

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

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

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 (Compernolle et al., 2011). The  $T_g$  values of individual SOA compounds can be  
183 predicted within  $\pm 20$  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 
$$T_g = 288.70 - 15.33 \times \log_{10}(C^0) - 0.33 \times [\log_{10}(C^0)]^2 \quad (2)$$

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 from  $\sim 260$  K to 290 K for semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOC;  $0.3 < C^0 < 300 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ),  
212 and higher than 300 K for low-volatile organic compounds (LVOC;  $3 \times 10^{-4} < C^0 < 0.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )  
213 and extremely low-volatile organic compounds (ELVOC;  $C^0 < 3 \times 10^{-4} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )

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 ( $T_{g,\text{org}}$ ) are calculated by the Gordon-Taylor equation (Gordon and Taylor, 1952)  
222 assuming the Gordon-Taylor constant ( $k_{\text{GT}}$ ) of 1 (Dette et al., 2014):  
223

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

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

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 ( $\kappa$ ) (Petters and  
237 Kreidenweis, 2007). The  $T_g$  of organic-water mixtures ( $T_g(w_{\text{org}})$ ) at given RH can be  
238 estimated using the Gordon-Taylor equation (Gordon and Taylor, 1952):  
239

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

241 where  $w_{\text{org}}$  is the mass fraction of organics in particles;  $T_{g,w}$  is the glass transition  
242 temperature of pure water (136 K, Kohl et al., 2005), and  $k_{\text{GT}}$  is the Gordon-Taylor  
243 constant for organic-water mixtures which is suggested to be 2.5 (Zobrist et al., 2008;  
244 Koop et al., 2011). Viscosity can then be calculated applying the Vogel-Tammann-  
245 Fulcher (VTF) equation (Angell, 1991):  $\eta = \eta_{\infty} e^{\frac{T_0 D}{T - T_0}}$ , where  $\eta_{\infty}$  is the viscosity at  
246 infinite temperature ( $10^{-5}$  Pa s, Angell, 1991),  $D$  is the fragility parameter which is  
247 assumed to be 10 (DeRieux and Li et al., 2018), and  $T_0$  is the Vogel temperature  
248 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 ( $T_{g,\text{org}}$ ) is calculated using Eqs. (1) and (3) with measured  
257 volatility distributions. Figure 2 shows the calculated  $T_{g,\text{org}}$  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  $T_{g,\text{org}}$  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  $T_{g,\text{org}}$  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

“Thermogram” method,  $C^*$  at 298 K is estimated from the desorption temperature after calibration with known species (Faulhaber et al., 2009). This method results in 93% of OA mass distributed in the LVOC and ELVOC (Stark et al., 2017), and a high  $T_{g,org}$  of 330 K is predicted (Fig. 2). 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). The result from the thermogram method is consistent with those measured by an aerosol mass spectrometer (AMS) with a thermo denuder, which also applied the thermogram method to estimate the  $C^*$  distributions (Hu et al., 2016). Saha et al. (2017) applied an evaporation kinetic model (Lee et al., 2011) based on the VBS approach to extract the  $C^*$  distributions, and the effects of enthalpy of vaporization and accommodation coefficient ( $\alpha$ ) are considered, resulting in the estimated  $T_{g,org}$  of 313 K. This study retrieved  $\alpha$  of ~0.5, which is consistent with recent experiments (Krechmer et al., 2017; Liu et al., 2019).

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

close to the  $T_{g,org}$  (281 K) simulated by a global chemical transport model EMAC-ORACLE in which a narrow distribution of  $C^*$  (1, 10,  $10^2$ , and  $10^3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) was applied (Shiraiwa et al., 2017). However, Stark et al. (2017) note that the partitioning-based volatility distribution is likely too high due to an artifact of signal-to-noise limitations, confining the  $C^*$  characterizable by the partitioning method to a relatively narrow range centered around the ambient OA concentration (by definition, the semi-volatile range). 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.

