

Online Chemical Characterization of Food-Cooking Organic Aerosols

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1 Online chemical characterization of food cooking
2 organic aerosols: implications for source
3 apportionment

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17 **Abstract.** Food cooking organic aerosols (COA) are one of the main primary sources of
18 submicron particulate matter in urban environments. However, there are still many questions
19 surrounding source apportionment related to instrumentation as well as semi-volatile
20 partitioning as COA evolve rapidly in the ambient air, making source apportionment more
21 complex. Online measurements of emissions from cooking different types of food were
22 performed in a laboratory in order to characterize particles and gases. Aerosol mass
23 spectrometer (AMS) measurements showed that the relative ionization efficiency for OA was
24 higher (1.56 - 3.06) relative to a typical value of 1.4, concluding AMS is overestimating COA
25 and suggesting previous studies likely overestimated COA concentrations. Food cooking
26 mass spectra were generated using AMS and gas and particle food markers were identified
27 with FIGAERO-CIMS measurements to be used in future food cooking source apportionment
28 studies. However, there is a considerable variability both on gas and particle markers and
29 dilution plays an important role in the particle mass budget, showing the importance of using
30 these markers with caution when receptor modeling. These findings can be used to better
31 understand the chemical composition of COA and it provides useful information to be used in
32 future source apportionment studies.

33 Keywords: AMS, FIGAERO-CIMS, Organic aerosols, Source apportionment, mass spectra.

34 **1. Introduction**

35 Atmospheric aerosols have been found to cause severe air quality problems.¹⁻³ Food
36 cooking emissions are one of the main indoor and outdoor sources of particles around the
37 world.⁴ Cooking Organic Aerosols (COA) represent a high contribution to OA, particularly in
38 urban environments. For instance, Huang, et al. ⁵, in a study performed during the Olympic
39 Games Beijing 2008, identified that COA contribute 24% while Sun, et al. ⁶, in a study
40 performed during summer 2009 at Queens College in New York, identified COA to

41 contribute 16%. Moreover, COA contribution to OA (24%) was found to be higher than
42 traffic-related hydrocarbon-like OA (HOA, 16%) in a study performed in 2012 in Lanzhou
43 China.⁷

44 In 2005, the first study to identify COA from aerosol mass spectrometer (AMS)
45 measurements was performed by Lanz, et al.⁸ in Zurich, Switzerland identifying a ‘minor’
46 COA source. Allan, et al.⁹ identified, for the first time in the UK, COA, which were found to
47 contribute 34% to OA concentrations. Further ambient OA studies have investigated the
48 COA seasonal trend in the UK^{10, 11} and other parts of the world.¹²⁻¹⁵ However, follow up
49 studies in Barcelona, Spain did find specific markers for food activities.^{16, 17} China, in
50 particular, has performed several studies, over the last decade, towards online chemical
51 aerosol characterization,¹⁸ recognizing cooking emissions to be one of the main primary
52 sources of OA, with studies in urban environments such as Lanzhou,^{19, 20} Beijing²¹ and
53 Baoji.²²

54 While COA have been investigated in different ambient studies, their complexity still makes
55 it challenging to fully characterize their chemical properties. Dall’Osto, et al.²³ performed an
56 in-depth characterization of COA at a rural site, where it was stressed that the COA factor,
57 deconvolved from AMS measurements, included other emissions than food cooking. Another
58 important aspect that makes challenging to quantify COA is the aging occurring in ambient
59 air, making the mass spectra of COA experience a seasonal variation, hence there being a
60 difference in summer and winter.²⁴

61 The use of other techniques to study aerosols allows a better understanding of food cooking
62 aerosols.^{4, 18} Receptor modeling is a technique that has been successfully used to perform
63 aerosol source apportionment.²⁵⁻²⁷ Multilinear engine (ME-2) is a source apportionment tool
64 that uses information from previous studies (i.e. mass spectra) as inputs to partially constrain

65 solutions when identifying sources.²⁸ Chemical mass balance (CMB) uses source profiles or
66 fingerprints to identify and quantify source contributions.²⁹ However, this technique has
67 ambiguities of its own; there are uncertainties related to the representativeness of the profiles
68 used and uncertainties surrounding the effect phenomena such as semi-volatile repartitioning
69 and chemical aging have on the mass budget and markers. This situation increases the
70 complexity to perform COA source apportionment as they evolve rapidly in the ambient air.²³

71 Over more than 15 years, the Aerodyne aerosol mass spectrometers have proven to be a
72 powerful tool to quantify and characterize the composition of non-refractory submicron
73 aerosol concentrations.^{30, 31} However, certain studies have identified an overestimation of OA
74 concentrations measured with AMS when compared to collocated measurements. Yin, et al.
75 ³² found food cooking aerosols, identified with positive matrix factorization (PMF), to
76 overestimate CMB results by a factor of two, in spite of a good correlation. Minguillón, et al.
77 ³³ determined organic aerosols-to-organic carbon ratios to be higher than unity, stating this is
78 explained by an underestimation of the relative ion efficiency of OA (RIE_{OA}), a parameter the
79 instrument uses to calculate OA concentrations. Murphy ³⁴ presented a model approach to
80 estimate RIE based on molecular mass. While Jimenez, et al. ³⁵ disagreed that the effect was
81 as strong as suggested, however, both agree that RIE values have the potential to be higher
82 than the typical $RIE_{OA}=1.4$.³⁶

