



# 1 **Observations of the Lower Atmosphere From the 2021 WiscoDISCO** 2 **Campaign**

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4 Patricia A. Cleary<sup>1</sup>, Gijs de Boer<sup>2,3,4</sup>, Joseph P. Hupy<sup>5</sup>, Steven Borenstein<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan Hamilton<sup>2,3</sup>, Ben  
5 Kies<sup>1</sup>, Dale Lawrence<sup>6</sup>, R. Bradley Pierce<sup>7</sup>, Joe Tirado<sup>1</sup>, Aidan Voon<sup>1</sup>, Timothy Wagner<sup>7</sup>

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7 <sup>1</sup> Department of Chemistry, University of Wisconsin Eau-Claire, Eau-Claire, WI, 54701, USA

8 <sup>2</sup> Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, University of Colorado Boulder,  
9 Boulder, CO, 80309, USA

10 <sup>3</sup> Physical Sciences Laboratory, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Boulder, CO,  
11 80305, USA

12 <sup>4</sup> Integrated Remote and In Situ Sensing, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, 80309, USA

13 <sup>5</sup> School of Aviation and Transportation Technology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, 47907,  
14 USA

15 <sup>6</sup> Research and Engineering Center for Unmanned Vehicles, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder,  
16 CO, 80309, USA

17 <sup>7</sup> Space Science and Engineering Center, University of Wisconsin Madison, Madison, WI, 53706, USA

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19 *Correspondence to:* Patricia A. Cleary (clearypa@uwec.edu)

20 **Abstract.** The meso-scale meteorology of lake breezes along Lake Michigan impacts local observations  
21 of high ozone events. Previous manned aircraft and UAS observations have demonstrated non-uniform  
22 ozone concentrations within and above the marine layer over water and within shoreline environments.  
23 During the 2021 Wisconsin's Dynamic Influence of Shoreline Circulations on Ozone (WiscoDISCO-21)  
24 campaign, two UAS platforms, a fixed-wing (University of Colorado RAAVEN) and a multirotor (Purdue  
25 University DJI M210), were used simultaneously to capture lake breeze during forecasted high ozone  
26 events at Chiwaukee Prairie State Natural Area in southeastern Wisconsin from May 21-26, 2021. The  
27 RAAVEN platform (data DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.5142491) measured temperature, humidity, and 3-D  
28 winds during 2-hour flights following two separate flight patterns up to 3 times per day at altitudes  
29 reaching 500 m above ground level. The M210 platform (data DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.5160346) measured  
30 vertical profiles of temperature, humidity and ozone during 15-minute flights up to 6 times per day at  
31 altitudes reaching 120 m above ground level (AGL) near to a WI-DNR ground monitoring station (AIRS  
32 ID: 55-059-0019). This campaign was conducted in conjunction with the Enhanced Ozone Monitoring  
33 plan from WI-DNR that included Doppler lidar wind profiler observations at the site (data  
34 DOI:10.5281/zenodo.5213039).

35



## 36 **1. Introduction**

37 The WiscoDISCO-21 (Wisconsin's Dynamic Influence on Shoreline Circulations on Ozone) was  
38 designed to capture lake breeze influence on shoreline ozone observations and to interrogate the low-  
39 altitude dimensionality of the marine layer as it moves on shore. The influence of lake breeze on shoreline  
40 air quality along Lake Michigan (Keen and Lyons, 1978; Lyons and Cole, 1976; Lyons and Olsson, 1973;  
41 Dye et al., 1995; Foley et al., 2011; Stanier et al., 2021) and other Great Lakes (Hayden et al., 2011; Levy  
42 et al., 2010; Wentworth et al., 2015; Sills et al., 2011) is well documented by campaigns incorporating  
43 ground (Lyons and Cole, 1976), ferry (Lennartson and Schwartz, 2002; Cleary et al., 2015) and aircraft  
44 observations (Dye et al., 1995; Foley et al., 2011; Hayden et al., 2011; Stanier et al., 2021). The shoreline  
45 communities of Lake Michigan have historically been in non-attainment of federal ozone standards.  
46 Precursors to ozone production have emission sources along the Chicago urban corridor and ozone  
47 production can be enhanced when those emissions are trapped in the marine layer over the lake and get  
48 transported northward from Chicago (Vermeuel et al., 2019; Dye et al., 1995; Foley et al., 2011). The low  
49 altitude features in ozone gradients over Lake Michigan have been observed in the recent 2017 Lake  
50 Michigan Ozone Study field campaign (Stanier et al., 2021; Doak et al., 2021). Stanier, et al. (2021)  
51 describe observations for the highest measured ozone during the field campaign existing over water,  
52 offshore from Milwaukee and in the altitude range of 30-100 m above lake level. The shallow marine  
53 layer disruption when crossing a shoreline boundary during a lake breeze is a unique environment to study  
54 the changes in vertical mixing and pollutant extent.

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56 WiscoDISCO-21 featured round-based Doppler lidar observations and two Uncrewed Aircraft Systems  
57 (UAS), including the University of Colorado RAAVEN fixed-wing UAS and Purdue University's DJI  
58 M210 quadcopter. These platforms were deployed to enhance the level of detail and extend the domains  
59 of ground-based measurements to manned aircraft observations with higher spatial resolution and  
60 sustained lower-altitude flight. UAS are well suited to make observations of a shoreline environment  
61 impacted by a shallow marine layer, where vertical mixing and pollutant transport are key to  
62 understanding pollution events at the surface. UAS have been used in riverine environments to highlight  
63 pollutant transport and night time boundary layer dynamics (Guimaras et al., 2020). During the Ozone



64 Water-Land Environmental Transition Study (OWLETs), UAS, ozone sondes and lidar observations were  
65 used to observe ozone titration events above the Chesapeake Bay shipping channel (Gronoff et al., 2019).  
66 Horel et al., (Horel et al., 2016) describe the use of distributed ground sensors, tethered sondes and UAS  
67 to better understand the meteorological and pollutant transport factors surrounding poor air quality in the  
68 Salt Lake Valley. Incorporation of multi-hole probes into fixed-wing UAS has allowed for observations  
69 of 3-D winds (Elston et al., 2015) and turbulent fluxes (Wildmann et al., 2014). The RAAVEN platform  
70 leveraged in WiscoDISCO-21 has recently been used to study the lower atmosphere across a variety of  
71 environmental regimes. This includes nearly a month of flight operations to investigate the  
72 thermodynamic and kinematic structure of trade winds over the tropical Atlantic Ocean, (de Boer et al.  
73 2021a) as well as deployments to the US Midwest to make measurements of supercell thunderstorms  
74 (Frew et al., 2020). The measurement accuracy of the RAAVEN's instrumentation was recently evaluated  
75 at the US Department of Energy's Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) program's Southern  
76 Great Plains facility (see de Boer et al. (2021b) for details).

77

78 Such high-resolution UAS observations are well-suited for documenting and characterizing the  
79 dimensions of the lake breeze phenomenon and corresponding pollutant transport. A combination of UAS  
80 and lidar can provide overlapping domains of observations that scale up to planetary boundary layer  
81 heights, with UAS providing detailed insight into nonuniformities in meteorological observations along  
82 the Lake Michigan shoreline. UAS observations are particularly complementary to Doppler lidar  
83 observations, as such observations are subject to near-field issues that prevent them from making  
84 observations at very low altitudes. Given that the UAS readily operate between the surface and 100 m,  
85 these platforms can fill in this gap and provide detailed insight into thermodynamic, kinematic and  
86 chemical properties of this layer. These observations have higher vertical and temporal resolution than  
87 many chemical models which can provide insight into model resolution issues at the lake-land interface  
88 (Wagner et al., 2021). The WiscoDISCO-21 field campaign was conducted in conjunction with the  
89 Enhanced Ozone Monitoring initiative from the Wi-DNR who housed added instrumentation for NO,  
90 NO<sub>y</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, VOC canisters and PANDORA instrumentation at the Chiwaukee Prairie air monitoring



