

Chemical composition and source apportionment of fine aerosol in the port city of Piraeus, Greece

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Piraeus: An Aerosol Pollution Hotspot

**Local Emissions:
Triple Threat**

Shipping Emissions

*Busiest European passenger port: >15 mil. yr⁻¹
2nd Mediterranean container port: >5 mil. TEU yr⁻¹*

Traffic Emissions

Passenger, HDDV (Greek HDDV fleet: most aged in the EU)

Residential Emissions

2nd most densely populated Greek regional unit (0.5mil.), RWB

Marine Aerosols

**Additional
Factors**

Urban and Port Development

> 3 bil. € in planned infrastructure projects



Study area and Methods

- Year-long PM_{2.5} sampling campaign (12/2018-12/2019)
- Sampling site (P1) in central Piraeus, near the passenger port
- 24-h PM_{2.5} quartz-fiber filter samples with LVS
- Laboratory chemical analysis in ≈300 filters for:
 - EC, OC (Sunset)
 - Major ions (IC)
 - Major and trace elements (ICP-MS)
- Q-ACSM and AE33 Aethalometer seasonal campaigns (Dec-Jan, Jun-Jul)
- Ancillary data from regulatory monitoring (CO, NO_x etc.)



Source apportionment

Annual Filter-Based $PM_{2.5}$ SA

- PMF SA (ME-2, EPA PMF5), $n \times m = 270 \times 21$
- 8-factor optimal solution (*physical, residuals, fit, Q/Q_{exp} , IM, IS*)
- Validation (*in-profile diagnostic ratios, r vs external tracers, temporal variation, wind plots, trajectories-PSCF_{90°}*)
- Clears DISP, BS, BS-DISP EE methods
- 2 vehicular sources (exhaust, non-exhaust)
- Oil combustion related to shipping
- Biomass Burning
- Regionally processed aerosol
- 2 dust factors (mineral and locally resuspended dust)
- Sea Salt

Seasonal Organic Aerosol SA

- PMF SA (ME-2, SoFi 6.1), m/z : 12-125, separate runs winter/summer
- Selection strategy (*physical, constrains, residual variance*)
- Validation (*temporal variation, r vs ref. FP, r vs external tracers, wind plots, PSCF plots*)
- Constrained HOA-1 factor in both seasons, linked to local traffic
- HOA-2 factor in both seasons, linked to port emissions
- Constrained BBOA factor only in winter
- Unconstrained LO-OOA, MO-OOA in both seasons
- Winter LO-OOA clearly associated with BBOA oxidation

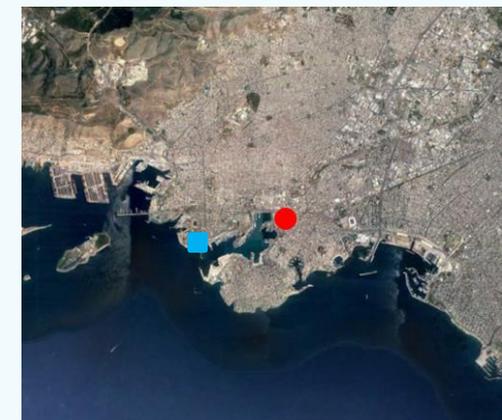
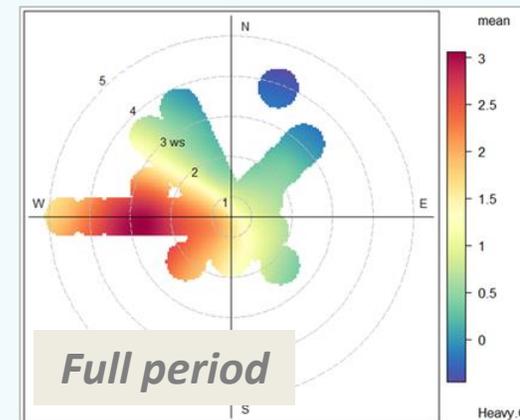
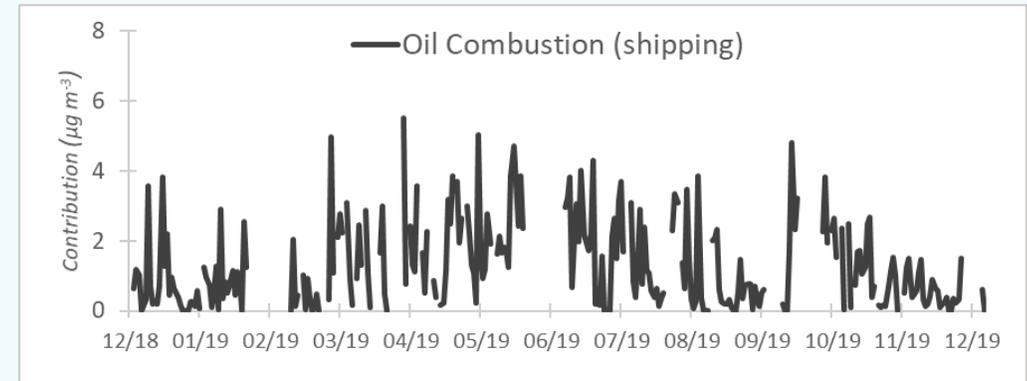
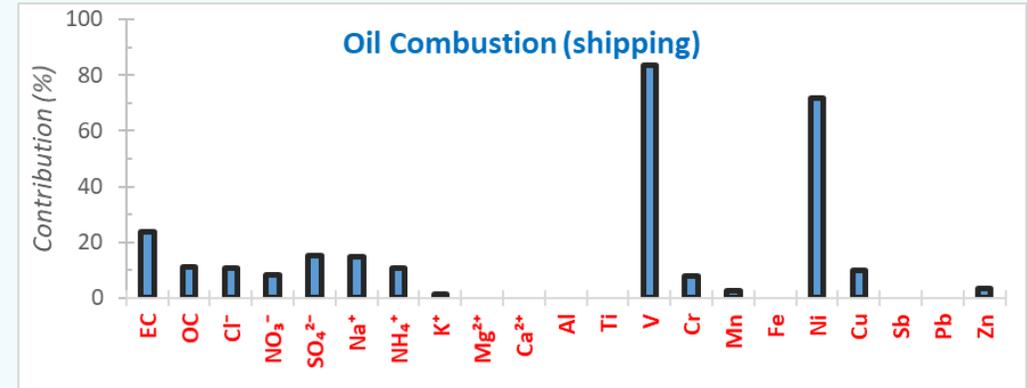
Stavroulas et al., 2021

