

# Experimental and theoretical study on the impact of a nitrate group on the chemistry of alkoxy radicals — Supporting information —

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## A. Updating the ozonolysis schemes in the MCM

### 10 A.1 Ethene

The mechanism for the ozonolysis has been a subject of debate, in particular the pathways leading to the OH radical. Up until recently, it was proposed to be formed through the dioxirane channel, which forms a hot acid,  $\text{HCOOH}^*$ , which can decompose to  $\text{OH} + \text{HCO}$ . However, from pyrolysis experiments and theoretical data, it is known that unimolecular decomposition of formic acid preferentially proceeds through the  $\text{H}_2 + \text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}$  channels, with very similar barriers of  $60\text{--}70 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ .<sup>1–6</sup> While the hot acid, through its chemical activation, can have a much larger energy content than achieved in the pyrolysis experiments, formation of free OH radicals ( $\text{OH} + \text{HCO}$ ) or free H-atoms ( $\text{CO}_2 + 2 \text{ H}$ ) require significantly more energy,  $107$  and  $98 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$  respectively,<sup>7</sup> and is thus unlikely to contribute more than a few percent, *i.e.* unlikely to explain the experimentally observed yield of 17% OH. Other decomposition channels include  $\text{H} + \text{HOCO}$  ( $97 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ ) and  $\text{H} + \text{HC(=O)O}$  ( $110 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ ).<sup>7</sup> The direct OH-forming channel from  $\text{CH}_2\text{OO}^*$ , *i.e.* the 1,3-H-shift forming  $\text{HCO} + \text{OH}$ , has a much higher barrier than the dioxirane channel and can not compete effectively, contributing a few % of OH at most. Theoretical work by Stone et al.<sup>8</sup> and Peltola et al.<sup>4</sup> also found a low OH yield from stabilized  $\text{CH}_2\text{OO}$ ; these studies do not include all exit channels that are energetically and/or entropically more favorable than OH formation, and their OH yield is thus likely an upper limit.

The recent theoretical work by Pfeifle et al.<sup>9</sup> shows an alternative mechanism for OH formation, following a non-Criegee pathway for the decomposition of the primary ozonide, forming highly energized  $\text{HC(=O)CH}_2\text{OOH}$  which can be expected to decompose fully to  $\text{HCO} + \text{CH}_2\text{O} + \text{OH}$ , owing to the weak peroxide bond followed by rapid decomposition of the  $\beta$ -oxo-alkoxy radical.<sup>9,10</sup> The theoretically derived yield through the  $\text{HC(=O)CH}_2\text{OOH}$  channel is  $\sim 12 \%$ , close to the observed OH yield.

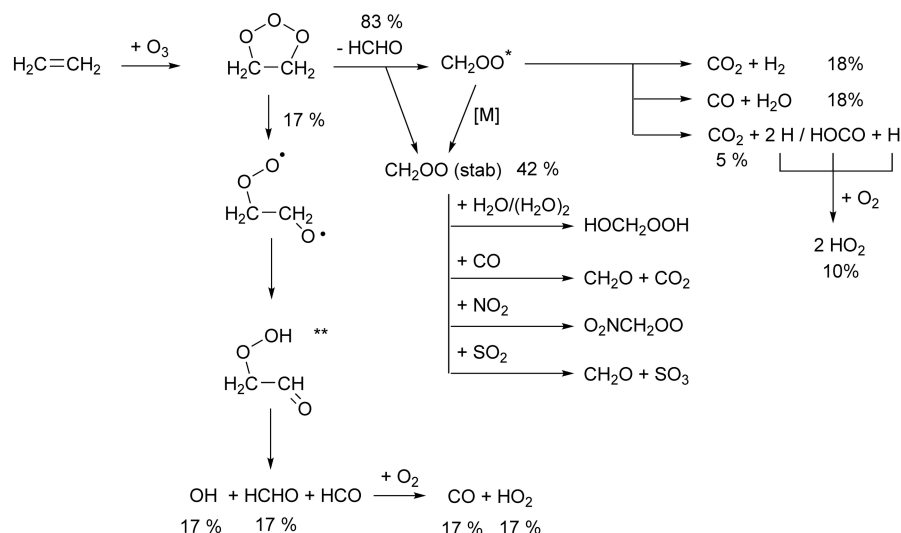
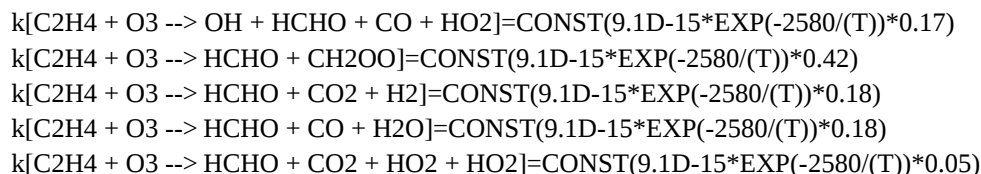


Figure S1: Ozonolysis reaction scheme for ethene

From an energetic point of view, and accounting for the experimental pyrolysis data for formic acid, it is thus probable that the OH formed in the ozonolysis of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$  is (near-)exclusively due to the  $\text{HC(=O)CH}_2\text{OOH}$  channel, with the energized  $\text{CH}_2\text{OO}^*$  CI decomposing mainly to  $\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2$  and  $\text{CO} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$  in near equal amounts, perhaps with a small yield of  $\text{CO}_2 + 2 \text{ H}$  atoms or  $\text{HOCO} + \text{H}$  (the third and fourth most favorable hot acid decomposition channel), and little to no OH. Likewise, we assume that the 1,3-H-shift has a minor impact due to its high energy barrier. Accepting the recommended SCI yield of

42%, the resulting mechanism also recovers the currently recommended yields for CO<sub>2</sub>, (23%), CO (35%), HO<sub>2</sub> (27%) and H<sub>2</sub>O (18%).<sup>11</sup> Following are the ozonolysis reactions as implemented within the model following the nomenclature in use in the MCMv3.3.1, where we assume that free H-atoms, HOCO, and HCO all react with O<sub>2</sub> forming HO<sub>2</sub>.



At this time, it is unclear how important the carbonyl-hydroperoxide channel by Pfeifle et al.<sup>9</sup> is for other alkenes. As it requires the H-migration of one of the vinylic hydrogens, it will be absent in tetra-substituted alkenes such as 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene. For partially substituted alkenes it would decrease in importance as a function of the decreasing number of H-atoms on the double-bonded carbons, but the energetic and entropic features of these reactions are not known. Given that substituted alkenes tend to have a much larger OH yield, with most of the OH formed through the vinylhydroperoxide channel in *syn*-substituted CI, we will at this time not consider this reaction in the ozonolysis of substituted alkenes.

The stabilized H<sub>2</sub>COO SCI has a fairly slow unimolecular reaction with  $k(298 \text{ K}) < 0.5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,<sup>8,12</sup> and will be scavenged by CO, NO<sub>2</sub> or other co-reactants in our experiments (see below), with a total pseudo-first order rate coefficient exceeding  $5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

## A.2 Propene

Based on the available experimental data we adopt as a 62:38 ratio for the branching ratio of the decomposition of the primary ozonide to CH<sub>3</sub>CHOO + HCHO and CH<sub>2</sub>OO + CH<sub>3</sub>CHO.<sup>11,13,14</sup> The results by Newland et al.<sup>14</sup> show a total SCI yield of 0.34, within the range from 0.25 to 0.44 set by earlier data.<sup>13,15</sup> Of the CH<sub>2</sub>OO formed, 60 % is stabilized as measured by Newland et al.,<sup>14</sup> leading to an overall yield of stabilized CH<sub>2</sub>OO of 23%. The remainder of the SCI, 11%, is stabilized CH<sub>3</sub>CHOO. The reactions of these SCI are as for ethene and *cis*-2-butene, i.e. CH<sub>2</sub>OO is scavenged while CH<sub>3</sub>CHOO decays unimolecularly. *Syn*-CH<sub>3</sub>CHOO is assumed to be the only source of OH, which was measured with a yield of 34%.<sup>11,16</sup> All *syn*-CH<sub>3</sub>CHOO, activated or stabilized, is expected to convert to OH + O=CHCH<sub>2</sub>, so we then speciate CH<sub>3</sub>CHOO as 55% *syn*, 45% *anti*. The fate of *anti*-CH<sub>3</sub>CHOO is assumed to be identical to that in *cis*-2-butene, i.e. forming a 2:1:1 ratio of CH<sub>4</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>OH, and HO<sub>2</sub>, with a small 2 % yield of stabilized acetic acid.

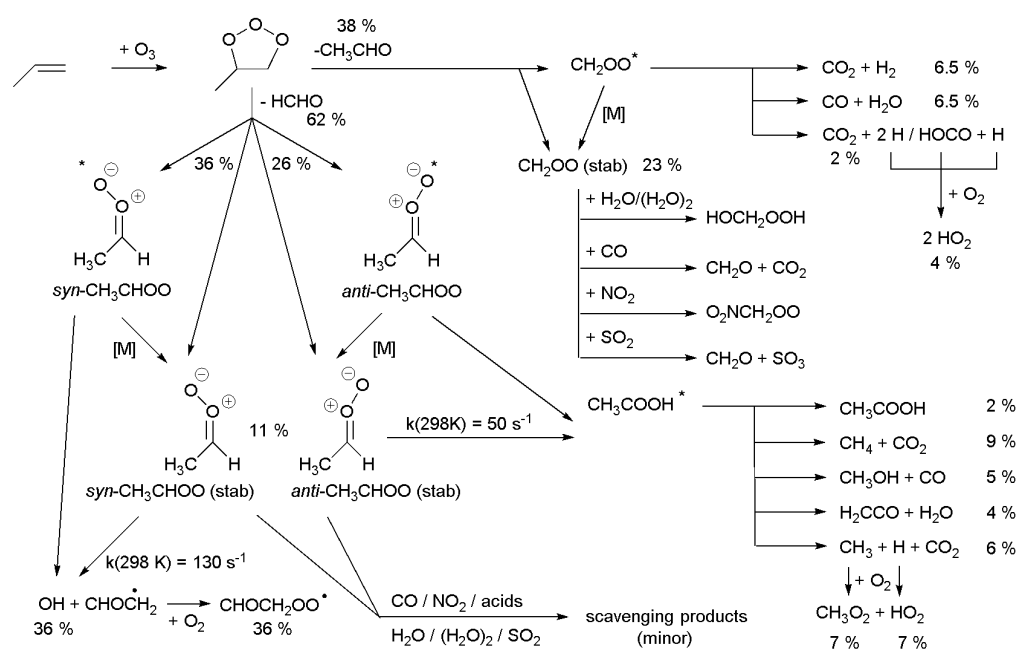
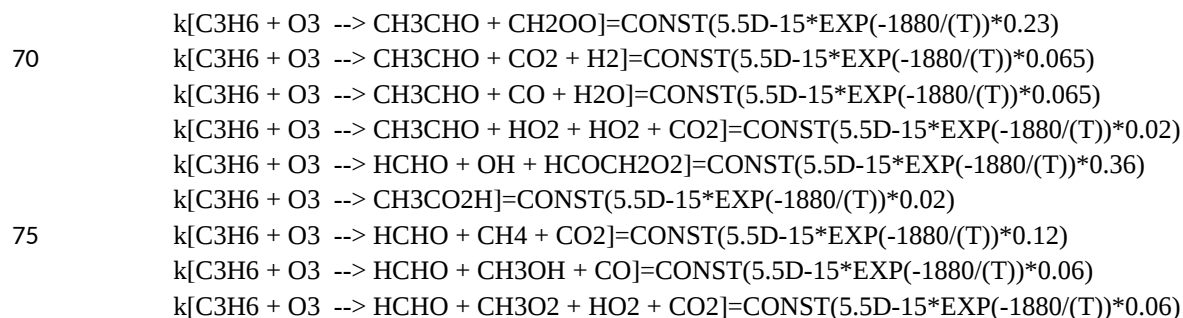