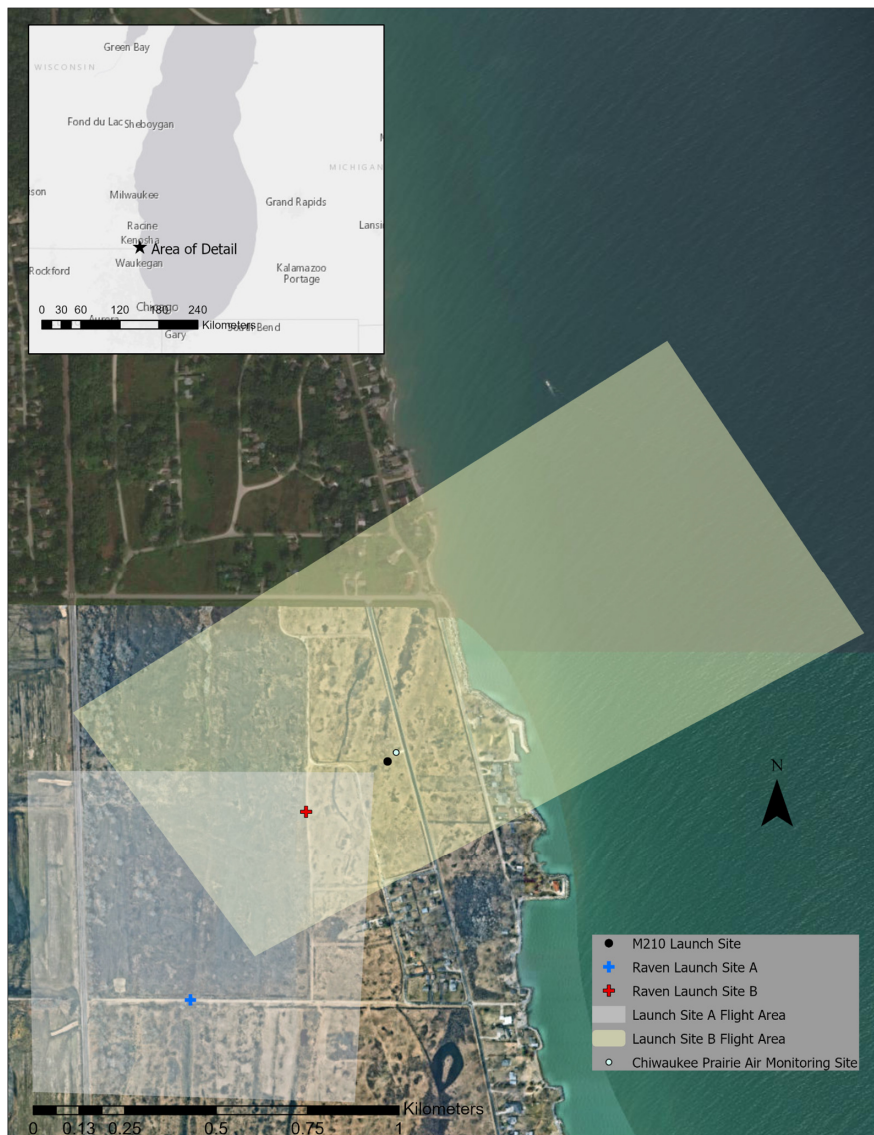
91 station. The WiDNR has provided a portal for access to data from these sensors through their web portal  
92 (<https://wi-dnr.widencollective.com/portals/iwvftorq/AirMonitoringData>).

93

## 94 **2. Description of measurement location, deployment strategies and sampling**

95 The Chiwaukee Prairie State Natural Area is a 485-acre shoreline prairie managed by the Wisconsin  
96 Department of Natural Resources (WiDNR) located along the shoreline of Lake Michigan and adjacent  
97 to the Wisconsin/Illinois border. The WiDNR operates an air monitoring station (Airs ID 55-059-0019)  
98 for Kenosha County within this area, located at 11838 First Court in Pleasant Prairie, WI. This location  
99 was chosen due to its suitability for UAS flight operations and the regular influence of lake breeze  
100 circulations at the site. As a result of these lake breezes, the WiDNR's Chiwaukee Prairie Monitor  
101 regularly observes some of the highest ozone concentrations in the state (Stanier et al., 2021). Land use  
102 in the region is mixed suburban housing and farming, with two marinas directly south of the research site.  
103 Chiwaukee Prairie has trail access along Al Kemper Trail and 122nd Street that is isolated from  
104 automobile, bicycle and most pedestrian traffic. The M210 flights were conducted near to the WiDNR  
105 Air Monitoring site (Latitude: 42.5045, Longitude: -87.8095) and the RAAVEN flight operations were  
106 conducted on Al Kemper Trail or 122nd St to provide ample room for take-off and landing (Fig. 1).

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109 **Figure 1:** Research site map including Chiwaukee Prairie air monitor and locations for launch sites for  
110 M210 and RAAVEN. Map created using Esri ArcPro version 2.52 using ArcPro basemap imagery.

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112



113 The primary goal for the field campaign was to capture elevated ozone concentration events resulting  
 114 from lake breeze circulations at the site. The deployment strategy for selecting a time window for field  
 115 operations was dictated by ozone and meteorological forecasts that predicted light southerly winds for an  
 116 extended period that would both a) increase the likelihood of onshore lake breeze flow from weaker  
 117 southerly winds and b) drive pollutant transport from the Chicago metro area to the site. Forecasts from  
 118 both the WiDNR and Realtime Air Quality Modeling System (RAQMS) were used to select an ideal  
 119 deployment period. The dates of May 21-26, 2021 were chosen as meeting those requirements. Flights  
 120 were cancelled during days in which high ozone or southerly/southeasterly lake breeze were not expected  
 121 (Table 1).

122

123 **Table 1:** UAS flight days and conditions for the WiscoDISCO-21 field campaign

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Date (2021)	M210 (time UTC)	University of Colorado RAAVEN (Time UTC and flight pattern)	Weather and Air Quality Conditions
Friday, May 21	F1 (15:35-15:44) F2 (16:38-16:47) F3 (19:08-19:21) F4 (19:46-19:59)	F1 (15:01-16:54) Pattern A F2 (18:36-20:40) Pattern A	SW wind, Temps > 25 °C, small shift in winds to colder from SSE
Saturday, May 22	F1 (14:22-14:35) F2 (15:18-15:31) F3 (17:27-17:41) F4 (18:26-18:41) F5 (20:09-20:22) F6 (20:59-21:14)	F1 (13:52-15:55) Pattern A F2 (17:00-19:03) Pattern A F3 (19:30-21:38) Pattern A	W wind in AM, Temps > 25 °C, consistent shift in winds to colder from SSE.
Sunday, May 23	no flights	no flights	W to NE winds, dropping temperatures, AM showers, PM showers
Monday, May 24	F1 (15:08-15:23) F2 (16:01-16:16) F3 (18:14-18:29) F4 (19:12-19:27)	F1 (14:24-16:30) Pattern B F2 (17:41-19:50) Pattern B	S winds, lake breeze, high ozone event (> 70 ppb).



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	F5 (21:09-21:19) F6 (22:04-22:19)	F3 (20:42-22:51) Pattern B	
Tuesday, May 25	F1 (14:00-14:15) F2 (14:49-15:04)	F1 (13:39-15:42) Pattern B	SW winds, slight lake breeze in the morning, overtaken by westerlies
Wednesday, May 26	F1 (13:43-13:58) F2 (14:37-14:52) F3 (16:47-17:02) F4 (17:47-18:01) F5 (19:51-20:06) F6 (20:48-21:01)	F1 (13:27-15:24) Pattern B F2 (16:31-18:20) Pattern B F3 (19:30-21:22) Pattern B	W wind, steady all day, sunny. After all flights, lake breeze came in from NE

