

1 **Chemical Speciation of Sulfur in Marine Cloud Droplets and Particles:**  
2 **Analysis of Individual Particles from the Marine Boundary Layer over**  
3 **the California Current.**

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32 **ABSTRACT**

33 Detailed chemical speciation of the dry residue particles from individual cloud  
34 droplets and interstitial aerosol collected during the Marine Stratus Experiment (MASE) was  
35 performed using a combination of complementary microanalysis techniques. Techniques  
36 include computer controlled scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersed analysis of  
37 X-rays (CCSEM/EDX), time-of-flight secondary ionization mass spectrometry (TOF-  
38 SIMS), and scanning transmission X-ray microscopy with near edge X-ray absorption fine  
39 structure spectroscopy (STXM/NEXAFS). Samples were collected at the ground site located  
40 in Point Reyes National Seashore, approximately 1 km from the coast. This manuscript  
41 focuses on the analysis of individual particles sampled from air masses that originated over  
42 the open ocean and then passed through the area of the California current located along the  
43 northern California coast. Based on composition, morphology, and chemical bonding  
44 information, two externally mixed, distinct classes of sulfur containing particles were  
45 identified: chemically modified (aged) sea salt particles and secondary formed sulfate  
46 particles. The results indicate substantial heterogeneous replacement of chloride by  
47 methanesulfonate ( $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ ) and non-sea salt sulfate ( $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$ ) in sea-salt particles with  
48 characteristic ratios of  $\text{nss-S/Na} > 0.10$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-} > 0.6$ .

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## 50           1.        **INTRODUCTION**

51           Aerosols in the unpolluted marine boundary layer (MBL) result from two major  
52 sources. First, sea salt particles generated from wave action, which are typically micrometers  
53 or larger in size. Second, acidic sulfate aerosol formed by nucleation, with sizes on the order  
54 of tenths of a micrometer. This mixture of particle types evolves with time due to a number  
55 of processes, including deposition of condensable species, uptake of gas-phase species and a  
56 variety of heterogeneous gas-to-particle and homogenous in-particle chemical reactions.  
57 Increased interest in the chemical composition and heterogeneity of marine aerosols stems  
58 from their regional and global impact on sulfur oxidation in the MBL, in addition to climate  
59 effects arising from light scattering and cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) activity [*Covert, et*  
60 *al.*, 1992; *Gong*, 2003; *Gong and Barrie*, 2003; *Gong, et al.*, 1997; *Gong, et al.*, 2002; *Lewis and*  
61 *Schwartz*, 2004; *Murphy, et al.*, 1998; *Quinn, et al.*, 1993; *Sievering, et al.*, 1991; *Sievering, et al.*,  
62 2004].

63           The major gaseous precursor for marine sulfur-containing aerosol is dimethyl sulfide  
64 (DMS). DMS is produced and emitted into the atmosphere by marine phytoplankton [*Keller,*  
65 *et al.*, 1989]. Current estimates of global emissions indicate that DMS is the largest source of  
66 natural sulfur [*Bates, et al.*, 1992; *Kettle, et al.*, 1999], produced at a rate of  $\sim 12 \text{ Tg S yr}^{-1}$  [*Spiro,*  
67 *et al.*, 1992]. In the atmosphere, DMS undergoes a complex sequence of gas-phase oxidation  
68 reactions, producing a wide variety of oxidized products, which in turn interact with marine  
69 cloud droplets and aerosols. These interactions include nucleation of new particles and the  
70 alteration of pre-existing droplets and aerosols through condensation and multiphase  
71 chemistry. Due to its large flux, the atmospheric cycle of DMS significantly impacts the  
72 radiative budget over oceans on regional and global scales [*Charlson, et al.*, 1987; *Shaw*, 1983].

73           The atmospheric chemistry of DMS and its possible impact on aerosols and cloud  
74 droplets is the subject of many studies. Understanding its major reactions has been achieved  
75 through computer kinetic modeling studies [*Charlson, et al.*, 1987; *Kerminen, et al.*, 1998; *Koga*  
76 *and Tanaka*, 1993; 1996; 1999; *Koga, et al.*, 1991; *Lucas and Prinn*, 2002; 2003; 2005a; b; *Shaw*,  
77 1983; *von Glasow and Crutzen*, 2004; *von Glasow, et al.*, 2002a; b; *Yin, Grosjean, Flagan, et al.*, 1990;  
78 *Yin, et al.*, 1986; *Yin, Grosjean and Seinfeld*, 1990; *Zaveri*, 1997], focused laboratory studies  
79 [*Arsene, et al.*, 2002; *Barnes, et al.*, 1994; *Barone, et al.*, 1996; *Hynes, et al.*, 1995; *Hynes and Wine*,  
80 1996; *Hynes, et al.*, 1986; *Ravishankara, et al.*, 1997; *Stickel, et al.*, 1992; *Turnipseed, et al.*, 1997;  
81 *Urbanski, et al.*, 1998; *Yin, et al.*, 1986; *Zhao, et al.*, 1996; *Zhu, et al.*, 2006; *Zhu, et al.*, 2003], and  
82 field observations [*M. O. Andreae and Raemdonck*, 1983; *T. W. Andreae, et al.*, 1993; *Bandy, et al.*,  
83 1992; *Bandy, et al.*, 2002; *Barnard, et al.*, 1982; *Cooper and Saltzman*, 1991; 1993; *Spicer, et al.*,  
84 1996; *Zemmelink, et al.*, 2002]. A simplified schematic diagram illustrating DMS chemistry and  
85 its climate links is presented in Figure 1. In the ambient atmosphere, oxidation of DMS is  
86 initiated by reaction with a variety of atmospheric free radicals. These radicals include, but  
87 are not limited to, OH, NO<sub>3</sub>, O(<sup>3</sup>P), Cl, Br, and BrO. Such reactions proceed *via* two  
88 generalized reaction pathways: either addition of an O atom and/or abstraction of an H  
89 atom. The branching ratio between the two generalized pathways is temperature dependent  
90 with H abstraction dominating at room temperature, while O addition becomes increasingly  
91 important at temperatures below 280 K [*Hynes, et al.*, 1986; *von Glasow and Crutzen*, 2004].  
92 DMS gas phase oxidation products include sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>),  
93 dimethylsulfoxide (CH<sub>3</sub>SOCH<sub>3</sub>), methanesulfinic acid (CH<sub>3</sub>S(O)OH), methanesulfonic acid  
94 (CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H, MSA), in addition to other species [*Lucas and Prinn*, 2002; *von Glasow and Crutzen*,  
95 2004; *Yin, Grosjean, Flagan, et al.*, 1990; *Zaveri*, 1997].

96 Under atmospheric conditions,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  is the only DMS oxidation product that forms  
97 new non-sea salt sulfate ( $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$ ) particles (new CCN) that could potentially increase the  
98 cloud albedo. All other products condense onto pre-existing particles, primarily sea salt,  
99 leading to changes in particle composition and particle size without formation of new CCN.  
100 Fewer and larger particles of mixed sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ / $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  composition would reduce  
101 cloud albedo and increase the wash-out of particles due to collision coalescence, therefore  
102 reducing cloud lifetime. Hence, the partitioning between DMS oxidation products in  
103 different atmospheric environments may affect the number and size of CCN, which impacts  
104 the chemistry-cloud-climate feedback in the marine atmosphere. For the remainder of this  
105 work, methanesulfonate and sulfate are referred to as the anions  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$   
106 respectively, as in our samples they are present in crystalline form. Their cation pairing may  
107 include an array of ions typical for sea salt, i.e.  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{K}^+$  and others that are omitted for  
108 clarity.

109 For a specific set of atmospheric conditions, consecutive uptake of the DMS  
110 oxidation products onto cloud droplets and their subsequent oxidation in the aqueous phase,  
111 results in different partitioning between  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$ . Kinetic modeling studies of  
112 the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ / $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  partitioning in marine aerosol predict formation of minor amounts  
113 of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and favor production of  $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  in sea salt particles under a variety of  
114 atmospheric conditions [*Hertel, et al., 1994; Kerminen, et al., 1998; Kloster, et al., 2006; Koga and*  
115 *Tanaka, 1996; 1999; Lucas and Prinn, 2002; Yin, Grosjean, Flagan, et al., 1990; Zaveri, 1997*].  
116 Measured values of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ / $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios in bulk samples typically span a range from  
117 0.001 (low latitudes) to 0.6 (high latitudes) [*Allen, et al., 1997; Berresheim, et al., 1990;*  
118 *Burgermeister and Georgii, 1991; Galloway, et al., 1993; Ganor, et al., 2000; Kouvarakis and*  
119 *Mihalopoulos, 2002; Li and Barrie, 1993; Li, Barrie and Sirois, 1993; Li, Barrie, Talbot, et al., 1993;*

120 *Li, et al.*, 1996; *Mihalopoulos, et al.*, 1992; *Saltzman, et al.*, 1985; 1986; *Saltzman, et al.*, 1983;  
121 *Sciare, et al.*, 2000; *Wylie and deMora*, 1996]. Recent modeling studies indicate that under  
122 certain conditions  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios as high as 1.2 – 3.3 in marine droplets can occur  
123 [*von Glasow and Crutzen*, 2004]. Specifically, high  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  values resulted from  
124 model simulations for the cloudy MBL in winter conditions (surface temperature of 3-8°C  
125 over the ocean). The authors concluded that these high ratios could result from previously  
126 overlooked halogen chemistry that favors production of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  under cold cloud  
127 scenarios.

128         The high level of detail used in this model was in principle sufficient to distinguish  
129 and predict  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios in droplets and particles of different origin, *i.e.* sea salt  
130 *versus* sulfate particles [*von Glasow and Crutzen*, 2004]. However, validation of these  
131 calculations requires field or laboratory data with a similar level of specificity. In this  
132 manuscript we report results from single particle analysis of dry residues of cloud droplets  
133 and interstitial aerosol that provide information on  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios in individual  
134 marine particles for the first time.

135         Samples were collected during the Marine Stratus Experiment (MASE) of July 2005  
136 at the Point Reyes National Seashore located north of San Francisco [*MASE*, 2005]  
137 (<http://www.asp.bnl.gov/MASE.html>). This field study provided an excellent opportunity to  
138 sample marine particles under relatively cold cloudy conditions, which according to the  
139 modeling predictions of *von Glasow and Crutzen* [*von Glasow and Crutzen*, 2004], could display  
140 elevated  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios. At the northern coast of California, cold ocean currents  
141 produce preferential upwelling, resulting in low ocean temperatures (~10-15° C) even during  
142 summer time. In addition, low altitude clouds form and typically shroud this region during  
143 the summer months. This region is also an area of phytoplankton bloom, resulting in

144 efficient DMS production [Strub, et al., 1990; A. Thomas and Strub, 2001; A. C. Thomas and  
145 Strub, 1990]. These factors provide a unique opportunity for field studies of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  
146  $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  partitioning in marine cloud droplets and particles representative of relatively cold  
147 marine atmosphere over an area rich in DMS.

148 The complementary capabilities of three analytical techniques provide complete  
149 chemical speciation of the field collected marine particles, with the aim of identifying the  
150 chemical forms of particulate sulfur. The three data sets are consistent with one another and  
151 indicate enhanced formation of particulate  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  in sea salt droplets and particles  
152 collected during MASE. This unique combination of single-particle measurements enables  
153 quantitative assessment of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios in individual particles.

