

Organic Aerosol Components VAP  
for  
Aerosol Mass Spectrometers

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# OA Components VAP

- **Goal:** To represent the enormously complex atmospheric OA system as lumped descriptions of a limited number of components that may be related to distinct sources, physicochemical properties, and atmospheric processes.
- **Methodology :** Multivariate statistical analysis of DOE ACRF and IOP aerosol mass spectrometer data.
- **Assumption:** An AMS organic aerosol data matrix is comprised of the linear combination of OA components with constant profiles that have varying contributions across the dataset.

# Aerosol Mass Spectrometer (AMS) Systems

**Long term measurements (3 systems) –**

**ACSM  
(mini-AMS)**

Tropical Western Pacific in Darwin, Australia  
The Southern Great Plains, Oklahoma  
ACRF MAOS mobile facility

**Q-AMS  
c-ToF-AMS**

**Intensive, focused studies (IOP)**

- CARES: 3 HR-ToF-AMS (T0, T1, G1)
- BNL-IOP
- GVEX: at least 3
- ASP previous G1 studies: NEAQS (2002), MASE (2005), MAX-Mex (2006), MAX-Tex (2006), CHAPS (2007), and VOCALS (2008)

**HR-ToF-AMS**

# AMS Data

High time resolution

**ACSM**  
**(mini-AMS)**

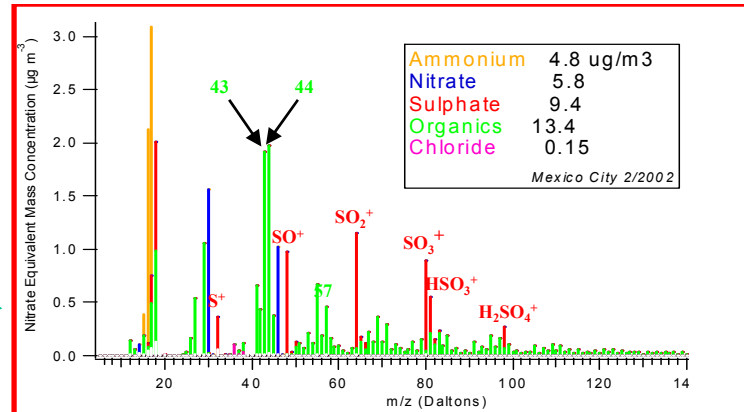
15 - 30 min.

**Q-AMS**  
**c-ToF-AMS**

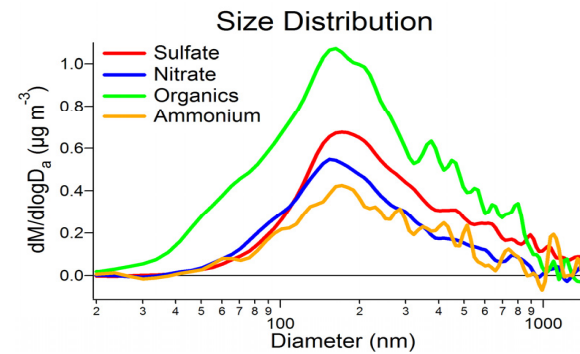
**HR-ToF-AMS**

2-5 min. (ground)

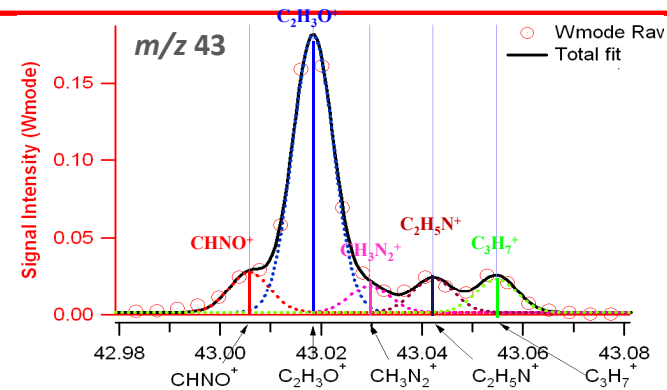
5-30 s (airborne)



