2.011 Investigation of the oxidation of methyl vinyl ketone (MVK) by OH radicals in the atmospheric simulation chamber SAPHIR.

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Abstract:

The photooxidation of methyl vinyl ketone (MVK) was investigated in the atmospheric simulation chamber SAPHIR for conditions at which organic peroxy radicals (RO₂) mainly reacted with NO ("high NO" case) and for conditions at which other reaction channels could compete ("low NO" case). Measurements of trace gas concentrations are compared to calculated concentration time series applying the Master Chemical Mechanism (MCM version 3.3.1). Product yields of methylglyoxal and glycolaldehyde are determined from measurements. Direct quantification of OH radicals in the experiments shows the need for an enhanced OH radical production at low NO conditions similar to previous studies investigating the oxidation of the parent VOC isoprene and methacrolein, the second major oxidation product of isoprene. For MVK the model-measurement discrepancy is up to a factor of 2. Product yields and OH observations are consistent with assumptions of additional RO₂ plus HO₂ reaction channels as proposed in literature for the major RO₂ species formed from the reaction of MVK with OH. This study, however, shows that also HO₂ radical concentrations are underestimated by the model, suggesting that additional OH is not directly produced from RO₂ radical reactions, but indirectly via increased HO₂. Quantum chemical calculations show that HO₂ could be produced from a fast 1,4-H shift of the second most important MVK derived RO₂ species. However, additional HO₂ from this reaction is not sufficiently large to bring modelled HO₂ radical concentrations into agreement with measurements due to the small yield of this RO₂ species. An additional reaction channel of the major RO2 species would be required that produces concurrently HO2 radicals and glycolaldehyde to achieve model-measurement agreement. A set of Hmigration reactions for the main RO₂ radicals were investigated by quantum chemical and theoretical kinetic methodologies, but did not reveal a contributing route to HO_2 radicals or glycolaldehyde.