Measurement Report: Variability in the composition of biogenic volatile organic compounds in a Ssoutheastern US forest and their role in atmospheric reactivity

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- 10 **Abstract.** Despite the significant contribution of biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOCs) to organic aerosol formation and ozone production and loss, there are few long-term, year-round, on-going measurements of their concentrationmixing ratios and their impacts on atmospheric reactivity. To address this gap, we present one year of hourly measurements of chemically resolved BVOCs between September 15, 2019 and September 15, 2020, collected at a research tower in Central Virginia in a mixed forest representative of ecosystems in the Southeastern U.S. ConcentrationMixing ratios of isoprene, isoprene reaction productsoxidation 15 products, monoterpenes and sesquiterpenes are described and examined for their impact on hydroxy radical (OH), ozone, and nitrate reactivity. ConcentrationMixing ratios of isoprene range from negligible in the winter to typical summertime 24-hour averages of 4-6 ppb, while monoterpenes have more stable concentration mixing ratios in the range of tenths of a ppb up to \sim 1 ppb year-round. Sesquiterpenes are typically observed at eoncentration mixing ratios of <10 ppt, but this represents a lower bound in their abundance. In the growing season, isoprene dominates OH reactivity but is less important for ozone and nitrate reactivity.
- 20 Monoterpenes are the most important BVOCs for ozone and nitrate reactivity throughout the year and for OH reactivity outside of the growing season. To better understand the impact of this compound class on OH, ozone, and nitrate reactivity, the role of individual monoterpenes is examined. Despite the dominant contribution of α -pinene to total monoterpene mass, the average rate constants for reaction of the monoterpene mixture with atmospheric oxidants is between 20% and 30% faster than α -pinene due to the contribution of more-reactive but less abundant compounds. A majority of reactivity comes from α -pinene and limonene 25 (the most significant low-concentrationmixing ratio, high-reactivity isomer), highlighting the importance of both

concentrationmixing ratio and structure in assessing atmospheric impacts of emissions.

1 Introduction

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Biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOCs) are a dominant source of reactive carbon in the atmosphere, with an estimated 90% of BVOCs emitted from natural ecosystems (Guenther et al., 1995, 2012). In the presence of nitrogen oxides (NO_x = NO + 30 NO2), BVOCs can react to form tropospheric ozone (O3), which has deleterious effects on human health and ecosystems (Avnery et al., 2011a, 2011b; Kroll and Seinfeld, 2008; Lim et al., 2012). These reactions also result in the formation of lower volatility gases and secondary organic aerosol (SOA) (Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Guenther et al., 1995; Hallquist et al., 1997; Kroll and Seinfeld, 2008), which have direct and indirect effects on the radiative balance of the atmosphere (The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2013). Once emitted, BVOCs react with and destroy O_3 or produce O_3 through reactions with other oxidants 35 (in particular, the hydroxyl radical) (Kurpius and Goldstein, 2003; Wolfe et al., 2011). The impact of plant emissions on net O_3 production versus loss depends on concentrationmixing ratios of NOx, as well as the specific chemistry of the BVOCs emitted (Peake and Sandhu, 1983; Pusede et al., 2014; Trainer et al., 1993). Changes in environmental conditions, pollution levels, phenology and ecological succession affect plants and ecosystems in ways that change their BVOC emissions and ozone uptake (Faiola et al., 2019; Lerdau et al., 1997; Sadiq et al., 2017; Zheng et al., 2017).

40 BVOC emissions consist largely of terpenes, including isoprene (C_5H_8) , monoterpenes $(C_{10}H_{16})$, sesquiterpenes (C_15H_{24}) , and diterpenes (C₂₀H₃₂) (Guenther et al., 2012; Kesselmeier and Staudt, 1999; Laothawornkitkul et al., 2009). These compounds vary widely in their reaction rates with atmospheric oxidants, so the impacts of BVOC emissions on regional atmospheric chemistry and composition vary with atmospheric composition and species composition of the dominant vegetation (Atkinson et al., 1992; Claeys et al., 2004; Geron et al., 2000; Goldstein and Galbally, 2007; Hoffmann et al., 1997; Lee et al., 2006). Compounds that 45 are acyclic or cyclic with endocyclic double bonds tend to react faster with oxidants due to the higher substitution of the alkenyl carbons in contrast to exocyclic double bonds, which often have one unsubstituted alkenyl carbon (Hatakeyama et al., 1989). Endocyclic monoterpenes (e.g., myrcene, limonene and Δ^3 -carene) and sesquiterpenes (e.g., α -humulene and β -caryophyllene)

(Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Matsumoto, 2014) also have a greater aerosol formation potential because C-C scission of the double

