

1 **Source apportionment of elemental carbon in Beijing, China: insights from**
2 **radiocarbon and organic marker measurements**

3 Yan-Lin Zhang^{1,2,3*}, Jürgen Schnelle-Kreis⁴, Gülcin Abbaszade⁴, Ralf Zimmermann^{4,5},
4 Peter Zotter^{2,#}, Rong-rong Shen⁶, Klaus Schäfer⁶, Longyi Shao⁷, André S.H. Prévôt² and
5 Sönke Szidat¹

6 ¹Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry & Oeschger Centre for Climate Change
7 Research, University of Bern, 3012 Berne, Switzerland

8 ²Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI), 5232 Villigen-PSI, Switzerland

9 ³Yale-NUIST Center on Atmospheric Environment, Nanjing University of Information
10 Science and Technology, 210044, Nanjing, China

11 ⁴Joint Mass Spectrometry Center, Cooperation Group Comprehensive Molecular
12 Analytics, Helmholtz Zentrum München, 85764 Neuherberg, Germany

13 ⁵Joint Mass Spectrometry Centre, Chair of Analytical Chemistry, Institute of Chemistry
14 University of Rostock, 18059 Rostock, Germany

15 ⁶Institute of Meteorology and Climate Research (IMK-IFU), Karlsruhe Institute of
16 Technology (KIT), 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany

17 ⁷State Key Laboratory of Coal Resources and Safe Mining, School of Geoscience and
18 Surveying Engineering, China University of Mining and Technology (Beijing), Beijing
19 100083, China.

20 # now at: Lucerne School of Engineering and Architecture, Bioenergy Research, Lucerne
21 University of Applied Sciences and Arts, 6048 Horw, Switzerland

22 * To whom correspondence should be addressed. Email: dryanlinzhang@gmail.com

23 Phone: +41 31 631 4308 FAX: +41 31 631 43 99

24

25 **Accepted version**

26

27 **Published in**

28 **Environmental Science and Technology 49 (2014), 8408-8415**

29 **<http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.5b01944>**

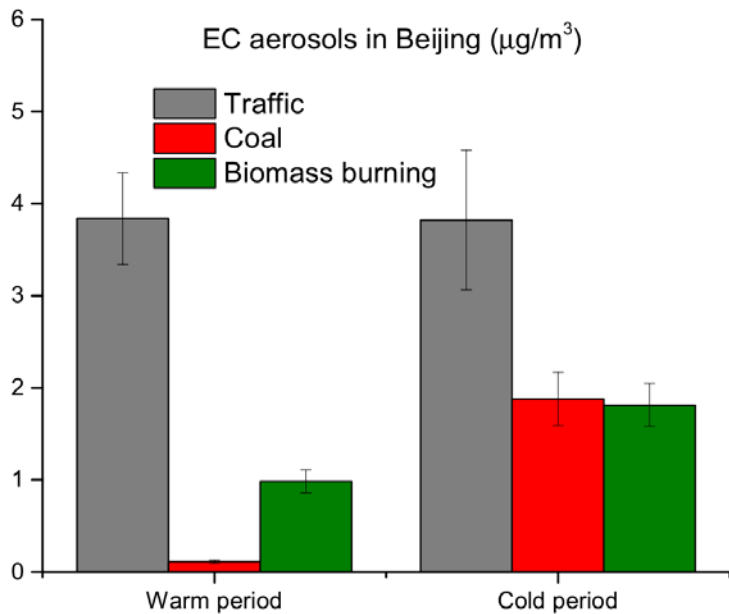
30

31 **Abstract**

32 Elemental carbon (EC) or black carbon (BC) in the atmosphere has a strong influence on
33 both climate and human health. In this study, radiocarbon (^{14}C) based source
34 apportionment is used to distinguish between fossil fuel and biomass burning sources of
35 EC isolated from aerosol filter samples collected in Beijing from June 2010 to May 2011.
36 The ^{14}C results demonstrate that EC is consistently dominated by fossil-fuel combustion
37 throughout the whole year with a mean contribution of $79\% \pm 6\%$ (ranging from 70% to
38 91%), though EC has a higher mean and peak concentrations in the cold season. The
39 seasonal molecular pattern of hopanes (i.e. a class of organic markers mainly emitted
40 during the combustion of different fossil fuels) indicates that traffic-related emissions are
41 the most important fossil source in the warm period and coal combustion emissions are
42 significantly increased in the cold season. By combining ^{14}C based source apportionment
43 results and picene (i.e. an organic marker for coal emissions) concentrations, relative
44 contributions from coal and vehicle to EC in the cold period were estimated as $25\pm 4\%$ and
45 $50\pm 7\%$, respectively, whereas the coal combustion contribution was negligible or very
46 small in the warm period.

47 **TOC**

48



49

50 1 Introduction

51 Atmospheric aerosols adversely affect human health by causing respiratory and
 52 cardiopulmonary diseases associated with increased morbidity and mortality [1, 2].
 53 Carbonaceous components are a major fraction of atmospheric aerosols and are often
 54 classified into the sub-fractions organic carbon (OC) and elemental carbon (EC) or black
 55 carbon (BC) [3]. In this study, BC is used as a qualitative and descriptive term not referring
 56 to measurement results of any specific properties, whereas BC mass quantified by thermal-
 57 optical methods is specified as EC [4]. As the major light-absorbing part of carbonaceous
 58 material, BC exhibits the second largest anthropogenic radiative forcing after carbon
 59 dioxide (CO_2) [5]. Recently, it was estimated that 640 - 4900 premature human deaths
 60 could be prevented annually by utilizing available mitigation measures to reduce BC in the
 61 atmosphere [6]. Due to a relatively short life time (\sim days) in atmosphere, reducing BC
 62 emissions may rapidly improve both climate and human health [7, 8]. Therefore, the
 63 identification and quantification of different BC sources and their emission source
 64 strengths is crucial for the implementation of effective mitigation strategies.

65 The emission sources of BC are exclusively combustion processes of fossil and non-fossil
 66 fuels, although the relative contribution of these two sources still remains uncertain. In
 67 recent years, the radiocarbon (^{14}C) measurement of EC has been proven to be a powerful

68 tool for the differentiation between modern (i.e. biomass burning) and fossil (i.e. traffic
69 and coal) sources. ^{14}C is completely depleted in fossil fuel emissions due to its half-life (i.e.
70 5730 years), whereas ^{14}C in non-fossil carbonaceous materials contains a similar
71 composition as atmospheric CO_2 [9, 10]. Therefore, ^{14}C measurement of the EC fraction
72 directly enables the quantification of its biomass-burning and fossil sources [11]. However,
73 the ^{14}C measurement of EC still remains challenging in comparison to total carbon (TC)
74 due to its complex properties [12] and since a clear physical separation between OC and
75 EC is necessary to avoid artefacts in the ^{14}C signal. Nevertheless, recent developments and
76 method adaptations from different groups show more consistent approaches and yield more
77 robust ^{14}C results [13, 14].

78 Beijing, the capital of China with about 19.6 million inhabitants in 2010, is one of the
79 largest cities in the world and has become a heavily polluted area due to rapid urbanization
80 and industrialization over the past two decades [15]. In the last decade, many studies have
81 reported the chemical composition and sources of aerosols in Beijing [16-23]. Most of
82 these studies have focused on source apportionment of organic aerosols (organic matter,
83 OM or OC) by positive matrix factorization (PMF) [24] and chemical mass balance (CMB)
84 models [21] from off-line organic markers measurement or online aerosol mass
85 spectrometer measurement. However, only a few studies have reported year-round source
86 apportionment results of BC. For example, Duan et al. (2004) demonstrated biomass
87 burning and traffic and/or industry emissions are the major sources of both OC and EC
88 during summer, while coal combustion is the dominant contributor during the winter
89 heating period, although quantification of contributions from each source still remains
90 uncertain. Based on PMF model analysis, about 50% of OC and EC in Beijing were
91 associated with biomass-burning processes [25]. In contrast, most recent source-diagnostic
92 ^{14}C studies suggested ~80% contribution from fossil fuels in winter for EC in China [15,
93 23, 26]. A quantitative understanding of the temporal variations and source apportionment
94 of EC in Beijing is still missing and thus crucially necessary. In this study, we determine
95 fossil and biomass-burning contributions to year-round EC aerosols in Beijing by
96 measuring ^{14}C of EC and organic markers for fossil emissions (i.e. hopanes and picene).

