

Response to the comments of Anonymous Referee #1

Referee General Comment:

In this manuscript, the authors develop parameterizations of the glass transitions temperature (T_g) based on vapor pressures of a large number of pure organic compounds containing C, H, N, O, and S. The authors compare T_g predictions based on several different algorithms and then use the algorithm to predict the phase of SOA based on SOA volatility measurements from field studies. Finally, the impact of condensed phase water on the aerosol viscosity is examined. Calculations of the phase of organic aerosol is timely, relevant, and will be of interest to readers of ACP. The number of figures is appropriate and are generally well presented. The writing is clear and generally well organized, though could use some further technical editing. The authors are attempting to reduce a very challenging problem in the field to a parameterization that can be reasonably included in a global modeling framework with limited data to work with. I applaud them for this effort and fully recognize this is challenging, particularly with the limits in the data. With that said, I think the authors could have done a better job in more clearly addressing the uncertainties and limitations in the inputs to their parameterization early in the manuscript. In addition, large number of parameterizations and different data analysis and parameter estimation methods gets confusing at times. These points can be remedied with relatively minor revisions. Perhaps more challenging is that the results of the parameterization themselves don't seem to constrain the phase of OA particularly well. One example from the text is that for the SOAS campaign the range of T_g for OA is between 232 – 330 K depending on how the same set of data is analyzed. So, a reader (or reviewer) may be either confused or left wondering what exactly these calculations tell us. Adding condensed phase water and its impact on phase/volatility further increased the complexity. I suggest the authors try to better address this uncertainty/error/prediction range more thoroughly. I don't expect they will be able to resolve the issue and I don't have any specific suggestions for how to resolve this, but I think the attempt would significantly improve the impact of the paper. After these corrections, the manuscript would be appropriate for publication in ACP.

Response: We thank Anonymous Referee #1 for the positive review and very helpful suggestions. Following your suggestions, we have improved the writing in the revised manuscript and added some statements to prevent an abrupt transition between different sections. We add a new subsection 2.1 “Dataset of glass transition temperature” to describe the training and test datasets and address the uncertainties and limitations in the inputs (see our response to your comment 3). We also divide the Method section into three subsections and keep the main parameterization predicting the glass transition temperature as a function of volatility in the main text. We move other parameterizations and related comparisons to the Appendix (see our response to your comment 1). In addition, we re-organize the paragraphs about the T_g of total OA at the dry condition ($T_{g,org}$) during the SOAS campaign and clarify that the most credible predicted $T_{g,org}$ values span in the range of 313 – 330 K (see our response to your comment 1). We also clarify the reasons why we predict the viscosity at different relative humidity and the relative importance of volatility and particle phase water in

OA phase state predictions (see our responses to your comments 1 and 5). We believe after addressing the above major issues, the take-home messages of this manuscript are clearer. Please see the detailed responses below.

Referee Major Specific Comment:

(1) Improve clarity of the presentation and take-home message.

I had to read the manuscript several times to fully understand the method the authors were using. One challenge is that at least 5 different T_g parameterizations are presented and compared (Eqs. 1, 2, 3-5, 6, and a global model parameterization), and it gets difficult for even a careful reader to keep track them. A few suggestions to improve this: 1) label the figures themselves (i.e. in a title) so the reader doesn't have to study the caption to understand the figure, 2) shorten the captions to be more concise; the key figures have captions that are a paragraph long, 3) refer to the parameterizations by a descriptive name rather than the equation number (for example, Volatility + O:C, Volatility only, composition only, global model); this is done some places in the manuscript, but not all.

Response: Following your suggestions, we have (1) added titles in Fig. 1, Figures in the Appendix and Figs. S3-5; (2) shortened the captions of all figures in the main text and the supplement; (3) referred to the parameterizations by descriptive names through the manuscript. In addition, we have moved the parameterizations as a function of elemental composition and the comparison with the parameterization in Zhang et al. (2019) to the Appendix for better readability of the main discussion.

In addition, there are (at least) 4 different methods to infer aerosol volatility, at least 2 methods of “measuring” T_g , and possibly different ways of “measuring” T_m . Again, it got difficult to track what measured as opposed to calculated and what was being compared, given the large number of combinations and permutations of T_g , T_m , volatility, etc. involved. One example: in Figure 3 the x axis is labeled “Measured T_g ” while in Figs 1 and 2 it is labeled “ T_g measured or estimated from T_m ”. Is the data presented in Figure 3 a further subset of the data in Figs 1 and 2? I suspect they are the same data, but this should be made clear.

Response: In the revised manuscript we add a new subsection 2.1 “Dataset of glass transition temperature” to describe the training and test datasets and the methods deriving the values of T_g , C^0 and T_m . In the training dataset, T_g is measured or otherwise estimated from T_m . C^0 and T_m are estimated from the EPI Suite if they were not available from measurements. For the detailed description, please refer to the response to your comment 3. Figure 3 in the ACPD manuscript has been moved to the Appendix as Fig. B1. You are right that the data presented in this figure are a subset of the data in Fig. 1, which is clarified in the caption of revised Fig. B1. We add the following sentences in the revised manuscript:

Line 553-555: “Figure B1 compares the measured T_g included in the training dataset shown in Fig. 1a to T_g predicted by (a) C^0 and the atomic O:C (Eq. 1), (b) elemental composition (Eqs. A1-A3), and (c) Eq. (B1) by Zhang et al. (2019)”.

After reading the manuscript I'm not left with a clear conclusion regarding the utility

of these parameterizations to predict the phase of organics in the atmosphere. As the authors point out, T_g predictions span a range of 100 K depending on how volatility is estimated from the same dataset. The predicted T_g range also unfortunately spans the tropospheric T range, so that the uncertainty is precisely in the temperature range where there is high sensitivity to T_g . It wouldn't matter much if the predicted T_g range was 100-200 K, but that's not the case. The effect of RH makes this even more unclear, with a very wide range of viscosity predicted below 60-70% RH (Fig 7). For example, line 31 states that T_g varies from 290 – 339 K from which I would conclude that OA should exist predominantly in a glassy state under ambient conditions. However, examining Figure 7 leads to a substantially different conclusion. At the end, I wasn't left with much confidence in the ability to predict organic phase, even for a fixed T , RH, and organic aerosol composition. The predicted ranges are exceptionally wide, even before considering uncertainty. I don't have a specific suggested remedy, but I think it is something the authors need to address.

Response: This comment arises from the original Fig. 4 showing that the T_g of total OA under dry conditions is very different (span a range of 100 K as you pointed) predicted by different C^* distributions measured during the SOAS campaign. Note that this wide range stems mostly from variations in measured volatility distributions, but not from uncertainties of our T_g parameterizations and viscosity prediction method. In the ACPD manuscript we have stated that the credible $T_{g,org}$ values span in the range of 313 – 330 K and the predicted low values (< 280 K) estimated from the “Formulas” and “Partitioning” methods in Stark et al. (2017) are not credible. Our parameterizations can reasonably predict the T_g of ambient OA when measured C^* distributions are well constrained. The predicted viscosity of OA in SOAS is consistent with the ambient particle phase state measurements during the SOAS campaign (please see also our response for your comment 5). The T_g varying from 290 – 339 K stated in Line 31 in the abstract is the predicted T_g of total OA at the dry condition ($T_{g,org}$) at the eleven field sites. We clarified this point in the revised abstract. The pink shaded area in Fig. 7 (Fig. 5 in the revised manuscript) bounds the predicted viscosities of MO-OOA and LO-OOA in three different locations, thus the pink shaded area spans wide at medium / low RH, as the $T_{g,org}$ and hygroscopicity of these OA factors at different locations are different (please also refer to our response to your comment 2). We predict the viscosity of the OOA factor as OOA is often considered to represent SOA, and the predicted viscosity of OOA is consistent with the viscosity of SOA formed from various precursors. The above comparison shows the parameterization developed in this study can reasonably predict the phase state of ambient OA as well as laboratory-generated SOA. We add the following sentences in the revised manuscript:

Line 260-263: “Figure 2 shows that $T_{g,org}$ of total OA (TOA) range from 232 K to 334 K, depending on volatility distributions measured by different methods, while the most credible predicted $T_{g,org}$ values span in the range of 313 – 330 K. The reasons are stated below by comparing the different methods deriving the C^* distributions”.

Line 303-308: “These analyses indicate that the volatility distributions derived from different methods, even when based on the same measurements, significantly affect the predicted $T_{g,org}$, and the most atmospherically relevant volatility distributions

should be carefully chosen to reasonably predict the glass transition temperature of ambient OA. In summary, the $T_{g,org}$ values during the SOAS campaign should be in the range of 313 – 330 K”.

(2) Address the applicability of using a parameterization based on pure compounds to predict properties of mixtures (e.g. SOA).

I second the editor’s comment regarding viscosity and T_g of complex mixtures. The authors should address, early in the manuscript, uncertainties in applying a parameterization based on pure compounds to SOA, which is a complex mixture. I don’t expect the authors to solve this, but it should be addressed early in the paper.

Response: Following your suggestion, we added a sentence to acknowledge additional uncertainty in the method section. We added a new subsection “2.3 Predictions of T_g and viscosity of organic aerosols” in the Method section. We assumed ideal thermodynamic mixing when applying the T_g parameterization to a certain volatility bin containing multiple components. After the T_g in a certain C^* is known, the T_g of SOA mixtures is calculated by the Gordon-Taylor equation and we state the limitation of the Gordon-Taylor equation in the revised manuscript. We add the following sentences:

Line 205 -208: “Note that there may be additional uncertainty in application of T_g parameterizations (which were developed based on pure compounds) to each volatility bin representing surrogate of complex multicomponent mixtures.”

Line 228-233: “The Gordon-Taylor approach has been validated for a wide range of mixtures including SOA compounds (Dette et al., 2014; Lessmeier et al., 2018). The Gordon-Taylor approach may fail in the case of adduct or complex formation (Koop et al., 2011), which is highly unlikely in multicomponent mixtures with myriads of SOA compounds with very small individual mole fractions and thus particular interactions between individual compounds are more likely to average out (Shiraiwa et al., 2017); this aspect would need to be investigated in future studies”.

I also second the editors comment on Figure 7 and the discussion of T_g of PMF-derived factors. I’m not sure what it even means to have a predicted viscosity/ T_g of HOA, COA, MO-OOA, etc. since they are always mixed with other factors in the real atmosphere. Again, the authors can’t be expected to solve this, but more context in the text is needed early in the manuscript.

Response: We predicted T_g of OA factors as their volatility distributions were available and we think that comparison of T_g of these factors would be useful to compare with measured viscosities of laboratory-generated SOA, given that OOA may correspond to SOA (Jimenez et al., 2009). In the revised manuscript we have shortened the description of T_g of the characterized OA factors and explained the reasons why we compare the viscosity of OOA factors with the viscosity of laboratory-generated SOA. We also added a sentence to note potential limitations of this analysis.

Line 378-382: “Note that these different OA factors may often be internally mixed

in ambient atmosphere and predicted $T_{g,org}$ and particle viscosity would be irrelevant in such a case. Nevertheless, these predictions can be useful when particles are externally mixed or ambient OA are dominated by a certain OA factor”.

Line 406-407: “The predicted behavior of BBOA is in line with bounce measurements observing that particles are semisolid in a biomass burning plume (Bateman et al., 2017)”.

Line 410-419: “There have been growing measurements of RH-dependent viscosity of laboratory-generated SOA formed from different precursors, e.g., isoprene (Song et al., 2015), α -pinene (Abramson et al., 2013; Renbaum-Wolff et al., 2013; Kidd et al., 2014; Pajunoja et al., 2014; Bateman et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2015; Grayson et al., 2016; Petters et al., 2019), toluene (Song et al., 2016a) and diesel fuel (Song et al., 2019). As the OOA factors characterized from ambient AMS observations may represent ambient SOA (Jimenez et al., 2009), the predicted viscosities of OOA are compared with laboratory measurements of SOA viscosities in Fig. 5b. It shows that the majority of experimental values is well bounded by the predicted viscosities of OOA, represented by the pink shaded area”.

(3) Address the uncertainty/error in the inputs to the parameterizations.

I applaud the authors for making the best possible use of the available data and I understand they are trying to estimate properties of as many compounds as possible. However, I suggest they more thoroughly address errors in the data used to build the parameterizations (aside from applicability issues above) and clarify when inputs are measured vs calculated. The authors provide prediction bounds, but my interpretation is that these are largely related to errors in fitting. What about errors in predicting T_g and C^0 ? How large are the errors associated with assigning a fixed factor of $T_g = 0.7 * T_m$ for a wide range of compounds? Can the authors compare measurements of T_g to T_g derived from T_m and show that plot in the SI? I browsed through the SI but didn't find reference to measured values of T_g , but surely there must be some measured T_g for pure compounds? How many compounds with both measured T_g and measured C^0 are in the training dataset? Are there any? Can the authors provide a plot of measured C^0 vs estimated C^0 in the SI? Casual perusal suggests estimated C^0 can be very far from measured C^0 , which will in turn introduce error into the T_g prediction. Lines 155-156 mentions that T_m is estimated, but most other references to T_m say it is measured (e.g. line 201). Is T_m calculated or it measured?

Response: In the revised manuscript we add a new subsection to describe the training and test datasets and the methods deriving the values of T_g , C^0 and T_m . The training dataset is used to develop the parameterizations and T_m is measured or otherwise estimated from the EPI Suite. The test dataset is used to validate the parameterizations and all of the T_m values are estimated from the EPI Suite. We have included Table S1 showing the number of compounds with their T_g , C^0 and T_m measured or otherwise estimated. Most CH, CHO, and CHON compounds have measured T_g , C^0 or T_m ; relatively large uncertainty in the inputs data exists in CHOS compounds as only 1 CHOS compound has measured T_g (Zhang et al., 2019). To make our parameterizations also applicable to CHOS compounds, we include other CHOS compounds (Li et al.,

2016) with both C^0 and T_m estimated from the EPI Suite. We include Fig. S1 showing (a) the comparison of measured T_g and the T_g estimated by the Boyer–Kauzmann rule and (b) the comparison of C^0 measured and estimated from the EPI suite. We add the following sentences in the revised manuscript to address the uncertainty in our input data:

Line 127-153: “Measured T_g values are available for 42 CH compounds, 259 CHO compounds, 35 CHON compounds and 1 CHOS compound (Koop et al., 2011; Rothfuss and Petters, 2017; Lessmeier et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2019), among which there are 168 compounds with measured C^0 available (Table S1). When T_g measurements are unavailable, T_g is estimated from the melting temperature (T_m) applying the Boyer-Kauzmann rule of $T_g = g \cdot T_m$ (Kauzmann, 1948; Boyer, 1954) with $g = 0.70085 (\pm 0.00375)$ (Koop et al., 2011), referred to “estimated T_g ” in this study (see good agreement of measured and estimated T_g in Fig. S1a). 1187 compounds (391 CH, 537 CHO, 241 CHON and 18 CHOS compounds) with both measured T_m and C^0 (Table S1, S2) are adopted from the MPBPWIN Program Test Sets (<http://esc.syrres.com/interkow/EpiSuiteData.htm>) included in the Estimation Programs Interface (EPI) Suite software version 4.1 (US EPA, 2015). Measured T_g , T_m or C^0 for CHOS compounds are sparse and we adopt 850 CHOS compounds included in Li et al. (2016) with their T_m and C^0 estimated by the EPI Suite software (Table S2). There are estimation limitations in the EPI Suite; for example, the disagreement between measured and estimated C^0 is larger for compounds with $C^0 < \sim 10^{-2} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (Fig. S1b), which may affect the T_g predictions for compounds with low volatility. However, given the large amount of data points with measured C^0 included in the training dataset, the estimation bias introduced by the EPI Suite may not substantially impact the accuracy of the parameterization developed in this study.

The test dataset used to validate the performance of the parameterizations predicting T_g of SOA components includes 654 CHO compounds and 212 CHON compounds found in SOA oxidation products (Shiraiwa et al., 2014). The values of their C^0 are estimated using the EVAPORATION model (Compernelle et al., 2011). Their T_m values are adopted from the EPI Suite. The T_g predicted by our parameterizations are compared with the T_g estimated from the T_m applying the Boyer-Kauzmann rule in the test dataset”.

Table S1. Number of the compounds included in the training dataset and their T_g , C^0 and T_m measured or otherwise estimated.

