



**Biotic stress
contribution to
organic aerosol in
Europe**

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Biotic stress: a significant contributor to organic aerosol in Europe?

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Abstract

We have investigated the potential impact on organic aerosol formation from biotic stress-induced emissions (SIE) of organic molecules from forests in Europe (North of Lat. 45° N). Emission estimates for sesquiterpenes (SQT), methyl salicylate (MeSA) and unsaturated C₁₇-compounds, due to different stressors, are based on experiments in the Jülich Plant Atmosphere Chamber (JPAC), combined with estimates of the fraction of stressed trees in Europe based on reported observed tree damage.

SIE were introduced in the EMEP MSC-W chemical transport model and secondary organic aerosol (SOA) yields from the SIE were taken from the JPAC experiments. The estimated current-situation SIE in Central and Northern European forests are found to contribute substantially to SOA in large parts of Europe. It is possible that the SIE contributes as much, or more, to organic aerosol than the constitutive biogenic VOC-emissions, at least during some periods. Based on the assumptions in this study, SIE-SOA are estimated to constitute between 50 and 70 % of the total biogenic SOA (BSOA) in a current-situation scenario where the biotic stress in Northern and Central European forests causes large SIE of MeSA and SQT. An alternative current-situation scenario with lower SIE, consisting solely of SQT, leads to lower SIE-SOA, between 20 and 40 % of the total BSOA.

Hypothetical future scenarios with increased SIE, due to higher degrees of biotic stress, show that SOA formation due to SIE can become even larger.

Unsaturated C₁₇-BVOCs emitted by spruce infested by the forest honey generating bark louse *Cinara pilicornis* have a high SOA-forming potential. A model scenario investigating the effect of a regional, episodic infestation of *Cinara pilicornis* in Baden-Württemberg, corresponding to a year with high production of forest honey, shows that these types of events could lead to very large organic aerosol formation in the infested region.

We have used the best available laboratory data on biotic SIE applicable to Northern and Central European forests. Using these data and associated assumptions we have

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shown that SIE are important for SOA formation but the magnitude of the impact is uncertain and needs to be constrained by further laboratory, field and modelling studies. As an example, the MeSA, which is released as a consequence of various types of biotic stress, is found to have a potentially large impact on SIE-SOA in Europe but e.g. different assumptions regarding the nighttime chemistry of MeSA can change its SOA potential substantially. Thus, further investigations of the atmospheric chemistry of MeSA and observational field studies are needed to clarify the role of this compound in the atmosphere.

1 Introduction

The emissions of biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOC) by forests are the major sources of hydrocarbons to the atmosphere (Guenther et al., 2012; Lamarque et al., 2010; Simpson et al., 1999). Photo-oxidation of BVOC, in the presence of nitrogen oxides (NO_x), contributes to the formation of tropospheric ozone and leads to secondary organic aerosol (SOA) particle formation (Hallquist et al., 2009). Many BVOC, e.g. isoprene, α -pinene, and sesquiterpenes (SQT), are unsaturated and react with all main oxidants in the atmosphere: OH, ozone and NO_3 , while the saturated BVOC preferably react with OH. SOA formation is caused by the gas to particle transformation of some of the oxidation products, depending on e.g. their vapour pressure. Studies using carbon-14 and other tracer compounds have shown that such biogenic SOA (BSOA) is often the major contributor to ambient organic aerosol (OA) at rural, and even some urban, sites in Europe (Gelencsér et al., 2007; Minguillon et al., 2011; Szidat et al., 2004, 2009; Yttri et al., 2011).

BSOA formation can play an important (but complex) role in the radiation balance of the Earth and thus for surface temperature (Arneeth et al., 2010). In a future climate, vegetation growth may increase in many areas, especially in the boreal and temperate regions (e.g. Ahlström et al., 2012; Morales et al., 2007; Lathiere et al., 2005), with possible increases in BVOC emissions because of increasing foliar expansion and

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Besides constitutive emissions, vegetation also releases so called induced emissions to the atmosphere. Induced emissions are often caused by “biotic stress” – by infestation of insects, viruses, fungi, etc. (e.g. Arneeth and Niinemets, 2010; Amin et al., 2012, 2013; Berg et al., 2013), but they are also affected by other stressors like heat or drought (e.g. Kleist et al., 2012). In this paper we will collectively denote these emissions as stress-induced emissions (SIE).

Berg et al. (2013) investigated the impact of bark beetle infestations on MT emissions and SOA formation in western North America. MT emissions due to bark beetles may both increase (during attack) and decrease (after tree-death) and Berg et al. found that beetle infestations in pine trees can have a significant regional impact on SOA concentrations (up to 40 % increase) during some years; responses may be substantially larger if spruce trees are infested.

Recently, SOA mass yields from the laboratory studies in the Jülich Plant Atmosphere Chamber (JPAC), with real plants as sources, showed that terpenoidic SIE, such as sesquiterpenes, and phenolic BVOC (e.g. methyl salicylate, MeSA), originating downstream of the shikimate pathway (e.g., Wildermuth, 2006), are very efficient in forming SOA (Mentel et al., 2013). Their particle mass yields are 3–4 times larger than those of MT, see Sect. 2.2. In a case where a spruce was infested by *Cinara pilicornis* (honeydew generating lice) unsaturated C₁₇-BVOC were observed with particle mass yields six times higher than those of MT (Mentel et al., 2013). Given that SIE are a ubiquitous source of BVOC and thus SOA in forests, these laboratory findings suggest that SIE may account for a significant fraction of ambient SOA mass. Neglect of the SIE in models might explain some of the discrepancies between observed OA and model predictions.