97 **2 Experimental**

98 **2.1 Sampling**

99 24-h integrated PM₄ samples (n=155) were collected at the ground level on pre-baked
100 (650 °C, 4 h) quartz-fibre filters (diameter: 150mm) using a high-volume sampler (Digitel
101 DHA-80, Switzerland) at a flow rate of ~167 l/min during June 2010 to May 2011 at the
102 campus of the China University of Geosciences, a residential area in North West of Beijing.
103 It should be noted that during the whole campaign the actual sampling flow of ambient air
104 was 167 instead of 500 l/min as a default setting due to an airflow shortcut from the interior
105 of the sampler. As a consequence to the changed flow volume, the cut off of the sampler
106 (original setting: 2.5 µm) had to be recalculated following the impactor design theory [27,
107 28]. It was found that particles smaller than 4 µm (i.e., PM₄) were collected onto the filters.
108 However, a comparison of ¹⁴C results obtained from the current study was not significantly
109 different from those found for PM_{2.5} samples during winter 2013 (see Supplementary
110 information, Figure S1) [29]. Our previous work has also shown that there is no significant
111 difference of EC source signatures (fossil vs. non-fossil) between PM₁, PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀
112 at other locations (Table S1) [30]. Further, since EC almost exclusively derives from
113 combustion sources, the size of EC particles from China's source samples is mostly smaller
114 than 1 µm [31, 32] and the majority of EC mass (~80%) in urban site of China resides in
115 particles smaller than 3.2 µm in diameter and the fine mode peaks at around either 0.42 µm
116 or 0.75 µm [33]. As a result, the cut size present in our study generally would not affect the
117 results of relative fossil and non-fossil contribution of EC of aerosols because EC is
118 dominated in the fine particles. After sampling, filters were wrapped in aluminum foil and
119 stored in a freezer at -20°C before analysis. Every second week, one field blank was
120 collected.

121 **2.2 Elemental carbon measurement**

122 A filter cut of 1,5 cm² was used for EC measurement. The EC concentrations were
123 measured using a thermo-optical OC/EC analyzer (Model 4L, Sunset Laboratory Inc, USA),
124 equipped with a non-dispersive infrared (NDIR) detector following the thermal-optical
125 transmittance protocol (TOT) EUSAAR2 [34]. A high uncertainty of 20% is considered

126 for all measured EC concentrations to account for possible differences between different
127 TOT protocols [35, 36]. It should be noted that only the absolute EC concentration is
128 affected by this additional uncertainty, whereas the relative fossil and non-fossil
129 contribution is only influenced by the combined uncertainty of the ^{14}C measurement of EC
130 and the bomb peak correction, which is on average 5% (see below). No EC was detected
131 on blank filters and consequently no blank correction was necessary.

132 **2.3 Radiocarbon (^{14}C) measurement of EC**

133 A filter cut of 1 to 6 cm^2 (corresponding to 5 to 30 μgC) was used for ^{14}C analysis. The
134 Swiss_4S protocol was applied for the EC isolation for the ^{14}C analysis using a Sunset
135 OC/EC analyzer connected to a gas preparation line as described by [14]. This special
136 protocol is optimized to minimize the bias in the ^{14}C result of EC from OC charring or
137 losses of the least refractory EC during the OC removal. In brief, to minimize positive
138 artefacts from OC charring, water-soluble OC is first eliminated by a water-extraction pre-
139 treatment and the remaining water-insoluble OC is then removed using the Sunset OC/EC
140 analyzer with a thermal treatment in three steps: (1) 375 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 150 s in pure oxygen (O_2);
141 (2) 475 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 180 s in O_2 ; (3) 450 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 180 s followed by 180 s at 650 $^\circ\text{C}$ in helium.
142 Finally, in step four EC is isolated by the combustion of the remaining carbonaceous
143 material at 760 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 150 s in O_2 . EC recovery is estimated by the ratio $\text{ATN}_t/\text{ATN}_0$, where
144 ATN_0 is the initial attenuation (ATN , see Supporting Information), which is related to the
145 total amount of EC on the filter, and ATN_t is the attenuation at the time t , when the EC step
146 (i.e., step 4) begins. By using the Swiss_4S protocol, OC charring is minimized to $4\pm 3\%$
147 compared to EC, which may lead a negligible overestimation of non-fossil EC by less than
148 3%. This assures the accuracy of ^{14}C measurement in EC (see Supporting Information).
149 The EC recovery in this study was estimated as $85\pm 5\%$, thus presenting almost the entire
150 continuum of EC. ^{14}C results in EC were extrapolated to 100% EC recovery ($f_{\text{M},\text{EC},\text{corrected}}$
151 = slope * (1 – EC recovery) + $f_{\text{M},\text{EC}}$) to account for the less refractory EC, mainly from
152 wood burning, which is removed during steps 1 to 3 [14]. The slope of 0.31 is deduced
153 from linear regression of the EC recovery and $f_{\text{M},\text{EC}}$ [14]. The uncertainty of the reported
154 $f_{\text{M},\text{EC}}$ is obtained by an error propagation of all possible uncertainties including an assigned
155 uncertainty of 10% for the slope, the measurement uncertainty of $f_{\text{M},\text{EC}}$ (2%) and an

156 assigned uncertainty of 10% for the EC yield, which results to a total average uncertainty
157 of 4 %.

158 The evolving CO₂ in step 4 was separated from interfering gaseous products, cryo-trapped
159 and sealed in glass ampoules for ¹⁴C measurements. ¹⁴C measurements of the CO₂ was
160 carried out with the **MI**ni radio**CA**rbon **DA**ting System, MICADAS [37] using a gas ion
161 source [38]. The ¹⁴C results are presented as fraction of modern (f_M) denoting the ¹⁴C/¹²C
162 content of the sample related to that of the reference year 1950 [39]. Oxalic acid (HOxII)
163 reference material (f_M=1.3407) and of ¹⁴C-free materials (f_M=0) are used for normalization
164 background correction. The f_M values were further corrected for δ¹³C fractionation and for
165 ¹⁴C decay between 1950 and the year of measurement [40]. The f_M measurement
166 uncertainty for the EC samples is ~2%.

167 **2.4 Organic marker (hopanes and picene) measurements**

168 A filter cut of 1-6 cm² was used for organic marker's measurement. The organic markers
169 picene and hopanes (see Table 2) were quantified using in-situ derivatization thermal
170 desorption gas-chromatography time of flight mass spectrometry (IDTD-GC-MS, Orasche
171 et al. [41]). Briefly, the filter punches were placed into glass liners suitable for an automated
172 thermal desorption unit. Isotope-labelled standard compounds were spiked directly onto
173 the filter surface to account for influences of the matrix for later quantification.
174 Derivatization was performed on the filter by adding of liquid derivatization reagent N-
175 methyl-N-trimethylsilyl-tri fluoroacetamide (MSTFA, Macherey-Nagel, Germany).
176 During 16 min of desorption time, in addition an in-situ derivatization with gaseous
177 MSTFA was carried out. Desorbed molecules were trapped on a pre-column before
178 separation by gas chromatography (BPX-5 capillary column, SGE, Australia). The
179 detection and quantification of compounds was carried out on a Pegasus III time-of-flight
180 mass spectrometer (TOF) using the ChromaTOF software package (LECO, St. Joseph, MI).
181 The blank values of hopanes and picene were below the detection limit (0.02 ng/m³).

182

183 **3 Results and Discussions**

184 **3.1 Temporal variation of EC**

185 Figure 1 shows EC concentrations during the whole sampling period. EC concentrations
186 range from 0.8 to 11.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, and the average of $4.0 \pm 2.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ is within the range (2.3~7.4
187 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) reported by previous studies for Beijing [21, 42]. The EC concentrations are
188 significantly lower (t-test with $p < 0.05$) during the warm period (i.e. average from March
189 to October is $3.6 \pm 1.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) than in the cold period (i.e. average from November to
190 February is $4.8 \pm 2.9 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). It should be noted that the frequency of samples with EC larger
191 than $4.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in the cold period is much larger than that in the warm period, indicating a
192 higher primary particulate pollution from enhanced anthropogenic emissions during the
193 cold period. A similar seasonal trend was also observed by [43]. This seasonality is likely
194 attributed to increased emissions from residential heating using coal or biofuel. The lower
195 EC abundance in the warm period is mainly caused by reduced heating-related coal/biofuel
196 emissions on the one hand and a higher mixing layer on the other hand. It should be pointed
197 out that EC concentration in summer at the studied site is still higher than those observed
198 in many other cities during summer such as Barcelona, Spain ($1.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) [44], Paris,
199 France ($1.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) [45] or Pittsburgh, USA ($0.89 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) [46].

200 **3.2 ^{14}C results of EC: fraction of modern**

201 In order to further investigate the sources of EC, fourteen samples from different seasons
202 were selected for the analysis of ^{14}C of the EC fraction (Table 1). In order to address the
203 air quality problems of Beijing[15], we characterized EC sources for days with medium
204 and heavy air pollution during the warm and cold periods. Therefore, samples were selected
205 for radiocarbon analysis with EC concentrations $> 3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, which includes about 2/3 of all
206 daily samples shown in Figure. 1, representing ~82% of the integrated EC burden of all
207 samples. However, EC sources of background days are not considered. The values for
208 $f_{\text{M}}(\text{EC})$ ranged from 0.10 to 0.34 with a mean of 0.23 ± 0.06 , indicating a dominance of
209 fossil sources of EC in Beijing throughout the year. Since EC is only emitted as primary
210 aerosol by combustion from either biomass or fossil fuels (i.e. coal and vehicle emissions),
211 $f_{\text{M}}(\text{EC})$ particularly tracks the change of EC sources. The lowest $f_{\text{M}}(\text{EC})$ is found in summer

212 (0.15), indicating the importance of vehicle emissions since the coal consumption is much
213 reduced compared to other seasons. $f_M(\text{EC})$ is higher by 60% in the rest of the year than in
214 summer, suggesting that EC from biomass burning becomes substantial during the other
215 seasons. Further discussions of source apportionment of fossil EC will be presented in Sec.
216 3.4.

