

# 1 Rate coefficients for the reactions of OH radical with C3-C11 2 alkanes determined by the relative rate technique

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4 ~~Mu<sup>2</sup>~~

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12

13 **Abstract:** Rate coefficients for the reactions of OH radicals with C3-C11 alkanes were  
14 determined using the multivariate relative rate technique ~~in various bath gases (N<sub>2</sub>, Air,~~  
15 ~~O<sub>2</sub>)~~. A total of 25 relative rate coefficients at room temperature and 24 Arrhenius  
16 expressions in ~~the temperature range of 273–323 K~~ different temperature range were  
17 obtained. Notably, a new room temperature relative rate constant for 3-methylheptane  
18 that had not been previously reported were determined, and the obtained ~~k<sub>OH</sub>~~ *k<sub>OH</sub>* values  
19 (in units of 10<sup>-12</sup> ~~cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>~~ cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) ~~in different bath gases were N<sub>2</sub>,~~  
20 ~~7.90±0.25; Air, 7.93±0.33; and O<sub>2</sub>, 7.36±0.11~~ was 7.71±0.35. Interestingly, whilst  
21 results for n-alkanes agreed well with available structure activity relationship (SAR)  
22 calculations, the three cyclo-alkanes and ~~two~~ *one* trimethylpentane were found to be  
23 less reactive than predicted by SAR. Conversely, the SAR estimate for 2,3-  
24 dimethylbutane were approximately ~~22%~~ *25%* lower than the experimental value,  
25 highlighting that the limited understanding of the oxidation chemistry of these  
26 compounds. Arrhenius expressions (in units of ~~cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>~~ cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>)  
27 for the reactions of various ~~cyclo—and~~ branched alkanes with OH radical were  
28 determined for the first time: ~~methylcyclopentane, (1.62±0.14)×10<sup>-11</sup> exp [-(256±25)/T];~~

29 ~~2-methylhexane,  $(1.22 \pm 0.04) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(206 \pm 9)/T]$ ; 3-~~  
30 ~~methylhexane,  $(2.27 \pm 0.31) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(559 \pm 42)/T]$ ; 2-methylheptane,~~  
31  $(1.62 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(265 \pm 70)/T]$ , and 3-methylheptane,  
32  $(3.54 \pm 0.45) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(374 \pm 49)/T]$ . The reactivity of saturated alkanes with OH  
33 radicals and chlorine atoms were clearly related to the saturated alkane series, and the  
34 relation  $\log_{10}[k_{(Cl+alkanes)}] = 0.569 \times \log_{10}[k_{(OH+alkanes)}] - 3.111$  ( $R^2 = 0.86$ ) was obtained  
35 very. In addition, the rate coefficients for the 24 previous studied OH + alkanes  
36 reactions were consistent with existing literature values, demonstrating the reliability  
37 and efficiency of this method for simultaneous investigation of gas-phase reaction  
38 kinetics.  
39 **Keywords:** Relative rate coefficients; Atmospheric simulation chamber; Alkanes; OH  
40 radical; Arrhenius expressions

## 41 1. Introduction

42 Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), a category of compounds found ubiquitously in  
43 the atmosphere, primarily consist of alkanes, alkenes, aromatics and oxygenated  
44 volatile organic compounds (OVOCs) (Lewis et al., 2000; Goldstein and Galbally, 2007;  
45 Anderson et al., 2004). Research has shown that alkanes, including straight-chain,  
46 branched-chain, and cyclic alkanes within the C3-C11 range, often constitute a  
47 significant portion. ~~For example, recent studies conducted by Liang et al. and Dunmore~~  
48 ~~et al. in major cities in China and the U.K. have indicated that C2-C12 alkanes make~~  
49 ~~up 66.5% and 50% of the local hydrocarbon content, respectively (Liang et al., 2023;~~  
50 ~~Dunmore et al., 2015) to VOCs (Liang et al., 2023; Dunmore et al., 2015), and they~~  
51 ~~could be emitted into the atmospheric environment through natural and anthropogenic~~  
52 ~~sources, e.g., C5-alkanes emitted from gasoline usage and C6-alkanes and higher~~  
53 ~~homologous VOCs emitted as a consequence of their usage as solvents and from fuel~~  
54 ~~evaporation. (Atkinson, 2000; Guenther, 2002; Atkinson and Arey, 2003). The primary~~  
55 ~~mechanism for alkanes removal involves hydrogen abstraction reactions with OH· and~~  
56 ~~NO<sub>3</sub>·, and the dehydrogenation of alkanes leads to the formation of alkyl radicals (R·),~~

57 ~~which subsequently react with O<sub>2</sub> to generate alkylperoxy radicals (RO<sub>2</sub>·). It should be~~  
58 ~~pointed that the rate constants for the reaction of alkanes with OH·(K<sub>OH</sub>) fall in the~~  
59 ~~range of 0.9 to 11×10<sup>-12</sup> cm<sup>3</sup>·mol<sup>-1</sup>·s<sup>-1</sup>, which is approximately five orders of magnitude~~  
60 ~~faster than the reaction with NO<sub>3</sub>·. In the troposphere, alkanes are degraded and~~  
61 removed from the atmosphere via gas-phase oxidation reactions with OH and NO<sub>3</sub>  
62 radicals, Cl atoms and ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) (Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Shi et al., 2019). ~~The~~  
63 ~~reaction with OH radicals stands as the principal pathway for the atmospheric oxidation~~  
64 ~~of alkanes during the daytime. Thus, accurately determining rate constants with OH~~ 51  
65 ~~radicals is fundamental in evaluating their environmental impact (Finlayson-Pitts and~~  
66 ~~Pitts, 1997; Atkinson, 2000).~~ These oxidation processes will form a photochemical  
67 smog in the presence of NO<sub>x</sub> and light, causing regional photochemical pollution (Fiore  
68 et al., 2005; Ling and Guo, 2014). Additionally, some secondary oxides produced by  
69 the oxidation of alkanes can form secondary organic aerosol (SOA) through  
70 homogeneous nucleation or condensation onto existing primary particles (Sun et al.,  
71 2016). To fully understand the role of alkanes in atmospheric chemistry, accurate  
72 chemical reaction rate data is an important criterion for evaluating its reactivity (Shaw  
73 et al., 2018).

74 Numerous laboratories have conducted research on the kinetics of the reaction  
75 between alkanes and OH radicals using the absolute rate constant method and the  
76 relative rate constant method. The absolute rate constant method (such as flash  
77 photolysis and emission flow) involves calculating the reaction kinetics parameter ~~K<sub>OH</sub>~~  
78 *k<sub>OH</sub>* for organic compounds with OH radicals during the experimental process by  
79 directly measuring changes in OH radical concentration or the concentration of the  
80 target compound. Greiner measured the first kinetic data for the reaction of OH radicals  
81 with three alkanes in the Ar system at 300 K using the flash photolysis-resonance  
82 fluorescence technique (Greiner, 1967). Over the next decade, Gorse et al., Overend et  
83 al. and Darnall et al. obtained kinetic data for the reaction of OH radicals with selected  
84 alkanes in the carbon monoxide, He and N<sub>2</sub> system, respectively (Gorse and Volman,  
85 1974; Overend et al., 1975; Darnall et al., 1978). ~~Due to the challenge of directly~~  
86 ~~detecting OH radicals with very short lifetimes, the absolute rate method is used less~~

87 ~~frequently. Alternatively, the relative rate method does not require precise VOC~~  
88 ~~concentration levels or direct detection of OH radicals, and this approach is more~~  
89 ~~widely used to determine  $k_{OH}$  values for organic compounds.~~ Unlike the absolute rate  
90 constant method, the relative rate method relied on the known rate constant for the  
91 reaction of a reference compound with OH radicals, with the reference reaction rate  
92 coefficient needing to be similar to that of the compound under study to enhance  
93 measurement sensitivity. By monitoring the simultaneous decay of the target and  
94 reference compounds in the presence of OH radicals due to competitive response  
95 mechanisms, the rate constant for the reaction of OH radicals with the target compound  
96 can be determined (Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Shaw et al., 2018). From 1980s to 2020s,  
97 dozens of papers for the rate coefficients of alkanes with OH radical measured by  
98 relative rate method have been published. For example, Shaw et al. and Phan and Li  
99 obtained rate constants of a series of alkanes in the N<sub>2</sub>/He system (Phan and Li, 2017;  
100 Shaw et al., 2018; Shaw et al., 2020). Anderson et al. obtained the  $k_{OH}$  of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>  
101 several n-alkanes and cyclic alkanes by the relative technique in the air system at 296  
102 ± 4 K (Anderson et al., 2004). However, the majority of experiments were conducted  
103 solely on C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkanes, more complex and multifunctional alkanes are often poorly  
104 constrained or unmeasured.

105 Temperature has an important influence on the reaction rate constants of alkanes and  
106 OH radicals. The reaction rate constants of several n-alkanes with OH radicals  
107 measured by Greiner increased by about 70% in the range of 300-500 K (Greiner,  
108 1970a). Perry et al's research found that the rate constants of n-butane multiplied by  
109 72% as the temperature rose from 297 K to 420 K (Perry et al., 1976). And the rate  
110 coefficients of 10 n-alkanes and cycloalkanes obtained by Donahue et al. also increased  
111 in varying degrees at 300-390 K (Donahue et al., 1998). However, most reported  
112 experimental studies on the reactivity of OH radicals with a series of alkanes focus on  
113 temperatures ≥290 K (Greiner, 1970a; Perry et al., 1976; Finlaysonpitts et al., 1993;  
114 Donahue et al., 1998; Atkinson, 2003; Badra and Farooq, 2015), with relatively few  
115 studies at low temperatures (Demore and Bayes, 1999; Li et al., 2006; Wilson et al.,  
116 2006; Sprengnether et al., 2009; Crawford et al., 2011). In addition, a further alkane

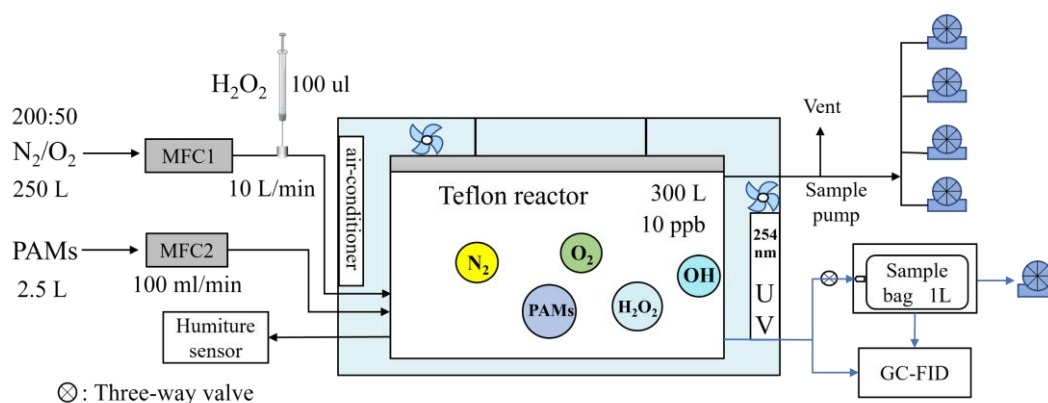
117 had only two, or fewer, individual OH radical rate coefficient measurements available  
118 in the mentioned temperature range, e.g., 3-methylheptane, and it is unclear whether  
119 the rate constants for the reactions of OH radicals with alkanes differ in a mixed system  
120 containing oxygen compared to an inert gas system. Therefore, further investigations  
121 are required to explore the variations in the rate constants for different types of alkanes  
122 at various temperatures.

123 In this study, the rate constants for the reactions of 25 different C3-C11 alkanes with  
124 OH radicals were determined using the multivariate relative rate method, including  
125 linear alkanes, cycloalkanes, and methyl-alkanes. To validate the rate constants for the  
126 reaction between alkanes and OH radicals, multiple comparisons were made with  
127 previous literature and structure–activity relationship (SAR) estimated values.  
128 Additionally, the rate constants of certain straight-chain, branched-chain, and methyl-  
129 cycloalkanes were measured at 273-323 K.

## 130 2. Methods

### 131 2.1 Experiment

#### 132 2.1.1 Atmospheric simulation chamber



133  
134

Figure 1. A schematic of the experimental device

135 As shown in Fig. 1, the chamber experiments were performed at atmospheric  
136 pressure in a climate-controlled box with a temperature range of 263-333 K (accuracy  
137 of  $\pm 0.1$  K). A 300 L Teflon airbag was suspended in the climate-controlled box to serve

138 as the reaction system. The box was equipped with two Teflon-coated fans for rapid  
139 chemical mixing and a 254 nm ultraviolet lamp for photolysis of hydrogen peroxide  
140 ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ) to produce OH radicals. The inner walls of climate-controlled box were  
141 constructed with reflective steel plates to enhance ultraviolet light utilization. Bath gas  
142 ( $\text{N}_2$  or  $\text{O}_2$ ) and NMHCs were introduced into the Teflon bag through mass flow  
143 controllers with flow rate of  $25 \text{ L min}^{-1}$  and  $100 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$ , respectively, while excess  
144  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  respect to VOCs was injected through a three-way valve using a micro syringe.  
145 Initial conditions of the different species introduced into the reactor for each experiment  
146 are outlined in Table S1 in the Supplementary Material. By varying the presence of  
147  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , turning on/off the light, a series of observations were generated, such as  $\text{N}_2$  +  
148 NMHCs + dark reaction,  $\text{N}_2$  + NMHCs +  $h\nu$  (254 nm), and  $\text{N}_2$  + NMHCs +  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  +  
149 dark reaction.

#### 150 2.1.2 Gas sampling and analysis

151 NMHCs Analyzer (GC-FID) with a time resolution of 1 hour independently  
152 developed by the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES) was used  
153 to analyze 25 C3-C11 alkanes. The sample gas was enriched by a 60-80 mesh  
154 Carpack B adsorption tube under the condition of 183.15 K, and then the adsorption  
155 tube was rapidly heated to 453.15 K. The 25 alkanes were detected by FID at 523.15 K  
156 after programmed heating ~~at 253.15 K~~ at 253.15 K, 303.15 K and 433.15 K in 30 min  
157 (Liu et al., 2016).

158 Figure S1(a) reveals that the mixed gas diluted with  $\text{N}_2$  underwent a 14-hour reaction  
159 in a Teflon reactor without light. The  $K_d$  values ranged from ~~0.00013 to 0.00048 ppbv/h~~  
160 1.3 to 4.8 (the units are  $\times 10^{-4}$  ppbv/h), implying negligible influence from factors such  
161 as alkane loss from reactor walls, self-consumption, or airbag leakage. Figure S1(b)  
162 illustrates that the peak height variation for 25 alkanes + 50  $\mu\text{l}$  of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  within 15 hours  
163 was less than 3%, indicating the insignificance of dark reactions between  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and  
164 alkanes. When the same concentration mixed gas was irradiated for 7 hours without  
165  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , alkane concentration changes were depicted in Fig. S2. The results indicated that

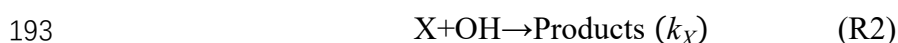
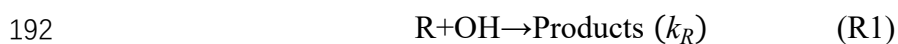
166 minimal impact from alkane photolysis on OH radical reaction rate constant  
167 determination.

168 To obtain the reaction rate constants of alkanes with OH radicals in 1-2 hour, the  
169 alkanes mixture exiting the reactor was collected in more than ten polyvinyl fluoride  
170 (PVF) sampling bag (1.0 L) using a transparent vacuum sampling device for GC-FID.  
171 Prior to use, the empty sampling bag was flushed with high-purity nitrogen 3 times and  
172 placed within the vacuum sampler - a system utilizing an oil-free diaphragm air pump  
173 to create a vacuum. The initial concentrations of alkanes sample were collected before  
174 the lamp on, and the following sampling process occurred every 10 minutes. Collected  
175 samples were subsequently analyzed using a ~~self-develop~~ self-developed automated  
176 injection system for PVF bag.

### 177 2.1.3 Relative rate technique

178 The rate coefficients were measured by the relative rate method (Atkinson, 1986).  
179 The basic principle is that the rate constant for the reaction of the reactant used as a  
180 reference with OH radicals is known, rate constant for the reaction of OH radicals with  
181 the target compound can be determined by monitoring the simultaneous decay of the  
182 target and reference compounds in the presence of OH radicals due to the competitive  
183 response mechanism. Additionally, an important criterion for the selection of reference  
184 compounds, that is, the reference rate coefficient needs to be similar to the one under  
185 study in order to improve sensitivity. To ensure that the reactants only react with OH  
186 radicals, the OH radicals need to be in excess in the experiment. The research method  
187 of this work is ~~improved-and-expanded~~ based on the multivariate relative rate method  
188 published by Shaw et al. (Shaw et al., 2018) taking the mixed system as the research  
189 object, broadening the range of compounds that can be examined.

190 Taking R (reference compounds) and X (target compounds) as examples, the  
191 reaction of OH radicals can be described as follows:



194 
$$-\frac{d[R]}{dt} = k_R [OH][R] \quad (R3)$$

195 
$$-\frac{d[X]}{dt} = k_X [OH][X] \quad (R4)$$

196 
$$\ln\left(\frac{[R]_0}{[R]_t}\right) = k_R \cdot \int [OH] dt \quad (R5)$$

197 
$$\ln\left(\frac{[X]_0}{[X]_t}\right) = k_X \cdot \int [OH] dt \quad (R6)$$

198 
$$\ln\left(\frac{[X]_0}{[X]_t}\right) = \frac{k_X}{k_R} \cdot \ln\left(\frac{[R]_0}{[R]_t}\right) \quad (R7)$$

199 Where  $[R]_0$  and  $[X]_0$  are the concentrations of reference compounds and target  
 200 compounds before turning on the light;  $[R]_t$  and  $[X]_t$  are the corresponding  
 201 concentrations after turning on the light for time t.  $k_R$  and  $k_X$  refer to the second-order  
 202 rate constants for the reaction of the reference compounds and target compounds with  
 203 OH radicals.

