

1 Molecular characterization of gaseous and particulate 2 oxygenated compounds at a remote site in Cape Corsica in 3 the western Mediterranean basin.

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20

21 **Abstract**

22 The characterization of the molecular composition of organic carbon in both gaseous and aerosol is
23 key to understand the processes involved in the formation and aging of secondary organic aerosol.
24 Therefore a technique using active sampling on cartridges and filters and derivatization followed by
25 analysis using a Thermal Desorption-Gas Chromatography/mass spectrometer (TD-GC/MS) has been
26 used. It aims at studying the molecular composition of organic carbon in both gaseous and aerosol
27 phases during an intensive field campaign which took place in Corsica during the summer 2013: the
28 ChArMEx (Chemistry and Aerosol Mediterranean Experiment) SOP1b (Special Observation Period 1B)
29 campaign.

30 These measurements led to the identification of 51 oxygenated (carbonyl and or hydroxyl) compounds
31 in the gaseous phase with concentrations comprised between 21 ng m⁻³ and 3900 ng m⁻³ and of 85

1 compounds in the particulate phase with concentrations comprised between 0.3 and 277 ng m⁻³.
2 Comparisons of these measurements with collocated data using other techniques have been
3 conducted showing fair agreement in general for most species except for glyoxal in the gas phase and
4 malonic, tartaric, malic and succinic acids in the particle phase with disagreements that can reach up
5 to a factor of 8 and 20 on average, respectively for the latter two acids.

6 Comparison between the sum of all compounds identified by TD-GC/MS in particle phase with the total
7 Organic Matter (OM) mass reveal that 18% of the total OM mass can be explained by the compounds
8 measured by TD-GC/MS for the whole campaign. This number increase to 24% of the total Water
9 Soluble OM (WSOM) measured by PILS-TOC if we consider only the sum of the soluble compounds
10 measured by TD-GC/MS. This highlights the non-negligible fraction of the OM mass identified by these
11 measurements but also the relative important fraction of OM mass remaining unidentified during the
12 campaign and therefore the complexity of characterizing exhaustively the Organic Aerosol (OA)
13 molecular chemical composition.

14 The fraction of OM measured by TD-GC/MS is largely dominated by di-carboxylic acids which
15 represents 49% of the PM_{2.5} content detected and quantified by this technique. Other contributions to
16 PM_{2.5} composition measured by TD-GC/MS are then represented by tri-carboxylic acids (15%), alcohols
17 (13%), aldehydes (10%), di-hydroxy-carboxylic acids (5%), monocarboxylic acids and ketones (3% each)
18 and hydroxyl-carboxylic acids (2%). These results highlight the importance of poly functionalized
19 carboxylic acids for OM while the chemical processes responsible for their formation in both phases
20 remain uncertain. While not measured by TD-GC/MS technique, HUmic-Like Substances (HULIS)
21 represent the most abundant identified species in the aerosol, contributing for 59% of the total
22 identified OM mass on average during the campaign.

23 14 compounds were detected and quantified in both phases allowing the calculation of experimental
24 partitioning coefficient for these species. The comparison of these experimental partitioning
25 coefficients with theoretical ones, estimated by three different models, reveals large discrepancies
26 varying from 2 to 7 orders of magnitude. These results suggest that the supposed instantaneous
27 equilibrium being established between gaseous and particulate phases assuming a homogeneous non-
28 viscous particle phase is questionable.

29

30 **1 Introduction**

31 It is now recognized that aerosols have an impact on human health, climate and ecosystems. However,
32 large uncertainties still exist on their effects, especially on climate (Fiore et al., 2015). One of the key
33 solution to reduce these uncertainties is to study the chemical composition of the aerosol organic

1 fraction since organic aerosols represent a large fraction of fine particles (Jimenez et al., 2009) which
2 impacts are compound-dependent. Molecular characterization of organic aerosol is therefore crucial.
3 The OA fraction has been widely studied (e.g. De Gouw and Jimenez, 2009; Fuzzi et al., 2006; Glasius
4 and Goldstein, 2016; Jacobson et al., 2000; Jimenez et al., 2009; Kanakidou et al., 2005; Pöschl, 2005;
5 Robinson et al., 2007; Samake et al., 2019; Seinfeld and Pankow, 2003) and many studies allowed to
6 improve our understanding of their molecular composition (e.g. Gallimore et al., 2017; Nguyen et al.,
7 2013; Nozière et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2011), their sources (e.g. Alves et al., 2012; Jiang et al., 2019;
8 Shrivastava et al., 2007; Woody et al., 2016), and their formation and evolution processes (e.g. Chacon-
9 Madrid and Donahue, 2011; Donahue et al., 2012; Heald et al., 2010; Li et al., 2016; Ng et al., 2011).
10 Organic aerosol can be primary or secondary. Primary Organic Aerosols (POA) are directly emitted in
11 the atmosphere, whereas Secondary Organic Aerosols (SOA) are formed after oxidation of gaseous
12 organic precursors such as Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC). These gaseous compounds, coming
13 from anthropogenic or natural sources, are progressively oxidized by atmospheric oxidants (OH, O₃
14 and NO₃). During this multigenerational oxidation process, the O/C ratio of the product formed rises
15 and their volatility decreases allowing them to condense on existing particles or to form new particles
16 through nucleation processes (Kulmala et al. 2013), leading to SOA formation. Some of the Semi-
17 Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOC) formed during the process can be split between the particulate
18 and gaseous phases. Hamilton et al. (2004) have studied the chemical composition of PM_{2.5} collected
19 in the urban atmosphere of London using a TD-GC×GC-ToF/MS (Thermal desorption comprehensive
20 two dimensional-Gas Chromatography-Time of Flight mass Spectrometer) instrument highlighting the
21 presence of more than 10 000 different organic compounds. In the same study, 130 Oxygenated
22 Volatile Organic Compounds (OVOC) were also identified while the total number of different VOC in
23 the atmosphere is estimated to be between 10 000 and 100 000 (Goldstein and Galbally, 2007). The
24 large number of species composing the gaseous and particulate phases makes an exhaustive
25 characterization of the atmospheric organic matter challenging.

26 For this reason, analysis of principal component is often used to describe aerosol composition. Among
27 them, Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) applied to Aerosol Mass Spectrometer (AMS) spectra allows
28 retrieving more information on the sources and nature of organic aerosol. Although this classification
29 allows getting insight into the oxidation state of OA, it is not possible to identify chemical processes
30 involved in SOA formation and aging.

31 It is therefore essential to perform molecular characterization of organic aerosol. Several techniques
32 allow this molecular characterization of OA, for example making use of off-line analyses of filter
33 samplings or online analysis following direct sampling. Coupling Particle Into Liquid Sampler (PILS) to
34 ion chromatography allow for example the measurement of organic species such as acetate, formate,

1 oxalate and methane sulfonic acid (MSA) (Orsini et al., 2003; Sciare et al., 2011). Parshintsev et al.
2 (2009) also coupled PILS with gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS), which allowed the
3 measurement of species such as alpha-pinene, pinonaldehyde, cis-pinonic and pinic acids. More
4 recently, PILS was coupled to ultra-high performance liquid chromatography and electrospray
5 ionization – quadrupole – time of flight – mass spectrometry (UPLC/ESI-Q-TOF-MS) allowing the
6 measurement of species as diverse as adenine, adonitol, sorbitol, adipic acid, vanillic acid, azelaic acid
7 cis-pinonic acid and palmitic acid (Zhang et al., 2016). Several studies also use tandem mass
8 spectrometry (MS/MS or MSⁿ) to get some structural information on compounds present in the organic
9 aerosol thanks to multiple fragmentation (e.g. Fujiwara et al., 2014; Kitanovski et al., 2011; Liu et al.,
10 2015; Nguyen et al., 2011). This technique has led to the identification of species such as carboxylic
11 acids, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), oxy and nitro-PAH but also oligomers from isoprene
12 photo-oxidation experiments in the presence of low or high NO_x concentrations. Development of two-
13 dimensional chromatography (GCxGC or LCxLC) allows reaching lower detection limit separation
14 capacity and allows measuring a larger range of compounds (Hamilton et al., 2004; Parshintsev and
15 Hyötyläinen, 2015). Online chromatographic systems also exist to analyze the composition of the
16 particulate phase. However, difficulties in particle sampling made this type of development
17 challenging. Williams et al. (2006) developed a thermo-desorption Aerosol GC/MS-Flame Ionization
18 Detector (FID) allowing the online measurement of compounds of low polarity and with a small
19 number of chemical functions. GC analysis is usually restricted to compounds of low polarity which
20 excludes a lot of secondary component of OA. A derivatization step is therefore often used before the
21 analysis or even during the sampling to perform OA chemical characterization. For example, O-
22 (2,3,4,5,6-PentaFluoroBenzyl)HydroxylAmine (PFBHA) can be used for measurements of carbonyl
23 compounds, and N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl)-trifluoroacetamide (BSTFA) is used to reduce the polarity of
24 hydroxyl compounds (Chiappini et al., 2006; Flores and Doskey, 2015; Pietrogrande et al., 2009;
25 Schoene et al., 1994).

26 In addition of sample preparation and detection system, different types of extraction systems exist to
27 avoid multiple steps prior to analysis. For example, Chiappini et al. (2006) have developed a technique
28 using Supercritical Fluid Extraction (SFE)-GC/MS. With this technique, compounds are extracted from
29 the filter by supercritical CO₂ including a derivatization step with BSTFA as reagent inside the extraction
30 cell. Extraction efficiency depends on compound solubilities in the supercritical CO₂ which has a very
31 high solvation power. Thermo-desorption (TD) is another technique allowing to free from
32 preparation steps prior to analysis. This technique relies on the volatilization of collected compounds
33 and is suitable for semi-volatile constituent of SOA. It has the advantage to be commercially available
34 with fully automatized systems, high sensibility allowing the analysis of very low quantity of aerosol

1 and low preparation time requirement limiting the risk of loss or contamination of analyzed samples
2 (Hays and Lavrich, 2007; Parshintsev and Hyötyläinen, 2015). This technique has been used by Bates
3 et al. (2008) and van Drooge et al. (2009) to quantify particulate PAH, while Ding et al. (2009) used it
4 to measure PAH, alkanes, hopanes and steranes in PM_{2.5}.

5 Although numerous analytical methods exist for SOA chemical characterization, the multiphasic state
6 of lots of compounds is rarely studied. Indeed, gaseous phase chemical characterization is often
7 studied separately using techniques such as Proton Transfer Reaction (PTR)/MS (Hansel et al., 1995;
8 de Gouw and Warneke, 2007; Holzinger et al., 2019) or online/offline GC techniques coupled to various
9 detectors (e.g. FID, MS) (e.g. Barreira et al., 2015; Kajos et al., 2015; Valach et al., 2014). Despite this
10 disconnected treatment between aerosol and gaseous phases, understanding mechanisms controlling
11 the partitioning of SVOC between both phases is key to understand the formation and fate of SOA. A
12 partition coefficient is defined according to the thermodynamic equilibrium to calculate the mass
13 transfer of SVOC into particulate phase (Pankow, 1994). This equilibrium is thought to be dominated
14 by absorption phenomena (Liang et al., 1997) and partition coefficient is therefore calculated
15 accordingly in models. However, the validity of the instantaneous equilibrium between both phases as
16 well as the predominance of absorption processes in the mass transfer process are questionable
17 (Bateman et al., 2015; Fridlind et al., 2000; Healy et al., 2008; Rossignol et al., 2012; Virtanen et al.,
18 2010). It is therefore crucial to test the theoretical partition coefficient against values measured in the
19 field for which in situ measurements of organic compounds in both phases are needed.

20 The Mediterranean Basin is an excellent location to study organic aerosol formation and aging since it
21 experiences intensive natural and anthropogenic emissions as well as strong photochemistry (Lelieveld
22 et al., 2002). The ChArMEx project (Chemistry and Aerosols Mediterranean Experiments) aimed at
23 assessing the present and future state of the atmosphere in the Mediterranean basin. In this frame,
24 an intensive field campaign was performed at Cape Corsica for 3 weeks during summer 2013 setting
25 up numerous instruments to investigate the chemical composition of aerosol and gaseous phases.

26 As part of this project, this study aims at characterizing the molecular composition of organic carbon
27 in both the gaseous and aerosol phases during the campaign using TD-GC/MS measurements. These
28 measurements were first compared to measurements performed with other techniques (offline
29 cartridges analysis using HPLC and GC/FID-MS as well as PTR-MS for gaseous measurements and filter
30 analysis using Ion chromatography, GC/MS and HPLC). **These measurements** were used to assess the
31 composition of organic carbon and to estimate the experimental partition coefficient of compounds
32 measured in both phases to be compared with theoretical values.

33

1 **2 The ChArMEx field campaign**

2 **2.1 Description of the Cape Corse ground site**

3 The ChArMEx field campaign took place from July 15th to August 5th 2013 at Ersa in Cape Corsica
4 (42.97°N, 9.38°E) at the top of a hill (533 meters above sea level). The site is located at the northern
5 tip of a thin peninsula, a few kilometers from the sea in all directions (between 2.5 and 6 km) and
6 approximately 30 km north from the nearest urban area (Bastia). Mountains (peaking between 1000
7 and 1500 m) are limiting transport of urban air masses to the sampling site. The site is surrounded by
8 typical vegetation of Mediterranean areas (maquis shrubland). Apart from this local biogenic influence,
9 the site is mainly influenced by marine, and other natural (e.g. dust) emissions, and by continental and
10 aged air masses due to long range transport. During summer, recirculation of air masses favors
11 secondary aerosol and ozone build up (Millan et al., 1997). More details about the site, atmospheric
12 conditions encountered during the campaign and air mass origin can be found in Michoud et al. (2017).

13

14 **2.2 Sampling devices and TD-GC/MS analysis for the molecular** 15 **characterization of multiphase organic carbon**

16 Simultaneous sampling of gas and particulate phases has been conducted using a parallel sampling
17 system with two independent pumps allowing the selection of flow rates specifically adjusted for each
18 phase

19 Following the sampling, the molecular characterization of gaseous and particulate oxygenated organic
20 compounds sampled during the campaign has been made using a TD-GC/MS analysis after
21 derivatization steps following the method developed by Rossignol et al. (2012).

22 **2.2.1 Gaseous phase**

23 2.2.1.1 Gaseous phase sampling

24 Sampling of gaseous oxygenated compounds was achieved by using commercial sorbent cartridges
25 containing Tenax TA (porous polymers based on 2,6-diphenyl-p-phenylene oxide; Perkin Elmer™ or
26 Markes™) that has been previously impregnated with suitable derivatization agents (see below)
27 following an improved protocol from Rossignol et al. (2012). To maximize the adsorption surface, small
28 particle size of 60/80 mesh has been selected. Ambient air samplings were performed during 6h at a
29 flow rate of 100 mL min⁻¹. A Teflon filter (Zefluor™ membrane, Pallflex™, 47 mm) was installed
30 upstream from the cartridges to trap particulate compound that could potentially be adsorbed on
31 Tenax adsorbent. Gaseous phase sampling has been performed using individual pumps (Gilian™ pump,
32 model LFS-113DC). Prior to sampling, cartridges were heated at 320°C under a small helium flow rate
33 during 4h to eliminate any trace of contamination. Every single cartridge was then analyzed to ensure

1 its cleanliness with quantities below Limit of Detection (LOD) for all measured compounds. During the
2 campaign, 177 gaseous samples were collected following this protocol.