154

## 155 2. EXPERIMENTAL

156 2.1. **Meteorological Conditions and Sample Collection.** Particle samples were  
157 collected continuously during the cloudy period between July 6th 17:00 –July 7th 9:00 Pacific  
158 Standard time (July 7th 01:00 – 17:00, UTC) on a seashore site within one kilometer of the  
159 Pacific Ocean at the Point Reyes National Seashore, N38°5', W122°57.43'. This site is  
160 shrouded in cold clouds much of the time, as illustrated in Figure 2, and is well situated for  
161 sampling cloud droplets and aerosols. Figure 2 shows backward trajectory calculations  
162 performed using the HYSPLIT model [Draxler and Rolph, 2003], that end at the sampling site  
163 on July 6, 21:00 PST (red) and July 7, 09:00 PST (blue). The trajectories indicate that during  
164 the 36 hours preceding collection, the air mass passed over open areas of the ocean and then  
165 along the northern shore of California. Backward trajectories calculated for 5 days prior to  
166 collection revealed that the sampled air traveled over the Pacific Ocean and did not enter  
167 continental areas in exception to ~1-2 km of the shore area adjacent to the sampling site.

168 Over the time frame of the backward trajectory calculation shown in Figure 2b, the relative  
169 humidity was above 78%, the air temperature was 13-16°C and the height of boundary  
170 mixing layer was 250-400 meters.

171 During sampling, the cloud/fog droplets and (interstitial) aerosol were first separated  
172 using a counter-flow virtual impactor (CVI) [Ogren, *et al.*, 1985] that directs the flow of small  
173 (interstitial) particles and relatively large cloud droplets into two different sampling lines: the  
174 CVI line for particles (drops) larger than  $\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$  and the aerosol observing system (AOS)  
175 line for particles smaller than  $\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$ . The particles were first dried inside the CVI and AOS  
176 probe lines, and the resulting dehydrated particles were collected by two compact time  
177 resolved aerosol collectors (TRAC) [Laskin, *et al.*, 2006; Laskin, Iedema, *et al.*, 2003] attached  
178 to each of the lines. The TRAC is a conventional one stage jet-to-plate impactor that  
179 deposits particles on a rotating impaction plate containing pre-arranged substrates. In this  
180 study, each substrate was exposed for 12 minutes of sample collection. The effective  
181 aerodynamic cut-off size  $D_{50}$  of the TRAC is  $\sim 0.36 \mu\text{m}$ . Three different types of substrates  
182 were used in this study: (a) Copper 400 mesh TEM grids coated with Carbon Type-B films  
183 (Ted Pella, Inc.) for the CCSEM/EDX analysis, (b) silicon wafer chips (Silson Ltd, Inc.) for  
184 the TOF-SIMS analysis, and (c) silicon wafer frames with silicon nitride windows (Silson  
185 Ltd, Inc.) for the STXM/NEXAFS analysis. After collection, impaction plates with the  
186 exposed substrates were sealed and stored pending analysis.

187 In general, particle samples collected on substrates may suffer from some artifacts.  
188 These include evaporation of volatile and semi-volatile species during the sampling, storage  
189 and then analysis by the applied techniques as well as possible reactions between sampled  
190 particles and trace gases entering the impactor. For  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  salts, no sampling  
191 artifacts due to the volatilization are expected to occur. Artifacts like the potential reactions



192 of SO<sub>2</sub>(g), HCl(g) and NO<sub>2</sub>(g) with the samples inside the TRAC, could not be quantified.  
193 However, their possible impacts were somewhat minimized by drying particles prior to  
194 collection which would decrease their reaction kinetics.

195 **2.2. Methods of laboratory analysis.** Detailed characterization of individual  
196 particles required multiple techniques. As illustrated below, applications of different  
197 analytical methods are interdependent; hence, the information from one method guides  
198 subsequent measurements. Three analytical techniques were applied for particle analysis: (a)  
199 CCSEM/EDX – for microscopy imaging of particles and quantitative speciation of their  
200 elemental composition, (b) TOF-SIMS – for qualitative detection of CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>  
201 within individual particles, and (c) STXM/NEXAFS – for quantitative speciation of the  
202 CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> to SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> partitioning within individual particles.

203 A FEI XL30 digital field emission gun environmental scanning electron microscope  
204 was used in this work. The microscope is equipped with an EDAX PV7761/54 ME X-ray  
205 spectrometer (EDAX, Inc) with a Si(Li) detector with an active area of 30 mm<sup>2</sup> and an  
206 ATW2 window. In addition to the standard SEM/EDX mode of operation, the instrument  
207 can also operate in computer-controlled (CCSEM/EDX) mode for analysis of individual  
208 particles. In the CCSEM/EDX mode, selected samples are inspected automatically and  
209 individual particles are recognized by an increase in the detector signal above a threshold  
210 level. The program then acquires an X-ray spectrum from each detected particle. In this  
211 work, particles with an equivalent circle diameter larger than  $\geq 0.35 \mu\text{m}$  were measured by  
212 the software. The X-ray spectra were acquired for 10 s, at a beam current of  $\sim 500 \text{ pA}$  and an  
213 accelerating voltage of 20 kV. Additional details of the CCSEM/EDX approach employed  
214 for the analysis of particles deposited onto carbon coated TEM grids can be found in our  
215 recent review article [Laskin, *et al.*, 2006] and references therein.

216 A TRIFT II time-of-flight secondary ion mass spectrometer (TOF-SIMS), (Physical  
217 Electronics, Inc.) was used in this work. TOF-SIMS analysis entails impacting a pulsed  
218 primary ion beam onto a solid sample in vacuum and collecting secondary ions of one  
219 polarity (positive or negative), using a time-of-flight (TOF) mass analyzer. The particles  
220 collected on the silicon wafer chips were placed in the sample holder and subject to a  $^{69}\text{Ga}^+$   
221 source of primary ions in high spatial resolution mode. An accelerating voltage of 15 kV was  
222 used for spectral measurements and 25 kV for mapping. The dose rate was  $9.8 \times 10^{12}$  ions  
223  $\text{cm}^{-2}$ . A combination of static and dynamic modes of operation allowed molecular speciation  
224 of different forms of sulfur-containing compounds within individual particles.

225 STXM/NEXAFS measurements were performed at the carbon (C) (280 – 320 eV)  
226 and nitrogen (N) (395 – 430 eV) K-absorption edges and at the sulfur (S) (168 – 176 eV) L-  
227 absorption edge. STXM instruments at beamlines 5.3.2 (C, N) and 11.0.2. (C, N, S) of the  
228 Advanced Light Source of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory were used for these  
229 experiments. The intensity of X-rays transmitted through the sample at a fixed energy is  
230 measured as the sample is raster scanned to record an image. Sequences of images are  
231 acquired at closely spaced energies to record a “stack” of images, which is essentially a three-  
232 dimensional map in position, energy and transmission. NEXAFS spectra from individual  
233 pixels or particular regions of interest on the sample image are extracted from the stack. The  
234 absorption through the sample is obtained by converting the signal (Beer-Lambert Law)  
235 using the reference flux measured through a sample free region. This mapping of chemical  
236 bonding information in individual particles [Hopkins, Tivanski, Marten, *et al.*, 2007; Tivanski, *et*  
237 *al.*, 2007; Maria, *et al.*, 2004; Russell, *et al.*, 2002] allows a quantitative assessment of the  
238 apportionment between different molecular forms of the same element, *i.e.*  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  
239  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  in this work. For comparison purposes, particles of reference materials were examined

240 using TOF-SIMS and STXM/NEXAFS, including sodium sulfate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) (99.99% pure),  
241 sodium methanesulfonate ( $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ) (98% pure) and ammonium sulfate ( $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ )  
242 (99.99% pure) purchased from Sigma-Aldrich.

243

### 244 3. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

245 Twelve samples (6 CVI and 6 AOS samples with time intervals of  $\sim 1.5$ -2 hours  
246 between them) from the Point Reyes sampling site collected during the cloudy period were  
247 analyzed using CCSEM/EDX single particle analysis. Figure 3 shows typical SEM images of  
248 CVI and AOS aerosol samples. The upper images depict samples collected on silicon wafer  
249 chips, while the magnified bottom images are from samples collected on TEM grid  
250 supported films. As seen from the upper images, the spatial distribution of particles is  
251 inhomogeneous. Larger particles are concentrated in the central region, directly under the  
252 deposition nozzle and smaller particles are scattered widely from this area. Thus, a  
253 statistically significant analysis of particles by CCSEM/EDX requires sampling across the  
254 deposition spot, as indicated by the rectangles in the images. The elemental composition was  
255 analyzed for  $\sim 1000$  particles in a region of  $500 \mu\text{m} \times 80 \mu\text{m}$  across the deposition spot for  
256 each tested sample.

257 A brief inspection using manual SEM/EDX analysis indicated two prominent  
258 particle classes, characteristic for both the CVI and AOS samples. The particles were mostly  
259 either sea salt or sulfur-rich (S-rich) particles. S-rich particles are composed of a mixture of  
260  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ , as discussed below. Sea salt particles are easily recognized (Figure 3,  
261 bottom panels) as they are typically of super micron size with cubic-shaped NaCl crystals  
262 surrounded by irregularly shaped residues of other salts. In contrast, S-rich particles are

263 submicron in size and spherical. Consistent with the schematic of sulfur-aerosol-climate links  
264 presented in Figure 1, larger sea salt particles dominate the CVI samples while smaller S-rich  
265 particles are more abundant in the AOS samples.

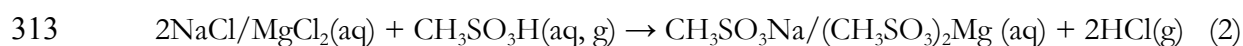
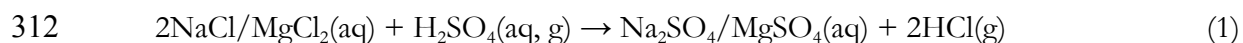
266 In this work, as illustrated in panel (a) of Figure 4, a simple rule-based assignment  
267 was used to separate individual particles into three major classes. All particles (~10,000)  
268 detected in the CCSEM/EDX analysis of 12 selected samples are combined in a group and  
269 then all particles containing sulfur above the threshold level of 0.5 atomic percent (as  
270 detected by the EDX analysis) are separated. Next, sulfur containing particles that also  
271 contain sodium are assigned into the “sea salt” class, while those containing only S, O, and  
272 N are assigned to the “S-rich” class. Particles in the S-rich class are expected to display  
273 mixed  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  composition. All remaining particles are assigned to one, non-  
274 specific class of “other” particles. Panel (b) of Figure 4 illustrates the results of this  
275 classification scheme for particles sampled from the CVI and AOS lines over the cloudy  
276 period studied here. In general, significant populations of sea salt particles dominate samples  
277 collected from both sampling lines, indicating that even submicron particles typical for the  
278 AOS samples are of sea mist origin rather than sulfates formed by nucleation. Nucleated  
279 sulfates presumably fall into the “S-rich” class and their relative population ranges from  
280 between 2 – 6% and 15 – 30 % in the CVI and AOS samples, respectively. Relative  
281 contributions of “other” particles normally remains at the 3 – 5% level and only occasionally  
282 reaches values of 8 – 9%. Particle class composition remained largely the same over the  
283 entire period of the cloudy episode for both sampling lines.

284 Figure 5 illustrates particle number size distributions of sea salt and S-rich particles  
285 determined from the CCSEM/EDX data, combined for the 6 CVI and 6 AOS analyzed

286 samples. The four distributions are normalized to the total number of particles. Plots  
287 presented in panels (a) and (b) are shown on the same scale to facilitate comparison. Hence,  
288 areas below the distribution curves indicate relative populations of each particle class. The  
289 size distributions in Figure 5 indicate a mode size of  $\sim 0.8 \mu\text{m}$  for residues of sea salt  
290 particles in the CVI samples. A smaller mode size of  $0.4\text{-}0.5 \mu\text{m}$  is observed for sea salt  
291 particles in the AOS samples. The number concentration ratio of sea salt particles found in  
292 the CVI samples to those in the AOS samples is approximately 2:1. The situation is reversed  
293 for the S-rich particles where the concentration of S-rich particles in the AOS sample is  $\sim 2$   
294 times higher than for the CVI samples. The size distributions of S-rich particles peak at  $\sim 0.5$   
295  $\mu\text{m}$  and  $\sim 0.4 \mu\text{m}$  for the CVI and AOS samples, respectively. However, the abrupt fall-off of  
296 the size distributions at  $\sim 0.3\text{-}0.4 \mu\text{m}$  is due to the impactor cut-off function and  
297 comparisons of the size distributions in Figure 5 must be made with this caveat in mind.

