significant uncertainty among all the climate forcing mechanisms (IPCC, 2013). Characterization of the hygroscopic growth of AP, which is generally addressed by the Köhler theory (Köhler, 1936), is the most fundamental aspect in assessing the aerosol-cloud interactions (ACI) for reducing the uncertainties in indirect radiative forcing estimation. However, Köhler theory is modified to accommodate the real atmospheric conditions and applied for both laboratory and field measurements, as well as in the climate models (Shulman et al., 1996; Laaksonen et al., 1998; Raymond and Pandis, 2003; McFiggans et al., 2006; Petters and Kreidenweis, 2007; Rose et al., 2008; Mikhailov et al., 2009). For a given particle, the size and composition determine its CCN activity at a specific SS, while the CCN spectrum (CCN at different SS) depends on the median diameter and standard deviation, number concentration, and the mixing state of the aerosol system (Quinn et al., 2008). In this regard, closure studies are necessary to understand the role of each parameter in the activation of AP as CCN, which may improve the accuracy of climate models to address the ACI (Fountakis and Nenes, 2005).

Large spatial and temporal heterogeneities are found in AP as well as CCN properties and thus, the regional characterization of CCN in different meteorological settings are imminent. Temporal and spatial heterogeneities of CCN and different mechanisms affecting CCN are investigated in several studies (Hoppel et al., 1973, Hudson and Xie, 1999, Paramonov et al., 2015, Schmale et al., 2018; Nair et al., 2020) over both continental and marine environments. Over the land mass, significant variability in CCN activation properties are reported due to urban and industrial influences (Sotiropoulou et al., 2007; Asa-Awuku et al., 2011). Carbonaceous combustion AP produced mostly from urban and industrial activities, contribute more than half of the global CCN concentration (Spracklen et al., 2011). Though nascent black carbon (BC) AP are insoluble (Weingartner et al., 1997), coating, condensation and coagulation of organic and inorganic AP can increase its hygroscopicity, thereby acting as CCN (Liu et al., 2013). However, the role of organics, mostly from carbonaceous combustion sources, in determining the CCN activity is still uncertain. Ervens et al., (2005) have reported a broad range (-86 % to 110 %) of changes in cloud droplet number concentration due to the organics. The reduction in surface tension by organic AP can even perturb the first indirect (Twomey) effect (Nenes et al., 2002). The presence of water soluble organic carbon can increase the CCN concentration, especially in rural and urban settings (Mircea et al., 2002). Recent studies (Singla et al., 2017; Nair et al., 2020)

highlight the dominance of organic AP and its significant role in CCN activation over the Indian subcontinent. The increasing trend in aerosol loading (Babu et al.,2013) and the significant contribution of carbonaceous aerosols from both fossil fuel and biomass burning over the Indian subcontinent (Nair et al., 2007) highlight the necessity of the characterization of CCN and the role of carbonaceous AP over distinct environments in India.

Even though the aerosol properties such as aerosol optical depth (Babu et al., 2013), black carbon (BC) mass concentration (Manoj et al., 2019) have been studied across the Indian sub-continent through a network of observatories (Moorthy et al., 2013) for decades, only a few CCN studies are availbale since last few years over specific regions. Year-round CCN measurements are reported from the high altitude observatory over the Western Ghats (Leena et al., 2016), Indo-Gangetic Plain (IGP, Patidar et al., 2012), Central Himalayas (Gogoi et al., 2015), and Eastern Himalayas (Roy et al., 2017). CCN characteristics for a specific season, including closure analysis were reported by Jayachandran et al., (2017; 2018) at peninsular India, and by Bhattu and Tripathi, (2015) at IGP. Apart from these studies, Indian Ocean EXperiment (INDOEX, Ramanathan et al., 2001), Cloud-Aerosol Interaction Precipitation Enhancement EXperiment (CAIPEEX, Kulkarni et al., 2012), and South-West Asian Aerosol-Monsoon Interaction - Regional Aerosol Warming EXperiment (SWAAMI-RAWEX, Jayachandran et al., 2020), Integrated Campaign for Aerosols, gases and Radiation Budget (ICARB-2018, Nair et al., 2020) are other major multi-platform campaigns carried out over the sub-continent and nearby marine environment to study the regional ACI. CAIPEEX conducted both aircraft and ground-based observations of aerosols, clouds, and planetary boundary layer (PBL) since 2009, in a phased manner. Details of the CAIPEEX are available in Prabha et al., (2011) and Kulkarni et al., (2012). Various studies have addressed the spatio-temporal distribution of AP (Padmakumari et al., 2013; Varghese et al., 2019), cloud microphysics (Prabha et al., 2011; 2012; Padmakumari et al., 2018), rainfall (Maheshkumar et al., 2014) properties, the relationship between cloud microphysics and thermodynamics (Bera et al., 2019), and ACI (Pandithurai et al., 2012; Prabha et al., 2012; Konwar et al., 2012; Gayatri et al., 2017; Patade et al., 2019) from the unique data obtained from the CAIPEEX. Varghese et al., (2016) investigated the linkages of surface and cloud base CCN spectral characteristics over the rain shadow region.

The assessment of the effects of AP on clouds and precipitation due to the changes in the atmospheric composition by anthropogenic activities is very significant over India as the agriculture and economy of the region mostly depend on the Indian Summer Monsoon (ISM) rainfall. The west coast of India, which is the gateway of the ISM, receives almost 2.5 times the long-term monsoon mean rainfall observed all over India (Parthasarathy et al., 1995). The mountain ranges along the western coast of India known as the Western Ghats (WG) mountains, play a pivotal role in ISM rainfall due to orography (Grossman and Duran, 1984; Sijikumar et al., 2013). A few studies have been carried out till date to understand the aerosol loading (Udayasoorian et al., 2014), CCN characteristics (Leena et al., 2016; Jayachandran et al., 2018) and its influence on the aerosol indirect effects (Anil Kumar et al., 2016) from different locations in the WG. However, the rain shadow region (leeward side) is prone to drought conditions with predominant continental effects, and relevant studies are sparse.

CAIPEEX observations were conducted over the rain shadow region to understand the cloud and precipitation microphysics and AP properties to derive guidelines for the precipitation enhancement over the region. CAIPEEX Phase IV

was designed to address the major objectives for the science of weather modification. The background observations of CCN were trivial for the design and validation of the experiment and the data presented in this study are aimed at understanding the aerosols and its cloud activation properties near the surface. The present study addresses the first reporting of CCN and its characteristics under different air mass and meteorological conditions throughout the ISM season (June to September) of 2018 over this region. The study focuses on the variations in CCN characteristics within the ISM season, and the possible factors are investigated using the concurrent and collocated aerosol size distribution and BC measurements. Another focus of the study is the CCN closure analysis to assess the role of size and composition at different atmospheric conditions.

2   Experiment details

2.1 Location, measurements, and database

As part of the ground segment of CAIPPEX IV campaign, aerosol and PBL measurements have been going on since May 2017 from Sinhgad College of Engineering at Solapur (17.70° N, 75.85° E, ~490 m a.m.s.l), which is at the cente of the rain shadow region. The location is marked as a circle in Figure 1 and is a semi-arid region. The college site is 12 km away from Solapur city and the aerosol sampling lab is on the third floor of the building, away from all local activities in the rural setting. Even though the sampling site is well isolated from the urban contamination, Solapur consists of numerous sugar and textile industries emissions, apart from the seasonal emissions from agricultural activities.

Details of instrumentation and data used for the present study are illustrated in Table 1. Aerosol sampling was carried out through separate PM 2.5 inlets from about 2 m above the rooftop connected with conductive tubing. CCN concentrations were measured at every second using a continuous flow streamwise temperature gradient CCN counter (CCN-100, DMT Inc; Roberts and Nenes, 2005). Initially (June 2018) CCN were measured at five SS (0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 and 1.0 %) and in July CCN counter was calibrated again and the SS was set at 0.3, 0.5, 0.8 and 1.2 %. Calibrations were carried out both before and after the experiments using ammonium sulfate AP following Rose et al., (2008). Instrument was also factory calibrated before the campaign. During the calibration experiments, CCN efficiency spectra were recorded for different ΔT values. The activation diameter corresponding to 50 % CCN efficiency for each spectrum was taken as the critical dry diameter for the CCN activation of ammonium sulfate particles. The corresponding critical supersaturation was calculated with the activity parameterization Köhler model (AP3) mentioned in Rose et al., (2008). The calculated critical supersaturation was taken as the effective supersaturation at the given ΔT value.

CCN counter uses the fundamental principle of the difference in the diffusion rate of heat and water vapor. A fixed temperature gradient is maintained along the walls of the wetted cylindrical column inside the instrument in which the desired SS is generated depending on the temperature gradient and the flow rate. The aerosols are fed at a constant sheath to sample flow of (10:1) along the center-line of the column and the total flow rate was maintained at 500 Vccm. The details of the working principle of the instrument are available in Roberts and Nenes, (2005) and Lance et al., (2006). During June, each SS was maintained for five minutes, except for 0.2 % which was for 10 minutes. About two minutes of data during the SS transition

were discarded to avoid the uncertainty in establishing the required SS during the transition. At 0.2 % SS (lowest set-SS), about four minutes of initial data were discarded. Except June, all the SS were set for seven minutes each, except for 0.3 % SS, which was maintained for nine minutes. Here also, the initial 3-4 minutes data were discarded to ensure the set SS conditions. Thus, one cycle of the complete set of SS took 30 minutes, and the cycle was repeated. AP were continuously exposed to the SS inside the column, and those having their critical SS less than that of the set-SS inside the column, activated as liquid droplets and counted by the optical particle counter operated by a laser diode at 660 nm at the exit of the column. Since the CCN concentration was always less than 6,000 cm^{-3}, correction for water vapor depletion inside the column as suggested by Lathem and Nenes, (2011) was not applied.

Size segregated aerosol number concentration (NSD) from about 15 nm to about 685 nm, distributed among 107 size bins, was measured every three minutes using a scanning mobility particle sizer (SMPS, TSI model 3082). The set up consists of an electrostatic classifier, including a long Differential Mobility Analyser (LDMA, TSI model 3081), and a butanol based-Condensation Particle Counter (CPC, TSI model 3772). Before entering the LDMA the AP are charged to a known charge distribution by a bipolar charger in the electrostatic classifier, which were size segregated according to their electrical mobility (Wiedensohler, 1988; Wang and Flagan, 1990) in the DMA. The AP classified according to their sizes were counted by the CPC. The sheath and sample flow were maintained at 0.3 and 3 L min^{-1}, respectively. Multiple charge correction and diffusion charge correction were applied to the aerosol NSD data during the data inversion. AP were passed through a diffusion dryer before the classifier to prevent the high humidity conditions.

Radiation absorption properties of AP at different wavelengths were measured using a dual spot Aethalometer (AE 33, make: Magee Scientific) at every minute. Aethalometer operated at a flow rate of 2 LPM measured the attenuation of light due to the AP deposited on a filter tape (Hansen et al., 1984) at seven different wavelengths - 370, 470, 520, 590, 660, 880 and 950 nm. From this, the absorption coefficient (σ_{abs}) is estimated from the rate of attenuation, filter spot area, and the flow rate (Weingartener et al., 2003). The new-generation AE33 compensates the loading effect and multiple scattering effects (Arnott et al., 2005) associated with the filter-based optical attenuation techniques (Drinovec et al., 2015).

The wavelength dependence of absorption coefficient of aerosols is parameterised using the equation

$$\sigma_{abs}(\lambda) = \beta \times \lambda^{-\alpha_{abs}} \qquad (1)$$

where, β is a constant and α_{abs} is the absorption Angstrom exponent. The nature of the carbonaceous sources can be inferred from the value of α_{abs}. Humic-like substance (HULIS) and brown carbon produced from biomass burning have higher absorption at lower wave length (ultra violet and blue) regions (Gelencser et al., 2003). Hence, α_{abs} will be higher (~2) for biomass dominant sources, while fossil fuel dominant sources will have α_{abs} close to unity (Kirchstetter et al., 2004)

Ambient weather parameters such as temperature, pressure, wind speed, wind direction, relative humidity and rainfall were also used in the present study from the Automatic Weather Station (AWS) measurements located at the site. All the instruments operated during CAIPEEX were calibrated periodically, especially before and after the experiments. The uncertainty associated with all the measurement techniques used in the present study is <10 %. All the measurements having different sampling frequencies were averaged to hourly intervals for analysis and interpretations. Air mass pathways were

investigated using Hybrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory Model (HYSPLIT) (Draxler and Rolph, 2014) available from NOAA ARL READY Website.