3 2.2.1.2 Sample preparation for gaseous phase

4 For the analysis of multi-functionalized OVOC by gas chromatography, a derivatization step is needed.
5 It allows the suppression of the reactivity of functions, improving their thermal stability and rising their
6 volatility. The dual derivatization reagents used in this study are PFBHA for carbonyl compounds and
7 MTBSTFA (N-tert-Butyldimethylsilyl-N-methyltrifluoroacetamide) for hydroxyl compounds. The two
8 derivatization processes are performed separately.

9 2.2.1.2.1 Carbonyl compounds

10 PFBHA has been used as derivatization reagent for the analysis of carbonyls. Cartridges have been
11 impregnated prior to sampling thanks to a glass balloon with 8 arms, containing 0.33mg of solid PFBHA
12 per cartridges mounted on the balloon, and on which the cartridges are installed under a 100 mL min⁻¹
13 ¹ nitrogen flow rate per cartridges at 110°C during 20 minutes. The impregnated cartridges are stored
14 at room temperature until the sampling. After sampling, cartridges are stored at room temperature
15 during 5 days, optimum for the derivatization step using PFBHA (Ho and Yu, 2002), before their
16 analysis.

17 2.2.1.2.2 Hydroxyl compounds and carboxylic acids

18 MTBSTFA with 1% of TBDMCS (tert-butyldimethylchlorosilane, used as catalyst for the reaction) has
19 been used as derivatization agent for the analysis of hydroxyl compounds. Cartridges are impregnated
20 prior to sampling vaporizing 0.3 µL of MTBSTFA at 275°C using a commercial thermal tube desorber
21 (Dynatherm Analytical Instruments, model 890) under a flow of Helium of 30 mL min⁻¹ for 11 minutes.
22 The cartridges are then stored at room temperature and sampling is performed within 10 days after
23 impregnation. After sampling, cartridges are stored at 4°C. To ensure complete derivatization of all
24 compounds before the analysis, two deposits of 0.3 µL of MTBSTFA are achieved on each side of the
25 cartridges which are kept at 60°C during 5h after that. Once the cartridges are back at room
26 temperature, analysis is performed within 5 hours.

27 **2.2.2 Particulate phase**

28 2.2.2.1 Particulate phase sampling

29 Sampling of particulate matter was performed over regular (not impregnated) filters and derivatization
30 was performed only after sampling (to avoid chemisorption of gaseous compounds on filters) following
31 a protocol adapted from Rossignol et al. (2012). The sampling device used during the campaign was a
32 modified Speciation Sampler Partisol, model 2300 (Rupprecht & Patashnick Co, Thermo Fisher
33 Scientific). Three ChemComb cartridges, with PM_{2.5} impactors, were mounted to this device to allow

1 the sampling of particulate phase on filters of different nature according to targeted compounds. For
2 carbonyls compounds and non-oxygenated compounds Quartz filters (Pallflex™, 47 mm) were used.
3 For hydroxyl compounds, quartz filters are not suitable because of silanol groups present at their
4 surfaces that can be derivatized instead of the hydroxyl compounds reducing considerably their
5 derivatization yield (Rossignol, 2012). Therefore, for the sampling of this type of compounds, we
6 selected filters of borosilicate glass fibers coated with tetrafluoroethylene (TFE) called hereafter
7 “Teflon quartz filters” (Fiber film, Pallflex™, 47mm). Activated carbon honeycomb denuders were
8 installed upstream from the filters to avoid positive artifacts due to adsorption of gaseous oxygenated
9 compounds on the filters. For cleaning and a best efficiency, denuders were heated at 250°C before
10 being used for each new sample. The sampling flow rate was of 1 m³ h⁻¹ for each sample step. Quartz
11 and Teflon quartz filters were carbonized prior to the sampling respectively at 500°C and 300°C to
12 eliminate any possible contamination. During the campaign, 240 particulate samples were collected
13 following this protocol.

14 2.2.2.2 Sample preparation for particulate phase

15 2.2.2.2.1 Carbonyl compounds

16 Sampling are performed on quartz filters which are stored at -16°C after sampling waiting for analysis.
17 Then, the filters are cut into two pieces, both inserted into empty and clean stainless steel tubes. These
18 tubes, including grids, are previously sonicated in several bath of ultra-pure water and acetonitrile and
19 then are heated at 400°C under a flow of helium (80mL min⁻¹) during 4h. Deposition of 50 µL of PFBHA
20 saturated solution (acetonitrile/water (90/10, v/v) with 27 mg mL⁻¹ of PFBHA) are achieved in the tubes
21 to expose adsorbed compounds to the derivatization reagent. Tubes are then stored at room
22 temperature during 5 days to allow derivatization of adsorbed compounds before their analysis.

23 2.2.2.2.2 Hydroxyl compounds and carboxylic acids

24 Sampling are performed on Teflon quartz filters which are stored at -16°C after sampling waiting for
25 analysis. Derivatization is performed after sampling directly on filters. Filters are put in stainless steel
26 tubes cleaned following the same protocol than for carbonyl compounds. Tubes are then sealed and
27 maintained vertically with 10 µl of MTBSTFA put in the bottom cap for passive impregnation during
28 24h at room temperature.

29 **2.3.3 Analytical system**

30 The analytical system used in this study is composed by three successive modules: a thermal
31 desorption system, a gas chromatography unit and a mass spectrometer.

32 The thermal desorption allows the extraction of adsorbed compounds on sample support by increasing
33 the temperature without any preliminary solvent extraction and collecting them on a cold trap before

1 flash injection in GC/MS instrument. The thermal desorption system (Markes™, model unity 1) is
2 coupled with an automated system (Markes™, model Ultra 50:50). Thermal desorption parameters are
3 listed in Table 1.

4 The GC/MS instrument (Agilent Technologies Inc.) used during this study is composed by two modules:

- 5 - A GC unit, model 6890 A, associated with a capillary column Integra-Guard Rxi®-5Sil MS
6 (stationary phase: 1.4-bis(dimethylsiloxyl)phenylene dimethyl polysiloxane, length: 60m,
7 diameter: 0.25mm, film thickness: 0.25µm, with 5m pre-column deactivated without any
8 stationary phase; Restek Corporation).
- 9 - A Mass spectrometer, model 5973N, equipped with an ionization source in EI (Electronic
10 Impact) or CI (Chemical Ionization; using CH₄ as reagent gas) and associated with a quadrupole.

11 GC/MS parameters are listed in Table 1.

12 **2.3.4 Internal calibration protocol**

13 For a more efficient quantification, internal calibration has been set up for both family of compounds
14 (carbonyl and hydroxyl) and for both phases. This procedure aims at taking into account drift in MS
15 sensitivity and derivatization efficiency. Two types of internal standards are used: substitutes which
16 are deuterated compounds getting at least one derivatized function; and an internal standard which is
17 a compound with no derivatized function. 50 ng of Substitutes are added prior to the derivatization
18 step to take into account every steps of sample preparation as well as analysis steps. The list of
19 substitutes selected is given in Table 2. The internal standard selected is pentadecane, because of its
20 low volatility which limit signal variability due to evaporation of the internal standard before the
21 analysis, and 50 ng is added on cartridges grid just before the analysis.

22 **2.3.5 Estimation of uncertainties**

23 Overall uncertainties have been determined taking into account precision, detection limit and
24 systematic errors (including uncertainties on standard concentrations, on calibration, on blank
25 determination and on sampling volume; following Gaussian error propagation). Overall uncertainties
26 have therefore been estimated to be 35% and 54% on averaged in gas phase for carbonyls and
27 hydroxyls and carboxylic acids respectively and to be 41% and 47% on averaged in particulate phase
28 for carbonyls and hydroxyls and carboxylic acids respectively.

29 **2.4 Ancillary measurements**

30 An important set of complementary instruments, dedicated to the measurement of both gaseous and
31 particulate phase, has been deployed at the supersite supporting the interpretation and validation of
32 the TD-GC/MS dataset.

1 2.4.1 Gaseous ancillary measurements

2 2.4.1.1 PTR-MS

3 Measurements of OVOCs (e.g. nopinone, sum of methacrolein and methyl vinyl ketone, propanoic acid
4 and methyl ethyl ketone), among other species (e.g. aromatics and biogenic VOCs) were performed
5 using a Proton Transfer Reaction-Time of Flight Mass Spectrometer (PTR-ToF-MS, KORE Inc® 2nd
6 generation). A detailed description of these measurements was given by Michoud et al. (2017, 2018).
7 Briefly, ambient air was sampled through a 5-m long Teflon PFA (PerFluroAlkoxy) line held at 50°C at a
8 flow rate of 1.2 L min⁻¹, leading to a residence time of 3.1s in the sampling line. The PTR-ToF-MS
9 sampling flow rate was set at 150 mL min⁻¹. The instrument was operated at a reactor pressure and a
10 temperature of 1.33 mbar and 40°C, respectively, leading to an E/N ratio of 135 Td.

11 An automated zero procedure was performed every hour for 10 min. Humid zero air was generated by
12 passing ambient air through a catalytic converter to perform zeros at the same relative humidity than
13 ambient air.

14 Signals from protonated VOCs were normalized by the signals of H₃O⁺ and the first water cluster
15 H₃O⁺(H₂O) as proposed by de Gouw and Warneke (2007). Concentrations were calculated using Eq. (1):

$$[R] = \frac{i_{R_net}}{(i_{H_3O^+} + X_r \cdot i_{H_3O^+(H_2O)})} \cdot \frac{150000}{R_{f,R}} \quad (1)$$

16 Where [R] represents the mixing ratio of a given VOC, i_{R_net} the net signal of this VOC, $i_{H_3O^+}$ and $i_{H_3O^+(H_2O)}$
17 the signals of H₃O⁺ and H₃O⁺(H₂O) at m/z 19 and 37 respectively recorded at m/z 21 and 39 to avoid
18 any saturation of the detector and recalculated using the isotopic ratio between ¹⁶O and ¹⁸O. X_r is a
19 factor introduced to account for the effect of humidity on the PTR-MS sensitivity (de Gouw and
20 Warneke, 2007) and is determined experimentally through calibrations performed at various relative
21 humidity. $R_{f,R}$ is the sensitivity determined during calibration experiments (in ncts ppt⁻¹) and normalized
22 to 150 000 counts s⁻¹ of H₃O⁺ ions. The latter is the number of counts of reagent ions (not corrected for
23 ion transmission into the ToFMS) observed on this PTR-ToF-MS instrument. Data were recorded at a
24 time resolution of 1 min. During the campaign, calibrations were performed every 3 days using various
25 standards, including a canister containing 15 VOCs (NMHCs, OVOCs and chlorinated VOCs; Restek®), a
26 gas cylinder containing 9 NMHCs (Praxair®) and a gas cylinder containing 9 OVOCs (Praxair®).
27 Information about the composition of these standards can be found in Michoud et al. (2017). Overall
28 uncertainties are estimated between 6 and 23% depending on the compound considered (Michoud et
29 al., 2017) following the “Aerosols, Clouds, and Trace gases Research InfraStructure network” (ACTRIS)
30 guidelines for uncertainty evaluation (ACTRIS, 2012).

31 2.4.1.2 GC-FID/MS

1 OVOCs, including aldehydes, ketones, alcohols, ethers, esters, as well as a few NMHCs, including BVOCs
2 and aromatics, were measured using an online GC/FID-MS instrument. This instrument as well as its
3 setup during the campaign was described by Michoud et al. (2017). Briefly, ambient air was sampled
4 via a KI ozone scrubber and a 5-m long PFA line (1/8") at a flow rate of 15 mL min⁻¹ using an Air server-
5 unity I (Markes International®). The sample was pre-diluted (50% dilution) with dry zero air to keep
6 relative humidity below 50%. The sample was then collected in an internal trap, consisting in a 1.9 mm
7 i.d. quartz tube filled with two different sorbents (5 mg of Carbopack B and 75 mg of Carbopack X,
8 Supelco®) and cooled at 12.5 °C by a Peltier system. Compounds trapped on the sorbents were then
9 thermally desorbed at 280 °C and injected into the column of a GC (Agilent®) equipped with a FID for
10 detection and quantification and with a Mass Spectrometer (MS) for identification. The compounds
11 were separated through a high polar CP-lowox column (30 m×0.53 mm× 10 µm) (Varian®). The time
12 resolution of these measurements is 1h30min. Calibrations were performed during the campaign using
13 a gas cylinder containing 29 VOCs (Praxair). Information about the composition of this standard can be
14 found in Michoud et al. (2017). Overall uncertainties are estimated between 5 and 14% depending on
15 the compound considered (Michoud et al., 2017) following ACTRIS guidelines for uncertainty
16 evaluation (ACTRIS, 2012).

17 2.4.1.3 Active sampling on DNPH cartridges

18 Carbonyl compounds were collected continuously for 3 h durations by active sampling on DNPH
19 cartridges (Waters®) using an automatic sampler (Tera Environment®). Cartridges were then eluted
20 with 3 mL of acetonitrile to extract these compounds; and an aliquot of 20µL was analyzed later by
21 High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) with UV detection. Ambient air was sampled via a 3-
22 m PFA line (1/4") at 1.5 L min⁻¹ and passed through a KI ozone scrubber and a stainless-steel particle
23 filter (porosity: 2µm). More details about these measurements are given by Michoud et al. (2017;
24 2018). Calibrations were performed at the laboratory using Supelco® standard for DNPH. Overall
25 uncertainties are estimated around 25% (Michoud et al., 2017) following ACTRIS guidelines for
26 uncertainty evaluation (ACTRIS, 2012).

27 2.4.1.4 Inorganic trace gases

28 During the campaign, NO and NO₂ were measured by a commercial ozone chemiluminescence analyzer
29 (Cranox II; Eco Physics®) with a time resolution of 5 min. NO was measured directly, while NO₂ was
30 converted into NO using a photolytic converter. O₃ was measured using a commercial analyzer (TEI 49i;
31 Thermo Environmental Instruments Inc®) using UV absorption with a time resolution of 5 min.

32 2.4.2 Particulate ancillary measurements

1 Mass concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM₁ were measured during the campaign using two tapered element
2 oscillating microbalance (TEOM) equipped with a filter dynamic measurement system (FDMS) (Thermo
3 Scientific™). In addition, aerosol chemical composition was measured by online technique (aerosol
4 chemical speciation monitor - ACSM) and offline-method (Ion chromatography, GC/MS and HPLC) on
5 filters collected daily with 2 HiVol samplers (30 m³ hr⁻¹) equipped with PM₁ and PM_{2,5} inlets.

