

1 **THE IMPACT OF BICYCLE LANE CHARACTERISTICS ON BICYCLISTS'**
2 **EXPOSURE TO TRAFFIC-RELATED PARTICULATE MATTER**

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36 Submitted to the 90th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board
37 January 23-27, 2011

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39 Submitted July 2010, Revised November 15, 2010

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42 6,530 Words [4,530 + 7 figures x 250+ 1 table x 250]

1 ABSTRACT

2 Bicycling as a mode of transportation is increasingly seen as a healthy alternative to
3 motorized transportation modes. However, in congested urban areas the health benefits of
4 bicycling can be diminished by the negative health effects associated with inhalation of
5 particulate matter. Particles of small size (ultrafine particles $<0.1\mu\text{m}$) are the most harmful
6 even during short-duration exposures. Since vehicular exhaust is the major source of
7 ultrafine particles, this research studies impacts of traffic levels and bicycle lane
8 characteristics on bicyclists' exposure. Ultrafine particle exposure concentrations are
9 compared in two settings: (a) a traditional bicycle lane adjacent to the vehicular traffic
10 lanes and (b) a cycle track design with a parking lane separating bicyclists from vehicular
11 traffic lanes. Traffic measurements were made alongside air quality measurements. It was
12 observed that the cycle track design mitigates ultrafine particle exposure concentrations
13 for cyclists. Results show statistically significant differences in term of exposure levels for
14 the two bike facilities as well as correlations between traffic levels and exposure level
15 differences. Results also suggest that ultrafine particle levels and spatial distribution may
16 be sensitive to proximity to signalized intersections. Findings of this research indicate that
17 in high traffic areas bicycle facility design has the potential to lower bicyclists' air
18 pollution exposure levels.

19 INTRODUCTION

20 Bicycling as a mode of transportation is an increasingly attractive mode due to livability
21 initiatives geared towards reducing traffic congestion and air pollution, attempts to
22 increase physical exercise levels, and greenhouse gas concerns. As a result there has been
23 a growing interest to increase municipal investments in bicycle infrastructure. Due to
24 accessibility needs of commuters and cost constraints, most cycling facilities are located
25 within the existing right-of-way of urban roadways. Cyclists in these facilities face a
26 number of adverse effects brought on by their proximity to automobile traffic, including
27 vulnerability to conflicts with motor vehicles and air quality concerns from tailpipe
28 emissions.

29
30 Vehicular exhaust is the source of a multitude of air contaminants, including
31 particulate matter (PM). Particulate matter of concern ranges in size from the largest,
32 PM_{10} (diameter $<10\mu\text{m}$) and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ (diameter $<2.5\mu\text{m}$), to microscopic ultrafine particles
33 (UFP). Ultrafine particles have diameters smaller than $0.1\mu\text{m}$. The majority of ultrafine
34 particles present in an urban environment are the result of traffic emissions (1-3).

35 Particle number concentrations, which are dominated by ultrafine particles, have
36 been shown to be significantly higher next to a road (4,5). Elevated levels of ultrafine
37 particles are of a concern to bicycle commuters due to the associated health effects and
38 increased respiration and absorption as compared to other road users (6-9). For a given
39 mass concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), ultrafine particles have 10^2 to 10^3 times higher surface area
40 than fine particles with diameters in the $0.1\text{-}2.5\mu\text{m}$ range and about 10^5 times more than
41 coarse particles ($2.5\mu\text{m}$ - $10\mu\text{m}$) (10). This higher surface area can increase the potential
42 for ultrafine particles to carry toxins into the human body. The small size allows for the
43 deepest deposition of particles into the alveolar region of the lungs, pulmonary interstitial
44 spaces, and possible passage into the circulatory system, and it has been shown that these
45 particles accumulate over time in organ tissues (11). The deep deposition of these small
46 particles in high numbers can provoke inflammation which is linked to increased or

1 exacerbated asthma and oxidative stress which is involved in cardiovascular and
2 pulmonary disease. The presence of a high number of particles in the alveolus has been
3 shown to be more critical to adverse effects and indicative of potential health impacts than
4 total particle mass concentrations (12-14). The human pulmonary and cardiovascular
5 systems are vulnerable to ultrafine particles. Investigation of ultrafine exposure for
6 different types of vehicle and bicycle infrastructure is needed to understand how to lower
7 exposures for commuters and protect public health.

8 Personal exposure studies have shown significantly increased ultrafine particle
9 exposure concentrations associated with increased proximity to traffic and volume of
10 traffic (15-19). Traditionally, bicycle lanes have been placed adjacent to motor vehicle
11 lanes. Recent designs in the U.S. have exchanged the locations of parallel parking and
12 bicycle lanes- creating a “cycle track” - in which the cyclist is separated by a barrier (the
13 parked cars) from the traffic stream. The barrier formed by the parked cars has the
14 potential to create a perceptibly safer environment, reducing vehicle-bicycle collisions and
15 attracting new riders who may otherwise feel unsafe biking next to moving vehicles.
16 However, the full safety impact of cycle tracks (especially at intersections (20)) has not
17 yet been empirically determined as they are a relatively new facility type (particularly in
18 the U.S.). While the potential to reduce bicycle-vehicle conflicts has been the primary
19 cited benefit of creating a cycle track, this study seeks only to determine if cycle tracks
20 also can serve to lower ultrafine particle exposure concentrations. Results from the
21 simultaneous assessment of traffic parameters and UFP exposure concentrations for a
22 conventional bicycle lane and a cycle track are presented here.

