

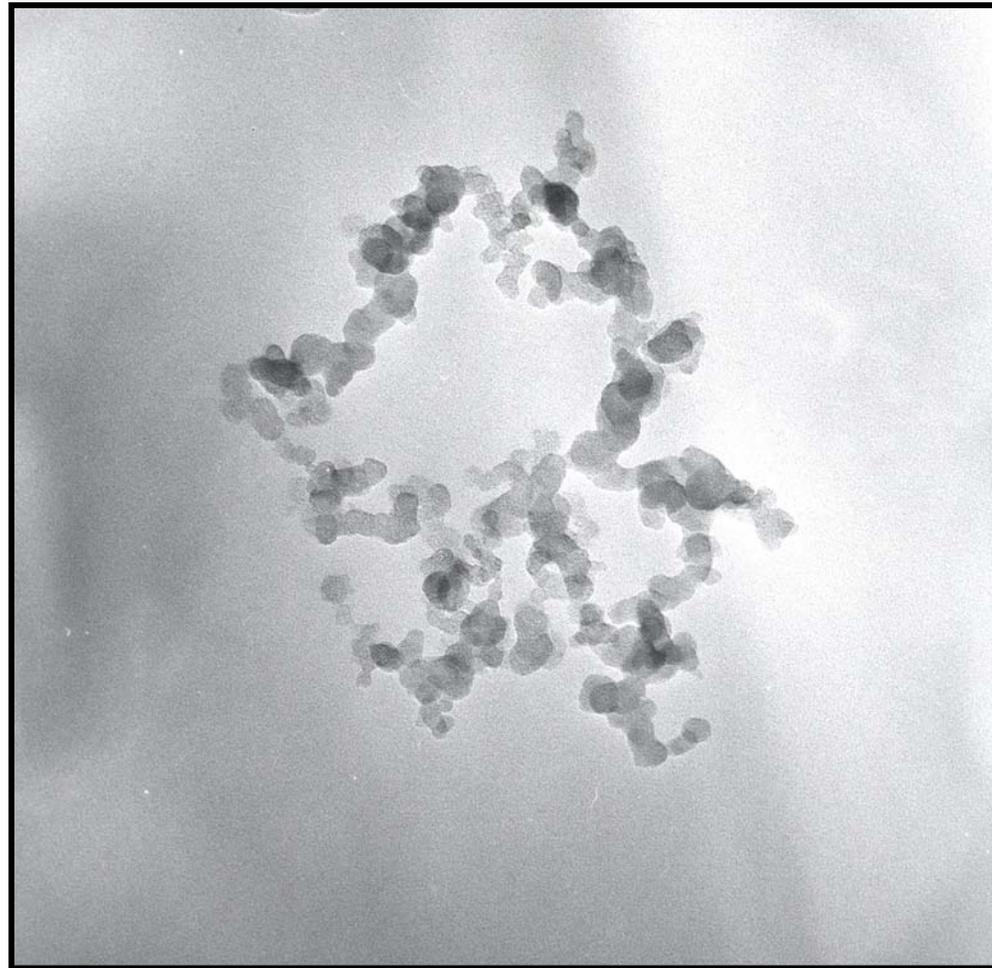


# Characterization of Particulate Sizes, Microstructures and Fractal Geometry of a Light Duty Diesel Engine via Thermophoretic Sampling

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# Diesel Particulates





# Human health and environment impacts of PM call for detailed investigations

- 2007 PM standards for heavy-duty diesel vehicles
  - ▶ 0.01 g/bhp-hr (90 % reduction) / Low sulfur content fuel
  - ▶ **Aftertreatment** systems required
- Future **regulations for PM sizes**
- **Major research targets**
  - ▶ Formation/destruction mechanisms of PM
  - ▶ Accurate sampling techniques
  - ▶ Particle sizes, structures and chemistry
- **Morphological investigation** reveals details of diesel particulates, which has not been available.



# Thermophoretic sampling and TEM enable us to measure actual physical dimensions and microstructures of PM

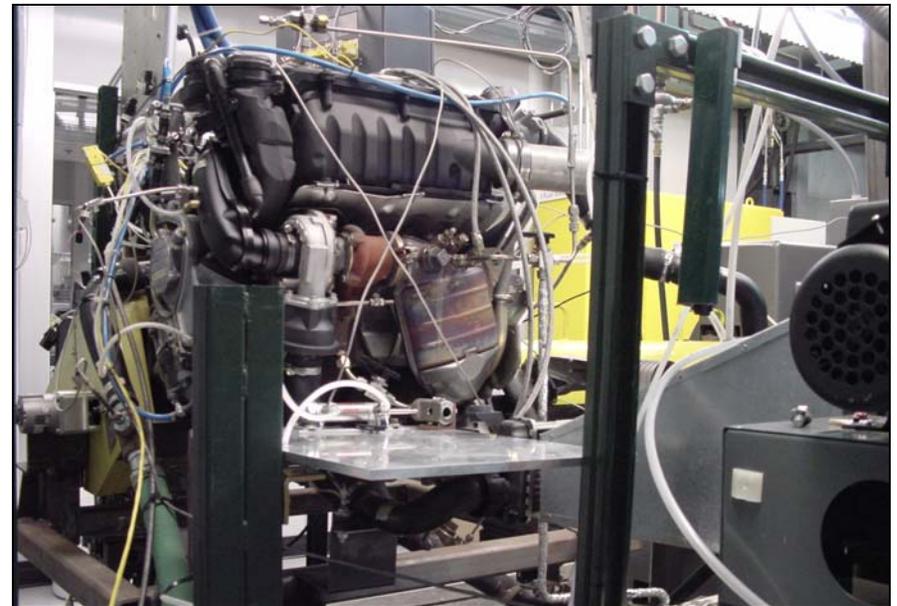
- **Commercially available apparatus**
  - ▶ Electrical aerosol analyzer (EAA)
  - ▶ Scanning mobility particle sizer (SMPS)
  - ▶ Impactor
- **Thermophoretic sampling/TEM**
  - ▶ Short residence time
  - ▶ No air dilution
  - ▶ No extra treatments for analysis of morphology and chemistry
  - ▶ Measurement of actual physical dimensions
    - Primary & aggregate particles



