

1 **Modeling the formation and aging of secondary organic** 2 **aerosols in Los Angeles during CalNex 2010**

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24 **Abstract**

25 Four different literature parameterizations for the formation and evolution of urban
26 secondary organic aerosol (SOA) frequently used in 3D models are evaluated using a 0-D box
27 model representing the Los Angeles Metropolitan Region during the CalNex 2010 field
28 campaign. We constrain the model predictions with measurements from several platforms and
29 compare predictions with particle and gas-phase observations from the CalNex Pasadena ground
30 site. That site provides a unique opportunity to study aerosol formation close to anthropogenic
31 emission sources with limited recirculation. The model SOA formed only from the oxidation of
32 VOCs (V-SOA) is insufficient to explain the observed SOA concentrations, even when using
33 SOA parameterizations with multi-generation oxidation that produce much higher yields than
34 have been observed in chamber experiments, or when increasing yields to their upper limit
35 estimates accounting for recently reported losses of vapors to chamber walls. The Community
36 Multiscale Air Quality (WRF-CMAQ) model (version 5.0.1) provides excellent predictions of
37 secondary inorganic particle species but underestimates the observed SOA mass by a factor of 25
38 when an older VOC-only parameterization is used, which is consistent with many previous
39 model-measurement comparisons for pre-2007 anthropogenic SOA modules in urban areas.

40 Including SOA from primary semi-volatile and intermediate volatility organic
41 compounds (P-S/IVOCs) following the parameterizations of Robinson et al. (2007), Grieshop et
42 al. (2009), or Pye and Seinfeld (2010) improves model/measurement agreement for mass
43 concentration. The results from the 3 parameterizations show large differences (e.g. a factor of 3
44 in SOA mass) and are not well constrained, underscoring the current uncertainties in this area.
45 Our results strongly suggest that other precursors besides VOCs, such as P-S/IVOCs, are needed
46 to explain the observed SOA concentrations in Pasadena. All the recent parameterizations over-
47 predict urban SOA formation at long photochemical ages (≈ 3 days) compared to observations
48 from multiple sites, which can lead to problems in regional and especially global modeling.
49 However, reducing IVOC emissions by one-half in the model to better match recent IVOC
50 measurements improves SOA predictions at these long photochemical ages.

51 Among the explicitly modeled VOCs, the precursor compounds that contribute the
52 greatest SOA mass are methylbenzenes. Measured polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
53 (naphthalenes) contribute 0.7% of the modeled SOA mass. The amounts of SOA mass from

54 diesel vehicles, gasoline vehicles, and cooking emissions are estimated to be 16 – 27%, 35 –
55 61%, and 19 – 35%, respectively, depending on the parameterization used, which is consistent
56 with the observed fossil fraction of urban SOA, 71(\pm 3)%. The relative contribution of each
57 source is uncertain by almost a factor of 2 depending on the parameterization used. In-basin
58 biogenic VOCs are predicted to contribute only a few percent to SOA. A regional SOA
59 background of approximately 2.1 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ is also present due to the long distance transport of
60 highly aged OA, likely with a substantial contribution from regional biogenic SOA. The
61 percentage of SOA from diesel vehicle emissions is the same, within the estimated uncertainty,
62 as reported in previous work that analyzed the weekly cycles in OA concentrations (Bahreini et
63 al., 2012; Hayes et al., 2013). However, the modeling work presented here suggests a strong
64 anthropogenic source of modern carbon in SOA, due to cooking emissions, which was not
65 accounted for in those previous studies, and which is higher on weekends.

66 Lastly, this work adapts a simple two-parameter model to predict SOA concentration and
67 O/C from urban emissions. This model successfully predicts SOA concentration, and the optimal
68 parameter combination is very similar to that found for Mexico City. This approach provides a
69 computationally inexpensive method for predicting urban SOA in global and climate models. We
70 estimate pollution SOA to account for 26 Tg yr⁻¹ of SOA globally, or 17% of global SOA, 1/3 of
71 which is likely to be non-fossil.

72 **1. Introduction**

73 Submicron aerosols impact regional to global climate (IPCC, 2013), visibility (Watson,
74 2002), and human health (Dockery and Pope, 1994). Quantification of the environmental and
75 health impacts of atmospheric aerosols is difficult however, because of our incomplete
76 understanding of aerosol physical and chemical properties. Atmospheric aerosols are typically a
77 mixture of organic and inorganic matter, and the organic fraction is normally composed of
78 hundreds or even thousands of compounds. Due to this complexity, accurate prediction of OA
79 concentrations, as well as chemical properties is challenging (McKeen et al., 2007; Heald et al.,
80 2011; Spracklen et al., 2011). This problem is especially important given that OA represents
81 roughly half of the total tropospheric submicron aerosol mass in many environments including
82 polluted urban regions (Murphy et al., 2006; Jimenez et al., 2009).

83 Given its complexity, OA is often categorized based on sources. Primary organic aerosols
84 (POA) are emitted directly into the atmosphere from sources such as motor vehicles, food
85 cooking, and wildfires. SOA is formed in the atmosphere by photooxidation and/or
86 heterogeneous or cloud processing of gas-phase precursors. The gas-phase precursors for SOA
87 potentially have many sources including vehicle emissions, the biosphere, biomass burning, and
88 food cooking (e.g. Schauer et al., 1999; Hallquist et al., 2009; Hodzic et al., 2010b; Bahreini et
89 al., 2012). A large portion of the submicron OA throughout the world can be classified as SOA
90 (Zhang et al., 2007; Jimenez et al., 2009). Even in urban areas such as the Los Angeles
91 Metropolitan Area, SOA is often found to be larger than POA, especially in the summer
92 (Docherty et al., 2008; Hersey et al., 2011; Hayes et al., 2013).

93 Traditional models for SOA formation use a semi-empirical approach wherein SOA
94 formation is described in two steps: the gas-phase oxidation of VOC precursors resulting in the
95 formation of semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), followed by partitioning of the SVOCs
96 to the particle phase. The parameters for these models (yields, saturation concentrations, etc.) are
97 typically derived from smog chamber experiments on individual VOCs (Hallquist et al., 2009).
98 Since about 2005, it has been shown in multiple publications from several field studies that
99 traditional models under-predict observed SOA in urban areas by a large amount with a
100 difference of up to a factor of 19. (Volkamer et al., 2006; de Gouw and Jimenez, 2009; Dzepina
101 et al., 2009; Hodzic et al., 2010a). A similarly large underestimate is typically not observed in

102 areas dominated by biogenic SOA (Tunved et al., 2006; Chen et al., 2009; Hodzic et al., 2009;
103 Slowik et al., 2010). In response, new precursors and pathways for SOA formation have been
104 identified from measurements and incorporated into SOA models. The new formation pathways
105 include SOA formation from primary semivolatile and intermediate volatility organic
106 compounds (P-S/IVOCs) (Robinson et al., 2007), aqueous phase production in clouds (e.g. Lim
107 et al., 2005) and aerosols (Ervens and Volkamer, 2010; Knote et al., 2014b), as well as the
108 oxidation of VOCs such as isoprene, benzene, and acetylene that were previously thought to
109 produce little or no SOA (Martin-Reviejo and Wirtz, 2005; Kroll et al., 2006; Volkamer et al.,
110 2009).

111 The introduction of the volatility basis set (VBS) approach represents a conceptual
112 advance for modeling OA (Donahue et al., 2006). This approach distributes organic species into
113 logarithmically spaced volatility bins, which are used to calculate absorptive partitioning
114 between the gas and particle-phases. Mass is transferred between the bins as photochemical
115 oxidation proceeds and environmental parameters (i.e. temperature, dilution) change. The VBS
116 approach has been applied to SOA from biogenic and anthropogenic VOCs as well as to P-
117 S/IVOCs and the SOA formed from them (Robinson et al., 2007; Tsimpidi et al., 2010).

118 Although these updates have led to substantial reductions in the gaps between observed
119 and predicted OA concentrations, major inconsistencies and uncertainties remain, and it is not
120 clear that improved agreement is achieved for the right reasons. For instance, both Dzepina et al.
121 (2011) and Hodzic et al. (2010a) reported that the Robinson et al. (2007) parameterization for the
122 production of SOA from P-S/IVOCs contributed substantially to successful predictions of SOA
123 concentration in a box and a regional model for the Mexico City region, but the predicted O/C
124 values were approximately a factor of 2 too low. A different parameterization of SOA from P-
125 S/IVOCs published by Grieshop et al. (2009) led to overpredicted total SOA concentration, but
126 successfully reproduced the measured O/C values.

127 Complicating the picture further was the additional finding in Dzepina et al. (2011) that if
128 the VBS with multi-generational aging was applied to VOCs following Tsimpidi et al. (2010),
129 then all the SOA mass could be successfully predicted without considering P-S/IVOCs. A similar
130 finding was observed in Tsimpidi et al. (2010) wherein the inclusion of P-S/IVOCs and an
131 “aging VBS” treatment of VOC oxidation worsened over-prediction in the model during the

132 afternoon. Thus, the relative importance of P-S/IVOCs versus VOCs in urban SOA production
133 remains very uncertain. More generally, robust model/measurement closure – in which SOA
134 chemistry is accurately represented – is an important step towards implementing effective
135 particulate matter pollution controls in urban areas.

136 Here we compare the results of a constrained SOA box model against measurements
137 carried out at the Pasadena ground site during the California Research at the Nexus of Air
138 Quality and Climate Change (CalNex) campaign. The use of a box model allows multiple state-
139 of-the-art parameterizations to be tested. Once constrained by measurements, the box model
140 facilitates the improved source apportionment of SOA in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area. In
141 particular, the amount of SOA formed from different precursors is quantitatively evaluated. The
142 importance of diesel versus gasoline emissions as sources of SOA precursors – a topic that has
143 received much recent interest – is discussed as well (Bahreini et al., 2012; Gentner et al., 2012;
144 Hayes et al., 2013; Ensberg et al., 2014). Results are also compared to those of the 3-D WRF-
145 CMAQ model. The CalNex field campaign, which took place in Spring/Summer 2010, provides
146 a unique data set for evaluating gas-phase SOA models because of, in part, the large scope of the
147 campaign, and the generally clear-sky conditions during the campaign that limited the effects of
148 cloud chemistry. Specifically at the Pasadena ground site, which operated from May 15 2010 to
149 June 15 2010, there were over 70 gas and particle phase measurements including cutting-edge
150 techniques that provide new insights into SOA sources and chemistry. For example, highly time
151 resolved ^{14}C measurements with 3 – 4 h resolution are utilized in this work, whereas typically 12
152 h or lower resolution has been reported (Zotter et al., 2014). By comparing the CalNex dataset to
153 recently proposed SOA models, the research described below aims to evaluate recently proposed
154 SOA models and assess the importance of different SOA sources and formation pathways.

155

156 **2. Modeling methods**

157 **2.1. Pasadena ground site meteorology**

158 An overview of the CalNex study has been recently published by Ryerson et al. (2013).
159 The location and meteorology of the Pasadena ground site has been described in detail
160 previously (Washenfelder et al., 2011; Hayes et al., 2013). Briefly, the site was located in the
161 Caltech campus about 18 km northeast of downtown Los Angeles (34.1406 N, 118.1225 W).

162 Pasadena lies within the South Coast Air Basin (SoCAB) and the Los Angeles metropolitan area.
163 The prevailing wind direction during daytime in Pasadena was from the southwest, which
164 brought air masses from the Santa Monica and San Pedro bays through Los Angeles to Pasadena.
165 Thus, Pasadena during the daytime is predominately a receptor site for pollution emitted in the
166 western Los Angeles metropolitan area that is then advected over a period of several hours
167 (about 3 – 5 h). While more local emissions and background concentrations of atmospheric
168 species must influence the site, the diurnal cycles of many primary species with anthropogenic
169 sources (e.g. CO, black carbon (BC), and benzene) appear to be dominated by advection of
170 pollution from the southwest. Specifically, CO, BC, and benzene concentrations display strong
171 peaks around noontime as shown in Figure 2 of Hayes et al. (2013), which is due to a transport
172 time of several hours until the emissions from the morning rush hour arrive in Pasadena. At
173 nighttime, winds were weak and were most frequently from the southwest or southeast, which is
174 illustrated in the supporting information (Figure A-2) of Hayes et al. (2013). The site was
175 influenced at that time by more local emissions than by advection from downtown Los Angeles.
176 Aged emissions from the prior daytime may have influenced the site as well during nighttime.

177

178 **2.2. SOA box model**

179 The models in this work are summarized in Table 2. The box model used here accounts
180 for SOA formed from gas-phase oxidation of two sets of precursors: (1) VOCs, and (2) P-
181 S/IVOCs. Also included in the total model SOA is background SOA (BG-SOA), with a constant
182 concentration of $2.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ that is derived from observations as described later in Section 2.4.
183 BG-SOA is considered non-volatile in the model, which is consistent with observations that very
184 aged SOA has low volatility (Cappa and Jimenez, 2010). For the remainder of the SOA the
185 equilibrium partitioning between the particle and gas-phases is calculated using the
186 reformulation of Pankow Theory by Donahue et al. (2006). The particle-phase fraction of species
187 i , ξ_i , is calculated using its effective saturation concentration, C_i^* , and the total concentration of
188 the organic material available for partitioning, $[OA]$.

189

190
$$\xi_i = \left(1 + \frac{C_i^*}{[OA]}\right)^{-1} ; [OA] = \sum_i [SVOC]_i \xi_i \quad (1)$$

191

192 We note that there is ongoing scientific research examining if OA adopts a liquid or solid/glassy
193 phase with potentially slow diffusion properties, and the conditions that result in equilibrium or
194 kinetically-limited partitioning are not yet clear (e.g. Cappa and Wilson, 2011; Perraud et al.,
195 2012). For the purpose of this study however, field measurements from CalNex strongly suggest
196 that organic aerosols undergo equilibrium partitioning in Pasadena (Zhang et al., 2012). In
197 particular, for water-soluble organic carbon, a surrogate for SOA, the partitioning coefficient was
198 observed to be correlated with the OA mass. A similar observation was made at a rural site in
199 Colorado, USA, and the lack of kinetic limitations to equilibrium may be attributable to the
200 higher ambient relative humidity, mostly greater than 30%, in both Pasadena and Colorado
201 compared to some studies that have reported kinetic limitations (Yatavelli et al., 2014).
202 Furthermore, we note that the diurnally averaged relative humidity in Pasadena was always
203 greater than 60%, which laboratory studies have suggested is above the ~30% threshold where
204 particles form liquid phases (Renbaum-Wolff et al., 2013).

205 V-SOA in the box model includes products from the oxidation of 46 VOCs, and the V-
206 SOA mass is distributed into a 4-bin VBS as shown Figure 1 ($C^*=1, 10, 100, \text{ or } 1000 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$).
207 Furthermore, a table with the names of each VOC as well as the relevant model parameters is
208 provided in the supporting information (Table SI-1). The reaction rates for most of the VOCs are
209 taken from Atkinson and Arey (2003) and, when not available there, Carter (2010). Three
210 terpene compounds (α -pinene, β -pinene, and limonene) were lumped for this model, and the rate
211 constant of this lumped precursor species is the weighted average – by ambient concentrations –
212 of the individual rate constants (Atkinson and Arey, 2003). In addition, the rates for naphthalene,
213 1-methylnaphthalene, and 2-methylnaphthalene oxidation are taken from Chan et al. (2009). The
214 SOA yields for the VOCs are taken from Tsimpidi et al. (2010). For naphthalene and the
215 methylnaphthalenes the yields are from data presented in Chan et al. (2009), which have been re-
216 fitted to obtain yields for the 4-bin VBS utilized in this work. V-SOA is also allowed to ‘age’
217 after the initial reaction, and the subsequent gas-phase oxidation (with a rate constant of 10^{-11}
218 $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molec.}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, which was erroneously reported as 4 times higher in Tsimpidi et al. (2010))

219 leads to a 10× decrease in volatility as well as a 7.5% increase in mass due to added oxygen for
220 each generation. This parameterization for V-SOA is abbreviated as “TSI” in the text.

221 It is possible that the SOA yields used for V-SOA, which are based on the chamber
222 experiment literature, are several-fold too low due to, for example, losses of gas-phase species to
223 chamber walls (Matsunaga and Ziemann, 2010; Zhang et al., 2014). To investigate this
224 possibility a model variation – named “4xV” – is run wherein the SOA yields from aromatics are
225 increased by a factor of four, based on recent chamber studies in which higher concentrations of
226 aerosol seed were utilized in order to suppress losses to chamber walls, and an upper limit of a
227 factor of 4 increase in V-SOA yields was estimated (Zhang et al., 2014). The multi-generation
228 aging of secondary species produced from VOCs is turned off in this variation, since otherwise
229 the SOA yields would reach extremely unrealistic levels (~400%).

230 SOA from P-S/IVOCs (SI-SOA) is simulated utilizing three different parameter sets. No
231 duplication of precursors is expected between the Tsimpidi et al. (2010) parameterization and the
232 three P-S/IVOCs parameterizations, with the possible exception of the naphthalenes (Robinson et
233 al., 2007; Dzepina et al., 2009; Dzepina et al., 2011). However, since the naphthalenes contribute
234 a very small amount to the total SOA mass (see below), the impact of double-counting their SOA
235 contribution is negligible. The first two P-S/IVOCs parameterizations are from Robinson et al.
236 (2007), hereinafter “ROB”, and an alternate set published by Grieshop et al. (2009), hereinafter
237 “GRI”. The differences between the two parameterizations are highlighted in Figure 1. When
238 compared to ROB, primary and secondary species in GRI have a lower gas-phase reactivity
239 (2×10^{-11} versus 4×10^{-11} $\text{cm}^3 \text{molec}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$), a larger decrease in volatility per oxidation step (two
240 orders of magnitude versus one), and more oxygen mass added to the products (40% versus 7.5%
241 of the precursor mass). Furthermore, there are differences in the assumed enthalpies of
242 vaporization, ΔH_{vap} , and molecular weights. Details of both parameterizations are given in Table
243 SI-2 in the supporting information.

244 The third parameterization utilized for SI-SOA is that published by Pye and Seinfeld
245 (2010), hereinafter “PYE”, which is also illustrated in Figure 1. In PYE the SOA from primary
246 SVOCs and primary IVOCs follow different treatments. The primary SVOCs emitted are
247 represented by two lumped species with $C^*=20$ and $1646 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and relative concentrations of
248 0.51 and 0.49, respectively. The gas phase reactivity (2×10^{-11} $\text{cm}^3 \text{molec}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$) and decrease in

249 volatility per oxidation step (two orders of magnitude) are identical to GRI. However, only one
250 oxidation step is allowed in PYE. The oxygen mass added to the products is 50% of the
251 precursor mass, which is higher than that for ROB and GRI. Another difference in PYE is the
252 enthalpy of vaporization for all organic species, which is 42 kJ/mol. Lastly, the molecular weight
253 utilized here is 250 g mol⁻¹, the same as ROB, although this parameter is not specified in Pye and
254 Seinfeld (2010). In PYE also the concentration of SOA from primary IVOCs is estimated by
255 scaling-up the concentration of SOA from naphthalene by a factor of 66.

256 Heterogeneous uptake of glyoxal onto aerosols can be a relevant source of SOA under
257 some conditions (Volkamer et al., 2007; Dzepina et al., 2009). Previously published work on the
258 glyoxal budget for CalNex indicates that this compound contributes only a small fraction of the
259 SOA mass in the LA basin, however (Washenfelder et al., 2011; Knote et al., 2014b), and we do
260 not consider it further in this study. In Pasadena, the urban SOA peaked in the afternoons, which
261 were generally clear and sunny during the campaign. This observation is consistent with the
262 conclusion that reactions occurring in clouds did not play a major role in SOA production during
263 CalNex. In addition, a comparison of OA/ Δ CO for three days that were cloudy against the
264 remainder of the campaign shows no apparent difference in the magnitude of the ratio or its
265 evolution with photochemical age (Figure SI-1), which further supports the conclusion that SOA
266 production from clouds can be neglected in this study.

267 The design of the model used here includes several more elements that are general for V-
268 SOA and SI-SOA. Only oxidation by hydroxyl radical (\bullet OH) is considered since in urban
269 regions other oxidants such as ozone, nitrate radical, and chlorine radical are expected to be
270 minor contributors to SOA formation from urban VOCs (Dzepina et al., 2009; Dzepina et al.,
271 2011; Hayes et al., 2013). Additionally, the model is run using “high-NO_x conditions,” which is
272 consistent with previously calculated branching ratios for the RO₂ + NO, RO₂ + HO₂, and RO₂ +
273 RO₂ reactions (Hayes et al., 2013) and the dominance of the RO₂ + NO pathway. The primary
274 and secondary species are assumed to mix into a single organic phase. This assumption is based
275 on observations made off the coast of California that SOA condenses on primary particles (e.g.,
276 BC and POA) as indicated by the similar size distributions for these species across a range of
277 photochemical ages (Cappa et al., 2012). In addition, the organic phase is taken to be separate
278 from the inorganic phases, which is consistent with the relatively low O:C values observed

279 during CalNex (Hayes et al., 2013) and previous studies demonstrating that organic/inorganic
280 phase separation occurs when O:C is less than 0.7 (Bertram et al., 2011). It should be noted that
281 this statement holds true even after applying the updated calibration for AMS O:C (Canagaratna
282 et al., 2015).