298         The CCSEM/EDX analysis indicates sulfur enrichment in sea salt particles. Figure 6  
299 shows the CCSEM/EDX measured S/Na elemental ratios for sea salt particles detected in  
300 the CVI (upper panel) and AOS (bottom panel) samples. The dashed horizontal line is the  
301 nominal ratio of  $S/Na = 0.06$ , typical for sea water [CRC, 1999]. The solid curved line  
302 indicates the experimentally determined deviation of the S/Na ratios for large sea salt  
303 particles. This deviation is a result of ZAF sensitivity effects [Goldstein, *et al.*, 2003], which  
304 were omitted from the quantification method [Laskin and Cowin, 2001; Laskin, *et al.*, 2006].  
305 The S/Na elemental ratios are systematically higher than expected for unreacted sea salt  
306 particles. This indicates cloud and chemical processing of sea salt particles with sulfur  
307 compounds, which is consistent with the DMS chemistry expected in the region of this field  
308 campaign.

309 For cloud and chemically processed sea salt particles, chemical reactions of sea salt  
310 components and added sulfuric and/or methanesulfonic acids can be presented by the  
311 following, highly simplified, albeit illustrative reactions:



314 These reactions liberate HCl gas to the atmosphere, leaving particles enriched in sulfur and  
315 depleted in chloride. Additional sulfur-halogen processes could also lead to similar changes  
316 in the elemental composition of sea salt particles [Finlayson-Pitts, 2003; Finlayson-Pitts and  
317 Hemminger, 2000]. However, a full discussion of the detailed reaction mechanism and its  
318 kinetics is beyond the scope of this manuscript.

319 The sulfur enrichment is larger for sea salt particles in the CVI samples, compared to  
320 those in the AOS samples. This is likely a result of the greater activation of particles (larger  
321 droplets and higher water content) sampled in the CVI line, compared to the smaller sizes  
322 sampled in the AOS line. If so, the higher water content would provide an enhanced  
323 capacity for soluble species in larger droplets, and therefore higher S/Na ratios in the CVI  
324 samples of dry residues would be expected.

325 CCSEM/EDX analysis provides quantitative data on the S/Na ratios over a  
326 statistically significant number of particles. However, no molecular information on the  
327 chemical forms of sulfur can be inferred from EDX spectroscopy. Molecular speciation of  
328 sulfur-containing compounds is revealed by complementary analysis of individual particles  
329 using TOF-SIMS. To identify chemical forms of sulfur, TOF-SIMS ionic maps were  
330 produced for selected ions indicative of sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{HSO}_4^-$ ), methanesulfonate ( $\text{SO}_3^-$ ,  
331  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ ), sodium ( $\text{Na}^+$ ) and ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ). Figure 7 shows ionic maps ( $100 \mu\text{m} \times 100$

332  $\mu\text{m}$ ) characteristic for CVI samples collected during this cloudy period. The maps indicate  
333 that methanesulfonate ( $\text{SO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ ) ions are co-located with  $\text{Na}^+$  ions, while sulfate  
334 ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{HSO}_4^-$ ) ions are co-located with  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ions. Furthermore, the characteristic locations  
335 of sulfate and the methanesulfonate ions do not overlap. These observations support the  
336 conclusion that methanesulfonate is present in relatively large sea salt particles, while the  
337 characteristic sulfate ions are primarily generated from smaller  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  particles. To  
338 confirm this conclusion, TOF-SIMS negative spectra integrated from the areas of sea salt  
339 and  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  particles were compared with those acquired from laboratory prepared  
340 samples of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$  and  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  particles. This comparison is shown in Figure 8. The  
341 characteristic spectra of field collected particles match those of the standard materials nearly  
342 perfectly. Although not shown here, negative spectra of  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_4\text{Na}$ , and  $\text{HO-}$   
343  $\text{CH}_2\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$  particles were also measured (see supplement A), and did not match the spectra  
344 measured in the field samples.

345         However, these TOF-SIMS observations should be interpreted with some caution.  
346 Particles were examined with a low primary ion dose (static mode of operation), resulting in  
347 an analysis depth of 3 – 5 nm, thus corresponding to the outermost atomic layers of the  
348 particles. As particles dry out, the less soluble salts precipitate first and form the core of the  
349 particle, while more soluble salts are present in the outer layer. Thus, the observed abundant  
350 mass spectrometry signal originating from the highly soluble  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$  salt does not  
351 confirm the absence of sulfates in these sea salt particles as sulfates could be present at the  
352 particle core, and therefore not detectable in this operating mode of the TOF-SIMS  
353 instrument. Nevertheless, the important observation is that the  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  particles show  
354 little or no signal of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  characteristic for methanesulfonate salts.

355 In principle, a combination of static and dynamic modes of operation of the TOF-  
356 SIMS allows monitoring of chemical speciation of compounds within particles [*Gaspar, et al.,*  
357 2004; *Laskin, Gaspar, et al., 2003; Lin, et al., 2007*]. However, these experiments are technically  
358 challenging, and inherently qualitative, providing no quantitative information on the  
359 concentrations of different species within particles. An alternative approach uses  
360 STXM/NEXAFS analysis to study chemical bonding information of different elements for  
361 individual particles. Supported by the TOF-SIMS observations, this enables the speciation of  
362 different elements within particles allowing quantification of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios in  
363 individual particles.

364 Figure 9(a) shows a representative STXM image ( $12\ \mu\text{m} \times 12\ \mu\text{m}$ ) recorded at 290.8  
365 eV of a sample region containing two particle classes observed in our experiments. Contours  
366 of the sea salt and the S-rich particles in the STXM image are marked by squares and circles,  
367 respectively. Maps generated by principle component analysis (PCA) of the acquired  
368 STXM/NEXAFS spectra are shown, with colors corresponding to X-ray absorbance regions  
369 specific for nitrogen, carbon and sulfur. In contrast to the TOF-SIMS maps, these PCA  
370 maps generated from STXM/NEXAFS analysis are indicative of the entire composition of  
371 sampled particles due to the fact that transmitted intensity through the sample is measured.  
372 Comparison of the PCA maps presented in Figure 9(b) and (c) shows that these particles  
373 either contain carbon or nitrogen, but not both elements. This observation is consistent with  
374 particles having either mixed sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (red) or mixed  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$   
375 (black) composition. The spectral contours of the N K-edge NEXAFS spectra of the mixed  
376  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  and purchased  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  are nearly identical (unpublished data), which  
377 is further evidence that these small round particles are mixed  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ . The low  
378 carbon absorption in purchased  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$  and the sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  particles



379 made peak assignments in their spectra ambiguous, thus preventing comparisons of the C-K  
380 edge NEXAFS spectra. The PCA maps presented in Figure 9(d) indicate two different types  
381 of sulfur characteristic for two particle classes. The particles which contain nitrogen (black)  
382 display a sulfur L-edge NEXAFS spectrum indicative of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  which is consistent with these  
383 particles being assigned as mixed  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ . The particles which contain carbon  
384 (red) display a sulfur L-edge spectrum that is intermediate of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ . This is  
385 consistent with these particles having a mixed sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  composition.

386 Furthermore, combined data sets from CCSEM/EDX and STXM/NEXAFS  
387 measurements, enable quantification of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios on an individual particle  
388 basis. Elemental analysis performed using CCSEM/EDX measures the total S/Na ratio for a  
389 large number of particles. Separately, STXM/NEXAFS analysis provides quantification of  
390 the partitioning between  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and total- $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (nss and ss) on an individual particle basis.  
391 Combining these two data sets, in addition to the literature reported value for ss- $\text{SO}_4^{2-}/\text{Na}$   
392 = 0.06 [CRC, 1999], enables the total- $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  to be decoupled into nss and ss components,  
393 leading to the quantitative assessment of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios in particles as will be  
394 described below.

395 Figure 10(a) presents S L-edge NEXAFS spectra of the  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$   
396 reference particles respectively. The  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  spectrum displays three distinct peaks at 170.9  
397 eV, 172.1 eV and 172.9 eV, in good agreement with literature data [Hitchcock, *et al.*, 1990].  
398 Sulfur spectra recorded from  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , both of which have an oxidation state  
399 of +6, were identical to one another. However, the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$  spectrum is considerably  
400 different, its broad contour has no resolvable peaks and the peak maximum occurs at lower  
401 energy. The peak maximum of the  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  spectrum (or sulfate in general) appears at higher  
402 energy because of its higher oxidation state (+6 for  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  versus +5 for  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ).

403 These differences in the spectral contours of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  are advantageous for  
404 determining the partitioning between these two species in individual particles. Mixing of  
405  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  in particle spectra would lead to a broadening of the resolved peaks  
406 present in  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and a change in the relative intensities of the three peaks. These changes in  
407 spectral contours as a function of the proportion of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  were used to  
408 quantify the amount of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and total- $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  present in individual particles. For  
409 example, the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio from the single particle pertinent to Figure 10(b) is  
410 determined as 20:80%. The corresponding spectrum modeled for 20%  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and 80%  
411 total- $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is shown for comparison. A good agreement between the spectral contours is  
412 observed. Further details about the sulfur L-edge spectroscopy are provided in Supplement  
413 B.

414 As STXM/NEXAFS is significantly more time and labor intensive than  
415 CCSEM/EDX, a single CVI sample from the studied time period was selected for  
416 quantitative analysis. A CVI sample was chosen due to the higher proportion of mixed sea  
417 salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  particles. Several other CVI and AOS samples from this time  
418 period were surveyed using STXM/NEXAFS, and confirmed qualitative observations  
419 reported for the selected sample in this publication. The STXM/NEXAFS analysis method  
420 was applied to sulfur L-edge spectra recorded from  $\sim 100$  individual mixed sea  
421 salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  particles to determine their  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio. In Figure  
422 11 the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio is plotted against the average particle diameter. As most  
423 particles are irregular in shape, the equivalent circle diameter was calculated from the particle  
424 projection area. The error bars displayed in Figure 11 represent the standard deviation in the  
425 mean  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio, which is derived from the calibration plot presented in  
426 Supplement B. No obvious size dependence was observed in the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio

427 for the particles studied, which ranged from  $\sim 1 - 5 \mu\text{m}$  in diameter. Hence, the mean  
428  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio, represented by the solid black line in Figure 11 (the two dashed  
429 lines are the standard deviation from the mean), yield a value of 0.52 with a standard  
430 deviation of  $\pm 0.30$ , assuming invariance with particle size.

431 Figure 12(a) presents the normalized distribution of the total-S/Na ratios detected in  
432 over 7000 individual sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  particles using the CCSEM/EDX  
433 technique. The frequency of particles displaying a particular total S/Na ratio is normalized to  
434 the total number of particles examined. This data is plotted for different size bins with  
435 particle diameters ranging from 0.3 to  $> 2 \mu\text{m}$ . The size bins are set using the  $\log(D_p)$  scale  
436 with an even spacing of 0.2, where  $D_p$  represents particle diameter. The total S/Na ratio is  
437 between 0.05 – 1 and peaks at 0.15 for particles in all size bins. This peak total S/Na value of  
438 0.15 is higher than that characteristic for sea water (0.06) [CRC, 1999]. The higher observed  
439 value can be understood by considering acid displacement reactions of NaCl/MgCl<sub>2</sub> present  
440 in sea water with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H, which increase the total S present in the particles.  
441 Sea salt fully reacted with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> would yield a total S/Na ratio of 0.59. Clearly, the range of  
442 total S/Na values observed in these multi-component particles exceeds this, reaching values  
443 as high as 1. Again, this higher observed value can be understood by considering reactions of  
444 NaCl/MgCl<sub>2</sub> with CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H, which may yield a total S/Na ratio of 1.18. An enhancement in  
445 the fraction of particles displaying total S/Na ratios  $> 0.15$  is observed for smaller particles  
446 that display larger surface-to-volume ratios. This observation could suggest that surface area  
447 controls the uptake of gas-phase CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H by liquid sea salt particles. The longer average  
448 atmospheric residence times of smaller particles may also increase the probability of reaction  
449 resulting in  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  enrichment.

