

1 **Sources and Chemical Characterization of Organic Aerosol during the Summer in the**  
2 **Eastern Mediterranean**

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16

17 **Abstract**

18 The concentration and chemical composition of non-refractory fine particulate  
19 matter (NR-PM<sub>1</sub>) and black carbon (BC) levels were measured during the summer of  
20 2012 in the suburbs of two Greek cities, Patras and Athens, in an effort to better  
21 understand the chemical processing of particles in the high photochemical activity  
22 environment of the Eastern Mediterranean. The composition of PM<sub>1</sub> was surprisingly  
23 similar in both areas demonstrating the importance of regional sources for the  
24 corresponding pollution levels. The PM<sub>1</sub> average mass concentration was 9-14 μg m<sup>-3</sup>.  
25 The contribution of sulphate was around 38%, while organic aerosol (OA) contributed  
26 approximately 45% in both cases. PM<sub>1</sub> nitrate levels were low (2%). The oxygen to  
27 carbon (O:C) atomic ratio was 0.50±0.08 in Patras and 0.47±0.11 in Athens. In both cases  
28 PM<sub>1</sub> was acidic.

29 Positive matrix factorization (PMF) was applied to the high resolution organic  
30 aerosol mass spectra obtained by an Aerodyne High Resolution Time-of-Flight Aerosol  
31 Mass Spectrometer (HR-ToF-AMS). For Patras five OA sources could be identified: 19%

32 very oxygenated OA (V-OOA), 38% moderately oxygenated OA (M-OOA), 21%  
33 biogenic oxygenated OA (b-OOA), 7% hydrocarbon-like OA (HOA-1) associated with  
34 traffic sources and 15% hydrocarbon-like OA (HOA-2) related to other primary  
35 emissions (including cooking OA). For Athens the corresponding source contributions  
36 were: V-OOA (35%), M-OOA (30%), HOA-1 (18%) and HOA-2 (17%). In both cities  
37 the major component was OOA, suggesting that under high photochemical conditions  
38 most of the OA in the Eastern Mediterranean is quite aged. The contribution of the  
39 primary sources (HOA-1 and HOA-2) was important (22% in Patras and 35% in Athens)  
40 but not dominant.

41

## 42 **1. Introduction**

43 Atmospheric aerosols can affect human health by causing cardiovascular and  
44 respiratory problems (Davidson et al., 2005; Pope and Dockery, 2006), they reduce  
45 visibility (Watson, 2002) and influence the energy balance of our planet (IPCC, 2013) by  
46 scattering or absorbing radiation and changing cloud reflectivity and lifetime.  
47 Submicrometer atmospheric particles mainly consist of sulphates, ammonium, organic  
48 matter, nitrates, elemental carbon and metals. Organic aerosol (OA) represents a major  
49 fraction of the submicron aerosol mass (Kanakidou et al., 2005; Zhang et al., 2007). The  
50 recent development of the Aerodyne HR-ToF-AMS (DeCarlo et al., 2006) allows high  
51 time resolution size-resolved measurements of the fine non-refractory inorganic and  
52 organic aerosol components. In addition, several techniques have been developed for the  
53 deconvolution of the AMS organic mass spectra (Zhang et al., 2011) including custom  
54 principal component analysis (Zhang et al., 2005), multiple component analysis (Zhang et  
55 al., 2007), and positive matrix factorization (PMF) (Paatero and Tapper 1994; Lanz et al.,  
56 2007). The most recent algorithm, the multilinear engine, (ME-2) (Lanz et al., 2008,  
57 Canonaco et al., 2013) is a hybrid of chemical mass balance (CMB) and bilinear models  
58 (e.g., PMF). The combination of AMS measurements with other instrumentation and the  
59 use of the corresponding source apportionment techniques can provide valuable  
60 information about the ambient aerosol sources and their chemical characterization. In this  
61 study the technique of PMF analysis on HR-ToF-AMS mass spectra is used.

62 Zhang et al. (2005) showed that summertime OA in a major urban area of the US  
63 (Pittsburgh) consisted of oxygenated OA (OOA) and hydrocarbon-like OA (HOA). Lanz  
64 et al. (2007) further deconvolved OOA into a more oxygenated OA (OOA-1) and a less  
65 oxygenated (OOA-2) component during a summer period in Zurich. They also reported  
66 for the first time a wood burning and a charbroiling factor. Marine OA (MOA) was  
67 identified by Crippa et al. (2013a) in Paris during summertime, while Schmale et al.  
68 (2013) suggested the existence of an amino-acids/amine OA factor (AA-OA), a  
69 methanesulfonic acid OA factor (MSA-OA), a marine oxygenated OA factor (M-OOA)  
70 and a sea spray OA factor (SS-OA) on Bird Island in the South Atlantic. The major OA  
71 components found usually are OOA and HOA (Ng et al., 2010). In our work the OA  
72 sources are investigated, in order to characterize two urban environments in the Eastern  
73 Mediterranean.

74 Most of the studies on air quality in the Eastern Mediterranean and Greece have  
75 been based on filter measurements (Manoli et al., 2002; Grivas et al., 2004;  
76 Papaefthymiou et al., 2005; Karanasiou et al., 2007; Chrysikou and Samara, 2009) or  
77 monitoring PM mass concentrations (Chaloulakou et al., 2003; Vardoulakis and  
78 Kassomenos, 2008; Yannopoulos, 2008) in major Greek cities (Athens, Thessaloniki,  
79 Patras). During the past years a few field campaigns using continuous PM composition  
80 measurement techniques have been conducted in rural/remote areas and urban centres in  
81 Greece. At the remote site of Finokalia (Crete) factor analysis on filter samples revealed  
82 three sources of coarse particles (crustal, photochemical, and marine aerosols) and two  
83 additional factors in the fine mode (residual oil and secondary/combustion aerosols)  
84 (Koulouri et al., 2008). For the same site no HOA was detected by PMF analysis of  
85 Quadropole AMS data either in the summer or in the winter (Hildebrandt et al., 2010;  
86 2011). For the city of Patras Pikridas et al. (2013) found that the transported pollution  
87 accounted for 50% of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> during the winter and more than 70% during the rest of  
88 the year. However, the Eastern Mediterranean urban environment remains not well  
89 characterized.

90 In the Western Mediterranean there have been more measurement campaigns (e.g.,  
91 Viana et al., 2005; Pérez et al., 2008; Pey et al., 2010; Pandolfi et al., 2014). In Barcelona  
92 primary OA accounted for 59% of the OA in the late winter (Mohr et al., 2012). El

93 Haddad et al. (2013) reported that OOA contributed 80% of the OA mass in Marseille  
94 during the summer, while only 5% of the OA was of industrial origin. Nicolas (2013)  
95 found that OOA ranged from 70% to 85% of the total OA over a year at the Cape Corsica  
96 station. For the same site the oxidation state of the OA during the summer reached  
97 extremely high values with  $f_{44}$  (the fraction of the AMS  $m/z$  44, which is an indicator of  
98 the oxidation state) higher than 0.25. Thus the measurements in Western Mediterranean  
99 have covered better the different types of environments compared to Eastern  
100 Mediterranean.

101 Despite the previous efforts, there are still several knowledge gaps related to the  
102 characterization of OA sources in the Mediterranean Basin. For example the contribution  
103 of the primary sources is still uncertain. Fresh OA from diesel exhaust initially resembles  
104 HOA but after aging may resemble semi-volatile OOA (SV-OOA) (Jimenez et al., 2009;  
105 Chirico et al., 2010). Aged gas phase emissions from diesel engines, scooters and  
106 biomass burning may also produce secondary OA (SOA) with mass spectra similar to  
107 SV-OOA (Heringa et al., 2012). In addition, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in  
108 chamber experiments form SOA with mass spectra close to SV-OOA (Ng et al., 2010).  
109 The conversion of SV-OOA to more oxidized OA is still quite difficult to reproduce in  
110 the laboratory. Only recently Platt et al. (2013) showed that after 12 hours of aging of  
111 gasoline Euro 5 car emissions, SOA with an O:C ratio of 0.7 was produced resembling  
112 LV-OOA. In the field, Hildebrandt et al. (2010) demonstrated that primary emissions are  
113 becoming highly oxygenated within 1-2 days of transport under intense photochemical  
114 conditions. Recently Bougiatioti et al. (2014) showed that a large fraction of biomass  
115 burning OA (BBOA) is transformed to OOA even in the dark in less than 12 hours during  
116 the summer in Eastern Mediterranean. The objectives of this work are to:

- 117 1) characterize the chemical composition of the  $PM_{10}$  in two Greek cities in the Eastern  
118 Mediterranean using high time resolution instrumentation
- 119 2) determine the corresponding OA sources and evaluate the relative significance of the  
120 primary versus the oxygenated factors
- 121 3) provide insights about the chemical processing of the primary PM
- 122 4) compare the mass spectra profiles to the corresponding profiles extracted in previous  
123 studies and to

124 5) assess the overall PM<sub>1</sub> pollution in the Eastern Mediterranean in comparison with other  
125 European cities.

126

## 127 **2 Experimental**

### 128 **2.1 Measurement campaign**

129 The measurements presented here were part of a larger study, which involved  
130 measurements in several areas in Greece (Patras, Athens, Thessaloniki, and Finokalia)  
131 both in summer and winter. In this work we will focus on the summer HR-ToF-AMS  
132 measurements in Patras and Athens. More information about the summer study is  
133 provided in Tsiflikiotou et al. (in preparation).

134

### 135 **2.2 Sampling Sites in Patras**

136 Patras has approximately 300,000 inhabitants and is located at the Gulf of Patras,  
137 at the foothills of a 2 km high mountain. The major anthropogenic activities include a  
138 small industrial zone about 16 km southwest of the city center and a harbor around 2.5  
139 km southwest of the city. The nearest major city is Athens, around 220 km to the east.  
140 Measurements in Patras were performed simultaneously at two locations: in the center of  
141 the city (38° 14' 46" N, 21° 44' 08" E) and at the Institute of Chemical Engineering  
142 Sciences, ICE-HT (38° 17' 52" N, 21° 48' 31" E), which is 8 km (north-east) away from  
143 the city center and 1 km (south) from the Patras-Athens highway (Figure S1). The site is  
144 surrounded by olive tree fields. A few small settlements are located in a distance of 1 km  
145 (southwest and north-east). Most of the instrumentation was deployed at the ICE-HT  
146 Institute due to space limitations in the city center station. This paper focuses only on the  
147 ICE-HT measurements.