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

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. Figure 3(a) shows the predicted viscosity of total OA at different RH.  $T$  is adopted as 298 K, the average value during the SOAS campaign (Hu et al., 2016). The effective hygroscopicity parameter ( $\kappa$ ) is set to 0.14 for TOA based on measurements (Cerully et al., 2015). The characteristic timescale of mass transport and mixing by molecular diffusion ( $\tau_{\text{mix}}$ ) is also calculated:  $\tau_{\text{mix}} = d_p^2 / (4\pi^2 D_b)$  (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  $\tau_{\text{mix}}$  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 ~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  $\tau_{\text{mix}}$  can be higher  
337 than 1 hour at 50% RH (Fig. 3a). The variations in  $T_{g,\text{org}}$  (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 ~70 %,  
340 the predicted viscosities calculated from different  $T_{g,\text{org}}$  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  $T_{g,\text{org}}$  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-dimentional 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 ( $\kappa$ ), which is estimated  
402 as a function of the O:C ratio (Lambe et al., 2011) when  $\kappa$  was not measured (Table  
403 S3). The  $\kappa$  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<sup>2</sup> 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),  $\alpha$ -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 ~ 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  $\kappa$  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,  $\alpha$ -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  $\beta$ -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 
$$T_g = (n_C^0 + \ln(n_C)) b_C + \ln(n_H) b_H + \ln(n_C) \ln(n_H) b_{CH} + \ln(n_O) b_O + \ln(n_C) \ln(n_O) b_{CO} \quad (A1)$$

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

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

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

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 ( $\text{g mol}^{-1}$ ), 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  $276 \pm 15$  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 diethyl 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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598

