

**Interactive comments on "BAERLIN2014 – stationary measurements and source apportionment at an urban background station in Berlin, Germany" by Erika von Schneidemesser et al.**

**Anonymous Referee #1**

Received and published: 3 January 2018

This manuscript presents a very elaborate description of a part of the results of a 3-months summer campaign in Berlin 2014. VOC and PM10 data of ground-based stations are analyzed. Data are presented with care and in great detail including supplementary material. Plenty of data were produced, which somewhat justifies that they are presented in 2 companion papers, of which the present one is the second. Data are analyzed using various techniques including statistics, comparison with emission inventories, backward trajectories. The results provide a valuable insight into the chemistry of gas and particulate phases of the Berlin urban agglomeration in summer 2014.

Specifically the contribution of biogenic sources to the reactivity of organic material is analyzed. Data are compared with previous, similar studies in other urban areas of the world such as Paris (France) and the Pearl River Delta (China). The style of the presentation is fluid and smooth. For all these reasons, the manuscript should be accepted for publication in ACP. This reviewer has only one remark and some minor editorial comments that the authors should respect when preparing the final version. Unfortunately, the manuscript does not present any novel insight or idea. It follows common lines and techniques. It is more a technical expertise than a scientifically thrilling contribution.

*Response: We thank the referee for the generally very positive assessment of the paper. We do think that the results are novel in the sense that they considerably advance our understanding of the atmospheric chemistry interactions, pollution levels, and sources in an important European city. However, we agree that there were no major surprises found in the observations yet that would warrant a highlight paper, which is why we are pleased to publish this as a disciplinary paper in ACP.*

**Remark:**

There is some mismatch in arguments in that the chemical composition of PM10 is, on the one hand (section 3.5.1), discussed in terms of medium range backward trajectories of air masses and on the other hand (section 3.5.4), discussed in terms of the more local emission inventory of the Berlin area. The authors should emphasize more explicitly the limitations of both of these analyzes.

*Response: The reviewer brings up a good point. Some text has been added at the end of section 3.5.3 to highlight these differences and limitations. Furthermore, the limitations of*

the comparison to the EI is also discussed in more detail in section 3.5.4. The added text reads: "It should be noted that ambient air samples include contributions from both local sources as well as emissions that have been transported from locations further away. While the back trajectory analysis is more relevant for interpreting the influence of emissions from the surrounding region, a comparison to the Berlin emission inventory reflects on the influence of local source contributions. Both play a role, but neither capture the complete picture, with limitations in both cases, as discussed further below."

Editorial comments:

Figs. 4, 8, 9, 10, y-axes units: superscripts ("3") should be formatted as superscripts

*Response: Done.*

Fig. 5: The grey background color seems somewhat awkward. The color scale has no unit. The figure should not have a headline.

*Response: These aspects of the figure have been changed as suggested.*

Fig. 7: Why do the axes' scales start at mixing ratios below zero? This seems like a standard R graph, which should be optimized.

*Response: The reviewer is correct, this was an oversight and has been corrected.*

line 37 and many other places in the manuscript: Replace "ca." by "approx."

*Response: Done.*

line 133: On first occurrence of AVUS, you may say "the so-called AVUS motorway" or similar

*Response: Done.*

line 259: please subscribe the x in NO<sub>x</sub>

*Response: While no occurrence of NO<sub>x</sub> was found on line 259, the manuscript was searched for occurrences of NO<sub>x</sub> and anywhere where the x was not subscripted was corrected.*

82 **Anonymous Referee #2**

83 Received and published: 1 April 2018

84

85 The study reports on VOC and PM measurements made in Berlin during the  
86 BAERLIN2014 field campaign. A variety of instruments were used to make  
87 measurements of VOCs (Canisters, Cartridges, PTR-MS) and PM (filters, particle  
88 number, surface area). These measurements are of great value to the atmospheric  
89 chemistry community, and provide insights on air pollution in a major European city.  
90 The main finding is that biogenic emissions are significant contributors to ozone and  
91 PM in Berlin. This is clearly an important finding.

92

93 However, I have some critiques that hopefully will strengthen the study's main  
94 conclusion. Also, at times the manuscript seems to be written as an overview paper  
95 of the campaign, which distracts from the analysis of field measurements. With  
96 revisions strengthening the robustness of VOC results, along with streamlining the  
97 manuscript to emphasize key results, I believe this paper has the potential to be  
98 published in Atmospheric Chemistry & Physics.

99

100 *Response: We thank the reviewer for the comments and believe that the suggested*  
101 *revisions have strengthened the paper. The paper was indeed written to be a form of*  
102 *overview paper, but with an attempt to go beyond a simple overview of the*  
103 *campaign to provide some important findings from data analyses as well. We hope*  
104 *that by addressing the reviewer comments we have found a sufficient balance.*

105

106 General Comments

107 (1) For estimating OH reactivity, the results appear to be based only on VOC canister  
108 samples. Canisters could be missing key VOCs, especially oxygenated compounds,  
109 which may contribute significantly to OH reactivity. Karl et al. (2018) recently found a  
110 large flux of oxygenated VOC emissions in a European city, around half of the total  
111 VOC flux, including more highly oxidized OVOCs. The more oxidized OVOCs, which  
112 Karl et al. measured using a PTR-ToF-MS, are not on the list of compounds listed in  
113 Table S1. Therefore, this study likely presents an upper bound estimate of biogenic  
114 VOC emissions on OH reactivity, due to missing OVOCs. Discussing potential gaps in  
115 canister sampling systems in measuring VOCs and how it could affect results of this  
116 study is warranted.

117

118 Karl, T., et al. (2018). "Urban flux measurements reveal a large pool of oxygenated  
119 volatile organic compound emissions." Proceedings of the National Academy of  
120 Sciences of the United States of America 115(6): 1186-1191.

121

122 *Response: The reviewer makes an important point. We have added text to section*  
123 *3.4 in two places to address this limitation, as well as integrating the Karl et al.*  
124 *study. The added text reads: "The contribution from oxygenated compounds, despite*

their substantial contribution to mixing ratio, ranged from only 5-13% of OH reactivity. That said, only 6 oxygenated NMVOCs (of 57 total NMVOCs) were included here, and a recent study by Karl et al., (2018) found an appreciably greater fraction of oxygenated NMVOCs in urban areas than previous studies identified. The molar flux of oxygenated NMVOCs being actively emitted into the urban atmosphere from measurements in Europe was found to be  $56 \pm 10\%$  relative to the total NMVOC flux (Karl et al., 2018), which indicates that a much larger contribution from oxygenated NMVOCs is possible if different measurement techniques are used." and "Finally, while the 57 NMVOCs included here to calculate OH reactivity were chosen to facilitate comparison to previous studies, a more exhaustive list could change the picture. For example, as mentioned above, the limited number of oxygenated NMVOCs measured would likely lessen the contributions of the other compound classes."

(2) Since the analysis appears to focus on canister samples for measurements of VOCs and in estimating of OH reactivity. It is not clear why measurements by cartridge samples (Section 2.2.2.) and PTR-MS (Section 2.2.3.) are included in the manuscript, other than to show that such measurements were made in BAERLIN2014. If these measurement systems are to be included, a more thorough evaluation of their VOC data is needed. By contrast, I found the PM instruments described to be well discussed and presented in the Results & Discussion section.

*Response: We thank the reviewer for the comment on the PM information presentation and discussion. As to the VOC measurements, this was in part written as an overview paper and further analysis, specifically PMF analysis that has already been conducted, is planned to be published based on the PTR-MS data. However, including that here would make the already long manuscript, way too long. For this reason, even though the PTR-MS data is not discussed in significant detail, we wanted to include it here. It could be mentioned that such analysis is planned, but we are generally not in favor of doing so unless such work is already at or very near the submitted stage. The point about the cartridge samples is well taken and given later comments about the relative importance of bVOCs, additional discussion of the data from the cartridge samples, which were taken to specifically address a wider range of bVOCs, was added in section 3.4. For changes please see the track changes version of the manuscript, as well as the answer to comment 9.*

(3) Lines 452-467. The lack of agreement between the PTR-MS and VOC canister sampling analysis is disconcerting. While it is true that the PTR-MS may lack specificity of individual compounds at a given m/z, some masses have been fairly well characterized now in urban air, including OVOCs (e.g., acetaldehyde, acetone, MEK, and methanol), aromatics (e.g., benzene and toluene), and monoterpenes (see Warneke et al., 2007). The way this paragraph is written, it appears to dismiss the PTR-MS measurements. However, there are also questions about sampling artifacts of key classes of compounds by canisters. For example, Lerner et al. (2017) report significant sampling artifacts present in canister samples of OVOCs and heavy aromatics (C9+). The analysis of VOC measurements could be strengthened by a

more thorough evaluation for why differences are observed in the PTR-MS and canister samples, and by leveraging measurements from the two systems later in the analysis, rather than only highlighting results from the canister samples. The discussion mainly focuses on correlations, but are there any systematic biases in concentrations between the two instruments?

Warneke, C., et al. (2007). "Determination of urban volatile organic compound emission ratios and comparison with an emissions database." *Journal of Geophysical Research-Atmospheres* 112: D10S47.

Lerner, B. M., et al. (2017). "An improved, automated whole air sampler and gas chromatography mass spectrometry analysis system for volatile organic compounds in the atmosphere." *Atmospheric Measurement Techniques* 10(1): 291-313.

*Response: The reviewer brings up a good point. To a certain extent this section may have been written without enough specificity, since most previous work when comparing different instruments are done as part of inter-comparisons where e.g. the same inlet system is used to ensure comparable air masses, etc. That is not the case here and therefore shouldn't be compared in the same way. Regardless, bringing in additional literature, as suggested by the reviewer and clarifying this point – since the PTR-MS measurements were not intended to be dismissed – was done. The paragraph was revised and the discussion extended to address the points of comparison and the possibility of systematic bias (none was identified). The revised text now reads: "Correlations between the canister samples and PTR-MS results were carried out for 35 individual m/z values for which at least one compound was quantified in the canister samples. While the absolute r values of the correlations ranged from 0.00016 to 0.63, the correlations were generally quite poor, showing little to no correlation for many of the m/z (only 9 of the 35 total number of m/z values evaluated had r values greater than 0.3), with no systematic bias identified. There are a number of reasons for this, beyond the difference in how the instruments measure (m/z vs compounds), such as inlet location and sampling time. Previously, in a targeted inter-comparison experiment where whole air samples (canisters) were compared with online PTR-MS measurements, differences of as little as 20 s in the sampling intervals contributed to scatter in the comparison of the two measurements that was especially relevant for the more reactive NMVOCs (de Gouw and Warneke, 2006). Additionally, scatter in inter-comparisons between ground-based fast time response and GC-MS systems was found to be typical (Lerner et al., 2017 and references therein). In the context of this study, the measurements should not be considered as an inter-comparison since, as described above, the inlets were approx. 5 meters apart, at different heights above ground level, with one street-side and the other above a measurement container. For these reasons, while both measurements are valid, as this comparison shows, the differences in quantification method, but also importantly instrument location and set-up result in substantial differences in what is being quantified so that the comparison is limited in value."*

#### Specific Comments

(4) Line 165. It is not clear here how terpenes are affected by canister transport and storage.

218 *Response: Text was added here to explicitly address terpenes. The text now reads,*  
219 *“Oxygenated compounds differed by up to 10% and terpenes by up to 20% over the*  
220 *same time period (Hengst, 2007).”*

221  
222 (5) Line 435. It is not clear what the “BLUME network” is. Some description about  
223 what this measurement is would be helpful.

224  
225 *Response: The BLUME network is described initially in the introduction and used*  
226 *subsequently throughout the paper. This refers to measurements from the existing*  
227 *city monitoring network. As a reminder to the reader we have amended the text to*  
228 *read, “...reported from the BLUME city air quality monitoring network...”.*

229  
230 (6) Line 440. It is not clear which instrument is located at street-level. In the  
231 following discussion, it is implied that the PTR-MS is at street-level, but not explicitly.

232  
233 *Response: Explicit mention of which instruments are associated to which inlet was*  
234 *added to the text at this location.*

235  
236 (7) Line 464. What is m/z 9? This molecule would be smaller than carbon, so not a  
237 VOC.

238  
239 *Response: This is a miscommunication. The 9 here refers to the number of m/z*  
240 *ratios out of a total of 35 that had greater than a certain r value. The text has been*  
241 *amended to clarify this point.*

242  
243 (8) Line 499. There are several points below the 1:1, suggesting increases in mixing  
244 ratios. It would be interesting to highlight what these compounds are, and whether  
245 their lack of decrease/increase in concentration is consistent with the literature.

246  
247 *Response: As per the reviewer’s suggestion we have added a paragraph of text to*  
248 *address these points that suggest increases in mixing ratios. We have also added*  
249 *references to the literature that evaluate trends/changes in NMVOCs, however these*  
250 *are very limited for Europe. The text was added to Section 3.3 as follows: “There are*  
251 *a couple of exceptions in this comparison, where the mixing ratios measured in this*  
252 *campaign stand out as substantially higher than those measured 20 years ago.*  
253 *Considering only those few compounds that have a ratio of 0.6 or less for the*  
254 *average mixing ratio in 1996 relative to that in 2014, the biogenic contributions in*  
255 *Neukölln (isoprene (0.3), methylvinylketone (0.1)) show increases. These increases*  
256 *may be attributable to changes in vegetation around the measurement site. Other*  
257 *NMVOCs, such as cis-2-butene and cyclopentane showed increases for both the*  
258 *urban background site and traffic site (Tiergarten Tunnel vs Frankfurter Allee). Other*  
259 *compounds, such as cis-2-pentene and trans-2-butene (traffic site) and 1,2,3-*

260 trimethylbenzene (urban background) showed increases at only the one site type.  
261 While the literature on trends of NMVOCs is limited, data from a traffic site in  
262 London, a rural background site in the UK, and a remote site in Germany showed  
263 that over the period from 1998-2009 all individual NMVOCs evaluated (with the  
264 exception of n-heptane at the rural background site) were decreasing, with stronger  
265 decreases observed at the traffic site relative to the other site types (von  
266 Schneidemesser et al., 2010). Similarly, an evaluation of C2-C8 hydrocarbon data, as  
267 total HCs and by compound class, for a number of sites across the UK from 1994-  
268 2012, also documented decreases across all compound classes (Derwent et al.,  
269 2014). Finally, a broader evaluation of the trends in anthropogenic NMVOC emissions  
270 across Europe also documented a decrease between 2003 and 2012 (EEA, 2014,  
271 2016). As such, the existing literature does not provide any detailed documentation  
272 that might be able to address the potential increases in those few compounds here  
273 where an increase was observed. Furthermore, longer-term sampling may show that  
274 the increases documented here do not reflect the long-term trend."

275

276 (9) Line 522. Why is limonene not included under the biogenic category when it is  
277 measured (Table S1)? Not including limonene might understate the biogenic  
278 contribution. It would also help to break down the OH reactivity between isoprene, a-  
279 pinene, and b-pinene for the Neukolln and Altlandsberg sites. Some terpenes may be  
280 manmade and not biogenic (Derwent et al., 2007).

281

282 Derwent, R. G., et al. (2007). "Photochemical ozone creation potentials (POCPs) for  
283 different emission sources of organic compounds under European conditions  
284 estimated with a Master Chemical Mechanism." Atmospheric Environment 41(12):  
285 2570-2579.

286

287 *Response: This is in part an error in the text and in part a choice of which*  
288 *compounds to include in the OH reactivity analysis. The error in the text refers to the*  
289 *original line 518 where it was stated that 'The NMVOCs included in each of these*  
290 *categories are provided in Table S1.'* which is actually not correct. The earlier  
291 *reference to the compounds included in the classes where only the S1 is referenced is*  
292 *more accurate, since it is actually the explanatory text prior to Table S1, now labeled*  
293 *as Section S1, that lists the more limited set of compounds included, rather than all*  
294 *NMVOCs measured, which is what is represented in Table S1. This has been*  
295 *corrected in the revised manuscript to reference Section S1. The justification for the*  
296 *selection of the compounds was included in section 2.2.1.1, and the compounds*  
297 *were chosen based on the typical subset of NMVOCs that have been included in*  
298 *previous analyses of OH reactivity for comparability.*

299 *Additional analysis was done to evaluate the contribution of additional*  
300 *biogenics, such as limonene, sabinene, and eucalyptol, however, these compounds*  
301 *were not consistently found in all of the samples, including urban background or*  
302 *urban park samples. An indication of the role of some of these additional species*  
303 *might have been added to the text, at the end of section 3.4, and reads: "Finally,*  
304 *while the 57 NMVOCs included here to calculate OH reactivity were chosen to*  
305 *facilitate comparison to previous studies, a more exhaustive list could change the*

picture. For example, as mentioned above, the limited number of oxygenated NMVOCs measured would likely lessen the contributions of the other compound classes. As an example, adding six additional oxygenated NMVOCs (propanal, 2-butanol, 1-propanol, butanal, 1-butanol, pentanal) increased the total average OH reactivity between  $0.12 \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Plänterwald) to  $1.7 \text{ s}^{-1}$  (AVUS Motorway). The percent contribution of these six oxygenated NMVOCs ranges between 2.5% and 9.3% of the new total OH reactivity. In contrast, a similar analysis that included three additional biogenic NMVOCs (limonene, sabinene, eucalyptol) showed much smaller additional reactivity, never more than  $0.02 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . These compounds also were not consistently present across all samples."