# Thermophoretic sampling is a necessary component for detailed investigations of PM



2.4 L Single-Cylinder DI Diesel Engine  
(Supercharged, Unit Injection)

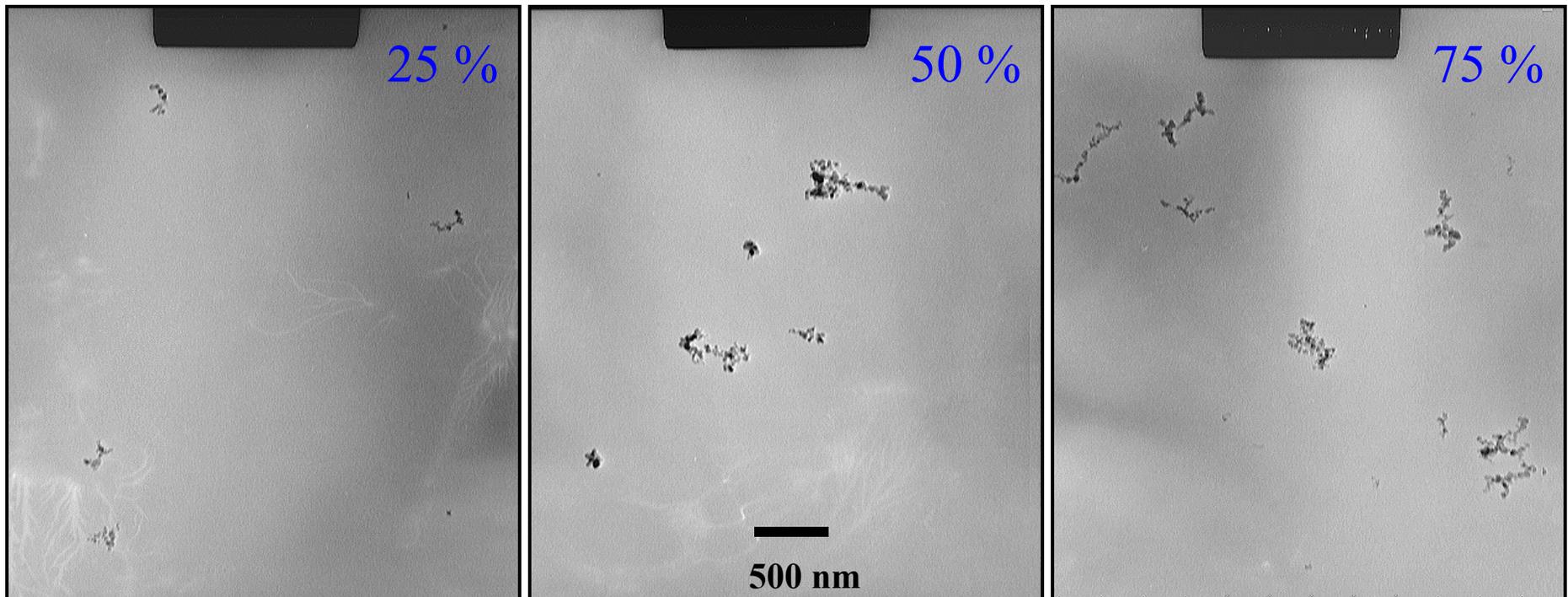


1.7 L Turbocharged 4-cylinder DI  
Diesel Engine (EGR, Common-Rail)



# TEM reveals details of diesel particulate morphology and structures

1000 rpm (17KX)

