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*Supplement of*

## **Seasonal source variability of carbonaceous aerosols at the Rwanda Climate Observatory**

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37 **Table S1.** Concentrations of carbonaceous components ( $\mu\text{gC m}^{-3}$ ), inorganic ions ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) and  
 38 carbon isotope signatures (‰) of TC in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  at RCO during October 2014 to September 2015.  
 39 Sampling occurred between 01.00 AM and 06.00 AM C.A.T.

Start	Stop	TC	OC	EC	WSOC	$\text{NO}_3^-$	$\text{SO}_4^{2-}$	$\text{NH}_4^+$	$\text{K}^+$	$\Delta^{14}\text{C}_{\text{TC}}$	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{TC}}$
2014-10-01	2014-10-07	2.76	2.46	0.30	1.90	0.15	0.98	0.37	0.17	-19	-23.6
2014-10-08	2014-10-14	2.80	2.50	0.30	1.55	0.12	0.68	0.23	0.15	N/A	N/A
2014-10-22	2014-10-29	1.58	1.41	0.16	0.93	0.01	0.58	0.19	0.08	-44	-24.0
2014-11-05	2014-11-18	1.03	0.93	0.10	0.56	0.01	0.51	0.15	0.03	-84*	-26.1*
2014-11-19	2014-11-25	1.43	1.28	0.15	1.32	0.01	0.57	0.19	0.04	-84*	-26.1*
2015-04-25	2015-05-01	2.61	2.42	0.19	1.42	0.07	0.80	0.24	0.06	-24	-27.3
2015-05-02	2015-05-08	1.51	1.41	0.11	0.98	0.05	0.29	0.13	0.03	N/A	N/A
2015-05-09	2015-05-15	1.89	1.77	0.12	1.20	0.09	0.27	0.14	0.04	-3	-25.8
2015-05-16	2015-05-22	3.45	3.23	0.22	2.25	0.27	1.02	0.37	0.08	N/A	N/A
2015-05-23	2015-05-29	4.99	4.63	0.36	2.79	0.32	1.22	0.49	0.15	+9	-23
2015-05-30	2015-06-05	4.31	3.99	0.32	2.53	0.19	2.08	0.60	0.22	N/A	N/A
2015-06-06	2015-06-12	4.63	4.16	0.47	3.17	0.67	0.80	0.41	0.27	+18	-21.7
2015-06-13	2015-06-19	9.89	9.06	0.83	6.76	0.61	4.99	1.33	0.78	N/A	N/A
2015-06-20	2015-06-26	10.05	8.67	1.38	6.15	1.30	2.63	1.02	0.72	N/A	N/A
2015-06-27	2015-07-03	11.01	9.24	1.77	7.02	1.76	2.22	1.03	0.81	N/A	N/A
2015-07-04	2015-07-10	9.27	7.93	1.34	5.22	1.27	1.55	0.68	0.65	+25	-21.3
2015-07-11	2015-07-17	11.21	9.29	1.92	6.84	1.64	1.53	0.66	0.83	N/A	N/A
2015-07-18	2015-07-24	13.73	11.77	1.97	8.45	2.12	2.33	1.02	1.02	+30	-22.4
2015-07-25	2015-07-31	17.00	14.84	2.16	9.44	2.48	2.43	1.11	1.18	N/A	N/A
2015-08-01	2015-08-07	12.00	10.24	1.77	6.97	1.81	2.42	0.80	1.01	+26	-22.4
2015-08-08	2015-08-10	8.50	6.82	1.68	4.80	1.59	1.14	0.59	0.26	N/A	N/A
2015-08-11	2015-08-17	7.63	6.37	1.26	4.87	0.91	1.47	0.60	0.59	+19	-22.8
2015-08-19	2015-08-24	12.63	11.52	1.48	7.11	1.46	1.48	0.64	0.68	N/A	N/A
2015-09-01	2015-09-07	3.59	3.24	0.35	2.25	0.17	1.79	0.52	0.31	-25	-23.3
2015-09-08	2015-09-14	7.43	6.44	0.99	4.25	0.53	1.83	0.48	0.48	N/A	N/A

40 \* two filters were combined for isotope analysis.

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42 **Table S2.** Dual carbon isotope constrained fractions (f, in %) and concentrations of TC ( $\mu\text{gC}$   
 43  $\text{m}^{-3}$ ) from the three main sources:  $\text{C}_3$ -plants,  $\text{C}_4$  and fossil at RCO during October 2014 to  
 44 September 2015 for the ‘best scenario’.

