REVIEWER #1:

Remarks by the authors: We thank the reviewer for the detailed comments and thoughts on our paper. We have carefully revised the manuscript and added sensitivity studies and further discussion on the most sensitive parameters in the mechanism. In order to better constrain the mechanism by more accurate laboratory results, additional experiments were performed. Because of this, a coauthor was added and several figures were replotted.

In addition, we fully revised and shortened the section of multiphase simulations since we agree with the reviewer that these model studies include many quite uncertain parameters and at this point only a very approximate initial estimate of the potential role of oligomerization in the atmosphere can be given.

In the following response, our comments are marked with 'Response' (Courier New font); all reviewer comments are in 'Times New Roman' font. Line and figure numbers refer to the revised manuscript without annotations.

This is a study on the oligomer formation originating from MVK. It is undertaken at an early point in time as only limited process information on all the steps involved is available. Clearly stated, it might be too early to try to model this system. Some process information, which is now available from the literature, is not used and there is a wrong treatment of the branching ratio of the OH initiation reaction.

I would advise the authors to clearly mark the very explorative nature of this contribution from its beginning and throughout. Clearly, all results will be strongly dependent on the chosen input and one possible variant to be added to the manuscript would be a sensitivity study which variation of input parameter would lead to which change in the results. To some extend this has been done for oxygen concentration but there are many more variables, which are critical to the results of the model. The possible depletion of oxygen in tropospheric particles seems to be a non - proven hypothesis, the fulfillment of which, however, is required, as otherwise, the calculated oligomer formation will be much below its possible maximum.

In my view, the results obtained with a non - depleted oxygen concentration are most realistic and this should be clearly stressed within the manuscript. The paper contains plain errors. Overall, the manuscript needs revision at many points and should generally be seen as an explorative study.

Response: We thank the reviewer for these general comments. We make it now clearer throughout the revised manuscript that the study is indeed rather exploratory and that the mechanism still contains numerous uncertainties. However, we still think that the study can be regarded as an initial step towards a better understanding of oligomerization reactions and there potential role as SOA source in the atmosphere.

We have also corrected the OH initiation reactions in Table 1, which contained typos.

We agree on the fact that the results obtained with a non-depleted oxygen concentration are most realistic. To our knowledge, this is one of the first studies that actually monitors oxygen in the aqueous phase during lab experiments while most studies simply assume that oxygen is not depleted. The goal of the multiphase model is to test whether the oligomerization reactions are still of importance under realistic non-depleted oxygen conditions.

Details

1) Introduction: 'gasSOA' is a strange acronym

Response: In agreement with the article by Ervens et al. (2011) where this term was introduced, we explained "termed 'gasSOA' by Ervens et al. (2011) as the chemical reactions leading to condensable species occur in the gas phase" (p. 2, l. 14). The term 'gasSOA' has been also used in more recent literature in the same context by the same and other authors, e.g. (Ervens et al., 2014; van Pinxteren et al., 2014).

2) Pages 21567, 21568: The selection of references in this part seems somewhat arbitrary. I feel the author should give a better coverage of work related to the presented study. Recent studies are missing.

Response: We added and replaced some references to cover also more recent work on SOA formation and oligomerization:
p. 2, l. 4: The references to Tolocka et al, 2004 and Kalberer et al., 2004 were removed and added later (l. 23) as the first studies that identified oligomers in particles;
p. 2, l. 30: Kuwata et al., 2015 was added;
p. 3, l. 10: Kampf et al., 2013, Healy et al., 2008 were added
p. 3, l. 21: Mead et al., 2015 was added
Please, note that these changes are not marked in the annotated manuscript

3) Page 21568, line 15: Great care has to be taken following this approach: By just fitting observables to a mechanism without detailed knowledge of the chemical steps involved, a detailed process model cannot be deduced. The fitted mechanistic scheme is a parameterization. Whether the parameterization is valid for environmental conditions has to be proven independently. It cannot be only postulated that such parameterization can be applied direct to environmental systems. This, even though this approach has been followed recently quite often, might potentially represent a strong systematic error in the work described here.

Response: The reviewer is right that we cannot say for sure that all reactions occur as described in Figure 1. However, unlike many other recent studies, the mechanism presented here is relatively well constrained by experiments that identified intermediates and products. We performed a set of sensitivity studies on the least constrained rate constants and summarized these results in a new Section S4 in the supplemental information. These studies show that the combination of rate constants we have chosen (and call 'Base Case' there) gives the most robust and consistent results for different initial MVK concentrations and experimental conditions. We added text
In the abstract (p. 1, l. 19-22)
Upon model sensitivity studies, in which unconstrained rate constants were varied over several orders of magnitude, a set of reaction parameters was found that could reproduce laboratory data over a wide range of experimental conditions.
and at the end of Section 2.1.1 (p. 7, l. 2-12)

We performed sensitivity studies on the most uncertain and least constrained rate constants. Results are summarized in Section S4 of the supplemental information. They show that the simulation results are insensitive to the choice of k_{arr} and k_{recomb}; even a change of ± five orders of magnitude for each of the constants gives the same results as the base case (black line in

Figure S3; results of the sensitivity studies are not displayed but would be on top of the base case results) with less than 1% difference. Simultaneous changes of k_{O2}, k^{1st} or k_{olig} can reproduce similar results for selected experimental conditions; however, the most robust results for all concentration ranges and experimental conditions were obtained for the set of rate constants as summarized in Table 1. While this agreement does not necessarily prove that indeed these are the exact rate constants, they reveal important sensitivities and suggest which rate constants should warrant future laboratory experiments.

4) Page 21569, section2:
a) As for the processes listed in Table 1:JH2O2: A value derived from actinometry should be given and compared to this maximum value. Why is just a maximum value given?

Response: To answer this question, and also, in order to better constrain the model, we have performed several additional experiments. The results are shown hereafter. This text (in rephrased and slightly shortened form) is now included in Section 2.2.2 of the revised manuscript (p. 10, l. 29 – p. 12, l. 14).

The direct photolysis of H_2O_2 provides $^\bullet OH$ radicals, *via* reaction 1

$$H_2O_2 + h\nu \rightarrow 2\ ^\bullet OH \qquad\qquad (1)$$

The corresponding photodissociation coefficient J_{H2O2} (s^{-1}) is defined in equation 1

$$J_{H2O2} = \int I_{0,\lambda} \times \varepsilon_\lambda \times \phi_\lambda \times d\lambda \qquad\qquad (eq.\ 1)$$

Where:

- ε_λ is H_2O_2 extinction coefficient (cm^3 $molec^{-1}$ cm^{-1}): it was determined experimentally at the nm resolution up to 350 nm (as it is of negligible importance above this wavelength). We verified that the obtained extinction coefficients were in good agreement with previous works (e.g. Kwon and Kwon, 2010).

- ϕ_λ is H_2O_2 quantum yield: quantum yield values for $^\bullet OH$ production recommended by the review of Herrmann et al. (2010) were used up to 350 nm.