Finally, we have added some text to the manuscript to acknowledge the potential anthropogenic source for compounds we have classed as biogenic. The text was added to section 3.4 and reads "While studies have shown that a number of NMVOCs, such as isoprene, or other terpenes can also have anthropogenic sources (Derwent et al., 2007; Reimann et al., 2000), we treat them as biogenic and do not try to tease apart the biogenic vs potential anthropogenic contributions in this context."

(10) Section 3.5.1. While I do not disagree with any of the statements made here, it was not clear by the end of the section what the new insights were. Also, this section could benefit from describing the bulk composition first across all samples, and provide better context for the back-trajectory analysis.

*Response: This section has been reorganized to address the points of the reviewer. Please see the track changes version of the manuscript for details on the reorganization. Furthermore, additional text has been added to provide context for the back-trajectory analysis, as follows: "Back trajectories were evaluated to provide information on the origin of the air masses and source-receptor relationships (Stein et al., 2015)." The main insights were the comparison of the values for Berlin to other studies in Europe, indicating that there are significant similarities in e.g. the secondary inorganic contributions to PM as other urban areas in Europe. These results were also included to provide context for the further PM/CMB analysis.*

(11) Line 696 – 703. Are the diesel and gasoline vehicle contributions from POA only? If so, a caveat may be warranted here that secondary PM from gasoline and diesel vehicles are not included, which are potentially important sources of PM from transportation (see Gordon et al., 2014).

Gordon, T. D., et al. (2014). "Secondary organic aerosol formation exceeds primary particulate matter emissions for light-duty gasoline vehicles." *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics* 14(9): 4661-4678.



Gordon, T. D., et al. (2014). "Secondary organic aerosol production from diesel vehicle exhaust: Impact of after treatment, fuel chemistry and driving cycle." Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics 14(9): 4643-4659.

*Response: The source profiles used in the CMB are based on chassis dynamometer tests that evaluated a range of vehicles, driving conditions, etc. and therefore are generally representative of POA. The reviewer makes a good point and this caveat has therefore been integrated into the text at the end of the section referenced here and reads: "Furthermore, it should be noted that the source profiles reflect primary organic aerosol emissions, and therefore the secondary aerosol produced from these vehicular sources, which has been shown to be substantial in many cases, depending on the control technologies in use (Gordon et al., 2014a; Gordon et al., 2014b), is not reflected in these attributions."*

(12) Line 709. It is not clear how high concentrations of inorganics support the finding of high amounts of SOA. Please describe in further detail.

*Response: This sentence could have been written more explicitly. As the inorganics mentioned are the largest contributors to secondary inorganic PM, their presence/higher concentrations indicate that the air masses have undergone some aging, including secondary aerosol formation. This aging would affect not only inorganic but also organic aerosol components. This has been explicitly indicated now in the sentence. "For all samples, a significant amount of secondary organic aerosol was calculated, 0.87 - 4.4  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  (18 - 63%). While this was the contribution to OC, high concentrations of secondary inorganics (sulfate, ammonium, nitrate) support the aging of the air masses and the potential for a significant contribution from secondary aerosol overall."*

(13) Line 750. While I do not dispute that biogenic VOCs are reactive and have an outsized contribution on OH reactivity, I believe caveats are needed here that missing VOCs not measured could affect the BVOC contributions presented here.

*Response: The reviewers make a good point regarding the limitations of such work. As such we have added text to address this point, as follows: "It should however, be acknowledged that only a subset of the total NMVOCs were measured. If the 'missing' NMVOCs were measured this could influence the results, including the contribution of biogenics and other compound classes to OH reactivity." This added text is in line with and re-iterates the additional detail added in response to the comments about research showing greater flux of oxygenated NMVOCs in urban areas.*

(14) Figure 6. It would be helpful to label which sites are traffic-dominated, urban background, and urban park under the name of each site.

*Response: The figure has been amended to include these labels. Furthermore, a reference to more detailed site classification information available in Table 2 was added to the figure caption.*

# BAERLIN2014 – stationary measurements and source apportionment at an urban background station in Berlin, Germany

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**Abstract.** The Berlin Air quality and Ecosystem Research: Local and long-range Impact of anthropogenic and Natural hydrocarbons (BAERLIN2014) campaign was conducted during the three summer months (June–August) of 2014. During this measurement campaign, both stationary and mobile measurements were undertaken to address complementary aims. This paper provides an overview of the stationary measurements and results that were focused on characterization of gaseous and particulate pollution, including source attribution, in the Berlin-Potsdam area, and quantification of the role of natural sources in determining levels of ozone and related gaseous pollutants. Results show that biogenic contributions to ozone and particulate matter are substantial. One indicator for ozone formation, the OH reactivity, showed a 31% ( $0.82 \pm 0.44 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) and 75% ( $3.7 \pm 0.90 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) contribution from biogenic NMVOCs for urban background ( $2.6 \pm 0.68 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) and urban park ( $4.9 \pm 1.0 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) location, respectively, emphasizing the importance of such locations as sources of biogenic NMVOCs in urban areas. A comparison to NMVOC measurements made in Berlin ~~ca.~~ <sup>approx.</sup> 20 years earlier generally show lower levels today for anthropogenic NMVOCs. A substantial contribution of secondary organic and inorganic aerosol to PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations was quantified. In addition to secondary aerosols, source apportionment analysis of the organic carbon fraction identified the contribution of biogenic (plant-based) particulate matter, as well as primary contributions from vehicles, with a larger contribution from diesel compared to gasoline vehicles, as well as a relatively small contribution from wood burning, linked to measured levoglucosan.

## 1 Introduction

438 Air pollution and climate change are two of the most prescient environmental problems of our age. Recent  
439 research from the Global Burden of Disease study and others attribute over 3 million premature deaths to  
440 outdoor air pollution globally in 2013 (Brauer et al., 2016; Lelieveld et al., 2015; WHO, 2016). A report by the  
441 World Bank (WorldBank, 2016) estimated the 2013 welfare losses owing to ambient surface level PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>  
442 air pollution to be equivalent to 5% of GDP in Europe, and often more in other world regions. Studies have  
443 shown that a changing climate will exacerbate ozone owing to increased temperatures and other factors, such as  
444 additional meteorological parameters and less effective emissions controls, that are favorable to ozone formation  
445 (Jacob and Winner, 2009; Rasmussen et al., 2013). One such factor is a projected increase in biogenic volatile  
446 organic compound emissions, such as isoprene or monoterpenes. While these increases are expected to be  
447 compensated for by much larger declines in anthropogenic emissions, as also indicated in other studies e.g.  
448 Colette et al. (2013) or West et al. (2013), there are additional impacts that are not yet captured by the models,  
449 such as those of secondary organic aerosol (SOA) among others, that show that such estimates of climate change  
450 effects are likely underestimated (Geels et al., 2015). While significant reductions in O<sub>3</sub> precursor emissions  
451 have been observed over the past couple decades, and peak ozone levels have been declining over much of  
452 north-western Europe, a comparable reduction in mean ozone has not followed (Derwent, 2008; Ehlers et al.,  
453 2016). This is particularly relevant for countries where the majority of the population resides in cities. In Europe  
454 during 2012-2014, more than 85% of the urban population has been exposed to air pollutant concentrations of  
455 ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> exceeding the recommended WHO limit values for the protection of human health, as well as  
456 substantial exceedances at the roadside of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) (EEA, 2016). In this context, it is crucial that  
457 we further improve our understanding of the sources of air pollutants in urban areas, as well as the contribution  
458 of natural sources to secondary pollutants such as ozone. This will allow for approaches that can better target the  
459 most relevant sources for mitigation, as well as accounting for the linkages between air quality and climate  
460 change in developing strategies for action on climate change and the reduction of air pollution, to improve health  
461 and create more livable cities.

462 The Berlin Air quality and Ecosystem Research: Local and long-range Impact of anthropogenic and  
463 Natural hydrocarbons 2014 (BAERLIN2014) campaign aimed to address some of these issues in the context of  
464 the Berlin-Potsdam urban area. The campaign had three main aims, (1) characterization of gaseous and  
465 particulate pollution, including source attribution, in the Berlin-Potsdam area, (2) quantification of the role of  
466 natural sources, specifically vegetation, in determining levels of gaseous pollutants, specifically ozone, and (3)  
467 improved understanding of the heterogeneity of pollutants throughout the city. In this paper, only aims (1) and  
468 (2) will be addressed. An overview paper describing the mobile measurements, which focused more on aim (3)  
469 was published previously (see Bonn et al. (2016)). Because of the focus on ozone and secondary pollutant  
470 formation, the campaign was conducted during the three summer months (June-August) of 2014, i.e. the time of  
471 maximum ozone pollution levels. Furthermore, while the mobile measurements covered the larger Berlin-  
472 Potsdam area, the stationary measurements were focused on an urban background location within the center of  
473 Berlin.

474 The unique characteristics of Berlin were particularly relevant to this study, in that it is a large urban  
475 area (population ~~ea-~~approx. 3.5 million) with significant vegetation. Of the ~~ea-~~approx. 890 km<sup>2</sup> that Berlin  
476 covers, ~~ea-~~approx. 34% of the land surface area is covered by vegetated areas and 6% by water  
477 (Senatsverwaltung für Stadtentwicklung III F, 2010). An existing air quality monitoring network (in German:  
478 Berliner Luftgüte Messnetz, abbreviated BLUME) provided data on which the campaign could build and

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479 leverage. Data from the 16 stations that comprised the BLUME network showed that the EU 8-hour ozone target  
480 value of  $120 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  was exceeded 12-13 times at each of the two urban background stations that measure ozone  
481 (MC010 & MC042) and between 12-21 times per station at the stations on the periphery of the city (referred to  
482 here as Berlin rural stations) in 2014 (Stülpnagel et al., 2015). Six of these exceedances in the urban background  
483 occurred during the BAERLIN2014 campaign. Furthermore, the regulatory limit value for annual  $\text{NO}_2$  of  $40 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$   
484 was exceeded at all six roadside stations in 2014, and although the annual  $\text{PM}_{10}$  limit value was met, four out  
485 of five traffic stations where  $\text{PM}_{10}$  was measured also exceeded the daily limit value of  $50 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  more than the  
486 allowed 35 times; the exceedances at the urban background and Berlin rural stations ranged from 14 to 34 times  
487 (Stülpnagel et al., 2015). In short, the issue of air pollution has been recognized in Berlin as being in need of  
488 action. In this paper, we focus on the stationary measurements conducted at the urban background site in the  
489 Berlin city center. A brief overview is given of the suite of measurements conducted and the results obtained.  
490 This is followed by more detailed analysis of (1) the NMVOC data and the role in ozone formation including a  
491 comparison to a previous study in London and Paris (von Schneidemesser et al., 2011), as well as other urban  
492 areas, and (2) source apportionment analysis of  $\text{PM}_{10}$  filter samples, including a rough comparison of the results  
493 to existing emission inventories.

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## 495 2 Methods

496  
497 A complete list of the parameters measured and their associated instrument descriptions are summarized in Table  
498 1.

### 500 2.1 Site description

501 The monitoring station that was the basis for the stationary measurements during the BAERLIN2014  
502 campaign was AirBase station DEBE034, which is maintained as part of the Berlin air quality measurement  
503 network (BLUME; BLUME network code MC042), and was located at the corner of Nansenstrasse and  
504 Framstrasse in the Neukölln district, in southeast central Berlin ( $52^\circ 29' 21,98'' \text{ N}$ ,  $13^\circ 25' 51,08'' \text{ E}$ ) in a  
505 predominantly residential neighborhood, as shown in Figure 1. The station was located on the street corner next  
506 to a kindergarten and was classified as an urban background station. According to the location placement  
507 dictated by the EU Directive definition (EC, 2008), locations that are situated away from any strong point  
508 sources including major roads, typically in a residential neighborhood, but still in the urban core influenced by  
509 all sources upwind of the station are classified as urban background. These sites should in theory be  
510 representative of the general levels of pollution observed in a city and are used to assess exposure of the general  
511 population to air pollutants. This station will likely experience a comparatively high fraction of traffic-related  
512 emissions, since some fairly large inner-city thoroughfares were located within a 1 km radius of the site, but as  
513 appropriate for an urban background station will not be dominated by traffic like a site located at a major  
514 intersection. In addition, a measurement van was used to augment the capacity of the measurement station and  
515 was located approximately 5 meters from the station, parked at the curb of the street (see Figure 1). Finally,  
516 owing to the presence of taller trees in that part of city, including in the vicinity of the monitoring station, one  
517 instrument (ceilometer) was located on the roof of the kindergarten to achieve an unobstructed view skywards,  
518 approximately 5 meters on the opposite side of the measurement station to the van.

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A number of NMVOC canister samples were taken in locations throughout the city as part of the mobile measurements that augmented the stationary measurements in Neukölln. A subset of these were included in the companion paper to this one covering the mobile measurements (Bonn et al., 2016). These sites where multiple NMVOC canister samples were taken include Altlandsberg, Plänterwald, the Tiergarten Tunnel, and the so-called 'AVUS Motorway' during a traffic jam. Further details to the sampling environment can be found in Table 2. For more information on locations and/or sampling, see also Bonn et al. (2016).

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## 2.2 Instrument descriptions

Complementing the BLUME measurements (see (Stülpnagel et al., 2015) or (Geiß et al., 2017) for details) were additional PM<sub>10</sub> filter samples collected for elemental carbon (EC) and organic carbon (OC), ions, and organic tracer analysis; intermittent canister and cartridge samples for the quantification of non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs) from an inlet next to the PM<sub>10</sub> inlet on the roof of the measurement station; a quadrupole Proton Transfer Reaction Mass Spectrometre (high sensitivity PTR-MS, Ionicon) up in the van for the measurement of NMVOCs; a set of particle instruments to measure number concentration, size distribution and surface area also located in the van (section 2.2.4); and a ceilometer CL51 (Vaisala GmbH, Hamburg) situated on the roof of the kindergarten. A complete list of instruments, parameters measured, and references for the methods used are provided in Table 1. Further details for the NMVOC measurements are provided in Table S1. Additional information is provided below.

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### 2.2.1 NMVOC Canister Samples

The canisters were prepared to remove ozone using a heated silco-steel capillary (120 °C) prior to sampling. The cylinders were then pressurized using synthetic air to reduce the relative humidity of the sample. All NMVOC canister samples taken at Neukölln had a 20 minute sampling duration. After sampling, the canisters were promptly shipped to FZJ for analysis by GC-FID-MS and were analyzed with no more than five days between sampling and analysis. Analysis was done using a gas chromatographic system based on a conventional gas chromatograph (Agilent 6890) equipped with a flame ionization detector (FID), and a mass spectrometer (Agilent 5975C MSD) for the identification of the trace species. To analyze VOCs at trace gas levels, a cryogenic pre-concentration was used, consisting of a sample loop (silco steel, 20 cm length, inner diameter 2 mm) which was cooled down with cold gas above liquid nitrogen (see also Figure 14 in Ehlers et al., (2016)). A volume of 800 mL was pre-concentrated in the sample loop at a flow of 80 mL min<sup>-1</sup>.

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Subsequently, the sample was thermally desorbed at 120° C and injected on a capillary column (DB-1, 120 m, 0.32 mm ID, 3µm film thickness). After injection, the column was kept isothermal at -60°C for 5 min, then heated to 200° C at a rate of 4° min<sup>-1</sup> and finally maintained at 220° C for 10 min. Signals were gathered from a flame ionization detector and a MSD, which each received 50% of the column output through a split valve. Analysis of one sample lasted for about 90 min, and sets of 10 cylinders (stainless steel canister, volume: 6 L, Supelco Co., Bellefonte, PA, USA) could be analyzed by unattended operation.

The impact of canister transport and storage was assessed: C<sub>2</sub> - C<sub>11</sub> alkanes, alkenes and aromatic compounds were found to be stable within 5% over three days compared with an instantaneously analysed sample. Oxygenated compounds differed by up to 10% and terpenes by up to 20% over the same time period (Hengst, 2007). In addition, measurement accuracy depends on the uncertainty of the calibration standard (< 5% between true and declared gas concentrations, (Apel-Riemer Environmental Inc.) and that of the mass-flow

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controller (< 2% deviation, MKS Instruments, Wilmington, MA, USA). Integration uncertainties ( $\Delta\mu\text{VOC}$ ) of the peak areas were dependent on their respective detection limits ( $DL_i$ ), which are estimated as in equation 1.

$$\Delta\mu\text{VOC}_i \approx \begin{cases} DL_i & \text{for } \mu\text{VOC}_i \text{ next to } DL_i \\ (0,03-0,06)*\mu\text{VOC}_i & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Apart from concentrations and their respective detection limits geometrical addition of all these factors yielded overall experimental uncertainties of less than 10% (for a detailed discussion refer to Urban (2010)).