83 There has been a wide range of controlled experiments to investigate different aspects of
84 food cooking aerosols. ³⁷⁻³⁹ However, until now there has been no laboratory study analyzing
85 both particle and gas phase emissions using online measurements. Here, we present combined
86 on-line measurements of the high-resolution time-of-flight aerosol mass spectrometer (HR-
87 ToF-AMS) and the filter inlet for gases and aerosols (FIGAERO) attached to the high-
88 resolution time-of-flight chemical ionization mass spectrometer (HR-ToF-CIMS). The HR-
89 ToF-AMS quantifies high time resolution concentrations of OA. However, there is no

90 molecular information due to the ion fragmentation produced by the strong electron
91 ionization. Hence, the characterization of particles collected with FIGAERO and together
92 with the soft chemical ionization from HR-ToF-CIMS provides additional information such
93 as molecular weight and chemical formula of species within both the gas and particle phases,
94 which will help in bridging the gap between PMF-AMS and CMB analyses and also to assist
95 in interpreting ambient FIGAERO-CIMS data.

96 This study aims to provide a better understanding of food cooking aerosol chemical
97 characterization, focusing on three main scientific objectives: 1. To investigate potential
98 AMS quantification issues regarding COA; 2. To provide profiles in both the AMS and
99 CIMS to assist in the interpretation of field data; 3. To establish whether emissions from
100 cooking are semi-volatile, and to what extent this may impact upon source apportionment
101 techniques.

102 **2. Methodology**

103 2.1 Measurements. Online measurements of gases and particles, emitted from cooking
104 different types of food, were carried out in a laboratory. A variety of food (fish and chips,
105 English breakfast, vegetables and different types of meat) was cooked using rapeseed
106 (canola) oil. Two types of electric cooking equipment were used; a deep fryer, using three
107 liters of cooking oil; and an induction hob to shallow fry in a pan with a diameter of 22 cm.
108 When shallow frying meat on a flat frying pan, two cooking styles were used; stir-fried,
109 which involves chopping meat into small pieces and stirring meat while cooking; and chop
110 frying. The different cooking methods were used to determine whether they would have an
111 effect on the aerosol chemical composition. The cooking time of each food was between 4-8
112 minutes depending on the time needed for the food to be completely cooked. A total of 36
113 experiments were performed. Emissions were directed to a movable extraction cowling where
114 the common sample inlet was located (Figure S1). The sample inlet was optionally attached

115 to a diluter (Dekati, DI-100), using compressed air to obtain a dilution factor of
116 approximately 1:10. Diluted/non-diluted experiments were performed to investigate gas semi-
117 volatile behavior and its effect on the aerosol budget.

118 2.2 HR-ToF-AMS and SMPS measurements. Submicron non-refractory aerosol
119 concentrations (OA, SO_4^{2-} , NH_4^+ , NO_3^- , and Cl^-) were measured with a HR-ToF-AMS ³¹,
120 hereafter AMS. The procedure to quantify AMS mass concentrations has been previously
121 described ^{40, 41}. The two main parameters AMS uses to quantify aerosol concentrations are
122 collection efficiency (CE) and relative ionization efficiency (RIE). The CE measures how
123 well particles are transmitted and detected, depending on three terms: the transmission
124 efficiency of the aerodynamic lenses, the transmission loss due to nonsphericity of particles
125 and bouncing of particles when impacting the vaporizer ^{42, 43}. Aerosols that tend to be liquid
126 and with diameters between 60 and 600 nanometers (nm) present high CE ^{44, 45}, thus in this
127 study, a CE = 1.0 was used. RIE is the ratio of IE of a given analyte (defined as ions detected
128 per available vapor molecule) relative to the IE of nitrate obtained from ammonium nitrate
129 calibrations. The default value of RIE for OA ($\text{RIE}_{\text{OA}}=1.4$) used. ^{35, 36} However, after
130 comparing the AMS aerosol concentrations with Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer (SMPS)
131 measurements, it was found AMS to overestimate aerosol concentrations. This
132 overestimation is attributed to RIE_{OA} to be higher than 1.4. Further details are provided in
133 the Supplement S1. Elemental analysis was performed as described by Aiken, et al. ⁴⁶ with
134 the “improved ambient” method proposed by Canagaratna, et al. ⁴⁷.

135 Particle number concentration and size distribution, with mobility diameter ranging from
136 18 to 514 nm, were measured using an SMPS (model 3936, TSI). In order to compare SMPS
137 with AMS measurements, a density of $0.85 \text{ g}\cdot\text{cm}^{-3}$, average density of rapeseed oil and oleic
138 acid ⁴⁸, was used to convert SMPS volume concentration to mass concentration.

139 2.3 FIGAERO-HR-ToF-CIMS measurements. The HR-ToF-CIMS, hereafter CIMS, with
140 iodide (I^-) as reagent ion ⁴⁹, was used to measure oxidized organic compounds in the gas
141 phase. ⁵⁰ FIGAERO, coupled to the CIMS measured particle composition. CIMS measured
142 gases over the time food was being cooked while particles were collected on a filter in the
143 FIGAERO inlet. The gas phase measurements were followed by desorption of the collected
144 particles into the CIMS, using a programmed desorption step, where 2 slpm flow of N_2 was
145 ramped from ambient temperature up to 200° C over 15 minutes and passed through the filter
146 into the inlet to be detected by the CIMS. Both gases and particles were collected using a
147 flow of 2 slpm. Aerosols emitted when cooking English breakfast (composed of tomato,
148 mushroom, eggs, bacon, black pudding and sausages) were collected on one filter, other
149 experiments were also collected in one filter when cooking the same type of food, for
150 example, stir-fried chicken and chop fried chicken. Table 1 shows the desorbed filters using
151 this procedure. Details about FIGAERO-CIMS calibration is provided in Supplement S2.