- $I_{0\lambda}$ is the spectral irradiance (Photons cm^{-2} s^{-1} nm^{-1}): the average spectral irradiance of our 1000 Watt Xe arc lamp over our photoreactor's water surface was measured every 1.4 nm (up to 350 nm) using a laboratory spectroradiometer (modified SR-500 from Spectral evolution)

The resulting photodissociation coefficient J_{H2O2} (s^{-1}) obtained by this actinometry calculation is compared to the experimental one in the following Table R1:

J_{H2O2} (s^{-1}) actinometry calculation	J_{H2O2} (s^{-1}) Experimental values
5.1 (±2.0)x 10^{-6}	9.5 (±1.4)x 10^{-6}

Table R1: H_2O_2 photodissociation coefficient values: comparison between experimental determinations and actinometry calculations.

This comparison shows that the experimental determination of J_{H2O2} and the actinometry calculation are in the same order of magnitude. The slightly lower value obtained by the actinometry calculation may be due to light reflections in the vessel, that have not been taken into account in the calculation. However, this comparison is done for the direct photolysis of H_2O_2 <u>alone in pure water</u>.

When MVK is introduced in the vessel, its absorbance spectrum around 300 nm partly filters the light available for H_2O_2 photolysis, thus inducing a reduction of the rate of H_2O_2 photolysis. This is why the value for J_{H2O2} indicated in Table 1 of the previous manuscript was given as a maximum value.

Knowing the absorbance spectrum of MVK ($A_{MVK,\lambda}$), one can calculate the resulting irradiance spectrum $I'_{0\lambda}$ available for H_2O_2 photolysis (eq. 2).

$$I'_{0,\lambda} = I_{0,\lambda} \times 10^{-A_{MVK,\lambda}} \qquad \text{(eq. 2)}$$

Using this new irradiance spectrum, one can calculate the corresponding photodissociation coefficient J'_{H2O2} (s^{-1}) (equation 3).

$$J'_{H2O2} = \int I'_{0,\lambda} \times \varepsilon_\lambda \times \phi_\lambda \times d\lambda \qquad \text{(eq. 3)}$$

Using the values of $A_{MVK,\lambda}$ experimentally determined at different concentrations of MVK, the resulting values of J'_{H2O2} are compared (Figure R1 = Figure in the manuscript) to the experimental values, where the kinetics of H_2O_2 decomposition have been monitored during MVK reactivity initiated at different MVK concentrations.
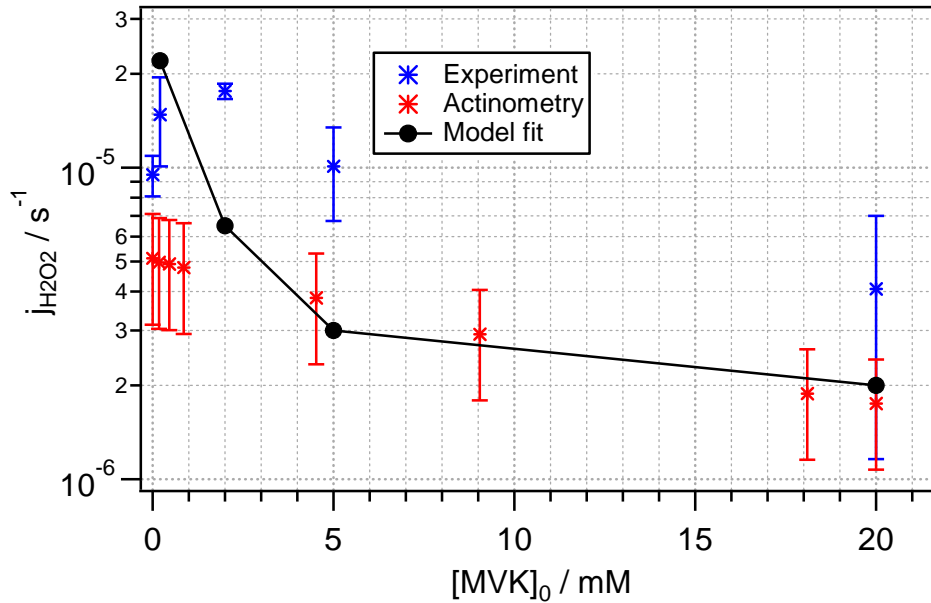
Figure R1-1 (= Figure 3 in the revised manuscript): H_2O_2 photodissociation coefficient values: comparison between experimental determinations and actinometry calculations in absence and in presence of MVK, at different initial MVK concentrations.

The results show the same trend of $J(H_2O_2)$ with increasing MVK concentrations for both experimental and actinometry determinations. The actinometry calculations give slightly smaller values, but this can be due to light reflections in the vessel, that have not been taken into account in the calculation.

In addition to these theoretical and experimental data, Figure 3 includes photolysis rates as used in the model calculations that were adjusted to match the initial MVK loss in the experiments. This loss is solely ascribed to the reaction of MVK with OH, and the only fitting parameter in this reaction rate is the OH concentration that depends directly on j_{H2O2}. It should be noted that the actinometry-derived data are based on the assumption of a constant (initial) MVK concentration while the model and experimental data take into account decreasing MVK concentrations. For example, at the highest initial MVK concentration (20 mM) where MVK complete decay takes more than 100 min, model, experimental and actinometry-derived data are in good agreement. Globally, one would expect the model to agree with the experimental data rather than with the actinometry ones, which is the case for low and high initial concentrations of MVK, but it is not clear why the model better matches actinometry data at intermediate MVK concentrations.

4b) Page 21569, section2:
(i) k MVKOH(a) and k MVKOH(b) ' abstraction from allyl group ' is wrong and must be replaced by "addition reaction ..." or something similar .

(ii) As the abstraction from the allyl group is wrongly mentioned here: What will be the branching ratio considering addition and H - abstraction via both pathways, i.e. at the methyl group and at the allylic H abstraction at the allylic H is not considered, but only the first pathway being treated in analogy to acetone. Splitting the measured rate constant just between addition and methyl group H -abstraction does not make sense.

(iii) In the OH addition pathway (MVKOH(a)), all formed organic radical products react with O2 to form a peroxy radical. In the other pathway (MVKOH(b)), the RO2· formation is not included for all formed organic radical products (see   e.g., Mgly(MVK)i , MVK(MVK)i , HAc(MVK)i). This inconsistency has to be revised.

Response: (i) The reviewer is right that the wording 'abstraction from allyl group' has been wrong. We replaced it by "(3) it might abstract a hydrogen atom from either the vinyl group or from the saturated end of the molecule " (p. 4, l. 26).

(ii)The answer to this question is in section 2.1.1 of the manuscript where we describe specific electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) experiments dedicated to detect and quantify the first step organic radicals formed from the reaction. In order to make it clearer and also in order to answer to question c), we have modified the text in section 2.1.1, it now reads (new text in bold) (p. 4, l. 23ff).

"*as an Γ-unsaturated carbonyl, MVK bears highly reactive ~~functional groups, i.e.,~~ conjugated carbon-carbon and carbon-oxygen double bonds. Therefore, its oxidation by OH might occur via three reaction channels: OH might add to the vinyl group of the MVK molecule either on (1) the Γ-carbon atom or on (2) the S -carbon atom, or (3)* **it might abstract a hydrogen atom from either the vinyl group or from the saturated end of the molecule.** *Pathways (1) and (2) lead to isomeric hydroxyalkyl radicals with identical molecular weights and, thus, neither the initiator radicals nor the resulting oligomers, respectively, are distinguishable with the analytical techniques (mass spectrometry) applied here.* **In a thorough study of reaction products, Schöne et al. (2014) have**

identified oxidation products formed on both reaction pathways, and no branching ratio could be determined either.