2.2 Meteorology

The air mass back trajectories for five days reaching 50 m above the site were examined using back-trajectory analysis, and found that two distinct air masses reached the site during the observation period (01 June to 30 September, 2018). These are classified as (a) continental (dry) and (b) marine (wet), and shown in Figure 1. Those days in which air masses were over the landmass and within 1 km a.g.l for minimum 3 days before reaching the site, and hence having a significant continental influence are segregated as continental. While, those from the nearby marine atmosphere are classified as the marine and the corresponding period include the monsoon rainfall period over the site. The continental air mass consistently prevailed over the site during the first week of June (denoted as continental-1) and from September 15 to 30 (denoted as continental-2) of 2018. Marine air mass days consist of 08-12, 15-31 July (denoted as marine-1) and 1-26, 28-31 August (denoted as marine-2). Thus, the observations and findings throughout this manuscript are examined on the basis of this classification. From Figure 1(a), it can also be seen that the air mass history for the continental classification are mostly within 1 km above the surface, indicating the chances for the influence of local aerosol sources.

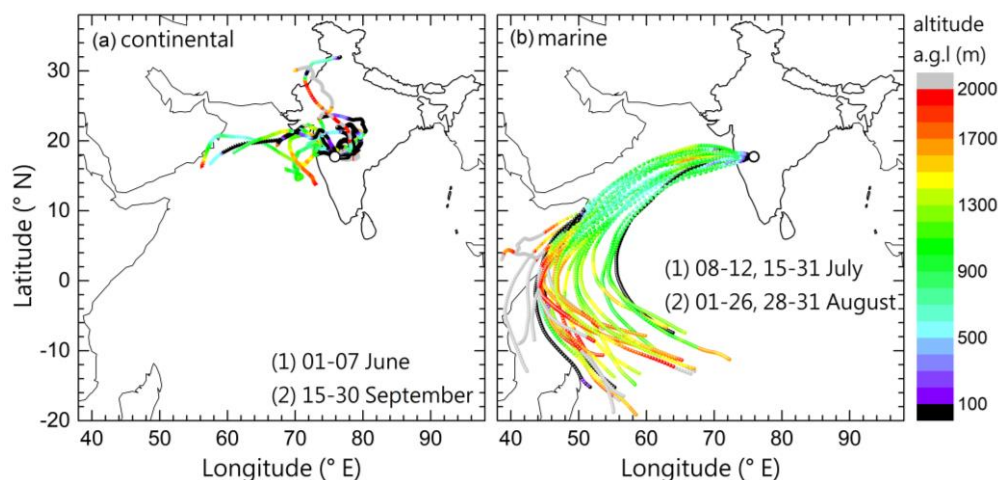



Figure 1. Air mass back trajectories with 5 days duration reaching 50 m above the site segregated to (a) continental and (b) marine. The color of the trajectories indicates the altitude of the air mass above the surface.

The meteorological parameters observed at the site from the AWS measurements during these periods are shown in Figure 2. Diurnal variation of temperature and relative humidity (RH) are shown in Figure 2(a) and (b), respectively. The temperature and RH values are distinctively different during continental-1, compared to other periods. Marine-1 and 2 periods experienced low temperatures and high RH throughout the day, while continental-2 had higher temperature and lower RH during noon and afternoon hours. The monthly mean temperature during the study periods of continental-1, marine-1, marine-

2, and continental-2 were 29.5±3.6ºC, 25.9±2.6ºC, 25.4±2.8ºC, and 27.1±3.5ºC; respectively. A dry spell existed during the continental-1 days when the maximum hourly mean temperature recorded was ~38 °C. The maximum temperature at all the periods was observed at the 1500 and 1600 hours (IST), and the lowest temperatures were observed before sunrise of the day. Intermittent rainfall happened during July and August and a few heavy rainfall events occurred during these months. The

190   aerosol/CCN measurements during heavy rainfall are not included in the analysis for interpretations (missing days in Table 1). From the wind rose diagram (Fig. 2c), it can be noted that the strong winds were blowing mostly from the west and south-west part of the site during continental-1 and in few cases, winds were blowing from the north-east direction. Westerly and South-Westerly winds were present during marine 1 and 2 conditions (Fig. 2d and e), while the continental-2 days (Fig. 2f) mostly North-Easterly winds were observed.

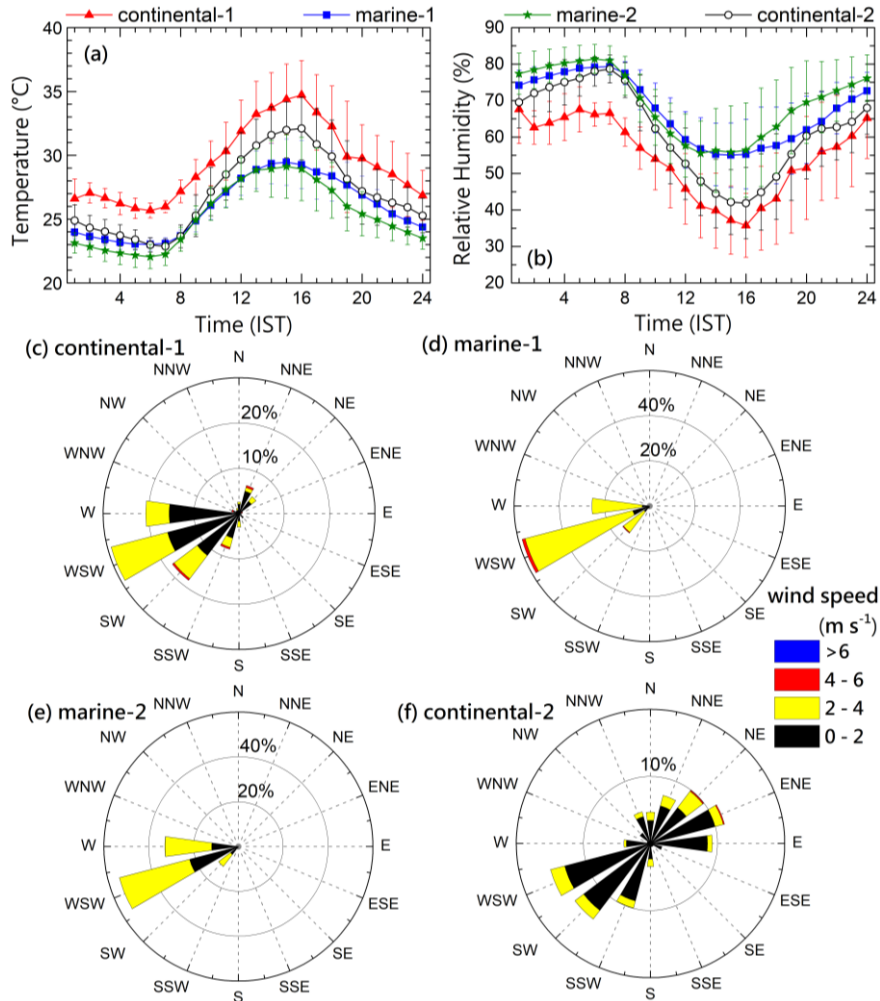



Figure 2. Diurnal variation of (a) temperature, (b) relative humidity along with the standard deviation of the mean values. The wind rose diagrams from the co-located AWS measurements for (c) continental-1, (d) marine-1, (e) marine-2, and (f) continental-2 conditions.

3 Results and Discussions

CCN characteristics at the site are investigated with aerosol size distribution and BC measurements.

3.1 Overview of aerosol loading

The frequency distribution of BC mass loading and the mean values (and its standard deviation) during the observation days are shown in Figure 3(a) with an aim to understand aerosol loading and the influence from anthropogenic activities. The distinct atmospheric conditions and the air mass history are evident in the BC mass loading at the site. Before the onset of monsoon, under the influence of continental air mass, the mean BC values were above 2,000 ng m^{-3}, which reduced to very low values (~746 ng m^{-3}) during the marine conditions. BC concentration was even higher than 4,000 ng m^{-3} during the continental air mass, while in many cases values were almost 100 ng m^{-3} under marine conditions.

Apart from the near-surface measurements, the columnar aerosol optical depth (AOD) is examined using the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) - Aqua at 550 nm. The AOD observed from MODIS during the continental air mass conditions along with the site (white star) are shown in panels (b) and (c) of Figure 3. It can be seen that heavy aerosol loading (AOD>0.5) persisted around the rain shadow regions and the Mumbai coast (northwest of the site) in addition to the high loading over the IGP. After the monsoon rainfall, the aerosol loading has reduced all over India as seen in Figure 3(c). Still, high aerosol loading (AOD>0.4) was observed around the observation site, IGP and the northern part of the east coast.

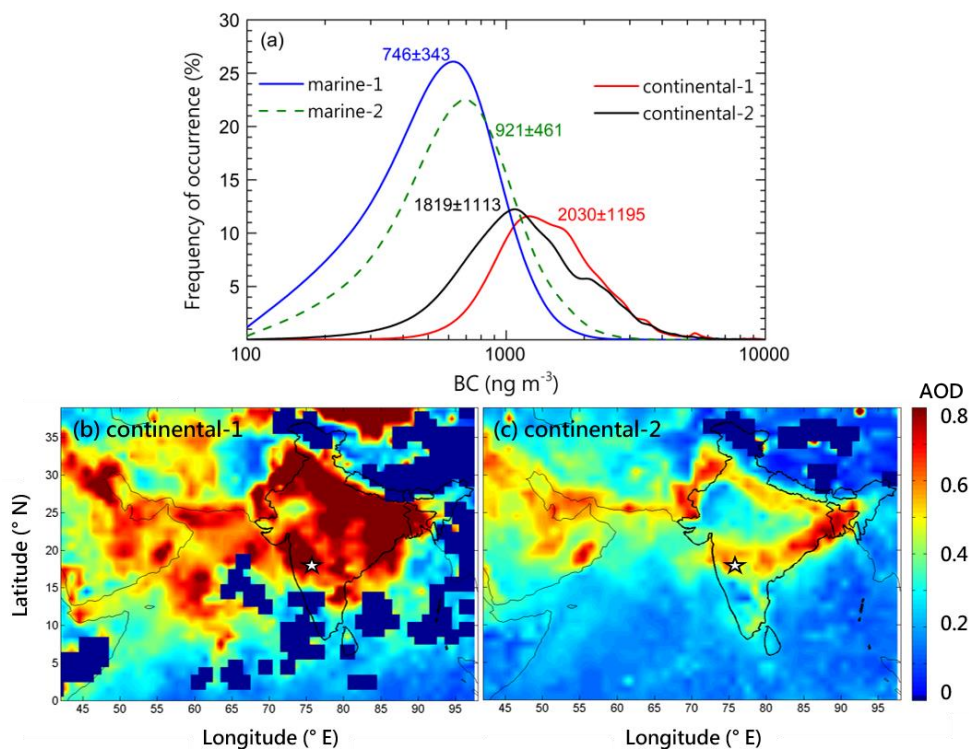



Figure 3. (a) Frequency distribution of BC mass concentration and its mean values for marine and continental conditions. Aerosol optical depth (AOD) at 550 nm observed from the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) for the continental (b) 1 and (c) 2 conditions. The Solapur site is indicated by the star in the spatial AOD maps.

