

## Response to Review 1

Comment: “The authors present a mechanistic study of toluene photooxidation. They focus on the chemistry of first and higher generation products from toluene photooxidation. As analytical tool they apply CF<sub>3</sub>O- CIMS. The results are compared to MCM3.31; and missing parts according to the new results were added /modified in two steps. These model improvements led to better consistency between the model results and measurements. Quantification was in parts inherently limited by absence of suited calibration compounds. Very positively, the authors put some efforts in characterizing the sensitivity of their CIMS for the expected compounds and compound classes. The authors also show the importance of higher generation product to SOA formation. The results are new and interesting, and as toluene is an abundant aromatic VOC, they are an important contribution for understanding VOC degradation and SOA formation in the atmosphere. The very interesting paper is well structured, and overall well written. However, I had some difficulties to follow some of the parts in the experimental section. I have the impression that this did not depend so much on the level of details that are given, but on notations and “unlucky” formulations. I think with a little effort that could be improved easily. I will list some examples below.”

Response: Thank you for the helpful comments and suggestions. As suggested, we have edited the experimental section to make it clearer. We have attached as a supplement a pdf file including a comparison between the ACPD version and the edited version for ease of viewing changes.

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Comment: “The scope of abstract and conclusion are not quite balanced. While the abstract focus more on o-cresol and benzaldehyde, the conclusion focus solely on 3-methyl catechol.”

Response: We have revised the conclusion to better balance the focus.

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Comment: “p.1, line 10: this sentence is somehow askew. It requires either reformulation or a reference to the yield 0.7, like “reported yield” or so.”

Response: We have added “reported yield” and included a reference.

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Comment: “Section 2.1 Experimental Design: here some info about the light source(s) is (are) missing: You refer to H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> photolysis as OH source on one hand, but later to jNO<sub>2</sub> as a measure of photooxidation and a light source to prevent NO<sub>3</sub> formation. I suggest, shortly to describe the main features / spectral dependence of your light source.”

Response: Thanks for this observation. We have added more description about the light source used in the Caltech chamber. Also we listed more photolysis rate constants and provided more description about how NO<sub>3</sub> photolysis impacts the results in this study.

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Comment: “p.5, line 1f: this is difficult to follow. Why do you speak about complex interaction when you obviously address the analyte\*CF<sub>3</sub>O complex. Similar the analyte\*F- adduct is formed by F transfer, but formation process and result are not identical. Also p.5, line 25 ff: “Traditionally, an analyte (A) is detected either at the F- transfer reaction (A+19) or complex formation (A+85).” Probably, better “detected” as “F- adduct” or “CF<sub>3</sub>O- complex”?!”

Response: Thanks for this observation. We have restructured this section and also revised the terminology we are using to make this clearer. As recommended, we revised the labeling to separate the terminology used for the formation process and the resulting ion. We also added in more reference to the reactions (R1-R6) to further define and remind the reader of the terminology used.

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Comment: “p.5, line 8: is the 500 ml glass bulb the FTIR cell ?”

Response: We apologize for the confusion. It is a separate glass bulb. We have revised this section to make this clearer.

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Comment: “p.5, line 14ff: I don’t understand what are result and consequence from these comparisons. Please, clarify.”

Response: Thanks for noticing this. We have revised this paragraph and the following paragraph to make the results and consequences for these comparisons clearer. In summary: There is only one study (Etzkorn et al. 1999) quantifying *o*-cresol with FT-IR. *o*-cresol is difficult to quantify because it is easily lost to surfaces, so we wanted to independently verify the Etzkorn et al. 1999 results. Since there are no similar studies for *o*-cresol, we compared the *m*-cresol results from Etzkorn et al., 1999 to those from PNNL.

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Comment: “p.5, line 20: I guess the bulb was meanwhile empty of *o*-cresol?”

Response: We have revised the text to be clearer. In summary: The FT-IR cell was filled with *o*-cresol. Then over more than an hour sequential FT-IR measurements were performed to monitor the loss of *o*-cresol to the glass cell walls.

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Comment: "p.5, line 28: it would be helpful to mention that "your" purified air is somewhat humid (RH?). Or is it O<sub>2</sub> in air vs N<sub>2</sub> that makes the difference?"

Response: We have removed this sentence and instead only referenced Table 2. We have also revised Table 2 and added in a note describing the approximate RH levels in the dry N<sub>2</sub> versus purified air.

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Comment: "p.5, line28: "Likely the presence of water destabilizes the molecular ion formed from CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> ionization leading to more fragmentation." I guess, you mean that the presence of water affects F<sup>-</sup> transfer adduct most?! Please clarify."

Response: We have revised this idea throughout the methods section to make this clearer. We have also decided to explain the F<sup>-</sup> transfer adduct as a fragment itself.

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Comment: "p.6, line4ff: I find the use of the word "consistent" difficult to misleading (here and at some instances). Please, check and maybe reformulate to be clearer."

Response: We have changed this instance of "consistant" to "stable" to avoid confusion. We also updated the use of "not consistent" when describing the 3-methyl catechol water calibration to "decreased".

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Comment: "p.6, line8: I guess you mean that a calibration with purified air at RH??, lead to the same results as dosing water to the system? Please, clarify."

Response: We apologize for the confusion. Your assumption is right; we have revised this sentence to make this clearer.

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Comment: "p.6, line20: "Unlike complex interactions, F<sup>-</sup> transfer reactions are increasingly likely to decompose into smaller fragments". Compare my comments above; I suggest to clearly separate the notation for the "formation process" and the "resulting ion""

Response: We have fixed this terminology throughout this section to be clear when we are describing the process of ionization versus when we are referring to an actual ion. Throughout the text to improve clarity, we now state "ion" whenever we are referring to the ion itself.

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Comment: “p.6, line22: “Unlike o-cresol, the sum of all unique signals and small fragmentation products for 3-methyl catechol is not consistent for the relative humidities used in these experiments.”, Again what does “consistent” mean here?”

Response: Here we changed “consistent” to “decreased as the relative humidity increased”. Also we revised the next sentence to further explain why this decrease occurred.

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Comment: “p.6, line26: I guess that is because the RH increases in the course of the experiments. Please, clarify.”

Response: We have changed “change” to “increase”, to be more explicit. The RH increases slightly over the course of the experiments because of minor leaks in the Teflon chamber walls.

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Comment: “p.7, line14: What is an array of signals?”

Response: We have revised this sentence for clarity. We meant that there was a wide variety of other signals as well as those mentioned in the previous paragraph.

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Comment: “p.10, line18: in Figure 3, you use notation “dihydroxy toluene”. Please make clearer that this is the same as 3-methyl catechol or replace it.”

Response: We apologize for the confusion. 3-methyl catechol is the dominant isomer of dihydroxy toluene. Our CIMS cannot differentiate between the isomers of dihydroxy toluene, so throughout most of the text we refer to “dihydroxy toluene” as dihydroxy toluene since the isomers are not known. We refer to 3-methyl catechol when we inject it into the chamber because then the exact isomer is known. We have revised the description in figure 3 to clarify this and also added in more description in the second paragraph of section 3.1.

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Comment: “p.10, line 21: the info that this referring to the high NOX experiment and Figure 4 is missing.”

Response: We added in “under high-NO conditions” and referenced Figures 4 and 10b&d as suggested.



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Comment: “p.13, line 28: Shouldn’t the yield be dependent on the organic mass produced? Please, discuss more. “

Response: We have added in several sentences to better explain the method we choose to estimate the contribution of cresol to toluene SOA. Mainly, the experiments in this study were specifically designed to investigate chemistry rather than SOA yields. SOA yield studies are performed differently than the studies used in this work. For example, most experiments in this study were performed without seed aerosol. Instead we use the SOA yields measured by Zhang et al., 2014; These experiments were specifically designed to measure SOA yields and take into account particle and vapor wall losses.

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Comment: “p.14, line11: typo “theoretical””

Response: Thanks, this has been corrected.

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Comment: “p.14, line22: maybe better “increasing OH substitution”?”

Response: Thanks, this has been revised as suggested.

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Comment: “p.14, line 26: this sentence is difficult to follow, please reformulate.”

Response: This sentence has been reformulated.

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Comment: “p.14, line 29: “favors” the O2 reactions channel, maybe better.”

Response: We have restructured this sentence.

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Comment: “p.17, line 20: typo, These isomers. . .”

Response: We left this as isomer(s) to represent that this could be one isomer or several isomers. We cannot be certain with the present technique how many different isomers are present.

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Comment: “p.18, line 24: I understood you destroyed NO<sub>3</sub> by visible light (p3, line 25)?”

Response: We apologize for the confusion. We have revised this paragraph to better explain our reasoning. Also we have added in the methods section the rate constant for NO<sub>3</sub> photolysis and explained the type of lights used.

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Comment: “p.19, line 17: do you mean “expected”?”

Response: We changed “suspected” to “assumed”. Our point in using “assumed” is that we only know that various decomposition products form, and we “assume” or “suspect” they are from the bicyclic intermediate pathway, but this is based on other studies. Unfortunately, our CIMS is not sensitive to the bicyclic intermediate product.

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Comment: “p.19, line 19: I cannot relate these statements to what is shown in Figure 5 and 6. There are more than two, i.e. many products generated via bicyclic pathway.”

Response: We apologize for the confusion. We have revised this terminology to state that two product types form: a functionalized ketone/aldehyde and an unfunctionalized ketone/aldehyde.

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Comment: “p.19, line 27: I don’t understand Figure S4 and its caption. What is matching and not matching in this Figure?”

Response: We have added another couple sentences in the supplement to describe this figure. See last paragraph of Section S1.

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Comment: “Suppl. p.7, line1: if it is just the branching, the modelled sum should be ok. It looks like it, does it?!”

Response: For clarity, we added a reminder here that phenyl hydroperoxide was not detected by the CIMS either because it does not form or is not stable in the ion chemistry of the  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}^-$  CIMS as stated in the main text. If the phenyl hydroperoxide forms and is not detected by the CIMS then yes you are right the sum of peroxybenzoic acid and benzoic acid for both the experimental data and kinetic model results are fairly similar. However, if phenyl hydroperoxide does not form, then the kinetic model predicts more products than are detected by the CIMS.

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Comment: "Suppl. p.7, line 9: typo "Nitrosophenol""

Response: Thanks, this has been corrected.

## Response Review 2

Comment: “General This is a very interesting and impressive paper on the oxidation of cresol studied at the Caltech chamber. Generally, it contains a wealth of new findings extending the knowledge on aromatics oxidation considerably. Apparently, despite the study of aromatics oxidation over some decades now, this appears another field where the now available mass spectrometric techniques allow for the identification of reaction products which have not been identified before, especially for low NO conditions - but see and consider the note below. On the other hand, the paper confirms a lot of findings as they are implemented into the MCM 3.3.1, many of them for high NO conditions which are expected to be met in regions where aromatic VOC emissions coincide with elevated NO and NO<sub>x</sub> levels. It seems that especially for low NO conditions many new observations are made but the authors should include into their paper a discussion where conditions with low NO enabling preference of ROO + HO<sub>2</sub> over ROO + NO can really be met. The paper has the potential to deliver valuable changes and additions to chemical schemes such as the MCM 3.3.1. as it contains information of the formation of products in oxidation generations beyond one and two.”

Response: Thanks for your helpful comments and suggestions. To address your main question (where/when is the chemistry described in this work most relevant?) and to put the work in broader context we have added an atmospheric relevance section (new Section 5) after the discussion section. Also we have added text to Section 3.1 and updated Figures 3 and 4 to better articulate that the main products from 3-methyl catechol oxidation are produced under both low- and high-NO conditions. We have attached as a supplement to the reviewer 1 response a pdf file including a comparison between the ACPD version and our edited version for ease of viewing changes.

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Comment: “p3, line 27: While it is understandable to avoid further complications during the present study, it would be extremely interesting to do a similar study at higher RH and then see the coupling to aqueous chemistry”

Response: We agree and hope that future studies will expand this work to better understand the coupling to aqueous chemistry.

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Comment: “p18, section 4.2.4: Maybe a reference can be given for the classic formation of the endo-peroxide? I wonder if a intramolecular H-shift could occur in systems like the peroxy / endoperoxides at the different stages of the mechanisms discussed so that a hydroperoxide might form from this and not only by + HO<sub>2</sub> / - O<sub>2</sub>? Maybe it would be timeöy to discuss such possibility.”

Response: Yes, a reference has been added for the classic formation of the endo-peroxide. Thank you for this suggestion. We have added reference to a possible H-shift that might occur prior to formation of the bicyclic intermediate peroxy radical in section 4.2.4 and section 4.1. Because

this H-shift is suggested to be negligible for the phenol system from theoretical work by Xie et al., 2013, we also assume that products from this pathway will be negligible in this work. Given the large number of compounds detected in this work separating out possible products from the H-shift pathway from other pathways already discussed is speculative. Unfortunately, we cannot experimentally verify that this H-shift is minimal.

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Comment: "Figure 3: The main additions here are on the catechol oxidation."

Response: Yes, this is true. The detected first-generation products from cresol oxidation are consistent with other studies. Identification of the second- and later- generation products from cresol oxidation is the focus of this work.

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Comment: "Figure 4: I do not understand "See Figure 2 " written at the catechol up right in the scheme. Probabyl this should be 'Figure 3 ' ? Please explain / correct."

Response: We apologize for the confusion. This is a typo and has been fixed. Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

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Comment: "References: I wonder if the paper PAN, Shan-Shan, and Li-Ming WANG. "The Atmospheric Oxidation Mechanism of o-Xylene Initiated by Hydroxyl Radicals." Acta Physico-Chimica Sinica 31.12 (2015): 2259-2268. should be mentioned because it contains remarkable recent considerations on xylene oxidation"

Response: We have referenced this paper in section 4.2.4 while responding to comment 3.

# Formation of Highly Oxygenated Low-Volatility Products from Cresol Oxidation

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**Abstract.** Hydroxyl radical (OH) oxidation of toluene produces the ring-retaining products cresol and benzaldehyde, and the ring-opening products bicyclic intermediate compounds and epoxides. Here, first- and later-generation OH oxidation products from cresol and benzaldehyde are identified in laboratory chamber experiments. For benzaldehyde, first-generation ring-retaining products are identified, but later-generation products are not detected. For cresol, low-volatility (saturation mass concentration,  $C^* \sim 3.5 \times 10^4 - 7.7 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) first- and later-generation ring-retaining products are identified. Subsequent OH addition to the aromatic ring of *o*-cresol leads to compounds such as hydroxy, dihydroxy, and trihydroxy methyl benzoquinones and dihydroxy, trihydroxy, tetrahydroxy, and pentahydroxy toluenes. These products are detected in the gas phase by chemical ionization mass spectrometry (CIMS) and in the particle phase using offline direct analysis in real time mass spectrometry (DART-MS). Our data suggest that the yield of trihydroxy toluene from dihydroxy toluene is substantial. While an exact yield cannot be reported as authentic standards are unavailable, we find that a yield for trihydroxy toluene from dihydroxy toluene of  $\sim 0.7$  (equal to the reported yield of dihydroxy toluene from *o*-cresol (Olariu et al., 2002)) is consistent with experimental results for *o*-cresol oxidation under low-NO conditions. These results suggest that even though the cresol pathway accounts for only  $\sim 20\%$  of the oxidation products of toluene, it is the source of a significant fraction ( $\sim 20\text{-}40\%$ ) of toluene secondary organic aerosol (SOA) due to the formation of low-volatility products.

## 15 1 Introduction

Aromatic compounds are emitted from both anthropogenic (e.g., solvent use and motor vehicle exhaust) and natural (e.g., wildfires) processes. Oxidation of aromatic compounds leads to the formation of ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) and secondary organic aerosol

(SOA) (Calvert et al., 2002, and references therein). Despite the number of studies performed, the spectrum of gas-phase aromatic oxidation products remains incomplete, especially those of later generation and those responsible for producing secondary organic aerosol. Toluene, one of the principal aromatic compounds present in the atmosphere, is emitted from both anthropogenic processes (~60%) and biofuel/biomass burning (~40%) (Henze et al., 2008). Chamber studies have measured particularly high SOA mass yields (0.9-1.6  $\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{g}$ ) from toluene (Zhang et al., 2014) when correcting for vapor wall loss using the Statistical Oxidation Model. Modeling studies, using SOA yields that do not account for vapor wall loss (e.g., 0.1-0.3  $\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{g}$ , (Ng et al., 2007)), estimated that toluene SOA contributes ~4% of the total SOA produced globally (Henze et al., 2008). Incorporation of the updated SOA yields is expected to increase the calculated significance of toluene to the global SOA budget.

Hydroxyl radical (OH) oxidation of toluene takes place via four pathways, yielding benzaldehyde, cresol, bicyclic intermediates, and epoxides (Figure 1). Identification of subsequent gas-phase oxidation products from the benzaldehyde and cresol pathways is the focus of this work. These ring-retaining compounds are likely to lead to SOA if the ring is retained during subsequent oxidation. Since OH addition to the aromatic ring of toluene increases the reaction rate constant for subsequent OH addition (Calvert et al., 2002), this chemistry accelerates the path to highly oxidized products.

Benzaldehyde forms as a result of hydrogen abstraction from the methyl group of toluene. Reported benzaldehyde yields from toluene oxidation are relatively consistent in the range of 0.053-0.12 (Calvert et al., 2002, and references therein). MCM v3.3.1 recommends a yield of 0.07, which is in the middle of this range (Jenkin et al., 2003; Bloss et al., 2005).

Cresol is produced from OH addition to the aromatic ring of toluene with subsequent  $\text{O}_2$  addition and  $\text{HO}_2$  elimination. Measured yields of cresol from toluene oxidation range from 0.03 to 0.385 (Calvert et al., 2002, and references therein) with several studies converging to a yield of 0.18 (Klotz et al., 1998; Smith et al., 1998). A recent theoretical study suggests a cresol yield of 0.32 (Wu et al., 2014). Cresol yields from OH oxidation of toluene are difficult to measure quantitatively because cresol is prone to losses (e.g., to sampling tubing) that are dependent on the measurement technique (Klotz et al., 1998). Once formed, cresol ( $k_{\text{OH}} \sim 5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) reacts much faster with OH than its precursor toluene ( $k_{\text{OH}} = 6 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) (Calvert et al., 2002). Nakao et al. (2012) detected products in the particle phase indicative of successive OH addition to the aromatic ring of *o*-cresol (i.e.,  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{O}_5$ ) and phenol and estimated that the cresol pathway contributes ~20% of SOA produced from toluene. Most studies (Olariu et al., 2002; Caralp et al., 1999) have focused on monitoring first-generation products from cresol and benzaldehyde in the gas-phase, but not second- and third- generation products. The goal of this work is to identify gas-phase pathways and specific oxidization products important for toluene SOA formation by monitoring later-generation products in the gas phase and linking these products to those detected in the particle phase.

## 2 Methods

Chamber experiments were performed to study products from toluene OH oxidation under both low- and high-NO conditions. In order to explore later-generation chemistry and identify important precursors for SOA, later-generation ring-retaining products were also used as the initial precursor.

### 5 2.1 Experimental Design

All experiments were performed in the 24 m<sup>3</sup> Teflon chambers at the Caltech dual chamber facility. Low- and high-NO experiments were carried out in separate chambers to avoid contamination of NO and related compounds in the low-NO chamber. The chambers were flushed with purified air for 24 h prior to each experiment. Purified air is generated by removing volatile organic carbon, ozone, nitrogen oxides, and water vapor from compressed air. Experiments oxidizing toluene, *o*-cresol, 3-methyl catechol, and benzaldehyde under low- and high-NO conditions were performed (Table 1). For all experiments, hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) as an OH source was injected first by flowing purified air through a glass bulb heated to 36°C; 2 ppm of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was used for all gas-phase and high-NO particle-phase experiments, and 4 ppm H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was used for low-NO particle-phase experiments.

After addition of the oxidant, the volatile organic compound (VOC) was injected. Toluene (99.8% purity) and benzaldehyde (≥ 99% purity) were injected into a glass bulb using a gas-tight syringe. Purified air was passed into the glass bulb and subsequently injected into the chamber at 5 L min<sup>-1</sup>. A weighed amount of *o*-cresol (99.5% purity) was heated to 49°C, and an excess amount of 3-methyl catechol (98% purity) was heated to 36°C while purified air was passed into a glass bulb. A water bath was used to provide consistent heating.

For high-NO experiments, NO (501 ppm in N<sub>2</sub>, Scott Specialty Gases) was injected into the chamber using a calibrated mass flow controller at the start of the experiment, and continuously throughout the experiment. The goal of the continuous NO injection was to control the amount of NO present during the experiment, such that the level of NO<sub>x</sub> remained as low as possible. A kinetic model is used to verify that these experimental conditions are relevant to the atmosphere (see Section 2.3).

For experiments in which particle-phase sampling was performed, the last step included atomization of 0.06 M ammonium sulfate through a <sup>210</sup>Po neutralizer and into the chamber. Photooxidation was initiated at least 1 h after all injections were complete to ensure adequate mixing. UV lights centered ~350 nm are used in the Caltech chamber. The calculated photolysis rates for NO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, and NO<sub>3</sub> are 4.4 × 10<sup>-3</sup>, 3.2 × 10<sup>-6</sup>, and 2.3 × 10<sup>-3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. Because the UV lights emit only a low amount of visible light, NO<sub>3</sub> photolysis is low and uncertain in the chamber. NO<sub>3</sub> forms in the chamber and reacts rapidly with a number of compounds present, so lights remained on until all filters had been collected to ensure photolysis of NO<sub>3</sub> and more importantly continued generation of OH.

Some studies (Tan et al., 2009; Lim et al., 2010) have implicated glyoxal, an OH oxidation product of toluene, in SOA formation under humid conditions, and one study suggested that glyoxal leads to enhanced SOA growth by increasing OH concentrations rather than directly forming aerosol (Nakao et al., 2012). In the present study, all experiments were carried



out under dry conditions (RH < 10%) to simplify gas-phase measurements and to focus on the later-generation low-volatility products that form in the gas phase and partition to the particle phase.

In experiment 9, all procedures were the same as described in the preceding paragraphs, but after 1.5 h of photooxidation, lights were turned off. While lights were off, the decay of 3-methyl catechol oxidation products due to wall deposition was measured. In experiment 10, all procedures were the same as described above, but lights were turned on for only 3.2 h. Once an adequate level of oxidation products from 3-methyl catechol oxidation was generated, the chamber experiment was ended and purified air was sampled by the CIMS to monitor the desorption of 3-methyl catechol oxidation products off the CIMS walls.

