

1 **Comments for the Reviewers**

2 We thank the reviewers for the positive and constructive comments. The author responses are in blue.

3 **Late reviewer comments.**

4 Reviewer comment: My remaining criticism, which would still lead to rejection for me (or contingency on
5 the publication of their Nature Comms paper), is that the mechanism still not listed in their revision.
6 Moreover, of the 2 references they have stated are in the bibliography that describe PRAM in detail, the
7 Öström one is incomplete and the Ximeng one is missing. I did find a PRAM model listing in Emilie
8 Öström's thesis online
9 (https://portal.research.lu.se/portal/files/31835271/Emilie_str_m_hela_inkl._omslag.pdf), but it does not seem
10 to correspond to what is in the current Xavier et al. paper, and paper III in the thesis may refer to an old
11 version of what later became the Nature Comms submission. I do not feel that the model description in
12 sufficient to allow publication with the current existing confusion.

13 Thank you for being patient. The Nature Communications paper by Roldin et al., 2019 has now been accepted
14 for publication and will be published on 25th September 2019. In this paper there is a link provided to
15 download the complete PRAM mechanism written in a format compatible with the Kinetic PreProcessor
16 (KPP) together with all species information [<https://doi.org/10.1594/PANGAEA.905102>]. Also the reference
17 to Roldin et al., 2019 will be updated in case this paper has been successfully accepted.

18 This information is also provided in this paper under 'Data availability' in the end of the paper as following
19 text:

20 **The complete PRAM mechanism written in a format compatible with the Kinetic PreProcessor (KPP)**
21 **together with all species information can also be downloaded from**
22 **<https://doi.org/10.1594/PANGAEA.905102>**

23

24 **Reviewer 1**

25 This paper presents a study of the SOA-forming potential of autoxidation mechanisms for several important
26 BVOCs, as expressed in the PRAM chemical mechanism. A suite of box model simulations is performed for
27 both chamber and OFR conditions using the MCM alone and in combination with PRAM. SOA yields
28 simulated using MCM+PRAM show significantly better agreement with experimental data than do the MCM-
29 only simulations, indicating the importance of the autoxidation reactions included in PRAM to

30 SOA production. Sensitivity studies are also presented showing of the influence of temperature and NO
31 variations on the contribution of the autoxidation mechanism to the overall SOA yield. This appears to be a
32 careful and comprehensive study, and is a valuable contribution to the literature. I recommend publication
33 after the following points have been addressed.

34 Thank you

35 RC1. As noted by the Editor, it would be extremely helpful to be able to view the Roldin manuscript
36 describing PRAM. I must leave it to the editor's discretion whether publication of the present manuscript
37 should be contingent on publication of Roldin et al (2019). References to Roldin (2018) should be corrected
38 to Roldin (2019) throughout.

39 Reply. Thank you for the comment. We have now changed the reference Roldin (2018) → Roldin (2019)
40 throughout the manuscript. We also have added a detailed description of the PRAM mechanism (L 98-112)
41 and two references (Öström et al., 2017; Qi, 2018) which applied an earlier version of PRAM, though not
42 using the acronym PRAM as the name came later. And as mentioned above the manuscript by Roldin et al.,
43 2019 has been accepted for publication and PRAM from Roldin et al., 2019 can also be found at the following
44 link <https://doi.org/10.1594/PANGAEA.905102>.

45 RC2. The discussion is pertinent and interesting but is also convoluted in places and difficult to read. It would
46 benefit from a careful re-writing for language clarity and brevity. For example, lines 243-245 read:
47 “Similarly, the current lack of peroxy radical autoxidation product mechanism for β -caryophyllene and
48 isoprene result in $\Delta Y=0$ values for PRAM.” How about saying something simpler, like: “Peroxy radical
49 autoxidation reactions of β -caryophyllene and isoprene OH products are currently not included in PRAM, so
50 the mechanisms are not compared in these cases (Fig 2b).”?

51 Reply. Thank you for bringing this to notice. We agree that parts of the manuscript will benefit from the use
52 of simpler language for clarity. The line has now been omitted. We have rephrased the paragraph and the
53 above line has been changed. Line omitted → ~~Similarly, the current lack of peroxy radical autoxidation
54 product mechanism for β -caryophyllene and isoprene result in $\Delta Y=0$ values for PRAM.~~

55 Line added (266-268) → **Currently there are no experiments providing HOM yields from OH oxidation of β -
56 caryophyllene, and hence, those species are not included in PRAM.**

57 Line added (269-270) → **Only MCM was used for modeling the mass yields for OH oxidation of isoprene due
58 to current lack of PRAM mechanism for isoprene.**

59 RC3. Comparisons with many published experimental results are cited in the text but are not included in the
60 Tables (especially results where no PRAM is yet available). This reviewer suggests that it would be extremely
61 helpful to move these simulation/data comparisons to the yield tables and figures (whether as points or as
62 ranges). Then the agreement (or otherwise) could be summarized in the text without having to list all the
63 specific numbers. This would make the text and its arguments easier to follow.

64 Reply. Thank you for the comment. I agree that moving the comparison between model to experiment values
65 to the tables and figures can make it easier to follow arguments. Table 2 (a and b). and Table 3. have been
66 updated to include comparison values between MCM+PRAM, MCM and experimental values for all
67 compounds. Additionally Figures 1 and 2 have been replaced with four figures (Fig. 1, 2, 3 and 4). PRAM is
68 currently not available for the ozonolysis of β -caryophyllene and β -pinene and for OH oxidation of β -
69 caryophyllene and isoprene. Hence, we separated the figures to show how applying MCM+PRAM improves
70 the mass yields estimation in comparison to only MCM compounds. Figure 1 and 3 show the improvement to
71 mass yields by ozonolysis and OH, respectively for species where PRAM is available, whereas Figure 2. and
72 4. show the performance of MCM for oxidation of species not currently included in PRAM. Experimental
73 values have also been added to the Figures 1,2 & 3 for better comparison. Changes to the text have been made
74 at lines

75 L207-210 → The mass yields derived using MCM+PRAM for α -pinene ozonolysis are in good agreement
76 with the experimental yields measured for similar mass loadings by Kristensen et al. (2017) and Pathak et al.
77 (2007). The standalone MCM, on the other hand, severely under-predicts the mass yields for α -pinene
78 ozonolysis.

79 L265-269 → For β -caryophyllene, the modeled values are in good agreement with experimental measured
80 yields in the range of mass loadings provided by Griffin (1999) and Tasoglou and Pandis (2015). Currently
81 there are no experiments providing HOM yields from OH oxidation of β -caryophyllene, and hence, not
82 included in PRAM

83 RC4. Perhaps I am missing something, but if the peroxy autoxidation reactions are not available for certain
84 species/oxidant combinations, wouldn't it be more correct and less confusing to call the mechanism for those
85 species/oxidant combinations MCM (or MCM-only) instead of MCM+PRAM or PRAM? (Throughout the
86 manuscript, including Figure captions).

87 Reply. Thank you for pointing this out. You are right that it would be less confusing to refer to
88 species/oxidant combination where no PRAM is available as MCM only. We have now corrected this
89 throughout the manuscript.

90 RC5. Please explain whether some of the SOA formed in MCM is converted to different species in PRAM?
91 Put another way, is the SOA formed in PRAM completely additional to that formed in MCM, or is there some
92 conversion as a result of the autoxidation? If the latter, please discuss the level of “double-counting” of
93 products in the MCM/PRAM side-by-side mass spectra figures.

94 Reply. Thank you for this comment. I assume you mean to ask if the compounds formed in PRAM are
95 additional to compounds formed in MCM. Yes, the compounds formed in PRAM are additional to the
96 compounds formed in MCM, ensuring that in the complete MCM+PRAM mechanism the total number of
97 carbon atoms is conserved starting from the initial precursor. E.g. if you sum up the first generation RO₂
98 formed from α -pinene ozonolysis 91 % will react further in the MCM mechanism and the remaining 9 % will
99 undergo autoxidation in PRAM. If only MCM chemistry is used in the model 100 % of the formed first
100 generation RO₂ will continue in the MCM chemistry. Hence, when we implement PRAM together with
101 MCM, the amount of MCM oxidation products are decreased. The most extreme case is limonene where 21.9
102 % of the first generation RO₂ go to PRAM and only 78.1 % follow the MCM chemistry (see Supplementary
103 Table 1 in Roldin et al., 2019). An extract from Roldin et al., 2019:

104 *“When α -pinene is oxidized by O₃ one of the two ring structures is broken but a cyclobutyl ring is left intact in*
105 *the RO₂ isomers (C₁₀H₁₅O₄) that are formed. According to quantum chemical calculations by Kurtén et*
106 *al.,²⁰ the cyclobutyl ring inhibits multiple autoxidation steps and prevents the first intramolecular H-shifts*
107 *reactions rates to exceed 0.3 s⁻¹ at 298 K. In PRAM we therefore assigned a rate constants of 0.3 s⁻¹ at 298 K*
108 *for the first H-shift reaction (R11 in SI Table S4). Kurtén et al. also examined possible reaction pathways that*
109 *can lead to opening of the cyclobutyl ring. According to Kurtén et al. the ring opening can likely occur via*
110 *alkoxy radicals. Such pathways are also present in MCMv3.3.1 when the RO₂ isomer, with the MCM name*
111 *C107O2, react with NO, NO₃ or other RO₂ and form an alkoxy radical C107O that can isomerize and react*
112 *with O₂ and form a C₁₀H₁₅O₅ peroxy radical named C108O2. In PRAM we therefore included the*
113 *possibility of such additional HOM formation pathway for α -pinene, which is initiated by the reaction*
114 *between C107O2 and other RO₂ (R1152 followed by R20 and R12-R19 in SI Table S4).”*

115 RC6. The range of sensitivity conditions seems rather wide: the temperature extremes are beyond usual
116 ambient temperatures. Please discuss whether the results from the extreme cases are likely to be
117 environmentally or observationally relevant.

118 Reply. Thank you for this interesting comment. We have used 2 temperature extremes in the simulation of
119 SOA mass yields, 258 K and 313 K respectively. Measurements have shown high concentrations of SOA in
120 the free troposphere around 2-6.5 km (Heald et al., 2005). The lower temperature extreme of 258 K is a good

121 approximation for the free troposphere. Also, there have been a multitude of chamber experiments performed
122 at these extreme temperatures (both at 258 and 313 K) (Kristensen et al., 2017; Saathoff and Naumann, 2009)
123 and the aim of this study was to check the efficacy of MCM+PRAM in estimating yields at varying
124 temperatures.

125 RC7. Given that SOA yields in an OFR are sensitive to particle surface area, several points arise. i) The
126 Abstract states that MCM+PRAM overestimates OFR yields and gives increased particle surface area as the
127 reason. The casual (“abstract-plus-figures”) reader is left wondering why the simulations didn’t use the same
128 particle loadings as the literature. Is it possible to provide a little context in the abstract, to explain? ii) Does
129 the over-prediction of modeled OFR SOA suggest that the literature experiments in the comparisons used too
130 little seed to obtain stable yields? iii) The MCM+PRAM OFR overestimation is not readily apparent from
131 Tables 2 and 3. It would be helpful to include lines that compare the results with measurements under the
132 same loadings if possible, so the disagreement is more apparent to the reader.

133 Reply. Good question.

134 i) We have tested different particle surface area scenarios and subsequently chosen an area at which the yields
135 estimation are not surface area limited (Supplement figure S1). On using low particle surface area we did not
136 produce comparable particle mass loadings. Using the current particle surface area (corresponding to CS
137 value of 0.067 s^{-1}) we are able to simulate mass loadings comparable with literature. We have now modified
138 the comparison section where we compare the mass yields with similar particle loadings from literature. After
139 re-examining the comparison of yields between experimental and simulations for similar particle loadings we
140 find that for OH oxidation of α -pinene (Bruns et al., 2015) and β -pinene, mass yields are in good agreement
141 with experimental values, whereas mass yields from OH oxidation of limonene are higher at similar particle
142 loadings (Table 3). For ozonolysis, β -pinene mass yields are drastically under-predicted, while we see that α -
143 pinene mass yields are in good agreement with results from Kang and Root (2007), after taking into account
144 that the mass yields increase by a factor of 1.4 on adding seed particles. Changes to the abstract have now
145 been made as follows:

146 → Compared to experimental yields, the OFR simulations using MCM+PRAM yields were in good
147 agreement for BVOCs oxidized by both O_3 and OH. On the other hand, a standalone MCM under-predicted
148 the SOA mass yields.

149 ii) Yes. Ahlberg et al., (2019), Lambe et al., (2015) and Kang and Root (2007) have all found an increase in
150 SOA mass yields when seed particles were used. The experiments by Friedman and Farmer (2018) have also

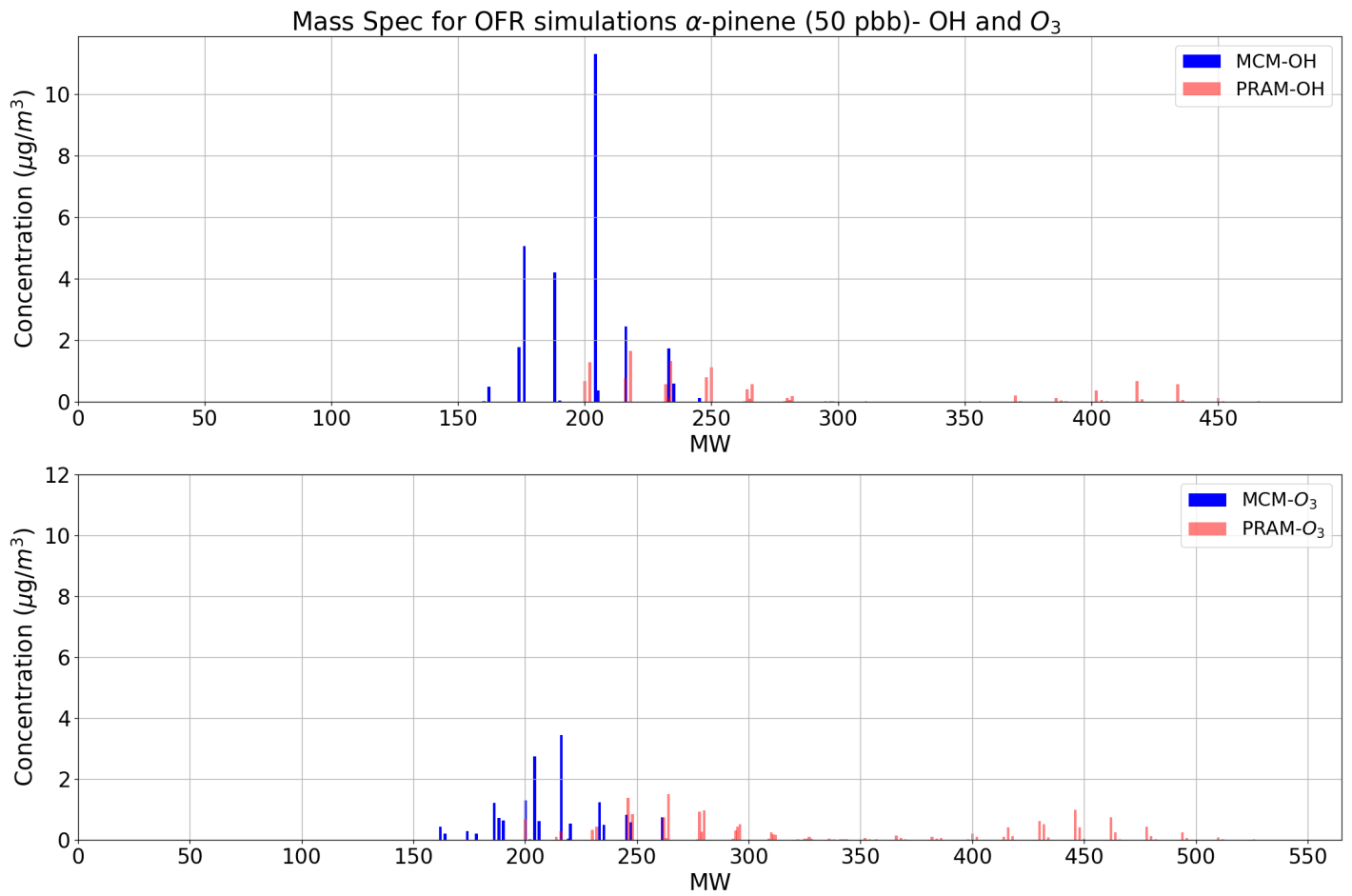
151 measured lower particle surface area leading to an underestimation of SOA yields. The extract from
152 Friedman and Farmer (2018)

153 *“The SMPS utilized in our study detected a maximum particle diameter of 289 nm; this upper limit may lead*
154 *to an underestimation of the total particle mass for particles growing to sizes larger than 289 nm and lower*
155 *reported yields compared to other studies utilizing a larger particle size range.”*

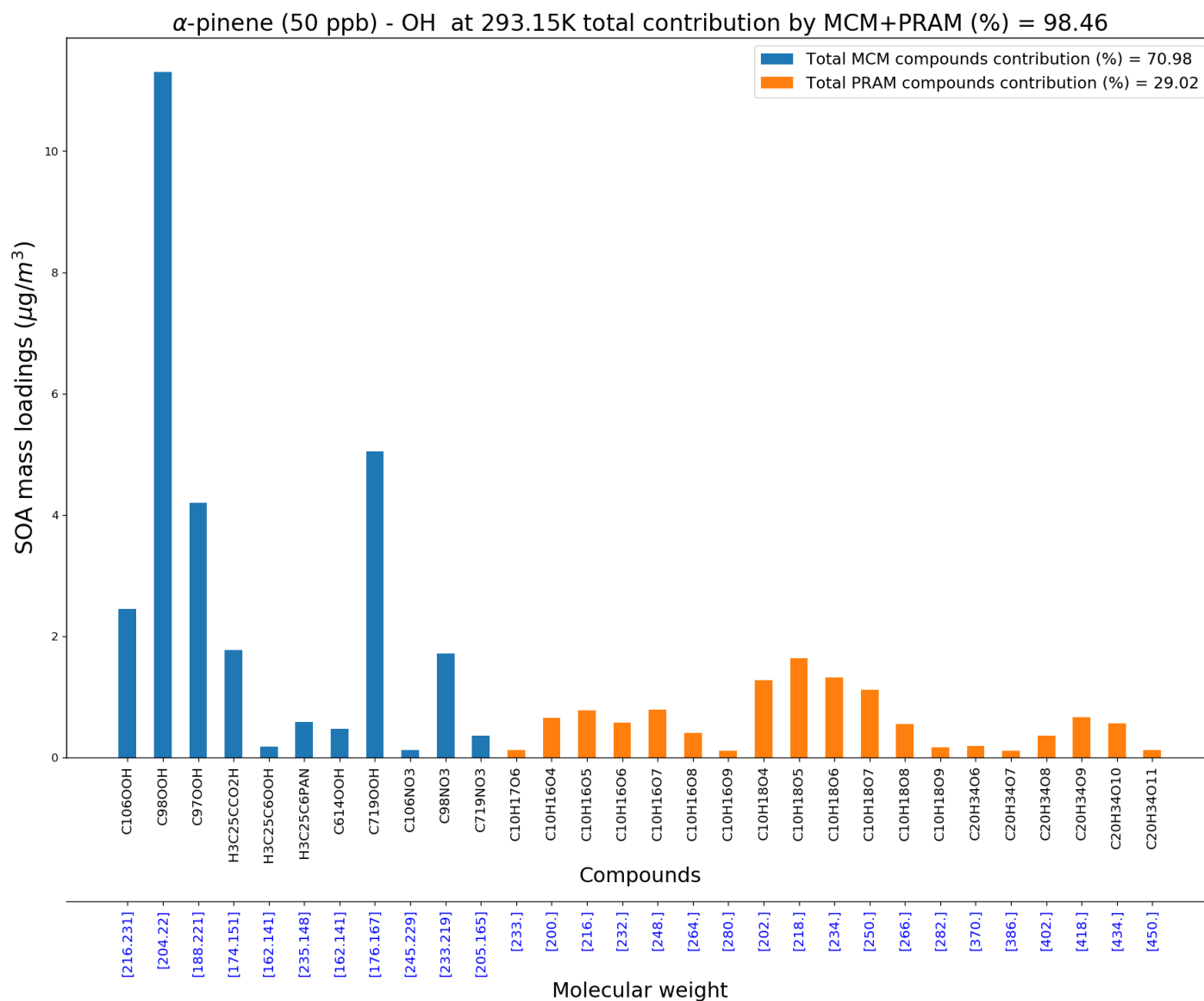
156 iii) The values to compare the simulation results with experiments have now been added to tables 2 and 3.
157 Again we re-iterate that on re-examining the simulation and experimental values for similar particle loading
158 we find that the mass yields generally agree well the experimental values (point (i)).