BC can be considered as a proxy for the anthropogenic activities (Myhre et al., 2013; Lelieveld et al., 2019), and the BC loading over Solapur indicates that the anthropogenic influence is predominant during the continental air mass conditions. This observation is in line with the columnar aerosol observation from MODIS. Apart from fossil fuel combustion, biomass burning may also contributes to the carbonaceous aerosols that prevailed over the site. The fire counts observed from the MODIS (collection 6 product obtained from https://earthdata.nasa.gov/firms) may support this inference, which is given in the Appendix (Figure A1). The high aerosol loading locations in Figure 3 are associated with the numerous fire events which can be seen in Figure A1. From another site in the rain shadow region closer to the central part of India - Nagpur, Kompalli et al., (2014) have reported BC mass of ~2,000 ng m^{-3} before the monsoon, which is similar to the present study. From the long-term observations of BC from the north-west part (Pune) of the current study, Safai et al., (2013) have reported a mean BC mass of ~1,200 ng m^{-3} during the monsoon period. Both the high surface BC and total column aerosol loading observed before the monsoon, indicate the significant anthropogenic influence on the total aerosol loading. The low BC values (<1000 ng m^{-3}) during the marine conditions at Solapur represent a cleaner atmosphere, while ~1500 ng m^{-3} BC was reported from a coastal location in peninsular India (Babu and Moorthy, 2002) during monsoon. About 50 % reduction (~10000 to 6000 ng m^{-3}) in BC mass associated with the dominance of fossil fuel source replacing the biomass, during monsoon compared to the pre-monsoon values, was reported by Vaishya et al., (2017) from a heavily polluted IGP site. The low BC loading during the marine conditions over Solapur is due to the wet scavenging of aerosols and the distinct air mass reaching the site as well as due to reduced local burning during the active monsoon conditions. The high AOD and BC observations identify Solapur as a polluted-continental environment, which is cleaner during active monsoon compared to the other periods.

3.2 CCN number concentrations and its variations

The mean CCN concentration at different SS, known as the CCN SS spectra, segregated according to the air mass conditions are shown in Figure 4. It can be seen that the CCN concentrations at all SS are higher during continental, compared to marine conditions. The highest CCN concentration is observed during continental-1 which is as per the surface BC loading and the total columnar aerosol loading. CCN spectra are similar for the marine conditions, except the slight difference at the lowest SS. CCN concentration before the monsoon ranged from ~1,600 to 3,600 cm^{-3} for 0.2 to 1.0 % SS. Meanwhile, the CCN concentration was only ~900 cm^{-3} during marine air mass, even at 1.2 % SS. Thus, a clear distinction is seen in the CCN concentration between the marine and continental air mass conditions within the same ISM period.

The CCN concentration varies with SS, and its parameterization is very important for its applicability in climate models (Khvorostyanov and Curry, 2006). The measured CCN spectra are parameterized by the Twomey's empirical fit relationship (Twomey, 1959; 1977), which is widely used due to its simplicity (Cohard et al., 1998) and given as,

$$CCN(ss) = C \times SS^k \qquad\qquad (2)$$

where C and k are the empirical fit parameters characterizing the spectra. It should be noted that, the empirical fit parameter k
250   is different from the effective hygroscopicity parameter-κ discussed by Petters and Kreidenweis (2007).

More than 90 % of cases of the current observations show a high correlation coefficient (R>0.95) with the Twomey's empirical fit, except during continental-2, during which about 65 % of the cases only had high (> 0.95) correlation coefficient with the Twomey's fit. The spectra having a correlation coefficient of more than 0.95 with the empirical fit are only considered in the present study.

255   Hygroscopic or bigger particles have flat CCN spectra and low k values, while hydrophobic and ultrafine (UF) mode (<100 nm) AP will have steep CCN spectra and high k values (Hegg et al., 1991; Jefferson, 2010) as those particles need higher SS to activate as CCN. Thus, the empirical fit parameter 'k' indicates the nature of the aerosol system towards CCN activation and 'C' indicates the CCN concentrations at 1.0 % SS. Generally, high C and k values are reported for the anthropogenic, while low values are reported for the natural/marine AP (Seinfeld and Pandis, 2016; Andreae, 2009). The
260   highest k value (~0.67) is observed during marine-2 and the minimum (~0.52) during continental-1. As may be noted, bigger or hygroscopic (or both) particles which are CCN active were abundant during continental-1 compared to the marine conditions, when fine or hydrophobic (or both) particles were predominant.

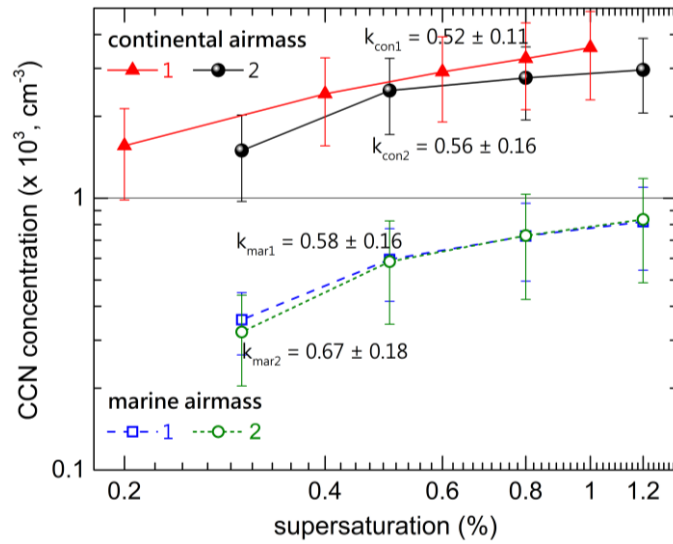



Figure 4. Mean CCN concentrations (± standard deviation) for different SS during continental and marine conditions. The power-law fit k-
265   value of each spectrum is also given.

CCN concentrations and the k values reported during the current study, along with a few other studies are given in Table 2. Generally, most of the aerosol abundance measurements such as BC mass (Kompalli et al., 2014), and aerosol number concentration (Babu et al., 2016) showed the lowest seasonal mean value during ISM over the Indian region, mainly due to
270   the wet removal of AP. The CCN concentration at semi-arid Solapur before the onset of ISM is comparable to the values

(~2,000 cm^{-3}) observed over the arid north-west region of India reported by Jayachandran et al., (2020). Interestingly, the CCN concentration at Solapur during active the marine conditions is the lowest among the values reported over the Indian sub-continent. The current values (~350 cm^{-3}) are comparable to those reported from Ponmudi (~400 cm^{-3}) at the southern part of the WG, and another site at WG - Mahabaleshwar (~500 cm^{-3}) at 0.2 % SS. From Table 2, very high values of CCN concentrations are reported from polluted urban environments. Very low CCN concentrations (<300 cm^{-3} at 1 % SS) are reported from pristine environments like Amazon (Pohlker et al., 2016; 2018), and Alps (Juranyi et al., 2011). The mean CCN values observed at Solapur during ISM are comparable to those classified as 'polluted-marine' by Andreae, (2009).

Generally, an enhancement in k-values is observed during the monsoon period, which is seen only during the marine-2 conditions in this study. In all other cases, the k-values are comparable.. Jayachandran et al., (2017; 2018) reported similar results for the monsoon period both at a coastal site, and at a hill station in the WG. From the southern tip of India, Jayachandran et al., (2017) have shown that the enhancement of k values (~0.7) associated with wet scavenging and low k values (~0.55) during no rainfall conditions, within the same ISM period. The enhancement in k values (two-times) associated with the monsoon rainfall can be seen from Mahabaleshwar also (Table 2). Thus, the CCN concentrations at different SS at Solapur during ISM are low compared to those reported from other environments in India, while the CCN spectra show the common characteristics to those values reported from WG and peninsular India.

Significant diurnal variations are seen in the PBL AP properties over the Indian sub-continent (Nair et al., 2007). Daytime high and nighttime low aerosol abundance characterized by anomalous high values just after sunrise is known as the fumigation peak (Prakash et al., 1992), is generally observed. This diurnal pattern is mostly due to the evolution of the PBL and due to local emissions (Nair et al., 2007; Kumar et al., 2015). As the CCN activation and its properties are highly heterogeneous, it is very important to know its variation in a day. The diurnal variation of CCN concentration at 0.3 % SS, segregated to air mass are shown in Figure 5(a) and 5(b), respectively. The CCN variations in a day are similar during the marine conditions (Fig. 5a), while it differs before and after the monsoon rainfall. In general, CCN concentrations show a slight enhancement (more prominent during clean background-marine air mass) during daytime due to the anthropogenic activities. A rapid increase is seen just after the sunrise in all the conditions, though weak in continental-2, due to the mixing of the nocturnal residual layer with the evolving PBL (fumigation peak). There is no vivid diurnal variation in CCN during continental-2. The diurnal variations of CN and BC concentrations for different periods are shown in Figure 6. The diurnal variation of the CN concentration and BC mass concentration is more vivid than that of the CCN concentration. A clear bi-modal variation is seen in both CN and BC diurnal variations during marine conditions. A sharp peak is seen in both CN and BC after the sunrise (0600-0700 IST) and the next peak starts increasing from 1500 IST maximum is at around 2000 IST. The diurnal variations in CN and BC are less prominent during the marine, compared to that during the continental conditions. In both the conditions a small increase is seen in the CN concentration around afternoon. The fumigation peak seen in BC during the continental conditions was more than twice the corresponding daytime average values. Another important observation is that the CN values were consistently higher during continental-2 throughout the day than continental-1 while the daytime BC mass was higher during continental-1 than 2. In contrast to the CCN, the BC had well defined multiple peaks (morning and

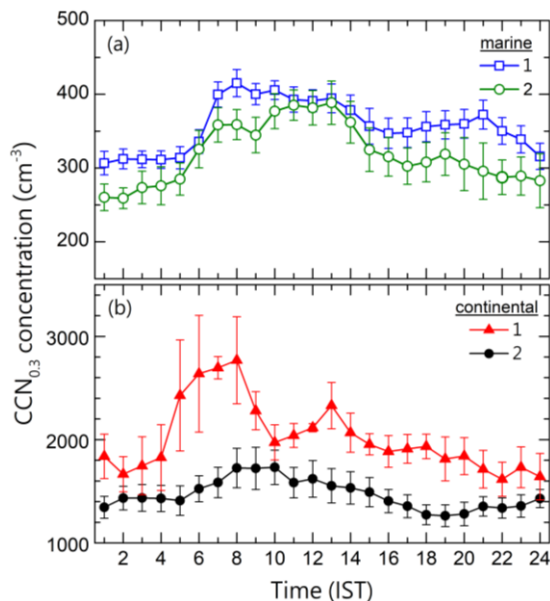
305 evening), indicating the contrasting aerosol source characteristics during the diurnal cycle. The well-mixed conditions during the late afternoon hours and the PBL evolution has a well defined role in the reduction of concentration during the daytime, until new sources of aerosol are injected in to the atmosphere in the evening hours. The nighttime increase in BC could be due to the stable conditions and less vertical mixing. The role of the PBL in modulating regional aerosol characteristics will be dealt in a separate study.

310

Figure 5. Diurnal variation of CCN concentration at 0.3 % SS during (a) marine and (b) continental conditions.

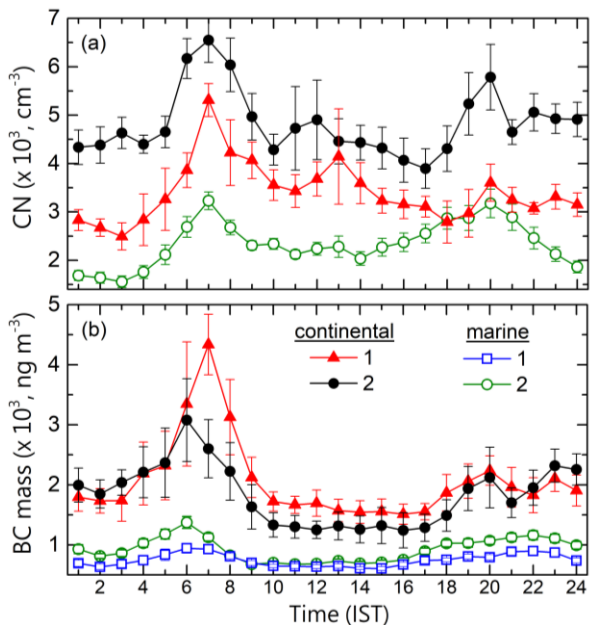



Figure 6. Diurnal variations of (a) CN and (b) BC concentrations during marine and continental conditions.

