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Supplement of

Chemical characteristics of brown carbon in atmospheric particles at a suburban site near Guangzhou, China

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Text:**Text S1:**

The mass spectra of different OA factors are shown in Figure S2. Overall, the N-containing ions are distributed within all the OA factors, while the relative contribution is higher in BBOA. However, as in the signal intensities are already normalized in the PMF analysis, the distribution of these fragments among the OA factors also depends on the mass concentration of each OA factor.

Text S2:

The diurnal variation of absorption coefficients from each OA component and its relative contribution to absorption at 370 nm is shown as Figure S3. Overall, there was no obvious diurnal variation for the absorption coefficients of LVOOA, while there were obvious nighttime and rush hour increases for HOA. The absorption coefficients of BBOA also slightly increased during nighttime and decreased in the mid-day. As these absorption coefficients are tightly related to the mass concentration of each OA source, they shared exactly the same diurnal pattern as the mass concentration of each OA factors.

Figures and Tables:

Table S1 AAE_{BC} estimation from Mie theory model

| Model run number | Refractive index | | | | AAE |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| | Core | | Shell | | |
| | Real part | Imaginary part | Real part | Imaginary part | |
| 1 | 1.6 | 0.54i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.848518188 |
| 2 | 1.7 | 0.54i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.871846684 |
| 3 | 1.8 | 0.54i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.89561921 |
| 4 | 1.9 | 0.54i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.919776955 |
| 5 | 2 | 0.54i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.943934591 |
| 6 | 1.8 | 0.4i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.979578577 |
| 7 | 1.8 | 0.5i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.91879886 |
| 8 | 1.8 | 0.6i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.862171196 |
| 9 | 1.8 | 0.7i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.809566808 |
| 10 | 1.8 | 0.8i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.760456075 |
| 11 | 1.8 | 0.9i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.714608394 |
| 12 | 1.8 | 1.0i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.671630187 |
| 13 | 1.8 | 0.54i | 1.35 | 0.0000001i | 0.885192669 |
| 14 | 1.8 | 0.54i | 1.4 | 0.0000001i | 0.887286337 |
| 15 | 1.8 | 0.54i | 1.45 | 0.0000001i | 0.8885085 |
| 16 | 1.8 | 0.54i | 1.5 | 0.0000001i | 0.890599011 |
| 17 | 1.8 | 0.54i | 1.55 | 0.0000001i | 0.89561921 |
| 18 | 1.8 | 0.54i | 1.6 | 0.0000001i | 0.905391588 |
| 19 | 2 | 0.4i | 1.6 | 0.0000001i | 1.035139318 |

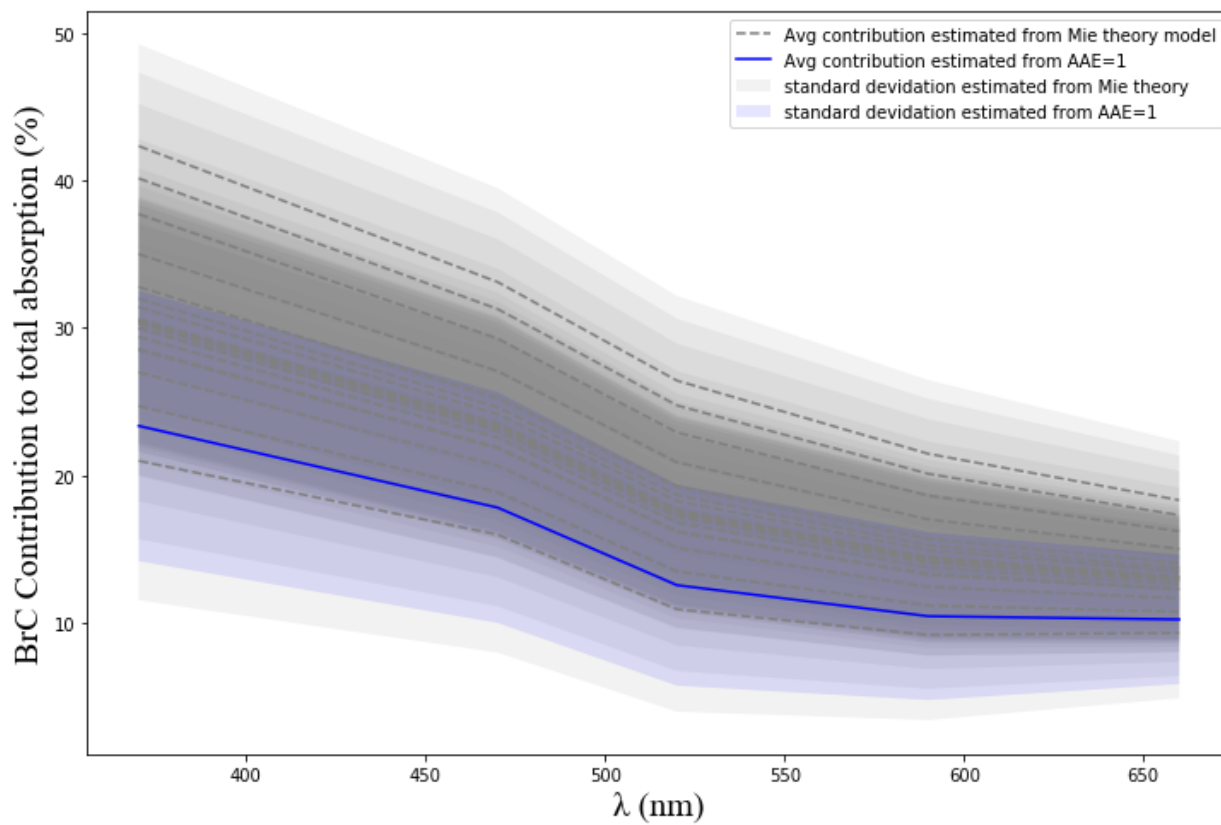


Figure S 1 BrC light absorption contribution based on the AA_{EBC} from Mie theory model output and $AAE=1$.

