



1 **Global combustion sources of organic aerosols: Model comparison**
2 **with 84 AMS factor analysis data sets**

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12 **Abstract**

13 Emissions of organic compounds from biomass, biofuel and fossil fuel combustion
14 strongly influence the global atmospheric aerosol load. Some of the organics are
15 directly released as primary organic aerosol (POA). Most are emitted in the gas phase
16 and undergo chemical transformations (i.e., oxidation by hydroxyl radical) and form
17 secondary organic aerosol (SOA). In this work we use the global chemistry climate
18 model EMAC with a computationally efficient module for the description of organic
19 aerosol (OA) composition and evolution in the atmosphere (ORACLE). The
20 tropospheric burden of open biomass and anthropogenic (fossil and biofuel)
21 combustion particles is estimated to be 0.59 Tg and 0.63 Tg, respectively, accounting
22 for about 30% and 32% of the total tropospheric OA load. About 30% of the open
23 biomass burning and 10% of the anthropogenic combustion aerosols originate from
24 direct particle emissions while the rest is formed in the atmosphere. A comprehensive
25 dataset of aerosol mass spectrometer (AMS) measurements along with factor-analysis
26 results from 84 field campaigns across the Northern Hemisphere are used to evaluate
27 the model results. Both the AMS observations and the model results suggest that over
28 urban areas both POA (25-40%) and SOA (60-75%) contribute substantially to the
29 overall OA mass while further downwind and in rural areas the POA concentrations
30 decrease substantially and SOA dominates (80-85%). EMAC does a reasonable job in
31 reproducing POA and SOA levels during most of the year. However, it tends to
32 underpredict POA and SOA concentrations during winter indicating that the model
33 misses a wintertime source of OA (e.g., residential biofuel use) and a SOA formation
34 pathway (e.g., multiphase oxidation).

35

36 **1. Introduction**

37

38 Organic aerosol (OA) is a major contributor to fine particulate matter mass with
39 potentially harmful effects on the environment and human health (Lelieveld et al.,
40 2013; Poschl, 2005), however, its sources are poorly understood (Kanakidou et al.,
41 2005; Turpin et al., 2000; Goldstein and Galbally, 2007; Donahue et al., 2009). OA
42 comprises primary organic aerosol (POA), directly emitted in the particulate phase,
43 and secondary organic aerosol (SOA), formed within the atmosphere from the
44 oxidation of gas-phase precursors. POA is emitted by anthropogenic combustion



45 processes (i.e., fossil fuels, biofuels) and open biomass burning (i.e., savannas,
46 forests). Anthropogenic combustion emissions of organic carbon (OC) are estimated
47 at 8.9 Tg yr^{-1} (2.4 Tg yr^{-1} from fossil fuel and 6.5 Tg yr^{-1} from biofuel) with an
48 uncertainty range of 5 to 17 Tg yr^{-1} (Bond et al., 2004). OC emissions from open
49 biomass burning are approximately 25 Tg yr^{-1} with an uncertainty range of 13 to 57
50 Tg yr^{-1} . This uncertainty mainly relates to the emission factors that depend on the fuel
51 burnt and the type of combustion. POA emitted from combustion sources can
52 evaporate rapidly during atmospheric dilution depending on ambient concentrations
53 (Hildemann et al., 1989; Lipsky and Robinson, 2006). The phase partitioning of the
54 emitted POA depends on the volatility distribution of the emissions. This distribution
55 includes low volatility (LVOC; $C^* < 0.32 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$), semivolatile (SVOC; $0.32 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
56 $< C^* < 320 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$), and intermediate volatility (IVOC; $3.2 \times 10^2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} < C^* <$
57 $3.2 \times 10^6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) organic compounds. The corresponding emission factors can be
58 measured using dilution samplers and are estimated as a function of the saturation
59 concentration of the emitted organic compounds (Grieshop et al., 2009). Traditional
60 emission inventories (e.g., Bond et al., 2004) account only for a small fraction of the
61 emitted IVOCs since they are based on filter samples collected at aerosol
62 concentrations up to $10^4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (Shrivastava et al., 2008; Robinson et al., 2010). The
63 amount of IVOC emissions missing in traditional inventories is estimated to be
64 between 0.25 and 2.8 times POA emissions (Schauer et al., 1999, 2001, 2002).

65 Organic emissions further downwind mix with background air, resulting in cooling
66 and dilution and altering their gas-particle partitioning. The organic compounds that
67 remain in the gas phase can undergo chemical transformations (i.e., oxidation by
68 hydroxyl radical), become less volatile and may be transferred to the SOA (Donahue
69 et al., 2006). Therefore, in addition to direct emissions of POA, it is important to
70 understand the potential of combustion emissions to contribute to SOA formation.
71 Numerous studies have indicated that SOA usually exceeds POA even in urban
72 environments with substantial primary emissions (Zhang et al., 2007; Jimenez et al.,
73 2009; Subramanian et al., 2007; Stone et al., 2009). However, the overall contribution
74 of combustion emissions to ambient SOA and OA remains uncertain (Chirico et al.,
75 2010; Miracolo et al., 2011; Samy and Zielinska, 2010; Weitkamp et al., 2007;
76 Gentner et al., 2012; Robinson et al., 2007; Bahreini et al., 2012; Gordon et al., 2014).
77 Together with OA mass concentration, its hygroscopic, chemical and optical



78 properties continue to change because of chemical processing by gas-phase oxidants
79 (Kanakidou et al., 2005). These changes affect the radiative forcing of OA on climate
80 through both its direct and indirect aerosol effects (McFiggans et al., 2006; Bond et
81 al., 1999; Bond, 2001; Jacobson, 1999; Kirchstetter et al., 2004; Kotchenruther and
82 Hobbs, 1998; Kotchenruther et al., 1999).

83 Mass spectrometry has been widely used in aerosol analysis because of the
84 universal, sensitive and rapid detection of aerosol components (McKeown et al.,
85 1991; Suess and Prather, 1999). The Aerosol Mass Spectrometer (AMS) (Jayne et al.,
86 2000; Jimenez et al., 2003) has been the most commonly used instrument in the last
87 decade. AMS is capable of quantitatively measuring the OA mass concentrations with
88 high time and size resolution (Allan et al., 2003; Takegawa et al., 2005; Zhang et al.,
89 2005b). Several factor analysis techniques have been employed to provide
90 information about processes and sources of OA. These techniques include principal
91 component analysis (CPCA; Zhang et al., 2005a), multiple component analysis
92 (MCA; Zhang et al., 2007), hierarchical cluster analysis (Marcolli et al., 2006), the
93 Multilinear Engine (ME-2; Lanz et al., 2008), and positive matrix factorization
94 (PMF; Paatero and Tapper, 1994; Paatero, 1997), with the latter being the most
95 commonly used (Lanz et al., 2007; Nemitz et al., 2008; Aiken et al., 2008; Aiken et
96 al., 2009; Ulbrich et al., 2009; DeCarlo et al., 2010; Mohr et al., 2012; Hayes et al.,
97 2013; Crippa et al., 2014; Carbone et al., 2014; Chen et al., 2015).

98 PMF allows the classification of OA into different types based on different
99 temporal and mass spectral signatures. Two major components often resolved by the
100 analysis of the AMS measurements are hydrocarbon-like organic aerosol (HOA) and
101 oxygenated organic aerosol (OOA) (Zhang et al., 2005c). Biomass burning OA
102 (BBOA), marine-related OA (MOA) and cooking OA (COA) are other OA
103 components that PMF may identify as important components of the observed OA
104 (Zhang et al., 2007; Crippa et al., 2014; Ng et al., 2011). HOA correlates with
105 combustion tracers (e.g., CO, EC, and NO_x) and is considered as a surrogate for fossil
106 fuel combustion POA (Zhang et al., 2005c; Lanz et al., 2007; Aiken et al., 2009;
107 Ulbrich et al., 2009). BBOA correlates with tracers originating from biomass burning
108 (e.g., acetonitrile, levoglucosan, and potassium) and is considered a surrogate of
109 biomass burning POA (Aiken et al., 2010; Ulbrich et al., 2009). OOA has the same
110 temporal pattern as secondary PM components (e.g. sulfate, nitrate) and is considered



111 as surrogate for SOA (Zhang et al., 2007; Herndon et al., 2008). OOA can include
112 SOA from various precursors, such as anthropogenic and biogenic VOCs, as well as
113 SVOCs and IVOCs from fossil fuel, biofuel and open biomass burning. PMF often
114 classifies OOA into two subtypes that differ in the degree of oxidation: a more
115 oxygenated low-volatility OOA (LV-OOA) and a less oxygenated semivolatile OOA
116 (SV-OOA) (Jimenez et al., 2009). Field campaigns in the North Hemisphere have
117 shown that HOA accounts for approximately one third of the OA in urban sites while
118 OOA accounts for the remaining two thirds. OOA represents roughly 95% of the OA
119 in rural/remote regions (Zhang et al., 2007).

120 Global chemistry climate and chemical transport models systematically
121 underpredict OA levels (Heald et al., 2005; de Gouw et al., 2005), especially during
122 episodes of intense photochemistry (Vutukuru et al., 2006; Volkamer et al., 2006). At
123 the same time, traditional global models tend to predict a dominance of POA at mid-
124 latitudes in the Northern Hemisphere while measurements indicate the opposite
125 (Heald et al., 2005; Henze et al., 2008; Tsigaridis et al., 2014). The same models
126 predict that formation of SOA from biogenic sources greatly exceeds that from
127 anthropogenic sources. The shortcomings in the traditional OA models are partially
128 due to the assumption that POA is non-volatile and nonreactive (Kanakidou et al.,
129 2005; Jimenez et al., 2009)). In order to help remedy these shortcomings, Donahue et
130 al. (2006) developed the volatility basis set (VBS) framework which assumes that
131 POA emissions are semivolatile and photochemically reactive and are distributed in
132 logarithmically spaced volatility bins. Recently, several regional-scale modeling
133 studies have accounted for the semivolatile nature and chemical aging of organic
134 compounds demonstrating improvements in reproducing the OA concentrations and
135 its composition (Robinson et al., 2007; Shrivastava et al., 2008; Murphy and Pandis,
136 2009; Tsimpidi et al., 2010; Tsimpidi et al., 2011; Hodzic et al., 2010; Fountoukis et
137 al., 2011; Bergstrom et al., 2012; Athanasopoulou et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2013;
138 Fountoukis et al., 2014). However, only few global modeling studies have yet adopted
139 the VBS approach to simulate the SOA formation from the chemical aging of SVOC
140 and IVOC emissions (Pye and Seinfeld, 2010; Jathar et al., 2011; Tsimpidi et al.,
141 2014). The model results indicate a larger share for anthropogenic SOA on a global
142 scale. According to these studies, the modeled tropospheric burden of POA is 0.03-



143 0.23 Tg and of SOA 1.6-2.8 Tg, with SVOCs and IVOCs contributing 0.7-1.6 Tg to
144 the total SOA.