23 24 **METHODS**

25 Measurements for this study were conducted on SW Broadway, a multi-lane, one-way
26 southbound street in the downtown Portland core near the Portland State University
27 campus. The road is used by bicyclists, cars, trucks, and buses. Traffic composition and
28 volumes vary at this location throughout the day. Note that there is only one 4-leg
29 intersection on this cycle track, all others are 3-leg since SW Broadway is adjacent to
30 campus.

31 Prior to implementation of a cycle track design, the cross section consisted of three
32 lanes with a traditional bicycle lane located between the right-most travel lane and a row
33 of curb parking (see Figure 1(a)). After cycle track installation, two travel lanes remained,
34 with an offset row of parallel parking providing a buffer to the cycle track, approximately
35 10 -11 feet in width (see Figure 1(b)). The arrow in Figure 1(b) points to the cycle track.
36 The curb-to-curb distance was maintained during reconfiguration, requiring only lane re-
37 striping, appropriate pavement markings, and new signage.



View of SW Broadway before cycle track

View of SW Broadway with cycle track

(a)

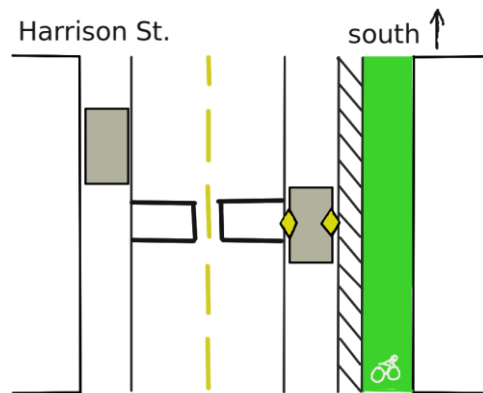
(b)

FIGURE 1 Cross-sectional configuration of SW Broadway (a) Prior to cycle track and (b) with cycle track implementation

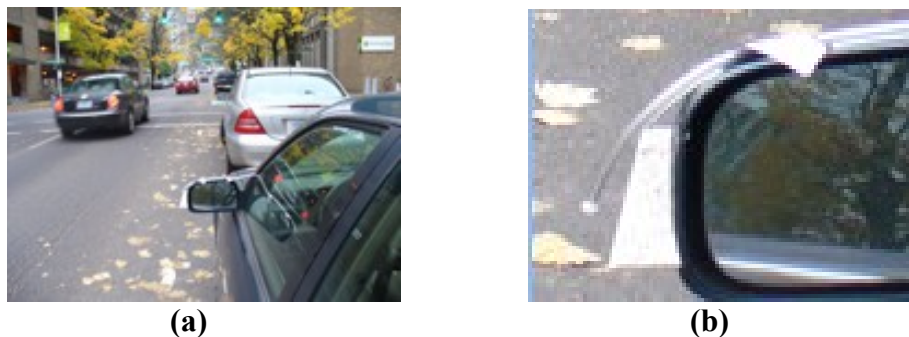
After implementation of the cycle track, monitoring equipment was set up at a mid-block location, north of the intersection with SW Harrison Street (Figure 2). Particle number concentrations and traffic measurements were made over four days in the span of several months with different combinations of equipment and study durations depending on availability of equipment and personnel. On each study day, two P-trak ultrafine particle counters (TSI Model 8525) were placed in a parked car in the parallel parking (buffer) zone on the west side adjacent to the cycle track. P-trak instruments are commonly used in personal exposure studies of ultrafine particle for cyclists and other transportation modes because of portability and technological advances to measure number concentrations (17). Number concentrations in ambient air are dominated by ultrafine particles. In comparable studies and personal exposure studies using the P-trak instrument, particle number concentrations and ultrafine particles are used interchangeably. Prior to data collection, a run of the P-trak instruments (recently factory calibrated) side-by-side in the laboratory for three and a half hours ensure instruments correlated ($r^2 = 0.996$).

The parked car was utilized in a novel method to compare simultaneous measurements of exposure concentrations that would be experienced in a conventional bicycle lane versus a cycle track lane. The sensors were placed on the front seats of the car with the collection tube running out the windows, taped to the side-view mirrors (Figure 3). Measuring exposure on the driver's side of a car parked within this offset parking lane is representative of the exposure concentration in a traditional bicycle lane; exposure measured on the passenger-side represents the cycle track exposure concentration. The driver's side measurements are in the location and proximity to traffic where a bicycle lane would typically be marked and will be referred to as the bicycle lane results. The passenger-side measurements are located a few feet from the cycle track due to the white striped buffer area. The passenger side measurements are the upward limit for cycle track exposure concentrations due to the passenger-side-view mirror location and width of the cycle track. The cycle track UFP concentrations would range lower towards the sidewalk. Exposure concentration is a typical variable used in personal exposure studies to

1 understand potential health impacts of humans in urban transportation microenvironments
 2 (17). Total or in-traffic exposure is the product of exposure concentration, exposure
 3 duration, and breathing rate.
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 6 **FIGURE 2 Study setup diagram. Green lane represents cycle track. Gray boxes**
 7 **represent cars. Yellow diamonds represent P-Trak instruments. Black lines in traffic**
 8 **lanes represent traffic counters.**
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 12 **FIGURE 3 Images of collection tube set-up on study vehicle (a) Driver's side-view**
 13 **mirror and one lane of moving traffic (b) Close-up of driver's side-view mirror and**
 14 **collection tube. Same setup used on passenger's side (not pictured).**
 15

16 All ultrafine particle counts were made at one-second resolution. The P-trak
 17 instrument measures particle number concentrations using condensation with isopropyl
 18 alcohol and an optical sensor. Particle number concentrations are obtained for particles in
 19 the size range of 0.02-1 μm . The particle counts measured by this instrument are
 20 dominated by the ultrafine particle size range. The maximum concentration level
 21 measured by this equipment is 500,000pt/cc.