450 As noted above, calculation of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio relies on a combination  
 451 of data recorded using both STXM/NEXAFS and CCSEM/EDX. The method for  
 452 combining this data is presented here. For the mixed sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  particles,  
 453 the total S/Na ratio is equal to the sum of  $\text{ss-SO}_4^{2-}/\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}/\text{Na}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{Na}$   
 454 ratios, as described by equation 3:

455

$$456 \quad \frac{[\text{total-S}]}{[\text{Na}]} = \underbrace{\frac{[\text{ss-SO}_4^{2-}]}{[\text{Na}]}}_{=0.06} + \frac{[\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}]}{[\text{Na}]} + \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-]}{[\text{Na}]} \quad (3)$$

457  
 458 The  $\text{ss-SO}_4^{2-}/\text{Na}$  ratio is 0.06 [CRC, 1999], leaving two unknowns in this equation. The  
 459  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio is determined as  $0.52 \pm 0.30$  using the STXM/NEXAFS  
 460 technique. This ratio can be written as follows:

461

$$462 \quad \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-]}{[\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}]} = \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-]/[\text{Na}]}{[\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}]/[\text{Na}]} = \frac{[\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-]/[\text{Na}]}{0.06 + [\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}]/[\text{Na}]} \quad (4)$$

463 This leaves the same two unknowns as in equation 3. These two equations can now be  
 464 solved to determine values for both  $[\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-]/[\text{Na}]$  and  $[\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}]/[\text{Na}]$ .

465 This analysis method is applied to the data presented in Figure 12(a) to yield Figure  
 466 12(b), which displays the distribution of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  in individual particles for  
 467 different size bins. As particle diameter increases, the distribution of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$   
 468 shifts to higher values, *i.e.* sulfur in larger particles is mostly in the form of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ , while  
 469 sulfur content in smaller particles is dominated by the  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  form.

470 The peak of the distribution presented in Figure 12(b), which uses the mean  
471  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio of 0.52, yields a  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  partitioning ratio of 0.6.  
472 Using the standard deviation in the mean  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio of  $\pm 0.30$ , the lower  
473 and upper limits on the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio are calculated as 0.30 and 1.10. The large  
474 variation in this ratio could be attributed to differences in the individual particle history, the  
475 long duration over which the particles were sampled, the uncertainty associated with the  
476 measurement and the assumptions associated with invariance of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  with  
477 particle size.

478 Therefore, all the observations presented in this manuscript so far, can be  
479 summarized as follows. Particles collected during the cloudy period between July 6<sup>th</sup> 17:00-  
480 July 7<sup>th</sup> 9:00 (PST) can be divided in two major particle classes: (a) sea salt particles  
481 composed of a mixture of sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and (b) S-rich particles of mixed  
482  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  composition. Qualitatively, these observations are in agreement with the  
483 schematic of the sulfur-aerosol-climate links in the MBL in Figure 1. Indeed, the presence of  
484  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  in sea salt particles indicates substantial formation and fast uptake of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  by  
485 activated droplets containing sea salt presumably resulting from the oxygen addition channel  
486 in the DMS oxidation mechanism. Formation of mixed  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  particles is  
487 indicative of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  nucleation resulting from the H abstraction channel of DMS oxidation.  
488 Therefore, the quantitative assessment of partitioning between two different forms of sulfur,  
489 *i.e.*  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$ , is important for kinetic modeling as it is an inherent indicator of  
490 the pathways of DMS oxidation in the environment of the given geographic location. The  
491 partitioning between these reaction products is important for climate considerations as the  
492 result impacts the number and size of CCN produced in the marine atmosphere.

493 The  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-} > 0.6$  ratios in sea salt particles reported in this study are high  
494 compared to previous measurements at similar latitudes. The reported ratios are similar to  
495 those from polar latitudes where the temperature is lower, a factor known to enhance the  
496 addition pathway leading to formation of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ . The results presented here are somewhat  
497 comparable with model calculations which predict higher  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios in the  
498 summer for pristine marine air sampled under cold (276 K), cloudy conditions and implying  
499 additional oxidation reactions of DMS with halogen radicals [*von Glasow and Crutzen, 2004*].  
500 However, there is an important aspect of the presented data that contradicts modeling study  
501 of *von Glasow and Crutzen* [2004]. The TOF-SIMS analysis of particle samples (see Fig. 7)  
502 indicate that  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  is exclusively associated with sea salt particles, but not with  
503  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  particles. This finding disagrees with the modeling results that indicate significant  
504 formation of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  in sulfate particles as a result of their smaller size and higher surface-  
505 to-volume ratio compared that typical for sea salt particles. Furthermore, despite their  
506 different starting sizes, the sulfate and the sea salt particles would grow to aqueous droplets  
507 that are roughly of the same size, if activated. As a result, the condensed compounds should  
508 be quite similar in the different activated particles. This observed selectivity of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  to  
509 sea salt particles is quite puzzling and additional studies are required to understand this  
510 discrepancy.

511 The discrepancy is even more intriguing given that our numerical model calculations  
512 of the atmospheric chemistry occurring in the area of the field experiment suggests that  
513 consideration of cloud chemistry is essentially required to explain the high  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-}$   
514  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and S/Na ratios reported in this study. These modeling results are presented and  
515 discussed below.

516 During the cloudy period studied here, meteorological data indicate that air parcels  
517 arriving to the sampling site were first swiftly transported from the open ocean area and then  
518 turned southbound along the coastline of northern California (Figure 2) where it remained  
519 for ~12-18 hours prior to sampling. A systematic analysis of phytoplankton pigment  
520 concentrations in this area (derived from satellite based multi-annual records) indicate an  
521 order of magnitude higher phytoplankton concentration in the narrow latitudinal range  
522 adjacent to the shore. Specifically, within 100-200 km of the coast, typical concentrations of  
523 phytoplankton of ~5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$  are reported, while 300-400 km offshore these decrease to ~0.5  
524  $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$  [A. C. Thomas and Strub, 1990]. Therefore, the key factor determining the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-}$   
525  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and total-S/Na ratios in sea salt particles is most likely the amount of time the air mass  
526 spent in the area of high DMS emissions (high phytoplankton concentrations) which is in  
527 the order of ~18 hours or less prior to sampling at Pt. Reyes.

528 A Lagrangian box-model [Zaveri, 1997] was used to simulate atmospheric oxidation  
529 of DMS in the air mass that originated over unpolluted open ocean areas and entered the  
530 region of high DMS concentration ~18 hour prior to the sampling which corresponds to ~  
531 6 am local time. Two model scenarios were examined: (a) gas-phase chemistry only, and (b)  
532 coupled gas- and cloud-phase chemistry. The initial conditions for model runs and a brief  
533 description of the model are given in supplement C.

534 Figure 13 shows the temporal evolution of DMS,  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$ , and total  
535 S/Na for gas-chemistry only and coupled gas- and cloud-phase chemistry scenarios. A few  
536 hours are required to build up the  $\text{SO}_2$  concentration from gas-phase DMS oxidation in the  
537 relatively clean air mass as it was advected along the coast over high DMS emissions region  
538 for the next 12-18 hours. During this time,  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  is efficiently formed in particles, while  
539 formation of  $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  is somewhat delayed. The gas-chemistry-only model results indicate

540 that the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio in sea salt particles reaches a maximum of  $\sim 0.18$  during the  
541 early stages of DMS oxidation ( $< 6$  hours) because formation of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  proceeds more  
542 rapidly early in the day when compared to  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  formation. Later, as both OH and  $\text{SO}_2$   
543 concentrations increase, formation of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  begins to exceed that of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ , resulting in  
544 a decrease in the particulate  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio to a quasi-steady-state value of  $\sim 0.13$ ,  
545 which is about a factor of 5 lower than the observed ratios seen in Figure 11b. Also, a  
546 negligible increase in the modeled values of the total-S/Na ratio is seen even after 18 hours  
547 of processing, which is at odds with the measurements for the field-collected sea salt  
548 particles as seen in Figure 11a.

549 Atmospheric conditions during our field study most likely resemble the coupled gas  
550 and cloud chemistry scenario. Indeed, the coupled gas- and cloud-phase model results show  
551 that the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  bulk ratio in sea salt particles reached a maximum of  $\sim 0.3$  in  $\sim 6$   
552 hours and then remained fairly steady for the rest of the simulation period. This value is  
553 comparable within a factor of  $\sim 2$  to our measurements. Also, the total-S/Na bulk ratio is  
554 predicted to increase up to  $\sim 0.09$  in 12 hours, which is similar to the observed values. These  
555 results therefore suggest that cloud-phase oxidation of  $\text{SO}_2$ , DMS, DMSO, MSIA, and MSA  
556 played an important role under the atmospheric conditions encountered during this field  
557 study.

558 We note that the purpose of these modeling calculations is to evaluate the feasibility  
559 of the plausible hypothesis rather than providing detailed cross-comparison between field  
560 and modeling data, which lies beyond the scope of this manuscript. With this regard, it is  
561 important to note that modeled  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  and total-S/Na ratios is sensitive to a  
562 number of parameters, which include DMS flux, temperature, sea-salt particle concentration  
563 and size distribution, and photolysis rate. Additionally, halogen chemistry and nucleation



564 (new particle formation) were neglected in the present model, but may play an important  
565 role. The influence of these parameters are interesting topics for more detailed modeling  
566 studies where the field data provided here could be used for validation.

567

## 568 **5. CONCLUSIONS AND ATMOPHERIC IMPLICATIONS**

569 This study presents the first observations of both  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  sulfur  
570 compounds in marine aerosol, identified on a single particle basis. Both TOF-SIMS and  
571 STXM/NEXAFS techniques indicate an external mixture consisting primarily of two  
572 particle classes; mixed sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and S-rich particles of mixed  
573  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4/(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  composition. Unambiguous, qualitative speciation of sulfur containing  
574 compounds and quantitative assessment of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios are facilitated  
575 using combined data sets from three techniques: CCSEM/EDX – quantitative assessment of  
576 elemental composition of individual particles, TOF-SIMS – qualitative molecular speciation  
577 of sulfur-containing compounds in individual particles, STXM/NEXAFS – quantitative  
578 assessment of different forms of sulfur within individual particles. The data provided by  
579 these techniques offer a rich set of qualitative and quantitative information that is of primary  
580 importance to atmospheric processes in the MBL involving sea salt and marine sulfate  
581 particles.

582 For the first time, size-dependent  $\text{nss-S/Na}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratios are  
583 reported for marine particles. Characteristic ratios of  $\text{nss-S/Na} > 0.10$  are reported for sea  
584 salt particles, with higher values observed for smaller particles, indicating more extensive  
585 formation of sulfur-containing salts. Characteristic ratios of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-} > 0.60$  are  
586 reported for sea salt particles of all sizes, with higher values for large particles. This indicates

587 that  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  salts are likely the dominant form of nss-sulfur in large particles while  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is  
588 more common in smaller particles.