Theoretically, OH addition on the Γ -carbon atom (pathway 1) is favored on both steric and resonance grounds; the propagating radical formed by this pathway (1) is the more stable one (Odian, 2004; **Schöne et al., 2014**). An attempt to distinguish between the three pathways was performed by direct observation **and quantification** of the resulting alkyl radicals using continuous-flow electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) experiments with MVK concentrations from 1 to 25mM (Sect. S1 in the Supplement). The obtained highly complex spectra were the result of superimposition of various EPR signals. Using spectral simulations, the signal of $HO-CH_2-CH-C(O)CH_3$ radical adduct resulting from pathway (1) was clearly distinguished (dots in Fig. S1). The proportions of another transient radical was found to depend on the initial MVK concentration (compare the spectra in Figs. S1.1 and S1.2 in the Supplement). A very similar behavior of concentration-dependenc**e** of radical species was previously observed in experiments performed on acrylic acid by Gilbert et al. (1994), and they attributed this behavior to the formation of dimer radicals. Therefore, our concentration-dependent radical was attributed to a dimer radical such as $HO-CH_2-CH(C(O)CH_3)-CH_2-CH-C(O)CH_3$, thus confirming* ~~the~~ **a** *very fast* ~~oligomerization (~~*recombination*~~)~~ *pathway (Gilbert et al., 1994). More than two different radical species were present in our experiments, but their respective signals remained unidentified due to overlapping EPR signals in the spectra. Although it was not possible to identify these other radical species, the occurrence of radicals resulting from pathways (2) and (3) was expected, and the EPR experiments showed that their relative importance was much lower than that of pathway (1). In the model, we lump pathways (1) and (2) to the more likely radical from pathway (1) (kMVKOH(a), Fig. 1). H-abstraction (pathway 3) might occur most likely on the most weakly bonded H atoms, which are the ones in the methyl group (bond energy _ 94 kcal mol^{-1}, as opposed to _ 111 kcal mol^{-1} for the other H-atoms of the molecule, (Blanksby and Ellison, 2003)) and stabilization of the resulting radical due to the adjacent carbonyl group. The rate constant for the reaction of MVK with OH has been recently determined as $k_{MVKOH} = 7.3×10^9$ M^{-1} s^{-1} (Schöne et al., 2014).* ~~Since the branching ratios for the various reaction pathways are not well constrained for the different branching reactions~~ **Since the branching ratios for the various reaction pathways are not known***, we assume that pathway (3) might occur with a similar rate constant as* **H-abstraction from the structurally-similar acetone ($k_{OH,Acetone}$ = 1.2×10^8 M^{-1} s^{-1}, Ervens et al., 2003; Monod et al., 2005). The ratio between the overall rate constants $k_{OH,Acetone}/k_{MVKOH}$ ~ 1.6% is in qualitatively good agreement with i) our EPR results and ii) the calculation of the possible amounts of H abstraction reaction by Schöne et al. (2014)that both suggest a minor contribution of the H-abstraction pathway."**

(iii) In Figure 1, we had only included the O2 reactions of oligomer1 since this was the only pathway that led to a detected oligomer series (oligomer II). The equivalent peroxide compounds from the other series were not detected and are, therefore, not depicted in the mechanism (Figure 1).

In the simulations, all oligomer radicals are considered to react with O2. These pathways were indeed omitted in the original Figure 1 and are added now. However, since no products of these pathways were detected, the arrows lead only to not further specified 'products' in the same way as denoted before for the monomer species MGly, HAc etc.

4c) Page 21569, section2:

As for the kinetics: The overall rate constant measured by Schöne et al. (2014) covers all occurring pathways but they are not all discussed in the present manuscript. Any branching ratio must cover all of the three occurring pathways. Schöne et al. (2014) are discussing mechanisms for the reaction of OH with MVK which are not reflected at all in this contribution. This needs to be fully revised. The revision of this includes the possibility that any model calculation must be repeated with corrected values.

Response: We added the discussion of findings by Schöne et al. (2014) to Section 2.1.1 (p. 5, l. 1). For a detailed response to the reviewers comment, please, see our answer to comment b) (ii)

4d) J ROOH : How valid is the applied approximation ? Please please put „estimated " into the comment column

Response: The reviewer is right that this value is estimated. Due to the lack of appropriate data, we chose this approximation, similar to estimates as done in other aqueous phase mechanisms, such as CAPRAM. We added 'estimated' to the table. In addition, this estimate is based on experimental observations that have shown similar j values (within experimental uncertainties) between $j(H_2O_2)$, $j(CH_3OOH)$ and $j(C_2H_5OOH)$ under the same experimental conditions (Monod et al., 2000; Monod et al., 2007).
We also noted that j_{H2O2} was included twice in Table 1. We removed the first entry.

4e) k 1st for the conversion of oligomer products to stable products. Is this just an estimate? Give a sound reason for the order of magnitude of this conversion rate constant.

Response: k1st is an estimate and it was adjusted such that the net formation of the oligomer mass as observed in the experiments (Renard et al., 2013; 2015) could be matched. For simplicity, we assume the same rate constant for all oligomer series as we do not have basis to assume different rate constants for different initiator molecules or oligomer chain lengths. We clarified this in the text in Section 2.1.2 (p. 8, l. 21ff)

*"Since these are second-order rate constants, this range is not directly comparable to the fitted value of $k^{1st} = 6 \cdot 10^4$ s^{-1}, but implies that the total radical concentrations might be on the order of $\sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-3}$ M, which ~~seems reasonable~~ **might seem high even** in the relatively highly concentrated solutions used here. **It should be noted that depending on chain length and/or initiator radical the rate constants for the termination steps might differ. However, in order to keep the number of reactions manageable within the mechanism but yet to reproduce empirically the increase in oligomer mass as observed in the experiments by Renard et al. (2015) was matched, for simplicity and due to the lack of detailed theoretical or experimental data we assumed the same k^{1st} constants for all oligomer series."***

4f) k recomb : This value appears way too low. Give a justification.

Response: We'd like to point out that this value is a first-order rate constant $[s^{-1}]$. Therefore, we do not think that it is too low. Despite the fact that recombination reactions occur with second order kinetics, we chose the parameterized representation of the loss of the radicals by recombination being 30% of the pathway we termed 'rearrangement'. This branching ratio was

estimated such that the observed relative differences in the abundance of Oligomers III vs Oligomers V + VI could be reproduced by the model.
We added a discussion and references that support the choice of this value (Gilbert et al., 1976; Schuchmann and von Sonntag, 1981, 1984; Von Sonntag and Schuchmann, 1997) to Section 2.1.1. (p. 6, l. 27-29)
Please, see also our more detailed discussion of the choice of k_{recomb} and k_{arr} in our response to the reviewer comment #6 below.

4g) k HAcOH : Is this the best available value ? compare with others and justify choice.