	CH	CHO	CHON	CHOS
Both T_g and C^0 measured	38	125	5	0
Measured T_g , C^0 estimated from EPI Suite	4	134	30	1
T_g estimated from measured T_m , measured C^0	391	537	241	18
T_g estimated from T_m , T_m estimated from EPI Suite, measured C^0	0	0	0	11
T_g estimated from measured T_m , C^0 estimated from EPI Suite	0	0	0	63
T_g estimated from T_m , T_m and C^0 estimated from	0	0	0	850

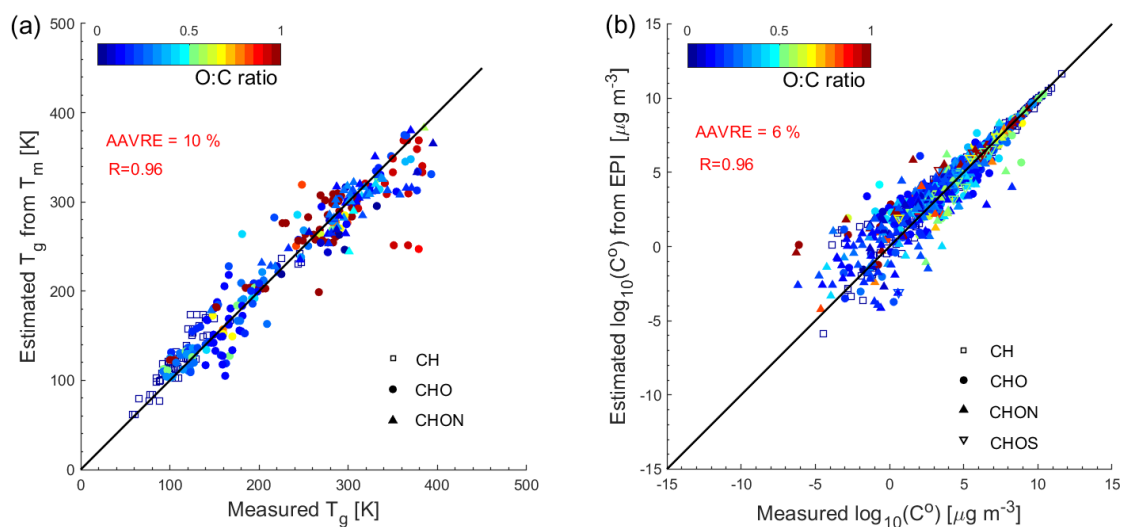


Figure S1. (a) Comparison of the measured T_g (Koop et al., 2011; Dette et al., 2014; Rothfuss and Petters, 2017; Lessmeier et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2019) and the T_g estimated by the Boyer–Kauzmann rule for 336 organic compounds with their measured T_m available. (b) Comparison of pure compound saturation mass concentration (C^0) measured and estimated from the EPI suite for 1637 organic compounds included in the training dataset in this study.

(4) Lines 286-292. Lines 306-311

Are the volatility distributions derived only for the organic acid portion of the SOA? If so, how would this bias the measurements? Wouldn't organic acids be on the lower end of the volatility distribution, all else being equal? How are the CIMS measurements biased or impacted by the ion chemistry employed? The reference indicates acetate ion chemistry was used and that it is sensitive to acids but not other SOA components. So, wouldn't the thermogram method be biased toward low volatility compounds? The authors indicate that the formulas method is biased by decomposition of SOA. How does the thermogram method deal with decomposition products, which are indicated to be extensive?

Response: It is correct that acetate CIMS mainly measures organic acids, besides a few other compounds such as phenols and other compounds with acidic hydrogen. While this indeed somewhat biases the measurements, the acid fraction in SOA has been shown to be high, as pointed out in the manuscript and referenced (Yatavelli et al., 2015). Further, we disagree that organic acids populate a particularly low volatility region since they show a broad range of O:C and carbon number range, similar to other SOA components such as alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, peroxides, etc. Lastly, the thermogram method certainly includes thermograms of species thermally decomposing rather than desorbing from the filters. However, the peak temperatures of these thermograms relate to volatilities closer to the species volatility than from the other methods and can therefore still be seen as better overall volatility measurements than the other two methods. We have added an extra sentence as below:

Line 272-275: “While this method may be influenced by thermal decomposition, the peak temperatures of decomposing species can be expected to relate closer to actual volatilities than any of the other two analysis methods (Stark et al., 2017)”.

(5) Lines 331 and subsequent discussion on RH.

It wasn't very clear how the T_g parameterization presented earlier in the paper relate to the calculations of RH effects. Is the T_g parameterization used in the calculation of T_g of the water/organic mixtures or are these calculations independent of each other? Can the authors show the equation for calculating T_g of water/organic mixtures, since this is central to the paper? I found the transition between the bulk of the paper, which focuses on parameterizations of T_g as a function of volatility, to this section of the paper on the impact of RH somewhat abrupt. Can the authors comment on which effect (condensed phase water vs volatility) has a larger influence on organic phase state? For example, at line 321 the authors state that T_g was 313-330 K during SOAS, which would mean the aerosols are primarily in a glassy state. However, on lines 351- 352 they state that the particles were mostly liquids.

Response: The T_g parameterization is used in the calculation of T_g of the water/organic mixtures. In the revised manuscript we describe the procedures calculating the T_g of water/organic mixtures and the viscosity at different T and RH in the new subsection 2.3 “Predictions of T_g and viscosity of organic aerosols”. We added one sentence at the beginning of this paragraph to explain why we further predict the viscosity at given RH to prevent an abrupt transition between sections. The $T_{g,org}$ was predicted to be 313-330 K during the SOAS campaign, indicating that OA are primarily in a glassy state at the dry condition. To compare with the ambient phase state measurements, we calculate the viscosity at different RH and the average T during SOAS. The predicted viscosity is liquid at RH of 83 % and semi-solid at RH of 50 %, consistent with the particle bounce measurements. We add a few sentences in the revised manuscript discussing the influence of condensed phase water vs volatility on phase state.

Lines 235-249: “Under humid conditions, the water content in OA can be estimated using the effective hygroscopicity parameter (κ) (Petters and Kreidenweis, 2007). The T_g of organic-water mixtures ($T_g(w_{org})$) at given RH can be estimated using the Gordon-Taylor equation (Gordon and Taylor, 1952):

$$T_g(w_{org}) = \frac{(1-w_{org})T_{g,w} + \frac{1}{k_{GT}}w_{org}T_{g,org}}{(1-w_{org}) + \frac{1}{k_{GT}}w_{org}} \quad (6)$$

where w_{org} is the mass fraction of organics in particles; $T_{g,w}$ is the glass transition temperature of pure water (136 K, Kohl et al., 2005), and k_{GT} is the Gordon-Taylor constant for organic-water mixtures which is suggested to be 2.5 (Zobrist et al., 2008; Koop et al., 2011). Viscosity can then be calculated applying the Vogel-Tammann-Fulcher (VTF) equation (Angell, 1991): $\eta = \eta_{\infty} e^{\frac{T_0 D}{T - T_0}}$, where η_{∞} is the viscosity at infinite temperature (10^{-5} Pa s, Angell, 1991), D is the fragility parameter which is assumed to be 10 (DeRieux and Li et al., 2018), and T_0 is the Vogel temperature

calculated as $T_0 = \frac{39.17 T_g}{D + 39.17}$.

Line 318-320: “We further calculate the viscosity of OA based on the $T_{g,org}$ of TOA predicted above in order to compare with the ambient phase state measurements during the SOAS campaign”.

Line 337-342: “The variations (313 – 330 K) in $T_{g,org}$ due to the different measured C^* distributions (Fig. 2) have a more significant impact on the predicted viscosity at low and medium RH (Fig. 3a). When RH is higher than ~70 %, the predicted viscosities calculated from different $T_{g,org}$ values are very close; at high RH the condensed phase water has a larger influence on the phase state than the volatility does, depending on the hygroscopicity of organic aerosols”.

Minor Comments and Technical Corrections

General comment. There are quite a few typos and grammatical errors through the manuscript. This doesn't get in the way of understanding the paper, but it was noticeable. I started to make specific suggestions below but stopped after a few pages of text. A thorough editing would improve the paper.

Response: Thanks for reading our manuscript carefully and the specific suggestions. We have done a thorough editing.

Line 38. I think you mean SOA derived from diesel fuel rather than the viscosity of diesel fuel itself.

Response: Right. The “of” in front of diesel fuel has been deleted.

Line 62. Suggest changing “depending on” to “as a function of”. The message of this sentence is unclear, given you cite many measurements of particle phase via particle bounce.

Response: “depending on temperature (T), relative humidity (RH), and chemical composition” has been moved to Line 60.

Line 66. I think you mean “in the bulk organic phase” rather than “bulk organic molecules”.

Response: The sentence has been changed to “bulk diffusivity of organic molecules”.

Line 72. Add “The” before “Chemical”

Response: Added.

Line 75. Add “a” before “phase”

Response: Added.

Line 113-114. Isn't it more accurate to say that you parameterized the relationship between T_m and C^* ? As far as I can tell the vast majority of T_g values are estimated from measured T_m .

Response: The object of this study is to develop parameterizations predicting T_g and further predict the viscosity of ambient organic aerosols. T_g values estimated from T_m are used as part of our training dataset to develop the parameterization for T_g as a

function of C^0 . The parameterizations perform well predicting T_g of individual organic compounds (Fig. 1), the viscosity of ambient OA (Fig. 3) and laboratory generated OA (Fig. 5), indicating that estimated T_g values from T_m used in the training dataset would not impact predictions of T_g by the parameterizations developed in this study. Please also refer to our response to your comment 3.

Line 123 add “or” after “measured”

Response: Added.

Line 129. Can the authors state the fraction of the compounds with measured C^0 and measured T_g as opposed to estimated values?

Response: The fractions of the compounds with measured C^0 and measured T_g as opposed to estimated values in the training dataset are different for different classes (CH, CHO, CHON and CHOS). We have included Table S1 showing the number of compounds with their T_g , C^0 and T_m measured or otherwise estimated. Please see our response to your comment 3.

Line 132. The weak dependence of T_g on O:C is not very clear from Fig. 1a. Suggest graphing this separately, perhaps in the SI.

Response: The dependence of T_g on O:C is included in the SI in the revised manuscript:

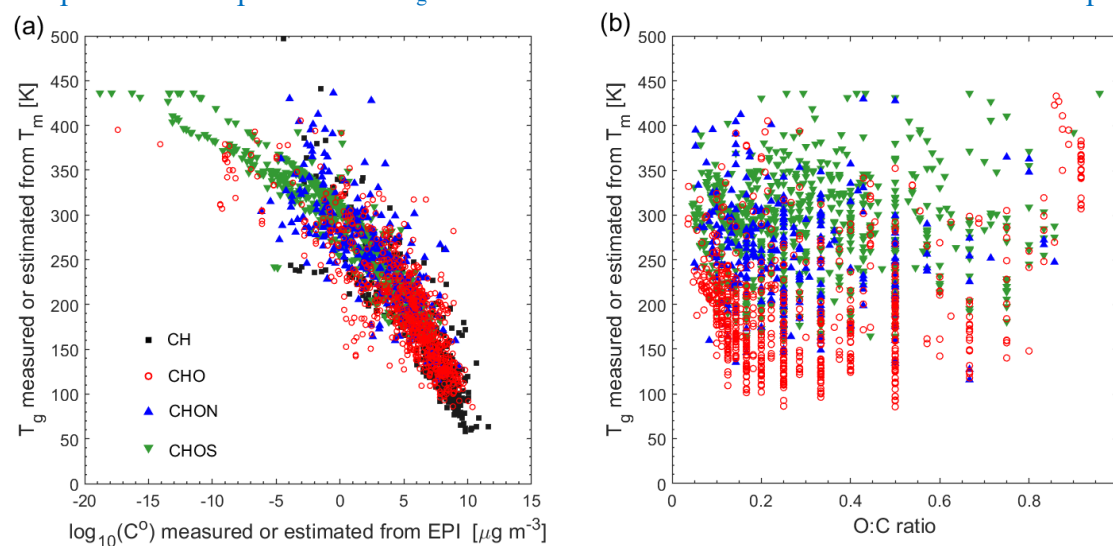


Figure S2. T_g of organic compounds in the training dataset plotted against (a) pure compound saturation mass concentration (C^0) and (b) the atomic O:C ratio.

Lines 155-156. Are T_m values themselves estimate or taken from a database of measured compound melting points?

Response: There are two datasets used in this study. The training dataset is used to develop the parameterizations and T_m is measured or otherwise estimated from the EPI Suite. The test dataset is used to validate the parameterizations and T_m values are all estimated from the EPI Suite. Please also refer to our response to your comment 3.

Line 252 change comparing to compared

Response: Changed.

Lines 289 – 295. It isn't clear how to reconcile 50% of the total OA being composed of organic acids (L289) if “many of the detected species are decomposition products (L294-295)”. Please clarify.

Response: The FIGAERO measurement are not used to determine the overall OA composition or, for that matter, the contribution of organic acids to total OA. The 50% value was taken from a separate study, where acetate CIMS measurements were compared quantitatively to AMS measurements (Yatavelli et al., 2015).

We clarified at Line 265: ...organic acids (which were shown to account for about half of the total OA; Yatavelli et al., 2015) from...

Lines 292-294. How did the authors convert from the molecular formulas measured by the MS to molecular structure needed for the group contribution methods?

Responses: The details of this algorithm are described in Stark et al. (2017). Briefly, at least one carboxylic acid group was assumed to be present in each formula, while the remaining oxygen was either assumed to be carbonyl, hydroxyl, or carboxyl. The resulting volatility distributions from these three different possibilities were considered in the Stark et al. (2017) paper, but all showed similar distributions in that the volatilities were all very high. In this study, we used the results from the assumption that all remaining oxygen was present in hydroxyl groups, resulting in the lowest volatilities of the possible formula method results. We added a sentence describing a few more details:

Line 272-275: “While this method may be influenced by thermal decomposition, the peak temperatures of decomposing species can be expected to relate closer to actual volatilities than any of the other two analysis methods (Stark et al., 2017)”.

Lines 387-389. I can imagine that the aerosol organic loading in Beijing is also significantly larger than at most other sites, which will impact volatility and T_g due to partitioning. Please comment.

Responses: Following your suggestion, we add the following sentence:

Line 385-387: “This may be due to the higher total OA mass concentrations in Beijing (Xu et al., 2019), which facilitates greater partitioning of SVOC compounds into the particle phase, leading to a lower $T_{g,org}$ ”.

Lines 459-461. The particles were solid-like when anthropogenic influence from the Manaus plume dominated.

Response: We revised this sentence at Line 460:

“.....while with the anthropogenic influence including both urban pollution and biomass burning, they occur as semi-solid or glassy (Bateman et al., 2016; Bateman et al., 2017)”.

Lines 474-477. This is true, but other studies measured or implied kinetic limitations at moderate or high RH. These studies should also be cited.

Response: This sentence has been revised as:

Line 485-489: “Some chamber experiments probing the mixing timescales of SOA particles formed from isoprene, α -pinene, and limonene did not observe significant kinetic limitations at moderate and high RH under room temperature (Loza et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2016), while kinetic limitations of bulk diffusion of organic molecules in β -caryophyllene SOA have been observed at 75 % RH (Ye et al., 2018), warranting further investigations on the degree of kinetic limitations in ambient tropospheric conditions”.

Figures 1-3. Isn't possible to differentiate among the symbol shapes.

Response: The size of the symbols has been enlarged and the resolution of the figures has been improved.

Figure 1a. Can the fit from equations 1 and 2 be drawn on this figure?

Response: The fit from Eq. 1 and 2 has been added in Fig. 1a and Fig. S3a, respectively. We add the following sentences in the Line 171-174:

“The predicted T_g by Eq. (1) is plotted in Fig. 1a with the O:C ratios of 0, 0.5, and 1, showing that the predicted dependence of T_g on C^0 follows the trend well in the training dataset. The O:C ratio mainly affects the predicted T_g of volatile or extremely low volatile compounds”.

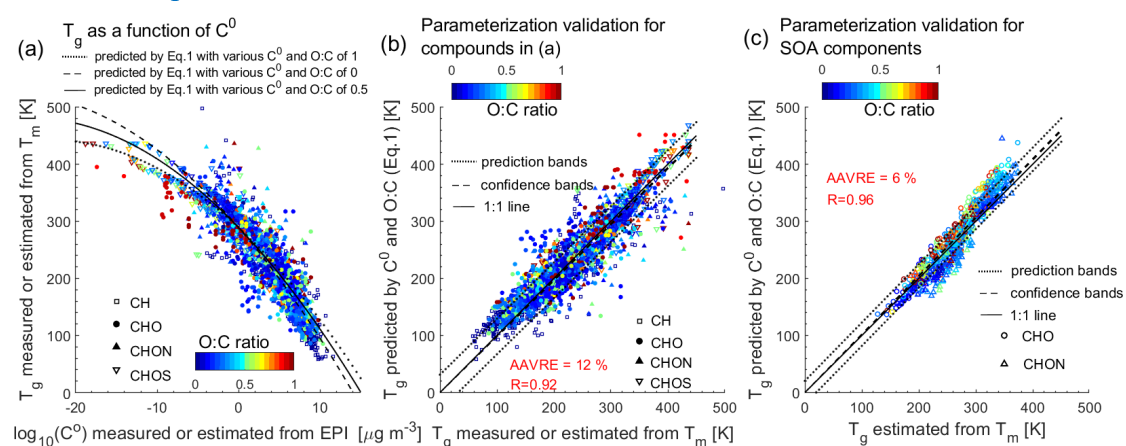


Figure 1. (a) T_g of organic compounds in the training dataset plotted against C^0 . The lines show the predictions of T_g (Eq. 1) by C^0 and the O:C ratio of 0 (dashed), 0.5 (solid), and 1 (dotted). (b) Predicted T_g by C^0 and the O:C ratio (Eq. 1) for compounds shown in (a) compared to measured or otherwise estimated T_g from T_m . (c) Predicted T_g for SOA components (Shiraiwa et al., 2014) using Eq. (1) plotted against estimated T_g from T_m with the Boyer-Kauzmann rule. The correlation coefficient (R) and the average absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE) are shown. The dashed and dotted lines in (b) and (c) show 68% confidence and prediction bands, respectively.