#### 2.2.1.1 Canister Samples and OH Reactivity Calculations

While a total of 103 compounds were quantified by GC-MS in the canister samples, not all of those compounds were regularly detected in the samples. Furthermore, to be able to make reasonable comparisons with previous work regarding the contribution of different compound classes to the measured mixing ratios of NMVOCs, as well as the OH reactivity attributed to these NMVOCs, a subset of the compounds was selected and used in the analysis. This subset was based on a number of papers in the literature that were also done in urban areas, and those compounds that were regularly included in OH reactivity calculations (e.g. (Dolgorouky et al., 2012; Gilman et al., 2009; Goldan et al., 2004; Liu et al., 2008)). This includes 57 NMVOCs (see SI). Furthermore, even if all compounds were included, there would still be missing reactivity that is not captured and because no OH measurements were made, the amount of missing reactivity cannot be reliably quantified. Owing to an undetermined source of contamination at the urban background site, the measurement of n-butane was compromised, and was therefore not included among the NMVOCs despite typically being reported in the literature. The data subsequently presented in this paper from the canister samples includes only these 57 compounds unless otherwise noted. For a complete list of the 103 compounds measured in the samples, including the concentrations reported for a subset of the samples discussed here, please see Bonn et al. (2016).

A number of canister samples were taken at different locations throughout the city, some with multiple measurements and some single samples. Five locations had multiple samples, including the main measurement site at the urban background station (DEBE034) in Neukölln (n=18), Plänterwald (n=11), Altlandsberg (n=10), the Tiergarten Tunnel (n=9), and the AVUS motorway during a traffic jam (n=2). All samples were taken during the month of August, with all samples except those in Neukölln taken on one day for any given location (Bonn et al., 2016). The samples in the Tiergarten tunnel and on the motorway are most indicative of NMVOC emissions from traffic.

#### 2.2.2 NMVOC Cartridge Samples

NMVOCs (aromatic hydrocarbons, terpenes,  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$  alkanes) were collected into stainless steel cartridges (6.3 mm ED x 90 mm, 5.5 mm ID) filled with Tenax-TA (60/80 mesh, Supelco, Bellafonte, USA) and Carboxack-B (60/80 mesh, Supelco, Bellafonte, USA) by using a flow rate of 100 ml min<sup>-1</sup> with a sampling time of 1 - 4.5 h (Mäki et al., 2017). To prevent the degradation of BVOC by  $O_3$ , a catalyst heated to 150°C was used.

Individual VOCs were identified and quantified using a thermal desorption instrument (Perkin-Elmer TurboMatrixTM 650, Waltham, USA) connected to a gas chromatograph (Perkin-Elmer® Clarus® 600, Waltham, USA) with a DB-5MS (60 m, 0.25 mm, 1 µm) column and a mass selective detector (Perkin-Elmer® Clarus® 600T, Waltham, USA). Five-point calibration was utilised using liquid standards in methanol solutions. Standard solutions were injected onto adsorbent tubes that were flushed with nitrogen (HiQ N<sub>2</sub> 6.0 >99.9999%,

Linde AG, Pullach, Germany) flow ( $100 \text{ ml min}^{-1}$ ) for 10 min in order to remove methanol. For aromatic hydrocarbons (benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, p/m-xylene, styrene, o-xylene, propylbenzene, ethyltoluenes, trimethylbenzenes) detection limits (LODs) varied between 5 and  $60 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ , for  $\text{C}_{6-10}$  alkanes (hexane, heptane, octane, nonane, decane) between 5 and  $10 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$  and for isoprene LOD was  $21 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ . The quantified monoterpenes (MT) were  $\alpha$ -pinene, camphene,  $\beta$ -pinene,  $\Delta^3$ -carene, p-cymene, limonene, 1,8-cineol, nopinone, terpinolene and bornylacetate with limit of detection in the range of  $3\text{--}17 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ ; sesquiterpenes were longicyclene, iso-longifolene, aromadendrene,  $\beta$ -caryophyllene and  $\alpha$ -humulene with LOD of  $20 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ .

### 2.2.3 NMVOC PTR-MS Measurements

In addition to canister and cartridge samples, NMVOCs were continuously measured over time by a high-sensitivity proton transfer reaction mass spectrometer (PTR-MS, Ionicon, built in 2008) (Lindinger et al., 1993). In brief NMVOCs with a higher proton affinity than water vapor were charged via  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  ions and subsequently mass selectively detected by applying a distinct electric field strength for the individual masses selected. More details on the techniques can be found elsewhere (Blake et al., 2009). In total, 72 selected NMVOCs were measured between June 11 and August 29, 2014 via a heated inlet ( $T = 60^\circ\text{C}$ ) at street level out of the street facing window of a measurement van (MW088) at approximately 2.5 m above surface. Note that this PTR-MS detected integer ion mass numbers only and no time of flight option was available for this version. Selection of masses were based on two aspects: first, typical mass to charge ( $m/z$ ) ratios for anthropogenic and biogenic sources like benzene, toluene, isoprene and terpenes, and second, on mass scan results conducted once a week throughout the campaign period. In this way some masses changed during the total observation time because of changed scan intensities and the limited number of masses to be selected. Time resolution was set to 270 s, i.e. 4.5 min. The dataset was averaged after the campaign for 30 min and 1h for comparison with other less time resolved measurement data. Instrument parameters were set as follows:  $U_{\text{QL}} = 50 \text{ V}$ ,  $U_{\text{N}} = 60 \text{ V}$ ,  $U_{\text{SO}} = 70.3 \text{ V}$  and  $U_{\text{S}} = 113.9 \text{ V}$ . The intensity of the reference ion signal for detection efficiency, i.e.  $m/z = 21$ , was recorded as  $(4.4 \pm 1.0) \times 10^7$  counts per second. For more details on the set-up see Bourtsoukidis et al. (2014). A list of all recorded masses can be found in the supporting online information. Because the PTR-MS technique does not allow for a detailed chemical structure analysis, the cartridge and canister samples were used as complementary information as to the identity of masses with more than a single compound present.

### 2.2.4 Particle Number Concentration and Surface Area Measurements

The aerosol inlet was located 3.5 m above ground, about 1 m above the measurement van roof, attached to an aerosol splitter (Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research (TROPOS), “Kuh”). A LVS pump (Leckel GmbH, Berlin) operated at  $1 \text{ m}^3 \text{ h}^{-1}$  corresponding to an aerosol flow of  $138 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ sec}^{-1}$  and a PM10-head (Leckel GmbH, Berlin) suitable for cut of at  $10 \mu\text{m}$  with  $2.3 \text{ m}^3 \text{ h}^{-1}$  was used to reduce diffusion losses. This served all particle measurement instruments.

The instruments that measured particle number (PN) and particle size distribution included a GRIMM 1.108 (particle sizes in optical equivalent diameter, GRIMM Aerosol Technik GmbH & Co. KG, Ainring), GRIMM 5.403, and GRIMM 5.416 (particle sizes in mobility equivalent diameter). Sampling average was mostly 1 min and 8 minutes for Grimm 5.403.

The GRIMM 5.416, a condensation particle counter with n-butanol, provided total PN count over a size range from 4–3000 nm at a flow rate of  $1.5 \text{ L min}^{-1}$ , and the uncertainty for 1 min sampling was  $\pm 0.1\%$  or  $\pm 15$

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640 cm<sup>3</sup> (Helsper et al., 2008; Wiedensohler et al., 2017). The GRIMM 5.403, a scanning mobility particle sizer  
641 equipped with a long DMA combined with a CPC with n-butanol measured particle number concentrations with  
642 size distribution information for particles between 10-1100 nm at a sample flow rate of 0.3 L min<sup>-1</sup> and a sheath  
643 flow rate of 3 L min<sup>-1</sup>. For technical details see Heim et al., (2004). The uncertainty associated with the  
644 measurement is size dependent, with an uncertainty range of 10-15% in the lowermost size range and ~~ea-~~approx.  
645 2-3% in the upper size range, and a total of 44 size bins. The GRIMM 1.108, a portable laser aerosol  
646 spectrometer and dust monitor measured particle number concentration with size distribution information,  
647 covering 350-22500 nm, with a sampling flow rate of 1.5 L min<sup>-1</sup>. Particle number concentrations were  
648 determined for 15 size bins with an uncertainty of  $\pm 3\%$ . For technical details see Görner et al. (2012).

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649 The TSI Nanoparticle surface area monitor 3550 (NSAM) measured lung depositable surface area for  
650 particle sizes ranging from 10-1000 nm at a flow rate of 2.5 L min<sup>-1</sup>. These values are reported in units of  $\mu\text{m}^2$   
651 cm<sup>-3</sup> corresponding to empirically derived parameters that correspond to the regions where the particles are  
652 deposited in the lung. Alveolar deposition was measured. Measurement accuracy for the NSAM was  $\pm 20\%$  for  
653 both parameters. Further instrument and measurement details are described elsewhere (Kaminski et al.,  
654 2013; VDI, 2017).

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655 The NSAM was calibrated at the German Environment Agency (UBA, Langen) with instruments from  
656 IUTA, Duisburg (Kaminski, 2011), the GRIMM 1.108 was sent in for maintenance and re-calibrated at the  
657 manufacturer prior to use in the campaign, while all other instruments were calibrated a priori at the TROPOS  
658 aerosol calibration facility in Leipzig (Weinhold, 2014).

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659 A continuous aerosol size distribution (0.01  $\mu\text{m}$  to 30  $\mu\text{m}$ ) was created using a combination of GRIMM  
660 5.403 (0.01  $\mu\text{m}$  to 1.1  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and GRIMM 1.108 (0.3  $\mu\text{m}$  to 30  $\mu\text{m}$ ). Averaged 1-h size distribution from both  
661 particle instruments were merged to create a full size distribution from 0.01 to 30  $\mu\text{m}$ . Size distributions from the  
662 two analyzers were merged by considering GRIMM 5.403 for particles sizes <1.1  $\mu\text{m}$  and sizes equal or above  
663 1.1  $\mu\text{m}$  uses GRIMM 1.108. At 1.1  $\mu\text{m}$  both individual logarithmic size bin boundaries of the 5.403, and 1.108  
664 were most similar allowing “a smooth merge” without losing any size bins. We also assumed that the particles  
665 were spherical and thus no adjustments were made in the size bins, nor were any adjustments made for possible  
666 differences in aerodynamic vs optical derivation of diameter.

## 667 2.2.5 Ceilometer

668 State-of-the-art ceilometers provide the vertical profile of aerosol backscatter (Wiegner et al., 2014).  
669 There are numerous approaches to estimate the mixing layer height (MLH) from the measured profile; the  
670 underlying assumption is that at the top of the mixing layer aerosol concentration drastically drops resulting in a  
671 pronounced decrease of backscattered signal intensity. Measurements in the framework of BAERLIN2014 were  
672 performed with a Vaisala ceilometer CL51 (Münkel, 2007; Geiß et al., 2017). This instrument is eye-safe (class  
673 1M), operated fully automated and unattended. The diode laser emits at a wavelength of 910 nm; the absorption  
674 by water vapour can be ignored as long as only the MLH is to be determined (Wiegner and Gasteiger, 2015).  
675 Laser power and window contamination are permanently monitored to ensure long-term stability. Due to the one  
676 lens design the lowest detectable layers are around 50 m, and the system is capable to cover an altitude range  
677 greater than 4000 m, topping out around 8 km. Signals are pre-processed, e.g. for the suppression of noise  
678 generated artefacts. The range resolution is 10 m, and the temporal averaging is 10 min.

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680 The heights of the near surface aerosol layers were analysed by a gradient method from the backscatter  
681 profiles in real-time (Emeis et al., 2008) with a MATLAB-based software which is provided by the manufacturer  
682 and has been improved continuously (Münkel et al., 2011). The minima of the vertical gradient is used to  
683 provide an estimate of the MLH (Emeis et al., 2007). All MLH data presented are following this method (for  
684 more detail see Schäfer et al. (2015)) unless otherwise noted. The influence of different options of the  
685 proprietary software and an comparison with the more sophisticated approach COBOLT (COntinuous BOundary  
686 Layer Tracing) on the retrieved MLH is discussed in detail by Geiß et al. (2017). It was found that the  
687 proprietary software slightly tends to overestimate the MLH compared to COBOLT.

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688 The various instruments outlined above had differing sampling times and so for those instruments that  
689 provided real-time or higher time resolution data, a 30 minute average will be used in the data presented here for  
690 comparability.

#### 691 692 **2.2.6 PM<sub>10</sub> Filter Analysis**

693 Prior to sampling, the quartz fiber filters were baked at 800°C under synthetic air to remove impurities.  
694 Post-sampling, the PM<sub>10</sub> filters were analyzed for total mass, elemental carbon (EC), water soluble and total  
695 organic carbon, chloride, sulfate, nitrate, sodium, ammonium, potassium, calcium, and organic tracers.  
696 HYSPLIT back trajectories (based on GDAS meteorological data) were calculated for 72 hours over the time  
697 period of each filter with a new trajectory each 6 hours for air masses ending at ground level (at the monitoring  
698 station) (Stein et al., 2015). Back trajectory plots are included in the Supplemental Information following the  
699 final filter groups. Based on similarities in the bulk composition analysis and HYSPLIT back trajectory  
700 information, the filters were grouped before being extracted and analyzed for organic tracers. Not all filters were  
701 included in these groups, so as to create groups that showed significant similarities. Some individual filters were  
702 therefore also excluded from the organic tracer analysis because of a lack of remaining OC mass.

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703 PM<sub>10</sub> mass was first quantified gravimetrically and then analyzed for elemental and organic carbon.  
704 For this the filter samples were heated to 750°C in an oxygen stream. The gas stream was then passed through an  
705 oxidation catalyst to ensure complete oxidation of the organic carbon to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). In contrast to the  
706 organic carbon, elemental carbon is directly oxidized at higher temperatures without the requirement of a  
707 catalyst. The organic carbon, as CO<sub>2</sub>, was then detected using a cavity ring-down spectrometer (Picarro Inc.).  
708 The distinction between the elemental and organic carbon fractions in the samples was based on the temperature  
709 profile during the analysis. For more details see Ehlers (2013) and Kofahl (2012).

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710 A portion of the filter (1.5 cm<sup>2</sup>) was water extracted to determine water soluble organic carbon (WSOC)  
711 using a TOC-V SCH Shimadzu total organic carbon analyzer (Miyazaki et al., 2011; Yang et al., 2003). The  
712 remaining amount of OC was calculated as water insoluble organic carbon (WIOC). A fraction of the remaining  
713 solution was used to analyze for water soluble anions and cations by ion chromatography (Dionex ICS 2100 and  
714 Dionex ICS 100) (Wang et al., 2005). For the organic tracer analysis, filters were composited as per the bulk  
715 composition and HYSPLIT determined groups and extracted with 50/50 dichloromethane and acetone by  
716 sonication, an aliquot was derivatized and analyzed by GC-MS (GC-6980, quadropole MS-5973, Agilent  
717 Technology) for organic molecular marker compounds, as described in more detail by Villalobos et al. (2015)  
718 and references therein. Approximately 150 organic tracer species were analyzed for, of which less than 100 had  
719 concentrations regularly above the detection limit. A limited subset of these was then used in the source  
720 apportionment analysis.

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## 2.3 Chemical Mass Balance for Source Apportionment

A chemical mass balance analysis of the organic carbon fraction of the PM<sub>10</sub> filter samples was carried out using the organic tracer information. Source apportionment analysis using the CMB technique provides an effective variance least squares solution for a set of linear equations that include the uncertainties of the input measurements, and have been applied to the mass balance receptor model (Watson et al., 1984). As such, it allows for the estimation of the contribution of different source categories to the ambient concentrations measured at any one location, in this case an urban background site in Berlin. The species included in the CMB analysis were levoglucosan, 17 $\alpha$ (H)-21 $\beta$ (H)-30-norhopane, 17 $\alpha$ (H)-21 $\beta$ (H)-hopane, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, benzo(e)pyrene, benzo(a)pyrene, and C27-C33 alkanes. The US EPA CMB Software version 8.2 was used. Source profiles for vegetative detritus (Rogge et al., 1993), wood burning (Fine et al., 2004), diesel and gasoline motor vehicles (Lough et al., 2007) were included in the final result. In addition, a profile for poorly maintained vehicles ('smoking vehicles') (Lough et al., 2007) was evaluated but found inappropriate. The link between tracers and sources is discussed in further detail in section 3.5.2. The secondary organic aerosol fraction was calculated based on WSOC not related to biomass burning (Sannigrahi et al., 2006). The fitting statistics for the final result are shown in Table 3.

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## 3 Results & Discussion

### 3.1 Time Series and Diurnal Cycle

The 30 min data time series of O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO, CO, benzene, toluene, and PM<sub>10</sub>, along with basic meteorological data from the BLUME station in Neukölln and MLH as derived from the proprietary software are shown in Figure 2, spanning the duration of the campaign. All times are given in CET. The 8 h mean ozone concentrations show that the EU target value for ozone (120  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  based on 8 h means) was exceeded 6 times during the measurement period, and the WHO guideline (100  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) was exceeded 18 times. The hourly limit value for NO<sub>2</sub> (200  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) was not exceeded, though concentrations often exceeded 100  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . The daily limit value for PM<sub>10</sub> (50  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) was not exceeded.

