

Reply to Reviewer Report #1 on “Atmospheric VOC measurements at a High Arctic site: characteristics and source apportionment”

We would like to thank the editor for their useful comments that will improve the manuscript, both in terms of clarity and scientific quality. We have addressed the editor’s comments below with comments numbered and the author’s responses in blue.

Non-public comments to the Author:

----- Reviewer Report #1 -----

I want to thank the authors for the comprehensive revisions of a very interesting study. Please consider the very minor comments below to further improve the manuscript in key places.

1. In the caption of Figure S1, the authors refer to Table 1 for the definition of the seasons. They should refer to Table S1 instead.

The text has been amended to refer to Table S1 in the caption of Figure S1. Thank you for this good catch.

2. According to the PSCF analysis, the probability of a source located on the coast is pretty low (~9 %). I’d suggest rephrasing as follows:

“From Fig. 6, two areas with a relatively higher probability of being a source region...”

Note that you can change the limits in the trajLevel function (let’s say from 0 to 100 %) by including limits = c(0,1).

The authors agree this change will help in the interpretation of the PSCF results. The text has been amended according to the suggested changes.

Line 531–534: From Fig. 7, two areas with a relatively higher probability of being a source region for the Marine Cryosphere Factor can be discerned, the coast around Southeastern and Northeastern Greenland.

The authors are also grateful for the helpful tips regarding the trajLevel function. We have changed the scaling of Fig. 7 to a max of 0.12 so the potential source regions are not overly accentuated.

3. Thank you for including figures in the supplementary describing the diurnal cycle. I’m being picky but could you please include the 95% confidence intervals in the mean? This can easily be done using function timeVariation in R package openair.

The authors originally produced the figures with the 25th / 75th percentiles; however, their inclusion masked the shape of the diurnal profile therefore they were not included in the revised figures. The authors agree the 95 % confidence intervals are an excellent method to display a variance around the diurnal profiles while still display the shape of the profile. The figures have been updated to include these intervals and the captions have been updated to reflect this change.

Atmospheric VOC measurements at a High Arctic site: characteristics and source apportionment

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Abstract. There are few long-term datasets of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the High Arctic. Furthermore, knowledge about their source regions remains lacking. To address this matter, we report a ~~long-term~~~~multi-season~~ dataset of highly time-resolved VOC measurements in the High Arctic from April to October 2018. We have utilized a combination of measurement and modeling techniques to characterize the mixing ratios, temporal patterns, and sources of VOCs at Villum Research Station at Station Nord, in Northeast~~ern~~ Greenland. Atmospheric VOCs were measured using Proton Transfer-Time of Flight-Mass Spectrometry (PTR-ToF-MS). Ten ions were selected for source apportionment with the receptor model, positive matrix factorization (PMF). A four-factor solution to the PMF model was deemed optimal. The factors identified were Biomass Burning, Marine Cryosphere, Background, and Arctic Haze. The Biomass Burning ~~F~~factor described the variation of acetonitrile and benzene ~~and peaked during August and September. Back-trajectory analysis indicated the influence of active fires in North America and Eurasia.~~ The Marine Cryosphere ~~factor~~Factor was comprised of carboxylic acids (formic, acetic, and ~~C₃H₆O₂~~propionic acid) as well as dimethyl sulfide (DMS). This factor displayed ~~ap~~peak contributions ~~clear diurnal profile~~ during periods of snow and sea ice melt. ~~Back-trajectories~~A potential source contribution function (PSCF) showed that the source regions for this factor were the coasts around ~~Southeastern and Northeastern North-Greenland and the Arctic Ocean.~~ The Background ~~factor~~Factor was temporally ubiquitous, with a slight decrease in the summer. This factor was not driven by any individual chemical species. The Arctic Haze ~~factor~~Factor was dominated by benzene with contributions from oxygenated VOCs. This factor exhibited a maximum in the spring and minima during the summer and autumn. This temporal pattern and species profile are indicative of anthropogenic sources in the mid-latitudes. This study provides seasonal characteristics and sources of VOCs and can help elucidate the processes affecting the atmospheric chemistry and biogeochemical feedback mechanisms in the High Arctic.

1 Introduction

The temperature in the Arctic has increased at twice the ~~speed-rate~~ of the global average (IPCC, 2019), a phenomenon known as Arctic amplification. Increased CO₂ concentration and sea ice loss are responsible for the majority of this temperature increase (Dai et al., 2019). However, short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs; methane, ozone, black carbon (BC)₂ and aerosol particles) are together responsible for half of the present temperature increase observed in the Arctic (Quinn et al., 2008). Atmospheric aerosol particles are the most important SLCF (due to their scattering, absorbing, and cloud modification properties) but their climate forcing is associated with the largest uncertainty, especially in the Arctic (Pörtner, 2019). Ozone is an important photochemical oxidant in the Arctic troposphere. Ozone precursors, e.g., ~~volatile organic compounds~~ (VOCs), ~~nitrogen oxides~~ (NO_x), and peroxyacetyl nitrate (PAN), remained poorly characterized in the High Arctic (AMAP, 2015). Photochemical reactions including ozone and VOCs have important implications for the lifetime of methane, a major greenhouse gas. The identification and characterization of processes leading to precursor emissions of aerosols and ozone are therefore needed to improve the assessments of biosphere-aerosol-climate feedback mechanisms.

In the Arctic, there are strong seasonal variations in aerosol size and concentrations, with long-range transport of accumulation-mode particles in late winter and spring and local production of ultra-fine particles in the summer and autumn season (Flyger et al., 1980; Barrie et al., 1981; Heidam et al., 2004; Nguyen et al., 2016). Expansion of the polar dome and inefficient wet removal in the winter and spring allows for the transport of anthropogenic pollution (sulfate aerosols with acidic and toxic components, BC, and VOCs) to the Arctic (Klonecki et al., 2003; Heidam et al., 2004; Nielsen et al., 2019). Several studies have reported on new particle formation (NPF) events, involving naturally emitted biogenic VOCs during the summer in the High Arctic. Dall'Osto et al. (2018b) recently demonstrated a negative correlation of NPF events at Villum Research Station, Station Nord, in Northeastern Greenland with sea ice extent. The authors suggested that ultrafine aerosol formation is likely to increase in the future, given the projected increased melting of sea ice (Boe et al., 2009; Bi et al., 2018). Dall'Osto et al. (2017) hypothesized that NPF events during summer on Svalbard were linked to marine biological activities within the open leads and between the pack ice and/or along the marginal sea-ice zones. Further confirming the same processes are occurring for Northeastern Greenland (Dall'Osto et al., 2018a; Nielsen et al., 2019). Open leads and open pack ice emit dimethyl sulfide (DMS) that undergoes atmospheric oxidation leading to methanesulfonic acid (MSA), sulfur dioxide, and ultimately sulfuric acid, which helps form and grow particles (Nielsen et al., 2019). After formation, aerosols grow to sizes where they can act as cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) (Ramanathan et al., 2001). VOCs of marine biogenic origin greatly contribute to CCN activity during summer (Lange et al., 2018; Lange et al., 2019). The sources of NPF in the Arctic and its corresponding precursors are a topic of intense research, as uncertainty remains regarding the mechanism of aerosol production. For example, Burkart et al. (2017) found that the condensable vapors responsible for particle growth were more semi-volatile than previously observed in mid-latitudes, although they could not identify a source area for these vapors. Aerosol formation is one of the most important factors in determining the surface energy balance in the Arctic. Recently, it was estimated that NPF events could increase CCN concentrations by 2–5 fold over background concentrations (Kecorius et al., 2019). However, parametrization of the processes leading to aerosol formation is still a large source of uncertainty in global radiative forcing predictions (Haywood and Boucher, 2000). The characterization of these gas-phase precursors to particle formation is a key factor for understanding the dynamics of the Arctic troposphere and the corresponding effects on climate.

Ozone has a distinct seasonality in the Arctic, with maximum mixing ratios in the winter, depletion events in the spring, and a minimum in the summer (Bottenheim and Chan, 2006). Ozone is an important pollutant at the surface and greenhouse gas in the mid to upper troposphere. Ozone can perturb radiation fluxes and modify heat transport to the Arctic (Shindell, 2007). In the Arctic, sources of ozone include long-range transport and photochemical production. Ozone and its precursors (VOCs, NO_x, CO, and PAN) can be transported from anthropogenic sources in the mid-latitudes (Hirdman et al., 2009) and natural boreal forest fire emissions (Arnold et al., 2015), which have been increasing in recent years (Parrish et al., 2012). The major sink for ozone in the Arctic is photochemical reactions loss, followed by minor contributions from dry deposition. Ozone largely controls the oxidative capacity of the atmosphere, as a chief precursor for OH, an oxidant for many compounds, and a major prerequisite for halogen explosion event (Simpson et al., 2007). Halogen explosion events can affect the lifetime and reaction rates for organic gases and the deposition of mercury to in the Arctic ecosystem. Formaldehyde, a

product of photochemical degradation and ozonolysis of VOCs, is also an important photolytic source of OH radicals particularly at high solar zenith angles, i.e., Arctic summer (Cooke et al., 2010). Photochemical reactions involving VOCs can be a sink (by reactions with ozone) and a source (through reactions with NO_x) of ozone. Increased anthropogenic activity in the Arctic (shipping and resource extraction) is expected to increase emissions of both NO_x and VOCs (Law et al., 2017). Biomass burning emissions, which are expected to increase in the future, have been shown to increase ozone production by as high as 22 % in the Arctic (Arnold et al., 2015). Ozone levels have consequences for OH radical production, which is the main oxidant of methane, thus largely controlling its lifetime in the atmosphere. Therefore, the characterization of the interactions of ozone and VOCs have implications for climate effects and atmospheric chemistry.

Several factors, including chemical lifetime, local emissions, and long-range transport, govern the mixing ratios of VOCs in the Arctic atmosphere. The chemical lifetime of most VOCs in the Arctic is dependent on the oxidative capacity of the atmosphere, thus there is a strong seasonality (Gautrois et al., 2003). However, due to the low humidity in the Arctic atmosphere, the concentration of OH is low (Spivakovsky et al., 2000). Therefore, halogen and ozone chemistry plays an active role during the spring in the atmospheric chemistry of VOCs in Arctic regions (Simpson et al., 2015). However, atmospheric reactions alone seem unable to explain the VOCs mixing ratios and dynamics observed at Arctic sites (Grannas et al., 2002; Guimbaud et al., 2002; Sumner et al., 2002), indicating missing sources other than photochemical production. Two potential local sources are the snowpack and the sea surface microlayer. The snowpack also has a major impact on ambient VOCs by uptake/release mechanisms and acts as a matrix for many photochemical and biological processes (Guimbaud et al., 2002; Grannas et al., 2004; Kos et al., 2014). For example, Dibb and Arsenault (2002) demonstrated that the snowpack is a source of formic and acetic acid through the oxidation of ubiquitous organic matter. Furthermore, Boudries et al. (2002) observed emission from the snowpack to the atmosphere of acetone, acetaldehyde, and formaldehyde, which were explained by photochemical production in the snowpack. ~~and~~ Depositional fluxes of methanol ~~was/were~~ also observed, which they postulated as a source of formaldehyde. These observed gas-phase fluxes had a diurnal cycle following polar sunrise that correlated with the solar zenith angle. Sea surface microlayer emissions are important local sources of atmospheric VOCs, e.g. DMS, formic acid, and acetic acid (Mungall et al., 2017). Sea emissions have a pronounced seasonality because of sea ice preventing air-sea exchange during most of the year in the Arctic. The sea surface microlayer could play a role in the emission of VOCs due to photochemical processes (Chiu et al., 2017; Brüggemann et al., 2018) or heterogenic oxidation (Zhou et al., 2014). For highly water-soluble compounds, the ocean could also be an important sink (Sjostedt et al., 2012). Finally, transport of VOCs, such as benzene, methane, ethane, propane, and chlorofluorocarbons, has been observed from the mid-latitudes to the High Arctic (Stohl, 2006; Harrigan et al., 2011; Willis et al., 2018).

Few studies have reported VOCs in ambient air from Arctic sites with on-line techniques, usually during short-term campaigns. Hornbrook et al. (2016) utilized non-methane hydrocarbons measurements to derive time-integrated halogen mixing ratios during the OASIS-2009 campaign at Utqiagvik ~~Barrow~~, AK (formerly known as Barrow, AK). Mungall et al. (2018) studied the sources of formic and acetic acid at Alert, ~~CA, NU~~ during the summer of 2016. Sjostedt et al. (2012) and (Mungall et al., 2017) performed VOC measurements onboard the CCGS *Amundsen* in the Canadian Archipelago during the

summer of 2008 and 2014, respectively. There have been several campaigns exploring snowpack emissions of VOCs (Boudries et al., 2002; Dibb and Arsenault, 2002; Guimbaud et al., 2002; Barret et al., 2011; Gao et al., 2012). Gautrois et al. (2003) reported long-term VOC concentrations for Alert, ~~CA, NU~~, where a seven-year time-series of VOCs mixing ratios has been generated, although with ~~low a 9-day~~ time resolution, using off-line techniques (GC-MS coupled to flame ionization and electron capture detectors). High time resolution measurements are of vital importance for the study of Arctic atmospheric chemistry. For instance, diurnal studies can only be accomplished with a fast response instrument, as grab samples and time-integrated samples (i.e., adsorbent tubes) will not capture the variability on short enough time scales (de Gouw and Warneke, 2007). Understanding the effects of meteorological parameters on VOCs levels requires an instrument response which is shorter than the transient event being observed. Also, flux measurements can only be achieved through fast responding instrumentation (Müller et al., 2010). The study of short-lived compounds, such as reactive halogen species, and their interactions with VOCs is only possible on short timescales. Finally, global networks have highlighted the need for a quick turnaround in the delivery of atmospheric species for the validation of global atmospheric composition forecasting systems (Schultz et al., 2015). These previous studies call for higher time resolved and longer measurement campaigns, thus highlighting the importance of long-term high time-resolved measurements of VOCs in the Arctic.

In this study, we report several months of high time-resolved mixing ratios of selected VOCs measured at the high Arctic site Villum Research Station (Villum) at Station Nord (Northeastern Greenland). This study aims to provide a better insight into the dynamics, seasonal behavior, and potential sources of VOCs in the high Arctic. We accomplish this by combining VOC mixing ratios with meteorological data, air mass back trajectories, and the receptor model, positive matrix factorization (PMF). In Sect. 2, we describe our analytical instrumentation and models in detail. In Sect. 3, we cover the seasonal dynamics of VOC as well as each factor from the PMF model.

2 Methods

2.1 Field site

The sampling campaign took place at Villum Research Station (Villum), which is situated on the Danish military base, Station Nord, in Northeastern Greenland (81° 36' N, 16° 40' W, 24 m above mean sea level). Villum is situated in a region with a dry and cold climate where the annual precipitation is 188 mm and the annual mean temperature is -16 °C. The dominating wind direction is southwestern with an average wind speed of 4 m sec^{-1} . The sampling took place about 2.5 km south-west of the main facilities of the Station Nord military camp. The sampling location is upwind from the Station most of the time for all seasons (Fig. S1). An overview of the meteorological data is presented in Fig. S2. Statistics for meteorological data over the sampling campaign can be found in Table S1.

