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Field Demonstration of the Sandia Wake Imaging System Capabilities at the Scaled Wind Farm Technology Facility

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Outline

- Project Purpose
- Investigation Objectives
- Demonstration Field Test
 - Experimental Setup
 - Simulated Measurements
 - Velocity Image Results
- Conclusions and Next Steps

Project Purpose

Sandia Wake Imaging System (SWIS) Purpose: Capture instantaneous velocity images to resolve coherent turbulent structures in the wind turbine wake region

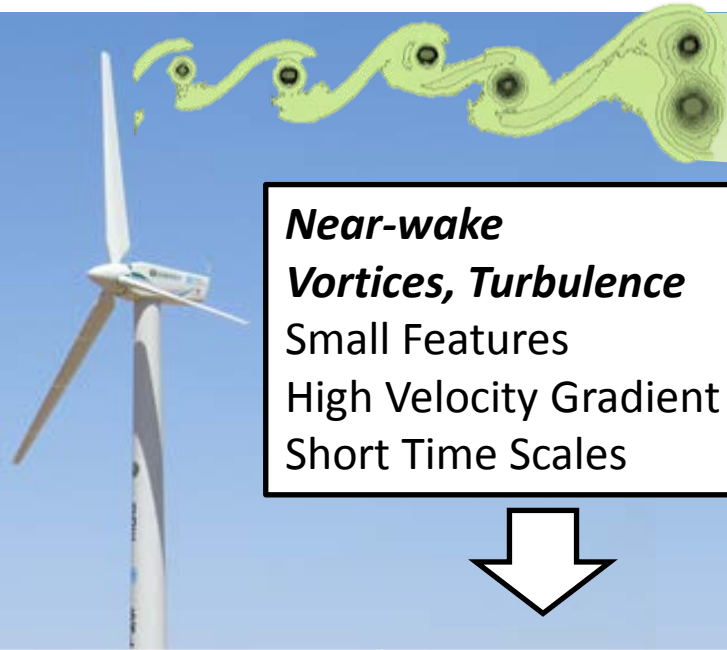
SWIS Impact:

- Enable the validation of research codes and design tools used to optimize wind plant performance
- Complement existing measurement capabilities such as lidar and radar

Project Achievements:

- Implement Doppler Global Velocimetry (DGV) over large field of view
- Demonstrate successful velocity image measurement of surrogate flow field
- Developed SWIS modeling tool from calibrated radiometric model for system optimization and experimental planning at SWiFT facility

Velocity Diagnostic Selection



Near-wake

Vortices, Turbulence

Small Features
High Velocity Gradient
Short Time Scales

Far-wake

Meandering, Merging

Large Features
Low Velocity
Longer Time Scales

Existing Systems

Challenges in Near-wake field testing

Particle Image Velocimetry (PIV)

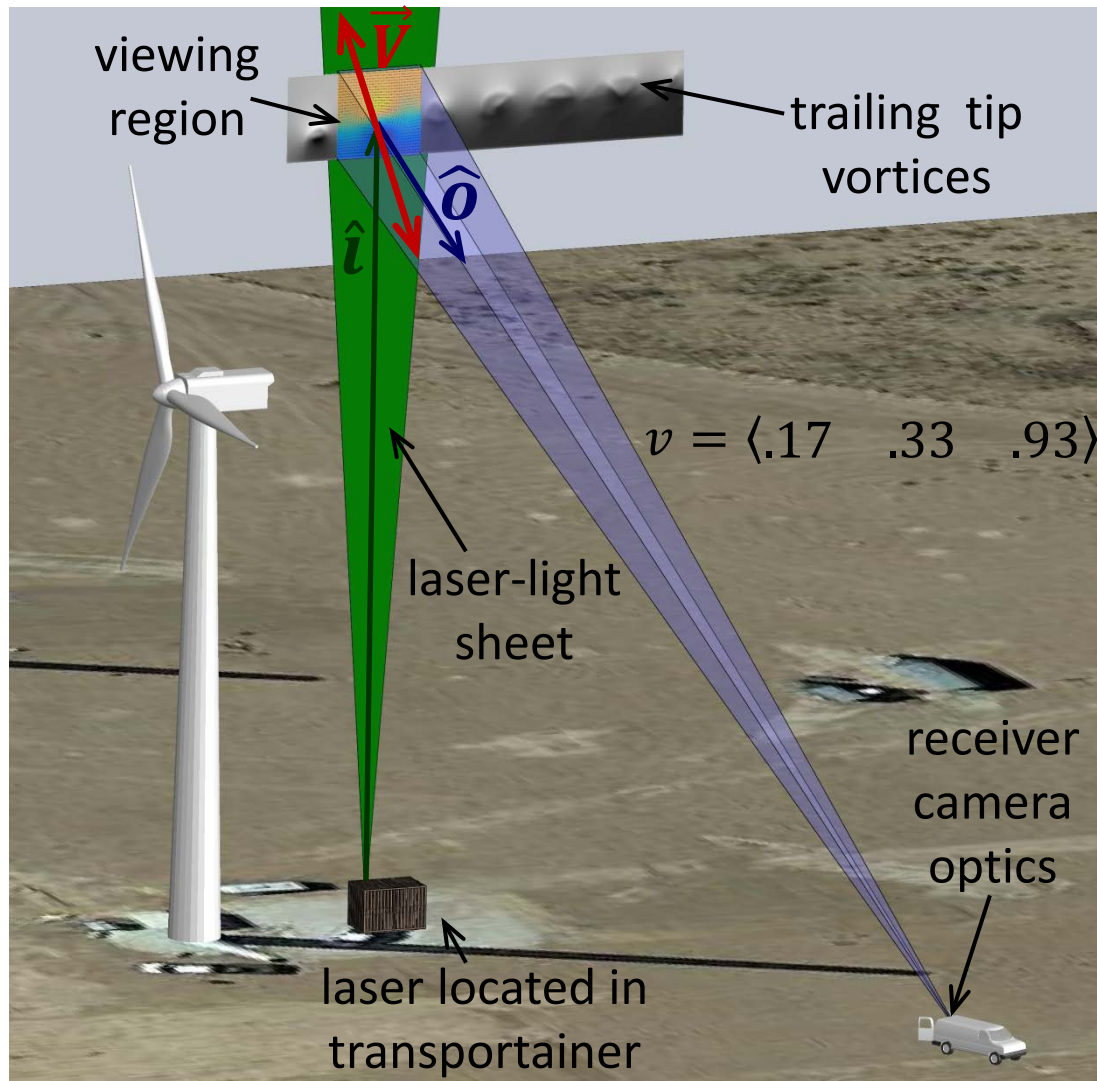
Small field of view since individual particles need to be resolved by imaging device:

- Requires extremely large tracer particles
- Impractically short working distances

Scanning LIDAR

Time and space resolution of scanning point measurements is insufficient to capture coherent tip-vortex structures at SWiFT

Sandia Wake Imaging System (SWIS)

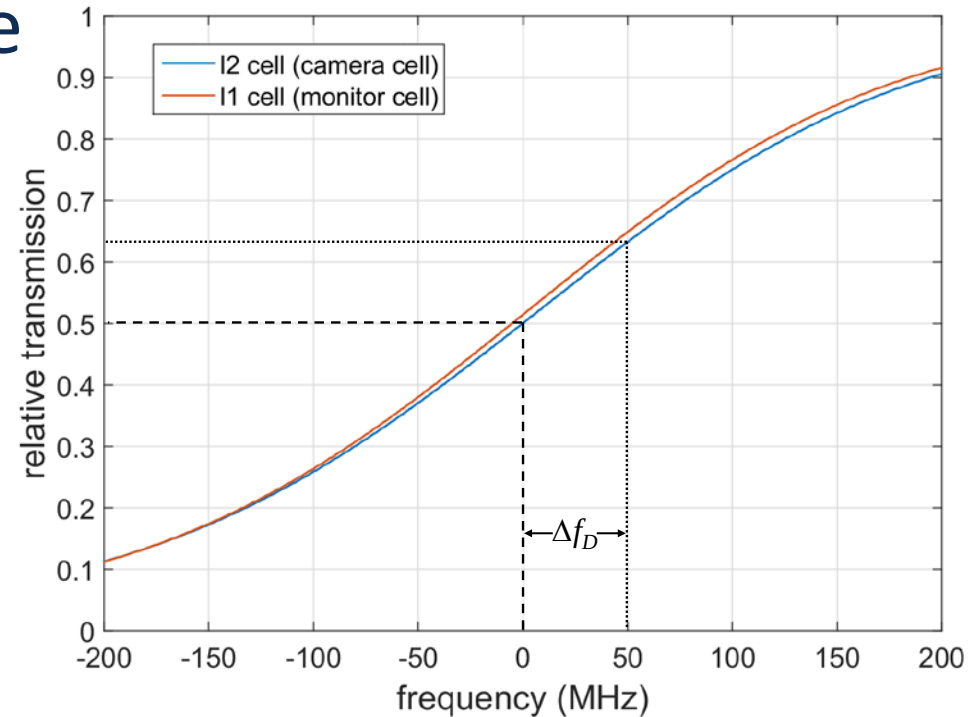
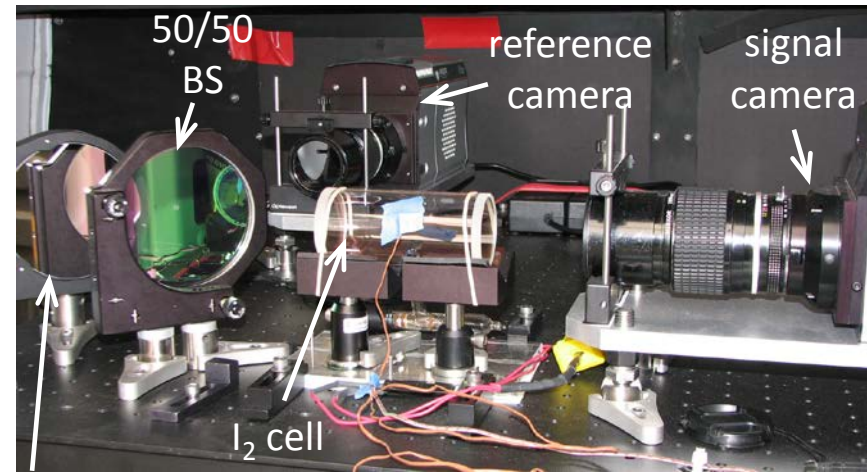