159 RC8. The earlier termination of the autoxidation mechanism in the OFR cases is attributed to “The higher
160 absolute RO₂ concentrations in the OFR simulations I.e. the high RO₂ concentrations in the OFR cause
161 termination of the peroxy radical autoxidation chain before the RO₂ become highly oxygenated. . . .” (line 229
162 ff.) This disagrees with the conclusions of Peng et al 2019 (<https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-19-813-2019>, 2019)
163 who found that “for most types of RO₂, their bimolecular fates in OFRs are mainly RO₂+HO₂ and RO₂+NO,
164 similar to chambers and atmospheric studies.” At low NO, the high concentration of HO₂ in the OFR leads to
165 more rapid RO₂ loss; at high NO, RO₂+NO makes RO₂ lifetime very short in the OFR. Please discuss
166 whether the current modeling analysis is consistent with that work.

167 Reply. The study conducted by Peng et al., (2019) focuses on OH dominated atmospheres. The high
168 concentrations of RO₂ described in the above sentence focuses on O₃ dominated atmosphere. Figure C1 shows
169 that α -pinene – OH oxidation forms fewer dimers compared to ozonolysis. Figure C2 shows that our results
170 are actually in agreement with the results from Peng et al., (2019). Compounds such as C₁₀H₁₈O₅ (1.6),
171 C₁₀H₁₈O₆ (1.3), C₁₀H₁₈O₇ (1.1), C₁₀H₁₈O₈ (0.5) and C₁₀H₁₈O₉ (0.2) are products of RO₂ + HO₂
172 reaction in PRAM (Roldin et al., 2019). The contribution of the above mentioned compounds are higher
173 compared to the dimer contribution to SOA mass loadings in a OH dominated atmosphere, thereby supporting
174 the argument that RO₂ + HO₂ reaction pathway dominates over RO₂ + RO₂ pathways in OH initiated and
175 dominated atmospheres.



176 Figure C1. The upper panel shows the mass spectra for OFR simulations performed for α -pinene OH oxidation, while the lower
177 panel shows the mass spectra for α -pinene ozonolysis.



178 Figure C2. Compounds contributing to SOA mass loadings for α -pinene OH oxidation using an OFR setup.

179 Line 30: The scale of SOA contribution. . . is “still” subjected to high uncertainties. Is there a more recent
180 reference than 2011?

181 Reply. Thank you for the comment. A new reference (Glasius and Goldstein, 2016) has been added.

182 Line 43: Does this mean Ehn (2014)? Ehn (2012) is not listed in the references.

183 Reply. Thank you for the comment. We have now added the new correct reference.

184 Ehn, M., Kleist, E., Junninen, H., Petäjä, T., Lönn, G., Schobesberger, S., Dal Maso, M., Trimborn, A., Kul-
185 mala, M., Worsnop, D. R., Wahner, A., Wildt, J. and Mentel, T. F.: Gas phase formation of extremely ox-
186 idized pinene reaction products in chamber and ambient air, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 12(11), 5113–5127,
187 doi:10.5194/acp-12-5113-2012, 2012.

188 Line 58: Are there any measured O/C ratios in relevant systems that could be compared with?

189 Reply. Thank you for the comment. Yes Zhao et al., 2015 measured similar O/C ratios for both OH oxidation
190 and ozonolysis of the monoterpenes with values ranging between 0.3-0.6. We have added this information in
191 the manuscript as well.

192 Further they measured lower H/C ratio for SOA produced by monoterpene ozonolysis (experiments were
193 carried out in dark with CO as OH scavenger), in comparison to OH oxidation of α -pinene and limonene,
194 while O/C ratio were similar for both oxidation cases

195 Line 97: The timing seems confused: MCM+PRAM (Damian et al 2002) vs PRAM (Roldin et al 2018).
196 Please clarify. (Did Damian et al really refer to MCM+PRAM?)

197 Reply. Thank you for the comment. I think I have made a typo by including MCM+PRAM here. It has now
198 been removed.

199 Line 101: What sort of fraction of the peroxy radicals is considered in PRAM?

200 Reply. Thank you for the question. We have now added an explanation of the different fractions of peroxy
201 radicals considered in PRAM. The section added is as follows:

202 Currently, in PRAM a maximum first generation RO₂ yield of 9% for α -pinene ozonolysis, 21.9 % for
203 limonene ozonolysis, 2.5 % for α -pinene+OH, and 1% for both limonene+OH and β -pinene+OH first
204 generation products are allowed to initiate autoxidation (Öström et al., 2017, Qi et al., 2018, Roldin et al.,
205 2019).

206 Line 130-133: Please explain whether there is likely to be any bias from using two different systems to
207 estimate p_0 for different species subsets?

208 Reply. We have not performed any studies aimed at trying to understand the bias resulting from using 2
209 different systems to estimate p_0 . We use two different p_0 estimation methods as the information needed (eg.
210 SMILES for PRAM) is not currently available to implement the same method to all compounds. Kurtén et al.,
211 (2016) have shown that Nannoolal method produces low estimates of saturation vapour pressure for
212 multifunctional compounds due to the absence of hydro-peroxide or peroxy-acid group parameterizations.
213 SIMPOL on the other hand, has shown to be in better agreement with pure-liquid vapour pressures of
214 multifunctional compounds calculated using COSMO-RS (Conductor-like Screening Model for Real
215 Solvents) (Eckert and Klamt, 2002; Kurtén et al., 2016).

216 Therefore, we have tried to use the most optimum way to utilize the current information to generate realistic
217 p_0 values.

218 Line 188: I think the phrase “contribution to SOA mass” is misleading. It suggests proportion of the SOA
219 made up by species “i”, whereas the figure actually shows “SOA mass yield”.

220 Reply. Yes I agree. I have now modified the text to:

221 → In Fig. 1 the upper panel A indicates the SOA mass yields derived on applying a coupled MCM+PRAM
222 mechanism to ozonolysis of α -pinene and limonene (PRAM is only available for ozonolysis of α -pinene and
223 limonene) and the lower panel B shows ratio of yields obtained by MCM and coupled MCM+PRAM.

224 Lines 217 & 221, and in general: When referring to “our model” It would be helpful to distinguish at that
225 point which version is being used in each case (MCM+PRAM or MCM), so that the reader is reminded
226 whether or not PRAM is being used. The distinction is made a few sentences later: a little reorganization
227 would help this discussion.

228 Reply. In this context ‘our model’ refers to the MALTE-Box. We agree that its good to remind the reader
229 about the case being used. Hence we have now specified the version being used for each comparison.

230 → Kang and Root (2007) measured a value of 0.2 for ozonolysis of α -pinene for an initial precursor VOC
231 concentration of 100 ppbv, while we obtain ~ 0.25 (MCM+PRAM) for the similar initial precursor
232 concentrations. The OFR yields for β -pinene (MCM-only) are significantly lower (0.02) than the values
233 measured by Kang and Root (2007) wherein they measured a yield of 0.49 for similar initial precursor
234 concentrations. Addition of seed particles promotes condensation, leading to increased SOA yields (Lambe et
235 al., 2015) which was confirmed by Ahlberg et al, (2019).

236 Line 240: The values quoted in the text for OFR-simulation SOA yield from α -pinene ozonolysis do not
237 match the values quoted in Table 2. Why the discrepancy?

238 Reply. The values in the text represented the yields for entire range of SOA mass loadings, whereas the tables
239 only compared yields at corresponding loadings. It has now been changed to show values for corresponding
240 simulated and experimental yields.

241 Line 270: This section needs an easier-to read introductory sentence.

242 Reply. This line has now been omitted. The introduction has been changed to:

243 → The mass yields obtained by MCM+PRAM for α -pinene – OH oxidation are close to the measured values
 244 (Kristensen et al., 2017), while using only MCM under-predicts the mass yields (Figure 3, panel A and B, and
 245 Table 3).

246 Line 277 and following: Please list in Table 3 the experimental results of Kristensen 2017 and others cited in
 247 Section 3.2.

248 Reply. Done.

249 Line 273: It's not really true that $Y=0$ in these cases, since Y is the result of a comparison, and here there is
 250 nothing to compare (since there really isn't a "PRAM" for these species-oxidant combinations).

251 Reply. Yes true. We have omitted this line.

252 Line 289: It's usual to say that the model results are in good agreement with previous measurements, not the
 253 other way around.

254 Reply. Yes, it has been changed now.

255 → For β -caryophyllene, the modeled values are in good agreement with experimental measured yields in the
 256 range of mass loadings provided by Griffin (1999) and Tasoglou and Pandis (2015).

257 Line 274: Please briefly remind the reader why the simulations used more surface area than the experiments?
 258 It seems to be an important factor in the disagreement.

259 Reply. On re-examining, we have modified the conclusions. Changes have been made as follows:

260 → Our yields for α -pinene agree well with the yields obtained by Bruns et al. (2015) where they measured
 261 yield of ~ 0.3 for mass loading of $\sim 300 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and equivalent OH exposures. Friedman and Farmer
 262 (2018) found mass yields of 0 - 0.086 for α -pinene (ammonium sulfate seeded experiment), 0- 0.12 for β -
 263 pinene (no seed particles) and 0-0.04 for limonene (no seed particles), by varying the OH exposures between
 264 $4.7 \times 10^{10} - 7.4 \times 10^{11} \text{ molecules cm}^{-3} \text{ s}$. Our simulated yields for OH oxidation of α -pinene ($\sim 0.05 - 0.31$), β -
 265 pinene ($\sim 0 - 0.1$) and limonene suggest higher mass yields for α -pinene and limonene at equivalent mass
 266 loadings, while mass yields for β -pinene are in good agreement with the experimental yields. Friedman and
 267 Farmer (2018) suggest that the reason for this underestimation in mass yields could arise due to the exclusion
 268 of large particle sizes in the experiments and propose that these yields could represent lower bounds.

269 Line 302: This sentence is difficult to make sense of. Is this what is meant? "Varying NO_x concentrations
 270 changes the fates of RO₂ radicals formed during organic oxidation, thereby impacting . . ."

271 Reply. Yes your right. It has now been modified to:

272 Varying NO_x concentrations changes the fate of RO₂ radical formed during organic oxidations by altering
273 HO₂/RO₂ ratio, thereby impacting the distribution of reaction products and aerosol formation (Presto et al.,
274 2005; Zhao et al., 2018; Sarrafzadeh et al., 2016).

275 Line 368: Please be specific that the PRAM contribution increases with increasing NO for NO < 1ppb. (It's
276 not quite clear the way it's currently written.)

277 Reply. Done.

278 Line 382: I suspect this means that the compounds shown in Fig 8 contribute >95% to the SOA mass loading
279 when summed in decreasing order of contribution. Please clarify the text. (It's said better in the caption and in
280 Line 385.)

281 Reply. Yes, these compounds contribute to >95% of SOA mass loadings regardless of the order of
282 contribution. The text has been modified to:

283 Figure 10 shows the most important compounds from both the MCM and PRAM that together contribute to
284 more than 95% of α-pinene ozonolysis SOA mass loading at 293.15 K.

285 Line 463: I think this means to say something like “We do not simulate appreciable mass yields from the
286 oxidation of BVOCs with NO₃”. The current text claims to describe the behavior of the actual compounds,
287 but I think it really intends to describe their behavior in the model. It's an important distinction.

288 Reply. Yes. The text has now been modified to:

289 The model does not simulate appreciable SOA mass yields for oxidation of BVOCs with NO₃, as PRAM
290 currently does not consider autoxidation of RO₂ formed from NO₃ oxidation of VOCs.

291

292 Comments on the Figures:

293 1. Why are the points in the Figures arranged in clumps/streaks? Please explain early on.

294 Reply. The clumps are a result of SOA mass yields for the oxidation of specific oxidant concentration with
295 varying BVOC concentration eg. 6 values of BVOC concentration (0 – 200 ppb) and specific oxidant
296 concentration (5×10^{11} #/cm³). This has now been explained in the figure captions (Fig 1).

297 – The clumps are a result of SOA mass yields for the oxidation of specific oxidant concentration with
 298 varying BVOC concentration

299 2. The caption to Fig 1 says “. . . from simulations with MCM+PRAM and PRAM.” Shouldn't it really say
 300 “MCM+PRAM and MCM”?

301 Reply. The lower panel actually shows $Y_{(MCM+PRAM)} - Y_{(MCM)}$ or effectively the contribution of PRAM.

302 3. Figs 1 & 2: Please denote the two panels ‘a’ and b’ and refer to them that way in the caption and text. This
 303 would help the reader and might help clarify the flow of the discussion.

304 Reply. Done.

305 4. Figs 1 & 2: Please add notes to the figure captions to clarify which species are omitted from the
 306 comparison in each case (i.e. which species use MCM-only).

307 Reply. Done.

308 5. Figs 1 & 2, 2nd panels: It is sometimes hard to figure out whether MCM makes any contribution at all.
 309 Please make this clearer by either a) plotting the ratio $Y_{MCM} / Y_{(MCM+PRAM)}$ instead of (or in addition to) the
 310 difference between the two, or at least b) using the same gridline interval in both panels.

311 Reply. Good idea. The panel B of Figures 1 and 3 now show the ratio $Y_{MCM} / Y_{(MCM+PRAM)}$

312 6. Please mention Figure 3 somewhere in the text, or remove it.

313 Reply. Done. Figure 3 has now changed to Figure 5.

314 Figure 5. shows the yields derived from the oxidation of BVOCs by NO_3 . Currently, as no PRAM is available
 315 for NO_3 oxidation, Figure 5 represents SOA yields derived using MCM.

316

317 Comments on the Tables:

318 1. Table 2: what are the figures in parentheses in the Experimental Yields column? Why are they not always
 319 present? Please explain.

320 Reply. The values in the parentheses represent the corresponding mass loadings for experimental yields. We
 321 have not added loadings for a few comparisons when the experimental loadings were similar to the simulated
 322 loadings. We have now included all experimental loadings in parantheses.

323 2. Table 2: Please include the b-pinene and b-caryophyllene MCM-to-literature comparisons mentioned in the
324 text (lines 203-212).

325 [Reply. Done.](#)

326 3. Table S1a: To make this information easier to digest, I suggest listing the compounds in descending order
327 of contribution to SOA mass. Also: Is this just the a-pinene ozonolysis case? Please clarify. If it's for various
328 precursors, please indicate which precursor is relevant for each product.

329 [Reply. Done. Yes these are compounds only for \$\alpha\$ -pinene ozonolysis case at different temperatures.](#)

330 Minor Language Editing Suggestions:

331 Line 29: “. . . is still subject to . . .” (Not “subjected”)

332 [Reply. Done.](#)

333 Line 134: “by contrast” might be a better phrase than “on the contrary”

334 [Reply. Done.](#)

335 Line 183 (suggestion): Move header for Section 3.1 to after “flow-tube experiments” (in line 187)

336 [Reply. Good suggestion. Done.](#)

337 Line 240: Replace “resulting” with “result”.

338 [Reply. This sentence has been omitted.](#)

339 Line 243: the word “Similarly” seems strange here. (It would usually be understood to refer to the previous
340 sentence). Perhaps this means: “As in the ozonolysis case”?

341 [Reply. This sentence has been omitted.](#)

342 Line 327-329: “Due to limited experimental constraints, PRAM presently does not consider autoxidation of
343 RO₂ formed from NO₃ oxidation of VOCs”. I suggest that moving this information to the top of the
344 paragraph would help the reader more quickly make sense of the comparisons presented.

345 [Reply. Done.](#)

346 Line 340-342 almost duplicates Line 302. It would be good to combine these two sentences, for brevity.

347 [Reply. Done.](#)

348 Line 373: “. . . the formation OF more volatile . . .” (add word “of”)

349 [Reply. Done](#)

350 Line 385: “. . . and decrease (no ‘s’) to 0.27 at 293.15K AND to 0.1 at 313.15K” (add word “and”)

351 [Reply. Done](#)

352 Line 389: Maybe this is “a weak dependence . . . WHICH becomes more pronounced. . .”? (“which”, not
353 “but”)

354 [Reply. Done.](#)

355 Line 419 duplicates some of lines 423-425. Please condense.

356 [Reply. Done.](#)

357 Line 467: (suggestion) “substantially lower than that of MCM”

358 [Reply. Done.](#)

359 Line 469: MCM *produces* more SVOCs, it doesn’t just “contain” them.

360 [Reply. Done](#)

361 Line 481: delete word “respectively”

362 [Reply. Done.](#)

363 Line 477” “has paved THE way” (add word “the”). Or substitute something simpler like “helps us”

364 [Reply. Done.](#)

365

366 **Reviewer 2**

367 This is a good informative study that compares MCM and MCM+PRAM mechanisms to derive model
368 capabilities of known peroxy radical autooxidation mechanisms.

369 [Thank you](#)

370 Following are some comments that are recommended to improve the current work:

371 RC1. Add a section on experimental details before model description. This could be just a summary of
372 various experimental studies the work is using to evaluate the model with justifications for why they were
373 chosen.