2.2 Gas-phase measurements and data processing

Gas-phase measurements of VOCs were obtained using a PTR-ToF-MS 1000 (Ionicon Analytik GmbH). The measurement campaign commenced after polar sunrise on April 4 and concluded before polar sunset on October 28, 2018. The PTR-ToF-MS was operated with hydronium ion (H_3O^+) as a reagent ion, a drift tube temperature of 70 °C, a drift pressure of 2.80 mbar, a drift tube voltage of 650 V leading to an E/N (Electric field/density of the buffer gas in the drift tube) value of around 120 Townsend (Td). Mass spectra up to $m/z=430$ Da were collected at 5 second [single spectra integration times-sean-rate](#). The instrument inlet consisted of a PEEK capillary tube heated at 70 °C and a built-in permeation unit (PerMasCal; Ionicon Analytik) which emitted 1,3-diiodobenzene, used for mass scale calibration. The inlet of the sampling line consisted of ¼" Teflon tubing extending through an insulated opening in the roof with a sampling cone at the tip to prevent water and debris from blocking the orifice. Ambient outdoor air was aspirated into the instrument at a rate of 100 ml min⁻¹. Blank measurements were obtained every 4 hours for 15 minutes by automatic switching from the ambient outdoor air to indoor air pumped through a Zero Air Generator (Parker-Balston, Part #75–83). Due to technical issues (mainly electrical power failure), measurements were interrupted for short periods ranging from days to weeks in April, June, August, and September. Instrument parameters (E/N ratio, drift tube temperature, pressure, and voltage) were inspected before and after power failures to ensure proper instrument functionality. Periods with abnormal parameter values were removed. [Table S2 summarizes the total number of operational hours for each compound for each month of the campaign.](#)

Data generated by the PTR-ToF-MS instrument were processed with the PTR-MS Viewer software v. 3.2.12 (Ionicon Analytik). Mass calibrations and VOC mixing ratios were calculated by the PTR-MS Viewer, [based on the reaction kinetics quantification method \(Sect. S1\)](#). The instrument quantification was validated against an external gas-phase calibration standard (Apel-Riemer Environmental), a comparison between standard and instrument mixing ratios yielded percent errors that were within the analytical uncertainties ([Table 1](#)), therefore we are confident in the quantification method (Holzinger et al., 2019). ~~Inspection of the mass spectrum yielded nine protonated masses from which an empirical formula was calculated, and a compound name assigned. Compound names were assigned based on comparison with the libraries from the PTR-MS Viewer and Pagonis et al. (2019), and references therein, as well as a priori knowledge.~~ [The PTR-MS technique allows to observe species with a proton-affinity higher than water, this comprehendsencompasses most VOCs found in the atmosphere with the important exception of alkanes. It does not allow tofor the distinguishction between isomers to be made.](#) ~~Compound names were assigned based on comparison with the libraries from the PTR-MS Viewer and Pagonis et al. (2019), and references therein, as well as a priori knowledge.~~ [Inspection of the mass spectrum yielded ten protonated masses from which an empirical formula was calculated, and compound names were assigned for nine masses, as discussed in ChapterSect. 3.1.](#) ~~For one compound, an empirical formula was calculated ($\text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{OH}^+$) but a compound name could not be assigned due to the inability of PTR-MS to distinguish isomers. Another compound ($\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{OH}^+$) was doubly assigned to propionic acid and methyl acetate. Methyl acetate has the same protonated m/z ratio as propionic acid; thus, contributions of methyl acetate to the signal at 75.058 m/z cannot be ruled out. Due to a proton affinity below water, saturated hydrocarbons (alkanes) are unable to be~~

~~detected via PTR-ToF-MS. See Table 1 for a detailed list of selected masses.~~ Output files were further processed with MATLAB R2018B for time averaging and blank ~~values~~-subtraction. The limit of detection (LOD) for each identified species was calculated as three times the standard deviation (s.d.) of the blank values for each day. For calculation of statistics, mixing ratios below LOD ~~was-were~~ set to ½ the LOD. The data ~~was-were~~ time-averaged to a 30-minute means. Uncertainty in VOC measurements accounted for the reaction rate coefficient as well as primary ion counts and blank corrected ion counts, for a detailed description see the Sect. S1. The data set has been rigorously quality controlled, through analysis of particle number size distributions (PNSD), meteorological data (wind direction and speed), and internal activity logs, to remove the influence of local pollution, for a detailed description see Sect. S2. Uncertainty in VOC measurements accounted for the reaction rate coefficient as well as primary ion counts and blank corrected ion counts, for a detailed description see the Supplement. Ozone (O₃) was measured using an API photometric O₃ analyzer M400, data is quality assured and controlled via standard EN14625:2012, with calibrations every six months (Skov et al., 2004; Skov et al., 2020).

2.3 Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) analysis

The PMF model was operated using the US EPA PMF version 5.0 software, which uses the second version of the multilinear-engine 2 (ME-2) platform (Paatero and Tapper, 1994). The goal of PMF is to identify the number of factors or sources p , the species profile f , and the mass contributed by each factor to each sample. PMF accomplishes this by decomposing a data matrix X into two matrices G and F . The input data matrix X consists of dimensions i and j , where i is the number of samples and j is the measured chemical species. The source profile matrix f is of dimensions p and j . The source contribution matrix g is composed of p and i dimensions. This is expressed in Eq. (1), below.

$$X_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^p g_{ik} \times f_{kj} + e_{ij} \quad (1)$$

Where e_{ij} is the residual matrix and k ~~are-is~~ the individual sources. PMF uses measurement uncertainties u_{ij} and the residual matrix to minimize the Objective Function Q , Eq. (2) below:

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m \left[\frac{e_{ij}}{u_{ij}} \right]^2 \quad (2)$$

Where n is the total number of samples and m is the total number of species. There are three versions of the objective function: Q_{true} that includes all data points, Q_{robust} that excludes outliers, and Q_{theo} that is approximately equal to the number of degrees of freedom. The ME-2 platform performs iterations via the conjugate gradient method until convergence to minimize Q . Each good data point contributes a value of approximately one to the value of Q ; therefore, Q and the ratio of Q_{true} to Q_{theo} are the goodness of fit parameters for the appropriate number of factors (Paatero et al., 2014).

The following data preparation protocol was developed according to standard practice in the field (Polissar et al., 1998; Reff et al., 2007; Hopke, 2016) which allows PMF analysis to be performed effectively. In certain cases, discussed here, the data set was modified before modeling via PMF. Data with concentrations below the LOD were replaced with a value equal to half of the LOD. The associated uncertainty was set to 5/6 of the LOD. Missing concentrations from a sample were

replaced with the median concentration of the data set and the uncertainty was set as a multiple (3) of median concentration (Polissar et al., 1998; Reff et al., 2007). It is worth noting that the operational protocols used to estimate the uncertainties and treatment of data are based on extensive testing to find an approach that provided useful results (Hopke, 2016). Numerous sensitivity runs were performed to evaluate the validity of this data preparation protocol including varying the treatment of data below the LOD (replacing with half of the LOD or leaving as is), treatment of missing values (removing the sample or replacing missing species with the median), treatment of the uncertainty matrix, number of species included in the model (species were systematically removed or added to observe their influence on the model solution), threshold values for species categorization, and the number of factors. Each variation of the input data, of course, produced a unique solution, however, the overall shape of the time series and factor contributions profile was consistent with the solution present in this study. The optimal model solution, for the configuration present here, was therefore deemed robust to these variations of the input data and provided acceptable diagnostics.

Two methods for evaluating modeling uncertainty in PMF were performed: bootstrapping (BS) and displacement of factor elements (DISP) (for a description see Paatero et al. (2014)). BS uncertainty includes effects from random errors and partially includes the effects of rotational ambiguity. DISP explicitly captures uncertainty from rotational ambiguity (Brown et al., 2015). Another method of estimating rotational ambiguity is the Fpeak function. Fpeak evaluates Q under different rotational strengths, in this study Fpeak strengths from -5 to 5 in intervals of 1 and from -1 to 1 in intervals of 0.1.

2.4 Ancillary data

Meteorological data including temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, wind direction, pressure, radiation, and snow depth were generated by an automatic weather station placed ~44 meters away from the measurement site. Using the local wind direction and wind speed, a conditional probability function (CPF) was calculated using the source contributions for each factor. CPF is defined as $CPF = m_{\theta}/n_{\theta}$, where m_{θ} is the number of occurrences that a source contribution exceeds a predetermined threshold criterion (75th percentile) while arriving from a wind sector and n_{θ} is the total number of occurrences wind arrived from the same wind sector. A wind sector was defined as 30° and wind speeds below 0.5 m s⁻¹ were excluded to account for uncertainty in wind direction at low wind speeds. Daily polar gridded sea ice concentrations for the measurement period were obtained through the Nimbus-7 SMMR and DMSP SSM/I-SSMIS Passive Microwave Data (Cavalieri et al., 1996). Time series of local sea ice concentrations were calculated from the gridded daily average sea ice concentrations (%) by masking an area of $\pm 2^{\circ}$ longitude and $+8^{\circ}$ - 4° latitude around Villum (Greene et al., 2017; Greene, 2020). Active fires during the period, August 15–September 15, 2018, was provided by NASA's Fire Information for Resource Management System (FIRMS) which distributes Near Real Time (NRT) active fire data from NASA's Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) and NASA's Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) (Schroeder et al., 2014).

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2.5 Back Trajectory Analysis

To investigate source regions, the R package Openair (Carslaw and Ropkins, 2012) was utilized to produce a potential source contribution function (PSCF). Trajectories in Openair were calculated using the HYSPLIT model (Draxler and Hess, 1998; Rolph et al., 2017) at 100 m altitude and 120 hours backward in time using Global NOAA-NCEP/NCAR reanalysis data archives on a 2.5° resolution. A PSCF, shown in Eq. (3), calculates the probability that an emission source is located in a grid cell of latitude j and longitude i , on the basis that emitted material in the grid cell ij can be transported along the trajectory and reach the receptor site. The back trajectory model HYSPLIT (Draxler and Hess, 1998; Rolph et al., 2017) calculated air mass back trajectories arriving at Villum, incorporating Global Data Assimilation System (GDAS) meteorological data with 1° spatial resolution, and employing modeled vertical velocity. Air mass back trajectories were calculated at 100 m arrival altitude. The trajectory length was varied between 240 and 336 hours. For a synoptic view of air mass history, trajectory frequency maps were calculated following a similar methodology utilized by Tunved et al. (2013) and Freud et al. (2017). Grids of 1° × 1° cells were centered concentrically on Villum; the number of individual trajectories passing over each grid cell was summed, normalized by the total number of trajectories, and multiplied by 100 % to give a trajectory frequency map. The large number of trajectories included in the frequency maps provide statistical robustness to their interpretation and reduces their associated uncertainty.

$$PSCF = \frac{m_{ij}}{n_{ij}} \tag{3}$$

Where n_{ij} is the number of times a trajectory has passed through grid cell ij and m_{ij} is the number of times that a concentration was above a certain threshold value, in this case, the 90th percentile. To account for uncertainty in cells with a small number of trajectories passing through, a weighting function was applied (Carslaw and Ropkins, 2012). (de Gouw et al., 2003; Singh et al., 2003)

3 Results and discussion

3.1 VOC temporal patterns and mixing ratios

The ten selected masses monitored by the PTR-TOF-MS and their assignments to species names are presented in Table 1. Assignments are made by choosing the most plausible contributions to an observed mass but obviously each measured ion may have contributions from several different isomeric molecules. The assignment of masses in the table to protonated molecules of formaldehyde, acetonitrile, formic acid, acetic acid, and benzene appears to be unproblematic as no meaningful alternatives are found. For the remaining molecules, alternative assignments are possible. The mass assigned to acetone could be propanal as well, but propanal has a shorter atmospheric residence time and acetone is known to be one of the dominating VOCs observed in the atmosphere (Jacob et al., 2002), further, it has been found to have sources in the Arctic (Guimbaud et al., 2002). The mass assigned to DMS could be ethanethiol as well, but the large marine source of DMS makes

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it clearly the most plausible assignment. Methyl ethyl ketone is isomeric with butenal, but being the second most abundant ketone in the atmosphere with, among others, apparently an oceanic source (Brewer et al., 2020) it appears to be the best assignment. $C_3H_6O_2$ may stem from propionic acid but also from hydroxyacetone, methyl acetate, and ethyl formate. While it seems unlikely that ethyl formate could give a major contribution to this signal, the other three species are all plausible candidates: Low molecular weight organic acids are commonly found in the atmosphere (Lee et al., 2009), methyl acetate has been found in emissions from biomass burning (Andreae, 2019) and hydroxyacetone is known to be formed by the atmospheric degradation of isoprene (Karl et al., 2009). For what concerns the $C_5H_8OH^+$ ion we prefer not to make an assignment, possible isomers include, among others, pentenals and pentenones.

For the ten selected VOCs, time series of mixing ratios during the entire measuring period are displayed in Fig. 1 (a-f). Details for each compound are presented in Table 1. During the spring (April–May), certain compounds (benzene and $C_5H_8O^+$ C_5H_8O) exhibited a maximum and thereafter a decreasing pattern, similar to the timing and profile of the Arctic Haze phenomena. During the spring, compounds did not display a diurnal profile except for acetic acid (Fig. S3); whilst in summer (June–August), OVOCs certain compounds (DMS and OVOCs) revealed a diurnal cycle that closely follows radiation (Fig. 2 and S4). Compounds of non-photochemical origin (benzene and acetonitrile) also displayed a slight diurnal pattern, which could possibly be due to entrainment from aloft (Fig. S4). Interestingly, several compounds (formaldehyde, formic acid, and acetone) peaked in the spring with decreasing levels until the summer when a diurnal pattern following sunlight was observed (Fig. 1, 2, S4). During the autumn (September–October), all compounds were low except for acetone and acetonitrile (Fig. 1) and only acetic acid displayed a diurnal profile (Fig. S5). The levels, seasonal patterns, and comparison with other studies of these compounds will be discussed below.

Oxygenated-volatile organic compounds (OVOCs) selected for this study included formaldehyde, formic acid, acetic acid, propionic acid, MEK (methyl ethyl ketone) and an ion with empirical formula $C_5H_8OH^+$ (possible isomers for this compound include, among others, methyl butenal, pentenal, methyl butanone). Formaldehyde, formic acid, MEK, and acetone, and to a lesser extent acetic acid and $C_5H_8OH^+$, displayed a decreasing pattern in the spring. For formaldehyde, formic acid, acetic acid, acetone, MEK, and $C_3H_6O_2$ propionic acid a clear diurnal variation was observed in the period July–August, with peak mixing ratios occurring around midday (Fig. 2 and S4), highlighting their dependence on sunlight. (Fig. 1 a, c, d, e). The diurnal variation was less pronounced in April–May and September–October, highlighting the dependence on sunlight. Acetone showed the highest mean mixing ratio \pm s.d. (0.608 ± 0.196 ppbv). Mean mixing ratios of acetone measured at Barrow Utqiagvik, AK during the OASIS-2009 field campaign (March–April 2009) were 0.900 ± 0.300 ppbv (range of 0.364–2.21 ppbv) (Hornbrook et al., 2016), and in the Canadian Archipelago in August–October was 0.424 ppbv (Sjostedt et al., 2012), which is within the same range observed at Villum (0.608 ± 0.196 ppbv, Table 1). The average mixing ratio of formaldehyde in the present study (0.220 ± 0.128 ppbv) is similar to those measured at Barrow Utqiagvik, AK (0.204 ppbv)

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and Alert, ~~CA, NU~~ (0.166 ppbv) in March–April (Grannas et al., 2002; Barret et al., 2011). Formic acid (0.454 ± 0.371 ppbv) and acetic acid (0.201 ± 0.149 ppbv) mean mixing ratios were within the range of those measured at Summit, Greenland (0.4 ppbv) by Dibb and Arsenault (2002), although considerably lower than those measured by Mungall et al. (2018) during the early summer at Alert, ~~CA, NU~~ (formic acid 1.23 ± 0.63 ppbv, acetic acid 1.13 ± 1.54 ppbv). MEK (~~an oxidation product of *n*-butane~~) displayed a mean mixing ratio of 0.031 ± 0.021 ppbv, which is slightly lower than the median concentrations of 0.190 ppbv measured in March–April 2009 at ~~Barrow~~Utqiagvik, AK (Hornbrook et al., 2016) and 0.054 ppbv measured at Alert, ~~CA, NU~~ in April–May 2000 (Boudries et al., 2002).

The two main non-oxygenated compounds measured were acetonitrile and benzene. Benzene mixing ratios followed the expansion of the polar dome with high mixing ratios in the spring period and lowest in the summer period (Fig. 1-f), similar to sulfate and BC measured (Massling et al., 2015; Skov et al., 2016) and accumulation mode aerosols (Lange et al., 2018). The mean mixing ratio of benzene measured at Villum was 0.027 ± 0.016 ppbv, which is a factor of two higher than those measured in the Canadian Archipelago (0.013 ppbv) by Sjostedt et al. (2012). Benzene has shown a seasonal pattern at Alert, ~~CA, NU~~ with a higher mixing ratio in winter due to no or limited photochemistry and long-range transport from lower latitudes (Gautrois et al., 2003). They reported mean winter and summer mixing ratios of 0.200 and 0.034 ppbv, respectively; when compared to the present study ~~is a factor of two higher in the winter but in there is~~ good agreement during the summer. Acetonitrile followed a similar pattern to benzene during the spring ~~indicating a slight influence from anthropogenic emissions with decreasing values~~, as well as ~~exhibiting~~ minima in the summer and maxima during the autumn (Fig. 1-b). The mean mixing ratio of acetonitrile observed at Villum is 0.067 ± 0.025 ppbv, which is a factor of two higher than reported by Sjostedt et al. (2012) (0.030 ppb). The range of acetonitrile mixing ratios (0.023–0.156 ppbv) corresponds to the upper and lower limits of background levels over the Atlantic Ocean (0.10–0.15 ppbv) reported by Hamm et al. (1984) and Hamm and Warneck (1990). ~~The main source of acetonitrile in the atmosphere has been found to be biomass burning~~ (Singh et al., 2003).