If the SIE increase in the future (e.g. with increasing frequencies of insect damage, Jonsson et al., 2009), the SIE-SOA concentrations will also rise; and indeed the the role of SIE in a changing climate is attracting increasing attention (Peñuelas and Staudt, 2010; Holopainen, 2011). Even current-condition SIE, due to e.g. biotic stressors, are difficult to assess; inherent difficulties include the episodic character and time lags

airstream of the plant chamber were averaged for the same time intervals as in which the SIE-SOA mass yields were determined.

2.2 BVOC emission factors for infested trees

In order to keep our model results transparent we used a simplified direct approach for preparing the model emission scenarios. We used the standard EMEP emissions for monoterpenes (Simpson et al., 2012) and applied emission ratios for SIE/MT based on experimental data from JPAC (Mentel et al., 2013) to set the SIE in the model. The SIE considered here (SQT and MeSA) are of de novo type (Kleist et al., 2012), i.e. they are emitted in connection with biosynthetic production.

The emission ratios were determined in JPAC under steady state conditions as described above. The direct use of JPAC-derived data for application or extrapolation to ambient conditions has been confirmed in earlier studies for particle formation rates and SOA mass yields for Boreal tree species (Mentel et al., 2009), the chemical composition of the resulting SOA (Kiendler-Scharr et al., 2009b), interaction of isoprene and MT emissions (Kiendler-Scharr et al., 2009a), and the distribution of highly oxidized aerosol precursors (Ehn et al., 2012). The use of real plant emissions and close to ambient concentrations make us think that the laboratory-derived data from JPAC provide the best-available estimate of SIE-SOA yields for our purposes.

From the observations by Mentel et al. (2013), we constructed three biotic stress scenarios. Case 1 treats aphid infestation with enhanced SQT emissions with SQT/MT = 2.4 (mass based ratios). Case 2 covers aphid infestations which caused enhanced emissions of SQT (SQT/MT = 4.9) and triggered MeSA emissions via the shikimate pathway (MeSA/MT = 3.75). Case 1 and Case 2 were assumed to be typical for all trees of Boreal and Central European forests. As the SIE emissions are of de novo type, they were only switched on during daytime.

A further Case 3 was constructed from an experiment investigating infestation of a spruce by *Cinara pilicornis*, which led to strong emissions of several unsaturated linear C₁₇-BVOC with an emission factor C₁₇-BVOC/MT = 18. Mentel et al. (2013) did

not determine whether the C₁₇-compounds originated from the plant or the infesting insects; the C₁₇-BVOC emissions were considered as originating from the coupled plant-insect system.

The louse under consideration here, *Cinara pilicornis*, belongs to the family of bark lice that produce honeydew, which is collected by bees. Such bark lice are of economic interest for beekeepers; observations by beekeepers in Baden-Württemberg (BW) in south west Germany, show that such infestations (or more precisely the honey production from *Cinara pilicornis* and similar infestations) are strongly varying from year to year and have high seasons during June/July (<http://www.stockwaage.de/>). Accordingly we constructed a SIE emission pulse of C₁₇-BVOC, which was limited in time and spatial extension. As the C₁₇-BVOC emissions in JPAC were 2–3 times larger at daytime than during night, we switched them on only during daytime in the model, like the other two SIE.

Mentel et al. (2013) focused on tree species from the Boreal region and from Central Europe. Therefore, we have focused our analysis on Northern and Central Europe, and implement SIE for areas north of Lat. 45° N, although it may be assumed that stress also affects the emissions from plants growing in other regions.

2.3 Estimation of fraction of infested trees

Since the observed emission factors only consider infested trees, the fraction of infested trees has to be estimated. It is difficult to estimate the degree of insect infestations on larger scales in real forests. In the present study we chose a relatively simple approach to make what we believe to be a rough but reasonable estimate of the present-day situation. We base the estimate on regular surveys of the European forests. ICP Forests (the International Co-operative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests operating under the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution) provides annual executive reports on the conditions of the forests in Europe (<http://www.icp-forests.org/>); they also publish reports of the national member forest agencies. From these, Fischer et al. (2012) provide

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2.3.1 Increased degree of infestation – possible future scenarios?

For the future scenarios our hypothesis is that the degree of infestation may increase if climate changes unfavorably for an established vegetation. Considering that the knowledge about the present-day degree of infestation is limited, it is even more problematic to describe how SIE will develop in the future. However, we use a similar approach as for the current situation but take it a step further and assume that insect infestations may affect trees that today are at the next reported degree of defoliation (> 10 %). This will then include about 2/3 of the trees in Central Europe (Fischer et al., 2012) and about 50 % of the trees in the Boreal forests (Finnish National Report 2007: Merilä et al., 2007). This may be considered as a severe-case scenario of a possible future. These high degrees of infestation were used to illustrate how severe biotic stress can enhance SIE and contribute to SOA and we address these as two extreme future scenarios, Case 1F and 2F. Given the uncertainty of estimating future SIE emissions, the MT emissions were, for simplicity, kept at the current level.