## 2.2 Chamber Instrumentation

Commercial instruments were used to monitor toluene, nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), relative humidity (RH), and temperature. Toluene was monitored by a gas chromatograph with a flame ionization detector (GC-FID, Agilent 6890N, HP-5 column). NO<sub>x</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> were monitored by a Teledyne T200 NO<sub>x</sub> monitor and Horiba APOA-360 O<sub>3</sub> monitor, respectively. A Vaisala HMM211 probe was used to monitor temperature and RH. Gas-phase oxidized compounds were detected via a CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> Chemical Ionization Mass Spectrometer (CIMS) (Section 2.2.1). Particle-phase compounds were monitored using high-resolution direct analysis in real time mass spectrometry (DART-MS) from filters collected at the end of each experiment (Section 2.2.2).

### 2.2.1 CIMS Description and Calibration

A chemical ionization mass spectrometer (CIMS) was used to monitor oxidized organic compounds in the gas-phase. The CIMS uses a custom-modified triple quadrupole mass analyzer (Varian 1200) (St. Clair et al., 2010). The instrument was operated in both negative and positive mode using CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> and H<sub>3</sub>O·(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub><sup>+</sup>, respectively, as the reagent ions. A compound (A) with an affinity for fluorine interacts with CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> to form a complex (R1) or to fragment (e.g., R2-R5). The F<sup>-</sup> transfer (R2), which occurs typically for acidic compounds, is the dominant fragmentation process. A compound is detected at its molecular weight + 85 for the complex ion and + 19 for the F<sup>-</sup> transfer ion. In positive mode, H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> typically interacts with a compound along with 0–n water molecules to form a complex ion at the molecular weight +(18n + 1) (R6). Other ions (e.g., NO<sup>+</sup>) also cluster in positive mode complicating interpretation of signals. The reactions are:





More detail about the ion chemistry of the CIMS is provided in St. Clair et al. (2010), Crouse et al. (2006), and Paulot et al. (2009). Positive mode was used to monitor the decay of benzaldehyde, which is not detected in negative mode. Negative mode was normalized by the total number of reagent ions. Signals were not normalized for positive mode, because the total reagent ions ( $H_3O^+$  and its water clusters) cannot be monitored.

MS/MS mode was used to confirm the identity of certain products and to separate isobaric compounds. In MS/MS mode, only ions formed from the complex (R1) will produce a  $CF_3O^-$  daughter ( $m/z = (-)85$ ). Ions formed from the  $F^-$  transfer produce an  $A_{(-H)}^-$  daughter ( $m/z = \text{molecular weight of the analyte} - 1$ ). Detection of the  $A_{(-H)}^-$  daughter and not the  $CF_3O^-$  daughter confirms the ion forms from a  $F^-$  transfer and the analyte is acidic. The structural information provided by MS/MS mode helps correctly identify compounds.

The CIMS was calibrated using *o*-cresol. An excess amount of *o*-cresol was heated at 46°C in a glass bulb.  $N_2$  was blown into this glass bulb and then directed into a Teflon pillow bag to produce a concentrated mixture containing ~80 ppm of *o*-cresol. A 500 mL glass bulb was filled from this concentrated bag. Fourier transform infrared absorption (FT-IR) spectroscopy (pathlength 19 cm) was used to determine the concentration in the bulb. Part of the *o*-cresol sample in this bulb was lost in order to fill the FT-IR cell, the rest was used to create a dilute pillow bag (~200 ppb). The dilute pillow bag was filled with either dry  $N_2$  or the same purified air used to fill the large 24 m<sup>3</sup> Teflon chambers. This dilute pillow bag was then sampled by the CIMS.

Independent of the calibrations described above, the loss of *o*-cresol to the glass FT-IR cell walls over time was measured by filling the FT-IR cell with *o*-cresol and monitoring the decay. ~8% was lost in the first 10 min and ~24% after ~1 h. Within 10 min of the FT-IR sample collection, the glass bulb was flushed into the dilute pillow bag. If wall deposition of *o*-cresol is reversible, the *o*-cresol that deposited on the wall would be flushed into the pillow bag. Because the extent of reversibility of *o*-cresol wall loss is unknown, a correction for wall loss was not applied, but instead added as uncertainty (8%). The *o*-cresol integrated cross section for region 3145-2824 cm<sup>-1</sup> measured by Etzkorn et al. (1999) was used for quantification. To our knowledge there are no other reported FT-IR quantifications of *o*-cresol. In order to estimate the uncertainty in the *o*-cresol quantification by Etzkorn et al. (1999), the *m*-cresol quantification from Etzkorn et al. (1999) (region 3178-2706 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and that from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) (Sharpe et al., 2004) were compared. The absorption spectra for *o*-cresol and *m*-cresol in this region only partially align, but the integrated cross sections measured by Etzkorn et al. (1999)

are similar ( $12.7 \times 10^{-18}$  and  $12.6 \times 10^{-18}$  cm molec<sup>-1</sup>, respectively). The PNNL calibration (1 ppm) is 28% lower than the Etzkorn et al. (1999) calibration (1.39 ppm). The total uncertainty for the *o*-cresol sensitivity is then estimated as 36%, a combination of the uncertainty in the FT-IR quantification (28%) and loss of *o*-cresol during the calibration (8%).

As stated above, CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> interacts with an analyte (A) to form a complex (R1) or to fragment (e.g., R2-R5). *o*-Cresol predominantly forms a complex ion with CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> (Table 2). The distribution of the detected signals for each analyte is dependent on the stability of the molecular ion (CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> · A). This stability is RH dependent (Table 2). Fragmentation to ions other than those described by R2-R5 is possible. These small ions cannot be used to determine the concentration of a compound because they are not uniquely formed from one compound. Instead the complex ion (R1) and all possible unique fragment ions (R2-R5) were considered in determining the concentration of a compound. Because the degree of fragmentation is dependent on the stability of the molecular ion, which is dependent on RH, the proportion of signals produced from R1-R5 needs to be known for all water levels used in the experiments. The influence of water on the distribution of *o*-cresol signals was determined by sampling a sustained amount of *o*-cresol and sequentially adding more water to the CIMS sampling inlet. The sum of all signals (i.e., complex ion (R1) and unique (R2-R5) and non-unique fragment ions) for *o*-cresol is stable over the range of relative humidities used in these experiments (Table 1). The CIMS sensitivity (including only unique signals (R1-R5)) determined from the FT-IR dry N<sub>2</sub> (RH <1%) calibration was corrected for the influence of water in the purified air (RH ~1-3%). This approach was within 10% of the FT-IR calibration, in which purified air was used to fill the dilute pillow bag instead of dry N<sub>2</sub>. The water correction for *o*-cresol is minor. The CIMS sensitivity decreases by < 1% due to the slight RH increase over the course of the experiments.

3-methyl catechol calibration was attempted using the same FT-IR method as *o*-cresol. However, because the vapor pressure of 3-methyl catechol ( $6.8 \times 10^{-6}$  atm) is much lower than that of *o*-cresol ( $3.9 \times 10^{-4}$  atm) (Table 3), preparation of a sufficiently concentrated pillow bag for FT-IR quantification was not possible. Instead, the sensitivities of *o*-cresol and 3-methyl catechol were assumed to be the same in dry N<sub>2</sub> when including the sum of all detected signals (i.e., complex ion (R1) and unique (R2-R5) and non-unique fragment ions) with a correction for the difference in the ion-molecule collision rate between the compounds. The ion-molecule collision rate (dependent on the molecular weight, dipole moment, and polarizability of two colliding molecules) was estimated using the technique explained in Su and Chesnavich (1982) (see Section S1 and Tables S1 and S2 of the supplemental information for more details).

3-methyl catechol, which is more acidic than *o*-cresol, dominantly interacts with CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> to undergo an F<sup>-</sup> transfer (R2, Table 2). Already a fragment, the F<sup>-</sup> transfer ion is less stable than the complex ion and increasingly likely to decompose into smaller fragment ions as the mixing ratio of water increases (Table 2). The influence of water vapor on the sensitivity of 3-methyl catechol was measured in the same manner as that of *o*-cresol. Unlike *o*-cresol, the sum of all detected signals for 3-methyl catechol decreased as the relative humidity increased. Likely at higher water levels, more fragment ions formed below the detection limit ( $m/z = (-)50$ ) of the CIMS. The sensitivity (including only unique signals (R1-R5)) decreased over the course of the experiments more for 3-methyl catechol (9-15%) than for *o*-cresol (<1%).

Because the CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> chemical ionization process for 3-methyl catechol exhibits more fragmentation and dependence on water than *o*-cresol, extrapolating the sensitivities to other more oxidized compounds (e.g., trihydroxy toluene) has a high degree

of uncertainty. The fragmentation and water dependence could exceed that for 3-methyl catechol. No authentic standards for trihydroxy toluene are currently available. However, two isomers (5-methyl-benzene-1,2,3-triol and 2,4,6-trihydroxytoluene) of trihydroxy toluene from Sigma's "collection of rare and unique chemicals" are available. Because Sigma does not validate the identity and purity of these compounds, these compounds were used only to examine the ion chemistry on the CIMS.

5 Purified air was flowed through a heated ( $\sim 60$ - $150^\circ\text{C}$ ) glass bulb containing each compound into a Teflon pillow bag. Due to the low volatility (saturation mass concentration,  $C^* \sim 340 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) of these compounds, introducing detectable amounts into the gas phase without decomposition was extremely difficult.

2,4,6-trihydroxy toluene seemed to be more stable and a higher signal was achieved compared to 5-methyl-benzene-1,2,3-triol. Only major signals for 5-methyl-benzene-1,2,3-triol were above the noise and reported. For 2,4,6-trihydroxy toluene in  
10 MS/MS mode,  $m/z$  (-)159 produced the  $m/z$  (-)139 daughter but not the  $m/z$  (-)115 daughter, and  $m/z$  (-)225 produced the  $m/z$  (-)205 daughter and only minor amounts of the  $m/z$  (-)85 daughter. In MS mode, 2,4,6-trihydroxy toluene produced the following signals  $m/z$  (-)225  $\sim$  205  $>$  159  $>$  139 as well as many signals attributed to decomposition products or impurities (e.g., acetic acid). Although the signal intensity for 5-methyl-benzene-1,2,3-triol was low in MS/MS mode, which is less sensitive than MS mode, the signal intensity was sufficient to verify that  $m/z$  (-)159 produces the  $m/z$  (-)139 daughter. In MS  
15 mode, 5-methyl-benzene-1,2,3-triol produced the following signals  $m/z$  (-)205  $\sim$  159  $>$  225  $>$  139 and also produced a number of decomposition products or impurities (e.g., formic acid).

The CIMS detected many additional signals from these standards, which are likely caused by impurities, decomposition outside of the CIMS due to heating, and fragmentation inside the CIMS during chemical ionization. When the standards were introduced into the pillow bag at different temperatures, the ratio of these compounds to the  $m/z$  (-)159 (trihydroxy  
20 toluene) signal was not consistent, suggesting these signals are largely due to impurities or decomposition outside of the CIMS. Fragmentation inside the CIMS during ionization would produce relatively consistent product fractions. Further understanding of the fragmentation occurring inside the instrument for trihydroxy toluene was unattainable owing to the high signals of impurities and decomposition products.

The sensitivity (all unique signals) determined for *o*-cresol was assumed to extend directly to the following compounds:  
25 methyl hydroxy benzoquinone, methyl nitrophenol, benzoic acid, peroxy benzoic acid, phenyl hydroperoxide, nitrophenol, and dinitrophenol with a correction for the ion-molecule collision rate (Table S1). Similarly, the sensitivity (all unique signals) determined for 3-methyl catechol was assumed to extend directly to trihydroxy toluene, tetrahydroxy toluene, dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone, and dihydroxy nitrotoluene with a correction for the ion-molecule collision rate (Table S1). To the extent possible, all signals (complex, transfer, and potential unique fragmentation products (R1-R5)) for these compounds were used  
30 to determine their mixing ratio.

During toluene oxidation, *m*-cresol and *p*-cresol also form. *o*-, *m*-, and *p*-cresol all produce similar amounts of non-unique fragmentation products in purified air (89-91%). Therefore, the slight difference in the ion-molecule collision rate (Table S1) and the isomer distribution produced during toluene oxidation (Klotz et al., 1998) was used to calculate a general cresol sensitivity.

## 2.2.2 DART-MS Description

SOA was collected during the final 4 h of experiments at  $24 \text{ L min}^{-1}$  on a Teflon membrane filter (47 mm,  $1.0 \mu\text{m}$  pore size, Pall Life Sciences). The filters were analyzed by high-resolution direct analysis in real time mass spectrometry (DART-MS, JEOL, Inc.). A DART source is a low-temperature He plasma that generates primarily  $[\text{A}+\text{H}]^+$  ions through proton transfer reactions between the analyte, A, and ionized ambient water vapor ( $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ ) (Cody et al., 2005; Cody, 2009). Samples are introduced directly into the DART stream, between the end of the DART source and the mass spectrometer inlet. A portion of the filter membrane was cut free from the support ring using a stainless steel scalpel and wrapped in a spiral around the barrel of a glass Pasteur pipet. The pipet was rotated slowly in the DART stream to warm the glass and desorb organic material gently from the Teflon filter. Each sample was cut and analyzed in triplicate. The final data are an average of these three replicates. Additional analysis details and interpreted mass spectral data corrected to remove background ions are provided in Section S3 of the Supplemental Information.

With such a broad spectrum of compounds and the absence of synthetic standards, only ions with signals well above the background were selected for analysis. Ions with signals  $> 10\%$  of the maximum ion signal (experiments 14 and 15) or second maximum ion signal (experiment 13) were selected. In experiment 13, the second maximum signal was used for peak selection instead of the first because the first maximum ion signal dominated the mass spectrum (i.e.,  $>6$  times any other ion signal). The accurate  $m/z$  of each selected ion was assigned a chemical formula using ChemCalc (Patiny and Borel, 2013). This chemical formula was adjusted to its neutral form, and given a proposed structure based on the Master Chemical Mechanism (MCM) v3.3.1 (Jenkin et al., 2003; Bloss et al., 2005) toluene photooxidation mechanism, previously reported components of toluene SOA (Calvert et al., 2002; Olariu et al., 2002; Sato et al., 2007; Jang and Kamens, 2001; Nakao et al., 2011), and gas-phase photooxidation products detected here by the CIMS.

DART-generated signal intensity for a given compound is proportional to the product of its vapor pressure, proton affinity, and concentration (Nilles et al., 2009; Schilling Fahnstock et al., 2015; Chan et al., 2013). Because the ion intensity is proportional to the vapor pressure, the vapor pressure of each compound needs to be known or estimated. Estimates of vapor pressures for low-volatility compounds have higher uncertainty due to lower availability and accuracy of experimental data (Barley and McFiggans, 2010; O'Meara et al., 2014; Kurten et al., 2016). Thus, the results presented for the DART-MS analysis should be interpreted only qualitatively.

Two vapor pressure estimation methods are used here: 1) the Estimation of Vapor Pressure of Organics, Accounting for Temperature, Intramolecular, and Non-additivity Effects (EVAPORATION) method (Compernelle et al., 2011) and; 2) the method of Nannoolal et al. (2004, 2008). Both methods have online tools available for estimating the vapor pressure at [http://tropo.aeronomie.be/models/evaporation\\_run.htm](http://tropo.aeronomie.be/models/evaporation_run.htm) and [http://www.aim.env.uea.ac.uk/aim/ddbst/pcalc\\_main.php](http://www.aim.env.uea.ac.uk/aim/ddbst/pcalc_main.php), respectively. The EVAPORATION and Nannoolal methods are compatible with molecules containing oxygen-based functional groups and nitrates. Unlike the Nannoolal method, the EVAPORATION method has not been optimized for aromatic compounds, while the Nannoolal method cannot be used for diketones. Thus, EVAPORATION is used for all non-aromatic compounds and Nannoolal is used for all aromatics.

## 2.3 Kinetic Model

The chamber experiments were simulated with a kinetic model containing all reactions related to toluene from MCM v3.3.1 (Jenkin et al., 2003; Bloss et al., 2005), via <http://mcm.leeds.ac.uk/MCM>. Version 1 of the kinetic model includes all MCM v3.3.1 reactions relevant to toluene oxidation and inorganic chemistry, as well as experimentally measured wall deposition rates of *o*-cresol and dihydroxy toluene. Version 2 includes all reactions in Version 1 as well as photolysis of hydroxy nitrotoluene and dihydroxy nitrotoluene. Version 3 includes all reactions in Version 2 as well as additional oxidation reactions for dihydroxy toluene and benzaldehyde. Additional discussion of the kinetic model, including a list of reactions, is provided in Section S2 of the Supplemental information.

The kinetic model was used to evaluate the extent to which chamber conditions are representative of those in the atmosphere. The two main concerns in chamber studies performed under high-NO conditions are high NO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>3</sub> levels. Upon reaction with OH, a VOC forms an OH-VOC adduct, that will react with either NO<sub>2</sub> or O<sub>2</sub>. Under atmospherically relevant conditions, the OH-VOC adduct reacts predominantly with O<sub>2</sub>. The NO<sub>2</sub> reading on the NO<sub>x</sub> monitor used in this study includes all NO<sub>y</sub> products (e.g., organic nitrates, HNO<sub>3</sub>, HONO, and NO<sub>2</sub>). Instead of using the NO<sub>x</sub> monitor, the kinetic model was used to predict the maximum NO<sub>2</sub> concentration. OH-*o*-cresol and OH-3-methyl catechol adducts are assumed to react at the same rate with NO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> as OH-*m*-cresol adduct (Koch et al., 2007), and the OH-benzaldehyde adduct was assumed to react with NO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> at the same rate as the OH-toluene adduct (Koch et al., 2007). The percent of OH-VOC adduct reacting with NO<sub>2</sub> versus O<sub>2</sub> for each experiment is presented in Table S5. For gas-phase experiments, the percentage of the OH-VOC adduct reacting with NO<sub>2</sub> was <6%. The higher loading necessary for the filter analysis required larger amounts of NO<sub>x</sub> for the particle-phase experiments, for which the percentage of OH-VOC reacting with NO<sub>2</sub> was <10%.

Both *o*-cresol ( $1.4 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , (Atkinson et al., 1992)) and 3-methyl catechol ( $1.7 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , (Olariu et al., 2004)) react rapidly with NO<sub>3</sub>. For the toluene high-NO experiments, a substantial amount of 3-methyl catechol and *o*-cresol is predicted to react with NO<sub>3</sub> (e.g., as much as 80% for the particle-phase experiments, Table S5). Caution is needed when interpreting results for high-NO oxidation conditions as both NO<sub>3</sub> and OH oxidation occur. In the present work, when starting with *o*-cresol or 3-methyl catechol, the percentage reacting with NO<sub>3</sub> was minor (e.g., < 4% for *o*-cresol for Experiment 5, Table S5). The kinetic model was also used to verify that RO<sub>2</sub> + RO<sub>2</sub> reactions were minimized for all experiments (Table S5). For example, in the toluene low-NO experiments, RO<sub>2</sub> + RO<sub>2</sub> reactions for the gas-phase and particle-phase experiments were estimated to be <12% and <18%, respectively, of all RO<sub>2</sub> pathways.

## 3 Results

Toluene reacts with OH to form both ring-retaining products (cresol and benzaldehyde) and ring-opening products (bicyclic intermediate compounds and epoxides) (Figure 1). Later generation gas-phase oxidation products from the ring-retaining pathways are identified. These oxidation products have a range of volatilities ( $C^* \sim 5 \times 10^5 - 7.7 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Compounds with the lower volatilities are detected in the particle phase, implying that the ring-retaining pathways are important for SOA formation. In order to monitor later generation products and constrain the pathways from which products emerge, oxidation



of first-generation products (*o*-cresol and benzaldehyde) and second-generation products (3-methyl catechol) was performed under both high- and low-NO conditions.

### 3.1 *o*-Cresol Oxidation

Previous studies generally recommend a  $\sim 0.18$  yield of cresol (total of all isomers) from the toluene + OH pathway (Klotz et al., 1998; Smith et al., 1998) (Figure 1). The kinetic model (Version 1) assuming a 0.18 yield predicts cresol levels within the uncertainties of the CIMS measurements under both low- and high-NO conditions (Figure 2). As noted, version 1 of the kinetic model includes all MCM v3.3.1 reactions related to toluene and wall deposition (see Section 4.2.1) of *o*-cresol and dihydroxy toluene. An approximate cresol yield ( $\sim 0.2$ ) was calculated using the equation of Olariu et al. (2002) and the decay of toluene, rise in cresol, and accounting for losses of cresol from wall deposition and reaction with OH. The yield was calculated only under low-NO conditions. Under high-NO conditions, the correction for *o*-cresol reaction with NO<sub>3</sub> adds more uncertainty (Figure 2). The yield determined here is similar to that of other studies (Klotz et al., 1998; Smith et al., 1998).

The *o*-cresol oxidation mechanism in MCM v3.3.1, based on Olariu et al. (2002), is shown in black in Figure 3 for low-NO conditions and in Figure 4 for high-NO conditions. OH reacts with *o*-cresol via hydrogen abstraction to form a methyl phenoxy radical or addition to form either a bicyclic intermediate product or dihydroxy toluene. The reported dominant isomer of dihydroxy toluene is 3-methyl catechol (Olariu et al., 2002). Because the CIMS cannot explicitly separate different isomers, dihydroxy toluene is used throughout this work to represent all isomers. 3-methyl catechol is used when an explicit isomer is known (e.g., 3-methyl catechol was injected into the chamber). In experiment 4, in which 29 ppb of toluene was oxidized, the maximum detected mixing ratio of dihydroxy toluene was only  $\sim 0.2$  ppb (Figure 2), emphasizing the importance of starting with later-generation products in order to determine the subsequent chemistry. Photooxidation of *o*-cresol produces dihydroxy toluene ( $m/z$  (-) 143) in agreement with Olariu et al. (2002). Under high-NO conditions, the methyl phenoxy radical reacts with NO<sub>2</sub> to form hydroxy nitrotoluene ( $m/z$  (-)172, F<sup>-</sup> transfer and  $m/z$  (-)152, fragment).

3-Methyl catechol oxidation under both low- and high-NO conditions leads to the following products (Figure 3): trihydroxy toluene, hydroxy methyl benzoquinone, and various decomposition products presumably from the bicyclic intermediate pathway. These products likely result from OH addition to the ring of 3-methyl catechol. This pathway is not included in MCM v3.3.1, which assumes that hydrogen abstraction is the sole OH oxidation pathway for 3-methyl catechol. Dihydroxy nitrotoluene ( $m/z$  (-)188, F<sup>-</sup> transfer and  $m/z$  (-)168, fragment), the expected product of hydrogen abstraction of 3-methyl catechol under high-NO conditions, is detected minimally ( $< 0.5$  ppb) by the CIMS (Figures 4 and 10b & d). This suggests that hydrogen abstraction is not the dominant pathway for OH oxidation.