- bond is less likely to produce high-volatility fragments (Friedman and Farmer, 2018). Additionally, previous studies that have 50 assessed the reactivity of OH and O_3 have found that higher molecular weight BVOCs are emitted at lower rates, but that they make up an outsize percentage of OH and O_3 reactive loss due to their faster reaction rates (Helmig et al., 2006; Holzke et al., 2006; Yee et al., 2018). Therefore, detailed speciated BVOC data are important for understanding reactivity and formation of ozone and SOA. Furthermore, long-term and detailed measurements of BVOCs can assist in reducingmitigating inaccuracies in modeled BVOC emissions and in understanding their contribution in ozone and SOA formation (Porter et al., 2017).
- 55 The chemical complexity of BVOCs presents a challenge in understanding both atmospheric oxidant interactions and SOA production and composition. This problem becomes more complex in a changing climate and, subsequently, with changing ecosystems. For example, emissions have been found to increase during a forest thinning event (Goldstein et al., 2004) and decrease during times of severe drought and elevated CO₂ (Demetillo et al., 2019; Holopainen et al., 2018). Additionally, increased herbivory has been shown to increase both total plant emissions as well as the relative proportion of sesquiterpenes, which in turn 60 affects SOA production and composition (Faiola et al., 2018, 2019). Therefore, understanding oxidant budgets, SOA formation, and future changes to ecosystems and atmospheric composition requires a detailed chemical understanding of BVOCs.
- BVOCs have been the subject of a large number of measurements and studies, and an exhaustive overview of available datasets is outside of the scope of this manuscript. Generally, measurement campaigns make tradeoffs between temporal resolution, chemical resolution, and long-term instrument stability. Many campaigns of a few weeks to a few months have provided chemically 65 detailed (i.e., isomer-resolved) measurements of BVOCs with time resolution on the order of hourly (Gilman et al., 2009; Goldstein et al., 2004; Park et al., 2010; Schade et al., 1999; Schade and Goldstein, 2003), while longer-term (multi-season or multi-year) measurements tend to achieve lower temporal resolution (Guenther et al., 1996; Holdren et al., 1979; Simpson et al., 2012). Some measurements have provided temporal resolution on the order of minutes of seconds by using direct mass spectrometry (e.g., proton transfer reaction mass spectrometry, (Davison et al., 2009; Fares et al., 2010; Ghirardo et al., 2010; Greenberg et al., 2003; 70 Kalogridis et al., 2014), but these instruments are unable to resolve isomers that may differ substantially in their reactivity and
- physicochemical properties. A few measurement campaigns have collected long-term (many month), temporally resolved (hourly), and chemically detailed (isomer resolved) measurements of a range of BVOCs (Hellén et al., 2018; Kramer et al., 2015; Maria Yanez-Serrano et al., 2018; Millet et al., 2005; Panopoulou et al., 2020; Plass-Dülmer et al., 2002; Read et al., 2009; Schade and Goldstein, 2001), but the number of such campaigns is fairly limited and very few are currently ongoing. These long-term, 75 temporally and chemically detailed measurements are important for understanding the impacts and behavior of BVOCs on time scales relevant to atmospheric processes, from intra-daily to inter-annually. Therefore, to further advance understanding of the role
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of biogenic emissions with reactions of atmospheric oxidants on timescale of hours to season, we present one year of temporally and chemically resolved measurements of chemically-resolved BVOCs in a forest canopy that is representative of many ecosystems in the eastern and southeastern U.S., as part of an ongoing measurement site with measurements planned to continue for the 80 indefinite future. We examine here the temporal and seasonal patterns of BVOCs that drive oxidant reactivity. The specific focus of this work is to understand the extent to which composition of major BVOC classes may vary and how minor but reactive components may drive oxidant chemistry. A major outcome of this work is a detailed characterization of monoterpenes that may allow model descriptions and non-isomer-resolved measurements of this chemical class to more accurately capture its impacts on

85 **2 Methods**

2.1 Instrument location and operation

tropospheric chemistry.

In-canopy BVOC concentrationmixing ratios were measured at the Virginia Forest Research Facility (37.9229 °N, 78.2739 °W), located in Fluvanna County, Virginia. The site is located on the east side of the Blue Ridge Mountains and receives some anthropogenic influence from Charlottesville, VA, and surrounding counties, located 25 km to the west of the site. Ambient 90 temperature in the winter and spring months of January-April (due to data availability), was 9.6 ± 6.7 °C, and in the summer and fall months (May-October) was 24.3 ± 6.0 °C (Fig. S1). Downwelling shortwave radiation was lower in the winter and spring months $(141.4 \pm 229.7 \text{ W m}^2)$ than the summer and fall months (January-April) on average $(235.6 \pm 305.5 \text{ W m}^2)$ and exhibited lower variability (Fig. S1). The forest canopy consists predominantly of maple, oak, and pine and is approximately 24 m tall (Chan, 2011). Roughly three-quarters of trees in the forest are species that shed their leaves in the fall and winter months. Tree species 95 found at the site range from being predominantly isoprene emitters, such as α odak to predominantly monoterpene and sesquiterpene

