

Response to interactive comments on “Biomass burning emissions and potential air quality impacts of volatile organic compounds and other trace gases from temperate fuels common in the United States” by J. B. Gilman et al.

We thank the reviewers for their thoughtful suggestions and their time improving this manuscript. Each reviewer comment is shown in *italics*. Our point-by-point responses appear after each comment in blue text.

Both reviewers were correct in noting that the emission ratios measured by the GC-MS that are presented in this manuscript were used as the basis for the emission factors presented in the synthesis paper by Yokelson et al. 2013. As described in Yokelson et al., the VOCs measured by the GC-MS instrument were scaled by the VOC-to-methanol ratio in order to estimate fire-integrated emission ratios from the discrete measurements. Fire-integrated emission ratios were then used to calculate fuel-based emission factors and were grouped into different fuel categories than those presented here. While both manuscripts fundamentally rely on the same dataset from all instruments described within this manuscript, the average emission ratios to CO that are presented in Table 2 are different from (but related to) those presented by Yokelson et al. (2013) and in the companion manuscripts by coauthors Burling, Roberts, Veres, and Warneke. We feel that the discrete emission ratios presented here provide complimentary information to the reader while the subsequent analysis of the dataset as a whole is entirely new.

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Anonymous Referee #1

General comments:

One aspect merits special attention though. If I have understood this correctly, the data presented in Table 2 are the same (ERs instead of EFs) as already given by Yokelson et al. 2013. The data are analyzed in a different context though (OH reactivity, SOAP), which is new. The former work also briefly touches upon methodical aspects (discrete sampling vs. continuous monitoring) conveying the same message as in the present work. I personally think that the manuscript conveys information in a concise and useful way even though a significant part of it is not truly new.

We have added additional language throughout the abstract, manuscript, and Table 1 further clarifying the relation between this study and concomitant manuscripts.

Specific comments:

Title: “temperate fuels”: Fuels cannot be temperate. Reformulate. Removed “temperate”.

Table 1:

As previously indicated to me by reviewers, “MS” should be used as an abbreviation for “mass spectrometry” and not for “mass spectrometer”. In other words, the term “MS” refers to the method and not to the instrument itself. When referring to the instrument, the phrase “MS instrument” (e.g. PIT-MS instrument) should be used.

Corrected. We have incorporated these changes throughout the manuscript where appropriate. In order to reduce occurrence of the word “instrument” after every mention of GC-MS, OP-FTIR, PIT-MS, PTR-MS or NI-PIT-CIMS we have defined within the text that these acronyms refer to the instrument identifiers in Table 1.

The term “sampling limitations” is incorrect. Other compounds are sampled but they are not or detected.

Corrected. We have changed the Table 1 column header from “Sampling Limitations” to “Detection Qualifications” in order to better describe the qualities of the species that can be detected by each instrument.

The use of the unit “a.m.u.” is deprecated.

Corrected. We removed all instances of “amu” when referring to mass to charge ratios.

“Protonated molecular mass” → “protonated molecule”

We keep the original phrasing “protonated molecular mass” which we equate to “the mass to charge ratio of the protonated molecule.” We have removed the phrase “or mass fragment” from the detection qualifications for the PTR-MS and PIT-MS.

“mass fragment” → “fragment ion” Corrected.

“protonated ion” → “protonated molecule” Corrected.

“deprotonated ion” → “deprotonated molecule” Corrected.

It is incorrect to use the term “identification” when using PTR-MS, PIT-MS, NI-PT-CIMS. These methods are not capable of identifying ions. Use “detection of the protonated molecule”, “detection of deprotonated molecule”.

Corrected. We have changed the word “identification” to “detection” when referring to the PTR-MS, PIT-MS, and NI-PT-CIMS instruments.

“Infrared Spectrometer” → “Infrared Spectroscopy” Corrected.

For details on MS nomenclature see: Murray et al., Definitions of terms relating to mass spectrometry (IUPAC Recommendations 2013), Pure Appl. Chem. 85(7), 1515–1609, 2013.

We thank the reviewer for this reference. This was very helpful!

Table 2: Does it make sense to report four significant digits after the decimal point?

We reported the mean and standard deviations to 4 digits after the decimal point in order to keep the table uniform and (in our opinion) easier to read.

Would it make sense to also report median ERs?

We considered this, but decided that it would make a very large table with an additional 5 columns (see comments from Reviewer #2) even more unwieldy.

Alkenes (Saturated, ..) → Alkenes (Unsaturated,..) Corrected.

HCN and HNCO are inorganic compounds.

We understand that some, including the reviewer, may classify HCN and HNCO as inorganic gases. We classified HCN and HNCO as (non-methane) nitrogen-containing organic compounds because they contain both carbon and hydrogen. This is a simplified and common definition of an organic species. Reclassification of these species would have very little effect on the overall discussion detailed in this manuscript with the exception of the molar mass emitted for non-methane organic compounds (e.g., Figure 5 a-c) where the contribution of nitrogen-containing organics to the molar mass emitted would be even smaller as HCN and HNCO would be excluded. We feel that it is better to keep these species in the discussion of non-methane organic compounds and choose to maintain our original classification of these species as organic.

Indicate in the table (e.g. asterisk or similar) which species have been calibrated and which have not!

Corrected. We have added asterisks after the species names in order to identify those where we estimated the sensitivities.

Table 3: Change unit in the VOC vs. CO (ppb/ppm)?!

Corrected. We have changed the units of the VOC to CO ratios from (ppbv/ppbv) as originally shown in Table 3 to ppbv/ppmv in order to be consistent with the units in Table 2.

Figure 1: "select gases"-> "selected gases" Corrected.

Text:

21716, 9: Health effects due to exposure to HNCO at relevant levels have not been demonstrated. Use "potentially harmful" instead of "harmful" for this compound. Corrected.

21716, 19-27; 21717, 1-10: The tutorial on tropospheric gas-phase chemistry is excessive in length and not strictly relevant for this work. I suggest shorting this paragraph and introducing the concept of OH reactivity here.

We appreciate this suggestion and had made the following changes: We have removed the text on P21716 L21-P21717 L2. We have added additional text to read, "Due to the complex relationship between O₃ production and VOC/NO_x ratios and peroxy nitrates, we use OH reactivity as a simplified metric to compare reactivity of all measured gaseous emissions by fuel region in order to identify the key reactive species that may contribute to photochemical O₃ formation."

21717, 11-27: The tutorial on SOA and SOA formation is excessive in length and not strictly relevant for this work. I suggest shorting this paragraph and introducing the concept of SOA formation potential here.

We appreciate this suggestion and had made the following changes: We have removed the text on P21717 L15- L23. We relocated the text on P21736 L8-14 to the introduction.

21718, 14: revise number of inorganic gases (HCN, HNCO).

The original number is maintained as per above discussion.

21718, 17: "spectrometer (GC-MS)"-> "spectrometry (GC-MS) instrument" Corrected.

21719, 3: "cursory". I have never seen a cursory analysis by Bob Yokelson!

The reviewer is correct! We have replaced the text, "Yokelson et al. (2013) focused on retrieving an improved set of emission factors for prescribed fires by coupling lab and field work, but they performed only a cursory analysis of the atmospheric impacts." with the following, "Yokelson et al. (2013) synthesized the results of all the measurement techniques, including the GC-MS data presented here, in an effort to compile an improved set of fuel-based emission factors for prescribed fires by coupling lab and field work."

21719, 9: "SOA potential"->"SOA formation potential" (I know the term "SOA potential" has been used previously but I still think it is incorrect). Corrected.

21719, 1: Heading: use "2 Methods" instead of "2 Experimental"; analysis methods should also be given here (see below). Corrected.

21720, 24-27: “spectrometer”->“spectrometry instrument” Corrected.

21722, 5: *Why was an ozone scrubber used? Briefly describe and discuss CO₂ and H₂O scrubbing (large CO₂ concentrations in BB samples, loss of water-soluble analytes?)*

We have added the following text, “While ozone traps were not required for these experiments, they were left in sample path in order to be consistent with other ambient air measurements and laboratory experiments using this instrument.” Details of the water, CO₂, and O₃ traps are included in the stated references (i.e., Goldan et al., 2004). All calibrations, instrument tests, ambient air measurements (e.g., stack backgrounds and Fourmile Canyon Fire samples), and biomass burning samples were collected with the same traps and trapping temperatures. Losses of lower vapor pressure and/or water-soluble species to the water trap or surface effects from the O₃ traps have been accounted for during calibration regardless of the sample type.

21722, 13: *“atomic mass units”; use of this unit is deprecated.* Corrected.

21722, 19: *How did the experimenters decide when to take the sample? Did they follow CO and CO₂ on-line and manually activate the sampler based on their experience?*

We have added the text, “...as determined by visual inspection of the fire in addition to the real-time measurements via PTR-MS.”

27125: *The Results and Discussion section contains lots of methodical information (e.g. how to calculate MCE, degree of unsaturation, emitted molar mass, OH reactivity, SOA formation potential.). The methods of data analysis should also be included in chapter 2.*

We agree with the reviewer and have incorporated the suggested changes. We added sections 2.4.2 to 2.4.6 and included all equations and descriptions of methodologies (i.e., MCE, D, OH reactivities, and SOA formation potential) that were originally included in the Results and Discussion section to the Methods section.

27128: *It is crucial to take the sample at the right time. Briefly discuss this aspect.*

Our analysis of the discrete vs. fire-integrated emission ratios (ERs) show that it was important to collect samples at various stages of the replicate burns in order to best characterize the emissions when fire-integrated sampling strategies are not possible.

21730, 2: *revise number of inorganic gases (HCN, HNCO).*

The original number is maintained as per above discussion.

21730, 16: *“degree of unsaturation”. In mass spectrometry, the use of the term “ring and double bond equivalent” (RDB, or RDBE) is recommended (see Murray et al., 2013).*

We have added the text, “The degree of unsaturation (D) is also known as “ring and double bond equivalent” (Murray et al., 2013) and is equal to...” Murray defines RDB as “the degree of unsaturation” so we have opted to keep the term “degree of unsaturation” throughout the discussion.

21732: *The authors use the term “molar mass emitted” but many gases were not measured (e.g. N₂, H₂, N₂O, SO₂, : :). It should be stated more clearly that the given percentages refer to the molar mass that was measured. Give an estimate of the percentage of non-measured gaseous species.*

The reviewer is correct in pointing out this analysis only includes the mass of the species that were detected by the suite of instruments used here. We have changed the section header to “Molar mass of measured emissions” and added additional qualifiers throughout the text where appropriate. P21732 L21-26 and P21733 L1-25 directly answer the reviewer’s questions on the nitrogen and carbon budgets. In short, about one-half of the fuel-nitrogen was unaccounted for in the emissions and ~1% of the carbon mass remains either unmeasured or unidentified and was therefore not included in this analysis.

21733, 27-28 and 21734, 1-14: *Introduce concept of OH reactivity in chapter 1 and give methodical details in chapter 2. Only present results here. Corrected.*

Text on P21734 L5-14 was moved to the methods section 2.4.5 as detailed above.

21736, 6-22: *Introduce concept of SOA formation potential in chapter 1 and give methodical details in chapter 2. Only present results here. Corrected.*

Text on P21736 L6-23 was moved to sections 1 or 2.4.6.

21738, 9-14: *This statement should go elsewhere.*

We have opted to keep this statement where it is.

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Anonymous Referee #2

General comments:

1) *The observations have already been reported in a series of papers. While the manuscript does mention these papers in the introduction, it initially appeared to me that they were just referencing previous studies that they would compare with some new observations. I had read through most of the paper before I realized these were all the same data. The authors should make it clear that ALL of the fire lab observations in the paper have previously been described.*

We have added additional language throughout the abstract, manuscript, and Table 1 further clarifying the relation between this study and companion manuscripts.

2) *Since emissions are given as a ratio to CO, it is important that the CO emission is relevant to “real” fires. Is there any indication that this is the case? How does the CO emitted per fuel mass burned relate to what is observed in the field for fires from these different regions?*

This study utilizes VOC/CO emission ratios which are not strongly dependent on the overall mass of CO emitted per fuel mass burned (i.e., the CO emission factor). Comparison of the VOC/CO emission ratios from the Fourmile Fire (Table 3) generally agree to within a factor of 2 with the mean ERs observed for the northern fuels (a more similar compilation of fuels than the southeastern or southwestern) suggesting that the laboratory studies are adequate representations of “real” fire emissions. Further information on the comparison of fuel based emission factors from these laboratory studies and field observations is addressed by Yokelson et al. (2013) who showed that there was good agreement between laboratory and field measurements for “pine-understory fuels”, but that the EFs were lower for “semiarid shrubland fuels” in the lab.

3) *What fraction of Table 2 was quantified by each of the instruments? How did you choose which instrument to use when there was more than one choice? What would be lost if you did not have all 5 systems? For example, I see “+” listed on only 3 compounds and all of them can be analyzed by GCMS. Does this suggest that there is no need for PTRMS and PITMS for determining emission factors?*

Table 2 details what species were measured by each instrument. The vast majority of the number of compounds were quantified by the GC-MS as it provided unparalleled speciated chemical information, but on a restricted timescale. The few species that were measured by multiple instruments aided in characterizing and comparing the instrument responses. If a species was measured by more than one instrument, we reported the emission ratio from a single, designated instrument based on the number of fires sampled as well as the comparison results (e.g., Figure 2). For example, ethyne is measured by the GC-MS but the m/z 26 used to quantify ethyne was not included in total ion scans; therefore, we report ethyne from the OP-FTIR in Table 2. Another example is furan, which was quantified by the GC-MS as reported in Table 2. The OP-FTIR measurements of furan had small spectral interferences and m/z 69 measured by the PTR-MS represents the sum of several species in addition to furan. For cases where all else was equal (e.g., ethene, benzene, or methanol), then the GC-MS data was used to ensure the most consistent data set possible.

4) on P21721, line 5: I would expect it would be difficult to get these compounds through an unheated sample line? Have there been any tests to look at this?

Species such as the benzenediols, phenol, and cresols were measured by the PIT-MS or NI-PT-CIMS which both had very short inlets. Warneke et al. (2011) presented a comparison of masses measured by the PIT-MS and the PTR-MS, where the inlets were of similar design (unheated, 1/4" o.d. PFA) but of different lengths (< 2m for the PIT-MS versus 20 m for the PTR-MS) showing that there were no systematic losses for the higher molecular weight species through the longer fast-flow inlet. Additionally, all VOCs quantified by the GC-MS, including species such as benzaldehyde, were calibrated using a sample line of equivalent length and type as that used at the Fire Lab.

5) Section 3.2: Why not collect a sample for the GC that includes the whole burn? The way the GC sampling is presented in the manuscript gives the impression that the GC can only capture a discrete sample and so cannot characterize the fire integrated value. But this was the case for this study only because you didn't sample for the entire burn. It should be made clear in the text that it is possible to characterize the fire integrated value with GC if you integrated the sample over the entire burn.

The GC-MS used in this study was not designed to collect in-situ samples longer than 300 seconds. Modifying the existing instrument would have required considerable effort particularly in characterizing the trapping efficiencies of such a wide range of concentrations and highly reactive species over extended sampling times. We acknowledge that other GC-MS instruments or sampling strategies could be employed in order to collect a fire-integrated samples; however, that was not possible for this study. We have added text to section 3.2 to reflect that this was a limitation of the instrument and not the technique.

6) section 3.2: How common is this bias (discrete sampling that did not characterize the entire burn) in past studies? Would it change any of the emission factors used in models if this was accounted for? Could the biased values be adjusted and still useful?

These are great questions, but cannot be accurately answered without an exhaustive literature search. As noted previously by the reviewer, this is a non-issue for laboratory studies if biomass burning samples could be collected over the course of the biomass burn such as that for the real-time measurement techniques (e.g., OP-FTIR and CIMS). Discrete sampling is a common method for ambient air analysis for any instrument that requires a pre-concentration step such as that for most chromatography-based systems, so it is possible that other studies have used a similar sampling strategy. In the field this is not as important an issue because the emissions from different combustion processes are happening simultaneously and the biomass burning emissions are also mixed during transport. The primary goal of section 3.2 was to show

that the discrete sampling strategy of the GC-MS used in this study was still able to adequately characterize the emissions of a wide range of compounds.

7) Page 21730 line 24-26: *How do you know there are differences are due to region? If you had samples for different ecosystems within each region then you could investigate this. With the data presented here it can be shown that there are differences between fuels from some different landscapes but I don't see evidence that these are characteristic of the whole region.*

We have classified the fuels by the general geographical regions that they were collected in, but we did not mean to imply that the results presented here are characteristic of all ecosystems within these large geographic regions. We have added text throughout the manuscript where appropriate to help further clarify this point. For example, we have changed the text from "...the distribution of ERs are unique to each fuel region" to read "the distribution of ERs are unique for the fuels measured from each fuel region."

8) Page 21730: *The text makes it clear that emissions from these fuels are different but not why. Any ideas on why they are different?*

Generally, emissions differ for different fuel types based on the molecular structure of the fuel itself (i.e., cellulose, lignans, etc.). Additionally, different fuel types burn differently. For example, emissions from grasses and small woody fuels are typically occur due to flaming combustion.

9) Page 21734, line 15: *It is impressive that OH reactivity was found for all of these compounds. One of the most important contributions that this paper can make is to list the OH reaction rate of each compound and include this in Table 2. That would be a valuable resource for readers of this paper.*

We have added all of the OH reactivities that were used in the calculations presented here. These values appear in Table 2 under the column heading "kOH", where asterisks (*) indicate the kOHs that were estimated.

10) Section 3.3.3: *Was a SOAP calculated for each compound in Table 2? How does this compare to other reported SOAP for the most important contributors to total SOAP?*

The SOAP values in the analysis presented here are the same as those presented by Derwent et al. (2010). We have added those values to Table 2 under the column heading "SOAP", where asterisks (*) indicate estimated values.

