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2 **Long-term trends for marine sulfur aerosol in the Alaskan Arctic and relationships**
3 **with temperature**

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17 **Key Points:**

- 18 • Arctic MSA and non-sea-salt sulfate concentrations show increasing summer trends over
19 the past two decades ($3\pm 4\%$ and $2\pm 14\%$ respectively) at Utqiagvik, AK.
- 20 • Concentrations of MSA at Oliktok Point are highly correlated to temperature as air
21 masses are consistently from the Beaufort Sea.
- 22 • Summers with Arctic cyclones have better correlation of MSA with ambient temperature.
23

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24 Abstract

25 Marine aerosol plays a vital role in cloud-aerosol interactions during summer in the
26 Arctic. The recent rise in temperature and decrease in sea ice extent has the potential to impact
27 marine biogenic sources. Compounds like methanesulfonic acid (MSA) and non-sea-salt sulfate
28 (nss-SO_4^{2-}), oxidation products of the dimethyl sulfide (DMS) emitted by marine primary
29 producers, are likely to increase in concentration. Long term studies are vital to understand these
30 changes in marine sulfur aerosol and potential interactions with Arctic climate. Samples were
31 collected over three summers at two coastal sites on the North Slope of Alaska (Utqiagvik and
32 Oliktok Point). MSA concentrations followed previously reported seasonal trends, with evidence
33 of high marine primary productivity influencing both sites. When added to an additional data set
34 collected at Utqiagvik, an increase in MSA concentration of +2.5% per year and an increase in
35 nss-SO_4^{2-} of +2.1% per year is observed for the summer season over the 20-year record (1998-
36 2017). This study identifies ambient air temperature as a strong factor for MSA, likely related to
37 a combination of interrelated factors including warmer sea surface temperature, reduced sea ice,
38 and temperature-dependent chemical reactions. Analysis of individual particles at Oliktok Point,
39 within the North Slope of Alaska oil fields, showed evidence of condensation of MSA onto
40 anthropogenic particles, highlighting the connection between marine and oil field emissions and
41 secondary organic aerosol. This study shows the continued importance of understanding MSA in
42 the Arctic while highlighting the need for further research into its seasonal relationship with
43 organic carbon.

44 Plain Language Summary

45 Particles in the Earth's atmosphere play an important role in affecting the planet's
46 climate. Understanding the compounds that make up these aerosol particles is especially
47 important in the Arctic where dramatic changes in temperature and sea ice extent are being
48 observed. Aerosol resulting from biological activity in marine regions is expected to increase in
49 concentration, and therefore have greater effects on climate. Methanesulfonic acid is one such
50 compound that can be utilized to understand the impact of marine aerosol sources. Aerosol
51 samples were collected over three summers at two sites on the North Slope of Alaska: Utqiagvik
52 and Oliktok Point. The samples were analyzed for a wide range of compounds including
53 methanesulfonic acid. The results were combined with 16 years of data from the National
54 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Concentrations of methanesulfonic acid are increasing
55 at a rate of 2.5% per year. Methanesulfonic acid was strongly related to temperature at Oliktok
56 Point, where most marine aerosol is from the Beaufort Sea. At Utqiagvik, strong relationships
57 were found between methanesulfonic acid and temperature during years when intense Arctic
58 cyclones occurred.

59 1 Introduction

60 Aerosol particles in the Earth's atmosphere can have direct and indirect effects on the
61 planet's radiative budget including absorbing and scattering light as well as acting as cloud
62 condensation nuclei (CCN) (Chen and Bond, 2010; Williams et al., 2001). The composition,
63 concentration, and particle size will determine how effective the aerosol will be as CCN (Dusek
64 et al., 2006; McFiggans et al., 2005; Petters and Kreidenweis, 2007). Larger particles are
65 typically always CCN active despite their composition, while the addition of soluble material to
66 an insoluble particle can increase its' CCN ability (Dusek et al., 2006). The ability of aerosol to
67 act as CCN can be measured using the hygroscopicity parameter kappa (κ) (Petters and

68 Kreidenweis, 2007). Inorganic compounds, such as sea salt, have higher κ , indicating they are
69 more efficient CCN. For complex atmospheric aerosol an average κ can be calculated. Changes
70 in the organic fraction of aerosol have the potential to alter this CCN activity and therefore
71 influence the Earth's radiative budget (Leck et al., 2002; Martin et al., 2011; Petters and
72 Kreidenweis, 2007).

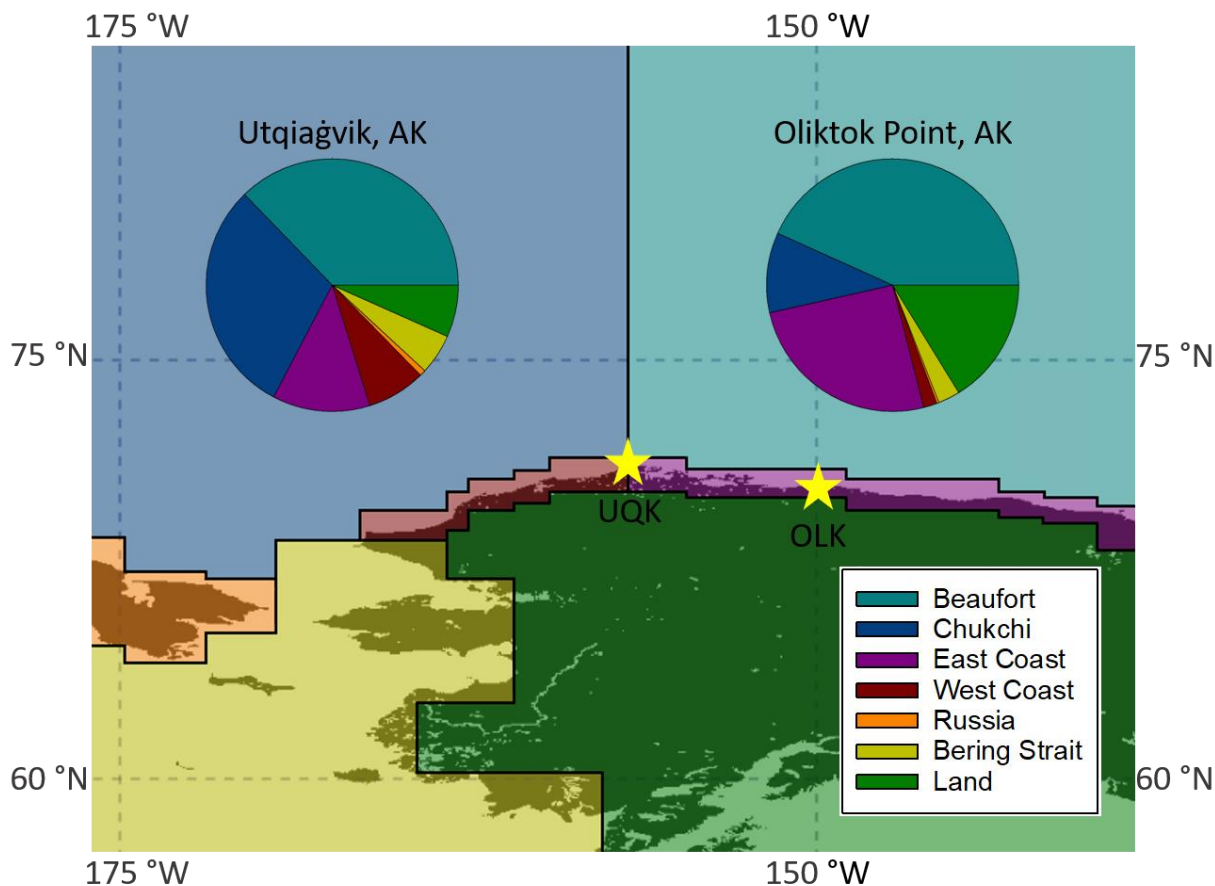
73 The composition and effects of aerosol are extremely important to understand in the
74 Arctic, which is warming faster than any other region of the world (Stocker, 2014). Long range
75 transport from lower latitudes can be an important source of aerosol; however, in the
76 summertime wet removal results in less efficient transport of aerosol, meaning the Arctic
77 atmosphere can be characterized as relatively clean near the surface (Croft et al., 2016; Di Pierro
78 et al., 2013; Polissar et al., 1999). In periods with no influence from transport, aerosol numbers
79 are strongly influenced by new particle formation and growth (NPF/G), which has been shown to
80 control the concentration of CCN in the Arctic (Croft et al., 2016; Heintzenberg et al., 2017;
81 Köllner et al., 2017; Leaitch et al., 2013; Willis et al., 2017). Emissions of dimethyl sulfide
82 (DMS) released by phytoplankton, can be influential in these processes. Studies have shown that
83 oxidation products of DMS can control the formation of ultrafine particles in the clean
84 summertime atmosphere, which can then grow large enough to act as CCN (Abbatt et al., 2019;
85 Ghahremaninezhad et al., 2019; Leaitch et al., 2013; Nilsson and Leck, 2002; Pandis et al., 1994;
86 Park et al., 2017; Rempillo et al., 2011). DMS is oxidized in the atmosphere to form sulfate and
87 methanesulfonic acid (MSA) (Hatakeyama et al., 1985; Leaitch et al., 2013). Summertime MSA
88 and sulfate concentrations were demonstrated to be increasing in the Arctic from the late 1990s
89 to the early 2000s, a trend that has been attributed to changes in the Arctic such as warmer
90 temperatures and decreased sea ice extent (Breider et al., 2017; Laing et al., 2013; Polissar et al.,
91 1999; Quinn et al., 2009). Values of κ for various common methanesulfonates have been
92 reported ranging from 0.30-0.38 for calcium methanesulfonate, 0.46 for sodium
93 methanesulfonate, and 0.47 for potassium methanesulfonate (Tang et al., 2019; Tang et al.,
94 2015). For sulfate, κ 's have been reported of 0.61 for $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ to 0.90 for H_2SO_4 (Clegg et al.,
95 1998; Petters and Kreidenweis, 2007). Aerosol with higher concentrations of sulfate compared to
96 MSA will be more CCN active (Leaitch et al., 2013). Aerosol components resulting from
97 NPF/G, specifically those from marine sources (i.e. DMS), are essential to study in order to
98 understand the effects of aerosol on the Arctic climate. While sulfate can have additional sources
99 in the atmosphere including volcanic, terrestrial, and anthropogenic origins, MSA is solely
100 produced from the oxidation of DMS, making it ideal to study trends in marine aerosol and how
101 it may be affected by changes in the Arctic climate.

102 As the Arctic warms, sea ice extent and seasonality have large implications for future
103 aerosol composition, specifically aerosol resulting from marine sources such as MSA and sulfate
104 (Browse et al., 2014). The two coastal sites chosen for this study, Utqiagvik, AK, and Oliktok
105 Point, AK, both are heavily influenced by marine sources (Figure 1). This makes them ideal
106 locations to study the impact of marine sulfur aerosol on the North Slope of Alaska (NSA) as
107 well as differences in aerosol composition over time.

108 Long term studies of MSA have shown that it has a distinct seasonal cycle with a large
109 peak in the spring followed by a smaller peak in the late summer (Leck and Persson, 1996; Li et
110 al., 1993; Sharma et al., 2019). As ice disappears earlier, the start of the high productivity season
111 has shifted earlier in the year while the end has become delayed (Kahru et al., 2011; Kahru et al.,
112 2016). Melt ponds over ice have also been reported to have high concentrations of DMS, and

113 will likely become more important as ice decreases and becomes younger (Abbatt et al., 2019;
114 Gourdal et al., 2018; Mungall et al., 2016). The continued decrease in ice extent will likely result
115 in higher net primary productivity, increased DMS emissions, and changes in the seasonal cycle
116 of MSA (Galí et al., 2019; Renaut et al., 2018). Model studies also suggest that DMS emissions
117 will increase in an ice free Arctic Ocean during the summer months as well as with the continued
118 thinning of sea ice (Browse et al., 2014; Renaut et al., 2018). A study of the relationship between
119 MSA and sea ice extent and area over eight years in Ny Ålesund, Svalbard and Thule, Greenland
120 found MSA concentrations increased with decreasing sea ice extent and area during the spring
121 while there was less significant or no relationship between them in the summer (Becagli et al.,
122 2019). Increasing cloudiness in the Arctic could potentially have negative effects on primary
123 productivity, and therefore, MSA concentrations (Bélanger et al., 2013). Concentrations of MSA
124 have also been shown to be associated with sea surface temperature previously (Laing et al.,
125 2013; Ye et al., 2015). Trends in MSA and sulfate have been previously studied at Utqiagvik
126 over a ten-year period, and researchers discussed possible effects of parameters such as sea ice
127 extent and sea surface temperature on the concentrations (O'Dwyer et al., 2000; Quinn et al.,
128 2009; Sharma et al., 2012). The current study combines results from that original study, an
129 additional six years of NOAA data, and the results from the synoptic NSA study to produce
130 twenty-year trends for Utqiagvik.

131 Decreasing ice extent, as well as increased temperatures, are associated with a general
132 increase in the occurrence and intensity of cyclones in the Arctic (Serreze et al., 2000; Serreze
133 and Barrett, 2008; Zhang et al., 2014). High winds from storms and cyclones create vertical
134 mixing in surface water, bringing nutrients to the sea surface microlayer (SML) and increasing
135 phytoplankton activity. The Great Arctic Cyclone of August 2012, which covered areas of the
136 Arctic Ocean from Northern Siberia to the Canadian Archipelago, had effects on primary
137 productivity which were especially noticeable in the Bering Strait region (Simmonds and
138 Rudeva, 2012; Zhang et al., 2014). It is likely that the Extreme Arctic Cyclone of August 2016,
139 which lasted for over a month and at one point covered the entire Pacific region of the Arctic
140 Ocean, had similar results on phytoplankton activity (Yamagami et al., 2017). Synoptic
141 measurement efforts for the current study included summer sampling in 2015, 2016 and 2017, so
142 possible effects from the cyclone in 2016 may be reflected in the samples.



143
 144 **Figure 1.** A map depicting the geographical identifications used for 48 h backward air mass
 145 trajectory percentage calculations (Section 2.4), with the two coastal sampling sites starred:
 146 Utqiagvik (UQK) and Oliktok (OLK). The pie charts display the average percentage
 147 contributions of air masses from the different geographic areas over all sampling periods
 148 (summers in 2015, 2016, and 2017) for the 48 hour back trajectories.

149
 150 This study evaluates whether previous long-term increases in MSA and sulfate at
 151 Utqiagvik have continued by expanding summer measurements to nearly two decades of data.
 152 Possible influences on MSA concentration are considered including short term changes in
 153 ambient temperature and cyclonic activity. Utqiagvik allows for an understanding of the state of
 154 MSA at a site of mixed marine aerosol source regions including the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas.
 155 The addition of another site, Oliktok Point, improves characterization of marine biogenic aerosol
 156 from the Beaufort Sea. At this site, the composition of individual MSA-containing particles was
 157 also examined using single-particle mass spectrometry. The goal of this paper is to study trends
 158 in MSA over time at two sites on the NSA and explore additional influences on its concentration
 159 as it relates to the changing Arctic.

160 2 Methods

161 2.1 Field Collection

162 Atmospheric particulate matter (PM) samples were collected for a synoptic campaign at
163 two sites on the North Slope of Alaska (NSA) over three summers (2015, 2016, and 2017) during
164 three Department of Energy Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (DOE ARM) field campaigns.
165 The first site is the permanent DOE ARM NSA Climate Research Facility, 7.4 km northeast of
166 the village of Utqiagvik (UQK), Alaska (71° 19' 23.73" N, 156° 36' 56.70" W), which has a
167 population of 4,438, and is 515 km north of the Arctic Circle. The site is approximately 1.6 km
168 from the nearest coast. Using collocated BC and wind direction measurements, it has been
169 demonstrated that the site receives minimal aerosol contribution from the village (Barrett et al.,
170 2015). The second site is the DOE NSA ARM mobile facility (AMF3) at Oliktok Point (OLK),
171 Alaska (70° 29' 42" N, 149° 53' 9.6" W). The site is 300 km southeast of Utqiagvik, AK, in a
172 region of intense petroleum development, 0.5 km from the nearest coast. Sampling occurred
173 from August through September 2015 and June 2016 through September 2017 at both sites.
174 Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter samples were collected during these two campaigns;
175 detailed analysis of the summertime TSP is the focus of this paper.

176 TSP samples were collected on quartz fiber filters (QFF; Tissuquartz Filters 2500 QAT-
177 UP; 20 x 25 cm). Hi-Q high volume samplers customized with insulation for cold weather
178 sampling (HVP-5300AFC; HI-Q Environmental Products Company, Inc., San Diego, CA 92121)
179 were utilized. The samplers were elevated on platforms approximately 10 m above ground level.
180 Flow rates were calibrated before and after the sampling campaigns. The Hi-Q high volume
181 samplers were calibrated with a HI-Q D-AFC-Series air flow calibrator and an Auto Flow
182 Calibration feature included on the samplers. For all three summers the sampling duration was
183 on average one week at a flow rate of 1.2 m³ min⁻¹. QFFs were baked prior to sampling at 500 °C
184 for 12 hours and stored in aluminum foil packets and storage bags in a freezer before and after
185 sampling. Filter changes were performed on aluminum foil sheets that were baked for 12 hours at
186 500 °C and stored in a -10 °C freezer in storage bags. Field blanks were taken periodically
187 throughout the sampling campaigns by placing an unsampled filter in a filter holder, placing it in
188 the sampler momentarily, and then removing it and placing the filter in storage. Field blanks
189 were treated in the same manner as sampled filters. Filters were shipped back to Baylor
190 University for analysis in coolers with ice packs roughly every three months and at the end of the
191 sampling campaigns. Remaining filter samples for the campaigns are archived in freezers at
192 Baylor University. A manuscript is currently in preparation that will report bulk organic carbon
193 and elemental carbon concentrations, radiocarbon abundance, and positive matrix factorization
194 analysis of the samples.

195 Results from the ARM field campaigns were combined with the samples and analysis
196 completed by National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for their site near
197 Utqiagvik (71° 19' 22.7994" N, 156° 36' 41.04" W). The Barrow Atmospheric Baseline
198 Observatory site is co-located with the ARM NSA site. The dataset utilized here includes
199 summertime data from 1998-2013. The 1998-2007 results were published by Quinn et al. (2009),
200 while the 2008-2013 results have not previously been published for MSA and sulfate. Collection
201 was completed using a Berner-type multijet cascade impactor with aerodynamic D₅₀ cutoff
202 diameters of 10 μm and 1.0 μm. Additional details about sample collection can be found in
203 Quinn et al. (2002). The samples were analyzed by ion chromatography using the method
204 described in Quinn et al. (1998). The data and trends reported in Quinn et al. (2009) were for the
205 submicron size range. In order to better collate the data from this study with the results from
206 Quinn et al. (2009) only the submicron data from NOAA was utilized here. The compounds of

207 interest here mainly occur in the submicron size fraction (Leck and Persson, 1996), so little
208 difference is expected between the PM_{1.0} and TSP samples. During the 1998-2013 time period,
209 MSA in the supermicron size fraction accounted for only 2% on average of the total MSA. There
210 are also small differences in methodology which could potentially affect comparisons between
211 the NOAA and Baylor data sets including sector-controlled sampling excluding 130 to 360° from
212 1998-2013. The analysis of the long-term trends here assumes that these differences do not
213 greatly affect or bias the conclusions.

