

Supplementary information for manuscript

Primary and secondary organic aerosol origin by combined gas-particle phase source apportionment

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SI-1 Comparison of PMF_{AMS} and $\text{PMF}_{\text{AMS-PTRMS}}$ results

Here the comparison of the time series retrieved for two separate source apportionment approaches is presented: positive matrix factorization (PMF) applied to AMS data only (PMF_{AMS}) and PMF applied to the combined AMS-PTRMS dataset ($\text{PMF}_{\text{AMS-PTRMS}}$). For the winter campaign, details about the AMS only source apportionment can be found in Crippa et al. (2013a), while for the summer campaign the reference papers are Freutel et al. (2013) and Crippa et al. (2013b).

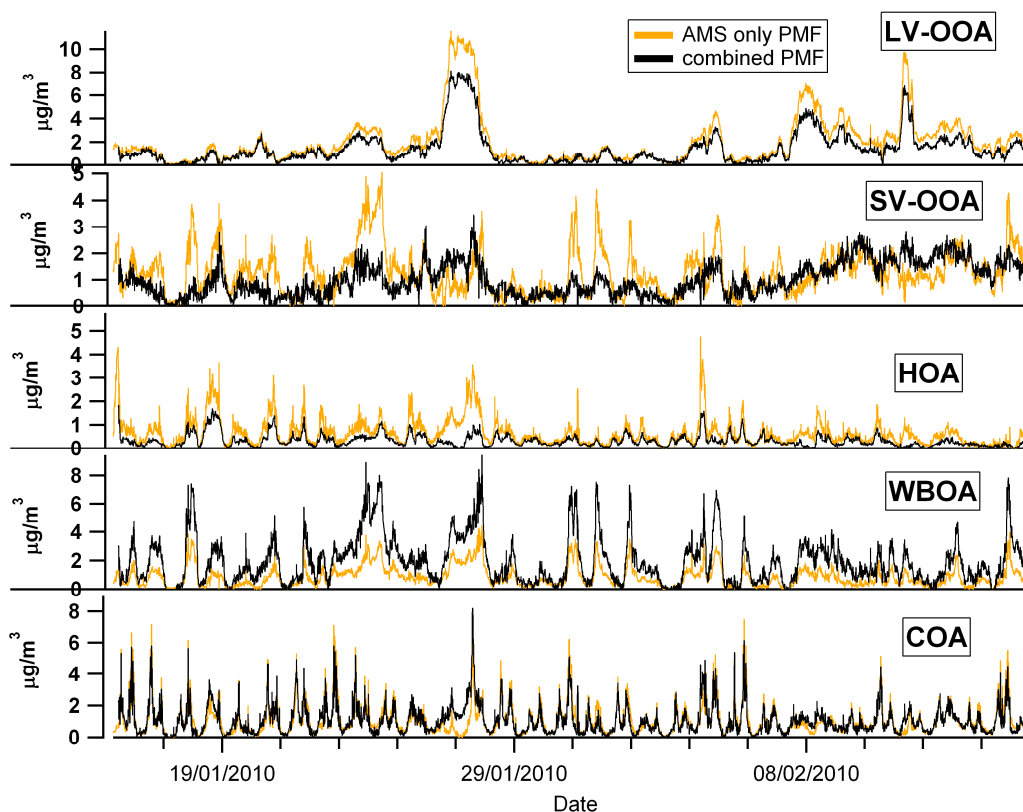


Figure SI-1.1: Time series comparison of AMS sources obtained with the PMF_{AMS} and the combined $\text{PMF}_{\text{AMS-PTRMS}}$ for the winter campaign. Note that the semi-volatile OOA (SV-OOA) separated by the $\text{PMF}_{\text{AMS-PTRMS}}$ is compared with the $\text{OOA}_2\text{-BBOA}$ factors obtained with the PMF_{AMS} .