Elevated concentrations were often observed at the same time for many of the pollutants included in Figure 2, with the exception of ozone. Ozone, as a secondary pollutant formed photochemically from NO<sub>x</sub> and NMVOC precursors, follows a similar pattern to temperature (Pearson correlation coefficient [standard error] of 0.82 [0.014]), and peaks at different times than the primary pollutants. The formation of ozone can be limited by either NO<sub>x</sub> or NMVOCs, depending on the ambient concentrations which are controlled by sources (e.g., vehicles, biogenics) and transport. NO<sub>2</sub>, NO, CO, toluene, and benzene all have diurnal cycles that peak in the morning and evening, reflecting their anthropogenic traffic-related emission sources (see Figure S1 in SI). The morning peak in the pollutants occurred at 7 or 8 am, while the evening peak occurred quite late between 9 and 11 pm, likely owing to a combination of daytime emissions and the decrease in the MLH. Traffic counts, from MC143 and MC220 in Neukölln (see location in Figure 1), showed that traffic increased dramatically between 6 and 8-9 am, after which a slow but steady increase led to a peak at 5-6 pm, after which the traffic count dropped dramatically. In contrast, ozone, temperature, and mixing layer height followed parallel diurnal cycles with a minimum at 6 am and a broad afternoon peak between noon and 6 pm. During BAERLIN2014 the maximum height of the mixing layer was found to be 1.5-2 km between noon and 18:00 and below 500 m during the

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762 night/early morning. These numbers indicate the vertical extent of the urban pollution layer over the  
763 measurement site where pollutants are most likely residing. Relative humidity showed the opposite with a peak  
764 at 6 am, and a broad low between noon and 6 pm.

765 These results are supported by the Pearson correlation coefficients among NO<sub>2</sub>, NO, CO, toluene, and  
766 benzene, which for hourly values range from 0.51-0.82 (all statistically significant at an alpha=0.05; see Table  
767 S2), with the strongest relationship between CO and NO<sub>2</sub>. The correlation to relative humidity was found to be  
768 negative for MLH (-0.66 [0.022]), temperature (-0.71 [0.014]), and ozone (-0.76 [0.014]). The pollutant with the  
769 strongest relationship to temperature was ozone.

770 The time series of particulate matter mass (PM<sub>10</sub>), derived PM<sub>1</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> mass from the  
771 GRIMM 1.108 particle number size distribution measurements, total particle number, and particle surface area  
772 are shown in Figure 3. While the two PM<sub>10</sub> time series along with the PM and particle number time series  
773 associated to the same instrument (GRIMM 1.108) are most similar, the other total particle number time series  
774 do not show significant similarities. This is largely owing to the difference in size fractions measured by the  
775 different instruments. Correlation analysis of the pollutant concentrations from Neukölln with MLH values on  
776 the basis of averaged diurnal cycles of hourly-mean values (in our case monthly averages during July and  
777 August) provided highest correlations with PN for accumulation mode particles (size range 100 – 500 nm) and  
778 significant correlations for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1</sub> (Schäfer et al., 2015) showing similarities to investigations in  
779 Augsburg, Germany (Schäfer et al., 2016) and Beijing, China (Tang et al., 2016). In addition to this  
780 investigation for the reference site, a more detailed correlation analysis of the MLH with PM<sub>10</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, and NO<sub>x</sub>  
781 taking into account all 16 BLUME stations in Berlin was carried out using the MATLAB approach outlined  
782 here, as well as an alternative approach, COBOLT (Geiß et al., 2017). In this context it was assumed that the  
783 MLH derived for the reference site in Neukölln is representative for the entire metropolitan area of Berlin. The  
784 correlation analysis of the diurnal cycles (averaged over the duration of ceilometer measurements from  
785 BAERLIN2014) of the MLH and PM<sub>10</sub> found that correlations were completely different at the different sites  
786 regardless of site type, indicating that surface concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub> were not predominantly determined by the  
787 MLH, but rather by local sources and sinks, and meteorological factors, among others. In the case of O<sub>3</sub>, strong  
788 positive correlations were identified for both the BLUME sites on the periphery of Berlin, as well as the urban  
789 background locations. In contrast, for NO<sub>2</sub>, a negative correlation to MLH was observed for all sites at the  
790 periphery of the city, and to a lesser extent at some of the urban background sites (Geiß et al., 2017).

791 Particle size distribution during the study period is shown in Figure 4. Size distribution was dominated  
792 by ultrafine number size distribution (“UFP”, <100 nm) throughout the day (i.e. particle formation close by). The  
793 number and volume distribution was further binned into at least 5 size bins, as presented in Figure 4 for  
794 comparison with other urban background measurements. The average daytime total number and volume  
795 concentration remained in the range of 5.5 - 6.0 x 10<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup> and 11 - 12 µm<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>, respectively, in contrast to the  
796 stronger signal during the nighttime. The mean (median) total number and volume concentration over the entire  
797 measurement period was 6.1 x 10<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup> (5.4 x 10<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>) and 11.8 µm<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup> (9.5 µm<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>), respectively. Over  
798 80% of the total number concentration is ultrafine particles, and the contribution is higher during the nighttime.  
799 Volume distribution is largely dominated by the accumulation mode particles which is typical of many urban  
800 sites. The number concentrations were similar to other urban stations in Germany (Birmili et al., 2016).

801 The diurnal cycles for total PN for the three instruments covering the smaller particles (excluding the  
802 observations from the GRIMM-1.108) have morning and evening peaks, similar to the diurnal cycle for NO<sub>2</sub>,

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indicating a traffic origin. The diurnal cycle for the larger particles, as sampled by the GRIMM-1.108 has a much more dominant early morning peak and mid-afternoon minimum, without the second evening peak.

In Figure 5, at least two major contributors to UFP over the course of the day could be identified, in the morning and during the night. The presence of the morning peak is likely due to traffic-related emissions. Such a peak has also been identified in other species, as well as other studies in urban areas (Borsós et al., 2012; Mølgaard et al., 2013). There was a gradual increase in the UFP concentration from late afternoon which continues overnight till early morning hours. This nighttime feature of UFP was observed during weekends as well as on the weekdays. The reasons for this could be that the source contributing to this is something other than or in addition to traffic and may be active or enhanced overnight, the decrease in mixing layer height at night traps the particles in a smaller volume compared to daytime, and/or that night time deposition of particles is lower than daytime owing to higher atmospheric stability. The co-located trace gas measurement showed that the elevated UFP nighttime concentration correlates with toluene, among other gases such as CO. Daily observations also showed occasional and episodic “particle burst” (new particle formation) events for particles in the size range of 10-50 nm, which could be related to fresh plumes or to regional particle formation events.

### 3.2 NMVOC measurements – Method comparison

The results of the four NMVOC measurement methods were compared and contrasted for benzene and toluene. While differences in e.g., instrumentation and measurement technique (mass-to-charge ( $m/z$ ) ratios vs compounds), inlet location, and time resolution, do not allow for direct comparisons, a comparison can be useful to understand how different or similar the information provided by the various methods can be. A summary of these methods and the compounds measured, including information on the detection limits and sampling times is provided in Table S1.

The 30-min data reported from the BLUME [city air quality monitoring](#) network was compared to the PTR-MS data for  $m/z$  79 (benzene) and  $m/z$  93 (toluene), as both instruments provide high time-resolution data. The correlations between the two methods were good given the imperfect nature of the comparison, both with Pearson’s  $r$  values for benzene and toluene of 0.39, significant at the  $p < 0.05$  level. The lower correlation values were likely owing to a number of factors including the differences in measurement method, and in location of the inlets for each instrument and thereby source influences – one of which ([PTR-MS](#)) was located on the street side of the van at [ea-approx.](#) 2.5 m above ground, while the other ([BLUME](#)) was located above the measurement container [ea-approx.](#) 5 m from the street. The inlet at the street would be influenced more directly by vehicle emissions in comparison to the inlet above the measurement container, which is especially relevant in that the PTR-MS was likely influence by individual vehicles, while this would not be the case for the container measurements. This influence of vehicles on the PTRMS data at higher time resolution is supported by an increase in Pearson’s  $r$  values with longer averaging times, which reduces the influence of individual vehicles. For 1 h (3 h) average concentrations the  $r$  values increase to 0.48 (0.58) and 0.53 (0.71) for benzene and toluene, respectively, all significant at the  $p < 0.05$  level. Furthermore, the Pearson’s  $r$  values for the correlations between the BLUME network and the individual canisters were 0.39 (benzene) and 0.83 (toluene), both statistically significant with  $p$ -values  $< 0.05$ , and between BLUME and the cartridge samples 0.51 (toluene) and not significant for benzene. All benzene and toluene measurements are shown in Figure S2.

In order to investigate the possibility of identifying molecular structures of PTR-MS derived  $m/z$  measurements, a comparison of the continuous measurements of the PTR-MS and intermittent canister samples

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was also carried out. For a number of cases only one compound quantified from the canister samples matched a specific m/z, while in other cases multiple compounds were quantified in the canister samples that had the same mass. For example, propanal, acetone, n-butane, and 2-methylpropane all have a molecular weight corresponding to m/z 59 (molar weight  $M_w = 58 \text{ g/mole} + M_w(H^+) = 1 \text{ g/mole}$ ), among which the PTR-MS cannot distinguish. In some cases, the fractional contribution of compounds with the same m/z ratio was relatively similar across all canister samples, as for o-xylene, m+p-xylene, and ethylbenzene (m/z 107). However this was rather the exception, with relative contributions more typically showing significant variation among the canister samples (see Figure S3 in the SI). Correlations between the canister samples and PTR-MS results were carried out for 35 individual m/z values for which at least one compound was quantified in the canister samples. While the absolute r values of the correlations ranged from 0.00016 to 0.63, the correlations were generally quite poor, showing little to no correlation for many of the m/z (only 9 of the 35 total number of m/z values evaluated had r values greater than 0.3), with no systematic bias identified. There are a number of reasons for this, beyond the difference in how the instruments measure (m/z vs compounds), such as ~~While the difference in e.g., inlet location, and sampling time, likely played a role, these results seem to indicate that the differences in instrument and quantification method result in substantial differences in what is being quantified so that the comparison does not hold real value.~~ Previously, in a targeted inter-comparison experiment where whole air samples (canisters) were compared with online PTR-MS measurements, differences of as little as 20 s in the sampling intervals contributed to scatter in the comparison of the two measurements that was especially relevant for the more reactive NMVOCs (de Gouw and Warneke, 2006). Additionally, scatter in inter-comparisons between ground-based fast time response and GC-MS systems was found to be typical (Lerner et al., 2017) and references therein). In the context of this study, the measurements should not be considered as an inter-comparison since, as described above, the inlets were approx. 5 meters apart, at different heights above ground level, with one street-side and the other above a measurement container. For these reasons, while both measurements are valid, as this comparison shows, the differences in quantification method, but also importantly instrument location and set-up result in substantial differences in what is being quantified so that the comparison is limited in value.

### 3.3 NMVOC Measurements – Characterization of different locations by canister sampling

The average fractional contribution to mixing ratio by compound class for each of the Neukölln, Altlandsberg, Plänterwald sites, the Tiergarten tunnel and the AVUS motorway samples is presented in Figure 6. The number of compounds included in each class was: alkanes (19), alkenes and alkynes (13), aromatics (14), oxygenated (6), and biogenics and their oxidation products (5; referred to as 'biogenics' for simplicity). For a complete list of the compounds and their grouping, see the supplemental information. In the following text and figures two extremely high values for acetone were removed (one sample from the Neukölln station, and one from the Altlandsberg samples). Since these two values were extreme outliers, their origin remains unclear. Therefore we have removed them from the averages and treated them separately. (Text is included in the SI to demonstrate how these two values change the results presented here.) The largest contributions of the quantified VOCs to mixing ratio were from the alkanes (27 - 41 %) and oxygenated (23 - 55 %) compounds. Biogenics were always a minor contribution to mixing ratio, but their contribution was largest in the Plänterwald samples (11 %) and negligible at the two traffic locations. Alkenes/alkynes and aromatics showed the largest contribution to mixing ratio at the traffic sites, at 17 - 23 % and 14 %, respectively. The highest total NMVOC mixing ratio of those compounds measured here was found at the traffic sites (Tiergarten tunnel,  $64 \pm 17 \text{ ppbv}$ ; AVUS

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motorway,  $170 \pm 82$  ppbv; average mixing ratio  $\pm$  standard deviation among the samples). The total mixing ratios of the 57 measured compounds at Altlandsberg and at the urban background station in Neukölln, showed similar results, with an average mixing ratio and standard deviation of  $14 \pm 6.4$  ppbv and  $19 \pm 5.6$  ppbv, respectively. The mixing ratios found in Plänterwald were similar to the urban background location, with an average of  $17 \pm 3.4$  ppbv, although with a larger contribution from biogenics. In comparison, total NMHC mixing ratios for urban background in Paris during the MEGAPOLI winter campaign was 12 ppbv (midnight median levels) or 17 ppbv (maximum of median daily values), with somewhat lower mixing ratios measured during the summer campaign (Dolgorouky et al., 2012; Ait-Helal et al., 2014).

Previously, a measurement campaign was carried out during June-August of 1996 in Berlin, during which samples were taken at the Neukölln urban background station, as well as at a traffic station on Frankfurter Allee. During this campaign, VOC measurements were taken 4 times a day for 2 hours over the course of one week (7 days) of each month using bag samples, adsorption tubes and DNPH cartridges and analyzed by gas-chromatography (Thijssse et al., 1999). This provides a good basis for comparison to the NMVOCs measured by canister sampling (most similar in method) during this campaign almost 20 years later. Overall, the mixing ratios for most compounds that were measured in both projects at the urban background location in Neukölln were lower now than in 1996 (Figure 7). For the traffic locations the results are less clear. Given that the Frankfurter Allee monitoring station is a traffic station, these measurements would likely be more comparable to the Tiergarten Tunnel measurements of this study, rather than those samples taken during a traffic jam on the AVUS motorway where concentrations were extremely elevated. Indeed, the mixing ratios measured during the traffic jam were found to be higher in most cases than those measured in 1996 at Frankfurter Allee. However, the comparison between the Tiergarten Tunnel measurements and Frankfurter Allee showed much more similar results to those of the urban background station comparison, with concentrations generally being lower today than ~~ea-~~approx. 20 years ago (Thijssse et al., 1999).

There are a couple of exceptions in this comparison, where the mixing ratios measured in this campaign stand out as substantially higher than those measured 20 years ago. Considering only those few compounds that have a ratio of 0.6 or less for the average mixing ratio in 1996 relative to that in 2014, the biogenic contributions in Neukölln (isoprene (0.3), methylvinylketone (0.1)) show increases. These increases may be attributable to changes in vegetation around the measurement site. Other NMVOCs, such as cis-2-butene and cyclopentane showed increases for both the urban background site and traffic site (Tiergarten Tunnel vs Frankfurter Allee). Other compounds, such as cis-2-pentene and trans-2-butene (traffic site) and 1,2,3-trimethylbenzene (urban background) showed increases at only the one site type. While the literature on trends of NMVOCs is limited, data from a traffic site in London, a rural background site in the UK, and a remote site in Germany showed that over the period from 1998-2009 all individual NMVOCs evaluated (with the exception of n-heptane at the rural background site) were decreasing, with stronger decreases observed at the traffic site relative to the other site types (von Schneidmesser et al., 2010). Similarly, an evaluation of C2-C8 hydrocarbon data, as total HCs and by compound class, for a number of sites across the UK from 1994-2012, also documented decreases across all compound classes (Derwent et al., 2014). Finally, a broader evaluation of the trends in anthropogenic NMVOC emissions across Europe also documented a decrease between 2003 and 2012 (EEA, 2014, 2016). As such, the existing literature does not provide any detailed documentation that might be able to address the potential increases in those few compounds here where an increase was observed. Furthermore, longer-term sampling may show that the increases documented here do not reflect the long-term trend.