<https://doi.org/10.3390/atmos12121686>



Oil combustion (shipping)

- Source profile: V, Ni, EC, OC
- $V/Ni = 1.8$
- Warm-period enhancement (+68%)
- High contributions in summer, in spite of increased dilution (increased BLH)
- Linked to westerlies year-round (port sector)
- Correlates with SO_2 ($r = 0.58$) measured to the W
- Correlates with BC_{ff} ($r = 0.55$)



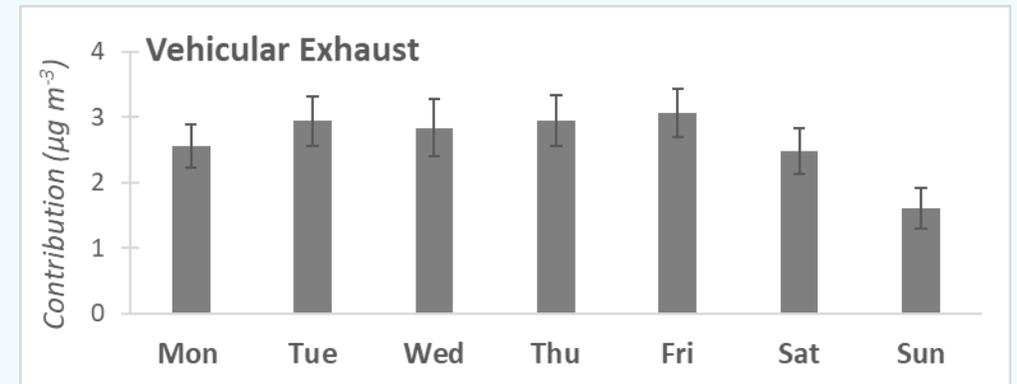
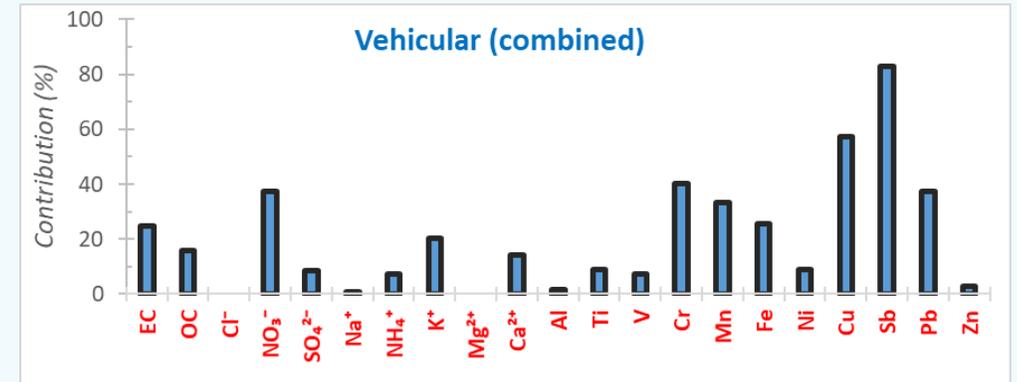
Vehicular Sources