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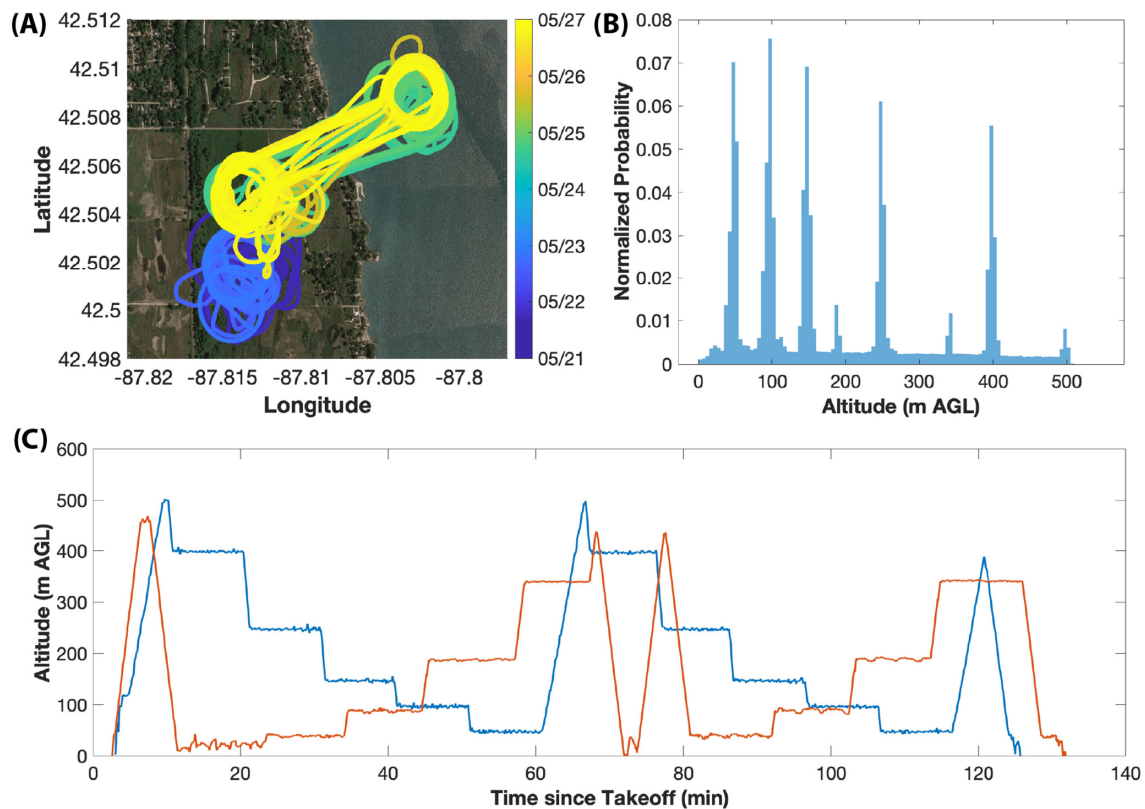
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128 Flights were conducted in the time window 08:00-17:00 local time, CDT (13:00-22:00 UTC) (Table 1).  
129 The RAAVEN platform features 2-hour flight times and was deployed to complete up to 3 flights per  
130 day. The M210 flew slow ascents to 120 m AGL with an approximate 15-minute flight time, completing  
131 up to 6 flights per day and the sampling pattern was designated to achieve maximum overlap with the  
132 RAAVEN flight times by conducting two flights per RAAVEN flight.

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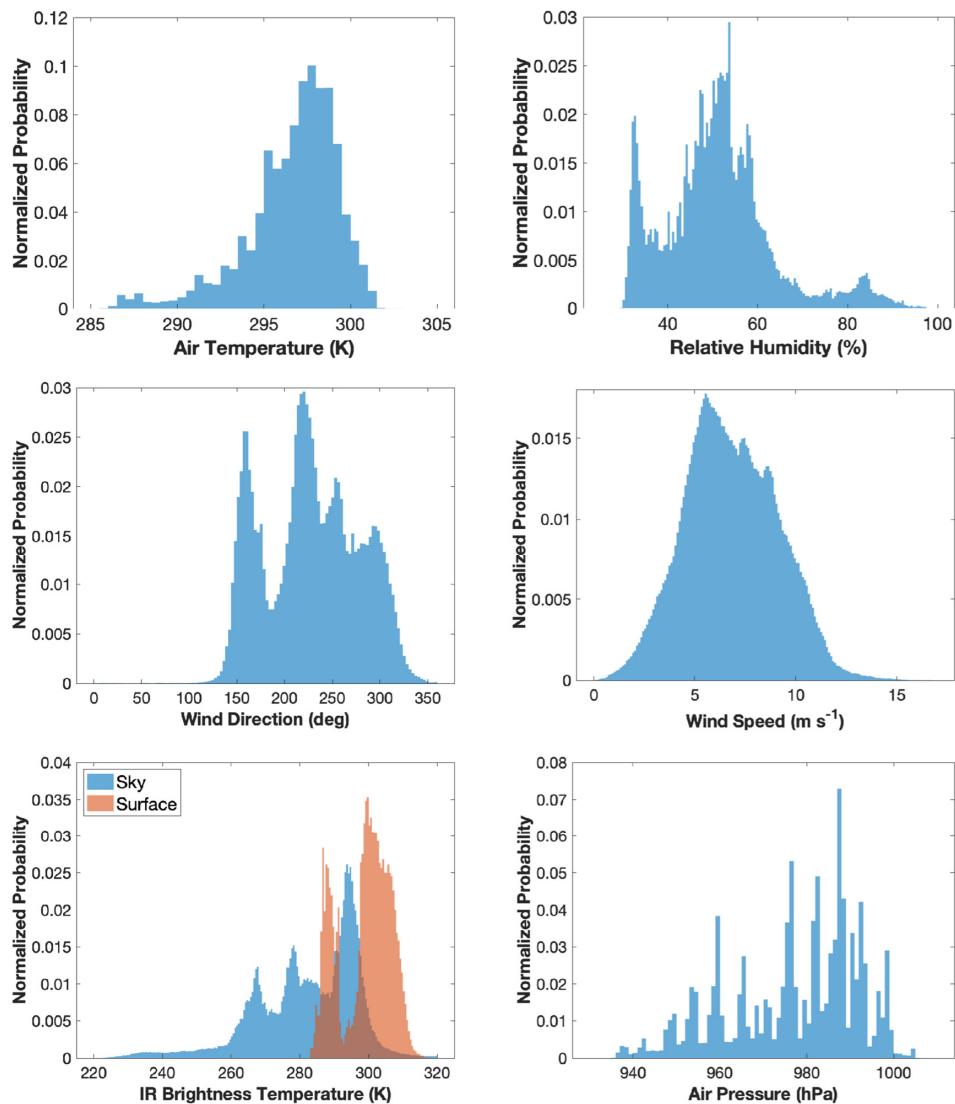
134 During WiscoDISCO-21, the RAAVEN completed 12 flights, totaling 25.4 flight hours, operating under  
135 a Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to allow flights  
136 up to 518 m AGL. Fig. 2a shows a map of the RAAVEN flights, while figure 2b includes a histogram of  
137 the altitudes covered by these flights. Flights were designed to follow two distinct flight patterns to  
138 capture over-prairie profiles using a circular pattern with holding at altitudes 400, 250, 150, 100 and 50  
139 m AGL and over-water/over-prairie profiles using an extended racetrack pattern that traversed the  
140 shoreline, with holding altitudes at 400, 250, 150, 100 and 50 m AGL (see Figure 2c for the two flight  
141 patterns). Figure 3 shows histograms of the measurements obtained by the RAAVEN over the length of  
142 the campaign, including temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, wind direction, air pressure, and  
143 surface and sky brightness temperature.





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145 **Figure 2:** A map showing the flight tracks for the RAAVEN (a), a histogram of altitudes sampled by the  
146 RAAVEN (b), and example time-height plots of the two types of RAAVEN flights (c). Background maps  
147 are © GoogleMaps 2021, downloaded through their API.





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149 **Figure 3:** Histograms of (clockwise from top left) temperature, relative humidity,  
150 pressure, IR brightness temperatures, and wind direction, as measured by the RAAVEN during  
151 WiscoDISCO-21.



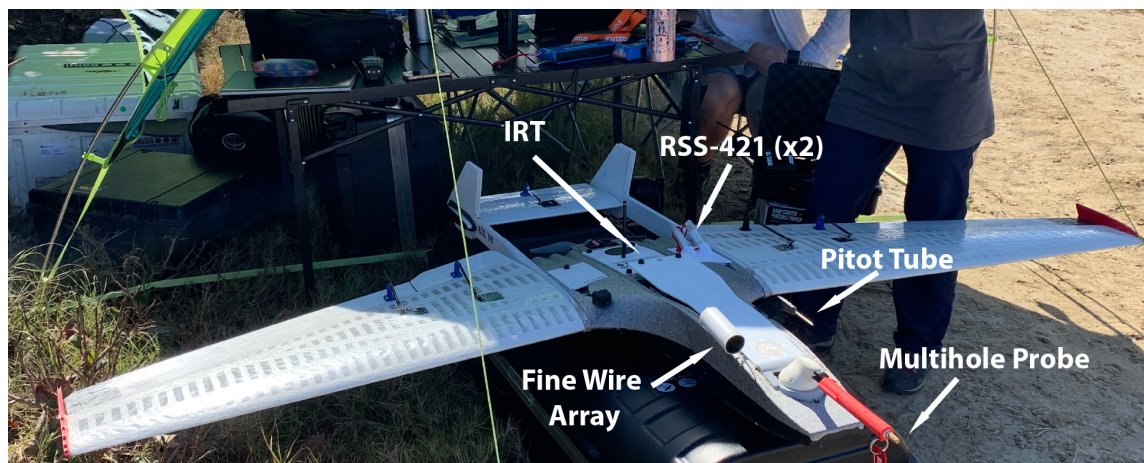
### 152 3. Description of Instrumentation and Vehicles

