

# **Performance of Small Plate and Tube Unipolar Particle Chargers at Low Corona Current**

Xiaotong Chen<sup>1,2</sup>, Qiaoling Liu<sup>2</sup>, Jingkun Jiang<sup>1</sup>, Da-Ren Chen<sup>\*,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>State Key Joint Laboratory of Environment Simulation and Pollution Control, School of Environment, Tsinghua University, Beijing, 100084, China

<sup>2</sup>Particle Laboratory, Department of Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering, School of Engineering, Virginia Commonwealth University, 401 W. Main Street, Richmond, VA 23284, United States

**Appendix A. The effects of driving voltage and flow rate on the corona current-voltage curves.**

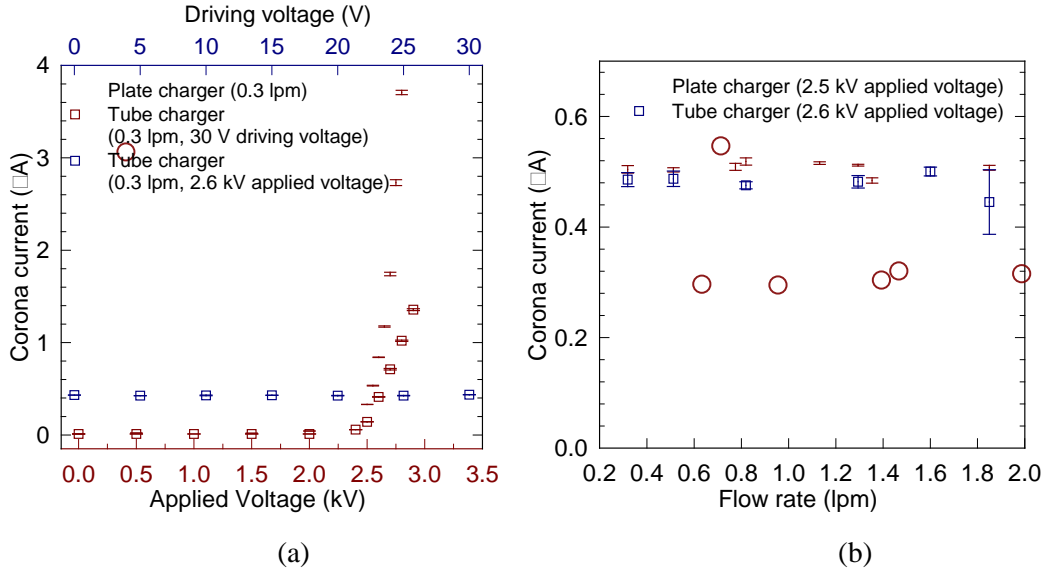


Figure S1. The effects of driving voltage (a) and flow rate (b) on the corona current-voltage curve.

**Appendix B: Estimated particle residence time and ion concentration in the charging zones of studied chargers.**

	Flowrate (lpm)	Plate charger	Tube charger
Residence time (s)	0.3	0.15	0.40
	0.6	0.075	0.20
Ion concentration (#/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.3	$4.2 \times 10^{13}$	$2.8 \times 10^{13}$
	0.6	$5.5 \times 10^{13}$	$2.7 \times 10^{13}$

Note that the listed particle residence time was calculated by the flow rate and volume of charging zone. The ion concentration was calculated via the fitted Nit values.

**Appendix C. Best-fitted equations for particle intrinsic and extrinsic efficiencies of two studied particle chargers**

Table S1 Fitted coefficients for intrinsic and extrinsic charging efficiencies  $\eta$  ( $\eta = a \times (1 - \exp(-b \times d_p))$ )

Charger type and flowrate	Intrinsic		Extrinsic	
	a	b	a	b
Wire, 0.6 lpm	1.0000	0.0389	0.8404	0.0378
Wire, 0.3 lpm	1.0000	0.0561	0.8880	0.0417
Needle, 0.6 lpm	1.0000	0.0473	0.8389	0.0348
Needle, 0.3 lpm	0.9996	0.0922	0.7693	0.0602