Vehicular Exhaust

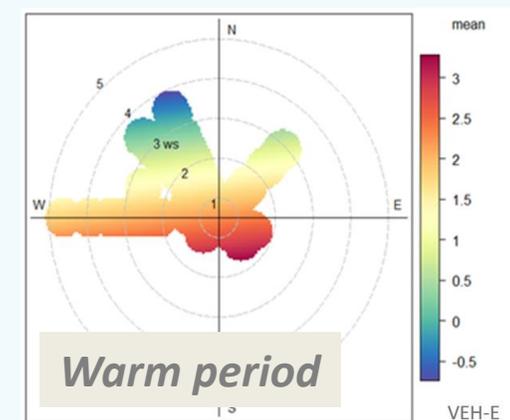
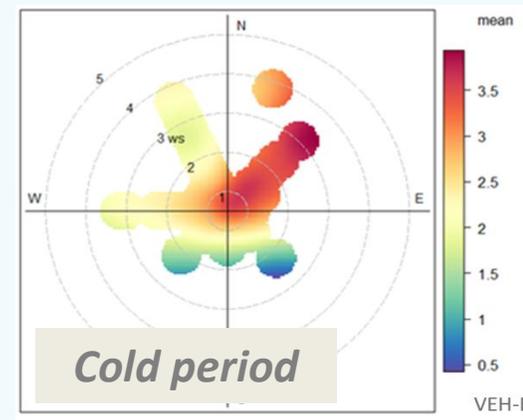
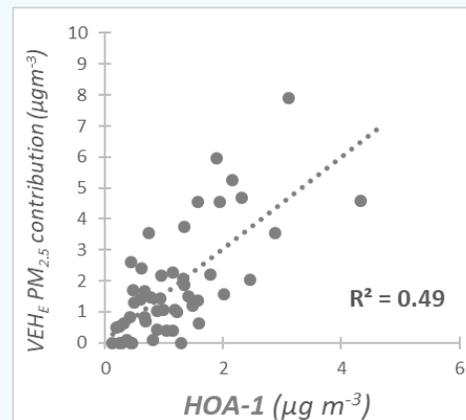
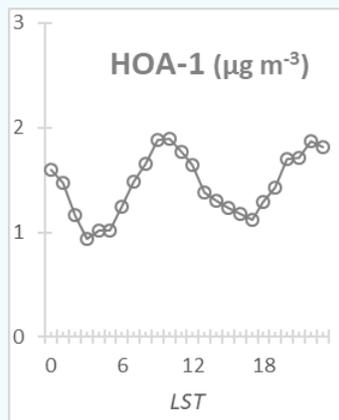
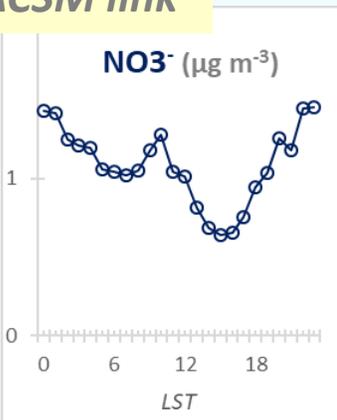
- Source profile: OC, EC, nitrate
- OC/EC: 1.8
- Weekday enhancement (+48%)
- Correlates with CO ($r = 0.92$), NO_x ($r = 0.66$), BC_{ff} ($r = 0.45$)
- Correlates with HOA-1 ($r = 0.69$)

Vehicular Non-Exhaust

- Source profile: Cu, Sb, Fe
- Weekday enhancement (+19%)