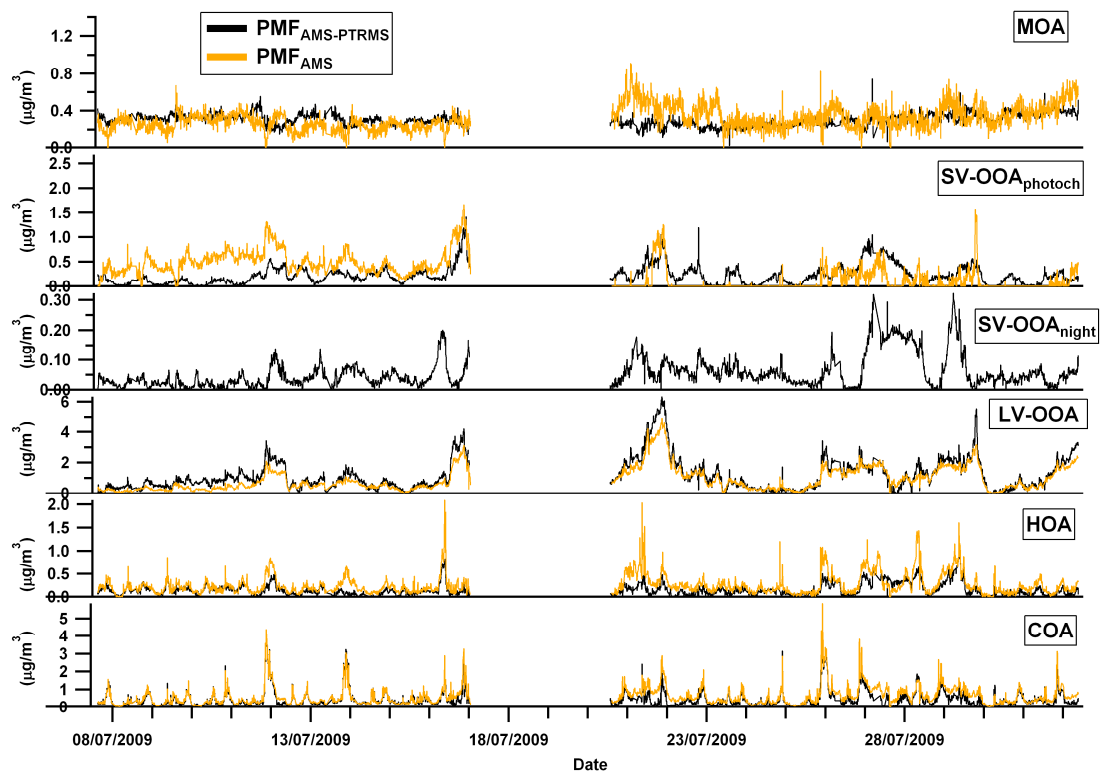


Figure SI-1.2: Time series comparison of AMS sources obtained for the LHVP site with the PMF_{AMS} and the combined $\text{PMF}_{\text{AMS-PTMRS}}$ for the summer campaign.

SI-2 Diurnals of OA components obtained with the PMF_{AMS-PTRMS}

Figures SI-2.1 and SI-2.2 show the diurnal patterns of gas and particle phase components retrieved by the PMF_{AMS-PTRMS} for the summer and winter campaigns. Although the temporal variation of the PTR-MS and AMS sources is the same within each season, some patterns are highlighted by the different contribution of a specific source to the gas or particle phase. For example, the semi-volatile behavior of the nighttime OOA component separated during the summer campaign shows much higher contribution for the PTR-MS data than for the AMS one and a clearer diurnal pattern as well.

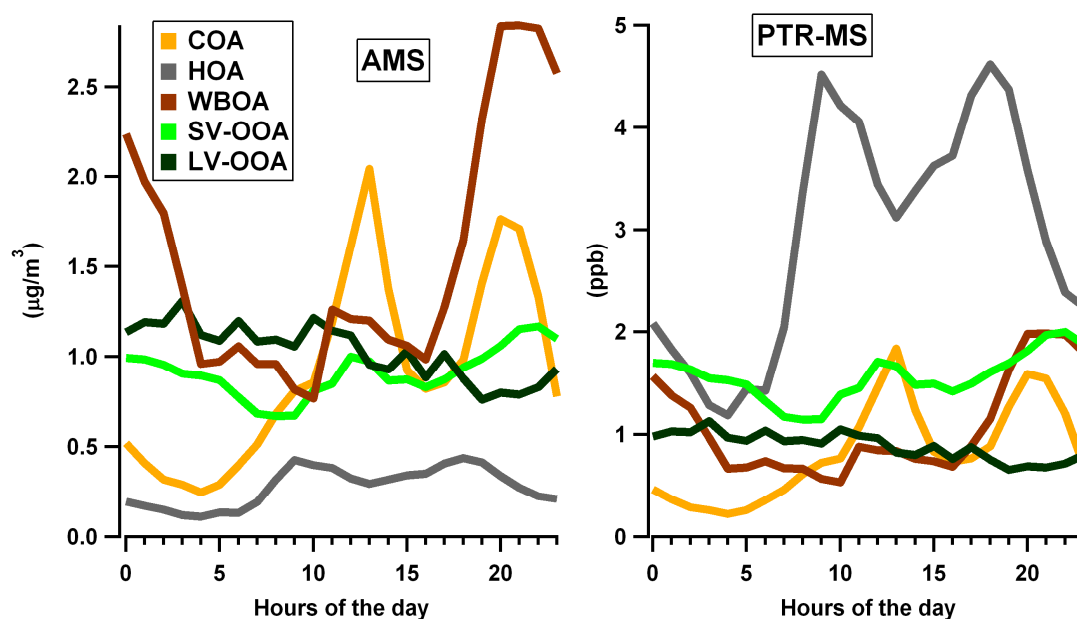


Figure SI-2.1: Diurnal variations of the PMF factors for the AMS and PTR-MS measurements retrieved from the PMF_{AMS-PTRMS} approach. Median values are represented (winter campaign).