145 In this work we use ORACLE, a computationally efficient module for the
146 description of organic aerosol composition and evolution in the atmosphere (Tsimpidi
147 et al., 2014), to estimate the impact of open biomass burning and anthropogenic
148 combustion emissions and their chemical aging on global OA budgets and
149 distributions. An extensive global dataset of AMS measurements and factor-analysis
150 results from 84 field campaigns in the Northern Hemisphere are used in combination
151 with the model results during the period of 2001-2010. This integrated effort provides
152 further insights into the temporal and geographical variability of the contribution of
153 the emitted particles and the chemically processed organic material from combustion
154 sources to the total OA load.

155

156 **2. Model description and application**

157

158 **2.1 EMAC Model**

159 The ECHAM/MESSy Atmospheric Chemistry (EMAC) model is a numerical
160 chemistry and climate simulation system that includes sub-models describing the
161 lower and middle atmosphere processes (Jöckel et al., 2006). EMAC includes
162 submodels that describe gas-phase chemistry (MECCA; Sander et al., 2011),
163 inorganic aerosol microphysics (GMXe; Pringle et al., 2010), cloud microphysics
164 (CLOUD; Jöckel et al., 2006), aerosol optical properties (AEROPT; Lauer et al.,
165 2007), dry deposition (DRYDEP; Kerkweg et al., 2006a), sedimentation (SEDI;
166 Kerkweg et al., 2006a), emissions (ONLEM and OFFLEM; Kerkweg et al., 2006b),
167 and organic aerosol formation and growth (ORACLE; Tsimpidi et al., 2014). The
168 spectral resolution used in this study is T63L31, corresponding to a horizontal grid
169 resolution of $1.875^\circ \times 1.875^\circ$ and 31 vertical layers extending to 10 hPa at about 25 km
170 altitude. EMAC is applied for 11 years, covering the period 2000–2010, and the first
171 year is used as spin-up.

172

173 **2.2 ORACLE Module**

174 ORACLE is a computationally efficient submodel for the description of OA
175 composition and evolution in the atmosphere which has been implemented into the



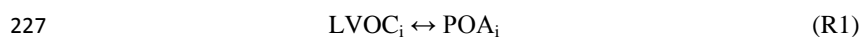
176 EMAC model by Tsimpidi et al. (2014). ORACLE simulates a variety of semivolatile
177 organic species and reaction products and separates them into groups of compounds
178 with logarithmically spaced effective saturation concentrations.

179 In this study, primary organic emissions from open biomass burning and from
180 anthropogenic sources (i.e., fossil fuel and biofuel) are simulated using separate
181 surrogate species for each source category. They are subdivided into three groups of
182 organic compounds: low volatility, LVOCs ($10^{-2} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$), semi-volatile, SVOCs (10^0
183 and $10^2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) and intermediate volatility organic compounds, IVOCs (10^4 and $10^6 \mu\text{g}$
184 m^{-3}). These organic compounds are allowed to partition between the gas and aerosol
185 phases resulting in the formation of fPOA (anthropogenic POA from fossil fuel and
186 biofuel combustion) and bbPOA (natural POA from open biomass burning). VOCs are
187 distinguished into anthropogenic and biogenic and their oxidation products are
188 distributed in four volatility bins with effective saturation concentrations of 10^0 , 10^1 ,
189 10^2 , and $10^3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ at 298 K. Gas-phase photochemical reactions that change the
190 volatility of the organics are taken into account and their oxidation products (SOA-sv,
191 SOA-iv, and SOA-v) are simulated separately in the module to keep track of their
192 origin. The suffixes -sv, -iv and -v after the term SOA declare the group of its
193 precursors (SVOCs, IVOCs, and VOCs, respectively). For the current application,
194 SOA components are divided in four groups based on their source: anthropogenic from
195 fossil fuel and biofuel combustion sources (fSOA), natural from open biomass burning
196 (bbSOA), SOA from anthropogenic (aSOA-v) and biogenic (bSOA-v) VOCs. This
197 study focuses on the OA produced from primary combustion sources and discusses in
198 detail results for the first two types of SOA (fSOA and bbSOA). The model set up for
199 simulating the formation of aSOA-v and bSOA-v and the corresponding results can be
200 found in Tsimpidi et al. (2014). In addition, in this work ORACLE has been modified
201 to distinguish the formation of fresh SOA and aged SOA by adding additional tracers
202 into the model. The first generation oxidation products of SVOCs, IVOCs, and VOCs
203 are characterized as fresh while SOA produced from any additional oxidation step is
204 grouped together and considered aged (Figure 1). LVOCs are not allowed to
205 participate in photochemical reactions since they are in the lowest volatility bin. This
206 assumption may introduce a small bias on our results only under extremely clean
207 conditions ($\text{OA} \leq 10^{-2} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) where part of LVOC is in the gas phase. Adding another
208 bin in the volatility distribution to accurately represent the extremely low volatility

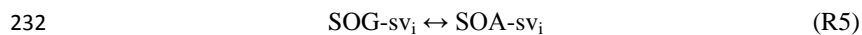
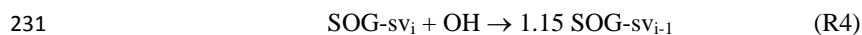
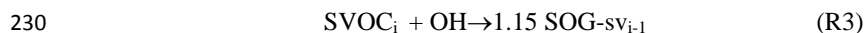
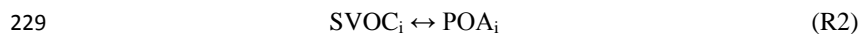


209 organic compounds (e.g., ELVOCs with C^* lower than 10^{-3}) would be useful only for
210 studying new particle formation, which is outside the scope of the current work. The
211 volatilities of SVOCs and IVOCs are reduced by a factor of 10^2 as a result of the OH
212 reaction with a rate constant of $2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and a 15% increase in mass
213 is assumed to account for two added oxygen atoms (Tsimpidi et al., 2014). While this
214 representation is common for global models (e.g., Pye and Seinfeld, 2010; Tsimpidi et
215 al., 2014), regional models use a more conservative formulation to represent the aging
216 of SVOC and IVOC by assuming a reduction in volatility by one order of magnitude
217 after each oxidation step (e.g., Tsimpidi et al., 2010; Bergstrom et al., 2012). However,
218 the oxidation products can be up to four orders of magnitude lower in volatility than
219 the precursor (Kroll and Seinfeld, 2008). Furthermore, ORACLE calculates the
220 fraction of the semivolatile organic compounds that condenses to (or evaporates from)
221 the particle phase by assuming bulk equilibrium and that all organic compounds form a
222 pseudo-ideal solution (Tsimpidi et al., 2014). Overall, the primary aerosol formation
223 from the phase partitioning of the freshly emitted LVOCs and SVOCs, as well as the
224 formation of SOA from the photo-oxidation of SVOCs and IVOCs are described by
225 the following reactions:

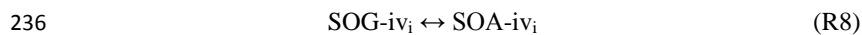
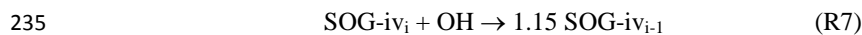
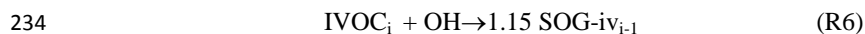
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238 where i is the original volatility bin and $i-1$ is the volatility bin with saturation
239 concentration reduced by a factor of 10^2 . The term SOG corresponds to secondary
240 organic gas that is produced by at least one chemical reaction in the atmosphere. The
241 symbol “ \leftrightarrow ” denotes the equilibrium between the gas and the aerosol phases. It is



242 worth mentioned that the production of RO₂ as an intermediate after the oxidation of
243 SVOC and IVOC has been omitted since it would be essential only in cases where
244 these reactions are a potentially significant sink of OH (i.e. in concentrated smoke
245 plumes) (Alvarado et al., 2015). The model set-up and the different aerosol types and
246 chemical processes that are simulated by ORACLE for this study are illustrated in
247 Figure 1. More details about ORACLE can be found in Tsimpidi et al. (2014).

248

249 **2.3 Emission inventory**

250 The CMIP5 RCP4.5 emission inventory (Clarke et al., 2007) is used for the
251 anthropogenic POA emissions from fossil fuel and biofuel combustion sources. The
252 open biomass burning emissions from savanna burning and forest fires are based on
253 the Global Fire Emissions Database (GFED v3.1; van der Werf et al., 2010). These
254 emission datasets report the mass of the OC emitted. Therefore, in order to determine
255 the total organic matter (OM) emitted (including any additional species associated
256 with the carbon) OM/OC values of 1.3 for anthropogenic POA and 1.6 for open
257 biomass burning POA are used. These values are based on the OM/OC values
258 estimated by Aiken et al. (2008) for HOA and BBOA respectively. Furthermore, the
259 above emission datasets are monthly resolved and treat POA as non-reactive and non-
260 volatile. However, only a fraction of this organic material is directly emitted in the
261 aerosol phase as POA. Most of it is rapidly transferred to the gas phase where it can
262 undergo chemical transformations and form SOA. Therefore, a key input for the
263 accurate description of these compounds and their chemical aging is their volatility
264 distribution at 298 K. Figure 2 depicts the volatility distributions assumed for this
265 study which cover a range of volatilities from 10⁻² to 10⁴ µg m⁻³ for open biomass
266 burning (May et al., 2013) and 10⁻² to 10⁶ µg m⁻³ for fossil and biofuel combustion
267 emissions (Robinson et al., 2007). Emission inventories are based on samples
268 collected at aerosol concentrations up to 10⁴ µg m⁻³ (Shrivastava et al., 2008;
269 Robinson et al., 2010). As a result IVOC emissions with C* > 10⁴ µg m⁻³ are missing
270 from the traditional emission inventories and have to be accounted for by assigning
271 additional emissions in this volatility range. We assume that the missing IVOC
272 emissions from anthropogenic combustion are 1.5 times the traditional OA emissions
273 included in the inventory (Shrivastava et al., 2008; Tsimpidi et al., 2010), therefore
274 the sum of the emission factors is 2.5. No IVOC emissions are added for open



275 biomass burning and therefore the sum for the biomass burning emission factors is
276 unity. The sensitivity of our results to these assumptions will be discussed in a
277 subsequent article in preparation. Overall, the decadal average global emission flux of
278 SVOCs and IVOCs is 44 Tg yr^{-1} from anthropogenic combustion sources and 28 Tg
279 yr^{-1} from open biomass burning sources.