22 Four different experimental setups were conducted, each described according to
 23 the study date and time periods in the following paragraphs. The first study design with P-
 24 Traks only was implemented on Nov. 24, 2009. Measurements at the first location began
 25 at 5:45AM and continued until 10:45AM. Particle exposure concentrations were measured
 26 in a second parking space from 10:58AM-1:52PM and in a third parking space from 2:05-
 27 4:51PM. Blocks in the City of Portland tend to be shorter than in most US cities. In all cases, the
 28 distance between P-track locations along Broadway did not exceed 50 feet.

29 Data collection on Feb. 8, 2010 occurred in the same parking space at the mid-
 30 block location from 5:31-10:49AM. Traffic data were also collected during this time

1 period using MetroCount 5600 traffic tubes counters. The traffic counting tubes were
2 placed in the right-most lane next to the vehicle containing the P-traks and collected
3 individual vehicle records consisting of passage time, vehicle classification (based on
4 length estimates), and speed.

5 Data collection on June 7, 2010 occurred in the same mid-block location as the
6 first parking space on Nov. 24 and the Feb. 8 study day. Particle measurements occurred
7 from 6:53AM-2:20PM. Additionally, a third P-trak was placed on the edge of the sidewalk
8 closest to the cycle track in the same transect as the car P-traks from 7:54AM-2:20PM.
9 Traffic tubes were placed across both lanes beginning at 5AM and traffic data were
10 collected throughout the entire particle measurement period. The heights of the P-trak inlet
11 tubes were maintained at the same elevation across the entire study period.

12 The final day of data collection occurred on July 13, 2010 from 7:25AM to
13 9:42PM. Particle measurements were made on the driver and passenger-sides of the study
14 vehicle in the mid-block location. In this setup, traffic data were collected with traffic tube
15 counters across both travel lanes.

17 RESULTS

18 Exposure Concentrations

19 Table 1 contains median and mean concentration values and ranges of exposure
20 concentrations for the driver's side (traditional bicycle lane) and passenger's side (cycle
21 track lane) positions for all study days.

22 One-sided paired t-tests were used to evaluate if the driver-side exposure
23 concentrations were greater than the passenger-side exposure concentrations. T-test results
24 and percent differences are shown in Table 1. Using a significance level of a p-
25 value=0.05, exposure concentrations were significantly greater on the driver-side
26 representing the typical bicycle lane compared to the passenger-side representing the cycle
27 track facility for all study days.

28 While the bicycle lane exposure concentrations were always significantly greater
29 than the cycle track exposure levels, there was a wide range in the mean of the differences
30 and percent differences (8%-38%), see Table 1. The greatest difference (38%) between the
31 bicycle lane and cycle track occurred for the second parking space from 10:58AM-
32 1:52PM on Nov. 24. The next greatest difference (35%) occurred on the same day in the
33 third space from 2:05-4:51PM. The time periods with greatest percent differences between
34 the two bicycle facility designs overlap with time periods of high traffic volumes for SW
35 Broadway. The smallest difference (8%) occurred on Feb. 8, 2010 from 5:31-10:49AM.
36 The low volume of traffic in the first hour and a half of this study period would lead to
37 less total ultrafine particle emissions and hence the smallest difference for the bicycle lane
38 and cycle track measurements.

39 Particle number distributions showed bicycle lane measurements greater than
40 300,000-500,000pt/cc occurred more frequently compared to cycle track measurements.
41 The inability of the equipment to capture peaks greater than 500,000pt/cc may have
42 caused mean differences to be underestimated. These data suggests less peak exposure
43 concentrations occur on the cycle track compared to a conventional bicycle lane since the
44 cycle track measurements are the upper limit (due to cross-sectional location).

45 Not included in Table 1 are the results for the sidewalk measurements on June 7.
46 The sidewalk median exposure concentration was equal to 12,900pt/cc with a mean

1 concentration of 15,535pt/cc and a range from 6,890-433,000pt/cc. The bicycle lane
 2 concentrations were significantly greater than the sidewalk with a mean difference equal
 3 to 6,805pt/cc, t-value=28.4, p-value<0.01. The percent difference was 38%. The cycle
 4 track concentrations were also significantly greater than the sidewalk with a mean
 5 difference equal to 2,157pt/cc, t-value=20.5, p-value<0.01. The percent difference for the
 6 cycle track and sidewalk was 25%.