Figure 1. A schematic of the VOC-GC-FID set up at the Virginia Forest Research Lab. MFC, mass-flow controller; V1, valve; GC, gas chromatograph; FID, flame ionization detector; EPC, electronic pressure controller; He, helium gas; H_2 , hydrogen gas. Small, dashed lines around the inlet, denote the portion that is heated. The large grey dashed line denotes the indicates that the inlet is within the canopy and the rest of the instrument is in the shed, the boxed-in grey dashed line denotes the components that are part of the GC.

emitters, such as pine (Fuentes et al., 1999). Further information pertaining to tree species at the site can be found in Chan (2011). The site houses a 40-meter meteorological tower, with a climate-controlled, internet-connected lab at the bottom that is supplied by line power, known alternately as "Virginia Forest Research Lab" (VFRL) and "Pace Tower". The measurement period included in this work extends from September 15, 2019 to September 15, 2020, though measurements are ongoing and are anticipated to 100 continue for several years. All results describing seasonality are divided into two separate seasons based on approximate frost dates: the growing season (May-October) and non-growing season (November-April).

Figure 1 depicts the sampling and instrumentation configuration for the automated gas chromatograph-flame ionization (GC-FID) detector used to quantify BVOC concentrationmixing ratios (the "VOC-GC-FID"). Air is pulled from mid-canopy ~ 20 m above ground level) at 14300 sccm through a $1/8$ " ID Teflon tube in an insulated waterproof sheath held at 45° C. The residence 105 time of an air sample in the inlet is about 8 seconds. Ozone is removed from the sample using a sodium thiosulfate infused quartz fiber filter (Pollmann et al., 2005) at the front of the inlet. Efficacy of the ozone scrubber was empirically tested by measuring removal over a multi-week exposure to ozone concentrations several times higher than ambient levels. Efficacy was confirmed following deployment by verifying ozone removal of removed filters. A subsample of ~70 sccm is concentrated onto a multibed adsorbent trap composed of: (in order of inlet to outlet) 10 mg of Tenax TA, 20 mg of Carbopack X, and 20 mg of Carbopack B, 110 with 15 mg of glass beads between each layer and at the inlet (from Sigma-Aldrich); prior work (Gentner et al., 2012) used a trap composition and analytical system similar to this instrument to sample compounds between C_5 and C_{14} . A custom LabVIEW program (National Instruments) operates the instrument for automated sample collection and analysis, with sample collected for 54.5 minutes of each hour (total sample volume: 3.8 L). Following sample collection, the trap is thermally desorbed under a helium backflush at 140 ± 10 °C for 5.5 minutes, transferring analytes through a heated 6-port valve (150 °C) to the head of the gas 115 chromatography column in a GC oven (Agilent 7890B) with a helium flow rate of 5.5 sccm. GC analysis begins at the end of

thermal desorption and proceeds throughout the subsequent sample collection, enabling hourly sample collection and analysis. Analytes are separated using a mid-polarity GC column (Rtx-624, 60m x 0.32mm x 1.8µm, Restek Inc.) and detected by a flame ionization detector (FID). Sample flow is measured by a mass flow controller (MFC1 in Fig. 1, Alicat Scientific), and GC flow is controlled by an electronic pressure controller (EPC in Fig. 1) on-board the GC. Ultrapure hydrogen and helium are provided from 120 compressed gas cylinders (5.0 grade, AirGas) as FID fuel gas (H2), FID makeup gas (He), and GC carrier gas (He). Air for the FID

is generated onsite at 30 psig with a zero-air generator (Series 7000, Environics, Inc.).

A major advantage of deploying a GC-FID in a field setting is the limited required maintenance. The most frequent maintenance required by the system is the replacement of ozone filters every 4-6 weeks. The system also requires hydrogen and 125 helium gas tanks, which last for roughly 6-8 months (though the former could be generated on-site). GC components (traps, columns) require little to no replacement over the time period reported here under normal operation. The oil-less vacuum pump used to pull samples suffers somewhat from constant use and overheating in the warmest months of the year and therefore had to be replaced after ~12 months.

130 **2.2 Calibration and compound identification**

For calibration, the sample inlet is overblown with ~ 14300 sccm zero air from a zero-air generator, optionally mixed with a multicomponent calibrant (Apel-Riemer Environmental Inc.) at one of four different flows (generating four different $\overline{\text{coneentration} }$ ratios of calibrant mixtures). A calibration sample occurs each $7th$ hour, rotating between zero air only, a calibrant at a fixed "tracking" concentrationmixing ratio, and a calibrant at one of three other concentrationmixing ratios. 135 Composition and pure concentrationmixing ratio of the multi-component calibrant are provided in Table S1 (in brief: 40.3 ppb)