Without authentic standards for trihydroxy toluene and hydroxy methyl benzoquinone, quantification cannot be achieved (Section 2.2.1). Exact yields are not reported, but the experimental results are compared to the kinetic model (Section 4). Trihydroxy toluene is detected at several different signals in MS mode on the CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> CIMS:  $m/z$  (-)159 (F<sup>-</sup> transfer),  $m/z$  (-)225 (complex),  $m/z$  (-)115 (fragment, possibly loss of CO<sub>2</sub>),  $m/z$  (-) 205 (loss of HF from complex), and  $m/z$  (-) 139 (loss of HF from transfer). Three daughters are detected in MS/MS mode from  $m/z$  (-)159:  $m/z$  (-)139 (loss of HF),  $m/z$  (-)115 (possibly loss of CO<sub>2</sub>), and  $m/z$  (-)85 (CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup>). The presence of the  $m/z$  (-)85 daughter implies two compounds are detected at  $m/z$  (-)

)159: trihydroxy toluene and another compound that forms a  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}^-$  complex (e.g., hydroxyacetone). Here MS/MS mode is used to separate the trihydroxy toluene signal from the interfering compound. Hydroxy methyl benzoquinone is detected at  $m/z$  (-)223 (complex),  $m/z$  (-)157 ( $\text{F}^-$  transfer), and  $m/z$  (-)137 (fragment).

Several products from photooxidation of trihydroxy toluene are also detected by the CIMS in the 3-methyl catechol oxidation experiments, including tetrahydroxy toluene, dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone, and various decomposition products from the bicyclic intermediate pathway (Figure 3). Tetrahydroxy toluene, like trihydroxy toluene, is detected at  $m/z$  (-)175 ( $\text{F}^-$  transfer),  $m/z$  (-)241 (complex), and  $m/z$  (-)131 (fragment, possibly loss of  $\text{CO}_2$ ). Dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone is detected at  $m/z$  (-)239 (complex),  $m/z$  (-)173 ( $\text{F}^-$  transfer), and  $m/z$  (-)153 (fragment). Trihydroxy methyl benzoquinone ( $m/z$  (-)189) and pentahydroxy toluene ( $m/z$  (-)191), likely oxidation products from tetrahydroxy toluene, are also detected by the CIMS, but the signals are close to background. As shown in Figure 3, OH oxidation of methyl benzoquinone possibly also forms products detected at the same mass as pentahydroxy toluene and dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone. However, these products are detected from 3-methyl catechol oxidation consistent with the proposed mechanism (Figure 3).

An array of decomposition products presumably from the bicyclic intermediate oxidation pathway of *o*-cresol, 3-methyl catechol, trihydroxy toluene, and tetrahydroxy toluene is detected (Figures 5 and 6). These decomposition products vary greatly in volatility ( $C^* \sim 2.2 \times 10^6$  to  $14 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). The highly oxygenated products such as  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_4\text{O}_5$  and  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_6\text{O}_5$  ( $C^* \sim 14$  to  $41 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) are likely to result only from trihydroxy toluene and tetrahydroxy toluene oxidation, and are sufficiently low in volatility to partition in some degree to the particle phase. Because theoretical (PengZhen et al., 2012; Xu and Wang, 2013; Jorgensen, 2012) and experimental (Olariu et al., 2002) studies of OH addition to phenol and *o*-cresol all suggest *ortho*-addition is dominant, OH is presumed to also add to the *ortho*-position in Figures 5 and 6. OH addition to the other positions of the ring produces similar products. For *o*-cresol and 3-methyl catechol, all possibilities of OH addition are enumerated and the additional products appear at the bottom of Figure 5.

### 3.2 Benzaldehyde Oxidation

MCM v3.3.1 recommendations for OH oxidation of benzaldehyde are generally in agreement with the products detected by the CIMS (Figure 7). OH oxidation of benzaldehyde occurs via hydrogen abstraction of the formyl group followed by  $\text{O}_2$  addition to form a peroxy radical. This peroxy radical reacts with  $\text{HO}_2$  under low-NO conditions to form benzoic acid, peroxybenzoic acid, and phenyl hydroperoxide. Benzoic acid ( $m/z$  (-) 141) and peroxybenzoic acid ( $m/z$  (-)223) are the dominant first-generation products detected. Phenyl hydroperoxide ( $m/z$  (-)129) is minimally detected ( $<0.2$  ppb) either due to a low yield or instability in the CIMS (Hydroperoxides have been known to fragment in the  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}^-$  CIMS (Praske et al., 2015)). As a result of the relatively large  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{RO}_2$  rate constant for the peroxy radical of benzaldehyde ( $1.1 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), the benzaldehyde low-NO experiment was characterized by the kinetic model as having a higher fraction of  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{RO}_2$  reactions than other experiments (Table S5). The proportions of benzoic acid and peroxybenzoic acid measured by the CIMS differ from those predicted by MCM v3.3.1 (see Section S1 and Figure S2 for more details).

Other first-generation products are also detected, including signals at  $m/z$  (-)155, (-)175, and (-)179. These minor signals comprise only 6%, 3%, and 5%, respectively, of the signals produced from benzoic and peroxybenzoic acids. Phenol is likely



at m/z (-)179. Compounds forming signals at m/z (-)155 and (-)175 rise with the other first-generation products, suggesting they are minor first-generation products from the RO<sub>2</sub> + RO<sub>2</sub> or RO<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub> pathways.

The dominant first-generation product detected from benzaldehyde oxidation under high-NO conditions is nitrophenol (m/z (-)158, F<sup>-</sup> transfer and m/z (-)138, fragment) (Figure 7). Dinitrophenol (m/z (-)203, F<sup>-</sup> transfer and m/z (-)183, fragment), and OH oxidation product of nitrophenol, was also detected. Both products are over-predicted by MCM v3.3.1 using the kinetic model (Section 4.2.2 and Figure S3) compared to the CIMS measurements.

OH addition to the aromatic ring of benzaldehyde or benzoic acid is expected to be only a minor pathway. The rate of OH addition to an aromatic ring is proportional to the electrophilic nature of the substituents around the ring; unlike methyl and hydroxy groups, carboxy and formyl groups are not electrophilic (Calvert et al., 2002). OH addition to the ring of benzaldehyde would form hydroxy benzaldehyde, which is isobaric to benzoic acid. Only the transfer signal (m/z (-)141), not the complex (m/z (-)207), is detected, indicative that the product is highly acidic, like a carboxylic acid. Hydroxy benzoic acid is isobaric to peroxybenzoic acid, so the CIMS cannot explicitly confirm this product does not form. However, dihydroxy benzoic acid (m/z (-)173) as expected does not form.

Oxidation of benzaldehyde under high- and low-NO conditions does not yield many later generation products detectable by the CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> CIMS. The CIMS is expected to be sensitive to later generation products from the benzaldehyde pathway that retain the aromatic ring. Likely the main later generation products from benzaldehyde are ring-opening decomposition products, to which the CIMS is not sensitive (e.g., unfunctionalized ketones and aldehydes). Thus, we conclude that the cresol pathway is more important for SOA formation compared to the benzaldehyde pathway, based on the detectable products of the CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> CIMS and their expected volatilities (Table 3).

### 3.3 Products Detected in the Particle Phase by DART-MS

Products detected in the gas phase are compared to those detected in the particle phase to further understand the mechanism for toluene SOA formation. Filters, collected at the end of each experiment, were analyzed using high-resolution direct analysis in real time mass spectrometry (DART-MS). As expected, a number of compounds (e.g., trihydroxy toluene, tetrahydroxy toluene, and pentahydroxy toluene) measured in the gas-phase were also detected in the particle-phase by the DART-MS.

The intensity of the DART signal for a given compound is proportional to the product of the proton affinity, vapor pressure, and concentration of the compound. The proton affinity of each compound is assumed to be similar, due to shared ionizable functional groups. To compare the relative amounts of each product detected, the measured intensity is normalized by the compound's estimated vapor pressure to produce a normalized intensity ( $I_n$ ). The relative fraction ( $R_f$ ) of each compound is then calculated by dividing each compound's normalized intensity by the sum of the normalized intensities of all compounds in a given experiment.  $R_f$  values for each compound detected are reported in Tables S6-S8 in the Supplemental Information.

Vapor pressures for the compounds detected in this study have been estimated using both EVAPORATION and Nannoolal methods (Compernelle et al., 2011; Nannoolal et al., 2004, 2008). As noted earlier (Section 2.2.2), due to limitations in the methods, Nannoolal is used for all aromatics and EVAPORATION is used for all non-aromatic compounds. As demonstrated in Table 3, as the volatility of an aromatic compound decreases, the EVAPORATION method increasingly underestimates vapor

pressures as compared to Nannoolal. Owing to the uncertainty in these vapor pressure estimates, the reported  $R_f$  values should be considered only qualitatively.

The same *o*-cresol oxidation products, detected by the CIMS in the gas phase and expected to be low in volatility, are detected in the particle phase by the DART-MS. The corroborative analyses by CIMS and DART-MS support the proposed mechanism that OH subsequently adds to the ring of *o*-cresol forming low-volatility products. For example, the following are dominant products detected in the particle phase under low-NO oxidation of toluene (Figure 8a): polyols including trihydroxy toluene ( $C_7H_8O_3$ ), tetrahydroxy toluene ( $C_7H_8O_4$ ), and pentahydroxytoluene ( $C_7H_8O_5$ ); benzoquinones including hydroxy methyl benzoquinone ( $C_7H_6O_3$ ) and dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone ( $C_7H_6O_4$ ); and various products from the bicyclic intermediate pathway including  $C_4H_4O_2$ ,  $C_5H_6O_2$ , and  $C_5H_6O_3$ . Nakao et al. (2012) also detected  $C_7H_8O_4$  and  $C_7H_8O_5$  in the particle phase from *o*-cresol oxidation under low-NO conditions using a Particle-into-Liquid Sampler coupled with a Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometer. Nakao et al. (2012) suspected these signals were due to successive OH addition to the aromatic ring; the combined CIMS and DART-MS analysis corroborates their conjecture.

As shown in Figure 8b, similar products were detected under toluene high-NO oxidation as toluene low-NO oxidation. Under high-NO conditions, methyl nitrophenol and dihydroxy nitrotoluene were also detected in the particle phase, albeit at lower relative fractions than many of the polyols and benzoquinone compounds (Figure 8b). At the end of the toluene high-NO experiment, estimated  $NO_3$  oxidation of *o*-cresol (80%) and 3-methyl catechol (66%) was quite high compared to OH oxidation (Table S5). Part of the methyl nitrophenol signal could be influenced by  $NO_3$  oxidation.

Some of the compounds (e.g., tetrahydroxy toluene and pentahydroxy toluene) are structural isomers of those produced from the epoxide pathway of toluene oxidation under low-NO conditions; under high-NO conditions, the products from the epoxide channel largely decompose (Figure S6). Signals assigned to tetrahydroxy toluene and pentahydroxy toluene are dominant in the particle phase from toluene oxidation under both high- and low-NO conditions (Figure 8). This is consistent with the products forming from the *o*-cresol oxidation mechanism proposed in Figure 3 rather than the epoxide mechanism. Hydroxy methyl hydroperoxy benzoquinone, a product of OH oxidation of methyl benzoquinone under low-NO conditions, and pentahydroxy toluene are structural isomers (Figure 3). Because the signal assigned to pentahydroxy toluene is detected under both low- and high-NO conditions, the product is more likely to be generated from tetrahydroxy toluene than methyl benzoquinone.

Nitrophenol from benzaldehyde oxidation is also detected in the particle phase. Part of the signal for  $C_7H_6O_3$  may represent peroxybenzoic acid, as this compound is isobaric to hydroxy methyl benzoquinone. In general, products from cresol oxidation dominate over products from benzaldehyde oxidation in the particle phase. This is consistent with the gas-phase chemistry discussed in Section 3.2, in which few ring-retaining later generation products are detected from benzaldehyde oxidation.

### 3.4 Estimating the Contribution of Cresol to Toluene SOA

Considering that many products generated from the cresol pathway in the gas phase are also detected in the particle phase, the contribution of these products to toluene SOA is estimated. The experiments conducted here were optimized to investigate chemistry and not specifically designed to measure SOA yields, so this estimate is not based on the organic mass produced during each experiment. SOA yields studies are run differently to account for a variety of factors including particle and vapor

wall-losses. Chamber studies have recently reported toluene SOA mass yields to be between 0.9-1.6  $\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{g}$  when using the Statistical Oxidation Model to correct for vapor wall loss (Zhang et al., 2014). Without the model corrections for vapor wall loss, Zhang et al. (2014) measured the toluene SOA mass yields to be 0.5-0.65  $\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{g}$  for the experiments at maximum seed aerosol surface area (i.e., the experiments that most minimized vapor wall loss).

5 Under low-NO conditions the toluene SOA yield with the model corrections for vapor wall loss (1.6  $\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{g}$ ) implies a near unity carbon yield (Zhang et al., 2014), so at the lower bound the cresol pathway contributes to  $\sim 20\%$  of toluene SOA. For an upper bound estimate, we assume that trihydroxy toluene and hydroxy methyl benzoquinone and all oxidation products therefrom partition to the particle phase and that the average molecular weight of all compounds in the aerosol is equal to that of pentahydroxy toluene. With these assumptions and using the toluene SOA mass yield of 0.5 (the lowest yield explained  
10 above), the cresol pathway is estimated to contribute  $\sim 40\%$  of toluene SOA. Based on this, the contribution of the cresol pathway to toluene SOA is estimated as  $\sim 20\text{-}40\%$ .

## 4 Discussion

Gas- and particle-phase measurements by the CIMS and DART-MS confirm that OH oxidation of dihydroxy toluene leads to low-volatility products that partition to the particle phase. For example, the following three products, which form from  
15 subsequently adding OH to the aromatic ring, are detected in the gas and particle phases: trihydroxy toluene ( $C^* \sim 340 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), tetrahydroxy toluene ( $C^* \sim 2.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) and pentahydroxy toluene ( $C^* \sim 7.7 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Here, we discuss other theoretical and experimental work pertaining to OH addition to the aromatic ring and use the kinetic model to further interpret the CIMS results.

### 4.1 OH Addition to an Aromatic Ring

20 The chemical mechanism proposed in Figure 3 is consistent with previous observations of aromatic chemistry. As OH groups add to an aromatic ring, the aromatic ring becomes more activated, and the OH addition rate constant increases (Calvert et al., 2002). For example, the OH reaction rate constants for toluene, *o*-cresol, and 3-methyl catechol are  $6 \times 10^{-12}$ ,  $4 \times 10^{-11}$ , and  $2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , respectively (Calvert et al., 2002; Olariu et al., 2000).

In the atmosphere, once OH adds to the aromatic ring,  $\text{O}_2$  also adds, and one of the following five processes occurs:  $\text{O}_2$   
25 elimination,  $\text{HO}_2$  elimination, bicyclic intermediate formation, intramolecular H-shift, or reaction with NO,  $\text{HO}_2$  or  $\text{RO}_2$  (Wu et al., 2014; Xu and Wang, 2013; Pan and Wang, 2014). For the toluene system,  $\text{HO}_2$  elimination to re-form the aromatic ring or cyclization to form a bicyclic intermediate are the most commonly expected processes. Experiment and theory both suggest that  $\text{HO}_2$  elimination occurs more rapidly than bicyclic intermediate formation for products with increasing OH substitution on the aromatic ring. Experimental studies report the cresol yield from toluene to be  $\sim 0.2$  (Klotz et al., 1998; Smith et al., 1998),  
30 while the 3-methyl catechol yield from *o*-cresol is  $\sim 0.7$  (Olariu et al., 2002). By analogy, the yield of trihydroxy toluene, the OH addition product from 3-methyl catechol, is also expected to be substantial. Theoretical calculations for phenol suggest that the elimination of  $\text{HO}_2$  after  $\text{O}_2$  addition occurs faster than the formation of a bicyclic intermediate (Xu and Wang, 2013). Xu

and Wang (2013) further suggest that the  $\text{O}_2$  addition reaction rate constant for the phenol-OH adduct at 323 K ( $300 \times 10^{-16} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Koch et al., 2007)) is fast due to the rapid elimination of  $\text{HO}_2$ . In contrast, the  $\text{O}_2$  addition rate constant for the toluene-OH adduct at 321K ( $5.6 \times 10^{-16} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Koch et al., 2007)) is much lower. Similarly, fast  $\text{HO}_2$  elimination may enhance the  $\text{O}_2$  addition rate constant in the cresol system as the  $\text{O}_2$  addition rate constant for *m*-cresol-OH adduct ( $800 \times 10^{-16} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Zetzsch et al., 1997)) is even larger than that of phenol.

## 4.2 Comparing CIMS Measurements with Kinetic Model Predictions

In order to evaluate the products detected by the CIMS, the mechanism outlined in Figures 3-7 is incorporated into the kinetic model. Version 2 of the kinetic model includes photolysis of hydroxy nitrotoluene and dihydroxy nitrotoluene. Version 3 of the kinetic model includes additional products for 3-methyl catechol and benzaldehyde oxidation (see Section S2 for more details).

### 4.2.1 Vapor Wall Deposition

In order to compare the CIMS results to the kinetic model predictions, all loss processes need to be constrained for the compounds of interest. This includes reaction with  $\text{OH}/\text{NO}_3$  and vapor wall deposition. Considering the reaction rate constant for 3-methyl catechol +  $\text{OH}$  is already fast ( $2.0 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) (Olariu et al., 2000), the hard sphere collision rate limit ( $2.5 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) is assumed for  $\text{OH}$  reaction with trihydroxy and tetrahydroxy toluene. The approximations for  $\text{NO}_3$  oxidation are more speculative than those for  $\text{OH}$  oxidation, so more focus is given to comparing the CIMS measurements and the kinetic model results under low- $\text{NO}$  conditions.

In experiment 9 (Table 1), lights were turned on to generate oxidation products of 3-methyl catechol. After 1.5 h, lights were turned off, and wall deposition rates of the following five compounds were measured: 3-methyl catechol, trihydroxy toluene, tetrahydroxy toluene, hydroxy methyl benzoquinone, and dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone. After 9 h of lights off at  $28^\circ\text{C}$ , the chamber was heated to  $42^\circ\text{C}$  for 4 h, then cooled to  $16^\circ\text{C}$  for 3 h, and finally heated back to  $28^\circ\text{C}$  for 3 h (Figure 9). An equilibrium is established for each compound between the gas phase and chamber wall. Heating and cooling the chamber disrupts this equilibrium. Most of the compounds did not significantly re-partition back into the gas phase when heating the chamber from  $28^\circ\text{C}$  to  $42^\circ\text{C}$ . This implies the absence of a large reversible reservoir on the chamber walls, so measuring the decay after 1.5 h of photooxidation is reasonable for these compounds. All of the compounds were lost to the walls faster at  $16^\circ\text{C}$  than at  $28^\circ\text{C}$ . As the chamber was heated from 16 to  $28^\circ\text{C}$ , some of the products slightly re-partitioned back to the gas phase, but not to the level expected if the chamber had not been cooled, suggesting that some loss was irreversible.

In experiment 10 (Table 1), photooxidation products from 3-methyl catechol were generated in the chamber. After 3.2 h of oxidation, purified air was sampled on the CIMS to monitor desorption of these oxidation products off the walls of the instrument. Desorption was minimal (i.e., within two scans, the signal was  $<0.08$  of the original signal) for all of the five compounds measured except tetrahydroxy toluene (Figure S1). The signals for tetrahydroxy toluene dropped to  $\sim 1/2$  their original value after sampling purified air, and slowly decayed from this point onward. Therefore, this compound is lost reversibly to the walls of the CIMS such that accurate quantification and wall loss determination is not possible. This was the

only compound that rose nearly to its original signal after heating the chamber to 42°C (Figure 9b, cyan), suggesting a possible large reversible reservoir of this compound on the wall as well.

For 3-methyl catechol ( $m/z$  (-)143), hydroxy methyl benzoquinone ( $m/z$  (-)157), and dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone ( $m/z$  173), MS mode was used to determine the wall deposition rate constants (Figure 9b) (MS/MS mode produced similar results).

5 The MS and MS/MS results for trihydroxy toluene (Figure 9a) imply that multiple isomers, with different wall loss rates and fragmentation patterns on the CIMS, are forming. For example, the wall loss rate determined from the MS signal  $m/z$  (-) 159 (2.3 x 10<sup>-5</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) is different from those determined from the MS/MS daughters of  $m/z$  (-)159: 1.8 x 10<sup>-5</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> ( $m/z$  (-) 159), 1.9 x 10<sup>-5</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> ( $m/z$  (-)139), and 3.6 x 10<sup>-5</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> ( $m/z$  (-)115).

The pKa values of compounds similar to trihydroxy toluene demonstrate that aromatic compounds with an OH group *ortho* to another OH group are more acidic than those with an OH group *meta* or *para* to another OH group. For example, 1,2 dihydroxy benzene, 1,3 dihydroxy benzene, and 1,4 dihydroxy benzene have the following pKa values 9.36, 9.44, and 9.91, respectively (Dean, 1992). Likely the arrangement of the OH groups on trihydroxy toluene influences the acidity, which then influences both the wall deposition and the CIMS fragmentation patterns. The two standards of trihydroxy toluene monitored on the CIMS (Section 2.2.1) also demonstrate this effect. The isomer with the hydroxy groups spread out among the ring (2,4,6-trihydroxytoluene) was detected more at the complex than 5-methyl-benzene-1,2,3-triol, implying it is less acidic than 5-methyl-benzene-1,2,3-triol.

For simplicity, the wall deposition rate determined for  $m/z$  (-)159 is used in the kinetic model to represent the wall deposition of all trihydroxy toluene isomers, but in order to understand more fully the yield of this product, the isomer distribution and wall deposition for each isomer would need to be known. The water curve correction was applied in calculating the wall deposition rate constants for *o*-cresol, 3-methyl catechol, and trihydroxy toluene, but not for hydroxy methyl benzoquinone or dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone as the influence of water on benzoquinones is unknown. The *o*-cresol and 3-methyl catechol water curve corrections add 2 x 10<sup>-8</sup> and 1.6 x 10<sup>-6</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> uncertainty, respectively, to the measured wall deposition rate constants. The wall deposition for tetrahydroxy toluene was approximated in the kinetic model since it cannot be measured. A plot of the natural log of C\* versus the natural log of the wall deposition rate constant produces a fairly linear fit for the compounds measured in this work (Figure S5). This fit is used to approximate the wall loss of tetrahydroxy toluene, pentahydroxy toluene, and trihydroxy methyl benzoquinone. There is more uncertainty in the wall deposition rates for these compounds due to the necessity of extrapolation.

