

Supplementary Material



Summertime Aerosol Over the West of Ireland Dominated by Secondary Aerosol During Long-Range Transport

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OA Source Apportionment:

Free PMF identified two factors: peat and OOA. As shown in Figure S1, there is a large drop in the Q/Qexp value from 1 to 2 factors, and Q/Qexp is 0.81 at 2 factors. However, no strong change in Q/Qexp was observed by further increasing the number of factors. Figure S2 shows that 3-factor or 4-factor solutions led to the splitting of factors and no more meaningful factors could be identified.

In the 2-factor solution, Factor 1 was identified as an OOA-like factor because it correlated well, R = 0.94, with the reference OOA profile from Ng et al, [2] (Table S1). OOA-like factor contains a typically high signal at mass to charge ratio (m/z) 44, arising mainly from CO₂₊ and associated with aerosol aging or secondary formation. Factor 2 was identified as a peat-like factor that correlated well (R = 0.91) with the reference peat profile (Table S1); its correlation with other reference factors was poorer (e.g., r = 0.75-0.77 with HOA) [3]. Figure S3 shows the time series of the OOA-like and peat-like factors. The time series of OOA-like factor correlated well with sulfate (R = 0.83), indicating a secondary nature. Peat-like factor correlated well with the time series of m/z 60 (R = 0.81), a marker of biomass burning emission. The diurnal cycle of OOA shows a flat pattern at a relatively high concentration level (~1.2 µg m⁻³, Figure S4a), indicating regional transport was the major source. On average, OOA contributed 85% of the total OA mass. In contrast, peat-like factor remained at a very low concentration level (<0.2 µg m⁻³) during the day, but it rose to ~0.5 µg m⁻³ at ~21:00.

However, the profile of peat-like factor in the free PMF 2-factor solution (Figure S2a) contained no m/z 44 fraction and higher than expected m/z 29 fraction when compared to the reference peat profile [3], compromising their attributions. To evaluate the contribution of peat with different degree of variation (0% to 90%, Figure S5) from the reference peat profile, *a* value approach within ME-2 was applied [3]. Over the range of *a* value (0.0–0.9), the mean value of the relative contribution for peat was 16% \pm 0.9% (\pm standard deviation), ranging from 15% to 18% (Figure S5). OOA factor contributed 84% \pm 0.9%, ranging from 82% to 85%. The small variation between solutions with different *a* values suggests a relatively low bilinear model uncertainty. In the main text, the solution with *a* value of 0.1 is presented.

Figure S6 shows the residual of the ME-2 analysis. As expected, m/z 29 has a relatively higher residual. No profile structure nor diurnal patterns that could link to other sources could be identified, indicating the current ME-2 solution represented the data very well.

reference factor profile from literature [1-3].

| R | OOA_avg [1] | OOAII_avg | BBOA_avg | HOA_avg | HOA_Paris [2] | COA_Paris | Wood | Smoky Coal | Peat [3] |
|---------|----------------|-----------|----------|---------|------------------|-----------|------|---------------|-------------|
| Factor1 | 0.94 | 0.53 | 0.42 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.23 | 0.34 | 0.16 | 0.26 |
| Factor2 | 0.33 | 0.75 | 0.87 | 0.75 | 0.77 | 0.86 | 0.77 | 0.86 | 0.91 |

Table S1. The correlation coefficient between the 2-factor solution factor profiles in free PMF and the

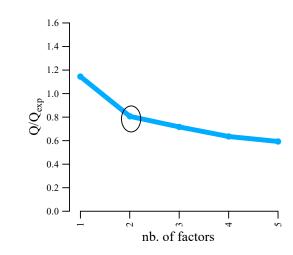


Figure S1. Q/Qexp as a function of number (nb.) of factors.

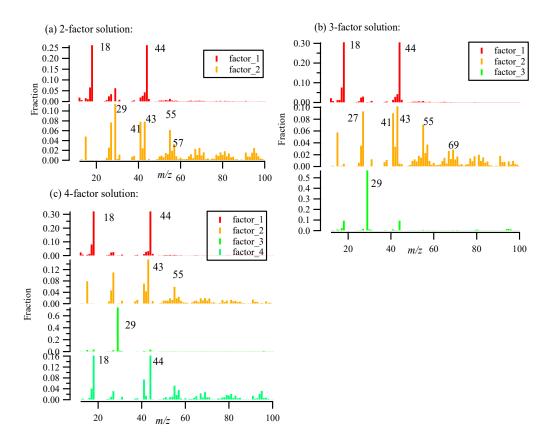


Figure 2. The mass spectra of the (**a**) 2-factor; (**b**) 3-factor; and (**c**) 4-factor solutions from the free PMF analysis.

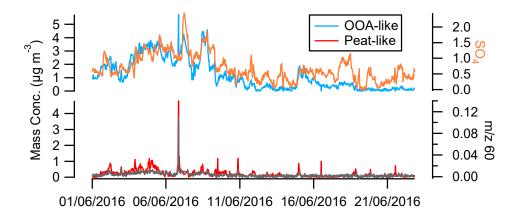


Figure 3. The time series of OOA-like and peat-like factor (left axis) from the free PMF series. Also shown are the time series of sulfate and m/z 60 (right axis).

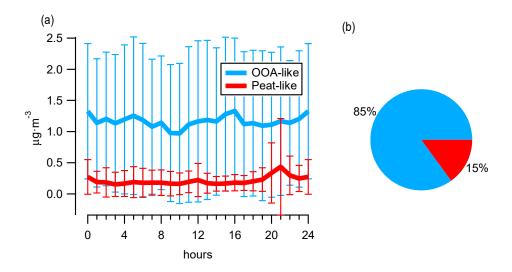


Figure 4. The diurnal cycle (**a**) and the relative contribution of the peat and OOA to the total OA (**b**). The error bar stands for one standard deviation.