DMS was the only sulfur-containing compound detected, with a mean \pm s.d. of 0.046 ± 0.043 ppbv. The mixing ratios of DMS observed in this study are a factor of two lower than those reported by Sjostedt et al. (2012) (0.093 ppbv). DMS mixing ratios were near LOD during the spring and autumn, however, were significantly elevated levels during the summer ~~periods of sea ice melt~~ (Fig. 1-e and 2). ~~DMS showed a clear diurnal cycle during sea ice melt in the summer months correlating with sunlight intensity.~~

3.2 Springtime VOC correlations

Elevated DMS mixing ratios were observed for two short periods of a few days' duration in May (~~1–5 May 1–5 and 16–19 May 16–19~~), where DMS mixing ratios increased an order of magnitude from ~ 0.02 to >0.2 ppbv. (See Fig. 2-3 ~~Left a and Right b below~~). In May, most of the ocean surrounding Villum is still frozen. However, satellite images from the area (available at <http://ocean.dmi.dk/arctic/nord.php>) ~~Fig. S4 a-f and S5 a-e~~ showed that there were open leads in the frozen sea surface. ~~and~~ ~~b~~ Back trajectory calculations (Fig. S6-a and b) confirmed that, during the DMS emission episodes, the air masses experienced extensive surface contact, traversed ~~over the open leads near areas containing open leads (as identified from satellite images)~~

before reaching the station. During DMS emission episodes, the acetone mixing ratios decreased correspondingly. Sjøstedt et al. (2012) found moderate anti-correlation ($R=0.37$, $p<10^{-4}$) for DMS with acetone. Minimum values of acetone were observed when DMS reached its maximum values, and the short photochemical lifetime of DMS suggests a localized biological sink for acetone associated with the production of DMS. Certain microorganisms can consume acetone as well as produce DMS from DMSP (Taylor et al., 1980; Kiene et al., 2000). At Villum, the relationship between acetone and DMS showed seasonal changes with a moderate negative correlation in April ($R=-0.55$), a weak positive correlation in July ($R=0.23$), and a ~~strong~~ moderate negative correlation in September ($R=-0.68$). Possible reasons for these variations may be changes in the biological conditions of the seawater, photochemical activity, and source regions. Pearson correlation coefficients for chemical species, radiation, and temperature for April, July, and September are tabulated in Table S32, S43, and S54, respectively.

As illustrated in Fig. 2-3a and b, acetone is anti-correlated with ozone during periods of elevated DMS. This relationship is particularly ~~clear-evident~~ during situations with abrupt changes in the mixing ratios of the species as on 1, 2, and 5 May-1, 2, and 5. These changes in mixing ratios are accompanied by a change in meteorological conditions, illustrated here by changes in wind speed ~~and to a less extent wind direction~~ (Fig. 3). Guimbaud et al. (2002) found a similar relationship between acetone and ozone during different field campaigns at Alert, Canada with ~~elevated~~ acetone ~~levels increased~~ during ozone depletion episodes accompanied by a concomitant decrease in the propane mixing ratios. However, it was found that the increase in acetone could not be explained by gas-phase chemistry but possibly by photochemically induced emissions from the snowpack. This phenomenon was also observed by Boudries et al. (2002). The anti-correlation between ozone and acetone observed at Villum may also be explained by a similar influence of photochemistry that causes destruction of ozone as well as the formation of acetone by gas phase and surface reactions. Also, the possible influence of vertical air exchange must be considered as well. During pristine atmospheric conditions at Villum, ozone is destroyed but not produced within the boundary layer, due to low NO_x concentrations (Nguyen et al., 2016). Exchange with the free troposphere will lead to increases in the ozone concentrations and possibly a reduction of acetone concentrations at ground level due to dilution by air from aloft with a lower acetone concentration. The anti-correlation between ozone and acetone supports the hypothesis that acetone is not brought down from aloft to a significant extent but has surface or boundary layer chemistry as its main source.

During the summer, the behavior of acetone is different. In addition to the previously mentioned dependence on the diurnal variations of sunlight (Fig. 2 and S4), providing strong evidence of a local photochemical source, a positive correlation with ozone was observed. In June, an anti-correlation is still seen, but in July and August, the two species are correlated ($R=0.69$ for July and $R=0.46$ for August). The fact that ozone is also positively correlated to other OVOCs (particularly formaldehyde, $R=0.86$ for July) suggests that the correlation is due to the influence of transport of air containing ozone and acetone formed by the photochemical degradation of air pollutants. During the summer period, acetone is correlated with acetonitrile ($R=0.73$ for June–August), in September and October this correlation becomes very strong ($R=0.96$). Acetonitrile is considered an atmospheric tracer of biomass burning as the global budget of this compound, ~~as previously mentioned~~, is dominated by emissions from biomass burning (Holzinger et al., 2001). Thus, biomass burning and atmospheric degradation of biomass burning products seem to be an important source of acetonitrile and acetone during this period. The correlation

with ozone is also positive during these months, most likely because the photochemistry of biomass burning emissions is also a source of ozone brought to Villum. The different temporal patterns and correlations suggest the behavior and sources of VOCs in the Arctic are seasonally dependent. Therefore, a detailed, statistical investigation of the sources affecting VOC levels is warranted.

365 3.3 Source Apportionment via PMF

VOCs exhibited distinct temporal patterns that are seasonally dependent and suggest different processes contributing to ambient mixing ratios. Therefore, the source apportionment model, PMF, was employed to provide an in-depth examination of these VOC sources. The base model was executed 100 times with a random start seed. Species were categorized based on their ~~signal-to-noise-ratio~~ (S/N), species with an $S/N \geq 1$, $0.2 < S/N < 1$, $S/N < 0.2$ were categorized a ‘Strong’, ‘Weak’, and
370 ‘Bad’, respectively. The uncertainty of ‘Weak’ species ~~was were~~ tripled, and ‘Bad’ species were excluded from the analysis. Two species deviated from this categorization; benzene ($S/N = 0.3$) ~~was classified as ‘Strong’~~ since it serves as a tracer for anthropogenic emissions from fossil fuel combustion and formic acid ($S/N = 1.0$) ~~was classified as ‘Weak’~~ since there was substantial variability of blank measurements in the spring. Rather than down-weighting spring samples, the entire dataset for formic acid was down-weighted to minimize bias for the spring period. The species included in the analysis were those shown
375 in Table 2. Expanded uncertainties for model input were estimated as described in the Sect. ~~S1-of-the-Supplemental Information~~. The two periods of elevated DMS mixing ratios were removed from the model input matrix since these periods were considered an anomaly compared to the rest of the measurement period (appearance of open leads, wind direction directly from these leads, and air masses with extensive surface contact). Therefore, these periods violated one of the assumptions of PMF; that sources do not change significantly over time or do so in a reproducible manner. The inclusion of these two periods
380 did not improve model performance. Instead, we argue that their exclusion allows us to model the ambient behavior of VOCs ~~devoid~~ of episodic influence due to certain meteorological conditions.

A four-factor solution was deemed optimal based on $Q_{\text{true}}/Q_{\text{theo}}$ ratios, R^2 values between modeled and measured mixing ratios, and physical interpretation of the factor time series and profiles. Figure S7 displays the $Q_{\text{true}}/Q_{\text{theo}}$ ratios against the factor number. Increasing the factor number from two to three produces the largest decrease in the $Q_{\text{true}}/Q_{\text{theo}}$ ratio, which
385 is often taken as the optimal solution for the number of factors. However, the mean R^2 values for the 3-factor solution (0.8) were lower than for the four-factor solution (0.85) and the physical interpretation of the four-factor solution yielded more robust analysis. Therefore, a four-factor solution was deemed optimal. The large discrepancy between Q_{true} and Q_{theo} can be explained by the large analytical uncertainties (32–64 %, Table 1), which is due to the extremely low mixing ratios observed, causing Q_{true} to be small, the large number of samples which produces a large Q_{theo} , as well as co-variation in the species (see
390 Sect. 3.1). While these uncertainties are high, they are reasonable for a kinetic quantification of organics at these instrument parameters and extremely low mixing ratios based on Holzinger et al. (2019).

Displacement on the four-factor solution yielded no errors in the model and zero factor swaps, illustrating the solution is valid and free of rotational ambiguity. Bootstrapping was performed for 100 runs and mapped >85 % of the boot factors to

the base factor. This high percentage indicates the model solution is free of random error. Variations of the Fpeak strength consistently returned the lowest change in Q at $F_{\text{peak}} = 0$, indicating the model is free of rotational ambiguity. The inspection of G-space plots produced no visible correlations between factors. Together these error estimation methods show the model solution is robust, valid, and free of random errors and rotational ambiguity.

Based on their chemical composition and their temporal variation the four factors were assigned to likely sources including Biomass Burning, Marine Cryosphere, Background, and Arctic Haze, which will be explained in detail below.

3.3.1 Biomass Burning Factor

The most prominent species in the profile of the Biomass Burning factor is acetonitrile, explaining 63 % of the variation, and benzene, explaining 33 % of the variation (Fig. 34b). As mentioned above, acetonitrile is a characteristic tracer for biomass burning emissions. Biomass burning is also an important source of benzene, with an estimated global strength of about half of the anthropogenic sources (Lewis et al., 2013) and it is a source of methyl acetate as well (Andreae, 2019), one of the $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O}_2$ isomers. The chemical species profile (Fig. 34, bottom) of this factor, therefore, points to a biomass-burning source. The time series (Fig. 34, top), shows this factor to decrease in the spring to a minimum in the summer, and slowly increase to a maximum at the beginning of September. The decrease in the spring is reflective of decreasing concentrations of benzene and acetonitrile; in the case of benzene this can be ascribed to anthropogenic emissions of acetonitrile and benzene during this period as the polar dome is expanded during winter and spring allowing for emissions to be entrained from the mid-latitudes. In the case of acetonitrile, the reason is more uncertain, there are anthropogenic sources of acetonitrile, particularly wood burning for residential heating and solvent use (Languille et al., 2020), but they appear to be of very minor importance compared to forest fires (de Gouw et al., 2003). The height of the biomass burning season in North America and Northern Eurasia is July (Lavoue et al., 2000), although due to the contraction of the polar dome during summer, minimum contributions from this factor are observed. Increased areas of open water in the Arctic also act as a sink for acetonitrile during the summer (de Gouw et al., 2003). The Biomass Burning factor peaks in August/September when the polar dome starts to expand thus allowing biomass burning emissions to reach the High Arctic.

While the species profile and temporal nature indicate biomass burning emissions as the source of this factor, where do these emissions originate from? Stohl (2006) revealed three major pathways for transport of air masses into the Arctic: low-level transport followed by ascent, low-level transport, and ascent outside the Arctic followed by descent into the Arctic. Emissions from North America and Asia only enter the Arctic through the last pathway. To examine the geographical origin of this factor, air mass back trajectories from the HYSPLIT model were calculated every hour during the peak of the Biomass Burning factor (15 August–15 September 15, 2018) for 100-meter arrival altitude and extending 336 hours (two weeks) backward in time. The trajectory length of two weeks was selected to account for the long lifetime of acetonitrile backward in time. This analysis combined with active fires during the period 15 August–15 September 2018 were provided by NASA's Fire Information for Resource Management System (FIRMS) (Schroeder et al., 2014). Active fires occurring within one hour and one-degree latitude/longitude of a trajectory endpoint was used to access the influence of active fires on the

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Biomass Burning Factor. While there was evidence of active fires in North America and Eurasia occurring near a trajectory endpoint within one hour, the uncertainty of a trajectory with a length of 336 hours is quite large (Stohl, 1998). Therefore, no meaningful conclusions can be drawn from this analysis other than the transport time of emissions influencing the Biomass Burning Factor is greater than two weeks, and that we are unable to capture these emissions with the current trajectory models with any confidence. Active fire data from the FIRMS database indicates the influence of active fires in North America and Eurasia (Fig. 4).

While most air masses stayed within the Arctic, there is evidence of overlap between air mass history and active fires during this period in North America and Eurasia (Fig. 4). The influence of biomass burning was observed at other High Arctic sites during this period. (Lutsch et al., 2020) used fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) measurements of CO, HCN, and ethane at several High Arctic sites coupled with aerosol optical depth data and the GEOS-Chem model to detect the influence of wildfires and attribute their sources. They observed fire-affected enhancements in the tropospheric CO column at Eureka, CA, NU from September 9 to the 25, 2018, and at Thule, Greenland from 24 August through 26 September 2018. The GEOS-Chem simulated the source regions for the fire-affected enhancements in the tropospheric CO column measurements to be boreal forests in North America and Asia at both sites (Lutsch et al., 2020). These observations of biomass burning at other High Arctic sites are in good agreement with the Biomass Burning ~~factor~~Factor presented here, adding robustness to this factor assignment and can offer insight into the geographical origins of the Biomass Burning Factor.

Biomass burning is known to be an important source of BC, and it has been estimated to account for about 35 % of the BC emissions in the Northern Hemisphere (Qi and Wang, 2019). Despite this, the observed time profile of BC (not shown) at Villum did not show an increase during the autumn of 2018. This is likely to be explained by the fact that the emissions from biomass burning sources have been transported over long distances with corresponding long transport time (> two weeks), as BC is removed much faster from the atmosphere than acetonitrile due to wet deposition. The atmospheric residence time of BC is below 5.5 days, according to a recent estimate (Lund et al., 2018), while that of acetonitrile is several months (de Gouw et al., 2003). Using meteorological parameters calculated along the trajectory path using HYSPLIT (see above), for air masses arriving at 100 m altitude, the mean accumulated precipitation for the peak of the Biomass Burning ~~factor~~Factor was 14 millimeters (mm). Raut et al. (2017) used a combination of in situ observations from aircraft, satellite remote sensing, and modeling simulations to calculate the transport efficiency of BC during 2012. They concluded that the transport efficiency of BC was low (<30 %) when accumulated precipitation was large (5–10 mm). These previous observations combined with the accumulated precipitation data along each trajectory during the peak of the Biomass Burning ~~factor~~Factor support the lack of BC loading during this time. While biomass burning is a source of BC globally, which is expected to increase in the future (Westerling et al., 2006), the results presented here indicate meteorological parameters encountered during transport can play a role in the levels observed in the High Arctic atmosphere. While biomass-burning emissions may increase in the future, increased precipitation patterns might counterbalance this increase although more research is needed to elucidate the relationship between these feedback mechanisms.

3.3.2 Marine Cryosphere Factor

The Marine Cryosphere ~~factor~~Factor was characterized by formic acid, acetic acid, ~~C₃H₆O₂propionic acid~~, and DMS, explaining over 50 % of the variability of each of these compounds (Fig. 5, ~~Bottomb~~). The contribution of this factor is near zero in the spring and autumn and maxima during the summer months (Fig. 5a). This factor shows an enhanced diurnal variation with a ~~clear~~correlation to sunlight during the summer months (Fig. 6, ~~Top~~). The high content of DMS points to a marine origin of this factor, while carboxylic acids have been demonstrated to be emitted from the snowpack (Dibb and Arsenault, 2002). Analysis of snow depth and sea ice concentrations ($\pm 2^\circ$ longitude and $\pm 8^\circ$ latitude area around Villum) illustrate the onset of this factor coincides with the snowmelt and sea ice decline. Therefore, a combination of marine and cryosphere sources appears to contribute to the species observed in this factor. [The C₃H₆O₂ is in this case assigned to propionic acid as the alternative isomers seem less probable, considering their typical origins \(biomass burning for methyl acetate and isoprene oxidation for hydroxyacetone\).](#)

The sources of the organic acids are much less well characterized than those of DMS; in fact, model simulations have not been able to reproduce the mixing ratios of formic and acetic acid, particularly in the Arctic and northern mid-latitudes (Paulot et al., 2011; Mungall et al., 2018). As the lifetimes of formic acid and acetic acid against photochemical oxidation by reaction with the OH radical are relatively long (about 25 and 10 days, respectively, for $[\text{OH}] = 10^6$ molecules/cm³), dry and wet deposition ~~are-is~~ thought to be the main removal pathways (Seinfeld and Pandis, 2016). Estimated globally averaged atmospheric lifetimes against ~~wet~~deposition for ~~both~~ formic and acetic acid in the boundary layer ~~is-are~~ between 1 and 2 days, ~~respectively~~ (Paulot et al., 2011). Thus, it is unlikely that direct long-range transport plays a relevant role in determining the mixing ratios of these species at Villum. Analysis of ~~C¹⁴C~~ isotopes in formic and acetic acid in air and rainwater have shown that outside of urban and semi-urban areas the dominating (>80 %) source is modern carbon (Glasius et al., 2001). This analysis is consistent with model simulations showing that atmospheric oxidation of biogenic hydrocarbons is the largest source (Paulot et al., 2011; Millet et al., 2015). Even though vegetation in the High Arctic is sparse, contributions from precursor emissions or direct emissions of formic acid and acetic acid from vegetation cannot be excluded, as discussed by Mungall et al. (2018). Emissions from the soil ~~is-are~~ also a possible but highly uncertain source of these species (Mungall et al., 2018). However, the Marine Cryosphere ~~factor~~Factor is largely absent when snow is completely melted, exposing the bare ground and vegetation to the atmosphere, thus soil emissions and vegetation are improbable sources of these compounds. Instead, enhancements in these species and this factor is observed during periods of snowmelt and sea ice melt.