11) Table 2: *Provide the units for the "SW" columns. It is presumably mmol(mol CO)-1) but it would help the reader to make this clear in the table. Corrected.*

12) Figure 2: *When it states "GC-MS vs OP-FTIR", I assume it means the ratio of GC-MS value to the OP-FTIR value but it is not clear. If they are ratios then state this.*

As stated in the Figure caption, each marker represents the slope and correlation coefficients determined from correlation plots of all samples. We maintain our reference to the slope rather than ratio to be most accurate. Neither "slope" or "ratio" will fit into the figure legend so it was included in the figure caption.

13) Fig 7: *what is the line? It is not described. Is it needed?*

The lines in Figure 7 are the best fit lines of the Fourmile Canyon Fire samples with the slopes (S) and fit coefficients (r) listed beneath the compound names in each panel. This is now clearly stated in the figure caption.

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Summary of Important Revisions

All revisions to the original manuscript are shown in red (see attached document). These changes were added to address the comments from the reviewers.

For example:

Portions of the text that originally appeared in Section 3 were moved to Sections 1 and 2, which was expanded to include calculations of modified combustion efficiency, degree of unsaturation, OH reactivity, and SOA formation potential.

Portions of Table 1 have been revised per the reviewer's suggestion.

Table 2 was expanded to include kOH and SOAP values per the reviewer's suggestion. We have revised the kOH values of furans to those published by Bierbach et al. (1992) in place of the theory-based analysis by Grosjean and Williams (1992) that was originally used in our analysis. This change results in an overall reduction in the VOC-OH reactivity of the furan sub-group by 10% for the southeastern fuels and ~30% for the southwestern and northern fuels. Overall, the total VOC-OH reactivity decreased by 2-7%. Figure 2d-f has been updated to reflect these changes. We note that our discussion and conclusions are not affected by these changes.

Table 3 has been revised to include the VOC to CO slopes in units of ppbv per ppmv CO and kOH values of furans from Bierbach et al. (1992).

Biomass burning emissions and potential air quality impacts of volatile organic compounds and other trace gases from fuels common in the United States

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Abstract

A comprehensive suite of instruments was used to quantify the emissions of over 200 organic gases, including methane and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and 9 inorganic gases from 56 laboratory burns of 18 different biomass fuel types common in the southeastern, southwestern, or northern United States. A gas chromatograph-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) instrument provided extensive chemical detail of discrete air samples collected during a laboratory burn and was complemented by real-time measurements of organic and inorganic species via an open-path Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (OP-FTIR) instrument and 3 different chemical ionization-mass spectrometers. These measurements were conducted in February 2009 at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Fire Sciences Laboratory in Missoula, Montana and were used as the basis for a number of emission factors reported by Yokelson et al. (2013). The relative magnitude and composition of the gases emitted varied by individual fuel type and, more broadly, by the 3 geographic fuel regions being simulated. Discrete emission ratios relative to carbon monoxide (CO) were used to characterize the composition of gases emitted by mass; reactivity with the hydroxyl radical, OH; and potential secondary organic aerosol (SOA) precursors for the 3 different U.S. fuel regions presented here. VOCs contributed less than $0.78\% \pm 0.12\%$ of emissions by mole and less than $0.95\% \pm 0.07\%$ of emissions by mass (on average) due to the predominance of CO₂, CO, CH₄, and NO_x emissions; however, VOCs contributed 70-90 (± 16)% to OH reactivity and were the only measured gas-phase source of SOA precursors from combustion of biomass. Over 82% of the VOC emissions by mole were unsaturated compounds including highly reactive alkenes and aromatics and photolabile oxygenated VOCs (OVOCs) such as formaldehyde. OVOCs contributed 57-68% of the VOC mass emitted, 41-54% of VOC-OH reactivity, and aromatic-OVOCs such as benzenediols, phenols, and benzaldehyde were the dominant potential SOA precursors. In addition, ambient air measurements of emissions from the Fourmile Canyon Fire that

38 affected Boulder, Colorado in September 2010 allowed us to investigate biomass burning (BB) emissions
39 in the presence of other VOC sources (i.e., urban and biogenic emissions) and identify several promising
40 BB markers including benzofuran, 2-furaldehyde, 2-methylfuran, furan, and benzonitrile.

41 **Keywords:** Biomass burning, emissions, VOCs, OH reactivity, SOA potential

42 **1 Introduction**

43 Biomass burning (BB) emissions are composed of a complex mixture of gases and particles that
44 may directly and/or indirectly affect both climate and air quality (Jaffe and Wigder, 2012; Sommers et al.,
45 2014). Emissions include greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous
46 oxide (N₂O); carcinogens such as formaldehyde and benzene; and other components **potentially** harmful
47 to human health including particulate matter, carbon monoxide (CO) and isocyanic acid (HNCO) (Crutzen
48 and Andreae, 1990; Hegg et al., 1990; Andreae and Merlet, 2001; Demirbas and Demirbas, 2009;
49 Estrellan and Iino, 2010; Roberts et al., 2010; Roberts et al., 2011; Sommers et al., 2014). The co-
50 emission of nitrogen oxides (NO_x = NO + NO₂) and reactive volatile organic compounds (VOCs, also
51 known as non-methane organic compounds) from combustion of biomass may degrade local and regional
52 air quality by the photochemical formation of tropospheric ozone (O₃), a hazardous air pollutant, and
53 secondary organic aerosol (SOA) (Alvarado et al., 2015). This work characterizes primary biomass
54 burning emissions of organic and inorganic gases **of fuels common to the United States and compares**
55 **the relative impacts on regional air quality as it relates to potential O₃ and SOA formation.**

56 Tropospheric O₃ may be formed in the atmosphere from the interactions of VOCs, NO_x, and a
57 radical source such as the hydroxyl radical (OH), which is formed from the photolysis of O₃, aldehydes,
58 hydroperoxides, or nitrous acid (HONO). Biomass burning is a large, primary source of VOCs, NO_x, and
59 HONO (i.e., O₃ precursors); however, these species are emitted at varying relative ratios depending on
60 the fuel type and burn conditions making it difficult to predict O₃ formation from the combustion of
61 biomass (Akagi et al., 2011; Jaffe and Wigder, 2012). An additional O₃ formation pathway **occurs via**
62 **oxidation of VOCs often initiated by reaction with the hydroxyl radical (·OH) in the presence of NO₂**
63 **leading to the formation of peroxy nitrates, such as peroxyacetic nitric anhydride (PAN). The formation of**
64 **peroxy nitrates** may initially diminish O₃ formation in fresh BB plumes due to the initial sequestration of
65 NO₂, but enhance O₃ downwind formation via production of NO₂ from thermal dissociation of
66 peroxy nitrates (Jaffe and Wigder, 2012). **Due to the complex relationship between O₃ production and**
67 **VOC/NO_x ratios and peroxy nitrates, we use OH reactivity as a simplified metric to compare reactivity of all**
68 **measured gaseous emissions by fuel region in order to identify the key reactive species that may**
69 **contribute to photochemical O₃ formation.**

70 SOA is organic particulate mass that is formed in the atmosphere from the chemical evolution of
71 primary emissions of organic species. Here, chemical evolution refers to a complex series of reactions of
72 a large number of organic species that results in the formation of relatively low volatility and/or high
73 solubility oxidation products that will readily partition to, or remain in, the particle phase (Kroll and
74 Seinfeld, 2008). SOA formation from BB emissions is highly variable (Hennigan et al., 2011) and
75 chemical modeling results suggest that there is a “missing large source of SOA” precursors that cannot
76 be explained by the sum of measured aerosol yields of SOA precursors such as toluene (Alvarado et al.,
77 2015). **Aerosol yield is a measure of the mass of condensable compounds created from oxidation per**
78 **mass of VOC precursor and is often used to predict potential SOA mass of complex mixtures; however,**

79 care must be taken to ensure that the aerosol yields for all precursors were determined under similar
80 conditions (e.g., VOC:NO_x ratios, oxidant concentrations, etc.). In order to conduct comparisons of the
81 potential to form SOA on a consistent scale, we use a model-based unitless metric, termed SOA potential
82 (SOAP), published by Derwent et al. (2010) which “reflects the propensity of VOCs to form SOA on an
83 equal mass basis relative to toluene.”

84 Advances in instrumentation and complementary measurement approaches have enabled
85 chemical analyses of a wide range of species emitted during laboratory-based biomass burning
86 experiments (Yokelson et al., 1996; McDonald et al., 2000; Schauer et al., 2001; Christian et al., 2003;
87 Veres et al., 2010; Yokelson et al., 2013; Hatch et al., 2015; Stockwell et al., 2015). This information
88 supplements several decades of field measurements of BB emissions reported in the literature (Andreae
89 and Merlet, 2001; Friedli et al., 2001; Akagi et al., 2011; Simpson et al., 2011). Chemically detailed,
90 representative measurements of VOCs and other trace gases from biomass combustion are critical input
91 to photochemical transport models aimed at reproducing observed downwind changes in the
92 concentrations of reactive species including VOCs, O₃, peroxy nitrates, and organic aerosol (Trentmann et
93 al., 2003; Trentmann et al., 2005; Mason et al., 2006; Alvarado and Prinn, 2009; Heilman et al., 2014;
94 Urbanski, 2014; Alvarado et al., 2015) and are essential to understanding impacts on chemistry, clouds,
95 climate, and air quality.

96 For this study, a comprehensive suite of gas-phase measurement techniques was used to
97 quantify the emissions of 200 organic gases, including methane and VOCs, and 9 inorganic gases from
98 laboratory biomass burns of 18 fuel types from 3 geographic regions in the US (hereafter referred to as
99 “fuel regions”) in order to compare the potential atmospheric impacts of these gaseous emissions. A list
100 of all gas-phase instruments and manuscripts detailing the results of the coincident measurement
101 techniques is included in Table 1. These companion manuscripts include fire-integrated ERs for species
102 such as inorganic gases including HONO (Burling et al., 2010) and HNCO (Roberts et al., 2010), organic
103 acids (Veres et al., 2010), formaldehyde and methane (Burling et al., 2010), and a large number of
104 identified and unidentified protonated molecules (Warneke et al., 2011). Yokelson et al. (2013)
105 synthesized the results of all the measurement techniques, including the GC-MS data presented here, in
106 an effort to compile an improved set of fuel-based emission factors for prescribed fires by coupling lab
107 and field work. Comparisons between laboratory and field measurements of BB emission factors are
108 presented elsewhere (Burling et al., 2010; Burling et al., 2011; Yokelson et al., 2013).

109 Here we detail the results of the 56 biomass burns sampled by a gas chromatography-mass
110 spectrometry (GC-MS) instrument which provided unparalleled chemical speciation, but was limited to
111 sampling a relatively short, discrete segment of a laboratory burn. We begin by comparing mixing ratios
112 measured by the GC-MS instrument to those concurrently measured by infrared spectroscopy and
113 proton-transfer-reaction mass spectrometry, both of which provide high time resolution sampling of
114 laboratory fires. We then compare discrete ERs and fire-integrated ERs, representing the entirety of
115 emissions from a laboratory burn, in order to quantify any potential bias that resulted from discrete versus

116 “continuous” sampling techniques **utilized in this study**. In order to merge datasets from multiple
117 instruments, we report mean discrete emission ratios (ER) **of over 200 identified** gases relative to CO for
118 southwestern, southeastern, and northern fuel regions to compare the chemical composition of the mass
119 emitted, the reactivities of the measured gases with the hydroxyl radical in order to identify the key
120 reactive species that will likely contribute to O₃ formation, and utilize a model-derived metric developed by
121 Derwent et al. (2010) to compare relative SOA **formation** potentials from each fuel region. Detailed
122 chemical models are required to more accurately account for the various O₃ and SOA formation
123 pathways, which is beyond the scope of this study.

124 In addition to the laboratory fire measurements, we present field-measurements of rarely-reported
125 VOCs in ambient air during the Fourmile Canyon Fire that affected Boulder, Colorado in September 2010.
126 The latter measurements revealed BB markers that were specific to the BB emissions, minimally
127 influenced by urban or biogenic VOC emission sources, and were emitted in detectable quantities with
128 long enough lifetimes to be useful even in aged, transported BB plumes.

129

130 **2 Methods**

131 **2.1 Fuel and biomass burn descriptions**

132 The laboratory-based measurements of BB emissions were conducted in February 2009 at the
133 U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Fire Sciences Laboratory in Missoula, Montana. A detailed list of the
134 biomass fuel types, species names, fuel source origin, and the carbon and nitrogen content of the fuels
135 studied here are included in Burling et al. (2010). Up to 5 replicate burns were conducted for each of the
136 18 different fuels studied. These fuels are categorized into 3 geographic fuel regions based on where the
137 fuels were collected. The data presented here include 9 southwestern fuels from southern California and
138 Arizona including chaparral shrub, mesquite, and oak savanna/woodland; 6 southeastern fuels
139 represented the pine savanna/shrub complexes indigenous to coastal North Carolina and pine litter from
140 Georgia; and 3 northern fuels including an Englemann spruce, a grand fir, and ponderosa pine needles
141 from Montana. All fuels were harvested in January 2009 and sent to the Fire Sciences Laboratory where
142 they were stored in a walk-in cooler prior to these experiments.

143 All biomass burns were conducted inside the large burn chamber (12.5 x 12.5 x 20 m height),
144 which contains a fuel bed under an emissions-entraining hood, an exhaust stack, and an elevated
145 sampling platform surrounding the exhaust stack approximately 17 m above the fuel bed (Christian et al.,
146 2003; Christian et al., 2004; Burling et al., 2010). Each fuel sample was arranged on the fuel bed in a
147 manner that mimicked their natural orientation and fuel loading when possible and was ignited using a
148 small propane torch (Burling et al., 2010). During each fire, the burn chamber was slightly pressurized
149 with outside air conditioned to a similar temperature and relative humidity as the ambient air inside the
150 burn chamber. The subsequent emissions were entrained by the pre-conditioned ambient air and
151 continuously vented through the top of the exhaust stack. The residence time of emissions in the exhaust

152 stack ranged from ~5 to 17 seconds depending on the flow/vent rate. Each burn lasted approximately 20-
153 40 min from ignition to natural extinction.

154 **2.2 Instrumentation and sampling**

155 A list of the gas-phase instruments and measurement techniques used in this study, a brief
156 description of the inherent detection qualifications of each instrument, and references appears in Table 1.
157 The gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) instrument and the proton-transfer-reaction mass
158 spectrometry (PTR-MS) instrument were located in a laboratory adjacent to the burn chamber. The
159 proton-transfer-reaction ion-trap mass spectrometry (PIT-MS) instrument, negative-ion proton-transfer
160 chemical-ionization mass spectrometry (NI-PT-CIMS) instrument, and open-path Fourier transform
161 infrared (OP-FTIR) optical spectroscopy instrument were located on the elevated platform inside the burn
162 chamber. Hereafter, each instrument will be referred to by the associated instrument identifier listed in
163 Table 1.

164 Sampling inlets for the four mass spectrometers were located on a bulkhead plate on the side of
165 the exhaust stack 17 m above the fuel bed. The GC-MS and PTR-MS shared a common inlet, which
166 consisted of 20 m of unheated 3.97 mm i.d. perfluoroalkoxy Teflon tubing (Warneke et al., 2011). The
167 portion of the inlet line inside the exhaust stack (40 cm) was sheathed by a stainless steel tube (40 cm,
168 6.4 mm I.D) that extended 30 cm from the wall of the exhaust stack and was pointing upwards (away from
169 the fuel bed below) in an effort to reduce the amount of particles pulled into the sample line. A sample
170 pump continuously flushed the 20 m sample line with 7 L min⁻¹ flow of stack air reducing the inlet
171 residence time to less than 3 seconds. Separate inlets for both the PIT-MS and NI-PT-CIMS were of
172 similar materials and design, but shorter lengths further reducing inlet residence times and allowing for
173 sample dilution for the NI-PT-CIMS (Roberts et al., 2010; Veres et al., 2010).

174 The open optical path of the OP-FTIR spanned the full width of the exhaust stack so that the
175 emissions could be measured instantaneously without the use of an inlet. All measurements were time
176 aligned with the OP-FTIR in order to account for different inlet residence times and instrument response
177 times. Previous comparisons of OP-FTIR to a PTR-MS with a moveable inlet confirmed the stack
178 emissions are well-mixed at the height of the sampling platform (Christian et al., 2004). Other possible
179 sampling artifacts, such as losses to the walls of the inlets, were investigated via laboratory tests and in-
180 situ instrument comparisons (Burling et al., 2010; Roberts et al., 2010; Veres et al., 2010; Warneke et al.,
181 2011).

182 **2.3 Discrete sampling by in-situ GC-MS**

183 A custom-built, dual-channel GC-MS was used to identify and quantify an extensive set of VOCs.
184 For each biomass burn, the GC-MS simultaneously collected two samples, one for each channel, and
185 analyzed them in series using either an Al₂O₃/KCl PLOT column (channel 1) or a semi-polar DB-624
186 capillary column (channel 2) plumbed to a heated 4-port valve that sequentially directed the column
187 effluent to a linear quadrupole mass spectrometer (Agilent 5973N). The sample traps for each channel
188 were configured to maximize the cryogenic trapping efficiencies of high-volatility VOCs (channel 1) or

189 VOCs of lesser volatility and/or higher polarity (channel 2) while minimizing the amount of CO₂ and water
190 in each sample (Goldan et al., 2004; Gilman et al., 2010). **While ozone traps were not required for these**
191 **experiments, they were left in the sample path in order to be consistent with other ambient air**
192 **measurements and laboratory calibrations using this instrument.**

193 For each channel, 70 mL min⁻¹ was continuously sub-sampled from the high volume (7 L min⁻¹)
194 sample stream for 20 to 300 seconds resulting in sample volumes from 23-350 mL each. Smaller sample
195 volumes were often collected during periods of intense flaming combustion in order to avoid trapping
196 excessive CO₂, which could lead to dry ice forming in the sample trap, thereby restricting sample flow.
197 Larger sample volumes allowed for detection of trace species, but peak resolution would degrade if the
198 column was overloaded. **Sample acquisition times longer than 300 seconds were not possible with the**
199 **GC-MS used in this study.**

200 The mass spectrometer was operated in either total ion mode, scanning all mass-to-charge ratios
201 (*m/z*) from 29 to 150; or in selective ion mode, scanning a subset of *m/z*'s. The majority of the samples
202 were analyzed in selective ion mode for improved signal-to-noise; however, at least one sample of each
203 fuel type was analyzed in total ion mode to aid identification and quantify species whose *m/z* may not
204 have been scanned in selective ion mode. The entire GC-MS sampling and analysis cycle required 30
205 minutes; therefore, the GC-MS was limited to sampling each laboratory burn only once per fire for burns
206 that lasted less than 30 minutes. GC-MS samples were collected at different stages of replicate burns, **as**
207 **determined by visual inspection of the fire in addition to the real-time measurements via PTR-MS**, in an
208 effort to best characterize the emissions of each fuel type.