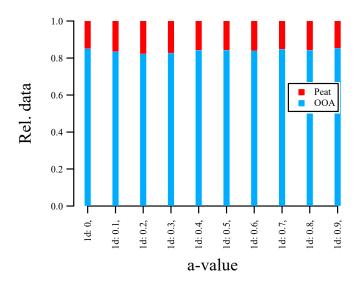


Figure 5. Relative contribution of the resolved peat and OOA as a function of a values from 0 to 0.9 with ME-2.

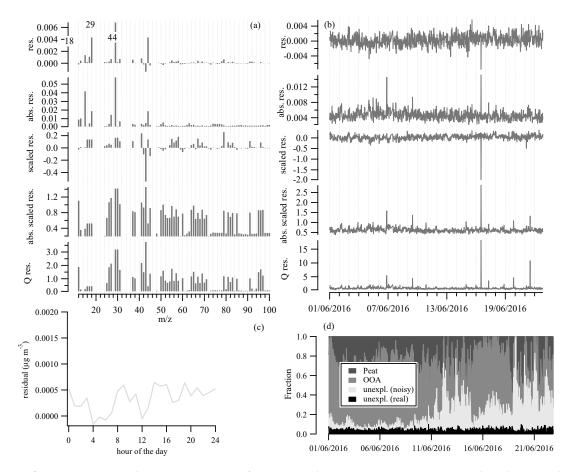


Figure 6. Residual of m/z (**a**), time series (**b**), diurnal of residual (**c**), and time series of the fraction of peat, OOA, and residue (**d**) of the ME-2 2-factor solution.

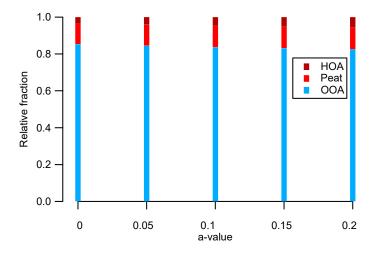


Figure 7. Relative contribution of HOA, peat, and OOA as a function of *a* value from 0 to 0.2. HOA comprised a small fraction of total OA (4–6%) over the range of *a* values (0–0.2). Peat contributed 11%–12% of the total OA, while OOA contributed 82%–85% of the total OA.

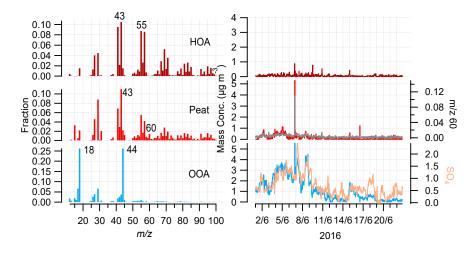


Figure 8. Profile (at *a* value of 0.1) and time series of hydrocarbon-like OA (HOA), peat, and OOA (oxygenated organic aerosol). Also shown are the time series of m/z 60 and sulfate.

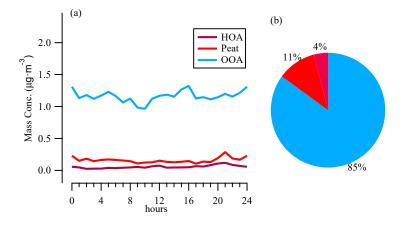


Figure 9. The diurnal cycle (**a**) and the relative contribution of the HOA, peat, and OOA to the total OA (**b**) at *a* value of 0.1.

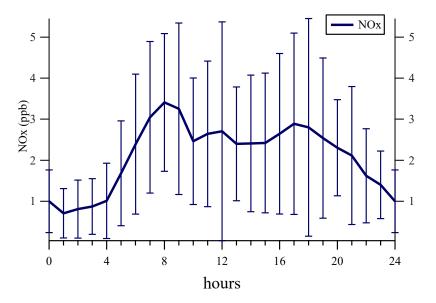


Figure 10. Diurnal cycle of NOx (in ppb). NOx was monitored by a collocated chemiluminescent analyzer (API, model 200A). The error bar is one standard deviation.

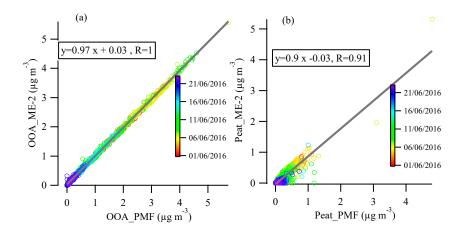


Figure 11. Linear correlation between the time series of (**a**) OOA from the ME-2 3-factor solution (*a* value = 0.1) versus OOA from the free PMF 2-factor solution and (**b**) peat factor from the ME-2 3-factor solution (*a* value = 0.1) versus OOA from the free PMF 2-factor solution, color-coded by date. The inset shows the correlation coefficient and slope.

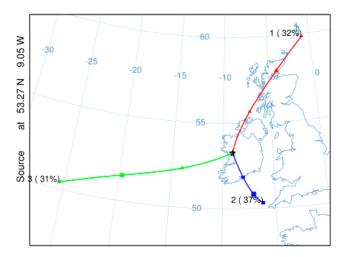


Figure 12. Classification of air mass trajectories with occurrence rates: 37% for southeasterly (SE) continental; 32% for northeasterly (NE) continental; and 31% for marine.

References

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