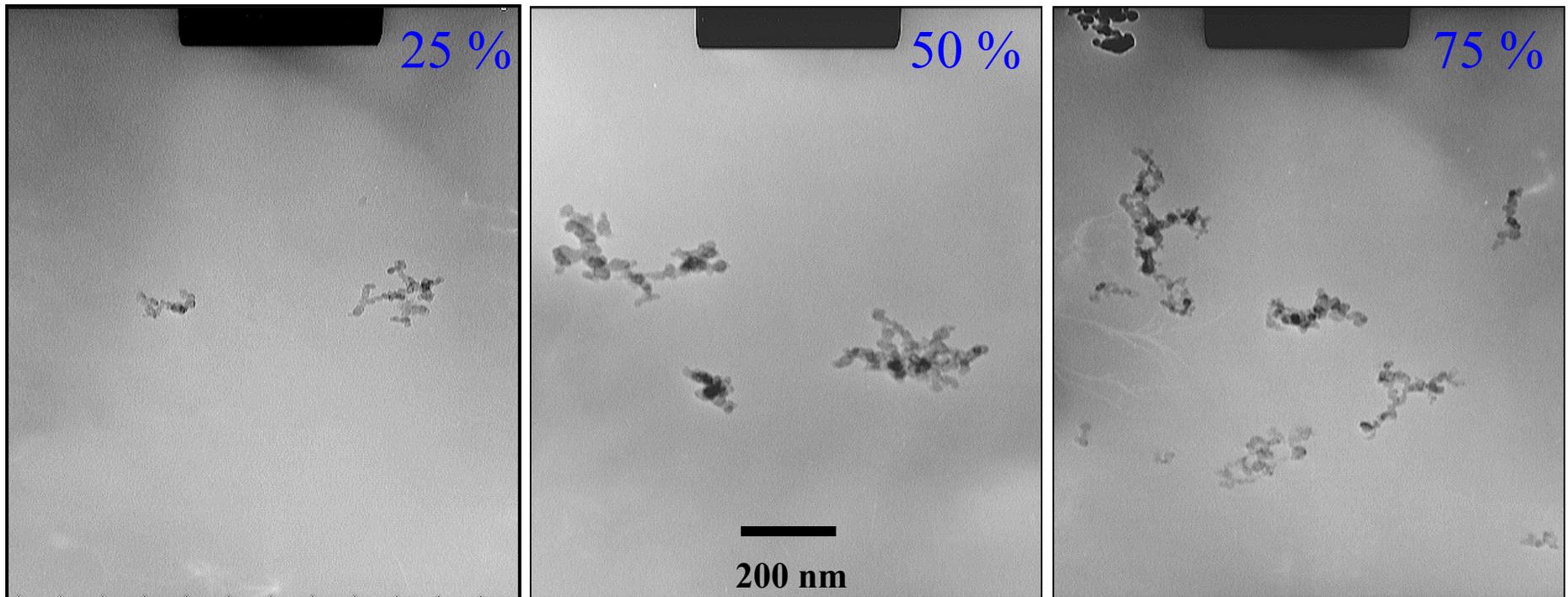


- Particle morphology: Near-spherical to chain-like
- Particle size and number density increases with engine load.



## Continued

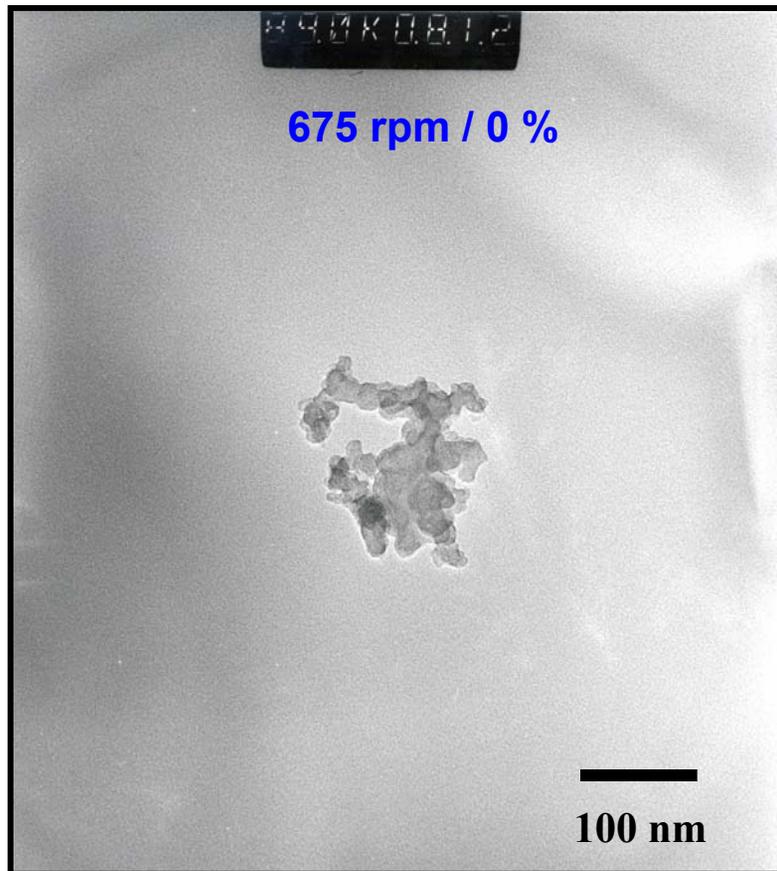
4000 rpm (52KX)