Figure S2: Ozonolysis reaction scheme for propene

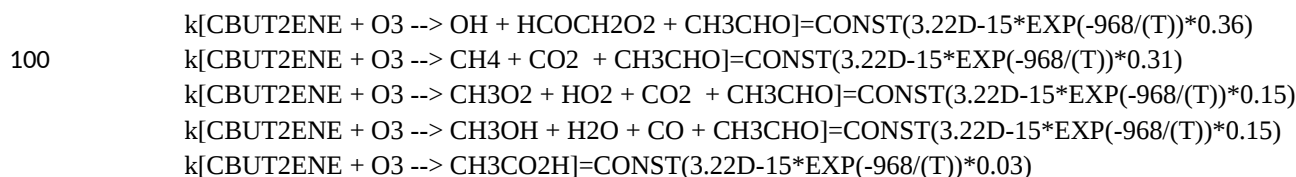
Following are the ozonolysis reactions as implemented within the model following the nomenclature in use in the MCMv3.3.1:

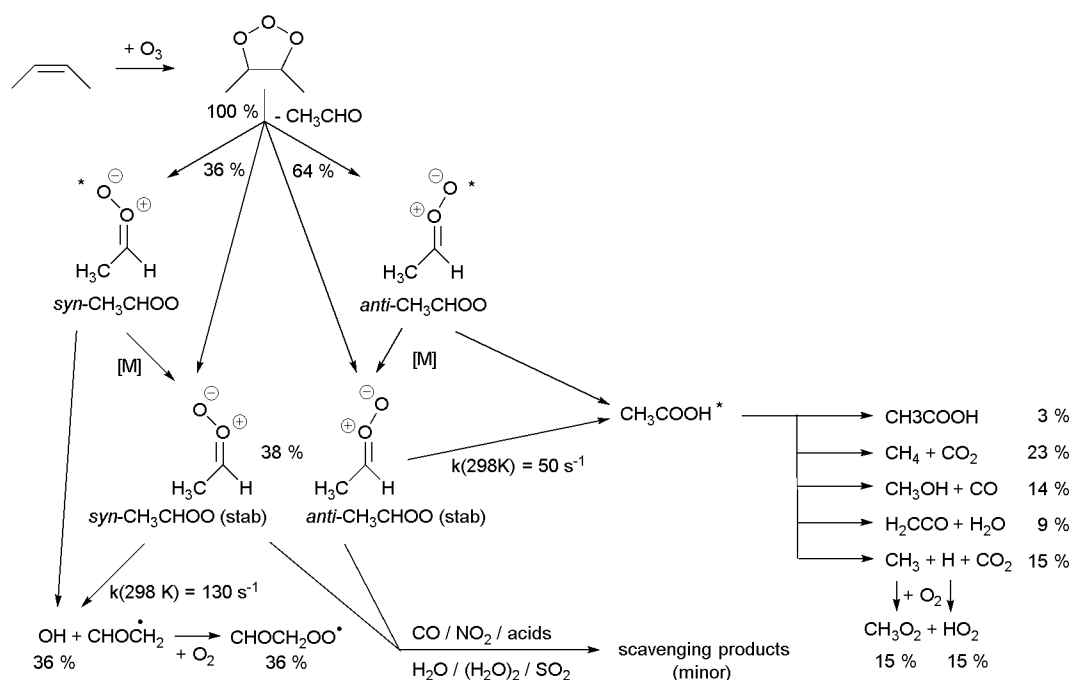


### A.3 Cis-2-butene

80 The ozonolysis of cis-2-butene always yields acetaldehyde +  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHOO}$ . The branching ratio between the *syn*- $\text{CH}_3\text{CHOO}$  and *anti*- $\text{CH}_3\text{CHOO}$  products we adopt is based on the assumption that most of the OH formed comes from the dominant vinylhydroperoxide decomposition path for *syn*- $\text{CH}_3\text{CHOO}$ , both as chemically activated CI or as SCI; the thermal rate coefficient at 298 K is about  $130 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .<sup>12,17-20</sup> The literature OH yield of 37 %<sup>11,16,21</sup> then requires 63 % *anti*- $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ , a ratio in agreement with the results by Rathman et al.<sup>22</sup> We assume that *anti*- $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ , decaying unimolecularly through the dioxirane channel, yields  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ , and  $\text{HO}_2$  in a 2:1:1 ratio, close to the recommended ratios,<sup>11</sup> with a small yield  
85 of 3 % stabilized acetic acid as measured by Orzechowska and Paulson.<sup>23</sup> As the base MCM v3.3.1 model does not include the chemistry of ketene,  $\text{H}_2\text{C}=\text{C}=\text{O}$ , this product is omitted, despite that ketene formation is known to be a main channel in pyrolysis of alkylcarboxylic acids.<sup>24-27</sup> Note that the experimental product data does not yield a closed carbon balance. The thermal unimolecular rate for *anti*- $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  was calculated at  $50 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,<sup>12</sup> indicating that scavenging of this SCI is unlikely, which agrees with the minor impact of high water concentrations on the yield of acetic acid formed from this CI.<sup>23</sup>  
90 Berndt et al.<sup>28</sup> measured a stabilization fraction of  $0.53 \pm 0.24$  % for *trans*-2-butene; for *cis*-2-butene it should be in the same order of magnitude despite the slightly higher ozonolysis reaction exoergicity. Campos-Pineda and Zhang<sup>29</sup> infer from their lower-pressure SCI yield for *cis*-2-butene that the SCI yield might be above 0.20. The IUPAC recommended value is 38%<sup>11</sup>. In our reaction system, with low water content and low co-reactant concentrations, any stabilized CI are expected to decay mostly by unimolecular reaction. The total loss by the most relevant co-reactants,  $\text{NO}_2$  and  $\text{CO}$ , remains below  $10 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .  
95 As such, we are not sensitive to the stabilization yield and the speciation of the SCI.

Following are the ozonolysis reactions as implemented within the model following the nomenclature in use in the MCMv3.3.1





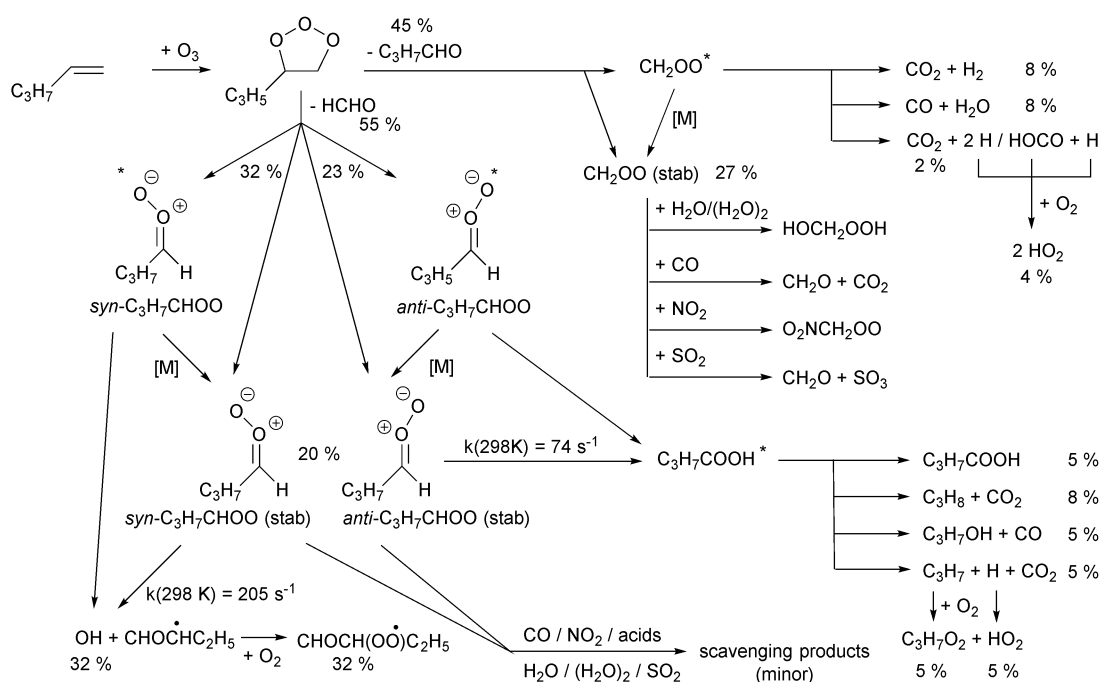
105 **Figure S3: Ozonolysis reaction scheme for *cis*-2-butene**

#### A.4 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene

110 The ozonolysis of 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene can yield only one CI,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{COO}$ , which has been measured and calculated to decompose quickly through the vinylhydroperoxide channel, thus yielding  $\sim 100\%$  OH.<sup>12,30–32</sup> Measurements of other products, such as acids,<sup>23</sup> indicates that these are secondary products formed in the subsequent chemistry. The chemistry in models M0 and M1 is not changed from the MCM model v3.3.1.

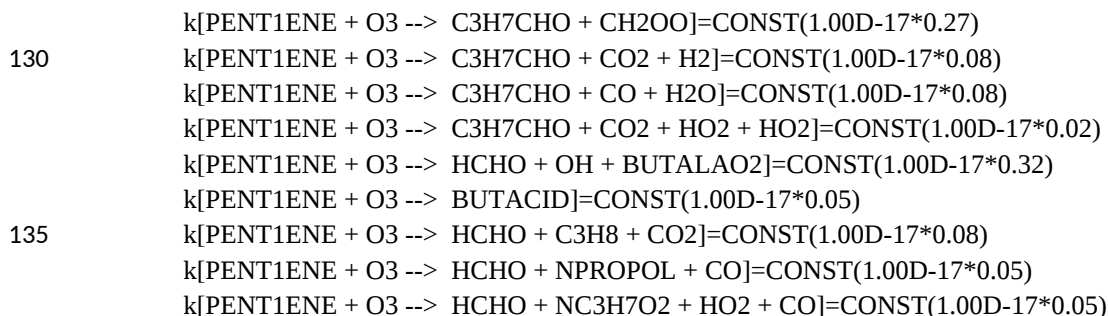
#### A.5 1-pentene

115 For 1-pentene, we assume the contribution of the HCHO-forming channel (55%), and the total yield of SCI (47%), is intermediate between that of 2-propene and 2-heptene<sup>14</sup> with the stabilization of the  $\text{CH}_2\text{OO}$  CI (60%) likewise similar to those two cases. The OH yield, 32%, is assumed to be similar to that of propene and 1-butene.<sup>11</sup> For excited  $\text{CH}_2\text{OO}$ , we assume the same chemistry as for ethene, whereas the stabilized  $\text{CH}_2\text{OO}$  is scavenged in our experiments. As their  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHOO}$ -equivalents, *syn*- $\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{CHOO}$  is expected to decompose for 100% to OH + butanal-peroxy through the VHP channel, whereas for *anti*- $\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{CHOO}$ , reacting through the dioxirane channel to a hot acid, is assigned products in similar ratios as for propene and 2-butene, i.e. a 2:1:1 ratio of  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8 + \text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{OH} + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CO}$ , and  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_7 + \text{H} + \text{CO}_2$ , though we assign a yield of 5 % stabilized butanoic acid, intermediate the measured acid yields of propene (3%) and 1-hexene (8%).<sup>23,33</sup>



125 **Figure S4: Ozonolysis reaction scheme for 1-pentene**

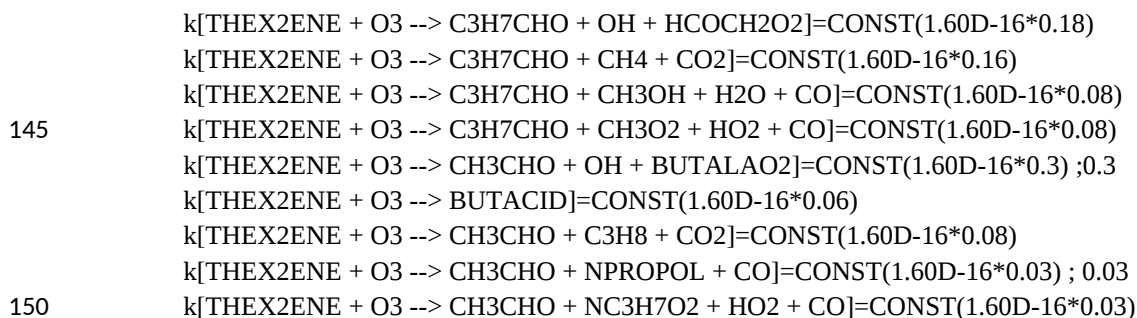
Following are the ozonolysis reactions as implemented within the model following the nomenclature in use in the MCMv3.3.1:



## A.6 2-hexene

For 2-hexene, we adopt the following scheme, by analogy of the previous schemes.