A comparison of the contribution of the Marine Cryosphere Factor to sea ice concentration, calculated as described in Sect. 2.3, and snow depth can further shed light on the origin of this factor (Fig. 5, ~~topa~~). Periods of high contributions and ~~clear~~diurnal pattern by the Marine Cryosphere ~~factor~~Factor starts on 22 June (Fig. 6)–23, where the local sea ice concentration and snow depth are starting to decline. Diurnal patterns were observed during this period of melting (Fig. 5a and 6). This continues until 9 August–7, when the measurements were interrupted due to technical issues. When measurements resumed on 16 August–16, the contribution from the Marine Cryosphere ~~factor~~Factor had returned to the low levels found during

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springtime. Note that instrument parameters were monitored before and after interruptions to ensure proper functionality of the instrument, and periods that deviated from nominal values were removed. The Marine Cryosphere Factor appears not to be strongly dependent on the extension of the open sea, as sea ice concentrations/extensions reach a minimum, and consequently, the open sea area reaches a maximum by the beginning of September, but rather depends on active melting of snow and sea ice. Thus, it seems that emissions of VOCs from melting snowpacks and newly exposed sea ice areas could offer a viable explanation for the observed dependence of this source.

Previous work has shown that emissions from the sea in the Arctic area can be caused by a surface microlayer enriched in organic substances that acts as a source of formic acid and other oxidized VOCs (Mungall et al., 2017). This occurs either via heterogeneous chemistry or by photochemically driven reactions within the surface layer (Vlasenko et al., 2010; Chiu et al., 2017). Mungall et al. (2017) performed factor analysis of VOCs in the Canadian Archipelago finding four factors. One factor (Ocean ~~factor~~Factor; containing formic acid, isocyanic acid, and oxo-acids) was highly correlated with dissolved organic carbon (DOC), fluorescent chromophoric dissolved organic matter (fCDOM), and radiation. However, DMS was poorly correlated with this factor. They concluded the source to be photochemical or heterogeneous oxidation from sources on the sea surface microlayer. While formic and acetic acid, as well as the carbonyl compounds, show ~~clear~~ daily variations correlating with radiation, as mentioned above, DMS shows a less clear correlation. The emission of DMS from the open ocean has been demonstrated to be dependent on horizontal wind speed (Bell et al., 2013). Although, the variation of the Marine Cryosphere Factors seems not to be driven mainly by the dependence on horizontal wind speed ($R=-0.04$ ~~Fig. S2~~). Marine microorganisms produce DMS (Stefels et al., 2007; Levasseur, 2013), and given the distance of the measuring site from open water (taking sea ice into account the, station is approx. 25 km distance from open water), it is proposed that the majority of DMS produced is already oxidized to MSA and other products when reaching the station. The presence of gas-phase MSA has been indicated by the observation of the methanesulfonate ion, MSA- which has been previously measured in the particle phase at Villum in February–May 2015 (Dall'Osto et al., 2018b; Nielsen et al., 2019).

Several studies have demonstrated the emission of VOCs from the snowpack; Gao et al. (2012) observed photo enhanced release of VOCs from both Arctic and mid-latitude snow; Grannas et al. (2002) obtained similar results by applying a box model to simulate observed emissions of carbonyl compounds from an Arctic surface layer at Alert. They found that diel cycles of carbonyl compounds are impacted by snowpack exchange characterized by nighttime adsorptive uptake from the snowpack and the largest release around noon, similar to the observations in this study. Anderson et al. (2008) found a high concentration of water-soluble organic compounds (presumably mainly formic and acetic acid) in the surface layer of polar snow, and Dibb and Arsenault (2002) had measured levels well above 1 ppbv of formic and acetic acid in firn air. Gao et al. (2012) also observed enhanced release of acetone, formic acid, and acetic acid from snow coinciding with radiation, which they explained by oxidation of organic matter, e.g., humic substances present within the snowpack, perhaps by photochemically produced OH radicals (Nguyen et al., 2014). This experimental evidence that Arctic snow and areas of open sea are a relevant source of VOC emissions adds credence to this factor assignment.

The spatial origin of the Marine Cryosphere ~~factor~~Factor was investigated via a PSCF, calculated with the R package Openair (Carslaw and Ropkins, 2012) using 240-hour HYSPLIT air mass back trajectories arriving at 100-m altitude. These trajectories and trajectory frequency maps were calculated as described in Sect. 2.4. Figure 6-7 displays the trajectory frequency map PSCF for air masses arriving every hour from June to August, corresponding to the period of maximum contribution from the Marine Cryosphere factor and diurnal variation during the measurement campaign, which provides increased statistical robustness to the results over calculating a PSCF just for the summer period. From Fig. 67, three-two areas with a air-mass origin relatively higher probability of being a source region for the Marine Cryosphere Factor can be discerned, the coast around Southeastern and Northeastern Greenland. This analysis is supported by the CPF for the Marine Cryosphere Factor (Fig. S8b), which shows the dominant wind direction for this factor to be the south and south-south-east. Lee et al. (2020) used monthly chlorophyll-*a* derived from the MODIS satellite to demonstrate the coasts around Northeastern Greenland to contain high chlorophyll-*a* concentrations during June, which has been supported by previous studies (Degerlund and Eilertsen, 2010; Gali and Simó, 2010). Lee et al. (2020) also used a PSCF to determine this area to be the source regions for total particle number concentrations in the nucleation size range (3–25 nm). This area has been demonstrated to be a source region for MSA during the summer months (Heintzenberg et al., 2017). Thus, we propose the biologically active coasts around Eastern Greenland to be the source region for the Marine Cryosphere Factor. Air masses arrived from regions along the eastern and northern coast of Greenland as well as from the Arctic Ocean.

Marginal ice zones (MIZ), defined as areas where fragmented sea ice encounters land, have been identified as a source region of biogenic activity leading to new particle production (Dall'Osto et al., 2017). Keenrius et al. (2019) recently identified two types of NPF events on a cruise in the waters surrounding Svalbard; one being more hygroscopic, which they hypothesized to arise from sulfuric acid, while another was less hygroscopic, likely with higher contributions from organic species. Both types of NPF events were observed to have originated from both MIZs around the northern coast of Greenland and the Arctic Ocean north of Svalbard. MIZs are therefore proposed as a major source area for the Marine Cryosphere factor.

The properties of the Marine Cryosphere ~~factor~~Factor (composition, temporal variation, and spatial origins) helps confirm the work of previous studies in the High Arctic. We propose this factor (although not necessarily these exact species) as responsible for the biogenic precursor emissions of particles observed in other studies (Nguyen et al., 2016; Burkart et al., 2017; Dall'Osto et al., 2017; Freud et al., 2017; Dall'Osto et al., 2018a; Dall'Osto et al., 2018b; Dall'Osto et al., 2019; Nielsen et al., 2019). For example, Nguyen et al. (2016) identified the area southeast of Villum as having a high probability of observing an NPF event when air masses originating from this sector. One of the source areas identified in Fig. 6-7 is southeast of Villum, and a CPF analysis, indicated high contributions of the Marine Cryosphere Factor were observed when the wind direction was south of Villum (Fig. S8b-a). While the species identified using this analytical technique might not be responsible for particle formation and growth, other high molecular weight compounds originating from the same sources could well be. Therefore, this factor has important climatic implications, as sea ice and snowmelt are expected to start earlier due to warming temperatures. Increased contributions from this factor can be expected, which will alter the CCN budget and occurrence in the summer and thus alter the radiative balance.

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3.3.3 Background Factor

The Background ~~factor~~Factor explains the majority (>50 %) of the variation of acetone and ~~the ion~~ $\text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}^+\text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{O}$ as well as 37 % of formaldehyde (Fig. 8a). It explains approximately 30 % of the variation of acetonitrile and MEK, followed by minor (< 20 %) variations of acetic acid, benzene, and ~~propionic acid~~ $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O}_2$. ~~$\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O}_2$ may in this case result from all three of the~~ ~~three isomers: propionic acid, methyl acetate, and hydroxyacetone. Most of its components, particularly a~~Acetone and formaldehyde, are known to have photochemical oxidation of precursor compounds in the atmosphere as an important source. The chemical profile of this factor does not point to a specific, known source (Fig. 78, ~~bottom~~b). Its contributions start increasing in the middle of April and reach a maximum by the end of the month (Fig. 7, top). ~~The contributions, then~~ decrease until the summer period (Fig. 8a). ~~, where a slight diurnal profile, albeit weaker in magnitude when compared to the Marine Cryosphere factor, can be recognized.~~During the autumn, contributions levels are similar to the summer ~~period~~period; however, the temporal pattern is quite similar to the one observed for the Biomass Burning ~~factor~~Factor. The temporal correlations of the Background ~~factor~~Factor to the Marine Cryosphere and Biomass Burning ~~factor~~Factor during their respective periods of peak contributions indicate this factor does not arise from one identifiable source but rather from a myriad of sources, hence the assignment as a background factor. The species profile for the Background Factor corresponds to mixing ratios of 0.355 ppbv for acetone, 0.090 ppbv for formaldehyde, and less than 0.050 ppbv for all other compounds. These mixing ratios can be interpreted as the background mixing ratios for these compounds in the High Arctic.

The Background ~~factor~~Factor has its highest period of mean contributions during the spring when solar intensity increases but before the emissions related to open sea or melting snow become relevant. This factor likely represents a source of VOCs caused by the increasing rate of photochemical oxidation of ~~labile~~liable organic carbon naturally present in the air and on surfaces. Photo-oxidation of alkanes present in the air and deposited during the winter is a possible source of ~~liable~~labile organic carbon (Boudries et al., 2002; Guimbaud et al., 2002; Gao et al., 2012). For example, acetone (~~a~~ major component of the Background Factor) is primarily formed from reactions of OH and Cl with propane, isobutane, and pentane (Hornbrook et al., 2016). This slow decrease during the spring could be due to the decreasing supply of ~~liable~~labile organic carbon in the snowpack. The weak diurnal pattern ~~of this factor~~ in the summer (Fig. 6) could be due to increased available organic matter for oxidation from the open ocean and melting snowpack. Further measurements, especially during the polar night to day transition, are required to test this hypothesis.

Given the lack of a peak period for contributions from this factor, we were unable to locate the source regions of this factor through air mass back trajectory ~~frequency~~analysis (as described above). Therefore, local wind direction and normalized contributions for this factor were used to create a conditional probability function (see Sect. 2.3). During the spring and autumn, the dominant wind direction at Villum is from the southwest, while during the summer it is from the east (Nguyen et al., 2016). The CPF can give information regarding the directional dependence of a factor or compound. Figure 8-9 shows the CPF for the Background ~~factor~~Factor. There is a lack of directional dependence for this factor, indicating this factor does not arise from one specific source area, but rather it is spatially ubiquitous.

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The Background Factor likely represents natural processes occurring in the Arctic. This factor can serve as a baseline for comparison with future VOC measurements and source apportionment analysis. These comparisons can help expound upon the effects of climate change on the natural processes occurring in this pristine and sensitive region. This, however, requires more long-term VOC measurements, especially across all seasons.

3.3.4 Arctic Haze Factor

The Arctic Haze ~~factor~~Factor exhibits high contributions at the beginning of April and it rapidly decreases until the middle of May where it remains low and stable for the remaining of the measurement campaign (Fig. ~~910-top~~a). This factor accounts for 56 % of the variation of benzene and zero percent of acetonitrile, which suggests fossil fuel combustion processes as the source of this factor (Liu et al., 2008) (Fig. ~~910-bottom~~b). Interestingly, the other species apportioned to this factor with significant contributions, i.e., MEK, formic acid, formaldehyde, and $C_3H_8O^+$ C_3H_8O (Fig. ~~910-bottom~~b) are all oxygenated compounds that exhibit decreasing patterns in the spring as well as diurnal variation in the summer (Fig. ~~1-a, c, d, and f2~~). Much like for the Background ~~factor~~Factor, the source of these OVOCs is the oxidation of ~~liable~~labile organic carbon transported from the mid-latitudes.

The high levels of anthropogenic pollutants transported to the High Arctic during this period give the well-known ‘Arctic Haze’ phenomenon (Barrie et al., 1981). The decrease in mixing ratio during the spring is characteristic of the seasonality for long-range transport for this region (Willis et al., 2018). The mixing ratio of compounds emitted from sources outside the Polar dome is drastically reduced in the summer (Klonecki et al., 2003). Also, the faster oxidation rates due to higher OH radical concentrations as well as increased wet scavenging during transport in summer will reduce VOC and BC mixing ratios (Browse et al., 2012). Gautrois et al. (2003) reported benzene mixing ratios for 7 years at Alert, ~~CA, NU~~, and found an annual variation similar to observations for the Arctic Haze Factor in this study. The enhanced levels of BC (not shown) during this period (and lack thereof during summer and autumn) supports the assignment of this factor to anthropogenic combustion sources.

The Arctic Haze ~~factor~~Factor presented in this study can be compared to other Arctic Haze ~~factor~~Factors previously found using factor analysis or clustering of either aerosol composition or PNSD data. It is worth noting that the Arctic Haze Factor from this study is only for spring, while the other studies present data from the winter/spring, therefore any comparisons we make are from our spring Arctic Haze Factor to other Haze factors during winter and spring. While this is not a perfect comparison, it is one worth making, as Arctic Haze is the main source of anthropogenic pollution in the Arctic. Lange et al. (2018) used k-means clustering of aerosol size distribution to classify the accumulation mode aerosol population from Villum. The authors found three accumulation mode clusters, one of which they named ‘Haze’ occurred predominately in the winter/spring and was largely absent in the summer. The Haze cluster contained the largest amounts of refractory BC, sulfate, and organics as well as the highest concentrations of CCN. Extending this analysis into the chemical composition of aerosols, Nielsen et al. (2019) utilized PMF to find three factors. The factor deemed ‘Arctic Haze Organic Aerosol’ was closely correlated with sulfate and temporally followed the pattern exhibited by the Haze cluster from Lange et al. (2018) and the

Arctic Haze Factor (this study), due to the contraction of the Polar Dome in spring. These similar factors/clusters resolved from different data sources (PNSD, aerosol chemical composition, and VOCs) and different statistical methods (k-means and PMF) highlight the extent ~~of-to~~ how anthropogenic pollution can influence the characteristics of the High Arctic atmosphere. Given recent trends in emission reductions across Europe and Eurasia, these factors/clusters are expected to decrease in magnitude, although the extent and occurrence of this anthropogenic pollution will ultimately be governed by several factors including transport patterns, precipitation patterns, and expansion of anthropogenic pollution sources within the Arctic ~~Ce~~ircle (resource extraction and shipping) (Law et al., 2017).