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isoprene, 4.35-17.60 ppb monoterpenes and sesquiterpenes), and diluted into zero air at flows of 10, 25, 50, and 100 sccm to generate dilutions of approximately 140, 60, 30, and 15 times respectively. Estimated limits of detection for isoprene, isoprene oxidation products, monoterpenes, and sesquiterpenes are 20 ppt, 4.3 ppt, 2.2 ppt, and 2.7 ppt, respectively, estimated as the concentrationmixing ratio that would yield a chromatographic peak with a height three times the standard deviation of the noise in 140 the chromatographic baseline. ConcentrationMixing ratios reported above these levels have an estimated uncertainty of 15%, primarily driven by uncertainty in chromatographic integration (Isaacman-VanWertz et al., 2017). In most cases, concentrationmixing ratios calculated below these values are either reported as LOD0.0 ppt (in cases when peaks were too small to be integrated), or reported as calculated, but can be considered to have substantial error.

While an FID provides nearly-universal quantification of analytes as a function of their carbon content (Faiola et al., 2012; 145 Scanlon and Willis, 1985), it does not provide any chemical resolution. To identify analytes in the samples, a mass spectrometer (MS, Agilent 5977) was deployed in October 2019 and September 2020 in parallel with the FID. Retention times of analytes detected by the two detectors were aligned using the retention time of known analytes (e.g., calibrants). Analytes were identified by mass spectral matching with the 2011 NIST MS Library and reported retention indices (National Institute for Standards and Technology, 2019). All analytes reported in this work matched the identified compound within the range of reported retention 150 indices and with a cosine similarity of at least 0.85. This parameter is the preferred spectral comparison method of the widely-used NIST mass spectral library search program, and previous work has shown that a threshold of 0.85 or greater indicates a high probability of correct identification (Stein and Scott, 1994; Worton et al., 2017). Data were analyzed using the freely-available TERN software packaged (Isaacman-VanWertz et al., 2017) within the Igor Pro 8 programming environment (Wavemetrics, Inc.).

2.3 Atmospheric oxidant reactivity and reaction rate calculations

155 Reactivity of an individual BVOC and/or a BVOC class to the hydroxyl radical (OHR), ozone (O₃R) and nitrate (NO₃R)-and is calculated as the sum of the products of the concentrationmixing ratio and oxidation reaction rate of each BVOC, *i*:

$$
0xR_{\text{tot}}(s^{-1}) = \sum (k_{0x} + BVOC_i[DVOC_i])
$$
 (1)

Published rate constants (units: cm³ molec⁻¹ s⁻¹) at 298k were used where available (Atkinson et al., 1990, 2006; Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Corchnoy and Atkinson, 1990; Kerdouci et al., 2010; King et al., 1999; Pfrang et al., 2006; Pinto et al., 2007; Pratt et 160 al., 2012; Shu and Atkinson, 1994; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2012) and were otherwise calculated from the Kwok and Atkinson structure activity relationships, as implemented by the Estimation Program Interface provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (King et al., 1999; Kwok and Atkinson, 1995; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2012). Rate constants calculated using structure activity relationships are estimated to be within a factor of \sim 2 of measured rate constants (King et al. (1999)). However, uncertainty of estimated rate constants is not expected to significantly impact calculated reactivity 165 as compounds with the largest contribution to atmospheric reactivity have measured rate constants.

^a Atkinson et al. (2006), ^b Paulot et al. (2009), ^c Atkinson et al. (1990), ^d Kerdouci et al. (2010), ^e Pinto et al. (2007), ^f Pfrang et al. (2006), $\frac{g}{g}$ Atkinson and Arey (2003), ^h Corchnoy and Atkinson (1990), ⁱ Shu and Atkinson (1994), ^j Estimated using King et al. (1999), k U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2012)

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Temporal trends in BVOC concentrationmixing ratios

Observed and quantified BVOCs include isoprene, two isoprene oxidation products methyl vinyl ketone and methacrolein, eleven 170 monoterpene species, and two sesquiterpene species. Due to the nature of the sample collection, diterpenes many oxygenated species other than MVK and MACR are poorly captured. Oxygenated species are either have volatilities that are too high for efficient trapping (e.g., methanol) or are removed by the ozone filter (e.g., nopinone). Many of the small oxygenated compounds that might be expected at this site at moderately high abundance (e.g., methanol, acetone) have low reaction rate constants that imply they likely contribute only minutely to OHR and NO_3R , and not at all to O_3R . The exception may be acetaldehyde, which 175 previous work has been shown to contribute non-negligibly to reactivity (Hunter et al., 2017) but is too volatile to be trapped by the instrument used in this work. A sample chromatogram is show in Fig. 2. The detected monoterpene species include α-pinene, β-pinene, β-phellandrene, camphene, limonene, tricyclene, α-fenchene, thujene, cymene, sabinene, and -terpinene (Table 1). The sesquiterpene species regularly detected include α-cedrene and β-cedrene, but these are generally present at very low concentrationmixing ratios. Consequently, we expect that not all sesquiterpenes are captured by this instrument and caution that 180 all reported concentration mixing ratios of sesquiterpenes represent lower bounds.