374 Reply. Done. The summary is now provided in the Supplementary material.

375 RC2. On page 17 the authors mention T-dependence of peroxy radical autotoxidation needs further
376 improvement/validation. More details on their assumed T-dependence in PRAM are needed. For example,
377 what was the assumed T-dependence as a function of precursor VOC, oxidant, NO etc.? What was the T-
378 dependence of saturation vapor pressures of SVOCs in Figure 7? Seems there are 2 different T-dependence
379 that need to be explicitly stated: (A) T-dependence of autooxidation chemistry (B) T-dependence of their C*
380 i.e. saturation vapor pressure or a physical process of gas-particle partitioning. This is T-dependence is a very
381 important part and needs to be discussed clearly. Also discuss measurements of such T-dependencies as
382 applicable.

383 Reply. Yes they are 2 different temperature dependence that is addressed as follows:

384 (A).The temperature dependence in PRAM is based on quantum chemical calculations wherein the
385 autoxidation rates correspond to an activation energy of 24 kcal/mol. The activation energies vary for
386 autoxidation of different RO₂ from α -pinene ozonolysis between 22 and 29 kcal/mol (Rissanen et al., 2015),
387 leading to varying autoxidation rates at different temperatures (Roldin et al., 2019).

388 (B). The functional group contribution methods SIMPOL and Nannoolal provide temperature dependent
389 pure liquid saturation vapour pressures. Temperature is then used as an input parameter to the calculated p_o.

390 This information has now been added to the manuscript.

391
392 RC3 Figure 7: Would it be possible to start with a VBS fit at 313 K, and then derive the VBS fit at 258K or
393 vice versa with these T-dependencies without having to run MCM+PRAM at each of these temperatures?
394 This is important for regional and global models that rely on VBS and cannot run full MCM+PRAM.

395 Reply. This could be possible but not advisable as extending VBS for varying temperatures would lead to
396 erroneous yield estimates. VBS does not change the total number of products for varying dependencies such
397 as NO_x, RH or temperatures, but rather distributes volatility of products (Donahue et al., 2009). Our analysis
398 of different compounds contributing to mass yields at different temperatures (Figure 10, S3 and S4, Table S1-

399 S3) show that different products contribute to mass yields at differing temperatures. Using a VBS hence for
400 estimating the yields derived for 258 K and extending it to 313K would result in misleading SOA mass yields.

401 RC4 Do the authors have any recommendations for condensed versions of MCM+PRAM that could be used
402 in regional and global models to predict SOA yields and their oxidation state?

403 Reply. Yes. A condensed version of PRAM to be applied in regional and global models has been tested by
404 reducing the number of reactions and species by lumping them into 2 sets of dimers specifically
405 1.representing HOM formed by ozonolysis of monoterpenes and 2. HOM formed by OH oxidation (Roldin et
406 al., 2019). Furthermore, the author cautions that full PRAM be evaluated for conditions where a major part of
407 RO₂ pool originates from precursors that do not contribute substantially to HOM formation, such as
408 environments with high isoprene concentrations, before being applied to global and regional models (Roldin
409 et al., 2019). More details can be found in Roldin et al., (2019). We have made this addition to the
410 conclusions sections:

411 → Furthermore, implementation of a condensed PRAM version to regional and global models has been tested
412 but still need further validation (Roldin et al., 2019).

413

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486 **Aerosol Mass yields of selected Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds – a**
487 **theoretical study with near explicit gas-phase chemistry**

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492

493 **Abstract**

494 In this study we modeled secondary organic aerosols (SOA) mass loadings from the oxidation (by O₃,
495 OH and NO₃) of five representative Biogenic Volatile Organic compounds (BVOCs): isoprene, endocyclic
496 bond containing monoterpenes (α -pinene and limonene), exocyclic double bond compound (β -pinene) and a
497 sesquiterpene (β -caryophyllene). The simulations were designed to replicate idealized smog chamber and
498 oxidative flow reactors (OFR). The master chemical mechanism (MCM) together with the peroxy radical
499 autoxidation mechanism (PRAM), were used to simulate the gas-phase chemistry. The aim of this study was
500 to compare the potency of MCM and MCM+PRAM in predicting SOA formation. SOA yields were in good
501 agreement with experimental values for chamber simulations when MCM+PRAM was applied, while a
502 standalone MCM under-predicted the SOA yields. Compared to experimental yields, the OFR simulations
503 using MCM+PRAM yields were in good agreement for BVOCs oxidized by both O₃ and OH. On the other
504 hand, a standalone MCM under-predicted the SOA mass yields. SOA yields increased with decreasing
505 temperatures and NO concentrations and vice-versa. This highlights the limitations posed when using fixed
506 SOA yields in a majority of global and regional models. Few compounds that play a crucial role (>95% of
507 mass load) in contributing to SOA mass increase (using MCM+PRAM) are identified. The results further
508 emphasized that incorporating PRAM in conjunction with MCM does improve SOA mass yields estimation.

509

510 1. **Introduction**

511 Atmospheric secondary organic aerosols, formed from gas to particle phase conversion of the
512 oxidation products of volatile organic compounds (VOC) significantly impact the organic aerosol mass
513 loadings (Griffin, 1999; Kanakidou et al., 2005). However, the scale of SOA contribution to the aerosol
514 particle mass is still subject to high uncertainties (Hao et al., 2011, Glasius and Goldstein, 2016). The elevated

515 aerosol particle concentrations are shown to have inimical effects on health (Miller et al., 2007), and a varying
516 degree of influence on the climate by forming cloud condensation nuclei (CCN), altering the cloud properties
517 and radiative balance (Rosenfeld et al., 2014; Schmale et al., 2018). Therefore, it is acutely necessary to
518 understand the role and contributions of SOA to the particle loading in the atmosphere. Biogenic VOCs from
519 forest are estimated to contribute to about 90% of VOCs emissions globally (Guenther et al., 1995, 1999 and
520 2000). The most important BVOCs for SOA formation are isoprene (C_5H_8), monoterpenes ($C_{10}H_{16}$) and
521 sesquiterpenes ($C_{15}H_{24}$). These compounds are all alkenes containing at least one carbon-carbon double bond,
522 enabling them to undergo oxidation by the dominant atmospheric oxidants: the hydroxyl radical (OH), ozone
523 (O_3) and the nitrate radical (NO_3). For some of the terpenes, initial oxidation steps can lead to formation of
524 highly oxygenated organic molecules (HOM). These HOMs generally have low volatilities and can condense
525 nearly irreversibly, thereby producing SOA (Ehn et al., 2014). HOMs, detected in both the ambient
526 atmosphere and chamber experiments (Ehn et al., 2012) are formed by autoxidation (Berndt et al., 2016;
527 Crouse and Nielsen, 2013) wherein peroxy radicals (RO_2) undergo subsequent intramolecular H-shifts
528 accompanied by rapid reactions with O_2 . Autoxidation hence results in compounds containing multiple
529 functional groups such as hydroxyls, peroxides and carbonyls (Bianchi et al., 2017, Bianchi et al., 2019).

530 A majority of chamber and flow-tube experiments have focused on HOM formation from the
531 oxidation of various VOCs and their contribution to SOA mass loadings (Ehn et al., 2014; Kristensen et al.,
532 2017). Oxidation of isoprene (Liu et al., 2016), endocyclic monoterpenes containing reactive double bonds
533 such as α -pinene and limonene (Zhao et al., 2015), or exocyclic double bond containing compounds such as
534 β -pinene (Jokinen et al., 2015) and sesquiterpenes such as β -caryophyllene (Chen et al., 2012) have been
535 investigated. The SOA forming potential of various BVOCs depends on the isomeric structures (Friedman
536 and Farmer, 2018; Keywood et al., 2004). Ozonolysis of compounds containing reactive endocyclic bonds
537 such as α -pinene produce higher SOA mass yields of 41% in comparison to those with exocyclic bonds (β -
538 pinene), which produce mass yields of 17 % (Lee et al., 2006a). One explanation for this dependence on the
539 isomeric structure is attributed to the formation of HOMs (Ehn et al., 2014). Another important factor
540 influencing HOM formation is the initial oxidant, as pointed out by Zhao and co-workers (2015). They
541 showed that the SOA formation by OH oxidation of α -pinene and limonene were lower when compared to
542 their SOA formed by ozonolysis. Further they measured lower H/C ratio for SOA produced by monoterpene
543 ozonolysis (experiments were carried out in dark with CO as OH scavenger), in comparison to OH oxidation
544 of α -pinene and limonene, while O/C ratio were similar for both oxidation cases. This was attributed to the
545 formation of RO_2 radicals (monoterpenes + O_3) which undergo internal hydrogen shifts and subsequently react
546 with another RO_2 radical, to form compounds containing carbonyl groups while losing hydrogen atoms in the

547 process. A similar analysis was conducted by Draper et al. (2015), who showed that an increase in NO₂
548 concentration reduced α -pinene ozonolysis SOA mass yields, while no appreciable reduction in mass yields
549 are reported for β -pinene and Δ^3 -carene ozonolysis. On the other hand, the mass yields from limonene
550 ozonolysis increased with increasing NO₂ concentrations (Draper et al., 2015). This disparity in mass yields
551 for different BVOCs in the presence of NO₂ is possibly caused by the formation of high MW oligomers (or
552 lack of in case of α -pinene) through oxidation with NO₃ that contribute to SOA mass loadings (Draper et al.,
553 2015).

554 Due to computational limitations, many regional and canopy scale atmospheric chemistry models
555 generally use isoprene and/or a representative monoterpene (generally α -pinene), to model SOA yields
556 (Friedman and Farmer, 2018). The SOA yields of different monoterpenes vary with structure, NO_x and
557 temperature (Friedman and Farmer, 2018; Kristensen et al., 2017; Presto et al., 2005). This poses a limitation
558 on using representative monoterpene fixed SOA yields in many of the global models and increases
559 uncertainties in predicting cloud condensation nuclei concentrations, cloud droplet number concentrations and
560 radiative balance due to aerosol loading's.

561 This work aims to investigate the SOA mass loading from the oxidation products of BVOCs with the
562 atmospheric oxidants OH, O₃ and NO₃ with a specific focus on the BVOCs isoprene, α -pinene, β -pinene,
563 limonene and β -caryophyllene. Further we study the effect of varying temperature (258.15 K – 313.15 K) and
564 NO concentrations (0 - 5 ppb) on α -pinene oxidation mass yields. We use the master chemical mechanism
565 (MCMv3.3.1) (Jenkin et al., 1997, 2012 and 2015; Saunders et al., 2003), a near explicit gas-phase chemical
566 mechanism together with peroxy radical autoxidation mechanism (PRAM, Roldin et al., 2019) (PRAM +
567 MCM). The aim is to understand the importance and contribution of peroxy radical autoxidation products to
568 the SOA mass yields from terpenes.

569

570 2. Model description

571 2.1 Malte Box

572 MALTE (Model to predict new Aerosol formation in Lower TropospherE) is a one-dimensional
573 model consisting of modules calculating boundary layer meteorology, emissions of BVOCs, gas-phase
574 chemistry and aerosol dynamics with the aim to simulate particle distribution and growth in the lower
575 troposphere (Boy et al., 2006). In this study, a zero-dimensional version, MALTE-Box is applied to simulate
576 an ideal chamber and flow-tube environment (i.e. no wall losses effects are considered in this study). For the

577 simulations performed in this study the emission module was switched off while only employing the gas-
578 phase chemistry and aerosol dynamics module.

579 Kinetic preprocessor (KPP) is used to generate a system of coupled differential equations to solve the
580 gas-phase chemistry schemes (Damian et al., 2002). The peroxy radical autoxidation mechanism (PRAM),
581 (Roldin et al., 2019, Qi et al., 2018, Öström et al., 2017), formulated based on the oxidation of monoterpenes
582 as described by Ehn et al. (2014) was incorporated alongside MCMv3.3.1. PRAM explicitly describes the
583 formation and evolution of peroxy radicals (RO_2) from the ozonolysis and OH oxidation of monoterpenes,
584 driven by subsequent H-shifts and O_2 additions. The current version of PRAM based on experimental and
585 theoretical studies, considers HOM autoxidation for a fraction of the peroxy radicals formed during the
586 ozonolysis of α -pinene and limonene and OH oxidation of α -pinene, β -pinene and limonene. This is achieved
587 by assigning species specific molar yields for the formation of first RO_2 , which subsequently initiates the
588 autoxidation chain (Roldin et al., 2019). Currently, in PRAM a maximum first generation RO_2 yield of 9% for
589 α -pinene ozonolysis, 21.9 % for limonene ozonolysis, 2.5 % for α -pinene+OH, and 1% for both
590 limonene+OH and β -pinene+OH first generation products are allowed to initiate autoxidation (Roldin et al.,
591 2019). For β -pinene ozonolysis the molar yield of RO_2 is minor (<0.1 %) (Roldin et al., 2019, Ehn et al. 2014)
592 and hence not considered in this work. The above mentioned RO_2 molar yields used in this work are close to
593 the experimental values obtained in both smog chamber and flow tube experiments. Ehn et al. (2014)
594 measured an RO_2 yield of ~7% for α -pinene ozonolysis and ~17% for limonene ozonolysis, whereas Jokinen
595 et al. (2015) measured 0.58 % and 0.93 % for OH oxidation of β -pinene and limonene respectively. The
596 autoxidation is terminated by bimolecular reactions, wherein the RO_2 formed reacts with NO, HO_2 or other
597 peroxy radicals, thereby forming alkoxy radicals, closed shell monomers or dimers (Roldin et al., 2019). The
598 PRAM considers temperature dependent autoxidation reaction rates, which is important when investigating
599 the SOA mass yields at varying temperatures (Table 1c). The temperature dependence in PRAM is based on
600 quantum chemical calculations wherein the autoxidation rates correspond to an activation energy of 24
601 kcal/mol. The activation energies vary for autoxidation of different RO_2 from α -pinene ozonolysis between 22
602 and 29 kcal/mol (Rissanen et al., 2015), leading to varying autoxidation rates at different temperatures
603 (Roldin et al., 2019). It should be noted that the temperature dependence in PRAM is a first of its kind but
604 needs further evaluation using recent measurements of HOM formation at different temperatures (e.g.
605 Quéléver et al.2018).

606 The aerosol dynamics are simulated using the University of Helsinki Multicomponent Aerosol model
607 (UHMA) originally from Korhonen et al. (2004). The model has undergone significant development since
608 then to allow simulation with all the compounds from MCM. It now supports an unlimited number of

609 condensing vapors and solves condensation using the analytical predictor of condensation method from
610 Jacobson (1997). The condensation algorithm considers both, the Kelvin effect and Raoult's law. The
611 processes included in the model are nucleation, condensation, evaporation, coagulation and deposition. The
612 discretization of the size distribution and the time evolution is modeled with the moving section approach,
613 with optional redistribution to a fixed grid. In this work, the redistribution is active to make the coagulation
614 more accurate, since it requires that grid points are available near the size of the coagulated particles. In this
615 study nucleation and deposition are not active, and hence are not considered. A total of 100 size bins ranging
616 from 1nm to 20 μ m with the fixed grid was applied for this study.

617 A group contribution method based on Nannoolal et al. (2008) using the UManSysProp online system
618 (Topping, 2016) was used to estimate the pure liquid saturation vapor pressures (p_0) of the organic
619 compounds in MCMv3.3.1. For the PRAM species, p_0 were estimated using the functional group method
620 SIMPOL (Pankow and Asher, 2008; see Roldin et al., 2019 for details). Temperature was used as an input to
621 estimate p_0 for both the group contribution methods.

622 2.2 Simulations

623 The simulations performed in this study are aimed to closely resemble an idealized smog chamber
624 (batch mode setup) and an Oxidative Flow Reactor (OFR) without interactions between the gas phase and the
625 system walls. For the chamber runs, the VOC and oxidants were introduced at the beginning (time, $t=0$ sec),
626 set to certain concentrations and then allowed to react. Both chamber and OFR simulations are performed
627 using ammonium sulfate seed particles which are introduced at time $t=0$. The condensation sink (CS) was
628 inferred from the size distribution of seed particles used in the model. The CS for the chamber and OFR
629 simulations was set to 0.00067 s^{-1} and 0.067 s^{-1} respectively. SOA mass yields obtained using an OFR are
630 sensitive to short residence time used, hence the seed particle surface area should be chosen in order to
631 overcome the mass yield underestimation (Ahlberg et al., 2019). CS sensitivity runs (Supplement Figure S1)
632 were performed for α -pinene- O_3 to determine the CS for which there are no appreciable change in mass yields
633 with increasing particle surface.

634 The simulation for the chamber setup is run for a maximum time of 24 hours and ends when either of
635 the 2 criteria are satisfied: (1) the simulation time reaches the 24-hour mark or (2) 90 % of the initial
636 precursor VOC has reacted away. In the latter case the simulation is continued for an additional 2 hours to
637 ensure enough time for the vapors to condense onto the seed particles. By contrast, the OFR runs were
638 simulated for a maximum residence time of 100 seconds, ensuring all initial precursor vapors were oxidized.
639 Seed particles were also added in the OFR simulations. The oxidant concentrations used for the OFR

640 simulations are significantly higher in comparison to the simulated chamber runs (~2 orders of magnitude
 641 larger). The time step for the chamber and flow-tube simulations are set to $t=10$ s and $t=0.1$ s respectively.
 642 The runs performed were oxidant specific (i.e. VOCs would be oxidized by only one specific oxidant at any
 643 given time). For the O_3 specific simulations no OH could form in both, OFR and chamber setups, thus
 644 enabling oxidation of O_3 to be the only pathway.

645 The simulations were performed at atmospheric relevant NO_x ($NO_x = NO + NO_2$) concentrations,
 646 corresponding to $[NO]=0.5$ ppb and $[NO_2] = 2.0$ ppb conditions with the relative humidity (RH) set to 60 %
 647 and temperature to 293.15 K. The RH value considered in this study is based on previous published
 648 experimental studies performed at ~60 % in both smog chamber (Bruns et al., 2015a; Ehn et al., 2014;
 649 Stirnweis et al., 2017) and OFR (Ahlberg et al. et al., 2018). α -pinene ozonolysis runs were performed at four
 650 different temperatures: 258.15 K, 278.15 K, 303.15K and 313.15 K, respectively. SOA mass yields are
 651 expected to increase with decreasing temperature (Saathoff and Naumann, 2009). A similar temperature
 652 dependence was observed by Kristensen et al. (2017) who observed SOA mass yield from α -pinene
 653 ozonolysis at ~40 % and ~20 % at 258 K and 293 K respectively. Analogous to analyzing the effect of
 654 varying temperature on SOA yields, we study the variation in α -pinene ozonolysis SOA mass yields by
 655 varying the NO_x concentrations. SOA yields for α -pinene ozonolysis at high NO_x conditions should be
 656 suppressed (Ng and Chhabra, 2007), which could be due to the production of relatively, volatile organic
 657 nitrates under high NO_x conditions as compared to less volatile products during low NO_x conditions (Presto et
 658 al., 2005).