4 Conclusions

VOCs mixing ratios were measured during April–October 2018 at the High Arctic station Villum Research Station, located at Station Nord in Northeast Greenland. We identified 10 compounds by PTR-ToF-MS and provided time series of VOCs in the High Arctic covering several months. Generally, the mixing ratios observed in the present study are in accordance with other VOC measurements carried out in Arctic locations. We apportioned sources of these VOCs using PMF, finding four factors: Biomass Burning, Marine Cryosphere, Background, and Arctic Haze. The Biomass Burning Factor exhibited maxima during the autumn and the chemical profile was dominated by acetonitrile with contributions from benzene. ~~Back-trajectory-analysis reveals the influence of fires in North America and Eurasia.~~ Interestingly, BC did not show enhancements during the peak of the Biomass Burning Factor, which we show is due to washout during transport. The Marine Cryosphere Factor was described by carboxylic acids (formic ~~and~~ acetic acid, and possibly propionic acid from C₃H₆O₂~~propionic acid~~) and DMS. This factor displayed maxima in the summer during periods of snow and sea ice melt. ~~Back-trajectoryA PSCF~~ analysis yielded ~~MIZs~~ around the coasts of Southeastern and Northeastern Greenland ~~and the Arctic Ocean~~ as source regions for this factor. The Background Factor showed maxima in the spring ~~and~~ autumn, and minima during the summer. While acetone was the dominating species in this factor, the chemical profile did not resemble any known processes or sources. Oxidation of ~~labile~~ liable organic carbon is proposed as the source of the OVOCs present in this factor. The Arctic Haze Factor peaked in April, decreased until mid-May, and was absent during the summer. This factor was driven by ~~levels of~~ benzene as well as OVOCs. The source of OVOCs present in this factor is postulated to be the oxidation of precursor emissions during transport from the mid-latitudes to the Arctic.

This study has several important results that have implications for the Arctic climate. Recent studies have highlighted the importance of natural emissions to aerosol formation and their contribution to CCN concentrations in the summer (Leaith et al., 2016; Lange et al., 2019; Nielsen et al., 2019). The Marine Cryosphere Factor presents an important source of condensable vapors necessary for this formation and growth to CCN sizes. Due to increasing temperatures in the Arctic, the snowpack and sea ice are expected to experience increased melting in the coming years, which could increase the flux of DMS and carboxylic acids from the surface to the atmosphere. With the onset of the melt season in the Arctic expected to begin earlier in the future, we also expect that the timing of this onset can also affect NPF events and their subsequent growth as well

as ozone photochemistry. While biomass burning is expected to increase in the future, the year-to-year variability is still highly
uncertain. The Biomass Burning Factor was characterized by acetonitrile, benzene, and correlated temporally with ozone. Due
to washout during transport, there were no enhancements in BC during the peak of the Biomass Burning Factor. The inter-
annual variability of biomass burning events and meteorological conditions can, therefore, have a substantial impact on
atmospheric pollution levels at ground level.

While this research provides valuable insight into the atmospheric chemistry and sources of VOCs in the High Arctic,
future work is still needed. While calculated mixing ratios using a kinetic quantification are reliable, they are inherently
uncertain, therefore external calibration with gas-phase standards would greatly improve the accuracy and reduce the analytical
uncertainty. This work presents a ~~long-time~~multi-season time series of VOC mixing ratios; however, these measurements are
only during polar day. A full seasonal cycle including polar night, dark to light transition periods, and polar day would help
elucidate the importance of transport of anthropogenic emissions in the absence of photochemical reactions. This work
expounds on the understanding of the atmospheric chemistry and sources of VOCs in the High Arctic; however, future research
is needed to fully understand the biogeochemical feedback mechanisms and their implications for a changing Arctic.

Data availability. All data used in this publication are available ~~at <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4299817> to the community~~
~~and can be accessed~~ by request to the corresponding authors Jakob Boyd Pernov (jbp@envs.au.dk) and Rossana Bossi
(rbo@envs.au.dk).

Author contributions. JBP, RB, and RH collected the measurements. JBP and RB processed the data. JBP, JH, RB, and TL
analyzed the data. JBP, ~~JKN~~, and TL performed the PMF analysis. JBP and JH wrote the manuscript. ~~HSK provided initial~~
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Competing interests. The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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Table 1. Overview of measured protonated masses included in PMF analysis. ~~including mass-to-charge-ratio of measured protonated mass, empirical formula, assigned compound name, mean volume mixing ratio in ppbv, mean LOD in ppbv, percentage below LOD, and mean relative uncertainty.~~ Mean refers to the arithmetic average of the mixing ratio for each compound. Mean, Mean LOD, and % < LOD were calculated after quality control of data influenced by local pollution. % QC represents the percentage of data removed due to the Quality Control Procedure (Sect. S2).

Measured mass (<i>m/z</i>)	Empirical Formula	Assigned Compound	Mean (ppbv)	Mean LOD (ppbv)	% < LOD	Mean Relative Uncertainty (%)	% QC
30.997	CH ₂ OH ⁺	Formaldehyde	0.220	0.176	0.6	41	<u>5</u>
42.019	C ₂ H ₃ NH ⁺	Acetonitrile	0.067	0.045	0	46	<u>5</u>
47.011	CH ₂ O ₂ H ⁺	Formic Acid	0.454	0.250	17	37	<u>7</u>
59.062	C ₃ H ₆ OH ⁺	Acetone	0.608	0.037	0	32	<u>0</u>
61.047	C ₂ H ₄ O ₂ H ⁺	Acetic Acid	0.201	0.096	5	39	<u>8</u>
63.034	C ₂ H ₆ SH ⁺	Dimethyl Sulfide	0.046	0.043	4	57	<u>25</u>
73.068	C ₄ H ₈ OH ⁺	Methyl Ethyl Ketone	0.031	0.023	0.1	56	<u>0</u>
75.058	C ₃ H ₆ O ₂ H ⁺	Propionic Acid /	0.025	0.031	0.1	61	<u>2</u>
		Hydroxyacetone/ Methyl Acetate					
79.057	C ₆ H ₆ H ⁺	Benzene	0.027	0.031	0.5	64	<u>0</u>
85.066	C ₃ H ₈ OH ⁺	N/A	0.027	0.030	0.03	61	<u>0</u>

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Table 2. Input species for PMF model along with species categorization, S/N, and R² value for modeled versus measured values.

Species	Categorization	S/N	R ² (Modelled vs Measured)
Formaldehyde	Weak	0.9	0.83
Acetonitrile	Strong	1.1	0.97
Formic Acid	Weak	1.0	0.67
Acetone	Strong	2.2	1.00
Acetic Acid	Strong	1.0	0.67
Dimethyl Sulfide	Weak	0.4	0.62
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	Weak	0.5	0.95
C₃H₆O₂ Propionic Acid	Weak	0.2	0.91
C ₅ H ₈ O	Weak	0.2	0.62
Benzene	Strong	0.3	0.96

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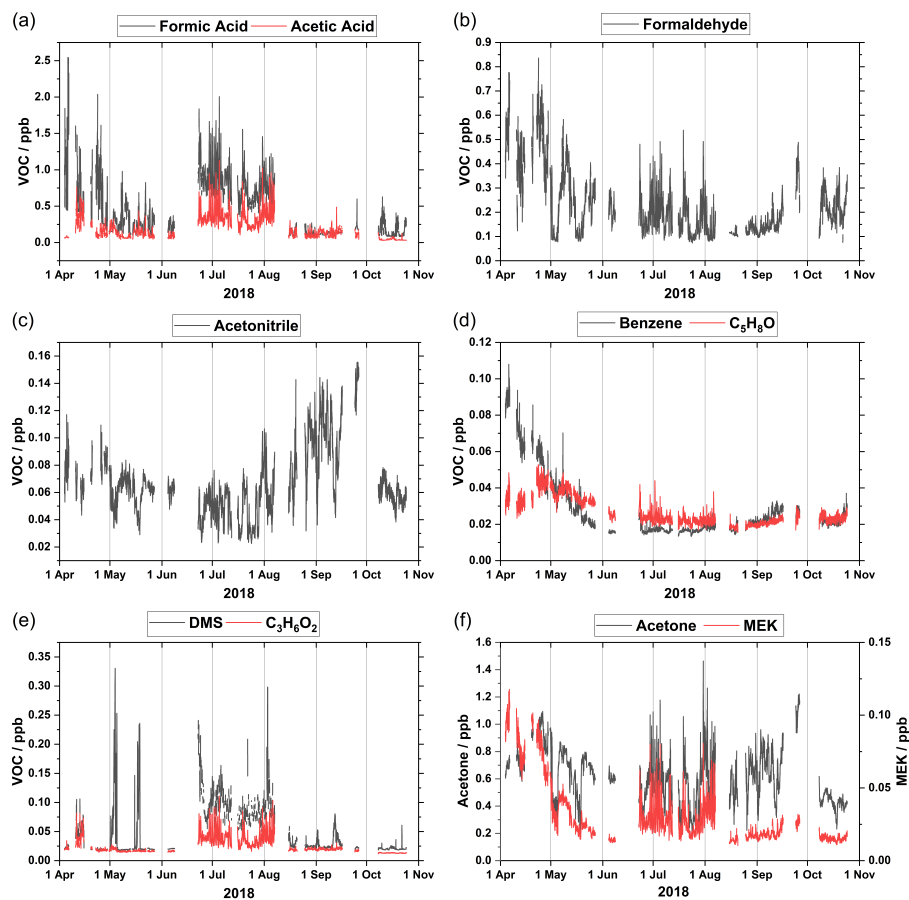
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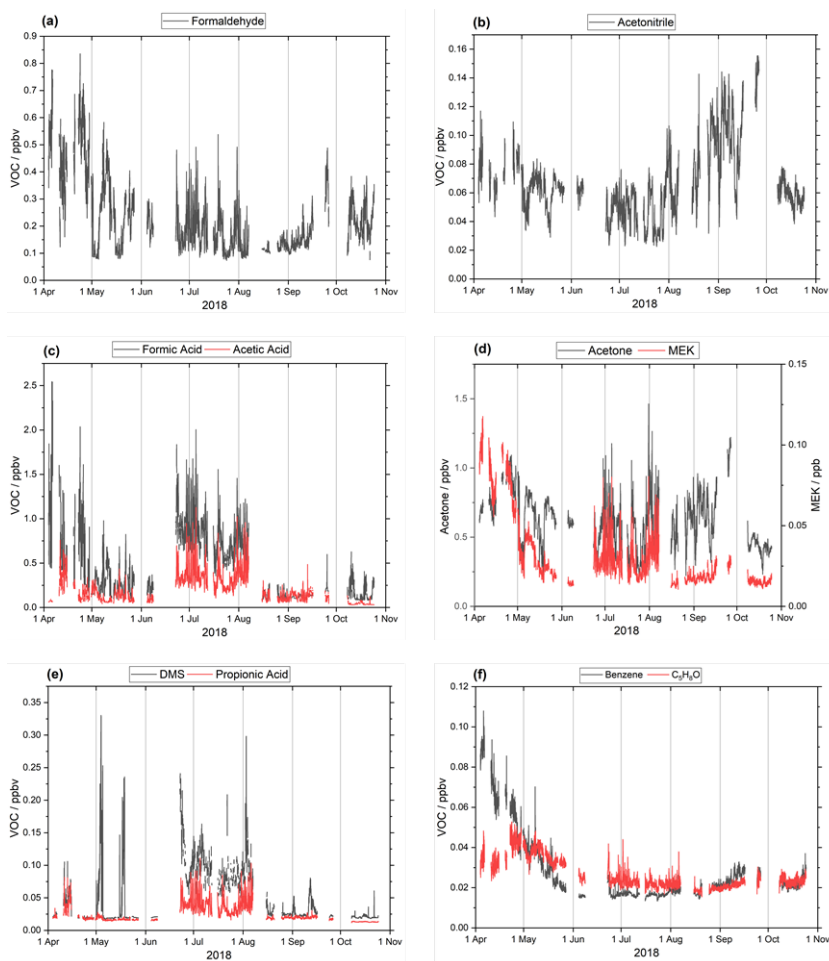


Fig. 1. Time series of mixing ratios (ppbv) for (a) formaldehyde, (b) acetonitrile, (c) formic acid and acetic acid, (d) acetone and MEK, (e) DMS and $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O}_2$ propionic acid, and (f) benzene and $\text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}$ during the entire measurement period.

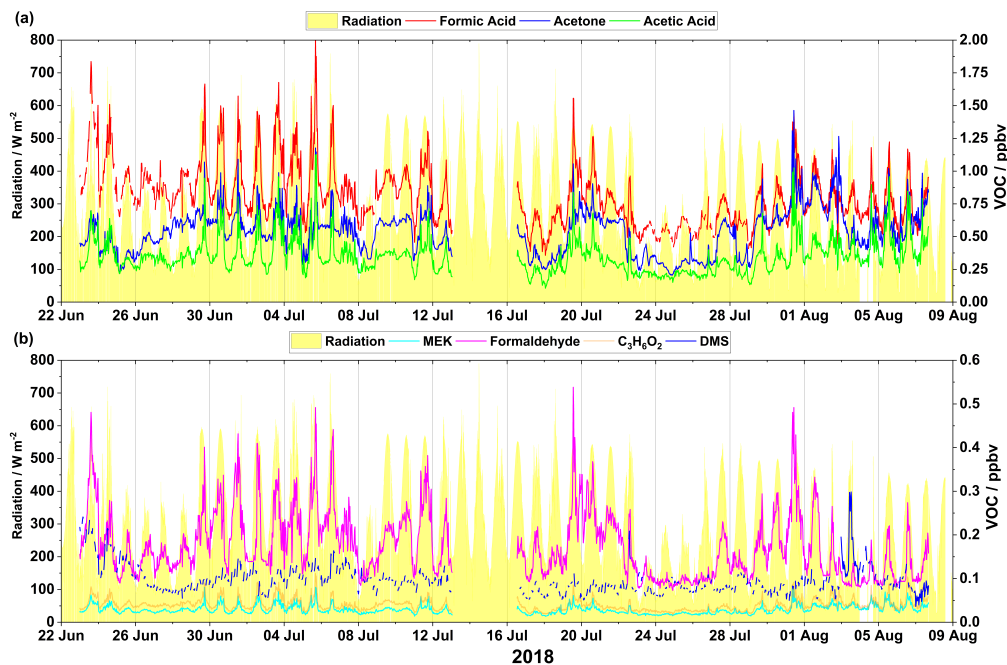


Fig. 2. Time series for (a) formic acid, acetone, acetic acid, and radiation and (b) MEK, formaldehyde, C₃H₆O₂, DMS, and radiation during the period 22 June–09 August displaying the diurnal profile for each species.