209 Each VOC was identified by its retention time and quantified by the integrated peak area of a
210 distinctive *m/z* in order to reduce any potential interferences from co-eluting compounds. Identities of
211 new compounds that had never before been measured by this GC-MS were confirmed by 1) matching the
212 associated electron ionization mass spectrum when operated in total ion mode to the National Institute of
213 Standards and Technology's mass spectral database, and 2) comparing their respective retention times
214 and boiling points to a list of compounds previously measured by the GC-MS. Examples of these species
215 include: 1,3-butadiyne (C₄H₂), butenyne (vinyl acetylene, C₄H₄), methyl nitrite (CH₃ONO), nitromethane
216 (CH₃NO₂), methyl pyrazole (C₄H₆N₂), ethyl pyrazine (C₆H₈N₂), and tricarbon dioxide (carbon suboxide,
217 C₃O₂). For some species, we were able to identify the chemical family (defined by its molecular formula
218 and common chemical moiety) but not the exact chemical structure or identity. For these cases, we
219 present the emissions as a sum of the unidentified isomers for a particular chemical family (see Table 2).
220 We report only the compounds that were above the limits of detection for the majority of the biomass
221 burns and where the molecular formula could be identified.

222 Of the 187 gases quantified by the GC-MS in this study, 95 were individually calibrated with
223 commercially available and/or custom-made gravimetrically-based compressed gas calibration standards.
224 The limit of detection, precision, and accuracy are compound dependent, but are conservatively better
225 than 0.010 ppbv, 15%, and 25%, respectively (Gilman et al., 2009; Gilman et al., 2010). For compounds

226 where a calibration standard was not available (identified by an asterisk in Table 2), the calibration factors
 227 were estimated using measured calibrations of compounds in a similar chemical family with a similar
 228 retention time, and when possible a similar mass fragmentation pattern. In order to estimate the
 229 uncertainty in the accuracy of un-calibrated species, we use measured calibrations of ethyl benzene, o-
 230 xylene, and the sum of m- and p-xylenes as a test case. These aromatic species have similar mass
 231 fragmentation patterns, are all quantified using m/z 91, and elute within 1 minute of each other signifying
 232 similar physical properties. If a single calibration factor was used for all these isomers, then the reported
 233 mixing ratios could be miscalculated by up to 34%. We therefore conservatively estimate the accuracy of
 234 all un-calibrated species as 50%.

235 **2.4 Calculations**

236 **2.4.1 Emission ratios**

237 Emission ratios (ER) to carbon monoxide (CO) for each gas-phase compound, X , were calculated
 238 as follows:

$$239 \quad ER = \frac{\Delta X}{\Delta CO} = \frac{\int_{t_{start}}^{t_{end}} (X_{fire} - X_{bknd}) dt}{\int_{t_{start}}^{t_{end}} (CO_{fire} - CO_{bknd}) dt} \quad (1)$$

240 where ΔX and ΔCO are the excess mixing ratios of compound X or CO , respectively, during a fire above
 241 the background. Background values, X_{bknd} and CO_{bknd} , are equal to the average mixing ratio of a species
 242 in the pre-conditioned ambient air inside the exhaust stack in the absence of a fire. For the OP-FTIR,
 243 PTR-MS, PIT-MS and NI-PT-CIMS, backgrounds were determined from the mean responses of the
 244 ambient air inside the exhaust stack for a minimum of 60 s prior to the ignition of each fire. At least one
 245 background sample was collected for the GC-MS each day. The composition and average mixing ratios
 246 of VOCs in the stack backgrounds were consistent over the course of the campaign and were generally
 247 much lower than the mixing ratios observed during biomass burns. For example, the average
 248 background ethyne measured by the GC-MS was 1.22 ± 0.33 ppbv (median = 1.21 ppbv) compared to a
 249 mean ethyne of 150 ± 460 ppbv (median = 42 ppbv) in the fires. The large standard deviation for ethyne
 250 in the biomass burns reflects the large variability in ethyne emissions rather than uncertainty in the
 251 measurement.

252 The type of emission ratio, discrete or fire-integrated, is determined by the sampling frequency of
 253 the instrument and sampling duration. The GC-MS used in these experiments is only capable of
 254 measuring discrete ERs, which represent the average ΔX relative to ΔCO for a relatively short portion of a
 255 fire corresponding to the GC-MS sample acquisition time. The OP-FTIR, PTR-MS, and NI-PT-CIMS are
 256 fast-response instruments that sampled every 1 to 10 seconds over the entire duration of each fire.
 257 These measurements were used to calculate both fire-integrated ERs that represent to $\Delta X/\Delta CO$ over the
 258 entirety of a fire ($dt \geq 1000s$) (Burling et al., 2010; Veres et al., 2010; Warneke et al., 2011) as well as
 259 discrete ERs coincident with the GC-MS sample acquisition ($dt = 20$ to $300s$) as discussed in Section 2.3.
 260 We reference all ERs to CO because the majority of VOCs and CO are co-emitted by smoldering
 261 combustion during the fire whereas CO_2 emissions occur mostly from flaming (see Section 3.1).

262 Additionally, ratios to CO are commonly reported in the literature for biomass burning and urban VOC
 263 emission sources. All data presented here are in units of ppbv VOC per ppmv CO, which is equivalent to
 264 a molar ratio (mmol VOC per mol CO).

265 **2.4.2 Modified combustion efficiency**

266 Modified combustion efficiency (MCE) is used here to describe the relative contributions of
 267 flaming and smoldering combustion and is equal to:

$$268 \quad MCE = \frac{\Delta CO_2}{[\Delta CO + \Delta CO_2]} \quad (2)$$

269 where ΔCO and ΔCO_2 are the excess mixing ratios of CO or CO_2 , respectively, during a fire above the
 270 background (Yokelson et al., 1996). MCE can be calculated instantaneously or for discrete (time-
 271 integrated) samples.

272 **2.4.3 Degree of unsaturation**

273 The degree of unsaturation (D) is also known as “ring and double bond equivalent” (Murray et al.,
 274 2013)) and is equal to:

$$275 \quad D = \frac{[2C + N - H + 2]}{2} \quad (3)$$

276 where C, N, and H denote the number of carbon, nitrogen, and hydrogen atoms, respectively. Table 2
 277 includes D values for each species reported.

278 **2.4.4 Molar mass**

279 Molar mass ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) emitted per ppmv CO is equal to:

$$280 \quad \text{Molar Mass} = \sum \left(\frac{ER \times MW}{MV} \right) \quad (4)$$

281 where ER is the mean discrete emission ratio of a gas, MW is molecular weight (g mol^{-1}), and MV is molar
 282 volume (24.5 L at 1 atm and 25°C). Table 2 includes the nominal MW for each species reported.

283 **2.4.5 OH reactivity**

284 Total OH reactivity represents the sum of all sinks of the hydroxyl radical ($\cdot\text{OH}$) with all reactive
 285 gases and is equal to:

$$286 \quad \text{OH reactivity} = \sum (ER \times k_{OH} \times A) \quad (5)$$

287 where ER is the discrete emission ratio for each measured gases (VOCs, CH_4 , CO, NO_2 , and SO_2 ; ppbv
 288 per ppmv CO), k_{OH} is the second-order reaction rate coefficient of a gas with the hydroxyl radical (cm^3
 289 $\text{molec}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$), and A is a molar concentration conversion factor ($2.46 \times 10^{10} \text{ molec cm}^{-3} \text{ ppbv}^{-1}$ at 1 atm and
 290 25°C). Table 2 includes the k_{OH} values for all reported species which were compiled using the National
 291 Institute of Standards and Technology’s Chemical Kinetics Database and the references therein (Manion
 292 et al., 2015). We estimated k_{OH} values (indicated by an asterisk in Table 2) that were not in the database
 293 using those of analogous compounds.

294 **2.4.6 SOA formation potential**

295 The total SOA formation potential represents the sum of all “potential” SOA formed from all
 296 measured gases and is equal to:

$$297 \quad \text{SOA formation potential} = \sum(ER \times \text{SOAP}) \quad (6)$$

298 where *ER* is the discrete emission ratio for each measured gases (VOCs, CH₄, CO, NO₂, and SO₂; ppbv
 299 per ppmv CO) and *SOAP* is a unitless, model-derived SOA potential published by Derwent et al. (2010).
 300 Briefly, Derwent et al. (2010) calculated SOAPs of 113 VOCs using a photochemical transport model that
 301 included explicit chemistry from the Master Chemical Mechanism (MCM v 3.1) and was initialized using
 302 an idealized set of atmospheric conditions typical of a polluted urban boundary layer. All SOAP values
 303 reflect the simulated mass of aerosol formed per mass of VOC reacted and are expressed relative to
 304 toluene (i.e., SOAP_{Toluene} ≡ 100). The SOAP values published in the Derwent et al. (2010) study are
 305 included in Table 2 and were used to estimate values for all other species (indicated by an asterisk in
 306 Table 2) based on chemical similarities. For example, species such as styrene and benzaldehyde have
 307 SOAP values of ~200 (i.e., twice as much potential SOA formed compared to toluene) and were used as
 308 proxies for SOAP values for aromatics with unsaturated substituents, benzofurans, and benzenediols.

309 **2.5 Fourmile Canyon Fire in Boulder, Colorado**

310 Ambient air measurements of biomass burning emissions from the Fourmile Canyon Fire that
 311 occurred in the foothills 10 km west of Boulder, Colorado were conducted from 7-9 September 2010.
 312 Over the course of the Fourmile Fire, approximately 25 km² of land including 168 structures burned. The
 313 burned vegetation consisted primarily of Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and ponderosa pine (*Pinus*
 314 *ponderosa*) mixed with juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum and communis*), mountain mahogany
 315 (*Cercocarpus*), and various shrubs and grasses common to the mountain zone of the Colorado Front
 316 Range (Graham et al., 2012). During the measurement period, down-sloping winds ranging from 1 to 12
 317 m s⁻¹ (mean = 3.5 m s⁻¹) periodically brought biomass burning emissions to NOAA’s Earth Systems
 318 Research Laboratory located at the western edge of the city of Boulder. The previously described in-situ
 319 GC-MS was housed inside the laboratory and sampled outside air via a 15 m perfluoroalkoxy Teflon
 320 sample line (residence time < 2 s) attached to an exterior port on the western side of the building. CO
 321 was measured via a co-located vacuum-UV resonance fluorescence instrument (Gerbig et al., 1999).
 322

323 **3 Results and Discussion**

324 **3.1 Temporal profiles and measurement comparisons**

325 Temporal profiles of laboratory biomass burns provide valuable insight into the combustion
 326 chemistry and processes that lead to the emissions of various species (Yokelson et al., 1996). Figure 1
 327 shows temporal profiles of an example burn in order to illustrate (i) flaming, mixed, and smoldering
 328 combustion phases/processes and (ii) the sampling frequencies and temporal overlap of the fast-
 329 response instruments compared to the GC-MS. Upon ignition, there is an immediate and substantial
 330 increase in CO₂ and NO_x (NO + NO₂) indicative of vigorous flaming combustion. This transitions to a
 331 mixed-phase characterized by diminishing CO₂ and NO_x emissions and a second increase in CO. The

332 fire eventually evolves to a weakly-emitting, protracted period of mostly smoldering combustion (Yokelson
333 et al., 1996; Burling et al., 2010). Figure 1 also includes the temporal profile of the modified combustion
334 efficiency (MCE, Eq. (2)) which is a proxy for the relative amounts of flaming and smoldering combustion
335 (Yokelson et al., 1996). During the initial flaming phase of the fire, the MCE approaches unity due to the
336 dominance of CO₂ emissions. The MCE gradually decreases during smoldering combustion when CO
337 emissions are more prominent.

338 In order to compare measurements from multiple instruments, we calculated the average excess
339 mixing ratios of a species, ΔX , measured by the fast-response instruments over the corresponding GC-
340 MS sample acquisition times for all 56 biomass burns. We compare the measurements using correlation
341 plots of ΔX for VOCs measured by the GC-MS versus the same compound measured by the OP-FTIR or
342 an analogous m/z measured by the PTR-MS. The slopes and correlation coefficients, r , were determined
343 by linear orthogonal distance regression analysis and are compiled in Fig. 2a. The average slope and
344 standard deviation of the instrument comparison is 1.0 ± 0.2 and $0.93 < r < 0.99$ signifying good overall
345 agreement between the different measurement techniques for the species investigated here. A few
346 comparisons are discussed in more detail below.

347 The largest difference between the GC-MS and the OP-FTIR observations was for propene
348 (slope = 1.36) indicating that the GC-MS response is greater than the OP-FTIR; however, a correlation
349 coefficient of 0.99 suggests that the offset is more likely from a calibration difference that remains
350 unresolved. The possibility of a species with the same retention time and similar fragmentation pattern as
351 propene that is also co-emitted at a consistent ratio relative to propene is unlikely, but cannot be
352 completely ruled out. For furan, the GC-MS had a lower response than OP-FTIR (slope = 0.77) indicating
353 that the GC-MS may be biased low for furan or that the OP-FTIR may have spectral interferences that
354 bias the measurement high. The temporal profiles of these measurements shown in Fig. 1 suggest that
355 there was a spectral interference with the OP-FTIR measurement of furan as evidenced by the large
356 emissions in the flaming phase that was not captured by the m/z 69 response of the PTR-MS. These
357 early "spurious" OP-FTIR furan responses would (i) only affect the comparison for the GC-MS samples
358 collected in the flaming phase of the fires and (ii) have not been observed in other biomass burning
359 experiments utilizing this OP-FTIR (Christian et al., 2004; Stockwell et al., 2014).

360 Comparison of the GC-MS $\Sigma(\text{isoprene+furan})$ vs. PTR-MS m/z 69 has the lowest slope (GC-MS
361 vs. PTR-MS = 0.64) indicating the contribution of other VOCs, e.g. cis- and trans-1,3-pentadienes, to the
362 m/z 69 response of the PTR-MS in fresh smoke (Warneke et al., 2011). Carbon suboxide (C₃O₂) has also
363 been shown to contribute to m/z 69 response for the PTR-MS technique (Stockwell et al., 2015). Direct
364 comparisons of the real-time measurements for a variety of other species not measured by the GC-MS
365 (e.g., formaldehyde, formic acid, and HONO) can be found elsewhere (Burling et al., 2010; Veres et al.,
366 2010; Warneke et al., 2011).

367 **3.2 Comparison of discrete and fire-integrated ERs**

368 Fire-integrated ERs represent emissions from all combustion processes of a biomass burn
369 whereas discrete ERs capture a relatively brief snapshot of emissions from mixed combustion processes
370 during a particular sampling period. Figure 1 includes time series of VOC to CO ERs measured by the
371 real-time measurement techniques for select gases. Here we compare the 2 different measurement
372 strategies, discrete vs. fire-integrated, in order to (i) determine if the discrete ERs measured by the GC-
373 MS may be biased by the sample acquisition times which typically occurred within the first-half of a
374 laboratory burn when emissions for most gases generally “peaked” and (ii) assess how well the discrete
375 GC-MS samples are able to capture the fire-to-fire variability of emissions relative to CO. We do this by
376 determining discrete ERs for the OP-FTIR or PTR-MS for each of the 56 biomass burns using Eq. 1
377 where t_{start} and t_{end} times correspond to the GC-MS sample acquisition. The discrete ERs are then
378 compared to the fire-integrated ERs measured by the same fast-response instrument so that potential
379 measurement artifacts will not affect the comparison.

380 The slopes and correlation coefficients, r , of discrete versus fire-integrated ERs for select VOCs
381 are summarized in Fig. 2b. These values were calculated using a linear orthogonal distance regression
382 analysis of correlation plots of discrete vs. fire-integrated ERs as shown in Fig. 3. The average slope and
383 standard deviation is 1.2 ± 0.2 indicating that the discrete ERs are generally higher than the fire-
384 integrated ERs by 20% on average. This positive bias is a consequence of the GC-MS sampling strategy
385 which rarely included samples collected at the end of a burn (e.g., $t \geq 1000$ s in Fig. 1) when absolute
386 emissions and ERs are lower for most species. Using the data in Fig. 1 as an example, 95% of the
387 emissions of benzene (in ppbv) occur between ignition and 1000 s, and the mean ER during this time is
388 twice as large as the mean ER in the later portion of the fire (time = 1001 s to extinction). For VOCs
389 emitted during the later stages of a fire (e.g., 1,3-benzenediol), the discrete ERs will likely underestimate
390 the emissions relative to CO. For example, the discrete ERs for benzenediol for the southeastern and
391 southwestern fuels (Table 2) are 30% lower than the mean fire-integrated ERs reported by Veres et al.
392 (2010).

393 The ability of the GC-MS to capture the fire-to-fire variability in VOC emissions relative to CO is
394 evaluated by the strength of the correlation, r , between the discrete and fire-integrated ERs (Fig. 2b).
395 Species with the weakest correlations, such as ethyne and benzene, show a distinct bifurcation that is
396 dependent upon the MCE of the discrete samples (Fig. 3). These compounds have significant portion of
397 emissions in both the flaming and smoldering phases of a fire (see Fig. 1). For these types of
398 compounds, discrete samples collected in the smoldering phase (low MCE) did not adequately represent
399 the fire-integrated emissions that include the intense flaming emissions (high MCE) resulting in poor
400 correlation between discrete and fire-integrated ERs for these species. In contrast, VOCs that had the
401 strongest correlations between the discrete and fire-integrated ERs (e.g., methanol and toluene where $r >$
402 0.88) do not show a strong dependence on the MCE. Since CO is strongly associated with smoldering
403 combustion (Yokelson et al., 1996; Burling et al., 2010), VOCs emitted primarily during this phase will be
404 more tightly correlated with CO and the variability in the discrete vs. fire-integrated will be minimized.