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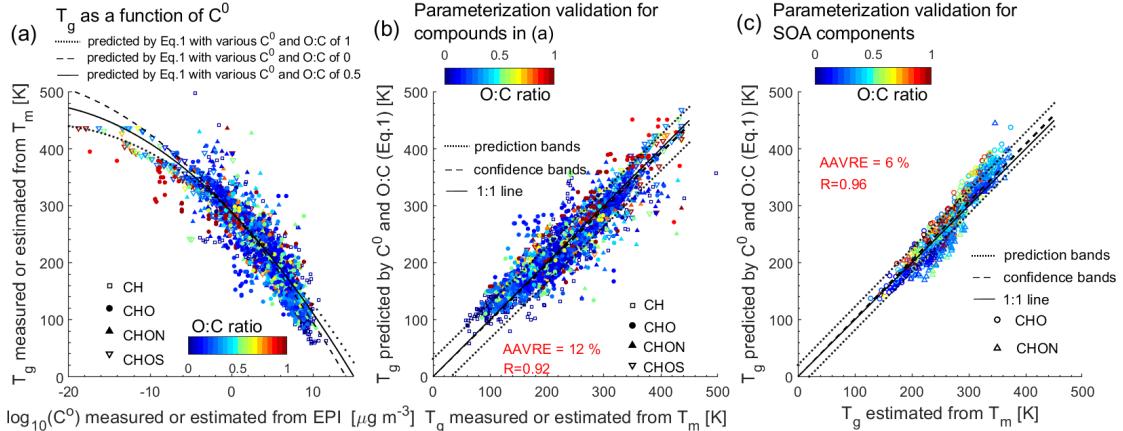
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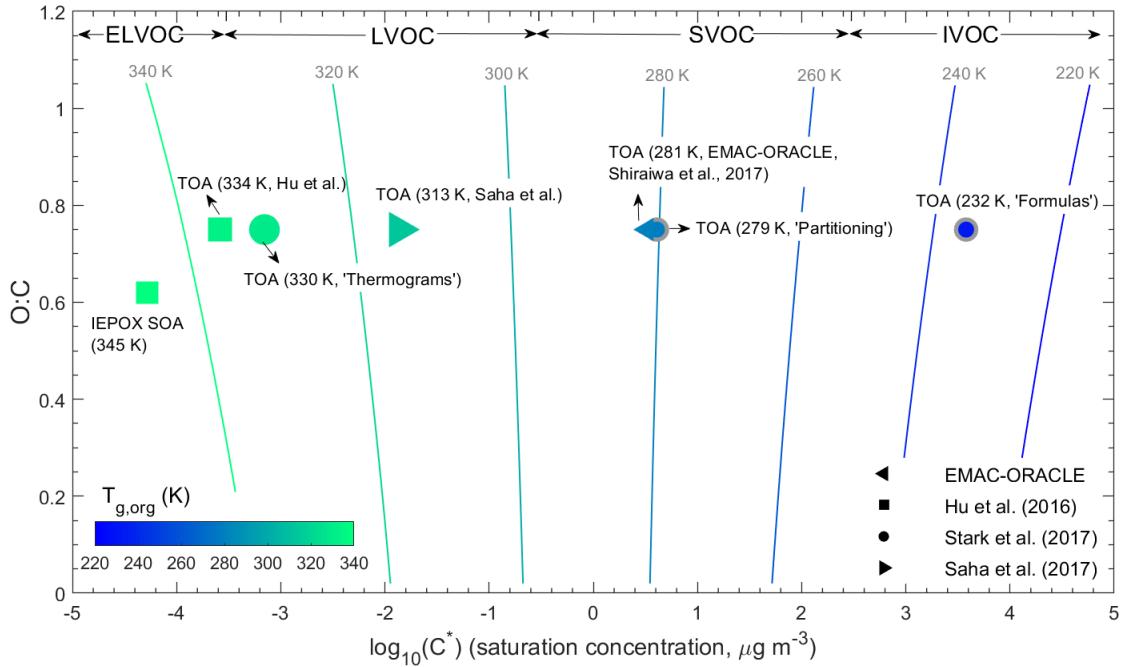
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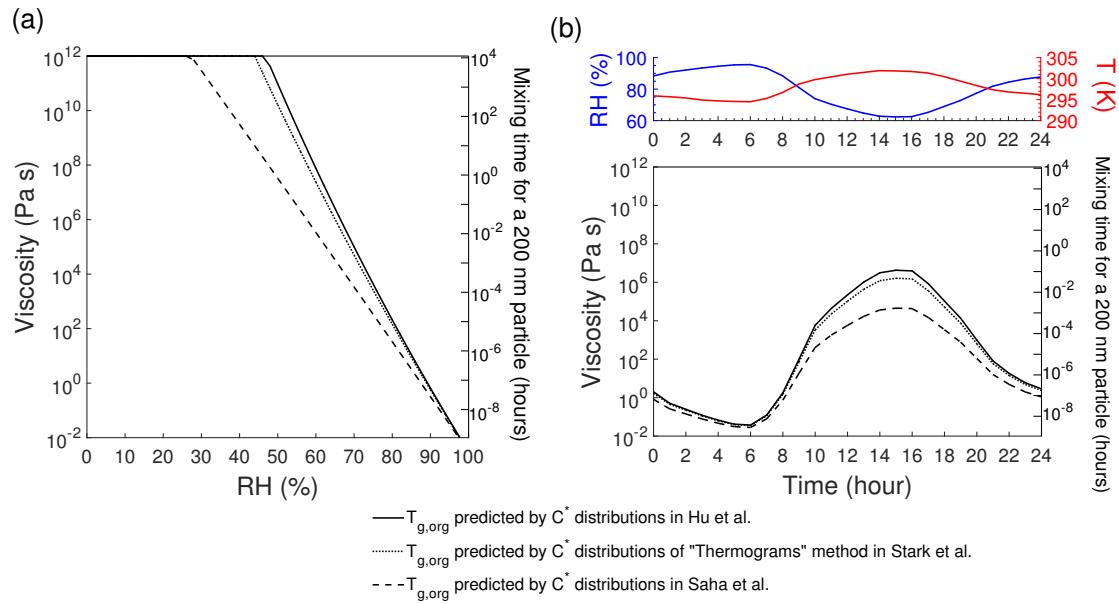
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 1169 **Figure 1.** (a)  $T_g$  of organic compounds in the training dataset plotted against  $C^0$ . The  
 1170 lines show the predictions of  $T_g$  (Eq. 1) by  $C^0$  and the O:C ratio of 0 (dashed), 0.5  