7
 8 **TABLE 1 Mean Number Concentrations, Ranges, Percent Differences, and t-test**
 9 **Results for Bicycle Lane and Cycle Track Exposure Concentration Comparisons**

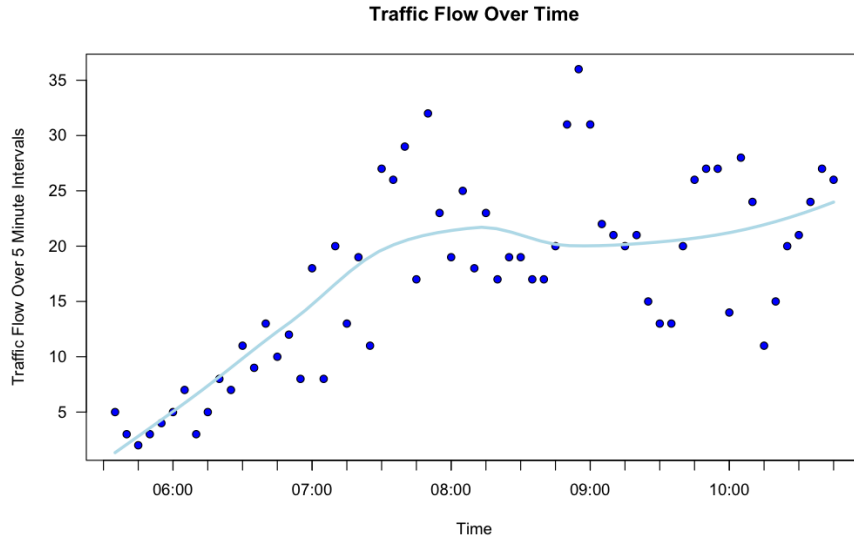
Date	Time	Bicycle Lane			Cycle Track			Mean Diff. (pt/cc)	t-value	p-value	% Diff
		Median (pt/cc)	Mean Conc (pt/cc)	Range (pt/cc)	Median (pt/cc)	Mean Conc (pt/cc)	Range (pt/cc)				
Nov24, 2009	5:45-10:45 AM	31,400	43,788	14,500-500,000	30,500	37,498	15,000-365,000	6,125	19.6	<0.01	15
Nov24, 2009	10:58 AM - 1:52 PM	28,200	56,845	4,510-500,000	26,000	35,802	13,600-500,000	21,043	28.8	<0.01	38
Nov24, 2009	2:05 - 4:51 PM	25,400	37,476	9,980-500,000	20,600	24,618	2,230-312,000	12,589	29.2	<0.01	35
Feb 8, 2010	5:31 -10:49AM	30,600	47,601	12,300-500,000	29,500	44,245	3,340-500,000	3,309	10.3	<0.01	8
June 7, 2010	6:53 AM -2:20 PM	14,700	25,271	3,340-500,000	14,200	20,805	5,750-500,000	4,465	20.9	<0.01	18
July 13, 2010	7:24 AM -9:42 PM	8,290	13,839	2,390-500,000	7,660	10,558	5,620-500,000	3,309	10.3	<0.01	24

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 11 **Comparison with Measured Traffic**

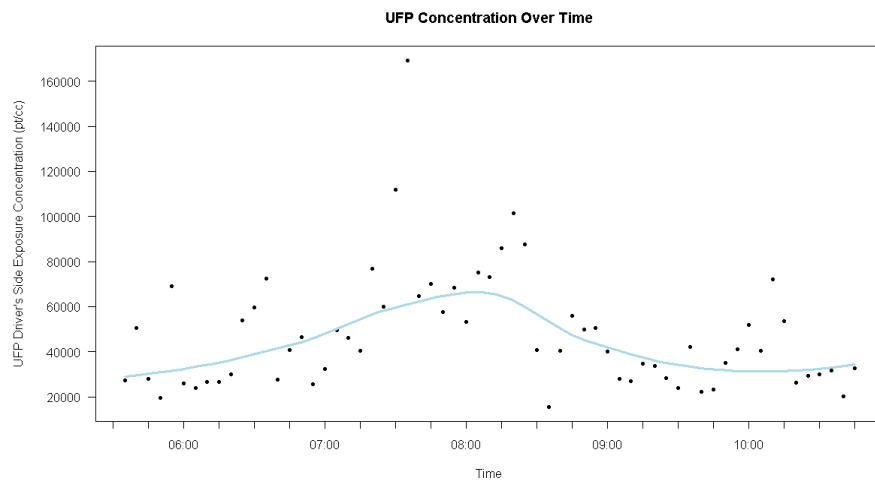
12 Traffic data were collected for 5 hours and 20 minutes from 5:31AM to 10:49AM on Feb.
 13 8 during particulate matter collections. Traffic volume for the right-most travel lane during
 14 this period was 1,086 vehicles or 204 veh/hr/lane. Speeds for vehicles in this lane ranged
 15 from 6.40mph to 54mph with a time mean value of 30.11mph (Figure 5). Traffic
 16 composition was not analyzed in this paper.

17 Traffic increased throughout the morning peak period (with a maximum near
 18 8:30AM), then remained relatively constant throughout the remaining time (Figure 4(a)).
 19 The steeper increase in traffic flow up until 8:15AM, followed by stabilization of the mean
 20 and greater variability in traffic flow may be due to the intersection reaching capacity or a
 21 change in intersection signalization timing as the morning progressed. Ultrafine particle
 22 number concentrations from the driver's side P-trak averaged at 5 minute intervals also
 23 show an increase up to a peak in a Loess smoothing curve around approximately 8:15AM
 24 (Figure 4(b)). Exposure concentration differences between the bicycle lane and cycle track
 25 show a peak around 8:40-8:45AM (Figure 4(c)).

