

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

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Abstract: Rate coefficients for the reactions of OH radicals with ~~C3-C11~~ C₃-C₁₁ alkanes were determined using the multivariate relative rate technique. A total of 25 relative rate coefficients at room temperature and 24 Arrhenius expressions in ~~different temperature range~~ the temperature range of 273-323 K were obtained. Notably, a new room temperature relative rate ~~constant~~ coefficient for 3-methylheptane that had not been previously reported was determined, and the obtained ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} values (in units of 10⁻¹² cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹) was 7.71±0.35. Interestingly, whilst results for n-alkanes agreed well with available structure activity relationship (SAR) calculations of Atkinson and Kwok, Neeb, Wilson, Jenkin, and McGillen, the three cyclo-alkanes (cyclopentane, methylcyclopentane, cyclohexane) and one ~~trimethylpentane~~-branched alkane (2,2,4-trimethylpentane) were found to be less reactive than predicted by SAR. Conversely, the SAR estimates for 2,3-dimethylbutane were approximately 25 % lower than the experimental values, with the exception of those estimated by the Wilson group, highlighting the limited understanding of the oxidative chemistry of these compounds. Arrhenius expressions (in units of cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹) for the reactions of various branched alkanes with OH radical were determined for the first time: 2-methylheptane, ~~(1.62±0.37)×10⁻¹¹exp[-(265±70)/T]~~ (1.37±0.48)×10⁻¹¹exp[-(209±100)/T], and 3-methylheptane, (3.54±0.45)×10⁻¹¹exp[-(374±49)/T]. The reactivity relation of saturated alkanes with OH radicals and chlorine atoms was obtained: log₁₀[~~k_(Cl+alkanes)~~k_(Cl+alkanes)] = 0.569×log₁₀[~~k_(OH+alkanes)~~k_(OH+alkanes)]-3.111 (R² =0.86). In addition, the rate coefficients for the 24 previous studied OH + alkanes reactions were consistent with existing literature values, demonstrating the reliability and efficiency of this method for simultaneous investigation of gas-phase reaction kinetics.

Keywords: Relative rate coefficients; Atmospheric simulation chamber; Alkanes; OH radical; Arrhenius

30 expressions

31 1. Introduction

32 Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), a category of compounds found ubiquitously in the atmosphere,
33 primarily consist of alkanes, alkenes, aromatics and oxygenated volatile organic compounds (OVOCs)
34 (Lewis et al., 2000; Goldstein and Galbally, 2007; Anderson et al., 2004). Research has shown that
35 alkanes, including straight-chain, branched-chain, and cyclic alkanes within the ~~C₃-C₁₁~~ C₃-C₁₁ range,
36 often constitute a significant portion to VOCs (Liang et al., 2023; Dunmore et al., 2015), and they could
37 be emitted into the atmospheric environment through natural and anthropogenic sources, e.g., C₅-alkanes
38 emitted from gasoline usage and C₆-alkanes and higher homologous VOCs emitted as a consequence of
39 their usage as solvents and from fuel evaporation. (Atkinson, 2000; Guenther, 2002; Atkinson and Arey,
40 2003). In the troposphere, ~~alkanes are degraded and removed from the atmosphere via gas-phase oxidation~~
41 ~~reactions with OH and NO₃ radicals, Cl atoms and ozone (O₃)~~ the alkanes are extremely less reactive with
42 NO₃ and ~~not reacting with ozone, they are degraded and removed from the atmosphere via gas-phase~~
43 ~~oxidation reactions with OH radicals and chlorine atoms.~~ (Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Shi et al., 2019;
44 Finlayson-Pitts and Pitts, 1997; Atkinson, 2000). These oxidation processes will form a photochemical
45 smog in the presence of NO_x and light, causing regional photochemical pollution (Fiore et al., 2005; Ling
46 and Guo, 2014). Additionally, ~~some secondary oxides~~ degradation products produced by the oxidation of
47 alkanes can form secondary organic aerosol (SOA) through homogeneous nucleation or condensation
48 onto existing primary particles (Sun et al., 2016). ~~To fully understand the role of alkanes in atmospheric~~
49 ~~chemistry, accurate chemical reaction rate data is an important criterion for evaluating its reactivity (Shaw~~
50 ~~et al., 2018).~~

51 Numerous laboratories have conducted research on the kinetics of the reaction between alkanes and
52 OH radicals using the absolute rate-~~constant~~ method and the relative rate-~~constant~~ method. The absolute
53 rate-~~constant~~ method (such as flash photolysis and emission flow ~~et al.~~) involves calculating the reaction
54 kinetics parameter-~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} for organic compounds with OH radicals during the experimental process by
55 directly measuring changes in OH radical concentration or the concentration of the target compound.
56 Greiner measured the first kinetic data for the reaction of OH radicals with three alkanes in the Ar system
57 at 300 K using the flash photolysis-resonance fluorescence technique (Greiner, 1967). Over the next
58 decade, Gorse et al., Overend et al. and Darnall et al. obtained kinetic data for the reaction of OH radicals

59 with selected alkanes in the carbon monoxide, He and N₂ system, respectively (Gorse and Volman, 1974;
60 Overend et al., 1975; Darnall et al., 1978). Unlike the absolute rate-constant method, the relative rate
61 method-relied relies on the known recommended rate-constant coefficient for the reaction of a reference
62 compound with OH radicals, with the reference reaction rate coefficient needing to be similar to that of
63 the compound under study to enhance measurement sensitivity. By monitoring the simultaneous decay of
64 the target and reference compounds in the presence of OH radicals due to competitive response
65 mechanisms, the rate constant coefficient for the reaction of OH radicals with the target compound can
66 be determined (Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Shaw et al., 2018). From 1980s to 2020s, dozens of papers for
67 the rate coefficients of alkanes with OH radical measured by relative rate method method have been
68 published. For example, Shaw et al. and Phan and Li obtained rate-constants-coefficients of a series of
69 alkanes in the N₂/He system (Phan and Li, 2017; Shaw et al., 2018; Shaw et al., 2020). Anderson et al.
70 obtained the ~~k_{OH}~~k_{OH} of ~~C₂-C₈~~ C₂-C₈ several n-alkanes and cyclic alkanes by the relative technique in the
71 air system at 296 ± 4 K (Anderson et al., 2004). However, the majority of experiments were conducted
72 solely on ~~C₂-C₆~~ C₂-C₆ alkanes, more complex and multifunctional alkanes are often poorly constrained
73 or unmeasured.

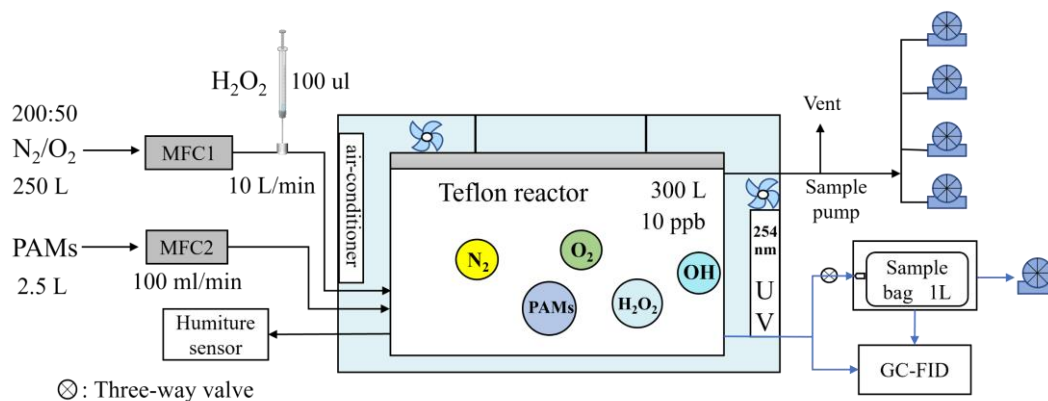
74 Temperature has an important influence on the reaction rate-constants coefficients of alkanes and OH
75 radicals. The reaction rate constants coefficients of several n-alkanes with OH radicals measured by
76 Greiner increased by about 70% in the range of 300-500 K (Greiner, 1970b). Perry et al.'s research found
77 that the rate constants coefficients of n-butane multiplied by 72% as the temperature rose from 297 K to
78 420 K (Perry et al., 1976). And the rate coefficients of 10 n-alkanes and cycloalkanes obtained by
79 Donahue et al. also increased in varying degrees at 300-390 K (Donahue et al., 1998). However, most
80 reported experimental studies on the reactivity of OH radicals with a series of alkanes focus on
81 temperatures ≥290 K (Greiner, 1970b; Perry et al., 1976; Finlaysonpitts et al., 1993; Donahue et al., 1998;
82 Atkinson, 2003; Badra and Farooq, 2015), with relatively few studies at low temperatures (Demore and
83 Bayes, 1999; Li et al., 2006; Wilson et al., 2006; Sprengnether et al., 2009; Crawford et al., 2011). In
84 addition, a further alkane had only two, or fewer, individual OH radical rate coefficient measurements
85 available in the mentioned temperature range, e.g., 3-methylheptane, and it is unclear whether the rate
86 constants coefficients for the reactions of OH radicals with alkanes differ in a mixed system containing
87 oxygen compared to an inert gas system. Therefore, further investigations are required to explore the
88 variations in the rate constants-coefficients for different types of alkanes at various temperatures.