#### 4.2.2 Formation and Loss of Nitro and Nitroso Compounds

MCM v3.3.1 does not include the photolysis of many nitro compounds, even though recent studies have measured fast photolysis rates (Bardini, 2006; Bejan et al., 2007, 2006). For example, hydroxy nitrotoluene has an atmospheric lifetime with respect to photolysis of < 1 h (Bejan et al., 2007). No studies thus far have reported the photolysis rate constants of dihydroxy nitrotoluene. In version 2 of the kinetic model, the photolysis rate constant for 6-methyl-2-nitrophenol (Bejan et al., 2007) was used for hydroxy nitrotoluene and dihydroxy nitrotoluene with a correction for the difference in the NO<sub>2</sub> photolysis rate constants between the Caltech chamber and that used by Bejan et al. (2007).

Under high-NO conditions during 3-methyl catechol oxidation, dihydroxy nitrotoluene is detected only minimally (< 0.5 ppb) even though the MCM v3.3.1 chemical mechanism predicts a peak value of ~60 ppb (Figure 3 and Figure 10). Even after accounting for possible photolysis of dihydroxy nitrotoluene, the kinetic model (Version 2) still predicts a peak value of ~45 ppb. Other nitro compounds are detected quite well by the CIMS (e.g., hydroxy nitrotoluene (Section 3.1) and nitrophenol (Section 3.2)), so this is unlikely caused by a sensitivity issue. Dihydroxy nitrotoluene has a lower estimated vapor pressure than the other nitro compounds detected (Table 3), so this compound is possibly lost to chamber walls and Teflon tubing to a higher degree. Considering the estimated photolysis rate constant ( $1.73 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) is nearly an order of magnitude larger than the predicted wall deposition rate constant ( $1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , Figure S5), losses to chamber walls and Teflon tubing are unlikely the explanation for minimal detection of this compound. More likely, dihydroxy nitrotoluene, the expected product of hydrogen abstraction of 3-methyl catechol, is not, in fact, a main product. Contrary to the recommendations of MCM v3.3.1, hydrogen abstraction contributes only a small degree to OH oxidation of 3-methyl catechol.

MCM v3.3.1 predictions of nitrophenol, a product of benzaldehyde oxidation, exceed the CIMS measurements (Figure S3). An estimated photolysis rate constant was added to the kinetic model based on that for 2-nitrophenol measured by Bardini (2006) and reported by Chen et al. (2011). This photolysis rate constant was corrected for the difference in the photolysis of NO<sub>2</sub> between the Caltech chamber and the atmosphere when/where Bardini made the measurement. With this adjustment (Figure S3), nitrophenol is under-predicted by the kinetic model compared to the CIMS measurements, but within uncertainties in the CIMS sensitivity and the photolysis approximation.

#### 4.2.3 *o*-Cresol Oxidation Products

During *o*-cresol oxidation, theory suggests that OH addition occurs dominantly *ipso* (position 2) or *ortho* (position 1 and 3) to the OH substituent due to hydrogen bonding (Jorgensen, 2012). Only OH addition to position 3 will form a dihydroxy toluene, as positions 1 and 2 do not have an abstractable hydrogen to undergo HO<sub>2</sub> elimination. Consistent with these theory calculations, Olariu et al. (2002) detected only 3-methyl catechol from *o*-cresol oxidation. Here, results suggest that 3-methyl catechol is not the only isomer of dihydroxy toluene that forms from *o*-cresol oxidation. 3-methyl catechol is detected mostly at the F<sup>-</sup> transfer ion (97%) and only minimally at the cluster ion (3%). However, dihydroxy toluene produced from *o*-cresol oxidation under low- and high-NO conditions is detected more at the complex ion (~12%) than 3-methyl catechol. This suggests that *o*-cresol oxidation produces an additional isomer or isomers. These isomer(s) are likely less acidic than 3-methyl catechol (i.e., the OH substituents are not on adjacent carbons). To verify this, dihydroxy toluene isomers were tested on the CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> CIMS. 3-methyl catechol and 4-methyl catechol are dominantly detected at the F<sup>-</sup> transfer ion (m/z (-)143) (0.97 and 0.99, respectively) when considering only the unique signals (i.e., m/z (-)143, 123, 99, 209, and 189). Conversely, 2-methyl resorcinol and methyl hydroquinone signals are detected at m/z (-) 143, 189, and 209 at the following fractions 0.19, 0.51, & 0.30 and 0.07, 0.29, & 0.64, respectively. As expected, less acidic isomers of dihydroxy toluene (2-methyl resorcinol and methyl hydroquinone) were detected more at the complex ion (m/z = (-) 209) than their more acidic counterparts (3-methyl catechol and 4-methyl catechol).



In the kinetic model (Version 3), dihydroxy, trihydroxy, and tetrahydroxy toluene oxidation products are inferred from the products recommended by MCM v3.3.1 (Jenkin et al., 2003; Bloss et al., 2005) and Olariu et al. (2002) for *o*-cresol oxidation (Figure 3, Section S2). The hydrogen abstraction pathway is assumed to produce 6-methyl-2-nitrophenol and the bicyclic intermediate pathway is assumed to produce the unidentified products. Thus, dihydroxy, trihydroxy, and tetrahydroxy toluene are assumed to produce the following: a benzoquinone (0.07), a polyol (0.73), a product from the hydrogen abstraction pathway (0.07), and a product from the bicyclic intermediate pathway (0.13). Isomers are not treated separately in the kinetic model. With these additional reactions, when oxidizing *o*-cresol under low-NO conditions, the kinetic model results are similar to the CIMS measurements for first-generation products (dihydroxy toluene) and second-generation products (hydroxy methyl benzoquinone and trihydroxy toluene) (Figure 10a). Although exact yields cannot be reported owing to the lack of availability of authentic standards, yields of  $\sim 0.7$  for trihydroxy toluene and  $\sim 0.1$  for hydroxy methyl benzoquinone from dihydroxy toluene oxidation appear to be reasonable. Additionally, the CIMS sensitivity (i.e., the ion-molecule collision rate correction, Section S1) for dihydroxy toluene and trihydroxy toluene is dependent on the isomers that form. The suspected dominant isomers of dihydroxy toluene (3-methyl catechol) and trihydroxy toluene (2,3,4-trihydroxy toluene) both have a higher sensitivity correction than their other isomer counterparts (Table S1). Thus, dihydroxy toluene and trihydroxytoluene may be underestimated by the CIMS if other isomers form to a large degree.

For 3-methyl catechol oxidation, like *o*-cresol oxidation, OH addition is assumed to occur at the *ortho* position forming 2,3,4-trihydroxy toluene as the dominant isomer. The wall deposition results (Section 4.2.1) imply that multiple isomers of trihydroxy toluene with different wall loss rates and fragmentation patterns on the CIMS are produced from 3-methyl catechol oxidation. Likely (as theory suggests), 2,3,4-trihydroxy toluene is the dominant isomer, but other isomers also form. Results suggest that the trihydroxy toluene isomers produced during *o*-cresol oxidation versus 3-methyl catechol oxidation are different. The distribution of the complex ( $m/z$  (-)225),  $F^-$  transfer ( $m/z$  (-)159), and fragment ( $m/z$  (-)115) signals for trihydroxy toluene is different during *o*-cresol oxidation (0.38, 0.42, 0.2, respectively) versus 3-methyl catechol oxidation (0.04, 0.42, 0.54, respectively). Likely the distribution of trihydroxy toluene isomers is different between the two cases because 3-methyl catechol is not the sole isomer of dihydroxy toluene produced from *o*-cresol oxidation. The isomers of trihydroxy toluene from *o*-cresol oxidation are detected more at the complex (likely less acidic), while the isomers from 3-methyl catechol oxidation fragment more (likely more acidic).

When 3-methyl catechol is oxidized under low-NO conditions, trihydroxy toluene is over-predicted by the kinetic model compared to the CIMS measurements (Figure 10c). Likely, the trihydroxy toluene isomers produced from 3-methyl catechol have a lower yield or CIMS sensitivity compared to those produced from *o*-cresol. In order to constrain the exact yield of trihydroxy toluene from dihydroxy toluene, the isomer distribution and wall deposition rate for each isomer need to be understood.

Under high-NO conditions, the kinetic model over-predicts trihydroxy toluene formation compared to the CIMS measurements for both *o*-cresol and 3-methyl catechol oxidation (Figure 10). Additionally, the kinetic model under-predicts methyl nitrophenol, a product from OH and  $\text{NO}_3$  oxidation of *o*-cresol. This may indicate  $\text{NO}_3$  loss due to photolysis is over-estimated in the kinetic model. Under-predicting the occurrence of  $\text{NO}_3$  oxidation would lead to an over-prediction of OH oxidation products such as trihydroxy toluene and an under-prediction of  $\text{NO}_3$  oxidation products such as methyl nitrophenol. The UV

lights (Section 2.1) used in the Caltech chamber emit only low levels of visible light such that the photolysis of  $\text{NO}_3$  is difficult to quantify and does not sufficiently remove all  $\text{NO}_3$ .

Tetrahydroxy toluene and dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone are both over-predicted by the kinetic model under low- and high-NO conditions as compared to experimental results (Figure 10c & d). This low yield could be a result of unconstrained losses of tetrahydroxy toluene to the instrument walls or chamber walls. With the current instrumentation, further understanding of the yield of this product cannot be obtained.

#### 4.2.4 Formation of Decomposition Products From Bicyclic Intermediate Pathway

OH addition to an aromatic ring followed by  $\text{O}_2$  addition forms a peroxy radical. This peroxy radical can eliminate  $\text{HO}_2$  forming products discussed in Section 4.2.3, eliminate  $\text{O}_2$ , cyclize and undergo  $\text{O}_2$  addition to form a bicyclic intermediate peroxy radical (Atkinson et al., 1980), react with  $\text{NO}/\text{HO}_2$ , or undergo an intramolecular H-shift (Wu et al., 2014; Xu and Wang, 2013; Pan and Wang, 2014). Theoretical calculations suggest that the H-shift pathway and reaction with  $\text{NO}/\text{HO}_2$  are negligible for phenol (Xu and Wang, 2013). Since compounds in this study are similar to phenol, the decomposition products detected are assumed to be produced from the bicyclic intermediate pathway.

In MCM v3.3.1, the bicyclic intermediate peroxy radical reacts either with  $\text{NO}$  producing an alkoxy radical that decomposes or with  $\text{HO}_2$  producing a hydroperoxide. This hydroperoxide will either react with  $\text{OH}$  to reform the original  $\text{RO}_2$  or photolyze to form decomposition products (Figure 3). Here, results suggest that either this hydroperoxide photolyzes more rapidly than MCM v3.3.1 assumes or the initial reaction with  $\text{HO}_2$  proceeds through two reaction channels: 1) formation of a hydroperoxide and, 2) formation of  $\text{OH}$  and an alkoxy radical, which rapidly decomposes. Under low-NO conditions, the kinetic mechanism (Version 1) predicts most of the bicyclic intermediate products are in the form of the bicyclic intermediate hydroperoxide. Conversely, the CIMS measurements imply that most of the bicyclic intermediate products are in the form of decomposition products. *o*-Cresol and 3-methyl catechol oxidation under low- and high-NO conditions produce the same decomposition products rapidly and in high concentration. More specifically, for *o*-cresol oxidation under low-NO conditions, the CIMS detects acetyl acrylic acid, a decomposition product from the bicyclic intermediate pathway, at a peak of  $\sim 1.5$  ppb, while the kinetic mechanism predicts much less acetyl acrylic acid forms (peak  $\sim 0.1$  ppb). The  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}^-$  CIMS does not detect the bicyclic intermediate hydroperoxide. Either the signal is below the detection limit or the compound is not stable under  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}^-$  ion chemistry. Birdsall et al. (2010) similarly proposed that some of the bicyclic intermediate peroxy radical from toluene reacts with  $\text{HO}_2$  to form an alkoxy radical and  $\text{OH}$ . Additionally, recent studies have identified various peroxy radicals that upon reaction with  $\text{HO}_2$  do not form a hydroperoxide in unity yield (Orlando and Tyndall, 2012, and references therein). The additional  $\text{OH}$  produced from the bicyclic intermediate pathway would help explain why Version 3 of the kinetic model under-predicts the decay of the precursor (Figure 10).

A variety of decomposition products assumed to arise from the bicyclic intermediate pathway were detected by the CIMS (Figures 5 and 6). Largely,  $\text{OH}$  oxidation of *o*-cresol and 3-methyl catechol through the bicyclic intermediate pathway forms two product types: an unfunctionalized ketone/aldehyde, which is not detected by the CIMS, and a functionalized ketone/aldehyde, which is detected by the CIMS (Figure 5). For trihydroxy toluene and tetrahydroxy toluene often two functionalized ke-



tones/aldehydes form when the bicyclic ring fragments, so all products are detected by the CIMS. Many basic simplifications/assumptions are made to compare the CIMS and kinetic model results. All products are estimated to have the same CIMS sensitivity as glycolaldehyde. In the kinetic mechanism (version 3), *o*-cresol, 3-methyl catechol, trihydroxy toluene, and tetrahydroxy toluene are assumed to form a 0.13 yield of bicyclic intermediate products (Section 4.2.3). The OH reaction rate constant for all bicyclic intermediate compounds is assumed to be the same as that for acetyl acrylic acid (MCM v3.3.1).

With these additional reactions, the measurements of the bicyclic intermediate decomposition products formed from 3-methyl catechol oxidation under low- (Figure S4) and high-NO conditions are well represented by the kinetic model. These same products from *o*-cresol oxidation under low- and high-NO conditions, however, are under-predicted by the kinetic model (but still within uncertainty). Most of the products detected are not unique to one of the precursors (Figures 5 and 6). However, C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>5</sub> are expected to form only from trihydroxy toluene and tetrahydroxy toluene. The CIMS measurements confirm C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>5</sub> are produced later in the experiment, as expected for second- or third-generation products (Figure S4).

## 5 Atmospheric Relevance

The chemistry proposed (Figures 3 and 4), in which OH subsequently adds to the aromatic ring forming trihydroxy toluene, tetrahydroxy toluene, and pentahydroxy toluene, occurs under both low- and high-NO conditions. These low-volatility compounds are generated by OH addition to the aromatic ring with subsequent O<sub>2</sub> addition and HO<sub>2</sub> elimination. Because the peroxy radical formed during this process does not react with NO or HO<sub>2</sub>, this pathway for forming SOA is not dependent on the traditional high-NO (RO<sub>2</sub> + NO) and low-NO (RO<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub>) definitions. Therefore, this work identifies a pathway for SOA formation that is relevant in both urban and rural regions. However, in urban areas heavily influenced by NO<sub>x</sub> emissions NO<sub>3</sub> oxidation can be competitive with OH oxidation even during the day for compounds that react rapidly with NO<sub>3</sub> (Geyer et al., 2001, 2003; Khan et al., 2015; Brown et al., 2005; Kurtenbach et al., 2002). Large NO<sub>3</sub> reaction rate constants have been measured for many of the compounds produced from toluene OH oxidation (e.g., cresols and catechols) (Olariu et al., 2004; Atkinson et al., 1992). For example, during the day, ~40% of *p*-cresol (Geyer et al., 2003) and 1,2 dihydroxy benzene (Olariu et al., 2004) are estimated to proceed via NO<sub>3</sub> rather than OH oxidation. The competition between NO<sub>3</sub> versus OH oxidation will depend on a variety of factors including the product of the NO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> concentrations and losses of NO<sub>3</sub> due to photolysis and reaction with NO. More modeling, field, and laboratory studies are needed to precisely constrain how cresol derived SOA is formed in the atmosphere especially under urban conditions. This work, by providing a better understanding of the gas- and particle-phase chemical mechanisms, can better define pathways that lead to different SOA yields and composition. For example, for cresol, competition between OH and NO<sub>3</sub> oxidation is more relevant than RO<sub>2</sub> fate. This knowledge can be used to correctly interpret chamber studies measuring SOA yields and parameterize SOA in global and regional chemical transport models.

Additionally, the proposed gas-phase chemical mechanism (Figures 3, 4, and 7) and composition of toluene derived SOA (Figure 8) together help identify toluene oxidation pathways that are most detrimental to human health. Several benzoquinone

type compounds (Figures 3 and 10) are detected in both the gas and particle phases. Quinones, which are potent oxidants and electrophiles, are well known to be toxic to humans (Monks et al., 1992, and references therein). Nitro aromatic compounds (Figures 4, 7, and 10) are also detected in the gas and particle phases. Nitro aromatic compounds are genotoxic and thereby also quite harmful to human health (Huang et al., 1995). Higher yields of nitro cresols have been measured from NO<sub>3</sub> oxidation (Olariu et al., 2013) than from OH oxidation (Olariu et al., 2002) implying the competition in urban air between NO<sub>3</sub> and OH oxidation is not only relevant for SOA yield, but also important for identifying potential health impacts. Benzaldehyde OH oxidation (Figure 7) produced a higher yield of nitro aromatics compared to cresol OH oxidation. Results from this study suggest that cresol due to the formation of low-volatility products plays a larger role in SOA formation than benzaldehyde. However, from a composition perspective, benzaldehyde OH oxidation due to higher yields of nitro and dinitro aromatics potentially has a higher impact on human health than cresol. Thus, the chemical mechanism and SOA composition described in this work can be combined with toxicology studies to better define how toluene oxidation impacts human health and air quality.

## 6 Conclusions

First- and later-generation cresol and benzaldehyde OH oxidation products are identified. Evidence suggests that later-generation products from cresol OH oxidation are particularly important for SOA formation. The following first-generation OH oxidation products of 3-methyl catechol (i.e., second-generation products from *o*-cresol) are detected: trihydroxy toluene, hydroxy methyl benzoquinone, and various decomposition products likely from the bicyclic intermediate pathway. Second- and third-generation products from 3-methyl catechol (i.e., third- and fourth-generation products from *o*-cresol) include tetrahydroxy toluene, dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone, pentahydroxy toluene, and trihydroxy methyl benzoquinone. Detection of these products implies that subsequent OH addition to the aromatic ring occurs during *o*-cresol oxidation. Many of these products are expected to be relatively low in volatility ( $C^* \sim 3.0 \times 10^3 - 7.7 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) and are detected in the particle phase by the DART-MS. Although the gas-phase cresol pathway is relatively minor ( $\sim 20\%$ ), oxidation products from this pathway are estimated to contribute significantly ( $\sim 20\text{-}40\%$ ) to toluene SOA. Thus, a simple and direct pathway for toluene SOA formation has been identified. Oxidation products from the phenolic pathway of other aromatic compounds are also likely to be important for SOA formation.


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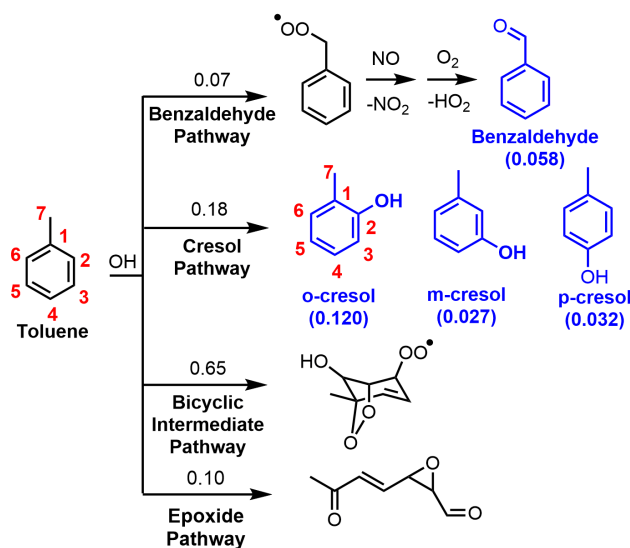
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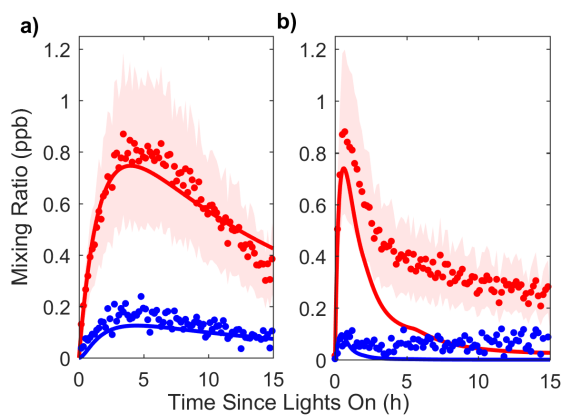
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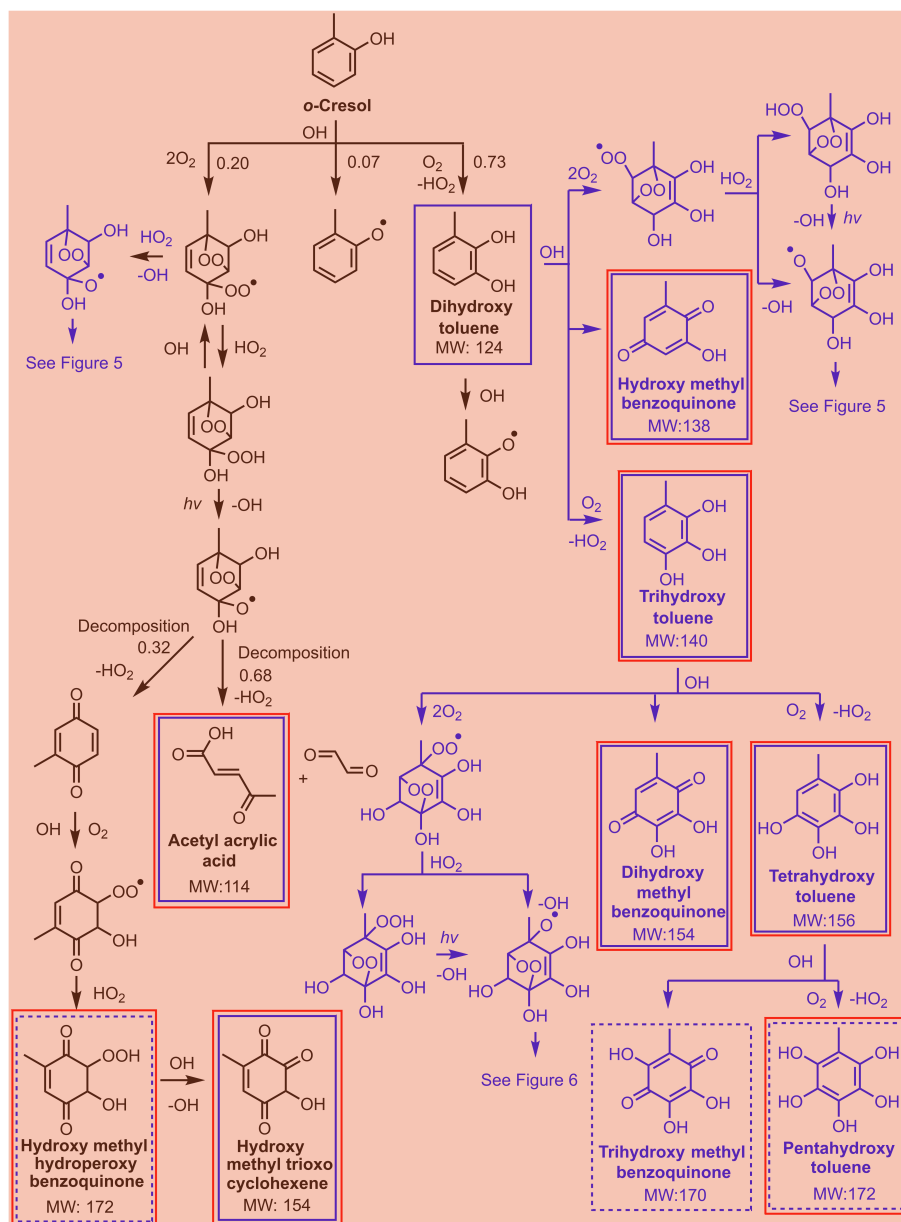
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**Figure 1.** Toluene photooxidation pathways from the Master Chemical Mechanism (MCM) v3.3.1 including cresol isomer distribution (Klotz et al., 1998). Ring-retaining products are shown in blue. Carbons on the toluene and *o*-cresol ring structure are labeled in red from 1-7 to facilitate identification of isomers throughout the text.