Response: In the NIST solution data base, there are four values for the reaction of acetic acid (1.7e7 M^{-1} s^{-1}; 1.5e7 M^{-1} s^{-1}; 9.2e6 M^{-1} s^{-1}; 2.3e7 M^{-1} s^{-1}) and five for acetate (6.5e7 M^{-1} s^{-1}; 7.4e7 M^{-1} s^{-1}; 1e8 M^{-1} s^{-1}; 7.9e7 M^{-1} s^{-1}; 8.5e7 M^{-1} s^{-1}). None of these values has been marked as 'recommended' there, so there is no preference for a 'best value'. However, the values we have chosen (1.5e7 and 1e8 M-1 s-1 are those that are used in the mechanism CAPRAM whose development was accompanied by a thorough data evaluation and review in the framework of a European project (Ervens et al., JGR 2003). Therefore, we think that the choice of these values is justified, also given that the other values are at most 50% different.

4h) Could you please explain the basis of the estimation of the rate constants of the recombination of RO2 with HO2 /O2 - radicals.

Response: Due to the lack of systematic experimental data, we assumed that RO2 + HO2 reactions occur with the same rate constants as the recombination reactions of HO2. We are aware that this is a crude approximation; however, at this point we do not know how to perform a more sophisticated estimate.

4i) In the WSOC reactions: WSOC + OH $\rightarrow$ R· + HO2 . Please discuss the approximated HO2 formation. How realistic is a 1:1 stochiometry ?

Response: The reviewer is right that the overall stoichiometry might not be 1:1 but the HO_2 yield might be smaller. As pointed out below by the reviewer, HO2 recombination might affect the O2 levels in the aqueous phase. Since in the revised version of the manuscript, we point out that O_2(aq) is always in equilibrium with the gas phase, any assumption of HO_2 production in the aqueous phase does not affect the O_2 levels there.
During revision, we have shortened Section 3 of the manuscript and do not include the sensitivity to OH anymore. Therefore, the discussion of the reaction of WSOC with OH was also omitted.

5) k MVK is not listed in Table1.

Response: We are not sure which k the reviewer is referring to. The rate constant of the reaction of MVK with OH is denoted as k_{MVKOH} and is included in the table, split into the pathways a and b ($k_{MVKOH(a)}$, $k_{MVKOH(b)}$). Following up on the reviewer comments regarding the different branching ratios of the overall reaction, the table has been revised (typos corrected) but the nomenclature k_{MVKOH} in the table and text has not been changed.

6) Overall, the applied mechanism appears very uncertain and includes a huge number of tuning parameters. What would the meaning of the result be if, in the end, the mechanism reproduces measurements? It would only show that this is one possible solution. The authors should scan the parameter space and search for other solutions (see the above general comment) – include a sensitivity study. Is the one given by the listed set of parameters an absolutely best solution? Rank different solution sets. Discuss all the uncertainties of the parameters in detail. Give ranges of possible values.

Response: The reviewer is right that many of the rate constants are estimated based on similar compounds or analogies and are therefore uncertain. However, the experimental data give good constraints on the main processes that control MVK decay and overall oligomer formation and loss and to the relative distribution of the various oligomer series (Figure 5). The rate constant of the MVK + OH reaction has been measured in lab measurements and therefore constrains well the initial decay of MVK (Figure 2). The following MVK consumption has to occur due to oligomerization and therefore this rate constant (k_{olig}) is constrained, too. While it might be possible that oligomerization and termination (k^{1st}) occurs with different constants for different initiator radicals and/or chain lengths (k^{1st}), we cannot make any sophisticated guess about such differences. The same is true for the loss of the oligomers that can be only adjusted based on the loss of the total oligomer mass (Figure 3 in Part I, Renard et al., 2015).
To our knowledge, there is no available literature value for the exact same molecules as inferred in our mechanism. However, several studies suggest that rates of the rearrangement reactions (k_{arr}) are on the same order as we have estimated (Gilbert et al., 1976; Schuchmann and von Sonntag, 1981, 1984). While – again – no data are available for the ratio k_{arr}/k_{recomb} for the molecules as in our mechanism, we assumed the ratio to be the same as for primary ethers (von Sonntag and Schuchmann, 1997).
In additional sensitivity simulations (Section S4 in the supplemental information), we show that the model results are insensitive to the choice of k_{arr} and k_{recomb} (< 1% change in simulated MVK and oligomer concentration for a change of 10 orders of magnitude in these rate constants). In the same section other combinations of estimated rate constants are explored and it is shown that only the set of rate constants in Table 1 is in agreement with both literature values for similar compounds and with the laboratory experiments over a wide range of conditions.

7) p.21570, l 28: Please rephrase the sentence. Replace "There is a lack of exact reaction rate constants for the different branching reactions" by "There is a lack of branching ratios for the...".

Response: We changed the wording to "Since the branching ratios for the various reaction pathways are not well constrained…" (p. 5, l. 30)

8) Section 2.2. How is the concentration of oxygen in aqueous solution treated in the model?

Response: For the simulation of the laboratory experiments, the concentration of oxygen is not calculated, but the measured concentration profiles from each experiment are used as an input (cf. Section 2.2.1). These profiles are provided in the Supplemental Information Figure S2), together with the numerical fits describing them. This approach was necessary since the solutions were constantly stirred, a process that cannot be represented in our box model. Note that we replaced the figures in the revised version. The new figures display the oxygen concentration in mg/L whereas the previous

ones showed them in microM. Therefore, the empirical coefficients in the fit equations have changed.

In the multiphase simulations, the concentration of oxygen is calculated based on its uptake rates (i.e. mass accommodation coefficient, Henry's law constant and gas phase diffusion coefficient), and chemical production and loss processes. We added the reference by Lang et al. (1996) that shows that most organic salts actually lead to a slight salting-out effect of oxygen (cf. p. 16, l. 13ff, and Section 3.3.4).

9a) P 21579, 21580: The estimates about the phase partitioning are chosen in such a way to lead to maximum uptake. How are they justified? This is adding additional uncertainty to the results of the study. The authors assume an effective Henry's law constant of $2.1 \cdot 10^6$ for the uptake of MVK. Please, specify how this value has been derived! Is there any evidence from laboratory or field measurements for such high Henry's law constants of MVK or represents the chosen value just a tool to tune the results?

Response: We admit that the choice of the effective Henry's law constant was done such that a (unrealistic?) maximum effect of the oligomerization was shown. Following also comments by Reviewer #2, we carefully revised the discussion of this value and make it clear that a lower effective K_H (i.e a much weaker salting-in effect) might be more likely. Section 3 has been completely revised and $K_H* = 0.01 \cdot K_H$ has been estimated as a reasonable value for the solubility reduction of MVK and MACR in aerosol water as compared to pure water (K_H).
Additional model studies take now into account the possibility that additional oligomer precursors are present in aerosol water (Sections 3.1.2 and 3.3.3). We perform estimates of the concentration limits that might be required to induce efficient oligomer formation.

9b) Moreover, an effective Henry's law constant means that certain processes shift the phase partitioning towards the aqueous phase. But in this case, MVK might not necessarily be present in its monomer form. It might be hydrated or in its dimer form or in other forms. However, this might have effects on the reaction mechanism. In the present work, the authors consider an effective Henry's law constant, but consider all of the dissolved MVK in its monomer form. This might be incorrect and questionable with regards to the proposed chemical mechanism. Can you, e.g., exclude to have dimers to be present in you system? Please provide proper answers to the questions and discuss them in the paper.

