



Supplement of

Fossil-dominated secondary organic aerosol (SOA) formation in coastal China: size-divergent pathways of aqueous Fenton reactions versus gas-phase volatile organic compound (VOC) autoxidation

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Text S1: More details of the source apportionment of WSOC by PMF modeling

The data matrices and error matrix of soluble organic carbon (WSOC), organic oxygen (WSOO), CO_2^+ , C_4H_9^+ , and nss-K^+ for a total of 160 samples (16 sets \times 10 stages) were input into the PMF model. The error matrix was processed according to the signal-to-noise ratio in the ToF-ACSM measurements. Nss-K^+ and CO_2^+ were included in the PMF modeling as tracers of primary biomass-burning organic aerosols (BBOA) and oxygenated organic aerosols (OOA), and C_4H_9^+ is a tracer of primary hydrocarbon-like organic aerosols (HOA) or exists in less oxidized organic aerosols as the oxidation product of HOA (Canagaratna et al., 2007; Cao et al., 2018; He et al., 2022; Huang et al., 2020). Two to five factors were tested for modeling, and the three-factor output (base run, $Q_{\text{true}}/Q_{\text{exp}}=1.01$) was found to be the most reasonable solution to explain all identified factor profiles, as will be discussed later; additionally, the solutions with more than three factors did not produce any new meaningful results for WSOC. The scaled residuals exhibited a generally symmetrical distribution between -3 and +3 as well. Moreover, there was also a strong overall correlation between the total factor concentrations reconstructed by the PMF model and the total mass concentrations of the measured species (Figure S4). All three factors were successfully mapped in 100% of the bootstrap (BS) runs, and no factor swaps were observed in the displacement (DISP) test. The absence of swaps indicates that the PMF results are sufficiently robust (Table S1). The derived EV values of the three-factor solution are shown in Figure S2, where the O/C ratio of each factor was calculated based on the WSOO/WSOC ratio for the factor. The nss-K^+ was allocated to factor 1, and the O/C ratio of this factor was 0.53; therefore, factor 1 was identified as biomass-burning organic carbon (BBOC). Factor 2 was identified as the more oxidized OOC (MO-OOC) due to its very high O/C ratio (1.85) and the predominant EV of CO_2^+ . Almost all C_4H_9^+ were allocated to factor 3 and its moderate O/C (0.85); therefore, factor 3 was identified as the less oxidized oxygenated

organic carbon (LO-OOC), which is a reasonable result considering that LO-OOC can be partly formed by the oxidation of HOA (Cao et al., 2018). Therefore, it is reasonable to have the three-factor solution above as the most reasonable solution for size-resolved WSOC source apportionment at the study site.

Text S2: The experimental details for the ^{14}C measurements

Equal amounts of water extract of the same stages of MOUDI were combined and concentrated to less than 2 mL by a rotary evaporator and then a freeze drier, and finally titrated onto a quartz filter and placed in a desiccator to dry naturally. The dried filters were used to make graphite samples using the graphitization line at the Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, CAS through the hydrogen and zinc reduction method(Xu et al., 2007), and then graphite samples were measured with a compact accelerator mass spectrometry (NEC, National Electrostatics Corporation, USA) at the Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, CAS. AMS calibration was performed using standards (Oxalic Acid Standards I and II) and blanks. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value was obtained during AMS measurements and applied to correct the ^{14}C measurements for isotopic fractionation. The fraction modern (f_{modern}) was determined by comparing the measured $^{14}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ ratio in a sample with that in a modern standard (NBS Oxalic Acid I in AD 1950). All of the reported f_{modern} values were corrected for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ fractionation and for ^{14}C decay over the time period between 1950 and the year of measurement and more technical details can be found in the literatures (Zhang et al., 2019; Zhu et al., 2015).

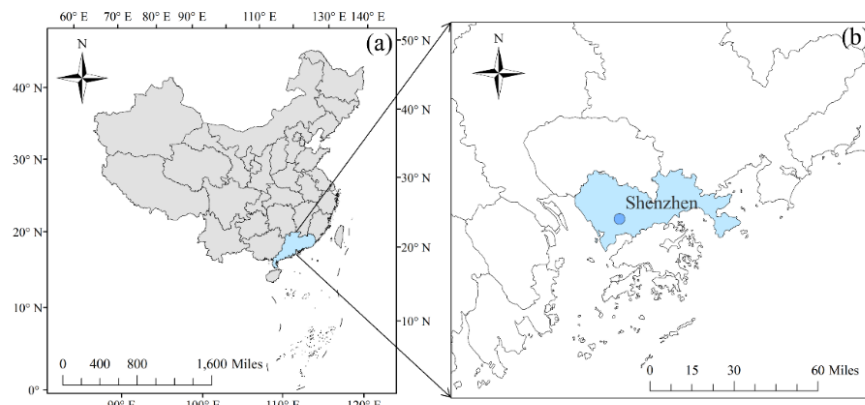


Figure S1. The map of the sampling site in southern China. The blue origin represents the sampling site.

