

1 **Gas and aerosol carbon in California: comparison of**
2 **measurements and model predictions in Pasadena and**
3 **Bakersfield**

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7

8 **ABSTRACT**

9 Co-located measurements of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) organic carbon, elemental carbon,
10 radiocarbon (¹⁴C), speciated volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and OH radical during the
11 CalNex field campaign provide a unique opportunity to evaluate the Community Multiscale Air
12 Quality (CMAQ) model's representation of organic species from VOCs to particles. Episode
13 averaged daily 23-hr average ¹⁴C analysis indicate PM_{2.5} carbon at Pasadena and Bakersfield
14 during the CalNex field campaign were evenly split between contemporary and fossil origin.
15 CMAQ predicts a higher contemporary carbon fraction than indicated by the ¹⁴C analysis at both
16 locations. The model underestimates measured PM_{2.5} organic carbon at both sites with very little
17 (7% in Pasadena) of the modeled mass represented by secondary production, which contrasts with
18 the ambient based SOC/OC fraction of 63% at Pasadena.

19

20 Measurements and predictions of gas-phase anthropogenic species, such as toluene and xylenes,
21 are generally within a factor of 2, but the corresponding secondary organic carbon (SOC) tracer
22 (2,3-dihydroxy-4-oxo-pentanoic acid) is systematically underpredicted by more than a factor of 2.

1 Monoterpene VOCs and SOCs are underestimated at both sites. Isoprene is underestimated at
2 Pasadena and over predicted at Bakersfield and isoprene SOC mass is underestimated at both sites.
3 Systematic model underestimates in SOC mass coupled with reasonable skill (typically within a
4 factor of 2) in predicting hydroxyl radical and VOC gas phase precursors suggests error(s) in the
5 parameterization of semi-volatile gases to form SOC. Yield values (α) applied to semi-volatile
6 partitioning species were increased by a factor of 4 in CMAQ for a sensitivity simulation, taking
7 in account recent findings of underestimated yields in chamber experiments due to gas wall losses.
8 This sensitivity resulted in improved model performance for PM_{2.5} organic carbon at both field
9 study locations and at routine monitor network sites in California. Modeled percent secondary
10 contribution (22% at Pasadena) becomes closer to ambient based estimates but still contains a
11 higher primary fraction than observed.

12

13 1 INTRODUCTION

14 Secondary organic aerosol (SOA) forms in the atmosphere during the gas-phase photooxidation of
15 volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that produce semi-volatile and water-soluble gases that
16 condense to form new particles or partition to pre-existing aerosol mass (Ervens et al., 2011). SOA
17 contributes to the atmospheric fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) burden, with subsequent effects on
18 air quality, visibility, and climate (Hallquist et al., 2009). Despite its importance and abundance,
19 ambient SOA mass is not well characterized by atmospheric models (Wagstrom et al., 2014). For
20 example, the Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) model consistently underpredicts
21 surface SOA mass concentrations for a variety of seasons and locations when compared to ambient

1 observational estimates (Carlton and Baker, 2011;Carlton et al., 2010;Hayes et al., 2014;Zhang et
2 al., 2014a).

3

4 SOA formation and the preceding gas-phase photooxidation chemistry are complex and often
5 involve multiple oxidation steps in the gas, aqueous, and particle phase as well as accretion
6 reactions in the particle phase that yield high molecular weight (MW) products. However, three-
7 dimensional photochemical models must represent the gas-phase chemistry and SOA formation in
8 a simplified fashion for computational efficiency (Barsanti et al., 2013). Gas-phase chemical
9 mechanisms employ “lumped” VOC species, categorized primarily according to reactivity (e.g.,
10 reaction rate constants with the OH radical) (Carter, 2000;Yarwood et al., 2005), not product
11 volatility or solubility. Condensable SOA-forming oxidation products are typically represented
12 with 2 products in the standard versions of publically available and routinely applied
13 photochemical modeling systems such as GEOS-CHEM (Chung and Seinfeld, 2002;Henze and
14 Seinfeld, 2006) and WRF-CHEM (Grell et al., 2005) and those employed in regulatory
15 applications for rulemaking such as CMAQ (Carlton et al., 2010) and the Comprehensive Air
16 Quality Model with extensions (CAMx) (ENVIRON, 2014). Given the relationships between
17 precursor VOC, OH radical abundance and SOA formation, it is important to simultaneously
18 evaluate the model representation of all three within the context of how organic species evolve in
19 the atmosphere to diagnose persistent SOA model bias.

20

21 Recent studies have shown that warm season SOA mass concentrations are usually greater than
22 primary organic aerosol (POA) mass in the Los Angeles (Docherty et al., 2008;Hersey et al.,

1 2011; Hayes et al., 2013) and Bakersfield (Liu et al., 2012) areas. Gas-to-particle condensation of
2 VOC oxidation products dominate formation of summer SOA in Bakersfield (Liu et al., 2012; Zhao
3 et al., 2013) and up to a third of nighttime organic aerosols (OA) in Bakersfield are organic nitrates
4 (Rollins et al., 2012). Sources of warm season OA in Bakersfield include fossil fuel combustion,
5 vegetative detritus, petroleum operations, biogenic emissions, and cooking (Liu et al., 2012; Zhao
6 et al., 2013). Despite numerous studies based on observations and models, less consensus exists
7 regarding the largest sources of warm season SOA at Pasadena. Bahreini et al. (2012) concluded
8 that SOA at Pasadena is largely derived from gasoline engines with minimal biogenic and diesel
9 fuel contribution (Bahreini et al., 2012). Others concluded large contributions from gasoline fuel
10 combustion to SOA but also found notable contributions from diesel fuel combustion, cooking,
11 and other sources (Gentner et al., 2012; Hayes et al., 2013). Zotter et al. (2014) conclude that 70%
12 of the SOA in the urban plume in Pasadena is due to fossil sources, and that at least 25% of the
13 non-fossil carbon is due to cooking sources. Lower volatility VOC measurements made at
14 Pasadena have been estimated to produce approximately 30% of fresh SOA in the afternoon with
15 a large contribution to these low volatility VOC from petroleum sources other than on-road
16 vehicles (Zhao et al., 2014).

17

18 Chemical measurements of PM_{2.5} carbon, fossil and contemporary aerosol carbon fraction, OC
19 and its components, SOC tracers and speciated VOCs taken as part of the 2010 California Research
20 at the Nexus of Air Quality and Climate Change (CalNex) field study in central and southern
21 California (Ryerson et al., 2013) provide a unique opportunity to quantitatively evaluate modeled
22 organic predictions. These special study data combined with routine PM_{2.5} OC measurements in
23 California are compared with model estimates to gauge how well the modeling system captures

1 the gas and aerosol carbon burden using the standard CMAQ aerosol approach. The SOC
2 mechanism in the base version of CMAQ lends itself well to comparison with chemical tracers
3 because it retains chemical identity traceable to the precursor VOC (Carlton et al., 2010). Finally,
4 a CMAQ sensitivity simulation was performed where the yields of semi-volatile gases from VOC
5 oxidation were increased by a factor of 4 (Zhang et al., 2014b) to determine whether this may
6 ameliorate the model underprediction of secondary organic carbon (SOC) seen here and in other
7 studies (Ensberg et al., 2014).

8

9 **2 METHODS**

10 Predictions of speciated VOC, speciated COC, and aerosol-phase carbon are simultaneously
11 compared to co-located ambient measurements at two surface locations, one in Los Angeles
12 County (Pasadena) and one in the San Joaquin Valley (Bakersfield) air basin. The CMAQ
13 photochemical model is applied with a fine grid resolution (4 km sized grid cells) using emissions
14 from the 2011 National Emissions Inventory and 2010 specific point source information where
15 available.

16

17 **2.1 Model Background**

18 CMAQ version 5.0.2 (www.cmaq-model.org) was applied to estimate air quality in California
19 from May 5 to July 1, 2010, coincident with the CalNex Study. Gas-phase chemistry is simulated
20 with the SAPRC07TB condensed mechanism (Hutzell et al., 2012) and aqueous-phase chemistry
21 that oxidizes sulfur, methylglyoxal, and glyoxal (Carlton et al., 2008; Sarwar et al., 2013). The
22 AERO6 aerosol chemistry module includes ISORROPIAII (Fountoukis and Nenes, 2007)

1 inorganic chemistry and partitioning. The modeling system generally does well capturing ambient
2 inorganic gases and PM_{2.5} species during this time period at Pasadena and Bakersfield (Kelly et
3 al., 2014;Markovic et al., 2014).

4

5 Model predicted OC species are shown in Figure 1 by volatility bin (log of C*) and O:C ratio (see
6 Supporting Information for related details). Aqueous-phase species are shown with blue circles,
7 species largely fossil in origin are colored brown and those non-fossil in origin are green. A
8 general trend of increasing O:C ratio as volatility decreases is consistent with laboratory and field
9 measurements (Jimenez et al., 2009). The placement of the MGLY gem-diol vertically above gas-
10 phase MGLY in Figure 1 represents hydration processes. Aqueous-phase organic chemistry
11 represents multiple processes, including functionalization and oligomerization, because some
12 photooxidation products are small carboxylic acids and others are high molecular weight species
13 (Tan et al., 2010;Carlton et al., 2007).