283 The temperature dependence of C^* is calculated with the Clausius-Clapeyron equation.

284

$$285 \quad C_i^* = C_{i,o}^* \frac{T_0}{T} \exp \left[\frac{\Delta H_{vap}}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T_0} - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right] \quad (2)$$

286

287 Where $C_{i,o}^*$ is the effective saturation concentration of condensable compound i at the reference
288 temperature T_0 (K), and R is the ideal gas constant. The ambient temperature, T , was taken to be
289 18°C, which represents the average campaign temperature during CalNex. A sensitivity test
290 exhibited less than a 4% change in predicted mass at a given time-of-day when using 14°C and
291 24°C, which are the minimum and maximum temperatures for the diurnal cycle. The error in
292 predicted mass over this temperature range is small compared to other uncertainties in SOA
293 modeling, and therefore the use of a constant temperature of 18°C to calculate C^* should
294 introduce negligible errors.

295

296 **2.3. Model set-up**

297 This work utilizes a box approach wherein the model calculates the evolution of organic
298 species in an air parcel as it undergoes photochemical aging. A schematic of the model set-up is
299 shown in Figure 2. The calculation is run 24 times to predict the average diurnal cycle for the
300 entire campaign (15 May – 15 June). For each of the 24 repetitions, the calculation always starts
301 at hour zero and then runs to 12 h of photochemical aging (Panel 2). Next, the model output at
302 the same photochemical age as that observed at the Pasadena ground site for the given time-of-
303 day is saved for comparison against measurements (Panel 3). The initial concentrations of VOCs
304 in the air parcel are calculated by multiplying the background-subtracted CO concentrations
305 measured at Pasadena by the emission ratios, $\Delta\text{VOC}/\Delta\text{CO}$, previously determined for CalNex,
306 which are consistent with those for other US urban areas (Warneke et al., 2007; Borbon et al.,

307 2013) (Panel 1). CO is an inert tracer of combustion emissions over these timescales and its
308 formation from VOCs is very minor as well (Griffin et al., 2007). The CO background level
309 represents the amount present from continental-scale transport and for which the co-emitted
310 organic species have been lost by deposition (e.g. DeCarlo et al., 2010). The background was
311 determined by examining CO measurements taken aboard the NOAA P3 aircraft off the Los
312 Angeles coastline at altitudes less than 200 m as described in our previous paper (Hayes et al.,
313 2013). Given that the model is set-up to predict the mean diurnal cycle of SOA during the entire
314 CalNex-Pasadena measurement period, the mean diurnal cycle of the CO concentration is used
315 for the calculation of the emissions. An important advantage of using CO as a conserved urban
316 emissions tracer is that dilution of emissions in the air parcel is implicitly included in the model,
317 since the reductions in CO concentration will lead to lower calculated initial precursor
318 concentrations in that air parcel.

319 The biogenic VOCs are not expected to be emitted proportionally with CO, and therefore
320 the approach described in the previous paragraph cannot be used to specify the biogenic VOC
321 emissions. Rather, the emissions of biogenic VOCs were adjusted empirically to match the
322 observed concentrations of isoprene and terpenes, after accounting for anthropogenic isoprene
323 using $\Delta(\text{isoprene})/\Delta\text{CO}$ (Borbon et al., 2013). Only ~4% of the daily average isoprene is from
324 anthropogenic sources. In addition, the diurnal profile of emissions was assumed to be
325 proportional to ambient temperature.

326 The model consistency with the VOC measurements, including for biogenic VOCs, is
327 evaluated by comparing the measured and modeled diurnal cycles. Some of the cycles compared
328 are given in Figure SI-2 as an example. It is observed that the model is generally consistent with
329 the VOC measurements.

330 For naphthalene and its analogs, emission ratios are not available in the literature, to our
331 knowledge. To obtain the emission ratios the concentrations of the polycyclic aromatic
332 hydrocarbons were plotted versus CO, and a linear orthogonal distance regression (ODR)
333 analysis was carried out. The data were filtered and include only periods from 00:00 – 06:00
334 (local time) to minimize depletion by photochemical processing (Figure SI-3). The slope from
335 the regression analysis was then used as the emission ratio. However, as observed in Figure SI-3,
336 the diurnal cycles for naphthalene and its analogs are not well-reproduced by the model during

337 the daytime when using the early morning emission ratios. The sampling of these compounds
338 was performed on a tar roof, and it is possible that the local concentrations in the vicinity of roof
339 may be elevated during daytime due to volatilization of the roofing tar and not representative of
340 concentrations throughout the Los Angeles basin. The naphthalene and methylnaphthalene
341 concentrations are well correlated with temperature. However, it is also possible that the
342 volatilization occurs over a larger city scale, and thus a variation of the model is run wherein the
343 emission ratios are changed empirically along the diurnal cycle so that the model reproduces the
344 measured diurnal cycle for each speciated naphthalene (Figure SI-3). The increases in emissions
345 range between 1 and 3.5 times the original value, and the implications for SOA are discussed in
346 Section 3.1.3.

347 The calculation of the initial P-S/IVOC concentrations requires a somewhat different
348 procedure compared to the VOCs. Instead, the amount of initially emitted POA is calculated
349 from measured $\Delta\text{POA}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios and the measured CO concentration in Pasadena. Then the
350 total concentration of P-S/IVOCs is set so that the particle-phase P-S/IVOC concentration
351 matches the amount of initially emitted POA, while constraining the volatility distribution to that
352 of the corresponding parameterization, as done in previous studies (e.g. Dzepina et al., 2009).

353 The model consistency with respect to the POA measurement is shown in Figure SI-2.
354 The comparison for POA is adequate, and a linear ODR analysis yields a slope of 1.01 ($R =$
355 0.76) when the GRI+TSI parameterization is used. Of these three model variants, PYE+TSI
356 shows a larger positive bias. This is likely due to the relatively large amount of primary SVOCs
357 placed in the $C^*=20$ bin compared to ROB+TSI and GRI+TSI, which will result in more
358 partitioning to the particulate phase as the total OA mass is increased (e.g. by SOA formation)

359 The initial VOCs and P-S/IVOCs are then oxidized in the air parcel. The aging of the air
360 parcel is simulated separately 24 times with each simulation using measured parameters (e.g.
361 ΔCO , photochemical age, POA) corresponding to one hour during the mean diurnal cycle.
362 Following Dzepina et al. (2009) the evolution of the different compounds in each of the 24 aging
363 simulations is calculated by discretizing the rate equations using Euler's method.

364 The photochemical age of the urban emissions at each time of day is determined from the
365 ratio of 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene to benzene as described previously (Parrish et al., 2007; Hayes et
366 al., 2013). We note that the photochemical age estimated from NO_y/NO_x is very similar (Hayes

367 et al., 2013), which is consistent with previous results from Mexico City for ages shorter than 1
368 day (C. A. Cantrell, Univ. of Colorado, personal communication, 2014). There are three
369 important considerations that must be evaluated when using VOC concentration ratios as
370 photochemical clocks.

371 First, trimethylbenzene and benzene are predominately from anthropogenic sources, and
372 thus the photochemical clock only applies to the evolution of anthropogenic emissions. Previous
373 work by Washenfelder et al. (2011) estimated that most biogenic VOCs were emitted mostly in
374 the last quarter of the trajectory of the air parcel arriving at Pasadena at 16:00 PDT. This estimate
375 was based on the vegetation coverage observed in visible satellite images of the upwind areas, as
376 well as on the ratio of isoprene to its first-generation products (methyl vinyl ketone and
377 methacrolein). However, in this work, the photochemical age for biogenic VOCs is kept the
378 same as for the anthropogenic VOCs. This approach will overestimate the amount of
379 photochemical aging – and the SOA from in-basin biogenic emissions – during daytime. The
380 modeled biogenic SOA should thus be considered an upper limit. As discussed below, the
381 amount of SOA from in-basin biogenic VOCs is very small. Thus, our SOA model results are not
382 sensitive to the details of how SOA from biogenic VOCs emitted within the LA basin is
383 modeled. We do not include oxidation of biogenic VOCs by O₃ or NO₃ in the box model, but
384 these oxidants have only a minor role in SOA formation during the daytime when the peak for
385 in-basin SOA concentration is observed. In particular, given the measured concentrations of
386 oxidants (Hayes et al., 2013), oxidation of isoprene and terpenes by •OH is 37 and 5 times faster
387 on average, respectively, than oxidation by O₃ during daytime.

388 The second consideration is that the purpose of using the ratio of VOC concentrations is
389 to determine the •OH exposure for the air mass at the Pasadena site. (•OH exposure is the
390 concentration integrated over time for an air parcel.) While the •OH exposure for the site is
391 therefore well-constrained, the actual •OH concentration in the modeled air parcel as a function
392 of time is not as well-constrained. Thus, the photochemical ages used here (Figure 3) are
393 calculated using an average •OH concentration of 1.5×10^6 molec cm⁻³, as described in our
394 previous work (Hayes et al., 2013), and the model is run with the same concentration. Insofar as
395 the model produces the same •OH exposure as determined from measurements, which is always
396 the case in this modeling study, the actual concentration of •OH used in the model is not

397 expected to substantially influence the results. In other words, while the concentration $\bullet\text{OH}$ in
398 the model is assumed to be $1.5 \times 10^6 \text{ molec cm}^{-3}$, the integral of the $\bullet\text{OH}$ concentration over time
399 is constrained by the observed VOCs ratios. As expected, in the middle of the day the
400 photochemical age will be longer than the transport age, and the opposite will be true during
401 periods with low ambient $\bullet\text{OH}$.

402 Third, photochemical age is a quantity developed as a metric for parcels of air arriving at
403 a remote receptor site, and it is derived by assuming that the parcel is decoupled from fresh
404 emissions as it is transported (Kleinman et al., 2007; Parrish et al., 2007). However, Pasadena is
405 not a remote receptor site, and it is impacted by pollution that has been emitted recently as well
406 as transported from more distant locations. The error in the calculated photochemical age that
407 results from the mixing of nearby and far sources is evaluated in our previous work, and it may
408 lead to underestimation of the actual photochemical age by $\sim 10\%$ (Hayes et al., 2013), which is
409 relatively minor compared to the uncertainty in the OA measurement of $\pm 30\%$ (Middlebrook et
410 al., 2012) and the possible biases in the different SOA parameterizations.

411

412 **2.4. Model/measurement comparisons**

413 The model is compared against the average diurnal cycles of various OA properties (e.g.
414 concentration, O:C). The measurements utilized in this study are summarized in Table 3. In
415 previous work the concentrations of five different OA components were determined using
416 positive matrix factorization (PMF) of aerosol mass spectrometer (AMS) data, and the diurnal
417 cycles of these components are shown in Figure 3 (Hayes et al., 2013). Hydrocarbon-like organic
418 aerosol (HOA) and cooking-influenced organic aerosol (CIOA) are both thought to be dominated
419 by POA. As discussed in Hayes et al. (2013), HOA is dominated by vehicle combustion
420 emissions, and the CIOA is dominated by cooking sources. However, for the purpose of running
421 the SOA model, HOA and CIOA are not treated separately, and instead their summed mass
422 concentrations are used as the POA concentration. It should be noted however that the amount of
423 SOA from HOA or CIOA associated P-S/IVOCs can still be calculated under certain
424 assumptions as discussion in Section 3.1.2 below. Low volatility oxygenated organic aerosol
425 (LV-OOA) is a surrogate for highly aged secondary organic aerosol, and it displays a flat diurnal
426 profile. Furthermore, recent ^{14}C measurements show that this component is largely composed of

427 non-fossil carbon (Zotter et al., 2014). Both of these observations indicate that LV-OOA is
428 transported into the Los Angeles Basin (Hayes et al., 2013).

429 Results from 3-D WRF-Chem simulations were also used to evaluate the concentration of
430 BG-SOA. These simulations determined the BG-SOA by removing all the emissions in the Los
431 Angeles region as shown in Figure SI-4, and it was observed that there are both biogenic and
432 anthropogenic emissions in California that contribute to the background OA. In addition,
433 background marine OA is thought to be very low during the CalNex measurement period, since
434 concentrations of OA were less than $0.2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ over the open ocean west of California for
435 regions with low pollution influence (P. K. Quinn, NOAA, personal communication, 2012). As
436 shown in Figure 3B, the background SOA concentration from the WRF-Chem simulation is
437 similar to the concentration of LV-OOA. Given these observations as well as the ^{14}C results
438 discussed in the previous paragraph, we use the LV-OOA component to constrain the amount of
439 BG-SOA, and specifically, set the amount of BG-SOA to be the minimum of LV-OOA observed
440 in the diurnal cycle ($2.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). Heo et al. (2015) recently concluded that the background SOA
441 in the LA basin has an important component from biogenic emissions over the Central Valley,
442 which is consistent with our results.

443 In contrast, semi-volatile oxygenated organic aerosol (SV-OOA) displays a distinct
444 diurnal profile that peaks at a similar time as photochemical age, which is consistent with this
445 component being a proxy for freshly formed SOA from urban emissions. The ^{14}C measurements
446 also indicate that SV-OOA is predominately, 71% ($\pm 3\%$), composed of fossil carbon. (Note: to
447 obtain this percentage it is assumed that the OC/OM ratio is the same for fossil and non-fossil
448 SV-OOA.) As described above, the box model designed here is specifically focused on SOA
449 formation from precursors emitted within the Los Angeles basin, and the ^{14}C measurements and
450 diurnal cycle strongly indicate that SV-OOA concentration is a better surrogate for total urban
451 SOA than the total OOA concentration. Lastly, there is a fifth component displayed in Figure 3B,
452 local organic aerosol (LOA) of primary origin and of uncertain sources, but this component
453 comprises only $\sim 5\%$ of the aerosol mass. It is thought to be emitted very close to the site based
454 on its very rapid time variations, and thus any co-emitted VOCs or S/IVOCs would have very
455 little time to react and form SOA. Therefore, LOA is not considered further in this modeling
456 study.

457 In principle, the box model could be run for multiple individual days. However, some
458 datasets and published results used in this study are not available with sufficient time resolution
459 for such an approach. In particular, the thermal desorption gas chromatograph mass spectrometry
460 analysis for naphthalenes required adsorbent tube samples that were composited over several
461 days. In addition, both the apportionment of the SV-OOA and LV-OOA components between
462 fossil and non-fossil sources (Zotter et al., 2014) as well as the analysis of the diesel fraction of
463 OOA (Hayes et al., 2013) required analyzing datasets from multiple days as a single ensemble.
464 To facilitate incorporating these datasets and published results into this study, we have chosen to
465 run the box model so that it simulates the average diurnal cycle during the campaign. The
466 measurements used here (Table 3) all had excellent coverage during the CalNex campaign, with
467 each instrument reporting data for more than 75% of the total campaign duration. Thus, the
468 measurements are expected to be representative of conditions during the campaign.

469 An exception is the ^{14}C measurements, which were carried out on filters collected over 7
470 days. This limited sampling period is due to the time and resource intensive nature of the ^{14}C
471 measurements (Zotter et al., 2014). In particular, the dates that the filters were collected were 30
472 May as well as 3, 4, 5, 6, 13, and 14 June 2010. Thus, these filters are more representative of the
473 second half of the campaign that was more strongly influenced by pollution from the basin,
474 compared to the first half of the campaign where regional advection played a more important role
475 (Ryerson et al., 2013). Given the cost of the ^{14}C analyses, these days were chosen on the basis of
476 the larger urban influence determined from the real-time measurements and are therefore better
477 suited to constrain urban sources (the subject of this paper) than if the analyses had been
478 performed on filters from randomly-chosen days. However, it is noted that the relative
479 concentrations of the different components of the OA were similar when averaging the second
480 half of the campaign or the entire campaign: 14% vs. 12% for HOA, 5% vs. 5% for LOA, 12%
481 vs. 17% for COA, 28% vs. 34% for LV-OOA, 40% vs. 34% for SV-OOA. Thus, it appears
482 reasonable to assume that the relative results from the ^{14}C analysis are representative of the entire
483 campaign.

484

485

486

487 **2.5. Modeling the SOA oxygen content**

488 To simulate the oxygen-to-carbon ratio (O:C) of total OA, the box model utilizes the
489 measured O:C for HOA, CIOA, and LV-OOA. The O:C values for HOA and CIOA are assumed
490 to be constant because heterogeneous aging of primary aerosols is relatively slow, and thus the
491 O:C should only vary by a relatively small amount due to this mechanism over the timescales
492 considered here (Donahue et al., 2013). LV-OOA is predominately composed of aged
493 background OA, and thus its O:C should not vary substantially either. The oxygen and carbon
494 mass from HOA, CIOA, and LV-OOA are then added to the oxygen and carbon mass predicted
495 in the model for freshly formed SOA.

496 The O:C of V-SOA is simulated using a modified version of the approach described in
497 Dzepina et al. (2009). In that previous work the O:C of V-SOA was estimated to be 0.37 and
498 constant. While this estimate is consistent with chamber experiments of aromatic precursors, it is
499 conceptually difficult to reconcile with V-SOA aging wherein successive oxidation reactions are
500 expected to reduce volatility and increase O:C. It is therefore assumed in the box model that O:C
501 increases as follows: $C^* = 1000 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, O:C = 0.25; $C^* = 100 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, O:C = 0.30, $C^* = 10 \mu\text{g}$
502 m^{-3} ; O:C = 0.40; $C^* = 1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, O:C = 0.60. This O:C distribution is taken from the first-
503 generation distribution of Murphy et al. (2011), and in that work the O:C was simulated in a full
504 2-D VBS and depends on both volatility bin as well as oxidation generation. For the purpose of
505 this study an intermediate approach is used wherein O:C depends on volatility bin only, and the
506 first-generation distribution of Murphy et al. (2011) is applied to all oxidation generations of
507 SOA. We note that only a small amount of V-SOA mass is from multi-generation oxidation (10
508 – 20%) for the relevant model conditions used for Pasadena. Thus, the O:C values predicted here
509 will not be substantially different from a full 2-D VBS treatment.

510 The O:C ratio for SI-SOA is simulated following the approach described in Robinson et
511 al. (2007). Conceptually, with each oxidation step the model adds 1 oxygen atom per 15 carbon
512 atoms for ROB and 5.3 oxygen atoms per 15 carbons for GRI. This oxidation then gives an
513 increase in mass of 7.5% or 40% for ROB and GRI, respectively, as discussed previously. (Note:
514 It is assumed that $H = 2 \times C + 2$, which may not be strictly true, but an error of 1 or 2 hydrogen
515 atoms per carbon does not substantially alter the calculated values for the mass increase.) With
516 this relationship O:C can be calculated for each generation of oxidation, and the OM:OC ratio

517 can be calculated as well using the relationship $OM:OC = 1 + (16/12) \times O:C + (1/12) \times H:C$, in
518 which $H:C = 2 - 0.54 \times O:C$ (Murphy et al., 2011; Hayes et al., 2013; Canagaratna et al., 2015).
519 Then the OM:OC ratio is used to convert the OM mass concentration in each generation bin to
520 OC mass concentration, and the O:C ratio is used to convert the OC mass in each generation bin
521 to O mass concentration. Finally, the O mass and OC mass are each summed and subsequently
522 divided to obtain O:C.

523

524 **2.6. Correction for changes in partitioning due to emissions into a shallower** 525 **boundary layer upwind of Pasadena**

526 To account for changes in partitioning due to lower planetary boundary layer (PBL)
527 heights, and thus, increased OA concentrations upwind of Pasadena, the concentrations of POA,
528 V-SOA, and SI-SOA are increased upwind of Pasadena beyond the amount already simulated in
529 the model. This correction is necessary because using CO as a conservative tracer of emissions
530 does not account for how the shallow boundary layer over Los Angeles in the morning
531 influences partitioning between the gas and particle phases. Specifically, during the afternoon
532 Pasadena is a receptor site for pollution from downtown Los Angeles that was generally emitted
533 into a shallower boundary layer during the morning. The reduced vertical dilution will lead to
534 higher concentrations of POA as well as any urban SOA formed, which in turn leads to higher
535 partitioning to the particle phase and less gas phase oxidation of primary and secondary
536 S/IVOCs.