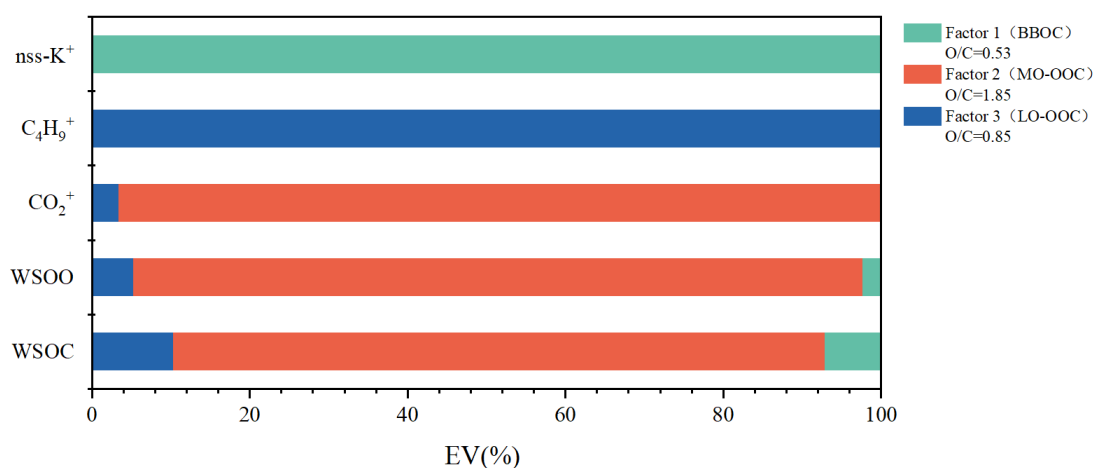


Figure S2. The distribution of EV values for the three-factor solution based on PMF.

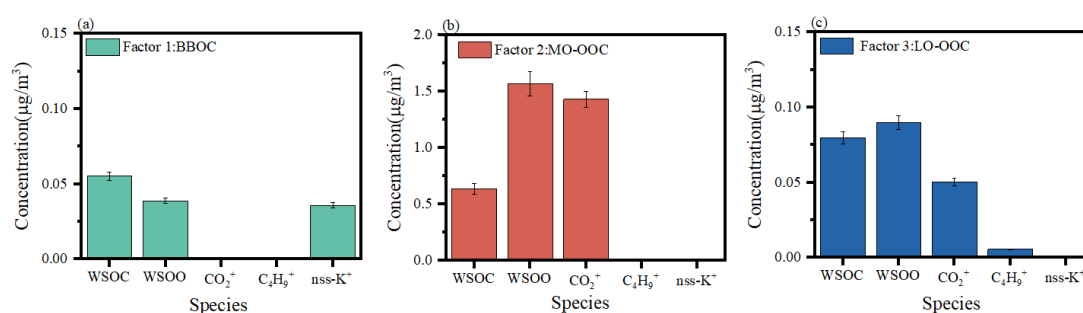


Figure S3. The concentrations of species with standard deviations for the three-factor solution resolved in the PMF analysis.