89 In this study, the rate constants coefficients for the reactions of 25 different C_3-C_{11} alkanes
90 with OH radicals were determined using the multivariate relative rate method, including linear alkanes,
91 cycloalkanes, and methyl-alkanes. To validate the rate constants coefficients for the reaction between
92 alkanes and OH radicals, multiple comparisons were made with previous literature and structure-activity
93 relationship (SAR) estimated values. Additionally, the rate constants coefficients of certain straight-chain,
94 branched-chain, and methyl-cycloalkanes were measured at 273-323 K.

95 2. Methods

96 2.1 Experiment

97 2.1.1 Atmospheric simulation chamber



98
99 Figure 1. A schematic of the experimental device

100 As shown in Fig. 1, the chamber experiments were performed at atmospheric pressure in a climate-
101 controlled box with a temperature range of 263-333 K (accuracy of ± 0.1 K). A 300 L Teflon airbag was
102 suspended in the climate-controlled box to serve as the reaction system. The box was equipped with two
103 Teflon-coated fans for rapid chemical mixing and a 254 nm ultraviolet lamp for photolysis of hydrogen
104 peroxide (H_2O_2) to produce OH radicals. The inner walls of climate-controlled box were constructed with
105 reflective steel plates to enhance ultraviolet light utilization. Bath gas (N_2 or O_2) and NMHCs were
106 introduced into the Teflon bag through mass flow controllers with flow rate of 25 L min^{-1} and 100 mL
107 min^{-1} , respectively, while excess H_2O_2 with respect to VOCs was injected through a three-way valve using
108 a micro syringe. Initial conditions of the different species introduced into the reactor for each experiment
109 are outlined in Table S1 in the Supplementary Material. By varying the presence of H_2O_2 , turning on/off
110 the light, a series of observations were generated, such as $N_2 + \text{NMHCs} + \text{dark reaction}$, $N_2 + \text{NMHCs} +$

111 hv (254 nm), and N₂ + NMHCs + H₂O₂ + dark reaction.

112 2.1.2 Gas sampling and analysis

113 NMHCs Analyzer (GC-FID) with a time resolution of 1 hour independently developed by the
114 Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES) was used to analyze 25-~~C3-C11~~ C₃-C₁₁
115 alkanes. The sample gas was enriched by a 60-80 mesh Carboxen B adsorption tube under the condition
116 of 183.15 K, and then the adsorption tube was rapidly heated to 453.15 K. The 25 alkanes were detected
117 by FID at 523.15 K after programmed heating at 253.15 K, 303.15 K and 433.15 K in 30 min (Liu et al.,
118 2016).

119 Figure S1(a) reveals that the mixed gas diluted with N₂ underwent a 14-hour reaction in a Teflon reactor
120 without light. The ~~K_d~~ *k_d* values ranged from 1.3 to 4.8 (the units are ×10⁻⁴ ppbv/h), implying negligible
121 influence from factors such as alkane loss from reactor walls, self-consumption, or airbag leakage. Figure
122 S1(b) illustrates that the peak height variation for 25 alkanes + 50 μl of H₂O₂ within 15 hours was less
123 than 3%, indicating the insignificance of dark reactions between H₂O₂ and alkanes. When the same
124 concentration mixed gas was irradiated for 7 hours without H₂O₂, alkane concentration changes were
125 depicted in Fig. S2. The results indicated that minimal impact from alkane photolysis on OH radical
126 reaction rate constant determination.

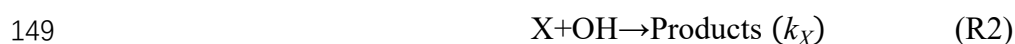
127 To obtain the reaction rate ~~constants~~ *coefficients* of alkanes with OH radicals in 1-2 hour, the alkanes
128 mixture exiting the reactor was collected in more than ten polyvinyl fluoride (PVF) sampling bag (1.0 L)
129 using a transparent vacuum sampling device for GC-FID. Prior to use, the empty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

134 2.1.3 Relative rate technique

135 The rate coefficients were measured by the relative rate method (Atkinson, 1986). The basic principle
136 is that the rate-~~constant~~ *coefficient* for the reaction of the reactant used as a reference with OH radicals ~~is~~
137 ~~known~~ *needs to be the recommended rate coefficients values*, rate constant for the reaction of OH radicals
138 with the target compound can be determined by monitoring the simultaneous decay of the target and

139 reference compounds in the presence of OH radicals due to the competitive response mechanism.
 140 Additionally, an important criterion for the selection of reference compounds, that is, the reference rate
 141 coefficient needs to be similar to the one under study in order to improve sensitivity. To ensure that the
 142 reactants only react with OH radicals, the OH radicals need to be in excess in the experiment. The research
 143 method of this work is based on the multivariate relative rate method published by Shaw et al. (Shaw et
 144 al., 2018), taking the mixed system as the research object, broadening the range of compounds that can
 145 be examined.

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



150
$$-\frac{d[R]}{dt}=k_R[OH][R] \quad (\text{R3})$$

151
$$-\frac{d[X]}{dt}=k_X[OH][X] \quad (\text{R4})$$

152
$$\ln\left(\frac{[R]_0}{[R]_t}\right)=k_R\cdot\int[OH]dt \quad (\text{R5})$$

153
$$\ln\left(\frac{[X]_0}{[X]_t}\right)=k_X\cdot\int[OH]dt \quad (\text{R6})$$

154
$$\ln\left(\frac{[X]_0}{[X]_t}\right)=\frac{k_X}{k_R}\cdot\ln\left(\frac{[R]_0}{[R]_t}\right) \quad (\text{R7})$$

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

159 2.1.4 Choice of reference k values

160 It is critical to choose appropriate reference compounds in a kinetics study using the relative rate
 161 technique. Some reported values of the rate-constants coefficients for reactions of ~~C3-C11~~ C₃-C₁₁ alkanes
 162 with OH radicals have been measured by different methods in different laboratories, and these
 163 measurement results may be quite different. When these rate-constants coefficients are measured by the
 164 relative rate technique, choosing different reference values will lead to a change of the final experimental

165 target rate constants. In this work, selecting 3 different commonly used reference compounds (n-Hexane,
166 Cyclohexane, n-Octane) to determine the rate-constants coefficients for each reaction at room temperature
167 to check the consistency of kinetic results. The selection of k values for reference compounds and the
168 literature data assessment and comparison gives priority to the available expert-evaluated rate-constants
169 coefficients wherever possible. Here we used the recommended expert-evaluated data of database for
170 Version 2.1.0 of McGillen et al. (Database for the Kinetics of the Gas-Phase Atmospheric Reactions of
171 Organic Compounds – Eurochamp Data Center), which is relatively comprehensive and provides
172 rigorously evaluated rate coefficients for many species. Among them, at 298 ± 1 K, the k values (in units
173 of $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$) of the three reference compounds selected respectively are expert-evaluated rate
174 constants: ~~$k_{\text{OH}+\text{n-Hexane}}$~~ $k_{\text{OH}+\text{n-Hexane}}=4.97 \times 10^{-12}$, ~~$k_{\text{OH}+\text{Cyclohexane}}$~~ $k_{\text{OH}+\text{Cyclohexane}}=6.69 \times 10^{-12}$, ~~$k_{\text{OH}+\text{n-Octane}}$~~ $k_{\text{OH}+\text{n-}}$
175 $\text{Octane}}=8.48 \times 10^{-12}$, which is fitted or manually entered data from multiple sources. However, the value of
176 the reference compound at different temperatures (273-323 K) is different than the room temperature. A
177 detailed explanation is reflected in Sec. 3.3.

178 2.1.5 Materials

179 The air bath gas was obtained by a mix of nitrogen (200 L) and oxygen (50L). H_2O_2 (30%) was
180 provided by Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd. The standard gas (PAMs) is a mixed standard sample
181 of 57 kinds of NMHCs produced by Linde Spectra Environmental Gases (Alpha, NJ). Sampling bag (PVF,
182 1 L) was provided by Dalian Delin Gas Packing Co., Ltd. The pump is the NMP830 KNDC model
183 produced by KNF, Germany, with a maximum air sampling rate of 23 L/min. The climate-controlled box
184 (ZRG-1000D-C0203) is provided by Shanghai Proline Electronic Technology Co., Ltd.

185 2.2 Estimation of the rate constant at 298 K (SAR)

186 In the past few decades, researchers have been devoted to finding a reasonable theoretical estimation
187 method for the kinetic rate-constants coefficients (Cohen, 1991). Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)
188 established and developed by Kwok and Atkinson et al. (Kwok and Atkinson, 1995), is the most widely
189 used estimation method of rate constants. Based on the relationship between the structure and the reaction
190 activity of the compounds, this method assumes that the hydrogen extraction reaction mainly occurs in
191 the saturated compounds and the addition reaction mainly occurs in the unsaturated compounds, which is
192 used to estimate the gaseous rate-constants coefficients for the reactions of most VOCs with OH radicals.