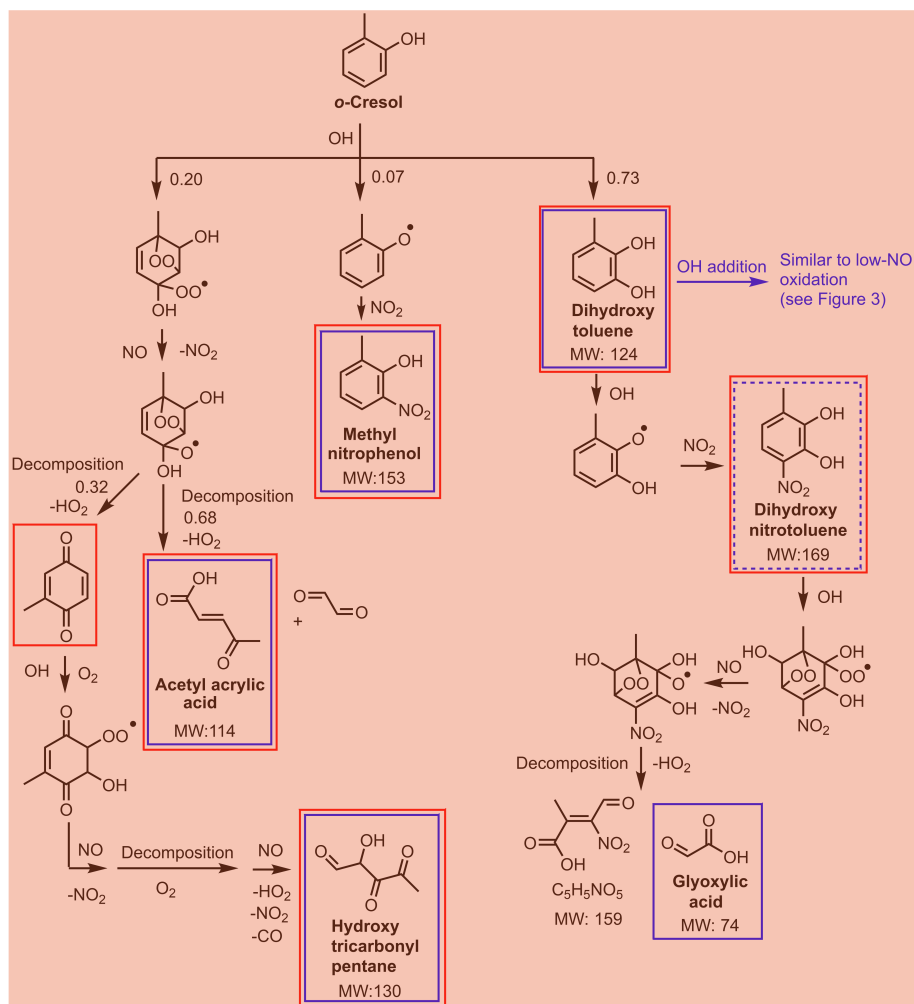


**Figure 2.** Kinetic model predictions (Version 1 solid lines) compared to CIMS measurements (data points) under low-NO (a, experiment 4) and high-NO (b, experiment 3) oxidation of toluene for cresol (red) and dihydroxy toluene (blue). The uncertainty in the CIMS measurements for cresol is shown in red shading. The CIMS measurements under high-NO conditions (panel b) suggest that additional first- or second-generation products that react much slower with OH than cresol give rise to a signal at the same mass.

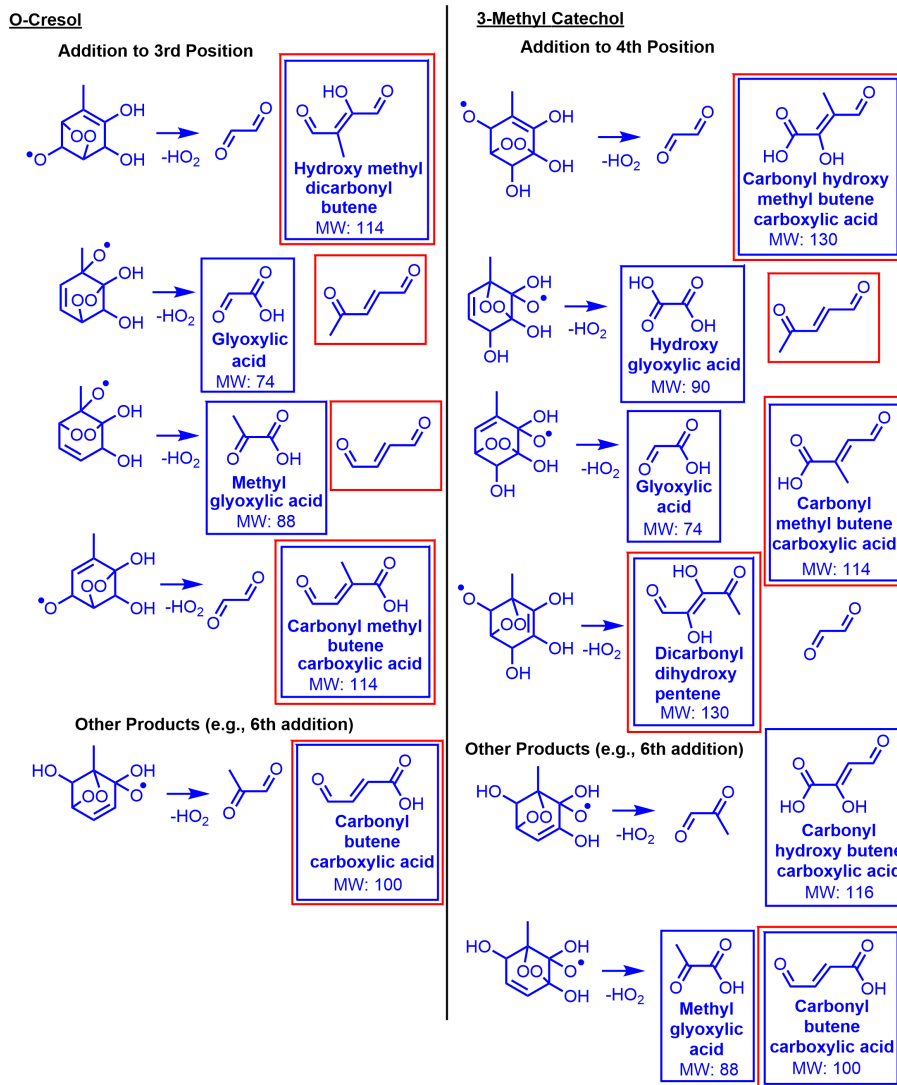


**Figure 3.** Gas-phase chemical mechanism for *o*-cresol photooxidation under low-NO conditions. Recommended pathways by MCM v3.3.1 are shown in black. The proposed mechanism from the present study is shown in blue. Products detected in this study by the CIMS and DART-MS are outlined in blue and red boxes, respectively, with dashed lines indicating compounds detected at only a minimal level. **The reported dominant isomer of dihydroxy toluene, 3-methyl catechol, is shown (Olariu et al., 2002).**

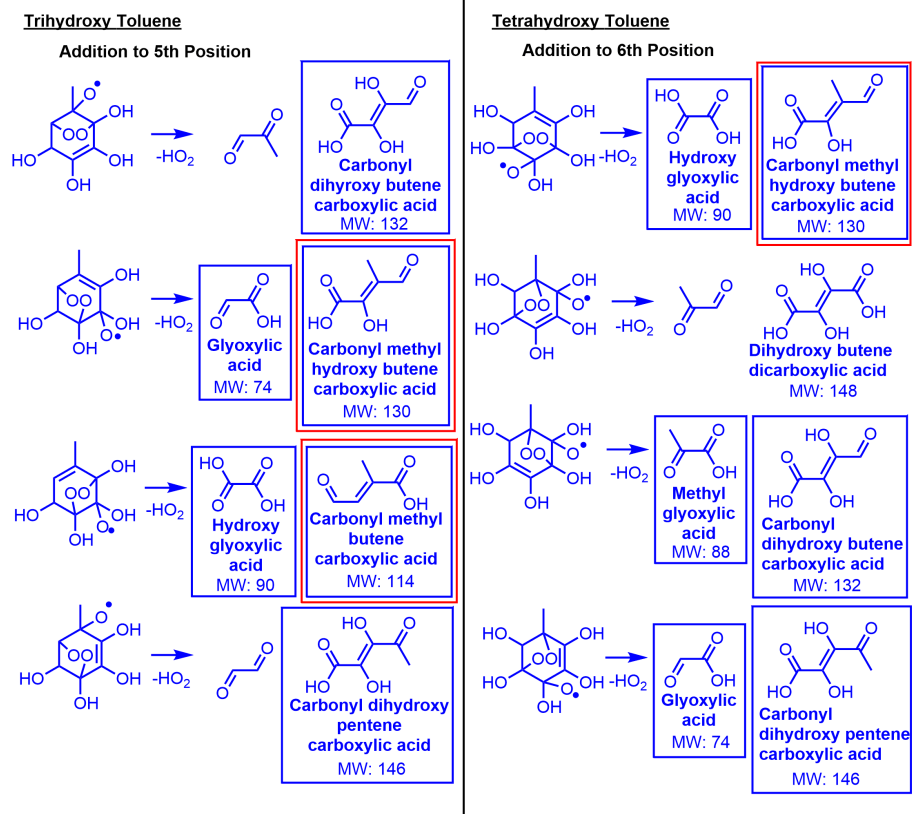




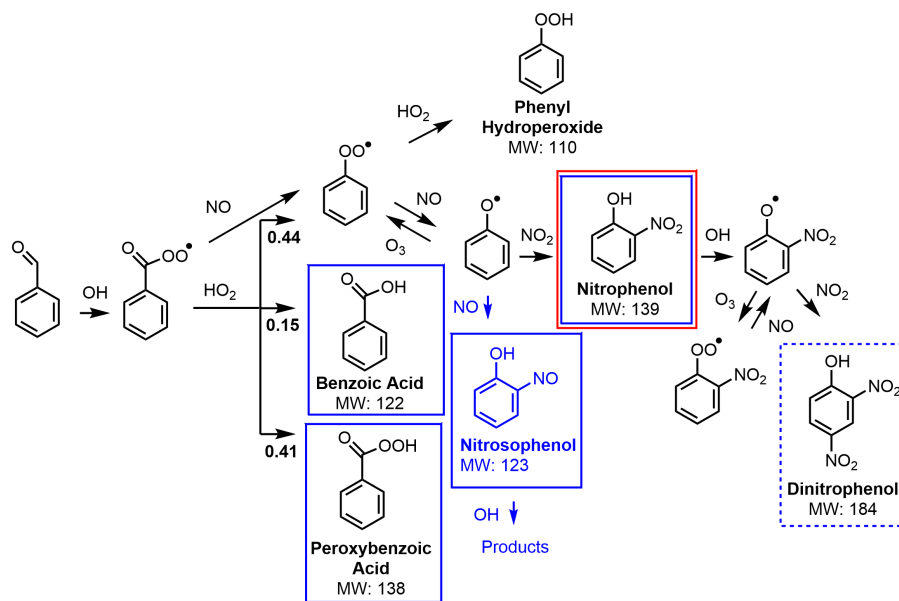
**Figure 4.** Gas-phase chemical mechanism for *o*-cresol photooxidation under high-NO conditions. The MCM v3.3.1 scheme is shown in black. Products outlined in blue were detected in the present study by the CIMS with dashed lines indicating only a minor amount was detected. Red boxed compounds were detected in the present study by the DART-MS. OH addition to dihydroxy toluene forms similar products as the low-NO system (see Figure 3).



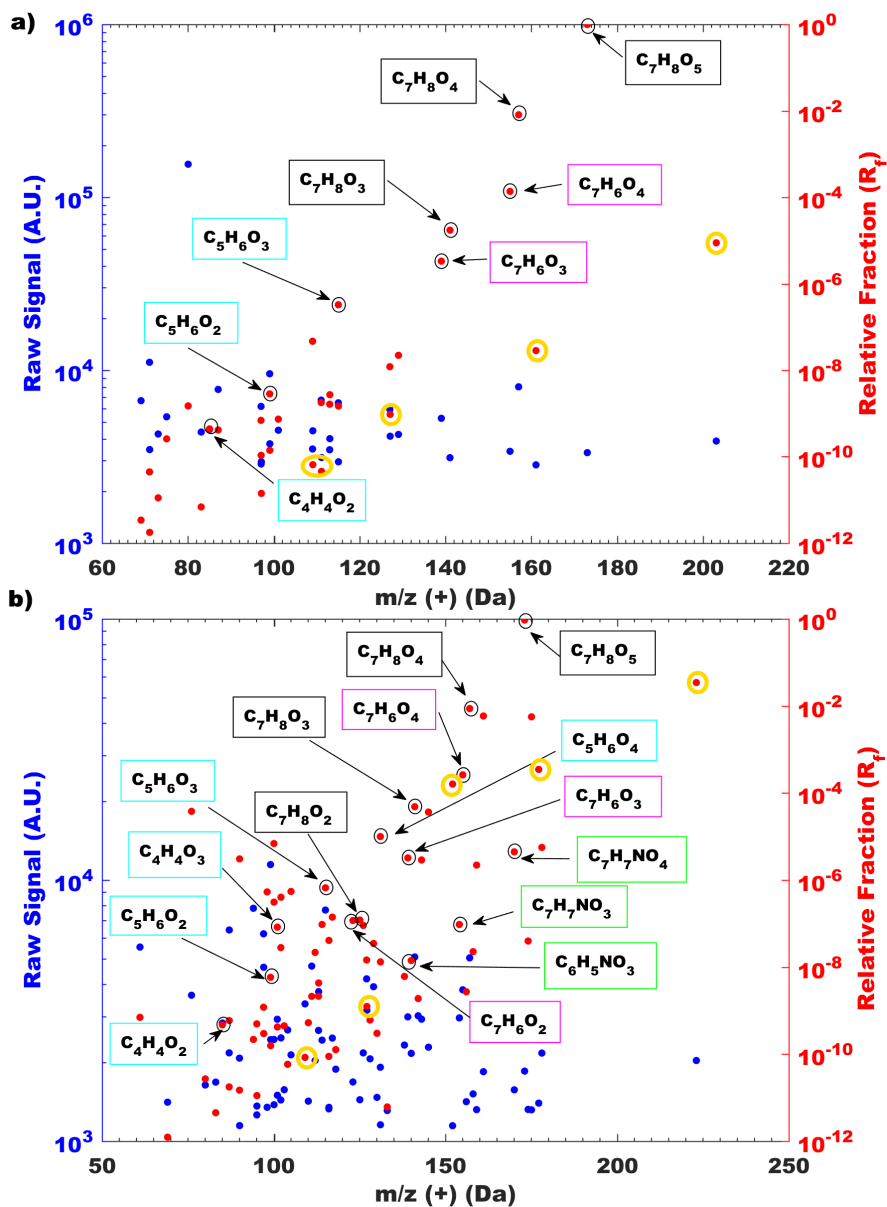
**Figure 5.** Proposed decomposition pathways for bicyclic intermediate compounds formed from OH oxidation of *o*-cresol and 3-methyl catechol. Blue and red boxed compounds were detected by CIMS and DART-MS, respectively.



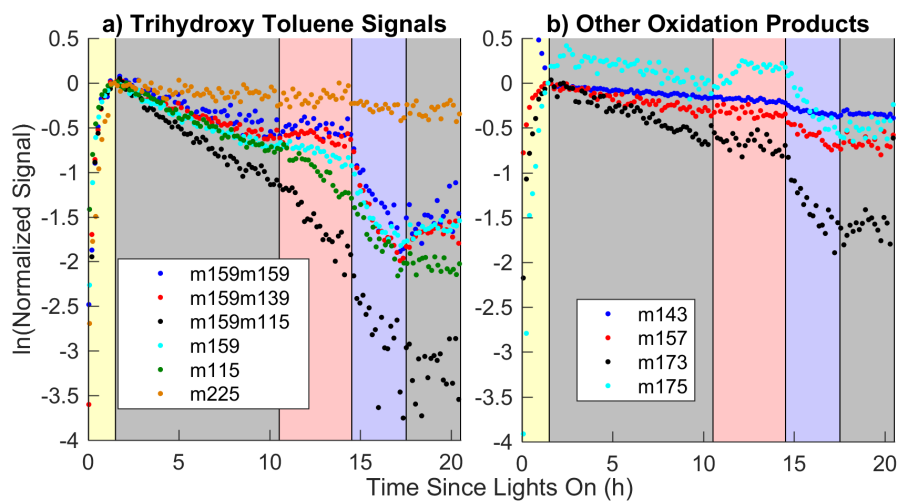
**Figure 6.** Proposed decomposition pathways for bicyclic intermediate compounds formed from OH oxidation of trihydroxytoluene and tetrahydroxytoluene. Blue and red boxed compounds were detected by CIMS and DART-MS, respectively.



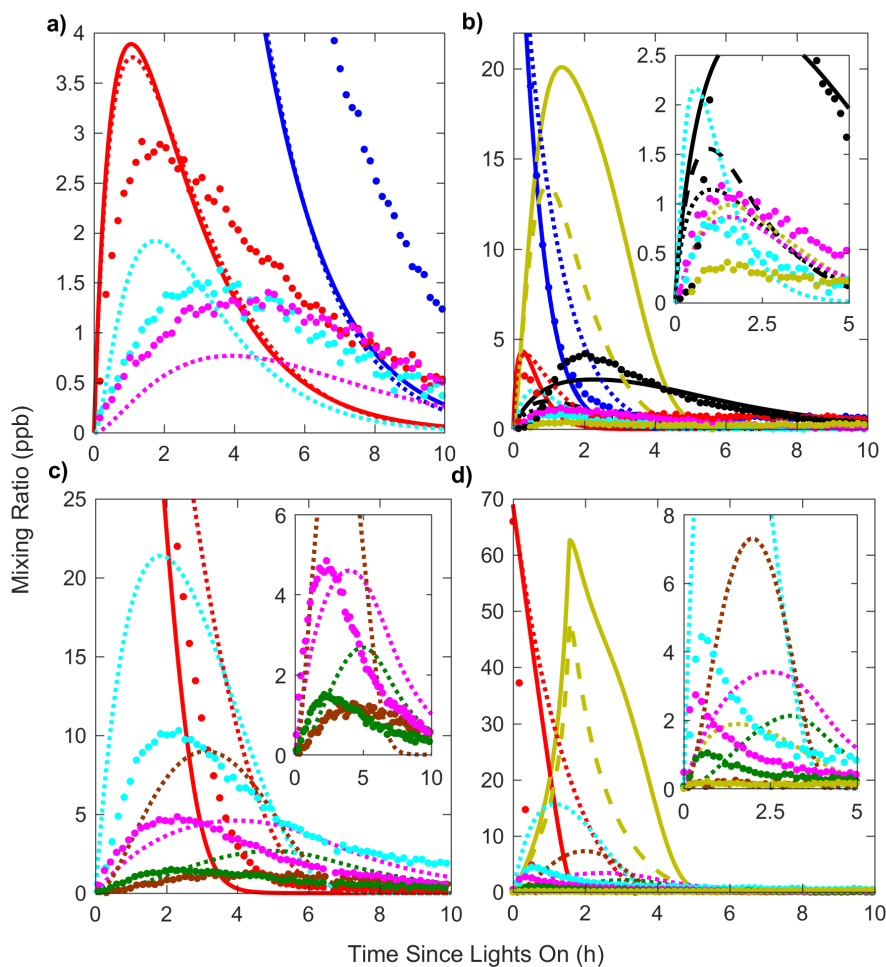
**Figure 7.** Gas-phase chemical mechanism for benzaldehyde photooxidation under low- and high-NO conditions. MCM v3.3.1 pathways are shown in black. Products detected by the CIMS and DART-MS are boxed in blue and red, respectively, with dashed lines indicating only a minor amount forms.




**Figure 8.** Particle-phase products detected by DART-MS during oxidation of toluene under low-NO conditions (a, experiment 13) and high-NO conditions (b, experiment 14) with boxes identifying the following types of compounds: polyols (black), methyl benzoquinone type compounds (magenta), decomposition products from the bicyclic intermediate pathway (cyan), nitro compounds (green), and presumed oligomerization products (i.e., those with >7 carbons, gold).



**Figure 9.** CIMS signals for trihydroxy toluene (panel a) and the following compounds (panel b): 3-methyl catechol (blue), hydroxy methyl benzoquinone (red), dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone (black), and tetrahydroxy toluene (cyan) during experiment 9. During this experiment, lights were turned on to generate 3-methyl catechol oxidation products (yellow shading). Then lights were turned off to measure the decay of these products to the chamber walls at 28°C (gray shading). Then the chamber was heated to 42°C (red shading), cooled to 16°C (blue shading), and finally heated back to 28°C (gray shading).