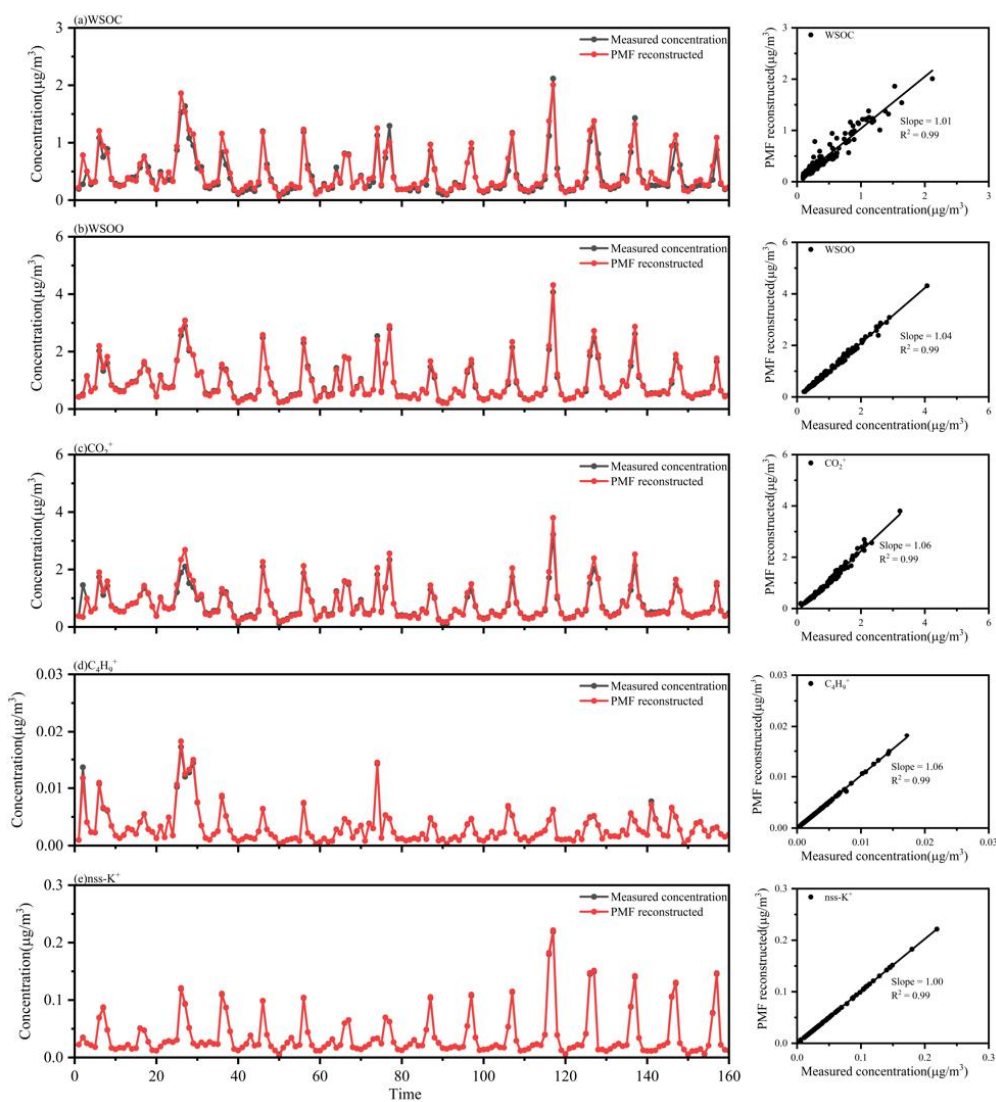


Figure S4. Comparison between the measured total mass of species and the PMF-reconstructed total mass of sources for WSOC(a), WSOO(b), CO_2^+ (c), C_4H_9^+ (d), and nss-K^+ (e).