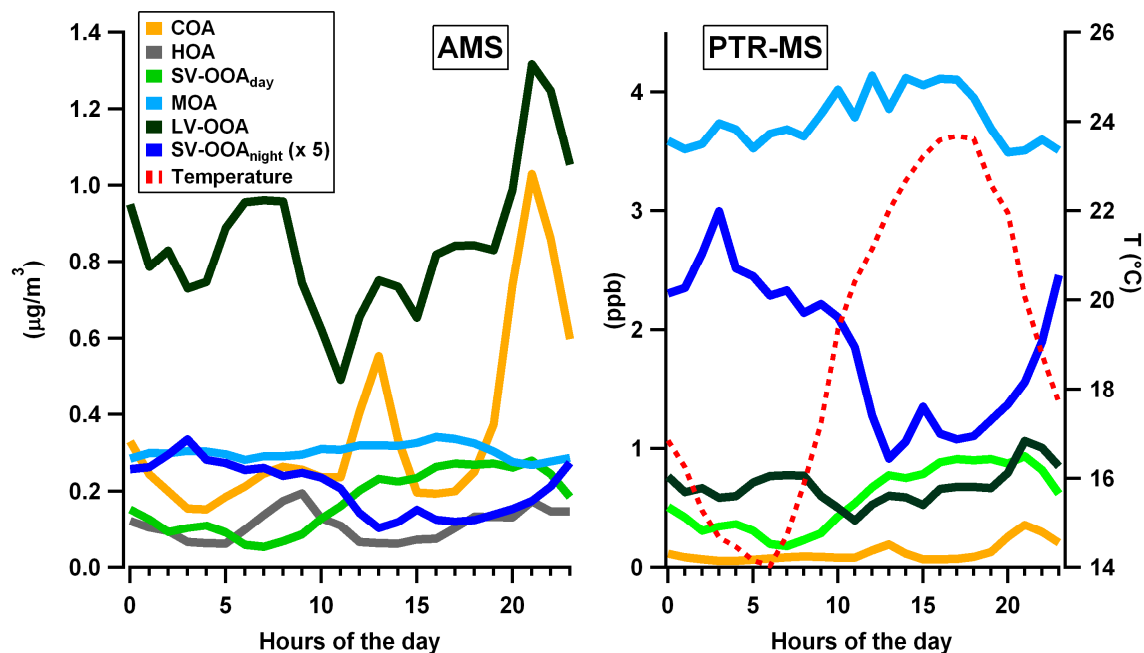


Figure SI-2.2: Diurnal variations of the PMF factors for the AMS and PTR-MS measurements retrieved from the PMF_{AMS-PTRMS} approach. Median values are represented (summer campaign).

SI-3 Seasonal comparison of PTR-MS sources mass spectra obtained from the PMF_{AMS-PTRMS}

Here the PTR-MS mass spectra obtained from the combined gas-particle phase source apportionment are compared for the two campaigns. Note that only common sources for the two seasons are reported (e.g. biomass burning is not shown since it only contributed during wintertime). The PTR-MS mass spectra for traffic and LV-OOA are quite stable for the two seasons, while some differences are observed for the cooking and SV-OOA nighttime factors.

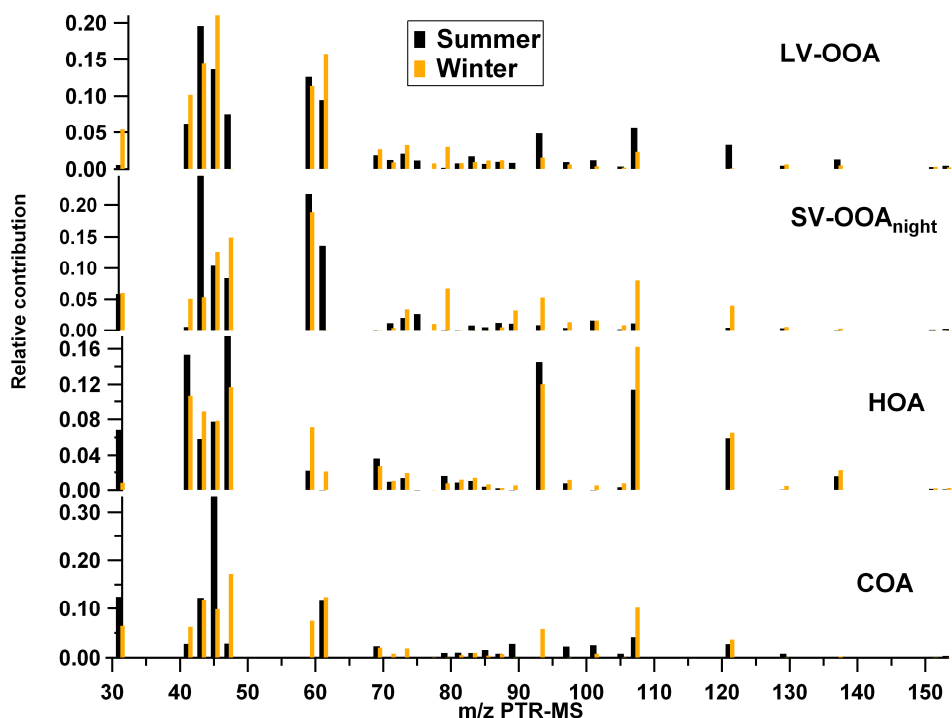


Figure SI-3.1: Comparison of PTR-MS source spectra obtained for the summer and winter campaigns. Each mass spectrum is normalized to 1.

SI-4 PMF diagnostics

SI-4.1 Residuals

In this section the residuals (Q/Q_{exp}) for the chosen solutions (7 factors, $C_{\text{PTR}}=0.8$ and 6 factors, $C_{\text{PTR}}=0.7$ for winter) of the combined PMF approach are reported for both seasons (Fig.SI-4.1 and SI-4.2). Note that the step in the residual time series plot observed for the summer campaign (Fig.SI-4.2) is a consequence of a power failure and instrumental issues (e.g. tuning, etc.) happened in the middle of the campaign.