2.3.2 Regional episodic infestation by bark lice

The construction of the Case 3 with C₁₇-BVOC emission from the *Cinara pilicornis* infestation is somewhat more indirect. Here we make use of the fact that the honeydew produced by *Cinara pilicornis* (and other bark lice) is a source of a certain kind of honey, the forest honey. Detailed observational data on forest honey production exist in Baden-Württemberg (see <http://www.stockwaage.de/>) so we select this region of south west Germany for an episodic test case. The relation between infestation and forest honey production is well known to beekeepers (e.g. see <http://stockwaage.de/>) and from their statistics we can extract the seasonality and the annual variation of the forest honey production as related to *Cinara pilicornis* infestation. In a good honey year the infestation is widespread, even if there are some local variations, and lasts through the summer months.

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Since Mentel et al. (2013) observed C_{17} -BVOC emission from the *Cinara pilicorinis*/Norway spruce system, we assume for simplicity that all spruce in BW are infested and the resulting SIE occur during the months June and July, with the given C_{17} -BVOC/MT ratio of 18. The forests in BW consist of 38 % spruce (http://www.mlr.baden-wuerttemberg.de/Die_Baumarten/507.html). Other conifers, mainly fir and pine, make up another 19 % of the forest. The rest are broadleaf species mainly beech (21 %) and oak (7 %). This causes a small flaw in our concept of applying the emission ratios as observed in JPAC, as the emission strength of spruce and the other conifers and specifically of the broadleaf species may be different. For simplicity, we assume that during an active year all spruce are affected and that these also accounts for 38 % of the emissions. As a consequence the C_{17} -BVOC/MT emission ratio from the JPAC experiment is weighted by the factor 0.38 in BW. Although the assumption that all spruce trees in BW are heavily infested may be viewed as an extreme case we note that other tree species may also be simultaneously infested by lice and, on the beekeeper web page <http://stockwaage.de/index.php/rueckblick>, there is indeed a year described (2006) when lice even infested deciduous trees and contributed to honeydew production.

2.4 The EMEP MSC-W model

The standard EMEP MSC-W chemical transport model has been described in detail by Simpson et al. (2012); a research version of the model (Bergström et al., 2012), with extended treatment of particulate carbonaceous matter, has been used in the present study. The EMEP MSC-W model is a development of the 3-D CTM of Berge and Jakobsen (1998), extended with photo-oxidant and aerosol chemistry. The model domain used in this study covers the whole of Europe, and includes a large part of the North Atlantic and Arctic areas. The standard grid system of the model is based on a polar stereographic projection, with a horizontal resolution of ca. 50 km × 50 km at latitude 60° N. The model includes 20 vertical layers, using terrain-following coordinates, and the lowest layer has a thickness of about 90 m. The model has been extensively compared

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present study uses the PAP version (Partitioning and atmospheric Ageing of Primary semi- and intermediate-volatility OC emissions), from Bergström et al. (2012), that distributes the POA emissions over different volatilities and assumes that the POA emissions are accompanied by emissions of intermediate volatility compounds (IVOC) that react with OH in the atmosphere (as in Shrivastava et al., 2008); this “ageing” transforms the species to lower volatilities that may partition to the particle phase. The base case OA scheme used here is almost identical to the PAP-model in Bergström et al. (2012); the only difference is that a small emission of sesquiterpenes is added (equal to 5 %, by mass, of the daytime MT emissions) based on observed emissions from unstressed plants by Mentel et al. (2009).

Very simplified mechanisms for SOA formation from SQT, MeSA and C₁₇-BVOC were added to the model. Fixed SOA (mass) yields, based on experimental data (Mentel et al., 2013), were used for these three model compounds. Note that the SOA-yield from SQT oxidation (17 mass-%) is based on experimentally determined yields from SQT-emissions from aphid infested Norway Spruce (see Mentel et al., 2013); here we assume the same SOA-yield from all SQT-emissions. For MeSA and C₁₇-BVOC the yields are 22 % and 33 %, respectively:



where O_x is a general oxidant (O₃ or OH; NO₃ may also react with SQT, and possibly with C₁₇-BVOC, but, since we only consider day-time SIE in this study, the NO₃-reaction is of minor importance compared to the fast O₃ and OH reactions). The parentheses around the oxidants indicate that these oxidants are not depleted in the chemical mechanism. As in Simpson et al. (2012) and Bergström et al. (2012), gas-phase BVOC chemical mechanisms are only available for isoprene, for which the EMEP model traces degradation through species such as methyl-vinyl-ketone, methacrolein and methylglyoxal. Other BVOC species are treated in a very simplified manner, whereby oxidation

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of the BVOC produces only the compounds specified by the VBS scheme or the fixed-yield non-volatile SIE-SOA components. For such compounds, the chemistry is assumed to be “oxidant-neutral”, that is, we assume that as much O₃ or OH is reformed in the neglected part of the chemistry, as is consumed in the initial BVOC-reactions.

This procedure ensures that the ozone chemistry will be the same as in the standard photochemistry version of the EMEP MSC-W model.

SOA-formation from sesquiterpenes is rapid; in the model we use rates based on the β -Caryophyllene chemistry scheme in the Master Chemical Mechanism (MCM v3.2 (Jenkin et al., 2012), via website: <http://mcm.leeds.ac.uk/MCM>). For the C₁₇-BVOC no kinetic information is available. As observed in JPAC, the C₁₇-BVOC had a short lifetime with respect to oxidation by O₃ and OH; for simplification, we therefore applied the same OH and O₃ reaction rate coefficients ($1.97 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $1.16 \times 10^{-14} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively) for the C₁₇-BVOC as for β -Caryophyllene.