589 In the past, much attention has been given to the hygroscopic and optical properties  
590 of sea salt aerosol and the corresponding mixed sea salt/sulfate particles that can be formed  
591 as a result of the  $\text{DMS} \rightarrow \text{SO}_2 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  reaction sequence that is assumed to dominate in the  
592 mid-latitude marine boundary layer. However, our analysis of field collected sea salt particles  
593 and presented in this manuscript indicate that DMS conversion to MSA can result in  
594  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-} > 0.6$  and  $\text{nss-S/Na} > 0.1$  ratios, as were observed under specific conditions  
595 of the coastal area north of San Francisco. These findings indicate that modeling of the  
596 marine boundary layer (MBL) aerosols and cloud formation processes require extensive data  
597 on the hygroscopic and CCN properties of mixed sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and perhaps other  
598 organo-sulfur particles. These data are fairly scarce and require future research.

599

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619 **Supplemental Information Available:**

620 Supplement A - TOF-SIMS spectra of particles prepared from purchased standard materials.  
621 Supplement B - Determination of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{total-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio in individual sea salt particles  
622 Supplement C - Description of the model and key constraints.

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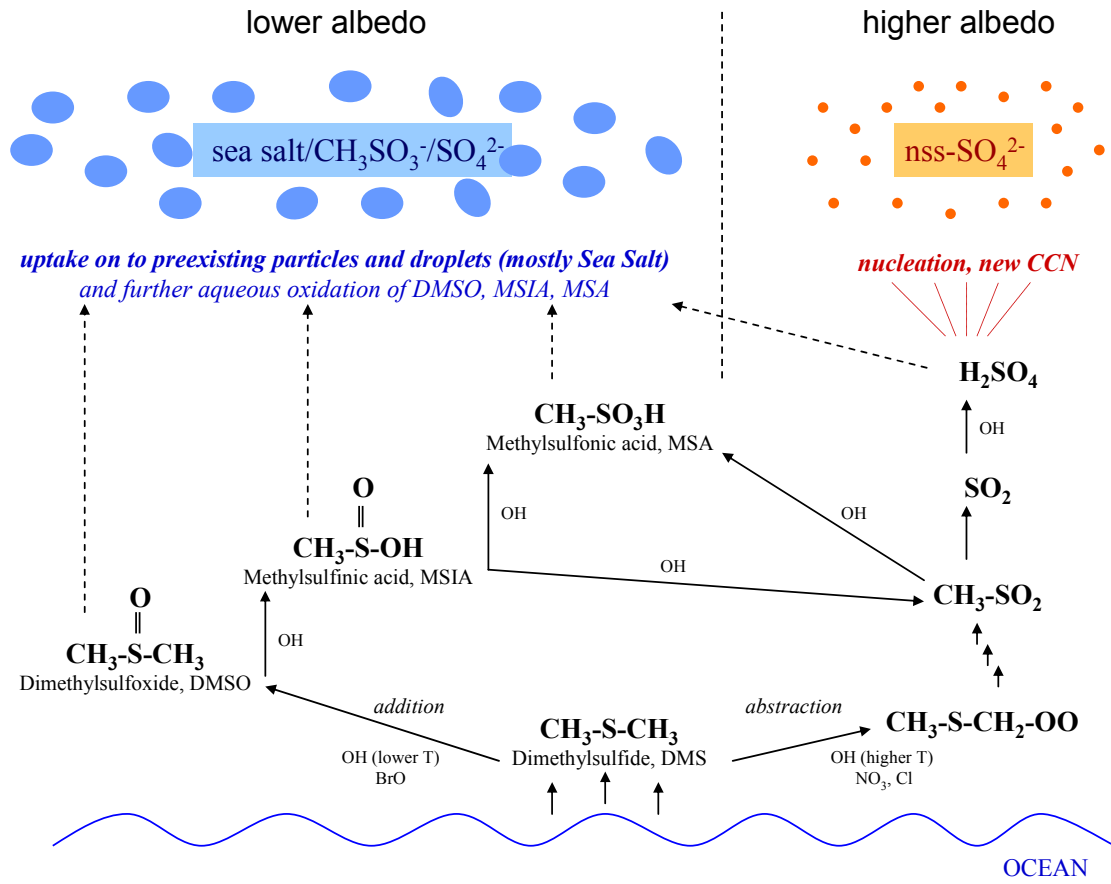
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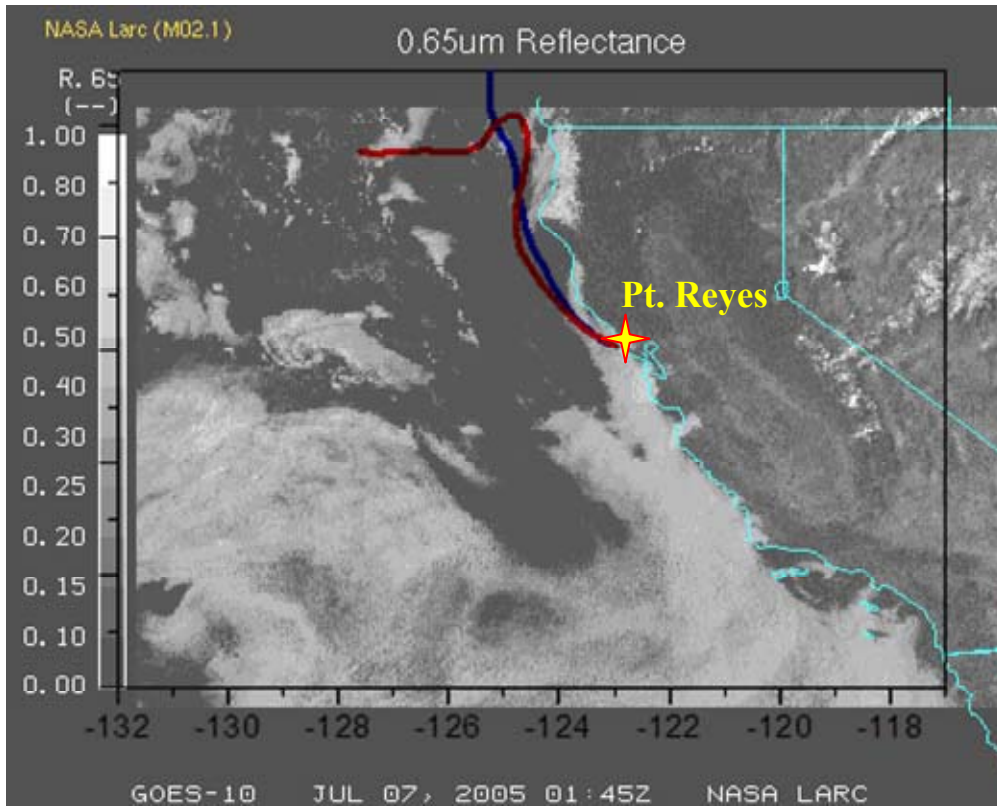


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937 **Figure 1** Schematic diagram of sulfur-aerosol-climate links in the MBL (adopted from *von*  
 938 *Glasow and Crutzen, 2004*).

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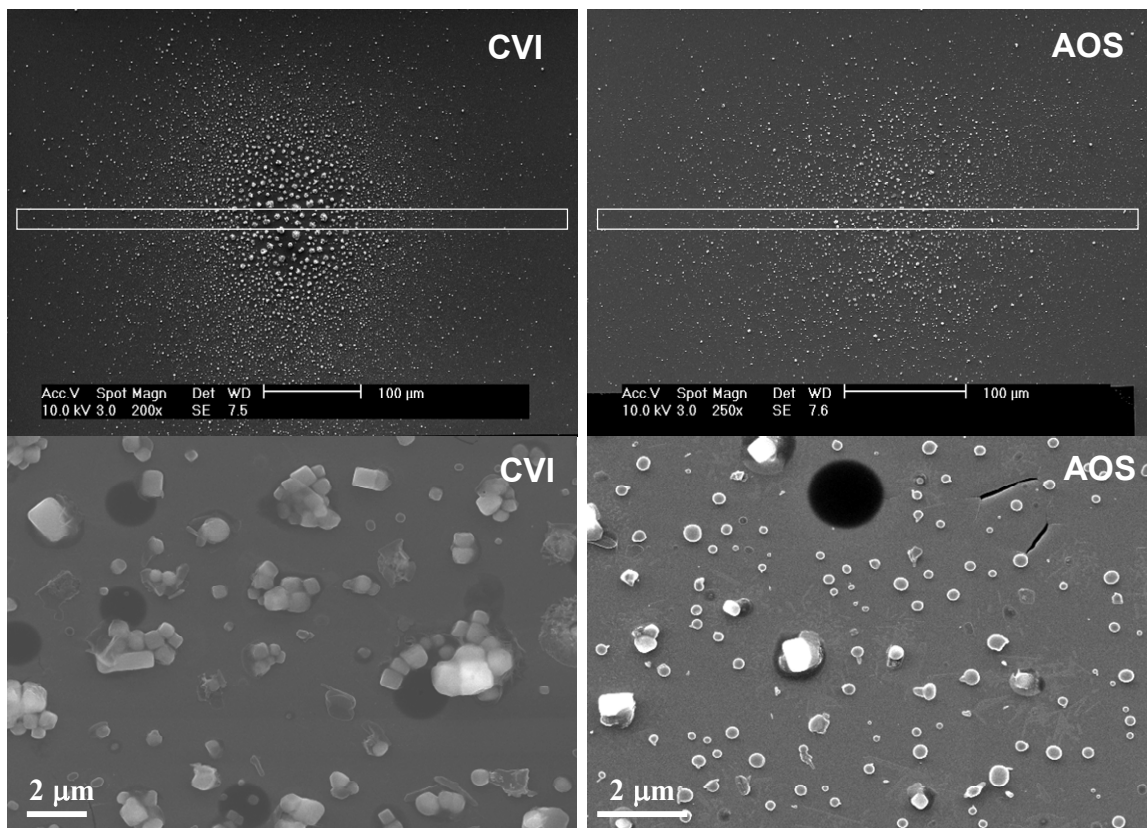


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942 **Figure 2** GOES-10 satellite image (0.65 micron cloud reflectivity at 4 km resolution ) of the  
943 California coast, at July 6, 17:45 PST (July 7, 1:45 UTC), showing extensive coastal stratus  
944 typical of this region. Superimposed on this image are 48 hour HYSPLIT backtrajectories  
945 starting at 10 m AGL on July 6, 21:00 PST (red) and July 7, 09:00 PST (blue)