315   A few studies reported the diurnal variations in CCN and its properties; at coastal (Jayachandran et al., 2017), WG (Leena et al., 2016; Jayachandran et al., 2018), rain-shadow (Varghese et al., 2016), IGP (Patidar et al., 2012), central Himalayan (Gogoi et al., 2015), and Eastern Himalayan (Roy et al., 2017) environments of the Indian sub-continent. Weak diurnal variations in CCN concentrations during ISM, similar to the present study but with opposite patterns were reported from the southern coast by Jayachandran et al., (2017) and from WG by Leena et al., (2016). Day-night variations in the CCN

320 concentration can be due to the changes in aerosol sources, PBL dynamics, or both. Since the sky is generally overcast during the ISM and hence a shallow moist PBL (Sandeep et al., 2014) prevails, the observed diurnal variations during marine conditions are mainly due to the diurnal variations in the source and sink processes. The bi-modal diurnal pattern seen in BC mass concentration at Solapur is seen similar to the observations reported by Safai et al., (2007) over Pune. Apart from the fumigation process happening during the sunrise, vehicular and biomass emissions also have a role in the peaks observed in a

325 day. Thus, both local emissions and PBL dynamics contributed to the diurnal variations observed in the AP characteristics. The diurnal variations during the continental conditions indicate the consistently high AP background conditions. While the diurnal variations during the marine conditions indicate the significant presence of local AP sources.

3.3 CCN-CN association

      The association of CCN concentration at 0.3 % SS with the concurrent total AP number concentration, CN (~15-685

330 nm) is investigated separately for different conditions and is shown in Figure 7. CCN concentration at 0.3 % during continental-1 is estimated from the measured CCN spectra. The role of the aerosol NSD is revealed through the color of the scatter which represents the Geometrical Mean Diameter (GMD) of the corresponding AP system. It can be inferred from the Figure that the relationship between CCN and CN is different for different conditions. A least-square linear fit forced through origin (as there is no CCN in the absence of CN) is made through the scatter.

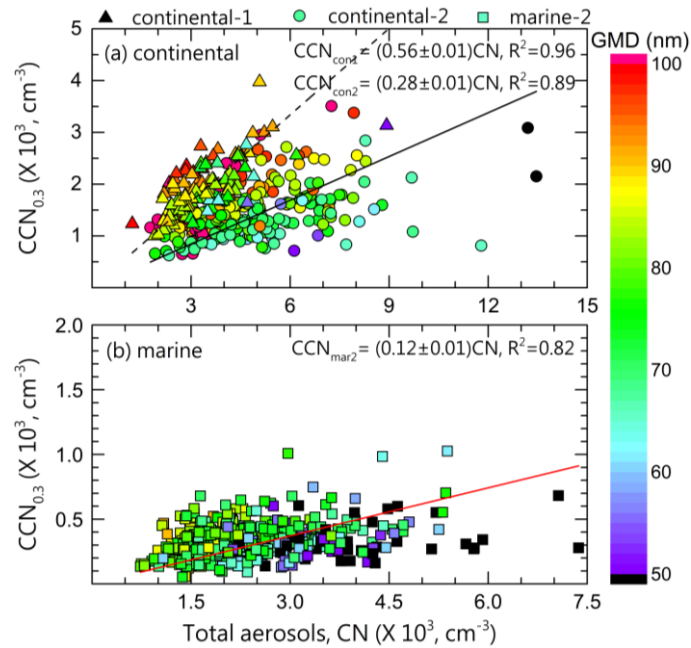



Figure 7. Association between CCN (at 0.3 % SS) and CN concentrations segregated to (a) continental and (b) marine conditions. The color of the scatter indicates the concurrent geometrical mean diameter of the aerosol system. The least-square linear fit is also shown along with the fit parameters.

The best linear relationship between the CCN at 0.3 % and CN concentrations is seen during continental-1, and the corresponding slope and correlation coefficient (R) of the fit are ~0.56 and 0.98, respectively. The linear association weakens during the marine condition when the slope and correlation coefficient values of the fit reduce to ~0.12 and 0.90, respectively. Even though under continental conditions, the slope of the linear fit during continental-2 (~0.28) reduces to the half of that measured during continental-1, and the correlation coefficient value (R=0.94) also reduces. The relationship between CCN and CN during marine-2 is weaker than the continental, and only a few AP are activating as CCN. It can be seen that most of the scatter points which lies below the linear fit line and corresponding to the higher (than the monthly mean) CN values are having GMD less than 50 nm. Even though the number of cases is less, similar observations can be seen during the continental case also. The two points (black-circle) corresponding to CN concentrations higher than 13,000 cm^{-3} are having GMD less than 50 nm. These cases which reduce the CCN activation indicate the presence of an UF mode, probably due to the new particle formation (NPF) events. However, the presence of UF particles is not the only cause for less activation of CN as CCN in marine conditions as the scatter and the linear fit excluding the UF particles are also having low correlation and slope values.

During marine-2 (Fig. 7b), the CCN concentration at 0.3 % was not increasing beyond 600 cm^{-3}, despite of CN concentration increasing to ~7,500 cm^{-3}. This is indicative of a significant number of UF that require high SS for activation. Similar behavior of AP system towards CCN activation is observed at Eastern Himalayas (Roy et al., 2017). The drastic difference in CCN-CN association, similar to the present study, is also reported by Asmi et al., (2012) between winter and

summer months at a high-altitude site in France. They have attributed the predominance of accumulation mode particles and fine mode particles during winter and summer months, respectively. From the Central Himalayas, Dumka et al., (2015) have shown an increase in CCN-CN scatter during ISM due to the change in the aerosol physico-chemical properties. The spread of the scatter between CN and CCN increased for polluted conditions (Jayachandran et al., 2020), which was attributed to the associated complex aerosol size distribution and mixing state. Thus, the CCN dependence on CN population during the ISM shows a complex dependence on the aerosol size and mixing state.

3.4 CCN Activation Fraction

The fraction of AP acting as CCN at a given SS is known as the CCN activation fraction/ratio (AF) and is an important parameter to characterize the CCN activity (Dusek et al., 2006; Andreae, 2009; Deng et al., 2013). The CCN AF values for all the SS segregated to different air mass history is shown in Figure 8. During continental-1, more than 40 % of the AP are getting activated as CCN at 0.2 % SS. Nevertheless, during marine-2, about 40 % of the particles only are activating as CCN even at 1.2 % SS, revealing the highly CCN inactive nature of the aerosols. During continental-2, the CCN AF values at all SS are between those of continental-1 and marine-2.

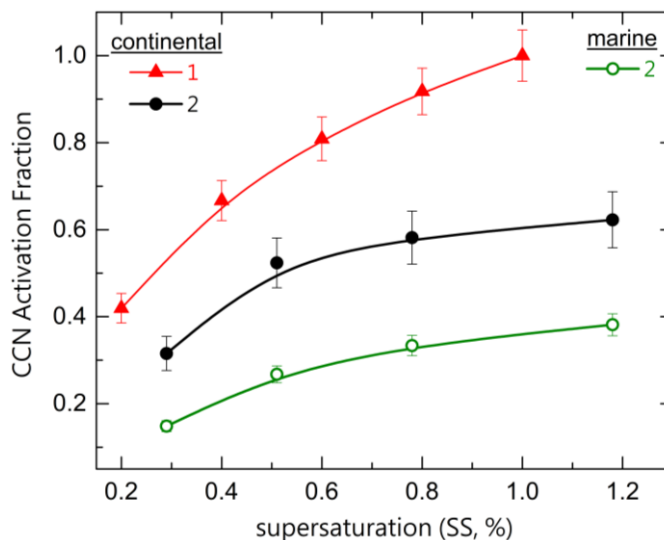



Figure 8. Variation of CCN activation fraction at different SSs during continental and marine (conditions. Vertical error bars indicate the standard error.

The diurnal variations of k and AF (0.3 % SS) values are shown in Figure 9. Unlike the continental conditions, the k values show a clear diurnal pattern during the marine conditions, similar as in the case of CN and BC concentrations. The k values increase almost twice after the sunrise and decrease thereafter reaching the nighttime values by evening hours (1600 IST) during marine conditions. Again, the k values peak at around 2100 hours IST. The enhancement in CCN and k values during daytime in marine airmass conditions, indicate the influence of local anthropogenic aerosol sources in determining the

CCN activation. As discussed in Figure 8, the CCN AF values are very low throughout the day, with a slight increase during noon hours in marine-2, when the k-values are low. Contrastingly, the AF values are consistently high throughout the day during continental-1. During continental-2, an increase in CCN AF (from ~0.3 to 0.4) can be seen during the daytime.

It is well understood that the CCN characteristics are a function of aerosol size and composition. Hence it will be interesting to know the diurnal variations of the concurrent aerosol size and composition. In the absence of continuous aerosol composition measurements, the absorption Angstrom exponent (α_{abs}), which is a proxy to identify the nature of the carbonaceous aerosols is estimated, and its diurnal variation for different conditions are shown in Figure 10 (a and b). The diurnal variation of the GMD for the corresponding periods are shown in Figure 10 (c and d). The diurnal variations of α_{abs} is similar for the marine conditions with the values peaking by sunrise (0600-0900 IST) and late evening hours (1800-2000 IST). Almost the same pattern is seen during continental-2 also, but of different magnitudes. Meanwhile there is no clear diurnal variations in α_{abs} during continental-1 observations similar to the diurnal variations of k and AF.

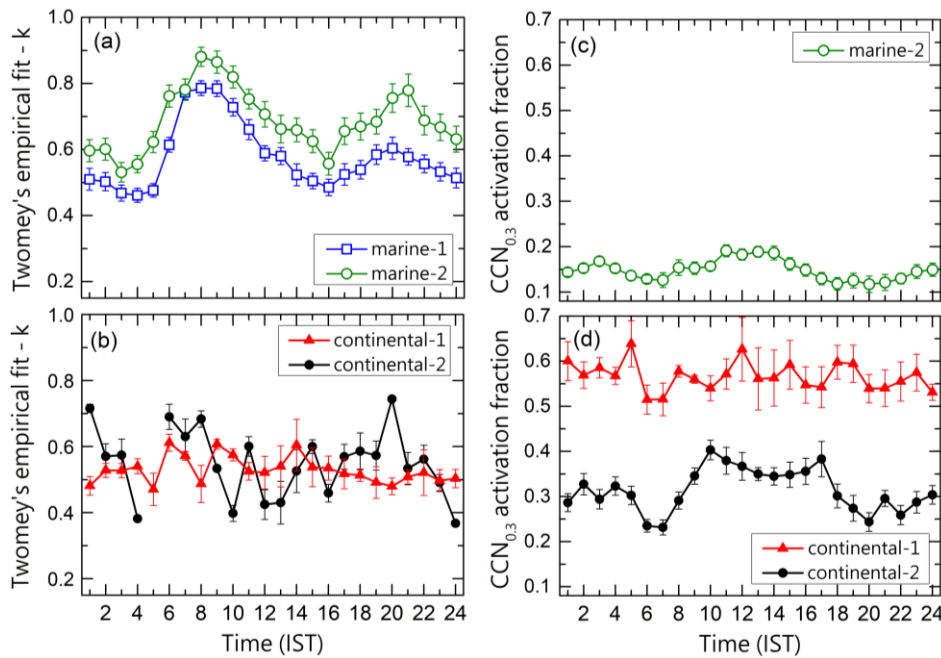



Figure 9. Diurnal variations of k-values (a and b), and CCN activation fraction (c and d), during marine and continental conditions. Vertical bars indicate the standard error values.