 1171 (solid), and 1 (dotted). (b) Predicted  $T_g$  by  $C^0$  and the O:C ratio (Eq. 1) for compounds  
 1172 shown in (a) compared to measured or otherwise estimated  $T_g$  from  $T_m$ . (c) Predicted  
 1173  $T_g$  for SOA components (Shiraiwa et al., 2014) using Eq. (1) plotted against estimated  
 1174  $T_g$  from  $T_m$  with the Boyer-Kauzmann rule. The correlation coefficient (R) and the  
 1175 average absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE) are shown. The dashed and dotted  
 1176 lines in (b) and (c) show 68% confidence and prediction bands, respectively.  
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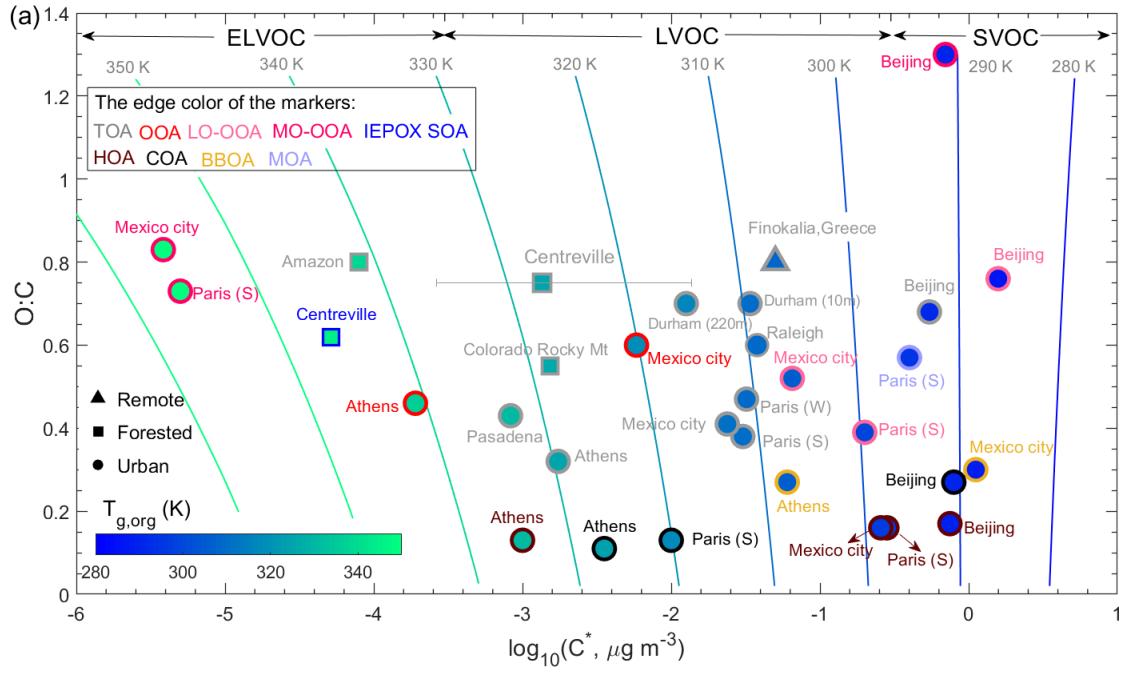
1179 **Figure 2.** Predicted glass transition temperatures of organic aerosols under dry  
 1180 conditions ( $T_{g,\text{org}}$ ) during the SOAS campaign placed into the 2-D VBS framework. The  
 1181 isopleths correspond to the  $T_g$  calculated using Eq. (1) with the effective saturation mass  
 1182 concentration ( $C^*$ ) and the O:C ratio defined in the 2D-VBS. The markers represent the  
 1183  $T_{g,\text{org}}$  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).