Start	Stop	$f_{\text{C}_3}$	$f_{\text{fossil}}$	$f_{\text{C}_4}$	$\text{TC}_{\text{C}_3}$	$\text{TC}_{\text{fossil}}$	$\text{TC}_{\text{C}_4}$
2014-10-01	2014-10-07	63±4	6±1	30±4	1.8±0.1	0.18±0.03	0.83±0.10
2014-10-22	2014-10-29	74±5	9±2	17±4	1.1±0.1	0.15±0.03	0.27±0.07
2014-11-05	2014-11-25	81±6	11±3	8±6	1.0±0.1	0.14±0.03	0.10±0.07
2015-04-25	2015-05-01	64±4	7±1	29±4	1.7±0.1	0.17±0.03	0.75±0.10
2015-05-09	2015-05-15	70±4	8±1	22±4	1.3±0.1	0.16±0.03	0.41±0.07
2015-05-23	2015-05-29	58±5	5±1	38±5	2.9±0.2	0.23±0.04	1.9±0.2
2015-06-06	2015-06-12	58±5	5±1	37±5	2.7±0.2	0.22±0.04	1.7±0.2
2015-07-04	2015-07-10	54±6	4±1	42±5	5.0±0.5	0.33±0.10	3.9±0.5
2015-07-18	2015-07-24	53±6	3±1	44±6	7.3±0.8	0.43±0.16	6.0±0.8
2015-08-01	2015-08-07	53±6	3±1	43±6	6.4±0.7	0.39±0.14	5.2±0.7
2015-08-11	2015-08-17	55±5	4±1	41±5	4.2±0.4	0.29±0.08	3.1±0.4
2015-09-01	2015-09-07	61±4	5±1	34±4	2.2±0.1	0.20±0.03	1.2±0.1

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47 **Table S3.** Dual carbon isotope constrained fractions (f, in %) and concentrations of TC ( $\mu\text{gC}$   
 48  $\text{m}^{-3}$ ) from the three main sources: C<sub>3</sub>-plants, C<sub>4</sub> and fossil at RCO during October 2014 to  
 49 September 2015 for the ‘maximum C<sub>4</sub> KIE scenario’.

Start	Stop	f <sub>C3</sub>	f <sub>fossil</sub>	f <sub>C4</sub>	TC <sub>C3</sub>	TC <sub>fossil</sub>	TC <sub>C4</sub>
2014-10-01	2014-10-07	54±5	6±1	39±5	1.5±0.1	0.18±0.03	1.1±0.1
2014-10-22	2014-10-29	69±6	9±2	22±6	1.1±0.1	0.15±0.03	0.35±0.09
2014-11-05	2014-11-25	78±8	11±3	10±8	0.96±0.10	0.14±0.03	0.13±0.10
2015-04-25	2015-05-01	55±5	7±1	38±5	1.4±0.1	0.17±0.03	0.99±0.13
2015-05-09	2015-05-15	63±5	8±1	29±5	1.2±0.1	0.16±0.03	0.54±0.09
2015-05-23	2015-05-29	45±6	5±1	50±6	2.2±0.3	0.23±0.04	2.5±0.3
2015-06-06	2015-06-12	46±6	5±1	49±6	2.1±0.3	0.22±0.04	2.3±0.3
2015-07-04	2015-07-10	40±7	4±1	56±7	3.7±0.7	0.33±0.10	5.2±0.7
2015-07-18	2015-07-24	39±8	3±1	58±8	5.3±1.1	0.43±0.16	8.0±1.0
2015-08-01	2015-08-07	39±8	3±1	58±8	4.7±0.9	0.39±0.14	6.9±0.9
2015-08-11	2015-08-17	41±7	4±1	54±7	3.2±0.5	0.29±0.08	4.2±0.5
2015-09-01	2015-09-07	50±6	5±1	45±5	1.8±0.2	0.20±0.03	1.6±0.2

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52 **Table S4.** Dual carbon isotope constrained fractions (f, in %) and concentrations of TC ( $\mu\text{gC}$   
53  $\text{m}^{-3}$ ) from the three main sources:  $\text{C}_3$ -plants,  $\text{C}_4$  and fossil at RCO during October 2014 to  
54 September 2015 for the ‘minimum  $\text{C}_4$  KIE scenario’.

