

Chemical Characterization of Organic Aerosols in the southeastern United States (PMF, Effect of Sulfate and NO_x)

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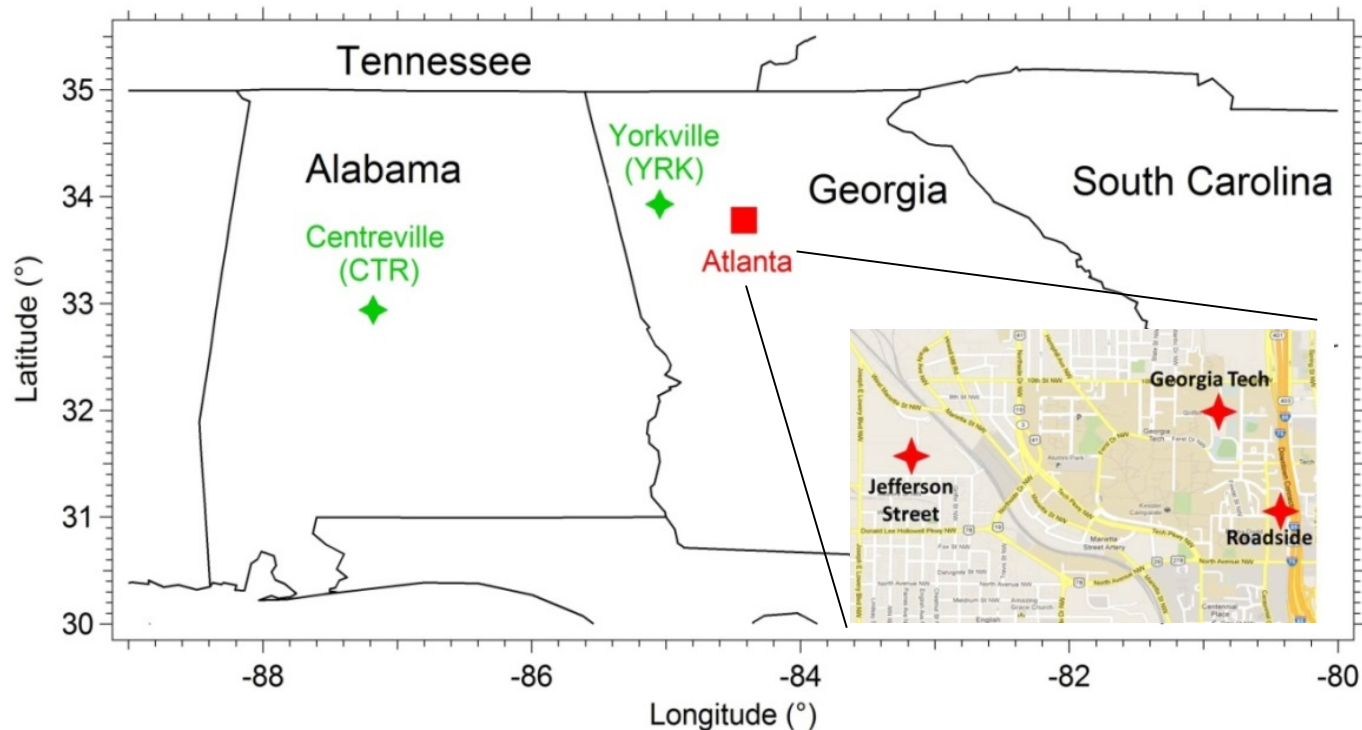
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA

AMS Users Meeting, 2017



Field Measurements

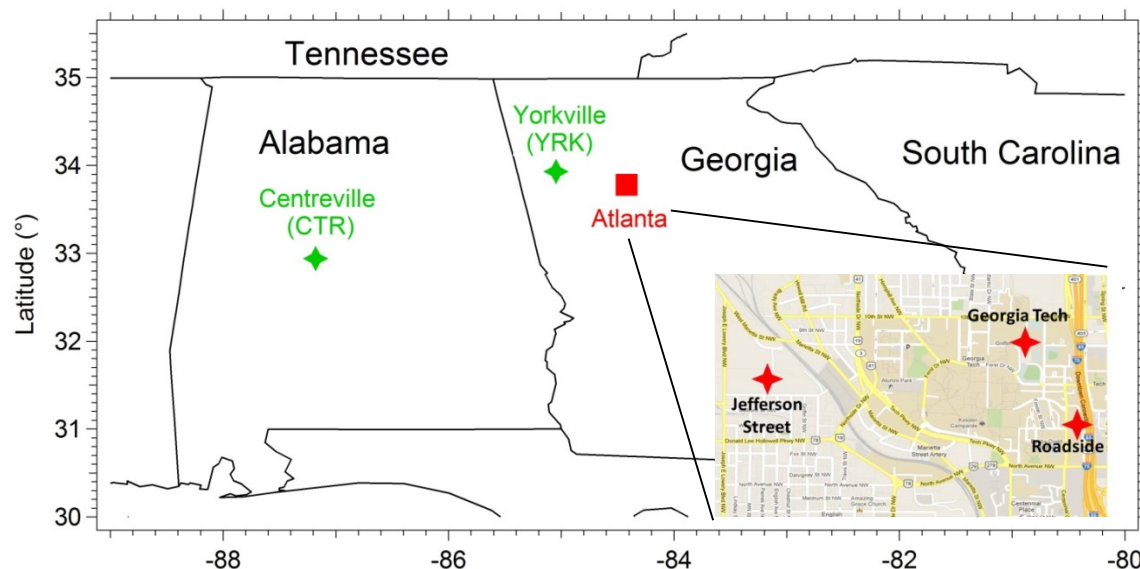
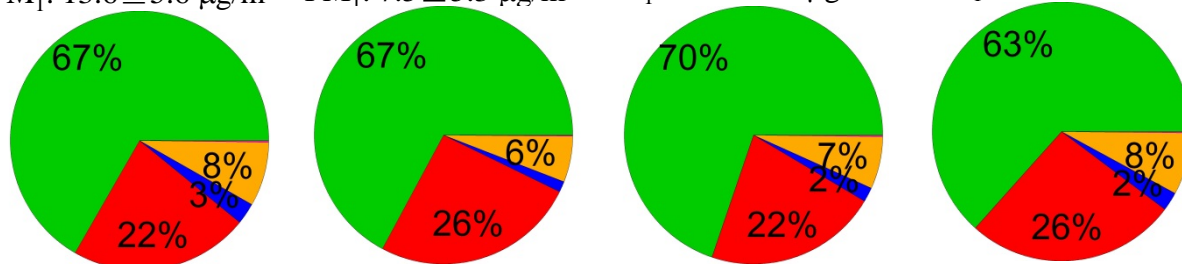
- ❖ **Southern Oxidant and Aerosol Study (SOAS)**
 - 2013 June - July
 - Centreville (rural Alabama)
- ❖ **Post-SOAS**
 - 2013 August, Atlanta
- ❖ **Southeast Nexus (SENEX) Study**
 - 2013 June – July
- ❖ **Southeastern Center of Air Pollution and Epidemiology study (SCAPE)**
 - 2012 May - 2013 Feb
 - Greater Atlanta Area (urban and rural)



Xu et al., PNAS, 2015
Xu et al., ACP, 2015
Xu et al., JGR, 2016
Xu et al., ES&T, 2017

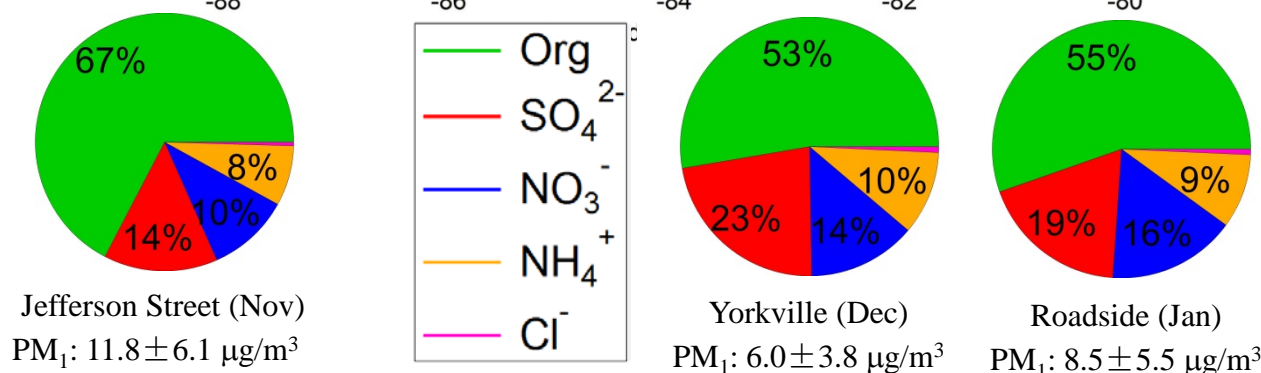
Composition of Ambient Non-refractory PM₁ in SE US

Jefferson Street (May) PM₁: $13.6 \pm 5.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ Centreville (June) PM₁: $7.5 \pm 5.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ Yorkville (July) PM₁: $16.0 \pm 8.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ Georgia Tech (Aug) PM₁: $15.2 \pm 6.7 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

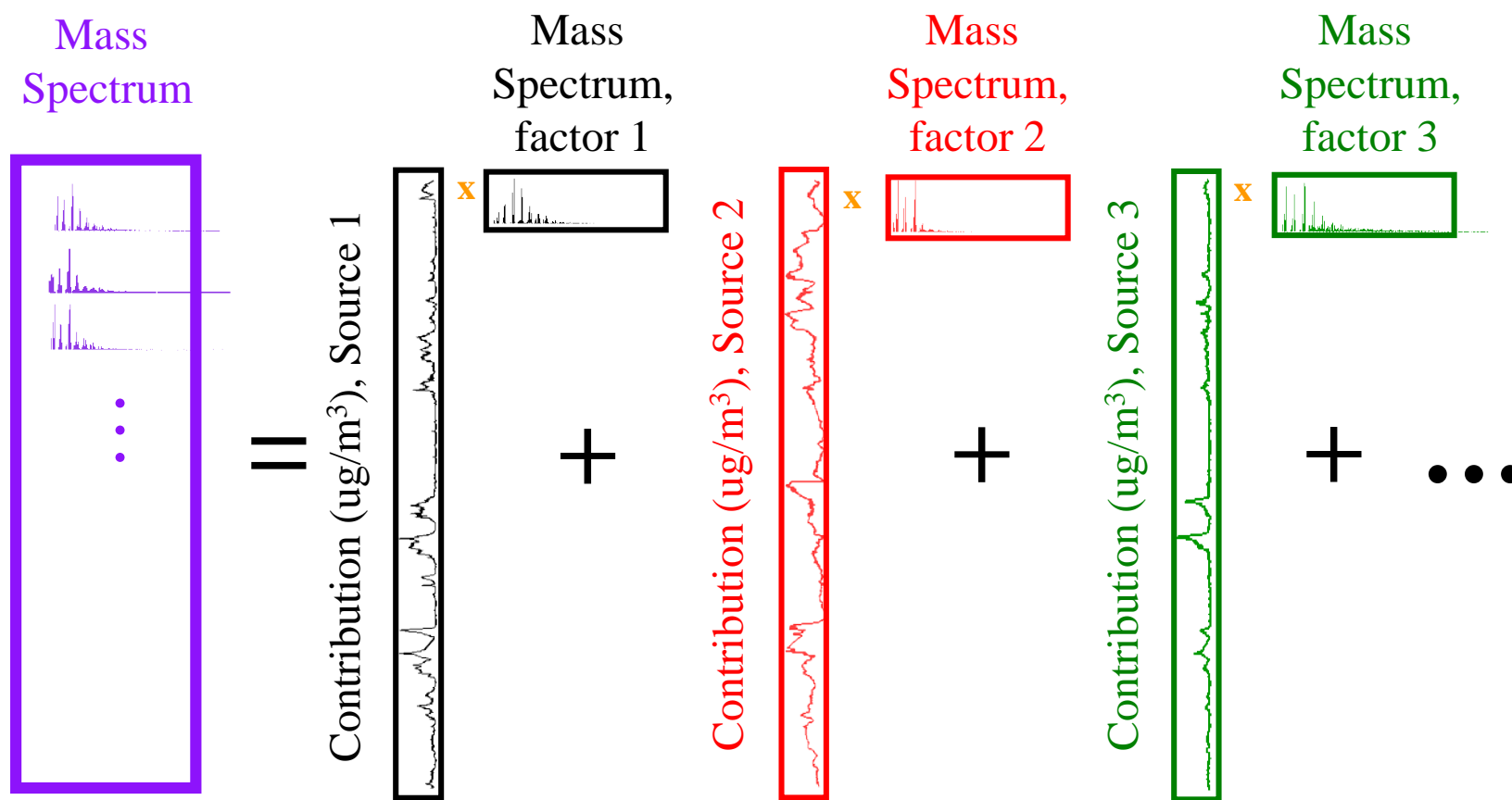


- OA is the dominant component in PM₁ (>50%).
- PM₁ composition varies spatially and seasonally