193 An advantage of the rate constant estimation is that it gives a measure of the rates of attack at different
 194 sites in the molecule, which is then useful in predicting the overall temperature dependence. The rate
 195 constant estimated by SAR method is in good agreement with the experimental data. In this relationship,
 196 the calculation of the rate constant of the hydrogen atom on the C-H bond is based on the evaluation of
 197 the rate constant of the -CH₃, -CH₂-, >CH- group. The relationship between the group structure and the
 198 rate constant is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 199 \quad & K(\text{CH}_3\text{-X}) = K_{\text{prim}}^0 F(\text{X}) \\
 200 \quad & K(\text{X-CH}_2\text{-Y}) = K_{\text{sec}}^0 F(\text{X})F(\text{Y}) \\
 201 \quad & K(\text{X-CH}(\text{Y})\text{Z}) = K_{\text{tert}}^0 F(\text{X})F(\text{Y})F(\text{Z}) \\
 202 \quad & K_{\text{tot}} = \sum [K(\text{CH}_3\text{-X}) + K(\text{X-CH}_2\text{-Y}) + K(\text{X-CH}(\text{Y})\text{Z})] \\
 203 \quad & k(\text{CH}_3\text{-X}) = k_{\text{prim}}^0 F(\text{X}) \\
 204 \quad & k(\text{X-CH}_2\text{-Y}) = k_{\text{sec}}^0 F(\text{X})F(\text{Y}) \\
 205 \quad & k(\text{X-CH}(\text{Y})\text{Z}) = k_{\text{tert}}^0 F(\text{X})F(\text{Y})F(\text{Z}) \\
 206 \quad & k_{\text{tot}} = \sum [k(\text{CH}_3\text{-X}) + k(\text{X-CH}_2\text{-Y}) + k(\text{X-CH}(\text{Y})\text{Z})]
 \end{aligned}$$

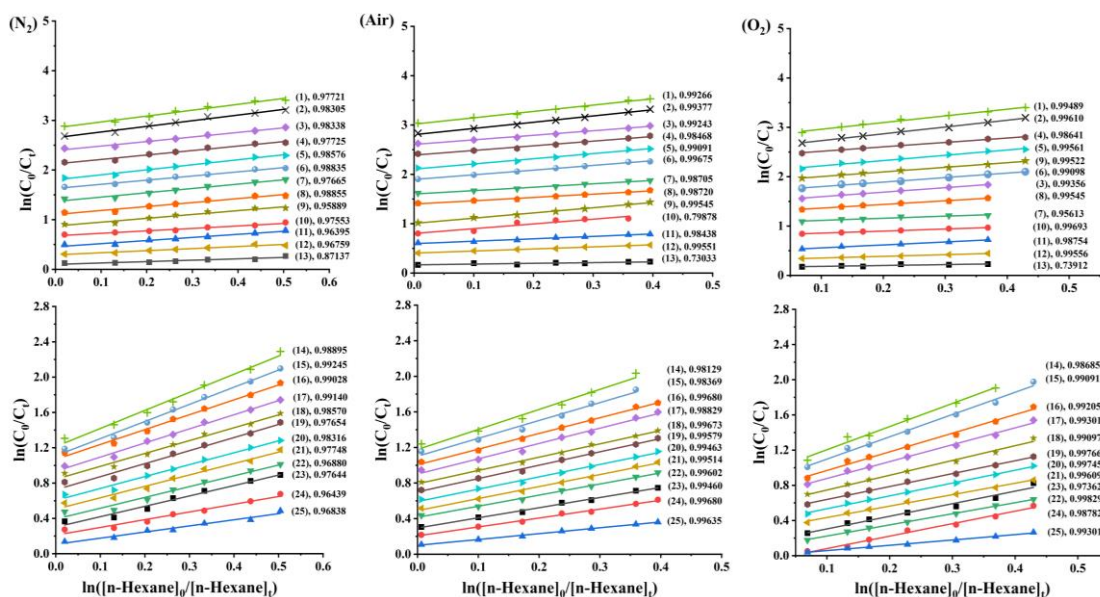
207 Where, K_{tot} represents the rate constant of each target compound. $K_{\text{prim}}^0, K_{\text{sec}}^0, K_{\text{tert}}^0, k_{\text{prim}}^0, k_{\text{sec}}^0, k_{\text{tert}}^0$
 208 represent the rate-constants coefficients of each -CH₃, -CH₂- and >CH-. For standard substituent groups
 209 such as -CH₃, $F(-\text{CH}_3)=1.00$, X, Y and Z represent substituent groups, $F(\text{X}), F(\text{Y})$ and $F(\text{Z})$ refer to the
 210 activity coefficient of substituents (X, Y, Z) at different positions on carbon groups. At room temperature,
 211 $F(-\text{CH}_2\text{-})=1.23, F(>\text{CH-})=1.23$. Based on an extensive review of kinetic literature values for linear
 212 alkanes at room temperature, Atkinson and Kwok et al derived the values of $K_{\text{prim}}^0, K_{\text{sec}}^0, K_{\text{tert}}^0, k_{\text{prim}}^0, k_{\text{sec}}^0,$
 213 k_{tert}^0 at room temperature, $K_{\text{prim}}^0 k_{\text{prim}}^0 = 0.136 \times 10^{-12}, K_{\text{sec}}^0 k_{\text{sec}}^0 = 0.934 \times 10^{-12}, K_{\text{tert}}^0 k_{\text{tert}}^0 = 1.94 \times 10^{-12}$, the unit is
 214 $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. After that, many researchers continued to updated update and modified modify some
 215 parameters based on the method of Atkinson and Kwok (Kwok and Atkinson, 1995), and obtained the
 216 new fundamental base rate-constants coefficients for different positional groups, some examples include:
 217 Neeb, Wilson et al., and Jenkin et al. and McGillen et al. (Neeb, 2000; Wilson et al., 2006; Jenkin et al.,
 218 2018; McGillen et al., 2020).

219 3. Result and Discussion

220 3.1 Results from relative rate experiments at 298 K

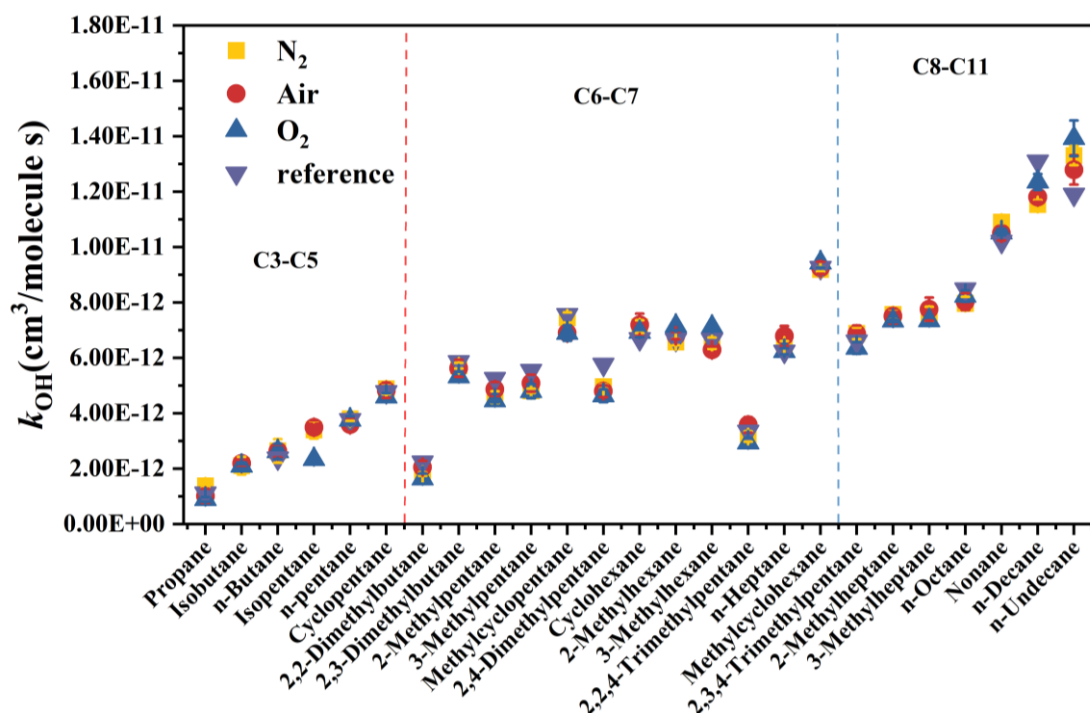
221 The rate-constants coefficients for the reactions involving OH radical with ~~C3-C11~~ C₃-C₁₁ alkanes
222 in the mixed system were determined at 298±1 K. The concentration curves of target alkanes and the
223 reference compound (n-Hexane) were plotted in Fig. 2. As shown in Fig. 2, the decay of both target and
224 reference compounds correlated well with eq. (7), and high correlation coefficients (R²) were observed
225 for most alkanes, exceeding 0.99. Table 1 and Table S2 listed the obtained ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} for ~~C3-C11~~ C₃-C₁₁
226 alkanes under three bath gases using the related reference compounds. The error bars (1σ) in Table 1
227 accounted for reference rate constant uncertainty, and experimental parameter uncertainties (pressure,
228 temperature, flow rate, reactant concentration). The results indicated strong agreement (within <15%)
229 between rate-constants coefficients for 25 ~~C3-C11~~ C₃-C₁₁ straight-chain, branched-chain, and
230 cycloalkanes, using different reference compounds. For example, the ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} obtained for propane with
231 n-hexane, cyclohexane and n-octane as the reference compound were (1.38±0.01)×10⁻¹², (1.25±0.03)×10⁻
232 ¹² and (1.34±0.04)×10⁻¹² (the units are cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹), respectively (within 10%). This suggests that
233 reference compound variation minimally affects results, indicating reliable experimental methods and
234 data. Notably, the rate constant for 3-Methylheptane's reaction with OH radicals at room temperature was
235 determined for the first time. As shown in Fig. 3, for the different bath gases, the obtained ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} for ~~C3-~~
236 ~~C11~~ C₃-C₁₁ alkanes showed high agreement. Meanwhile, it can also be observed from the figure that most
237 of the rate coefficients obtained are very similar to the expert-evaluated values of the database by the
238 McGillen et al. However, 2,4-Dimethylpentane is an exception, the ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} value obtained in this study
239 is about 20% lower than the recommended value, but it is similar to expert-evaluated value by Atkinson
240 and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003). Additionally, it can be clearly seen in the figure that the reactivity
241 of linear alkanes (~~RCH₂R~~) (R₁CH₂R₂) with OH radicals increasing as the number of carbon atoms in the
242 hydrocarbon molecules increases, indicating that the increase of R-terminal alkyl chain length will
243 provide additional hydrogen extraction sites. For each additional CH₂ group from ~~C3-C11~~ C₃-C₁₁, the
244 reaction rate-constant coefficient increases about 0.95-1.81 (the unit is 10⁻¹² cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹), reflects
245 the fact that the main way is to extract the H atom from the ~~second-order~~ secondary C-H bond. For
246 branching alkanes, for example, 2,2-Dimethylbutane and 2,3-Dimethylbutane, it is obvious that the
247 addition of CH group increases the reaction rate-constants coefficients with OH radical to a great extent.