148

### 149 **2.3 Instrumentation in Patras**

150 A HR-ToF-AMS from Aerodyne Research Inc. (DeCarlo et al., 2006) was  
151 measuring the size-resolved chemical composition of the NR-PM<sub>1</sub> aerosol species. The  
152 tungsten filament for electron ionization was run at an accelerating voltage of 70 eV,  
153 while the vaporizer temperature was set at 600°C. Alternative runs between V-mode

154 (single stage reflectron) and W-mode (double stage reflectron) were performed with 3  
155 min of measuring time for each mode. In this paper the V-mode data are presented.

156 A Proton Transfer Reaction Mass Spectrometer (PTR-MS, Ionicon Analytik) was  
157 used for the characterization of the volatile organic compounds (VOCs). More details  
158 about the VOC measurements are presented in Kaltsonoudis et al. (in preparation). A  
159 Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer, (SMPS, classifier model 3080, DMA model 3081, CPC  
160 model 3787, TSI) was operated at a sheath flow rate of 5 L min<sup>-1</sup> and a sample flow rate  
161 of 1 L min<sup>-1</sup>. The SMPS measured the number size distribution in the 10 - 500 nm range.  
162 A Multiple-Angle Absorption Photometer (MAAP, Thermo Scientific Inc.) (Petzold and  
163 Schönlinner, 2004) was used for the BC measurement. NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub> and CO  
164 concentrations were measured by the corresponding monitors (Teledyne, models T201,  
165 100E, 400E and 300E respectively).

166 A filter sampler (MetOne SAASS) was used to collect PM<sub>2.5</sub> samples for  
167 inorganic and organic chemical composition analysis. The sampling resolution was 24 h  
168 and the flow rate of each filter was 6.7 L min<sup>-1</sup>. Teflon filters (Whatman 7582 004, 0.2  
169 μm pore size) were used for the measurement of the inorganic anion and cation mass  
170 concentrations, using two ion chromatography systems (Metrohm 761 Compact IC). Pre-  
171 baked Quartz filters were used for the EC/OC measurement using a laboratory EC/OC  
172 analyzer (Sunset Laboratory Inc). More details about the filter extraction procedure are  
173 given by Pikridas et al. (2013) and Tsiflikiotou et al. (in preparation).

174 The HR-ToF-AMS and the PTR-MS measurements covered the period from 8 to  
175 27 of June 2012, while the rest of the instrumentation provided measurements from June  
176 8 to July 26, 2012. All the above mentioned instruments were located at the ICE-HT  
177 campus.

178

#### 179 **2.4 Sampling Site in Athens**

180 Athens is the most densely populated city in Greece with around 4 million  
181 inhabitants. The sampling site was at Demokritos National Center for Scientific Research,  
182 NCRS (37° 59' 43" N, 23° 48' 57" E), at the municipality of Agia Paraskevi. This is a  
183 suburban background site 10 km from the city center located at the foothills of Ymittos  
184 mountain and is surrounded by pine trees. This site is close (0.5 km) to the ring highway

185 of Ymittos and approximately 1.5 km away from the Mesogion highway to the north-  
186 west. The closest residences are 0.5 km away. The relative position between Patras and  
187 Athens sampling site is illustrated in Figure S2.

188

## 189 **2.5 Instrumentation in the Athens site**

190 For the measurements in Athens we used our mobile laboratory as a fixed station,  
191 in which the HR-ToF-AMS, PTR-MS and SMPS (same models as described in session  
192 2.3) were placed. An aethalometer (Magee Scientific, AE31) provided the BC  
193 concentrations at 880 nm. An SMPS (classifier model 3080 TSI, custom DMA, CPC  
194 model 3022, TSI) was operated at a sheath flow rate of 3 L min<sup>-1</sup> and a sample flow rate  
195 of 0.3 L min<sup>-1</sup> and measured the number size distribution in the 10 - 660 nm range. PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
196 was collected on Teflon filters every 24 h for the inorganic composition characterization,  
197 while a semi-continuous OC/EC analyzer (Field Instrument, Model 4F, Sunset  
198 Laboratory Inc) equipped with a PM<sub>2.5</sub> inlet and an activated carbon denuder was used for  
199 the PM<sub>2.5</sub> EC/OC measurements with a 3 hr resolution.

200 The sampling period was from 8 to 26 of July 2012. Due to technical problems  
201 the HR-ToF-AMS started measuring on the July 12, 2012.

202

## 203 **2.6 Data Analysis**

204 For HR-ToF-AMS data analysis SQUIRREL v1.51C and PIKA v1.10C (Sueper,  
205 2014) with Igor Pro 6.22A (Wavemetrics) were used. For the HR-ToF-AMS organic  
206 mass spectra, we used the fragmentation table of Aiken et al. (2009).

207 PMF and ME-2 analysis (Paatero and Tapper, 1994; Lanz et al., 2007; Lanz et al.,  
208 2008; Ulbrich et al., 2009; Canonaco et al., 2013) were performed using the HR-ToF-  
209 AMS organic mass spectra in order to investigate the different organic aerosol sources.  
210 High resolution PMF was performed using as inputs the *m/z*'s 12-200 and following the  
211 procedure of Ulbrich et al. (2009).

212 The Patras HR-ToF-AMS data were corrected for the collection efficiency CE  
213 using the algorithm of Kostenidou et al. (2007) with a 2-hour resolution throughout the  
214 campaign. A shape factor ( $\gamma$ ) of 1 was found to be the most appropriate for this data set  
215 (Supplement section 2.A, Figures S3-S4). The average CE was 0.91±0.10 and it was

216 significant higher compared to other studies, which often use a CE of 0.5. One reason  
217 could be that the particles entering the HR-ToF-AMS were not dried. Drying the particles  
218 usually decreases the CE because the particles bounce on the vaporizer (Matthew et al.,  
219 2008). The  $R^2$  between the 2-hour resolution CE and the 2-hour average ambient relative  
220 humidity (RH) was very low (0.02). This low correlation and the high CE values can be  
221 explained by the fact that the particles were acidic most of the time (see section 3.1) and  
222 probably contained water during all the campaign. Comparing the  $PM_1$  HR-ToF-AMS  
223 sulphate (after CE corrections) to the  $PM_{2.5}$  filter sulphate measurements a slope of 1.05  
224 and a high correlation ( $R^2=0.98$ ) were found as shown in Figure S5. This could indicate  
225 that most of the  $PM_{2.5}$  sulfate was in the submicrometer particles. The  $PM_{2.5}$  sodium  
226 concentration was below the detection limit, so there was practically no sodium sulphate  
227 present. The average OA density estimated from the above algorithm was  $1.34\pm 0.21$  g  
228  $cm^{-3}$ , which is very close to the organic density calculated for Finokalia during the  
229 summer of 2008 ( $1.35\pm 0.22$  g  $cm^{-3}$ , Lee et al., 2010).

230 For Athens the aerosol was not dried before it entered the HR-ToF-AMS, but the  
231 particles entering the SMPS were dried to maintain compatibility with long term  
232 measurements performed at the site. Thus we modified the algorithm of Kostenidou et al.  
233 (2007) converting the ambient HR-ToF-AMS mass distributions to dry mass distributions  
234 using the relative humidity (RH) inside the sampling line and calculating the inorganic  
235 aerosol water content using the Extended Aerosol Inorganic Model II (E-AIM, Carslaw et  
236 al., 1995; Clegg et al., 1998; Massucci et al., 1999). As inputs to the E-AIM model we  
237 used the inorganic concentrations of sulphate, ammonium and nitrate and the temperature  
238 and RH at the entrance of the HR-ToF-AMS line. The algorithm was run for shape  
239 factors 1-1.4 and the optimum solution was selected (i.e. the minimum of the minimum  
240 error scores) which corresponded to the optimum CE, organic density, and shape factor  
241 (Supplement section 2.B, Figures S6-S7). The average CE was  $0.63\pm 0.13$ . After applying  
242 CE corrections the  $PM_1$  HR-ToF-AMS sulphate correlated well with the  $PM_{2.5}$  filter  
243 sulphate (Figure S8) ( $R^2=0.91$ , slope=0.98), once more suggesting that the sulphate in the  
244 1-2.5  $\mu m$  range was a small fraction of the  $PM_{2.5}$  sulfate. The average organic density was  
245  $1.15\pm 0.36$  g  $cm^{-3}$ , lower than in Patras, and the average shape factor was  $1.16\pm 0.1$   
246 suggesting that a lot of the particles were not spherical.

247 The angle theta ( $\theta$ ) between the mass spectra vectors was used as a measure of  
248 their similarity (Kostenidou et al., 2009). The mass spectra are treated as vectors and the  
249 angle  $\theta$  is calculated by using their internal product. The lower the angle  $\theta$  is the higher  
250 the similarity between the two spectra.

251

## 252 **3 Results and Discussion**

### 253 **3.1 Patras**

254 The time series of the mass concentration of the NR-PM<sub>1</sub> components measured  
255 by the HR-ToF-AMS and the BC in Patras are shown in Figure 1a. The average PM<sub>1</sub>  
256 mass concentration (not including dust) was 8.6  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . On average, the organic mass  
257 concentration was 3.8  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , sulphate 3.3  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , ammonium 0.9  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  and BC 0.5  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ .  
258 Nitrate was very low around 0.1  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ .

259 The average OM:OC ratio was 1.80 $\pm$ 0.10. The average diurnal profile of O:C is  
260 depicted in Figure 2. O:C increased in the early morning hours (2:00-7:00 LT) and during  
261 the afternoon (15:00-17:00). The OA average diurnal profile exhibited 3 peaks (Figure  
262 S9a), 2 of them (around 8:00-10:00 and 21:00-23:00) were associated with primary  
263 sources as the BC increased the same time as well. The OA increase at 11:00-16:00 is  
264 related to the formation of secondary species as the solar intensity peaks the same time.  
265 The fragments of  $m/z$  44 and 57 represented 0.14 and 0.01 of the organic signal  
266 correspondingly (Figure S10a).