#### 153 3.1 University of Colorado RAAVEN UAS

154 The RAAVEN UAS (Fig. 4) is a fixed-wing UAS with a wingspan of 2.3 m that has been operated by the  
155 University of Colorado Boulder since 2019. The RAAVEN's airframe is based on a custom-manufactured  
156 model from RiteWing RC. The airframe has been updated to meet the needs of atmospheric science  
157 missions spanning a variety of environments. The RAAVEN leverages the PixHawk2 autopilot system  
158 and employs an 8S 21000 mAh Lithium Ion (Li-Ion) battery pack to offer flight times around 2.5 hours,  
159 depending on conditions and executed flight patterns. Specific modifications to the airframe include the  
160 integration of a tail boom to enhance longitudinal stability and improve the platform's performance. The  
161 aircraft has a top airspeed of approximately 130 km hr<sup>-1</sup>, though operations during WiscoDISCO-21 were  
162 almost exclusively conducted in the 60-70 km hr<sup>-1</sup> range.



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**Figure 4:** The University of Colorado RAAVEN being prepared for launch during WiscoDISCO21 (top), and a close up of the RAAVEN sensing systems (bottom).

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169 For the WiscoDISCO-21 campaign, the RAAVEN was equipped with an instrument suite derived from  
170 the *miniFlux* payload co-developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA),  
171 the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES) and Integrated Remote and In  
172 Situ Sensing (IRISS) at the University of Colorado. In this configuration, the aircraft was set up to  
173 measure atmospheric and surface properties to support evaluation of thermodynamic state, kinematic  
174 state, and turbulent fluxes of heat and momentum. This involves a suite of core instrumentation (see Fig.  
175 3), including a multihole pressure probe (MHP) from Black Swift Technologies, LLC (BST), a pair of  
176 RSS421 PTH (pressure, temperature, humidity) sensors from Vaisala, Inc., a custom finewire array,  
177 developed and manufactured at the University of Colorado Boulder, a pair of Melexis MLX90614 IR  
178 thermometers, and a VectorNav VN-300 inertial navigation system (INS). This sensor suite is logged  
179 using a custom- designed FlexLogger data logging system.

180

181 The Vaisala RSS421 sensors are identical to those used in the Vaisala RD41 dropsonde, and very similar  
182 to the Vaisala RS41 radiosonde. This unit employs a linear resistive platinum temperature sensor with a  
183 resolution of 0.01 °C, repeatability of 0.1 °C and a response time (as measured within the RS41



184 radiosonde) of 0.5 s at 1000 hPa when moving at 6 m s<sup>-1</sup>. For relative humidity (RH), the RSS421 includes  
185 a thin-film capacitor with a resolution of 0.1% RH and a repeatability of 2% RH, with a temperature-  
186 dependent response time of better than 0.3 s at 20 °C (again, as measured within the RS41, with 6 m s<sup>-1</sup>  
187 airflow at 1000 hPa). Finally, the pressure sensor is capacitive with a silicon diaphragm, having a  
188 resolution of 0.01 hPa and a repeatability of 0.4 hPa. For WiscoDISCO-21, a pair of these sensor modules  
189 was mounted to the top of the RAAVEN's fuselage, between the nose and the tail of the aircraft on the  
190 port side. The sensor mounting angles were offset to ensure that the two sensors would have different  
191 amounts of solar exposure as the aircraft maneuvers through the atmosphere and to allow for the detection  
192 of solar heating effects since no shading is used. Additional information on atmospheric thermodynamic  
193 state is available from an E+E EE-03 sensor that is integrated into the BST MHP and from a Sensiron  
194 SHT-85 sensor that is integrated in the custom finewire array. The EE-03 has a temperature accuracy (at  
195 20 °C) of 0.3 °C, while the humidity accuracy is stated to be 3% RH at 21 °C. The SHT-85 has a stated  
196 temperature accuracy of 0.1 °C (from 20-50 °C) and a repeatability of 0.08 C, while the humidity sensor  
197 has a stated accuracy of 1.5% RH and a repeatability of 0.15 % RH. Both the EE03 and the SHT-85  
198 sensors have slower response times than the RSS421 sensor described above and are typically not used  
199 for scientific purposes unless there is a complete failure of the RSS421.

200

201 In addition to the SHT-85 sensor, the finewire array consists of two 5 μm diameter platinum wires  
202 extending over a 2 mm length, suspended in the free stream by supporting prongs. One wire is operated  
203 as a hotwire anemometer, with approximately 100 °C overheating compared to the ambient environmental  
204 temperature. The other wire is operated as a coldwire thermometer, with approximately 1 °C overheating  
205 relative to the surrounding environment. The wires have thermal time constants of 0.5 ms in a 15 m s<sup>-1</sup>  
206 airflow regime and support a sampling frequency of up to 800Hz to support measurement of turbulent  
207 fluctuations in velocity and temperature. An electronics module converts resistance change in the wires  
208 due to velocity or temperature variability to amplified voltages. For WiscoDISCO-21, the finewire was  
209 logged at 250 Hz by the FlexLogger, which is equivalent to a 7.2 cm minimum length scale at the  
210 RAAVEN's typical cruise airspeed of 18 m s. Time series of these recorded data are processed during  
211 post-flight analysis to transform the voltages recorded by the fine wire module to velocity and



212 temperature. Additionally, these measured quantities can be fit to inertial sub-range turbulence models to  
213 wavenumber spectra over suitable time intervals, producing turbulence intensity parameters epsilon  
214 (kinetic energy dissipation rate) and  $CT^2$  (temperature structure constant). The resolution (noise floor) of  
215 these parameterizations is  $2.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{W kg}^{-1}$  for epsilon and  $4.5 \times 10 \text{ K m}$  for  $CT^2$ . Resolution of the raw time  
216 series are  $8.3 \times 10 \text{ m s}$  for the hotwire and  $1.3 \times 10 \text{ K}$  for the coldwire.

217

218 In addition to the EE-03 PTH measurements, the BST 5-hole probe supports measurement of airspeed,  
219 angle of attack ( $\alpha$ ) and sideslip angle ( $\beta$ ). These measurements are combined with the GPS-based ground  
220 velocities and aircraft attitude from the VectorNav VN-300 to derive the three-components of the inertial  
221 wind ( $u, v, w$ ), as discussed in section 4. The VN-300 can be configured in a dual-Global Navigation  
222 Satellite System (GNSS) mode, under which the relative positions of two GNSS antennae are used to  
223 calculate the platform yaw. However, this setting was not used during the WiscoDISCO-21 deployment.  
224 Under dynamic conditions, the system has a stated accuracy of 0.3 degrees in GPS- Compass heading,  
225 0.1 degrees in pitch and roll, 2.5 m horizontal position accuracy, 2.5 m vertical position accuracy when  
226 integrating information from the barometric pressure sensor, and  $0.05 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  accuracy in inertial velocity.  
227 Input from the system's gyroscope, accelerometer, GNSS receiver, magnetometer and pressure sensor are  
228 filtered through an extended Kalman Filter (EKF) to produce a navigation solution. VN-300 data were  
229 logged at 50 Hz resolution during WiscoDISCO-21.