537 The correction of the partitioning mass is estimated using three different methods
538 depending on the time-of-day. First, for air parcels measured at 00:00 – 07:00 local time when
539 the PBL height is essentially constant for an extended period and emissions are dominated by
540 local sources (Hayes et al., 2013), no correction needs to be made. Second, for air parcels
541 measured between 07:00 – 16:00 when the PBL is increasing as the air parcels are advected, a
542 correction is applied that assumes the PBL increases linearly from the height measured in the
543 early morning hours to the height measured for a given time of day. Third, for air parcels after
544 16:00, it is assumed that a residual layer aloft is decoupled from the ground after 16:00, resulting
545 in no subsequent dilution.

546 The correction for the partitioning calculation described in the previous paragraph is an
547 approximation, and two sensitivity studies are carried out to estimate the magnitude of the
548 possible errors introduced by this approximation. The first study follows the approach described
549 above, except that instead of linearly increasing the partitioning mass upwind of Pasadena the
550 correction follows a step-function and increases the partitioning mass to its maximum value
551 immediately upwind of the ground site. This test should overestimate the amount of partitioning
552 to the particle-phase, since such a dramatic change in PBL height is not expected. The second
553 sensitivity study simply applies no correction factor to the partitioning mass, and thus it
554 underestimates the partitioning to the particle-phase. For the model runs with the ROB+TSI and
555 GRI+TSI parameterizations the resulting changes in average predicted mass for the sensitivity
556 studies are +4/-12% and +6/-7%, respectively. These changes are small, which indicates that the
557 description of the boundary layer dilution does not have a major influence on the results.

558

559 **2.7. WRF-CMAQ model runs**

560 The Community Multiscale Air-Quality Model (WRF-CMAQ) version 5.0.1
561 (<https://www.cmascenter.org/cmaq/>) was applied with 4 km horizontal grid resolution and 34
562 vertical layers extending from the surface (layer 1 height ~38 m) to 50 mb for the time period
563 matching the CalNex field campaign. Aqueous phase chemistry includes oxidation of sulfur and
564 methyglyoxal (Carlton et al., 2008; Sarwar et al., 2013), gas phase chemistry is based on Carbon-
565 Bond 05 with updates to toluene reactions (CB05-TU) (Yarwood, 2010), and inorganic
566 chemistry is based on the ISORROPIA II thermodynamic model (Fountoukis and Nenes, 2007).
567 WRF-CMAQ estimates SOA yields from VOC precursors including isoprene, monoterpenes,
568 sesquiterpenes, xylenes, toluene, benzene, and methyglyoxal (Carlton et al., 2010). Note that
569 WRF-CMAQ contains the SOA precursor species alkanes and glyoxal, but these are not explicit
570 species in the CB05-TU gas phase mechanism (e.g., alkanes are mapped to “PAR”, or paraffins).
571 SOA species oligomerize to non-volatile organic carbon grouped by anthropogenic and biogenic
572 origin (Carlton et al., 2010).

573 The Weather Research and Forecasting model (WRF), Advanced Research WRF core
574 (ARW) version 3.1 (Skamarock et al., 2008) was used to generate gridded meteorological fields
575 used for input to WRF-CMAQ and the emissions model. Surface variables, flow patterns, and

576 daytime mixing layer heights are generally well characterized during this time period (Baker et
577 al., 2013). Hourly solar radiation and surface layer temperature estimated by the WRF model are
578 used as input for the Biogenic Emission Inventory System (BEIS) version 3.14 to estimate
579 hourly speciated VOC and NO_x emissions (Carlton and Baker, 2011).

580 Stationary point source emissions are based on continuous emissions monitor (CEM) data
581 for 2010 where available and otherwise the 2008 version 2 National Emission Inventory (NEI).
582 Area source emissions are also based on the 2008 version 2 NEI. Mobile sector (on-road and off-
583 road) emissions are interpolated between 2007 and 2011 totals provided by the California Air
584 Resources Board. Emissions from other areas of the United States and other countries are
585 included through time and space variant lateral boundary inflow. Hourly boundary inflow
586 concentrations are taken from a coarser WRF-CMAQ simulation covering the continental United
587 States that used inflow estimates from a global GEOS-CHEM (version 8.03.02) model
588 (<http://acmg.seas.harvard.edu/geos/>) simulation. Additional details regarding model setup and
589 evaluation are provided elsewhere (Kelly et al., 2014).

590

591 **2.8. WRF-Chem model runs**

592 Weather Research and Forecasting Model coupled to Chemistry (WRF-Chem) is a fully
593 coupled meteorology-chemistry model. WRF-Chem simulations were performed for May and
594 June 2010 on a 12 km resolution domain, which covers a large part of the western United States.
595 The model simulations include meteorological, gas, and aerosol phase chemical processes. The
596 SOA scheme used in this study is based on the VBS approach. The SOA parameterization and
597 other model parameterizations are described in detail by Ahmadov et al. (2012). Here the main
598 objective of the WRF-Chem simulation was to estimate the OA contribution of the emission
599 sources located upwind of the Los Angeles basin. Thus, all the anthropogenic emissions and
600 biogenic VOC fluxes were set to zero over an area of 60 x 72 km covering the Los Angeles basin
601 (Figure SI-4) in our simulation. The WRF-Chem simulated OA concentrations for the Pasadena
602 site therefore provide an estimate of the BG-OA at this site.

603

604

605 3. Results and discussion

606 3.1. Modeling urban SOA mass concentration

607 3.1.1. Urban SOA concentration: model versus measurement comparisons

608 In Figure 4 the diurnal cycles of SV-OOA and urban SOA are shown. For all the model
609 variations, the model V-SOA (light blue area) is substantially smaller than the observed SV-
610 OOA concentrations (solid black line), even though the additional partitioning mass of SI-SOA
611 is available for all model runs. Even in the model variation ROB+4xV where the V-SOA
612 concentrations are substantially higher due to the higher VOC yields used, additional SOA
613 precursors must be included to achieve model/measurement closure. This result is also true
614 despite the inclusion of multi-generation V-SOA aging in ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI, and PYE+TSI,
615 which increases the amount of SOA from VOCs to levels far beyond those observed in
616 chambers, although over longer timescales than for the 4xV case. Previous work modeling SOA
617 in Mexico City showed that either V-SOA aging or SI-SOA must be included in models to match
618 observed SOA concentrations, but the inclusion of both resulted in an overprediction (Tsimpidi
619 et al., 2010; Dzepina et al., 2011). In this study, the inclusion of aging only increases the
620 concentration of V-SOA by 10 – 20% depending on the time of day due to the relatively low
621 experimental photochemical ages. Thus, by testing models of SOA formation at short ages, our
622 case study points towards the importance of additional SOA precursors such as P-S/IVOCs.
623 Specifically, the contribution to total SOA from P-S/IVOCs in the box model is 65-75%
624 (ROB+TSI), 80-87% (GRI+TSI), 80-92% (PYE+TSI), and 44-51% (ROB+4xV). The range
625 indicates the variation in the contribution with the time-of-day. Thus, only in the ROB+4xV
626 model variation is the estimated contribution to SOA from VOCs generally larger than or equal
627 to that from the P-S/IVOCs. We note however these percentages include only the urban SOA and
628 not the background OA, which is likely also SOA as discussed above.

629 When comparing the four parameterizations for SOA formation, it is apparent that the
630 GRI+TSI and ROB+4xV variations best reproduce the observations. The predicted SOA mass
631 using GRI+TSI lies within the measurement uncertainty most of the day. In contrast, the
632 ROB+TSI variation does not produce high enough concentrations of SOA, and the model is
633 consistently lower than the measurements even after considering the measurement uncertainties.
634 The PYE+TSI variation tends to over predict SOA concentrations especially at nighttime and in

635 the morning, and also exhibits larger discrepancies with respect to measured POA concentrations
636 (Figure SI-2). Finally, the performance of the ROB+4xV variation is similar to GRI+TSI,
637 highlighting the uncertainties about the dominant SOA precursors in urban areas (i.e. VOCs vs.
638 P-S/IVOCs).

639 In general, the measurements peak one hour later than the model, which may be due to
640 the simple treatment of sources and transport in the modeled air mass, but the overall correlation
641 is excellent: $R = 0.93 - 0.94$ for ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI, PYE+TSI, and ROB+4xV. This study
642 contrasts with an earlier comparison of the ROB and GRI parameterizations for SI-SOA in
643 Mexico City, which showed that GRI produces more SOA than observed (Dzepina et al., 2011).
644 Although the same modeling method was used to quantify the emissions and properties of P-
645 S/IVOCs in both studies, the sources, composition, and SOA yields of P-S/IVOCs in urban areas
646 are poorly characterized, and differences in those between the two urban areas may explain the
647 differences in model performance for Pasadena and Mexico City.

648 In addition, the effective SOA yields predicted in the box model for P-S/IVOCs can be
649 compared against those determined in previous modeling and smog chamber studies. The
650 effective yield is a function of photochemical aging, and thus for the purpose of this comparison
651 we focus on the effective box model yields for 12:00 – 15:00 when there was a moderate amount
652 of photochemical aging (5 h at an average $\bullet\text{OH}$ concentration of 1.5×10^6 molecules cm^{-3})
653 comparable to the degree of aging typically achieved in chambers. During this period the
654 effective yields for P-S/IVOCs were 12%, 27%, and 36% for ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI, and
655 PYE+TSI, respectively. Zhao et al. (2014) recently carried out a modeling study of SOA formed
656 in Pasadena that was constrained with an extensive set of IVOC data and found an overall SOA
657 yield for IVOCs of 29%, which falls within the range of effective yields for P-S/IVOCs that are
658 predicted by the box model for the three different parameterizations. Jathar et al. (2014) also
659 recently estimated from chamber studies an effective SOA yield of 10 – 40% for unspiciated
660 organic emissions from combustion sources, which is also consistent with the P-S/IVOC yields
661 from our box model. For reference, the effective yields for the aromatic VOCs m-xylene,
662 toluene, and benzene under high- NO_x conditions in chamber studies range from 4 – 28%
663 depending on the precursor identity and chamber conditions (Ng et al., 2007). Similar chamber
664 studies on 12-carbon alkanes determined effective yields ranging from 11% – 160%, where the

665 highest yield corresponded to a cyclic alkane (Loza et al., 2014). In general, it appears that the
666 effective yields resulting from the box model for the lower photochemical ages used here are
667 similar to those determined from other chamber and modeling studies.

668 It is also possible to compare the predicted IVOC concentrations in the box model versus
669 the concentrations measured by Zhao et al. (2014). The comparison is summarized in Table SI-3
670 of the supporting information. In total, the initial IVOC concentrations in the box model are two
671 times higher compared to those determined from measurements ($16 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ versus $8(\pm 1) \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$).
672 In addition, there is a larger difference for the $C^* = 10^3$ bin ($2.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ versus $0.2(\pm 0.1) \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$).
673 At the same time, the model used by Zhao et al. to predict urban SOA is lower than the
674 measurements by 50% on the urban scale, whereas as the box model used here does not exhibit
675 such a low bias. Given these differences we have run two sensitivity studies to explore how the
676 model predictions depend on the IVOC emissions that are discussed in the following sections.
677 The first sensitivity study reduces the emission of P-S/IVOCs from cooking emissions to zero
678 (Section 3.1.2), and the second sensitivity study reduces all IVOC emissions by one-half (Section
679 3.1.5). Both of these variations greatly improve the agreement between the modeled and
680 measured IVOC concentrations.

681

682 **3.1.2. Total SOA concentration: fossil vs contemporary carbon**

683 As described above, on average $71(\pm 3)\%$ of the SV-OOA is composed of fossil carbon
684 (Zotter et al., 2014), and it is important to evaluate whether this percentage is consistent with the
685 model results. As shown in Figure 4, the V-SOA from in-basin biogenics is very small, and V-
686 SOA is overwhelmingly from fossil carbon sources since it is dominated by aromatic precursors
687 (see 3.1.3 below) and the main source of aromatic hydrocarbons in the Los Angeles basin is
688 vehicle emissions (Borbon et al., 2013). For SI-SOA, two types of POA, and thus, primary P-
689 S/IVOCs are included in this study. Since HOA is dominated by vehicle emissions, it is most
690 likely composed of fossil carbon. On the other hand, CIOA will have a majority of modern
691 carbon. In previous work we noted that 0 – 50% of the CIOA mass may be from non-cooking
692 sources and, specifically, from vehicles (Hayes et al., 2013). Furthermore, recent results have
693 shown that cooking emissions can form substantial amounts of SOA (El Haddad et al., 2012). If
694 P-S/IVOCs emitted with HOA are 100% fossil carbon, P-S/IVOCs emitted with CIOA are

695 25(\pm 25)% fossil, and both emission sources form SI-SOA with the same efficiency, then the
696 corresponding amount of fossil urban SOA in the model would be 65(\pm 9)%, 63(\pm 12)%,
697 62(\pm 12)%, and 78(\pm 7)% for ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI, PYE+TSI, and ROB+4xV, respectively. It
698 should be noted that these percentages do not include BG-SOA because the ^{14}C results from
699 Zotter et al. (2014) correspond to SV-OOA. None of these predictions are significantly different
700 from the ^{14}C measurements. An important caveat is that P-S/IVOCs from cooking sources are
701 modeled using the same parameters as P-S/IVOCs from vehicle sources. It is possible that
702 cooking and vehicle emissions do not exhibit the same SOA-forming properties, but it is not
703 clear which would be a more potent SOA precursor as there are no parameterizations specific to
704 cooking emissions available in the literature. Thus, the ROB, GRI, and PYE parameterizations
705 are used for all P-S/IVOCs regardless of their source, and the amount of SOA from HOA (or
706 CIOA) associated P-S/IVOCs can be calculated as simply the product of the total SI-SOA and
707 the ratio HOA/POA (or CIOA/POA), where the hourly HOA, CIOA, and SI-SOA concentrations
708 are used. It should also be noted that in Los Angeles gasoline contains nearly 10% ethanol made
709 from corn and thus modern carbon (de Gouw et al., 2012), but it is thought that ethanol and its
710 combustion products are not incorporated into aerosols (Lewis et al., 2006).

711 It should be noted that the fossil/modern split from the box model that is described above
712 depends on the initial P-S/IVOCs concentrations and volatility distribution assumed in the
713 model. These parameters are not well constrained for cooking emissions, as discussed in further
714 detail in Section 3.1.4 below. In addition, as discussed in the previous section (3.1.1) the
715 concentration of primary IVOCs in the box model is higher than that measured. Thus, as an
716 extreme sensitivity study, the model variations were also run under the assumption that cooking
717 sources did not emit any P-S/IVOCs or, in the case of the PYE+TSI variation, any SVOCs
718 (Figure SI-5). In this sensitivity study there is improved model/measurement agreement for the
719 primary IVOCs as shown in Table SI-3. The GRI+TSI, PYE+TSI, and ROB+4xV variations
720 reasonably reproduce the SV-OOA concentrations with some periods outside the measurement
721 uncertainties. In contrast, the ROB+TSI variation without cooking-related P-S/IVOCs predicts
722 concentrations that are too low. Regardless of the parameterization, a strong urban source of non-
723 fossil SOA precursors, such as cooking emissions, must be included to obtain agreement with the
724 ^{14}C measurements; otherwise the modeled SOA is overwhelmingly fossil. Clearly, there are still
725 large uncertainties in SOA formation from cooking emissions. Further studies are needed to

726 constrain models and to identify potential additional urban sources of non-fossil SOA, although
727 our results suggest that cooking emissions are a potentially important source of anthropogenic
728 non-fossil SOA.

729

730 **3.1.3. SOA concentration apportionment to precursor compounds**

731 The diurnal cycles of V-SOA mass concentration produced from individual VOCs are
732 shown in Figure 5A. Among the VOCs the five largest contributors to V-SOA are methyl-
733 substituted aromatics such as xylenes, trimethylbenzenes, and toluene. When SOA
734 concentrations peak, these compounds account for ~70% of the predicted V-SOA mass. In
735 Figure 5B the precursor-specific model predictions are compared against results from a
736 methodology developed by the U.S. EPA that apportions SOA to specific precursors using
737 molecular tracers measured in ambient aerosol samples (Kleindienst et al., 2012). For
738 methylbenzenes (i.e. aromatics containing one or more methyl substituents) the tracer molecule
739 utilized is 2,3-dihydroxy-4-oxopentanoic acid, and for naphthalene, 1-methylnaphthalene, and 2-
740 methylnaphthalene the tracer molecule is phthalic acid and its associated methyl-containing
741 analogs. Several tracers are used for isoprene (Edney et al., 2005) and monoterpenes (Jaoui et al.,
742 2005; Claeys et al., 2007; Szmigielski et al., 2007), and they are listed in Table SI-4 in the
743 supporting information.

744 For the methylbenzenes, the model/tracer comparison is good, indicating consistency
745 between model predictions and ambient measurements. The similarity further validates the
746 model, although it is noted that if V-SOA ‘aging’ is eliminated from the model the model/tracer
747 comparison improves further and the difference becomes less than 5%. We note that this
748 comparison cannot constrain whether chamber yields have been reduced by vapor losses, since
749 the same effect would have occurred when measuring the yields included in the model and when
750 measuring the SOA/tracer ratio used for the tracer estimate.

751 For the biogenic VOCs, isoprene and the monoterpenes, the tracer estimate indicates
752 several-fold higher concentrations than predicted in the model. This difference is not surprising
753 since the background SOA is thought to have a major contribution from isoprene and
754 monoterpene oxidation in areas north of the Los Angeles Basin, and in the model BG-SOA from
755 different VOCs is not resolved. In other words, the model results in Figure 5B represent only the

756 in-basin biogenic SOA and are lower limits for total SOA from isoprene and monoterpenes.
757 Moreover, the tracer estimates in Figure 5B are likely lower limits as well because the tracers
758 may be lost by subsequent physical or chemical processes occurring in very aged aerosol
759 transported to the measurement location (Hallquist et al., 2009). If the tracer molecule is
760 oxidized or oligomerized, then it will be effectively lost with respect to the tracer method, even if
761 its mass stays in the particle phase. If a semi-volatile tracer evaporates during atmospheric
762 transport or from the filter after sampling, it is also lost from the point of view of the tracer
763 method even though a chemical reaction has not occurred. It appears that the
764 model/measurement comparison for the biogenic VOCs is qualitatively consistent given the
765 known limitations of both approaches. However, the amount of SOA from biogenic VOCs as
766 determined by the tracer method is only ~10% of the BG-SOA (0.22 versus 2.1 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) even
767 though the BG-SOA is predominantly biogenic as previously noted. The most likely explanation
768 for the difference in mass concentration is the loss mechanisms described above. Other possible
769 sources for the background such as biomass burning or marine OA are known to be very low at
770 this location (Hayes et al., 2013), and more than 69% of the LV-OOA stems from non-fossil
771 sources (Zotter et al., 2014).

772 Figure 5B also shows a comparison for the naphthalenes. The tracer estimates are over an
773 order-of-magnitude higher than the model predictions when using the SOA yields from the
774 literature (which are ~20% for the conditions of our study) and the emission ratios determined
775 from the regression analysis of nighttime measurements shown in Figure SI-3. The model is also
776 run using the empirically adjusted emission ratios that better match the observed concentrations
777 of the naphthalenes. The model for this variation is still much lower than the tracer estimate. As
778 an additional sensitivity study, we also run the model with the adjusted emissions and a yield of
779 150% that places all the oxidized mass in the $C^*=1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ volatility bin. This last variation
780 represents an upper limit estimate of SOA from naphthalenes, in which nearly all of the mass
781 plus the added oxygen partitions to the particle phase, which is much higher than laboratory
782 observations. The tracer estimate, however, is still about a factor of two higher than the model. It
783 is known that the tracer estimate is an upper limit, because the tracer compound, phthalic acid,
784 may not be a unique tracer, and it potentially could be emitted from primary sources (Kleindienst
785 et al., 2012). However, there may be other alkylated or functionalized PAHs that are not
786 explicitly accounted for in the box model, and some of them might produce this tracer.

787 The best estimate from the model with the adjusted emissions results in 0.7% of the
788 predicted SOA being formed from the measured naphthalenes. Utilizing the upper limit of the
789 model results for the PAHs, including that from the parameterization with a purposefully high
790 yield, it is apparent that naphthalene, 1-methyl naphthalene, and 2-methyl naphthalene account
791 for less than 4% of the SOA mass. While previous work has suggested that PAHs are important
792 precursors for SOA in the Los Angeles Basin (Hersey et al., 2011) these earlier findings were
793 qualitative and based on the observation of phthalic acid in samples. The work presented here,
794 both the modeling results as well as the tracer results, quantitatively demonstrates that SOA from
795 identified PAHs is relatively small but not negligible when compared to the total SOA
796 concentration. An upper limit for the contribution of this group of precursors is $8(\pm 3)\%$ of the
797 SOA. This percentage is calculated using the tracer method in which the SOA concentration
798 from PAHs is higher than in the box model and a 30% uncertainty for the SV-OOA
799 concentration. Lastly, we note that no suitable tracers for alkane oxidation have been identified
800 yet, which prevents carrying out similar model/tracer comparisons with respect to the P-
801 S/IVOCs, since these compounds are thought to be composed primarily, although not
802 exclusively, of alkanes.