14

15 VOC precursors for SOA include isoprene, monoterpenes, sesquiterpenes, xylenes, toluene,
16 benzene, alkanes, glyoxal, and methylglyoxal (Figure 1 right panel). Benzene, toluene, and xylene
17 form SOA precursors with high-NO_x (RO₂+NO) and low-NO_x (RO₂+HO₂) specific yields
18 (Carlton et al., 2010). CMAQ converts these precursors into multiple semi-volatile products
19 (Figure 1 middle panel) after a single oxidation step. These multiple products vary in terms of
20 assigned volatility and oxygen-to-carbon (O:C) ratio. When semi-volatile SOA mass oligomerizes
21 in CMAQ the SOA identity is lost and becomes classified only as anthropogenic or biogenic,
22 dependent on the VOC precursor (see Figure S2). After oligomerization, the saturation vapor

1 pressure (C*) and OM:OC ratio associated with all of the 2-product semi-volatile SOA species
2 change from the individual values to the values assigned for non-volatile, non-partitioning SOA
3 mass (C*≈0; OM:OC = 2.1) (Carlton et al., 2010).

4

5 CMAQ VOCs and SOC species are paired in time and space with measurements (Table S2).
6 Modeled predictions are averaged temporally to match observations and extracted from the grid
7 cell where the monitor is located. Modeled toluene and xylene SOC are aggregated to match the
8 measured SOC tracer (2,3-dihydroxy-4-oxopentanoic acid) which is known to represent products
9 from both compounds and potentially other methylated aromatics (Kleindienst et al., 2004).
10 Because the original VOCs contributing to oligomerized species are not tracked by CMAQ,
11 biogenic oligomerized species mass is apportioned to parent VOC based on the fraction each semi-
12 volatile SOC species contributes to the total semi-volatile (non-oligomerized) biogenic SOC at
13 that time and location. The same technique is applied to anthropogenic SOC.

14

15 **2.2 Model Application**

16 The model domain covers the State of California and part of northwest Mexico using 4 km square
17 sized grid cells (Figure S1). The vertical domain extends to 50 mb using 34 layers (layer 1 top ~35
18 m) with most resolution in the boundary layer. Initial and boundary conditions are from a coarser
19 CMAQ simulation that used 3-hourly boundary inflow from a GEOS-Chem (v8-03-02) global
20 model (<http://acmg.seas.harvard.edu/geos/>) simulation for the same period (Henderson et al.,
21 2014). The coarser continental U.S. CMAQ simulation was run continuously from December 2009
22 through this study period and the first week of the finer 4 km CMAQ simulation was not used to

1 minimize the influence of initial chemical conditions. Gridded meteorological variables are
2 generated using the Weather Research and Forecasting model (WRF), Advanced Research WRF
3 core (ARW) version 3.1 (Skamarock et al., 2008). Surface meteorology including temperature,
4 wind speed, and wind direction and daytime mixing layer height were well characterized by WRF
5 in central and southern California during this period (Baker et al., 2013).

6

7 Emissions are processed to hourly gridded input for CMAQ with the Sparse Matrix Operator
8 Kernel Emissions (SMOKE) modeling system (<http://www.cmascenter.org/smoke/>). Solar
9 radiation and temperature estimated by the WRF model are used as input to the Biogenic Emission
10 Inventory System (BEIS) v3.14 to generate hourly emissions estimates of biogenic speciated VOC
11 and NO (Carlton and Baker, 2011). Continuous emissions monitor (CEM) data are used in the
12 modeling to reflect 2010 emissions information for electrical generating units and other point
13 sources that provide that information. Day specific fires are represented but minimally impacted
14 air quality during this period (Hayes et al., 2013). Mobile source emissions were generated using
15 the SMOKE-MOVES integration approach (United States Environmental Protection Agency,
16 2014) and then interpolated between totals provided by the California Air Resources Board for
17 2007 and 2011. Other anthropogenic emissions are based on the 2011 National Emissions
18 Inventory (NEI) version 1 (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2014). Primary mass
19 associated with carbon (non-carbon organic mass, NCOM) is estimated based on sector specific
20 organic matter-to-organic carbon (OM:OC) ratios (Simon and Bhave, 2012).

21

1 Emissions of primarily emitted PM_{2.5} OC and the sum of anthropogenic SOA precursors benzene,
2 toluene, and xylenes (BTX) are shown in Table 1 by source sector and area. Here, the southern
3 San Joaquin valley includes emissions from Kern, Tulare, Kings, and Fresno counties and the Los
4 Angeles area include emissions from Los Angeles and Orange counties. BTX emissions in both
5 areas are dominated by mobile sources (onroad and offroad) and area sources such as solvent
6 utilization and waste disposal (Table S1). Primary OC emissions are largely commercial cooking
7 (non-point area) in both locations with notable contribution from various types of stationary point
8 and mobile sources. BTX emissions are almost completely fossil in origin and primarily emitted
9 OC is split fairly evenly between contemporary and fossil origin in these areas based on the 2011
10 version 1 NEI (Table 1).

11

12 **2.3 Sampling and Analysis Methods**

13 CalNex ground-based measurements took place in Pasadena, CA, from 15 May – 15 June 2010
14 and in Bakersfield, CA, from 15 May – 30 June 2010. The Bakersfield sampling site was located
15 in a transition area of southeast Bakersfield between the city center and areas of agricultural
16 activity. The Pasadena sampling site was located on the California Institute of Technology campus
17 with the Los Angeles metropolitan area to the southwest and San Gabriel Mountains directly north
18 (see Figures S3).

19

20 An ambient-based approach is used here to estimate secondary OC from individual or groups of
21 similar hydrocarbons (Kleindienst et al., 2010). Concentrations of specific compounds, tracers, are
22 determined and used to estimate SOC contributions from the particular source groups based on
23 measured laboratory tracer-to-SOC mass fractions (Kleindienst et al., 2007). Filter-based

1 particulate matter sampling conducted at each site for 23-h periods starting at midnight (PDT) of
2 the designated sampling day was used for tracer-based organic aerosol characterization. In total,
3 there were 32 filter samples from Pasadena and 36 from the Bakersfield site (Lewandowski et al.,
4 2013). The filter sampling protocols have been described in detail elsewhere (Kleindienst et al.,
5 2010). For the analysis of the SOC tracer compounds, filters and field blanks were treated using
6 the derivatization method described by Kleindienst et al. (Kleindienst et al., 2007). The mass
7 spectral analysis for the organic compounds used as secondary molecular tracers has been
8 described (Edney et al., 2003). The method detection limit (MDL) for the SOC tracer species is
9 0.1 ng m⁻³. Additional details of this methodology are provided in the Supporting Information.

10

11 OC and elemental carbon (EC) concentrations were determined using the thermal-optical
12 transmittance (TOT) method (Birch and Cary, 1996) from 1.54 cm² punches of quartz filters
13 collected concurrent with the filters used for tracer analyses (hereafter referred to as UNC/EPA
14 OC). The outer non-loaded rings were removed from filter samples then sent to Woods Hole
15 Oceanographic Institute Accelerator Mass Spectrometry for ¹⁴C analysis. The fraction of modern
16 carbon is provided for each daily total PM_{2.5} carbon sample (Geron, 2009). The modern carbon
17 fraction is expressed as a percentage of an oxalic acid standard material that represents the carbon
18 isotopic ratio for wood growth during 1890 (Stuiver, 1983). To account for the atmospheric ¹⁴C
19 enhancement due to nuclear bomb testing in the 1950s and 1960s, a factor of 1.044 (Zotter et al.,
20 2014) was used to calculate the contemporary carbon fraction from the measured modern carbon
21 result (Lewis et al., 2004;Zotter et al., 2014).

22

1 Two VOC datasets (one canister based, and one *in situ*) from each site were used in this analysis.
2 Three hour integrated (06:00 – 09:00 PDT) canister samples for VOC analysis were collected at
3 both sites. A total of 41 samples were collected at the Bakersfield site and 31 at Pasadena. The
4 offline VOC analysis details are given in the Supporting Information. In Bakersfield, online VOC
5 mixing ratios were collected for 30 minutes on the hour and analyzed via gas chromatography-
6 flame ionization detector (GC-FID) and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS)
7 (Gentner et al., 2012). In Pasadena, online VOC measurements were collected for 5 minutes every
8 30 minutes and analyzed via GC-MS (Borbon et al., 2013; Gilman et al., 2010). Carbon monoxide
9 measurements at Pasadena were determined using UV fluorescence (Gerbig et al., 1999).

10

11 Hydroxyl (OH) and hydroperoxyl (HO₂) radical measurements were made at both locations using
12 Fluorescence Assay with Gas Expansion (FAGE). The Bakersfield OH measurements used in this
13 analysis were collected using the OH_{chem} method from the Penn State ground-based FAGE
14 instrument (Mao et al., 2012). The Pasadena hydroperoxyl observations were made using the
15 Indiana University FAGE instrument (Dusanter et al., 2009). HO₂ measurements from both
16 instruments could contain an interference from various RO₂, therefore when comparing the model
17 output with the observations, the sum of modeled HO₂ and RO₂ has been used (Griffith et al.,
18 2013).

19

20 OC measurements from nearby Chemical Speciation Network (CSN) sites in Pasadena and
21 Bakersfield were also used for comparison purposes. The Los Angeles CSN site (60371103) was
22 approximately 9 miles from the CalNex site, and the Bakersfield CSN site (60290014) was

1 approximately 3 miles from the CalNex site (see Figures S3a and S3b in the supporting
2 information). The CSN network uses quartz-fiber filters and analyzes the carbon off-line using the
3 thermal-optical reflectance method. Aerodyne High-Resolution Time-of-Flight Aerosol Mass
4 Spectrometer (AMS) measurements of PM₁ OC made at Pasadena are described in Hayes et al.,
5 2013 and online Sunset PM_{2.5} OC measurements made at Bakersfield are described in Liu et al.,
6 2012.

7

8 **3 Results & Discussion**

9 The results and discussion are organized such that the contemporary and fossil components of
10 PM_{2.5} carbon at the Pasadena and Bakersfield sites are discussed, followed by model performance
11 for PM_{2.5} carbon, speciated VOC, and SOC tracer groups. Table 2 shows episode aggregated model
12 performance metrics for PM_{2.5} organic and elemental carbon, SOC tracers, total VOC, and select
13 VOC species. The results of a sensitivity increasing semi-volatile yields are presented throughout
14 and discussed in detail before finally providing an evaluation of PM_{2.5} carbon at all routine monitor
15 sites in California.