405 In summary, the discrete GC-MS samples best characterize the fire-integrated emissions and
406 fire-to-fire variability of species produced primarily by smoldering combustion. We conservatively
407 estimate these values to be within a factor of 1.5 of the fire-integrated ERs for the majority of the species
408 measured. A similar conclusion was reached by comparing discrete ERs measured during the same fire
409 to each other by Yokelson et al. (2013). While fire-integrated ERs are considered to best represent BB
410 emissions, these analyses suggest that collecting and averaging multiple discrete ERs at various stages
411 of the same or replicate burns, as presented here, are an adequate substitute when fire-integrated ERs
412 cannot be determined. Fire-integrated ERs are commonly used to determine fuel-based emission factors
413 for a fire, but care must be taken converting discrete ERs into emission factors, as also discussed for this
414 data in Yokelson et al. (2013).

415 **3.3 Characterization of laboratory BB emissions**

416 In order to merge datasets from multiple instruments, we report mean discrete ERs of over 200
417 organic gases, including methane and VOCs, and 9 inorganic gases relative to CO for the southwestern,
418 southeastern, and northern fuel types in the United States (Table 2). Mean ERs for each of the 18
419 individual fuel types are available at [http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/csd/groups/csd7/measurements/
420 2009firelab/](http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/csd/groups/csd7/measurements/2009firelab/). This study utilizes discrete ERs to characterize the chemical composition of the measured
421 molar mass emitted, the VOC-OH reactivity, and the relative SOA formation potential of the measured
422 gaseous emissions from various fuels categorized by the region where they were collected in order to
423 compare potential atmospheric impacts of these emissions and identify key species that may impact air
424 quality through formation of O₃ and/or SOA.

425 Figure 4 is a pictograph of all ERs presented in Table 2 as well as a histogram of the ERs for
426 each of the 3 fuel regions in order to highlight commonalities and differences in the magnitudes and
427 general chemical composition of fuels from different regions in the U.S.. The distribution of ERs are
428 shown as a function of three simple properties including the degree of unsaturation (D, Eq. (3)); the
429 number of oxygen atoms; and molecular weight (MW) of individual VOCs. Atmospheric lifetimes and
430 fates of VOCs will depend, in part, on these properties, which we use as simplified proxies for reactivity
431 (D), solubility (O-atoms), and volatility (MW). Using this general framework, we highlight several key
432 features that will be explored in further detail in the subsequent sections:

- 433 (i) ERs are highly variable and span more than 4 orders of magnitude.
- 434 (ii) The relative magnitude and composition of the gases emitted are different for fuels from each
435 of the 3 geographic regions, i.e., the distribution of ERs are unique for the fuels within each
436 fuel region.
- 437 (iii) Southwestern fuels generally have lower ERs and northern fuels have the largest ERs.
438 Collectively, the molar emission ratios are a factor of 3 greater for the northern fuels than the
439 southwestern.
- 440 (iv) The largest ERs for all three fuel regions are associated with low molecular weight species
441 (MW < 80 g/mol) and/or those that contain 1 or more oxygen atom(s). These species also

- 442 have lower degrees of unsaturation ($D \leq 2$) and populate the upper left quadrants of Fig. 4.
443 VOCs with the largest ERs common to all fuel types are formaldehyde, ethene, acetic acid,
444 and methanol (Table 2).
- 445 (v) Over 82% of the molar emissions of VOCs from biomass burning are unsaturated
446 compounds ($D \geq 1$) defined as having one or more pi-bonds (e.g., C-C or C-O double bonds,
447 cyclic or aromatic rings, etc.). In general, these species are more likely to react with
448 atmospheric oxidants and/or photo-dissociate depending on the chemical moiety, making
449 unsaturated species potentially important O_3 and SOA precursors. VOCs that contain triple
450 bonds (e.g., ethyne) are a notable exception as they tend to be less reactive.
- 451 (vi) The number of VOCs in the upper right quadrants of Fig. 4 (increasing ERs and degree of
452 unsaturation) is greatest for northern fuels and least for southwestern fuels. Many of the
453 VOCs in this quadrant also have relatively high molecular weights ($MW \geq 100$ g/mol) and
454 most contain at least one oxygen atom (e.g., benzenediol and benzofuran). The combination
455 of these physical properties indicate that these species are relatively reactive, soluble, and of
456 low enough volatility to make them potentially important SOA precursors.

457 **3.3.1 Molar mass of measured emissions**

458 Here we compare the magnitude and composition of biomass burning emissions as a function of
459 molar mass, which is a readily calculated physical property used to quantify BB emissions. For all 3 fuel
460 regions, CO_2 was the overwhelmingly dominant gas-phase emission and singularly contributed over 95%
461 of the molar mass emitted **that was measured**. Collectively, CH_4 and the inorganic gases (e.g., CO_2 , CO ,
462 NO_x , etc.) comprised over 99% of all gaseous molar mass emitted and measured, while VOCs
463 contributed only $0.27 \pm 0.03\%$, $0.34\% \pm 0.03\%$, and $0.95\% \pm 0.07\%$ for the southeastern, southwestern,
464 and northern fuels, respectively.

465 Figure 5a-c shows the fractional composition and total molar mass of measured VOCs emitted
466 per ppmv CO for each fuel region. The molar mass emitted by northern fuels ($324 \pm 22 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv CO}^{-1}$)
467 is 3.5 times greater than the southwestern fuels ($92 \pm 9 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv CO}^{-1}$). For all 3 fuel regions, the
468 emissions are dominated by oxygen-containing VOCs (OVOCs), which collectively comprise 57-68% of
469 the total mass emissions. The single largest contribution by a single chemical class is from OVOCs with
470 low degrees of unsaturation ($D \leq 1$), which contribute 29-40% of the total molar mass. This chemical
471 family is dominated by acetic acid, formaldehyde, and methanol emissions (Table 2). Compared to
472 hydrocarbons and OVOCs, nitrogen-containing VOCs are emitted in substantially smaller fractions, less
473 than 8% of the total **measured**. Dominant nitrogen VOCs include hydrocyanic acid (HCN), isocyanic acid
474 (HNCO), acetonitrile (CH_3CN), and methyl nitrite (CH_3ONO). The addition of all nitrogen-containing
475 organics presented here would add approximately 5% to the nitrogen budget presented in Burling et al.
476 (2010); however, this would still leave over one-half of the fuel nitrogen potentially ending up in the ash,
477 or being emitted as N_2 or in other unmeasured gases based on the nitrogen content of the fuels which
478 ranged from 0.48 to 1.3%.

479 One limitation of this analysis is the exclusion of “unknown” species, which are (i) gaseous
480 compounds that were measured but remain unidentified and were therefore omitted from this analysis
481 because the chemical formula and family could not be properly identified or (ii) were undetectable by the
482 suite of instruments listed in Table 1. We estimate the mass contribution from the first scenario using the
483 fuel-based emission factors compiled by Yokelson et al. (2013) for all measured species including
484 “unknown” masses observed by the PIT-MS. These “unidentified” non-methane organic compounds
485 (NMOC, equivalent to VOCs) accounted for 31-47% of the mass emitted for the same fuels studied here
486 (Yokelson et al., 2013). The second category of un-observed unknown species are likely to be of
487 sufficiently high molecular weight, high polarity, and/or low volatility and thermal stability to escape
488 detection by GC-MS, a variety of chemical ionization mass spectrometers, and the OP-FTIR. For
489 example, BB emissions of species such as glyoxal, glycoaldehyde, acetol, guaiacols, syringols, and
490 amines have been reported in the literature (McDonald et al., 2000; Schauer et al., 2001; McMeeking et
491 al., 2009; Akagi et al., 2011; Akagi et al., 2012; Hatch et al., 2015) but would not be detectable by any of
492 the instruments used in this experiment. The contribution of these types of compounds is difficult to
493 assess, so we roughly estimate an additional contribution of ~ 5% to the total mass of VOCs emitted
494 could be from un-observed unknown VOCs. Collectively, we estimate that the species reported in Table
495 2 and compiled in Fig. 5a-c account for approximately 48-64% of the expected mass of non-methane
496 organic gases emitted from the fuels studied here. The total VOC molar mass for each fuel type should
497 be considered a lower limit and could increase by a factor of ~ 2; however, doubling the molar mass of
498 VOCs to account for all identified and “unknown” species would increase the total mass measured by less
499 than 0.78% since the vast majority of carbon emissions from biomass burning are in the form of CO, CO₂,
500 and CH₄ (Yokelson et al., 1996; Burling et al., 2010). All of the totals presented in Figure 5 should also be
501 considered lower limits; however, the additional contribution of unidentified and/or un-measured species
502 to the following discussions could not be determined.

503 **3.3.2 OH reactivity of BB emissions**

504 Oxidation of VOCs, often initiated by reaction with the hydroxyl radical ($\cdot\text{OH}$), in the presence of
505 NO_x (NO + NO₂) leads to the photochemical formation of O₃ and peroxy nitrates, including peroxyacetic
506 nitric anhydride (PAN). Due to the complex relationship between O₃ production and VOC/NO_x ratios and
507 peroxy nitrates, we use OH reactivity to (i) compare the magnitude of reactive gases emitted by
508 combustion of fuels characteristic of each region and to (ii) identify key reactive species that may
509 contribute to the photochemical formation of O₃ in a BB plume. Based on the calculated OH reactivities of
510 all measured species listed in Table 2, VOCs are the dominant sink of OH for all fuel regions contributing
511 70-90 (±16)% of the total calculated OH reactivity even though non-methane VOCs were only 0.27-0.95%
512 of the molar mass emitted.

513 Figure 5d-f shows the fractional contributions and total VOC-OH reactivities per ppmv CO for
514 each of the 3 fuel regions. The fresh BB emissions from northern fuels have the highest OH reactivity (61
515 ± 10 s⁻¹ ppmv CO⁻¹), which is 4.7 times greater than southwestern fuels (13 ± 3 s⁻¹ ppmv CO⁻¹).

516 Collectively, OVOCs provide the majority of the OH reactivity of the southeastern fuels (54%), while
517 hydrocarbons dominate the southwestern (52%) and northern fuels (57%). Northern fuels have the
518 largest contribution from highly reactive terpenes (14%) due to the ERs of these species being, on
519 average, a factor of 5 greater than southeastern fuels and a factor of 40 greater than southwestern fuels.

520 For all 3 fuel regions, alkenes have the largest contribution of any singular chemical class due to
521 the large ERs of the reactive species ethene and propene, the latter of which is the single largest
522 individual contributor to OH reactivity of any species measured. Oxidation of alkenes proceeds by OH
523 addition to the double-bond or hydrogen abstraction and often results in the secondary formation of
524 carbonyls (e.g., acetaldehyde and acetone), which are important peroxyacrylate precursors (Roberts et al.,
525 2007; Fischer et al., 2014). Primary emissions of formaldehyde is the second-largest contributor, after
526 propene, to the OH reactivity of all VOCs emitted for all 3 fuel regions. Formaldehyde is reactive with OH
527 and is a photolytic source of RO₂ radicals that also contribute to O₃ formation, in addition to being an air
528 toxic.

529 Other important contributions to OH reactivity of BB emissions include unsaturated OVOCs (e.g.,
530 2-propenal, methyl vinyl ketone, and methacrolein), poly-unsaturated alkenes (e.g., 1,3-butadiene and
531 1,3-cyclopentadiene), and furans. The majority of these types of species are highly reactive with a variety
532 of oxidants and many of their oxidation products are photochemically active. For example, oxidation of
533 1,3-butadiene results in highly reactive OVOC products including furans and 2-propenal, a precursor of
534 peroxyacrylate nitric anhydride (APAN) (Tuazon et al., 1999). The OH reactivity of furans is dominated by
535 2-methylfuran, 2-furaldehyde (2-furfural), and furan. Alkyl furans (e.g., 2,5-dimethylfuran and 2-
536 ethylfuran) have reaction rate coefficients on the order of $\sim 1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 298K (roughly
537 equivalent to that of isoprene) and the major oxidation products include dicarbonyls (Bierbach et al.,
538 1992, 1995; Alvarez et al., 2009). Up to 27 furan isomers have been identified from the combustion of
539 Ponderosa Pine (Hatch et al., 2015), indicating this is an important class of species that should be further
540 explored in order to better determine their potential contributions to O₃ and SOA formation.

541 Nitrogen-containing VOCs contribute less than 4% of the OH reactivity of all fuels due to the low
542 reactivities of the most abundant emissions, which often contain -C≡N functional groups. Some nitriles,
543 such as acetonitrile (CH₃CN), can have lifetimes on the order of months making these species good
544 markers of long-range transport of BB plumes (Holzinger et al., 1999; de Gouw et al., 2003; de Gouw et
545 al., 2006). Other more reactive nitrogen-containing organics including 2-propenenitrile, benzonitrile, and
546 heterocyclic species such as pyrroles could serve as BB markers of fresh plumes (Friedli et al., 2001; Karl
547 et al., 2007).

548 **3.3.3 SOA formation potential of BB emissions**

549 Figure 5g-i shows the composition and mean SOA formation potentials of VOCs emitted for each
550 of the 3 fuel regions. Southwestern fuels have the lowest SOA potential (480 per ppmv CO) compared to
551 southeastern and northern fuels that have estimated SOAPs 2.7 and 5.1 times greater, respectively.
552 Unsaturated OVOCs are the dominant fraction for all three fuel regions due to the relatively large ERs

553 and SOAPs of benzenediols (sum of 1,2- and 1,3-), benzaldehyde, and phenols. Schauer et al. (2001)
554 reports significant gaseous emissions of benzenediols from combustion of pine in a fireplace and shows
555 that 1,2-benzenediol (o-benzenediol) is the dominant gas-phase isomer while 1,3-benzenediol (m-
556 benzenediol) is primarily associated with the particle phase. The discrete ERs used in this comparison
557 may underestimate the emissions and SOA contribution of several compounds emitted in the later
558 portions of a laboratory burn when emissions of most VOCs and CO were lower as previously discussed
559 (Sect. 3.2).

560 The largest contributions to SOAP from hydrocarbons include aromatics with saturated functional
561 groups (if any) such as benzene and toluene and aromatics with unsaturated substituents as styrene.
562 Traditionally, these are the species that are thought to be the largest contributors to SOA formation from
563 urban emissions (Odum et al., 1997; Bahreini et al., 2012), although predicted SOA is typically much
564 lower than observed in ambient air suggesting that the aerosol yields may be too low or there are
565 additional SOA precursors that remain unaccounted for (de Gouw et al., 2005).

566 Monoterpenes have a very small (<2%) contribution to total SOAP. The calculated SOAPs of
567 monoterpenes are only 20% that of toluene (Derwent et al., 2010). This is in contrast to measured
568 aerosol yields which are approximately 1.7 times higher for monoterpenes compared to toluene (Pandis
569 et al., 1992). As a sensitivity test, we increased the SOAPs of the monoterpenes by a factor of 10
570 bringing the SOAP ratio of monoterpenes to toluene in line with that of measured aerosol yields. This
571 resulted in modest increases in total SOAP of only 2% for SW and 5% for SE fuels. Northern fuels had
572 the largest increase in total SOAP at 16%. With the adjusted monoterpene SOAPs, the fractional
573 contribution of terpenes increased from 1.8% (Fig. 5i) to 15% of the total SOAP while the contribution of
574 unsaturated OVOCs remained the dominant class but was reduced from 67% to 58% of the total SOAP.
575 This sensitivity test suggests that the contributions of monoterpenes are likely underestimated for
576 northern fuels if the SOAP scale is used; however, the largest contributions to SOAP for the northern
577 fuels continues to be from oxygenated aromatics (benzenediols, phenols, and benzaldehyde). For
578 comparison, Hatch et al. (2015) estimated that the SOA mass formed from the combustion of Ponderosa
579 Pine is dominated by aromatic hydrocarbons (45%), terpenes (25%), phenols (9%), and furans (9%);
580 however, their analysis did not include contributions from benzenediols (not measured), benzaldehyde or
581 benzofurans (measured but not included in estimate).

582 **3.4 Field measurements of BB emissions**

583 Here we present field-measurements of VOCs in ambient air during the Fourmile Canyon Fire
584 that affected Boulder, Colorado in September 2010. The in-situ GC-MS measurements are shown in Fig.
585 6 and summarized in Table 3. We were able to identify and quantify a number of VOCs in ambient BB
586 plumes that we had only previously observed in the fire emissions at the Fire Sciences Laboratory.
587 Analysis of BB plumes from the Fourmile Canyon Fire afforded a unique opportunity to investigate BB
588 emissions measured by this same GC-MS system in simulated and real fires and to explore issues
589 associated with the presence of other VOC sources such as urban emissions and natural biogenic

590 emissions during both the daytime and nighttime; with nighttime smoke measurements being very rarely
591 reported (Adler et al., 2011).

592 First we identify the potential emission sources impacting the measurements. Acetonitrile is a
593 common BB tracer that we use to help clarify periods of BB influence. As seen in Fig. 6, BB plumes are
594 readily distinguished by concurrent increases in acetonitrile (CH_3CN), carbon monoxide (CO), and several
595 VOCs. Species such as benzonitrile and furan are very tightly correlated with acetonitrile ($r > 0.94$, Table
596 3) and enhancements in ambient mixing ratios above detection limit only occur in the BB plumes
597 indicating that BB was the only significant source of these compounds. VOCs such as isoprene and
598 alpha-pinene were similarly enhanced in the BB plumes and well correlated with acetonitrile during BB
599 episodes; however, the mixing ratios observed in the BB plume were generally lower than those observed
600 at other times from the natural sunlight-dependent emissions of isoprene (e.g., 09:00 – 15:00 local time)
601 and from the accumulation of monoterpenes in the nocturnal boundary layer (e.g., 9/8/2010 18:00 to
602 9/9/2010 06:00). 3-Carene was the only monoterpene that had significantly higher mixing ratios in the BB
603 plume than in biogenic emissions. Ethene, ethyne, benzene, styrene, and methanol were enhanced in
604 the BB plumes but are also present in urban emissions. An urban plume at 06:00-09:00 9/9/2010 (Fig. 6)
605 is enhanced in all of these species and CO; however, acetonitrile is not enhanced.