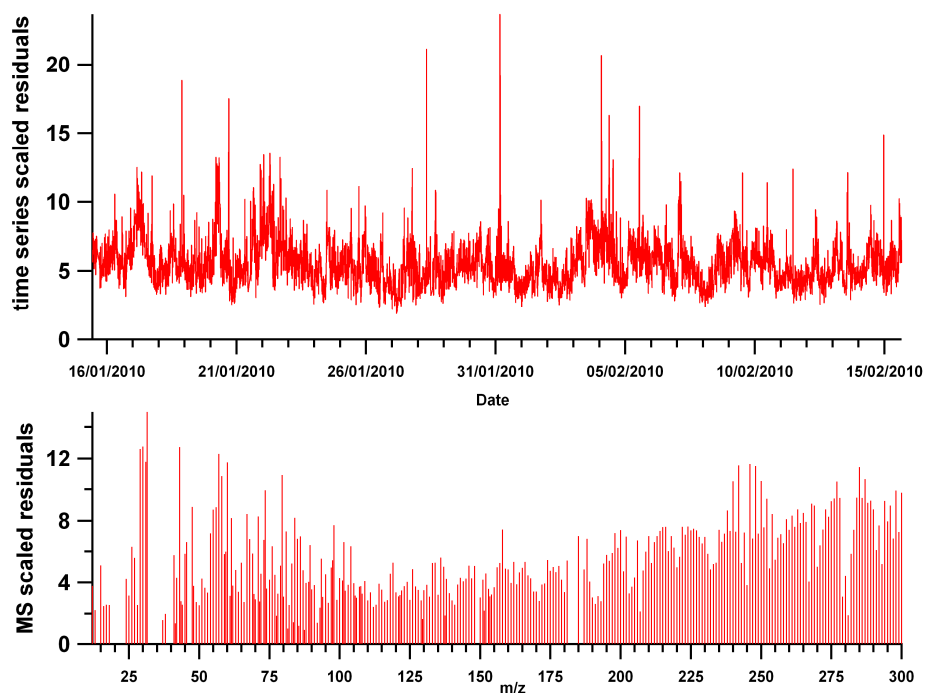


Figure SI-4.1.1: Scaled residuals in terms of mass spectra and time series of the PMF_{AMS-PTRMS} case for the winter campaign.

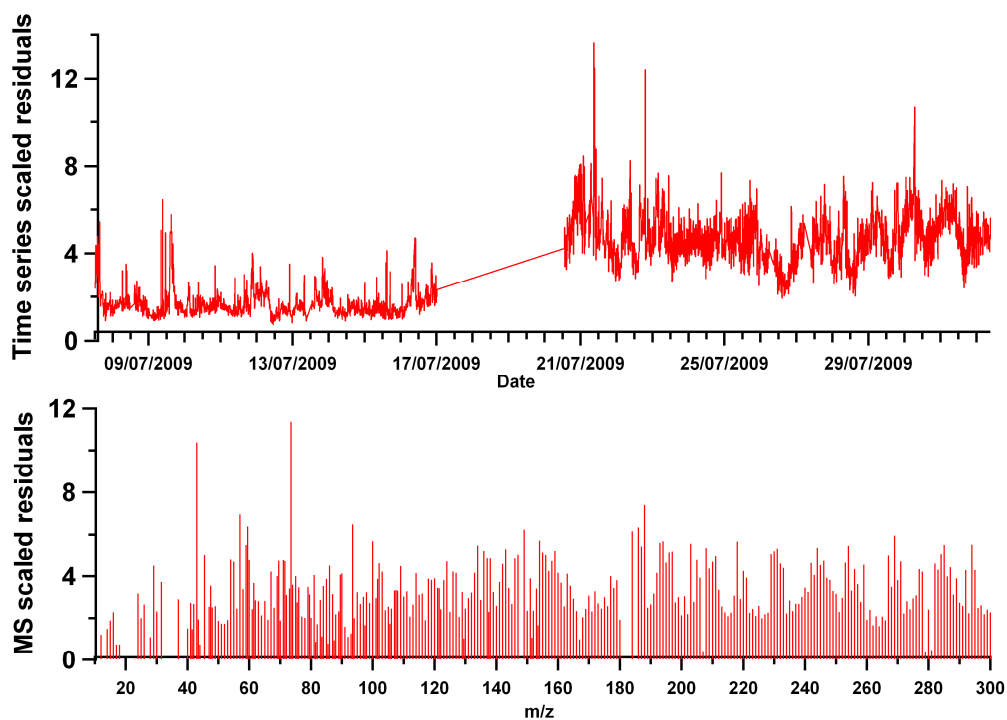


Figure SI-4.1.2: Scaled residuals in terms of mass spectra and time series of the PMF_{AMS-PTMMS} case for the summer campaign.

SI-4.2 Stability of the solution

In this paper the 7 factors solution with $C_{PTR}=0.8$ for the summer campaign and the 6 factors solution with $C_{PTR}=0.7$ for the winter case were presented. The choice of these solutions was based on several concurrent criteria (see also section 3 of the manuscript).

First of all, $\overline{\Delta E}$ was used to define a region (0 ± 0.25) where both instruments were well represented in the PMF solution. Then, all solutions lying within the selected region were investigated and evaluated based on the physical interpretability of the factors (e.g. given by time series correlations with independent measurements, MS correlation with literature studies, diurnal pattern investigation, analysis of the residuals, PTR-MS tracers coherence, etc.). From these investigations, an optimal solution was adopted.

In contrast to PMF applied to the dataset of a single instrument, here multiple solutions can be obtained not only changing the number of factors but also varying the weighting parameter C_{PTR} . This makes the analysis quite complex and it is often difficult to be able to compare within a fixed number of factors how the solution changes varying the C_{PTR} value, because it often implies significant changes in Q/Q_{exp} calculated using the original unweighted errors (in some cases more than 20% when applying an increasing step of 0.1 in the C_{PTR} value).