#### 204 2.1.4 Choice of reference k values

205 It is critical to choose appropriate reference compounds in a kinetics study using  
 206 the relative rate technique. Some reported values of the rate constants for reactions of  
 207 C3-C11 alkanes with OH radicals have been measured by different methods in different  
 208 laboratories, and these measurement results may be quite different. When these rate  
 209 constants are measured by the relative rate technique, choosing different reference  
 210 values will lead to a change of the final experimental target rate constants. In this work,  
 211 selecting 3 different commonly used reference compounds (n-Hexane, Cyclohexane, n-  
 212 Octane) to determine the rate constants for each reaction at room temperature to check  
 213 the consistency of kinetic results. ~~The selection of k values for reference compounds~~  
 214 ~~and literature comparison comes from several data sets in the NIST chemical kinetics~~  
 215 ~~database (<https://kinetics.nist.gov/kinetics/>).~~ The selection of  $k$  values for reference  
 216 compounds and the literature data assessment and comparison gives priority to the  
 217 available expert-evaluated rate constants wherever possible. Here we used the  
 218 recommended expert-evaluated data of database for Version 2.1.0 of McGillen et al.



219 (Database for the Kinetics of the Gas-Phase Atmospheric Reactions of Organic  
220 Compounds – Eurochamp Data Center), which is relatively comprehensive and  
221 provides rigorously evaluated rate coefficients for many species. Among them, at 298  
222  $\pm 1$  K, the  ~~$k$~~  values (in units of  $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) of the three reference compounds  
223 selected respectively are  ~~$k_{\text{OH}+n\text{-Hexane}}=5.20 \times 10^{-12}$ , which is derived from Atkinson et al~~  
224 ~~(Atkinson and Arey, 2003), updated data evaluation value;  $k_{\text{OH}+\text{Cyclohexane}}=7.14 \times 10^{-12}$ ;~~  
225  ~~$k_{\text{OH}+n\text{-Octane}}=8.48 \times 10^{-12}$ , and the selection of  $k$  values of cyclohexane and  $n$ -octane is~~  
226 ~~most consistent with the rate constant of cyclohexane and octane obtained by using  $n$ -~~  
227 ~~hexane as reference.~~ expert-evaluated rate constants:  $k_{\text{OH}+n\text{-Hexane}}=4.97 \times 10^{-12}$ ,  
228  $k_{\text{OH}+\text{Cyclohexane}}=6.69 \times 10^{-12}$ ,  $k_{\text{OH}+n\text{-Octane}}=8.48 \times 10^{-12}$ , which is fitted or manually entered  
229 data from multiple sources. However, the value of the reference compound at different  
230 temperatures (273-323 K) is different than the room temperature. A detailed  
231 explanation is reflected in Sec. 3.3.

#### 232 2.1.5 Materials

233 The air bath gas was obtained by a mix of nitrogen (200 L) and oxygen (50L).  
234  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (30%) was provided by Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd. The standard gas  
235 (PAMs) is a mixed standard sample of 57 kinds of NMHCs produced by Linde Spectra  
236 Environmental Gases (Alpha, NJ). Sampling bag (PVF, 1 L) was provided by Dalian  
237 Delin Gas Packing Co., Ltd. The pump is the NMP830 KNDC model produced by KNF,  
238 Germany, with a maximum air sampling rate of 23 L/min. The climate-controlled box  
239 (ZRG-1000D-C0203) is provided by Shanghai Proline Electronic Technology Co., Ltd.

## 240 2.2 Estimation of the rate constant at 298 K (SAR)

241 In the past few decades, researchers have been devoted to finding a reasonable  
242 theoretical estimation method for the kinetic rate constants (Cohen, 1991). Structure-  
243 Activity Relationship (SAR) established and developed by Kwok and Atkinson et al.  
244 (Kwok and Atkinson, 1995), is the most widely used estimation method of rate  
245 constants. Based on the relationship between the structure and the reaction activity of

246 the compounds, this method assumes that the hydrogen extraction reaction mainly  
 247 occurs in the saturated compounds and the addition reaction mainly occurs in the  
 248 unsaturated compounds, which is used to estimate the gaseous rate constants for the  
 249 reactions of most VOCs with OH radicals. An advantage of the rate constant estimation  
 250 is that it gives a measure of the rates of attack at different sites in the molecule, which  
 251 is then useful in predicting the overall temperature dependence. The rate constant  
 252 estimated by SAR method is in good agreement with the experimental data. In this  
 253 relationship, the calculation of the rate constant of the hydrogen atom on the C-H bond  
 254 is based on the evaluation of the rate constant of the -CH<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>-, >CH- group. The  
 255 relationship between the group structure and the rate constant is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 256 \quad & K(\text{CH}_3\text{-X}) = K_{\text{prim}}^0 F(\text{X}) \\
 257 \quad & K(\text{X-CH}_2\text{-Y}) = K_{\text{sec}}^0 F(\text{X})F(\text{Y}) \\
 258 \quad & K(\text{X-CH}(\text{Y})\text{Z}) = K_{\text{tert}}^0 F(\text{X})F(\text{Y})F(\text{Z}) \\
 259 \quad & K_{\text{tot}} = \sum [K(\text{CH}_3\text{-X}) + K(\text{X-CH}_2\text{-Y}) + K(\text{X-CH}(\text{Y})\text{Z})]
 \end{aligned}$$

260 Where,  $K_{\text{tot}}$  represents the rate constant of each target compound.  $K_{\text{prim}}^0$ ,  $K_{\text{sec}}^0$ ,  
 261  $K_{\text{tert}}^0$  represent the rate constants of each -CH<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>- and >CH-. For standard  
 262 substituent groups such as -CH<sub>3</sub>,  $F(-\text{CH}_3)=1.00$ , X, Y and Z represent substituent  
 263 groups,  $F(\text{X})$ ,  $F(\text{Y})$  and  $F(\text{Z})$  refer to the activity coefficient of substituents (X, Y, Z)  
 264 at different positions on carbon groups. At room temperature,  $F(-\text{CH}_2\text{-})=1.23$ ,  
 265  $F(>\text{CH-})=1.23$ . ~~Additionally, Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006) conducted extensive~~  
 266 ~~experiments to obtained the new fundamental rate constants for different positional~~  
 267 ~~groups based on the method of Atkinson and Kwok et al.~~ Based on an extensive review  
 268 of kinetic literature values for linear alkanes at room temperature, Atkinson and Kwok  
 269 et al derived the values of  $K_{\text{prim}}^0$ ,  $K_{\text{sec}}^0$ ,  $K_{\text{tert}}^0$  at room temperature,  $K_{\text{prim}}^0=0.136 \times 10^{-12}$ ,  
 270  $K_{\text{sec}}^0=0.934 \times 10^{-12}$ ,  $K_{\text{tert}}^0=1.94 \times 10^{-12}$ , the unit is  $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . After that, many  
 271 researchers continued to updated and modified some parameters based on the method  
 272 of Atkinson and Kwok (Kwok and Atkinson, 1995), and obtained the new fundamental  
 273 rate constants for different positional groups, some examples include: Neeb, Wilson et

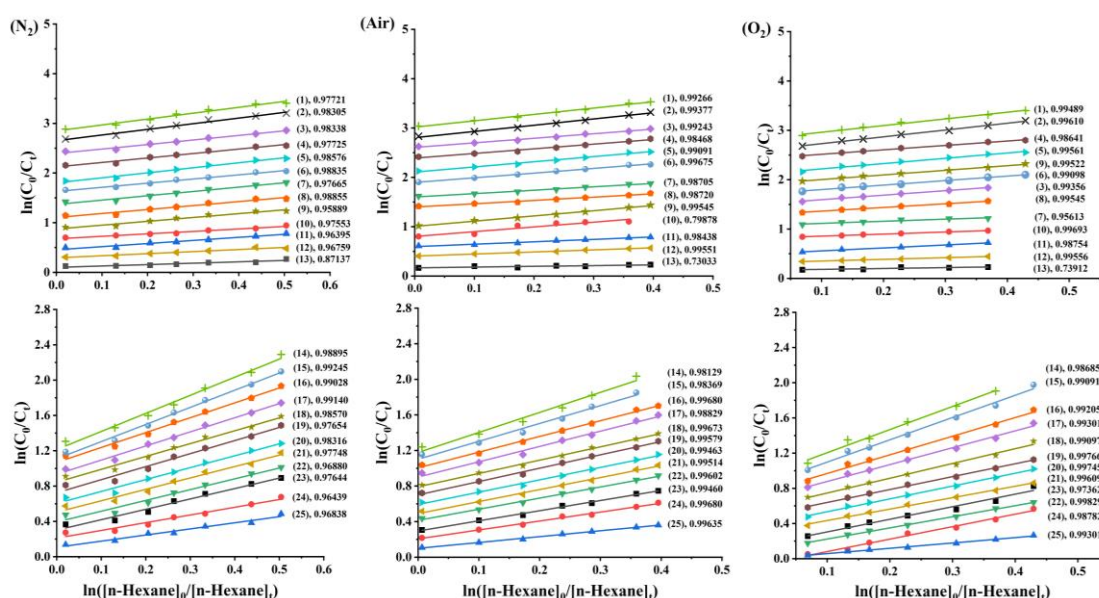
274 al., and Jenkin et al. (Neeb, 2000; Wilson et al., 2006; Jenkin et al., 2018).

## 275 **3. Result and Discussion**

### 276 **3.1 Results from relative rate experiments at 298 K**

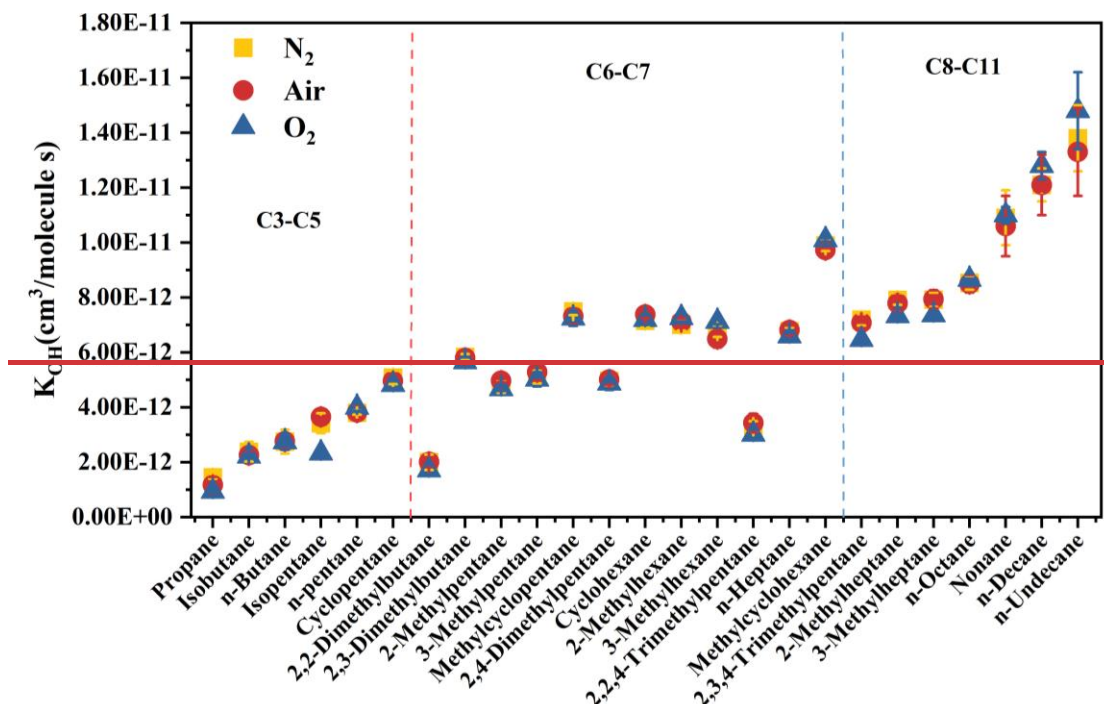
277 The rate constants for the reactions involving OH radical with C3-C11 alkanes in  
278 the mixed system were determined at 298±1 K. The concentration curves of target  
279 alkanes and the reference compound (n-Hexane) were plotted in Fig. 2. As shown in  
280 Fig. 2, the decay of both target and reference compounds correlated well with eq. (7),  
281 and high correlation coefficients ( $R^2$ ) were observed for most alkanes, exceeding 0.99.  
282 Table 1 and Table S2 listed the obtained  $k_{OH}$  for C3-C11 alkanes under three bath gases  
283 using the related reference compounds. The ~~error strip ( $\sigma$ )~~ error bars ( $1\sigma$ ) in Table 1  
284 accounted for reference rate constant uncertainty, and experimental parameter  
285 uncertainties (pressure, temperature, flow rate, reactant concentration). The results  
286 indicated strong agreement (within <15%) between rate constants for 25 C3-C11  
287 straight-chain, branched-chain, and cycloalkanes, using different reference compounds.  
288 For example, the  ~~$k_{OH}$~~   $k_{OH}$  obtained for propane with n-hexane, cyclohexane and n-  
289 octane as the reference compound were  ~~$(1.45\pm 0.01)\times 10^{-12}$ ,  $(1.25\pm 0.03)\times 10^{-12}$  and~~  
290  ~~$(1.34\pm 0.04)\times 10^{-12}$ , respectively (within 10%).~~  $(1.38\pm 0.01)\times 10^{-12}$ ,  $(1.34\pm 0.03)\times 10^{-12}$   
291 and  $(1.47\pm 0.17)\times 10^{-12}$  (the units are  $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), respectively (within 10%). This  
292 suggests that reference compound variation minimally affects results, indicating  
293 reliable experimental methods and data. Notably, the rate constant for 3-  
294 Methylheptane's reaction with OH radicals at room temperature was determined for the  
295 first time. As shown in Fig. 3, for the different bath gases, the obtained  ~~$k_{OH}$~~   $k_{OH}$  for C3-  
296 C11 alkanes showed high agreement. Meanwhile, it can also be observed from the  
297 figure that most of the rate coefficients obtained are very similar to the expert-evaluated  
298 values of the database by the McGillen et al. However, 2,4-Dimethylpentane is an  
299 exception, the  $k_{OH}$  value obtained in this study is about 20% lower than the  
300 recommended value, but it is similar to expert-evaluated value by Atkinson and Arey

301 (Atkinson and Arey, 2003). Additionally, it can be clearly seen in the figure that the  
 302 reactivity of linear alkanes (RCH<sub>2</sub>R) with OH radicals increasing as the number of  
 303 carbon atoms in the hydrocarbon molecules increases, indicating that the increase of R-  
 304 terminal alkyl chain length will provide additional hydrogen extraction sites. For each  
 305 additional CH<sub>2</sub> group from C3-C11, the reaction rate constant increases about 0.95-1.81  
 306 (the unit is 10<sup>-12</sup> cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>), reflects the fact that the main way is to extract the  
 307 H atom from the second-order C-H bond. For branching alkanes, for example, 2,2-  
 308 Dimethylbutane and 2,3-Dimethylbutane, it is obvious that the addition of CH group  
 309 increases the reaction rate constants with OH radical to a great extent. For cyclic alkanes,  
 310 such as cyclopentane, methylcyclopentane, cyclohexane and methylcyclohexane, it can  
 311 also be seen that the reactivity increase with the increase of cycle size. By comparing  
 312 the reaction rate constant of cyclopentane and cyclohexane (methylcyclopentane and  
 313 methylcyclohexane), it is found that for cyclic alkanes, each CH<sub>2</sub> group reaction rate  
 314 increases by about 2.37 × 10<sup>-12</sup> cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. It can be seen from the reaction rate  
 315 constant of cyclopentane and methylcyclopentane (cyclohexane and  
 316 methylcyclohexane) that the reaction rate constant increases about 2.06 × 10<sup>-12</sup> cm<sup>3</sup>  
 317 molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> for cycloalkanes with each increase of methyl.

