



Fungal spores overwhelm biogenic organic aerosols in a mid-latitudinal forest

Chunmao Zhu¹, Kimitaka Kawamura¹, Yasuro Fukuda¹, Michihiro Mochida², Yoko

Iwamoto^{2,3}

¹ Institute of Low Temperature Science, Hokkaido University, Sapporo 060–0819, Japan

² Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Nagoya University, Nagoya 464-8601, Japan

³ Now at Faculty of Science Division I, Tokyo University of Science, Tokyo 162-8601, Japan



Abstract

Both primary biological aerosol particles (PBAP) and oxidation products of biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOC) contribute significantly to organic aerosols (OA) in forested regions. However, little is known on their relative importance in diurnal time scales. Here, we report biomarkers of PBAP and secondary organic aerosols (SOA) for their diurnal variability in a temperate coniferous forest in Wakayama, Japan. Tracers of fungal spores, trehalose, arabitol and mannitol, showed significantly higher levels in nighttime than daytime ($p < 0.05$), resulting from the nocturnal sporulation under near saturated relative humidity. On the contrary, BVOC oxidation products showed higher levels in daytime than nighttime, indicating substantial photochemical SOA formation. Using tracer-based methods, we estimated that fungal spores account for 45% of organic carbon (OC) in nighttime and 22% in daytime, whereas BVOC oxidation products account for 15% and 19%, respectively. To our knowledge, we present for the first time highly time-resolved results that fungal spores overwhelmed BVOC oxidation products in contributing to OA especially in nighttime. This study emphasizes the importance of both PBAPs and SOAs in forming forest organic aerosols.

Keywords: primary biological aerosol particles; fungal spores; biological volatile organic compounds; organic aerosols.



1 1. Introduction

2 Biogenic particles and gases emitted from various vegetation types affect earth climate,
3 biogeochemical cycles of carbon and nitrogen, air quality and human health. Particles such as
4 fungal and fern spores, bacteria, viruses, algae, vegetation debris and pollen are directly
5 emitted and thus termed as primary biological aerosol particles (PBAP) (Després et al., 2012;
6 Elbert et al., 2007). Being mostly in the size range of 0.1–100 μm , PBAPs often contribute to
7 a large mass fraction of organic aerosols (OA) but a small fraction of total particles (Pöschl et
8 al., 2010). On the other hand, biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOC) are highly
9 reactive and thus subjected to photooxidation to form fine particles of secondary organic
10 aerosols (SOA) and gas/particle partitioning of the reaction products (Claeys et al., 2004).
11 There are substantial progresses in understanding the source strengths, composition and
12 atmospheric transformations of biogenic particles, however, their contributions to OA and
13 hence forces of their effects on climate are still uncertain.

14 Global PBAP emission is as high as 1000 Tg y^{-1} (Jaenicke, 2005). Fungal spore is the
15 dominant component with the emission strengths of 8 to 186 Tg y^{-1} (Després et al., 2012;
16 Elbert et al., 2007; Heald and Spracklen, 2009). Fungal spores (1–30 μm) could account for up
17 to 45% of coarse particulate matter (Fröhlich-Nowoisky et al., 2009). In contrast, global
18 bacteria emissions are much smaller with abundances of 0.04–1.8 Tg y^{-1} (Burrows et al.,
19 2009). Pollen could contribute up to 65% of total PBAP mass in the flowering season,
20 although their number contribution is only ~1% of total PBAP (Manninen et al., 2014).
21 Certain PBAPs showed close correlations with atmospheric cloud condensation nucleus
22 (CCN) and ice nucleus (IN) (Hiranuma et al., 2015; Huffman et al., 2013). However,
23 simulations indicated that PBAPs are of regional importance for IN formation as they



24 contribute very little to global average ice nucleation rates (Hoose et al., 2010; Spracklen and
25 Heald, 2014). Unveiling PBAP mass concentrations is necessary to provide benchmarks for
26 simulating its nucleation potentials and the effect on the climate.

27 The most widely studied BVOCs are isoprene (C_5H_8), monoterpenes ($C_{10}H_{16}$) and
28 sesquiterpenes ($C_{15}H_{24}$). Global emission of isoprene ($309\text{--}706 \text{ Tg C yr}^{-1}$) accounts for $\sim 50\%$
29 of total BVOC (Acosta Navarro et al., 2014; Guenther et al., 2006). Monoterpenes ($\sim 10\%$ of
30 total VOCs) and sesquiterpenes are other important SOA precursors (Ziemann and Atkinson,
31 2012). Atmospheric oxidation of these BVOCs depends on oxidant levels (NO_x and O_3),
32 humidity, light and temperature. Recent studies indicated that biogenic SOA production could
33 be enhanced under the input of anthropogenic oxidants (Carlton et al., 2010). Under pristine
34 conditions, BVOC oxidation and SOA formation are often accompanied by new particle
35 formation, involving in precipitation through increasing CCN and IN numbers (Pöschl et al.,
36 2010). The formation of SOA is often in the fine particle size (Pöschl et al., 2010), however,
37 the relative importance of PBAPs and SOA in contributing to OA is still ambiguous.

38 Various observational methods have been applied to explore PBAPs and SOA in natural
39 environment both qualitatively and quantitatively. Applications of ultraviolet aerodynamic
40 particle sizers and wideband integrated bioaerosol sensor based on fluorescence provided
41 much information on the abundances and size distributions of PBAP (Huffman et al., 2010;
42 Pöhlker et al., 2012). In situ observations of SOA are frequently conducted using aerosol mass
43 spectrometer (AMS) (Zhang et al., 2007). Detections of organic tracer compounds using gas
44 chromatography combined with mass spectrometry (GC/MS) make it possible to compare
45 both PBAP and SOA sources simultaneously (Graham et al., 2003). Progresses are achieved in
46 boreal forest (Kourtchev et al., 2008) and the Amazon (Graham et al., 2003). However, few



47 studies focused on the mid-latitudinal forest with high time resolution (Miyazaki et al., 2012;
48 Mochizuki et al., 2015).

49 In this study, we collected daytime and nighttime samples in a mid-latitude forest in
50 Wakayama, Japan and analyzed the organic samples for various PBAP and SOA tracers using
51 GC/MS. We report for the first time that fungal spores overwhelm BSOA in contributing to
52 aerosol organic carbon (OC). We also report diurnal variations of PBAP tracers that reflect the
53 natural rhythm of the forest.