16

17 **3.1 Contemporary and Fossil Origins of PM_{2.5} Carbon**

18 Field campaign average total PM_{2.5} carbon measurements indicate nearly equal amounts of
19 contemporary and fossil contribution at Pasadena and Bakersfield. The field study average
20 contemporary fraction of 23-hr average PM_{2.5} total carbon samples is 0.51 at Bakersfield (N=35)
21 and 0.48 at Pasadena (N=25). The estimate for contemporary carbon fraction at Pasadena is

1 consistent with other ^{14}C measurements at this location for this period (Zotter et al., 2014) and
2 similar to measurements made at urban areas in the Southeast United States: Birmingham 52%
3 and Atlanta 63% contemporary carbon (Kleindienst et al., 2010).

4

5 Figure 2 shows observed daily 23-hr PM_{2.5} OC shaded by contemporary and fossil component
6 and also PM_{2.5} elemental carbon. The fractional contribution of contemporary carbon to total
7 PM_{2.5} carbon is variable from day-to-day at the Pasadena site and steadily increases through the
8 study period at the Bakersfield location (first week average of 0.44 and final week average of
9 0.58). Some of the contemporary carbon fraction measurements from Pasadena were above 1.0.
10 These samples were considered erroneous and not included in the analysis and suggest the
11 possibility of positive biases due to nearby sources (e.g. medical incinerator) in the area. It is
12 possible some of the stronger day-to-day variability in contemporary carbon fraction
13 measurements at Pasadena may be related to biases due to nearby “hot” sources. Higher time
14 resolution ^{14}C measurements at Pasadena show an increase in fossil fraction during the middle of
15 the day related to increased emissions of fossil PM_{2.5} carbon precursors and SOA formation in the
16 Los Angeles area (Zotter et al., 2014). PM_{2.5} OC of fossil origin at Pasadena shows the strongest
17 relationship to daily average temperature (Figure S4a) compared with contemporary carbon, total
18 carbon, and elemental carbon. At Bakersfield the relationship between daily average temperature
19 and fossil and contemporary carbon is similar (Figure S4b) and not as strong as the relationship in
20 Pasadena. Neither fossil nor contemporary carbon concentrations show discernible patterns by day
21 of the week at either location (Figure S5).

22

1 Modeled contemporary PM_{2.5} carbon is estimated by summing primarily emitted PM_{2.5} multiplied
2 by the contemporary fraction of urban area emissions (see Section 2.1 and Table 1) with model
3 estimated biogenic SOC species. The average baseline modeled contemporary fraction of PM_{2.5}
4 OC in Pasadena is 0.51 and Bakersfield 0.54, both of which are similar to average observation
5 estimates. However, the model shows little day to day variability in contemporary carbon fraction
6 which does not match observed trends (Figure S6). Episode average modeled estimates of PM_{2.5}
7 OC contemporary fraction are similar to the estimated contemporary fraction of the urban
8 emissions of primary PM_{2.5} OC (Bakersfield=.53 and Pasadena=.51), as noted in Table 1.

9

10 **3.2 PM_{2.5} Carbon**

11 Figure 3 shows measured (UNC/EPA data) and modeled PM_{2.5} OC at Bakersfield and Pasadena.
12 Organic carbon measurements from co-located instruments (AMS at Pasadena measured PM₁ and
13 Sunset at Bakersfield measured PM_{2.5}) and a nearest CSN monitor are also shown in Figure 3. The
14 co-located AMS measurements compare well with the UNC/EPA PM_{2.5} organic carbon
15 measurements at Pasadena, while the concentrations measured at the nearby CSN site are
16 substantially lower. At Bakersfield, UNC/EPA measurements are higher compared with the nearby
17 CSN (episode average ~3 times higher) and co-located daily average Sunset (episode average 20%
18 higher) measured PM_{2.5} OC illustrate possible measurement artifacts in the CalNex measurements
19 at this location. These differences in measured concentration at Bakersfield may be related to filter
20 handling, variability in collected blanks, true differences in the OC concentrations since the CSN
21 site is spatially distinct, differences in the height of measurement (these CSN monitors are situated

1 on top of buildings), and differences in analytical methods since CSN sites use thermal optical
2 reflectance (TOR) to operationally define OC and EC.

3

4 Modeled PM_{2.5} OC is underestimated at both CalNex locations (Figure 3), most notably at
5 Bakersfield. However, given the large differences in PM_{2.5} OC mass compared to co-located and
6 nearby routine measurements, it is not clear which measurement best represents ambient PM_{2.5} OC
7 concentrations and would be most appropriate for comparison with the model. The model
8 generally compares well to the CSN site nearest Pasadena and Bakersfield. PM_{2.5} elemental carbon
9 is well characterized by the model at Bakersfield (fractional bias = -13% and fractional error =
10 35%) and over-estimated at Pasadena (fractional bias and error = 125%) (Figure S7). Since the
11 emissions are based on TOR and UNC/EPA measurements use the TOT operational definition of
12 total carbon some of the model overestimation may be related to the TOR method estimating
13 higher elemental carbon fraction of total carbon (Chow et al., 2001).

14

15 PM_{2.5} OC is mostly primary (Pasadena 93% and Bakersfield 88%) in the baseline model
16 simulation. AMS measurements at Pasadena suggest OC is mostly secondary in nature with an
17 average of 63% for the SVOOA and OOA components for this field study (Hayes et al., 2013).
18 Model estimated PM_{2.5} OC is largely from primarily emitted sources and contemporary in nature
19 based on the contemporary/fossil split of primary PM_{2.5} emissions near both sites (Figure S6).
20 Primarily emitted PM_{2.5} OC emissions sources near Pasadena and Bakersfield include mobile
21 sources, cooking, and dust based on emissions inventory information (Table 1). Some of these
22 sources of primarily emitted PM_{2.5} OC may be semi-volatile in nature. Model treatment of POA

1 as semi-volatile may improve the primary-secondary comparison with observations but would
2 likely exacerbate underpredictions of PM_{2.5} OC unless oxidation and re-partitioning of the products
3 is considered (Robinson et al., 2007). The underestimation of SOC may result from underestimated
4 precursor VOC, poorly characterized oxidants, underestimated semi-volatile yields, missing
5 intermediate volatility VOC emissions (Stroud et al., 2014; Zhao et al., 2014), other issues, or some
6 combination of each.

7

8 **3.3 Gas-phase carbon**

9 Model estimates are paired with hourly VOC (Figure S8) and mid-morning 3-hr average VOC
10 (Figure S9) at both locations. Compounds considered largely fossil in origin including xylene,
11 toluene, and benzene are generally well predicted at both sites although these species tend to be
12 slightly overestimated at Pasadena and slightly underestimated at Bakersfield. Since emissions of
13 these compounds near these sites are largely from mobile sources (Table 1), this suggests
14 emissions from this sector are fairly well characterized in this application.

15

16 Contemporary (biogenic) origin monoterpenes are underestimated at both sites while isoprene is
17 underestimated at Pasadena and has little bias at Bakersfield based on hourly measurements
18 (Figure S8; Table 2). Isoprene and monoterpene performance may be partly related to the model
19 not fully capturing transport from nearby areas with large emitting vegetation to these monitor
20 locations (Heo et al., 2015), deficiencies in emissions factors, or poorly characterized vegetation.
21 Speciated monoterpene measurements made at Bakersfield during this field campaign suggest
22 emissions of certain species were elevated at the start of this time period due to flowering (Gentner

1 et al., 2014b), which is a process not included in current biogenic emissions models and thus may
2 contribute to modeled monoterpene underestimates.

3

4 Other VOC species that are systematically underestimated include ethane, methanol, ethanol, and
5 acetaldehyde. Underprediction of methanol and ethanol in Bakersfield may be largely related to
6 missing VOC emissions for confined animal operations in the emission inventory (Gentner et al.,
7 2014a). Underestimates of oxygenated VOC compounds may indirectly impact SOC formation
8 through muted photochemistry (Steiner et al., 2008). Carbon monoxide tends to be underestimated
9 at both locations (Figure S8), possibly due to boundary inflow concentrations from the global
10 model simulation being too low or underestimated regional emissions.

11

12 **3.4 PM_{2.5} SOC tracers**

13 Figure 4 shows modeled and measured total PM_{2.5} OC mass. Measured mass explained by fossil
14 and contemporary SOC tracers are shown in the top row. The unexplained observed fraction is a
15 mixture of primary, secondary, fossil and contemporary origin. Modeled mass is colored to
16 differentiate primarily emitted OC and SOC. Estimates of SOC mass from a specific or lumped
17 VOC group (e.g. isoprene, monoterpenes, toluene), hereafter called SOC tracer mass, comprise
18 little of the measured or modeled PM_{2.5} OC at either of these locations during this field study
19 (Figure 4). Total SOC tracer estimates explain only 9% of the total measured UNC/EPA PM_{2.5} OC
20 at Pasadena and 5% at Bakersfield. The percentage of mass explained by known secondary tracers
21 is smaller than urban areas in the southeast United States: Atlanta 27% and Birmingham 31%
22 (Kleindienst et al., 2010).