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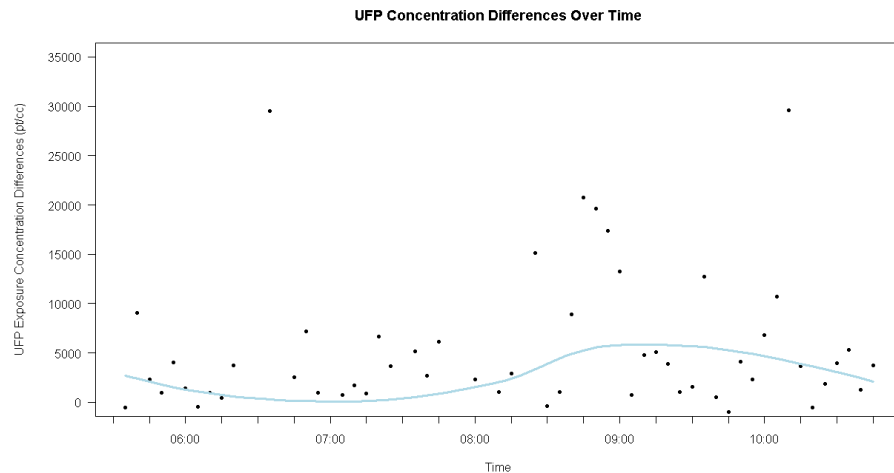


(a)



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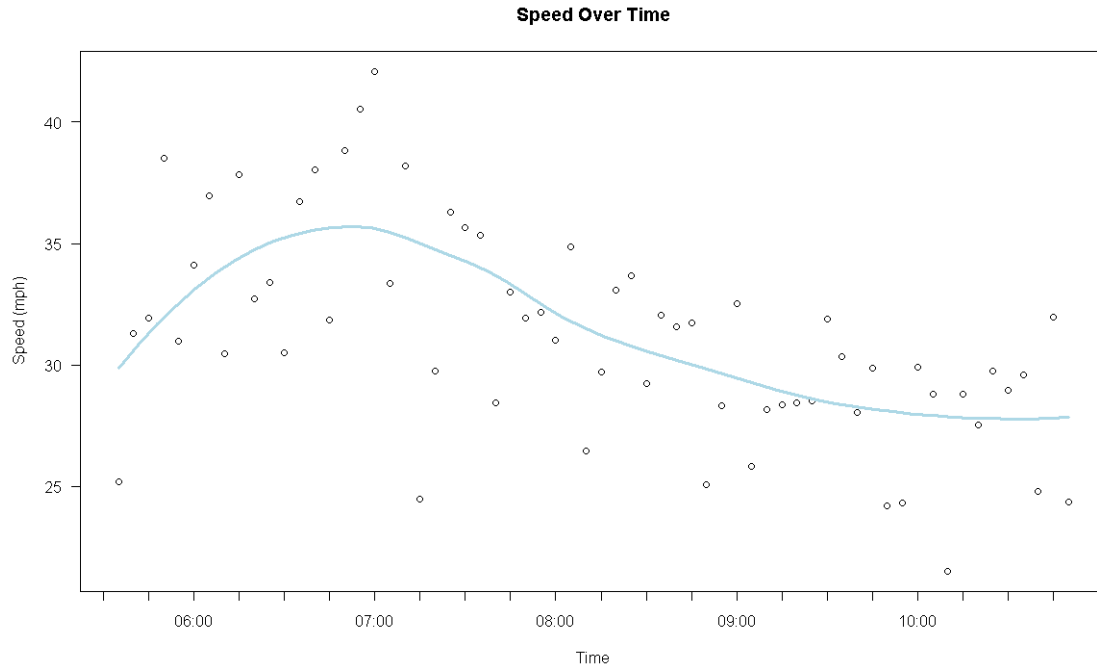
(b)



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(c)

18 **FIGURE 4 Feb. 8 (a) Traffic flow per 5-min intervals versus time (b) UFP**
19 **concentrations from driver's side averaged over 5-minute intervals versus time**
20 **(c) UFP concentration differences between bicycle lane and cycle track sides**
21 **averaged over 5-min intervals versus time. All lines represent Loess smoothing**
22 **curves.**



1
2 **FIGURE 5 Feb. 8 Speed averaged over 5min intervals with a Loess smoothing curve.**