- Position of laser and camera dictates the measured velocity component
- Measure velocity component along bisector angle between observation and incident vectors, $(\hat{\mathbf{o}} - \hat{\mathbf{i}})$
- Additional velocity components measured with additional observation angles

Doppler frequency shift equation:

$$\Delta f_D = \frac{1}{\lambda} (\hat{\mathbf{o}} - \hat{\mathbf{i}}) \cdot \mathbf{V}$$

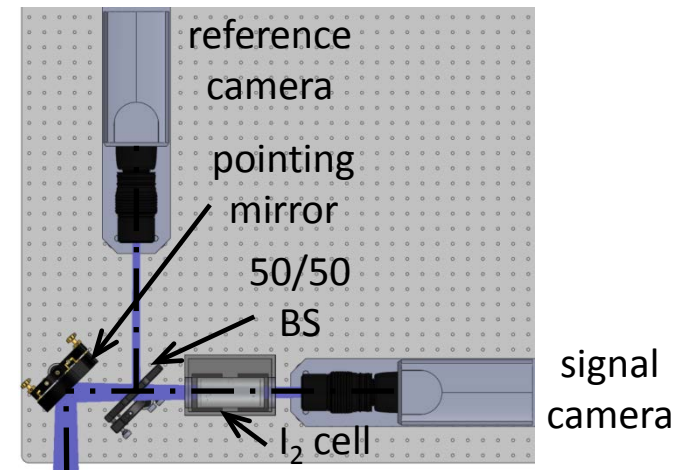
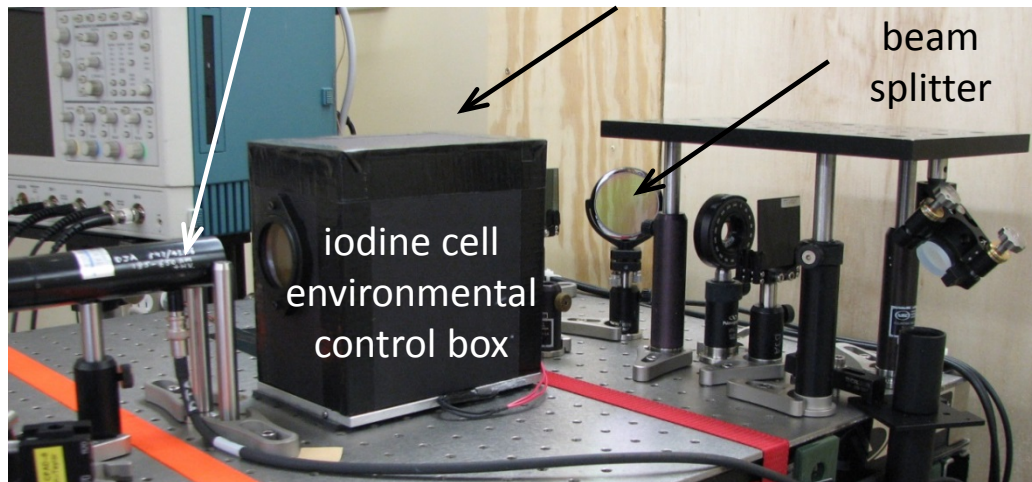
Iodine Absorption Profile Converts Frequency Shift into Intensity Change



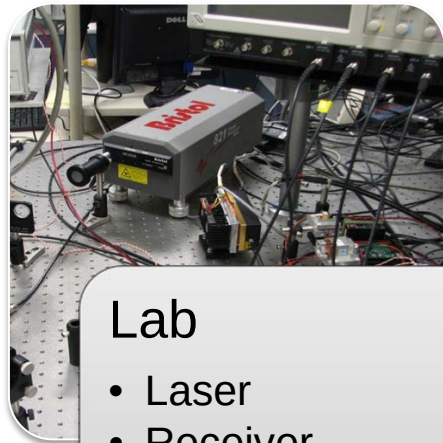
pointing mirror

signal phototube

reference phototube behind iodine cell



Project Development



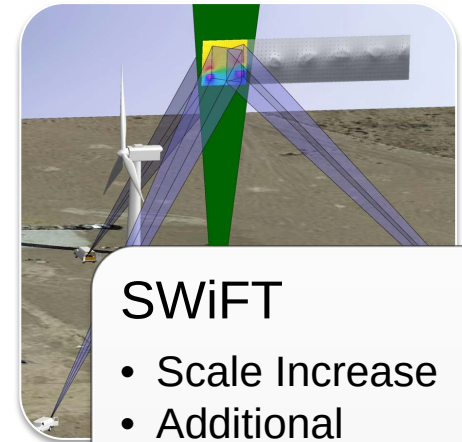
Lab

- Laser
- Receiver
- Iodine Cell
- Image Processing
- 15 cm × 15 cm



TA3 Sprung

- Aerosol
- System Sensitivity
- Measurement Uncertainty
- 2 m × 2 m



SWiFT

- Scale Increase
- Additional Velocity Components
- Outdoor Aerosol System
- 5 m × 5 m

Risk reduction approach:

- Demonstrate simplest possible system
- Address make-or-break components
- Identify and resolve ES&H issues early
- Leverage deep expertise, equipment, and facilities at Sandia to save time and money
- Created radiometric model for future experimental planning

SWiFT Facility, Lubbock, TX

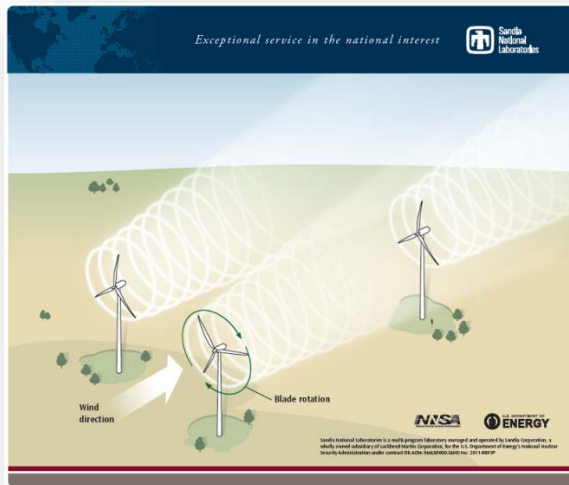
SWiFT exists to:

- Reduce turbine-turbine interaction and wind plant underperformance
- Develop advanced wind turbine rotors
- Public open-source to advance simulation abilities

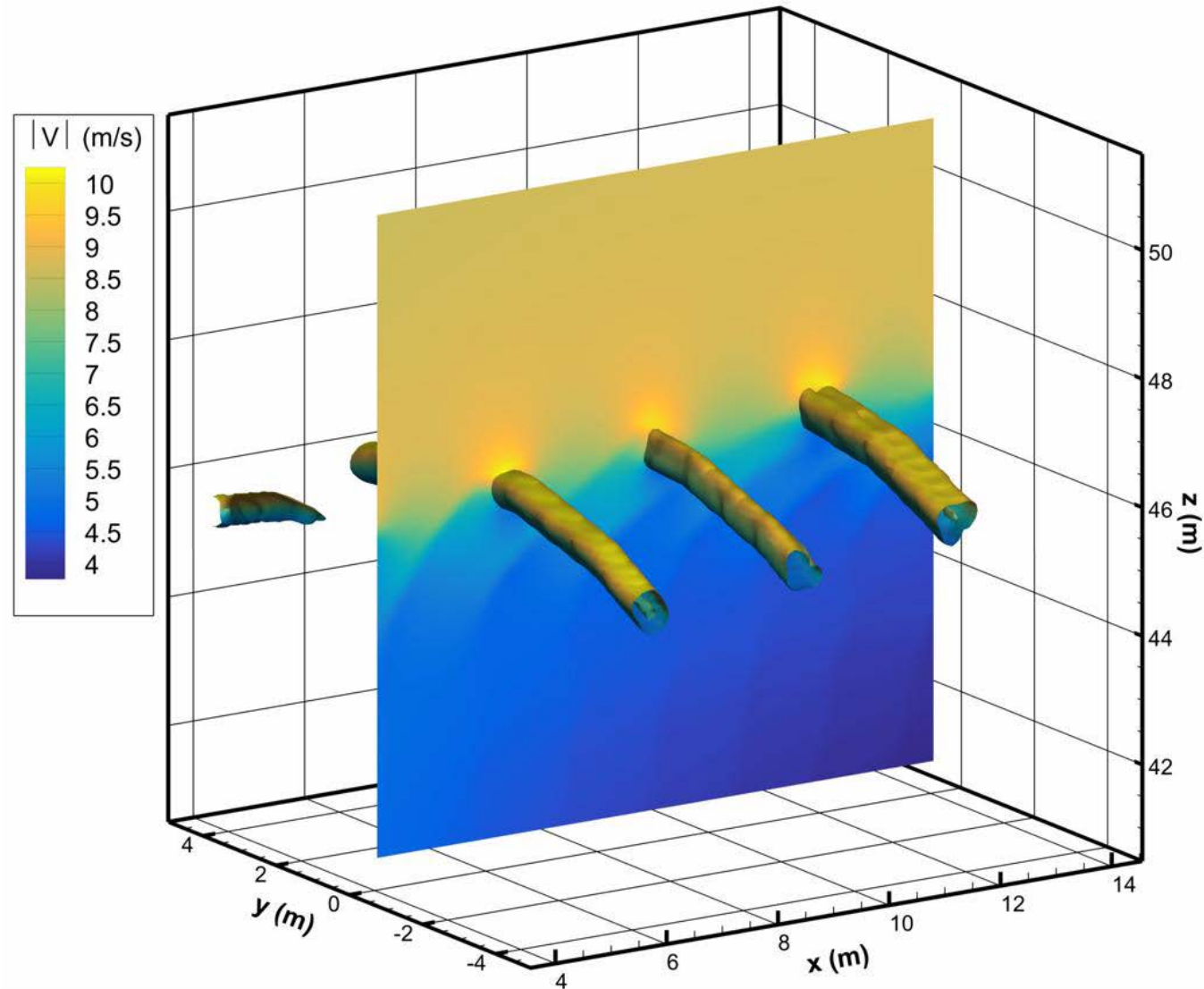
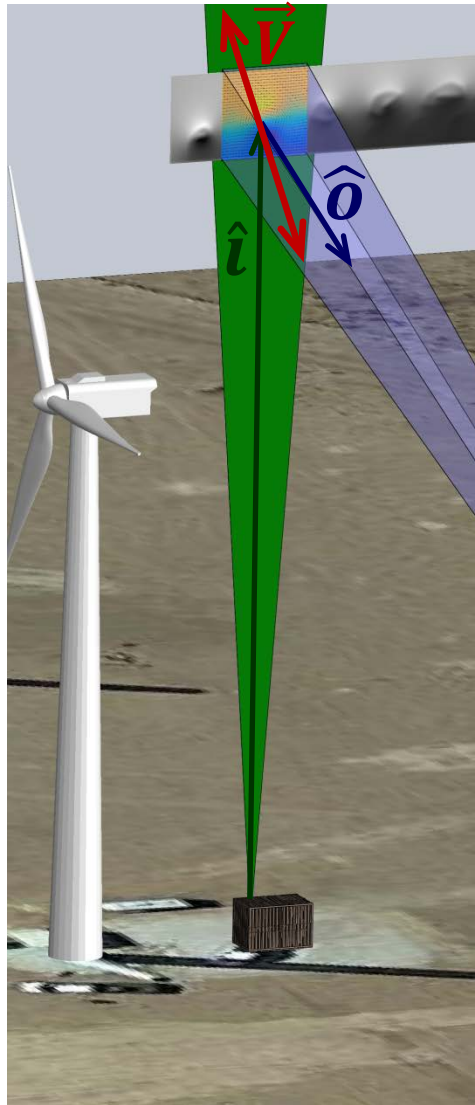