606 Observed enhancement ratios of several VOCs relative to acetonitrile and CO are compiled in
607 Table 3 along with the types of emission sources for each VOC. Figure 7 shows a comparison of the
608 VOC to acetonitrile ratios of select species for the Fourmile Canyon Fire and the laboratory-based
609 biomass burns of all fuel types. We have identified benzofuran, 2-furaldehyde, 2-methylfuran, furan, and
610 benzonitrile as the “best” tracers for BB emissions from these observations. These species (i) were well
611 correlated with both acetonitrile and CO in the BB plumes, (ii) had negligible emissions from the urban
612 and biogenic sources impacting the measurement site, and (iii) had large enhancements in BB plumes.
613 In theory, the relative ratios of these species to acetonitrile may also be used as a BB-specific
614 photochemical clock since each of these species represent a range of reactivities that are much greater
615 than that of acetonitrile (Table 3). We compared the enhancement ratios of each VOC marker vs.
616 acetonitrile for the two BB plumes observed on 9/8/2010 in order to determine if the relative age of the
617 two BB plumes could be distinguished. While the enhancement ratios for several VOCs in each plume
618 were statistically different from one another, there was no clear relationship between the observed
619 differences in the enhancement ratios and the relative reactivity of the VOCs. Thus, small differences in
620 the observed enhancement ratios more likely relate to differences in the fuel composition, the relative
621 ratio of flaming vs. smoldering emissions in each BB plume, or variable secondary sources. Given
622 enough time for significant photochemistry to occur as a BB plume moves further from the source, these
623 ratios could be more useful to estimate photochemical ages.

624

625 **4 Conclusions**

626 We report a chemically detailed analysis of the trace gases emitted from burning 18 different
627 biomass fuel types important in the southwestern, southeastern, and northern U.S. A complementary
628 suite of state-of-the-art instruments was used to identify and quantify over 200 organic and 9 inorganic
629 gases emitted from laboratory burns. Most of the species were quantified via discrete sampling by the
630 GC-MS, which also provided confirmation for the real-time PIT-MS and PTR-MS mass assignments
631 (Warneke et al., 2011). The variability in emissions over the course of each biomass burn was measured
632 in detail by the fast-response instruments providing valuable insight into the combustion chemistry and
633 processes that govern the emissions of various species.

634 By comparing discrete and fire-integrated ERs for various VOCs relative to CO, we show that the
635 discrete GC-MS samples adequately represented the fire-integrated ER within an average factor of $1.2 \pm$
636 0.2 and fire-to-fire variability for VOCs emitted mainly by smoldering, which are the majority of VOCs.
637 Discrete ERs for VOCs emitted by both flaming and smoldering were highly variable and showed a clear
638 bifurcation depending on the mix of combustion processes during sampling. This analysis highlights the
639 importance of collecting multiple discrete samples at various stages of replicate burns if fire-integrated
640 emissions cannot be measured to ensure adequate measurement of all VOCs.

641 The distribution of VOC emissions (magnitude and composition) was different for each fuel
642 region. The largest total VOC emissions were from fuels representing the northern U.S. while
643 southwestern U.S. fuels produced the lowest total VOC emissions. VOCs contributed less than $0.78\% \pm$
644 0.12% of total detected gas-phase emissions by mole and less than $0.95\% \pm 0.07\%$ by mass due to the
645 predominance of CO₂, CO, CH₄, and NO_x emissions. However, VOCs contributed 70-90 (± 16)% of the
646 total calculated OH reactivity and 100% of the potential SOA precursors emitted from combustion of
647 biomass. Over 82% of the VOC emissions by mole are unsaturated species including highly reactive
648 alkenes, aromatics and terpenes as well as photolabile OVOCs such as aldehydes and ketones. VOCs
649 with the largest ERs common to all fuel types are formaldehyde, ethene, acetic acid, and methanol.

650 OVOCs contributed the dominant fraction of both the total VOC mass emitted ($>57\%$) and
651 potential SOA precursors ($>52\%$), and also contributed a significant fraction of the OH reactivity for all fuel
652 regions making them an important class of VOCs to understand the air quality impacts of BB emissions.
653 Reactive and photolabile OVOCs such as formaldehyde, 2-propenal (acrolein), and 2-butenal
654 (crotonaldehyde) are toxic, a source of free radicals, and/or precursors of peroxy nitrates that may
655 contribute to O₃ formation downwind of the source. Furans are a class of OVOCs in BB emissions that
656 contributed 9 to 14% of the VOC-OH reactivity for all fuel regions; however, their potential as SOA
657 precursors, particularly for species such as 2-furaldehyde and benzofuran, requires further study. The
658 estimated SOA formation potential was dominated by oxygenated aromatics (benzenediols, phenols, and
659 benzaldehyde). Potentially important species that were not measured but should be considered in future
660 studies include glyoxal, glyoxaldehyde, acetol, guaiacols, and syringols (Stockwell et al., 2015).

661 The Fourmile Canyon Fire in Boulder, CO, allowed us to identify and quantify a number of VOCs
662 in ambient BB plumes that we had only previously observed in the emissions from laboratory fires at the

663 Fire Sciences facility and investigate BB emissions in the presence of other VOC sources such as urban
664 emissions and biogenic emissions during both the day and nighttime. We identified benzofuran, 2-
665 furaldehyde, 2-methylfuran, furan, and benzonitrile as the “best” tracers for BB emissions from our
666 observations. In theory, the relative ratios of these species to acetonitrile may also be used as a BB-
667 specific photochemical clock since each of these species represent a range of reactivities assuming a
668 negligible photochemical source.

669

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679

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931 **Table 1. Measurement descriptions.**

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933

Instrument Identifier	Measurement Technique	Measurement Descriptions	Detection Qualifications	Instru. Details and Companion Papers
GC-MS	Gas chromatography-(Quadrupole) Mass Spectrometry	Discrete sampling via cryogenic pre-concentration, chromatographic separation, detection and identification via electron impact (EI) mass spectrum	Melting point greater than -185 °C; Boiling point less than 220 °C; Sufficiently non-polar (e.g., no acids); Fragment ion (m/z): 26 to 150	Goldan et al. (2004) Gilman et al. (2010) Yokelson et al. (2013)
PTR-MS	Proton Transfer Reaction-(Quadrupole) Mass Spectrometry	Real-time sampling via proton transfer reactions with H ₃ O ⁺ , quantification via protonated molecule [M+H] ⁺	Proton affinity greater than water; Protonated molecular mass (m/z): 20-240	Warneke et al. (2011) Yokelson et al. (2013)
PIT-MS	Proton Transfer Reaction-(Ion Trap) Mass Spectrometry	Real-time sampling via proton transfer reactions with H ₃ O ⁺ , quantification via protonated molecule [M+H] ⁺	Proton affinity greater than water; Protonated molecular mass (m/z): 20-240	Warneke et al. (2011) Yokelson et al. (2013)
NI-PT-CIMS	Negative Ion-Proton Transfer Reaction-(Quadrupole) Mass Spectrometry	Real-time sampling via proton transfer reactions with CH ₃ C(O)O ⁻ , quantification via deprotonated ion [M-H] ⁻	Gas-phase acidity greater than that of acetic acid; Deprotonated molecular mass (m/z): 10-225	Veres et al. (2011) Roberts et al. (2011) Yokelson et al. (2013)
OP-FTIR	Open Path-Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy	Real-time spectral scanning via open path White cell (58 m pathlength), offline identification via compound specific infrared absorption features	Strong absorption features between 600-3400 cm ⁻¹ that are unique and free of interferences from other strong IR-absorbers (e.g., H ₂ O)	Burling et al. (2011) Yokelson et al. (2013)

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935 **Table 2.** Mean VOC to CO discrete emission ratios (ERs, ppbv per ppmv CO) for the southwestern (SW), southeastern (SE), and northern (N)
 936 fuel regions.

Name	Formula	MW	D	m/z	SW Avg ER (\pm s.d.) npnts		SE Avg ER (\pm s.d.) npnts		N Avg ER (\pm s.d.) npnts		kOH	SOAP			
Alkanes (Saturated, D = 0)															
Ethane	C2H6	30	0	27	1.8388	(1.2846)	25	4.5311	(3.8024)	23	6.8510	(3.5152)	4	0.25	0.1
Propane	C3H8	44	0	27	0.6317	(0.9985)	23	1.5957	(1.2193)	18	1.4633	(0.9354)	4	1.1	0
Butane_iso	C4H10	58	0	43	0.0522	(0.0813)	29	0.2984	(0.4734)	20	0.0982	(0.0620)	4	2.1	0
Butane_n	C4H10	58	0	43	0.1038	(0.1829)	29	0.3333	(0.2902)	20	0.4005	(0.2804)	4	2.4	0.3
Propane_22dimethyl*	C5H12	72	0	57	0.0003	(0.0008)	29	0.0004	(0.0008)	23	0.0006	(0.0007)	4	0.83	0.2
Pentane_iso	C5H12	72	0	43	0.0167	(0.0585)	29	0.0580	(0.0878)	23	0.0322	(0.0261)	4	3.6	0.2
Pentane_n	C5H12	72	0	43	0.0271	(0.0427)	29	0.0889	(0.0789)	23	0.1400	(0.1130)	4	3.8	0.3
Butane_22dimethyl	C6H14	86	0	71	0.0002	(0.0008)	29	0.0001	(0.0002)	23			0	2.2	0.1*
Pentane_3methyl	C6H14	86	0	57	0.0009	(0.0010)	9	0.0089	(0.0117)	16	0.0045	(0.0031)	4	5.2	0.2
Hexane_n	C6H14	86	0	57	0.0159	(0.0225)	29	0.0572	(0.0516)	23	0.0814	(0.0634)	4	5.2	0.1
Heptane_n	C7H16	100	0	43	0.0218	(0.0176)	9	0.0640	(0.0387)	14	0.0836	(0.0674)	4	6.8	0.1
Octane_n	C8H18	114	0	43	0.0138	(0.0128)	9	0.0469	(0.0281)	14	0.0536	(0.0353)	4	8.1	0.8
Nonane_n	C9H20	128	0	57	0.0085	(0.0079)	9	0.0358	(0.0213)	13	0.0369	(0.0269)	4	9.7	1.9
Decane_n	C10H22	142	0	57	0.0083	(0.0060)	9	0.0310	(0.0222)	14	0.0330	(0.0212)	4	11	7
Undecane_n	C11H24	156	0	57	0.0111	(0.0054)	8	0.0412	(0.0304)	12	0.0425	(0.0208)	4	12	16.2
Alkenes (Unsaturated, D = 1)															
Ethene	C2H4	28	1	27	5.8525	(4.1077)	25	8.1879	(4.2382)	21	18.3160	(12.8430)	4	8.5	1.3
Propene	C3H6	42	1	41	2.0801	(2.0528)	29	3.4917	(2.1610)	23	8.5115	(3.4340)	4	26	1.6
Propene_2methyl	C4H8	56	1	41	0.1046	(0.1652)	29	0.2668	(0.2151)	23	0.3162	(0.3624)	4	51	0.6
Butene_1	C4H8	56	1	41	0.2961	(0.3761)	29	0.4851	(0.3320)	23	1.5227	(0.6632)	4	31	1.2
Butene_cis2	C4H8	56	1	41	0.0579	(0.0937)	29	0.1209	(0.0920)	23	0.2397	(0.1916)	4	56	3.6
Butene_trans2	C4H8	56	1	41	0.0615	(0.1036)	29	0.1427	(0.1174)	23	0.2732	(0.2648)	4	64	4
Butene_1_2methyl	C5H10	70	1	55	0.0202	(0.0256)	29	0.0391	(0.0284)	23	0.0881	(0.0462)	4	61	0.9
Butene_1_3methyl	C5H10	70	1	55	0.0091	(0.0202)	8	0.0152	(0.0168)	15	0.0183	(0.0164)	4	32	0.6
Butene_2_2methyl	C5H10	70	1	55	0.0224	(0.0317)	8	0.0996	(0.0634)	14	0.1881	(0.0965)	4	87	1.9
Cyclopentane	C5H10	70	1	42	0.0024	(0.0040)	29	0.0064	(0.0053)	23	0.0108	(0.0074)	4	4.8	0*
Pentene_1	C5H10	70	1	55	0.0429	(0.0654)	29	0.0902	(0.0773)	23	0.2311	(0.1872)	4	31	0
Pentene_cis2	C5H10	70	1	55	0.0432	(0.0638)	8	0.1396	(0.0883)	14	0.2905	(0.1492)	4	65	3.1
Pentene_trans2	C5H10	70	1	55	0.0276	(0.0341)	29	0.0422	(0.0304)	23	0.1180	(0.0667)	4	67	3.1
Cyclopentane_1methyl	C6H12	84	1	56	0.0040	(0.0037)	9	0.0147	(0.0139)	16	0.0159	(0.0113)	4	8.6	0*
Pentene_1_2methyl*	C6H12	84	1	56	0.0890	(0.1102)	9	0.1782	(0.1162)	14	0.4980	(0.2945)	4	55	1*

Cyclohexane	C6H12	84	1	84	0.0012	(0.0014)	9	0.0052	(0.0028)	14	0.0052	(0.0035)	4	7	0
Hexene_1	C6H12	84	1	84	0.1029	(0.1182)	8	0.2039	(0.0943)	12	0.4904	(0.2844)	4	37	0
Hexene_cis2	C6H12	84	1	84	0.0256	(0.0338)	9	0.0522	(0.0443)	16	0.1552	(0.0586)	4	62	1.3
Hexenes (Sum of 3 isomers)*	C6H12	84	1	84	0.0931	(0.1166)	9	0.1788	(0.1376)	16	0.5432	(0.2920)	4	62	1.3*
Cyclohexane_methyl	C7H14	98	1	83	0.0023	(0.0023)	8	0.0097	(0.0063)	14	0.0111	(0.0071)	4	9.6	0*
Heptene_1*	C7H14	98	1	56	0.0547	(0.0595)	9	0.1168	(0.0721)	14	0.2868	(0.1559)	4	38	0*
Octene_1	C8H16	112	1	55	0.0431	(0.0486)	9	0.1013	(0.0482)	13	0.1651	(0.0926)	4	36	0*
Nonene_1*	C9H18	126	1	41	0.0097	(0.0122)	9	0.0196	(0.0153)	16	0.0474	(0.0326)	4	42	1.9*
Decene_1*	C10H20	140	1	56	0.0133	(0.0159)	9	0.0260	(0.0228)	16	0.0812	(0.0415)	4	46	7*
Undecene_1*	C11H22	154	1	55	0.0103	(0.0100)	9	0.0279	(0.0292)	16	0.0647	(0.0251)	4	48	16*
Alkynes and Alkenes (Polyunsaturated, D > 1)															
Ethyne	C2H2	26	2	IR	2.3905	(3.0119)	27	1.7412	(1.3580)	23	5.0910	(5.6894)	4	0.9	0.1
Propyne*	C3H4	40	2	39	0.2093	(0.1503)	29	0.1850	(0.1626)	23	0.7876	(0.6405)	4	3.1	0*
Butadiyne_13 (Diacyetylene)*	C4H2	50	4	50	0.0080	(0.0054)	9	0.0041	(0.0052)	16	0.0427	(0.0651)	4	16	0*
Butenyne (Vinylacetylene)*	C4H4	52	3	52	0.0285	(0.0452)	9	0.0154	(0.0190)	16	0.0824	(0.1062)	4	20*	0*
Butadiene_12*	C4H6	54	2	54	0.0101	(0.0146)	29	0.0087	(0.0095)	23	0.0441	(0.0343)	4	27	1.8*
Butadiene_13	C4H6	54	2	54	0.4065	(0.5315)	29	0.4122	(0.3530)	23	1.8781	(0.9509)	4	67	1.8
Butyne (1- or 2-)*	C4H6	54	2	54	0.0221	(0.0287)	9	0.0158	(0.0146)	16	0.0693	(0.0300)	4	8*	0*
Cyclopentadiene_13*	C5H6	66	3	66	0.1724	(0.3868)	8	0.1747	(0.0992)	14	0.5836	(0.3458)	4	92	0*
Pentyne isomer (e.g., propenylacetylene)*	C5H6	66	3	66	0.0161	(0.0176)	9	0.0107	(0.0119)	16	0.0651	(0.0395)	4	92*	0*
Butyne_3methyl*	C5H8	68	2	67	0.0090	(0.0166)	9	0.0103	(0.0108)	16	0.0426	(0.0303)	4	11*	0*
Cyclopentene*	C5H8	68	2	67	0.0699	(0.1240)	7	0.1125	(0.0789)	14	0.2815	(0.1725)	4	57	1.8*
Pentadiene_cis13	C5H8	68	2	67	0.0457	(0.0795)	8	0.0627	(0.0360)	14	0.1733	(0.0691)	4	83	1.8*
Pentadiene_trans13	C5H8	68	2	67	0.0668	(0.1069)	9	0.1044	(0.0538)	14	0.2504	(0.0927)	4	83	1.8*
Hexadienyne (e.g., divinylacetylene)*	C6H6	78	4	78	0.0140	(0.0152)	9	0.0088	(0.0072)	16	0.0569	(0.0382)	4	67*	1.8*
Cyclopentadiene_methyl (Sum of 2 isomers)*	C6H8	80	3	79	0.0242	(0.0329)	9	0.0516	(0.0554)	16	0.1831	(0.1771)	4	103*	1.8*
Hexenyne (e.g., 2-methyl-1-penten-3-yne)*	C6H8	80	3	80	0.0110	(0.0127)	9	0.0102	(0.0117)	16	0.0674	(0.0545)	4	37*	1*
Cyclohexene	C6H10	82	2	67	0.0170	(0.0235)	9	0.0345	(0.0205)	14	0.0927	(0.0506)	4	62	0*
Cyclopentene_1methyl*	C6H10	82	2	67	0.0202	(0.0298)	9	0.0466	(0.0259)	13	0.1109	(0.0539)	4	60*	0*
Hexadiene_cis13*	C6H10	82	2	67	0.0026	(0.0037)	9	0.0044	(0.0030)	14	0.0097	(0.0018)	4	97	1.8*
Hexadiene_trans13*	C6H10	82	2	67	0.0039	(0.0081)	9	0.0045	(0.0042)	12	0.0266	(0.0151)	4	97	1.8*
Other C6H10 (Sum of 5 isomers)*	C6H10	82	2	67	0.0348	(0.0466)	9	0.0531	(0.0418)	16	0.1954	(0.0798)	4	97*	1*