659 Furthermore, two different chemistry schemes were applied for the simulations. One scheme consisted
 660 of only the MCM chemistry mechanism and the second included the MCM+PRAM chemistry mechanism.
 661 Table 1a shows the concentrations of different BVOCs and Table 1b shows the oxidants concentrations used
 662 for the simulations.

663 **Table 1a.** Concentrations of different BVOCs

α -pinene (ppb)	β -pinene (ppb)	Isoprene (ppb)	Limonene (ppb)	β -caryophyllene (ppb)
0.5, 1.0, 5.0, 50.0, 100.0, 200.0	0.5, 1.0, 5.0, 50.0, 100.0, 200.0	5.0, 50.0, 100.0, 200.0	1.0, 5.0, 50.0, 100.0, 200.0	0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 5.0, 10.0

665 **Table 1b.** Concentrations of different oxidants for chamber and flow-tube runs

OH (* 10⁶ #/cm³) - chamber	O₃ (* 10¹¹ #/cm³) - chamber	NO₃ (* 10⁷ #/cm³) - chamber
OH (* 10⁸ #/cm³) - OFR	O₃ (* 10¹³ #/cm³) - OFR	NO₃ (* 10⁹ #/cm³) - OFR
2.0, 5.0 ,10.0, 50.0,100.0	1.0, 5.0 ,10.0, 50.0,100.0	1.0, 5.0 ,10.0, 50.0,100.0

666

667 **Table 1c.** NO concentrations and temperatures used for α -pinene ozonolysis

NO (ppb)	0.5 (default), 0, 0.2, 1, 2, 5
Temperature (K)	293.15 (default), 258.15, 278.15, 303.15, 313.15

668

669 **2.3 Mass Yields**

670 The SOA mass yields (Y) are determined by calculating the ratio of the amount of SOA or mass
671 concentration of organic aerosol formed (C_{OA}) to the amount of VOC (ΔVOC) reacted:

$$672 \quad Y = \frac{C_{OA}}{\Delta VOC} \quad (1)$$

673 A volatility basis set is fit to the data to obtain the volatility distribution. In this study equilibrium
674 partitioning was only assumed for deriving the volatility distribution based on the model simulations.
675 Following Donahue et al. (2006), the SOA is assumed to be in equilibrium with the gas-phase and using the
676 effective saturation concentration C_i^* spaced logarithmically. The individual product partitioning to the
677 particle phase can be estimated using

$$678 \quad E_i = \left(1 + \frac{C_i^*}{C_{OA}} \right)^{-1} \quad (2)$$

679 Where E_i is the fraction of species in the condensed particle phase. The above equation determines the
680 fraction of species in the particle phase as well as in the gas phase. For example, if we assume $C_{OA} = 10 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
681 a species with $C^* = 10 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ will partition 50 % to condensed phase and the rest 50% will reside in the gas
682 phase. The fidelity of this equilibrium partitioning enables the parameterization of product vapors in volatility
683 C^* bins that are near the C_{OA} concentrations (Henry et al., 2012).

684

685 3. Results and Discussion

686 SOA mass yields were simulated for the oxidation of various biogenic volatile organic compounds
687 (isoprene, α -pinene, limonene and β -caryophyllene, β -pinene) by dominant atmospheric oxidants OH, O₃ and
688 NO₃. The following section examines the comparison between the yields derived using MCM+PRAM and a
689 standalone MCM for chamber and flow-tube experiments.

690

691 3.1 BVOCs – O₃ chamber and flow-tube simulations

692 In Fig. 1 panel A indicates the SOA mass yields derived on applying a coupled MCM+PRAM mechanism to
693 ozonolysis of α -pinene and limonene (PRAM is only available for ozonolysis of α -pinene and limonene) and
694 the lower panel B shows ratio of yields obtained by MCM and coupled MCM+PRAM.

695 The abscissa, depicted on a log scale, considers the entire range of SOA mass loadings from 1-1150
696 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Each data point is representative of simulated SOA mass yields resulting from variable BVOC
697 loading. The resulting mass yields for α -pinene in the range shown in Table 2a. are consistent with the yields
698 found in various smog chamber experiments. The mass yields derived using MCM+PRAM for α -pinene
699 ozonolysis are in good agreement with the experimental yields measured for similar mass loadings by
700 Kristensen et al. (2017) and Pathak et al. (2007). The standalone MCM, on the other hand, severely under-
701 predicts the mass yields for α -pinene ozonolysis. The MCM+PRAM also shows better agreement with
702 experiments when estimating the lower range mass yields for SOA mass loadings of $< 15 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. This is
703 supported by the values obtained by Shilling et al. (2008), where the authors measured a 0.09 yield from α -
704 pinene ozonolysis for SOA mass loading of $10.6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. Limonene ozonolysis mass yields using
705 MCM+PRAM in comparison to standalone MCM, are much closer to the values given by Waring (2016).

706 The formation of HOM from β -pinene ozonolysis is low (Ehn et al., 2014; Jokinen et al., 2015) and
707 hence not considered in PRAM. The peroxy radical autoxidation mechanism for β -caryophyllene ozonolysis
708 has not yet been developed and therefore, not considered in PRAM. When comparing the measured mass
709 yield values for β -caryophyllene (Chen et al. 2012) and β -pinene ozonolysis (Griffin (1999) and Pathak et al.
710 (2008)) to the modeled values using the MCM scheme, it is evident that the MCM scheme drastically under-
711 predicts the SOA mass yields (Fig. 2).

712 Today oxidation flow reactor (OFR) experiments are complementing the traditional batch mode smog
713 chamber experiments. The OFR generally exhibits lower mass yields compared to the smog chamber
714 experiments at ranges of equivalent oxidant exposure (Lambe et al., 2015). We modeled flow-tube simulation

715 after the potential aerosol mass (PAM) OFR, where the residence time is in the order of a few to several
 716 minutes (Lambe et al., 2011). The model simulations are performed with a maximum residence time of 100
 717 seconds with O₃ exposures ranging from 1.0 x 10¹⁵ – 1.0 x 10¹⁷ molecules cm⁻³ s (residence time x [O₃]).
 718 Kang and Root (2007) measured a value of 0.2 for ozonolysis of α-pinene for an initial precursor VOC
 719 concentration of 100 ppbv, while we obtain ~0.25 (MCM+PRAM) for the similar initial precursor
 720 concentrations. The OFR yields for β-pinene (MCM-only) are significantly lower (0.02) than the values
 721 measured by Kang and Root (2007) wherein they measured a yield of 0.49 for similar initial precursor
 722 concentrations. Addition of seed particles promotes condensation, leading to increased SOA yields (Lambe et
 723 al., 2015) which was confirmed by Ahlberg et al, (2019). Kang and Root (2007) found that using seed
 724 particles, the yield from α-pinene ozonolysis increased by a factor of ~1.4 which can explain our yields for α-
 725 pinene ozonolysis simulations. The mass spectra plot (Figure S2) shows that PRAM contributes the majority
 726 of dimers to the particle phase, while MCM dominate monomer contribution. Another interesting facet of
 727 Figure S2 are the different condensing compounds in both OFR and chamber simulations. The higher absolute
 728 RO₂ concentrations in the OFR simulations explain the lower concentration of HOM monomers and dimers
 729 relative to the chamber simulations, i.e. the high RO₂ concentrations in the OFR cause termination of the
 730 peroxy radical autoxidation chain before the RO₂ become highly oxygenated, thereby influencing SOA yields.
 731 Hence, this should be taken into account when using yields from OFR as inputs to regional and global
 732 models.

Table 2a. Mass yields for BVOCs ozonolysis at 293 K for different range of mass loadings using a chamber[†] setup. The values in parenthesis in the column Experimental yields indicates the corresponding experimental mass loadings.

SOA mass loading (μg m ⁻³)	MCM + PRAM mass yields range	MCM mass yields range	BVOC	Experimental yields	References
0– 15 [†]	0.07– 0.08	0.00 – 0.06	α-pinene	0.09 (10.6)	Shilling et al. (2008)
16 - 60 [†]	0.12 – 0.20	0.06 – 0.11	α-pinene	0.16 – 0.21 (15-60)	Pathak et al. (2007)
61 – 200 [†]	0.22 – 0.30	0.12 – 0.15	α-pinene	0.22 (62)	Kristensen et al. (2017)
1.1– 550 [†]	0.24 -0.48	0.007-0.06	limonene	0.26 (1.7)	Waring (2016)

0 - 100 [†]	0 - 0.09 [‡]	0 - 0.09	β -pinene	0.03-0.22 (7.2 - 100)	Griffin (1999)
0 - 10 [†]	0 - 0.01 [‡]	0 - 0.01	β -caryophyllene	0.13 (1.8)	Chen et al. (2012)

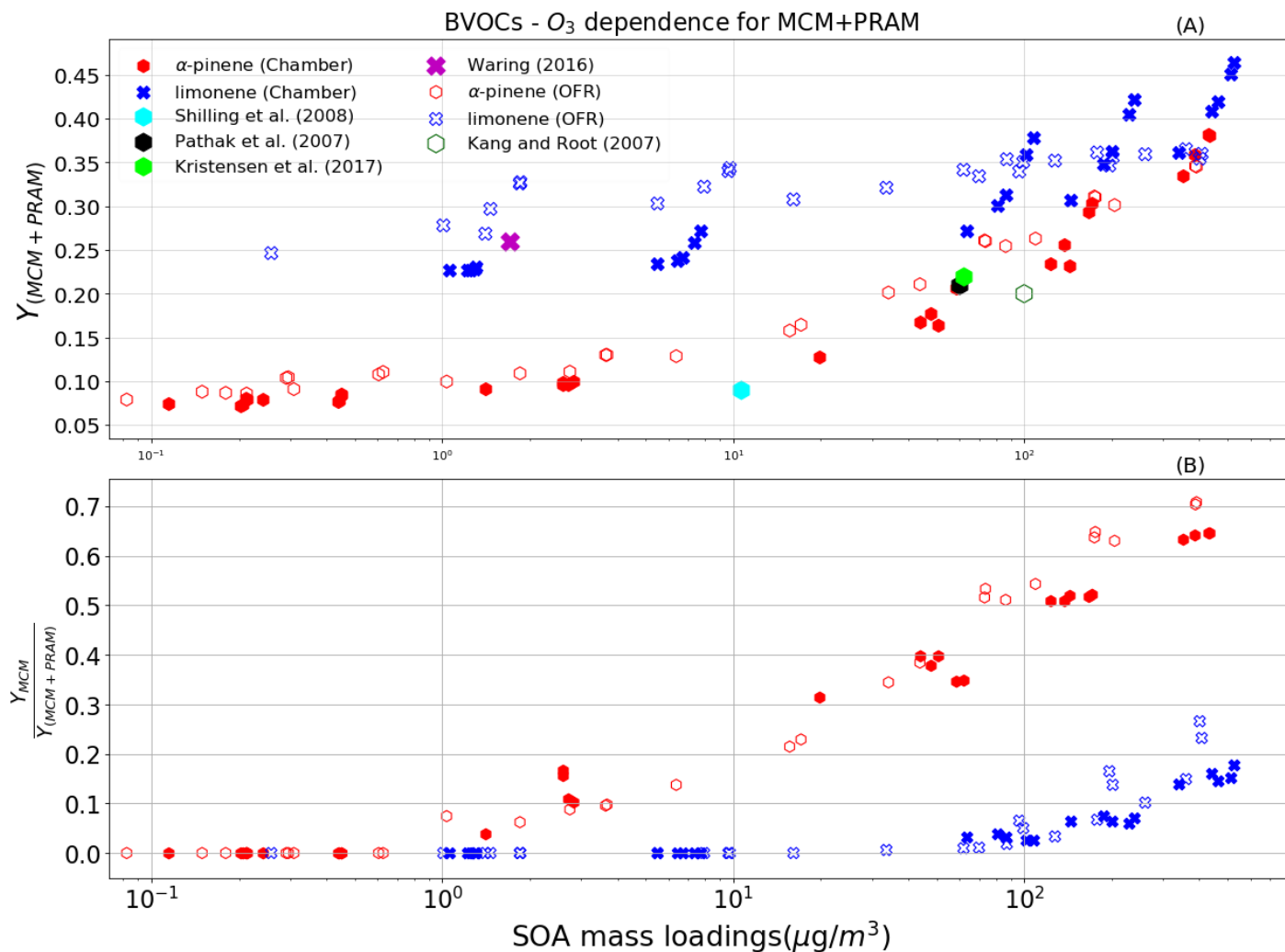
733

[‡]indicates that no PRAM mechanism available yet i.e the yields are same as the MCM yields.

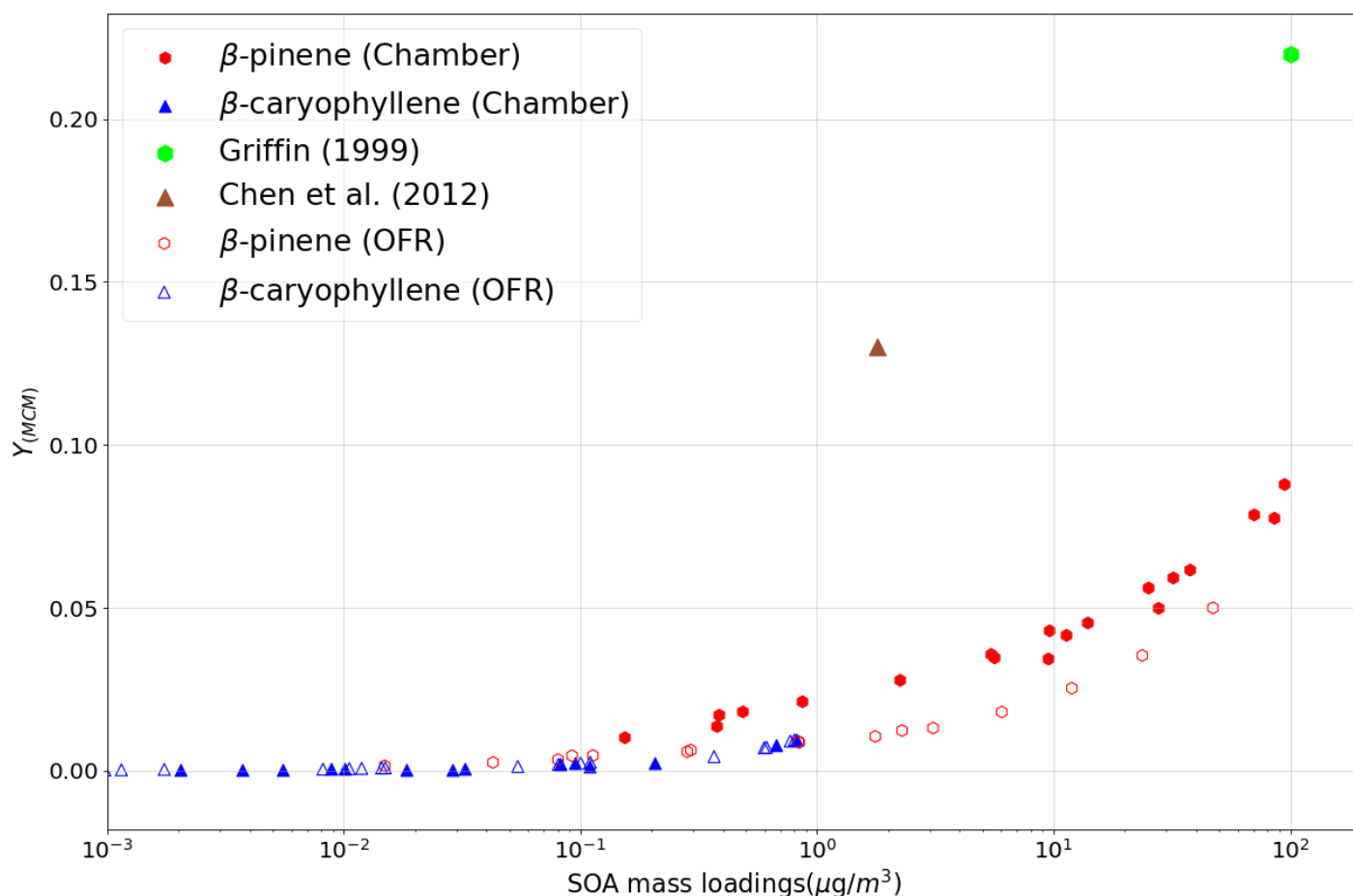
Table 2b. Mass yields for BVOCs ozonolysis at 293 K for different range of mass loadings using an OFR[‡] setup.

SOA mass loading (ppb)	MCM + PRAM mass yields range	MCM mass yields range	BVOC	Experimental yields	References
0-100 [‡]	0.07-0.25	0-0.13	α -pinene	0.2 (100)	Kang and Root (2007)
0-156 [‡]	0 - 0.02 [‡]	0 - 0.02	β -pinene	0.49 (156)	Kang and Root (2007)

734 indicates that no PRAM mechanism available yet i.e the yields are same as the MCM yields.



735 **Figure 1.** The mass yields from the ozonolysis of BVOCs α -pinene (red heptagon) and limonene (blue crosses) modelled after
 736 chamber (filled symbols) and flow-tube settings (open symbols). The figure shows a comparison of SOA mass yields obtained from
 737 simulations with MCM + PRAM (panel A) and ratio of yields from MCM and MCM+PRAM (panel B). Currently PRAM is
 738 available for ozonolysis of limonene and α -pinene. The clumps are a result of SOA mass yields for the oxidation of specific oxidant
 739 concentration with varying BVOC concentration

BVOCs - O₃ dependence for MCM

741 **Figure 2.** The mass yields from the ozonolysis of BVOCs β -pinene and β -caryophyllene modelled after chamber (filled symbols)
 742 and flow-tube (open symbols) settings. The figure shows a comparison of SOA mass yields obtained from simulations with only
 743 MCM as currently there is no PRAM available for these compounds. The experimental values are provided for comparison.

744 3.2 BVOCs – OH chamber and flow-tube simulations

745 The mass yields obtained by MCM+PRAM for α -pinene – OH oxidation are close to the measured
 746 values (Kristensen et al., 2017), while using only MCM under-predicts the mass yields (Figure 3, panel A
 747 and B, and Table 3). The maximum SOA mass yield for OH oxidation of α -pinene is lower than the yield
 748 from ozonolysis which is suspected to arise due to the formation of more volatile oxidation products produced
 749 during OH oxidation (Bonn and Moortgat, 2002; Kristensen et al., 2014). The OH oxidation of β -pinene
 750 results in mass yields similar to the measurements obtained by Lee et al. (2006b) for similar mass loadings.
 751 The β -pinene SOA yields are comparatively well represented by MCM+PRAM in comparison to the
 752 standalone MCM. On the other hand, the limonene mass yields are under-predicted by MCM+PRAM for

753 similar mass loadings. Yields for limonene SOA mass loadings of $350 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ are around 0.31 which is lower
754 than the experimental values, measured by Lee et al. (2006b).