214 2.2 Ion Chromatography

215 Summer PM samples were analyzed for inorganic anions and cations as well as low
216 molecular weight organic acids using ion chromatography (IC). Inorganic anions included
217 nitrate, nitrite, chloride, sulfate, bromide, and fluoride. Organic acids of interest were malonate,
218 malate, oxalate, phthalate, acetate, and MSA. Technically methanesulfonate is the measured ion,
219 as it is detected as an anion, however following previous literature it will be referred to as MSA.
220 Inorganic cations included sodium, potassium, magnesium, lithium, calcium, and ammonium.
221 The QFF extraction was previously reported in Barrett et al. (2014). Briefly, soluble ions on the
222 QFF were extracted by sonication and centrifugation in 25 mL of deionized water (Barrett and
223 Sheesley, 2014). Field blanks and filter blanks were extracted in the same manner and included
224 with each analysis, and calibration curve check standards were run frequently. Deionized water
225 blanks were included before and after the calibration curve as well as in between samples and
226 check standards.

227 A Dionex ICS-2100 Reagent Free Ion Chromatography System (Thermo Scientific
228 Dionex, Waltham, MA 02451) was utilized for analysis of the inorganic anions and organic
229 acids. A Dionex IonPac AG11-HC guard column (4x50 mm) was used to help with separation
230 before a Dionex IonPac AS11-HC (4x250 mm) analytical column. An eluent gradient was
231 utilized with a potassium hydroxide eluent generator. The mobile-phase flow rate was 1.5 mL
232 min⁻¹ and the column temperature was set to 30 °C. The eluent gradient was optimized from a
233 Thermo Scientific application note in order to analyze inorganic anions and organic acids and
234 mitigate issues with high chloride response on the detection of MSA (Christison et al., 2015).
235 The eluent gradient was increased at a slower rate after MSA eluted so that the chloride would
236 elute at a later retention time. The gradient was also adjusted to remain constant during oxalate
237 elution to ensure an increase in background noise due to increased eluent concentration did not
238 interfere with detection. The calibration curve comprised of seven to eight points starting from
239 0.1 mg/L to up to 50 mg/L. Standards for the inorganic anions were purchased from
240 ThermoScientific, organic acids standards were purchased from Sigma Aldrich (St. Louis, MO
241 63118), and the MSA standard was purchased from Inorganic Ventures (Christiansburg, VA
242 24073). All compounds in all samples either fell within the calibration curve range or were
243 below the method detection limit (Table S1) with the exception of those with high concentrations
244 of sodium and chloride. The method used to properly quantify those samples for sodium and
245 chloride is described later.

246 For the inorganic cations, a Dionex Aquion system was utilized. The column was a
247 Dionex IonPac CS12A (4x250 mm) with a Dionex IonPac CG12A (4x50 mm) guard column.
248 The isocratic eluent was 20 mM MSA for 15 minutes. The 6-cation standard for the inorganic
249 cations was purchased from ThermoScientific. Cation analysis protocol parallels the anion
250 analysis described above. The ICS-2100 and Aquion systems utilize the same autosampler.
251 Water extracts were analyzed directly after extraction first on the ICS-2100 for inorganic anions

252 and organic acids due to their potential to degrade, and then on the Aquion system for the
 253 inorganic cations. For the analysis of chloride and sodium, which were found in extremely high
 254 concentrations due to the proximity to the coast, an aliquot of the extract was taken and diluted
 255 10x with DI water in order to ensure accurate detection within calibration curve range.

256 Concentrations of non-sea-salt sulfate (nss-SO₄²⁻), calcium (nss-Ca²⁺), potassium (nss-
 257 K⁺), and magnesium (nss-Mg²⁺) were determined based on the results of IC analysis. The
 258 concentrations were calculated by utilizing Na⁺ concentrations ([Na⁺]), the concentration of the
 259 compound ([X]), and the mass ratio of that compound to sodium in sea water (k) (Equation 1)
 260 (Holland, 1978; Virkkula et al., 2006). The ratio utilized was 0.252 for nss-SO₄²⁻, 0.03791 for
 261 nss-Ca²⁺, 0.121 for nss-Mg²⁺, and 0.03595 for nss-K⁺ (Energy, 1994; Wagenbach et al., 1998).
 262 Some of these calculations resulted in negative values for this study. Previous studies in polar
 263 regions have also reported negative concentrations for nss-SO₄²⁻, which are likely the result of
 264 depletion of nss-SO₄²⁻ (Norman et al., 1999; Quinn et al., 2002; Wagenbach et al., 1998). To
 265 correct these negative values, a linear regression of the nss-SO₄²⁻ concentrations calculated with
 266 k=0.252 and Na⁺ concentrations was performed. The slope of the regression was then added to
 267 0.252 to obtain a new k value for Equation 1 (Wagenbach et al., 1998). Negative values were
 268 also obtained for nss-Ca²⁺, nss-K⁺, and nss-Mg²⁺ and were corrected using the same method. The
 269 corrected k values for Utqiagvik were 0.177 for nss-SO₄²⁻, 0.02915 for nss-K⁺, 0.088 for nss-
 270 Mg²⁺, and 0.01441 for nss-Ca²⁺. For Oliktok Point, the corrected k values were 0.194 for nss-
 271 SO₄²⁻, 0.02035 for nss-K⁺ and 0.097 for nss-Mg²⁺, and 0.01481 for nss-Ca²⁺.

$$272 \quad [nss - X] = [X]_{total} - k[Na^+] \quad (1)$$

273 Concentrations of sea salt aerosol were calculated using Equation 2. The value of 1.47
 274 represents the seawater mass ratio of (Na⁺ + K⁺ + Mg²⁺ + Ca²⁺ + SO₄²⁻ + HCO₃⁻)/Na⁺ (Holland,
 275 1978). This study follows previously reported methods of sea salt concentration calculations
 276 which do not include any Cl⁻ greater than the Cl⁻ to Na⁺ sea water ratio of 1.8 (Giardi et al.,
 277 2016; May et al., 2016; Quinn et al., 2002). This prevents the inclusion of non-sea salt
 278 compounds and allows for Cl⁻ depletion. It also assumes all Na⁺ is from sea water (Quinn et al.,
 279 2002). Mineral dust containing Na⁺ was reported at Utqiagvik during September 2015; however,
 280 dust was a minor contributor (4-14%, by number) compared to sea salt aerosol for 0.2-1.5 μm
 281 particles (Gunsch et al., 2017). At Oliktok Point, mineral dust containing Na⁺ accounted for only
 282 1%, by number, of the 0.07-1.6 μm size fraction (Gunsch et al., 2019). Only one sample at
 283 Utqiagvik and one from Oliktok had a Cl⁻ to Na⁺ ratio greater than 1.8.

$$284 \quad [sea\ salt] = [Cl^-] + [Na^+] \times 1.47 \quad (2)$$

285 2.3 Aerosol time-of-flight mass spectrometry (ATOFMS)

286 From August 22 to September 16, 2016 at Oliktok Point, the size and chemical
 287 composition of 32,880 individual particles (0.07-1.6 μm, vacuum aerodynamic diameter) were
 288 measured, in real-time, using an aerosol time-of-flight mass spectrometer (ATOFMS). Overall
 289 aerosol composition during the study was described by Gunsch et al. (2019); here, we focus on
 290 the composition of individual particles containing MSA. This ATOFMS is based on the design
 291 of Pratt et al. (2009). Briefly, particles were focused through an aerodynamic lens system, and
 292 the diameter of each individual particle was calculated based on its time of flight between two
 293 continuous wave lasers (50 mW 405 nm and 50 mW 488 nm). Particles were then desorbed and
 294 ionized by a 266 nm Nd:YAG pulsed laser and measured by a dual-polarity reflectron time-of-
 295 flight mass spectrometer, resulting in positive and negative ion mass spectra for each individual

296 particle. ATOFMS individual particle mass spectra were imported and analyzed in FATES, a
297 MATLAB (The MathWorks, Inc.) software toolkit (Sultana et al., 2017), and these mass spectra
298 were clustered based on the presence and intensity of ion peaks using an ART-2a neural network
299 algorithm (Song et al., 1999). The resulting clusters were grouped into individual particle types,
300 based on the most likely m/z assignments, according to ion ratios and spectral identification from
301 previous laboratory and field campaigns (Pratt and Prather, 2009). Particles were categorized
302 into eight individual particle types: organic carbon (OC), OC-amine-sulfate, sea spray aerosol,
303 elemental carbon (EC), EC and OC (ECOC), biomass burning, mineral dust, and incineration
304 particles (Gunsch et al., 2019). Particles containing MSA were identified by searching for
305 relative peak areas above 0.01 at m/z -95 (CH_3SO_3^-) (Gaston et al., 2010). It is important to note,
306 however, that this peak has interferences from other ions at m/z -95 (PO_4^- or NaCl_2^-). In order to
307 exclude these interferences, particles containing m/z -79 (PO_3^-), -93 (NaCl_2^-), or -97 (NaCl_2^-) are
308 not classified as "MSA-containing" based on these potential interferences. This limits the ability
309 to evaluate nascent (chloride-containing) sea spray aerosol for MSA content.

310 2.4 Backward Air Mass Trajectory Analysis and Sea Ice Extent

311 Backward air mass trajectories were modeled using the National Oceanic and
312 Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Hybrid Single-Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory
313 (HYSPLIT) online model (Rolph et al., 2017; Stein et al., 2015) to determine the geographic
314 source regions of air masses impacting the site. Forty-eight-hour back trajectories were
315 calculated every 6 hours starting at the last day and ending on the first day for each sample. The
316 vertical motion was set to "Model vertical velocity", and the height was set to 10 m above
317 ground level. Ambient temperature data was also requested with each back trajectory. One week
318 back trajectories were also calculated using the parameters described above.

319 Since this study is interested in marine aerosol production, the trajectory analysis was
320 structured to consider differences in potential marine production areas. To assess this for the
321 NSA, residence time of backward air mass trajectories was mapped out into seven different
322 regions (Beaufort Sea, Chukchi Sea, East Coast of the NSA, West Coast of the NSA, Russia,
323 Bering Strait, and inland Alaska). The seven regions surrounding the sites were chosen to
324 highlight potential source regions for marine primary productivity emissions (Figure 1). Satellite
325 imagery of chlorophyll (<https://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi/browse.pl?sen=am>) from the
326 Visible and Infrared Imager/Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) on the Suomi National Polar-orbiting
327 Partnership spacecraft were used to aid in the selection of regions (NASA, 2018). Trajectory end
328 point files were downloaded from the HYSPLIT online model in order to obtain geographic
329 coordinates. Coordinates from the back-trajectory end point files were utilized to calculate the
330 percentage of each back trajectory that lay in each region for every PM sample. Additional
331 regions were determined for the one week back trajectories (Figure S1). More information about
332 these regions can be found in the Supporting Information text and in Figure S2 and Figure S3.

333 Sea ice extent data was obtained from the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC).
334 The Sea Ice Index data products were utilized which are derived from the Near-Real-Time
335 DMSP SSMIS Daily Polar Gridded Sea Ice Concentrations and Nimbus-7 SSMR and DMSP
336 SSM/I-SSMIS Passive Microwave Data Sea Ice Concentrations. The monthly averages were
337 selected for July, August, and September from 1998-2017 (Fetterer et al., 2017).

338 2.5 Statistical analysis for annual trends

339 The nonparametric Mann-Kendall test, which assumes there are no seasonal trends
340 present in the data, was utilized to identify monotonic trends (Gilbert, 1987). The slope of the
341 linear trends are estimated by the nonparametric Sen's method, which can be used when the
342 assumed trend is linear (Sen, 1968). The Sen's method first calculates the slope between all data
343 point pairs, with the slope estimate (Q) being the median of these data pair slopes (Salmi, 2002).
344 Significance levels of $\alpha=0.001, 0.01, 0.05,$ and $0.1,$ are reported for the trends, where $\alpha<0.1$
345 means that there is a probability of no trend being present of 10% or less. This method was
346 selected in order to compare to previously reported trends (Quinn et al., 2009).

347 **3 Results**

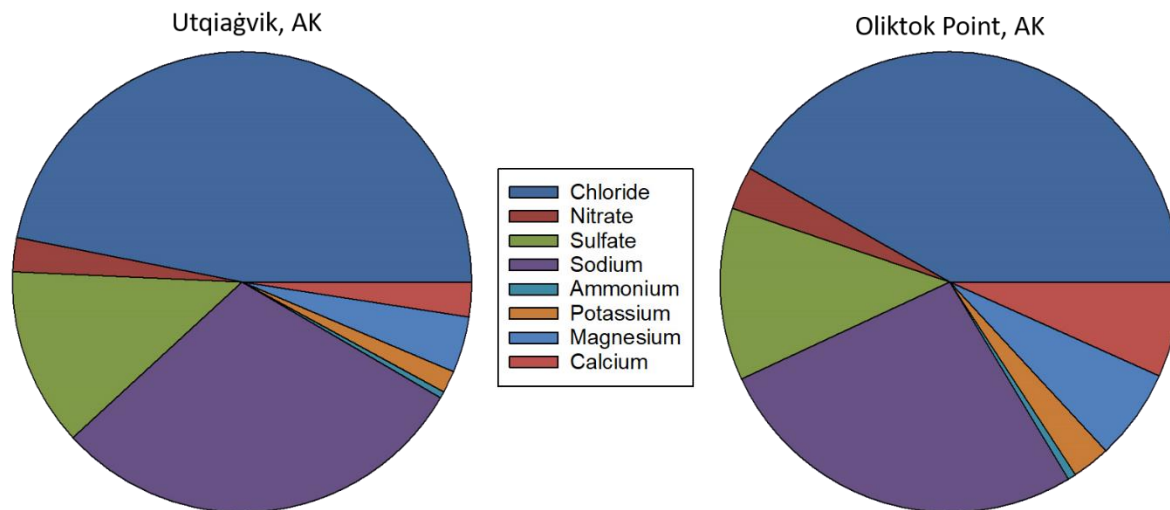
348 **3.1 Ionic composition**

349 Variability in the inorganic ion composition was assessed by site and by year (Figure 2
350 and Table 1). Both sites show a high influence of sea salt aerosol (Figure 2). Sea salt
351 concentrations, calculated as described in the methods, varied between samples and did not have
352 any obvious temporal patterns for the summer (Figure S4). Average concentrations of sea salt
353 were similar for TSP across both sites in 2016 and 2017, while 2015 Utqiaġvik appears to have
354 an overall higher average concentration, indicating greater influence of sea spray (Figure 1),
355 although the wind speed was not significantly higher in 2015 (Table S2). Comparing averages
356 for just the months of August-September the difference in sea salt concentrations is less between
357 the summers, although still large between 2015 (2700 ± 400 ng m⁻³) and 2017 (1800 ± 500 ng m⁻³)
358 (Table S3).

359 In addition to contribution from sea salt, Oliktok Point also had large contributions from
360 ions such as total potassium, magnesium, and calcium compared to Utqiaġvik. In terms of
361 potential sources, the roads surrounding each site are unpaved, leading to problems with road
362 dust. The roads from Prudhoe Bay to Oliktok Point are used intensively for heavy equipment
363 associated with oil and gas extraction/exploration and are maintained by the petroleum
364 companies. The roads are periodically treated with salts such as K⁺, Ca²⁺, and Mg²⁺ chloride to
365 control road dust (Withycombe and Dulla, 2006). ATOFMS measurements reported individual
366 mineral dust particles containing Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺ at Oliktok Point (August-September 2016) in the
367 0.07-1.6 μ m size range (Gunsch et al., 2019). At Utqiaġvik (September 2015), ATOFMS data
368 showed Ca²⁺-rich and Fe⁺-rich dust particles also attributed to nearby roads and beaches (Gunsch
369 et al., 2017). Although biomass burning particles containing K⁺ have also been observed at both
370 sites, these were a minor contribution (Gunsch et al., 2017; Gunsch et al., 2019). The summer of
371 2015 at Oliktok had the highest concentrations of K⁺ and Mg²⁺, which were three to four times
372 higher than 2017 (Table 1). This may be due to changes in industry upkeep of local roads or
373 meteorological parameters such as precipitation. Sharma et al. (2019) found a decrease of Ca²⁺
374 concentrations of 27% from 1980-2013 at Alert in the late summer and early autumn, and a small
375 increase of 5% in the summer. Since these inorganic ions would also be present in sea salt,
376 concentrations of nss-K⁺, nss-Mg²⁺, and nss-Ca²⁺ were calculated in order to determine the
377 importance of road dust, crustal material, and biomass burning (Table 1). At Utqiaġvik, nss ions
378 were on average 30% (K⁺), 22% (Mg²⁺), and 40% (Ca²⁺) of the total compound concentration.
379 At Oliktok Point they were on average 45% (K⁺), 32% (Mg²⁺), and 72% (Ca²⁺) of the total
380 concentration. Mg²⁺ and Ca²⁺ have been attributed to windblown soil (Barrie and Barrie, 1990).
381 An Arctic dust modelling study found that the contribution of local sources to dust deposition
382 peaked in the autumn while remote sources were more important in the spring (Zwaaftink et al.,

383 2016). Oliktok Point had significantly higher contributions of terrestrial origin than Utqiagvik
 384 when using the paired t-test to compare the two sites ($\alpha=0.05$, $p<0.005$ (nss- K^+), $p=0.006$ (nss-
 385 Mg^{2+}), $p<0.005$ (nss- Ca^{2+})). This is likely due to higher activity surrounding the site leading to
 386 more road dust, and also because Oliktok Point is more influenced by air masses traveling over
 387 land when the two sites are compared using the paired t-test ($\alpha=0.05$, $p<0.005$).

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389

390 **Figure 2.** The average mass contribution of the major inorganic anions and cations for the
 391 summers of 2015-2017.

392

393 Organic acids that were detected at the sites varied greatly in concentration (Table 1).
 394 MSA has been observed to be predominantly in the fine aerosol fraction (Leck and Persson,
 395 1996; Quinn et al., 2009), and was found to be in the submicron for the 1998-2013 dataset used
 396 here (see Methods). Based on those results for Utqiagvik, the TSP measurements here will be
 397 considered to be approximately equivalent to long term $PM_{2.5}$ measurements. Ambient
 398 concentrations of MSA were generally higher at Utqiagvik than Oliktok Point and are
 399 significantly different based on the paired t-test ($\alpha=0.05$, $p=0.048$). Ghahremaninezhad et al.
 400 (2019) reported that a global environmental systems model focused on the North American
 401 Arctic and Arctic Ocean indicated that the higher concentrations of DMS were expected in the
 402 Bering Sea and Bering Strait region than in other regions of the Arctic Ocean. Galí et al. (2019)
 403 found that the Bering Sea had some of the higher DMS fluxes along with the Iceland Basin and
 404 the Northern Atlantic Ocean. High DMS production has also been observed in the southernmost
 405 region of the Chukchi Sea (Park et al., 2019). The advantage to this synoptic study at two coastal
 406 NSA sites are the geographic differences in marine air mass influence. Based on the 48 hour
 407 back trajectories, during the sample time periods in this study (summers of 2015-2017),
 408 Utqiagvik received marine air masses with 45% from the west, including the Chukchi Sea, the
 409 Bering Strait, and the west coast of Alaska, and 45% from the east, comprised of the Beaufort
 410 Sea and the east coast of Alaska (Figure 1). The remaining 10% of air masses traveled over the
 411 interior of Alaska. Oliktok Point was also dominated by marine air masses with 67% from the
 412 east, only 15% from the west, and 17% from the interior of Alaska. Both sites had less than 1%

413 influence from over Russia. When examining the one-week back trajectories, source regions of
 414 importance remain largely the same, with additional residence time in the Arctic Ocean, the
 415 Canadian Arctic Archipelago, and the East Siberian Sea (Figure S2). These different regions may
 416 exhibit differences in MSA seasonal trends and responses to local conditions (e.g. temperature,
 417 nutrients and mixing in the water column). Utqiagvik receiving more influence from the west
 418 which may explain why its concentrations are often higher.