152 **3 Results**

153 **3.1 Aerosol concentrations overview.** A wide range of aerosol concentrations was
154 measured with AMS and SMPS. Table 1 shows the information for the performed
155 experiments; non-diluted and diluted, using deep fried and shallow fried as cooking methods.
156 Looking at SMPS concentrations of non-diluted experiments, higher aerosol concentrations
157 were present on shallow fried compared to deep frying. For shallow fried experiments,
158 aerosol average concentrations range from 9.6 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ for black pudding to 395 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ for
159 sausages, while deep frying concentrations ranged between 4.3 – 223.5 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$. Other high
160 concentrations include tomato (226.5 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$) and bacon (247.6 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$). The fact that tomato
161 shows high concentrations may be explained by the fact that tomato was chopped in half and
162 there was more surface area in contact with the oil/pan. Moreover, the chopped tomato would
163 have a high moisture content, causing more sizzling and therefore mechanical ejection.

164 **3.2 AMS oxidation state.** Elemental analysis (oxygen and hydrogen to carbon ratios, O:C
165 and H:C) is an approach to explore the oxidation state of OA. In this study O:C and H:C
166 mean and standard deviation ellipse (SDE) were calculated for the experiments matching
167 with the filters collected with FIGAERO (F0-F17), to study the OA oxidation state which
168 may have implications on source apportionment. The standard deviation ellipse (SDE) used
169 in the graphs to denote spread was calculated following the equations detailed in Gong ⁵¹.
170 Figure 1 shows the Van Krevelen diagram with O:C and H:C ratios. When analyzing the SDE
171 in Figure 1.b, shallow frying (continuous lines) shows the greater variability both in O:C and
172 H:C ratios compared to deep frying and (dotted lines). The variation in ratios when shallow
173 frying is expected as this type of cooking involves flipping over the meat and/or stirring food
174 while deep frying cooks food with continuous heating of three liters of oil and relatively
175 little disturbance of the food itself. These findings suggest the effect cooking styles may have
176 on aerosol composition.

177 Diluted experiments showed higher mean O:C ratios compared to non-diluted experiments
178 (Fig. 1.d): English breakfast, deep fried sausages and Deep fried burgers with 0.28 (F11),
179 0.28 (F9) and 0.25 (F3) for diluted compared to 0.23 (F10), 0.17 (F8) and 0.19 (F8) for not
180 diluted, respectively. This increment on O:C may result from the evaporation of more volatile
181 molecules, leaving a relatively larger fraction of less volatile molecules with a possible higher
182 O:C in the particle phase.

183 Circles and dotted lines represent deep frying samples in 1.a and 1.b and non-diluted samples
184 in 1.c and 1.d. Triangles and continuous lines represent shallow frying samples in 1.a and 1.b
185 and diluted samples in 1.c and 1.d. OS represents the oxidation state which increases with
186 oxidative aging.⁵² Blue and red dotted lines in 1.a represent f44 and f43 as used on the
187 triangle plot proposed by Ng, et al. ⁵³. Figures 1.b and 1.d are a zoomed version of figures 1.a
188 and 1.c respectively. Description of filters (f0-f17) is provided in Table 1.

189 Mean O:C (0.15-0.32) and H:C (1.69-1.86) values observed in this study are compared to
190 the ones seen in the literature. Kaltsonoudis, et al.²⁴ in a laboratory study from charbroiling
191 meat, exposing emissions to UV illumination and oxidants, found O:C values of 0.09-0.3,
192 with O:C ratios increasing with chemical aging. Ambient O:C ratios from COA have been
193 found with values of (0.10- 0.22).^{7, 47, 54, 55} These values are similar to other POA such as
194 HOA with values of 0.14-0.38^{47, 54, 56, 57}, though HOA presents a higher H:C ratio. While
195 high O:C ratios have been seen on secondary OA (SOA) 0.52-1.02.^{47, 54, 56} This increment in
196 O:C ratios from POA to SOA is due to the chemical aging aerosols present in the atmosphere.

197 While O:C and H:C ratios of this study are similar compared to the ratios from food
198 cooking aerosols found in the literature, O:C and H:C ratios from food cooking aerosols are
199 different from the ones of other primary OA such as HOA, which has a higher H:C or
200 secondary OA with a higher O:C (Refer to Table S4 for more O:C ratios from literature).
201 Diluted experiments presented an increment on O:C, showing what would be expected to
202 happen when aerosols are emitted to the atmosphere with further dilution and aging, as we
203 qualitatively expect the more polar compounds to have a lower vapor pressure.⁵⁸ Laboratory
204 studies aiming to determine food cooking markers should consider performing diluted
205 experiments to better represent ambient conditions.

