

Characteristics and Evolution of Brown Carbon in Western United States Wildfires

Linghan Zeng¹, Jack Dibb², Eric Scheuer², Joseph M. Katich^{3,4}, Joshua P. Schwarz⁴, Ilann Bourgeois^{3,4}, Jeff Peischl^{3,4}, Tom Ryerson^{3,4,a}, Carsten Warneke⁴, Anne E. Perring⁵, Glenn S. Diskin⁶, Joshua P. DiGangi⁶, John B. Nowak⁶, Richard H. Moore⁶, Elizabeth B. Wiggins⁶, Demetrios Pagonis^{3,7,b}, Hongyu Guo^{3,7}, Pedro Campuzano-Jost^{3,7}, Jose L. Jimenez^{3,7}, Lu Xu^{8,c}, Rodney J. Weber¹

¹Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA

²College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, USA

³Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA

⁴Chemical Sciences Laboratory, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Boulder, CO, USA

⁵Department of Chemistry, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY, USA

⁶NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA, USA

⁷Department of Chemistry, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA

⁸Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, USA

^aNow at: Scientific Aviation, Boulder, CO, USA

^bNow at: Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Weber State University, Ogden, UT, USA

^cNow at: Chemical Sciences Laboratory, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Boulder, CO, USA and Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA

Correspondence to: Rodney J. Weber (rweber@eas.gatech.edu)

Supplementary Material

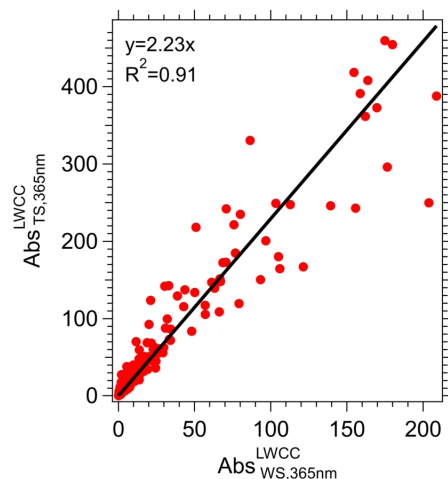


Figure S1. Comparison of TS BrC ($Abs_{TS,365nm}^{LWCC}$) and WS BrC ($Abs_{WS,365nm}^{LWCC}$) at 365 nm (total soluble=water soluble + methanol soluble) for all FIREX-AQ identified smoke plumes. The line represents the orthogonal distance regression of the data forced through zero.

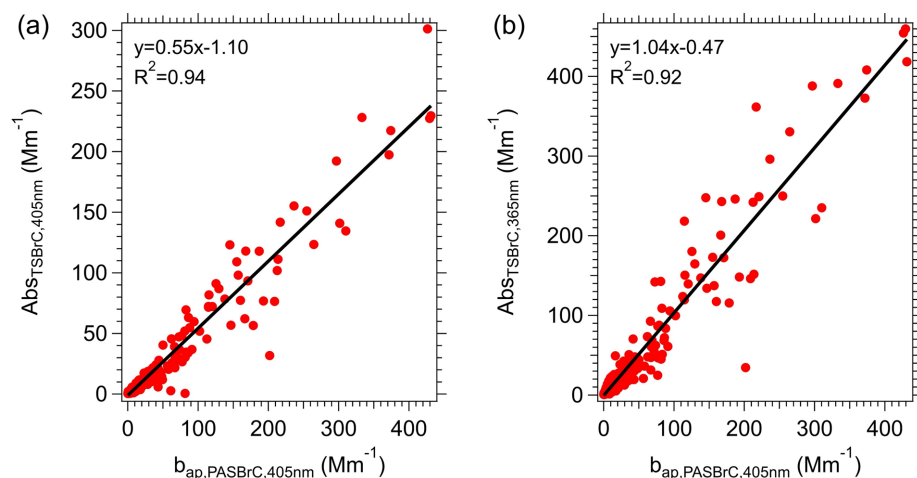


Figure S2. Comparison of BrC absorption in liquid (without applying the conversion factor K) at (a) 405 nm and at (b) 365 nm with BrC absorption inferred from the PAS at 405 nm.

