

Received: 25 June 2013 – Accepted: 27 June 2013 – Published: 5 July 2013

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Published by Copernicus Publications on behalf of the European Geosciences Union.

ACPD

13, 17901–17952, 2013

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study using
complementary MS
techniques**

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Abstract

The chemical composition of submicron aerosol during the comprehensive field campaign HUMPPA-COPEC 2010 at Hyytiälä, Finland is presented. The focus lies on on-line measurements of organic acids, which was achieved by using atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI) ion trap mass spectrometry (IT-MS). These measurements were accompanied by Aerosol Mass Spectrometry (AMS) measurements and Fourier-Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) of filter samples, all showing a high degree of correlation. The soft ionization mass spectrometer alternated between gas phase measurements solely and measuring the sum of gas- and particle-phase.

The AMS measurements of C, H and O elemental composition show that the aerosol during the campaign was highly oxidized, which appears reasonable due to high and prolonged radiation during the boreal summer measurement period as well as the long transport times of some of the aerosol. In order to contrast ambient and laboratory aerosol, an average organic acid pattern, measured by APCI-IT-MS during the campaign, was compared to terpene ozonolysis products in a laboratory reaction chamber. Identification of single organic acid species remains a major challenge due to the complexity of the boreal forest aerosol. Unambiguous online species identification was attempted by the combinatorial approach of identifying unique fragments in the MS²-mode of standards, and then comparing these results with MS² field spectra. During the campaign, unique fragments of limonene derived organic acids (limonic acid and ketolimononic acid) and of the biomass burning tracer vanillic acid were detected. Other specific fragments (neutral loss of 28 Da) in the MS² suggest the occurrence of semi-aldehydes.

Furthermore, an approach to determine the average molecular weight of the aerosol is presented. The campaign average organic molecular weight was determined to be 300 g mol⁻¹. However, a plume of aged biomass burning aerosol, arriving at Hyytiälä from Russia, contained organic compounds up to 800 Da ($\overline{MW}_{om} \approx 450 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$), showing that the average molecular weight can vary significantly. The high measurement

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ing soft and hard ionization techniques to gain new insights into aerosol composition and partitioning.

2 Experimental

2.1 Field site description

5 From 12 July to 12 August 2010, the large field intensive HUMPPA-COPEC 2010 was carried out at the Station for Measuring Forest Ecosystem – Atmosphere Relations (SMEAR II) at Hyytiälä in Finland. During this period, the continuous long term on-site measurements were extended by a large suite of instruments for measuring gas and particle-phase chemistry (Williams et al., 2011). The station is located in southern
10 Finland (61°51′ N, 24°17′ E, 181 m.a.s.l.) in the middle of a ~ 50 yr old Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) stand, with homogenous Scots pine forest forming also the main larger-scale surroundings, thus representing well the boreal coniferous forest environment (Hari and Kulmala, 2005; Kulmala et al., 2001). The town nearest to SMEAR II, Orivesi (10 000 inhabitants), is situated 15 km south of the station and the city of Tampere
15 (215 000 inhabitants) is located approximately 50 km SW from the station. The city of Helsinki lies 200 km to the south of the station and St. Petersburg approximately 350 km south-east.

2.2 Field campaign instrumentation

2.2.1 On-line Aerosol Mass Spectrometry

20 Two online and collocated (same inlet) Aerosol Mass Spectrometers were measuring simultaneously in the main SMEAR II cottage for detailed online chemical analysis of non-refractory sub-micron particles: (1) an Atmospheric Pressure Chemical Ionization Ion Trap Mass Spectrometer (APCI-IT-MS, Finnigan LCQ; Hoffmann et al., 2002; Kückelmann et al., 2000) in conjunction with a miniature Versatile Aerosol Concentration

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Enrichment System (mVACES, Geller et al., 2005) as described by Vogel et al. (2013) and (2) the Aerodyne's Compact Time of Flight Aerosol Mass Spectrometer (C-ToF-AMS, Drewnick et al., 2005). Filter samples for FTIR-analysis were taken at a distance of approximately 200 m from the main cottage.

Briefly, the APCI-IT-MS produces primary ions by corona discharge at atmospheric pressure. In the negative ion mode, gaseous compounds having a higher gas-phase acidity become ionized by proton transfer reaction with O_2^- ions, and are then mass analyzed by the quadrupole ion trap. Prior to the discharge region source, particulate compounds become vaporized by a heating unit. The measurable compound classes are mainly restricted to organic molecules including a carboxylic functional group (organic acids), sulphate and organic molecules with a sulphate group (e.g. organosulfates). The class of nitrophenols can be detected in the negative mode as well. Organic compounds, which show fast thermal decomposition, were measured with a much lower sensitivity than other biogenic acids. The spectrum was recorded between m/z 50 to 500 and one recorded spectrum per minute was averaged from 200 microscans.

The Aerosol Mass Spectrometer (Aerodyne Research Inc., Billerica, MA, USA) is an instrument capable of directly measuring the chemical composition of aerosols using time-of-flight mass spectrometry. The AMS is widely used and its operation principle and data analysis methods have been described in detail elsewhere (Canagaratna et al. (2007), general information on AMS; Drewnick et al. (2005), a description of the C-ToF-AMS variant used in this study). Analysis of the AMS data has been described by e.g. Allan et al. (2003, 2004), and the analysis procedure during HUMPPA-COPEC 2010 and the general AMS data outlook during the campaign by Vogel et al. (2013).

In short, the AMS uses an aerodynamic lens to form the sample aerosol into a particle beam. This beam is then modulated by a beam chopper and directed to a particle time-of-flight (PToF) chamber for size distribution measurement. After the PToF chamber, the sample aerosol is thermally vaporized, resulting in the non-refractory aerosol particle components (i.e. those vaporizing in 600 °C or less) transforming to gas-phase in the ionization region. The gaseous molecules are subsequently ionized via 70 eV

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electron ionization, forming both positive and negative ions. The positive polarity ions are selected and led to the time-of-flight mass analyzer. The analysis happens in real time, and sample is continuously collected via the inlet, while the inside of the instrument is kept in high vacuum by a differential pumping system consisting of five turbo-molecular pumps.

The time of flight data from the mass analyzer is inverted to yield m/z mass spectra, based on which the observed signal amounts are assigned to various chemical species. Using calibration data, the amount of signal is then quantified to give out particle mass concentrations in micrograms per cubic meters for organic compounds, sulfates, nitrates, ammonia compounds and chlorides.

2.2.2 Off-line FTIR filter measurements

Submicron particles were collected 4 m.a.g.l. on 37 mm Teflon filters (Pall Inc., 37 mm diameter, 1.0 μm pore size Teflon membrane), downstream of a 1 μm sharp-cut cyclone (SCC 2.229 PM_{10} , BGI, Inc.) (Corrigan et al., 2013). The aerosol was dried to less than approximately 75 % RH prior to reaching the cyclone. Filter collection times varied from 6, 9, and 12 h, including duplicate 24 h filters, and were based on real-time OM values measured by the C-ToF-AMS in order to maximize resolution time while staying above the detection limit. After collection, the filters were stored at 0 °C before they were analyzed in San Diego, California by a Tensor 27 spectrometer with a DTGS detector (Bruker, Billerica, MA). A peak-fitting algorithm described in Russell et al. (2009b) and Takahama et al. (2013) was used to quantify organic functional groups from the FTIR spectra. Quantified organic functional groups included: alcohol, alkane, carboxylic acid, primary amine and non-acid carbonyl. Alkene and aromatic functional groups were below the limit of quantification during the sampling period.