248 For cyclic alkanes, such as cyclopentane, methylcyclopentane, cyclohexane and methylcyclohexane, it
 249 can also be seen that the reactivity **increase** increases with the increase of cycle size. By comparing the
 250 reaction rate—**constant** coefficients of cyclopentane and cyclohexane (methylcyclopentane and
 251 methylcyclohexane), it is found that for cyclic alkanes, each CH₂ group reaction rate increases by about
 252 $2.37 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. It can be seen from the reaction rate **constant** coefficients of cyclopentane
 253 and methylcyclopentane (cyclohexane and methylcyclohexane) that the reaction rate **constant** coefficient
 254 increases about $2.06 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for cycloalkanes with each increase of methyl.



255
 256 Figure 2. Typical kinetic data as acquired with the multivariate relative rate technique at 298 K and
 257 a fixed reaction time of 70 min for the reaction of **C3-C11** C₃-C₁₁ alkanes with the OH radical using n-
 258 hexane as reference compound in different bath gases (N₂, Air, O₂). The numbers in parentheses
 259 correspond to each substance, followed by the correlation coefficient R². The following data have been
 260 displaced for reasons of clarity: (N₂): (1) Methylcyclopentane, (2) Cyclohexane, (3) Cyclopentane, (4) 2-
 261 Methylpentane, (5) 2,3-Dimethylbutane, (6) 2,4-Dimethylpentane, (7) Isopentane, (8) 1-pentane, (9) 3-
 262 Methylpentane, (10) Isobutane, (11) n-Butane, (12) 2,2-Dimethylbutane, (13) Propane (14) n-Undecane,
 263 (15) n-Decane, (16) Nonane, (17) Methylcyclohexane, (18) n-Octane, (19) 3-Methylheptane, (20) 2-
 264 Methylheptane, (21) 2,3,4-Trimethylpentane, (22) 1-Heptane, (23) 2-Methylhexane, (24) 3-
 265 Methylhexane, (25) 2,2,4-Trimethylpentane vertically displaced by 2.8, 2.6, 2.4, 2.1, 1.8, 1.6, 1.4, 1.1,
 266 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, respectively; (Air) Each
 267 alkane (in the above order) vertically displaced by 3, 2.8, 2.6, 2.4, 2.1, 1.9, 1.6, 1.4, 1, 0.8, 0.6, 0.4, 0.1,
 268 1.2, 1.1, 1, 0.9, 0.8, 0.7, 0.6, 0.5, 0.4, 0.3, 0.2, 0.1 units, respectively; (O₂) Each alkane (in the above order)

269 vertically displaced by 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,
 270 0.4, 0.3, 0.1 units, respectively (Not mentioned defaults to 0).



271

272 Figure 3. Comparison of rate constants coefficients of C3-C11 alkanes in different bath gases
 273 (N₂, Air, O₂) with expert-evaluated data at 298±1 K. The error bar was taken as 1σ.

274 The obtained k_{OH} values for C₃-C₁₁ alkanes were compared with literature-reported
 275 values (Table 1). For several n-alkanes, such as n-butane, the average rate constants coefficients
 276 obtained in the air gas is (2.63±0.23), the unit is 10⁻¹² cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹ (applicable to all units involved
 277 in this paragraph). The result is highly consistent with the value (2.72±0.27) obtained by Perry et al using
 278 flash photolysis resonance fluorescence technique and the values (2.56±0.25) obtained by Greiner
 279 (Greiner, 1970b), with a consistency of 3% or better (Perry et al., 1976). Although slightly higher by 7%
 280 compared to Talukdar et al. (Talukdar et al., 1994) using absolute techniques (2.46±0.15), when
 281 considering the errors, they still exhibit consistency within a certain range. Compared to the value
 282 obtained by DeMore et al. (Demore and Bayes, 1999) using the relative rate method (2.36±0.25) and the
 283 expert-evaluated data (2.36) of McGillen et al.'s database, these values are higher by 11%.

284 **n-pentane (n-Heptane).** As in the n-butane case, the derived rate constants coefficients for n-pentane
 285 and n-heptane are in excellent agreement (4% or better at 298 K) with previous studies (Donahue et al.,
 286 1998; Atkinson, 2003; Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Wilson et al., 2006; Crawford et al., 2011; Calvert et al.,
 287 2015; Morin et al., 2015).

288 **n-Octane (Nonane).** The reaction rate ~~constants~~ coefficients of n-Octane and OH radicals are in
289 extremely good agreement with the values reported in the literature (within 5%) (Greiner, 1970a). Same
290 for Nonane, consistency with previous studies is less than 8% (Greiner, 1970b; Atkinson et al., 1982;
291 Ferrari et al., 1996; Atkinson and Arey, 2003; Li et al., 2006).

292 **n-Decane.** The obtained average ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} for n-decane in the air system was (1.18 ± 0.02) , the unit is 10^{-11}
293 $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. When considering experimental error, these results are consistent with the relative
294 value (1.29 ± 0.10) obtained by Li et al. (Li et al., 2006) and the reviewed value (1.10) of Atkinson and
295 Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003), with about a consistency of 6%-9%.

296 **n-Undecane.** The obtained average ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} for n-decane in the air system was (1.33 ± 0.16) , the unit is
297 $10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. It is about 8% higher than the previous research (Atkinson and Arey, 2003;
298 Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009; Calvert et al., 2015).

299 For the cycloalkanes, like cyclopentane, the average rate ~~constants~~ coefficients are 4.88 ± 0.19 ,
300 4.82 ± 0.27 , 4.59 ± 0.14 , respectively, the unit is $10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. The results are in excellent
301 agreement (8% or better) with the reviewed value (4.97) of Atkinson and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
302 and the relative values (4.83, 4.84) of DeMore et al. (Demore and Bayes, 1999) and Singh et al. (Singh et
303 al., 2013) and the absolute value (5.02) of Droege et al. (Droege and Tully, 1987). And the obtained k_{OH}
304 values for cyclohexane are highly consistent (3% or better) with the absolute values (7.14×10^{-12} , 7.19×10^{-12})
305 obtained by Droege and Tully and Sprengnether et al. (Droege and Tully, 1987; Sprengnether et al.,
306 2009). However, this result is slightly higher than the relative value by about 5%-16%. Like the relative
307 values measured by DeMore and Bayes (Demore and Bayes, 1999) or Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006)
308 were 6.70×10^{-12} and 6.38×10^{-12} , respectively. It worth noting that the ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} value for
309 methylcyclopentane in this work is highly consistent (within 3% to 5%) with the absolute data reported
310 by Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009). However, it is lower by approximately 15% to 18%
311 compared to the relative data obtained by Anderson et al. (Anderson et al., 2003). The ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} values for
312 methylcyclohexane are excellent agreement (3% or better) with other values reported by Atkinson and
313 Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003) and Calvert et al. (Calvert et al., 2015).

314 Furthermore, for several less studied branched alkanes, such as 2-Methylhexane, 3-Methylhexane,
315 and 2-Methylheptane, there is only one study reported so far. Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al.,
316 2009) conducted a study on 2-Methylhexane and 3-Methylhexane and obtained ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} values at room
317 temperature for the first time, which were 6.69×10^{-12} and 6.30×10^{-12} (the unit is $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$),

318 respectively. The rate constants coefficients of 2-Methylhexane and 3-Methylhexane obtained in this work
 319 are $(6.80 \pm 0.13) \times 10^{-12}$ and $(6.29 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-12}$, respectively, which are consistent with the values obtained
 320 by Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009). However, the data for 2-Methylheptane in this work is
 321 lower by about 17% compared to the value reported by Shaw et al. (Shaw et al., 2018).