Response: The reviewer is right that in some cases a shift in the observed partitioning as compared to the physical K_H might be caused due to additional chemical reactions, such as hydration, oligomerization. However, as discussed now in Section 3.1, salting-in and –out effects are usually caused by thermodynamic effects that change the solubility of organics in salt solutions. For example, for glyoxal, it has been shown that physical effects, e.g. the interaction of the carbonyl group with surrounding ions such as sulfate trap more glyoxal in the aqueous phase as compared to pure water (Yu et al., 2011).
We cannot exclude that, in general, chemical reactions such as hydration or oligomerization might change the chemical nature of the dissolved organics. To our knowledge, the hydration constant of MVK has not been experimentally determined to date. However, several studies point to the fact that it is likely very small: In the aqueous phase, carbonyl groups absorb UV light in

the region 200–350 nm.   Carbonyl compounds that are known to be totally hydrated in the aqueous phase, such as formaldehyde and glyoxal, do not absorb in this region (Fig 6 in by Liu et al.(2009)). MVK shows a strong absorption with a maximum at 296 nm, comparable to that of acetone, which hydration constant is as low as 0.0014 (Guthrie and Pitchko, 2000). Compared to isobutyraldehyde (K_{hyd} = 0.5–0.6 (Bell, 1966; Guthrie and Pitchko, 2000)(Bell et al., 1966; Guthrie et al., 2000), the absorbance of MVK is more intense. This may be due to a mesomeric effect between the C=C and C=O bonds in MVK, which prevents hydration.
Instead, we focus here on the modification of thermodynamic solubility equilibria that can be described by the Setchenov coefficients. We have added a discussion of Setchenov coefficients for atmospherically relevant carbonyl compounds (Section 3.1.1) and discuss the possible reductions of Henry's law constants in salt solutions (cf. also response to comments by Reviewer #2).

10) p.21580 , line 13: What do the authors want to say with the sentence "... an aqueous phase concentration of 2 mM, that can be considered as being typical for organics in aerosol water (Lim et al., 2010)"? The work of Lim et al. (2010) is mostly related to glyoxal and does not present data related to MVK. Why do the authors use the data given in Lim et al. (2010) for MVK? Do the authors think that MVK and glyoxal behave similar? The authors should keep in mind that the physico - chemical properties of MVK and glyoxal are not identical such as the different effective Henry's law constants which have been measured for both compounds .

Response: We revised the text. We referred to the paper by Lim et al. because they state that millimolar levels might be considered an approximate concentration of all potential aqSOA precursors (e.g. small carbonyl compounds) in aerosol water. An aerosol liquid water content (LWC) of ~20 µg m^{-3} is a reasonable average estimate for ambient conditions. Several studies suggest that water might exceed all other condensed matter by a factor of 2-3 (Meng et al., 1995) and ambient concentrations of particulate matter range from <1µg m^{-3} to >10 µg m^{-3} (Jimenez et al., 2009).
Using these numbers, one obtains

$$LWC \left(\frac{20 \cdot 10^{-6}\,g_{H2O}}{m_g^3}\right) \cdot c_{aq} \left(\frac{10^{-3}\,mol_{org}}{L_{H2O}}\right) \cdot M_{org}\left(\frac{150\,g_{org}}{mol_{org}}\right) \cdot \frac{L_{H2O}}{1000 g_{H2O}} = 3\,\text{ng m}^{-3}$$

If one assumes an average molecular weight of 150 g mol^{-1} for organics and a water density of 1 g cm^{-3}.
This calculation shows that only a very small fraction of carbonyl compounds as determined in particulate matter (e.g. (Kawamura et al., 2013)) makes up already a concentration that initiates significant oligomerization.
In the revised manuscript, we simulate now three different cases with respect to the solubility/abundance of oligomer precursors: (i) using K_H(MVK)·0.01 = K_H*(MVK), based on Figure 6, and (ii) a case where we assume that typical aerosol particles comprise a few ng m^{-3} potential oligomer precursors with MVK being a proxy. In addition a third case is discussed where we assume oligomer precursors as in case (ii) but reduced oxygen solubility.
These cases are now explained at the end of Sections 3.1.2. and 3.3.2.

11) p.21581/9: Please add "+ H2O" to the right hand side of (R1).

Response: In the revised manuscript, we omitted the discussion of the sensitivity to OH; therefore the reaction is not included in the manuscript anymore.

12) p.21581/11 - 13: The authors consider (R 1 - 2) to account for additional OH and O2 sinks. However, the authors should keep in mind that O2 is at least partly recycled during peroxy - peroxy radical recombination's (see , e.g. Alfassi, 1997). In case of a chemical system, where the amount of dissolved O2 might be important, this recycling should be considered in a proper mechanism

Response: We revised the mechanism and consider now the recombination reactions (HO2 + RO2, RO2 + RO2) as an oxygen source. Please, note that we also revised the discussion on oxygen saturation in the atmospheric multiphase system and point out now such conditions are not met in the atmosphere as opposed to experimental conditions.

13) p. 21585, line 27: Table 4:

13a) There is no uptake data given for H2O2 and O2 in the manuscript. However, in the manuscript it is mentioned: "However, instead of initializing MVK, H2O2 and O2 in the aqueous phase, gas phase species are initialized, and their uptake into the aqueous phase of aerosol particles is described by the resistance model (Schwartz, 1986)".

Response: We added the uptake parameters of OH, H_2O_2 and O_2 to Table 2.

13b) Please, put the used KH values in the Table and not the measured data of Iraci et al. (1999) since they were not really applied in the mechanism. This is misleading and the small comment below is not sufficient enough.

Response: We removed the K_H values from the table (now Table 3) and only include gas phase reactions there. In Table 2, it is now clarified that we estimate the solubility of MVK as K_H* = 0.01 · K_H based on Figure 6.

14) Figure 1:

13a) From the reviewer's point of view, it might be better, for the sake of clarity, to provide both Figure1 and a detailed revised Table 1 with all single reactions considered in the mechanism.

Response: Given that we assumed the same rate constants for reactions of many species for the sake of simplicity and limited knowledge, we think that the abbreviated table as we have provided, is sufficient. We increased the font in Figure 1 for better readability.

14b) For the compound (CH(=CH2)C(O)C·H(OH)) the RO2· formation and subsequent HO2 elimination reaction is missing.

Response: The reviewer is right that the RO_2 formation was missing in the Figure, but the reaction was actually taken into account in the model, as previously mentioned in our answer to question on Page 21569, section2, b) (iii). The reaction has been added to the revised Figure 1.

14c) Moreover, the mechanism in its current version does include RO2· recombinations for all formed RO2· radicals. For some single species, only the reaction with HO2 is considered. However, also the RO2· recombination should be considered as potential sink as well as source of O2 . Without this recycling process of O2, the presented result in Figure 6b is inadequate. Moreover, it is mentioned that the formation of some end-products given in Figure 1 (for example: Products, small molecular weight compounds, ..) represents an artificial loss of O2 . This issue needs at least to be mentioned.

Response: We revised the discussion of a potential oxygen limitation (Section 3). We state more clearly now that under atmospheric conditions oxygen limitation might only occur if the oxygen solubility were decreased by a factor of ~10 due to a decrease of solubility on salt solutions (Section 3.3.3).

14d) The oxygen addition reactions for the alkyl radicals formed after the MVK addition (Pathway leading to oligomer III, IV, V, VI, VII) are missing. Could you please explain why the RO2 reaction with HO2 radicals in one pathway forms the oligomer II and in a second pathway a thermodynamic unfavorable hydroperoxid, which undergoes a subsequent photolysis reaction. It is more likely that this reaction produce an alkoxy radical, a hydroxyl radical and molecular oxygen. Can you please elaborate the possibility of the addition reaction of peroxyl radical with double bond of MVK.