419 The yearly summer average concentrations ranged from 3.3 ± 0.5 to 22 ± 2 ng m⁻³ at
 420 Utqiagvik and 7 ± 1 to 14 ± 1 ng m⁻³ at Oliktok Point for 2015-2017. At both sites MSA is elevated
 421 at the beginning of the summer and decreases into late August and September (Figure 3). This
 422 follows previously reported trends of high MSA following the spring blooms of phytoplankton
 423 and algae in the Arctic Ocean (Ferek et al., 1995; Leck and Persson, 1996; Park et al., 2017;
 424 Quinn et al., 2002). In 2017 the samples collected during the week of June 21st at both sites were
 425 statistically high outliers for MSA and nss-SO₄²⁻. The high MSA and nss-SO₄²⁻ in these two 2017
 426 samples are likely an example of transported marine aerosol impacting the NSA. Seven day back
 427 trajectories for the two sites are very similar, with source regions split between the Beaufort Sea
 428 and the Bering Strait (Figure S6). Although the sites were not under continuous cloud cover,
 429 satellite images for these two regions have cloud cover which make it difficult to pinpoint the
 430 high primary productivity. However, the relationship between MSA and primary productivity
 431 measures are not always direct. For example, the summer average chlorophyll-a concentrations
 432 from the five source regions do highlight differences in primary productivity by marine regions
 433 but do not correlate to MSA concentrations at either site (Figure S7). Variations in chlorophyll-a
 434 are not always directly related to primary productivity and in those instances they would also
 435 likely not correlate to MSA or DMS concentrations (Becagli et al., 2016). However, this does not
 436 mean primary productivity in these regions is not responsible for MSA concentrations on the
 437 NSA.

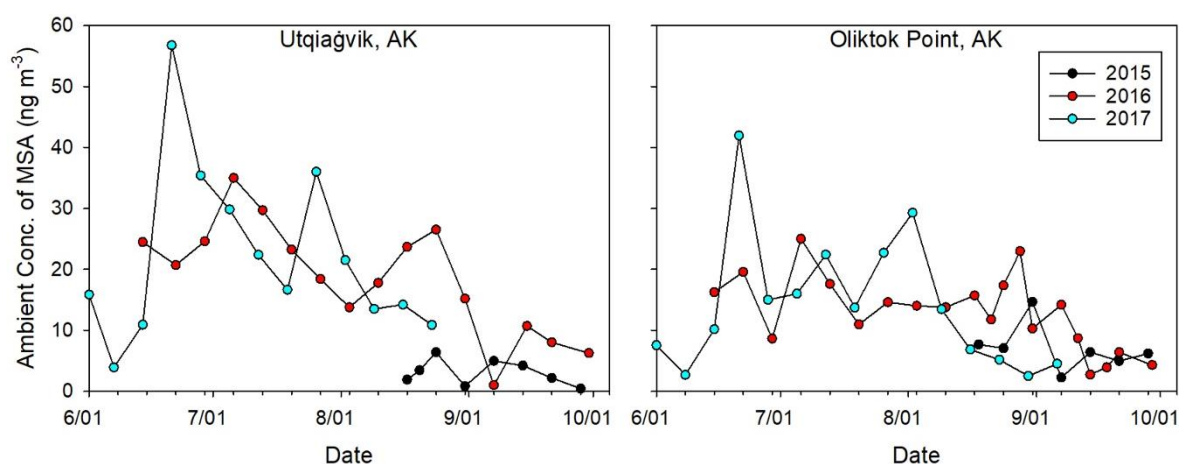
438
 439 **Table 1.** Average concentrations and standard deviation of select inorganic ions and organic
 440 acids analyzed by ion chromatography. <MDL refers to below the method detection limit, as
 441 stated in Table S1.

Compound	Utqiagvik, AK (ng m ⁻³)			Oliktok Point, AK (ng m ⁻³)		
	2015 ^a	2016	2017	2015 ^a	2016	2017
Chloride	1436 ± 217	901 ± 66	670 ± 63	817 ± 124	900 ± 55	641 ± 54
Nitrite	0.34 ± 0.06	0.29 ± 0.04	3.9 ± 0.5	0.09 ± 0.03	0.16 ± 0.03	4.8 ± 0.4
Bromide	2.8 ± 0.5	0.18 ± 0.02	2.3 ± 0.3	<MDL	2.4 ± 0.1	4.1 ± 0.3
Nitrate	20 ± 3	45 ± 4	61 ± 7	48 ± 9	49 ± 3	69 ± 6
Sulfate	250 ± 35	245 ± 16	240 ± 21	200 ± 30	234 ± 13	229 ± 17
Sodium	850 ± 128	562 ± 40	470 ± 43	530 ± 81	550 ± 33	435 ± 35
Ammonium	6 ± 1	8.8 ± 0.6	11 ± 1	25 ± 5	8 ± 1	6.7 ± 0.7
Potassium	30 ± 5	35 ± 3	25 ± 2	86 ± 13	63 ± 5	21 ± 2
Magnesium	90 ± 13	90 ± 7	55 ± 5	228 ± 35	141 ± 11	49 ± 4
Calcium	34 ± 5	65 ± 6	31 ± 3	204 ± 33	151 ± 11	62 ± 5
Acetate	0.18 ± 0.05	2.1 ± 0.2	<MDL	4.6 ± 0.7	2.3 ± 0.2	<MDL
Formate	0.7 ± 0.1	2.8 ± 0.2	<MDL	1.9 ± 0.3	2.1 ± 0.2	0.19 ± 0.03
Malate	0.34 ± 0.09	4.8 ± 0.4	14 ± 2	0.3 ± 0.1	4.0 ± 0.3	22 ± 2

Malonate	0.7 ± 0.2	2.9 ± 0.2	4.1 ± 0.4	<MDL	3.5 ± 0.3	9.4 ± 0.7
MSA	3.3 ± 0.5	19 ± 1	22 ± 2	7 ± 1	13.3 ± 0.8	14 ± 1
Oxalate	2.2 ± 0.4	9.1 ± 0.7	5.8 ± 0.8	<MDL	8.7 ± 0.9	11 ± 1
nss-SO ₄ ²⁻	96 ± 14	145 ± 10	160 ± 15	100 ± 15	127 ± 7	145 ± 12
nss-K ⁺	3.4 ± 0.6	15 ± 2	7.8 ± 0.7	67 ± 10	44 ± 4	5.2 ± 0.4
nss-Mg ²⁺	13 ± 2	36 ± 4	10 ± 1	164 ± 25	81 ± 8	6.2 ± 0.5
nss-Ca ²⁺	7 ± 2	44 ± 5	14 ± 2	184 ± 31	131 ± 10	46 ± 4
Sea Salt	2685 ± 405	1725 ± 124	1360 ± 127	1596 ± 243	1708 ± 104	1281 ± 105

^a Averages from the summer of 2015 only include the months of August and September as no sampling occurred in the earlier summer months.

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Figure 3. The ambient mass concentration of MSA for the summers of 2015-2017 at each site.

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There are several sources of non-sea-salt sulfate (nss-SO₄²⁻) in the Arctic, both biogenic and anthropogenic (Ghahremaninezhad et al., 2016; Norman et al., 1999). Average ambient concentrations of nss-SO₄²⁻ increased each summer from 2015 to 2017 at both sites, which is opposite of annual trends which show a longterm decrease (Quinn et al., 2009; Breider et al., 2017). Nss-SO₄²⁻ correlates with MSA at both sites, with an r^2 of 0.49 at Utqiagvik and 0.50 at Oliktok Point respectively. The correlation indicates a biogenic influence on nss-SO₄²⁻ on the NSA, which aligns with previous studies which reported a significant contribution of marine sources to sulfate aerosol in the summertime Arctic (Breider et al., 2017; Li and Barrie, 1993; Park et al., 2017). Similarly, sulfur isotope data revealed between 9-40% of nss-SO₄²⁻ was from biogenic sources in the Canadian Arctic summer in the early 1990s, and up to 70% of nss-SO₄²⁻ resulted from DMS in the early summer in Svalbard in 2015 (Norman et al., 1999; Park et al., 2017). Studies have also shown that the contribution of biogenic sulfate to the total sulfate increases with increasing MSA concentrations (Park et al., 2017).

However, anthropogenic contributions are also likely for nss SO₄²⁻ at both NSA sites and the correlation analysis does not fully reflect the complexity of the atmospheric chemistry and transport influences on the ratio of MSA:nss-SO₄²⁻. At Oliktok Point anthropogenic influences would include local oil and gas exploration and extraction activity and potential long range

463 transport. Indeed, ATOFMS measurements showed primary sulfate mixed with local combustion
464 soot at the site (Gunsch et al., 2019). At Utqiagvik anthropogenic nss-SO₄²⁻ is likely due to
465 transport from source regions including oil field activity surrounding Oliktok Point; Gunsch et al.
466 (2017) observed days with influence from the NSA oil fields during September 2015. It is also
467 possible that the measured MSA represents a lower limit of the MSA produced in source regions
468 due to loss from oxidation during atmospheric transport to the site (Mungall et al., 2018). It is
469 important to consider both MSA and nss-SO₄²⁻ to understand Arctic atmospheric composition.

470 3.2 Long-term Trends of MSA and nss-SO₄²⁻

471 Quinn et al. (2009) reported MSA and nss-SO₄²⁻ for filter samples from Utqiagvik, AK,
472 from 1998 to 2007, and demonstrated an increase in summertime MSA and nss-SO₄²⁻ ambient
473 concentrations over that decade. They reference decreasing sea-ice cover and increases in mean
474 sea surface temperature as potential causes of these trends (Quinn et al., 2009). By combining the
475 published measurements, additional MSA and nss-SO₄²⁻ for 2008-2013 from NOAA, and the
476 2016-2017 ARM field campaign results, trends over two decades on the NSA can be evaluated.
477 The Mann-Kendall test and Sen's method were used to test for monotonic trends and estimate
478 the slope of the linear trend. Quinn et al. (2009) defined summer months as July-September;
479 those months were used to calculate the averages used for this comparison. The summer of 2015
480 is excluded here as it does not include July, which is an important month for primary
481 productivity; the August-September 2015 MSA average is significantly lower than the other two
482 years in this study (Table S3). Comparing the summer averages for the full summer (Table 1) to
483 the averages for just August-September (Table S3) the effects of July primary productivity on
484 nss-SO₄²⁻ are evident; 2015 was also excluded from the trend for nss-SO₄²⁻ for this reason. The
485 average nss-SO₄²⁻ concentration in 2015 is significantly different from the summers of 2016
486 ($\alpha=0.05$, $p=0.01$) and 2017 ($\alpha=0.05$, $p=0.04$) when considering the full summer. The summer of
487 2017 average concentration decreases when only examining the months of August-September
488 and is similar to that of the summer of 2015. The average concentration of nss-SO₄²⁻ for 2016
489 increases when the earlier summer months are excluded, highlighting the influence of the
490 Extreme Arctic Cyclone of 2016 on primary productivity, discussed in Section 3.4.

491 Quinn et al. (2009) reported an increase of MSA concentrations of 12% per year ($\alpha=0.1$)
492 from 1998 to 2007. With the addition of 2008-2013, 2016, and 2017, the increase of MSA
493 concentrations is $2.5\pm 4.0\%$ per year ($\alpha>0.10$) (Figure 4). Quinn et al. (2009) found an increase of
494 8% per year ($\alpha=0.05$) in nss-SO₄²⁻ concentration. With the addition of the data from this study,
495 the trend is still increasing but at a rate of $2.1\pm 14\%$ per year ($\alpha>0.10$). There is an apparent
496 decrease in the magnitude of both upward trends with the additional summers of data.
497 Environmental and climate factors may be contributing to the reduced rate of increase in MSA
498 and nss-SO₄²⁻ concentrations in Utqiagvik. DMS emissions in the open water regions of the
499 Arctic Ocean increased rapidly from 2003-2011 and then decreased from 2011-2016 (Galí et al.,
500 2019). The data from Quinn et al. (2009) reflects this in the MSA concentrations, while the
501 additional data in this study shows the result of decreased DMS emissions. In addition, sea ice
502 extent has retreated significantly over this time, such that the primary production zones on the ice
503 edge are less influential on aerosol at Utqiagvik during the summer. Previous studies have also
504 hypothesized that in July-August the ice edge has receded enough that it no longer effects areas
505 of high productivity (Sharma et al., 2012). Indeed, monthly average ice extent reveals that the
506 sea ice extent reduces drastically in the region in 2007 and remains similarly diminished during
507 the next decade (Figure S8). In the summer of 2013, the sea ice extent is more similar to years

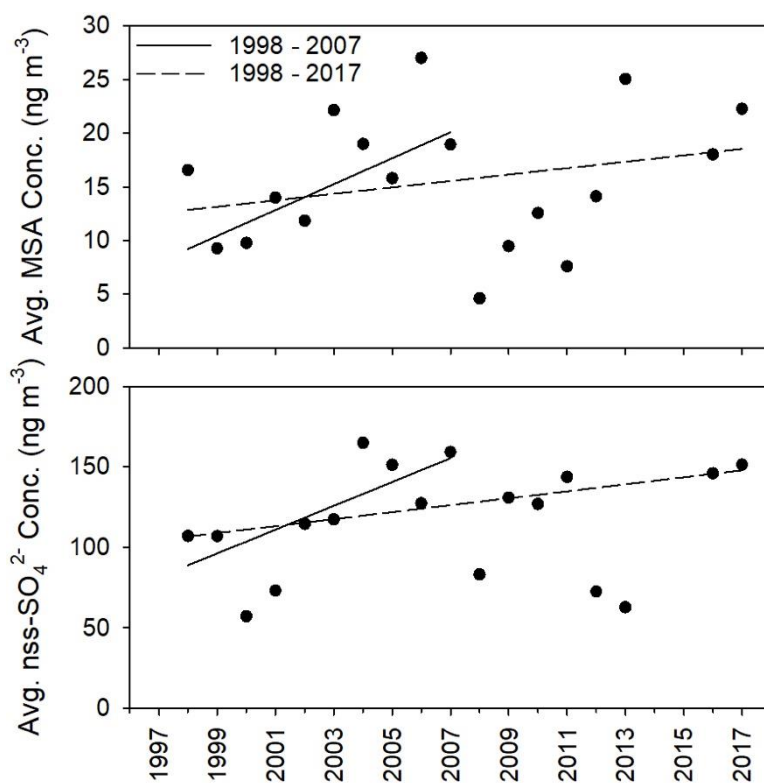
508 prior to 2007 and also has a higher average concentration of MSA (Figure 4, Figure S8). A linear
509 regression of monthly average sea ice extent with MSA for 1998-2017 reveals a weak correlation
510 with $r^2=0.17$ (Figure S9). The upward trend of the data indicates a minor influence of sea ice
511 extent, most likely due to proximity of the sea ice edge to the NSA. As the ice edge retreats
512 further from the NSA coast, MSA produced from these zones of high primary productivity may
513 be diluted during transport to the NSA sites. This analysis indicates conflicting processes that
514 need to continue to be monitored: enhanced primary productivity associated with temperature
515 resulting in higher biogenic sulfur aerosols versus dilution of the measured MSA as productive
516 regions on the ice edge move further from the NSA coast.

517 Sharma et al. (2019) found no significant change in MSA concentrations between 1980
518 and 2013 at Alert. An increase of 4% per year in MSA was reported at Alert between 1998 and
519 2008 (Sharma et al., 2012). Similar to Quinn et al. (2009), the increase over the time period was
520 attributed potentially to reduced sea ice (Sharma et al., 2012). Sharma et al. (2019) concluded
521 that high MSA concentrations before 1990 were not related to sea ice reduction. Ice extent has
522 been affected more intensely in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas than in the regions surrounding
523 Alert (Comiso, 2012). The effects of increased primary productivity due to changes in sea ice
524 extent might be more readily observed in regions like the NSA. On a longer timescale, MSA
525 concentrations from the Greenland ice sheet started to decline in 1816 at the onset of regional
526 warming associated with the industrial revolution (Osman et al., 2019). This decrease is thought
527 to be associated with a reduction in North Atlantic primary productivity caused by a weakened
528 Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (Osman et al., 2019). Clearly, on-going
529 measurements are needed to determine short and long term responses to climate change at
530 different Arctic sites.

531 In terms of atmospheric chemistry, there is a temperature dependency of DMS oxidation
532 to MSA versus sulfate, with sulfate favored at higher temperatures (Albu et al., 2006; Jung et al.,
533 2014). Bates et al. (1992) calculated that decreasing the temperature from 25 °C to 5 °C results in
534 an increase of a factor of 3.8 in the production of MSA over nss-SO_4^{2-} . The formation of MSA is
535 favored at temperatures under 17 °C (Jung et al., 2014). It is possible that air temperatures have
536 warmed in source regions so that the formation of sulfate is then favored over MSA. Examining
537 the ambient temperature data reported by the HYSPLIT program with the back trajectories, some
538 back trajectories did have maximum temperatures associated with them greater than 17 °C.
539 These high temperatures mainly occurred over land, either the interior of Alaska or Russia, or
540 along the coasts of Alaska and the Bering Strait. Overall, however, the average temperatures
541 were never above 17 °C. Because this data is reported by the HYSPLIT model, it may not be
542 fully representative of the meteorological conditions in each source region. Understanding trends
543 in nss-SO_4^{2-} is difficult due to the multiple sources it can have. Annual anthropogenic emissions
544 of sulfate have decreased over the last decades (Breider et al., 2017; Hirdman et al., 2010; Quinn
545 et al., 2009; Sharma et al., 2006), although this is not necessarily true for local emissions from
546 Prudhoe Bay. It is possible that nss-SO_4^{2-} from marine biogenic emissions has increased but
547 quantifying that contribution to the total nss-SO_4^{2-} is outside the scope of this study.

548 The increasing concentrations of marine sulfur aerosols may have implications for cloud-
549 aerosol interactions in the future. The κ of sulfate is higher than that of methanesulfonate
550 compounds; however, any size distribution changes likely will dominate any potential
551 differences in CCN activity. MSA: nss-SO_4^{2-} mass concentration ratios ranged from 0.30-52%
552 between 1997-2017, with an average ratio of $16\pm 14\%$. These values are similar to previously

553 reported values of below 0.2% and up to 32% in campaigns over the Southern Pacific Ocean and
 554 the Canadian Arctic Archipelago (Bates et al., 1992; Willis et al., 2017). Leck & Persson (1996)
 555 found a constant MSA:nss-SO₄²⁻ molar ratio of 22% during the summer and autumn of 1991
 556 over the Arctic Ocean and pack ice. Sharma et al. (2019) found an average molar MSA:nss-SO₄²⁻
 557 ratio of 13.5±6% at Alert. These ratios likely incorporate both differences due to the
 558 contributions of sources (e.g. marine and anthropogenic) and differences associated with
 559 temperature controls on MSA production in the atmosphere. Understanding influences on MSA
 560 and nss-SO₄²⁻, such as temperature, is important as the climate continues to change and influence
 561 aerosol, with potential feedbacks through cloud-aerosol interactions. Composition, mixing state,
 562 and CCN measurements are all relevant to improve predictions of the effects of increased marine
 563 biogenic aerosol on cloud-aerosol interactions in the Arctic.