## 1. Quantitative composition



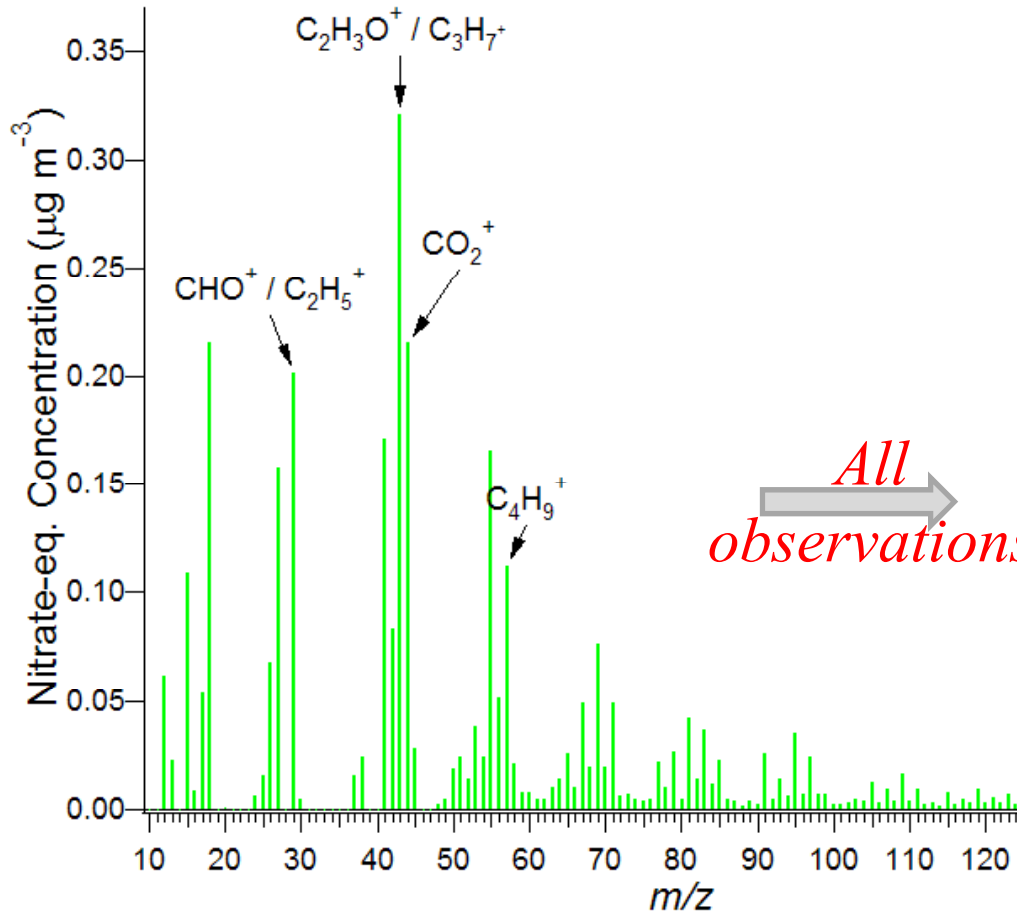
## 2. Size-resolved composition



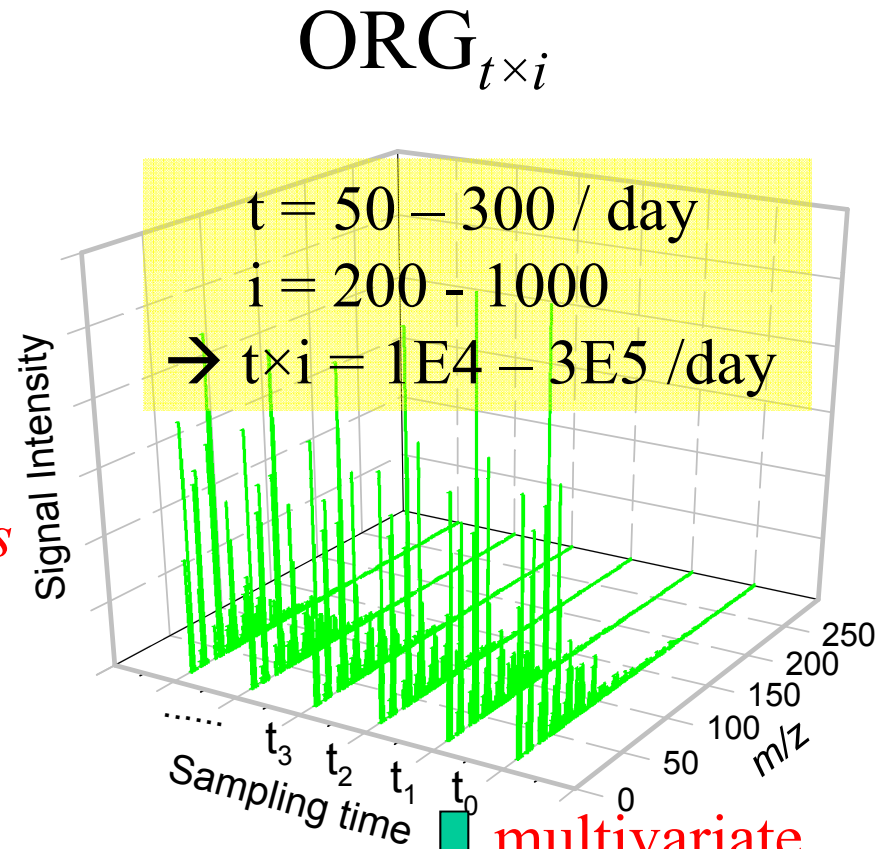
## 3. Elemental comp. ( $C_nH_mN_pO_zS_w$ )

# AMS Organic Mass Spectrum

$$\vec{ms}_{\text{measured}} = c_a \cdot \vec{ms}_a + c_b \cdot \vec{ms}_b + c_c \cdot \vec{ms}_c + \dots$$



*All*  
observations



**multivariate  
analysis**

**$\text{OA}_1, \text{OA}_2, \text{OA}_3, \dots$**

## **Multivariate analysis methods:**

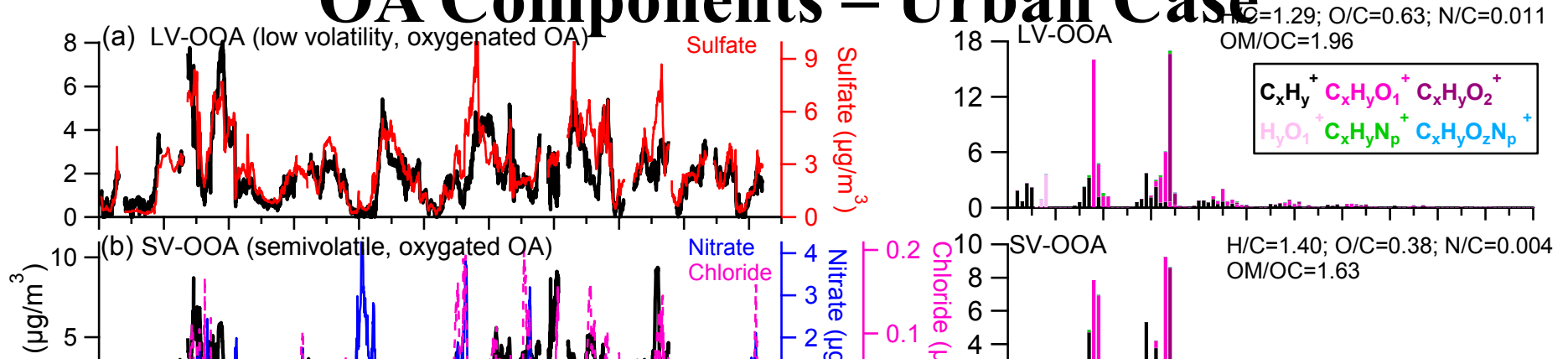
- Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF)
- Tracer-based linear decomposition
- Spectra-based linear decomposition (chemical mass balance-style)

## **Literature (*applications to AMS data*):**

- Zhang, Q. et al. (2005), Deconvolution and quantification of hydrocarbon-like and oxygenated organic aerosols based on aerosol mass spectrometry, *ES&T*, 39(13), 4938-4952
- Ulbrich, I., M. et al. (2009), Interpretation of Organic Components from Positive Matrix Factorization of Aerosol Mass Spectrometric Data, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 9, 2891-2918.
- Ng, N. L. et al. (2010), Development of Real-Time Methods for the Estimation of Organic Components for Aerosol Mass Spectrometer Data, *ES&T* (*submitted*).