140 Following are the ozonolysis reactions as implemented within the model following the nomenclature in use in the MCMv3.3.1:



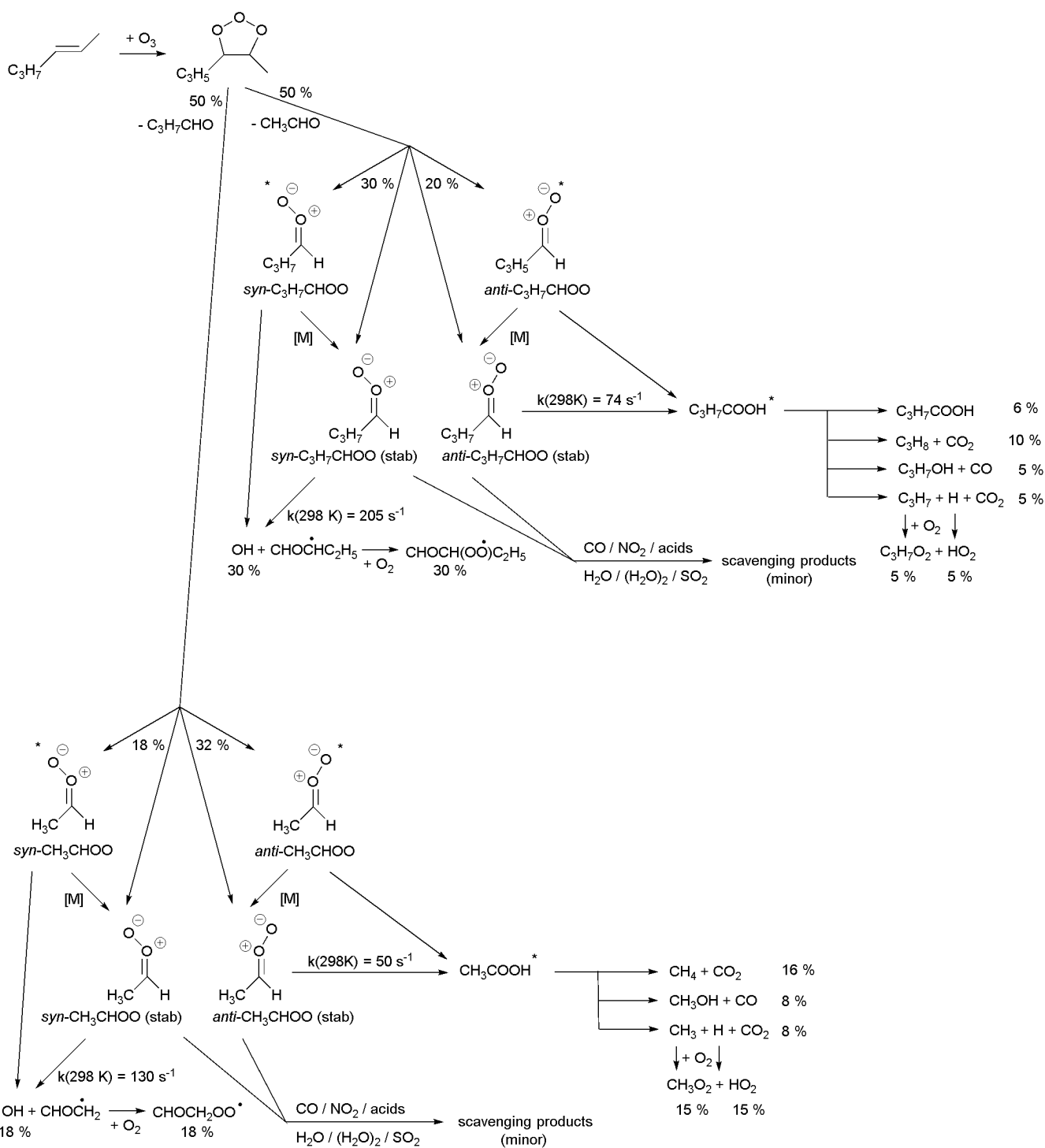


Figure S5: Ozonolysis reaction scheme for trans-2-hexene

## A.7 SCI bimolecular reactions

In our reaction conditions, only two CI scavenging reactions are of potential importance:



160 We adopt the following rate coefficients ( $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) for bimolecular reaction of CI:

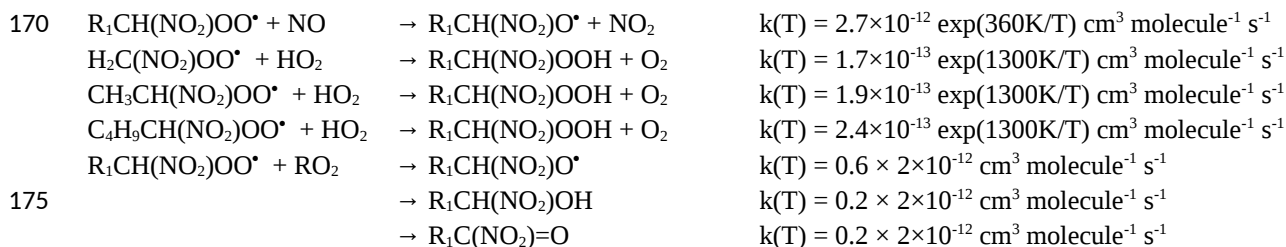
| SCI                                 | CO                  | NO <sub>2</sub>       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| CH <sub>2</sub> OO                  | $1 \times 10^{-15}$ | $3 \times 10^{-12}$   |
| <i>syn</i> -CH <sub>3</sub> CHOO    | $1 \times 10^{-15}$ | $2 \times 10^{-12}$   |
| <i>anti</i> -CH <sub>3</sub> CHOO   | $1 \times 10^{-15}$ | $2 \times 10^{-12}$   |
| (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> COO | $1 \times 10^{-15}$ | $2.1 \times 10^{-12}$ |
| <i>syn</i> -RCH <sub>2</sub> CHOO   | $1 \times 10^{-15}$ | $2 \times 10^{-12}$   |
| <i>anti</i> -RCH <sub>2</sub> CHOO  | $1 \times 10^{-15}$ | $2 \times 10^{-12}$   |

With the rate coefficients listed above, the pseudo-first order rate coefficients are  $\sim 3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  for the reaction with NO<sub>2</sub>, and  $\sim 5 \text{ s}^{-1}$  with CO. The scavenging reactions can then be neglected compared to the unimolecular reactions of the SCI,  $\geq 50 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , except for CH<sub>2</sub>OO which decomposes unimolecularly with a rate  $< 1 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .<sup>12</sup> Other scavenging agents, including NO<sub>3</sub>, are even less effective due to their lower concentrations, and are not considered explicitly.

165

## A.8 Updating SCI-derived alkylperoxy radical chemistry in the MCM

For the peroxy radicals formed in the reaction of SCI + NO<sub>2</sub>, we adopt the following rate coefficients, estimated using the recent work by Jenkin et al.<sup>39</sup> With R<sub>1</sub> = H, CH<sub>3</sub>, *n*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>:



The pseudo-first order rate coefficient for the reaction of peroxy radicals with NO<sub>3</sub> is  $\leq 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and can be neglected in our experimental conditions:



180

As only the CH<sub>2</sub>OO SCI is non-negligibly scavenged by NO<sub>2</sub>, we implemented only the CH<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>2</sub>)OO<sup>•</sup> chemistry in our model.

## A.9 Updating SCI-derived alkoxy radical chemistry in the MCM

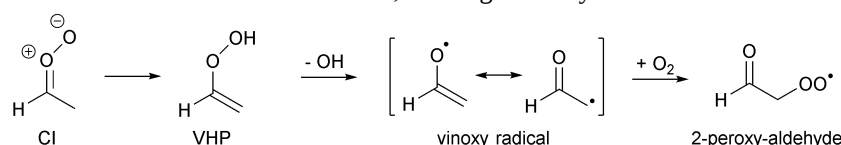
The alkoxy radicals formed from the RO<sub>2</sub> radicals created in the scavenging of CI by NO<sub>2</sub> decompose rapidly to the carbonyl compound, regenerating NO<sub>2</sub>.<sup>34</sup> With R<sub>1</sub> = H, CH<sub>3</sub>, *n*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>:



As only the CH<sub>2</sub>OO SCI is non-negligibly scavenged by NO<sub>2</sub>, we implemented only the CH<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>2</sub>)O<sup>•</sup> decomposition.

## A.10 Degradation scheme for ethanal-2-peroxy (HCOCH<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) and butanal-2-peroxy (BUTALAO<sub>2</sub>)

190 The formation of OH radicals in the ozonolysis of alkenes typically occurs through the so-called vinyl-hydroperoxide (VHP) channel.<sup>40,41</sup> The Criegee intermediate (CI), be it thermalized or chemically excited, undergoes a 1,4-H-migration, forming a VHP that eliminates an OH radical, forming a vinoxy radical.



195 In atmospheric conditions, this vinoxy radical typically adds an O<sub>2</sub> molecule, forming a 2-peroxy-aldehyde or 2-peroxy-ketone, depending on the substitution on the alkene double bond. Despite the importance of this channel, the fate of these peroxyradicals has not been well-studied yet, and their complex atmospheric oxidation is often not correctly implemented in kinetic models. For aldehyde-2-peroxy radicals, 1,4-H-migration is likely to be an important loss process, as these reactions have been characterized as being among the fastest H-migrations of peroxy radicals, with a recent SAR by Vereecken and Nozière<sup>42</sup> predicting rate coefficients for this class exceeding 1 s<sup>-1</sup>. The resulting 2-hydroperoxy-acyl radical can eliminate a

200 CO molecule, forming an aldehyde and an OH radical as co-products, or can recombine with O<sub>2</sub> molecules forming a 2-OOH-acylperoxy radical. These radicals can also undergo very fast H-migrations, with rates exceeding 10<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>,<sup>42,43</sup> forming 2-percarboxyl-peroxy radicals. In the high-NO conditions of the converter, these RO<sub>2</sub> radicals ultimately generate HO<sub>2</sub> radicals, after a series of oxidative steps.

205 For the alkenes studied in this work, the ozonolysis VHP channels produce ethanal-2-peroxy (•OOCH<sub>2</sub>CH=O) and butanal-2-peroxy (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CH(OO•)CH=O) radicals. To characterize their atmospheric chemistry, and their behavior in the atmospheric chamber and the LIF converter, we have performed a set of quantum chemical calculations at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//M06-2X-D3/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory, combined with MC-TST kinetic rate predictions. The resulting kinetic data is tabulated below (see Table S1), and reaction schemes are shown below. For reactions where we do not provide direct

210 theoretical kinetic data, literature structure activity relationships and explicit theoretical calculations for similar alkyl (R), alkoxy (RO) and alkylperoxy (RO<sub>2</sub>) radical were used to obtain rate coefficients.<sup>10,39,42-45</sup> In the schemes below, dotted arrows indicate conversion of an RO<sub>2</sub> to an RO conversion through reaction with NO, NO<sub>3</sub>, HO<sub>2</sub>, or R'O<sub>2</sub>; these reactions are not shown explicitly in the reaction schemes except to highlight a specific rate coefficient or competition. In the converter, there is a high NO concentration, and conversion of RO<sub>2</sub> to RO radicals is fast. Also indicated is PAN formation

215 for acylperoxy radicals. Our calculations find no impact of the -OOH substituent on the stability of the PAN, with a stabilization energy of 27.6 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>, identical to that found for peroxyacetylnitrate, 27.7 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. There is thus no indications that PAN formation would be more favorable for these oxygenated acylperoxy radicals.