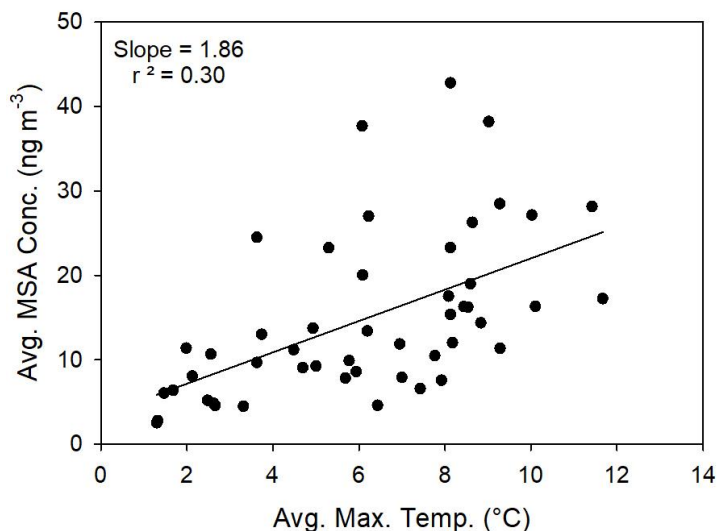


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 565 **Figure 4.** Average MSA (top) and nss-SO₄²⁻ (bottom) mass concentrations for July – September
 566 over two decades. The lines represent the Sen’s slope estimates. The 1998-2017 line does not
 567 include the summer of 2015.

568 569 3.3 Relationship between temperature and MSA

570 Previous research using ice cores has indicated that MSA concentrations are related to
 571 warmer sea surface temperature and reduced sea ice extent, which is cited by Quinn et al. (2009)
 572 as a potential influence on increasing MSA concentrations (O'Dwyer et al., 2000). As mentioned
 573 above, the longer record in the Greenland ice sheet indicates a long term decreasing trend with
 574 the last twenty years increasing (Osman et al., 2019; Sharma et al., 2019). The potential

575 relationship is complex and can be examined on different time scales (Osman et al., 2019). The
 576 monthly averages of MSA from 1998-2013 and 2015-2017 were plotted versus the average
 577 maximum temperature at Utqiagvik and show a weak relationship with an $r^2=0.30$ (Figure 5).
 578 The average maximum temperature was selected to capture the relationship of the higher daily
 579 temperatures with MSA, which the average temperature may not properly show.



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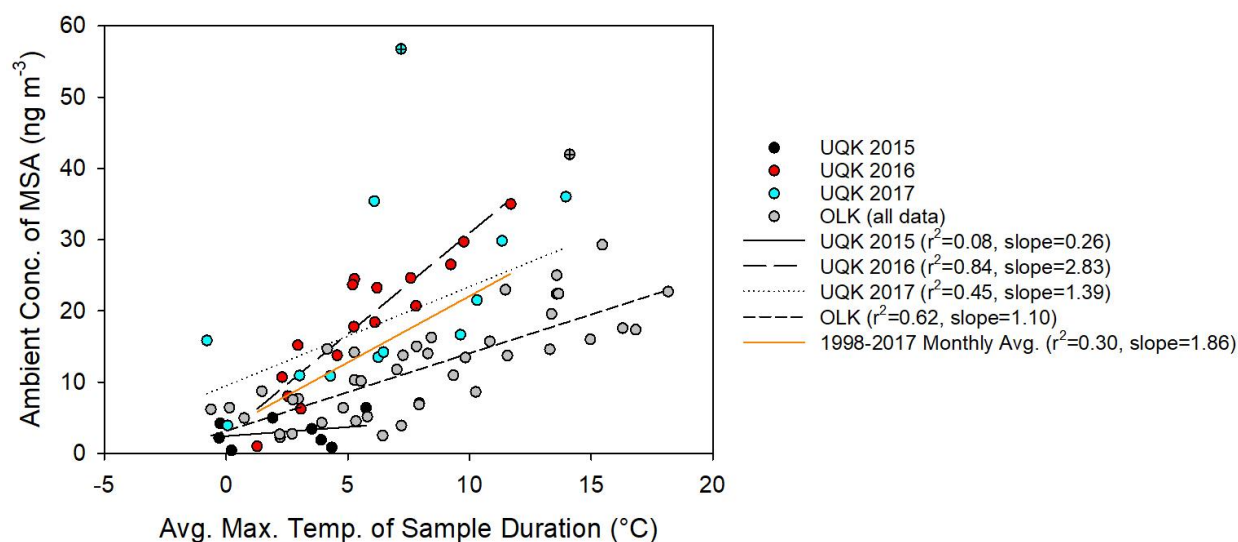
581 **Figure 5.** The average monthly concentration of MSA plotted against the average monthly
 582 maximum temperature at Utqiagvik (1998-2017).

583

584 Warmer months likely have increased primary productivity leading to higher concentrations of
 585 MSA. In addition, air masses may be passing over warmer marine regions with increased
 586 biogenic activity, bringing both higher temperatures and marine aerosol. No relationship
 587 ($r^2<0.10$) was found for average maximum temperature and nss-SO_4^{2-} , potentially due to the
 588 influence of multiple sources. Previous research found a strong inverse relationship between
 589 $\text{MSA}:\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$ and atmospheric temperature (Bates et al., 1992). This study found a weaker
 590 positive relationship ($r^2=0.15$, slope=1.37) with the ratio of $\text{MSA}:\text{nss-SO}_4^{2-}$ than with MSA
 591 alone. The differing relationships are likely due to differences in the sampling sites including
 592 marine biogenic source regions and temperature; the average daily temperature in Bates et al.
 593 (1992) was as high as 28 °C, while the largest average maximum temperature for this study was
 594 12 °C. With sulfate production from DMS favored as temperatures increase, it is possible an
 595 inverse relationship may be observed on the NSA in the future as temperatures rise. However,
 596 because nss-SO_4^{2-} also has anthropogenic sources on the NSA which may not change with
 597 temperature, this relationship may be difficult to assess.

598 In order to study the short term connection among nss-SO_4^{2-} , MSA, and temperature, the
 599 same correlation was performed with the individual data points from 2015-2017. As there may
 600 be a delay in the effect of warmer temperatures on DMS production, the weeklong duration of
 601 the samples may help appropriately capture this relationship. The high concentration samples
 602 from 2017 are excluded in these relationships as they were determined to be statistical outliers.
 603 Nss-SO_4^{2-} was weakly correlated with temperature at both Utqiagvik ($r^2=0.27$, slope=8.55) and
 604 Oliktok ($r^2=0.22$, slope=6.46) between 2015-2017. As mentioned before, it may be difficult to

605 identify connections between nss-SO_4^{2-} as it has multiple sources ranging from biogenic to
 606 anthropogenic. There is a stronger relationship between weekly MSA and the corresponding
 607 weekly average maximum temperature ($r^2=0.41$, slope=1.26) (Figure 6), although there are key
 608 differences between the sites. All three summers at Oliktok Point (2015-2017) have a consistent
 609 relationship between MSA and temperature ($r^2=0.62$, slope=1.10). During the summer of 2015 at
 610 Utqiagvik, there is no relationship ($r^2<0.10$) between MSA and temperature. The summer of
 611 2017 at Utqiagvik has a correlation of $r^2=0.45$. The summer of 2016 at Utqiagvik has a strong
 612 relationship with temperature ($r^2=0.84$, slope=2.83). While Oliktok Point always has a large
 613 portion of its air mass influence from the Beaufort Sea each summer, Utqiagvik has varying
 614 influence (Figure S10). A previous study in the Arctic Ocean found that changes in transport
 615 patterns between days, seasons, and years, had large effects on the atmospheric sulfur budget
 616 (Nilsson and Leck, 2002). The consistent Beaufort Sea influence and correlation between
 617 temperature and MSA at Oliktok Point indicates year to year differences in concentration are
 618 likely due to changes to the environment and not shifting air mass source regions. Previous
 619 studies have found differing relationships between temperature and MSA, with studies in
 620 subpolar regions finding weak relationships (Bates et al., 1992; Jung et al., 2014). A study in the
 621 open Arctic Ocean reported no temperature dependence (Leck and Persson, 1996), while another
 622 at Alert found no direct links between MSA and changes in air temperature (Sharma et al.,
 623 2012). Sites with multiple source regions such as Utqiagvik may make this relationship difficult
 624 to study. Oliktok Point is better positioned to understand how variations in sea ice extent from
 625 year to year affect primary productivity. The Arctic Ocean is comprised of multiple
 626 biogeochemical regimes which will all react differently to changing temperatures and sea ice
 627 extent (Galí et al., 2019). An understanding of how each region is affected is necessary to
 628 comprehend how emissions of MSA and aerosol-cloud interactions may change. Continued long
 629 term sampling at Arctic sites like Oliktok Point would allow for this understanding of the
 630 Beaufort Sea.



631
 632 **Figure 6.** A scatter plot of the ambient concentration of MSA for both Utqiagvik and Oliktok
 633 Point and the average maximum temperature of the sample duration. Utqiagvik has individual
 634 trendlines for each summer while Oliktok Point is represented by a single trendline as the

635 relationship is consistent over all three summers (2015-2017). The trendline for the monthly
636 averages from 1998-2017 is also included. The two statistical outliers are marked with a +.

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3.4 Influence of Arctic cyclones on MSA

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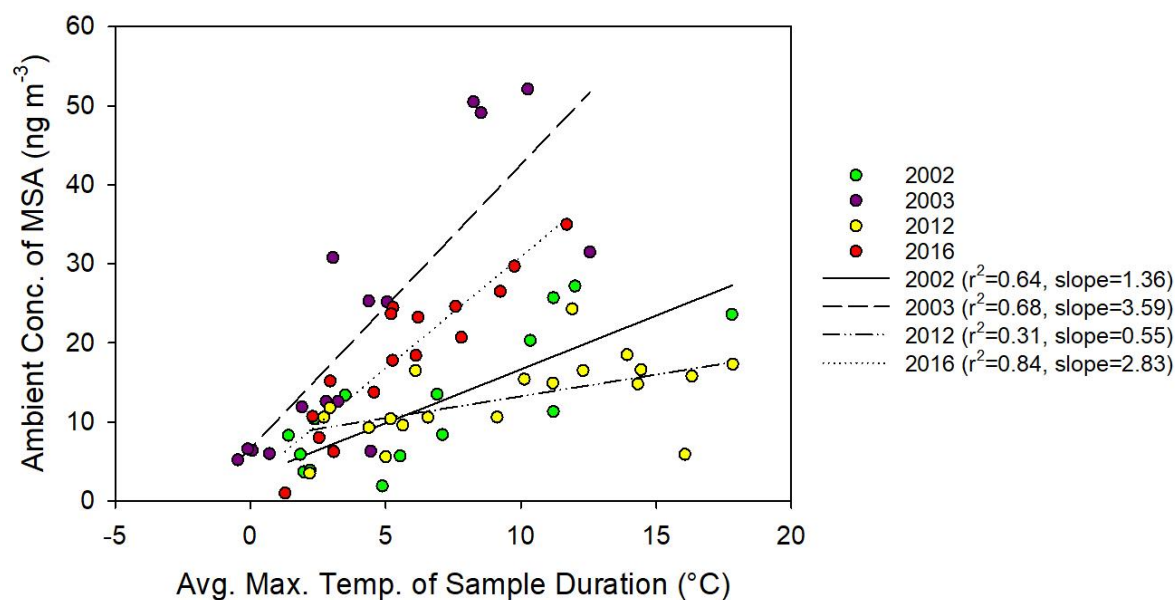
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The Extreme Arctic Cyclone of August 2016 may have affected the air mass influence on Utqiagvik as the average back trajectory contribution for the summer of 2016 had a higher percent contribution from the Chukchi Sea than all other summers. In addition, the cyclone may have led to increased primary productivity in regions of the Arctic Ocean that influenced Utqiagvik. Simmonds et al. (2014) reported cyclones in July 2002 and 2003, as well as September 2003. The cyclones in July were the 1st and 3rd ranked cyclones that occurred in July between 1979 and 2009 (Simmonds and Rudeva, 2014). Like the summer of 2016, the summers of 2002 and 2003 also show strong relationships between MSA concentration and the average maximum temperature (Figure 7). The summer of 2012, when the Great Arctic Cyclone of August 2012 occurred, does not show this strong relationship, although primary productivity was shown to increase due to enhanced nutrients associated with vertical mixing (Zhang et al., 2014). As this cyclone occurred in a time of decreased DMS emissions (Galí et al., 2019), it potentially only increased what was already an unproductive year. A study on the impact of Arctic cyclones on chlorophyll-a concentrations found that the increase in concentration was dependent on the initial chlorophyll-a concentrations (Li et al., 2019). The summers of 2002, 2003, and 2016, likely show the result of enhanced productivity due to both warmer temperatures and cyclonic activity. Two other years with strong relationships were 2004 ($r^2=0.73$, slope=2.72) and 2009 ($r^2=0.64$, slope=1.32). No record of an intense cyclone during either summer was found, but that does not rule out similar mixing events. Primary productivity in the Arctic is affected by many factors including temperature, sea ice extent, and nutrient availability. In these years with intense cyclonic activity, ambient maximum temperature is a strong indicator of MSA concentrations. The exact mechanisms behind this relationship, including effects on air mass influence and increase nutrients for phytoplankton blooms, need to be studied more in depth. The remaining summers either had strong relationships with few data points or had relationships more similar to the summers of 2015 and 2017 at Utqiagvik. The varying source regions as well as the potential impacts of long-range transport of MSA and other aerosol make identifying a relationship between MSA and temperature difficult for these summers. Transported MSA may relate differently to temperature or other parameters than MSA formed near the site.

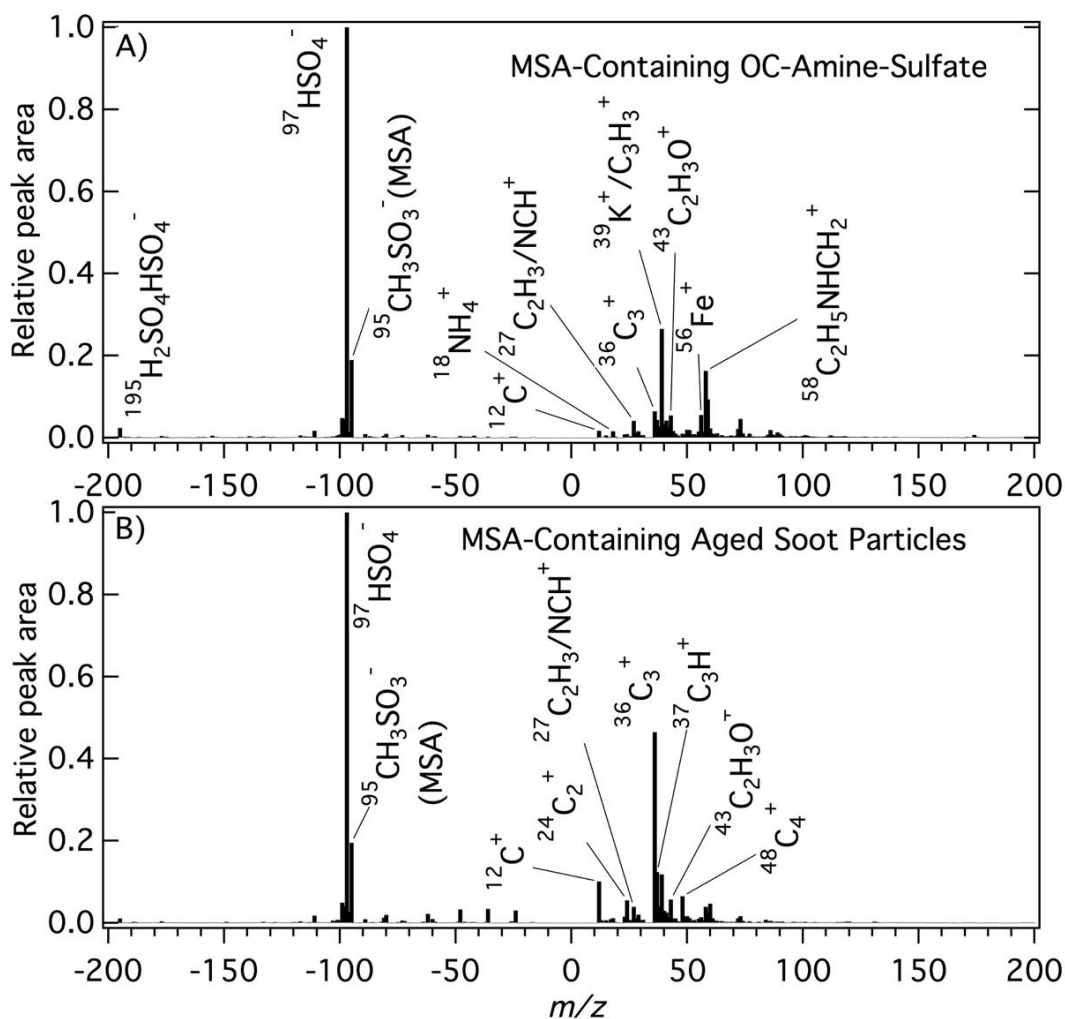


667
668 **Figure 7.** A scatter plot of the ambient concentration of MSA versus the average maximum
669 temperature of the sample duration for the four summers at Utqiagvik with recorded Arctic
670 cyclones.

671 672 3.5 Mixing state of MSA

673 The mixing state of MSA within the aerosol population, or distribution of MSA across
674 individual particles, was determined by real-time measurements of individual aerosol particles by
675 ATOFMS at Oliktok Point. This analysis facilitates understanding of sources of the submicron
676 MSA-containing particles, which provides improved understanding of potential CCN impacts.
677 For August 22 to September 17, 2016, MSA (m/z -95 (CH_3SO_3^-)) was observed within 3%, by
678 number of the 32,880 measured, of 0.07-1.6 μm (vacuum aerodynamic diameter) particles,
679 varying from 0-17% of the number concentration over course of the study. 97% of the MSA-
680 containing particles, by number, were classified as OC-amine-sulfate particles (60%), aged soot
681 (ECOC) particles (25%), and aged sea spray aerosols (12%), with each of these particle types
682 containing additional secondary aerosol components. Compared to the full population of
683 observed OC-amine-sulfate and ECOC particles (Gunsch et al., 2019), the MSA-containing
684 particles had elevated sulfate (m/z -97 (HSO_4^-)) and oxidized organics (m/z +43 ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$)) (Qin
685 et al., 2012) signals (Figure 8). MSA was detected in chloride-depleted sea spray particles (lack
686 of m/z -93 (NaCl_2^-) or -97 (NaCl_2^-) peaks), which is consistent with atmospheric aging due to
687 reactions with acids resulting in HCl release. Due to potential interferences, MSA could not be
688 accurately measured in particles with m/z -93 (NaCl_2^-) or -97 (NaCl_2^-) peaks. MSA was
689 previously found to be internally mixed within aged soot and sea spray aerosols at Riverside,
690 California, located approximately 100 km from the coast (Gaston et al., 2010), and in organic
691 and amine-containing particles at a remote Arctic area of Resolute Bay, Nunavut, Canada
692 (Köllner et al., 2017; Willis et al., 2017). In this study, 85%, 72%, and 45% of MSA-containing
693 particles, by number, were internally mixed with sulfate, oxidized organics, and ammonium (m/z
694 +18 (NH_4^+)), respectively, consistent with significant accumulation of secondary aerosol. OC-

695 amine-sulfate and soot particles were emitted within the oil field (Gunsch et al., 2019),
 696 suggesting condensation of MSA and other secondary species during transport across the oil
 697 field. Iron (m/z +54, 56, 57 (Fe^+)) was internally mixed in 44%, by number, of MSA-containing
 698 OC-amine-sulfate particles, and the Fe peaks were significantly higher in these particles
 699 compared to the rest of OC-amine-sulfate particles. Iron could act as a catalyst for MSA
 700 formation (Alexander et al., 2009), as suggested previously for vanadium observed within MSA-
 701 containing particles in California by Gaston et al (2010). These results indicate that MSA
 702 condenses onto pre-existing particles within the oil fields and accumulates with significant
 703 secondary sulfate and organics, highlighting the importance of marine emissions even in regions
 704 with oil and gas emissions.