280

281 **3. Model evaluation methodology**

282

283 **3.1 Factor analysis of AMS measurements**

284

285 During the period 2001-2010, 84 field campaigns were performed in the Northern
286 Hemisphere using the AMS for measuring ambient OA concentrations in urban,
287 urban-downwind, and rural environments (Figure 3). Information for each of these
288 campaigns is given in Tables S1-S3. The OA source apportionment for all sites was
289 taken from the literature (Tables S1-S3) and performed using factor-analysis
290 techniques classifying OA as HOA, corresponding roughly to POA from fossil fuel
291 combustion, and OOA, corresponding to SOA. Therefore, AMS HOA is compared
292 with modeled fPOA, which is emitted and remains in the aerosol phase without
293 undergoing any chemical reactions, and AMS-OOA is compared with modeled SOA
294 (the sum of SOA-sv, SOA-iv, and SOA-v), formed from the oxidation of gas phase
295 precursors (SVOCs, IVOCs, and VOCs). At many locations, PMF and other factor
296 analysis techniques identified two subtypes of OOA that differ in volatility and
297 oxidation state: semi-volatile OOA (SV-OOA) and low-volatility OOA (LV-OOA).
298 There are different potential interpretations of SV-OOA and LV-OOA. SV-OOA
299 often correlated with semivolatile species such as ammonium nitrate and was less
300 oxygenated, consistent with relatively fresh SOA (Zhang et al., 2011; Ng et al., 2011).
301 LV-OOA was usually correlated with nonvolatile secondary species such as sulfate
302 and was highly oxygenated, consistent with regional aged OA (Zhang et al., 2011; Ng
303 et al., 2011). Recently, Ehn et al. (2014) found a direct pathway which leads to the
304 formation of fresh LV-OOA from the oxidation of several biogenic VOCs. Here we
305 test the hypothesis that SV-OOA corresponds to the first generation products while
306 LV-OOA to the later generation ones. Therefore, AMS SV-OOA is compared with
307 the fraction of SOA-sv, SOA-iv, and SOA-v from the first oxidation step of SVOCs,



308 IVOC, and VOCs as it is tracked separately (henceforth EMAC fresh SOA). Then
309 AMS LV-OOA is compared with the fraction of SOA-sv, SOA-iv, and SOA-v from
310 any additional oxidation step (henceforth EMAC aged SOA). Finally, in a few of the
311 field campaigns, e.g., in the Alps (Lanz et al., 2010), residential wood burning was
312 found to be a major source of OA. However, residential wood burning is included in
313 EMAC as fPOA. To account for this inconsistency for the AMS data sets that include
314 BBOA we compare the sum of the simulated fPOA and bbPOA (henceforth EMAC
315 POA) against the sum of the AMS HOA and BBOA (henceforth AMS POA).

316

317 3.2 Evaluation metrics

318

319 The mean bias (MB), mean absolute gross error (MAGE), normalized mean bias
320 (NMB), normalized mean error (NME), and the root mean square error (RMSE) are
321 used to assess the model performance:

322
$$MAGE = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |P_i - O_i| \quad (1) \quad MB = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (P_i - O_i) \quad (2)$$

323
$$NME = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N |P_i - O_i|}{\sum_{i=1}^N O_i} \quad (3) \quad NMB = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (P_i - O_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^N O_i} \quad (4)$$

324
$$RMSE = \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (P_i - O_i)^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (5)$$

325 where O_i is the observed campaign average value of the i th OA component, P_i is the
326 corresponding modelled value during the same period, and N is the total number of
327 comparisons used for the evaluation. NME (in %) and MAGE (in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) provide an
328 estimate of the overall discrepancy between predictions and observations, while NMB
329 (in %) and MB (in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) are sensitive to systematic errors. RMSE (in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) is the
330 root of the mean square error, which incorporates both the variance of the prediction
331 and its bias. Both NME and MAGE inherently include the corresponding bias, which
332 is the reason why their magnitude is equal or larger than NMB and MB respectively.
333 For an unbiased prediction, NME and MAGE express the variance. When NME and
334 NMB or MAGE and MB are close, the discrepancy is explained as a systematic bias



335 rather than scatter. When the magnitude of NME/MAGE is larger than NMB/MB,
336 part of the discrepancy between predictions and observations is explained as scatter.
337 In order to determine the effect that the site type or the seasonal cycle has on the
338 performance of the model, the evaluation metrics are calculated separately for urban,
339 urban-downwind, and rural sites and for the four seasons of the year (winter, spring,
340 summer, and autumn).

341

342 **4. Model results**

343

344 **4.1 OA from anthropogenic combustion**

345

346 **4.1.1 Geographical distribution**

347 Figure 4 depicts the simulated, decadal average global surface concentrations of
348 fPOA and fSOA from anthropogenic SVOC and IVOC sources (fossil and biofuel
349 combustion). The average surface concentration of fPOA is $0.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. Higher fPOA
350 concentrations (up to $14 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) are simulated over densely populated and highly
351 industrialized areas (e.g., Eastern China, Northern India, Central Europe, etc.) where
352 there are substantial anthropogenic combustion emissions. Further downwind, fPOA
353 concentrations decrease substantially since they are diluted and a large fraction is
354 predicted to evaporate during transport. This results in a highly inhomogeneous
355 spatial distribution of fPOA concentrations (Figure 4a). In contrast, fSOA is more
356 regionally distributed with high concentrations (up to $9.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) downwind of the
357 anthropogenic sources due to its continuous production and long-range transport from
358 SVOCs and IVOCs (Figure 4b). This results in a continental fSOA background of
359 $0.5\text{-}1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and in concentrations of around $1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ over marine regions close to
360 anthropogenic sources (e.g., Arabian Sea, Yellow Sea, etc.). The average surface
361 concentration of fSOA is $0.26 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ with 73% of it originating from the oxidation of
362 IVOC emissions. This result supports the hypothesis of several recent studies that
363 IVOC emission and oxidation may be a significant SOA source that is missing from
364 chemistry climate models (Jathar et al., 2011; Tsimpidi et al., 2014). The relatively
365 small contribution (25%) of SVOCs to total fSOA can be justified by its low
366 emissions compared to the IVOCs (two times lower) and by the fact that a significant



367 fraction of SVOCs stays in the aerosol phase (as POA) without undergoing any
368 chemical reactions (Tsimpidi et al., 2014).

369 The fraction of fossil and biofuel combustion OA (fOA) that is formed through the
370 oxidation of gas phase species, fSOA/fOA, is consistently high with values ranging
371 from around 20% close to the sources to 100% away from them with a global average
372 of 83% at surface (Figure 5a). This result suggests that over urban areas both fPOA
373 and fSOA contribute significantly to the overall OA mass while further downwind
374 and in rural areas the SOA formation dominates since POA concentrations decrease
375 substantially due to dilution and evaporation. The OA due to anthropogenic
376 combustion sources contributes significantly to total OA over the continents in the
377 northern Hemisphere (Figure 5b). The highest contribution is predicted over Eastern
378 China (83%) and the lowest over the Southeast US (23%). Over mid-latitude oceans,
379 the contribution of fOA to total OA is also high (around 60%) due to the long-range
380 transport of secondary OA. On the other hand, fOA/OA is very low (0-10%) over the
381 tropical and boreal forest regions due to the significant bbOA and bSOA-v
382 concentrations over these areas. Overall, the predicted global average fOA/OA is
383 38%. This result highlights the importance of anthropogenic emissions for global OA
384 levels, also suggested by other recent studies (Carslaw et al., 2013; Lee et al., 2013;
385 Spracklen et al., 2011).

386

387 **4.1.2 Temporal profile**

388 Table 1 shows the decadal average tropospheric burden of fPOA and fSOA. The
389 decadal average tropospheric burden of total fOA is 0.63 Tg (10% fPOA and 90%
390 fSOA). The tropospheric fSOA/fOA is higher than at the surface since SVOC and
391 IVOC continue forming fSOA at higher altitudes (Tsimpidi et al., 2014).

392 The lower temperatures that occur during winter in the Northern Hemisphere drive
393 the gas-particle partitioning of freshly emitted SVOCs to the aerosol phase resulting
394 in higher fPOA concentrations. The wintertime burden of fPOA is 36% higher than its
395 annual average value (Figure 6a). In the same time, less SVOCs are available in the
396 gas phase to react with the lower wintertime OH resulting in reduced formation of
397 fSOA. The wintertime tropospheric burden of fSOA is 16% lower than its annual
398 average value (Figure 6a) representing 87% of the fOA. During summer, the
399 photooxidation of SVOC and IVOC is significantly enhanced; however, the increase



400 in fSOA mass is compensated by evaporation due to the high temperatures resulting
401 in an overall increase of only 3% compared to the annual average values. High
402 temperatures during summer also result in a significant decrease of fPOA due to
403 evaporation, i.e., a 27% decrease compared to the annual average tropospheric burden
404 (Figure 6a). Overall, the tropospheric fSOA:fOA during summer is increased to 93%.
405 The highest fSOA concentrations are predicted during spring (i.e., April) when the
406 photochemistry is enhanced and the moderate temperatures favor the partitioning into
407 the aerosol phase (Figure 6a).

408 Figure 6b depicts the change of fOA annual tropospheric burden over the
409 simulated years (2001 to 2010). The decadal variability of the model predictions for
410 fOA is very low ($\pm 4\%$) since anthropogenic emissions are assumed to have small
411 differences between the simulated years (Clarke et al., 2007). The anthropogenic
412 SVOC and IVOC emissions from fossil and biofuel combustion increased
413 approximately 0.5 Tg yr^{-1} on average during the simulated decade. The lowest fOA
414 tropospheric burden is calculated during the years 2001 and 2003 (0.61 Tg yr^{-1}) and
415 the highest during the year 2009 (0.66 Tg yr^{-1}).

416

417 **4.2 OA from open biomass burning**

418

419 **4.2.1 Geographical distribution**

420 Figure 7 depicts the simulated decadal average global surface concentrations of
421 bbPOA and bbSOA. The average surface concentration of bbPOA is $0.11 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. The
422 highest bbPOA concentrations (up to $7.7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) are predicted over the tropical
423 rainforests (i.e., Amazon, Congo, and Southeast Asia) and the boreal forests (i.e.,
424 Alaska, Canada, and Russia) due to substantial emissions from forest and savannah
425 fires. Similar to fPOA, bbPOA levels rapidly decrease as the air mass moves away
426 from the source due to dilution and evaporation (Figure 7a). The average surface
427 concentration of bbSOA is $0.15 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. In contrast to anthropogenic combustion
428 emissions, IVOCs are assumed to account for only 40% of the total open biomass
429 burning emissions. Nevertheless, the model predicts that the bbSOA formed due to
430 the oxidation of IVOCs (46%) is similar to that from the oxidation of SVOCs (54%).
431 This result corroborates our finding that IVOCs are a significant source of SOA.
432 bbSOA concentrations are more spatially homogeneous compared to bbPOA reaching



433 high levels (up to $6.4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) over a wide area covering most of South America,
434 Central and South Africa, Southeastern Asia, and Indonesia (Figure 7b). The
435 atmosphere over the Southern Atlantic Ocean is also strongly influenced by long-
436 range transport of bbSOA from the Congo Basin ($1\text{-}3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). Over these areas, the
437 atmospheric conditions are favorable for the photochemical oxidation of SVOCs and
438 IVOCs. On the other hand, over the boreal forests, the low temperatures favor the
439 partitioning of SVOCs into the particulate phase forming bbPOA and at the same time
440 the photo-oxidation of IVOCs is slow. This results in moderate average bbSOA
441 concentrations around $0.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

442 Figure 8a depicts the predicted decadal average contribution of bbSOA to total
443 bbOA (bbSOA/bbOA) at the surface. bbSOA/bbOA is high with values ranging from
444 around 35% over the large tropical and boreal forests to 85% in areas downwind of
445 them and over the oceans. The global average bbSOA/bbOA at the surface is predicted
446 to be 72%. This result indicates that even though the biomass burning emissions are
447 distributed in relatively low volatility bins ($C^* \leq 10^4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$), bbSOA still exceeds
448 primary biomass burning OA on a global scale. Figure 8b depicts the decadal average
449 surface contribution of bbOA to total OA (bbOA/OA). As expected, bbOA
450 contributes significantly to total OA over the tropical and boreal forests (around 60%)
451 while it has a smaller impact on OA levels over the mid-latitude continents of the
452 Northern Hemisphere. This result does not include other types of biomass combustion
453 (e.g., for residential heating) that often contribute significantly over urban areas (Chen
454 et al., 2007; Wang et al., 2007; Lanz et al., 2010). High bbOA contributions are also
455 predicted downwind of the boreal forests (up to 80%). Furthermore, the bbOA/OA
456 ratio is high (50-90%) off the subtropical west coasts of Africa, South America and
457 Indonesia. These high values are due to the chemical aging of biomass burning
458 SVOCs and IVOCs in contrast to the chemical products of biogenic VOCs which are
459 assumed to have very low later generation SOA (Tsimpidi et al., 2014). Overall, the
460 global average bbOA/OA is predicted to be 26%.