206 **3.3 FIGAERO - AMS comparison.** The soft chemical ionization of the CIMS provides
207 molecular information of chemical species and, with the use of the FIGAERO inlet, it is
208 possible to identify food cooking markers both in particle and gas phase. In this study, 128
209 compounds were identified in the gas phase, from which 69 were also identified in the
210 particle phase (Table S3). The sum of the average concentration of the 69 compounds in
211 particle phase, identified in each desorbed filter, was compared to the average OA
212 measurements from AMS. This comparison was performed as a way to validate particle
213 measurements obtained from the FIGAERO. Table 1 indicates the filters taken with

214 FIGAERO to which AMS averages were calculated. Due to a technical issue, no filter data is
215 available for the first six filters (F0 to F5), thus the following FIGAERO-CIMS analysis will
216 be performed from filters F6 to F17. Additionally, a comparison was performed using
217 levoglucosan, which is a compound identified both with FIGAERO-CIMS and AMS
218 instruments. In the AMS it is typically identified at m/z 60⁵⁹ while in the FIGAERO-CIMS it
219 is identified with molecular mass 288.96 $\text{g}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ (molecular mass of $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_5 + \text{I}$). Figure 2
220 shows non-diluted deep fried sausages (F9) and English breakfast (F10) are the experiments
221 with the highest aerosol concentrations. Both levoglucosan (Figure 2.a) and total aerosol
222 concentrations (Figure 2.b) present similar trend. A strong correlation is observed with $r =$
223 0.88 for the levoglucosan comparison and $r = 0.83$ for the total particles comparison.
224 FIGAERO measured 22 times higher levoglucosan concentrations, which is expected as
225 AMS concentrations are the m/z 60 related, a fragment related to levoglucosan. While in the
226 total aerosol comparison, FIGAERO quantified 80% of OA measured by the AMS, results
227 consistent with previous studies, which have identified FIGAERO to quantify 25-50% of OA
228 concentrations.⁶⁰⁻⁶²

229 **3.4 FIGAERO-CIMS food cooking markers**

230 Deep frying emitted more gases than shallow frying (Table 2), which is expected due to the
231 larger amount of oil used during deep frying. Eight organic acids were identified as cooking
232 markers in the gas phase: isocyanic (HNCO), formic (CH_2O_2), acrylic ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_4\text{O}_2$), propionic
233 ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O}_2$), hydroxypropionic ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O}_3$), malonic ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_4\text{O}_4$), hexanoic ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$) and adipic
234 ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_4$). These organic acids were chosen as markers as they were present in all cooking
235 samples with high concentrations. Hydroxypropionic acid was the compound with a higher
236 presence in gas phase both on deep frying and shallow frying. In general, HNCO
237 concentrations were identified in the majority of the samples. HNCO has been related to
238 biomass burning⁶³ and traffic emissions.⁶⁴ However, to our knowledge, no studies in the

239 literature have reported HNCO concentrations emitted from food cooking. Roberts, et al.⁶⁵
240 reported HNCO concentrations to be related to coal used as a fuel to cook but not to the food
241 itself.

242 Nitrogen-containing compounds have been previously found to have negative effects to
243 human health⁶⁶ and have been identified on cooking emissions.⁴ They may be emitted either
244 from the food itself or also from additives. In this study, 14 different nitrogen-containing
245 compounds were identified both in the gas and particle phase (Table S5). C₄H₂NO₂ and
246 parabanic acid (C₃H₂N₂O₃), during deep-frying experiments, were identified only in the gas
247 phase. The rest of the nitrogen-containing compounds were identified mainly in the particle
248 phase: Creatinine (C₄H₇N₃O), nitrobenzene (C₆H₅NO₂), C₆H₇NO₂, C₅H₇N₂O₂, C₅H₈NO₃,
249 C₆H₁₃NO₂, C₅H₉N₃O₂ and C₁₃H₁₅NO₂ were present only in shallow frying experiments.
250 Nicotinamide (C₆H₆N₂O), nitrobenzene, C₆H₇NO₂ and C₅H₈NO₃ were mainly emitted from
251 non-diluted deep fried sausages (filter9), diluted shallow fried pork (filter15) and diluted
252 shallow fried lamb (filter16). While it was not possible to determine or speculate at the
253 structure of many of the identified nitrogen-containing compounds, given the potential
254 impacts of this compound class, it is worth reporting their presence and contribution to food
255 cooking emissions, which were mainly found in the particle phase. Further studies should be
256 aimed to further characterize and quantify these nitrogen-containing compounds.

257 **4 Discussion**

258 **4.1 Relative Ion Efficiency of OA.** The AMS has been widely used to measure the
259 chemical composition of non-refractory aerosols. However, it has been found to report food
260 cooking OA concentrations to be greater than other measurement techniques.³² Table S1
261 shows OA has higher concentrations compared to SMPS, resulting in OA/SMPS ratios to be
262 higher than unity. OA concentrations were originally calculated with $RIE_{OA} = 1.4$. as
263 suggested by Alfarra, et al.³⁶. However, it has been previously shown that RIE_{OA} values may

264 vary within functional groups.⁴⁰ An increment on RIE_{OA} will decrease the reported OA
265 concentration. Hence, the hypothesis here is that the overestimation of OA measurements
266 compared to SMPS is due to RIE_{OA} to be higher than 1.4.