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2.2.3 Black carbon aethalometer

Black carbon is not detected by the AMS, as it is not vaporized at 600 °C. Therefore, a separate instrument was needed to obtain black carbon (BC) mass during the campaign. For this purpose the SMEAR II site aethalometer (Magee Scientific Corporation, Berkeley, CA 94704, USA) data was used. The instrument measures light absorption of an aerosol collector tape, at several wavelengths, to determine the mass concentration of black carbon particles. Together the AMS data on non-refractory particles and the BC data from the aethalometer form a comprehensive picture of the Hyytiälä submicron aerosol basic chemical composition.

2.3 Other

2.3.1 Laboratory experiments

In a 100 L dark continuous-flow reaction chamber (glass and Teflon), $\pm\alpha$ -pinene (Sigma-Aldrich, $\geq 99\%$) and ± 3 -carene (Fluka analytical, $\geq 98.5\%$), vaporized in an external thermal diffusion source, were mixed with app. 1 ppm of ozone (1008-RS, Dasibi Environmental Corp., Glendale, CA, USA) to produce Secondary Organic Aerosol. The aerosol from this chamber was sampled directly through an activated charcoal denuder (length ~ 0.5 m, ID ~ 0.5 cm) into the ion source of the APCI-IT-MS in order to record the online mass spectra.

To record the MS² spectra of selected authentic standards, vanillic acid (Sigma-Aldrich, $\geq 97\%$), *cis*-pinonic acid (Sigma-Aldrich, 98 %) and self-synthesized pinic acid were dissolved as 0.1 mM aqueous solutions. Out of these solutions a polydisperse aerosol was generated using a TSI 3076 atomizer. Before entering the APCI ion source, the aerosol was dried using a silica diffusion dryer. Due to the lack of a standard of 3-methyl-1,2,3-butanetricarboxylic acid, the MS² spectrum of this compound was recorded using (–)ESI-UHR-MS after LC separation of an ambient filter sample extract, collected at the Taunus Observatory, Germany.

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2.3.2 Trajectory analysis

Backward trajectories were obtained from the web based HYSPLIT model (HYbrid Single-Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory, Draxler and Rolph, 2013) which can be accessed on the NOAA Air Resources Laboratory website (<http://ready.arl.noaa.gov>) (Rolph, 2013). The length of the backward calculation was set to 96 h and the arrival height at 25 m a.g.l.

3 Results and discussion

3.1 Aerosol chemical variation and source apportionment during HUMPPA-COPEC 2010

Figure 1 displays the temporal pattern of three different particle phase measuring techniques during the HUMPPA-COPEC 2010 campaign. The blue time series in the top panel represents the total counts of organic acids in the particle phase, which is the sum of the signal intensities between m/z 150 and m/z 500, measured by APCI-IT-MS. The green time series shows OA measured by the AMS, which ranged from below detection limit (day 204) to $23 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (day 210). As can be seen, AMS organics and APCI-IT-MS show a similar pattern throughout the campaign, both capturing days 207–209 with the highest aerosol concentrations.

In the middle panel of Fig. 1, a PMF (positive matrix factorization, see. e.g. Paatero and Tapper, 1994) solution for the AMS measurements is shown, using the solutions from Corrigan et al. (2013). The PMF analysis is one way to deconvolve the complex AMS mass spectra to yield source-specific time series and mass spectra for the different organic aerosol types. From the PMF solution space, a solution of three factors (FPEAK = -0.4) was selected, as in this solution a very clear high f43 factor (OOA-2) emerges. The FPEAK selection was based on obtaining the clearest difference in correlation profiles for the factors and auxiliary measurements (i.e. trace gases, BC, and

histories. All four spectra are averaged between 12:00 and 15:00 (UTC+2) of the respective day.

During (a) (day 199, 18 July 2010 12:00–15:00, UTC+2), the back trajectory analysis (Fig. 3) indicates that the air masses arriving at the site were coming from the SW, descending from higher altitudes over Sweden and the Baltic sea. Average submicron particulate mass (PM) during this period was $7.2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. The organic acid distribution in the particle phase shows a bimodal distribution with maxima around m/z 200 and m/z 300, respectively. The maximum at lower m/z ratios can be explained by the contribution of monoterpene derived organic acids, which are mainly measured in the range below m/z 230. We assume that the higher molecular weight compounds can be attributed to sesquiterpene oxidation products, aged oligomers of low molecular compounds (isoprene, glyoxal), dimers of monoterpene oxidation products or, most probably, a combination of these precursors. The m/z distribution in the gas phase has its maximum on m/z 183. Generally, the gas phase spectrum during a, c and d are very equally distributed. The small signals in the m/z 370–390 area are most probably cluster artifacts of smaller organic acids (e.g. 2-hydroxyterpenylic acid), as it was described by Claeys et al. (2009). Although, the air masses during (a) were coming from SW and might be influenced by Helsinki and Tampere pollution, the CO mixing ratio during this period was 103.8 ppbV, distinctly below the mean campaign CO mixing ratio of 208.5 ppbV. This suggests that the air masses are only marginally influenced by anthropogenic activities or biomass burning.

On day 204 (b) (23 July 2010 08:00–13:00, UTC+2), the sole new particle formation (NPF) event during the campaign occurred. In general, during summertime, NPF occurs quite rarely-annual variation of NPF peaks in spring and autumn (Dal Maso et al., 2007). Back trajectory analysis of this day shows that air masses were coming from the Arctic region at high altitudes, descending over the Gulf of Bothnia and then residing approximately 12 h over the Finnish boreal forest before arriving at the Hyytiälä station. Hence, clean air masses coming from the arctic region are favourable for NPF events during summertime, since the low number of pre-existing aerosol particles does

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not provide sufficient surface for condensation of low volatile species. This agrees with the observation made by Nilsson et al. (2001) who described a prevalence for NPF occurring in clean arctic air masses. Such cold air outbreaks from the arctic region form rarely during summer time. The average submicron particle phase concentration on 23 July 2010 12:00–15:00 was $0.97 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, and the nucleation event started in the morning hours. The average CO mixing ratio was 78.2 ppbV – close to the minimum CO mixing ratio (77.5 ppbV) of the campaign, which was measured in the morning hours of the same day. The average APCI-IT-MS gas phase spectrum shows a very weak signal of organic acids, e.g. on m/z 183 8700 counts – the campaign average on m/z 183 was 72 000 counts. Thus, the signal measured during (b) is only slightly above the instrumental background (~ 6700 counts, $3\times$ standard deviation (SD) of the noise signal). The particle phase signals during the NPF event are below detection limit, indicating the analytical limitations of the utilized setup.

Backtrajectory analysis of day 207 (c) (26 July 2010), indicates that air masses were coming from NE situated at low altitudes for approximately 72 h before arriving at the Hyytiälä station. Elevated CO levels (188.7 ppbV) are a hint for biomass burning influence and/or anthropogenic pollution from the St. Petersburg region. Average PM_{10} was $14.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and the average mass loading of sulphates $1.6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, both unusually high for the SMEAR II station. A bimodal distribution with two maxima at $\sim m/z$ 180–190 and m/z 280–290 appears in spectrum (c), slightly shifted towards lower m/z ratios compared to spectrum (a).