MeSA is much more stable in the atmosphere (Canosa-Mas et al., 2002) and, based on experimental data from JPAC, an OH-reaction rate coefficient of $4 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ was used. The low reaction rate of MeSA with OH allows for significant MeSA concentrations during the night and since MeSA is a phenolic compound we must also consider the reaction with NO₃:



The rate of the MeSA + NO₃ reaction is not known and neither is the SOA-yield (α) of the reaction; night-time degradation of MeSA by NO₃ reaction could possibly be fast (Canosa-Mas et al., 2002). Canosa-Mas et al. (2002) assumed that MeSA could react as fast with NO₃ as phenol does ($k = 3.8 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$), but the MeSA + NO₃ reaction may be slower, because the MeSA molecule may form an internal hydrogen bond between the OH-hydrogen and the ester group leading to an increased stability compared to phenol. The MeSA + OH reaction, for example, is seven times slower than the phenol + OH reaction (IUPAC: <http://www.iupac-kinetic.ch.cam.ac.uk> (2008)). Preliminary results from laboratory experiments in JPAC indicate that the

MeSA+NO₃ reaction is about an order of magnitude slower than the phenol+NO₃ reaction. Details of the measurements regarding the determinations of the rate constants will be published elsewhere.

In the present study we therefore used $k = 5.4 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for the MeSA + NO₃ reaction, equal to the phenol + NO₃ reaction rate divided by seven (the scaling factor of the OH reaction).

The rate coefficient was combined with two different SOA-yields for the reaction, 0 or 22 mass-%, resulting in two different sensitivity test cases:

(a) $k_{R4} = 5.4 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}, \alpha = 0$

(b) $k_{R4} = 5.4 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}, \alpha = 0.22$

Canosa-Mas et al. (2002) suggest that photolysis may be the most important daytime loss process for MeSA but other studies have shown that MeSA and related compounds have “striking photostability” (e.g., Acuna et al., 1981) and therefore we neglect this process in the model simulations.

Deposition of gas-phase MeSA is a potentially important loss process since the oxidation rate is relatively slow. Karl et al. (2008) measured the Henry’s law constant for MeSA and obtained a value of ca 34 M atm⁻¹, that is, MeSA is somewhat more soluble than CH₃CHO but much less soluble than HCHO. In the standard set-up of the present study we treat MeSA-deposition in the same way as CH₃CHO (and other higher aldehydes) in the EMEP model (Simpson et al., 2012); this means wet deposition is neglected and that the dry deposition is relatively slow. Two sensitivity tests were performed regarding the MeSA deposition: (A) neglecting both dry and wet deposition, (B) assuming dry and wet deposition to be as efficient as for HCHO.

2.5 Model emission scenarios

In total five different biotic stress emission scenarios are explored in this study and compared to a reference simulation without stress induced emissions. The different

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scenarios are based on the combination of the biotic stress emission factors described in Sect. 2.2 and the fractions of infected forest from Sect. 2.3; the resulting emission scenarios are summarised below and in Table 1. Note that in all scenarios except Case 3, the SIE are assumed to occur during the whole period with MT-emissions (for Central and Northern Europe most of the MT-emissions occur between March and October); i.e., biotic stress is assumed to be present during the whole growing season. This is a simplification, since many forms of biotic stress are of more limited duration (e.g. Hakola et al., 2006), but various stressors may be active at different times of the year. In the present study the focus is on getting estimates of the potential relative importance of SIE compared to the constitutive BSOA for long-term OA concentrations.

Case 0 – No biotic stress emissions – reference scenario

Case 0 is a reference scenario excluding stress induced emissions. The biogenic emissions are the same as in the standard EMEP MSC-W model for carbonaceous aerosol (Bergström et al., 2012; Simpson et al., 2012) except that some SQT emissions were added (5 % of the MT emissions). The SOA-yield from SQT oxidation is set to 17 mass-% (Mentel et al., 2013).

Case 1 – Sesquiterpene emissions from biotic stress – current situation

The first SIE scenario is based on experimental data for aphid infested Norway spruce with a SQT/MT emission ratio of 2.4. In the EMEP model simulation for Case 1 we apply 10 % of these emissions to all monoterpene emitting plants north of Latitude 60° N, during daytime, and 20 % for 45–60° N. This means that the (daytime) SQT emissions are set to 24 % and 48 % of the MT emissions in the two different regions. The SOA-yield from the SQT is the same as for Case 0 (17 %).

Case 2 – Methyl salicylate + sesquiterpene emissions from biotic stress – current situation

The second scenario simulates an aphid infested boreal forest, based on chamber data from experiments with a combination of Silver birch, Scots pine and Norway spruce.

5 Chamber emission ratios were $SQT/MT = 4.9$ and $MeSA/MT = 3.5$. The assumption of 10 % infested trees in the Boreal forests (Lat. $> 60^\circ N$) and 20 % for $45-60^\circ N$ leads to model SQT/MT and $MeSA/MT$ emissions of 49 % and 35 % for the northern region and 98 % and 70 % in the central region. For $MeSA$ the SOA-yield from oxidation by OH is 22 % (Mentel et al., 2013); the standard Case 2 simulation assumes that $MeSA$ only
10 reacts with OH, see Sect. 3.3 for sensitivity tests of different assumptions regarding the $MeSA+NO_3$ reactivity and SOA-production.

