Evaluating the impact of new observational constraints on P S/IVOC emissions, multi-generation oxidation, and chamber wall losses on SOA modeling for Los Angeles, CA

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29 ABSTRACT

Secondary Organic Aerosols (SOA) are important contributors to fine PM mass in 30 polluted regions, and their modeling remains poorly constrained. A box model is 31 developed that uses recently published literature parameterizations and data sets to better 32 constrain and evaluate the formation pathways and precursors of urban SOA during the 33 CalNex 2010 campaign in Los Angeles. When using the measurements of IVOCs 34 reported in Zhao et al. (2014) and of SVOCs reported in Worton et al. (2014) the model 35 36 is biased high at longer photochemical ages whereas at shorter photochemical ages it is biased low, if the yields for VOC oxidation are not updated. The parameterizations using 37 an updated version of the yields, which takes into account the effect of gas phase wall-38 losses in environmental chambers, show model/measurement agreement at longer 39 photochemical ages, even though some low bias at short photochemical ages still 40 remains. Furthermore, the fossil/non-fossil carbon split of urban SOA simulated by the 41 model is consistent with measurements at the Pasadena ground site. 42

Multi-generation oxidation mechanisms are often employed in SOA models to 43 increase the SOA yields derived from environmental chamber experiments in order to 44 obtain better model/measurement agreement. However, there are many uncertainties 45 associated with these "aging" mechanisms. Thus, SOA formation in the model is 46 compared against data from an oxidation flow reactor (OFR) in order to constrain SOA 47 formation at longer photochemical ages than observed in urban air. The model predicts 48 similar SOA mass at short to moderate photochemical ages when the "aging" 49 mechanisms or the updated version of the yields for VOC oxidation are implemented. 50 The latter case though has SOA formation rates that are more consistent with 51 observations from the OFR. Aging mechanisms may still play an important role in SOA 52 chemistry, but the additional mass formed by functionalization reactions during aging 53 54 would need to be offset by gas-phase fragmentation of SVOCs.

All the model cases evaluated in this work have a large majority of the urban SOA (69 - 83 %) at Pasadena coming from the oxidation of P-SVOCs and P-IVOCs. The importance of these two types of precursors is further supported by analyzing the percentage of SOA formed at long photochemical ages (1.5 days) as a function of the precursor rate constant. The P-SVOCs and P-IVOCs have rate constants that are similar to highly reactive VOCs that have been previously found to strongly correlate with SOA formation potential measured by the OFR.

Finally, the volatility distribution of the total organic mass (gas and particle phase) in the model is compared against measurements. The total SVOC mass simulated is similar to the measurements, but there are important differences in the measured and modeled volatility distributions. A likely reason for the difference is the lack of particlephase reactions in the model that can oligomerize and/or continue to oxidize organic compounds even after they partition to the particle phase.

68 **1. INTRODUCTION**

Atmospheric aerosols are important climate forcing agents (Christensen et al., 69 2013), negatively impact human health (Dockery and Pope, 1994) and reduce visibility 70 by scattering and absorbing light (Watson, 2002). However, predicting quantitatively the 71 composition and concentrations of aerosols is challenging, in part because of their 72 complex composition and the variety of emission sources and chemical pathways that 73 contribute to aerosol loadings in the atmosphere (Heald et al., 2011; Spracklen et al., 74 75 2011). Atmospheric aerosols are composed of black carbon, inorganic, and organic matter, and the latter is a mixture of hundreds to thousands of compounds (Gentner et al., 76 77 2012).

Due to this complexity, organic aerosol is often categorized into two groups. 78 Primary organic aerosol (POA) is directly emitted into the atmosphere from sources such 79 as motor vehicles, food cooking, and biomass burning (Hallquist et al., 2009). On the 80 81 other hand, secondary organic aerosol (SOA) is the product of diverse chemical reactions 82 occurring in the atmosphere that transform more-volatile precursors such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) into lower volatility products that are either incorporated 83 into existing particles or form new particles. Many previous studies have shown that SOA 84 85 is an important fraction of OA globally often representing more than half the total OA concentration (Zhang et al., 2007; Jimenez et al., 2009). 86

87 In SOA parameterizations for use in regional and global models, a semi-empirical approach is used in which VOCs, often the only SOA precursors considered, react with 88 OH radicals and other oxidants to form secondary products with lower volatility at a 89 given mass yield. These secondary semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) can 90 partition to the particle phase to form SOA (Pankow, 1994; Odum et al., 1996; Donahue 91 et al., 2006). The parameters used in the models for the VOCs, such as the yields and 92 product volatilities, are often determined from published chambers studies (e.g. Kroll et 93 al., 2006; Chan et al., 2009; Hallquist et al., 2009; Presto et al., 2010). Over the past 94 decade a number of studies have shown that traditional models that consider only the 95 96 oxidation of VOCs alone predict SOA concentrations much lower than those observed in polluted urban regions (Volkamer et al., 2006; Dzepina et al., 2009; Hodzic and Jimenez, 97 98 2011; Hayes et al., 2015). As a result, several updates have been proposed in the 99 literature to improve SOA models including new pathways for SOA formation, new SOA precursors, and increased yields for known precursors (e.g. Ng et al., 2007; Robinson et 100 al., 2007; Ervens and Volkamer, 2010). 101

The volatility basis-set (VBS) approach (Donahue et al., 2006) has been used in most recent parameterizations of SOA yields. In this approach, the organic mass is distributed in logarithmically spaced volatility bins, and the SOA forming reactions then redistribute the mass from precursors such as anthropogenic and biogenic VOCs, into bins with generally lower volatility (except for fragmentation reactions) leading to
 increased OA concentrations (Robinson et al., 2007; Tsimpidi et al., 2010). While the
 VBS provides a valuable conceptual framework for SOA modeling, substantial
 uncertainties remain in the correct parameters for different precursors and conditions.

In this paper we focus on investigating three interrelated questions that are 110 responsible for important uncertainties in urban SOA modeling. The first is how to best 111 incorporate SOA from primary semi- and intermediate volatility compounds (P-112 S/IVOCs), two recently-proposed types of SOA precursors. While there is now ample 113 evidence that P-S/IVOCs are important contributors to SOA (Robinson et al., 2007; Zhao 114 et al., 2014; Dunmore et al., 2015; Ots et al., 2016), the emissions of these precursors as 115 well as the parameters that govern their oxidation and SOA formation are not well 116 constrained. Also, it is well known that models of SOA that incorporate P-S/IVOCs often 117 118 do not agree with measurements across a range of photochemical ages, although the modeled SOA mass varies substantially with the parameterization used (Dzepina et al., 119 2009; Hayes et al., 2015; Fountoukis et al., 2016; Woody et al., 2016). The second 120 question is whether losses of semi-volatile gases to the walls of environmental chambers 121 (Matsunaga and Ziemann, 2010; Krechmer et al., 2016) have resulted in low biases for 122 the yields of some or all precursors, especially VOCs, as has been recently reported 123 (Zhang et al., 2014). The third question is the appropriateness of including "aging" 124 125 mechanisms in the VBS parameterization of SOA from VOCs, in which the initial 126 oxidation reaction is followed by subsequent oxidation reactions of the first and later generation products, with each reaction resulting in a reduction of the organic volatility 127 by, for example, an order of magnitude. These "aging" mechanisms increase VOC yields 128 129 to levels much higher than those observed in chamber studies since it was perceived that the yields may be too low in chambers compared to the real atmosphere. The "aging" 130 mechanisms were added to chamber yields that were obtained without using aging as part 131 of the fits of the chamber data. In some model applications they improve model 132 agreement with field measurements (Ahmadov et al., 2012), while at long photochemical 133 134 ages they lead to model SOA formation that is substantially larger than observed (e.g. Dzepina et al., 2011; Hayes et al., 2015). While the inclusion of some of these new SOA 135 precursors, updated yields, and aging can provide in some cases better agreement with 136 measurements, the relative amount of SOA formed from VOCs (V-SOA), P-IVOCs (I-137 SOA), and P-SVOCs (S-SOA) is highly uncertain, and changes strongly depending on 138 which of the above updates are implemented in a specific model. In addition, the fact that 139 different subsets and variants of these updates can allow specific models to match SOA 140 measurements raises important questions regarding whether or not the model mechanisms 141 are representative of actual SOA forming processes in the atmosphere. 142

143 The notation used when discussing SOA precursors in this paper is similar to 144 Hayes et al. (2015). We differentiate VOCs, IVOCs and SVOCs by their effective saturation concentration (c*). Therefore, SVOCs and IVOCs have volatilities ranging from $c^* = 10^{-2}$ to 10^2 and 10^3 to $10^6 \,\mu g \,m^{-3}$ respectively, while VOCs are in the bins of c* $\geq 10^7 \,\mu g \,m^{-3}$.

Recently, we evaluated three parameterizations for the formation of S-SOA and I-148 SOA using a constrained 0-D box model that represents the South Coast Air Basin during 149 the California Research at the Nexus of Air Quality and Climate Change (CalNex) 150 campaign (Hayes et al., 2015). Box models are often used to compare with ambient 151 measurements, and have been shown to be of similar usefulness or even superior to 3-D 152 models if the emissions and atmospheric transport affecting a given case study are well 153 constrained, and if the use of ratios to tracers can be used to approximately account for 154 dispersion (e.g. Volkamer et al., 2006; Dzepina et al., 2009; Hayes et al., 2015; Yuan et 155 al., 2015). A box model allows the evaluation of multiple model parameterizations either 156 previously proposed in the literature or developed from recent field and laboratory data 157 158 sets, as well as the performance of sensitivity studies, all of which would be difficult to carry-out in more computationally demanding gridded 3-D models. There are six model 159 cases presented in this paper that are described in further detail below. Given the number 160 of model cases (including three additional model cases from Haves et al. (2015)), it 161 would be very computationally expensive to use a 3-D model to evaluate all the cases. 162