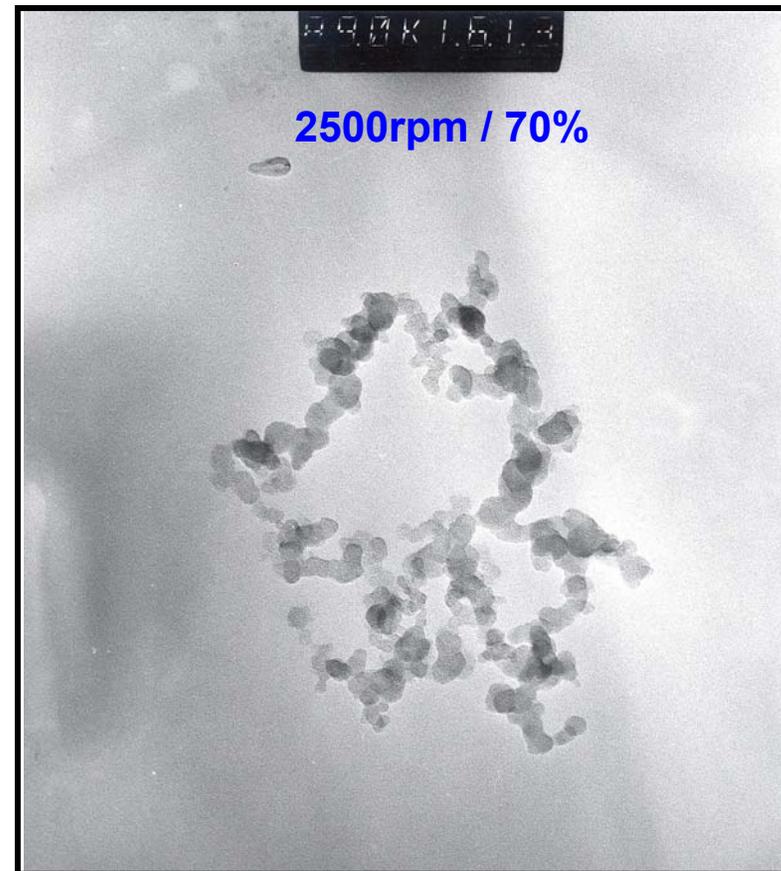
- Particle size initially increases with load and decreases.
- Number density keeps increasing with load.
- EGR was off in operation.