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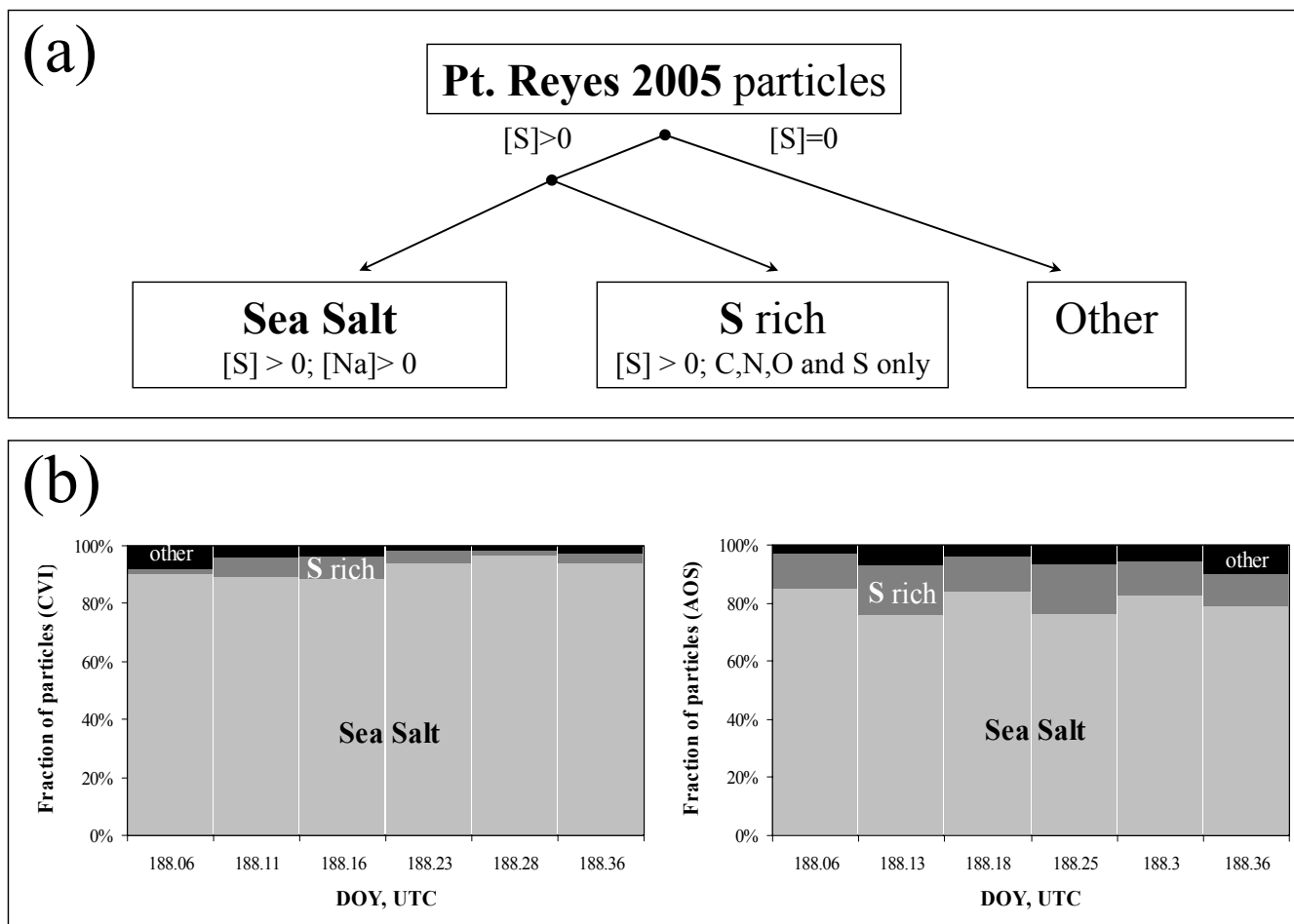
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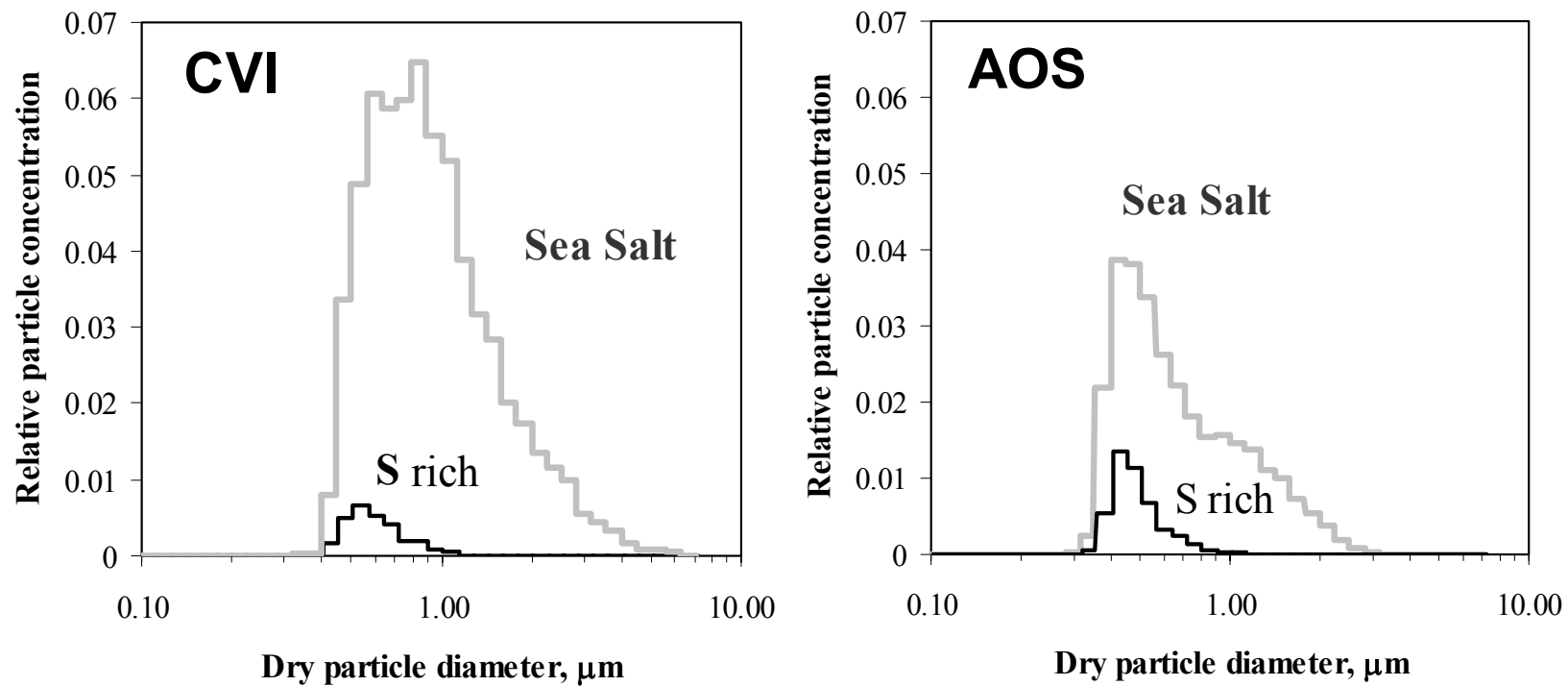
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951 **Figure 3** SEM images of two samples collected from the CVI and AOS sampling lines  
952 during the cloudy period on July 7, 2005. The upper images are the entire samples and  
953 illustrate the spatial inhomogeneity of the deposition spot. Rectangles indicate the regions  
954 inspected by CCSEM/EDX analysis. The lower images are magnified fields of view,  
955 showing representative particles from the central areas of the samples. Sea salt particles are  
956 larger, irregularly shaped supermicron particles with NaCl cubic crystal cores. Ammonium  
957 sulfate particles are spherical submicron particles.

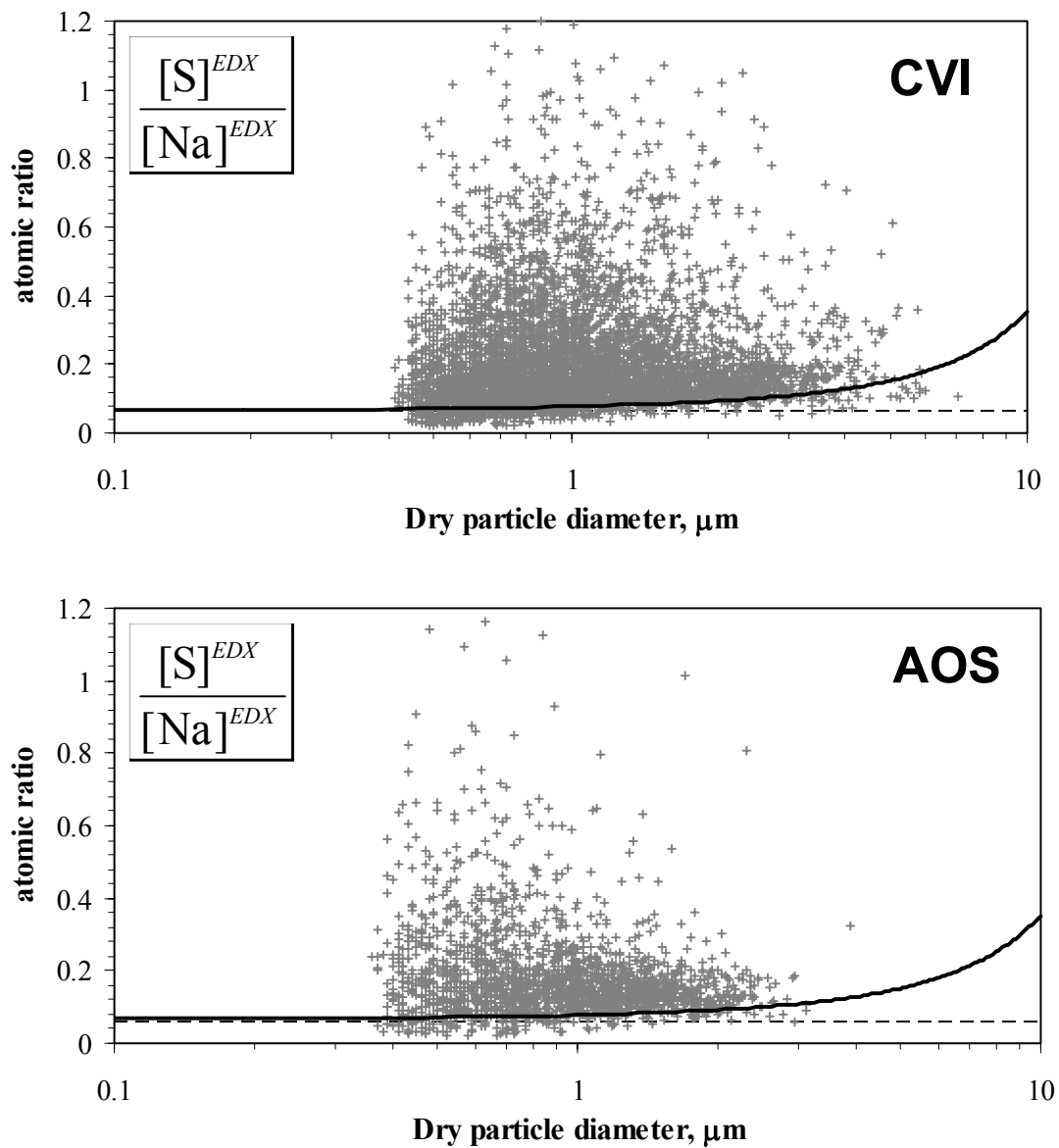


**Figure 4** (a) Classification scheme applied to the samples collected during the cloudy period on the night of July 7, 2005 (Point Reyes 2005). (b) Stacked column chart diagram of particle-classes present in the CVI (left panel) and the AOS (right panel) samples.

