

1 We greatly thank the reviewer for the careful review of the manuscript. The comments greatly  
2 improved our manuscript. We revised our manuscript according to the reviewer's comments and  
3 suggestions. Here are our point-to-point responses to the comments.

4  
5 **Response to Referee #1:**

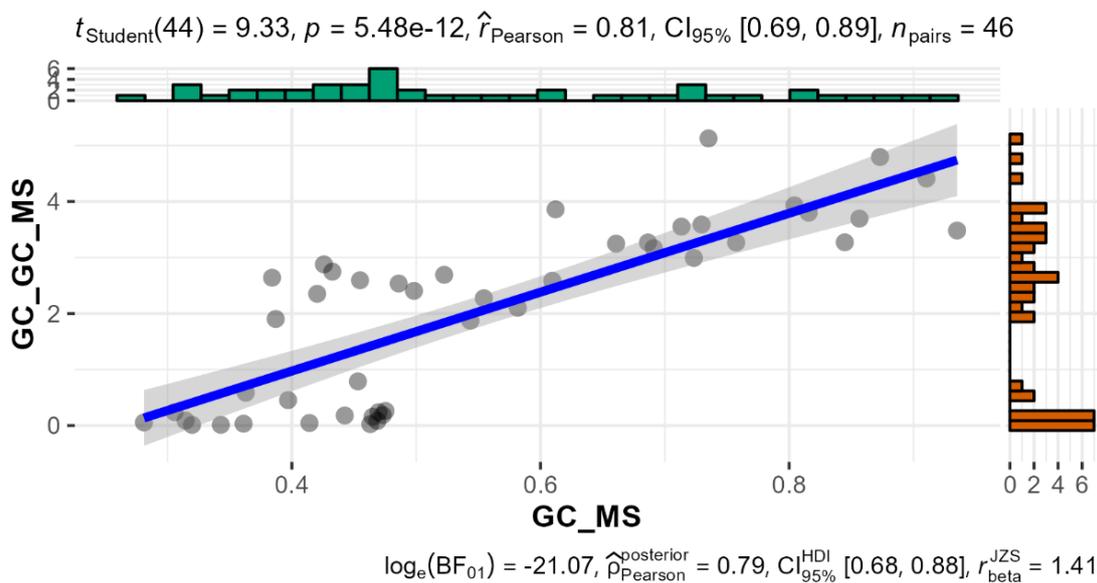
6 This study provides a detailed characterization of VOC-IVOC-SVOC emissions from incense  
7 burning, estimates the OFP, SOA formation, and the toxicity risks. Furfural is proposed as the  
8 molecular marker of incense burning due to its stable emission among different types of incense  
9 materials. The intensive domestic usage of incense imposes significant health risks for a large  
10 number of Chinese residence and this works gives a valuable set of data to assess the  
11 epidemiological influences of incense burning for future work. I recommend publication in ACP  
12 before a few comments to be addressed as below.

13 **Response:** We greatly appreciate the careful review of this manuscript. We have addressed the  
14 comments and revised the manuscript accordingly.

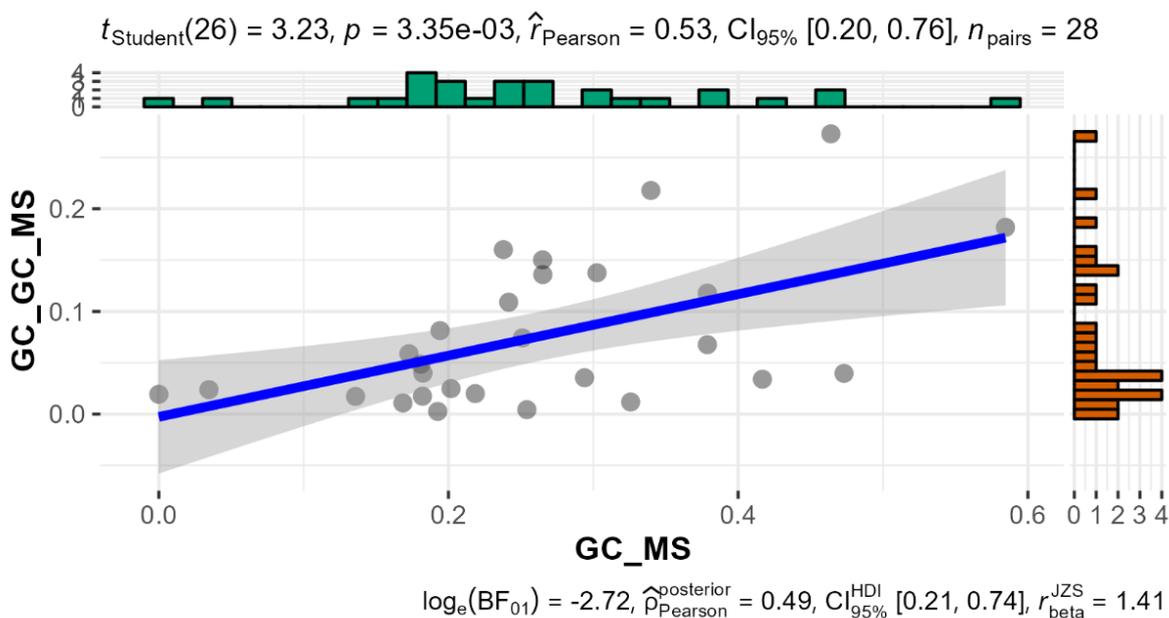
15  
16 It is well known that TA tubes are designed for sampling gaseous organics in a given volatility range.  
17 The common way is to collect samples in I/SVOCs range using TA tubes and VOCs using summa  
18 tanks. There indeed are commercially available tubes for VOC collections. In this regard, further  
19 information on the methodology section and quality assurance is needed, either in the main text or SI.  
20 How did you choose the sampling materials, and what are their adsorption efficiencies for VOCs and  
21 IVOCs. The authors also mentioned that VOCs contributed to the majority of total EFs, i.e., over 80%  
22 as shown in Figure 1. Are these numbers arising from sampling biases that tubes don't trap IVOCs  
23 efficiently?