Moreover, there are important limitations to traditional comparisons of 3-D 163 164 models' predicted concentrations against measurements, as for example discussed for the Pasadena ground site in Woody et al. (2016). In that study, the SOA predicted by the 165 Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) model with a VBS treatment of OA is a 166 factor of 5.4 lower than the measurements during the midday peak in SOA 167 concentrations. This underestimation was attributed to several different factors. First, the 168 model photochemical age for the site was too low by a factor of 1.5. In the box model 169 presented in this current work, that problem is eliminated as the photochemical aging of 170 the urban emissions in the model is instead determined from the measured ratio of 1,2,4-171 trimethylbenzene to benzene as described previously (Parrish et al., 2007; Hayes et al., 172 173 2013). Second, it is difficult to distinguish errors due to model dispersion from those due to emission inventories and photochemical age. Woody et al. (2016) conclude that 174 excessive dispersion or low emissions account for an error of about a factor of 2. Those 175 errors are also eliminated by the use of emission ratios in this work. After those errors are 176 177 accounted for, by analyzing the 3-D model output using similar techniques as in our box model, the real under-prediction of SOA formation efficiency by a factor of 1.8 emerged, 178 compared to the initial value of 5.4 from the concentration comparisons. These errors (of 179 approximately 300%) in the interpretation of 3-D model comparisons, which are ignored 180 in most 3-D model studies, are far larger than the uncertainties due to emission ratios or 181 dispersion in our box model (about 10 - 20%), as demonstrated in section 2.4. 182

183 In addition, there are uncertainties in the P-S/IVOC emissions inventories used in 3-D models and in the methods used to estimate P-S/IVOC emissions from the traditional 184 POA inventories. In our box model, as described in further detail below, we incorporated 185 recently published field measurements of P-S/IVOCs to better constrain the concentration 186 187 of these species. Thus, while 3-D models are essential for simulating spatially and temporally complex environments under the influence of many sources, in cases where 188 transport is relatively simple and there is a well-defined urban plume such in Pasadena 189 during the CalNex campaign, the box model is a valuable complementary or even 190 superior approach that is less susceptible to the convoluted uncertainties in 3-D models 191 discussed above. Another reason to use a box model is that it allows a direct comparison 192 against OFR measurements taken in the field (Ortega et al., 2016). The OFR provided 193 (every 20 minutes at the Pasadena ground site) a measure of SOA formation potential for 194 195 a photochemical age of up to two weeks. To the best of our knowledge, 3-D models have 196 not yet been adapted for comparison against OFR data. Finally, box models are more widely usable by experimental groups (such as ours) due to reduced complexity, while 197 3-D models are almost exclusively used by modeling-only groups, who tend to be more 198 distant from the availability, use, and interpretation of experimental constraints. Thus the 199 200 use of a range of models by a range of different groups is highly beneficial to scientific progress. 201

The results obtained in our previous work (Hayes et al., 2015) using a box model 202 indicated that different combinations of parameterizations could reproduce the total SOA 203 equally well even though the amounts of V-SOA, I-SOA, and S-SOA were very different. 204 In addition, the model over-predicted SOA formed at longer photochemical ages (≈ 3 205 days) when compared to observations downwind of multiple urban sites. This 206 discrepancy suggests that the ratio of P-S/IVOCs-to-POA may have been too high in the 207 parameterizations evaluated. Also, as mentioned previously and discussed in Hayes et al. 208 (2015), the implementation of aging for VOC products remains uncertain. 209

The goal of this study is to use several recently published results to better evaluate 210 and constrain the box model introduced in our previous work, and thus facilitate the 211 identification of parameterizations that can be eventually incorporated into 3-D air 212 213 quality models to accurately predict SOA for the right reasons. It is important to note that 214 parameterizations used in the box model are based on several published measurements taken from laboratory experiments and field studies that provide more realistic 215 constraints than in previous versions and that were not available to be implemented in 216 Hayes et al. (2015). In particular, our work here improves the box model by incorporating 217 recently published measurements of P-IVOCs and P-SVOCs that allow better 218 219 constraining of the concentration, reactivity, yields, and volatility of these precursors (Worton et al., 2014; Zhao et al., 2014). In addition, given that experiments in 220 environmental chambers may underestimate SOA yields for the VOCs due to losses of 221

semi-volatile gases to the chamber walls (Zhang et al., 2014), the SOA vields from VOCs 222 have been re-estimated using a very recent parameterization of these wall-losses 223 (Krechmer et al., 2016). The wall-loss corrected yields obtained are then used in the 224 model in a sensitivity study to evaluate the corresponding change in the modeled SOA 225 226 concentrations. The model is modified based on these literature constraints. No model tuning is performed with the goal of improving the agreement with the observations. The 227 results obtained from the new box model are compared against ambient ground site and 228 airborne measurements, and also against recently-published oxidation flow reactor (OFR) 229 measurements (Ortega et al., 2016). This combination of data sets allows the model to be 230 evaluated for photochemical ages ranging up to 3 equivalent days (at 1.5×10^6 molec OH 231 cm⁻³) providing a means to evaluate the aging mechanisms of the VOCs in the VBS. 232

233 **2. EXPERIMENTAL SECTION**

234 **2.1 Measurement and sampling site**

235 The box model is constructed in order to represent the South Coast Air Basin during CalNex in spring/summer 2010. The measurements of aerosols used in this study 236 were conducted in Pasadena, California (34.1406° N 118.1224° W), located to the 237 northeast of downtown Los Angeles (Hayes et al., 2015). An overview of CalNex has 238 been published previously (Ryerson et al., 2013). The location and the meteorology of the 239 ground site at Pasadena are described in further detail in Haves et al. (2013). Pasadena is 240 241 a receptor site for pollution due to winds that transport emissions from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and downtown Los Angeles. Airborne measurements of 242 aerosols were also carried out in the South Coast Air Basin as part of the CalNex project. 243 A detailed description of the airborne measurements is given in Bahreini et al. (2012). 244 Furthermore, measurements of POA composition and volatility taken at the Caldecott 245 Tunnel in the San Francisco Bay Area reported in previous work (Worton et al., 2014) 246 247 are also used to constrain the model as described below. The tunnel air samples were 248 collected during July 2010.

249 Two additional datasets are used to evaluate the model. In addition to sampling ambient air, an aerosol mass spectrometer (AMS) sampled air that had been 250 photochemically aged using an oxidation flow reactor (OFR) (Ortega et al., 2016). The 251 OFR exposed ambient air to varying concentrations OH radicals in order to obtain 252 photochemical ages much higher than the ambient levels observed at the Pasadena site, 253 and the amount of SOA produced was quantified as a function of OH exposure. 254 Moreover, radiocarbon (¹⁴C) analysis has been performed on filter samples and results 255 were combined with positive matrix factorization (PMF) data to determine fossil and 256 non-fossil fractions of the SOA components as reported in Zotter et al. (2014). The ¹⁴C 257

results are used for subsequent comparison against the box model from which fossil and non-fossil SOA mass can be estimated.

260 **2.2 Model set-up**

The SOA model is set-up to include 3 types of precursors: VOCs, P-IVOCs, and 261 P-SVOCs. The parameters used in the box model to simulate the formation of SOA from 262 these precursors are listed in Tables S1 to S3 of the supporting information. The box 263 model dynamically calculates the evolution of organic species in an air parcel as it 264 undergoes photochemical aging, hence producing SOA. The total SOA also includes 265 background SOA (BG-SOA) at a constant concentration of 2.1 µg m⁻³, as determined in 266 our previous work (Hayes et al., 2015). The model accounts for P-SVOC emissions from 267 vehicular exhaust and cooking and treats POA as semi-volatile (Robinson et al., 2007). It 268 should be noted that the model uses CO and NO_x as inputs to constrain the model, and the 269 SOA yields for high-NO_x conditions are used, based on our previous work (Hayes et al., 270 271 2013; 2015). Therefore, to verify model performance both predictions of VOC and POA 272 concentrations have been compared against field measurements and the model performance appears to be satisfactory (Hayes et al., 2015). 273

A schematic of the model is shown in Figure 1. All the model cases are listed in 274 Table 1, and all the parameterizations are shown schematically in Figure 2. The first 275 model case (ROB + TSI) incorporates the Robinson et al. (2007) parameterization for 276 277 SOA formation that models P-IVOCs and P-SVOCs (i.e. P-S/IVOCs) using a single volatility distribution and oxidation rate constant. The ROB + TSI case also uses the 278 279 Tsimpidi et al. (2010) parameterization for SOA formation from VOCs. A detailed description of the parameters used in ROB + TSI can be found in Hayes et al. (2015), and 280 the ROB + TSI model case used here is identical to the case of the same name used in 281 that paper. Briefly, as displayed in Fig. 2A, the Tsimpidi et al. (2010) parameterization 282 proposes that the VOCs undergo an initial oxidation step that will form four lumped 283 products with different volatilities ($c^* = 1, 10^1, 10^2, 10^3 \text{ ug m}^{-3}$, where c^* is the effective 284 saturation concentration). The first-generation oxidation products can be further oxidized. 285 decreasing their volatility by one order of magnitude (i.e. aging). This "bin-hopping" 286 mechanism repeats until the lowest volatility product is reached ($c^* = 10^{-1} \mu g m^{-3}$ in this 287 study and 1 µg m⁻³ in other studies such as Tsimpidi et al. (2010) and Hayes et al. (2015). 288 The Robinson et al. (2007) parameterization proposes that the P-S/IVOCs are initially 289 distributed in logarithmically spaced volatility bins ranging from $c^* = 10^{-2}$ to $10^6 \,\mu g \,m^{-3}$. 290 Thereafter, the oxidation of P-S/IVOCs decreases their volatility by one order of 291 magnitude until the lowest volatility product is reached ($c^* = 10^{-2} \text{ µg m}^{-3}$). The lowest 292 volatility product possible is not the same for the oxidation of VOCs versus the oxidation 293 of the P-S/IVOCs $(10^{-1} \text{ vs. } 10^{-2} \text{ } \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, respectively). However, whether the mass is 294

distributed into either bin has a negligible effect on the SOA mass simulated in the boxmodel because of the relatively high SOA concentrations during the case study.

297 In this work, 5 model parameterizations are tested that incorporate new measurements of IVOCs and P-SVOC volatility as well as updated VOC yields that 298 account for wall-losses of vapors (Zhang et al., 2014; Krechmer et al., 2016). For the first 299 new case (ROB + ZHAO + TSI), we incorporate IVOC data measured in Pasadena 300 301 during the CalNex campaign as reported from Zhao et al. (2014). In particular, the measured concentrations of speciated and unspeciated IVOCs and their estimated 302 volatility are used to constrain the initial concentration of these species (as discussed in 303 Section 2.2.2 below) as well as to estimate their yields (Zhao et al., 2014). Therefore, we 304 replace the inferred concentrations of IVOCs that were used in our previous work and 305 based on the volatility distribution of Robinson et al. (2007) with concentrations that are 306 directly constrained by measurements. In the ROB + ZHAO + TSI case the SOA 307 formation parameters used (e.g. yields, oxidation rate constants) are taken from Zhao et 308 al. (2014) for the IVOCs and from Hayes et al. (2015) for the VOCs and SVOCs. 309 Hodzic et al. (2016) have also estimated the IVOC yields while accounting for wall-310 losses using recent laboratory studies. However, the yields reported in that study are for a 311 single lumped species, whereas in our work we estimate the yields using 40 IVOC 312 categories, each representing a single compound or a group of compounds of similar 313 314 structure and volatility. This method allows a more precise representation of IVOC yields 315 and rate constants in the SOA model.