6 2.4.2.2 ACSM

7 Measurements of the chemical composition of non-refractory submicron aerosol (NR-PM₁) have been
8 carried out using a quadrupole ACSM (Aerodyne Research Inc., Billerica, MA, USA). These
9 measurements have been described in detail by Michoud et al. (2017). Briefly, the calibration of this
10 instrument with monodispersed (300 nm diameter) ammonium nitrate particles was performed 2
11 months before the campaign. Because ambient air was dried by a Nafion membrane and because
12 ammonium nitrate was low during the campaign, constant collection efficiency (CE) of 0.5 has been
13 kept. The Q-ACSM was operated continuously during the whole campaign at a time resolution of 30
14 min.

15 2.4.2.3 Ionic Chromatography (IC)

16 Soluble anions and cations were analyzed by ionic chromatography (IC, ThermoFisher ICS3000)
17 following protocol similar to that described elsewhere (e.g. Jaffrezo et al., 1998). Briefly, 38 mm
18 diameter sub-samples from each filter were soaked for 20 min in 10 mL of Milli-Q water with orbital
19 shaking, and then filtered using 0,22 µm-porosity Acrodisc filters before analysis. ASA11-HC and CS16
20 columns were used for anions and cations analyses, respectively.

21 2.4.2.4 GC/MS

22 Organic markers were analyzed by gas chromatography (GC) coupled with mass spectrometry (MS)
23 using the method developed by El Haddad et al. (2011). Filter samples were first spiked with 300µL of
24 a solution containing the internal standard D6-Cholesterol (C₂₄H₄₀D₆₀). Accelerated Solvent Extraction
25 (ASE Dionex 300) was performed with a mixture of acetone/dichloromethane (1/1 v/v) at 100bar and
26 100°C during 10 min. Sample extracts were concentrated using a Turbo Vap II under N₂ in a water-bath
27 regulated at 40°C to a final volume of 500µL. A fraction of the extracts (50µL) was derivatized at 70°C
28 for 90 min by adding 100µL of N,O-bis(triméthylsilyl)trifluoroacétamide (BSTFA containing 1% of
29 TMCS). Derivatized extracts were then analyzed using a Thermo Trace Ultra GC coupled with a Polaris
30 Q – ion trap operating in the electron impact mode. The GC was equipped with a TR-5MS capillary
31 column (30 m × 0.25 mm i.d. × 0.25 µm film thickness). Aliquots of 1 µL were injected in split mode
32 (split ratio 50) at 280°C. The column temperature program was held at 65°C hold for 2 min, and ramped
33 at 6°C/min up to 300°C, followed by an isothermal hold at 300°C for 20 min. GC-MS response factors

1 were determined using authentic standards. Compounds, for which no authentic standard are
2 available, were quantified using the response factor of compounds with analogous chemical
3 structures. Field blank filters were also treated with the same procedure. Limit of quantification are
4 comprised between 0.02 and 0.20 ng m⁻³ and overall uncertainties are estimated between 5 and 14%
5 depending on the compound considered following LQ and uncertainty evaluation described by El
6 Haddad (2011).

7 2.4.2.5 HPLC

8 The analysis of a large array of organic acids (including pinic and phthalic acids, and 3-MBTCA) was
9 conducted using the same water extracts as for IC analyses. In brief, this was performed by HPLC-MS
10 (GP40 Dionex with a LCQ-FLEET Thermo-Fisher ion trap), with negative mode electrospray ionization.
11 The separation column is a Synergi 4 µm Fusion – RP 80A (250×3 mm ID, 4 µm particle size, from
12 Phenomenex). An elution gradient was optimized for the separation of the compounds, with a binary
13 solvent gradient consisting of 0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile (solvent A) and 0.1% aqueous formic acid
14 (solvent B) in various proportions during the 40-minute analytical run (see supplementary material S1).
15 Column temperature was maintained to 30 °C. Eluent flow rate was 0.5 ml min⁻¹, and injection volume
16 was 250 µl. Calibrations were performed for each analytical batch with solutions of authentic
17 standards. All standards and samples were spiked with internal standards (phthalic-3,4,5,6-d4 acid and
18 succinic-2,2,3,3-d4 acid). The calculation of the final atmospheric concentrations was corrected with
19 the concentrations of internal standards and of the procedural blanks, taking also into account the
20 extraction efficiency varying between 76-116% (depending on the acid).

21 2.4.2.6 OCEC SUNSET field instrument

22 Concentrations of elemental carbon (EC) and organic carbon (OC) in PM_{2.5} were obtained in the field
23 from an OCEC Sunset field instrument (Sunset Laboratory, Forest Grove, OR, USA; Bae et al., 2004)
24 operated at a flow rate of 8 L min⁻¹ with a denuder set upstream to avoid adsorption of semi-volatile
25 compounds on the filter collecting particles in the instrument. Data were obtained every 2 hours with
26 this instrument.

27 2.4.2.7 PILS-TOC

28 PM₁ water-soluble organic compounds (WSOCs) were measured by a modified PILS (Brechtel
29 Manufacturing Inc., USA; Sorooshian et al., 2006) coupled with an analyzer of total organic carbon
30 (TOC; model Sievers 900; Ionics Ltd, USA). Sciare et al. (2011) and Michoud et al. (2017) described this
31 technique and operating procedures used during the ChArMEx field campaign. Briefly, the PILS-TOC
32 instrument was operated at a flow rate of 15 L min⁻¹ with a dilution factor of 1.30. A 0.45 µm pore size
33 diameter filter in polyethylene was set in-line in the aerosol liquid flow to analyze the water-soluble

1 OC fraction only and a VOC denuder was set upstream the collection to avoid semi-volatile VOC
2 contamination. Daily blanks were conducted every day for 1h by placing a total filter upstream of the
3 sampling system.

4 2.4.2.8 HULIS measurements

5 The water soluble HULIS fraction is analyzed according to a protocol described in detail in Baduel et al.
6 (2009). Briefly, the water-soluble fractions obtained from aerosol samples are passed through a weak
7 anion exchange resin (GE Healthcare[®], HiTrap™ DEAE FF, 0.7cm ID x 2.5cm length) without any pre-
8 treatment. After this concentration step, the organic matter adsorbed is washed with 12mL of a
9 solution of NaOH 0.04M (J.T.Baker[®], pro analysis) to remove neutral components, hydrophobic bases,
10 inorganic anion, mono- and di-acids initially retained in the resin. Finally, HULIS_{WS} are quickly eluted in
11 a single broad peak using 4 mL of a high ionic strength solution of NaCl 1M (Normapur[®]). All flow rates
12 are set at 1.0 mL min⁻¹. UV-Vis absorption spectra are measured on-line after the extraction system,
13 using a diode array detector (Dionex UV-VIS 340U), and recorded in the range 220-550nm. The HULIS_{WS}
14 fraction is subsequently collected manually and the carbon content is analyzed with a DOC analyser
15 (Shimadzu TOC-V_{CPH/CPN}) by catalytic burning at 680°C in oxygen followed by non-dispersive infrared
16 detection of the evolved CO₂.

17

18 **3 Results**

19 **3.1 Main conditions during the campaign**

20 **3.1.1 Meteorological conditions**

21 Meteorological and environmental conditions are presented in Table 3. Relatively high temperatures
22 were monitored during the campaign (up to 32°C) coinciding with high biogenic emissions from local
23 vegetation and strong photochemistry (Michoud et al., 2017). These conditions led to high ozone
24 concentrations during the campaign (65 ppbv on average for the overall sampling period and up to 111
25 ppbv for 5 min measurements), typical of this region during summer (e.g. Lelieveld, 2002; Di Biagio et
26 al., 2015). High relative humidity was encountered at night with values reaching 100% coinciding with
27 foggy conditions observed during several nights at the site. High wind speeds were monitored with
28 maximum reached on the 30th of July 2013 (13.2 m s⁻¹). During the campaign, almost 40% of air masses
29 came from the south-west sector and 20% from the western sector (see Figure 1). Winds coming from
30 south-west sector are predominant during daytime and nighttime and correspond to wind speed
31 maxima. Winds from the west and north-east are also recorded, but during daytime only. Low NO_x
32 concentrations were observed during the campaign (0.57 ppbv on average) with a few spikes above 1
33 ppbv corresponding to local influence from traffic especially when air masses came from the south
34 (e.g. 27th July).

1 **3.1.2 Particles and organic fraction**

2 Mean, median, maximum and minimum of mass concentrations of PM₁₀, PM₁ and organic fraction in
3 NR-PM₁ are summarized in Table 3 for the whole campaign. The averaged mass concentrations for
4 PM₁₀ is 12.0 µg m⁻³, comparable to observations performed at other remote sites located in the
5 western Mediterranean basin (e.g. 15.5 µg m⁻³ at Montseny, Spain; 11.5 µg m⁻³ between 2010 and
6 2013 at Montsec, Spain; 14.6 µg m⁻³ at Monte Martano, Italy; 13 µg m⁻³ between 2010 and 2013 at
7 Venaco, France – Moroni et al., 2015; Nicolas, 2013; Querol et al., 2009a, 2009b; Ripoll et al., 2015).
8 The averaged mass concentrations for PM₁ was 8.3 µg m⁻³ during the campaign and represented an
9 important fraction of PM₁₀ (69% on average). The amount of PM₁ at Erza is also comparable to what
10 has been previously measured in other remote sites in the western Mediterranean basin (e.g. 8.2 µg
11 m⁻³ at Montseny, Spain; 7.1 µg m⁻³ between 2010 and 2013 at Montsec, Spain – Minguillón et al., 2015;
12 Ripoll et al., 2015). During the campaign, the organic fraction represented between 40 and 55% of PM₁
13 mass concentrations (mean of 3.7 µg m⁻³ representing 44% of PM₁ on average).

14 Time series of mass concentrations of PM₁₀, PM₁ and organic fraction in PM₁ are presented in Figure
15 2. Highest mass concentrations for PM₁₀ and PM₁ are observed between 12 and 21 July (15.7 and
16 11.0 µg m⁻³ on average respectively for PM₁₀ and PM₁). According to back trajectory analysis (Michoud
17 et al., 2017) this period corresponds to low wind speed and hence stationary air masses. A decrease of
18 PM₁₀ concentrations is observed from 21 to 25 July (12.0 µg m⁻³ on average) while the ratio PM₁/PM₁₀
19 and organic/PM₁ are the highest (comprised between 0.5 and 1 and 0.3 and 0.7 respectively). During
20 this period, the PM₁₀ and PM₁ fractions are almost the same. This period is characterized by higher
21 wind speed and air masses coming from the north-eastern sector and therefore characterized by
22 anthropogenic influence from northern Italy. From 26 to 29 July, a rise in PM₁₀ mass concentrations is
23 observed coinciding with the warmest temperature of the campaign and air masses coming from the
24 south and characterized by biogenic influence (see Michoud et al., 2017). From 29 July to 3 August,
25 PM₁ concentrations strongly decrease (from 9.3 to 2.6 µg m⁻³ on average) coinciding with higher wind
26 speed and relative humidity while winds came from north-west and north-east directions (see
27 Michoud et al. 2017). During the last period (3-5 August), increase of PM₁₀ and PM₁ concentrations is
28 observed and a clear diurnal cycle is monitored for both fractions corresponding to a raise in
29 temperatures. Overall, the organic fraction evolution follows the one of the PM₁ mass fraction.

30 **3.2 Results from the TD-GC/MS analysis**

31 **3.2.1 Compound identifications**

32 Detection of functionalized compounds led to the identification of 23 carbonyl compounds and 28
33 hydroxyl compounds and carboxylic acids in the gaseous phase and of 30 carbonyl compounds and 55
34 hydroxyl compounds and carboxylic acids in the particulate phase. The entire list of these 97

1 compounds is presented in supplementary material 2 together with their retention time, their O/C
2 ratio, their calculated saturation vapor pressure, the main fragments of their mass spectra, the method
3 used for their identification, the substitute used to account for the derivatization efficiency, the
4 external standard used for their quantification, the fragment used for quantification, the averaged
5 concentrations measured in both phases, their limits of detection and quantification, and the averaged
6 overall uncertainties. An example of chromatogram is also shown in supplementary material 3. For the
7 carbonyl compounds, the mono-functionalized compounds identified contained from 3 (e.g. propanal)
8 to 10 (e.g. decanal) carbon atoms and from 2 (e.g. glyoxal) to 5 (e.g. 4-oxopentanal) carbon atoms for
9 the bi-functionalized compounds. For the hydroxyl compounds and the carboxylic acids, the mono-
10 functionalized identified compounds contained from 3 (e.g. propanoic acid) to 18 (e.g. octadecanoic
11 acid) carbon atoms. Several poly-functionalized compounds have also been identified: hydroxy-acids
12 and di-acids from 2 (e.g. glycolic acid) to 8 (e.g. mandelic acid) carbon atoms; triols, di-hydroxy-acids,
13 hydroxyl-di-acids, tri-acids from 3 (e.g. glycerol) to 9 (e.g. 2-Hydroxy-4-isopropyl-hexanedioic acid)
14 carbon atoms; and two tetra-functionalized compounds (methyl-tetrols and citric acid).

15 It is worth noting that several compounds exhibited very close quantities in the air sample and in the
16 blank (designed as “blank” in the supplementary material 2). Therefore, the presence of these
17 compounds in the air sampled cannot be certain. For the compounds that have been quantified
18 successfully and present concentrations significantly above the quantification limit (10σ above
19 averaged blank measurements), higher levels are observed in the gas phase. The averaged
20 concentrations ranged from 21 ng m^{-3} (Mandelic acid) to 1600 ng m^{-3} (glycerol) for hydroxyl
21 compounds in the gas phase and from 0.3 (Pyruvic acid) to 277 (oxalic acid) ng m^{-3} in the particulate
22 phase. For the carbonyl compounds, the averaged concentrations ranged from 85 ng m^{-3} (hexanone)
23 to 3900 ng m^{-3} (4-Oxopentanal) in the gas phase and from 1 ng m^{-3} (e.g. methylpropanal or glyoxal) to
24 20 ng m^{-3} (4-methylpentanal) in the particulate phase. Figure 3 presents the distribution of all
25 quantified compounds along their saturation vapor pressure and their O/C ratio. The phases in which
26 these compounds were identified are also shown in Figure 3. While compounds only present in the gas
27 or aerosol phase exhibit high and low saturation vapor pressure, respectively, some exceptions are
28 noticeable. Indeed, some gaseous compounds have low vapor pressure (down to $10^{-8.6}$ atm) such as
29 long chain linear mono carboxylic acids (up to 15 carbon atoms) and some compounds only found in
30 the particle phase have high vapor pressure (up to $10^{-0.8}$ atm), normally incompatible with their
31 presence in such phase, such as small mono carbonyls (e.g. methylpropanal, methylbutanone, 2-
32 methylbutanal...). We also found compounds in both phases exhibiting high vapor pressure (up to $10^{0.4}$
33 atm), which is normally incompatible with their presence in aerosol phase, such as small carbonyls
34 (e.g. propanal, acrolein, methacrolein, MVK...). This latest point is discussed further in section 4.3.