230

231 Finally, RAAVEN deploys two Melexis MLX90614 IR thermometers: one looking up from the top of  
232 the aircraft and one looking down towards the surface in level flight. These sensors are factory calibrated  
233 to work in operational temperatures between -40 and 125 C, and to measure target brightness temperatures  
234 between -70 and 380 °C. They have a high accuracy (0.5 °C) and a measurement resolution of 0.02 °C.  
235 The RAAVEN-mounted MLX90614s are not stabilized to maintain a vertical orientation, meaning that  
236 the observed target is perpendicular to the reference frame of the aircraft. This requires some care when  
237 interpreting measurement from time periods when the aircraft is conducting pitch or rolling maneuvers.  
238 For WiscoDISCO-21, we leveraged the "T" version of this sensor which has a 5-degree field of view.  
239 These sensors have a broad passband range of 5-14  $\mu\text{m}$ , meaning that while it covers the infrared





240 atmospheric window, it is also subject to radiation emitted by water vapor and other radiatively active  
241 gases, meaning that a significant depth of atmosphere between the aircraft and a given target (e.g., cloud;  
242 surface), atmospheric gases influence the temperature reading. Despite this range spanning the  $9.6 \mu\text{m}$   $\text{O}_3$   
243 band, the relative proximity of the sensor to targets of interest (e.g. surface, clouds) means that this overlap  
244 is not expected to significantly influence the readings, due to the integrated path length being relatively  
245 small. Therefore, if absolute accuracy of brightness temperature is important, the sensor should be  
246 operated in close proximity to a target of interest. However, relative contributions from different surface  
247 types or atmospheric conditions can still be easily distinguished despite a lack of absolute calibration for  
248 extended distance sensing. Such gradient detection can be useful for detecting surface inhomogeneities,  
249 or for understanding whether the aircraft is operating under cloud or clear sky.  
250

### 251 **3.2 M210 UAS**

252 The DJI M210 quad copter was equipped with a 3-D printed top-mounted bracket for holding a 2B  
253 Technologies Personal Ozone Monitor (POM) and an Internet Systems iMET-XQ2 meteorology sensor  
254 (Fig. 5). The copter had a ~15 minute flight time with the on-board sensors without a camera. The POM  
255 measures ambient ozone using UV absorption and active humidity subtraction by measuring a whole air  
256 sample and an ozone scrubbed sample in a 10-s duty cycle. The POM records data to its internal data  
257 storage at 10 s interval with a log number and time stamp along with GPS coordinates and instrumentation  
258 metrics (optical cell pressure and temperature). The iMET system records temperature, humidity, and  
259 pressure along with GPS coordinates and a time stamp to internal data storage. Each instrument (the POM  
260 and iMET) had individual data logging systems and separate power supplies. Both the POM and the iMET  
261 had GPS capabilities with the POM logging inconsistently and the iMET logging GPS more consistently.  
262 Each instrument and the UAS flight recorder logged time stamps. The iMET recorded observations of  
263 temperature, relative humidity, humidity temperature and pressure at a frequency of 10 Hz. The POM  
264 recorded ozone observations at a frequency of 0.1 Hz. The POM, iMET and M210 time-stamps drifted  
265 up to 60 seconds from the other logged data. The flight log recorded the M210 positioning (altitude,



266 latitude, longitude) at 100 Hz. The M210 flight logs, iMET data and POM data were each downloaded  
267 separately after each series of flights.



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**Figure 5:** DJI M210 multirotor UAS with bracket-mounted POM and iMET

### 273 3.3 Chiwaukee Lidar System

274 A Halo Photonics Stream Line XR Doppler lidar (Pearson et al. 2009) was deployed on the roof of the  
275 Chiwaukee Prairie air monitoring station (Fig. 6), approximately 3 m AGL. This is the same system that  
276 is regularly deployed as part of the Space Science and Engineering Center (SSEC) Portable Atmospheric  
277 Research Center, SPARC, (Wagner et al., 2019). The Doppler lidar actively emits pulses of near-infrared





278 radiation at a wavelength of 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$ . This wavelength is long enough that molecular scattering causes  
279 little attenuation of the signal, but it is short enough that it is sensitive to aerosols that are suspended  
280 within the planetary boundary layer.

281

282 The Doppler lidar uses velocity-azimuth display (VAD) scans of the Doppler lidar to retrieve profiles of  
283 wind speed and direction. In VAD, an instrument capable of measuring along-beam velocity (like a  
284 Doppler radar or lidar) stares at multiple azimuths at a non-zenith elevation angle over a short period of  
285 time, and then reconstructs the profile of winds above the lidar by assessing how the along-beam velocity  
286 changes as a function of azimuth and range. For WiscoDISCO-21, the VAD scans were configured with  
287 six azimuthal stares per profile (at azimuths of 0  $^\circ$ , 60  $^\circ$ , 120  $^\circ$ , and so on) with an elevation angle of 70  $^\circ$ .  
288 Range gates were 18 m. VAD scans were conducted every 4 min and each VAD took approximately 45  
289 s to complete. Between VADs, the lidar reverted to vertical stares in order to capture profiles of  
290 backscatter and vertical velocity. Since the lidar depends on the presence of scatterers to have a detectable  
291 signal return, the depth of the retrieved wind profiles varied significantly throughout the experiment from  
292 as shallow as 200 m to as deep as 2 km.



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**Figure 6:** Roof of the Chiwaukee Prairie air monitoring system, showing the PANDORA (upper left) and Doppler lidar (right-center). The wooden floor pictured here is approximately 3 m above ground level.

#### 300 4. Data processing and quality control

##### 301 4.1 University of Colorado RAAVEN UAS

302 Data collected by the different sensors carried by the RAAVEN during WiscoDISCO-21 were logged at  
303 a variety of different logging rates. The finewire system was logged at 250 Hz, the fastest rate of all of  
304 the sensors. The BST MHP was logged at 100 Hz, the VectorNav VN-300 at 50 Hz, the Melexis IR  
305 sensors and variables related to finewire status were logged at 20 Hz, while data collected from the  
306 PixHawk autopilot and Vaisala RSS421 sensors were logged at 5 Hz. Each logging event carried out by  
307 the FlexLogger includes a sample time from the logger CPU clock, allowing for post-collection time



308 alignment between the different sensors. These sample times, along with artificial 5, 20, 50, 100, and 250  
309 Hz clocks spanning the sample times between initial GPS lock and the last recorded sample time for the  
310 VN-300, are used to align the different variables to a set of common clocks, primarily through one-  
311 dimensional linear interpolation. One exception to the linear interpolation is the yaw estimate, which is  
312 circular in nature (ranging between -180 and 180 degrees), and therefore uses a “nearest” interpolation to  
313 ensure that the transition from 360 to 0 degrees is not represented as 180. During this interpolation  
314 process, a limited number of points sharing a common sample time with another point are removed from  
315 the record. Once these time variables are established, a *base\_time* variable is established using the 250  
316 Hz time stamp, and offsets from *base\_time* are then calculated for all different logging resolutions.

317

318 The resampled (in time) dataset includes a variety of derived and measured quantities. Aircraft position,  
319 including latitude, longitude, and altitude, are measured by the VN-300. The aircraft altitude is corrected  
320 using a combination of various inputs from onboard GPS and pressure altimeters, as neither of these  
321 altitude estimates can be used reliably as a definite flight altitude. Pressure altitude is subject to drift over  
322 the duration of a single flight due to atmospheric evolution over a 2.5-hour window, potentially resulting  
323 in values at landing that are higher or lower than those at take-off. Similarly, the accuracy of the GPS  
324 altitude is insufficient to capture the vertical position of the aircraft to the level of detail required. To  
325 calculate a true altitude, a combination of the autopilot altitude, VN-300 altitude, and VN-300 pressure  
326 are used. First, a *flight\_flag* variable is computed using airspeed and altitude information from the  
327 autopilot. Any data points with airspeed exceeding  $10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  and an altitude exceeding 5 m AGL is flagged  
328 as a time when the aircraft is flying (*flight\_flag*=1). The point at 200 samples (4 seconds) prior to the  
329 first point in the record where the aircraft is deemed to be flying is recorded as the initial take-off index,  
330 while the data point at 200 samples (4 seconds) after the last point in the record where the aircraft is  
331 deemed to be flying is recorded as the landing index. The difference between the autopilot altitude at  
332 these two indices is added into the flight record on a timestep-by-timestep basis, to correct for temporal  
333 drift in pressure. A linear fit is then calculated to relate the VN-300 pressure and the difference between  
334 the VN-300 reported altitude and the autopilot reported altitude. This pressure-dependent altitude  
335 correction is then applied to the VN-300-reported altitude to derive a final altitude.



336

337 Wind estimation from fixed-wing aircraft requires the combination of several different measurements  
338 related to airspeed, aircraft motion, and airflow over the aircraft (see van den Kroonenberg et al., 2008).  
339 These measurements need to be of sufficient quality, and angular offsets and logging delays need to be  
340 considered and removed. For RAAVEN, true airspeed (TAS) biases have a large impact on derivation of  
341 wind speed, while the angular offsets between the MHP and INS and time-lag between the GPS and in  
342 situ measurements have smaller impacts. These potential sources of error are corrected for using an  
343 optimization technique, where small adjustments are made to the individual parameters and the  
344 combination that results in the wind solution with the smallest overall variance is selected as the correct  
345 winds.