755 For β -caryophyllene, the modeled values are in good agreement with experimental measured yields in
756 the range of mass loadings provided by Griffin (1999) and Tasoglou and Pandis (2015). Currently there are no
757 experiments providing HOM yields from OH oxidation of β -caryophyllene, and hence, those species are not
758 included in PRAM. The simulation results for yields from OH oxidation of β -caryophyllene, indicate that the
759 MCM scheme is able to reproduce the experimental values (Fig. 4). Only MCM was used for modeling the
760 mass yields for OH oxidation of isoprene due to current lack of PRAM mechanism for isoprene. The mass
761 yields derived from OH oxidation of isoprene vary from 0.01 - 0.31 covering a range of mass loadings from
762 $0.003 - 132 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. At low mass loadings $< 10 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ the maximum yield obtained is ~ 0.06 , which is a factor
763 of 3 greater than the experimental results obtained by (Lee et al., 2006b) where they measured yield of 0.02.
764 The mass yields are in good agreement with the experimental results from Liu et al. (2016), wherein they
765 measured a yield of 0.13 for $22 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (Table 3).

766 The OFR simulations results for the OH oxidation of BVOCs with an equivalent exposure range from
767 $2.0 \times 10^{10} - 2.0 \times 10^{12}$ molecules cm^{-3} s, is shown in Fig. 2. Our yields for α -pinene agree well with the yields
768 obtained by Bruns et al. (2015) where they measured yield of ~ 0.3 for mass loading of $\sim 300 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ at
769 equivalent OH exposures. Friedman and Farmer (2018) found mass yields of 0 - 0.086 for α -pinene
770 (ammonium sulfate seeded experiment), 0- 0.12 for β -pinene (no seed particles) and 0-0.04 for limonene (no
771 seed particles), by varying the OH exposures between $4.7 \times 10^{10} - 7.4 \times 10^{11}$ molecules cm^{-3} s. Our simulated
772 yields for OH oxidation of α -pinene, β -pinene and limonene suggest higher mass yields for α -pinene and
773 limonene at equivalent mass loadings, while mass yields for β -pinene are in good agreement with the
774 experimental yields. Friedman and Farmer (2018) suggest that the reason for this underestimation in mass
775 yields could arise due to the exclusion of large particle sizes in the experiments and propose that these yields
776 could represent lower bounds.

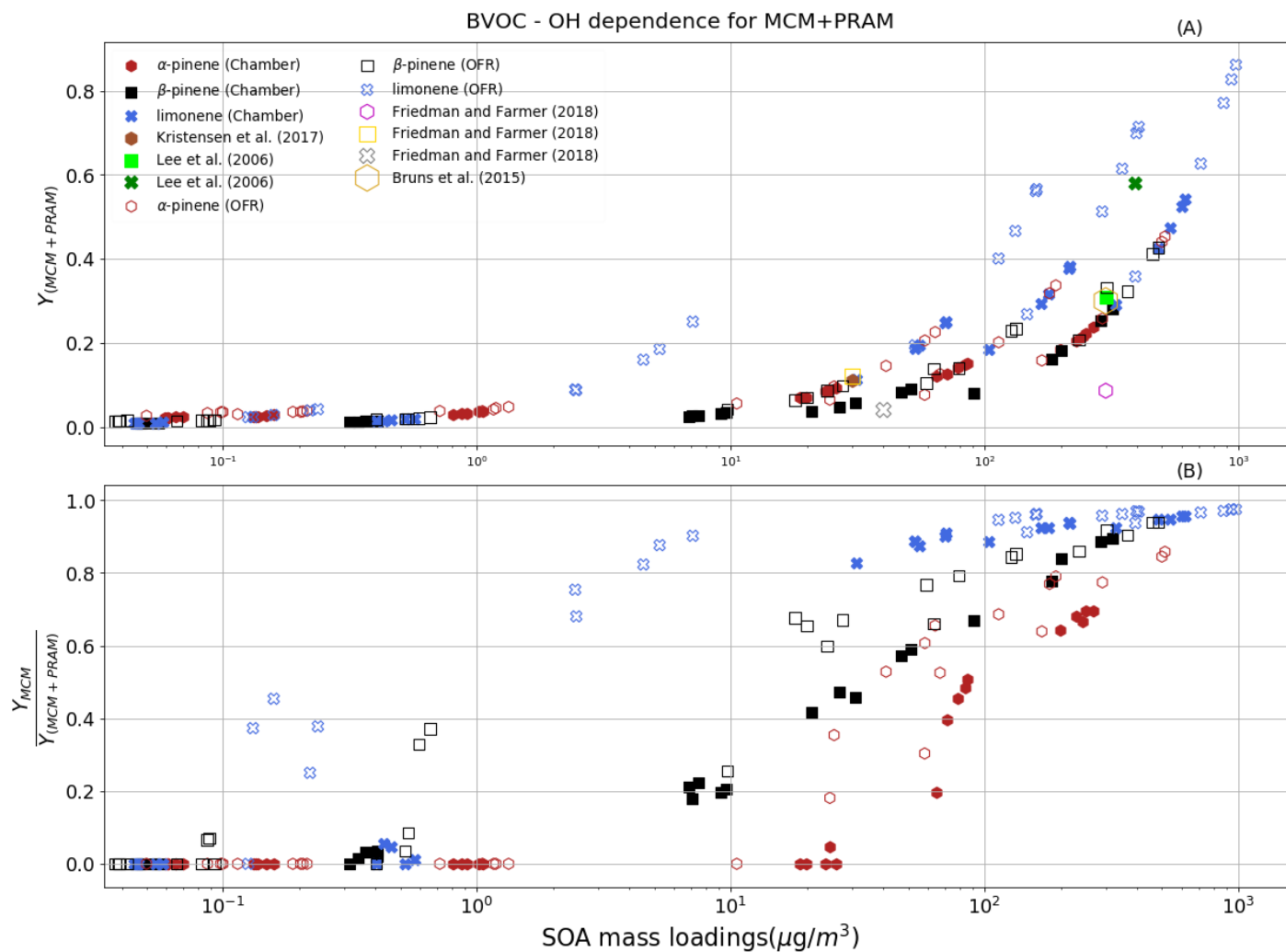
777 **Table 3.** Mass yields for OH oxidation of BVOCs at 293 K for different range of mass loadings using a
778 chamber[†] and OFR^{||} setup.

SOA mass loading ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	MCM + PRAM mass yields	MCM mass yields	BVOC	Experimental yields	References
300 [†]	0.28	0.25	β -pinene	0.31 (293)	Lee et al. (2006b)

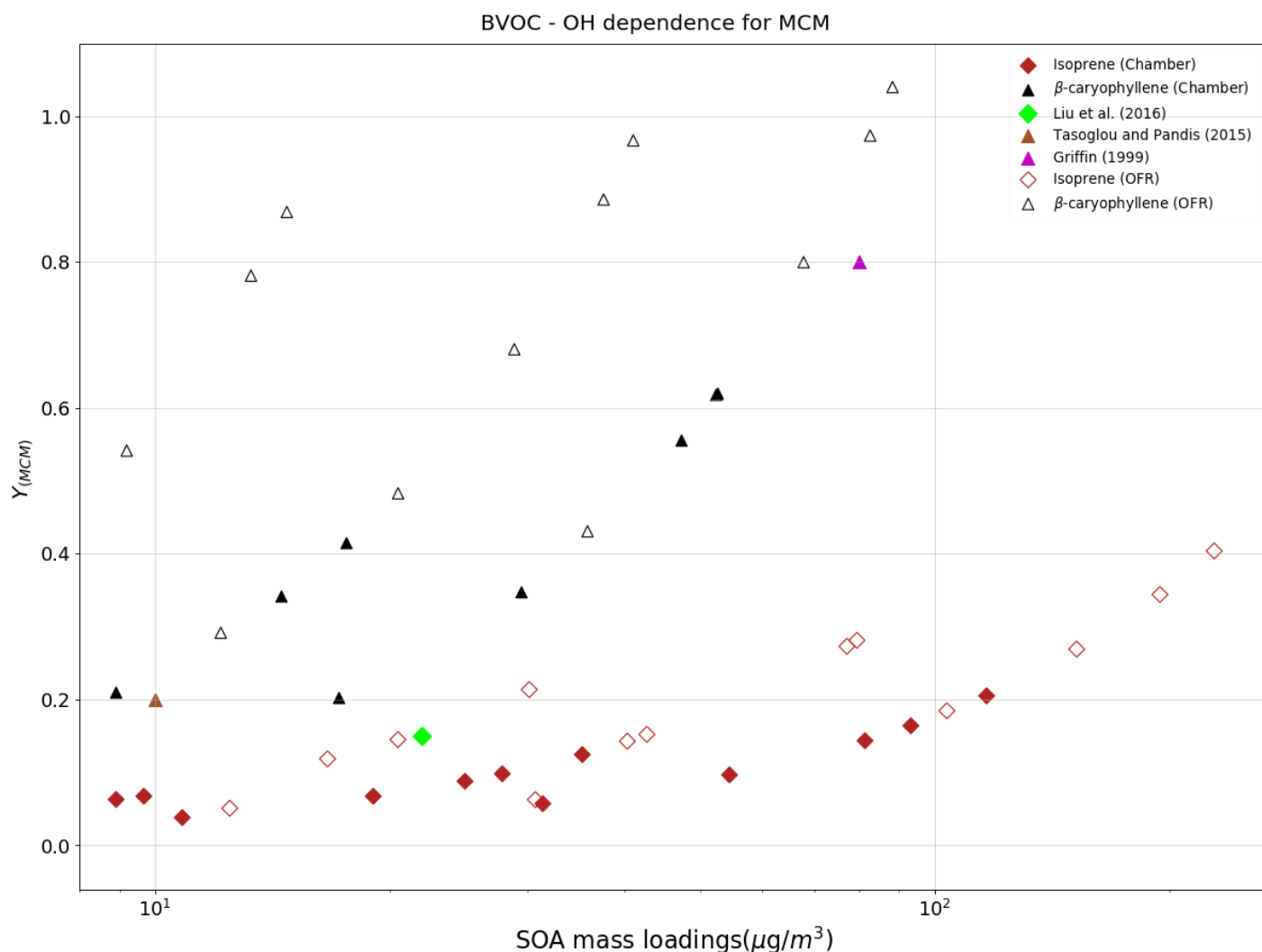
350 [†]	0.31	0.06 – 0.11	limonene	0.58 (394)	Lee et al. (2006b)
30	0.09	0.004	α-pinene	0.11 (30)	Kristensen et al., 2017
< 10 [†]	0.21 ^{!!}	0.21	β-caryophyllene	0.2 (8.8)	Tasoglou and Pandis (2015)
20 – 80 [†]	0.3 – 0.7 ^{!!}	0.3 – 0.7		0.37 – 0.79 (17-82)	Griffin (1999)
22 [†]	0.1 ^{!!}	0.1	Isoprene	0.13 (22)	Liu et al. (2016)
<10	0.06 ^{!!}	0.06		0.02 (9)	Lee et al. (2006b)
0-300	0.05 – 0.31	0 – 0.2	α-pinene	0 – 0.086 (0-300) 0.3 (300)	Friedman and Farmer (2018) Bruns et al. (2015)
0-30	0-0.1	0-0.01	β-pinene	0 – 0.12 (30)	Friedman and Farmer (2018)
0-40	0.-0.19	0-0.17	limonene	0.0 – 0.04 (35)	Friedman and Farmer (2018)

779 indicates that no PRAM mechanism available yet i.e the yields are same as the MCM yields.

780



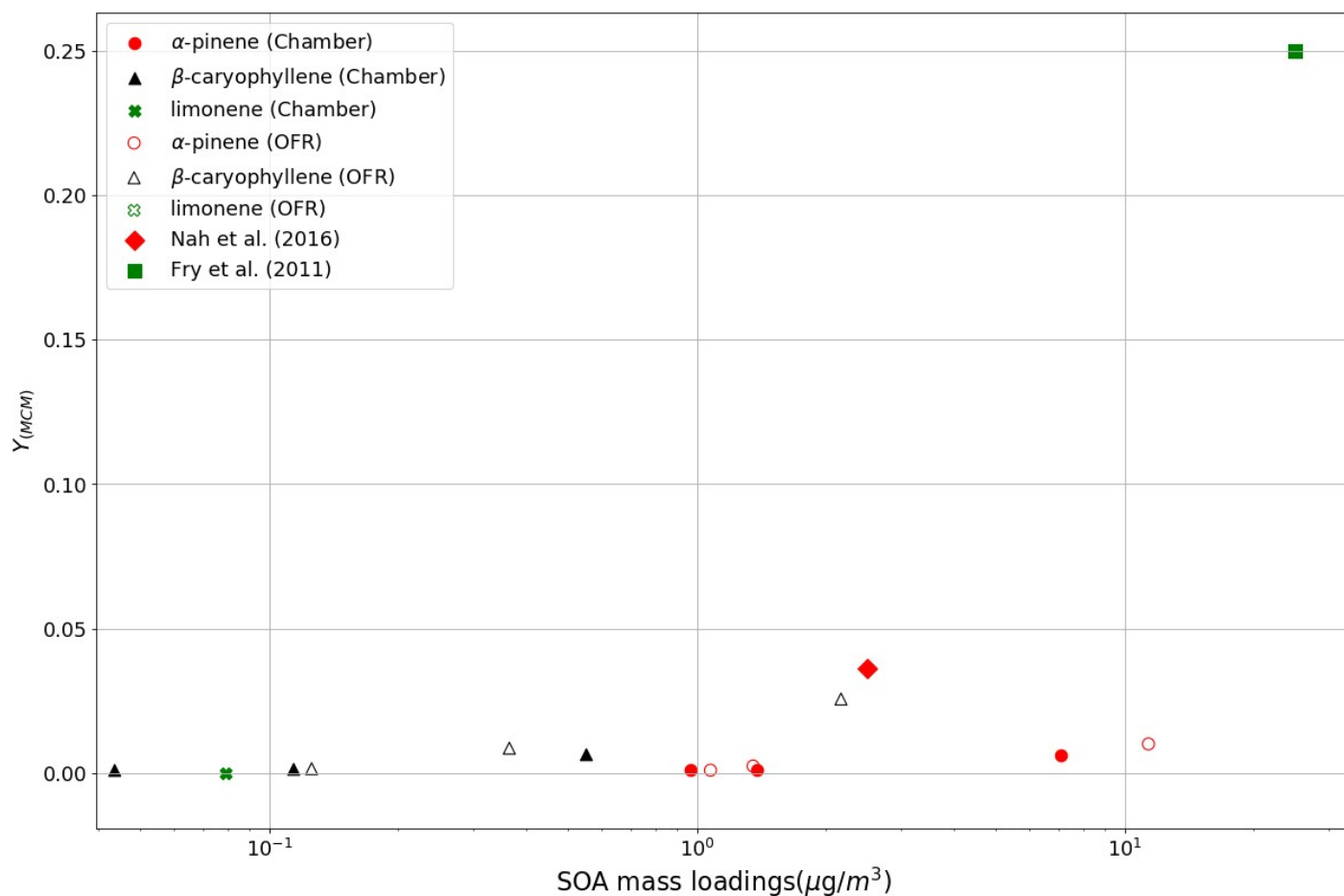
781 **Figure 3.** The mass yields from OH oxidation of BVOCs α -pinene (red heptagons), β -pinene (black squares) and limonene (blue
 782 crosses) modeled after chamber (filled symbols) and flow-tube settings (open symbols). The figure shows a comparison of SOA
 783 mass yields obtained from application of MCM+PRAM (panel A) and ratio of yields from MCM and couple MCM+PRAM (panel
 784 B). Currently PRAM is available for OH oxidation of limonene and α -pinene and β -pinene.



786 **Figure 4.** The mass yields from OH oxidation of BVOCs β -caryophyllene (black triangles) and isoprene (maroon diamonds)
 787 modeled after chamber (filled symbols) and flow-tube settings (open symbols). The figure shows a comparison of SOA mass yields
 788 obtained from application of MCM as currently there is no PRAM available for these compounds.

789 3.3 BVOC – NO₃ chamber and OFR simulations

790 **Figure 5.** shows the yields derived from the oxidation of BVOCs by NO₃. Currently, as no PRAM is
 791 available for NO₃ oxidation, Figure 5 represents SOA yields derived using MCM. Due to limited
 792 experimental constraints, PRAM presently does not consider autoxidation of RO₂ formed from NO₃ oxidation
 793 of VOCs, which could explain the huge discrepancy between the measured and simulated mass yields (Figure
 794 5). The yields obtained for oxidation of α -pinene (0.002-0.007) by NO₃ are low in comparison to those
 795 obtained by Nah et al. (2016), where they measured a yield of 0.036. Measured mass yields for limonene
 796 oxidation by NO₃ resulting in mass yields between 0.25-0.4 (Fry et al., 2011), whereas we obtain negligible
 797 (~0.0003) mass yields for the same.