1 3.2.2 Data intercomparison

2 A comparison of data measured by TD-GC/MS with other techniques available on site has been
3 performed, for both phases, to test the reliability of these measurements.

4 3.2.2.1 Gas phase

5 Comparisons of TD-GC/MS data with PTR-ToF-MS and GC/FID/MS data averaged over the same
6 sampling duration at a similar time step have been performed and are shown in Figure 4 and Figure 5.
7 Fair agreement is found for nopinone (relative differences observed from 1% to 133%), the sum of
8 methacrolein and methyl vinyl ketone (2-155%), propanoic acid (3-107%) and methyl ethyl ketone (0-
9 140%) between TD-GC/MS measurements and measurements performed by PTR-ToF-MS. Good
10 agreement is also found for methyl vinyl ketone (3-168%) and 2-hexanone (3-99%) between TD-GC/MS
11 measurements and measurements performed by GC/FID/MS. Ranges of measured concentrations are
12 similar between these techniques as well as the temporal variation.

13 Comparisons of TD-GC/MS measurements with DNPH cartridges analysis are presented in Figure 6. For
14 these latter, only the first ten days of the campaign have been validated because of a leak issue in the
15 sampling system of DNPH cartridges after that period (see Michoud et al., 2017). Ranges of
16 concentrations are in the same order of magnitude between these two techniques for propanal (5-
17 93%), acrolein (18-90%), methacrolein (8-83%), methyl ethyl ketone (17-87%), methylglyoxal (19-99%),
18 hexanal (1-73%) and benzaldehyde (10-115%) even though it is difficult to conclude on their co-
19 variation regarding the small number of data available and the low time resolution for these two
20 techniques. However, glyoxal and methyl vinyl ketone present large differences between the two
21 techniques (factor of 15 and 12 respectively). For glyoxal, Matsunaga (2004) recorded maximum
22 concentrations of 154 ng m⁻³ (≈65 pptv) at a forested site at Moshiri in Hokkaido island, in summer.
23 Washenfelder et al. (2011) recorded maximum glyoxal concentrations of 500 pptv at an urban site in
24 Los Angeles in summer, while numerous glyoxal precursors exist in urban environment. Therefore, the
25 concentrations measured by TD-GC/MS seem overestimated and measurements from DNPH
26 cartridges analysis seem more consistent with these previous observations. Thermo-degradation of
27 other heavier compounds adsorbed on the Tenax cartridges leading to glyoxal could be an hypothesis
28 for this overestimation. In the case of methyl vinyl ketone, the good agreement observed between TD-
29 GC/MS measurements and GC/FID/MS ones (see Figure 5) tends to indicate that the disagreement
30 observed here is related to an underestimation of the concentrations measured by DNPH cartridge
31 analysis. Furthermore, recent studies on humidity dependence of the DNPH–HPLC–UV method for
32 some ketone compounds, revealed that the collection efficiency is inversely related to relative
33 humidity, with up to 35 %–80 % of the ketones being lost for RH values higher than 50 % at 22 °C (Ho
34 et al., 2014). Furthermore, dimerization issues for MVK during analyses using DNPH method has also

1 been identified, during more recent measurements, that can cause strong underestimation of this
2 technique (>50%).

3 3.2.2.2 Particulate phase

4 Comparisons of results from filter analysis by TD-GC/MS and by Ion chromatography, GC/MS and HPLC
5 have been performed and are shown in Figure 7 and Figure 8. The range of concentrations between
6 TD-GC/MS analysis and other techniques are in the same order of magnitude for oxalic acid (relative
7 differences observed from 1% to 111%), pinic acid (13-136%), 2-methylglyceric acid (15-87%), MBTCA
8 (12-95%), glycolic acid (16-104%) and phthalic acid (3-90%). However, a discrepancy is found for malonic
9 acid and tartaric acid which measurements differ both of a factor of 4 on averaged between TD-GC/MS
10 and HPLC analyses. For methyl-tetrols, the analysis performed by TD-GC/MS did not allow to
11 distinguish the two isomers. Temporal evolution of compounds shown in Figure 7 and Figure 8 are also
12 similar from one technique to another, especially for oxalic acid and pinic acid.

13 Nevertheless, larger disagreements have been observed for some compounds (see Figure 8). An
14 overestimation of TD-GC/MS analysis compared to HPLC analysis of a factor of 8 and 20 on average,
15 respectively for malic acid and succinic acid, is observed. For malic acid, the external standard used for
16 the estimation of the response factor (glycolic acid) is maybe not appropriate which may explain this
17 discrepancy. As a test, succinic acid and glutaric acid (two other di-acids) have been used as external
18 standard for malic acid quantification with no improvement in the agreement observed. For succinic
19 acid, the authentic standard has been used and such problem cannot explain the discrepancy
20 observed. No interference in the peak region is observed and this cannot neither explain the
21 differences observed.

22 On the whole, comparisons of TD-GC/MS with other techniques deployed during the campaign are
23 satisfactory for both phases with results at least in the same order of magnitude for the measured
24 absolute concentrations, except for some compounds. Therefore, these observations allow us to use
25 TD-GC/MS data both in gas and aerosol phase to study further the behavior of organic carbon at a
26 molecular level at cape Corsica during ChArMEx campaign, keeping however in mind the potential
27 biases revealed during this data comparison exercise.

28 **4 Discussions**

29 **4.1 Description of organic compounds behaviour during the campaign**

30 Time series of every compounds measured by TD-GC/MS in both phases are presented in the
31 supplementary material 4.

32 Concerning the gaseous phase, several linear mono-aldehydes (C_3 to C_{10}) have been detected and
33 quantified in the same range of concentrations as what has been previously reported by the same

1 technique at another site in Corsica (Rossignol et al., 2016). These compounds are mainly primary
2 compounds emitted by vegetation under stress conditions. For propanal and butanal, some chemical
3 processes and anthropogenic primary sources (especially ship emission) can also be involved (Agrawal
4 et al., 2008). During the campaign, these compounds in the gaseous phase are characterized by daily
5 maxima during daytime and daily minima during nighttime, confirming the predominance of biogenic
6 sources. This diurnal cycle is also found when these compounds are also measured in the particulate
7 phase, which may indicate a thermodynamic equilibrium for these compounds between both phases.
8 Their concentrations are higher at the end of the campaign (30th of July) coinciding with the warmest
9 period suggesting higher local biogenic emission.

10 At the end of the campaign, an elevation of concentrations is also observed for nopinone, 4-
11 oxopentanal, 2-propenoic acid, methacrylic acid, mandelic acid, glycolic acid and levulinic acid (see
12 supplementary material 4), all known as oxidation products of biogenic compounds (e.g. Fruekilde et
13 al., 1998; Matsunaga et al., 2004; Rossignol et al., 2012). During this period, air masses were coming
14 from the southern sector and travelled during a short period of time (12 to 24h) above Corsica and
15 Sardinia (Michoud et al., 2017; Zannoni et al., 2017). An increase of concentrations is also observed for
16 some monocarboxylic acids such as propanoic acid, pentanoic acid, hexanoic acid, tridecanoic acid,
17 tetradecanoic acid and pentadecanoic acid (see supplementary material 4). Several sources are
18 possible for these compounds that can be either primary or secondary and either biogenic or
19 anthropogenic, especially for small carboxylic acids (C₃ to C₆; Chebbi and Carlier, 1996). Longer chain
20 carboxylic acids are often considered as primary compounds both from biogenic and anthropogenic
21 sources. Nevertheless, the results we obtained here underline the ubiquitous nature of organic acids
22 (including long chains) in the atmosphere. It is remarkable to observe that despite their widespread
23 detection, the knowledge on their sources (including chemical processes) remain scarce. Ozonolysis of
24 alkenes, reactions between aldehydes and HO₂, or hydrolysis of oligomers could be involved.

25 At the beginning of the campaign (from 13th to 15th July) we observed a rise in concentrations of 4-
26 oxopentanal, 2-hexanone, glycolic acid, 2-propenoic acid and monocarboxylic acids from C₃ to C₇ ((see
27 supplementary material 4). A spike of methacrolein is also observed the 13th of July, highlighting local
28 emission of biogenic precursors as it is during the calm low wind cluster period (Michoud et al, 2017).

29 Concerning particulate compounds, observations are different than for that gaseous compounds.
30 Indeed, an important peak of concentrations is observed for many compounds from 17th to 19th of July,
31 e.g. 3-isopropylglutaric acid, 3-hydroxy-4,4-dimethylglutaric acid, ketonorlimonic acid, ketolimonic
32 acid, tricarballylic acid and methyltartronic acid (see supplementary material 4). The four first
33 compounds correspond to oxidation products of biogenic precursors such as pinenes and limonene.
34 O/C ratios for these compounds are high, varying from 0.5 (3-isopropylglutaric acid) to 1.3

1 (methyltartronic acid). This period corresponds to a rise in aerosol mass concentration (see Figure 2),
2 with stagnant air masses and very low wind speed (Michoud et al., 2017). Associated with strong
3 photochemistry, this favored chemical processing and the formation of secondary products with high
4 O/C ratio. Other compounds also show a rise in their concentrations at this time (see supplementary
5 material 4): unsaturated carboxylic acids (crotonic acid, 2-hydroxy-3methyl-2-pentenoic acid), long-
6 chain monocarboxylic acids (hexadecanoic acid and octadecanoic acid), dicarboxylic acids (malonic
7 acid, succinic acid, glutaric acid), unsaturated dicarboxylic acids (maleic acid, fumaric acid, 3-methyl-2-
8 pentendioic acid), erythrose (a triol compound), 2,3-dihydroxypropanoic acid (a dihydroxy acid),
9 hydroxy-diacids (2-hydroglutaric acid, 2-hydroxy-4-isopropylhexandioic acid, 3-hydroxy-2-
10 pentenedioic acid, 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaric acid, 3-hydroxyhexandioic acid, malic acid) and also 2-
11 MGA, 3-MBTCA and DHOPA.

12 Higher concentrations for DHOPA, 2-MGA, MBTCA, and HGA are observed from 20 to 24 July (see
13 supplementary material 4). 2-MGA is formed, in presence of NO_x (Ding et al., 2014, Fu et al., 2009;
14 Giorio et al., 2017), through the oxidation of methacrolein and methacrylic acid, both oxidation
15 products of isoprene. This period is characterized by the highest NO_x concentrations of the campaign
16 (averaged concentrations of 1 ppbv against 0.6 ppbv for the rest of the campaign). Some dicarboxylic
17 acids (e.g. malonic acid, succinic acid and glutaric acid) also show a rise in their concentrations during
18 this period. This suggest a strong photochemical activity with an important aging of the air masses
19 collected and an advanced photochemical age for this period, also characterized by high OH missing
20 reactivity observed at the site (Zannoni et al., 2017). On the contrary, from the 27th of July to the end
21 of the campaign, levels of concentrations for these compounds decrease (see supplementary material
22 4) suggesting less aged air masses. This is also revealed by the higher (cis-pinonic acid + pinic
23 acid)/MBTCA ratio observed during this last period (see supplementary material 4). Indeed, this ratio
24 allows the evaluation of the oxidation state of air masses since cis-pinonic acid and pinic acid are first
25 generation oxidation products of monoterpenes while MBTCA is known to be a higher generation
26 oxidation product (Ding et al., 2014).

27 Observations of MSA (methanesulfonic acid, CH₃SO₃H) and water soluble HULIS are reported in
28 supplementary material S5. MSA is an oxidation product of dimethyl sulfide (DMS), a gaseous
29 compound emitted by marine phytoplankton activity, and is mostly present in particulate phase. MSA
30 can therefore be used to identify influence of marine chemistry on aerosol composition. Higher MSA
31 concentrations are observed on 23 to 28 July and on 4 August when air masses were coming from the
32 west sectors and spent days above sea (see Michoud et al., 2017) and on the first period of the
33 campaign (15-18 July) when air masses were stagnant with very low wind speed (see Michoud et al.,
34 2017). In summer, HULIS are mostly formed through secondary oligomerization processes in the

1 particulate phase (Baduel et al., 2010). Higher water soluble HULIS concentrations are observed on 20-
2 21 July when air masses are originating from north-east sector bringing continental aged air-masses
3 (Michoud et al., 2017) and on 27 July when air masses were coming from the southern sector with
4 large biogenic influence (Michoud et al. 2017). This is consistent with the formation of HULIS through
5 secondary oligomerization processes in summer from both anthropogenic and biogenic precursors
6 (Srivastava et al., 2018).

7 **4.2 Molecular characterization of particulate matter**

8 A time series of total mass quantified by TD-GC/MS in PM_{2.5} is presented in Figure 9. This sum has been
9 calculated using the QL/2 (quantification limit/2) value when data were below the limit of
10 quantification. The sum of all the compounds measured by TD-GC/MS represents an average of
11 630 ng m⁻³ for the whole campaign with a minimum of 54 ng m⁻³ and a maximum of 2400 ng m⁻³
12 measured on the 17th of July.

13 This sum is also compared to the organic matter mass concentration in PM_{2.5} (see Figure 9). OM is
14 calculated using the organic carbon (OC) concentration measured by the SUNSET field instrument with
15 a ratio between OC and OM of 1.9 for Cape Corsica as proposed by Michoud et al. (2017). On average
16 18% of the total OM mass can be explained by the compounds measured by TD-GC/MS for the whole
17 campaign. From 12 to 29 July, oxygenated compounds measured by TD-GC/MS represent more than
18 20% on average of measured OM while they represented less than 10% between July 29 and August
19 4. If measured water soluble HULIS are added to these compounds, analysed compounds represent
20 36% of measured OM on averaged and up to 100% on 16 July.

21 Some of the compounds identified and quantified by TD-GC/MS, especially carboxylic acids, are soluble
22 in aqueous phase. To allow a comparison between TD-GC/MS measurement and WSOC (Water Soluble
23 Organic Carbon) measurements conducted by PILS-TOC, only soluble compounds measured by TD-
24 GC/MS have been selected (see Figure 10). Indeed, we considered only the compounds having a
25 Henry's law constant higher than 10⁴ M atm⁻¹. For every compounds measured by TD-GC/MS, the
26 Henry's law constants have been determined by the Structure Activity Relationship (SAR) developed
27 by Raventos-Duran et al. (2010) using the online platform of GECKO-A model (Aumont et al., 2005;
28 http://geckoa.lisa.u-pec.fr/generateur_form.php). At the end, 39 different compounds have been
29 selected for the calculation of this sum and no aldehyde or ketone were kept in this selection.