Start	Stop	$f_{\text{C}_3}$	$f_{\text{fossil}}$	$f_{\text{C}_4}$	$\text{TC}_{\text{C}_3}$	$\text{TC}_{\text{fossil}}$	$\text{TC}_{\text{C}_4}$
2014-10-01	2014-10-07	72 $\pm$ 3	6 $\pm$ 1	23 $\pm$ 3	1.9 $\pm$ 0.1	0.18 $\pm$ 0.03	0.60 $\pm$ 0.07
2014-10-22	2014-10-29	78 $\pm$ 4	9 $\pm$ 2	12 $\pm$ 3	1.2 $\pm$ 0.1	0.15 $\pm$ 0.03	0.20 $\pm$ 0.05
2014-11-05	2014-11-25	83 $\pm$ 5	11 $\pm$ 3	6 $\pm$ 5	1.0 $\pm$ 0.1	0.14 $\pm$ 0.03	0.08 $\pm$ 0.06
2015-04-25	2015-05-01	72 $\pm$ 3	7 $\pm$ 1	21 $\pm$ 3	1.9 $\pm$ 0.1	0.17 $\pm$ 0.03	0.56 $\pm$ 0.07
2015-05-09	2015-05-15	76 $\pm$ 3	8 $\pm$ 1	16 $\pm$ 3	1.4 $\pm$ 0.1	0.16 $\pm$ 0.03	0.31 $\pm$ 0.05
2015-05-23	2015-05-29	68 $\pm$ 3	5 $\pm$ 1	28 $\pm$ 3	3.4 $\pm$ 0.2	0.23 $\pm$ 0.04	1.4 $\pm$ 0.2
2015-06-06	2015-06-12	68 $\pm$ 3	5 $\pm$ 1	27 $\pm$ 3	3.1 $\pm$ 0.2	0.22 $\pm$ 0.04	1.3 $\pm$ 0.2
2015-07-04	2015-07-10	65 $\pm$ 4	4 $\pm$ 1	31 $\pm$ 4	6.1 $\pm$ 0.4	0.33 $\pm$ 0.10	2.9 $\pm$ 0.4
2015-07-18	2015-07-24	64 $\pm$ 4	3 $\pm$ 1	32 $\pm$ 4	8.9 $\pm$ 0.6	0.43 $\pm$ 0.16	4.4 $\pm$ 0.6
2015-08-01	2015-08-07	65 $\pm$ 4	3 $\pm$ 1	32 $\pm$ 4	7.8 $\pm$ 0.5	0.39 $\pm$ 0.14	3.8 $\pm$ 0.5
2015-08-11	2015-08-17	66 $\pm$ 4	4 $\pm$ 1	30 $\pm$ 4	5.0 $\pm$ 0.3	0.29 $\pm$ 0.08	2.3 $\pm$ 0.3
2015-09-01	2015-09-07	69 $\pm$ 3	5 $\pm$ 1	25 $\pm$ 3	2.5 $\pm$ 0.1	0.20 $\pm$ 0.03	0.90 $\pm$ 0.11