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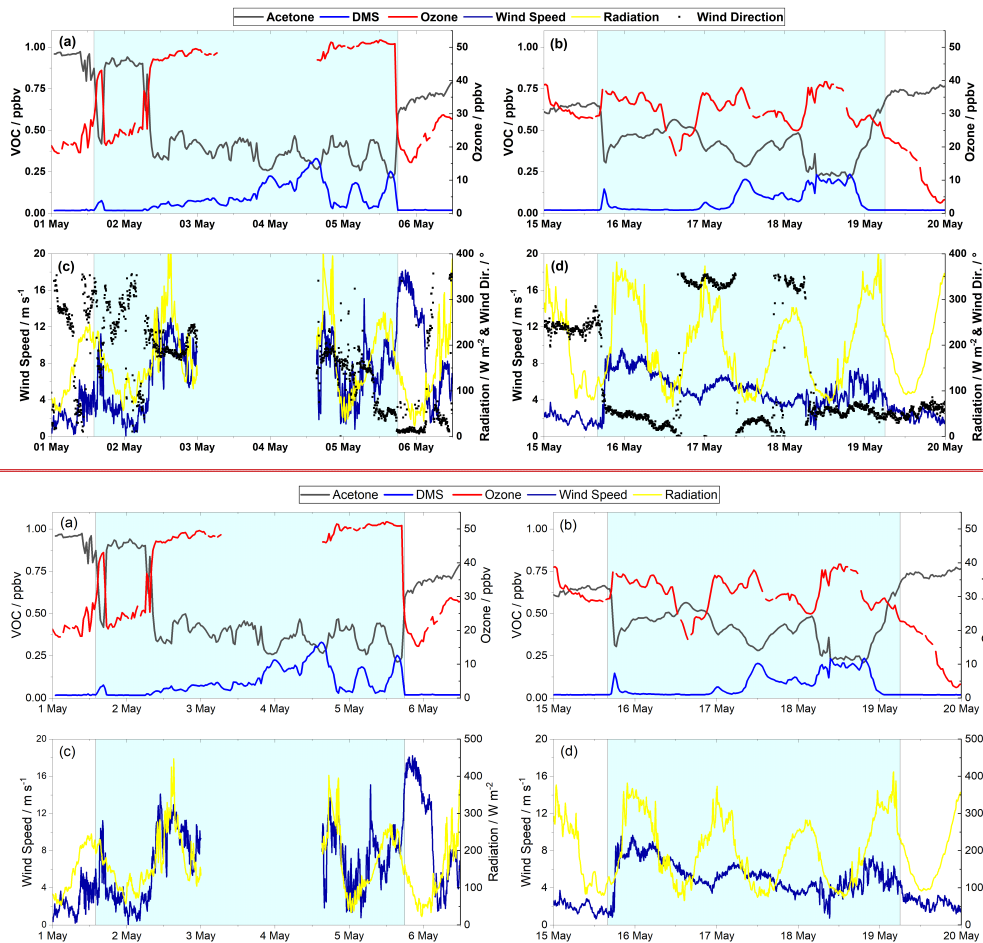
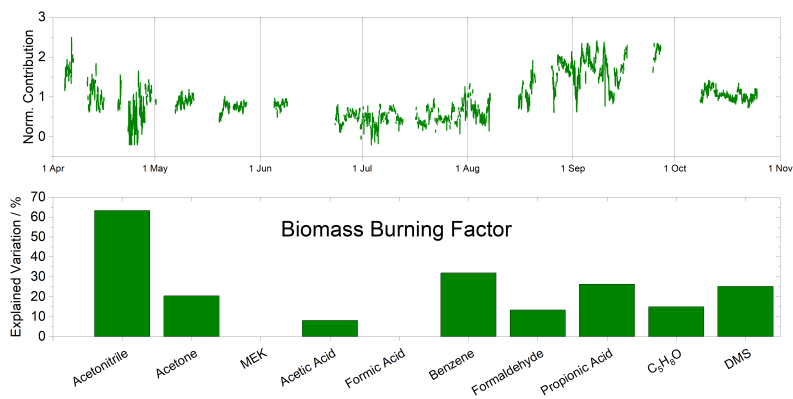
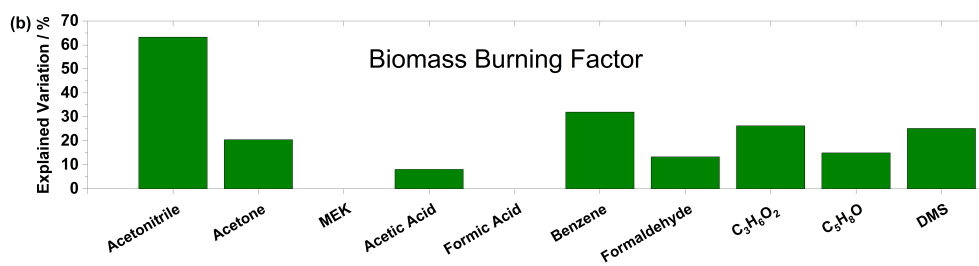
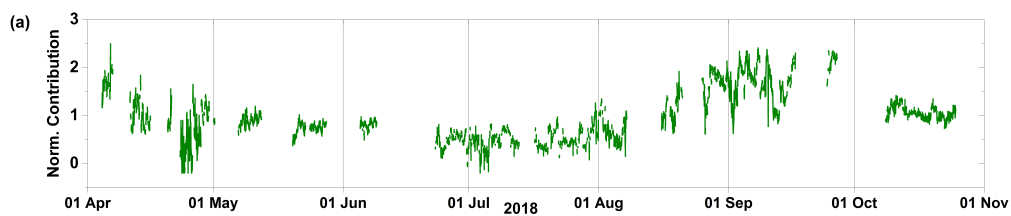


Fig. 23. Left: The first period of elevated DMS mixing ratios (May 1–5). Right: The second period of elevated DMS mixing ratios (May 15–19); (a) and (b) mixing ratios of acetone, DMS (left axis), and ozone (right axis); (c) and (d) wind speed radiation (left axis) and radiation and wind direction wind speed (right axis). The shaded area represents episodes of elevated DMS mixing ratios.



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140 **Fig. 34. (Topa)** Time series of normalized contributions and **(Bottomb)** species profile for the Biomass Burning ~~factor~~Factor. Factor contributions are normalized to give a mean contribution of unity.

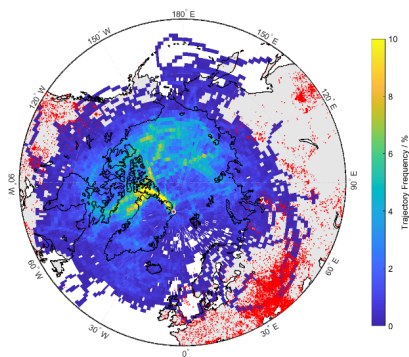


Fig. 4. HYSPLIT air-mass back trajectory frequency maps arriving at 100 m altitude extending 336 hours backward in time. Active fire data from FIRMS are shown in red stars. The location of Villum is shown as a red and white circle. The period only includes the peak of the Biomass Burning factor (August 15–September 15, 2018).

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150 **Fig. 5 (Topa)** Time series of normalized contributions in light blue, left axis, and sea ice concentrations in red and snow depth in blue, right axes, and **(Bottomb)** species profile for the Marine Cryosphere ~~factor~~Factor. Factor contributions are normalized to give a mean contribution of unity.

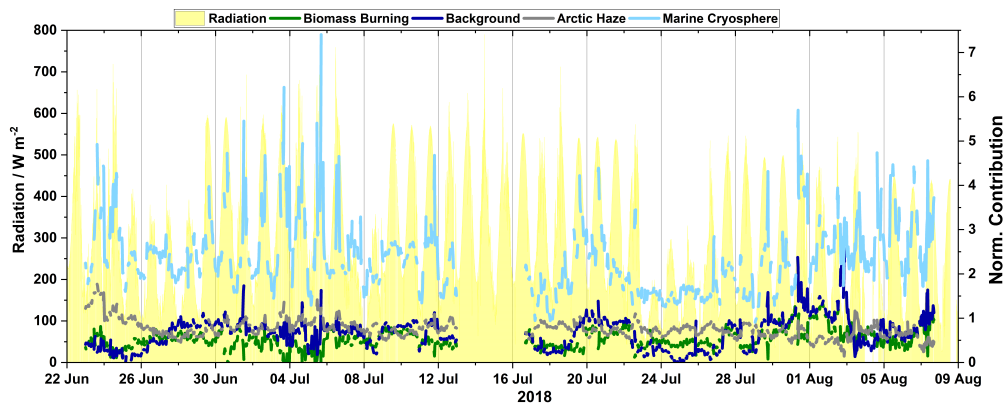
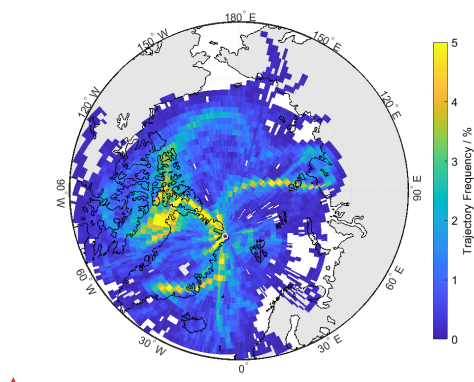


Fig. 6. Time series of the four factors from 22 June–09 August displaying the diurnal profile together with radiation.



Marine Cryosphere Factor

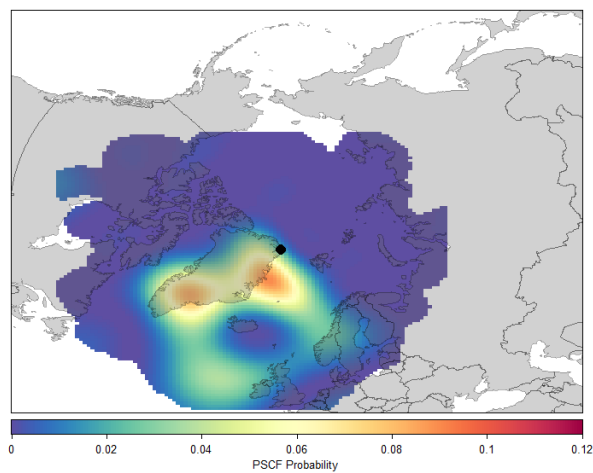


Fig. 67. Trajectory-frequency mapPSCF for the Marine Cryosphere Factor and -air mass back trajectories arriving at 100 m altitude, extending backward 240120 hours in time. Trajectory-frequency calculation is described in Sect. 2.4. The color bar is capped at 5 % for visual-clarify. This plot and analysis method were produced in R and R Studio programs (R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria, and R Studio Inc, MA, USA) and the OpenAir suite of analysis tools (Carslaw and Ropkins, 2012).

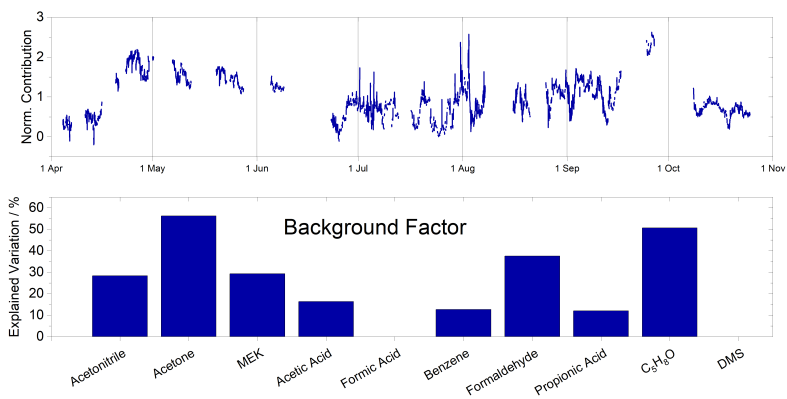
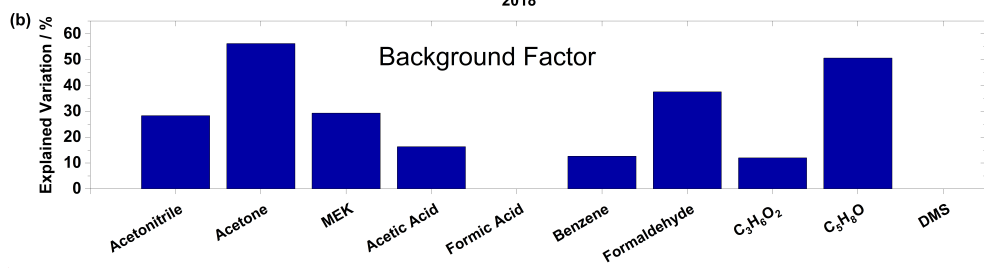
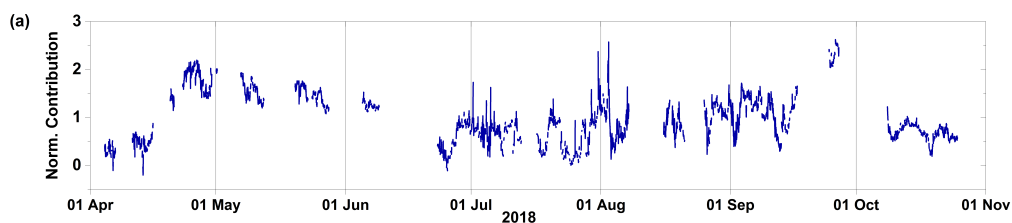


Fig. 78. (Top) Time series of normalized contributions and (Bottom) species profile for the Background factor. Factor contributions are normalized to give a mean contribution of unity.

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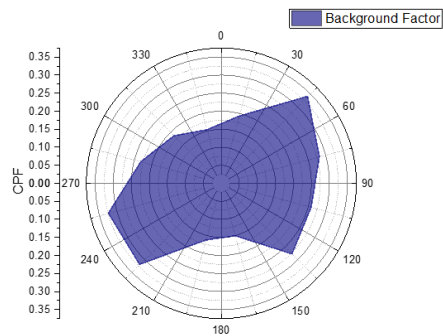
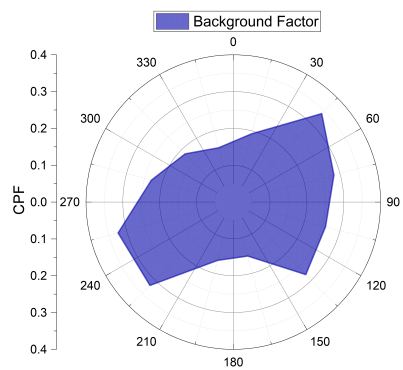


Fig. 89. Conditional Probability Function for the Background Factor from the PMF analysis. CPF was calculated as described in Sect. 2.3.

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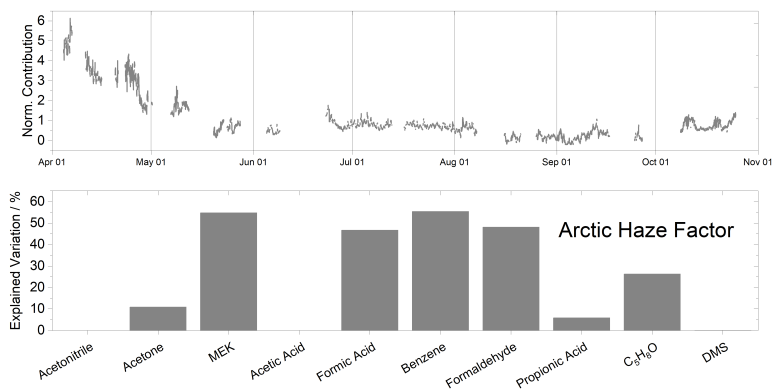
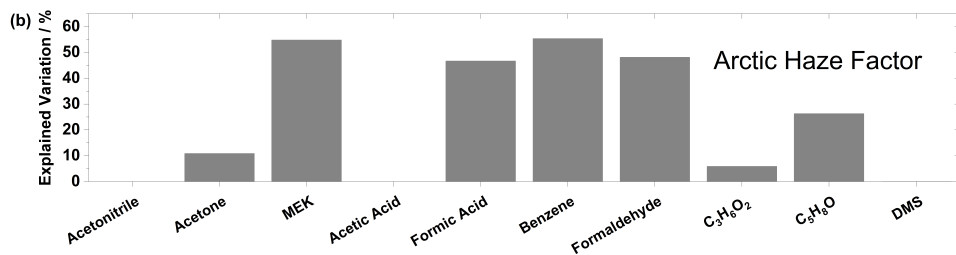
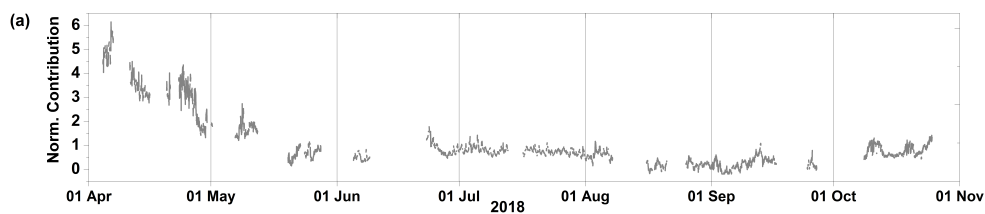


Fig. 109. (Top) Time series of normalized contributions and (Bottom) species profile for the Arctic Haze factor. Factor contributions are normalized to give a mean contribution of unity.

1. Mixing Ratio and Uncertainty Calculation

Mixing ratios were calculated, in the absence of suitable reference materials, according to Equation S1, [using the reaction kinetics quantification method](#).

$$R_{ppb} = \frac{RH^+ \times 10^9 \times U \times 2.8 \times 22400 \times 1013^2 \times T^2 \times Tr_{(H_3^{18}O^+)}}{k \times 9.2^2 \times H_3^{18}O^+ \times 500 \times P^2 \times 6.02 \times 10^{23} \times 273.15^2 \times Tr_{(RH^+)}} \quad (S1)$$

Where R_{ppb} is the mixing ratio of the analyte ion R , RH^+ is the raw signal of the protonated analyte in cps, 10^9 is the conversion to ppb, U is the voltage of the drift tube in volts, 2.8 is the reduced ion mobility (which has been experimentally determined) in cm^2/Vs , 22400 is the molar volume in moles per cm^3 , 1013 is standard pressure in mbar, T is the temperature of the drift tube in K, $Tr_{(H_3^{18}O^+)}$ is the transmission of the primary ion isotope ($H_3^{18}O^+$), k is the rate reaction coefficient of the analyte ion with the hydronium ion, 9.2 is the length of the drift tube in cm, $H_3^{18}O^+$ is the raw signal of the isotope of the primary ion, 500 is the isotopic ratio correction factor, P is the pressure of the drift tube in mbar, 6.02×10^{23} is Avogadro's number in molecules per mole, 273.15 is standard temperature, and $Tr_{(RH^+)}$ is the transmission of the protonated analyte ion. The isotope of the primary ion is used to avoid detector saturation. It must be noted that due to the backreaction of formaldehyde with water vapor in the drift tube, mixing ratios of formaldehyde are likely a lower limit (Holzinger et al., 2019; Hansel et al., 1997). However, due to the low absolute humidity levels in the Arctic, this reaction is negligible, furthermore, no correlation was observed between humidity (absolute or relative) and formaldehyde.