# Significant differences in morphology were observed depending on engine load



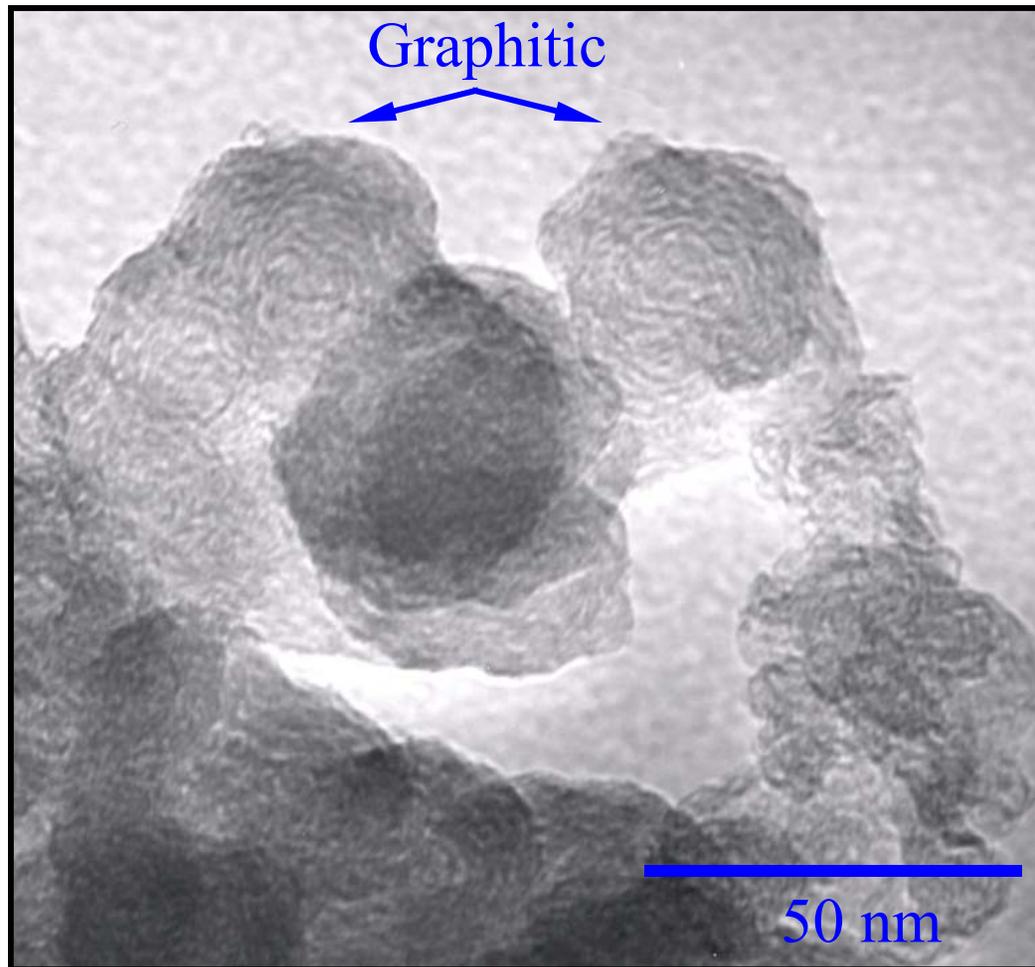
Nebulous



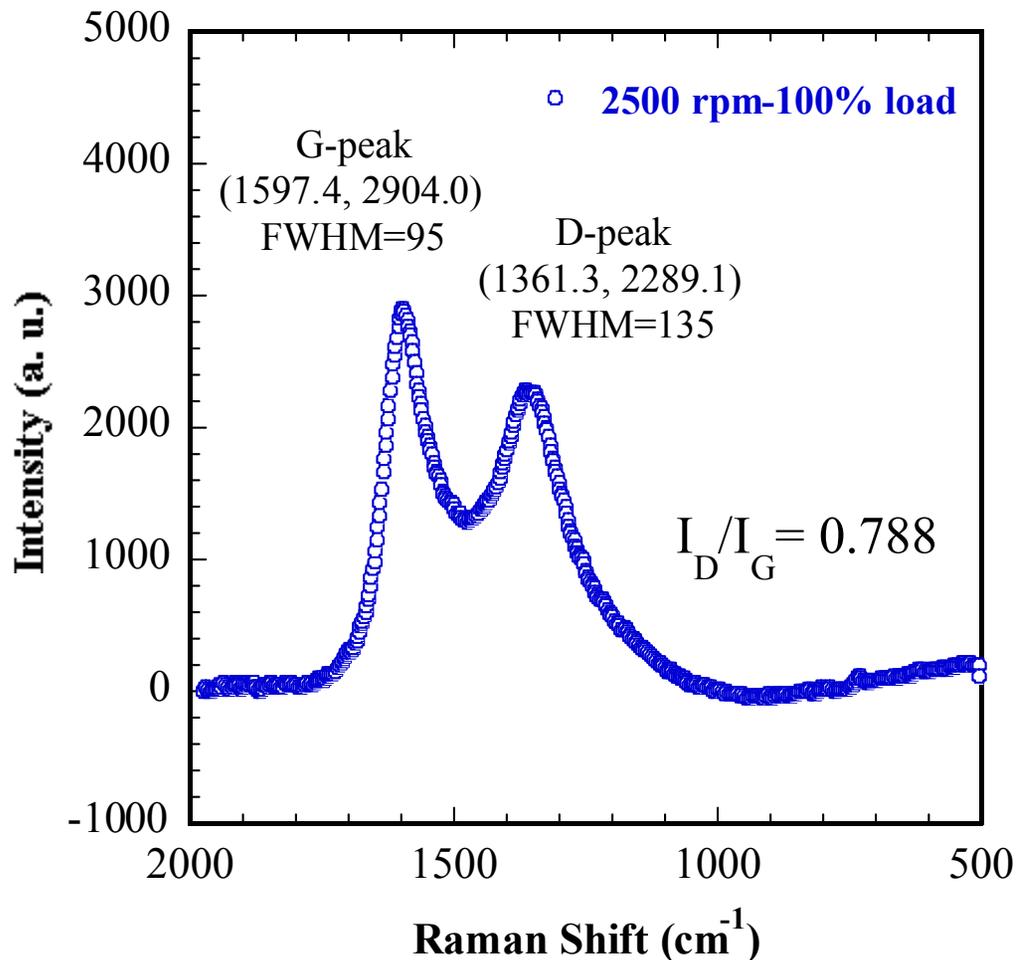
Distinct



# High-resolution TEM reveals microstructure of primary particles



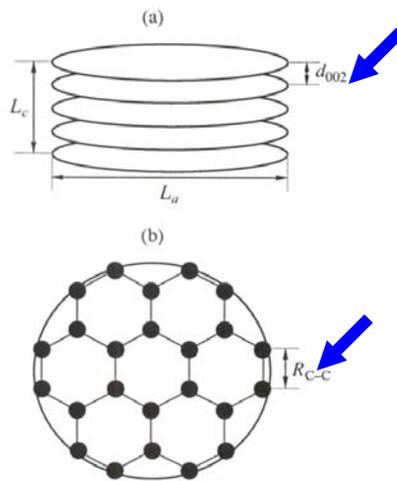
# Raman spectra reveal a degree of graphitic structure of diesel particulates



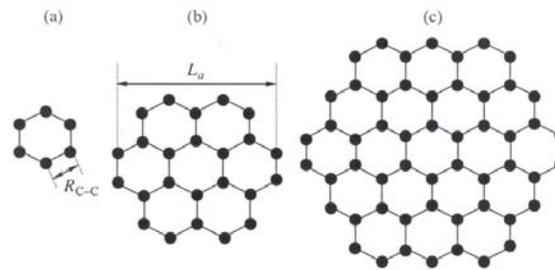
- $I_D / I_G = C \cdot 1 / L_a$   
( $C = 4.4 \text{ nm}$ )
- Average crystal size ( $L_a$ ):  
approximately 5.6 nm
- Disorder of crystal  
structure decreases with  
increasing loads