Figure 2. A typical GC chromatogram of sampled ambient air collected at the site. The compounds identified on the figure show the range of species found by the instrumental methods. These include isoprene (I), isoprene reactionoxidation products (IORP), monoterpenes (M), and sesquiterpenes (S). * Unlabeled peaks were not identified to be terpenes or terpene oxidation products and are, in most cases, identifiable as a belonging to a different compound class.

Daily 24-hour averaged concentrationmixing ratios of each BVOC class for the measurement period are shown in Fig. 3. Periods with gaps, are due to instrument issues, periods reported as 0zero are below the limit of detection (LOD). Many species approached the LOD in the winter and spring months due to low temperatures and decreased incoming shortwave radiation as

compared to the warmest months of the year (Fig. S1). Isoprene and its oxidation products (Fig. 3a-b) were near or below detection 185 limits from mid to late-October through early May. Both classes reached their seasonal peak in late July, with an average $\pm \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$ standard deviation of hourly isoprene concentrationmixing ratio in the growing season of 2.13 (\pm 2.97) ppb, and near levels of detection in the non-growing season; uncertainties here and throughout represent standard deviations from the mean. The average concentrationmixing ratio of summed isoprene oxidation products was 0.27 (\pm 0.28) ppb in the growing season and 0.02 (\pm 0.03) ppb in the non-growing season. Interestingly, the ratio of isoprene oxidation products to isoprene is variable over the course of 190 the measurement campaign. In addition to differences in their oxidation rates, these differences may be due in part to anthropogenic emissions both through the influence of NO_x on isoprene oxidation pathways and the direct emission of MVK and MACR from vehicles (Biesenthal and Shepson, 1997; Ling et al., 2019). The average concentrationmixing ratio of summed monoterpenes in the growing season is 0.53 (\pm 0.62) ppb and 0.20 (\pm 0.29) ppb in the non-growing season (Fig. 3c). Monoterpenes exhibit a similar high period during the growing season but are present throughout the non-growing season as well. The average of summer 195 sesquiterpene concentration mixing ratios in the growing season was $0.01 \ (\pm 0.02)$ ppb and $0.01 \ (\pm 0.01)$ ppb in the non-growing season. Sesquiterpenes, much like monoterpenes, are detected in both the growing and non-growing season. Average concentrationmixing ratios all classes for each season are provided in Table 2.

Figure 3. 24-hour average concentrations of (a) isoprene, (b) -isoprene oxidationreaction products (methyl vinyl ketone and methacrolein), (c) sum of monoterpenes, and (d) sum of sesquiterpenes between September $15th$, 2019 and September 15th, 2020

Diurnal trends in concentrationmixing ratios during the growing season (May-October) and non-growing season (November-April) are shown in Fig. 4 for isoprene, summed isoprene reaction productsoxidation products, summed monoterpenes, and 215 summed sesquiterpenes (α- and β-cedrene). All terpene classes exhibited the highest concentrationmixing ratios in the growing season (May-October), when temperature and incoming shortwave radiation were highest (Fig. S1). Isoprene and isoprene

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reaction productsoxidation products peak in late afternoon hours, as expected due to the light dependence of isoprene (Guenther, 1997; Lamb et al., 1987; Zimmerman, 1979). Isoprene and reaction product concentrationmixing ratios were typically below the limits of detection in the non-growing season, with little clear diurnal pattern.

Figure 4. Binned hourly boxplots for the four BVOC classes, divided into (left) the growing season, May-October and (right) the non-growing season, November-April. Classes shown are: (a-b) isoprene, (c-d) isoprene reaction products, (e-f) monoterpenes, and (g-h) sesquiterpenes. The plots show the median value as a horizontal line, the bottom and top of each box indicates the $25th$ and $75th$ percentiles while the whisker represent 1.5 times the interquartile range. Each box represents the data for each hour of the day.

220 In contrast to isoprene, monoterpenes exhibit peak values in the evening hours, which is consistent with previously reported findings (Davison et al., 2009; Panopoulou et al., 2020). Evening peak values were higher in the growing season than in the nongrowing season. Additionally, daytime lows lasted for longer periods of time in the growing season than in the non-growing season due to-longer daylight hours driving more photolytic reactions with OH radical and shorter-lasting nighttime boundary layers (Davison et al., 2009). Hourly monoterpene concentrationmixing ratios ranged between 0.10 ppb and 2.94 ppb throughout the year,

225 with the lowest values occurring in the non-growing season (Fig. 3b).