Heptadiyne (Sum of 2 isomers)*	C7H8	92	4	91	0.0073	(0.0094)	9	0.0035	(0.0053)	16	0.0464	(0.0394)	4	2*	1*
Cyclohexene_1methyl*	C7H12	96	2	81	0.0098	(0.0120)	8	0.0262	(0.0139)	13	0.0437	(0.0259)	4	96	0*
Octadiene*	C8H14	110	2	55	0.0347	(0.0531)	9	0.0673	(0.0416)	16	0.1387	(0.0536)	4	110	1.9*
Nonadiene*	C9H16	124	2	54	0.0020	(0.0027)	9	0.0048	(0.0048)	16	0.0171	(0.0077)	4	120*	1.9*
C10H14 non-aromatic (e.g., hexahydronaphthalene)*	C10H14	134	4	91	0.0013	(0.0018)	9	0.0041	(0.0055)	16	0.0155	(0.0090)	4	130*	90*
Terpenes (Polyunsaturated, D > 1)															
Isoprene	C5H8	68	2	67	0.1289	(0.1447)	29	0.2428	(0.1944)	23	0.6942	(0.4405)	4	100	1.9
Camphene	C10H16	136	3	93	0.0032	(0.0026)	9	0.0538	(0.0979)	14	0.1193	(0.1459)	4	53	18*
Carene_3	C10H16	136	3	93	0.0050	(0.0052)	8	0.0289	(0.0303)	12	0.1578	(0.2107)	4	85	18*
Limonene_D	C10H16	136	3	68	0.0219	(0.0249)	29	0.1232	(0.1302)	23	0.8384	(1.1869)	4	170	18*
Limonene_iso*	C10H16	136	3	68	0.0002	(0.0005)	9	0.0094	(0.0109)	16	0.0237	(0.0206)	4	170	18*
Myrcene*	C10H16	136	3	93	0.0075	(0.0106)	8	0.0068	(0.0055)	10	0.1313	(0.1849)	4	200	18
Pinene_alpha	C10H16	136	3	93	0.0058	(0.0051)	9	0.1013	(0.1454)	15	0.8105	(1.2079)	4	52	17
Pinene_beta	C10H16	136	3	93	0.0051	(0.0092)	29	0.0194	(0.0220)	23	0.1638	(0.1545)	4	74	18*
Terpinene_gamma*	C10H16	136	3	93	0.0044	(0.0026)	5	0.0118	(0.0066)	4	0.0310	(0.0336)	2	177	18*
Terpinolene*	C10H16	136	3	93	0.0053	(0.0020)	4	0.0131	(0.0163)	8	0.0339	(0.0435)	4	225	18*
Sesquiterpenes (Sum of all isomers)	C15H24	204	4	205+	0.0092	(0.0088)	29	0.0669	(0.0786)	23	0.0915	(0.0659)	4	300*	20*
Aromatics with saturated substituents (D = 4)															
Benzene	C6H6	78	4	78	0.8385	(0.7301)	29	0.7008	(0.3680)	23	2.1381	(1.3236)	4	1.2	93
Toluene	C7H8	92	4	91	0.3549	(0.3417)	29	0.6196	(0.4414)	23	1.3375	(0.5725)	4	5.6	100
Benzene_ethyl	C8H10	106	4	91	0.0495	(0.0498)	29	0.0829	(0.0583)	23	0.1766	(0.0919)	4	7.5	112
Xylene_o	C8H10	106	4	91	0.0391	(0.0418)	29	0.0730	(0.0527)	23	0.1429	(0.0579)	4	14	96
Xylenes_m&p (Sum of 2 isomers)	C8H10	106	4	91	0.0981	(0.1136)	29	0.2107	(0.1546)	23	0.5088	(0.2484)	4	19*	76*
Benzene_123trimethyl	C9H12	120	4	105	0.0150	(0.0137)	9	0.0617	(0.0425)	15	0.0906	(0.0562)	4	29	44
Benzene_124trimethyl	C9H12	120	4	105	0.0172	(0.0217)	29	0.0416	(0.0291)	23	0.0828	(0.0339)	4	32	21
Benzene_135trimethyl	C9H12	120	4	105	0.0090	(0.0083)	9	0.0234	(0.0154)	15	0.0401	(0.0158)	4	60	14
Benzene_1ethyl_2methyl	C9H12	120	4	105	0.0094	(0.0114)	9	0.0164	(0.0122)	15	0.0374	(0.0193)	4	13	95
Benzene_1ethyl_3&4_methyl (Sum of 2 isomers)	C9H12	120	4	105	0.0186	(0.0228)	29	0.0395	(0.0312)	23	0.1265	(0.0737)	4	16*	85*
Benzene_isoPropyl	C9H12	120	4	105	0.0041	(0.0042)	9	0.0073	(0.0065)	14	0.0290	(0.0211)	4	6.6	96
Benzene_nPropyl	C9H12	120	4	91	0.0081	(0.0096)	9	0.0173	(0.0102)	14	0.0331	(0.0204)	4	5.7	110
Benzene_isoButyl	C10H14	134	4	91	0.0056	(0.0065)	9	0.0119	(0.0104)	16	0.0248	(0.0145)	4	7*	90*
Benzene_nButyl	C10H14	134	4	91	0.0065	(0.0078)	9	0.0151	(0.0129)	16	0.0329	(0.0193)	4	7*	90*

Benzene_1methyl_4isopropyl (p-Cymene)	C10H14	134	4	119	0.1081	(0.2713)	29	0.1030	(0.0974)	23	0.1726	(0.1400)	4	15	95*
Benzene_nPropyl_methyl (Sum of 2 isomers)*	C10H14	134	4	105	0.0074	(0.0084)	9	0.0200	(0.0187)	16	0.0420	(0.0213)	4	10*	95*
Benzene_14diethyl	C10H14	134	4	119	0.0007	(0.0011)	9	0.0018	(0.0039)	16	0.0165	(0.0074)	4	10*	90*
Xylene_ethyl (Sum of 2 isomers)*	C10H14	134	4	119	0.0093	(0.0102)	9	0.0149	(0.0144)	16	0.0379	(0.0158)	4	10*	90*
Aromatics with unsaturated substituents (D > 4)															
Benzene_ethynyl (Phenylethyne)*	C8H6	102	6	102	0.0323	(0.0238)	9	0.0153	(0.0163)	16	0.0686	(0.0700)	4	1*	90*
Styrene (Phenylethene)	C8H8	104	5	104	0.0883	(0.0840)	29	0.1067	(0.1054)	23	0.3361	(0.2437)	4	43	212
Indene*	C9H8	116	6	115	0.0358	(0.0446)	9	0.0408	(0.0325)	16	0.1311	(0.1116)	4	51	90
Benzene_1propenyl*	C9H10	118	5	117	0.0046	(0.0054)	9	0.0039	(0.0045)	16	0.0135	(0.0074)	4	60	200*
Benzene_2propenyl*	C9H10	118	5	117	0.0067	(0.0066)	9	0.0097	(0.0080)	16	0.0236	(0.0103)	4	60	200*
Benzene_isoPropenyl*	C9H10	118	5	118	0.0052	(0.0059)	9	0.0049	(0.0050)	16	0.0232	(0.0129)	4	53	200*
Styrene_2methyl*	C9H10	118	5	117	0.0142	(0.0125)	9	0.0153	(0.0140)	16	0.0414	(0.0176)	4	53*	200*
Styrene_3methyl*	C9H10	118	5	117	0.0229	(0.0255)	9	0.0297	(0.0234)	16	0.0865	(0.0420)	4	53*	200*
Styrene_4methyl*	C9H10	118	5	117	0.0080	(0.0097)	9	0.0143	(0.0116)	16	0.0314	(0.0122)	4	53*	200*
Indane*	C9H10	118	5	117	0.0084	(0.0066)	8	0.0155	(0.0069)	13	0.0261	(0.0108)	4	19	90
Naphthalene*	C10H8	128	7	128	0.0070	(0.0048)	9	0.0040	(0.0050)	16	0.0215	(0.0122)	4	23	200*
Indene_1or3methyl*	C10H10	130	6	130	0.0010	(0.0009)	9	0.0004	(0.0011)	16	0.0079	(0.0059)	4	51*	200*
Naphthalene_12dihydro*	C10H10	130	6	130	0.0062	(0.0054)	9	0.0099	(0.0103)	16	0.0277	(0.0106)	4	23*	90*
Naphthalene_13dihydro*	C10H10	130	6	130	0.0062	(0.0066)	9	0.0099	(0.0113)	16	0.0339	(0.0120)	4	23*	90*
Benzene_1butenyl*	C10H12	132	5	117	0.0021	(0.0028)	9	0.0027	(0.0038)	16	0.0140	(0.0048)	4	33*	200*
Benzene_methylpropenyl (2- phenyl-2-butene)*	C10H12	132	5	117	0.0274	(0.0443)	9	0.0179	(0.0179)	16	0.0436	(0.0270)	4	33	200*
Styrene_ethyl*	C10H12	132	5	117	0.0048	(0.0052)	9	0.0063	(0.0105)	16	0.0196	(0.0085)	4	33*	200*
Nitrogen-containing organics															
Acid_Hydrocyanic (Hydrogen cyanide)	HCN	27	2	IR	1.2331	(1.2922)	29	2.7807	(1.6904)	23	3.0223	(2.2719)	4	0.03	1*
Acid_Isocyanic	HNCO	43	2	42-	0.8433	(0.6858)	16	0.8046	(0.5742)	17	1.3360	(0.2301)	2	0	1*
Methylnitrite (Nitrous acid, methyl ester)*	CH3NO2	61	1	61	0.8994	(1.1114)	7	0.5241	(0.5064)	12	0.7641	(0.8964)	3	0.3	1*
Nitromethane*	CH3NO2	61	1	61	0.0272	(0.0237)	9	0.0323	(0.0326)	16	0.0713	(0.0868)	4	0.02	1*
Acetonitrile	C2H3N	41	2	41	0.7731	(0.9389)	29	0.9841	(0.5366)	23	1.6524	(0.8811)	4	0.02	1*
Hydrazine_11dimethyl*	C2H8N2	60	0	60	0.0636	(0.1324)	9	0.1360	(0.2705)	16	0.1976	(0.2297)	4	60	0*
Propenenitrile_2 (Acrylonitrile)	C3H3N	53	3	53	0.0869	(0.0731)	29	0.1199	(0.0754)	23	0.3217	(0.2551)	4	4.0	1*

Propanenitrile (Cyanoethane)*	C3H5N	55	2	54	0.0314	(0.0380)	9	0.0432	(0.0366)	16	0.0981	(0.0803)	4	0.26	1*
Pyrrrole*	C4H5N	67	3	67	0.0393	(0.0591)	9	0.0367	(0.0392)	16	0.1066	(0.1088)	4	145	1*
Pyrazole_1methyl*	C4H6N2	82	3	82	0.0074	(0.0073)	9	0.0198	(0.0176)	16	0.0359	(0.0161)	4	150*	1*
Diazine_methyl (Sum of 3 isomers)*	C5H6N2	94	4	94	0.0292	(0.0312)	9	0.0535	(0.0456)	16	0.1125	(0.0303)	4	10*	1*
Pyrrrole_1methyl*	C5H7N	81	3	80	0.0202	(0.0299)	9	0.0083	(0.0105)	16	0.0217	(0.0304)	4	145*	1*
Pyrazine_2ethyl*	C6H8N2	108	4	108	0.0062	(0.0092)	9	0.0152	(0.0113)	16	0.0296	(0.0168)	4	10*	1*
Benzonitrile (Cyanobenzene)	C7H5N	103	6	103	0.0622	(0.0334)	9	0.1395	(0.0757)	16	0.1380	(0.0746)	4	1*	90*
OVOCs with low degrees of unsaturation (D ≤ 1)															
Formaldehyde	CH2O	30	1	IR	5.3939	(3.1497)	29	12.2348	(7.2935)	23	17.9180	(10.5410)	4	9.4	0.7
Acid_Formic	CH2O2	46	1	IR	0.6359	(0.5705)	29	1.6007	(1.1054)	23	1.7538	(1.9738)	4	0.45	0.1
Methanol	CH4O	32	0	31	3.6175	(2.9726)	29	7.7807	(5.5412)	23	13.6981	(8.7348)	4	0.9	0.3
Acetaldehyde	C2H4O	44	1	44	1.5503	(1.1511)	29	2.8332	(1.8131)	23	5.4742	(3.5540)	4	16	0.6
Acid_Acetic	C2H4O2	60	1	IR	5.3926	(3.2343)	29	13.0293	(8.8369)	23	9.6068	(6.2350)	4	0.7	0.1
Formate_methyl (Formic Acid, methyl ester)	C2H4O2	60	1	60	0.0675	(0.0390)	8	0.1031	(0.0626)	15	0.2096	(0.0831)	4	0.18	0.1
Acid_Glycolic	C2H4O3	76	1	75-	0.0068	(0.0061)	15	0.1183	(0.1251)	17	0.0114	(0.0115)	2	0.50*	0.1*
Ethanol	C2H6O	46	0	31	0.0498	(0.0617)	29	0.4817	(0.8472)	23	0.2673	(0.1892)	4	3.4	0.6
Acetone	C3H6O	58	1	43	0.6501	(0.7408)	29	1.6035	(1.1498)	23	2.6208	(1.0656)	4	0.19	0.3
Propanal	C3H6O	58	1	58	0.2135	(0.2333)	29	0.4497	(0.3177)	23	0.9246	(0.3186)	4	20	0.5
Acetate_methyl (Acetic Acid, methyl ester)*	C3H6O2	74	1	74	0.4593	(0.4854)	9	0.6741	(0.4345)	16	0.6537	(0.3598)	4	0.35	0.1
Formate_ethyl (Formic Acid, ethyl ester)*	C3H6O2	74	1	30	0.0214	(0.0157)	5	0.0349	(0.0160)	10	0.0472	(0.0228)	4	0.96	0.1*
Butanal_n	C4H8O	72	1	72	0.0496	(0.0610)	29	0.0850	(0.0641)	23	0.1971	(0.0829)	4	24	0
Butanone_2 (MEK)	C4H8O	72	1	43	0.1788	(0.2216)	29	0.4143	(0.3061)	23	0.8027	(0.3109)	4	1.2	0.6
Propanal_2methyl*	C4H8O	72	1	72	0.0535	(0.0599)	9	0.1426	(0.0933)	15	0.1657	(0.0976)	4	27	0.3
Propanoate_methyl (Propanoic Acid, methyl ester)*	C4H8O2	88	1	88	0.0064	(0.0085)	9	0.0081	(0.0082)	16	0.0186	(0.0110)	4	0.88	0.1*
Butanol_1*	C4H10O	74	0	56	0.8294	(1.6678)	8	0.2327	(0.2540)	16	0.1434	(0.0695)	4	8.5	0.3
Butanal_2methyl*	C5H10O	86	1	57	0.0442	(0.0476)	9	0.1398	(0.0760)	13	0.1323	(0.0939)	4	31	0.3*
Butanone_2_3methyl*	C5H10O	86	1	43	0.0243	(0.0315)	9	0.0780	(0.0394)	14	0.1092	(0.0551)	4	3.0	0.3
Pentanone_2	C5H10O	86	1	43	0.0576	(0.0457)	8	0.1095	(0.0537)	14	0.1791	(0.0935)	4	4.6	0.6
Pentanone_3	C5H10O	86	1	57	0.0381	(0.0366)	8	0.0869	(0.0483)	15	0.1330	(0.0562)	4	2.9	0.4
Butanoate_methyl (Butyric Acid, methyl ester)*	C5H10O2	102	1	74	0.0024	(0.0041)	9	0.0558	(0.1431)	16	0.0097	(0.0063)	4	3.5	0.1*