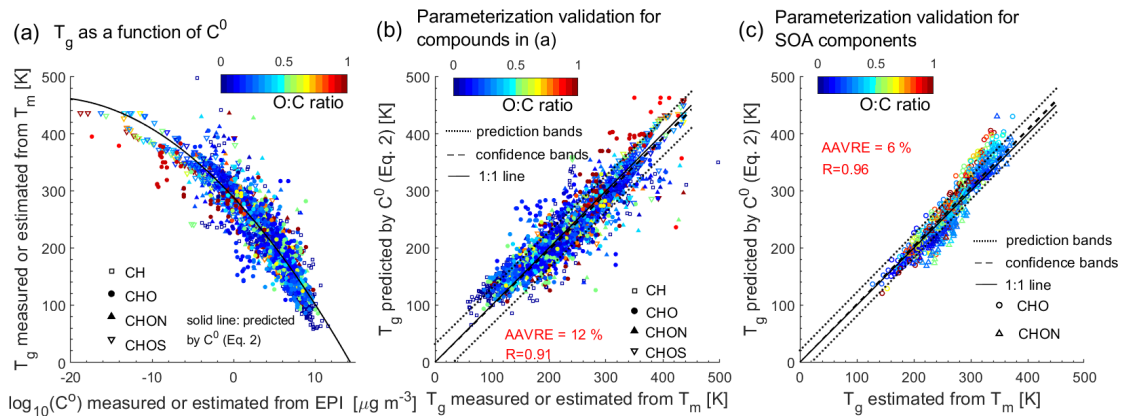


Figure S3. (a) T_g of organic compounds in the training dataset plotted against C^0 . The solid line shows the predictions of T_g by C^0 (Eq. 2). (b) Predicted T_g by C^0 (Eq. 2) for compounds shown in (a) compared to measured or otherwise estimated T_g from T_m . (c) Predicted T_g for SOA components (Shiraiwa et al., 2014) using Eq. (2) plotted against estimated T_g from T_m with the Boyer-Kauzmann rule. The correlation coefficient (R) and the average absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE) are shown. The dashed and dotted lines in (b) and (c) show 68% confidence and prediction bands, respectively.

Figure 3. Clarify whether Measured T_g is the same as T_g estimated from T_m as in Figures 1 and 2.

Response: The comparison between the measured T_g and the T_g estimated from T_m has been shown in Fig. S1. Please refer to our response to your comment 3. The original Figure 3 has been moved to the Appendix B and revised clarifying the measured T_g are the same as the measured T_g shown in Fig. 1a.

Figure 4 caption. It isn't clear what "edge lines are in grey" refers to.

Response: It has been changed to "marker edge lines are in grey".

Response to the comments of Anonymous Referee #2

Referee General Comment: The manuscript by Li et al. extends the previous parameterizations of the glass transition temperature (T_g) based on the vapor pressure of a large number of pure organic compounds. The authors explore several parameterizations and use them to estimate ambient organic aerosol viscosity. The diversity of parameterizations is useful but can be distracting from the take-home message of the manuscript. After revisions of the modeling description and discussion section, this manuscript should be published. On the content of the manuscript, the main points I take away are the new parameterizations and their modeling of ambient data. Some of the details presented deviate from this main narrative (i.e., multiple FIGAERO-CIMS analysis), so even though the details may be necessary for the calculations, they distract from the narrative. I would suggest putting details that are not key to manuscript narrative into the supplemental information, which will help improve the message of the manuscript.

Response: We thank Referee #2 for the review and the positive evaluation of our manuscript. To improve the presentation quality, we divide the Method section into three subsections and keep the main parameterization predicting the glass transition temperature as a function of volatility in the main text. We move other parameterizations and related comparisons to the Appendix to focus the narrative of the manuscript.

Referee Major Specific Comment:

1. Parameterizations section: This section needs subsections to delineate the different models. Also tell the reader which of these parameterizations is most important to focus on for the rest of the paper. Or you could add an introduction paragraph to this section, where you discuss the merits of each model parameterizations. A revision along those lines would help focus the narrative of the manuscript.

Response: In the revised manuscript we move the parameterizations predicting T_g as a function of elemental compositions to Appendix A; the comparison of T_g predictions with Zhang et al. (2019) to Appendix B. We divide the Method section into three subsections as below:

“2.1 Dataset of glass transition temperature”

Section 2.1 describes the training dataset used to develop parameterizations and the test dataset used to validate the parameterizations predicting T_g of SOA components. This section also addresses the uncertainty in the input data. Please refer to our responses to the comment 3 from the Referee 1.

“2.2 Parameterizations of T_g as a function of volatility”

“2.3 Predictions of T_g and viscosity of organic aerosols”

2. Figure 1-3: These Figures do not stand apart very well, and conceptually blur. If you delineate the parameterizations more, that will help in understanding the importance of each Figure. To me, Figures 1b and 1c convey similar information (i.e., good predictive behavior), so show one and put the other in the SI. The O:C ratio coloring could be removed (since the lack of correlation could just be stated in the text) and instead color

by functional group. Figure 3 could be replaced in a table that summarizes the AAVRE and R-squared values.

Response: The resolution of the figures has been improved. We keep both Fig. 1b and 1c in the main text as the dataset in Fig. 1b is same as the points in Fig. 1a, which were used to develop the parameterizations (training dataset). The points in Fig. 1c were used as the test dataset to validate the performance of the parameterizations predicting T_g of SOA components. In the revised manuscript we add a new subsection 2.1 describing the training dataset and the test dataset. Please also refer to our response to the comment 3 of Referee 1. We keep the markers in Fig.1 color-coded by the O:C ratio. We add the following sentences in the revised main text to state the reason:

Line 160-162: “Note that a tight correlation between T_g and the O:C ratio has been observed for oxidation products formed from specific precursors including α -pinene (Dette et al., 2014), *n*-heptadecane and naphthalene (Saukko et al., 2012)”.

Following your suggestion, we added Fig. S2a showing the dependence of T_g on C^0 with markers color-coded by chemical composition:

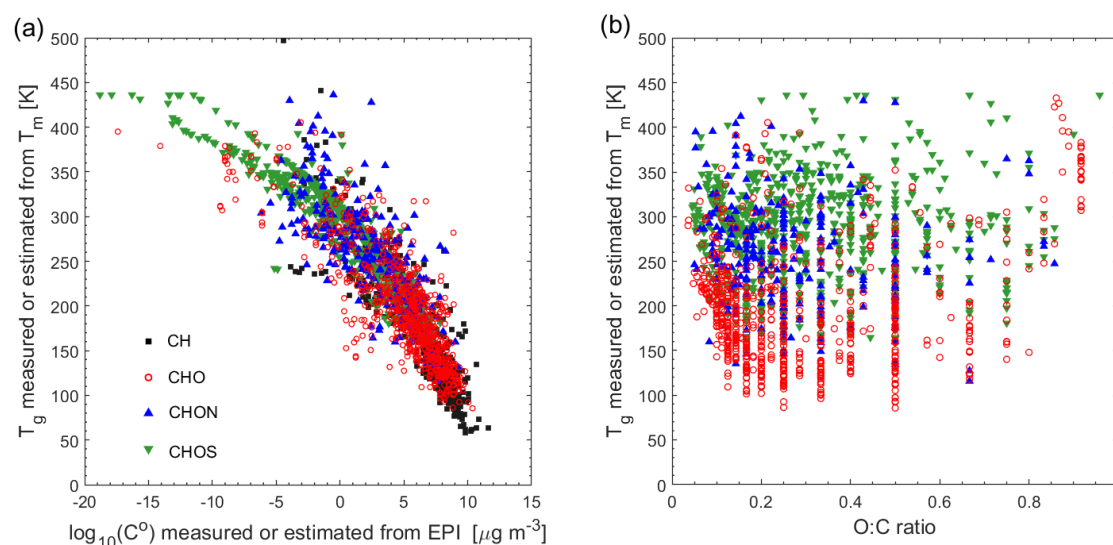


Figure S2. T_g of organic compounds in the training dataset plotted against (a) pure compound saturation mass concentration (C^0) and (b) the atomic O:C ratio.

We move the Fig. 3 in the ACPD to the Appendix B. We keep this figure as it is necessary to show the comparison of our parameterizations with the parameterization in Zhang et al. who also related T_g to volatility (they used the vapor pressure instead of the saturation mass concentration).

3. Field Observations: Line 259: I suggest adding a sentence motivating why Figure 4 is shown and what the reader will gain from it. I take away that viscosity can be estimated from C^* measurements and ambient OA spans solid to liquid states depending on the method used, was that the main message?

Response: Yes, correct. We have added the following sentence:

Line 253-255: “In this section we predict glass transition temperatures and phase state of ambient OA during the SOAS campaign which took place in the southeastern

United States (Centreville, Alabama) in summer 2013 (Carlton et al., 2018)”.

4. Line 286: The discussion of the FIGAERO-CIMS analysis can be shortened, as the main point starts at Line 312.

Responses: We re-arrange this paragraph by stating the main point at the beginning, moving the less credible $T_{g,org}$ values calculated from the “Formulas” and “Partitioning” methods to another paragraph:

Lines 260-263: “Figure 2 shows that $T_{g,org}$ of total OA (TOA) range from 232 K to 334 K, depending on volatility distributions measured by different methods, while the most credible predicted $T_{g,org}$ values span in the range of 313 – 330 K. The reasons are stated below by comparing the different methods deriving the C^* distributions”.

Lines 283-285: “The lower $T_{g,org}$ values (< 280 K) calculated from the C^* distributions estimated from the “Formulas” and “Partitioning” methods (Stark et al., 2017) are less atmospherically relevant”.

Lines 303-308: “These analyses indicate that the volatility distributions derived from different methods, even when based on the same measurements, significantly affect the predicted $T_{g,org}$, and the most atmospherically relevant volatility distributions should be carefully chosen to reasonably predict the glass transition temperature of ambient OA. In summary, the $T_{g,org}$ values during the SOAS campaign should be in the range of 313 – 330 K”.

5. The added value of Figure 8 seems to be limited. If the goal is to show how well the CTM model output and your T_g models agree, this is not the ideal way to show that. It would be clearer to pull the viscosity values for each of the 11 sites from the CTM output and make a scatter plot vs. the measurement derived viscosities. The actual global distributions are irrelevant for this comparison, and instead, point the reader to the Shiraiwa et al. (2017) paper.

Response: Following your suggestion, we have added the scatter plot (Fig. 6b in the revised manuscript). We keep the global distributions as Fig. 6a, as global distributions of viscosity are new and were not included in Shiraiwa et al. (2017). We edited the main text as follows:

Line 449-452: “the amorphous solid or semi-solid phase occurs over relatively dry areas, including the sites in western US, Mexico City, Beijing and coastal sites in Greece; the lower viscosity occurs in southeastern US and Paris”.

Line 464-467: “Similar cases are observed in Athens and the two sites in the western US, that our predictions based on volatility distributions indicate the glassy phase state while the global model predicts the occurrence of a semi-solid phase”.

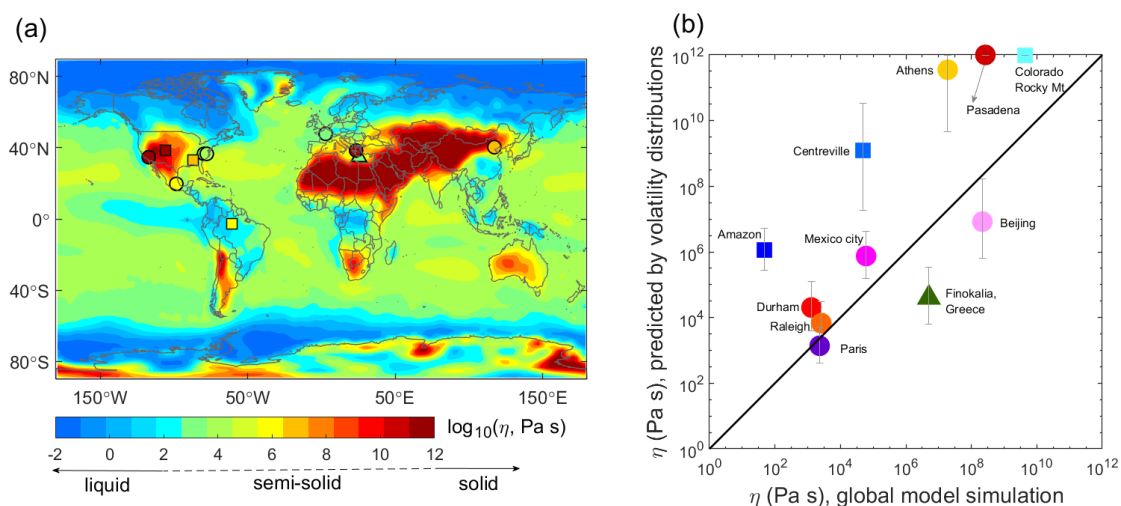


Figure 6. (a) Global distributions of SOA annually averaged viscosity at the surface simulated by a global chemical transport model (Shiraiwa et al., 2017) with the viscosity predicted by measured volatility distributions at 11 global sites (triangle, square and circle represent remote, forested and urban sites, respectively, Table S3). The color code indicates viscosity in a log scale. (b) Predicted viscosity based on measured volatility distributions compared against the viscosity in global simulations. The error bars correspond to uncertainties in viscosities calculated from uncertainties in predicted $T_{g,org}$ shown in Fig. 4.

6. Conclusion/discussion: I think a short conclusion or discussion would help tie the previous treatise of field observations and put them in a broader context. This is already started at Line 477 and should be expanded on.

Responses: We have put conclusions and implications in the new Section 5:

“5. Conclusions and implications

We have developed parameterizations to estimate the glass transition temperature of organic compounds using saturation mass concentration (C^0) and atomic O:C ratio. They can be applied to ambient observations of volatility distributions to estimate viscosity of ambient organic aerosols. The T_g and viscosity prediction method can be applied in the volatility basis set or the molecular corridor-based approach to improve OA simulations in chemical transport models by consideration of effects of particle viscosity on OA formation and evolution (Shiraiwa et al., 2017; Pye et al., 2017; Schmedding et al., 2019). Most of the current chemical transport models treat particles as homogeneously well-mixed liquid without considering particle-phase diffusion limitations, which can lead to bias in simulations of SOA mass concentrations and evolution of size distributions (Shiraiwa and Seinfeld, 2012; Zaveri et al., 2018). The SOA simulations applying the VBS framework have not yet included the effects of viscosity on SOA formation and evolution. When the gas-particle partitioning is limited by bulk diffusion, kinetic treatments of SOA partitioning may need to be applied (Perraud et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2016; Yli-Juuti et al., 2017; Li and Shiraiwa, 2019). Some chamber experiments probing the mixing timescales of SOA particles formed from isoprene, α -pinene, and limonene did not observe significant kinetic limitations at

moderate and high RH under room temperature (Loza et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2016), while kinetic limitations of bulk diffusion of organic molecules in β -caryophyllene SOA have been observed at 75 % RH (Ye et al., 2018), warranting further investigations on the degree of kinetic limitations in ambient tropospheric conditions. In addition, the interplay of diffusion limitations and phase separation impacts heterogeneous and multiphase chemistry (Vander Wall et al., 2018; DeRieux et al., 2019; Zhou et al., 2019) and gas-particle partitioning (Zuend and Seinfeld, 2012; Shiraiwa et al., 2013; Freedman, 2017; Pye et al., 2017; Gorkowski et al., 2019a). The particle morphology and the degree of non-ideal mixing and liquid-liquid phase separation can evolve upon atmospheric aging (Gorkowski et al., 2019b). These aspects may also need to be considered for better representation of organic aerosols in future studies”.

Line Comments:

1. Line 259: I would stray away from starting a sentence with a variable, as doing so reduces readability (and this paragraph does it repeatedly). So it would change to, “The T_g of ambient...” and line 262, “These T_g values are then placed...”

Response: Thanks for the suggestion. We revised all the sentences which had started with a variable all through the manuscript.

2. Figure 6a: I suggest filling in the dots, with the edge color (TOA, OOA, ...). The T_g fill color is already represented by the contour lines.

Response: We would like to keep the edge color denoting OA factors as the T_g values represented by the contour lines were calculated from the C^* (x-axis) and O:C (y-axis) values in the 2-D VBS framework, which are different from the $T_{g,org}$ values filling the dots calculated from the measured ambient volatility distributions. We clarified this in the caption of Fig. 4a in the revised manuscript:

“The isopleths in (a) correspond to the T_g calculated using Eq. (1) with C^* and O:C defined in the 2D-VBS”.

3. Figure 6b: You have already shown the correlation between T_g and C^* (Figure 1a), so the added value to the manuscript is small. I suggest moving Figure 6b to the SI.