1190



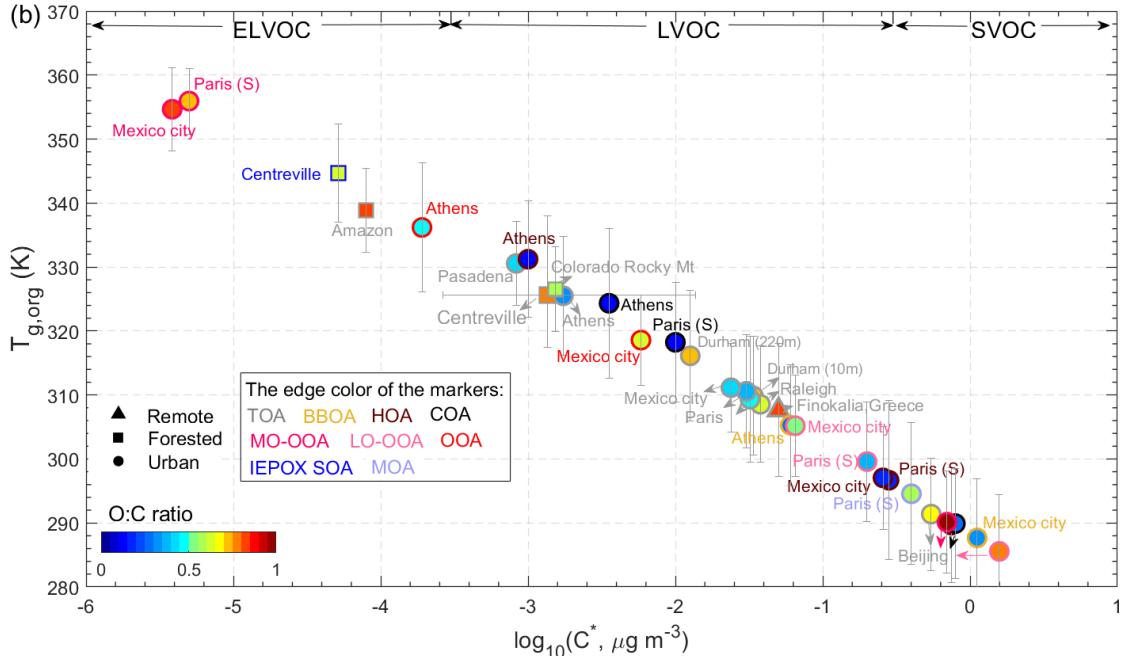
1191  
1192 **Figure 3.** (a) Predicted viscosity of total OA measured during the SOAS campaign as  
1193 a function of RH. (b) Diurnal variations of viscosity of total OA predicted employing  
1194 the measured RH and  $T$  (Hu et al., 2016) during the SOAS campaign.  $T_{g,org}$  are  
1195 calculated 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.

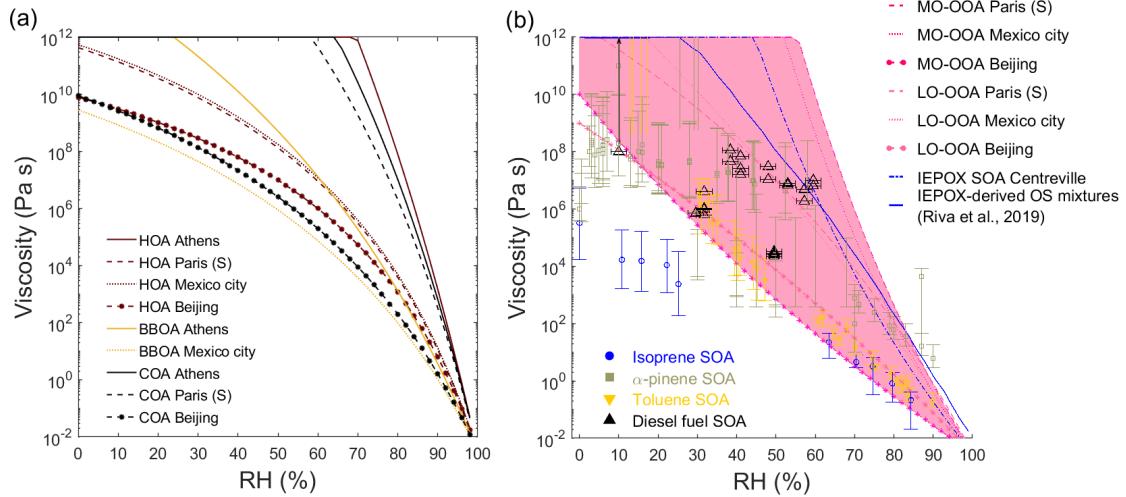
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1200