705
 706 **Figure 8.** Average individual particle ATOFMS mass spectra for MSA-containing (A) OC-
 707 amine-sulfate and (B) aged soot particles.

708

709 **4 Conclusions**

710 This study presents trends in MSA and nss-SO_4^{2-} concentration over several years and
711 examines how the changing Arctic influences the aerosol concentration and composition. Both
712 sites (Utqiagvik and Oliktok Point, AK) had similar concentrations of MSA, despite having
713 differing influence from air mass source regions. When combined with additional data sets at
714 Utqiagvik, MSA and nss-SO_4^{2-} concentrations have increased over the last two decades at a rate
715 of +2.5% per year and +2.1% per year respectively. MSA: nss-SO_4^{2-} ratios indicate that nss-SO_4^{2-}
716 has both biogenic and anthropogenic sources. The average ratio of MSA to nss-SO_4^{2-} is similar to
717 those reported in other polar regions. Biogenic sulfur compounds could potentially influence
718 cloud-aerosol interactions as the climate changes in the Arctic. At Oliktok Point, MSA was
719 observed within individual OC-amine-sulfate and aged soot particles with significant secondary
720 sulfate and oxidized organics, highlighting the importance of marine aerosol in an oil field. The
721 relationship between MSA and OC could provide information about the factors driving OC
722 composition.

723 Monthly averages of MSA from 1997-2017 are weakly related to ambient temperature,
724 suggesting that warmer temperatures explain some increases in marine biogenic activity and
725 aerosol. MSA concentrations have a strong relationship to ambient temperature at Oliktok Point,
726 where air mass influence is predominantly from the Beaufort Sea. Utqiagvik, where MSA is
727 weakly related to ambient temperature, receives air mass influence from multiple marine and
728 coastal regions making it more difficult to observe these relationships. Warmer temperatures will
729 affect primary productivity differently in each region. nss-SO_4^{2-} is weakly related to temperature
730 from 2015-2017 at each site, but has no relationship over 1997-2017, likely due to multiple
731 sources aside from marine influencing its' concentrations. Summers with intense Arctic cyclone
732 activity at Utqiagvik had strong relationships between MSA and average maximum temperature,
733 perhaps due to enhanced vertical mixing in the surface ocean. More research is needed to
734 determine how the complex Arctic marine system including ocean circulation, cyclonic activity,
735 and changes in plankton populations impacts DMS emission and MSA and nss-SO_4^{2-} production.

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753 **Data Availability Statement**

754 The ion chromatography data used in this paper can be accessed at
755 <https://dataverse.tdl.org/dataverse/baylor> using doi:10.18738/T8/EVQCQB. The ATOFMS data
756 can be accessed through the ARM Data Center (Pratt, 2016). Meteorological and aerosol data for
757 Utqiagvik were obtained from NOAA Earth System Research Laboratory Global Monitoring
758 Laboratory (<https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/obop/brw/>). Meteorological data for Oliktok Point
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762 data is provided by the NASA Ocean Biology Processing group and can be accessed using doi:
763 [data/10.5067/NPP/VIIRS/L3B/CHL/2018](https://doi.org/10.5067/NPP/VIIRS/L3B/CHL/2018). Sea ice extent data is provided by the National Snow
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Figure 1.

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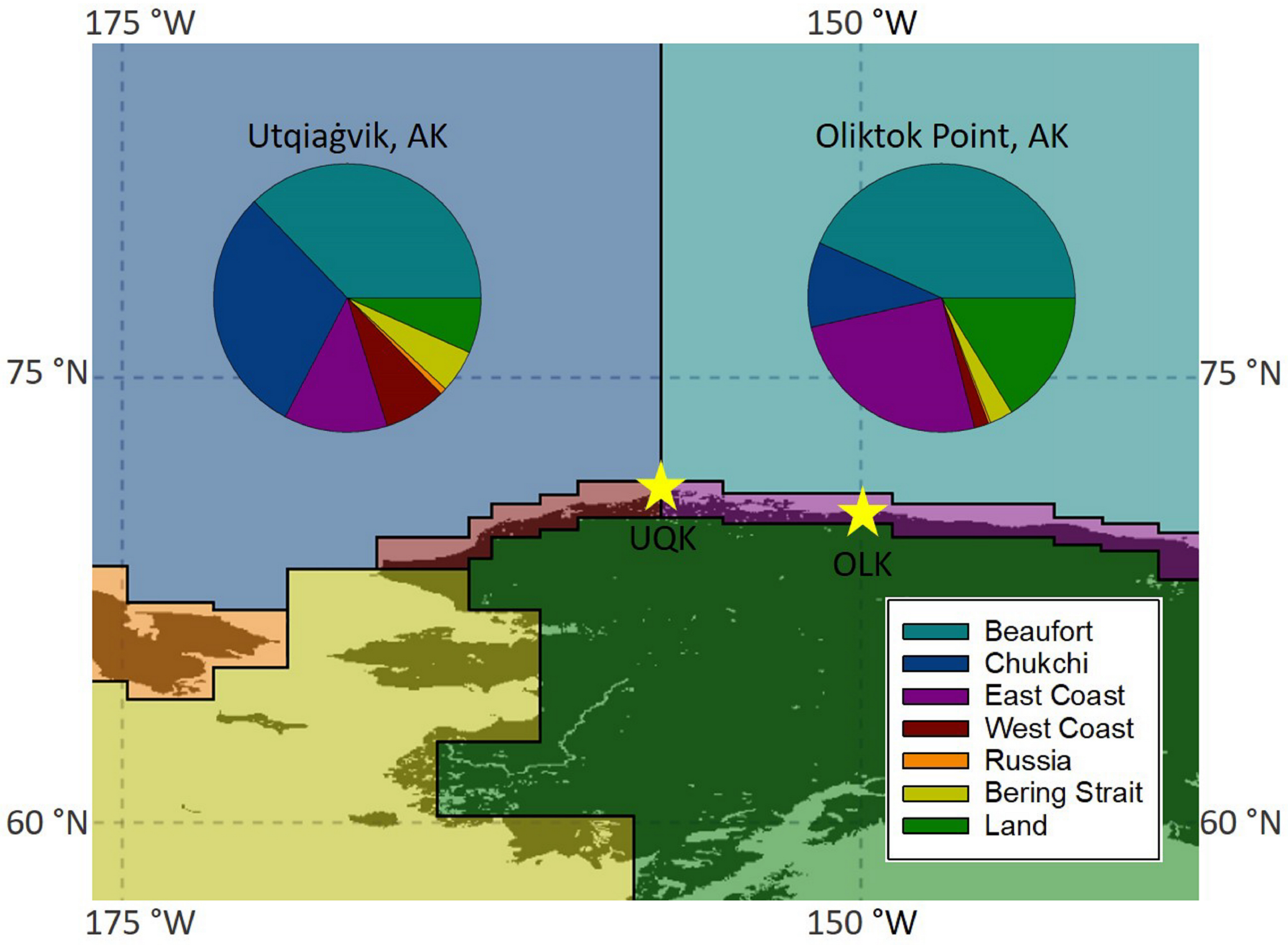
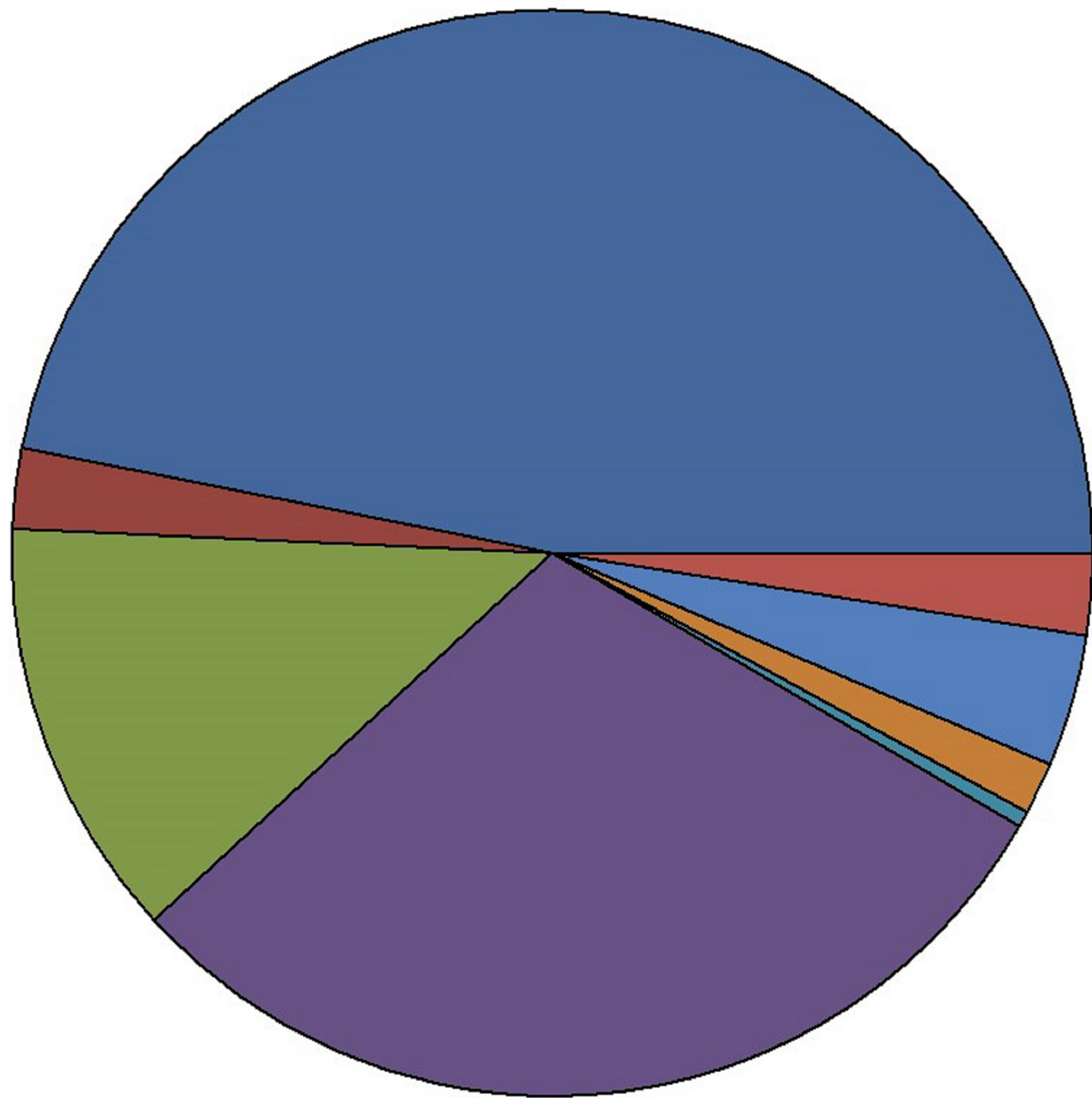


Figure 2.

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Utqiagvik, AK



Oliktok Point, AK

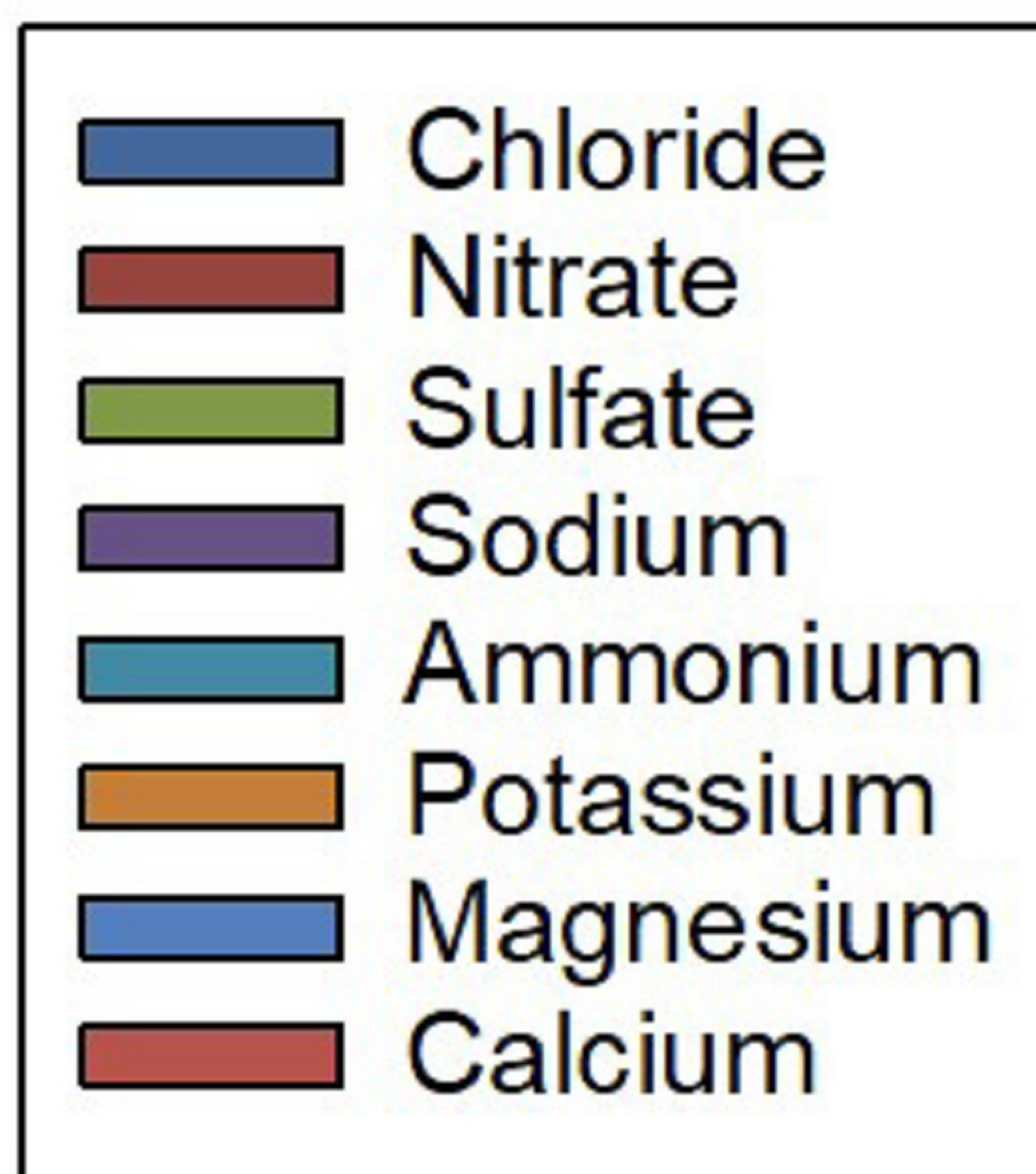
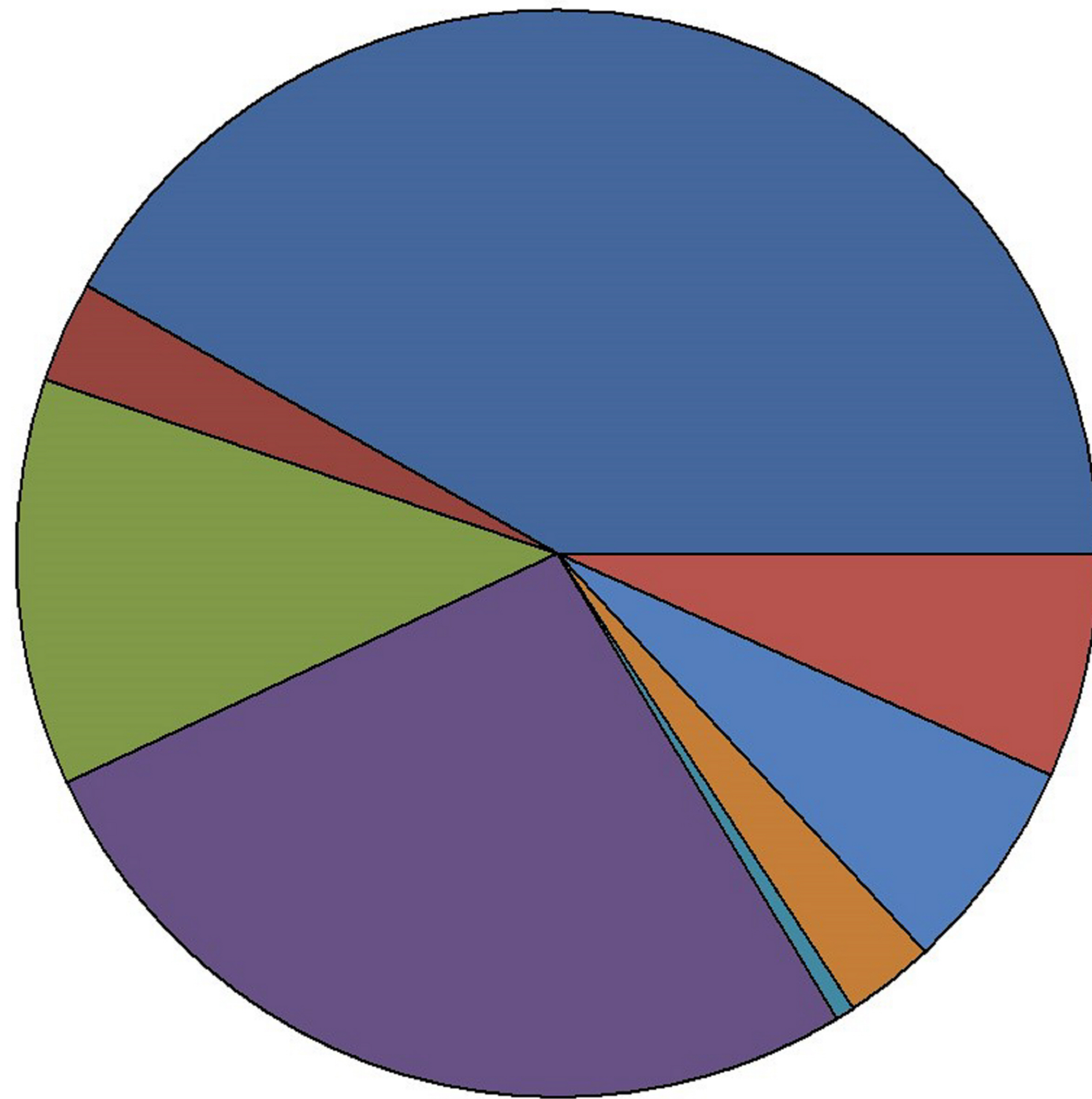


Figure 3.