54

55 **2. Experimental**

56 **2.1 Site and sampling**

57 Aerosol sampling was conducted in August 20–30, 2010 during a field campaign at
58 Wakayama Forest Research Station, Kyoto University, in the Kii Peninsula, Japan (34.07 °N,
59 135.52 °E, ca. 750 m above sea level) (Han et al., 2013; Han et al., 2014). The dominant
60 species of the forest vegetation are coniferous trees of *Cryptomeria japonica* (Japanese cedar),
61 *Chamaecyparis obtuse* (Japanese cypress) and *Pinus densiflora* (Japanese red pine). Previous
62 studies indicated that monoterpenes are abundantly emitted from these tree species
63 (Matsunaga et al., 2011; Mochizuki et al., 2011). Total suspended particulate (TSP) samples
64 were collected on pre-combusted (450 °C, 6 h) quartz filters (Pallflex 2500QAT-UP, 20 cm ×
65 25 cm) using a high–volume air sampler (Kimoto AS-810B) at a flow rate of ~60 L min⁻¹ at
66 the ground level. During the campaign, four field blanks were collected following the
67 sampling procedures, except for the running of pump for only 10 seconds.

68 Nighttime (from ~18:00 to next ~6:00 local time, LT) and daytime (from ~6:00 to ~18:00
69 LT) samples were collected separately each day. Depending on the air mass origins, the



70 sampling period could be divided into two sub-periods. During August 20–25, air masses
71 originated from the Asian continent or passed over the Japanese islands brought pollutants
72 from anthropogenic sources, while during August 26–30 air masses originated from the
73 western North Pacific, which create an environment close to the pristine forest (Han et al.,
74 2013; Han et al., 2014). On August 23 and 28, samples were collected every 3 hours (namely,
75 6:00–9:00, 9:00–12:00, 12:00–15:00, 15:00–18:00, 18:00–21:00, 21:00–24:00, 24:00–3:00,
76 and 3:00–6:00 LT). A total of 36 samples were collected during the campaign.

77 **2.2 Chemical analysis**

78 For the determination of organic molecular tracers in aerosols, filter samples were first
79 extracted with dichloromethane/methanol and derivatized by N,O-bis-
80 (trimethylsilyl)trifluoroacetamide (BSTFA) mixed with pyridine to convert OH groups to
81 trimethylsilyl (TMS) ethers and COOH groups to TMS esters (Simoneit et al., 2004). Organic
82 compounds in the extracts were then quantified by GC/MS using an Agilent 7890A GC
83 equipped with HP-5ms capillary column (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 µm) coupled to Agilent
84 5975C mass-selective detector (MSD). Individual compounds were identified by comparing
85 the mass spectra with those of authentic standards or literature data and quantified by
86 comparing the peak areas with the internal standard (C_{13} n-alkane) (Zhu et al., 2015b).
87 Recoveries for the authentic standards or surrogates were generally better than 80%, except for
88 pinonic acid of ~60%, as obtained by spiking standards to pre-combusted quartz filters
89 following extraction and derivatization. No peak was found for the target compounds in the
90 field and laboratory blanks. The analytical errors by duplicate analyses were less than 15%.
91 The detection limits of the reported compounds were 105–557 pg μ l⁻¹, which correspond to



92 ambient concentrations of 12–64 pg m^{-3} under a typical sampling volume of 700 m^3 and usage
93 of 10 cm^2 filter section.

94 Aerosol OC was determined using a thermal/optical carbon analyzer (Sunset Laboratory
95 Inc., USA) following the Interagency Monitoring Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE)
96 thermal evolution protocol (Birch and Cary, 1996). The analytical error in replicate analyses
97 was within 8%. Samples were corrected for field blanks, in which OC level was < 5% of the
98 samples. Inorganic ions were measured using an ion chromatograph (761 Compact IC,
99 Metrohm, Switzerland). SO_4^{2-} and NO_3^- were discussed in the study. The detection limits
100 were $\sim 0.1 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$. The laboratory analytical error was within 5%. Samples were corrected for
101 field blanks.

102

103 **3. Results and discussion**

104 **3.1 PBAP tracers reflecting diurnal rhythm of fungal spores and pollen**

105 **3.1.1 Fungal spore tracers**

106 Four primary saccharides (trehalose, glucose, fructose and sucrose) and four sugar alcohols
107 (arabitol, mannitol, inositol and erythritol) were detected in the forest aerosols as PBAP
108 tracers. Trehalose, arabitol and mannitol were the major species of fungus and have been used
109 as tracers for fungal spores (Jia and Fraser, 2011). These compounds showed significantly
110 higher levels in nighttime (262 ± 168 , 156 ± 102 and $349 \pm 243 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ for trehalose, arabitol
111 and mannitol, respectively) than in daytime (128 ± 90.2 , 76.0 ± 54.9 and $183 \pm 139 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$,
112 respectively) (T-test, $p < 0.05$, Figure 1d–f). High abundances of these fungal spore tracers
113 were resulting from the nocturnal sporulation under near saturated relative humidity (Figure
114 S1). In nighttime, the mean relative humidity was 96% in the sampling period. Nevertheless,



115 the mean daytime relative humidity was still as high as 88%. Such a moist environment caused
116 enrichment of fungal spores and their discharges, resulting high abundances of their tracer in
117 aerosols. The sum of trehalose, arabitol and mannitol contributed to 70% of total PBAP tracer
118 mass, demonstrating an important role of fungi in regulating the land-atmosphere exchange in
119 the forest region.

120 Diurnal profiles of fungal spore tracers showed similar pattern on August 23 and August
121 28, two typical days representing regional and local phenomenon, respectively. Minima of
122 trehalose, arabitol and mannitol appeared around the noontime and increased dramatically in
123 the evening on both days (Figure 2). On August 23, fungal spore tracers peaked at 21:00–
124 24:00 LT and decreased slowly thereafter. In comparison, these compounds peaked slightly
125 earlier at 18:00–21:00 LT on August 28. The maxima of these compounds on August 23 were
126 higher by a factor of ~1.5 than those on August 28. This phenomenon was likely related to the
127 precipitation that occurred at 13:00–17:00, August 23 (Figure S1), which favors the growth
128 and release of fungal spores.

129 **3.1.2 Other PBAP tracers and levoglucosan**

130 Sucrose, a key component of pollen grain (Yttri et al., 2007), showed significantly higher
131 levels ($p < 0.01$) in daytime ($31.9 \pm 17.7 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) than nighttime ($14.6 \pm 14.2 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) (Figure
132 1c). The diurnal profile of sucrose showed peaks in the afternoon (Figure 2a), indicating that
133 the flowering time of the vegetation. As the blossom season of the dominant coniferous trees
134 is March–April in the region, the source of sucrose is likely from the pollen of the widely
135 distributed floor vegetation, *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*, *Artemisia indica*, and plants of *Poaceae*
136 family, which are flowering during the sampling period.