Comparing the particle phase spectra (c) and (d) reveals that higher molecular compounds account for a higher proportion of the total aerosol mass in (d) than in (c). The average spectrum in (d) was measured during day 210 – a period of strong influence from the central Russia biomass burning events in the Nidzni–Novgorod region (Konovalov et al., 2011; Portin et al., 2012). During this time (day 210, 29 July 2010) the highest aerosol mass was measured ($27.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (non-refractory aerosol, AMS), $1.9 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ black carbon (aethalometer)), accompanied by the highest temperature (32.6°C), lowest visibility and highest CO mixing ratio (437.7 ppbV). PMF analysis shows

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the highest fraction of f_{44} (OOA-1). As has been shown by Vogel et al. (2013), during this time the estimated sum of organic acids contribute more than the campaign average to the total OA mass. The O/C ratio measured by FTIR, which can be regarded as a proxy for the aerosol oxidation state, was 0.70 on this day, and thus above the average O/C ratio of the campaign (O/C = 0.56). A similar aerosol oxidation proxy for the AMS data, the ratio of signals in m/z 44 to m/z 43, also averages relatively high at 3.10 for the day in question, compared to a campaign average of 2.34. Due to the strong influence of the biomass burning, it is highly probable that the aerosol contains significant amounts of compounds which are, under normal conditions, not present in boreal forest aerosol. However, the high contribution of organic acids can be explained by the prolonged period of photochemical aging experienced by the plume before arriving at the station. The back trajectories suggest that the emitted aerosol from central Russia spent more than three days at low altitudes before arriving at Hyytiälä. During this time, biomass burning markers, like levoglucosan and other lignin derived organic compounds, can undergo strong heterogeneous oxidation and either become volatilized, oligomerized or functionalized (Kroll et al., 2011). Functionalized (e.g. carboxylic acid functionalities) compounds can then be detected in the negative ionization mode of the APCI-IT-MS, thus explaining the high fraction of organic acids. Kessler et al. (2010) illustrated the significant volatilization during the oxidation of levoglucosan. In contrast to levoglucosan, organic acids show little mass volatilization during heterogeneous OH oxidation, since the loss of carbon is roughly equivalent to the increase of oxygen (Kessler et al., 2012). Therefore it can be concluded, that the proportion of organic acids in biomass burning aerosol increases during aging not only due to heterogeneous oxidation of the aerosol constituents but also due to the oxidative volatilization of other non-acidic compounds. Lastly, it should be noted that the high temperature and the biomass burning events during the summer 2010 can be regarded as an extreme anomaly, compared to average boreal forest summer conditions (see Williams et al., 2011).

3.2 Monoterpene oxidation products during HUMPPA-COPEC 2010 compared to simulation chamber ozonolysis of α -pinene and Δ^3 -carene

A detailed knowledge of the specific VOC emission pattern of the boreal forest helps to understand the chemistry and the composition of the boreal forest aerosol. Therefore measurements of ambient VOC mixing ratios, using Adsorptive Preconcentration followed by Thermal Desorption-Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (TD-GC-MS), were carried out during the HUMPPA-COPEC 2010 campaign. Those measurements showed that α -pinene, Δ^3 -carene, β -pinene and isoprene were the most abundant biogenic compounds in ambient air ranging from a few pptV to over one ppbV (Yassaa et al., 2012).

Additionally, laboratory α -pinene and Δ^3 -carene dark ozonolysis experiments were conducted in the laboratory for comparison with the ambient APCI-IT-MS data. The ambient spectrum and the laboratory spectrum shown in Fig. 4, focus on the range between m/z 160 and m/z 240, which includes the most important terpenoid acids. The ambient data are a three hour average of 26 July 2010 12:00–15:00 (UTC+2). The partitioning of specific compounds between gas- and particle-phase during the campaign will be discussed in Sect. 3.5 – this section focuses on the discussion of the chemical composition.

Three main conclusions can be drawn from the pattern of the ambient mass spectra (Fig. 4, middle panel):

1. The regular pattern of $\Delta m/z$ 14 between the major signals in the particle phase can be attributed to an increasing number of CH_2 groups in the carbon backbone. The gas phase does not show this $\Delta m/z$ 14 pattern as clearly as the particle phase.
2. The low signals measured on even m/z ratios suggest that only small amounts of nitrogen containing organic acids appear in the mass range between 150 and 500 Da. The weak signals occurring on even m/z ratios can be attributed to ^{13}C -

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containing molecules since the pattern follows the odd m/z pattern and ratios are within the expected intensity distribution.

3. By comparing the gas- and particle-phase signal distribution in one peak cluster (e.g. from m/z 176 to m/z 192), it becomes obvious that the maximum particle phase signals are shifted towards higher masses.

The last observation can be explained by a different average carbon oxidation (\overline{OS}_C) state of the respective compounds in one peak cluster, meaning that the maximum gas phase compounds (e.g. all compounds on m/z 183) are on average less oxidized than the maximum particle phase compounds (e.g. all compounds on m/z 187). Since \overline{OS}_C is strongly related to volatility, an approach to determine \overline{OS}_C from the measured ratio between the particle- and the gas-phase signal (Supplement) resulted in values between -1 and 0 (Fig. 4, top panel). A clear repetitive character of an increasing oxidation state in the three peak clusters $< m/z$ 206 can be seen. As it has recently been shown by ESI-UHR-MS of filter samples from Hyytiälä, \overline{OS}_C values of single compounds in ambient aerosol from Hyytiälä fall in the range between -1 and 1 (Kourtchev et al., 2013). To which extent highly oxidized compounds ($\overline{OS}_C > 0$) contribute to the total aerosol mass and how those compounds are formed needs to be investigated in future measurements.

Comparison between the ambient gas phase spectrum (middle panel, Fig. 4) and the Δ^3 -carene- and α -pinene-ozonolysis spectrum (bottom panel, Fig. 4), shows the same number of peak clusters and that the peak cluster in the m/z 180 to 190 region is the most dominant one. The spectral pattern of both monoterpene precursors in the laboratory (Δ^3 -carene- and α -pinene) are similarly distributed, which can be explained by the fact that ozonolysis of different monoterpenes results in a highly similar product distribution (Glasius et al., 2000). Furthermore, it can be seen that the ambient gas-phase spectrum is more similar to the chamber spectrum than the ambient particle-phase spectrum. This is most probably because the aerosol in the chamber does not undergo the same degree of heterogeneous aging as the ambient aerosol.

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Furthermore, due to the unit mass resolution of the instrument used, it cannot be ruled out that other non-isomeric compounds contribute to the m/z 185 signal as well, e.g. undecanoic acid ($C_{11}H_{22}O_2$), or organic acids with the elemental composition of e.g. $C_{10}H_{18}O_3$ or $C_8H_{10}O_5$. However, Warnke et al. (2006) showed by HPLC-(–)ESI-MS of filter samples from Hyytiälä, that 3-caric acid and *cis*-pinic acid are the most abundant organic acids on m/z 185 in the particle phase of the boreal forest aerosol, which is in agreement with the previous assumption that α -pinene and Δ^3 -carene are the major monoterpene precursors at Hyytiälä.

Despite the similarity between ambient and laboratory SOA, some minor signals only appear in the ambient spectrum, e.g. m/z 177, m/z 191, m/z 193, m/z 207. To our knowledge organic acids of these molecular masses have neither been found in ambient filter samples nor have been predicted by chemical mechanism models. Either these signals are real, emerging from unstable compounds, which cannot be captured by filter measurements, or these signals are fragmentation or cluster artifacts generated during the online ionization process.

The ambient particle phase spectrum in Fig. 4 (middle panel, blue bars) shows the strongest signals on m/z 173, m/z 187, m/z 201, m/z 215 and m/z 229 – a regular pattern of $\Delta m/z$ 14 occurs. In the following discussion we want to focus on m/z 187, m/z 203 and m/z 231, since compounds with a molecular weight related to these m/z ratios have been described in the literature. As mentioned above, the higher partitioning of m/z 187 and m/z 203 to the particle phase when compared to m/z 183 and m/z 199 can be explained by a higher oxidation state. Compared to the rapid formation of first generation acids (m/z 183, e.g. *cis*-pinonic acid) in chamber experiments, further atmospheric oxidation towards higher oxidized compounds takes minutes to hours. This is the reason why higher oxidized compounds are not observed in the SOA chamber spectrum as strong as in the ambient spectrum.