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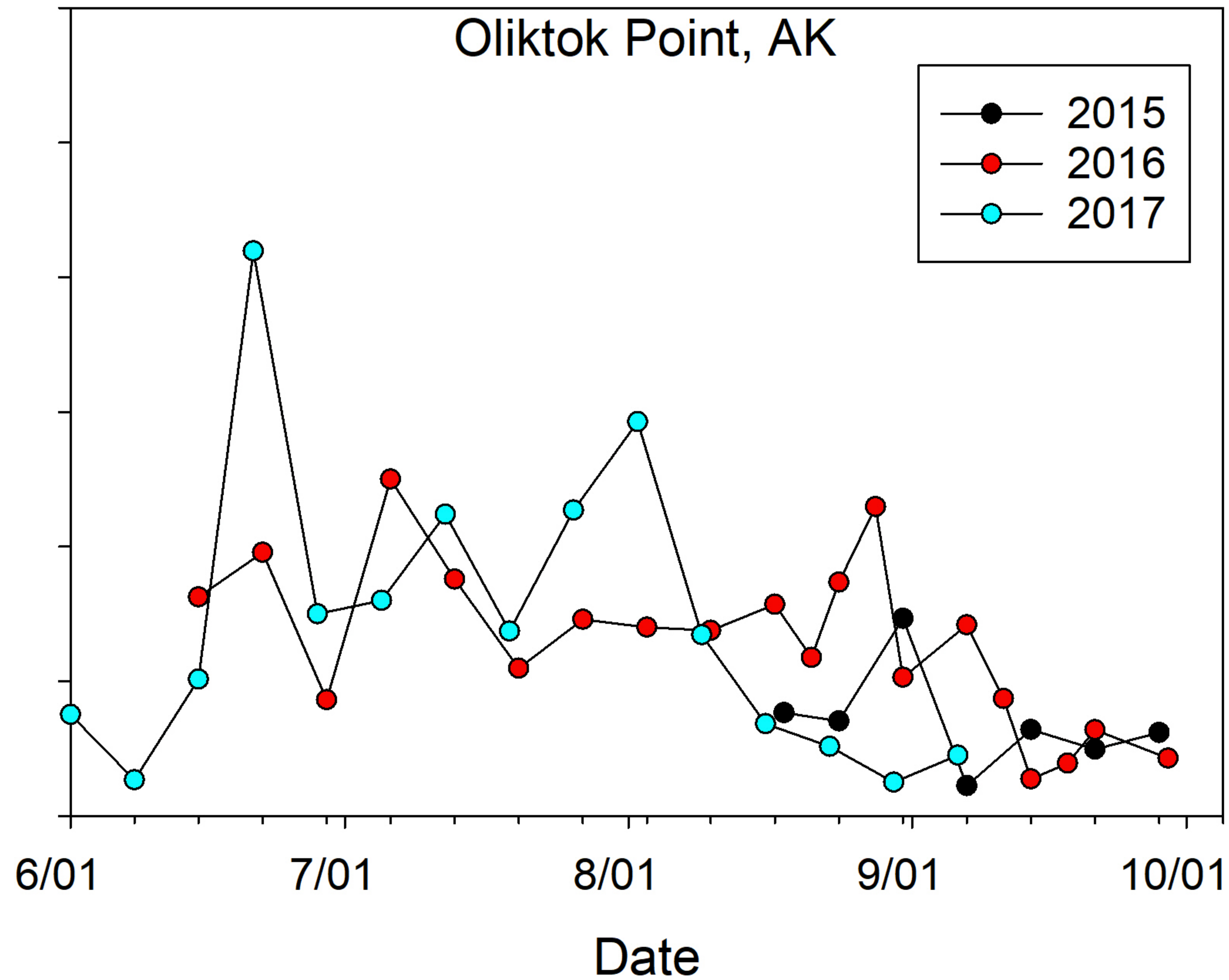
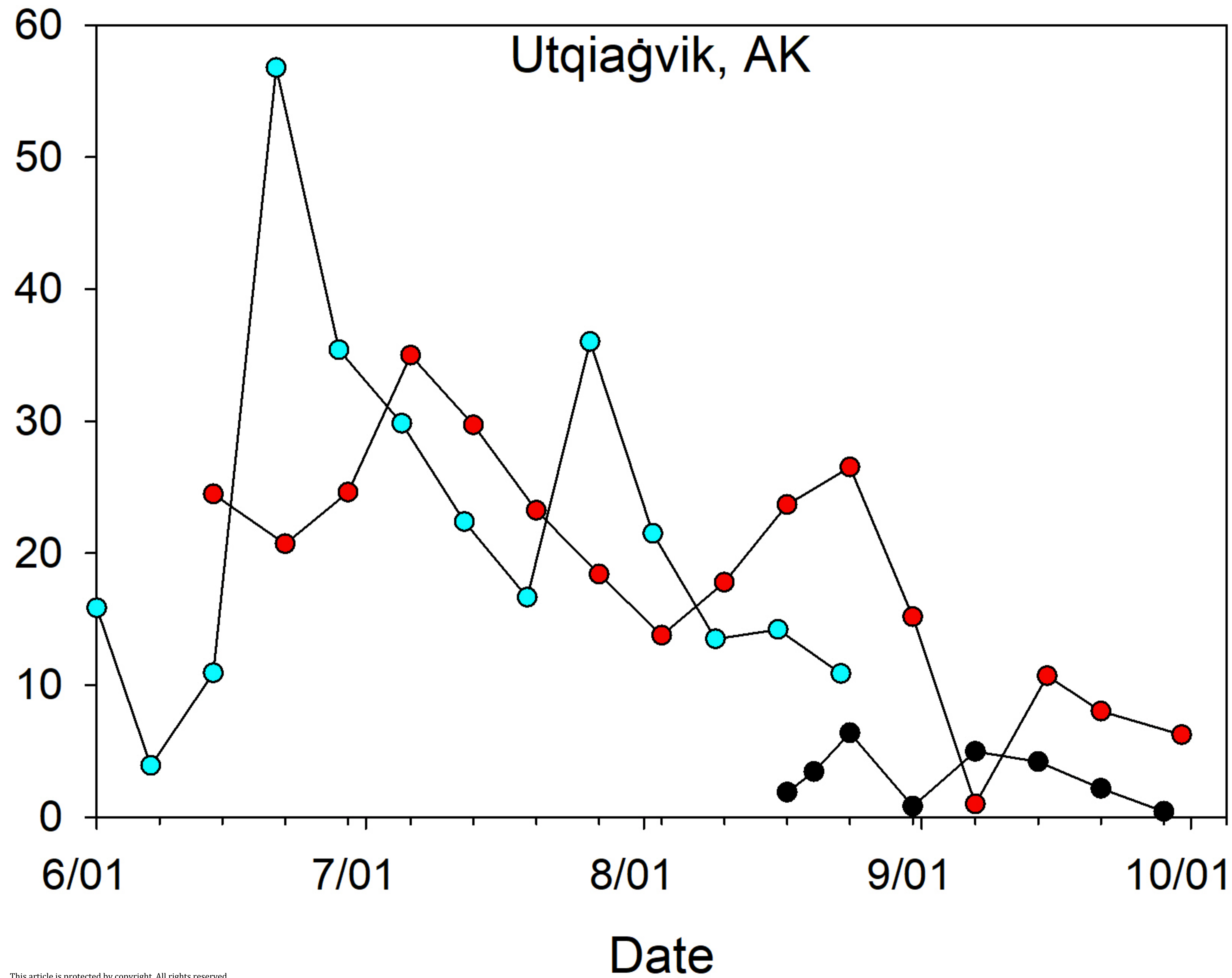


Figure 4.

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Avg. nss-SO₄²⁻ Conc. (ng m⁻³) Avg. MSA Conc. (ng m⁻³)

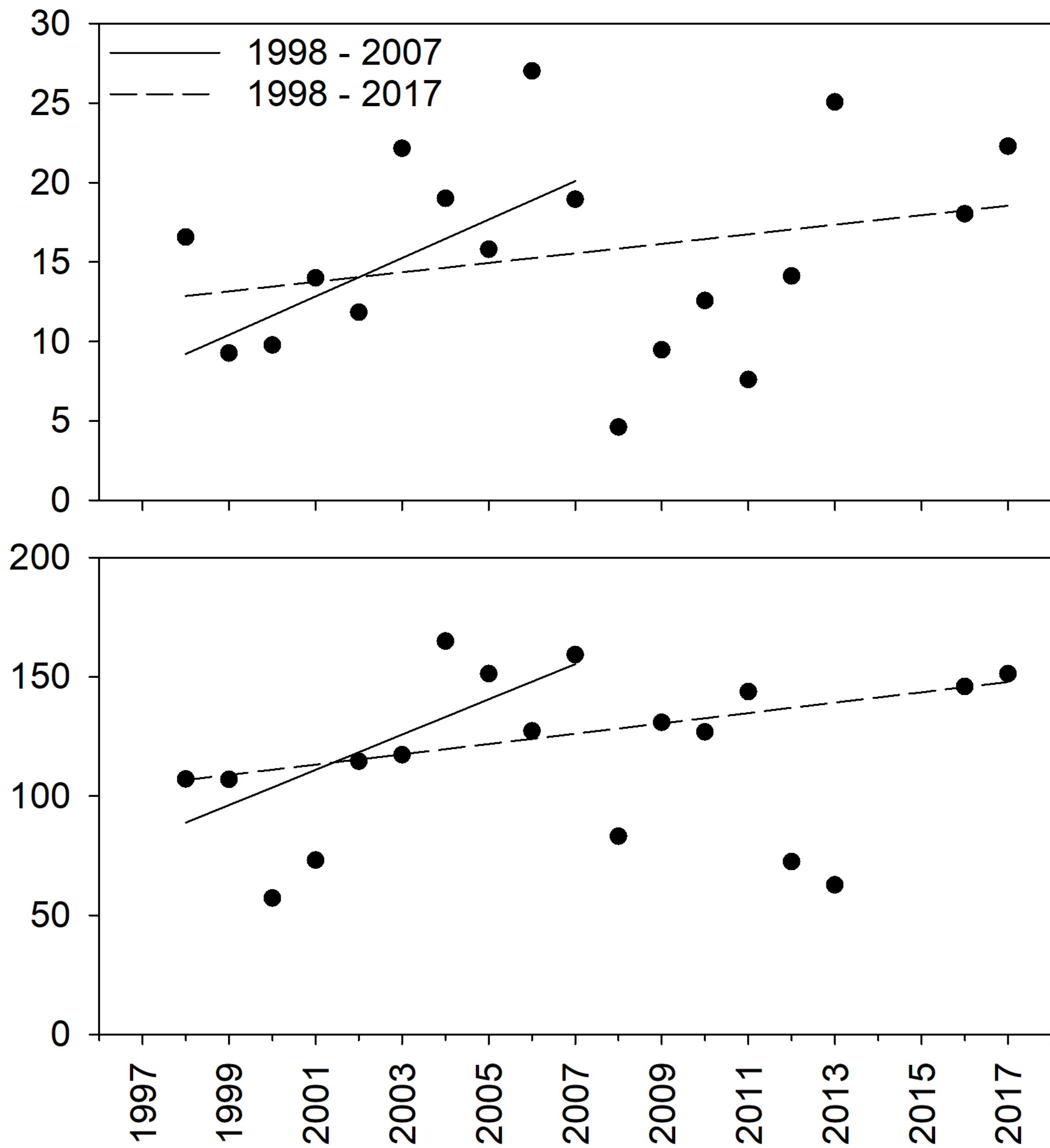
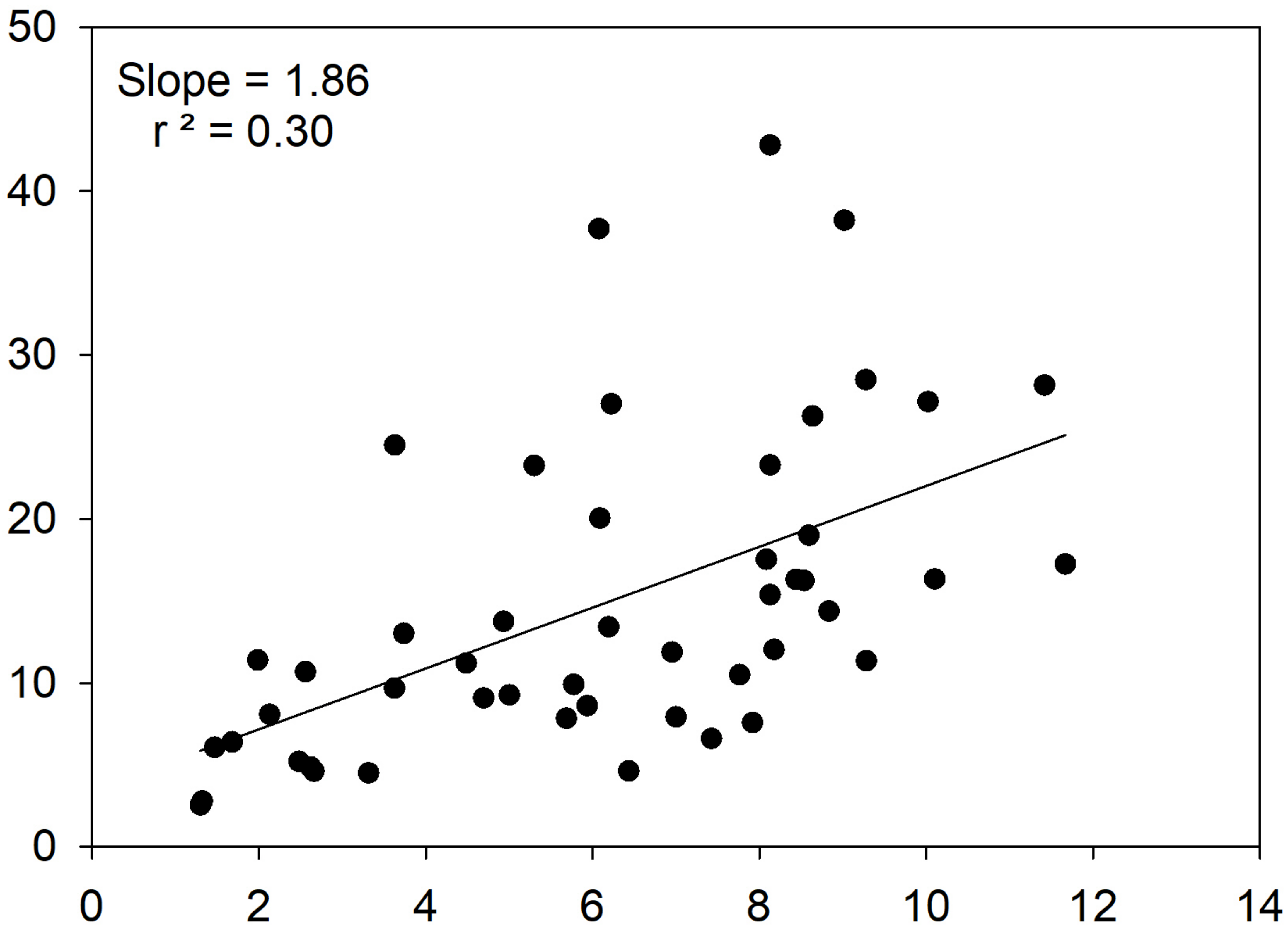


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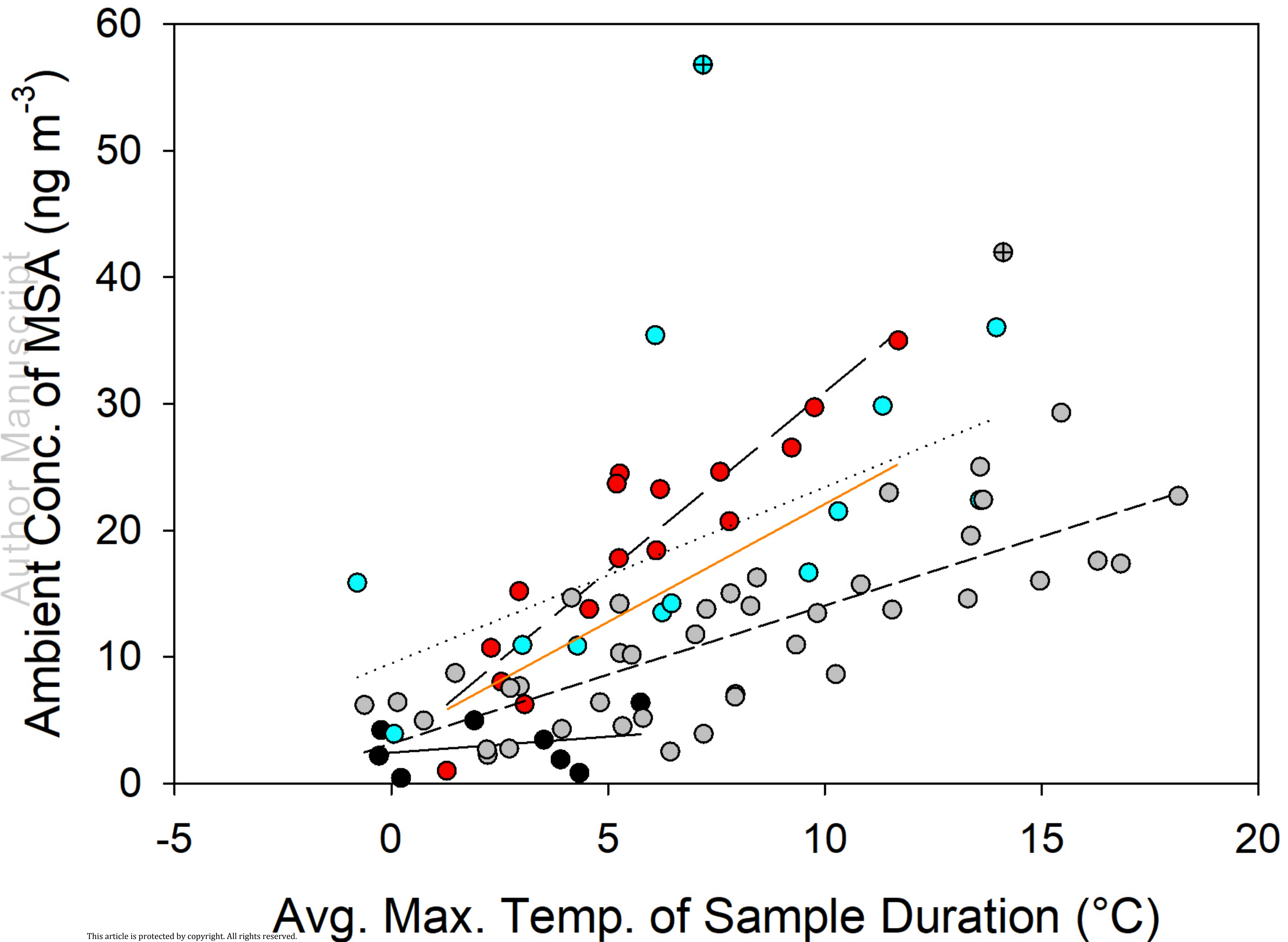
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Avg. Max. Temp. (°C)

Figure 6.

