

Air pollution from land sources as a driver for Earth system changes in the Baltic Sea region

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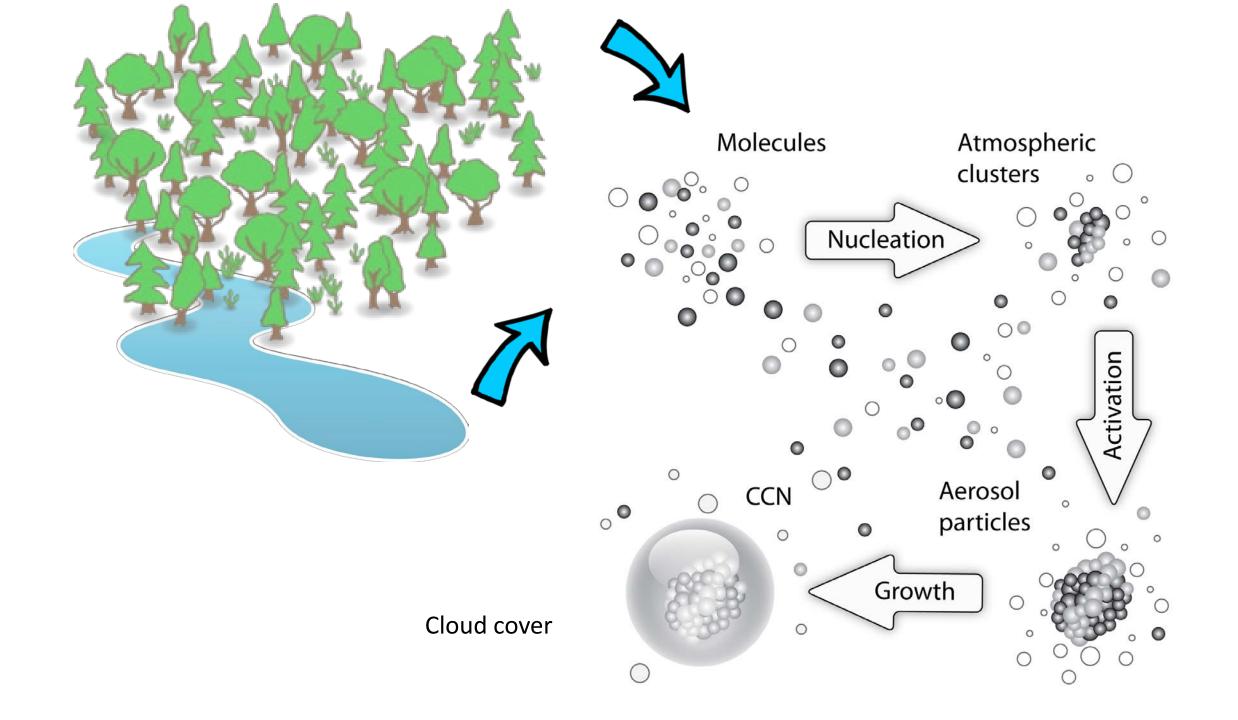
University of Tartu