Case 1F – Increased degree of infestation – sesquiterpene emissions

The first “future” scenario, Case 1F, use the same biotic stress emission ratios as Case 1 but a larger proportion of the vegetation is assumed to be infested: 50 % in the boreal region (north of $60^\circ N$) and 2/3 of the trees in the $45-60^\circ N$ region. This leads to
15 SQT/MT emission ratios of 120 % and 160 %, respectively.

Case 2F – Increased degree of infestation – methyl salicylate + sesquiterpene emissions

The second scenario of increased biotic stress, Case 2F, use the same assumptions as
20 Case 2 regarding the emissions from infested trees and the same proportion of infestation as in Case 1F. This leads to SQT/MT emission ratios of 245 %, in the northern region, and 327 %, in the central region. The corresponding $MeSA/MT$ emission ratios were 175 % and 233 %, respectively.

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March–October at Hyytiälä are from 110 to 260 ppt(v); see Fig. 6, which shows the diurnal variation of the modelled MeSA for four different model setups. If the model assumptions regarding the emissions and reactivity are realistic, MeSA should be easily detected in the atmosphere e.g. by PTR-MS or GC-MS. Our estimated MeSA concentrations are of the same order of magnitude as observed by Karl et al. (2008). They found MeSA mixing ratios of ~ 100 ppt(v) within and above the canopy of a walnut agroforest.

The amount of SIE-SOA produced in the model in Case 2 is based on the observed SOA formation in the JPAC plant chamber experiments (Mentel et al., 2013); in addition it depends on the assumptions regarding the deposition of MeSA, the MeSA+NO₃-reactivity and the SOA-formation from the NO₃-reaction. We illustrate the sensitivities in Fig. 7, which shows the mean diurnal variation of SIE-SOA at Hyytiälä for the period March–October.

The modelled SIE-SOA is not very sensitive to the MeSA deposition; the differences between the setups with no deposition or faster deposition (as HCHO) to the base case deposition (as CH₃CHO) are only about +5% and –7%, respectively; similar differences (+3 to +7% and –3 to –10%) are seen in the part of the model domain where the SIE are included in Case 2 (the *relative* differences are larger at longer distances from the SIE regions).

If the MeSA+NO₃-reaction occurs at the rate tested in this study ($k_{R4} = 5.4 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$), and has the same SOA-yield as MeSA+OH, a substantial night-time production of SIE-SOA is seen in the model. The average modelled (total) SIE-SOA concentration at Hyytiälä is about 30% higher when the NO₃-reaction is included than for the case with only the OH-reaction (results are similar in most of Europe north of Lat. 45° N, for April–September: typically +20 to +30%). If the MeSA+NO₃-reaction consumes the MeSA without SOA-production, the SIE-SOA formation is reduced compared to the case with only OH-reaction; at Hyytiälä modelled SIE-SOA is about 20% lower than for the case that neglects the MeSA+NO₃-reaction (similarly, for

from constitutive emissions. Further, the fate of the SIE in the atmosphere is uncertain, as shown by the sensitivity study for MeSA, and the modelling of SOA is still so fraught with difficulty that we cannot use model-measurement discrepancy for total OA concentrations to establish the likely level of SIE-SOA.

Having stated this, we want to point out that if our assumptions regarding the magnitude of the SIE are overall about right, it is possible that, at least for some periods, the SIE including MeSA could be more important for organic aerosol production than the constitutive emissions of BVOC. SIE of SQT have a lower BSOA-forming potential but still the SIE-SOA production from SQT may become fairly substantial in the future in much of Central, Northern and Eastern Europe. The emissions of unsaturated C₁₇-BVOC from insect infested vegetation, although episodic and regional, could have a large impact on SOA formation.

Measurements using real plant emissions have shown that SIE can have higher potential to form SOA mass than constitutive emissions. On laboratory scale SIE can dominate SOA formation, as is also reflected by the model calculations. But up-scaling of laboratory results is complicated because the contribution of SIE to biogenic emissions in the air over large areas is uncertain. We constructed plausible scenarios, for Central and Northern Europe, by using independent data on European forest systems. This approach is only a first step and may lead to over- or underestimations of the importance of SIE-SOA. However, without consideration of SIE-SOA modeling scenarios will remain unrealistic.

The uncertainties encountered in our approach point to the need to quantify SIE directly in the field. The agreement of the model predicted MeSA level with observations by Karl et al. (2008) encourage such initiatives. Our findings suggest that the SIE and SIE-SOA are important at least in large parts of Europe and that there is need for additional efforts in further investigations.

A large number of different biotic stressors exist in the environment and many plants are obviously infested by at least some stress-inducing organisms as shown in ICP Forests, 2011 (chap. 2, Figs. 2–4 and 2–5). The inspections of European forests

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suggest that totally non-infested plants are not likely to be common and thus some stress is the normal state of vegetation. Neglecting SIE in modelling therefore is unrealistic.

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Table 1. Biotic stress induced emissions (SIE) of sesquiterpenes (SQT), methyl salicylate (MeSA) and unsaturated C₁₇-BVOC (C17) in the different model scenarios. The SIE are expressed as fractions of the daytime model emissions of monoterpenes (MT).