Table S1: Theoretical rate predictions at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//M06-2X-D3/aug-cc-pVTZ with MC-TST level of theory. Indicated are the ZPE-corrected barrier height ( $E_b$ , kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>), the 298 K rate coefficient ( $k(298\text{ K})$ , s<sup>-1</sup>), and the parameters for a Kooij expression  $k(T) = A \times (T/K)^n \times \exp(-E_a/T)$  ( $A$  in s<sup>-1</sup>,  $E_a$  in K).

| Reaction                                                                                                                                                            | Mechanism                   | $E_b$ | $k(298\text{ K})$     | A        | n     | $E_a$ |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------------|----------|-------|-------|
| $\cdot\text{OOCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HOOCH}_2\text{C}=\text{O}$                                                                                  | 1,4-H-migration             | 21.7  | $3.9 \times 10^{-2}$  | 2.07E-70 | 26.14 | -2471 |
| $\text{HOOCH}_2\text{C}=\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CO} + \text{HCHO} + \text{OH}$                                                                                   | Fragmentation               | 10.7  | $2.9 \times 10^5$     | 2.27E+12 | 0.47  | 5529  |
| $\text{HOOCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OO}\cdot \rightarrow \cdot\text{OOCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OOH}$                                                       | 1,6-H-migration             | 19.6  | $8.1 \times 10^2$     | 2.94E-35 | 13.82 | -2222 |
| $\cdot\text{OOCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OOH} \rightarrow \text{HOOCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OO}\cdot$                                                       | 1,6-H-migration             | 25.4  | $8.5 \times 10^{-3}$  | 2.98E-41 | 15.62 | 135   |
| $\cdot\text{OCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OOH} \rightarrow \text{HCHO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{OH}$                                                                  | Fragmentation               | 15.9  | $5.5 \times 10^0$     | 1.34E-03 | 5.55  | 6947  |
| $\cdot\text{OCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OOH} \rightarrow \text{HOCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OO}\cdot$                                                         | 1,5-H-migration             | 13.0  | $6.9 \times 10^3$     | 6.09E-42 | 17.30 | -1546 |
| $\text{HOCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OO}\cdot \rightarrow \cdot\text{OCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OOH}$                                                         | 1,5-H-migration             | 25.0  | $1.4 \times 10^{-5}$  | 1.31E-38 | 16.18 | 4812  |
| $\text{HOCH}_2\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OO}\cdot \rightarrow \text{HCHO} + \text{CO} + \text{HO}_2$                                                                  | HO <sub>2</sub> elimination | 39.3  | $1.8 \times 10^{-16}$ | 6.68E+08 | 1.44  | 19299 |
| $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{OO}\cdot)\text{CH}=\text{O} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{OOH})\text{C}=\text{O}$                            | 1,4-H-migration             | 21.0  | $2.5 \times 10^{-1}$  | 8.06E-66 | 24.86 | -2052 |
| $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{OO}\cdot)\text{CH}=\text{O} \rightarrow \text{C}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{OOH})\text{CH}=\text{O}$             | 1,5-H-migration             | 23.6  | $4.3 \times 10^{-5}$  | 2.92E-21 | 10.17 | 6162  |
| $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{OOH})\text{C}=\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CO} + \text{HCHO} + \text{OH}$                                                        | Fragmentation               | 9.3   | $3.3 \times 10^6$     | 3.97E+11 | 0.74  | 4737  |
| $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{OOH})\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OO}\cdot \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{OO}\cdot)\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OOH}$ | 1,6-H-migration             | 18.4  | $3.7 \times 10^2$     | 8.91E-38 | 14.57 | -2456 |
| $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{OO}\cdot)\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OOH} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{CH}(\text{OOH})\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{OO}\cdot$ | 1,6-H-migration             | 25.9  | $3.8 \times 10^{-4}$  | 7.16E-44 | 16.53 | 808   |

225

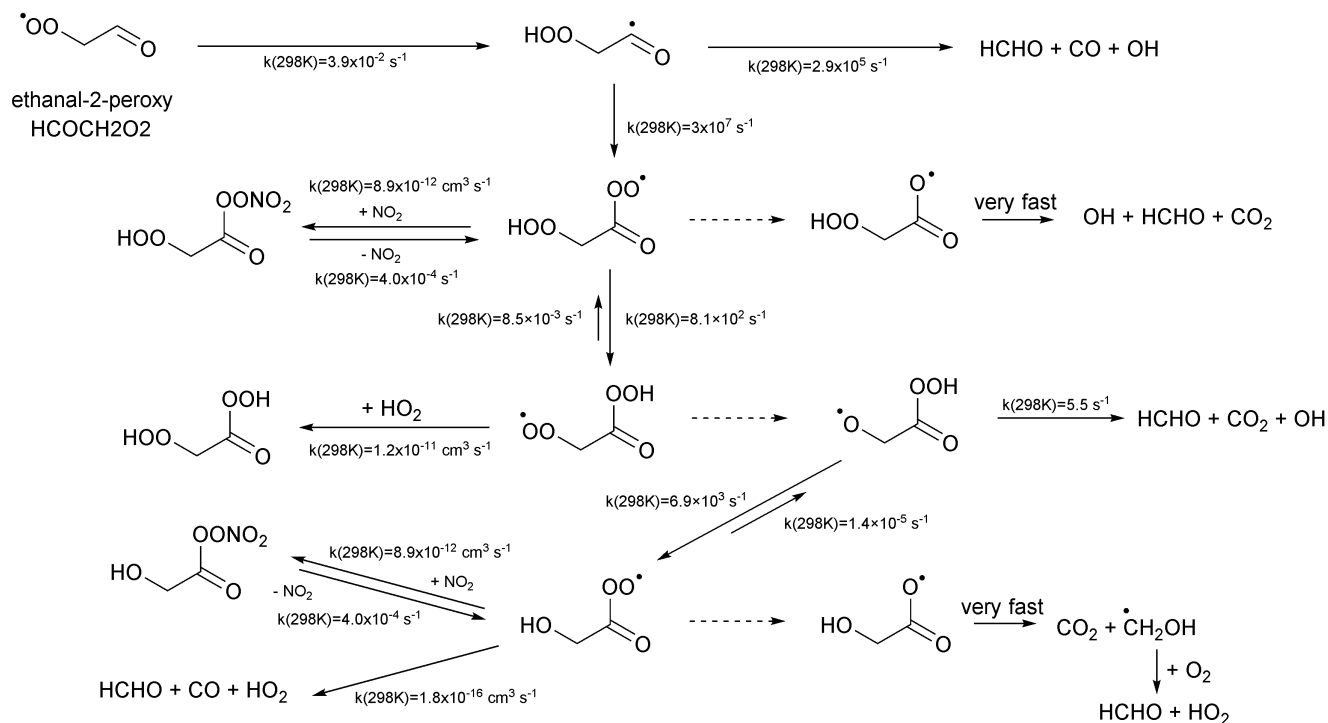


Figure S6: Reaction scheme for ethanal-2-peroxy radicals

Following are the reactions as implemented within the model following the nomenclature in use in the MCMv3.3.1:

```

; Minor pathways have been removed
230 ; Variables for SAR by Jenkin et al., ACP, 2019
AlkNitrate5 = CONST(((2E-22*exp(5)*M)/(1+((2E-22*exp(5)*M)/(0.43*(T/300.)@(-8)))))*0.41@((1+
(log10((2E-22*exp(5)*M)/(0.43*(T/300.)@(-8))))@(-1)))
SARRO2H02_5NOC = CONST(2.8E-13*exp(1300./T)*(1-exp(-0.23*5)))
; Chemistry complementing the chemistry in MCM v3.3.1
235 k[HCOCH2O2 --> COCH2OOH]=CONST(2.07E-70*T@(26.14)*EXP(2471./T))
k[COCH2OOH --> HCHO+CO+OH]=CONST(2.27E+12*T@(0.47)*EXP(-5529./T))
k[COCH2OOH + O2 --> HOOCH2CO3]=CONST(7.50D-12)
; acylperoxy radical chemistry
k[HOOCH2CO3 --> CO3HCH2O2]=CONST(2.94E-35*T@(13.82)*EXP(2222./T))
240 k[HOOCH2CO3+H02 --> H02CH2CO3H]=CONST(KAPH02*0.41)
k[HOOCH2CO3+H02 --> OH+HOOCH2CO2]=CONST(KAPH02*0.44)
k[HOOCH2CO3+H02 --> O3+HOOCH2CO2H]=CONST(KAPH02*0.15)
k[HOOCH2CO3+N03 --> OCOCH2OOH + N02]=CONST(KR02N03*1.74)
k[HOOCH2CO3+R02 --> HOOCH2CO2]=CONST(1.0D-11*0.7)
245 k[HOOCH2CO3+R02 --> H00COCH2OOH]=CONST(1.0D-11*0.3)
k[HOOCH2CO3+N0 --> H00CH2CO2 + N02]=CONST(KAPN0)
k[HOOCH2CO3+N02 --> H00CH2CO3N02]=CONST(KFPAN)
k[HOOCH2CO3N02 --> N02 + H00CH2CO3]=CONST(KBPAN)
k[HOOCH2CO2 --> CO2 + HCHO + OH]=CONST(KDEC)
250 ; peracid-R02 radical chemistry
k[CO3HCH2O2 --> H00CH2CO3]=CONST(2.98E-41*T@(15.62)*EXP(-135./T))
k[CO3HCH2O2+H02 --> H02CH2CO3H]=CONST(SARRO2H02_5NOC)
k[CO3HCH2O2+N03 --> CO3HCH2O + N02]=CONST(1.6E-11*EXP(-480./T))
255 k[CO3HCH2O2+R02 --> CO3HCH2O]=CONST(1.0E-13*EXP(983./T)*0.6)
k[CO3HCH2O2+R02 --> HCOC03H]=CONST(1.0E-13*EXP(983./T)*0.2)
k[CO3HCH2O2+R02 --> HOCH2CO3H]=CONST(1.0E-13*EXP(983./T)*0.2)
k[CO3HCH2O2+N0 --> CO3HCH2O + N02]=CONST(KR02N0*(1-AlkNitrate5*0.3*0.65))
k[CO3HCH2O2+N0 --> CO3HCH2N03]=CONST(KR02N0*AlkNitrate5*0.3*0.65)
; peracid-R0 radical chemistry. Hydroxyacylperoxy product HOCH2CO3 is
260 ; already in MCM v3.3.1
k[CO3HCH2O --> HO + CO2 + HCHO]=CONST(1.34E-03*T@(5.55)*EXP(-6947./T))
k[CO3HCH2O+O2 --> HCOC03H + H02]=CONST(KROPRIM)
k[CO3HCH2O --> HOCH2CO3]=CONST(1.31E-38*T@(16.18)*EXP(4812./T))