217 **3.3 Fossil vs. biomass burning EC**

218 The fraction of modern (f_M) is not identical to the fraction of non-fossil (f_{NF}) due to
219 increased ^{14}C content of the atmosphere from the nuclear bomb test in the 1950s and 1960s.
220 A reference value representing the modern ^{14}C content of biomass burning aerosols ($f_{M,bb}$)
221 during the sampling period compared to 1950 before the bomb test is used to convert f_M to
222 f_{NF} :

$$223 f_{NF}(\text{EC}) = f_M(\text{EC}) / f_{M,bb} \text{ (Eq. 1)}$$

224 The value of $f_{M,bb}$ is estimated as 1.12 ± 0.05 [47]. Since biomass burning (including biofuel
225 combustion) is the only source of non-fossil EC, the fraction of non-fossil (f_{NF}) equals to
226 the fraction of biomass burning (f_{BB}). The fraction of fossil fuels (f_{FF}) is determined by:

$$227 f_{FF} = 1 - f_{BB} \text{ (Eq. 2)}$$

228 Fossil-fuel and biomass-burning EC concentrations (i.e. EC_{FF} and EC_{BB} , respectively) are
229 calculated as follows:

$$230 \text{EC}_{FF} = \text{EC} * (1 - f_{BB}) \text{ (Eq. 3)}$$

$$231 \text{EC}_{BB} = \text{EC} * f_{BB} \text{ (Eq. 4)}$$

232 Figure 2 shows the source apportionment results of EC. The EC_{FF} concentrations range
233 from 2.5 to 7.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, whereas the corresponding range for EC from biomass burning
234 (EC_{BB}) was 0.4 to 2.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. EC_{FF} values are on average 4.6 times higher than EC_{BB} ,
235 corresponding to a mean contribution of EC_{FF} to total EC of $79\% \pm 6\%$ (ranging from 70%
236 to 91%). The measured fossil contributions to EC are comparable to those previously
237 reported with a similar ^{14}C -based approach in Beijing during winter 2011 [48] and winter
238 2013 [29], but are higher than for an urban site in Guangzhou, China (winter 2012/2013:

239 71±10%) [49] and a background site on the Hainan Island, South China (annual average
240 2005/2006: 25-56%) [47] as well as 16 urban and rural sites across Switzerland (winter
241 2007/2008–2011/2012: 13-88%) [11]. Higher EC_{FF} concentrations were observed in the
242 cold period, most probably associated with larger coal combustion for heating. However,
243 relative contributions from fossil combustion are even lower in the cold season than in the
244 warm season, implying that biomass-burning emissions are also considerably important for
245 the EC increment in the cold season. It should be noted that it is common practice to burn
246 maize and wheat residues especially in the rural areas without central space heating and
247 gas supplying systems and a large fraction of this biomass burning is emitted as OC and
248 EC [50]. The contribution of these biomass-burning emissions to EC in cold seasons is
249 likely very important due to lower combustion efficiency for residential biomass burning
250 than for coal boilers. By subtracting mean values of EC_{BB} and EC_{FF} in the warm period
251 from those in the cold period, the excess is estimated as 0.82±0.40 µg/m³ and 1.75±0.52
252 µg/m³ for EC_{BB} and EC_{FF}, respectively. Biomass burning accounted for on the average 32%
253 of the excess during the cold period, which is significantly higher than the contribution of
254 EC_{BB} (19%) during the warm period, but lower than estimations from PMF model analysis
255 (50%) [25].

256 **3.4 Fossil EC from coal combustion and vehicle emissions**

257 Hopanes are abundant in crude oils, coal and lubricants [51]. They have been identified in
258 emissions from heating oil burning [52], coal burning [53] and vehicles [54]. Table 2
259 presents hopane concentrations in the warm and cold periods and the difference between
260 these two seasons. As shown in Figure 3 and Table 2, the total identified hopanes mass
261 concentrations show a clearly seasonal trend with maximum in the cold period (68.6±28.7
262 ng/m³) and minimum in the warm period (17.9±6.5 ng/m³). The hopane molecular patterns
263 differ substantially with the type of the fossil source, and therefore potentially allow a
264 distinction of coal combustion and vehicle emissions [55, 56]. For example, the ab-
265 hopane/(ab-hopane+ba-hopanes) ratio (i.e. 30ab/(30ab+30ba)) increases with increasing
266 diagenesis and catagenesis of the sediments. This ratio, also called hopane index, is >0.9
267 in crude oil [57] and 0.1-0.6 in different types of coal [53, 58]. In typical petroleum, the
268 R/S-epimerization at C22 has an equilibrium S/(S+R) ratio, the so-called homo-hopane

269 index (i.e. $31\text{abs}/31\text{abs}+31\text{abR}$) of ~ 0.6 [59], whereas this ratio ranges from about 0.1 for
270 lignite coal to ~ 0.4 for bituminous coal. As seen in Table 2, both the hopane index ($0.84 \pm$
271 0.11) and the homo-hopane index (0.56 ± 0.04) in the warm period are very close to those
272 in vehicle exhausts, suggesting that contribution of coal burning was negligible or very
273 small in summer in Beijing. In contrast, both ratios found in the cold period (0.57 ± 0.06 and
274 0.46 ± 0.07 for hopane index and the homo-hopane index, respectively) are between those
275 of petroleum and coal-burning emissions, indicating additional fossil-fuel emissions from
276 solid coal combustion. Moreover, picene (a specific marker of coal combustion) was also
277 determined in our study (Figure 3 and Table 2) and considerable concentrations are
278 observed during the cold period (i.e. ranging from $0.34\text{-}4.48\text{ ng/m}^3$ with a mean of
279 $1.82 \pm 0.99\text{ ng/m}^3$), in contrast to the warm period, when concentrations were often below
280 the detection limit or very small. If we assume that meteorological factors (i.e. wind speed
281 and boundary layer height) equally affected both the EC_{FF} and picene concentrations then
282 the difference between the cold and the warm periods for EC_{FF} and picene (i.e. $\Delta\text{EC}_{\text{FF}}$ and
283 Δpicene , respectively) can be attributed only to additional coal combustion. This
284 assumption is also supported by a recent study, in which primary organic aerosols from
285 traffic-related emissions were only found to be $\sim 10\%$, which was even smaller for high
286 pollution events than for low pollution events in winter Beijing [15]. The emission ratio
287 picene/EC for coal combustion is therefore estimated as $1.1\text{ (ng/}\mu\text{g)}$ by:

$$288 \quad (\text{picene/EC})_{\text{coal}} = \Delta\text{picene}/\Delta\text{EC}_{\text{FF}} \quad (\text{Eq. 5})$$

289 The uncertainty of $(\text{picene/EC})_{\text{coal}}$ is estimated to be 0.22 by an error propagation of
290 possible uncertainties including by assigning 10% as the uncertainty of Δpicene and 20%
291 as the uncertainty of $\Delta\text{EC}_{\text{FF}}$ associated with an overestimation of the EC_{coal} or $\text{EC}_{\text{traffic}}$ in
292 winter.

293 It should be pointed out that picene may not be stable in summer [60], however, the
294 emission ratio estimated by our approach would only change by $<3\%$ if assuming 0-50%
295 of picene in summer has decayed through photochemical transformations. This emission
296 ratio is comparable to the calculated emission ratios for Chinese residential bituminous
297 coal (0.8) combustion but much lower than those found in residential anthracite (2.7), and
298 coal briquette (3.2) combustion [61]. Similarly, the hopane and homo-hopane indexes for
299 the excess between the cold and warm period is estimated as 0.49 and 0.35 (Table 2),

300 respectively, which are very close to those in residential combustion of bituminous coal
301 (0.52 and 0.37 for the hopane and homo-hopane indexes, respectively), but very different
302 from typical emission ratios in mineral-oil-based sources (i.e. fuel oil consumption and
303 vehicular emissions) (i.e. hopane index >0.9 and homohopane index in the range of 0.54-
304 0.67) [53, 56, 59]. This suggests that the bituminite is a dominant contributor of the
305 excess EC, which is associated with the highest EC emission factor from bituminous
306 coals compared to other coal types on one hand and a larger percentage (78%) of
307 bituminous coal in total raw coal in 2000 in China on the other hand [62].
308 The fraction of traffic and coal combustion to EC particles is further calculated by:

309 $EC_{\text{coal}} = \text{picene} / (\text{picene}/EC)_{\text{coal}}$ (Eq. 6)

310 $EC_{\text{traffic}} = EC_{\text{FF}} - EC_{\text{coal}}$ (Eq. 7)

311 The “best estimate” and its associated uncertainty are obtained by Latin-hypercube
312 sampling (LHS) [23]. This approach is comparable to Monte Carlo simulation which has
313 been reported in many ^{14}C -based source apportionment studies [63-66]. The emission ratio
314 of picene/EC for coal combustion or $(\text{picene}/EC)_{\text{coal}}$ may be overestimated by 25% or
315 underestimated by 50%, if the traffic EC in winter is actually lower or higher than that in
316 summer, respectively. Considering the overall uncertainty of $(\text{picene}/EC)_{\text{coal}}$, a range from
317 0.75 to 1.5 with a central value of 1.0 is used as the input. The LHS simulation is conducted
318 by generating 3000 random sets of variables. Simulations producing negative solutions are
319 excluded and the median value from the remaining simulations is used as the best estimate,
320 and the 10th and 90th percentiles of the solutions are used as uncertainties [23].