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





1211

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),  $\alpha$ -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.

1222

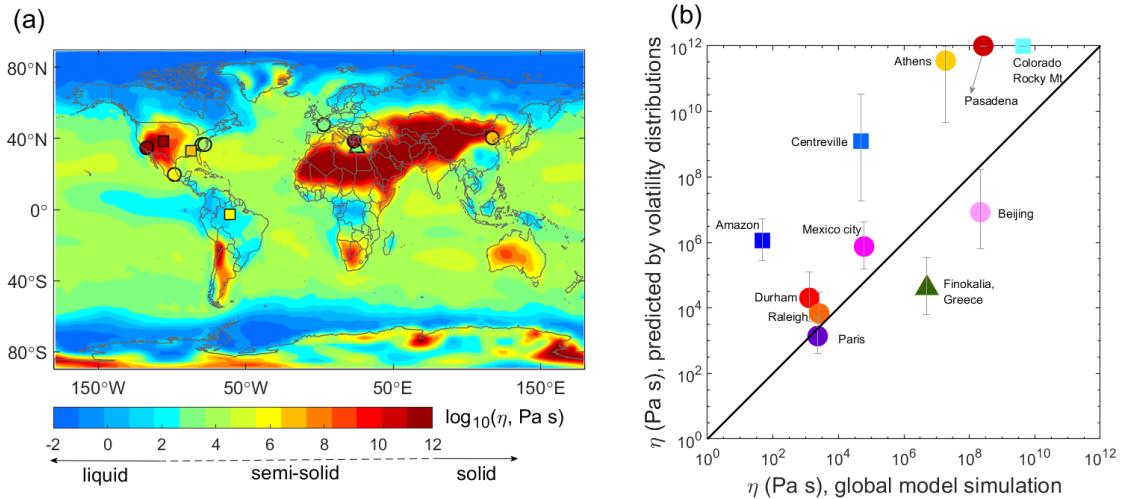
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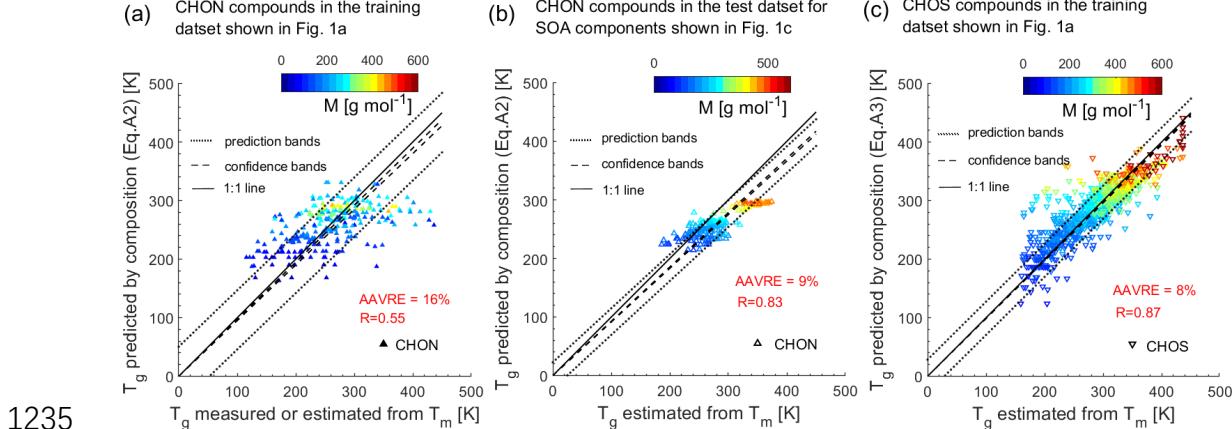
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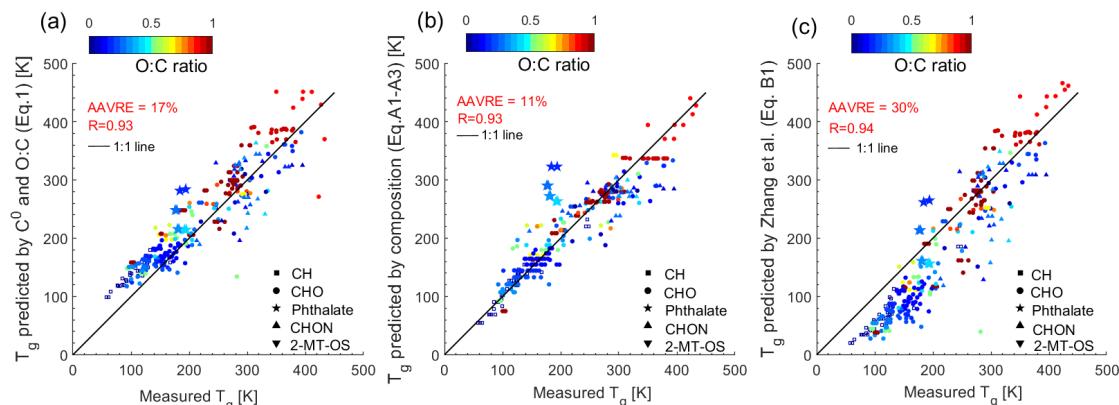
1226 **Figure 6.** (a) Global distributions of SOA annually averaged viscosity at the surface  
 1227 simulated by a global chemical transport model (Shiraiwa et al., 2017) with the  
 1228 viscosity predicted by measured volatility distributions at 11 global sites (triangle,  
 1229 square and circle 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  $T_{g,\text{org}}$  shown in Fig. 4.