267 This shows that RIE_{OA_corr} values are higher than 1.4, with values between 1.56 and 3.06
268 (Table S2). The highest RIE_{OA_corr} value of 3.06 was observed with diluted deep fried
269 experiments. This value is in agreement with Murphy³⁴ and Jimenez, et al.³⁵, who reported
270 oleic acid to have an RIE of 2.8-4.0 and 3.2 respectively. After heating, oleic acid is the main
271 component of rapeseed oil 63% - 70%^{67, 68}, and this hypothesis is further supported by the
272 fact that high RIE_{OA_corr} values were present with deep fried experiments, where much of the
273 particulate matter likely originates from the recondensation of semivolatiles from the oil or
274 the mechanical ejection of oil by bubbles bursting during frying. The low RIE_{OA_corr} values
275 for shallow fried indicate that the OA emissions from meat and vegetables have RIEs closer
276 to the default of 1.4.

277 The increment on RIE_{OA} , combined with the assumed CE of 1, found in this study explains
278 the good correlation but quantitative disagreement between PMF-AMS and CMB reported by
279 Yin, et al.³² and also agrees with Minguillón, et al.³³ who also found RIE_{OA} to be higher than
280 1.4. It is worth mentioning a possible limitation of SMPS mass concentrations obtained is that
281 a density of $0.85 \text{ g}\cdot\text{cm}^{-3}$ is assumed, which may not be accurate. However, the deviations in
282 RIE reported are deemed to be larger than the plausible uncertainty in density. The RIE result
283 has significant implications for ambient measurements of COA. While COA concentrations
284 have often been reported to be a significant contribution to primary OA aerosol
285 concentrations, these could have been overestimated in previous studies. However, it is
286 unlikely that the bulk OA concentrations have been systematically misreported overall, as
287 these have frequently compared favorably with external comparisons.³⁵ If the COA

288 specifically is being over-reported, then this should be accordingly corrected after it has been
289 isolated using factorization.

290 **4.2 Food cooking AMS mass spectra.** Source apportionment tools, like the multilinear
291 engine (ME-2), use inputs in the way of mass spectra or time series, to partially constrain
292 solutions and better deconvolve OA sources.²⁸ Mass spectra of COA have certain
293 characteristics that make them different to mass spectra from other sources, for example the
294 signals at m/z 41, m/z 55 and m/z 57, with a higher signal at m/z 55 compared to m/z 57.^{9, 12,}
295 ²³ The generation of mass spectra, from different types of food cooking and a better
296 understanding of their variations, will help to improve COA source apportionment. In this
297 study, a comparison was performed within the mass spectra obtained from the experiments
298 and with the mass spectra from other ambient and laboratory studies. Table S6 shows the
299 uncentered Pearson's correlation coefficients (ρ_r , also known as the 'normalized dot product'
300 or 'cosine angle') and Table S7 shows the list of external mass spectra used in the
301 comparison.

302 The correlations performed within the experiments showed high ρ_r values ranging from
303 0.876 when comparing two different cooking and meat types (diluted shallow fried chicken
304 vs non-diluted deep fried burgers) to 0.999 when comparing deep fried burgers diluted vs
305 non-diluted. Fish and chips and English breakfast also showed high ρ_r values when
306 comparing diluted and non-diluted experiments, suggesting diluting presents little effect on
307 mass spectra.

308 A decrease on correlations were observed when comparing the mass spectra of this study
309 with COA mass spectra from previous ambient studies, with ρ_r values from 0.734 (non-
310 diluted deep fried fish and chips vs COA from Lanz, et al.⁸) to 0.991 (diluted deep fried
311 sausages vs COA from Reyes-Villegas, et al.⁶⁹). The low correlations obtained when
312 comparing mass spectra of this study with COA from Lanz, et al.⁸ might be expected as the

313 later was the first PMF-AMS study, focused more on the development of the methodology
314 and was contained within a higher-order solution, where the authors expressed doubts as to
315 its accuracy.

316 From these correlations, we can see that when cooking different types of meat/vegetables
317 and using a variety of cooking styles (deep frying and shallow frying), mass spectra from
318 fresh emissions do not vary significantly. However, the decrease in ur values when compared
319 with mass spectra from past ambient studies from the literature, suggests aging of food
320 cooking aerosols (through repartitioning or chemical reactions) in the atmosphere that are not
321 capture here.

322 **4.3 Effect of dilution on food cooking aerosols.** From the desorption analysis, 69
323 compounds were identified in the particle phase (Table S3). From this list, Table 4 shows the
324 12 compounds that have been previously identified as cooking markers ^{4, 26, 70, 71}
325 Levoglucosan ($C_6H_{10}O_5$), dicarboxylic acids: succinic ($C_4H_6O_4$), glutaric ($C_5H_8O_4$), pimelic
326 ($C_7H_{12}O_4$), suberic ($C_8H_{14}O_4$), azelaic ($C_9H_{16}O_4$), sebacic ($C_{10}H_{18}O_4$), dodecanedioic
327 ($C_{12}H_{22}O_4$), and carboxylic acids: palmitic ($C_{16}H_{32}O_2$), margaric ($C_{17}H_{34}O_2$), linoleic
328 ($C_{18}H_{32}O_2$) and oleic ($C_{18}H_{34}O_2$). However, the majority of these markers have been
329 identified from off-line measurements or from gas and particle measurements in separate
330 studies. Here we show near real-time measurements of both gases and particles, gas-to-
331 particle ratios (G/P) and the effect of dilution.