Responses: Figure 1a is for individual organic compounds. The correlation between predicted $T_{g,org}$ and the average volatility of ambient OA shown in Figure 6b agrees with the trend shown in Fig. 1a, which indicates that our newly developed parameterization works for ambient OA mixtures.

4. Figure 7 caption: Define BBOA, LO-OOA, and MO-OOA. I didn't find the definitions in the main text.

Responses: These OA factors are now defined in Line 374-378:

“The marker edge color represents OA components identified via source apportionment techniques on AMS mass spectra (Lanz et al., 2007), including biomass burning OA (BBOA), hydrocarbon-like OA (HOA), cooking OA (COA) and oxygenated OA (OOA) which is sometimes further separated into more oxygenated (MO-OOA) and less oxygenated OA (LO-OOA) factors”.

1 **Predictions of the glass transition temperature and viscosity of**
2 **organic aerosols from volatility distributions**

3

4

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17

18 **Abstract:**

19 Volatility and viscosity are important properties of organic aerosols (OA), affecting
20 aerosol processes such as formation, evolution and partitioning of OA. Volatility
21 distributions of ambient OA particles have often been measured, while viscosity
22 measurements are scarce. We have previously developed a method to estimate the glass
23 transition temperature (T_g) of an organic compound containing carbon, hydrogen, and
24 oxygen. Based on analysis of over 2400 organic compounds including oxygenated
25 organic compounds as well as nitrogen- and sulfur-containing organic compounds, we
26 extend this method to include nitrogen- and sulfur-containing compounds based on
27 elemental composition. In addition, parameterizations are developed to predict T_g as a
28 function of volatility and the atomic oxygen-to-carbon ratio based on a negative
29 correlation between T_g and volatility. This prediction method of T_g is applied to ambient
30 observations of volatility distributions at eleven field sites. The predicted T_g of OA
31 under dry conditions vary mainly from 290 K to 339 K and the predicted viscosities are
32 consistent with the results of ambient particle phase state measurements in the
33 southeastern US and the Amazonian rain forest. Reducing the uncertainties in measured
34 volatility distributions would improve predictions of viscosity especially at low relative
35 humidity. We also predict the T_g of OA components identified via positive matrix
36 factorization of aerosol mass spectrometer data. The predicted viscosity of oxidized OA
37 is consistent with previously reported viscosity of SOA derived from α -pinene, toluene,
38 isoprene epoxydiol (IEPOX), and diesel fuel. Comparison of the predicted viscosity
39 based on the observed volatility distributions with the viscosity simulated by a chemical
40 transport model implies that missing low volatility compounds in a global model can
41 lead to underestimation of OA viscosity at some sites. The relation between volatility
42 and viscosity can be applied in the molecular corridor or volatility basis set approaches
43 to improve OA simulations in chemical transport models by consideration of effects of
44 particle viscosity in OA formation and evolution.

45

46 **1. Introduction**

47 Organic aerosols (OA) contribute substantially to the mass loadings of
48 atmospheric fine particulate matter (Hallquist et al., 2009; Jimenez et al., 2009). OA
49 formed from various anthropogenic or biogenic precursors have complex
50 physicochemical properties (Goldstein and Galbally, 2007; Nizkorodov et al., 2011;
51 Ditto et al., 2018), which makes predictions of their role in air quality, climate and
52 public health challenging (Kanakidou et al., 2005; Shrivastava et al., 2017). Volatility
53 and viscosity are important properties of OA, both of which affect important aerosol
54 processes such as gas–particle partitioning, new particle formation and evolution of size
55 distribution, heterogeneous reactions, and cloud condensation and ice nucleation
56 pathways of OA, as summarized in recent review articles (Krieger et al., 2012; Bilde et
57 al., 2015; Pöschl and Shiraiwa, 2015; Knopf et al., 2018; Reid et al., 2018).

58 Recent measurements **have shown** that OA can exist in liquid (low dynamic
59 viscosity η ; $\eta < 10^2$ Pa s), semi-solid ($10^2 \leq \eta \leq 10^{12}$ Pa s), and amorphous solid ($\eta >$
60 10^{12} Pa s) states, **depending on temperature (T), relative humidity (RH), and chemical**
61 **composition** (Reid et al., 2018). Even though there are several particle bounce
62 measurements to infer ambient OA phase state, there are limited ambient measurements
63 of particle phase state or viscosity (Virtanen et al., 2010; O'Brien et al., 2014; Bateman
64 et al., 2016; Pajunoja et al., 2016; Bateman et al., 2017; Liu et al., 2017; Ditto et al.,
65 2019; Slade et al., 2019). Viscosity can be directly converted to bulk diffusivity **of**
66 organic molecules using the Stokes–Einstein equation, which has been shown to work
67 well for organic molecules diffusing through low viscous materials (Price et al., 2016;
68 Chenyakin et al., 2017). This relation is inapplicable for predicting the bulk diffusivity
69 of water and small molecules and it may also underestimate the diffusivity of organic
70 molecules in a highly viscous matrix, which can be corrected using a fractional Stokes-
71 Einstein equation (Price et al., 2016; Evoy et al., 2019).

72 Viscosity can be related to the glass transition temperature (T_g), at which **a**
73 phase transition between amorphous solid and semi-solid states occurs (Koop et al.,

74 2011). Ambient temperature varies through 100 K throughout the troposphere, greatly
75 influencing the viscosity of the mixture. When the ambient temperature is below T_g , an
76 amorphous particle behaves as a solid, while a particle would be semi-solid or liquid
77 when the ambient temperature is above T_g . OA particles contain a number of organic
78 compounds and also a variable amount of liquid water depending on RH, which can act
79 as a plasticizer to reduce T_g : these mixture effects can be estimated using the Gordon-
80 Taylor relation (Mikhailov et al., 2009; Koop et al., 2011; Dette et al., 2014). In
81 addition, ambient OA may often be internally mixed with inorganic species such as
82 sulfate and nitrate, which would further lower T_g and viscosity if they are well-mixed
83 in one phase; when the phase separation occurs, the inorganic-rich and organic-rich
84 phases may undergo glass transition at different temperatures (Dette and Koop, 2015).

85 For pure organic compounds with known molecular structure, viscosity can
86 be predicted by group contribution approaches (Cao et al., 1993; Bosse, 2005; Song et
87 al., 2016b; Rovelli et al., 2019; Gervasi et al., 2020); chemical composition of ambient
88 OA is complex and molecular specificity is often unavailable, which makes viscosity
89 predictions of ambient OA challenging. We have recently developed a set of semi-
90 empirical parameterizations using molar mass (M) and atomic O:C ratio (Shiraiwa and
91 Li et al., 2017) or elemental composition (DeRieux and Li et al., 2018) to predict T_g for
92 compounds comprised of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen (CHO compounds). These
93 parameterizations have been applied to high-resolution mass spectrometry
94 measurements to estimate viscosity of organic aerosols (DeRieux and Li et al., 2018;
95 Schum et al., 2018; Ditto et al., 2019; Song et al., 2019) and coupled into a
96 thermodynamic model (Gervasi et al., 2020). Note that heteroatoms and the effects of
97 molecular structure and functional groups on T_g are not considered in parameterizations
98 of Shiraiwa and Li et al. (2017) and DeRieux and Li et al. (2018).

99 Viscosity of pure compounds has been found to be inversely correlated with
100 vapor pressure (Thomas et al., 1979). The molecular corridor (Shiraiwa et al., 2014; Li
101 et al., 2016) based analysis of hundreds of SOA components has shown that compounds

102 with lower pure compound saturation mass concentration (C^0) have higher T_g (Shiraiwa
103 et al., 2017). Rothfuss & Petters (2017) found that there is a similar trend between the
104 sensitivity of viscosity to functional group addition and the sensitivity of vapor pressure
105 to functional group addition. Measurements of the evaporation kinetics of maleic acid
106 showed that decreasing particle viscosity leads to a suppression in the effective vapor
107 pressure of maleic acid (Marshall et al., 2018). Champion et al. (2019) found secondary
108 organic aerosols (SOA) with higher condensed-phase fractions of extremely low
109 (ELVOC) and low volatile organic compounds (LVOC) showed an increased viscosity.
110 Zhang et al. (2019) measured T_g of isoprene SOA components including isoprene
111 hydroxy hydroperoxide (ISOPOOH), isoprene-derived epoxydiols (IEPOX), 2-
112 methyltetrols, and 2-methyltetrol sulfates (2-MT-OS), observing a tight correlation
113 between T_g and vapor pressure.

114 Based on the above evidence showing a close relation between volatility and
115 viscosity, in this study we develop the parameterizations predicting T_g as a function of
116 C^0 based on data from over 2000 compounds. Functional group contribution approaches
117 are often used to predict C^0 (Capouet and Müller, 2006; Pankow and Asher, 2008;
118 Compernelle et al., 2011; O'Meara et al., 2014), thereby using C^0 to predict T_g would
119 include the molecular structure effect indirectly. The developed parameterizations are
120 applied to field observations of volatility distributions to predict viscosity of ambient
121 OA.

122

123 **2. Methods**

124 **2.1 Dataset of glass transition temperature**

125 The training dataset used to develop the parameterizations of T_g include 2448
126 organic compounds classified into four classes (see the number of CH, CHO, CHON,
127 and CHOS compounds in Table S1). Measured T_g values are available for 42 CH
128 compounds, 259 CHO compounds, 35 CHON compounds and 1 CHOS compound
129 (Koop et al., 2011; Rothfuss and Petters, 2017; Lessmeier et al., 2018; Zhang et al.,

130 2019), among which there are 168 compounds with measured C^0 available (Table S1).
131 When T_g measurements are unavailable, T_g is estimated from the melting temperature
132 (T_m) applying the Boyer-Kauzmann rule of $T_g = g \cdot T_m$ (Kauzmann, 1948; Boyer, 1954)
133 with $g = 0.70085 (\pm 0.00375)$ (Koop et al., 2011), referred to “estimated T_g ” in this study
134 (see good agreement of measured and estimated T_g in Fig. S1a). 1187 compounds (391
135 CH, 537 CHO, 241 CHON and 18 CHOS compounds) with both measured T_m and C^0
136 (Table S1, S2) are adopted from the MPBPWIN Program Test Sets
137 (<http://esc.syrres.com/interkow/EpiSuiteData.htm>) included in the Estimation
138 Programs Interface (EPI) Suite software version 4.1 (US EPA, 2015). Measured T_g , T_m
139 or C^0 for CHOS compounds are sparse and we adopt 850 CHOS compounds included
140 in Li et al. (2016) with their T_m and C^0 estimated by the EPI Suite software (Table S2).
141 There are estimation limitations in the EPI Suite; for example, the disagreement
142 between measured and estimated C^0 is larger for compounds with $C^0 < \sim 10^{-2} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
143 (Fig. S1b), which may affect the T_g predictions for compounds with low volatility.
144 However, given the large amount of data points with measured C^0 included in the
145 training dataset, the estimation bias introduced by the EPI Suite may not substantially
146 impact the accuracy of the parameterization developed in this study.

147 The test dataset used to validate the performance of the parameterizations
148 predicting T_g of SOA components includes 654 CHO compounds and 212 CHON
149 compounds found in SOA oxidation products (Shiraiwa et al., 2014). The values of
150 their C^0 are estimated using the EVAPORATION model (Compernelle et al., 2011).
151 Their T_m values are adopted from the EPI Suite. The T_g predicted by our
152 parameterizations are compared with the T_g estimated from the T_m applying the Boyer-
153 Kauzmann rule in the test dataset.

154

155 **2.2 Parameterizations of T_g as a function of volatility**

156 Figure 1a shows a dependence of T_g on C^0 for 2448 organic compounds in
157 the training dataset. The compounds with lower C^0 have higher T_g and the T_g appears

158 to level at around 420 K at $C^0 < \sim 10^{-10} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. The dependence of T_g on the atomic O:C
159 ratio is weaker (Fig. 1a and Fig. S2), in agreement with previous studies (Koop et al.,
160 2011; Shiraiwa et al., 2017). Note that a tight correlation between T_g and the O:C ratio
161 has been observed for oxidation products formed from specific precursors including α -
162 pinene (Dette et al., 2014), *n*-heptadecane and naphthalene (Saukko et al., 2012). Based
163 on the trend shown in Fig. 1a, we develop a parameterization (Eq. 1) to predict T_g as a
164 function of C^0 and O:C, which are the parameters used in the two-dimensional VBS
165 (2D-VBS) framework (Donahue et al., 2011).

166

$$167 \quad T_g = 289.10 - 16.50 \times \log_{10}(C^0) - 0.29 \times [\log_{10}(C^0)]^2 + 3.23 \times \log_{10}(C^0) (\text{O:C}) \quad (1)$$

168

169 The coefficients in Eq. (1) are obtained by fitting the T_g of 2448 compounds in Fig. 1a
170 with multi-linear least squares analysis with 68% prediction and confidence intervals.
171 The predicted T_g by Eq. (1) is plotted in Fig. 1a with the O:C ratios of 0, 0.5, and 1,
172 showing that the predicted dependence of T_g on C^0 follows the trend well in the training
173 dataset. The O:C ratio mainly affects the predicted T_g of volatile or extremely low
174 volatile compounds. Figure 1b shows that the T_g values of those compounds are
175 predicted well by Eq. (1) as indicated by a high correlation coefficient (R) of 0.92. The
176 average absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE, Aiken et al., 2007) is 12%.

177 Equation (1) is further evaluated using the test dataset for SOA components.
178 Figure 1(c) compares T_g predicted by Eq. (1) with estimated T_g from T_m applying the
179 Boyer-Kauzmann rule, showing that Eq. (1) also presents a good performance for
180 predicting T_g of these SOA components with $R = 0.96$ and AAVRE = 6 %. Note that
181 C^0 values of SOA components were estimated using the EVAPORATION model
182 (Compernelle et al., 2011). The T_g values of individual SOA compounds can be
183 predicted within ± 20 K as indicated by the prediction band (dotted lines in Fig. 1c);
184 however, this uncertainty may be much smaller for multicomponent SOA mixtures
185 under ideal mixing conditions as indicated in the confidence band (dashed lines, almost

186 overlapping with the 1:1 line) (Shiraiwa and Li et al., 2017; DeRieux and Li et al., 2018;
187 Song et al., 2019).

188 We also develop a parameterization (Eq. 2) predicting T_g as a function of C^0
189 solely, which can be applied to the information available with the one-dimensional VBS
190 framework (1D-VBS; Donahue et al., 2006), and can be used when the O:C ratio is not
191 available in measurements.

192

$$193 \quad T_g = 288.70 - 15.33 \times \log_{10}(C^0) - 0.33 \times [\log_{10}(C^0)]^2 \quad (2)$$

194

195 The coefficients in Eq. (2) are obtained following the procedures developing Eq. (1)
196 and the same training dataset is used. Figures S3-S4 show that Eq. (2) gives very similar
197 predictions as Eq. (1) particularly for the compounds with low O:C ratio. As Eq. (1)
198 and (2) are developed based on the compounds with their C^0 higher than $\sim 10^{-20} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$,
199 Eqs. (1–2) may not be applicable for compounds with $C^0 < \sim 10^{-20} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (Fig. 1a).

200

201 **2.3 Predictions of T_g and viscosity of organic aerosols**

202 For the application of T_g parameterizations in field observations of volatility
203 distributions, T_g for each volatility bin ($T_{g,i}$) is calculated by Eq. (1). The term volatility
204 refers to the effective saturation mass concentration (C^*) and we assume ideal
205 thermodynamic mixing in which case C^* is equal to C^0 (Donahue et al., 2011). Note
206 that there may be additional uncertainty in application of T_g parameterizations (which
207 were developed based on pure compounds) to each volatility bin representing surrogate
208 of complex multicomponent mixtures. The isolines in Fig. 2 show the $T_{g,i}$ predicted by
209 Eq. (1) with the C^* and O:C defined in the 2D-VBS framework. T_g would be below \sim
210 250 K for intermediate volatility organic compounds (IVOC; $300 < C^0 < 3 \times 10^6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$),
211 ~ 260 K to ~ 290 K for semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOC; $0.3 < C^0 < 300$
212 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$), and higher than 300 K for low-volatile organic compounds (LVOC; $3 \times 10^{-4} <$
213 $C^0 < 0.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) and extremely low-volatile organic compounds (ELVOC; $C^0 < 3 \times 10^{-}$

214 ⁴ $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). The T_g increases as the O:C ratio increases for SVOC and IVOC, which is
 215 consistent with previous studies (Koop et al., 2011; Saukko et al., 2012; Berkemeier et
 216 al., 2014). The T_g slightly decreases as the O:C ratio increases for LVOC and ELVOC
 217 compounds, which might be due to the uncertainties in Eq. (1) which is derived from a
 218 dataset containing fewer LVOC and ELVOC compounds as shown in Fig. 1a, which
 219 exhibits lower T_g with higher O:C.