321 As shown in Figure 4, EC is divided into three major sources: EC_{BB} , EC_{traffic} and EC_{coal} .
322 The changes in the source pattern between the warm and cold season are substantial, though
323 vehicle emissions are the most important source of EC in both the warm and cold periods
324 with a mean contribution of $79 \pm 6\%$ and $50 \pm 7\%$, respectively. However, the biomass-
325 burning contribution slightly increased (from 19% to 24%) and the coal combustion
326 contribution increased dramatically in the cold period. The excess of EC between the cold
327 and warm seasons was shared by coal ($68 \pm 4\%$) and biomass burning combustion ($32 \pm 4\%$)
328 sources. The importance of coal contribution in the cold period is also evident by the

329 occurrence of picene and hopanes indices. The current results imply that wintertime aerosol
330 pollution in Beijing is likely driven by increased coal combustion and possible secondary
331 formation of other aerosol components such as nitrate, sulfate and organic carbon co-
332 emitted with EC [15, 29, 61, 67].

333 In summary, the sources of elemental carbon (EC) from ambient samples collected in
334 Beijing were investigated based on both radiocarbon (^{14}C) and organic marker
335 measurements. The results demonstrate that EC is dominated by fossil emissions
336 throughout the year with a mean contribution of $79\% \pm 6\%$. To further identify and quantify
337 traffic-related emissions and coal combustion contributions to fossil EC, hopanes and
338 picene were also measured. The concentrations of the total identified hopanes are
339 $68.6 \pm 28.7 \text{ ng/m}^3$ and $17.9 \pm 6.5 \text{ ng/m}^3$ in the cold and the warm period, respectively. The
340 seasonal molecular pattern of hopanes indicates that vehicle emissions are the most
341 important fossil source in the warm period and coal combustion emission is increased
342 significantly in the cold season. By combining the ^{14}C and organic marker's measurements,
343 relative contributions from coal and biomass-burning to the excess of EC between the cold
344 and warm seasons were estimated as 67% and 33%, respectively. Based on published data
345 from source samples, the hopane and home-hopane indexes as well as the picene-to-EC
346 ratios are compared among different kinds of coal types. The comparison shows that the
347 bituminite is a dominant coal type used during winter in Beijing.

348 **Acknowledgements**

349 Y.-L. Zhang acknowledges partial support from the Swiss National Science Foundation
350 Fellowship. This work is also partially the KIT Centre for Climate and Environment and
351 the Helmholtz Zentrum München, German Research Center for Environmental Health.
352 Rong-rong Shen acknowledges the PhD Scholarship from the China Scholarship Council
353 (CSC).

354 **References**

355 1. Pope III, C. A.; Dockery, D. W., Health effects of fine particulate air pollution:
356 Lines that connect. *J. Air Waste Manage. Assoc.* **2006**, *56*, (6), 709-742.

- 357 2. WHO, *Air Quality Guidelines: Global Update 2005: Particulate Matter, Ozone,*
358 *Nitrogen Dioxide and Sulfur Dioxide.* World Health Organization: 2006.
- 359 3. Jacobson, M. C.; Hansson, H. C.; Noone, K. J.; Charlson, R. J., Organic
360 atmospheric aerosols: Review and state of the science. *Rev. Geophys.* **2000**, *38*, (2), 267-
361 294.
- 362 4. Petzold, A.; Ogren, J. A.; Fiebig, M.; Laj, P.; Li, S. M.; Baltensperger, U.; Holzer-
363 Popp, T.; Kinne, S.; Pappalardo, G.; Sugimoto, N.; Wehrli, C.; Wiedensohler, A.; Zhang,
364 X. Y., Recommendations for reporting "black carbon" measurements. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*
365 **2013**, *13*, (16), 8365-8379.
- 366 5. Ramanathan, V.; Carmichael, G., Global and regional climate changes due to black
367 carbon. *Nat. Geosci.* **2008**, *1*, (4), 221-227.
- 368 6. Weinhold, B., Global Bang for the Buck Cutting Black Carbon and Methane
369 Benefits Both Health and Climate. *Environ. Health Perspect.* **2012**, *120*, (6), A245-A245.
- 370 7. Shindell, D.; Kuylentierna, J. C. I.; Vignati, E.; van Dingenen, R.; Amann, M.;
371 Klimont, Z.; Anenberg, S. C.; Muller, N.; Janssens-Maenhout, G.; Raes, F.; Schwartz, J.;
372 Faluvegi, G.; Pozzoli, L.; Kupiainen, K.; Hoglund-Isaksson, L.; Emberson, L.; Streets, D.;
373 Ramanathan, V.; Hicks, K.; Oanh, N. T. K.; Milly, G.; Williams, M.; Demkine, V.; Fowler,
374 D., Simultaneously Mitigating Near-Term Climate Change and Improving Human Health
375 and Food Security. *Science* **2012**, *335*, (6065), 183-189.
- 376 8. Bond, T. C.; Doherty, S. J.; Fahey, D. W.; Forster, P. M.; Berntsen, T.; DeAngelo,
377 B. J.; Flanner, M. G.; Ghan, S.; Karcher, B.; Koch, D.; Kinne, S.; Kondo, Y.; Quinn, P. K.;
378 Sarofim, M. C.; Schultz, M. G.; Schulz, M.; Venkataraman, C.; Zhang, H.; Zhang, S.;
379 Bellouin, N.; Guttikunda, S. K.; Hopke, P. K.; Jacobson, M. Z.; Kaiser, J. W.; Klimont, Z.;
380 Lohmann, U.; Schwarz, J. P.; Shindell, D.; Storelvmo, T.; Warren, S. G.; Zender, C. S.,
381 Bounding the role of black carbon in the climate system: A scientific assessment. *J.*
382 *Geophys. Res.* **2013**, *118*, (11), 5380-5552.
- 383 9. Currie, L. A., Evolution and multidisciplinary frontiers of ¹⁴C aerosol science.
384 *Radiocarbon* **2000**, *42*, (1), 115-126.
- 385 10. Szidat, S., Sources of Asian haze. *Science* **2009**, *323*, (5913), 470-471.
- 386 11. Zotter, P.; Ciobanu, V. G.; Zhang, Y. L.; El-Haddad, I.; Macchia, M.; Daellenbach,
387 K. R.; Salazar, G. A.; Huang, R. J.; Wacker, L.; Hueglin, C.; Piazzalunga, A.; Fermo, P.;

388 Schwikowski, M.; Baltensperger, U.; Szidat, S.; Prévôt, A. S. H., Radiocarbon analysis of
389 elemental and organic carbon in Switzerland during winter-smog episodes from 2008 to
390 2012 – Part 1: Source apportionment and spatial variability. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2014**, *14*,
391 (24), 13551-13570.

392 12. Szidat, S.; Bench, G.; Bernardoni, V.; Calzolari, G.; Czimeczik, C. I.; Derendorp, L.;
393 Dusek, U.; Elder, K.; Fedi, M.; Genberg, J.; Gustafsson, O.; Kirillova, E.; Kondo, M.;
394 McNichol, A. P.; Perron, N.; Santos, G. M.; Stenstrom, K.; Swietlicki, E.; Uchida, M.;
395 Vecchi, R.; Wacker, L.; Zhang, Y. L.; Prevot, A. S. H., Intercomparison of ¹⁴C Analysis of
396 Carbonaceous Aerosols: Exercise 2009. *Radiocarbon* **2013**, *55*, (3–4), 1496-1509.

397 13. Bernardoni, V.; Calzolari, G.; Chiari, M.; Fedi, M.; Lucarelli, F.; Nava, S.;
398 Piazzalunga, A.; Riccobono, F.; Taccetti, F.; Valli, G.; Vecchi, R., Radiocarbon analysis
399 on organic and elemental carbon in aerosol samples and source apportionment at an urban
400 site in Northern Italy. *J. Aerosol Sci.* **2013**, *56*, 88-99.

401 14. Zhang, Y. L.; Perron, N.; Ciobanu, V. G.; Zotter, P.; Minguillón, M. C.; Wacker,
402 L.; Prévôt, A. S. H.; Baltensperger, U.; Szidat, S., On the isolation of OC and EC and the
403 optimal strategy of radiocarbon-based source apportionment of carbonaceous aerosols.
404 *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2012**, *12*, 10841-10856.