332 These 12 compounds are considered to be cooking markers in the particle phase as they
333 were found mainly during the filter desorption. Even when they were identified as being
334 present in the gas phase, the G/P ratio is still lower than unity. In contrast, for the gas phase
335 cooking markers presented in Table 2, the G/P ratio was greater than unity. G/P ratios were
336 calculated from average gas and particle counts \cdot sec⁻¹ (Table 3). It is worth mentioning that
337 some of these compounds are also found to be in other sources; for example, levoglucosan

338 has been used as a marker of biomass burning aerosols.⁷⁰ Succinic, glutaric, pimelic acids and
339 levoglucosan were found mainly in the gas phase for the diluted deep frying experiments (F7
340 and F8). Denoting the high variability of gas-particle partitioning and the implication of
341 different cooking conditions in the food cooking emissions.

342 Higher G/P ratios were observed with diluted experiments compared to non-diluted. Deep
343 fried sausages (F9) present higher G/P ratios with Succinic, glutaric, pimelic, levoglucosan,
344 suberic and azealic compared with diluted deep fried sausages (F8). A similar situation was
345 present with diluted and non-diluted deep fried burgers (F7 and F6 respectively) and English
346 breakfast (F11 and F10 respectively). This behavior is explained in that with diluting
347 experiments, light molecular masses will tend to be more in the gas phase than species with
348 high molecular mass, which will tend to stay in the particle phase. This suggests that the use
349 of these as cooking markers for CMB analysis may be problematic, as their particle-phase
350 concentrations may diminish with dilution, although whether this creates a positive or
351 negative artifact will depend on whether their rate of evaporation is consistent with that of the
352 overall mass of particulate used in the mass balance model.

353 **ASSOCIATED CONTENT**

354 **Supporting Information**

355 The supplement material includes a figure showing the instrument arrangement (Figure S1),
356 a list of all cooking experiments (Table S1), a table with AMS and SMPS average
357 concentrations (Table S2), a figure with mass and number size distributions (Figure S2), a list
358 of all the compounds identified on gas and particle (Table S3), a table with O:C and H:C
359 ratios from the literature (Table S4), a table with nitrogen-containing markers (Table S5), a
360 table with uncentered Pearson values for mass spectra comparison (Table S6) and a list with
361 the references of the external cooking mass spectra used on the comparison (Table S7).

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366 **Notes**

367 The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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636 **Table 1.** List of all cooking experiments.

	Food	Exp. #	Diluted	OA [$\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$]	SMPS [$\mu\text{g.m}^{-3}$]	Diameter (nm)	Peak dM/DlogDp	Filter #
Deep fried	Fish&chips	E1	N	23.8	16.1	346	37	F0
	Fish&chips	E2	N	54.7	21.9	429	18	F1
	Fish&chips	E3	Y	5.3	4.3	385	10	F2
	Fish&chips	E4	Y	5.8	4.3	334	11	F3
	Burgers	E5	Y	10.8	13.2	98	28	F4
	Burgers	E6	N	**	**	**	**	F5
	Burgers	E7	N	**	**	**	**	F6
	Burgers	E8	N	87.9	**	**	**	F7
	Burgers	E9	N	93.7	**	**	**	F8
	Burgers	E10	Y	7.6	11.1	136	17	F9
	Burgers	E11	Y	9.1	21.5	131	47	F10
	Sausages	E12	Y	9.7	12.3	105	18	F11
	Sausages	E13	N	183.0	223.5	151	452	F12
Shallow fried	Tomato	E14	N	240.1	226.5	346	286	F13
	Mushroom	E15	N	112.7	117.9	334	204	F14
	Eggs	E16	N	28.0	47.0	102	65	F15
	Bacon	E17	N	219.7	247.6	157	392	F16
	Black pudding	E18	N	19.0	9.6	146	12	F17
	Sausages	E19	N	424.1	395.0	260	540	F18
	Tomato	E20	Y	15.3	17.7	209	34	F19
	Mushroom	E21	Y	10.8	7.5	241	12	F20
	Eggs	E22	Y	1.8	**	**	**	F21
	Bacon	E23	Y	4.6	**	**	**	F22
	Sausages	E24	Y	16.8	**	**	**	F23
	Black pudding	E25	Y	4.0	3.5	109	5	F24
	Bacon	E26	Y	2.9	2.8	64	4	F25
	Salmon	E27	Y	20.8	18.2	131	30	F26
	Salmon_SF	E28	Y	16.9	16.1	131	32	F27
	Burgers	E29	Y	30.9	23.2	131	48	F28
	Vegetables_SF	E30	Y	61.1	**	**	**	F29
Vegetables_SF	E31	Y	96.1	45.3	399	69	F30	
Pork	E32	Y	21.3	22.3	122	37	F31	
Lamb	E33	Y	49.0	51.8	175	98	F32	
Lamb_SF	E34	Y	8.3	8.3	269	13	F33	
Chicken	E35	Y	26.8	33.3	118	58	F34	
Chicken_SF	E36	Y	8.0	8.7	98	14	F35	