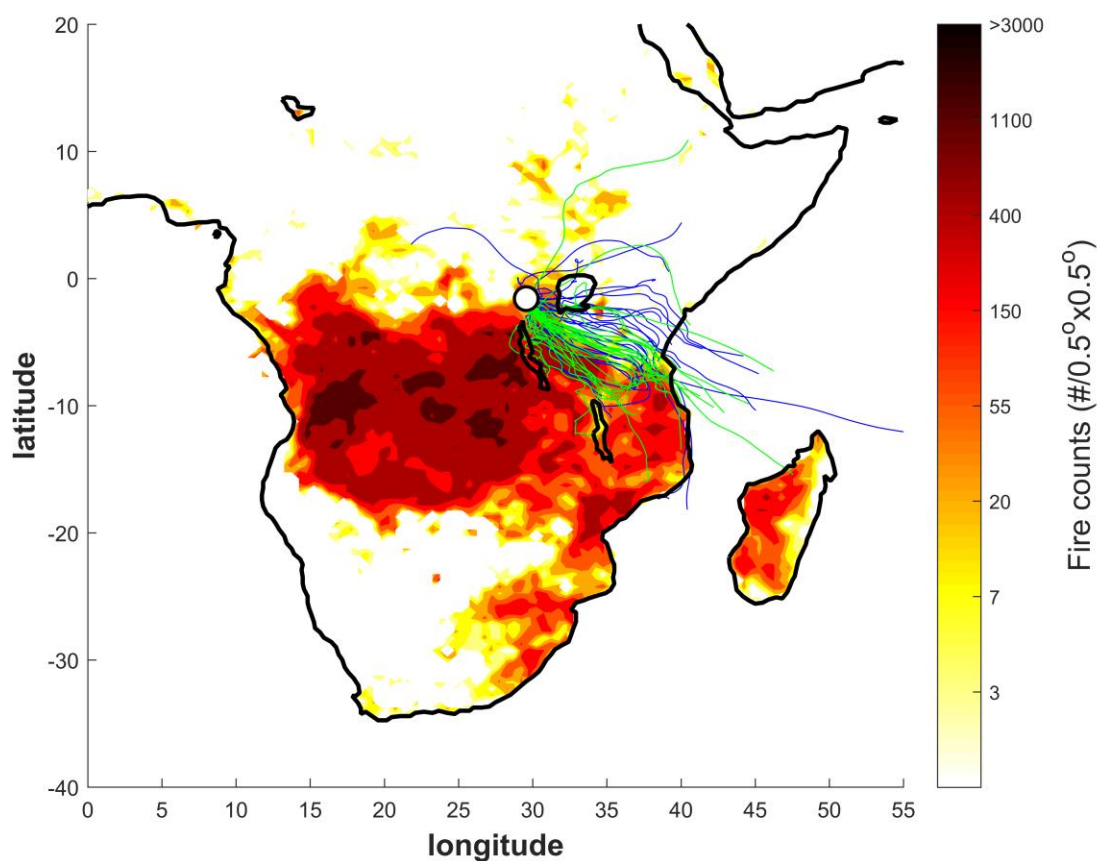
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57 **Table S5.** Dual carbon isotope constrained fractions (f, in %) and concentrations of TC ( $\mu\text{gC}$   
58  $\text{m}^{-3}$ ) from the three main sources:  $\text{C}_3$ -plants,  $\text{C}_4$  and fossil at RCO during October 2014 to  
59 September 2015 for the ‘depleted fossil scenario’.

Start	Stop	$f_{\text{C}_3}$	$f_{\text{fossil}}$	$f_{\text{C}_4}$	$\text{TC}_{\text{C}_3}$	$\text{TC}_{\text{fossil}}$	$\text{TC}_{\text{C}_4}$
2014-10-01	2014-10-07	62±4	6±1	31±4	1.7±0.1	0.18±0.03	0.87±0.10
2014-10-22	2014-10-29	72±5	9±2	18±5	1.1±0.1	0.15±0.03	0.29±0.08
2014-11-05	2014-11-25	79±7	11±3	9±7	1.0±0.1	0.14±0.03	0.12±0.08
2015-04-25	2015-05-01	63±4	7±1	31±4	1.6±0.1	0.17±0.03	0.79±0.10
2015-05-09	2015-05-15	69±4	8±1	23±4	1.3±0.1	0.16±0.03	0.44±0.08
2015-05-23	2015-05-29	56±5	5±1	39±5	2.8±0.2	0.23±0.05	2.0±0.2
2015-06-06	2015-06-12	57±5	5±1	39±5	2.6±0.2	0.22±0.04	1.8±0.2
2015-07-04	2015-07-10	52±6	4±1	44±5	4.9±0.5	0.33±0.10	4.1±0.5
2015-07-18	2015-07-24	51±6	3±1	46±6	7.1±0.8	0.43±0.16	6.2±0.8
2015-08-01	2015-08-07	52±6	3±1	45±6	6.2±0.7	0.39±0.14	5.4±0.7
2015-08-11	2015-08-17	54±5	4±1	43±5	4.1±0.4	0.29±0.08	3.3±0.4
2015-09-01	2015-09-07	59±4	5±1	35±4	2.1±0.2	0.20±0.03	1.2±0.1