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### 3.4 OH Reactivity

To better understand the role of these compounds with respect to their role in ozone formation and atmospheric reactivity, the reactivity with respect to OH ( $R_{OH}$ ) was calculated. These results are shown in Figure 6 and parallel the results presented for the mixing ratios. In all cases, including other studies discussed, the values presented are calculated OH reactivity based on measurements of NMVOCs and not OH reactivity that was measured directly. The relative importance of the biogenics, alkenes and alkynes, and to a lesser extent the aromatics increased when considering OH reactivity as is visible in Figure 6 (for a complete list of compounds included in these classes, see the SI). The largest contribution to OH reactivity was from either the biogenics and their oxidation products (0-75%) or the alkenes and alkynes (10-55%), depending on the location, with the alkenes and alkynes dominating at the traffic locations, where the biogenic contribution was negligible. The NMVOCs included in each of these categories are provided in [Section Table S1](#). The contribution to OH reactivity from alkanes ranged from 4% (Plänterwald) to 18% (AVUS motorway). ~~While the~~ The contribution from oxygenated compounds, despite their substantial contribution to mixing ratio, ranged from only 5-13% of OH reactivity. ~~That said, only 6 oxygenated NMVOCs (of 57 total NMVOCs) were included here, and a recent study by Karl et al., (2018) found an appreciably greater fraction of oxygenated NMVOCs in urban areas than previous studies identified. The molar flux of oxygenated NMVOCs being actively emitted into the urban atmosphere from measurements in Europe was found to be  $56 \pm 10\%$  relative to the total NMVOC flux (Karl et al., 2018), which indicates that a much larger contribution from oxygenated NMVOCs is possible if different measurement techniques are used. Furthermore, the~~ The contribution to the biogenic OH reactivity at Plänterwald originated largely from isoprene (88%), with 7% from  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -pinene. Similar contributions were found at Neukölln and Altlandsberg. The mean (median [25<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup> percentile]) total OH reactivity from the 57 species was  $2.6 \text{ s}^{-1}$  ( $2.6 [2.1, 3.0] \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) at Neukölln, and ranged from  $2.2 \text{ s}^{-1}$  ( $2.2 [1.5, 2.8] \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) at Altlandsberg to  $34 \text{ s}^{-1}$  ( $34 [29, 39] \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) from the AVUS motorway. ~~While studies have shown that a number of NMVOCs, such as isoprene, or other terpenes can also have anthropogenic sources (Derwent et al., 2007; Reimann et al., 2000), we treat them as biogenic and do not try to tease apart the biogenic vs potential anthropogenic contributions in this context.~~

An earlier study (BERLIOZ) also made measurements of  $C_2$ - $C_{12}$  NMHCs in Berlin and at sites in the surrounding area, mostly focused on the production of ozone in downwind locations of the city (Winkler et al., 2002; Volz-Thomas et al., 2003; Becker et al., 2002). They report OH reactivity for two sites outside of Berlin, Blossin (~~ea-approx.~~ 15-20 km southeast of the Berlin city boundary) and Pabsthum (~~ea-approx.~~ 30-35 km northwest of the Berlin city boundary). The total OH reactivity reported at these sites range between  $1 - 7 \text{ sec}^{-1}$  and ~~ea-approx.~~  $0.25 - 2 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ , respectively. These are similar to those values found at the urban background locations in Berlin, with the most comparable location being Altlandsberg ( $2.2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ). The contribution from isoprene to the OH reactivity was found to be 70% at Blossin and 51% at Pabsthum, on average, although during the passing of a city plume at Pabsthum 46% of reactivity was contributed by isoprene, with the remaining contribution attributed to anthropogenic NMHCs (Winkler et al., 2002).

The total OH reactivity values of measured VOCs in Berlin ( $2.6 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) are similar to the average total OH reactivity from VOCs observed in other European cities, such as Paris (~~ea-approx.~~  $4.0 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) and London ( $1.8 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) (Dolgorouky et al., 2012; Whalley et al., 2016), and, not surprisingly, lower than those observed at cities in the Pearl River Delta region of China ( $8-14 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ). Specifically, Liu et al. (2008) reported OH reactivity from a measurement campaign in Ghangzhou and Xinken during one month in the autumn of 2004. The OH reactivity

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967 from alkanes, alkenes, and aromatics from Ghangzhou was reported to be  $1.9 \pm 1.5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $8.8 \pm 6.8 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and  $2.9 \pm$   
968  $2.7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , respectively. In all cases, these values are about one order of magnitude greater than those calculated for  
969 the urban background locations during this campaign (see Table 2). The level for isoprene ( $0.5 \pm 0.4 \text{ s}^{-1}$ )  
970 however, was much more similar to the OH reactivity reported for the biogenics at the urban background  
971 locations in this study. In London, OH reactivity of alkanes, alkenes+alkynes, aromatics, and biogenics was  
972 reported to be  $0.81 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $0.47 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $0.235 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and  $0.25 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , respectively, which are values much more similar to those  
973 in this study (Whalley et al., 2016). The relative importance of alkanes and alkenes+alkynes was the reverse for  
974 London compared to Berlin.

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975 In the MEGAPOLI winter campaign in Paris, total calculated mean OH reactivity was reported to be  
976  $17.5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , although this included not only NMVOCs, but also methane, CO, NO, and  $\text{NO}_2$  (Dolgorouky et al.,  
977 2012). The OH reactivity attributed to the 29 non-methane hydrocarbons and oxygenated VOCs was 23% ( $4.0 \text{ s}^{-1}$ )  
978 of the total, somewhat higher than those values reported here (57 NMVOCs) for the urban background  
979 locations. Comparing to the OH reactivity values in Berlin is difficult, since for the winter campaign in Paris,  
980 Ait-Helal et al. (2014) report that the concentrations of the VOCs are generally shown to be lower during  
981 summer, specifically for many of the anthropogenic compounds, although this does vary by compound.  
982 Therefore, the OH reactivity values for Paris considered here should be considered an upper limit for the  
983 comparison with this study. The calculated mean OH reactivity attributed to NO and CO was  $1.75 \text{ s}^{-1}$  each, and  
984  $9.63 \text{ s}^{-1}$  for  $\text{NO}_2$  in Paris (Dolgorouky et al., 2012). By comparison, the mean OH reactivity calculated for  
985 August (to match the time during which the canister samples were taken at Neukölln) was  $0.58 \pm 1.2 \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $0.87$   
986  $\pm 0.30 \text{ s}^{-1}$  for NO and CO, respectively, and  $4.5 \pm 3.0 \text{ s}^{-1}$  for  $\text{NO}_2$ , which is again, lower, as with the VOCs, but  
987 not unreasonable given the context of the comparison.

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988 Finally, while the 57 NMVOCs included here to calculate OH reactivity were chosen to facilitate  
989 comparison to previous studies, a more exhaustive list could change the picture. For example, as mentioned  
990 above, the limited number of oxygenated NMVOCs measured would likely lessen the contributions of the other  
991 compound classes. As an example, adding six additional oxygenated NMVOCs (propanal, 2-butanol, 1-propanol,  
992 butanal, 1-butanol, pentanal) increased the total average OH reactivity between  $0.12 \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Plänterwald) to  $1.7 \text{ s}^{-1}$   
993 (AVUS Motorway). The percent contribution of these six oxygenated NMVOCs ranges between 2.5% and 9.3%  
994 of the new total OH reactivity. In contrast, a similar analysis that included three additional biogenic NMVOCs  
995 (limonene, sabinene, eucalyptol) showed much smaller additional reactivity, never more than  $0.02 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . These  
996 compounds also were not consistently present across all samples.

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#### 998 3.4.1 OH reactivity – direct comparison to a previous study in London and Paris

999 As a comparison to the  $R_{\text{OH}}$  estimates calculated for London and Paris based on ~~ea-approx.~~ 10 years of  
1000 monitoring data through 2009 (von Schneidmesser et al., 2011), a subset of the NMVOCs was taken to enable a  
1001 more equal comparison to the values reported for summer (JJA) in that study. The only difference in the  
1002 compounds included is the contribution of n-butane, which was not included in the Berlin calculations because  
1003 of a local source of contamination (in London the contribution of n-butane to OH reactivity from this subset of  
1004 NMVOCs was ~~ea-approx.~~ 5% or less). The referenced study was focused on the contribution of biogenics,  
1005 specifically isoprene, to OH reactivity. At the London Eltham site (urban background) isoprene contributed 25%  
1006 to the OH reactivity for summer and 16% at Paris Les Halles, also an urban background location (24 total  
1007 NMVOCs, including 9 alkanes, 9 alkenes/alkynes, 5 aromatics, 0 oxygenated, 1 biogenic) (von Schneidmesser

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et al., 2011). Using the reduced, matched set of compounds, isoprene accounts for 37% of OH reactivity at the Neukölln location on average, and as much as 82% at the Plänterwald (urban park) location in Berlin. The Neukölln urban background location values are a bit higher than those in London and Paris, although not dramatically different. The Plänterwald urban park location however, demonstrates the importance of such areas for the biogenic influence on OH reactivity, especially considering that even at Harwell, a rural background location west of London in the UK, isoprene contributes on average only 10% of OH reactivity. Although, as pointed out in the study, this is likely an underestimation of the biogenic importance given that only isoprene is included and for northerly regions other biogenics, such as monoterpenes may play a more important role (von Schneidemesser et al., 2011).

### 3.5 PM<sub>10</sub> Filters

#### 3.5.1 Bulk composition and HYSPLIT back trajectories

The PM<sub>10</sub> filters were analyzed for water soluble and water insoluble OC, EC, and ions. In addition, filter samples were grouped to ensure enough mass for analysis of organic molecular markers. The groups were informed by the bulk composition analysis results, including the ratio of water soluble to total OC and the ratio of ions to OC, and HYSPLIT back trajectories. Back trajectories were evaluated to provide information on the origin of the air masses and source-receptor relationships (Stein et al., 2015). The results of this bulk composition analysis are shown in Figure 8. Select individual filters that had sufficient mass and did not fit with any of the other groups were analyzed individually (B17, B19, B30). All values listed for groups are an average of the results from the filters included in the group. The air mass origins as per HYSPLIT are summarized in Table 3 (see also Figure S4).

Groups A, B, C, and D show significant similarity in their percent of OC that is WSOC, which ranges from 27 to 34%. The ratio of ions (sulfate, nitrate, ammonium) to OC is however, very different. Groups B and C have an ions:OC ratio of 1.2 and 0.98, while groups A and D have ratios of 0.56 and 0.50, respectively. The PM<sub>10</sub> mass loadings for B (20 µg m<sup>-3</sup>) and C (24 µg m<sup>-3</sup>) were lower than for A (27 µg m<sup>-3</sup>) and D (35 µg m<sup>-3</sup>), see Table 3. ~~The back trajectories (Figure S4) show that prior to arriving in Berlin, the air masses primarily passed over Germany for group A. While some additional filters fit the general patterns outlined here, the number of filters included in the group was reduced to focus more on back trajectories in the group that originated from over Germany itself. The air masses that characterize group D originated from the Northeast, passing over the Baltic coast and Poland before arriving in Berlin. For group B the air masses originated from the West over the Atlantic (not further than 20 degrees W) and passed over northern France, the BeNeLux region and central Germany before arriving in Berlin. For group C, the air masses originated from the North West, over the North Sea as far as Iceland, passing between the UK and the Scandinavian Peninsula before arriving in Berlin. Both B and C had higher concentrations of sodium and nitrate than A and D, while A and D had higher concentrations of OC and marginally higher concentrations of sulfate than B and C (Figure 8). The concentrations of EC ranged between 1.1 and 1.9 µg m<sup>-3</sup> but did not group as with the other species, with the lowest concentration in group B and the highest in group C.~~

Group E had a very low percent of WSOC (19%) and an ions:OC ratio of 0.59. It also had the lowest PM<sub>10</sub> mass (20 µg m<sup>-3</sup>), and either the lowest or among the lowest concentrations for all ions. The OC concentration however, was 5.5 µg m<sup>-3</sup>, which was roughly in the middle of the OC concentrations measured,

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while the EC concentration was also the lowest at  $0.71 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . ~~The air masses originated from the North, passing over Scandinavia, the North Sea, or the UK before arriving in Berlin.~~

B17, B19, and B30 were analyzed individually because their bulk composition analysis and back trajectory patterns did not group well with the others, and sufficient mass was available for tracer analysis without needing to composite filters (Table 3, Figure 8). B17 and B30 had a higher percent WSOC (66% and 56%, respectively), and ions:OC ratios of 1.3 and 2.4, respectively. 37% of OC was WSOC for B19, and the ions:OC ratio was 0.77. Total  $\text{PM}_{10}$  mass was  $38.8 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ,  $31.0 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , and  $39.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , and OC concentrations were  $7.0 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ,  $5.9 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , and  $3.9 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , for B17, B19, and B30, respectively. All three samples had significantly larger contributions from sulfate, and to a lesser extent also higher ammonium, compared to the other groups. B30 also has a large amount of nitrate in contrast to all other samples, and somewhat higher concentrations of potassium and sodium as well. B17 had the highest concentration of EC ( $2.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) of all samples.

There were significant concentrations of sulfate across all samples, ranging from  $1.2\text{--}6.0 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , but particularly so in B17, B19, and B30. Sulfate is typically attributed to industrial sources, as the content of sulfate in fuels has been reduced significantly and is now quite low (Villalobos et al., 2015). Sea-salt is in this case not likely as a source, as Berlin is not within close proximity of a coastal region where such components are typically identified (Putaud et al., 2004). In general the significant contributions of sulfate, nitrate, and ammonium are indicative of a secondary inorganic aerosol (ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate) (Putaud et al., 2004; Schauer et al., 1996). Previous work has shown that secondary inorganic aerosol over northwestern Europe, including Germany, contribute significantly – about 50% – to the  $\text{PM}_{10}$  concentrations (Banzhaf et al., 2013). Two studies by Putaud et al. (Putaud et al., 2004; Putaud et al., 2010) summarize the relative contribution of major constituent chemical species to PM mass, including for near-city and urban background locations. In comparison to the numbers cited in that study (2004 all European sites; 2010 north-western European sites), the percent contribution of nitrate (15%; 14%), ammonium (7%; not listed), and sulfate (13%; 14%) to  $\text{PM}_{10}$  mass at the urban background site in Berlin were quite similar, ranging from 1–11% (nitrate), 1–5% (ammonium), and 6–16% (sulfate) in Berlin.

The back trajectories (Figure S4) show that prior to arriving in Berlin, the air masses primarily passed over Germany for group A. While some additional filters fit the general patterns outlined here, the number of filters included in the group was reduced to focus more on back trajectories in the group that originated from over Germany itself. The air masses that characterize group D originated from the Northeast, passing over the Baltic coast and Poland before arriving in Berlin. For group B the air masses originated from the West over the Atlantic (not further than 20 degrees W) and passed over northern France, the BeNeLux region and central Germany before arriving in Berlin. For group C, the air masses originated from the North West, over the North Sea as far as Iceland, passing between the UK and the Scandinavian Peninsula before arriving in Berlin. Both B and C had higher concentrations of sodium and nitrate than A and D, while A and D had higher concentrations of OC and marginally higher concentrations of sulfate than B and C (Figure 8). ~~The air masses of Group E originated from the North, passing over Scandinavia, the North Sea, or the UK before arriving in Berlin.~~

The back trajectories associated with B17 and B19 both passed over Poland before arriving in Berlin, with the air masses associated with B19 extending more northward as well. For B30 the air originates from the West with some passing over northern France, but mostly comes from over Germany itself. The significant presence of ammonium and sulfate likely indicates influence of agriculture, as ammonium sulfate is commonly used in

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1089 fertilizer and more than 95% of NH<sub>3</sub> emissions in Europe originate from agriculture (Harrison and Webb,  
1090 2001;Backes et al., 2016;EEA, 2016). ~~B20 also has a large amount of nitrate in contrast to all other samples, and~~  
1091 ~~somewhat higher concentrations of potassium and sodium as well. B17 had the highest concentration of EC (2.3~~  
1092 ~~µg m<sup>-3</sup>) of all samples.~~

1093 ~~There were significant concentrations of sulfate across all samples, ranging from 1.2-6.0 µg m<sup>-3</sup>, but~~  
1094 ~~particularly so in B17, B19, and B20. Sulfate is typically attributed to industrial sources, as the content of sulfate~~  
1095 ~~in fuels has been reduced significantly and is now quite low (Villalobos et al., 2015). Sea salt is in this case not~~  
1096 ~~likely as a source, as Berlin is not within close proximity of a coastal region where such components are~~  
1097 ~~typically identified (Putaud et al., 2004). In general the significant contributions of sulfate, nitrate, and~~  
1098 ~~ammonium are indicative of a secondary inorganic aerosol (ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate) (Putaud~~  
1099 ~~et al., 2004;Schauer et al., 1996). Previous work has shown that secondary inorganic aerosol over northwestern~~  
1100 ~~Europe, including Germany, contribute significantly — about 50% — to the PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations (Banzhaf et al.,~~  
1101 ~~2013). Two studies by Putaud et al. (Putaud et al., 2004;Putaud et al., 2010) summarize the relative contribution~~  
1102 ~~of major constituent chemical species to PM mass, including for near city and urban background locations. In~~  
1103 ~~comparison to the numbers cited in that study (2004 all European sites; 2010 north-western European sites), the~~  
1104 ~~percent contribution of nitrate (15%; 14%), ammonium (7%; not listed), and sulfate (13%; 14%) to PM<sub>10</sub> mass at~~  
1105 ~~the urban background site in Berlin were quite similar, ranging from 1-11% (nitrate), 1-5% (ammonium), and 6-~~  
1106 ~~16% (sulfate) in Berlin.~~

### 1108 3.5.2 Organic molecular markers

1109 The concentrations by composited sample are shown in Figure 9 for the organic molecular markers.  
1110 Levoglucosan has been established as a molecular marker for biomass burning (Simoneit et al., 1999). The  
1111 concentrations measured here ranged from 15-60 ng m<sup>-3</sup>. While high concentrations of levoglucosan in urban  
1112 areas are often associated with residential wood combustion during colder months, it can also be owing to crop  
1113 burning, wild fires, coal combustion and/or long-range transport of smoke from biomass burning (Simoneit,  
1114 2002;Zhang et al., 2008;Shen et al., 2016). The concentrations measured during this summer campaign in Berlin  
1115 were similar to those measured in PM<sub>10</sub> from other European cities during summertime, and ~~ea-approx.~~ an order  
1116 of magnitude lower than concentrations observed in winter (Caseiro and Oliveira (2012) and references therein).  
1117 The study by Caseiro and Oliveira (2012) confirms the likelihood of agricultural residue burning and/or wildfires  
1118 as a summertime source for levoglucosan.

