

# Ammonium-adduct chemical ionization to investigate anthropogenic oxygenated gas-phase organic compounds in urban air

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## Abstract

Volatile chemical products (VCPs) and other non-combustion-related sources have become important for urban air quality, and bottom-up calculations report emissions of a variety of functionalized compounds that remain understudied and uncertain in emissions estimates. Using a new instrumental configuration, we present online measurements of oxygenated organic compounds in a U.S. megacity over a 10-day wintertime sampling period, when biogenic sources and photochemistry were less active. Measurements were conducted at a rooftop observatory in upper Manhattan, New York City, USA using a Vocus chemical ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometer with ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) as the reagent ion operating at 1 Hz. The range of observations spanned volatile, intermediate-volatility, and semi-volatile organic compounds with targeted analyses of ~150 ions whose likely assignments included a range of functionalized compound classes such as glycols, glycol ethers, acetates, acids, alcohols, acrylates, esters, ethanolamines, and ketones that are found in various consumer, commercial, and industrial products. Their concentrations varied as a function of wind direction with enhancements over the highly-populated areas of the Bronx, Manhattan, and parts of New Jersey, and included

44 abundant concentrations of acetates, acrylates, ethylene glycol, and other commonly-used  
45 oxygenated compounds. The results provide top-down constraints on wintertime  
46 emissions of these oxygenated/functionalized compounds with ratios to common  
47 anthropogenic marker compounds, and comparisons of their relative abundances to two  
48 regionally-resolved emissions inventories used in urban air quality models.

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50 **Keywords:** Volatile chemical products, non-combustion-related emissions, personal care  
51 products, solvents, glycol ethers, VOCs, IVOCs, SVOCs, urban air quality, New York  
52 City, LISTOS

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## 54 **1. Introduction**

55 Non-combustion-related sources are increasingly important contributors of anthropogenic  
56 emissions in developed regions and megacities with implications for tropospheric ozone  
57 and secondary organic aerosols (SOA) (Coggon et al., 2021; Khare and Gentner, 2018;  
58 McDonald et al., 2018; Pennington et al., 2021; Shah et al., 2020). These sources include  
59 volatile chemical products (VCPs), asphalt, and other products/materials that emit  
60 volatile-, intermediate- and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs, IVOCs, SVOCs),  
61 which contribute to the atmospheric burden of reactive organic carbon (ROC) (Heald and  
62 Kroll, 2020). Emissions occur over timescales ranging from minutes to several days and  
63 up to years in some cases (Khare and Gentner, 2018). Compounds from VCPs are diverse  
64 in terms of chemical composition and depend on application methods and uses of  
65 different products and materials. Examples of compound classes found in consumer and  
66 commercial products include hydrocarbons, acetates, alcohols, glycols, glycol ethers,  
67 fatty acid methyl esters, aldehydes, siloxanes, ethanolamines, phthalates and acids (Bi et  
68 al., 2015; Even et al., 2019, 2020; Khare and Gentner, 2018; McDonald et al., 2018).

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70 A subset of compounds from these classes have been investigated in indoor environments  
71 for sources like building components (e.g. paints), household products (e.g. cleaners,  
72 insecticides, fragrances), and for some from polymer-based items such as textiles and  
73 toys (Bi et al., 2015; Even et al., 2020; Harb et al., 2020; Liang et al., 2015; Noguchi and  
74 Yamasaki, 2020; Shi et al., 2018; Singer et al., 2006). Emissions are often dependent on  
75 volatilization and thus can exhibit dependence on temperature (Khare et al., 2020).  
76 However, other environmental factors such as relative humidity can sustain or enhance  
77 indoor air concentrations of a wide range of compounds including alcohols, glycols and  
78 glycol ethers for months after application of paints (Choi et al., 2010b; Markowicz and  
79 Larsson, 2015). Similarly, mono-ethanolamines from degreasers and oxygenated third-

80 hand cigarette smoke compounds have also been shown to off-gas and persist in indoor  
81 air for days or more after application or use (Schwarz et al., 2017; Sheu et al., 2020).

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83 Single-ring aromatic VOCs (e.g. benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes) have  
84 historically been well-known contributors to urban ozone and SOA production (Henze et  
85 al., 2008; Venecek et al., 2018). On this basis, regulatory policies drove a shift towards  
86 oxygenates to replace these aromatics and other unsaturated hydrocarbons as solvents  
87 (Council of the European Union, 1999), which has influenced the ambient composition  
88 of oxygenated volatile organic compounds (OVOCs) (Venecek et al., 2018). Recent top-  
89 down measurements have revealed large upward fluxes of OVOCs in urban environments  
90 that double the previous urban anthropogenic emission estimates (Karl et al., 2018).

91 Other studies have found substantial VCP-related emissions (e.g.

92 Decamethylcyclopentasiloxane or D5) to outdoor environments in several large cities  
93 such as Boulder, CO; New York, NY; Los Angeles, CA and Toronto, Canada (Coggon et  
94 al., 2018, 2021; Gkatzelis et al., 2021b, 2021a; Khare and Gentner, 2018; McDonald et  
95 al., 2018; McLachlan et al., 2010). Offline laboratory experiments with select VCP-  
96 related precursors have also shown significant SOA yields from oxygenated aromatic  
97 precursors (Charan et al., 2020; Humes et al., 2022). Furthermore, bottom-up estimates  
98 suggest that 75-90% of the non-combustion emissions are constituted by functionalized  
99 species while only the remaining 10-25% are hydrocarbons (Khare and Gentner, 2018;  
100 McDonald et al., 2018).

101

102 Non-combustion-related emissions of ROC can present health risks through direct  
103 exposure in both indoor and outdoor environments and via SOA and ozone production  
104 (Bornehag et al., 2005; Choi et al., 2010a; Destailats et al., 2006; Masuck et al., 2011;  
105 Pye et al., 2021; Qin et al., 2020; Wensing et al., 2005). These health impacts will be  
106 modulated by the air exchange rates at which indoor emissions of ROC are transferred  
107 outdoors (Sheu et al., 2021), but indoor sinks are uncertain and have often been neglected  
108 in emissions inventory development for VCP-related sources until recently (McDonald et  
109 al., 2018; Seltzer et al., 2021b). Information on indoor and outdoor concentrations of  
110 many ROC compounds is limited due to the historical focus on more volatile  
111 hydrocarbons and small oxygenated compounds (e.g. methanol, isopropanol, acetone)  
112 and shorter timescales of solvent evaporation (e.g. <1 day). In comparison, emissions of  
113 intermediate- and semi-volatile compounds (I/SVOCs; including higher molecular weight  
114 oxygenates) and some chemical functionalities (e.g. glycol ethers) are poorly constrained,  
115 owing to instrumentation challenges and/or long emission timescales (Khare and  
116 Gentner, 2018).

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119 To improve observational constraints on the abundances of widely-used oxygenated  
120 VCPs that are expected to influence urban air quality, but are uncertain in emissions  
121 inventories, we employed a Vocus chemical ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometer  
122 (Vocus CI-ToF MS) using ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) as a chemical reagent ion to increase  
123 sensitivity to compound types that have traditionally provided measurement challenges  
124 with other well-known techniques such as iodide ( $\text{I}^-$ )-CIMS and proton-transfer-reaction  
125 (PTR)-MS. These techniques have been frequently used in atmospheric studies with both  
126 advantages and limitations. While  $\text{I}^-$ -CIMS has better sensitivity toward highly  
127 functionalized extremely low volatility organic compounds (ELVOCs) and also halogens  
128 (Robinson et al., 2022; Slusher et al., 2004; Thornton et al., 2010), PTR-MS can detect  
129 relatively lighter functionalized species and olefinic/aromatic hydrocarbons, however  
130 with highly reduced sensitivity toward certain compound classes e.g. alcohols, esters,  
131 glycols etc. due to large fragmentation losses (Gkatzelis et al., 2021a). The ability of  
132  $\text{NH}_4^+$  adduct to ionize functionalized organic compounds as well as less oxygenated  
133 organic precursors with negligible fragmentation across volatile to semi-volatile species  
134 is a key advantage (Canaval et al., 2019; Zaytsev et al., 2019b). Furthermore, it operates  
135 at relatively lower pressure (1-5 mbar) than ( $\text{I}^-$ )-CIMS, which could facilitate faster  
136 switching with PTR for quantitation of less oxygenated precursor species.

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138 Specifically, using this technique, we: (a) evaluated the performance of the CI-ToF for a  
139 diverse array of oxygenated VCPs and compare ambient observations between  $\text{NH}_4^+$  and  
140  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  reagent ions; (b) examined ambient abundances of a subset of oxygenated gas-  
141 phase organics related to VCP-related emissions and their dynamic atmospheric  
142 concentrations in New York City (NYC) over a 10-day winter period with reduced  
143 biogenic emissions and secondary OVOC production; (c) determined their ambient  
144 concentration ratios and covariances with major tracer compounds; and (d) compared  
145 ambient observations against two regionally-resolved emissions inventories (including all  
146 anthropogenic sources) to provide top-down constraints on the relative emissions of a  
147 range of oxygenated compounds that may influence urban air quality. The findings of this  
148 work highlight the diversity of functionalized organic species emitted from VCPs with  
149 comparisons against inventories that inform our understanding of VCP composition and  
150 emission pathways, and thus improve urban air quality models and policy.

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## 152 **2. Materials and methods**

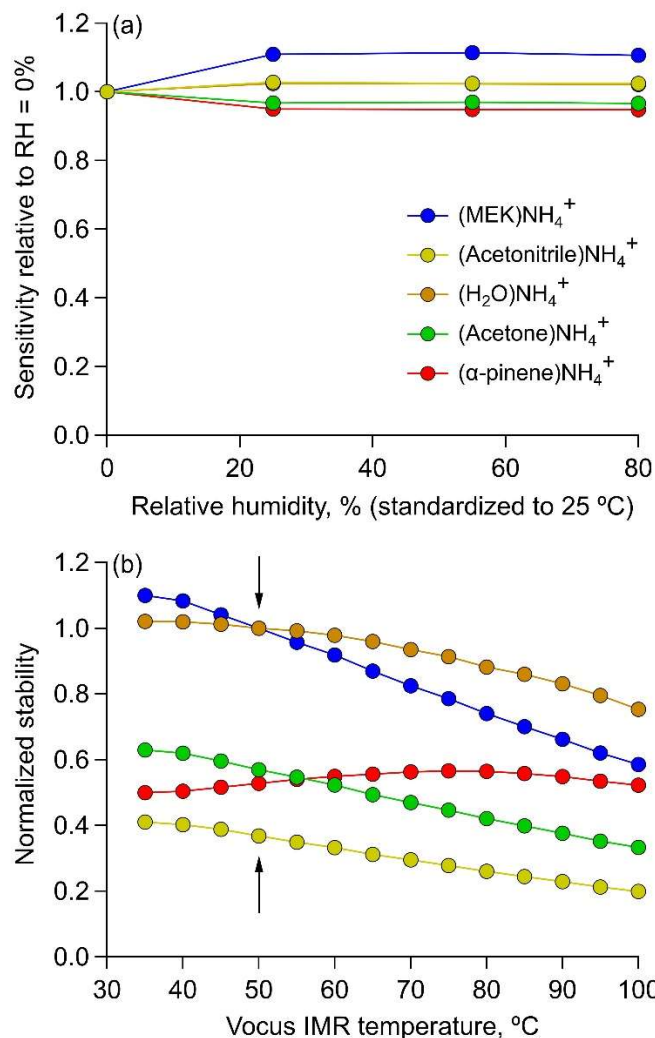
153 The sampling site was located at the Rooftop Observatory at the Advanced Science  
154 Research Center of the City University of New York (CUNY ASRC, 85 St. Nicholas

155 Terrace) in Upper Manhattan (Figures S1-2). The ASRC is built on top of a hill 30 m  
156 above the mean sea level whose surface is naturally elevated above the surrounding  
157 landscape. The observatory is 86 m above the mean sea level and the inlet was at 89 m  
158 with minimally obstructed views to the northwest and east towards the Bronx and  
159 Harlem, as well as to the south along the island of Manhattan.

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162 Gas-phase VOCs and I/SVOCs were measured using a Vocus CI-ToF with a  $\text{NH}_4^+$   
163 reagent ion source (Krechmer et al., 2018), which had a higher sensitivity than most  
164 previous state-of-the-art chemical ionization-ToF instruments (without focusing) by a  
165 factor of 20 due to the quadrupole-based ion focusing, a mass resolving power of  $\sim 10,000$   
166  $m/\Delta m$ , and was quantitatively independent of ambient humidity changes (Figure 1a)  
167 (Holzinger et al., 2019). The Vocus CI-TOF sampled at a frequency of 1 Hz continuously  
168 throughout the 10-day period from 21st to 31st January 2020.  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ionization coupled  
169 with high frequency online mass spectrometry enables measurements of functionalized  
170 compounds emitted from diverse, distributed sources in around New York City.  $\text{NH}_4^+$  has  
171 a long history of use as a positive-ion reagent gas in chemical ionization mass  
172 spectrometry, but has only recently been applied to the study of atmospheric chemistry  
173 with time-of-flight mass spectrometers (Canaval et al., 2019; Westmore and Alauddin,  
174 1986; Zaytsev et al., 2019b, 2019a). The  $\text{NH}_4^+$  reagent ion forms clusters effectively with  
175 polarizable molecules, providing mostly softly ionized  $\text{NH}_4^+$ -molecule adducts, though  
176 some protonation, charge transfer, and fragmentation can occur as alternate ionization  
177 pathways (Canaval et al., 2019). It has previously been applied in laboratory studies in  
178 different configurations than the instrument described here (Canaval et al., 2019; Zaytsev  
179 et al., 2019b), and to our knowledge this is the first published atmospheric field  
180 measurement with  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ionization.



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**Figure 1: Vocus CI-ToF performance with low-pressure  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ionization as a function of atmospheric conditions and instrument parameters. (a) Minimal effects of relative humidity (RH) on Vocus CI-ToF quantification for several major compounds using the  $\text{NH}_4^+$  Vocus CI-ToF (b) Ion-adduct stability as a function of temperature in the focusing Ion Molecule Reaction (fIMR) region, with ambient measurements made at 50 °C in this study.**

$\text{NH}_4^+$  selectively ionizes functionalized species including ones that have generally been difficult to measure using proton-transfer reaction ionization due to excess fragmentation (e.g. glycols) or low proton affinities (Karl et al., 2018). However, it excludes non-polar hydrocarbons and is not intended to examine emissions from hydrocarbon-dominated non-combustion sources (e.g. mineral spirits, petroleum distillates).