**Modelers are using the OA component data derived from AMS field data.**

# OA Components – Urban Case



## Separation of different types of POA and SOA

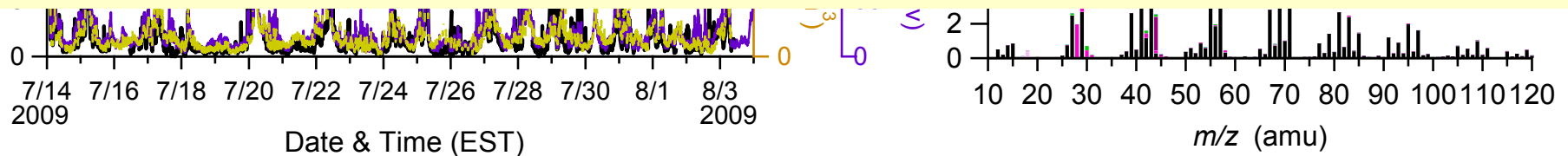
Low Volatility Oxygenated (LV-OOA) ~ Aged, regional SOA

Semi-volatile Oxygenated (SV-OOA) ~ Fresher, semi-volatile SOA

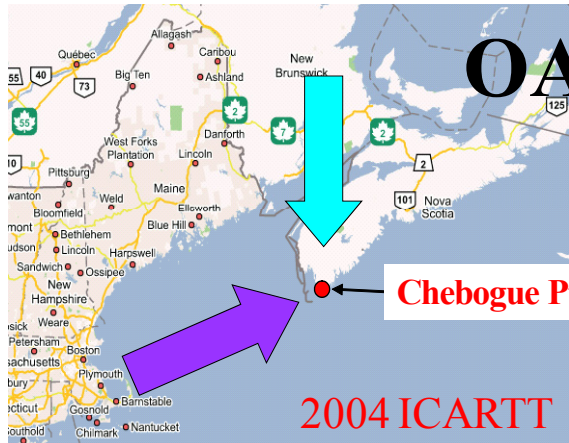
Nitrogen-enriched (NOA) ~ Amine type, likely SOA