Sesquiterpene concentrationmixing ratios also exhibited peak diurnal concentrationmixing ratios in the evening in the growing season. Summed concentrationmixing ratios of sesquiterpenes (Fig. 3g and 3h) include only two species, and so represent a lower bound of possible total sesquiterpene concentrationmixing ratios. However, the limit of detection for sesquiterpenes is estimated as 2.7 ppt, so other sesquiterpenes are unlikely to be present at concentrationmixing ratios significantly higher than this. Measured 230 sesquiterpenes therefore provide some insight into the total concentrationmixing ratios of sesquiterpenes. Mean sesquiterpene (i.e., sum of α - and β-cedrene) values were around 0.01 (\pm 0.02) ppb in the growing season and exhibited similar diurnal variability to

monoterpenes. Outside the growing season, the mean sesquiterpene concentrationmixing ratio was $0.01 (\pm 0.01)$ ppb with little discernable diurnal variability.

3.2 Calculated rReactivity with atmospheric oxidants

235 **3.2.1 Calculated OH reactivity**

Calculated OH reactivity of total observed terpenes varies seasonally, with a 24-hour average summertime peak of \sim 32 s⁻¹ and growing season average of 7.60 (± 6.94) s⁻¹ driven by isoprene (Fig. 5a). Comparatively, the non-growing season OH reactivity average was 0.73 (± 0.67) s⁻¹. Reactivity of monoterpenes has weaker seasonality with higher values occurring in the growing

Figure 5. (a) Timeseries of 24-hour averaged calculated to H reactivity of all measured terpene classes and the monoterpene class, as well as the monthly mean of calculated total OH reactivity. (b) Relative contribution of each of the BVOC classes to OH reactivity.

season, peaking at 5.00 s⁻¹. These values are roughly within the range of previously reported direct measurements of summertime OH reactivity of $1-21$ s⁻¹ where measurements were taken below ponderosa and coniferous forest canopies and within the canopy of a coniferous forest (Nakashima et al., 2014; Ramasamy et al., 2016; Sinha et al., 2010), though at the higher end, likely due to the measurements in this work occurring directly within the canopy. While isoprene dominates reactions with OH when present (Fig. 5b), concentrationmixing ratios of isoprene and detected sesquiterpenes are negligible in the non-growing season, causing a steep decline in reactivity. Due to the year-round presence of monoterpenes, these compounds become the dominant source of OH 245 reactivity in the non-growing season. Generally, monoterpenes contribute \sim 100 % in the non-growing season and \sim 20-40 % of terpene reactivity in the growing season, with isoprene dominating the balance. Detected isoprene reaction productsoxidation products and sesquiterpenes contribute, on average, <5% to OH reactivity. While some sesquiterpenes may be below level of detection, sesquiterpenes do not generally have OH reaction rates substantially higher than other more dominant terpenes (Lee et al., 2006) and so are not likely to contribute substantially to OH reactivity.

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Figure 6. (a) Timeseries of 24-hour averaged calculated to all ozone reactivity of all terpene classes and the monoterpene class, as well as the monthly mean of calculated total ozone reactivity. (b) Relative contribution of each of the BVOC classes to ozone reactivity.

Calculated Total 24-hour averaged O₃ reactivity ranges between 0.1×10^{-6} s⁻¹ and 1.5×10^{-6} s⁻¹ (Fig. 6a) and is almost entirely dominated by monoterpenes (Fig. 6b), even during the growing season peak (monoterpenes: ~70 %), due to the relatively slow reaction rate of isoprene and its reaction productsoxidation products with ozone. Ozone reactivity decreases in the non-growing season due to both the decline in isoprene, and the decrease in monoterpenes. Average ozone reactivity with isoprene in the growing 255 season is 0.78×10^{-6} ($\pm 0.75 \times 10^{-6}$) s⁻¹ while in the non-growing season isoprene does not contribute substantially to ozone reactivity (Table 2). Average ozone reactivity with monoterpenes in the growing season is 3.40×10^{-6} ($\pm 2.75\times10^{-6}$) s⁻¹ while in the nongrowing season it is 1.14×10^{-6} ($\pm 1.03 \times 10^{-6}$) s⁻¹ The measured isoprene reaction products of individual products and sesquiterpenes are not strongly reactive with ozone, and therefore have no significant contribution to ozone reactivity. However, unlike with OH reaction rates, O_3 reaction rates of sesquiterpenes are frequently orders of magnitude larger than dominant monoterpenes, so it is 260 possible that low -concentration mixing ratioabundance, highly reactive sesquiterpenes may still contribute non-negligibly to ozone reactivity. Important contributions by low -concentrationabundancemixing ratio, highly reactive high-reactivity sesquiterpenes have been previously shown in other environments, and cannot be excluded by these measurements (Arnts et al., 2013; Ortega et al., 2007; Wolfe et al., 2011; Yee et al., 2018).

Figure 7. (a) Timeseries of 24-hour averaged calculated to take intrate reactivity of all terpene classes and the monoterpene class, as well as the monthly mean of calculated total nitrate reactivity. (b) Relative contribution of each of the BVOC classes to nitrate reactivity.

