

## Supporting Information

### **Characterization of oil sands naphthenic acids by negative-ion electrospray ionization mass spectrometry: influence of acidic versus basic transfer solvent**

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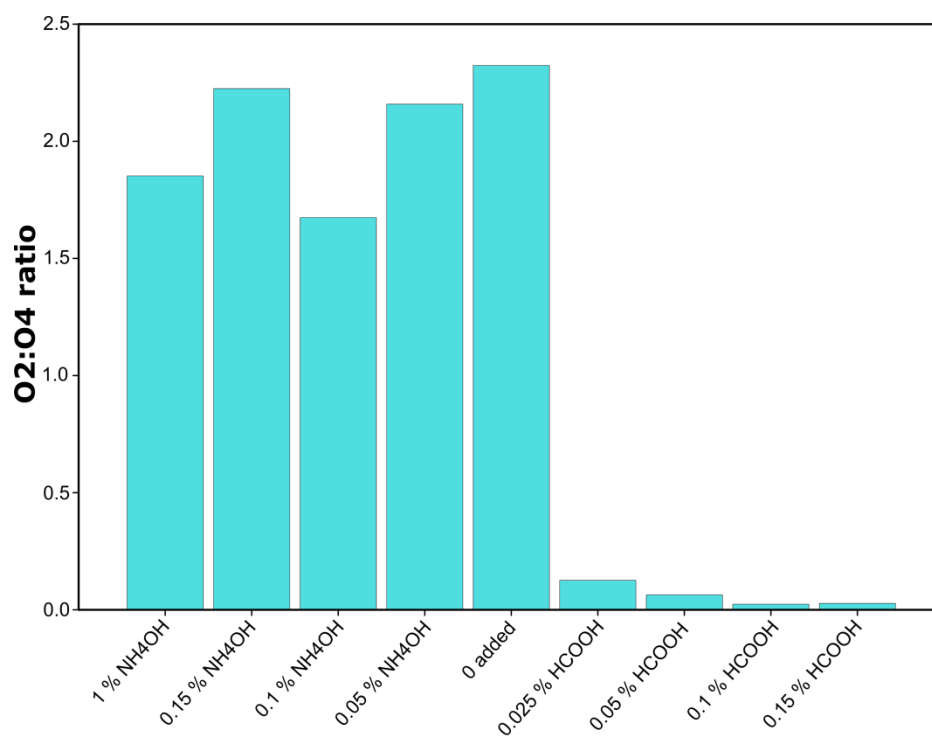
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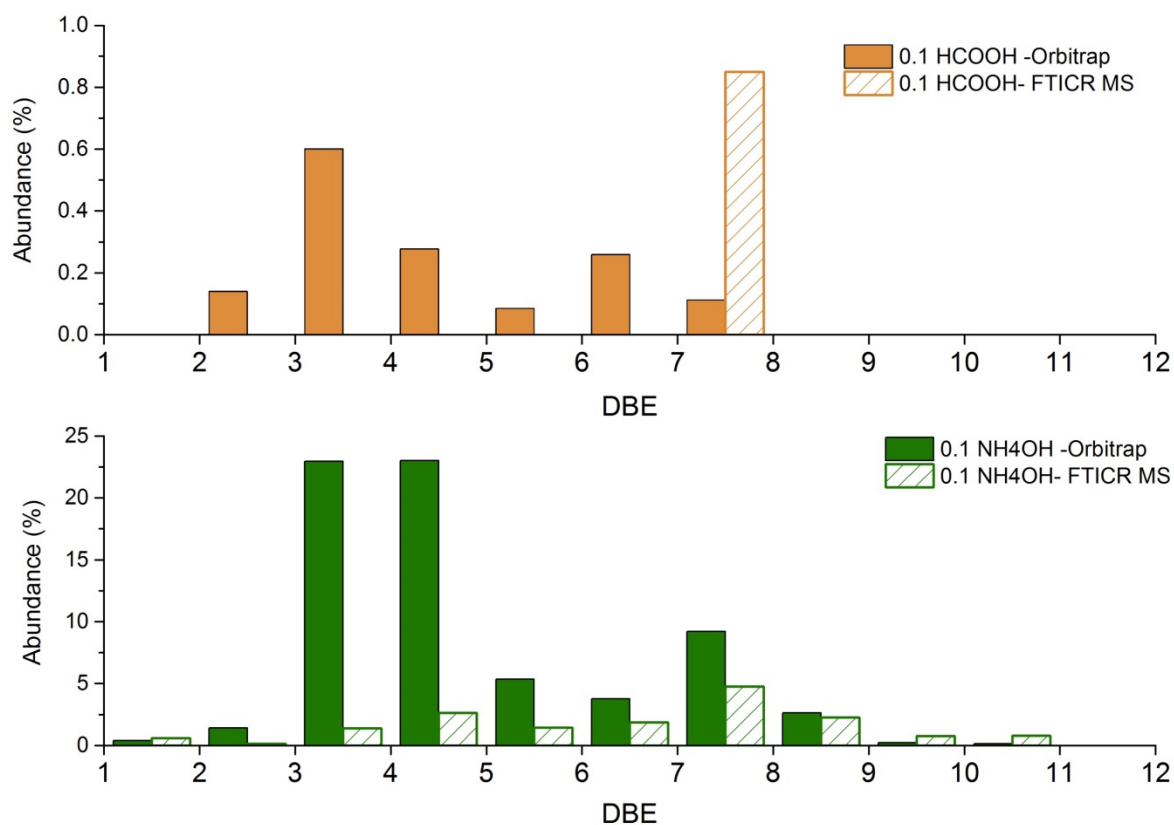
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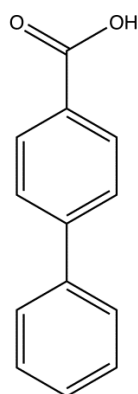
**Figure S1:** Bar chart showing O<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>4</sub> ratio for FT-ICR MS data, as a function of base or acid added to OSPW