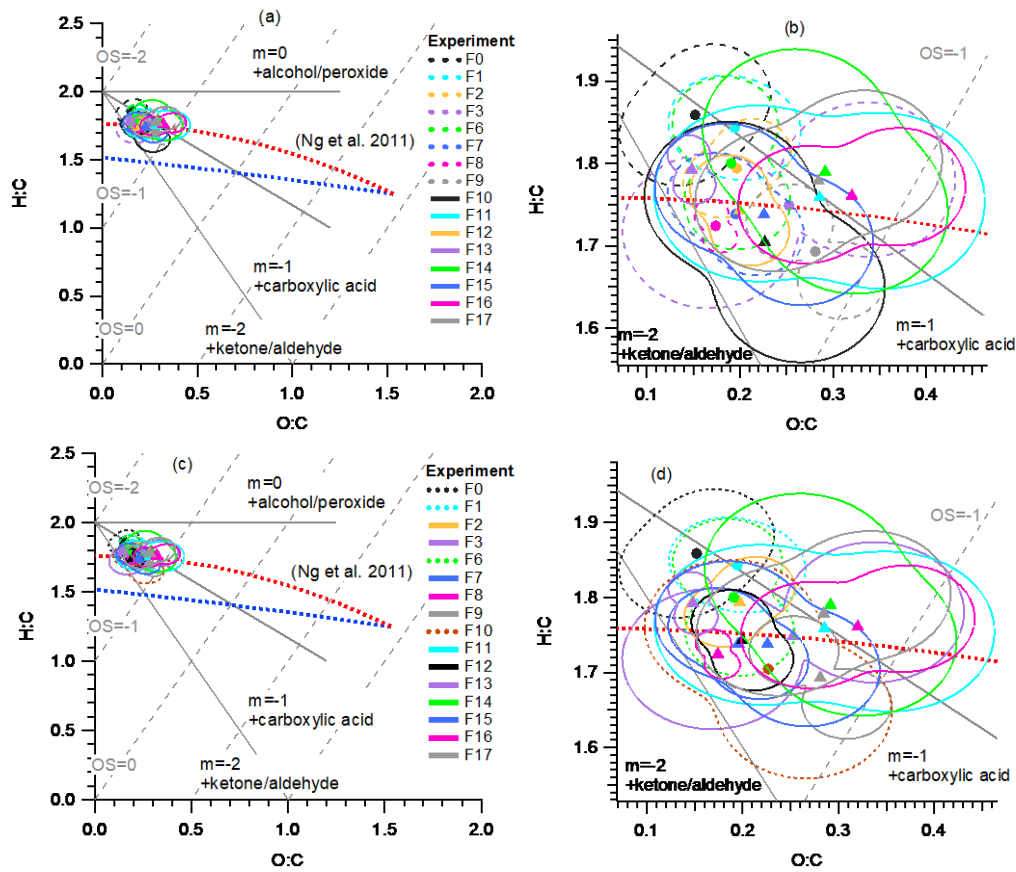
637 E= Experiment, N=No Y=Yes, SF = steer-fried, ** samples were lost. , F=Filter.

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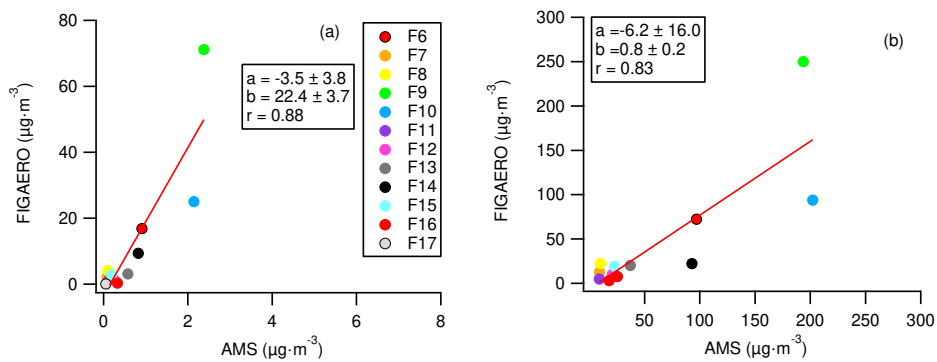


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644 **Figure 1.** Van Krevelen diagram with mean (markers) and SDE (lines) of O:C and H:C.

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647 **Figure 2.** FIGAERO-AMS comparison for levoglucosan (a) and OA (b) concentrations. Red

648 lines show linear regression. Description of filter numbers (F0-F17) is provided in Table 1.

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651 **Table 2.** Cooking markers in the gas phase.

Formula	Name	*	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15	F16	F17	Mass + I	
CHNO	Isocyanic acid	G	7.84	17.01	13.11	3.94	9.16	1.56		3.34	2.14	1.32	2.68		169.91	
		P														
		R														
CH ₂ O ₂	Formic acid	G	16558.40	13439.20	8726.79	14167.10	5146.27		762.00					0.11	172.91	
		P		1.12	2.40	2.18										
		R		65.38	40.60	83.42										
C ₃ H ₄ O ₂	Acrylic acid	G	5167.44	1351.57	623.29	2737.11	55.43	8.42	12.65	25.36	19.44	1.97	3.99	13.57	198.93	
		P	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.25										
		R	1404.82	766.57	467.14	143.03										
C ₃ H ₆ O ₂	Propionic acid	G	17.58	9.24	4.57	8.63	6.02	3.66	1.54	5.62	6.17	0.89	1.94	1.42	200.95	
		P	0.01			0.02										
		R	9.33			4.55										
C ₃ H ₆ O ₃	Hydroxypropionic	G	109170.00	79445.60	78302.60	108587.00	3672.54		7397.47	5085.04		12600.70	11146.40	6038.39	216.94	
		P	31.60	37.33	42.43	83.59	11.40	0.93	4.43	7.40	1.59	21.32	3.32	1.81		
		R	17.20	11.55	20.58	16.68	1.07		7.88	7.94		7.58	15.16	9.51		
C ₃ H ₄ O ₄	Malonic Acid	G	215.06	184.02	149.88	198.71	5.73								230.92	
		P	0.25	0.15	0.20	0.76	0.04									
		R	4.26	6.75	8.38	3.37	0.42									
C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₂	Hexanoic acid	G	109.34	145.26	109.86	72.45	20.85	7.58	4.52	7.87	12.41				240.97	
		P	0.11	0.04	0.07	0.46	0.19	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.004	0.06	0.06	0.03		
		R	4.83	19.22	17.52	2.01	0.36	1.16	0.70	8.89	16.08					
C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₄	Adipic acid	G	99.32	105.15	95.84	144.49	15.05								272.96	
		P	0.36			2.27	0.56									
		R	1.37			0.82	0.09									