461

462 **4.2.2 Temporal evolution**

463 The decadal average tropospheric burden of total bbOA is 0.59 Tg yr^{-1} (30%
464 bbPOA, 70% bbSOA) (Table 1). The fraction of bbOA that is secondary is less than
465 that of fOA (90%).



466 The interannual variability of bbPOA and bbSOA is high due to the seasonal
467 variability of fires (Figure 9a). During the months of July to September (dry season),
468 intense wildfires are reported over the tropics related to the low precipitation and high
469 temperatures. This results in high biomass burning emissions which together with the
470 intense photochemical activity result in bbOA tropospheric burdens of up to 1.4 Tg
471 yr^{-1} during August (130% higher than the annual average). The lowest bbOA
472 tropospheric burdens are estimated during the wet season (0.21 Tg yr^{-1} during April,
473 64% lower than the annual average). Furthermore, during the dry season OA consists
474 mainly of bbOA over the tropical rainforests due to the intense wildfires while during
475 the wet season OA consists mainly of biogenic SOA since biomass burning emissions
476 are low. As a result, the bbOA/OA has a significant seasonal variability as well;
477 during the dry season the global average bbOA/OA increases significantly (e.g., 41%
478 during August; not shown) while during the wet season it is significantly lower (e.g.,
479 11% during March; not shown).

480 The decadal variability of the model predictions is also important since open
481 biomass burning emissions can vary significantly from year to year (Figure 9b). The
482 years 2001 and 2009 had low fire emissions and the bbOA annual tropospheric
483 burden was 0.47 Tg yr^{-1} (21% lower than the decadal average). The year of 2010 on
484 the other hand was characterized by severe wildfires, especially over the Amazon
485 region resulting in a bbOA annual tropospheric burden of 0.72 Tg yr^{-1} (21% higher
486 than the decadal average). This is consistent with Chen et al. (2013) who analyzed
487 satellite data to detect the fire activity over the Amazon rainforest and reported a
488 twofold increase in fire activity during 2010 compared to 2009.

489

490 **5. Comparison with AMS data**

491

492 **5.1 Spatial evaluation**

493

494 **5.1.1 POA**

495 AMS observations indicate that over urban areas POA (the sum of HOA and
496 BBOA) has relatively high concentrations while further downwind and in rural areas
497 it decreases substantially due to dilution and evaporation (Figure 10a). The model
498 significantly underpredicts (NMB=-65%, Table 2) the high values of POA over urban



499 areas and especially over densely populated areas such as Beijing, Tokyo and Mexico
500 City (Table S1). However, this underprediction is partly associated with the limited
501 spatial resolution of the model since the size of the grid cell used typically exceeds the
502 size of most urban centers. The model does a better job in reproducing the measured
503 POA values over urban-downwind locations. This can be verified by focusing on
504 specific field campaigns that provide data from both the urban center and urban-
505 downwind locations over the same period of time (i.e., MILAGRO over Mexico City
506 and MEGAPOLI over Paris). Over these areas the model captures the measured POA
507 concentrations downwind of the urban center (Table S2) but it significantly
508 underpredicts the POA concentrations measured in the urban center (Table S1).
509 Overall, over urban-downwind and rural areas the model captures the low values of
510 POA (Figure 10a). Over urban-downwind areas, the model slightly underpredicts
511 POA (NMB=-15%) while over rural areas it overpredicts by $0.04 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (Table 2).
512 However, over rural areas with high BBOA concentrations (e.g, Massognex, Payerne,
513 etc.) the model underpredicts POA (Table S3) indicating that biomass burning sources
514 over residential areas may be underestimated in the emission inventory. The possible
515 underestimation of biomass burning emissions over European residential areas has
516 been recently reported by several studies (Bergstrom et al., 2012; Kostenidou et al.,
517 2013; Denier van der Gon et al., 2014).

518

519 5.1.2 SOA

520 Both AMS and EMAC model results indicate that SOA (or OOA) is high over all
521 types of environments (Table 3). The highest concentrations are found over urban
522 locations (AMS-OOA= $4.33 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and EMAC-SOA= $2.97 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) while further
523 downwind SOA concentrations decrease by 37% over rural locations according to
524 both AMS and EMAC results (Figure 10b). This indicates that the initial emissions of
525 VOCs, IVOCs and SVOCs are photo-oxidized rapidly in the urban environment
526 producing SOA, while their atmospheric aging and further production of SOA is
527 offset by dilution as the air mass moves away from the urban center. EMAC does a
528 reasonable job in reproducing SOA concentrations (Table 3), however, an
529 underprediction is found in all types of environments. The best model performance is
530 achieved over urban downwind locations (NMB=-25%) followed by urban and rural
531 areas (NMB=-31% and -32%, respectively). Similar to POA, the model underpredicts



532 SOA over densely populated areas such as Beijing and Mexico City (Table S1) due to
533 its limited spatial resolution. In addition, the model significantly underpredicts SOA
534 over specific urban-downwind and rural areas. In most of these cases the field
535 campaign was short (up to 1 week) and the results were subject to specific pollution
536 episodes which cannot be captured by our model (e.g., Puy de Dome, Table S3).

537 In most of the available datasets (51 out of 84), PMF provides information for the
538 two subtypes of OOA (LV-OOA and SV-OOA). Both PMF and EMAC results
539 indicate that aged SOA (or LV-OOA) is higher than fresh SOA (or SV-OOA)
540 regardless of the type of environment. The EMAC performance is better over urban
541 locations where it reproduces the high levels of aged SOA with NMB=-21% and
542 NME=43% (Table 4). Over urban-downwind and rural locations EMAC
543 underpredicts aged SOA with NMB=-47% and -38%, respectively (Table 4). The
544 performance of the model for fresh SOA is better compared to aged SOA (Table 4)
545 indicating that the modeled OA aging parameterization may underestimate the SOA
546 produced from atmospheric aging and requires improvements. Similar to aged SOA,
547 the best performance of the model for fresh SOA is obtained over urban locations
548 (NMB=-12%).

549

550 5.2 Seasonal evaluation

551 The seasonal model performance evaluation does not include the values over the
552 urban areas because most of the corresponding field campaigns were conducted
553 during winter and summer. In parallel, as discussed above, the model cannot
554 reproduce the concentrations of POA and SOA over urban locations due to its coarse
555 resolution. Therefore including urban locations in our analysis will bias the model
556 performance during winter and summer leading to a potential misinterpretation of the
557 corresponding results regarding the seasonal performance of the model.

558

559 5.2.1 POA

560 The model performs best during summer (RMSE=0.4, NMB=-3%), followed by
561 autumn (RMSE=0.37, NMB=-15%) and spring (RMSE=0.52, NMB=21%). During
562 winter EMAC underpredicts POA with NMB=-34% (Table 2; Figure 11a). This result
563 corroborates our hypothesis that residential biofuel emissions may be underestimated
564 in the inventory since most of the residential heating occurs during winter.



565 Furthermore, since vehicle catalysts require a certain temperature to work to full
566 efficiency, emissions from gasoline and diesel vehicles are significantly higher during
567 the warm-up phase of the car (Westerholm et al., 1996). Typically, the additional
568 emissions during the warm-up phase (or cold-start emissions) are accounted in
569 emission inventories based on measurements at an ambient temperature of 23 °C
570 (Weilenmann et al., 2009). However, cold-start emissions increase considerably at
571 lower ambient temperatures varying by more than one order of magnitude between 23
572 and -20 °C (Weilenmann et al., 2009) and thus significant underestimations of OA
573 emissions from the transport sector can be expected during wintertime. Kopacz et al.
574 (2010) provide a global estimate of CO sources by adjoint inversion of satellite
575 datasets and reported an underestimation of CO sources during the winter season due
576 to larger than expected CO emissions from vehicle cold starts and residential heating.
577 Another source of the underestimation of POA by EMAC may be the treatment of wet
578 deposition. The sensitivity of the results to the deposition parameterizations (e.g., the
579 Henry's law constants for the organic vapors) will be tested in a subsequent article in
580 preparation.

581 According to recent studies (Cappa and Wilson, 2012; Aumont et al., 2012; Zhang
582 et al., 2013), not all oxidation products of SVOCs and IVOCs can be assigned to the
583 OOA mass fraction since they are not sufficiently oxidized. Fountoukis et al. (2014)
584 assumed that 50% of the simulated SOA-sv and SOA-iv is still considered as HOA by
585 the AMS analysis and found significant improvements in the view of the modeled
586 bias for POA. In this study we tested this hypothesis and we considered as POA the
587 sum of fPOA and bbPOA and the 50% of the SOA-sv and SOA-iv produced from the
588 first oxidation step of SVOCs and IVOCs, respectively. We assumed that SOA-sv and
589 SOA-iv produced during any subsequent oxidation steps together with all the SOA-v
590 are sufficiently oxidized to be considered 100% OOA. Following this hypothesis the
591 model performance improved during winter (NME=55% $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and NMB=-28%) and
592 autumn (NME=50% $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and NMB=1%) and reduced during spring (NME=110%
593 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and NMB=49%) and summer (NME=71% $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and NMB=16%) when the
594 oxidation of SVOCs and IVOCs is enhanced significantly.