Xu et al., PNAS, 2015

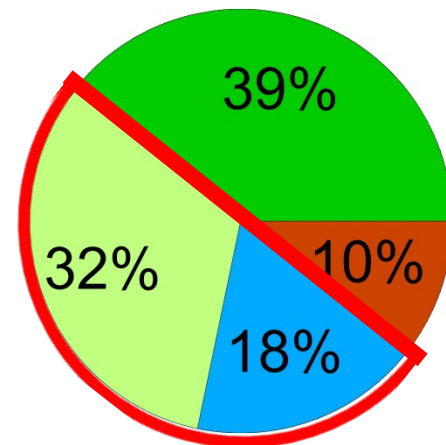
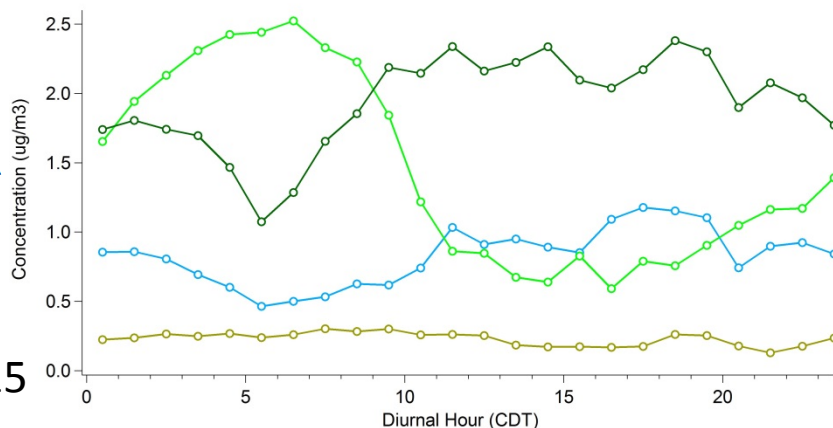
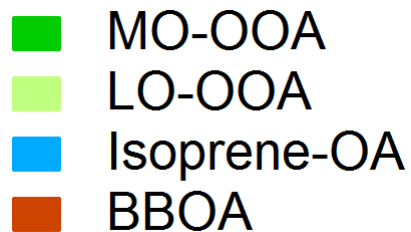
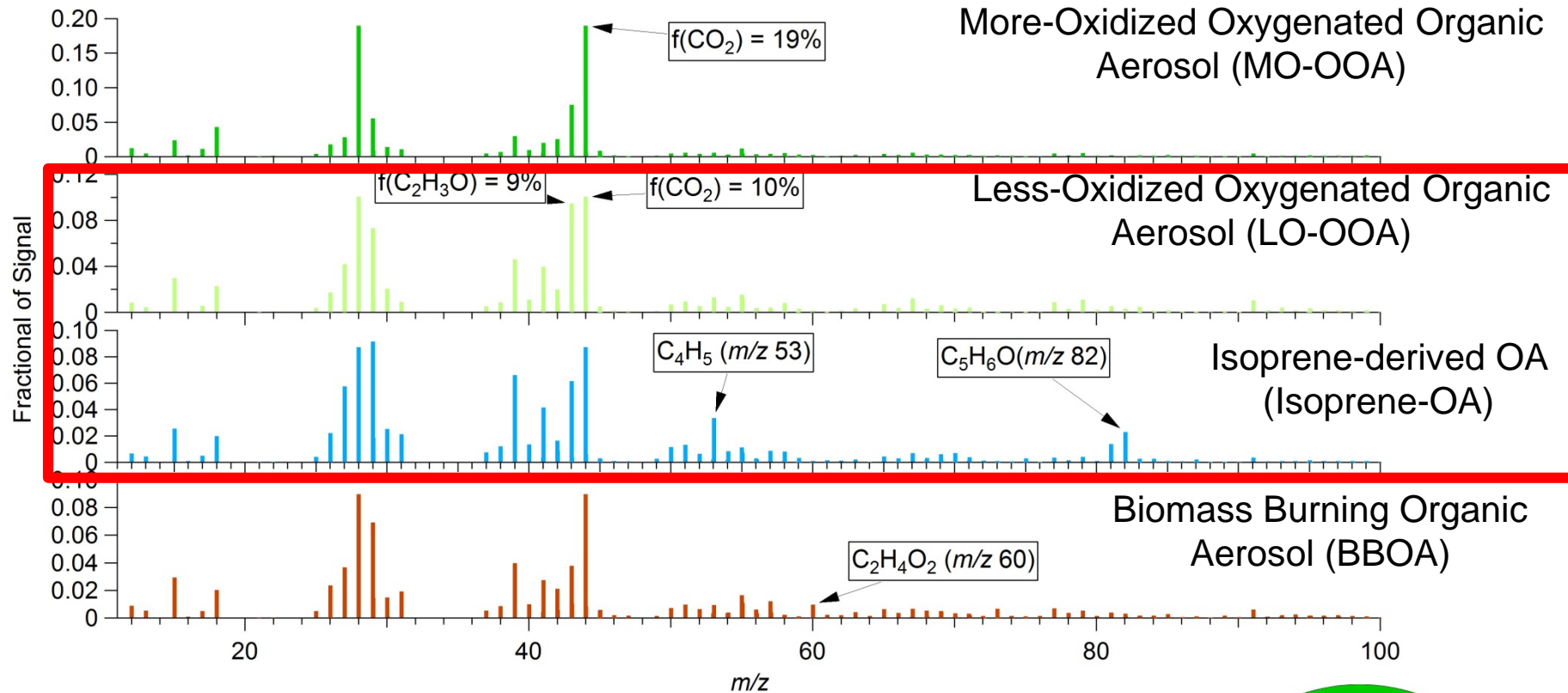


Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) analysis



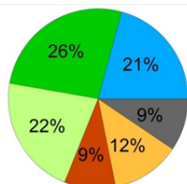
PMF is a bilinear mixing model in which a dataset matrix is assumed to be comprised of the linear combination of factors with constant profiles that have varying contributions across the dataset.

Centreville data: PMF results

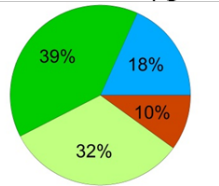


OA Source Apportionment in the SE US

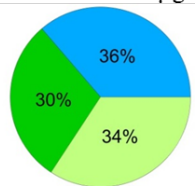
Jefferson Street (May)
OA: $9.1 \pm 4.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



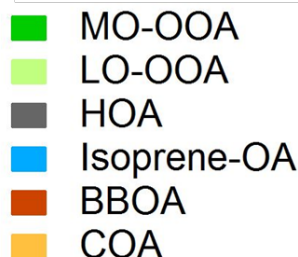
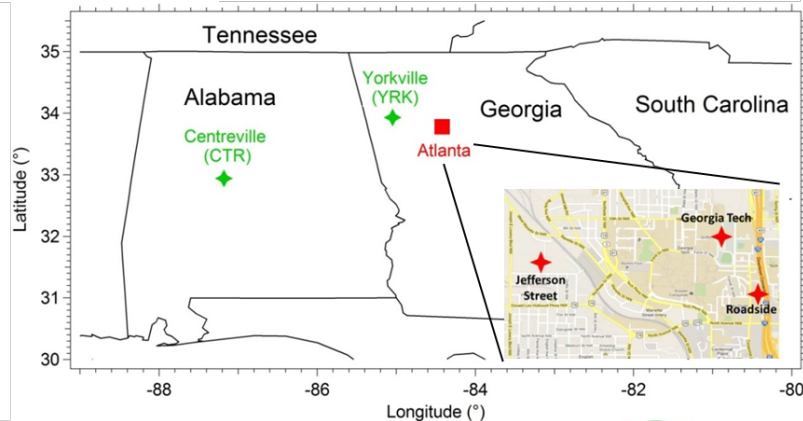
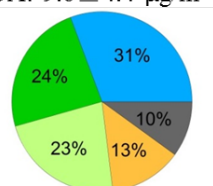
Centreville (June)
OA: $5.0 \pm 4.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



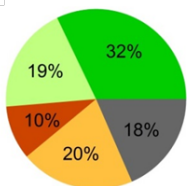
Yorkville (July)
OA: $11.2 \pm 6.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



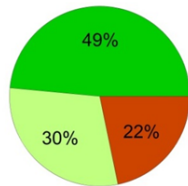
Georgia Tech (Aug)
OA: $9.6 \pm 4.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



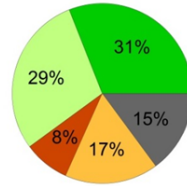
Jefferson Street (Nov)
OA: $7.9 \pm 5.1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



Yorkville (Dec)
OA: $3.2 \pm 2.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



Roadside (Jan)
OA: $4.7 \pm 3.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