```

265

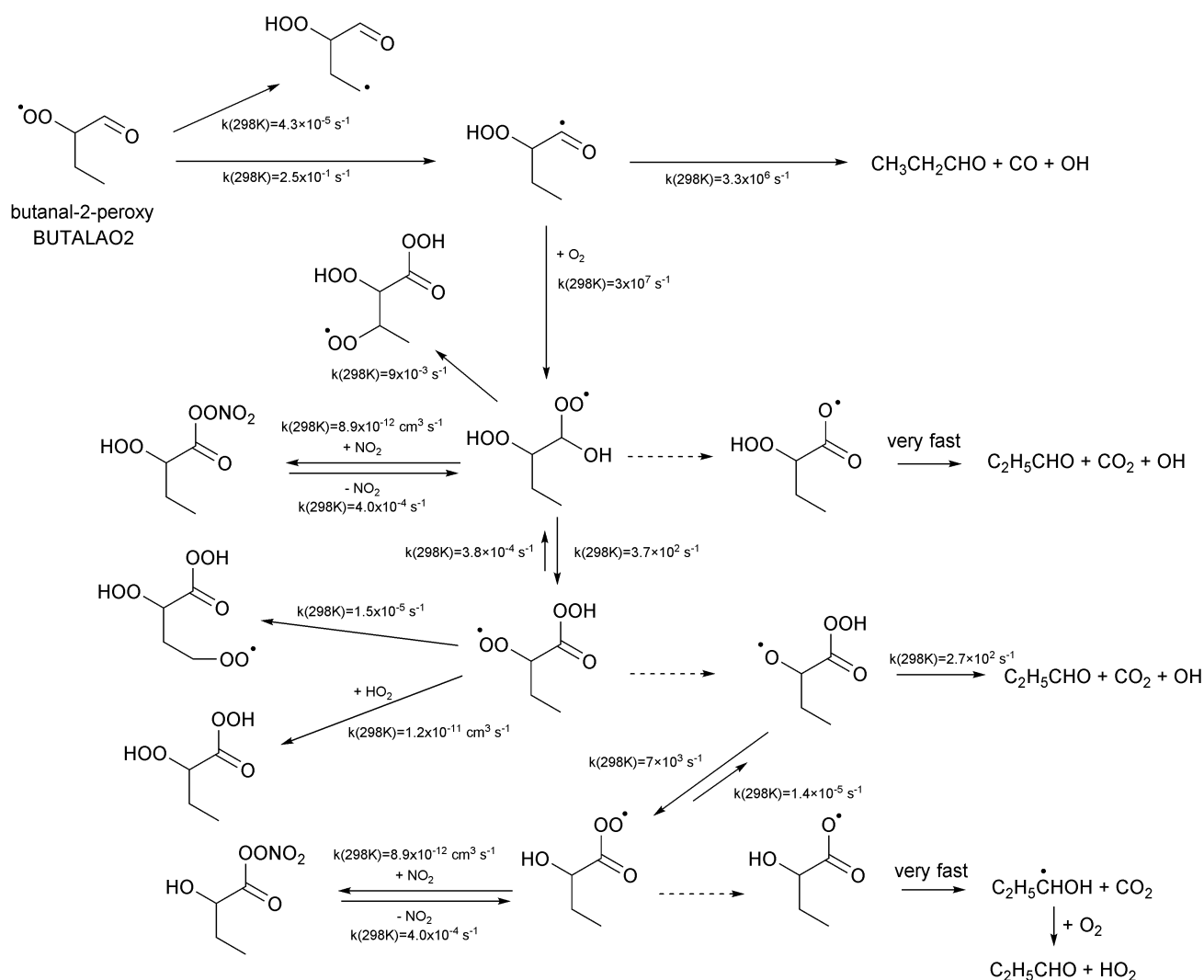


Figure S7: Reaction scheme for butanal-2-peroxy radicals

Following are the reactions as implemented within the model following the nomenclature in use in the MCMv3.3.1:

```

; Minor pathways have been removed
; Variables for SAR by Jenkin et al., ACP, 2019
AlkNitrate7=CONST(((2E-22*exp(7)*M)/(1+((2E-22*exp(7)*M)/(0.43*(T/300.))@(-8)))))*0.41@((1+
270 log10((2E-22*exp(7)*M)/(0.43*(T/300.))@(-8))))@(-1)))
SARRO2HO2_7NOC=CONST(2.8E-13*exp(1300./T)*(1-exp(-0.23*7)))
; Chemistry complementing the chemistry in MCM v3.3.1
275 k[BUTALAO2 --> COCH00HC2H5]=CONST(8.06E-66*T@(24.86)*EXP(2052/T))
k[COCH00HC2H5 --> C2H5CHO+CO+OH]=CONST(3.97E+11*T@(0.74)*EXP(-4737/T))
k[COCH00HC2H5 + O2 --> C2H5CH00HC03]=CONST(7.50D-12)
; acylperoxy radical chemistry
k[C2H5CH00HC03 --> C2H5CH02C03H]=CONST(8.91E-38*T@(14.57)*EXP(2456./T))
280 k[C2H5CH00HC03+HO2 --> C2H5CH00HC03H]=CONST(KAPH02*0.41)
k[C2H5CH00HC03+HO2 --> OH+C2H5CH00HC02]=CONST(KAPH02*0.44)
k[C2H5CH00HC03+HO2 --> O3+C2H5CH00HC02H]=CONST(KAPH02*0.15)
k[C2H5CH00HC03+NO3 --> C2H5CH00HC02 + NO2]=CONST(KR02NO3*1.74)
k[C2H5CH00HC03+R02 --> C2H5CH00HC02]=CONST(1.0D-11*0.7)
285 k[C2H5CH00HC03+R02 --> HOOCOCH00H]=CONST(1.0D-11*0.3)
k[C2H5CH00HC03+NO --> C2H5CH00HC02 + NO2]=CONST(KAPNO)
k[C2H5CH00HC03+NO2 --> C2H5CH00HC03NO2]=CONST(KFPAN)
k[C2H5CH00HC03NO2 --> NO2 + C2H5CH00HC03]=CONST(KBPAN)
k[C2H5CH00HC02 --> CO2 + C2H5CHO + OH]=CONST(KDEC)

```

```

290 ; peracid-R02 radical chemistry
k[C2H5CH02C03H --> C2H5CH00HC03]=CONST(7.16E-44*T@(16.53)*EXP(-808./T))
k[C2H5CH02C03H+H02 --> C2H5CH00HC03H]=CONST(SARRO2H02_7NOC)
k[C2H5CH02C03H+N03 --> C2H5CH0C03H + N02]=CONST(1.6E-11*EXP(-480./T))
k[C2H5CH02C03H+R02 --> C2H5CH0C03H]=CONST(1.0E-13*EXP(599./T)*0.6)
295 k[C2H5CH02C03H+R02 --> C2H5C0C03H]=CONST(1.0E-13*EXP(599./T)*0.2)
k[C2H5CH02C03H+R02 --> C2H5CH0HC03H]=CONST(1.0E-13*EXP(599./T)*0.2)
k[C2H5CH02C03H+N0 --> C2H5CH0C03H + N02]=CONST(KR02N0*(1-AlkNitrate7*0.3*0.65))
k[C2H5CH02C03H+N0 --> C2H5CHN03C03H]=CONST(KR02N0*AlkNitrate7*0.3*0.65)
; peracid-R0 radical chemistry. Base this on ethanal-2-peroxy, using SAR by
300 ; Vereecken and Peeters (2009) to adjust decomposition rate. The hydroxy acylperoxy
; product H03C3C03 is already in the MCM
k[C2H5CH0C03H --> H0 + C02 + C2H5CH0]=CONST(1.34E-03*T@(5.55)*EXP(-5789./T))
k[C2H5CH0C03H+O2- -> H03C3C03 + H02]=CONST(KR0SEC)
k[C2H5CH0C03H --> C2H5CH0HC03]=CONST(1.31E-38*T@(16.18)*EXP(4812./T))
305

```

## B. Additional calculations for 2-ONO<sub>2</sub>-1-propoxy

Table S2 shows the large variation of barrier heights for decomposition in a simple reaction affected by the inhibiting effect of a β-ONO<sub>2</sub> group, as a function of the level of theory, i.e. the methodology or DFT functional used, as well as the basis set. The dependence of the energy on the methodology has already been documented in the supporting information by Vereecken and Peeters.<sup>10</sup> Despite the difference in energies across the base methodologies, the geometries appear consistent, with less than a kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> on average difference in barrier height when performing higher-level single point CCSD(T) calculations. This indicates that the CCSD(T) energies used in this work are reliable.

Table S2: Barrier height  $E_b$  (kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>) for the decomposition of  $\cdot\text{OCH}_2\text{-CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{ONO}_2$  to  $\text{O=CH}_2 + \text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{O} + \text{NO}_2$  at various levels of quantum chemical theory.

| Geometry              | Base methodology energy | single point energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ | single point energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| B3LYP/6-31G(d,p)      | 12.93                   | 14.33                                   | 12.89                                   |
| B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ     | 9.39                    | 14.68                                   | 13.37                                   |
| MPWKIS1K/6-31+(d,p)   | 19.73                   | 14.12                                   |                                         |
| PMP2/6-31(d,p)        | 15.26                   | 15.94                                   | 13.83                                   |
| M06-2X/aug-cc-pVTZ    | 13.72                   | 15.08                                   | 14.07                                   |
| M06-2X-D3/aug-cc-pVTZ | 13.71                   | 15.08                                   | 14.07                                   |
| CBS-QB3               | 11.78                   |                                         |                                         |

## C. The stability of α-nitrite-substituted alkyl radicals

We performed CCSD(T)//aug-cc-pVTZ//M06-2X-D3/aug-cc-pVTZ calculations on the decomposition of C<sup>•</sup>H<sub>2</sub>ONO radicals, forming CH<sub>2</sub>=O + NO. At the M06-2X-D3 level of theory, this reaction shows a barrier to decomposition of only ~1 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. The single-point energy calculations at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory lowered this barrier even further, to 0.05 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>, indicating that this reaction is spontaneous within the accuracy of the calculations.



As found in earlier work on –OOH, –OOR, and –ONO<sub>2</sub>-substituted alkyl radicals,<sup>46–48</sup> it is anticipated that more substituted α-nitrite alkyl radicals have even lower barriers for elimination of NO, likely leading to the absence of an energy barrier for decomposition of such alkyl radicals. At atmospherically relevant temperatures, the decomposition of all α-nitrite alkyl radicals is expected to be very fast to instantaneous, precluding any other reactions including addition of O<sub>2</sub>.

## D. OH/NO<sub>3</sub>-initiated degradation scheme for 1-pentene

The degradation scheme for the OH- and NO<sub>3</sub>-initiated oxidation of 1-pentene was derived based on structure activity relationships for alkoxy (RO) and alkylperoxy (RO<sub>2</sub>) radical isomerisation and decomposition,<sup>10,42,44,47,48</sup> as well as the explicit calculations report in this work. Most of the viable reaction channels were examined, and the dominant reaction channels (marked in blue) were implemented in the kinetic model. In the schemes, dotted arrows indicate conversion of an RO<sub>2</sub> to an RO conversion through reaction with NO, NO<sub>3</sub>, HO<sub>2</sub>, or R'O<sub>2</sub>; these reactions are not indicated explicitly. The rate coefficients marked in blue are the dominant channels; only those reactions are implemented explicitly in the model.

