Scientific Innovation Through Integration



Molecular Characterization of Organic Aerosol

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EMSL is located at PNNL





Understanding of fundamental relationship between the chemical composition and physicochemical properties of OA.

- Application of HR-MS for Molecular-level Characterization of OA, Unraveling Mechanisms of SOA Formation and Atmospheric Aging
- Development and Applications of Novel API-Surface Sampling Techniques for Analysis of OA
- Molecular Insights on Chemical Composition and Absorption Properties of "Brown Carbon"



ESI/HR-MS Analysis of OA





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ESI/HR-MS Analysis of OA





First study in2004: M. Johnston and Co (U. Delaware)

- Improved Understanding of OA Molecular Composition
- Mechanisms of SOA Formation and Atmospheric Aging: Effects of Seed Particles, Concentrations, RH, UV-light, etc.
- Closure Studies on OA Chemistry and their Physico-chemical Properties
- Applied in both Laboratory and Field studies (SOA, WSOC – rain/cloud water, BBA)

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DESI MS - API/Surface Sampling Technique



Takats et al., Science, 2004 Cooks et al., Science, 2006



✓ no sample prep is required
 ✓ ambient pressure ionization/sampling



- 2004-2008: Has not been applied for analysis of aerosol samples...
- 2009: Field samples X. Yang et al, (Fudan U.)
- 2010: SOA aging (PNNL-UCI)
- 2010: Development and Application of Nano-DESI



Nanospray-DESI Mass Spectrometry



Roach et al., Analyst, 2010; Anal. Chem., 2010



- Precise control of desorption/ionization
- No analyte transport on the substrate; Minimal analyte consumption
- Improved sensitivity
- Reduced spot size
- Readily scaled to smaller volumes



Nano-DESI: Analytical Capabilities





Analysis of OA Using Nano-DESI MS





Time, min.



✓ Routine analysis of <10 ng OA
 ✓ Probe size < 500 µm



Brown SOA in Laboratory



Limonene/O₃ (LSOA)



 $[NH_3]_g = 5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ atm}, \ [HNO_3]_g = 2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ atm}, \ RH \sim 85\%, \ t = 1.24 \text{ hours}$

UV-Vis detection of the "browning" extent

Aging at atmospherically relevant experimental conditions



Nano-DESI/HR-MS of white vs. brown SOA





- ~1200 new peaks, 70% assigned
- Dominant compounds with one or two N-atoms
- Abundant homologous series of N- containing peaks



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Reaction Mechanism



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N-heteroatom compounds are products of NH₃/SOA aging
 Some of them are Brown Carbon chromophores

Detection of N-heteroatom Compounds in Ambient OA







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Pacific Northwest

NATIONAL LABORATORY

Laskin et al., EST, 2009

Detection of N-heteroatom Compounds in Ambient OA



Table 2. Abundant Peaks Observed in Nano-DESI Mass Spectra of Mexico City OA Samples"

no.	m/z	formula	no.	m/z	formula	no.	m/z	formula
1	130.1589	C ₈ H ₁₅ NH ⁺	10	351.2009	$C_{16}H_{30}O_8H^+$	19	246.1699	$C_{12}H_{23}NO_4H^+$
2	203.0525	C ₆ H ₁₂ O ₆ Na ⁺	11	363.2373	$C_{18}H_{34}O_7H^+$	20	266.1961	$C_{12}H_{27}NO_5H^+$
3	147.1014	$C_7H_{14}O_3H^+$	12	373.2579	C ₂₀ H ₃₆ O ₆ H ⁺	21	306.1912	$C_{14}H_{27}NO_6H^+$
4	163.1228	$C_{10}H_{14}N_2H^+$	13	387.0866	$C_{23}H_{14}O_6H^+$	22	306.2274	$C_{15}H_{31}NO_5H^+$
5	217.1798	$C_{12}H_{24}O_{3}H^{+}$	14	102.1277	$C_6H_{15}NH^+$	23	394.2215	$C_{21}H_{31}NO_6H^+$
6	135.1014	$C_6H_{14}O_3H^+$	15	146.1174	$C_7H_{15}NO_2H^+$	24	404.2059	$C_{22}H_{29}NO_6H^+$
7	171.1016	$C_9H_{14}O_3H^+$	16	172.1333	C ₉ H ₁₇ NO ₂ H ⁺	25	420,2009	$C_{22}H_{29}NO_7H^+$
8	249.1696	$C_{12}H_{24}O_5H^+$	17	188.1283	C ₉ H ₁₇ NO ₃ H ⁺			
9	261.1697	$C_{13}H_{24}O_5H^+$	18	214.2529	C14H31NH+			

^a Numbered peaks correspond to labels in Figure 6. Species in OA from an urban environment of Shanghai reported by Wang et al.¹⁶ are marked in bold.

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N-heteroatom Compounds in other SOA material



Bones et al., JGR, 2010



 Molecular structures of individual N-heteroatom compounds determine light-absorption properties of SOA



Ongoing Efforts



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HPLC - UV-Vis – ESI/HR-MS

Identification and quantification of molecular species with light absorbing properties (chromophores) in OA





- Selected <u>individual molecules</u> (chromophores) are responsible for light-absorption of OA (brown carbon)
- Improved analytical methods are needed for quantitative analysis of chromophores

Nano-DESI

- Rapid analysis of ng level of OA without sample preparation;
 Simultaneous detection of hundreds of molecules
- Stable signal over 3-5 min sufficient for MSⁿ analysis
- Suitable for high throughput analysis of time-resolved OA samples









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BES DOE, the Chemical Sciences Division

<u>UCI:</u>

National Science Foundation (ATM-20 0831518)









Ongoing Efforts and Projects: 2. Aerosol Photochemistry Studies



T. Nguen – UCI grad student



CRDS reactor in UCI

- > aging of OA by photochemistry
- effects of RH
- molecular analysis of both gas and condensed phases



Reactive Nano-DESI



with SULI students: B. Heath (Sept-Dec)



Ifa et al, Analyst, 2010, 135, 669-681

> Quantitative Characterization of Different Functional Groups Present in OA of



Reactive nanoDESI



LSOA_BA shifted by 103.0997 LSOA+GT shifted by 115.1109



Betaine Aldehyde + Alcohol













O and CH_4 N and ¹³CH C₃ and SH_4 36.4×10-3 amu14,0008.2×10-3 amu60,0003.4×10-3 amu147,000



Laboratory Studies of SOA Chemistry





UCI smog chamber

Formation and Aging of Terpenes/O₃ SOA

Cloud Chemistry of Organics



Analysis of Field OA Samples







Figure 1 (A) –10 stage cascade Multi Orifice Uniform Deposition Impactor (MOUDI); (B) modified Davis Rotating drum Universal size-cut Monitoring impactor (DRUM); (C). Particle-to-Liquid Sampler (PILS).



ESI/HR-MS studies of OA: 2004-2010