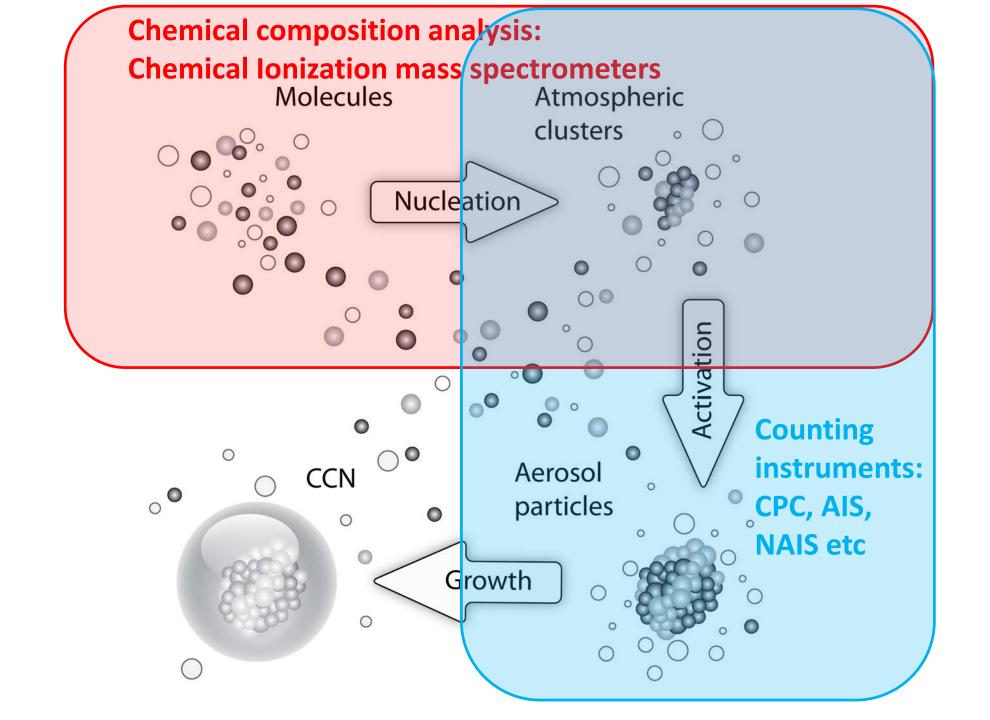
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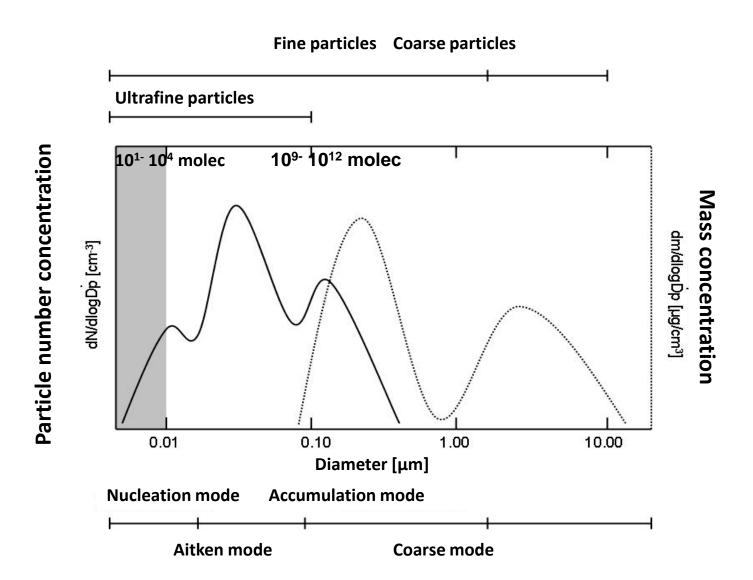