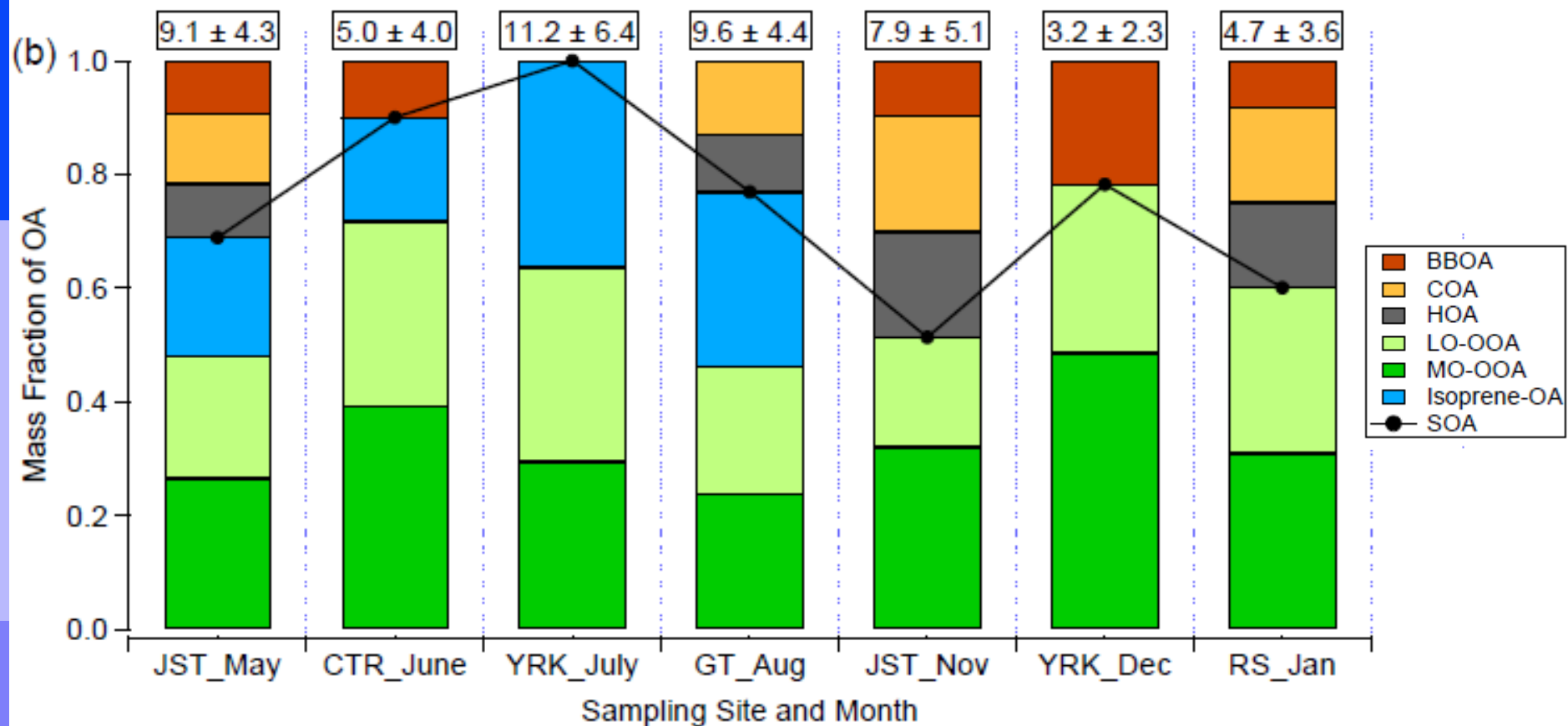


Xu et al., PNAS, 2015

Isoprene-OA only in warmer months, 18 – 36% of total OA
→ Importance of sulfate

Less-Oxidized Oxygenated Organic Aerosol (LO-OOA) important in all seasons, 19-34% of total OA
→ Importance of BVOC+NO₃

Mass Fraction of Different OA Subtypes

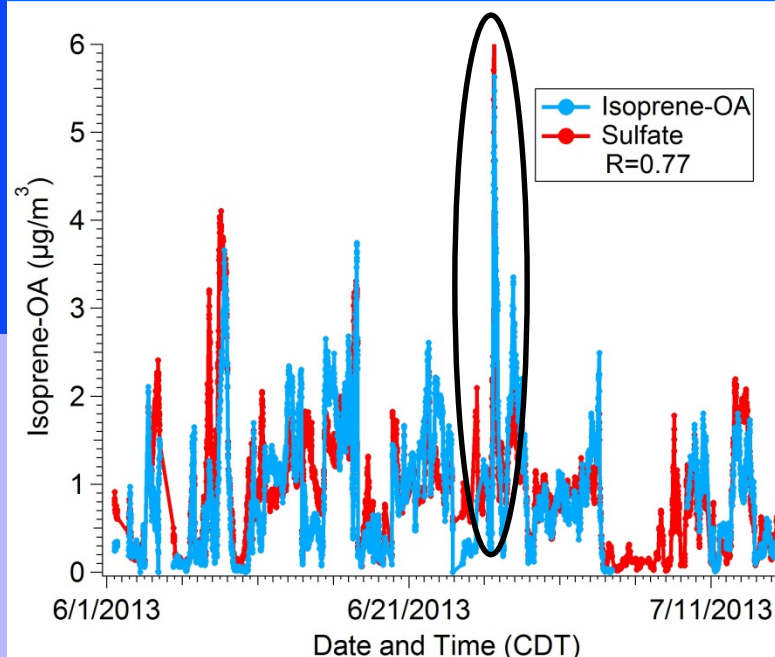


- SOA (Isop_OA, MO-OOA and LO-OOA) dominated OA in summer
- HOA (surrogate for POA) highest at Jefferson Street, Roadside
- BBOA fraction evident in winter and summer

Xu et al., PNAS, 2015

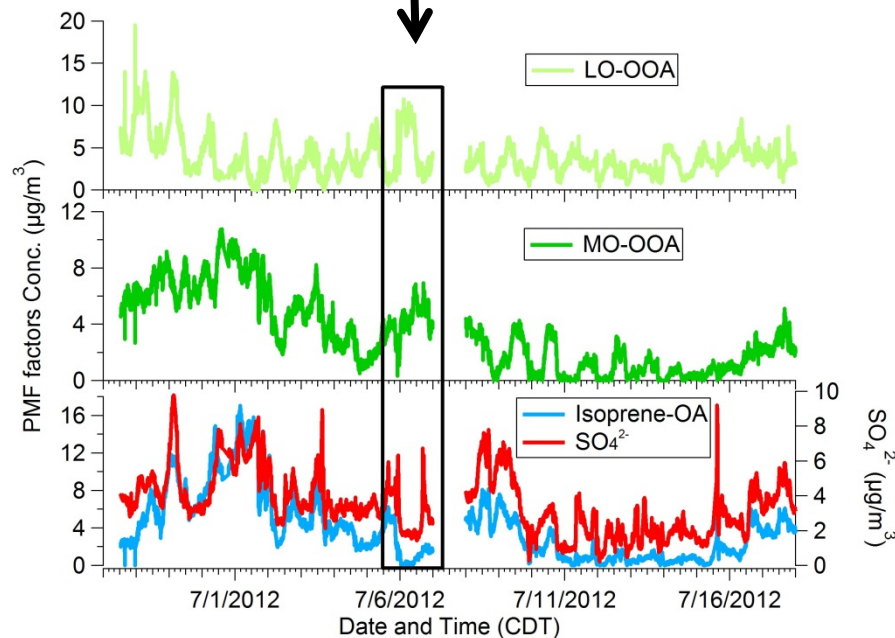
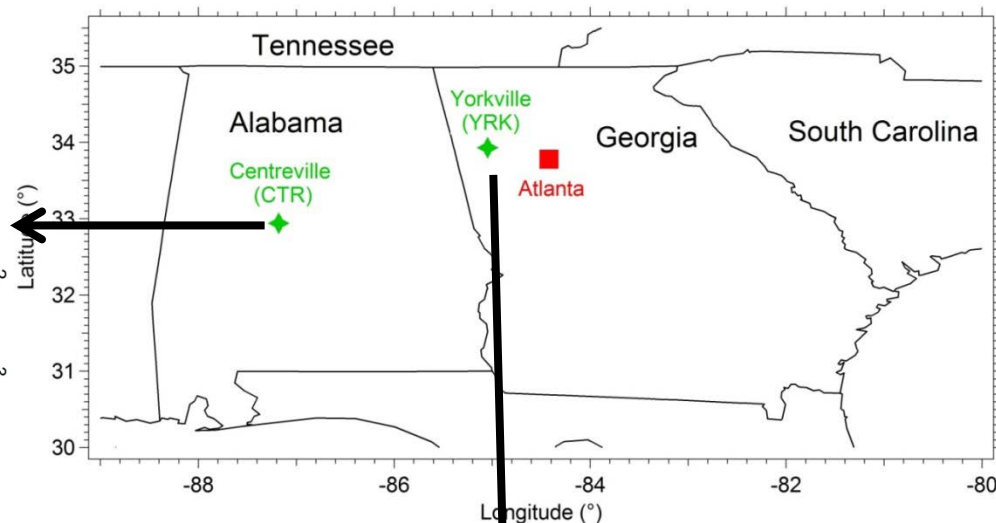
Xu et al., ACP, 2015

Isoprene-OA: Correlation with Sulfate



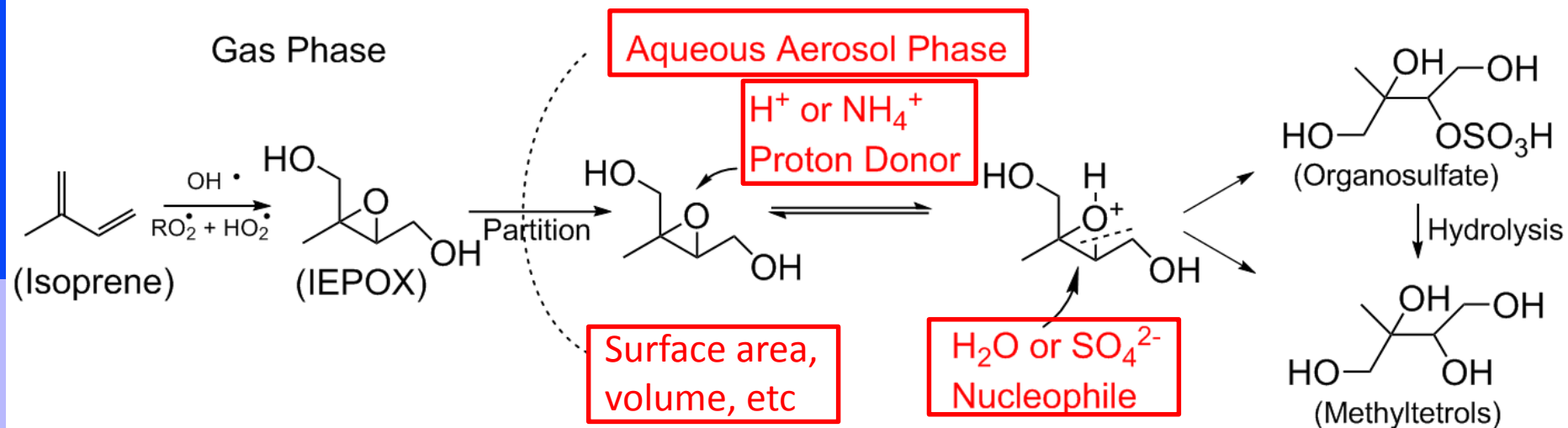
High SO_4 may enhance "Isoprene-OA" formation

- Isoprene-OA factor has a strong association with sulfate (R between 0.7 and 0.9).
- What's the role of sulfate in Isoprene-OA formation?



Low SO_4 may limit Isoprene-OA formation.

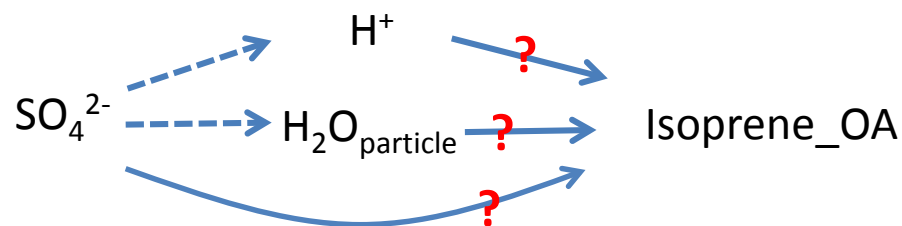
Isoprene-OA: Formation Mechanism



Challenges in determining the role of SO_4 :

1) Convolutted interaction between SO_4 , particle water and acidity.