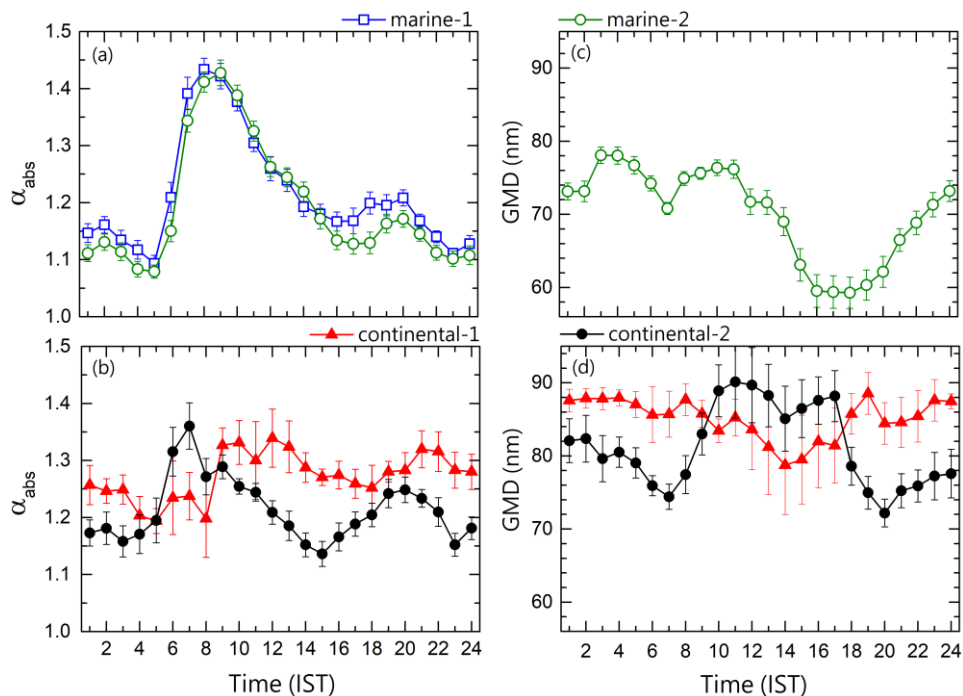



Figure 10. Diurnal variation of absorption Angstrom exponent (a and b) and geometrical mean diameter (c and d) during continental and marine conditions. Error bars indicate the standard error associated with the mean values.

395

The mean GMD values during the marine conditions decrease from 1200 IST onwards and reaches the minimum value (<60 nm) from 1600 to 1800 IST, which increases back to ~72 nm by midnight hours. Interestingly, a small dip in the GMD is observed during the fumigation peak (~0700 IST), associated with the sharp increase in α_{abs} values. The GMD values were consistently higher throughout the day during continental-1, such that the lowest mean value (~79 nm) observed at the
400   1400 IST is higher than the maximum mean GMD (~78 nm) observed in a day (0300 and 0400 IST) during marine-2. GMD during continental-2 depicts a clear diurnal variation which is opposite to that observed during continental-1, with distinct high values during daytime. Similar to marine-2, GMD decreases during the fumigation peak associated with the sharp increase in the α_{abs} values.

Even though the mean α_{abs} values are almost similar in all periods with comparatively higher (1.29 ± 0.09) during
405   continental-1 and lower during marine-2 (1.19 ± 0.14), the values show diurnal variations systematic with aerosol abundance diurnal variations. The sudden sharp increase in the k values (Fig. 9a) during sunrise hours of marine-2 is associated with a similar enhancement in the α_{abs} values. The high k values (>0.8) during these hours is due to the organic aerosols, inferred from α_{abs} values. Chung et al., (2012) have reported α_{abs} values above 1.6 for organic aerosols while, Gyawali et al., (2009) have reported α_{abs} values above 1.4 for biomass smoke. The daytime enhancement (~2 times) in CCN AF during continental-
410   2 is exactly according to the daytime enhancement seen in the aerosol GMD. Jayachandran et al., (2017) have reported the similar association between CCN AF and aerosol GMD diurnal pattern during ISM from a coastal site in southern peninsular

India. Interestingly, similar association is not seen in other periods. Thus, the aerosol composition especially the organic aerosols inferred from the high α_{abs} values is playing a role in determining the CCN activation during the marine conditions, while the aerosol size is determining the CCN activation during the continental conditions.

415   In general, high AF is found for aged background aerosols, while freshly emitted polluted urban aerosols have low CCN efficiency (Andreae and Rosenfeld, 2008). CCN AF values reported from India and some relevant studies reported across the globe are mentioned in Table 2. The similarity seen in CCN concentration and k values are seen in CCN AF also between Solapur and Ponmudi during the ISM. At both the places, only a small fraction (15-20 %) of the ambient AP is activating as CCN at 0.3 % SS. As seen in the Table, high AF values are reported from the coastal location and central Himalayas. The high

420 CCN AF during the continental conditions at Solapur is similar to those reported during dry conditions in Nainital (Gogoi et al., 2015), where the high CCN AF was attributed to biomass burning. The low CCN AF observed at Solapur during marine conditions resulting from the wet scavenging, is consistent with the values reported over the sub-continent during similar conditions, while the high CCN AF before and after monsoon rainfall is observed by several studies, resembling a biomass burning dominant polluted environment (Andreae, 2009).

425   As mentioned earlier and reported by several studies (Dusek et al., 2006; McFiggans et al., 2006), aerosol size plays a major role in determining the CCN activation ability of aerosols. It has been found that the UF particles were present during the monsoon conditions, when CCN AF was very low (Fig. 8). Meanwhile, the presence of bigger particles is enhancing the CCN activation in other cases. To investigate the role of aerosol size in the observed CCN activity, the aerosol NSD during each condition is examined in detail.

430 **3.5 Aerosol size distribution and critical activation diameter**

     The simultaneous and co-located aerosol size distribution observations and critical diameter are examined. The fraction of particles in the nucleation mode, Aitken mode, and accumulation mode is estimated and shown (in %) in Figure 11(a). Nucleation mode particles are those observed below 30 nm, Aitken mode particles are those from 30 nm to 100 nm and accumulation mode particles are those beyond 100 nm (Ueda et al., 2016; Willis et al., 2016). The corresponding mean NSD

435 of AP along with the standard deviations for the study period are shown in panels (b), (c), (d) of Figure 11. The frequency of occurrence of the GMD for each period along with the mean GMD values are shown in Figure 11(e). As seen in the CCN characteristics, aerosol NSD also depicts distinct features prior to the marine (Fig. 11b), during marine (Fig. 11c) and after the marine air mass (Fig. 11d).

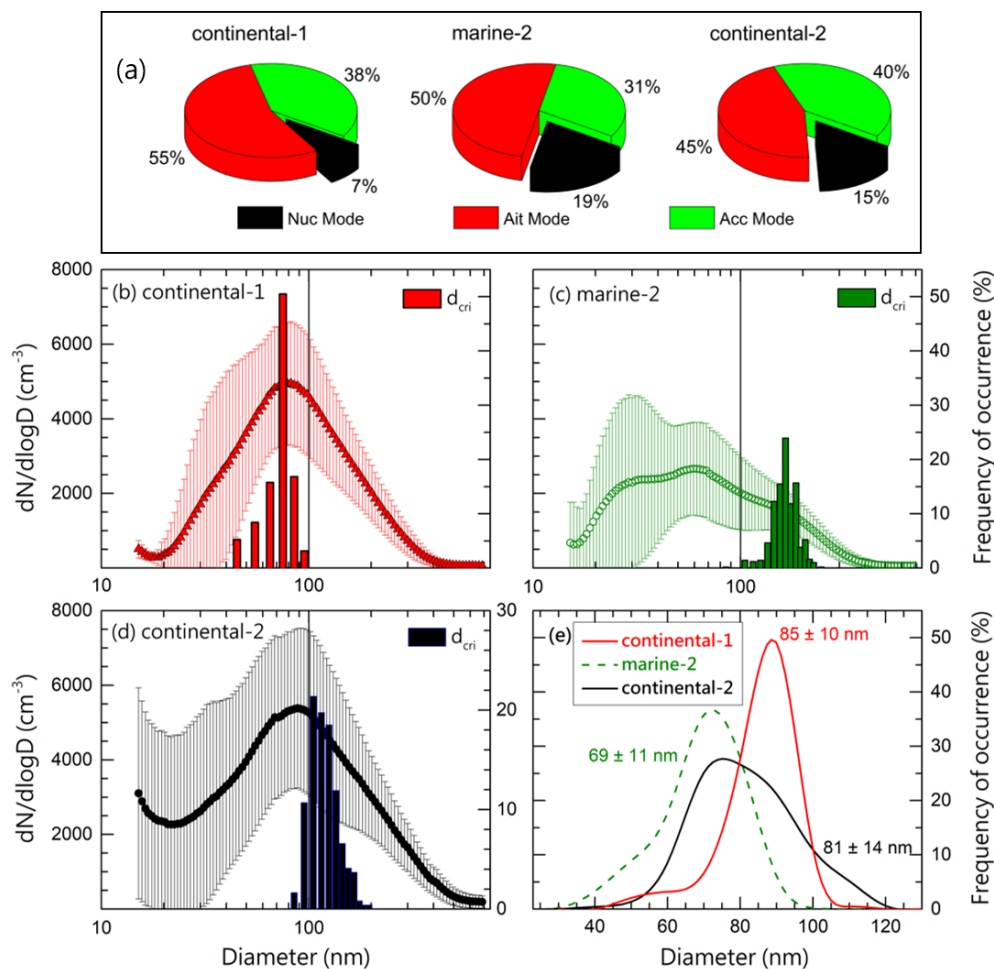



Figure 11. (a) Fraction (in %) of nucleation mode, Aitken mode, and accumulation mode particles during the observation periods. Aerosol mean number-size distribution (with standard deviations) during (b) continental-1, (c) marine-2, and (d) continental-2 conditions. The bars in the same plots indicate the frequency distribution of critical activation diameters at 0.3 % SS of the corresponding conditions (right axis). (e) Frequency distribution of the geometric mean diameter of the aerosol system during the observation periods.

During continental-1, most of the distributions are mono-modal, peaking around 80 nm and the mean GMD during this period is ~85 nm. In this period, the majority (~55 %) of the AP were present in the Aitken mode and least (~7 %) in the nucleation mode. During the continental-2 air mass conditions a prominent presence of nucleation mode particles (15 %) was also seen (Figure 11d). The consistent presence of such particles is seen as the spread of the distribution of the GMD in Figure 11(e). Unlike the continental air mass conditions, the aerosol size distributions are entirely different during the marine air mass under the monsoon rainfall as seen in Figure 11(c). Three modes are distinctly observed in Figure 11(c), with two peaks below 100 nm. The mean GMD during this period is ~69 nm with the frequency distribution spreading towards the lower size range. About 19 % of the total aerosols were found in the nucleation mode (<30 nm) during marine-2 and this feature continues in

continental-2 also, even though the air mass history changes. The accumulation mode (30-100 nm) AP concentration diminished (only 31 %) during the marine air mass.

For a given aerosol NSD, the critical activation diameter (d_{cri}) serves as an important parameter for representing the CCN activity, along with the CCN activation fraction and the empirical fit parameter – k values. Assuming homogeneous composition, d_{cri} for a specific SS can be estimated by integrating the aerosol NSD from the higher to lower size, until the integration becomes equal to the measured CCN number concentration at that SS (Furutani et al., 2008; Kammermann et al., 2010; Deng et al., 2011; Fang et al., 2016). The lower limit of the integration can be considered as the 'apparent' critical activation diameter, as the ambient aerosol system can have both internal and external mixing state, and size-dependent composition. The frequency distribution of d_{cri} estimated for 0.3 % SS is also shown as the bars (right axis) in Figure 11(a-c). Comparing the d_{cri} for different conditions, the values were always less than 100 nm during continental-1, contrastingly the values were always greater than 100 nm during marine-2. The d_{cri} values were around 100 nm during continental-2. The mean (± standard deviation) values of d_{cri} were 72 ± 12 nm, 169 ± 38 nm and 121 ± 20 nm for continental-1, marine-2 and continental-2 conditions, respectively.

Different factors such as heterogeneous sources (Kim et al., 2002; Morawska, 2002), local meteorology (Wehner and Wiedensohler, 2003; Du et al., 2018), long-range transport (Birmili et al., 2001), and cloud processing (Noble and Hudson, 2019) can influence and modify the NSD. The predominant (69 %) fine particles (<100 nm) size distribution (bi-modal) during marine air mass is similar to the two modes observed in the fine size range during monsoon at the urban site, Kanpur (Bhattu and Tripathy, 2014) during the ISM. The GMD values and the corresponding CCN properties from the present study and relevant other studies are listed in Table 2. Less AP concentration with low GMD (74 nm) was observed during monsoon at an urban site by Kanawade et al., (2014) and at a background Himalayan site (86 nm) by Kompulla et al., (2009) over the Indian sub-continent. Similar to the present study, GMD was high before and after the monsoon period, in both studies. From a high-altitude site in WG, Leena et al., (2016) have reported the lowest seasonal mean GMD of ~77 nm during ISM. The enhancement of the smaller particles in the total aerosol system, causing the reduction of the GMD especially during monsoon as seen in the present study is consistent with the previous studies (Babu et al., 2016). The mean GMD value observed over Solapur during ISM is the lowest (69 nm) reported value during the similar period over the Indian region.