Baltic Earth Workshop
Tallinn, 2018





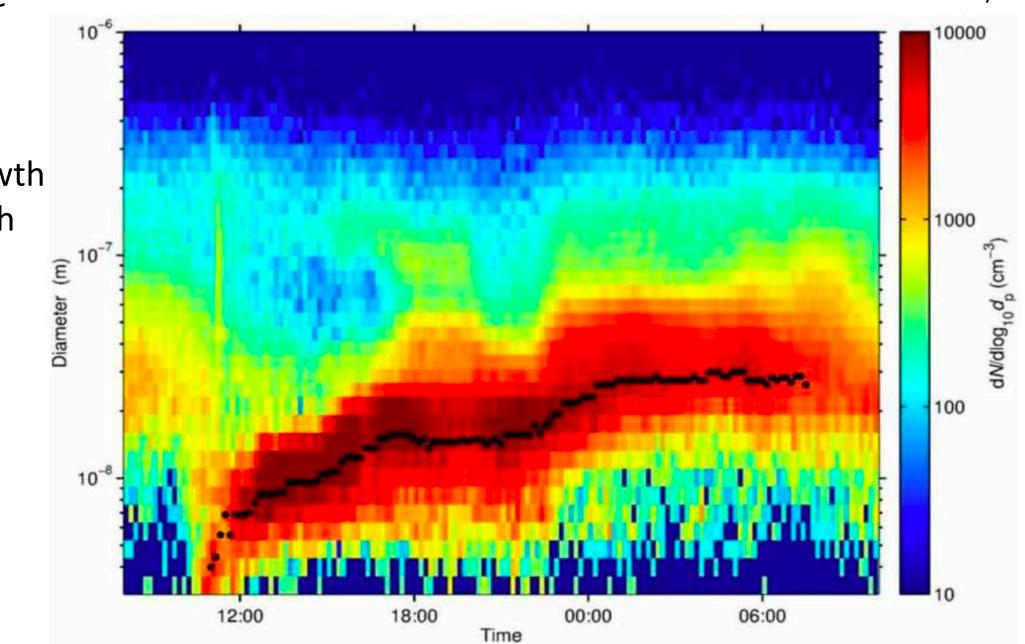
Aerosol size distribution



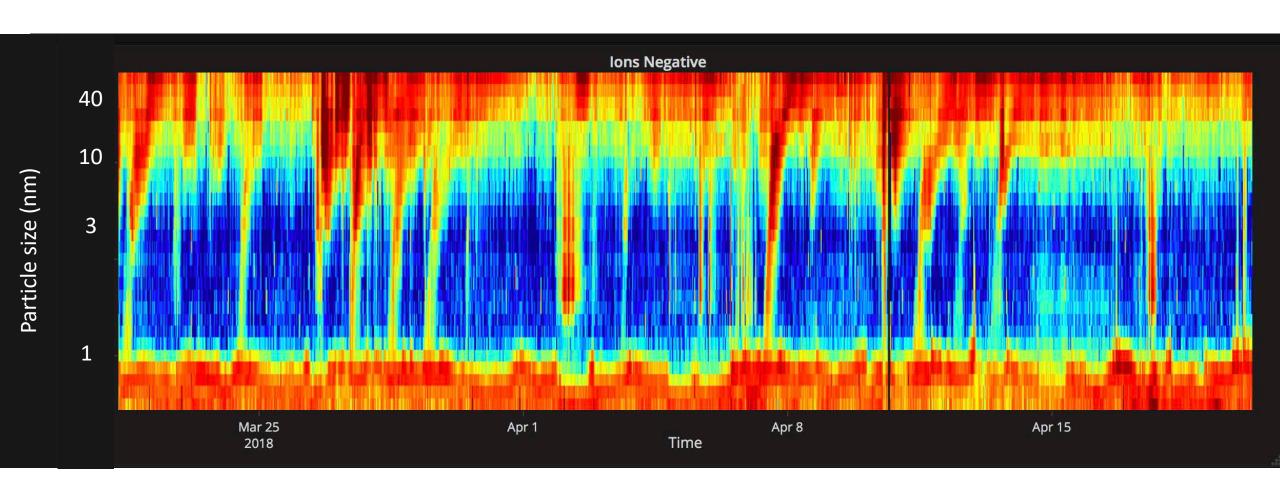
Air: 2.5e19 molecules/cm3

New particle formation events.