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198 To produce  $\text{NH}_4^+$  reagent ions in the Vocus focusing ion molecule reactor (fIMR), 20  
199 sccm of water ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) vapor and 1 sccm of vapor from a 1% ammonium hydroxide in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
200 solution were injected into the discharge ion source. In addition to forming ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ )  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
201 as the primary reagent ion, the relatively large amount of water buffers the source against  
202 any changes in relative humidity, removing any quantitative humidity dependence and  
203 the need for humidity-dependent calibrations. This lack of RH-dependence is shown in  
204 Figure 1. The slight change in the sensitivity of methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) when  
205 increasing from 0% RH likely resulted from the three-body stabilizing effect of water,  
206 which enhances ion-adduct stability, thereby increasing this compound's sensitivity.  
207 Further details on RH-dependence of a wider set of organic species could be found in Xu  
208 et al (Xu et al., 2022). The Vocus axial voltage was maintained at a potential difference  
209 of 425 V and the reactor was maintained at a pressure of 3.0 mbar and temperature of 50  
210 °C (to maximize thermal stability as shown in Figure 1b), which corresponds to an E/N  
211 value of 70 Td. Additional characterization tests, including scans of the voltage  
212 differentials, are shown in Figure S3 and were used to inform our choice of instrument  
213 settings for the ambient measurements.

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216 The instrument inlet was set up at the southeast corner of the observatory. 100 sccm of air  
217 was subsampled into the Vocus CI-ToF from a Fluorinated Ethylene Propylene (FEP)  
218 Teflon inlet 5 m long and with a 12.7 mm outer diameter that had a flowrate of 20 liters  
219  $\text{min}^{-1}$  resulting in a residence time of  $\sim 1$  s. Importantly for measurements of semi-volatile  
220 VCPs, no particulate filter was used on the inlet to enhance transmission of semi- and  
221 low-volatility gases (Krechmer et al., 2016; Pagonis et al., 2017).

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224 The instrument background was measured every 15 minutes for 1 minute by injecting  
225 purified air generated by a Pt/Pd catalyst heated to 400 °C. Every 4 hours, diluted  
226 contents from a 14-component calibration cylinder (Apel-Riemer Environmental) were  
227 injected for 1 minute to measure and track instrument response over time (Table S1). To  
228 quantify CI-ToF signals for additional VCPs of interest, after the campaign we injected  
229 prepared quantitative standards of specific water-soluble VCPs that were observed in  
230 field measurements into the instrument from a Liquid Calibration System (LCS;  
231 TOFWERK AG) and measured the instrument response to create multi-point calibration  
232 curves. The LCS standards were then normalized using the cylinder calibrations during  
233 and after the campaign with the same tank. Although the CI-ToF used the same settings  
234 for calibrations as in the campaigns, this normalization accounted for differences in the  
235 instrument performance during and after the campaign. A table of the standard  
236 compounds along with their instrument responses can be found in Table S2.

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239 Data were processed using Tofware version 3.2.3 (Aerodyne Research, Inc.) in the Igor  
240 Pro programming environment (Wavemetrics, Inc.). Compounds of interest were detected  
241 as  $\text{NH}_4^+$  adducts within 2 ppm mass accuracy, but for clarity we refer to detected signals  
242 after subtracting the ammonium adduct (e.g.  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O}$  instead of  $(\text{NH}_4)\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O}^+$ ) in the  
243 Results and Discussion section below. For this focused analysis of urban emissions, data  
244 filtering was also performed on a subset of compounds to remove the influence of  
245 biomass burning events which resulted in elevated benzene to toluene ratios during  
246 inflow of air from the less densely populated western direction. These additional  
247 contributions from biomass burning-related emissions would not be included in the  
248 inventoried emissions and would bias calculations of urban emission ratios in this study.  
249 Hourly periods with large contributions from biomass burning were filtered for affected  
250 compounds using a benzene-to-toluene ratio  $>1.8$  (Figure S4), as acetonitrile was not  
251 well-correlated with benzene-to-toluene ratios, which was a better indicator of the  
252 influence of biomass burning at the site (Huangfu et al., 2021; Koss et al., 2018; Sheu et  
253 al., 2020). Thus, elevated concentrations of oxygenated compounds coincided with  
254 inflow from the more densely populated areas of the city.

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257 In addition to online measurements, a subset of adsorbent tube samples were also  
258 collected during the Winter 2020 campaign for offline analysis using gas chromatography  
259 electron ionization mass spectrometry (GC EI-MS) (Sheu et al., 2018) and were used  
260 here where possible within the instrument capabilities and range of measured species to  
261 confirm the identifications of oxygenated compounds (and their isomers) measured as  
262 molecular formulas by the online CI-TOF. These supplemental tube samples were  
263 collected periodically during the measurement period and their use here was intended to  
264 provide confirmational identifications of isomers contributing to CI-TOF ion  
265 measurements, though may not be inclusive of all possible OVOCs where compound or  
266 instrument configuration limitations exist (e.g., GC transmission, reactivity, thermal  
267 instability, adsorbent/column configuration). Additional measurements of meteorological  
268 parameters (e.g. wind speed/direction) (ATMOS 41 weather station) and carbon  
269 monoxide (Picarro G2401m) were also collected at the sampling site. A co-located high-  
270 resolution proton-transfer-reaction time-of-flight mass spectrometer (Ionicon Analytik  
271 PTR-ToF 8000) from Stony Brook University also made coincident long-term  
272 measurements of a smaller subset of key species, some of which were used to validate the  
273 performance of the CI-TOF with  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ionization.

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276 To accompany other anthropogenic sources in the EPA emissions inventory, annual  
277 emissions from VCPs in NYC counties were estimated using VCPy.v2.0 with a sector-



278 wide uncertainty of 15% on average (Seltzer et al., 2021, 2022). These are discussed in  
279 subsequent sections together with contributions from other anthropogenic sources  
280 (derived from National Emissions Inventory (NEI)) as NEI+VCPy (hereafter VCPy+).  
281 Additional NYC-resolved comparisons are made with the FIVE-VCP emissions  
282 inventory developed at the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration using  
283 methods described by McDonald et al. (McDonald et al., 2018) and updated for New  
284 York City in Coggon et al. (Coggon et al., 2021). A major update in the latter study was  
285 updating the VCP speciation profiles to the most recent surveys of consumer products,  
286 fragrances and architectural coatings. In VCPy, the magnitude and speciation of organic  
287 emissions are directly related to the mass of chemical products used, the composition of  
288 these products, the physiochemical properties of the chemical product constituents that  
289 govern volatilization, and the timescale available for these constituents to evaporate. The  
290 most notable updates to VCPy include the incorporation of additional product  
291 aggregations (e.g., 17 types of industrial coatings), variation in the VOC-content of  
292 products to reflect state-level area source rules relevant to the solvent sector, and the  
293 adoption of an indoor emissions pathway.

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295

296 To facilitate calculation of VCP indoor emissions in VCPy, each product category is  
297 assigned an indoor usage fraction. All coating and industrial products are assigned a 50%  
298 indoor emission fraction, all pesticides and automotive aftermarket products are assigned  
299 a 0% indoor emission fraction, and all consumer and cleaning products are assigned a  
300 100% indoor emission fraction. The lone exception are daily use personal care products,  
301 which are assumed to have a 50% indoor emission fraction. This indoor emission  
302 assignment enables the mass transfer coefficient to vary between indoor and outdoor  
303 conditions. Typically, the mass transfer coefficient indoors is smaller than the mass  
304 transfer coefficient outdoors due to more stagnant atmospheric conditions, and the newest  
305 version of the modeling framework reflects these dynamics. Indoor product usage utilizes  
306 a mass transfer coefficient of  $5 \text{ m hr}^{-1}$ , and the remaining outdoor portion is assigned a  
307 mass transfer coefficient of  $30 \text{ m hr}^{-1}$  (Khare and Gentner, 2018; Weschler and Nazaroff,  
308 2008). More details about the framework could be found elsewhere (Seltzer et al., 2021).  
309 Annual production volumes for different chemical species used in discussion were taken  
310 from U.S. EPA's Chemical Data Reporting database (U.S. Environmental Protection  
311 Agency, Chemical Data Reporting, 2016).

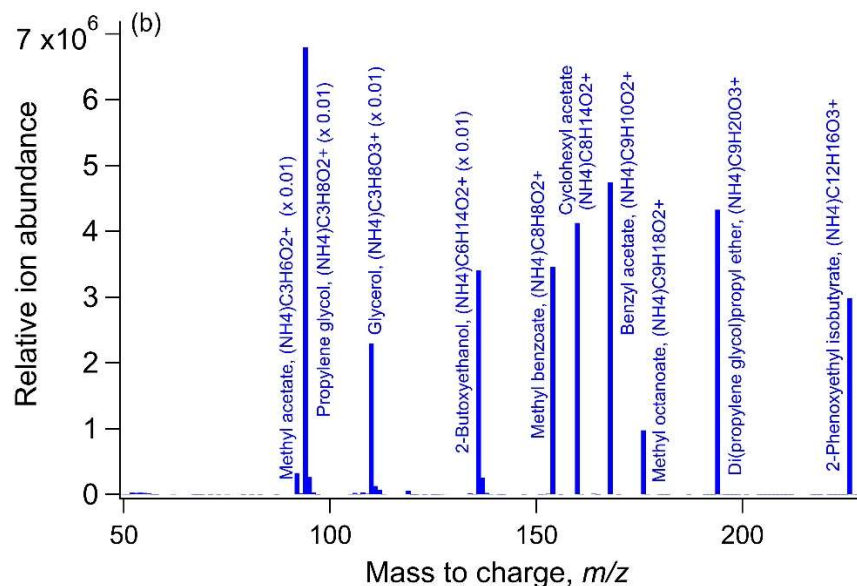
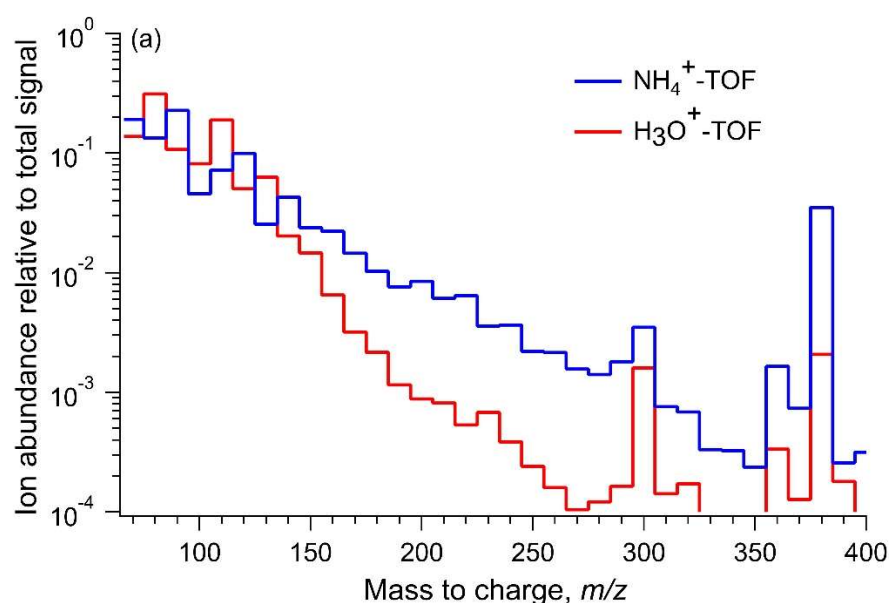
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### 313 **3. Results and discussion**

#### 314 **3.1. Instrument response to diverse chemical functionalities**

315 Of the 1000's of ions observed in the urban ambient mass spectra (Figures 2a, S5) during  
316 online sampling with ammonium-adduct ionization, 148 prominent ion signals were

317 targeted for detailed analysis and assigned compound formulas representing a diverse  
 318 range of chemical functionalities (Table S3). These ions were selected based on high  
 319 signal-to-noise ratios ( $> 3.0$ ) and likely isomer contributions from VCP-related  
 320 emissions. To confirm sensitivity toward these functional groups, the instrument was  
 321 calibrated using 58 analytical standards that are also constituents of various  
 322 consumer/commercial products. The mass spectrum of individual standards showed high  
 323 parent ion-to-background signal and negligible fragmentation products (Figure 2a).  
 324 Further analysis also showed ammonium-adduct formation to be the dominant ionization  
 325 pathway for these analytical standards for applied instrument settings (Table S4). This  
 326 simplified the interpretation of the soft adduct parent ions in ambient air mass spectra in  
 327 contrast to higher-fragmentation-prone proton transfer reaction spectra.



328

329 **Figure 2. (a) Negligible parent ion fragmentation (with high signal-to-noise ratios)**  
330 **across diverse chemical functionalities in CI-ToF allows for measurements of**  
331 **understudied chemical species (examples from authentic standards shown). (b)**  
332 **Average ToF mass spectra obtained from NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> and H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (i.e. PTR) ionization**  
333 **schemes binned over 10 m/z intervals using data from the same Vocus CI-ToF at the**  
334 **site. The CI-ToF spectra observed greater ion signal in the approximate**  
335 **intermediate-volatility into the semi-volatile region (e.g., ≥160 m/z). Note: In (b), the**  
336 **NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> and PTR signals are offset by 18 and 1 m/z respectively to account for the**  
337 **difference in the mass of the reagent ion and the averages are from different days**  
338 **when the reagent ion was switched.**