2) Determination of particle water and particle acidity (Guo et al., 2015)



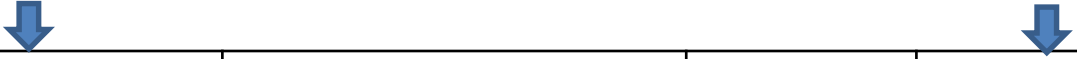
Xu et al., PNAS, 2015

Effect of SO₄, acidity, and water on Isoprene-OA

-- Multivariate Linear Regression

$$\text{Isoprene-OA} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{H}_2\text{O} + \beta_2 * [\text{H}^+] + \beta_3 * \text{SO}_4$$

$$\text{Adjusted } R^2 = 0.66$$

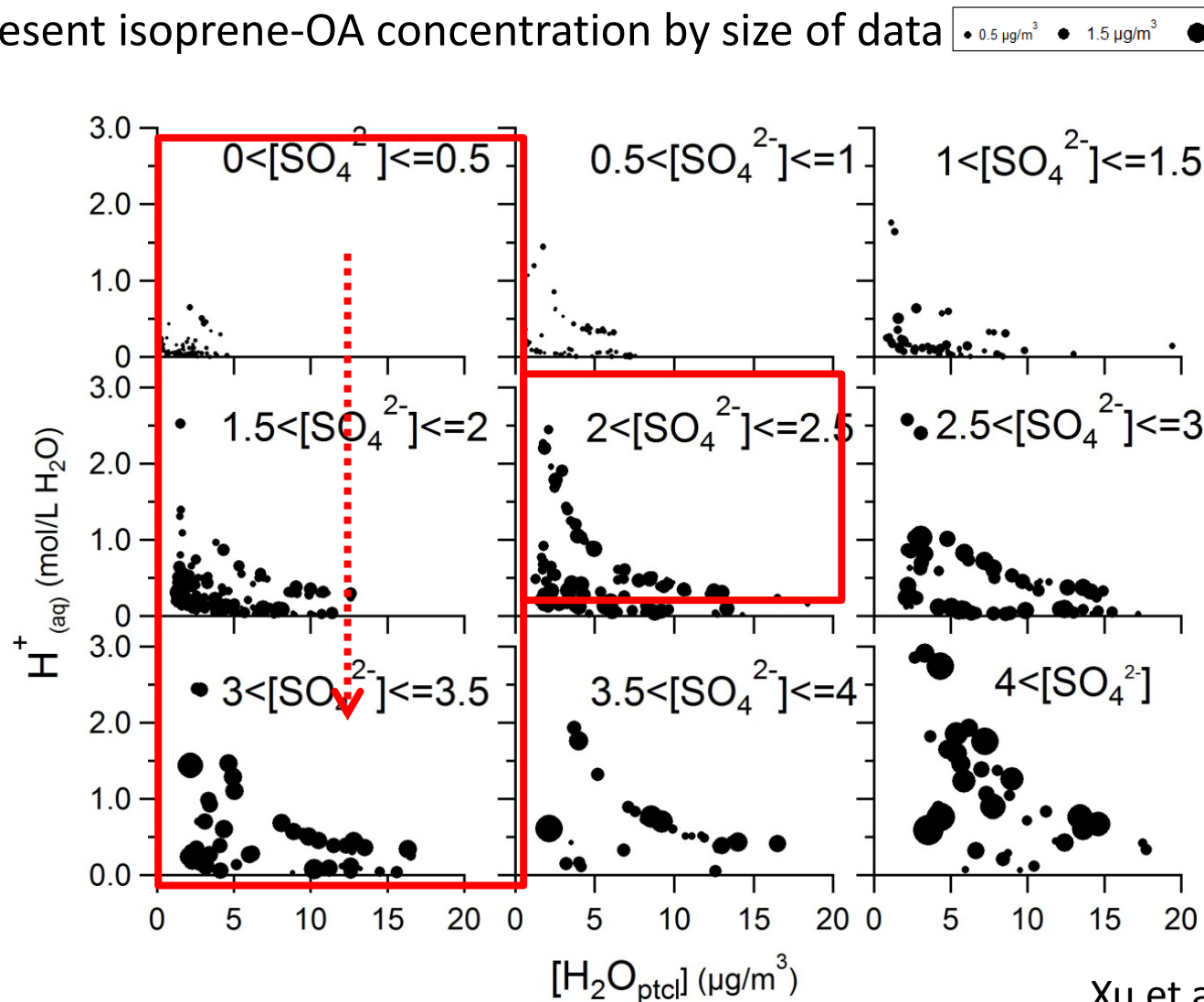


Variable	β -coefficient	Standard error	t Value	P value
Intercept	0.267	0.094	2.82	0.0049
H ₂ O	-0.004	0.008	-0.50	0.6171
H ⁺	0.009	0.048	0.18	0.8540
SO ₄	0.424	0.022	19.23	<0.0001

- SO₄ has the strongest association with Isoprene-OA (P value < 0.0001)
- Isoprene-OA vs H₂O or acidity → not significant
- It is SO₄, instead of H₂O or acidity, that limits isoprene OA formation

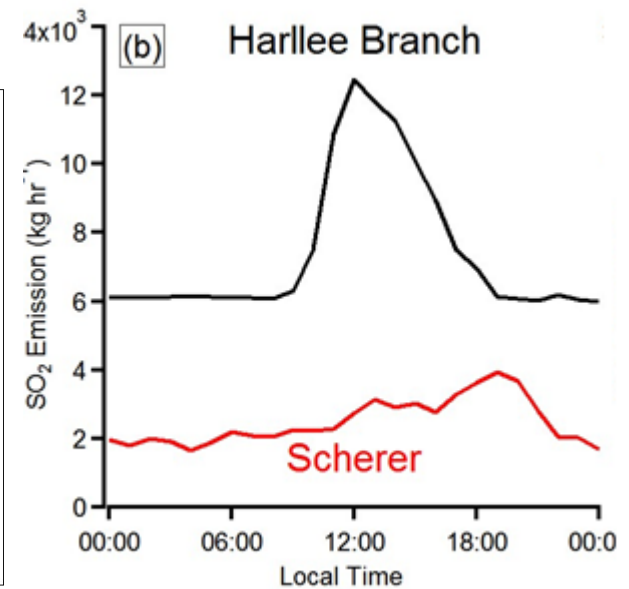
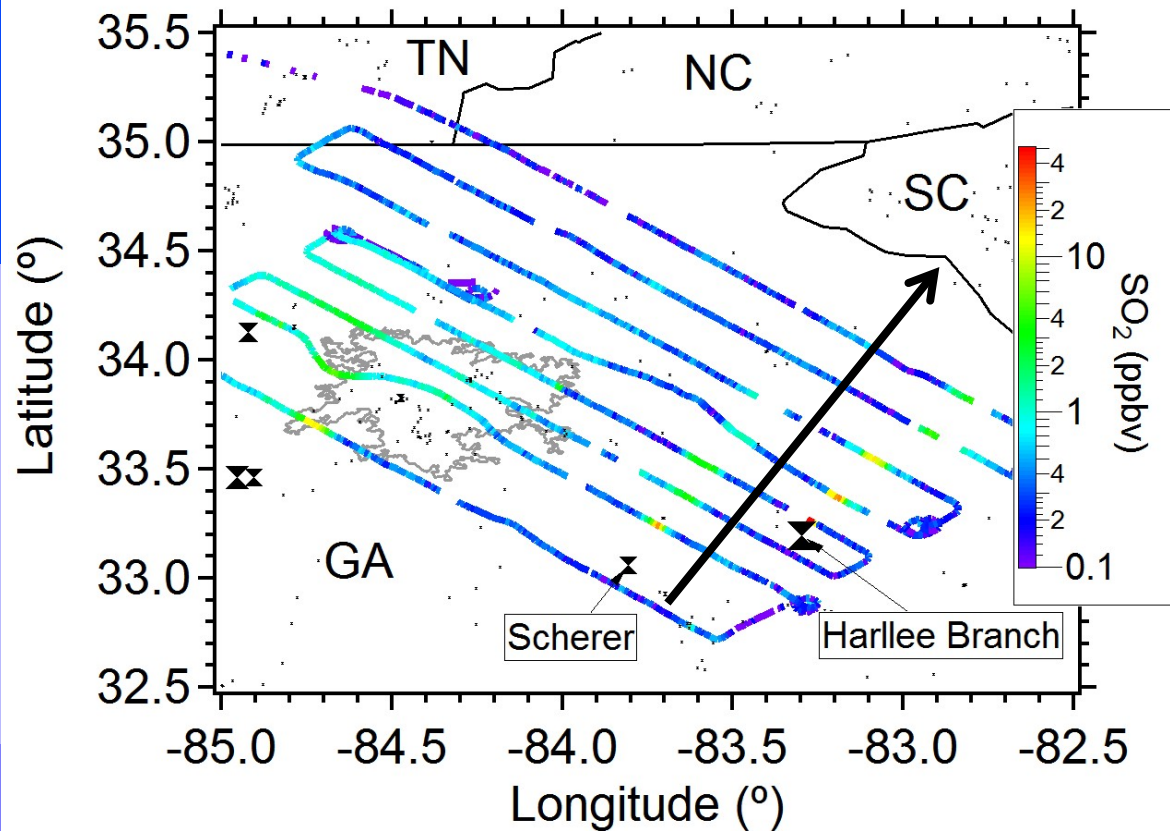
Isoprene-OA: Effect of SO₄

- ❖ All data points grouped into nine bins based on 0.5 μg/m³ increment in SO₄ concentration
- ❖ Represent isoprene-OA concentration by size of data



Southeast Nexus (SENEX) Study

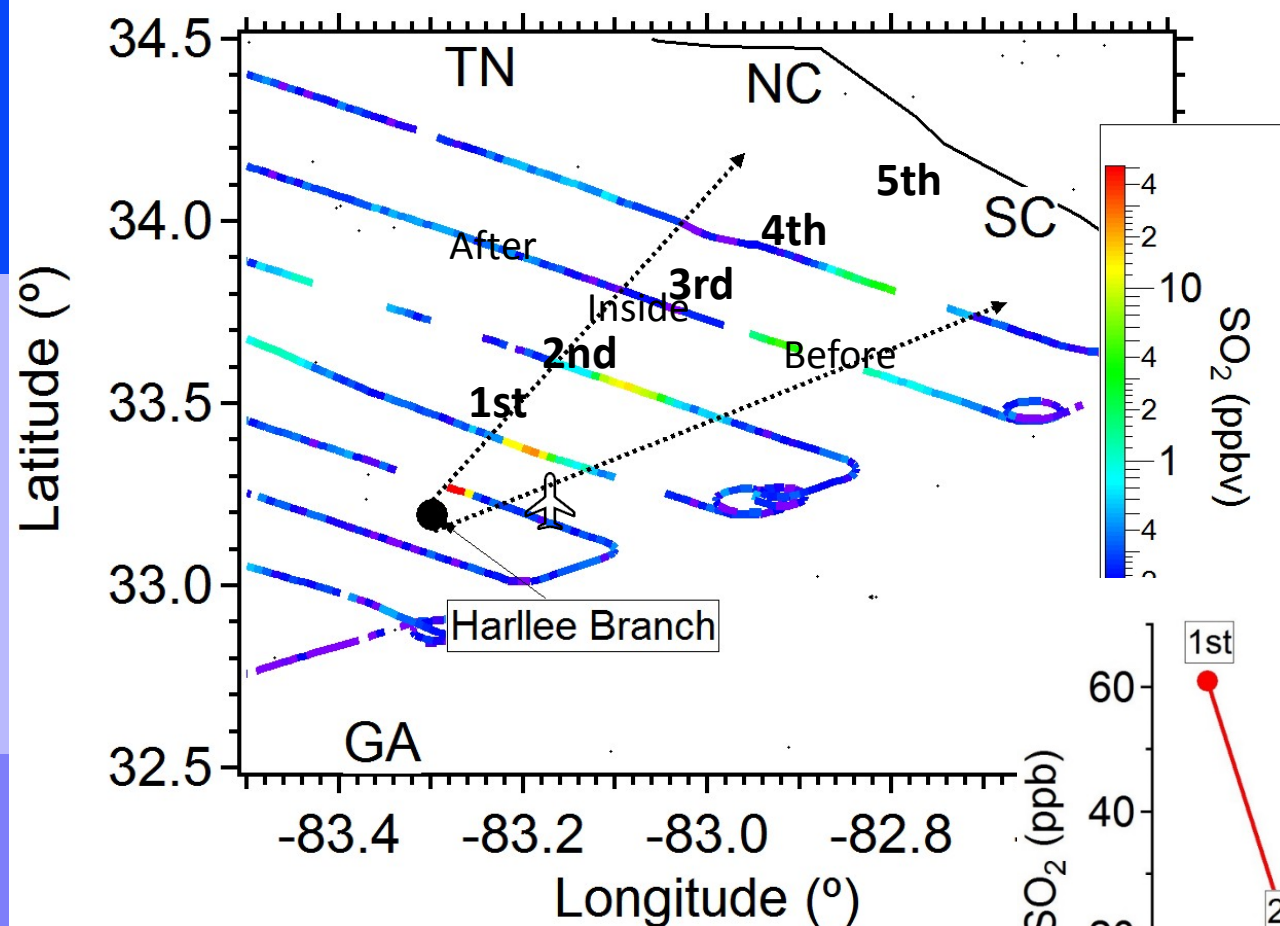
AMS data from
Ann Middlebrook (NOAA)