265 Calculated Total nitrate reactivity of all detected BVOCs is shown in Fig. 7a in addition to the monthly average reactivity and the reactivity of the monoterpene class. The amount that each BVOC class contributes to the total nitrate reactivity is shown in Fig. 7b. Nitrate reactivity of total observed BVOCs varies seasonally, with a summertime peak in 24-average reactivity of $\sim 0.6 \text{ s}^{-1}$ driven largely by monoterpenes. Reactivity of monoterpenes has strong seasonality with higher values occurring in the growing season, peaking at ~ 0.4 -0.6 s⁻¹. As in the case of ozone, nitrate reactivity is dominated by monoterpenes due to the slow reaction 270 rates of isoprene and its oxidation products with NO₃. Isoprene contributes between 20-40% to nitrate reactivity in the growing season and has a mean hourly average of $0.04 \leq 0.04$) s⁻¹. In the non-growing season, isoprene, like isoprene reaction productsoxidation products and sesquiterpenes do not contribute to nitrate reactivity. Monoterpenes dominate nitrate reactivity year-round and have a mean hourly average of 0.15 (\pm 0.11) s⁻¹ in the growing season and 0.06 (\pm 0.05) s⁻¹ in the non-growing season. Unmeasured and minimally detected sesquiterpenes are unlikely to contribute substantially to nitrate reactivity as their 275 reaction rates are typically of the same order of magnitude as α -pinene and isoprene but they are present at concentrations 10-100 times lower (Yee et al., 2018).

3.3 Isomer composition of monoterpenes

Monoterpenes are detected year-round, but small changes in their compositional breakdown (i.e., the relative contribution of different isomers) leads to important changes in their reactivity and chemistry. CalculatedTotal monoterpene 24-hour average 280 monoterpene concentrationmixing ratios ranged between 0.10 ppb and 2.00 ppb with the lowest concentrationmixing ratios occurring in the non-growing season daytime and highest concentrationmixing ratios occurring in the growing season nights (as shown in Fig. 4).

Figure 8. A breakdown of detected monoterpene isomer in the (left) growing and (right) non-growing seasons for (a-b) concentration, (c-d) OH reactivity, (e-f) ozone reactivity, (g-h) nitrate reactivity. Values rounded to the nearest percent and values below 1% are not depicted.

Relative contributions from monoterpene isomers are similar for the highest concentrationmixing ratio species between the growing and non-growing seasons (Fig. 8a-b). At nearly all times, α -pinene contributes the most, followed by β -pinene, camphene, 285 limonene, and cymene. OH reactivity (Fig. 8c and 8d) of each isomer roughly follows the distribution of concentrationmixing ratios, driven by the relatively narrow range in OH reaction rates for monoterpenes with double bonds (slowest: α -pinene – 5.37×10⁻¹¹ cm³· molec⁻¹·s⁻¹, fastest: β-phellandrene – 1.68 × 10⁻¹⁰ cm³· molec⁻¹·s⁻¹). There is nevertheless some outsize contribution to OH reactivity by the low-concentrationmixing ratio isomers β -phellandrene and limonene, which react quickly due to the presence of multiple double bonds and contribute twice as much to reactivity as they do to concentrationmixing ratio. Together, 290 these two species accounts for roughly one-third of OH reactivity, the abundant but less-reactive α -pinene accounts for another ~one-third, and the remaining monoterpenes account for the remainder (mostly β-pinene, camphene, and γ-terpinene). The stability of the concentrationmixing ratios and OH reactivity across a year of measurements suggests that the observed distribution of isomers is a reasonable average representation of monoterpenes in this ecosystem. While α -pinene is the dominant isomer by far, its lower reaction rate relative to other isomers suggest that it is not necessarily a good representative proxy species for the broader

295 monoterpene compound class. Instead, a more general quantitative description of the rate at which monoterpenes react with OH (or any other oxidant) would-be allow a measurement or estimate of bulk monoterpenes to more accurately be converted into an estimate of their impact on reactivity. Correlations between calculatedtotal monoterpene oxidant reactivity and detected total monoterpene concentration mixing ratio (Fig. S 42) suggest a bulk monoterpene reaction rate of $k_{OH+MT} = 7.0 \times 10^{-11}$ cm³ molec⁻¹ s⁻ $\frac{1}{2}$, \sim 30% greater than the reaction rate of α -pinene, and this average rate is relatively temporally stable. It should also be noted that 300 Fig. 8 suggests that OH reaction with faster-reacting, poly-unsaturated, lower-concentration mixing ratio isomers is as likely as reaction with α -pinene.