**Figure 10.** Kinetic model predictions (Version 1 solid lines, Version 2 dashed lines, Version 3 dotted lines) versus CIMS measurements (data points) for *o*-cresol oxidation under low-NO (a) and high-NO (b) conditions and 3-methyl catechol oxidation under low-NO (c) and high-NO (d) conditions. When necessary, a finer detail plot of selected compounds with lower signal is shown in the upper right corner. Colors for all graphs are *o*-cresol (blue), 3-methyl catechol (red), trihydroxy toluene (cyan), tetrahydroxy toluene (brown), hydroxy methyl benzoquinone (magenta), dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone (green), hydroxy nitrotoluene (black), and dihydroxy nitrotoluene (gold). 

**Table 1.** Description of Experiments

Expt. #	VOC	VOC (ppb)	Oxidant Precursor	Initial NO (ppb)	Continuous NO Injection (ppb h <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	Temp. (K)/RH (%) <sup>b</sup>
<b>Gas-Phase Experiments<sup>c</sup></b>						
1	Toluene	98	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + NO	72	98 (149); 61 (223); 30 (UE)	301 / <3-7
2	Toluene	91	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	NA	NA	301 / <3-5
3	Toluene	49	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + NO	74	98 (120); 61 (204); 30 (UE)	301 / <3-5
4	Toluene	46	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	NA	NA	301 / ≤3
5	<i>o</i> -cresol	40	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + NO	79	98 (120); 61 (20); 30 (UE)	301 / 4-9
6	<i>o</i> -cresol	36	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	NA	NA	301 / <3-4
7	3-methyl catechol	69	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + NO	74	98 (123); 30 (UE)	301 / 3-7
8	3-methyl catechol	97	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	NA	NA	301 / ≤3
9	3-methyl catechol	59	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	NA	NA	289-315 / <14
10	3-methyl catechol	65	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	NA	NA	302 / <3
11	Benzaldehyde	~50	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	NA	NA	301 / ≤3
12	Benzaldehyde	~50	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + NO	72	98 (68); 61 (35); 30 (329); 22 (UE)	301 / ≤3
<b>Particle-Phase Experiments<sup>c</sup></b>						
13	Toluene	286	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	NA	NA	301 / 3-6
14	Toluene	313	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + NO	78	146 (263); 53 (734); 15 (UE)	300 / <3-7
15	<i>o</i> -cresol	143	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + NO	84	146 (262); 53 (182); 15 (UE)	301 / 9-12

<sup>a</sup> NO was continuously injected. The rate of NO injection decreased over the course of the experiment. The following format is used: rate in ppb h<sup>-1</sup> (number of minutes injected at that rate). "UE" indicates that the rate was used until the end of the experiment. <sup>b</sup> RH = Relative Humidity. <sup>c</sup> Seed aerosol was injected into the chamber for all particle-phase experiments, but not for gas-phase experiments.

**Table 2.** Fraction of CIMS signal detected from the complex ion (R1) or fragment ions (transfer ion (R2) and others.)

VOC	Gas <sup>a</sup>	Complex	Fragments	
			Transfer	Other
<i>o</i> -cresol	purified air	0.77	0.12	0.11
<i>o</i> -cresol	dry N <sub>2</sub>	0.75	0.19	0.05
3-methyl catechol	purified air	0.02	0.78	0.20
3-methyl catechol	dry N <sub>2</sub>	<0.01	0.90	0.10

<sup>a</sup> Dry N<sub>2</sub> (RH <1%) is less humid than purified air (RH ~1-3%).



**Table 3.** Estimated vapor pressures and saturation mass concentrations for main products detected by the CIMS from toluene OH oxidation

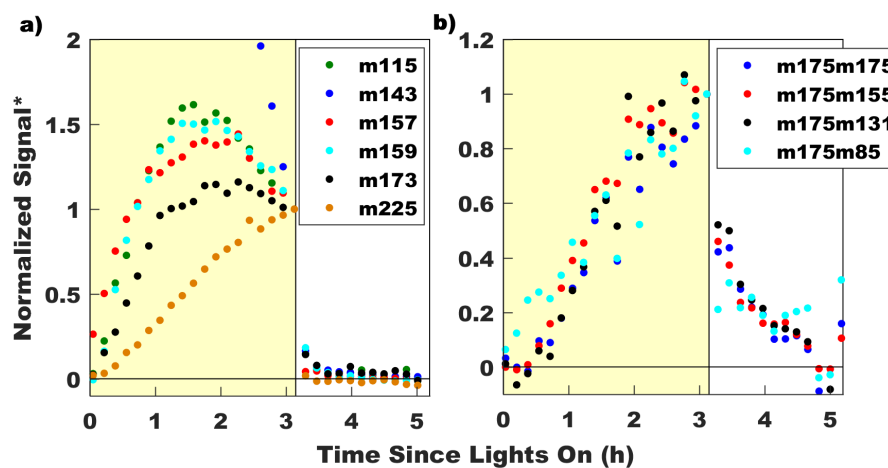
VOC	Estimated Vapor Pressure <sup>a</sup> (atm, 298K)		Saturation Mass Concentration <sup>b</sup> (C*) ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )	
	EVAP	Nann	Evap	Nann
Toluene	$3.7 \times 10^{-2}$ <sup>c</sup>	$3.7 \times 10^{-2}$ <sup>c</sup>	$1.4 \times 10^8$	$1.4 \times 10^8$
<i>o</i> -cresol	$3.9 \times 10^{-4}$ <sup>c</sup>	$3.9 \times 10^{-4}$ <sup>c</sup>	$1.7 \times 10^6$	$1.7 \times 10^6$
Acetyl acrylic acid	$6.6 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.1 \times 10^4$	$7.9 \times 10^4$
Hydroxy methyl hydroperoxy benzoquinone	$1.9 \times 10^{-9}$	U	$1.3 \times 10^1$	NA
Hydroxy methyl trioxo cyclohexene	$8.2 \times 10^{-7}$	U	$5.2 \times 10^3$	NA
3-methyl catechol	$2.3 \times 10^{-6}$	$6.8 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.2 \times 10^4$	$3.5 \times 10^4$
Hydroxy methyl benzoquinone	$5.3 \times 10^{-7}$	U	$3.0 \times 10^3$	NA
Trihydroxy toluene	$1.1 \times 10^{-8}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-8}$	$6.3 \times 10^1$	$3.4 \times 10^2$
Dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone	$8.3 \times 10^{-9}$	U	$5.2 \times 10^1$	NA
Tetrahydroxy toluene	$2.4 \times 10^{-11}$	$3.3 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-1}$	2.1
Trihydroxy methyl benzoquinone	$9.5 \times 10^{-11}$	U	$6.6 \times 10^{-1}$	NA
Pentahydroxy toluene	$9.0 \times 10^{-14}$	$1.1 \times 10^{-12}$	$6.3 \times 10^{-4}$	$7.7 \times 10^{-3}$
Hydroxy nitrotoluene	U	$1.8 \times 10^{-5}$	NA	$1.1 \times 10^5$
Hydroxy tricarbonyl pentane	$3.1 \times 10^{-4}$	U	$1.7 \times 10^6$	NA
Dihydroxy nitrotoluene	U	$2.0 \times 10^{-7}$	NA	$1.4 \times 10^3$
Glyoxylic acid	$1.9 \times 10^{-3}$	U	$5.5 \times 10^5$	NA
Benzoic acid	$1.1 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.2 \times 10^{-6}$	$5.5 \times 10^4$	$4.1 \times 10^4$
Peroxybenzoic acid	$8.8 \times 10^{-5}$	U	$5.0 \times 10^5$	NA
Nitrophenol	U	$8.7 \times 10^{-5}$	NA	$5.0 \times 10^5$
Dinitrophenol	U	$3.3 \times 10^{-7}$	NA	$2.5 \times 10^3$
Hydroxy methyl dicarbonyl butene	$1.4 \times 10^{-4}$	U	$6.5 \times 10^5$	NA
Methyl glyoxylic acid	$6.1 \times 10^{-4}$	U	$2.2 \times 10^6$	NA
Carbonyl methyl butene carboxylic acid	$6.6 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.9 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.1 \times 10^4$	$8.9 \times 10^4$
Carbonyl butene carboxylic acid	$2.0 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.2 \times 10^4$	$1.2 \times 10^5$
Carbonyl hydroxy methyl butene carboxylic acid	$1.1 \times 10^{-7}$	U	$5.9 \times 10^2$	NA
Hydroxy glyoxylic acid	$2.9 \times 10^{-7}$	U	$1.1 \times 10^3$	NA
Dicarbonyl dihydroxy pentene	$5.8 \times 10^{-6}$	U	$3.1 \times 10^4$	NA
Carbonyl hydroxy butene carboxylic acid	$3.3 \times 10^{-7}$	U	$1.6 \times 10^3$	NA
Carbonyl dihydroxy butene carboxylic acid	$7.6 \times 10^{-9}$	U	$4.1 \times 10^1$	NA
Carbonyl methyl hydroxy butene carboxylic acid	$1.1 \times 10^{-7}$	U	$5.9 \times 10^2$	NA
Carbonyl dihydroxy pentene carboxylic acid	$2.4 \times 10^{-9}$	U	$1.4 \times 10^1$	NA

<sup>a</sup> U = Unable to estimate, EVAP = EVAPORATION and Nann = Nannoolal. <sup>b</sup> Here  $C^* = MW \cdot P^0 / (RT)$  where MW = molecular weight,  $P^0$  = liquid vapor pressure,  $R$  = gas constant, and  $T$  = temperature. <sup>c</sup> The values reported are the measured values (Yaws, 1994).

# Supplemental Information: Formation of Highly Oxygenated Low-Volatility Products from Cresol Oxidation

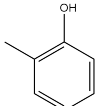
Rebecca H. Schwantes et al.

## S1 Further Details on $\text{CF}_3\text{O}^-$ CIMS Analysis

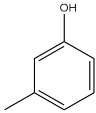
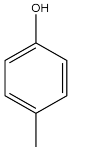
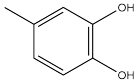
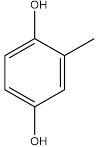

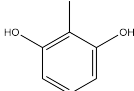
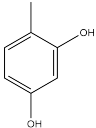
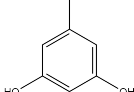
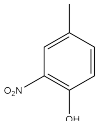


**Figure S1.** CIMS MS signals of 3-methyl catechol oxidation products (panel a) and MS/MS signals of tetrahydroxy toluene (panel b) for experiment 10. Desorption of compounds from instrument walls was measured by sampling photooxidation products generated in the chamber (yellow) and then immediately switching to purified air (white). \*CIMS signal is normalized to time right before lights off.

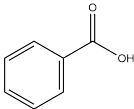
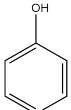
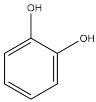
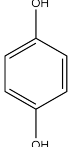
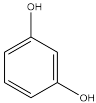
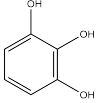
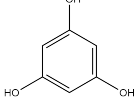

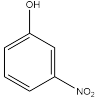
**Table S1:** Estimated CIMS sensitivity factors

Compound	Structure	Polarizability ( $\text{\AA}^3$ ) <sup>a</sup>	Dipole Mo- ment (D) <sup>b</sup>	Sensitivity Factor <sup>c</sup>	Notes
Toluene Related Compounds					
<i>o</i> -Cresol		11.8	1.42	1	

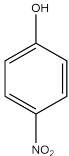
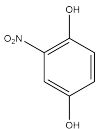
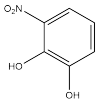
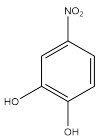
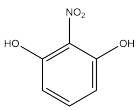
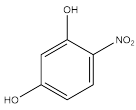
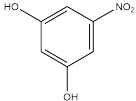
**Table S1:** Estimated CIMS sensitivity factors

Compound	Structure	Polarizability ( $\text{\AA}^3$ ) <sup>a</sup>	Dipole Mo- ment (D) <sup>b</sup>	Sensitivity Factor <sup>c</sup>	Notes
<i>m</i> -Cresol		13.1	1.53	1.07	
<i>p</i> -Cresol		13	1.53	1.06	
4-Methylcatechol		13.7	2.7	1.44	
Methyl hydro- quinone		13.7	2.05	1.21	Assume same polarizability as 4-methyl catechol
3-Methylcatechol		13.7	2.42	1.34	Assume same polarizability as 4-methyl catechol
2-Methyl resorci- nol		13.7	2	1.19	Assume same polarizability as 4-methyl catechol
4-Methyl resorci- nol		13.7	1.81	1.13	Assume same polarizability as 4-methyl catechol
5-Methyl resorci- nol		13.7	2.1	1.23	Assume same polarizability as 4-methyl catechol
4-Methyl-2- nitrophenol		16.2	3.49	1.69	

**Table S1:** Estimated CIMS sensitivity factors

Compound	Structure	Polarizability ( $\text{\AA}^3$ ) <sup>a</sup>	Dipole Mo- ment (D) <sup>b</sup>	Sensitivity Factor <sup>c</sup>	Notes
Benzoic acid		11.3	1.26	0.92	
Benzene Related Compounds					
Phenol		11.1	1.54	1	
Catechol		13.1	2.64	1.37	
Hydroquinone		13.1	1.78	1.08	Assume polarizability same as catechol.
Resorcinol		13.1	2.04	1.16	Assume polarizability same as catechol.
1,2,3-Benzene triol		11.1	3.17	1.47	
1,3,5-Trihydroxy benzene		11.1	2.7	1.32	Assume polarizability same as 1,2,3-benzene triol
<i>o</i> -Nitrophenol		14	3.12	1.48	
<i>m</i> -Nitrophenol		14	3.89	1.73	Assume polarizability same as <i>o</i> -nitrophenol

**Table S1:** Estimated CIMS sensitivity factors

Compound	Structure	Polarizability ( $\text{\AA}^3$ ) <sup>a</sup>	Dipole Mo- ment (D) <sup>b</sup>	Sensitivity Factor <sup>c</sup>	Notes
<i>p</i> -Nitrophenol		14	4.9	2.06	Assume polarizability same as <i>o</i> -nitrophenol
Nitrohydroquinone		14	3.5	1.60	Assume polarizability same as <i>o</i> -nitrophenol
3-Nitrocatechol		16.5	2.1	1.16	Assume polarity increases by same factor as phenol to catechol
4-Nitrocatechol		16.5	4.95	2.07	Assume polarity increases by same factor as phenol to catechol
2-Nitroresorcinol		16.5	2.18	1.19	Assume polarity increases by same factor as phenol to catechol
4-Nitroresorcinol		16.5	4.44	1.91	Assume polarity increases by same factor as phenol to catechol
5-nitroresorcinol		16.5	3.9	1.74	Assume polarity increases by same factor as phenol to catechol

<sup>a</sup> Polarizability was estimated using the refractive index of each compound reported in Lide (2001) as done by Dewar and Stewart (1984). <sup>b</sup> The reported dipole moment is the average of all values reported in McClellan (1974) for experiments using benzene as a solvent and taken between 20-30 °C. <sup>c</sup> The sensitivity factor equals the ion-molecule collision rate of the compound divided by the ion-molecule collision rate of *o*-cresol for toluene related compounds or phenol for benzene related compounds.

As done by Dewar and Stewart (1984), polarizability was estimated using the refractive index reported in Lide (2001) and the formula:  $\bar{P} = (3/4\pi N)(M/d)[(n^2 - 1)/(n^2 + 2)] * 10^{24}$  where  $\bar{P}$  is the average polarizability, n is the refractive index, N

**Table S2.** Water curve correction and sensitivity factors applied to each compound of interest

Compound	Water Curve Correction	Compound on which Sensitivity Factor is Based <sup>a</sup>
Cresol	<i>o</i> -cresol	Weighted <i>o</i> -, <i>m</i> -, and <i>p</i> -cresol <sup>b</sup>
Dihydroxy toluene	3-methyl catechol	3-methyl catechol
Trihydroxy toluene	3-methyl catechol	1,2,3 benzene triol
Tetrahydroxy toluene	3-methyl catechol	1,2,3 benzene triol
Hydroxy methyl benzoquinone	<i>o</i> -cresol	<i>o</i> -cresol
Dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone	3-methyl catechol	3-methyl catechol
Methyl nitrophenol	<i>o</i> -cresol	4-methyl-2-nitrophenol
Dihydroxy nitrotoluene	3-methyl catechol	3-nitrocatechol
Benzoic acid	<i>o</i> -cresol	benzoic acid
Peroxy benzoic acid	<i>o</i> -cresol	benzoic acid
Phenyl hydroperoxide	<i>o</i> -cresol	benzoic acid
Nitrosophenol	<i>o</i> -cresol	<i>o</i> -nitrophenol
Nitrophenol	<i>o</i> -cresol	<i>o</i> -nitrophenol
Dinitrophenol	<i>o</i> -cresol	<i>o</i> -nitrophenol

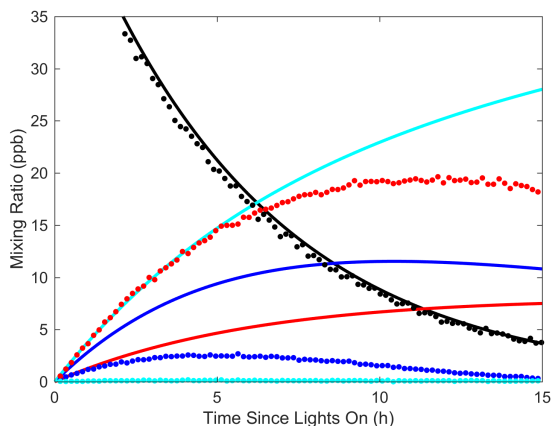
<sup>a</sup> The sensitivity factors are listed in Table S1. <sup>b</sup> The photooxidation isomer distribution reported by Klotz et al. (1998) was used to create a generalized cresol sensitivity factor.

is Avogadro's number, M is the molecular weight, and d is the density. The dipole moments measured in benzene and reported by McClellan (1974) were used to estimate the CIMS sensitivity. Dipole moments measured in air would be more accurate than those measured in benzene. However, very few dipole moments measured in air are available for the aromatic compounds of interest. For phenol, the CIMS sensitivity decreases by 7% when using the dipole moment measured in air (Pedersen et al., 1969) versus benzene (McClellan, 1974).

As noted in Table S1 when refractive index was unavailable, the polarizability for the closest related compound was used. The ion-molecule collision rate for each compound was estimated using the polarizabilities and dipole moments reported in Table S1 and the technique described in Su and Chesnavich (1982). The sensitivity is expected to be proportional to the ion-molecule collision rate. The sensitivity factor reported in Table S1 is the ratio of the ion-molecule collision rate for the compound to that of *o*-cresol for toluene related compounds and phenol for benzene related compounds.

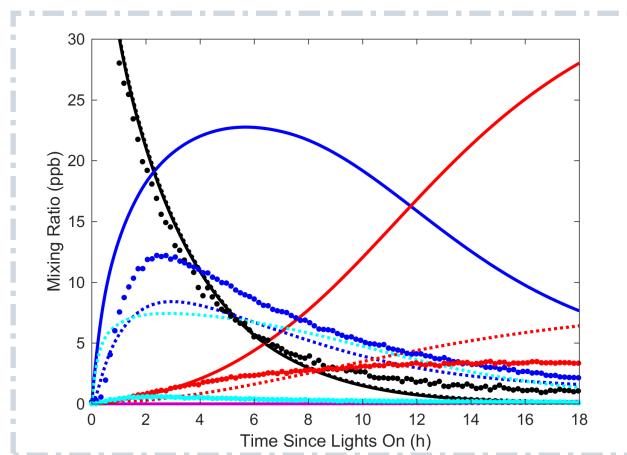
As stated in the main text, the *o*-cresol or 3-methyl catechol water curve was used to determine the sensitivity of a compound with a correction for the ion-molecule collision rate. In Table S2, the water curve correction and the sensitivity factor used for each compound is reported. In some cases, as specified in Table S2 the polarizability and dipole moments were not available for toluene related compounds, so the benzene counterpart was used instead. Note that depending on the fraction of isomers of dihydroxy toluene that form from *o*-cresol oxidation, dihydroxy toluene may be underestimated. 3-methyl catechol has the highest sensitivity of all the isomers that could form from *o*-cresol oxidation (3-methyl catechol, 2-methyl resorcinol, 4-

methyl resorcinol, and methyl hydroquinone). Similarly, depending on the exact isomer distribution that forms from dihydroxy toluene oxidation, trihydroxy toluene may be underestimated. 1,3,5-trihydroxy benzene has a lower sensitivity factor (1.32) compared to that for 1,2,3 benzene triol (1.47). Polarizability and dipole moment measurements are not available for hydroxy methyl benzoquinone or dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone. Thus, we assume that hydroxy methyl benzoquinone behaves like *o*-cresol and dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone behaves like 3-methyl catechol.



**Figure S2.** CIMS measurements (data points) compared to predictions from version 1 of kinetic model (lines) for benzaldehyde low-NO oxidation (experiment 10) for the following compounds benzaldehyde (black), peroxybenzoic acid (blue), benzoic acid (red), and phenyl hydroperoxide (cyan).

CIMS measurements and kinetic model results for products from low-NO oxidation of benzaldehyde are displayed in Figure S2. As stated in the main text, phenyl hydroperoxide is not detected by the CIMS either because it does not form or is not stable under the ion chemistry of the  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}^-$  CIMS. Benzoic acid is under-predicted by the kinetic model suggesting it is formed in a higher yield from  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{RO}_2$  reactions,  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{HO}_2$  reactions, or both. The low yield measured by the CIMS of peroxybenzoic acid, a product from only  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{HO}_2$  reaction, could be caused by a variety of factors. For example, if the  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{RO}_2$  reaction rate constant used in MCM v3.3.1 is too low, more  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{HO}_2$  reactions would occur in the kinetic model producing an over-prediction of peroxybenzoic acid. Another possibility is that the branching ratio for the  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{HO}_2$  reaction favors formation of benzoic acid more so than recommended by MCM v3.3.1. Because benzoic acid is a product from both  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{RO}_2$  and  $\text{RO}_2 + \text{HO}_2$  reactions further constraint is not possible.