For this reason the stability of the chosen solution was assessed using the f_{peak} parameter, in order to evaluate the effect of mathematical rotations on the solution, and initializing the algorithm with 30 different starting points (seeds). Results of these analyses are reported below. Note that when representing the relative factors contribution versus f_{peak} or seed values the sum of AMS and PTR-MS data was considered.

Figures SI-4.2.1 and SI-4.2.2 represent the relative contribution of each identified factor during the winter campaign versus the f_{peak} parameter or the seed value. The Q/Q_{exp} plot is also reported as diagnostic. In order to evaluate how much stable is the solution, the f_{peak} parameter was varied between -2 and +2 corresponding to a relative change in the Q/Q_{exp} graph maximum of 40%. However the solution appears to be rather constant over the investigated f_{peak} range. Moreover, the presence of local minima was analyzed initializing the algorithm with 30 different points, corresponding again to a relative change in the Q/Q_{exp} plot of maximum 40%. Also in this case the solution appears to be stable in terms of source attribution.

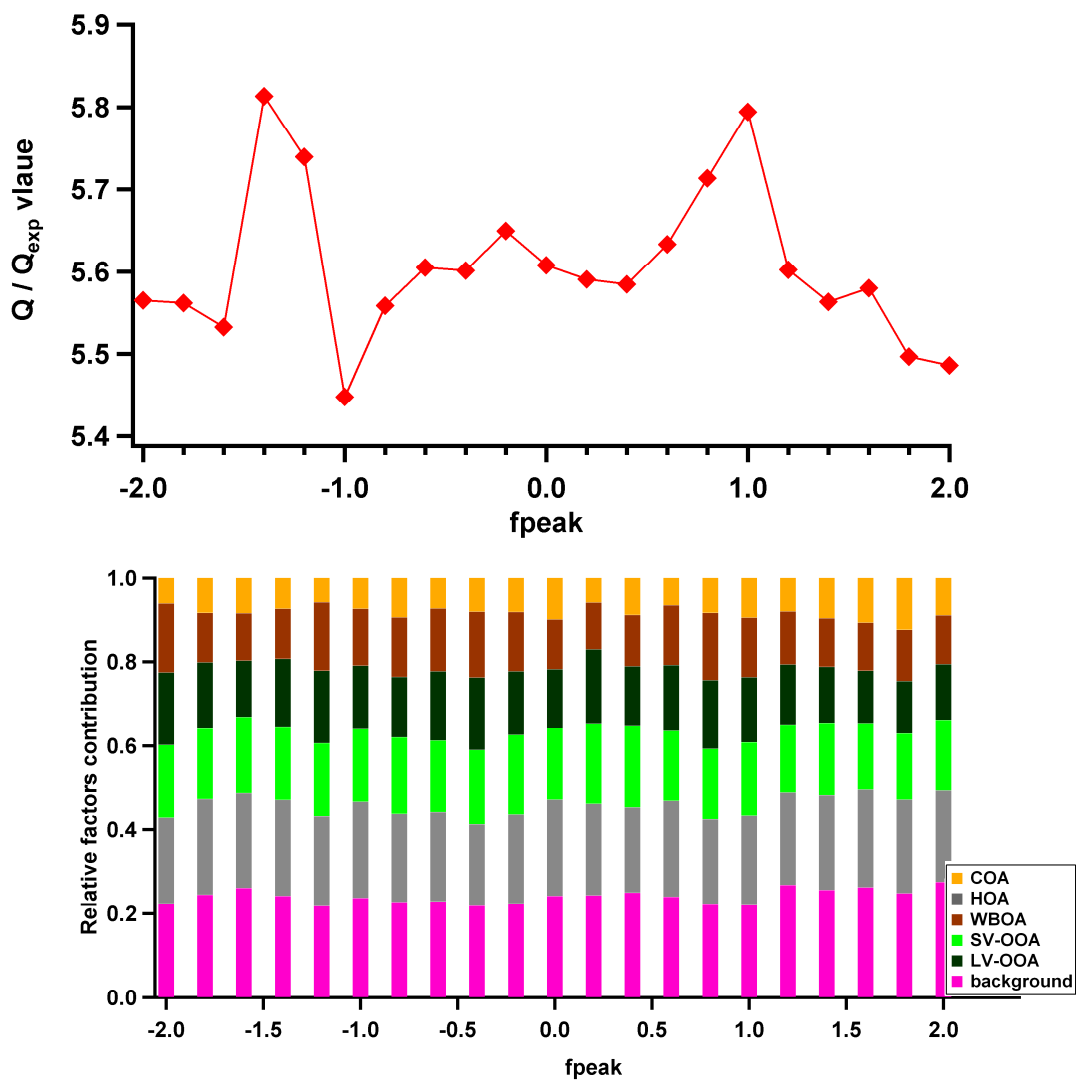


Figure SI-4.2.1: Variability of the relative factor contributions and the corresponding Q/Q_{exp} values with the f_{peak} parameter during the winter campaign.