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- UQK 2015
- UQK 2016
- UQK 2017
- OLK (all data)
- UQK 2015 (r²=0.08, slope=0.26)
- - UQK 2016 (r²=0.84, slope=2.83)
- ⋯ UQK 2017 (r²=0.45, slope=1.39)
- - OLK (r²=0.62, slope=1.10)
- 1998-2017 Monthly Avg. (r²=0.30, slope=1.86)

Figure 7.

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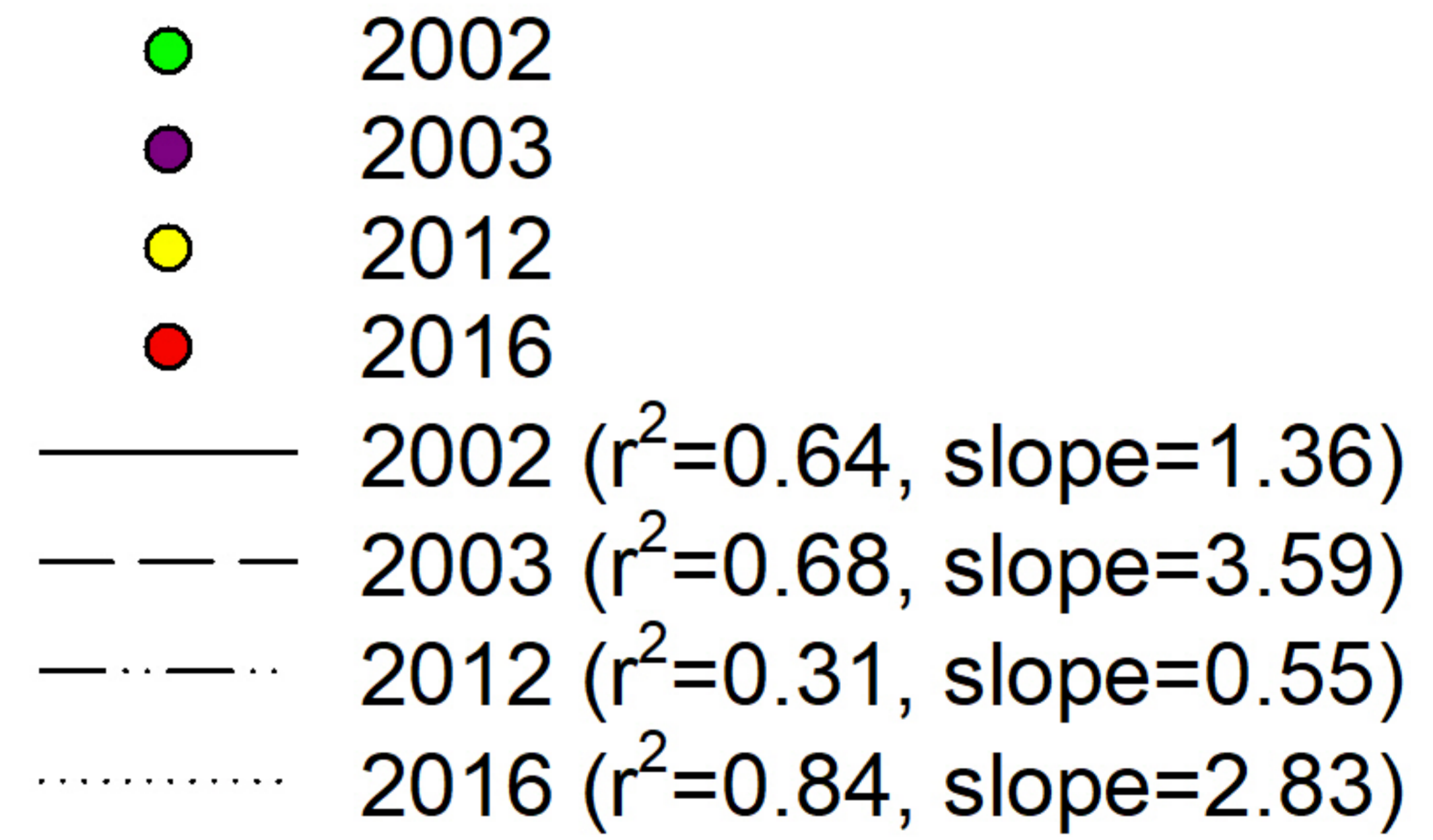
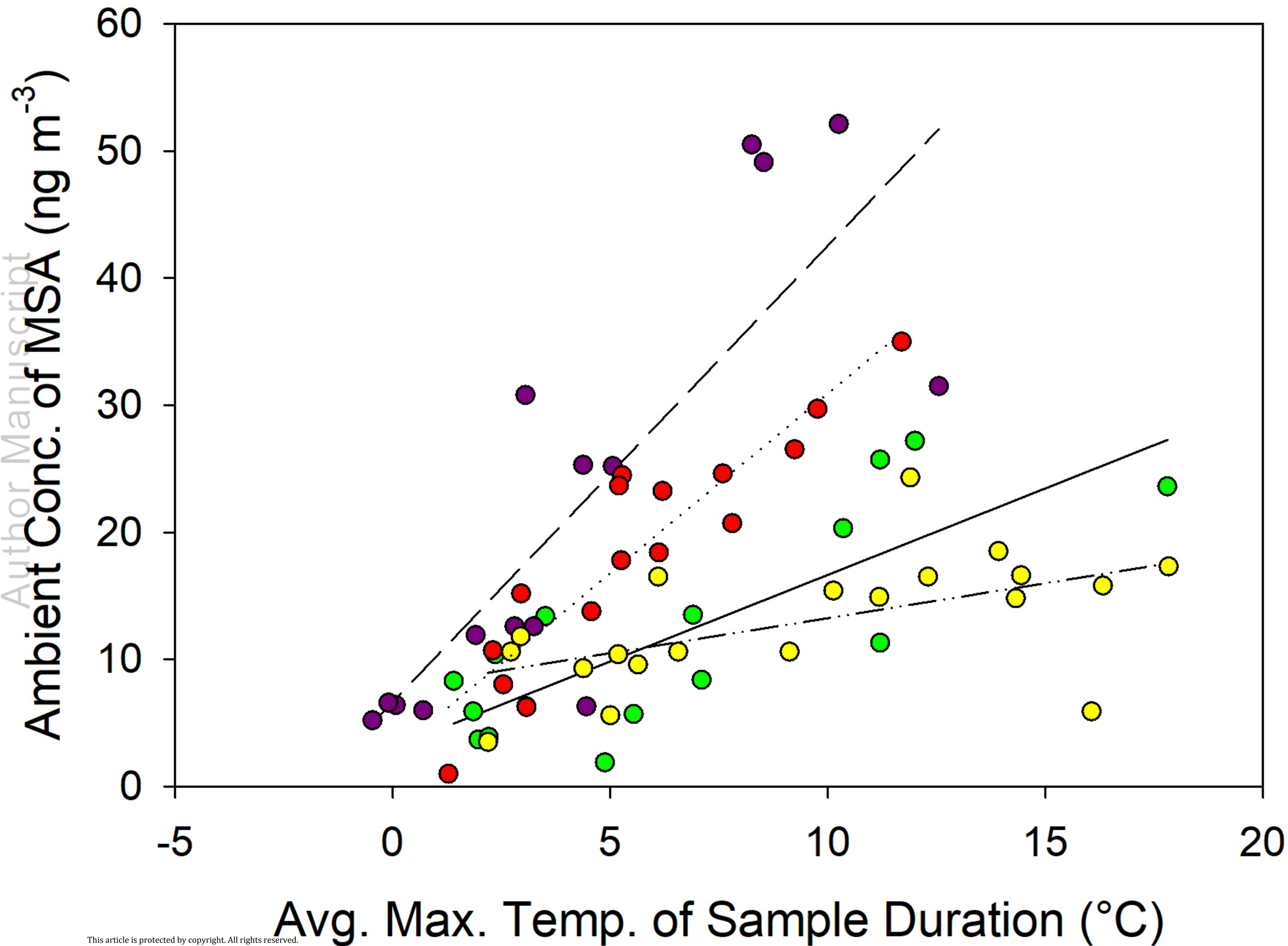
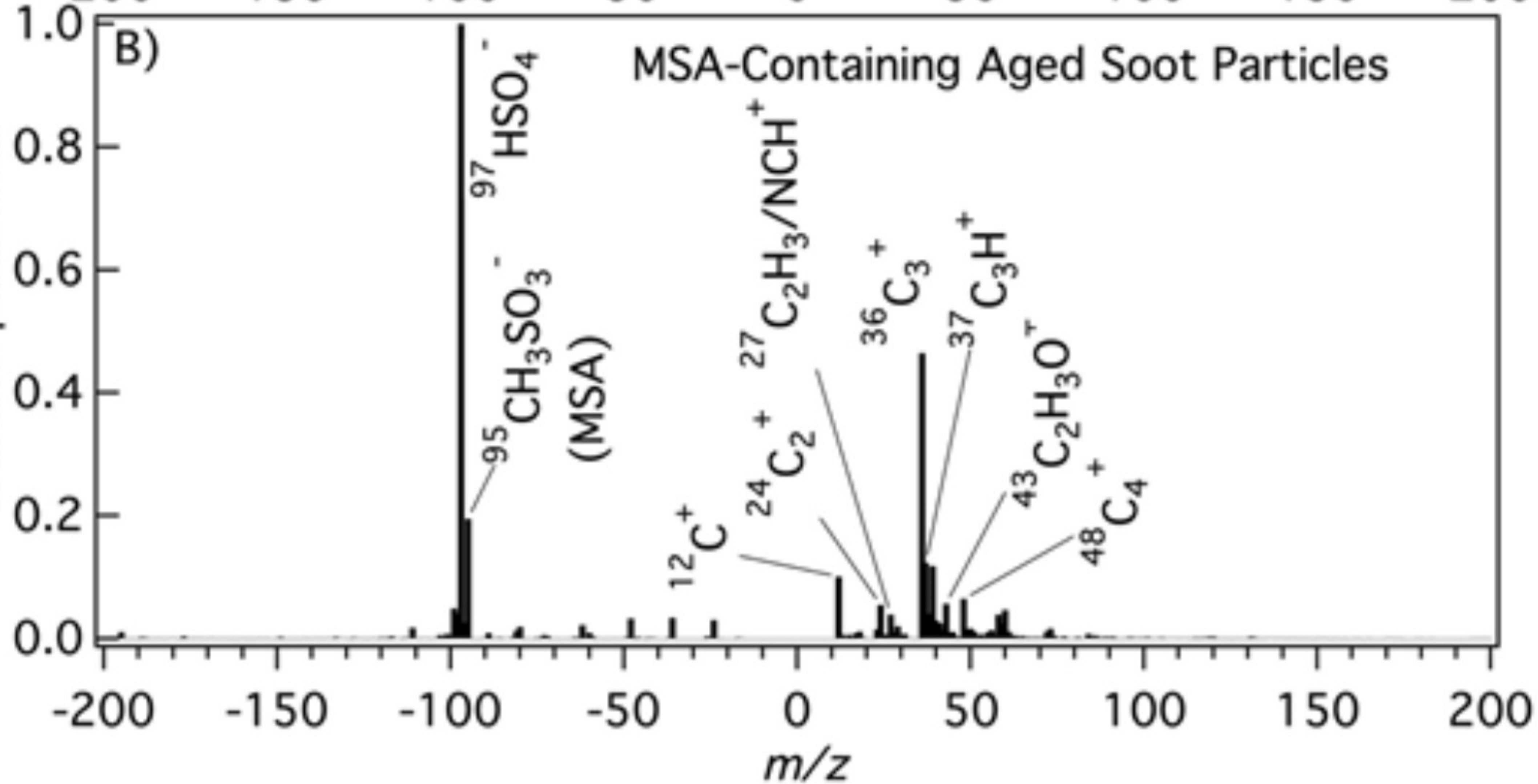
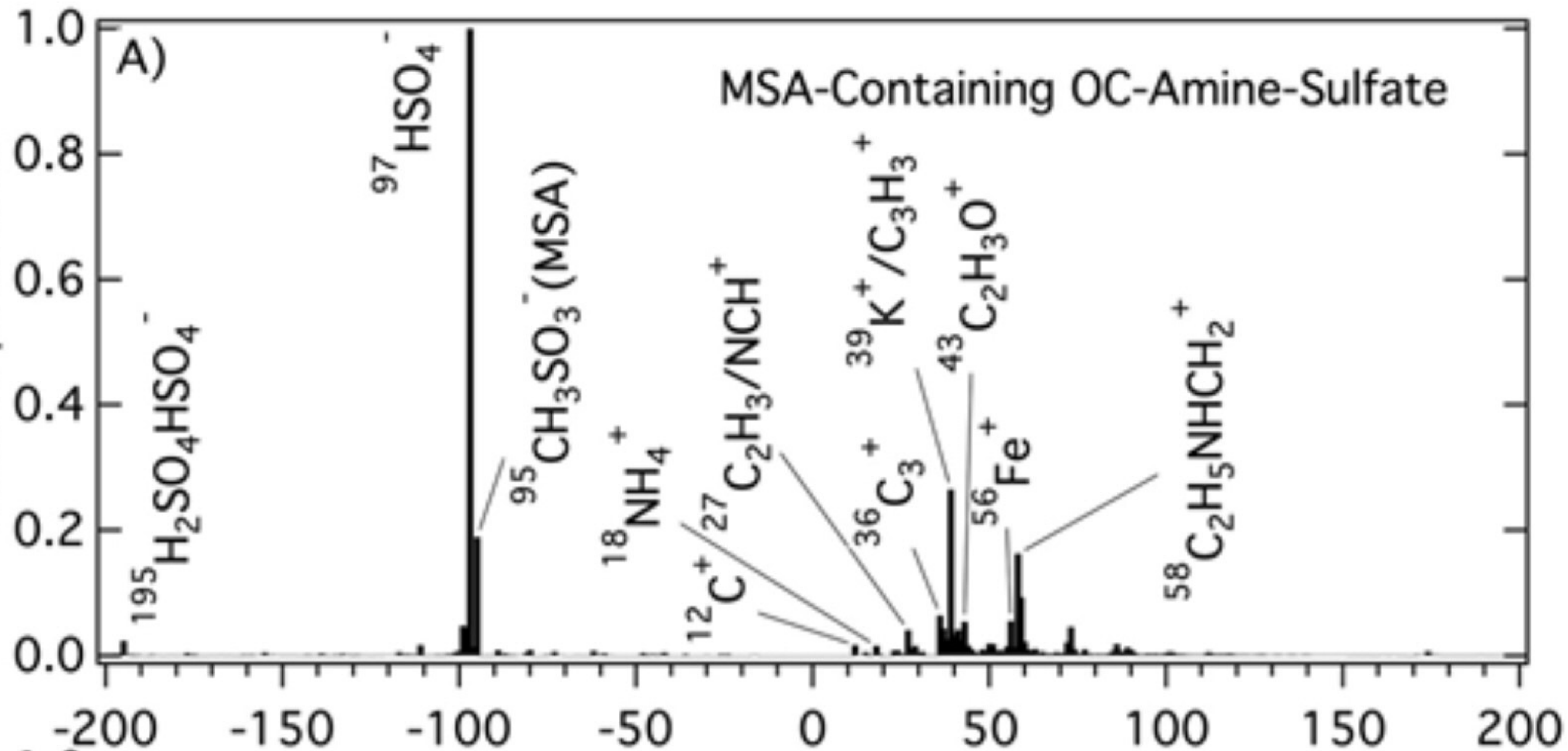
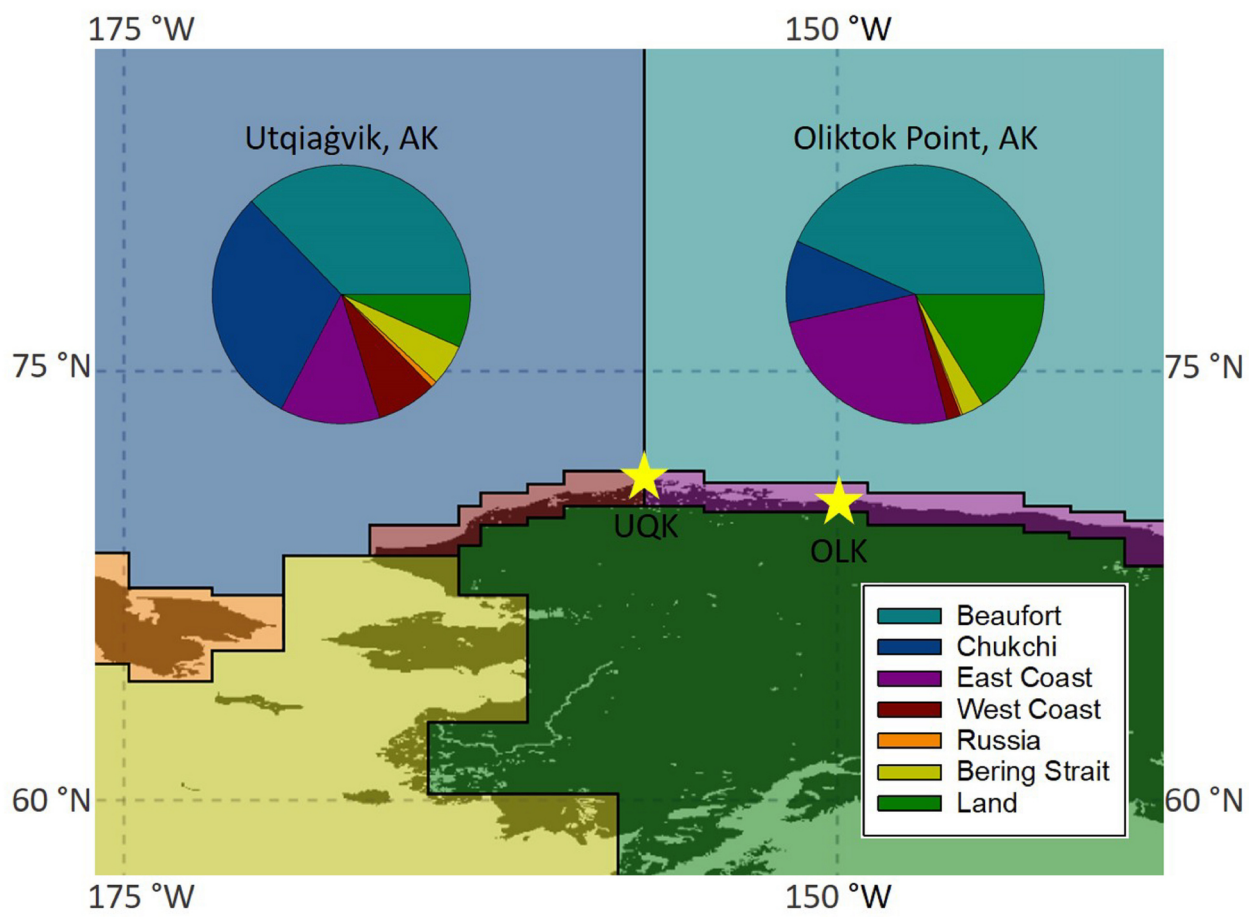


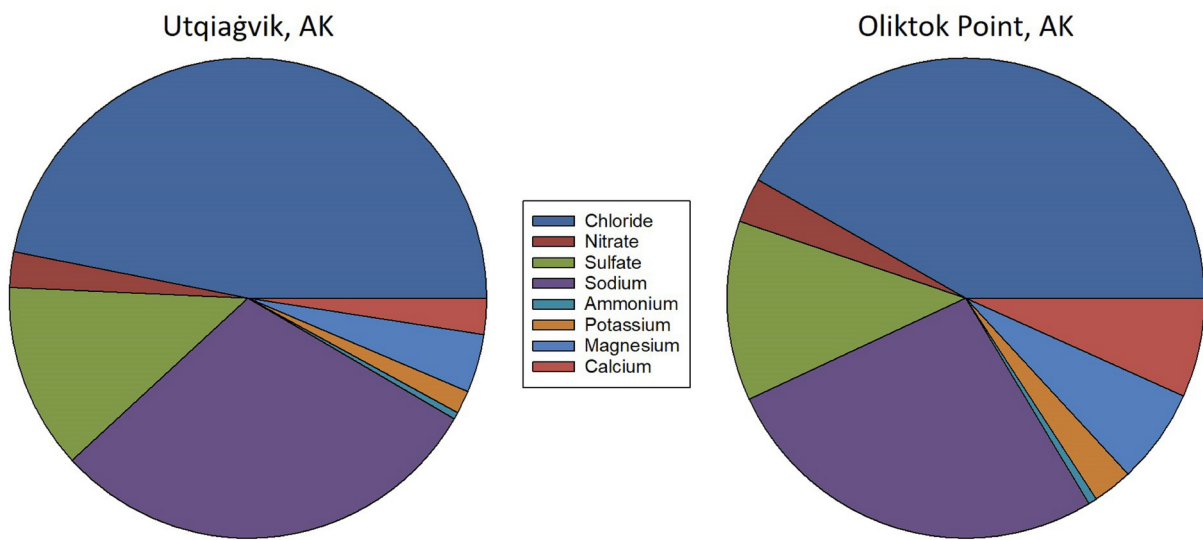
Figure 8.