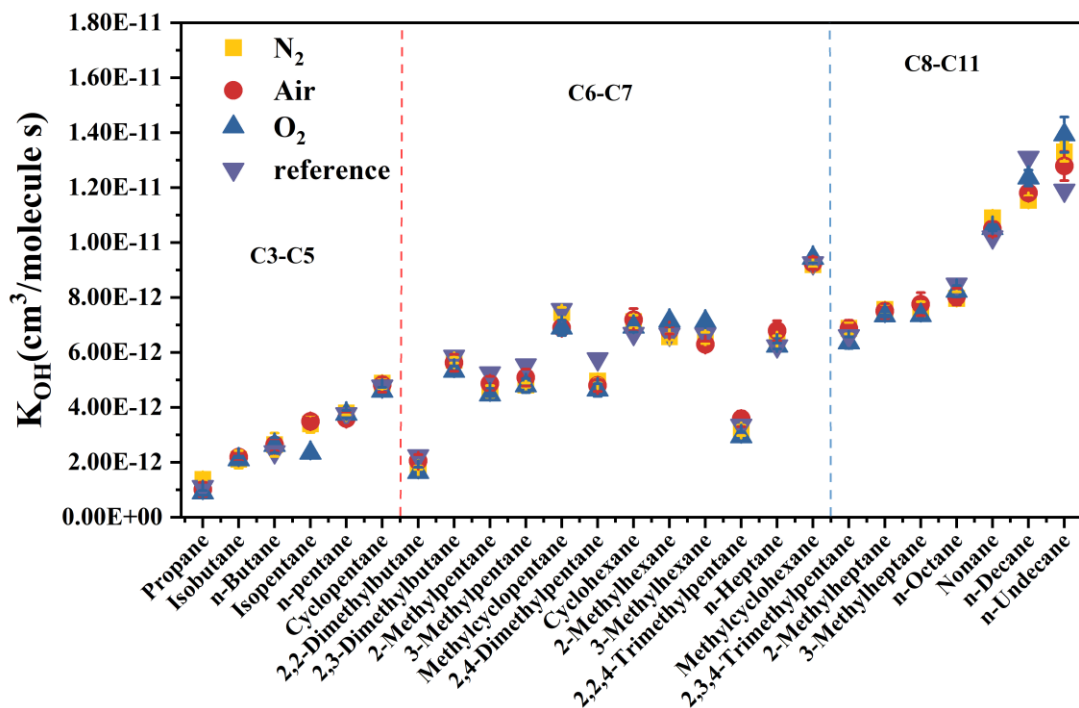


318 Figure 2. Typical kinetic data as acquired with the multivariate relative rate  
 319 technique at 298 K and a fixed reaction time of 70 min for the reaction of C3-C11  
 320 alkanes with the OH radical using n-hexane as reference compound in different bath  
 321

322 gases (N<sub>2</sub>, Air, O<sub>2</sub>). The numbers in parentheses correspond to each substance, followed  
 323 by the correlation coefficient R<sup>2</sup>. The following data have been displaced for reasons of  
 324 clarity: (N<sub>2</sub>): (1) Methylcyclopentane, (2) Cyclohexane, (3) Cyclopentane, (4) 2-  
 325 Methylpentane, (5) 2,3-Dimethylbutane, (6) 2,4-Dimethylpentane, (7) Isopentane, (8)  
 326 1-pentane, (9) 3-Methylpentane, (10) Isobutane, (11) n-Butane, (12) 2,2-  
 327 Dimethylbutane, (13) Propane (14) n-Undecane, (15) n-Decane, (16) Nonane, (17)  
 328 Methylcyclohexane, (18) n-Octane, (19) 3-Methylheptane, (20) 2-Methylheptane, (21)  
 329 2,3,4-Trimethylpentane, (22) 1-Heptane, (23) 2-Methylhexane, (24) 3-Methylhexane,  
 330 (25) 2,2,4-Trimethylpentane vertically displaced by 2.8, 2.6, 2.4, 2.1, 1.8, 1.6, 1.4, 1.1,  
 331 0.9, 0.7, 0.5, 0.3, 0.1, 1.2, 1.1, 1, 0.9, 0.8, 0.7, 0.6, 0.5, 0.4, 0.3, 0.25, 0.1 units,  
 332 respectively; (Air) Each alkane (in the above order) vertically displaced by 3, 2.8, 2.6,  
 333 2.4, 2.1, 1.9, 1.6, 1.4, 1, 0.8, 0.6, 0.4, 0.1, 1.2, 1.1, 1, 0.9, 0.8, 0.7, 0.6, 0.5, 0.4, 0.3, 0.2,  
 334 0.1 units, respectively; (O<sub>2</sub>) Each alkane (in the above order) vertically displaced by  
 335 2,8, 2.6, 1.5, 2.4, 2.1, 1.7, 1, 1.3, 1.9, 0.8, 0.5, 0.3, 0.1, 1, 0.9, 0.8, 0.7, 0.6, 0.5, 0.4, 0.3,  
 336 0.1 units, respectively (Not mentioned defaults to 0).



337  
 338 **Figure 3. Rate constants of C3-C11 alkanes in different bath gases (N<sub>2</sub>, Air, O<sub>2</sub>)**  
 339 **at 298±1 K. The error bar was taken as  $\sigma$ .**



340

341 Figure 3. Comparison of rate constants of C3-C11 alkanes in different bath gases (N<sub>2</sub>,  
 342 Air, O<sub>2</sub>) with expert-evaluated data in the database at 298±1 K. The error bar was  
 343 taken as 1σ.

344 The obtained  $k_{OH}$  values for C3-C11 alkanes were compared with literature-  
 345 reported values (Table 1). For several n-alkanes, such as n-butane, the average rate  
 346 constants obtained ~~in different bath gases are (2.75±0.43), (2.76±0.27), (2.74±0.29),~~  
 347 ~~respectively,~~ in the air gas is (2.63±0.23), the unit is 10<sup>-12</sup> cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> (applicable  
 348 to all units involved in this paragraph). The result is highly consistent with the value  
 349 (2.72±0.27) obtained by Perry et al using flash photolysis resonance fluorescence  
 350 technique ~~in an Ar system, with a consistency of 2% or better (Perry et al., 1976).~~  
 351 ~~Although slightly higher by 6% and 10% compared to the values obtained by Greiner~~  
 352 ~~(Greiner, 1970a) and Talukdar et al. (Talukdar et al., 1994) using absolute techniques~~  
 353 ~~in inert gases (2.56±0.25, 2.46±0.15), when considering the errors, they still exhibit~~  
 354 ~~consistency within a certain range. Compared to the value obtained by DeMore et al.~~  
 355 ~~(Demore and Bayes, 1999) using the relative rate method (2.36±0.25), these values are~~  
 356 ~~higher by 13%, it is considered that be caused by experimental error.~~ and the values  
 357 (2.56±0.25) obtained by Greiner (Greiner, 1970a), with a consistency of 3% or better  
 358 (Perry et al., 1976). Although slightly higher by 7% compared to Talukdar et al.

359 (Talukdar et al., 1994) using absolute techniques ( $2.46 \pm 0.15$ ), when considering the  
360 errors, they still exhibit consistency within a certain range. Compared to the value  
361 obtained by DeMore et al. (Demore and Bayes, 1999) using the relative rate method  
362 ( $2.36 \pm 0.25$ ) and the expert-evaluated data (2.36) of McGillen et al.'s database, these  
363 values are higher by 11%.

364 **n-pentane (n-Heptane).** As in the n-butane case, ~~the derived  $K_{OH}$  for these compounds~~  
365 ~~is excellent consistent (within 3%) in different bath gases. The~~ the derived rate constants  
366 for n-pentane and n-heptane are in excellent agreement (4% or better at 298 K) with  
367 previous studies (Donahue et al., 1998; Atkinson, 2003; Atkinson and Arey, 2003;  
368 Wilson et al., 2006; Crawford et al., 2011; Calvert et al., 2015; Morin et al., 2015).

369 **n-Octane (Nonane).** ~~There is little difference in the rate constants of n-Octane and~~  
370 ~~Nonane in 3 bath gases, within a consistency of 2% or better.~~ The reaction rate constants  
371 of n-Octane and OH radicals are in extremely good agreement with the values reported  
372 in the literature (within 5%) (Greiner, 1970a). Same for Nonane, consistency with  
373 previous studies is less than 8% (~~Greiner, 1970a~~; Atkinson et al., 1982; Ferrari et al.,  
374 1996; Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Li et al., 2006).

375 **n-Decane.** The obtained average  ~~$K_{OH}$~~   $k_{OH}$  for n-decane in  ~~$N_2/Air/O_2$  systems were~~  
376 ~~( $1.21 \pm 0.06$ ), ( $1.21 \pm 0.11$ ) and ( $1.28 \pm 0.05$ ), respectively,~~ the air system was ( $1.18 \pm 0.02$ ),  
377 the unit is  $10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . When considering experimental error, these results  
378 are consistent with the relative value ( $1.29 \pm 0.10$ ) obtained by Li et al. (Li et al., 2006)  
379 and the reviewed value (1.10) of Atkinson and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003), with  
380 about a consistency of 6%-9%.

381 **n-Undecane.** ~~The measured average  $K_{OH}$  for n-decane in 3 bath gas systems were~~  
382 ~~( $1.38 \pm 0.05$ ), ( $1.33 \pm 0.16$ ) and ( $1.48 \pm 0.14$ ), respectively,~~ The obtained average  $k_{OH}$  for  
383 n-decane in the air system was ( $1.33 \pm 0.16$ ), the unit is  $10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . ~~The data~~  
384 ~~in the oxygen system is about 11% higher than that in the air system~~ It is about 8%  
385 higher than the previous research (Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Sivaramakrishnan and  
386 Michael, 2009; Calvert et al., 2015).

387 For the cycloalkanes, like cyclopentane, the average rate constants are  ~~$5.08 \pm 0.24$ ,~~  
388  ~~$4.96 \pm 0.27$ ,~~  ~~$4.82 \pm 0.14$~~   $4.88 \pm 0.19$ ,  $4.82 \pm 0.27$ ,  $4.59 \pm 0.14$ , respectively, the unit is  $10^{-12}$

389  $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The results are in excellent agreement (~~5%~~ 8% or better) with the  
390 reviewed value (4.97) of Atkinson and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003) and the relative  
391 values (4.83, 4.84) of DeMore et al. (Demore and Bayes, 1999) and Singh et al. (Singh  
392 et al., 2013) and the absolute value (5.02) of Droege et al. (Droege and Tully, 1987).  
393 And the obtained  $k_{\text{OH}}$  values for cyclohexane are highly consistent (3% or better)  
394 with the absolute values ( $7.14 \times 10^{-12}$ ,  $7.19 \times 10^{-12}$ ) obtained by Droege and Tully and  
395 Sprengnether et al. (Droege and Tully, 1987; Sprengnether et al., 2009). However, this  
396 result is slightly higher than the relative value by about 5%-16%. Like the relative  
397 values measured by DeMore and Bayes (Demore and Bayes, 1999) or Wilson et al.  
398 (Wilson et al., 2006) were  $6.70 \times 10^{-12}$  and  $6.38 \times 10^{-12}$ , respectively. It worth noting that  
399 the  $k_{\text{OH}}$  value for methylcyclopentane in this work is highly consistent (within 3%  
400 to 5%) with the absolute data reported by Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009).  
401 However, it is lower by approximately 15% to 18% compared to the relative data  
402 obtained by Anderson et al. (Andersen et al., 2003). The  $k_{\text{OH}}$  values for  
403 methylcyclohexane are excellent agreement (3% or better) with other values reported  
404 by Atkinson and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003) and Calvert et al. (Calvert et al., 2015).  
405 Furthermore, for several less studied branched alkanes, such as 2-Methylhexane,  
406 3-Methylhexane, and 2-Methylheptane, there is only one study reported so far.  
407 Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009) conducted a study on 2-Methylhexane  
408 and 3-Methylhexane and obtained  $k_{\text{OH}}$  values at room temperature for the first time,  
409 which were  ~~$6.30 \times 10^{-12}$  and  $6.69 \times 10^{-12}$~~   $6.69 \times 10^{-12}$  and  $6.30 \times 10^{-12}$  (the unit is  $\text{cm}^3$   
410  $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), respectively. ~~Our results are about slightly higher by approximately 3%~~  
411 ~~to 6% compared to their values.~~ The rate constants of 2-Methylhexane and 3-  
412 Methylhexane obtained in this work are  $(6.80 \pm 0.13) \times 10^{-12}$  and  $(6.29 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-12}$ ,  
413 respectively, which are consistent with the values obtained by Sprengnether et al.  
414 (2009). However, the data for 2-Methylheptane in this work is lower by about 17%  
415 compared to the value reported by Shaw et al. (Shaw et al., 2018).



416 Table 1. Comparison of Experimental in this work with the reported in the literature and Estimated Alkane  
 417 Rate Constants Based on the Present SAR Calculations in the different bath gases (N<sub>2</sub>, Air, O<sub>2</sub>) at 298±1  
 418 K.

Alkanes	Bath gas	Reference	This work		Reference	SAR	
			$K_{OH}/K_{reference}$ ±1σ	$K_{OH}$ ±1σ (×10 <sup>-12</sup> ·cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> ·s <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_{OH-av}$ <sup>a</sup> ±1σ (×10 <sup>-12</sup> ·cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> ·s <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_{OH}$ (×10 <sup>-12</sup> ·cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> ·s <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_{OH}$ (×10 <sup>-12</sup> ·cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> ·s <sup>-1</sup> )
Propane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.278±0.001	(1.38±0.01)			
		Cyclohexane	0.187±0.004	(1.25±0.03)	(1.38±0.05)		
		n-Octane	0.174±0.020	(1.34±0.04)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.190±0.033	(9.43±1.66)		1.11 <sup>bed</sup>	
		Cyclohexane	0.153±0.028	(1.03±0.18)	(1.01±0.26)	1.09 <sup>e</sup>	1.27
		n-Octane	0.136±0.031	(1.16±0.26)		1.91 <sup>f</sup> (1.15±0.15) <sup>g</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.178±0.002	(0.886±0.012)			
		Cyclohexane	0.133±0.004	(0.893±0.026)	(0.888±0.084)		
		n-Octane	0.109±0.008	(0.925±0.065)			
Isobutane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.427±0.048	(2.12±0.24)			
		Cyclohexane	0.302±0.052	(2.02±0.35)	(2.10±0.32)		
		n-Octane	0.254±0.041	(2.15±0.35)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.444±0.012	(2.21±0.06)		2.12 <sup>h</sup>	
		Cyclohexane	0.315±0.008	(2.08±0.02)	(2.19±0.13)	2.22 <sup>i</sup>	2.44
		n-Octane	0.264±0.005	(2.24±0.04)		(2.34±0.33) <sup>j</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.422±0.004	(2.10±0.02)			
		Cyclohexane	0.312±0.002	(2.24±0.02)	(2.09±0.09)		
		n-Octane	0.262±0.006	(2.22±0.05)			
n-Butane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.511±0.071	(2.54±0.35)			
		Cyclohexane	0.423±0.120	(2.83±0.80)	(2.64±0.43)		
		n-Octane	0.343±0.084	(2.91±0.71)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.516±0.025	(2.56±0.12)		(2.36±0.25) <sup>b</sup>	
		Cyclohexane	0.398±0.017	(2.66±0.12)	(2.63±0.23)	(2.72±0.27) <sup>k</sup>	2.63
		n-Octane	0.345±0.042	(2.93±0.36)		(2.56±0.25) <sup>m</sup> (2.46±0.15) <sup>d</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.517±0.032	(2.57±0.16)			
		Cyclohexane	0.396±0.039	(2.65±0.26)	(2.62±0.28)		
			n-Octane	0.333±0.044	(2.82±0.37)		

		n-Hexane	0.715±0.038	(3.55±0.19)			
	N <sub>2</sub>	Cyclohexane	0.434±0.061	(2.91±0.41)	(3.40±0.32)		
		n-Octane	0.363±0.054	(3.08±0.46)			
Isopentane	Air	n-Hexane	0.684±0.033	(3.40±0.17)		3.60 <sup>e</sup>	4.04
		Cyclohexane	0.512±0.026	(3.43±0.18)	(3.49±0.25)	3.65 <sup>h</sup>	
		n-Octane	0.442±0.025	(3.75±0.22)		3.50 <sup>f</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.446±0.020	(2.21±0.10)			
		Cyclohexane	0.330±0.012	(2.21±0.08)	(2.33±0.07)		
		n-Octane	0.275±0.001	(2.33±0.01)			
n-pentane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.764±0.039	(3.80±0.20)			
		Cyclohexane	0.533±0.006	(3.57±0.04)	(3.80±0.07)		
		n-Octane	0.448±0.001	(3.80±0.01)			3.80 <sup>e</sup>
n-pentane	Air	n-Hexane	0.709±0.042	(3.52±0.21)		3.98 <sup>n</sup>	4.05
		Cyclohexane	0.527±0.021	(3.53±0.14)	(3.59±0.25)	4.03 <sup>o</sup>	
		n-Octane	0.454±0.029	(3.85±0.24)		(3.97±0.20) <sup>p</sup> (4.20±0.15) <sup>g</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.754±0.011	(3.75±0.06)			
		Cyclohexane	0.558±0.005	(3.74±0.03)	(3.75±0.13)		
		n-Octane	0.467±0.012	(3.96±0.10)			
Cyclopentane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.944±0.026	(4.69±0.13)			
		Cyclohexane	0.702±0.019	(4.70±0.13)	(4.88±0.19)		
		n-Octane	0.593±0.010	(5.03±0.08)			4.97 <sup>e</sup>
Cyclopentane	Air	n-Hexane	0.951±0.033	(4.72±0.17)		4.83 <sup>b</sup>	7.07
		Cyclohexane	0.711±0.043	(4.76±0.29)	(4.82±0.27)	5.02 <sup>q</sup>	
		n-Octane	0.600±0.029	(5.09±0.24)		(4.90±0.20) <sup>p</sup> 4.84 <sup>b+</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.924±0.007	(4.59±0.04)			
		Cyclohexane	0.673±0.010	(4.50±0.07)	(4.59±0.14)		
		n-Octane	0.576±0.014	(4.89±0.12)			
2,2-Dimethylbutane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.363±0.001	(1.80±0.01)			
		Cyclohexane	0.254±0.016	(1.70±0.11)	(1.80±0.06)		
		n-Octane	0.213±0.011	(1.81±0.09)			(2.23±0.15) <sup>p</sup>
2,2-Dimethylbutane	Air	n-Hexane	0.409±0.019	(2.03±0.09)			
		Cyclohexane	0.301±0.030	(2.02±0.20)	(2.05±0.23)	2.15 <sup>s</sup>	1.82
		n-Octane	0.264±0.031	(2.24±0.26)		2.32 <sup>o</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.327±0.015	(1.63±0.08)			
		Cyclohexane	0.238±0.016	(1.59±0.11)	(1.63±0.18)		
		n-Octane	0.204±0.016	(1.73±0.13)			