267 The PM<sub>2.5</sub> organic carbon (OC) concentrations measured with filters was  
268 converted to organic mass (OM) using the corresponding OM:OC ratio for each filter  
269 sampling period provided by the HR-ToF-AMS and the two concentrations were  
270 compared. Figure S11a shows the correlation between the HR-ToF-AMS and the filters  
271 for organics which resulted in an  $R^2=0.57$ . This probably implies that the majority of the  
272 PM<sub>2.5</sub> organics were in the PM<sub>1</sub> range.

273 The PM<sub>1</sub> aerosol as measured by the HR-ToF-AMS was always acidic with an  
274 average inorganic cations/anions equivalent ratio of 0.75 $\pm$ 0.07. This indicates that there  
275 was no available ammonia to fully neutralize the sulphate and thus the formation of PM<sub>1</sub>  
276 ammonium nitrate (from ammonia and nitric acid) in the PM<sub>1</sub> was not  
277 thermodynamically favorable.

278 In order to estimate the organic nitrate mass (ONit) contribution to the total nitrate  
279 mass (TotNit) we followed the procedure of Farmer et al. (2010):

$$280 \quad \frac{\text{ONit}}{\text{TotNit}} = \frac{(1 + R_{\text{ONit}}) \times (R_{[\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+]_{\text{meas}}} - R_{[\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+]_{\text{cal}}})}{(1 + R_{[\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+]_{\text{meas}}}) \times (R_{\text{ONit}} - R_{[\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+]_{\text{cal}}})} \quad (1)$$

281 where  $R_{[\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+]_{\text{meas}}}$  is the measured ratio of  $\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+$  ions as a function of time,  
282  $R_{[\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+]_{\text{cal}}}$  is the ratio of  $\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+$  ions obtained during  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  calibrations (0.58 on  
283 average) and  $R_{\text{ONit}}$  is a fixed value set to 0.05, as the minimum ratio of  $\text{NO}_2^+/\text{NO}^+$   
284 observed in this campaign was 0.05. The average organic nitrate fraction was  $0.91 \pm 0.05$ ,  
285 which suggests that most of the nitrate was in the form of organic nitrate (Figure S12a).  
286 The correlation between OA and nitrate was moderate ( $R^2=0.38$ ).

287

### 288 3.2 Athens (Demokritos Station)

289 On average the  $\text{PM}_{10}$  mass concentration in Athens (not including dust) was  $14.2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ .  
290 This is a different period than the one in Patras so direct comparisons could result in  
291 erroneous conclusions. A detailed description and intercomparison of the various  
292 measurements (including filter samples) performed in Athens and Patras is given in the  
293 companion paper by Tsiflikiotou et al. (in preparation). Briefly, these authors found that  
294 for the July period the mean concentrations of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  sulphate in Patras and Athens were  
295 similar, while  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  organics were higher in Patras than in Athens. Figure 1b shows the  
296 time series of the concentration of the NR- $\text{PM}_{10}$  components measured by the HR-ToF-  
297 AMS in Athens and the BC measured by the aethalometer. The average organic  
298 concentration was  $6.6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , sulphate  $5.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , ammonium  $1.4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  and BC  $0.7 \mu\text{g}$   
299  $\text{m}^{-3}$ . Similarly to Patras nitrate levels were low,  $0.2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  on average.

300 The average O:C mass ratio was  $0.47 \pm 0.11$ , lower than in Patras (0.50), because  
301 of the higher contribution of primary emissions (Section 3.3.1 and 3.3.2). The average  
302 OM:OC ratio was  $1.76 \pm 0.14$ . The diurnal cycle of O:C is shown in Figure 2 and is similar  
303 to the one in Patras. The O:C exhibited two peaks one in the early morning around 3:00-  
304 5:00 LT and a second in the late afternoon 17:00-20:00 LT. The OA profile is  
305 characterized by three peaks (Figure S9b). Two of them, around 7:00-12:00 and 20:00-

306 24:00 are related to fresh emissions since the BC follows the same trend. A smaller  
307 increase around 14:00-17:00 is probably due to photochemistry. On average  $f_{44}$  and  $f_{57}$   
308 were 0.13 and 0.02 respectively (Figure S10b).

309 The OM based on the  $PM_{2.5}$  semi-continuous OC/EC measurements was  
310 calculated using the OM:OC ratio provided by the HR-ToF-AMS. Figure S11b illustrates  
311 the correlation for the organics between the HR-ToF-AMS and the semi-continuous  
312 OC/EC samples. The measurements are in reasonable agreement ( $R^2=0.48$ ), with the HR-  
313 ToF-AMS providing slightly higher concentrations. The scatter observed when  
314 comparing the corresponding measurements is due to a number of factors including the  
315 positive and negative artifacts of filter measurements, the uncertainties of the  
316 corresponding measurements and the different size ranges. The negative artifacts of the  
317 filter measurements due to evaporation of the collected OA can explain the occurrence of  
318 some measurements in which the  $PM_{2.5}$  filter-based OA is less than the  $PM_1$  HR-ToF-  
319 AMS OA.

320 The equivalent ratio of  $PM_1$  cations to anions (measured by the HR-ToF-AMS)  
321 was on average  $0.70\pm 0.09$  and thus the aerosol was acidic. Again free ammonia was not  
322 enough to neutralize the sulphate and thus there was no ammonium nitrate observed in  
323 the  $PM_1$  fraction.

324 Applying equation (1) to the Athens data set (with an average  $R_{[NO_2^+ / NO^+]} = 0.68$ ,  
325 and  $R_{ONit} = 0.12$ ), the organic nitrate fraction was  $0.89\pm 0.08$ , indicating that most of the  
326 nitrate was actually organic nitrate (Figure S12b). The coefficient of determination  
327 between OA and nitrate was  $R^2=0.62$ .

328

### 329 **3.3 OA sources**

#### 330 **3.3.1 Patras**

331 For the PMF analysis both PMF Evaluation Tool, PET, (Lanz et al., 2008; Ulbrich  
332 et al., 2009) and ME-2 (Lanz et al., 2008; Canonaco et al., 2013) solutions were  
333 examined and evaluated using the HR organic mass spectra. A five factor solution was  
334 chosen as the best to describe the major sources of OA in Patras. More information about  
335 the choice of the solution is provided in the supplementary information (section 7.A,  
336 Figures S13-S21). The factors corresponded to very oxygenated OA (V-OOA, 19%),

337 moderately oxygenated OA (M-OOA, 38%), biogenic oxygenated OA (b-OOA, 21%),  
338 HOA-1 (7%) and HOA-2 (15%). The V-OOA factor corresponds to the Low Volatility  
339 OOA (LV-OOA) and the M-OOA to Semivolatile OOA (SV-OOA) factors reported in  
340 previous work. The lack of a direct determination of the volatility of these factors makes  
341 the assignment of names based on their oxygen content preferable. The assignment of the  
342 factors to specific sources was based on their mass spectra and diurnal profile  
343 characteristics: V-OOA had a high contribution of  $m/z$  44, M-OOA had a moderate  $m/z$   
344 44 contribution. b-OOA was characterized by both biogenic and oxidized OA signatures,  
345 HOA-1 was similar to the literature HOA factor related to traffic emissions and HOA-2  
346 included primary cooking and aged traffic emissions. Overall, the oxygenated OA was  
347 the dominant component (78%) and the primary OA accounted for only 22%. The HR  
348 mass spectrum of each factor is illustrated in Figure 3a, while their time series are shown  
349 in Figure 4a and their average diurnal profiles in Figure 5a.

350 V-OOA was characterized by a high  $m/z$  44 (~22%) with an O:C= 0.81 and is  
351 related to aged aerosol (Figure 3a). The V-OOA factor correlated well with sulphate  
352 ( $R^2=0.48$ ) and ammonium ( $R^2=0.51$ ), which is typical for highly oxygenated OA. Its  
353 correlation with nitrate was low ( $R^2=0.09$ ). The V-OOA diurnal profile was almost flat  
354 (Figure 5a).  $R^2$  between V-OOA and individual VOCs measured by the PTR-MS were all  
355 less than 0.13.

356 M-OOA had a pronounced but of lower intensity  $m/z$  44 (~16%) and an O:C=0.54  
357 implying aged but less oxidized particles (Figure 3a). Nitrate has been suggested as a  
358 tracer for the less oxygenated species (e.g. Lanz et al., 2007; Mohr et al., 2012), however  
359 there was very little nitrate during our measurements and most of it was organic nitrate  
360 resulting in a weak correlation between the M-OOA and nitrate ( $R^2=0.04$ ). M-OOA had a  
361 very similar pattern with the solar radiation peaking at around 14:00 (local time). M-  
362 OOA had low correlation with methyl vinyl ketone (MVK) and methacrolein (MACR)  
363 ( $m/z$  71,  $R^2=0.31$ ), hydroxyacetone ( $m/z$  75,  $R^2=0.29$ ),  $C_5$  carbonyls/2-methyl-butene-2-ol  
364 (MBO)/methacrylic acid ( $m/z$  87,  $R^2=0.29$ ), terpene oxidation products ( $m/z$  113,  
365  $R^2=0.30$ ) and nopinone ( $m/z$  139,  $R^2=0.28$ ), (Table 1 and Figure S22). Comparing the M-  
366 OOA spectrum to the  $\alpha$ -pinene SOA spectrum of Heringa et al. (2012) the angle theta  
367 was quite high ( $\theta=35^\circ$ ), while the similarity between the M-OOA and the toluene photo-

368 oxidation SOA spectrum (Kostenidou et al., not published data) was greater ( $\theta=16^\circ$ ).  
369 Thus this factor may include contributions by both anthropogenic and biogenic sources.