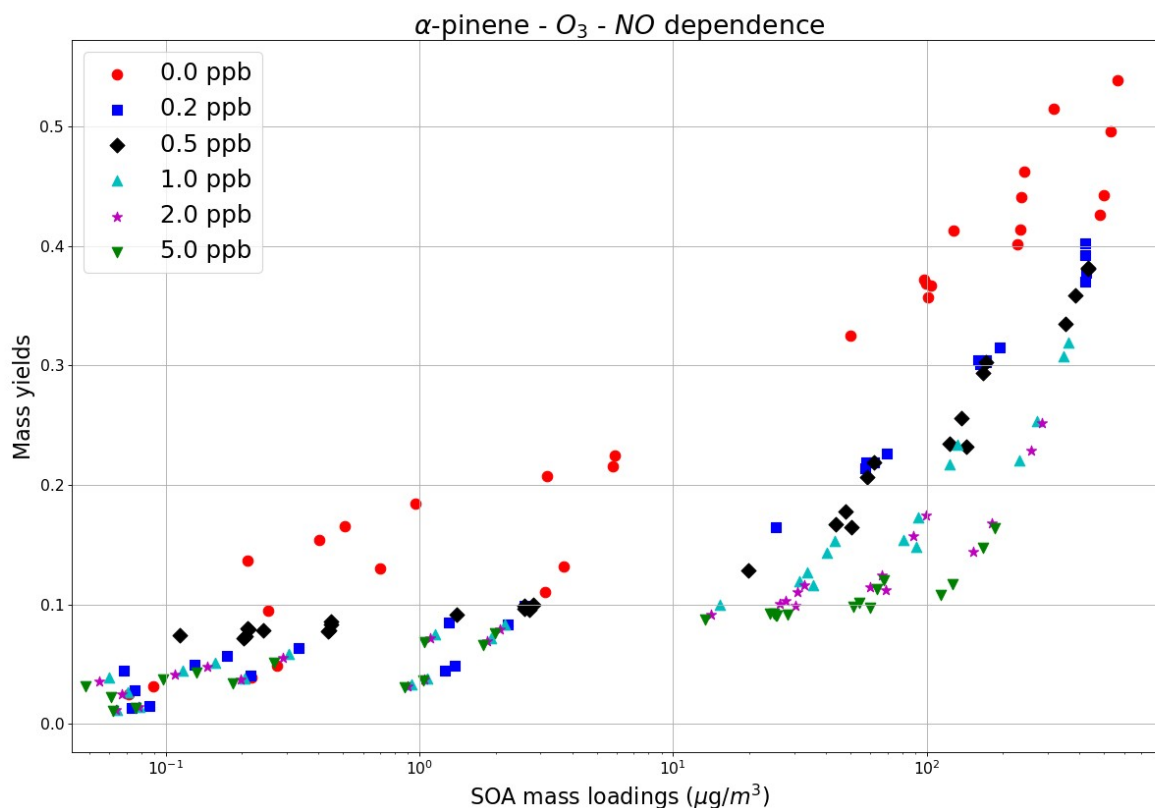
BVOC - NO_3 dependence for MCM+PRAM

798 **Figure 5.** The mass yields from NO_3 oxidation of BVOCs modeled after chamber and flow-tube settings. The figure shows a
 799 comparison of SOA mass yields obtained from application of MCM+PRAM. Appreciable mass yields were only obtained for α -
 800 pinene, limonene and β -caryophyllene.

801 3.4 NO_x dependence

802 Varying NO_x concentrations changes the fate of RO_2 radical formed during organic oxidations by
 803 altering HO_2/RO_2 ratio, thereby impacting the distribution of reaction products and aerosol formation (Presto
 804 et al., 2005; Zhao et al., 2018; Sarrafzadeh et al., 2016). We modeled the SOA mass yields for α -pinene - O_3
 805 setup with varying NO_x concentrations (NO was varied whereas NO_2 was kept constant for all the runs), for
 806 initial α -pinene mixing ratios in the range 0.5 - 200 ppb (Fig. 6). A maximum SOA yield value of 0.55 is
 807 obtained for a combination of the lowest value of NO (0 ppb, red circles). As the NO concentrations increase
 808 from 0.2 ppb (blue squares) to 5 ppb (green inverted triangles) the yields begin to decrease, and this pattern is
 809 observable and valid for all concentration ranges of reacted precursor VOC. The NO_x dependence of α -pinene

810 ozonolysis is consistent with the findings of Draper et al. (2015) and Presto et al. (2005) wherein they
 811 observed a trend of decreasing SOA mass yields for α -pinene ozonolysis with increasing NO_x concentrations.

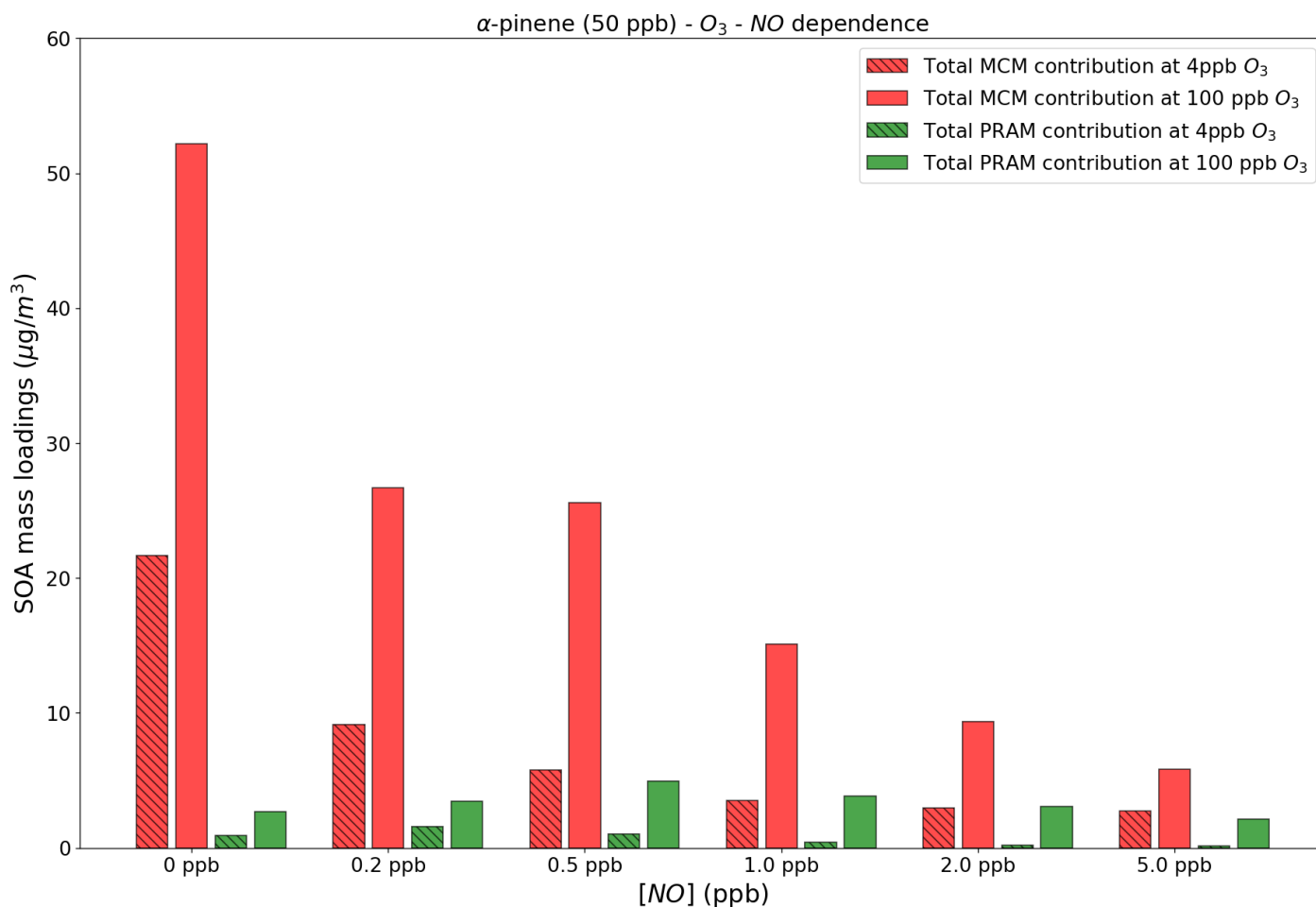


812 **Figure 6.** The SOA mass yields from O_3 oxidation of α -pinene modeled for different NO concentrations with the chamber setup.
 813 The model runs were performed using MCM+PRAM.

814 At low NO_x concentrations RO_2 radicals undergo rapid autoxidation until they react with HO_2 or RO_2
 815 resulting in production of low volatility hydro-peroxide products (Sarrafzadeh et al., 2016), closed shell
 816 monomers or dimers (Ehn et al., 2014; Roldin et al., 2019), which increase SOA mass. This contrasts with
 817 high NO_x conditions where the $\text{RO}_2 + \text{NO}$ reactions dominate over reactions with HO_2 or RO_2 , resulting in the
 818 formation of more volatile products such as aldehydes, ketones and organonitrates (Presto et al., 2005;
 819 Sarrafzadeh et al., 2016), and likely suppressing the autoxidation process leading to a decrease in SOA mass
 820 loadings (Ehn et al., 2014).

821 Figure 7 shows the absolute contributions to SOA mass loadings by PRAM and MCM compounds at
 822 two different O_3 concentrations of 4 and 100 ppb and varying NO concentrations. The figure shows that with
 823 an increase in NO concentrations the contribution of PRAM compounds to the particle phase decreases at

824 both 4 and 100 ppb of O_3 concentrations. In PRAM the $RO_2 + NO$ reaction leads either to the formation of
 825 organonitrate HOM, closed shell monomers with carbonyl group or fragmentation products with higher
 826 volatility (Roldin et al., 2019). HOM Dimer formation is suppressed with increasing NO concentrations in
 827 PRAM (Roldin et al., 2019) which explains the lower contribution by PRAM compounds to SOA mass
 828 loadings with increasing NO. At NO concentrations <1ppb the PRAM contribution increases as, first
 829 generation RO_2 are capable of undergoing autoxidation forming highly oxygenated RO_2 which subsequently
 830 reacts with NO forming organic nitrates (Ehn et al., 2014). As NO concentrations exceed 1ppb the first
 831 generation RO_2 is scavenged by NO thereby reducing the concentration of organonitrate HOM (Ehn et al.,
 832 2014), possibly affecting SOA yields. The MCM contribution also decreases with increasing NO
 833 concentrations mostly due to the formation of more volatile organonitrates (Jenkin et al., 2019).



834 **Figure 7.** Contribution to the SOA mass loadings by total PRAM and MCM compounds at different NO_x levels and O_3
 835 concentrations. For comparison we use 4 ppb and 100 ppb O_3 concentrations, respectively, at 50 ppb α -pinene.

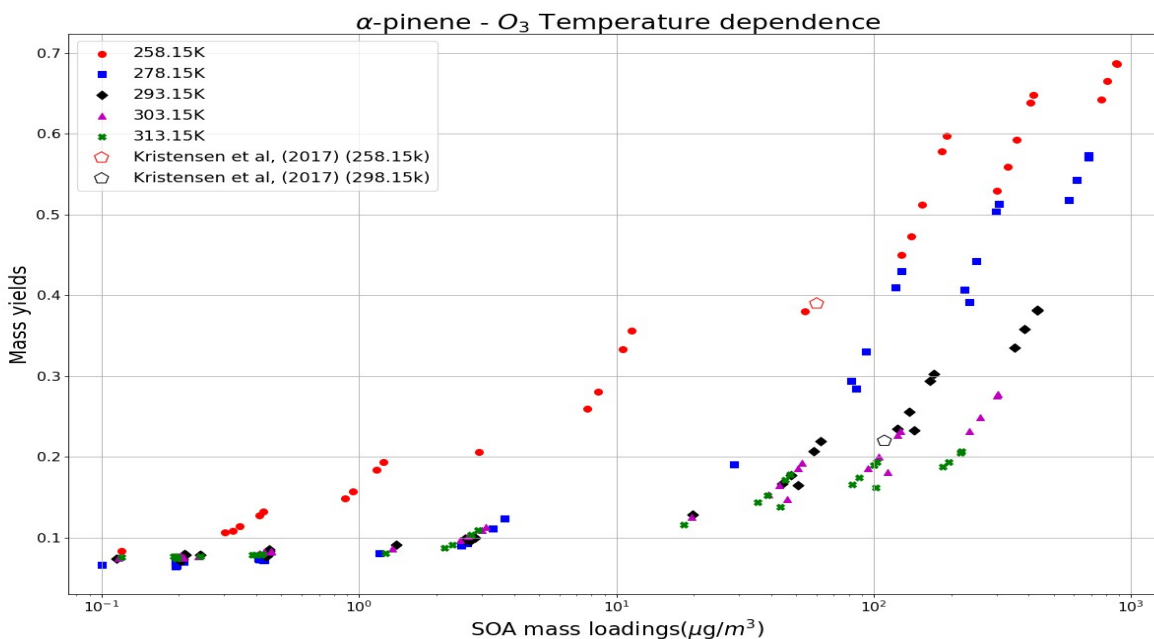
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837

838 3.5 Temperature dependence

839 The formation of SOA from α -pinene ozonolysis in the temperature range of 258.15 - 313.15 K was
840 investigated in this study using MCM+PRAM. Strong dependence of SOA mass yield on temperature was
841 reported by Saathoff and Naumann, (2009) wherein they measured the decreasing mass yields from 0.42 at
842 273.15 K to 0.09 to 313.15 K for SOA loadings of 53 and 92 μgm^{-3} respectively. Our results in Figure 8
843 show increasing SOA mass yields for α -pinene ozonolysis with decreasing temperature, which is attributed to
844 the augmented condensation of oxidation products termed as semi volatile organic compounds (SVOC)
845 (Kristensen et al., 2017) at lower temperatures.

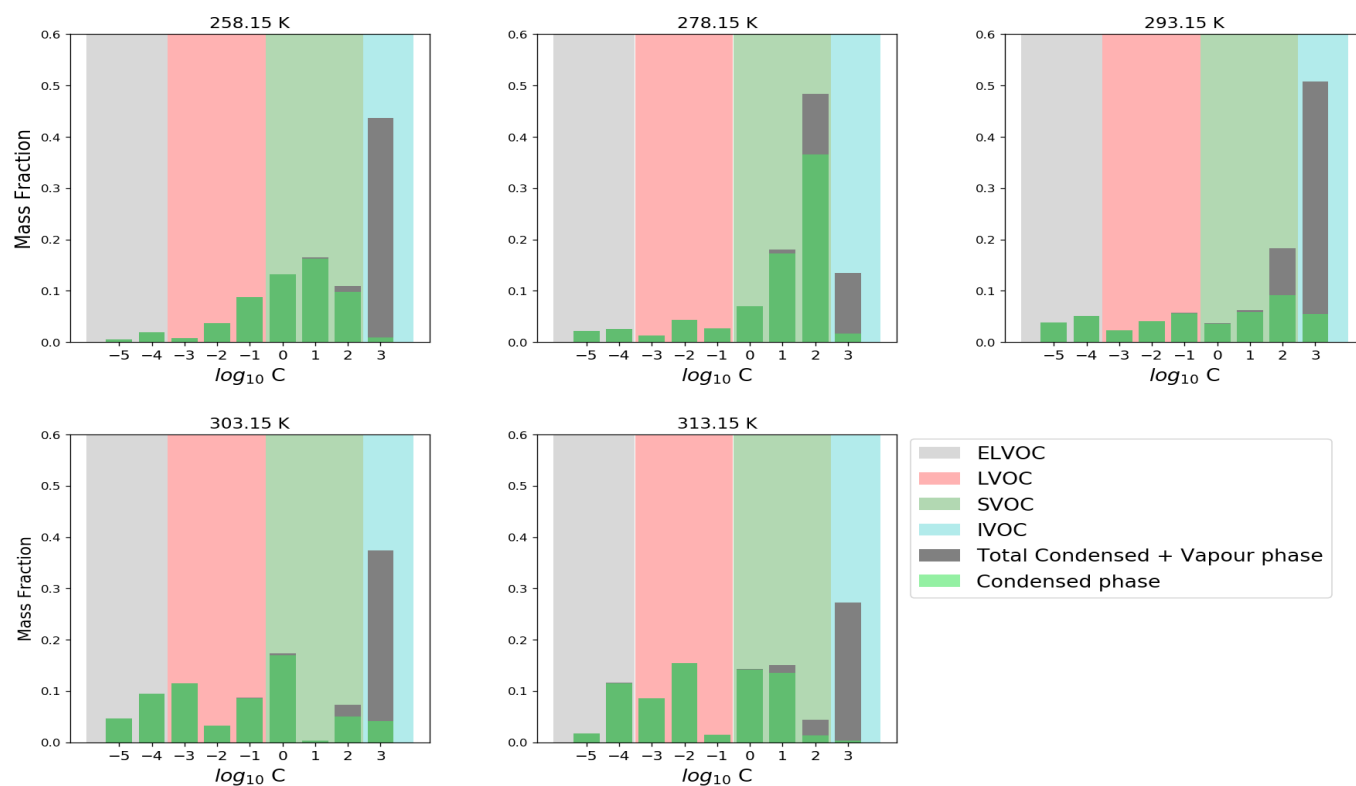
846 For α -pinene maximum mass loading $< 150 \mu\text{gm}^{-3}$ the mass yields reach a maximum value of 0.38 at
847 temperatures as low as 258.15 K and decrease to 0.27 for a temperature of 293.15 K and to 0.1 for the
848 temperature of 313.15 K. These yields are comparable to the results obtained by Kristensen et al.
849 (2017) where they measured yields of 0.39 for 258.15 K and 0.22 for 293.15 K for mass loading $< 150 \mu\text{gm}^{-3}$.
850 The results show a weak dependence of SOA mass yields on temperatures in the range of 278.15 K - 313.15
851 K at low SOA mass loadings which become more pronounced as the mass loadings increase. At the lowest
852 temperature of 258.15 K the mass yields are higher in comparison to other temperatures regardless the mass
853 loadings. These results are in good agreement with the findings by Pathak et al. (2007) where they found a
854 strong temperature dependence of SOA mass yields at lower temperature (0 – 15° C), which decreases as the
855 temperature increases. Furthermore, similar to the measurements made by Pathak et al. (2007), our
856 simulations were able to reproduce the experimental findings that show no appreciable differences in the SOA
857 mass yields for loadings below $1 \mu\text{gm}^{-3}$ (initial mixing ratio of 1 ppb) for temperatures > 273.15 K.



858 **Figure 8.** Temperature dependence of SOA mass yields at different temperatures using the MCM+PRAM. The open pentagons
 859 represent measurement data from Kristensen et al. (2017) at 258.15 K and 298.15 K.

860 Figure 9 shows the volatility distribution of α -pinene ozonolysis derived SOA at different
 861 temperatures. The saturation vapor pressure limits for defining extremely low volatility (ELVOCs - grey
 862 shaded), low volatility (LVOCs - red shaded), semi volatile (SVOCs - green shaded) and intermediate
 863 volatility (IVOCs - cyan shaded) organic compounds used in the Volatility basis set (VBS) are set according
 864 to the values suggested in Donahue et al. (2012). In this work, we categorize compounds (ELVOCs, LVOCs,
 865 SVOCs and IVOCs) based on effective saturation vapor pressures (C^*) in the range of $\{10^{-5} \text{ to } 10^3\} \mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$
 866 and temperature of 298 K (Donahue et al., 2009). At the lowest temperature of 258.15 K, the SVOCs
 867 contribution to the particle phase is dominant in comparison to LVOCs and ELVOCs, a trend which is
 868 subsequently reversed as the temperatures are increased. At 293.15 K a majority of SVOCs and IVOCs are in
 869 the gas phase while the contribution of LVOCs and ELVOCs to particle phases increases. These results are in
 870 good agreement with observations made by Kristensen et al. (2017) wherein they observed an increasing
 871 contribution of SVOCs at sub-zero temperatures of 258.15 K, which decrease the fraction of SOA formed
 872 from ELVOCs. Again, it should be noted that the temperature dependence of peroxy radical autoxidation
 873 product formation still needs further validation based on recent experiments (e.g. Quéléver et al., 2018).