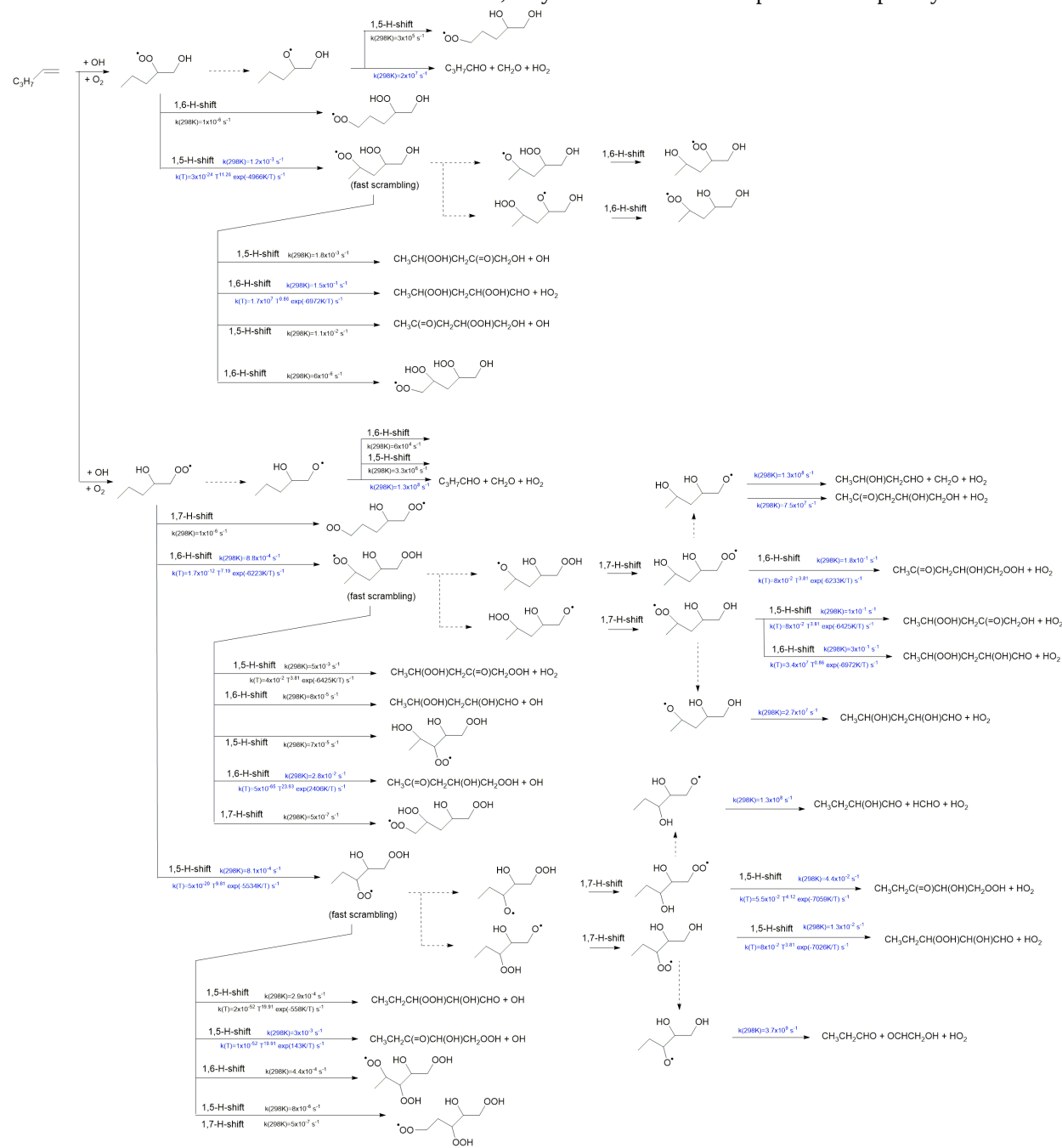


Figure S8: OH-initiated oxidation of 1-pentene



## E. OH/NO<sub>3</sub>-initiated degradation scheme for 2-hexene

345 The degradation scheme for the OH- and NO<sub>3</sub>-initiated oxidation of 2-hexene was derived based on structure activity relationships for alkoxy (RO) and alkylperoxy (RO<sub>2</sub>) radical isomerisation and decomposition<sup>10,42,44,47,48</sup> as well as the explicit calculations report in this work. Most of the viable reaction channels were examined, and the dominant reaction channels were implemented in the kinetic model. In the schemes below, dotted arrows indicate conversion of an RO<sub>2</sub> to an RO conversion through reaction with NO, NO<sub>3</sub>, HO<sub>2</sub>, or R'O<sub>2</sub>; these reactions are not indicated explicitly. The rate coefficients marked in blue are the dominant channels; only those reactions are implemented explicitly in the model.

350

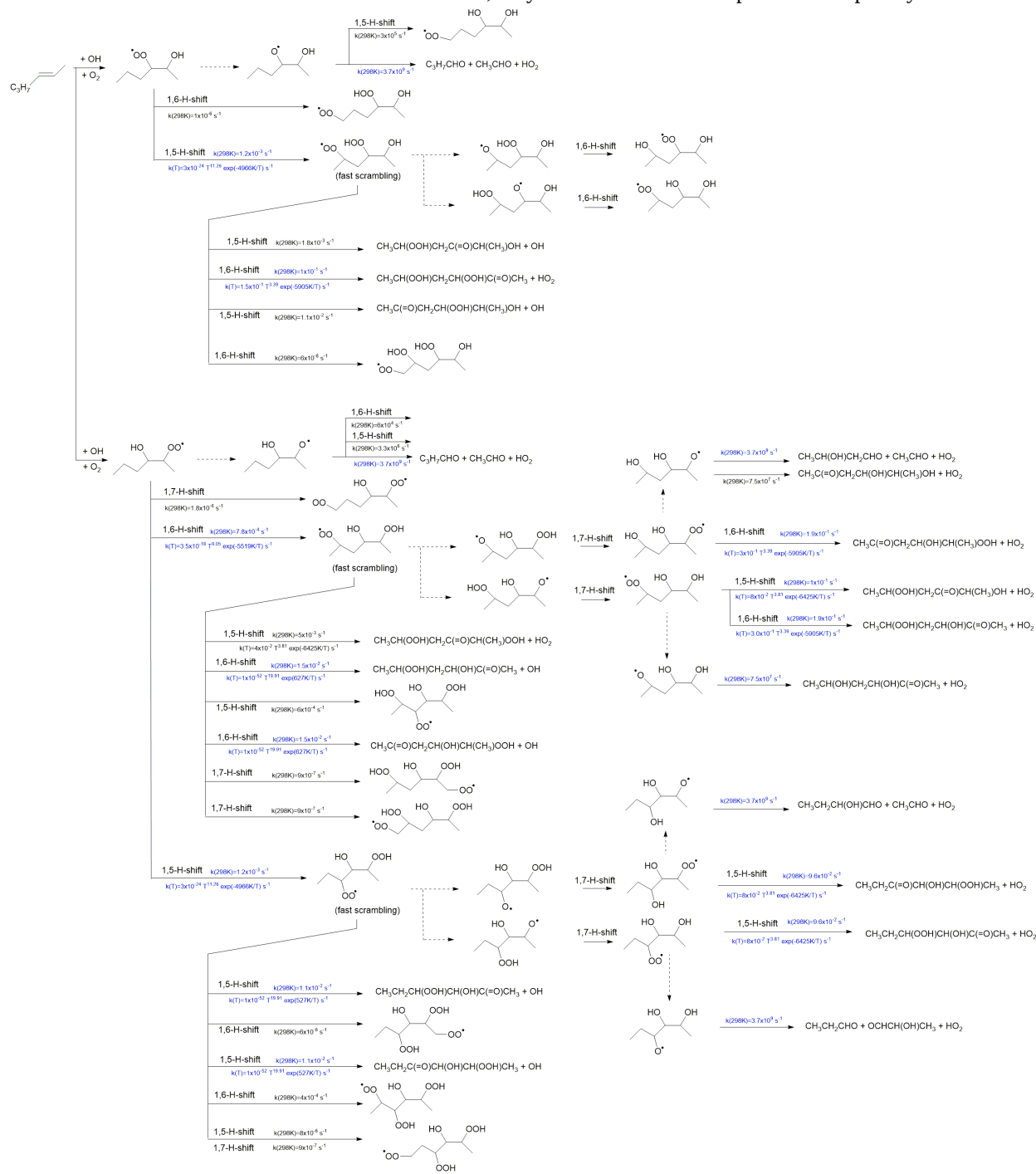


Figure S10: OH-initiated oxidation of trans-2-hexene



355 F. Time-dependent measured and modelled concentrations for all experiments

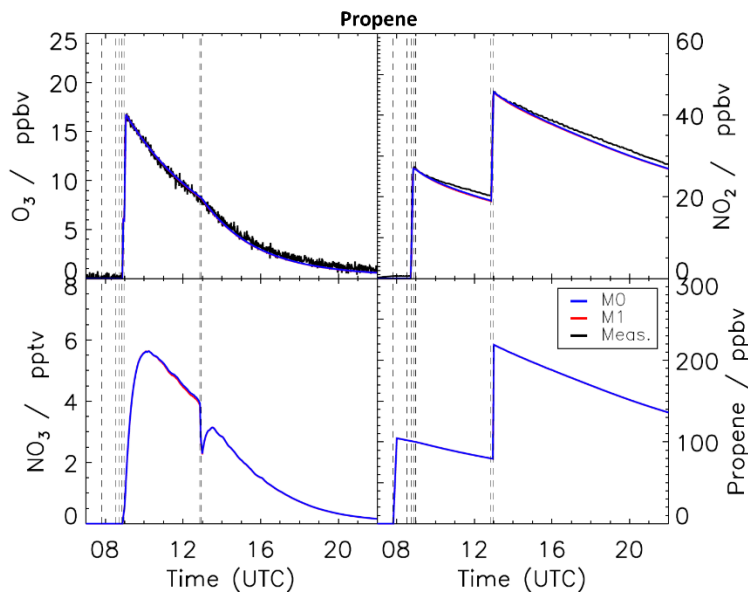


Figure S12: Comparison of modelled and measured trace gases for the propene experiment. For the  $\text{NO}_3$  radical and propene only model results are shown. Vertical dashed lines indicate the times when different species were injected. No difference is observed when using the updated MCMv3.3.1 (M0) or a modified version which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate- $\text{RO}_2$  and  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals (M1).

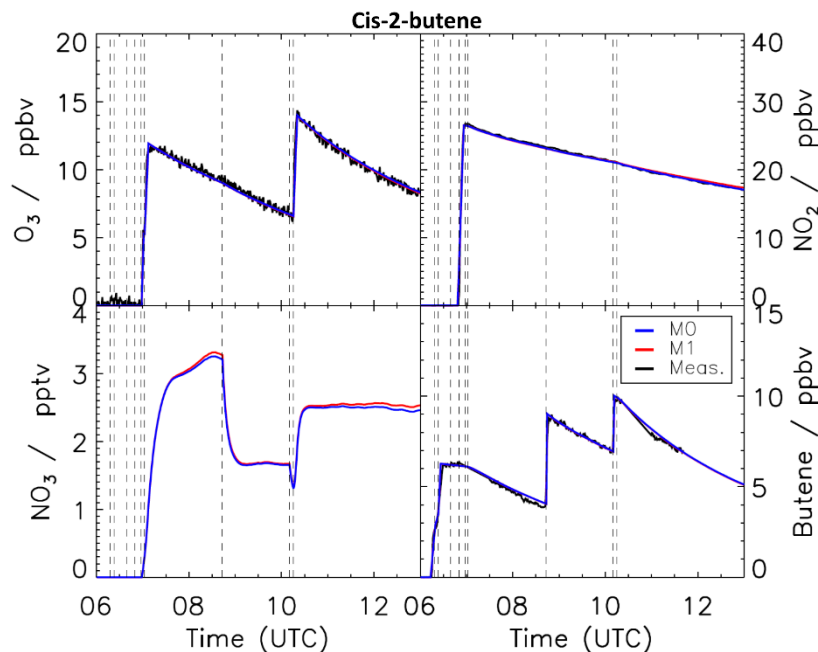


Figure S13: Comparison of modelled and measured trace gases for the *cis*-2-butene experiment. For the  $\text{NO}_3$  radical only model results are shown. Vertical dashed lines indicate the times when different species were injected. No difference is observed when using the updated MCMv3.3.1 (M0) or a modified version which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate- $\text{RO}_2$  and  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals (M1).

