CO, CO₂ and Methane Measurements from the NSF/NCAR G-V

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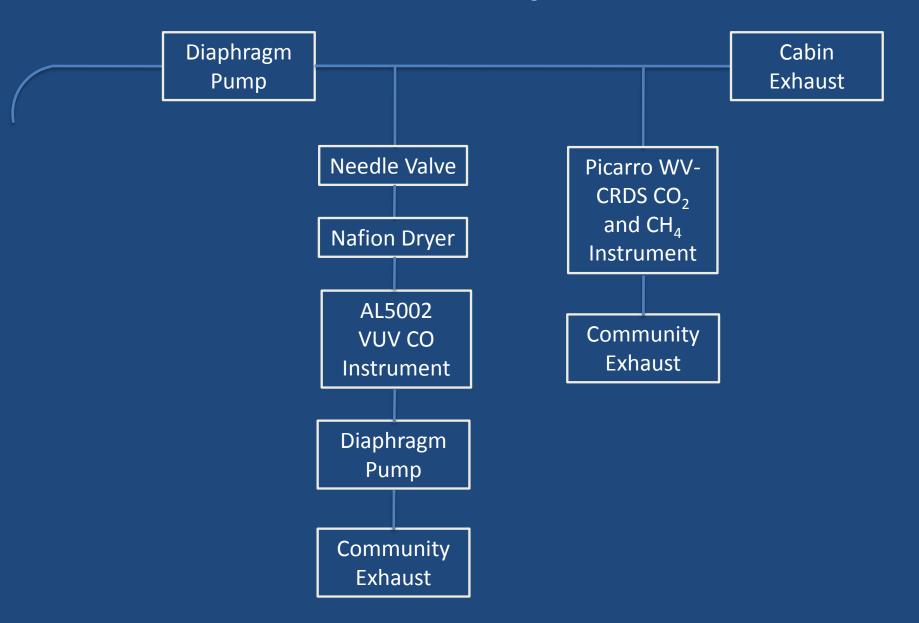
Carbon Monoxide by VUV Fluorescence

- Aero-Laser VUV resonance fluorescence
- 2 ppbv precision (1-s averaging time)
- .5-Hz frequency response
- 2 ppbv ± 3% accuracy

CO₂ and Methane by WS-CRDS

- Fast-response commercial instrument (Picarro)
- Precision (0.2-s averaging time):
 - 250 ppbv CO₂
 - 3 ppbv CH₄
- Claimed 5-Hz frequency response

TORERO Inlet configuration



Calibration Approach

- In-flight Calibrations
 - single working standard: CO, CO₂, and CH₄ in natural air
 - CO zero measurements by catalytic removal of ambient CO;
 - calibration duration: 4 minutes
 - sequence frequency: approximately half hourly
- Time dependent sensitivity and zero offset by linear interpolation
- Working standard concentrations compared to multiple NOAA GMD/CCGG primary standards before and after field phase

Instrument Performance and Data Status

Measurement	Data Coverage	Status	Remaining Tasks
СО	100%	Processed to level 1 quality	Remove calibrations from 4 flights
CO ₂	40% of flights	Processed to level 1 quality	Apply water correction; Remove calibrations from output
CH ₄	40% of flights	Processed to level 1 quality	Remove calibrations from output

- •The Picarro instrument failed during RF03, and was returned to the vendor.
- •The failure was attributed to an unstable USB cable configuration.
- •After repair, the instrument was shipped to Costa Rica, re-installed, and functioned successfully for the final 5 research flights.
- •A high altitude leak in the inlet compressor compromised the high precision CO₂ and CH₄ measurements for all research flights.
- •Data acquired above 7km will not be reported.
- •Post-project modifications solved the problem. No problems observed during the DC-3 experiment.