For the second new case (WOR + ZHAO + TSI), the volatility distribution of P-316 317 SVOCs is updated using measurements of POA performed at the Caldecott tunnel in the California Bay Area (Worton et al., 2014). In the previous two cases described above, the 318 relative volatility distribution of P-SVOCs was taken from the work of Robinson et al. 319 (2007). In this distribution, the relative concentration of SVOCs increases monotonically 320 between the $c^* = 10^{-2}$ and $10^2 \mu g m^{-3}$ bins. The P-SVOC volatility distribution in the 321 WOR + ZHAO + TSI case increases monotonically as well, but the relative 322 concentrations in each bin are different and notably there is a much higher relative 323 concentration of SVOCs in the $c^* = 10^2 \ \mu g \ m^{-3}$ bin (see Fig. 2 and Table S3 in the 324 325 supporting information). In this model case, the updated P-SVOC volatility distribution is 326 only applied to vehicular P-S/IVOCs whereas the volatility distribution proposed by Robinson et al. (2007) is still used for cooking emissions. 327

Several recently published papers have found that chamber experiments may underestimate SOA yields due to the loss of semi-volatile vapors to chamber walls (Matsunaga and Ziemann, 2010; Zhang et al., 2014; Krechmer et al., 2016). A sensitivity study has been performed to explore this uncertainty by running the three model cases described above (ROB + TSI, ROB + ZHAO + TSI, and WOR + ZHAO + TSI) with a 333 revised version of the SOA yields for VOCs that accounts for these wall losses. A detailed description of how these updated yields were estimated is provided in the 334 supporting information and the values can be found in Table S4. Briefly, equilibrium 335 partitioning is assumed to hold for the organic mass found in the gas phase, particle 336 337 phase, or chamber walls. The SOA yields are then obtained by refitting SOA chamber yield curves using a model that accounts for partitioning between the three compartments 338 (particle, gas, and wall) and incorporates the equivalent wall mass concentrations 339 published in Krechmer et al. (2016), which are volatility dependent. The SOA chamber 340 yield curves that were refitted were first calculated using the parameters published in 341 Tsimpidi et al. (2010). There are limits to the assumption that partitioning between the 342 three phases occurs on short enough timescales for all four VOC product volatilities that 343 equilibrium is reached during an SOA chamber study. Specifically, at lower volatilities 344 $(c^* \le 1 \ \mu g \ m^{-3})$, the partitioning kinetics of the organic mass from the particles to the 345 chamber walls have an effective timescale of more than an hour, which is similar or 346 longer than typical chamber experiments (Ye et al., 2016). The limiting step in the 347 partitioning kinetics is evaporation of SVOCs from the particles to the gas phase, and 348 therefore the exact rate of evaporation depends on the OA concentration in the chamber. 349

Furthermore, as described in the supporting information, the updated SOA yields 350 for VOC oxidation result in distribution of SVOC mass into lower volatility bins 351 352 compared to the original parameterization, although the sum for the SVOC yields (α_i) remains similar. In the absence of aging, the SOA yields, Y, resulting from the wall-loss 353 correction should be considered upper limits (MA parameterization), whereas the original 354 yields serve as lower limits due to the considerations discussed above (TSI 355 356 parameterization without aging). As shown in the supporting information (Figures S1 -S7) when aging (TSI parameterization with aging) is included the SOA yields increase 357 beyond those observed when applying the wall loss correction for most of the VOC 358 classes at longer photochemical ages. (It should be noted that SOA masses in Figures S1 -359 S7 were calculated using the same background as for the other model cases, $2.1 \ \mu g \ m^{-3}$.) 360 361 This feature of the aging parameterization is likely to blame for SOA over-predictions observed at long aging times when comparing with ambient data (e.g. Dzepina et al., 362 2009; Hayes et al., 2015). 363

According to Krechmer et al. (2016) and other chamber experiments (Matsunaga and Ziemann, 2010), the gas-wall equilibrium timescale doesn't vary strongly with the chamber size. The timescale for gas-wall equilibrium reported in these previous studies was 7 - 13 minutes. Similar timescales have been calculated for a variety of environmental chambers, including chambers that were used to determine many of the yields used in this paper. In addition, Matsunaga and Ziemann found that partitioning was nearly independent of chamber treatment, reversible, and obeyed Henry's law. Thus, the effective wall concentrations determined from the chamber experiments reported inKrechmer et al. (2016) are likely applicable to other chambers with different sizes.

The three model cases accounting for wall losses of organic vapors are named 373 ROB + MA, ROB + ZHAO + MA, and WOR + ZHAO + MA. For these cases, the aging 374 of the secondary SVOCs formed from the oxidation of VOCs was not included, since 375 multi-generation oxidation is not well-constrained using data from chamber studies that 376 377 are run over relatively short time-scales (i.e. hours). In addition, aging and correcting for wall-losses of organic vapors have been separately proposed to close the gap between 378 observed and predicted SOA concentration from pre-2007 models, and are thought to 379 represent the same "missing SOA mass." Therefore, we run the model with one of these 380 options at a time, as they are conceptually different representations of the same 381 phenomenology. The aging of secondary SVOCs formed from the oxidation of P-IVOCs 382 (and P-SVOCs) has been kept for all of the MA cases, however. To our knowledge, P-383 IVOC and P-SVOC mechanisms proposed in the literature have always included aging. A 384 similar approach for correcting the yields as described above cannot be applied to P-385 IVOCs because organics with low volatilities ($c^* < 10 \ \mu g \ m^{-3}$) will partition to chamber 386 walls very slowly, and SVOCs from P-IVOC oxidation tend to have lower volatilities 387 than the SVOCs formed from VOC oxidation (Tables S1 and S2). Indeed, when trying to 388 389 refit the VOC and IVOC yield curves, the model assuming equilibrium partitioning between particles, the gas phase, and the walls was able to reproduce the yield curves for 390 VOCs, but not for IVOCs. This difference in the results is consistent with equilibrium not 391 392 having been reached during the chamber studies on the IVOCs, which produce a greater 393 amount of lower volatility SVOCs when compared to VOCs during oxidation. These lower volatility SVOCs have relatively slow evaporation rates from the particles, which 394 395 prevents the chamber system from reaching equilibrium (Ye et al., 2016).

Simulations of O:C have been previously evaluated in Hayes et al. (2015) using 396 laboratory and field data from CalNex to constrain the predicted O:C. It was concluded in 397 that work that it was not possible to identify one parameterization that performed better 398 399 than the other parameterizations evaluated, because of the lack of constraints on the different parameters used (e.g. oxidation rate constant, oxygen mass in the initial 400 generation of products and that added in later oxidation generations, SOA yields, and 401 emissions). Therefore, incorporating O:C predictions into the current box model and 402 403 using those results in the evaluation discussed here would not provide useful additional constraints. 404

405 2.2.1 IVOC oxidation parameterizations

An important difference between the ROB + TSI and ROB + MA cases and the other four cases that have been updated with the IVOC measurements of Zhao et al. (2014) is that in the ZHAO cases, the first generation of IVOC oxidation distributes part

of the product mass into four different volatility bins ($c^* = 10^{-1}$, 1, 10^1 , 10^2 µg m^{-3}) as is 409 displayed in Fig. 2E. This IVOC oxidation scheme is similar to that used for the first step 410 of VOC oxidation (Tsimpidi et al., 2010) as displayed in Fig. 2A and D, and has been 411 used to model chamber measurements of SOA from IVOCs (Presto et al., 2010). 412 Contrastingly, in the ROB + TSI and ROB + MA cases, a "bin-hopping" approach is used 413 for all P-S/IVOCs where oxidation lowers volatility by only one order of magnitude (see 414 Fig. 2B and C). The Robinson et al. (2007) parameters are still used for the formation of 415 SOA from P-SVOCs in the ROB + ZHAO + TSI and ROB + ZHAO + MA cases, but the 416 parameters are only applied to primary emissions in c* bins between 10^{-2} and 10^{2} µg m⁻³ 417 inclusive (i.e. the volatilities corresponding to P-SVOCs). 418

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2.2.2. Determination of initial precursor concentrations

In the ROB + TSI and ROB + MA cases, the initial concentration of P-S/IVOCs is 420 estimated as follows. The volatility distribution determined by Robinson et al. (2007) is 421 422 assumed to represent all P-S/IVOCs emitted (Dzepina et al., 2009). The total 423 concentration of P-S/IVOCs is then set so that the amount of P-S/IVOCs in the particle phase is equal to the initial POA concentration. The initial POA concentration is 424 determined from the product of the background-subtracted CO concentration and the 425 $\Delta POA/\Delta CO$ emission ratio (Hayes et al., 2015). While this ratio may change due to 426 evaporation/condensation or photochemical oxidation of POA, our previous work (Haves 427 et al., 2013) has shown that $\Delta POA/\Delta CO$ does not change significantly at the Pasadena 428 ground site with observed photochemical age indicating that the ratio is insensitive to the 429 extent of photochemical oxidation. Furthermore, it was calculated that the ratio would 430 increase by 28% for an increase of OA concentration from 5 to 15 µg m⁻³, concentrations 431 that are representative of this study. This possible source of error is substantially smaller 432 433 than current errors suggested for P-S/IVOC emission inventories in 3-D models, where current schemes are based on scaling POA emission inventories with scaling factors that 434 are not well constrained (Woody et al., 2016). The same method is used for the other four 435 model cases, but only the initial concentration of P-SVOCs is estimated by this method 436 and the initial concentration of P-IVOCs is estimated separately as described in the next 437 paragraph. In addition, in the WOR + ZHAO + TSI and WOR + ZHAO + MA cases the 438 volatility distribution of vehicular P-SVOCs reported in Worton et al. (2014) is used for 439 estimating the initial concentration of vehicular P-SVOCs whereas the volatility 440 distribution of Robinson et al. (2007) is used for estimating the initial concentration of 441 442 cooking P-SVOCs.

It should be noted that the tunnel measurements do not include emissions due to cold starts of vehicles. In the box model, only the relative volatility distribution of vehicular POA measured during the tunnel study is used, and thus this potential source of error does not apply to the total amount of vehicular POA emissions in the model. However, it is still possible that the volatility distribution of POA is different during coldstarts compared to that of POA emitted from warm-running engines. To our knowledge, measurements of the volatility distribution of POA during cold-starts are not available at this time. By comparing the SOA model results using two different POA volatility distributions (Robinson et al., 2007; Worton et al., 2014), we can evaluate to a certain extent the sensitivity of the simulated SOA concentration to the initial POA volatility distribution.