346

347 For the RAAVEN WiscoDISCO-21 dataset, TAS is calculated using measurements from the MHP and  
348 RSS421 probe using equation 1 from (Brown et al., 1983):

349 
$$TAS_i = \sqrt{\frac{2\bar{q}}{\rho}} \quad (1)$$

350 where  $\rho$  is the density of air calculated using the static pressure reported from the MHP, temperature from  
351 the RSS421, and the specific gas constant for dry air,  $\bar{q}$  is defined as:

352 
$$\bar{q} = \frac{p_0}{1 - \frac{9}{4} \sin^2 \theta_a} \quad (2)$$

353 where  $\sin^2 \theta_a$  is the total aerodynamic angle of the MHP, calculated using the angle of attack ( $\alpha$ ) and  
354 sideslip angle ( $\beta$ ) reported by the MHP.

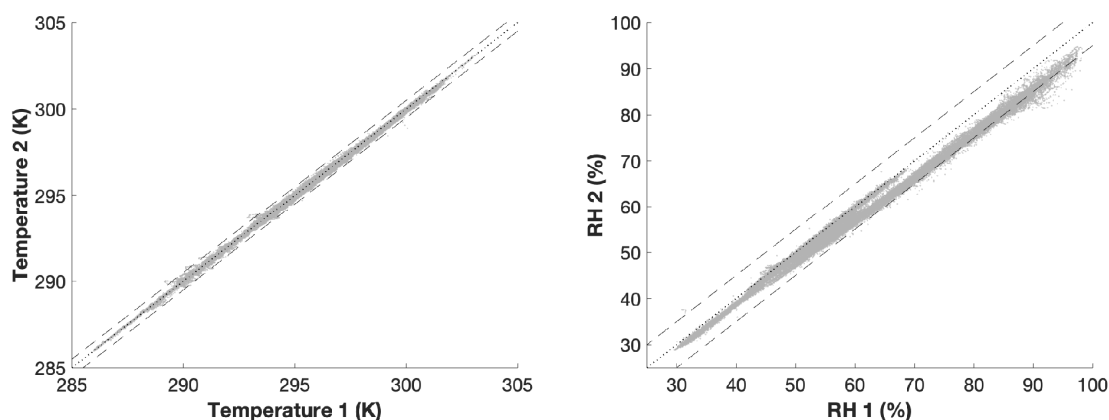
355

356 Based on testing in a temperature chamber, the pressure sensors used in this version of the MHP were  
357 found to have non-linear temperature dependencies. This requires the application of an additional  
358 temperature-dependent correction to ensure that an artificial alteration of TAS with altitude was not  
359 present. Additional information on the calculation of airspeed and other quantities from the MHP can be  
360 found in (de Boer et al., 2021a).

361



362 Derivation of the RAAVEN's thermodynamic measurements included multiple processing steps. First,  
363 data from the two RSS421 sensors are averaged to attempt to reduce the influence of any solar exposure  
364 of the sensors. Previous evaluations of the potential for solar contamination have not revealed any specific  
365 biases on the observation (see de Boer et al., 2021a). Over the course of the WiscoDISCO-21 campaign,  
366 the two sensors varied by less than 0.5 °C (Fig. 7). The averaged temperature time series was then used  
367 to calibrate the coldwire data by applying a linear fit to the relationship between the coldwire voltage and  
368 the temperature measured by the RSS421 sensor. The RSS421 relative humidity values were also  
369 averaged. Typically, the RH measurements agreed to within 2%.  
370



371

372 **Figure 7:** A comparison of temperature (left) and relative humidity (right) observations from the two  
373 Vaisala RSS-421 sensors on RAAVEN for all flights. The dotted lines represent a one-to-one agreement,  
374 with the dashed lines representing 0.5 degree (for temperature) and 5% (for relative humidity) deviation  
375 from perfect agreement.

376

377 All quantities measured by the RAAVEN have data quality flags associated with them. For the RSS421-  
378 derived temperature, the flag is set to zero for good data, and set to one for times when any of the following  
379 occur: a) the absolute value of the difference between the temperature from either individual sensor and  
380 the output temperature is greater than 0.5 °C, b) the absolute value of the difference between the output  
381 temperature and the temperature from the EE-03 sensor on the MHP exceeds 5 °C, c) the recorded error



382 flag of either RSS421 sensor is active, or d) the aircraft is not flying. For the RH measurement from the  
383 RSS421, a similar set of criteria are used to activate the data quality flag, except the limits are set to be  
384 6% between RSS421 sensors, and 15% between the output RH value and the MHP-provided RH value.  
385 The coldwire temperature data quality flag is activated when the difference between the coldwire  
386 temperature and either of the RSS421 temperatures exceeds 1 °C, when the absolute value of the  
387 difference between the coldwire temperature and the MHP temperature exceeds 3 °C, when the coldwire  
388 voltage is observed to fall outside of the 0-4 V analog range, or when the aircraft is not flying. Finally,  
389 the pressure quality control flag for the pressure measurement from the VN-300 is activated if the absolute  
390 value of the difference between the reported VN-300 static pressure and that measured by either of the  
391 RSS421 sensors exceeds 2.5 hPa. The RSS421 pressure measurements are not used because they are  
392 believed to be biased low due to the airflow passing over their location on the aircraft.

393

394 In addition to the flags discussed above, we include a 3-stage flag for the wind measurements, which is  
395 set to 0 (good data), 1 (suspect data) or 2 (bad data). Data are determined to be bad if any of the following  
396 conditions were met:

- 397 - The measured angle of attack or sideslip exceeds 20 degrees, with values between 10-20  
398 degrees are flagged as “suspect”
- 399 - The true airspeed (TAS) is below 10 m s<sup>-1</sup>
- 400 - Any of the MHP ports are deemed to be blocked, as determined by the differential pressure  
401 value for any of the sensors falling below -100 Pa
- 402 - The moving window variance of the MHP-derived TAS over 40 seconds is less than 5
- 403 - The aircraft is not flying
- 404 - The difference between the MHP TAS and that from the Pitot probe is greater than 5 m s<sup>-1</sup>

405

406 Finally, we included two additional flags in the datastream to allow data users to better understand aircraft  
407 flight state and support sampling during specific phases of flight. These flags include the “Flight\_Flag”  
408 introduced previously, as well as a “Flight\_State” flag. The “Flight\_State” flag includes information on  
409 whether the is flying straight (0) or is turning (1) in the ones place, whether the aircraft is descending (0),



410 level (1), or ascending (2) in the tens place, and whether the aircraft is in flight (1) or not (0) in the  
411 hundreds place. If, for example, a data user wanted to analyze straight, level flight legs, they would search  
412 for data with “Flight\_State” equal to 110. These flags are derived from information from a combination  
413 of sensors, including the altitude variable described above, the aircraft yaw, and the “Flight\_Flag” variable  
414 described earlier on in this paragraph.

415

416 The accuracy of the RAAVEN observations has been evaluated in previous studies. For example, a  
417 comparison of RAAVEN data with measurements collected by radiosondes launched from the Barbados  
418 Cloud Observatory was conducted in recent work from de Boer et al., (2021b). While radiosondes in that  
419 evaluation were launched approximately 20 km to the southeast, the air sampled by both systems was  
420 largely representative of the marine boundary layer, implying limited spatial variability. In that  
421 evaluation, the observations from the RAAVEN were very well correlated with those from the  
422 radiosondes and do not show any positive or negative bias, supporting the idea that the RAAVEN  
423 measurements provide an accurate depiction of the lower atmosphere. In addition, recent work allowed  
424 for direct comparison of RAAVEN data to observations collected by radiosondes and a 60 m tower at the  
425 US Department of Energy’s Southern Great Plains (SGP) research site. That study, de Boer et al. (2021a),  
426 similarly provided confidence in the RAAVEN observations, showing close statistical agreement between  
427 the different data sources.