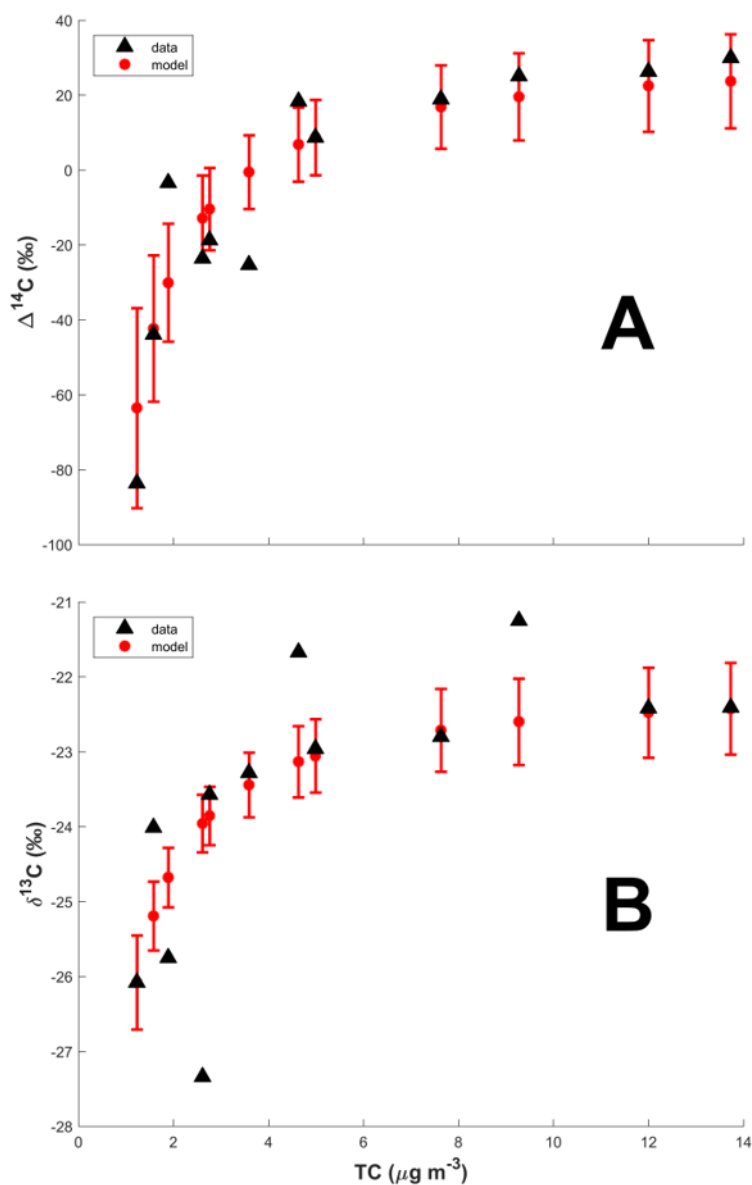
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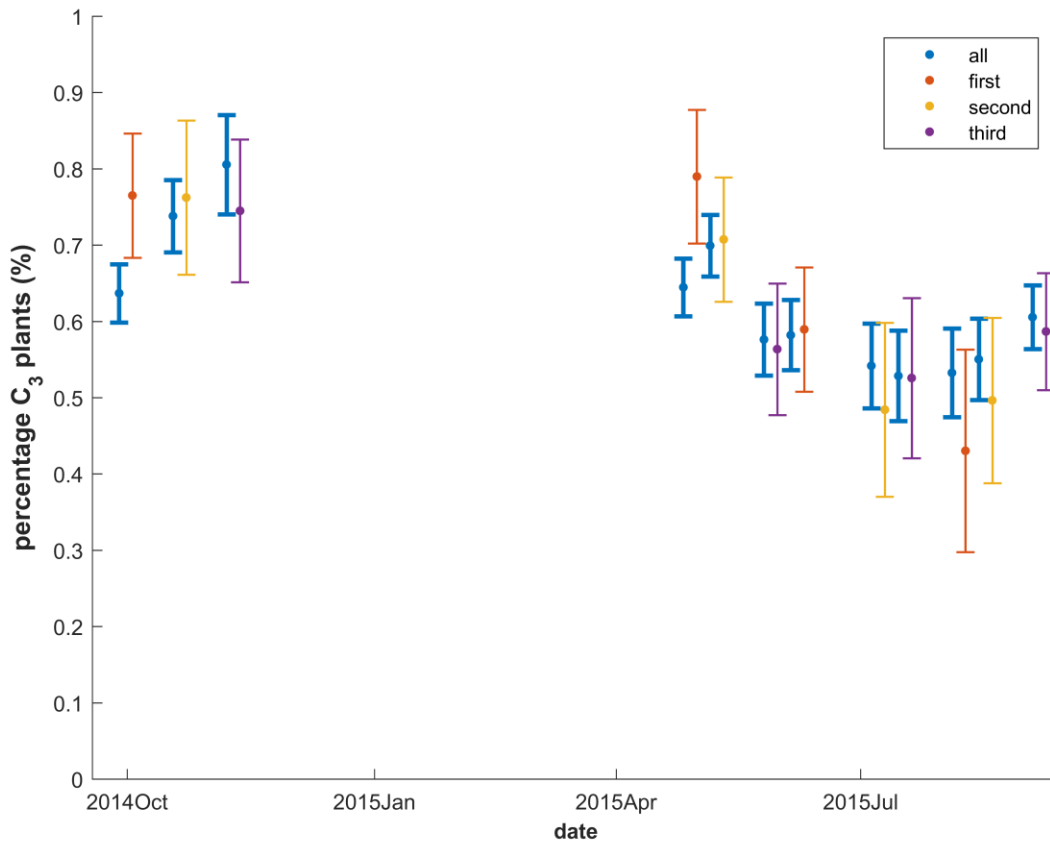
62 **Figure S1** Fire counts and air mass back trajectories for the October 2014 to September 2015  
 63 campaign at the Rwanda Climate Observatory (RCO, black and white circle). The fire counts  
 64 are from the Fire Information for Resource Management System (FIRMS) derived from the NASA  
 65 659 Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) satellite product for June-July-  
 66 August (JJA), 2015. The thin lines represent daily (4AM, C.A.T.) 5-day air mass back-trajectories  
 67 arriving at RCO 500 m.a.g.l. (3090 m.a.s.l.). The blue lines correspond to what we here refer to  
 68 the ‘wet’ season (October-November 2014 and April-May 2015), whereas the green lines represent  
 69 the dry JJA season.