220 The glass transition temperatures of organic aerosols under dry conditions
 221 ($T_{g,org}$) are calculated by the Gordon-Taylor equation (Gordon and Taylor, 1952)
 222 assuming the Gordon-Taylor constant (k_{GT}) of 1 (Dette et al., 2014):

223

$$224 \quad T_{g,org} = \sum_i w_i T_{g,i} \quad (3)$$

225

226 where w_i is the mass fraction in the particle phase for each volatility bin. The Gordon-
 227 Taylor approach has been validated for a wide range of mixtures including SOA
 228 compounds (Dette et al., 2014; Lessmeier et al., 2018). The Gordon-Taylor approach
 229 may fail in the case of adduct or complex formation (Koop et al., 2011), which is highly
 230 unlikely in multicomponent mixtures with myriads of SOA compounds with very small
 231 individual mole fractions and thus particular interactions between individual
 232 compounds are more likely to average out (Shiraiwa et al., 2017); this aspect would
 233 need to be investigated in future studies.

234 The phase state of aerosol particles strongly depends on their water content
 235 (Mikhailov et al., 2009; Koop et al., 2011). Under humid conditions, the water content
 236 in OA can be estimated using the effective hygroscopicity parameter (κ) (Petters and
 237 Kreidenweis, 2007). The T_g of organic-water mixtures ($T_g(w_{org})$) at given RH can be
 238 estimated using the Gordon-Taylor equation (Gordon and Taylor, 1952):

239

$$240 \quad T_g(w_{org}) = \frac{(1-w_{org})T_{g,w} + \frac{1}{k_{GT}}w_{org}T_{g,org}}{(1-w_{org}) + \frac{1}{k_{GT}}w_{org}} \quad (4)$$

241

242 where w_{org} is the mass fraction of organics in particles; $T_{\text{g,w}}$ is the glass transition
243 temperature of pure water (136 K, Kohl et al., 2005), and k_{GT} is the Gordon-Taylor
244 constant for organic-water mixtures which is suggested to be 2.5 (Zobrist et al., 2008;
245 Koop et al., 2011). Viscosity can then be calculated applying the Vogel-Tammann-
246 Fulcher (VTF) equation (Angell, 1991): $\eta = \eta_{\infty} e^{\frac{T_0 D}{T - T_0}}$, where η_{∞} is the viscosity at
247 infinite temperature (10^{-5} Pa s, Angell, 1991), D is the fragility parameter which is
248 assumed to be 10 (DeRieux and Li et al., 2018), and T_0 is the Vogel temperature
249 calculated as $T_0 = \frac{39.17 T_g}{D + 39.17}$.

250

251 3. Application in field observations

252 3.1 Southern Oxidant and Aerosol Study (SOAS)

253 In this section we predict glass transition temperatures and phase state of
254 ambient OA during the SOAS campaign which took place in the southeastern United
255 States (Centreville, Alabama) in summer 2013 (Carlton et al., 2018). The T_g of organic
256 aerosols under dry conditions ($T_{\text{g,org}}$) is calculated using Eqs. (1) and (3) with measured
257 volatility distributions. Figure 2 shows the calculated $T_{\text{g,org}}$ placed in the 2D-VBS
258 framework against the average $\log_{10}(C^*)$ calculated by $\sum_i w_i \log_{10}(C_i^*)$ (Kostenidou
259 et al., 2018) and the measured O:C ratio is from Xu et al. (2015).

260 Figure 2 shows that $T_{\text{g,org}}$ of total OA (TOA) range from 232 K to 334 K,
261 depending on volatility distributions measured by different methods, while the most
262 credible predicted $T_{\text{g,org}}$ values span in the range of 313 – 330 K. The reasons are stated
263 below by comparing the different methods deriving the C^* distributions. Stark et al.
264 (2017) used three methods (“Thermograms”, “Partitioning” and “Formulas”) to derive
265 volatility distributions applying the measurements of organic acids (which were shown
266 to account for about half of the total OA; Yatavelli et al., 2015) from a high-resolution
267 chemical ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometer equipped with a filter inlet for
268 gases and aerosols (Lopez-Hilfiker et al., 2014; Thomson et al., 2017). In the

269 “Thermogram” method, C^* at 298 K is estimated from the desorption temperature after
270 calibration with known species (Faulhaber et al., 2009). This method results in 93% of
271 OA mass distributed in the LVOC and ELVOC (Stark et al., 2017), and a high $T_{g,org}$ of
272 330 K is predicted (Fig. 2). While this method may be influenced by thermal
273 decomposition, the peak temperatures of decomposing species can be expected to relate
274 closer to actual volatilities than any of the other two analysis methods (Stark et al.,
275 2017). The result from the thermogram method is consistent with those measured by an
276 aerosol mass spectrometer (AMS) with a thermo denuder, which also applied the
277 thermogram method to estimate the C^* distributions (Hu et al., 2016). Saha et al. (2017)
278 applied an evaporation kinetic model (Lee et al., 2011) based on the VBS approach to
279 extract the C^* distributions, and the effects of enthalpy of vaporization and
280 accommodation coefficient (α) are considered, resulting in the estimated $T_{g,org}$ of 313
281 K. This study retrieved α of ~ 0.5 , which is consistent with recent experiments
282 (Krechmer et al., 2017; Liu et al., 2019).

283 The lower $T_{g,org}$ values (< 280 K) calculated from the C^* distributions
284 estimated from the “Formulas” and “Partitioning” methods (Stark et al., 2017) are less
285 atmospherically relevant. The “Formulas” method used the SIMPOL group
286 contribution method (Pankow and Asher, 2008) to calculate vapor pressures from the
287 composition of the identified ions. While the specific functional group distributions
288 needed for SIMPOL are unknown from mass spectrometer measurements, some
289 assumptions can be made, leading to limits in the volatility distributions, all of which
290 showing the same behavior of high volatilities (Stark et al., 2017). This is because many
291 of the detected species can be thermal decomposition products rather than actual SOA
292 molecules (Stark et al., 2015; Stark et al., 2017), which can lead to overestimations of
293 volatilities, resulting in the unlikely low $T_{g,org}$ of 232 K. The “Partitioning” method used
294 the measured particle-phase mass fractions of each species to estimate C^* based on the
295 partitioning theory (Pankow, 1994). The estimated C^* is distributed mainly in the
296 SVOC range (Stark et al., 2017), leading to a $T_{g,org}$ of 279 K (Fig. 2). This value is very

297 close to the $T_{g,org}$ (281 K) simulated by a global chemical transport model EMAC-
298 ORACLE in which a narrow distribution of C^* (1, 10, 10^2 , and $10^3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) was applied
299 (Shiraiwa et al., 2017). However, Stark et al. (2017) note that the partitioning-based
300 volatility distribution is likely too high due to an artifact of signal-to-noise limitations,
301 confining the C^* characterizable by the partitioning method to a relatively narrow range
302 centered around the ambient OA concentration (by definition, the semi-volatile range).
303 These analyses indicate that the volatility distributions derived from different methods,
304 even when based on the same measurements, significantly affect the predicted $T_{g,org}$,
305 and the most atmospherically relevant volatility distributions should be carefully
306 chosen to reasonably predict the glass transition temperature of ambient OA. In
307 summary, the $T_{g,org}$ values during the SOAS campaign should be in the range of 313 –
308 330 K.

309 Figure 2 also includes $T_{g,org}$ of isoprene-epoxydiols-derived SOA (IEPOX-
310 SOA) identified via positive matrix factorization (PMF) of AMS mass spectra (Lanz et
311 al., 2007). IEPOX-SOA is predicted to have a $T_{g,org}$ of 345 K with very low volatility
312 with the average C^* lower than $10^{-4} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (Hu et al., 2016; Lopez-Hilfiker et al., 2016;
313 D'Ambro et al., 2019), which may be due to substantial formation of organosulfates and
314 other oligomers (Lin et al., 2012; Hu et al., 2015; Riva et al., 2019). The predicted $T_{g,org}$
315 of IEPOX-SOA is higher than previously reported $T_{g,org}$ of 263 - 293 K for
316 monoterpene-derived (α -pinene, Δ^3 -carene, myrcene, limonene and ocimene) SOA
317 (Petters et al., 2019).

318 We further calculate the viscosity of OA based on the $T_{g,org}$ of TOA predicted
319 above in order to compare with the ambient phase state measurements during the SOAS
320 campaign. Figure 3(a) shows the predicted viscosity of total OA at different RH. T is
321 adopted as 298 K, the average value during the SOAS campaign (Hu et al., 2016). The
322 effective hygroscopicity parameter (κ) is set to 0.14 for TOA based on measurements
323 (Cerully et al., 2015). The characteristic timescale of mass transport and mixing by
324 molecular diffusion (τ_{mix}) is also calculated: $\tau_{mix} = d_p^2 / (4\pi^2 D_b)$ (Seinfeld and Pandis,

325 2006), where d_p is the particle diameter and the bulk diffusion coefficient D_b is
326 calculated from the predicted viscosity by the fractional Stokes–Einstein relation (Evoy
327 et al., 2019). We assume the radius of the diffusing molecule of 10^{-10} m and the particle
328 diameter of 200 nm (Shiraiwa et al., 2011). Note that these estimated timescales
329 represent rough estimations, as molecular interactions in complex mixtures are not
330 considered.

331 The viscosity of TOA at RH of 83% (average RH during SOAS) is predicted
332 to be less than 10^2 Pa s with τ_{mix} less than 1 s, which is consistent with the particle
333 bounce measurements suggesting that organic-dominated particles were mostly liquid
334 during the SOAS campaign (Pajunoja et al., 2016). When RH was below $\sim 50\%$ in the
335 sampling inlet, the particles were found to adopt a semi-solid state (Pajunoja et al.,
336 2016), which agrees with the predicted viscosity of $10^7 - 10^{11}$ Pa s and τ_{mix} can be higher
337 than 1 hour at 50% RH (Fig. 3a). The variations in $T_{\text{g,org}}$ (313 – 330 K) due to the
338 different measured C^* distributions (Fig. 2) have a more significant impact on the
339 predicted viscosity at low and medium RH (Fig. 3a). When RH is higher than $\sim 70\%$,
340 the predicted viscosities calculated from different $T_{\text{g,org}}$ values are very close; at high
341 RH the condensed phase water has a larger influence on the phase state than the
342 volatility does, depending on the hygroscopicity of organic aerosols.

343 Figure 3 (b) shows diurnal variations of predicted viscosity of total OA using
344 measured T and RH during the SOAS campaign (Hu et al., 2016). During 10:00 – 20:00
345 when $\text{RH} < 70\%$ and $T > 298$ K, three simulations using different $T_{\text{g,org}}$ values predict
346 that total OA occur as semi-solid with the predicted viscosity of $10^2 - 10^7$ Pa s and the
347 mixing times less than 1 hour. Particles are predicted to have low viscosity of < 1 Pa s
348 adopting a liquid phase during nighttime. The lowest viscosity occurs around 5:00 –
349 6:00 with $\text{RH} > 95\%$. Here we did not consider the effects of the diurnal variations of
350 volatility distributions, as they did not vary dramatically over the campaign period
351 (Saha et al., 2017). Besides T and RH, diurnal variation of ambient aerosol phase state
352 also depends on particle chemical composition and mixing states. Organic particles in

353 Amazon were found to be more viscous at night than the daytime due to the influence
354 of biomass burning that may form non-liquid particles (Bateman et al., 2017). Particles
355 in a mixed forest in northern Michigan were also found more viscous at night despite
356 higher RH than the daytime, due to the formation of high molar mass organic
357 compounds and smaller inorganic sulfate mass fractions (Slade et al., 2019). Phase state
358 measurements during daytime and nighttime at Atlanta suggested that the ambient
359 particle phase state was influenced by OA composition, the presence of inorganic ions,
360 aerosol liquid water and particle mixing state (Ditto et al., 2019).

361

362 **3.2 $T_{g,org}$ at 11 global sites**

363 Figure 4 summarizes $T_{g,org}$ at 11 sites where the measured volatility
364 distributions with volatility bins of four or more are available (Table S3). We did not
365 include the data with narrower volatility ranges which may not correctly characterize
366 the properties of ambient SOA (Bilde et al., 2015), and thus may not be appropriate for
367 estimating volatility distributions and it would result in unrealistically low T_g without
368 considering realistically low C^* bins. Note that a narrow VBS may still be useful for
369 efficiency in 3-dimensional chemical transport models for SOA evaporation and
370 condensation under a narrow range of ambient temperature variations (Kostenidou et
371 al., 2018).

372 Figure 4(a) shows the 2D-VBS framework of O:C vs. $\log_{10}C^*$ with the marker
373 fill color representing $T_{g,org}$, whereas the panel (b) shows $T_{g,org}$ vs. $\log_{10}C^*$ with the
374 marker fill color representing O:C. The marker edge color represents OA components
375 identified via positive matrix factorization of AMS mass spectra (Lanz et al., 2007),
376 including biomass burning OA (BBOA), hydrocarbon-like OA (HOA), cooking OA
377 (COA) and oxygenated OA (OOA) which is sometimes further separated into more
378 oxygenated (MO-OOA) and less oxygenated OA (LO-OOA) factors. Note that these
379 different OA factors may often be internally mixed in ambient atmosphere and
380 predicted $T_{g,org}$ and particle viscosity would be irrelevant in such a case. Nevertheless,

381 these predictions can be useful when particles are externally mixed or ambient OA are
382 dominated by a certain OA factor.

383 $T_{g,org}$ of total OA (TOA) varies from 290 K to 339 K. The lower $T_{g,org}$ occurs
384 at Beijing, China in June 2018 (Xu et al., 2019). OA in Beijing was found to be overall
385 more volatile with the particle-phase semi-volatile fraction of 63%. This may be due to
386 the higher total OA mass concentrations in Beijing (Xu et al., 2019), which facilitates
387 greater partitioning of SVOC compounds into the particle phase, leading to a lower
388 $T_{g,org}$. The predicted $T_{g,org}$ of total OA at numerous other sites range between 300 K and
389 320 K, including Paris (Paciga et al., 2016), Mexico city (Cappa and Jimenez, 2010),
390 Centreville (Hu et al., 2016; Saha et al., 2017; Stark et al., 2017), Raleigh (Saha et al.,
391 2017), and Durham (Saha et al., 2018) in southeastern US. The $T_{g,org}$ value (316 K) at
392 220 m downwind from a highway in Durham is higher than the $T_{g,org}$ (309 K) at 10 m
393 downwind from a highway due to the dilution and mixing of traffic-sourced particles
394 with background air and evaporation of semi-volatile species during downwind
395 transport (Saha et al., 2018). The $T_{g,org}$ values are predicted to be high with >320 K at
396 the sites in Athens (Louvaris et al., 2017), Pasadena (Ortega et al., 2016), Colorado
397 Rocky Mountain (Stark et al., 2017) and Amazon (Hu et al., 2016). The $T_{g,org}$ values
398 for MO-OOA in Mexico city and Paris are predicted to be very high at ~350 K,
399 reflecting their very low volatility.

400 Figure 5 shows the OA viscosity variation of OA components against RH.
401 The hygroscopic growth is considered based on hygroscopicity (κ), which is estimated
402 as a function of the O:C ratio (Lambe et al., 2011) when κ was not measured (Table
403 S3). The κ values of OA factors with low O:C ratio, i.e., HOA, COA and BBOA, are
404 estimated to be low (< 0.08); they are predicted to undergo glass transition at RH
405 between 25 % and 68 % and adopt a liquid phase only when RH is very high (~80%).
406 The predicted behavior of BBOA is in line with bounce measurements observing that
407 particles are semisolid in a biomass burning plume (Bateman et al., 2017). OA factors

408 with higher O:C ratios including LO-OOA, MO-OOA, and IEPOX SOA tend to
409 become liquid (viscosity $< 10^2$ Pa s) at intermediate RH (Fig. 5b).

410 There have been growing measurements of RH-dependent viscosity of
411 laboratory-generated SOA formed from different precursors, e.g., isoprene (Song et al.,
412 2015), α -pinene (Abramson et al., 2013; Renbaum-Wolff et al., 2013; Kidd et al., 2014;
413 Pajunoja et al., 2014; Bateman et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2015; Grayson et al., 2016;
414 Petters et al., 2019), toluene (Song et al., 2016a) and diesel fuel (Song et al., 2019). As
415 the OOA factors characterized from ambient AMS observations may represent ambient
416 SOA (Jimenez et al., 2009), the predicted viscosities of OOA are compared with
417 laboratory measurements of SOA viscosities in Fig. 5b. It shows that the majority of
418 experimental values is well bounded by the predicted viscosities of OOA, represented
419 by the pink shaded area. One exception is the measured viscosity of isoprene SOA is
420 lower than the predicted viscosity of IEPOX SOA at low RH (< 30 %). One possible
421 reason is that the isoprene SOA in experiments was formed with high oxidant
422 concentrations with a short reaction time in an oxidation flow reactor in the absence of
423 inorganic seed particles (Song et al., 2015). In ambient environments heterogeneous
424 reactions with acidic sulfate particles forming oligomers are suggested to be an
425 important pathway (Surratt et al., 2010; Lin et al., 2013; Hu et al., 2015; Hu et al., 2016).
426 These particle-phase organosulfates may contribute to a higher viscosity, as indicated
427 by the predicted viscosity of IEPOX-derived organosulfate mixtures with their $T_{g,org}$
428 estimated to be 313 K (Riva et al., 2019). Another reason could be the mass
429 concentrations of isoprene SOA are much higher ($100 \sim 1000 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, Song et al., 2015)
430 compared to ambient OA concentrations ($5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ during SOAS, Stark et al., 2017).
431 Higher mass concentrations can lead to lower viscosity, as more semi-volatile
432 compounds can partition into the particle phase (Grayson et al., 2016; Jain et al., 2018;
433 Champion et al., 2019).