Hexanal_n	C6H12O	100	1	56	0.0192	(0.0223)	29	0.0342	(0.0224)	23	0.0635	(0.0431)	4	28	0*
Hexanone_2	C6H12O	100	1	43	0.0101	(0.0063)	8	0.0269	(0.0092)	12	0.0462	(0.0268)	4	6.2	0.3
Hexanone_3	C6H12O	100	1	43	0.0314	(0.0315)	9	0.0834	(0.0317)	13	0.1646	(0.0868)	4	7.0	0
OVOCs with high degrees of unsaturation (D > 1)															
Propenal_2 (Acrolein)	C3H4O	56	2	56	0.8189	(0.6824)	29	1.3107	(0.8806)	23	3.5441	(1.6919)	4	20	1*
Acid_Acrylic	C3H4O2	72	2	71-	0.0409	(0.0438)	16	0.2159	(0.1637)	17	0.3672	(0.3881)	2	26*	1*
Acid_Pyruvic	C3H4O3	88	2	87-	0.0140	(0.0140)	15	0.1073	(0.1266)	17	0.0562	(0.0537)	2	0.12	0.1*
Butenal_2 (Crotonaldehyde)	C4H6O	70	2	70	0.1218	(0.1286)	29	0.3234	(0.2207)	23	0.5275	(0.1642)	4	35	1*
Methacrolein (MACR)	C4H6O	70	2	41	0.0895	(0.1077)	29	0.1807	(0.1257)	23	0.5501	(0.3146)	4	31	1*
Methylvinylketone (MVK)	C4H6O	70	2	55	0.4003	(0.5191)	29	0.8953	(0.6389)	23	2.1216	(0.8712)	4	19	1*
Butadione_23	C4H6O2	86	2	86	0.2147	(0.2059)	29	0.6435	(0.4616)	23	1.2062	(0.5357)	4	0.25	0.3*
Acrylate_methyl (2-Propenoic Acid, methyl ester)	C4H6O2	86	2	85	0.0159	(0.0178)	9	0.0223	(0.0149)	16	0.0470	(0.0227)	4	13	1*
Acetate_vinyl (Acetic Acid, vinyl ester)	C4H6O2	86	2	86	0.0004	(0.0012)	9	0.0000	0.0000	16	0.0048	(0.0095)	4	25	1*
Dioxin_14_23dihydro*	C4H6O2	86	2	58	0.0023	(0.0044)	9	0.0043	(0.0059)	16	0.0179	(0.0162)	4	20*	0.1*
Cyclopentenedione*	C5H4O2	96	4	96	0.0056	(0.0080)	9	0.0265	(0.0337)	16	0.0401	(0.0326)	4	57*	1*
Cyclopentenone*	C5H6O	82	3	82	0.0825	(0.1208)	9	0.9873	(1.1659)	16	0.9221	(0.6570)	4	57*	1*
Pentenone (e.g., Ethyl vinyl ketone)*	C5H8O	84	2	84	0.2682	(0.4437)	9	0.8946	(0.5222)	16	1.4135	(0.6686)	4	36*	1*
Pentanone_cyclo	C5H8O	84	2	84	0.1145	(0.1015)	9	0.3433	(0.2471)	16	0.7012	(0.2870)	4	2.9	1*
Butenal_2_2methyl	C5H8O	84	2	84	0.0072	(0.0064)	9	0.0250	(0.0210)	16	0.0384	(0.0136)	4	52	1*
Methacrylate_methyl (Methacrylic acid, methyl ester)	C5H8O2	100	2	100	0.0306	(0.0333)	9	0.1055	(0.0335)	13	0.1287	(0.0537)	4	43	1*
Phenol	C6H6O	94	4	95+	0.4262	(0.4242)	25	0.7740	(0.6275)	21	2.4947	(1.6182)	4	28	150*
Benzene_12&13diol (Sum of 2 isomers)	C6H6O2	110	4	109-	0.2438	(0.1859)	13	3.1107	(3.3461)	17	3.9631	(1.9126)	2	5.0*	200*
Benzaldehyde	C7H6O	106	5	77	0.2212	(0.1661)	29	0.4717	(0.3259)	23	0.6995	(0.2661)	4	13	216
Phenol_methyl (Sum of cresol isomers)	C7H8O	108	4	109+	0.4807	(0.4799)	25	0.7770	(0.6290)	21	2.0703	(1.4093)	4	45*	150*
Furans (heterocyclic OVOCs, D ≥ 1)															
Furan	C4H4O	68	3	68	0.2680	(0.2474)	29	0.7302	(0.4732)	23	1.1090	(0.4337)	4	40	1*
Furan_25dihydro*	C4H6O	70	2	70	0.0083	(0.0126)	9	0.0154	(0.0438)	16	0.0071	(0.0141)	4	25*	1*
Furan_tetrahydro*	C4H8O	72	1	72	0.0022	(0.0027)	9	0.0014	(0.0027)	16	0.0101	(0.0067)	4	15	1*
Furaldehyde_2 (Furfural)	C5H4O2	96	4	95	0.3567	(0.2119)	9	1.5298	(1.0837)	16	1.2999	(0.6550)	4	35	1*
Furaldehyde_3*	C5H4O2	96	4	95	0.0152	(0.0135)	9	0.0585	(0.0403)	16	0.0687	(0.0330)	4	49	1*
Furan_2methyl	C5H6O	82	3	82	0.2847	(0.3634)	9	0.6908	(0.4118)	16	1.2105	(0.4806)	4	62	1*
Furan_3methyl	C5H6O	82	3	82	0.0272	(0.0311)	29	0.0776	(0.0582)	23	0.1758	(0.0661)	4	94	1*
Furan_25dimethyl*	C6H8O	96	3	96	0.0328	(0.0472)	9	0.0857	(0.0587)	16	0.1808	(0.1005)	4	132	1*

Furan_2ethyl	C6H8O	96	3	81	0.0167	(0.0218)	29	0.0387	(0.0285)	23	0.0821	(0.0288)	4	108	1*
Benzofuran	C8H6O	118	6	118	0.0902	(0.0666)	9	0.1366	(0.0734)	16	0.2504	(0.0957)	4	37	90*
Benzofuran_methyl (Sum of 4 isomers)*	C9H8O	132	6	131	0.0599	(0.0444)	9	0.1078	(0.0938)	16	0.1980	(0.0363)	4	37*	90*
Methane and Inorganic Gases															
Methane	CH4	16	—	IR	40.911	(24.945)	29	62.302	(32.218)	23	96.707	(28.737)	4	0.006	0
Carbon Monoxide	CO	28	—	IR	1000	(0)	29	1000	(0)	23	1000	(0)	4	0.15	0
Carbon Dioxide	CO2	44	—	IR	18202	(20970)	29	31170	(71256)	23	17999	(14000)	4	0	0
Tricarbon Dioxide (Carbon suboxide)	C3O2	68	—	68	0.0024	(0.0030)	9	0.0040	(0.0055)	16	0.0044	(0.0042)	4	1.5	0
Ammonia	NH3	17	—	IR	12.530	(8.838)	29	14.797	(6.131)	23	20.761	(16.928)	4	0.15	0
Nitrogen Oxide	NO	30	—	IR	38.788	(51.194)	29	39.695	(91.842)	23	26.530	(24.243)	4	0	0
Nitrogen Dioxide	NO2	46	—	IR	7.051	(8.565)	29	12.254	(21.246)	23	10.583	(10.218)	4	8.7	0
Nitrous Acid	HONO	47	—	46-	2.504	(2.827)	16	4.563	(6.049)	17	4.946	(5.254)	2	6.0	0
Sulfur Dioxide	SO2	64	—	IR	5.600	(9.993)	29	7.901	(14.488)	23	8.408	(5.347)	4	2.0	0
Hydrochloric Acid	HCl	36	—	IR	0.992	(2.574)	29	1.398	(4.825)	23	0.472	(0.719)	4	0.08	0
Total ERs (mmol/mol CO):					19356			32403			19317				
Σ ERs for all nitrogen-containing species:					65	0.34%	N	77	0.24%	N	71	0.37%	N		
Σ ERs for all VOCs and % of total emissions:					46	0.24%	VOC	90	0.28%	VOC	150	0.78%	VOC		
Σ ERs for unsaturated VOCs and % of total VOC:					39	84%	Unsat	74	82%	Unsat	126	84%	Unsat		
Σ ERs for oxygenated VOCs and % of total VOC:					24	53%	Oxy	57	63%	Oxy	81	54%	Oxy		

937

938 **Table 2 footnotes:**

939 Description of naming scheme: propane_22dimethyl is equivalent to 2,2-dimethylpropane. If the exact compound identity could not be determined, then the
 940 species are identified using general names that reflect the chemical family and formula are used. For example, hexenes (sum of 3 isomers) may include
 941 species such as cis- and trans-3-hexene. Alternative names, such as p-Cymene for 1-methyl-4-isopropylbenzene, or common abbreviations such as MEK
 942 for Butanone_2 are also included. (*) Identifies species whose calibration factors were estimated.

943 MW = molecular weight (g/mol); D = degree of unsaturation; *m/z* = **fragment ion** used to quantify a species by GC-MS where (+) denotes the **protonated mass**
 944 measured by PTR-MS or PIT-MS, (-) denotes the **deprotonated mass** measured by NI-PT-CIMS, and (IR) denotes measurements by OP-FTIR.

945 ER = emission ratio in units of ppbv per ppmv CO equivalent to mmol per mol CO

946 avg = mean; s.d. = standard deviation; and npnts = number of points used to calculate average and standard deviation.

947 **Bold ER** = Largest 3 ERs for each compound class;

948 **Bold and Italicized ER** = Largest 3 ERs for all VOCs

949 **kOH** = second-order reaction rate coefficients of VOC + OH reaction at STP ($\times 10^{12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$) from the National Institute of Standards and Technology's
 950 Chemical Kinetics Database and the references therein (Manion et al., 2015). (*) Identifies estimated kOH values.

951 **SOAP** = "secondary organic aerosol potential" values from Derwent et al. (2010). (*) Identifies estimated SOAP values.

952 **Bold kOH or SOAP values** = The largest 3 contributors to either OH reactivity or SOAP values for each compound class

953 **Bold and italicized kOH or SOAP values** = The largest 3 contributors to either OH reactivity or SOAP values for all VOCs

954 **Table 3.** Slopes and correlation coefficients (r) for VOC to carbon monoxide (CO) and VOC to acetonitrile (CH₃CN) ratios observed in biomass
 955 burning (BB) plumes from the Fourmile Canyon Fire as identified in Figure .

Name	VOC vs. CO		VOC vs. CH ₃ CN		Emission sources			Rxn Rate Coef.	
	Slope	r	Slope	r	BB	Urban	Biogenic	kOH	vs. CH ₃ CN
Carene_3	0.420	0.96	0.065	0.97	yes		yes	85	4250
Butadiene_13	0.193	0.98	0.030	0.94	yes	yes		67	3330
Furan_2methyl	0.285	0.88	0.047	0.95	yes			62	3100
Propene_2methyl	0.422	0.98	0.065	0.98	yes	yes		51	2570
Styrene	0.140	0.97	0.021	0.94	yes	yes	yes	43	2150
Furan	0.513	0.70	0.115	0.95	yes			40	2000
Benzofuran	0.132	0.97	0.021	0.99	yes			37	1860
Furaldehyde_2	0.304	0.93	0.049	0.98	yes			35	1750
Butene_1	0.367	0.98	0.057	0.99	yes	yes		31	1570
Propene	4.161	0.97	0.639	0.99	yes	yes		26	1315
Propenal_2	0.894	0.98	0.137	0.98	yes	yes		20	1000
Propanal	1.063	0.95	0.148	0.90	yes	yes		20	1000
p-Cymene*	0.268	0.97	0.041	0.97	yes		yes	15	750
Benzaldehyde	0.979	0.98	0.144	0.95	yes		yes	13	650
Ethene	8.635	0.97	1.353	0.92	yes	yes		8.5	425
Benzene	1.894	0.99	0.284	0.96	yes	yes		1.2	60
Butanone_2 (MEK)	1.129	0.93	0.164	0.94	yes	yes	yes	1.2	60
Benzonitrile	0.308	0.88	0.050	0.94	yes			1.0	50
Butadione_23	0.224	0.77	0.038	0.88	yes		yes	0.25	13
Acetonitrile	6.724	0.96	1.000	1.00	yes			0.02	1

956

957 **Table 3 footnotes:**

958 VOC to CO slope is in units of (ppbv VOC per ppmv CO)

959 VOC to CH₃CN slope is in units of (ppbv VOC per ppbv CH₃CN)

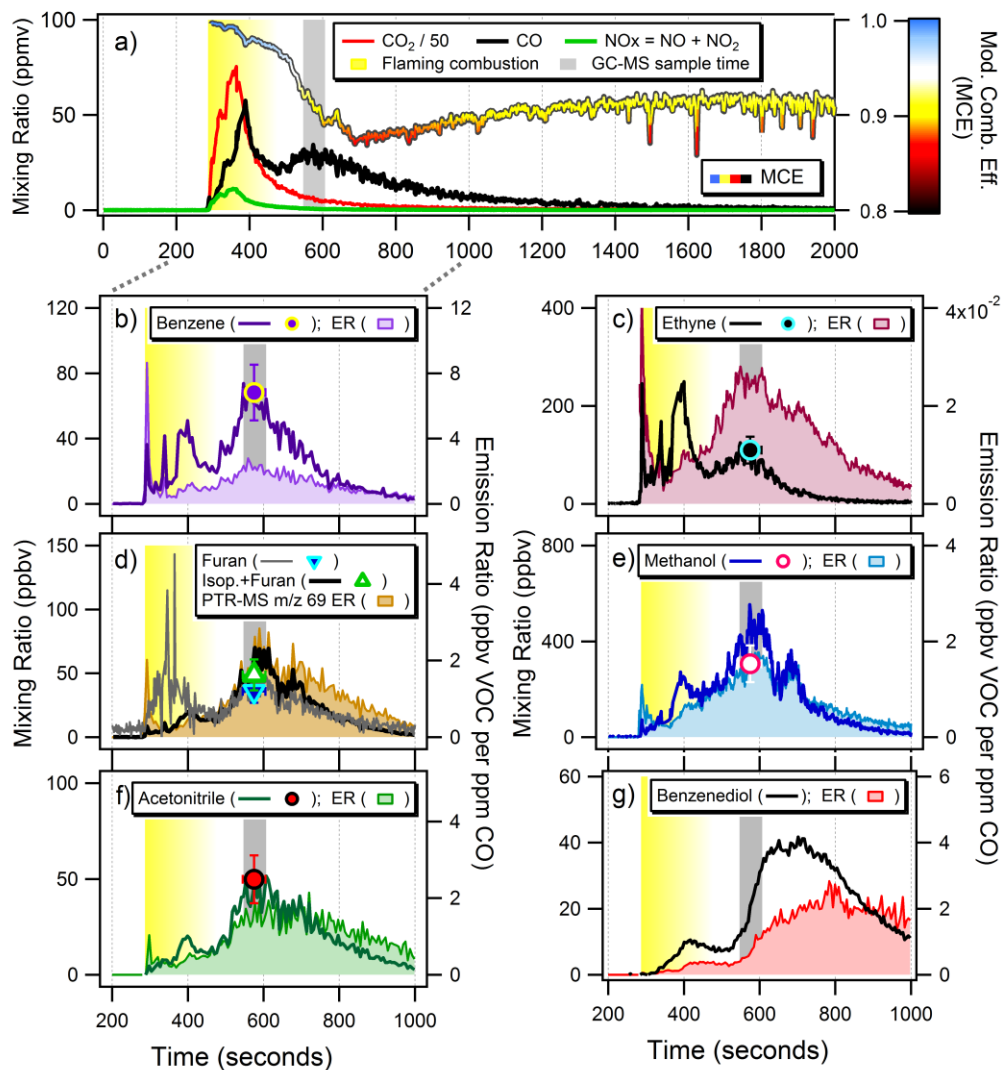
960 **Bold** face denotes VOCs that are the best available BB markers.

961 * kOH = second-order reaction rate coefficients of VOC + OH reaction at STP (x10¹² cm³ molec⁻¹ s⁻¹) from the National Institute of Standards and
 962 Technology's Chemical Kinetics Database and the references therein (Manion et al., 2015).

963 ** Ratio of kOH_{VOC}/kOH_{CH₃CN} at STP

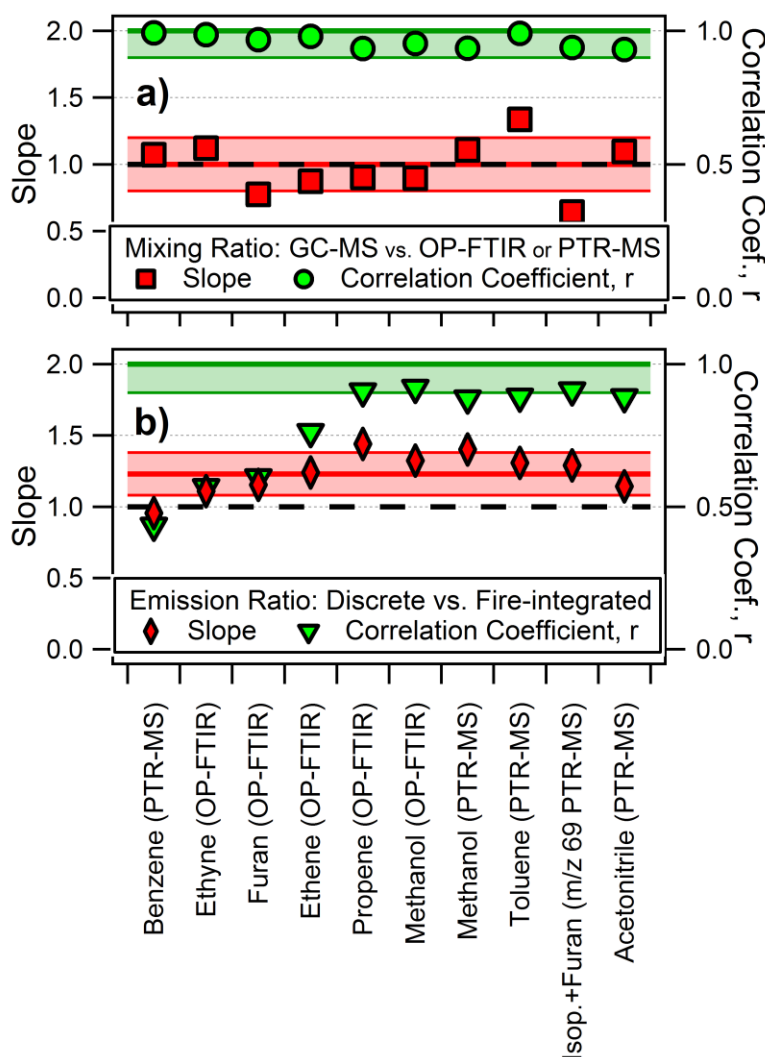
964 ***Benzene_1methyl_4isopropyl

965 **Figure 1.** Temporal profiles of mixing ratios and emission ratios (ER) of **selected** gases and the modified
 966 combustion efficiency (MCE) for an example laboratory burn of Emory Oak Woodland fuel from Fort
 967 Huachuca, Arizona. a) Mixing ratios of CO₂, CO, and NO_x measured by OP-FTIR. The MCE trace is
 968 colored by the key and scale on the right. The vertical bars represent the flaming combustion phase of
 969 the laboratory burn (yellow) and the GC-MS sample acquisition time (grey). b-f) Discrete GC-MS
 970 measured mixing ratios are shown as markers. b-g) Mixing ratios measured by PTR-MS (benzene, *m/z*
 971 69 = isoprene+furan+other, and acetonitrile), OP-FTIR (furan, ethyne, and methanol), and NI-PT-CIMS
 972 (benzenediol) are shown as lines and the corresponding VOC to CO ERs are shown as filled traces.
 973