322

323 Table 1. Comparison of Experimental in this work with the reported in the literature at
 324 298 ± 1 K.

Alkanes	Reference	This work			Reference Literature measurements
		$k_{OH}/k_{reference}$ $\pm 1\sigma$	k_{OH} $\pm 1\sigma$ ($\times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3$ $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)	k_{OH-av}^a $\pm 1\sigma$ ($\times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3$ $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)	k_{OH} ($\times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3$ $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)
Propane	n-Hexane	0.190 \pm 0.033	(9.43 \pm 1.66)		1.11 ^{bcd} 1.09 ^e
	Cyclohexane	0.153 \pm 0.028	(1.03 \pm 0.18)	(1.01 \pm 0.26)	1.91 ^f
	n-Octane	0.136 \pm 0.031	(1.16 \pm 0.26)		(1.15 \pm 0.15) ^g
Isobutane	n-Hexane	0.444 \pm 0.012	(2.21 \pm 0.06)		2.12 ^h 2.22 ⁱ
	Cyclohexane	0.315 \pm 0.008	(2.08 \pm 0.02)	(2.19 \pm 0.13)	(2.34 \pm 0.33) ^j
	n-Octane	0.264 \pm 0.005	(2.24 \pm 0.04)		(2.36 \pm 0.25) ^b
n-Butane	n-Hexane	0.516 \pm 0.025	(2.56 \pm 0.12)		(2.72 \pm 0.27) ^k
	Cyclohexane	0.398 \pm 0.017	(2.66 \pm 0.12)	(2.63 \pm 0.23)	(2.56 \pm 0.25) ^m
	n-Octane	0.345 \pm 0.042	(2.93 \pm 0.36)		(2.46 \pm 0.15) ^d
Isopentane	n-Hexane	0.684 \pm 0.033	(3.40 \pm 0.17)		3.60 ^e 3.65 ^h
	Cyclohexane	0.512 \pm 0.026	(3.43 \pm 0.18)	(3.49 \pm 0.25)	3.50 ^f
	n-Octane	0.442 \pm 0.025	(3.75 \pm 0.22)		
n-pentane	n-Hexane	0.709 \pm 0.042	(3.52 \pm 0.21)		3.80 ^e 3.98 ⁿ
	Cyclohexane	0.527 \pm 0.021	(3.53 \pm 0.14)	(3.59 \pm 0.25)	4.03 ^o
	n-Octane	0.454 \pm 0.029	(3.85 \pm 0.24)		(3.97 \pm 0.20) ^p (4.20 \pm 0.15) ^g
Cyclopentane	n-Hexane	0.951 \pm 0.033	(4.72 \pm 0.17)		4.97 ^e
	Cyclohexane	0.711 \pm 0.043	(4.76 \pm 0.29)	(4.82 \pm 0.27)	4.83 ^b

	n-Octane	0.600±0.029	(5.09±0.24)		5.02 ^q (4.90±0.20) ^p 4.84 ^{br}
2,2-Dimethylbutane	n-Hexane	0.409±0.019	(2.03±0.09)		(2.23±0.15) ^p 2.15 ^s
	Cyclohexane	0.301±0.030	(2.02±0.20)	(2.05±0.23)	2.32 ^o
	n-Octane	0.264±0.031	(2.24±0.26)		
2,3-Dimethylbutane	n-Hexane	1.095±0.061	(5.44±0.31)		5.78 ^e (6.14±0.25) ^p
	Cyclohexane	0.809±0.039	(5.42±0.26)	(5.62±0.31)	6.03 ^h
	n-Octane	0.728±0.050	(6.05±0.29)		
2-Methylpentane	n-Hexane	0.972±0.022	(4.83±0.11)		5.2 ^e (5.25±0.25) ^p
	Cyclohexane	0.722±0.054	(4.83±0.36)	(4.86±0.26)	5.00 ^f
	n-Octane	0.625±0.045	(5.30±0.38)		4.75 ^s
3-Methylpentane	n-Hexane	1.014±0.030	(5.04±0.15)		5.20 ^e (5.54±0.25) ^p
	Cyclohexane	0.777±0.059	(5.20±0.40)	(5.08±0.31)	4.93 ^s
	n-Octane	0.669±0.082	(5.67±0.70)		
methylcyclopentane	n-Hexane	1.432±0.053	(7.12±0.27)		(7.65±0.10) ^u (8.60±0.30) ^p
	Cyclohexane	1.007±0.023	(6.73±0.15)	(7.31±0.29)	(8.60±2.20) ^t
	n-Octane	0.849±0.017	(7.00±0.24)		
2,4-Dimethylpentane	n-Hexane	0.962±0.012	(4.78±0.06)		4.80 ^e 5.51 ^s
	Cyclohexane	0.721±0.046	(4.83±0.31)	(4.80±0.20)	(5.76±0.40) ^p 6.97 ^e
	n-Octane	0.596±0.026	(5.05±0.22)		7.14 ^q 6.38 ^h 6.70 ^b
Cyclohexane	n-Hexane	1.372±0.054	(6.82±0.27)		(7.19±0.10) ^u (6.85±0.20) ^p
	Cyclohexane	--	--	(7.20±0.33)	
	n-Octane	0.872±0.022	(7.39±0.19)		
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) ^u
	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) ^u
	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 ^e 3.64 ^s
	Cyclohexane	0.557±0.032	(3.72±0.21)	(3.58±0.28)	(3.34±0.25) ^p
	n-Octane	0.435±0.065	(3.69±0.55)		(3.71±0.10) ^v

					6.76 ^e
n-Heptane	n-Hexane	1.280±0.066	(6.36±0.33)		6.68 ^y
	Cyclohexane	0.961±0.020	(6.43±0.26)	(6.78±0.36)	6.80 ^h
	n-Octane	0.828±0.029	(7.03±0.25)		(6.70±0.15) ^g
					9.60 ^e
Methylcyclohexane	n-Hexane	1.906±0.098	(9.48±0.49)		(9.64±0.30) ^P
	Cyclohexane	1.349±0.012	(9.02±0.08)	(9.25±0.22)	(11.8±1.00) ^F
	n-Octane	1.160±0.016	(9.83±0.14)		(9.50±0.14) ^D (9.29±0.10) ^u
2,3,4-Trimethylpentane	n-Hexane	1.355±0.050	(6.73±0.25)		6.60 ^e
	Cyclohexane	1.008±0.039	(6.74±0.26)	(6.87±0.30)	6.50 ^h
	n-Octane	0.861±0.039	(7.30±0.33)		(6.60±0.26) ^P
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 ^L
	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 ^e
	Cyclohexane	1.157±0.027	(7.74±0.18)	(8.03±0.32)	8.42 ^m
	n-Octane	--	--		(8.48±0.10) ^z
					9.70 ^e
Nonane	n-Hexane	2.166±0.079	(10.76±0.39)		10.20 ^A
	Cyclohexane	1.449±0.028	(9.69±0.19)	(10.50±0.26)	10.70 ^w
	n-Octane	1.287±0.017	(10.92±0.14)		(11.30±1.10) ^z
n-Decane	n-Hexane	2.371±0.073	(11.78±0.36)		11.00 ^e
	Cyclohexane	1.668±0.022	(11.16±0.15)	(11.81±0.18)	(12.9±1.00) ^z
	n-Octane	1.401±0.006	(11.88±0.05)		
n-Undecane	n-Hexane	2.371±0.073	(11.78±0.36)		12.30 ^e
	Cyclohexane	1.668±0.022	(11.16±0.15)	(12.78±0.53)	12.50 ^B
	n-Octane	1.588±0.056	(13.50±0.60)		(11.90±2.00) ^P

325

326 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,
327 σ_{av} , was given by: $\sigma_{av} = (1/\sigma_{ref1}^2 + 1/\sigma_{ref2}^2 + \dots)^{-0.5}$.

328 b: (Demore and Bayes, 1999); c: (Mellouki et al., 1994); d: (Talukdar et al., 1994); e: (Atkinson and Arey,
329 2003); f: (Cox et al., 1980); g: (Morin et al., 2015); h: (Wilson et al., 2006); i: (Tully et al., 1986); j:
330 (Edney et al., 1986); k: (Perry et al., 1976); m: (Greiner, 1970b); n: (Donahue et al., 1998); o: (Harris and

331 Kerr, 1988); p: (Calvert et al., 2015); q: (Droege and Tully, 1987); r: (Singh et al., 2013); s: (Badra and
332 Farooq, 2015) u: (Sprengnether et al., 2009); t: (Anderson et al., 2004); v: (Greiner, 1970a), y: (Crawford
333 et al., 2011) ; z: (Li et al., 2006); L: (Shaw et al., 2020); w: (Atkinson et al., 1982); A: (Ferrari et al., 1996);
334 B: (Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009); D: (Bejan et al., 2018); F: (Ballesteros et al., 2015).

335

336 3.2 Comparisons to structure-activity relationships

337 To ~~evaluate the reliability of our experimental data~~ assess the accuracy of the estimation technique,
338 multiple comparisons were made between the obtained reaction rate ~~constants~~ coefficients and the SAR
339 values of different experimental groups (Figure 4). As shown in Figure 4, most n-alkanes are fall into the
340 shaded region, indicating a high level of agreement for ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} rate coefficients of most n-alkanes
341 (experimental values) with the SAR values, particularly for ~~C3-C11~~ C₃-C₁₁ n-alkanes (about within 10%).
342 Although the measured values of n-butane and n-pentane were lower than the estimated values of Neeb
343 (Neeb, 2000), the similar trend was observed when comparing our experimental data with the SAR values
344 of (Wilson et al., 2006), and (Jenkin et al., 2018) (refer to Fig. 4 (c) and Fig. 4 (d)), suggesting a certain
345 level of reliability in our results.