803

804 **3.1.4. SOA concentration apportionment to gasoline vehicles, diesel vehicles,** 805 **cooking activities, and in-basin biogenic sources**

806 In addition to apportioning the amount of SOA formed from individual compounds there
807 is also considerable recent interest in the apportionment of SOA between diesel and gasoline
808 vehicle emissions as well as other urban sources (Bahreini et al., 2012; Gentner et al., 2012;
809 Hayes et al., 2013; Ensberg et al., 2014). The SOA model developed here can be used to address
810 this important problem, and in Figure 6 the urban SOA mass calculated in the model is
811 apportioned between diesel vehicles, gasoline vehicles, cooking sources, and in-basin biogenic
812 emissions. The SOA mass is apportioned to each source using the following method, which can
813 be described in five steps. First, the background is set to $2.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. Second, the in-basin
814 biogenic SOA is calculated as described in the methods section. Third, for the diesel
815 contribution, since it is estimated that $70(\pm 10)\%$ of HOA is emitted from diesel vehicles (Hayes
816 et al., 2013), it is assumed in the model that 70% of the P-S/IVOCs co-emitted with HOA are

817 from diesel vehicles as well. (The remainder is assumed to be from gasoline vehicles.) While
818 VOCs emissions from diesel vehicles are low (Warneke et al., 2012) in the Los Angeles Basin,
819 VOCs have still been measured in diesel fuel. Specifically, using the measurements of Gentner et
820 al. (2012) given in Tables S9 and S10 of that paper, the percentage of each VOC included in our
821 model emitted from diesel vehicles is calculated. The precursor-specific SOA concentrations, as
822 shown in here in Figure 5, are then multiplied by these percentages to determine the fraction of
823 V-SOA attributable to diesel emissions, which is 3%. It should be noted that for all the VOCs
824 included here except 1,3-butadiene, styrene, and anthropogenic isoprene, the corresponding
825 concentrations in gasoline and diesel fuel are published in Gentner et al. (2012). Fourth, the
826 cooking contribution is calculated by assuming that 75% of the P-S/IVOCs co-emitted with
827 CIOA are from cooking activities. This percentage is chosen since it lies halfway between 50 and
828 100%, which is the current constraint from measurements on the amount of CIOA from cooking
829 sources as discussed above and in Hayes et al. (2013). Fifth, the gasoline fraction is taken to be
830 the SOA formed from all the remaining VOCs as well as the remaining P-S/IVOCs.

831 As can be seen in Figure 6, for the urban SOA (i.e. excluding the background OA) diesel,
832 gasoline, and cooking emissions all contribute substantially to SOA formation, with the sum of
833 gasoline and cooking being much larger than diesel for all model variants. In contrast, the in-
834 basin biogenic contribution is small. The analogous results when the background is included are
835 shown in the supporting information (Figure SI-6). The formation of SOA from diesel emissions
836 accounts for 16 – 27% of the urban SOA in the model depending on the variant used. This result
837 is very similar to the percentage reported in our previous work, 19(+17/-21)%, which was
838 determined using measurements of OOA weekly cycles (Hayes et al., 2013). In addition, the
839 existence of a diesel contribution in the model is consistent with PMF analysis of FTIR spectra
840 of OA filter samples collected in Pasadena, in which, one SOA component exhibited relative
841 peak intensities in the C-H stretching region that suggest some contribution from diesel
842 emissions (Guzman-Morales et al., 2014), although the percentage of SOA from diesel could not
843 be determined in this previous work. The results of our work stand in contrast to those of
844 Gentner et al. (2012) however, wherein the contribution of diesel and gasoline to vehicular SOA
845 were estimated to be 70% and 30%, respectively. This discrepancy may be due to the assumption
846 used by Gentner et al. that effectively all vehicle emissions are unburned fuel, whereas recent
847 experiments have indicated that important SOA precursors exist in gasoline vehicle emissions

848 that are not present in unburned gasoline when after-treatment devices such as catalytic
849 converters are used (Jathar et al., 2013).

850 Also shown in Figure 6 is a bar graph summarizing the result from each parameterization
851 grouped by fossil and non-fossil sources as well as the fossil fraction of SV-OOA determined by
852 Zotter et al. (2014). The results of the two studies are consistent, with cooking and in-basin
853 biogenic SOA accounting for between 23 – 38% of the in-basin SOA mass in the models. These
854 two sources represent the modern fraction in the box model.

855 The uncertainties shown in Figure 6 (in parentheses) are calculated by propagating the
856 uncertainty in the amount of HOA from diesel sources, as well as the uncertainty in the amount
857 of CIOA from cooking sources under the assumption that the P-S/IVOCs co-emitted with these
858 primary aerosols have similar uncertainties. It is also noted that another source of uncertainty is
859 the selection of the ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI, PYE+TSI, or ROB+4xV model variation. The model
860 variant used has an important impact on the apportionment, but the greatest amount of urban
861 SOA formed from diesel emissions when considering all the uncertainties described in this
862 paragraph is still only 31%.

863 The uncertainties in Figure 6 do not however account for certain assumptions that were
864 made in order to perform the source apportionment. In particular, it was assumed that the P-
865 S/IVOCs to POA ratio as well as the volatility distribution of P-S/IVOCs is the same for all
866 sources, which is likely not the case. However, to our knowledge there is insufficient information
867 in the literature to prescribe different volatility distributions for different sources.

868 Lastly, the percentage of SOA attributed to cooking emission in this work also requires
869 discussion. Compared to gasoline or diesel vehicles there is relatively little data on the SOA
870 forming potential of cooking emissions, but nevertheless there is both direct and indirect data
871 supporting the SOA forming potential of cooking emissions. First, it is clear from numerous
872 source apportionment studies that cooking emissions are a source of organic matter in the
873 atmosphere (e.g. Robinson et al., 2006; Mohr et al., 2011; Hayes et al., 2013). Second, molecular
874 speciation of cooking emissions has demonstrated that cooking activities emit a variety of
875 volatile and semi-volatile compounds that are known SOA precursors (Schauer et al., 1999,
876 2002). Third, chamber studies have demonstrated SOA formation from cooking emissions. The
877 latter results have been presented at several major conferences, but have not yet been published

878 in the peer-reviewed literature (El Haddad et al., 2012). Thus, it is reasonable to conclude that
879 SOA models should include the SOA resulting from chemical processing of cooking emissions,
880 but there is a lack of chamber yields that could be used to develop specific SOA
881 parameterizations. We have therefore assumed that SOA from cooking emission can be
882 described using the same parameterizations as used for SOA from vehicular P-S/IVOCs. We
883 have also performed a sensitivity study where we assume that cooking emissions do not produce
884 any SOA. Ultimately, the percentage of SOA from cooking emissions reported here should be
885 considered a first-order estimate that should be updated when additional data regarding SOA
886 from cooking emissions becomes available.

887

888 **3.1.5. Evolution of SOA concentration for 3 days**

889 It is of high interest to explore the evolution of the different parameterizations discussed
890 here at greater photochemical ages than those observed at the Pasadena site, since this behavior
891 can lead to different results in regional and global modeling studies, and since similar
892 combinations of parameterizations were found to overpredict regional SOA downwind of
893 Mexico City (Dzepina et al., 2011). To explore this question, the evolution of SOA concentration
894 was simulated for 3 days using each of the four major variations (ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI,
895 PYE+TSI, ROB+4xV). The same simulation was carried out for the SIMPLE model and it is
896 discussed below in Section 3.3. The results are shown in Figure 7, and in order to facilitate
897 comparisons the SOA concentrations are normalized to the CO concentration, after subtracting
898 the CO background (DeCarlo et al., 2010). These simulations are for continuous aging at a
899 reference •OH concentration of 1.5×10^6 molec cm^{-3} , and thus, they do not attempt to simulate a
900 diurnal variation in the amount of photochemical aging. This approach is used because it
901 facilitates the comparison against field measurements described below. Furthermore, the box
902 model does not account for how dilution downwind of Los Angeles may increase SOA
903 evaporation and thus the rate of oxidation via increased partitioning to the gas phase. However,
904 this phenomenon would only lead to small changes in total model SOA, and that should not
905 change the conclusions discussed in this section (Dzepina et al., 2011). Also shown in Figure 7 is
906 the same ratio, $\text{SOA}/\Delta\text{CO}$, determined previously from measurements at the Pasadena site
907 (Hayes et al., 2013). At photochemical ages less than 0.25 days, GRI+TSI and ROB+4xV

908 perform the best (Table 4), which is consistent with the comparisons against the diurnal average
909 of SOA since the diurnal photochemical age peaks at about 0.25 days (Figure 3A). However, for
910 higher photochemical ages between 0.25 and 0.5 days the performance of ROB+TSI improves.

911 We also note that all of the parameterizations used in this section produce SOA/ Δ CO
912 ratios substantially larger (by factors of 2 or more) than those observed globally for aged air
913 masses (i.e. photochemical ages greater than one day at an average OH concentration of 1.5×10^6
914 molec cm⁻³). For reference the range of OA/ Δ CO ratios reported by de Gouw and Jimenez
915 (2009) for aged urban SOA across multiple sites is indicated by the gray regions in Figure 7.
916 This OA/ Δ CO ratio includes both POA and SOA, but POA is a small contributor to OA/ Δ CO for
917 very aged air. Also shown in Figure 7 is the SOA/ Δ CO ratio observed by Bahreini et al. (2012)
918 from the NOAA P3 aircraft in the Los Angeles Basin outflow where air masses were aged from
919 1 – 2 days. This ratio is similar to the range taken from de Gouw and Jimenez (2009). The
920 differences between the modeled and the measured SOA/ Δ CO at higher photochemical ages may
921 be important for regional and global models as they suggest an overestimation of urban SOA
922 downwind of polluted regions. One possible explanation for the higher predicted values is the
923 lack of a fragmentation mechanism in the parameterizations, which would reduce the SOA mass
924 by producing higher volatility products. Indeed, decreases in SOA concentration at high
925 photochemical ages have been observed in flow-tube studies, although typically at
926 photochemical ages much longer than 3 days (George and Abbatt, 2010). Also dry deposition in
927 the regional models may decrease over-prediction depending on how it is implemented (Knote et
928 al., 2014a).

929 A third explanation is the potential overestimation of IVOC emissions in the box model.
930 As discussed in Section 3.1.1, the initial concentration of primary IVOCs in the model is a factor
931 of 2 higher than the values determined from field measurements by Zhao et al (2014). To
932 investigate this possibility, a sensitivity study was run in which the initial concentrations of
933 primary IVOCs in the volatility bins $C^* = 10^3, 10^4, 10^5,$ and 10^6 were decreased by one-half. The
934 results of this sensitivity study are shown in Figure 8. In general, ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI,
935 PYE+TSI, and ROB+4xV all show better agreement with measurements at long photochemical
936 ages, although all four variants still overestimate the measurements. For shorter photochemical
937 ages (in the urban scale) ROB+TSI under-predicts the SOA concentration, whereas GRI+TSI
938 and ROB+4xV both predict SOA/ Δ CO ratios that are not significantly different from the

939 measured values (Hayes et al., 2013), and lastly PYE+TSI overestimates the SOA concentration.
940 Thus, IVOCs emissions that are too high in the box model may be responsible for some, but not
941 all, of the overestimation of SOA concentrations at long photochemical ages.

942 For reference, we note that when the IVOC concentrations are halved the four variations
943 all predict less SI-SOA for the Pasadena ground site (Figure SI-7), but the contribution of P-
944 S/IVOCs to SOA formation remains important: 59 – 73% (ROB+TSI), 72 – 80% (GRI+TSI), 79
945 – 92% (PYE+TSI), 38 – 48% (ROB+4xV). Furthermore, all four variations still predict a fossil
946 fraction of urban SOA consistent with the ^{14}C measurements at the Pasadena site: 66(\pm 9)%,
947 64(\pm 10)%, 61(\pm 12)%, 78(\pm 6)%, respectively. Note that in calculating these fossil fractions the
948 IVOCs emissions from cooking and gasoline/diesel were reduced by the same amount (i.e. one-
949 half).

950

951 **3.1.6. Comparison of WRF-CMAQ versus measurements and box model**

952 The comparison of the SOA predicted for Pasadena by the WRF-CMAQ model is shown
953 in Figure 9A. Unlike the box model, the 3-D WRF-CMAQ model simulates the production and
954 transport of SOA both within and outside the Los Angeles Basin. It is therefore most appropriate
955 to compare the WRF-CMAQ model output with OOA (SV-OOA + LV-OOA) rather than just
956 SV-OOA as is done for the box model that focused only on the urban area. The WRF-CMAQ
957 SOA is well correlated with the measured OOA ($R= 0.73$), but the SOA mass concentration in
958 the model is ~25 times lower than the observed amount. This discrepancy is observed despite the
959 fact that the VOCs show reasonable agreement (Supporting Information Figure SI-8, Panels A –
960 C). The difference of a factor of 25 in the SOA concentrations is also observed consistently
961 across different photochemical ages (Supporting Information Figure SI-8, Panel D).
962 Furthermore, the performance of WRF-CMAQ is good for the inorganic aerosol species
963 (Supporting Information Figures SI-9 and SI-10) as well as for elemental carbon and different
964 meteorological parameters (Baker et al., 2013; Kelly et al., 2014). These comparisons indicate
965 that while the model appears to be accurately simulating the transport to Pasadena and
966 photochemical aging, the amount of SOA formed from urban precursors is greatly
967 underestimated by WRF-CMAQ. Given the importance of P-S/IVOCs as SOA precursors in the

968 box model, the lack of these species in WRF-CMAQ explains a substantial fraction of the
969 difference between the models.

970 To further examine both WRF-CMAQ and the box model results, we modify the SOA
971 module of the box model to be similar to the treatment of urban SOA in WRF-CMAQ as
972 described by Carlton et al. (2010). First, for the box model P-S/IVOCs are not included, since
973 these species are not in WRF-CMAQ. Second, the BG-SOA in the box model is adjusted to 0.1
974 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ so that the concentrations of SOA in the two models are similar in the early morning
975 hours when the background dominates. Third, the box model uses a different approach for
976 simulating V-SOA identical to that described by Dzepina et al. (2009). Briefly, instead of the
977 VBS, an empirical 2-product parameterization wherein the oxidized products cannot undergo
978 aging is used (Koo et al., 2003).

979



981

982 The effective saturation concentration for each lumped product, *SVOC*, is then used to calculate
983 the equilibrium partitioning between gas- and particle-phases as shown earlier in Equation 1.
984 Also, in Equation 3, α is the yield for each VOC. Note that the Koo et al. (2003)
985 parameterization produces substantially lower V-SOA yields than the Tsimpidi et al. (2010)
986 parameterization used in the rest of this work. The latter parameterization was updated using
987 more recent chamber results (with higher yields) such as those of Ng et al. (2007). The use of the
988 older Koo et al. (2003) parameterization for this specific comparison was motivated by the fact
989 that the parameterization for urban SOA in the version of CMAQ used here is based on the same
990 older data and does not contain the higher updated yields in, for example, Tsimpidi et al. (2010).

991 The results of the comparison of WRF-CMAQ with the modified box model are shown in
992 Figure 9B. With those modifications the results are very similar. This good agreement indicates
993 that the differences between the default box model and WRF-CMAQ are not due to differences
994 in transport or another variable, but rather the intrinsic differences in the SOA modules. In
995 addition, the comparison between the two models suggests that 3-D air quality models need to

996 include either SOA from P-S/IVOCs, additional precursor sources, and/or increased V-SOA
997 yields to accurately predict SOA concentrations in the Los Angeles Basin and other urban areas.

998

999 **3.2. Comparison of predicted and measured SOA oxygen content**

1000 The diurnal cycle of O:C of total OA is shown in Figure 10, along with the estimated
1001 $\pm 30\%$ uncertainty of the O:C determination (Aiken et al., 2007; 2008). A recent re-evaluation of
1002 the AMS elemental analysis has found an underestimation of oxygen content for multi-functional
1003 oxidized organics (Canagaratna et al., 2015). Thus, the updated calibration factors have been
1004 used in the work here, and they increase the measured O:C and H:C by factors of 1.28 and 1.1,
1005 respectively. The model predictions of O:C are shown for both the ROB+TSI and GRI+TSI
1006 variations. The measured O:C is similar or higher than the models, and exhibits only small
1007 changes during the day. The minimum after noon in the measured O:C is due to the arrival of
1008 POA above Pasadena as well as the production of fresh SOA. The second minimum in the
1009 evening is due to emissions of CIOA, which has relatively low oxygen content.

1010 When the model is run with the ROB+TSI variation for O:C evolution in SOA the model
1011 diurnal cycle is generally lower than the field data. Similar to the comparison of mass
1012 concentration, the GRI+TSI model variation better reproduces the O:C observations. As a control
1013 the model is also run without SI-SOA, which, interestingly, also does an excellent job of
1014 reproducing the observations. Two conclusions can be drawn from the results shown in Figure
1015 10. First, the SI-SOA in the ROB parameterization appears to be not sufficiently oxidized, which
1016 drives down the predicted O:C, and, in general, SOA production and oxidation in Pasadena is
1017 very rapid and is therefore best described by the GRI parameterization. Second, both SI-SOA
1018 from the GRI parameterization and V-SOA have an O:C of ~ 0.45 , which is not very different
1019 from the weighted mean of HOA, CIOA, and LV-OOA (O:C ~ 0.6), and, as a result, the total OA
1020 O:C is relatively constant for the different times of day. This consideration also explains why
1021 O:C does not change substantially when the SI-SOA is included or excluded in the model.

1022 Lastly, we note that there are large uncertainties in the parameters used to predict O:C
1023 such as the distribution of O:C values as a function of volatility for V-SOA or the amount of
1024 oxygen mass added to the SI-SOA for each oxidation reaction. It is therefore not very
1025 meaningful to conclude from this study that one parameterization performs better than another.

1026 Rather, it is apparent that when using several different previously published SOA
1027 parameterizations (i.e. ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI, and TSI alone) it is possible to reproduce the
1028 observed O:C at the Pasadena ground site.

1029

1030 **3.3. A simple parameterization for SOA formation in polluted urban regions**

1031 While medium-complexity parameterizations of SOA formation and evolution such as
1032 those used above represent some important details of SOA chemistry and properties, there is a
1033 need for very computationally inexpensive SOA parameterizations that still retain good accuracy
1034 for use in regional, global, and climate models. Such a parameterization was recently reported by
1035 Hodzic and Jimenez (2011), and was designed to predict properties of urban SOA in global and
1036 climate modeling studies (referred to as the “SIMPLE” parameterization hereinafter). The model
1037 represents SOA precursors as a single surrogate lumped species, termed here ‘VOC*’, which is
1038 emitted proportionally to anthropogenic CO. The model converts VOC* to SOA by reaction with
1039 •OH with a specified rate constant. The SOA formed in the SIMPLE model is non-volatile and
1040 does not partition to the gas-phase, consistent with the low volatility observed for aged SOA in
1041 field studies (e.g., Cappa and Jimenez, 2010).

1042 We replaced the SOA parameterizations discussed above with the SIMPLE
1043 parameterization just described, and ran the box model for a large number of possible parameter
1044 value combinations (i.e. emission ratio of VOC*/CO and •OH rate constant). Figure 11A shows
1045 the difference between model and measurement over that parameter space. The diurnal cycle
1046 predicted by the SIMPLE parameterization with the optimum parameters for Pasadena is shown
1047 in Figure 11B. The SIMPLE model with the optimized parameters performs comparably to the
1048 more complex parameterizations used in this work. At the same time, the SIMPLE
1049 parameterization is unable to capture perfectly the location of the peak in time because it
1050 depends solely on CO and photochemical age. The CO concentration at the site peaks at 12:00
1051 and photochemical age peaks at 13:00 (Figure 3A) while the measured SOA has a broad peak
1052 between 14:00 – 16:00. The fact that SOA does not peak at the same time as CO and
1053 photochemical age indicates the assumption in SIMPLE that VOC*/CO does not vary in time is
1054 probably not completely accurate. Still, the performance of the SIMPLE parameterization for

1055 urban SOA is sufficient for many applications and certainly far better than many models
1056 currently used.