30 Comparing the sums of compounds measured by TD-GC/MS considering only soluble ones or
31 considering all of them reveals very similar behaviors and level of concentrations (see Figure 10). On
32 average, soluble compounds represent 72% of the total concentration of PM measured by TD-GC/MS
33 despite the important number of compounds not considered as soluble (26 compounds over 58 not

1 considered). Time series of soluble compounds measured by TD-GC/MS and of WSOM have similar
2 behaviors with higher concentrations during the period comprised between 17 and 23 July and smaller
3 concentrations at the end of the campaign. It is worth noting that WSOM corresponds to PM₁ while
4 TD-GC/MS measurements concern PM_{2.5}. On average, the sum of the soluble compounds measured by
5 TD-GC/MS represented 24% of the total WSOM measured by PILS-TOC. If measured water soluble
6 HULIS are added to these soluble compounds, analysed water soluble compounds represent 58% of
7 measured WSOM on averaged and up to 100% on 15 and 17 July.

8 Time series and average composition of the PM_{2.5} measured by TD-GC/MS are presented respectively
9 in Figure 11 and Figure 12. Almost half of the PM_{2.5} measured by TD-GC/MS are characterized by di-
10 carboxylic acid (49%) with oxalic acid being the most important by far. Other contributors to PM_{2.5}
11 composition measured by TD-GC/MS are tri-carboxylic acids (15%), alcohols (13%), aldehydes (10%),
12 di-hydroxy-carboxylic acids (5%), monocarboxylic acids and ketones (3% each) and hydroxyl-carboxylic
13 acids (2%). High concentrations of di-carboxylic acids are observed from 13 to 28 July (441 ng m⁻³ on
14 average; 51% of the total OM measured by TD-GC/MS). After the 29th of July, the contribution of di-
15 carboxylic acids decreases significantly to reach 30%. The end of the campaign is characterized by
16 intense fresh local biogenic emissions leading to less processed air masses and OM composed mostly
17 by mono-functionalized compounds. On a general basis, organic acids constitute the principal
18 contributors to the fraction of organic aerosol measured by TD-GC/MS during this campaign while only
19 few chemical processes are known to lead to their formation (see section 4.1). The identification of
20 many di-carboxylic acids implies the existence of unknown chemical processes both in gaseous phase
21 and even more probably in particulate phase to explain their formation (Hammes et al., 2019). These
22 missing processes in chemical mechanism included in models might contribute to their inability to
23 reproduce correctly the formation and aging of SOA. If HULIS are considered in this analysis, they
24 represent 59% of the total identified OM mass on average, ranging from 21% of contribution at the
25 beginning of the campaign to more than 80% at the end of the campaign (from 31 July to 3 August).

26 **4.3 Partitioning of organic carbon between gaseous and particulate phases**

27 Many of the compounds identified during the campaign are present in both the gas and aerosol phases.
28 The partitioning coefficient is therefore key to understand processes governing the equilibrium
29 between both phases. For the compounds present in both phases, an experimental partitioning
30 coefficient can be determined following eq. 2 relying on the Pankow equilibrium.

$$K_{pe,i} = \frac{F_i/TSP}{A_i} \quad (2)$$

31 $K_{pe,i}$ corresponds to the experimental partitioning coefficient for the compounds i , F_i corresponds to
32 the concentration in the particulate phase, A_i corresponds to the concentration in gaseous phase and

1 TSP (Total Suspended Particulate matter) corresponds to the total mass concentration of particles
2 measured by TEOM-FDMS for PM₁₀ (μg m⁻³). Uncertainties for experimental partitioning coefficients
3 take into account uncertainties on the measurement of concentrations in both phases (see section
4 2.3.5) and on the TEOM measurement (estimated to be 25%).

5 Further, another expression of the Pankow equilibrium allows for the determination of theoretical
6 partitioning coefficients using eq. 3.

$$K_{pt,i} = \frac{760RT f_{om}}{MW_{om} \zeta_i 10^6 p_{L,i}^0} \quad (3)$$

7 $K_{pt,i}$ corresponds to the theoretical partitioning coefficient for the compounds I, R to the ideal gas
8 constant, T to the temperature in Kelvin, f_{om} to the OM mass fraction, MW_{om} to the averaged molar
9 mass of compounds constituting organic particulate matter (g mol⁻¹), ζ_i to the activity coefficient, $p_{L,i}^0$
10 to the saturation vapor pressure (Torr). Saturation vapor pressures have been determined at 295K
11 (averaged temperature of the campaign) using three different models (Moller et al., 2008; Myrdal and
12 Yalkowsky, 1997; Nannoolal et al., 2008). f_{om} has been set to 0.8 using the averaged OC/TC ratio
13 measured by the SUNSET field instrument.

14 Experimental (averaged over the campaign) and theoretical partitioning coefficients obtained for
15 compounds identified in both phases are presented in Table 4 and Figure 13 and are compared to
16 experimental coefficient obtained in a previous field study in Corsica and a chamber study in the
17 EUPHORE simulation chamber (Rossignol et al., 2016). For most of the compounds, experimental
18 partitioning coefficients obtained for the three campaigns are relatively close to each other, with some
19 differences that can however reach up to an order of magnitude (e.g. dimethylglyoxal or acrolein, even
20 two orders of magnitude for glyoxal). These observed differences are small compared to the
21 differences recorded between experimental and theoretical coefficients, with an observed
22 underestimation of theoretical coefficients varying from 1 to 7 orders of magnitude. It is worth noting
23 that the three models used for theoretical coefficients determination are in good agreement. Higher
24 differences between experimental and theoretical coefficients are observed for hydroxyl compounds
25 and carboxylic acids with a shift of the equilibrium toward the particulate phase for experimental
26 partitioning coefficients. It is worth noting that a denuder is used upstream the filter collection to avoid
27 overestimation of particulate organic matter due to adsorption of semi-volatile compounds onto the
28 filter, therefore excluding potential positive artefact for concentrations of compounds in particulate
29 phase that could have led to overestimation of experimental partitioning coefficients. Furthermore,
30 underestimation of gaseous concentrations for these compounds in such high proportion is unlikely,
31 especially when we look at the comparisons performed for OVOCs with other measurement

1 techniques (see section 3.2.2.1), even for compounds that shows strong disagreement between
2 various analytical methods (e.g. glyoxal).

3 The differences observed between experimental and theoretical partitioning coefficient may be
4 explained by the high humidity conditions encountered during the campaign (mean RH value of 70%,
5 see Table 3). Indeed, theoretical partitioning coefficient as described by the Pankow equilibrium does
6 not take into account the presence of an aqueous phase or a deliquescent aerosol, while, soluble
7 organic compounds can split between gaseous, aqueous and particulate phase. Concerning the
8 partitioning between the gaseous and aqueous phases, the Henry law's constant and the activity
9 coefficients are considered to calculate the thermodynamic equilibrium.

10 These differences could also be explained by the fact that the equilibrium between both phases is not
11 reached. This could be due to the viscosity of particles. Some studies showed that organic aerosol can
12 be found in various states, from liquid to semi-solid (viscous) (Bateman et al., 2016; Booth et al., 2014,
13 Shiraiwa et al., 2011; Virtanen et al., 2010). The viscosity of the particle can limit the diffusion inside
14 the particle, which can lead to an inhomogeneity in the composition with the formation of a gradient
15 of concentrations between the surface and the center of the particle (Chan et al., 2014; Davies and
16 Wilson, 2015; Zobrist et al., 2011). The equilibrium could therefore only concern an external layer of
17 the particle and the gaseous phase (Davies and Wilson, 2015); or on the contrary a semi-solid external
18 layer, caused by the aging of the particle, could prevent the equilibrium to settle between the
19 particulate bulk and the gaseous phase.

20 Furthermore, Soonsin et al. (2010) showed that the physical state of the particle can influence the
21 activity coefficient of some compounds and especially of dicarboxylic acids. Partitioning coefficients
22 are calculated considering a liquid phase for aerosols. Considering a solid or semi-solid phase for
23 aerosols would lead to a decrease in the vapor pressure estimation for such compounds and therefore
24 to higher theoretical partitioning coefficients.

25 In addition, polymerization and oligomerization processes in the particulate phase have been
26 highlighted in previous studies through the identification of compounds with high masses (Hallquist et
27 al., 2009; Kalberer et al., 2004; Lim et al., 2010; Tolocka et al., 2004). The formation of oligomers
28 increases the viscosity of the particle during its aging (Abramson et al., 2013). These reactions could
29 also explain the presence of semi-volatile compounds in the particulate phase in such high proportion,
30 especially for carbonyls that have high vapor pressure and which should not be detected in the aerosol
31 phase based on the theory. Indeed, numerous studies reveal the possibility of formation of oligomers,
32 inside the particle, from carbonyls such as α -di-carbonyls, for example glyoxal or methylglyoxal (Gao
33 et al., 2004a, 2004b; Hastings et al., 2005; Iinuma et al., 2004; Jang et al., 2002, 2003; Jang and Kamens,

1 2001; Liggio et al., 2005a, 2005b; Lim et al., 2010; Tolocka et al., 2004). These reactions are favored
2 under low water content in the particles **even though oligomer production from other reactions can**
3 **also happen at high relative humidity and in the aqueous phase**. On the contrary, under higher
4 humidity conditions, oligomers can form back monomer compounds which in case of viscous particle
5 can be trapped into the particulate phase. It is worth noting that higher experimental partitioning
6 coefficients are found for most compounds on 20 July and 26-27 July while water soluble HULIS
7 concentrations are at their maximum. HULIS are known to be formed through secondary
8 oligomerization processes in summer (Baduel et al., 2010), supporting the hypothesis that these kind
9 of processes might be partly responsible for the disagreement between experimental and theoretical
10 partitioning coefficient.

11 Even if an analytical artifact cannot be ruled out, for example a fragmentation of oligomers to form
12 back the monomer compounds during the analysis, numerous evidences support the experimental
13 results presented here and suggest that the instantaneous equilibrium being established between
14 gaseous and particulate phases assuming a homogeneous non-viscous particle phase is not fully
15 representative of the real atmosphere.

16 **Conclusion**

17 A multiphasic molecular characterization of oxygenated compounds has been carried out during the
18 ChArMEx SOP 1b field campaign held in Erba Corsica during July 2013 using an analytical technique
19 based on multi-support sampling (filters and adsorbent containing cartridges), derivatization
20 procedure and TD-GC/MS analysis. The deployment of this analytical technique in the field allows the
21 identification of 97 different compounds in the gas (24 different compounds) and aerosol (50 different
22 compounds) phases, some of them being present in both phases (23 different compounds). These
23 compounds include simple carbonyls, alcohols or carboxylic acids as well as multi-functional
24 compounds up to four functional groups. Among all the quantified compounds, the important
25 contribution of organic acids (67% of the organic aerosol concentration measured by TD-GC/MS)
26 **emphasizes** the existence of unknown chemical processes both in the gaseous phase and even more
27 probably in the particulate phase to explain their formation. The absence of such processes in chemical
28 mechanisms may contribute to the inability of models to correctly reproduce the formation and aging
29 of SOA.

30 Comparisons of these measurements with other measurements performed at the site when available
31 reveal fair agreement on the whole for almost all compounds experiencing redundant measurement
32 in both phase with concentrations at least in the same order of magnitude. Noticeable disagreements
33 (larger than a factor of 8 and up to a factor of 15) have however been found for glyoxal in the gas phase

1 between TD-GC/MS measurements and DNPH cartridges analysis and for malic and succinic acid in the
2 particulate phase between TD-GC/MS measurements and HPLC analysis. Nevertheless, comparisons
3 of TD-GC/MS with other techniques deployed during the campaign are in general agreement,
4 validating their use to conduct further analysis.

5 While the data obtained are very valuable to provide additional insight into the composition of organic
6 matter for air masses encountered during the campaign, it is worth noting that it represents only a
7 fraction of the total mass of organic matter. Indeed, an attempt to close the mass budget of organic
8 aerosol using the TD-GC/MS measurements reveal that the sum of all particulate oxygenated organic
9 compounds measured by this technique account for 18% of the total OM mass on average for the
10 whole campaign. This portion of OM identified at the molecular scale is not constant and mostly
11 depends on the oxidation state of the sampled air masses. If we only consider the soluble compounds
12 measured by TD-GC/MS, they represent 24% of the total WSOM on average. Therefore, a sizeable
13 fraction of the OM mass was identified by TD-GC/MS analysis, but a very large fraction of OM mass
14 remained unidentified during the campaign, highlighting the complexity of an exhaustive
15 characterization of the OA chemical composition at the molecular scale. An important fraction of this
16 unidentified OM mass is due to HULIS.

17 Finally, for the compounds quantified in both the gas and the aerosol phases, a comparison between
18 experimental and theoretical partitioning coefficients has been performed revealing in most cases a
19 large underestimation by the theory reaching 1 to 7 orders of magnitude. It indicates that the
20 partitioning theory is most often inappropriate, since it is based on the instantaneous equilibrium
21 being established between gaseous and particulate phases, assuming a homogeneous non-viscous
22 particle phase. Furthermore, the partitioning of semi-volatile compounds is influenced by
23 meteorological conditions (humidity, temperature) and inherent properties of particles (viscosity,
24 water content, organic fraction concentrations, acidity, etc.). In addition, the way these conditions
25 impact the partitioning of semi-volatile compounds strongly depends on the physico-chemical
26 properties of the considered compounds (solubility, saturation vapor pressure, reactivity, etc.).

27

28 **Data availability.**

29 Access to the data used for this publication is restricted to registered users following the data and
30 publication policy of the ChArMEx program ([http://mistrals.sedoo.fr/ChArMEx/ Data-](http://mistrals.sedoo.fr/ChArMEx/Data-Policy/ChArMEx_DataPolicy.pdf)
31 [Policy/ChArMEx_DataPolicy.pdf](http://mistrals.sedoo.fr/ChArMEx/Data-Policy/ChArMEx_DataPolicy.pdf)).

32

1 **Author contributions.**

2 VM and EH participated in the field campaign and prepared the paper with inputs from all co-authors.
3 LC, ELG and JFD were involved in TD-GC/MS measurements and supervised this work. SD, IF, TL, NL
4 and SS participated in the field campaign and were in charge of VOC measurements (GC-FID/MS, PTR-
5 MS, Active sampling on DNPH cartridges). AC and FG were in charge of inorganic trace gases
6 measurements (NO_x and O₃). JS participated in the field campaign and was in charge of aerosol
7 measurements by ACSM, OCEC instrument, PILS-TOC and IC. JLJ and NM were in charge of aerosol
8 speciation measurements during the campaign through filter analysis (IC, GC/MS, HPLC, HULIS
9 measurements).