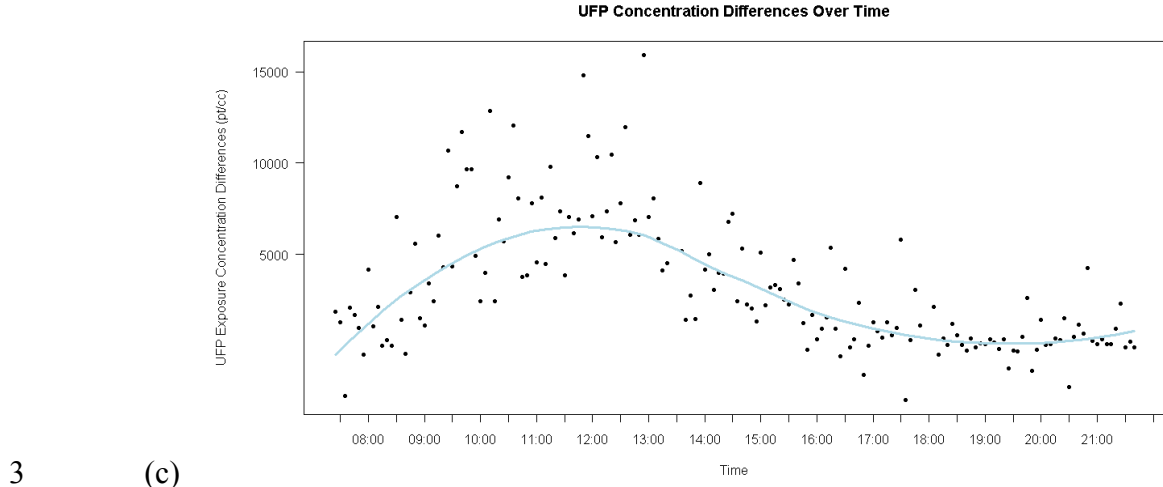
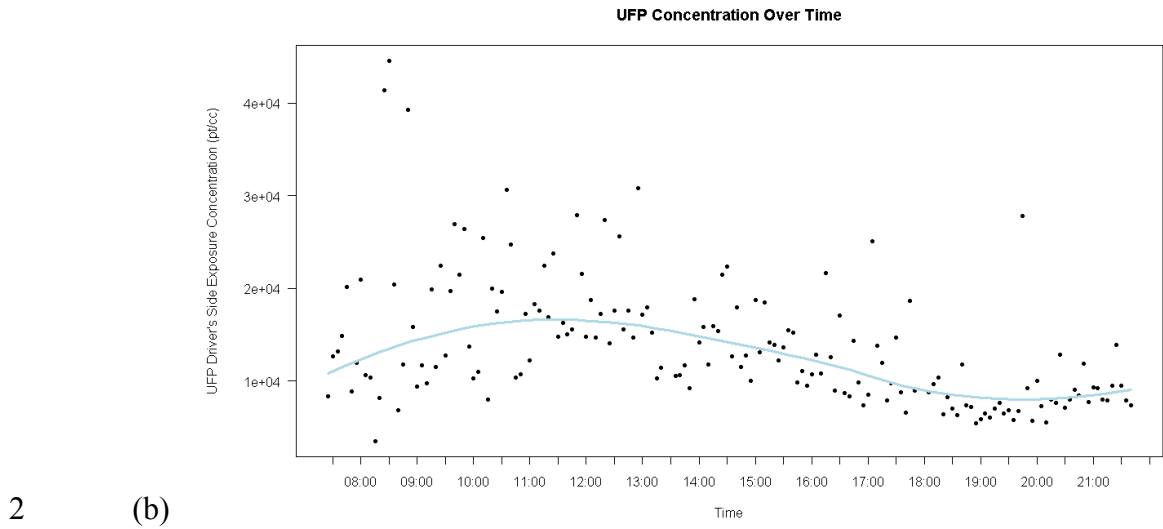
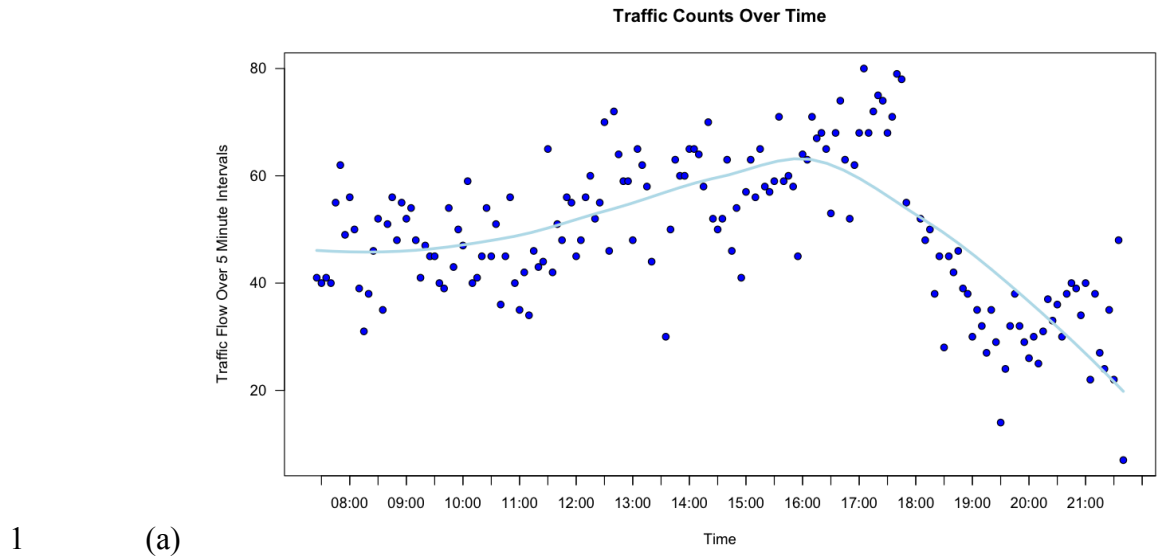
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4 Traffic data obtained on June 7 were invalid due to a data collection error. Traffic
5 data for July 13 were collected for approximately 14 hours, including the morning and
6 evening periods. The total traffic count from 7:25AM to 9:42PM across both lanes was
7 8,232 vehicles or 294veh/hr/ln.

8 Traffic increased relatively linearly from 10:15AM until a peak around 4:15PM as
9 shown by a Loess smoothing curve in Figure 6(a). Traffic declined through the rest of the
10 evening until the tubes were disconnected. Ultrafine particle concentrations from the
11 driver's side averaged over a 5 minute interval show an increase up to a point around noon
12 (Figure 6(b)). Figure 6b shows the variability or range of the ultrafine particle exposure
13 concentrations around the Loess curve to be greater during the early and middle parts of
14 the day compared to the end of the day when traffic volumes were decreasing. Exposure
15 concentration differences also show a peak at noon (Figure 6(c)).