The initial concentrations of VOCs and IVOCs are calculated by multiplying the 454 background-subtracted CO concentrations measured at Pasadena by the emission ratios 455 456 $\Delta VOC/\Delta CO$ or $\Delta IVOC/\Delta CO$. In the ROB + TSI and ROB + MA cases this method is only applied to the VOCs. The initialization method for the concentrations of the VOCs 457 is the same for all six cases in this paper. For the biogenic VOCs, we follow the same 458 method as Hayes et al. (2015) to determine the initial concentrations since these 459 460 compounds are not co-emitted with CO. The emission ratios are taken from the literature when available (Warneke et al., 2007; Borbon et al., 2013). For most of the IVOCs and 461 some VOCs, emission ratios are not available in the literature. The ratios are instead 462 determined by performing linear regression analyses on scatter plots of the IVOC or 463 VOC and CO concentrations measured in Pasadena between 00:00-06:00 local time when 464 465 the amount of photochemical aging was very low. During the regression analyses the xintercept was fixed at 105 ppbv CO to account for the background concentration of CO 466 determined in our previous work (Haves et al., 2013). Thus, the slope of the resulting line 467 corresponds to the estimated emission ratio ($\Delta IVOC/\Delta CO$). 468

It should be noted that the use of VOC emission ratios to CO to estimate VOC 469 emissions does not assume that VOCs are always co-emitted with CO. Rather, it assumes 470 that VOC emission sources are individually small and finely dispersed in an urban area, 471 so that they are spatially intermingled with the sources of CO. Moreover, previous studies 472 have measured the emission ratios of anthropogenic VOCs with respect to CO and the 473 results show that vehicle exhaust is a major source of VOC and CO (Warneke et al., 474 475 2007; Borbon et al., 2013). Furthermore, the ratios are consistent both temporally and spatially. Thus, when thinking of the entire urban area as a source, the use of emission 476 ratios to CO is justified. As shown in Hayes et al. (2015) in the supporting information, 477 the modeled VOC concentrations are consistent with the measurements indicating that 478 479 major VOCs sources have not been omitted, and the smooth time variations of the VOC concentrations support the use of a "global urban source". 480

481 **2.3 SOA model**

The VOC yields are taken from Tsimpidi et al. (2010) or determined in this work as described below. The estimation of the IVOC yields (based on values taken from Presto et al. (2010) and of the OH reaction rate constants for IVOCs follows the same

approach used by Zhao et al. (2014). However, instead of using the total SOA yield, Y. 485 for a fixed OA concentration as reported in Zhao et al. (2014), we use the SVOC yield, α , 486 of each c* bin. It is important to note here that the SOA yields taken from Tsimpidi et al. 487 and Presto et al. use a four-product basis set with $c^* = 10^0$, 10^1 , 10^2 , 10^3 µg m⁻³ and $c^* =$ 488 10^{-1} , 10^{0} , 10^{1} , $10^{2} \mu g m^{-3}$ respectively. For this box model, it is more appropriate to have 489 a uniform VBS in terms of the bin range utilised so a bin with a lower volatility ($c^* = 10^{-1}$ 490 µg m⁻³) has been added to the VBS distribution of Tsimpidi et al. (2010). The yield for 491 bin $c^* = 10^{-1} \mu g m^{-3}$ is 0 for VOC oxidation, but when aging occurs mass can be 492 transferred into this bin. However, the change in the total V-SOA mass is negligible 493 because for both bin $c^* = 10^{-1}$ and $10^0 \,\mu g \, m^{-3}$ the secondary products almost completely 494 partition to the particle phase. 495

The OH reaction rate constants are taken from the literature (Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Carter, 2010) as described previously in Hayes et al. (2015). During aging, the oxidation products undergo subsequent reactions with OH radicals with a reaction rate constant of 1×10^{-11} cm³ molec⁻¹ s⁻¹ and 4×10^{-11} cm³ molec⁻¹ s⁻¹ for the products of VOC oxidation and P-S/IVOC oxidation respectively (Hayes et al., 2015). For each oxidation step during aging, there is a mass increase of 7.5 % due to added oxygen.

The gas-particle partitioning is calculated in each bin by using the reformulation of Pankow theory by Donahue et al. (2006).

$$x_{p,i} = \left(1 + \frac{C_i}{C_{OA}}\right)^{-1}; C_{OA} = \sum_i [SVOC]_i x_{p,i}$$

Where $\chi_{p,i}$ is the particle phase fraction of lumped species *i* (expressed as a mass fraction); C_i is the effective saturation concentration, and C_{OA} is the total mass of organic aerosol available for partitioning (in µg m⁻³). Only species in the gas phase are allowed to react with OH radicals in the model, since aerosol species react at much lower rates (Donahue et al., 2013).

509 The simulated SOA mass from the model is compared against field measurements 510 of aerosol composition including results from PMF analysis of aerosol mass spectrometry data (Hayes et al., 2013; 2015). Specifically, the model predictions of urban SOA (i.e. 511 SOA formed within the South Coast Air Basin) are compared against the semi-volatile 512 oxygenated organic aerosol (SV-OOA) concentration from the PMF analysis. The other 513 514 OA component also attributed to SOA, low-volatility oxygenated organic aerosol (LV-OOA), is primarily from precursors emitted outside the South Coast Air Basin and is 515 used to estimate the background secondary organic aerosol (BG-SOA) as discussed 516 previously (Hayes et al., 2015). 517

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521 **2.4 Correction for changes in partitioning due to emissions into a** 522 shallower boundary layer upwind of Pasadena

As described in Hayes et al. (2015), during the transport of the pollutants to 523 Pasadena, the planetary boundary layer (PBL) heights increase during the day. Using CO 524 as a conservative tracer of emissions does not account for how the shallow boundary 525 layer over Los Angeles in the morning influences gas-particle partitioning due to lower 526 vertical mixing and higher absolute POA and SOA concentrations at that time. Thus, as 527 528 shown in the gas-particle partitioning equation above, there will be a higher partitioning of the species to the particle phase and less gas-phase oxidation of primary and secondary 529 SVOCs. Later in the morning and into the afternoon the PBL height increases (Hayes et 530 al., 2013) diluting the POA and urban SOA mass as photochemical ages increases. 531 However this is a relatively small effect as the partitioning calculation in the SOA model 532 is relatively insensitive to this effect and the absolute OA concentrations (Dzepina et al., 533 2009; Hayes et al., 2015). Our previous work (Hayes et al., 2015) found in a sensitivity 534 study a +4/-12% variation in predicted urban SOA when various limiting cases were 535 explored for simulation of the PBL (e.g. immediate dilution to the maximum PBL height 536 537 measured in Pasadena versus a gradual increase during the morning).

To account for the effect of absolute OA mass on the partitioning calculation, the 538 absolute partitioning mass is corrected using the following method. A PBL height of 539 540 345 m is used for a photochemical age of 0 h and it reaches a height 855 m at a photochemical age of 9.2 h, which is the maximum age for the ambient field data. 541 Between the two points, the PBL is assumed to increase linearly. The boundary layer 542 heights are determined using ceilometer measurements from Pasadena at 6:00 - 9:00 and 543 544 12:00 - 15:00 local time, respectively (Haves et al., 2013). The second period is chosen because it corresponds to when the maximum photochemical age is observed at the site. 545 The first period is chosen based on transport times calculated for the plume from 546 downtown Los Angeles (Washenfelder et al., 2011) that arrives in Pasadena during the 547 afternoon. There are certain limitations to this correction for the partitioning calculation. 548 First, the correction is based on a conceptual framework in which a plume is emitted and 549 then transported to Pasadena without further addition of POA or SOA precursors. A 550 second limitation is that we do not account for further dilution that may occur as the 551 plume is advected downwind of Pasadena. However, such dilution is not pertinent to the 552 OFR measurements, and so for photochemical ages beyond ambient levels observed at 553 Pasadena, we focus our analysis on the comparison with the OFR measurements. 554

556 **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

557 **3.1 Evolution of SOA concentration over 3 days**

We follow an approach similar to Hayes et al. (2015) in order to analyse the 558 model results. The model SOA concentration is normalized to the background subtracted 559 CO concentration to account for dilution, and the ratio is then plotted against 560 photochemical age rather than time to remove variations due to diurnal cycles of 561 562 precursor and oxidant concentrations. The photochemical age is calculated at a reference OH radical concentration of 1.5×10^6 molec cm⁻³ (DeCarlo et al., 2010). Figure 3 shows 563 this analysis for each model case for up to 3 days of photochemical aging. Since 564 565 fragmentation and dry deposition are not included in the model, it has only been run to 3 days in order to minimize the importance of these processes with respect to SOA 566 567 concentrations (Ortega et al., 2016). Nevertheless, it is very likely that gas-phase fragmentation of SVOCs (e.g. branching between functionalization and fragmentation) 568 569 occurs during oxidative aging over these photochemical ages as is discussed in further detail below. 570

571 In each panel of Fig. 3, field measurements are included for comparison. The ambient urban SOA mass at the Pasadena ground site is generally measured under 572 573 conditions corresponding to photochemical ages of 0.5 days or less (Hayes et al., 2013). 574 The airborne observations of SOA in the Los Angeles basin outflow are also shown as 575 the average of all data between 1 and 2 days of photochemical aging (Bahreini et al., 2012). The gray region on the right serves as an estimate for very aged urban SOA based 576 577 on data reported by de Gouw and Jimenez (2009). The data from the OFR and a fit of the ambient and reactor data (dotted black line) are also displayed in Fig. 3 (Ortega et al., 578 579 2016). In addition, Figure 4 shows the ratio of modeled-to-measured SOA mass on a logarithmic axis to facilitate evaluation of model performance. 580

581 As displayed in the graphs for Fig. 3, it should be noted the measurements from the OFR (Ortega et al., 2016) and from the NOAA P3 research aircraft (Bahreini et al., 582 2012) give quite similar results for SOA/ Δ CO. The OFR measurements are not affected 583 584 by particle deposition that would occur in the atmosphere at long timescales or 585 photochemical ages. Only a few percent of the particles are lost to the walls of the 586 reactor, and this process has been corrected for already in the results of Ortega et al. The 587 similarity in the two types of observations suggests that ambient particle deposition and plume dispersion do not significantly change the SOA/ Δ CO ratio over the photochemical 588 589 ages analyzed here.