Response: We agree that these possibilities seem likely. However, the oligomer with a hydroperoxid group (Oligomer II) was analytically identified (see Tab 2 in Renard et al., 2013). If the peroxy radical added to the double bond of MVK, the resulting products would have been observed and distinguished by the analytical techniques applied by Renard et al., 2013 and 2015. Since the corresponding signals were absent, we did not include the reactions leading to these products. Discussion has been added on p. 6, l. 2-5.

15) Figure 4: The right part of the Figure (4b) needs a legend.

Response: We added a legend to Figure 4b.

16) Supplement:
The page numbers of the supplement are not in the correct order

Response: We thank the reviewer for noticing this. We corrected the page numbers in the supplemental information.

17) On page S1, Line 11 there is a typo. The space between (Figure S1.2) obtained is missing. Also in line 13: mL.min - 1 instead of m L ·min - 1 and on page S2, Line 4: mL.min - 1 instead of m L ·min - 1 The layout of equation e) on page S5 is different in comparison with equation d)

Response: We corrected these typos.

REVIEWER #2

Remarks by the authors: We thank the reviewer for the detailed comments and thoughts on our paper. We have carefully revised the manuscript and added sensitivity studies and further discussion on the most sensitive parameters in the mechanism. In addition, we fully revised and shortened the section of multiphase simulations. In order to better constrain the mechanism by more accurate laboratory results, as asked by Reviewer #1, additional experiments were performed. Because of this, a coauthor was added and several figures were replotted.

In the following response, our comments are marked with 'Response' (Courier New font); all reviewer comments are in 'Times New Roman' font. Line and figure numbers refer to the revised manuscript.

This paper is a follow-up to a recent paper describing laboratory studies of aqueous SOA from the OH oxidation of methyl vinyl ketone (MVK) in bulk solutions. In the current paper, the authors develop a box model to describe the laboratory results and apply it to atmospheric aqueous aerosol conditions. The model does a good job of replicating the laboratory results. Applying the model to atmospheric conditions suggests that the OH oxidation of MVK in aqueous particles could be a significant source of SOA in regions with isoprene emissions.

However, the key to MVK having any significance as an aqueous source of SOA is the Henry's law constant, K(H). The authors have assumed that K(H) for MVK is approximately 50,000 times higher in aerosol water than the measured value in pure water (41 M/atm). They cite this factor of 50,000 as mimicking "...the enhanced partition- ing of carbonyl compounds into aerosol water as compared to pure water...", but they are vague on the details. The authors need to give more justification for their factor of 50,000. What is the range of K(H) enhancements seen for carbonyls? Is there a difference between aldehydes and ketones? Since the latter have much smaller hydration equilibrium constants generally, I would think that they would have much smaller K(H) enhancements in aerosols. Thus the enhancement factor for the poster child of enhanced Henry's law constants - glyoxal (a di-aldehyde) - might be much larger than the enhancement seen for MVK (a ketone). The K(H) value of 3000 M/atm for MVK in 80% H2SO4, an enhancement of 80 over the water value, suggests that the assumed enhancement of 50,000 for MVK in aerosol water is too high.

Since the Henry's law constant is the key factor, it needs more discussion and justification. A table of K(H) values for carbonyls in water, and the enhancements in aerosol particles, would help give a clearer picture of a reasonable value for MVK. The authors indicate that if K(H) is 100 times lower than assumed that no significant aqueous SOA is formed.

This idea should be expanded to show a sensitivity study of the MVK-derived SOA mass across the likely values of K(H) in aerosol water. It is suggested in the text (e.g., p. 21580) that the assumed very high enhancement in K(H) relative to pure water might be due to accumulation of MVK at the air-water interface of particles. However, based on the structure of MVK and its high volatility, it seems unlikely that this compound partitions significantly to the air-water interface.

Response: We agree with the reviewer that the choice of the effective Henry's law constants for the oligomer precursor likely represents the largest uncertainty in the multiphase model simulations and therefore in our previous conclusions on the atmospheric implications. We have revised Section 3 (and combined it with the previous Section 4) and discuss the efficiency of salting-in and salting-out effects. Using the new Figure 2-1 (Figure 6 in the manuscript), we estimate now that in saturated ammonium sulfate solutions (~ 2.7 mol kg^{-1}) the enhancement of solubility (K_H^*/K_H) is at most a factor ~100 for ketones. Using this factor, we have performed new model simulations and show that oligomerization from MVK and MACR alone might not be a significant SOA source. However, we have extended the discussion and take into account the possibility of additional oligomer precursors that might undergo similar reactions. We give an estimate of the concentration that might be required to initiate efficient oligomer formation in aerosol water and add a considerable amount to total SOA loading (Section 3).
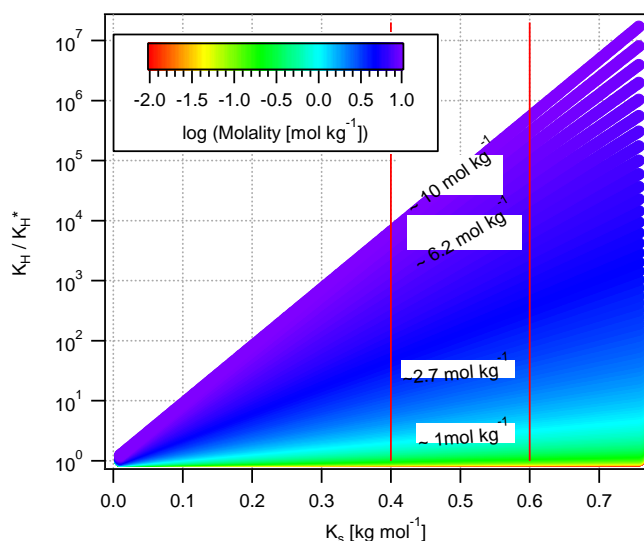
Figure R2-1 (= Figure 6 in the revised manuscript): Reduction of solubility due to ionic strength effects as a function of Setchenov coefficient K_s according to Equation 4. The vertical lines show the range of K_s values for ketones (Wang et al., 2014). The intermediate molalities (2.7 mol kg^{-1}, 6.2 mol kg^{-1}) refer to saturated ammonium sulfate and sodium chloride solutions, respectively.

>Other comments<

1. Line 11 of the abstract states "If oxygen is consumed too quickly or its solubility is kinetically or thermodynamically limited, oligomerization is accelerated, in agreement with the laboratory studies." If the Henry's law constant for O2 is decreased in high ionic strength solutions then the aqueous O2 concentration will be lower. But it's difficult to believe that there is any kinetic limitation to establishing Henry's law equilibrium for O2, i.e., that any chemical reaction in the aqueous phase can be faster than mass transport of O2 to the particles. This is especially true if the aqueous oxidation process is initiated by OH from the gas phase: since the O2 concentration in the gas phase is approximately a trillion times higher than OH(g), transport of O2 will be enormously faster than OH transport to the particles.