1057 Interestingly, the optimal model parameters for Mexico City and Pasadena are very
1058 similar. In other words, when tuning the model separately for each city, the parameters obtained
1059 are identical within the estimated uncertainties. This result suggests SIMPLE, with the
1060 parameters reported for Mexico City or Pasadena, can be applied to other polluted urban regions
1061 as well. In addition, the optimal parameters for Pasadena (and Mexico City) are consistent with
1062 the OA/ Δ CO ratios observed for highly aged air masses by Bahreini et al. (2012) from the
1063 NOAA P3 aircraft in the LA basin outflow, as well as for other urban areas as summarized by de
1064 Gouw and Jimenez (2009) and shown in Figure 7. However, it should be noted that a range of
1065 SIMPLE parameter combinations still remains in which the different combinations perform
1066 similarly in the model/measurement comparison, and this range is indicated by the dashed box in
1067 Figure 11A. While the SIMPLE model is promising, additional work should be carried out to
1068 verify the optimal SIMPLE model parameters including analysis of data for a broad range of
1069 ages, e.g., by utilizing results from ambient air processed by oxidation flow reactors (Ortega et
1070 al., 2013). Also, the accuracy of the SIMPLE model for predicting urban SOA under a variety of
1071 atmospheric conditions should be explored (e.g. VOC/NO_x or relative amounts of gasoline
1072 versus diesel emissions.) Finally, we note that the SIMPLE model parameterizes urban SOA, and
1073 is not applicable to biogenic SOA.

1074 Hodzic and Jimenez (2011) also proposed an approach for predicting the oxygen content
1075 of SOA that utilized the equation $O:C = 1 - 0.6\exp(-A/1.5)$, where A is the photochemical age in
1076 days. (Note: the photochemical age was calculated using a reference \bullet OH concentration of
1077 1.5×10^6 molec cm^{-3} .) As shown in Figure 12, this parameterization compares well with the O:C
1078 from measurements. However, the parameterization of Hodzic and Jimenez does not take into
1079 account the new AMS O:C calibrations factors, as described in the preceding section. In order to
1080 account for this change, the equation proposed by Hodzic and Jimenez must be multiplied by a
1081 factor of 1.28. Thus, the updated parameterization is $O:C = 1.28(1 - 0.6\exp(-A/1.5))$, and the
1082 corresponding O:C values are shown in Figure 12. The updated simple parameterization also
1083 exhibits good agreement with measurements. (Note: The O:C predicted by the updated model
1084 does not increase by a factor 1.28 relative to the original version because the SOA from the

1085 Hodzic and Jimenez parameterization is mixed with HOA, CIOA, and BG-SOA to determine the
1086 total OA O:C shown in Figure 12.)

1087

1088 **3.4 Update of the U.S. and Global Urban SOA budgets**

1089 As shown in Figure 7, the SIMPLE parameterization asymptotically approaches a
1090 SOA/ Δ CO value of $80 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ ppm}^{-1}$, which can be used to estimate an urban SOA budget. The
1091 SIMPLE parameterization is better for estimating this budget than the more complex
1092 parameterizations, because the SIMPLE parameterization is consistent with the observations of
1093 de Gouw and Jimenez (2009) that were made at multiple locations. For the ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI,
1094 PYE+TSI, and ROB+4xV model variants, values of SOA/ Δ CO between 150 and $220 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
1095 ppm^{-1} are predicted at long photochemical ages, and such high values have never been observed,
1096 to our knowledge, downwind of anthropogenic-dominated sources. These four more complex
1097 parameterizations are based on laboratory data at short photochemical ages, and thus, applying
1098 them to long photochemical ages is an extrapolation. The SIMPLE parameterization is imperfect,
1099 but based on the available evidence it appears that the SIMPLE model is the most accurate at
1100 long photochemical ages and better suited for estimating the urban SOA budget.

1101 For the U.S., the annual urban CO emissions reported in the 2011 NEI are 44 Tg yr^{-1}
1102 (EPA, 2013), which when multiplied by SOA/ Δ CO gives a national urban SOA source of 3.1 Tg
1103 yr^{-1} . The same estimate can be performed for global urban SOA, since similar ratios of
1104 SOA/ Δ CO have been observed in other countries such as downwind of Mexico City and China
1105 (DeCarlo et al., 2010; Hu et al., 2013). Using the EDGAR v4.2 inventory of 371 Tg yr^{-1} of
1106 urban/industrial CO for 2008 (JRC, 2011), we estimate a global pollution SOA source of 26 Tg
1107 yr^{-1} , or about 17% of the estimated global SOA source of 150 Tg yr^{-1} (Hallquist et al., 2009;
1108 Heald et al., 2010; Heald et al., 2011; Spracklen et al., 2011). We note that 1/3 of that SOA
1109 would be non-fossil, if a similar cooking fraction is observed globally as in this study, which is
1110 expected given the identification of similar fractions of cooking POA in many field studies
1111 globally (Wang et al., 2009; Mohr et al., 2011; Sun et al., 2011).

1112

1113

1114 **4. Conclusions**

1115 SOA in Pasadena during CalNex has been modeled using three different methods: (1) a
1116 box model, (2) a 3-D dimensional model, namely, WRF-CMAQ, and (3) a simple two-parameter
1117 model. Model/measurement comparisons clearly indicate that SOA formed from P-S/IVOCs, or
1118 a similar source, must be included in the models to accurately predict SOA concentrations in
1119 Pasadena. In other words, SOA from VOC oxidation is not sufficient to explain the observed
1120 concentrations, even when the highest SOA yields are used. Specifically, the parameterizations
1121 utilized were the Tsimpidi et al. (2010) parameterization with aging or a modified version of that
1122 parameterization in which the SOA yields for aromatic VOCs were multiplied by four as recently
1123 suggested by Zhang et al. (2014).

1124 Three parameterizations for SOA formation from P-S/IVOCs were tested. It was found
1125 that the parameterization reported by Grieshop et al. (2009) best predicts SOA concentration at
1126 the urban site. In contrast, the parameterization of Robinson et al. (2007) predicts too little SOA.
1127 These results contrast earlier modeling studies of Mexico City that showed the Robinson
1128 parameterization performed better when compared against the measured SOA concentration. The
1129 reason for the difference is not clear. Both the Mexico City and Pasadena studies suggest that the
1130 Grieshop parameterization more accurately predicts SOA oxygen content, but this conclusion is
1131 also dependent on model parameters that are not well-constrained. Additionally, we tested the
1132 parameterization proposed in Pye and Seinfeld (2010) for the formation of SOA from P-
1133 S/IVOCs, which produces similar results but tends to overpredict SOA concentrations especially
1134 at nighttime and in the morning for this case study. The relative importance of VOCs and P-
1135 S/IVOCs as contributors to urban SOA over different time and length scales remains unclear.
1136 Depending on the parameterization used in the box model, the amount of urban SOA from VOCs
1137 can range between 15 – 53% of the total predicted SOA for the Pasadena ground site. This range
1138 is 16 – 58% in a sensitivity study in which the IVOC emissions are reduced by one-half. All the
1139 parameterizations used in the box model overpredict urban SOA at photochemical ages larger
1140 than one day when compared to field observations, which has implications for their use in
1141 regional and global models. However, when the IVOC emissions in the box model are reduced
1142 by one-half to better match the measurements of Zhao et al. (2014) the predictions of SOA at
1143 long photochemical ages are improved although still too high, while the model/measurement

1144 comparison at short photochemical ages is still within the measurement uncertainties for the
1145 GRI+TSI and ROB+4xV variations.

1146 This work represents the first chemically explicit evaluation of WRF-CMAQ SOA mass
1147 predictions in the Western U.S. or California. This model provides excellent predictions of
1148 secondary inorganic particle species but underestimates the observed SOA mass by a factor of
1149 about 25. The discrepancy is likely attributable to the VOC-only parameterization used that has
1150 relatively low yields and does not include SOA from P-S/IVOCs or a similar source.

1151 SOA source apportionment was also carried out using the box model results. Among the
1152 explicitly modeled VOCs, the precursor compounds that contribute the most SOA mass are all
1153 methylbenzenes. In contrast, measured PAHs including naphthalene, 1-methylnaphthalene, and
1154 2-methylnaphthalene are relatively minor precursors and contribute 0.7% of the SOA mass. In
1155 addition, the amount of urban SOA from diesel vehicles, gasoline vehicles, and cooking-related
1156 emissions is estimated to be 16 – 27%, 35 – 61%, and 19 – 35%, respectively, with an almost
1157 factor of 2 difference in the estimated contribution depending on the box model variant used. A
1158 significant amount of background SOA appears to be formed outside the Los Angeles Basin and
1159 transported to the Pasadena site. The percentage estimated from diesel in the model is in
1160 agreement with our previous study that estimated the diesel contribution to be 0 – 36% by
1161 analyzing the weekly cycle of OOA concentrations (Hayes et al., 2013). The fraction of fossil
1162 and non-fossil urban SOA from the different models is generally consistent with the
1163 measurements. Importantly, a large source of urban non-fossil SOA most likely due to cooking is
1164 identified, while biogenic SOA formed from urban-scale emissions makes a small contribution.

1165 The final portion of this work adapts the SIMPLE two parameter model of Hodzic and
1166 Jimenez (2011) to predict SOA properties for Pasadena. The simple model successfully predicts
1167 SOA concentration and oxygen content with accuracy similar to the more complex
1168 parameterizations. Furthermore, the optimal parameters for the SIMPLE model are very similar
1169 in both Mexico City and Pasadena, which indicates that this computationally inexpensive
1170 approach may be useful for predicting pollution SOA in global and climate models. Pollution
1171 SOA is estimated to account for 17% of global SOA, and we note that ~1/3 of urban SOA may
1172 be non-fossil mainly due to the impact of cooking and other sources.

1173

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1189 **References**

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Table 1. Definitions of acronyms frequently used in this article.

AMS	Aerosol Mass Spectrometer
BG-SOA	Background secondary organic aerosols
CalNex	California research at the nexus of air quality and climate change field campaign
CIOA	Cooking-influenced organic aerosol
GRI	Grieshop et al. (2009) parameterization for secondary organic aerosol formation from P-S/IVOCs
IVOCs	Intermediate volatility organic compounds
NEI	National Emissions Inventory
OA	Organic aerosol
ODR	Orthogonal distance regression
PAH	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon
PBL	Planetary Boundary Layer
P-S/IVOCs	Primary semi-volatile and intermediate volatility organic compounds
PYE	Pye and Seinfeld (2010) parameterization for secondary organic aerosols formation from P-S/IVOCs
ROB	Robinson et al. (2007) parameterization for secondary organic aerosol formation from P-S/IVOCs
SI-SOA	Secondary organic aerosol from primary semi-volatile and intermediate volatility organic compounds
SOA	Secondary organic aerosol
SVOCs	Semi-volatile organic compounds
TSI	Tsimpidi et al. (2010) parameterization for secondary organic aerosol formation from VOCs
V-SOA	Secondary organic aerosol formed from the oxidation of volatile organic compounds
VBS	Volatility basis set
VOCs	Volatile organic compounds
WRF-CMAQ	Weather Research Forecasting – Community multiscale air quality model
Δ CO	Enhanced CO concentration over the background concentration (105 ppb).

1608 **Table 2.** Summary of the SOA models and their major variants used in this work.

Model Name	Variation	Notes	References	Figures
Box Model	1 (ROB + TSI)	VOCs: Tsimpidi et al. parameterization <u>with aging</u> . P-S/IVOCs: Robinson et al. parameterization, and all SOA treated within VBS framework.	Tsimpidi et al. <i>Atmos. Chem. Phys.</i> 2010 , 525-546. Robinson et al. <i>Science</i> 2007 , 1259-1262.	4, 6, 7, 8, 10, SI-2, SI-5, SI-6, SI-7
	2 (GRI + TSI)	VOCs: Tsimpidi et al. parameterization <u>with aging</u> . P-S/IVOCs: Grieshop et al. parameterization, and all SOA treated within VBS framework.	Tsimpidi et al. <i>Atmos. Chem. Phys.</i> 2010 , 525-546. Grieshop et al. <i>Atmos. Chem. Phys.</i> 2009 , 1263-1277.	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, SI-2, SI-5, SI-6, SI-7
	3 (PYE + TSI)	VOCs: Tsimpidi et al. parameterization <u>with aging</u> . P-S/IVOCs: Pye and Seinfeld parameterization.	Tsimpidi et al. <i>Atmos. Chem. Phys.</i> 2010 , 525-546. Pye and Seinfeld <i>Atmos. Chem. Phys.</i> 2010 , 4377-4401.	4, 6, 7, 8, SI-2, SI-5, SI-6, SI-7
	4 (ROB + 4xV)	VOCs: Tsimpidi et al. parameterization <u>without aging</u> and aromatic yield multiplied by 4. P-S/IVOCs: Robinson et al. parameterization, and all SOA treated within VBS framework.	Tsimpidi et al. <i>Atmos. Chem. Phys.</i> 2010 , 525-546. Robinson et al. <i>Science</i> 2007 , 1259-1262. Zhang et al. <i>PNAS</i> 2014 .	4, 6, 7, 8, SI-5, SI-6, SI-7
	5	VOCs: Koo et al. and Ng et al. wherein SOA is treated in a lumped product parameterization.	Koo et al. <i>Atmos. Environ.</i> 2003 , 4757-4768. Ng et al. <i>Atmos. Chem. Phys.</i> 2007 , 3909-3922.	8

1610 **Table 2 (Continued).** Summary of the SOA models and their major variants used in this work.

Model Name	Variation	Notes	References	Figures
WRF-CMAQ	v5.0.1	4 anthropogenic VOC and 3 biogenic VOC precursors and GLY/MGLY. 12 semi-volatile partitioning species and 7 non-volatile SOA species	Carlton et al. <i>Environ. Sci. Technol.</i> 2010 , 8553-8560.	9, SI-8, SI-9, SI-10
SIMPLE	N/A	Single lumped precursor and single lumped, non-volatile SOA product.	Hodzic et al. <i>Geosci. Model Dev.</i> 2011 , 901-917.	7, 8, 11, 12
WRF-Chem	N/A	4-bin VBS framework <u>with aging</u> , 7 anthropogenic VOC classes and 4 biogenic VOC classes	Ahmadov et al. <i>J. Geophys. Res.-Atmos.</i> 2012 , D06301.	3, SI-4

1611

1612 **Table 3.** Measurements acquired at the Pasadena ground site during CalNex and used in this
 1613 study.

Measurement	Technique	Uncertainty	Reference
Bulk aerosol mass concentrations for organics, nitrate, sulfate, and ammonium as well as the concentrations of organic aerosol components	High-resolution Aerosol Mass Spectrometry (AMS) and Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) analysis	±30%	Hayes et al. 2013
Oxygen-to-carbon ratio	High-resolution Aerosol Mass Spectrometer (AMS) and Elemental Analysis (EA)	±30%	Hayes et al. 2013
Speciated VOCs	Gas chromatography – mass spectrometry	±5 – 25% (hydrocarbons) ±20 – 35% (oxygenates)	Borbon et al. 2013
CO	VUV Fluorescence	±4%	Hayes et al. 2013
Modern and fossil fraction of organic carbon	¹⁴ C	See text	Zotter et al. 2014
Concentration of SOA from specific precursor compounds	U.S. E.P.A. tracer method and measurement of oxygenates from filter samples using GC-MS	See text	Kleindienst et al. 2012
Concentration of naphthalene and its derivatives	Thermal desorption gas chromatography mass spectrometry	±30%	Presto et al. 2011 Presto et al. 2012

1614

1615 **Table 4.** Slope of SOA/ Δ CO as reported by Hayes et al. (2013), and as predicted in the four
 1616 major box model variations. For the box model, the slopes are obtained by performing a linear
 1617 ODR analysis on the data shown in Figure 7.

Variation	SOA / ΔCO slope between 0 and 0.25 Days	SOA / ΔCO slope between 0.25 and 0.5 Days
Observed (Hayes et al. 2013)	$108 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$	
ROB + TSI	$69 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv}^{-1}$	$88 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv}^{-1}$
GRI + TSI	$110 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv}^{-1}$	$130 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv}^{-1}$
PYE + TSI	$168 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv}^{-1}$	$153 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv}^{-1}$
ROB + 4xV	$105 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv}^{-1}$	$123 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv}^{-1}$

1618

1619 **Figure Captions**

1620 **Figure 1.** Schematic of the major SOA parameterizations used in the box model. The different
1621 regions of the volatility scale are indicated on the top axis: low-volatility organic compounds
1622 (LVOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), intermediate volatility organic
1623 compounds (IVOCs), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The fraction in the particle
1624 phase, F_p (top panel), increases with decreasing volatility (i.e. C^*) according to Equation 1. The
1625 campaign average OA concentration, $7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, has been used to calculate the partitioning. The
1626 parameterization of Tsimpidi et al. (2010) distributes the VOC oxidation products into four
1627 volatility bins, and subsequent oxidation reactions are allowed as indicated by the curved arrows.
1628 The two parameterizations for P-S/IVOC oxidation from Robinson et al. (2007) and Grieshop et
1629 al. (2009) are illustrated as well. Lastly, the parameterization of Pye and Seinfeld (2010) is
1630 shown in which SVOCs are treated as four lumped species (pink), and IVOCs are treated using
1631 the yields and volatility distribution for naphthalene oxidation (yellow). For clarity the arrows
1632 indicating IVOC aging are not shown.

1633 **Figure 2.** Schematic of the SOA model set-up used in this work. Model inputs are indicated by
1634 hollow arrows whereas steps in the modeling process are indicated by solid arrow. All the steps
1635 in the dashed box are repeated for each hour of the day.

1636 **Figure 3. (A)** Average diurnal cycle of CO (red) and photochemical age (blue) for the Pasadena
1637 ground site during CalNex. Note: A background of 105 ppbv has been subtracted from the CO
1638 concentration. **(B)** Average diurnal cycle of the five OA components identified by PMF analysis,
1639 as well as the background SOA calculated from WRF-Chem. The five components are semi-
1640 volatile oxygenated organic aerosol (SV-OOA), cooking-influenced organic aerosol (CIOA),
1641 hydrocarbon-like organic aerosol (HOA), local organic aerosol (LOA), and low volatility organic
1642 aerosol (LV-OOA).

1643 **Figure 4.** Model/measurement comparisons for urban SOA mass concentration plotted by time
1644 of day. The model results are shown for the **(ROB+TSI)**, **(GRI+TSI)**, **(PYE+TSI)**, and
1645 **(ROB+4xV)** variations. The model variations are described in Table 2. In all panels the SV-
1646 OOA determined from measurements at the Pasadena ground site is shown. The uncertainty for
1647 the AMS measurement used to determine the SV-OOA concentration is indicated by the dashed
1648 lines (Middlebrook et al., 2012).

1649 **Figure 5. (A)** Predicted SOA mass from precursor VOCs. For clarity only the five largest
1650 contributors to the SOA mass are shown. Note that SI-SOA from P-S/IVOCs is not included in
1651 this panel. **(B)** Campaign average concentrations of SOA from specific precursors as determined
1652 in the box model as well as by the U.S. EPA tracer method (Kleindienst et al., 2012).
1653 Comparisons are shown for methylbenzenes, naphthalenes, isoprene, and monoterpenes. For the
1654 naphthalenes the bar for “adjusted emissions” indicates the model variation where the
1655 naphthalene emissions are increased in order to match the measured concentrations in Pasadena
1656 as shown in Figure SI-3. The adjusted emissions are also used for the variation with a yield of
1657 1.5 at $C^*=1$. Note: The GRI parameterization is used to predict the SI-SOA for these results.

1658 **Figure 6.** The estimated fractional contribution to SOA mass concentration from gasoline
1659 vehicles, diesel vehicles, cooking emissions, and in-basin biogenic emissions. The results for the
1660 four model variations are displayed as pie charts as well as a bar chart. The bar chart also shows
1661 the percentage of SOA that is from fossil or modern sources as determined by Zotter et al.
1662 (2014). The modern sources are indicated by hollow bars and fossil sources are indicated by
1663 solid bars. Background SOA is not included in this figure, but the analogous figure with
1664 background SOA is given in Figure SI-6 of the supporting information.

1665 **Figure 7.** SOA concentration predicted by the ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI, PYE+TSI, and ROB+4xV
1666 parameterizations for up to 3 days of photochemical aging at a reference $\bullet\text{OH}$ concentration of
1667 $1.5 \times 10^6 \text{ molec cm}^{-3}$. Also shown in the four panels is the same result for the SIMPLE model
1668 using the optimized parameters. Note that the SOA concentrations have been normalized to the
1669 background subtracted CO concentration to account for changes in emission strengths, and the
1670 processed data are identified by the symbol $\text{SOA}/\Delta\text{CO}$. In addition, the $\text{SOA}/\Delta\text{CO}$ data
1671 determined for the Pasadena site from the measurements of Hayes et al. (2013) are shown as well
1672 as similar airborne measurements for the Los Angeles basin outflow performed by Bahreini et al.
1673 (2012) aboard the NOAA P3 (black marker). The Bahreini et al. data point corresponds to an
1674 average of all data between 1 – 2 days of photochemical aging. The $\text{OA}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio reported by
1675 de Gouw and Jimenez (2009) is also indicated (gray box) to serve as an estimate of $\text{SOA}/\Delta\text{CO}$ in
1676 highly aged air masses.