1
2 The portion of measured and modeled PM_{2.5} carbon not identified with tracers may be from
3 underestimated adjustment factors related to previously uncharacterized SVOC wall loss in
4 chamber studies (Zhang et al., 2014b) and unidentified SOC pathways. Additional reasons for the
5 low estimate of observed tracer contribution to PM_{2.5} carbon include known pathways without an
6 ambient tracer and tracer degradation between formation and measurement. Based on ¹⁴C
7 measurements, this unidentified portion of the measurements is likely comprised of both
8 contemporary and fossil carbon in generally similar amounts. Total modeled SOC explain only
9 12% of the PM_{2.5} carbon at Bakersfield and 7% at Pasadena. As noted previously, AMS based
10 observations suggest most OC is SOC (63%) at Pasadena (Hayes et al., 2013) meaning both the
11 SOC tracer measurements and model estimates explain little of the SOC at this location.

12
13 Despite the relatively small component of PM_{2.5} carbon explained by SOC tracers, a comparison
14 of measured and modeled SOC and precursor VOC provides additional opportunity to better
15 understand sources of PM_{2.5} carbon in these areas and begin to establish relationships between
16 precursors and resulting SOC formation. Ambient and model estimated SOC tracers and daily
17 average VOC precursors are shown in Figure 5 for Pasadena and Figure 6 for Bakersfield. The
18 model underestimates toluene and xylene SOC at both locations even though VOC gas precursors
19 show an overprediction tendency at Pasadena and slight underestimation at Bakersfield. Isoprene
20 SOC is generally under predicted at both sites, in particular at Bakersfield. This is in contrast to
21 the slight overprediction of daily 24-hr average isoprene at Bakersfield. One explanation may be
22 that isoprene SOC is formed elsewhere in the region (e.g. the nearby foothills of the Sierra Nevada

1 where emissions are highest in the region), which would support the lack of relationship between
2 isoprene SOC and isoprene concentrations at Bakersfield (Heo et al., 2015;Shilling et al., 2013).
3 The lack of relationship could also be related to the reactive uptake kinetics of isoprene-derived
4 epoxydiols (IEPOX) (Gaston et al., 2014) and methacrylic acid epoxide (MAE). Since the model
5 does not include the reactive uptake of IEPOX and MAE and subsequent acid-catalyzed aqueous
6 phase chemistry it is likely isoprene SOC would be underestimated to some degree at both sites
7 (Karambelas et al., 2013;Pye et al., 2013). Of these channels the IEPOX channel is thought to have
8 the largest SOA production potential, but the chemistry in the LA basin is dominated by the high-
9 NO channel (Hayes et al., 2014) and thus IEPOX is not formed from isoprene emitted within the
10 LA basin. Consistent with that observation, the AMS tracer of IEPOX SOA is only detected at
11 background level in the LA basin.

12

13 Monoterpene VOC and monoterpene SOC are underestimated systematically at both locations
14 suggesting underpredictions of the VOC precursor translates to underestimates in SOC. As noted
15 previously, monoterpene measurements suggest an emissions enhancement related to flowering or
16 other emission events (e.g. harvest or pruning) (Gentner et al., 2014b) that is not included in current
17 biogenic emissions model formulations. The monoterpene measured tracer SOC group is based on
18 α -pinene products. Measured SOC at these sites could be from monoterpene species other than α -
19 pinene. A coincident study near Bakersfield indicates α - and β -pinene emissions represent a fairly
20 small fraction of total monoterpene emissions during this time period (Gentner et al., 2014b). SOA
21 yields in CMAQ for monoterpenes are heavily weighted toward α - and β - pinene, which may be
22 appropriate in most places, but not here where measurements show large contributions from

1 limonene, myrcene, and para-cymene. This is important because yields vary among from different
2 monoterpenes and limonene has a much larger SOA yield than pinenes (Carlton et al., 2010).

3

4 Sesquiterpene VOC and SOC tracer (β -caryophyllenic acid) mass measurements were never above
5 the MDL at either site during CalNex, but the modeling system often predicts SOC from this VOC
6 group (Table 2, Figure S10b). The SOC tracer measurement methodology is more uncertain for
7 sesquiterpene products (Offenberg et al., 2009) and gas-phase sesquiterpenes would have oxidized
8 before reaching the measurement sites since sesquiterpene emitting vegetation exists in the San
9 Joaquin Valley (Ormeño et al., 2010). It is also possible that SOC is forming from sesquiterpenes
10 other than β -caryophyllene.

11

12 One potential explanation for an underestimation of SOC despite well characterized precursors
13 (e.g. toluene and xylenes) could be lack of available oxidants. As shown in Figure 7, the model
14 tends to overestimate the hydroxyl radical compared with measurement estimates at Pasadena.
15 Hydroperoxyl+peroxy radical measurements are underestimated at Pasadena by a factor of 2 on
16 average. The model overestimates preliminary measurements of both hydroxyl (by nearly a factor
17 of 2 on average) and hydroperoxyl+peroxy radicals at Bakersfield. Model representation of
18 hydroxyl radical at these locations during this time period does not seem to be limiting VOC
19 oxidation to semi-volatile products. Better agreement between radical ambient and modeled
20 estimates could result in less SOC produced by the model and exacerbate model SOC
21 underestimates. This suggests deficiencies other than radical representation by the modeling
22 system are more influential in SOC performance for these areas. However, hydroperoxyl

1 underestimates at Pasadena could lead to muted SOA formation through low-NO_x pathways
2 dependent on hydroperoxyl concentrations and contribute to model under-estimates of SOC.

3

4 **3.5 Sensitivity Simulation**

5 OH is not underestimated in the model and biases in precursor VOC do not clearly translate into
6 similar biases in SOC (e.g. toluene and xylene VOC are overestimated at Pasadena but tracer SOC
7 for this group is underestimated) for these sites during this time period. Modeled SOC may partly
8 be underestimated due to the use of experimental SOC yields that may be biased low due to
9 chamber studies not fully accounting for SVOC wall loss (Zhang et al., 2014b). Even though Zhang
10 et al., 2014b showed results for one precursor to SOA pathway, as a sensitivity study here the yield
11 of all semivolatile gases are increased by a factor of 4. This was done by increasing in the mass-
12 based stoichiometric coefficients for each VOC to SOA pathway in the model to provide a
13 preliminary indication about how increased yields might impact model performance. A factor of
14 4 is chosen based on the upper limit related to SVOC wall loss in Zhang et al. (Zhang et al., 2014b).
15 Aside from wall loss characterization, there are a variety of other aspects of chamber studies that
16 could result in underestimated yields including particle-phase accretion and aqueous phase
17 chemistry and differences in chamber and ambient humidity.

18

19 Model estimates of PM_{2.5} OC increase in urban areas and regionally when semivolatile yields are
20 increased. The sensitivity simulation results in episode average anthropogenic SOC increases by a
21 factor of 3 (benzene SOC at Pasadena) to 4.8 (toluene and xylene SOC at Pasadena) and biogenic
22 SOC increases between a factor of 5.1 (isoprene SOC at Pasadena) to 8.9 (monoterpene SOC at

1 Bakersfield). Model performance improves at the CalNex locations (Figures 3 and 4) and at routine
2 monitors throughout California (Figure 8). Average fractional bias improves from -34% to -11%
3 at routine monitor locations and fractional error is reduced from 53% to 42%.

4

5 The sensitivity simulation with increased semivolatile yields results in increased model estimated
6 secondary contribution as a percent of PM_{2.5} carbon, but still does not conform to observation
7 based estimates that indicate PM_{2.5} carbon is largely secondary in nature at these sites (Liu et al.,
8 2012; Hayes et al., 2013). Modeled SOC in the sensitivity simulation explains 36% of the PM_{2.5}
9 OC at Bakersfield and 22% at Pasadena, which is larger than the baseline simulation by more than
10 a factor of 3. The model predicted percent contemporary fraction of PM_{2.5} carbon changed very
11 little due to this sensitivity. The model sensitivity results are not compared to SOC tracer group
12 estimates since the conversion of tracer concentrations to SOC concentrations would require a
13 similar adjustment and would result in similar relationships between model estimates and
14 observations.

15

16 **3.6 Aqueous and other SOC processes**

17 Measurements in Pasadena during the summer of 2009 suggest aqueous processes can be important
18 for SOC mass (Hersey et al., 2011). For the CalNex period at Pasadena, Washenfelder et al. (2012)
19 showed box model estimated 8-hr average SOC from aqueous-phase chemistry of glyoxal to be
20 between 0.0 and 0.2 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (Washenfelder et al., 2011) and Hayes et al. (2014) showed that the
21 observed SOA was not different between cloudy and clear morning days. CMAQ predicted 24-
22 hour average SOC from glyoxal and methyglyoxal through aqueous chemistry at Pasadena ranges

1 from 0.0 to 0.04 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. CMAQ estimates of SOC from small carbonyl compounds via aqueous-
2 phase processes are within the range inferred from measurements.

3

4 Not all CMAQ SOC formation pathways can be included in this analysis. No observational
5 indicator exists for SOC derived from alkanes, benzene, glyoxal, and methylglyoxal since unique
6 tracer species have not been determined. Conversely, naphthalene/PAH SOC tracers were
7 measured, but not modeled in CMAQ. Measured naphthalene SOC at these sites is minor (Hayes
8 et al., 2014) which is consistent with other areas (Dzepina et al., 2009). Previous CMAQ
9 simulations predict that PAHs contribute less than 30 ng m^{-3} of SOA in Southern California in
10 summer (Pye and Pouliot, 2012), and thus including those pathways is unlikely to close the model-
11 measurement gap in PM2.5 OC. 2-Methyl-3-Buten-2-ol (MBO) derived SOC concentrations (3-4
12 ngC m^{-3}) were low at both monitor locations throughout the campaign (Lewandowski et al., 2013).
13 MBO does not appear to notably contribute SOC at these locations during this time period, which
14 is consistent with low yields estimated in laboratory experiments (Chan et al., 2009). Organic
15 carbon emitted from marine biological activity is not included in this modeling assessment and
16 may contribute to some degree at Pasadena (Gantt et al., 2010) based on ship-based measurements
17 (Hayes et al., 2013).

