

Interactive comment on “A numerical evaluation of global oceanic emissions of α -pinene and isoprene” by G. Luo and F. Yu

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The authors thank the editor for the helpful comments. Our responses to the comments are given below.

As pointed out during this online review process, the lifetime of α -pinene is longer than that of isoprene. The boundary layer budget equation imposes an additional physical constraint on the relative ratio between isoprene and α -pinene fluxes. [E.g. $(\text{Flux}(\alpha\text{-pinene})/\text{Flux}(\text{isoprene})) \sim (\tau(\text{isoprene}) \cdot C(\alpha\text{-pinene})) / ((\tau(\alpha\text{-pinene}) \cdot C(\text{isoprene})))$]. Assuming comparable lifetimes (τ) and concentrations (C), the α -pinene flux would be expected to be in the same range as the isoprene flux. It needs to be explained why the modeled α -pinene flux is more than a factor of 10 higher than the modeled

isoprene flux, while their observed concentrations are very similar.

The explanation for the difference between the global oceanic emissions of α -pinene and isoprene has been discussed in the reply to referee 1. Detailed budget analysis for selected locations has been provided in the supplement.

Also, I was unable to find reference material on how monoterpene oxidation is incorporated in GEOS-CHEM (e.g. http://acmg.seas.harvard.edu/geos/wiki_docs/chemistry/chemistry_updates_v6.pdf). It will be helpful to the reader to include either a reference or an appendix that documents the chemical reactions which are considered for α -pinene/monoterpene oxidation.

In GESO-Chem, the monoterpene oxidation is treated in the code carbon_mod.f, while the isoprene oxidation is treated in SMVGEAR solver. The reaction rates of α -pinene with OH, O₃ and NO₃ are calculated as following:

$$KO3 = 56.15e-18 * EXP(ACT_O3 * (1.0/298.0 - 1.0/T))$$

$$KOH = 84.4e-12 * EXP(ACT_OH * (1.0/298.0 - 1.0/T))$$

$$KNO3 = 6.95e-12 * EXP(ACT_NO3 * (1.0/298.0 - 1.0/T))$$

where ACT_O3= 732.0, ACT_OH= -400.0 and ACT_NO3=-490.0, and T represent temperature in air.

The reaction rates of isoprene in GEOS-Chem with OH, O₃ and NO₃ are calculated as following:

$$KO3 = 1.05d-14 * EXP(-2000.d0 / T)$$

$$KOH = 2.70d-11 * EXP(390.d0 / T)$$

$$KNO3 = 3.03d-12 * EXP(-446.d0 / T)$$

The above reaction rates have been described in the supplement.

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