Scenario (notes, exp.)	Area	SQT/MT	MeSA/MT	C17/MT
Case 0 ^a	everywhere	0.05 ^e	–	–
Case 1 ^b	Lat > 60° N	0.24	–	–
	45° N < Lat ≤ 60° N	0.48	–	–
	Lat ≤ 45° N	0.05	–	–
Case 2 ^c	Lat > 60° N	0.49	0.35	–
	45° N < Lat ≤ 60° N	0.98	0.70	–
	Lat ≤ 45° N	0.05	–	–
Case 1F ^b	Lat > 60° N	1.2	–	–
	45° N < Lat ≤ 60° N	1.6	–	–
	Lat ≤ 45° N	0.05	–	–
Case 2F ^c	Lat > 60° N	2.45	1.75	–
	45° N < Lat ≤ 60° N	3.27	2.33	–
	Lat ≤ 45° N	0.05	–	–
Case 3 ^d	Jun–Jul, Lat: 47.8–49.8° N, Lon: 8.0–10.2° E	0.38	–	6.8
	Elsewhere (and rest of year)	0.05	–	–

Notes: The model scenarios are based on the following JPAC chamber experiments ^a Mentel et al. (2009); ^b Exp. 2 in Mentel et al. (2013); ^c Exp. 1 in Mentel et al. (2013); ^d Exp. 3 in Mentel et al. (2013). ^e SQT emissions from unstressed plants are set to 5% of the MT emissions.

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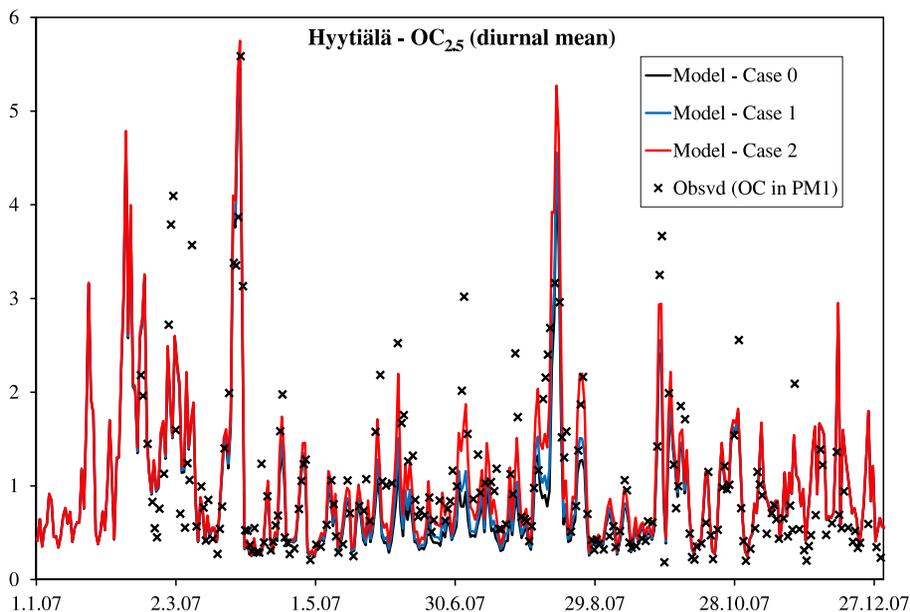


Figure 2. Modelled diurnal mean concentration of Organic Carbon in $PM_{2.5}$ ($OC_{2.5}$) at Hyytiälä (Finland) for 2007 compared to measured OC in PM_1 (Aurela et al., 2011). Results from three different model simulations (see Sect. 2.5) are shown: Case 0 (black line) – reference scenario, excluding stress induced emissions (SIE); Case 1 (blue) – current situation scenario with SIE of sesquiterpenes (SQT); Case 2 (red) – current situation scenario with SIE of SQT and methyl salicylate. Unit: $\mu\text{g}(\text{C}) \text{m}^{-3}$.

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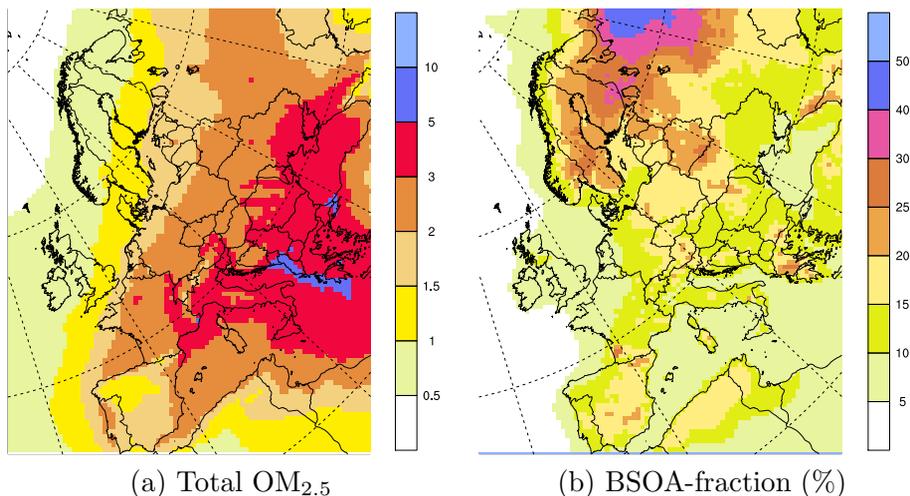


Figure 3. Model calculated 6-month-mean (April–September) concentrations of **(a)** total organic matter in $PM_{2.5}$ ($OM_{2.5}$) [Unit: $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$] and **(b)** fraction of biogenic secondary organic aerosol (BSOA) [% of total $OM_{2.5}$] for the reference scenario assuming no biotic stress (Case 0).