**Appendix D. Measured extrinsic charge distributions of particles in the test sizes for two studied chargers**

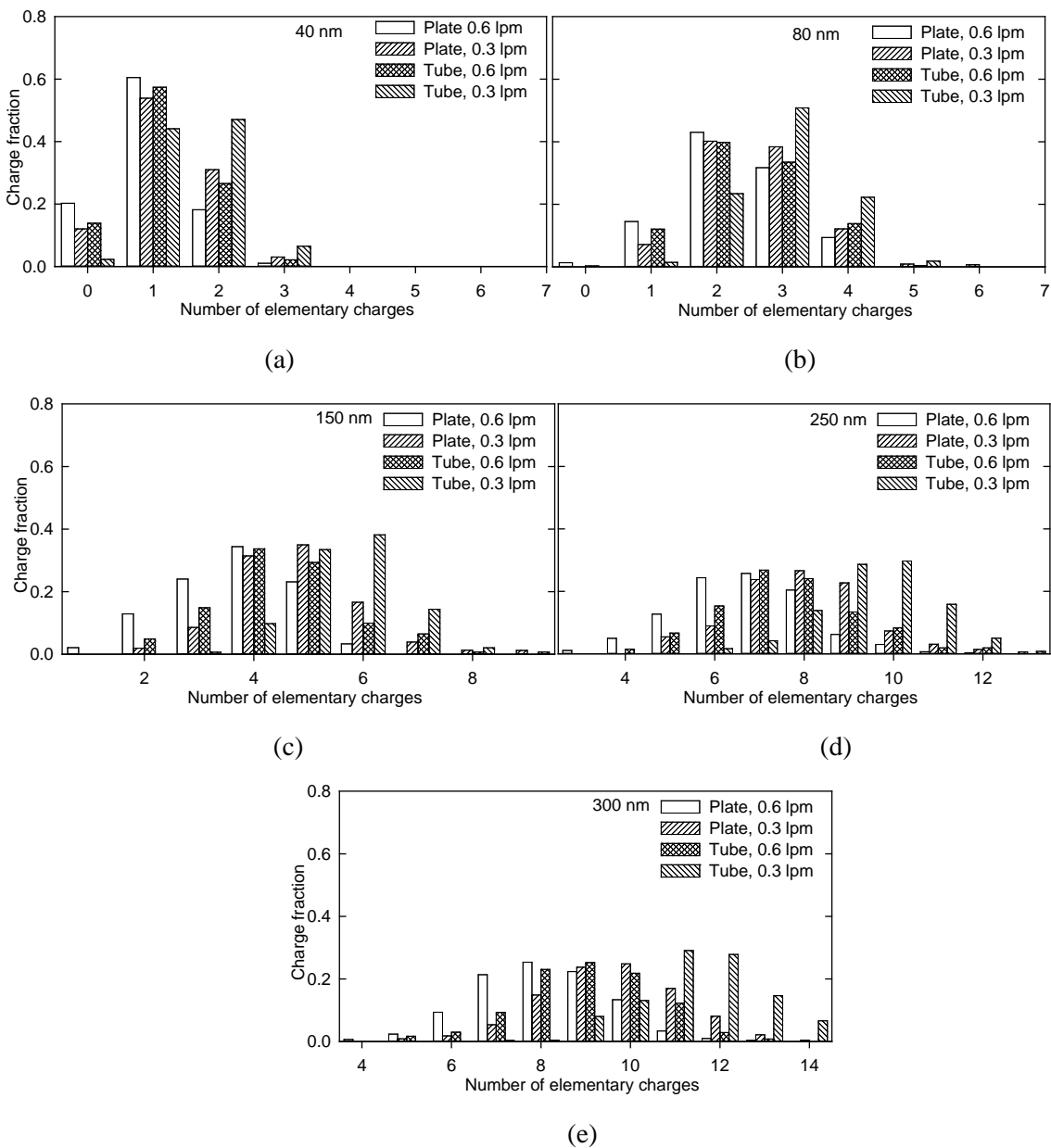


Figure S2. Measured extrinsic charge distributions of particles for small plate and tube particle chargers: for the particle size of 40 nm (a); 80 nm (b); 150 nm (c); 250 nm (d); and 300 nm at 0.3 and 0.6 lpm flow rates.

**Appendix E. Comparison of measured and calculated extrinsic charge distributions of test particles for two studied particle chargers.**

Table S2 Comparison of measured and calculated extrinsic charge distributions of test particles for two studied particle chargers for the plate charger at the flow rate of 0.6 lpm

(M: measured C: calculated).

Number of charges		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
20 nm	M	0.49	0.50	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.48	0.51	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40 nm	M	0.20	0.61	0.18	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.14	0.69	0.17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
60 nm	M	0.09	0.38	0.42	0.11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.04	0.46	0.45	0.06	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
80 nm	M	0.01	0.15	0.43	0.32	0.09	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0.08	0.39	0.41	0.11	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
100 nm	M	0	0.14	0.27	0.45	0.14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0.08	0.39	0.41	0.11	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
150 nm	M	0	0.02	0.13	0.24	0.35	0.23	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0	0.06	0.27	0.40	0.22	0.05	0	0	0	0	0	0
200 nm	M	0	0	0.01	0.04	0.20	0.30	0.29	0.13	0.02	0.01	0	0	0
	C	0	0	0	0.04	0.19	0.34	0.28	0.12	0.02	0.01	0	0	0
250 nm	M	0	0	0	0.01	0.05	0.13	0.24	0.26	0.21	0.06	0.03	0.01	0
	C	0	0	0	0.01	0.03	0.13	0.28	0.30	0.18	0.06	0.01	0	0
300 nm	M	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.03	0.10	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.13	0.03	0.01
	C	0	0	0	0	0	0.02	0.09	0.21	0.29	0.23	0.11	0.04	0.01

Table S3 Comparison of measured and calculated extrinsic charge distributions of test particles for two studied particle chargers for the plate charger at the flow rate of 0.3 lpm  
(M: measured C: calculated).