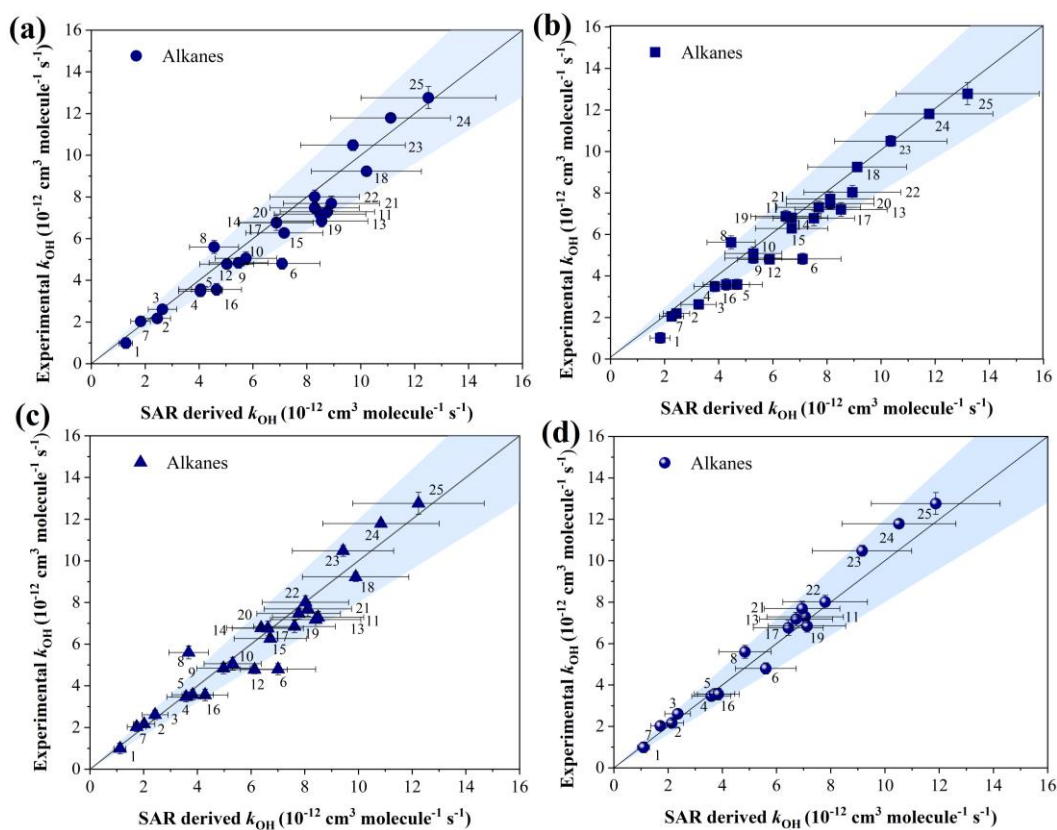
346 For ~~branch~~ branched alkanes, such as monomethyl branched alkanes (2-Methylpentane, 3-
347 Methylpentane, 2-Methylhexane, 3-Methylhexane 2-Methylheptane and 3-Methylheptane), the obtained
348 ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} values all fall within the shadow ~~range~~ area. The results indicated a relatively consistent alignment
349 between our experimental data and the SAR estimated data within a certain margin of error, particularly
350 for the SAR values of Neeb and Jenkin et al. (within 8%). Nevertheless, there seemed to be something
351 different for polymethyl branched alkanes, like 2,3-Dimethylbutane, the experimental data was about 25%
352 higher than the estimated SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok et al. (1995) and Neeb (2000), especially
353 53% higher than that of Jenkin et al. (2018). This suggested a potential underestimation of ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} values
354 of 2,3-dimethylbutane by these SAR estimation methods. It was also found that the ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} of this
355 compound (at 298 K) could not be accurately estimated by Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006) due to
356 unknown reasons. Furthermore, compared with the SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok et al., the obtained
357 data of 2,2-Dimethylbutane and 2,4-Dimethylpentane were relatively consistent with that, while
358 compared with the estimated data of Neeb, Jenkin et al. and Wilson et al., our results are higher or lower
359 by about 18% and 22%. It is worth noting that the obtained ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} value of 2,2,4-Trimethylpentane was
360 about 23%, 16% and 17%, respectively, lower than the corresponding SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok

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

364 For cyclic alkanes, such as cyclopentane and cyclohexane, the obtained ~~k_{OH}~~ k_{OH} values in this study
365 were approximately 32% and 15%, respectively, lower than the SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok et al.,
366 1995; b. Neeb 2000; c. Jenkin et al. 2018. On the other hand, the obtained experimental values for
367 methylcyclopentane and methylcyclohexane were similar to SAR values of Neeb and Wilson et al (within
368 5%) (Neeb, 2000; Wilson et al., 2006), However, compared with the SAR values of Atkinson and Kwok
369 et al. and Jenkin et al., this result is about 15% and 8% lower. The result suggested that the reaction
370 activity of these cycle-chain alkanes estimated with SAR methods (Kwok and Atkinson, 1995; Jenkin et
371 al., 2018) might be overestimated to varying degrees.

372 In addition, there are a number of SAR methods that are quite different in their estimation from those
373 of Atkinson, Wilson, et al. and Neeb, et al., for instance, the method of McGillen et al. (McGillen et al.,
374 2020). Figure S3 shows a comparison of our measurements with the SAR estimates of McGillen et al.
375 Similar to the results of Kwok and Atkinson, Neeb, and Jenkin et al., the obtained k_{OH} values of
376 cyclopentane and 2,3-Dimethylbutane in this study exceed the shaded area. This further illustrates that
377 there is still a large discrepancy between the experimental values and the SAR estimates for both
378 substances. For cycloalkanes, the SAR estimates of McGillen et al. are still overestimated to varying
379 degrees compared to our measurements, especially for cyclopentane, where the experimentally measured
380 k_{OH} in this work is still about 34% lower than the SAR estimate. And the k_{OH} values for cyclohexane,
381 methylcyclopentane and methylcyclohexane were also lower than the estimated values by about 18%, 12%
382 and 5%, respectively. For the branched alkanes, again the k_{OH} of 2,3-Dimethylbutane is higher than the
383 SAR estimate by about 32% or so. Similarly to the comparison with the Neeb, and Jenkin et al SAR
384 estimates, the experimental measurements we obtained for 2,2,4-Trimethylpentane are also lower than
385 the McGillen et al estimates by about 14%. By comparing the reaction rate coefficients of cyclopentane
386 and cyclohexane, it is found that for cyclic alkanes of Kwok and Atkinson, Neeb, Jenkin et al., and
387 McGillen et al, the cycle size increases by about $1.41 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. However, For the SAR
388 estimate of Wilson et al, the cycle size increases by about $1.12 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

389



390

391 Figure 4. Measured Alkanes + OH rate coefficients plotted against SAR-derived rate coefficients for all
 392 compounds (a. (Kwok and Atkinson, 1995); b. (Neeb, 2000); c. (Jenkin et al., 2018); d. (Wilson et al.,
 393 2006)). The shaded area demonstrates a 20 % uncertainty in the 1:1 black gradient line. The alkanes
 394 represented by serial number can be identified as follows: (1) Propane; (2) Isobutane; (3) n-Butane; (4)
 395 Isopentane; (5) n-pentane; (6) Cyclopentane; (7) 2,2-Dimethylbutane; (8) 2,3-Dimethylbutane; (9) 2-
 396 Methylpentane; (10) 3-Methylpentane; (11) Methylcyclopentane; (12) 2,4-Dimethylpentane; (13)
 397 Cyclohexane; (14) 2-Methylhexane; (15) 3-Methylhexane; (16) 2,2,4-Trimethylpentane; (17) n-Heptane;
 398 (18) Methylcyclohexane; (19) 2,3,4-Trimethylpentane; (20) 2-Methylheptane; (21) 3-Methylheptane; (22)
 399 n-Octane; (23) ~~Nonane~~ n-nonane; (24) n-Decane; (25) n-Undecane.

400 3.3 Temperature dependence (273-323 K)

401 In order to ~~study-investigate~~ the relationship between temperature and reaction rate-~~constant~~
 402 ~~coefficient~~, ~~this study carried out experiments in the tropospheric temperature range (273-323 K)~~,
 403 experiments were carried out in this study in the tropospheric temperature range (273-323 K), and the
 404 Arrhenius formulas was obtained for this temperature range. Also, our data were combined with the
 405 literature data (the expert-recommended data from database for Version 2.1.0 of McGillen et al.) to study
 406 the kinetic temperature dependence of several alkanes in a wide temperature range. And n-hexane

407 (Arrhenius 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
 408 reference compound. Since the research results at room temperature show that different bath gases have
 409 little effect on the reaction rate ~~constant~~ coefficient, only the temperature dependence of the reaction rate
 410 ~~constant~~ coefficient under the air system is considered here. Measured values for 24 ~~C3-C10~~ C₃-C₁₀
 411 alkanes were provided at different temperatures (273-323 K) in Table S3. And the preexponential factor
 412 A and activation energy E_a/R obtained by linear regression along with the values of the literature were
 413 listed in Table 2. The value of preexponential factor A increases with the increase of the number of carbon
 414 atoms, which is consistent with the law of its reactivity. Additionally, Arrhenius plots were linearly fitted
 415 using this data along with literature data. The following is a detailed analysis for several components that
 416 are important or temperature dependence data has been less or no studied, the Arrhenius plots are shown
 417 in Figure 4-5, other components are listed in the Supplement (Fig. ~~S3-S15~~ S4-S16).