428

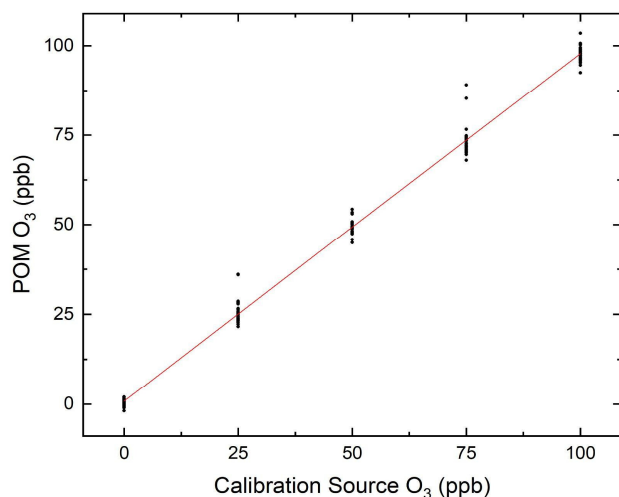
#### 429 **4.2 M210 UAS**

430 Data from the M210 flight controller, the POM and the iMET were all logged to individual instrument  
431 internal data storage with independent timestamps. The average flight time of the M210 was 13.96 min.  
432 The POM instrument logged data every 10 s. The iMET logged data every 0.1 s and the M210 flight log  
433 recorded UAS GPS positioning and flight statistics at 0.01 s intervals. The ozone concentrations from  
434 the POM are adjusted to calibrated values, where ozone calibrations were conducted before every set of  
435 2 flights for the M210 using a 2BTech Model 306 ozone calibration source (Fig. 8). Data quality flags  
436 are established as 0 = no concern, 1 = time flag, 2 = calibration and time flag. The time flag indicates  
437 flights where the time offset between the M210 and the instrument time offset is large (iMET > 10 s or





438 POM > 30 s). The calibration flag indicates when the POM was not responsive to the ozone calibration  
439 source (Flight 5 on May 24) after an over-water flight. All times were averaged to 90 seconds and  
440 compressed to the time window of observations for a single M210 ascent using the M210 timestamp. A  
441 time stamp for 90s averaged data from all instrumentation on the M210 was generated by using the M210  
442 timestamp as primary and adjusting to a time offset in either the POM or the iMET for the start of a flight,  
443 then averaged each variable for every 90 second interval of the flight. A  $1\sigma$  standard deviation is  
444 presented as the uncertainty for the 90-s averages. The iMET observations of temperature, relative  
445 humidity, pressure and humidity temperature are presented using the 90-s averages with uncertainty as  
446  $1\sigma$  standard deviations. Each flight ascent start and end were determined by observed changes in  
447 atmospheric pressure by the iMET sensor, altitude change in the M210, or noted time of ascent in field  
448 notebook for the POM. The altitudes for each observation were obtained by averaging the M210 flight  
449 log altitude data for the 90-s timestamps. The flight data timestamps varied slightly for each data source.  
450 The POM time drift was the most pronounced, with an average difference between the iMet of  $\sim 24$  s.  
451 The POM's time was adjusted manually throughout the campaign as the time would drift over the course  
452 of one flight. The average difference between the iMet and the M210 over 20 flights was  $\sim 4$  s. Only  
453 20% of flights had a time-difference between iMET and M210 greater than 10 seconds. Instrument battery  
454 loss occurred for the iMET system which resulted in lost data for a few flights on May 26, 2021.

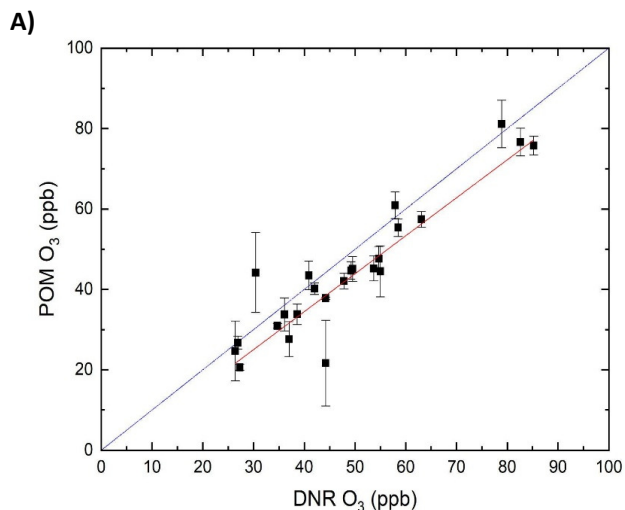


455  
456 **Figure 8:** A sample POM calibration from May 24, 2021. The linear regression fit gives:  $y = 0.9689 (\pm$   
457  $0.0061) x + 0.83 (\pm 0.35)$ ,  $R^2 = 0.9937$ . Each calibration concentration had a 5-minute duration with the  
458 POM logging 10-s data.  
459

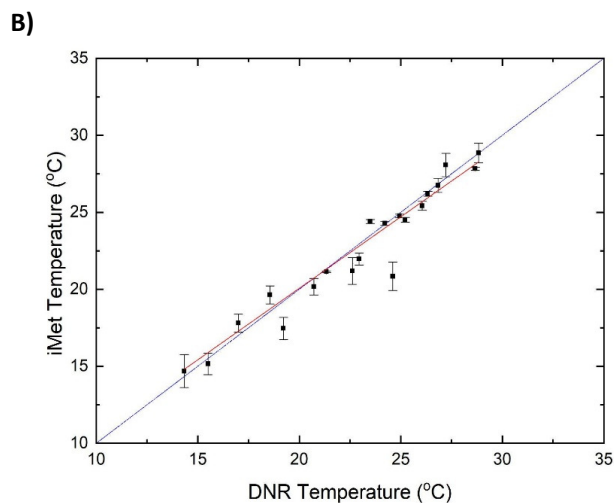
460 Intercomparison between observations made via instrumentation on the M210 at 5 m AGL and at the Wi-  
461 DNR ground station show a linear agreement between the observations (Fig. 9). The linear agreement is  
462 better for the iMET temperature and the ground station temperature with  $R^2 = 0.970$  in comparison to  $R^2$   
463  $= 0.955$  for  $O_3$  observations. The  $O_3$  linear fit,  $O_3 (POM) = 0.944 (\pm 0.044) O_3 (DNR) - 3.3 (\pm 1.9)$ , has a  
464 negative intercept. The uncertainties in the POM's  $O_3$  concentrations are much larger than uncertainties  
465 in the ground station instrumentation. The linear agreement between the different instrumentation on  
466 separate observation platforms demonstrates that the M210 platform instrumentation provides an  
467 accurate, albeit less precise representation of the atmosphere.  
468



460



480  
487



505 **Figure 9:** Intercomparison between measurements from instrumentation on the M210 at 5 m AGL and  
506 at the WI-DNR ground station for a)  $O_3$  (ppb) observations and b) temperature ( $^{\circ}C$ ). Blue lines depict  
507 1:1 agreement and red lines depict the linear regression best fit with a)  $O_{3(POM)} = 0.944 (\pm 0.044) O_{3(DNR)} - 3.3 (\pm 1.9)$ ,  $R^2 = 0.955$ , and b)  $T_{iMET} = 0.929 (\pm 0.038) T_{DNR} + 1.48 (\pm 0.93)$ ,  $R^2 = 0.970$ .  
508  
509



## 510 **5. Data Availability and File Structure**

511 A community data repository has been established for this field campaign at  
512 <https://zenodo.org/communities/wiscodisco21/>. The data sets in the repository cover the merged iMET  
513 and POM data sets from the M210 (DOI:10.5281/zenodo.5160346) as .txt files, the RAAVEN dataset  
514 (DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.5142491) as .cdf files, and the doppler lidar wind profiler (DOI:  
515 10.5281/zenodo.5213039) as .cdf files. M210 files have a naming convention that includes  
516 WiscoDisco\_M210\_YYYYMMDD\_F#, where the flight number for the day is indicated by F#.  
517 RAAVEN files have a naming convention that includes WiscoDisco\_CU-  
518 RAAVEN\_YYYYMMDD\_hhmmss\_B1.nc, where YYYYMMDD is the year, month and day that the  
519 data were collected, hhmmss is the time of power on for the aircraft, and B1 is the data processing level,  
520 where B1 files have had data quality checks and post-processing (e.g. coldwire calibration and wind  
521 estimation) applied. The Doppler lidar files have a naming convention that includes  
522 chiwaukee\_wind\_profiles\_YYYYMMDD and chiwaukee\_stare\_YYYYMMDD. All datasets include geospatial  
523 information (latitude, longitude, altitude) and timestamps in UTC.