405 15. Huang, R. J.; Zhang, Y.; Bozzetti, C.; Ho, K. F.; Cao, J. J.; Han, Y.; Daellenbach,
406 K. R.; Slowik, J. G.; Platt, S. M.; Canonaco, F.; Zotter, P.; Wolf, R.; Pieber, S. M.; Bruns,
407 E. A.; Crippa, M.; Ciarelli, G.; Piazzalunga, A.; Schwikowski, M.; Abbaszade, G.;
408 Schnelle-Kreis, J.; Zimmermann, R.; An, Z.; Szidat, S.; Baltensperger, U.; El Haddad, I.;
409 Prevot, A. S., High secondary aerosol contribution to particulate pollution during haze
410 events in China. *Nature* **2014**, *514*, (7521), 218-22.

411 16. Sun, Y. L.; Zhuang, G. S.; Ying, W.; Han, L. H.; Guo, J. H.; Mo, D.; Zhang, W. J.;
412 Wang, Z. F.; Hao, Z. P., The air-borne particulate pollution in Beijing - concentration,
413 composition, distribution and sources. *Atmos. Environ.* **2004**, *38*, (35), 5991-6004.

414 17. Duan, F. K.; He, K. B.; Ma, Y. L.; Yang, F. M.; Yu, X. C.; Cadle, S. H.; Chan, T.;
415 Mulawa, P. A., Concentration and chemical characteristics of PM_{2.5} in Beijing, China:
416 2001-2002. *Sci. Tot. Environ.* **2006**, *355*, (1-3), 264-275.

- 417 18. Okuda, T.; Katsuno, M.; Naoi, D.; Nakao, S.; Tanaka, S.; He, K. B.; Ma, Y. L.; Lei,
418 Y.; Jia, Y. T., Trends in hazardous trace metal concentrations in aerosols collected in
419 Beijing, China from 2001 to 2006. *Chemosphere* **2008**, *72*, (6), 917-924.
- 420 19. Yang, F.; He, K.; Ye, B.; Chen, X.; Cha, L.; Cadle, S. H.; Chan, T.; Mulawa, P. A.,
421 One-year record of organic and elemental carbon in fine particles in downtown Beijing and
422 Shanghai. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2005**, *5*, 1449-1457.
- 423 20. Zhang, J. K.; Sun, Y.; Liu, Z. R.; Ji, D. S.; Hu, B.; Liu, Q.; Wang, Y. S.,
424 Characterization of submicron aerosols during a month of serious pollution in Beijing,
425 2013. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2014**, *14*, (6), 2887-2903.
- 426 21. Zheng, M.; Salmon, L. G.; Schauer, J. J.; Zeng, L. M.; Kiang, C. S.; Zhang, Y. H.;
427 Cass, G. R., Seasonal trends in PM_{2.5} source contributions in Beijing, China. *Atmos.*
428 *Environ.* **2005**, *39*, (22), 3967-3976.
- 429 22. Sun, Y. L.; Jiang, Q.; Wang, Z. F.; Fu, P. Q.; Li, J.; Yang, T.; Yin, Y., Investigation
430 of the sources and evolution processes of severe haze pollution in Beijing in January 2013.
431 *J. Geophys. Res.* **2014**, *119*, (7), 4380-4398.
- 432 23. Zhang, Y. L.; Huang, R. J.; El Haddad, I.; Ho, K. F.; Cao, J. J.; Han, Y.; Zotter, P.;
433 Bozzetti, C.; Daellenbach, K. R.; Canonaco, F.; Slowik, J. G.; Salazar, G.; Schwikowski,
434 M.; Schnelle-Kreis, J.; Abbaszade, G.; Zimmermann, R.; Baltensperger, U.; Prévôt, A. S.
435 H.; Szidat, S., Fossil vs. non-fossil sources of fine carbonaceous aerosols in four Chinese
436 cities during the extreme winter haze episode of 2013. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2015**, *15*, (3),
437 1299-1312.
- 438 24. Sun, Y. L.; Zhang, Q.; Schwab, J. J.; Yang, T.; Ng, N. L.; Demerjian, K. L., Factor
439 analysis of combined organic and inorganic aerosol mass spectra from high resolution
440 aerosol mass spectrometer measurements. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2012**, *12*, (18), 8537-8551.
- 441 25. Cheng, Y.; Engling, G.; He, K. B.; Duan, F. K.; Ma, Y. L.; Du, Z. Y.; Liu, J. M.;
442 Zheng, M.; Weber, R. J., Biomass burning contribution to Beijing aerosol. *Atmos. Chem.*
443 *Phys.* **2013**, *13*, (15), 7765-7781.
- 444 26. Chen, B.; Du, K.; Wang, Y.; Chen, J. S.; Zhao, J. P.; Wang, K.; Zhang, F. W.; Xu,
445 L. L., Emission and Transport of Carbonaceous Aerosols in Urbanized Coastal Areas in
446 China. *Aerosol and Air Quality Research* **2012**, *12*, (3), 371-378.

- 447 27. Marple, V. A.; Liu, B. Y. H., Characteristics of laminar jet impactors. *Environ. Sci.*
448 *Technol.* **1974**, 8, (7), 648-654.
- 449 28. Gussman, R. A., On the Aerosol Particle Slip Correction Factor. *J. Appl. Meteorol.*
450 **1969**, 8, (6), 999-1001.
- 451 29. Zhang, Y. L.; Huang, R. J.; El Haddad, I.; Ho, K. F.; Cao, J. J.; Han, Y.; Zotter, P.;
452 Bozzetti, C.; Daellenbach, K. R.; Canonaco, F.; Slowik, J. G.; Salazar, G.; Schwikowski,
453 M.; Schnelle-Kreis, J.; Abbaszade, G.; Zimmermann, R.; Baltensperger, U.; Prévôt, A. S.
454 H.; Szidat, S., Fossil vs. non-fossil sources of fine carbonaceous aerosols in four Chinese
455 cities during the extreme winter haze episode in 2013. *Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss.* **2014**,
456 *14*, (19), 26257-26296.
- 457 30. Zhang, Y. L.; Zotter, P.; Perron, N.; Prévôt, A. S. H.; Wacker, L.; Szidat, S., Fossil
458 and non-fossil sources of different carbonaceous fractions in fine and coarse particles by
459 radiocarbon measurement. *Radiocarbon* **2013**, 55, (2-3), 1510-1520.
- 460 31. Zhang, H.; Wang, S.; Hao, J.; Wan, L.; Jiang, J.; Zhang, M.; Mestl, H. E. S.; Alnes,
461 L. W. H.; Aunan, K.; Mellouki, A. W., Chemical and size characterization of particles
462 emitted from the burning of coal and wood in rural households in Guizhou, China. *Atmos.*
463 *Environ.* **2012**, 51, (0), 94-99.
- 464 32. Huang, X. F.; Yu, J. Z.; He, L. Y.; Hu, M., Size distribution characteristics of
465 elemental carbon emitted from Chinese vehicles: results of a tunnel study and atmospheric
466 implications. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* **2006**, 40, (17), 5355-60.
- 467 33. Huang, X. F.; Yu, J. Z., Size distributions of elemental carbon in the atmosphere of
468 a coastal urban area in South China: characteristics, evolution processes, and implications
469 for the mixing state. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2008**, 8, (19), 5843-5853.
- 470 34. Cavalli, F.; Viana, M.; Yttri, K. E.; Genberg, J.; Putaud, J. P., Toward a
471 standardised thermal-optical protocol for measuring atmospheric organic and elemental
472 carbon: The EUSAAR protocol. *Atmos. Meas. Tech.* **2010**, 3, (1), 79-89.
- 473 35. Schmid, H.; Laskus, L.; Abraham, H. J.; Baltensperger, U.; Lavanchy, V.; Bizjak,
474 M.; Burba, P.; Cachier, H.; Crow, D.; Chow, J.; Gnauk, T.; Even, A.; ten Brink, H. M.;
475 Giesen, K.-P.; Hitzenberger, R.; Hueglin, C.; Maenhaut, W.; Pio, C.; Carvalho, A.; Putaud,
476 J.-P.; Toom-Sauntry, D.; Puxbaum, H., Results of the "carbon conference" international
477 aerosol carbon round robin test stage I. *Atmos. Environ.* **2001**, 35, (12), 2111-2121.

478 36. Piazzalunga, A.; Bernardoni, V.; Fermo, P.; Valli, G.; Vecchi, R., Technical Note:
479 On the effect of water-soluble compounds removal on EC quantification by TOT analysis
480 in urban aerosol samples. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2011**, *11*, (19), 10193-10203.

481 37. Synal, H. A.; Stocker, M.; Suter, M., MICADAS: A new compact radiocarbon
482 AMS system. *Nucl. Instr. Methods Phys. Res., Sec. B* **2007**, *259*, (1), 7-13.

483 38. Wacker, L.; Fahrni, S. M.; Hajdas, I.; Molnar, M.; Synal, H. A.; Szidat, S.; Zhang,
484 Y. L., A versatile gas interface for routine radiocarbon analysis with a gas ion source. *Nucl.*
485 *Instrum. Meth. B* **2013**, *294*, 315-319.

486 39. Stuiver, M.; Polach, H. A., Reporting of C-14 data - discussion. *Radiocarbon* **1977**,
487 *19*, (3), 355-363.

488 40. Wacker, L.; Christl, M.; Synal, H. A., Bats: A new tool for AMS data reduction.
489 *Nucl. Instr. Methods Phys. Res., Sec. B* **2010**, *268*, (7-8), 976-979.