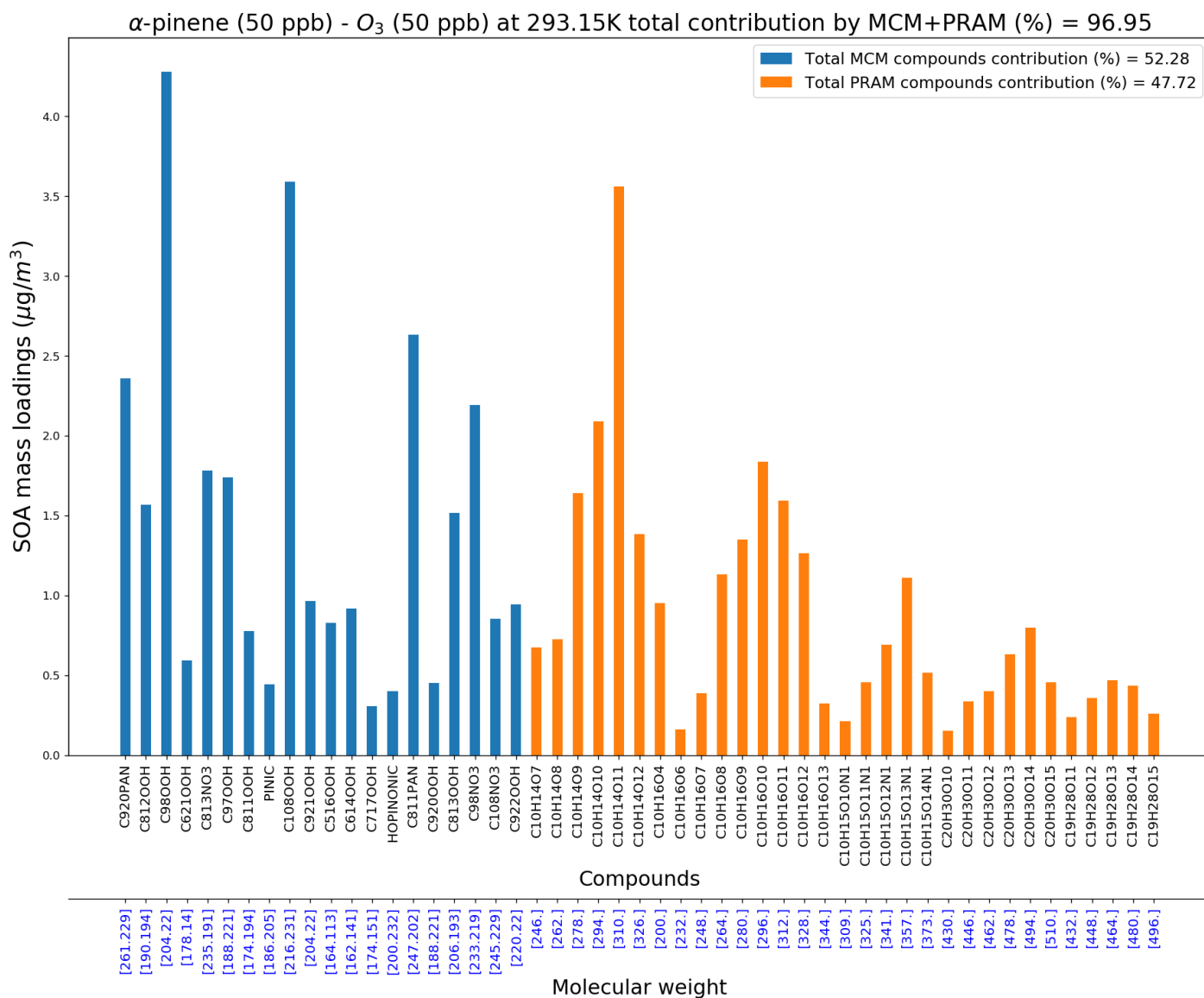
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Volatility Basis set for α -pinene (50ppb) - O_3 (50 ppb)

875 **Figure 9.** Modeled volatility distribution of SOA at different temperatures. The volatility bins span a range of effective saturation
 876 vapor pressures $C = C^* = \{10^{-5} \text{ to } 10^3\} \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$. The VBS distribution is based on a reference temperature of 298 K.

877 3.6 Composition

878 MCM+PRAM can be used to narrow down and compile a list of compounds playing a pivotal role in
 879 contributing to SOA mass loadings and, also compare the relative importance of implementing PRAM
 880 alongside the MCM. Figure 10 shows the most important compounds from both the MCM and PRAM that
 881 together contribute to more than 95% of α -pinene ozonolysis SOA mass loading at 293.15 K.



882 **Figure 10.** MCM and PRAM Compounds contributing to > 95 % of SOA mass at 293 K and 50ppb O_3 and α -pinene
 883 concentrations.

884 **Figure 10 shows that contribution to SOA mass loadings by PRAM compounds is ~48 % (of 97 %) while**
 885 **MCM compounds contribute ~52 % (of 97%).** On lowering the temperature to 258K the relative contributions
 886 of PRAM drop to 15 % (of ~98 %), while MCM dominates by contributing ~85 % (of ~98 %) respectively
 887 (Figure S3a). The contribution of PRAM increases to ~64 % (of ~97 %) and MCM contribution drops to 36
 888 % (of ~97 %) at 313 K (Figure S3b). These results reflect the importance of PRAM as its contribution plays
 889 an increasingly dominant role with increasing temperatures and highlights the crucial few compounds that
 890 contribute to maximum SOA mass loadings for α -pinene ozonolysis. The list of abundant compounds which
 891 together add up to contribute more than 95 % of SOA mass loadings at 258 K, 293 K and 313 K are presented
 892 in the supplement Table 1s (a, b & c). At 258 K MCM compounds namely pinonic acid ($C_{10}H_{16}O_3$, 4.4 %),

893 C920PAN ($C_{10}H_{15}NO_7$, 9.3 %), C108NO3 ($C_{10}H_{15}NO_6$, 8.9 %), C811PAN ($C_9H_{13}NO_7$, 10.1 %), C717NO3
894 ($C_7H_9NO_6$, 11.3 %) contribute significantly to the total SOA mass loadings while PRAM compounds such as
895 $C_{10}H_{14}O_7$ (0.88 %), $C_{10}H_{16}O_4$ (1.3 %), $C_{10}H_{16}O_6$ (1.13 %) contribute significantly less. An increase in
896 temperature to 293 K results in an overall increase in contribution by PRAM compounds, with $C_{10}H_{14}O_{10}$ (3.6
897 %), $C_{10}H_{14}O_{11}$ (6.2 %), $C_{10}H_{16}O_{10}$ (3.2 %) playing an important role in contributing to the SOA mass loadings.
898 This trend of relative increase in the contribution by PRAM compounds over MCM compounds to SOA mass
899 loadings is also evident as the temperatures are further increased to 313 K, where the PRAM compounds
900 $C_{10}H_{14}O_{11}$ (18.3 %), $C_{10}H_{14}O_{12}$ (6 %) and $C_{10}H_{16}O_{12}$ (6.6 %) play a dominant role in increasing SOA mass
901 loadings.

902 4. Conclusions

903 We simulated SOA mass yields derived from the oxidation of various BVOCs (isoprene, α -pinene, β -
904 pinene, limonene and β -caryophyllene), by the oxidants O_3 , OH and NO_3 using the zero-dimensional model
905 MALTE-Box. The gas phase chemistry was simulated using the MCM in conjunction with PRAM. The aim
906 was to verify the efficacy of MCM+PRAM in simulating the SOA mass yields. Additional simulations were
907 performed to test the MCM+PRAM under varying temperature and NO concentrations. A few important
908 compounds playing a major role in increasing the SOA mass yields for α -pinene ozonolysis at different
909 temperatures are also highlighted.

910 The simulations were designed to resemble ideal smog chambers experiments and experiments in
911 oxidative flow reactors (OFR). No interactions between the gas phase and chamber walls were considered
912 during the simulations. For the smog chamber setting, the standalone MCM generally under-predicts the mass
913 yields obtained by the ozonolysis and OH oxidation of BVOCs. In contrast, the yields derived using
914 MCM+PRAM for the smog chamber setup is in good agreement with the experimental results. For an
915 idealized OFR setup, MCM+PRAM yields are in good agreement with experimental yields, while again the
916 MCM under-predicts the SOA yields. The relative contribution of HOM monomers and dimers to the particle
917 phase in OFR simulations is low when compared to the chamber simulations. This is due to higher RO_2
918 concentrations in OFR leading to termination of peroxy radical autoxidation, thereby affecting SOA yields.
919 This needs to be considered when applying yields based on OFR simulations in regional or global chemical
920 transport models

921 The model does not simulate appreciable SOA mass yields for oxidation of BVOCs with NO_3 , as
922 PRAM currently does not consider autoxidation of RO_2 formed from NO_3 oxidation of VOCs. This underlines
923 the need for developing a NO_3 oxidation scheme which can better constrain and predict SOA mass yields. In

924 accordance to the previous studies, the simulated SOA yields tend to decrease at higher temperatures. The
925 PRAM contribution to mass yields at low temperatures (258.15 K) is ~14 %, which is substantially lower **than**
926 **that of** MCM (~86 %). As the temperature is increased to 313.15 K, the contribution of PRAM to SOA mass
927 yields begins to dominate over MCM. This most likely is due to MCM **producing** more SVOCs (compounds
928 classified as SVOCs at 298 K), which show stronger contribution to particle phase at lower temperatures, due
929 to decrease in saturation vapor pressures with temperature. It should be noted that the present temperature
930 dependency of mass yields using PRAM are a first, and currently the best estimate in understanding the
931 influence of temperature on the peroxy radical autoxidation formation. The simulated SOA yields with
932 varying NO concentrations agree well with experimental results, i.e. SOA yields decrease with increasing NO
933 concentrations due to the formation of more volatile compounds such as organonitrates and ketones.

934 Using PRAM coupled with MCM **helps us** bridge the gap in understanding the role and contribution
935 of peroxy radical autoxidation to SOA formation. The variation of SOA yields for temperature and NO
936 concentrations, indicates the limitations of global and regional models in predicting e.g. cloud condensation
937 nuclei (CCN) effects using fixed SOA yields. The good agreement of modeled and experimental yields from
938 smog chambers, could further help us parameterize the SOA yields, that could be applied at a global and
939 regional model scale, to more accurately predict the direct and indirect impact of aerosol particles on e.g.
940 radiation balance by aerosol scattering/absorption and CCN concentrations. **Furthermore, implementation of a**
941 **condensed PRAM version to regional and global models has been tested but still need further validation**
942 **(Roldin et al., 2019).**

943 **Data availability**

944 **The complete PRAM mechanism written in a format compatible with the Kinetic PreProcessor (KPP) together**
945 **with all species information can also be downloaded from <https://doi.org/10.1594/PANGAEA.905102>**

946 **Author Contributions**

948 CX and MB served as the chief authors and editors of the paper. CX was performing the model simulations.
949 The study was designed by CX, MB and PR. All other co-authors contributed to the analysis and writing of
950 the paper.

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1199 **Supplement material**

1200 **Table 1s(a).** List of compounds contributing to > 95% of SOA mass yield at 258K. The names of compounds
 1201 are given in MCM format. The PRAM compounds are highlighted in red.

Molecular Weight (g/mol)	Species name	Contribution (%)
430	C20H30O10	0.16
198	C10H14O4	0.17
462	C20H30O12	0.18
214	C10H14O5	0.18
174.19	C810OOH	0.19
178.14	C621OOH	0.19
277	C10H15O8N1	0.19
130.1	H1C23C4CHO	0.2
341	C10H15O12N1	0.21
203.19	C810NO3	0.22
446	C20H30O11	0.22
293	C10H15O9N1	0.24
309	C10H15O10N1	0.24
312	C10H16O11	0.24
206.19	C813OOH	0.25
190.19	C812OOH	0.26
170.21	C89CO2H	0.28
174.19	C811OOH	0.29
188.22	C920OOH	0.29
220.22	C922OOH	0.3
204.22	C921OOH	0.3
310	C10H14O11	0.32
325	C10H15O11N1	0.33

235.19	C813NO3	0.36
294	C10H14O10	0.52
230	C10H14O6	0.55
203.19	C811NO3	0.56
296	C10H16O10	0.58
262	C10H14O8	0.65
280	C10H16O9	0.84
246	C10H14O7	0.88
278	C10H14O9	0.93
264	C10H16O8	1.11
248	C10H16O7	1.12
232	C10H16O6	1.13
216	C10H16O5	1.23
172.22	C96OOH	1.32
200	C10H16O4	1.39
162.14	C614OOH	1.64
191.14	C614NO3	2.49
204.22	C98OOH	2.88
188.22	C97OOH	3.07
174.15	C717OOH	3.43
184.23	PINONIC	4.4
233.22	C98NO3	4.53
200.23	C109OOH	4.75
216.23	C108OOH	5.67
200.23	C107OOH	5.94
245.23	C108NO3	8.97
261.23	C920PAN	9.35

247.2	C811PAN	10.11
203.15	C717NO3	11.29

1202

1203

1204 **Table 1s(b).** List of compounds contributing to > 95% of SOA mass yield at 293K. The names of compounds
1205 are given in MCM format.

Molecular Weight (g/mol)	Species names	Contribution (%)
496	C19H28O15	0.45
174.15	C717OOH	0.53
344	C10H16O13	0.57
446	C20H30O11	0.59
448	C19H28O12	0.62
248	C10H16O7	0.67
200.23	HOPINONIC	0.7
462	C20H30O12	0.7
480	C19H28O14	0.76
186.21	PINIC	0.77
188.22	C920OOH	0.79
510	C20H30O15	0.79
325	C10H15O11N1	0.8
464	C19H28O13	0.82
373	C10H15O14N1	0.9
178.14	C621OOH	1.03
478	C20H30O13	1.1
246	C10H14O7	1.17
341	C10H15O12N1	1.2
262	C10H14O8	1.26
174.19	C811OOH	1.35

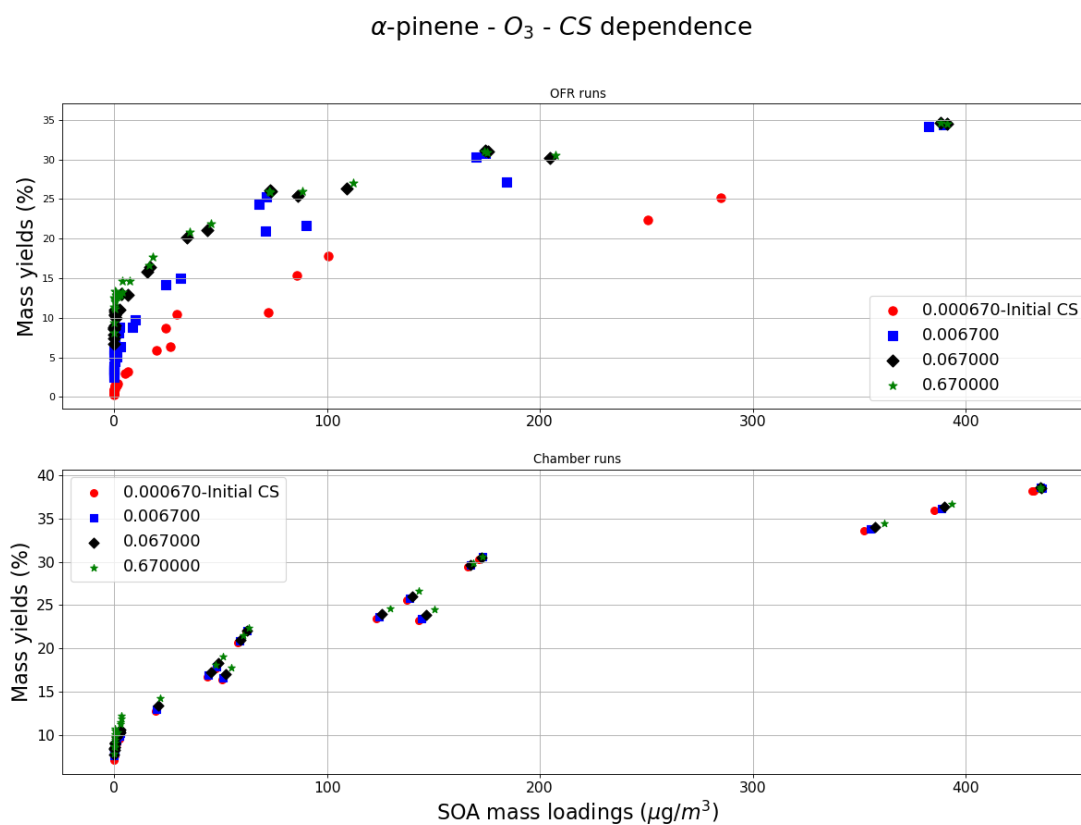
494	C20H30O14	1.39
164.11	C516OOH	1.44
245.23	C108NO3	1.49
162.14	C614OOH	1.6
220.22	C922OOH	1.64
200	C10H16O4	1.65
204.22	C921OOH	1.68
357	C10H15O13N1	1.93
264	C10H16O8	1.97
328	C10H16O12	2.2
280	C10H16O9	2.35
326	C10H14O12	2.41
206.19	C813OOH	2.64
190.19	C812OOH	2.73
312	C10H16O11	2.77
278	C10H14O9	2.86
188.22	C97OOH	3.03
235.19	C813NO3	3.1
296	C10H16O10	3.19
294	C10H14O10	3.63
233.22	C98NO3	3.81
261.23	C920PAN	4.1
247.2	C811PAN	4.57
310	C10H14O11	6.19
216.23	C108OOH	6.24
204.22	C98OOH	7.44

1207 **Table 1s(c).** List of compounds contributing to > 95% of SOA mass yield at 313K. The names of compounds
 1208 are given in MCM format.