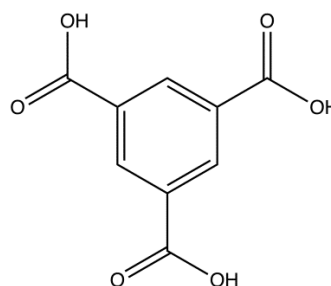
**Figure S2:** O<sub>2</sub> DBE distributions obtained from negative-ion ESI Orbitrap and FT-ICR MS data using acid pH mobile phase (top) and basic pH mobile phase (bottom) with OSPW extract

**Table S1:** O<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>4</sub>, and O<sub>6</sub> compounds run using FT-ICR MS to monitor signal response as a function of additives used

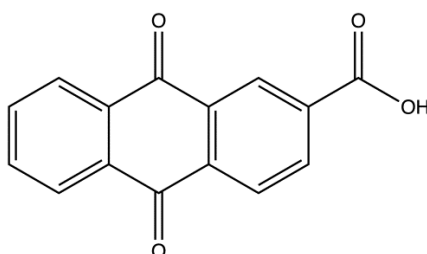
Compound	Additive	Intensity / a.u.	Apparent pH
<b>Biphenyl-4-carboxylic acid</b> (C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub> )	0.1 % NH <sub>4</sub> OH	5.34E+10	8.91
	0.1 % HCOOH	4.79E+08	3.52
<b>Anthraquinone-2-carboxylic acid</b> (C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub> )	0.1 % NH <sub>4</sub> OH	5.46E+10	9.19
	0.1 % HCOOH	3.31E+09	3.68
<b>Trimesic acid</b> (C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub> )	0.1 % NH <sub>4</sub> OH	2.81E+10	8.75
	0.1 % HCOOH	1.86E+10	3.59