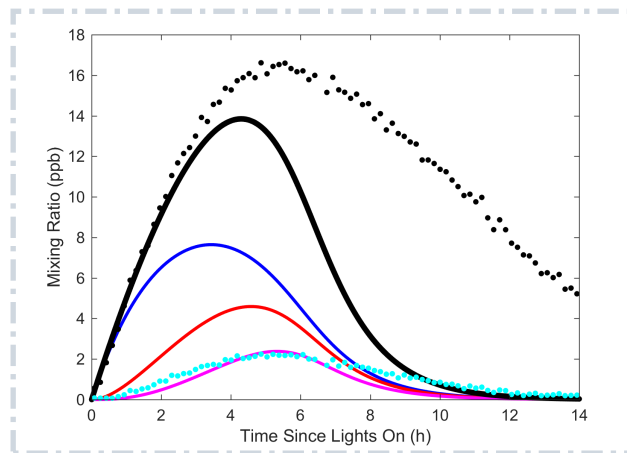


**Figure S3.** CIMS measurements (data points) compared to predictions from the kinetic model (solid lines version 1 and dotted lines version 3) for benzaldehyde oxidation under high-NO conditions (experiment 11) for the following compounds benzaldehyde (black), nitrophenol (blue), nitrosophenol (cyan), dinitrophenol (red), and maleic anhydride (magenta).

Nitrosophenol is detected from benzaldehyde oxidation under high-NO conditions (Figure S3). Previous studies have detected a product ( $C_6H_5O(NO)$ ) from the reaction of phenoxyl with NO (Tao and Li, 1999). The exact isomer that forms has not been experimentally confirmed. Based on theory, nitrosophenol is the most stable isomer (Yu et al., 1995). Two kinetic studies (Berho et al., 1998; Yu et al., 1995) proposed that phenyl nitrite is the dominant isomer given that nitrosophenol, which requires rearrangement, would not form at the timescales of their studies.  $C_6H_5O(NO)$  was detected at the fluorine transfer at  $m/z$  (-) 142, implying that it is acidic like nitrosophenol. Possibly, nitrosophenol is over-predicted by version 3 of the kinetic model (Figure S3) because two isomers (nitrosophenol and phenyl nitrite) form and the CIMS is only sensitive to nitrosophenol. The reaction rate constant for  $C_6H_5O + NO$  measured by Berho et al. (1998) ( $1.65 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molec}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) is used in the revised mechanism. The reaction of  $C_6H_5O + NO$  has been shown to be reversible, but not at temperatures relevant to this study (Berho et al., 1998; Yu et al., 1995).

$m/z$  (-) 183, assumed to be a fragment of dinitrophenol, is possibly also maleic anhydride (cluster). Maleic anhydride is a decomposition product from dinitrophenol in MCM v3.3.1. However, the predicted amount of maleic anhydride formed in the kinetic mechanism (version 1 and 3) is  $\sim 0.2$  ppb after 18 hours of oxidation (Figure S3). Additionally, all nitro products detected by the CIMS have a corresponding fragment at the the  $F^-$  transfer minus 20 (hydroxy nitrotoluene, dihydroxy nitrotoluene, and nitrophenol). Thus, the  $m/z$  (-) 183 signal is attributed to dinitrophenol.





**Figure S4.** CIMS measurements (data points) compared to predictions from version 3 of the kinetic model (lines) for 3-methyl catechol oxidation under low-NO conditions for bicyclic intermediate products from all precursors (black), 3-methyl catechol (blue), trihydroxy toluene (red), tetrahydroxy toluene (magenta), and trihydroxy toluene or tetrahydroxy toluene tracers (cyan).

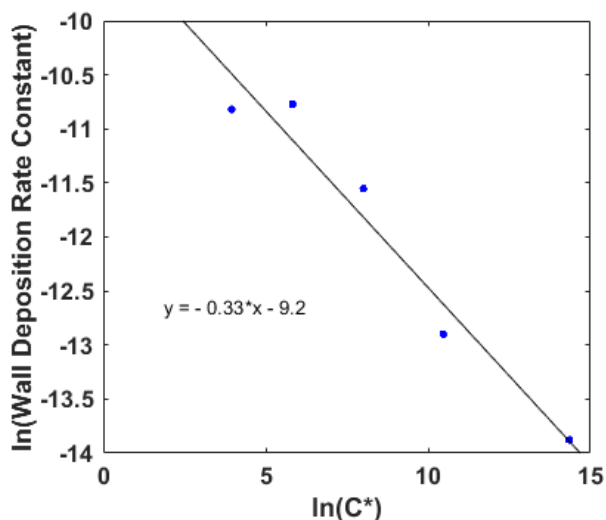
Figure S4 compares CIMS measurements and kinetic model results for the bicyclic intermediate products. The sum of all bicyclic intermediate products detected by the CIMS and predicted by the kinetic model are shown in black. Given the large approximations outlined in Section 4.2.4 of the main text, the CIMS and kinetic model results are fairly consistent. Also CIMS measurements indicate that bicyclic intermediate products produced from later generation compounds such as trihydroxy toluene and tetrahydroxy toluene (cyan) peak later in the experiment as expected.


## S2 Further Details on Kinetic Model

The initial conditions specified in Table 1 of the main text were used as input in the kinetic model. The kinetic model was run with 3 different versions. Version 1, the base case of the kinetic model, included reactions from MCM v3.3.1 for toluene and inorganic gas-phase chemistry and experimentally derived wall loss rates of *o*-cresol and 3-methyl catechol. Version 2 includes all reactions in Version 1 and photolysis of hydroxy nitrotoluene and dihydroxy nitrotoluene. Version 3 includes all reactions in Version 2 and oxidation products for 3-methyl catechol and benzaldehyde. The reactions and rate constants are listed in Table S3 and abbreviations are defined in Table S4. These reactions were included to test the chemistry proposed in the main text. Exact branching ratios and reaction rates for these reactions are unknown. Estimates based on known reactions of similar compounds were used.





Hydrogen abstraction from the hydroxy group of 3-methyl catechol, OH3TOL, and OH4TOL is assumed to form an intermediate that then reacts with NO<sub>2</sub> to form a nitro compound. Under low-NO conditions, there is no loss process for this intermediate in the kinetic model or MCM v3.1.1. In experiments 1 and 2, after all injections were complete, lights on was

delayed for 2.5 h to estimate the wall loss of *o*-cresol. Wall loss of all other compounds is explained in section 4.2.1 in the main text.



**Figure S5.** Linear fit to natural log of wall deposition rate constant versus natural log of  $C^*$  used to estimate wall deposition of compounds that cannot be directly measured. 

**Table S3:** Reactions and reaction rate constants added to chemistry in MCM v3.3.1 to test proposed chemistry.

New Reaction	New Reaction Rate <sup>a</sup>	Assumptions
<b>Version 1</b> – All reactions in MCM v 3.3.1 and those listed below.		
CRESOL → wall	$9.4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Measured in this study
MCATECHOL → wall	$2.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Measured in this study
<b>Version 2</b> – All reactions in Version 1 and those listed below.		
TOL10HNO2 + hv → products	$1.73 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Assume similar to
MNCATECH + hv → products	$1.73 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$	6-methyl-2-nitrophenol (Bejan et al., 2007)
<b>Version 3</b> – All reactions in Version 2 and those listed below. 		
 CRESOL + OH → BCRESOL	$4.65 \times 10^{-11} * 0.2 * 0.65$	Assume missing products from Olariu et al. (2002) from bicyclic pathway.
MCATECHOL + OH → MCATEC10	$2.0 \times 10^{-10} * 0.07$	Assume same as <i>o</i> -cresol
MCATECHOL + OH → OHMBQN	$2.0 \times 10^{-10} * 0.07$	oxidation from MCM v3.3.1
MCATECHOL + OH → OH3TOL	$2.0 \times 10^{-10} * 0.73$	and (Olariu et al., 2002) 
 MCATECHOL + OH → BMCATECHOL	$2.0 \times 10^{-10} * 0.13$	
OH3TOL + OH → OH3TOL10	$2.5 \times 10^{-10} * 0.07$	Assume same as <i>o</i> -cresol oxidation

**Table S3:** Reactions and reaction rate constants added to chemistry in MCM v3.3.1 to test proposed chemistry.

New Reaction	New Reaction Rate <sup>a</sup>	Assumptions
OH3TOL + OH → OH2MBQN	$2.5 \times 10^{-10} * 0.07$	from MCM v3.3.1 and (Olariu et al., 2002, 2000).
OH3TOL + OH → OH4TOL	$2.5 \times 10^{-10} * 0.73$	↑ Increased reaction rate constant due to additional
OH3TOL + OH → BOH3TOL	$2.5 \times 10^{-10} * 0.13$	OH group to hard sphere collision rate limit.
OH4TOL + OH → OH4TOL1O	$2.5 \times 10^{-10} * 0.07$	Assume same as o-cresol oxidation
OH4TOL + OH → OH3MBQN	$2.5 \times 10^{-10} * 0.07$	from MCM v3.3.1 and Olariu et al. (2002, 2000).
OH4TOL + OH → OH5TOL	$2.5 \times 10^{-10} * 0.73$	↑ Increased reaction rate constant due to additional
OH4TOL + OH → BOH4TOL	$2.5 \times 10^{-10} * 0.13$	OH group to hard sphere collision rate limit.
BCRESOL + OH → products	$5.44 \times 10^{-11}$	Assume same as
BMCATECHOL + OH → products	$5.44 \times 10^{-11}$	C5CO14OH from MCM v 3.3.1
BOH3TOL + OH → products	$5.44 \times 10^{-11}$	
BOH4TOL + OH → products	$5.44 \times 10^{-11}$	
OHMBQN + OH → products	$2.3 \times 10^{-11}$	Assume same as
OH2MBQN + OH → products	$2.3 \times 10^{-11}$	PTLQONE from MCM v 3.3.1
OH3TOL1O + NO <sub>2</sub> → products	$2.08 \times 10^{-12}$	Assume same as
OH4TOL1O + NO <sub>2</sub> → products	$2.08 \times 10^{-12}$	MCATEC1O from MCM v3.3.1
HOC6H4NO <sub>2</sub> + <i>hν</i> → products	$6.13 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Based on 2-nitrophenol measured by Bardini (2006) reported by Chen et al. (2011)
C6H5O + NO → C6H5O(NO)	$1.65 \times 10^{-12}$	Berho et al. (1998)
C6H5O(NO) + OH → products	$9.0 \times 10^{-13}$	Assume same as
C6H5O(NO) + NO <sub>3</sub> → products	$9.0 \times 10^{-14}$	HOC6H4NO <sub>2</sub> from MCM v3.3.1
OH3TOL → wall	$2.1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Measured in this study
OH4TOL → wall	$7.9 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Estimated in this study
OH5TOL → wall	$5.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Estimated in this study
OHMBQN → wall	$9.6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Measured in this study
OH2MBQN → wall	$2.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Measured in this study
OH3MBQN → wall	$1.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Estimated in this study

<sup>a</sup> Reaction rate units are cm<sup>3</sup> molec<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> unless otherwise noted.

**Table S4.** Abbreviations used in Table S3

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Description</b>
BCRESOL	Tracer for products from the bicyclic intermediate pathway from cresol oxidation.
BMCATECHOL	Tracer for products from the bicyclic intermediate pathway from methyl catechol.
BOH3TOL	Tracer for products from the bicyclic intermediate pathway from trihydroxy toluene.
BOH4TOL	Tracer for products from the bicyclic intermediate pathway from tetrahydroxy toluene.
C5CO14OH	Acetyl acrylic acid (one of the bicyclic intermediate pathway products from o-cresol oxidation in MCM).
CRESOL	Cresol
HOC6H4NO2	Nitrophenol
MCATEC1O	Product from H-abstraction of OH group of methyl catechol
MCATECHOL	Methyl catechol
MNCATECH	Nitro dihydroxy toluene
OH2MBQN	Dihydroxy methyl benzoquinone
OH3MBQN	Trihydroxy methyl benzoquinone
OH3TOL	Trihydroxy toluene
OH3TOL1O	Product from H-abstraction of OH group of trihydroxy toluene
OH3TOL1O	Product from H-abstraction of OH group of tetrahydroxy toluene
OH4TOL	Tetrahydroxy toluene
OH5TOL	Pentahydroxy toluene
OHMBQN	Hydroxy methyl benzoquinone
PTLQONE	Methyl benzoquinone (one of the bicyclic intermediate pathway products from cresol oxidation in MCM)
TOL1OHNO2	Nitro hydroxy toluene

**Table S5.** Chamber conditions based on kinetic model (Version 1)

Expt #	VOC-OH adduct rxn (%)		<i>o</i> -cresol rxn (%)		3-methyl catechol rxn (%)		RO <sub>2</sub> Reaction Partner (%)		
	O <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	OH	NO <sub>3</sub>	OH	NO <sub>3</sub>	RO <sub>2</sub>	HO <sub>2</sub>	NO
1	94	6	>31	<69	>41	<59	~0	<1	>99
2	100	0	100	0	100	0	<12	>88	~0
3	94	6	>44	<56	>44	<56	~0	<1	>99
4	100	0	100	0	100	0	<6	>94	~0
5	>99.9	<0.1	>96	<4	>91	<9	~0	<1	>99
6	100	0	100	0	100	0	<1	>99	~0
7	>99.9	<0.1	NA	NA	~100	~0	~0	<2	>98
8	100	0	NA	NA	100	0	No RO <sub>2</sub> forms in MCM		
9	100	0	NA	NA	100	0	from low NO oxidation		
10	100	0	NA	NA	100	0	of methyl catechol.		
11	100	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	~16 <sup>a</sup>	~84 <sup>a</sup>	~0 <sup>a</sup>
12	97	3	NA	NA	NA	NA	~0	<4	>96
13	100	0	100	0	100	0	<18	>82	~0
14	90	10	>20	<80	>34	<66	~0	<1	>99
15	>99.9	<0.1	>98	<2	>94	<6	~0	<1	>99

<sup>a</sup> Throughout most of the experiment, the peroxy radical distribution was that stated. However, over the first hour there was exponential convergence to these steady state values from RO<sub>2</sub> + RO<sub>2</sub> = 100% and RO<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub> = 0%.

### S3 DART-MS Analysis Details and Product Identification

#### S3.1 DART-MS Analysis Details

A mass calibrant and an independent quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) compound were run with each sample set to ensure mass accuracy to within 5 mDa. The mass calibrant used for positive mode was polyethylene glycol (average molecular weight of 600 amu, PEG-600; Acros Organics, Geel, Belgium), which was dissolved in methanol. The independent QA/QC compound used is reserpine, which was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and diluted in methanol.

Tweezers were used to introduce the samples into the DART gas stream. Before analysis, the tweezers were rinsed with acetone, and were introduced into the gas stream to vaporize any contaminants. A strip (~1 cm) was cut from each sample substrate for testing. The cutting was tested in triplicate, with each sampling being from a different are of the substrate.

10 In these studies, a solution of PEG-600 (50 μL in 10 mL of methanol) was used to calibrate (61-679 Da) the mass spectrometer for each run. Acceptable calibration was determined if the calibration Mass Center software produced a residual value of >9 x 10<sup>-12</sup>. To ensure proper calibration, a solution of reserpine (5 mg in 10 mL of methanol) was analyzed subsequent

to the PEG-600 in every sample run. Calibration was deemed sufficient if the  $m/z$  of reserpine fell within  $\pm 0.005$  Da of the theoretical value (609.281 Da).

The instrument used was a JEOL (Tokyo, Japan) AccuTOF™ mass spectrometer (JMS-T100LC) coupled with an IonSense (Saugus, MA, USA) DART® source. Ultra-pure helium was used as the ionizing gas with a flow rate of  $1.75 \text{ L min}^{-1}$ . For all analyses, the DART® source was set to a needle voltage of  $\pm 3.5$  kV. Electrode 1 and electrode 2 voltages were both set to  $\pm 150$  V. Mass spectrometer settings include: an orifice 1 voltage of  $\pm 20$  V, orifice 2 voltage of  $\pm 5$  V, a ring lens voltage of  $\pm 5$  V, a peak voltage of 1500 V, a mass range of 50 – 1500  $m/z$  at 0.5 seconds per scan. A helium gas stream temperature of 325 °C was also employed.

### S3.2 DART-MS Product Identification

Best available knowledge was used to assign the compounds displayed in Tables S6, S7, and S8. The smaller compounds could be fragmentation products.  $C_xH_yNO$  and  $C_xH_yNO_2$  were assumed to be amines. These products could also be small nitro or nitroso compounds or fragmentation products of nitrates. Products that appeared to be fragmentation products (i.e., reasonable structures could not be drawn) were excluded from the list. The structure of each compound was necessary to estimate the vapor pressure. The most probable dominant isomer was selected in all cases, but there are likely many additional structural isomers that form as well. The abundances reported in Tables S6, S7, and S8 are not meant to be used quantitatively due to uncertainties in the vapor pressure estimation methods and centroid fitting algorithm. Often each  $m/z$  contained many over-lapping peaks and corrections were not made for isotope effects.

**Table S6.** DART-MS data from low-NO toluene oxidation (experiment 13).

m/z (+) (Da)	Intensity (A.U.)	C	H	N	O	$\Delta$ (mDa) <sup>a</sup>	Smiles	Est. VP (atm) <sup>b</sup>	Abundance (R <sub>f</sub> )
69.067377	6671.45	5	8	0	0	3.05	C=CC=CC	6.49E-01 (E)	3.42E-12
71.046739	11123.71	4	6	0	1	2.95	CC=CC=O	8.30E-02 (E)	4.46E-11
71.081281	3477.48	5	10	0	0	4.79	C=CCCC	6.49E-01 (E)	1.78E-12
73.064072	4280.44	4	8	0	1	1.27	CCCC=O	1.27E-01 (E)	1.12E-11
75.04371	5382.00	3	6	0	2	0.89	CC(CO)=O	6.92E-03 (E)	2.59E-10
80.048339	155429.63	5	5	1	0	1.69	C1=CC=CC=N1	3.46E-02 (N)	1.50E-09
83.082762	4393.36	6	10	0	0	3.31	C=CCCC=C	2.12E-01 (E)	6.89E-12
85.025484	4539.76	4	4	0	2	3.47	O=CC=CC=O	3.42E-03 (E)	4.41E-10
87.039802	7748.51	4	6	0	2	4.80	O=CCCC=O	6.19E-03 (E)	4.16E-10
97.026419	6180.71	5	4	0	2	2.53	O=CC1=CC=CO1	2.96E-03 (N)	6.95E-10
97.055251	2871.86	6	8	0	1	10.09	CC(C=CC=C)=O	8.87E-03 (E)	1.08E-10
97.101391	2954.88	7	12	0	0	0.33	CC1C=CCCC1	6.93E-02 (E)	1.42E-11
99.043366	9545.71	5	6	0	2	1.24	O=C(C)C=CC=O	1.12E-03 (E)	2.84E-09
99.072496	3758.17	6	10	0	1	8.49	CC(C=CCC)=O	8.87E-03 (E)	1.41E-10
101.057523	4501.87	5	8	0	2	2.73	O=C(C)CCC=O	2.02E-03 (E)	7.40E-10
109.035545	3507.03	6	4	0	2	-6.59	O=C1C=CC(C=C1)=O	2.48E-05 (E)	4.69E-08
109.096678	4467.03	8	12	0	0	5.05	C=CC=CC=CCC	2.27E-02 (E)	6.55E-11
111.043476	6721.86	6	6	0	2	1.13	O=CC1=CC=C(O1)C	1.25E-03 (N)	1.79E-09
111.11751	3129.72	8	14	0	0	-0.13	CCC=CC=CCC	2.27E-02 (E)	4.59E-11
113.019938	3471.30	5	4	0	3	3.93	O=C1C(C)=CC(O1)=O	7.03E-04 (E)	1.64E-09
113.05728	4021.97	6	8	0	2	2.97	O=CCCC=CC=O	4.92E-04 (E)	2.72E-09
115.038947	6483.21	5	6	0	3	0.57	O=C(C)C=CC(O)=O	6.57E-06 (E)	3.28E-07
115.064062	2955.96	6	10	0	2	11.84	O=CCCCC=O	6.62E-04 (E)	1.49E-09
127.039667	5945.22	6	6	0	3	-0.15	O=C(C)C=CC(C=O)=O	1.64E-04 (E)	1.21E-08
127.112254	4155.67	8	14	0	1	0.04	O=CCCCC=CC	1.45E-03 (E)	9.55E-10
129.053327	4254.59	6	8	0	3	1.84	O=C(C=CC(O)C=O)C	6.36E-05 (E)	2.22E-08
139.034538	5275.37	7	6	0	3	4.98	CC1=CC(C=C(O)C1=O)=O	5.26E-07 (E)	3.34E-06
141.050361	3122.55	7	8	0	3	4.81	CC1=CC=C(O)C(O)=C1O	5.97E-08 (N)	1.74E-05
155.034837	3399.08	7	6	0	4	-0.40	CC1=CC(C(O)=C(O)C1=O)=O	8.26E-09 (E)	1.37E-04
157.045695	8025.67	7	8	0	4	4.39	CC1=CC(O)=C(O)C(O)=C1O	3.28E-10 (N)	8.13E-03
161.091424	2838.46	11	12	0	1	5.22	O=CC=CC=CC=CC=C	3.32E-05 (E)	2.85E-08
173.044149	3338.73	7	8	0	5	0.85	CC1=C(O)C(O)=C(C(O)=C1O)O	1.12E-12 (N)	9.92E-01
203.10019	3898.22	13	14	0	2	7.01	O=CC=CC=CC=CC=CC(C)=O	1.46E-07 (E)	8.87E-06

<sup>a</sup> The difference between the measured and proposed compound exact mass. <sup>b</sup> Est. VP = Estimated vapor pressure. Estimation Method in parenthesis: E = EVAPORATION method and N = Nannoolal method.