Facilities:

- Three variable-speed variable-pitch modified wind turbines with full power conversion and extensive sensor suite
- Two heavily instrumented inflow anemometer towers
- Site-wide time-synchronized data collection

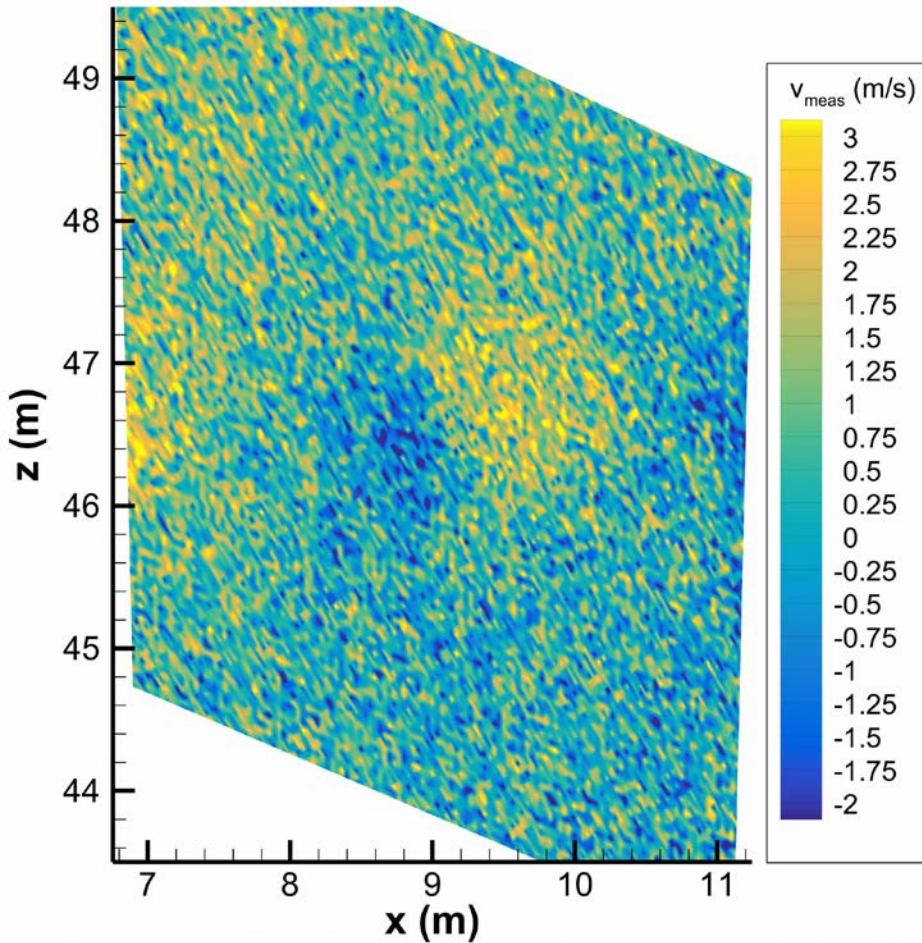


Simulated Measurements: Representative Flow

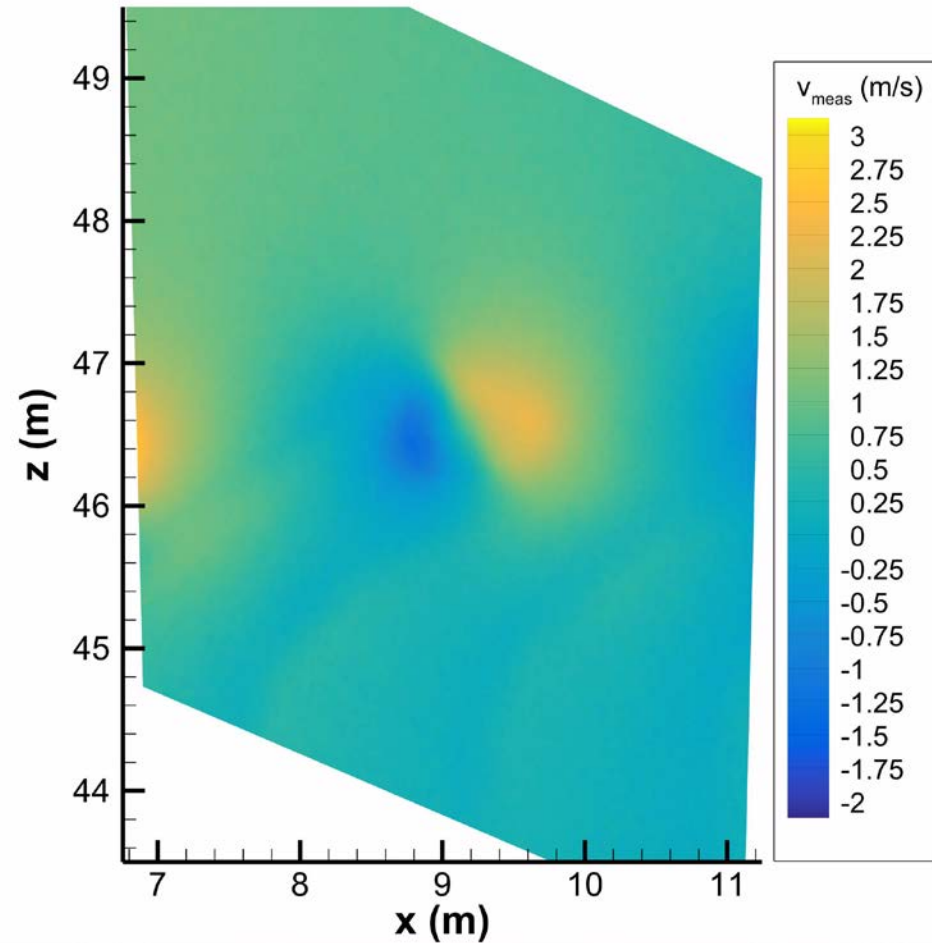


Simulated Measurements

Current System



Ideal Measurement



$$v_{neq} = 1.43 \text{ m/s}$$

$$v = \langle .17 \quad .33 \quad .93 \rangle$$

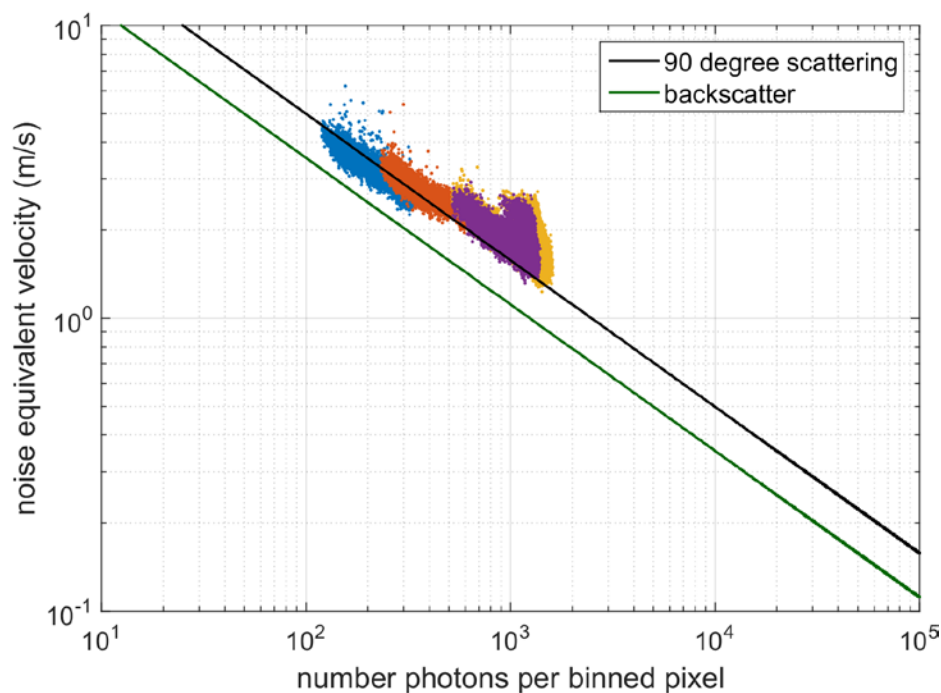
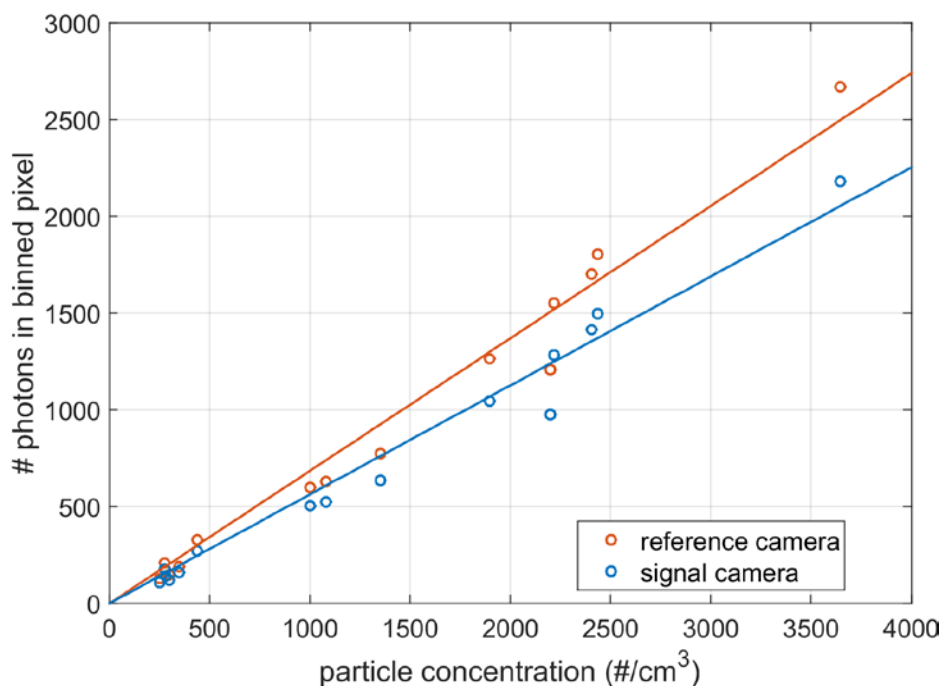
Sensitivity Results and Implications