1677

1678 **Figure 8.** SOA concentration predicted by the ROB+TSI, GRI+TSI, PYE+TSI, and ROB+4xV
1679 parameterizations for up to 3 days of photochemical aging at a reference •OH concentration of
1680 1.5×10^6 molec cm^{-3} . These predictions correspond to the sensitivity study in which the
1681 concentration of IVOCs in the volatility bins $C^* = 10^3 - 10^6$ were reduced by one-half. Also
1682 shown in the three panels is the same result for the SIMPLE model using the optimized
1683 parameters (see Section 3.3 for further discussion). Note that the SOA concentrations have been
1684 normalized to the background subtracted CO concentration to account for changes in emission
1685 strengths, and the processed data are identified by the symbol SOA/ Δ CO. In addition, the
1686 SOA/ Δ CO data determined for the Pasadena site from the measurements of Hayes et al. (2013)
1687 are shown (black line) as well as similar airborne measurements downwind of Pasadena
1688 performed by Bahreini et al. (2012) aboard the NOAA P3 (black marker). The Bahreini et al.
1689 point corresponds to an average of all LA Basin outflow data between 1 – 2 days of
1690 photochemical aging. The OA/ Δ CO ratio reported by de Gouw and Jimenez (2009) is also
1691 indicated (gray box) to serve as an estimate of SOA/ Δ CO in highly aged air masses.

1692 **Figure 9. (A)** Scatter plot of SOA predicted by the WRF-CMAQ model versus the OOA
1693 determined from measurements at the Pasadena ground site. Also shown in this panel is an ODR
1694 linear regression analysis of the data with the y-intercept fixed to zero. **(B)** SOA diurnal cycles
1695 from the WRF-CMAQ and box model. The box model was run using an empirical two product
1696 parameterization (i.e., Model Variant 5 in Table 2) wherein the oxidized products cannot
1697 undergo aging (Dzepina et al., 2009).

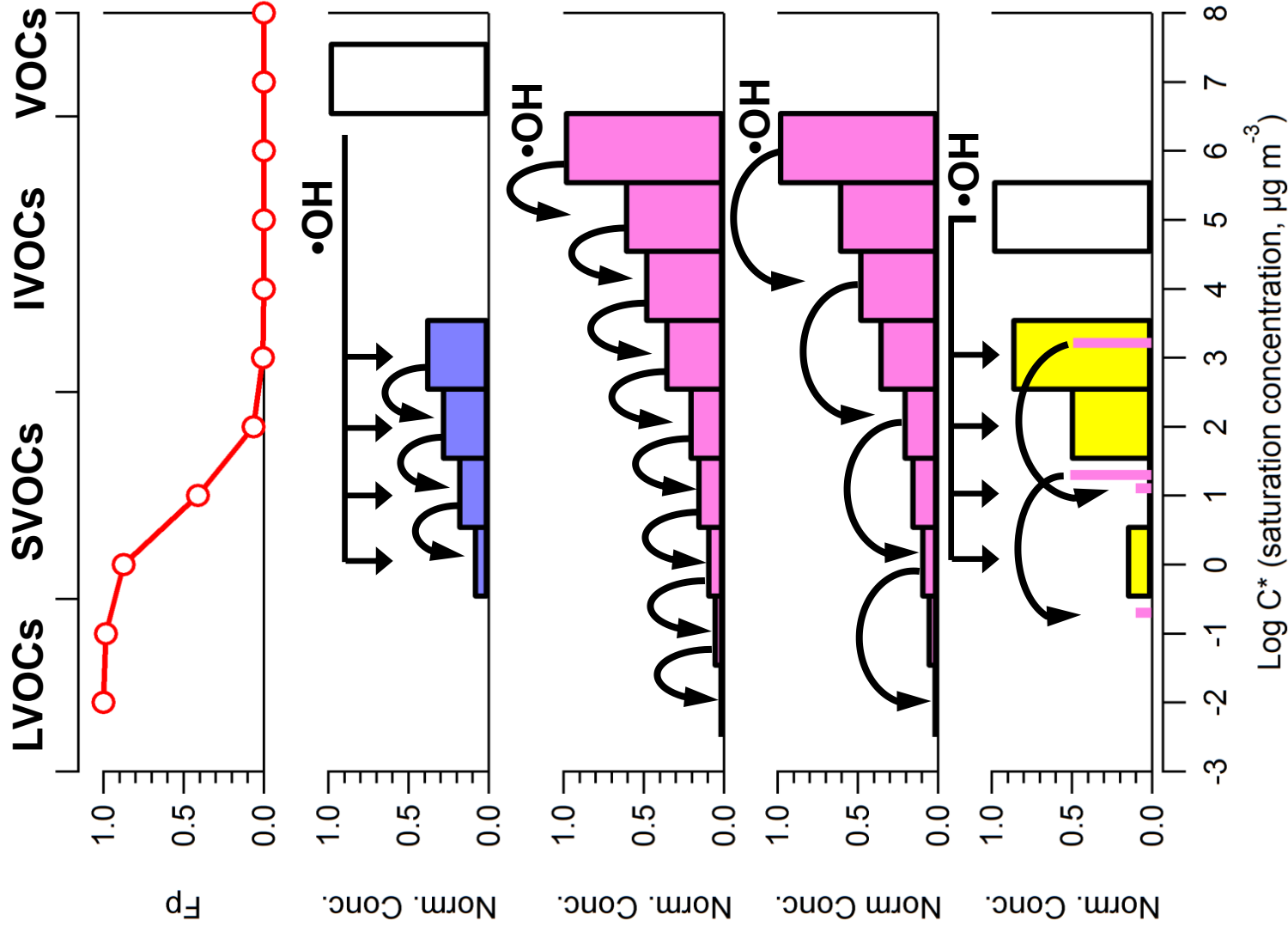
1698 **Figure 10.** Model/measurement comparison for O:C of total OA versus time of day. The left
1699 panel contains the results when using the ROB+TSI model variation, whereas the right panel
1700 contains the results when using the GRI+TSI model variation. In both panels the O:C of OA
1701 measured at the Pasadena ground site is shown along with the O:C uncertainty. Shown in both
1702 panels is the model O:C when including only the SOA from VOCs (blue line), and the model
1703 O:C when including the SOA from both VOCs and P-S/IVOCs (pink line).

1704 **Figure 11. (A)** Image plot of the root mean square error between the SIMPLE urban SOA
1705 parameterization concentration and the measured SV-OOA as a function of both the lumped
1706 precursor emission ratio and the oxidation rate constant. The gray stars indicate the parameter
1707 pairs that result in the minimum errors for Pasadena (this study) and Mexico City (Hodzic and

1708 Jimenez, 2011). The dashed box approximately indicates the range of possible optimal parameter
1709 combinations. For reference an emission ratio of $80 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ppmv}^{-1}$ equals 0.069 g g^{-1} . **(B)**
1710 Diurnal cycle of SV-OOA with corresponding uncertainty (grey dashed lines). The diurnal cycle
1711 of SOA predicted by the SIMPLE model is shown as well.

1712 **Figure 12.** Model/measurement comparison of O:C of OA versus time of day for the SIMPLE
1713 urban SOA parameterization. The original parameterization proposed by Hodzic and Jimenez
1714 (2011) is $\text{O:C} = 1 - 0.6\exp(-A/1.5)$, where A is the photochemical age. The updated SIMPLE
1715 parameterization is $\text{O:C} = 1.28(1 - 0.6\exp(-A/1.5))$, which accounts for the updated AMS O:C
1716 calibration factors.

Figure 1



Reference

Tsimpidi et al.
(TSI)

46 VOCs

Robinson et al.
(ROB)

Primary S/IVOCs

Grieshop et al.
(GRI)

Primary S/IVOCs

Pye & Seinfeld
(PYE)

Primary S/IVOCs

LVOCs SVOCs IVOCs VOCs

Fp

Norm. Conc.

Norm. Conc.

Norm. Conc.

Norm. Conc.

Log C* (saturation concentration, $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)