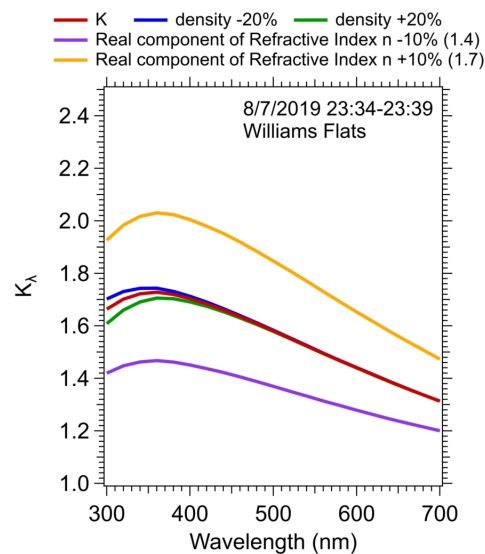
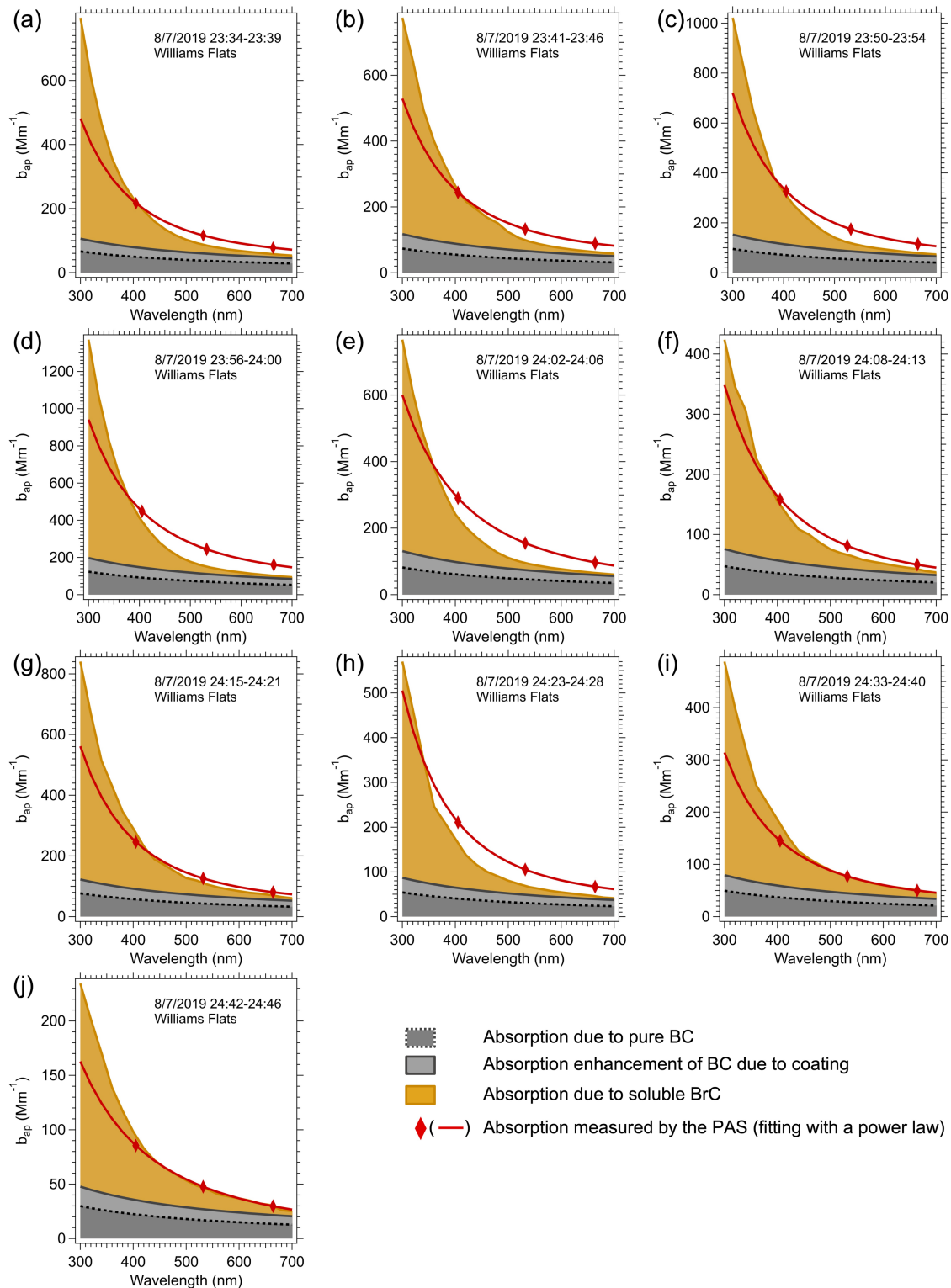


Figure S3. Sensitivity analysis of the conversion factor from absorption in liquid to aerosol based on Mie theory. The red curve, which is the same as the one in Figure 4, with assumptions that $n=1.55$, and density is 1.4 g cm^{-3} . Tuning the particle density by up (green) or down (blue) by 20% only results in less than 5% change. Altering the real component of the refractive index (n) by up (yellow) or down (purple) by 10% can lead to ~20% of variation.



45 Figure S4. 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 fire had high BC concentrations relative to BrC.

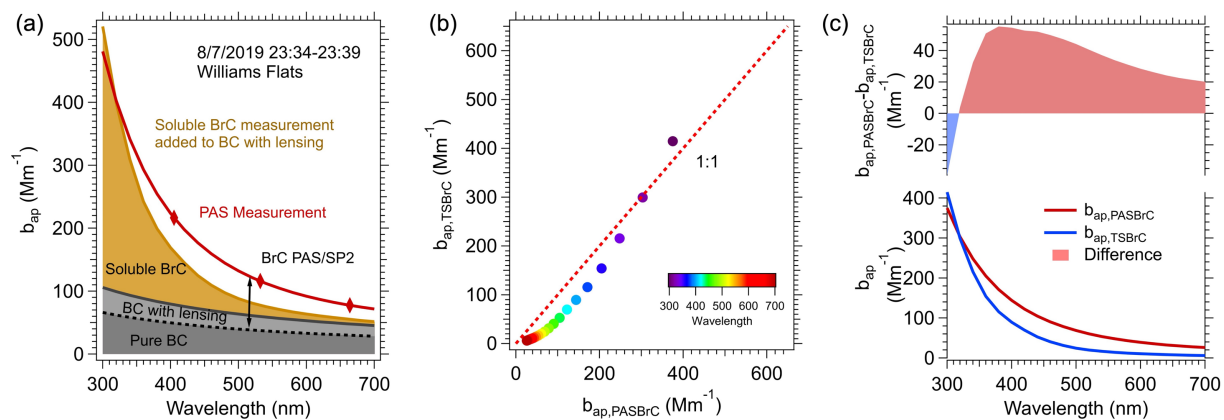


Figure S5. Similar plots shown in Figure 5, but with $K=1$ (without applying the conversion from liquid to aerosol).