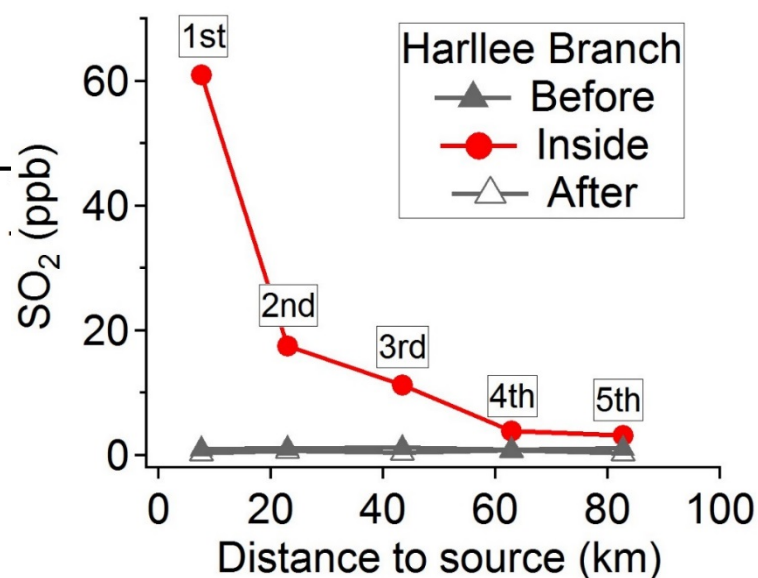
- Flight June 16th: Over Georgia. Wind direction: mainly SW
- Focus on two power plants: Scherer and Harlee Branch
→ sample downwind of power plant (e.g. high SO₂).

Xu et al., JGR, 2016

Plume Evolution



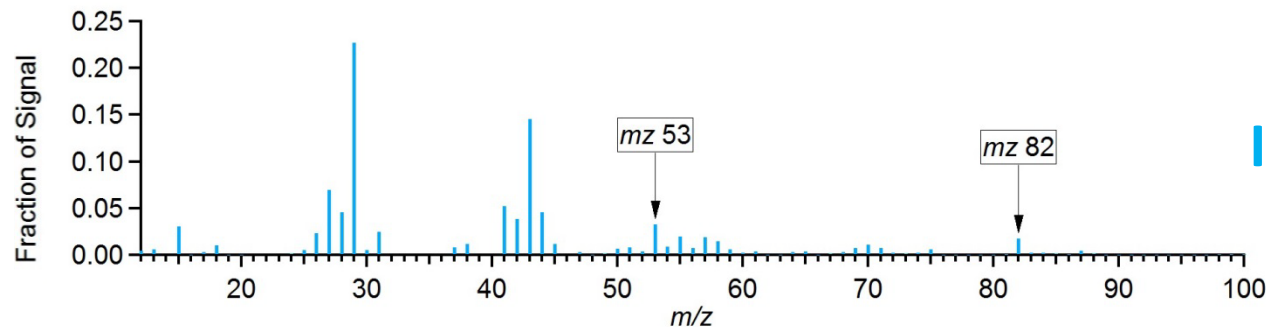
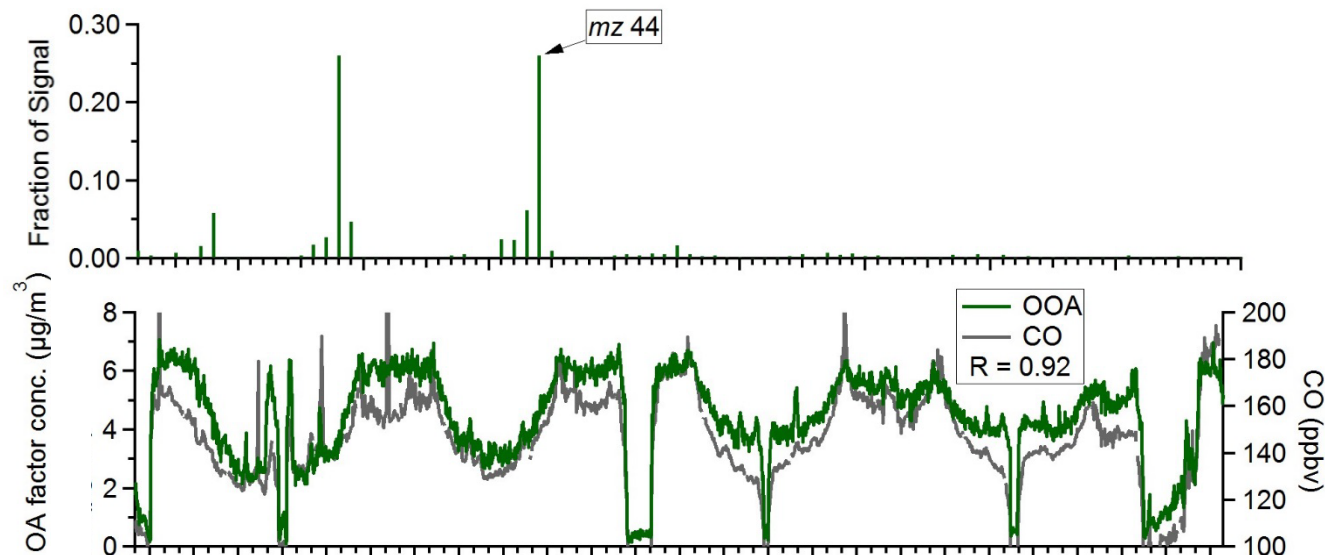
- Plume: from SW to NE following the wind direction
- Before, inside, after the plume
- Plot conc. against downwind distance to source for each transect.



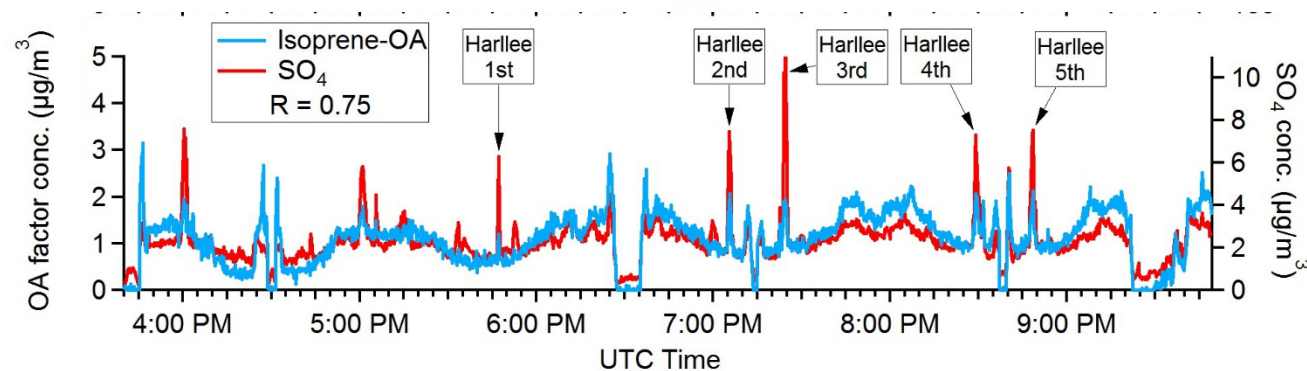
Xu et al., JGR, 2016

Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) Results

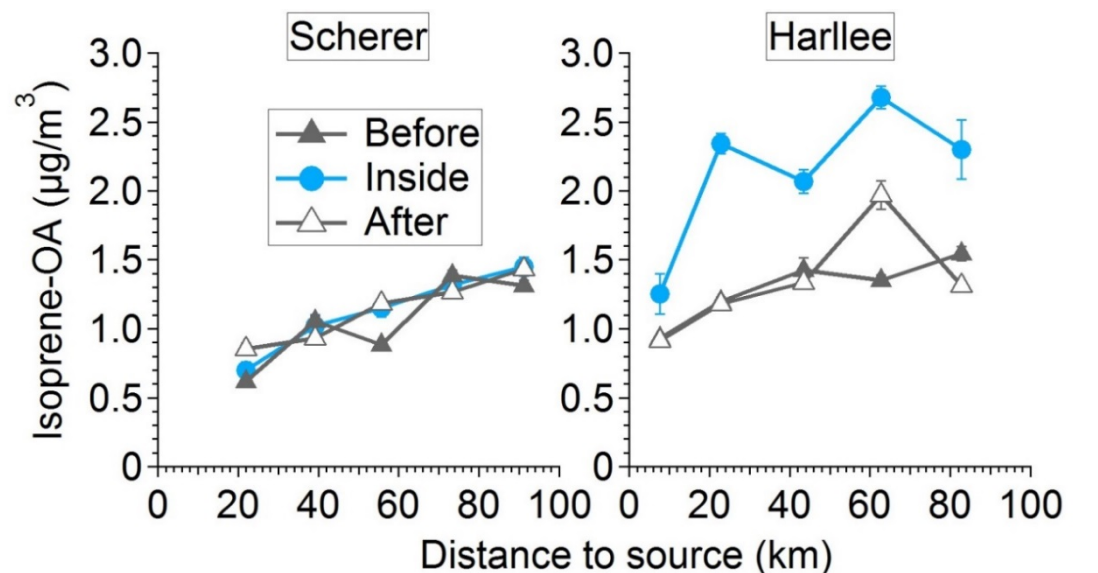
Oxygenated OA (OOA)