18

19 **3.7 Regional PM_{2.5} Organic Carbon**

20 Including routine measurement data is important to provide broader context for PM_{2.5} carbon in
21 California and understand how the model performs and responds to perturbations at diverse
22 locations beyond the two CalNex sites. The highest average modeled PM_{2.5} OC in California

1 during this period is in the Los Angeles area (Figure 8). The Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys
2 also show higher concentrations of PM_{2.5} OC than more rural parts of the State (Figure 8).
3 Measurements made at routine monitor networks (Figure 8) show similar elevated concentrations
4 near Los Angeles, Sacramento valley, and San Joaquin valley. These areas of elevated OC
5 generally coincide with areas of the State that experience a build-up of pollutants due to terrain
6 features blocking air flow (Baker et al., 2013). The model does not tend to capture the highest
7 concentrations of measured PM_{2.5} OC in the central San Joaquin valley, Imperial Valley, or at one
8 CSN monitor in the northeast Sierra Nevada that is near large residential wood combustion
9 emissions (Figure S11). The model underestimates PM_{2.5} OC on average across all CSN sites
10 during this time period (fractional bias = -34% and fractional error = 53%). The modeling systems
11 show an overprediction tendency (fractional bias = 77%) across all CSN sites for PM_{2.5} elemental
12 carbon in California during this period.

13

14 **4 Conclusions**

15 Total PM_{2.5} carbon at Pasadena and Bakersfield during the CalNex period in May and June of 2010
16 is fairly evenly split between contemporary and fossil origin. Total PM_{2.5} OC is generally
17 underestimated at both field study locations and at many routine measurement sites in California
18 and comparison with AMS observations suggest a large underestimation of SOC. Semivolatile
19 yields were increased by a factor of 4 based on recent research suggesting yields may be higher
20 due to updated accounting for SVOC wall loss. This sensitivity resulted in a better comparison to
21 routine and field study measurements. However, the model estimated OC is still largely primary
22 in nature and inconsistent with observation based approaches at these sites. A modeling study for

1 the same time period using different emissions, photochemical transport model, and SOA
2 treatment also show underestimated OA and SOA at Pasadena and underestimated SOA but
3 comparable OA at the Bakersfield location (Fast et al., 2014).

4

5 CMAQ predictions of individual VOCs are often not consistent with model performance for the
6 corresponding subsequent SOC species mass. Gas-phase mixing ratios of toluene and xylene are
7 well-predicted by CMAQ, typically within a factor of 2 of the observations at both sites. However,
8 measurement-based estimates of the corresponding SOC mass are consistently greater than model-
9 predicted mass. Mass concentrations of the isoprene SOC are systematically underpredicted, most
10 noticeably at Bakersfield, while model predictions of gas-phase isoprene are not biased in only
11 one direction to the same degree. Gas-phase monoterpenes and the related SOC species are
12 underpredicted at both CalNex monitoring sites. The hydroxyl radical is fairly well characterized
13 at Pasadena and systematically overestimated at Bakersfield suggesting oxidants are not limiting
14 SOC production in the model.

15

16 Episode average CMAQ model estimates of PM_{2.5} OC contemporary fraction at Pasadena and
17 Bakersfield are similar to radiocarbon measurements but lack day to day variability. CMAQ PM_{2.5}
18 OC is predominantly primary in origin which is contrary to findings from other studies that PM_{2.5}
19 OC in these areas are largely secondary in nature during this time period (Bahreini et al.,
20 2012; Hayes et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2012). Treatment of primarily emitted PM_{2.5} OC as semi-volatile
21 would likely result in total PM_{2.5} OC estimates that would be mostly secondary rather than primary.
22 However, this would likely exacerbate model underestimates of PM_{2.5} OC. Some model

1 performance features including underestimated SOC may be related to less volatile hydrocarbon
2 emissions missing from the emission inventory (Chan et al., 2013;Gentner et al., 2012;Jathar et
3 al., 2014;Zhao et al., 2014) or mischaracterized when lumped into chemical mechanism VOC
4 species (Jathar et al., 2014). A future intent is to simulate this same period using a volatility basis
5 set approach to treat primary OC emissions with some degree of volatility and potential for SOC
6 production and better account for sector specific intermediate volatility emissions.

7

8 **Disclaimer**

9 Although this work was reviewed by EPA and approved for publication, it may not necessarily
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11

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19

20 **Supporting Information**

1 Additional measurement methods, model description, model output, and comparison with
2 measurements and formulas used for data pairing are provided in the Supporting Information.

3

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1 Table 1. Episode total anthropogenic emissions of primarily emitted PM2.5 organic carbon and
 2 the sum of benzene, toluene, and xylenes by emissions sector group. The Los Angeles (LA) total
 3 includes Los Angeles and Orange counties. The southern San Joaquin Valley (SSJV) total
 4 includes Kern, Fresno, Kings, and Tulare counties. Residential wood combustion, fugitives, and
 5 non-point area PM2.5 emissions are largely contemporary in origin.

Sector	Primarily emitted PM2.5 organic carbon				Benzene + Toluene + Xylenes			
	SSJV (tons)	SSJV (%)	LA (tons)	LA (%)	SSJV (tons)	SSJV (%)	LA (tons)	LA (%)
Non-point area	139.9	33.8	410.1	40.8	326.7	37.2	1229.3	35.8
Onroad mobile	73.3	17.7	263.6	26.2	273.5	31.2	1190.9	34.6
Nonroad mobile	23.9	5.8	161.4	16.1	170.1	19.4	822.3	23.9
Point: non-electrical generating	61.3	14.8	56.3	5.6	68.3	7.8	177.7	5.2
Residential wood combustion	54.1	13.1	82.7	8.2	2.0	0.2	3.2	0.1
Oil & gas exploration and related	28.5	6.9	0.0	0.0	34.2	3.9	1.1	0.0
Fugitive dust	24.9	6.0	18.1	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Commercial marine & rail	3.8	0.9	11.4	1.1	2.6	0.3	12.8	0.4
Point: electrical generating	4.3	1.0	1.7	0.2	0.1	0.0	1.0	0.0
Total Contemporary Carbon	218.9	52.9	510.9	50.8	2.0	0.2	3.2	0.1
Total Fossil Carbon	195.2	47.1	494.5	49.2	875.3	99.8	3435.1	99.9

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7

1 Table 2. Episode average measured and modeled PM2.5 carbon, PM2.5 SOC groups, and VOC
 2 at the Pasadena and Bakersfield sites.

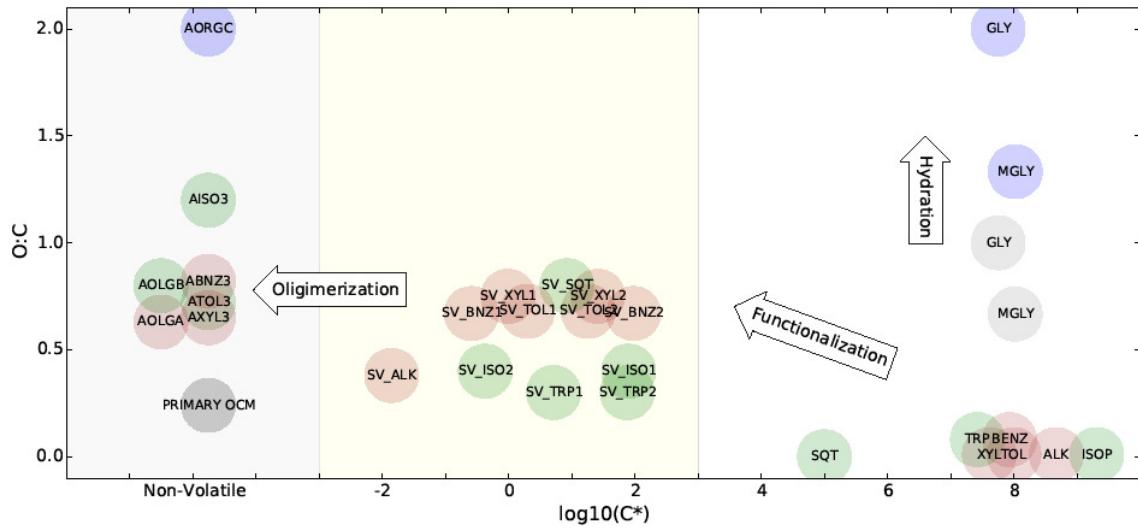
Specie	Model Run	Location	N	Observed (ugC/m3)	Predicted (ugC/m3)	Bias (ugC/m3)	Error (ugC/m3)	Fractional Bias (%)	Fractional Error (%)	r
Elemental Carbon	Baseline	Bakersfield	35	0.5	0.4	-0.1	0.1	-13	35	0.17
	Baseline	Pasadena	31	0.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	125	125	0.70
	Baseline	CSN/IMPROVE sites	220	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.6	77	87	0.47
Organic Carbon	Baseline	Bakersfield	35	5.4	0.8	-4.6	4.6	-144	144	0.11
	Baseline	Pasadena	31	3.6	2.0	-1.6	1.6	-53	53	0.73
	Baseline	CSN/IMPROVE sites	220	1.9	1.3	-0.6	0.9	-34	53	0.06
	Sensitivity	CSN/IMPROVE sites	220	1.9	1.7	-0.2	0.8	-11	42	0.32
Specie	Model Run	Location	N	Observed (ngC/m3)	Predicted (ngC/m3)	Bias (ngC/m3)	Error (ngC/m3)	Fractional Bias (%)	Fractional Error (%)	r
Isoprene SOC	Baseline	Bakersfield	36	96	21	-75	75	-126	128	0.36
		Pasadena	32	42	27	-15	25	-60	83	0.10
Monoterpene SOC	Baseline	Bakersfield	35	56	21	-35	37	-75	89	0.66
		Pasadena	32	82	21	-60	61	-89	93	0.55
Toluene+Xylene SOC	Baseline	Bakersfield	35	59	15	-44	44	-114	114	0.62
		Pasadena	32	125	36	-89	89	-100	100	0.82
Sesquiterpene SOC	Baseline	Bakersfield	41		17					
		Pasadena	41		7					
Benzene SOC	Baseline	Bakersfield	41		2					
		Pasadena	41		2					
Alkane SOC	Baseline	Bakersfield	41		12					
		Pasadena	41		22					
Cloud SOC	Baseline	Bakersfield	41		1					
		Pasadena	41		5					
Naphthalene SOC	Baseline	Bakersfield	36	43						
		Pasadena	32	114						
Specie	Model Run	Location	N	Observed (ppbC)	Predicted (ppbC)	Bias (ppbC)	Error (ppbC)	Fractional Bias (%)	Fractional Error (%)	r
Isoprene VOC 3-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	5	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	79	79	0.79
		Pasadena	8	0.6	0.5	-0.2	0.5	0	84	-0.21
Monoterpene VOC 3-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	37	1.4	0.5	-0.9	1.0	-72	89	0.25
		Pasadena	28	1.8	0.3	-1.5	1.6	-129	137	0.15
Toluene VOC 3-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	41	4.3	2.7	-1.6	1.9	-48	55	0.44
		Pasadena	29	7.3	7.7	0.4	3.5	17	44	0.24
Xylene VOC 3-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	41	4.3	1.8	-2.5	2.5	-82	83	0.34
		Pasadena	29	6.7	4.5	-2.1	2.6	-33	41	0.20
Benzene VOC 3-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	41	1.2	1.3	0.2	0.5	6	38	0.14
		Pasadena	29	1.5	1.6	0.1	0.5	0	30	0.16
Total VOC 3-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	41	186.9	63.7	-123.2	124.2	-95	97	0.37
		Pasadena	29	188.9	88.7	-100.1	100.1	-66	66	0.26
Isoprene VOC 1-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	712	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.3	-21	83	0.15
		Pasadena	718	1.6	0.8	-0.9	1.7	-32	139	-0.10
Monoterpene VOC 1-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	605	0.8	0.3	-0.6	0.7	-63	101	0.25
		Pasadena	707	0.7	0.2	-0.5	0.5	-105	111	0.05
Toluene VOC 1-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	737	2.5	1.7	-0.8	1.5	-25	56	0.31
		Pasadena	717	4.0	6.1	2.0	2.8	36	54	0.23
Xylene VOC 1-hr	Baseline	Bakersfield	737	1.9	1.1	-0.7	1.2	-37	64	0.32
		Pasadena	718	3.2	3.4	0.2	1.7	2	51	0.15