Number of charges		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
20 nm	M	0.35	0.63	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.33	0.66	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40 nm	M	0.12	0.54	0.31	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.05	0.65	0.29	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
60 nm	M	0.01	0.25	0.47	0.23	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.01	0.28	0.57	0.14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
80 nm	M	0	0.07	0.40	0.39	0.12	0.01	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0.07	0.46	0.40	0.07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
100 nm	M	0	0.01	0.23	0.41	0.28	0.07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0.02	0.21	0.48	0.25	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
150 nm	M	0	0	0	0.02	0.09	0.31	0.35	0.17	0.04	0.01	0.01	0	0	0
	C	0	0	0.01	0.09	0.33	0.38	0.16	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0
200 nm	M	0	0	0	0	0.02	0.02	0.21	0.32	0.26	0.12	0.03	0.02	0	0
	C	0	0	0	0.02	0.04	0.19	0.34	0.28	0.11	0.02	0	0	0	0
250 nm	M	0	0	0	0	0	0.06	0.09	0.24	0.27	0.23	0.07	0.03	0.01	0
	C	0	0	0	0	0	0.02	0.10	0.24	0.32	0.22	0.08	0.02	0	0
300 nm	M	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.15	0.24	0.25	0.17	0.08	0.03
	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.05	0.15	0.27	0.27	0.17	0.06	0.02

Table S4 Comparison of measured and calculated extrinsic charge distributions of test particles for two studied particle chargers for the tube charger at the flow rate of 0.6 lpm  
(M: measured C: calculated).

Number of charges		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
20 nm	M	0.40	0.58	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.39	0.60	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40 nm	M	0.14	0.57	0.27	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.18	0.73	0.09	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
60 nm	M	0.02	0.29	0.48	0.17	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.01	0.35	0.53	0.10	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
80 nm	M	0	0.12	0.40	0.33	0.14	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.01	0.12	0.50	0.33	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
100 nm	M	0	0.07	0.27	0.39	0.16	0.10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0.03	0.29	0.47	0.19	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
150 nm	M	0	0	0.05	0.15	0.34	0.29	0.10	0.06	0.01	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0	0.02	0.16	0.38	0.32	0.10	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0
200 nm	M	0	0	0.01	0.02	0.12	0.26	0.28	0.21	0.08	0.02	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0	0	0.01	0.09	0.27	0.35	0.21	0.06	0.01	0	0	0	0
250 nm	M	0	0	0	0	0.02	0.07	0.15	0.27	0.24	0.13	0.08	0.02	0.02	0
	C	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.05	0.17	0.30	0.28	0.14	0.04	0.01	0	0
300 nm	M	0	0	0	0	0	0.02	0.03	0.09	0.23	0.25	0.22	0.12	0.03	0.01
	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.03	0.10	0.23	0.29	0.21	0.10	0.03	0.01

Table S5 Comparison of measured and calculated extrinsic charge distributions of test particles for two studied particle chargers for the tube charger at the flow rate of 0.3 lpm  
(M: measured C: calculated).

Number of charges		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
20 nm	M	0.17	0.79	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.14	0.82	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40 nm	M	0.02	0.44	0.47	0.07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0.01	0.46	0.50	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
60 nm	M	0	0.18	0.53	0.28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0.08	0.57	0.32	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
80 nm	M	0	0.01	0.23	0.51	0.22	0.02	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0.01	0.22	0.54	0.21	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
100 nm	M	0	0	0.10	0.33	0.44	0.13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0	0.04	0.33	0.46	0.15	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
150 nm	M	0	0	0	0.01	0.10	0.33	0.38	0.14	0.02	0.01	0.01	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0	0	0.01	0.09	0.34	0.38	0.15	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0
200 nm	M	0	0	0	0	0	0.02	0.13	0.32	0.33	0.16	0.04	0	0	0	0
	C	0	0	0	0	0	0.02	0.13	0.32	0.33	0.16	0.04	0	0	0	0
250 nm	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.04	0.14	0.29	0.30	0.16	0.05	0.01	0
	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.03	0.14	0.29	0.30	0.16	0.05	0.01	0
300 nm	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.08	0.13	0.29	0.28	0.15	0.07
	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.05	0.15	0.27	0.27	0.16	0.05



## Appendix F. Fitted Gaussian functions for measured extrinsic particle charge distributions

Small plate charger at the flow rate of 0.3 lpm:

$$f(d_p, q) = [0.3071 + 0.7591 \exp(-1.5285 / Kn)] \exp\left\{-0.5 \left[ \frac{q - (2.0693 / Kn - 0.0261)}{\ln(1.5874 + 0.6235 / Kn)} \right]^2 \right\}$$

(S1)

Small tube charger at the flow rate of 0.3 lpm:

$$f(d_p, q) = [0.3287 + 0.6754 \exp(-1.2000 / Kn)] \exp\left\{-0.5 \left[ \frac{q - (2.4828 / Kn - 0.0291)}{\ln(1.5766 + 0.4900 / Kn)} \right]^2 \right\}$$

(S2)