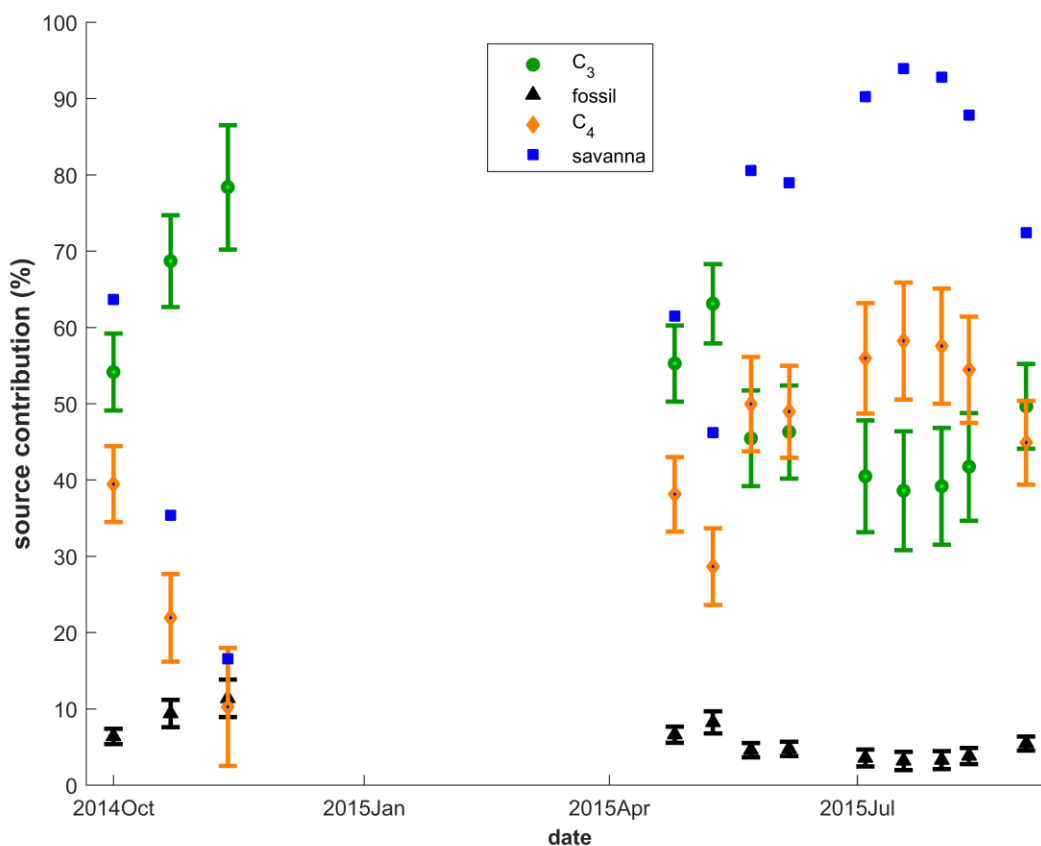
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71 **Figure S2.** Comparison of observed carbon isotope signatures (black triangles) for TC and  
 72 values back-calculated from the MCMC-estimated source fractions using the 'best endmember  
 73 scenario' (red circles with errorbars). Panel A.  $\Delta^{14}\text{C}$  vs TC. Panel B.  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  vs TC.