Claeys et al. (2009) reported the measurement of 2-hydroxyterpenylic acid (MW 188, $C_8H_{12}O_5$) which was present in ambient $PM_{2.5}$ filter samples from a mixed coniferous/deciduous forest 12 km NE of Antwerp, Belgium. Since this compound is not

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very abundant in chamber generated α -pinene SOA, Claeys et al. suggested that it is formed via oxidation of the first generation terpenylic acid. The high signal in the particle phase at m/z 187 might suggest that the compounds contributing to this signal are less volatile than e.g. the dicarboxylic acid *cis*-pinic acid (m/z 185). However, 2-hydroxyterpenylic acid is most probably more volatile than *cis*-pinic acid as it possesses one carbon atom and one carboxylic acid group less. Another identified carboxylic acid that would appear at m/z 187 is ketolimonic acid ($C_8H_{12}O_5$), which consists also of one carbon atom less than *cis*-pinic acid, but which contains two carboxylic acid functional groups and one keto-function (Jaoui et al., 2006; Rossignol et al., 2012). Thus, ketolimonic acid is approximately one order of magnitude less volatile than *cis*-pinic acid and therefore might reasonably explain the high signal of m/z 187 in the particle phase. Furthermore, Yasmeen et al. (2011) suggested hydroxylated norpinic acid as a possible compound at m/z 187, however, unambiguous identification has not been made so far.

The signal m/z 203 can tentatively be assigned to the compound 3-methyl-1,2,3-butanetricarboxylic acid ($C_8H_{12}O_6$, MBTCA), which forms during aerosol aging by gas phase OH-radical induced oxidation of *cis*-pinonic acid (Szmigielski et al., 2007; Müller et al., 2012). Kourtchev et al. (2008) measured MBTCA concentrations based on filter sampling/LC-MS measurements in the range from 1.6 to 99.3 $ng\ m^{-3}$. The maximum value of m/z 203 during the HUMPPA-COPEC campaign was measured on day 210. This confirms that MBTCA can be regarded as an aerosol aging marker for biogenic SOA, since the backtrajectory on day 210 indicates several days of intensive photochemical aging over the boreal forest. MBTCA has a high O/C ratio (0.75) and is expected to partition almost completely to the particle phase. Nevertheless, a significant amount of m/z 203 was measured in the gas phase. Possible explanations for this observation are isobaric interference of other more volatile organic compounds (see Sect. 3.3) and a biased partitioning due to an amorphous aerosol phase state (see Sect. 3.5).

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In chamber studies of α -pinene and limonene ozonolysis, the signal m/z 231 has been described by Warscheid and Hoffmann (2002), who suggest several highly oxidized products with the composition of $C_{10}H_{16}O_6$. Claeys et al. (2009) propose diaterpenylic acid acetate as a SOA tracer for α -pinene photooxidation, which has been measured in daytime $PM_{2.5}$ ambient aerosol. Diaterpenylic acid acetate has also been identified as an oxidation product of 1,8-cineol (Iinuma et al., 2009).

To conclude this section, it is worth mentioning that the structural identification becomes more complex with increasing molecular mass and therefore it cannot be concluded with certainty which exact compound contributes to which extent to the total signal at a specific m/z ratio. However, having the possibility to perform in-situ MS^2 experiments of one selected m/z ratio, which can comprise several different compounds, enables identification of the fragmentation markers, and helps to elucidate the chemical structure of unknown compounds.

3.3 In-situ MS^2 measurements

Figure 5 shows the major neutral losses from four different m/z ratios measured in the gas and particle phase during the HUMPPA-COPEC 2010 campaign compared to the neutral losses of standard compounds of the same masses (m/z 167: vanillic acid, m/z 183: pinonic acid, m/z 185: pinic acid and m/z 203: MBTCA). The fragmentation was achieved by using the CID (collision induced dissociation) mode, which briefly means that the target molecules of one m/z ratio were isolated and subsequently fragmented by collisions with helium atoms inside the ion trap. The measurements were carried out on 22 July 2010 13:20–15:20 (UTC+2) – air masses during this period came from the south-west. The experimental setup did not allow for measuring the fragmentation pattern of particle phase compounds exclusively. MS^2 -fragments with a relative intensity less than 10 % (of the base peak) are attributed to the “other” bin. Specific fragments which can be attributed to structural elements were included despite

low intensities (e.g. 15 Da loss due to a CH₃ radical cleavage). In the Supplement all measured MS² raw spectra are depicted.

The difference between online MS² described here and offline MS² spectra after chromatographic separation is that the online technique generates fragments of all isobaric compounds present, whereas the offline technique generates fragments which can unambiguously be assigned to one compound (assuming a complete chromatographic separation). Yasmeen et al. (2011) recently published an overview of MSⁿ spectra of several terpenic acids using HPLC-(–)ESI-MSⁿ measurements of filter extracts (selected isobaric compounds at *m/z* 183, *m/z* 185, *m/z* 187 and *m/z* 203). These spectra allow for unambiguous differentiation between different biogenic organic acids. Typically, organic acids show the neutral loss of water (18 Da) and CO₂ (44 Da) – which can be observed during both: online- and offline MS². However, other neutral losses which are more characteristic can help to confirm the identity of known compounds or support the structural elucidation of unknown compounds. In general, the MS²-field spectra show many more fragments than during online MS²-studies of terpene ozonolysis chamber experiments (Vogel et al., 2013) or after chromatographic separation (Yasmeen et al., 2011).

Among others, one organic acid which contributes to the signal at *m/z* 167 is vanillic acid (C₈H₈O₄). Vanillic acid has been described, among many other methoxyphenols, as a biomass burning tracer (Simoneit et al., 1993), which can be directly emitted during burning processes or formed through heterogeneous reaction of coniferyl alcohol and ozone (Net et al., 2011). Justesen (2001) reported that the loss of 15 Da during MS² is a common neutral loss from methoxy-phenolic structures and can be attributed to the cleavage of a CH₃-radical from the methoxy group. The standard MS²-spectrum of vanillic acid shows a stronger loss of the 15 Da fragment, suggesting that other organic acids than vanillic acid contribute to the signal measured on *m/z* 167.

Offline MS² spectra of the compounds on *m/z* 183, *cis*-pinonic acid and *cis*-caronic acid, show that the strongest neutral loss is 44 Da and 72 Da, respectively (Yasmeen et al., 2011). Both neutral losses are observed in the online-MS² spectrum, especially

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the loss of 72 Da contributes substantially, compared to the fragmentation pattern of other m/z ratios. However, the 72 Da fragment does not occur in the standard MS² spectrum of *cis*-pinonic acid, supporting the fact that the 72 Da fragment originates from *cis*-caronic acid. This indicates a high abundance of *cis*-caronic acid in the ambient aerosol. Furthermore, Yasmeen et al. did show by MS³ analysis of the fragment ions m/z 139 and m/z 111 that the strongest ion formed from both acids was measured on m/z 57. This signal appears in the online measurements already during MS² (loss of 126 Da). This particular fragment was not measured at other m/z ratios and therefore can be regarded as an unambiguous marker fragment for the identification of *cis*-pinonic and *cis*-caronic acid. The neutral loss of 28 Da in the field experiment has not been described in the literature- possible fragments are CO or C₂H₄. The authentic standard *cis*-pinonic acid shows a small signal of the neutral loss of 15 Da, however, a reasonable fragmentation scheme explaining this fragment would be speculative.