370 The biogenic OOA factor had an  $f_{44}=0.13$  and O:C=0.48 (Figure 3a) which  
371 indicates a relatively moderate degree of oxygenation. It was characterized by a distinct  
372  $m/z$  82 (mainly composed of  $C_5H_6O^+$ ), an elevated  $m/z$  53 (mostly  $C_4H_5^+$ ) and a  
373 significant contribution at  $m/z$  39 (5%, mainly  $CH_3O^+$ ). These characteristics were similar  
374 to those found at a rural area in Ontario, Canada (Slowik et al., 2011), downtown Atlanta,  
375 Georgia, USA (Budisulistiorini et al., 2013), in tropical rainforests in the central Amazon  
376 Basin (Chen et al., 2014) and in Borneo, Malaysia (Robinson et al., 2011) and in  
377 Centreville in rural Alabama (Xu et al., 2014) which were associated to secondary OA  
378 produced by isoprene photooxidation. Using the HYSPLIT back trajectory model  
379 (Draxler and Rolph, 2013), the mass concentration of b-OOA was almost zero when the  
380 air masses were coming from the west (e.g. Ionian Sea, 11-15 June, Figure S23 ), while  
381 M-OOA and V-OOA were still high. However, the b-OOA increased in periods (e.g. 10-  
382 11 June, 16-17 and 24-26 June) when the air masses passed over the forested mountains  
383 of Central Greece (Figure S23), which is an area characterized by high terpene and  
384 isoprene emissions (Karl et al., 2009). This supports the biogenic character of this factor.  
385 The highest concentration of b-OOA was at 6:00 in the morning on June 16<sup>th</sup> ( $5.4 \mu g m^{-3}$ ).  
386 b-OOA exhibited low correlation with isoprene ( $m/z$  69,  $R^2=0.13$ ), isoprene peroxides  
387 ( $m/z$  101,  $R^2=0.28$ ) and the first generation isoprene products such as MVK and MACR  
388 ( $m/z$  71,  $R^2=0.21$ ) (Table 1). However, it correlated better with acetone ( $m/z$  59,  $R^2=0.35$ ),  
389 hydroxyl-acetone ( $m/z$  75,  $R^2=0.41$ ), PAN ( $m/z$  77,  $R^2=0.37$ ), nopinope ( $m/z$  139,  
390  $R^2=0.39$ ) and pinonaldehyde ( $m/z$  151,  $R^2=0.30$ ), Figure S24, which are products of  
391 terpenes ozonolysis (Matsunaga et al., 2003; Holzinger et al., 2005; Lee et al., 2006).

392 HOA-1 was characterized mainly by the  $m/z$ 's 39, 41, 43, 55, 57, 67, 69 and 81  
393 (Figure 3a) which are typical hydrocarbon fragments of fresh traffic emissions (Zhang et  
394 al., 2005; Aiken et al., 2009). Its O:C was 0.1 which is in the range found in literature  
395 (the HOA factor of Mohr et al. (2012) had an O:C=0.03, while the HOA factor of Ulbrich  
396 et al. (2009) had an O:C=0.18). HOA-1 had a medium correlation with BC ( $R^2=0.38$ )  
397 and nitrate ( $R^2=0.27$ ). The HOA-1 diurnal profile was characterized by two peaks during  
398 the morning (8:00) and evening rush hours (21:00) (Figure 5a). HOA-1 correlated

399 moderately with benzene ( $m/z$  79,  $R^2=0.36$ ), toluene ( $m/z$  93,  $R^2=0.35$ ), xylenes ( $m/z$  107,  
400  $R^2=0.37$ ), C<sub>9</sub> aromatic compounds ( $m/z$  121,  $R^2=0.45$ ). The correlation with NO<sub>x</sub> was  
401 relatively low ( $R^2=0.26$ ).

402 The HOA-2 O:C was 0.21. The HOA-2 spectrum was characterized among  
403 others by the  $m/z$ 's 39, 41, 43, 44, 55, 57 and 67 (Figure 3a) which are features of  
404 cooking organic aerosol, COA (Ge et al., 2011a, b; Crippa et al., 2013a, b). However, the  
405 reported COA spectra (e.g. Ge et al., 2011a, b; Crippa et al., 2013a, b) have lower  
406 contributions at  $m/z$  44 (0.011-0.022), indicating less oxygenation. The  $f_{44}$  in the HOA-2  
407 mass spectrum was 0.034 which implies that this factor may also contain species that  
408 have been oxidized to some degree. The HOA-2 diurnal profile had a small peak around  
409 14:00 and a higher one around 22:00, which are consistent with the Greek lunch and  
410 dinner periods (Figure 5a). Thus, the HOA-2 in Patras is mainly due to charbroiling of  
411 meat cooking OA. The correlation between HOA-2 and BC, nitrate, benzene, toluene,  
412 xylenes and C<sub>9</sub> aromatic compounds was moderate ( $R^2=0.38, 0.38, 0.33, 0.30, 0.33$  and  
413  $0.43$  correspondingly).

414 During June 16-23 the wind speed was relatively high (average  $5.3 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ )  
415 compared to the rest of the sampling days (average  $2.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ). The contribution of the  
416 local sources (HOA-1 and HOA-2) was less than 9% of the OA during that windy period  
417 compared to 28% during the remaining days (Figure 4a).

418

### 419 3.3.2 Athens

420 Four OA factors could be identified in the Athens HR-ToF-AMS data set: V-  
421 OOA (35%), M-OOA (30%), HOA-1 (18%) and HOA-2 (17%). A detailed description of  
422 the reasons for this selection can be found in the supplement (section 7.B, Figures S25-  
423 S33). The corresponding mass spectra are provided in Figure 3b. The time series of the  
424 four PMF factors are shown in Figure 4b, while their diurnal cycles in Figure 5b.  
425 Similarly to Patras the contribution of the oxygenated OA in Athens was high (65%),  
426 while the primary sources contributed 35%.

427 The very oxidized OA (V-OOA) had an  $f_{44}=0.18$  and O:C=0.68 and showed a  
428 good correlation with sulphate ( $R^2=0.53$ ) and ammonium ( $R^2=0.50$ ) consistent with the  
429 aged character of this factor. The diurnal profile of the V-OOA (Figure 5b) was

430 characterized by a peak around 15:00-18:00, which is probably associated with  
431 production of this component in the afternoon over the region. At the same time M-OOA  
432 decreased, which indicates that V-OOA is a product of photochemical processing. V-  
433 OOA correlated with formic acid ( $m/z$  47,  $R^2=0.47$ ), hexenal ( $m/z$  99,  $R^2=0.42$ ), isoprene  
434 peroxides ( $m/z$  101,  $R^2=0.35$ ), terpene oxidation products ( $m/z$  113,  $R^2=0.40$ ), and  
435 heptanal ( $m/z$  115,  $R^2=0.42$ ) (Table 1 and Figure S34).

436 The moderately oxidized OA (M-OOA) was characterized by an  $f_{44}=0.14$  and  
437 O:C=0.56 and exhibited a weak correlation with sulphate, ammonium and nitrate  
438 ( $R^2=0.17$ , 0.17 and 0.13 respectively). M-OOA increased during the day with a maximum  
439 at 12:00-14:00, following the diurnal profile of solar radiation, which implies relatively  
440 fast photochemical reactions. M-OOA had a second peak during the night around  
441 midnight, which could be an indication of nighttime production or condensation due to  
442 the change in temperature between day and night (the average temperature at noon was  
443 32°C, while during the night it decreased to around 21°C). M-OOA did not show any  
444 correlation ( $R^2$  less than 0.07) with the measured VOCs.

445 The HOA-1 O:C was 0.07. Surprisingly it had a rather weak correlation with BC  
446 ( $R^2=0.05$ ) and it also showed a low correlation with nitrate ( $R^2=0.13$ ). The HOA-1 diurnal  
447 profile had 2 peaks, a small increase during the morning (7:00) and a larger peak in the  
448 evening hours (20:00), consistent with the contribution of traffic emissions. HOA-1 did  
449 not correlate with VOCs characteristic of traffic such as benzene, toluene and xylenes  
450 (the  $R^2$  values were correspondingly 0.15, 0.13 and 0.16) and inorganic gases as  $\text{NO}_x$   
451 ( $R^2=0.06$ ). The HOA-1 mass spectrum and time series were very stable for 2 to 5  
452 factorial solutions and for  $f_{peaks}$  values from -1 to 1. The  $R^2$  between the HOA-1 of the  
453 selected solution and the HOA-1 of the solutions of 2, 3 and 5 factors was always greater  
454 than 0.973 (both for the time series and the mass spectra). This weak correlation between  
455 the HOA-1 factor and other primary organic pollutants indicates that their concentrations  
456 were not dominated by the same sources. For example HOA-1 possibly originated mostly  
457 from passenger cars and scooters. In Greece the car-to-scooter ratio is around 3 to 1 and  
458 using the Platt et al. (2014) primary OA emissions from two-stroke engines the scooter  
459 emissions are expected to be a significant OA source. BC mainly originated from diesel  
460 vehicles. Another potential BC source could be shipping emissions from Piraeus (15 km

461 south-west of the sampling site) and Rafina (17 km east) ports. However, during high BC  
462 concentration periods (around 10:00 LT) the wind was from the north (Figure S35). Thus,  
463 the main source of BC was probably diesel vehicles.

464 The location of the sampling site and the inhomogeneity of the surrounding areas,  
465 in combination with the wind direction changes have confounded these effects. The rose  
466 plots of HOA-1, BC, NO<sub>x</sub> and benzene for wind speeds greater than 1 m s<sup>-1</sup> indicated that  
467 BC, NO<sub>x</sub> and benzene had the same origin, while HOA-1 did not. For example at 8:00  
468 LT the HOA-1 was on average coming from southwest (Figure S35-S38) likely from the  
469 ring highway of Ymittos, while BC, NO<sub>x</sub> and benzene from the north probably influenced  
470 by the Mesogion highway.