In the absence of suitable reference materials, an uncertainty budget was created based on the formula for kinetic calibration Eq. (S1). There are terms in Eq. (S1) that are assumed negligible including drift temperature, drift pressure, and ion transmission. These components are deemed negligible because they either are measured with high accuracy (temperature and pressure) or are lacking empirical error analysis (ion transmission). The greatest sources of uncertainty in this equation are the rate reaction coefficient and the counts of the primary ion and the analyte ion. According to Cappellin et al. (2010), the relative uncertainty of their rate reaction coefficients is stated at 15 %. The uncertainty from the raw ion cps was determined from the counting statistics by assuming a Poisson distribution (Hayward et al., 2002). The standard uncertainty for the ion counts is, therefore, the square root of the cps multiplied by the signal integration time (5 see). The analyte signal was blank corrected before uncertainty analysis. The expanded uncertainty is then calculated according to Eq. (S2), using a coverage factor of two.

$$U = 2 \times VMR \times \sqrt{0.15^2 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{I_p}}{I_p}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{I_{S-b}}}{I_{S-b}}\right)^2} \quad (S2)$$

Where U is the expanded uncertainty, VMR is the volume-mixing ratio, I_p is the raw counts of the primary ion, I_{S-b} is the blank corrected counts of the analyte ion.

2. Quality Control Procedure

Data were quality controlled by analysis of PNSD, ozone, wind direction and speed, and internal activity logs. Local pollution at Villum can arise from activity around the measurement site (e.g., passenger vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, and heavy machinery) as well as from activities from Station Nord (e.g., waste incineration, vehicular activity, and aircraft landing, idling, and take off). Internal activity logs of visits to the measurement building were used to highlight periods when human activity could affect the measurements, periods where VOC levels were elevated over background levels for the duration of the visit to the station were removed. Measurements of PNSD and ozone were analyzed, in tandem, for sharp and sudden increases in the ultrafine mode (< 100 nm) aerosol particles and concurrent sharp and sudden decreases in ozone, increases in ultrafine mode particles are indications of vehicular emissions while decreases in ozone results from its titration with nitrogen oxides. These periods were further inspected for wind direction and speed, with winds coming from due north at low speeds indicative of local pollution from Station Nord. All periods where local pollution was suspected of influencing the measurements were visually inspected by a panel of three persons, a consensus was required before data were removed. Data were also quality controlled for abnormal levels of instrumental parameters (i.e., E/N ratio, drift tube temperature, pressure, and voltage), periods with large deviations from nominal values were removed. Certain compounds (DMS, formic acid, and acetic acid) exhibited a slow return to nominal values after a blank than before, this issue was especially evident in the summer, these periods were removed. All quality control was performed on VOCs at a 5 s time resolution, data was removed before averaging to 30-minute means.

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Table S2. Total hours of operation of the PTR-ToF-MS for each month of the campaign and for each compound. Periods removed through the QC procedure are not included.

	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
Formaldehyde	374	601	288	661	417	443	403
Acetonitrile	229	601	288	661	417	443	403
Formic Acid	349	601	288	641	417	443	403
Acetone	376	601	288	661	417	443	403
Acetic Acid	375	577	288	661	417	411	359
DMS	300	577	169	391	357	443	377
MEK	376	601	288	661	417	443	403
C ₃ H ₆ O ₂	327	601	288	661	417	443	403
Benzene	376	601	288	661	417	443	403
C ₃ H ₈ O	376	601	288	661	417	443	403

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Table S32: Pearson correlation coefficients^a for chemical species, temperature and sun radiation measured during April at VRSVillum. All correlations, apart from the numbers typed in italics, have linear regression p-values below 0.01.

April 2018	Formaldehyde	Acetonitrile	Formic Acid	Acetone	Acetic Acid	Dimethyl SulfideDMS	Methyl Ethyl KetoneMEK	Benzene	C ₃ H ₆ O ₂ Propionic Acid	Temperature	Radiation	Ozone
Formaldehyde	1.00											
Acetonitrile	0.70	1.00										
Formic Acid	0.76	0.45	1.00									
Acetone	0.40	0.30	<i>-0.03</i>	1.00								
Acetic Acid	-0.63	-0.74	-0.45	-0.32	1.00							
Dimethyl SulfideDMS	-0.47	-0.67	-0.16	-0.55	0.84	1.00						
Methyl Ethyl KetoneMEK	0.52	0.20	0.76	0.03	-0.27	-0.07	1.00					
Benzene	0.27	0.04	0.70	-0.43	<i>-0.07</i>	0.24	0.84	1.00				
C ₃ H ₆ O ₂ Propionic Acid	-0.52	-0.66	-0.25	-0.41	0.90	0.94	-0.15	0.11	1.00			
Temperature	-0.47	-0.34	-0.75	0.16	0.54	0.23	-0.74	-0.77	0.46	1.00		
Radiation	-0.26	-0.26	-0.38	0.28	0.20	<i>0.06</i>	-0.25	-0.34	0.21	0.34	1.00	
Ozone	-0.52	-0.48	-0.21	-0.83	0.56	0.64	-0.26	0.15	0.59	0.17	-0.12	1.00

^a All correlations, apart from the numbers typed in italics, have linear regression p-values below 0.01.

Table S43: Pearson correlation coefficients^a for chemical species, temperature and sun radiation measured during July at VRSVillum. All correlations, apart from the numbers typed in italics, have linear regression p-values below 0.01.

July 2018	Formal-dehyde	Aceto-nitrile	Formic Acid	Acetone	Acetic Acid	Dimethyl Sulfide	Methyl Ethyl Ketone	Benzene	C ₃ H ₇ O ₂ Propionic Acid / Methyl Acetate	Temperature	Radiation	Ozone
Formaldehyde	1.00											
Acetonitrile	0.71	1.00										
Formic Acid	0.88	0.57	1.00									
Acetone	0.86	0.89	0.82	1.00								
Acetic Acid	0.85	0.58	0.95	0.85	1.00							
Dimethyl Sulfide	0.36	0.01	0.50	0.23	0.42	1.00						
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	0.85	0.55	0.93	0.81	0.97	0.41	1.00					
Benzene	0.57	0.50	0.50	0.61	0.59	0.26	0.60	1.00				
C ₃ H ₇ O ₂ Propionic Acid / Methyl Acetate	0.83	0.57	0.95	0.82	0.97	0.39	0.95	0.50	1.00			
Temperature	0.65	0.85	0.54	0.82	0.58	0.08	0.54	0.45	0.54	1.00		
Radiation	0.49	0.23	0.59	0.40	0.51	0.26	0.53	0.15	0.56	0.31	1.00	
Ozone	0.54	0.82	0.39	0.69	0.39	0.18	0.33	0.43	0.33	0.76	0.07	1.00

^a All correlations, apart from the numbers typed in italics, have linear regression p-values below 0.01.

80 **Table S54:** Pearson correlation coefficients^a for chemical species, temperature and sun radiation measured during September at VillumRS. All correlations, apart from the numbers typed in italics, have linear regression p-values below 0.01.

September 2018	Formaldehyde	Acetonitrile	Formic Acid	Acetone	Acetic Acid	DMS	MEK	Benzene	C ₃ H ₆ O ₂	Temperature	Radiation	Ozone
Formaldehyde	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetonitrile	0.61	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Formic Acid	0.76	0.45	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetone	0.72	0.96	0.57	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetic Acid	0.06	0.29	0.07	0.28	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DMS	-0.29	-0.76	-0.18	-0.68	-0.10	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
MEK	0.82	0.71	0.64	0.79	0.43	-0.35	1.00	-	-	-	-	-
Benzene	0.50	0.15	0.42	0.19	0.21	0.25	0.61	1.00	-	-	-	-
C ₃ H ₆ O ₂	0.76	0.35	0.62	0.43	0.12	-0.03	0.69	0.64	1.00	-	-	-
Temperature	-0.81	-0.35	-0.77	-0.53	0.26	0.10	-0.58	-0.40	-0.68	1.00	-	-
Radiation	-0.07	-0.04	-0.09	-0.06	0.29	-0.07	0.01	-0.11	-0.10	0.33	1.00	-
Ozone	0.74	0.70	0.63	0.79	0.14	-0.26	0.72	0.31	0.56	-0.64	-0.23	1.00

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September 2018	Formaldehyde	Acetonitrile	Formic Acid	Acetone	Acetic Acid	Dimethyl Sulfide	Methyl Ethyl Ketone	Benzene	Propionic Acid/Methyl Acetate	Temperature	Radiation	Ozone
Formaldehyde	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetonitrile	0.61	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Formic Acid	0.76	0.45	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetone	0.72	0.96	0.57	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetic Acid	0.06	0.29	0.07	0.28	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dimethyl Sulfide	-0.29	-0.76	-0.18	-0.68	-0.10	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	0.82	0.71	0.64	0.79	0.43	-0.35	1.00	-	-	-	-	-
Benzene	0.50	0.15	0.42	0.19	0.21	0.25	0.61	1.00	-	-	-	-
Propionic Acid/Methyl Acetate	0.76	0.35	0.62	0.43	0.12	-0.03	0.69	0.64	1.00	-	-	-
Temperature	-0.81	-0.35	-0.77	-0.53	0.26	0.10	-0.58	-0.40	-0.68	1.00	-	-
Radiation	-0.07	-0.04	-0.09	-0.06	0.29	-0.07	0.01	-0.11	-0.10	0.33	1.00	-
Ozone	0.74	0.70	0.63	0.79	0.14	-0.26	0.72	0.31	0.56	-0.64	-0.23	1.00

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^a All correlations, apart from the numbers typed in italics, have linear regression p-values below 0.01.

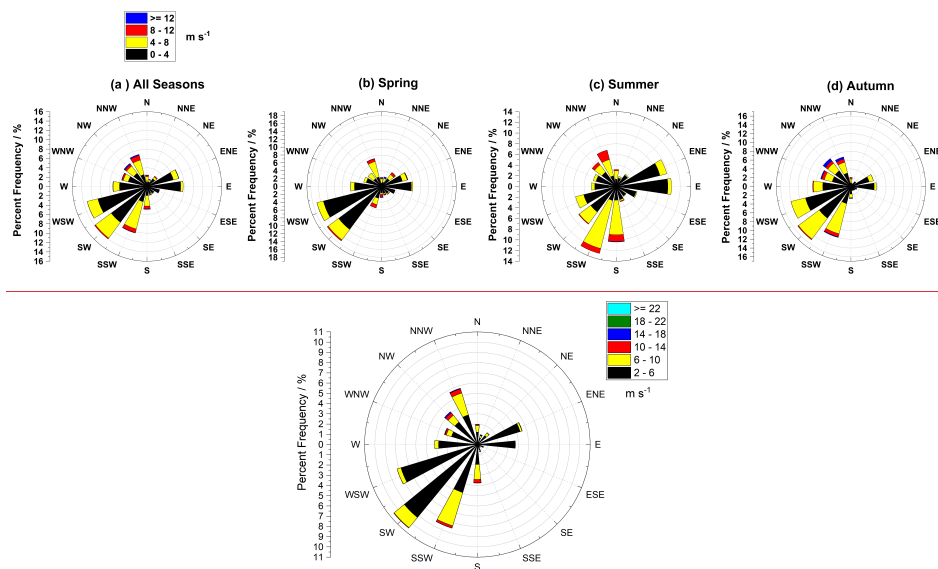


Fig. S1. Wind Rose for mean wind speed at 30-5 min time resolution over the sampling period for (a) all seasons, (b) spring, (c) summer, and (d) autumn. The y-axis represents the percent frequency of wind direction in percent and the colors indicate mean wind speed in m s^{-1} . The seasons follow the selection outlined in Table S1.

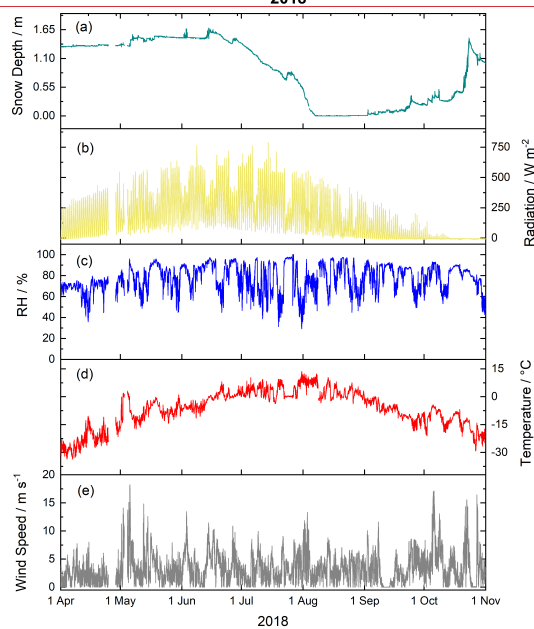
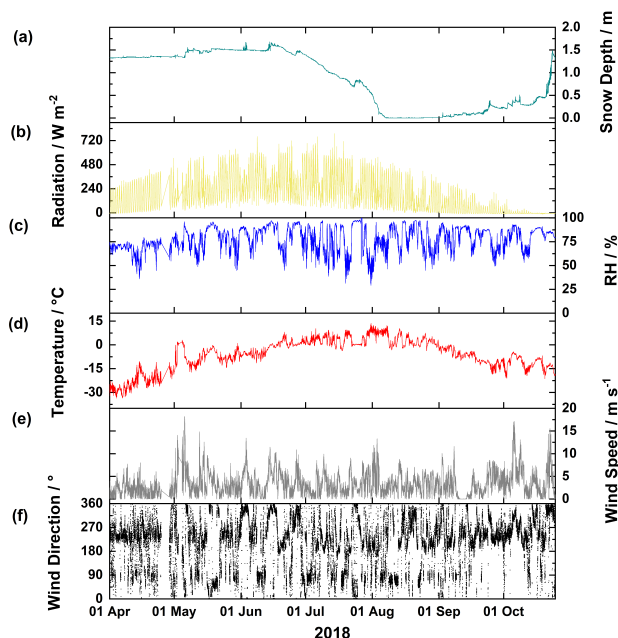


Fig. S2. Time series meteorological parameters **(a)** snow depth, **(b)** radiation, **(c)** relative humidity (RH), **(d)** temperature, **and** **(e)** wind speed, **and** **(f)** wind direction during the entire measurement period.

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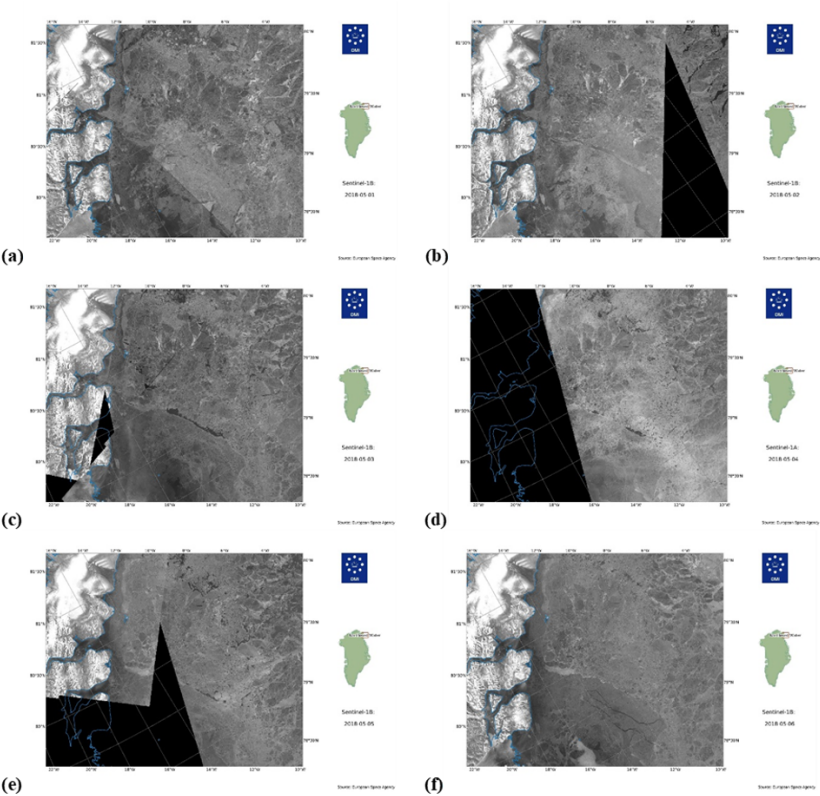


Fig. S4. Satellite images from Sentinel-1 B, delivered by the University of Dundee, Scotland and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center; (a) May 1st (b) May 2nd (c) May 3rd (d) May 4th (e) May 5th (f) May 6th. The presence of open leads can be seen southwest of VRS at approx. 79° 30' N and 12° W.