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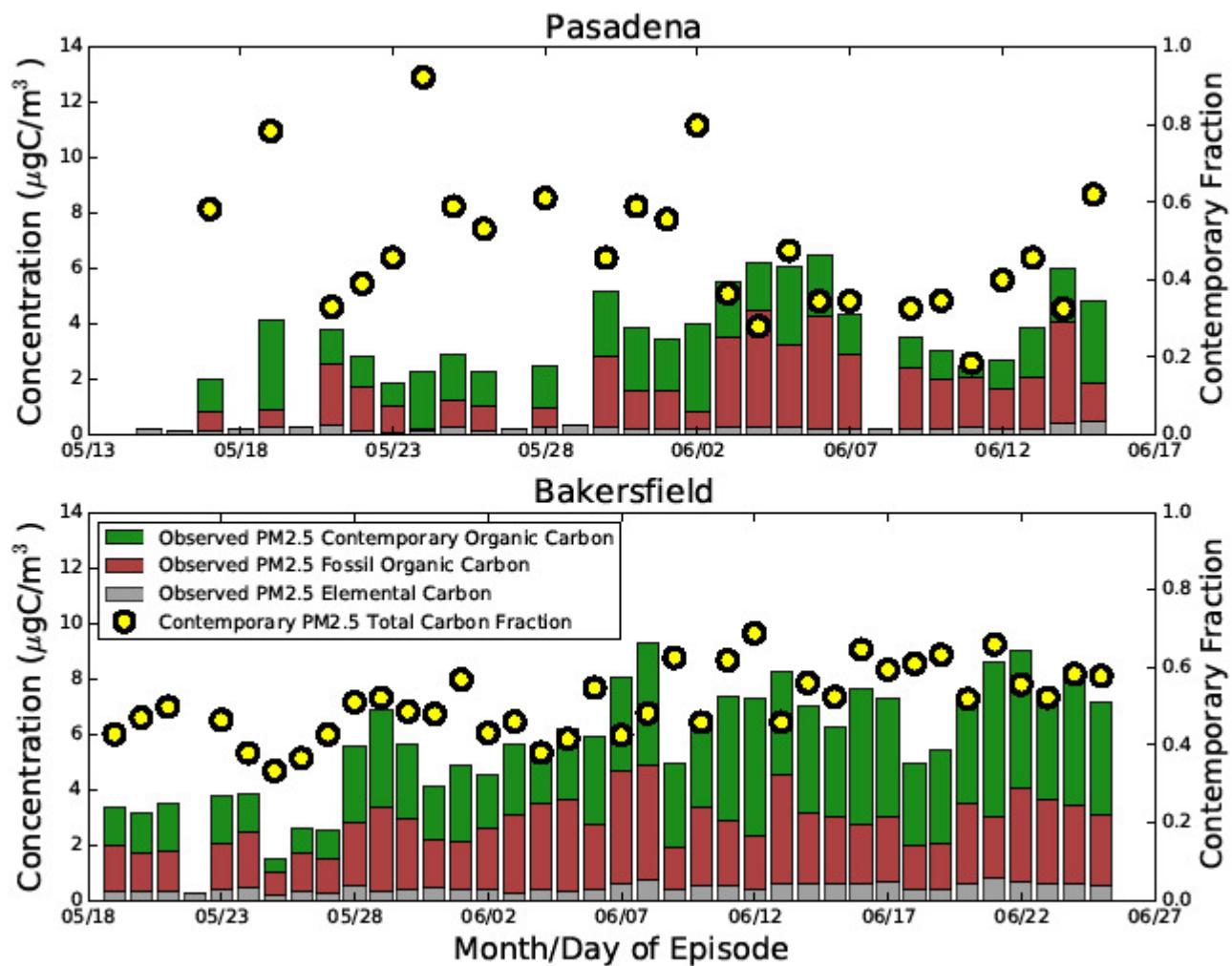
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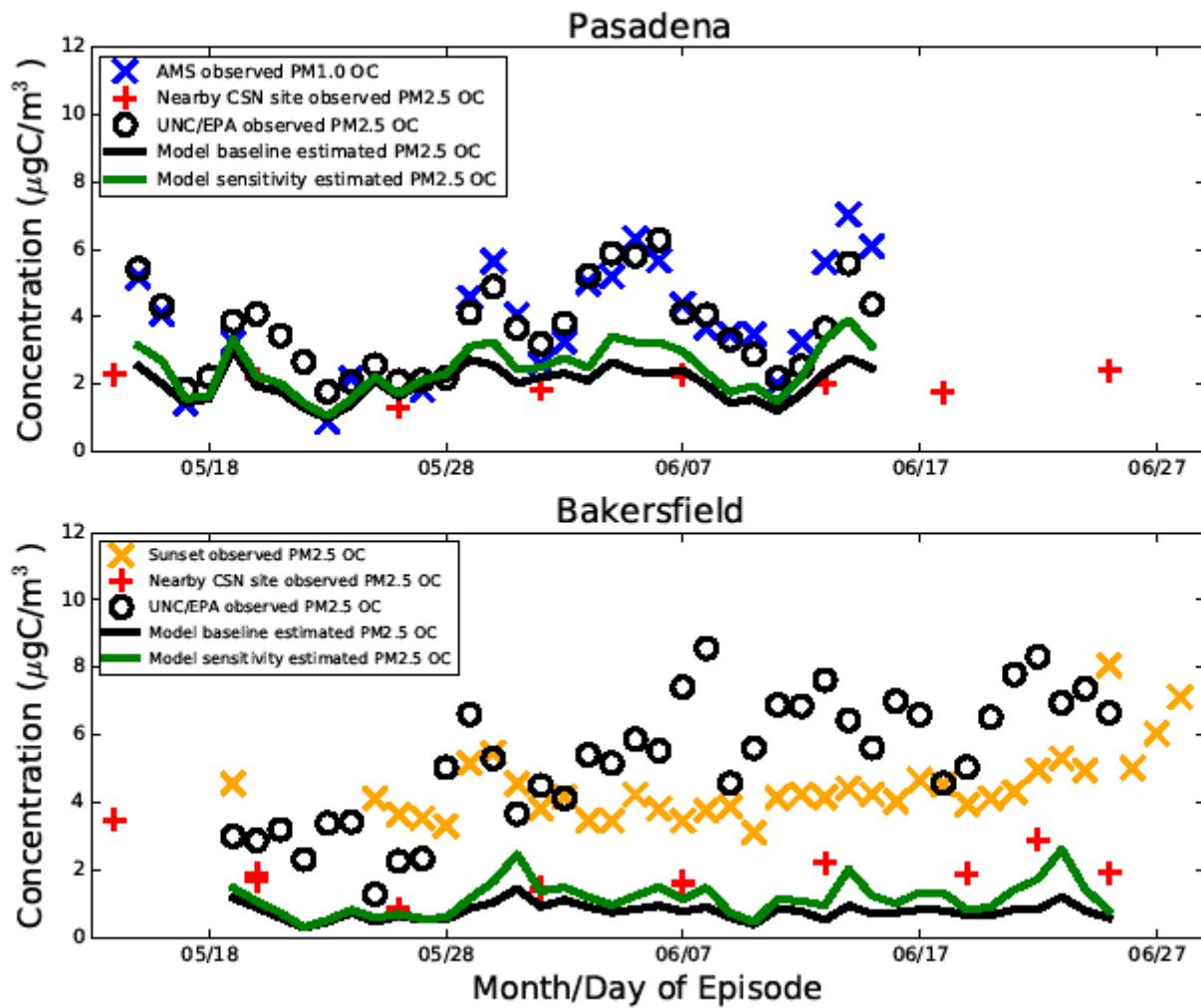
1 Figure 1. Gas (right panel), semi-volatile (middle panel), and particle phase (left panel) CMAQ
 2 organic carbon shown by saturation vapor pressure and O:C ratio. Compounds shown in blue
 3 exist in the aqueous phase, brown suggest generally fossil in origin, green generally
 4 contemporary in origin, and gray both contemporary and fossil in origin. Other known processes
 5 such as fragmentation are not shown as they are not currently represented in the modeling
 6 system.