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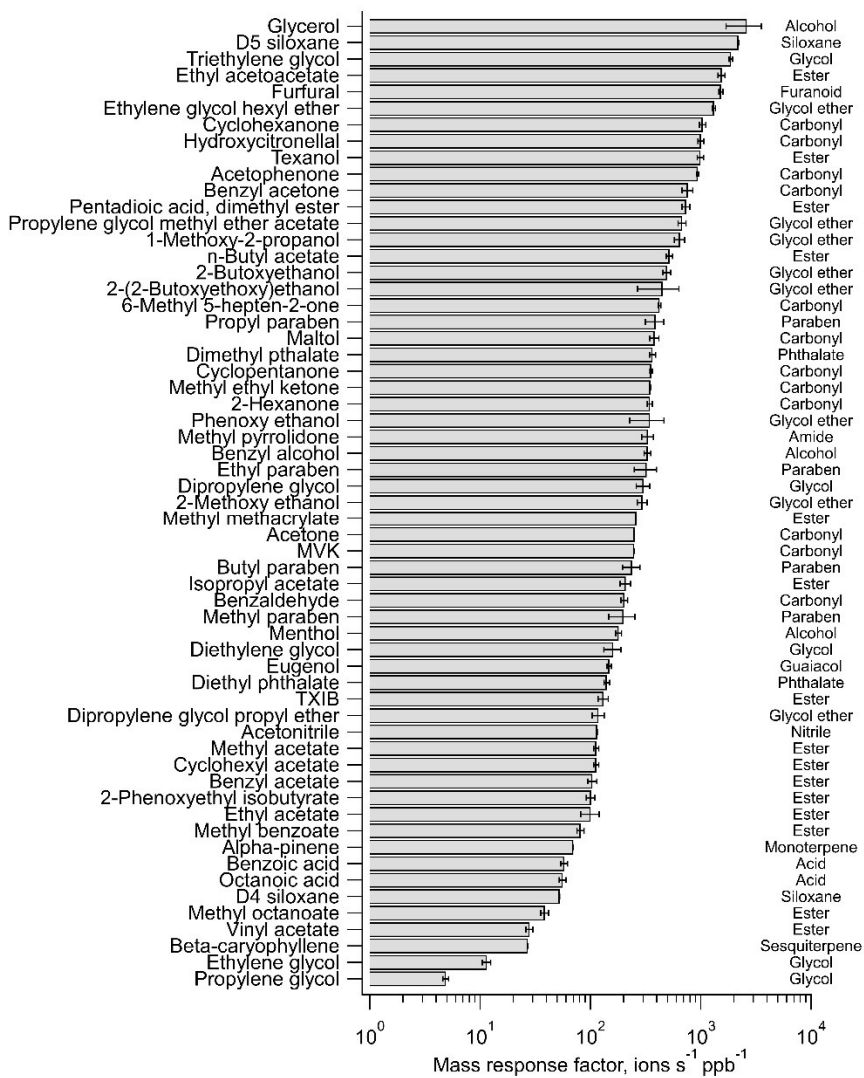
340 In laboratory tests with the authentic standards, the instrument showed the highest  
341 response factors (i.e. ions ppb<sup>-1</sup>) toward glycol ethers and ketones (Figure 3, Table S2)  
342 with detection limits below 5 parts per trillion (ppt) for several chemical species (Table  
343 S5). The response factors for most aliphatic and aromatic esters were one order of  
344 magnitude smaller than glycol ethers and ketones. Standards for isomers were also run in  
345 some cases of possible different compounds contributing to the same ion signal based on  
346 multiple prominent compounds estimated in inventories or well-known VCP components.  
347 While some isomers elicited similar responses from the instrument, others produced  
348 considerably different sensitivities (Figure S6) (Bi et al., 2021). For 7 test cases here, the  
349 difference in response factors tended to be most pronounced in the case of isomers with  
350 small carbon numbers, e.g. ethyl acetate being 8 times higher than butyric acid, while  
351 isomers with larger carbon numbers, e.g. ethylene glycol hexyl ether (EGHE) and 1,2  
352 octanediol produced similar ion intensities. Overall, this sensitivity analysis showed that  
353 the calculated concentrations could have significant differences (by a factor of 0.5 to 8  
354 with a worst-case relative isomer contribution bias spanning 1:4 to 4:1), especially for the  
355 smaller oxygenated compounds tested here, and is dependent on the relative abundance  
356 of contributing isomers due to their effect on the overall mass response factor (Figure  
357 S6). Hence, in each case where isomer sets were tested, the mass response factor for the  
358 ion was estimated by averaging the instrument response to individual isomers. This can  
359 still potentially cause some over- or under-estimation of ion concentrations in ambient air  
360 depending on the relative contribution of isomers to the ion, which is affected by the  
361 magnitude of emissions of individual isomers as well as their sources and sinks (and  
362 indoor vs. outdoor emissions). We have further constrained this uncertainty by  
363 confirming isomer identities wherever possible via offline GC-EIMS measurements using  
364 adsorbent tubes (Table 1).

365

366 This variability in instrument response could also depend on other physiochemical  
367 properties of the analytes because some acids, e.g. hexadecanoic, fumaric, adipic and

368 salicylic acids, also responded poorly to calibration. This may be due to poor water  
369 solubility in some cases (e.g. adipic and hexadecanoic acid) affecting the calibration  
370 mixes, and, also the tendency of lower volatility compounds to partition to surfaces that  
371 may reduce their transmission efficiency through the LCS delivery lines and the  
372 instrument inlet thus contributing to this marked difference in instrument response  
373 between some isomers.

374  
375 The signal intensities could also be influenced by changes in environmental factors such  
376 as relative humidity that can modify the relative importance of different ionization  
377 pathways in the reaction chamber. However, systematic tests conducted with acetone,  
378 MEK, acetonitrile and  $\alpha$ -pinene found their  $\text{NH}_4^+$ -adduct signal intensities to be  
379 independent of any changes in relative humidity in the CI-ToF ionization region (Figure  
380 1). Thus, day-to-day response factors for individual ions were comparable across the  
381 entire sampling period and did not require RH-dependent corrections.



382

383 **Figure 3. The response of the CI-ToF with NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> ionization toward select calibration**  
 384 **standards containing a diverse range of chemical functional groups and molecular**  
 385 **structures, which are listed (right) for reference, but we note the multi-functionality**  
 386 **of some of the compounds.**

387

388 Additionally, the CI-ToF measurements were also validated by comparing the  
 389 concentration timeseries of some of the OVOCs (i.e. acetone, methyl vinyl ketone  
 390 (MVK), MEK) and monoterpenes across the entire sampling period with parallel  
 391 measurements from a co-located PTR-ToF instrument. While the measurements largely  
 392 agreed within 90% validating the performance of the CI-ToF instrument (Figure S7), the  
 393 slight differences observed could be caused by variations in relative responses to isomers  
 394 in different ionization schemes of the two instruments.

395

396 In case of ion signals that were not quantified, we have carefully considered factors such  
397 as annual usage of likely compounds, their atmospheric reactivity and ionization  
398 efficiency with the  $\text{NH}_4^+$  adduct to inform our discussion of their formula assignments.  
399 For example, minimal ethanol ions were observed during instrument calibration  
400 suggesting limitations in its detection with  $\text{NH}_4^+$  reagent ion (Figure S8). Yet,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$   
401 ion signal was measured during ambient sampling. Given the densely urban sampling  
402 location, we hypothesize that this measured  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$  signal was dimethyl ether that is  
403 used in personal care products (propellant) and some potential use as fuel or refrigerant.  
404 It was not calibrated for and we could not confirm its abundances using another  
405 measurement in this study. However, ethanol emissions are still expected to exceed those  
406 of dimethyl ether based on the inventories, and, instrument settings may affect its relative  
407 sensitivity between these two isomers. Similar assessments are made wherever possible  
408 in the discussion of temporal trends of uncalibrated ions.

409  
410 Vocus CI-ToF captured relatively more ion signal in the 150-350  $m/z$  range (i.e.  
411 normalized to the total signal of the mass spectra) when compared with PTR ionization  
412 using the same instrument at the same site (Figure 2b). This was due to formation of  
413 strongly-bonded  $\text{NH}_4^+$ -analyte adduct molecules at low collision energies that preserved  
414 large functionalized analytes. In comparison, PTR-ToF can strongly fragment certain  
415 functionalized analytes (e.g. alcohols) during proton addition rendering interpretation  
416 difficult. Hence, we are able to examine a greater diversity of volatile- to semi-volatile  
417 functionalized compounds with CI-ToF measurements that are known to be emitted from  
418 a wide range of volatile chemical products.

### 419 420 **3.2 Influence of atmospheric conditions and transport on observed concentrations**

421  
422 The concentrations of measured ions varied significantly over the 10-day sampling period  
423 influenced by changes in meteorology and dilution, as well as temporal changes in  
424 emissions. The concentrations showed clear dependence on wind velocity (4.5 m/s avg.)  
425 and direction, indicating variations in both emission rates and dispersion across different  
426 areas upwind of the site. The highest concentration signals were observed between 22/1  
427 and 25/1 when slower winds (<5 m/s) arrived from the southwest, south, and east across  
428 various parts of Manhattan leading up to the site (Figures S2, S9). These areas are  
429 characterized by a high population density and include a wide range of commercial  
430 activities that could contribute to the concentration enhancements. Multiple types of  
431 diverse sources of OVOCs can exist here, and in other urban areas, though current  
432 emissions inventories suggest that the inventoried target species in Table 1 are primarily  
433 emitted from VCPs in New York City with minimal or negligible contributions from  
434 other sources such as on- and non-road sources and current inventory estimates of  
435 cooking and biomass burning (Table S6). Similarly, recent source apportionment using

436 mobile lab measurements in NYC also attributes the majority of the signal for several of  
437 the highly emitted species observed here (e.g. acetone, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O) to a general  
438 VCP-related source factor (that may include minor contributions from other sources)  
439 (Gkatzelis et al., 2021b).

440

441 Additional concentration spikes and smaller enhancements were observed on 27/1 with  
442 similar southwesterly winds at higher speeds. Prolonged concentration enhancements  
443 were also observed 30/1-31/1 with slower (<5 m/s) winds predominantly from the east,  
444 passing over Harlem (Manhattan) after crossing the also densely-populated Bronx with  
445 varied commercial/industrial activities. Observed concentrations at the site were lowest  
446 with west-northwesterly and northwesterly winds originating from relatively less-densely  
447 populated areas, as well as periods of highest wind speeds.

448

449 Concentration trends generally overlapped across all compound classes with a few  
450 exceptions (e.g. C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>), with variations in their covariances (see Sec. 3.3). This  
451 demonstrates a major role for meteorology in determining local VOC concentrations at  
452 the site, and elsewhere in NYC. Still in some cases (e.g. nitropropane, 2,5 dimethyl  
453 furan), influence of certain short-term sources such as possible local/regional wintertime  
454 biomass burning contributions were observed as temporary sharp spikes in compound  
455 abundances.

456

457 By influencing the rate of advective transport of pollutants, wind speed also directly  
458 impacts the time available for chemical species to undergo oxidation in the atmosphere.  
459 Atmospheric oxidation can be an important sink for different chemical species and also a  
460 secondary source for some OVOCs (e.g. alcohols, carbonyls) (Franco et al., 2021;  
461 Mellouki et al., 2015). Therefore, accounting for their reaction timescales is necessary in  
462 the interpretation of their relative abundances. During this sampling campaign, with a  
463 local average wind speed of 4.5 m s<sup>-1</sup> (Figure S9), this translated to 0.5-2 hours of  
464 daytime photochemical aging for emissions within 10-30 km of the site (encompassing  
465 all of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx, and much of urban metro NYC in New  
466 Jersey) (Figure S2).

467

468 For species under consideration in this study, the rate constants for reaction with  
469 hydroxyl radicals (OH·) ranged from 10<sup>-11</sup> to 10<sup>-13</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> as obtained from the  
470 OPERA model and other studies (Aschmann et al., 2001; Mansouri et al., 2018; Picquet-  
471 Varrault et al., 2002; Ren et al., 2021). Given wintertime OH concentrations of

472 approximately  $10^6$  molecules  $\text{cm}^3$  in NYC (Ren et al., 2006; Schroder et al., 2018), this  
473 puts their daytime atmospheric lifetimes (i.e. e-folding times) between 1-2 days to several  
474 months with some variation across OH concentrations. For average wind speeds observed  
475 during sampling, this translated to daytime concentration losses of 10% or less for the  
476 vast majority of measured species if emitted within a distance of 10-15 kilometers of the  
477 site (Figure S10), which includes all of Manhattan and other densely populated areas of  
478 NYC and adjacent New Jersey (Figure S2).

479

480 Secondary production represents a major potential source of OVOCs—one that will be at  
481 a relative minimum in the wintertime conditions, but long-distance transport of OVOCs  
482 in the background air entering NYC will include significant secondary contributions, as  
483 well as some transport of primary emissions from further upwind. In the subsequent  
484 calculations of urban enhancements (Table 1) used in the emission inventory comparison  
485 (Section 3.5), these incoming background contributions are minimized by subtracting the  
486 5<sup>th</sup> percentile for each measured species to reduce the influence of non-local primary and  
487 secondary sources outside the scope of the NYC-focused inventories used here. These  
488 urban enhancement calculations (discussed further in Section 3.5) are aided by the very  
489 densely populated nature of NYC and the density of VCP-related and other  
490 anthropogenic sources. For example, recent mobile measurements that show over 95%  
491 reduction in D5 concentrations outside NYC relative to Manhattan and surrounding areas  
492 indicating minimal contributions from urban sources outside of NYC (Coggon et al.,  
493 2021). For the select VCP-related species examined in those studies and at our site, the  
494 mobile measurements (Coggon et al., 2021; Stockwell et al., 2021) in the relatively less  
495 densely-populated regions to the north and northwest of NYC show background  
496 concentrations comparable to our 5<sup>th</sup> percentile concentrations, which typically came with  
497 winds from that direction and/or periods with high wind speeds of  $7\text{-}8\text{ ms}^{-1}$  or greater  
498 (enhancing dilution) (figures 4-5, S9).

499

500 Despite wintertime conditions, local secondary production of OVOCs via atmospheric  
501 oxidation will occur (over the distances described above) with the potential for locally-  
502 produced OVOCs that could be included in the urban enhancement calculations.  
503 However, the field site's location amongst a high density of VCP-related (and other)  
504 sources and the observed OVOC enhancements occurring with winds from more densely-  
505 populated areas (Figures 4, 5, S9) supports the dominance of primary emissions in  
506 wintertime and drives the well-correlated enhancements with OVOC tracers that aids the  
507 inventory comparison. For context, Gkatzelis et al.'s (ES&T 2021b) reported that only  
508 ~20% of wintertime acetone in NYC is related to secondary production, which would



509 include both contributions from oxidation locally and over longer distances, and the  
510 approach here subtracts the latter background contributions.

511

512 For future work at the site, we note that daytime OH concentrations in NYC during  
513 summer will be higher (e.g. five times the winter values in NYC, (Ren et al., 2006)),  
514 which can affect the interpretation of source contributions to more reactive chemical  
515 species with shorter lifetimes and secondary production. The other important daytime  
516 oxidant ozone is not likely to react significantly in the absence of non-aromatic  
517 unsaturated C=C bonds in most targeted ions in this study (de Gouw et al., 2017),  
518 especially during the winter. The reaction rate (k) values for nighttime oxidation with the  
519 nitrate radicals are 1 to 4 orders of magnitude smaller ( $\sim 10^{-12}$ - $10^{-15}$  molecule<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>)  
520 with average NO<sub>3</sub> concentrations on the order of 10<sup>8</sup> molecules cm<sup>-3</sup> (Asaf et al., 2010;  
521 Cao et al., 2018). Thus, nighttime oxidation is not likely to lead to shorter VOC lifetimes  
522 than those calculated for daytime OH oxidation. In all, it is unlikely that the emissions of  
523 the target compounds in this study were substantially influenced by oxidative losses in  
524 the ambient atmosphere, and were predominantly driven by the magnitude of emissions  
525 in NYC and their atmospheric dilution. Yet, the observed ambient concentrations of  
526 different species could be potentially affected by the extent of their indoor vs. outdoor  
527 usage, seasonal patterns in applications (e.g., wintertime outdoor use of ethylene glycol  
528 as antifreeze), or physical processes related to their sources or sinks (e.g. partitioning).