Figure 2

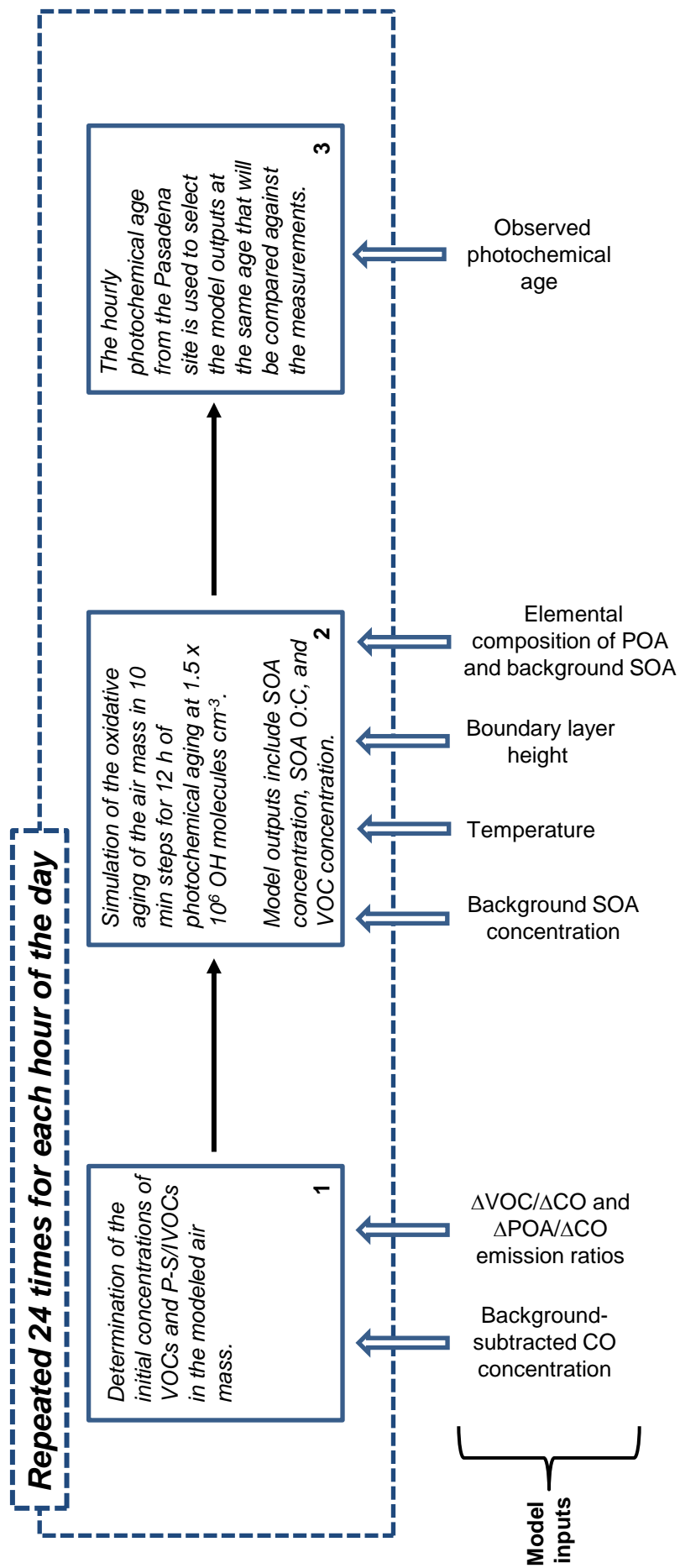


Figure 3

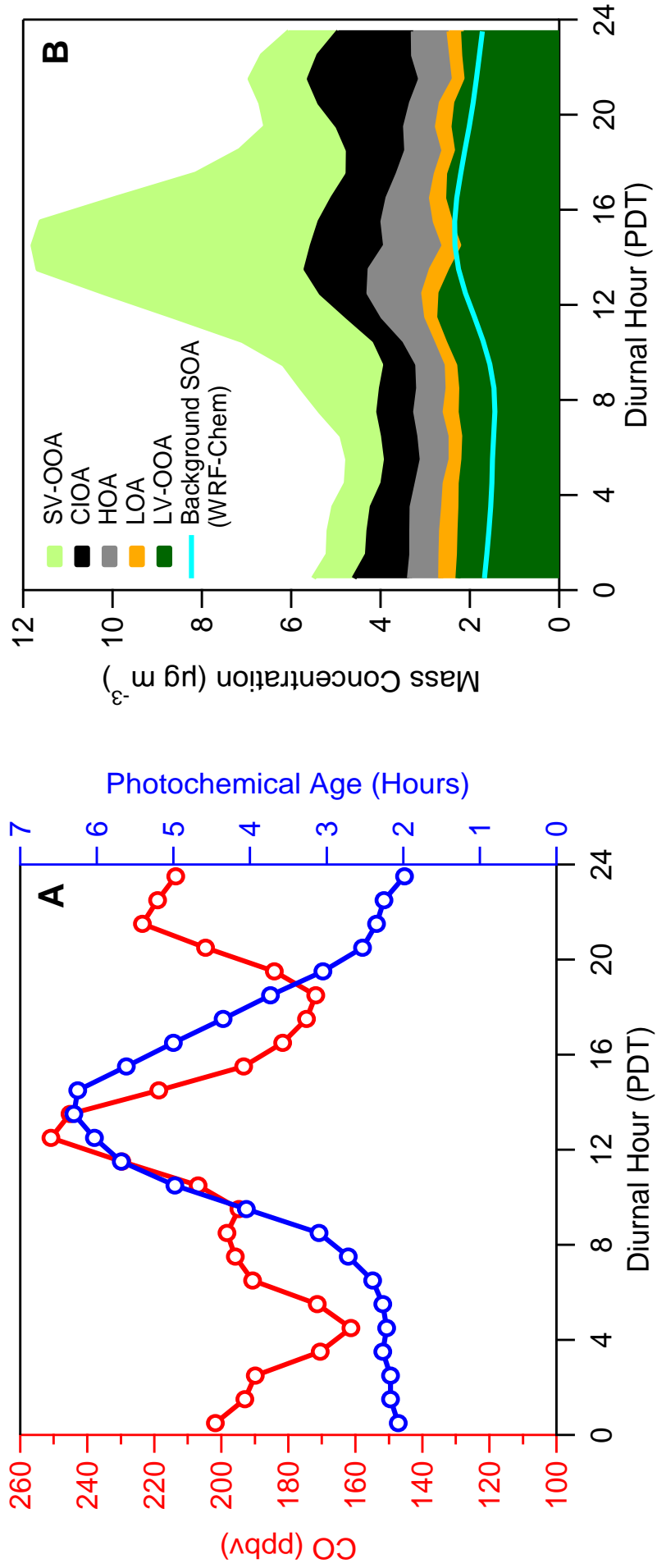


Figure 4

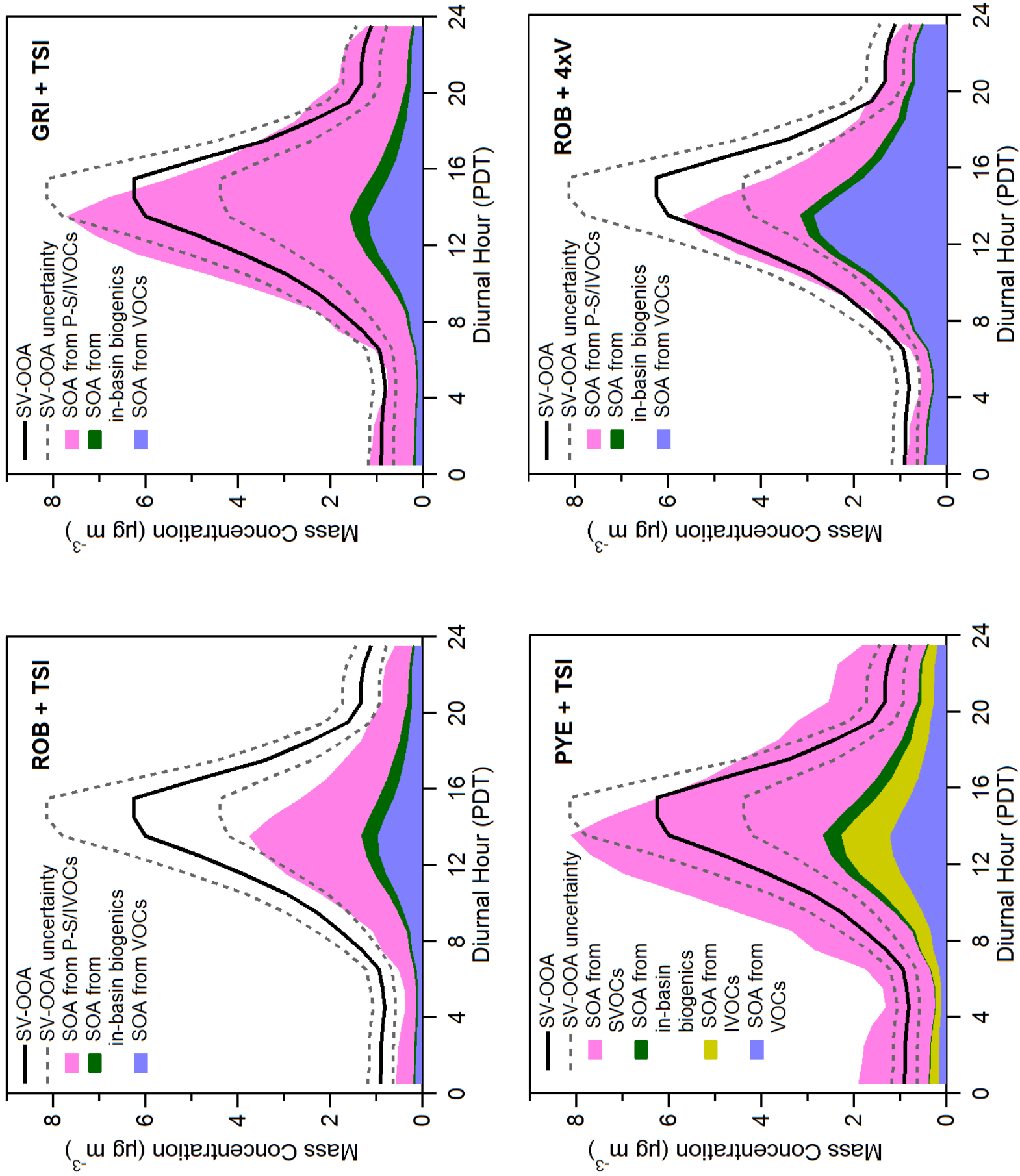


Figure 5

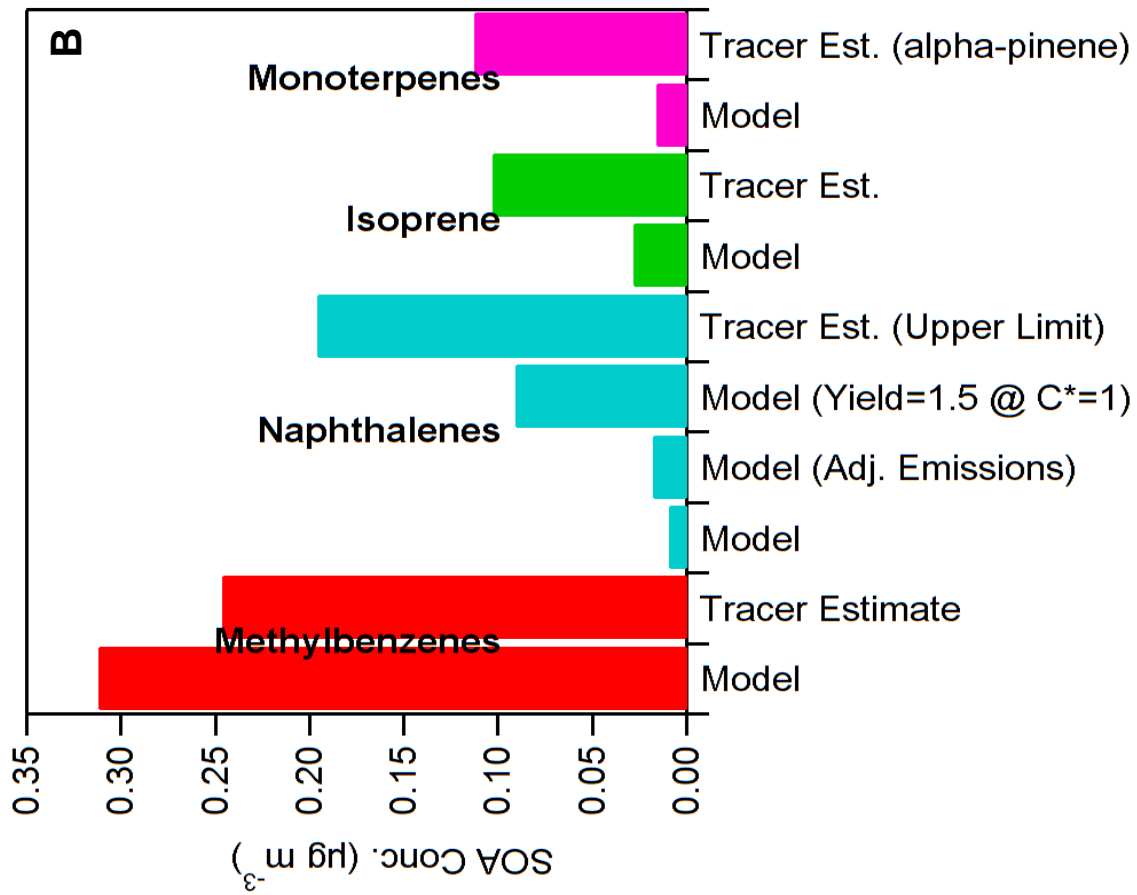
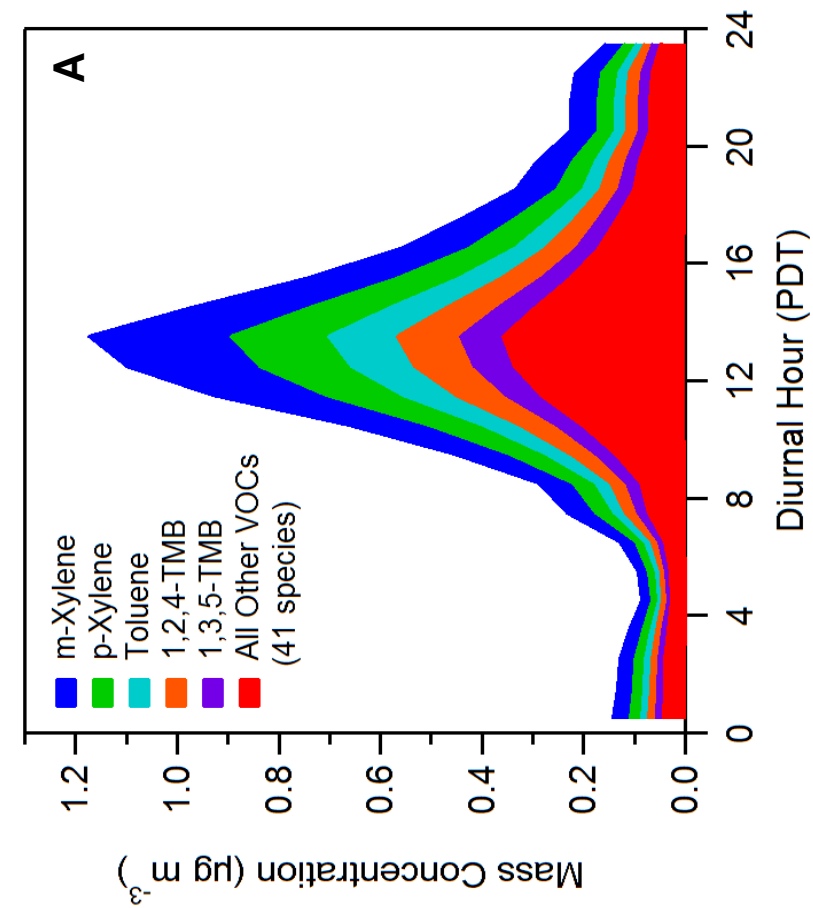


Figure 6

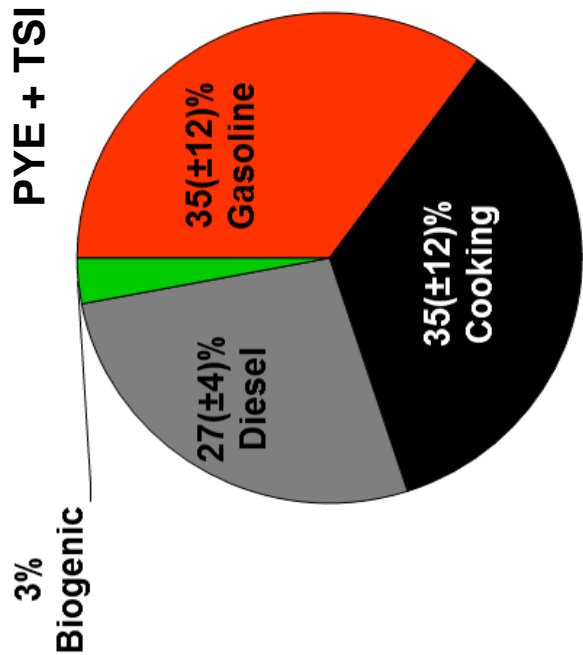
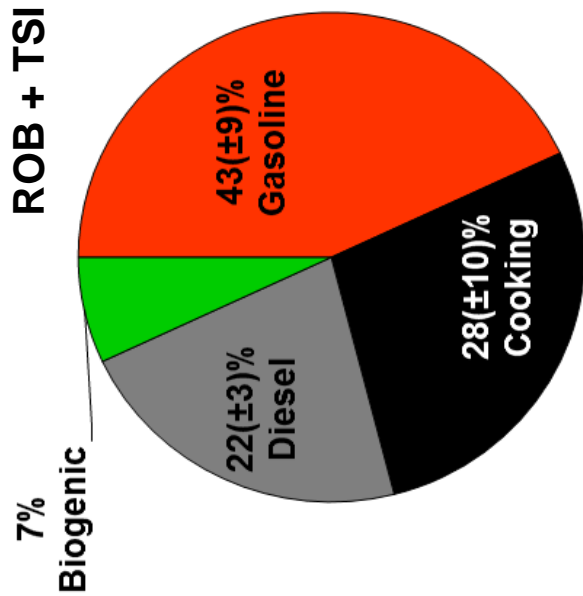
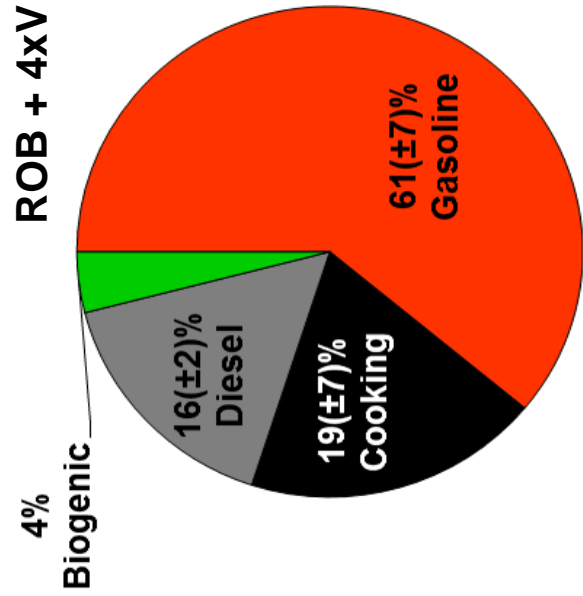
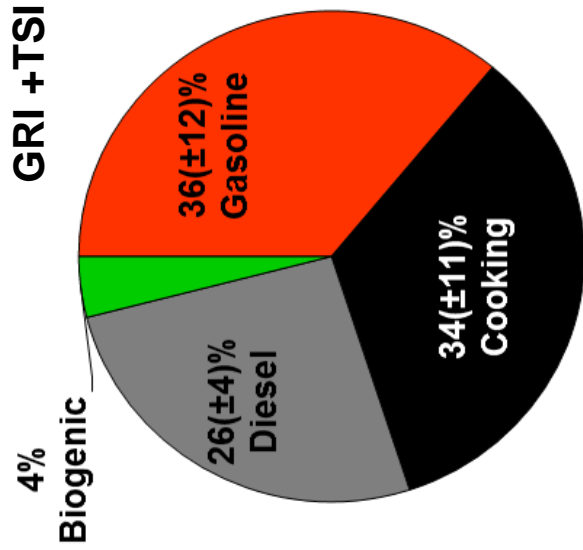
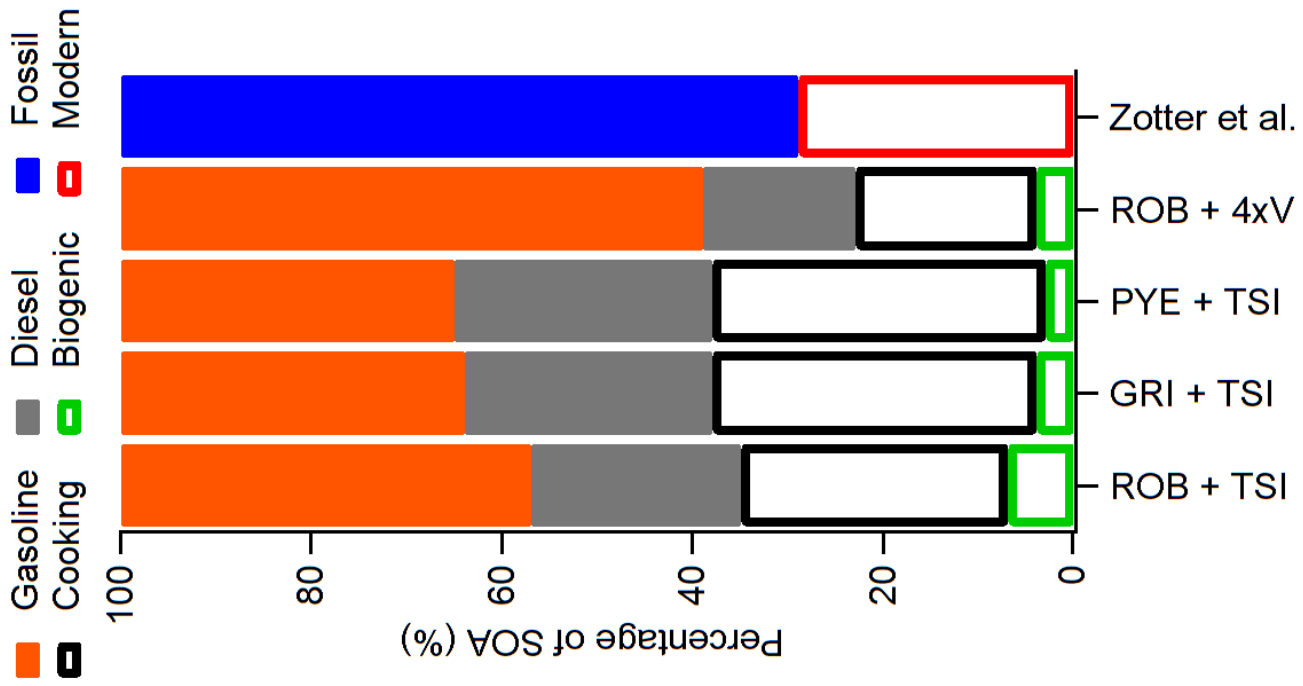


Figure 7

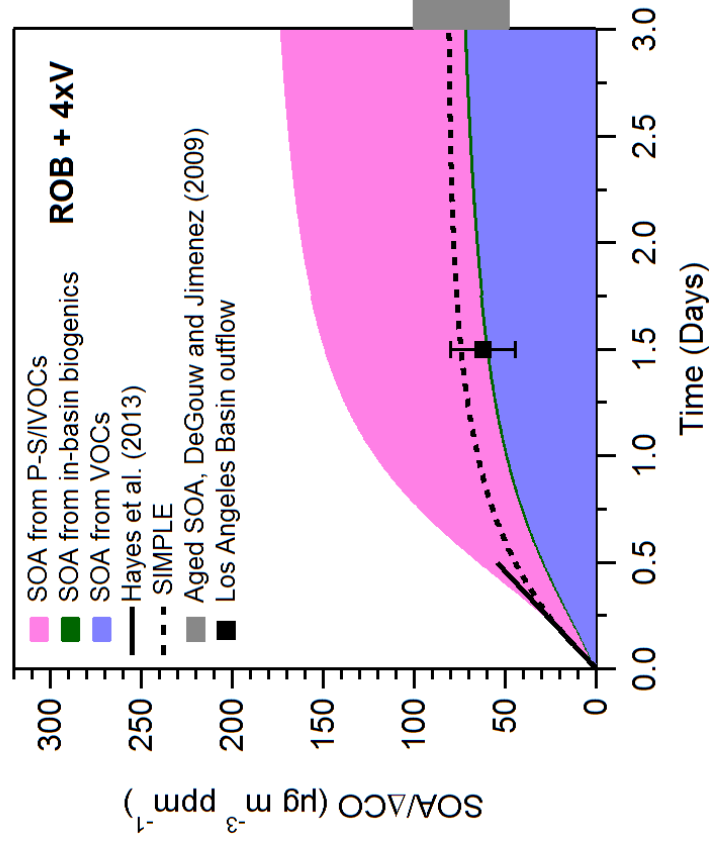
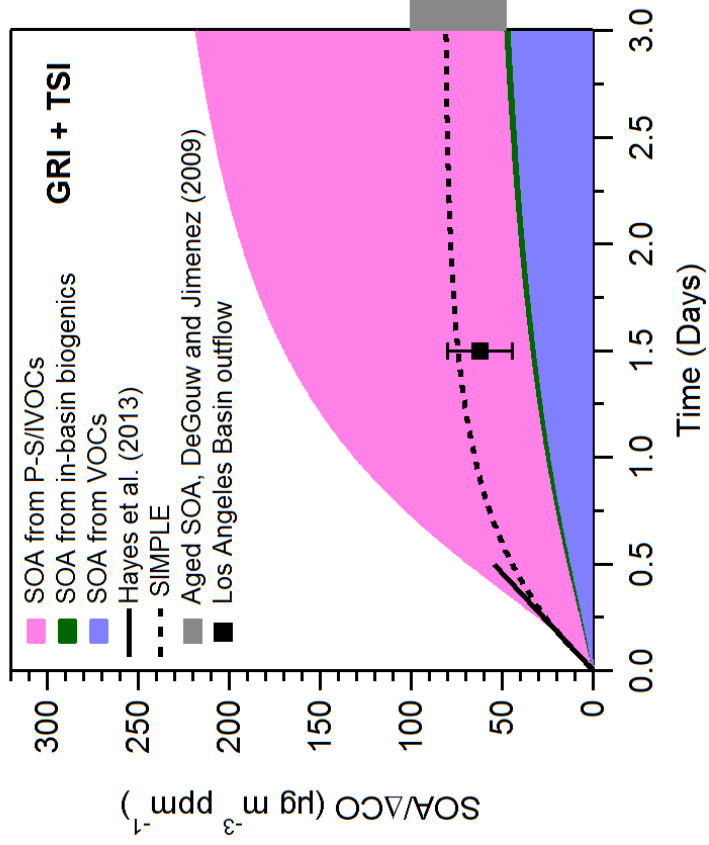
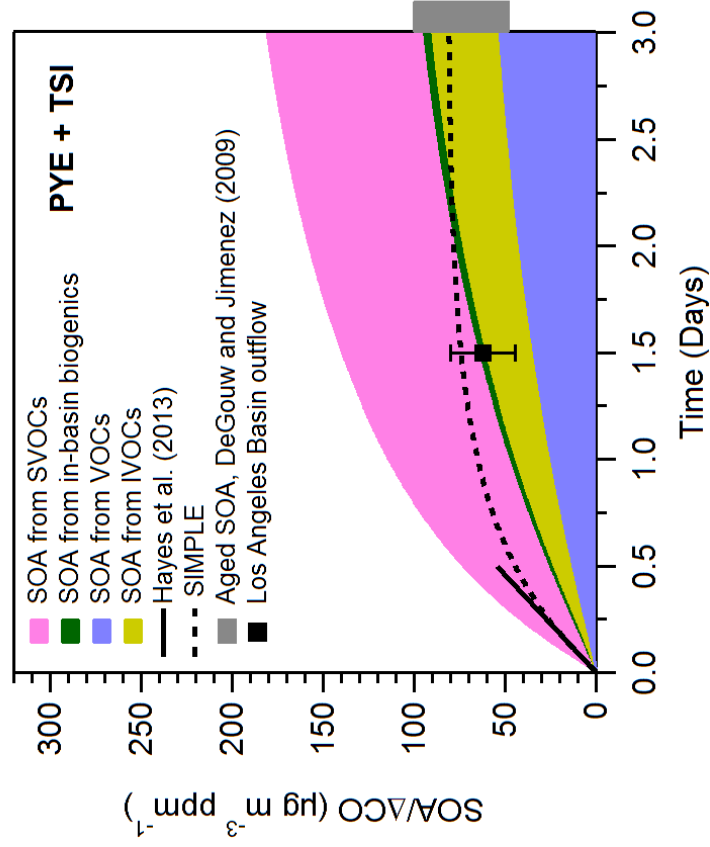
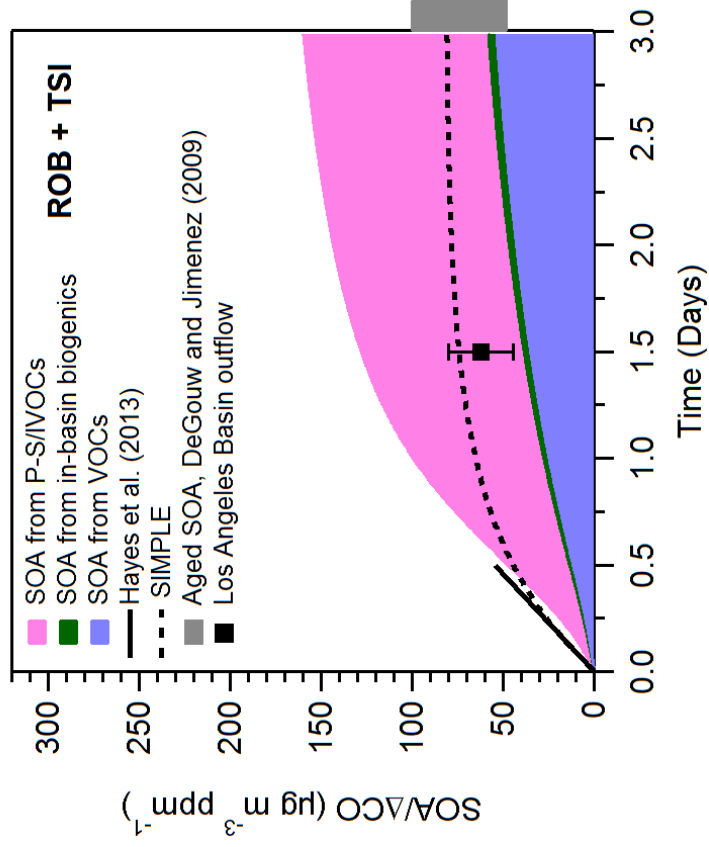