1119 Alkanes are useful tracers to distinguish between fossil fuel sources and vegetative detritus. This  
1120 distinction is informed by the odd-even carbon number predominance, specifically of the C<sub>29</sub>, C<sub>31</sub>, and C<sub>33</sub> *n*-  
1121 alkanes to indicate plant material as a source (Rogge et al., 1993). As is visible in Figure 9, the concentrations of  
1122 those odd *n*-alkanes are much greater than the corresponding even *n*-alkanes. Furthermore, the carbon preference  
1123 index (CPI) was calculated for the samples using the C<sub>29</sub>-C<sub>33</sub> *n*-alkanes and ranged from 1.9-5.5, with an average  
1124 of 3.6. CPI values of ~~ea-approx.~~ 1 are indicative of fossil fuel emission sources, whereas values of ~~ea-approx.~~ 2  
1125 or greater are indicative of biogenic detritus (Simoneit, 1986), as is clearly the case for these samples.

1126 Hopanes have been established as markers for diesel and gasoline vehicle emissions, stemming from  
1127 petroleum product utilization and lubricating oil used in vehicles (Schauer et al., 1996;Rushdi et al.,  
1128 2006;Simoneit, 1984). The concentrations of the two hopanes measured here and included in the CMB analysis  
1129 ranged from 0.04-0.13 ng m<sup>-3</sup> as shown in Figure 9.

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1130 Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are formed and emitted most typically during the incomplete  
1131 combustion of fossil fuels or wood (Ravindra et al., 2008). The concentrations measured during this study ranged  
1132 from 0-0.23 ng m<sup>-3</sup> for the individual PAHs shown in Figure 9. These concentrations are similar to, although on  
1133 the lower end, of those measured in a study in Flanders, Belgium, including measurements at urban locations  
1134 (Ravindra et al., 2006). Generally, PAH concentrations are lower in summertime owing to lower emissions and  
1135 shorter lifetimes. The measurements here were conducted during summer, while the measurements in the study  
1136 in Flanders covered more seasons. To distinguish between sources, PAH concentration profiles or ratios are  
1137 used. For example, a ratio of benzo(b)fluoranthene to benzo(k)fluoranthene of greater than 0.5 has been  
1138 identified as an indicator for diesel emissions sources (Park et al., 2002; Ravindra et al., 2008). In this study the  
1139 ratio ranged from 1.9 to 7.2, indicating a strong influence of diesel emissions for these compounds.

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### 1141 3.5.3 Chemical Mass Balance

1142 The molecular markers analyzed in the organic carbon fraction of the PM<sub>10</sub> samples were used to  
1143 conduct source apportionment analysis using chemical mass balance. The total OC for these samples ranged  
1144 from 2.99 to 7.21 µg m<sup>-3</sup>. The amount of OC mass apportioned in the CMB analysis ranged from 21% to 49%.  
1145 The source profiles included in the model to which OC was attributed includes vegetative detritus, diesel  
1146 emissions, gasoline vehicle emissions, and wood burning. In addition, a fraction of the unapportioned OC was  
1147 attributed to secondary organic aerosol based on the unapportioned fraction of water soluble OC and the amount  
1148 attributed to wood burning, following Sannigrahi et al. (2006). The source contributions to OC, as well as the  
1149 fitting statistics are listed in Table 4, and shown in Figure 10.

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1150 For B17, B19, and B30 the SOA fraction is higher than for any of the others, at 63%, 34%, and 49% of  
1151 OC, respectively. They also had the highest concentrations of levoglucosan, ranging from 37.8 to 60.1 ng m<sup>-3</sup>. As  
1152 the primary tracer for biomass burning, these three samples also had the largest concentrations attributed to this  
1153 source, ranging from 0.22 to 0.44 µg m<sup>-3</sup> of OC, but the relative contribution was only larger for B30 at 11%. All  
1154 other samples had contributions that ranged between 2% and 4% of OC. These three samples had air masses that  
1155 originated over Poland (B17, B19) and Germany (B30), indicating a more local-regional source for the biomass  
1156 burning. The higher concentrations of potassium in these samples, also an indicator for biomass burning  
1157 (Andreae, 1983), provides additional confirmation. The relatively high concentrations of ammonium and sulfate  
1158 in these samples may indicate an agricultural influence. Those samples originating from regions to the  
1159 West/North had somewhat lower concentrations overall relative to those originating from regions to the  
1160 East/North, as shown in Figure 10.

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1161 The contribution of diesel emissions ranged from 0.24 - 0.81 µg m<sup>-3</sup>, corresponding to 4 - 21% of OC  
1162 fraction. The highest fractional contribution was found in GRC (concentration 0.74 µg m<sup>-3</sup>) (air masses  
1163 originating over the North Sea), while the highest concentration was found in sample B17 (fractional  
1164 contribution 12%) (from Poland to the East). The diesel from GRC could also have its origin in shipping  
1165 emissions, as well as diesel vehicles. High contributions of diesel did not necessarily correspond to high  
1166 contributions of gasoline vehicle emissions, which were lower than the contributions from diesel and ranged  
1167 from 0.11 - 0.28 µg m<sup>-3</sup> and 2 - 7% of OC. The highest contribution in terms of fractional contribution and  
1168 concentration was found in B30. Furthermore, it should be noted that the source profiles reflect primary organic  
1169 aerosol emissions, and therefore the secondary aerosol produced from these vehicular sources, which has been

1170 shown to be substantial in many cases, depending on the control technologies in use (Gordon et al.,  
1171 2014a; Gordon et al., 2014b), is not reflected in these attributions.

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1172 The contribution of vegetative detritus was among the largest source contributions and ranged from 0.51  
1173 - 1.4  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  (11-20%). The relative importance of this source is reflected in the concentrations of the alkanes, as  
1174 shown in Figure 9, and their average CPI of 3.6. The largest contribution was found for GRD with air masses  
1175 originating over the North Sea.

1176 For all samples, a significant amount of secondary organic aerosol was calculated, 0.87 - 4.4  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  (18  
1177 - 63%). While this was the contribution to OC, high concentrations of secondary inorganics (sulfate, ammonium,  
1178 nitrate) support the aging of the air masses and the potential for this a significant contribution from secondary  
1179 aerosol overall.

1180 It should be noted that ambient air samples include contributions from both local sources as well as  
1181 emissions that have been transported from locations further away. While the back trajectory analysis is more  
1182 relevant for interpreting the influence of emissions from the surrounding region, a comparison to the Berlin  
1183 emission inventory reflects on the influence of local source contributions. Both play a role, but neither capture  
1184 the complete picture, with limitations in both cases, as discussed further below.

#### 1186 3.5.4 Source apportionment – emission inventory comparison

1187 The source apportionment results were compared to the emissions inventory (EI) from TNO-MACC III  
1188 (Kuenen et al., 2014). The grid cells for Berlin were extracted and the percent of total emissions for OC by  
1189 source category for the Berlin area for June, July, and August as a rough comparison to the source apportionment  
1190 results was calculated. Both diesel and gasoline vehicle exhaust sources have significant contributions, although  
1191 diesel contributes ea-approx. 19% to total OC emissions in the inventory, whereas gasoline vehicles contribute  
1192 only about 1%. Biogenic sources are not included in the inventory. If we focus on the primary sources from the  
1193 source apportionment results, the diesel and gasoline vehicles contribute a significant fraction, with diesel  
1194 comprising a larger fraction than gasoline vehicles, as in the inventory. The inventory also includes significant  
1195 contributions from road transport originating from road, brake, and tire wear, which are not reflected in the CMB  
1196 results, owing to the profiles used. About 8% of OC emissions are attributed to agriculture in the EI. This could  
1197 contribute to both the biomass burning and vegetative detritus sources; the presence of significant secondary  
1198 ammonium and nitrate also indicates an agricultural influence, even though this does not show up in the OC  
1199 CMB. In all cases, these primary sources will contribute to secondary inorganic and organic aerosol formation.  
1200 The contributions from non-industrial combustion and energy and other industries are not captured as primary  
1201 source contributions in the CMB model. Overall, the comparison between the source apportionment results and  
1202 the EI is a non-ideal comparison given the differences in methodology and the difference in terms of primary vs  
1203 secondary sources that are or are not included. More specifically, the EI provides primary emissions estimates  
1204 for a year for all Berlin grid cells (Kuenen et al., 2014), while the CMB results provide source attribution to  
1205 ambient concentrations including primary and secondary sources for 3 months of summer at one location in  
1206 Berlin. However, one would expect that general patterns are captured for significant sources, as it was for  
1207 vehicle emissions, and the indication of agriculture.

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## 1209 4 Conclusions

The data presented here provide an overview of the stationary measurements conducted during the BAERLIN2014 campaign. Of the three main aims of the campaign, two were addressed here, including (1) characterization of gaseous and particulate pollution, including source attribution, in the Berlin-Potsdam area, (2) quantification of the role of natural sources, especially vegetation, in determining levels of gaseous pollutants such as ozone. PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations and the contributions from inorganic species, such as nitrate, sulfate, and ammonium that contribute substantially (10-24%) to secondary aerosol were found to be similar in terms of their relative contribution to PM<sub>10</sub> in other European cities. Both the PM and gas-phase pollutants exhibited diurnal cycles indicative of anthropogenic sources, and the ratio of benzene to toluene indicated the influence of fresh, local emissions. Comparison of canister samples taken over the course of a day showed similarities which would seem to imply an urban background level for many NMVOC species. In addition to the secondary inorganic aerosol, a significant fraction of OC was attributed to secondary organic aerosol (18-63%) in the CMB analysis.

The influence of vegetation and biogenic emissions was demonstrated in the canister sample analysis, as well as the CMB results where vegetative detritus comprised one of the larger sources contributing to the OC fraction ranging from 11 to 20%. While the detected mixing ratios of the biogenic NMVOCs did not contribute significantly to the total NMVOC mixing ratio, the role in e.g., ozone formation, assessed by calculating OH reactivity, was much more significant. Biogenics and their oxidation products accounted for 31% of the OH reactivity at the urban background station in Neukölln and 75% at the urban park location (Plänterwald), demonstrating the importance of urban parks for biogenic emissions. These contributions from biogenics were higher than those found at comparable urban background locations in London and Paris. This is likely linked to the relatively high amount of land surface area in Berlin which is covered by vegetated areas (34%). It should however, be acknowledged that only a subset of the total NMVOCs were measured. If the 'missing' NMVOCs were measured this could influence the results, including the contribution of biogenics and other compound classes to OH reactivity.

As an outlook, future research could build on this work to include additional analysis of PTR-MS data using positive matrix factorization to investigate the sources influencing NMVOC concentrations at the Neukölln location, as well as modeling studies to gain greater insight as to the impact of urban vegetation on ozone formation, both yielding further insight into the importance of biogenic VOCs in urban environments.

## 5 Data availability

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on request.

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### Figure Captions:

**Figure 1.** Location of the measurement station (MC042) and measurement van in Neukölln, Berlin. Maps show increasingly larger scale. The 'x's indicate sampling locations, with MC220 and MC143 indicating stations that record traffic counts. Map images from OpenStreetMap.

**Figure 2.** Time series of air pollutant concentrations, meteorological data, and benzene/toluene ratio measured as part of BLUME at the Neukölln station during the BAERLIN2014 campaign.

**Figure 3.** Time series of particulate matter mass, particle number, and lung depositable surface area concentrations measured at the Neukölln station during the BAERLIN2014 campaign. (a) BLUME PM10, (b) Grimm 1.108 PM10, (c) Grimm 1.108 PM2.5, (d) Grimm 1.108 PM1, (e) Grimm 1.108 PN, (f) Grimm 5.416 PN, (g) Grimm 5.403 PN, (h) NSAM LDSA. Units given in the y-axis label.

**Figure 4.** Mean diurnal cycles of the (top) particle number and (bottom) particle volume distributions at Neukölln. Legends show particle size bin range in nm.

**Figure 5.** Mean diurnal cycle of the particle number concentration by diameter.

**Figure 6.** Mean fractional contribution to mixing ratio (left column) and OH reactivity (right column) by compound class, based on a total mixing ratio or OH reactivity calculated from 57 compounds for 5 sampling locations throughout the city. Total number of canister samples for each location are Neukölln (18), Altlandsberg (10), Plänterwald (11), Tiergarten Tunnel (9), and the AVUS (2). The individual compounds included in each class are available in the SI.

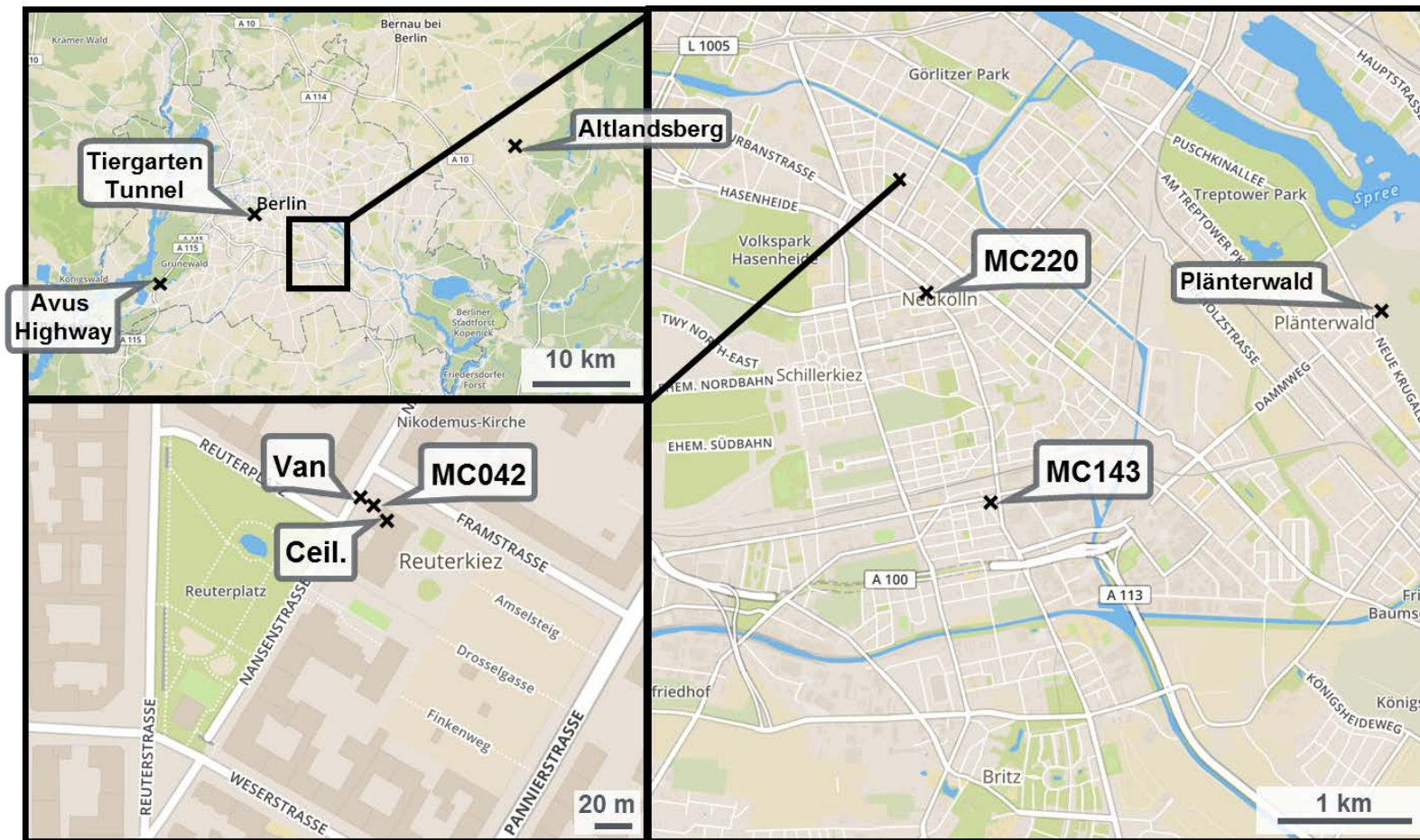
**Figure 7.** Comparison between VOC measurements in this study and comparable previous work from June-August of 1996 (Thijssse et al., 1999). Compound classes are distinguished by color. Sampling locations by character.

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**Figure 8.** Bulk composition analysis results from the PM10 filter samples, presented by filter groups, where GRA=Group A, GRB=Group B, etc. and B17, B19, B30 are individual filters. More information on the filter groups, including a some basic composition information and backtrajectory origin can be found in Table 3.