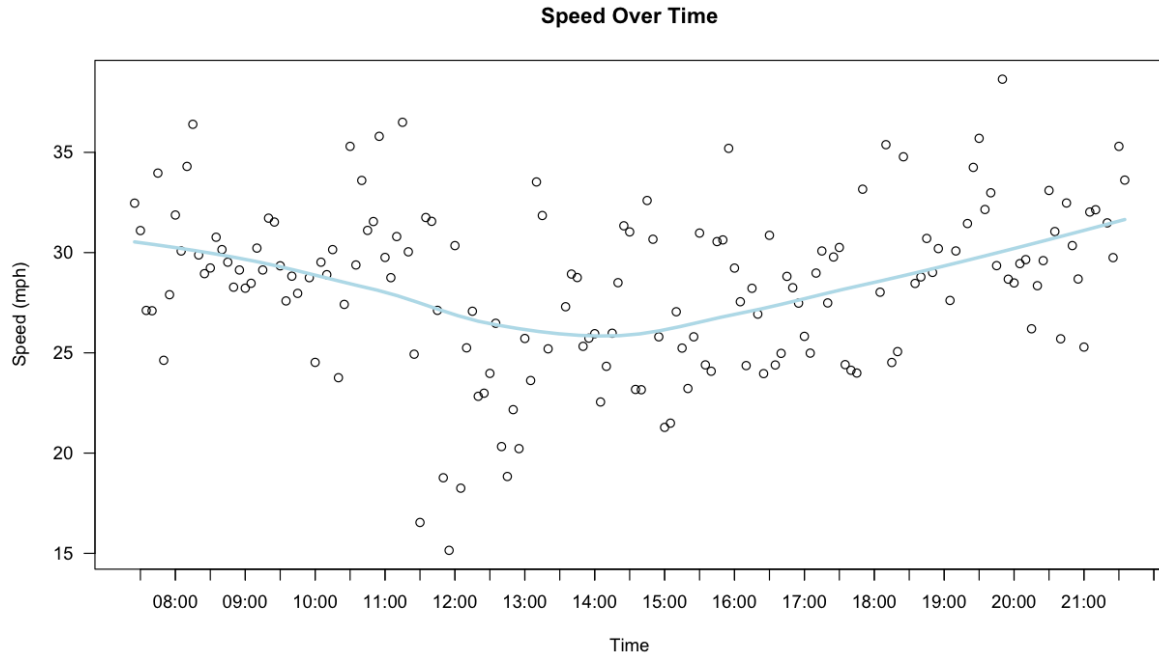
16 On July 13th, the time mean speed of vehicles in the right-most motor vehicle
17 travel lane (adjacent to research vehicle) was 28.34 mph, with a range from 1.20 mph to
18 53 mph. The left-most travel lane (furthest from the cycle track and study vehicle) had a
19 time mean speed of 25.83 mph with a range from 5.70 to 56.50 mph. Both lanes together
20 averaged 27.62 mph, with a range from 11 to 44.80 mph.

21 The averaged speeds over five minute intervals of vehicles in both lanes did not
22 fluctuate much through the day with the Loess smoothing curve not deviating far from the
23 range of 25mph to 32mph (Figure 7). The decreasing trend in speed in the morning from
24 7:30-11AM seen on Feb. 8 was also seen on July 13 (Figure 5 and 7). This trend continued
25 on July 13 until the median speed dipped to about 25mph from 1:30-2:30PM. Speed began
26 to increase linearly at about 5PM on July 13. Traffic counts peaked around 4:15PM, so the
27 time periods with fewer cars on the road followed the slight increase in car speeds.

28
29



4 **FIGURE 6 July 13 (a) Traffic flow per 5-min intervals versus time (b) UFP**
 5 **concentrations from driver's side averaged over 5-minute intervals versus time (c)**
 6 **UFP concentration differences between bicycle lane and cycle track sides averaged**
 7 **over 5-min intervals versus time. All lines represent Loess smoothing curves.**



1
2 **FIGURE 7 July 13 Speed averaged over 5-minute intervals versus time with a Loess**
3 **smoothing curve.**

4
5 Analysis of the individual traffic variables to UFP levels using regression and
6 functional optimization techniques did not result in a statistically significant relationship.
7 The results of this analysis suggest that the interaction of traffic speed and traffic counts
8 alone cannot functionally account for the data measured in this study. Traffic composition
9 and wind measurements are also likely needed to understand the functional relationship
10 between traffic and UFP levels at this study site and are to be investigated in further
11 studies.

12 **DISCUSSION**

13 Ultrafine particle exposure concentrations were significantly greater on the driver's side
14 than the passenger's side for all study days. The one-second sampling interval captures
15 very quick changes and short term peak exposures explaining the wide range of particle
16 number concentrations for the bicycle lane and cycle track positions. The cycle track has
17 the potential to lower ultrafine exposure concentrations compared to a traditional bicycle
18 lane.

19
20 The differences in the ultrafine particle levels for the typical bicycle lane and cycle
21 track are most likely due to the increased horizontal distance from the traffic stream and
22 the airflow over the parked vehicle. Over this distance ultrafine particles coagulate (21)
23 and grow to larger, potentially less harmful particles. It is unlikely that the parked cars act
24 as a physical barrier for the ultrafine particles to which particles collide with the car
25 surfaces and adhere to them. Ultrafine particles behave as a gas and this explanation
26 would relate more appropriately to larger particles with greater mass. However, future
27 studies will test dry deposition of ultrafine particles for the possibility of additional
28 explanation. The possibility of a traffic-pollution "shadow" on the passenger-side of the
29 car where the cycle track collection tube intake was located will be evaluated in future
30 work using a computational fluid dynamic model to generate wind fields

1 The continued significant decline in exposure concentrations from bicycle lane to
2 cycle track to sidewalk also shows a strong likelihood of horizontal distance being the
3 mechanism for the exposure level differences. An assessment of pedestrian exposure to air
4 pollutants along a major road in central London, UK, found ultrafine particle number
5 counts to be significantly higher when walking along the curb side edge of the sidewalk
6 compared to the building side (22). The width of the sidewalk is comparable to the width
7 of the parking lane and buffer zone placed between the cycling lane and motor vehicles in
8 the cycle track design.