Hydrocarbon-like (HOA) ~ Traffic, combustion POA

Cooking related (COA) ~ POA from cooking emissions



# OA Components – Rural / Remote Case



Chebogue Pt. Nova Scotia

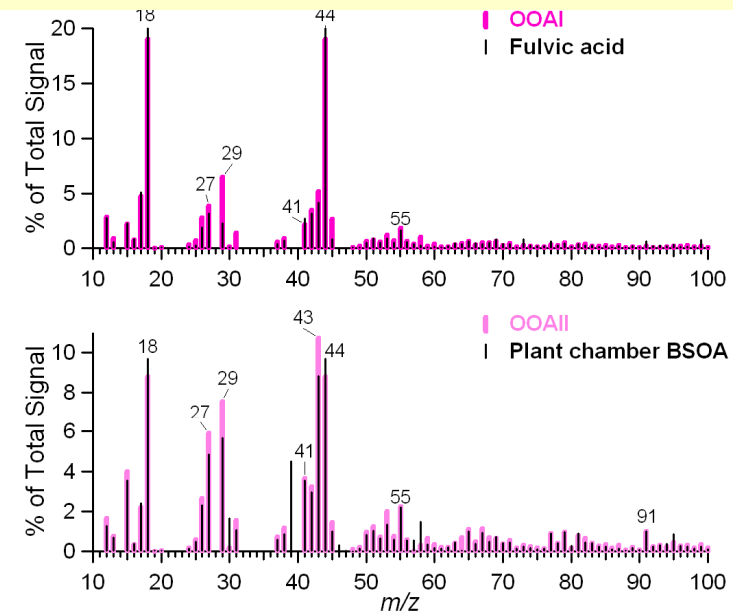
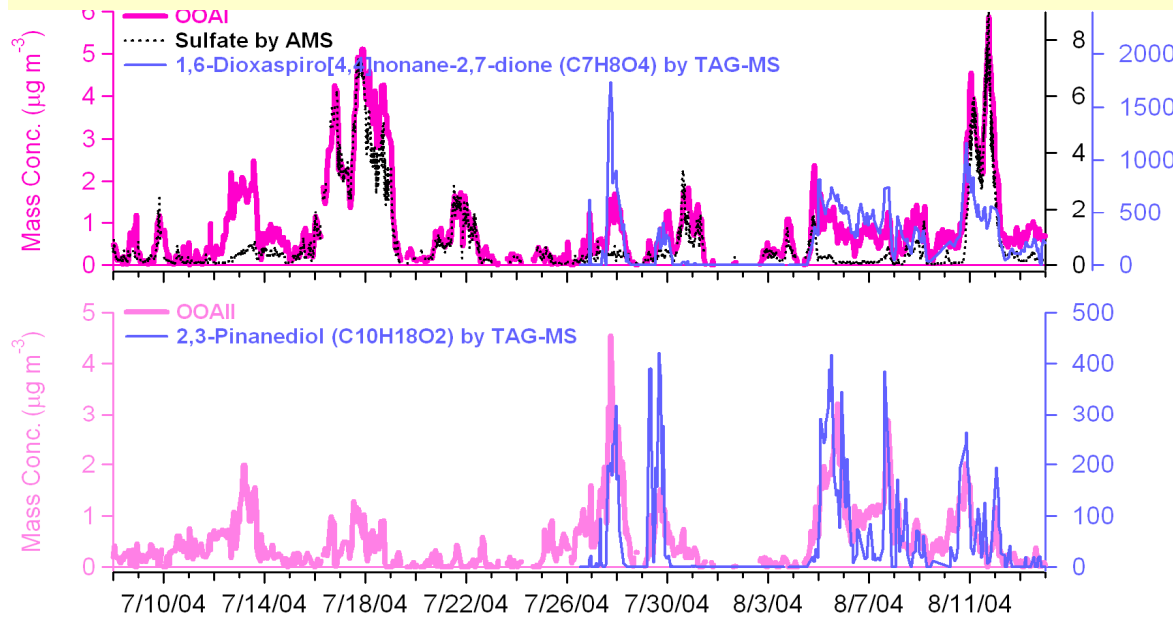
biogenically influenced

anthropogenically influenced.

Zhang et al., in prep.

## Separation of biogenic and anthropogenic SOA

*CARES may be a good study case*





# What Do We Get?

## Products:

- Time series of OA comp. conc. ( $OA_i$ ;  $\Sigma OA_i \approx OA \text{ mass}$ )  
*ACSM: 15 - 30 min.*  
*ToF-AMS: 2-5 min (surface), 15-30 s (airborne)*
- Mass spectra of OA comp. → distinct chemical properties, e.g., O/C, N/C, H/C, OM/OC
- Typical OA comp.: HOA, OOA (SV-, LV-), BBOA, COA, NOA...

## Accuracy:

- Propagated uncertainty for AMS data: < 30%, mainly due to the collection efficiency (CE) correction.
- Uncertainties in OA components:  
*Can be evaluated: e.g., running the PMF algorithm from different random starting points; bootstrapping analysis (Ulbrich et al., 2009, ACP).*

# Applications of the OA Component VAP

- Addressing the lifecycle processes of atmospheric OA.
  - Temporal variations
  - Correlations with tracer compounds
  - *size distributions..., integrated analysis*
- Addressing the radiative properties of OA.
  - Surrogates (e.g., O/C) for hygroscopicity and/or volatility.
  - Correlations and intercomparison with aerosol optical and radiative measurements.
- Validation and evaluations of models
- Model development