Biphenyl-4-carboxylic acid

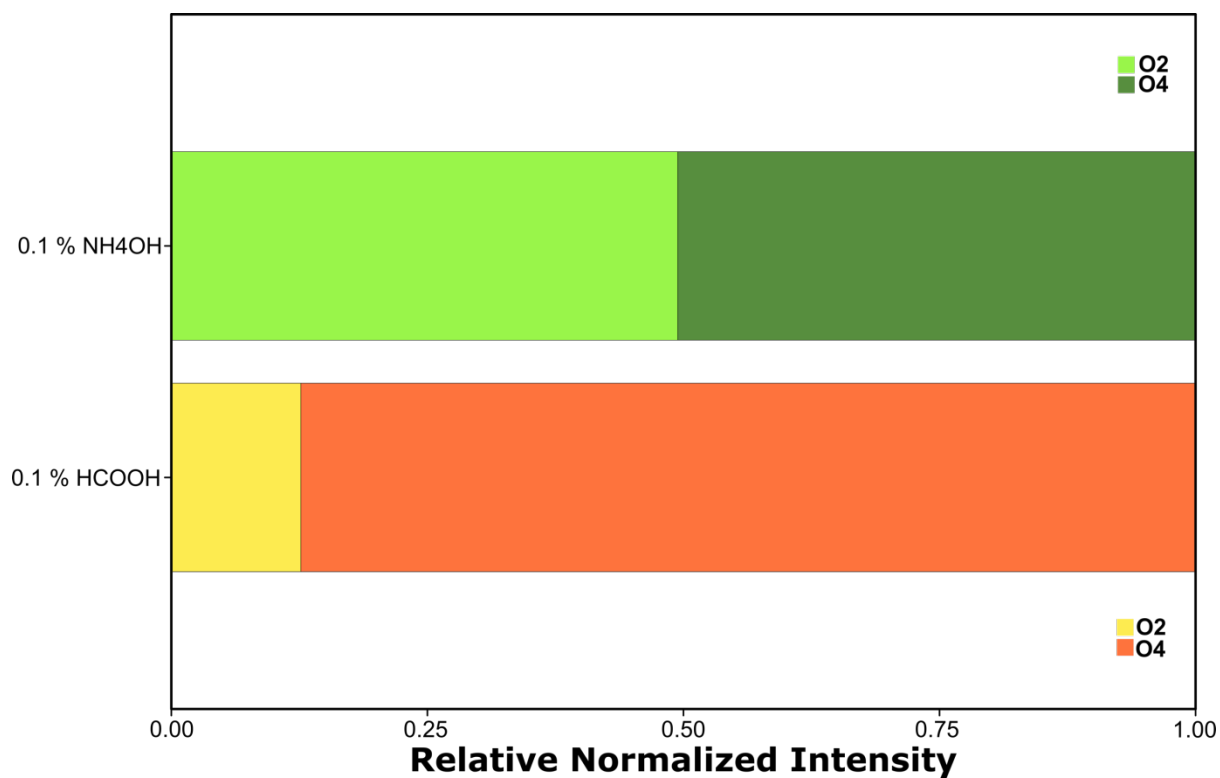


Trimesic acid

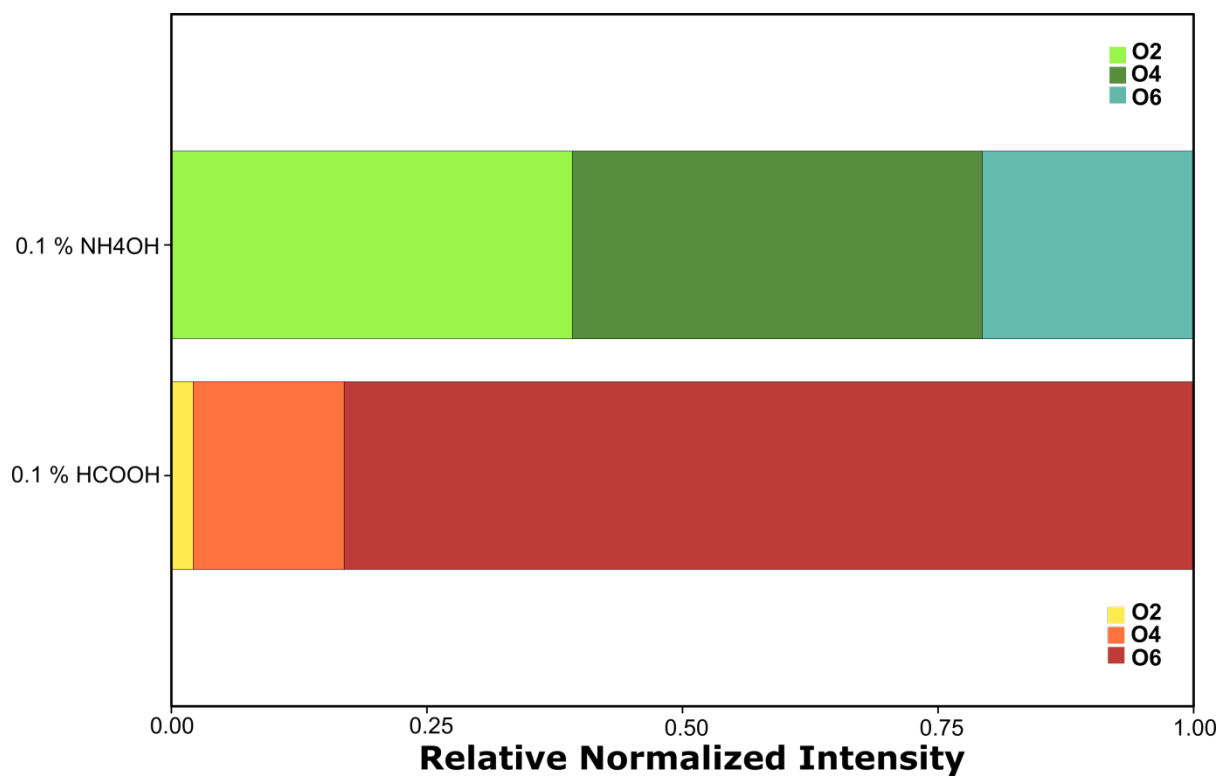


Anthraquinone-2-carboxylic acid