137 Glucose and fructose are originated dominantly from plant debris (Medeiros et al., 2006;
138 Zhu et al., 2015a), and sometimes from microorganisms and soil dust (Rogge et al.,
139 2007;Simoneit et al., 2004). There was no serious continental outflow of Asian dust over the
140 sampling period (based on observations by Japan Meteorological Agency). Insignificant
141 diurnal variations of these two compounds imply that they were emitted ubiquitously in the
142 forest possibly from plants and microorganisms (Figure 1a–b, 2a). Interestingly, the mass
143 concentrations of glucose were one order of magnitude higher than those of fructose. This
144 might be related to the higher abundance of glucose in trees. For example, tissues of a wide
145 range of subtropical plants were found to contain more glucose than fructose (Baker et al.,
146 1998).

147 Being exclusively produced by the thermal depolymerization and dehydration of cellulose
148 and hemicellulose, levoglucosan has been used as a specific tracer for biomass burning
149 (Simoneit et al., 1999; Zhu et al., 2015b). Levoglucosan showed significantly higher levels (p
150 < 0.05) in daytime ($2.52 \pm 2.08 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) than nighttime ($1.14 \pm 0.94 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$). Moreover, we
151 found higher levels of levoglucosan in August 20–25 ($2.97 \pm 1.64 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) than August 26–30
152 ($0.53 \pm 0.44 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$); those concentrations in the latter period are close to the regional
153 background level from Okinawa Island (Zhu et al., 2015b). Given the location of Wakayama
154 forest in the Kii Peninsular, the sea-land breeze system is very likely to deliver clean maritime
155 air masses to the sampling site in daytime and drainage airflow from the Japanese islands in
156 nighttime. The diurnal variation of levoglucosan with daytime maxima in the Wakayama
157 aerosols indicates that the Asian outflow of biomass burning emissions approached to the
158 sampling site. In addition, local burning activities could also contribute to the daytime
159 elevation of levoglucosan although they might be insignificant.



160 **3.1.3 Daytime abundances of SOA tracers**

161 A total of 11 compounds were detected as SOA tracers. Six isoprene-tracers, including 2-
162 methylglyceric acid (MGA), two 2-methyltetrols (2-methylthreitol and 2-methylerythritol,
163 MTLs), and three C5-alkene triols (3-methyl-2,3,4-trihydroxy-1-butene, cis-2-methyl-1,3,4-
164 trihydroxy-1-butene and trans-2-methyl-1,3,4-trihydroxy-1-butene, MTHBs), showed higher
165 levels in daytime (Figure 1j–l). Similar daytime abundances were also found for 4
166 monoterpene-tracers; pinonic acid (PNA), pinic acid (PA) ($p < 0.05$), 3-hydroxyglutaric acid
167 (HGA) and 3-methyl-1,2,3-butanetricarboxylic acid (MBTCA) (Figure 1m–p). Total isoprene-
168 SOA tracers (281 ± 274 and $199 \pm 207 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ in daytime and nighttime, respectively) were
169 more abundant by a factor of ~ 5 than total monoterpene-SOA tracers (54.6 ± 50.2 and $36.3 \pm$
170 33.6 ng m^{-3} , respectively). Isoprene is more abundantly emitted than monoterpene from this
171 coniferous forest. This is consistent with the observations at a mountain site in central Japan
172 (Fu et al., 2014). Sesquiterpene-tracer, caryophylinic acid, showed consistently low levels in
173 both daytime ($1.22 \pm 1.23 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) and nighttime ($0.94 \pm 0.83 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) (Figure 1q). The
174 daytime abundances of isoprene- and monoterpene-tracers reflected the production of SOA by
175 the photooxidation of BVOC in the forest.

176 **3.2 Influence of anthropogenic oxidant on SOA formation**

177 The diurnal profile of SOA tracers showed a clear single peak pattern in the afternoon on
178 August 28–29. Total isoprene-tracers peaked at 15:00–18:00 (28.4 ng m^{-3}), while total
179 monoterpene-tracers peaked slightly earlier at 12:00–15:00 (12.7 ng m^{-3}) (Figure 2c–d). Their
180 afternoon peaks are consistent with the maxima of ambient temperature and solar radiation
181 (Figure S1). These results indicate that SOA is formed by photooxidation of isoprene and
182 monoterpene emitted from local vegetation under natural conditions. Our results are



183 consistent with the afternoon peaks of semi-volatile oxygenated organic aerosol (SVOOA)
184 component determined by the positive matrix factorization of the AMS spectra collected
185 during the same campaign (Han et al., 2014), which were produced by photooxidation of
186 freshly emitted BVOC from the local forest.

187 Interestingly, on August 23–24, days with regional anthropogenic oxidant input, isoprene-
188 and monoterpene-tracers showed not only afternoon peaks at 12:00–15:00, but also nighttime
189 peaks (Figure 2c–d) following the intensive precipitation during 13:00–17:00 (Figure S1).

190 These results suggest that SOA is continuously produced even in nighttime with sufficient
191 oxidants. AMS observation in the same campaign indicated that highly oxidized low volatility
192 oxygenated organic aerosols (LVOOA) are even more abundant than that of SVOOA on
193 August 23–24, especially in nighttime (Han et al., 2014). Nighttime production of SOA was
194 also observed in the United States (US) (Zhao et al., 2013).

195 Moreover, on days with regional input of oxidants, the SOA tracer levels were 1–2 orders
196 of magnitude higher than those under natural conditions both in daytime and nighttime.

197 Meanwhile, we found positive relations between SO_4^{2-} and isoprene-SOA tracers as well as
198 monoterpene-SOA tracers (Table 1). These phenomena could be explained by the following
199 reasons. Firstly, regional BSOA could be transported along with anthropogenic oxidants.
200 Observations at Okinawa island, southern Japan indicated that the variations of monoterpene-
201 SOA tracers and caryophylinic acid are related to the continental outflow of BVOC oxidation
202 products (Zhu et al., 2016). Secondly, the earlier generation products of BVOC oxidation tend
203 to shift to the particle phase during gas/particle partitioning given their semivolatility nature
204 (Cahill et al., 2006), such a shift might be more prominent on days with aged regional aerosols
205 accompanied by a daytime increase of organics determined by AMS (Han et al., 2014). The



206 third possibility is that the anthropogenic oxidants might promote BSOA formation. We focus
207 on the third possibility and further testified this hypothesis.