471 HOA-2 had an O:C=0.24 and exhibited a good correlation with BC ( $R^2=0.57$ ).  
472 HOA-2 also correlated well with nitrate ( $R^2=0.75$ ) implying that organic nitrate  
473 compounds were possibly emitted or produced along with this OA type. The HOA-2  
474 profile had 2 peaks at around 11:00 and 22:00. The second peak is characteristic of Greek  
475 dinner period, thus part of HOA-2 could be attributed to meat cooking OA. However, the  
476 first peak can not be explained by the Greek lunch period. Although it could contain  
477 cooking emissions from canteens or caterings which start cooking earlier than the typical  
478 Greek lunchtime, it still does not explain the good correlation with BC. Greek cooking  
479 emissions have a low BC/OA ratio (unpublished measurements). Thus HOA-2 may  
480 include sources other than cooking. The correlation with the BC implies that HOA-2 and  
481 BC had the same origin. Comparing the HOA-2 mass spectrum with aged POA or SOA  
482 emissions from other sources such as  $\alpha$ -pinene, wood burning, scooter and diesel  
483 (Heringa et al., 2012) the angles  $\theta$  were 19, 19, 28, 17° respectively. This indicates that  
484 HOA-2 could include aged diesel emissions since  $\alpha$ -pinene is not associated with BC and  
485 there were no observed biomass burning events during the sampling period. The HOA-2  
486 factor correlated with the  $m/z$  43 ( $R^2=0.43$ ), acetone ( $m/z$  59,  $R^2=0.44$ ), methyl ethyl  
487 ketone (MEK,  $m/z$  73,  $R^2=0.49$ ), benzene ( $m/z$  79,  $R^2=0.62$ ), toluene ( $m/z$  93,  $R^2=0.54$ ),  
488 xylenes ( $m/z$  107,  $R^2=0.56$ ), C<sub>9</sub> aromatic compounds ( $m/z$  121,  $R^2=0.58$ ) and C<sub>10</sub> aromatic  
489 compounds ( $m/z$  135,  $R^2=0.55$ ). It also had a good correlation with NO<sub>x</sub> ( $R^2=0.58$ ).

490 Trying rotations in the  $f_{peak}$  range -1 to 1 the correlations between the factors  
491 HOA-1 and HOA-2 and traffic markers such as BC and toluene practically did not

492 change. In addition using a fixed HOA spectrum (the HOA mass spectrum of Aiken et al.  
493 (2009) and the HOA mass spectrum found in Athens during winter, unpublished results)  
494 with  $a=0.1$  the correlation between HOA-1 and BC did not improve. All these suggest  
495 that our conclusions are robust to the details of the PMF process. Our explanation is that  
496 the correlations are affected also by the locations of the various sources around the  
497 receptor site and the corresponding wind directions. The fact that these area sources  
498 (gasoline cars, diesel cars, cooking activities) did not have a homogeneous spatial  
499 distribution can lead to these rather unexpected results.

500

### 501 **3.3.3 Comparison of the PMF factors in the two cities**

502 The mass spectra of the V-OOA factors in the two cities were almost the same  
503 ( $\theta=6.7^\circ$ ). However, Athens V-OOA exhibited lower  $f_{44}$  and O:C ratio (0.18 and 0.68  
504 correspondingly) compared to Patras V-OOA (0.22 and 0.81 respectively). This  
505 difference could be partially due to the different periods of the two measurements.

506 The two M-OOA mass spectra were even more similar to each other ( $\theta=5.4^\circ$ ). A  
507 high correlation was also observed between the two HOA-2 mass spectra ( $\theta=5.9^\circ$ ). The  
508 Athens HOA-2 was slightly more oxygenated (O:C=0.24), as the oxygenated part of  $m/z$   
509 43 was more elevated, 65%, compared to 51% observed in Patras HOA-2 and the  $f_{44}$  was  
510 just slightly higher (0.07), while in Patras HOA-2 was 0.06.

511 The two HOA-1 factors exhibited a lower correlation with each other ( $\theta=22.8^\circ$ ).  
512 The main differences were at  $m/z$  41, 43, 55, 57, 69, 71, 81, 83 and 85 which were more  
513 abundant in the Athens HOA-1 spectrum, while in the Patras spectrum the  $f_{44}$  was higher  
514 (0.04) compared to Athens (0.02). In Patras HOA-1 spectrum  $m/z$  57 was lower in  
515 comparison with  $m/z$  55. The O:C in Athens HOA-1 was a little lower (0.07) than in  
516 Patras HOA-1 (0.10).

517

### 518 **3.3.4 Comparing the PMF factors with other studies**

519 Table 2 shows comparisons of the mass spectra of the factors found in the two  
520 cities with selected PMF factors from the literature (Aiken et al., 2009; Docherty et al.,  
521 2011; Sun et al., 2011; Robinson et al., 2011; Heringa et al., 2012; Mohr et al., 2012, Ge

522 et al., 2012a, b; Crippa et al., 2013a, b; Budisulistiorini et al., 2013; Xu et al., 2014) that  
523 have all been extracted using the fragmentation table of Aiken et al. (2009).

524 The two V-OOA factors were quite similar with LV-OOA at Riverside (Docherty  
525 et al., 2011),  $\theta=8-10^\circ$ , and with LV-OOA at New York City (Sun et al., 2011),  $\theta=11-14^\circ$ .  
526 They also showed good correlation with LV-OOA measured in Barcelona (Mohr et al.,  
527 2012) and Paris (Crippa et al., 2013a, b)  $\theta=13-19^\circ$ .

528 M-OOA had moderate to low agreement with the majority of the literature  
529 profiles. The lowest angle  $\theta$  (around  $22-24^\circ$ ) corresponded to the comparison with the  
530 SV-OOA found in Mexico City (Aiken et al., 2009). It did however resemble ( $\theta=13-16^\circ$ )  
531 the toluene SOA spectrum (Kostenidou et al., not published data).

532 The b-OOA factor in Patras correlated moderately with  $\alpha$ -pinene SOA,  $\theta=29^\circ$ ,  
533 (Heringa et al., 2012) and the isoprene factor found in Alabama,  $\theta=28^\circ$ , (Xu et al.,  
534 submitted). However, it had low correlation with the Factor 82,  $\theta=47^\circ$ , found in Malaysia  
535 (Robinson et al., 2011) and the IEPOX OA factor extracted in Atlanta,  $\theta=76^\circ$ ,  
536 (Budisulistiorini et al., 2013).

537 The HOA-1 factors correlated well with most of the literature HOA profiles,  
538  $\theta=10-25^\circ$ . The highest angles ( $24$  and  $25^\circ$ ) corresponded to the comparison with Paris  
539 during the winter (Crippa et al., 2013b). The major differences were in the  $m/z$ 's 44 and  
540 28 which were higher than in Paris,  $m/z$ 's 29 and 43 which were lower compared to Paris  
541 and  $m/z$  39 which was absent in Paris probably due to the unit mass resolution spectra  
542 used as input for the Crippa et al. (2013) PMF analysis.

543 The HOA-2 mass spectra resembled the COA factor extracted in New York City,  
544  $\theta=11-14^\circ$ , (Sun et al., 2011) and the SOA from diesel VOCs emissions,  $\theta=17^\circ$ , (Heringa  
545 et al., 2012).

546 Figure S39 summarizes Patras and Athens OA measurements and PMF factors in  
547 the Ng triangle (Ng et al., 2010). All the data fall within the triangle.

548

### 549 **3.4 Discussion**

550 In both cities the composition of NR-PM<sub>1</sub> was surprisingly similar. Organic  
551 contributions in Patras and Athens were around 45%, which is similar to other areas in  
552 Europe: London (UK) 46%, mountain Taunus (Germany) 59%, Melpitz (Germany) 59%,

553 Mace Head (Ireland) 39%, Po Valley (Italy) 33%, and Paris (France) 50% (Cubison et al.,  
554 2006; Hings et al., 2007; Poulain et al., 2011; Dall'Osto et al., 2010; Saarikoski et al.,  
555 2012; Crippa et al., 2013a). With 38%, sulphate made a larger contribution compared to  
556 other studies in Europe during the summer: London 31%, mountain Taunus 24%, Mace  
557 Head 32%, Melpitz 22%, Po Valley 9%, and Paris 25% (Cubison et al., 2006; Hings et al.,  
558 2007; Dall'Osto et al., 2010; Poulain et al., 2011; Saarikoski et al., 2012; Crippa et al.,  
559 2013a). Nitrate contributed very little (less than 2%) and was mostly attributed to  
560 organonitrate compounds, in contrast with other European studies where nitrate ranged  
561 from 6% (Melpitz) to 39% (Po Valley) (Poulain et al., 2011; Saarikoski et al., 2012) and  
562 mainly was ammonium nitrate. The absence of particulate nitrate in PM<sub>1</sub> was also  
563 observed at Finokalia (Hildebrandt et al., 2010) and is characteristic of the Eastern  
564 Mediterranean. Ammonia levels in this region are quite low (Wichink Kruit et al., 2012)  
565 to fully neutralize the existing relatively high sulphate.

566 The O:C ratios (0.50 for Patras and 0.47 for Athens) were moderately high. The  
567 O:C ratio at Finokalia was 0.8 (Hildebrandt et al., 2010), at Cape Corsica 0.9 (Nicolas,  
568 2013), while in Paris 0.38 (Crippa et al., 2013a).

569 In both cities the OOA was the dominant OA component (78% in Patras and 65%  
570 in Athens). This fraction is within the range that has been measured in previous summer  
571 studies in the Mediterranean. For example, the OOA at Finokalia was 100% of the OA  
572 (Hildebrandt et al., 2010), in Marseille accounted for 80% (El Haddad et al., 2013), at  
573 Cape Corsica 80-85% (Nicolas, 2013), while in Po Valley 61% (Saarikoski et al., 2012).

574 In Athens 35% of the OA was V-OOA, while in Patras only 19% of the OA was  
575 attributed to V-OOA. In addition the V-OOA in Athens was increasing in the afternoon,  
576 suggesting its production either locally or regionally. In Patras V-OOA had an almost flat  
577 diurnal profile. This difference could be attributed to the different air masses that arrive to  
578 each site. According to back trajectory analysis, based on FLEXPART (Stohl et al., 2005)  
579 (Figure S40) and HYSPLIT (Draxler and Rolph 2013) during most of the sampling days  
580 in Athens the air masses had spent considerable time over the source-poor Aegean Sea,  
581 while the majority of the air masses that arrived in Patras were continental and passed  
582 over the mountains of Central Greece.