434

435 **4. Comparison with global simulations**

436 Shiraiwa et al. (2017) simulated the global distribution of annual averages of
437 SOA phase state using the chemical transport model EMAC (Jöckel et al., 2006)
438 coupled with the organic aerosol module ORACLE (Tsimpidi et al., 2014). ORACLE
439 uses the 1D-VBS framework with four C^* bins (1, 10, 10^2 , and $10^3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). To estimate
440 T_g the values of molar mass and O:C ratio were assigned for each volatility bin based
441 on molecular corridors (Shiraiwa et al., 2014). Note that the molar mass assigned for
442 the volatility bin of $1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ was assumed to have relatively high molar mass to partially
443 compensate for the fact that ORACLE does not consider lower volatility bins with
444 higher molar mass. As shown in Fig. 6, global distributions of T_g / T presented in
445 Shiraiwa et al. (2017) is converted to viscosity using the VTF equation. Figure 6 also
446 includes the viscosity of total OA at the 11 sites by applying measured volatility
447 distributions and the global model simulated 5 years' average T and RH with κ assumed
448 to be 0.1 (Pringle et al., 2010). Figure 6b shows that the predicted viscosities at the 11
449 sites generally agree with the global simulations: the amorphous solid or semi-solid
450 phase occurs over relatively dry areas, including the sites in western US, Mexico City,
451 Beijing and coastal sites in Greece; the lower viscosity occurs in southeastern US and
452 Paris.

453 The global simulations show that the particles are liquid in the Amazon,
454 while they occur as semi-solid in our predictions based on measured volatility
455 distributions (Fig. 6a). The reason of this disagreement may be mainly due to the
456 substantial fraction of low volatility compounds observed in ambient measurements
457 largely missing from global simulations. Hu et al. (2016) observed that 90 % of OA
458 have volatilities lower than $1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, which is the lowest C^* bin in the global simulations.
459 The ambient phase state measurements show that for background conditions of the
460 Amazonian tropical forest, particles are mostly liquid, while with the anthropogenic
461 influence including both urban pollution and biomass burning, they occur as semi-solid
462 or glassy (Bateman et al., 2016; Bateman et al., 2017). The volatility distributions were
463 measured in the dry season heavily influenced by biomass burning (Hu et al., 2016),

464 which can lead to the higher predicted viscosity. Similar cases are observed in Athens
465 and the two sites in the western US, that our predictions based on volatility distributions
466 indicate the glassy phase state while the global model predicts the occurrence of a semi-
467 solid phase.

468

469 **5. Conclusions and implications**

470 We have developed parameterizations to estimate the glass transition
471 temperature of organic compounds using saturation mass concentration (C^0) and atomic
472 O:C ratio. They can be applied to ambient observations of volatility distributions to
473 estimate viscosity of ambient organic aerosols. The T_g and viscosity prediction method
474 can be applied in the volatility basis set or the molecular corridor-based approach to
475 improve OA simulations in chemical transport models by consideration of effects of
476 particle viscosity on OA formation and evolution (Shiraiwa et al., 2017; Pye et al., 2017;
477 Schmedding et al., 2019). Most of the current chemical transport models treat particles
478 as homogeneously well-mixed liquid without considering particle-phase diffusion
479 limitations, which can lead to bias in simulations of SOA mass concentrations and
480 evolution of size distributions (Shiraiwa and Seinfeld, 2012; Zaveri et al., 2018). The
481 SOA simulations applying the VBS framework have not yet included the effects of
482 viscosity on SOA formation and evolution. When the gas-particle partitioning is limited
483 by bulk diffusion, kinetic treatments of SOA partitioning may need to be applied
484 (Perraud et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2016; Yli-Juuti et al., 2017; Li and Shiraiwa, 2019).
485 Some chamber experiments probing the mixing timescales of SOA particles formed
486 from isoprene, α -pinene, and limonene did not observe significant kinetic limitations at
487 moderate and high RH under room temperature (Loza et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2016),
488 while kinetic limitations of bulk diffusion of organic molecules in β -caryophyllene
489 SOA have been observed at 75 % RH (Ye et al., 2018), warranting further investigations
490 on the degree of kinetic limitations in ambient tropospheric conditions. In addition, the
491 interplay of diffusion limitations and phase separation impacts heterogeneous and

492 multiphase chemistry (Vander Wall et al., 2018; DeRieux et al., 2019; Zhou et al., 2019)
 493 and gas-particle partitioning (Zuend and Seinfeld, 2012; Shiraiwa et al., 2013;
 494 Freedman, 2017; Pye et al., 2017; Gorkowski et al., 2019a). The particle morphology
 495 and the degree of non-ideal mixing and liquid-liquid phase separation can evolve upon
 496 atmospheric aging (Gorkowski et al., 2019b). These aspects may also need to be
 497 considered for better representation of organic aerosols in future studies.

498

499 **Appendix A: Parameterizations of T_g based on elemental compositions**

500 We recently developed a parameterization (Eq. A1) predicting T_g as a
 501 function of the number of carbon (n_C), hydrogen (n_H), and oxygen (n_O) atoms (DeRieux
 502 and Li et al., 2018), similar to the formulation used to predict C^0 (Donahue et al., 2011;
 503 Li et al., 2016):

504

$$505 T_g = (n_C^0 + \ln(n_C)) b_C + \ln(n_H) b_H + \ln(n_C) \ln(n_H) b_{CH} + \ln(n_O) b_O + \ln(n_C) \ln(n_O) b_{CO} \quad (\text{A1})$$

506

507 Values of the coefficients [n_C^0 , b_C , b_H , b_{CH} , b_O , and b_{CO}] are [1.96, 61.99, -113.33, 28.74,
 508 0, 0] for CH compounds and [12.13, 10.95, -41.82, 21.61, 118.96, -24.38] for CHO
 509 compounds. We broaden the parameterizations for CH and CHO compounds (Eq. A1)
 510 to the following equations applicable to CHON (Eq. A2) and CHOS compounds (Eq.
 511 A3):

512

$$513 T_g = (n_C^0 + \ln(n_C)) b_C + \ln(n_O) b_O + \ln(n_N) b_N + \ln(n_C) \ln(n_O) b_{CO} + \ln(n_C) \ln(n_N) b_{CN} +$$

$$514 \ln(n_O) \ln(n_N) b_{ON} \quad (\text{A2})$$

$$515 T_g = (n_C^0 + \ln(n_C)) b_C + \ln(n_O) b_O + \ln(n_S) b_S + \ln(n_C) \ln(n_O) b_{CO} + \ln(n_C) \ln(n_S) b_{CS} + \ln(n_O)$$

$$516 \ln(n_S) b_{OS} \quad (\text{A3})$$

517

518 Values of the coefficients [n_C^0 , b_C , b_O , b_N , b_{CO} , b_{CN} and b_{ON}] in Eq. (A2) are [5.34, 31.53,
 519 -7.06, 134.96, 6.54, -34.36, -15.35] and [n_C^0 , b_C , b_O , b_S , b_{CO} , b_{CS} and b_{OS}] in Eq. (A3)

520 are [1.12, 68.41, 64.95, 35.77, -12.32, -9.85, 13.80], respectively. These values are
521 obtained by fitting the T_g of CHON and CHOS compounds included in the training
522 dataset (Fig. 1a, Table S1) with multi-linear least squares analysis. Figure A1 (a) shows
523 a fair agreement between the predicted T_g using Eq. (A2) and the measured or otherwise
524 estimated T_g with R of 0.55 and relatively large AAVRE of 16 % for CHON compounds
525 in the training dataset. Figure A1 (b) shows a better prediction performance with R of
526 0.83 and AAVRE of 9 % for 212 CHON compounds included in the test dataset for
527 SOA components with their T_g estimated by the Boyer-Kauzmann rule using the EPI-
528 estimated T_m . Figure A1 (c) shows that Eq. (A3) performs well for the CHOS
529 compounds included in the training dataset with their T_g estimated by the Boyer-
530 Kauzmann rule using the EPI-estimated T_m ($R = 0.87$, AAVRE = 8 %).

531 Figure S5 shows the comparison of T_g predicted by the elemental
532 composition (Eqs. A1– A3) with the T_g predicted as a function of C^0 and the O:C ratio
533 (Eq. 1). The agreement between the two sets of parameterizations for nitrogen- and
534 sulfur-containing compounds is not as good as that for CHO compounds, indicating
535 that there are limitations of predicting T_g by the elemental composition for nitrogen-
536 and sulfur-containing compounds with complex elemental compositions and molecular
537 structures. As volatility depends significantly on functional groups contained in a
538 molecule (Pankow and Asher, 2008; Compornolle et al., 2011), predicting T_g by
539 volatility (Eq. 1) indirectly incorporates the molecular structure effects. As there are
540 limited CHON and CHOS compounds with measured T_g available, future experiments
541 measuring more T_g data for nitrogen- and sulfur-containing organics would help
542 improve the T_g parameterizations by elemental composition.

543

544 Appendix B: Comparison of T_g predictions with Zhang et al. (2019)

545 Recently Zhang et al. (2019) developed a semi-empirical parameterization
546 (Eq. B1) using vapor pressure (p_0 in atm) to predict T_g based on measured T_g of 11 SOA
547 compounds:

548

$$549 \quad T_g = 480.1 - \frac{54395}{(\log_{10}(p_0) - 1.7929)^2 + 116.49}$$

550 (B1)

551

552 p_0 can be converted to C^0 via $C^0 = (10^6 M p_0)/(RT)$, where R is the ideal gas constant (R
553 $= 8.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^3 \text{ atm mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$), M is the molar mass (g mol^{-1}), and T is the temperature
554 (K). Figure B1 compares the measured T_g included in the training dataset shown in Fig.
555 1a to T_g predicted by (a) C^0 and the atomic O:C (Eq. 1), (b) elemental composition (Eqs.
556 A1-A3), and (c) Eq. (B1) by Zhang et al. (2019). While all three methods perform
557 reasonably well, the predictions using elemental composition (Eqs. A1-A3) show better
558 performance (Fig. B1b) with R of 0.93 and AAVRE of 11 %, respectively.

559 The prediction performance is influenced by the training dataset used
560 developing parameterizations of T_g . The compounds shown in Fig. B1 contain mostly
561 carboxylic acid and hydroxyl functional groups (Koop et al., 2011; Rothfuss and
562 Petters, 2017) and are included in the training dataset used developing Eq. (1) and (Eqs.
563 A1-A3). The training dataset used in Zhang et al. (2019) included 11 organic
564 compounds, and their parameterization predicted T_g of isoprene SOA very well (Zhang
565 et al., 2019), while underpredicted some low- T_g compounds (Fig. B1c). For compounds
566 with their measured T_g higher than 200 K, predictions by Zhang et al. (2019) show good
567 performance and are consistent with the predictions given by Eq. (1) as a function of
568 C^0 and the O:C ratio. Predicted T_g of 2-MT-OS using the three methods are 297 K (Eq.
569 1, as a function of C^0 and the O:C ratio), 275 K (Eq. A3, as a function of the elemental
570 composition) and 280 K (Eq. B1, Zhang et al., 2019), comparable with the measured
571 T_g of 276 ± 15 K (Zhang et al., 2019).

572 Note that predictions using elemental composition (Eq. A1) overestimate the T_g
573 of phthalate compounds (the star markers in Fig. B1). For instance, the observed T_g of
574 dioctyl phthalate is 194 K (Zhang et al., 2018), while the prediction is higher than 300
575 K (Fig. B1b). The reason is that ester is not an effective functional group to increase

576 viscosity compared to carboxylic acid and hydroxyl (Rothfuss and Petters, 2017).
577 Parameterizations using volatility (Eqs. 1 and B1) improve the predicted T_g of phthalate
578 compounds (Fig. B1a, c). Figure B2 shows compared to the predictions using Eq. (B1)
579 provided in Zhang et al. (2019), predictions by C^0 and the atomic O:C (Eq. 1) and
580 elemental composition (Eq. A1) agree better with the T_g estimated from the Boyer-
581 Kauzmann rule. Future experiments measuring more T_g of SOA components would
582 help verify the T_g predictions by different parameterizations.

583

584 **Author contribution.** YL, JLJ and MS designed the research. YL developed the
585 parameterizations. DAD, HS and JLJ provided measured volatility distributions for
586 the SOAS campaign. YL and MS wrote the manuscript. All authors discussed the
587 results and contributed to manuscript editing.

588

589 **Data availability.** The data used in this study is available in the supplement.

590

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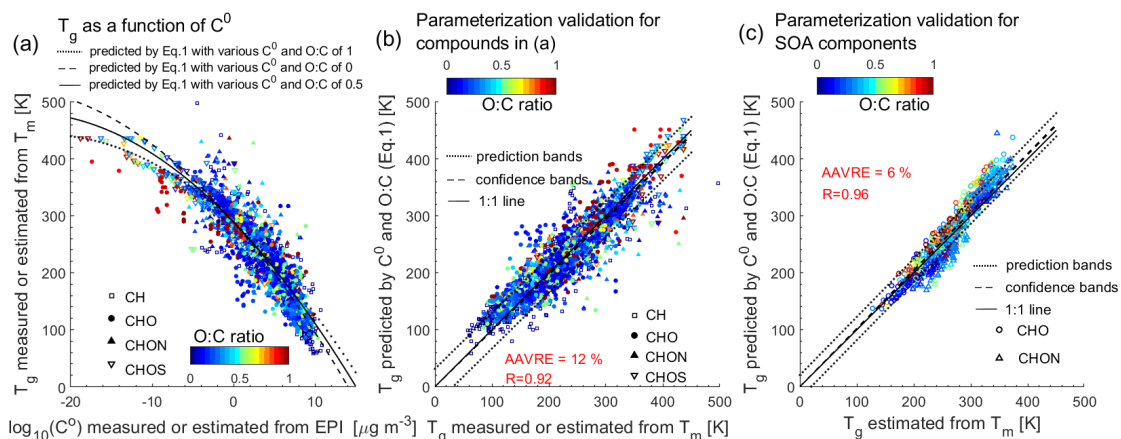
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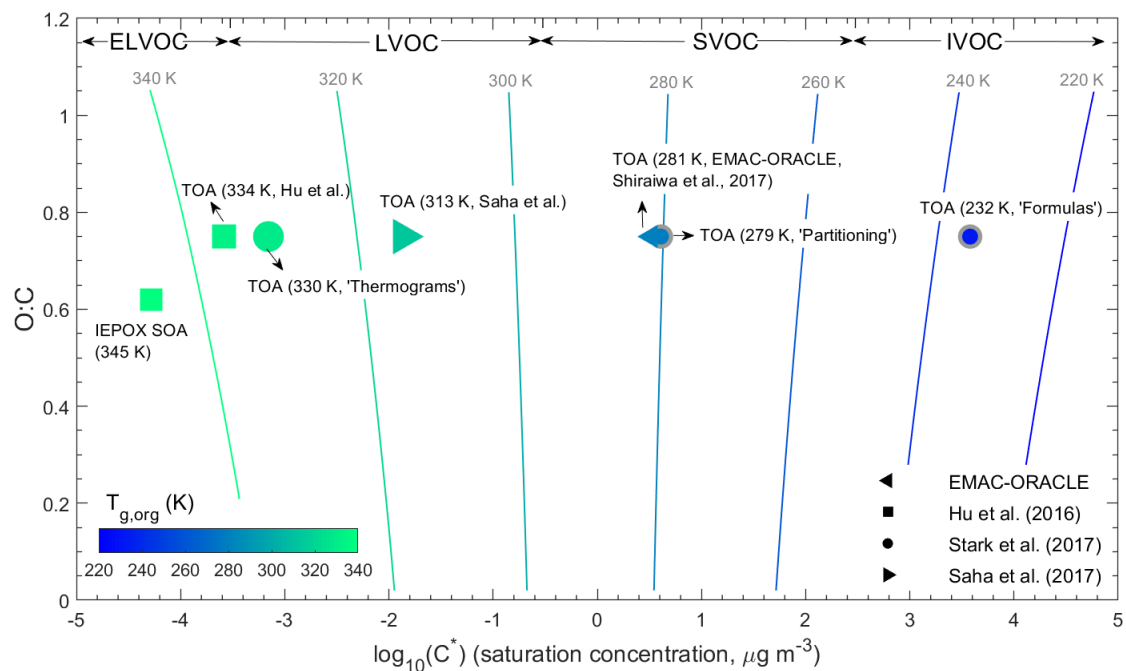
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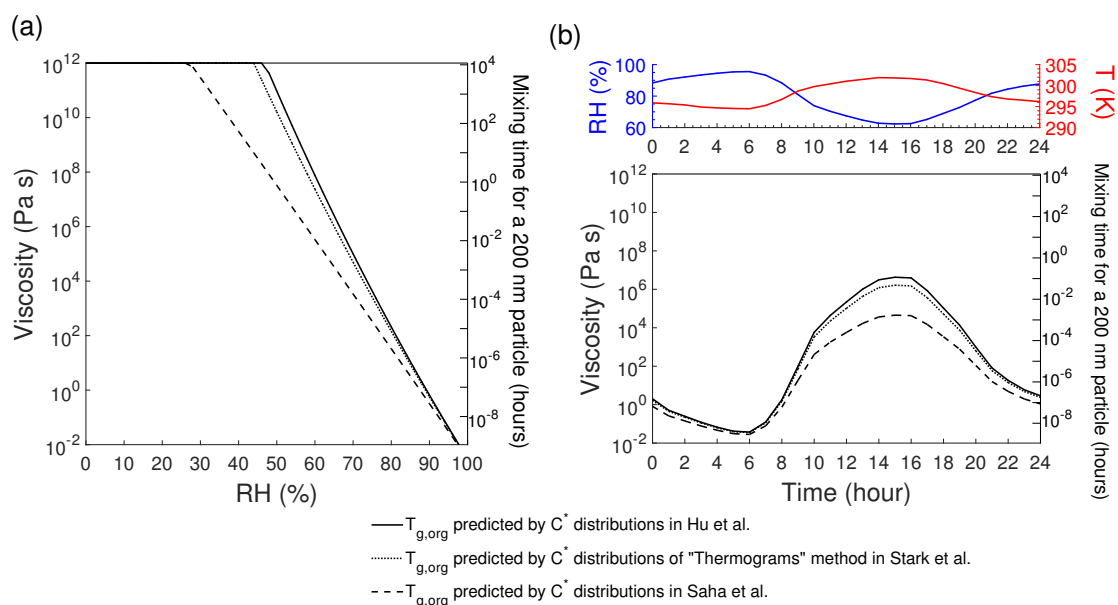
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Figure 1. (a) T_g of organic compounds in the training dataset plotted against C^0 . The lines show the predictions of T_g (Eq. 1) by C^0 and the O:C ratio of 0 (dashed), 0.5 (solid), and 1 (dotted). (b) Predicted T_g by C^0 and the O:C ratio (Eq. 1) for compounds shown in (a) compared to measured or otherwise estimated T_g from T_m . (c) Predicted T_g for SOA components (Shiraiwa et al., 2014) using Eq. (1) plotted against estimated T_g from T_m with the Boyer-Kauzmann rule. The correlation coefficient (R) and the average absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE) are shown. The dashed and dotted lines in (b) and (c) show 68% confidence and prediction bands, respectively.