208 We examined the degrees of BSOA tracer buildups in daytime as compared to nighttime
209 ($\Delta\text{BSOA} = \text{mean daytime BSOA tracer levels} - \text{mean nighttime BSOA tracer levels}$) (Table
210 2). ΔBSOA values on August 20–25 were higher by more than 1 order of magnitude than that
211 on August 26–30. These results implied that, although transported BSOA might contribute to
212 their elevation, anthropogenic oxidants substantially promoted the SOA formation in
213 Wakayama forest. A recent field study in the southeastern US suggested that the formation of
214 methyltetrosols is mediated by SO_4^{2-} , being consistent with our results (Xu et al., 2015). They
215 also reported that NO_3^{\cdot} radical was involved in the nighttime monoterpene oxidation.
216 However, inorganic NO_3^- did not correlate with monoterpene-SOA tracers during nighttime,
217 indicating that the contribution of NO_3^{\cdot} radical to nighttime monoterpene oxidation is not
218 clear in Wakayama aerosols.

219 **3.3 OC fractions from fungal spores and BVOC oxidation**

220 The contributions of each source component to OC were estimated using tracer-based
221 methods. OC fractions from fungal spores were estimated based on mannitol levels assuming
222 that there were 1.7 pg mannitol and 13 pg OC per spore (Bauer et al., 2008). The secondary
223 organic carbon (SOC) fraction resulting from VOC oxidation was estimated following
224 Kleindienst et al. (2007) based on the chamber experiment. Contributions of plant debris to
225 OC were estimated based on glucose following Puxbaum and Tenze-Kunit (2003).
226 Contributions of biomass burning aerosols to OC were estimated based on levoglucosan
227 following Zhu et al. (2015b). It is noteworthy that, although each tracer methods gave a
228 reasonable estimate in the original studies, uncertainties would be introduced in the current



229 study considering the site differences. Still, the estimations are inferable for the contributions
230 from each source to OC in the forest aerosols.

231 Fungal spores contribute a major fraction (45%) to OC in nighttime. In daytime, although
232 the mass fraction was about half to that in nighttime (22%), fungal spores are still the largest
233 known source of OC (Figure 3). In comparison, BVOC oxidation products (BSOC) contribute
234 to 15% and 19% of OC in nighttime and daytime, respectively. Interestingly, the large BSOC
235 fraction of OC mainly occurred on days with anthropogenic influences (August 20–25) (17%
236 in daytime and 23% in nighttime). On days close to natural conditions (August 26–29), BSOC
237 has a small contribution to OC (4.0% in nighttime and 4.7% in daytime). The larger
238 contributions of BSOC to OC might be associated with the BSOC that are transported from
239 the Asian continent, a stimulating effect of anthropogenic oxidants on daytime BSOA
240 formation, as well as the enhanced gas to particle conversion of BVOC. These results suggest
241 that increased fossil fuel combustion and the subsequent oxidant emissions would cause a
242 larger contribution of BSOA to OA, which may in part compensate the human-caused global
243 warming by acting as CCN. Such effects are supposed to be incorporated into model
244 simulations of the future climate in the Anthropocene.

245 It is noteworthy that the contribution of plant debris to OC (5.6% in nighttime and 4.6% in
246 daytime) could not be neglected. These fractions account for only the primary OC sources
247 based on glucose level, and could be underestimated. Significant fractions of OC (34% and
248 51%) of are not determined in nighttime and daytime, respectively. Other than the
249 uncertainties introduced by the tracer methods, a notable fraction of OC could be contributed
250 from humic-like substances that are chemically and physically similar with terrestrial and
251 aquatic humic and fulvic acids (Graber and Rudich, 2006). Mono- and di-carboxylic acids,



252 originating from a broad range of primary organic compounds, could contribute 38–44% of
253 OC (Legrand et al., 2013). Pollen could also contribute to OC because of its large size.
254 Amines are another source of OC, but not well studied (Sintermann and Neftel, 2015). These
255 sources from various sectors need to be further characterized for an unambiguous
256 understanding of the sources of forest aerosols.

257 Among few studies on the observation-based quantification of OC/OA sources of forest
258 aerosols, our results are in accordance with those in the Amazon rainforest, where primary
259 biological aerosol and SOA accounted for 68.5% and 18.8% of total particle masses, without
260 consideration of the diurnal variations (Pöschl et al., 2010). At an urban site with various OA
261 sources, Bakersfield, California, Zhao et al. (2013) reported that SOA accounted for 78% and
262 66% of OA during the daytime and the nighttime, respectively, while primary sources
263 accounted for 15% of OA. Under a changing climate and uncertain anthropogenic emission
264 scenario, although OA could be contributed by complicated sources in a pristine forest
265 environment, our results demonstrate that biogenic particles and gases are rather the major
266 sources of organic aerosols in the forest atmosphere.

267

268 **4. Conclusions**

269 We collected daytime and nighttime samples in a mid-latitude coniferous forest in
270 Wakayama, central Japan. Focusing on fungal spores and BSOA, we quantified organic
271 tracers containing information of various aerosol sources. Nighttime higher levels of trehalose
272 and sugar alcohols were clarified under near saturated relative humidity, indicating the
273 flourishing of fungal sporulation. BSOA tracers were more abundant in the daytime, indicating
274 their photooxidation production among other sources. Enhanced BSOA tracer levels were



275 observed on days with notable input of anthropogenic oxidant. Using tracer-based methods,
276 we estimated that fungal spores contribute dominantly to OC in forest aerosols not only in the
277 nighttime, but also in the daytime. The study emphasizes the importance of fungal spores in
278 affecting biogenic aerosols in forest ecosystem.

279

280 **Acknowledgement**

281 This study was supported in part by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (Grant–
282 in–Aid Nos. 19204055 and 24221001), the Environment Research and Technology
283 Development Fund (B-0903) from the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, and the Program
284 for Improvement of Research Environment for Young Researchers from Special Coordination
285 Funds for Promoting Science and Technology commissioned by Ministry of Education,
286 Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan. The authors thank the faculty and staff of
287 Wakayama Forest Research Station (WFRS), Field Science Education and Research Center of
288 Kyoto University, Japan, for the use of the site for aerosol sampling. The authors also thank Y.
289 Han for her contribution to the aerosol sampling, and Y. Han and K. Kawana for their
290 cooperation in the field observation. The meteorological data were provided by WFRS. The
291 authors appreciate the experimental support of P. Fu. The data of this study is available upon
292 request to C. Zhu.