		n-Hexane	1.133±0.032	(5.63±0.16)			
	N <sub>2</sub>	Cyclohexane	0.815±0.005	(5.45±0.03)	(5.72±0.11)		
		n-Octane	0.686±0.002	(5.82±0.02)			
2,3-Dimethylbutane	Air	n-Hexane	1.095±0.061	(5.44±0.31)		5.78 <sup>e</sup>	4.55
		Cyclohexane	0.809±0.039	(5.42±0.26)	(5.62±0.31)	(6.14±0.25) <sup>p</sup>	
		n-Octane	0.728±0.050	(6.05±0.29)		6.03 <sup>h</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.093±0.018	(5.43±0.09)			
		Cyclohexane	0.786±0.008	(5.25±0.06)	(5.32±0.17)		
		n-Octane	0.650±0.019	(5.52±0.17)			
2-Methylpentane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.920±0.016	(4.57±0.08)			5.45
		Cyclohexane	0.662±0.035	(4.43±0.23)	(4.58±0.21)		
		n-Octane	0.557±0.024	(4.72±0.20)			
	Air	n-Hexane	0.972±0.022	(4.83±0.11)		5.2 <sup>e</sup>	5.45
		Cyclohexane	0.722±0.054	(4.83±0.36)	(4.86±0.26)	(5.25±0.25) <sup>p</sup>	
		n-Octane	0.625±0.045	(5.30±0.38)		5.00 <sup>f</sup>	
O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.899±0.001	(4.47±0.01)		4.75 <sup>s</sup>		
	Cyclohexane	0.646±0.003	(4.32±0.02)	(4.46±0.06)			
	n-Octane	0.535±0.007	(4.54±0.06)				
3-Methylpentane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.000±0.035	(4.97±0.17)			5.73
		Cyclohexane	0.718±0.001	(4.80±0.01)	(4.81±0.08)		
		n-Octane	0.604±0.005	(5.13±0.04)			
	Air	n-Hexane	1.014±0.030	(5.04±0.15)		5.20 <sup>e</sup>	5.73
		Cyclohexane	0.777±0.059	(5.20±0.40)	(5.08±0.31)	(5.54±0.25) <sup>p</sup>	
		n-Octane	0.669±0.082	(5.67±0.70)		4.93 <sup>s</sup>	
O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.973±0.039	(4.83±0.20)				
	Cyclohexane	0.701±0.025	(4.69±0.16)	(4.79±0.26)			
	n-Octane	0.582±0.028	(4.94±0.24)				
methylcyclopentane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.455±0.044	(7.23±0.22)			8.75
		Cyclohexane	1.046±0.004	(7.00±0.28)	(7.14±0.13)		
		n-Octane	0.881±0.005	(7.47±0.04)			
	Air	n-Hexane	1.432±0.053	(7.12±0.27)		(7.65±0.10) <sup>u</sup>	8.75
		Cyclohexane	1.007±0.023	(6.73±0.15)	(7.31±0.29)	(8.60±0.30) <sup>p</sup>	
		n-Octane	0.849±0.017	(7.00±0.24)		(8.60±2.20) <sup>t</sup>	
O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.404±0.046	(6.98±0.23)				
	Cyclohexane	1.010±0.027	(6.76±0.18)	(6.89±0.28)			
		n-Octane	0.838±0.037	(7.11±0.31)			

		n-Hexane	0.967±0.025	(4.81±0.12)				
	N <sub>2</sub>	Cyclohexane	0.775±0.088	(5.18±0.59)	(4.96±0.07)			
		n-Octane	0.585±0.001	(4.96±0.01)				
2,4-Dimethylpentane	Air	n-Hexane	0.962±0.012	(4.78±0.06)		4.80 <sup>e</sup>		
		Cyclohexane	0.721±0.046	(4.83±0.31)	(4.80±0.20)	5.51 <sup>s</sup>	5.02	
		n-Octane	0.596±0.026	(5.05±0.22)		(5.76±0.40) <sup>p</sup>		
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.944±0.032	(4.69±0.16)				
		Cyclohexane	0.679±0.019	(4.54±0.13)	(4.87±0.24)			
		n-Octane	0.564±0.026	(4.63±0.23)				
Cyclohexane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.392±0.049	(6.92±0.25)				
		Cyclohexane	—	—	(7.12±0.23)			
		n-Octane	0.842±0.008	(7.14±0.07)		6.97 <sup>e</sup>		
	Air	n-Hexane	1.372±0.054	(6.82±0.27)		7.14 <sup>q</sup>		
		Cyclohexane	—	—	(7.20±0.33)	6.38 <sup>h</sup>	8.48	
		n-Octane	0.872±0.022	(7.39±0.19)		6.70 <sup>b</sup>		
O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.388±0.010	(6.90±0.05)		(7.19±0.10) <sup>u</sup>			
	Cyclohexane	—	—	(6.85±0.20) <sup>p</sup>				
	n-Octane	0.830±0.013	(7.04±0.11)	(6.92±0.18)				
2-Methylhexane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.366±0.055	(6.79±0.27)				
		Cyclohexane	0.979±0.003	(6.55±0.02)	(6.57±0.12)			
		n-Octane	0.825±0.010	(7.00±0.09)				
	Air	n-Hexane	1.369±0.004	(6.80±0.02)				
		Cyclohexane	0.993±0.022	(6.64±0.15)	(6.80±0.13)	(6.69±0.10) <sup>u</sup>	6.86	
		n-Octane	0.800±0.031	(6.78±0.26)				
O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.415±0.015	(7.03±0.08)					
	Cyclohexane	1.020±0.022	(6.83±0.14)	(7.14±0.16)				
	n-Octane	0.852±0.006	(7.22±0.05)					
N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.310±0.022	(6.51±0.11)					
	Cyclohexane	0.938±0.023	(6.27±0.15)	(6.53±0.21)				
	n-Octane	0.794±0.015	(6.73±0.13)					
3-Methylhexane	Air	n-Hexane	1.266±0.003	(6.29±0.02)				
		Cyclohexane	0.984±0.046	(6.58±0.31)	(6.29±0.11)	(6.30±0.10) <sup>u</sup>	7.15	
		n-Octane	0.807±0.122	(6.73±0.74)				
O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.401±0.017	(6.96±0.08)					
	Cyclohexane	1.007±0.019	(6.73±0.13)	(7.11±0.10)				
	n-Octane	0.840±0.002	(7.12±0.02)					

		n-Hexane	0.635±0.013	(3.16±0.06)				
	N <sub>2</sub>	Cyclohexane	0.458±0.026	(3.06±0.17)	(3.16±0.19)			
		n-Octane	0.384±0.018	(3.26±0.15)				
2,2,4- Trimethyl pentane		n-Hexane	0.702±0.033	(3.49±0.16)		3.34 <sup>e</sup>		
	Air	Cyclohexane	0.557±0.032	(3.72±0.21)	(3.58±0.28)	3.64 <sup>s</sup>	4.64	
		n-Octane	0.435±0.065	(3.69±0.55)		(3.34±0.25) <sup>p</sup>		
						(3.71±0.10) <sup>r</sup>		
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	0.587±0.019	(2.92±0.10)				
		Cyclohexane	0.421±0.018	(2.82±0.12)	(2.94±0.17)			
		n-Octane	0.352±0.008	(2.98±0.07)				
n-Heptane		n-Hexane	1.302±0.004	(6.47±0.02)				
	N <sub>2</sub>	Cyclohexane	0.937±0.029	(6.27±0.20)	(6.47±0.13)			
		n-Octane	0.789±0.017	(6.47±0.13)				
	Air	n-Hexane	1.280±0.066	(6.36±0.33)		6.76 <sup>e</sup>		
		Cyclohexane	0.961±0.020	(6.43±0.26)	(6.78±0.36)	6.68 <sup>r</sup>	6.87	
		n-Octane	0.828±0.029	(7.03±0.25)		6.80 <sup>h</sup>		
					(6.70±0.15) <sup>s</sup>			
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.271±0.004	(6.32±0.02)				
		Cyclohexane	0.912±0.004	(6.10±0.03)	(6.23±0.10)			
		n-Octane	0.760±0.012	(6.45±0.10)				
	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.914±0.070	(9.51±0.35)				
		Cyclohexane	1.374±0.001	(9.19±0.01)	(9.20±0.08)			
		n-Octane	1.156±0.013	(9.80±0.11)				
Methyleye lohexane		n-Hexane	1.906±0.098	(9.48±0.49)		9.60 <sup>e</sup>		
	Air	Cyclohexane	1.349±0.012	(9.02±0.08)	(9.25±0.22)	(9.64±0.30) <sup>p</sup>	10.20	
		n-Octane	1.160±0.016	(9.83±0.14)		(11.8±1.00) <sup>f</sup>		
						(9.50±0.14) <sup>p</sup>		
						(9.29±0.10) <sup>h</sup>		
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.944±0.025	(9.66±0.12)				
	Cyclohexane	1.400±0.007	(9.37±0.05)	(9.43±0.17)				
		n-Octane	1.165±0.023	(9.88±0.20)				
	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.383±0.013	(6.88±0.06)				
		Cyclohexane	0.997±0.043	(6.67±0.29)	(6.88±0.21)			
		n-Octane	0.839±0.028	(7.12±0.24)				
	2,3,4- Trimethyl pentane		n-Hexane	1.355±0.050	(6.73±0.25)		6.60 <sup>e</sup>	
		Air	Cyclohexane	1.008±0.039	(6.74±0.26)	(6.87±0.30)	6.50 <sup>h</sup>	8.54
			n-Octane	0.861±0.039	(7.30±0.33)		(6.60±0.26) <sup>p</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.266±0.032	(6.29±0.16)				
	Cyclohexane	0.908±0.031	(6.08±0.21)	(6.35±0.21)				
		n-Octane	0.757±0.010	(6.42±0.09)				

		n-Hexane	1.521±0.009	(7.56±0.05)			
	N <sub>2</sub>	Cyclohexane	1.096±0.053	(8.07±0.38)	(7.57±0.18)		
		n-Octane	0.923±0.029	(7.83±0.24)			
2-Methylheptane	Air	n-Hexane	1.532±0.062	(7.62±0.31)			
		Cyclohexane	1.061±0.029	(7.09±0.19)	(7.49±0.27)	9.10 <sup>b</sup>	8.28
		n-Octane	0.931±0.025	(7.89±0.21)			
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.444±0.017	(7.18±0.09)			
		Cyclohexane	1.037±0.021	(6.94±0.14)	(7.33±0.04)		
		n-Octane	0.865±0.001	(7.33±0.01)			
3-Methylheptane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.525±0.022	(7.58±0.11)			
		Cyclohexane	1.099±0.054	(7.35±0.36)	(7.59±0.26)		
		n-Octane	0.925±0.036	(7.85±0.31)			
	Air	n-Hexane	1.532±0.070	(7.62±0.35)			
		Cyclohexane	1.055±0.072	(7.06±0.48)	(7.71±0.35)	—	8.90
		n-Octane	0.948±0.036	(8.04±0.31)			
n-Octane	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.448±0.020	(7.20±0.10)			
		Cyclohexane	1.040±0.024	(6.96±0.16)	(7.34±0.11)		
		n-Octane	0.867±0.002	(7.35±0.02)			
	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.651±0.043	(8.20±0.21)			
		Cyclohexane	1.186±0.012	(7.93±0.08)	(7.97±0.24)		
		n-Octane	—	—			
Nonane	Air	n-Hexane	1.680±0.038	(8.35±0.19)		8.11 <sup>e</sup>	
		Cyclohexane	1.157±0.027	(7.74±0.18)	(8.03±0.32)	8.42 <sup>m</sup>	8.28
		n-Octane	—	—		(8.48±0.10) <sup>z</sup>	
	O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	1.666±0.013	(8.28±0.06)			
		Cyclohexane	1.199±0.019	(8.02±0.13)	(8.23.21		
		n-Octane	—	—			
Decane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	2.124±0.057	(10.57±0.28)			
		Cyclohexane	1.525±0.016	(10.20±0.10)	(10.90±0.04)		
		n-Octane	1.286±0.001	(10.90±0.01)			
	Air	n-Hexane	2.166±0.079	(10.76±0.39)		9.70 <sup>e</sup>	
		Cyclohexane	1.449±0.028	(9.69±0.19)	(10.50±0.26)	10.20 <sup>A</sup>	9.70
		n-Octane	1.287±0.017	(10.92±0.14)		10.70 <sup>w</sup>	
O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	2.117±0.002	(10.52±0.01)		(11.30±1.10) <sup>z</sup>		
	Cyclohexane	1.525±0.011	(10.20±0.08)	(10.52±0.09)			
	n-Octane	1.269±0.012	(10.76±0.10)				

n-Decane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	2.355±0.078	(11.71±0.39)	(11.54±0.16)		11.10	
		Cyclohexane	1.691±0.047	(11.31±0.10)				
		n-Octane	1.425±0.009	(12.09±0.07)				
	Air	n-Hexane	2.371±0.073	(11.78±0.36)	(11.81±0.18)			11.00 <sup>e</sup>
		Cyclohexane	1.668±0.022	(11.16±0.15)				(12.9±1.00) <sup>z</sup>
		n-Octane	1.401±0.006	(11.88±0.05)				
O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	2.506±0.028	(12.45±0.14)	(12.35±0.29)				
	Cyclohexane	1.804±0.034	(12.07±0.22)					
	n-Octane	1.503±0.004	(12.75±0.03)					
n-Undecane	N <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	2.685±0.042	(13.34±0.21)	(13.30±0.34)			
		Cyclohexane	1.880±0.093	(12.58±0.63)				
		n-Octane	1.592±0.056	(13.50±0.47)				
	Air	n-Hexane	2.371±0.073	(11.78±0.36)	(12.78±0.53)			12.30 <sup>e</sup>
		Cyclohexane	1.668±0.022	(11.16±0.15)				12.50 <sup>B</sup>
		n-Octane	1.588±0.056	(13.50±0.60)				(11.90±2.00) <sup>P</sup>
O <sub>2</sub>	n-Hexane	2.684±0.266	(13.34±1.32)	(13.92±0.65)				
	Cyclohexane	1.829±0.132	(12.24±0.88)					
	n-Octane	1.523±0.069	(12.92±0.58)					

419 Table 1. Comparison of Experimental in this work with the reported in the literature in  
420 the different bath gases (N<sub>2</sub>, Air, O<sub>2</sub>) at 298±1 K.

Alkanes	Reference	This work		Reference
		$k_{OH}/k_{reference}$ ±1σ	$k_{OH}$ ±1σ (×10 <sup>-12</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	$k_{OH-av}^a$ ±1σ (×10 <sup>-12</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
Propane	n-Hexane	0.190±0.033	(9.43±1.66)	1.11 <sup>bcd</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.153±0.028	(1.03±0.18)	1.09 <sup>e</sup>
	n-Octane	0.136±0.031	(1.16±0.26)	(1.01±0.26)
Isobutane	n-Hexane	0.444±0.012	(2.21±0.06)	(1.15±0.15) <sup>g</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.315±0.008	(2.08±0.02)	2.12 <sup>h</sup>
	n-Octane	0.264±0.005	(2.24±0.04)	2.22 <sup>i</sup>
n-Butane	n-Hexane	0.516±0.025	(2.56±0.12)	(2.34±0.33) <sup>j</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.398±0.017	(2.66±0.12)	(2.36±0.25) <sup>b</sup>
	n-Octane	0.345±0.042	(2.93±0.36)	(2.72±0.27) <sup>k</sup>
				(2.56±0.25) <sup>m</sup>

					(2.46±0.15) <sup>d</sup>
Isopentane	n-Hexane	0.684±0.033	(3.40±0.17)		3.60 <sup>e</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.512±0.026	(3.43±0.18)	(3.49±0.25)	3.65 <sup>h</sup>
	n-Octane	0.442±0.025	(3.75±0.22)		3.50 <sup>f</sup>
n-pentane	n-Hexane	0.709±0.042	(3.52±0.21)		3.80 <sup>e</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.527±0.021	(3.53±0.14)	(3.59±0.25)	3.98 <sup>n</sup>
	n-Octane	0.454±0.029	(3.85±0.24)		4.03 <sup>o</sup>
Cyclopentane	n-Hexane	0.951±0.033	(4.72±0.17)		(3.97±0.20) <sup>p</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.711±0.043	(4.76±0.29)	(4.82±0.27)	(4.20±0.15) <sup>g</sup>
	n-Octane	0.600±0.029	(5.09±0.24)		4.97 <sup>e</sup>
2,2-Dimethylbutane	n-Hexane	0.409±0.019	(2.03±0.09)		4.83 <sup>b</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.301±0.030	(2.02±0.20)	(2.05±0.23)	5.02 <sup>q</sup>
	n-Octane	0.264±0.031	(2.24±0.26)		(4.90±0.20) <sup>p</sup>
2,3-Dimethylbutane	n-Hexane	1.095±0.061	(5.44±0.31)		4.84 <sup>br</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.809±0.039	(5.42±0.26)	(5.62±0.31)	(2.23±0.15) <sup>p</sup>
	n-Octane	0.728±0.050	(6.05±0.29)		2.15 <sup>s</sup>
2-Methylpentane	n-Hexane	0.972±0.022	(4.83±0.11)		2.32 <sup>o</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.722±0.054	(4.83±0.36)	(4.86±0.26)	5.78 <sup>e</sup>
	n-Octane	0.625±0.045	(5.30±0.38)		(6.14±0.25) <sup>p</sup>
3-Methylpentane	n-Hexane	1.014±0.030	(5.04±0.15)		6.03 <sup>h</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.777±0.059	(5.20±0.40)	(5.08±0.31)	5.2 <sup>e</sup>
	n-Octane	0.669±0.082	(5.67±0.70)		(5.25±0.25) <sup>p</sup>
methylcyclopentane	n-Hexane	1.432±0.053	(7.12±0.27)		5.00 <sup>f</sup>
	Cyclohexane	1.007±0.023	(6.73±0.15)	(7.31±0.29)	4.75 <sup>s</sup>
	n-Octane	0.849±0.017	(7.00±0.24)		5.20 <sup>e</sup>
2,4-Dimethylpentane	n-Hexane	0.962±0.012	(4.78±0.06)		(5.54±0.25) <sup>p</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.721±0.046	(4.83±0.31)	(4.80±0.20)	4.93 <sup>s</sup>
	n-Octane	0.596±0.026	(5.05±0.22)		(7.65±0.10) <sup>u</sup>
Cyclohexane	n-Hexane	1.372±0.054	(6.82±0.27)		(8.60±0.30) <sup>p</sup>
	Cyclohexane	--	--	(7.20±0.33)	(8.60±2.20) <sup>t</sup>
	n-Octane	0.872±0.022	(7.39±0.19)		4.80 <sup>e</sup>
					5.51 <sup>s</sup>
					(5.76±0.40) <sup>p</sup>
					6.97 <sup>e</sup>
					7.14 <sup>q</sup>
					6.38 <sup>h</sup>