# Further microscopic analysis reveals atomic structures of diesel particulates

Turbostratic structure



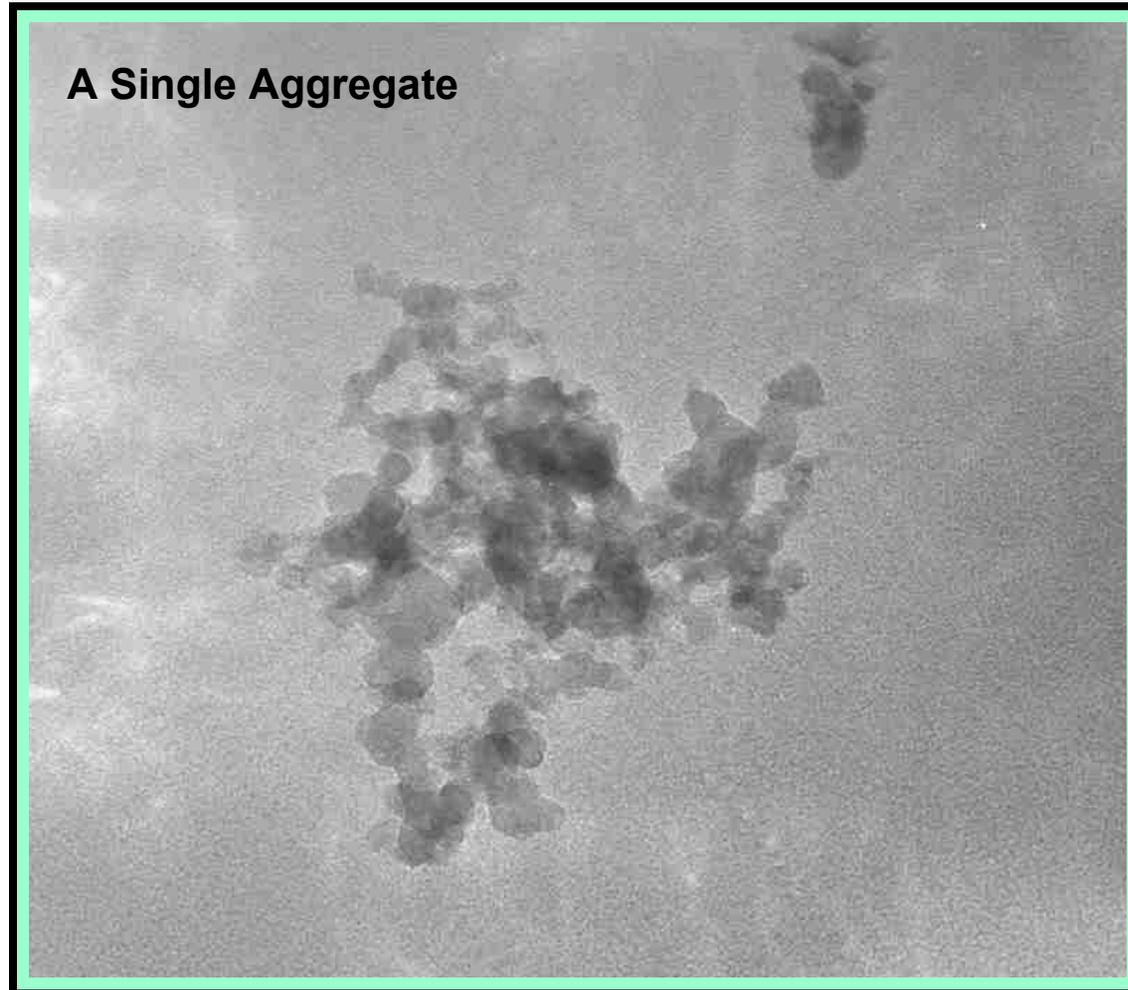
Graphitic structure



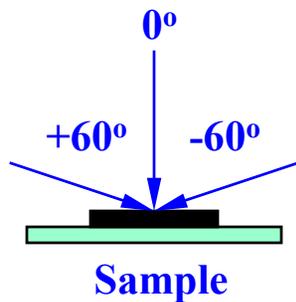
Carbon layers with  
P= (a) 1, (b) 2, (c) 3

- $L_a = 5.6 \text{ nm}$
- $P = 12$
- 864 carbon atoms per layer
- Interlayer distance:
  - $d_{002} \approx 0.34 \text{ nm}$
- $R_{C-C} = 0.141 \text{ nm}$