ACSM link

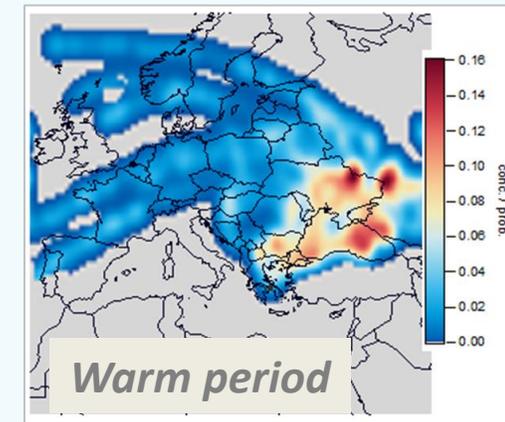
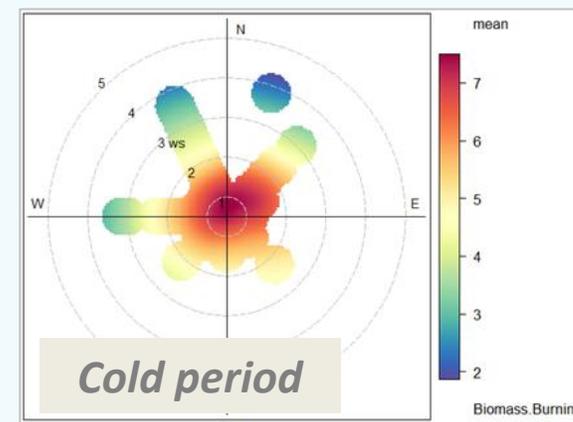
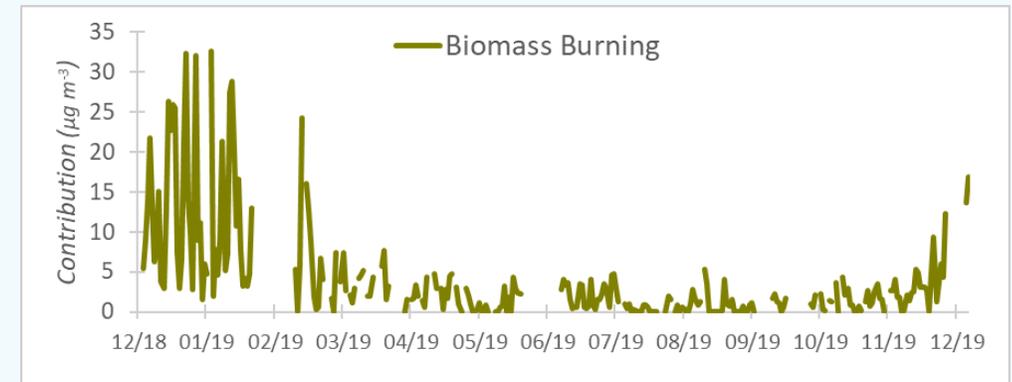
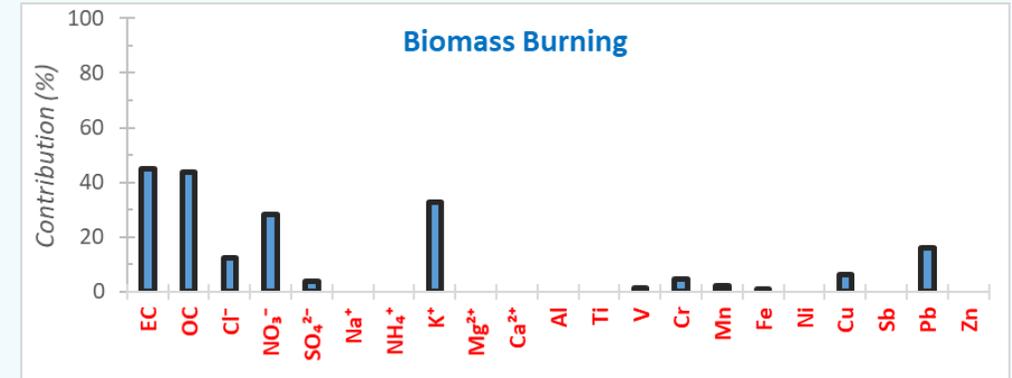
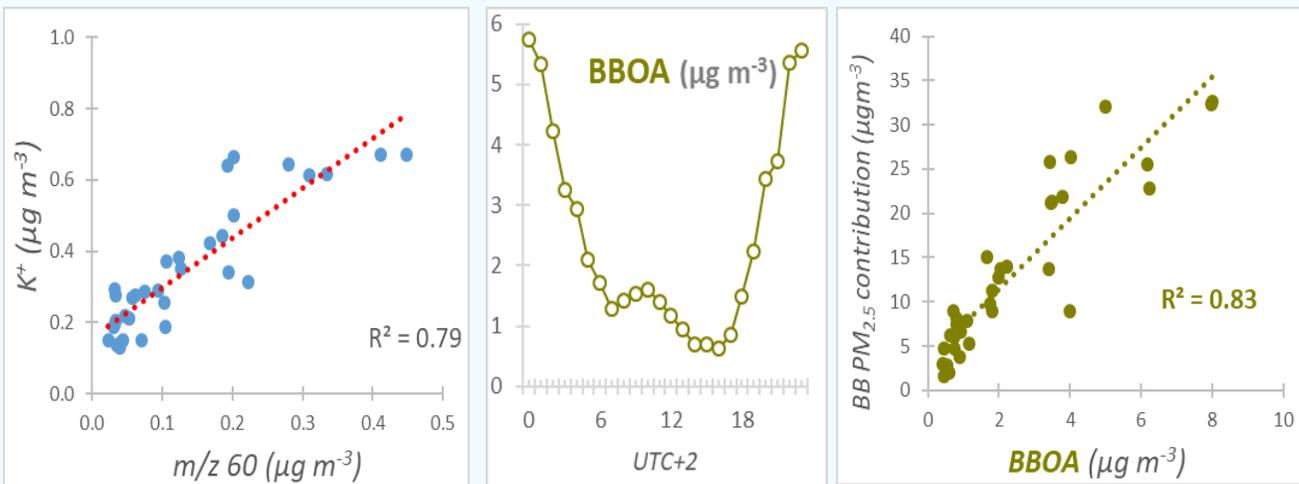