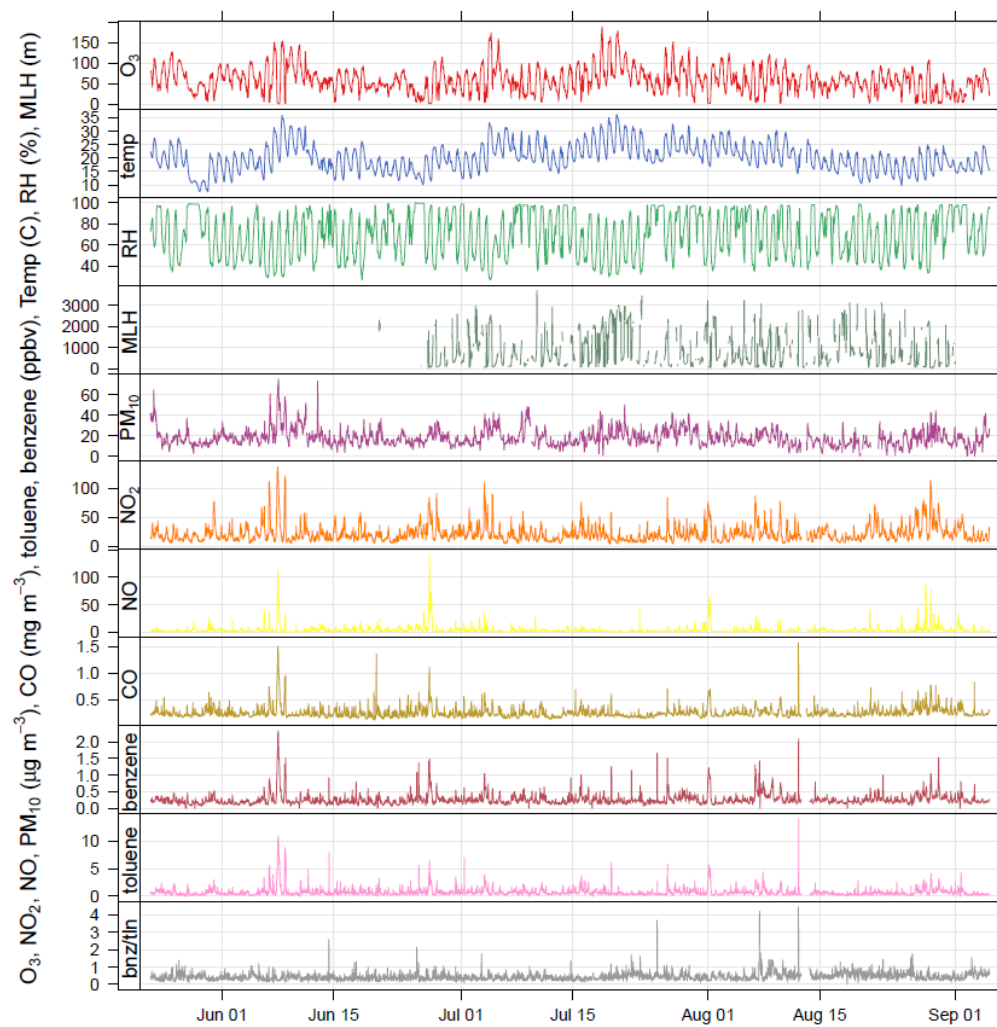
**Figure 9.** Molecular marker analysis results from the PM10 filter samples, presented by filter groups, where GRA=Group A, GRB=Group B, etc. and B17, B19, B30 are individual filters. More information on the filter groups, including a some basic composition information and backtrajectory origin can be found in Table 3.

**Figure 10.** Source contributions attributed to the OC fraction of the PM10 filter samples by filter groups, where GRA=Group A, GRB=Group B, etc. and B17, B19, B30 are individual filters. More information on the filter groups, including a some basic composition information and backtrajectory origin can be found in Table 3.

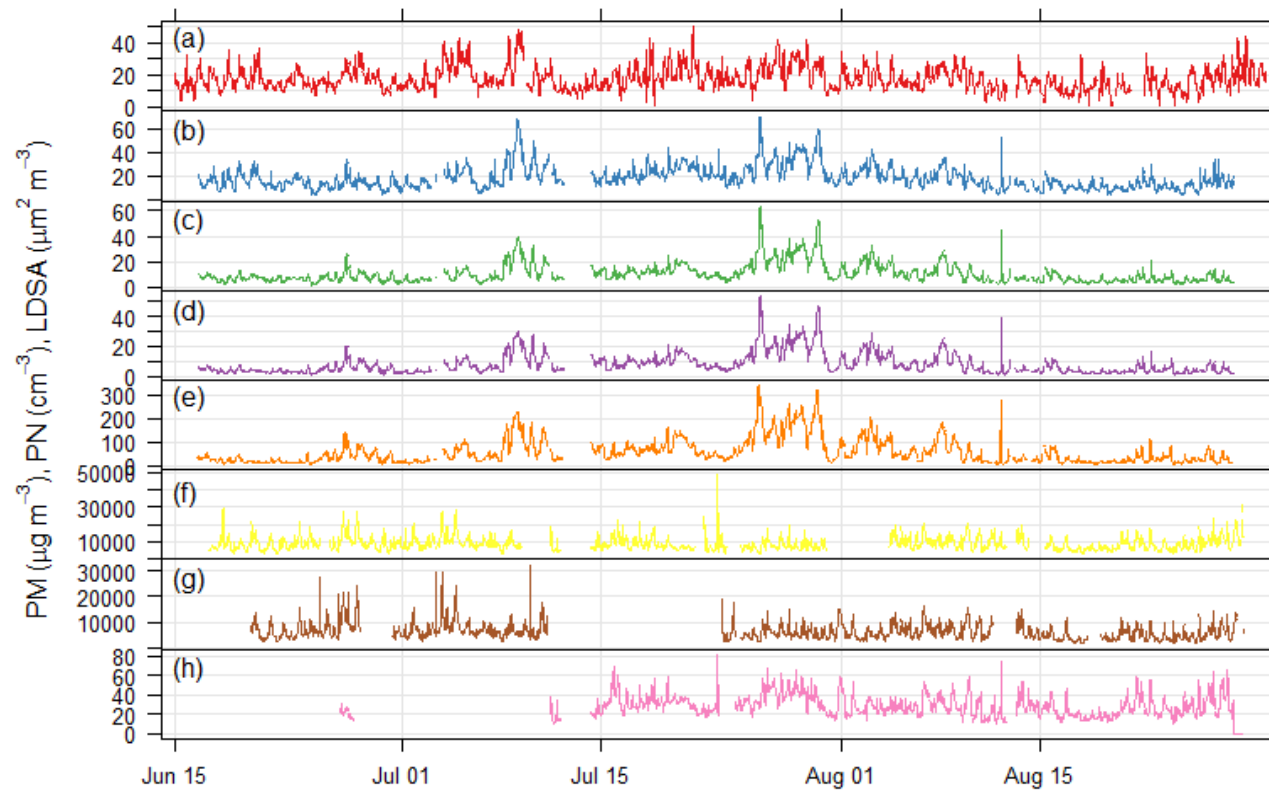


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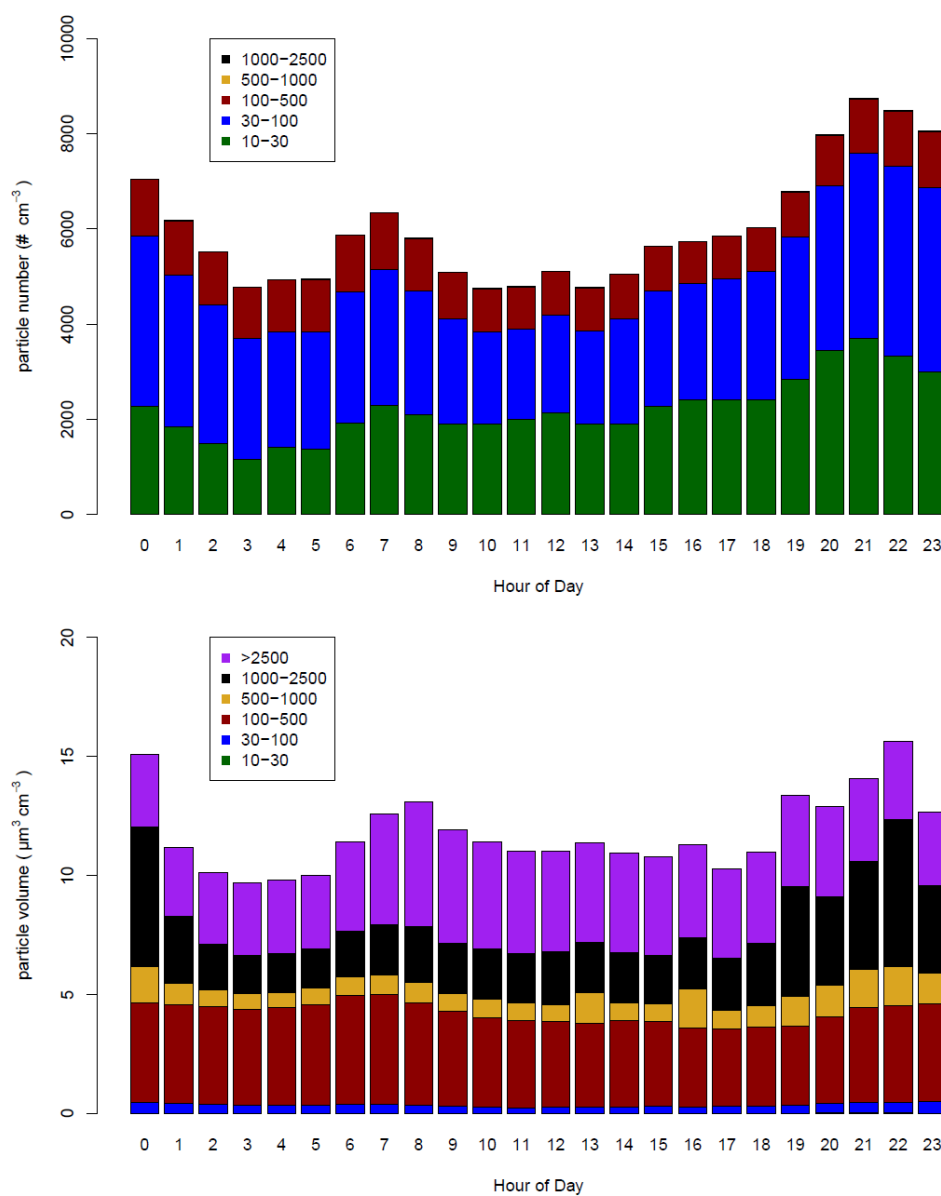