- Noise equivalent velocity represents the minimum resolvable velocity variation
- Shot noise equals the square root of the number of photoelectrons collected per binned pixel:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{N}$$

$$NSR = \frac{\sigma}{N} = \frac{\sqrt{N}}{N} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

- Noise equivalent velocity likely shot-noise limited and depends inversely on number of photoelectrons



Investigation Objectives

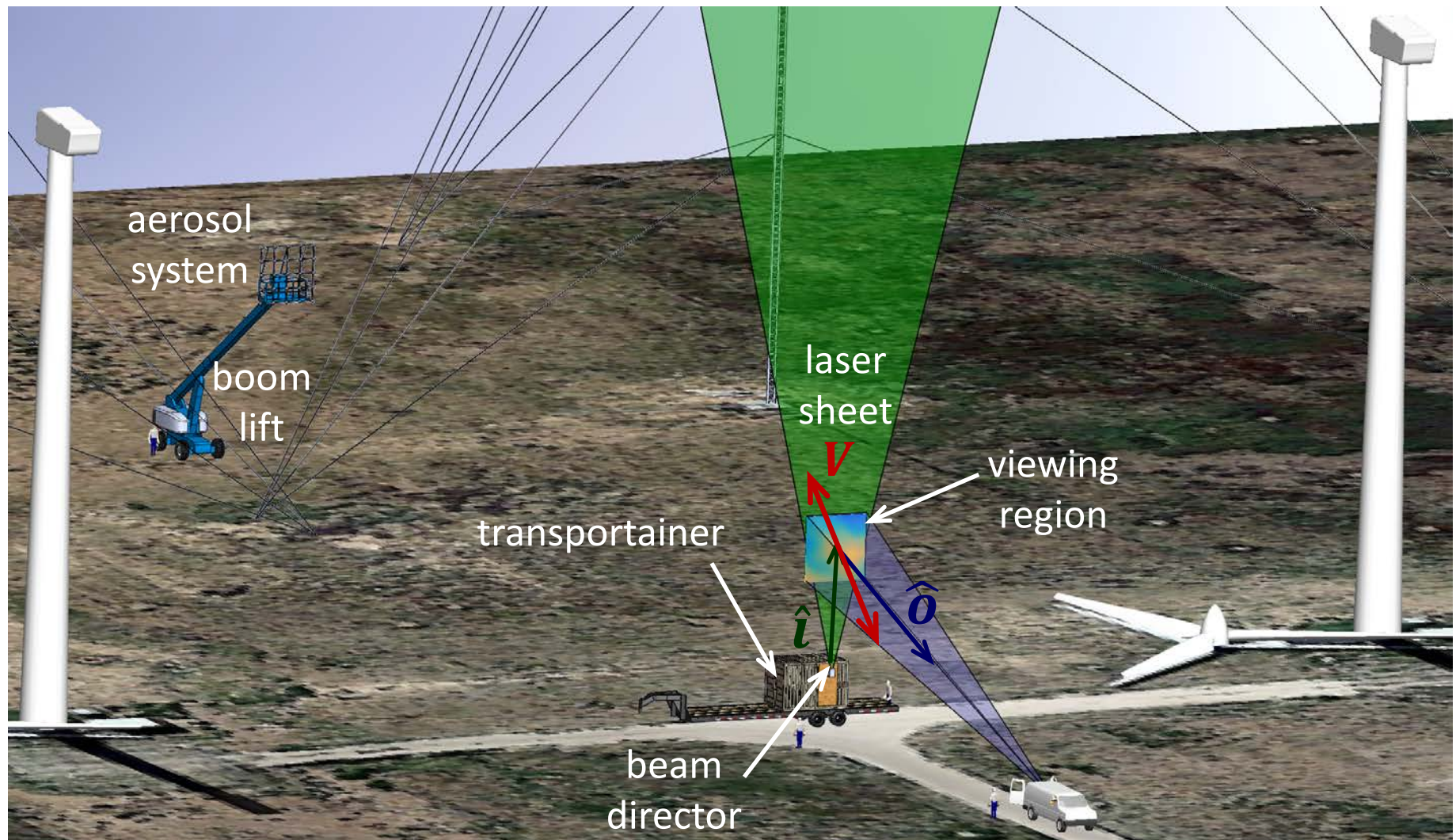
Primary Test Objective:

- Demonstrate safe, concurrent operation of the laser and aerosol system outdoors at the SWiFT facility

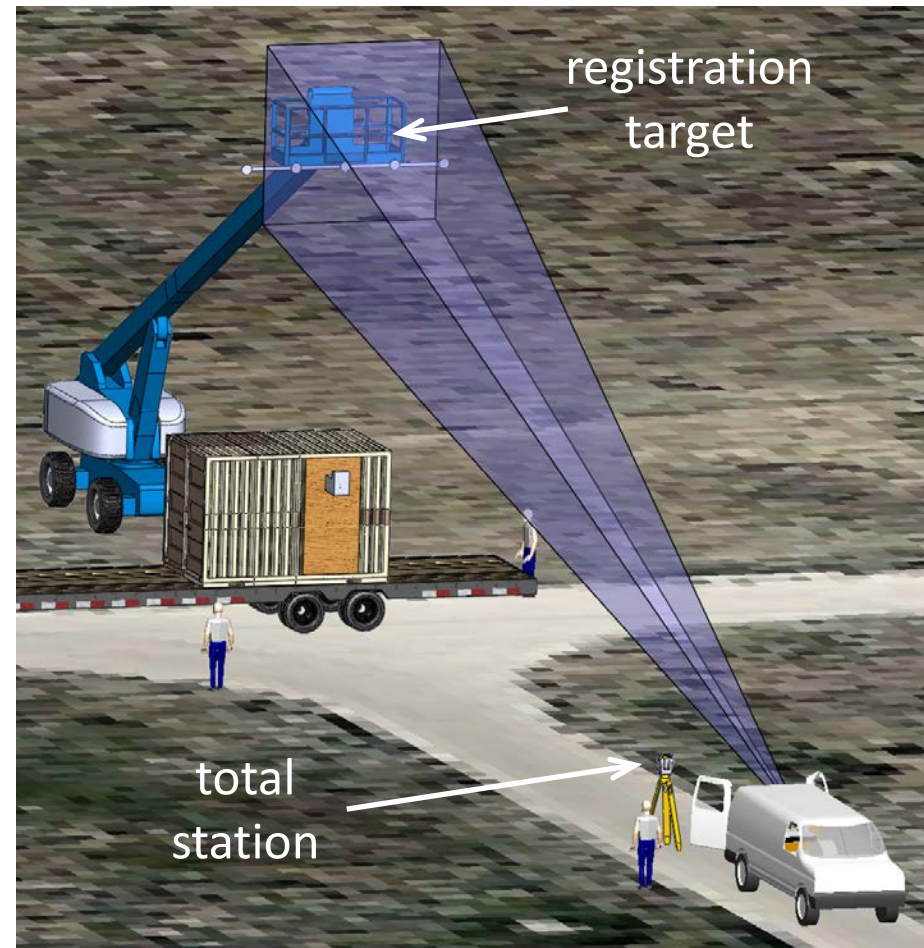
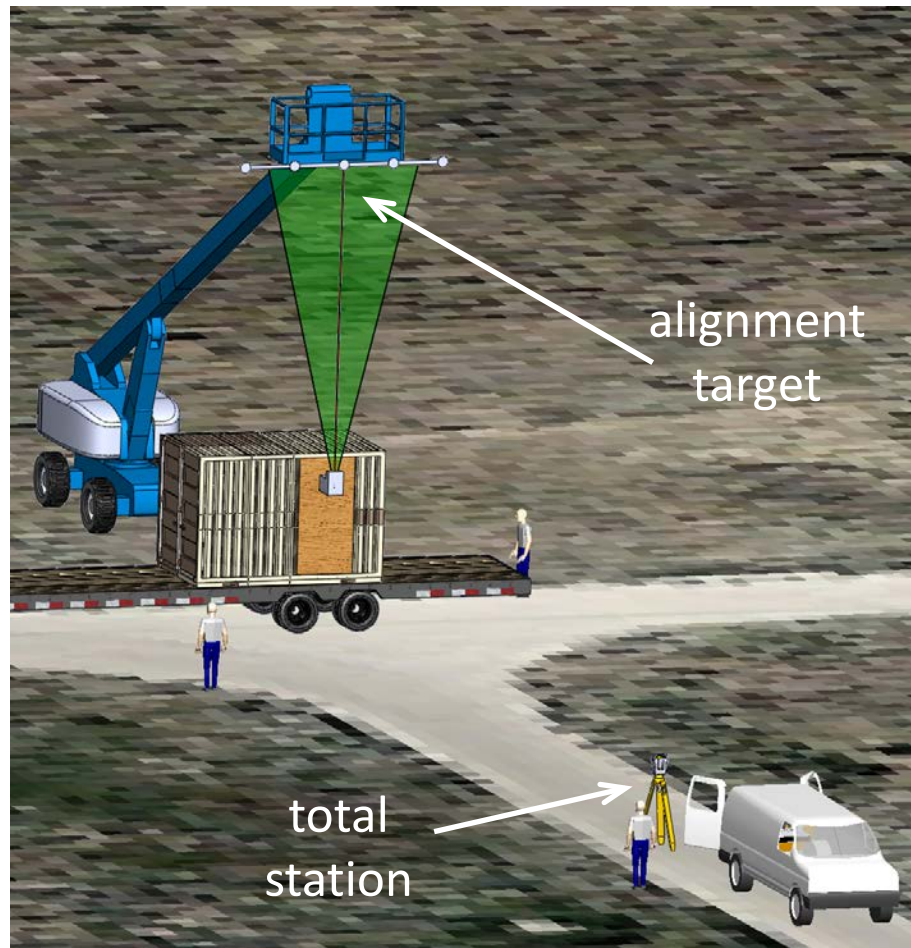
Secondary Test Objectives:

- Collect additional data sets to verify system technical capabilities

Test Configuration



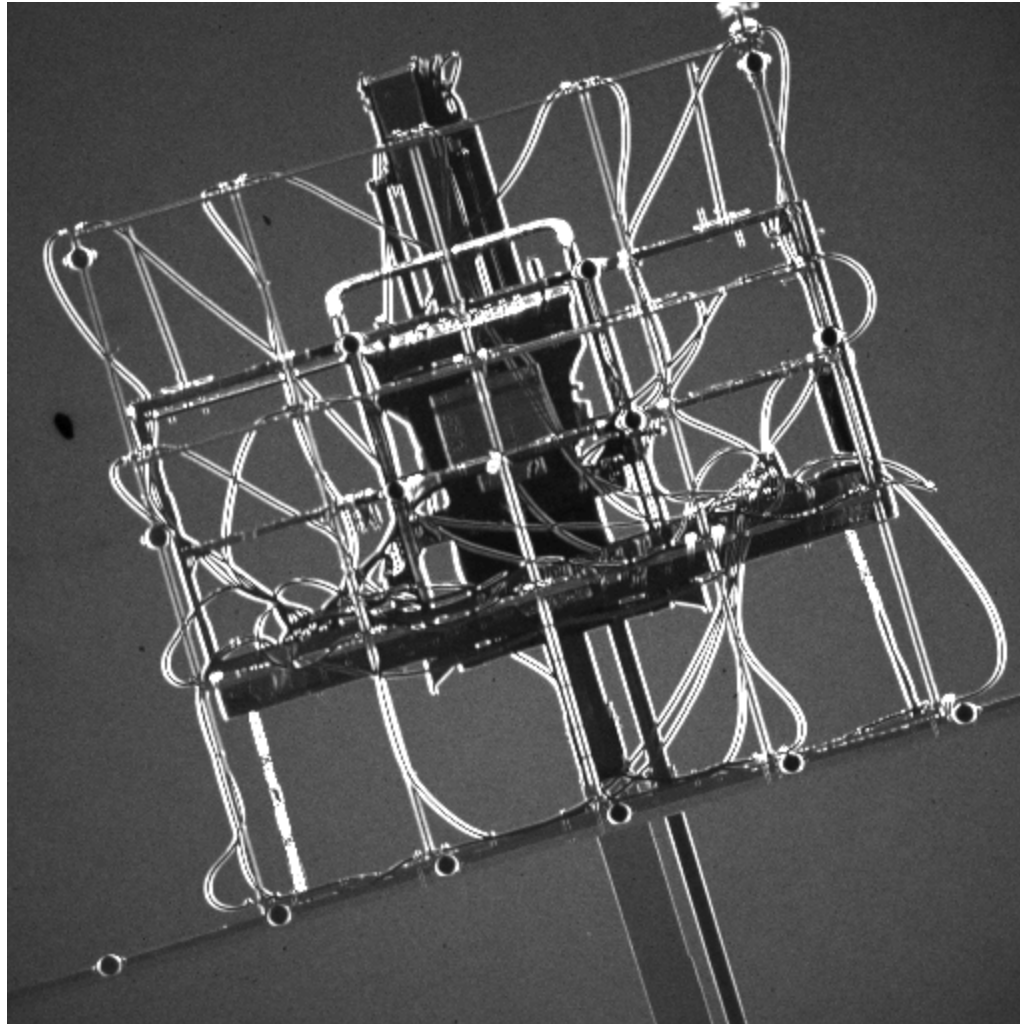
Laser Alignment and Registration



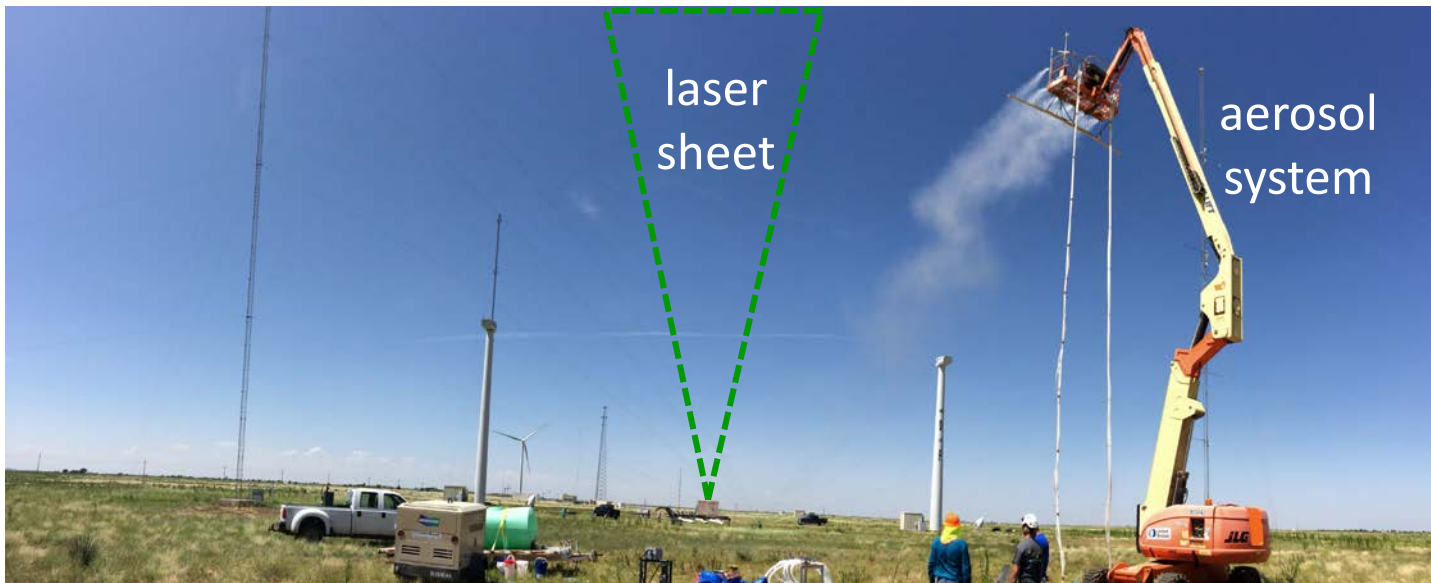
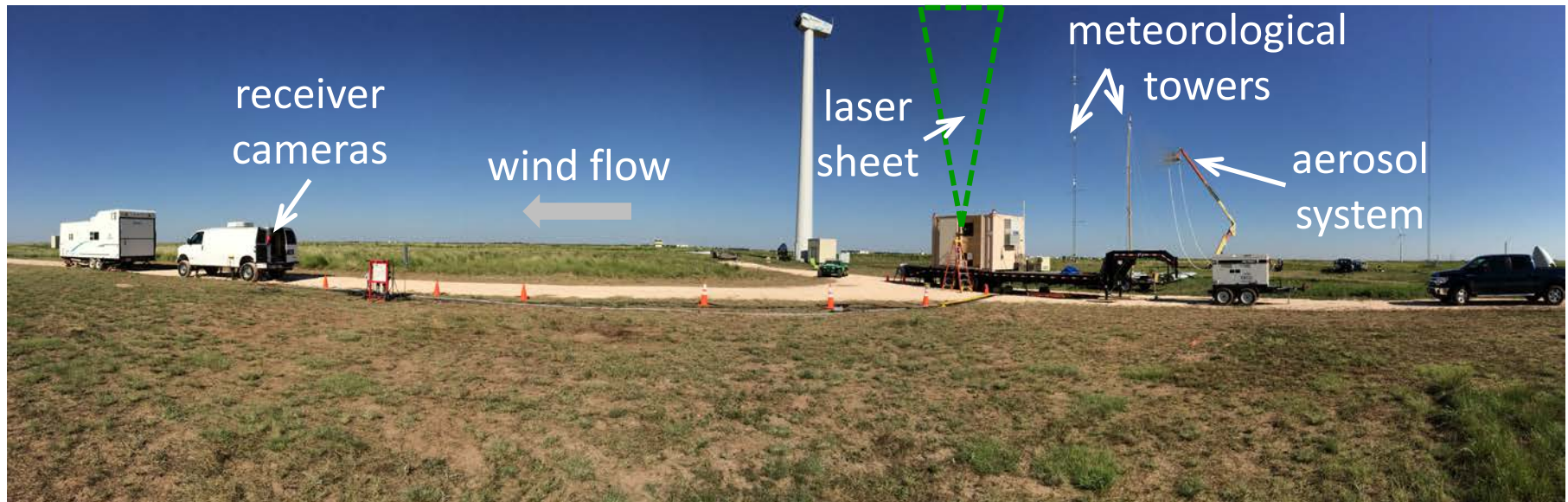
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Laser Alignment and Registration