Biomass Burning

- Source profile: OC, EC, water-soluble K, nitrate
- Impact of local RWB emissions – winter heating
- Cold-period enhancement (*4.4, 7.0 vs 1.3 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)
- Correlates with BC_{bb} ($r = 0.96$)
- Correlates with BBOA in winter ($r = 0.91$)

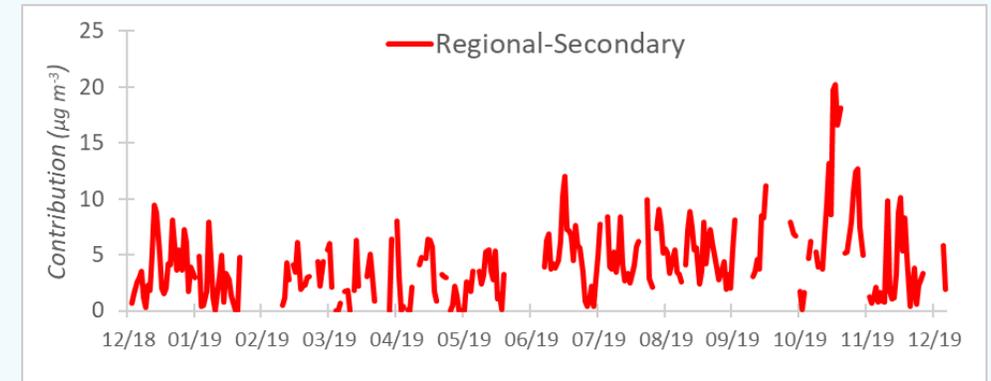
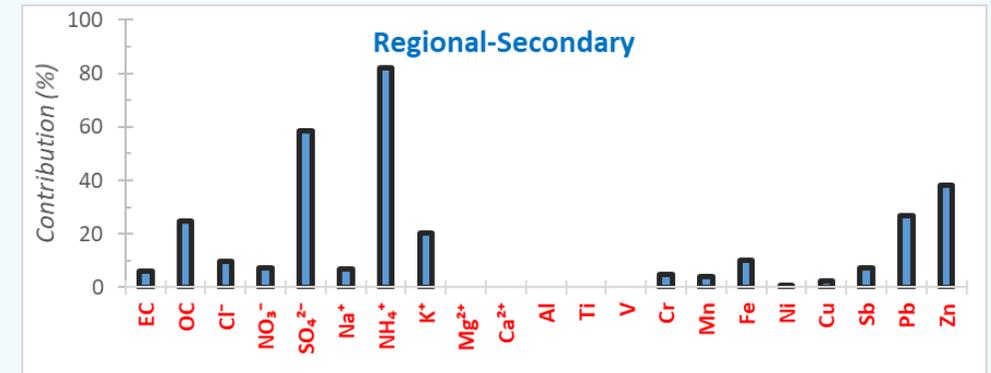
ACSM link

- Night-time enhancement of winter BBOA (*3.2)