The most pronounced neutral losses of m/z 185 are 18 Da and 44 Da. Furthermore, the MS² pattern shows a strong ion signal at m/z 97 (loss of 88 Da) which can be regarded as an evidence for a dicarboxylic acid (cleavage of 2 CO₂). This seems reasonable since *cis*-pinic acid, *cis*-caric acid and limonic acid are dicarboxylic acids. Surprisingly, only limonic acid shows the signal m/z 97 in offline MS² (Yasmeen et al., 2011). As can be seen in Fig. 5, the neutral losses of *cis*-pinic acid are mainly water and CO₂. However, another unique fragment in the ambient MS² appears on m/z 115 (neutral loss of 70 Da) – it can be observed online and offline. Yasmeen et al. suggested a McLafferty type rearrangement of ketolimonic acid resulting in the ion at m/z 115. This indicates that limonic acid and ketolimonic acid are significantly abundant in the ambient aerosol at Hyytiälä. The loss of a neutral 28 Da fragment from the molecular ion m/z 185 might be attributed to CO, and therefore a possible indication for semi-aldehydes, e.g. 4-hydroxypinalic-3-acid (Jaoui and Kamens, 2003) or the Δ³-carene derivative OH-3-caralic acid (Ma et al., 2009). Unfortunately, these compounds are not available commercially. One possible fragmentation mechanism of OH-3-caralic acid is proposed in Fig. 6, giving an explanation for the neutral loss of 28 Da. All of the pro-

posed fragments in Fig. 6 can be found in the online MS² spectrum of m/z 185, some of them only at low intensities (see Supplement for the MS² spectrum of m/z 185). If the semialdehydes partition to a high degree to the gas phase or if oxidation during filter sampling occurs, it can be explained why the neutral loss of 28 Da has up to now not been observed in MS² studies of ambient filter measurements.

The MS² fragmentation pattern of m/z 203 shows the strongest loss of water compared to the pattern of the other m/z ratios. Due to the lack of a MBTCA standard, the shown reference MS² spectrum refers to the measurement of an ambient filter after chromatographic separation. However, the spectra shown are consistent with the observations made by Yasmeen et al., where two different MW 204 compounds in ambient nighttime aerosol show the ion m/z 185 during MS². Offline MS³ from MBTCA shows a weak signal on m/z 115 which corresponds to the loss of two carboxylic acid groups, which was also observed during the ambient online MS² measurement of m/z 203 (neutral loss of 88 Da). The loss of 28 Da indicates that further unidentified organic acids might contribute to the signal on m/z 203.

3.4 Average OA molecular weight

Since a soft ionization process is used, which in general generates molecular ions, it is obvious to use this information to determine the average molecular weight of the organic fraction \overline{MW}_{om} in the particle phase. The average molecular weight is of particular importance for the calculation of gas-to-particle partitioning coefficients, as it was recently stressed by Pankow (2011).

The average molecular weight in the particulate phase can be described by the number average molecular weight \overline{MW}_n (Eq. 1), or the weight average molecular weight \overline{MW}_w (Eq. 2), where N_i is the number of molecules i (represented by the m/z -intensity)

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and M_i is the molecular mass of i (Kalberer et al., 2006).

$$\overline{MW}_n = \frac{\sum N_i M_i}{\sum N_i} \quad (1)$$

$$\overline{MW}_w = \frac{\sum N_i M_i^2}{\sum N_i M_i} \quad (2)$$

Figure 7 shows a negative ion mode spectrum of the particle phase signal (90 min average) during 29 July 2010 13:00–14:30 (UTC+2). In this particular spectrum the calculation of \overline{MW}_n and \overline{MW}_w results in 454 g mol^{-1} and 518 g mol^{-1} , respectively. It should be stressed that the figure is not representative for the campaign average, but it indicates that OA components can exceed 500 Da significantly in transported plumes from biomass burning events.

Using Eq. (1) to calculate \overline{MW}_{om} of each scan and averaging the values over the duration of the campaign results in $\overline{MW}_{om} \approx 300 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$, which is on the upper end of the range described by Kiss et al. (2003). For simplicity, in the calculation of the campaign average \overline{MW}_{om} , the ideal case that all ions are singly charged, do not fragment and have similar ionization efficiencies was assumed. Furthermore, the calculation includes the assumption that the molar mass distribution of the ions, which are formed in the negative mode, is equal to the molar mass distribution of all compounds in the particle phase. The determination of \overline{MW}_{om} using mass spectrometry can be seriously biased as is extensively discussed in the Supplement. Nevertheless, Kiss et al. (2003) demonstrated by using two different techniques for the determination of \overline{MW}_{om} , namely electrospray ionization mass spectrometry and vapor pressure osmometry, that both techniques agree quite well with a slight shift towards lower values obtained with the MS method.

In previous field work by Williams et al. (2010) a \overline{MW}_{om} of 220 g mol^{-1} was observed by using TAG (Thermal Desorption Aerosol Gas Chromatograph). Kalberer et al. (2006) observed \overline{MW}_{om} -values between 300 and 400 g mol^{-1} in a smog chamber experiment

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with isoprene and α -pinene by the use of MALDI-MS (Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization-MS). This shows that $\overline{MW}_{\text{om}}$ is on average variable in the range between 200 and 400 g mol^{-1} . Under exceptional circumstances (e.g. aged biomass burning aerosol) the average molecular weight can exceed this range.

5 3.5 Gas-to-particle partitioning of organic acids

The modelled gas-to-particle partitioning of three distinct biogenic organic acids, which are substantially different in their volatility, is represented by the solid lines in Fig. 8. The organic acids in question are *cis*-pinonic acid, *cis*-pinic acid and MBTCA, which are first and second generation oxidation products from specific monoterpenes. Eq. (3), based on the partitioning model of Liang and Pankow (1996), was used to calculate the fraction in particle phase $f_{p,i}$ of the compound i as a function of the mass concentration of absorptive particulate matter PM ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) and the partitioning coefficient $K_{p,i}$ ($\text{m}^3 \mu\text{g}^{-1}$) of the compound i . To determine $f_{p,i}$ from the measurements, the signal of species i in the particle-phase F_i was divided by the sum of the gas-phase signal A_i and the particle-phase signal F_i :

$$f_{p,i} = \frac{K_{p,i} \text{PM}}{1 + K_{p,i} \text{PM}} = \frac{F_i}{F_i + A_i}. \quad (3)$$

The equilibrium partitioning coefficient $K_{p,i}$ ($\text{m}^3 \mu\text{g}^{-1}$) (Eq. (4); Pankow, 1994) depends on the fraction of PM that is organic matter f_{om} , on the temperature T (K), on the average molecular weight of the particulate organic matter $\overline{MW}_{\text{om}}$ (g mol^{-1}), on the activity coefficient γ_i (which describes the non-ideal particle-molecule interactions) and on the pure liquid vapour pressure $\rho_{L,i}^o$ (Torr) of the respective compound i . R is the gas constant, 760 a pressure conversion factor and 10^6 a mass conversion factor:

$$K_{p,i} = \frac{f_{\text{om}} 760 RT}{\overline{MW}_{\text{om}} \gamma_i \rho_{L,i}^o 10^6}. \quad (4)$$

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To model the gas-to-particle partitioning of the compounds *cis*-pinonic acid, *cis*-pinic acid and MBTCA, the partitioning coefficient of each compound ($K_{p,\text{PNOA}}$, $K_{p,\text{PNA}}$, $K_{p,\text{MBTCA}}$) was calculated using Eq. (4) with the following parameters: the campaign average value $f_{\text{om}} = 0.64$, $T = 294 \text{ K}$, $\overline{\text{MW}}_{\text{om}} = 300 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$, $\gamma_i = 1$, and the predicted vapor pressure at 294 K (see Table 1) using the SIMPOL.1 group contribution method (Pankow and Asher, 2008). The organic matter factor f_{om} was determined by dividing the campaign average of OA (AMS-data) by the total aerosol mass incl. black carbon (AMS and Aethalometer). The resulting $K_{p,i}$ for the three acids are shown in Table 1 and represented by the solid lines in Fig. 8. The C_i^* -value ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) in Table 1 is the saturation concentration, which is basically the inverse of the partitioning coefficient $K_{p,i}$, both describing the volatility of the compound i in a mixture (Donahue et al., 2006).