583           Given the location of the two sites, one would expect to find a marine OA (MOA)  
584 factor. The S:C ratio estimated by the AMS is often underestimated in the presence of  
585 organosulfates (Farmer et al., 2010; Docherty et al., 2011). To avoid such artifacts we  
586 investigated the contribution of MOA applying a constrained solution in the ME-2 using  
587 the MOA mass spectrum of Crippa et al. (2013) with  $a=0.1$ . For Patras the average MOA  
588 concentration for 4, 5, and 6 factors was around  $0.04 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  corresponding to 1 percent of  
589 the OA mass. For Athens the MOA concentration for the 3, 4 and 5 factor solutions was  
590 approximately  $0.25 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  (3.7 percent of the OA mass). So if MOA was indeed present  
591 its contribution to OA was quite low.

592

#### 593 **4 Conclusions**

594           During the summer of 2012 the air pollution in Patras (June) and Athens (July)  
595 was monitored continuously. The sum of the NR-PM<sub>1</sub> and BC concentration was on  
596 average  $8.6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  in Patras and  $14.2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  in Athens. However, the aerosol composition  
597 was quite similar in both areas: 45% OA, 38% sulphate, 11% ammonium, 1% nitrate  
598 (mostly organic) and 5% BC indicating the importance of regional sources. In both cities  
599 the fine aerosol was acidic, which is consistent with the low ammonia levels in the  
600 Eastern Mediterranean.

601           For Patras the average O:C ratio was  $0.50\pm 0.08$ , while in Athens  $0.47\pm 0.11$ . In  
602 both cities oxygenated OA was the major component of organic aerosol (78% in Patras  
603 and 65% in Athens), indicating the impact of regional pollution in Mediterranean. OOA  
604 included a moderately oxygenated OA and a very oxygenated OA component. In Patras a  
605 biogenic oxidized OA factor could be identified, which was related to air masses passing  
606 over the forests of Central Greece. A primary OA factor (HOA-2) was found in both  
607 cities attributed to primary emissions such as meat cooking. This factor may also contain  
608 oxygenated primary emissions (e.g., aged diesel emissions). Hydrocarbon-like OA  
609 mainly from traffic emissions was also indentified, accounting only for 7-18% of the OA  
610 and indicating that new emission control technologies applied to vehicles during the last  
611 decade have reduced dramatically the levels of the corresponding primary OA.

612

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621

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1028 **Table 1.** Correlations<sup>a</sup> of the M-OOA and b-OOA factors (Patras) and the V-OOA factor  
 1029 (Athens) with various VOCs measured by the PTR-MS.

R <sup>2</sup>	Patras M-OOA	Patras b-OOA	Athens V-OOA
<i>m/z</i> 43	0.29	0.13	0.39
<i>m/z</i> 47 (formic acid)	0.21	0.09	0.47
<i>m/z</i> 59 (acetone, glyoxal)	0.21	0.35	0.32
<i>m/z</i> 71 (MVK, MACR)	0.31	0.21	0.20
<i>m/z</i> 73 (MEK)	0.24	0.25	0.29
<i>m/z</i> 75 (hydroxyacetone)	0.29	0.41	0.30
<i>m/z</i> 77 (PAN)	0.16	0.37	0.16
<i>m/z</i> 81 (terpenes)	0.19	0.26	0.12
<i>m/z</i> 87 (MBO, C5, methacrylic acid)	0.29	0.31	0.38
<i>m/z</i> 95 (2 vinyl furan, phenol)	0.17	0.31	0.36
<i>m/z</i> 99 (hexenal)	0.19	0.30	0.42
<i>m/z</i> 101 (isoprene hyperoxides, hexanal)	0.17	0.28	0.35
<i>m/z</i> 103 (MPAN)	0.23	0.28	-
<i>m/z</i> 113 (chlorobenzene, terpenes +O <sub>3</sub> )	0.30	0.37	0.40
<i>m/z</i> 115 (heptanal)	0.16	0.32	0.42
<i>m/z</i> 137 (monoterpenes)	0.20	0.24	0.1
<i>m/z</i> 139 (nopinone)	0.28	0.39	0.19
<i>m/z</i> 151 (pinonaldehyde)	0.17	0.30	0.17

1030 <sup>a</sup>All correlations are significant at the  $p=0.05$  level.

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1041 **Table 2.** Correlations between PMF factors from Patras and Athens and PMF factors  
 1042 from selected studies using both the angle theta and R<sup>2</sup> (in parenthesis).

	<b>Angle in degrees (and R<sup>2</sup>) with V-OOA Patras</b>	<b>Angle in degrees (and R<sup>2</sup>) with V-OOA Athens</b>
LV-OOA Mexico City <sup>1</sup>	21 (0.86)	20 (0.87)
LV-OOA Riverside <sup>2</sup>	10 (0.97)	8 (0.98)
LV-OOA Barcelona <sup>3</sup>	18 (0.90)	16 (0.92)
LV-OOA Paris (SIRTA) summer <sup>4</sup>	19 (0.89)	15 (0.93)
OOA Paris (SIRTA), winter <sup>5</sup>	13 (0.95)	15 (0.93)
LV-OOA New York City <sup>6</sup>	14 (0.94)	11 (0.96)
LV-OOA Fresno <sup>7,8</sup>	36 (0.64)	30 (0.73)

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	<b>Angle in degrees (and R<sup>2</sup>) with M-OOA Patras</b>	<b>Angle in degrees (and R<sup>2</sup>) with M-OOA Athens</b>
SV-OOA Mexico City <sup>1</sup>	24 (0.81)	22 (0.84)
SV-OOA Riverside <sup>2</sup>	42 (0.48)	39 (0.53)
SV-OOA Barcelona <sup>3</sup>	33 (0.66)	31 (0.69)
SV-OOA Paris (SIRTA) summer <sup>4</sup>	42 (0.48)	39 (0.53)
SV-OOA New York City <sup>6</sup>	30 (0.73)	27 (0.77)
$\alpha$ -pinene ozonolysis SOA aged <sup>9</sup>	35 (0.62)	32 (0.67)
Toluene photooxidation (HONO) SOA <sup>10</sup>	16 (0.93)	13 (0.95)

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	<b>Angle in degrees (and R<sup>2</sup>) with HOA-1 Patras</b>	<b>Angle in degrees (and R<sup>2</sup>) with HOA-1 Athens</b>
HOA Mexico City <sup>1</sup>	13 (0.94)	14 (0.93)
HOA Riverside <sup>2</sup>	20 (0.86)	10 (0.96)
HOA Barcelona <sup>3</sup>	22 (0.84)	11 (0.96)
HOA Paris (SIRTA) summer <sup>4</sup>	16 (0.92)	18 (0.90)
HOA Paris (SIRTA), winter <sup>5</sup>	25 (0.79)	24 (0.81)
HOA New York City <sup>6</sup>	12 (0.95)	10 (0.97)
HOA Fresno <sup>7,8</sup>	11 (0.96)	11 (0.96)

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	<b>Angle in degrees (and R<sup>2</sup>) with HOA-2 Patras</b>	<b>Angle in degrees (and R<sup>2</sup>) with HOA-2 Athens</b>
COA Barcelona <sup>3</sup>	77 (0.01)	77 (0.01)
COA Paris (SIRTA), summer <sup>4</sup>	30 (0.68)	34 (0.6)
COA Paris (SIRTA), winter <sup>5</sup>	30 (0.74)	28 (0.70)
COA Paris (LHVP), winter <sup>5</sup>	27 (0.76)	31 (0.70)
COA New York City <sup>6</sup>	11 (0.96)	14 (0.93)
COA Fresno <sup>7,8</sup>	28 (0.72)	33 (0.64)
Aged VOCs diesel emissions <sup>9</sup>	17 (0.90)	17 (0.90)
$\alpha$ -pinene ozonolysis SOA aged <sup>9</sup>	20 (0.86)	19 (0.87)
Toluene photooxidation (HONO) SOA <sup>10</sup>	26 (0.79)	23 (0.84)

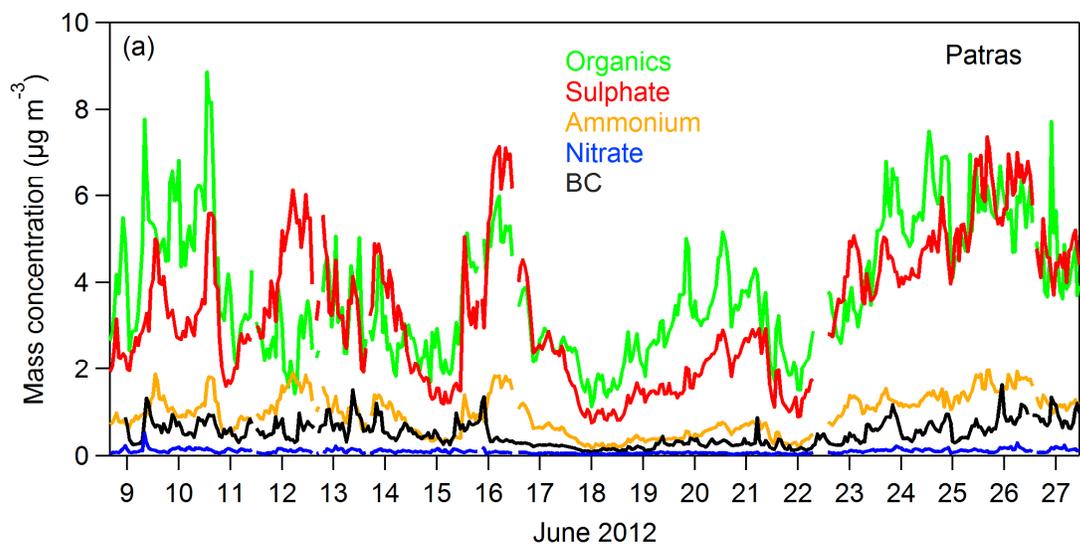
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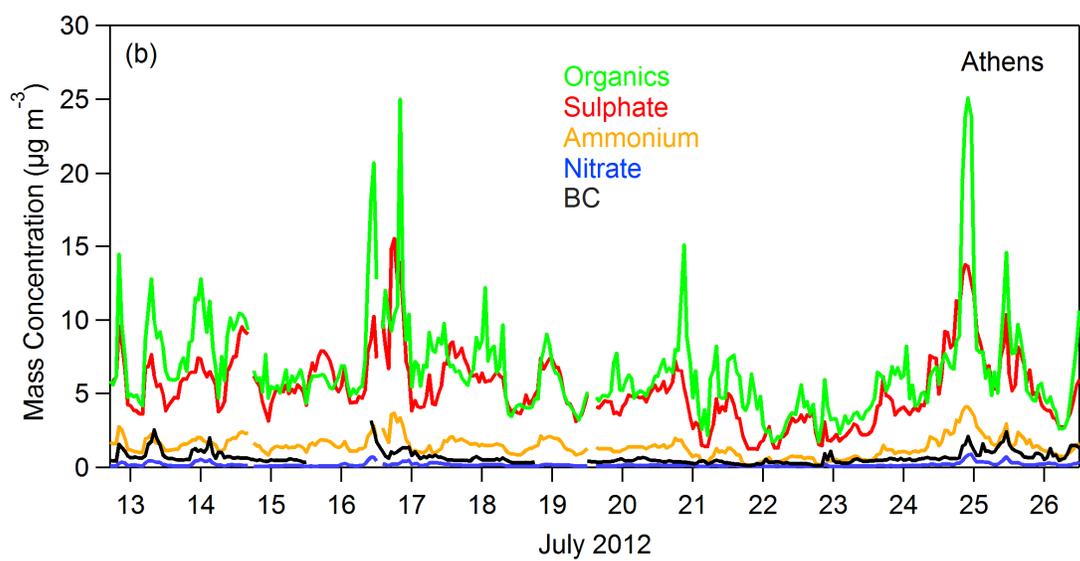
	<b>Angle in degrees (and R<sup>2</sup>) with b-OOA Patras</b>
$\alpha$ -pinene ozonolysis SOA aged <sup>9</sup>	29 (0.73)
Factor 82 <sup>11</sup>	47 (0.40)
IEPOX OA <sup>12</sup>	76 (0.01)
Isoprene-OA <sup>13</sup>	28 (0.75)