590 In ROB + TSI, as described in previous work (Hayes et al., 2015), there is a large 591 over-prediction of SOA mass at longer photochemical ages. As displayed in Fig. 3, the 592 amount of SOA produced in the model is higher than all of the field measurements taken

at a photochemical age longer than 0.5 days. Moreover, the ratios of model to 593 measurement are higher than the upper limit of the gray bar representing the ratios within 594 the measurement uncertainties. There is an agreement with the measurements at moderate 595 photochemical ages (between 0.25 and 0.50 days), but the SOA mass simulated by the 596 597 model is slightly lower than the measurements at the shortest photochemical ages (less than 0.25 days) even when accounting for measurement uncertainties. In this 598 parameterization, most of the SOA produced comes from the P-S/IVOCs, and 599 uncertainties in the model with respect to these compounds likely explain the 600 overestimation observed at longer photochemical ages. As discussed in the introduction, 601 602 a major goal in this work is to better constrain the amount of SOA formed from the oxidation of P-S/IVOCs, and the following two model cases (ROB + ZHAO + TSI and 603 WOR + ZHAO + TSI) seek to incorporate new measurements to better constrain the box 604 605 model with respect to the P-S/IVOCs.

When the yield, rate constants, and initial concentrations of P-IVOCs are 606 constrained using the field measurements reported in Zhao et al. (2014) (ROB + ZHAO + 607 TSI), the SOA mass simulated by the model shows much better agreement with the 608 measurements at longer photochemical ages (Fig. 3 and 4). There is a slight over-609 prediction at 2 days of photochemical aging, but the model is still within the range of 610 measurements of very aged urban SOA reported by De Gouw and Jimenez (2009). The 611 612 parameterization reported in Robinson et al. (2007) for P-S/IVOCs is based on one study 613 of the photo-oxidation of diesel emissions from a generator (Robinson et al., 2007). The results obtained here for the better constrained ROB + ZHAO + TSI case indicate that the 614 initial concentrations of P-IVOCs as well as the P-IVOC yields within ROB + TSI are too 615 616 high which leads to over-prediction of SOA concentration at longer photochemical ages. On the other hand, the SOA mass simulated in ROB + ZHAO + TSI is biased low at 617 shorter photochemical ages (less than 1 day). Similar to other recent studies (Gentner et 618 al., 2012; Hayes et al., 2015; Ortega et al., 2016), there may be unexplained SOA 619 precursors not included in the model which rapidly form SOA or yields for fast-reacting 620 621 species including certain VOCs may be biased low. Both of these possibilities are explored in the other model cases discussed below. 622

The WOR + ZHAO + TSI case simulates higher SOA concentrations at shorter 623 photochemical ages compared to the previous case (ROB + ZHAO + TSI), but it is still 624 biased low at shorter photochemical ages. The more rapid SOA formation is due to the 625 626 updated SVOC volatility distribution in this model case compared to the cases that use the Robinson et al. (2007) distribution. Specifically, as shown in Fig. 2F, there is a higher 627 relative concentration of gas phase SVOCs in the $c^* = 10^2$ bin and thus a higher ratio of 628 P-SVOC to POA. Given that in the box model (and in most air quality models) the P-629 630 SVOC emissions are determined by scaling the POA emissions according to their volatility distribution, a higher P-SVOC to POA ratio will then result in a higher initial P-631

SVOCs concentration. Furthermore, SOA formation from P-SVOCs is relatively fast. 632 Together these changes lead to increases in SOA formation during the first hours of 633 photochemical aging when using the Worton et al. volatility distribution. This case 634 suggests that P-SVOCs in their highest volatility bin ($c^* = 10^2 \ \mu g \ m^{-3}$ bin) that are 635 emitted by motor vehicles may be responsible for some of the observed rapid SOA 636 formation within the South Coast Air Basin. When observing the SOA mass simulated at 637 photochemical ages higher than 1 day, the simulation is similar to ROB + ZHAO + TSI. 638 There is better model/measurement agreement than for the ROB + TSI case, but a small 639 over-prediction is observed in the comparison to the reactor data at 2 days of 640 photochemical aging. 641

642 Also shown in the right-hand panels of Fig. 3 and 4 are the results with the updated yields for the VOCs that account for gas phase chamber wall losses. For these 643 last three cases (ROB + MA, ROB + ZHAO + MA, and WOR + ZHAO + MA), the rate 644 of SOA formation at short photochemical ages is faster because the secondary SVOC 645 mass from the oxidation of the VOC precursors is distributed into lower volatility bins 646 compared to the Tsimpidi et al. (2010) parameterization. In the ROB + MA case (Fig. 3D 647 and 4D), similar to ROB + TSI, an over-prediction is obtained at longer photochemical 648 ages. There is an improvement in the model at the shortest photochemical ages, but the 649 simulated mass is still lower than the measurements even when considering the 650 651 measurement uncertainty. Both of these cases perform less well for SOA formation within the South Coast Air Basin, and therefore the remainder of this study is focused on 652 the other four model cases. Overall, the model cases using the updated yields for V-SOA 653 show improvement for the shorter photochemical ages, and the evolution of SOA 654 655 concentration as a function of photochemical age better corresponds to the various measurements taken at Pasadena and from the OFR. 656

657 Specifically, the ROB + ZHAO + MA and the WOR + ZHAO + MA cases both better represent SOA formation and exhibit better model/measurement agreement among 658 659 the different cases used in this work. They are both consistent with the OFR reactor data at longer photochemical ages as shown in Figs. 3 and 4 compared with the other cases. At 660 a qualitative level, the MA parameterization simulations are more consistent with the fit 661 of the OFR measurements in which the SOA mass remains nearly constant at longer 662 photochemical ages. In contrast, the cases with the TSI parameterization do not follow 663 this trend as the SOA mass keeps increasing between 2 and 3 days age, which is not 664 665 observed in the measurements. As already mentioned, the model used for this work does not include fragmentation reactions, and including these reactions, in particular branching 666 between functionalization and fragmentation during gas-phase SVOC oxidation, may 667 668 improve the cases using a potential update of the TSI parameterization as discussed 669 below. Fig. 4F indicates that including additional P-SVOC mass in the model and accounting for gas-phase wall losses in chamber studies improves SOA mass 670

concentration simulations with respect to the measurements. However, in the WOR +
ZHAO + MA case there is still a slight under-prediction of SOA formed at shorter
photochemical ages (between 0.05 and 0.5 days), and this discrepancy is observed in all
the other model cases. Given the uncertainties in the model set-up discussed in the
experimental section, it is not possible to conclude if one of the four cases (i.e. ROB +
ZHAO + TSI, WOR + ZHAO + TSI, ROB + ZHAO + MA, WOR + ZHAO + MA) more
accurately represents SOA formation in the atmosphere.

According to the OFR data from Ortega et al. (2016), the mass of OA starts to 678 decay due to fragmentation after heterogeneous oxidation at approximately 10 days of 679 photochemical aging. The results are consistent with other OFR field measurements 680 (George and Abbatt, 2010; Hu et al., 2016; Palm et al., 2016). In this work, the model is 681 682 run only up to 3 days, which is much shorter than the age when heterogeneous oxidation 683 appears to become important. In fact, when including a fragmentation pathway for each of the model cases, a reduction of OA of only 6 % is observed compared to the cases 684 without fragmentation at 3 days of photochemical aging. In this sensitivity study, the 685 fragmentation is parameterized as an exponential decrease in OA concentration that has a 686 lifetime of 50 days following Ortega et al. (2016). Given the results, the inclusion of 687 fragmentation due to heterogeneous oxidation in the model does not significantly change 688 the model results or the conclusions made in this work. 689

690 More generally, there are at least three different fragmentation mechanisms that 691 could be responsible for the decrease of SOA formation at very high photochemical ages. The first mechanism is the reaction of oxidants (e.g. OH) with the surface of an aerosol 692 particle and decomposition to form products with higher volatility, i.e. due to the 693 heterogeneous oxidation just described. The second type of fragmentation that may be 694 important for very high photochemical ages in the OFR is due to the high concentration 695 of OH (Palm et al., 2016). Most of the molecules in the gas phase will react multiple 696 697 times with the available oxidants before having a chance to condense, which will lead to the formation of smaller products too volatile to form SOA. However, this is only 698 important at very high photochemical ages in the OFR, which are not used in this work. 699 700 A third type of fragmentation can occur during the aging of gas-phase SVOCs (Shrivastava et al., 2013; 2015). The TSI parameterization used in the model from this 701 work and from previous modeling works (Robinson et al., 2007; Hodzic et al., 2010; 702 Shrivastava et al., 2011) only includes the functionalization of the SVOCs and neglects 703 fragmentation reactions. More recently, Shrivastava et al. (2013) have modified the VBS 704 approach in a box model by incorporating both pathways and performed several 705 sensitivity studies. The results when including fragmentation generally exhibit better 706 agreement with field observations, but as noted in that work the agreement may be 707 708 fortuitous given that both the emissions as well as the parameters representing oxidation in the model are uncertain. This third type of fragmentation is not simulated in our 709

sensitivity study using the approach above, and it remains poorly characterized due to the
complexity of the chemical pathways and the number of compounds contributing to SOA
formation as described in Shrivastava et al. (2013).

Finally, Woody et al. (2016) recently proposed a meat cooking volatility 713 distribution and therefore we perform a sensitivity study by using this distribution in our 714 model for P-SVOCs coming from cooking sources. The results are displayed in the 715 716 supporting information (Figure S8), where this alternate approach has been implemented for the WOR + ZHAO + TSI and WOR + ZHAO + MA cases. By comparing the results 717 obtained from this sensitivity study with Fig. 3, the two cases in the sensitivity study 718 display a slight decrease of SOA/ Δ CO values over 3 days of photochemical aging with a 719 difference of approximately 8% at 3 days. Thus, the model-measurement comparison 720 721 does not change significantly relative to the base case. Given the similarities between the sensitivity study and Fig. 3, as well as the possibility of cooking SOA sources other than 722 723 meat-cooking (i.e. heated cooking oils, Liu et al. (2017)), the remainder of our work uses the Robinson et al. volatility distribution for P-SVOCs from cooking sources. 724

3.1.1 SOA concentration estimated at Pasadena: fossil and non-fossil fractions

In the top panel of Figure 5, the box model is compared against the urban SOA 727 determined by PMF analysis of the AMS measurements at Pasadena (Hayes et al., 2013). 728 In the bottom panel of the same figure the model is compared against the fossil and non-729 fossil fraction of urban SOA as obtained from ¹⁴C measurements reported in Zotter et al. 730 (2014). Both panels show measurements and predictions corresponding to 12:00 - 15:00731 local time, when SOA concentrations peaked due to longer photochemical ages (5 hours 732 733 on average) as well as the arrival of emissions transported from source-rich western 734 regions of the South Coast Air Basin.