490 41. Orasche, J.; Schnelle-Kreis, J.; Abbaszade, G.; Zimmermann, R., Technical Note:
491 In-situ derivatization thermal desorption GC-TOFMS for direct analysis of particle-bound
492 non-polar and polar organic species. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2011**, *11*, (17), 8977-8993.

493 42. Wang, Q.; Shao, M.; Zhang, Y.; Wei, Y.; Hu, M.; Guo, S., Source apportionment
494 of fine organic aerosols in Beijing. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2009**, *9*, (21), 8573-8585.

495 43. Yang, F.; Huang, L.; Duan, F.; Zhang, W.; He, K.; Ma, Y.; Brook, J. R.; Tan, J.;
496 Zhao, Q.; Cheng, Y., Carbonaceous species in PM_{2.5} at a pair of rural/urban sites in Beijing,
497 2005-2008. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2011**, *11*, (15), 7893-7903.

498 44. Minguillón, M. C.; Perron, N.; Querol, X.; Szidat, S.; Fahrni, S. M.; Alastuey, A.;
499 Jimenez, J. L.; Mohr, C.; Ortega, A. M.; Day, D. A.; Lanz, V. A.; Wacker, L.; Reche, C.;
500 Cusack, M.; Amato, F.; Kiss, G.; Hoffer, A.; Decesari, S.; Moretti, F.; Hillamo, R.; Teinila,
501 K.; Seco, R.; Penuelas, J.; Metzger, A.; Schallhart, S.; Muller, M.; Hansel, A.; Burkhardt, J.
502 F.; Baltensperger, U.; Prevot, A. S. H., Fossil versus contemporary sources of fine
503 elemental and organic carbonaceous particulate matter during the DAURE campaign in
504 Northeast Spain. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2011**, *11*, (23), 12067-12084.

505 45. Bressi, M.; Sciare, J.; Ghersi, V.; Bonnnaire, N.; Nicolas, J. B.; Petit, J. E.; Moukhtar,
506 S.; Rosso, A.; Mihalopoulos, N.; Feron, A., A one-year comprehensive chemical
507 characterisation of fine aerosol (PM_{2.5}) at urban, suburban and rural background sites in
508 the region of Paris (France). *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2013**, *13*, (15), 7825-7844.

- 509 46. Polidori, A.; Turpin, B. J.; Lim, H. J.; Cabada, J. C.; Subramanian, R.; Pandis, S.
510 N.; Robinson, A. L., Local and regional secondary organic aerosol: Insights from a year of
511 semi-continuous carbon measurements at Pittsburgh. *Aerosol Sci. Technol.* **2006**, *40*, (10),
512 861-872.
- 513 47. Zhang, Y.-L.; Li, J.; Zhang, G.; Zotter, P.; Huang, R.-J.; Tang, J.-H.; Wacker, L.;
514 Prévôt, A. S. H.; Szidat, S., Radiocarbon-based source apportionment of carbonaceous
515 aerosols at a regional background site on hainan Island, South China. *Environ. Sci. Technol.*
516 **2014**, *48*, (5), 2651-2659.
- 517 48. Chen, B.; Andersson, A.; Lee, M.; Kirillova, E. N.; Xiao, Q.; Krusa, M.; Shi, M.;
518 Hu, K.; Lu, Z.; Streets, D. G.; Du, K.; Gustafsson, O., Source forensics of black carbon
519 aerosols from China. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* **2013**, *47*, (16), 9102-8.
- 520 49. Liu, J. W.; Li, J.; Zhang, Y. L.; Liu, D.; Ding, P.; Shen, C. D.; Shen, K. J.; He, Q.
521 F.; Ding, X.; Wang, X. M.; Chen, D. H.; Szidat, S.; Zhang, G., Source Apportionment
522 Using Radiocarbon and Organic Tracers for PM_{2.5} Carbonaceous Aerosols in Guangzhou,
523 South China: Contrasting Local- and Regional-Scale Haze Events. *Environ. Sci. Technol.*
524 **2014**, *48*, (20), 12002-12011.
- 525 50. Watson, J. G.; Chow, J. C., Source characterization of major emission sources in
526 the Imperial and Mexicali Valleys along the US/Mexico border. *Sci. Tot. Environ.* **2001**,
527 *276*, (1-3), 33-47.
- 528 51. Kaplan, I. R.; Lu, S. T.; Alimi, H. M.; MacMurphey, J., Fingerprinting of high
529 boiling hydrocarbon fuels, asphalts and lubricants. *Environmental Forensics* **2001**, *2*, (3),
530 231-248.
- 531 52. Rogge, W. F.; Hildemann, L. M.; Mazurek, M. A.; Cass, G. R.; Simoneit, B. R. T.,
532 Sources of fine organic aerosol .8. Boilers burning No. 2 distillate fuel oil. *Environ. Sci.*
533 *Technol.* **1997**, *31*, (10), 2731-2737.
- 534 53. Oros, D. R.; Simoneit, B. R. T., Identification and emission rates of molecular
535 tracers in coal smoke particulate matter. *Fuel* **2000**, *79*, (5), 515-536.
- 536 54. Rogge, W. F.; Hildemann, L. M.; Mazurek, M. A.; Cass, G. R.; Simoneit, B. R. T.,
537 Sources of Fine Organic Aerosol .2. Noncatalyst and Catalyst-Equipped Automobiles and
538 Heavy-Duty Diesel Trucks. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* **1993**, *27*, (4), 636-651.

- 539 55. Schnelle-Kreis, J.; Sklorz, M.; Peters, A.; Cyrus, J.; Zimmermann, R., Analysis of
540 particle-associated semi-volatile aromatic and aliphatic hydrocarbons in urban particulate
541 matter on a daily basis. *Atmos. Environ.* **2005**, *39*, (40), 7702-7714.
- 542 56. Schnelle-Kreis, J.; Sklorz, M.; Orasche, J.; Stolzel, M.; Peters, A.; Zimmermann,
543 R., Semi volatile organic compounds in ambient PM_{2.5}- Seasonal trends and daily resolved
544 source contributions. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* **2007**, *41*, (11), 3821-3828.
- 545 57. El-Gayar, M. S.; Abdelfattah, A. E.; Barakat, A. O., Maturity-dependent
546 geochemical markers of crude petroleums from Egypt. *Pet. Sci. Technol.* **2002**, *20*, (9-10),
547 1057-1070.
- 548 58. Czechowski, F.; Stolarski, M.; Simoneit, B. R. T., Supercritical fluid extracts from
549 brown coal lithotypes and their group components - molecular composition of non-polar
550 compounds. *Fuel* **2002**, *81*, (15), 1933-1944.
- 551 59. Fraser, M. P.; Cass, G. R.; Simoneit, B. R. T., Gas-phase and particle-phase organic
552 compounds emitted from motor vehicle traffic in a Los Angeles roadway tunnel. *Environ.*
553 *Sci. Technol.* **1998**, *32*, (14), 2051-2060.
- 554 60. Robinson, A. L.; Subramanian, R.; Donahue, N. M.; Bernardo-Bricker, A.; Rogge,
555 W. F., Source apportionment of molecular markers and organic aerosols-1. Polycyclic
556 aromatic hydrocarbons and methodology for data visualization. *Environ. Sci. Technol.*
557 **2006**, *40*, (24), 7803-7810.
- 558 61. Zhang, Y. X.; Schauer, J. J.; Zhang, Y. H.; Zeng, L. M.; Wei, Y. J.; Liu, Y.; Shao,
559 M., Characteristics of particulate carbon emissions from real-world Chinese coal
560 combustion. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* **2008**, *42*, (14), 5068-5073.
- 561 62. Chen, Y. J.; Sheng, G. Y.; Bi, X. H.; Feng, Y. L.; Mai, B. X.; Fu, J. M., Emission
562 factors for carbonaceous particles and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons from residential
563 coal combustion in China. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* **2005**, *39*, (6), 1861-1867.
- 564 63. Gelencsér, A.; May, B.; Simpson, D.; Sánchez-Ochoa, A.; Kasper-Giebl, A.;
565 Puxbaum, H.; Caseiro, A.; Pio, C.; Legrand, M., Source apportionment of PM_{2.5} organic
566 aerosol over Europe: Primary/secondary, natural/anthropogenic, and fossil/biogenic origin.
567 *J. Geophys. Res.* **2007**, *112*, (D23), D23S04.
- 568 64. Szidat, S.; Ruff, M.; Perron, N.; Wacker, L.; Synal, H.-A.; Hallquist, M.;
569 Shannigrahi, A. S.; Yttri, K. E.; Dye, C.; Simpson, D., Fossil and non-fossil sources of

570 organic carbon (OC) and elemental carbon (EC) in Goeteborg, Sweden. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*
571 **2009**, *9*, 1521-1535.

572 65. Yttri, K. E.; Simpson, D.; Stenström, K.; Puxbaum, H.; Svendby, T., Source
573 apportionment of the carbonaceous aerosol in Norway-quantitative estimates based on ¹⁴C,
574 thermal-optical and organic tracer analysis. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2011**, *11*, (17), 9375-9394.