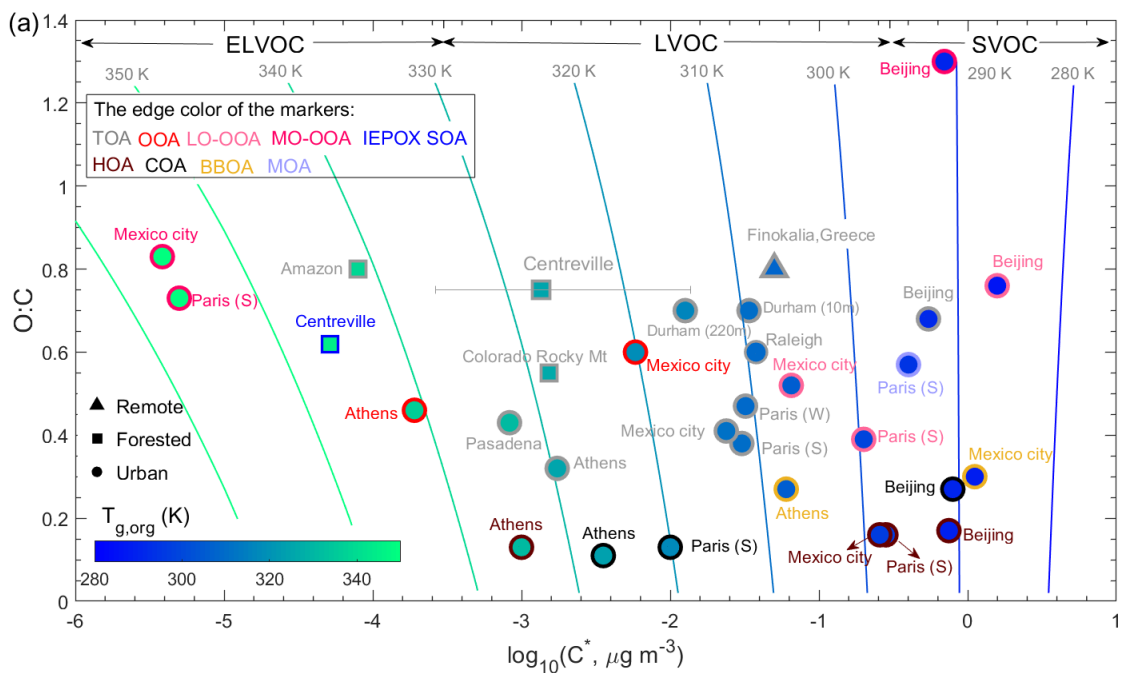
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1179 **Figure 2.** Predicted glass transition temperatures of organic aerosols under dry
 1180 conditions ($T_{g,org}$) during the SOAS campaign placed into the 2-D VBS framework. The
 1181 isopleths correspond to the T_g calculated using Eq. (1) with the effective saturation mass
 1182 concentration (C^*) and the O:C ratio defined in the 2D-VBS. The markers represent the
 1183 $T_{g,org}$ of total OA (TOA) and IEPOX SOA calculated from the volatility distributions
 1184 simulated by a global chemical transport model EMAC-ORACLE (Shiraiwa et al.,
 1185 2017) or measured during the SOAS campaign (Hu et al., 2016; Saha et al., 2017; Stark
 1186 et al., 2017). Three methods ('Formulas', 'Partitioning', and 'Thermograms') are
 1187 applied in Stark et al. (2017) to derive the C^* distributions, while the "Thermograms"
 1188 method provides the most credible volatility distributions compared to 'Formulas' and
 1189 'Partitioning' (marker edge lines in gray).
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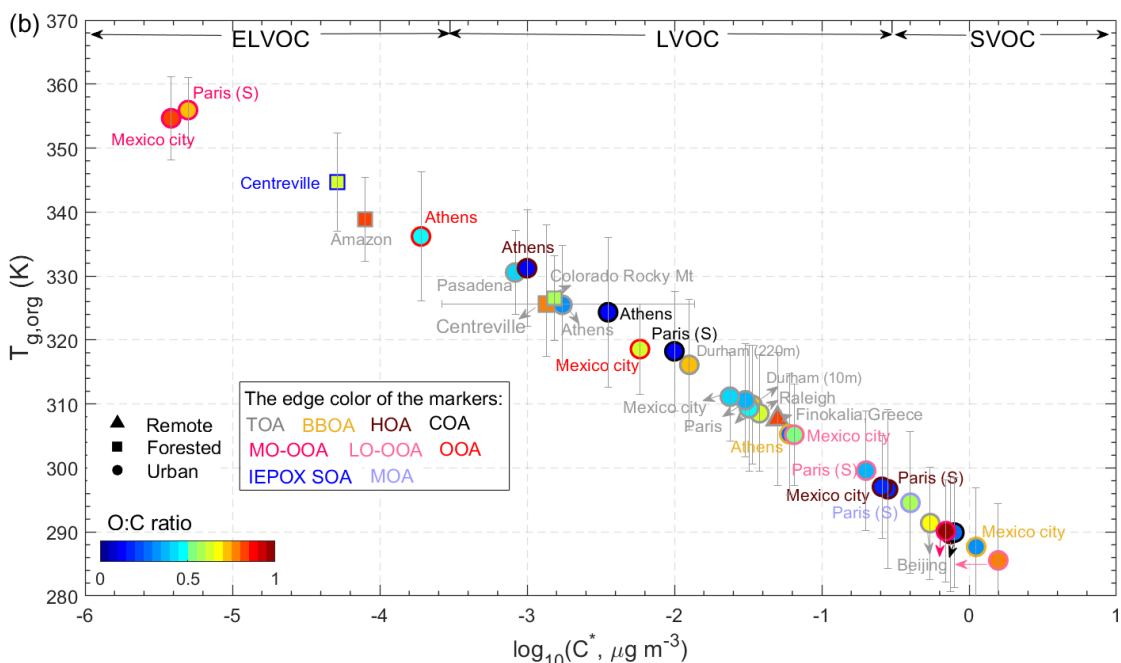


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1192 **Figure 3.** (a) Predicted viscosity of total OA measured during the SOAS campaign as
 1193 a function of RH. (b) Diurnal variations of viscosity of total OA predicted employing
 1194 the measured RH and T (Hu et al., 2016) during the SOAS campaign. $T_{g,org}$ are
 1195 calculated using the volatility distributions measured in Hu et al., (2016), Saha et al.
 1196 (2017), and the "Thermograms" method in Stark et al. (2017). Characteristic mixing
 1197 timescales of organic molecules with the radius of 10^{-10} m within 200 nm particles are
 1198 also shown in the right axis.

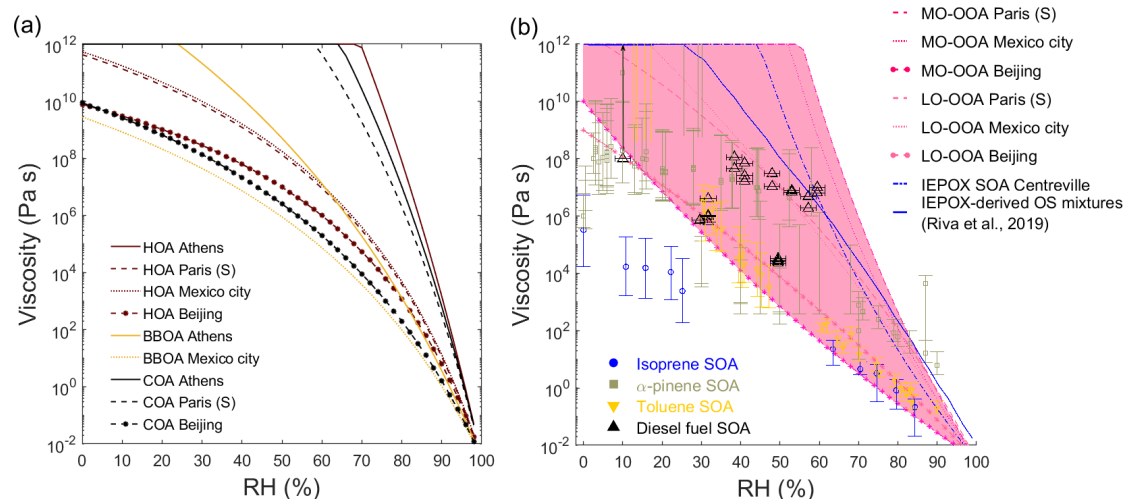


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1201 **Figure 4.** Predicted glass transition temperatures of organic aerosols under dry
 1202 conditions ($T_{g,org}$) at 11 sites. The fill color of the markers represents $T_{g,org}$ (a) or the
 1203 O:C ratio (b). The marker edge color indicates the OA components identified via PMF
 1204 of the AMS mass spectra. The isopleths in (a) correspond to T_g calculated using Eq. (1)
 1205 with C^* and O:C defined in the 2D-VBS. The vertical error bars correspond to
 1206 uncertainties in $T_{g,org}$ considering parameterization uncertainties and error propagation.
 1207 The horizontal error bars for the Centreville site correspond to the upper and lower
 1208 limits of the average $\log_{10}(C^*)$ calculated from different volatility distributions
 1209 measured during the SOAS campaign (Hu et al., 2016; Saha et al., 2017; Stark et al.,
 1210 2017).

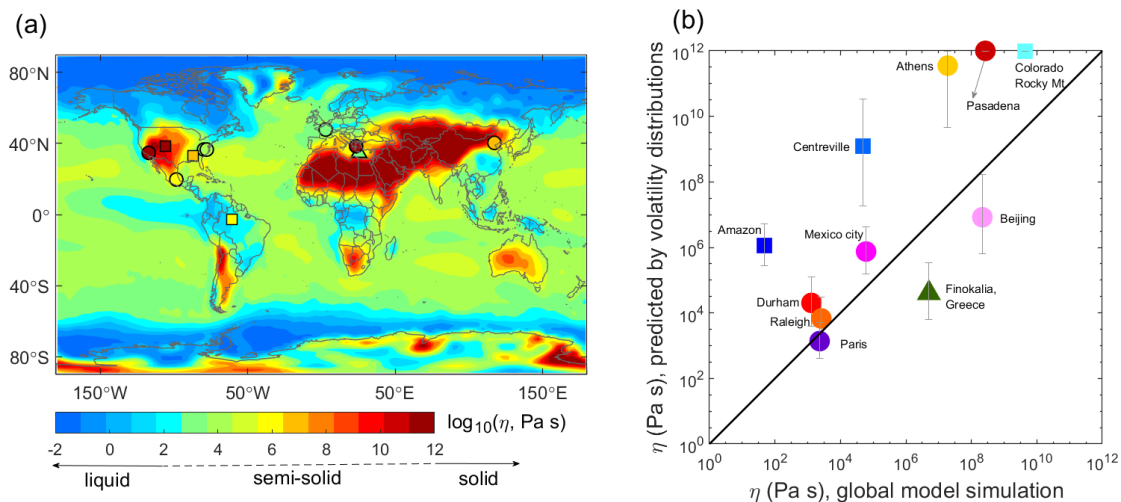


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1212 **Figure 5.** Predicted viscosity of (a) HOA, COA and BBOA and (b) LO-OOA, MO-
 1213 OOA, and IEPOX SOA in different locations at 298 K as a function of RH.
 1214 Experimentally measured viscosity of laboratory-generated SOA formed from isoprene
 1215 (Song et al., 2015), α -pinene (Abramson et al., 2013; Renbaum-Wolff et al., 2013; Kidd
 1216 et al., 2014; Pajunoja et al., 2014; Bateman et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2015; Grayson et
 1217 al., 2016; Petters et al., 2019), toluene (Song et al., 2016), and diesel fuel (Song et al.,
 1218 2019) are also shown. Predicted viscosity of IEPOX-derived OS mixtures (solid blue
 1219 line) is from Riva et al. (2019). Note that in case these OA factors are internally mixed
 1220 with other components, the predicted viscosity would not represent real ambient
 1221 complex organic mixtures.

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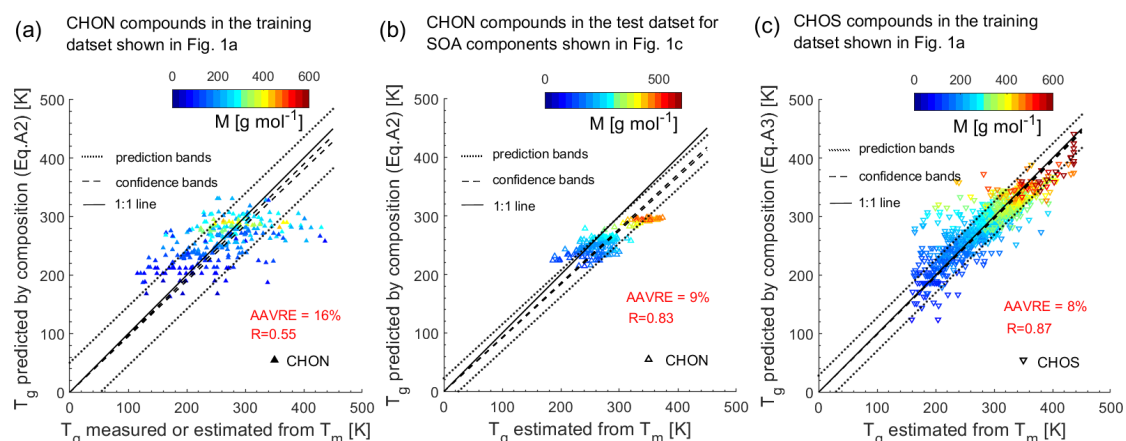


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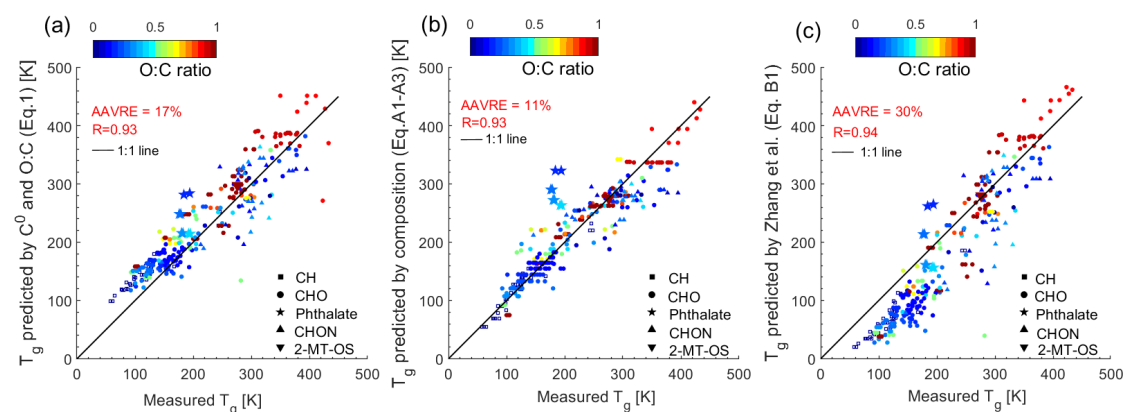
1226 **Figure 6.** (a) Global distributions of SOA annually averaged viscosity at the surface
 1227 simulated by a global chemical transport model (Shiraiwa et al., 2017) with the
 1228 viscosity predicted by measured volatility distributions at 11 global sites (triangle,
 1229 square and circle represent remote, forested and urban sites, respectively, Table S3).
 1230 The color code indicates viscosity in a log scale. (b) Predicted viscosity based on
 1231 measured volatility distributions compared against the viscosity in global simulations.
 1232 The error bars correspond to uncertainties in viscosities calculated from uncertainties
 1233 in predicted $T_{g,org}$ shown in Fig. 4.