					6.70 <sup>b</sup>
					(7.19±0.10) <sup>u</sup>
					(6.85±0.20) <sup>p</sup>
2-Methylhexane	n-Hexane	1.369±0.004	(6.80±0.02)		
	Cyclohexane	0.993±0.022	(6.64±0.15)	(6.80±0.13)	(6.69±0.10) <sup>u</sup>
	n-Octane	0.800±0.031	(6.78±0.26)		
3-Methylhexane	n-Hexane	1.266±0.003	(6.29±0.02)		
	Cyclohexane	0.984±0.046	(6.58±0.31)	(6.29±0.11)	(6.30±0.10) <sup>u</sup>
	n-Octane	0.807±0.122	(6.73±0.74)		
2,2,4- Trimethylpentane	n-Hexane	0.702±0.033	(3.49±0.16)		3.34 <sup>e</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.557±0.032	(3.72±0.21)	(3.58±0.28)	3.64 <sup>s</sup>
	n-Octane	0.435±0.065	(3.69±0.55)		(3.34±0.25) <sup>p</sup>
					(3.71±0.10) <sup>v</sup>
n-Heptane	n-Hexane	1.280±0.066	(6.36±0.33)		6.76 <sup>e</sup>
	Cyclohexane	0.961±0.020	(6.43±0.26)	(6.78±0.36)	6.68 <sup>y</sup>
	n-Octane	0.828±0.029	(7.03±0.25)		6.80 <sup>h</sup>
					(6.70±0.15) <sup>g</sup>
Methylcyclohexane	n-Hexane	1.906±0.098	(9.48±0.49)		9.60 <sup>e</sup>
	Cyclohexane	1.349±0.012	(9.02±0.08)	(9.25±0.22)	(9.64±0.30) <sup>p</sup>
	n-Octane	1.160±0.016	(9.83±0.14)		(11.8±1.00) <sup>f</sup>
					(9.50±0.14) <sup>d</sup>
					(9.29±0.10) <sup>u</sup>
2,3,4- Trimethylpentane	n-Hexane	1.355±0.050	(6.73±0.25)		6.60 <sup>e</sup>
	Cyclohexane	1.008±0.039	(6.74±0.26)	(6.87±0.30)	6.50 <sup>h</sup>
	n-Octane	0.861±0.039	(7.30±0.33)		(6.60±0.26) <sup>p</sup>
2-Methylheptane	n-Hexane	1.532±0.062	(7.62±0.31)		
	Cyclohexane	1.061±0.029	(7.09±0.19)	(7.49±0.27)	9.10 <sup>L</sup>
	n-Octane	0.931±0.025	(7.89±0.21)		
3-Methylheptane	n-Hexane	1.532±0.070	(7.62±0.35)		
	Cyclohexane	1.055±0.072	(7.06±0.48)	(7.71±0.35)	--
	n-Octane	0.948±0.036	(8.04±0.31)		
n-Octane	n-Hexane	1.680±0.038	(8.35±0.19)		8.11 <sup>e</sup>
	Cyclohexane	1.157±0.027	(7.74±0.18)	(8.03±0.32)	8.42 <sup>m</sup>
	n-Octane	--	--		(8.48±0.10) <sup>z</sup>
Nonane	n-Hexane	2.166±0.079	(10.76±0.39)		9.70 <sup>e</sup>
	Cyclohexane	1.449±0.028	(9.69±0.19)	(10.50±0.26)	10.20 <sup>A</sup>
	n-Octane	1.287±0.017	(10.92±0.14)		10.70 <sup>w</sup>
					(11.30±1.10) <sup>z</sup>
n-Decane	n-Hexane	2.371±0.073	(11.78±0.36)		11.00 <sup>e</sup>
	Cyclohexane	1.668±0.022	(11.16±0.15)	(11.81±0.18)	(12.9±1.00) <sup>z</sup>

	n-Octane	1.401±0.006	(11.88±0.05)	
	n-Hexane	2.371±0.073	(11.78±0.36)	12.30 <sup>e</sup>
n-Undecane	Cyclohexane	1.668±0.022	(11.16±0.15)	(12.78±0.53)
	n-Octane	1.588±0.056	(13.50±0.60)	(11.90±2.00) <sup>p</sup>

421

422 a: Weighted average  $k_{av} = (w_{ref1} k_{ref1} + w_{ref2} k_{ref2} + \dots) / (w_{ref1} + w_{ref2} + \dots)$ , where  $w_{ref1} = 1/\sigma_{ref1}^2$ , etc. The error,  
 423  $\sigma_{av}$ , was given by:  $\sigma_{av} = (1/\sigma_{ref1} + 1/\sigma_{ref2} + \dots)^{-0.5}$ .

424 b: (Demore and Bayes, 1999); c: (Mellouki et al., 1994); d: (Talukdar et al., 1994); e: (Atkinson and Arey,  
 425 2003); f: (Cox et al., 1980); g: (Morin et al., 2015); h: (Wilson et al., 2006); i: (Tully et al., 1986); j:  
 426 (Edney et al., 1986); k: (Perry et al., 1976); m: (Greiner, 1970a); n: (Donahue et al., 1998); o: (Harris and  
 427 Kerr, 1988); p: (Calvert et al., 2015); q: (Droege and Tully, 1987); r: (Singh et al., 2013); s: (Badra and  
 428 Farooq, 2015) u: (Sprengnether et al., 2009); t: (Anderson et al., 2004); v: (Greiner, 1970b), y: (Crawford  
 429 et al., 2011); z: (Li et al., 2006); L: (Shaw et al., 2020); w: (Atkinson et al., 1982); A: (Ferrari et al., 1996);  
 430 B: (Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009); D: (Bejan et al., 2018); F: (Ballesteros et al., 2015).

### 431 3.2 Comparisons to structure–activity relationships

432 Based on an extensive review of kinetic literature values for linear alkanes at room temperature,  
 433 Atkinson and Kwok et al derived the values of  $K_{prim}^0$ ,  $K_{sec}^0$ ,  $K_{tert}^0$  at room temperature,  $K_{prim}^0 = 0.136 \times 10^{-12}$ ,  
 434  $K_{sec}^0 = 0.934 \times 10^{-12}$ ,  $K_{tert}^0 = 1.94 \times 10^{-12}$ , the unit is  $\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ . ~~Figure 4. compared rate constants for~~  
 435 ~~OH radical reactions with 25 alkanes across the Air system along with estimated SAR values (Atkinson,~~  
 436 ~~et al and Wilson et al) at 298±1 K. The shaded area demonstrates a 20 % uncertainty in the 1:1 black~~  
 437 ~~gradient line. Most n-alkanes fall into the shaded area, indicating high agreement for n-alkanes'  $K_{OH}$  rate~~  
 438 ~~coefficients with the SAR values, especially C3–C8 n-alkanes (about within 8%). Some longer straight-~~  
 439 ~~chain alkanes like Nonane, n-Decane, and n-Undecane exhibited slightly higher  $K_{OH}$  values (around 10%)~~  
 440 ~~compared to the estimated SAR values, implying that longer R-terminal alkyl chains offer more hydrogen~~  
 441 ~~extraction sites than SAR estimates. For branch alkanes, such as 3-Methylheptane and 2,3,4-~~  
 442 ~~Trimethylpentane, the SAR values were about 12% and 20%, respectively higher than the  $K_{OH}$  values~~  
 443 ~~obtained in air bath gas. On the other hand, the obtained  $K_{OH}$  values for methylcyclopentane and~~  
 444 ~~cyclohexane were about 14% and 16%, respectively, lower than the SAR values, indicating that the~~  
 445 ~~reaction activity of these cycle-chain alkanes estimated using SAR might be overestimated.~~

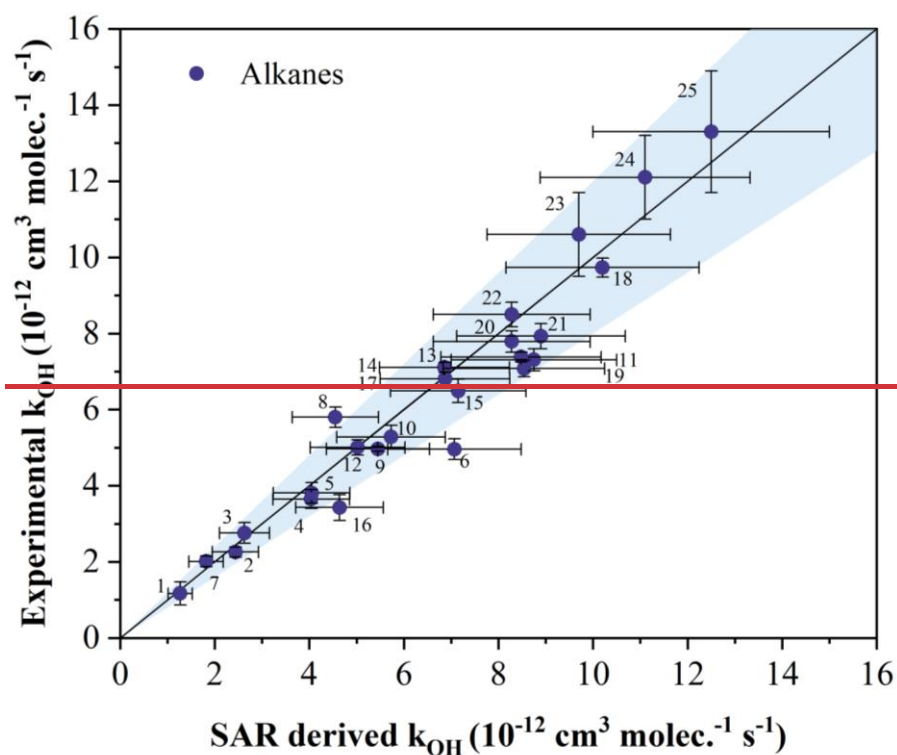
446 As shown in Fig. 4, the outliers are cyclopentane, 2,3-Dimethylbutane and 2,2,4-Trimethylpentane,

447 ~~respectively. The obtained  $k_{OH}$  values of Cyclopentane and 2,2,4-Trimethylpentane were about 30%, 26%,~~  
448 ~~respectively, lower than the corresponding SAR values. Nevertheless, the SAR estimate for 2,3-~~  
449 ~~Dimethylbutane is approximately 22% lower than the experimental value obtained in this study.~~  
450 ~~Interestingly, in the estimation by Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006), it was also found that the  $k_{OH}$  of this~~  
451 ~~compound (at 298 K) could not be accurately estimated by the same methodology due to unknown reasons.~~  
452 ~~This phenomenon indicates that our understanding for the oxidation chemistry of these compounds is still~~  
453 ~~limited, still need a lot of experimental data for alkanes with this structure to confirm.~~ To evaluate the  
454 reliability of our experimental data, multiple comparisons were made between the obtained reaction rate  
455 constants and the SAR values of different experimental groups (Figure 4). As shown in Figure 4, most n-  
456 alkanes are fall into the shaded region, indicating a high level of agreement for  $k_{OH}$  rate coefficients of  
457 most n-alkanes (experimental values) with the SAR values, particularly for C3-C11 n-alkanes (about  
458 within 10%). Although the measured values of n-butane and n-pentane were lower than the estimated  
459 values of Neeb (2000), the similar trend was observed when comparing our experimental data with the  
460 SAR values of Wilson et al, 2006, and Jenkin et al, 2018 (refer to Fig. 4 (c) and Fig. 4 (d)), suggesting a  
461 certain level of reliability in our results.

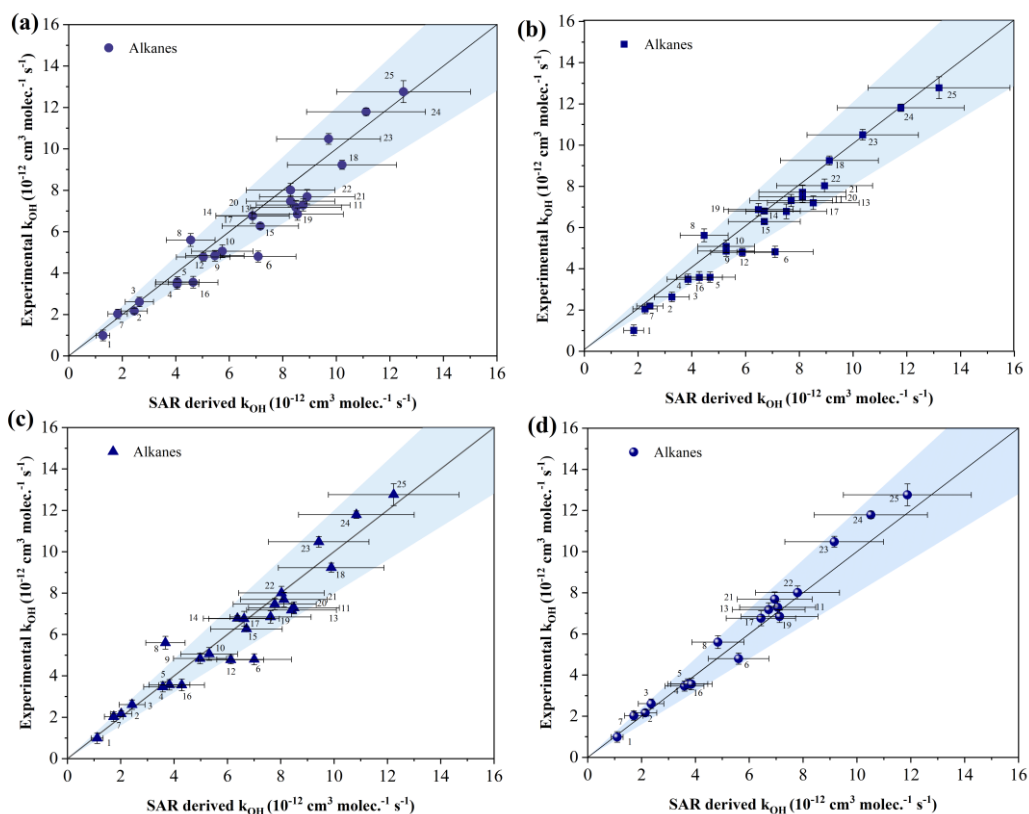
462 For branch alkanes, such as monomethyl branched alkanes (2-Methylpentane, 3-Methylpentane, 2-  
463 Methylhexane, 3-Methylhexane 2-Methylheptane and 3-Methylheptane), the obtained  $k_{OH}$  values all fall  
464 within the shadow range. The results indicated a relatively consistent alignment between our experimental  
465 data and the SAR estimated data within a certain margin of error, particularly for the SAR values of Neeb  
466 and Jenkin et al. (within 8%). Nevertheless, there seemed to be something different for polymethyl  
467 branched alkanes, like 2,3-Dimethylbutane, the experimental data was about 25% higher than the  
468 estimated SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok et al. (1995) and Neeb (2000), especially 53% higher than  
469 that of Jenkin et al. (2018). This suggested a potential underestimation of  $k_{OH}$  values of 2,3-  
470 dimethylbutane by these SAR estimation methods. It was also found that the  $k_{OH}$  of this compound (at  
471 298 K) could not be accurately estimated by Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006) due to unknown reasons.  
472 Furthermore, compared with the SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok et al., the obtained data of 2,2-  
473 Dimethylbutane and 2,4-Dimethylpentane were relatively consistent with that, while compared with the  
474 estimated data of Neeb, Jenkin et al. and Wilson et al., our results are higher or lower by about 18% and  
475 22%. It is worth noting that the obtained  $k_{OH}$  value of 2,2,4-Trimethylpentane was about 23%, 16% and  
476 17%, respectively, lower than the corresponding SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok et al., Neeb, and

477 Jenkin et al. The results indicated that our understanding for the oxidation chemistry of these compounds  
478 is still limited, still need a lot of experimental data for alkanes with this structure to confirm.