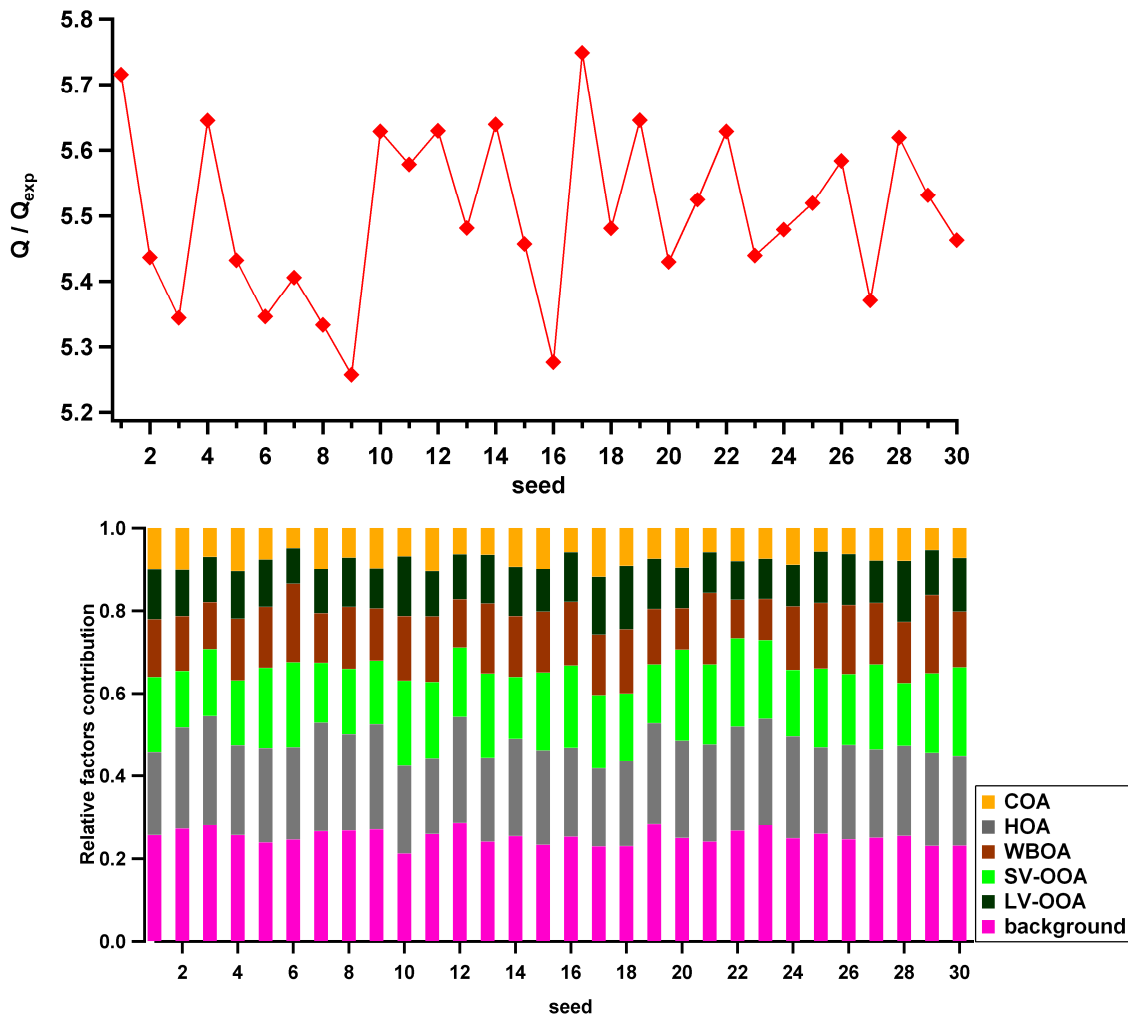


Figure SI-4.2.2: Variability of the relative factor contributions and the corresponding Q/Q_{exp} values with 30 different initial values (seeds) during the winter campaign.

Figures SI-4.2.3 and SI-4.2.4 show similar plots to the two previously described. The summer solution seem to be partially affected by the additional rotations explored with the f_{peak} parameter (e.g. at $f_{\text{peak}}=0.8$). Finally, the chosen solution did not represent a local minimum as confirmed by Figure SI-4.2.4.