# TEM lends us to observe 3-D structures of particulate morphology

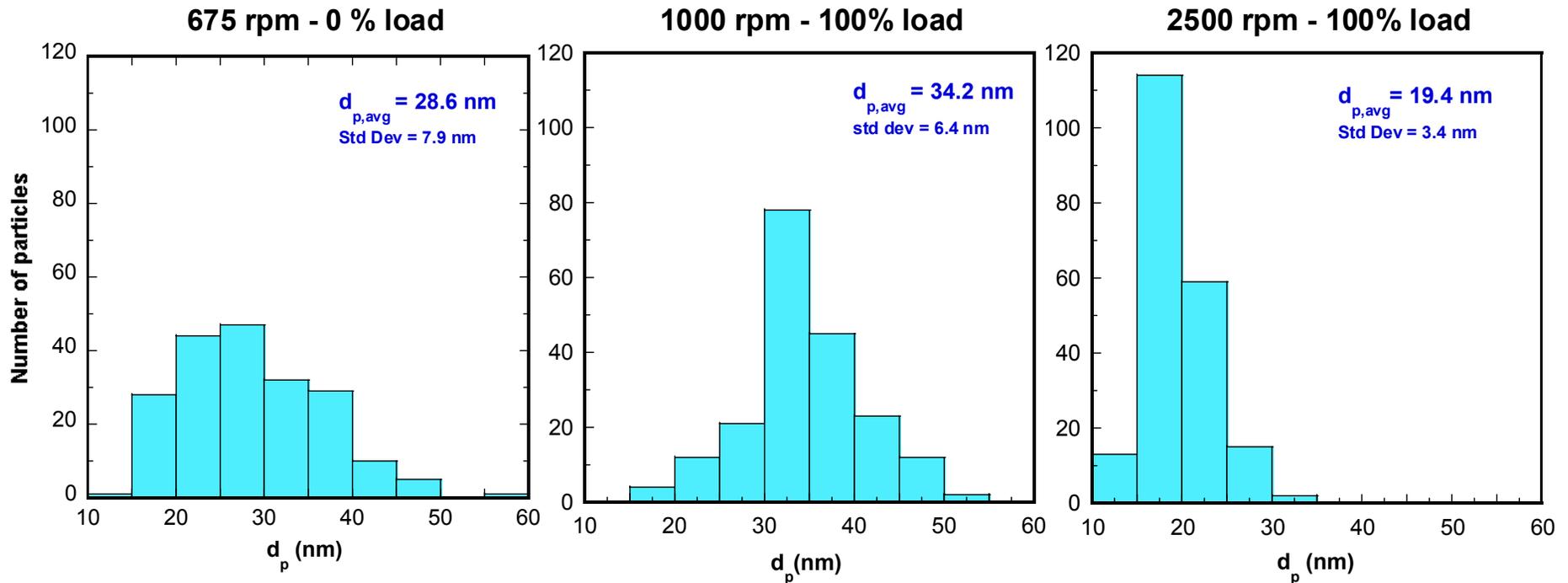


Viewing angles



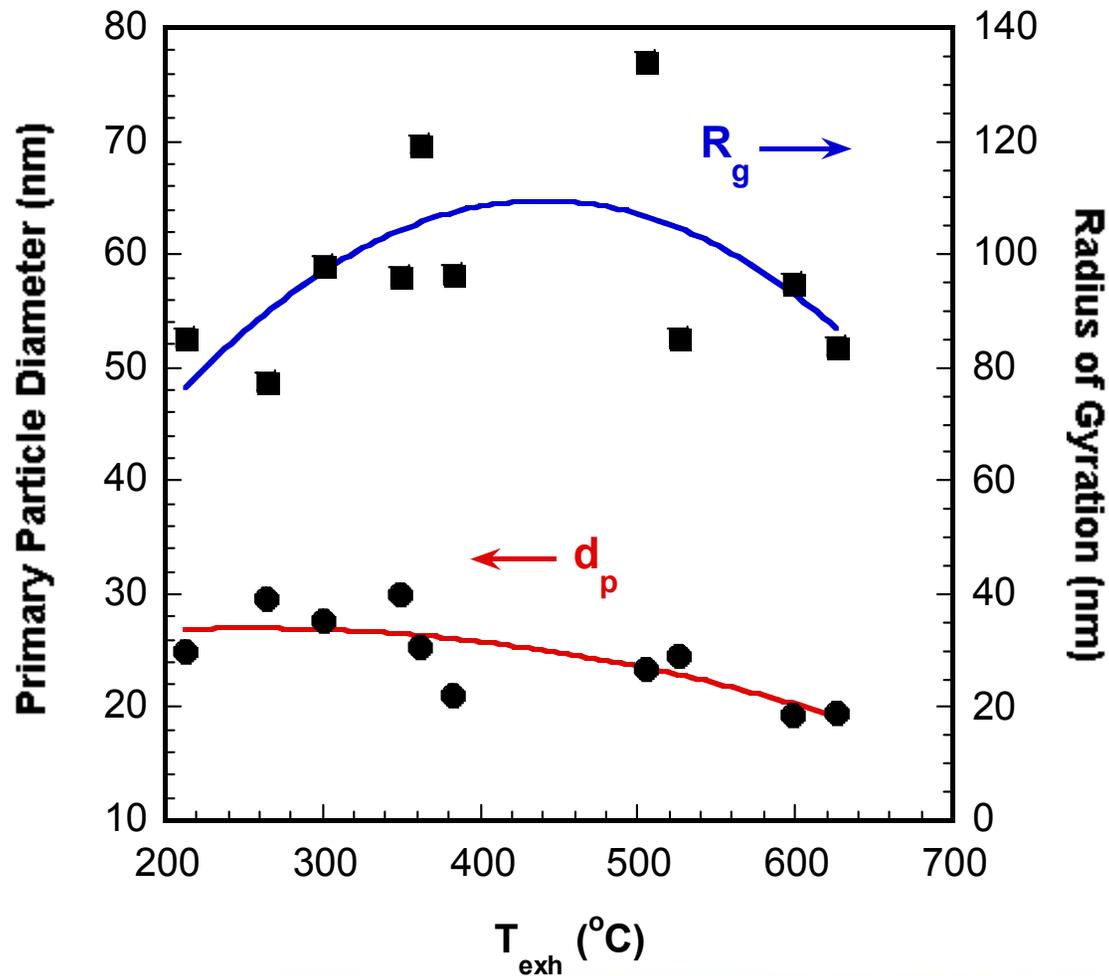


# Primary particle sizes are significantly affected by engine operating conditions



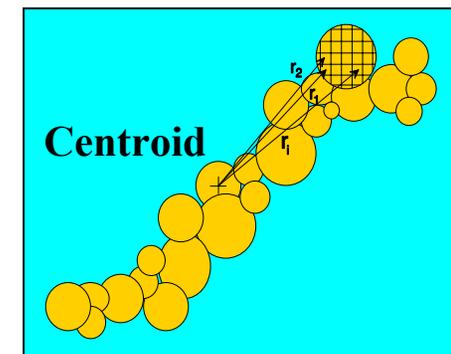
- Idling: Both young and aged soot particles exist.
- High loading: Significant oxidation due to high temperature
- $T_{exh} = 140, 460$  and  $600$  °C, respectively.