479 For cyclic alkanes, such as cyclopentane and cyclohexane, the obtained  $k_{OH}$  values in this study  
480 were approximately 32% and 15%, respectively, lower than the SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok et al.,  
481 1995; b. Neeb 2000; c. Jenkin et al. 2018. On the other hand, the obtained experimental values for  
482 methylcyclopentane and methylcyclohexane were similar to SAR values of Neeb and Wilson et al (within  
483 5%) (Neeb, 2000; Wilson et al. 2006), However, compared with the SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok  
484 et al. and Jenkin et al., this result is about 15% and 8% lower. The result suggested that the reaction  
485 activity of these cycle-chain alkanes estimated with SAR methods (Atkinson and Kwok et al., 1995;  
486 Jenkin et al. 2018) might be overestimated to varying degrees.



487



488

489 Figure 4. Measured Alkanes + OH rate coefficients plotted against SAR-derived rate coefficients for all  
 490 compounds (a. Atkinson and Kwok et al., 1995; b. Neeb 2000; c. Jenkin et al. 2018; d. Wilson et al. 2006).

491 The shaded area demonstrates a 20 % uncertainty in the 1:1 black gradient line. The alkanes represented  
 492 by serial number can be identified as follows: (1) Propane; (2) Isobutane; (3) n-Butane; (4) Isopentane;  
 493 (5) n-pentane; (6) Cyclopentane; (7) 2,2-Dimethylbutane; (8) 2,3-Dimethylbutane; (9) 2-Methylpentane;  
 494 (10) 3-Methylpentane; (11) Methylcyclopentane; (12) 2,4-Dimethylpentane; (13) Cyclohexane; (14) 2-  
 495 Methylhexane; (15) 3-Methylhexane; (16) 2,2,4-Trimethylpentane; (17) n-Heptane; (18)  
 496 Methylcyclohexane; (19) 2,3,4-Trimethylpentane; (20) 2-Methylheptane; (21) 3-Methylheptane; (22) n-  
 497 Octane; (23) Nonane; (24) n-Decane; (25) n-Undecane.

### 498 3.3 Temperature dependence (273-323 K)

499 ~~This study also explored kinetic temperature dependence in the tropospheric range (273-323 K).~~ In  
 500 order to study the relationship between temperature and reaction rate constant, this study carried out  
 501 experiments in the tropospheric temperature range (273-323 K), and combined with the literature data  
 502 (the expert-recommended data from database for Version 2.1.0 of McGillen et al.) to study the kinetic  
 503 temperature dependence of several alkanes in a wide temperature range. And n-hexane (Arrhenius  
 504 expression:  $k(T) = (2.43 \pm 0.52) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(481.2 \pm 60)/T]$  at 240-340 K was used as the reference

505 compound. Since the research results at room temperature show that different bath gases have little effect  
 506 on the reaction rate constant, only the temperature dependence of the reaction rate constant under the air  
 507 system is considered here. Measured values for 24 C3-C10 alkanes in ~~N<sub>2</sub>/air systems~~ were provided at  
 508 different temperatures (273-323 K) in ~~Table S2-Table S3~~. And the preexponential factor A and activation  
 509 energy E<sub>a</sub>/R obtained by linear regression along with the values of the literature were listed in Table 2.  
 510 The value of preexponential factor A increases with the increase of the number of carbon atoms, which is  
 511 consistent with the law of its reactivity. Additionally, Arrhenius plots were linearly fitted using this data  
 512 along with literature data. The following is a detailed analysis for several components that are important  
 513 or temperature dependence data has been less or no studied, the Arrhenius plots are shown in Figure 4-5,  
 514 other components are listed in the Supplement (Fig. S3-S15).

515 ~~Table 2. Summary of Arrhenius Expression of the Reaction of OH· with C3-C11 alkanes in this work and~~  
 516 ~~other studies.~~

Alkanes	Temperature (K)	A-factor <sup>a</sup> (×10 <sup>-11</sup> )	E <sub>a</sub> /R <sup>b</sup> (K)	Bath-gas	Technique <sup>c</sup>	Reference
2,3-Dimethylbutane	273-323	1.15±0.09	219±24	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		1.17±0.08	227±20	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	240-1220	1.66×10 <sup>-17</sup> ·T <sup>2</sup>	407		Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	250-1366	1.3×10 <sup>-12</sup> (T/298) <sup>2.08</sup>	426	Ar	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
Methylcyclopentane	220-1292	2.287×10 <sup>-17</sup> T <sup>1.958</sup>	365	—	Review	(Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009)
	273-323	1.65±0.19	262±33	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		1.62±0.14	256±25	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	230-370	—	—	—	AR/DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
n-Heptane	273-323	3.96±0.37	544±28	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		2.59±0.38	422±43	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	290-1090	1.28±0.21	190	—	Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	241-406	3.38±0.17	497±16	He	RR/DF/MS	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	240-340	2.25±0.14	293±37	He	RR/DF/MS	(Crawford et al., 2011)
	248-896	2.7×10 <sup>-16</sup> ·T <sup>1.7</sup>	138	He/H <sub>2</sub> /NO <sub>2</sub>	AR/DF/LIF	(Morin et al., 2015)
	298-500	0.0986	600	—	Theory	(Cohen, 1991)

3-Methylheptane	273-323	3.54±0.34	456±28	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		2.72±0.45	374±49	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	273-323	4.22±0.49	497±34	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		4.12±0.77	487±55	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
240-340	2.27±0.21	296±27	He	RR/DF/MS	(Li et al., 2006)	
n-Octane	284-384	4.52±0.37	538±27	He	RR/DF/MS	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	290-1080	1.78	235	—	Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	296-497	2.57	332±65	He	AR/FP/KS	(Greiner, 1970a)
	298-1000	0.0986	600	—	Theory	(Cohen, 1991)
	273-323	2.38±0.90	952±110	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		2.31±0.81	947±102	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
296-908	$2.72 \times 10^{-12} T^{1.46}$	270	NO <sub>2</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> O	AR/FP/LIF	(Bryukov et al., 2004)	
Propane	227-428	1.29	730	Ar	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
	233-376	1.01	660	He	AR/FP/LIF	(Talukdar et al., 1994)
	300-390	1.12	692	N <sub>2</sub>	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	273-323	2.29±0.74	739±94	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
3.56±0.88		871±73	N <sub>2</sub>	FID		
300-390	0.626	321	N <sub>2</sub>	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)	
Isobutane	213-372	0.572	293	He	AR/FP/LIF	(Talukdar et al., 1994)
	297-498	0.347	192	He	AR/FP/GC	(Greiner, 1970a)
	220-407	$5.24 \times 10^{-15} T^{1.25}$	—	He	RR/DF/MS	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	273-323	3.78±0.66	867±52	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
3.90±0.67		860±51	N <sub>2</sub>	FID		
235-361	1.68	584	Ar	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)	
n-Butane	300-390	1.34	513	N <sub>2</sub>	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	231-378	1.18	470	He	AR/DF/LIF	(Talukdar et al., 1994)
	294-509	$0.156 T^{1.95}$	133	He	AR/DF/LIF	(Droege and Tully, 1987)
	298-420	1.76	559	Ar	AR/DF/RF	(Perry et al., 1976)

	298-416	0.629	126	H <sub>2</sub> O	AR-UV	(Gordon and Mulac, 1975)
Isopentane	273-323	1.46±0.17	443±34	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		1.20±0.21	388±52	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	213-407	1.52	432	N <sub>2</sub>	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
n-pentane	273-323	0.90±0.05	310±17	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		1.73±0.20	502±35	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	233-364	1.94	494	Air	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
	300-390	2.97	608	N <sub>2</sub>	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	224-372	3.13×10 <sup>-17</sup> T <sup>2</sup>	-115	He	AR/FP/LIF	(Talukdar et al., 1994)
	243-325	—	—	N <sub>2</sub> /O <sub>2</sub> /NO	RR/DP/GC	(Harris and Kerr, 1988)
Cyclopentane	273-323	3.67±0.63	619±51	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		3.48±0.51	608±43	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	288-407	2.71	526	N <sub>2</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> O	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	240-340	2.43±0.50	481±58	He	RR/DF/MS	(Singh et al., 2013)
	273-423	2.57	498	Air	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
	300-390	1.88	352	N <sub>2</sub>	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	295-491	4.50×10 <sup>-15</sup> T <sup>1.21</sup>	511	He	AR/FP/LIF	(Droege and Tully, 1987)
	273-323	3.53±1.28	899±106	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		4.76±1.21	986±74	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	2,2-Dimethylbutane	240-330	3.37	809		Review
243-328		—	—	N <sub>2</sub> /O <sub>2</sub> /NO	RR/DP/GC	(Harris and Kerr, 1988)
254-1327		1.11×10 <sup>-17</sup> T <sup>2.09</sup>	79	Air	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
2-Methylpentane	273-323	2.30±0.29	479±38	Air	RR/DP/GC-	This work
		2.27±0.34	478±44	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	283-387	2.07	413	N <sub>2</sub>	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
3-Methylpentane	273-323	2.44±0.39	511±17	Air	RR/DP/GC-	this work
		2.45±0.56	500±67	N <sub>2</sub>	FID	
	284-381	2.16	375	N <sub>2</sub>	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)



	297–1362	$9.75 \times 10^{-18} T^{2.1}$	-348	Ar	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
	273–323	$2.03 \pm 0.17$ $1.60 \pm 0.26$	$452 \pm 24$ $382 \pm 48$	Air $N_2$	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
2,4-Dimethylpentane	272–410	2.25	408	$N_2$	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	271–1311	$2.00 \times 10^{-16} T^{1.71}$	-143.5	Ar	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
	273–323	$3.62 \pm 0.59$	$522 \pm 48$	Air $N_2$	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
cyclohexane	240–340	$3.96 \pm 0.60$	$554 \pm 42$	He	RR/DF/MS	(Singh et al., 2013)
	288–408	3.40	513	$N_2$	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	273–323	$1.30 \pm 0.08$ $1.22 \pm 0.04$	$222 \pm 19$ $206 \pm 9$	Air $N_2$	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
2-Methylhexane	230–385	—	—	—	AR/DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
	273–323	$2.53 \pm 1.45$ $2.27 \pm 0.31$	$575 \pm 161$ $559 \pm 42$	Air $N_2$	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
3-Methylhexane	230–379	—	—	—	AR/DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
	273–323	$1.61 \pm 0.22$ $1.23 \pm 0.11$	$499 \pm 40$ $418 \pm 27$	Air $N_2$	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
2,2,4-Trimethylpentane	240–500	1.62	443		AR/DF/LIF	(Atkinson, 1986)
	230–385	1.54	456		AR/DF/LIF	(Atkinson, 2003)
	273–323	$4.39 \pm 0.58$ $2.99 \pm 0.30$	$475 \pm 29$ $364 \pm 39$	Air $N_2$	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
Methylcyclohexane	273–343	$1.85 \pm 0.27$	$195 \pm 20$	Air	RR/DP/FTIR	(Bejan et al., 2018)
	230–379	—	—	—	AR/DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
	273–323	$1.34 \pm 0.07$ $1.22 \pm 0.08$	$203 \pm 15$ $175 \pm 19$	Air $N_2$	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
2,3,4-Trimethylpentane	287–373	1.3	221	$N_2$	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	273–323	$3.93 \pm 1.33$ $1.62 \pm 0.37$	$536 \pm 102$ $265 \pm 70$	Air $N_2$	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
2-Methylheptane	273–323	$5.29 \pm 0.63$	$520 \pm 35$	Air	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work
Nonane	273–323	$2.75 \pm 0.27$	$325 \pm 29$	$N_2$	FID	this work
	240–340	$4.35 \pm 0.49$	$411 \pm 32$	He	RR/DF/MS	(Li et al., 2006)
n-Decane	273–323	$5.78 \pm 0.49$ $3.59 \pm 0.40$	$499 \pm 25$ $353 \pm 33$	Air $N_2$	RR/DP/GC- FID	this work

517

518 Table 2. Summary of Arrhenius Expression of the Reaction of OH radical with C3-C11  
 519 alkanes in this work and other studies.

Alkanes	Temperature (K)	A-factor <sup>a</sup> ( $\times 10^{-11}$ )	$E_a/R^b$ (K)	Technique <sup>c</sup>	Reference
Propane	273-323	2.38±0.90	952±110	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	296-908	2.71±0.17	988±31	AR/FP/LIF	(Bryukov et al., 2004)
	227-428	1.29	730	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
	233-376	1.01	660	AR/FP/LIF	(Talukdar et al., 1994)
	300 - 390	1.12	692	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	273-323	3.78±0.66	867±52	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
n-Butane	235 - 361	1.68	584	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
	300 - 390	1.34	513	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	231-378	1.18	470	AR/ DF/LIF	(Talukdar et al., 1994)
	294-509	1.88±0.09	617±18	AR/ DF/LIF	(Droege and Tully, 1987)
	298-420	1.76	559	AR/ DF/RF	(Perry et al., 1976)
	298-416	0.629	126	AR-UV	(Gordon and Mulac, 1975)
n-pentane	273-323	0.90±0.05	310±17	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	233-364	1.94	494	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
	300-390	2.97	608	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	224-372	2.45±0.21	516±25	AR/FP/LIF	(Talukdar et al., 1994)
	243-325	--	--	RR/DP/GC	(Harris and Kerr, 1988)
	240-896	5.06±0.45	602±30	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
n-Heptane	290-1090	1.28±0.21	190	Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	241-406	3.38±0.17	497±16	RR/DF/MS	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	240-340	2.25±0.14	293±37	RR/DF/MS	(Crawford et al., 2011)
	248-896	5.2±0.54	605±39	AR/DF/LIF	(Morin et al., 2015)
	298-500	0.0986	600	Theory	(Cohen, 1991)
	240-1080	5.07±0.97	543±61	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
n-Octane	240-340	2.27±0.21	296±27	RR/DF/MS	(Li et al., 2006)
	284-384	4.52±0.37	538±27	RR/DF/MS	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	290-1080	1.78	235	Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	296-497	2.57	332±65	AR/FP/KS	(Greiner, 1970a)

	298-1000	0.0986	600	Theory	(Cohen, 1991)
Nonane	273-323	5.29±0.63	520±35	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	240-340	4.35±0.49	411±32	RR/DF/MS	(Li et al., 2006)
n-Decane	273-323	5.78±0.49	499±25	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	240-340	2.26±0.28	160±36	RR/DF/MS	(Li et al., 2006)
Isobutane	273-323	2.29±0.74	739±94	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	300-390	0.626	321	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	213-372	0.572	293	AR/FP/LIF	(Talukdar et al., 1994)
	297-498	0.347	192	AR/FP/GC	(Greiner, 1970a)
Isopentane	220-407	1.02±0.03	463±10	RR/DF/MS	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	213-407	1.39±0.12	424±25	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	213-407	1.52	432	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	273-323	3.67±0.63	619±51	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
Cyclopentane	288-407	2.71	526	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	240-340	2.43±0.50	481±58	RR/DF/MS	(Singh et al., 2013)
	273-423	2.57	498	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
	300-390	1.88	352	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
Cyclohexane	295-491	2.29±0.09	457±0.14	AR/FP/LIF	(Droege and Tully, 1987)
	273-323	3.62±0.59	522±48	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	240-340	3.96±0.60	554±42	RR/DF/MS	(Singh et al., 2013)
	288-408	3.40	513	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
Methylcyclopentane	230-1344	7.21±0.38	705±28	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	230-1344	6.81±0.39	641±38	AR/DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
Methylcyclohexane	273-323	4.39±0.58	475±29	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	273-343	1.85±0.27	195±20	RR/DP/FTIR	(Bejan et al., 2018)
	230-379	1.46±0.07	125±14	AR/DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
2,2-Dimethylbutane	273-323	3.53±1.28	899±106	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	240-330	3.37	809	Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	243-328	--	--	RR/DP/GC	(Harris and Kerr, 1988)
2,3-Dimethylbutane	254-1327	6.14±0.90	1023±76	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
	253-1366	4.81±0.56	669±50	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
2,3-Dimethylbutane	240-1220	3.98±0.41	579±50	Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	250-1366	4.75±0.71	664±77	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)

	220-1292	3.96±0.62	565±74	Review	(Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009)
	273-323	2.03±0.17	452±24	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
2,4-Dimethylpentane	272-410	2.25	408	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	896-1311	14.9±0.8	1533±55	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
2-Methylpentane	273-323	2.30±0.29	479±38	RR/DP/GC-FID	This work
	283-387	2.07	413	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
3-Methylpentane	273-323	2.44±0.39	511±17	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	284-381	2.16	375	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	297-1362	6.43±0.87	834±74	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
2-Methylhexane	273-385	1.82±0.09	321±16	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	230 - 385	1.21±0.07	171±16	AR/ DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
3-Methylhexane	273-323	2.53±1.45	575±161	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	230-379	1.42±1.52	628±85	AR/ DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
2-Methylheptane	273-323	3.93±1.33	536±102	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
3-Methylheptane	273-323	3.54±0.34	456±28	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	273-323	1.61±0.22	499±40	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
2,2,4-Trimethylpentane	240-500	1.62	443	AR/ DF/LIF	(Atkinson, 1986)
	230-385	1.54	456	AR/ DF/LIF	(Atkinson, 2003)
2,3,4-Trimethylpentane	273-323	1.34±0.07	203±15	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	287-373	1.3	221	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)

520 <sup>a, b</sup>The error bar was taken as  $\sigma$ .

521 °RR: relative rate; AR: absolute rate; DF: discharge flow; DP: direct photolysis; FP: flash photolysis; EB:  
522 electron beam; UV: Ultraviolet; GC: gas chromatography; FID: flame ionization detection; LIF: laser  
523 induced fluorescence; FTIR: fourier transform infrared spectrometer; MS: mass spectrometry; KS:  
524 kinetic-spectroscopy.