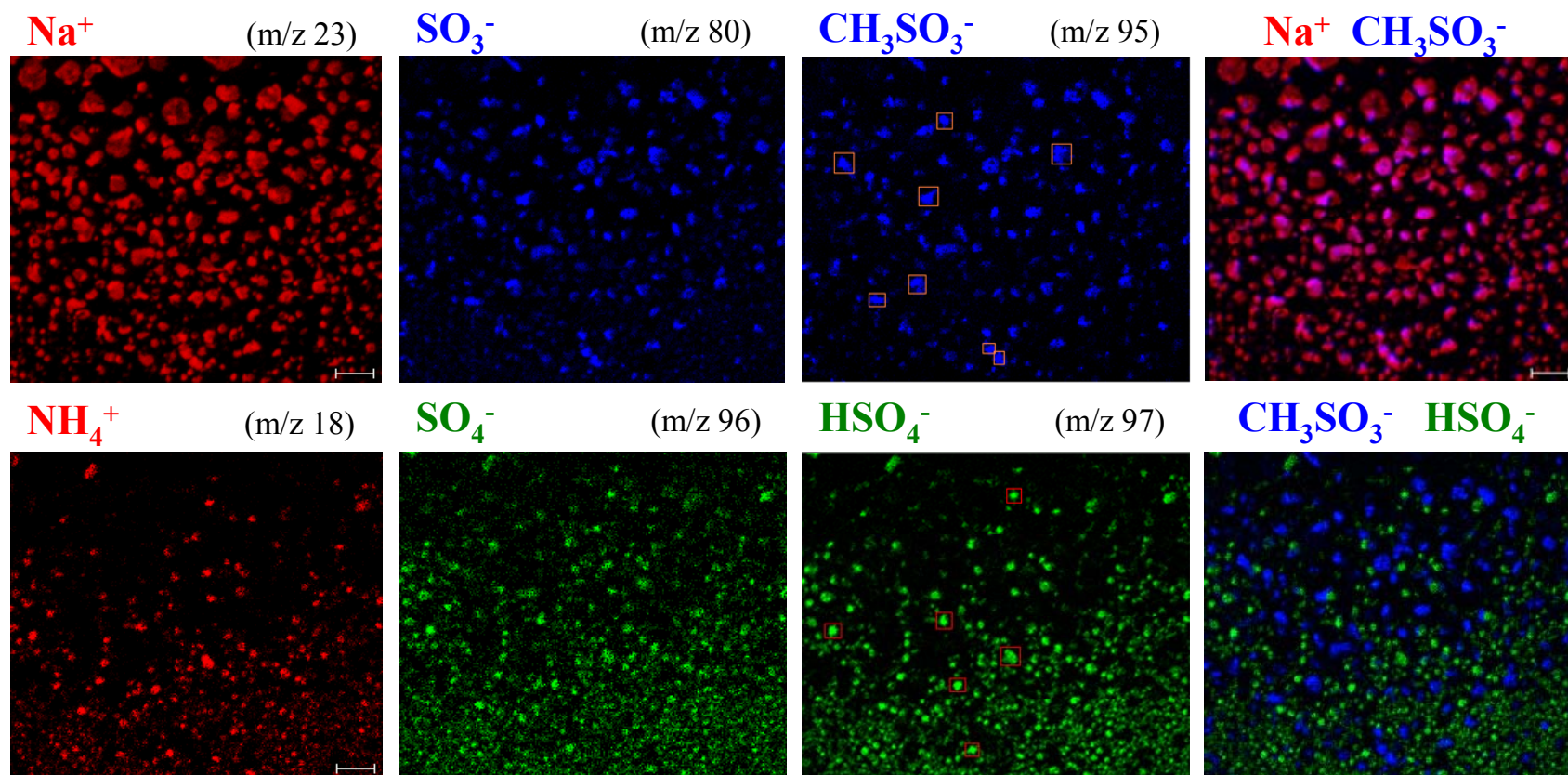


**Figure 5** Number distributions of sea salt and S-rich particles in CVI (left panel) and AOS (right panel) samples measured by the CCSEM/EDX analysis. For comparison purposes, all distributions are normalized to the total number of analyzed particles.

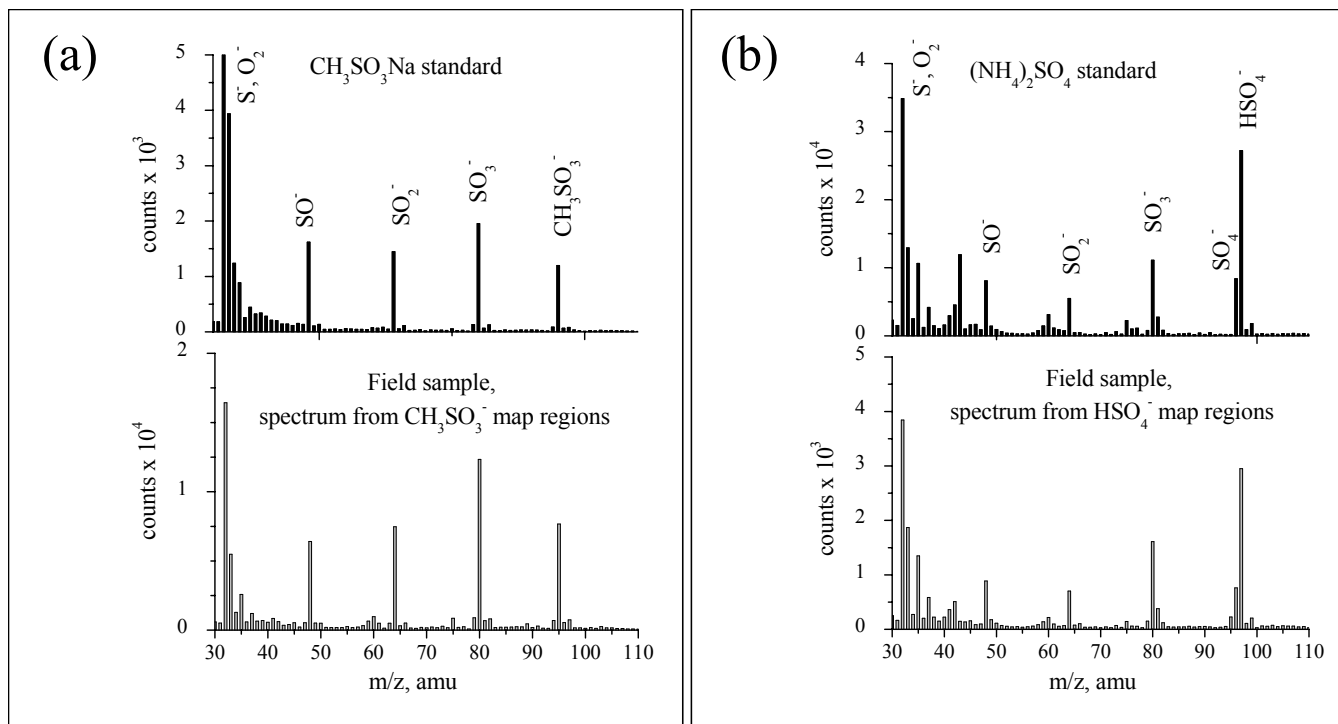




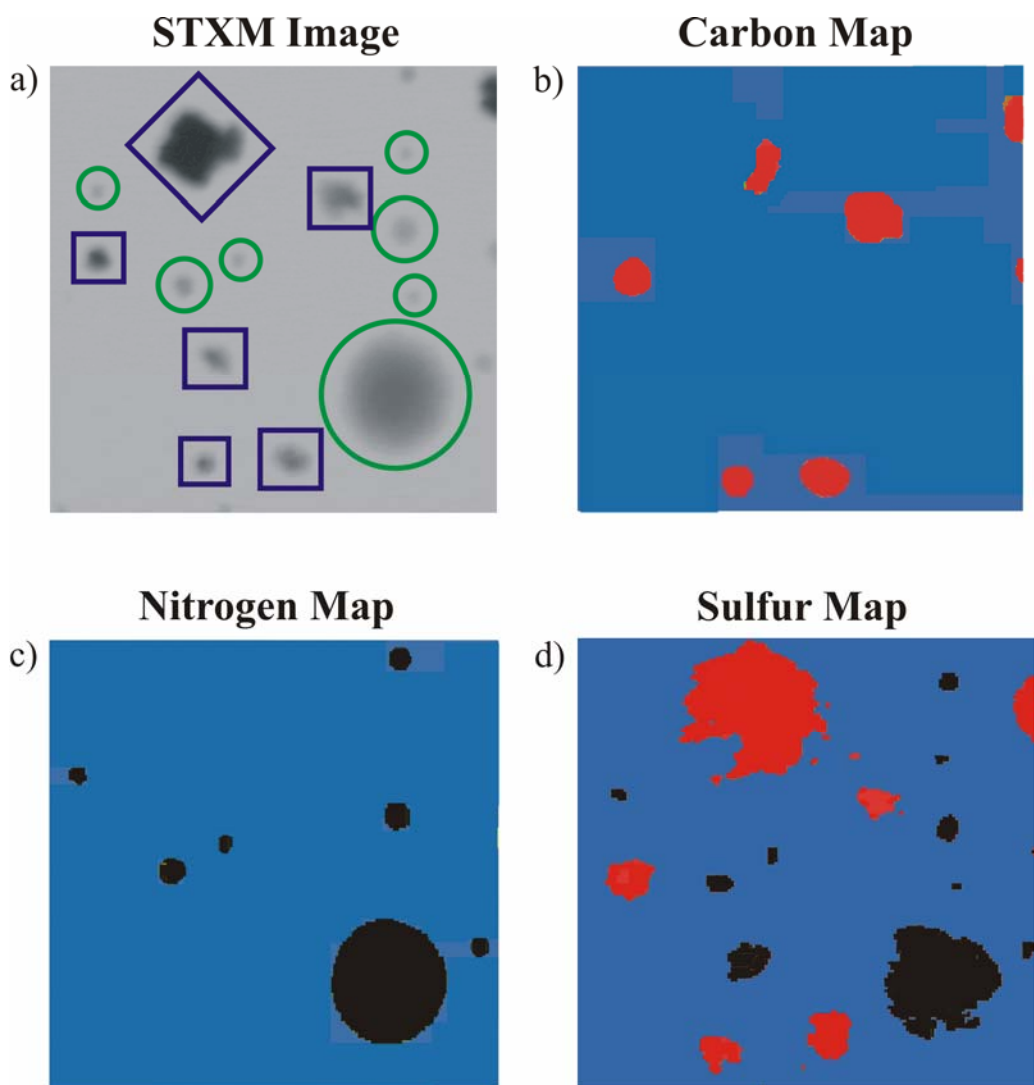
**Figure 6** Elemental ratios of S/Na measured by CCSEM/EDX analysis in sea salt particles found in the CVI (upper panel) and the AOS (lower panel) samples. The dashed lines indicate the ratio of 0.06 nominal to sea water. The solid lines indicate expected experimental deviation from the nominal line from sensitivity effects that impact results of EDX particle analysis. See text for further discussion.



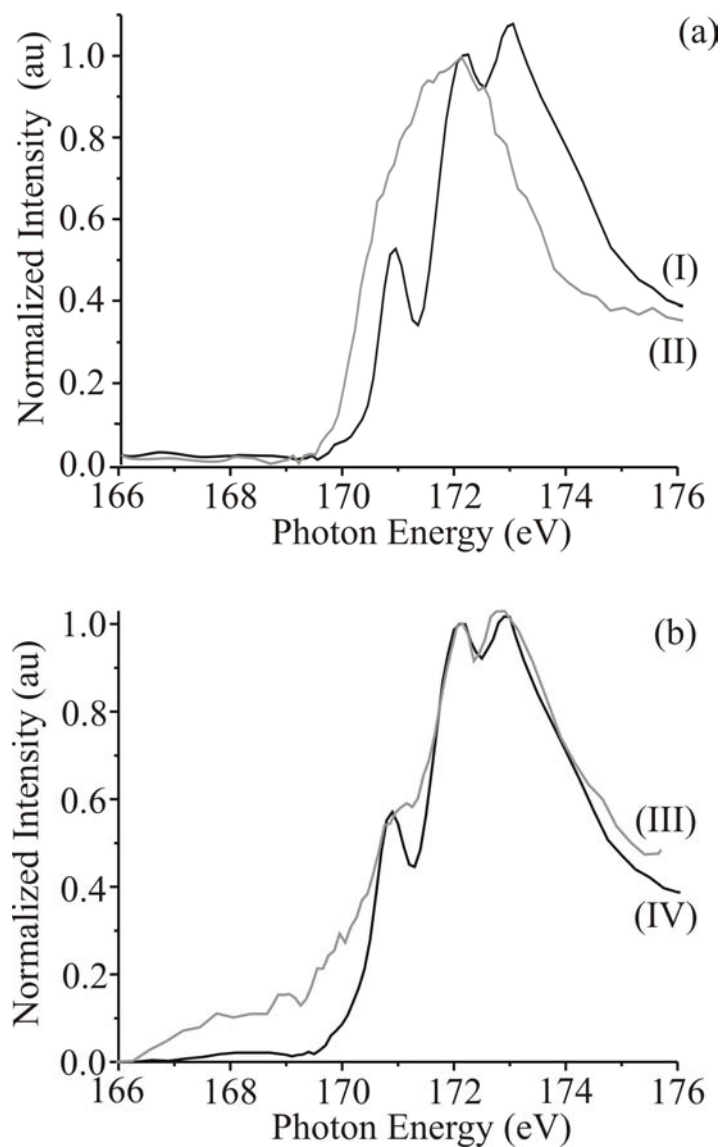
**Figure 7** TOF-SIMS maps of typical samples collected from the CVI line. Upper three left images are maps produced for characteristic ions of sodium ( $\text{Na}^+$ ) and methanesulfonate ( $\text{SO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$ ). The upper right image shows overlaid maps of the  $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  ions. Their close overlap indicates formation of methanesulfonate in sea salt particles. The lower three left images are maps produced for characteristic ions of ammonia ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) and sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{HSO}_4^-$ ) originating from  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ / $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  particles. The lower right image shows overlaid maps of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  and  $\text{HSO}_4^-$  ions and indicates external mixing of sea salt and ammonium sulfate particles. Maps are  $100 \mu\text{m} \times 100 \mu\text{m}$ . See text for additional details.



