

Interactive comment on “Seasonal variation and origins of volatile organic compounds observed during two years at a western Mediterranean remote background site (Ersa, Cape Corsica)” by Cécile Debevec et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 6 August 2020

The manuscript presents observations of VOCs at the Ersa site in Cape Corsica over a two-year period and provides a comprehensive description and analysis of their behaviour during this time. PMF analysis of the data is presented along with comparison to other station across Europe. The plots are clear and generally well presented. The length of the manuscript, however, is something of a problem with lots of repetition throughout. I am sure there is an interesting story here, but it is difficult to assess what that is from the current article. Careful consideration of each section, its findings and their relevance is required in order to make the manuscript worthy of publication. I

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therefore recommend a major revision of the manuscript.

I do however, urge the authors to continue to work on this as I feel it can be a very nice piece. The authors should consider writing the manuscript in terms of the features observed at the site and then use the data and plots to explain that behaviour. In its current format, each compound or group is considered separately and methodically (which leads to a comprehensive, but repetitive narrative) whereas, the behaviour of these different compounds can often be explained by the same phenomena (e.g. a changing boundary layer or temperature difference).

I have included suggested changes to individual sections, but these may not be relevant to the newly written article.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://acp.copernicus.org/preprints/acp-2020-607/acp-2020-607-RC2-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-2020-607>, 2020.

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