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<sup>1</sup>Aiken et al. (2009), <sup>2</sup>Docherty et al. (2011), <sup>3</sup>Mohr et al. (2012), <sup>4</sup>Crippa et al. (2013a), <sup>5</sup>Crippa et al. (2013b), <sup>6</sup>Sun et al. (2011), <sup>7,8</sup>Ge et al. (2012a,b), <sup>9</sup>Heringa et al. (2012), <sup>10</sup>Kostenidou et al., (not published data), <sup>11</sup>Robinson et al. (2011), <sup>13</sup>Budisulistiorini et al. (2013), <sup>13</sup>Xu et al., (2014).



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**Figure 1.** Time series of organics, sulphate, ammonium and nitrate mass concentration measured by the HR-ToF-AMS (corrected for the CE) and BC a) for Patras and b) for Athens. The BC was provided by MAAP for Patras measurements and by an aethalometer for Athens.

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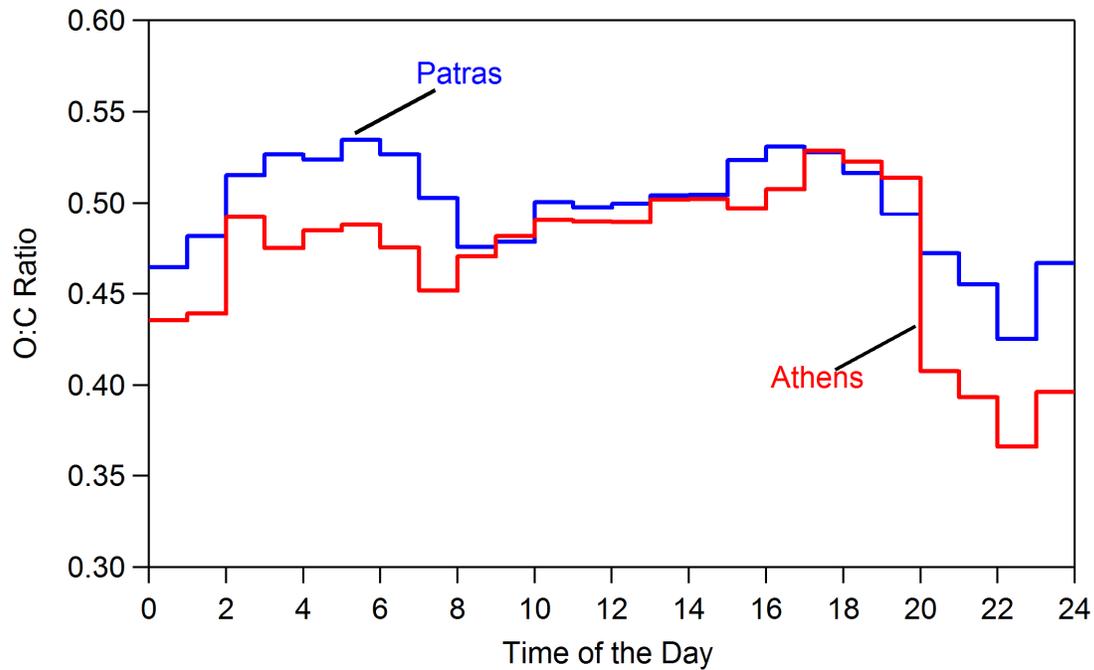
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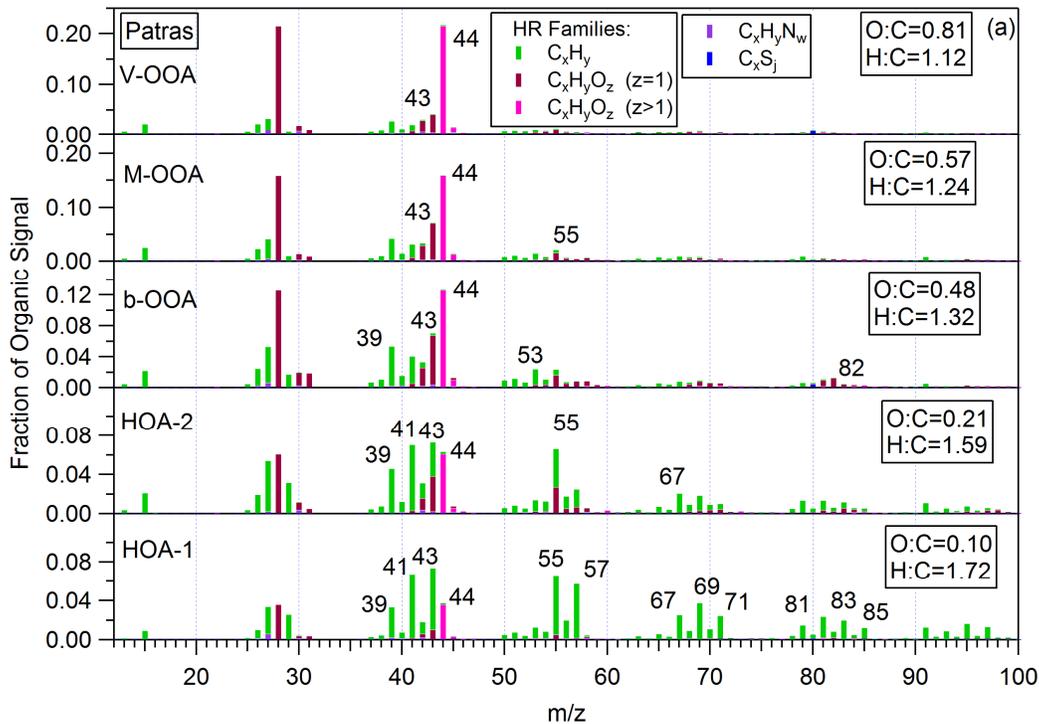
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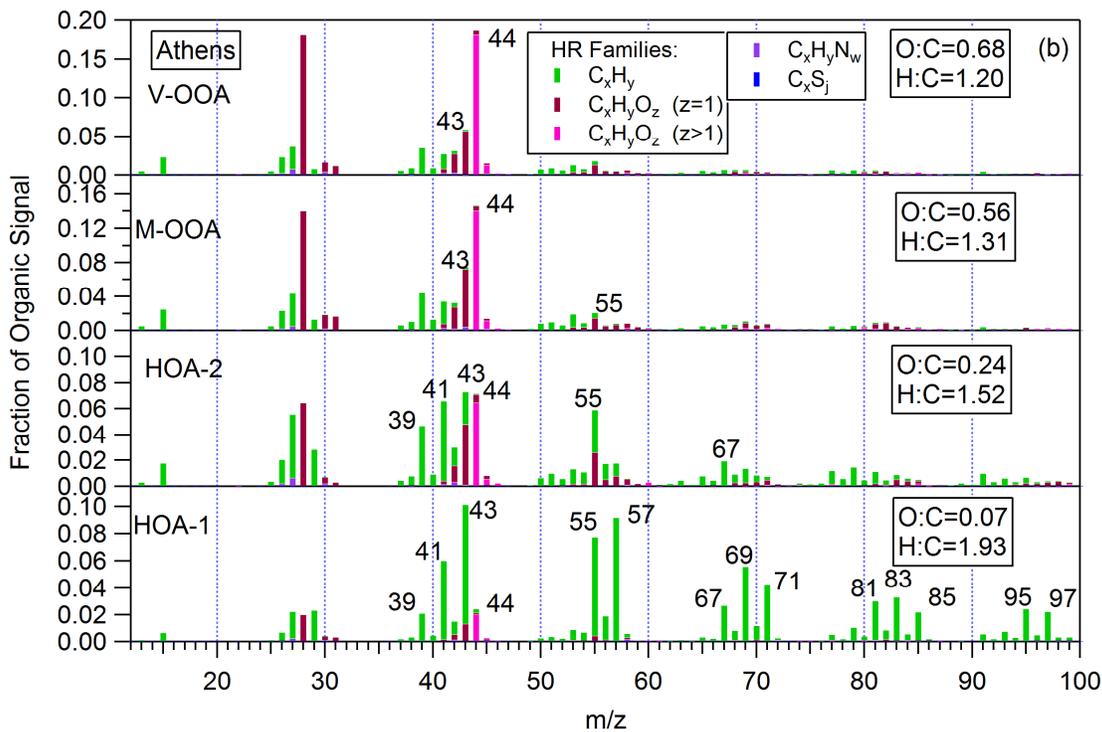


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**Figure 2.** Diurnal profile of O:C ratio for Patras (blue line) and Athens (red line) data set. The O:C was calculated with the Aiken et al. (2009) fragmentation table.