The online partitioning measurements of the related m/z ratios of the three acids are represented by one hour average points during the time when APCI-IT-MS and AMS were running simultaneously. The corresponding PM values are averaged in the same time intervals from AMS and Aethalometer data. All values below $0.7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ were taken out due to uncertainty in the measurements. The resulting data points of each m/z ratio are fitted using Eq. (3). The resulting $K_{p,i}$ values are stated in Table 1 and the fit of the partitioning data is represented by the dotted lines in Fig. 8.

By comparing the model predictions with the measured m/z partitioning values, it can be seen that model and observation do show the same trend in volatility from the highest volatile *cis*-pinonic acid to the lowest volatile MBTCA. However, the huge offset between the partitioning model and the measurements (especially for m/z 203) does not necessarily mean that either the model or the measurement is wrong, because isobaric interference of more volatile compounds on the same m/z ratio can shift the measured partitioning significantly. For example, as it has been shown in Sect. 3.3, the signal at m/z 185 does not only emerge from one acid. Predicting the vapor pressure for the m/z 185 ketolimonic acid at $T = 294 \text{ K}$ results in $p_{L,\text{KETOLMNOA}}^0 = 3.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ Torr}$, suggesting that ketolimonic acid is almost one order of magnitude more volatile than *cis*-pinic acid. The predicted partitioning of ketolimonic acid fits well to the ob-

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Table 1. Modelled and measured partitioning coefficients of three distinct organic acids.

	<i>Cis</i> -Pinonic acid	<i>Cis</i> -Pinic Acid	MBTCA
$\rho_{L,i}^o$ (Torr) ^a	2.55×10^{-5}	4.28×10^{-7}	3.16×10^{-10}
$K_{p,i}$ (m ³ μg ⁻¹) ^b	1.5×10^{-3}	9.1×10^{-2}	124
C^* (μg m ⁻³) ^b	667	11	8.1×10^{-3}
	<i>m/z</i> 183 Hyytiälä	<i>m/z</i> 185 Hyytiälä	<i>m/z</i> 203 Hyytiälä
$K_{p,i}$ (m ³ μg ⁻¹) ^c	3.6×10^{-3}	1.1×10^{-2}	4.9×10^{-2}
C^* (μg m ⁻³) ^c	278	91	20

^a Predicted by the SIMPOL.1 model at 294 K (Pankow and Asher, 2008).

^b Based on a, campaign average values of $f_{om} = 0.64$ and $\overline{MW}_{om} = 300 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$, $T = 294 \text{ K}$ and $y_i = 1$.

^c Campaign average fit using Eq. (3).

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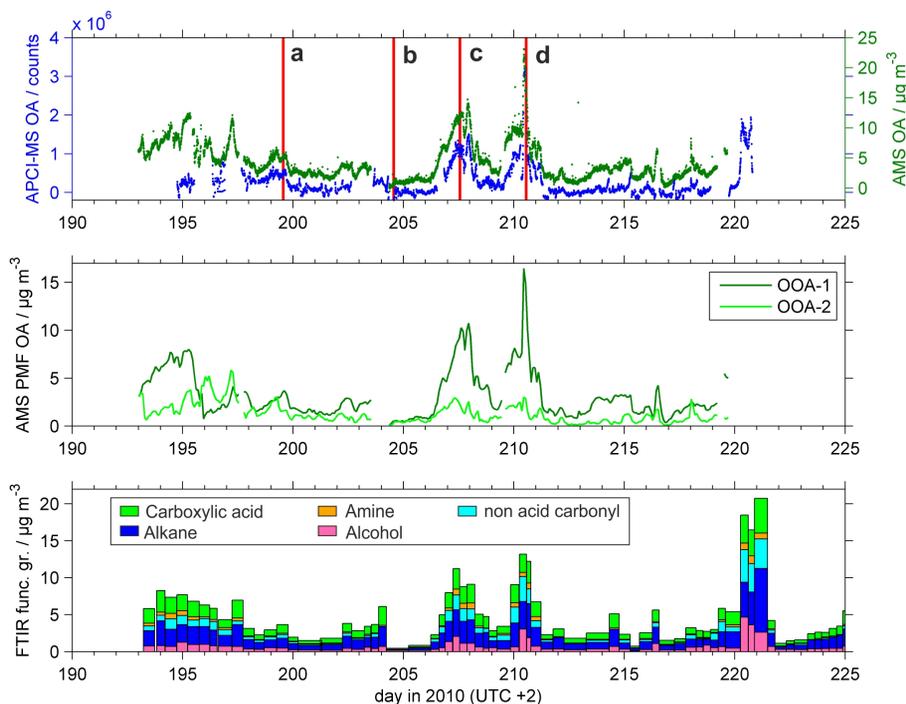


Fig. 1. Temporal variation of organic aerosol during HUMPPA-COPEC 2010. Top panel: summation of particle phase signals between m/z 150 and 500 measured by APCI-IT-MS (blue) vs. the total submicron organic mass concentration measured by AMS (green). Middle panel: two factor PMF analysis of AMS data (OOA: Oxygenated Organic Aerosol, factor OOA-1 and OOA-2, see text). Lower panel: mass concentration of functional groups measured by filter-FTIR.

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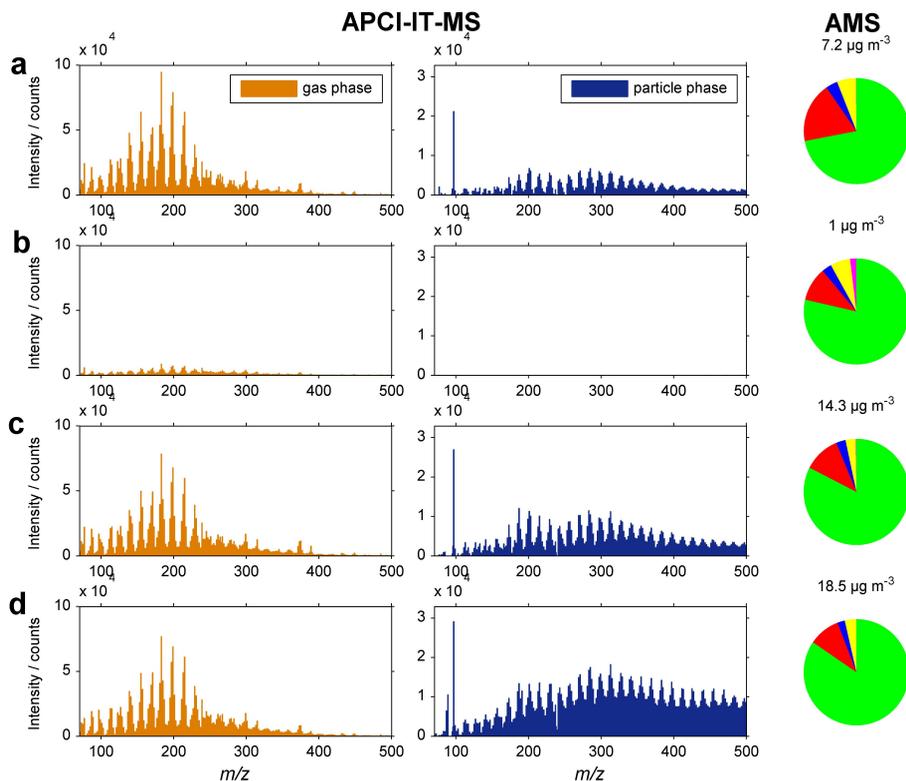


Fig. 2. Average composition of the gas- and particle-phase on four different days during HUMPPA-COPEC 2010 (a–d, Fig. 1) measured by APCI-IT-MS and AMS. Black carbon is not included in the AMS pie charts but in the numbered submicron mass concentration.