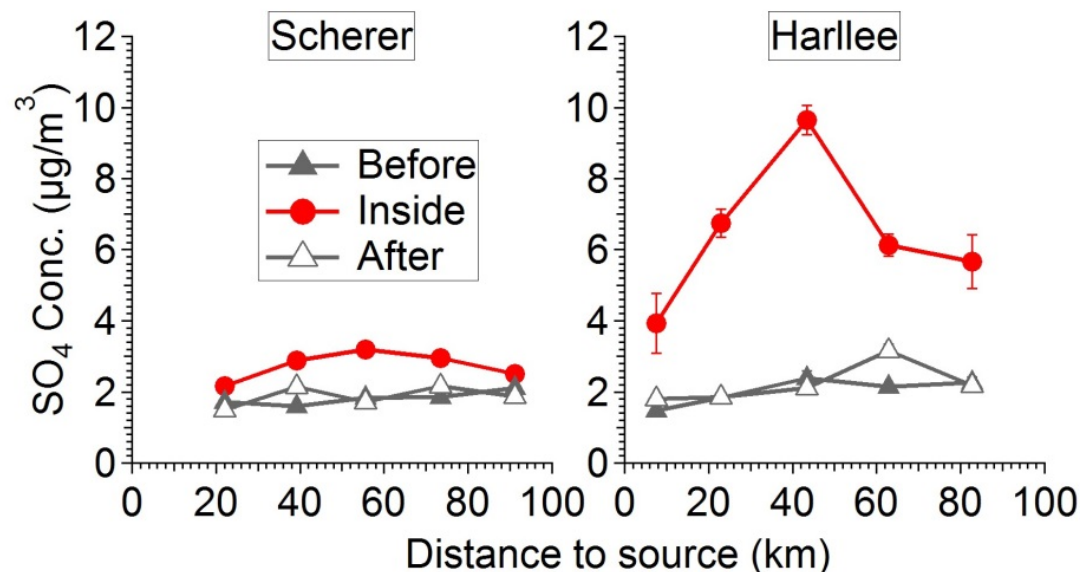
Isoprene-derived OA (Isop-OA)



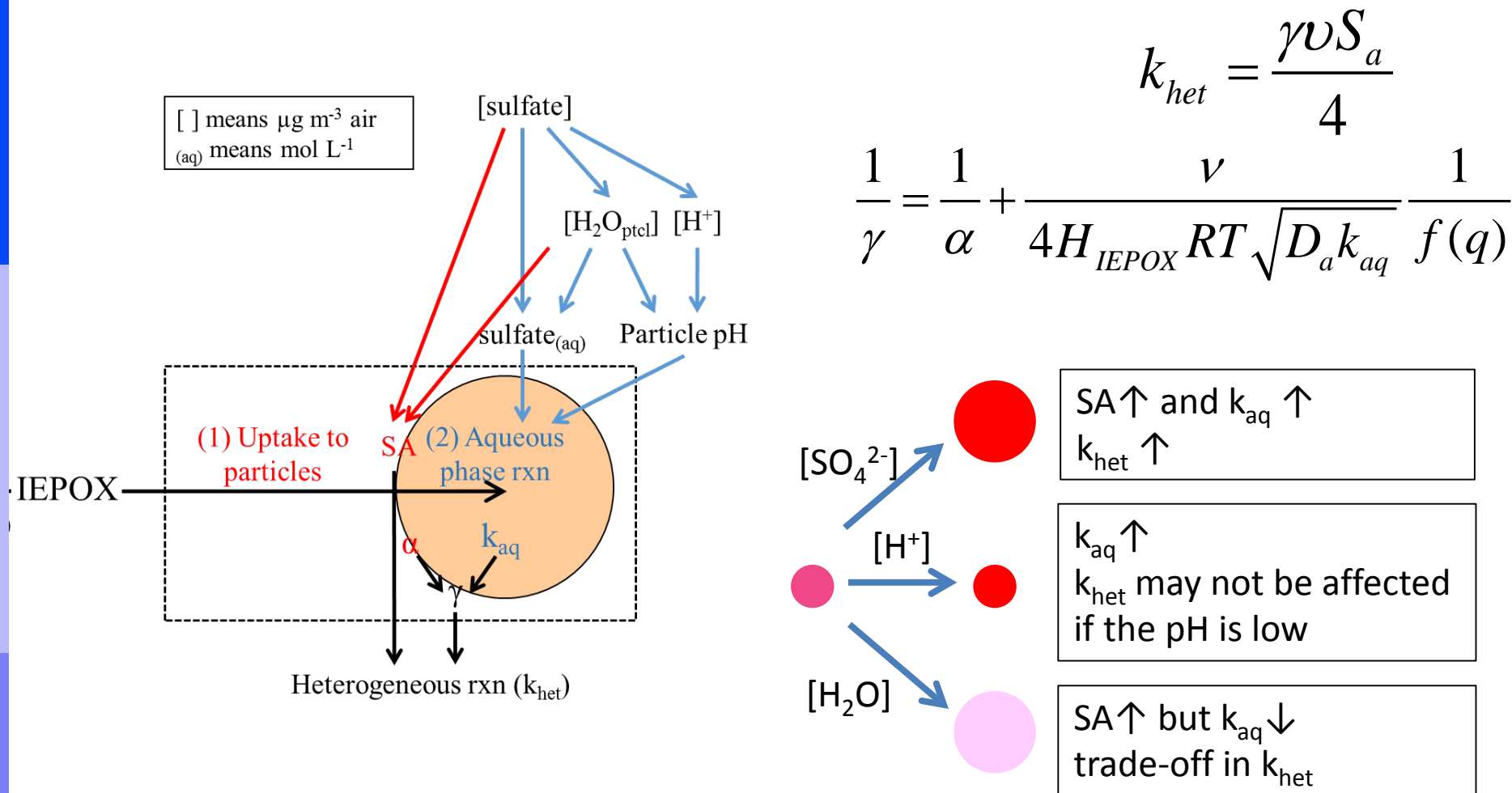
Evolution of Isoprene-OA and Sulfate



- Isoprene-OA is enhanced in Harlee Branch, but not in Scherer.
- Consistent with substantial sulfate enhancement in Harlee, but not in Scherer.
- What's the role of sulfate in isoprene-OA formation?



Isoprene-OA vs SO₄/acidity/water

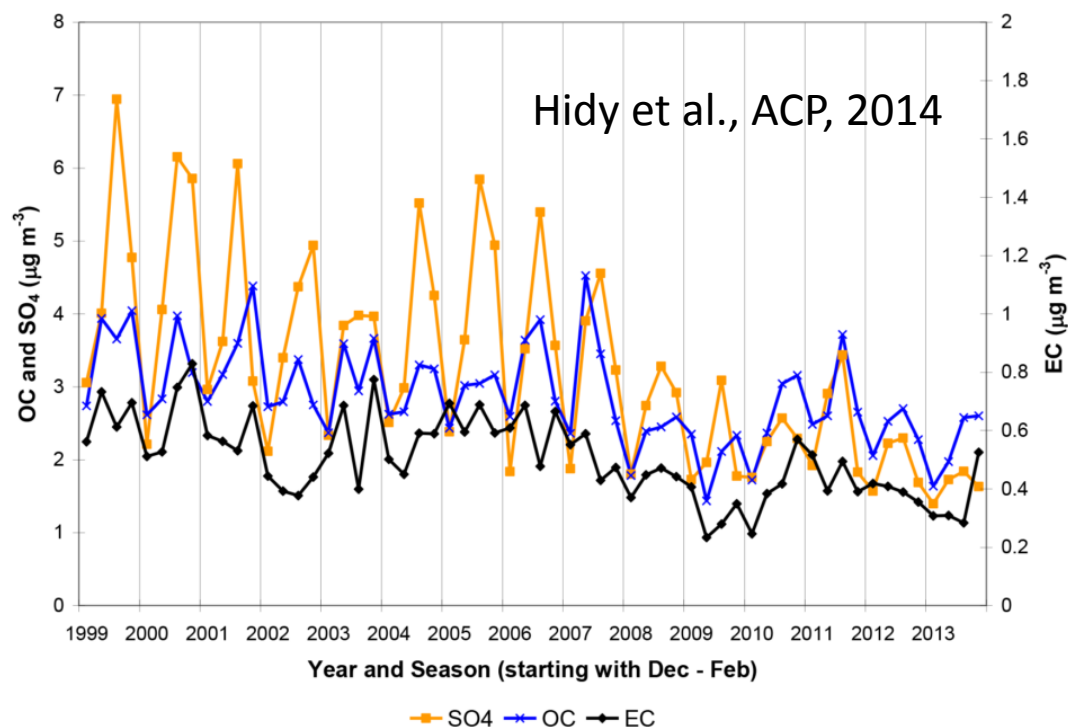


- Competition between 1) IEPOX uptake to particles and 2) subsequent aqueous-phase reactions
- Sulfate enhances both steps. High particle acidity. Trade-off effects of particle water.

Magnitude of Sulfate Effect on Isoprene-OA

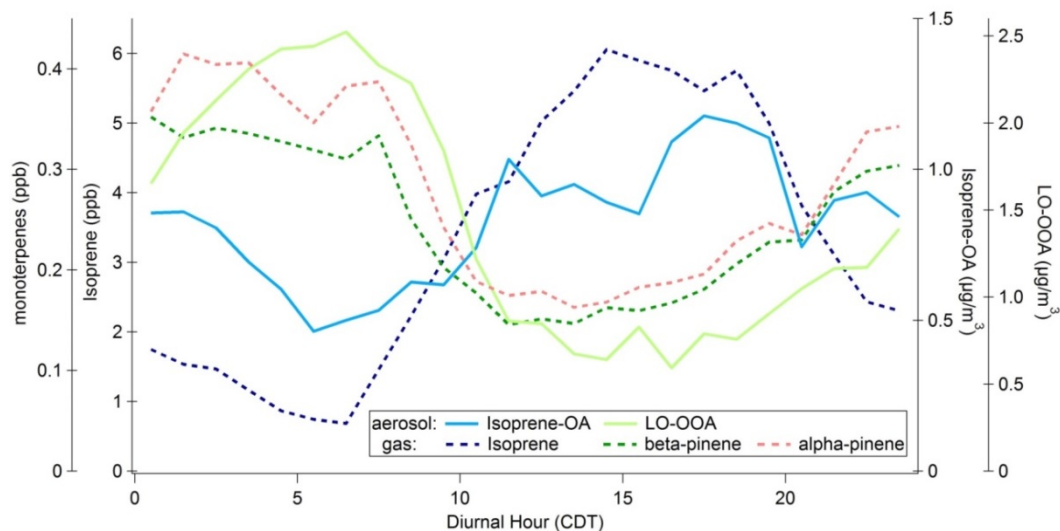
Reduction in isoprene-OA associated with $1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ reduction in sulfate.

	Reduction in OA ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	Method
Xu et al., PNAS, 2015	0.42	SOAS ground measurement
Xu et al., JGR, 2016	0.23	SENEX airborne measurement
Blanchard et al., ACP, 2015	0.35	Stats analysis on 15 years data in SE

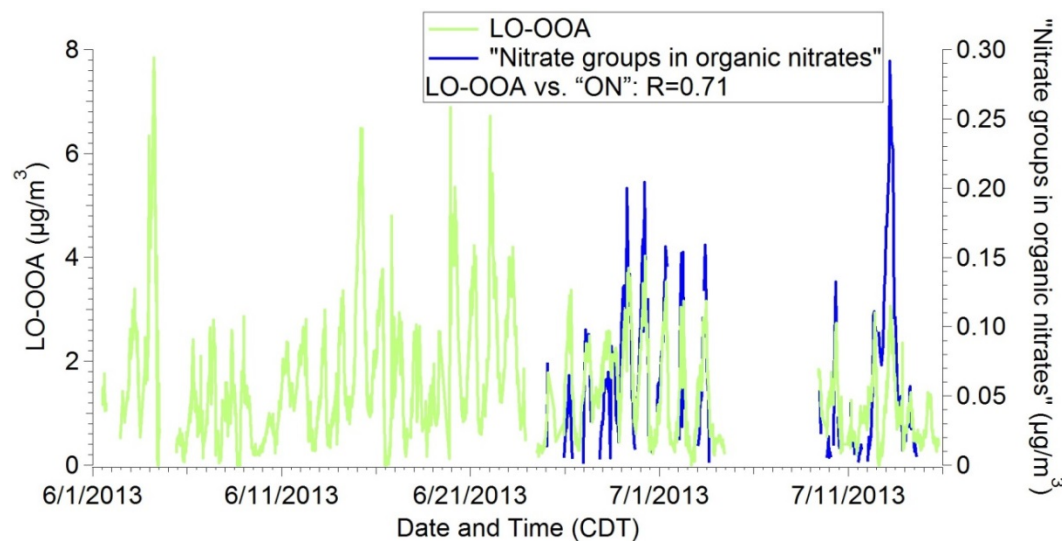


Roughly 30% of the total OA reduction could possibly arise from the sulfate control over isoprene-OA formation