1 Figure 2. Observed daily 23-h average PM2.5 elemental carbon, PM2.5 contemporary-origin
 2 organic carbon, and PM2.5 fossil-origin organic carbon at Pasadena and Bakersfield.

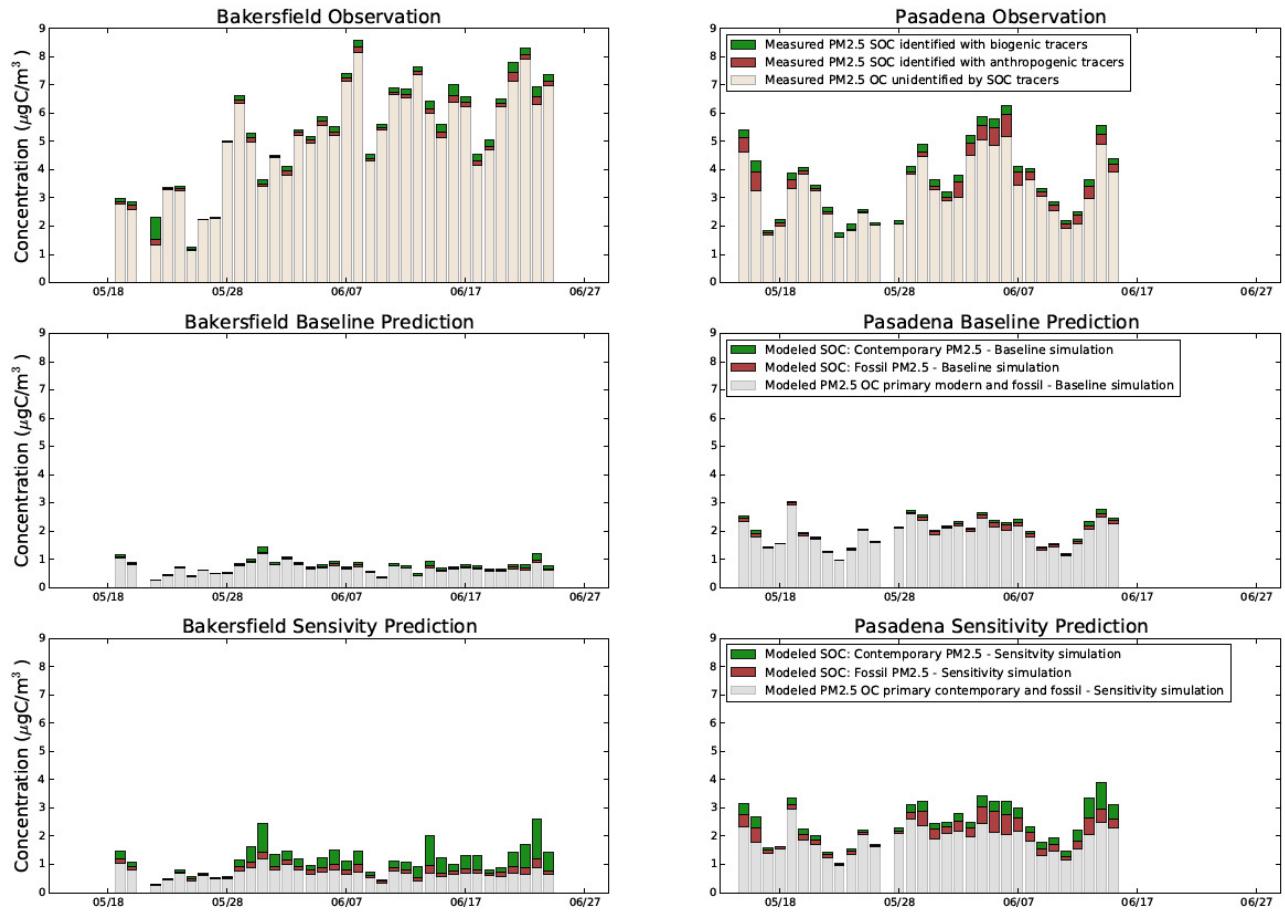


1 Figure 3. Model predicted and measured PM_{2.5} organic carbon at Pasadena and Bakersfield. The
2 nearby CSN measurements are intended to provide additional context and are not co-located with
3 CalNex measurements or model estimates.

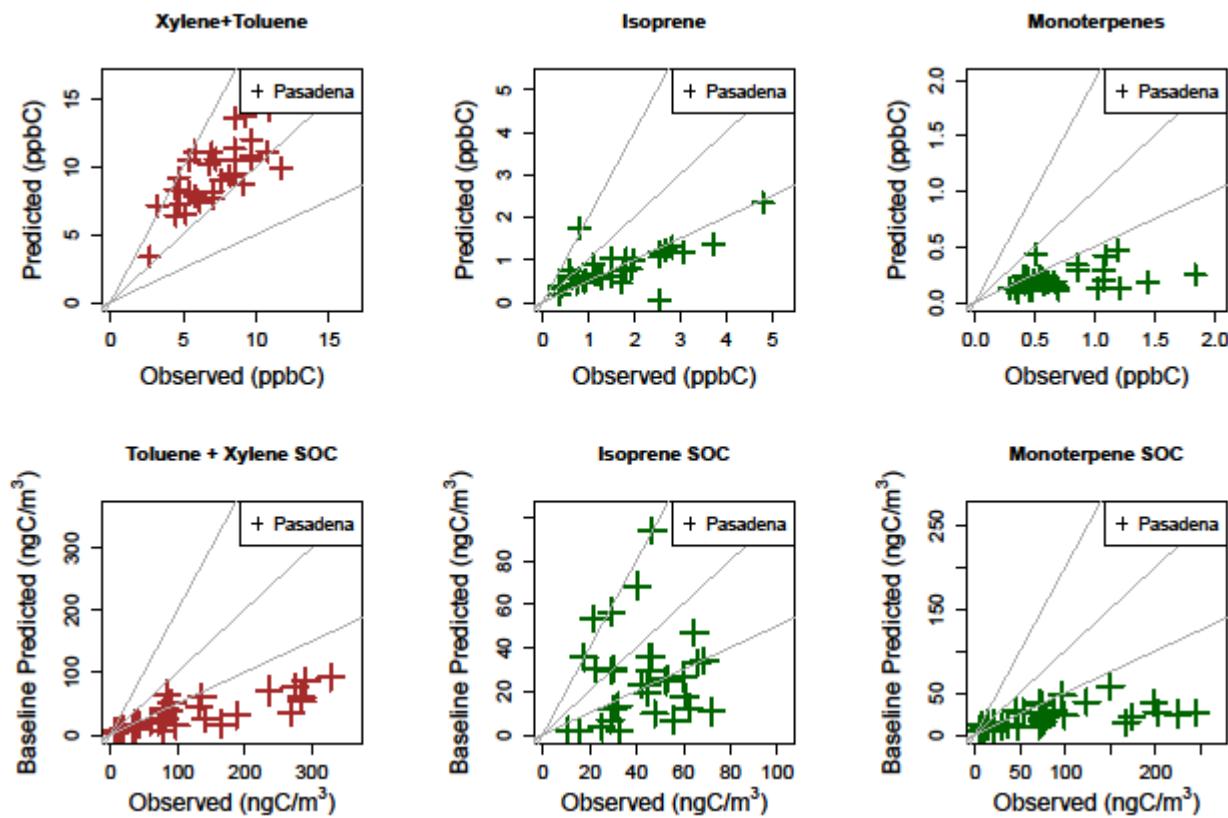


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1 Figure 4. Observed (top row) and modeled (middle and bottom rows) PM2.5 organic carbon at
 2 Pasadena and Bakersfield. Mass explained by SOA tracers shown in green (contemporary origin
 3 tracers) and brown (fossil origin tracers). Top row gray shading indicates mass not explained by
 4 known observed SOC tracers. Middle and bottom row gray shading shows modeled primarily
 5 emitted PM2.5 that is both contemporary and fossil in origin. Middle row shows baseline model
 6 estimates and bottom row model sensitivity results with increased SOA yields.