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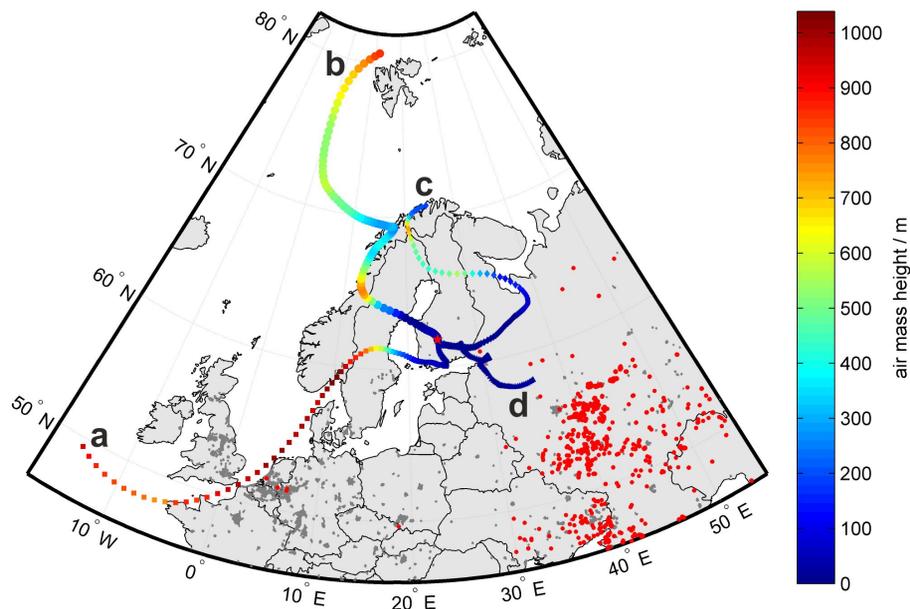


Fig. 3. 96 h backward trajectory analysis of four different days (**a–d**) using the NOAA HYSPLIT model. (**a**) to (**d**) refer to the average intervals in Fig. 1. (arrival time 14:00 (UTC+2) of the respective day). The red star marks the SMEAR station at Hyytiälä. MODIS fire data are 100 % CI fire spots between 18 July 2010 and 29 July 2010. Land, borders and populated areas are based on Natural Earth shapefiles (<http://www.naturalearthdata.com>).

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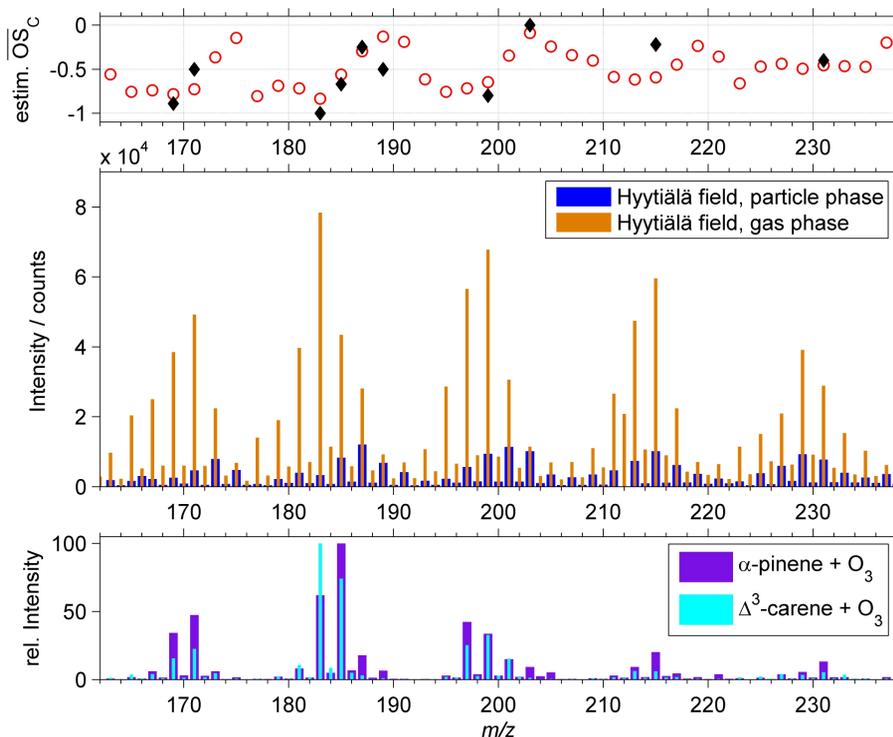


Fig. 4. Top panel: estimated average oxidation states (red circles) derived from oxidation states of literature terpenoid organic acids (black diamonds, see Table 2). Middle panel: average spectrum of organic acids in the ambient air measured with APCI-IT-MS in the negative mode on day 207 (26 July 2010 12:00–15:00 (UTC+2)). Bottom panel: average spectrum of laboratory dark ozonolysis experiments with α -pinene and Δ^3 -carene.

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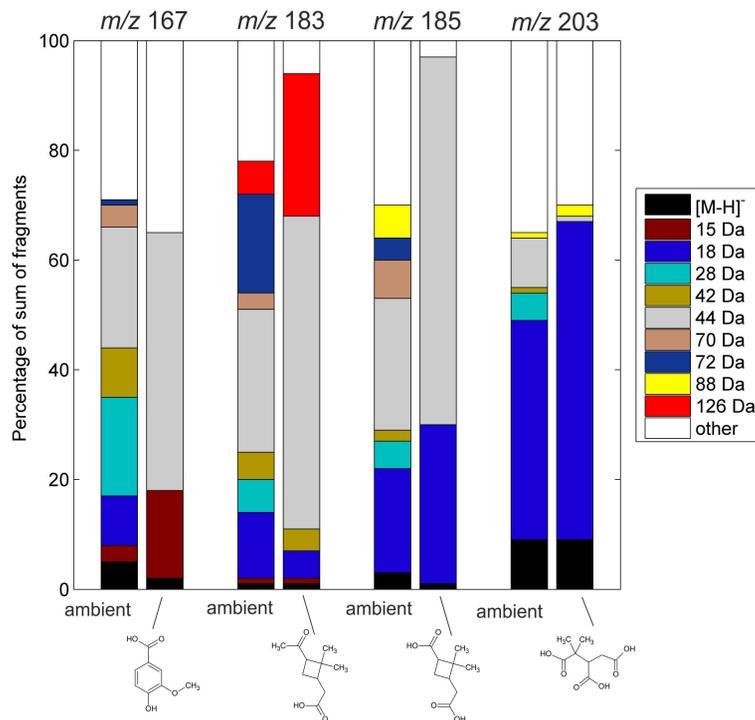


Fig. 5. Neutral losses of four distinct m/z ratios during online MS² on 22 July 2010 13:20–15:20 (UTC +2) compared with MS²-spectra of authentic standards of vanillic acid (m/z 167), *cis*-pinonic acid (m/z 183) and *cis*-pinic acid (m/z 185). The MS²-spectrum of MBTCA (m/z 203) is taken from an ambient filter sample measured with ESI-MS² after chromatographic separation.