1234



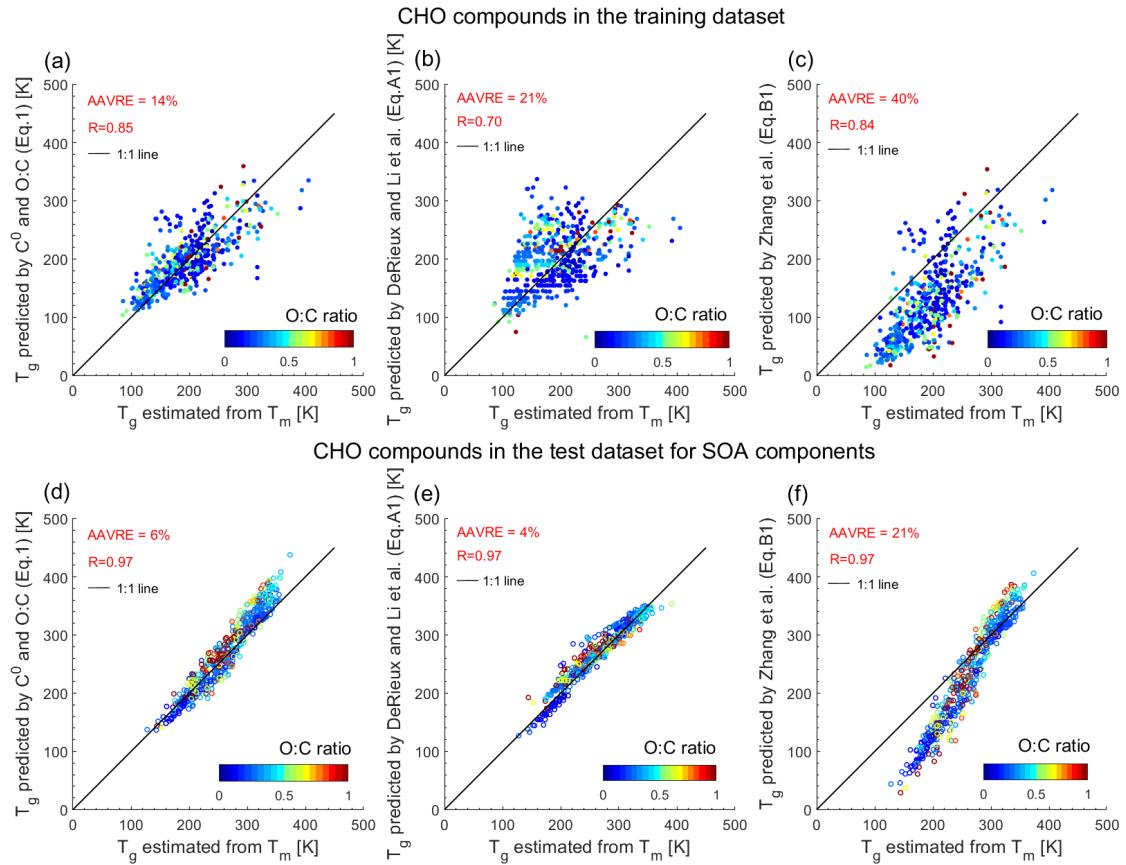


1235  
1236 **Figure A1.**  $T_g$  predicted by elemental composition (Eq. A2) compared to (a) measured  
1237 or otherwise estimated  $T_g$  by the Boyer-Kauzmann rule using measured  $T_m$  for CHON  
1238 compounds in the training dataset and (b) estimated  $T_g$  by the Boyer-Kauzmann rule  
1239 with  $T_m$  estimated by the EPI suite for CHON compounds in the test dataset for SOA  
1240 components. (c)  $T_g$  predicted by elemental composition (Eq. A3) compared to estimated  
1241  $T_g$  by the Boyer-Kauzmann rule with  $T_m$  estimated by the EPI suite for CHOS  
1242 compounds in the training dataset. The dashed and dotted lines show 68% confidence  
1243 and prediction bands, respectively. The correlation coefficient ( $R$ ) and the average  
1244 absolute value of the relative error (AAVRE) are included in each figure legend.  
1245  
1246  
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1248  
1249 **Figure B1.** Comparison between measured  $T_g$  in the training dataset in Fig. 1a and  $T_g$   
1250 predicted by (a)  $C^0$  and O:C (Eq. 1), (b) elemental composition (Eqs. A1-A3), and (c)  
1251 the parameterization (Eq. B1) in Zhang et al. (2019). The solid line shows the 1:1 line.  
1252 The correlation coefficient ( $R$ ) and the average absolute value of the relative error  
1253 (AAVRE) are included in each figure legend.  
1254

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1256

1257 **Figure B2.** Predicted  $T_g$  by (a)  $C^0$  and O:C (Eq. 1), (b) elemental composition (Eq. A1),  
1258 and (c) the parameterization (Eq. B1) in Zhang et al. (2019) plotted against estimated  
1259  $T_g$  from  $T_m$  applying the Boyer-Kauzmann rule. CHO compounds in (a) – (c) included  
1260 in the training dataset shown in Fig. 1a are with measured  $T_m$  and  $C^0$  values; CHO  
1261 compounds in (d) – (f) included in the test dataset for SOA components shown in Fig.  
1262 1c are with  $T_m$  and  $C^0$  values estimated by the EPI Suite and the EVAPORATION  
1263 model, respectively. The correlation coefficient (R) and the average absolute value of  
1264 the relative error (AAVRE) are shown.