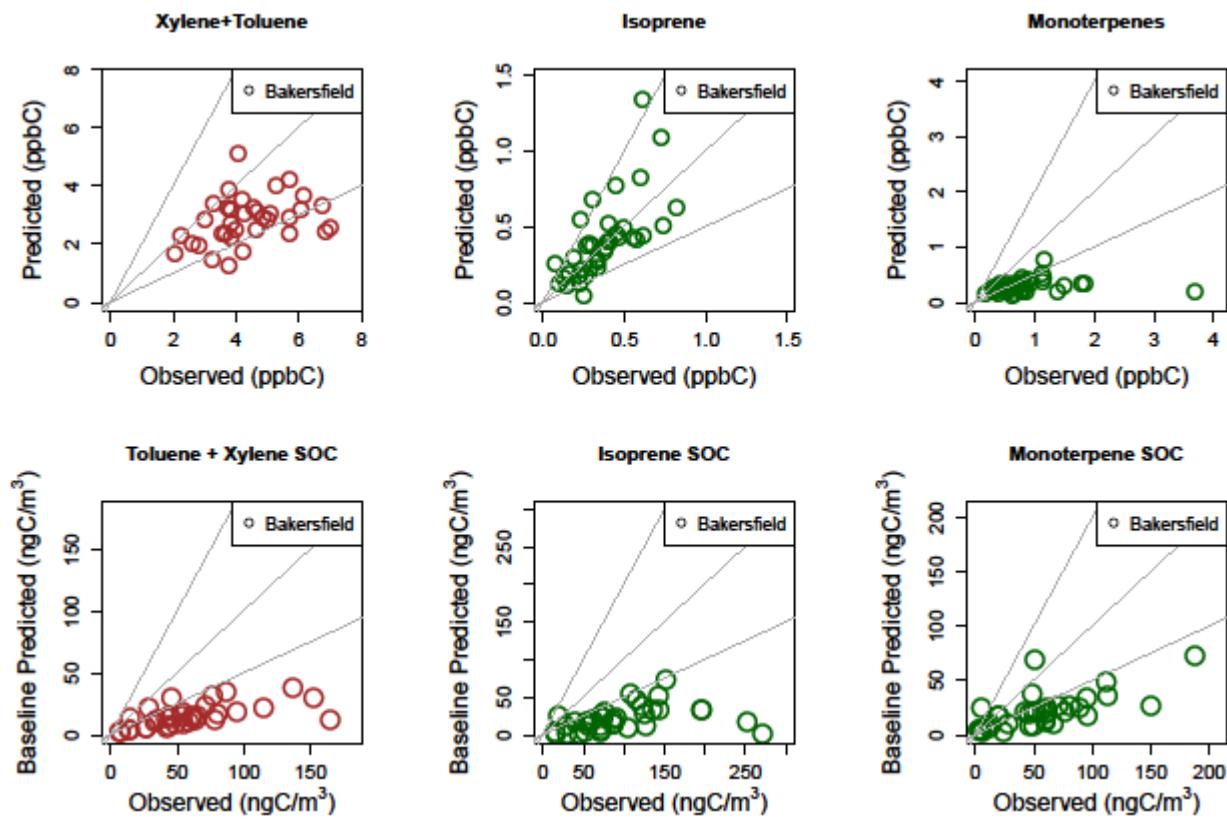


1 Figure 5. Comparison of CMAQ-predicted and measured VOC (daily average of hourly samples)
 2 and corresponding SOC species (daily 23-hr average samples) for Pasadena. Comparison points
 3 outside the gray lines indicate model predictions are greater than a factor of 2 different from the
 4 measurements.



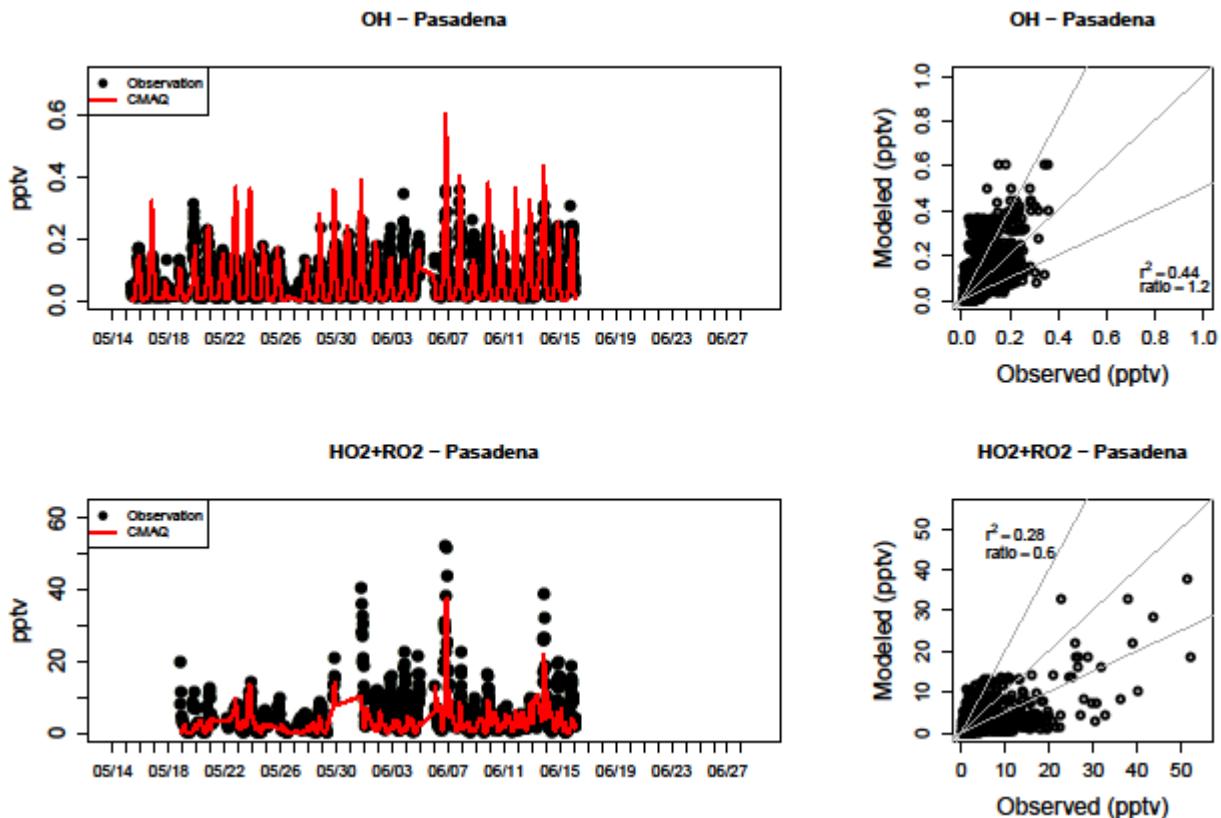
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1 Figure 6. Comparison of CMAQ-predicted and measured VOC (daily average of hourly samples)
 2 and corresponding SOC species (daily 23-hr average samples) for Bakersfield. Comparison
 3 points outside the gray lines indicate model predictions are greater than a factor of 2 different
 4 from the measurements.



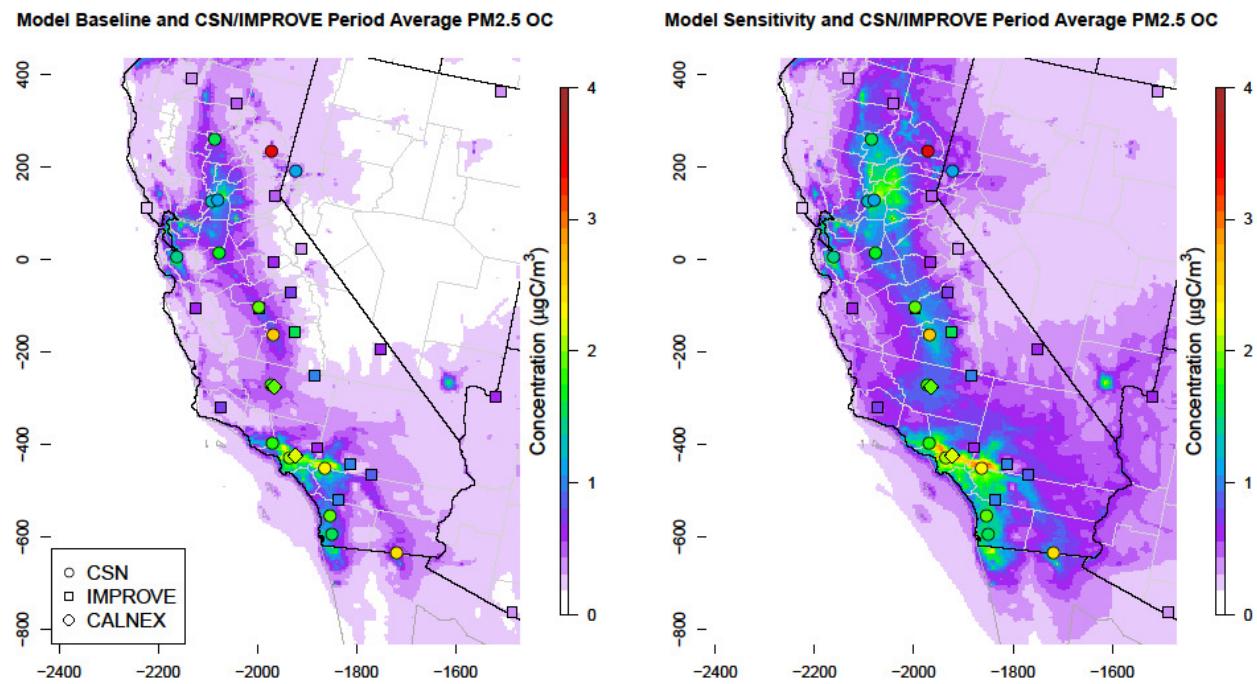
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1 Figure 7. Measured and model estimated OH radical (top) and HO₂+RO₂ (bottom) at Pasadena.
2 The ratio shown on the scatterplots is the episode average model estimate divided by the episode
3 average measured values.



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1 Figure 8. Episode average modeled PM2.5 organic carbon and measurements from both CalNex
2 locations and routine networks including CSN (circles) and IMPROVE (squares). Left panel
3 shows baseline model predictions and right panel shows model estimates with increased SOA
4 yields.



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