595

596 **5.2.2 SOA**



597 The best performance of the model occurs during spring (NME=46%, NMB=-
598 24%) followed by the autumn (NME=52%, NMB=-25%) and summer (NME=44%,
599 NMB=-28%) (Table 3; Figure 11b). However, during winter the model strongly
600 underpredicts OOA concentrations (NME=80%, NMB=-80%). The overall
601 underprediction of OOA concentrations indicates that the model is missing an
602 important source or formation pathway of SOA. Possible underestimation of
603 residential biofuel emissions in our model, identified during the spatial and seasonal
604 evaluation of simulated POA, can lead to an underestimation of SOA formed from the
605 oxidation of these emissions during winter. Fountoukis et al. (2015) also reported low
606 modeled SOA values compared to AMS OOA over the Paris region and attributed this
607 discrepancy to the transformation of BBOA to OOA without the presence of sunlight
608 reported by some recent studies (Bougiatioti et al., 2014; Crippa et al., 2013).
609 Underestimation of cold-start vehicle emissions during winter can also lead to a
610 significant underestimation of SOA since SOA produced from organic compounds
611 emitted during the warm-up phase are 3-7 times higher than SOA produced when the
612 catalyst is hot (Gordon et al., 2014). Furthermore, ORACLE assumes that the only
613 source of SOA is the homogeneous gas-phase photochemical oxidation of SOA
614 precursors. Therefore, the negative bias of the model could also be explained by its
615 inability to simulate SOA formed from aqueous-phase and other heterogeneous
616 reactions, including processes like oligomerization. Finally, the underprediction of
617 SOA by the model during winter may be also associated with an overestimation of
618 atmospheric removal.

619 PMF and EMAC results indicate that aged SOA levels exceed those of fresh SOA
620 during all seasons. The EMAC performance for aged SOA appears to be better during
621 spring (NMB=-33%), summer (NMB=-36%), and autumn (NMB=-32%), and much
622 worse during winter (NMB=-91%) (Table 4; Figure 11c). The overall performance of
623 the model for fresh SOA (NME=60%, NMB=-30%) (Table 5, Figure 11d) appears to
624 be better than aged SOA (NME=71%, NMB=-40%) which supports our conclusions
625 from the spatial model evaluation that the atmospheric aging of SOA may be
626 underestimated by EMAC. However, this apparent discrepancy may be partially due
627 to our assumption that LV-OOA corresponds only to multiple generational SOA. This
628 hypothesis is not consistent with recent studies that reported formation of LV-OOA
629 from the first oxidation step of biogenic VOCs (Ehn et al., 2014). During winter,



630 EMAC also underestimates the fresh SOA levels (NMB=-79%). This underprediction
631 of both fresh and aged SOA during winter suggests that one or more important
632 wintertime SOA formation pathways are missing from our model.

633

634 **5.3 OA composition**

635 According to PMF results, the OOA/OA ratio increases downwind of the urban
636 centers and in rural areas (from 61% over urban environments to 86% over remote
637 areas; Figure 12a). This is in general consistent with the EMAC predictions. The
638 predicted SOA/OA increases downwind of the urban centers (from 76% over urban
639 locations to 80% over rural areas). This change is lower than the PMF estimates but
640 could be explained by the uncertainty of the PMF analyses (Figure 12a).
641 Alternatively, this may indicate that EMAC tends to underpredict the aging rate of
642 OA. OOA/OA is consistently high during all seasons (around 80%) with the highest
643 ratio predicted in summer (90%) and the lowest in winter (74%) (Figure 12b). The
644 model predicts high SOA/OA during all seasons except winter (Figure 12b). The
645 highest SOA/OA ratio is predicted during summer (87%) when the photo-oxidation of
646 SOA is enhanced. The low SOA/OA during winter (47%) once again shows the
647 inability of EMAC model to reproduce the observed SOA levels during that season.

648 Both PMF and EMAC indicate that aged SOA is higher than fresh SOA over all
649 types of environment and seasons (Figure 13). PMF results suggest that LV-
650 OOA/OA is higher over urban-downwind environments (69%), while EMAC aged
651 SOA/SOA is similar over all types of locations (59%) (Figure 13a). The high fresh
652 SOA fraction estimated over rural areas by both PMF and EMAC (around 40%)
653 indicates that fresh SOA production occurs even far away from the sources. The
654 composition of OOA exhibits a seasonal cycle as well since AMS results indicate that
655 LV-OOA/OA is higher during winter (73%) and lower during summer (57%)
656 (Figure 13b). EMAC predicts the highest aged SOA/SOA during spring (68%) and
657 the lowest during winter (53%) without any clear seasonal pattern (Figure 13b).

658

659 **6. Conclusions**

660 This study estimates the impact of open biomass burning and anthropogenic
661 combustion emissions (from fossil and biofuels) of SVOCs and IVOCs to global OA
662 budgets and distributions. The EMAC simulations indicate that the tropospheric



663 burden of OA consists of 32% fOA and 30% bbOA. Furthermore, 90% of fOA and
664 70% of bbOA is predicted to be secondary. These results support recent findings from
665 global studies that have also reported strong contributions of SOA from
666 anthropogenic sources to global OA concentrations (Spracklen et al., 2011; Carslaw et
667 al., 2013; Lee et al., 2013; Tsimpidi et al., 2014).

668 The tropospheric burdens of fOA and bbOA follow a clear seasonal pattern. fOA is
669 higher during the boreal summer (0.63 Tg) and lower during winter (0.57 Tg), while
670 bbOA is higher during the dry season in the tropics (1.15 Tg during August) and
671 lower during the wet season (0.17 Tg during April). The simulated spatial distribution
672 of fOA and bbOA is driven by the sources of their precursors and the range of their
673 atmospheric transport. Higher fPOA concentrations occur over densely populated and
674 highly industrialized areas of the Northern Hemisphere while further downwind fPOA
675 decreases substantially due to dilution and evaporation. On the other hand, fSOA
676 remains at high levels downwind of the anthropogenic sources due to the continued
677 chemical transformations. bbPOA concentrations peak over the tropical and the boreal
678 forests while bbSOA has high concentrations over a wide area covering most of South
679 America, Central and South Africa, Southeastern Asia, Indonesia and even parts of
680 the Southern Atlantic Ocean.

681 AMS results from 84 field campaigns performed in the Northern Hemisphere
682 during the examined period (2001-2010) are also used to provide further insights into
683 the composition of OA in three different types of environments: urban, urban-
684 downwind and rural areas, during the four seasons of the year. The spatial analysis of
685 AMS and EMAC results indicate that over urban areas POA is highest while further
686 downwind and in rural areas decreases substantially due to dilution and evaporation.
687 On the other hand, SOA is found to be high over all types of environments. This
688 results in an increase of the SOA/OA ratio downwind of the urban centers. The
689 seasonal analysis of the results performed in this study does not include the values
690 over the urban areas since the model cannot reproduce the high OA concentrations
691 over urban environments due to its limited spatial resolution. The seasonal evaluation
692 of the model results against the AMS identified a major weakness of the model
693 associated with its failure to reproduce the POA and SOA concentration levels during
694 winter. This indicates that the model is probably missing both an important source and
695 a formation pathway of OA, which becomes increasingly important during boreal



696 winter. Possible causes include the underestimation of residential biofuel emissions
697 during winter, the underestimation of vehicle cold-start emissions, the neglect of
698 aqueous-phase and heterogeneous oxidation reactions in the model, and the
699 overestimation of the atmospheric removal of POA and freshly formed SOA.

700 AMS results indicate that OA consists of 15% HOA and 85% OOA on average
701 during all four seasons. EMAC is able to reproduce this dominance of OOA and its
702 results suggest that SOA accounts for 80% of total OA. At many locations, PMF
703 analysis identified two subtypes of OOA that differ in volatility and oxidation state
704 (LV-OOA and SV-OOA). PMF results indicate that LV-OOA is higher than SV-OOA
705 regardless of the season or the type of environment. The overall LV-OOA/OOA
706 during the four seasons of the year is 63% according to AMS measurement analysis.
707 Assuming that SV-OOA corresponds to fresh SOA (first generation oxidation
708 products) and LV-OOA corresponds to aged SOA (later generation oxidation
709 products), EMAC is able to reproduce the PMF results predicting a dominance of
710 aged SOA during all seasons (59% of the total SOA on average).

711

712 **7. Acknowledgements**

713 The research leading to these results has received funding from the European
714 Research Council under the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme
715 (FP7/2007-2013) / ERC grant agreement n° 226144. A.P. Tsimpidi acknowledges
716 support from a DFG individual grand programme (project reference TS 335/2-1) and
717 V.A. Karydis acknowledges support from a FP7 Marie Curie Career Integration Grant
718 (project reference 618349).

719

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1216 **Table 1.** Predicted tropospheric burden in Tg of organic aerosol components during the
1217 decade 2001-2010.

OA component	Tropospheric burden (Tg)	Monthly Standard Deviation (σ)
fPOA	0.06	0.01
fSOA	0.57	0.06
bbPOA	0.18	0.13
bbSOA	0.41	0.27
OA	1.98	0.54

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1220 **Table 2.** Statistical evaluation of EMAC POA (sum of fPOA and bbPOA) against

1221 AMS POA (sum of HOA and BBOA) from 84 data sets worldwide during 2001-2010.

1222

Site Type ^a	Number of datasets	Mean Observed ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Mean Predicted ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	MAGE ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	MB ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	NME (%)	NMB (%)	RMSE ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)
Urban	22	2.74	0.96	1.79	-1.79	65	-65	2.64
Urban Downwind	14	0.69	0.59	0.35	-0.10	51	-15	0.45
Rural/Remote	46	0.43	0.47	0.37	0.04	87	9	0.5
Season^b								
Winter	5	0.93	0.61	0.51	-0.32	55	-34	0.69
Spring	31	0.44	0.53	0.41	0.09	94	21	0.52
Summer	13	0.45	0.44	0.30	-0.01	68	-3	0.40
Autumn	11	0.49	0.42	0.27	-0.07	54	-15	0.37
Total	60	0.49	0.50	0.37	0.01	75	1	0.49

1223 ^a Statistics are calculated for a specific site type during all four seasons1224 ^b Statistics are calculated for a specific season excluding the values from urban areas

1225



1226 **Table 3.** Statistical evaluation of EMAC SOA against AMS OOA from 84 data sets
 1227 worldwide during 2001-2010.
 1228

Site Type ^a	Number of datasets	Mean Observed ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Mean Predicted ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	MAGE ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	MB ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	NME (%)	NMB (%)	RMSE ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)
Urban	22	4.33	2.97	1.96	-1.36	45	-31	2.51
Urban Downwind	14	2.95	2.20	1.07	-0.75	36	-25	1.64
Rural/Remote	46	2.72	1.86	1.45	-0.86	54	-32	2.09
Season^b								
Winter	5	2.72	0.55	2.17	-2.17	80	-80	2.56
Spring	31	2.38	1.80	1.10	-0.58	46	-24	1.47
Summer	13	4.07	2.94	1.81	-1.13	44	-28	3.01
Autumn	11	2.35	1.78	1.22	-0.57	52	-25	1.39
Total	60	2.77	1.94	1.36	-0.83	49	-30	2.00

1229 ^a Statistics are calculated for a specific site type during all four seasons

1230 ^b Statistics are calculated for a specific season excluding the values from urban areas

1231



1232 **Table 4.** Statistical evaluation of EMAC aged SOA against AMS LV-OOA from 51
1233 data sets worldwide during 2001-2010.
1234

Site Type ^a	Number of datasets	Mean Observed ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Mean Predicted ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	MAGE ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	MB ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	NME (%)	NMB (%)	RMSE ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)
Urban	10	3.43	2.72	1.47	-0.72	43	-21	2.04
Urban Downwind	8	1.77	0.94	1.28	-0.83	72	-47	1.55
Rural/Remote	33	1.65	1.02	1.17	-0.63	71	-38	1.69
Season^b								
Winter	3	2.36	0.20	2.16	-2.16	91	-91	2.36
Spring	19	1.25	0.84	0.94	-0.41	76	-33	1.25
Summer	10	2.45	1.57	1.64	-0.88	67	-36	2.38
Autumn	9	1.49	1.01	0.89	-0.48	59	-32	1.10
Total	41	1.68	1.01	1.19	-0.67	71	-40	1.67

1235 ^a Statistics are calculated for a specific site type during all four seasons

1236 ^b Statistics are calculated for a specific season excluding the values from urban areas

1237



1238 **Table 5.** Statistical evaluation of EMAC fresh SOA against AMS SV-OOA from 51
 1239 data sets worldwide during 2001-2010.