735 Similar to the results in Fig. 3 and 4 for short photochemical ages, the SOA mass simulated by the ROB + ZHAO + TSI case is biased low in Fig. 5A. The ROB + ZHAO 736 + MA, WOR + ZHAO + TSI, and WOR + ZHAO + MA cases show better 737 model/measurement agreement as the simulated SOA mass is within the measurement 738 739 uncertainty or essentially equal to the lower limit of the concentration that is defined by 740 the measurement uncertainty. Fig. 5A also allows evaluation of the contribution of each precursor type to the SOA at Pasadena. For the four cases displayed, the P-SVOCs and P-741 742 IVOCs are responsible for 69 - 83 % of the urban SOA formation. Thus, more than half of the urban SOA is attributed to these precursors even in the MA parameterizations 743 744 where the model is run with the updated yields, which doubles V-SOA compared to the cases using the yields reported from Tsimpidi et al. (2010). Furthermore, 8 - 29 % of the 745 measured urban SOA is due to V-SOA where the range of values is due to the uncertainty 746

in the measurements as well as the difference in simulated V-SOA concentration for eachcase.

According to the ¹⁴C measurements, an average of 71 ± 3 % of urban SOA at 749 Pasadena is fossil carbon, which is thought to be due to the importance of vehicular 750 emissions, especially during the morning rush hour (Bahreini et al., 2012; Zotter et al., 751 2014; Hayes et al., 2015). In general, the box model gives results consistent with the 14 C 752 753 measurements. To make this comparison, the simulated SOA is apportioned between fossil S-SOA, fossil I-SOA, fossil V-SOA, cooking S-SOA, and biogenic V-SOA. The 754 last two apportionments correspond to non-fossil carbon. This evaluation is possible 755 following an approach similar to Haves et al. (2015) where the identity of the precursor is 756 757 used to apportion SOA. Briefly, the fossil S-SOA is formed from P-SVOCs emitted with 758 hydrocarbon-like OA (HOA), which is a surrogate for vehicular POA. Second, cooking S-SOA is formed from P-SVOCs emitted with cooking-influenced OA (CIOA). The 759 concentrations of HOA and CIOA were determined previously using PMF analysis. 760 Fossil V-SOA is formed from aromatics, alkanes, and olefins while isoprene and terpenes 761 are responsible for biogenic V-SOA. The treatment of IVOCs in the comparison with the 762 ¹⁴C measurements has been updated from our 2015 study. Previously, it was assumed that 763 P-IVOCs were co-emitted with cooking-influenced OA, but the recent work of Zhao et 764 al. (2014) and others indicates that petroleum sources contribute substantially to IVOC 765 766 emissions (Dunmore et al., 2015; Ots et al., 2016). Therefore, the IVOCs are considered 767 entirely fossil carbon in order to obtain the results shown in Fig. 5B.

As seen in Fig. 5B, for all the model cases, cooking S-SOA dominates the non-768 fossil fraction and biogenic VOCs have only a small contribution to non-fossil urban 769 SOA. This result is consistent with our previous work, and indicates agreement between 770 the model and ¹⁴C measurements cannot be achieved without including an urban source 771 of non-fossil carbon such as P-SVOCs from cooking. With respect to fossil SOA, more 772 773 S-SOA is formed when using the volatility distribution of vehicular POA reported from 774 Worton et al. (2014) due to the greater proportion of gas-phase of P-SVOCs. When the 775 V-SOA yields are updated in the model (MA parameterizations), there is a corresponding 776 increase in both fossil and non-fossil V-SOA.

777 When comparing the fossil/non-fossil carbon split, all the cases are either in agreement with the measurement within its uncertainty, or slightly lower. Starting with 778 779 the ROB + ZHAO + TSI case, the fossil fraction increases from 74 % to 79 % in each 780 case as VOCs or P-SVOCs from vehicle emissions have greater importance for SOA formation. While the uncertainties reported in Zotter et al. (2014) were 71 ± 3 %, there 781 782 are likely additional errors due to different factors that may influence the model or measurements. For example, a portion of the P-IVOCs may be from cooking sources 783 rather than entirely from fossil sources as is assumed above (Klein et al., 2016). Taking 784 785 the WOR + ZHAO + MA case as an example, since it is the best performing case in this

work according to Fig. 5A, model/measurement agreement is obtained within measurement uncertainties if one assumes that 18 - 41 % of P-IVOCs come from cooking emissions. Ultimately, the differences observed in the comparison with the ¹⁴C data are very likely smaller than these errors discussed here, and it is concluded that all the model cases perform equally well with respect to the fossil/non-fossil carbon split.

791 As reported in Gentner et al. (2012), emissions from petroleum derived fuels such as diesel and gasoline have an important contribution to the formation of SOA. However, 792 793 there have been conflicting results regarding the relative contributions of diesel versus gasoline emissions (Bahreini et al., 2012; Gentner et al., 2012). In this work, the relative 794 contribution of different SOA sources is estimated following a procedure similar to that 795 previously published in Hayes et al. (2015), and the results are shown in Figure S9 of the 796 797 supporting information. Briefly, the source apportionment method follows four steps. 798 First, after classifying the SOA mass from isoprene and terpenes as biogenic V-SOA, the remaining V-SOA is attributed to gasoline emissions since the diesel contribution to V-799 SOA is small (~3 %) (Hayes et al., 2015). Second, for the diesel and gasoline 800 contribution to S-SOA, $70(\pm 10)$ % of HOA is emitted from diesel vehicles with the 801 802 remainder from gasoline vehicles (Hayes et al., 2013), and thus it is assumed for the source apportionment that 70% (30%) of vehicular P-SVOCs are from diesel (gasoline) 803 vehicles. Third, the S-SOA from cooking sources is calculated separately in the model, 804 where the initial concentration of cooking P-SVOCs is estimated using the measured 805 806 CIOA concentration and the method described in Section 2.2.2 above. Lastly, the fractional contributions to I-SOA mass is difficult to determine since there are still 807 uncertainties about the sources of IVOCs. According to Zhao et al. (2014), petroleum 808 sources other than on-road vehicles likely contribute substantially to primary IVOCs, but 809 evidence exists that cooking may be a source of IVOCs as well (Klein et al., 2016). Thus, 810 while we attribute I-SOA to these two sources, we do not distinguish the sources. The 811 estimated source apportionment in Fig. S9 attributes urban SOA as follows: 4% to 812 biogenic V-SOA, 23% to gasoline V-SOA, 9% to gasoline S-SOA, 20% to diesel S-813 SOA, and 17 % to cooking S-SOA. The remaining 27 % is I-SOA that is either due to 814 815 cooking or off-road emissions of P-IVOCs.

It should be noted that according to McDonald et al. (2015), the emissions from 816 vehicles have decreased over time (i.e. between 1970 and 2010) due to regulations in 817 California. Warneke et al. (2012) have observed also that the emission ratios of some 818 SOA precursors (i.e. $\Delta VOC/\Delta CO$) have remained constant between 2002 and 2010, 819 while absolute concentrations have decreased. On the other hand, cooking and off-road 820 emissions are subject to different regulations in California, and the ratios of cooking or 821 822 off-road emissions to vehicular emissions have likely changed with time, which means that the source apportionment results for urban SOA presented here will be specific to 823 2010. 824

3.2 SOA formation versus precursor oxidation rate constant

Recent results from Ortega et al. (2016) point to the importance of fast-reacting 826 precursors for urban SOA during CalNex, and we can use their results to further evaluate 827 our box model. The fraction of SOA formed from each precursor class as a function of 828 the precursor rate constant is displayed in Figure 6. The right-axis of Fig. 6 shows the 829 correlation (R^2) of different VOCs with the maximum concentration of SOA formed 830 using the OFR as a function of their oxidation rate constants as reported in Ortega et al. 831 832 (2016). This analysis of the OFR data allows us to constrain the rate constants of the most important SOA precursors. A detailed description of how the R² values were obtained can 833 be found in Ortega et al. (2016). According to the R^2 data, the VOC compounds that 834 correlate best with maximum SOA formation potential are those that have log k_{OH} rate 835 constants ranging from -10.5 to -10.0. When comparing the percentage of SOA mass 836 simulated by the model with the observed R^2 values, all of the four cases are not entirely 837 consistent with the R^2 data. According to the model, more SOA mass is formed from 838 precursors in the bin ranging from -11.0 to -10.5 (the majority of mass formed comes 839 from P-IVOCs) rather than the bin ranging from -10.5 to -10.0. In contrast, the R² value 840 841 is higher for the more reactive bin. If either fast-reacting precursors were missing in the model, or if the rate constants of the currently-implemented precursors were too small, 842 then correcting either error would shift the relative distribution shown in Fig. 6 towards 843 faster-reacting SOA precursors. In turn, the trend in the percentage of modeled SOA 844 mass may more closely follow the trend in R^2 values. 845

846

3.3 Volatility distribution of OA

Based on the evaluations carried out up to this point on the six model cases, the 847 WOR + ZHAO + MA case seems to most closely reproduce the observations. Thus, the 848 entire volatility distribution of the OA, precursors, and secondary gas phase organics is 849 850 analyzed for this model case. Figure 7 shows this distribution for three selected photochemical ages: 0, 5, and 36 h. The figure allows us to track the evolution of SOA 851 and secondary gas phase organics from each precursor class in terms of their 852 concentration and volatility and also to evaluate the reduction of precursor 853 854 concentrations. For the model results, the volatility distribution of all organics resolved by precursor class, except for the VOCs and P-IVOCs, can be taken directly from the 855 model. To determine the volatility distribution of the VOCs and P-IVOCs, the SIMPOL.1 856 method (Pankow and Asher, 2008) is used to estimate the effective saturation 857 858 concentration of each compound or lumped species in the model. Also included in Fig. 7, 859 in the bottom-right panel, is the observed volatility distribution for the Pasadena ground 860 site, which is an average of measurements collected during 12:00 - 15:00 local time and corresponds to 5 h of photochemical aging. For the measurements, the volatility 861 862 distribution of VOCs was determined using GC-MS data (Borbon et al., 2013) whereas the IVOC distribution is taken from Zhao et al. (2014). The volatility distribution of SVOCs was determined using combined thermal denuder AMS measurements (see the supporting information for further details).