418

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

Alkanes	Temperature (K)	A-factor ^a (× 10 ⁻¹¹)	E _a /R ^b (K)	Technique ^c	Reference Literature measurements
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)
n-Butane	273-323	3.78±0.66	867±52	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	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)
	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)
n-pentane	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)
	273-323	3.96±0.37	544±28	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	*240-1364	4.48	116, n=1.72	FID	
	*290-1090	1.73	406, n=2	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)
n-Heptane	*248-896	4.39	138, n=1.7	AR/DF/LIF	(Morin et al., 2015)
	298-500	0.986	600	Theory	(Cohen, 1991)
	*241-1287	6.03	32, n=1.4	AR-UV	(Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009)
	838-1287	248±17	193	AR-UV	(Pang et al., 2011)
	869-1364	243	180	AR-UV	(Pang et al., 2011)
	*240-1364	3.84	148, n=1.79	recommended	(Mcgillen et al., 2020)
	273-323	4.22±0.49	497±34	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	*240-1080	3.60	251, n=1.78	FID	
	240-340	2.27±0.21	296±27	RR/DF/MS	(Li et al., 2006)
n-Octane	284-384	4.52±0.37	538±27	RR/DF/MS	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	*290-1080	2.42	361, n=2.00	Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	296-497	2.57	332±65	AR/FP/KS	(Greiner, 1970b)
	*298-1000	0.986	600, n=2.2	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, 1970b)
	220-407	1.02±0.03	463±10	RR/DF/MS	(Wilson et al., 2006)
	273-323	1.12±0.11	443±34	RR/DP/GC-	
Isopentane	213-407	1.39±0.12	424±25	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
	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)
Cyclopentane	273 - 423	2.57	498	RR/DP/GC	(Demore and Bayes, 1999)
	300-390	1.88	352	AR/EB/LIF	(Donahue et al., 1998)
	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-	
Cyclohexane				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)
	273-323	1.65±0.19	262±33	RR/DP/GC-	
				FID	this work
Methylcyclopentane	*230-1344	1.59	439, n=2.15	FID	
	*230-1344	1.67	454, n=2.15	AR/DF/LIF	(Sprengnether et al., 2009)
	273-323	4.39±0.58	475±29	RR/DP/GC-	
				FID	this work
Methylcyclohexane	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)
	273-323	3.53±1.28	899±106	RR/DP/GC-	
				FID	this work
2,2-Dimethylbutane	240-330	3.37	809	Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	243-328	--	--	RR/DP/GC	(Harris and Kerr, 1988)
	254-1327	6.14±0.90	1023±76	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
	273-323	1.15±0.09	219±24	RR/DP/GC-	
				FID	this work
2,3-Dimethylbutane	*273-1366	1.29	437, n=2.09	FID	
	*240-1220	1.47	407, n=2.00	Review	(Atkinson and Arey, 2003)
	300-498	2.24	321	AR/FP/GC	Greiner,1970

	*250-1366	1.3	427, n=2.08	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
	*220-1292	1.6	364, n=1.96	Review	(Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009)
2,4-Dimethylpentane	273-323	2.03±0.17	452±24	RR/DP/GC-FID	this work
	272-410	2.25	408	RR/DP/GC	(Wilson et al., 2006)
2-Methylpentane	896-1311	14.9±0.8	1533±55	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
	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)
2-Methylhexane	297-1362	6.43±0.87	834±74	AR/DF/LIF	(Badra and Farooq, 2015)
	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	1.37±0.48	209±100	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)

421 ^{a, b}The error bar was taken as σ .

422 ^cRR: relative rate; AR: absolute rate; DF: discharge flow; DP: direct photolysis; FP: flash photolysis; EB:
423 electron beam; UV: Ultraviolet; GC: gas chromatography; FID: flame ionization detection; LIF: laser
424 induced fluorescence; FTIR: fourier transform infrared spectrometer; MS: mass spectrometry; KS:
425 kinetic-spectroscopy.

426 * The expression takes the form $k(T) = A \cdot \exp(E_a/RT) \cdot (T/300)^n$

427

428 **A. OH+ n-Octane.** Figure 5 (a) exhibits the Arrhenius plot for the reaction between n-Octane and
429 OH radicals, covering a temperature range of 240 to 1080 K. Within the experimental temperature range
430 (273-323 K), our data align well with previous studies. The derived Arrhenius expression is as follow:

431 $k_{n\text{-Octane}}(T) = (4.22 \pm 0.49) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(497 \pm 34)/T]$ (T=273-323 K). The result agree well with the
432 Arrhenius expression of $(4.52 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(538 \pm 27)/T]$ cm³·molecule⁻¹·s⁻¹ reported by Wilson et al.

433 (Wilson et al., 2006) between 284 and 384 K. ~~This result agree well with the Arrhenius expression of~~

434 ~~$(4.52 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(538 \pm 27)/T]$ cm³·molecule⁻¹·s⁻¹ reported by Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006)~~

435 ~~between 284 and 384 K and $(4.95 \pm 0.87) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(531 \pm 56)/T]$ recommended Arrhenius formula~~

436 ~~obtained by experts' evaluation of data processing,~~ but contrast the expressions of

437 $(2.27 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(296 \pm 27)/T]$ cm³·molecule⁻¹·s⁻¹ reported by Li et al. between 240 and 340 K (Li

438 et al., 2006) and $(2.57) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(332 \pm 65)/T]$ cm³·molecule⁻¹·s⁻¹ reported by Greiner (Greiner, 1970b)

439 between 296 and 497 K. Fit our data to expert-evaluated data (manually entered data from multiple

440 sources), the derived Arrhenius expression in 240-1080 K is as follow:

441 ~~$k_{n\text{-Octane}}(T) = (5.07 \pm 0.97) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(543 \pm 61)/T]$~~ $k_{n\text{-Octane}}(T) = 3.60 \times 10^{-12} \cdot \exp(251/T) \cdot (T/300)^{1.78}$ cm³

442 molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹. This result is slightly consistent with the recommended expression

443 $(k_{n\text{-Octane}}(T) = 2.42 \times 10^{-12} \cdot \exp(361/T) \cdot (T/300)^{2.00}$ for Atkinson and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003). By

444 comparison, our data are highly consistent with the data recommended by experts. The obtained Arrhenius

445 expression more accurately represents the relationship between the reaction rate-constant coefficient of

446 octane and OH radicals and temperature in 273-323 K and a wide temperature range, which has certain

447 reference significance. Further investigations are necessary to understand the discrepancies amongst these

448 studies. Also, the experimental values of n-Octane obtained at different temperatures are in high

449 agreement with the SAR estimates.

450 **B. OH+ n-Heptane.** The Arrhenius plot in Fig. 5 (b) displays the reaction between n-Heptane and

451 OH radicals in the air systems, covering a temperature range of 240 to 896 K. As shown in the figure,

452 within the experimental temperature range (273-323 K), our data are highly similar to previous studies.

453 The Arrhenius expression obtained is $k_{n\text{-Heptane}}(T) = (3.96 \pm 0.38) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(544 \pm 28)/T]$. This result

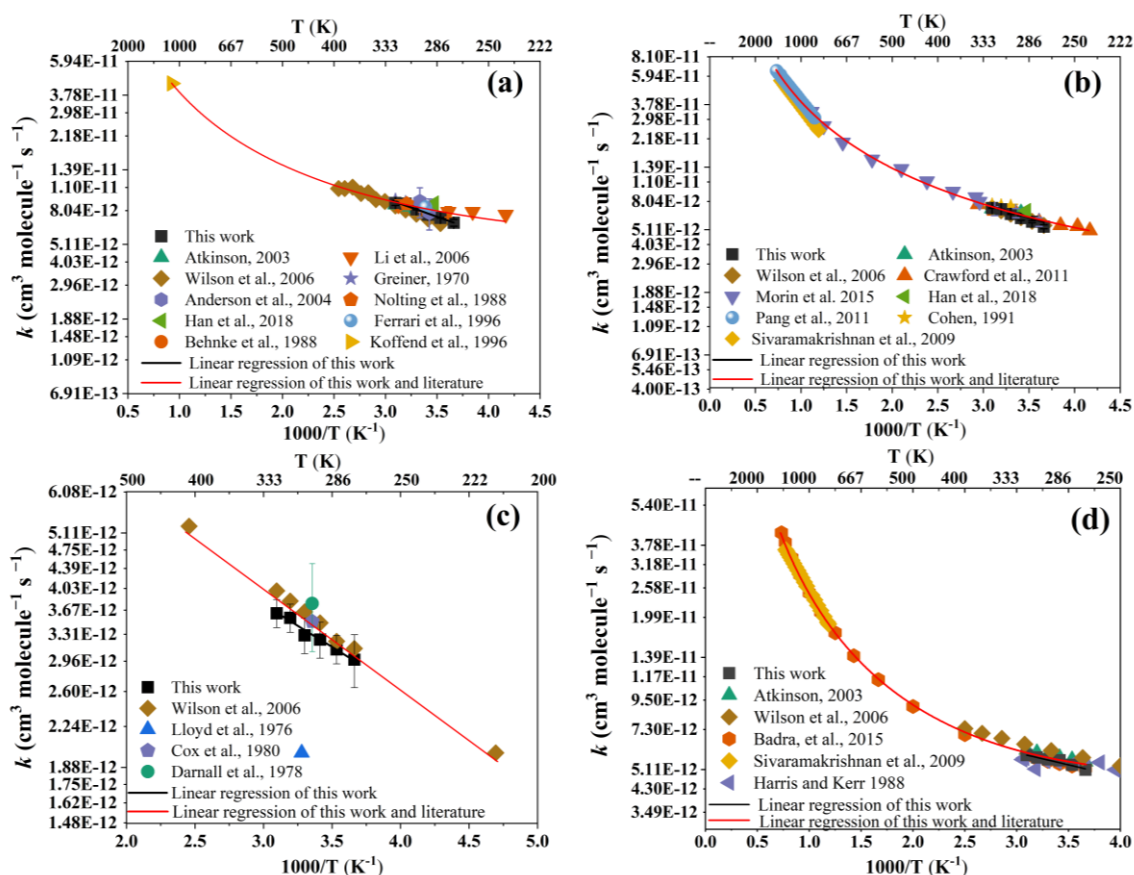
454 agrees well with the Arrhenius expression of ~~$(5.20 \pm 0.54) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(605 \pm 39)/T]$~~