1240

Site Type ^a	Number of datasets	Mean Observed ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Mean Predicted ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	MAGE ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	MB ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	NME (%)	NMB (%)	RMSE ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)
Urban	10	2.14	1.88	0.69	-0.26	32	-12	0.81
Urban Downwind	8	0.81	0.64	0.41	-0.17	51	-21	0.76
Rural/Remote	33	1.03	0.70	0.64	-0.33	62	-32	0.85
Season^b								
Winter	3	0.87	0.18	0.69	-0.69	79	-79	0.76
Spring	19	0.65	0.40	0.53	-0.25	81	-39	0.71
Summer	10	1.81	1.25	0.88	-0.56	48	-31	1.21
Autumn	9	0.83	0.86	0.39	0.03	47	4	0.52
Total	41	0.99	0.69	0.60	-0.30	60	-30	0.83

1241 ^a Statistics are calculated for a specific site type during all four seasons

1242 ^b Statistics are calculated for a specific season excluding the values from urban areas

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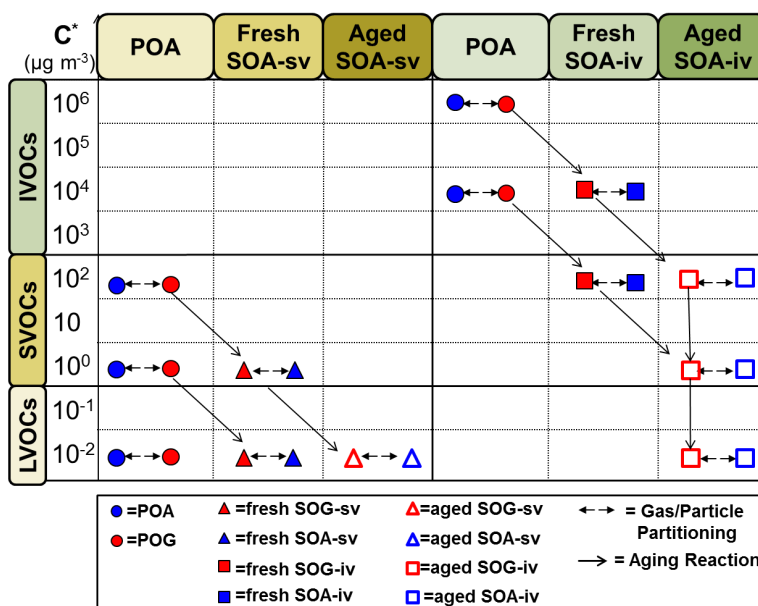
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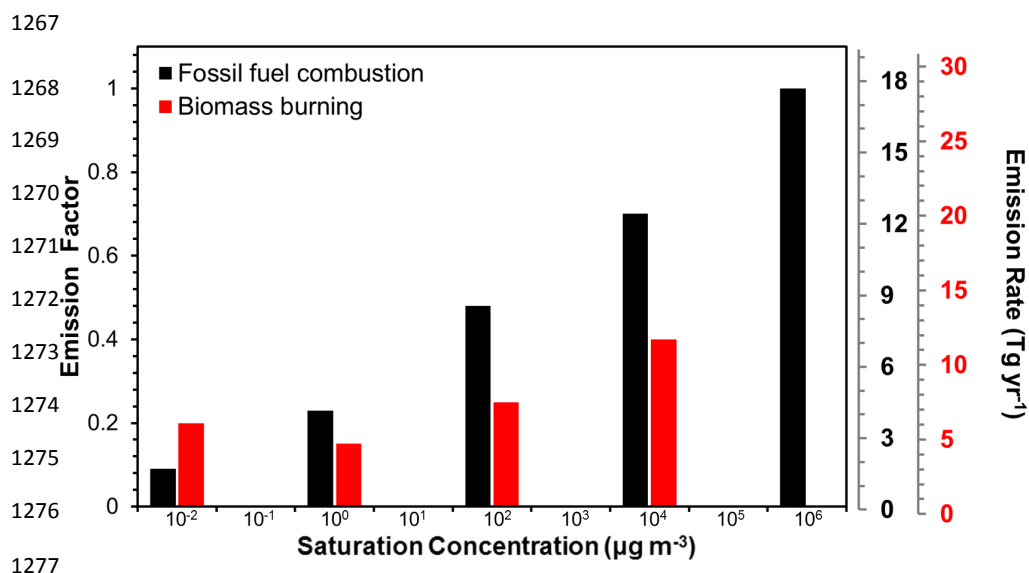
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Figure 1: Schematic of the VBS resolution and the formation of SOA from SVOC and IVOC emissions. Red indicates the vapor phase and blue the particulate phase. The circles represent primary organic material that can be emitted either in the gas or in the aerosol phase. Filled triangles and squares indicate the formation of SOA from SVOCs and IVOCs, respectively, by fuel combustion and biomass burning sources from the first oxidation step (fresh SOA). Open triangles and squares represent SOA formed in additional oxidation steps (aged SOA) from SVOCs and IVOCs by the same sources. The partitioning processes, the aging reactions of the organic compounds, and the names of the species used to track all compounds are also shown.



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1278 **Figure 2.** Volatility distribution for fuel combustion (in black) and
1279 biomass burning (in red) organic emissions. The emission factors for
1280 fuel combustion emissions are derived from Robinson et al. (2007)
1281 while for biomass burning POA emissions are from May et al. (2013)
1282 (shown in the primary y-axis). The corresponding emission rates are
1283 also shown in the secondary y-axis.

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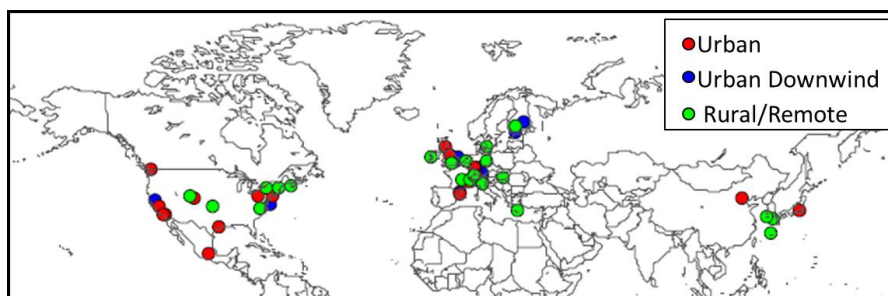
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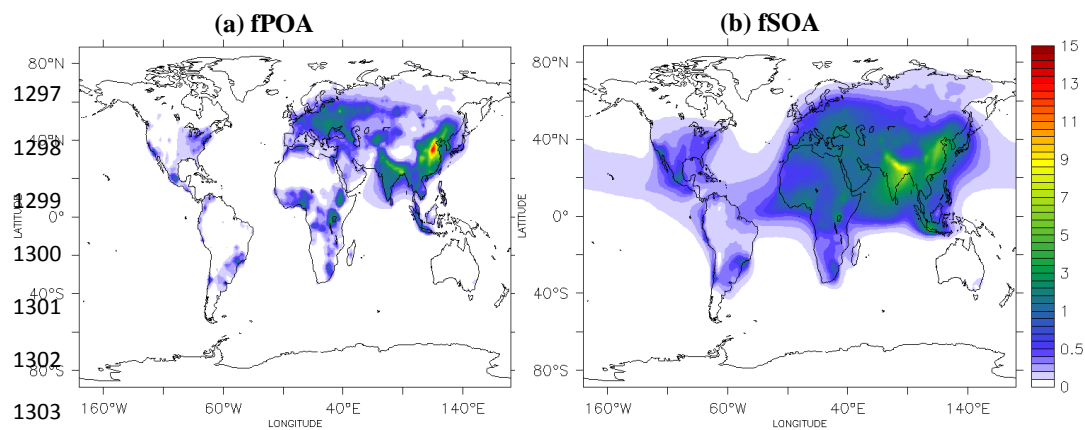
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1293 **Figure 3:** Location of the field measurement campaigns used for evaluating the model
1294 during 2001-2010. Urban, urban downwind and rural/remote areas are represented by
1295 red, blue, and green colors respectively.