For the volatility distribution of the model at time 0, the concentrations of P-866 SVOCs and P-IVOCs monotonically increases with the value of c*. However, a 867 discontinuity in the mass concentration exists between the $c^* = 10^2$ and $10^3 \mu g m^{-3}$ bins. 868 This discontinuity can be explained by several factors. First, the measured IVOCs mass 869 concentration the $c^* = 10^3 \text{ µg m}^{-3}$ bin is very low, and since the initial concentrations of 870 IVOCs in the model are constrained by the field measurements, the model will also have 871 very low concentrations. Zhao et al. (2014) have already noted that the concentration of 872 873 P-IVOCs in this bin is relatively low when compared to the volatility distribution from Robinson et al. (2007). Another possible explanation is the presence of cooking sources, 874 875 which in the model are responsible for substantial P-SVOC mass (~50%) but may have a smaller contribution to the P-IVOC mass. 876

During oxidation the volatility distribution evolves and the concentration of 877 secondary organics increases in the bins between $c^* = 10^{-1}$ and $10^3 \mu g m^{-3}$ (inclusive), and 878 the largest portion of SOA is found in the $c^* = 1 \text{ ug m}^{-3}$ bin. This result is due to the 879 partitioning of the organic mass to the particle phase and the lack of particle phase 880 reactions in the model, which leads to very slow oxidation rates for species found in the 881 lower volatility bins. After 36 h, a large portion of the precursors have been reacted, 882 883 although some primary and secondary material remains in the gas phase giving rise to more gradual SOA formation. 884

In Fig. 7, it is possible to compare the measured volatility distribution with the 885 model simulation at 5 h of photochemical aging. It should be noted that the relatively 886 high concentrations of VOCs in the model compared to the measurements are due to the 887 model containing VOCs for which measurements were not obtained in Pasadena. There 888 889 are 47 VOCs used in the model and only 19 VOCs were measured. However, the remaining VOCs have been measured in other urban locations (Warneke et al., 2007; 890 Borbon et al., 2013) and thus it is assumed they are also present in the South Coast Air 891 Basin. For this work, we include these 28 remaining VOCs by assuming that they are also 892 emitted in the South Coast Air Basin with identical emission ratios ($\Delta VOC/\Delta CO$). When 893 comparing only VOCs measured and modeled (shown in hollow black bars), the results 894 are consistent (3.1, 3.6 and 2.2 μ g m⁻³ from c^{*} = 10⁷ to 10⁹ μ g m⁻³ bins versus 3.8, 3.7 895 and 2.2 μ g m⁻³ for the measurements). On the other hand, the model appears to have a 896 low bias for the concentrations of P-IVOCs (0.16, 0.63, 0.89 and 2.3 μ g m^{-3 3} from c* = 897 10^3 to 10^6 µg m⁻³ bins versus 0.21, 1.39, 2.65 and 3.82 µg m⁻³ for the measurements). 898 899 This low bias is seen for each volatility bin and could possibly be explained by either 900 oxidation rate constants that are too high or $\Delta IVOC/\Delta CO$ ratios that are too low. The 901 latter explanation seems more likely given that the rate constants estimated using surrogate compounds and structure-activity relationships for the unspeciated P-IVOCs 902 are generally lower limits (Zhao et al., 2014), which would result in a high bias rather 903 than a low bias. The $\Delta IVOC/\Delta CO$ ratios may be low because the photochemical age 904 905 between 00:00 - 6:00 local time is not strictly zero, and some oxidation may have occurred during the period used to determine the ratio values. Emission ratios such as 906 $\Delta IVOC/\Delta CO$ facilitate incorporating P-IVOC emissions into 3-D models that already use 907 CO emissions inventories, and the $\Delta IVOC/\Delta CO$ ratios reported here could be used for 908 this purpose. However, the resulting I-SOA concentrations should be considered lower 909 910 limits given that the emission ratios, and also the rate constants, are likely themselves lower limits. 911

To further explore the impact of potential errors in the initial IVOC 912 concentrations, a sensitivity study has been carried out using initial concentrations 913 calculated based on the observed photochemical age and measured IVOC concentrations 914 at Pasadena as well as the estimated IVOC oxidation rate constants (Zhao et al., 2014). 915 This alternate approach is implemented for the ROB + ZHAO + MA and WOR + ZHAO 916 + MA cases and does not use nighttime IVOC-to-CO ratios. The results when using this 917 alternative approach are shown in the supporting information (Figure S10). When 918 comparing Fig. S10 with Fig. 3, differences are minor. The model/measurement 919 920 agreement improves slightly at shorter photochemical ages (less than 1 day). At the same time a slightly larger over-prediction is observed at longer photochemical ages. However, 921 the formation of SOA modeled in this sensitivity test is similar to the original cases from 922 Fig. 3 with an average difference of only 21 %, which represent a relatively small error 923 compared to other uncertainties in SOA modeling. The IVOC initial concentrations used 924 925 in this sensitivity test are slightly higher than those calculated using the IVOC-to-CO 926 ratio, which explain the small increase of modeled SOA/ Δ CO. Ultimately, the different approaches for determining the initial IVOC concentration in the model are reasonably 927 consistent, and both approaches perform similarly given the model and measurement 928 929 uncertainties.

For the measurements of SVOCs, all the mass in bins lower than $10^{-2} \ \mu g \ m^{-3}$ are 930 lumped into this bin for Fig. 7 since the model does not contain lower volatility bins. In 931 addition, the 10^1 and $10^2 \mu g m^{-3}$ bins are not well-resolved because the thermal denuder 932 did not consistently reach temperatures low enough (less than 37°C) to resolve SVOCs in 933 this range of volatilities. Thus, the $10^1 \ \mu g \ m^{-3}$ bin may contain some higher volatility 934 particulate mass although this contribution is expected to be small due to the low particle 935 phase fraction of compounds in the $10^2 \,\mu g \, m^{-3}$ bin. With these considerations in mind, the 936 volatility distribution of the SVOCs is somewhat different in the model compared to the 937 measurements. Most notably, the model does not form a significant amount of lower 938

volatility SOA in the $10^{-2} \ \mu g \ m^{-3}$ bin, whereas the measurements have a much higher 939 concentrations in this bin. A factor that may explain this difference between the volatility 940 941 distributions is the lack of particle phase reactions that continue to transform SOA into lower volatility products, a process which is not considered in the model. One example of 942 a particle phase reaction is the formation of SOA within deliquesced particles, including 943 the partitioning of glyoxal to the aqueous phase to produce oligomers as discussed in 944 Ervens and Volkamer (2010), although that specific mechanism was of little significance 945 during CalNex (Washenfelder et al., 2011; Knote et al., 2014). Alternatively, the use of 946 947 an aging parameterization where the volatility may decrease by more than one order of magnitude per oxidation reaction would also distribute some SOA mass into lower c* 948 949 bins. Haves et al. (2015) previously evaluated different parameters for aging. However, the results from this previous study showed that substantial over-prediction of SOA was 950 observed when using the Grieshop et al. (2009) parameterization in which each oxidation 951 reaction reduced volatility by two orders of magnitude. New parameterizations may be 952 necessary to produce the observed SOA volatility and concentration simultaneously 953 954 (Cappa and Wilson, 2012). However, we note that the additional low volatility organic mass will not significantly change SOA predictions in urban regions where OA 955 concentrations are relatively high. When comparing the total amount of particle phase 956 SVOCs, it seems that the model reproduces reasonably well the measurements (6.6 957 versus 9.0 µg m⁻³) as expected based on the comparisons of the total SOA concentration 958 discussed above. In addition, the total amount of SVOCs (particle and gas phase) are 959 similar (12.9 vs 11.8 μ g m⁻³), although it is difficult to determine from measurements the 960 gas phase concentration of SVOCs in the $10^2 \mu g m^{-3}$ bin due to the lack of particle mass 961 in this bin under ambient concentrations as well as the limited temperature range of the 962 thermal denuder system. 963

Recently, Woody et al. (2016) published a paper that modeled SOA over 964 California using the Environmental Protection Agency's Community Multiscale Air 965 Quality Model that had been updated to include a VBS treatment of SOA (CMAQ-VBS). 966 As discussed in that paper, the modeled P-S/IVOC emission inventories remain an 967 important source of uncertainty in 3-D grid-based models. In that previous study several 968 different ratios of P-S/IVOCs-to-POA emissions were evaluated against measurements, 969 970 and it was found that a ratio of 7.5 gave the best agreement between the CMAQ-VBS model and observations. From the results shown in Fig. 7 at a photochemical age of 0 h, a 971 P-S/IVOC-to-POA ratio of 5.2 is calculated. This ratio is different from that determined 972 by Woody et al. (2016), and may be biased low due to possibly low $\Delta IVOC/\Delta CO$ 973 emission ratios as discussed earlier in this section, but it serves as both a useful lower 974 bound and has the advantage of being determined from empirical measurements of 975 976 aerosols rather than by tuning a model to match measured SOA concentrations. As stated 977 in Woody et al. (2016), the higher ratio may compensate for other missing (or underrepresented) formation pathways in SOA models or excessive dispersion of SOA intheir model.

980 **4. CONCLUSION**

We have used several data sets from recently published papers to better constrain 981 and evaluate urban SOA formation pathways and precursors, especially P-SVOCs and P-982 983 IVOCs, within a custom-built box model. The use of the box model facilitates the incorporation of these new data sets as well as the evaluation of a number of model cases. 984 All the model cases are able to correctly simulate the fossil/non-fossil carbon split at the 985 Pasadena ground site providing support for the performance of the model. When 986 987 measurements of IVOCs are used to constrain the concentrations of P-IVOCs, such as in 988 the ROB + ZHAO + TSI and ROB + ZHAO + MA cases, a large improvement of the model at longer photochemical age is observed. However, these model cases are still 989 biased low at shorter photochemical ages. By constraining the P-SVOCs additionally 990 991 with measurements of those precursors, such as in the WOR + ZHAO + TSI case, better 992 model/measurement agreement is obtained at shorter photochemical ages, yet the model is still biased low. Finally, the WOR + ZHAO + MA case, which incorporates state-of-993 994 the-art measurements of P-SVOCs and P-IVOCs and also accounts for the effect of 995 chamber wall-losses on VOC yields, obtains model/measurement agreement within 996 measurement uncertainties at long photochemical ages. Although, it displays also a low bias at short photochemical ages, which is similar to the ROB + ZHAO + MA case. This 997 bias may be due to low $\Delta IVOC/\Delta CO$ emissions ratios or IVOC oxidation rate constants 998 for which the estimated values are too low. It is also possible that additional sources or 999 SOA formation pathways are missing from the model. Moreover, a P-S/IVOC-to-POA 1000 ratio of 5.2 is determined, which can be combined with POA emission inventories to 1001 constrain the emissions of P-S/IVOCs in gridded chemical transport models. 1002