SWIS Field Demonstration

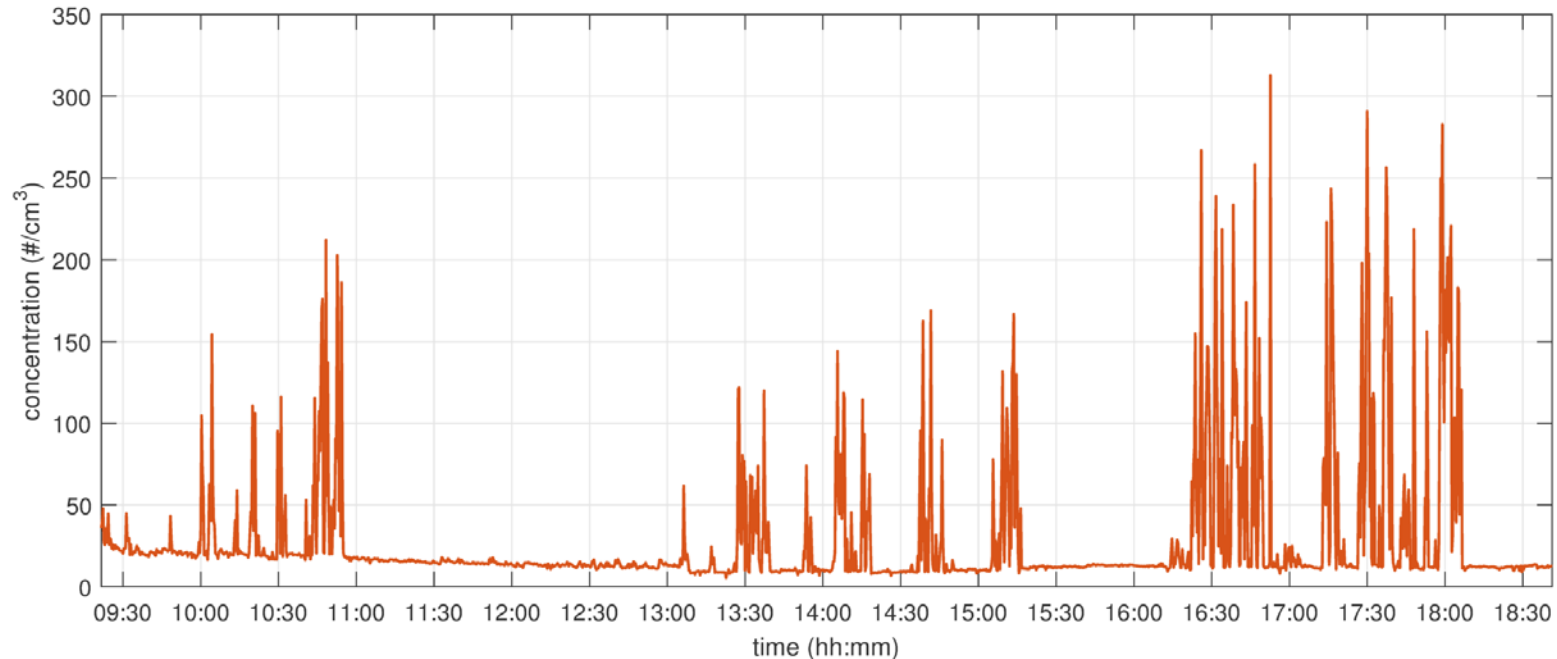


Aerosol Results

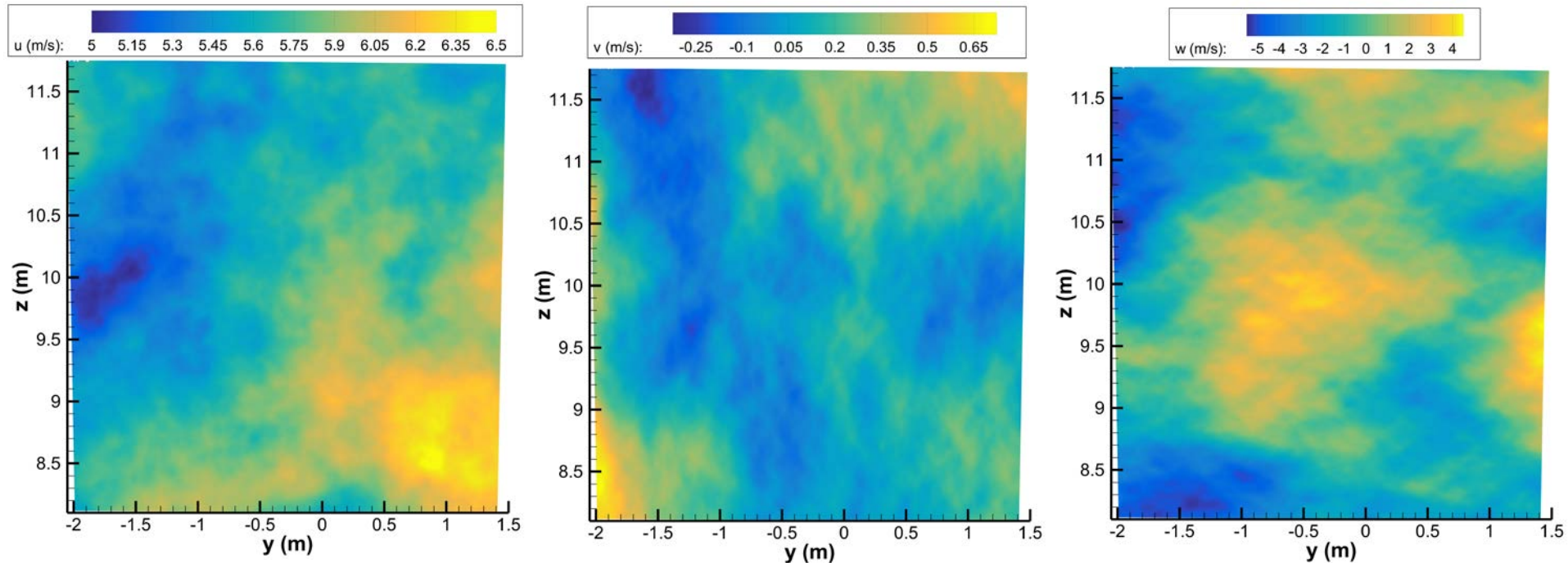


- Aerosol particulates introduced to increase receiver signal levels
- Produce KCl/water mist
- Water dries out leaving salt particles
- Drying issue forced aerosol generation further from measurement area
- Hit rate of only 28%

Aerosol Concentration

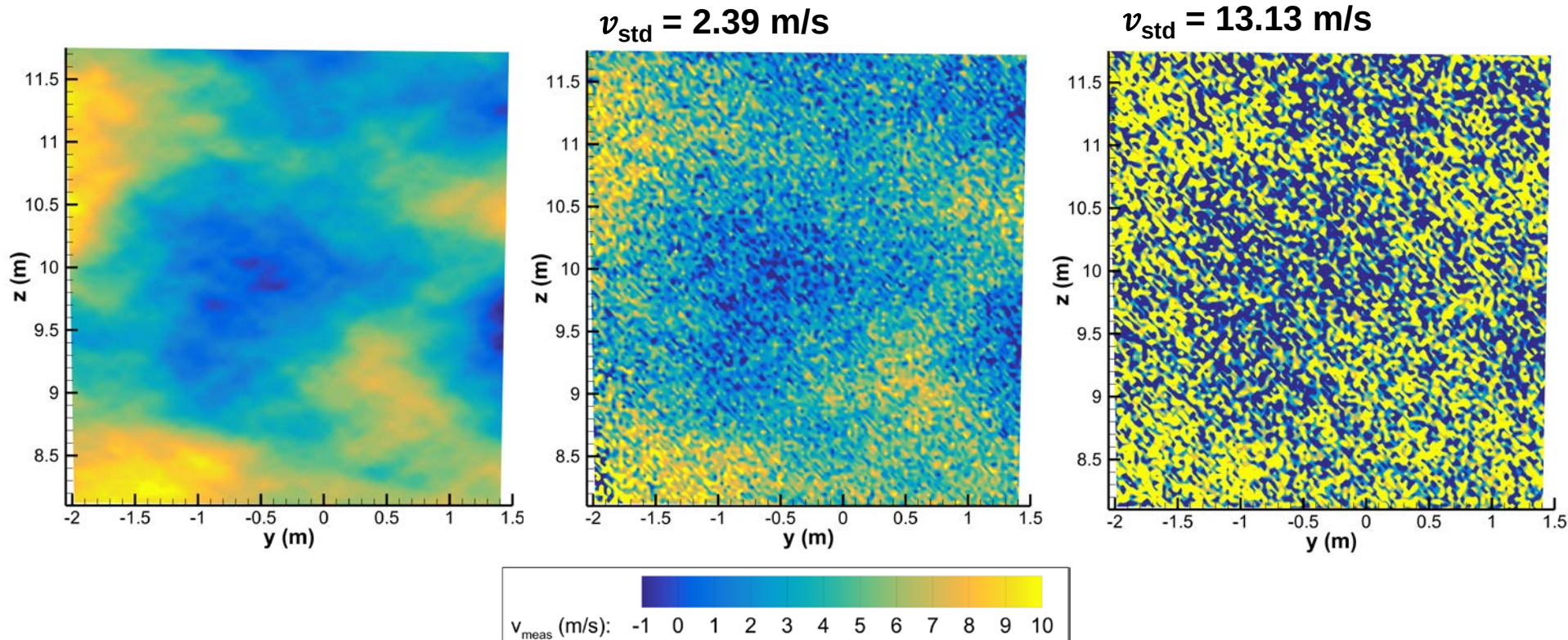


Simulated Results



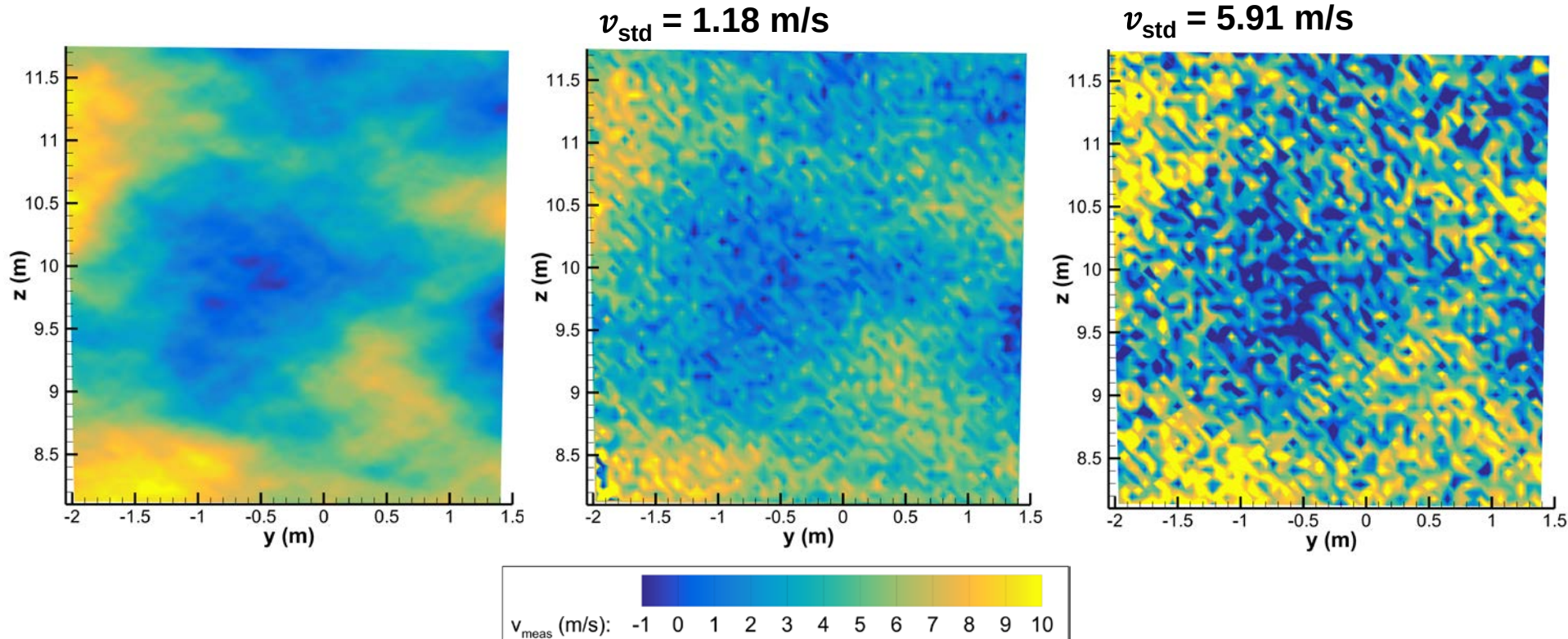
- Created MATLAB based SWIS modeling tool for experimental planning and optimization
- Radiometric model calibrated from zero-velocity scaling test in Sprung
- Model incorporates 3D setup, pin-hole camera model, lens aperture size, super Gaussian laser intensity profile, Mie scattering angle, and aerosol concentration
- Imports representative flowfield and predicts measurement uncertainty/noise