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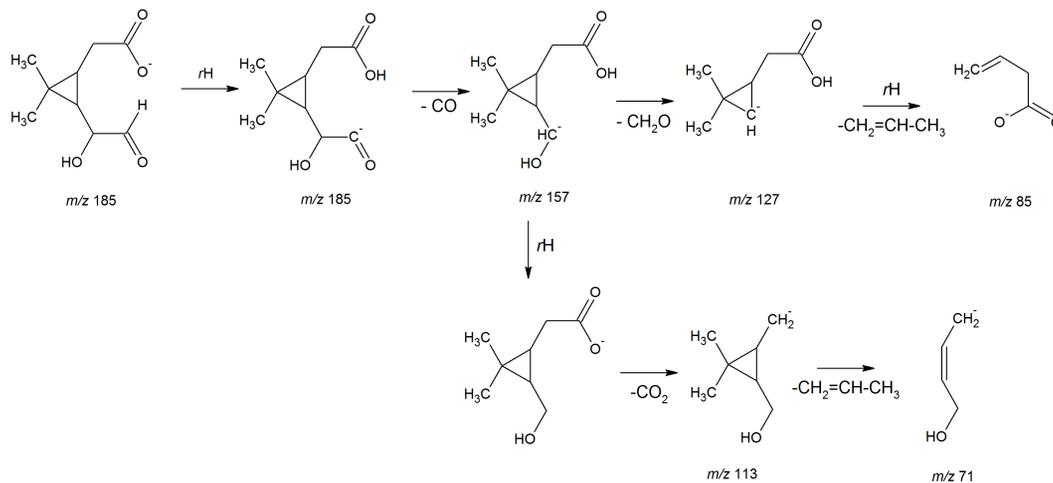


Fig. 6. Proposed MS² fragmentation mechanism of OH-3-caralic acid.

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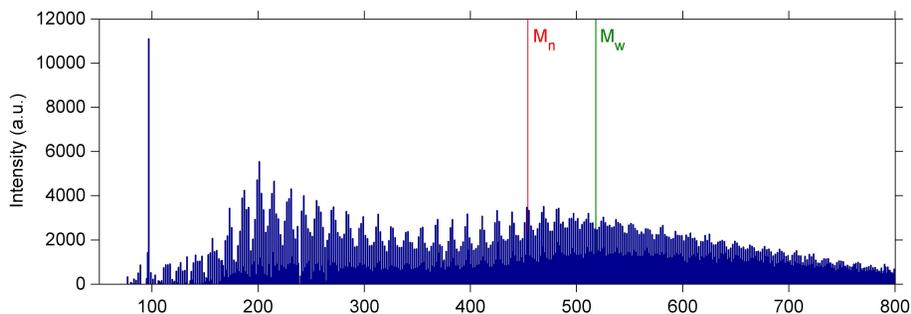


Fig. 7. Average spectrum of compounds measured in the negative APCI mode on 29 July 2010 13:00–14:30 (UTC+2) during a period influenced by the severe biomass burning in central Russia. M_n is the number average molecular weight and M_w the weight average molecular weight.

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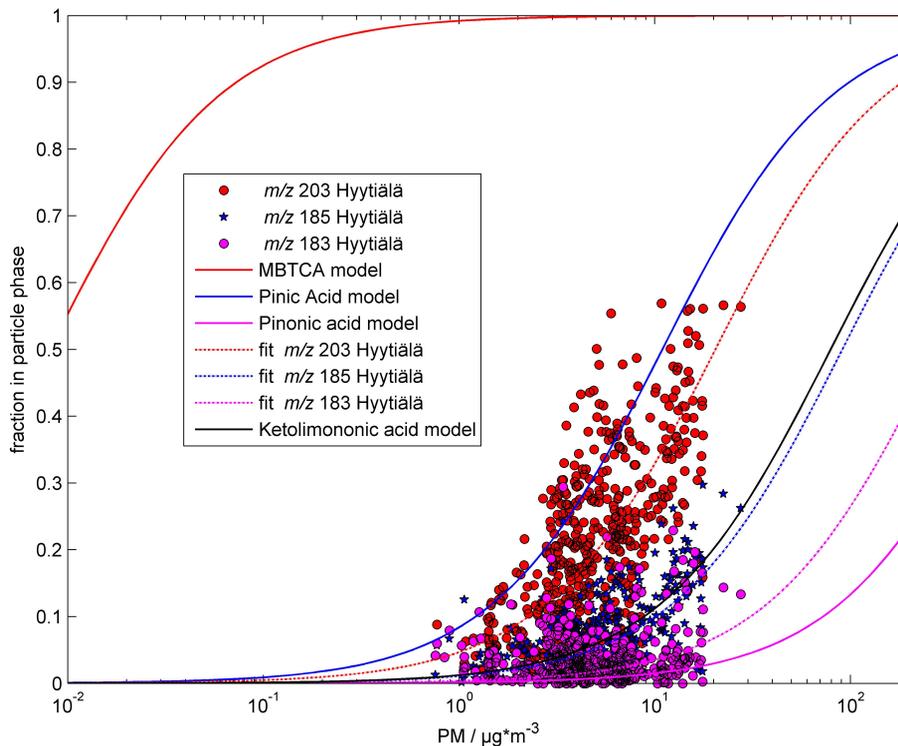


Fig. 8. Modelled (solid lines) gas-to-particle partitioning of three distinct organic acids versus the measured (dashed lines) gas-to-particle partitioning of the respective m/z ratios. The model assumes instantaneous partitioning (liquid particle phase). The measured data points are averaged on an hourly basis. For clarity, separated m/z data points are shown Fig. S3.

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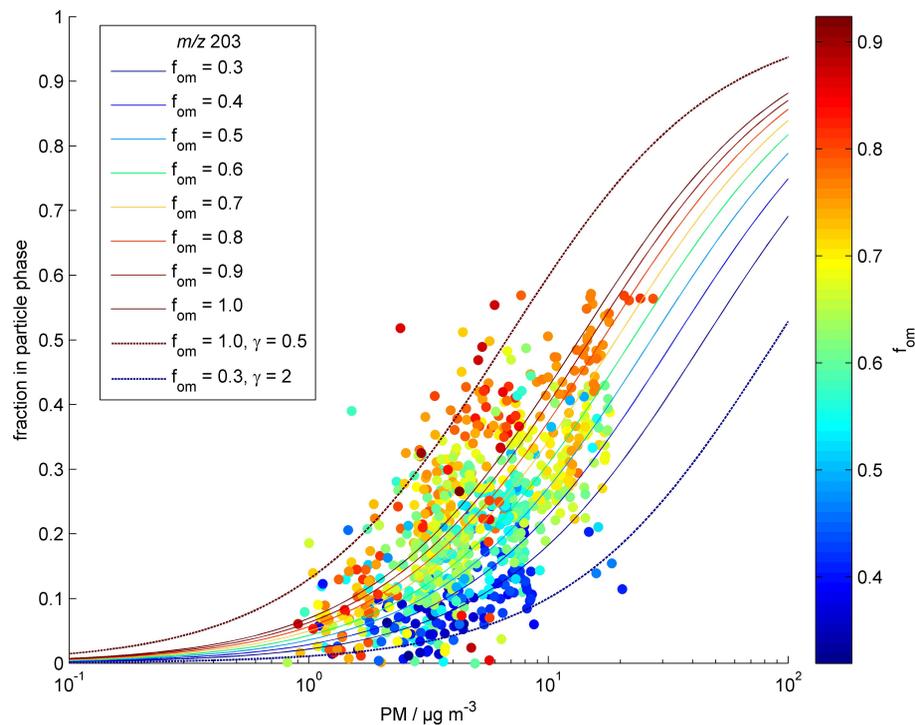


Fig. 9. Measured gas-to-particle partitioning of m/z 203 with colour coded organic matter fraction. All modelled functions are based on the average fit of all data points with the average campaign of $f_{om} = 0.64$ and $\gamma = 1$. The measured data points are averaged on a basis of 30 min.