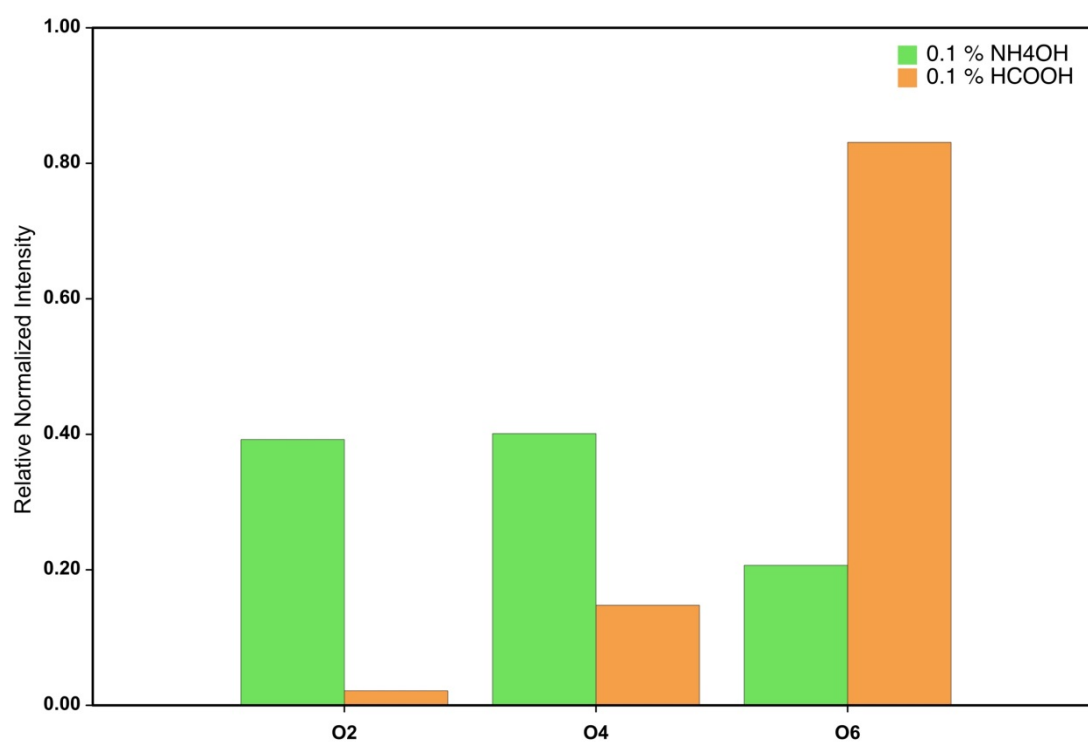
**Figure S3:** Structures of the three compounds used to study signal intensity as a function of the additives used