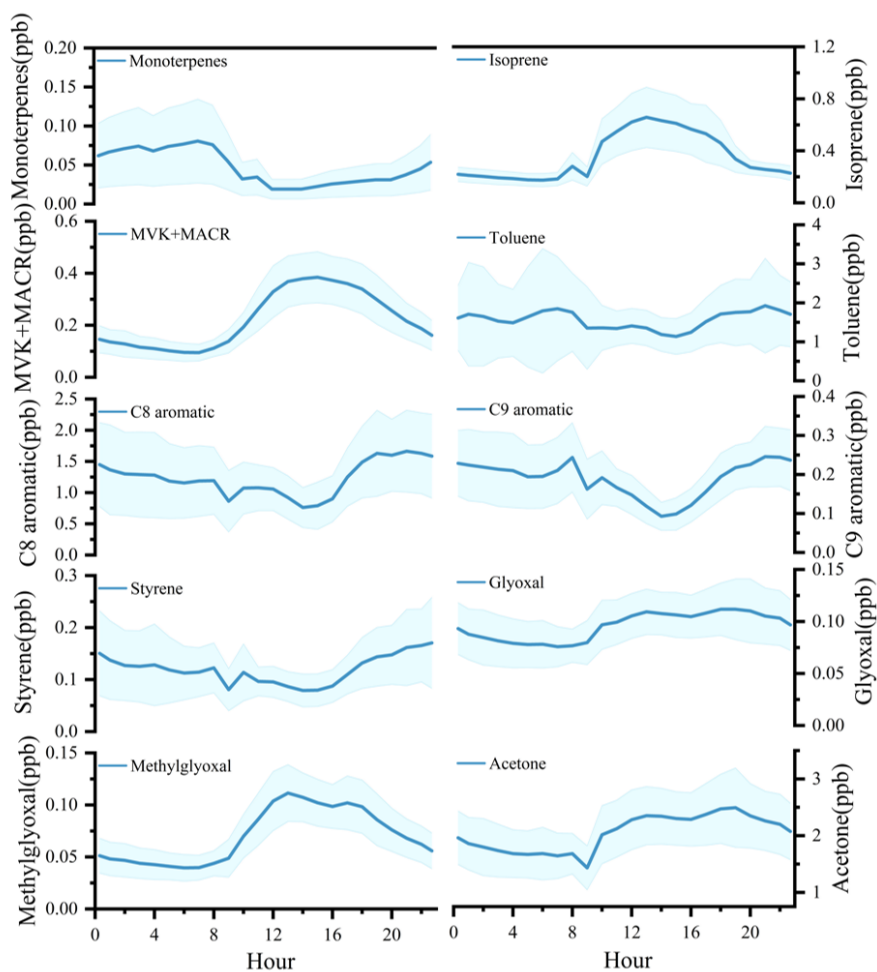


Figure S5. Diurnal variations of 10 selected VOCs during the campaign. Black lines and blue shading represent the mean and standard deviation, respectively.

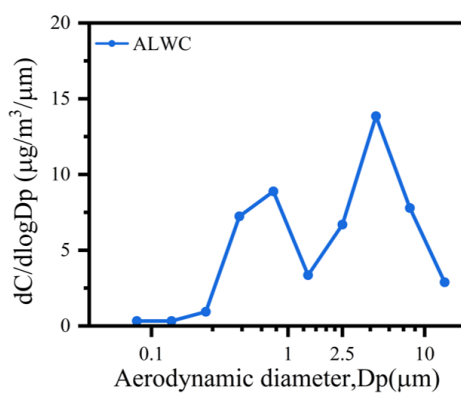


Figure S6. Particle size distribution of ALWC.

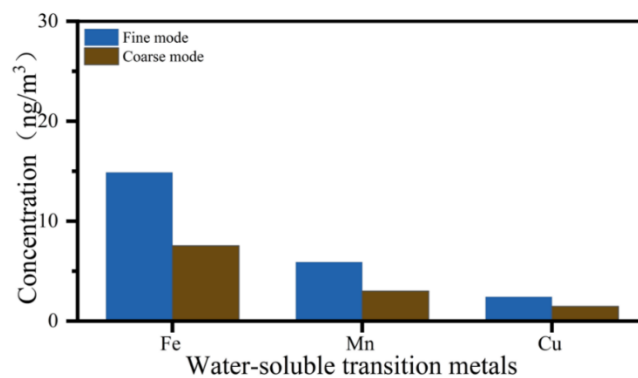


Figure S7. Water-soluble transition metals in the fine and coarse mode.

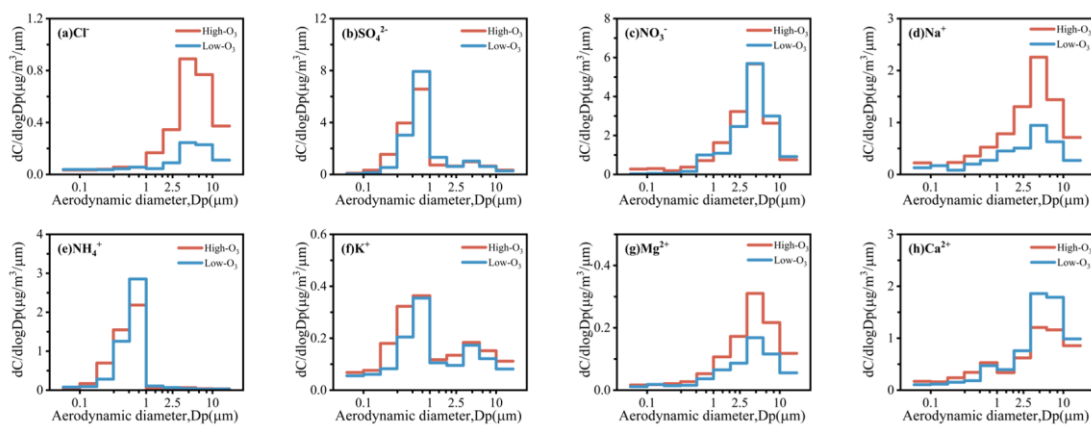


Figure S8. Particle size distribution of inorganic ions during different periods.