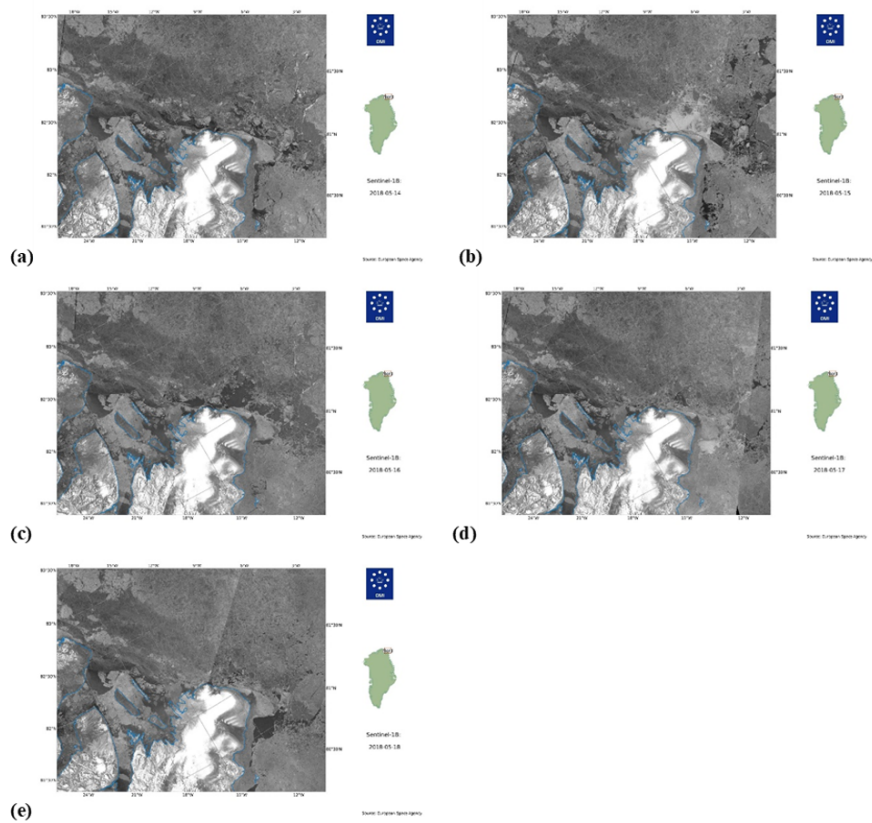


Fig. S5. Satellite images from Sentinel 1-B, delivered by the University of Dundee, Scotland and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center; (a) May 14th (b) May 15th (c) May 16th (d) May 17th (e) May 18th. The presence of open leads can be seen northeast of VRS at approx. 81° 50' N and 10° W as well as southwest of VRS at approx. 81° N and 12° W.

Diurnal Profile for Spring

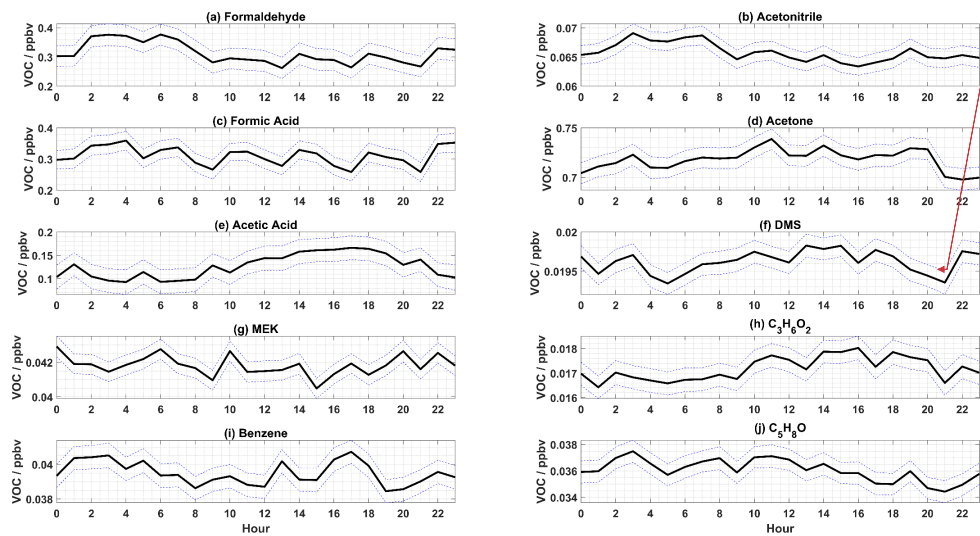


Fig. S3. Diurnal profile for the spring (April–May) of **(a)** formaldehyde, **(b)** acetonitrile, **(c)** formic acid, **(d)** acetone, **(e)** acetic acid, **(f)** DMS, **(g)** MEK, **(h)** $C_3H_6O_2$, **(i)** benzene, **(j)** C_2H_5O . Data were averaged to hourly medians. The blue dotted lines represent the 95 % confidence interval.

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Diurnal Profile for Summer

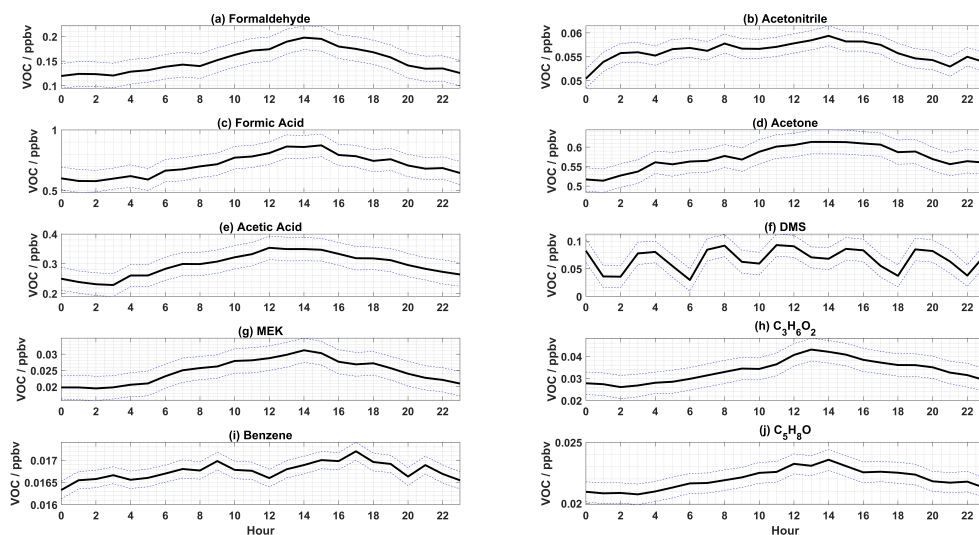


Fig. S4. Diurnal profile for the summer (June–August) of (a) formaldehyde, (b) acetonitrile, (c) formic acid, (d) acetone, (e) acetic acid, (f) DMS, (g) MEK, (h) $C_3H_6O_2$, (i) benzene, (j) C_5H_8O . Data were averaged to hourly medians. The blue dotted lines represent the 95 % confidence interval.

Diurnal Profile for Autumn

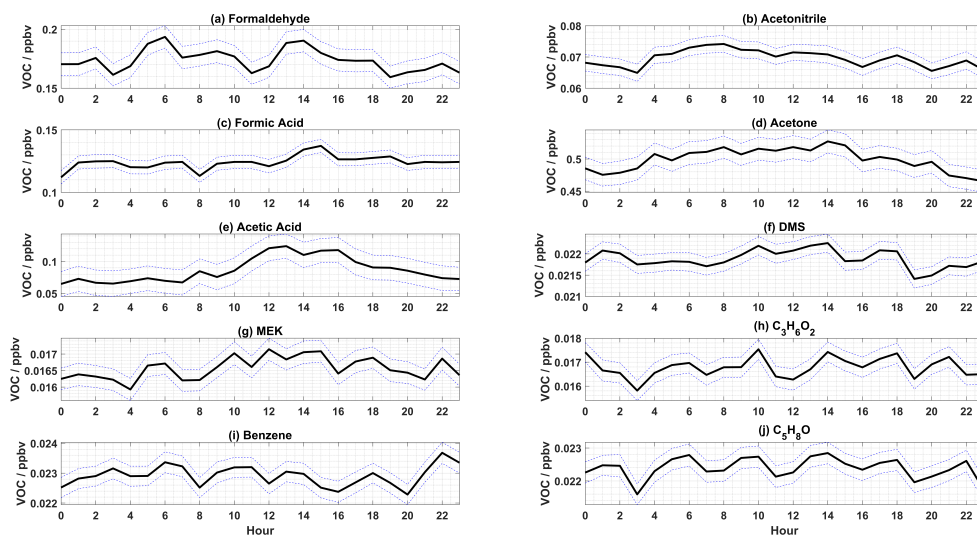


Fig. S5. Diurnal profile for the autumn (September–October) of (a) formaldehyde, (b) acetonitrile, (c) formic acid, (d) acetone, (e) acetic acid, (f) DMS, (g) MEK, (h) $C_3H_6O_2$, (i) benzene, (j) C_5H_8O . Data were averaged to hourly medians. The blue dotted lines represent the 95 % confidence interval.

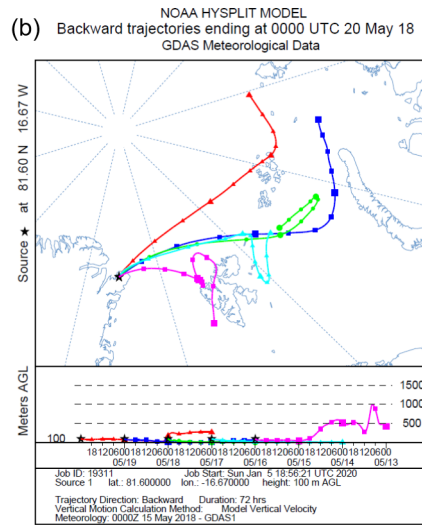
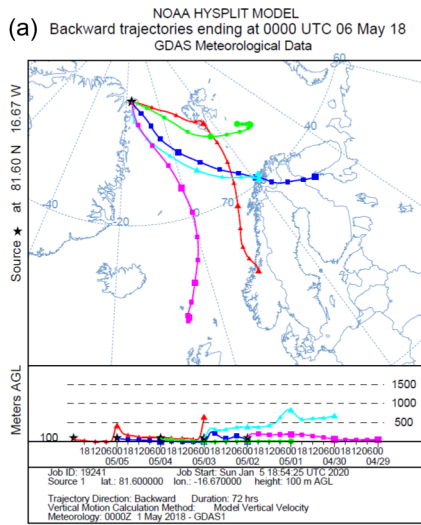
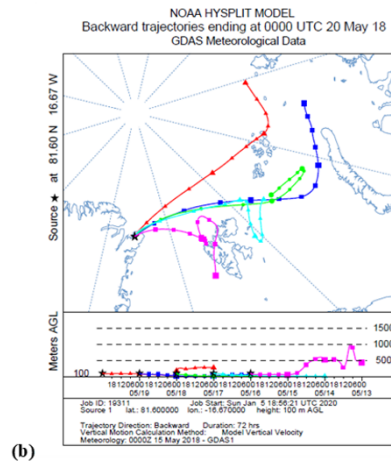
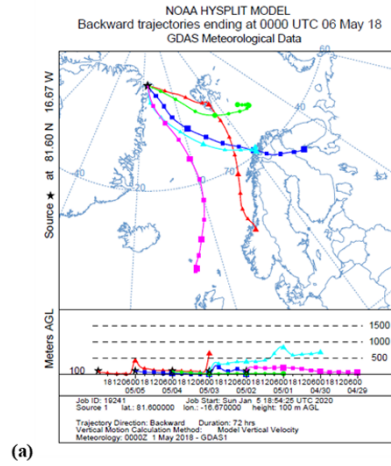


Fig. S6S6. HYSPLIT back trajectory analysis for (a) May 2nd–6th (b) May 16th–20th arriving at 100 m above ground level extending 72 hours backward in time. A new trajectory was every 24 hours. The colored trajectories represent a new trajectory started every 24 hours after the last day of each period until the first day, in descending order the trajectories are red (last day), blue (fourth day), green (third day), light blue (second day), and purple (first day).

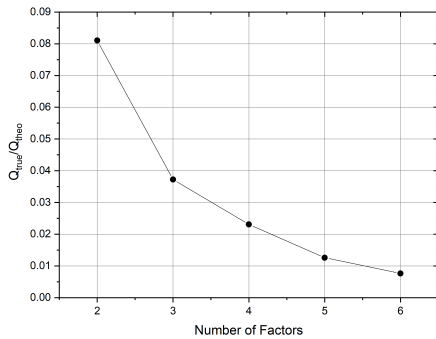
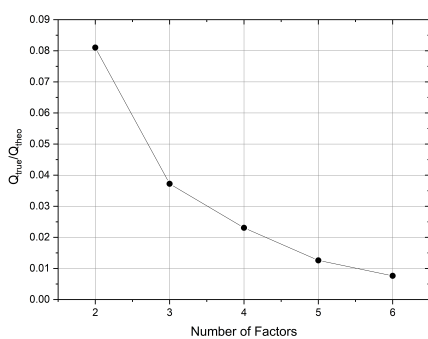
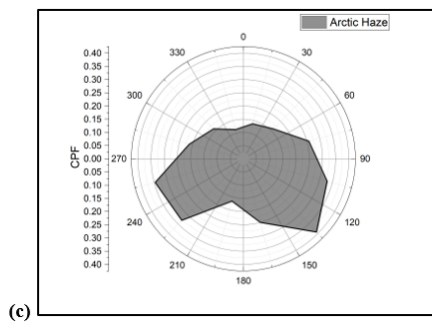
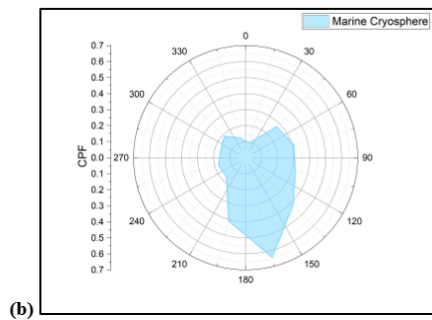
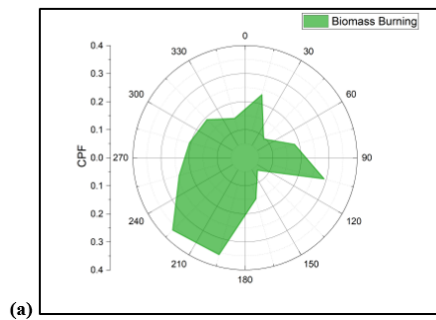


Fig. S77. The ratio of Q_{true} to Q_{theo} versus the number of factors for the PMF analysis.



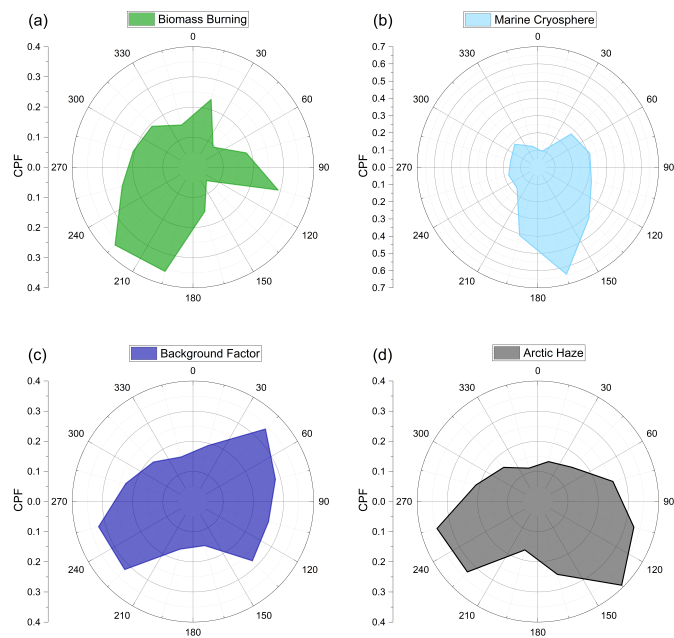


Fig. S8S8. Conditional probability function roses for (a) Biomass Burning Factor, (b) Marine Cryosphere Factor, and (c) Background Factor, and (d) Arctic Haze Factor.

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