529

530

### 531 **3.3. Ambient measurements across diverse chemical classes**

532 Within the broader distribution of ion signals across the entire ambient mass spectra, we  
533 identified a diversity of chemical species. A selection of the most prominent ions in  
534 various compound categories are discussed in this section. Table S7 summarizes different  
535 use sectors, but the vast majority have uses in personal care products, fragrances, a wide  
536 range of solvents, and/or other volatile consumer products. As such, some of the most  
537 abundant ions observed here were related to compounds found in the formulations of  
538 these types of products and/or had large annual production volumes (U.S. Environmental  
539 Protection Agency, Chemical Data Reporting, 2016). For some volatile compounds that  
540 exhibited low atmospheric abundances despite large annual production, it is possible that  
541 a substantial fraction of the production volume goes as feedstock to manufacture  
542 derivatives or are otherwise not prone to gas-phase emissions. Yet, seasonal differences  
543 in use, partitioning to the gas phase, and/or indoor-to-outdoor transport could also  
544 contribute to potential inter-annual variations.

545

546 The ions above 100 ppt on average included those with contributions from acetates,  
 547 C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O (e.g. ethylene glycol), C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O (e.g. acetone), C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N (e.g. acetonitrile), C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>16</sub>  
 548 (e.g. monoterpenes), C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O (e.g. methyl ethyl ketone) and C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (e.g. methyl  
 549 methacrylate) (Table 1). A detailed discussion of the trends in concentrations and ion  
 550 abundances of these and other ions is presented below and separated into distinct  
 551 categories based on chemical class or use-type.

552 **Table 1. List of ions calibrated with authentic standards (Table S2), probable**  
 553 **contributing isomers, geometric mean concentrations (with standard deviations),**  
 554 **annual emissions in each inventory, and mean concentration enhancement ratios**  
 555 **(with standard deviations of the mean and linear correlation coefficients) with**  
 556 **acetone and other prominent combustion-related tracers. Isomer identifications**  
 557 **marked with asterisks (\*) were confirmed in offline GC-EI-MS measurements, with**  
 558 **additional possible isomers included in Table S7.**

Compound formula, i	Probable compounds, i	Geo. mean concentration, ppt, i	Emissions, kg yr <sup>-1</sup> VCPy+, FIVE-VCP	Ratios to tracer compounds ( $\Delta\text{mol}/\Delta\text{mol}$ ) <sup>†</sup>			
				$\Delta i/\Delta\text{Benzene}$ (r)	$\Delta i^*1000/\Delta\text{CO}$ (r)	$\Delta i/\Delta\text{Acetone}$ (r)	$\Delta i/\Delta\text{Benzyl alcohol}$ (r)
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Ethylene glycol	2437±3622	361511, 236310	1.1E+01±1.7E+00 (0.79)	9.1E+00±1.3E+00 (0.83)	2.8E+00±4.3E-01 (0.95)	3.0E+02±4.2E+01 (0.88)
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O	Acetone*	977±783	1360720, 1587220	3.8E+00±4.8E-01 (0.83)	3.3E+00±3.7E-01 (0.87)	--	1.1E+02±1.1E+01 (0.92)
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Methyl acrylate*, Diacetyl*	810±396	1905, 4638	2.1E+00±2.5E-01 (0.82)	1.8E+00±1.9E-01 (0.89)	5.6E-01±6.1E-02 (0.95)	5.9E+01±5.6E+00 (0.94)
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Ethyl acetate*, Butyric acid	679±664	30225, 293	2.8E+00±3.6E-01 (0.72)	2.3E+00±2.8E-01 (0.73)	7.2E-01±8.9E-02 (0.73)	7.6E+01±8.5E+00 (0.67)
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Methyl acetate*, Propionic acid, Hydroxyacetone, Ethyl formate	435±377	50747, 103808	1.7E+00±2.2E-01 (0.64)	1.5E+00±1.6E-01 (0.65)	4.5E-01±5.3E-02 (0.76)	4.8E+01±5.0E+00 (0.7)
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N	Acetonitrile	246±102		8.5E-01±9.0E-02 (0.32)	7.2E-01±6.4E-02 (0.35)	2.2E-01±2.2E-02 (0.33)	2.3E+01±1.9E+00 (0.33)
C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>16</sub>	Monoterpenes (e.g., limonene*, $\alpha$ -Pinene*)	156±105	60327, 15516	5.1E-01±6.5E-02 (0.79)	4.3E-01±4.9E-02 (0.87)	1.3E-01±1.6E-02 (0.85)	1.4E+01±1.5E+00 (0.94)
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O	MEK, THF, Cyclopropyl carbinol*	126±82	57457, 277556	4.3E-01±5.1E-02 (0.79)	3.7E-01±3.8E-02 (0.84)	1.1E-01±1.2E-02 (0.93)	1.2E+01±1.1E+00 (0.85)
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Isopropyl acetate*, n-propyl acetate*	114±106	3457, 5289	4.4E-01±5.7E-02 (0.61)	3.7E-01±4.4E-02 (0.69)	1.1E-01±1.4E-02 (0.69)	1.2E+01±1.3E+00 (0.58)
C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Methyl methacrylate*	108±121	1102, -	4.1E-01±6.0E-02 (0.45)	3.5E-01±4.7E-02 (0.37)	1.1E-01±1.5E-02 (0.5)	1.1E+01±1.5E+00 (0.41)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Butyl acetate*	103±138	80120, 56862	4.9E-01±6.9E-02 (0.76)	4.1E-01±5.4E-02 (0.77)	1.3E-01±1.7E-02 (0.87)	1.3E+01±1.7E+00 (0.83)
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Methyl benzoate*	92±15		1.1E-01±1.2E-02 (0.72)	9.1E-02±8.4E-03 (0.75)	2.8E-02±2.8E-03 (0.78)	3.0E+00±2.5E-01 (0.79)
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Caprylic acid* (i.e., Octanoic acid), hexyl acetate	87±47	5281, -	2.5E-01±2.9E-02 (0.81)	2.1E-01±2.2E-02 (0.92)	6.5E-02±7.2E-03 (0.92)	6.9E+00±6.6E-01 (0.95)
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	2-Methoxy ethanol, propylene glycol*	82±51	240692, -	2.9E-01±3.3E-02 (0.71)	2.4E-01±2.4E-02 (0.71)	7.5E-02±8.0E-03 (0.85)	7.9E+00±7.3E-01 (0.77)
C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Methyl octanoate, Nonanoic acid*	77±24		1.4E-01±1.6E-02 (0.79)	1.2E-01±1.2E-02 (0.9)	3.7E-02±3.9E-03 (0.9)	3.9E+00±3.5E-01 (0.94)
C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O	Benzaldehyde*	76±37	3156, 14833	2.1E-01±2.5E-02 (0.83)	1.8E-01±1.8E-02 (0.88)	5.4E-02±6.1E-03 (0.88)	5.7E+00±5.6E-01 (0.93)
C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>24</sub>	Sesquiterpenes (e.g., $\beta$ -Caryophyllene)	70±11		7.3E-02±8.3E-03 (0.73)	6.2E-02±6.1E-03 (0.83)	1.9E-02±2.0E-03 (0.78)	2.0E+00±1.8E-01 (0.9)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O	2-Hexanone*, 4-Methyl-2-pentanone	59±42	6162, 14990	2.0E-01±2.5E-02 (0.83)	1.7E-01±1.9E-02 (0.84)	5.3E-02±6.1E-03 (0.92)	5.6E+00±5.7E-01 (0.91)
C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Benzoic acid*	59±9		5.8E-02±6.3E-03 (0.48)	4.9E-02±4.6E-03 (0.39)	1.5E-02±1.5E-03 (0.4)	1.6E+00±1.4E-01 (0.45)
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O	MVK, MACR	58±39		1.9E-01±2.4E-02 (0.83)	1.6E-01±1.8E-02 (0.87)	4.9E-02±5.9E-03 (0.94)	5.1E+00±5.5E-01 (0.94)
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Cyclohexyl acetate	43±20		1.2E-01±1.4E-02 (0.81)	1.0E-01±1.0E-02 (0.89)	3.2E-02±3.4E-03 (0.95)	3.4E+00±3.0E-01 (0.95)
C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Benzyl acetate	39±19	7, -	1.0E-01±1.2E-02 (0.82)	8.8E-02±9.0E-03 (0.89)	2.7E-02±3.0E-03 (0.87)	2.9E+00±2.7E-01 (0.95)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Dipropylene glycol	36±28	41085, 105732	1.4E-01±1.7E-02 (0.65)	1.2E-01±1.3E-02 (0.71)	3.6E-02±4.1E-03 (0.7)	3.8E+00±3.8E-01 (0.8)

C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Diethylene glycol	32±17	7026, 110939	8.9E-02±1.1E-02 (0.84)	7.5E-02±7.9E-03 (0.87)	2.3E-02±2.6E-03 (0.91)	2.4E+00±2.4E-01 (0.92)
C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O	Menthol, Decanal*	31±18	971, 0.05	9.4E-02±1.1E-02 (0.77)	7.9E-02±8.2E-03 (0.89)	2.4E-02±2.7E-03 (0.9)	2.6E+00±2.5E-01 (0.96)
C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O	Cyclopentanone	30±16		8.4E-02±9.8E-03 (0.84)	7.1E-02±7.2E-03 (0.9)	2.2E-02±2.4E-03 (0.95)	2.3E+00±2.2E-01 (0.95)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	2-Butoxyethanol*, 1-propoxy-2-propanol*	23±19	109288, 72125	8.9E-02±1.1E-02 (0.8)	7.5E-02±8.2E-03 (0.87)	2.3E-02±2.7E-03 (0.91)	2.4E+00±2.5E-01 (0.9)
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>4</sub>	D4 siloxane*	23±3	12872, 92707	2.3E-02±2.5E-03 (0.38)	2.0E-02±1.8E-03 (0.48)	6.0E-03±6.1E-04 (0.48)	6.4E-01±5.5E-02 (0.59)
C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	TXIB*	18±4	-, 2264	2.6E-02±3.0E-03 (0.73)	2.2E-02±2.2E-03 (0.83)	6.8E-03±7.2E-04 (0.75)	7.2E-01±6.5E-02 (0.86)
C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Eugenol	16±5	45, -	3.1E-02±3.5E-03 (0.82)	2.6E-02±2.5E-03 (0.85)	7.9E-03±8.4E-04 (0.91)	8.4E-01±7.6E-02 (0.92)
C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Dipropylene glycol propyl ether	16±4	4150, 5966	2.3E-02±2.7E-03 (0.65)	2.0E-02±2.0E-03 (0.71)	6.1E-03±6.5E-04 (0.62)	6.4E-01±5.9E-02 (0.73)
C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2-Phenoxyethyl isobutyrate	16±2		1.6E-02±1.7E-03 (0.73)	1.3E-02±1.2E-03 (0.76)	4.1E-03±4.1E-04 (0.79)	4.4E-01±3.6E-02 (0.83)
C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>5</sub>	D5 siloxane*	16±15	272778, 323982	6.7E-02±8.5E-03 (0.7)	5.7E-02±6.4E-03 (0.82)	1.7E-02±2.1E-03 (0.82)	1.8E+00±2.0E-01 (0.9)
C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Diethyl phthalate*	15±3	17138, -	2.3E-02±2.4E-03 (0.64)	1.9E-02±1.7E-03 (0.7)	5.9E-03±5.8E-04 (0.65)	6.2E-01±5.1E-02 (0.71)
C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O	Benzyl alcohol	14±6	22898, 20791	3.6E-02±4.1E-03 (0.85)	3.1E-02±3.0E-03 (0.92)	9.5E-03±1.0E-03 (0.92)	--
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O	6-Methyl 5-hepten-2-one	14±7		4.1E-02±4.6E-03 (0.81)	3.4E-02±3.4E-03 (0.89)	1.1E-02±1.1E-03 (0.96)	1.1E+00±1.0E-01 (0.96)
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Methyl paraben	14±4		2.4E-02±2.7E-03 (0.83)	2.1E-02±2.0E-03 (0.86)	6.3E-03±6.6E-04 (0.83)	6.7E-01±6.0E-02 (0.87)
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1-Methoxy-2-propanol*	13±8	3558, 2182	4.1E-02±4.9E-03 (0.78)	3.5E-02±3.6E-03 (0.85)	1.1E-02±1.2E-03 (0.89)	1.1E+00±1.1E-01 (0.89)
C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Furfural*	13±6	-, 0.01	3.4E-02±4.0E-03 (0.71)	2.9E-02±2.9E-03 (0.62)	8.8E-03±9.7E-04 (0.56)	9.3E-01±8.9E-02 (0.66)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O	Cyclohexanone	12±6	384, 96838	3.6E-02±4.1E-03 (0.84)	3.0E-02±3.0E-03 (0.91)	9.4E-03±1.0E-03 (0.96)	9.9E-01±9.1E-02 (0.92)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	PGMEA*, 2-Ethoxyethyl acetate	12±11	10327, 7450	4.7E-02±6.0E-03 (0.78)	4.0E-02±4.6E-03 (0.76)	1.2E-02±1.5E-03 (0.9)	1.3E+00±1.4E-01 (0.86)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Maltol	11±3		1.3E-02±1.6E-03 (0.59)	1.1E-02±1.2E-03 (0.44)	3.4E-03±3.8E-04 (0.42)	3.6E-01±3.5E-02 (0.49)
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O	Acetophenone*	10±6	4, -	3.2E-02±3.8E-03 (0.81)	2.7E-02±2.9E-03 (0.85)	8.4E-03±9.4E-04 (0.89)	8.8E-01±8.7E-02 (0.9)
C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO	Methyl pyrrolidone	9±3	12749, 14015	1.9E-02±2.2E-03 (0.72)	1.6E-02±1.6E-03 (0.78)	5.0E-03±5.3E-04 (0.77)	5.3E-01±4.8E-02 (0.78)
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Phenoxyethanol*	9±3	9851, 0.23	1.7E-02±2.0E-03 (0.78)	1.5E-02±1.5E-03 (0.84)	4.5E-03±4.9E-04 (0.86)	4.8E-01±4.4E-02 (0.91)
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2-(2-Butoxyethoxy)ethanol, DGBE	8±4	48681, 62011	2.1E-02±2.4E-03 (0.85)	1.8E-02±1.8E-03 (0.91)	5.4E-03±5.9E-04 (0.89)	5.7E-01±5.4E-02 (0.94)
C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Dimethyl phthalate	7±1	70, -	9.1E-03±1.0E-03 (0.62)	7.7E-03±7.4E-04 (0.62)	2.4E-03±2.5E-04 (0.55)	2.5E-01±2.2E-02 (0.65)
C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Texanol*	7±4	267615, 179276	2.0E-02±2.4E-03 (0.57)	1.7E-02±1.8E-03 (0.74)	5.3E-03±5.9E-04 (0.77)	5.6E-01±5.5E-02 (0.74)
C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Ethyl paraben	6±1		7.0E-03±7.7E-04 (0.84)	5.9E-03±5.6E-04 (0.84)	1.8E-03±1.9E-04 (0.85)	1.9E-01±1.7E-02 (0.9)
C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Butyl paraben	6±1		8.5E-03±9.0E-04 (0.71)	7.2E-03±6.5E-04 (0.74)	2.2E-03±2.2E-04 (0.8)	2.3E-01±1.9E-02 (0.76)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Ethyl acetoacetate	4±2		1.3E-02±1.5E-03 (0.85)	1.1E-02±1.1E-03 (0.87)	3.4E-03±3.7E-04 (0.93)	3.6E-01±3.4E-02 (0.91)
C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O	Benzyl acetone	4±2		1.0E-02±1.2E-03 (0.85)	8.5E-03±8.8E-04 (0.91)	2.6E-03±2.9E-04 (0.94)	2.8E-01±2.6E-02 (0.97)
C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Pentadioic acid, dimethyl ester	4±1	4942, 25606	7.2E-03±8.0E-04 (0.8)	6.1E-03±5.8E-04 (0.84)	1.9E-03±1.9E-04 (0.87)	2.0E-01±1.7E-02 (0.89)
C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Propyl paraben	4±1		6.3E-03±7.1E-04 (0.54)	5.3E-03±5.3E-04 (0.46)	1.6E-03±1.7E-04 (0.42)	1.7E-01±1.6E-02 (0.51)
C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Hydroxycitronellal	3±1		5.3E-03±5.9E-04 (0.78)	4.5E-03±4.3E-04 (0.88)	1.4E-03±1.4E-04 (0.92)	1.5E-01±1.3E-02 (0.95)
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Ethylene glycol hexyl ether*, 1,2-Octanediol	2±1	15836, 7749	5.8E-03±6.7E-04 (0.8)	4.9E-03±4.9E-04 (0.88)	1.5E-03±1.6E-04 (0.87)	1.6E-01±1.5E-02 (0.94)
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Glycerol	1±0.5	148441, 949405	3.3E-04±1.8E-04 (0.64)	1.6E-03±2.8E-04 (0.65)	5.3E-04±6.4E-05 (0.74)	6.3E-02±7.8E-03 (0.73)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Triethylene glycol	1±0.3	1718, 955	2.1E-03±2.4E-04 (0.47)	1.8E-03±1.7E-04 (0.45)	5.5E-04±5.8E-05 (0.4)	5.8E-02±5.2E-03 (0.51)