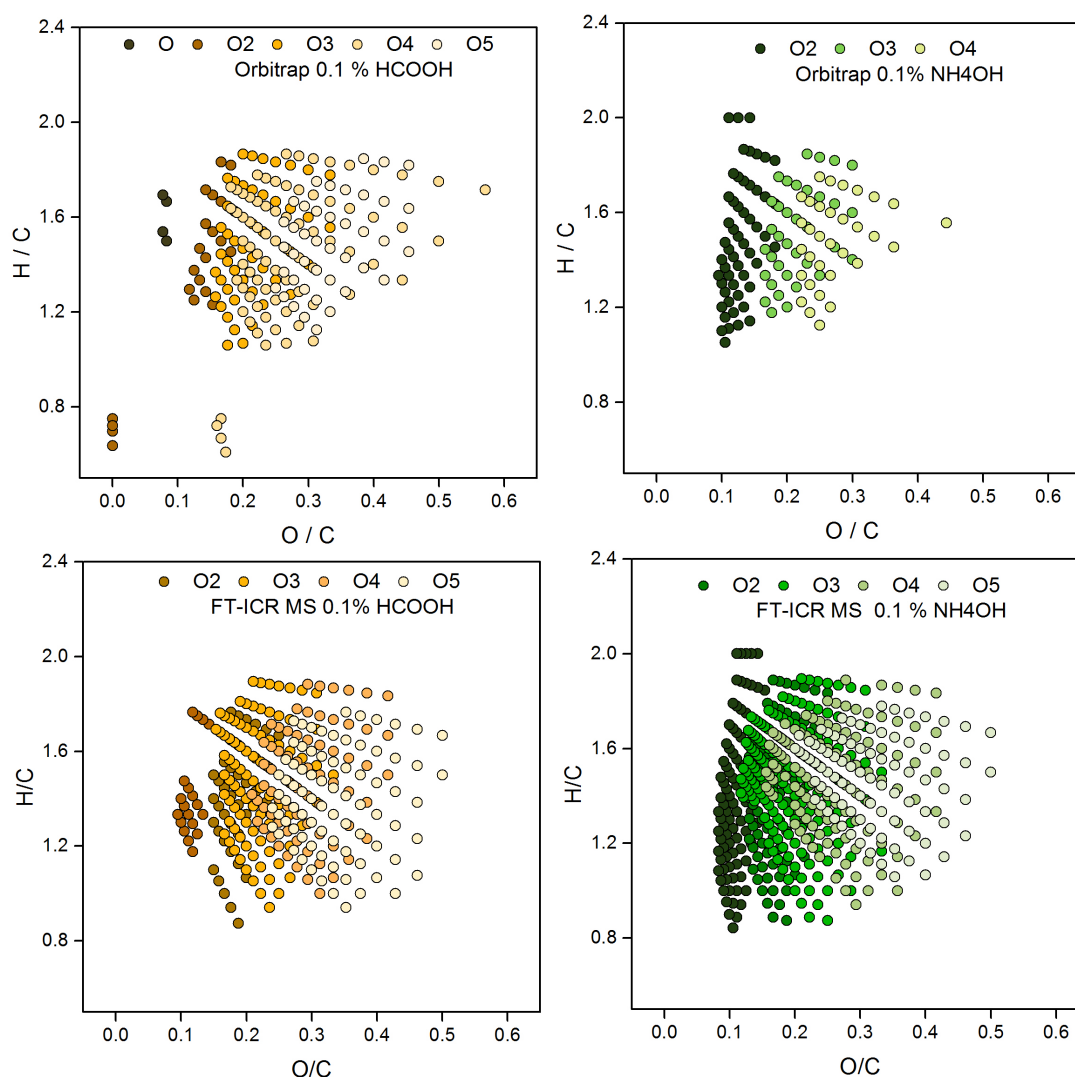
**Figure S4:** Normalized bar chart showing signal ratios acquired by FT-ICR MS of only the individual O<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>4</sub> compounds, for comparison with the results using the OSPW sample



**Figure S5:** Normalized bar chart showing signal ratios acquired by FT-ICR MS of individual O<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>4</sub>, and O<sub>6</sub> compounds



**Figure S6:** Relative normalized signals acquired by FT-ICR MS of the individual O<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>4</sub>, and O<sub>6</sub> compounds; alternative representation of data shown in Figure S5



**Figure S7:** H/C against O/C van Krevelen plots for the 0.1% HCOOH and 0.1% NH<sub>4</sub>OH solutions. Note that the number of relevant molecular compositions used will be higher than the number of data points within the plots; multiple molecular compositions may have the same H/C and O/C ratios, thus resulting in overlapping data points