Response: The reviewer is right. O_2 limitation is rather unlikely in atmospheric aerosol particles – unlike in laboratory bulk experiments in which the surface-to-volume ratio is very small. We have changed the abstract as follows (p. 1, l. 26):
"While in laboratory experiments oxygen limitation accelerated oligomer formation, such conditions are likely not met in the atmosphere. If oxygen is consumed too quickly or its solubility is kinetically or thermodynamically

limited, oligomerization is accelerated, in agreement with the laboratory studies."

On a related note, in Figure 6b it's surprising that O2 is not always in equilibrium with gaseous O2. Is mass transport of O2 limited by interfacial transport or aqueous diffusion? What is the time scale for these steps and for chemical reaction of O2 in the particles?

Response: During revision, we noticed that the former Figure 6b included wrong data (it was not oxygen that was displayed). This error led us to false conclusions. Now, we state that the atmospheric aqueous phase is always saturated with oxygen. However, uncertainties exist about its equilibrium concentration. Potential oxygen limitation is now discussed in Section 3.3.3.

2. Are products from the MVK + OH reaction allowed to evaporate in the model? If so, what are the assumed values for K(H)? In the atmosphere the large oligomers will remain in the aqueous phase, but smaller, intermediate products are likely to volatilize, which might significantly decrease the production of aqueous SOA in particles.

Response: We assume that all oligomers, independently of their chain length, remain in the aqueous phase. The reviewer is right that potentially, smaller, more volatile products might evaporate to the gas phase. However, our simple box model does not include the gas phase chemistry of such compounds (e.g. pyruvic acid, acetic acid). Since they are not initialized in the gas phase, their evaporation flux to the gas phase would be unlimited due to the artificially strong gradient.
The omission of potential evaporation might indeed lead to an overestimate of oligomerization in the condensed phase. However, on the other hand, formation processes of these compounds in the gas phase might also lead to additional uptake and therefore sources of oligomer precursors in addition to MVK.

Since our study can be considered an exploratory feasibility study, we assume that these effects in the real atmosphere might approximately cancel. We added some text explaining this omission (p. 18, l. 26ff).

3. The H2O2 concentrations that were used in the laboratory experiments are extraordinarily high: from 4 mM (in the 0.2 mM MVK solution) to 400 mM (in the 20 mM MVK). In contrast, a typical aqueous HOOH concentration in the atmosphere is 100 uM or less. At the very high experimental concentrations are there thermal reactions between H2O2 and either MVK or some of the intermediate products? I wonder if such reactions are making a significant contribution to the formation of SOA. A comment in the manuscript about this possibility would be helpful.

Response: We are not aware of any measurements of H_2O_2 in ambient aerosol water. The hydrogen peroxide concentrations were chosen such that the MVK/H_2O_2 ratio is constant for all experiments and favors the MVK + OH reaction rather than H_2O_2+OH reaction. The resulting OH concentrations are in the range of atmospherically reasonable concentrations.
We added the following text in order to give an estimate of possible contributions of the H2O2 reactions (p. 13, l. 1-20):

"Control experiments were conducted to check for any reactivity of H_2O_2 towards MVK: MVK (20 mM) and H_2O_2 (400 mM) were mixed together for 300 min in the dark. MVK was not significantly consumed, and no oligomers were formed.
Among the intermediate reaction products formed, the only reactive species towards H_2O_2 are pyruvic acid, glycolaldehyde and glyoxal (2-4%, 11% and 4%

molar yield, respectively Zhang et al. 2010 and Schöne et al 2014). Under our experimental conditions, the second-order-rate constants of reaction of these species towards H_2O_2 (taken from Schöne and Herrmann, 2014) induce life times of 22 seconds for pyruvic acid, 62 sec for glycolaldehyde and more than 4h for glyoxal. While the latter is greater than our experimental time scales, the two former ones are certainly occurring in the vessel during our experiments. The reaction of pyruvic acid towards H_2O_2 leads to the production of acetic acid with a ~molar yield (Schöne and Herrmann, 2014; Stefan and Bolton, 1999). Because acetic acid is one of the identified oligomer contributor, the reaction of pyruvic acid with H_2O_2 might, thus, artificially increase the amount of oligomers formed. Taking into account the molar yields of acetic acid (57%) and pyruvic acid (2-4%) (Zhang et al. 2010; Schöne et al 2014), one can conclude that this increase in the amount of oligomers formed should be of negligible importance. The reaction of glycolaldehyde with H_2O_2 leads to the production of formic acid with a ~molar yield (Schöne and Herrmann, 2014; Stefan and Bolton, 1999). However, formic acid was not identified as a precursor of oligomers in our experiments; therefore, the reaction of glycolaldehyde with H_2O_2 is not assumed to influence the amount of SOA detected."

4. In Figure 8 there is very little SOA made after 2 hours (in either the gas phase or aqueous phase), but approximately 10 times more after 6 hours, even in the gas phase. Why is the formation of SOA increasing so quickly between 2 and 6 hours? This effect is not apparent in the laboratory results.

<u>Response</u>: The concentration of MVK in the multiphase simulations (Section 4) were much lower than in the lab experiments. Therefore, the increase in oligomers is delayed. In addition, it should be noted that in the multiphase simulations, an 'infinite' supply of MVK is assumed (constant isoprene concentration) whereas in the lab experiments MVK is continuously consumed until it is completely reacted.
These differences and the resulting differences in MVK/OH ratios lead to the differences in the temporal behavior of oligomer increase.
We added text accordingly on p. 20, l. 18.

>Minor issues<

1. p. 21569, line 6: O2 should be H2O2. Also, the portion ", for MVK and ::: " at the end of the sentence is repetitive and can be deleted.

<u>Response</u>: We clarified that indeed MVK, H2O2 and O2 concentrations were recorded. We added 'H2O2' (p. 4, l. 10). Only for MVK and H2O2, UPLC-UV was used; therefore, we did not change the end of the sentence.

2. A major channel from the reaction of RO2 with HO2 is formation of an akyl hydroperoxide, ROOH. Does this imply that Oligomer II is a hydroperoxide? If not, what is it likely to be?

<u>Response</u>: Yes, we assume that Oligomer II is a hydroperoxide. It was the only oligomer with hydroperoxide group that was identified. The fact that the corresponding compounds for the other oligomer series were not found, suggests that they were not formed (or only to negligible amounts). We added this information to the text (p. 8, l. 15).

3. Is the reaction of HOOH with OH the only source of HO2? In the mechanism is HO2 formed from OH + organic?

Response: HO2 is produced in all reactions of OH with organics, i.e. speciated individual compounds and WSOC. Reviewer #1 pointed out the possibility that the stoichiometry of the conversion of OH to HO2 in the reaction of WSOC + OH might not be 1:1.
However, since the revised version of the manuscript does not include the discussion of sensitivity to OH(aq) concentrations anymore, this reaction is not included in the manuscript.

4. Section 2.2.1. Related to the depletion of dissolved oxygen in the laboratory solutions, are solutions in air-tight containers or are they open to air? Why are the initial O2 concentrations different in the different MVK solutions?