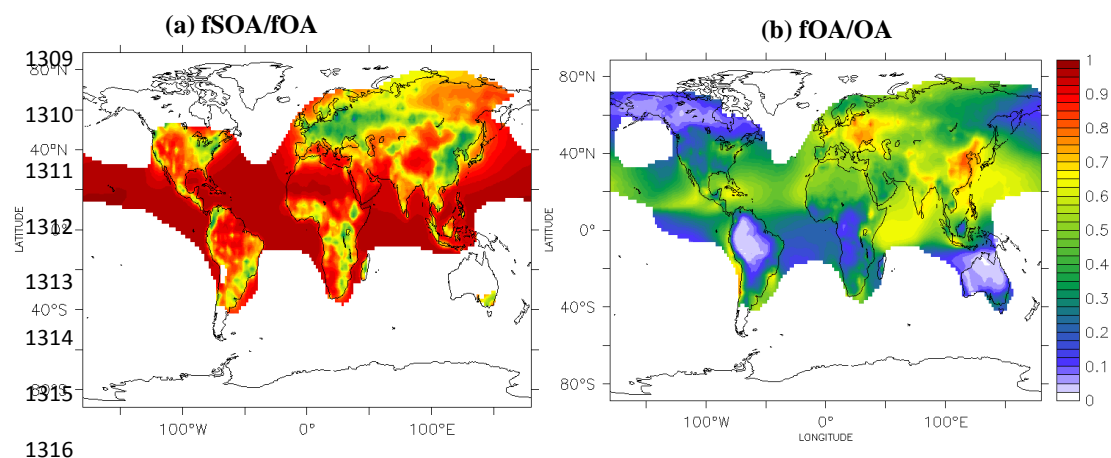
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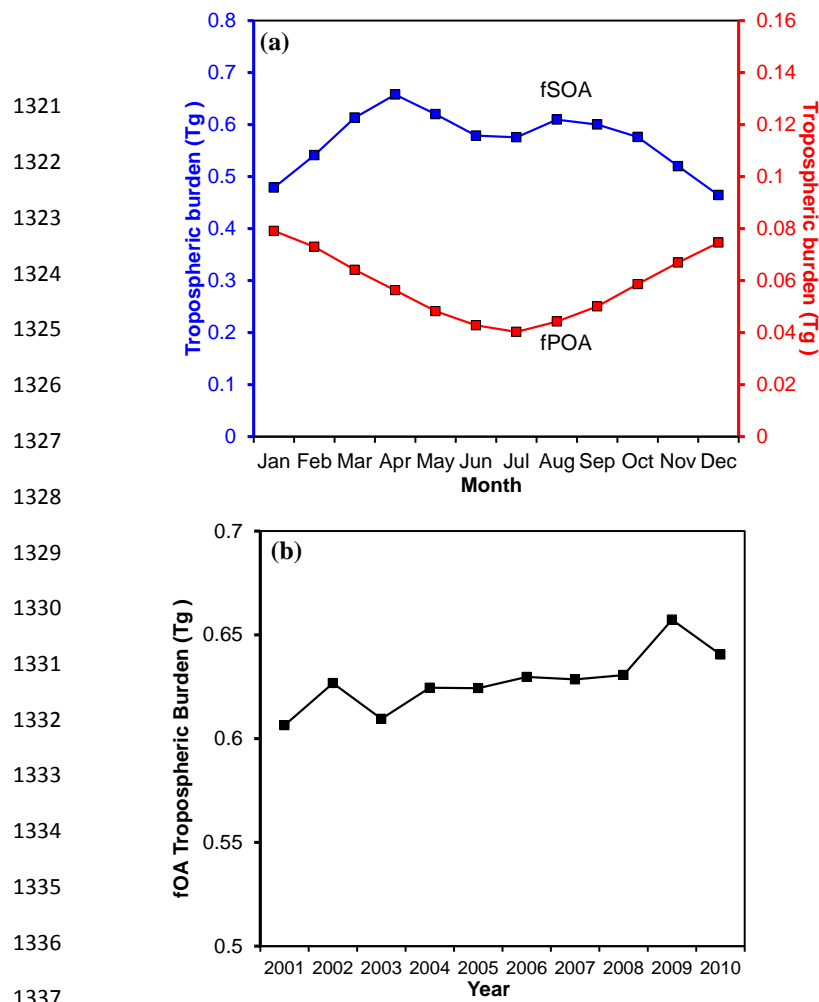
1305 **Figure 4:** Predicted average surface concentrations (in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) of: (a) POA from fuel
1306 combustion sources (fPOA) and (b) SOA from the oxidation of SVOCs and IVOCs
1307 from fuel combustion sources (fSOA) during the years 2001-2010.

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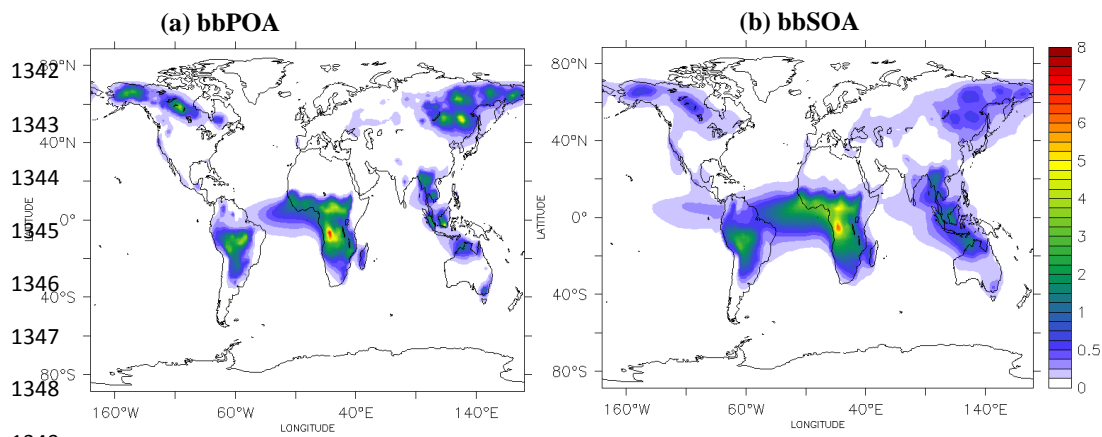
1317 **Figure 5:** Predicted ratio of (a) fuel combustion SOA (fSOA) to total fuel combustion
1318 OA (sum of fPOA and fSOA) and (b) fuel combustion OA to total OA (sum of fOA,
1319 bbOA, aSOA, and bSOA) during the years 2001-2010.

1320



1338 **Figure 6:** (a) Average predicted tropospheric burden (Tg) of fSOA (in blue, primary y-
1339 axis) and fPOA (in red, secondary y-axis) during the year and (b) annually averaged
1340 tropospheric burden of total fuel combustion OA (fOA) during 2001-2010.

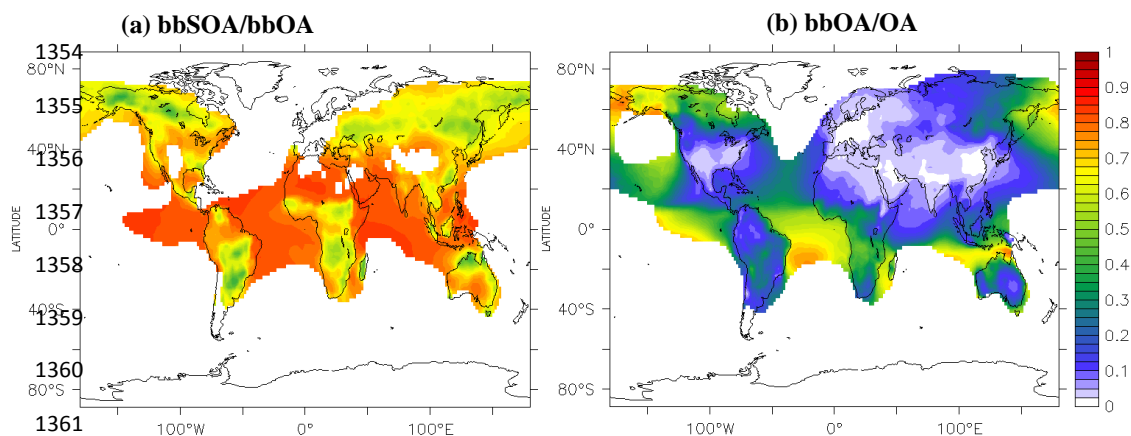
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1350 **Figure 7:** Predicted average surface concentrations (in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) of: (a) POA from
1351 biomass burning sources (bbPOA) and (b) SOA from the oxidation of SVOCs and
1352 IVOCs from biomass burning sources (bbSOA) during the years 2001-2010.

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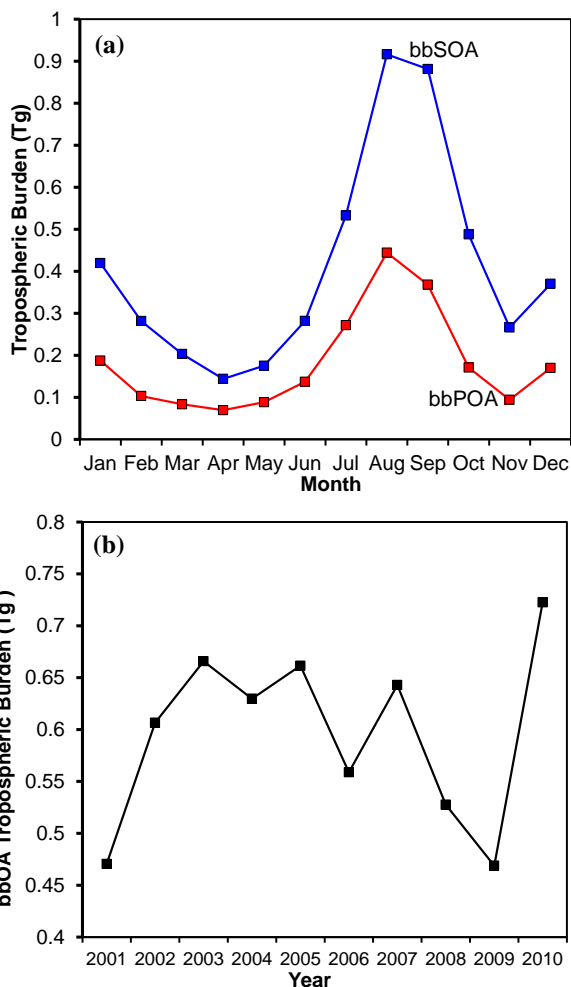
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1363 **Figure 8:** Predicted ratio of (a) biomass burning SOA (bbSOA) to total biomass
1364 burning OA (sum of bbPOA and bbSOA) and (b) biomass burning OA to total OA
1365 (sum of fOA, bbOA, aSOA, and bSOA) during the years 2001-2010.

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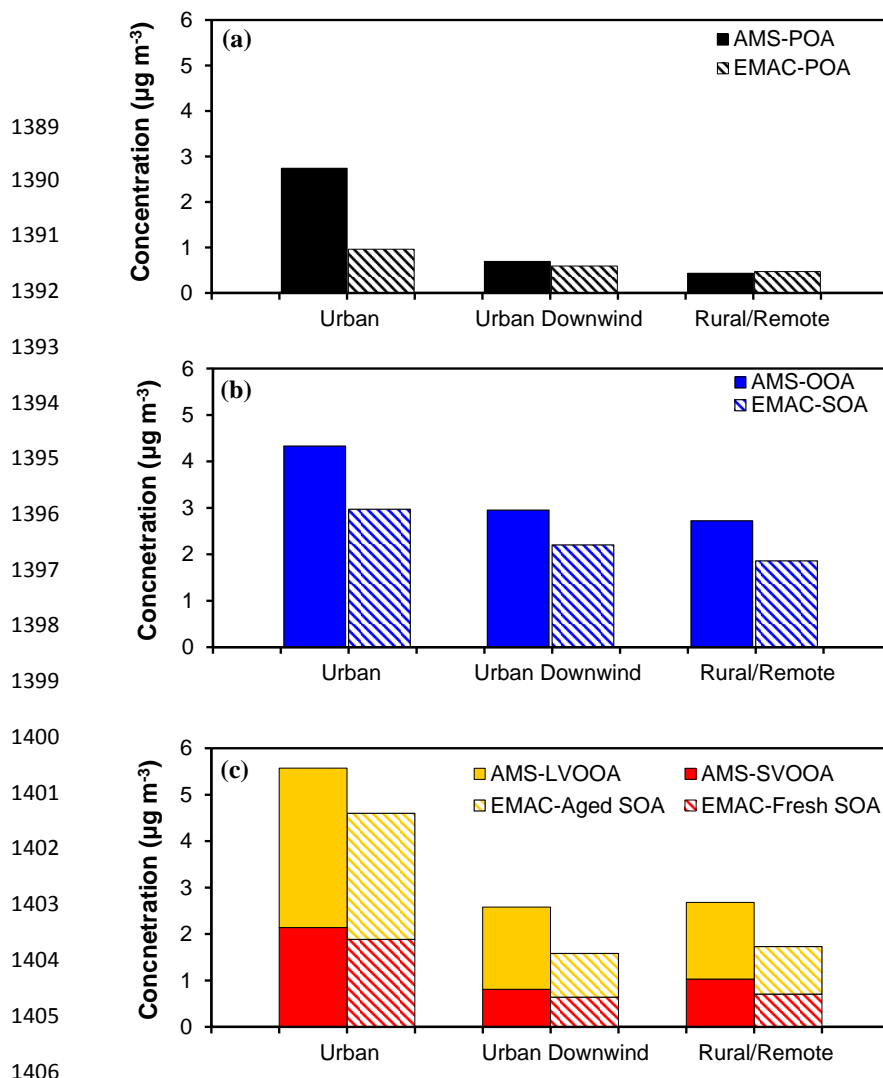


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1385 **Figure 9:** (a) Monthly averaged predicted tropospheric burden (Tg) of bbSOA (in
1386 blue) and bbPOA (in red) and (b) Annual average tropospheric burden of total
1387 biomass burning OA (bbOA) during 2001-2010.