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† **Notes:** For comparison to the emissions inventories, the standard deviation of the mean was used for the compound ratios to constrain the uncertainty of the average compound ratios over the 10-day period, yet we note that higher time resolution variations in the observed ratios are expected given the spatiotemporal variations in emissions from contributing sources distributed around the site. The listed mean concentrations are calculated from hourly averages of data sampled at 1 Hz throughout the measurement period. Given the varied correlation coefficients against tracers (Figure 6), to reduce bias, background-subtracted geometric means are used to determine the compound ratios, though the geometric mean ratios and slopes are similar, especially for well-correlated compound pairs (Figure S13). In the case of glycerol, given its low ambient concentration, the observed background level (i.e. 5th percentile) was

566 0.1 ppt below its calculated limit of detection. Based on this, the glycerol ratio to acetone for the purposes of Figure 7's comparison  
567 was determined based on their regression ( $5.3 \times 10^{-4}$  mol/mol;  $r=0.74$ ) when removing <LOD values. This has minimal influence on  
568 the glycerol-related conclusions related to its substantially low relative abundance as the geometric mean enhancement ratio  
569 calculation yielded a similar result ( $7.9 \times 10^{-4}$  mol/mol) when including all observations (Figure S13).

570

### 571 3.3.1 Esters

572 Prominent esters observed in this study and discussed here include acetates and acrylates.  
573  $C_3H_6O_2$ ,  $C_4H_6O_2$ ,  $C_4H_8O_2$ ,  $C_5H_{10}O_2$  and  $C_6H_{12}O_2$  were ions with some of the highest  
574 ambient concentrations in our data whose geometric mean concentrations varied between  
575 0.1-0.8 ppb (Figure 4a-f). Small acetates (e.g. methyl-, ethyl-, propyl- and butyl- acetates)  
576 are likely major contributors to these ion signals since they are being extensively used as  
577 oxygenated solvents and contribute to natural and designed fragrances/flavorings. The  
578 VCPy+ model estimates the annual emissions of these acetates to be on the order of  $10^4$ -  
579  $10^5$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup> in NYC, but other compounds can also contribute to these ions. For example,  
580 hydroxyacetone and propionic acid may add to  $C_3H_6O_2$ , diacetyl and  $\gamma$ -butyrolactone to  
581  $C_4H_6O_2$ , methyl propionate and butyric acid to  $C_4H_8O_2$ , isobutyl formate to  $C_5H_{10}O_2$ , and,  
582 diacetone alcohol and methyl pentanoate to  $C_6H_{10}O_2$ . However, their estimated emissions  
583 are 1-2 orders of magnitude smaller than each of the acetates, likely making them minor  
584 contributors to observed ion intensities.  $C_8H_{14}O_2$  (e.g. cyclohexyl acetate) and  $C_9H_{10}O_2$   
585 (e.g. benzyl acetate) were also important ions within this category with average  
586 concentrations at  $40 \pm 20$  ppt and peaks reaching up to 150 ppt during the measurement  
587 period.

588

589 We observed hourly  $C_5H_8O_2$  concentrations exceeding 1 ppb (Figure 5), which includes  
590 methyl methacrylate (MMA) and potential contributions from 2,3-pentanedione and ethyl  
591 acrylate given their use as solvents in various coatings and inks. MMA sees some use in  
592 adhesives, paints and safety glazing (estimated emissions  $\sim 10^3$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>; VCPy+), but  
593 could also potentially be emitted from the common polymer poly-(methyl methacrylate)  
594 (PMMA) which is used in plastic materials. With a geometric mean concentration of  $100$   
595  $\pm 120$  ppt, possible contributions of PMMA offgassing/degradation as a source of  
596 ambient MMA warrants further investigation, but has been observed in polymer studies  
597 (Bennet et al., 2010). In addition to isomer-specific observations of MMA, we note that  
598 most of the acetates were also confirmed via offline measurements using adsorbent tubes  
599 that were analyzed using GC EI-MS for compound-specific identification (Table 1).

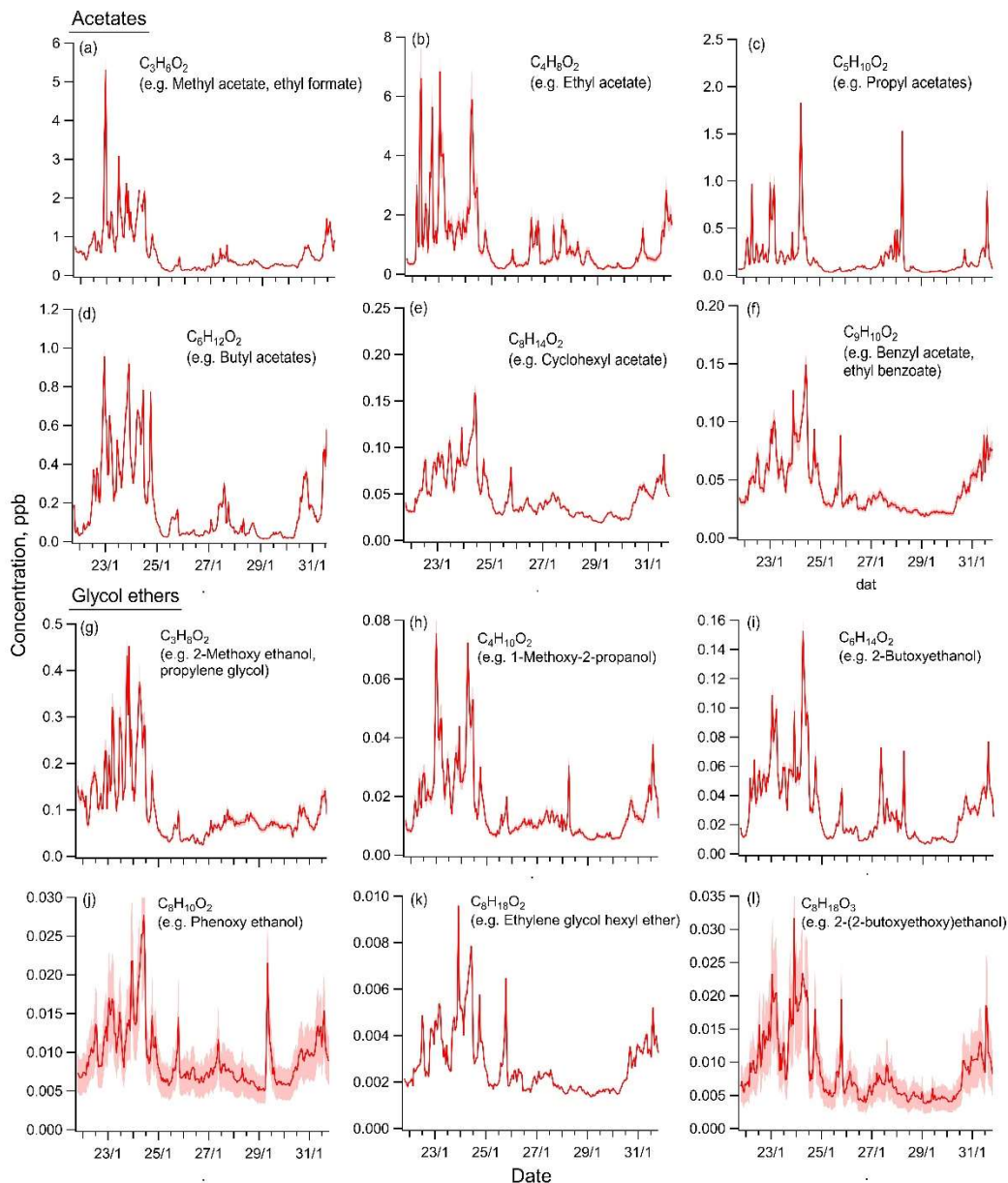
600

601

### 602 3.3.2 Carbonyls

603

604 Carbonyls are also extensively used as replacements for non-polar solvents in various  
 605 consumer/commercial applications along with use in cosmetics and personal care  
 606 products. Hence,  $C_3H_6O$  (e.g. acetone),  $C_4H_8O$  (e.g. methyl ethyl ketone) and  $C_6H_{12}O$   
 607 (e.g. methyl butyl ketone) were expectedly present at relatively high concentrations.  
 608 Given the absence of considerable known emissions of other isomers, the ion intensities  
 609 were mainly attributed to these carbonyl compounds.



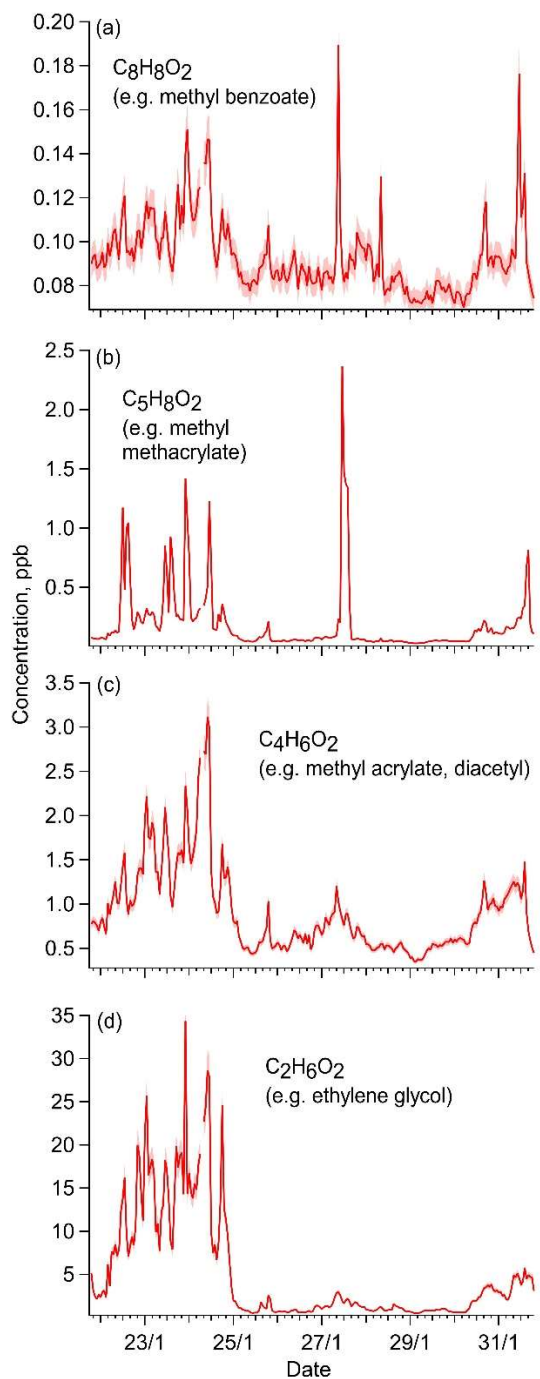
610

611 **Figure 4. The concentration timeseries of select, widely-used acetates and glycol**  
 612 **ethers. Timeseries are shown with major isomers as examples with a more**

613 **comprehensive list available in Tables 1 and S7. Displayed uncertainty bands are a**  
614 **function of calibration uncertainties (including for isomer pairs) (Table S2).**  
615

616 We acknowledge that other primary and secondary sources may also exist for some  
617 carbonyl species, including unknown contributions from combustion-related sources,  
618 cooking or other anthropogenically-influenced sources. Yet, VCPs are the dominant  
619 source of acetone in NYC as per the latest emissions inventories (VCPy+ and FIVE-  
620 VCP) and recent source apportionment of wintertime mobile measurements in NYC that  
621 attribute most of the observed acetone signal to the VCP-related source factor (Gkatzelis  
622 et al., 2021b).