293

294 **References**

295

296 Acosta Navarro, J. C., Smolander, S., Struthers, H., Zorita, E., Ekman, A. M., Kaplan, J.,
297 Guenther, A., Arneth, A., and Riipinen, I.: Global emissions of terpenoid VOCs from
298 terrestrial vegetation in the last millennium, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 119, 6867–6885, 2014.



299 Baker, H. G., Baker, I., and Hodges, S. A.: Sugar composition of nectars and fruits consumed
300 by birds and bats in the tropics and subtropics1, *Biotropica*, 30, 559–586, 1998.

301 Bauer, H., Claeys, M., Vermeylen, R., Schueller, E., Weinke, G., Berger, A., and Puxbaum,
302 H.: Arabitol and mannitol as tracers for the quantification of airborne fungal spores, *Atmos.*
303 *Environ.*, 42, 588–593, 2008.

304 Birch, M., and Cary, R.: Elemental carbon-based method for monitoring occupational
305 exposures to particulate diesel exhaust, *Aero. Sci. Technol.*, 25, 221–241, 1996.

306 Burrows, S. M., Elbert, W., Lawrence, M. G., and Pöschl, U.: Bacteria in the global
307 atmosphere - Part 1: Review and synthesis of literature data for different ecosystems,
308 *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 9, 9263–9280, 2009.

309 Cahill, T. M., Seaman, V. Y., Charles, M. J., Holzinger, R., and Goldstein, A. H.: Secondary
310 organic aerosols formed from oxidation of biogenic volatile organic compounds in the
311 Sierra Nevada Mountains of California, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 111, D16312, 2006.

312 Carlton, A. G., Pinder, R. W., Bhave, P. V., and Pouliot, G. A.: To what extent can biogenic
313 SOA be controlled?, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 44, 3376–3380, 2010.

314 Claeys, M., Graham, B., Vas, G., Wang, W., Vermeylen, R., Pashynska, V., Cafmeyer, J.,
315 Guyon, P., Andreae, M. O., Artaxo, P., and Maenhaut, W.: Formation of secondary organic
316 aerosols through photooxidation of isoprene, *Science*, 303, 1173–1176, 2004.

317 Després, V. R., Huffman, J. A., Burrows, S. M., Hoose, C., Safatov, A. S., Buryak, G.,
318 Fröhlich-Nowoisky, J., Elbert, W., Andreae, M. O., Pöschl, U., and Jaenicke, R.: Primary
319 biological aerosol particles in the atmosphere: a review, *Tellus*, 64B, 15598, 2012.

320 Elbert, W., Taylor, P. E., Andreae, M. O., and Pöschl, U.: Contribution of fungi to primary
321 biogenic aerosols in the atmosphere: wet and dry discharged spores, carbohydrates, and
322 inorganic ions, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 7, 4569–4588, 2007.

323 Fröhlich-Nowoisky, J., Pickersgill, D. A., Després, V. R., and Pöschl, U.: High diversity of
324 fungi in air particulate matter, *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci.*, 106, 12814–12819, 2009.

325 Fu, P., Kawamura, K., Chen, J., and Miyazaki, Y.: Secondary production of organic aerosols
326 from biogenic VOCs over Mt. Fuji, Japan, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 48, 8491–8497, 2014.

327 Gruber, E., and Rudich, Y.: Atmospheric HULIS: How humic-like are they? A comprehensive
328 and critical review, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 6, 729–753, 2006.



329 Graham, B., Guyon, P., Taylor, P. E., Artaxo, P., Maenhaut, W., Glosky, M. M., Flagan, R.
330 C., and Andreae, M. O.: Organic compounds present in the natural Amazonian aerosol:
331 Characterization by gas chromatography–mass spectrometry, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 108, 4766,
332 2003.

333 Guenther, A., Karl, T., Harley, P., Wiedinmyer, C., Palmer, P. I., and Geron, C.: Estimates of
334 global terrestrial isoprene emissions using MEGAN (Model of Emissions of Gases and
335 Aerosols from Nature), *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 6, 3181–3210, 2006.

336 Han, Y., Iwamoto, Y., Nakayama, T., Kawamura, K., Hussein, T., and Mochida, M.:
337 Observation of new particle formation over a mid–latitude forest facing the North Pacific,
338 *Atmos. Environ.*, 64, 77–84, 2013.

339 Han, Y., Iwamoto, Y., Nakayama, T., Kawamura, K., and Mochida, M.: Formation and
340 evolution of biogenic secondary organic aerosol over a forest site in Japan, *J. Geophys.*
341 *Res.*, 119, 259–273, 2014.

342 Heald, C. L., and Spracklen, D. V.: Atmospheric budget of primary biological aerosol particles
343 from fungal spores, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 36, L09806, 2009.

344 Hiranuma, N., Möhler, O., Yamashita, K., Tajiri, T., Saito, A., Kiselev, A., Hoffmann, N.,
345 Hoose, C., Jantsch, E., and Koop, T.: Ice nucleation by cellulose and its potential
346 contribution to ice formation in clouds, *Nat. Geosci.*, 8, 273–277, 2015.

347 Hoose, C., Kristjánsson, J., and Burrows, S.: How important is biological ice nucleation in
348 clouds on a global scale?, *Environ. Res. Lett.*, 5, 024009, 2010.

349 Huffman, J., Treutlein, B., and Pöschl, U.: Fluorescent biological aerosol particle
350 concentrations and size distributions measured with an Ultraviolet Aerodynamic Particle
351 Sizer (UV-APS) in Central Europe, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 10, 3215–3233, 2010.

352 Huffman, J. A., Prenni, A. J., DeMott, P. J., Pöhlker, C., Mason, R. H., Robinson, N. H.,
353 Fröhlich-Nowoisky, J., Tobo, Y., Després, V. R., Garcia, E., Gochis, D. J., Harris, E.,
354 Müller-Germann, I., Ruzene, C., Schmer, B., Sinha, B., Day, D. A., Andreae, M. O.,
355 Jimenez, J. L., Gallagher, M., Kreidenweis, S. M., Bertram, A. K., and Pöschl, U.: High
356 concentrations of biological aerosol particles and ice nuclei during and after rain, *Atmos.*
357 *Chem. Phys.*, 13, 6151–6164, 2013.



358 Jaenicke, R.: Abundance of cellular material and proteins in the atmosphere, *Science*, 308, 73,
359 2005.

360 Jia, Y., and Fraser, M.: Characterization of saccharides in size-fractionated ambient
361 particulate matter and aerosol sources: the contribution of primary biological aerosol
362 particles (PBAPs) and soil to ambient particulate matter, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 45, 930–
363 936, 2011.