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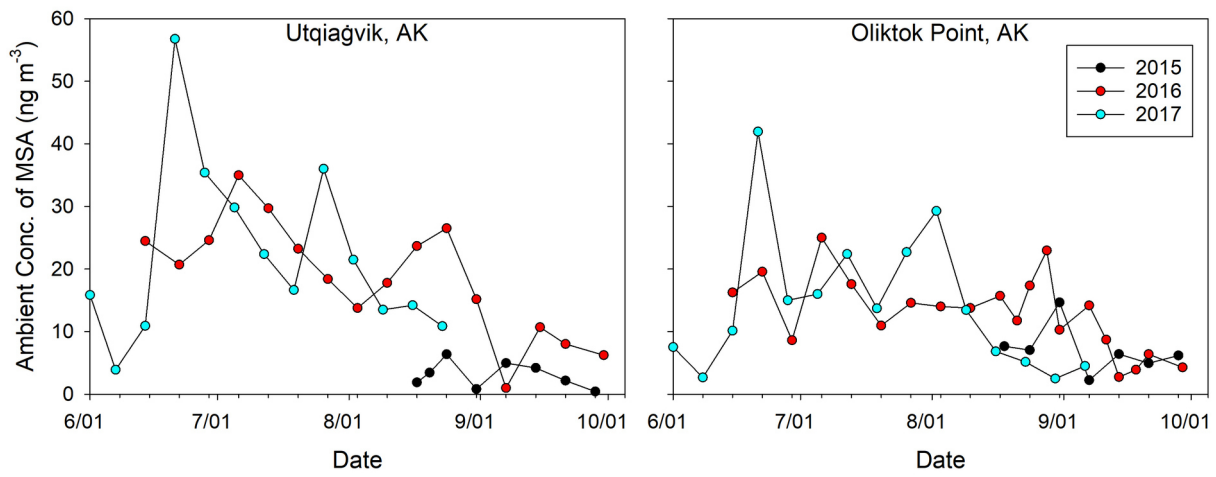




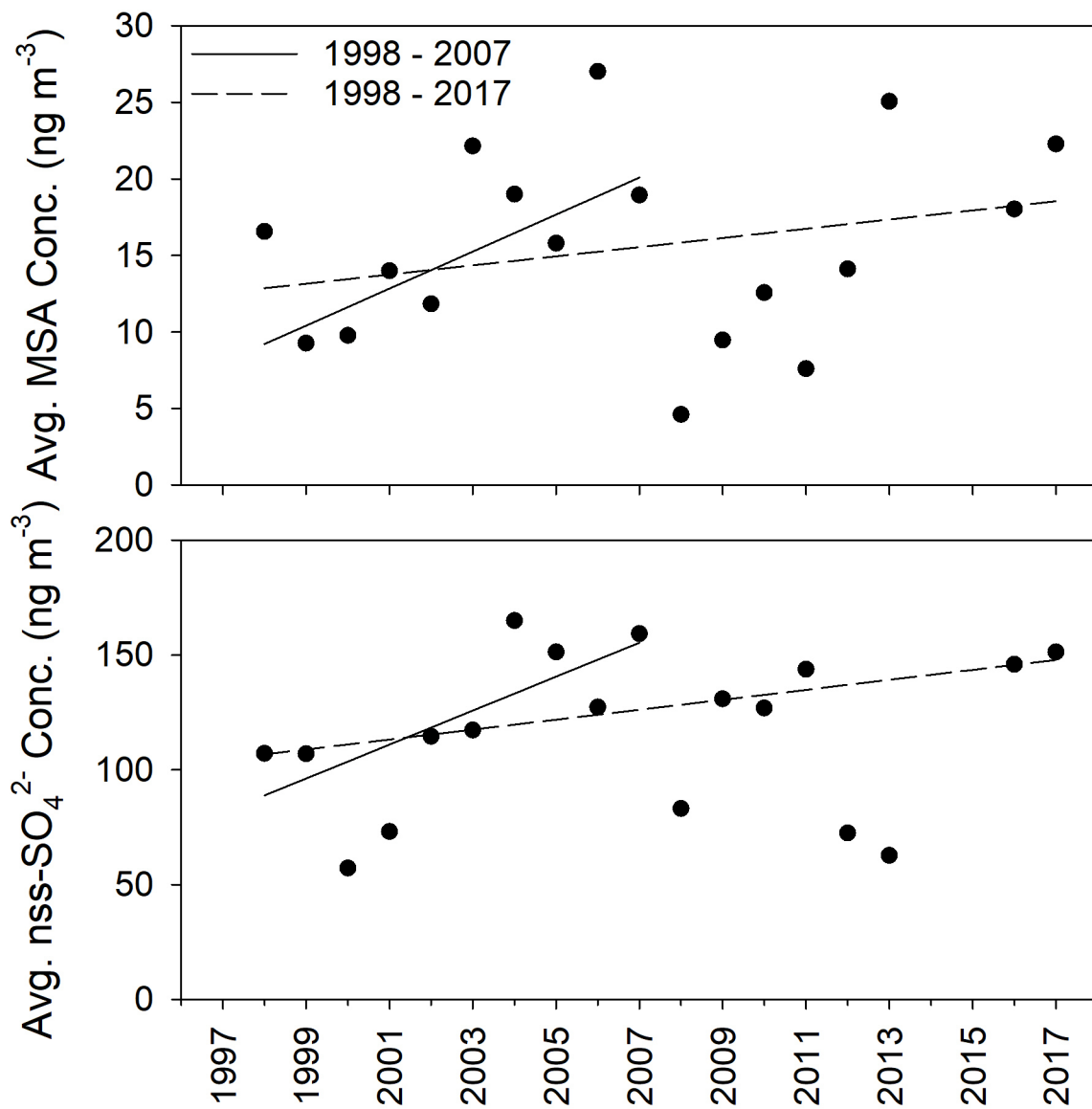
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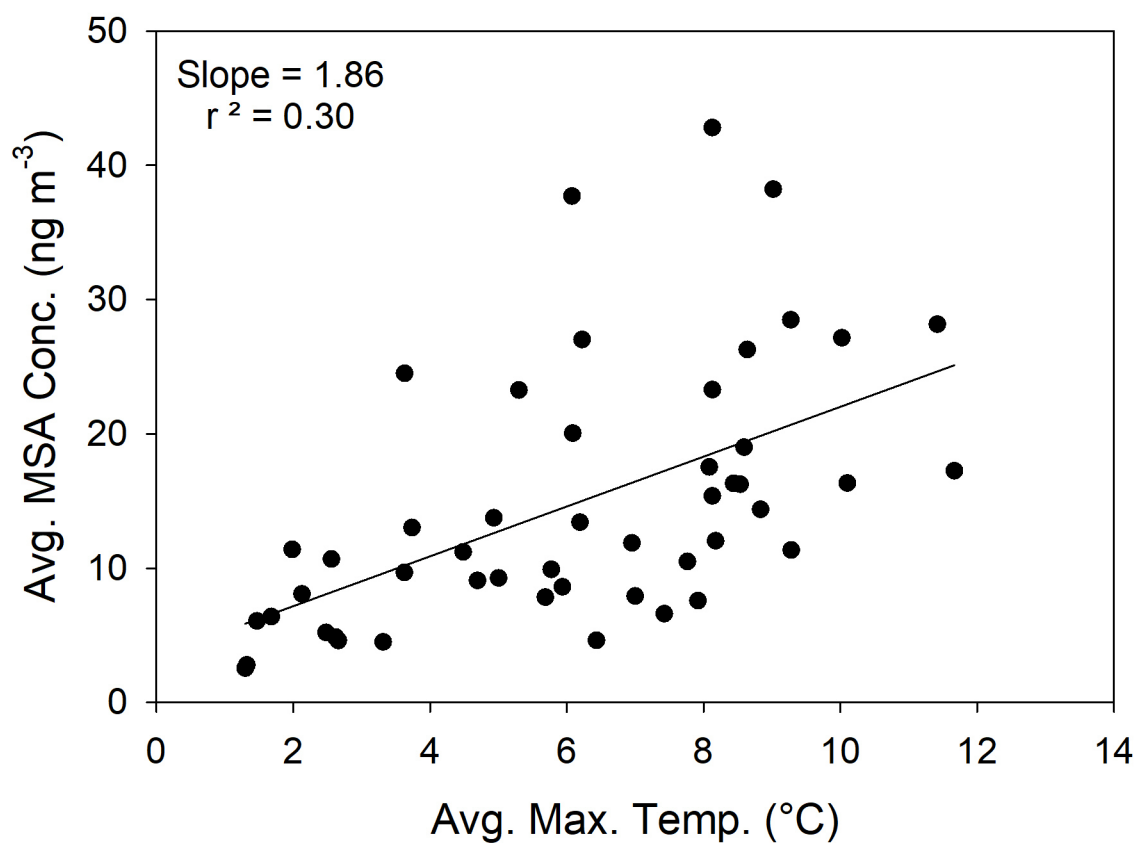
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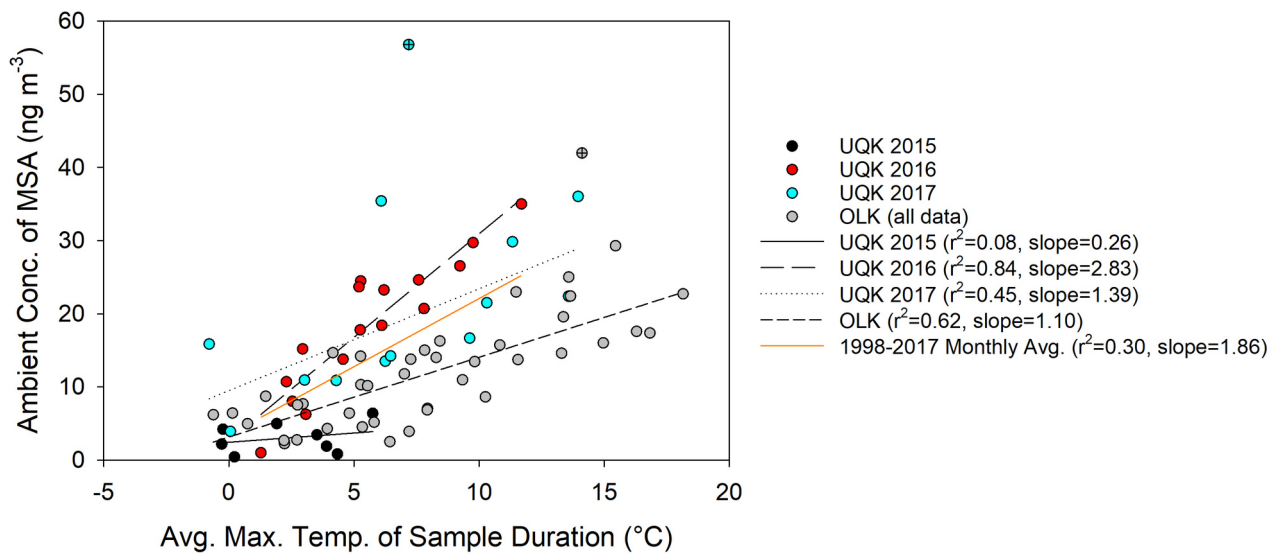
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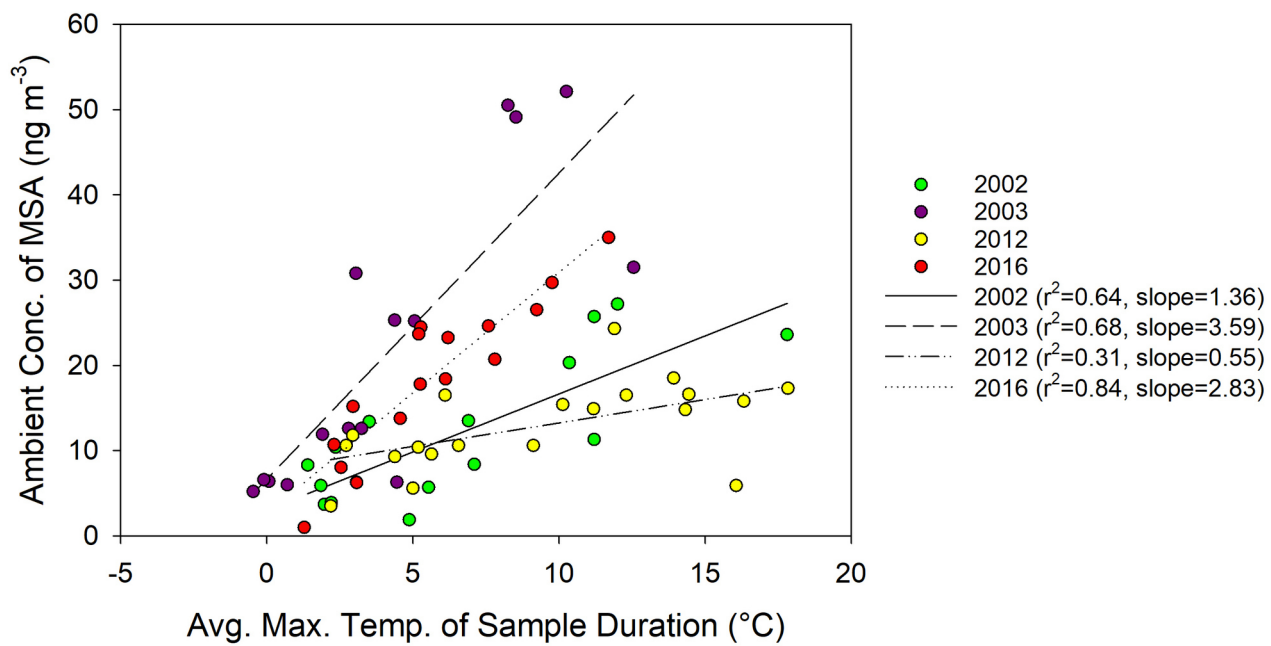
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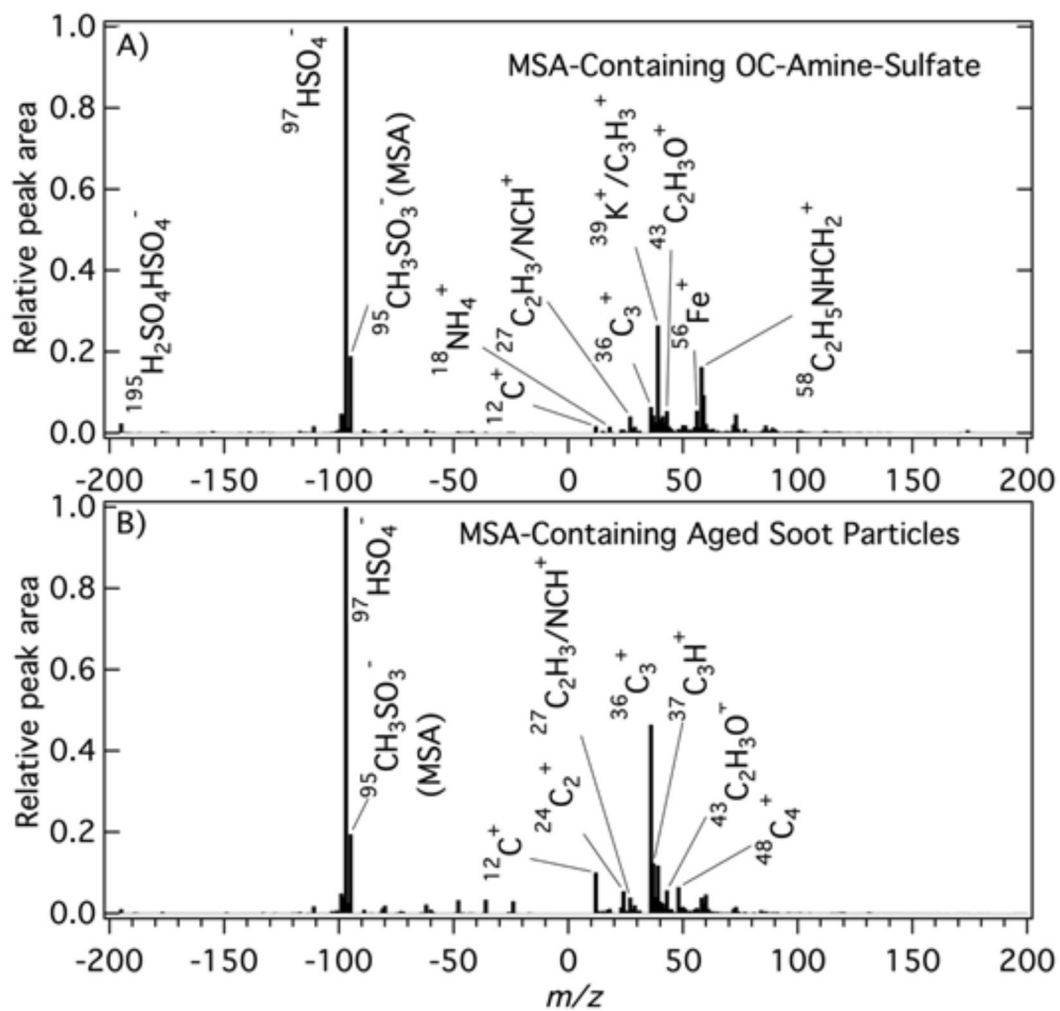
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