525 **A. OH+ n-Octane.** Figure 5 (a) exhibits the Arrhenius plot for the reaction between n-Octane and  
526 OH radicals ~~in both the nitrogen and air systems~~, covering a temperature range of ~~273 to 323 K~~ 240 to  
527 1080 K. ~~At high temperatures~~, Within the experimental temperature range (273-323 K), our data align  
528 well with previous studies. ~~The derived Arrhenius expressions are as follows:~~

529  ~~$k_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (4.12 \pm 0.77) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(487 \pm 55)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ;~~

530  ~~$k_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{Air}} = (4.21 \pm 0.49) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(497 \pm 34)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ .~~ Fit our data to expert-evaluated

531 data (manually entered data from multiple sources), the derived Arrhenius expressions are as follows:  
 532  $k_{n-Octane}(T)=(5.07\pm 0.97)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(543\pm 61)/T]\text{ cm}^3\text{ molecule}^{-1}\text{ s}^{-1}$ . ~~These results~~ This result agree well  
 533 with the Arrhenius expression of  $(4.52\pm 0.37)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(538\pm 27)/T]\text{ cm}^3\cdot\text{molecule}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  reported by  
 534 Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006) between 284 and 384 K and  $(4.95\pm 0.87)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(531\pm 56)/T]$   
 535 recommended Arrhenius formula obtained by experts' evaluation of data processing, but contrast the  
 536 expressions of  $(2.27\pm 0.21)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(296\pm 27)/T]\text{ cm}^3\cdot\text{molecule}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  reported by Li et al. between 240  
 537 and 340 K (Li et al., 2006) and  $(2.57)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(332\pm 65)/T]\text{ cm}^3\cdot\text{molecule}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  reported by Greiner  
 538 (Greiner, 1970a) between 296 and 497 K. By comparison, our data are highly consistent with the data  
 539 recommended by experts. The obtained Arrhenius expression more accurately represents the relationship  
 540 between the reaction rate constant of octane and OH radicals and temperature in a wide temperature range,  
 541 which has certain reference significance. Further investigations are necessary to understand the  
 542 discrepancies amongst these studies.

543 **B. OH+ n-Heptane.** The Arrhenius plot in Fig. 5 (b) displays the reaction between n-Heptane and  
 544 OH radicals in ~~both~~ the ~~nitrogen and~~ air systems, covering a temperature range of ~~273 to 323 K~~ 240 to  
 545 896 K. ~~Our experimental data align closely with previous studies, with differences ranging from 9% to~~  
 546 ~~15% lower than the transition state theory data reported by Cohen (Cohen, 1991) between 298 and 500~~  
 547 ~~K. By fitting our data to the Arrhenius equation, the resulting Arrhenius expressions are as follows:~~

548  ~~$k_{n-Heptane}^{N_2}=(2.59\pm 0.37)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(422\pm 43)/T]\text{ cm}^3\cdot\text{molecule}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ;~~

549  ~~$k_{n-Heptane}^{Air}=(3.96\pm 0.38)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(544\pm 28)/T]\text{ cm}^3\cdot\text{molecule}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ . These results agree well with the~~

550 ~~Arrhenius expression of  $(3.38\pm 0.17)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(497\pm 16)/T]\text{ cm}^3\cdot\text{molecule}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  reported by Wilson et al.~~

551 ~~(Wilson et al., 2006) between 241 and 406 K.~~ As shown in the figure, within the experimental temperature  
 552 range (273-323 K), our data are highly similar to previous studies. By fitting our data and recommended  
 553 data from multiple sources to the Arrhenius equation, the resulting Arrhenius expressions are as follows:

554  $k_{n-Heptane}(T)=(5.06\pm 0.45)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(602\pm 30)/T]\text{ cm}^3\text{ molecule}^{-1}\text{ s}^{-1}$ . This result agree well with the

555 Arrhenius expression of  $(5.20\pm 0.54)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(605\pm 39)/T]\text{ cm}^3\cdot\text{molecule}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  reported by Morin et al.  
 556 (Morin et al., 2015) between 248 and 896 K. The recommended Arrhenius equation for the reaction of  
 557 OH radical and n-Heptane is in the form  $k(T)=3.84\times 10^{-12}\cdot\exp(148/T)\cdot(T/300)^{1.79}$ . Rearrange the fitting  
 558 data to get the Arrhenius expression in the form of  $k(T)=(4.82\pm 0.43)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(600\pm 31)/T]\text{ cm}^3$   
 559  $\text{molecule}^{-1}\text{ s}^{-1}$ . Compared with the Arrhenius expression recommended in the literature, the preexponential

560 factor A ( $5.01 \pm 0.42$ ) of this work is agree well with the one ( $4.82 \pm 0.43$ ) of recommended (the unit is  $10^{11}$   
561  $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ). However, the activation energy  $E_a/R$  of this work is about 60% higher than the  
562 recommended data.

563 **C. OH+ Isopentane.** As Fig. 5 (c), isopentane was extensively studied ~~in both the nitrogen and air~~  
564 ~~systems~~ over a temperature range (~~273-323 K~~ 213-407 K). As far as we know, at present, only Wilson et  
565 al. has reported this compound in the range of 213-407 K (Wilson et al., 2006). ~~Our data is slightly 10%~~  
566 ~~lower than that reported by Wilson et al., but this is still within the margin of error, especially at high~~  
567 ~~temperatures. The Arrhenius expression obtained by fitting the data points in the figure is as follows:~~

568  ~~$K_{\text{Isopentane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (1.20 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(443 \pm 34)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ;~~

569  ~~$K_{\text{Isopentane}}^{\text{Air}} = (1.46 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(497 \pm 34)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ .~~ Within the experimental temperature

570 range (273-323 K), our data are consistent with Wilson et al. (273-323 K), especially in the low  
571 temperature range. The Arrhenius expression at 213-407 K obtained by fitting our data and those of

572 Wilson et al. is as follows:  $k_{\text{Isopentane}}(T) = (1.39 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(424 \pm 25)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The

573 results are similar to the relative experimental results of Wilson et al.  
574 ( $1.52 \pm 0.21$ )  $\times 10^{-11} \exp[-(432 \pm 27)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

575 **D. OH+ 2,3-Dimethylbutane.** Figure 5 (d) shows the Arrhenius plot for the reaction of 2,3-  
576 Dimethylbutane with OH radicals ~~in the nitrogen and air systems~~ over the temperature range of 273 K to  
577 ~~323 K~~ 1366 K. The temperature-dependent values obtained in this study at high temperature (313-323 K)

578 align closely with those reported by Badra and Farooq (Badra and Farooq, 2015), who used the absolute  
579 rate technique ~~in an inert gas system (Ar)~~, as well as the work of Sivaramakrishnan and Michael with a

580 three-parameter fit (Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009). However, ~~in comparison to the reviewed data~~  
581 ~~from Atkinson and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003), our results were found to be approximately 3% to 7%~~

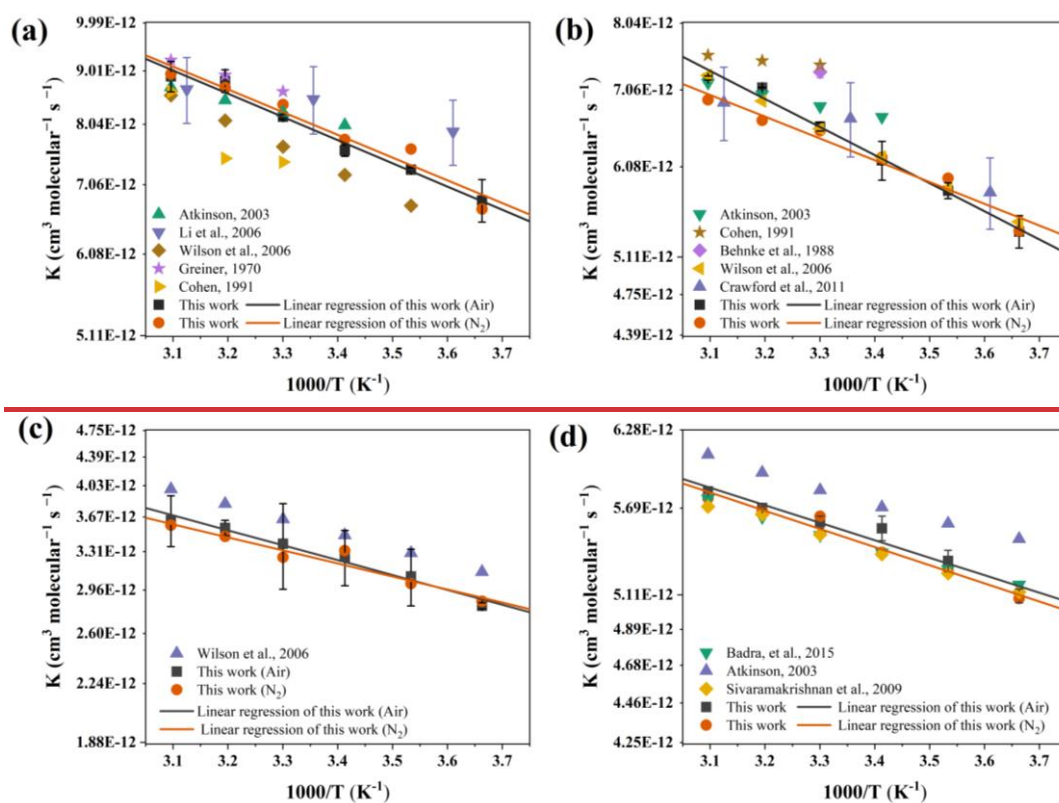
582 ~~lower. Tate constants are subjective and are in the range  $\pm 20$ -30%. This discrepancy can primarily be~~  
583 ~~attributed to differences in the selected rate constants for reference compounds. Take 298k as an example,~~

584 ~~the reference value selected in the reviewed data of Atkinson (Atkinson, 1986) is in the range of  $5.02 \times 10^{-12}$ -~~  
585  ~~$5.45 \times 10^{-12}$ , while in this work, we choose n-hexane as the reference, its  $K_{\text{OH}}$  value is  $4.84 \times 10^{-12}$ , and~~

586 ~~the reference k value is reduced by about 4%-13%. However, since 1986, the rate constants of most of~~  
587 ~~the alkanes obtained have decreased by about 10%. Linear regression applied to our data yields the~~

588 ~~Arrhenius expressions as follows:  $K_{\text{2,3-Dimethylbutane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (1.17 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(227 \pm 20)/T] \cdot \text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1}$~~

589  ~~$k_{2,3\text{-Dimethylbutane}}^{\text{Air}} = (1.15 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(219 \pm 224)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ . The results show that~~  
 590 ~~within the error range, the Arrhenius expressions of OH+2,3-Dimethylbutane in the nitrogen and air~~  
 591 ~~systems are almost consistent. However, as shown in Table S2, although the rate constants are very~~  
 592 ~~consistent, the activation energy are quite different than those in the wide temperature range. the data~~  
 593 obtained at 273-293 K in this work are highly consistent with the reviewed data from Atkinson and Arey  
 594 (Atkinson and Arey, 2003). Linear regression applied to our data and high temperature data in the  
 595 literature (at 273-1366 K) yields the Arrhenius expression as follows:  
 596  $k_{2,3\text{-Dimethylbutane}}(T) = (4.81 \pm 0.56) \times 10^{-12} \exp[-(669 \pm 50)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . This result agrees well with  
 597 the Arrhenius expression of  $(4.75 \pm 0.71) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(664 \pm 77)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$  reported by Badra  
 598 and Farooq (Badra and Farooq, 2015).



599

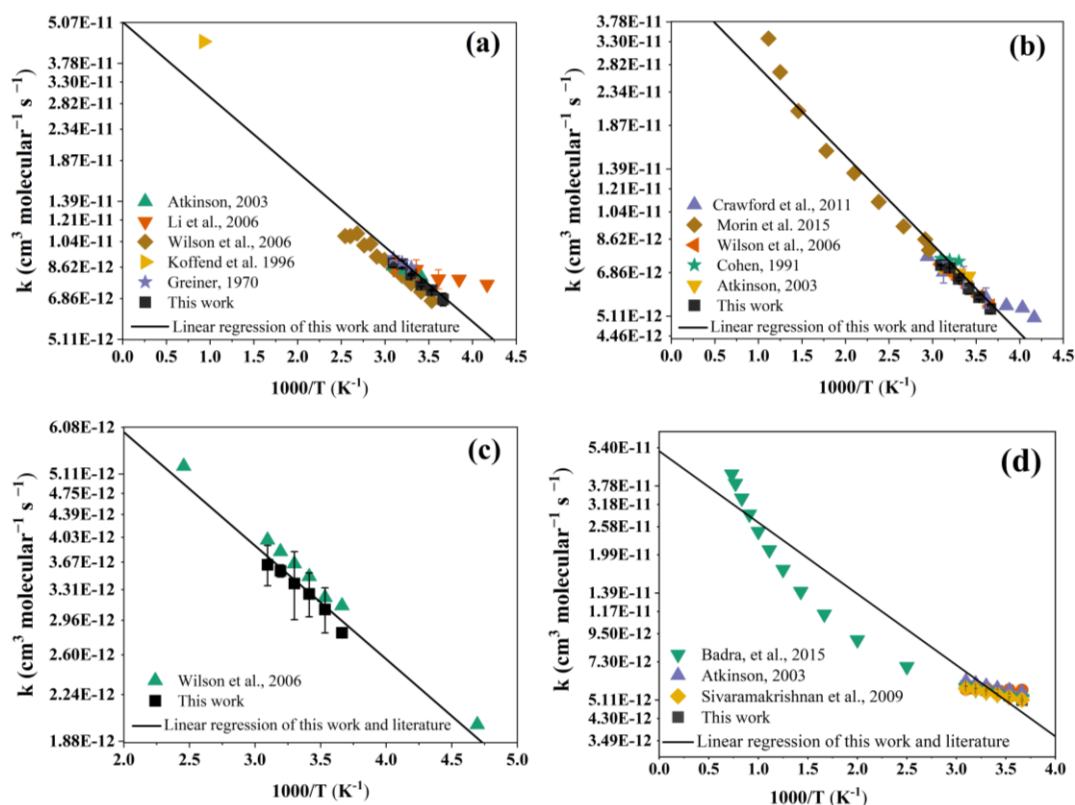


Figure 5. Arrhenius plots for the reaction of n-Octane (a), n-Heptane (b), Isopentane (c) and 2,3-Dimethylbutane (d) with OH radical in wide temperature range along with available literature data. The error bar was taken as  $2\sigma$ .

**E. OH+ Methylcyclopentane (2-Methylhexane).** Figure 6 (a) and (b) illustrate the Arrhenius plot for the reaction of methylcyclopentane (230-1344 K) and 2-methylhexane (273-385) with OH radical. Literature data from Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009) and Anderson et al. (Anderson et al., 2004) are available for comparison purposes. Notably, for methylcyclopentane, Anderson et al. (Anderson et al., 2004) reported absolute data that is 26% higher than the relative data obtained in this study at 298 K. However, this difference falls within the margin of error. The absolute data from Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009) is slightly higher, ranging from 10% to 20%, compared to this study.

~~Additionally, they derived an alternative Arrhenius expression to accommodate the curved behavior of the rate constant between 230 and 370 K, making it difficult to directly compare with our Arrhenius expression. The resulting Arrhenius expressions of methylcyclopentane and 2-methylhexane they derived an alternative Arrhenius expression to accommodate the curved behavior of the rate constant between 230 and 370 K, making it difficult to directly compare with our Arrhenius expression. are as follows:~~

~~$$k_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (1.62 \pm 0.14) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(256 \pm 25)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1};$$~~

~~$$k_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}^{\text{Air}} = (1.65 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(262 \pm 33)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}.$$~~



618  ~~$k_{2\text{-Methylhexane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (1.22 \pm 0.04) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(206 \pm 9)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ;~~

619  ~~$k_{2\text{-Methylhexane}}^{\text{Air}} = (1.30 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(222 \pm 19)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ .~~ The experimental data obtained

620 at 273-323 K are fitted with multi-party literature data, especially the data from Sivaramakrishnan and  
621 Michael at high temperature (859-1344 K), the resulting Arrhenius expression is as follows:

622  $k_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}(T) = (7.21 \pm 0.38) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(705 \pm 28)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . Similar to the treatment of

623 Arrhenius equation for n-Heptane, the result is highly consistent with the expert-evaluated Arrhenius

624 expression of methylcyclopentane ( $k_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}(T) = (6.81 \pm 0.39) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(641 \pm 38)/T] \text{ cm}^3$

625  $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), indicating that the data obtained has a certain degree of reliability. At present, the research

626 on the temperature dependence of 2-Methylhexane only includes the measured reaction rate constant with

627 OH radical of Sprengnether et al. by absolute rate technique at 230-385 K. The Arrhenius expression

628 obtained by fitting our data with Sprengnether et al's data at 230-385 K is as follows:

629  $k_{2\text{-Methylhexane}}(T) = (1.82 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(321 \pm 16)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . Expert-evaluated Arrhenius

630 expression is  $k_{2\text{-Methylhexane}}(T) = (1.21 \pm 0.07) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(171 \pm 16)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . Through

631 comparison, it can be clearly seen that the two are highly consistent, indicating that the obtained Arrhenius

632 expression has certain reference value. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first investigation of the

633 temperature-dependent kinetics for the reaction of methylcyclopentane and 2-methylhexane with OH

634 radicals utilizing the relative rate technique. ~~The consistency of the Arrhenius expressions in both the~~

635 ~~nitrogen and air systems implies that the bath gas does not significantly impact the reaction between OH~~

636 ~~and methylcyclopentane and 2-methylhexane.~~

637 **F. OH+ 3-Methylheptane.** In Figure 6 (c), the Arrhenius plot presents the reaction between 3-

638 Methylheptane and OH radicals ~~in both the nitrogen and air systems~~, spanning a temperature range of 273

639 to 323 K. A linear regression analysis of our data yields the following Arrhenius expressions:

640  ~~$k_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (3.54 \pm 0.45) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(374 \pm 49)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ;~~

641  ~~$k_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{Air}} = (2.72 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(456 \pm 28)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$~~

642  ~~$k_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}(T) = (2.72 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(456 \pm 28)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ .~~ ~~Within the margin of error,~~

643 ~~the expression in the nitrogen system is consistent with that in the air system between 273 and 323 K.~~ We

644 believe this study to be the first investigation of the temperature-dependent kinetics for the reaction

645 between 3-Methylheptane and OH radicals. The only previous study on this reaction, reported by Shaw  
 646 et al. (Shaw et al., 2020) utilizing the relative rate method in nitrogen at 323 K, demonstrates significantly  
 647 higher data (>65%) compared to our results. Possible explanations for this discrepancy lie in the different  
 648 reference compounds used and potential sample loss during sampling in the enrichment tube in Shaw et  
 649 al.