575 66. Genberg, J.; Hyder, M.; Stenström, K.; Bergström, R.; Simpson, D.; Fors, E.;
576 Jönsson, J. Å.; Swietlicki, E., Source apportionment of carbonaceous aerosol in southern
577 Sweden. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2011**, *11*, (22), 11387-11400.

578 67. Lu, Z.; Zhang, Q.; Streets, D. G., Sulfur dioxide and primary carbonaceous aerosol
579 emissions in China and India, 1996-2010. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* **2011**, *11*, (18), 9839-9864.

580

581

582

583 **Table 1.** Sampling dates and temperature (T) of the selected aerosol samples for ^{14}C
 584 measurements and their corresponding EC concentration, fraction of modern (f_M), fraction
 585 of biomass burning (f_{BB}), fraction of fossil-fuel (f_{FF}), biomass-burning EC (EC_{BB}) and
 586 fossil-fuel EC concentrations (EC_{FF}).

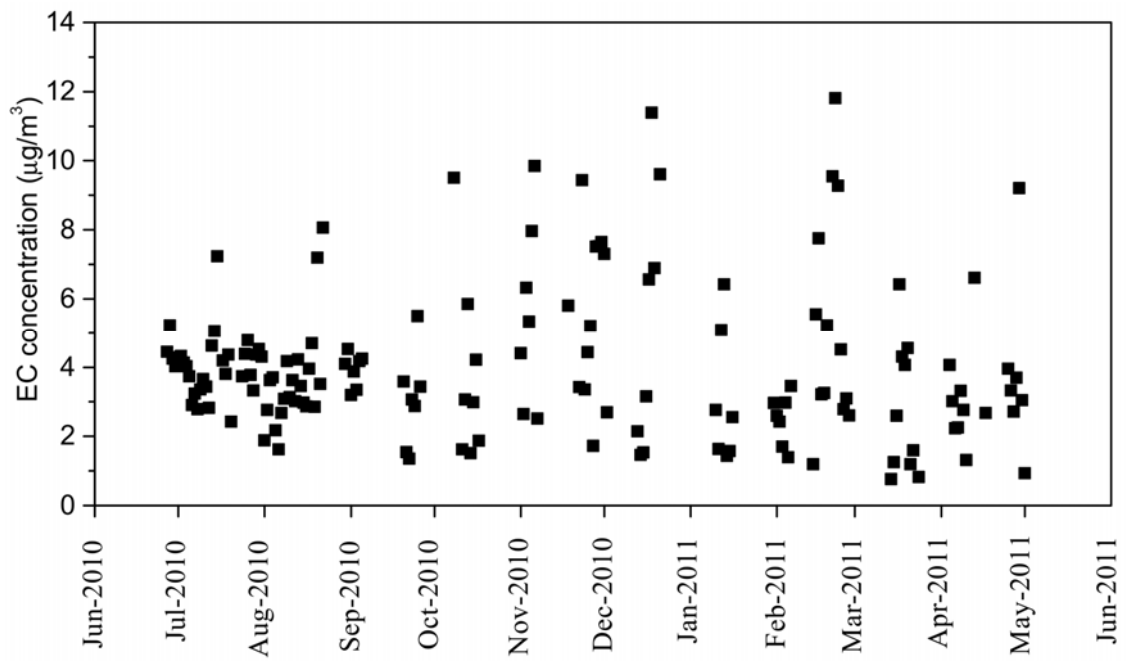
Date	T °C	EC ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	f_M	f_{BB}	f_{FF}	EC_{BB} ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	EC_{FF} ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
7/3/2010	30	4.30	0.15±0.02	0.14±0.02	0.86±0.02	0.59±0.07	3.7±0.46
7/5/2010	32	3.88	0.10±0.01	0.09±0.01	0.91±0.01	0.35±0.05	3.53±0.55
7/25/2010	30	4.38	0.18±0.01	0.17±0.01	0.83±0.01	0.73±0.06	3.65±0.29
7/27/2010	31	3.90	0.19±0.01	0.18±0.01	0.82±0.01	0.69±0.05	3.21±0.25
10/8/2010	17	9.50	0.25±0.02	0.23±0.02	0.77±0.02	2.19±0.21	7.31±0.7
11/28/2010	-1	7.30	0.34±0.02	0.31±0.02	0.69±0.02	2.26±0.15	5.04±0.33
11/30/2010	-1	7.64	0.28±0.02	0.25±0.02	0.75±0.02	1.95±0.13	5.7±0.39
2/15/2011	-6	5.55	0.25±0.02	0.23±0.02	0.77±0.02	1.27±0.09	4.28±0.31
2/16/2011	-3	7.75	0.25±0.02	0.23±0.02	0.77±0.02	1.77±0.13	5.98±0.45
2/21/2011	1	9.34	0.21±0.01	0.19±0.01	0.81±0.01	1.82±0.14	7.52±0.57
3/18/2011	8	4.27	0.23±0.02	0.21±0.02	0.79±0.02	0.91±0.08	3.36±0.29
3/20/2011	7	4.50	0.30±0.02	0.27±0.02	0.73±0.02	1.23±0.09	3.27±0.23
4/13/2011	17	6.61	0.26±0.02	0.24±0.02	0.76±0.02	1.59±0.13	5.02±0.4
4/30/2011	16	3.06	0.21±0.02	0.19±0.02	0.81±0.02	0.58±0.06	2.48±0.27

588 **Table 2.** Range and mean (\pm standard deviation) concentrations of hopanes (ng/m³), picene (ng/m³), total EC ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), fossil-fuel EC
 589 (EC_{FF}) ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) and picene-to-EC_{FF} emission ratio (ng/ μg) in the warm and cold periods and the excess in the cold period.

Substance	Abbreviation	Warm period (n=22)		Cold period (n=15)		Excess	
		Range	Mean	Range	Mean	Mass	%
18 α (H)-22,29,30-trisnorneohopane	Ts	0.39-3.80	1.52 \pm 1.18	0.93-3.69	2.21 \pm 0.85	0.69	46
17 α (H)-22,29,30-trisnorhopane	Tm	0.58-2.68	1.12 \pm 0.49	2.13-13.14	7.58 \pm 3.38	6.46	577
17 α (H),21 β (H)-30-norhopane	29ab	0.87-6.01	3.68 \pm 1.45	4.92-33.66	16.13 \pm 7.61	12.45	339
17 β (H),21 α (H)-30-norhopane+17 α (H),21 α (H)-30-norhopane	29ba	0.33-2.84	1.27 \pm 0.77	1.68-16.31	10.41 \pm 4.75	9.13	718
17 α (H),21 β (H)-30-hopane	30ab	1.33-6.68	4.14 \pm 1.53	3.03-20.64	12.60 \pm 5.61	8.45	204
17 β (H),21 α (H)-30-hopane	30ba	0.49-2.21	1.02 \pm 0.51	1.7-16.43	9.67 \pm 4.54	8.65	847
17 α (H),21 β (H)-22S-homohopane	31abS	0.69-3.35	1.98 \pm 0.78	1.62-5.14	3.31 \pm 1.16	1.33	67
17 α (H),21 β (H)-22R-homohopane	31abR	0.5-2.28	1.54 \pm 0.50	0.95-7.49	3.99 \pm 1.63	2.45	159
17 α (H),21 β (H)-22S-bishomohopane	32abS	0.63-2.45	1.52 \pm 0.48	0.94-4.43	2.89 \pm 1.02	1.37	90
17 α (H),21 β (H)-22R-bishomohopane	32abR	0.35-4.30	1.46 \pm 0.92	0.83-3.81	2.48 \pm 0.91	1.03	70
Subtotal		2.49-24.36	17.88 \pm 6.45	17.79-120.98	68.63 \pm 28.7	50.75	284
hopane index: 30ab/(30ab+30ba)		0.61-1	0.84 \pm 0.11	0.49-0.66	0.57 \pm 0.06	0.49*	
homo-hopane index: 31abS/(31abS+31abR)		0.46-0.63	0.56 \pm 0.04	0.38-0.63	0.46 \pm 0.07	0.35*	
picene		0-0.17	0.02 \pm 0.05	0.34-4.48	1.82 \pm 0.99	1.79	7576
EC [#]		3.1-9.5	4.9 \pm 2.0	5.6-9.3	7.5 \pm 1.4	2.6	52
EC _{FF} [#]		2.5-7.3	3.9 \pm 1.4	4.3-7.5	5.7 \pm 1.2	1.7	43
(picene/EC _{FF}) [#]		0-0.09	0.02 \pm 0.03	0.24-0.41	0.34 \pm 0.07	1.0*	

590 * These ratios are determined from the masses of the individual components for the excess in the cold period.