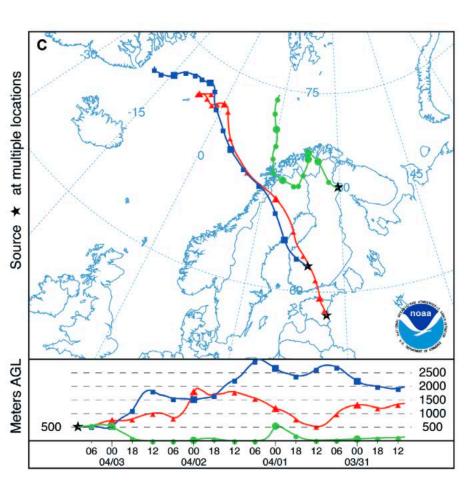
Particle growth about 3nm/h

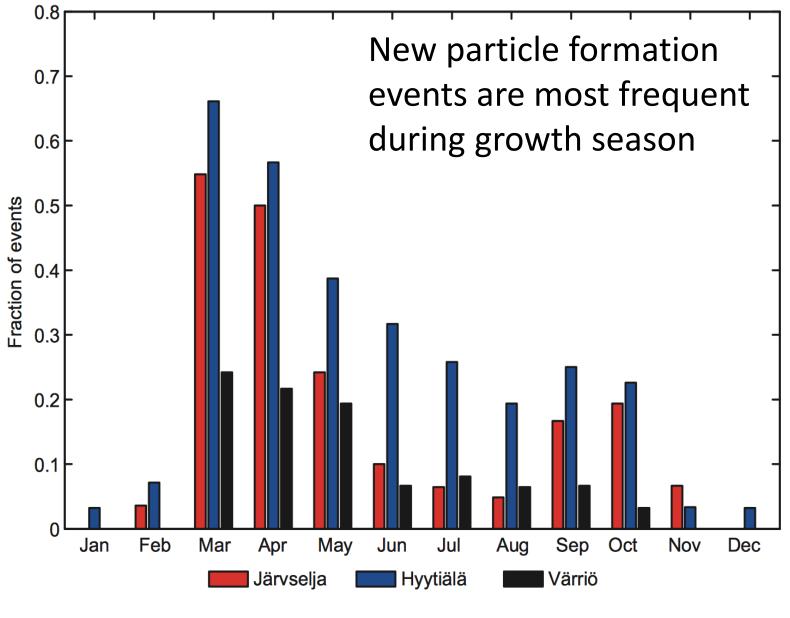


Example time series of aerosol size distributions in Järvselja SMEARestonia station



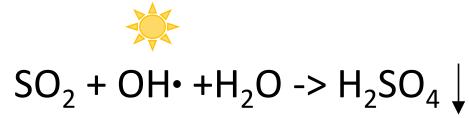
New particle formation is a large scale phenomenon





Why/how the bursts happen?

- Atmosphere must produce low volatility components in time scale of seconds.
- Well known reaction that produces low volatility compound:



Clustering (stabilization) with bases allows growth through NH3 or DMA addition

$$H_2SO_4 + NH_3 -> (H_2SO_4)_x(NH_3)_y$$

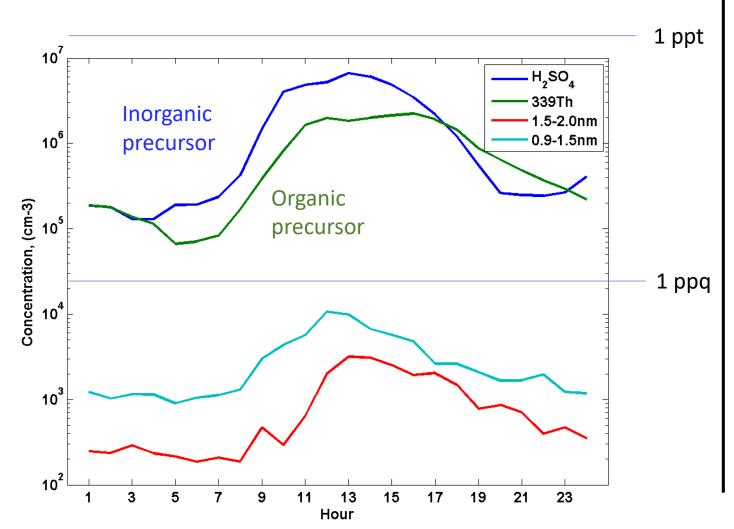
Can we detect these claimed clusters and molecules?

Concentrations of particle precursors are extremely low Concentration of clusters still much lower!!! How to measure?