623 Acetone showed the highest average concentrations in urban air among all carbonyl  
624 solvents detected (Table 1). Since biogenic and local secondary sources of acetone (i.e.  
625 from atmospheric oxidation) are relatively reduced in NYC wintertime conditions, the  
626 measurements are consistent with very high anthropogenic emissions in NYC ( $\sim 10^6$  kg  
627  $\text{yr}^{-1}$ ) and extensive use in products and by industries ( $\sim 10^9$  kg  $\text{yr}^{-1}$  nationwide), and  
628 recent work on acetone in NYC (Gkatzelis et al., 2021b).



629

630 **Figure 5. Concentration timeseries of select prominent ions that include**  
 631 **contributions from major VCP-related compounds (examples listed; see Tables 1**  
 632 **and S7 for expanded list).**

633

634 MEK was the second highest carbonyl observed with  $C_4H_8O$  ion concentration spanning  
 635 from 50 to over 500 ppt. Its estimated emissions are  $0.4\text{-}3 \times 10^5 \text{ kg yr}^{-1}$  or greater in NYC

636 and it finds significant use in coatings with large annual nationwide consumption ( $\sim 10^8$   
637 kg yr<sup>-1</sup>). Methyl butyl ketone (MBK) and cyclohexanone were the next most abundant in  
638 this category. The average concentration of MBK at  $58 \pm 42$  ppt was nearly 50% of MEK  
639 but reached up to 300 ppt during the initial 4 days of the sampling period. Cyclohexanone  
640 however was much smaller at  $12 \pm 7$  ppt with highest concentrations reaching up to only  
641 35 ppt across the measurement period, which was consistent with its emissions in VCPy+  
642 ( $\sim 400$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>) being at least two orders of magnitude smaller than other species in this  
643 category, though its estimated emissions in FIVE-VCP were much higher (Table 1).

644

645

### 646 3.3.3 Glycols and glycol ethers

647 Glycols and glycol ethers are compound classes that have been traditionally challenging  
648 to measure in real-time with PTR-ToF instruments, being prone to ionization-induced  
649 fragmentation during online sampling. With Vocus CI-ToF, we were able to measure  
650 signals of several glycol and glycol ether compounds. The most prominent ones included  
651 C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>2</sub> ions whose concentrations ranged between 10-  
652 500 ppt across the sampling period (Figure 4g-l) with C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> reaching ppb-levels.

653

654 C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (e.g. ethylene glycol) was the most abundant observed compound in this study  
655 (Table 1). The emissions of ethylene glycol in NYC are estimated to be on the order of  $3\text{-}$   
656  $4 \times 10^5$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup> which is a factor of 3 smaller than acetone ( $\sim 10^6$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>; VCPy+ and FIVE-  
657 VCP). Still the mean concentration of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> ( $2.4 \pm 3.6$  ppb) was found to be  
658 considerably larger than that of C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O ( $0.95 \pm 0.73$  ppb). This difference in their relative  
659 ratio could not be explained by their atmospheric lifetimes since ethylene glycol is  
660 estimated to be considerably shorter lived than acetone (1.5 vs 33 days).

661

662 The C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub> ion (20-450 ppt) likely represented propylene glycol, which was the highest  
663 emitted isomer in NYC ( $\sim 10^5$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>; VCPy+ and FIVE-VCP) estimates with  
664 comparatively minor contributions from 2-methoxy ethanol and dimethoxymethane, all  
665 of which are used as solvents in varnishes and various cosmetics. C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, including 2-  
666 butoxyethanol, a coupling agent in water-based coatings as well as solvent in varnishes,  
667 inks, cleaning products and resins, was observed at 10-150 ppt. The estimated emissions  
668 of isomer hexylene glycol are 100 times smaller and would likely not have contributed  
669 much to the C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub> ion signal.

670

671 C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, which ranged 10-80 ppt, includes 1-methoxy-2-propanol and 2-ethoxyethanol  
672 as both are used as organic solvents in industrial and commercial applications. Based on



673 emissions estimates, 1-methoxy-2-propanol is expected to be the dominant contributor to  
674 this signal with NYC emissions of  $\sim 2\text{-}3 \times 10^3 \text{ kg yr}^{-1}$ , which are 30-50 times higher than 2-  
675 ethoxyethanol in estimates.  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_3$  varied over a similar concentration range (5-80 ppt)  
676 resulting from propylene glycol methyl ether acetate (a.k.a. PGMEA) emissions ( $\sim 0.7\text{-}$   
677  $1 \times 10^4 \text{ kg yr}^{-1}$ ). The estimated emissions of the other likely isomer, 2-ethoxyethyl acetate,  
678 were lower by a factor of 100. Relatively smaller concentrations of  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2$   
679 and  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_3$  ranging between 2-30 ppt were also observed (Figure 4j-l) which include  
680 glycol ethers based on their higher emissions relative to other isomers.

681  
682

### 683 **3.3.4 Select compounds related to personal care products**

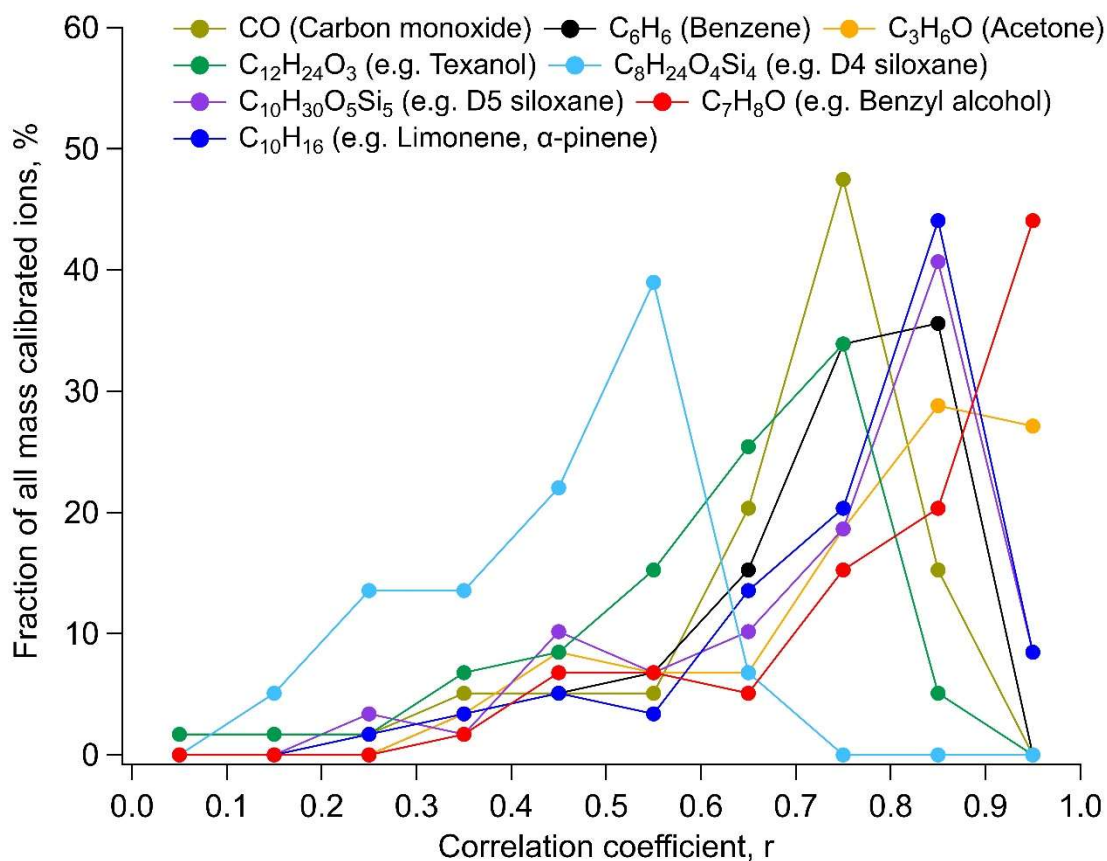
684

685 Many personal care products routinely include D5 which is often used as a tracer for  
686 emissions from this source category (Gkatzelis et al., 2021a). Hence, we attributed all of  
687 the measured  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_5\text{Si}_5$  ion abundance to D5 in this study. Both the VCPy+ and FIVE-  
688 VCP inventories estimate the annual emissions of D5 to be slightly higher ( $\sim 10^5 \text{ kg yr}^{-1}$ )  
689 than common oxygenated solvents, e.g. esters. However, its ambient concentration was  
690 found to be much lower in comparison to them and other oxygenated solvents, varying  
691 from 10 ppt to 140 ppt during the 10-day period with a geometric mean of 16 ppt. Other  
692 studies report similar concentrations in U.S. cities (Coggon et al., 2018; Stockwell et al.,  
693 2021). Compared to the emissions inventories, the expected ambient concentrations  
694 relative to acetone were lower by a factor of 2 (see Section 3.5, Table 1). Hypotheses for  
695 this difference include potential variations with wintertime conditions (e.g. partitioning),  
696 the relative amount emitted indoors vs outdoors, limitations in indoor-to-outdoor  
697 transport with reduced wintertime ventilation and/or D5's behavior as a semi-volatile  
698 species in the presence of indoor condensational reservoirs (Abbatt and Wang, 2020;  
699 Wang et al., 2020). The distinct enhancement in ambient concentrations of D5 in the  
700 morning and evening hours in incoming winds over Manhattan indicated that people were  
701 a dominant emissions pathway of D5 emissions in NYC with relatively less indoor-to-  
702 outdoor transport during the day, though that could be influenced wintertime ventilation  
703 conditions (Sheu et al., 2021; Wang et al., 2020). By comparison, while estimated  
704 emissions of benzyl alcohol in NYC were only  $\sim 20\%$  of D5, it had similar average  
705 concentrations as D5 (Table 1) ranging from 8 to 40 ppt. With strong correlations with  
706 many VCP-related compounds (Figure 6), wide use in various consumer product  
707 formulations and a similar  $\text{kOH}$  to m-xylene (i.e.,  $\sim 10^{-11} \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), benzyl  
708 alcohol showed its potential as an additional VCP-related compound for routine  
709 monitoring/analysis.

710

711 The glycerol-related  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8\text{O}_3$  ion was especially interesting. Only 1-7 ppt was detected  
712 across the measurement period even though it is widely used in the personal care industry

713 with estimated annual emissions in NYC on the order of  $10^5$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>. However, Li et al  
 714 show in a laboratory evaporation study that glycerol evaporation is much slower than  
 715 expected (Li et al., 2018). Still, glycerol is expected to influence air quality based on its  
 716 projected emissions (Gkatzelis et al., 2021b) and no other isomers exist with significant  
 717 known emissions. Yet, the ratio of background-subtracted concentrations of C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>3</sub> to  
 718 D5 ( $\Delta$ C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/ $\Delta$ D5) was 0.035 despite a much higher ratio of estimated emissions (2, 12  
 719 mol/mol: VCPy+, FIVE-VCP). This suggests that C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>3</sub> is significantly lower than  
 720 would be expected based on D5-related activities, and, potentially points to limitations in  
 721 evaporation, indoor-to-outdoor transport, or atmospheric partitioning—all of which could  
 722 be influenced by wintertime conditions.



723

724 **Figure 6. A comparison of correlations to major tracer compounds. Distributions of**  
 725 **correlation coefficients (using hourly-average data) for Table 1 compounds against**  
 726 **select prominent compounds used as markers of VCP-related sources or general**  
 727 **anthropogenic emissions (e.g. CO, benzene). Results binned into 0.1 intervals; for**  
 728 **example, ~45% of compounds were highly-correlated at  $0.9 < r < 1$  with C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O (i.e.**  
 729 **benzyl alcohol). See SI for similar analysis including all uncalibrated target ions and**  
 730 **correlation comparisons for all target compounds (Figures S14-17, S19).**

731

732 C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>3</sub> are paraben-related ions, but additional  
733 isomers (e.g. p-ethoxybenzoic acid for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) might also contribute to these ion  
734 signals. Several others are less likely to be found in the atmosphere since they are not  
735 directly used in formulations of volatile chemical products but rather as feedstocks for  
736 derivatives used in different industries. Some isomers such as vanillin and vanillylacetone  
737 are also used in food flavoring. Methyl paraben-related C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>3</sub> showed the highest  
738 concentration among these four ions ranging from 8 to 35 ppt across the sampling period.  
739 The remaining three had concentrations under 10 ppt throughout the sampling duration.

740

### 741 **3.3.5 Select IVOCs related to coatings**

742

743 The C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub> ions were primarily attributed to texanol and 2,2,4-trimethyl-  
744 1,3-pentanediol diisobutyrate (TXIB) emissions that are widely used in coatings  
745 (Gkatzelis et al., 2021a). Even though estimated emissions of texanol (1.9-2.5 x 10<sup>5</sup> kg  
746 yr<sup>-1</sup>) are much higher than TXIB (2500 kg yr<sup>-1</sup>; FIVE-VCP), and, texanol production on a  
747 national scale (45-110 Gg) considerably exceeds TXIB (22-44 Gg) (U.S. Environmental  
748 Protection Agency, Chemical Data Reporting, 2016), the concentrations of both these  
749 species had a similar range (5-30 ppt) with enhancements in TXIB concentrations above  
750 the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile background being comparable to texanol on average (Table 1). Given  
751 reduced photochemistry, this may suggest differences in outdoor vs indoor application,  
752 some geographical variability in their use and/or larger diversity in TXIB sources than  
753 texanol in this particular urban area.

754

### 755 **3.3.6 Phthalates and Fatty-acid methyl esters (FAMES)**

756 Phthalates have received considerable attention in indoor environments but their  
757 concentrations in ambient air are relatively less constrained. In this study, the ion  
758 intensities of C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>4</sub> include dimethyl phthalate (DMP) and diethyl  
759 phthalate (DEP), respectively, two commonly used phthalates in various consumer  
760 products. C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>4</sub> had similar ion abundances across the 10-day sampling  
761 period. After accounting for differences in instrument response, C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>4</sub> concentrations  
762 were found to be smaller than C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>4</sub> throughout the campaign which aligns with DEP  
763 emission estimates being greater than DMP in NYC. The ambient concentrations of the  
764 two ions ranged between 5-30 ppt and often synchronously peaked between midnight and  
765 early morning hours (12-6 AM) while the lowest daily concentrations were observed  
766 during afternoons. These concentration trends indicated that unlike compounds associated  
767 with personal care products, phthalate concentrations were less influenced by outdoor  
768 human activities.