24 **Response:** Thank you for your comment. A detailed comparison of summa tank-based GC-MS and  
25 TD-GC×GC-MS is in preparation in another manuscript, which could be regarded as a validation of  
26 the adsorption efficiency of VOC-IVOCs by Tenax TA tubes. A comprehensive tunnel experiment  
27 was conducted and the performance of GC-MS and TD-GC×GC-MS was compared in detail. We  
28 could provide some simple results as follows to illustrate the accuracy of TD-GC×GC-MS in

29 quantifying VOC-IVOC species. Figures A1 and A2 display the correlation analysis of benzene-C3  
 30 and chlorobenzene. Good agreements were obtained showing the reliability of TD-GC×GC-MS. The  
 31 sampling materials (Tenax-TA) could be validated by cross-instrument comparisons as follows.  
 32



33  
 34 **Figure A1.** Correlation analysis of emission factors (EFs) of benzene-C3 obtained by  
 35 SUMMA-GC-MS (x-axis) and TD-GC×GC-MS (y-axis). The slope is not equal to 1 as we  
 36 summarised the EFs of all benzene-C3 isomers ( $p < 0.001$ ).  
 37



38  
 39 **Figure A2.** Correlation analysis of emission factors of chlorobenzene obtained by SUMMA-GC-MS

40 ( $x$ -axis) and TD-GC×GC-MS ( $y$ -axis). The slope is near equal to 1 with  $p < 0.001$ .

41 Due to the discussion above, uncertainty mainly occurs as TD-GC×GC-MS fails to detect certain  
42 chemicals with higher volatility (mainly VOC compounds) as discussed in the implication part of  
43 this manuscript. We notice that reliable comparison of IVOC capture efficiency among different  
44 materials is still not available in most studies.

45 **Modifications in the manuscript:**

46 Further investigation should be carried on to elucidate emission characteristics of short-chain  
47 compounds that are lacking in our research, such as alkanes (<C7), alkenes (<C7), and aldehydes  
48 (<C5). By combining data obtained from gas-chromatography-flame ionization detector (GC-FID)  
49 and proton transfer mass spectrometer (PTR-MS), the emission pattern of incense burning could be  
50 well demonstrated. Comparisons of IVOC capture efficiency on different sampling materials should  
51 also be taken into account to obtain a reliable quantification result of IVOC species. High-time  
52 resolution measurement should also be carried on to understand the time-resolved pattern of incense  
53 burning.

54

55 Line 146 a space missing before Table S3.

56 **Response:**

57 Thank you for your comment. We added a space and the revised sentence is displayed as follows:

58 Where  $k_{OH,i}$  and  $Y_i$  represent the OH reaction rate and SOA yield of precursor  $i$ , respectively (Table  
59 S3).

60 **Modifications in the manuscript:**

61 Where  $k_{OH,i}$  and  $Y_i$  represent the OH reaction rate and SOA yield of precursor  $i$ , respectively (Table  
62 S3).

63 Lines 267&269, delete the “\_”.

64 **Response:** Thank you for your comment. We deleted the “\_” and went through the manuscript for  
65 double-checking. The revised sentences are displayed as follows.

66 Phenols only account for 11.0% of SOA estimation in this work. Alcohols (7.3%) and furans (7.6%)  
67 are much more important SOA precursors in incense burning compared to biomass burning and

68 cooking emissions. Compared with other sources, we stress the importance of incense-burning  
69 benzenes, furfural, alcohols, and phenols in OFP formation and alcohols and furans in SOA  
70 formation. The secondary formation potential of mosquito coils is the lowest, while OFP and SOA of  
71 burning smokeless sandalwood sticks are the highest. Compared to other incense, the higher  
72 aromatic contents of smokeless sandalwood sticks burning fumes result in much more ozone and  
73 SOA formation.

74

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76 Phenols only account for 11.0% of SOA estimation in this work. Alcohols (7.3%) and furans (7.6%)  
77 are much more important SOA precursors in incense burning compared to biomass burning and  
78 cooking emissions. Compared with other sources, we stress the importance of incense-burning  
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81 burning smokeless sandalwood sticks are the highest. Compared to other incense, the higher  
82 aromatic contents of smokeless sandalwood sticks burning fumes result in much more ozone and  
83 SOA formation.

84

85 Lines 138&139. The sentence “Where  $EF_i$  is ....” is grammatically incorrect. Please re-write it.

86 Thank you for your comment. The revised sentences are displayed as follows:

87 The ozone formation potential (OFP,  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ) was calculated using equation (2).  $EF_i$  is the emission  
88 factor of precursor  $i$  ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ) with maximum incremental reactivity (MIR) of  $MIR_i$ .

89

90 **Modifications in the manuscript:**

91 The ozone formation potential (OFP,  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ) was calculated using equation (2).  $EF_i$  is the emission  
92 factor of precursor  $i$  ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ) with maximum incremental reactivity (MIR) of  $MIR_i$ .