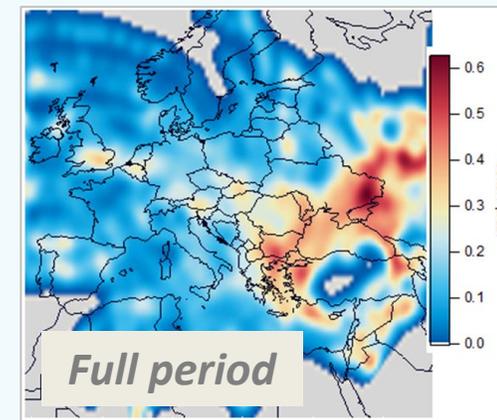
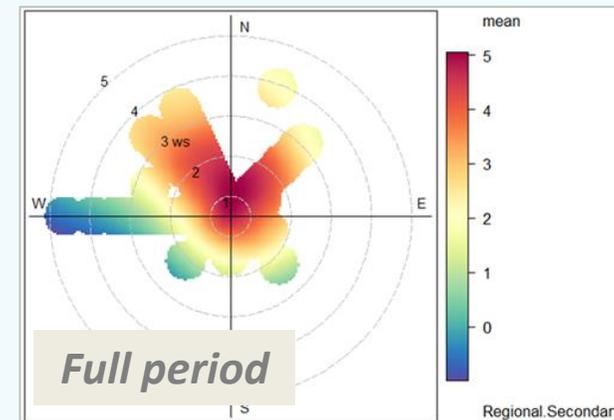
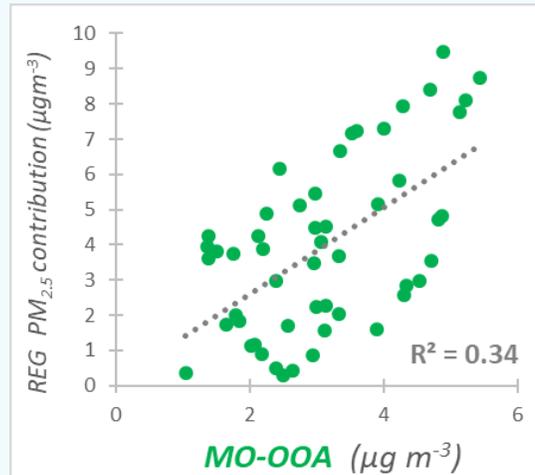
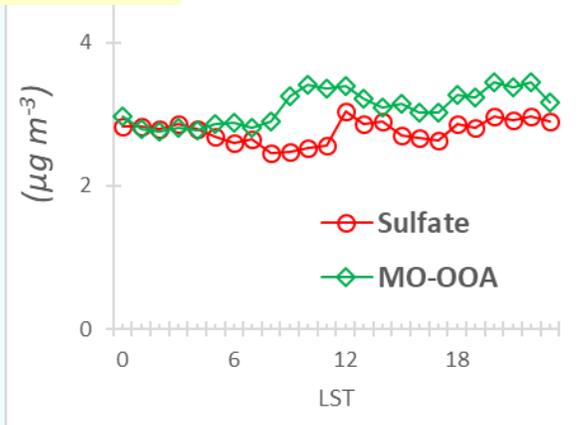


Regional-Secondary

- Source profile: SO_4^{2-} , NH_4^+ , OC, EC
- $\text{OC}/\text{EC} > 10$
- Small warm-period increase (+4%)
- Higher levels associated with transport from the N
- Main LR source origins: Balkans, Ukraine, SW Russia