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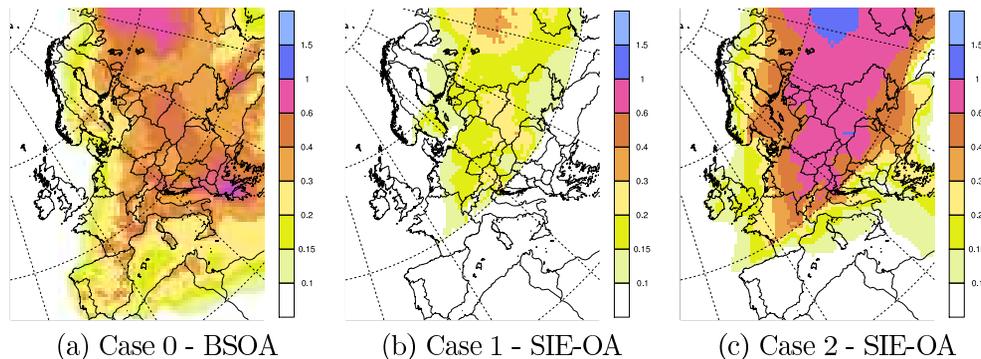


Figure 4. Model calculated 6-month-mean (April–September) concentrations of BSOA and biotic stress induced OA (SIE-OA); **(a)** BSOA in Case 0 (reference case without stress induced emissions), **(b)** SIE-OA in Case 1 (biotic stress with sesquiterpene (SQT) emissions), **(c)** SIE-OA in Case 2 (biotic stress with emissions of SQT and methyl salicylate). Unit: $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

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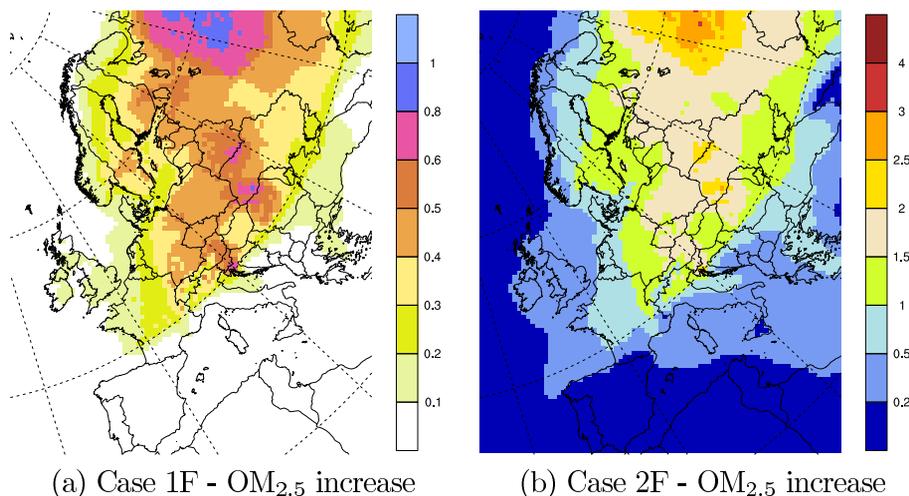


Figure 5. Potential increase of $OM_{2.5}$ (6-month-mean, April–September) from increased biotic stress induced emissions (SIE) in two “maximum” impact scenarios, compared to the corresponding current-situation model calculated concentrations. The concentration-difference fields illustrate potential effects of a changed climate that the Northern/Central European forests have not had time to adapt to; **(a)** difference in $OM_{2.5}$ between Case 1F and Case 1 (SIE with only SQT), **(b)** Case 2F – Case 2 (SIE of both SQT and methyl salicylate). Unit: $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. Note: different colour scales.

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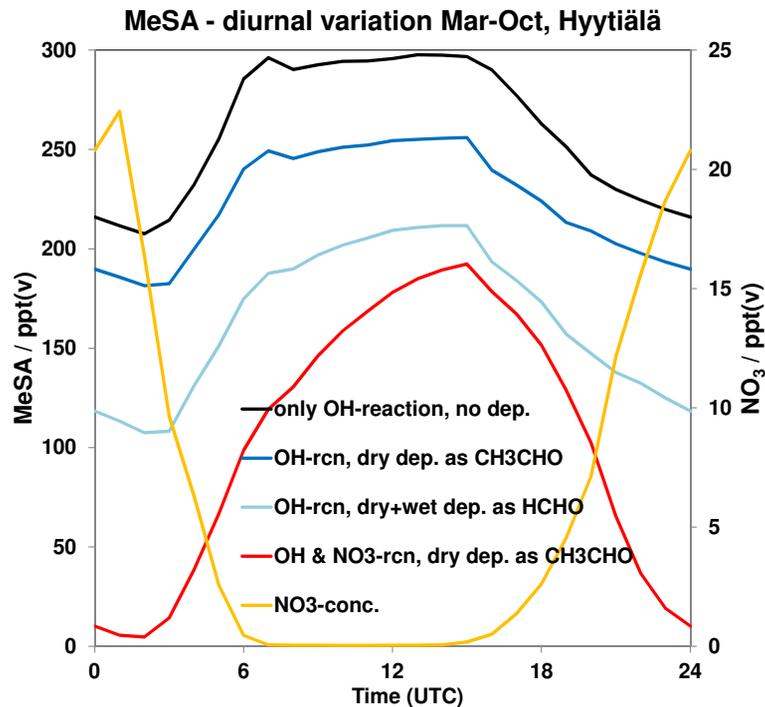