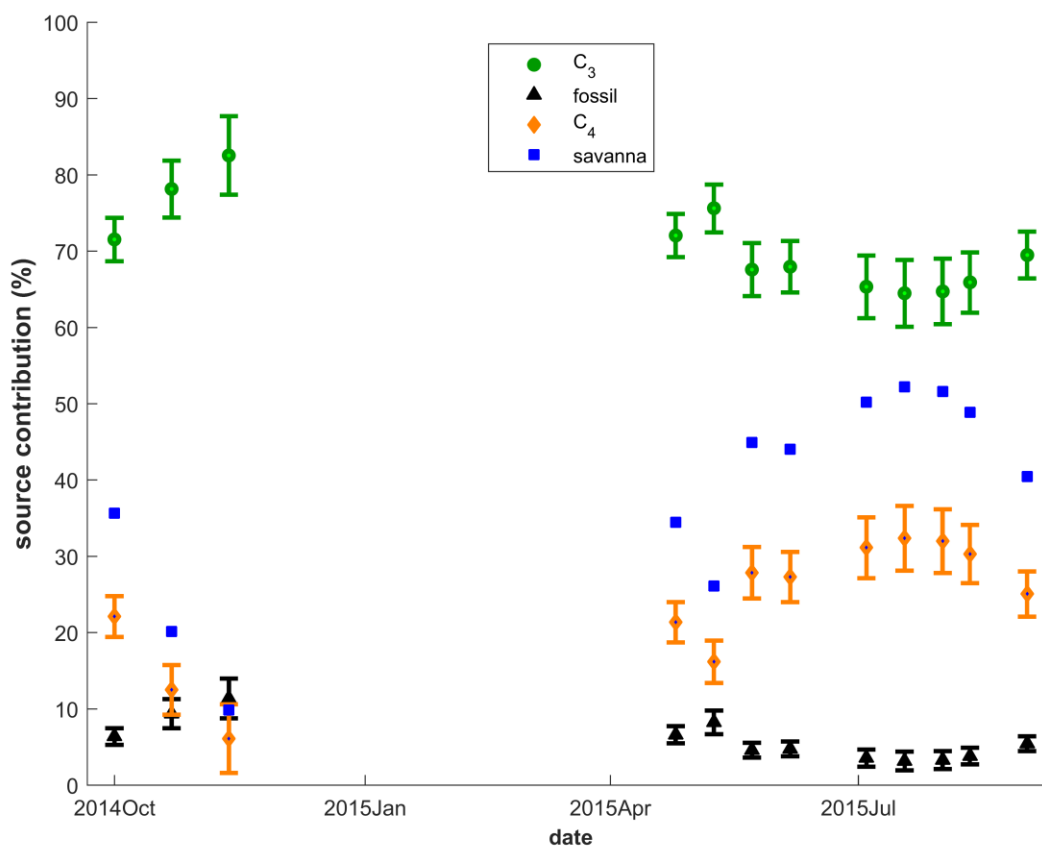
74

75 **Figure S3** Sensitivity of the Keeling-based Bayesian MCMC source apportionment approach  
 76 w.r.t. number of data points in the calculation. The fraction  $C_3$ -plants is plotted vs time. In blue,  
 77 the results from using all 12 data pairs (errorbars: mean  $\pm$  stdev). The orange, yellow and purple  
 78 lines show calculations using every third data point, starting from data point 1, 2 and 3,  
 79 respectively. The results from every third data points are shifted slightly in time (to the right) for  
 80 visual clarity.