ACSM link



“Natural” Sources

Local dust resuspension

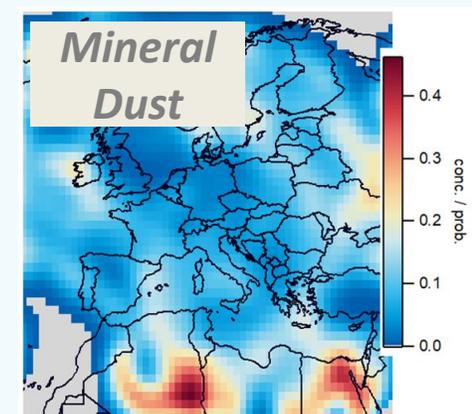
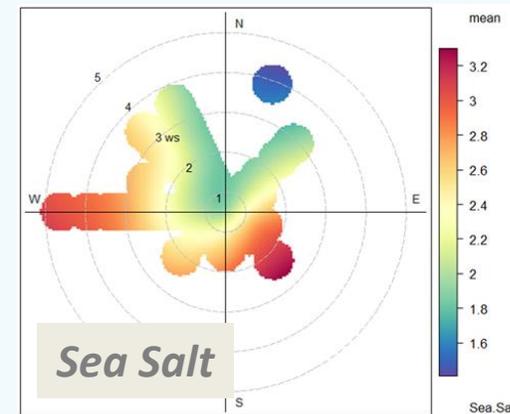
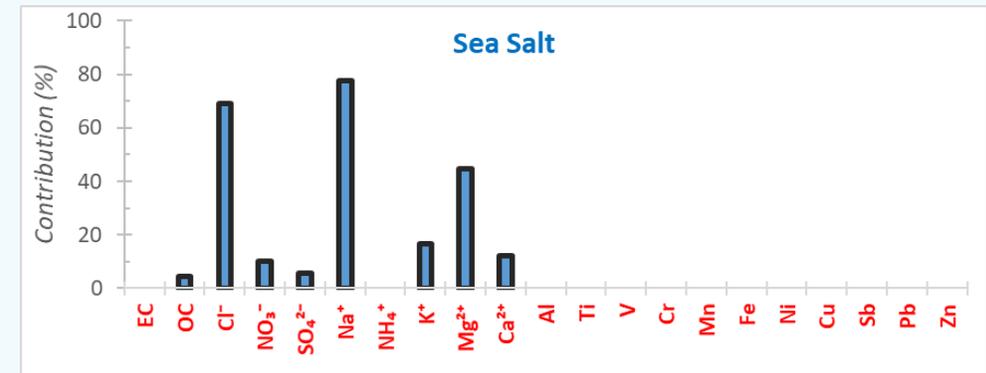
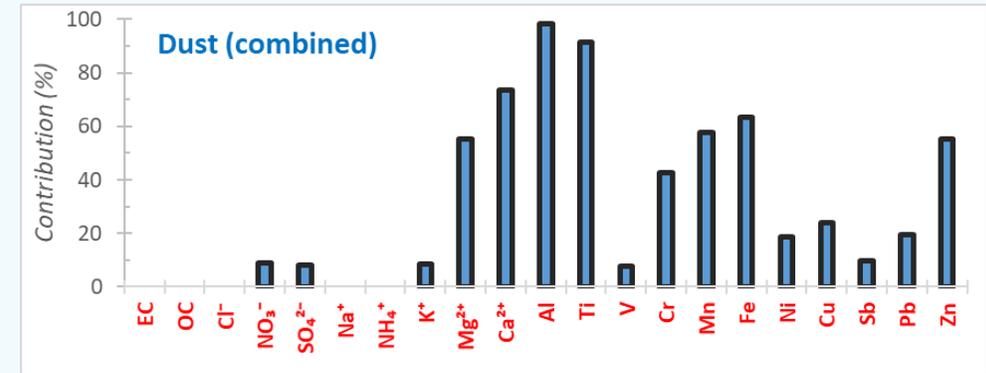
- Source profile: Mg^{2+} , Ca^{2+} , Al, Fe, Cu, Pb, Zn
- High in-profile EFs of Zn, Cu, Cr, Pb > 50
- Local resuspension
- Soil enriched by decades of anthropogenic activity in Piraeus

Mineral dust

- Source profile: Al, Ti, Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , K^+ , Fe
- Low in-profile EFs (<10) for Cu, Cr, Mn, Ti, V
- Linked to episodic dust intrusions (LRT), mostly in spring