9 The placement of the study vehicle from 10:58AM to 1:52PM on Nov. 24 was
10 different than the mid-block location just north of SW Harrison used on all other study
11 days. For this time period, the vehicle was at the front parking spot closest to the traffic
12 light at the intersection north of SW Harrison. This time period showed the greatest mean
13 and percent difference for the bicycle lane and cycle track concentrations. Future studies
14 should further investigate the effect of proximity to signalized intersections and signal
15 queuing on ultrafine particle concentrations. Placing study vehicles in differing
16 proximities to intersections, along with enhanced traffic monitoring, may lead to a better
17 understanding of geometric and traffic effects on ultrafine particle exposures.

18 Traffic data from Feb. 8 and July 13 indicate a traffic pattern on SW Broadway of
19 increasing traffic beginning at 5:30AM, elevated traffic flows past the morning peak
20 period into the afternoon (10:45AM-4:00PM), and a decline in traffic flows beginning at
21 5:00PM (Figure 4(a) and 6(a)). The greatest exposure concentration differences of 38%
22 and 35% (Table 1) for the two bicycle facilities occurred during 10:45AM-1:52PM and
23 2:05-4:51PM within the time period of elevated traffic flows. The highest exposure
24 concentration differences from Figure 4(c) and Figure 6(c) occur around 8:45AM and
25 12:00PM also within the elevated traffic flow pattern. Figure 6(c) shows decreased
26 exposure concentration differences from 7:00-8:00PM during a time period of declining
27 traffic and lowest traffic flows. These results begin to indicate the greatest exposure level
28 differences for the bike facilities occur when traffic was greatest. Future work will
29 continue to collect full-day traffic and air quality measurements to track this relationship
30 of higher exposure concentration differences associated with higher traffic levels.

31 A count of bicyclists prior to installation of the cycle track found that bicycle
32 volumes peaked around 9:00AM and again at 5:30PM (around 60 bicycles per hour). The
33 time spans of elevated motor vehicle traffic and bicyclist traffic overlap on SW Broadway.
34 The above results suggest that cycle track facilities have the greatest potential to mitigate
35 ultrafine particle exposures for bicyclists on roadways and transportation environments
36 with concurrently high auto use and cyclist activity.

37 The traffic flow peak around 4:00PM on July 13 was not matched by a peak in
38 UFP, which were declining from a peak around mid-day (Figure 6(a) and 6(b)) suggesting
39 the data may be missing an important correlate such as wind parameters. Future work with
40 radar and video to capture traffic composition and the use of 3-dimensional ultrasonic
41 anemometers that measures vertical and horizontal wind fluxes will allow for further
42 exploration into such effects.

43 44 **CONCLUSION**

45 An original method was developed to measure and compare simultaneous ultrafine
46 particulate exposure for cyclists in a traditional bicycle lane and a cycle track. Ultrafine

1 particle number concentrations were significantly higher in the typical bicycle lane than
2 the cycle track for all study days, and nearly all study periods within those days. The
3 higher frequency of exposure concentrations greater than 300,000-500,000pt/cc in the
4 bicycle lane compared to the cycle track suggests a cyclist may encounter fewer peak
5 exposure concentrations in the cycle track. Additionally, the cycle track measurements in
6 this study are the upper limit due to cross-sectional location. Significantly lower ultrafine
7 number concentrations measured on the cycle track are attributable to the increased
8 distance from the motorized traffic provided by the cycle track configuration. Increasing
9 the bicycle facility distance from traffic sources is difficult in cities with set road widths.
10 A cycle track with a parking lane buffer offers a realistic solution for roads in urban areas
11 with parking lanes to potentially lower ultrafine exposures for cyclists.

12 Traffic measurements showed the exposure concentration differences to be greatest
13 at times of highest traffic volumes, emphasizing the importance of mitigation techniques
14 in areas with simultaneously high volumes of motor vehicle and bicycle commuters. Initial
15 findings show possible effects of proximity to signalized intersections on increased
16 ultrafine particle exposure concentration differences for a bicycle lane and cycle track.
17 These elements need to be studied in further detail along with local wind and more
18 temporal and seasonal measurements of traffic and associated ultrafine particle exposure
19 levels.

20 The findings of this study show a cycle track roadway design may be more
21 protective for cyclists than a traditional bicycle lane in terms of lowering exposure
22 concentrations of ultrafine particles. This, of course, must be balanced against other
23 consideration such as vehicle-bicycle conflicts at intersections and other design
24 considerations. Based on these initial findings, understanding roadway and traffic effects
25 on exposure levels can help guide bicycle facility design and pinpoint locations in which
26 mitigation of exposure levels by placement of facilities such as cycle tracks may be most
27 important.

28 29 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

30 The authors acknowledge the Miller Grant Foundation and the Oregon Transportation
31 Research and Education Consortium (OTREC) for funding this work.

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