524  
525

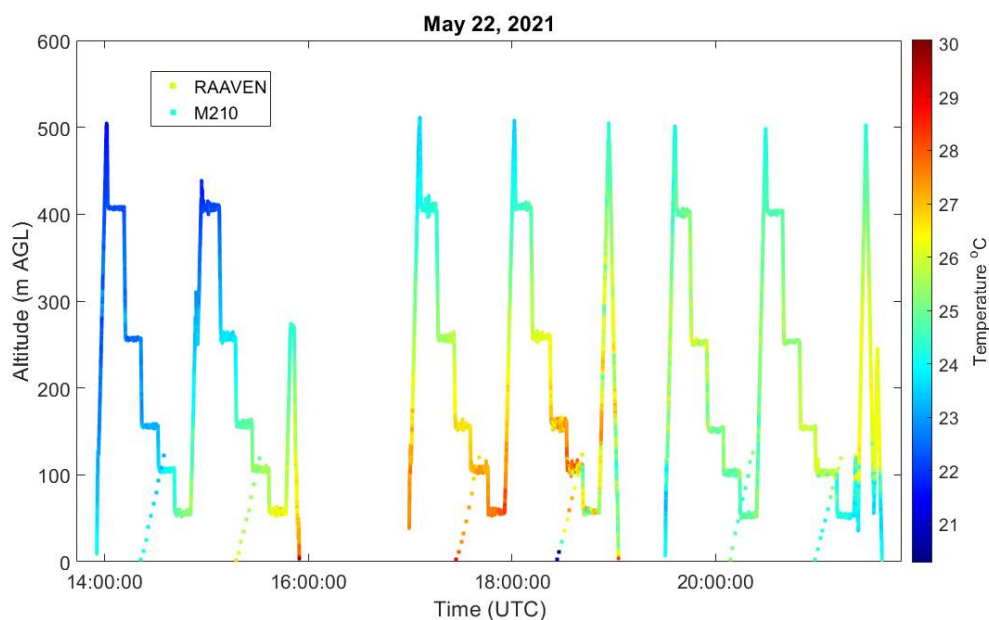
## 526 **6. Summary**

527

528 The 2021 WiscoDISCO field campaign incorporated the use of two UAS platforms for meteorological  
529 and chemical measurements in the atmosphere, a multicopter completing vertical profiles up to 120 m AGL  
530 and a fixed wing executing flight patterns up to 500 m AGL alongside a Lidar WindPro instrument  
531 capable of sensing winds and aerosol backscatter from altitudes of 100-2000 m AGL. The overlapping  
532 domains are useful for characterizing low altitude mesoscale meteorology of the lake breeze at a shoreline  
533 environment that regularly observes ozone enhancement events during onshore flow. Data from all  
534 instruments and platforms have been compiled, quality-control tested and uploaded to a community  
535 repository. The collaborative field campaign involved teams from 4 different universities and obtained  
536 continuous lidar data in conjunction with 24 flight hours of fixed wing and 6 flight hours of multi-rotor  
537 vertical profiles on days likely impacted by lake breeze.



538 The WiscoDISCO-21 project demonstrates how UAS can be used to sample a complex circulation  
539 near to the surface without causing major disruption to people, wildlife and ecosystems in the area. An  
540 example of a characterization of lake breeze incursion is shown in Figures 10 and 11, which include the  
541 temperature profiles from the M210 and RAAVEN (Fig. 10) and Doppler lidar u wind component (Fig.  
542 11). The temperature profiles from the M210 and RAAVEN show a notable temperature inversion in the  
543 late afternoon below 150 m and the Doppler lidar u wind component shows easterly winds arriving after  
544 18:00 UTC. The combination of u component winds from Doppler lidar and the temperature observations  
545 from the UAS platforms are consistent in demonstrating a marine layer incursion with maximum height  
546 of approximately 250 m AGL at 21:00 UCT collapsing to a height of 100 m AGL by 22:00 UTC. The  
547 nonuniform start to the lake breeze onset fluctuated, shown as shifting u component winds from easterly  
548 to westerly after 18:00 UTC (Fig 11) and disagreement with the lowest altitude observations from the  
549 M210 and RAAVEN between 18:30-19:00 UTC (Fig 10). The distance between the M210 launch site  
550 and the RAAVEN landing site complicates the low altitude observations of temperatures between 18:00  
551 and 19:00 UTC, which also may indicate the very limited incursion of the lake breeze at that time.

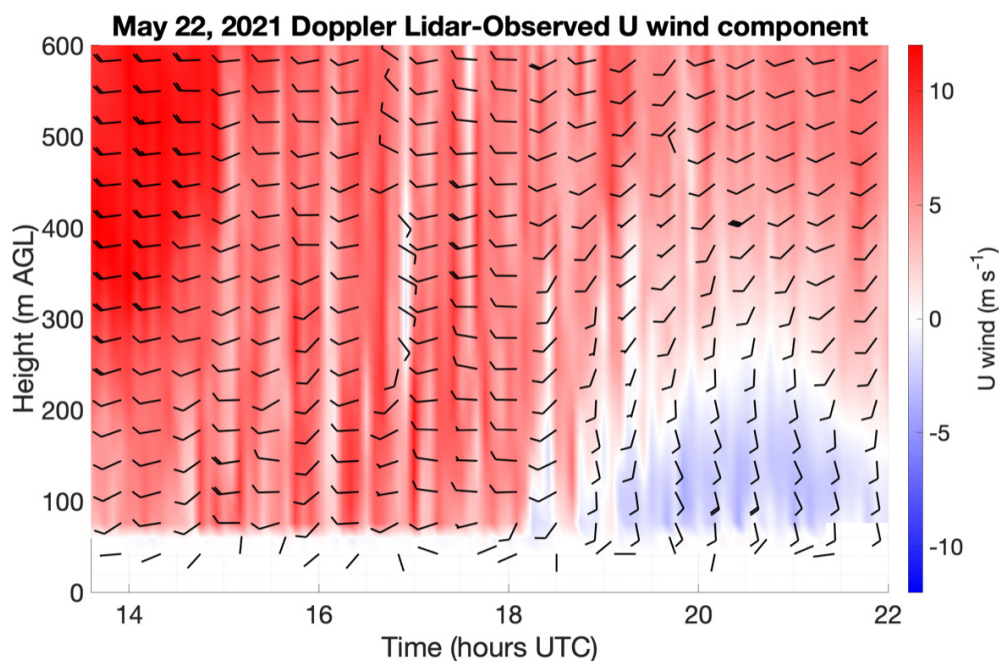


552



553

554 **Figure 10:** Temperatures ( $^{\circ}$  C) measured from University of Colorado RAAVEN (O) and the M120 ( $\square$ )  
555 on May 22, 2021. RAAVEN was flying over-prairie circular spirals Pattern A.



556

557 **Figure 11:** Time/height cross section of the u (zonal) component of the Doppler lidar-observed  
558 horizontal winds (in m/s), overlaid with horizontal wind barbs (in kts) plotted according to the standard  
559 convention from May 22, 2021. Wind barbs are thinned by a factor of five in the time dimension and a  
560 factor of two in the height dimension to aid readability.

561

562 The data from the WiscoDISCO-21 campaign can be used to evaluate the markers for lake breeze  
563 incursion overland in winds, temperatures, chemical composition and optical properties (backscatter).  
564 The thermodynamic conditions for lake breeze incursion at a local scale can be determined through the  
565 evaluation of horizontal and vertical winds, atmospheric stability and potential temperature. The  
566 positioning of pollutants with respect to the marine layer markers can also be investigated.

567

568 **Author Contributions.**



569 Patricia A. Cleary is the PI of this project and was responsible for data collection, overseeing data analysis  
570 from the M210, field campaign planning and logistics, and the writing and editing of this document. Ben  
571 Kies was responsible for data collection for the M210 in the field, Joe Tirado was responsible for data  
572 analysis, quality control and data formatting for the repository for the M210, Aidan Voon was responsible  
573 for data analysis for the M210. Joe Hupy was responsible for piloting the M210 and the writing and  
574 editing of this paper. Gijs de Boer was responsible for coordination and execution of the University of  
575 Colorado RAAVEN flights, and for development, writing and editing of the publication. Steve Borenstein  
576 and Jonathan Hamilton contributed to the collection of the RAAVEN dataset as field operators, and  
577 supported the development of this manuscript. Dale Lawrence supplied instrumentation for the RAAVEN  
578 UAS and contributed to the writing of the manuscript. Tim Wagner and R Bradley Pierce were  
579 responsible for data collection, data analysis of the doppler lidar instrumentation, and writing and editing  
580 this document and R Bradley Pierce assisted in field planning.

581  
582

583 **Competing Interests.**

584 GB works as a consultant for Black Swift Technologies, who manufacture the multi-hole pressure probe  
585 used in the collection of the RAAVEN dataset.

586  
587

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595 views of the National Science Foundation.

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599





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601

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