364 Kleindienst, T. E., Jaoui, M., Lewandowski, M., Offenberg, J. H., Lewis, C. W., Bhave, P. V.,
365 and Edney, E. O.: Estimates of the contributions of biogenic and anthropogenic
366 hydrocarbons to secondary organic aerosol at a southeastern US location, *Atmos. Environ.*,
367 41, 8288–8300, 2007.

368 Kourtchev, I., Ruuskanen, T., Keronen, P., Sogacheva, L., Dal Maso, M., Reissell, A., Chi, X.,
369 Vermeylen, R., Kulmala, M., and Maenhaut, W.: Determination of isoprene and α / β
370 pinene oxidation products in boreal forest aerosols from Hyytiälä, Finland: diel variations
371 and possible link with particle formation events, *Plant Bio.*, 10, 138–149, 2008.

372 Legrand, M., Preunkert, S., May, B., Guilhermet, J., Hoffman, H., and Wagenbach, D.: Major
373 20th century changes of the content and chemical speciation of organic carbon archived in
374 Alpine ice cores: Implications for the long term change of organic aerosol over Europe, *J.*
375 *Geophys. Res.*, 118, 3879–3890, 2013.

376 Manninen, H. E., Bäck, J., Sihto–Nissilä, S.–L., Huffman, J. A., Pessi, A.–M., Hiltunen, V.,
377 Aalto, P. P., Hidalgo Fernández, P. J., Hari, P., and Saarto, A.: Patterns in airborne pollen
378 and other primary biological aerosol particles (PBAP), and their contribution to aerosol
379 mass and number in a boreal forest, *Bor. Environ. Res.*, 19, 383–405, 2014.

380 Matsunaga, S. N., Mochizuki, T., Ohno, T., Endo, Y., Kusumoto, D., and Tani, A.:
381 Monoterpene and sesquiterpene emissions from Sugi (*Cryptomeria japonica*) based on a
382 branch enclosure measurements, *Atmos. Pollut. Res.*, 2, 2011.

383 Medeiros, P. M., Conte, M. H., Weber, J. C., and Simoneit, B. R.: Sugars as source indicators
384 of biogenic organic carbon in aerosols collected above the Howland Experimental Forest,
385 Maine, *Atmos. Environ.*, 40, 1694–1705, 2006.



386 Miyazaki, Y., Jung, J., Fu, P., Mizoguchi, Y., Yamanoi, K., and Kawamura, K.: Evidence of
387 formation of submicrometer water soluble organic aerosols at a deciduous forest site in
388 northern Japan in summer, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 117, D19213, 2012.

389 Mochizuki, T., Endo, Y., Matsunaga, S., Chang, J., Ge, Y., Huang, C., and Tani, A.: Factors
390 affecting monoterpene emission from *Chamaecyparis obtusa*, *Geochemical J.*, 45, 15–22,
391 2011.

392 Mochizuki, T., Miyazaki, Y., Ono, K., Wada, R., Takahashi, Y., Saigusa, N., Kawamura, K.,
393 and Tani, A.: Emissions of biogenic volatile organic compounds and subsequent formation
394 of secondary organic aerosols in a *Larix kaempferi* forest, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 15, 12029–
395 12041, 2015.

396 Pöhlker, C., Huffman, J., and Pöschl, U.: Autofluorescence of atmospheric bioaerosols-
397 fluorescent biomolecules and potential interferences, *Atmos. Meas. Tech.*, 5, 37–71, 2012.

398 Pöschl, U., Martin, S., Sinha, B., Chen, Q., Gunthe, S., Huffman, J., Borrmann, S., Farmer, D.,
399 Garland, R., and Helas, G.: Rainforest aerosols as biogenic nuclei of clouds and
400 precipitation in the Amazon, *Science*, 329, 1513–1516, 2010.

401 Puxbaum, H., and Tenze-Kunit, M.: Size distribution and seasonal variation of atmospheric
402 cellulose, *Atmos. Environ.*, 37, 3693–3699, 2003.

403 Rogge, W. F., Medeiros, P. M., and Simoneit, B. R.: Organic marker compounds in surface
404 soils of crop fields from the San Joaquin Valley fugitive dust characterization study, *Atmos.*
405 *Environ.*, 41, 8183–8204, 2007.

406 Simoneit, B. R., Schauer, J. J., Nolte, C., Oros, D. R., Elias, V. O., Fraser, M., Rogge, W., and
407 Cass, G. R.: Levoglucosan, a tracer for cellulose in biomass burning and atmospheric
408 particles, *Atmos. Environ.*, 33, 173–182, 1999.

409 Simoneit, B. R., Elias, V. O., Kobayashi, M., Kawamura, K., Rushdi, A. I., Medeiros, P. M.,
410 Rogge, W. F., and Didyk, B. M.: Sugars dominant water-soluble organic compounds in
411 soils and characterization as tracers in atmospheric particulate matter, *Environ. Sci.*
412 *Technol.*, 38, 5939–5949, 2004.

413 Sintermann, J., and Neftel, A.: Ideas and perspectives: on the emission of amines from
414 terrestrial vegetation in the context of new atmospheric particle formation, *Biogeosci.*, 12,
415 3225–3240, 2015.



416 Spracklen, D. V., and Heald, C. L.: The contribution of fungal spores and bacteria to regional
417 and global aerosol number and ice nucleation immersion freezing rates, *Atmos. Chem.*
418 *Phys.*, 14, 9051–9059, 2014.

419 Xu, L., Guo, H., Boyd, C. M., Klein, M., Bougiatioti, A., Cerully, K. M., Hite, J. R.,
420 Isaacman-VanWertz, G., Kreisberg, N. M., Knote, C., Olson, K., Koss, A., Goldstein, A.
421 Hering, S. V., de Gouw, J., Baumann, K., Lee, S.-H., Nenes, A., Weber, R. J., and Ng,
422 N. L.: Effects of anthropogenic emissions on aerosol formation from isoprene and
423 monoterpenes in the southeastern United States, *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci.*, 112, 37–42, 2015.

424 Yttri, K., Aas, W., Bjerke, A., Cape, J., Cavalli, F., Ceburnis, D., Dye, C., Emblico, L.,
425 Facchini, M., and Forster, C.: Elemental and organic carbon in PM_{10} : a one year
426 measurement campaign within the European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme
427 EMEP, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 7, 5711–5725, 2007.

428 Zhang, Q., Jimenez, J., Canagaratna, M., Allan, J., Coe, H., Ulbrich, I., Alfarra, M., Takami,
429 A., Middlebrook, A., and Sun, Y.: Ubiquity and dominance of oxygenated species in
430 organic aerosols in anthropogenically influenced Northern Hemisphere midlatitudes,
431 *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 34, L13801, 2007.