# Global Distribution of SOA and POA

● Urban

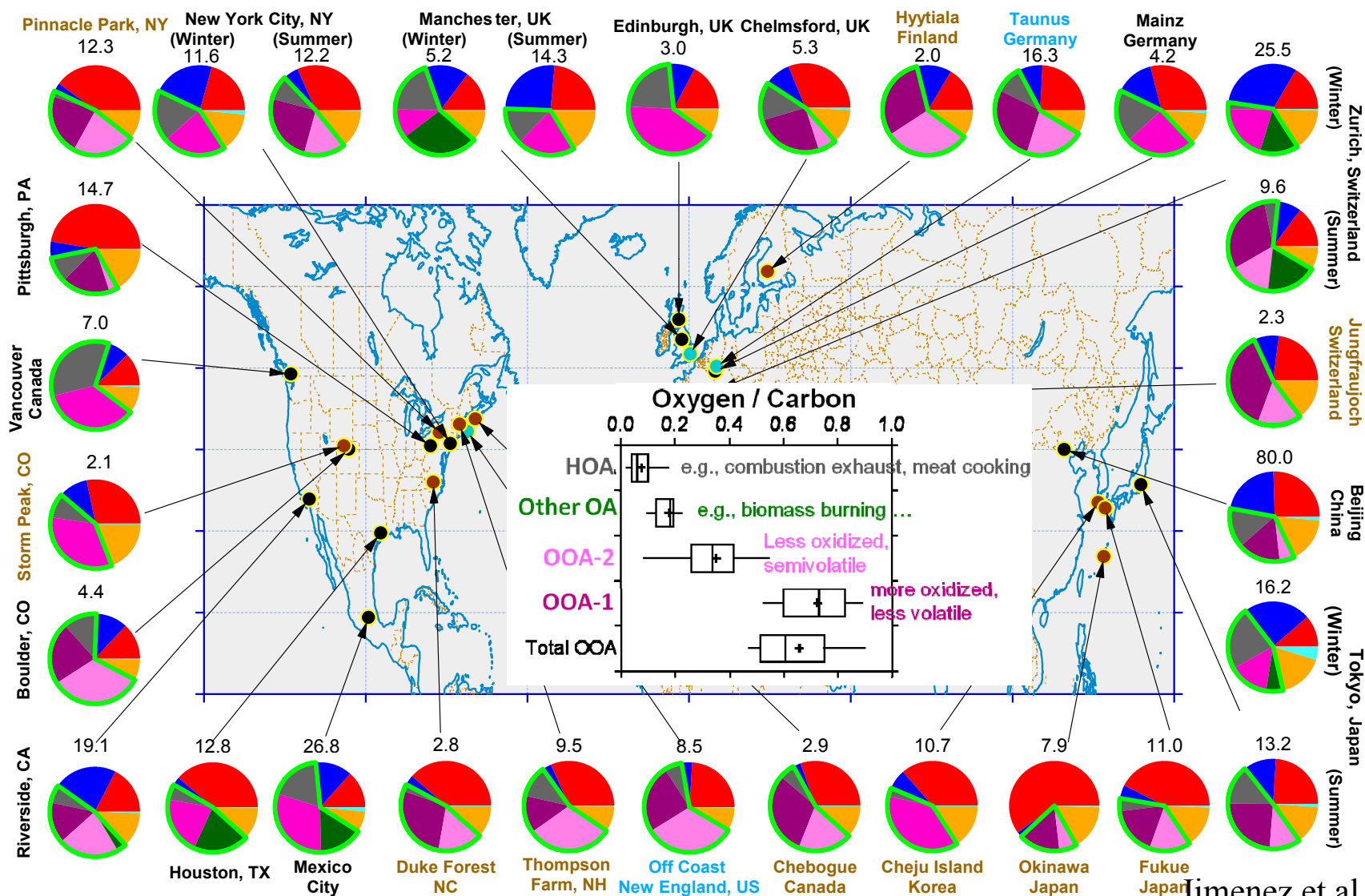
● Urban Downwind

● Remote

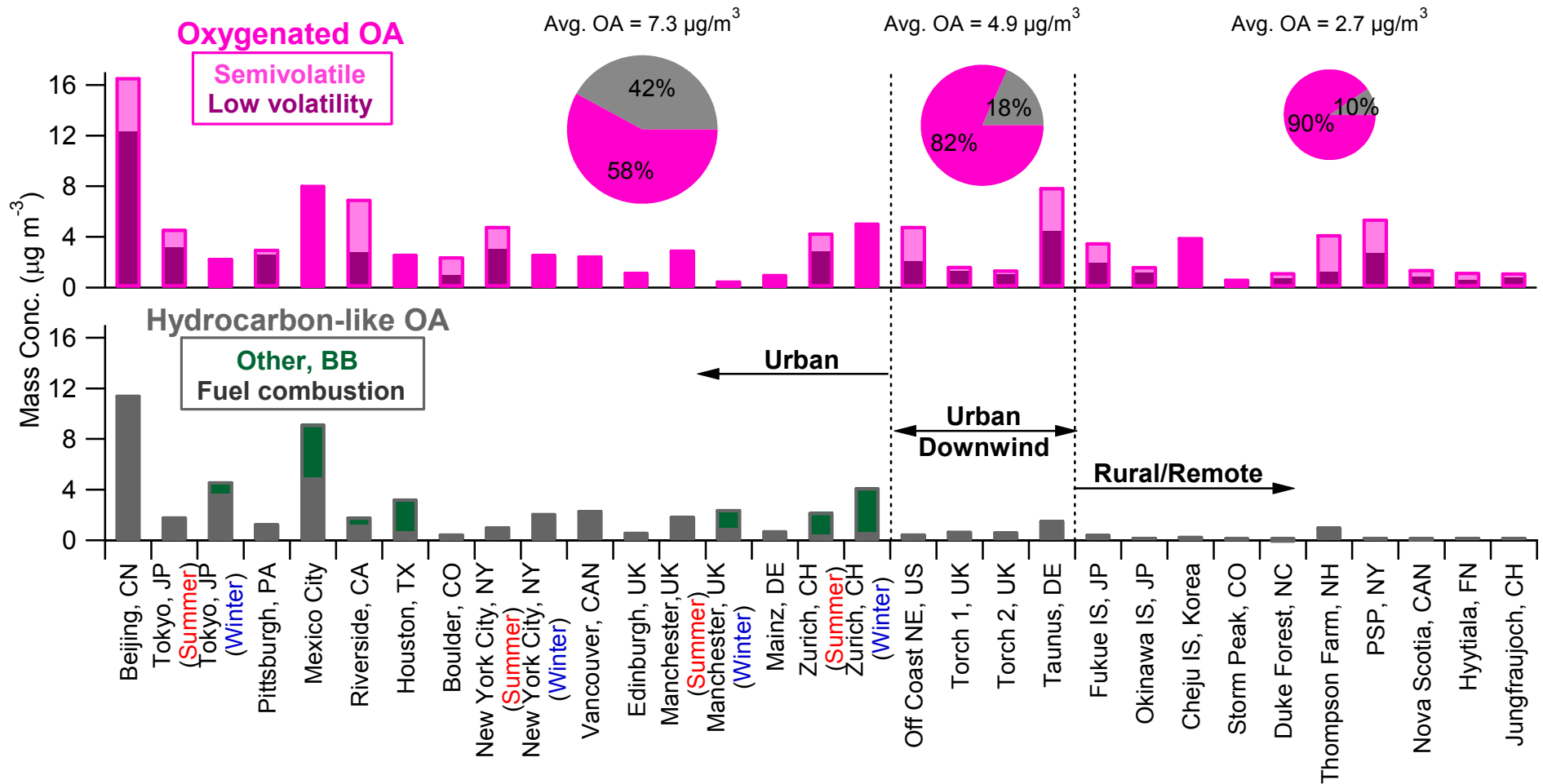
Inorganics: ■ sulfate ■ nitrate ■ ammonium ■ chloride

organics:

■ HOA ■ Other OA ■ SV-OOA ■ Total OOA ■ LV-OOA



# Global Distribution of SOA and POA



- **OOA** (largely SOA) dominance, **OOA** % increase with distance from urban
- **HOA** (largely urban POA) less significant at rural/remote, due to dilution

# Factor Analysis of AMS Organic Mass Spectra

$$\vec{ms}_{\text{measured}} = c_a \cdot \vec{ms}_a + c_b \cdot \vec{ms}_b + c_c \cdot \vec{ms}_c + \dots$$

ORG<sub>txi</sub>