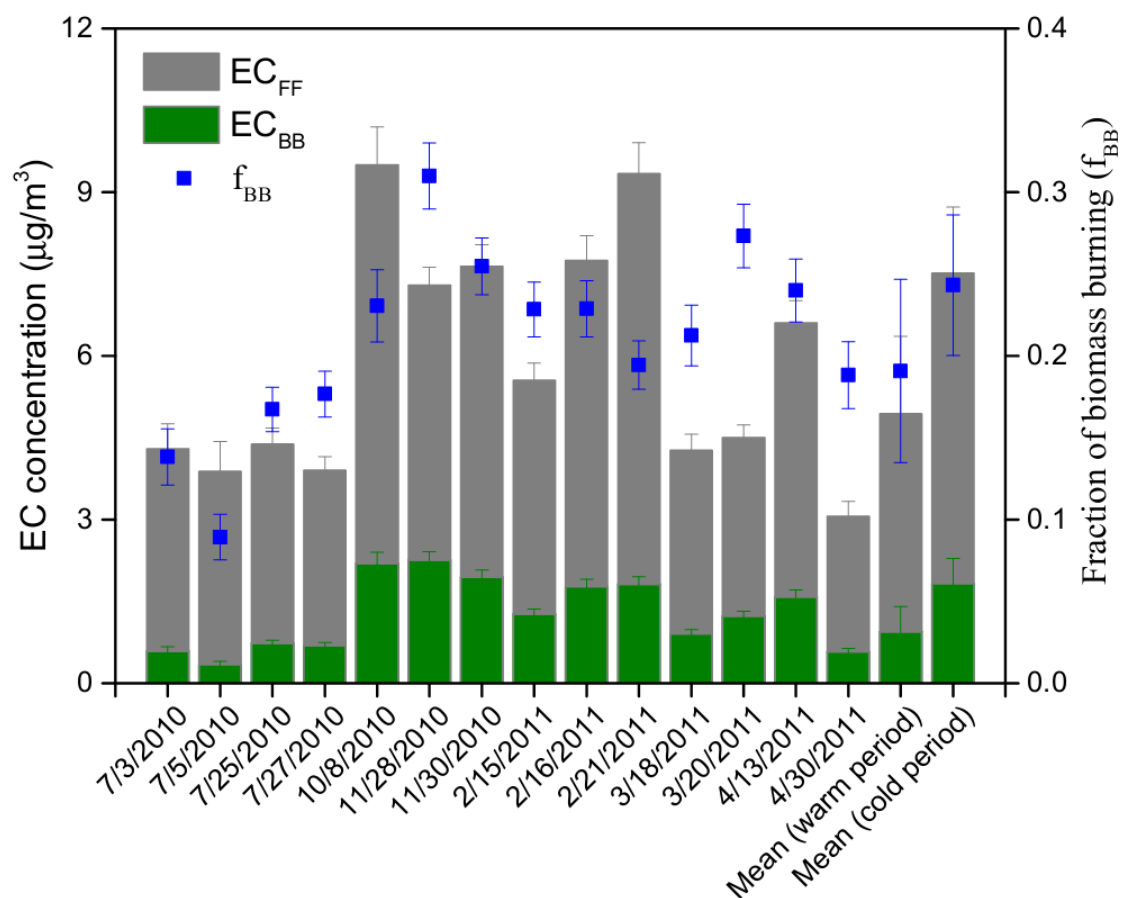
591 [#] The values are obtained from a subset of samples, which are measured for radiocarbon (n=9 and 5 for the warm and cold periods, respectively).



592

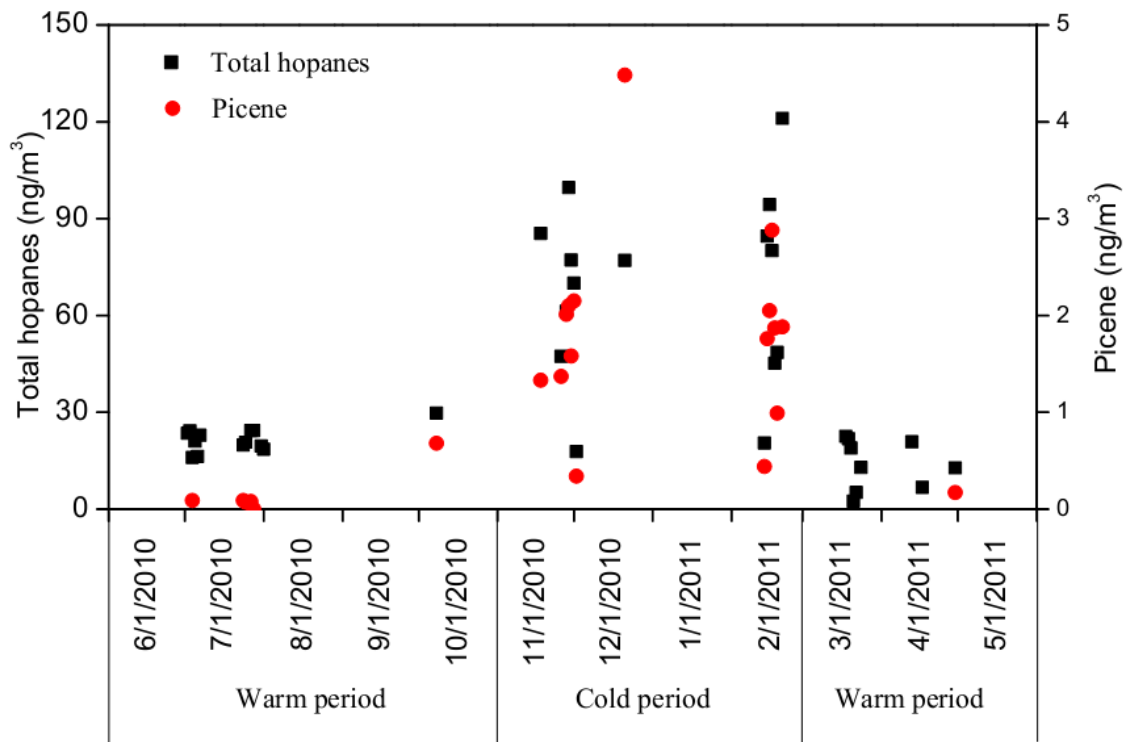
593

Figure 1. Temporal variation of EC concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, $n=155$) in Beijing, China.



595

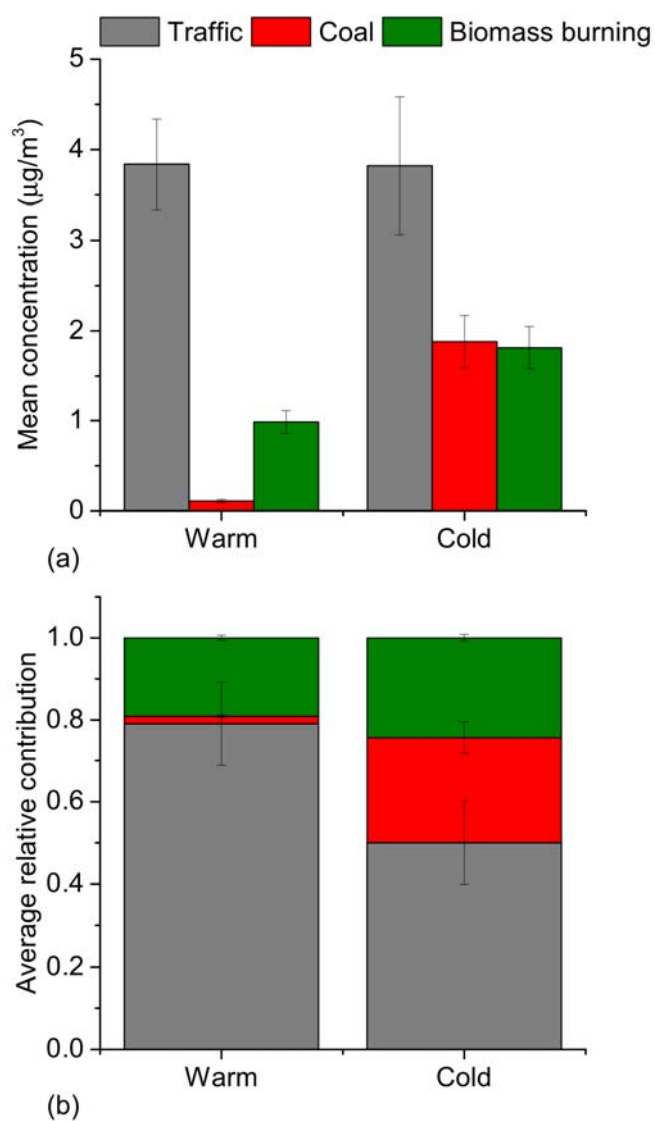
596 **Figure 2.** Mass concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) of EC from biomass burning and fossil-fuel
 597 combustion (EC_{BB} and EC_{FF} , respectively) as well as fractions of biomass-burning EC to
 598 total EC (f_{BB}) in Beijing with 1σ uncertainties.



599

600 **Figure 3.** Temporal variation (n=35) of total identified hopanes (see in Table 2) and
 601 picene concentrations (ng/m³) in Beijing, China. The interval of x-axis is 30 days.

602



603

604 **Figure 4.** Average EC concentrations (a) and relative contributions (b) from traffic-related,
605 coal and biomass-burning emissions in the warm (March to October) and cold (November
606 to February) periods. Uncertainty bars represent 10th and 90th percentiles from LHS
607 calculations. The integrated probability distribution from the LHS simulation is shown in
608 the Figure S3 (see Supporting Information).

609