432 Zhao, Y., Kreisberg, N. M., Worton, D. R., Isaacman, G., Gentner, D. R., Chan, A. W.,
433 Weber, R. J., Liu, S., Day, D. A., and Russell, L. M.: Sources of organic aerosol
434 investigated using organic compounds as tracers measured during CalNex in Bakersfield, J.
435 *Geophys. Res.*, 118, 11,388–11,398, 2013.

436 Zhu, C., Kawamura, K., and Fu, P.: Seasonal variations of biogenic secondary organic aerosol
437 tracers in Cape Hedo, Okinawa, *Atmos. Environ.*, doi:10.1016/j.atmosenv.2015.08.069,
438 2016.

439 Zhu, C., Kawamura, K., and Kunwar, B.: Organic tracers of primary biological aerosol
440 particles at subtropical Okinawa Island in the western North Pacific Rim, *J. Geophys. Res.*,
441 120, 5504–5523, 2015a.

442 Zhu, C., Kawamura, K., and Kunwar, B.: Effect of biomass burning over the western North
443 Pacific Rim: wintertime maxima of anhydrosugars in ambient aerosols from Okinawa,
444 *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 15, 1959–1973, 2015b.



445 Ziemann, P. J., and Atkinson, R.: Kinetics, products, and mechanisms of secondary organic
446 aerosol formation, Chem. Soc. Rev., 41, 6582–6605, 2012.

447

448



449 Table 1. Linear correlation coefficients (r) between secondary organic aerosol tracers and
450 NO_3^- and SO_4^{2-} in forest aerosols during August 20–30, 2010, Wakayama, central Japan.

	MGA ^a	C5T	MTLs	Isoprene tracers	3-HGA	MBTCA	PA	PNA	Monoterpene tracers	
NO_3^-	All dataset	0.08	-0.13 ^b	-0.06	-0.09	-0.11	-0.01	-0.02	0.18	-0.06
	Daytime	-0.07	-0.26	-0.15	-0.2	-0.27	-0.22	-0.25	0.01	-0.25
	Nighttime	-0.32	-0.36	-0.34	-0.35	-0.30	-0.18	-0.33	-0.19	-0.27
SO_4^{2-}	All dataset	0.84*** ^c	0.87***	0.84***	0.86***	0.91***	0.9***	0.70***	0.65***	0.91***
	Daytime	0.86***	0.89***	0.84***	0.88***	0.91***	0.92***	0.76***	0.67**	0.92***
	Nighttime	0.82***	0.82***	0.82***	0.83***	0.90***	0.86***	0.53*	0.58*	0.89***

452 ^a Secondary organic aerosol tracer compounds are as follows: MGA, 2-methylglyceric acid; C5T, C5-alkene
453 triols; MTLs, 2-methyltetrosols; PA, pinic acid; PNA, pinonic acid; 3-HGA, 3-hydroxyglutaric acid, MBTCA, 3-
454 methyl-1, 2, 3-butanetricarboxylic acid.

455 ^b Negative values indicate negative correlations.

456 ^c *, p < 0.05; **, p < 0.01; ***, p < 0.001.

457

458



459 Table 2. Daytime buildups (differences between daytime and nighttime levels) of SOA tracers
460 on days with (August 20–25) and without (August 26–30) input of anthropogenic oxidants in
461 forest aerosols, Wakayama, central Japan.

Period	MGA ^a	C5T	MTLs	Isoprene tracers	3-HGA	MBTCA	PA	PNA	Monoterpene tracers	CPA	BSOA tracers
August, 20–25	2.06	47.1	60.9	110	14.1	12.0	3.31	1.52	30.9	0.10	141
August, 26–30	0.02	1.73	2.33	4.08	0.16	0.22	0.37	1.18	1.93	0.51	6.53
August, 20–30	1.17	27.2	35.3	63.7	7.98	6.87	2.03	1.37	18.2	0.28	82.2

462 ^a Secondary organic aerosol tracer compounds are as follows: MGA, 2-methylglyceric acid; C5T, C5-alkene
463 triols; MTLs, 2-methyltetrosols; PA, pinic acid; PNA, pinonic acid; 3-HGA, 3-hydroxyglutaric acid, MBTCA, 3-
464 methyl-1, 2, 3-butanetricarboxylic acid; CPA, β -caryophyllinic acid; BSOA tracers are the some of isoprene-,
465 monoterpene- and sesquiterpene- (CPA) tracers.

466



467 **Figure captions**

468

469 Figure 1. Diurnal variations of organic compounds in forest aerosols in Wakayama, Japan
470 during August 20–30, 2010. The 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles of the nighttime
471 and daytime samples were shown in the box-whisker plot. The means were shown in solid
472 circles. Statistically significances were also shown (T-test, *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$).