Figure 8

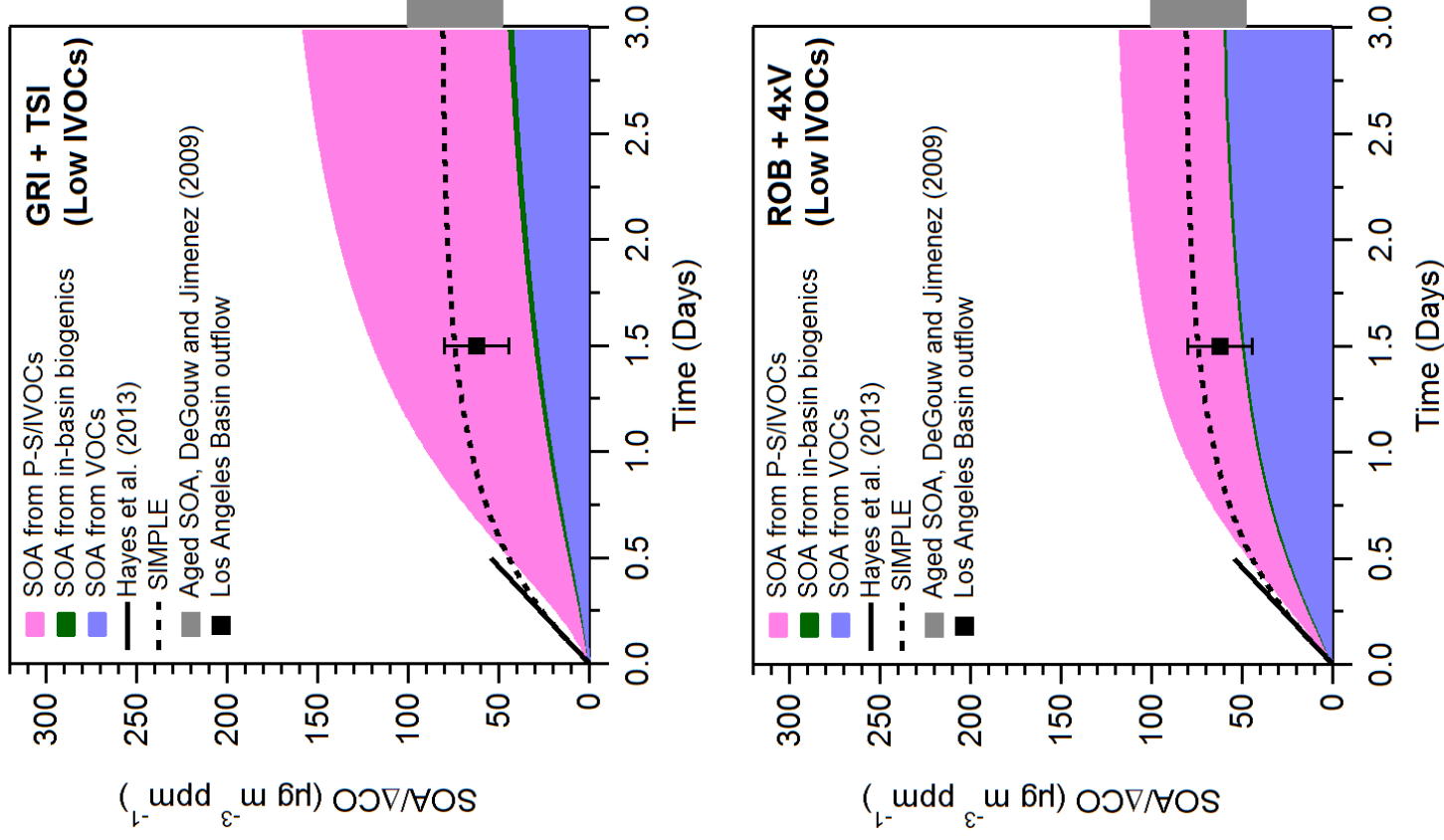
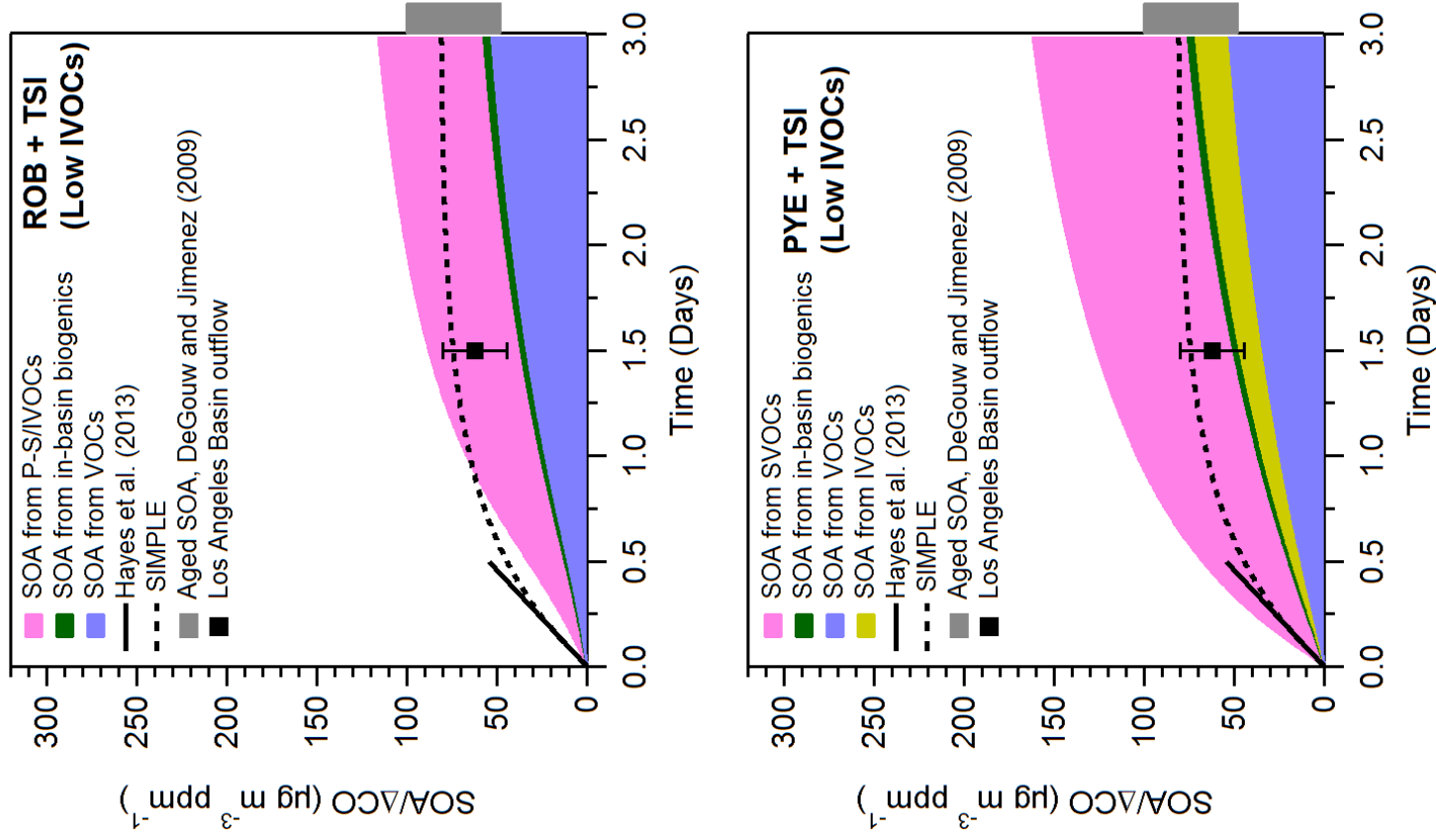


Figure 9

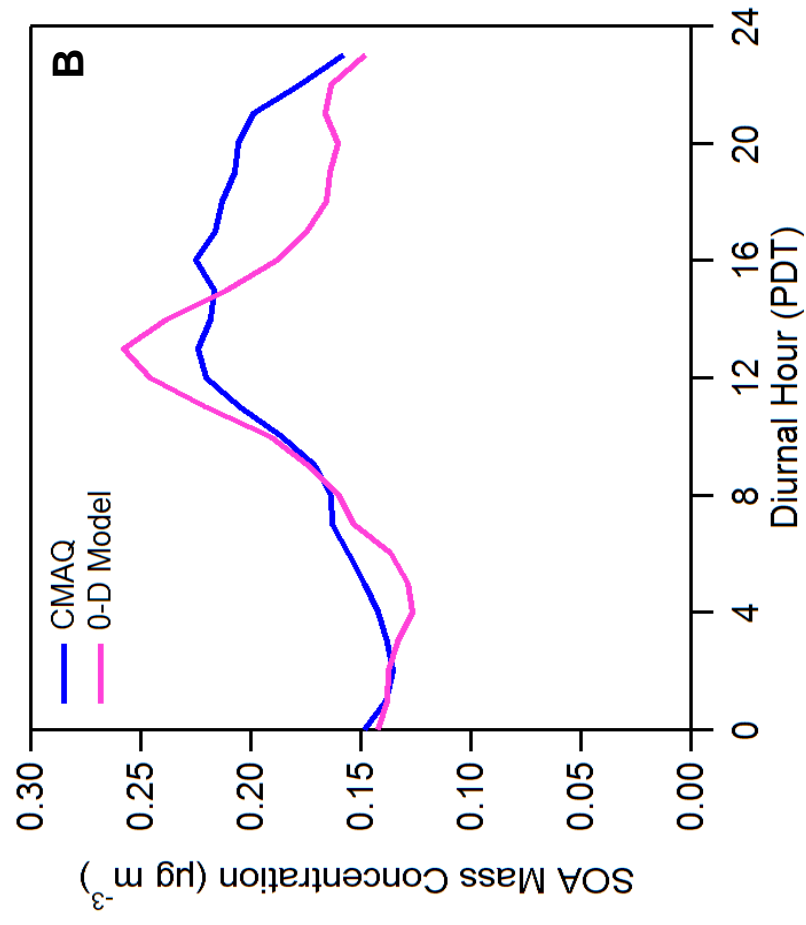
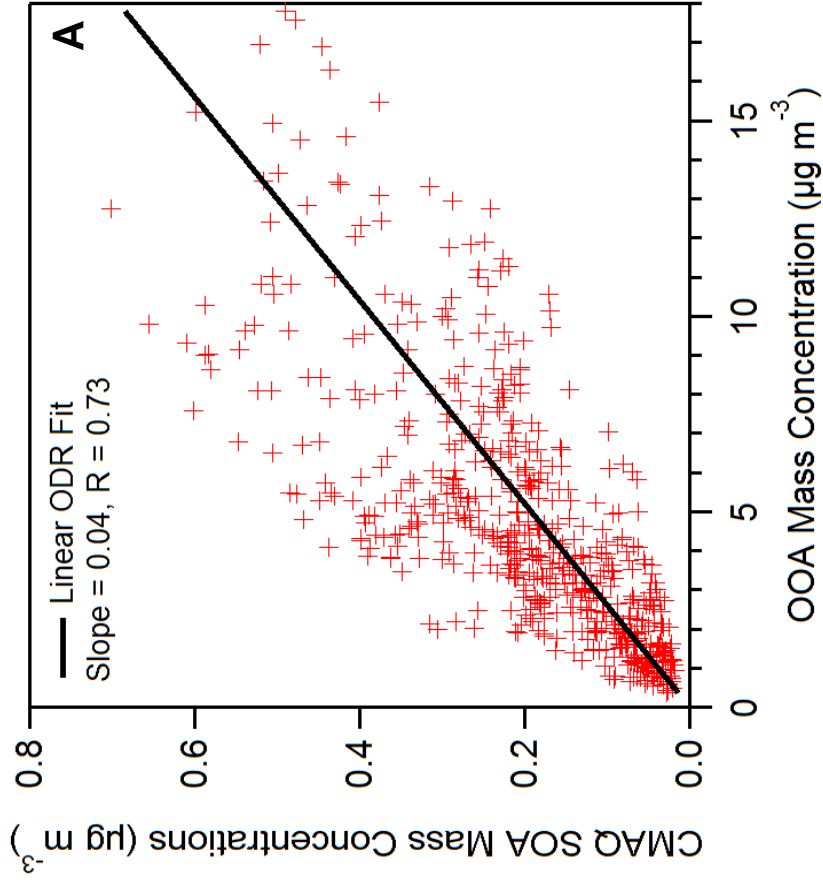


Figure 10

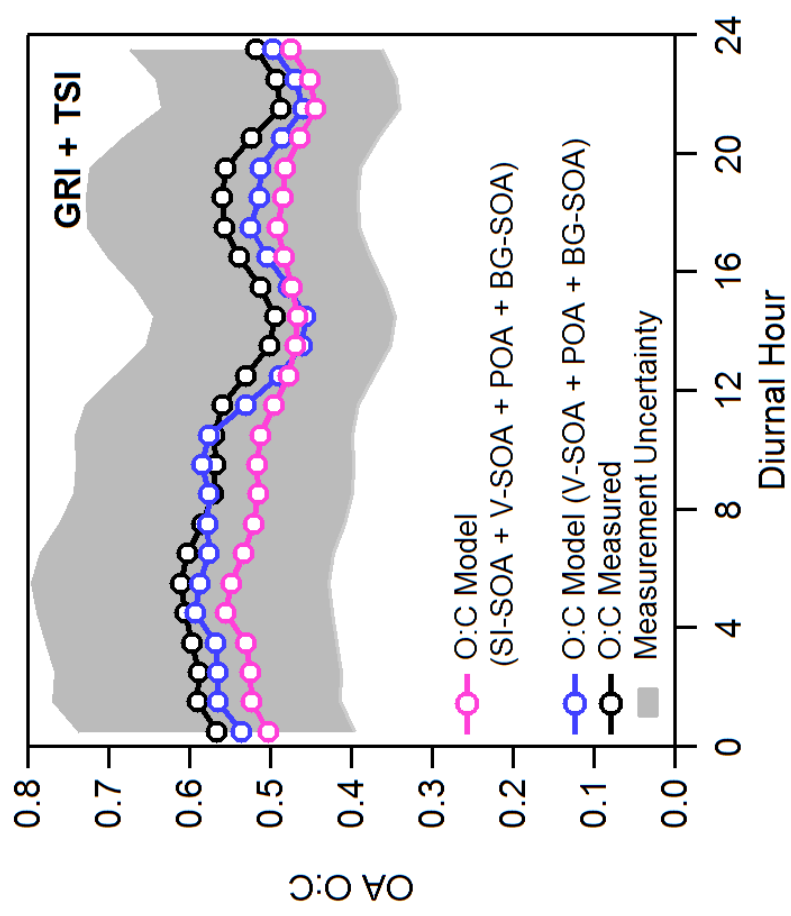
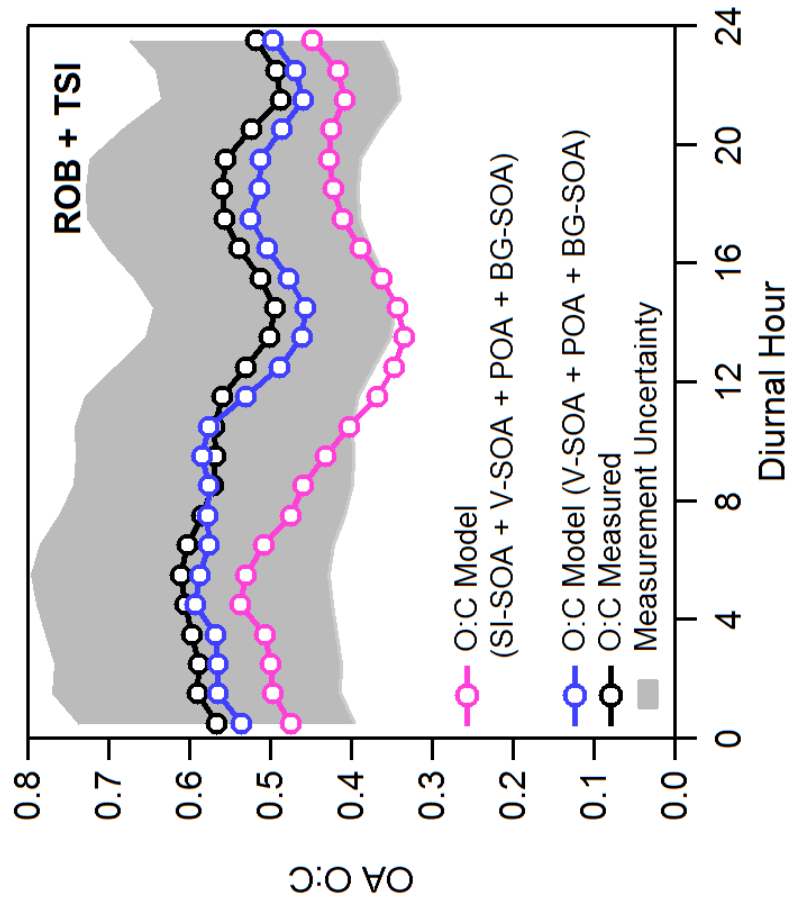


Figure 11

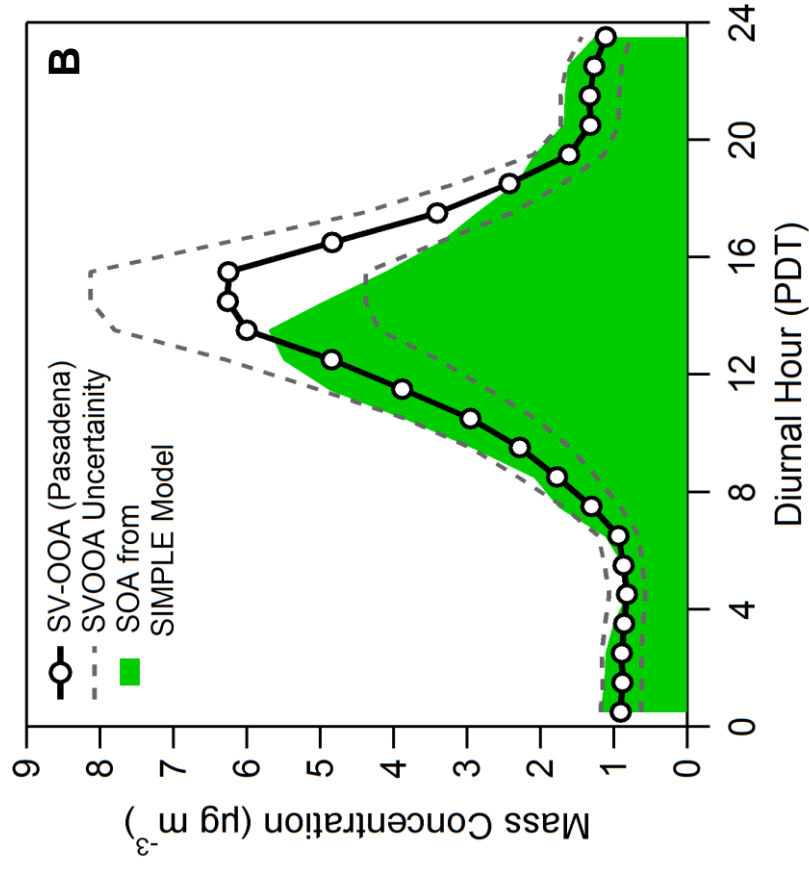
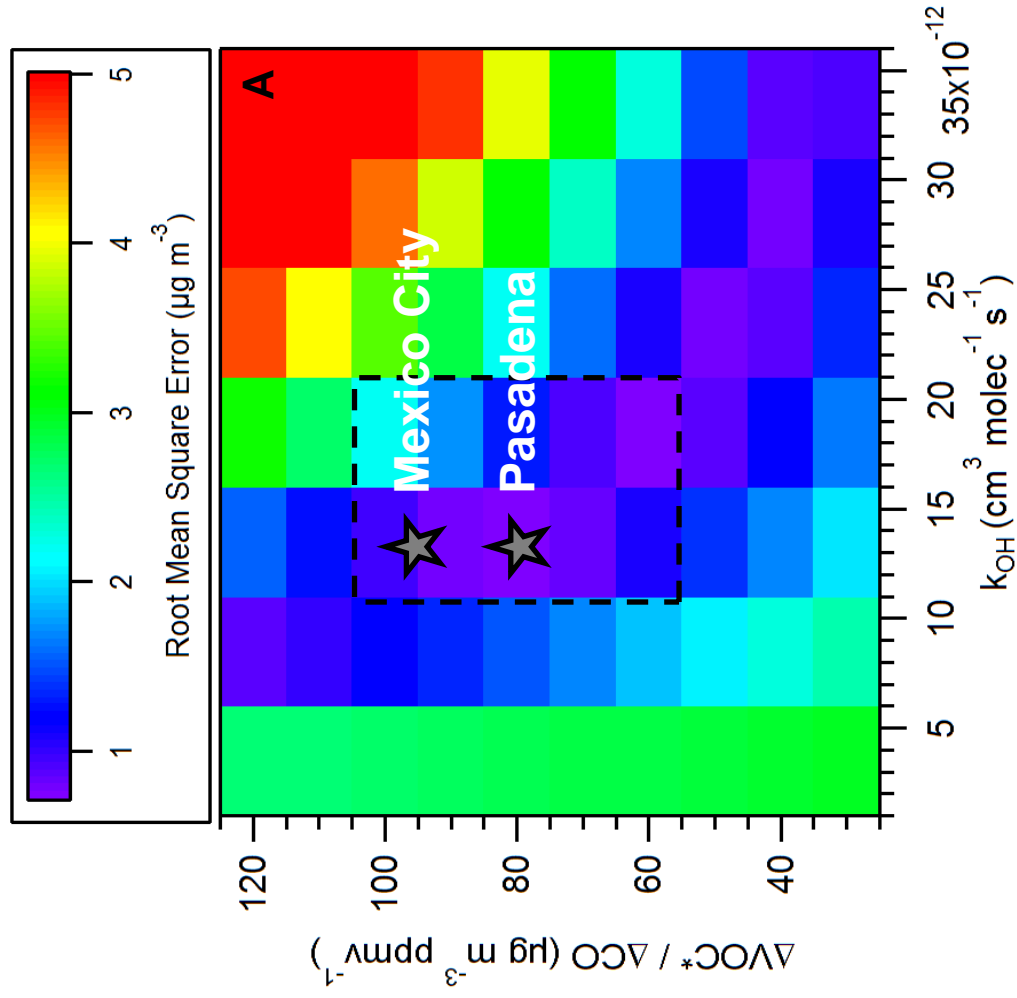


Figure 12