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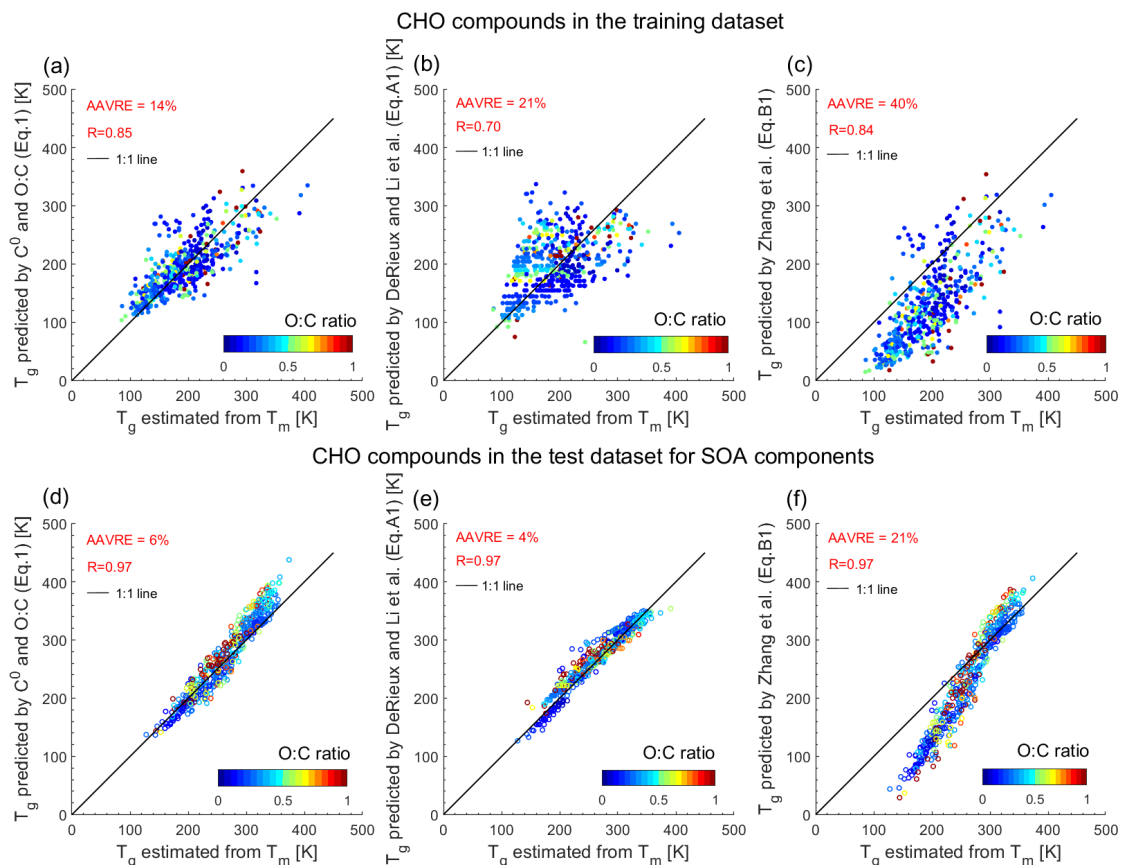
Figure A1. T_g predicted by elemental composition (Eq. A2) compared to (a) measured or otherwise estimated T_g by the Boyer-Kauzmann rule using measured T_m for CHON compounds in the training dataset and (b) estimated T_g by the Boyer-Kauzmann rule with T_m estimated by the EPI suite for CHON compounds in the test dataset for SOA components. (c) T_g predicted by elemental composition (Eq. A3) compared to estimated T_g by the Boyer-Kauzmann rule with T_m estimated by the EPI suite for CHOS compounds in the training dataset. The dashed and dotted lines show 68% confidence and prediction bands, respectively. The correlation coefficient (R) and the average absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE) are included in each figure legend.



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Figure B1. Comparison between measured T_g in the training dataset in Fig. 1a and T_g predicted by (a) C^0 and O:C (Eq. 1), (b) elemental composition (Eqs. A1-A3), and (c) the parameterization (Eq. B1) in Zhang et al. (2019). The solid line shows the 1:1 line. The correlation coefficient (R) and the average absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE) are included in each figure legend.

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Figure B2. Predicted T_g by (a) C^0 and O:C (Eq. 1), (b) elemental composition (Eq. A1), and (c) the parameterization (Eq. B1) in Zhang et al. (2019) plotted against estimated T_g from T_m applying the Boyer-Kauzmann rule. CHO compounds in (a) – (c) included in the training dataset shown in Fig. 1a are with measured T_m and C^0 values; CHO compounds in (d) – (f) included in the test dataset for SOA components shown in Fig. 1c are with T_m and C^0 values estimated by the EPI Suite and the EVAPORATION model, respectively. The correlation coefficient (R) and the average absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE) are shown.

Supplement of

Predictions of the glass transition temperature and viscosity of organic aerosols from volatility distributions

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Table S1. Number of the compounds included in the training dataset and their T_g , C^0 and T_m measured or otherwise estimated.

	CH	CHO	CHON	CHOS
Both T_g and C^0 measured	38	125	5	0
Measured T_g , C^0 estimated from EPI Suite	4	134	30	1
T_g estimated from measured T_m , measured C^0	391	537	241	18
T_g estimated from T_m , T_m estimated from EPI Suite, measured C^0	0	0	0	11
T_g estimated from measured T_m , C^0 estimated from EPI Suite	0	0	0	63
T_g estimated from T_m , T_m and C^0 estimated from EPI Suite	0	0	0	850

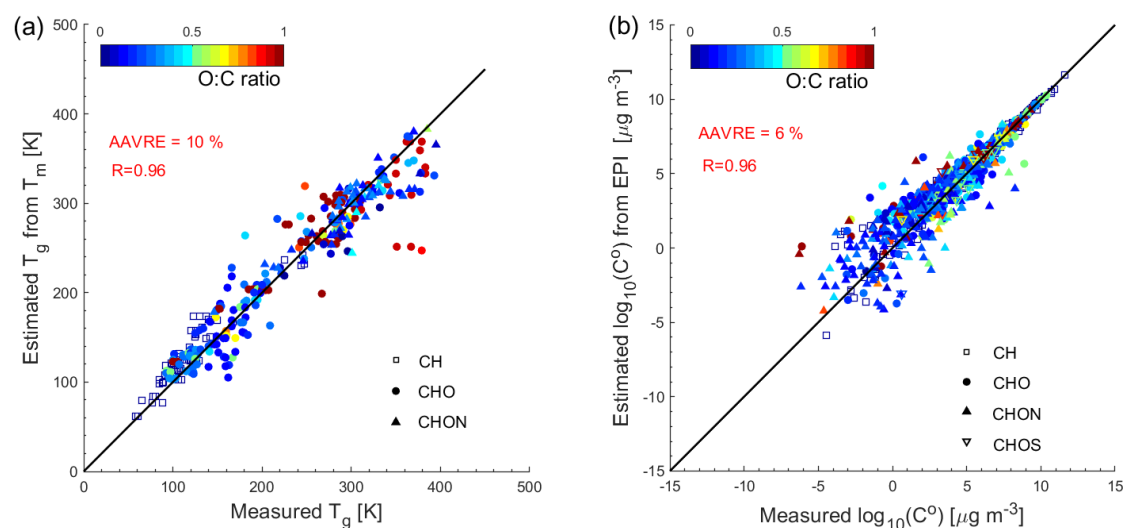


Figure S1. (a) Comparison of the measured T_g (Koop et al., 2011; Dette et al., 2014; Rothfuss and Petters, 2017; Lessmeier et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2019) and the T_g estimated by the Boyer–Kauzmann rule for 336 organic compounds with their measured T_m available. (b) Comparison of pure compound saturation mass concentration (C^0) measured and estimated from the EPI suite for 1637 organic compounds included in the training dataset.

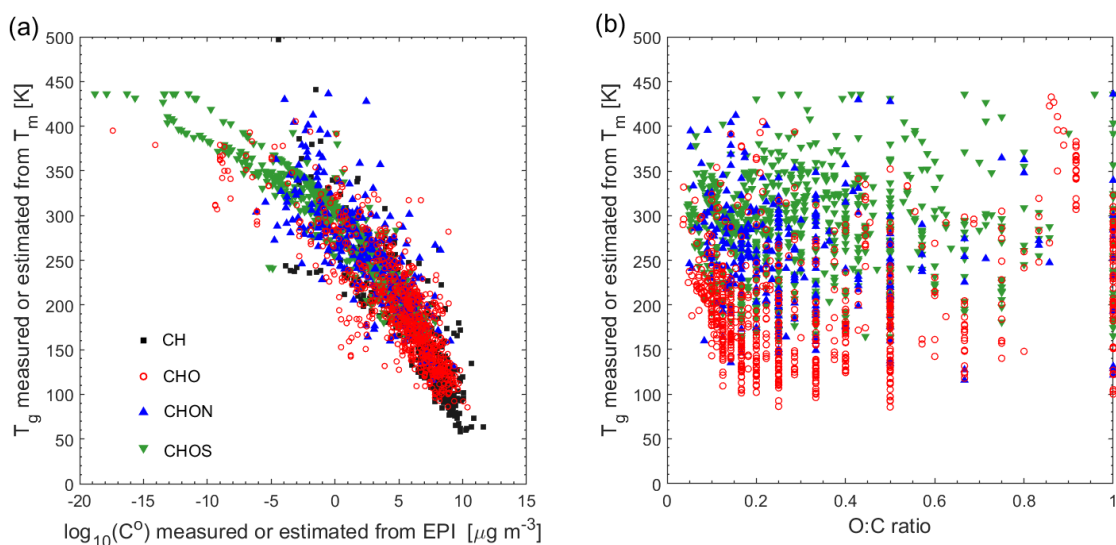


Figure S2. T_g of organic compounds in the training dataset plotted against (a) pure compound saturation mass concentration (C^0) and (b) the atomic O:C ratio.

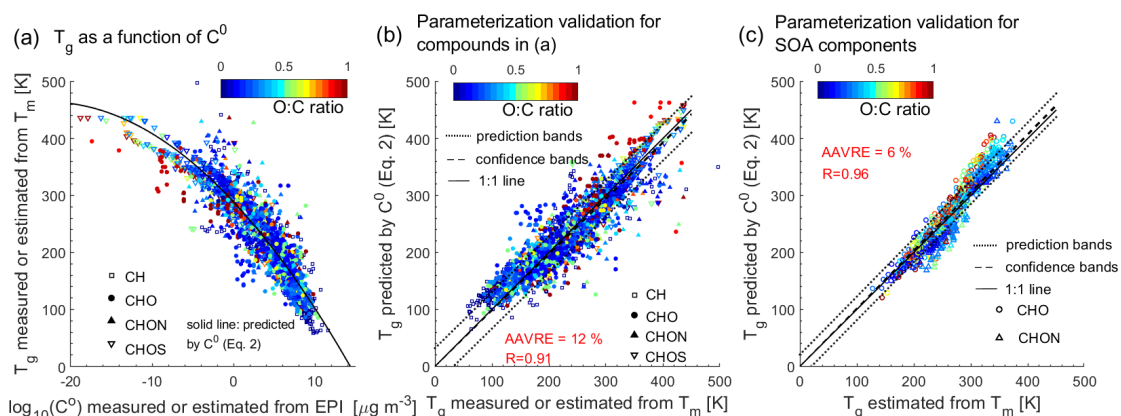


Figure S3. (a) T_g of organic compounds in the training dataset plotted against C^0 . The solid line shows the predictions of T_g by C^0 (Eq. 2). (b) Predicted T_g by C^0 (Eq. 2) for compounds shown in (a) compared to measured or otherwise estimated T_g from T_m . (c) Predicted T_g for SOA components (Shiraiwa et al., 2014) using Eq. (2) plotted against estimated T_g from T_m with the Boyer-Kauzmann rule. The correlation coefficient (R) and the average absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE) are shown. The dashed and dotted lines in (b) and (c) show 68% confidence and prediction bands, respectively.

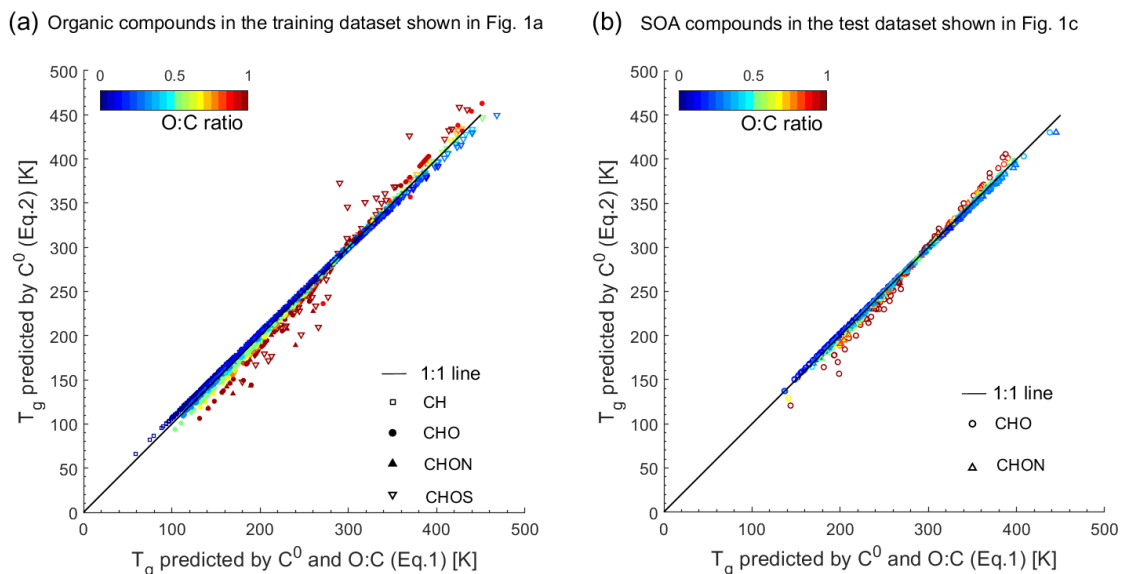


Figure S4. T_g predicted as a function of C^0 using Eq. (2) compared to T_g predicted as a function of C^0 and the O:C ratio using Eq. (1) for (a) organic compounds included in the training dataset and (b) SOA components (Shiraiwa et al., 2014) in the test dataset.

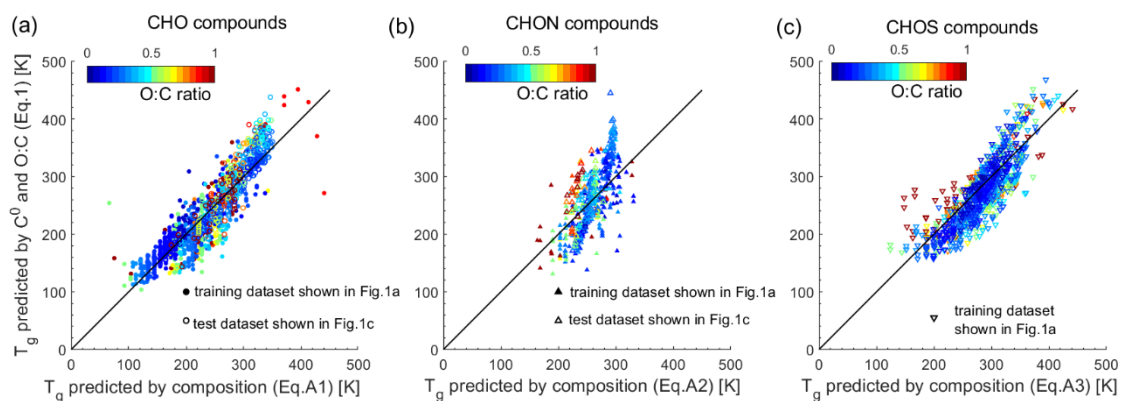


Figure S5. T_g predicted as a function of C^0 and the O:C ratio using Eq. (1) compared to T_g predicted as a function of elemental compositions using (a) Eq. (A1) for CHO compounds, (b) Eq. (A2) for CHON compounds, and (c) Eq. (A3) for CHOS compounds. The solid line shows the 1:1 line.

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