Air (1atm) contains 2.5*10¹⁹ molecules/cm³

How much is a part per quadrillion (ppq) 10^{-15} ?

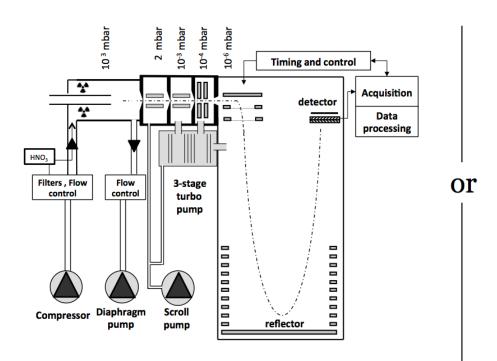
- Diameter of hair to distance to Sun.
- Area of a shoe to area of earth.
- Concentration of climatically relevant atmospheric clusters.



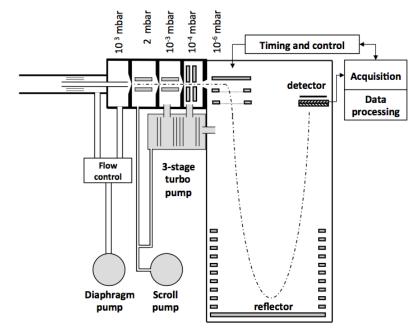
ppm

ppb

In-situ composition measurements of nano-clusters

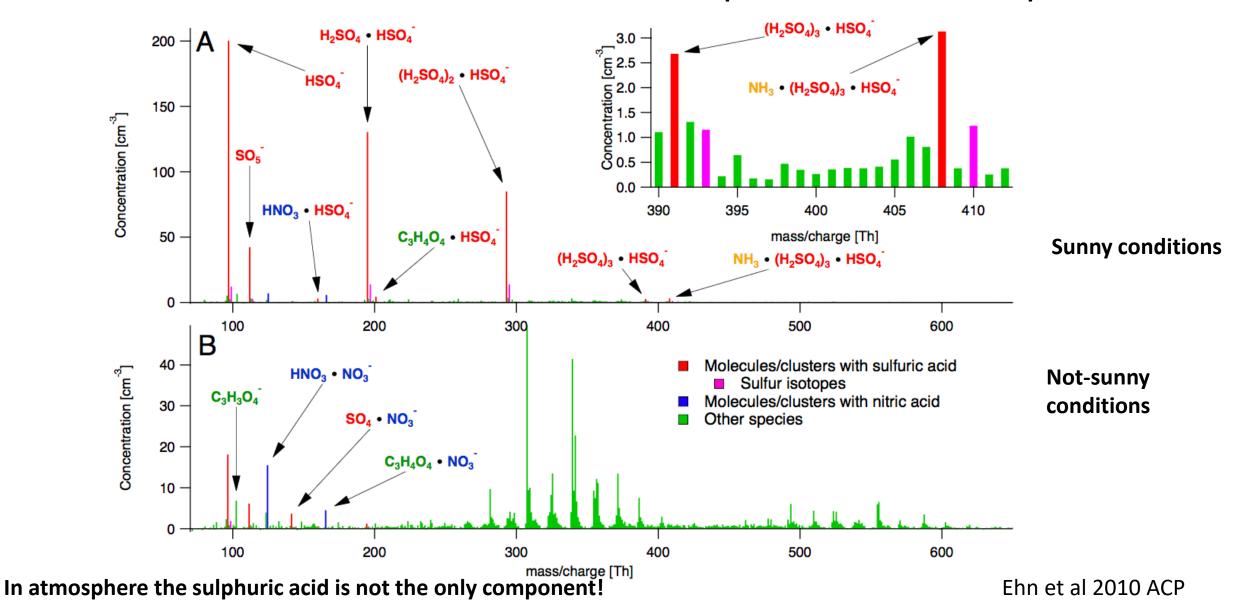


Chemical ionization time-offlight mass spectrometry (CI-APiTOF) with calibration unit

