

Characterization and source apportionment of PM₁ organic aerosol in Krakow, Poland

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Because atmospheric aerosols severely impact climate, visibility and human health (Fuzzi *et al.*, 2015), the long-term measurement and source apportionment of such particles is of great importance. The quadrupole Aerosol Chemical Speciation Monitor (Q-ACSM, Aerodyne Research, Inc.) is a robust instrument for real-time and long-term measurements and characterization of the non-refractory (NR) submicron atmospheric particulate matter levels (PM₁).

Here we present results from the first long-term deployment of a Q-ACSM in Poland. The instrument was installed at AGH University in Krakow. Krakow is located in the Vistula river valley in Southern Poland and is known for high air pollution levels. The measurements were conducted from January 2018 to March 2019. The highest pollution levels were measured in January 2018 with concentrations around 100 µg/m³. During summer, the NR aerosol concentrations were mostly below 20 µg/m³. During the entire campaign, the organic aerosol (OA) dominated the NR-PM₁ measurements. The OA was further analyzed by Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) (Paatero & Tapper, 1994) within the SoFi software (Canonaco *et al.*, 2013), developed at PSI.

Figure 1 shows the diurnal patterns of the four factors identified during the winter period (January – March 2018): hydrocarbon-like (traffic related) OA (HOA), biomass burning OA (BBOA), oxygenated OA (OOA), and coal combustion OA (CCOA). CCOA dominates at night, while OOA dominates during the day. In both Krakow and the surrounding communities, residential heating with coal is still widespread.

The main limitation of PMF is the assumption of constant factors. However, the chemical fingerprints of OA factors may change due to meteorology or seasonality. To overcome this limitation, the rolling PMF algorithm will be applied to the full yearly data set. In this approach, a small and rolling PMF window is moved over the dataset and allows the factor profiles to vary over time. Furthermore, the statistical uncertainty estimation will be assessed via resampling strategies e.g. using the

bootstrap approach. The PMF runs are then post-analyzed using a set of criteria that defined the environmentally reasonable PMF runs.

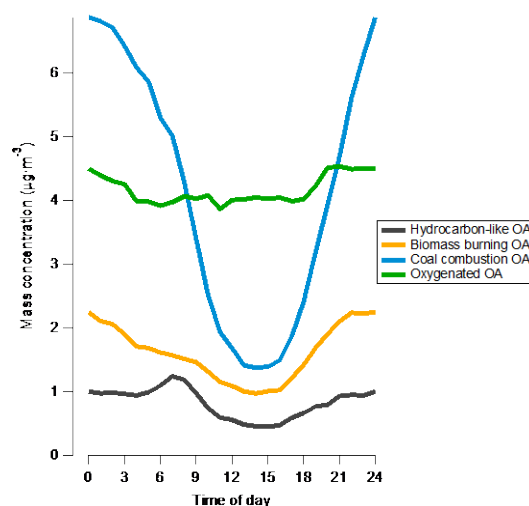


Figure 1. Averaged diurnal pattern of the four OA factors resolved during the winter period 2018 in Krakow, Poland.

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