Figure 6. Modelled diurnal variation (average for the period March–October) of methyl salicylate (MeSA) at Hyytiälä (Finland), using the Case 2 scenario for biotic stress induced emissions. Comparison of model runs with four different assumptions regarding deposition losses and NO₃-reactivity of MeSA (g). Black curve: only OH-reaction, no deposition of MeSA; dark blue: OH-reaction, dry deposition of MeSA with the same deposition velocity as acetaldehyde; light blue: OH-reaction, wet and dry deposition of MeSA with the same treatment as formaldehyde; red: NO₃-reaction ($k = 5.4 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$), OH-reaction, dry deposition as acetaldehyde. The modelled concentration of NO₃ is also shown (orange curve, right axis). Unit: ppt(v).

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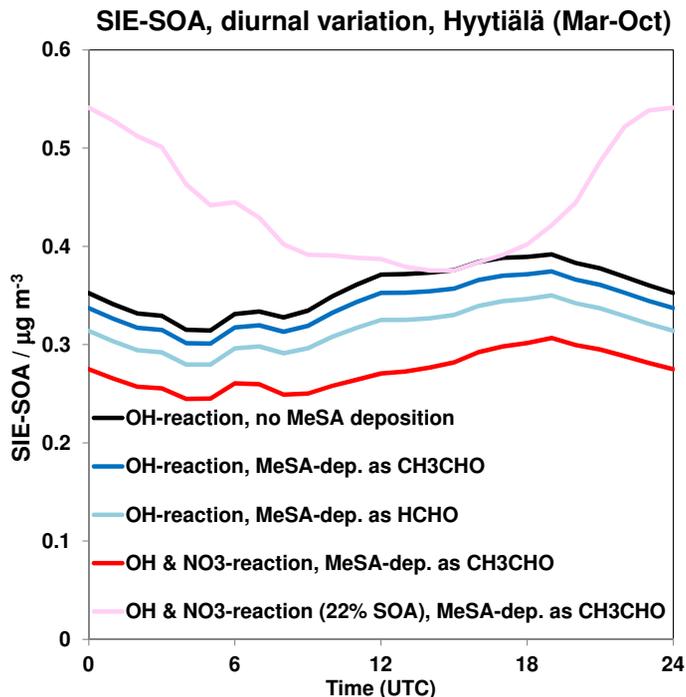


Figure 7. Modelled diurnal variation (average for the period March–October) of SIE-SOA at Hyytiälä using the Case 2 scenario for biotic stress induced emissions, with different assumptions regarding MeSA deposition losses, NO₃-reactivity and SOA-yield. Black curve: only OH-reaction, no deposition of MeSA; dark blue: OH-reaction, dry deposition of MeSA with the same deposition velocity as acetaldehyde; light blue: OH-reaction, wet and dry deposition of MeSA with the same treatment as formaldehyde; red: OH-reaction, NO₃-reaction ($k = 5.4 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$), no SOA from MeSA+NO₃-reaction, dry deposition as acetaldehyde; pink: OH-reaction, NO₃-reaction with 22 % SOA-yield, dry deposition as acetaldehyde. Unit: $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

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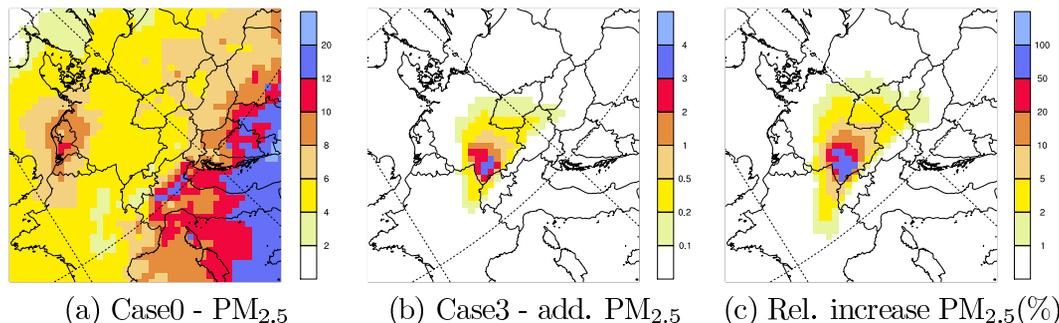


Figure 8. Model calculated regional background PM_{2.5} concentration (2-month-mean for June–July). **(a)** Total model PM_{2.5} without biotic stress (Case 0) [$\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$]; **(b)** additional PM_{2.5} due to organic aerosol formation caused by biotic stress induced emissions in Case 3 (infestation of Spruce in Baden-Württemberg by *Cinara Pilicornis*) [$\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$]; **(c)** relative increase in modelled regional background PM_{2.5} [in %] due to the simulated infestation.

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