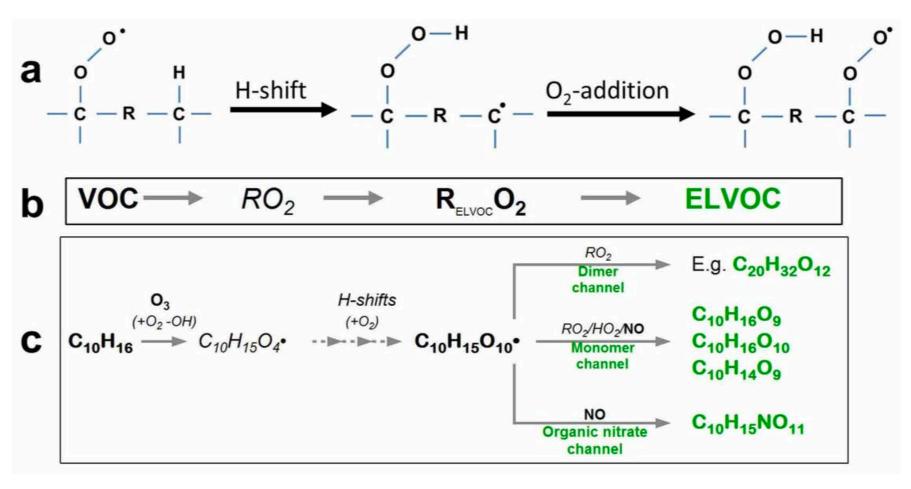


Atmospheric pressure interface time-of-flight mass spectrometry (APiTOF)

In-situ atmospheric measurements for chemical composition of atmospheric ions



Highly oxidized organic molecules (HOM) Extremely Low volatility organic compounds (ELVOC)