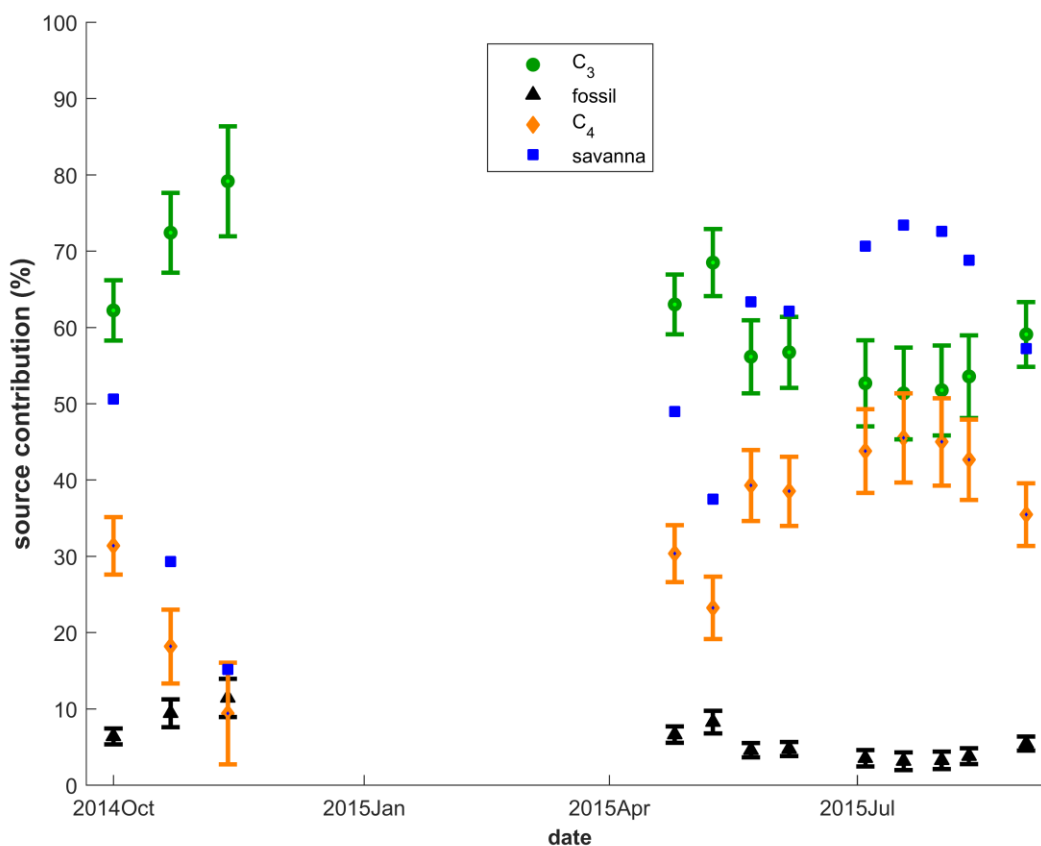
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82 **Figure S4:** Carbon isotope-source segregated fractions and concentrations of TC vs time  
 83 computed with the ‘maximum C<sub>4</sub> scenario’. Panel A. Relative source contributions (%) of C<sub>3</sub>-  
 84 plants (green circles), C<sub>4</sub>-plants (orange diamonds) and fossil (black triangles). Estimated savanna  
 85 contributions shown as blue squares. The error bars (standard deviations) were constrained using  
 86 Markov chain Monte Carlo simulations. Panel B. Source segregated concentrations of TC of C<sub>3</sub>-  
 87 plants (green circles), C<sub>4</sub>-plants (orange diamonds) and fossil (black triangles).



88

89 **Figure S5:** Carbon isotope-source segregated fractions and concentrations of TC vs time  
 90 computed with the ‘minimum C<sub>4</sub> KIE scenario’. Panel A. Relative source contributions (%) of C<sub>3</sub>-  
 91 plants (green circles), C<sub>4</sub>-plants (orange diamonds) and fossil (black triangles). Estimated savanna  
 92 contributions shown as blue squares. The error bars (standard deviations) were constrained using  
 93 Markov chain Monte Carlo simulations. Panel B. Source segregated concentrations of TC of C<sub>3</sub>-  
 94 plants (green circles), C<sub>4</sub>-plants (orange diamonds) and fossil (black triangles).



95

96 **Figure S6:** Carbon isotope-source segregated fractions and concentrations of TC vs time  
 97 computed with the ‘depleted fossil scenario’. Panel A. Relative source contributions (%) of C<sub>3</sub>-  
 98 plants (green circles), C<sub>4</sub>-plants (orange diamonds) and fossil (black triangles). Estimated savanna  
 99 contributions shown as blue squares. The error bars (standard deviations) were constrained using  
 100 Markov chain Monte Carlo simulations. Panel B. Source segregated concentrations of TC of C<sub>3</sub>-  
 101 plants (green circles), C<sub>4</sub>-plants (orange diamonds) and fossil (black triangles).