LO-OOA at SOAS (see Monday's presentation for details)



- LO-OOA peaks at night and has same diurnal as monoterpenes.
- LO-OOA is identified in all seasons → monoterpene seasonal variation

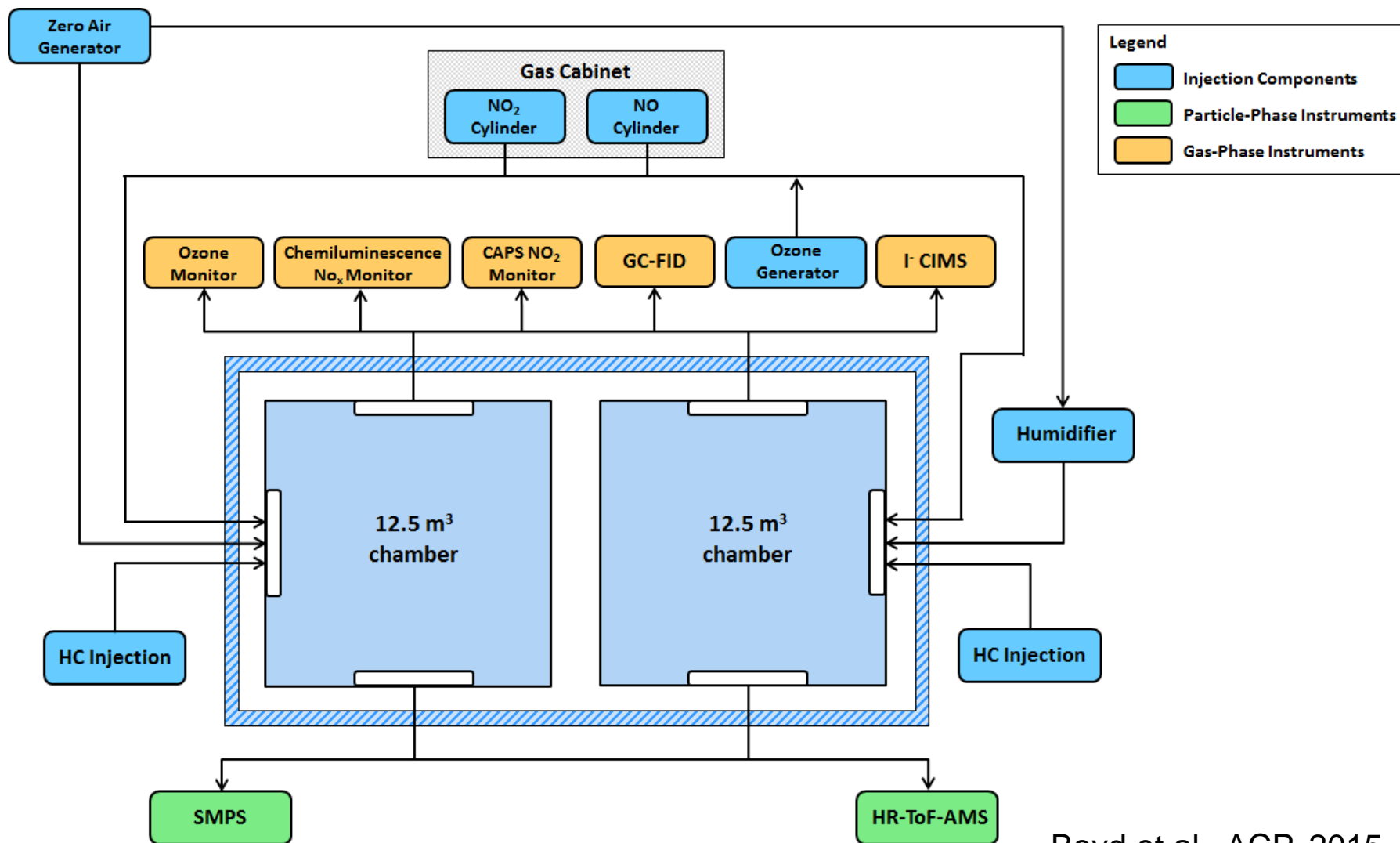


- LO-OOA is strongly correlated with "nitrate groups (-ONO₂) in organic nitrates"
- Estimated based on AMS-IC method

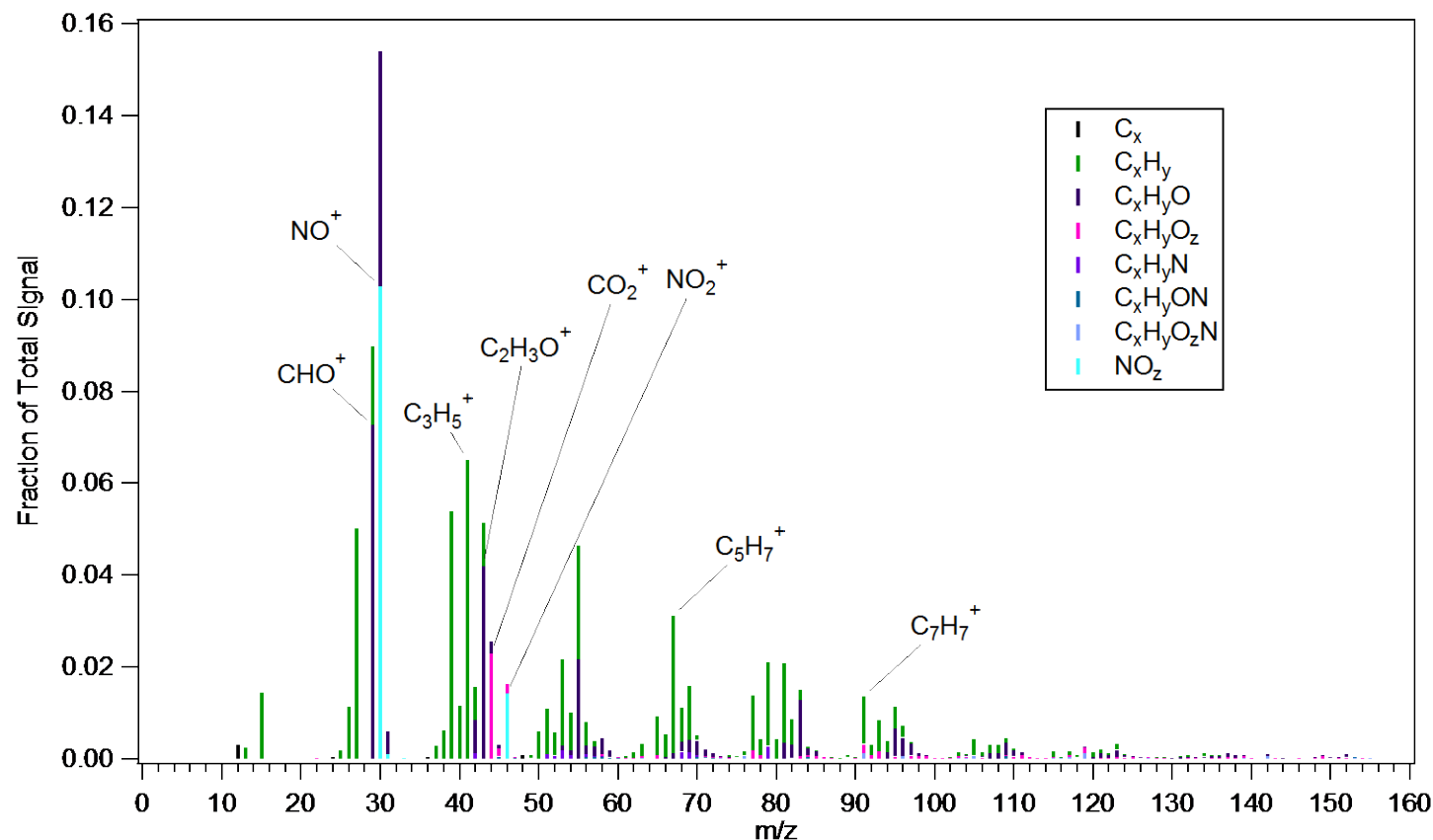
**Contribution of
monoterpenes + NO₃[•]
chemistry to LO-OOA**

Georgia Tech Environmental Chamber Facility

Dual chamber facility, 300 lights, temperature range 4- 40 °C.



β -pinene+NO₃: Aerosol Composition



- Large fraction of nitrate species at NO⁺ (m/z 30) and NO₂⁺ (m/z 46)
 - Estimated that 45-74% of aerosol is composed of organic nitrates
- Relatively large signal at m/z 67 (C₅H₇⁺) and m/z 91 (C₇H₇⁺)

Bulk and Speciated Organic Nitrates

β -pinene + NO₃

Molecule-iodide adduct formula	Exact m/z
C ₁₀ H ₁₇ NO ₃ I	342.020782
C ₁₀ H ₁₅ NO ₃ I	356.000031
C ₁₀ H ₁₃ NO ₃ I	358.015686
C ₁₀ H ₁₁ NO ₃ I	360.031311
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	369.97934
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	371.994965
C ₁₀ H ₁₁ NO ₃ I	374.01062
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	376.026306
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	385.974213
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	387.989868
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	390.005524
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	392.02121
C ₁₀ H ₁₃ NO ₃ I	401.969147
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	403.984772
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	406.000427
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	408.016052
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	417.96405
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	419.979675
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	421.995361
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	357.979309
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	359.994965
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	373.974182
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	375.989868
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	378.005524
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	389.969147
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	391.984833
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	405.96405
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	407.979706
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	343.963654
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	345.979309
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	359.958588
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	361.974213
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	375.953491
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	377.969147
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	391.948395
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	313.953094
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	329.947998
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	331.963654
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	345.942932
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	347.958588
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	361.937836

α -pinene + NO₃

Molecule-iodide adduct formula	Exact m/z
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	356.000031
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	371.994965
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ N ₂ O ₃ I	403.000763
C ₁₀ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	419.979706
C ₉ H ₁₂ NO ₃ I	357.979309