769

770 FAMEs are also an important class of compounds used in various consumer products. We  
771 identified  $C_9H_{18}O_2$  (e.g. methyl octanoate) and  $C_{11}H_{22}O_2$  (e.g. methyl decanoate) ions via  
772 CI-ToF that varied similarly in their abundances across the campaign period.  $C_9H_{18}O_2$   
773 concentrations ranged from 50 ppt to 200 ppt and showed slightly higher ion abundances  
774 than  $C_{11}H_{22}O_2$  even though the annual production of methyl octanoate for use in  
775 consumer/commercial products (0.5-9 Gg) is considerably lower than methyl decanoate  
776 (4.5-22 Gg) (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Chemical Data Reporting, 2016).  
777 This suggested that isomers such as heptyl acetate and propyl hexanoate, which are used  
778 in perfumes and food flavoring, may have also contributed to  $C_9H_{18}O_2$  signal. Emissions  
779 of pentyl butyrate, which has uses such as an additive in cigarettes are also possible. The  
780 highest abundances in both  $C_9H_{18}O_2$  and  $C_{11}H_{22}O_2$  corresponded to wind currents from  
781 Manhattan as well as the Bronx, which infers comparable emission rates within New  
782 York City.

783

### 784 **3.4 Other observed ions of interest**

785 Of the total ions measured, a subset of isomers covering diverse chemical functionalities  
786 were included for calibration while others were not calibrated or presented challenges  
787 associated with their physiochemical properties that caused transmission issues during  
788 LCS calibration. Hence, we will discuss trends in such ions in this subsection in terms of  
789 their measured ion abundances (Table S3, figure S11). These include ions with likely  
790 contributions from ethanolamines, organic acids, large alkyl methyl esters and some  
791 oxygenated terpenoid compounds that are used in a wide range of volatile chemical  
792 products.

793

794 Anthropogenic sources are major contributors of oxygenated terpenoid compounds (i.e.  
795 oxy-terpenoids) in many urban areas, especially during wintertime. Among relevant ions  
796 observed,  $C_{10}H_{16}O$  (e.g. camphor),  $C_{10}H_{18}O$  (e.g. linalool),  $C_{10}H_{20}O$  (calibrated with  
797 menthol) and  $C_7H_{10}O$  (e.g. norcamphor) were the most prevalent in terms of measured  
798 abundances. A number of isomers that are similarly used in various consumer products  
799 likely contributed to their signal intensities. It is interesting to note that  $C_{10}H_{16}O$   
800 exhibited higher ion abundance than  $C_{10}H_{18}O$  despite comparable estimated emissions of  
801 camphor and linalool ( $\sim 10^3$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>; VCPy+) in NYC. This could be due to differences in  
802 CI-ToF response factors, the magnitude of relative isomer contributions, seasonal trends  
803 in the use of chemical species, or uncertainties in fragrance speciation within emissions  
804 inventories. The peaks in abundances of all oxy-terpenoids were observed synchronously  
805 in the morning hours between 8-10 AM and in the evening between 6-8 PM, consistent  
806 with major commuting periods, especially when wind currents blew in from over

807 Manhattan from the south and south-east where the outdoor activity peaks during  
808 morning and evening commute hours.

809

810 We detected  $C_2H_7NO$ ,  $C_4H_{11}NO_2$  and  $C_6H_{15}NO_3$  ions at the site, representing  
811 ethanolamine, diethanolamine, and triethanolamine, respectively. Of these,  $C_4H_{11}NO_2$   
812 and  $C_6H_{15}NO_3$  followed trends of other VCP-related compounds.  $C_4H_{11}NO_2$  showed the  
813 highest ion abundance throughout the campaign with the exception of a 24-hour period  
814 between 26/1 and 27/1 when  $C_2H_7NO$  abundances increased dramatically. This peak in  
815  $C_2H_7NO$  was potentially caused by biomass burning since ions pertinent to 2-  
816 methylfuran, methyl isocyanate, nitromethane and 2,5 dimethylfuran also peaked  
817 simultaneously during this period. The influence of biomass burning in all cases was  
818 subsequently filtered from the ion abundance timeseries prior to investigating their linear  
819 regressions with other species (figure S15).  $C_4H_{11}NO_2$  showed much greater variations  
820 with wind patterns, more similar to other VCPs, and peaks were noted in early morning  
821 hours between 6-9 AM and during early evening hours around 6 PM.  $C_6H_{15}NO_3$  showed  
822 lower signal relative to  $C_2H_7NO$  and  $C_4H_{11}NO_2$  which could be attributed to its smaller  
823 annual production for use in consumer/commercial products (45-113 Gg), variations in  
824 CI-ToF response factors and/or lower volatility that could decrease emission timescales  
825 and cause it to partition to available surfaces indoors.

826

827 Several other major ions included  $C_7H_{14}O_2$ ,  $C_8H_{16}O_2$ ,  $C_{12}H_{24}O_2$ ,  $C_{16}H_{32}O_2$  and  $C_{18}H_{34}O_2$   
828 that were difficult to attribute to individual chemical species because of prevalence of  
829 several possible isomers. These isomers were most probably esters and carboxylic acids  
830 that are used in many consumer, commercial, and industrial applications. The esters  
831 could have contributed more in some cases given their higher volatility, and also because  
832 some carboxylic acids are used as feedstocks to produce esters. We briefly discuss these  
833 ions here to guide future measurements.

834

835  $C_7H_{14}O_2$  was the most abundant ion in this group likely due to contributions from amyl  
836 acetate, isoamyl acetate, and butyl propionate that are used as solvents,  
837 fragrances/flavorings, and in other commercial/industrial applications, with possible  
838 contributions from heptanoic acid.  $C_8H_{16}O_2$  was the next most prominent and likely  
839 related to octanoic acid, hexyl acetate, pentyl propanoate and butyl butyrate.  $C_8H_{16}O_2$   
840 emissions ( $\sim 5 \times 10^3$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>) were predominantly (90%) estimated to be hexyl acetate by  
841 the VCPy+ model. In comparison, amyl acetate (i.e.  $C_7H_{14}O_2$ ) is estimated in much  
842 smaller amounts across the two inventories ( $\sim 5$ -500 kg yr<sup>-1</sup>). Yet, the higher abundance  
843 of  $C_7H_{14}O_2$  suggested major contributions from other isomers and/or variations in CI-ToF

844 sensitivity. By comparison, we calibrated  $C_8H_{16}O_2$  using octanoic acid given its  
845 widespread use in various personal care and cosmetic products. This gave  $C_8H_{16}O_2$   
846 concentrations ranging from 50 to 300 ppt across the measurement period, but  
847 considerable variation is possible with ester contributions to the ions' mass response  
848 factors. Among other ions, the abundance of  $C_{12}H_{24}O_2$  was comparable to  $C_8H_{16}O_2$ . The  
849 larger ions,  $C_{16}H_{32}O_2$  and  $C_{18}H_{34}O_2$  showed very small ( $<10$  ions  $s^{-1}$ ) abundances  
850 throughout the campaign. Interestingly, the low ion abundances occurred despite the  
851 VCPy+ model's sizable emission estimates of alkyl methyl esters ( $C_{16}$ - $C_{18}$ ) on the order  
852 of  $10^5$  kg  $yr^{-1}$  in NYC, which is similar to more volatile esters such as methyl or ethyl  
853 acetates. This highlights the importance of further research on these semi-volatile organic  
854 compounds across seasons to examine if they have lower emissions or could have  
855 partitioned to the particle phase in the atmosphere during the winter.

856

### 857 **3.5 Assessment of ambient concentrations relative to current emissions inventories**

858 In our analysis, high emission estimates did not always translate to high average ambient  
859 concentrations and vice versa (Figures 7, S12), which warrants further examination of  
860 ions (and contributing isomers) that were either highly abundant, differed significantly  
861 from expected based on emissions inventories, or had limited prior measurements.  
862 Though ambient concentrations of a chemical species may not always directly reflect the  
863 magnitude of its primary emissions due to atmospheric processes, relative concentrations  
864 are frequently used in studies to evaluate the relative magnitude of emissions of various  
865 compounds (Gkatzelis et al., 2021a; McDonald et al., 2018).

866

867 Figures 7a-b shows the prevalence of such ions during the sampling period relative to  
868 their estimated annual emissions against two different regionally-resolved inventories  
869 specifically for NYC. The annual emissions were calculated as the sum of the annual  
870 emissions of all isomers reported in inventories that contributed to each ion formula. Both  
871 axes in figures 7a-b are ratioed to  $C_3H_6O$  (predominantly acetone) since it was among the  
872 most abundant ions measured in this study and its primary isomer, acetone, has extensive,  
873 diverse uses in various products and materials with the majority of anthropogenic  
874 emissions in NYC coming from VCP-related sources (Gkatzelis et al., 2021b). Still, we  
875 acknowledge that acetone, like many oxygenated compounds, could see contributions  
876 from oxidation processes. However, such secondary production would be at its minimum  
877 during this January study period, and, the short timescales of emitted compounds'  
878 transport within the urban footprint reduces (Figure S2) its potential influence in this  
879 analysis. Furthermore, to account for any regional background influence in the  
880 calculation of emission ratios for inventory comparisons, we have subtracted the

881 estimated ambient background using a 5<sup>th</sup> percentile concentration value to focus on  
882 enhancements in the urban area during the study.

883

884 We also note that choosing an ideal denominator species in the middle of a complex,  
885 dense urban environment with a wide array of spatiotemporally-dynamic sources is  
886 highly challenging. Given the varying correlation coefficients between compounds  
887 (Figure 6), Table 1 and Figure 7 are presented using geometric mean ratios of  
888 concentration enhancements above the observed ambient background (i.e. 5<sup>th</sup> percentile).  
889 This enables comparisons across all measured compounds, though a comparison of  
890 concentration ratios versus slopes from least-squares regressions generally yielded  
891 comparable results for acetone for well-correlated species (Figure S13), which also  
892 indicates the subtraction of average regional background to determine mean urban  
893 enhancement ratios (Table 1) was similarly effective for inventory comparisons. We note  
894 that this comparison is done with data from January in a very densely populated area and  
895 acetone concentrations will have seasonal variations from biogenic and secondary  
896 sources that should be considered in future comparisons between seasons/sites. During  
897 this 10-day period, the benzene-to-acetone ratio was close to that predicted by the VCPy+  
898 inventory, albeit with slightly greater than expected (i.e. 1.8:1) inferring additional  
899 benzene anthropogenic or biomass burning related emissions than in the inventory (see  
900 Section 2), but supports that acetone is not overestimated in the inventory when  
901 compared to a more commonly-used anthropogenic tracer (i.e. benzene).

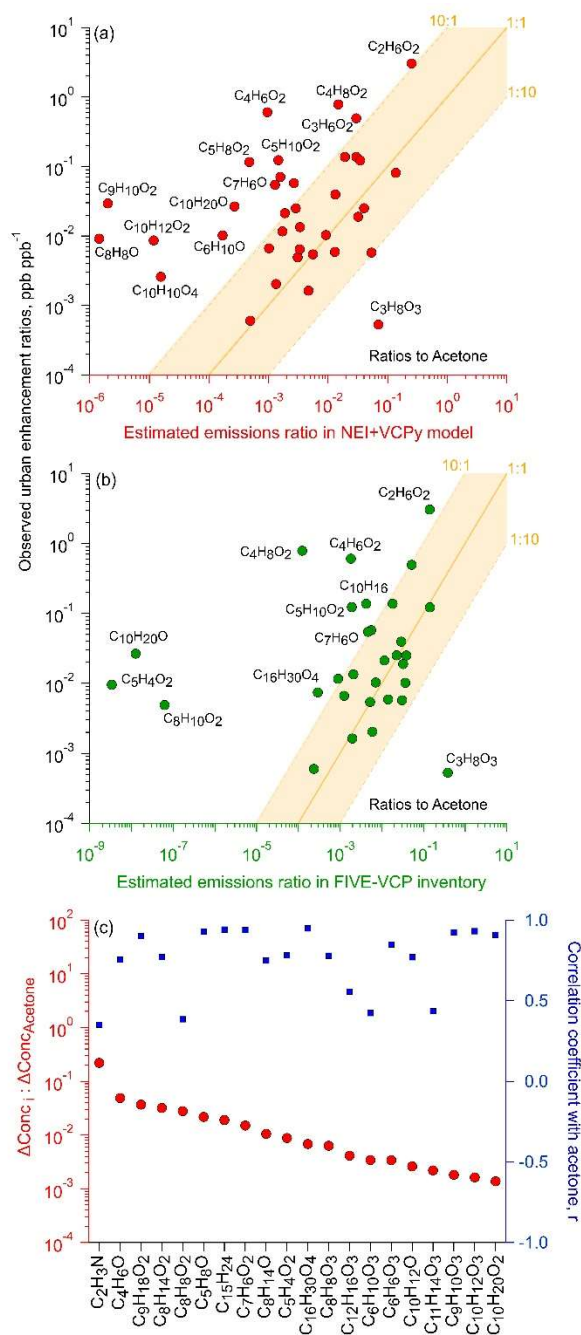
902

903 As common markers of anthropogenic activities, the observed ions were also compared  
904 against CO and benzene, but, acetone and benzyl alcohol had a greater number of strong  
905 correlations ( $0.9 < r < 1$ ) in this densely populated area (Figure 6, Tables 1, S8).  
906 Wherever appropriate, the following discussion in this subsection also draws upon  
907 correlations with other ions that may inform source subtypes or emission pathways  
908 (Figures S14-S17), with more detailed discussion available in the supplemental  
909 information (SI). There was some variation in the number of speciated compounds  
910 included in each inventory and, a subset of calibrated ions in this study were not available  
911 in one of the emissions inventories. The compounds not speciated in VCPy are presented  
912 in Figure 7c with mean concentrations relative to acetone.

913

914 Of the 58 calibrated ions, emissions of one or more isomers were reported for 38 ions in  
915 VCPy+ and 32 ions in FIVE-VCP inventories. The ambient concentration ratios of  
916 roughly half of these numbers agreed within 1 order of magnitude (i.e. 1:10, 10:1) with  
917 emissions reported in both inventories (Figure 7a-b). Within this sub-fraction,

918 concentrations of 50% of ions nearly matched with estimates, though with some  
 919 variability between inventories. In the case of VCPy+ (Figure 7a), some of the most  
 920 accurately estimated ions represented glycol and glycol ether compound categories, such  
 921 as dipropylene- and triethylene- glycols, 2-butoxyethanol, 2-methoxyethanol (with  
 922 propylene glycol), and phenoxyethanol, as well as D5, pentanedioic acid dimethyl ester,  
 923 methyl pyrrolidone, benzyl alcohol, monoterpenes and diethyl phthalate. Several other  
 924 ions also representing glycols and glycol ethers fell within the 1:10 range (Figure S18),  
 925 but not ethylene glycol (see discussion below).