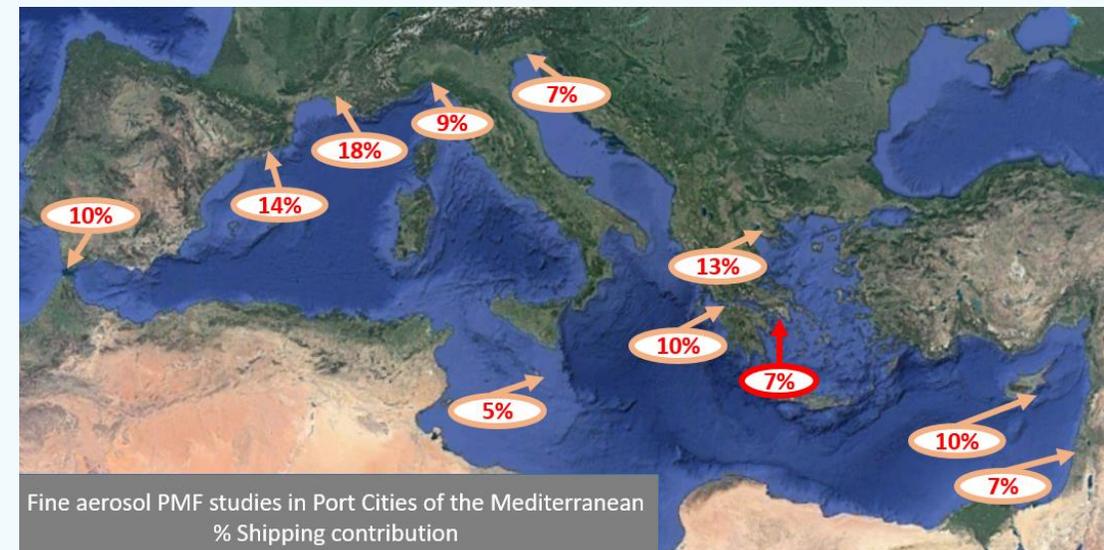
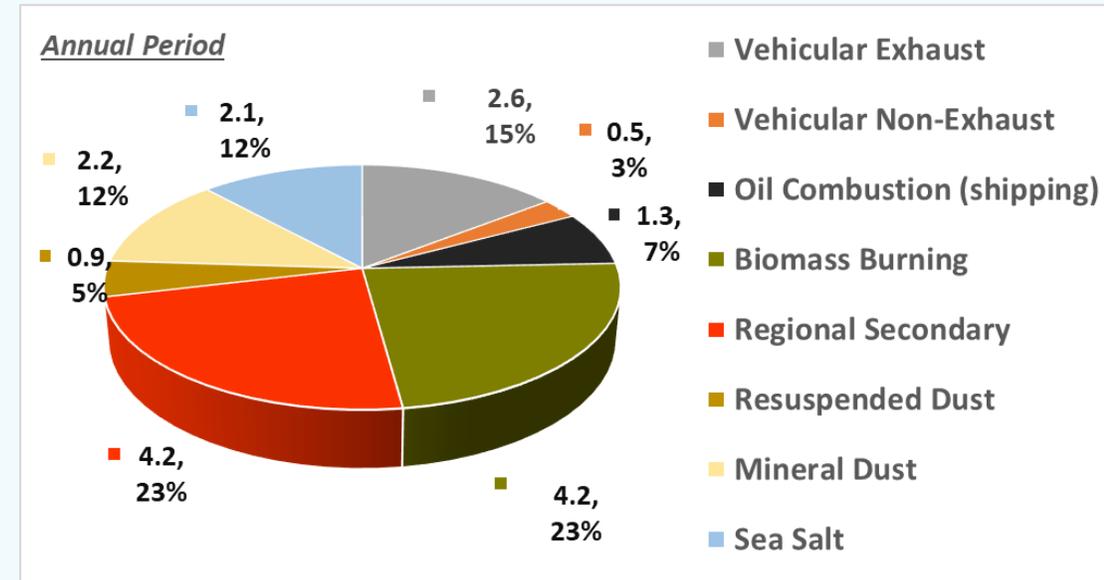
Sea Salt

- Source profile: Na^+ , Cl^- , Mg^{2+}
- Warm-period enhancement (+45%, 2.6 vs 1.8 $\mu g m^{-3}$)
- Sea-breeze effect (correlates with Temp.: $r = 0.4$)
- Associated with winds of the marine sector (S-W)



PM_{2.5} Source Contributions

- Mean annual PM_{2.5} (**18 μg m⁻³**) at a 15-year low
- Moderate annual contribution of **oil combustion** (7%, **1.3 μg m⁻³**). Summer enhancement related to the passenger port
- Combined **traffic** sources account for **17%** annually, lower compared to Greek urban sites in the past
- Residential **wood burning** (54% in winter) is a major contributor leading to wintertime “smog” events
- **Regional-Secondary** inputs form a **background of 4 μg m⁻³**, indicating a declining trend in Southern Greece
- Frequent LRT **dust** events in 2019 led to an increased contribution
- **Sea Salt** contribution at the coastal site higher than typically observed at inland GAA sites



...some conclusions...

- *Anthropogenic local sources contributed almost ½ of $PM_{2.5}$ suggesting the potential of control measures to further reduce the mean annual concentration, in case of a revised EU standard*
- *The annual contribution of shipping didn't exceed 10%, even close to a major port like Piraeus. However, more research is needed to identify its effects on a sub-daily basis and at a spatial level*
- *Residential wood burning is a major $PM_{2.5}$ source, especially in winter, leading to episodic events. It has emerged as a result of the last decade's recession in Greece and persists during the current global energy crisis. Mitigation actions should be coordinated at the EU level*
- *The regional secondary contribution was about 25%, originating mostly from countries to the Northeast, not bound by EU legislation. Combined with the natural inputs, it forms a considerable $PM_{2.5}$ background for SE European cities, that will be difficult to mitigate*



Thank you!
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