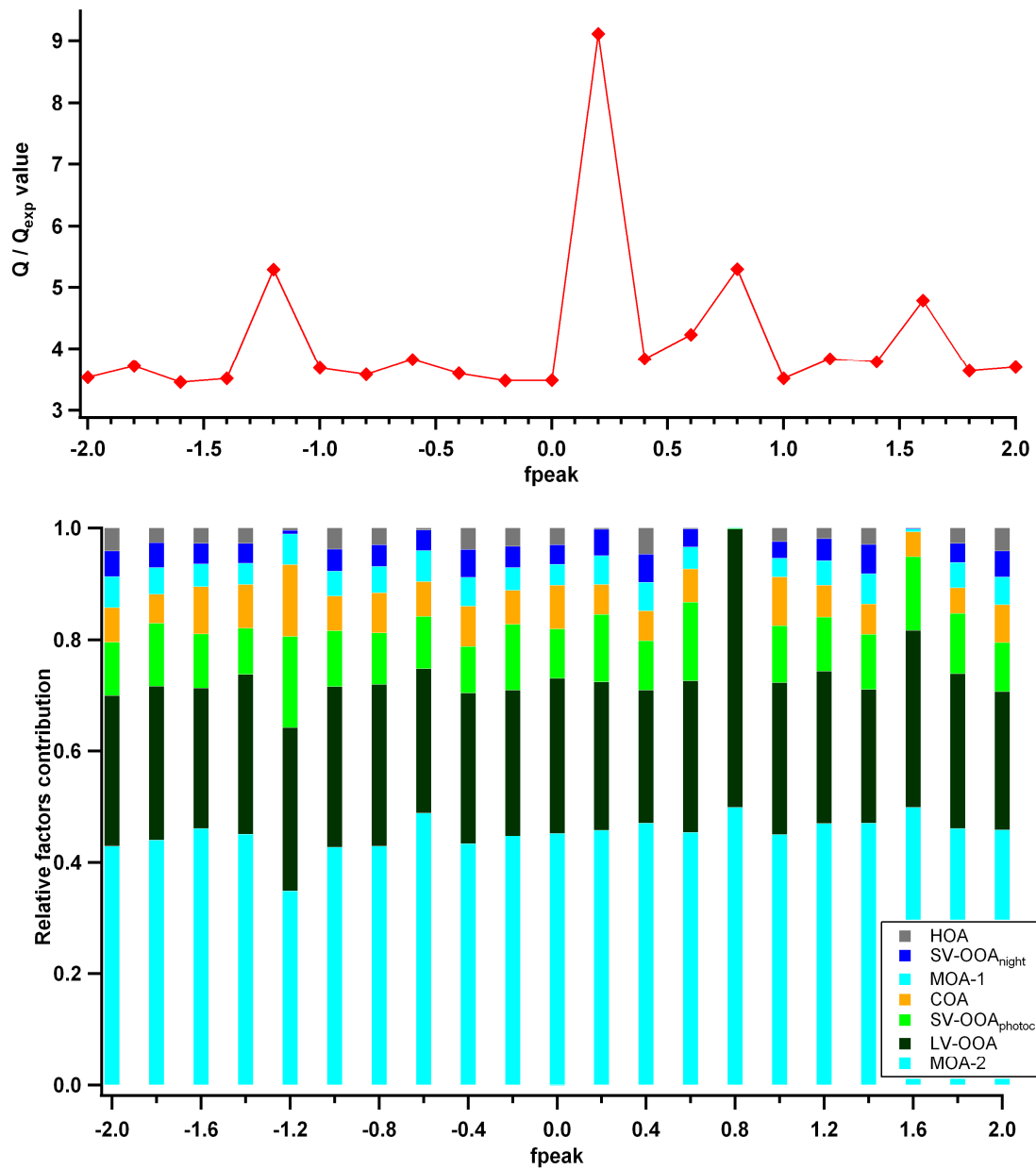


Figure SI-4.2.3: Variability of the relative factor contributions and the corresponding Q/Q_{exp} values with the f_{peak} parameter during the summer campaign.

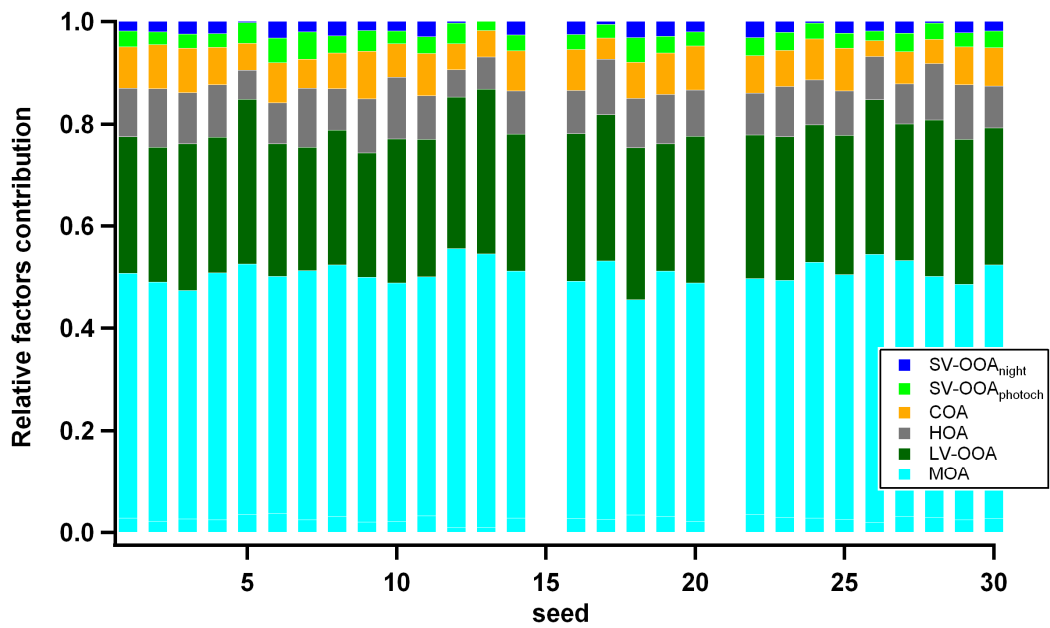
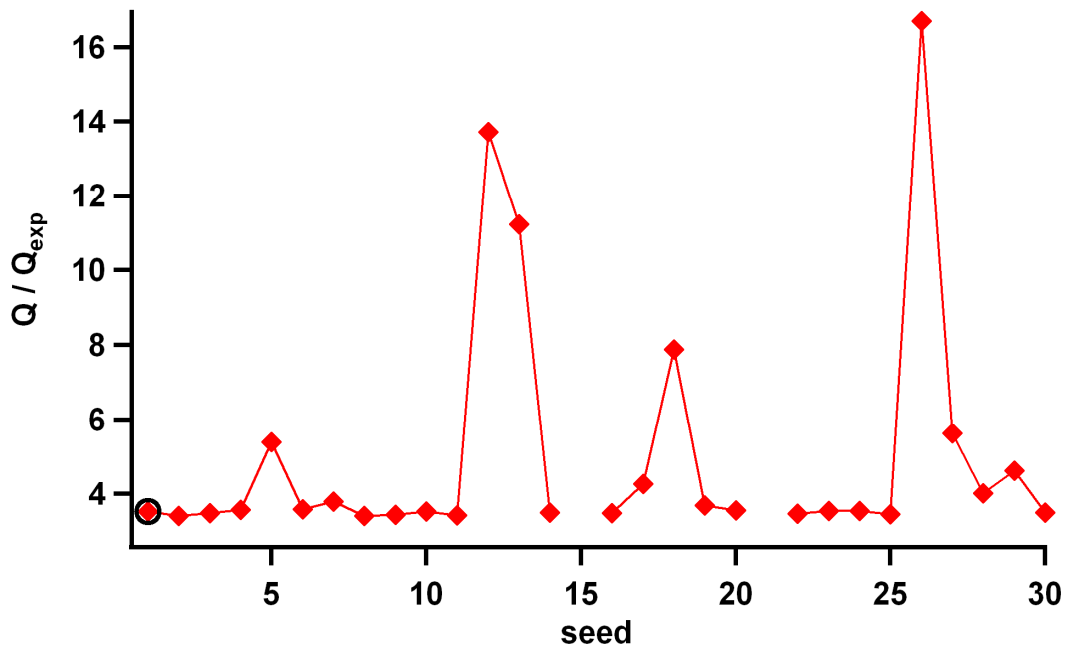