926



927 **Figure 7. Comparison of ambient observations to emission inventories (including all**  
928 **inventoried anthropogenic sources). Urban concentration enhancement ratios against**  
929 **acetone (calculated via background-subtracted geometric means) compared to estimated**  
930 **emission ratios using the (a) VCPy model (plus other anthropogenic sources in NEI) and (b)**  
931 **FIVE-VCP inventory (shown for compounds with explicit estimates in each inventory, see**  
932 **Table 1). (c) Concentration enhancement ratios against acetone (and correlation**  
933 **coefficients) for calibrated ions where emissions data was not available in VCPy (panel a).**  
934 **Note: Examples of isomers contributing to ions in (a) and (b) are listed in Tables 1 and S7.**

935 The ions in closest agreement with FIVE-VCP estimates shown in Figure 7b represented  
936 benzyl alcohol, methyl pyrrolidone, MEK, D5 and a smaller number of glycol ethers that  
937 included ethylene glycol hexyl ether, and, dipropylene- and diethylene- glycols. Other  
938 ions within the tolerance bound included methyl- and butyl-acetates, 2-hexanone,  
939 cyclohexanone and pentanedioic acid dimethyl ester. It is notable that ambient  
940 measurements of glycols and glycol ethers made up approximately half of the total ions  
941 that broadly agreed with emission estimates in both emissions inventories. Additionally,  
942 the accuracy of benzyl alcohol estimates is also useful since ~45% of all mass calibrated  
943 ions and ~35% of the total observed ions in this study correlated strongly ( $0.9 < r < 1.0$ )  
944 with  $C_7H_8O$  (i.e. benzyl alcohol; Figures 6, S19-20), which may help in constraining  
945 emissions in future studies.

946

947 The observed ambient ratios of the remaining ~50% ions deviated considerably from  
948 those in emissions inventory estimates. The majority of these ions had greater  
949 concentration ratios in Figure 7a-b, which suggests that their emissions were higher than  
950 that expected based on emissions inventories. These elevated ratios above the 1:1 line  
951 could be due to underestimates in VCP-related sources as well as uncertainties in other  
952 sources, such as cooking (and the underlying foods/beverages), combustion-related  
953 sources, industrial/commercial activities, humans (e.g. skin oil-related products; e.g. 6-  
954 MHO), or other understudied non-traditional sources (e.g., building materials).  
955 Additionally, while at its minima in peak wintertime conditions, secondary oxidation  
956 products as a result of local chemistry (i.e. not in the regional background that was  
957 subtracted) could make minor contributions to the calculated urban enhancements in  
958 Table 1. Among glycols in particular, ethylene glycol was abundant with mean ambient  
959 concentration ratios slightly over 10 times the inventory-based value. This result could be  
960 influenced by seasonal variations in use, such as wintertime use as a de-icer for surfaces  
961 (or aircraft) or the particularly elevated concentrations (25-35 ppb) during the first 4 days  
962 of the measurement period (Figure 5) compared to the timeseries of other VOCs (Figure  
963 4) with wind currents from the southwestern direction to the sampling site. However, this  
964 concentration enhancement in ethylene glycol may not translate to other seasons due to  
965 change in the magnitude of its sources (e.g. no de-icing required in non-winter periods).  
966 Ethylene glycol also correlated strongly ( $r > 0.9$ ) with a few other ions (e.g. MEK, MVK,

967 cyclopentanone, cyclohexanone, benzyl alcohol) that may suggest a mix of co-located  
968 and/or shared source types. Among glycol ethers, the  $C_8H_{10}O_2$  ion representing  
969 phenoxyethanol differed considerably between the two inventories, ranging from near  
970 expected in VCPy+ to a much higher ambient abundance relative to FIVE-VCP (Figure  
971 S18). This was likely due to estimated phenoxyethanol emissions being  $10^5$  times higher  
972 in VCPy+ than in FIVE-VCP. However, 1,4-dimethoxybenzene might have also  
973 contributed to  $C_8H_{10}O_2$  ion signal given its widespread use in personal care products but  
974 needs inclusion in emissions inventories. Similarly, monoterpenes during this study  
975 slightly exceeded the 10:1 value based on FIVE-VCP estimates (Figure 7), which was  
976 influenced by significantly different limonene emissions between the two inventories  
977 ( $60206 \text{ kg yr}^{-1}$ ; VCPy vs  $17107 \text{ kg yr}^{-1}$ ; FIVE-VCP) that constituted over 90% of the  
978 reported monoterpene emissions. D4-siloxane deviated in the other direction going from  
979 near expected in FIVE-VCP to considerably above the 10:1 bound in VCPy comparisons,  
980 which was likely due to a factor of 8 difference in its reported emissions between the two  
981 inventories. The cyclohexanone-related  $C_6H_{10}O$  concentration ratio was somewhat lower  
982 than expected based on FIVE-VCP estimates though within the lower tolerance bound,  
983 but substantially exceeded VCPy+ estimates (Figure S18) given the  $\sim 280$ -fold difference  
984 in cyclohexanone emissions between the two inventories.

985

986 Some ions deviated even more substantially in ambient concentration ratios relative to  
987 inventory-based expectations (Figure 7a). The prominent ions in this group represented  
988 esters, e.g.  $C_9H_{10}O_2$  (e.g. benzyl acetate),  $C_4H_6O_2$  (e.g. methyl acrylate),  $C_5H_8O_2$  (e.g.  
989 MMA),  $C_5H_{10}O_2$  (e.g. isopropyl acetate) and  $C_4H_8O_2$  (e.g. ethyl acetate). All these  
990 compounds (except MMA) are found in solvents, fragrances, food flavorings, and  
991 naturally in some food (e.g. fruits). Some fraction of their discrepancies may be attributed  
992 to uncertain fragrances source categories in emissions inventories which contributes, in  
993 part, to their higher than expected concentrations in our analysis. Hence, further work is  
994 needed to more comprehensively speciate and constrain synthetic and natural fragrance-  
995 related emissions. Other possibilities for these differences include missing sources that  
996 need to be accounted for in estimating total emissions for each ion. For example, diacetyl  
997 is also a likely isomer of  $C_4H_6O_2$  that is currently excluded from emissions inventories.  
998 MMA concentrations at 100's of parts per trillion (Figure 5) is an interesting case due to  
999 its minimal use in consumer products, and, besides contributions from other isomers to  
1000  $C_5H_8O_2$  ion, may indicate ambient observations of PMMA offgassing/degradation under  
1001 ambient conditions. Similarly, higher than expected  $C_{10}H_{10}O_4$  (e.g. dimethyl phthalate)  
1002 concentrations could be contributed to by materials-related off-gassing and emissions  
1003 from personal care products.

1004

1005 Ions related to benzaldehyde and menthol also exhibited higher than expected  
1006 concentrations in both inventory assessments.  $C_{10}H_{20}O$  (e.g. menthol) showed strong  
1007 correlations ( $r > 0.95$ ) with 14 other ions that spanned several compound classes  
1008 including glycol ethers, carbonyls, esters and alcohol. This may be also contributed to by  
1009 fragrance-related sources, or other isomers in the case of menthol.  $C_9H_{10}O_2$  (e.g. benzyl  
1010 acetate),  $C_{10}H_{12}O_2$  (e.g. eugenol) and  $C_6H_{10}O$  (e.g. cyclohexanone) ions also showed high  
1011 concentrations in VCPy+ inventory comparisons while  $C_5H_4O_2$  (e.g. furfural) exceeded  
1012 expected concentrations based on FIVE-VCP estimates. Furfural could also be  
1013 contributed by indoor emissions from wood-based materials (Sheu et al., 2021) though  
1014 such a source will be lower in NYC than observed elsewhere given major differences in  
1015 Manhattan building construction materials. Some of these isomers, e.g. eugenol,  
1016 raspberry ketone and furfural also appear in foods and are used as flavorings, which  
1017 remains largely unexplored as a potential source of emissions.

1018

1019 The glycerol-related  $C_3H_8O_3$  ion presents a very interesting case among the few ions that  
1020 exhibited considerably lower concentrations than expected, with regional background  
1021 concentrations even dropping below its detection limit (see Table S5). Its annual  
1022 estimated emissions are comparable to prominent carbonyls and esters with slight  
1023 differences between the VCPy+ and FIVE-VCP inventories ( $\sim 10^5$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup> vs.  $\sim 10^6$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>).  
1024 However, it is uncertain whether its low mean concentration during the sampling  
1025 period (Table 1) was influenced by seasonal variations in ambient gas-to-particle  
1026 partitioning and/or in emissions pathways (e.g. reduced evaporation or indoor-to-outdoor  
1027 transport). Thus, further research would be valuable to evaluate atmospheric levels of  
1028 glycerol including during summertime conditions when evaporative emissions from  
1029 personal care products and indoor-to-outdoor transport are enhanced relative to January.  
1030 The same factors may have also driven the somewhat lower concentrations of texanol  
1031 relative to inventory-based predictions (Figures 7a-b, S18), though its concentrations are  
1032 similar to summertime observations in NYC (Stockwell et al., 2021).

1033

1034 Among ions without any emissions estimates,  $C_8H_8O_2$  (e.g. methyl benzoate),  $C_9H_{18}O_2$   
1035 (e.g. heptyl acetate) and  $C_7H_6O_2$  (e.g. benzoic acid) had some of the highest  
1036 concentration ratios to acetone (Figure 7c), and may warrant inclusion in emission  
1037 inventories, potentially as part of “fragrances” or other uncertain source types.  
1038 Observations of sesquiterpenes were 7% of acetone concentrations on average (Table 1).  
1039 The mean sesquiterpenes to monoterpenes ratio was  $\sim 0.5$  during the measurement period  
1040 though sensitive to instrument calibration, emphasizing sizable contributions from the  
1041 highly-reactive sesquiterpenes to urban air. Ions including  $C_4H_6O$  (e.g. MVK),  $C_8H_{14}O_2$   
1042 (e.g. cyclohexyl acetate),  $C_5H_8O$  (e.g. cyclopentanone) and  $C_8H_{14}O$  (e.g. 6-methyl-5-

1043 hepten-2-one, a skin oil oxidation product) were not estimated in the inventory, but  
1044 showed very strong correlations ( $0.9 < r < 1.0$ ) with the acetone-related  $C_3H_6O$  ion.

1045

#### 1046 **4. Conclusions and future work**

1047 A Vocus CI-ToF using low-pressure  $NH_4^+$  as the reagent ion enabled measurements of a  
1048 wide range of oxygenated species in New York City whose urban enhancements were  
1049 primarily attributed to anthropogenic sources given the peak wintertime conditions, but  
1050 could vary under different meteorological conditions. Our results highlight the diversity  
1051 of oxygenated compounds in urban air, including VCP-related compounds that extend  
1052 considerably beyond the highly volatile, functionalized species found in oxygenated  
1053 solvents. The measured ions had contributions from VOCs to I/SVOCs including  
1054 acetates, glycols, glycol ethers, alcohols, acrylates and other functional groups. The  
1055 atmospheric concentrations of these species varied over a large range but reached up to  
1056 hundreds of ppt and into ppb-levels in several cases, which were comparable to the  
1057 prevalence of known prominent OVOCs such as acetone, MEK and MVK. While  
1058 emissions inventories predicted the relative abundance of many species in the atmosphere  
1059 with relative accuracy (e.g. glycols and glycol ethers), several others showed significantly  
1060 different ambient concentrations than predicted (e.g. select esters measured over 10 times  
1061 their expected values (Figure 7)).

1062 While the species target list in this manuscript (Table 1) included an array of compounds  
1063 that are known to occur in VCPs, the observed underestimates when compared to  
1064 emission inventories may be contributed to not only VCP-related sources but also other  
1065 established or uncertain urban sources in the inventories. Broad source classes such as  
1066 cooking (and associated foods/fuels) represent one example that could be significant  
1067 sources of some of the OVOCs studied here (e.g., esters, carbonyls, fatty acids,  
1068 terpenoids). Similarly, while large biomass burning influences were filtered from the  
1069 comparison to the emission inventories, we note that biomass burning remains an  
1070 important source of regional and/or long-distance OVOCs. Regional and long-distance  
1071 transport of secondary OVOCs (and associated pollutants) also remain important  
1072 contributors to urban air quality across all seasons, and non-wintertime conditions will  
1073 include a greater role for photochemical processing within/near NYC. Yet, local  
1074 secondary OVOCs can be produced within the city, and future work with longer  $NH_4^+$ -  
1075 based summertime datasets can further deconvolve OVOC contributions, including the  
1076 contributions of local photochemical production (occurring from outdoor or indoor  
1077 chemistry).

1078 These results inform new avenues for investigating the emissions or atmospheric  
1079 dynamics of these species indoors or outdoors, and possible additional compounds and  
1080 source contributions for inclusion in emissions inventories. Given the high ambient

1081 prevalence of some species, further research is also warranted to further enhance  
1082 chemical speciation in inventories (and measurements) that will constrain potential  
1083 contributions to SOA and ozone formation under varying environmental conditions.  
1084 Future summertime studies (e.g. Atmospheric Emissions and Reactions Observed from  
1085 Megacities to Marine Areas (AEROMMA) (Warneke et al., 2022), Greater New York  
1086 Oxidant, Trace gas, Halogen and Aerosol Airborne Mission (GOTHAAM)) will also  
1087 provide valuable opportunities to compare seasonal abundances of observed species and  
1088 to study different seasonally-dependent emission pathways.

1089

### 1090 **Author Contributions**

1091 D.R.G., J.E.M. (SBU), and J.E.K. conceived the study, and J.E.K. performed the ambient  
1092 Vocus CI-ToF measurements with support from R.T.C. P.K. led data analysis and writing  
1093 with support from J.E.K and D.R.G., and contributions/review from other co-authors.  
1094 P.K., J.E.M. (Yale) and J.W. prepared calibration mixes. J.E.M. (Yale), J.W. and J.E.K  
1095 performed in-lab calibrations. T.H.M. collected EI-MS samples and conducted related  
1096 analysis, along with J.W. and J.E.M. (Yale). K.M.S and H.O.T.P. developed the VCPy  
1097 model and K.M.S. performed VCPy calculations for this work. B.M. provided the FIVE-  
1098 VCP emissions inventory data used in this study. F.M. and F.L.H. developed and tested  
1099 the Vocus CI-ToF instrument for this study. C.C. and J.E.M. (SBU) performed PTR-ToF  
1100 measurements used for instrument cross-validation in this study. R.C. provided carbon  
1101 monoxide data and R.T.C. helped setting up the measurement site.

1102

### 1103 **Competing interests**

1104 Jordan E. Krechmer is employed by Aerodyne Research, Inc., which commercializes the  
1105 Vocus CI-ToF instrument for geoscience research and Felipe Lopez-Hilfiker is an  
1106 employee of ToFwerk, AG, which manufactures and sells the Vocus CI-ToF instrument  
1107 used in this study.

1108

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