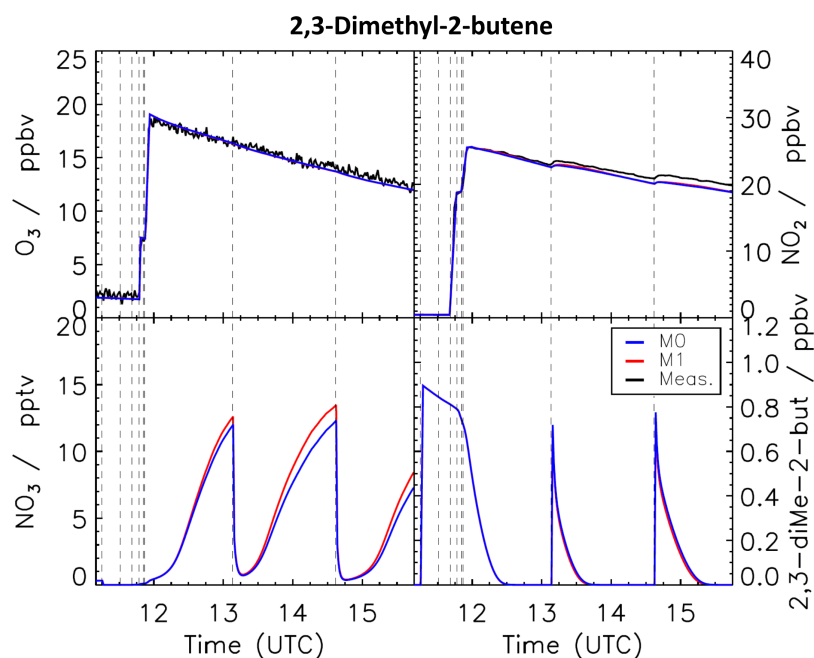


Figure S14: Comparison of modelled and measured trace gases for the 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene experiment. For the  $\text{NO}_3$  radical and 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene only model results are shown. Vertical dashed lines indicate the times when different species were injected. No difference is observed when using the updated MCMv3.3.1 (M0) or a modified version which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate- $\text{RO}_2$  and  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals (M1).

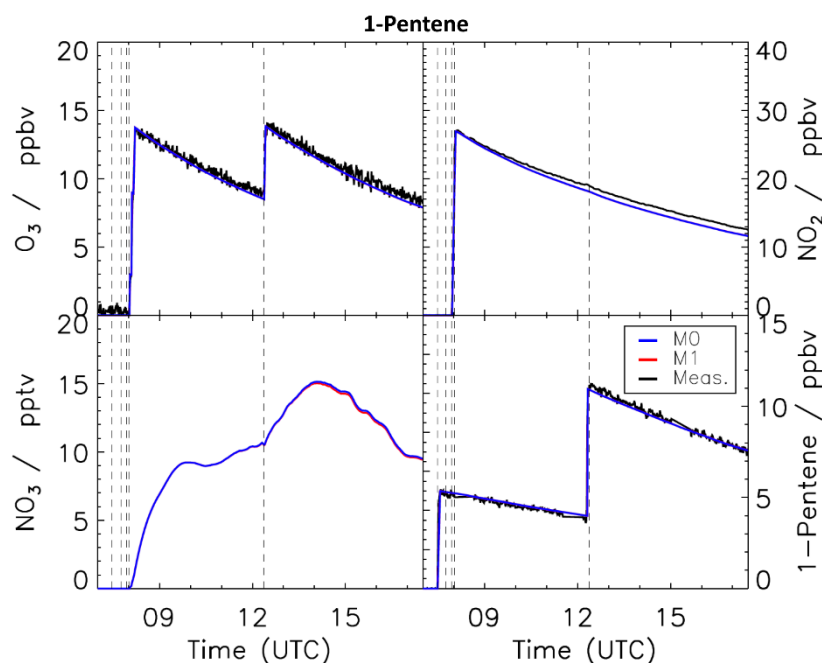
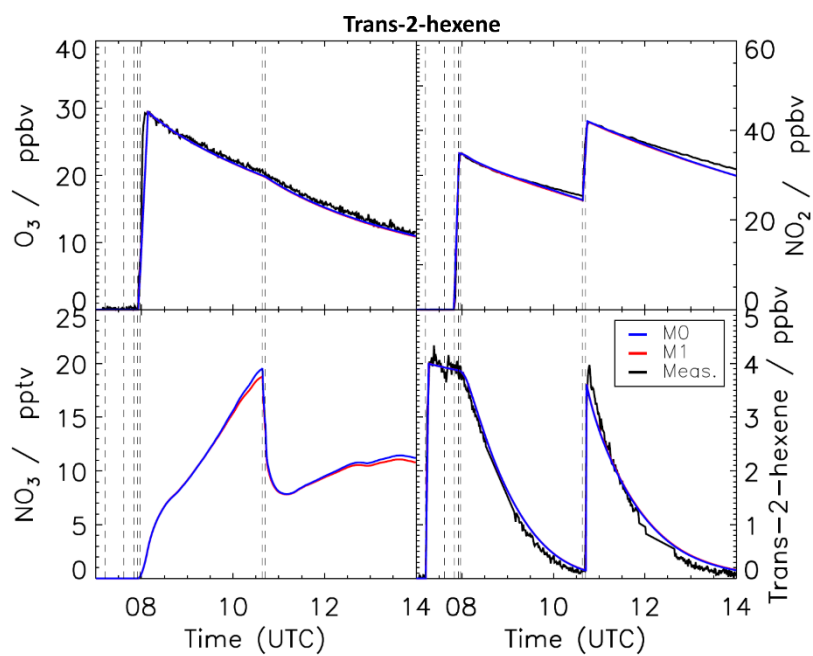


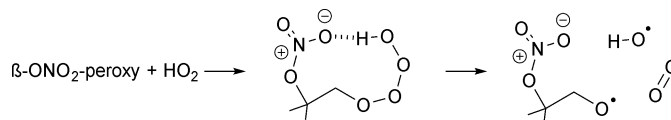
Figure S15: Comparison of modelled and measured trace gases for the 1-pentene experiment. For the  $\text{NO}_3$  radical only model results are shown. Vertical dashed lines indicate the times when different species were injected. No difference is observed when using the updated MCMv3.3.1 (M0) or a modified version which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate- $\text{RO}_2$  and  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals (M1).



**Figure S16: Comparison of modelled and measured trace gases for the trans-2-hexene experiment. For the  $\text{NO}_3$  radical only model results are shown. Vertical dashed lines indicate the times when different species were injected. No difference is observed when using the updated MCMv3.3.1 (M0) or a modified version which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate- $\text{RO}_2$  and  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals (M1).**

## G. OH yields for $\beta$ -nitrate-RO<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub> reactions

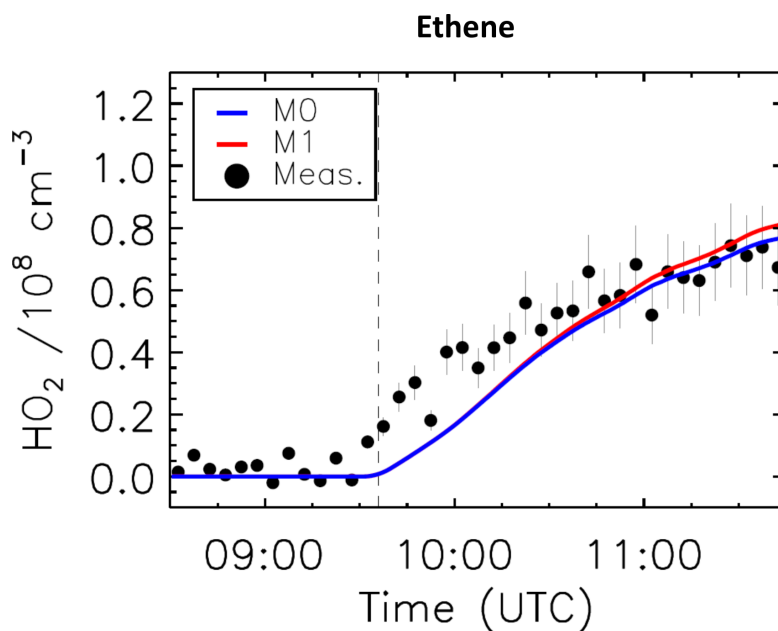
The HO<sub>2</sub> measurements suggest an additional source of HOx in the model. We enhanced the base M0 model with an extra channel in the  $\beta$ -nitrate-RO<sub>2</sub> + HO<sub>2</sub> reaction forming OH +  $\beta$ -nitrate-RO (model M1). The yields of OH are an adjustable parameter in the models. It should be noted that these optimized yields are subject to uncertainty in other chemistry in the model, as over/underestimating OH or HO<sub>2</sub> yields in other reactions reflect directly on the OH yield in the RO<sub>2</sub>+HO<sub>2</sub> reaction required to match the observed HO<sub>2</sub>. The derived yields are given in the table below, as are the scarce literature data.



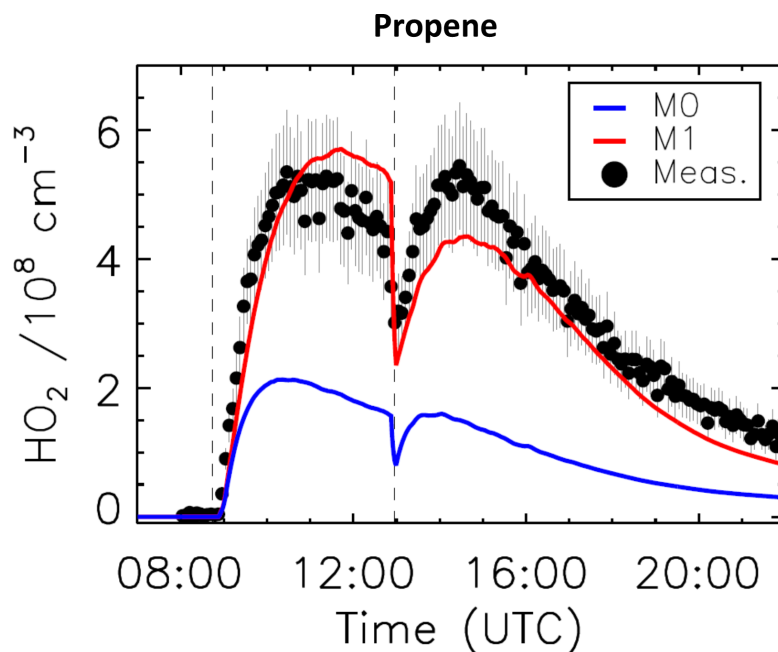
**Table S3: Yields of alkoxy radical plus OH for the reaction between nitrate RO<sub>2</sub> and HO<sub>2</sub> radicals as used within this study in M1.**

| Parent compound         | Yield         | Reference                      |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Ethene                  | not sensitive | This work                      |
| Propene                 | 0.50          | This work                      |
| <i>Cis</i> -2-butene    | 0.45          | This work                      |
| TM2,3-dimethyl-2-butene | 0.65          | This work                      |
| 1-Pentene               | 0.15          | This work                      |
| Trans-2-hexene          | 0.40          | This work                      |
| Isoprene                | 0.35-0.58     | Kwan et al. <sup>49</sup>      |
|                         | 0.22-0.25     | Schwantes et al. <sup>50</sup> |
|                         | 0.5           | Wennberg et al. <sup>51</sup>  |
| $\alpha$ -pinene        | 0.55-0.85     | Kurtén et al. <sup>52</sup>    |

## H. Model to measurement HO<sub>2</sub> radical comparison



400 **Figure S17:** Comparison of modelled and measured HO<sub>2</sub> radicals for the ethene experiment. Due to the small CO concentration, no difference is observed when using the updated MCMv3.3.1 (M0) or a modified version which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate-RO<sub>2</sub> and HO<sub>2</sub> radicals (M1).



405 **Figure S18:** Comparison of modelled and measured HO<sub>2</sub> radicals for the propene experiment. An increase by almost a factor of two is observed when using a modified version of M0 which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate-RO<sub>2</sub> and HO<sub>2</sub> radicals (M1).