Response: Our stirred reactor was tightly closed between samplings (where the reactor was opened for several tens of seconds) that were performed every ~1 to ~10 minutes.
Each experiment started with H_2O_2 photolysis alone for ~ 10 min, and then, MVK was injected in the irradiated solution. Due to the reaction mechanism of H_2O_2 photolysis (HO_x reactions in Table R2-1 = Table 1 in the manuscript), dissolved O_2 concentrations increased during the first 10 minutes, and this increase was faster with higher initial H_2O_2 concentrations. As a consequence, supersaturation of dissolved O_2 was systematically observed prior MVK introduction (Figure R2-2). This also explains why the amount of O_2 produced increased with increasing initial H_2O_2 concentration (Figure S2), as the experiments were performed with different MVK and H_2O_2 concentrations, using a constant initial $[MVK]/[H_2O_2]$ ratio. When MVK was introduced and during the rest of the experiment, the reactor was opened periodically for sampling, thus inducing aqueous/air exchanges of O_2, but these were less efficient than the reaction of O_2 consumption by the reaction as shown by the O_2 depletion observed.

We added this information to the supplemental information, Section S2.
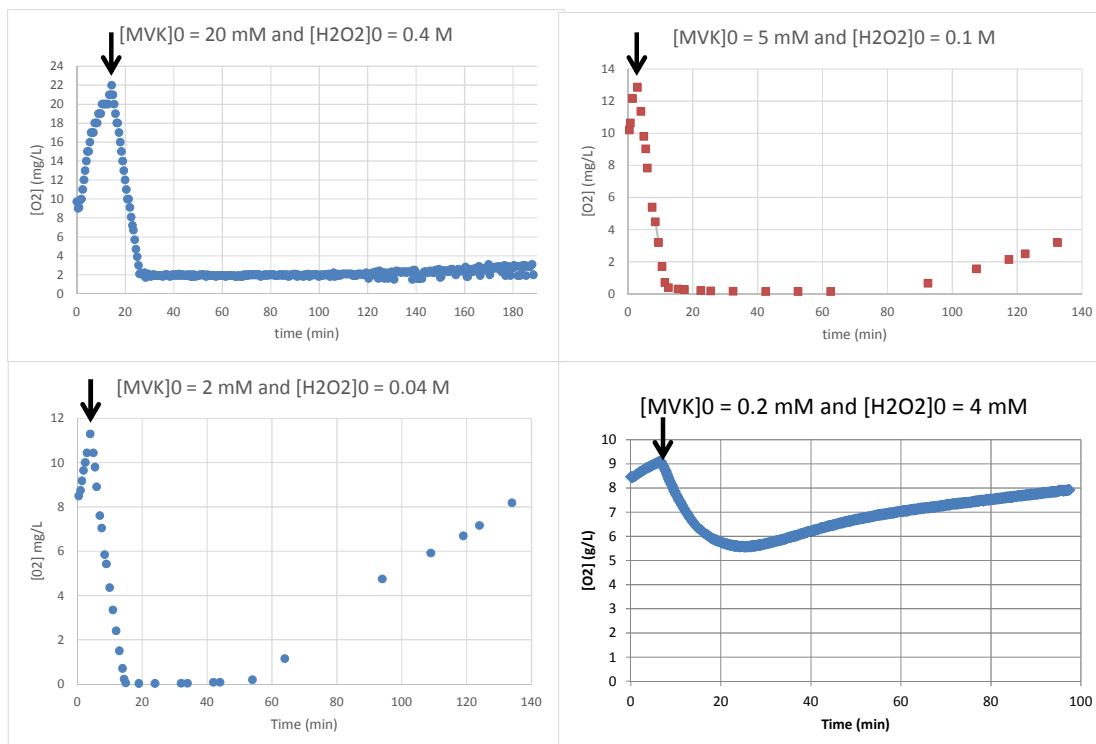
Figure R2-2: Time profiles of dissolved O_2 concentrations during H_2O_2 + MVK photooxidation, for 4 different initial conditions. Time 0 is H_2O_2 injection. The black arrow shows the time when MVK was introduced in the vessel

HO$_x$ reactions		
$H_2O_2 + h\nu \rightarrow 2\ OH$	$j_{H2O2} = f([MVK]_0)$	Estimated based on experiments, cf. Figure 3
$H_2O_2 + OH \rightarrow HO_2 + H_2O$	$3 \cdot 10^7\ M^{-1}\ s^{-1}$	(Christensen et al., 1982)
$HO_2 + HO_2/O_2^- \rightarrow O_2 + H_2O_2$	$8 \cdot 10^5\ M^{-1}\ s^{-1}\ (HO_2)$	(Bielski et al., 1985)
	$9.7 \cdot 10^7\ M^{-1}\ s^{-1}\ (O_2^-)$	
$OH + HO_2/O_2^- \rightarrow H_2O + O_2$	$10^{10}\ M^{-1}\ s^{-1}$	(Elliot and Buxton, 1992)

Table R2-1: Reaction scheme for the photolysis of H_2O_2 and formation of O_2. (= HO$_x$ reactions in Table 1 of the manuscript)

5. p. 21575, line 10. I don't see blue arrows in Figs. 2a and b, as is stated in the text.

Response: We apologize for this omission. The revised figure 2b includes arrows; we did not add any to Figure 2a as the revised figure might look too busy with the additional symbols.

6. p. 21575, line 25. The wording should be modified to clarify that the authors measured the transmitted intensity through the MVK solution, rather than the intensity of the lamp (which is independent of what is occurring downstream).

Response: We thank the reviewer for pointing this out. Of course, it is the intensity as measured through the solution and not of the lamp itself. However, we revised the figure and now compare experimental data and actinometry calculations in absence and in presence of MVK (Section 2.2.2, and Figure 3).

7. The rate constants for oligomer + OH and WSOC + OH are based on results from Arakaki et al. (2013). However in the Arakaki work the rate constant is based on per mole of carbon, while in the current work it appears that the authors are using this rate constant as if it were on a basis of per mole of compound. Given the large number of carbons in each oligomer, this is a significant difference.

Response: We changed the reference for k_{loss} (reaction of oligomers with OH) and refer now to Doussin and Monod (2013) where the reactivity of carbonyl compounds towards the OH radical is discussed. In that paper, it is shown that many organic compounds have rate constants on the order of magnitude of $\sim 10^8$ M^{-1} s^{-1}, independent of their carbon chain length. To our knowledge, no data are available for oligomers; however, since there is no clear trend with chain length, we think that our estimate for k_{loss} is justified.
The reviewer is right that the rate constant by Arakaki et al. was given in $M(carbon)^{-1}$ s^{-1}. However, given the high variability of WSOC concentration in atmospheric particles and the fact that a large fraction is composed of relatively small compounds (e.g.(Herckes et al., 2013)), we think that our treatment of k_{WSOC} was reasonable. Note that in the revised manuscript, the sensitivity to OH concentrations is not further explored and the reaction was omitted.

8. I cannot understand the value of the mass accommodation coefficient in Table 2.

Response: This mistake occurred during typesetting. We thank the reviewer for pointing it out. We'll make sure that in the revised copyedited version, all symbols will be printed correctly.

9. The first line of the caption in Figure 3 indicates "3" wavelengths, but the correct number appears to be 8.

Response: We have changed Figure 3 including its caption and do not show any wavelength-dependent data anymore (cf. also response to comment #6).

10. In Figure 6, it would be helpful to add a few-word description to each case (A – E) in an expanded legend. It's difficult to have to keep flipping between the text, figure, and Table while reading this section.

Response: Since we now explore fewer cases with the multiphase model, we omitted Table 3 and added the description of the cases to the new Figure 8.

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