Similar to the present observations, comparable accumulation and Aitken modes, and a dominant accumulation mode was reported over Amazon for wet and dry months, respectively by Pohlker et al., (2016). The accumulation mode particles are associated with either aged biomass burning particles (Kalvitis et al., 2015) or condensation or coagulation of secondary organics and inorganics particles (Seinfeld and Pandis, 2016). Interestingly, low aerosol GMD values (<70 nm), similar to the present observations during marine air mass, were consistently observed near anthropogenic sources by Quinn et al., (2008). In the same study, they found bigger AP (GMD>70 nm) for observations carried out away from anthropogenic sources, which is similar to the present observations during June and continental conitions. From the concurrent Aerosol Mass Spectrometer measurements, they found that hydrocarbon-like organic aerosols (HOA) having mass spectrum characteristic of long chain hydrocarbons from fresh diesel exhausts were responsible for the fine mode, while oxygenated organic aerosols and sulfates

are responsible for the higher GMD. Hence the presence of freshly produced local fossil fuel combustion aerosols in the UF mode can be a reason for the low CCN activity during marine-2 in the present study. During the marine condition, most of the bigger AP which are potential CCN are either washed out by wet scavenging or already activated as cloud droplets. Hence the measured AP are devoid of CCN active particles which are clearly seen from the aerosol NSD during the relevant period (Fig. 11). Thus, the low CCN activation fraction during the marine conditions is due to the missing of those CCN active particles near the surface.

Since the CCN activity depends mainly on the aerosol size and chemical composition (Dusek et al., 2006; McFiggans et al., 2006), d_{cri} estimated from concurrent aerosol NSD and CCN measurements can be considered as a proxy for the variations in the chemical composition of the aerosol system. As the aerosol size distribution and chemical composition are intrinsically associated with each other, any shift in the physical size distribution is mostly associated with the change in the aerosol composition, arising mainly due to the change in the sources or due to different processes such as ageing, coating or scavenging, except for externally mixed systems (Crosbie et al., 2015). Quinn et al., (2008) have correlated the d_{cri} with the HOA mass, and found that HOA can explain about 40 % of the variance in the d_{cri}. They have reported 70-90 nm and higher values (>90 nm) as the d_{cri} for marine and inland regions, respectively, at 0.44 % SS. For anthropogenic and marine environments, Furutani et al., (2008) have reported d_{cri} values of 70-110 nm and 50-60 nm, respectively, at 0.6 % SS. The d_{cri} values observed during continental conditions at Solapur is similar to the values observed at a tropical monsoon climate region by Fang et al., (2016), under urban influence. The d_{cri} values during marine-2 are higher than the corresponding values reported from polluted North-China plain by Deng et al., (2011). From an urban site, Burkart et al., (2011) have reported an average value of ~169 nm for d_{cri} at 0.5 % SS. Freshly emitted carbonaceous combustion particles can have large d_{cri} values up to ~350 nm, even at a high SS (0.7 %) (Hitzenberger et al., 2003). The d_{cri} can exhibit very low values also, than theoretically estimated ones in the presence of partially or fully soluble particles, as their slight presence can largely enhance the CCN activity of insoluble particles such as BC and dust (Dusek et al., 2006; Begue et al., 2015). The sharp distinction in the d_{cri} values and aerosol NSD between different atmospheric/air mass conditions within the same season in the present study indicate the difference in the aerosol composition.

3.6 Relationship between aerosol absorption and CCN properties

The aerosol composition plays an important role associated with the changes in the aerosol NSD due to the meteorological processes and active source and sink mechanisms prevailing during the monsoon conditions. The significant influence of aerosol composition in determining the CCN activity at lower SS which is more probable in real atmosphere, is demonstrated in many studies (Cubison et al., 2008; Kammermann et al., 2010; Bhattu et al., 2015; Jayachandran et al., 2017). In this aspect, the role of carbonaceous aerosols in determining the CCN activation is investigated.

The association of CCN concentration at 0.3 % SS and absorption coefficient at 550 nm, segregated for different periods are shown in Figure 12. The association between aerosol absorption and CCN concentration is generally low, but moderate during the continental air mass and very weak during the marine air mass. The better association between the CCN

520 concentration and absorption properties may be due to (i) absorbing AP itself acting as CCN or (ii) aerosol species co-emitted with the absorbing AP activating as CCN. The higher slope and better association observed during continental-1 indicate that the low k, high AF values and the high association of between CCN and CN during the period are due to the major contribution of carbonaceous aerosols towards CCN activation. It can be either due to the co-emitted organics enhancing the CCN efficiency of the aerosol system or due to the aged carbonaceous aerosols itself activating as CCN or due to the combination of both. The

525 enhancement in the accumulation mode aerosols supports this observation as oxygenated organic aerosols and sulfates are found in the accumulation mode (O'Dowd et al., 1997; Quinn et al., 2008). During marine air mass there is no clear association between aerosol absorption and CCN, and less AP are activated as CCN. It indicates that there is a change in the source/sink and nature of CCN during marine/wet and continental/dry conditions.

Carbonaceous aerosols form a major source of CCN concentration and thereby contribute to indirect effect of aerosols

530 (Novakov and Penner, 1993). Anthropogenic carbonaceous aerosols cause an indirect effect of -0.9 W m^{-2}, while sulfates cause only -0.4 W m^{-2} (Lohmann et al., 2000). Spracklen et al., (2011) have shown through simulations that about 60 % of the global CCN concentration is from carbonaceous sources. Various atmospheric processes such as ageing, coating and mixing can enhance the water activity of BC (Lammel and Novakov, 1995; Kuwata et al., 2009), which is hydrophobic when freshly emitted. Mixing with hydrophilic substances like inorganic salts can also enhance the CCN activity of carbonaceous aerosols

535 (Dusek et al., 2006). Thus, the better correlation observed between CCN and aerosol absorption, and the associated high CCN efficiency during the continental conditions indicate the significant role of carbonaceous aerosols in CCN activation at Solapur. Jayachandran et al., (2018) illustrated the close association of CCN with aerosol absorption properties (better than present study) from WG and the lack of association between the parameters at a coastal site during the monsoon conditions. Enhancement in CCN concentration along with increase in the aerosol absorption coefficient was observed at central

540 Himalayas (Gogoi et al., 2015). In general, carbonaceous aerosols have a significant role in CCN concentration during continental conditions.

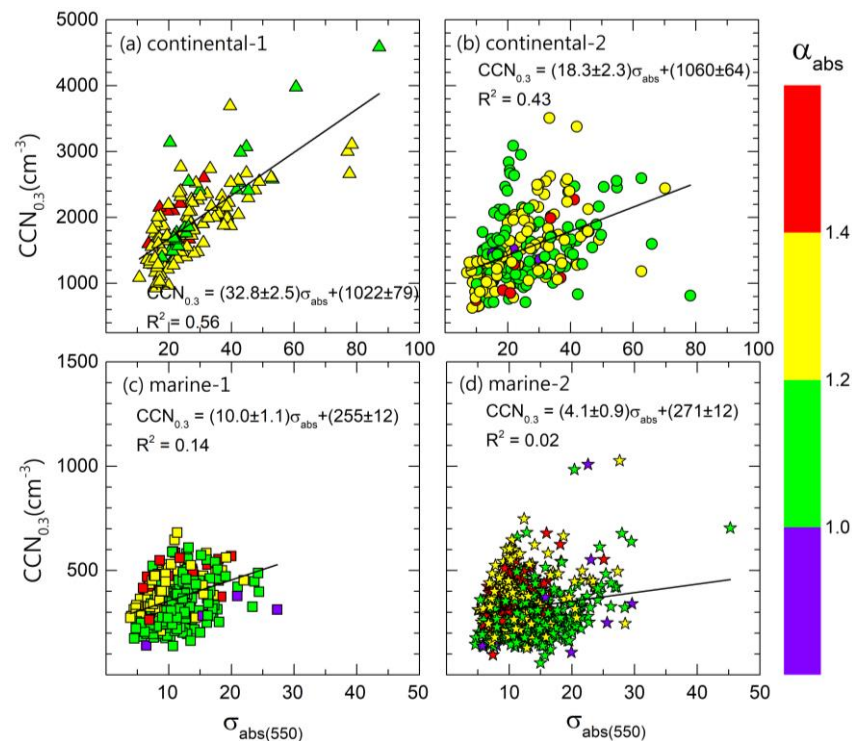



Figure 12. Association between CCN (at 0.3 % SS) and absorption coefficient (at 550 nm) for (a) continental-1 (b) marine-1, (c) marine-2, and (d) continental-2 conditions. The color of the scatter indicates the concurrent absorption angstrom exponent values. The least square linear fit is also shown along with the fit parameters.

As the very low AF is observed along with the enhancement in the nucleation mode particles and depletion of Aitken particles after the onset of ISM over the study region, the chemical characteristics of Aitken, as well as accumulation mode particles, are investigated. Most of the studies, from different parts of the globe, have reported about the high hygroscopicity of accumulation mode particles and less hygroscopicity for the Aitken mode particles (Paramonov et al., 2013; 2015). From the long-term observations from Amazon, Pohlker et al., (2016) have concluded that organics predominantly present in the Aitken mode reduces the hygroscopicity, while the dominance of inorganics in the accumulation mode enhances the aerosol hygroscopicity which was in-line with other studies (Gunthe et al., 2009; C. Pohlker et al., 2012).

The CCN concentration exhibited an association with the absorption coefficient during the continental air mass compared with the marine air mass conditions. The reduced CCN efficiency due to the presence of Aitken or UF mode is already discussed. To ascertain the contribution of the carbonaceous AP to the NSD, the association of BC with Aitken mode particles and accumulation mode particles are examined under high and low aerosl loading conditions, and shown in Figure 13. Since the BC loading was almost (>99 % cases) less than 2500 ng m^{-3} during marine-2, cases above this value is taken as polluted (p, high loading) in continental air mass. A least square linear fit is also made and the corresponding parameters are shown in Table 3. Under similar BC loading (low), Aitken mode AP are better associated with BC with higher slope (m=0.68)

during marine-2. While, the accumulation mode AP showed similar correlation with BC during low loading and the lowest slope during marine-2. The Aitken mode AP showed better association with BC during continental-2 under high BC loading case. Except during continental-2, the accumulation mode AP were more associated with BC compared to Aitken mode AP. These all indicate that BC or the co-emitted AP from carbonaceous combustion sourecs were predominant in Aitken mode during marine-2 and polluted continental-2 conditions. In all other cases the carbonaceous combustion AP contributed to the accumulation mode.

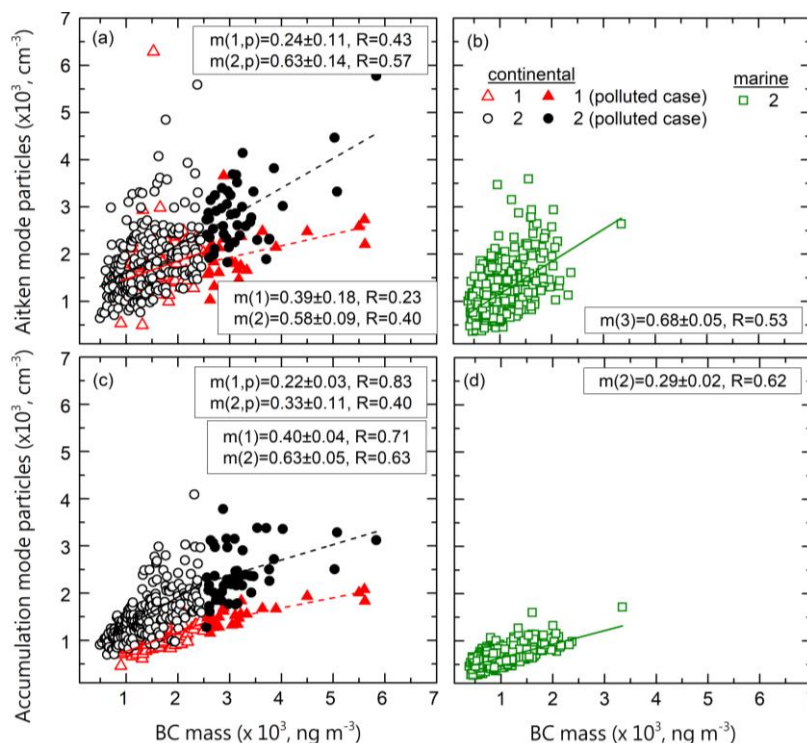



Figure 13. Association of BC mass concentration with (a) Aitken and (b) accumulation mode particles, segregated for different air mass conditions. The least square linear fit lines are also shown. The color of the scatter indicates the corresponding CCN AF values.