Simulated Results



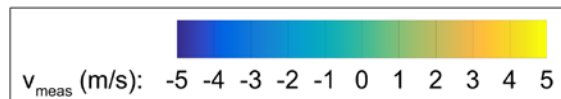
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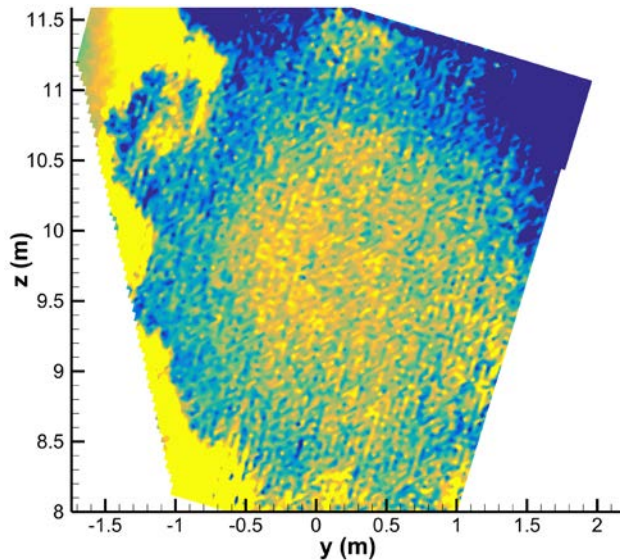


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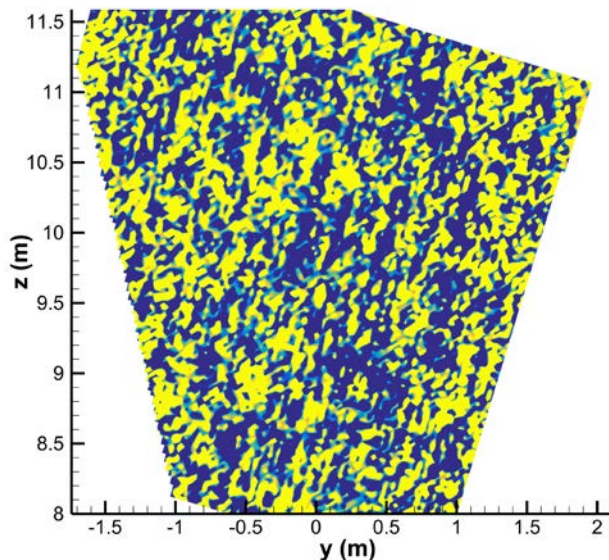
Velocity Images



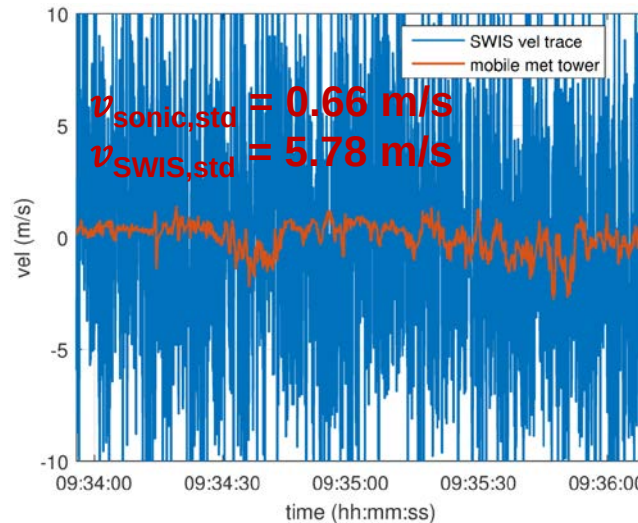
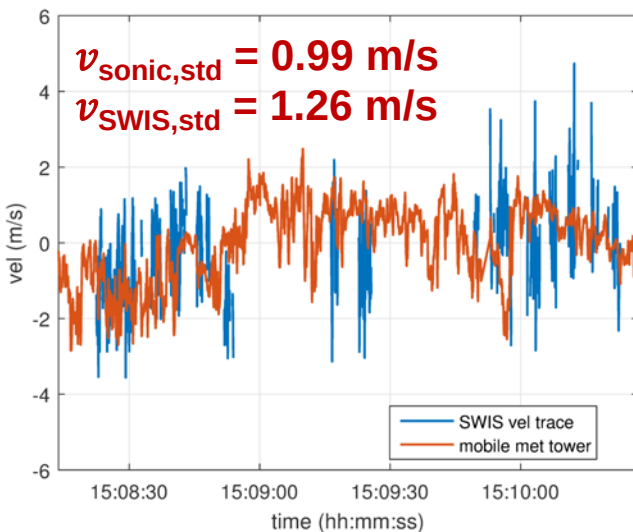
KCl Aerosol



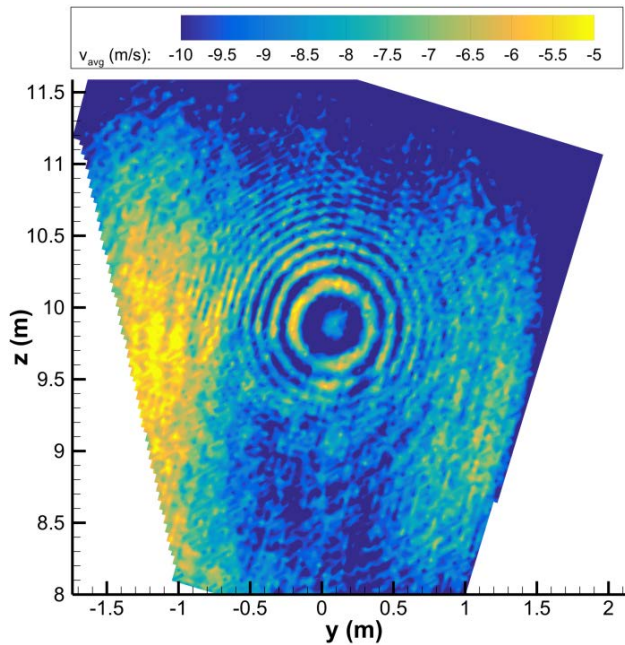
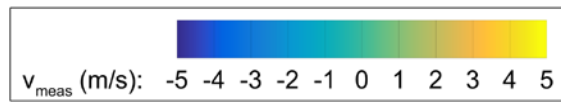
Native Aerosol



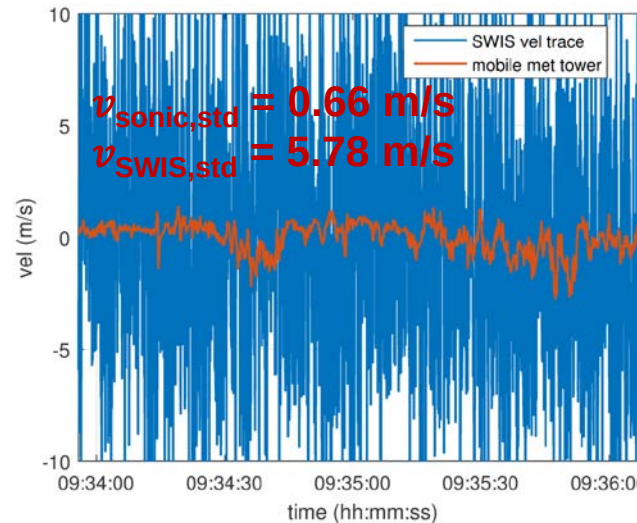
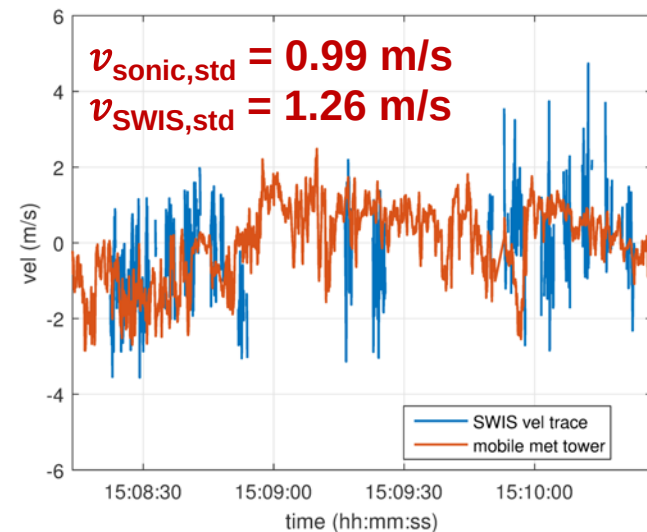
- $\text{KCl} \approx 300 \text{ \#/cm}^3$
- $\text{Native} \approx 13 \text{ \#/cm}^3$
- Reduced light from native aerosols increases velocity noise
- Average velocity image subtracted to remove spatial frequency variation in laser sheet
- Thus, velocity images show Δv relative to time sample average
- Specifically designed laser can improve absolute velocity measurement