HR-ToF-AMS

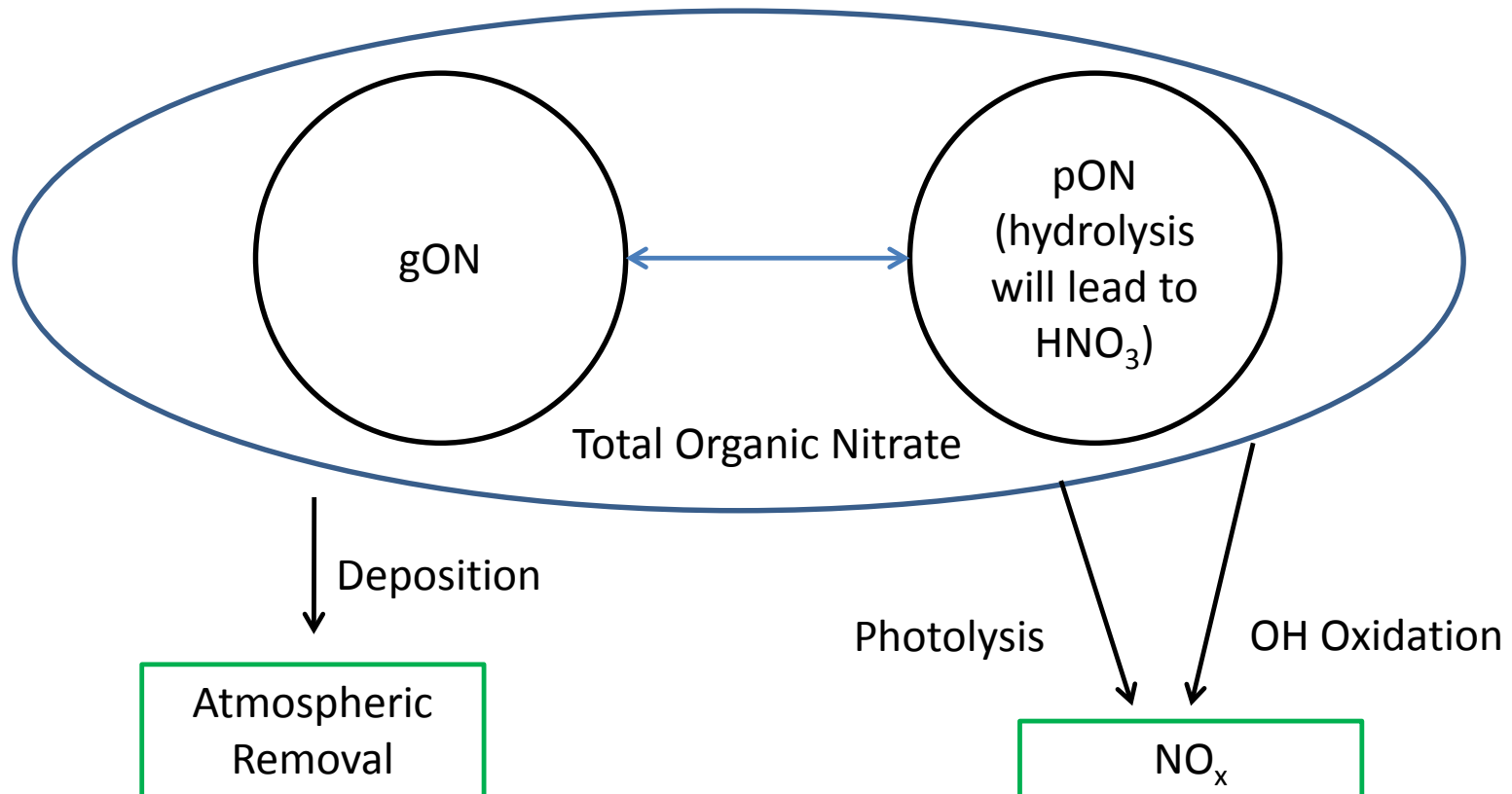
- 60-80% of OA is organic nitrates

FIGAERO-HR-ToF-CIMS (I⁻)

- 41 ON observed for β -pinene+NO₃
(32 observed at SOAS, Lee et al., 2016)
- 5 ON for α -pinene+NO₃
(4 observed at SOAS, Lee et al., 2016)

NO₃ chemistry forms atmospherically relevant highly oxygenated ON

Fate of Atmospheric Organic Nitrates

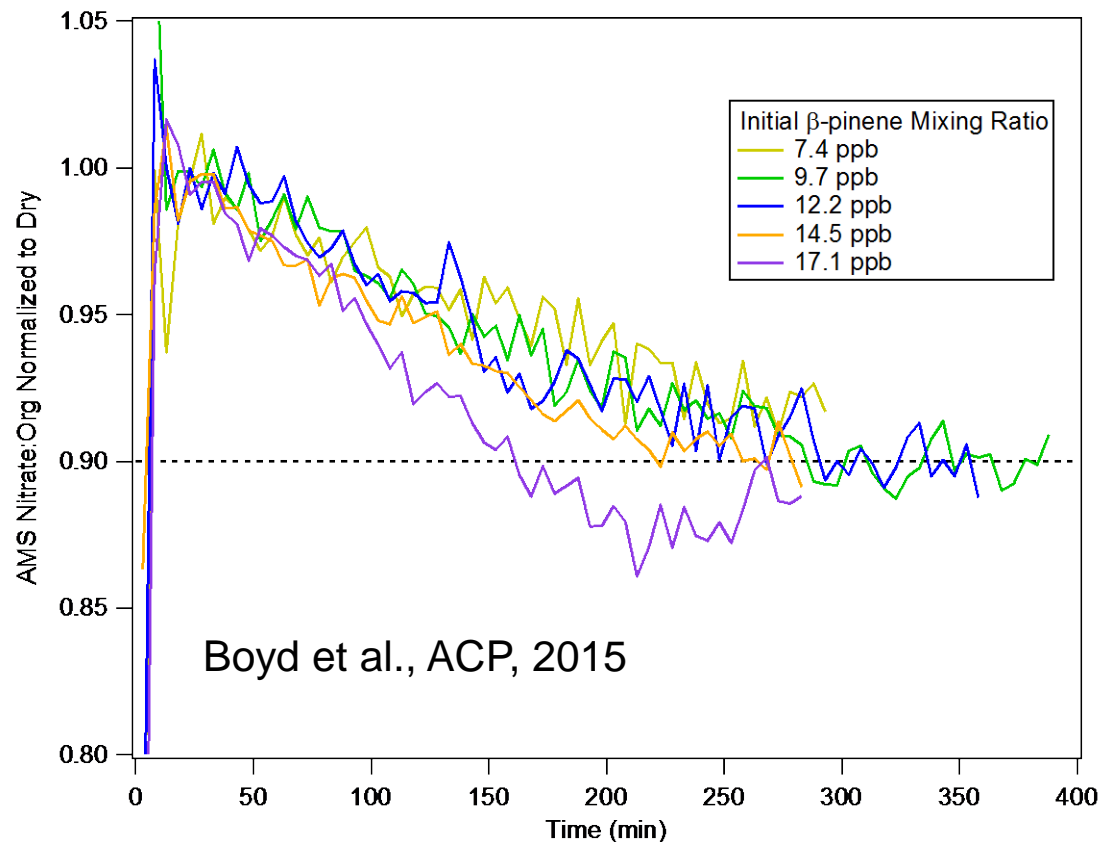


- **Aerosol ON that is not removed by deposition can either form nitric acid through hydrolysis or be released as NO_x through photolysis or OH oxidation**

β -pinene+NO₃: Organic Nitrate Hydrolysis

Nitrate/Org in wet expt

Nitrate/Org in dry expt

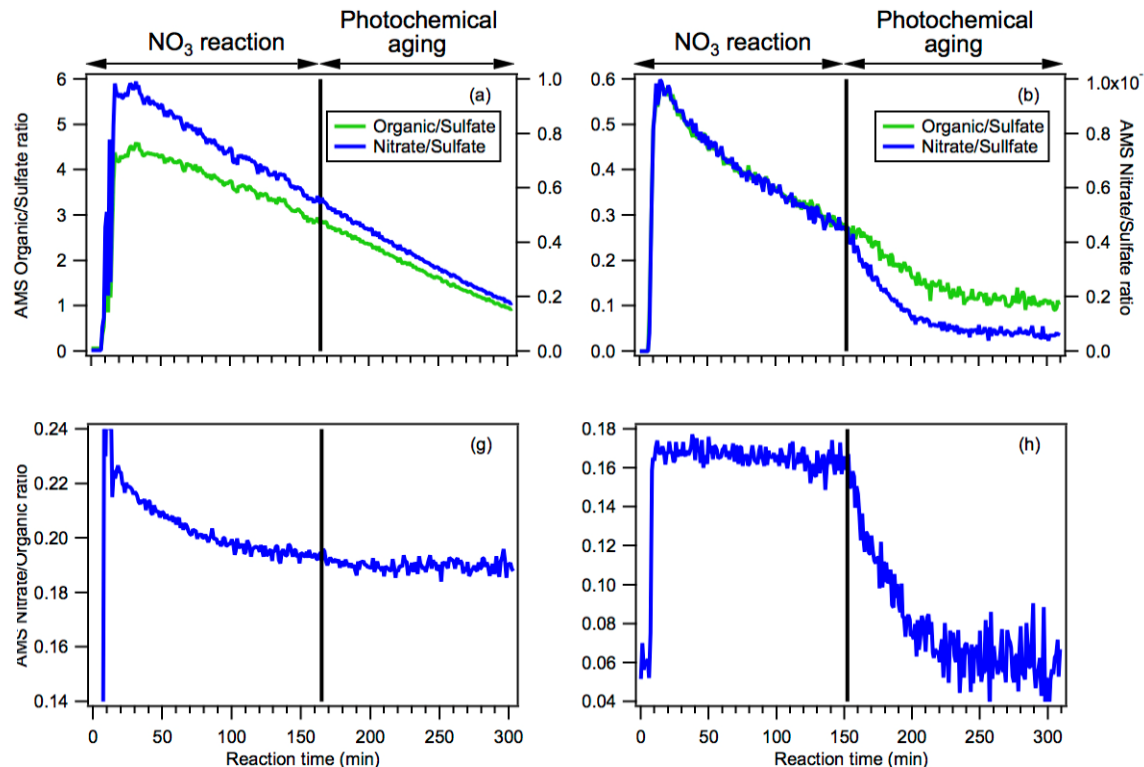


- ~90% of ON is likely primary (which do not hydrolyze at appreciable rates)
- ~10% of ON hydrolyzes with a lifetime of 3-4.5 hr (tertiary ON)
 - Much higher than primary/tertiary ON ratio predicted from photooxidation under high NO_x conditions (Browne et al., 2013)
- **What happens to ON that do not hydrolyze? (do they get photolyzed /OH reaction?)**

Photochemical Aging of Nighttime Aerosol

β -pinene + NO_3

α -pinene + NO_3



- Photochemically aging, $\text{OH} + \text{h}\nu$
- β -pinene+ NO_3 SOA: photochemical aging has little effect
- α -pinene+ NO_3 : a large fraction of reactive nitrogen is released from the α -pinene SOA back to the gas phase during photooxidation.

Photochemical Fate of Organic Nitrates:
→ VOC/composition dependent!

Conclusions

- Submicron non-refractory PM₁ in SE US dominated by organics.
- Isoprene-OA accounts for 18-36% of total OA in summer
 - Isoprene-OA formation is greatly and **directly regulated by SO₄**
 - 1 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ reduction in sulfate is associated with 0.23-0.42 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ reduction in Isoprene-OA.
- LO-OOA accounts for 22-34% of total OA
 - Likely originates from monoterpenes, and its formation could be controlled by nighttime NO₃ chemistry (**NO_x effect**).
 - Organic nitrates makes up a substantial fraction (up to 12% in summer) of ambient OA in SE US
- Chamber studies provide fundamental data to interpret ambient observation
 - 60-80% of OA are organic nitrates
 - Formation of highly oxygenated ON species in both gas- and particle-phase, many of which observed in the ambient
 - Photochemical fate and hydrolysis of organic nitrates depends on parent compound and oxidation

Synergistic chamber and ambient studies → more insights!

Question: Mechanism and Magnitude of Anthropogenic Influence on Biogenic SOA Formation?

NO_x and SO₄ together can potentially control **43-70% of OA (30-50% of PM₁)** in the SE US during summer.

References

Xu, L., Middlebrook, A. M., Liao, J., de Gouw, J. A., Guo, H. Y., Weber, R. J., Nenes, A., Lopez-Hilfiker, F. D., Lee, B. H., Thornton, J. A., Brock, C. A., Neuman, J. A., Nowak, J. B., Pollack, I. B., Welti, A., Graus, M., Warneke, C., and Ng, N. L.: Enhanced formation of isoprene-derived organic aerosol in sulfur-rich power plant plumes during Southeast Nexus, *J. Geophys. Res.-Atmos.*, 121, 11137-11153, 2016.

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