**Table S7:** DART-MS data from high-NO *o*-cresol oxidation (experiment 15).

m/z (+) (Da)	Intensity <sup>a</sup>	C	H	N	O	$\Delta$ <sup>b</sup> (mDa)	Smiles	Est. VP (atm) <sup>c</sup>	Abundance (R <sub>f</sub> )
69.06738	4799.51	5	8	0	0	3.05	C=CC=CC	6.49E-01 (E)	1.17E-11
71.04674	7360.97	4	6	0	1	2.95	CC=CC=O	8.30E-02 (E)	1.40E-10
73.06407	3055.72	4	8	0	1	1.27	CCCC=O	1.27E-01 (E)	3.82E-11
75.04371	3495.06	3	6	0	2	0.89	CC(CO)=O	6.92E-03 (E)	7.99E-10
76.0358	2830.61	2	5	1	2	4.06	OCC(N)=O	5.43E-08 (N)	8.25E-05
80.04834	2555.95	5	5	1	0	1.69	C1=CC=CC=N1	3.46E-02 (N)	1.17E-10
81.0676	2116.91	6	8	0	0	2.83	C=CC=CC=C	2.12E-01 (E)	1.58E-11
83.08276	2977.45	6	10	0	0	3.31	C=CCCC=C	2.12E-01 (E)	2.22E-11
85.02548	2862.51	4	4	0	2	3.47	O=CC=CC=O	3.42E-03 (E)	1.32E-09
85.06327	2015.80	5	8	0	1	2.07	CC(C=CC)=O	2.71E-02 (E)	1.17E-10
87.04526	4217.44	4	6	0	2	-0.66	O=CCCC=O	6.19E-03 (E)	1.08E-09
94.06261	2373.32	6	7	1	0	3.06	N1C=CC=CC=C1	2.04E-02 (N)	1.84E-10
95.08159	1934.09	7	10	0	0	4.49	CC1C=CCC=C1	6.93E-02 (E)	4.41E-11
97.02642	4443.40	5	4	0	2	2.53	O=CC1=CC=CO1	2.96E-03 (N)	2.38E-09
97.06102	3408.60	6	8	0	1	4.32	CC(C=CC=C)=O	8.87E-03 (E)	6.08E-10
97.09562	2367.86	7	12	0	0	6.10	CC1C=CCCC1	6.93E-02 (E)	5.40E-11
98.06128	2115.28	5	7	1	1	-0.69	NC(C=CC=C)=O	1.44E-06 (N)	2.33E-06
99.04337	5939.65	5	6	0	2	1.24	O=C(C)C=CC=O	1.12E-03 (E)	8.40E-09
99.07832	3689.73	6	10	0	1	2.67	CC(C=CCC)=O	8.87E-03 (E)	6.58E-10
100.0362	2821.45	4	5	1	2	3.65	O=CC=CC(N)=O	2.02E-07 (N)	2.21E-05
101.0222	2194.10	4	4	0	3	1.65	O=CC=CC(O)=O	2.01E-05 (E)	1.73E-07
101.0575	3823.68	5	8	0	2	2.73	O=C(C)CCC=O	2.02E-03 (E)	2.99E-09
102.0545	2971.25	4	7	1	2	1.54	NCC=CC(O)=O	2.92E-05 (N)	1.61E-07
104.0332	5611.42	3	5	1	3	1.60	CC=CON(=O)=O	2.60E-02 (E)	3.42E-10
109.1028	3360.34	8	12	0	0	-1.07	C=CC=CC=CCC	2.27E-02 (E)	2.34E-10
111.0435	4461.87	6	6	0	2	1.13	O=CC1=CC=C(O1)C	1.25E-03 (N)	5.64E-09
111.1175	2507.94	8	14	0	0	-0.13	CCC=CC=CCC	2.27E-02 (E)	1.75E-10
113.0262	1862.29	5	4	0	3	-2.29	O=C1C(C)=CC(O1)=O	7.03E-04 (E)	4.19E-09
113.0573	3145.91	6	8	0	2	2.97	O=CCCC=CC=O	4.92E-04 (E)	1.01E-08
114.0553	2382.57	5	7	1	2	0.17	C=C(C=CC(O)=O)N	1.45E-05 (N)	2.59E-07
115.0389	3284.56	5	6	0	3	0.57	O=C(C)C=CC(O)=O	6.57E-06 (E)	7.90E-07
115.0703	2005.33	6	10	0	2	5.56	O=CCCCC=O	6.62E-04 (E)	4.79E-09
118.0469	2527.17	4	7	1	3	3.51	CCC=CON(=O)=O	8.50E-03 (E)	4.71E-10
120.0524	3185.49	4	9	1	3	13.66	CCCCON(=O)=O	8.50E-03 (E)	5.93E-10
126.0519	1896.52	6	7	1	2	3.58	OC1=CN=C(C)C(O)=C1	1.36E-05 (N)	2.20E-07



**Table S7:** DART-MS data from high-NO *o*-cresol oxidation (experiment 15).

m/z (+) (Da)	Intensity <sup>a</sup>	C	H	N	O	$\Delta$ <sup>b</sup> (mDa)	Smiles	Est. VP (atm) <sup>c</sup>	Abundance (R <sub>f</sub> )
127.0397	3814.74	6	6	0	3	-0.15	O=C(C)C=CC(C=O)=O	1.64E-04 (E)	3.68E-08
127.0661	2199.51	7	10	0	2	9.84	O=C(C)CC=CCC=O	2.16E-04 (E)	1.61E-08
127.1123	3306.85	8	14	0	1	0.04	O=CCCCC=CC	1.45E-03 (E)	3.61E-09
128.071	1864.39	6	9	1	2	0.14	O=C(C=CC=CCN)O	3.46E-06 (N)	8.52E-07
129.0533	2463.10	6	8	0	3	1.84	O=C(C=CC(O)C=O)C	6.36E-05 (E)	6.12E-08
130.0527	1871.23	5	7	1	3	-2.32	O=N(OC=CC=CC)=O	2.78E-03 (E)	1.07E-09
139.0414	2114.31	7	6	0	3	-1.92	CC1=CC(C=C(O)C1=O)=O	5.26E-07 (E)	6.36E-06
142.0463	2154.17	6	7	1	3	4.15	C=CC=CC(ON(=O)=O)=C	9.08E-04 (E)	3.75E-09
154.0524	1956.21	7	7	1	3	-2.01	OC1=C(N(=O)=O)C=CC =C1C	1.77E-05 (N)	1.75E-07
155.0348	3607.35	7	6	0	4	-0.40	CC1=CC(C(O)=C(O)C1=O) =O	8.26E-09 (E)	6.91E-04
157.0457	1941.16	7	8	0	4	4.39	CC1=CC(O)=C(O)C(O) =C1O	3.28E-10 (N)	9.36E-03
267.1658	2870.33	15	22	0	4	-6.13	OC(OC1=C(O)C(O) =CC=C1C)CCCC=CC <sup>c</sup>	4.59E-12 (N)	9.90E-01

<sup>a</sup> (A.U.) <sup>b</sup> The difference between the measured and proposed compound exact mass. <sup>c</sup> Est. VP = Estimated vapor pressure. Estimation Method in parenthesis: E = EVAPORATION method, and N = Nannoolal method. <sup>c</sup> Smiles in table is that of the structure predicted to form. Vapor pressure method could not estimate the vapor pressure of this structure so a very similar structure was used instead (OC(C(O)=CC=C1C)=C1OCC(O)CCCC=CC).

**Table S8:** DART-MS data from high-NO toluene oxidation (experiment 14).

m/z (+) (Da)	Intensity <sup>a</sup>	C	H	N	O	$\Delta$ <sup>b</sup> (mDa)	Smiles	Est. VP (atm) <sup>c</sup>	Abundance (R <sub>f</sub> )
61.026497	5540.57	2	4	0	2	2.46	CC(O)=O	4.49E-03 (E)	7.02E-10
69.067377	1410.70	5	8	0	0	3.05	C=CC=CC	6.49E-01 (E)	1.24E-12
76.035796	3623.11	2	5	1	2	4.06	OCC(N)=O	5.43E-08 (N)	3.80E-05
80.048339	1641.73	5	5	1	0	1.69	C1=CC=CC=N1	3.46E-02 (N)	2.71E-11
83.082762	1684.25	6	10	0	0	3.31	C=CCCC=C	2.12E-01 (E)	4.52E-12
85.025484	2836.08	4	4	0	2	3.47	O=CC=CC=O	3.42E-03 (E)	4.72E-10
87.007038	2179.84	3	2	0	3	1.18	O=CC(C=O)=O	7.03E-02 (E)	1.77E-11
87.039802	6440.08	4	6	0	2	4.80	O=CCCC=O	6.19E-03 (E)	5.93E-10
90.013837	2080.44	2	3	1	3	5.28	C=CON(=O)=O	7.95E-02 (E)	1.49E-11
90.047162	1148.22	3	7	1	2	8.34	OC(C)C(N)=O	2.13E-07 (N)	3.07E-06
94.06261	7800.17	6	7	1	0	3.06	N1C=CC=CC=C1	2.04E-02 (N)	2.18E-10

**Table S8:** DART-MS data from high-NO toluene oxidation (experiment 14).

m/z (+) (Da)	Intensity <sup>a</sup>	C	H	N	O	$\Delta$ <sup>b</sup> (mDa)	Smiles	Est. VP (atm) <sup>c</sup>	Abundance (R <sub>f</sub> )
95.053048	1261.49	6	6	0	1	-3.36	<chem>OC1=CC=CC=C1</chem>	1.44E-03 (N)	4.98E-10
95.081585	1364.08	7	10	0	0	4.49	<chem>CC1C=CCC=C1</chem>	6.93E-02 (E)	1.12E-11
97.026419	6227.32	5	4	0	2	2.53	<chem>O=CC1=CC=CO1</chem>	2.96E-03 (N)	1.20E-09
97.061018	4637.55	6	8	0	1	4.32	<chem>CC(C=CC=C)=O</chem>	8.87E-03 (E)	2.98E-10
98.06128	1349.16	5	7	1	1	-0.69	<chem>NC(C=CC=C)=O</chem>	1.44E-06 (N)	5.35E-07
99.043366	11466.81	5	6	0	2	1.24	<chem>O=C(C)C=CC=O</chem>	1.12E-03 (E)	5.84E-09
99.089977	2449.13	6	10	0	1	-8.99	<chem>CC(C=CCC)=O</chem>	8.87E-03 (E)	1.57E-10
100.042055	2453.04	4	5	1	2	-2.20	<chem>O=CC=CC(N)=O</chem>	2.02E-07 (N)	6.91E-06
100.071332	1379.97	5	9	1	1	4.91	<chem>NC(C=CCC)=O</chem>	2.52E-06 (N)	3.12E-07
101.022218	2932.23	4	4	0	3	1.65	<chem>O=CC=CC(O)=O</chem>	2.01E-05 (E)	8.30E-08
101.051638	1499.95	5	8	0	2	8.62	<chem>O=C(C)CCC=O</chem>	2.02E-03 (E)	4.22E-10
102.054463	1439.00	4	7	1	2	1.54	<chem>NCC=CC(O)=O</chem>	2.92E-05 (N)	2.81E-08
102.089947	2487.60	5	11	1	1	1.94	<chem>NC(CCCC)=O</chem>	3.50E-06 (N)	4.05E-07
103.03847	1574.86	4	6	0	3	1.05	<chem>CC(C(C=O)O)=O</chem>	2.00E-03 (E)	4.48E-10
104.033168	2667.65	3	5	1	3	1.60	<chem>CC=CON(=O)=O</chem>	2.60E-02 (E)	5.85E-11
105.014648	2141.85	3	4	0	4	4.14	<chem>O=C(O)C(CO)=O</chem>	2.22E-06 (E)	5.49E-07
109.096678	3357.59	8	12	0	0	5.05	<chem>C=CC=CC=CCC</chem>	2.27E-02 (E)	8.44E-11
110.058713	1424.19	6	7	1	1	1.88	<chem>OC1=CC=CN=C1C</chem>	1.53E-03 (N)	5.29E-10
111.043476	4684.00	6	6	0	2	1.13	<chem>O=CC1=CC=C(O1)C</chem>	1.25E-03 (N)	2.13E-09
112.038821	2037.51	5	5	1	2	1.03	<chem>OC1=CC(O)=CN=C1</chem>	5.32E-05 (N)	2.18E-08
113.026161	2657.15	5	4	0	3	-2.29	<chem>O=C1C(C)=CC(O1)=O</chem>	7.03E-04 (E)	2.15E-09
113.05728	3740.34	6	8	0	2	2.97	<chem>O=CCCC=CC=O</chem>	4.92E-04 (E)	4.33E-09
114.055338	2438.47	5	7	1	2	0.17	<chem>C=C(C=CC(O)=O)N</chem>	1.45E-05 (N)	9.56E-08
115.038947	7677.84	5	6	0	3	0.57	<chem>O=C(C)C=CC(O)=O</chem>	6.57E-06 (E)	6.65E-07
116.033084	1330.37	4	5	1	3	1.68	<chem>C=CC=CON(=O)=O</chem>	8.50E-03 (E)	8.92E-11
116.064614	1348.08	5	9	1	2	6.54	<chem>CC(N)C=CC(O)=O</chem>	1.87E-05 (N)	4.12E-08
117.050497	2483.76	5	8	0	3	4.67	<chem>O=C(C)CCC(O)=O</chem>	1.00E-05 (E)	1.41E-07
118.046909	1887.46	4	7	1	3	3.51	<chem>CCC=CON(=O)=O</chem>	8.50E-03 (E)	1.27E-10
123.046863	1686.79	7	6	0	2	-2.26	<chem>CC1=CC(C=CC1=O)=O</chem>	8.12E-06 (E)	1.18E-07
125.06148	1442.25	7	8	0	2	-1.23	<chem>CC1=CC=CC(O)=C1O</chem>	6.77E-06 (N)	1.21E-07
126.051919	2178.90	6	7	1	2	3.58	<chem>OC1=CN=C(C)C(O)=C1</chem>	1.36E-05 (N)	9.10E-08
127.039667	4187.31	6	6	0	3	-0.15	<chem>O=C(C)C=CC(C=O)=O</chem>	1.64E-04 (E)	1.46E-08
127.112254	3174.50	8	14	0	1	0.04	<chem>O=CCCCCC=CC</chem>	1.45E-03 (E)	1.25E-09
128.03127	2068.51	5	5	1	3	3.50	<chem>O=N(C1=CC=C(C)O1)=O</chem>	1.93E-03 (N)	6.09E-10
129.053327	3905.59	6	8	0	3	1.84	<chem>O=C(C=CC(O)C=O)C</chem>	6.36E-05 (E)	3.50E-08

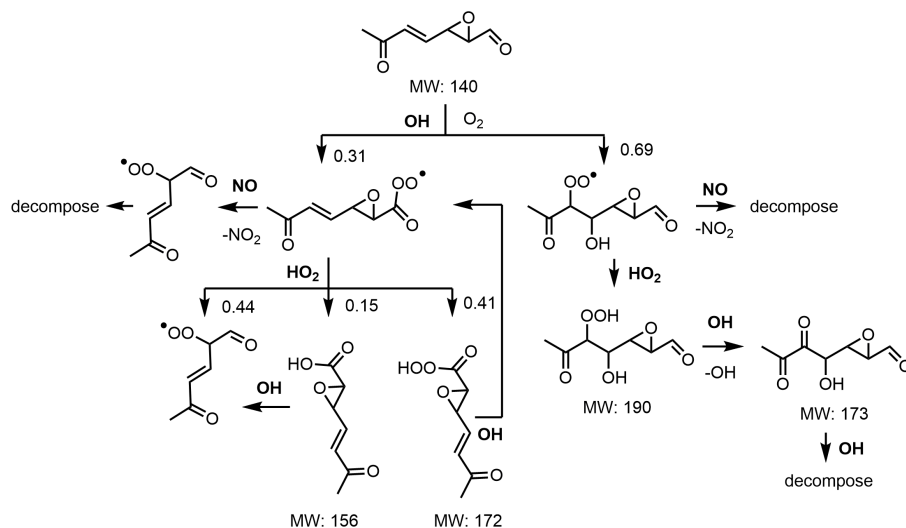
**Table S8:** DART-MS data from high-NO toluene oxidation (experiment 14).

m/z (+) (Da)	Intensity <sup>a</sup>	C	H	N	O	$\Delta$ <sup>b</sup> (mDa)	Smiles	Est. VP (atm) <sup>c</sup>	Abundance (R <sub>f</sub> )
130.052743	1472.64	5	7	1	3	-2.32	O=N(OC=CC=CC)=O	2.78E-03 (E)	3.02E-10
131.035911	1919.85	5	6	0	4	-1.48	OC(C(O)=C(C=O)C)=O	1.09E-07 (E)	1.00E-05
131.062715	1156.33	6	10	0	3	8.10	O=C(C)CCC(C=O)O	4.99E-05 (E)	1.32E-08
133.047111	1311.02	5	8	0	4	2.97	OC(C(C(C)C=O)O)=O	1.22E-01 (E)	6.13E-12
138.049261	2335.43	7	7	1	2	6.24	CC1=C(N(=O)=O)C=CC=C1	2.18E-04 (N)	6.12E-09
139.034538	2994.57	7	6	0	3	4.98	CC1=CC(C=C(O)C1=O)=O	5.26E-07 (E)	3.24E-06
140.030245	2170.62	6	5	1	3	4.52	OC1=CC=CC=C1N(=O)=O	8.71E-05 (N)	1.42E-08
141.050361	5078.50	7	8	0	3	4.81	CC1=CC=C(O)C(O)=C1O	5.97E-08 (N)	4.85E-05
142.046271	3022.13	6	7	1	3	4.15	C=CC=CC(ON(=O)=O)=C	9.08E-04 (E)	1.90E-09
143.031682	2933.82	6	6	0	4	2.75	O=C(C)C=CC(C(O)=O)=O	5.77E-07 (E)	2.90E-06
145.047972	2291.30	6	8	0	4	2.11	O=C(C=CC(O)C(O)=O)C	3.56E-08 (E)	3.66E-05
152.068107	1146.80	8	9	1	2	3.05	NC(C=CC=CC=CC=O)=O	4.05E-09 (N)	1.61E-04
154.045164	2966.87	7	7	1	3	5.25	OC1=C(N(=O)=O)C=CC=C1C	1.77E-05 (N)	9.55E-08
155.034837	3800.38	7	6	0	4	-0.40	CC1=CC(C(O)=C(O)C1=O)=O	8.26E-09 (E)	2.62E-04
156.06424	1417.63	7	9	1	3	1.83	CC=CC=CC=CON(=O)=O	2.97E-04 (E)	2.72E-09
157.045695	5036.75	7	8	0	4	4.39	CC1=CC(O)=C(O)C(O)=C1O	3.28E-10 (N)	8.74E-03
158.044945	1517.74	6	7	1	4	0.39	O=N(OC=CC(CC=C)=O)=O	3.80E-05 (E)	2.27E-08
159.062128	1321.64	7	10	0	4	3.61	CC(C=CC(C(O)C=O)O)=O	3.41E-07 (E)	2.21E-06
161.046849	1846.47	6	8	0	5	-1.85	O=C(CO)C=CC(C(O)=O)O	1.79E-10 (E)	5.89E-03
170.046401	1573.59	7	7	1	4	-1.07	OC1=C(O)C(N(=O)=O) =CC=C1C	2.01E-07 (N)	4.46E-06
173.044149	1855.62	7	8	0	5	0.85	CC1=C(O)C(O) =C(C(O)=C1O)O	1.12E-12 (N)	9.44E-01
174.069813	1324.07	7	11	1	4	6.82	O=N(OC=CCCCC=O)=O	1.90E-05 (E)	3.98E-08
175.059781	1319.16	7	10	0	5	0.87	O=C(C)C=CC(O)C(O) C(O)=O	1.33E-10 (E)	5.64E-03
177.157199	1399.51	9	20	0	3	-8.13	CCCCC(O)C(O)CCCO	2.29E-09 (E)	3.49E-04
178.069959	2175.62	6	11	1	5	1.59	O=N(OCCCCC(O)=O)=O	2.20E-07 (E)	5.63E-06
223.064145	2037.80	11	10	0	5	-3.50	O=C(O)C=CC=CC=CC =CC(C(O)=O)=O	3.35E-11 (E)	3.46E-02

<sup>a</sup> (A.U.) <sup>b</sup> The difference between the measured and proposed compound exact mass. <sup>c</sup> Est. VP = Estimated vapor pressure.

Estimation Method in parenthesis: E = EVAPORATION method, and N = Nannoolal method.

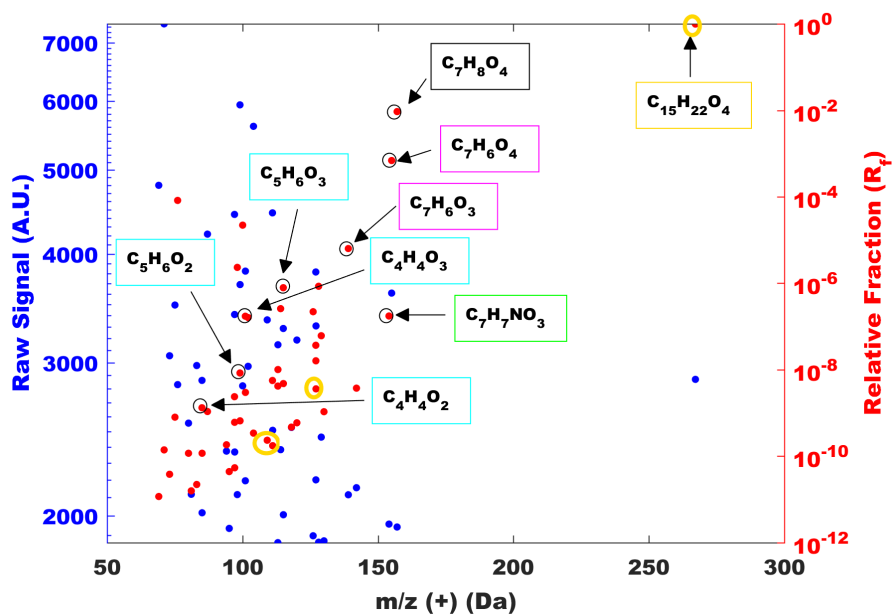
Other studies have reported structural isomers of the compounds listed in Table S6, S7, and S8 in the gas-phase and particle-phase from toluene SOA (Jang and Kamens, 2001; Sato et al., 2007). **Peaks** for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>5</sub> had the largest **intensity in**



**Figure S6.** Epoxide pathway oxidation mechanism under both low- and high-NO conditions as recommended by MCM v3.3.1

the particle-phase measurements in the study by Sato et al. (2007), but it should be noted that only 1% of the SOA constituents were quantified in that study. Both of these prior studies (Jang and Kamens, 2001; Sato et al., 2007) suggest that the compounds are ring-opening products not produced from the cresol pathway. Given the new evidence from the CF<sub>3</sub>O<sup>-</sup> CIMS in this study, it is clear that these compounds are produced from the cresol pathway.

- 5 Products detected in the particle-phase by the DART-MS under *o*-cresol high NO conditions are shown in Figure S7. An oligomer product, C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, is detected as one of the dominant products in *o*-cresol oxidation under high-NO conditions (Figure S7). It is possible this product forms from oligomerization of trihydroxy toluene and C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O to form a hemiacetal.



**Figure S7.** Products detected by DART-MS in the particle phase during oxidation of *o*-cresol under high NO conditions (experiment 15) with boxes identifying the following types of compounds: polyols (black), methyl benzoquinone type compounds (magenta), decomposition products from the bicyclic intermediate pathway (cyan), products with more than 7 carbons (gold), and nitro compounds (green).

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