# Particulate sizes are sensitive to temperature



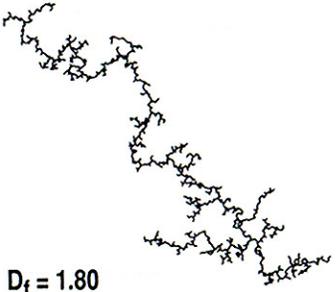
- Radius of Gyration

$$R_g = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n r_i^2}$$





# Fractal dimension indicates how aggregate particles are formed

|                 | REACTION-LIMITED   | BALLISTIC  | DIFFUSION-LIMITED  |
|-----------------|--|--|--|
| MONOMER-CLUSTER | EDEN<br><br>$D_f = 3.00$  | VOLD<br><br>$D_f = 3.00$        | WITTEN-SANDER<br><br>$D_f = 2.50$ |
| CLUSTER-CLUSTER | RLCA<br><br>$D_f = 2.09$ | SUTHERLAND<br><br>$D_f = 1.95$ | DLCA<br><br>$D_f = 1.80$          |

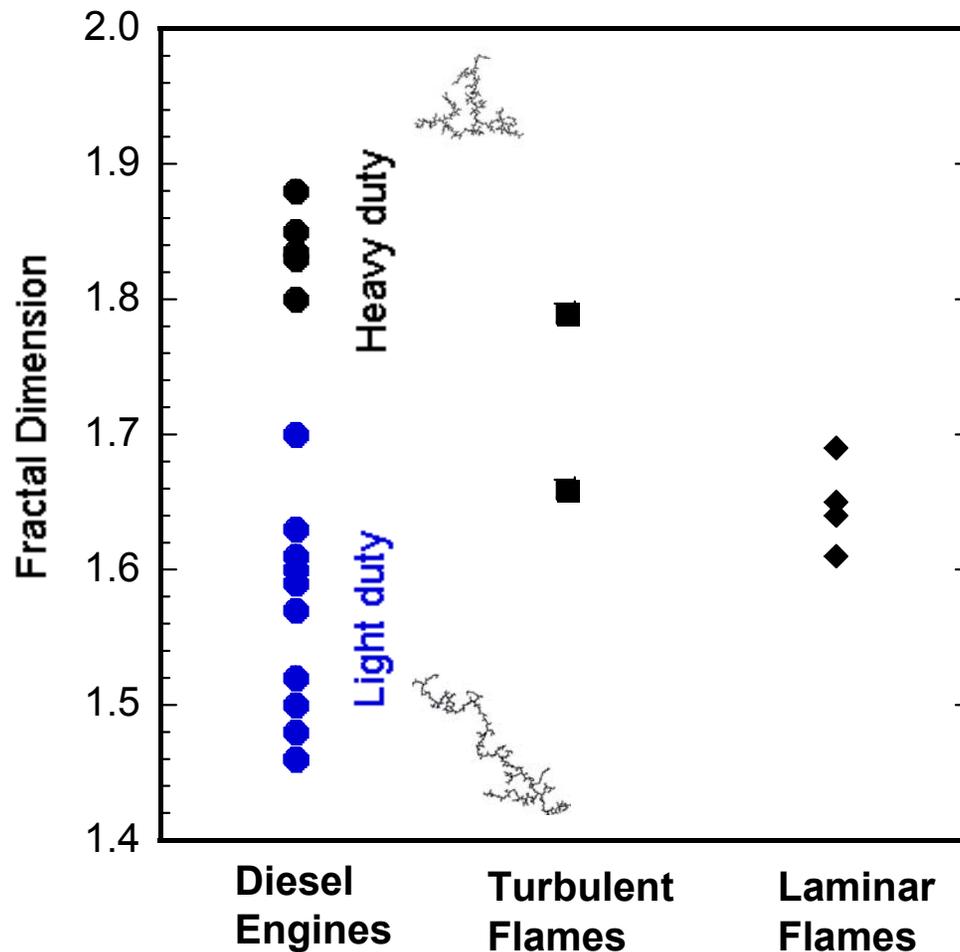
$$n = k_f \left( \frac{R_g}{d_p} \right)^{D_f}$$

$n$ : Number of primary particles per aggregate

$$n = \left( \frac{A_a}{A_p} \right)^\alpha$$

$$\alpha = 1.09$$

## Morphology of diesel particulates was standardized via fractal analysis



- Heavy-duty diesel PM  
→ more compact
- Light-duty diesel PM  
→ More chain-like shape
- Diffusion-limited particle formation mechanism suggested



## Challenging questions remain for future work

- Can we find correlations with the aerodynamic or mobility diameters measured by commercially available apparatus?
- How would aftertreatment systems affect PM sizes and morphology along the exhaust pipe?
- How do different properties in diesel fuel affect particulate morphology?
- How do PM morphology differences affect human health?



# Acknowledgement

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