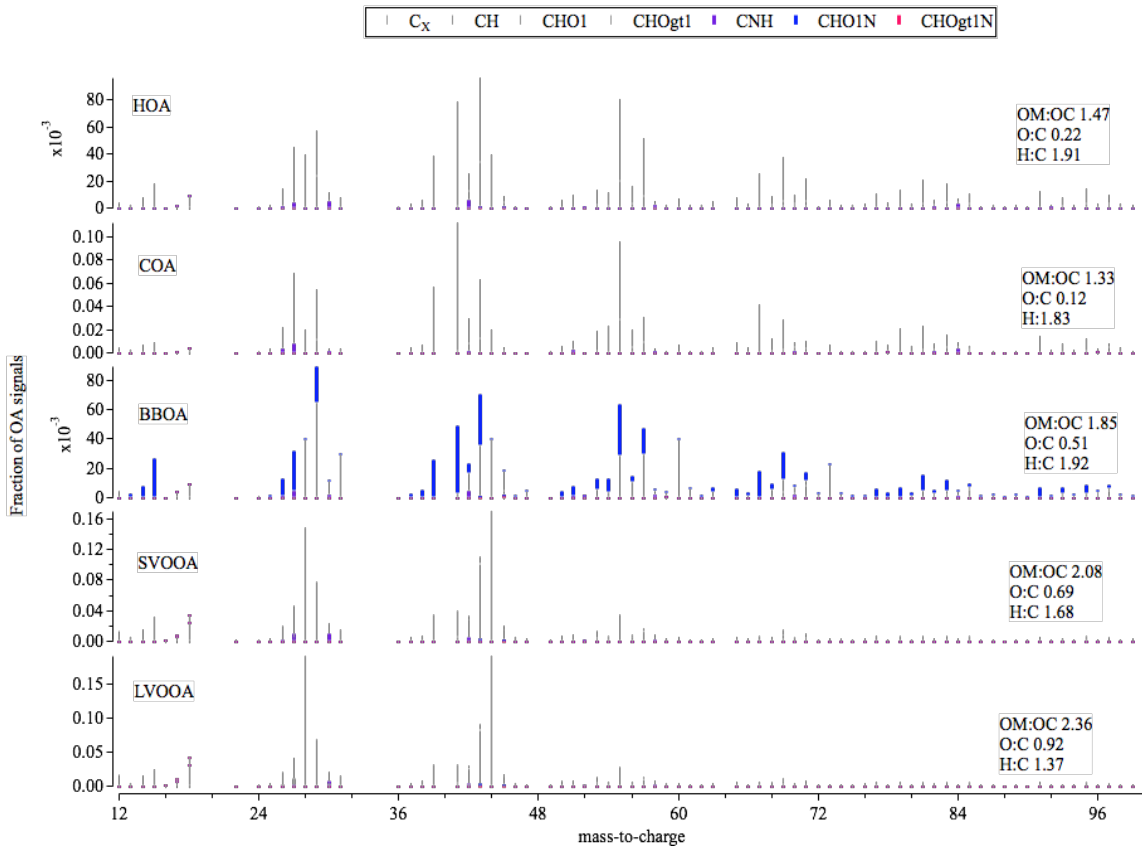


Figure S 2 Mass spectra of different OA factors

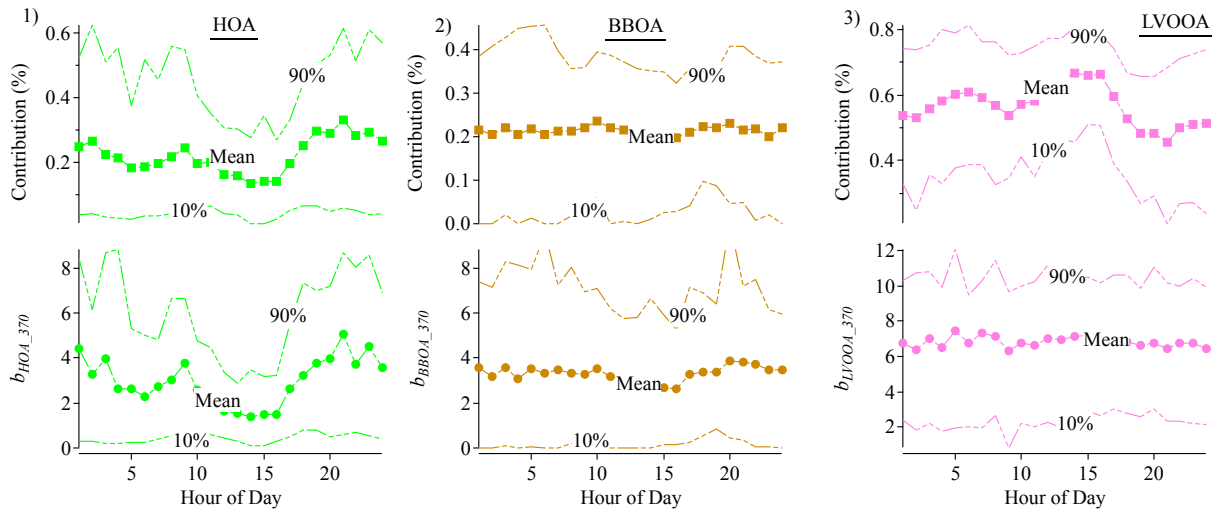


Figure S 3 Diurnal variation of absorption coefficients from each OA component and its relative contribution to absorption at 370 nm