

Supplementary Information

A Mechanistic Study of Cyclic Siloxane Pyrolyses at Low Pressures

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Table S1 Molecular and transition state parameters for RRKM calculation for dimethylsiloxane decomposition at 983 K.

| | dimethylsiloxane | TS1a | TS8 |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| $\tilde{\nu} / \text{cm}^{-1}$ | 2949(2) | 2949(2) | 3014(1) |
| | 2905(1) | 2905(1) | 2965(1) |
| | 2902(1) | 2902(1) | 2942(1) |
| | 2852(1) | 2852(1) | 2915(1) |
| | 2849(1) | 2849(1) | 2859(1) |
| | 1433(1) | 1433(1) | 1729(1) |
| | 1427(1) | 1427(1) | 1441(1) |
| | 1421(1) | 1421(1) | 1420(1) |
| | 1419(1) | 1419(1) | 1391(1) |
| | 1299(1) | 1299(1) | 1265(1) |
| | 1293(1) | 1293(1) | 1258(1) |
| | 1211(1) | 1211(1) | 1224(1) |
| | 840(1) | 840(1) | 871(1) |
| | 788(1) | 783(1) | 840(1) |
| | 783(1) | 659(1) | 787(1) |
| | 675(1) | 288(1) | 738(1) |
| | 659(1) | 105(1) | 701(1) |
| | 590(1) | 93(1) | 568(1) |
| | 288(1) | 70(1) | 406(1) |
| | 256(1) | 57(1) | 321(1) |
| | 206(1) | 17(1) | 259(1) |
| | 62(1) | 15(1) | 250(1) |
| | 15(1) | | 56(1) |
| reaction coordinate/ cm^{-1} | | 590 | 659 |
| path degeneracy | | 2 | 6 |
| A factor/ s^{-1} | | 8.1×10^{16} | 7.1×10^{12} |
| E_0 (critical energy)/ kJ mol^{-1} | | 347 | 339 |
| $Z_{LJ}/10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ | 8.42 ^a | | |

^a Value calculated using the formulas recommended by Troe^{1s}.

Table S2 RRKM calculated values for k_{1a}^a as a function of temperature and pressure

| <i>T</i> /K | <i>P</i> /Torr | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | 10 ⁻¹ | 10 ⁻² | 10 ⁻³ | 10 ⁻⁴ |
| 950 | 1.55 × 10 ⁻⁴ | 4.51 × 10 ⁻⁵ | 1.06 × 10 ⁻⁵ | 2.05 × 10 ⁻⁶ |
| 983 | 3.75 × 10 ⁻⁴ | 1.57 × 10 ⁻⁴ | 3.54 × 10 ⁻⁵ | 6.70 × 10 ⁻⁶ |
| 1000 | 1.07 × 10 ⁻³ | 2.89 × 10 ⁻⁴ | 6.38 × 10 ⁻⁵ | 1.19 × 10 ⁻⁵ |

^a Units: s⁻¹

Table S3 Values for k_{4a}^a estimated from ref 2s, assumed temperature independent in the range 950 – 1000 K

| <i>P</i> /Torr | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 10 ⁻¹ | 10 ⁻² | 10 ⁻³ | 10 ⁻⁴ |
| 6.3 × 10 ⁻¹³ | 1.3 × 10 ⁻¹³ | 2.0 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ | 2.5 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ |

^a Units: cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹

Table S4 Values for k_2^a estimated from ref 3s^b

| Temp/K | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 950 | 983 | 1000 |
| 1.62 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ | 2.2 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ | 2.5 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ |

^a Units: cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹

^b Assumed the same as for CH₃ + (CH₃)₂CO

References.

- 1s. J. Troe, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1977, **66**, 4758.
- 2s. S. J. Klippenstein and L. B. Harding, *J. Phys. Chem. A*, 1999, **103**, 9388.
- 3s. S. H. Mousavipour and P. D. Pacey, *J. Phys. Chem.*, 1996, **100**, 3573. [Same as ref. 15 in paper].