In addition to evaluating the model performance with respect to SOA 1003 1004 concentration, the rates of SOA formation are compared against measurements as well. This aspect of the study was enhanced by the use of OFR data to constrain SOA 1005 formation potential for up to 3 days of photochemical aging (at 1.5×10^6 molec OH 1006 cm⁻³). The model cases that include multi-generation oxidative aging predict substantial 1007 1008 SOA increases after 1.5 days of aging, which is not consistent with the OFR measurements. In contrast, model cases in which aging is omitted and instead SOA yields 1009 1010 for VOCs are corrected for gas phase wall-losses in chamber experiments predict little 1011 change in the SOA concentration after 1.5 days. These results highlight the uncertainties associated with aging schemes for SOA from VOCs, which are often implemented in 1012 SOA models. Implementing instead corrected yields for VOCs results in similar amounts 1013 of SOA but formation rates versus time that are more consistent with observations. 1014

1015 Therefore, the model cases with updated VOC yields that account for chamber wall-losses best reproduce the ambient and OFR data. However, while the WOR + 1016 ZHAO + MA case appears to represent a slight improvement over the ROB + ZHAO + 1017 MA case, as well as over the ROB + ZHAO + TSI and WOR + ZHAO + TSI cases, it is 1018 1019 not possible to conclude that one set of parameters is better than the other since the difference in the predictions for these 4 cases (15 % on average) is likely smaller than the 1020 uncertainties due to the model setup as well as the lack of a gas-phase fragmentation 1021 pathway during aging. Moreover, uncertainties in the vapor wall-loss corrected yields 1022 remain, and the correction of the yields has been performed here using data from a 1023 1024 limited number of laboratory studies. In particular, the effect of temperature and humidity on gas-wall partitioning needs to be characterized. The results obtained in our work 1025 motivate future studies by showing that SOA models using wall-loss corrected yields 1026 1027 reproduce observations for a range of photochemical ages at a level of accuracy that it is 1028 as good as or better than parameterizations with the uncorrected yields.

1029 In all six of the model cases, a large majority of the urban SOA at Pasadena is the result of P-SVOC and P-IVOC oxidation. While this result alone cannot be taken as 1030 conclusive due to the uncertainties in the model parameters, further evidence for the 1031 importance of P-SVOCs and P-IVOCs is obtained by analyzing the percentage of SOA 1032 formed at long photochemical ages (~1.5 days) as a function of the precursor rate 1033 1034 constant. The P-SVOCs and P-IVOCs have rate constants that are similar to highly 1035 reactive VOCs that have been previously found to strongly correlate with SOA formation potential measured by the OFR. 1036

1037 Lastly, the modeled volatility distribution of the total (gas and particle phase) 1038 organic mass between $c^* = 10^{-2}$ and 10^{10} ug m⁻³ is analyzed at three ages and compared 1039 against volatility-resolved measurements. While the total concentrations of gas and 1040 particle phase SVOCs are reasonably well simulated, at the same time there are important 1041 differences between the measured and modeled volatility distribution of SVOCs. These 1042 differences highlight the need for further studies of the chemical pathways that may give 1043 rise to SOA in low volatility bins at $c^* = 10^{-2}$ ug m⁻³ and lower.

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Table 1. Summary of the model cases used in this paper.

Case	Notes	References
1) ROB + TSI	<u>P-S/IVOCs:</u> Robinson et al. parameterization, and all SOA treated within VBS framework	Hayes et al. (2015) Robinson et al. (2007)
	<u>VOCs:</u> Tsimpidi et al. parameterization with aging	Tsimpidi et al. (2010)
	<u>P-SVOCs:</u> Robinson et al. parameterization, and all SOA treated within VBS framework	
2) ROB + ZHAO + TSI	<u>P-IVOCs:</u> Zhao et al. parameterization with aging	Robinson et al. (2007) Zhao et al. (2014) Tsimpidi et al. (2010)
	<u>VOCs:</u> Tsimpidi et al. parameterization with aging	
	<u>P-SVOCs:</u> Worton et al. volatility distribution for vehicular P-SVOCs. Robinson et al.	
	volatility distribution for cooking P-SVOCs	Robinson et al. (2007)
3) WOR + ZHAO + TSI	<u>P-IVOCs:</u> Zhao et al. parameterization with aging	Worton et al. (2014) Zhao et al. (2014) Tsimpidi et al. (2010)
	<u>VOCs:</u> Tsimpidi et al. parameterization with aging	i i i i i i i i i i
	<u>P-S/IVOCs:</u> Robinson et al. parameterization, and all SOA treated within VBS framework	
4) ROB + MA	<u>VOCs:</u> VOCs yields corrected for wall-losses, no aging of VOC oxidation products	Robinson et al. (2007) This work
	<u>P-SVOCs:</u> Robinson et al. parameterization, and all SOA treated within VBS framework	
5) ROB + ZHAO + MA	<u>P-IVOCs:</u> Zhao et al. IVOC parameterization with aging	Robinson et al. (2007) Zhao et al. (2014) This work
	<u>VOCs</u> : VOCs yields corrected for wall-losses, no aging of VOC oxidation products	
	<u>P-SVOCs:</u> Worton et al. volatility distribution for vehicular P-SVOCs. Robinson et al.	
	volatility distribution for cooking P-SVOCs	Robinson et al. (2007) Worton et al. (2014) Zhao et al. (2014) This work
6) WOR + ZHAO + MA	<u>P-IVOCs:</u> Zhao et al. IVOC parameterization with aging	
	<u>VOCs</u> : VOCs yields corrected for wall-losses, no aging of VOC oxidation products	





Figure 1. Schematic of the chemical pathways leading to the formation of SOA in the box model where α is the SOA yield, $k_{OH,VOC}$ and $k_{OH,IVOC}$ are the rate constants of a VOC or an IVOC species respectively for oxidation by OH radicals, and X_p is the particle-phase fraction of a species.



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Figure 2. Schematic of the SOA formation parameterizations used in the model. The products 1354 formed are shown in different colors for each precursor. Note that the striped color bars indicate 1355 that the bins contain both primary and secondary organics. In panel (A) the parameterization of 1356 Tsimpidi et al. (2010) distributes the products of VOCs oxidation into four volatility bins. Panels 1357 (B) and (C), show the parameterization of Robinson et al. (2007) in which the volatility of the 1358 1359 SOA precursors, specifically IVOCs and SVOCs, decrease by one order of magnitude per oxidation reaction. For P-IVOCs, aging continues to transfer mass to lower volatility bins (log c* 1360 < 2). Panel (D) shows the updated parameterization for VOC oxidation that accounts for gas 1361 phase wall losses, and Panel (E) shows the updated parameterization for P-IVOC oxidation that 1362 1363 uses the speciated measurements of IVOCs from Zhao et al. (2014). In Panel (F), for the parameterization based on the measurements of Worton et al. (2014), the Robinson et al. (2007) 1364 volatility distribution is still used for the P-SVOCs emitted from cooking sources. Arrows 1365 1366 representing the aging of SOA are omitted for clarity.



1367

Figure 3. Predicted urban SOA mass by all six cases for up to 3 days of photochemical aging 1368 using a reference OH radical concentration of 1.5×10^6 molec cm⁻³. Background SOA is not 1369 1370 included in the figure. The SOA concentrations have been normalized to the background subtracted CO (Δ CO) concentration to account for changes in emission strengths and dilution. 1371 The SOA/ACO data determined from the ambient and OFR measurements at Pasadena as 1372 reported by Hayes et al. (2013) (green squares) and Ortega et al. (2016) (black circles) are 1373 shown. Also shown is SOA/ Δ CO determined from measurements performed aboard the NOAA 1374 P3 research aircraft (black square) reported by Bahreini et al. (2012) and highly aged urban air 1375 masses (gray bar) reported by de Gouw and Jimenez (2009). The fit for ambient and reactor data 1376 reported by Ortega et al. (2016) is also shown (dotted black line). 1377



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Figure 4. The ratio of the modeled-to-measured SOA concentrations (blue squares) for all model cases. The measurements are the same as used in Figure 3. The gray bar indicates ratios that would correspond to model results that are within the estimated \pm 30 % uncertainty of the measurements.



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Figure 5. (A) Predicted and measured urban SOA mass for 12:00 – 15:00 local time at the Pasadena ground site. **(B)** The fractional mass of fossil S-SOA, fossil I-SOA, and fossil V-SOA, as well as cooking S-SOA and biogenic V-SOA for the same time and location. The percentage of urban SOA from fossil and non-fossil sources as reported in Zotter et al. (2014) is also displayed. The fossil sources are shown as solid bars and the non-fossil sources as hollow bars.



1390

Figure 6. Percentage of SOA mass formed from different precursors at 1.5 days of 1391 photochemical aging (at 1.5×10^6 molec OH cm⁻³) binned according to precursor rate constant. 1392 The correlations (R^2) between the concentrations of different VOCs and the maximum SOA 1393 concentration formed in the OFR as reported by Ortega et al. (2016) are represented by the 1394 markers. The shape of the marker indicates the chemical family to which each compound 1395 belongs. For the VOCs and the P-IVOCs the rate constant is the constant for the initial oxidation 1396 1397 reaction. The measurements of IVOCs used here allow the rate constants of these precursors to be taken from published work or estimated using structure-activity relationships as described 1398 previously (Zhao et al., 2014). For S-SOA, the rate constant is the aging rate constant reported 1399 originally by Robinson et al. (2007). 1400





Figure 7. OA volatility distribution as simulated by the WOR + ZHAO + MA case displayed at 1402 different photochemical ages (0, 5, and 36 h). The partitioning of the species is indicated using 1403 patterned bars for gas phase and solid bars for particle phase mass. The bottom-right graph also 1404 1405 shows the measured volatility distribution of OA. The SVOC volatility distribution is determined using a combined thermal denuder AMS system as described in the supporting information. The 1406 IVOC volatility distribution was previously published in Zhao et al. (2014), and the VOC 1407 distribution was determined from GC-MS measurements using the SIMPOL.1 model to estimate 1408 the volatility of each VOC. The asterisk in the bin $\log c^* = 2$ indicates that measurements are not 1409 available for this bin. It should be noted that not all the VOCs in the model were measured at 1410 1411 Pasadena (see text for details). For direct visual comparison with the measurements, the simulated concentrations of only the VOCs measured at Pasadena are indicated by the black 1412 hollow bars in the bins $\log c^* = 7$, 8, and 9 µg m⁻³. 1413