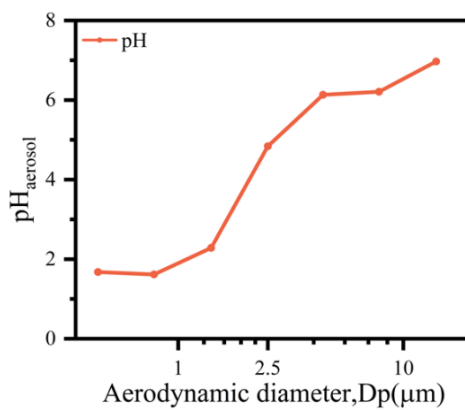


Figure S9. Particle size distribution of $\text{pH}_{\text{aerosol}}$.

Table S1. Diagnostic parameters of BS and DISP error estimates of three factors of source analytic results of PMF model.

| diagnostics | Diagnostic parameters | 3 factors |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| BS diagnostics | % BS mapping | 100% |
| | % Unmapped | 0 |
| | Error Code | 0 |
| DISP diagnostics | Largest Decrease in Q | 0 |
| | %dQ | <0.1% |
| | Swaps by Factor | 0 |

Table S2. Molecular formula, uncertainty and limits of detection (LOD) of the measured VOCs species.

| Species | Molecular formula | m/z | Uncertainty | LOD |
|---------------|--|--------|-------------|-------|
| Monoterpenes | C ₁₀ H ₁₆ | 136.23 | 9.7% | 0.017 |
| Isoprene | C ₅ H ₈ | 68.06 | 5.5% | 0.030 |
| MVK+MACR | C ₄ H ₆ O | 71.05 | 6.1% | 0.034 |
| Toluene | C ₇ H ₈ | 92.06 | 3.2% | 0.090 |
| C8 aromatic | C ₈ H ₁₀ | 107.13 | 4.8% | 0.009 |
| C9 aromatic | C ₉ H ₁₂ | 121.15 | 6.9% | 0.030 |
| Styrene | C ₈ H ₈ | 104.15 | 5.3% | 0.021 |
| Glyoxal | C ₂ H ₂ O ₂ | 58.04 | 8.8% | 0.017 |
| Methylglyoxal | C ₃ H ₄ O ₂ | 72.06 | 4.4% | 0.039 |
| Acetone | C ₃ H ₆ O | 58.04 | 2.3% | 0.150 |

Table S3. Summary of mass concentrations of gaseous pollutants (SO₂, NO_x, O₃), PM compositions (PM₁, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀) and meteorological parameters (RH, Temperature (T), WS) during different periods according to this study.

| Species | Entire study | High-O ₃ period | Low-O ₃ period |
|--|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| O ₃ (µg/m ³) | 68.26 | 96.52 | 67.13 |
| NO _x (µg/m ³) | 29.20 | 20.74 | 27.70 |
| SO ₂ (µg/m ³) | 6.02 | 6.37 | 6.13 |
| PM ₁ (µg/m ³) | 17.09 | 14.99 | 14.96 |
| PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³) | 25.21 | 21.73 | 22.76 |
| PM ₁₀ (µg/m ³) | 44.10 | 43.78 | 41.35 |
| RH (%) | 61.27 | 58.25 | 72.83 |
| T (°C) | 20.0 | 24.4 | 24.2 |
| WS (m/s) | 0.9 | 1.2 | 0.6 |

97 **Table S4.** The correlation coefficients between OOC and typical inorganic ions in the campaign. *

98 indicates a significance level of 95% ($p < 0.05$).

| | SO ₄ ²⁻ | NH ₄ ⁺ | K ⁺ | NO ₃ ⁻ | Cl ⁻ | Ca ²⁺ |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Fine mode OOC | 0.85* | 0.80* | 0.81* | 0.47 | 0.53 | 0.34 |
| Coarse mode OOC | 0.15 | 0.26 | 0.27 | 0.10 | 0.16 | -0.30 |

99 **Table S5.** The correlation coefficients between OOC and water-soluble metals in the campaign. *

100 indicates a significance level of 95% ($p < 0.05$).

| | Cu | Fe | Mn |
|-----------------|------|-------|------|
| Fine mode OOC | 0.31 | 0.82* | 0.55 |
| Coarse mode OOC | 0.64 | 0.57 | 0.40 |

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