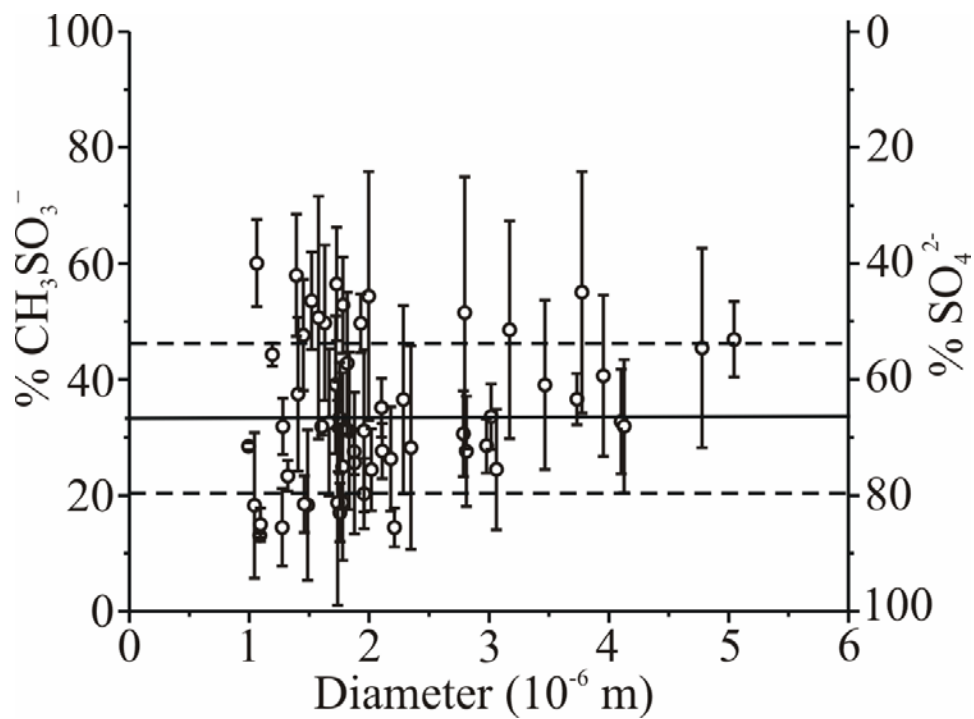
**Figure 8** (a) TOF-SIMS spectrum characteristic of sea salt particles (see upper panel of Fig. 7) shown with the reference spectrum obtained from laboratory prepared  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$  particles. (b) TOF-SIMS spectrum characteristic of ammonium sulfate particles (see bottom panel of Fig. 7) plotted along with the reference spectrum obtained from laboratory prepared  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  particles.



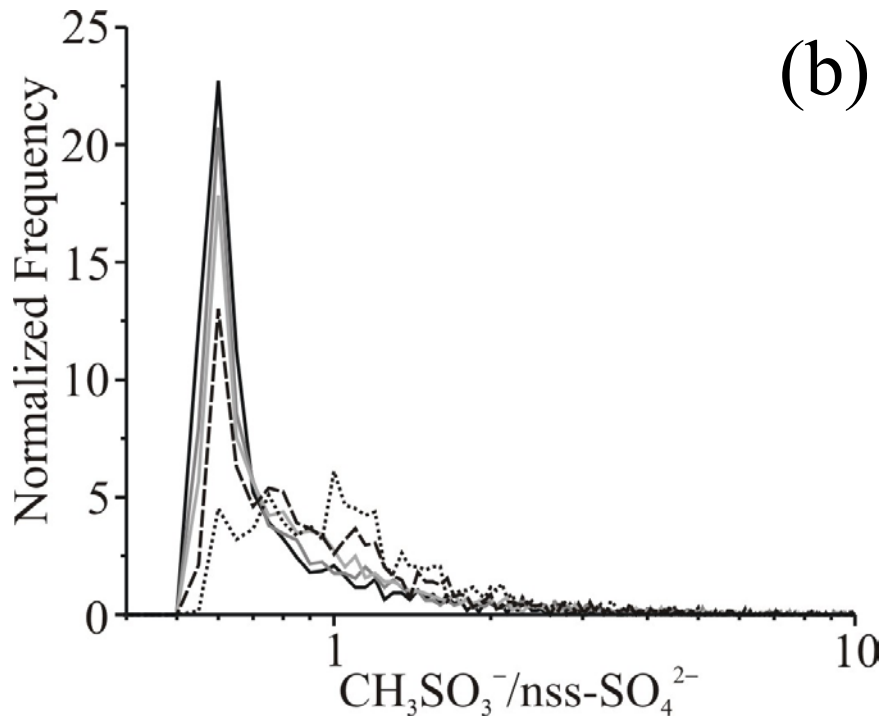
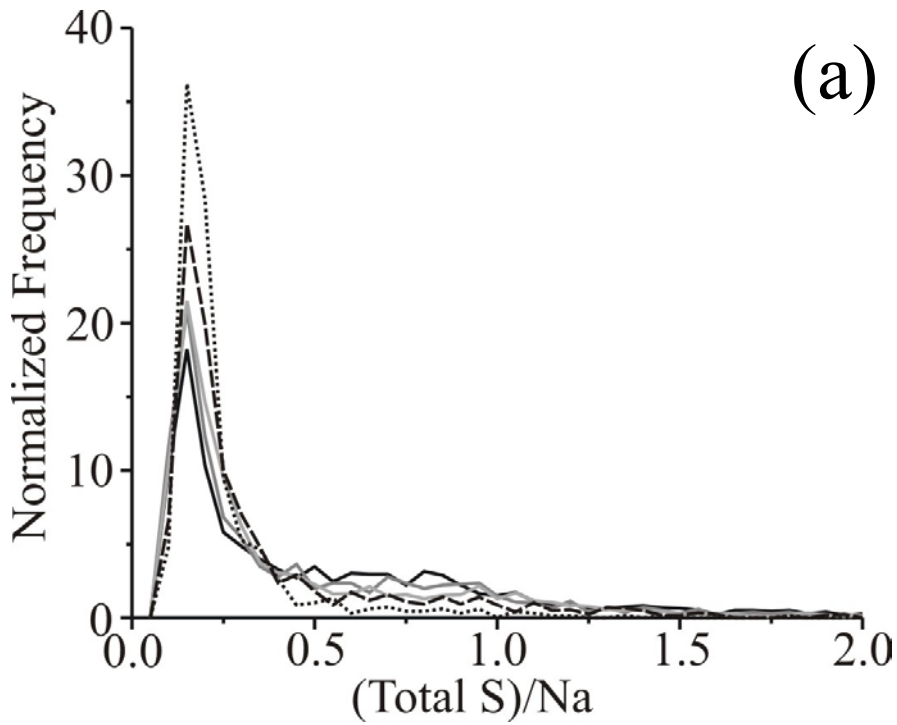
**Figure 9** (a) STXM image (12 μm × 12 μm) of externally mixed sea salt/CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> (marked by squares) and H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>/(NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (marked by circles) particles, b) C K-edge STXM/NEXAFS map of sea salt/CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> particles, c) N K-edge STXM/NEXAFS map of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>/(NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> particles, d) S L-edge STXM/NEXAFS map of sea salt/CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> particles (red) and H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>/(NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> particles (black).



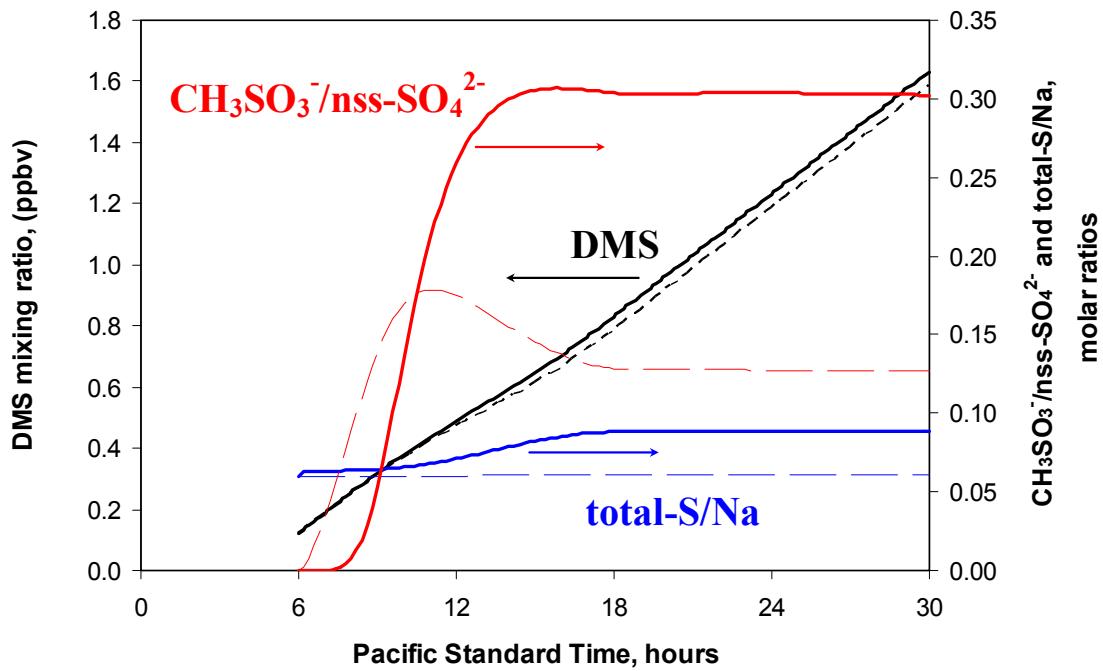
**Figure 10** (a) Sulfur L-edge NEXAFS spectra recorded from reference particles of (I)  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and (II)  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ . (b) Sulfur L-edge NEXAFS spectrum recorded from a mixed (III) sea salt/ $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  particle collected at Point Reyes National Seashore, (IV) modeled spectrum for 20:80 proportion of  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{Na}/\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  particle.



**Figure 11** – Invariance in chemical composition with projected particle diameter. The solid black line indicates the mean value of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio and the dashed lines represent one standard deviation from the mean.



**Figure 12** – Distribution of (a) total sulfur to sodium ratio and (b)  $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  to  $\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$  ratio present in particles with diameter in the range 0.31 – 0.5, 0.5 – 0.79, 0.79 – 1.26, 1.26 – 2 and  $> 2 \mu\text{m}$  (black, dark grey, light grey, dashed and dotted lines, respectively).



**Figure 13** Temporal evolution of  $[\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3^-]/[\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}]$  and  $[\text{total-S}]/[\text{Na}]$  ratios in sea salt particles calculated using “gas-phase chemistry only” (dashed lines) and “gas and cloud chemistry” scenarios (solid lines). The model calculations are initiated at 6 am assuming  $E_{\text{DMS}} = 20 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{d}^{-1}$ , emission rates of DMS. Temporal evolution of DMS mixing ratio is also shown.