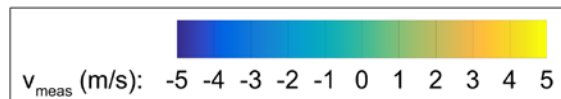
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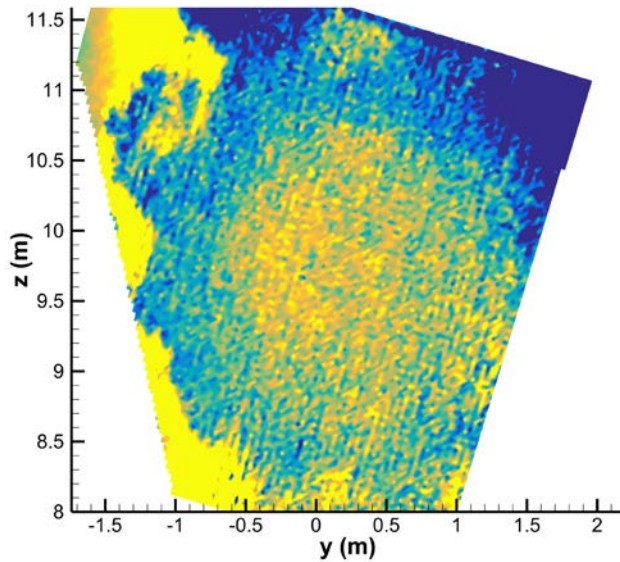
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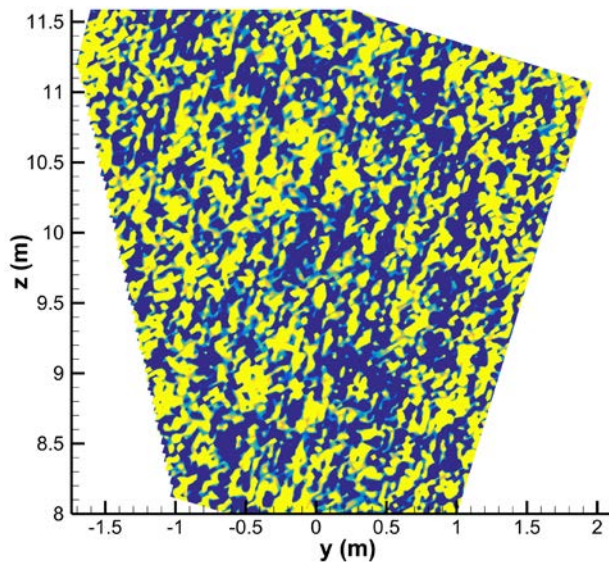
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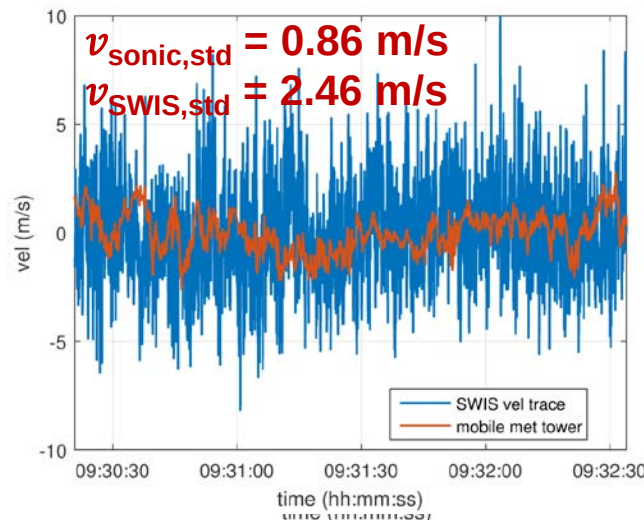
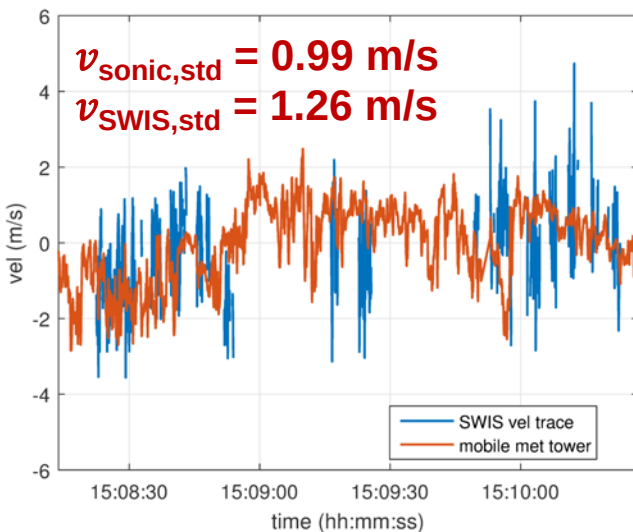
KCl Aerosol



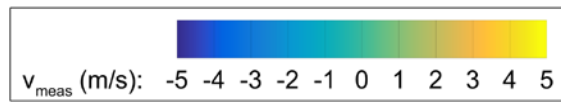
Native Aerosol



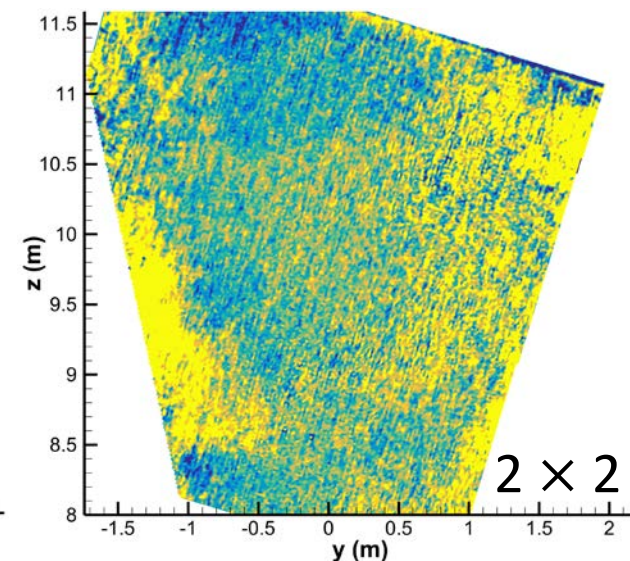
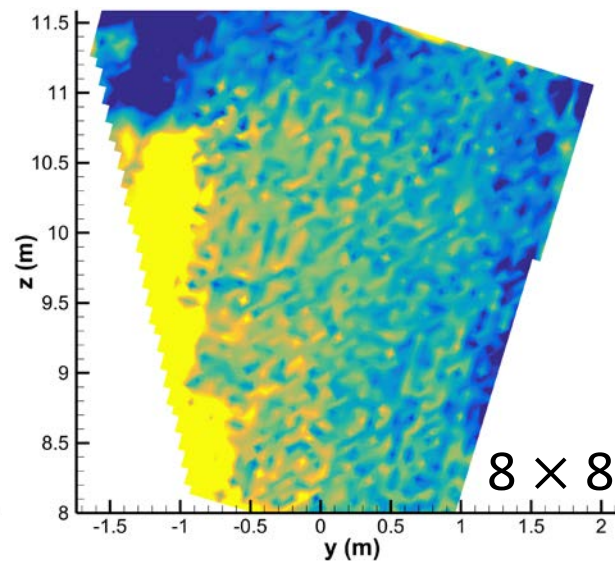
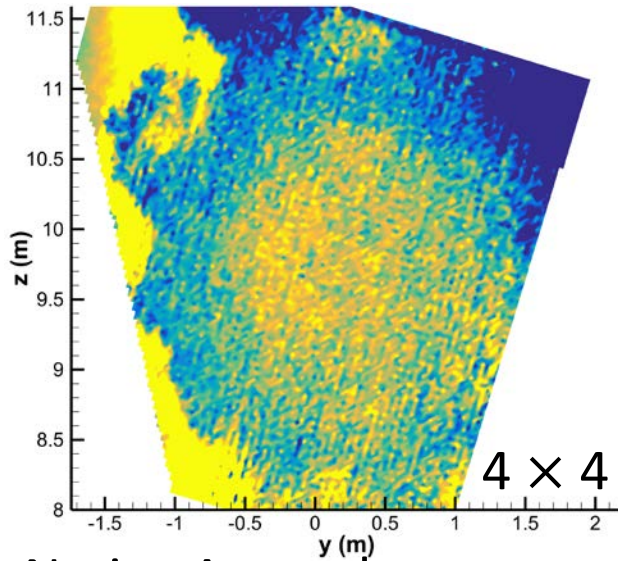
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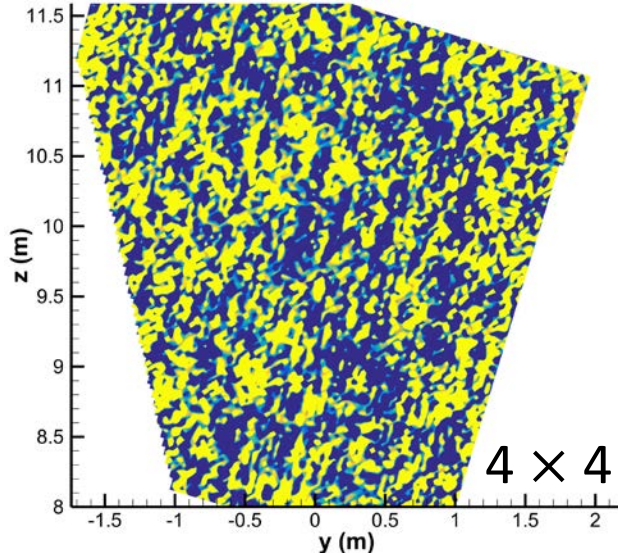
Velocity Images



KCl Aerosol



Native Aerosol



binning	aerosol	$v_{\text{std, meas}}$	v_{neq}
4×4	KCl (300)	± 3.24	± 2.39
4×4	native (13)	± 15.77	± 13.13
8×8	KCl (300)	± 1.26	± 1.18
8×8	native (13)	± 8.55	± 5.91
2×2	KCl (300)	± 4.16	± 4.88

Conclusions

- Sandia Wake Imaging System (SWIS) implements Doppler Global Velocimetry (DGV) for improved scaling capabilities
- Safely acquired velocity images outdoors over a large field of view
- Attained change-in-velocity measurements relative to the average over a $3.5 \text{ m} \times 3.5 \text{ m}$ window at a height of 9.8 m
- Measurements agreed well with simulated measurement predictions
- Improved confidence in radiometric model results for future experimental planning to validate high fidelity models

Next Steps

Instrumentation Simulation

- Use SOWFA simulations and SWIS model to simulate measurements to determine system requirements
- Conclude whether upgrade cost worth meeting simulation validation needs

Possible Upgrades

- Specifically designed pulse-burst laser
- Improved aerosol generation system
- Improved iodine cells
- More receivers, more velocity components