The association of BC with the accumulation mode particles and association of CCN with absorption coefficient during continental-1 along with high CCN AF indicate the aged, large size hygroscopic particles from carbonaceous combustion sources present prior to the monsoon at the location. The strong convective conditions existing during these conditions over the region can take the AP to high altitudes where it can absorb radiation and may lead to semi-direct effects. The association of BC with accumulation mode AP during continental conditions suggest that the carbonaceous AP existing in this size range can act as CCN. From the eastern coast of India, Kompalli et al., (2020) have reported highly coated larger BC particles (>110 nm) in dry conditions under the continental influence, while nascent BC particles (~80 nm) with less coating were found during ISM due to wet scavenging. This finding is in-line with the current marine-2 observations. The enhanced fine particle concentration having better association with BC mass concentration during continental-2 underlines the

580 possibility of freshly emitted carbonaceous aerosols reducing the CCN AF. The association of BC mass and accumulation mode aerosol number concentration also points to the possibility of inorganic aerosols like sulfate, co-emitted along BC from carbonaceous combustion sources, enhancing the CCN activity of AP in continental conditions. Hence, the role of carbonaceous AP in modulating both cloud microphysics and dynamics need to be investigated in detail. However, current investigation could not address these probable aspects.

585 **3.7 CCN closure**

To understand the role of size and composition in CCN activity, CCN closure studies have been carried out by many investigators (Brokehuizen et al., 2006; Lance et al., 2009; Juranyi et al., 2011; Bhattu and Tripathy, 2015; Crosbie et al., 2015; Jayachandran et al., 2017) at different environments, leading to the better understanding on the CCN activation from aerosols. CCN concentration at the rain shadow region under different air mass conditions are estimated and validated with the measured
590 CCN concentrations. The CCN concentrations are estimated by (i) assuming accumulation mode aerosols activating as CCN (ii) applying the mean 'apparent' critical diameter and (iii) assuming the aerosol composition as ammonium sulfate $((NH_4)_2SO_4)$, and compared with observations. The scatter between the CCN concentration at 0.3 % SS estimated and the corresponding measured CCN concentrations segregated according to marine and continental conditions are shown in Figure 14.

595 CCN are generally approximated as AP above 100 nm (accumulation mode) in many studies when there are no concurrent CCN measurements (eg. Andreae, 2009). Still, it is a rough approximation due to the non-linear dependence of CCN activation of AP, and this assumption is examined in Figure 14 (a and b). The variations in accumulation mode AP are correlated well (R>0.95) with the CCN concentration in all the conditions. Interestingly under the same conditions (continental), the accumulation mode AP have different activation efficiency as CCN and is under-estimated (m = 0.64) during
600 continental-1 and over-estimated (m = 1.26) during continental-2. But during marine-2 the linear fit of the scatter shows that the estimated CCN concentration is almost twice as that of the measured concentration, when the accumulation mode particles are considered to be CCN active.

Rather than taking an assumed value as the critical activation diameter (100 nm), the mean of the measured critical diameter (d_{cri}) is used to estimate the CCN concentration and shown in panels (c) and (d) of Figure 14. The mean d_{cri} for 0.3%
605 SS of ~70, ~165 and ~120 nm are used for estimating CCN during continental-1, marine-2 and continental-2 conditions, respectively. The estimated and the measured CCN concentration correlate well during the continental conditions with high correlation coefficient (R = 0.97) and almost unit slope. From the Figure 14(c), it can be seen that most of the points lie along the diagonal 1:1 line, irrespective of the number concentrations and GMD values.

The CCN concentration at 0.3 % SS at different conditions are estimated (Fig. 14 e and f) by assuming an inorganic
610 composition of $(NH_4)_2SO_4$ as an ideal scenario. The methodology used for the estimation is given in Appendix. In all the conditions, CCN concentrations were over-estimated by this approach, indicating that the ambient aerosol system has a lesser

hygroscopicity (κ) than that of $(NH_4)_2SO_4$. The highest over-estimation (m = 3.38) is observed during marine-2. During continental-1, the maximum correlation coefficient (R = 0.98) is obtained and the slope is also nearer to the unity (m = 1.13). However, for the continental-2 conditions, the CCN concentrations are over-estimated (almost twice) when $(NH_4)_2SO_4$ composition is assumed. These observations confirm that the nearly mono-modal aerosol NSD observed during continental-1 is more similar to an aged continental aerosol system having similar hygroscopicity of sulfate aerosols. This observation has to be considered along with the association of BC with accumulation mode aerosols (Fig. 13c). The AP system observed during marine conditions are of very less hygroscopic and the multiple size modes observed in the smaller size range indicate a heterogeneous composition in a complex mixing state, during the wet conditions.

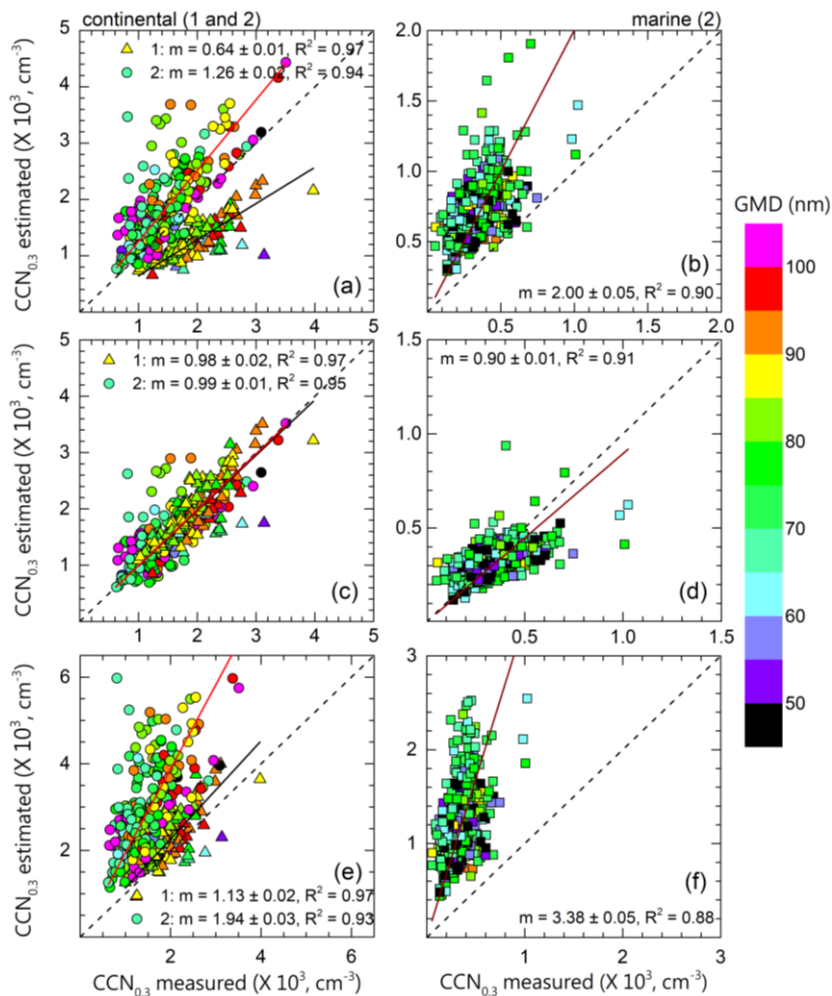



Figure 14. Scatter between estimated and measured CCN concentration at 0.3 % SS for continental and marine conditions with the color indicating the GMD. CCN estimated (a and b) as particles above 100 nm, (c and d) from critical activation diameter, and (e and f) using aerosol NSD and ammonium sulfate composition. Linear fit and the parameters are also shown. The dash lines indicate the unit slope (m=1) line.

Comparing the three approaches used to estimate the CCN concentration, using a sharp size cut for estimating CCN concentration suits well for all the cases. However, there is a variation in the AP composition in the continental air mass before the monsoon rainfall and after that, reflecting in the different CCN efficiency of the accumulation mode during these periods. The aged aerosol system prior to the monsoon resembles a sulfate aerosol composition with a very high CCN activation efficiency and low k values. During continental-2 all the accumulation mode aerosols are not participating in the CCN activation (Fig. 14a) and the assumption of $(NH_4)_2SO_4$ composition nearly doubles the estimated CCN concentrations. Comparing the aerosol NSD in continental conditions, there is a depletion of Aitken mode particles and an enhancement in nucleation mode particles during continental-2. Similar to the different AF between continental 1 and 2, Pohlker et al., (2016) have showed high CCN AF in the absence of nucleation mode.

This study is similar to the CCN closure reported by Crosbie et al., (2015) for North-American monsoon conditions. The complex meteorological pattern including the monsoon showers and regional aerosol production (both primary and secondary) causes large variability in the aerosol NSD as seen in Figure 11. The less hygroscopicity of the accumulation mode aerosols during the monsoon is revealed in Figure 14(b). The least closure is obtained while assuming a uniform internal mixture of hygroscopic inorganic composition. These all points to the highly complex mixture of the size-dependent composition of the prevailing aerosol system during monsoon. Studies (Cubison et al., 2008; Ervens et al., 2010) have highlighted the need for size-resolved composition information for estimating the CCN concentration for freshly emitted AP, near to the sources. Thus, even though the nucleation mode AP present during the period hinder the CCN activity, the presence of bigger particles in the same period is not supporting the CCN activation. It indicates that apart from the size of the aerosols, the composition/mixing state of the aerosol system during marine-2 also influence the CCN efficiency. From the aerosol optical properties (Fig. 10a), it is seen that the low CCN AF and high k value is associated with the enhancement of the organics at the site. These organics observed after sunrise hours during marine conditions may be limiting the CCN activation of the aerosols. The quantification and classification of these species are essential to address the effect of aerosols on clouds in the rain shadow region, especially during the monsoon.

4 Summary and Conclusions

CCN characteristics at a rain-shadow region during the Indian Summer Monsoon (ISM) are studied with respect to the different air mass and meteorological conditions that prevailed over the region. It is found that the polluted-continental conditions transform into a polluted marine condition by the onset of ISM with a significant change in aerosol size distribution and composition affecting the cloud nucleating properties. The important findings are listed below.

- Comparatively high BC (~2,000 ng m^{-3}) loading and AOD (> 0.5) prevailed over Solapur before and after the marine air mass, which reduced to very low values (BC~800 ng m^{-3}) during the monsoon-clean background conditions.

- The lowest CCN concentrations at any SS (~900 cm^{-3} at 1.2 % SS) is observed at Solapur, compared to the values reported during ISM over the Indian sub-continent. However, the k values (~0.6) during ISM are high and similar to those reported over Western Ghats (WG) and peninsular India under similar conditions.

- A slight daytime enhancement in CCN is seen due to the influence of anthropogenic activities, while a significant enhancement in k values (2 times) was observed during the daytime of monsoon with concurrent high absorption Angstrom exponent values.

- Significant diurnal variations in CN, BC concentrations and properties like 'k', CCN AF and α_{abs} during the marine air mass indicate the dominant presence of local aerosol sources, while the weak diurnal variations of the same parameters during the continental air mass indicate the consistent polluted background conditions at Solapur.