650 **G. OH+ 3-Methylhexane (Figure 6 (d)).** This is the first temperature-dependence relative data. It  
 651 can be seen from the figure that this data is significantly lower by approximately 80%  
 652 compared to the absolute data. ~~Under low temperature (273, 283 K) in a nitrogen gas system, it does not~~  
 653 ~~conform to the Arrhenius fit. This enlightens us that for research below 283 K, we still need to carry out~~  
 654 ~~experiments in a larger low temperature range for analysis. When excluding the low temperature data in~~  
 655 ~~the nitrogen system, the Arrhenius expression is as follows:~~

656  ~~$k_{3\text{-Methylhexane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (2.27 \pm 0.31) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(559 \pm 42)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ;~~

657  ~~$k_{3\text{-Methylhexane}}^{\text{Air}} = (2.53 \pm 1.45) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(575 \pm 161)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ .~~ The Arrhenius expression at

658 273-323 K is as follows:  $k_{3\text{-Methylhexane}}(T) = (2.53 \pm 1.45) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(575 \pm 161)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$

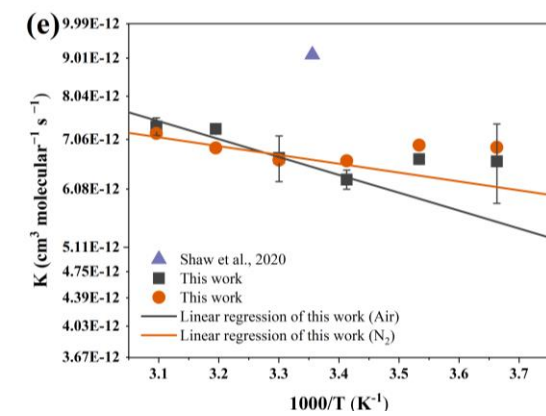
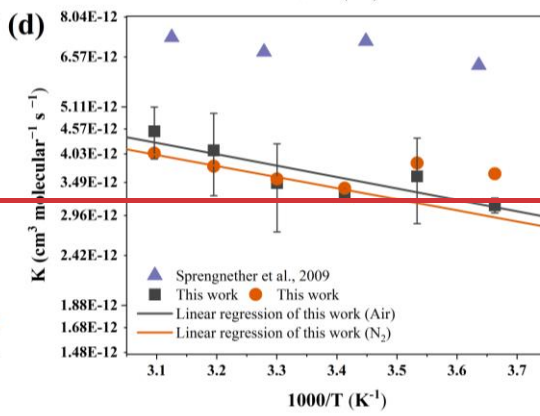
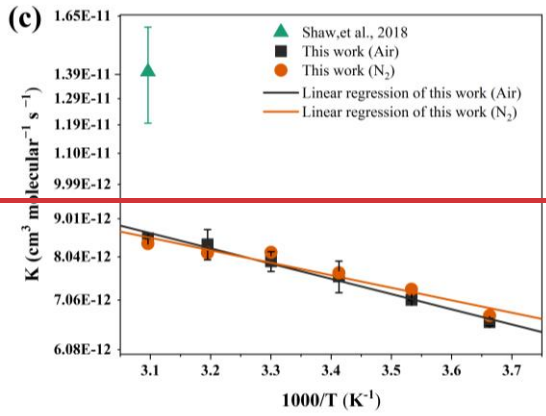
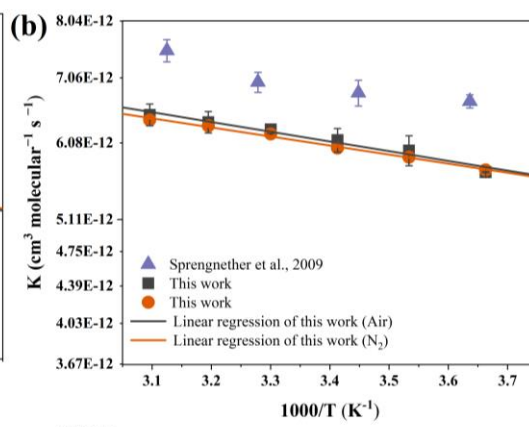
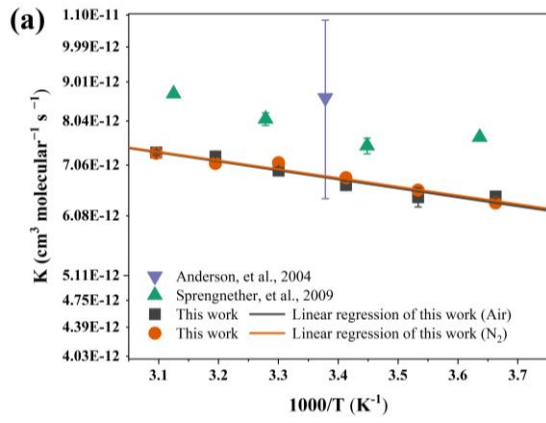
659 **H. OH+ 2-Methylheptane (Figure 6 (e)).** There are no previous temperature dependence data on  
 660 this compound. Similar to 3-Methylhexane, this data is lower by approximately 37% compared to Shaw  
 661 et al. at room temperature. Furthermore, the data obtained at 273-283 K shows an increase. Within the  
 662 range of 293-323 K, the obtained Arrhenius expression is as follows:

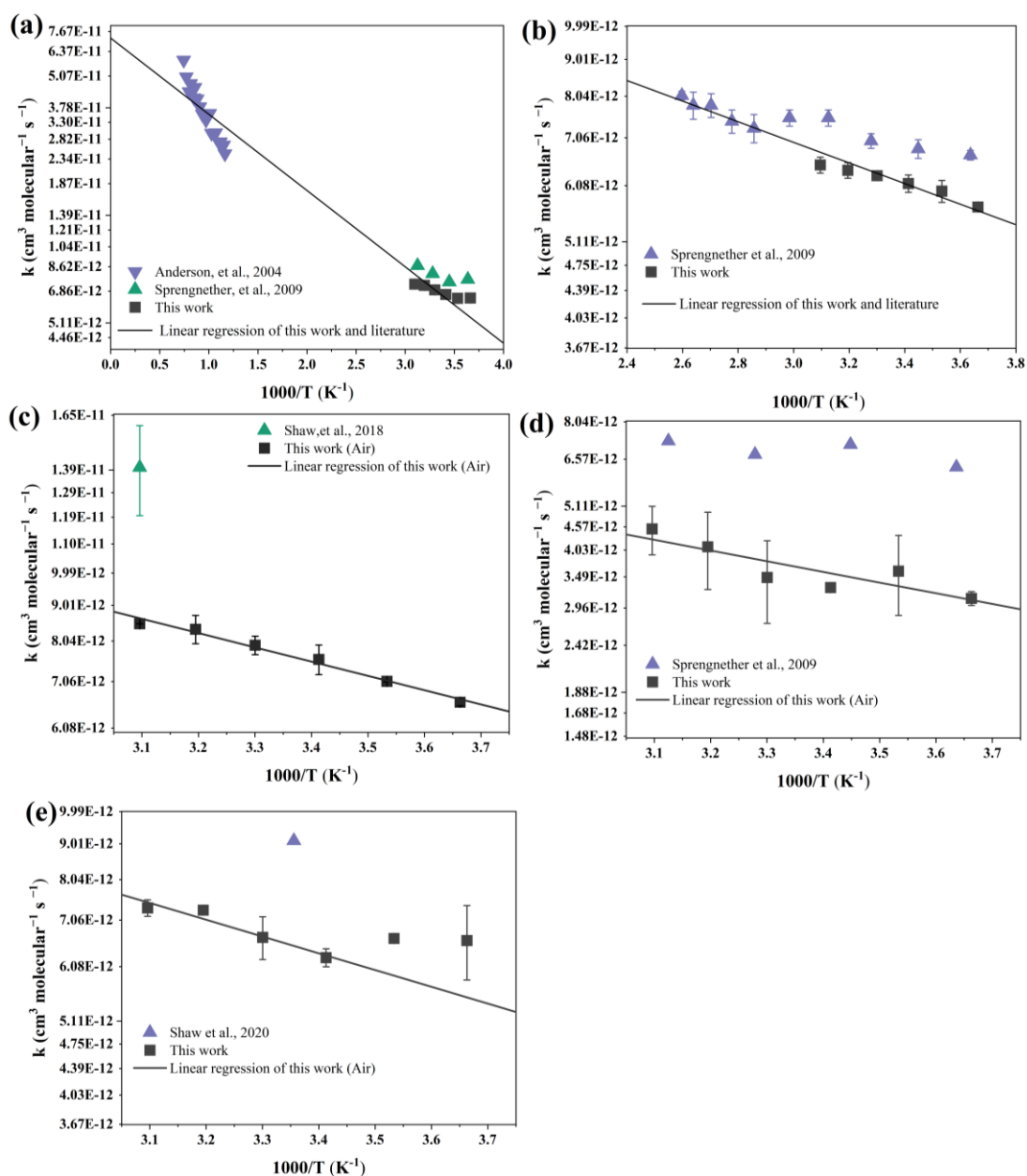
663  ~~$k_{2\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{N}_2} = (1.62 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(265 \pm 70)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ;~~

664  ~~$k_{2\text{-Methylheptane}}^{\text{Air}} = (3.93 \pm 1.33) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(536 \pm 102)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ .~~ The pre-exponential factor A

665 and activation energy  $E_a$  of the air system are slightly higher than those of the nitrogen system.

666  $k_{2\text{-Methylheptane}}(T) = (3.93 \pm 1.33) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(536 \pm 102)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ .



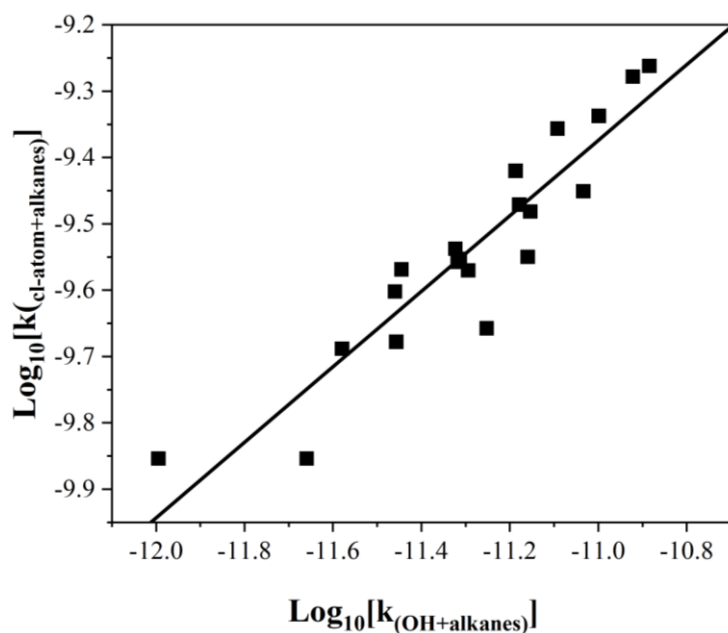


668  
 669 Figure 6. Arrhenius plots for the reaction of Methylcyclopentane (a), 2-Methylhexane (b), 3-  
 670 Methylhepane (c), 3-Methylhexane (d) and 2-Methylhepane (e) with ~~OH~~ at 273–323 K OH radical along  
 671 with available literature data. The error bar was taken as  $2\sigma$ .

### 672 3.4 Correlation between the rate coefficients of the reaction of alkanes with OH 673 radicals and chlorine atoms

674 Figure 7 presents a log–log correlation plot between the Cl atoms and OH radical rate coefficients with  
 675 the series of C3–C11 studied above. A very clear correlation ( $R^2=0.86$ ) described by the relation  
 676  $\log_{10}[k_{Cl+alkanes}] = 0.569 \times \log_{10}[k_{OH+alkanes}] - 3.111$  was obtained. Although the correlation between  
 677 propane and isobutane is relatively discrete, the reactivity of saturated alkanes with OH radicals and

678 chlorine atoms is still clearly related to the saturated alkane series. In addition, the log–log correlation  
 679 for the series of saturated alkanes with these two oxidants presented by Calvert et al. (2011) described  
 680 by the relation  $\log_{10}[k_{(Cl+alkanes)}] = 0.521 \times \log_{10}[k_{(OH+alkanes)}] - 3.670$  with ( $R^2=0.85$ ) is in better agreement  
 681 with the log–log correlations obtained in this study for saturated alkanes. This correlation can be utilized  
 682 to predict rate coefficients for unmeasured reactions, such as the reaction of 2,2,3-trimethylpentane with  
 683 chlorine atoms.



684  
 685 Figure 7. Double logarithmic plot ( $\log_{10}$ ) of the rate coefficients for the reaction of Cl-atoms versus the  
 686 reaction of OH radicals with the saturated alkanes (C3-C11 alkanes studied above). The solid line  
 687 represents the unweighted least-squares fit to the data.

### 688 3.5 Atmospheric lifetime and implications

689 The atmospheric lifetime of alkanes in the troposphere can be estimated using the following formula:

$$690 \tau_{\text{alkane}} = 1 / (k_{\text{alkane}+\text{OH}}[\text{OH}])$$

691 where  $\tau_{\text{alkane}}$  is the atmospheric lifetime of the alkane due to OH removal,  $k_{\text{alkane}+\text{OH}}$  is the rate constant  
 692 for the reaction of the alkane with OH radical at the typical tropospheric temperature of 298 K, and [OH]  
 693 is the atmospheric concentrations of the hydroxyl radicals. The average tropospheric hydroxyl radical  
 694 concentration has been previously reported in the literature as  $1 \times 10^6$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  (Li et al., 2018).  
 695 Using the  $k_{\text{alkane}+\text{OH}}$  (298 K) values determined in the present work, the atmospheric lifetime for 25 alkanes  
 696 was estimated and listed on the Table S3. As can be seen from the table, the atmospheric lifetime of C3-

697 C11 alkanes reacting with OH radicals are about 1-11 days. As the carbon chain grows, the atmospheric  
698 lifetime seems to reduce, especially for long-chain alkanes with carbon atoms of 8-11, the residence time  
699 in the atmosphere is only about 1 day. They are emitted into the air and degraded quickly to generate alkyl  
700 radicals, which are immediately converted into alkyl peroxy radicals by reacting with abundant O<sub>2</sub> in the  
701 atmosphere. The subsequent reaction of alkyl peroxy radicals enhances the conversion of NO to NO<sub>2</sub> by  
702 HO<sub>2</sub> radicals, leading to the production of tropospheric ozone. For short-chain alkanes that stay in the  
703 atmosphere for a long time, such as propane, the lifetime is 11d. It should be noted that because the OH  
704 concentration is the global average estimated concentration, the applicability of the lifetime may be  
705 different in the atmosphere with different OH radical concentrations.

## 706 4. Conclusions

707 The use of the multivariate relative rate method in this study allowed for the simultaneous  
708 determination of reaction rate constants of C3-C11 alkanes and OH radicals in different bath gases, which  
709 significantly improved the efficiency of determination. New data and Arrhenius expressions for the  
710 reaction of Methylcyclopentane, 2-Methylhepane, 3-Methylheptane, 2-Methylhexane and 3-  
711 Methylhexane with OH radicals were obtained for the first time in the temperature range of 273-323 K,  
712 expanding the existing database. The measured relative rate constants of air bath gases in the temperature  
713 range studied were found to be highly consistent with values obtained in N<sub>2</sub>, suggesting that the rate  
714 constants obtained in this experiment can reasonably represent the rate constants in the actual atmosphere.  
715 The structure-additivity method for rate constant estimation is mostly consistent for the prediction of K<sub>OH</sub>  
716 (298 K) for the studied n-alkanes, but its methodology and parameters do not seem to be able to reasonably  
717 estimate the rate constant of 2,3-dimethylbutane. Additionally, there is a big discrepancy in the case of  
718 several cycloalkanes (cyclopentane, methylcyclopentane, cyclohexane) and branch alkanes (2,2,4-  
719 Trimethylpentane ~~and 2,3,4-Trimethylpentane~~) with this experiment for estimation parameters'  
720 overestimate. There is a reasonable suspicion that this method is still lacking some additional factors.

## 721 Data availability

722 Raw data are available upon request.

## Author contributions

~~Yujing Mu and Chengtang Liu planned the campaign; Yanyan Xin performed the measurements; Yanyan Xin, Chengtang Liu, Yujing Mu and Xiaoxiu Lun analyzed the data; Yanyan Xin and Chengtang Liu wrote the manuscript draft. Shuyang Xie and Junfeng Liu provided technical support.~~  
YM and CL planned the campaign; YX performed the measurements; YX, CL, YM and XL analyzed the data; YX and CL wrote the manuscript draft. SX and JL provided technical support.

## Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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