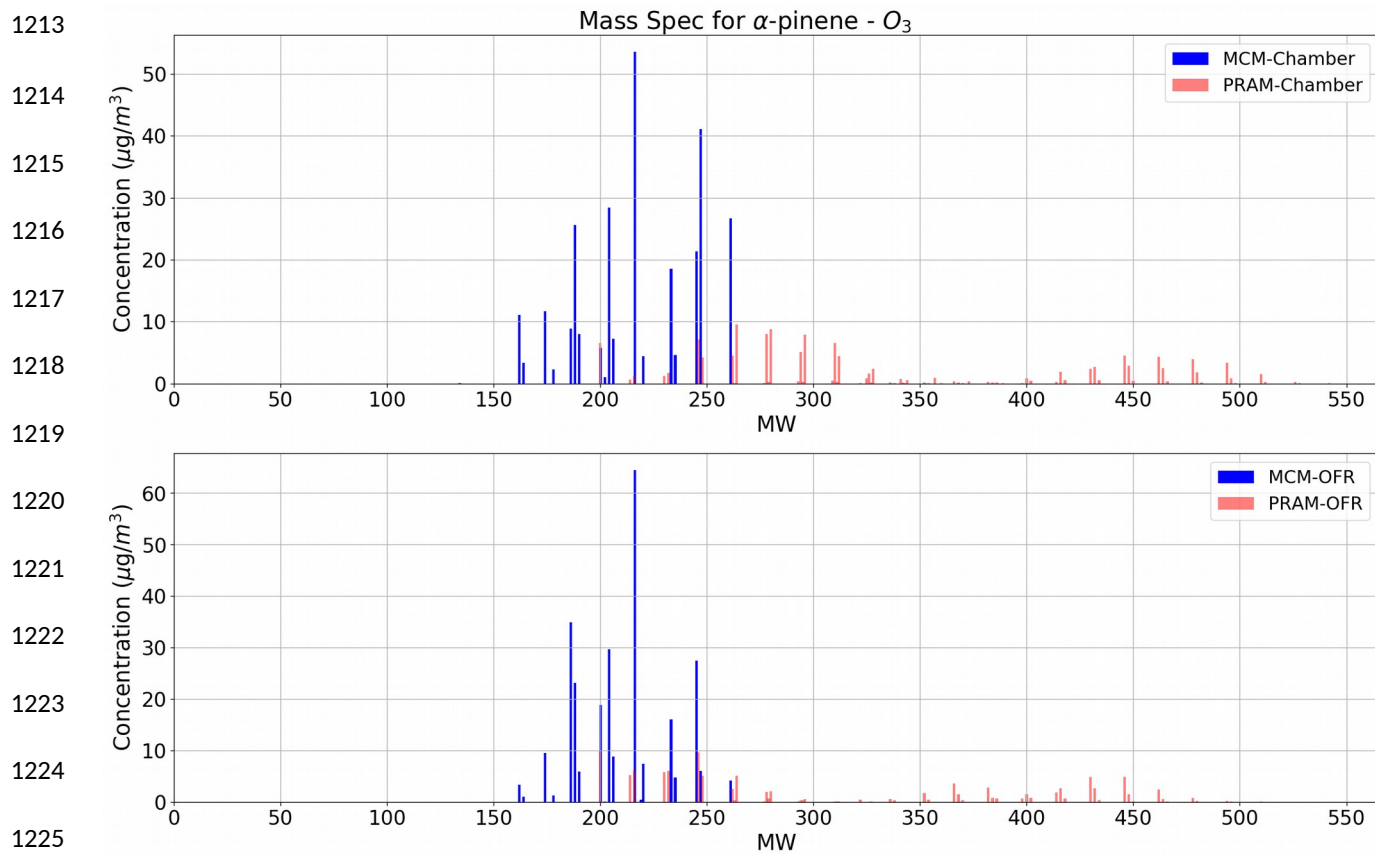
Molecular Weight (g/mol)	Species names	Contribution (%)
526	C20H30O16	0.54
512	C19H28O16	0.55
450	C18H26O13	0.56
482	C18H26O15	0.6
280	C10H16O9	0.6
294	C10H14O10	0.7
466	C18H26O14	0.79
296	C10H16O10	0.9
278	C10H14O9	1
464	C19H28O13	1.2
204.22	C98OOH	1.42
344	C10H16O13	1.51
496	C19H28O15	1.65
480	C19H28O14	1.77
178.14	C621OOH	1.93
373	C10H15O14N1	1.95
510	C20H30O15	2.57
204.22	C921OOH	3.03
494	C20H30O14	3.15
220.22	C922OOH	3.26
164.11	C516OOH	3.85
357	C10H15O13N1	4.63
312	C10H16O11	5.62
326	C10H14O12	6.04

328	C10H16O12	6.56
235.19	C813NO3	6.83
190.19	C812OOH	6.95
206.19	C813OOH	7.46
310	C10H14O11	18.28

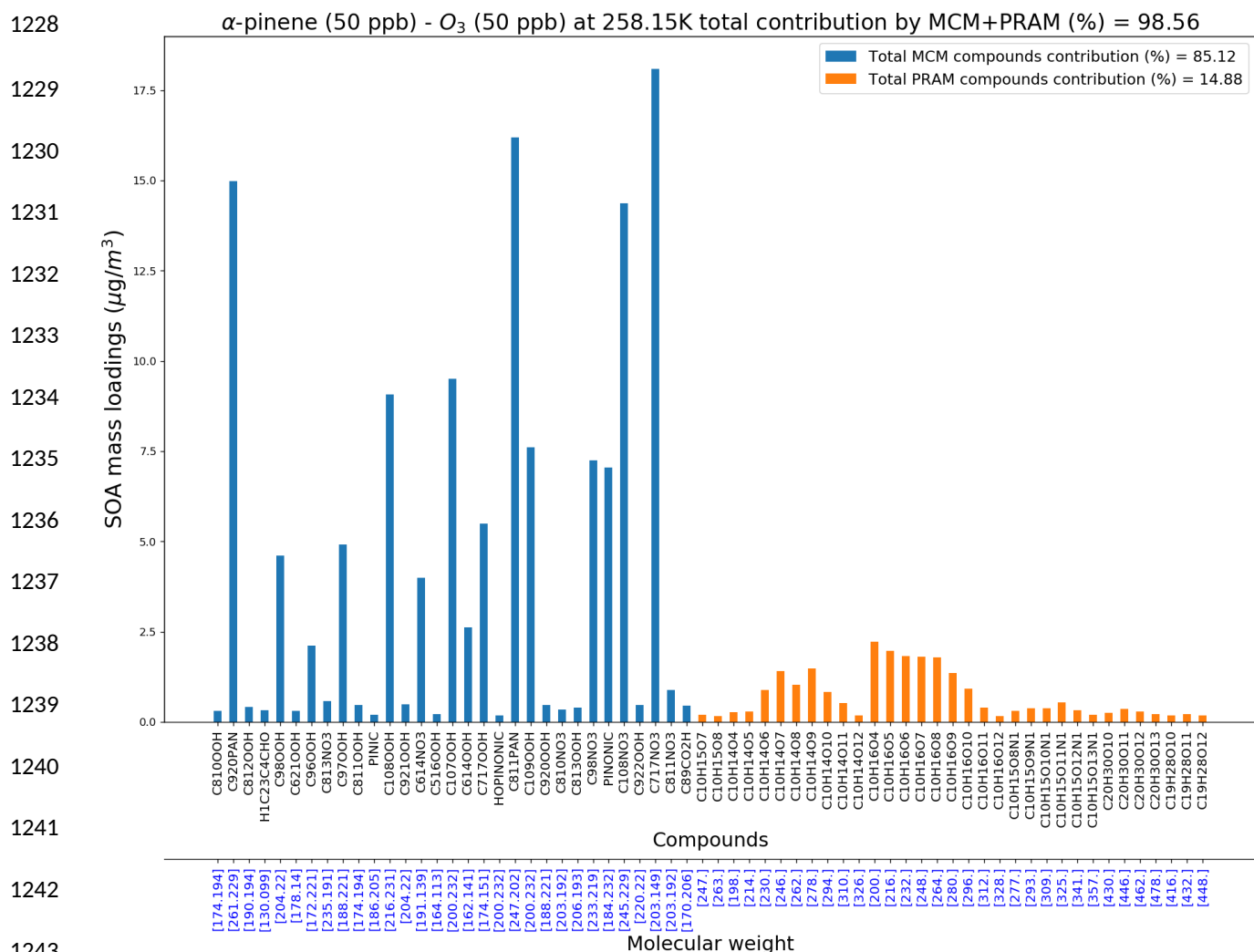
1209



1210 **Figure S1.** SOA mass yields for α -pinene oxidation using O₃ for different CS values. For the OFR runs the yields level off above a
 1211 CS value of 0.067 s⁻¹, while chamber simulation show negligible variation with CS. Hence 0.067 s⁻¹ is selected as CS for the OFR
 1212 simulations while chamber simulations are run with 0.00067 s⁻¹.



1226 **Figure S2.** Mass spectra of SOA formed from α -pinene ozonolysis in the particle phase. The upper panel indicates spectra from
1227 chamber simulations while the lower panel represents the spectra from OFR simulations.



1244 **Figure S3(a).** MCM and PRAM compounds contributing to > 95% of SOA mass at 258 K and 50ppb O₃ and α -pinene concentra-
 1245 tions. It can be noted that a large fraction of the PRAM species that contribute to the SOA mass at 258 K are not classified as HOM
 1246 (i.e. contain at least 6 oxygen atoms), and many of them will not be detected in the gas-phase using the present state-of-the-art
 1247 Chemical Ionization-Atmospheric Pressure Interface TOF (CI-APi-TOF) technique.

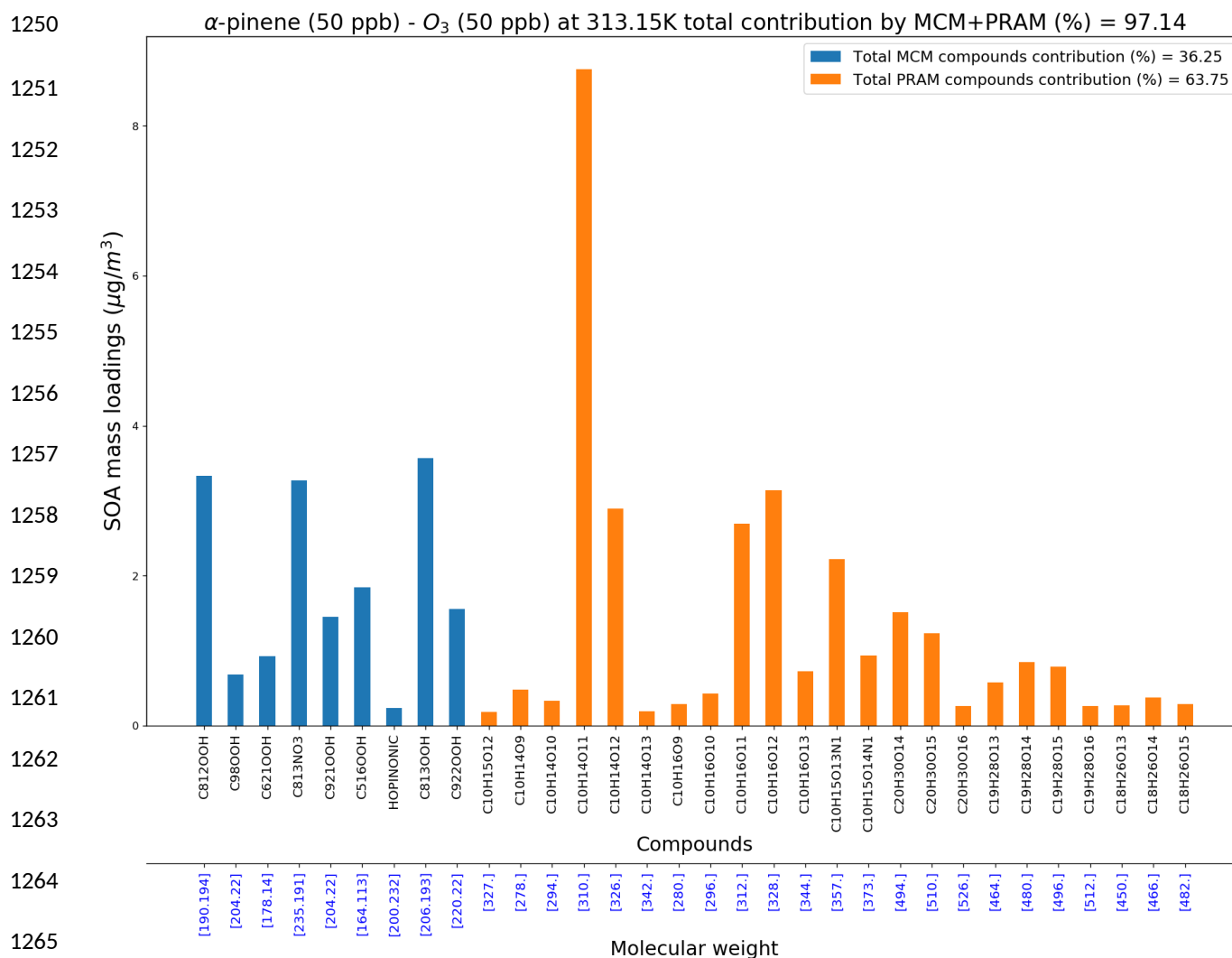
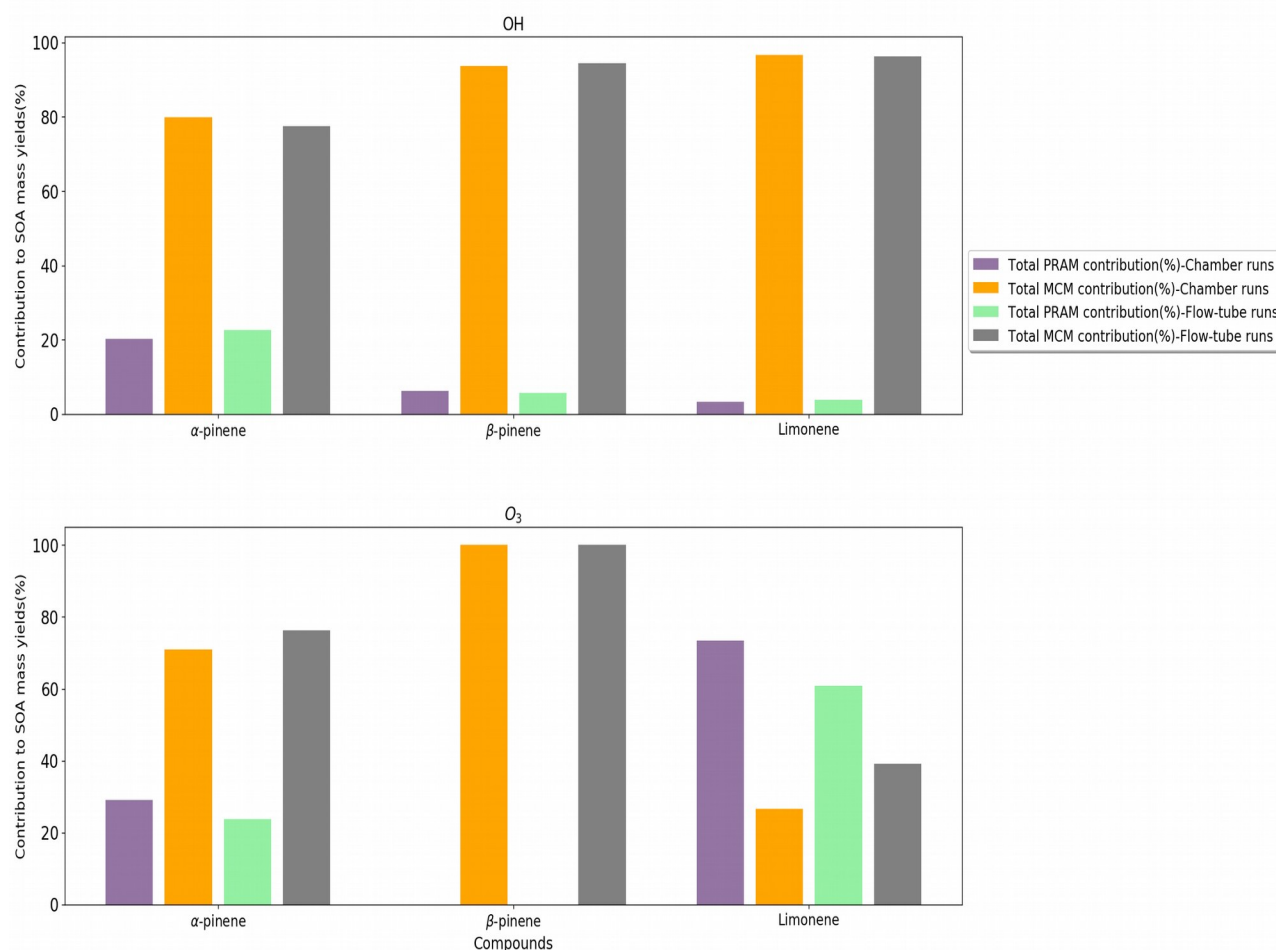


Figure S3(b). MCM and PRAM compounds contributing to > 95% of SOA mass at 313.15 K and 50ppb O₃ and α -pinene concentrations.

The importance of using the MCM+PRAM scheme is illustrated in Fig. 4 which shows the relative contribution by PRAM and MCM compounds for the oxidation of α -pinene, β -pinene and limonene by OH (upper panel) and O₃ (lower panel) for their respective maximum SOA mass yields for both chamber and flow tube setup simulations. The present PRAM mechanism does not include the peroxy radical autooxidation products from β -pinene ozonolysis, products from oxidation of isoprene and β -caryophyllene and the products from NO₃ oxidation of BVOCs. Therefore, they are excluded from Fig.4.

The impact of PRAM compounds contribution to limonene ozonolysis, irrespective of chamber or flow tube setup is considered. It is evident from Fig. 9 (lower panel), which shows that upon using the standalone MCM mechanism underpredicts the SOA mass yields with PRAM compounds contributing ~ 80% and 60% respectively. For α -pinene ozonolysis, the standalone MCM scheme under-predicts the modelled mass yields by approximately 25 % and 22.5 % respectively.

Relative contribution by PRAM and MCM compounds



1279

1280 **Figure 4.** Relative contribution of HOM and MCM compounds for selected maximum mass yields of α-pinene, β-pinene and
 1281 limonene oxidation by OH (upper panel) and O₃ (lower panel) at 293.15 K.

1282

1283 Summary of experimental data used for comparison

1284 Kristensen et al., (2017) investigated α-pinene ozonolysis SOA mass yields at temperatures of 258 and 293 K.
 1285 Additionally SOA mass yields from OH oxidation of α-pinene were also investigated. Yields for α-pinene at
 1286 higher temperatures of 313 K were investigated by Pathak et al., (2007), wherein they performed experiments
 1287 using ammonium sulfate seed particles. Shilling et al., (2008) performed experiments for lower concentrations
 1288 of α-pinene ozonolysis combinations and hence used to compare yields for loading's < 10 μg m⁻³. Griffin et
 1289 al., (1999) used smog chambers to investigate the aerosol forming potential of various BVOCs such as β-
 1290 pinene by ozonolysis and β-caryophyllene by OH oxidation. The SOA mass yields derived from the OH oxi-
 1291 dation of isoprene, β-caryophyllene and β-pinene were experimented by Lee et al., (2006b).

1292 The SOA mass yields derived from the ozonolysis of α -pinene and limonene using an OFR were compared
1293 with the experimental yield from Kang and Root, (2007). The experiments also provided estimates on SOA
1294 mass yields underestimation when performed with/without acidic seed particles in the OFR. Yields simulated
1295 from the OH oxidation of α -pinene were compared against yields measured by (Bruns et al., 2015) as they
1296 had used similar initial BVOC and oxidant concentrations. The simulated yields were also compared with ex-
1297 perimental yields from Friedman and Farmer, (2018) due to similar initial oxidant concentrations used.