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1407 **Figure 10:** Comparison of average (a) predicted POA against AMS-POA (sum of
1408 AMS-HOA and AMS-BBOA) (b) predicted SOA against AMS-OOA, and, (c)
1409 predicted fresh SOA and aged SOA against AMS-SVOOA and AMS-LVOOA from
1410 84 data sets worldwide over urban, urban downwind and rural/remote areas during
1411 2001-2010.

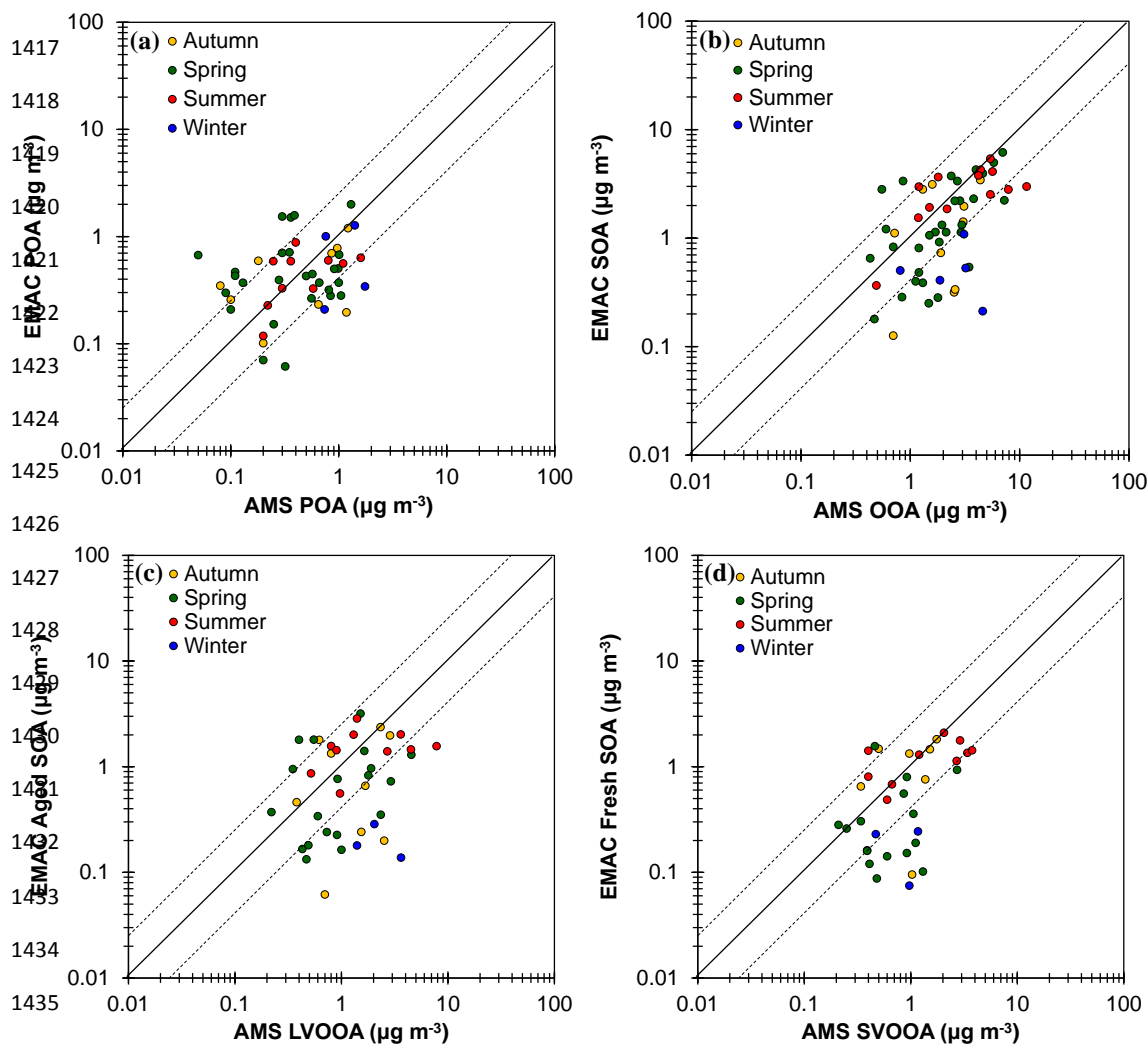
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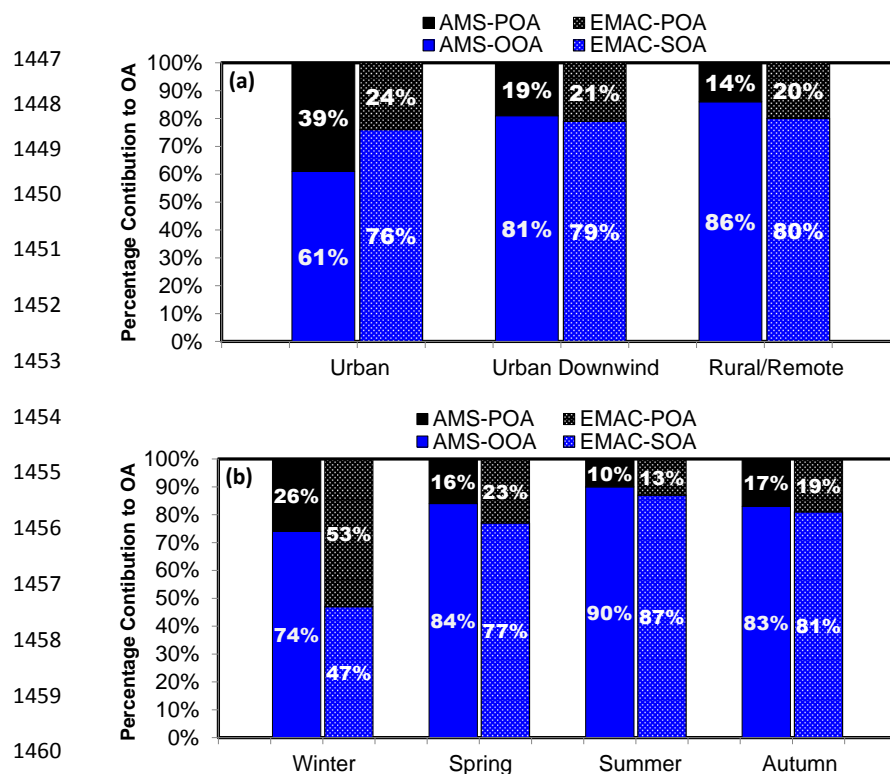
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1437 **Figure 11:** Scatterplots comparing model results against AMS for: (a) POA, (b)
1438 OOA, (c) LV-OOA, and (d) SV-OOA concentrations (in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) derived from 84 data
1439 sets over the Northern Hemisphere during 2001-2010. Each point represents the data
1440 set average value and is colored based on the season the field campaign took place.
1441 Also shown are the 1:1, 2:1, and 1:2 lines.

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1461 **Figure 12:** (a) Spatial and (b) seasonal composition of total OA mass calculated from
 1462 EMAC and AMS results for 84 data sets worldwide during 2001-2010

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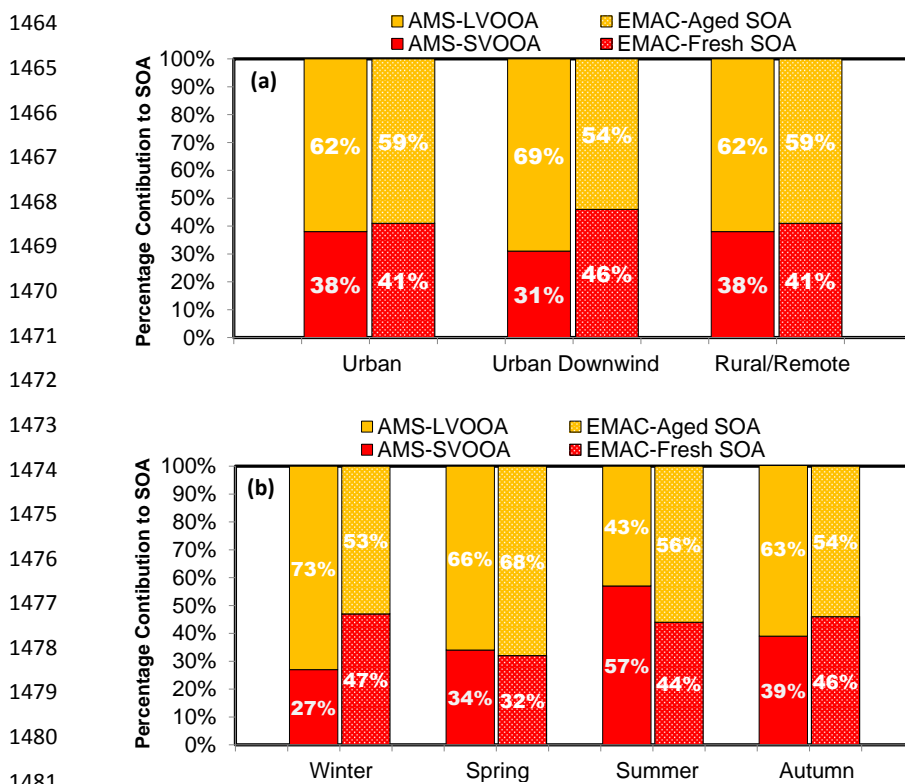


Figure 13: (a) Spatial and (b) seasonal composition of SOA and OOA mass calculated from EMAC and AMS results, respectively, for 51 data sets worldwide during 2001-2010