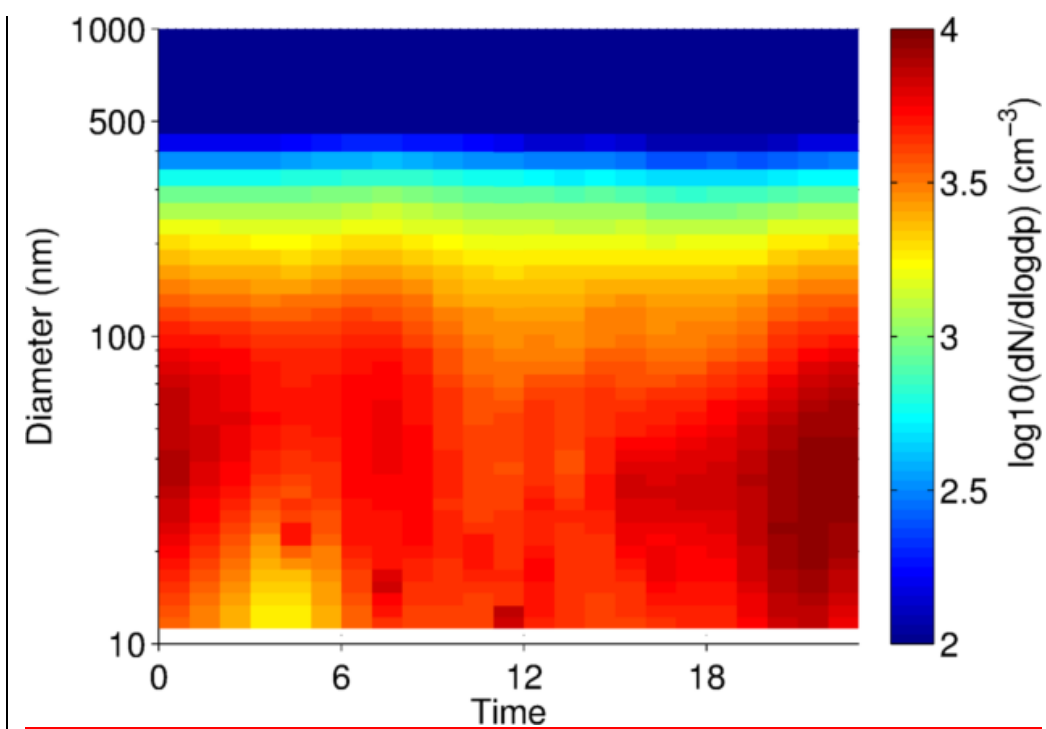
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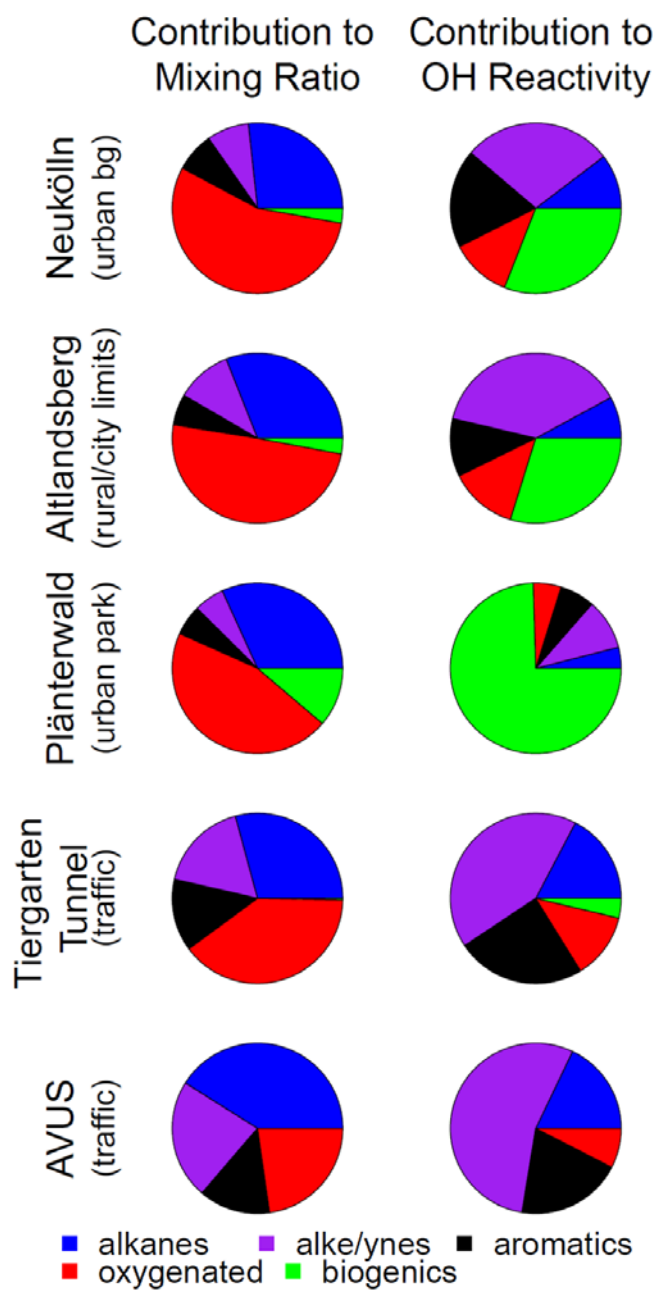
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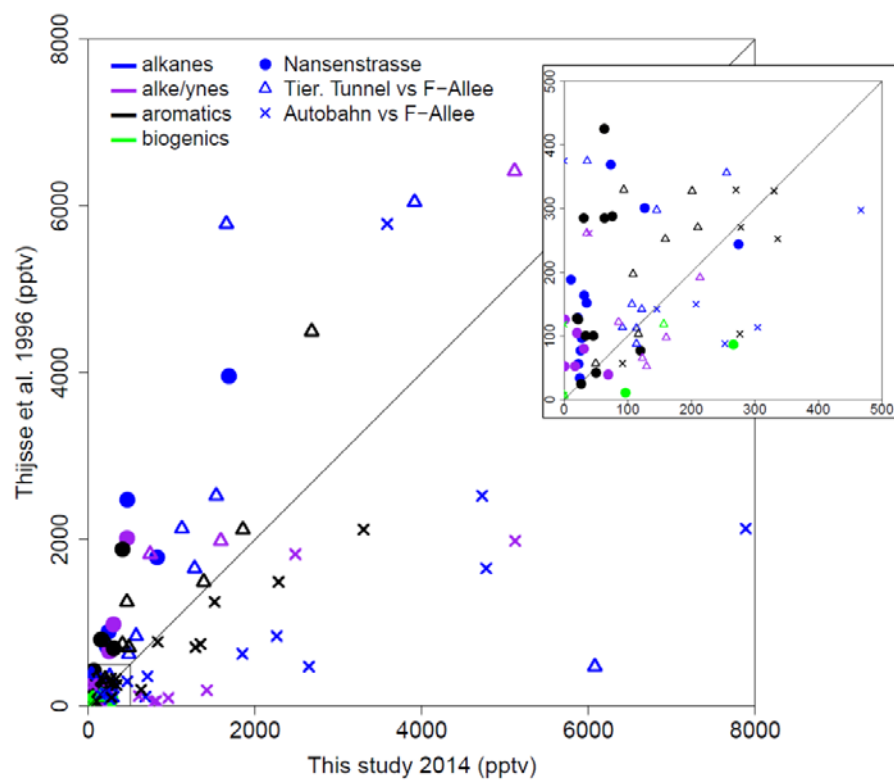
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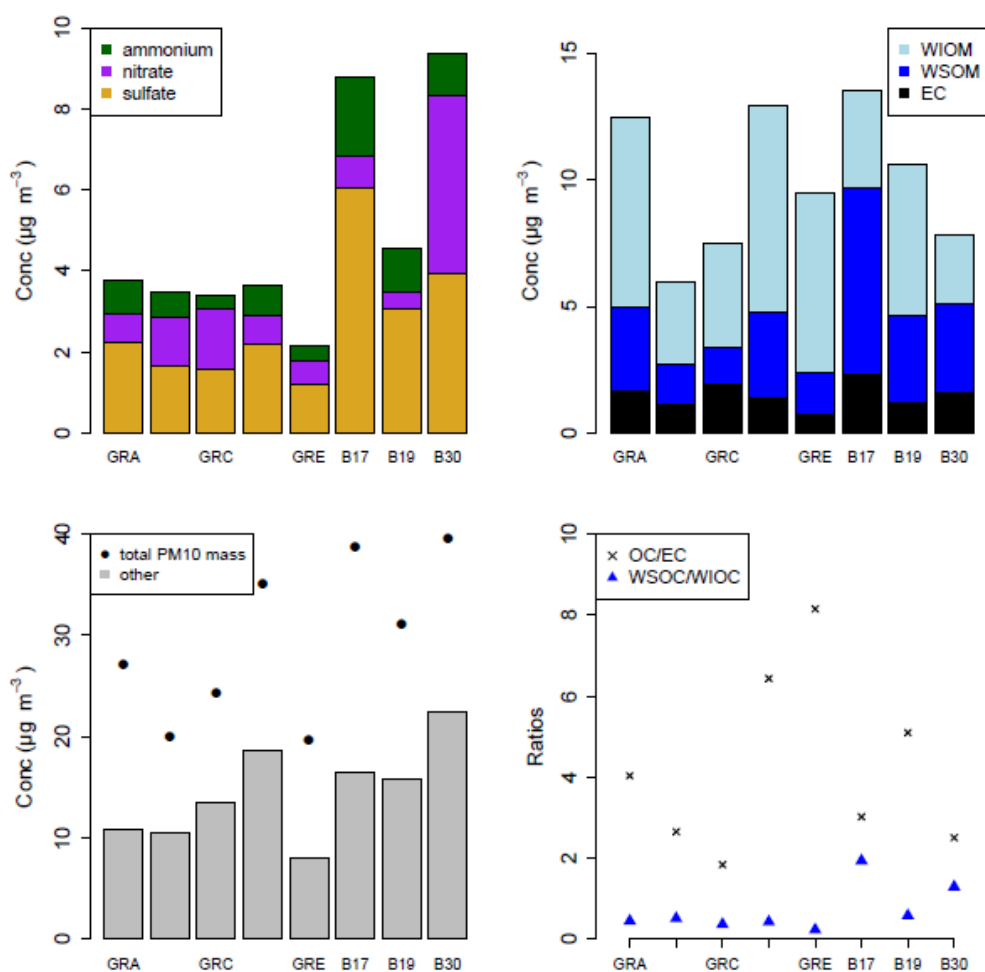
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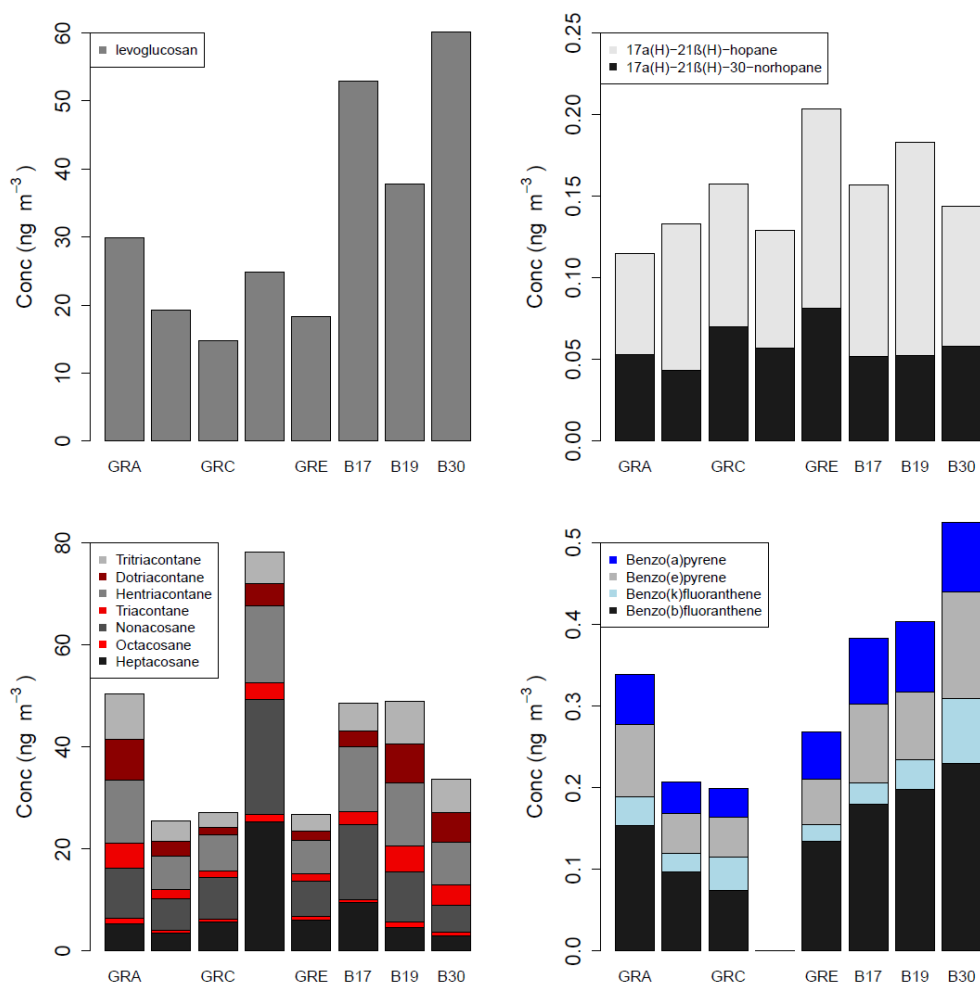
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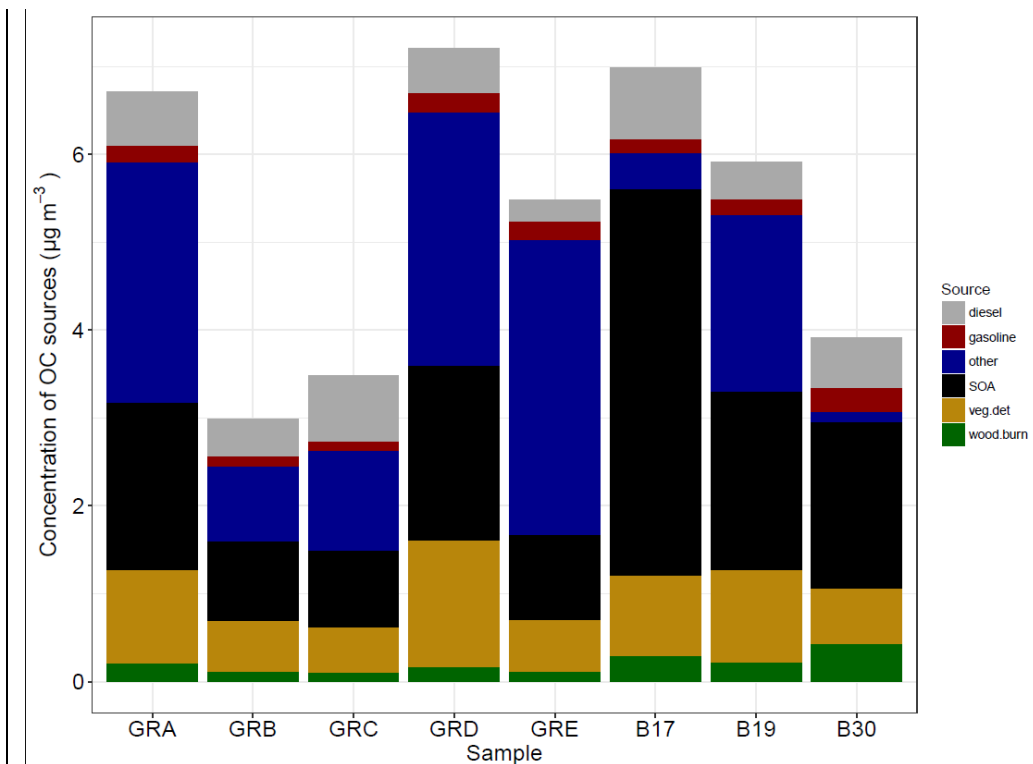


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**Table 1.** List of participating institutions and instruments deployed at the urban background site in Berlin (Nansenstrasse).

Institution	Instrument	Parameters	References
Berlin Senate	Leckel GmbH SEQ47/50 (x1)	PM <sub>10</sub>	DIN EN 16450:2015-10; Beuth, 2015
	Horiba APNA-370 Air Pollution Monitor	NO <sub>x</sub> , NO (measured directly); NO <sub>2</sub> (inferred)	DIN EN 14211:2005; Verbraucherschutz, 2010
	Horiba APOA-370 Air Pollution Monitor	O <sub>3</sub>	DIN EN 14625:2005; Verbraucherschutz, 2010
	Horiba APMA-370 Air Pollution Monitor	CO	DIN EN 14626:2005; Verbraucherschutz, 2010
	AMA Instruments GC5000 BTX	Benzene, toluene	DIN EN 14662:2005; Verbraucherschutz, 2010
KIT	Vaisala CL51 Ceilometer	Mixing layer height	Emeis et al., 2007; Münkler et al., 2007; Wiegner et al., 2014
UBA	GRIMM 1.108	Particle number and size distribution (350-22500 nm), 15 size bins	Görner et al. 2012
	GRIMM 5.403	Particle number and size distribution (10-1100 nm), 44 size bins	Heim et al., 2004
	GRIMM 5.416	Total particle number (4-3000 nm)	Helsper et al., 2008; Wiedensohler et al., 2017
	NSAM	Particle surface area (10-1000 nm)	Kaminski et al., 2013; VDI 2017
IASS	PTR-MS	NMVOCs (for a complete list of m/z see Table S1)	Bourtsoukidis et al. 2014
FZJ	Canister samples	NMVOCs (for a list of compounds, see Table 8 in Bonn et al., 2016, or for the 57 compounds included in this analysis the SI)	Urban 2010; Ehlers et al. 2016
	Filter sampling/analysis	PM <sub>10</sub> , mass, EC, OC	Kofahl 2012; Ehlers 2013
FMI-Helsinki	Cartridge samples	Biogenic NMVOCs	Mäki et al. 2017
UW-Madison	Filter analysis	WSOC, WIOC, ions, organic tracers	Yang et al., 2003; Wang et al., 2005; Miyazaki et al., 2011; Villalobos et al., 2015

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**Table 2.** NMVOC canister sampling locations, site type, and average OH reactivity ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ )

	Location type	alkanes	alkenes	aromatics	oxygenated	biogenics	total
Neukölln†	Urban background station	$0.27 \pm 0.10$	$0.75 \pm 0.40$	$0.49 \pm 0.29$	$0.29 \pm 0.08$	$0.82 \pm 0.44$	$2.6 \pm 0.68$
Altlandsberg	Rural, agricultural area with a small town, partially forested	$0.17 \pm 0.10$	$0.83 \pm 0.43$	$0.22 \pm 0.11$	$0.28 \pm 0.17$	$0.65 \pm 0.42$	$2.2 \pm 0.69$
Plänterwald	<del>ea-</del> approx. 1 km <sup>2</sup> urban park abutting the Spree river in eastern Berlin	$0.20 \pm 0.06$	$0.47 \pm 0.14$	$0.33 \pm 0.12$	$0.25 \pm 0.04$	$3.7 \pm 0.90$	$4.9 \pm 1.0$
Tiergarten Tunnel*	2.4 km tunnel, major 4-lane city thoroughfare in central Berlin	$2.0 \pm 2.2$	$4.4 \pm 1.1$	$2.6 \pm 1.3$	$1.3 \pm 0.70$	$0.39 \pm 0.24$	$11 \pm 2.5$
AVUS*	Highly trafficked motorway in western Berlin (traffic jam)	$6.3 \pm 3.2$	$19 \pm 7.4$	$6.6 \pm 1.6$	$2.8 \pm 2.3$	$0.00 \pm 0.00$	$34 \pm 15$

\* automated sampling while driving; all other samples taken from a stationary location.

† 20 minute sampling duration. All other samples had 10 minute sampling duration.

**Table 3.** Basic bulk composition results, ratios, and air mass origin from HYSPLIT. Units are  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  unless otherwise noted. For OC and ED measurement uncertainty is included.

	Total PM10	Air mass origin (HYSPLIT)	Total OC ( $\pm$ unc)	Total EC ( $\pm$ unc)	Total Ions*	OC:EC ratio	WSOC of OC (%)	Ions:OC ratio**
Group A	27.1	Germany	$6.7 \pm 0.34$	$1.7 \pm 0.084$	5.1	4.0	31%	0.56
Group B	20.0	central Germany, northern France	$3.0 \pm 0.15$	$1.1 \pm 0.057$	5.3	2.7	34%	1.2
Group C	24.4	North Sea	$3.5 \pm 0.17$	$1.9 \pm 0.094$	5.7	1.8	27%	0.98
Group D	35.1	Baltic	$7.2 \pm 0.36$	$1.4 \pm 0.069$	5.0	6.4	30%	0.50
Group E	19.6	North Sea, Scandinavia, UK	$5.5 \pm 0.27$	$0.71 \pm 0.035$	3.2	8.1	19%	0.39
B17	38.8	Poland & east	$7.0 \pm 0.35$	$2.3 \pm 0.12$	11	3.0	66%	1.3
B19	31.0	Poland & north	$5.9 \pm 0.30$	$1.2 \pm 0.058$	6.0	5.1	37%	0.77
B30	39.5	Germany (northern France)	$3.9 \pm 0.20$	$1.6 \pm 0.078$	15	2.5	56%	2.4

\*Ions includes 7 species and is not limited to sulfate, nitrate, and ammonium.

\*\*Ratio of ions (sulfate, nitrate, ammonium) to OC

**Table 4.** Chemical mass balance source apportionment results. Units are  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  unless otherwise noted. Uncertainty is measurement uncertainty, in the case of SOA propagated uncertainty.

	Total OC (unc)	% OC mass apportioned	measured WSOC (unc)	SOA* (unc)	veg. det. (std error)	wood burn. (std error)	diesel emissions (std error)	gasoline vehicles (std error)	R <sup>2</sup>	$\chi^2$
Group A	6.71±0.34	30.8	2.06±0.10	1.91±0.11	1.07±0.13	0.21±0.04	0.61±0.06	0.19±0.02	0.77	12.39
Group B	2.99±0.15	41.2	1.00±0.05	0.91±0.05	0.57±0.07	0.12±0.03	0.42±0.04	0.12±0.02	0.8	7.7
Group C	3.48±0.17	42.4	0.94±0.05	0.87±0.05	0.52±0.06	0.10±0.02	0.74±0.07	0.11±0.02	0.85	5.38
Group D	7.21±0.36	32.3	2.11±0.11	1.99±0.11	1.44±0.17	0.17±0.04	0.50±0.05	0.22±0.03	0.87	6.82
Group E	5.48±0.27	21.2	1.05±0.05	0.97±0.06	0.59±0.07	0.12±0.03	0.24±0.03	0.21±0.02	0.77	9.78
B17	6.99±0.35	31.1	4.61±0.23	4.40±0.24	0.91±0.10	0.30±0.07	0.81±0.08	0.15±0.03	0.8	7.89
B19	5.91±0.30	31.7	2.19±0.11	2.03±0.12	1.05±0.12	0.22±0.05	0.42±0.04	0.18±0.03	0.73	9.83
B30	3.91±0.20	48.6	2.21±0.11	1.90±0.13	0.63±0.08	0.44±0.09	0.57±0.06	0.28±0.04	0.76	10.17

\*The SOA contribution was not part of the CMB results, but rather calculated as: unapportioned WSOC (SOA) = measured WSOC – 0.71\*apportioned wood burning.