10

11 **Competing interests.**

12 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

13

14 **Special issue statement.**

15 This article is part of the special issue “CHemistry and AeRosols Mediterranean EXperiments (ChArMEX;
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17

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41

1 Table 1: Thermal desorption method and GC/MS parameters

Thermal desorption parameters for samples	temperature	300°C
	time	15 minutes
	flow	50 mL min ⁻¹
	split flow	No split flow
Thermal desorption parameters for the trap	Temperature	From -10°C to 300°C
	Time	12 minutes
	flow	10 mL min ⁻¹
Temperature of transfer lines		200°C
GC Parameters	Carrier gas	He
	Carrier gas flow	1 mL min ⁻¹
	Temperature gradient	40°C / 10°C min ⁻¹ / 305°C (10 min)
	Split flow	0.2 mL min ⁻¹
	Transfer line temperature to MS	305 °C
MS parameters	Scan m/z	40 to 800
	Solvent delay	5 min
	Quadrupole temperature	150°C
	EI	
	-Source temperature	230°C
	-Ionization Energy	70 eV
	CI	
-Source temperature	250°C	
-Reagent gas	CH ₄	
-Ionization Energy	50 eV	

2

3

1 Table 2 : List of substitutes used for internal calibration

Substitutes used for carbonyl compounds	Substitutes used for hydroxyl compounds
3-methylbutanal-d2	Pentanoic acid-d9
Butanal-d8	Heptanoic acid-d13
4-methyl-2-pentanone-d5	Succinic acid-d4
Benzaldehyde-d6	2-methyl-d3-2-propyl-1,3-propanediol
Acetophenone-d8	Glycerol-d8
2-hexanone-d5	Tartaric acid-2,3-d2
2,3-butanedione-d5	
2,5-hexanedione-d10	

2

3

- 1 Table 3: meteorological conditions, environmental parameters and mass concentrations of PM₁₀, PM₁
- 2 and organic fraction in PM₁ during the ChArMEx campaign at ERSA

Meteorological and Environmental Parameters	Mean	Median	Max	Min
Temperature (°C)	23	23	32	19
Relative Humidity (%)	70	73	100	27
Wind Speed (m s ⁻¹)	3.6	3.1	13.2	-
O ₃ (ppbv)	65	65	111	42
NO _x (ppbv)	0.57	0.45	4.93	0.06
Mass concentrations (µg m⁻³)	Mean (±1σ)	Median	Max	Min
PM ₁₀	12 (±4.8)	12	31	2
PM ₁	8.4 (±4.4)	8.4	22	0.2
Organic fraction (PM ₁)	3.7 (±1.7)	3.5	8.1	0.2

3

1 Table 4: Experimental (averaged over the campaign with $\pm XX\%$ representing 1σ standard deviation
 2 over the campaign) and theoretical partitioning coefficients determined for this study and compared
 3 to previous field and chamber campaigns.

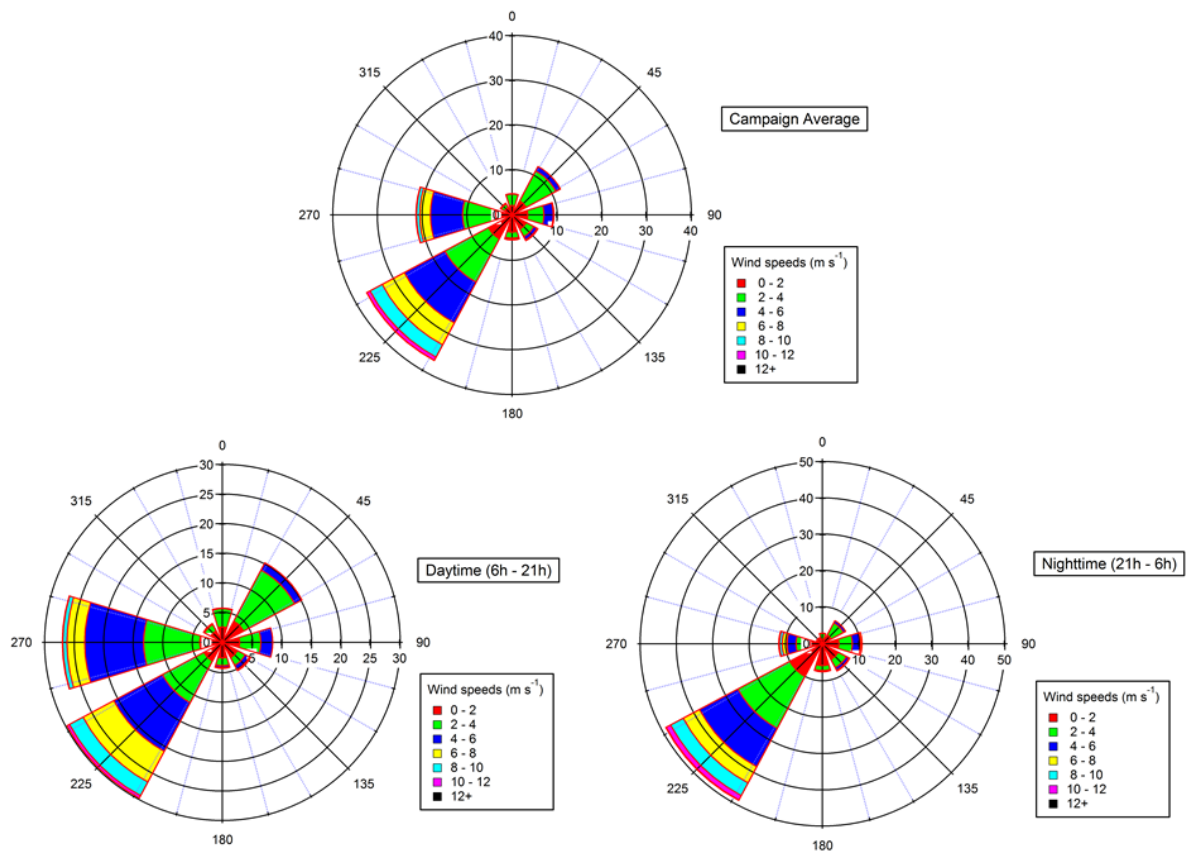
	This study	Corsica ^a	EuPhoRe ^a	Kpt,i MOL ^b	Kpt,i NAN ^c	Kpt,i MYR ^d
Propanal	$6.1 \times 10^{-3} \pm 75\%$	$2.2 \times 10^{-3} \pm 50\%$		2.6×10^{-10}	2.6×10^{-10}	4.7×10^{-10}
Pentanal	$6.5 \times 10^{-4} \pm 106\%^{**}$	$1.8 \times 10^{-4} \pm 51\%$		3.2×10^{-9}	3.2×10^{-9}	3.8×10^{-9}
Hexanal	$1.3 \times 10^{-3} \pm 61\%$			1.0×10^{-8}	1.0×10^{-8}	1.1×10^{-8}
Heptanal	$5.1 \times 10^{-4} \pm 91\%$			3.3×10^{-8}	3.2×10^{-8}	3.4×10^{-8}
Acrolein	$7.3 \times 10^{-4} \pm 74\%$	$6.1 \times 10^{-3} \pm 50\%$		3.6×10^{-10}	3.6×10^{-10}	3.7×10^{-7}
Methacrolein	$7.3 \times 10^{-4} \pm 69\%$			7.2×10^{-10}	7.2×10^{-10}	9.0×10^{-10}
Methyl Vinyl ketone	$5.8 \times 10^{-4} \pm 57\%$			1.3×10^{-9}	1.3×10^{-9}	5.6×10^{-10}
Nopinone	$5.5 \times 10^{-4} \pm 53\%$			1.7×10^{-7}	1.7×10^{-7}	1.9×10^{-7}
Dimethylglyoxal	$5.0 \times 10^{-3} \pm 65\%$	$5.6 \times 10^{-4} \pm 70\%$	$6.2 \times 10^{-4} \pm 47\%$		$3.4 \times 10^{-9}^*$	$7.0 \times 10^{-9}^*$
Methylglyoxal	$3.6 \times 10^{-3} \pm 60\%$	$2.2 \times 10^{-2} \pm 132\%^{**}$	$1.3 \times 10^{-3} \pm 84\%$		$8.6 \times 10^{-10}^*$	$2.1 \times 10^{-9}^*$
Levulinic acid	$5.1 \times 10^{-3} \pm 77\%$			1.7×10^{-5}	4.4×10^{-6}	2.9×10^{-6}
Methacrylic acid	$1.5 \times 10^{-4} \pm 198\%^{**}$			8.4×10^{-8}	7.6×10^{-8}	8.9×10^{-8}
Glycolic acid	$3.1 \times 10^{-2} \pm 268\%^{**}$			8.5×10^{-5}	1.3×10^{-5}	2.0×10^{-6}
Glycerol	$1.1 \times 10^{-2} \pm 62\%$			7.1×10^{-4}	8.4×10^{-4}	1.3×10^{-5}

4 ^a Rossignol et al., 2016; ^b Moller et al., 2008 (coupled with Nannoolal et al. (2004) method for boiling point determination) ; ^c Nannoolal et
 5 al., 2008 (coupled with Nannoolal et al. (2004) method for boiling point determination) ; ^d Myrdal and Yalkowsky, 1997 (coupled with
 6 Nannoolal et al. (2004) method for boiling point determination)

7 * Coefficients extracted from Rossignol, 2012 at temperature of 300 K other parameter (MW_{om} et ζ_i) kept similar.

8 ** Partitioning coefficients are comprised between 0 and 1. Experimental uncertainties greater than 100% mean that the experimental
 9 value is comprised between 0 and more than twice its values.

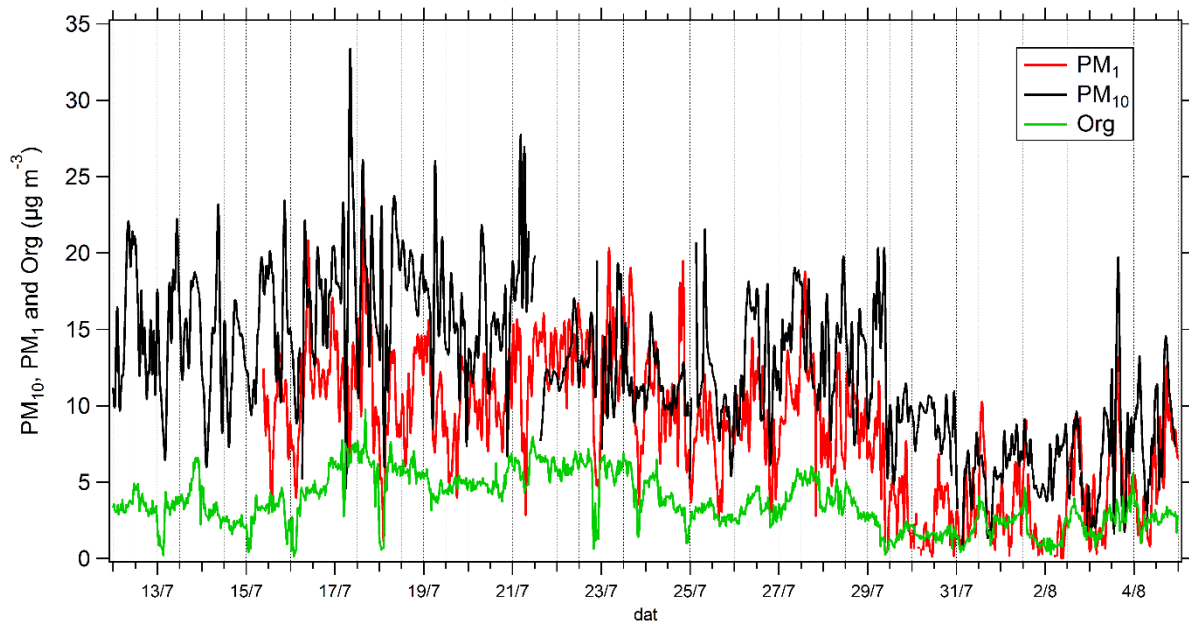
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1

2 Figure 1 : Wind roses from July 15th to August 5th 2013 (top panel), during daytime only (bottom left
 3 panel) and during nighttime only (bottom right panel). Wind direction is expressed in ° and radial axe
 4 express the relative occurrence of wind in each 30° sector (%).

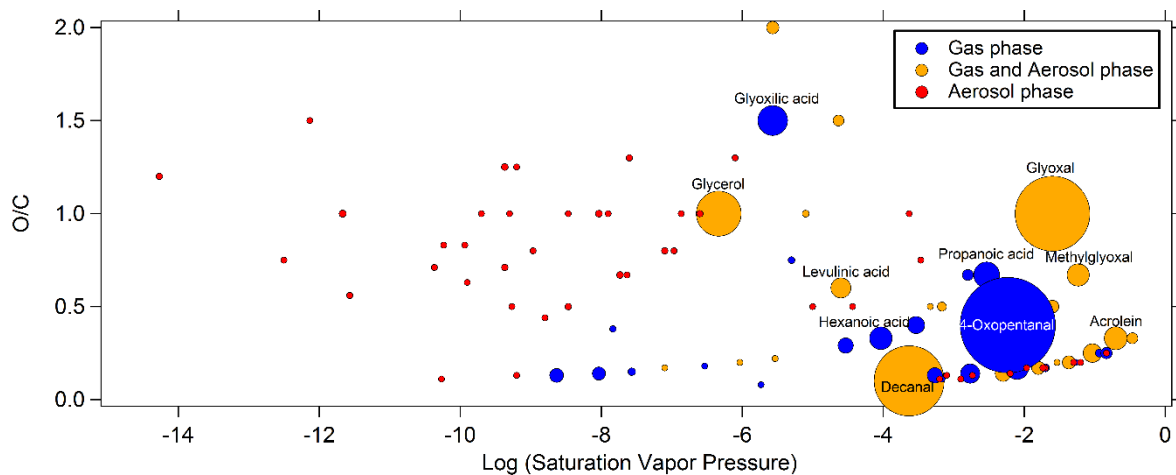
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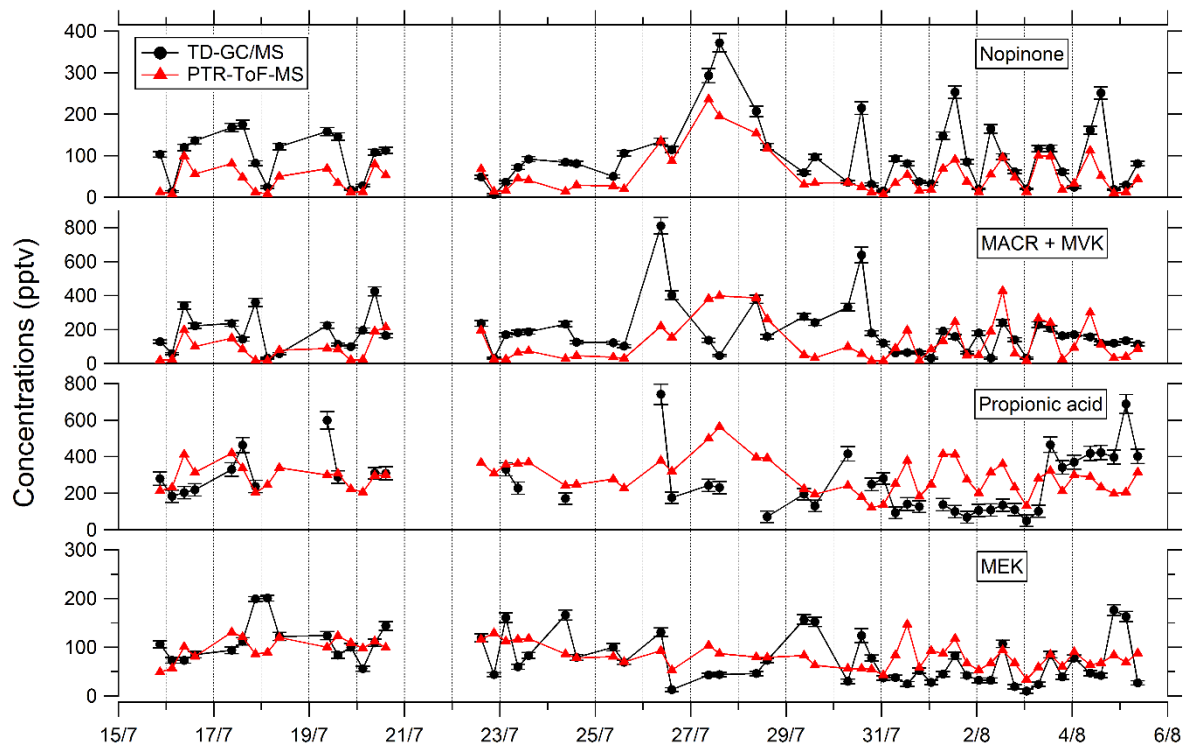
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2 Figure 2 : Time series of mass concentrations of PM₁₀ (black line), PM₁ (red line) and organic fraction
3 in NR-PM₁ (green line).