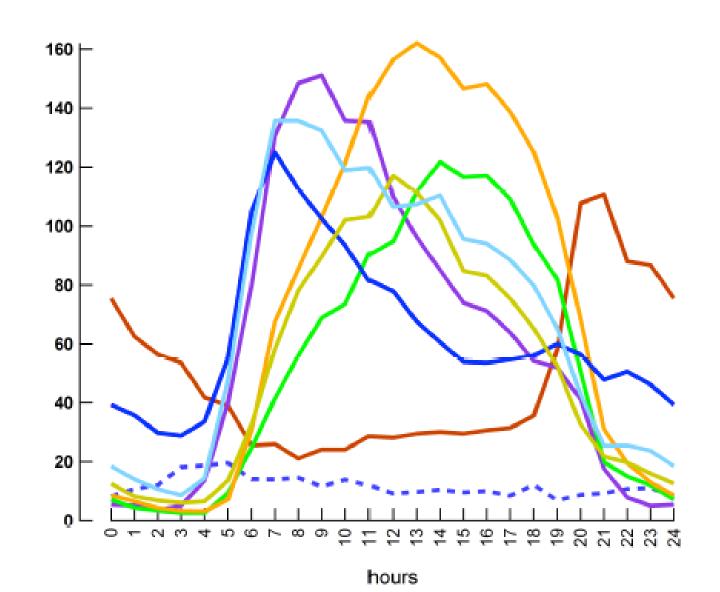


Ehn et al. 2014 Nature

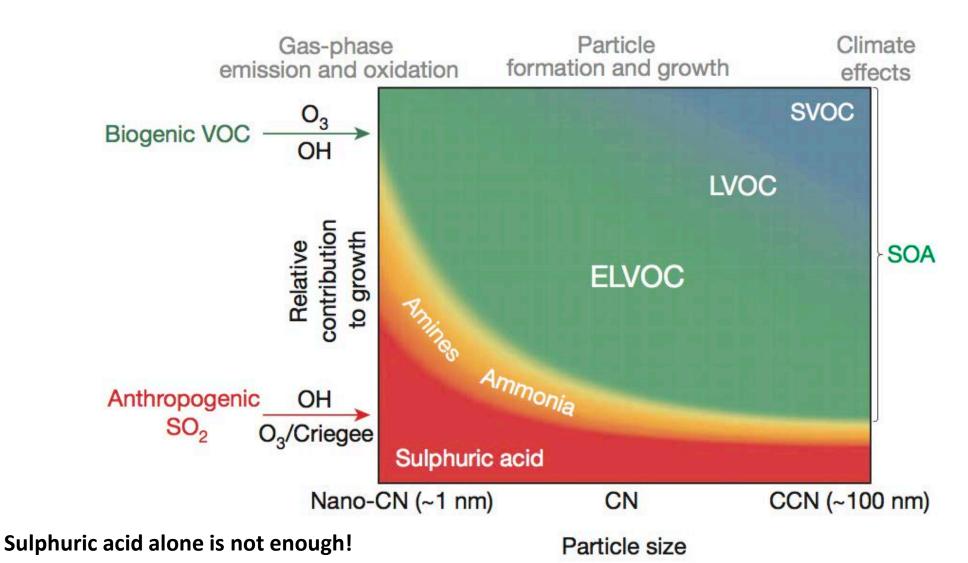
Factor analysis of mass spectrometer spectra.

Diurnal patterns of chemical components of atmospheric gases and clusters

Great variability along the day.

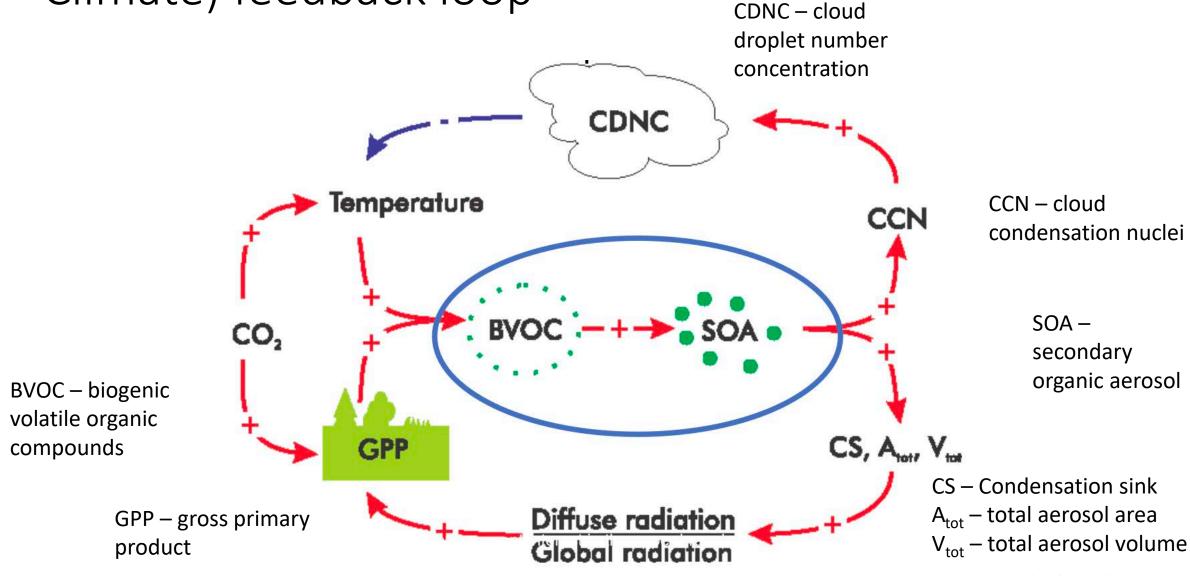


Importance of organic compounds on particle formation and growth



Ehn et al. 2014 Nature

COBACC (COntinental Biosphere-Aerosol-Cloud-Climate) feedback loop



Emission of nitrous compounds from soil.

Effect is two fold:

- 1) Source of stabilizing agent (Amines, Ammonia)
- 2) Source of oxidizing agent HONO-> OH

What is the effect on climate when: Global use of of fertilizers increases? Global temperature increases?