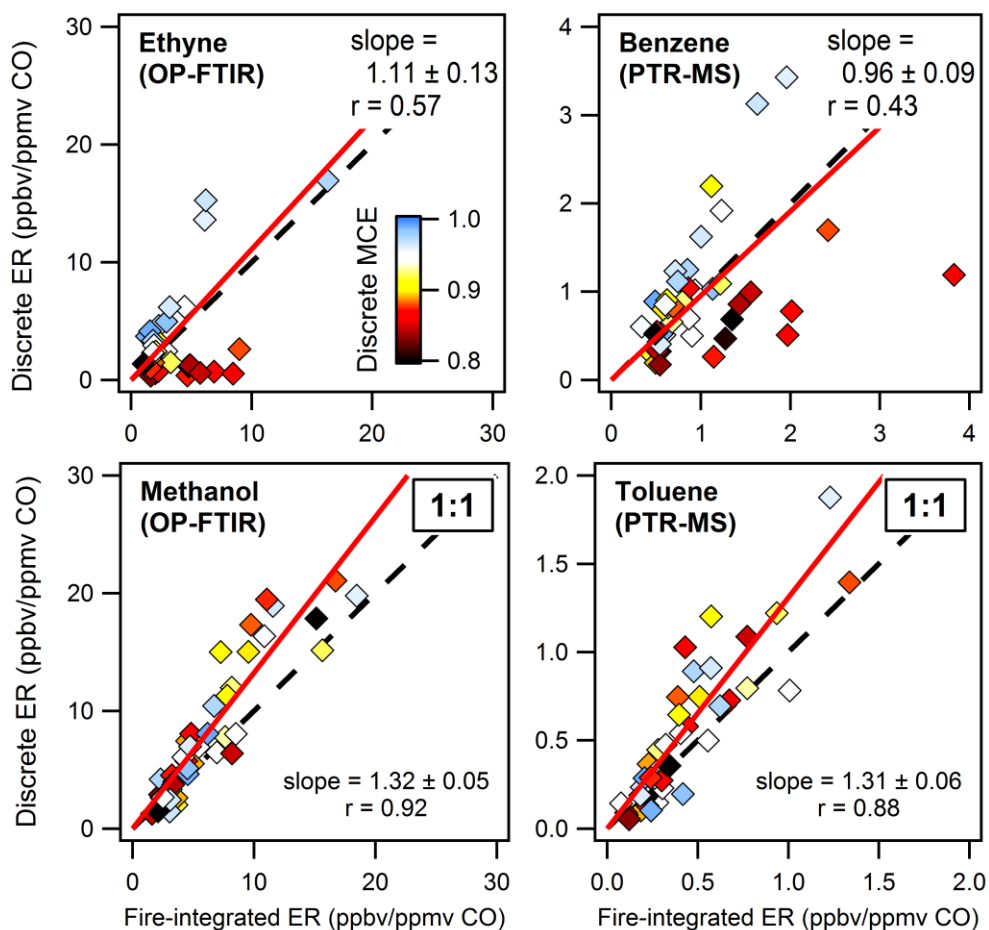
974

975 **Figure 2.** Slopes and correlation coefficients, r , determined from correlation plots of a) mixing ratios
 976 measured by the GC-MS versus the average mixing ratio measured by the OP-FTIR or PTR-MS during
 977 the GC-MS sample acquisition time and b) discrete vs. fire-integrated emission ratios of select VOCs
 978 relative to CO as measured by the OP-FTIR or PTR-MS. The black dashed line represents slopes equal
 979 to 1. The average of the slopes and the standard deviation is shown by the red shaded bands. The
 980 green bands represent $r > 0.90$.



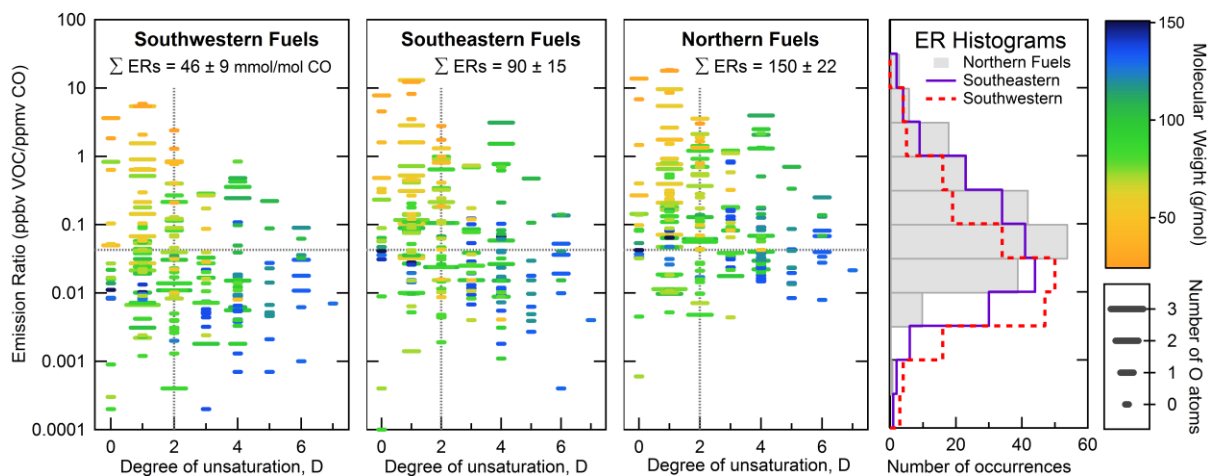
981

982 **Figure 3.** Correlation plots of the discrete versus fire-integrated emission ratios (ER) for ethyne and
 983 methanol measured by the OP-FTIR and benzene and toluene measured by the PTR-MS. Each data
 984 point represents one biomass burn and are colored by the modified combustion efficiency (MCE)
 985 corresponding to the discrete sampling times of the GC-MS. MCE values near unity are associated with
 986 flaming combustion and lower MCE values are associated with smoldering combustion. The linear 2-
 987 sided regression lines forced through the origin are shown as red lines and the 1:1 ratio is shown by the
 988 dashed lines.



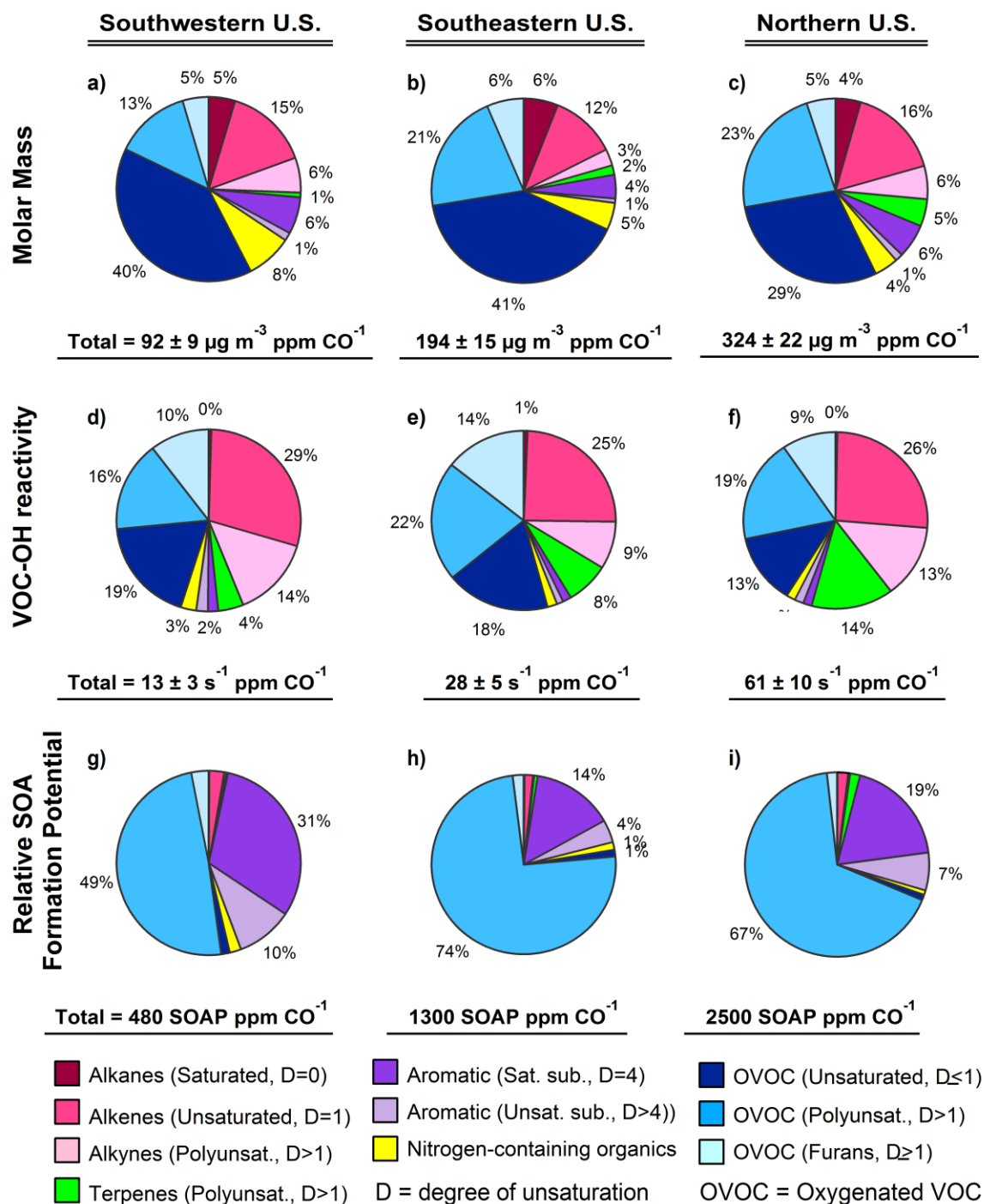
989

990 **Figure 4.** Discrete molar emission ratios for all VOCs reported in Table 2 as a function of the degree of
 991 unsaturation, D, for each fuel region. Emission ratios are colored by the corresponding molecular weight
 992 and the marker width represents the corresponding number of oxygen (O) atoms. The dashed lines
 993 represent the median values for all VOCs from all fuel regions (ER = 0.0427 mmol per mol CO and D=2).
 994 The histogram on the right summarizes the distribution of molar emission ratios for each fuel region.



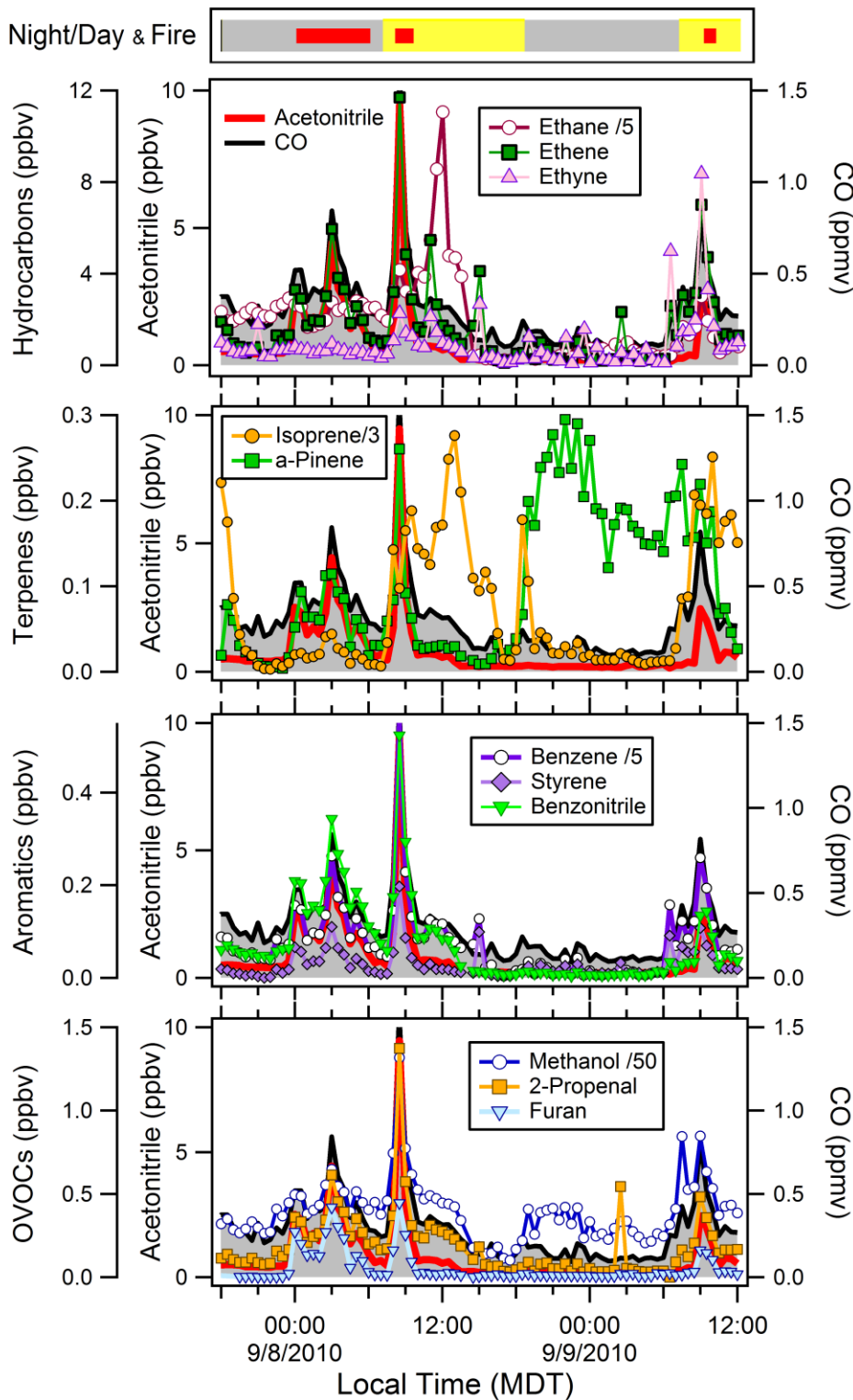
995

996 **Figure 5.** Contributions of (non-methane) VOCs reported in Table 2 to (a-c) the **measured molar mass**,
 997 (d-f) OH reactivity, and (g-i) relative SOA **formation** potential for the southwestern, southeastern, and
 998 northern fuel regions. Totals for each fuel region are shown below each pie chart.



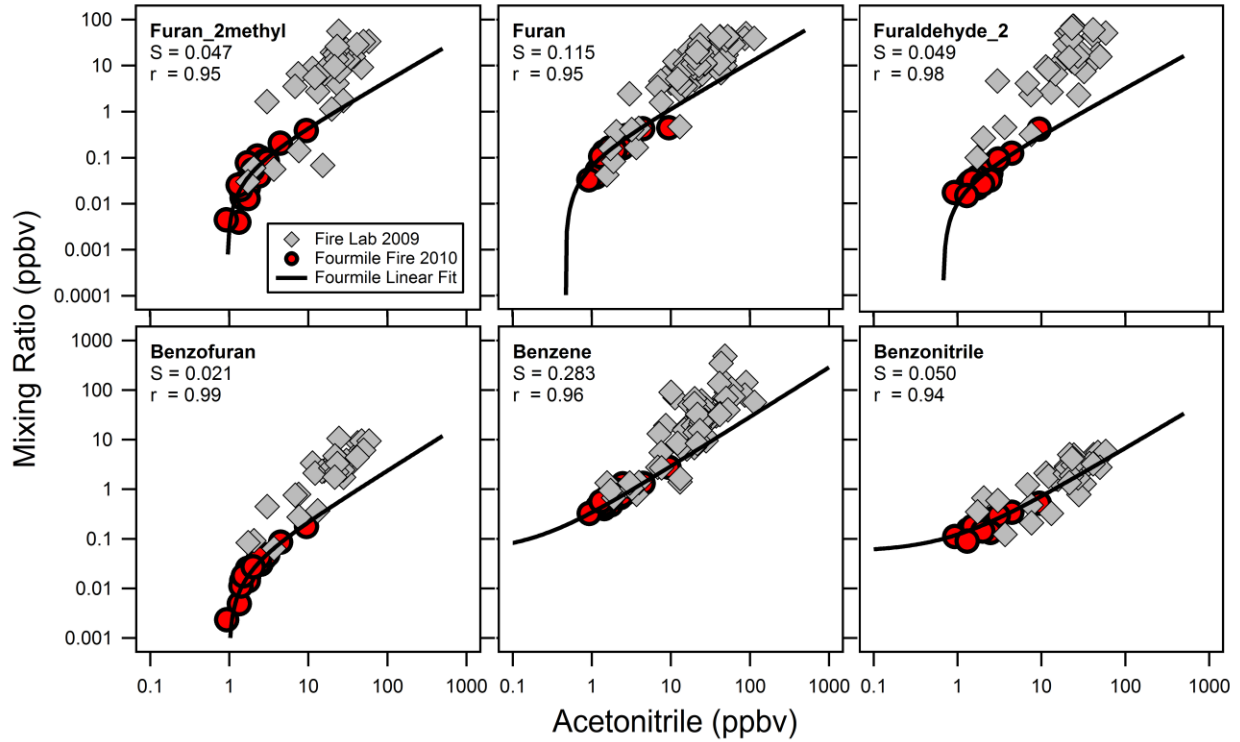
999

1000 **Figure 6.** Time series of ambient air measurements in Boulder, CO during the Fourmile Canyon Fire.
 1001 The top bar indicates nighttime (grey), daytime (yellow), and biomass burning plumes (red markers). CO
 1002 and acetonitrile are included in all 4 panels.



1003

1004 **Figure 7.** Correlation plots of VOCs versus acetonitrile for all 56 laboratory biomass burns (grey markers)
1005 and Fourmile Canyon Fire (red markers correspond to the BB plume identified in Fig. 6). **The best-fit line**
1006 **for the Fourmile Canyon Fire samples is shown in black along with the slope (S) and fit coefficients (r).**
1007



1008