4



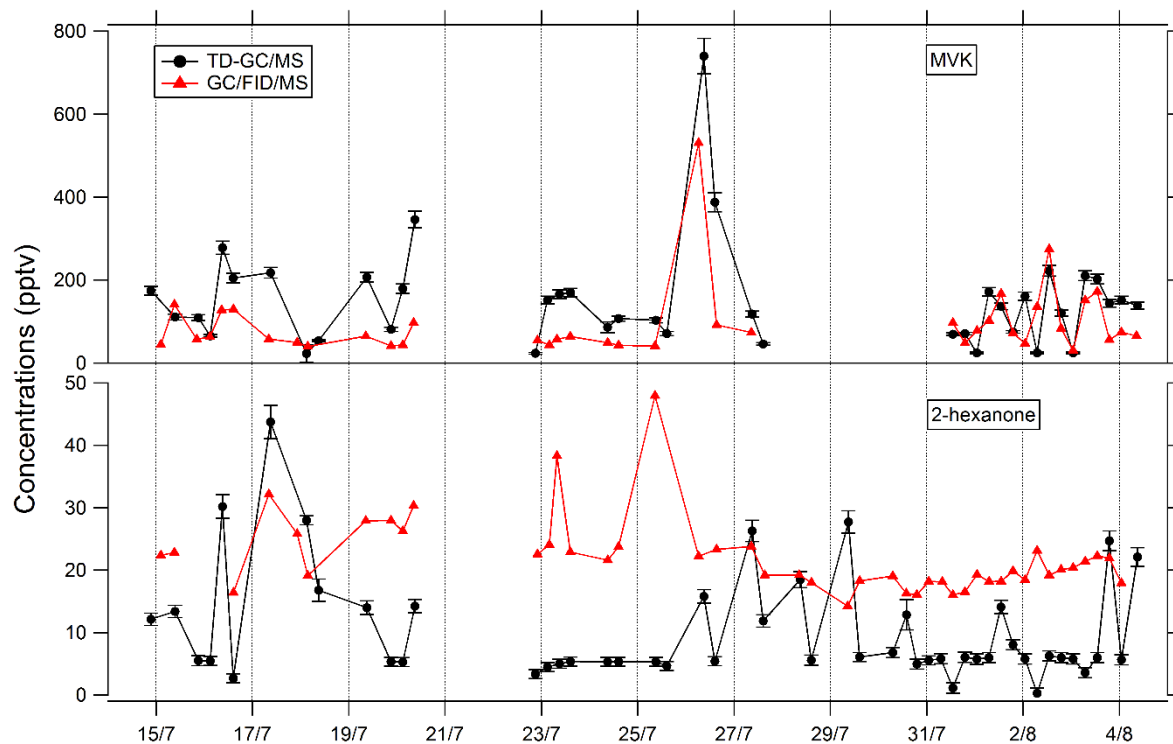
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 2 Figure 3: Distribution of compounds identified by TD-GC/MS during the ChArMEx campaign according
 3 to the logarithm of their saturation vapor pressure (horizontal axis) and of their O/C ratio (vertical axis).
 4 The phase in which they are detected is color-coded: blue for compounds only detected in the gas
 5 phase, red for aerosol phase only and orange for compounds detected in both phases. Each dot
 6 represents a single compound and the dot area is proportional to the sum of concentrations if detected
 7 in both phases from 0.3 ng m⁻³ for the smallest dot to 3.9 μg m⁻³ for the biggest one. Name of some
 8 noticeable compounds are also given.



1

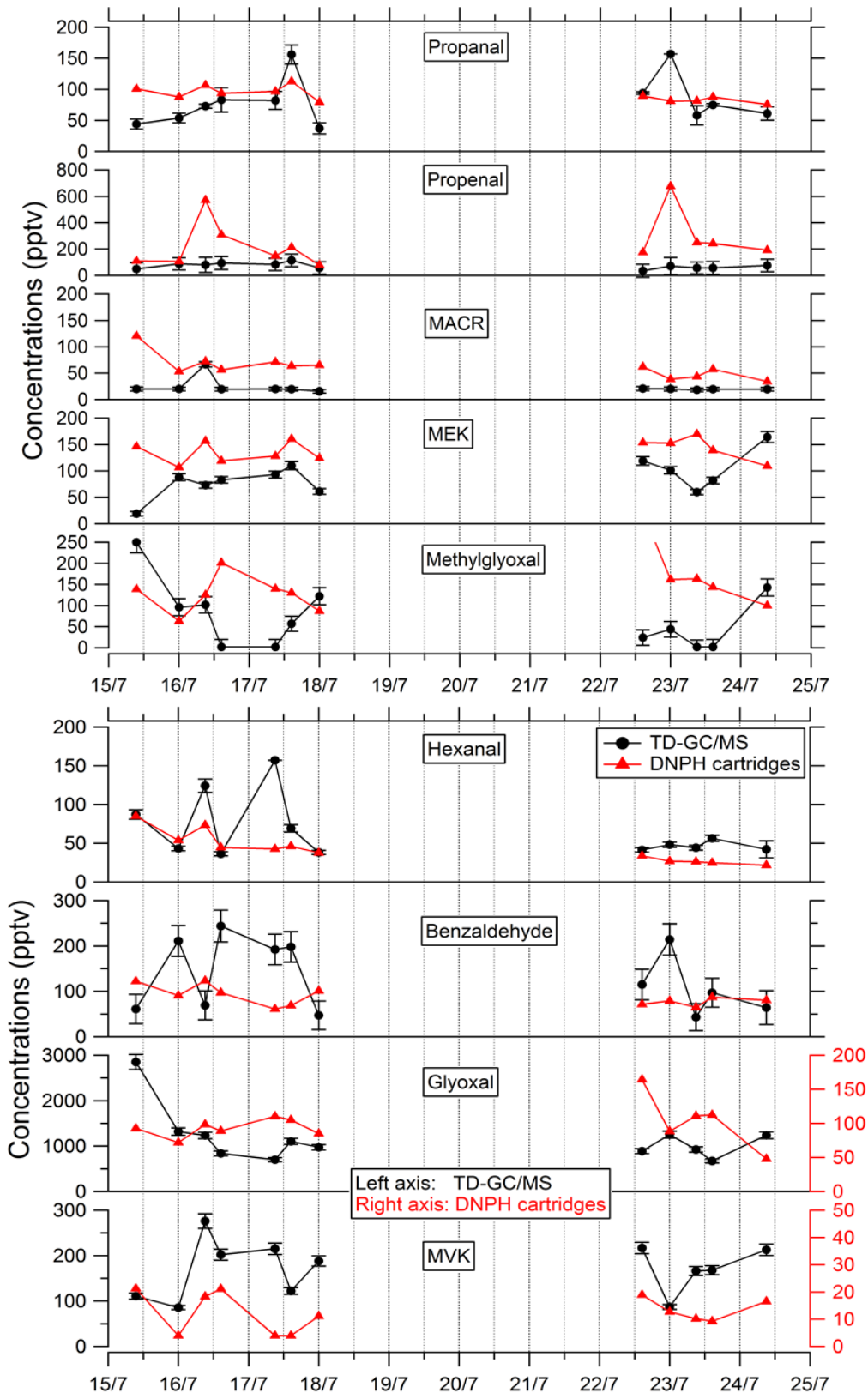
2 Figure 4 : Comparison of ATD-GC-MS data with PTR-ToF-MS data averaged over the same time step for
 3 nopinone, the sum of methacrolein and methyl vinyl ketone, propionic acid and methyl ethyl ketone.
 4 Error bars correspond to the 1σ uncertainties of TD-GC/MS measurements. Error bars correspond to
 5 the 1σ uncertainties of TD-GC/MS measurements.

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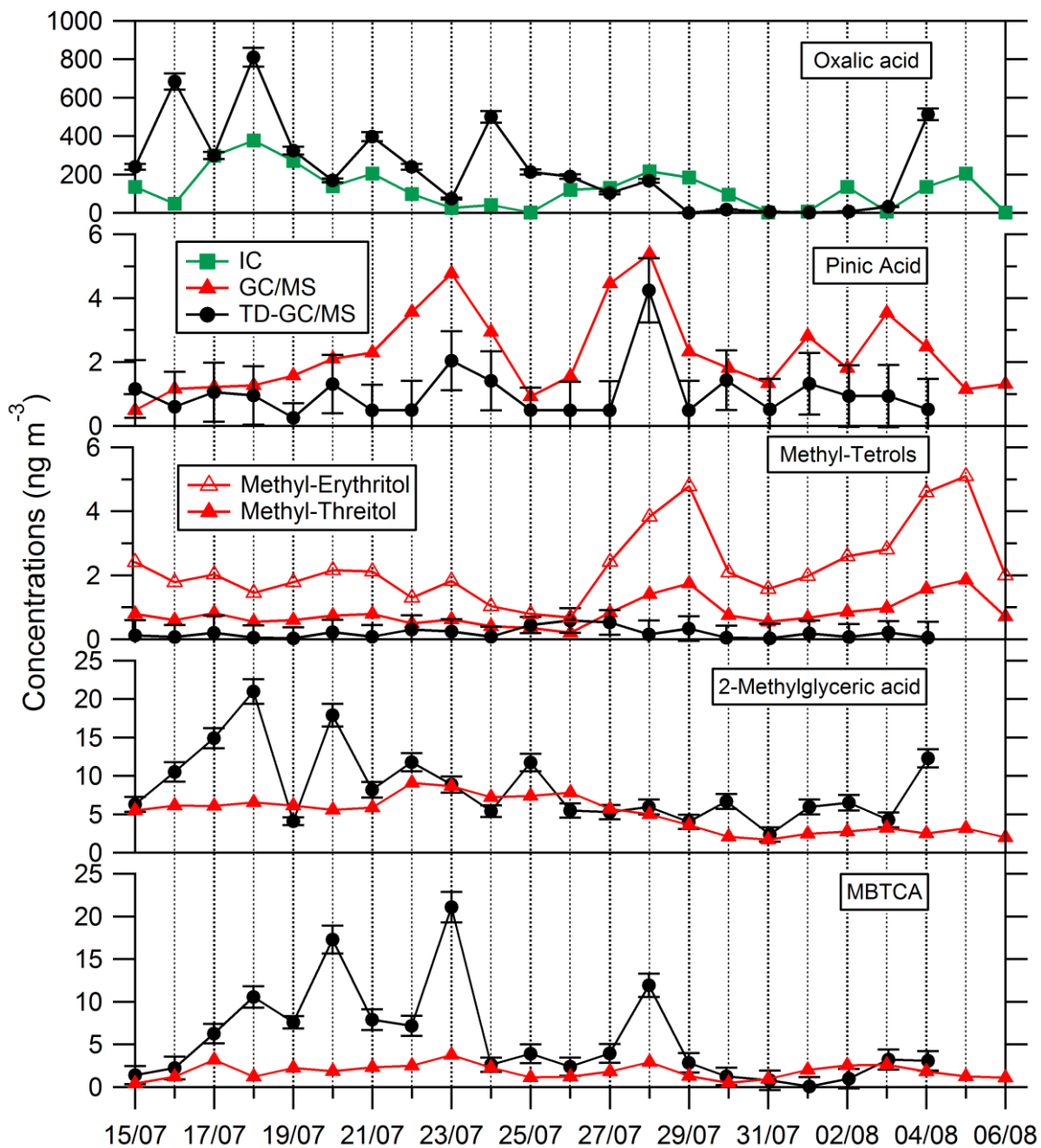
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Figure 5 : Comparison of ATD-GC-MS data with GC/FID/MS data averaged over the same time step for methyl vinyl ketone and 2-hexanone. Error bars correspond to the 1σ uncertainties of TD-GC/MS measurements. Error bars correspond to the 1σ uncertainties of TD-GC/MS measurements.