652 * G= Gas [formic equiv. ppt], P = Particle [formic equiv. $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$], R= G/P Ratio [calculated
 653 using raw signal]. Mass+I = Molecular mass of compound + I. Description of filters (f0-f17)
 654 is provided in Table 1.

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670 **Table 3.** Cooking markers in the particle phase.

Formula	Name	*	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15	F16	F17	Mass + I
C ₄ H ₆ O ₄	Succinic acid	G	431.33	500.52	275.54	855.15	73.22	2.42							244.93
		P	14.05	0.93	2.00	53.14	6.61	0.08	0.15	0.38	0.97				
		R	0.15	2.92	1.54	0.21	0.04	0.04							
C ₅ H ₈ O ₄	Glutaric acid	G	174.82	226.38	246.82	255.09	83.62	113.96	50.31	49.86	70.40	44.02			258.94
		P	4.12	0.51	1.13	28.63	10.83	0.33	0.45	1.01	2.37	0.80	0.11	0.04	
		R	0.21	2.43	2.44	0.11	0.03	0.43	0.53	0.57	0.16	0.70			
C ₇ H ₁₂ O ₄	Pimelic acid	G	51.36	62.47	81.97	86.45	43.75	21.60		0.67	9.52				286.98
		P	0.99	0.20	0.38	4.70	1.37	0.05	0.07	0.15	0.36	0.02	0.05	0.04	
		R	0.26	1.73	2.44	0.24	0.11	0.55		0.05	0.14				
C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₅	Levogluconan	G	679.57	762.16	925.19	1351.71	427.93	261.77	76.61	117.53	521.84	165.73			288.96
		P	16.83	2.09	4.16	71.14	25.00	1.18	1.28	3.10	9.37	2.77	0.28	0.06	
		R	0.20	1.98	2.48	0.24	0.06	0.28	0.28	0.44	0.29	0.77			
C ₈ H ₁₄ O ₄	Suberic acid	G	3.26	8.86	9.40	5.50	6.59	7.64							300.99
		P	0.29	0.06	0.12	1.06	0.95	0.05	0.10	0.16	0.20	0.06	0.07	0.05	
		R	0.06	0.83	0.85	0.07	0.02	0.20							
C ₉ H ₁₆ O ₄	Azelaic acid	G		2.93	1.25			4.97					8.24	0.55	315.01
		P	0.37	0.07	0.16	1.24	0.70	0.04	0.10	0.20	0.12	0.07	0.11	0.06	
		R		0.22	0.09			0.14					0.34	0.02	
C ₁₀ H ₁₈ O ₄	Sebacic acid	G						12.71	4.97	7.34	9.44	0.53	41.15	23.65	329.03
		P	0.08	0.04	0.09	0.32	0.34	0.02	0.06	0.14	0.06	0.03	0.18	0.09	
		R						0.67	0.37	0.62	0.78	0.25	1.02	0.78	
C ₁₂ H ₂₂ O ₄	Dodecanedioic	G													357.06
		P	0.02			0.07	0.16	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.02		0.02	0.01	
		R													
C ₁₆ H ₃₂ O ₂	Palmitic acid	G						36.36	19.19	23.19	19.12	12.96	0.06		383.14
		P	0.79	0.43	0.76	1.73	0.84	0.14	0.54	1.10	0.23	0.49	0.31	0.06	
		R						0.33	0.17	0.24	0.44	0.34	0.00		
C ₁₇ H ₃₄ O ₂	Margaric acid	G						1.40	0.53	1.06	0.83	0.76			397.16
		P	0.06	0.03	0.07	0.13	0.09	0.02	0.04	0.12	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.01	
		R						0.12	0.06	0.10	0.12	0.20			
C ₁₈ H ₃₂ O ₂	Linoleic acid	G		6.94	3.80			40.76	29.16	32.13	28.49	25.28	5.68	4.72	407.14
		P	1.44	0.59	0.91	2.82	1.96	0.28	0.66	1.27	0.50	0.92	0.18	0.12	
		R		0.06	0.05			0.18	0.21	0.29	0.30	0.35	0.15	0.11	
C ₁₈ H ₃₄ O ₂	Oleic acid	G		9.90	2.47			77.77	56.31	65.38	61.71	55.90	9.54	9.88	409.16
		P	4.27	1.88	2.92	8.54	3.94	0.61	1.49	3.85	1.36	2.15	0.93	0.37	
		R		0.03	0.01			0.16	0.18	0.20	0.24	0.33	0.05	0.08	

671 * G= Gas [formic equiv. ppt], P = Particle [formic equiv. $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$], R= G/P Ratio (of raw
672 signals). Mass+I = Molecular mass of compound + I. Description of filters (f0-f17) is
673 provided in Table 1.

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