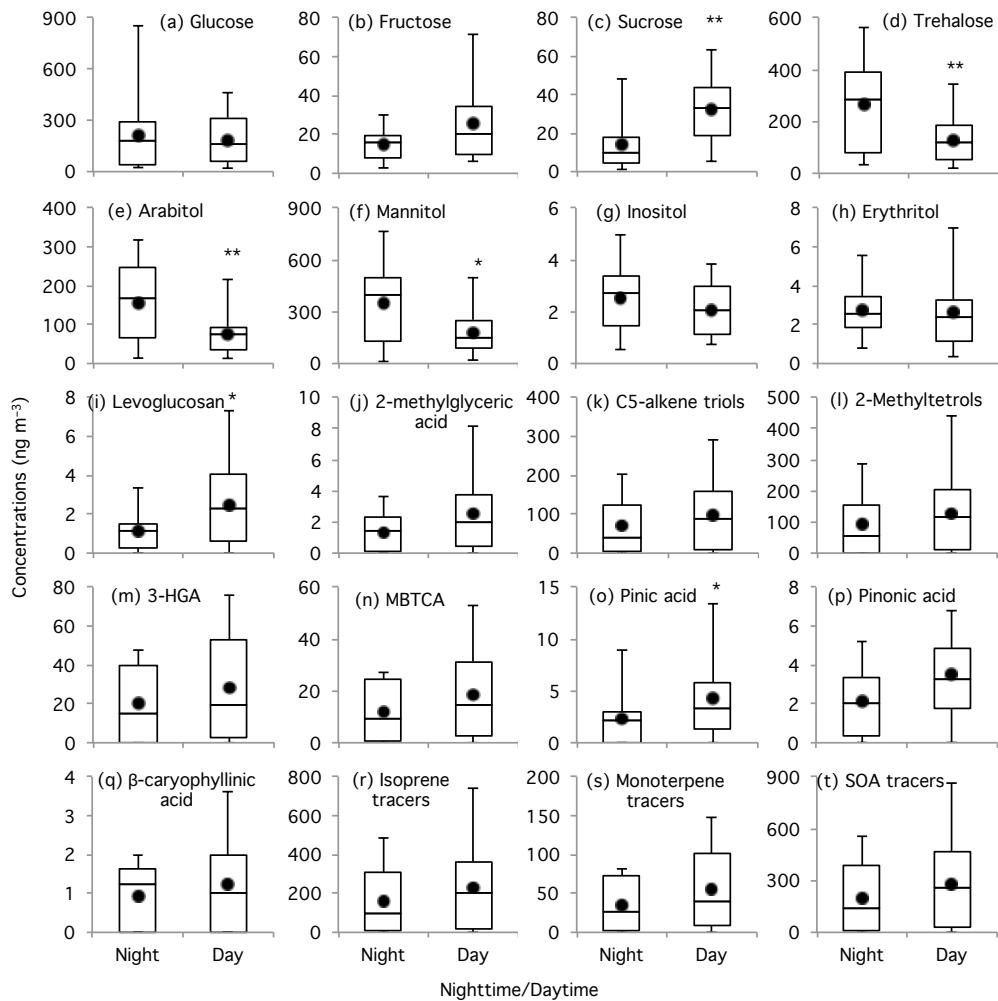
473

474 Figure 2. Diurnal profiles of organic compounds in forest aerosols in Wakayama on August
475 23–24 (left) and August 28–29, 2010 (right).

476

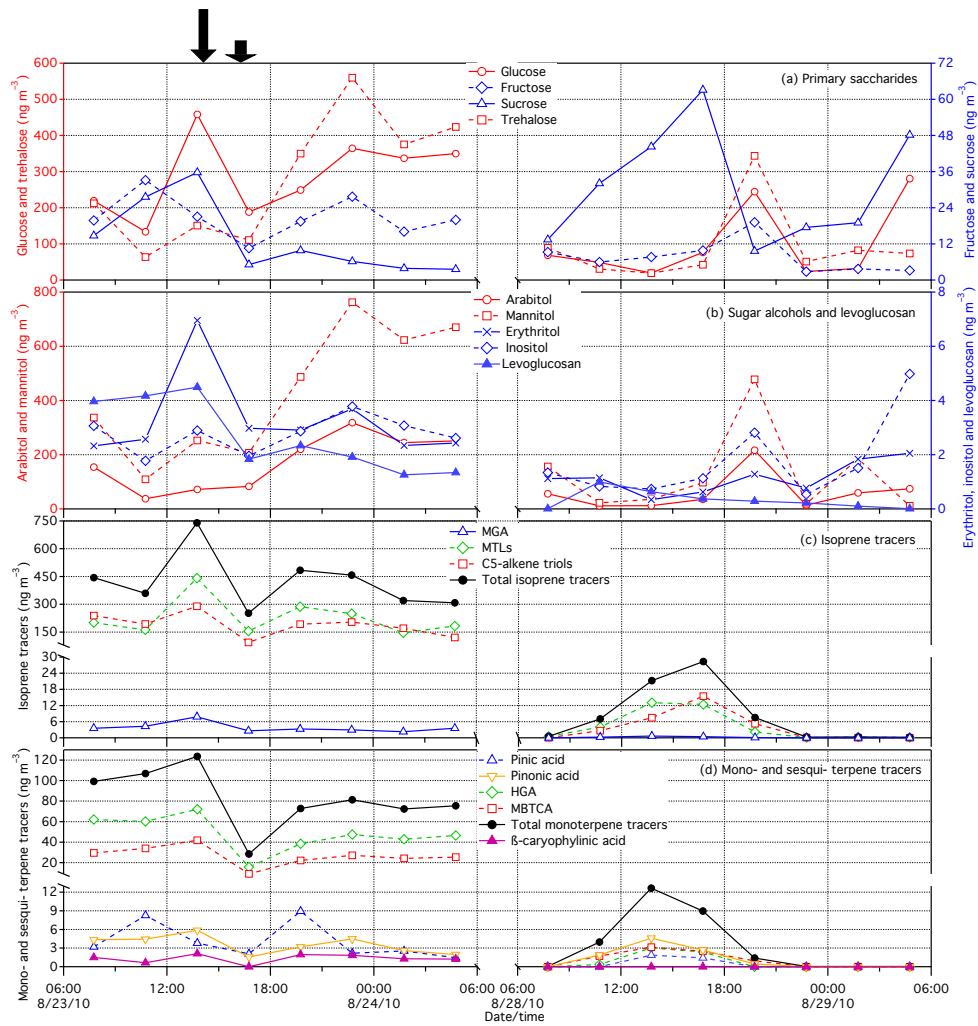
477 Figure 3. Contributions from different sources to organic carbon in Wakayama forest aerosols
478 during the nighttime and the daytime.

479



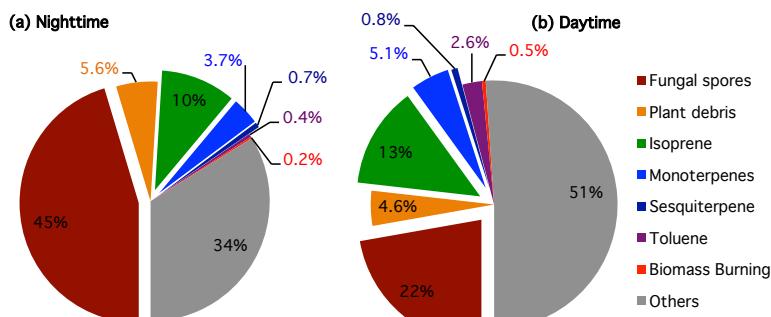
480

481 Figure 1. Diurnal variations of organic compounds in forest aerosols in Wakayama, Japan
482 during August 20–30, 2010. The 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles of the nighttime
483 and daytime samples were shown in the box-whisker plot. The means were shown in solid
484 circles. Statistically significances were also shown (T-test, *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$).
485



486

487 Figure 2. Diurnal profiles of organic compounds in forest aerosols in Wakayama on August
 488 23–24 (left) and August 28–29 (right), 2010. Precipitation events occurred on 13:00–14:00
 489 (11.2 mm) and 15:00–17:00 (1.5 mm) local time, August 23 as were marked by top
 490 of the left panels.



491

492 Figure 3. Contributions from different sources to organic carbon in Wakayama forest aerosols
493 during the nighttime and the daytime.

494