Figure SI-4.2.4: Variability of the relative factor contributions and the corresponding Q/Q_{exp} values with 30 different initial values (seeds) during the summer campaign.

SI-5 Winter campaign PTR-MS background factor

The PMF_{AMS-PTRMS} applied to the winter dataset allowed the separation of a factor which represents instrumental issues related with the PTR-MS measurements. Figure SI-5.1 represents the time series of this factor contributing to the PTR-MS measurements and its mass spectrum both for the AMS and PTR-MS. This factor represents on average 32% of the total gas phase measurements, while its contribution is negligible for the AMS fraction (on average only 2% of the total AMS organic mass). Its time series shows a continuous decrease, which likely represents an outgassing in the Teflon sampling line. While several masses contribute to the PTR-MS mass spectrum, Table 1 indicates m/z 47, 89, 97, 101 and 105 as the ones that are most unique to this factor. We preferred not to exclude these masses from the PTR-MS dataset because this instrumental problem does not only affect these prominent peaks but to a lesser extent all the PTR-MS masses and therefore is impossible to correct for consistently without introducing additional bias.

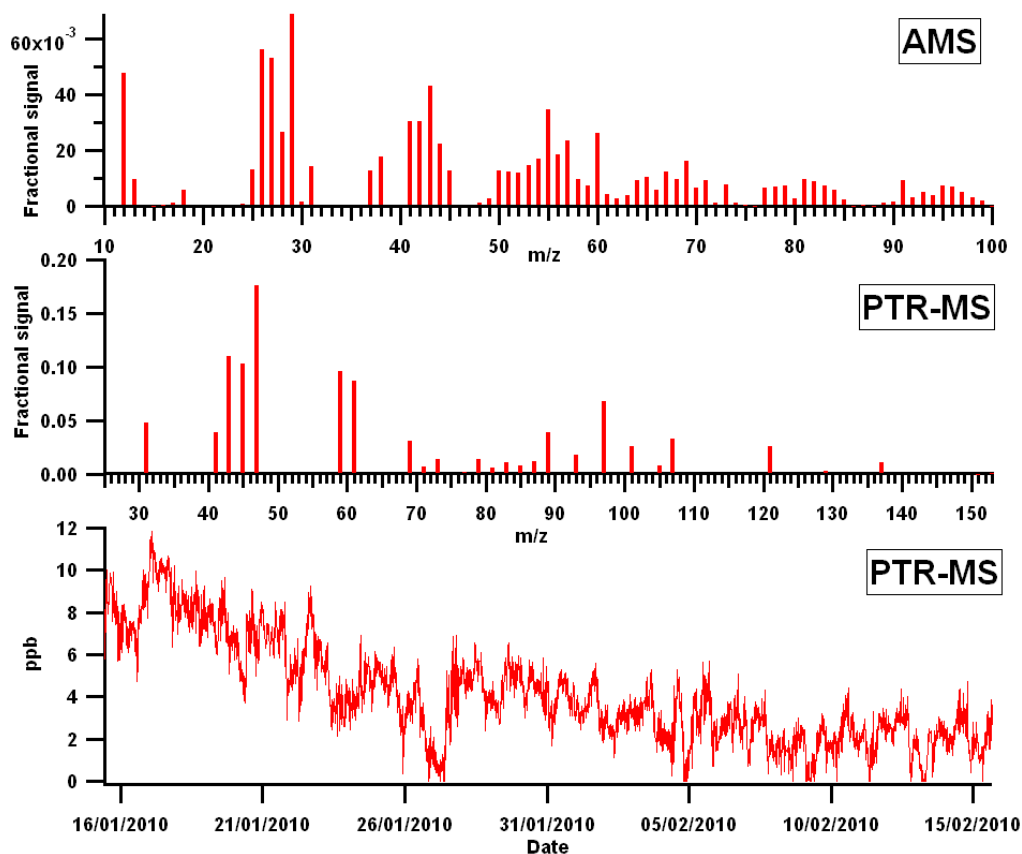


Figure SI-5.1: Time series and mass spectrum of the background factor separated for the PMF_{AMS-PTRMS} during the winter campaign.

References

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