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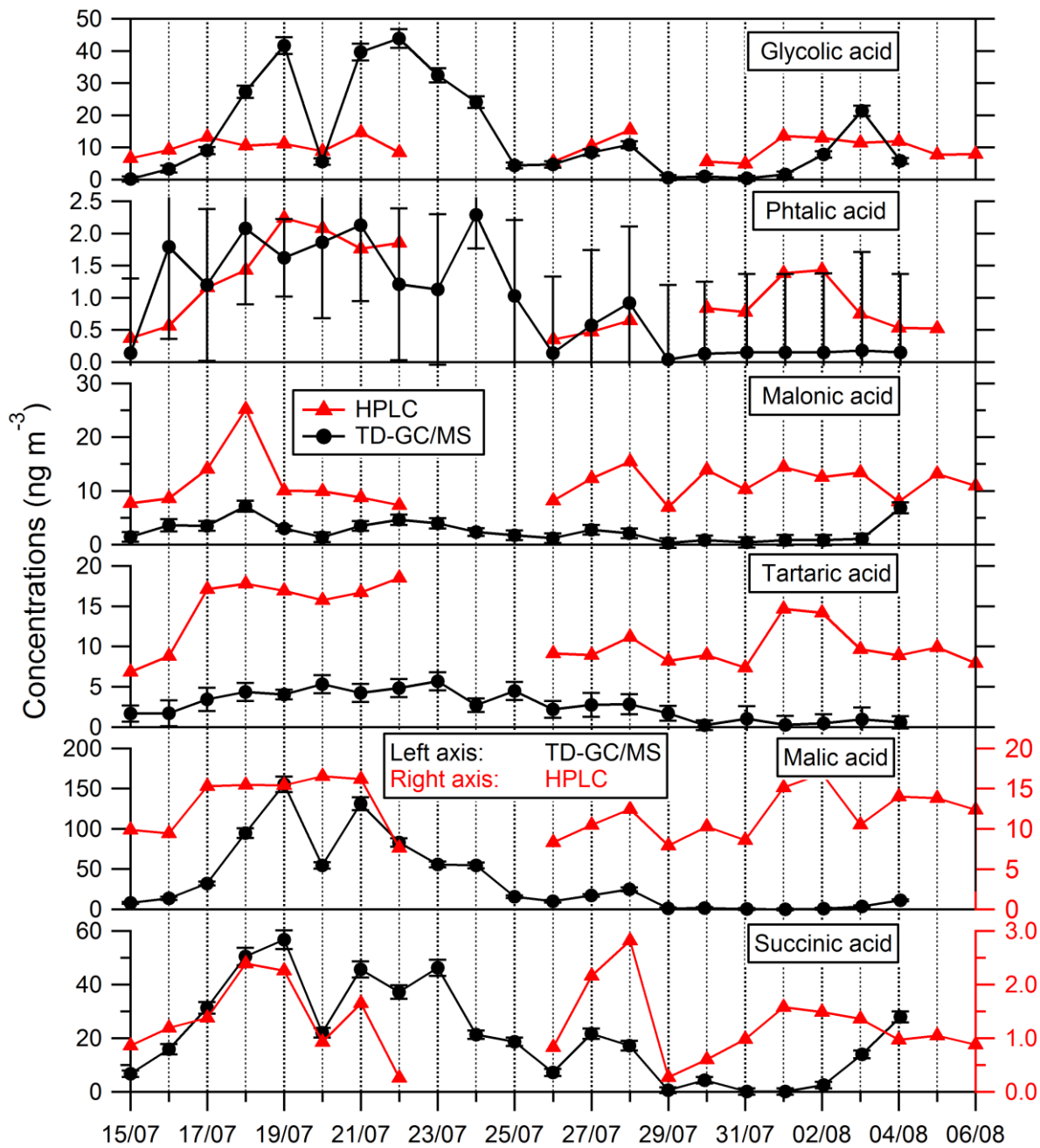
2 Figure 6 : Comparison of ATD-GC-MS data with DNP-H cartridges analysis for 9 OVOCs. Error bars
 3 correspond to the 1 σ uncertainties of TD-GC/MS measurements. Error bars correspond to the 1 σ
 4 uncertainties of TD-GC/MS measurements.



1

2 Figure 7 : Comparison of ATD-GC-MS data with ion chromatography and GC/MS analysis for particulate
 3 oxalic acid, pinic acid, methyl tetrols, 2-methylglyceric acid and MBTCA (3-Methyl-1,2,3-tricarboxylic
 4 acid). Error bars correspond to the 1σ uncertainties of TD-GC/MS measurements. Error bars
 5 correspond to the 1σ uncertainties of TD-GC/MS measurements.

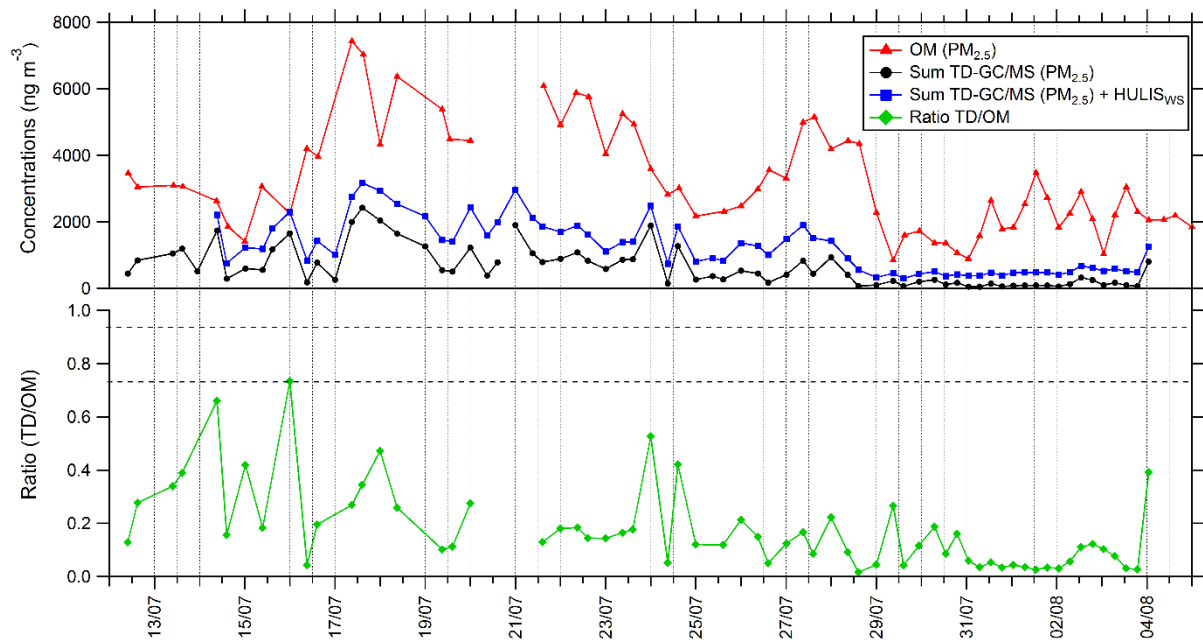
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2 Figure 8: Comparison of ATD-GC-MS data with HPLC analysis for particulate glycolic acid, phthalic acid,
 3 malonic acid, tartaric acid, malic acid and succinic acid. Error bars correspond to the 1σ uncertainties
 4 of TD-GC/MS measurements. Error bars correspond to the 1σ uncertainties of TD-GC/MS
 5 measurements.

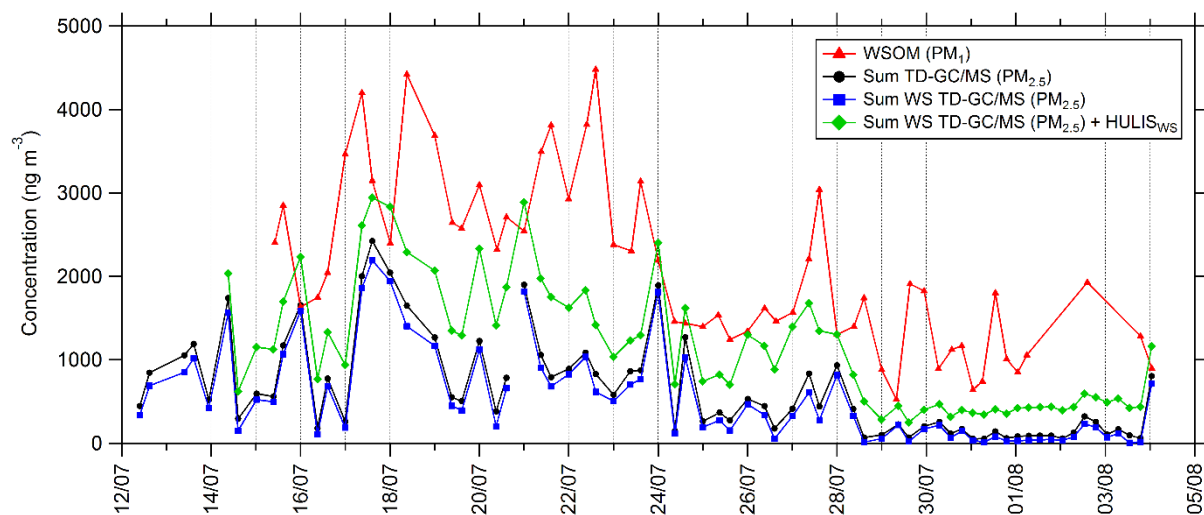
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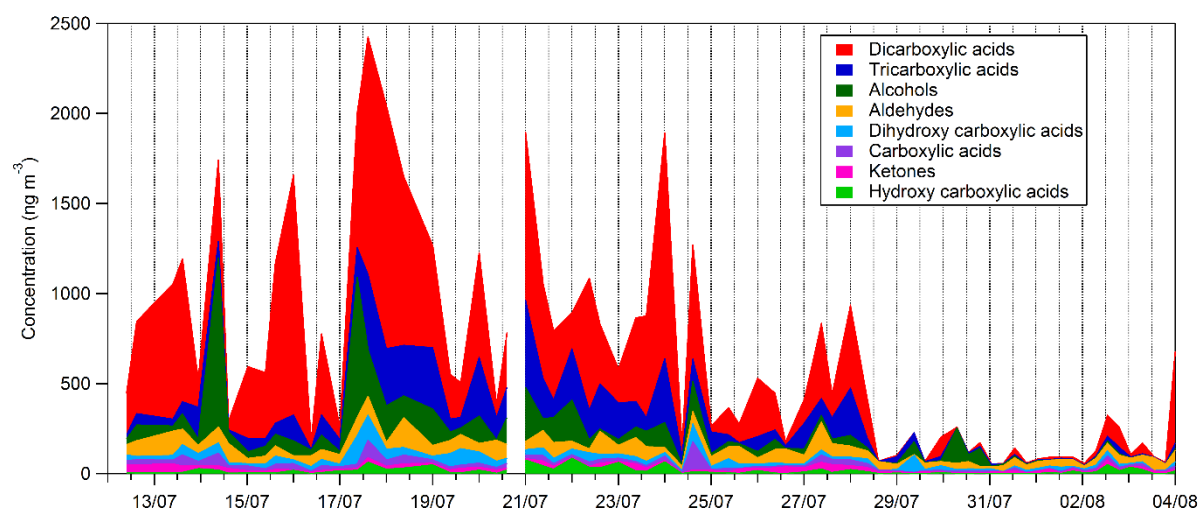
2 Figure 9: Time series of organic matter in $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ (red line), total sum of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ from TD-GC/MS analysis
 3 (black line), total sum of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ from TD-GC/MS analysis and water soluble HULIS analysis (blue line),
 4 and ratio of these two measurements (green line).

5



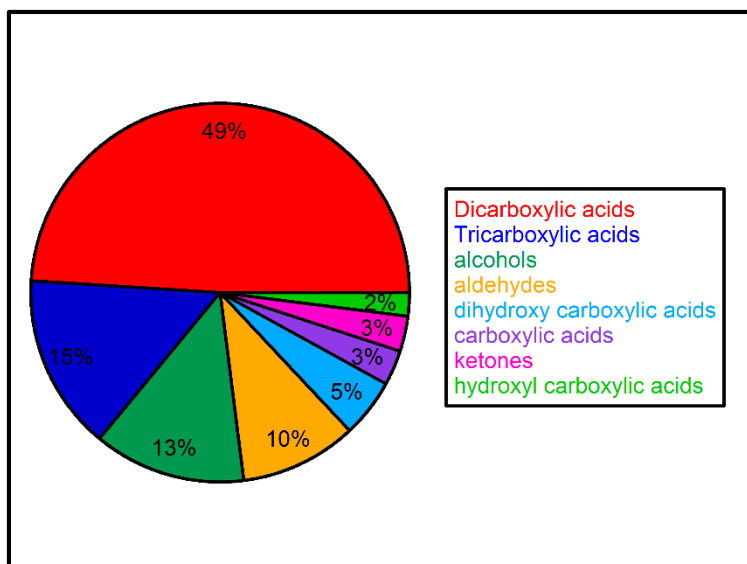
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 2 Figure 10: Time series of PM₁ water soluble organic matter (WSOM; red line), total sum of PM_{2.5}
 3 measured by TD-GC/MS (black line), total sum of compounds measured by TD-GC/MS and having
 4 henry's law constant higher than 10⁴ M atm⁻¹ measured by TD-GC/MS (WS TD-GC/MS, blue line), and
 5 total sum of water soluble compounds measured by TD-GC/MS and water soluble HULIS (green line).

6



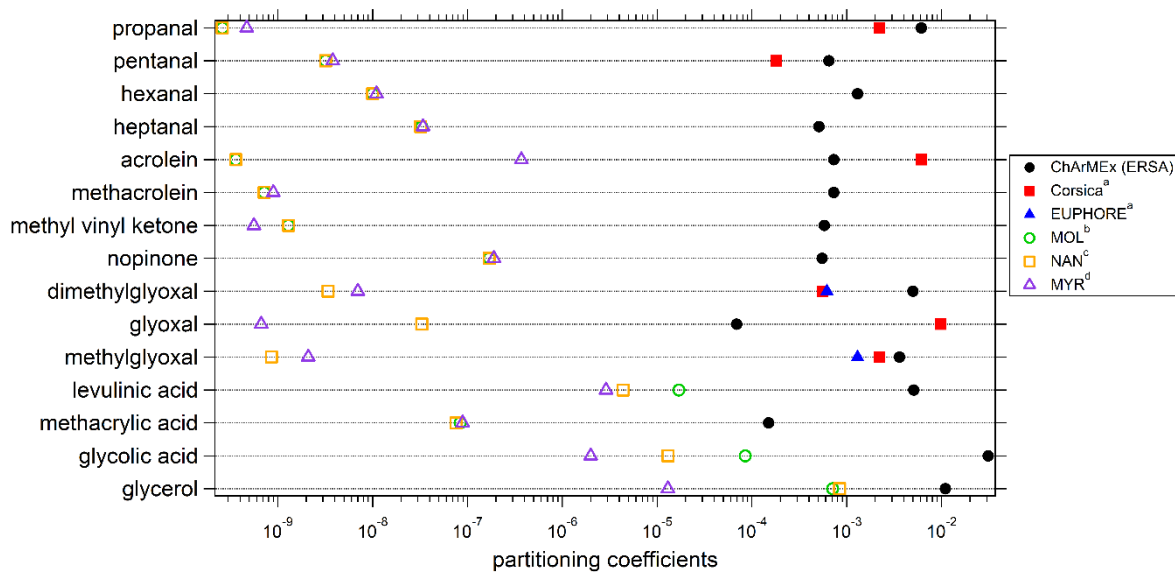
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 2 Figure 11: Time series of the composition of the sum of all compounds concentrations measured by
 3 TD-GC/MS.

4



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 2 Figure 12: Campaign averaged relative composition of the sum of all compounds measured by TD-
 3 GC/MS in the organic aerosol phase (hydroxyl-carboxylic acid-light green area, ketone-pink area,
 4 carboxylic acid-purple area, dihydroxy carboxylic acid-light blue area, aldehyde-orange area, alcohol-
 5 dark green area, tricarboxylic acid-dark blue area, dicarboxylic acid-red area).

6



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2 ^a Rossignol et al., 2016; ^b Moller et al., 2008 (coupled with Nannoolal et al. (2004) method for boiling point determination) ; ^c Nannoolal et
 3 al., 2008 (coupled with Nannoolal et al. (2004) method for boiling point determination) ; ^d Myrdal and Yalkowsky, 1997 (coupled with
 4 Nannoolal et al. (2004) method for boiling point determination)

5 Figure 13: Experimental and theoretical partitioning coefficients determined for this study and
 6 compared to previous field and chamber campaigns.