- The aerosol system prior to the onset of ISM having a mono-modal number-size distribution (NSD) with a geometrical mean diameter (GMD) of 85 ± 10 nm depicted high CCN activation fraction (AF) of ~55 % at 0.3 % SS. During the ISM, multiple modes were observed in aerosol NSD with a predominant nucleation mode fraction (~19 %) resulting in the lowest CCN AF of ~15 %. Just after the monsoon rainfall, aerosols were significantly present both in nucleation (~15 %) and accumulation mode (~40 %) and the CCN AF enhanced to ~32 % only even though the corresponding aerosols GMD was 81 ± 14 nm.

- The mean critical activation diameters (d_{cri}) estimated for 0.3 % SS from concurrent CCN and aerosol NSD measurements were highest during the monsoon (~165 nm) and lowest just prior to the monsoon (~70 nm), and ~120 nm just after the monsoon for 0.3 % SS.

- Better association of absorbing type aerosols with CCN and accumulation mode aerosols during continental air mass conditions indicate the aged, bigger sized particles from carbonaceous combustion sources possibly enhancing the CCN activity prior to the marine air mass. While, aerosol absorption correlated well with Aitken mode particles during and after the marine air mass resulting in low CCN activation.

- The closure study indicates the size dependency of CCN activation especially during dry-continental conditions. Most of the CCN-active AP were removed from atmosphere by activation or wet removal and the remained particles were inherently CCN-inactive as seen in the aerosol NSD during the marine air mass. However, the CCN activation efficiency of the accumulation mode particles reduced during and after the marine air mass.

The very low aerosol loading (towards an aerosol limited regime) with low CCN efficiency during the ISM rainfall, adds the significance of CCN in cloud droplet concentrations. The regional CCN concentration can be estimated from the aerosol size distribution alone, indicating the size dependency of CCN activation during the continental airmass conditions. But the distinct aerosol NSD and CCN properties during the monsoon due to the change in the aerosol source and sink mechanisms suggest the dependence of CCN activation on the composition of Aitken mode aerosols and its mixing state. However, the predominance of ultrafine particles in the boundary layer and the corresponding very low CCN efficiency demand further studies using the simultaneous cloud base observations to understand the ACI affecting the precipitation pattern

over the rain shadow region against the backdrop of cold phase invigoration (Rosenfeld et al., 2008; Gayatri et al., 2017) and condensational heating (Fan et al., 2018) mechanisms of tropical convective clouds.

Appendix

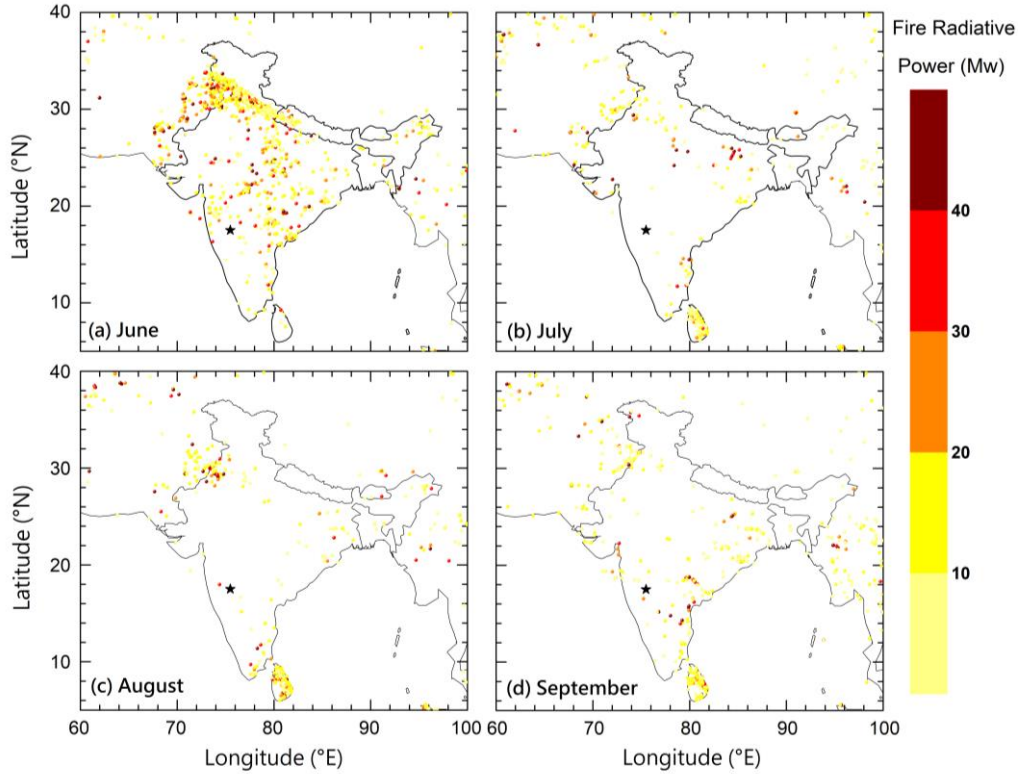



Figure A1. Spatial distribution of the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) fire radiative power (Collection 6 product obtained from https://earthdata.nasa.gov/firms) for the measurement periods, along with the observation site marked as a black star. Data points having confidence value higher than 30, which comes under the classification of 'nominal' and 'high' are only used.

Estimation of CCN concentration

The saturation ratio, $s = a_w \, exp\left(\frac{A}{D_p}\right)$ (A1)

and $a_w = \left(\frac{4\sigma M_w}{RT\rho_w}\right)$ (A2)

where a_w is the water cativity of the solution droplet, σ is the surface tension of the solution. M_w and ρ_w are the molecular mass and density of water. R is the universal gas constant and D_p is the size (Seinfeld and Pandis, 1998). The critical diameter

for a given aerosol system can be estimated from the Köhler theory based on its size distribution, chemical composition, hygroscopic growth information. The critical diameter derived from the Köhler equation is as follows (Lance et al., 2009)

$$d_{cri} = \left[\frac{27}{4}\left(\log\left\{\frac{SS}{100}+1\right\}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\rho_w RT}{4\sigma M_w}\right)^3 \left(\frac{M_w}{\rho_w}\right)\frac{\rho_s \vartheta \in}{M_w}\right]^{-1/3} \tag{A3}$$

where, ρ_s, M_s, and $\in$ denote density, molecular mass and volume fraction of the solute, respectively. ϑ is the effective Van'thoff factor.

Assuming a pure internally mixed aerosol system with uniform composition, CCN concentration can be predicted using the following equation based on the measured aerosol NSD and estimated critical diameter (Juranyi et al., 2011).

$$N_{CCN}(SS_{set}) = -\int_{D_{max}}^{d_{cri}} \frac{dN}{d\log D}(D)\, d\log D \tag{A4}$$

In the present study, the aerosol composition is assumed to be of ammonium sulfate as an ideal case (Covert et al., 1998) in order to examine the deviation of CCN activation from the ideal scenario. Hence the insoluble fraction was taken as zero. Density of $(NH_4)_2SO_4$ is taken as 1.76 g cm^{-3} (Hinds, 1999).

Data availability

Data used in the present study can be obtained by making a request through http://www.tropmet.res.in/~caipeex/ registration form.php or contacting thara@tropmet.res.in.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Author contributions

TVP conceptualized the experiment. TVP and VJ designed the study. TVP, PM, KST, SPB, GD, NM, JR, MK, SD, MV and PDS were responsible for conducting the campaign and data collection. VJ carried out the scientific analysis of the data and drafted the manuscript. TVP carried out the review and editing of the manuscript.

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Table 1: Details of aerosol measurements used in the current study

Sl. No.	Measurements	Instrument	Period (2018)	Reference
1	CCN concentrations at different SS	CCN counter (CCN-100, make: DMT)	June 1-8	Roberts and Nenes, (2005)
2	Aerosol NSD from ~15-655 nm	SMPS (LDMA + CPC, make: TSI)	July 8-12, 15-31 August 1-26, 28-31 September 15-30	Wiedensohler, (1988)
3	Aerosol absorption properties at 7 wavelengths	AE33 (make: Magee Scientific)		Drinovec et al., (2015)

Table 2: CCN and aerosol characteristics reported over various locations along with the present results (at 0.3 % SS). CCN reported for (@ 0.4%, # 0.36 SS

Location (coordinates; a.m.s.l)	Type/Condition	Period	CN (cm^{-3})	CCN (cm^{-3})	k	AF (%)	GMD (nm)	Reference
Solapur (17.65° N, 65.9° E, ~480 m)	Continental Monsoon Monsoon Continental	Jun 2018 Jul 2018 Aug 2018 Sep 2018	3427±1064 - 2356±984 4381±1824	1946±594 357±92 322±118 1497±524	0.52±0.11 0.58±0.16 0.67±0.18 0.56±0.16	0.55±0.09 - 0.15±0.06 0.32±0.10	85 ± 10 - 69 ± 11 81 ± 14	Present Study
Mahabubnagar 17°N, 78°E	Continental (Polluted)	Oct 2011	-	~5400 at 1 % SS	~0.45	~0.9	-	Varghese et al., (2016)
Ponmudi (8.8°N, 77.1°E; ~960 m)	Western Ghats Monsoon	Jul-Sep, 2016	~2000	~400	0.65±0.28	~0.20	-	Jayachandran et al., (2018)
Mahabaleshwar (17.56°N, 73.4°E; 1348 m)	Western Ghats/ Pre-monsoon Monsoon	Mar-May Jun-Aug, 2012	~3100 ~3200	~1200 ~500 at 0.2 % SS	~0.5 ~1	~0.35 ~0.35	~90 ~77	Leena et al., (2016)
Thumba@ (8.5°N, 76.9°E; 3 m)	Coastal Monsoon	Aug-Sep, 2013	~4900	2096 ± 834	0.54 ± 0.21	0.46 ± 0.15	~103	Jayachandran et al., (2017)
Nainital (29.2°N, 79.3°E; 1960 m)	Central Himalayas	Jun 2011 July 2011 Aug 2011 Sep 2011	2425±1112 1874±776 1606±453 2304±904	925±601 881±500 684±396 1233±677	0.57±0.11 0.45±0.08 0.45±0.04 0.39±0.03	0.38±0.11 0.47±0.11 0.42±0.18 0.54±0.12	-	Dumka et al., (2015)
Darjeeling (27.02°N, 88.25°E; 2200 m)	Eastern Himalayas	Mar-May, 2016	7220 ± 1988	~1600	0.38 ± 0.05	~0.25	-	Roy et al., (2017)
Kanpur (26.5°N, 80.3°E; 142 m)	Urban/Polluted	May-Jun (dry) Aug (wet)	~7110 ~6450	~4570 ~2360	-	~0.64 ~0.36	-	Bhattu and Tripathy, 2014

Korea (37.6 °N, 127.04° E)	Urban/Polluted	May-Jun, 2016	10825 ± 4863	3105 ± 1521	-	-	44 ± 14	Kim et al., (2018)
Guangzhou, (23.07°N, 113.21°E)	Clean Polluted	Summer	8246±3595 7193±3775	3017±1450 2883±1158	-	0.39±0.12 0.45±0.13	-	Duan et al., (2017)
Colarado[#] (38.64° N, 105.11° W, 2300 m)	Forest	Jun Jul Aug	~1400 ~1800 ~1250	~500	-	~0.30	~68 ~80 ~90	Levin et al., (2012)
Amazon 2.13° S, 59° W; 130 m	Forest Dry Wet	Aug-Nov Feb-May	1520±780 330±130	~1469 ~289 at 1% SS	0.36±0.06 0.57±0.03	-	-	Pohlker et al., (2016; 2018)

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Table 3: The linear fit parameters between BC mass and Aitken/accumulation mode particle concentration under different loading and air mass conditions

Period	loading	BC – Aitken particles			BC – Accumulation particles		
		m	C	R	m	C	R
Continental-1	low	0.39 ± 0.18	1082 ± 302	0.23	0.40 ± 0.04	364 ± 72	0.71
	high	0.24 ± 0.11	1194 ± 385	0.43	0.22 ± 0.03	815 ± 109	0.83
Marine-2	low	0.68 ± 0.05	477 ± 49	0.53	0.29 ± 0.02	356 ± 16	0.62
	high	-	-	-	-	-	-
Continental-2	low	0.58 ± 0.09	1025 ± 141	0.40	0.63 ± 0.05	657 ± 82	0.63
	high	0.63 ± 0.14	889± 444	0.57	0.33 ± 0.11	1398 ± 375	0.40