The role of structure on atmospheric reactions is even more apparent and critical when considering the reactivity of monoterpenes with ozone. Despite its relatively low concentrationmixing ratio, limonene is the greatest contributor to reactivity with ozone at 59% and 48% in the growing and non-growing season respectively due to an ozone reaction rate 8 times faster than 305 that of the more abundant isomers (Fig. 8e-f). Nearly all the rest of ozone reactivity is contributed by the dominant isomer α -pinene (30% and 41%), with a minor contribution from β -phellandrene (5% and 4%), β -pinene (2% and 2%), and γ -terpinene (1% and 1%), while the other isomers are either not reactive with ozone (cymene, tricyclene) or react very slowly with ozone (camphene). Though the general breakdown of ozone reactivity is qualitatively similar during both the growing and non-growing seasons, there are significant quantitative differences. Due to the greater contribution of limonene in the growing season compared to the non-310 growing season, the relative importance of limonene compared to α -pinene increases substantially in the growing season, from 1.3:1 to 2.1:1. In other words, reactions of monoterpenes with ozone, at least in this canopy, are dominated by reactions with limonene, with a smaller but significant contribution from α -pinene. The bulk O_3 reaction rate with monoterpenes (i.e., the rate that best converts hourly concentration mixing ratio to reactivity) is $k_{O3+MT} = 1.1 \times 10^{-16}$ cm³ molec⁻¹ s⁻¹, \sim 20% faster than α -pinene. However, while this average rate is relatively stable across seasons, there are periods in the growing season during which the 315 average reaction rate of monoterpenes is substantially faster, which could have impacts during these periods (Fig. S4S2).

Isomer-dependence of nitrate reactivity is somewhere between O₃ and OH, with an outsize impact of limonene, but with a more even split of reactivity across monoterpenes species. These trends may be explained by the reaction behavior of nitrate. Like the OH radical, nitrate can react with alkenes by either addition to a double bond or abstract a hydrogen, but it has a stronger tendency to add across a double bond, analogous to O_3 (Lee et al., 2014; Pfrang et al., 2006). Similar to OH reactivity, limonene contributes 320 an outsized amount to NO³ reactivity in both the growing and non-growing season (26% and 19%). However, for nitrate reactivity, α -pinene remains the dominant component, contributing 48% to reactions with nitrate in the growing season and 59% in the nongrowing season. The average reaction rate of α -pinene is also a reasonably good proxy for the bulk reaction rate of monoterpenes

4 Conclusion

with nitrate radicals, $k_{NO3+MT} = -6 \times 10^{-12}$ cm³·molec⁻¹·s⁻¹.

325 Long-term BVOC measurements are imperative for understanding interannual trends in the formation and loss of ozone and SOA, and for improving existing models of BVOC emissions and oxidation. These measurements are difficult, however, without robust measurement techniques that do not require significant maintenance. The use of an automated GC-FID adapted to collect air samples makes it possible to do long-term collection of BVOCs in an unmonitored location. Using this method, we have collected and are continuing to measure a range of BVOCs in the canopy of a forest representative of the Southeastern U.S., with periodic 330 coupling of a mass spectrometer to allow for identification of the species of interest. The relative ease of this method gives it great potential for additional long-term BVOC monitoring sites to be set up in more locations.

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From this study we have gained a greater understanding of the seasonality of BVOCs ranging from isoprene, isoprene reaction productsoxidation products, monoterpenes, and sesquiterpenes. Isoprene is important for OH reactivity, but monoterpenes prevail as the most important BVOC class for ozone and nitrate reactivities. Monoterpenes are observed to be a diverse class of BVOCs

- 335 with 11 identified compounds detected at the site year-round. While α -pinene is the most dominant species, a few species with lower concentration mixing ratios but high reactivities (particularly limonene and β -phellandrene) were found to be important contributors to atmospheric reactivity. This finding is most evident for ozone reactivity but is also the case for OH and nitrate reactivity. The distribution of monoterpenes is qualitatively stable throughout the year, though some important quantitative differences are observed. Consequently, the distribution measured here may be a useful description of the "typical" monoterpene
- 340 chemical class observed in mixed, temperate forests. The bulk reaction rates of the monoterpene class with major atmospheric oxidants presented here therefore provide an improved means to estimate the reactions and impacts of monoterpenes in cases where isomer-resolved measurements are not available (e.g., when measured using direct-air-sampling mass spectrometers (Davison et al., 2009; Ghirardo et al., 2010)).
- 345 *Data availability.* The integrated GC-FID BVOC data used in this work is available upon request from the authorsthrough Mendeley Data. The DOI for this dataset is: doi.org/10.17632/jx3vn5xxcn.1

Supplement. The supplement related to this article is available online from the publisher of this article. \div

- 350 *Author contributions.* DFM conducted the measurement campaign, completed the data analysis, and led the writing of the manuscript. GIVW supervised the study, designed the measurement campaign, directed the data analysis and writing of the manuscript. LERB and SEP was instrumental in the upkeep of the measurement site and provided feedback on the manuscript. MTL provided feedback on the manuscript.
- 355 *Competing interests.* The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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