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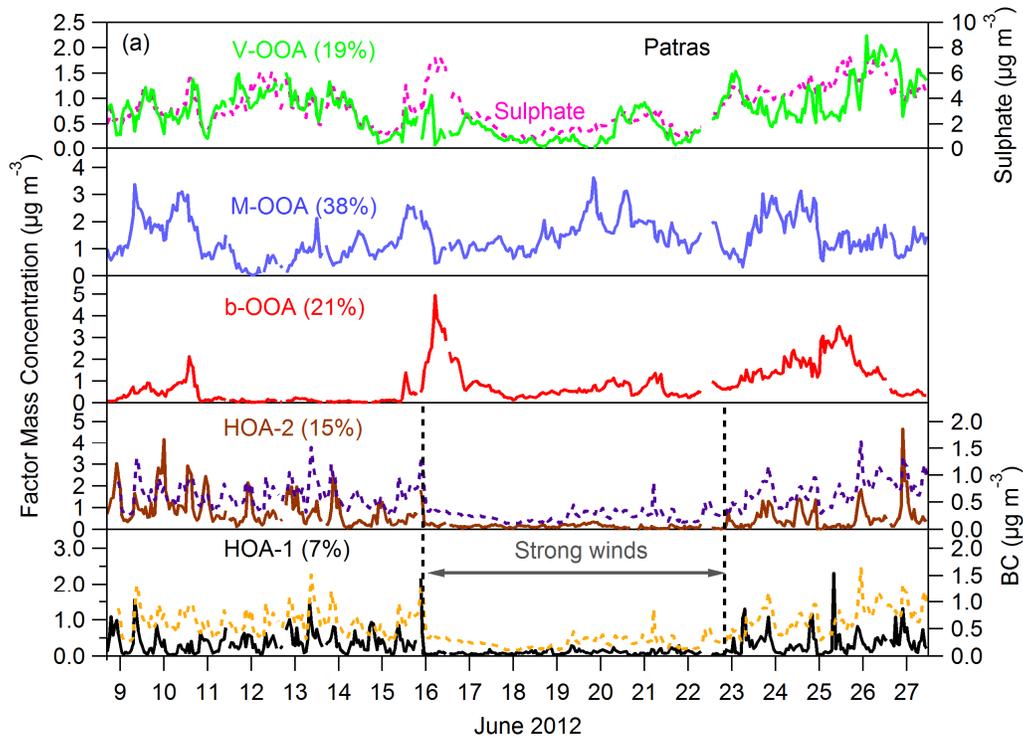
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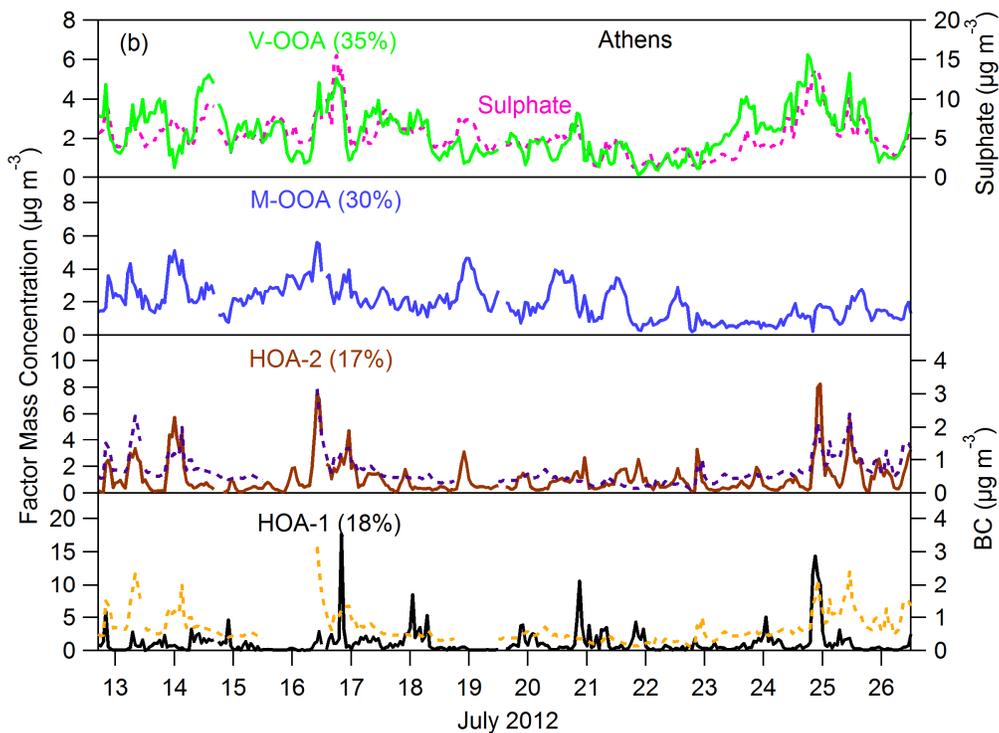
1132 **Figure 3.** HR mass spectra profiles of the sources found a) in Patras and b) in Athens.

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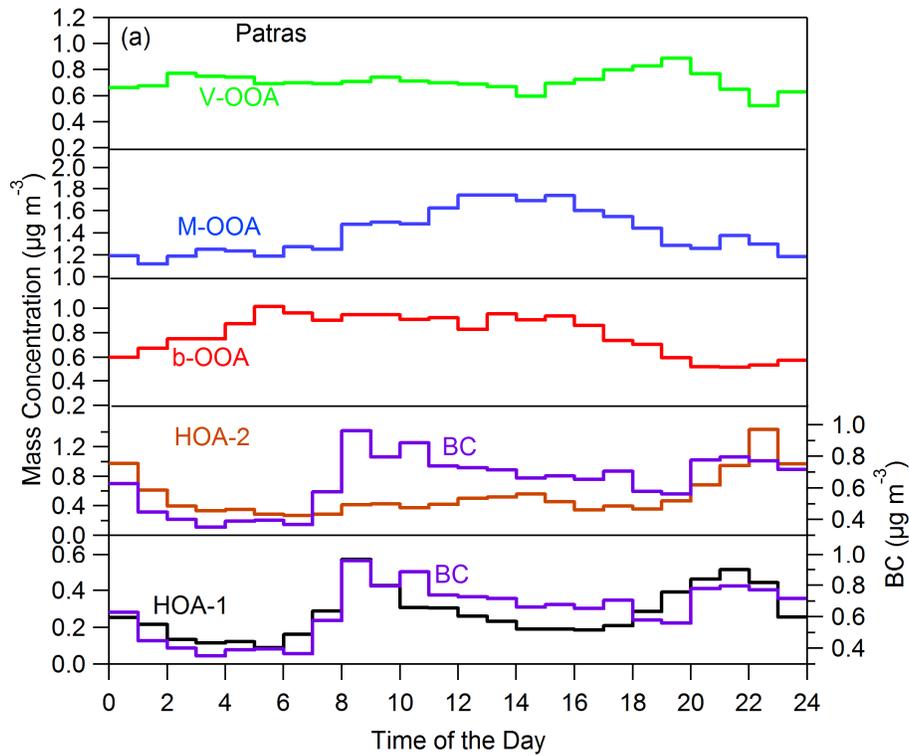
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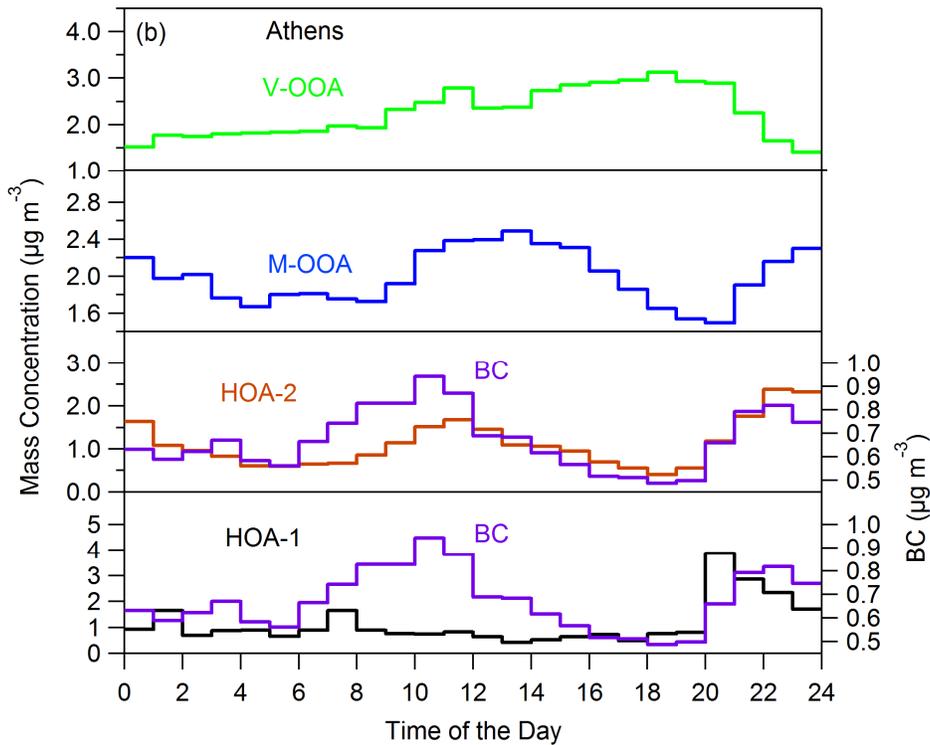
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**Figure 4.** Time series a) of the five PMF factors using HR organic mass spectra for Patras and b) of the four PMF factors found in Athens. For the Patras measurements the HOA-1 and HOA-2 contribution was very low between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2012 due to the high wind speed during that period.



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1144 **Figure 5.** Diurnal cycles of the PMF factors a) in Patras and b) in Athens.

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