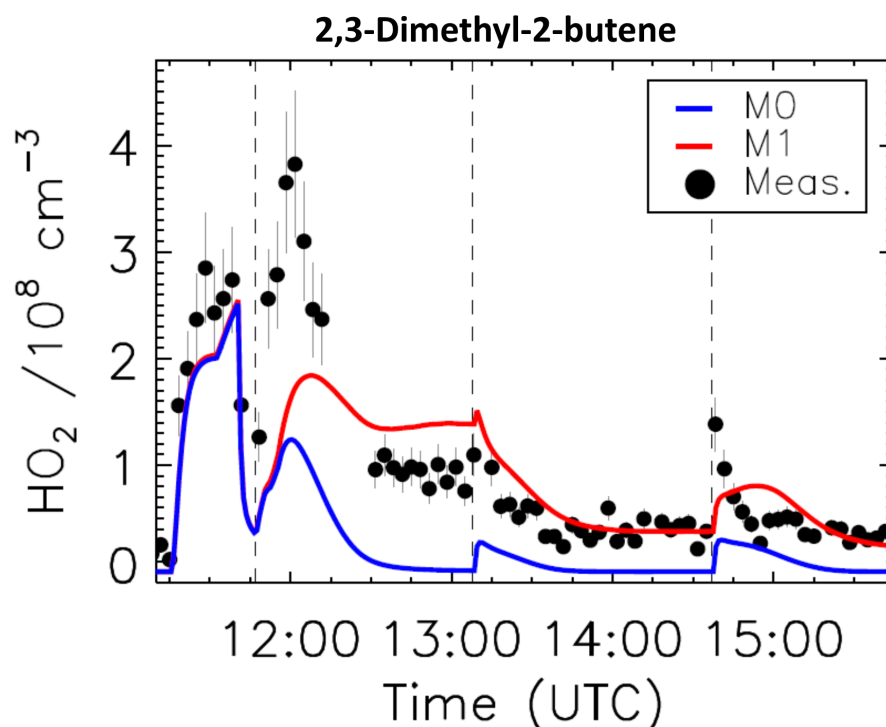


Figure S19: Comparison of modelled and measured  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals for the 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene experiment. An increase by almost a factor of two is observed when using a modified version of M0 which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate- $\text{RO}_2$  and  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals (M1).

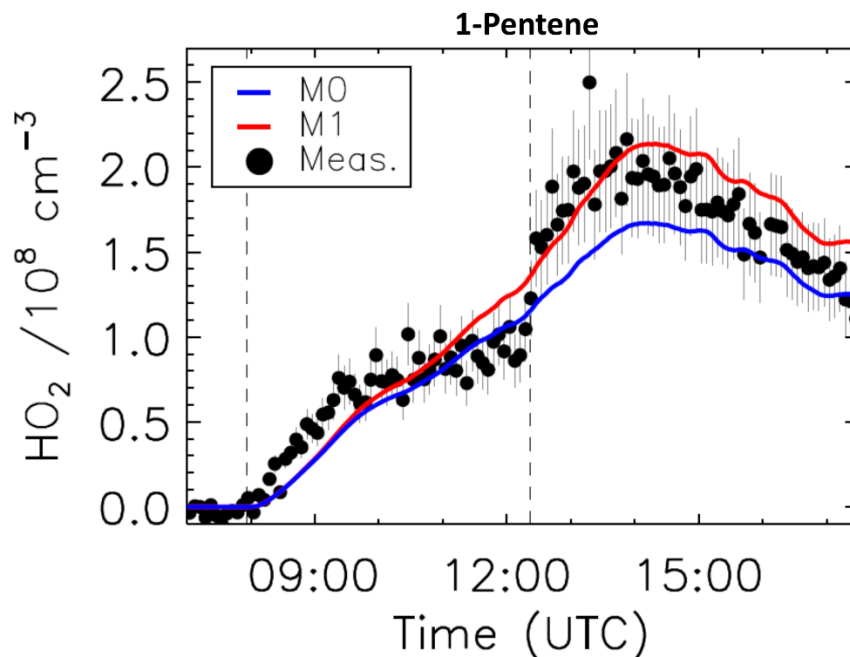


Figure S20: Comparison of modelled and measured  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals for the 1-pentene experiment. A better agreement can be observed for the second 1-pentene injection (dominated by  $\text{NO}_3$  radical chemistry) when using a modified version of M0 which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate- $\text{RO}_2$  and  $\text{HO}_2$  radicals (M1).

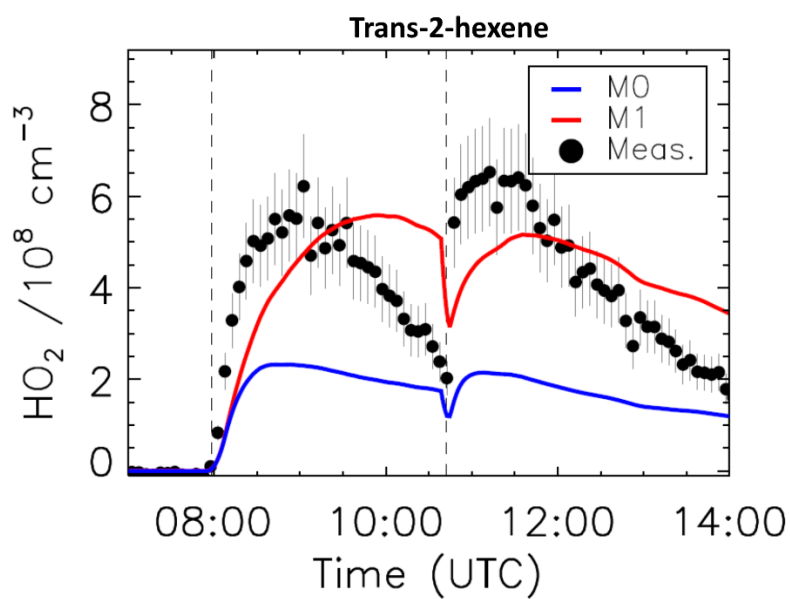
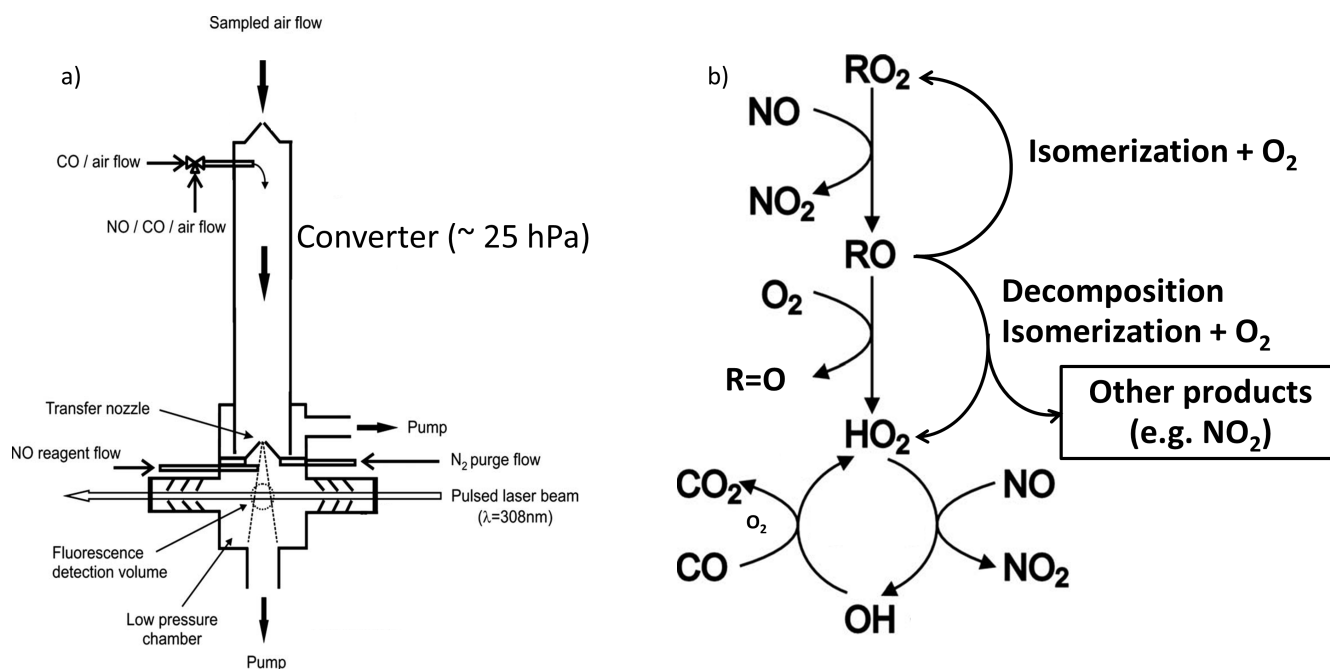


Figure S21: Comparison of modelled and measured HO<sub>2</sub> radicals for the trans-2-hexene experiment. An increase by almost a factor of two is observed when using a modified version of M0 which includes formation of alkoxy radical from the reaction between nitrate-RO<sub>2</sub> and HO<sub>2</sub> radicals (M1).

## I. Instrumentation details

425 **Table S4:** Instrumentation for radical and trace-gas quantification during the NO<sub>3</sub> experiments.

|                       | Technique              | Time resolution | 1 $\sigma$ precision              | 1 $\sigma$ accuracy |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>OH</b>             | LIF                    | 47 s            | $0.3 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ | 18%                 |
| <b>HO<sub>2</sub></b> | LIF                    | 47 s            | $0.5 \times 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ | 18%                 |
| <b>RO<sub>2</sub></b> | LIF                    | 47 s            | $1.0 \times 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ | 18%                 |
| <b>k<sub>OH</sub></b> | Laser-photolysis + LIF | 180 s           | $0.3 \text{ s}^{-1}$              | 10%                 |
| <b>NO</b>             | Chemiluminescence      | 180 s           | 4 pptv                            | 5%                  |
| <b>NO<sub>2</sub></b> | Chemiluminescence      | 180 s           | 2 pptv                            | 5%                  |
| <b>O<sub>3</sub></b>  | UV-absorption          | 10 s            | 1 ppbv                            | 5%                  |
| <b>Acetone</b>        | PTR-TOF-MS             | 30 s            | > 15 pptv                         | < 14%               |
| <b>CO</b>             | CRDS                   | 60 s            | 1.5 ppbv                          | 1%                  |



430 **Figure S22:** (a) Schematic of the ROxLIF converter and LIF fluorescence cell, updated from Fuchs et al.,<sup>53</sup> and (b) the relevant chemical reactions

## J. RO<sub>2</sub> conversion efficiencies using Yeh et al. chemistry

435

Table S5: RO<sub>2</sub>-specific relative conversion efficiency using alkoxy decomposition rate coefficients from Yeh et al.<sup>53</sup>

| Nitrate-RO <sub>2</sub>                         | 298 K                |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Reference RO <sub>2</sub> (CH <sub>3</sub> OO') | 1.0                  |
| 1-ONO <sub>2</sub> -2-propylperoxy              | 3×10 <sup>-3</sup>   |
| 2-ONO <sub>2</sub> -1-propylperoxy              | 1.4×10 <sup>-3</sup> |
| 1-ONO <sub>2</sub> -2-pentylperoxy              | 0.25                 |
| 2-ONO <sub>2</sub> -1-pentylperoxy              | 0.25                 |
| 2-ONO <sub>2</sub> -3-hexylperoxy               | 0.25                 |
| 3-ONO <sub>2</sub> -2-hexylperoxy               | 0.25                 |

## 440 K. Raw quantum chemical data

The raw quantum chemical data is provided in a separate text file. It contains, for all structures and conformers, the potential energy and geometries at the M06-2X/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory, as well as the rotational constants, vibrational frequencies, and ZPE corrections. For the lowest conformer(s) of each structure, the potential energy at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory is also provided, as well as at a few other levels of theory obtained in the course of the CCSD(T) calculations. T1 diagnostics are given. The data also shows the relative energy of all the conformers of a particular structure, and their contribution to the Boltzmann equilibrium population at 298 K.

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