455 $(3.38 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(497 \pm 16)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ reported by ~~Morin et al. (Morin et al., 2015)~~
 456 ~~between 248 and 896 K~~ Wilson et al. (Wilson et al., 2006) between 241 and 406 K. By fitting our data
 457 and recommended data from multiple sources to the Arrhenius equation, the resulting Arrhenius
 458 expression at 240-1364 K is as follow:
 459 $k_{\text{n-Heptane}}(T) = 4.48 \times 10^{-12} \cdot \exp(116/T) \cdot (T/300)^{1.72}$ ~~$k_{\text{n-Heptane}}(T) = (5.06 \pm 0.45) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(602 \pm 30)/T] \text{ cm}^3$~~
 460 ~~molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹. The recommended Arrhenius equation for the reaction of OH radical and n-Heptane is in~~
 461 ~~the form $k(T) = 3.84 \times 10^{-12} \cdot \exp(148/T) \cdot (T/300)^{1.79}$. Rearrange the fitting data to get the Arrhenius~~
 462 ~~expression in the form of $k(T) = (4.82 \pm 0.43) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(600 \pm 31)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. Compared with~~
 463 ~~the Arrhenius expression recommended in the literature, the preexponential factor A (5.01 ± 0.42) of this~~
 464 ~~work is agree well with the one (4.82 ± 0.43) of recommended (the unit is 10⁻¹¹ cm³ molecule⁻¹ s⁻¹).~~
 465 ~~However, the activation energy Ea/R of this work is about 60% higher than the recommended data. This~~
 466 result is in good agreement with the expression ($k_{\text{n-Heptane}}(T) = 4.39 \times 10^{-12} \cdot \exp(138/T) \cdot (T/300)^{1.70}$)
 467 obtained by Morin et al. (Morin et al., 2015) at 248-896 K. Compared to the recommended data from the
 468 database of McGillen et al. (Mcgillen et al., 2020) at 240-1464 K, the finger activation energy obtained
 469 in this work is more in line with that of (148), however, the pre-finger factor A obtained (4.48) is about
 470 17% higher than that (3.84).

471 **C. OH+ Isopentane.** As Fig. 5 (c), isopentane was extensively studied over a temperature range
 472 (213-407 K). As far as we know, at present, only Wilson et al. has reported this compound in the range of
 473 213-407 K (Wilson et al., 2006). Within the experimental temperature range (273-323 K), our data are
 474 consistent with Wilson et al. (273-323 K), especially in the low temperature range. The Arrhenius
 475 expression obtained at 273-323 K is $k_{\text{Isopentane}}(T) = (1.12 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(443 \pm 34)/T]$. The Arrhenius
 476 expression at 213-407 K obtained by fitting our data and those of Wilson et al. is as follows:
 477 $k_{\text{Isopentane}}(T) = (1.39 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(424 \pm 25)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. The results are similar to the
 478 relative experimental results of Wilson et al. $(1.52 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(432 \pm 27)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

479 **D. OH+ 2,3-Dimethylbutane.** Figure 5 (d) shows the Arrhenius plot for the reaction of 2,3-
 480 Dimethylbutane with OH radicals over the temperature range of 273 K to 1366 K. The temperature-
 481 dependent values obtained in this study at high temperature (313-323 K) align closely with those reported
 482 by Badra and Farooq (Badra and Farooq, 2015), who used the absolute rate technique, as well as the work
 483 of Sivaramakrishnan and Michael with a three-parameter fit (Sivaramakrishnan and Michael, 2009).

484 However, the data obtained at 273-293 K in this work are highly consistent with the reviewed data from
 485 Atkinson and Arey (Atkinson and Arey, 2003). In the temperature range studied (273-323 K), the
 486 Arrhenius expression obtained in this work is $k_{2,3\text{-Dimethylbutane}}(T)=(1.15\pm 0.09)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(219\pm 24)/T]$
 487 $\text{cm}^3\text{ molecule}^{-1}\text{ s}^{-1}$. Linear regression applied to our data and high temperature data in the literature (at
 488 273-1366 K) yields the Arrhenius expression as follows:
 489 ~~$k_{2,3\text{-Dimethylbutane}}(T)=(4.81\pm 0.56)\times 10^{-12}\exp[-(669\pm 50)/T]$~~
 490 $k_{2,3\text{-Dimethylbutane}}(T)=1.29\times 10^{-12}\cdot\exp(437/T)\cdot(T/300)^{2.09}\text{ cm}^3\text{ molecule}^{-1}\text{ s}^{-1}$. This result agrees well with
 491 the Arrhenius expression of ~~$(4.75\pm 0.71)\times 10^{-11}\exp[-(664\pm 77)/T]$~~
 492 $k_{2,3\text{-Dimethylbutane}}(T)=1.30\times 10^{-12}\cdot\exp(427/T)\cdot(T/300)^{2.08}\text{ cm}^3\cdot\text{molecule}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ at 250-1366 K reported by
 493 Badra and Farooq (Badra and Farooq, 2015).



494
 495 Figure 5. Arrhenius plots for the reaction of n-Octane (a), n-Heptane (b), Isopentane (c) and 2,3-
 496 Dimethylbutane (d) with OH radical in wide temperature range along with available literature data. The
 497 error bar was taken as 2σ .

498 **E. OH+ Methylcyclopentane (2-Methylhexane).** Figure 6 (a) and (b) illustrate the Arrhenius plot

499 for the reaction of methylcyclopentane (230-1344 K) and 2-methylhexane (273-385) with OH radical.
 500 Literature data from Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether et al., 2009) and Anderson et al. (Anderson et al.,
 501 2004) are available for comparison purposes. **The rate coefficients of methylcyclopentane at 273-323 K**
 502 **in this work were obtained.** Notably, for methylcyclopentane, Anderson et al. (Anderson et al., 2004)
 503 reported absolute data that is 26% higher than the relative data obtained in this study at 298 K. However,
 504 this difference falls within the margin of error. The absolute data from Sprengnether et al. (Sprengnether
 505 et al., 2009) is slightly higher, ranging from 10% to 20%, compared to this study. **Fitting our data at 273-**
 506 **323 K yields the Arrhenius expression of $k_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}(T) = (1.65 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(262 \pm 33)/T]$.**
 507 **Additionally, they derived an alternative Arrhenius expression to accommodate the curved behavior of**
 508 **the rate constant between 230 and 370 K, making it difficult to directly compare with our Arrhenius**
 509 **expression. Besides, in order to obtain temperature-dependent relationships over a wide temperature range,**
 510 **the experimental data obtained at 273-323 K are fitted with multi-party literature data, especially the data**
 511 **from Sivaramakrishnan and Michael at high temperature (859-1344 K), the resulting Arrhenius**
 512 **expression is as follows: ~~$k_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}(T) = (7.21 \pm 0.38) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(705 \pm 28)/T]$~~**
 513 **$k_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}(T) = 1.59 \times 10^{-12} * \exp(439/T) * (T/300)^{2.15} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.** ~~Similar to the treatment of~~
 514 ~~Arrhenius equation for n-Heptane,~~ The result is highly consistent with the expert-evaluated Arrhenius
 515 expression of methylcyclopentane (~~$k_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}(T) = (6.81 \pm 0.39) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(641 \pm 38)/T]$~~
 516 $k_{\text{Methylcyclopentane}}(T) = 1.67 \times 10^{-12} * \exp(454/T) * (T/300)^{2.15} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$), indicating that the data
 517 obtained has a certain degree of reliability. **Fitting our data at 273-323 K yields the Arrhenius expression**
 518 **of $k_{2\text{-Methylhexane}}(T) = (1.30 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(222 \pm 19)/T]$.** At present, the research on the temperature
 519 dependence of 2-Methylhexane only includes the measured reaction rate-constant coefficient with OH
 520 radical of Sprengnether et al. by absolute rate technique at 230-385 K. The Arrhenius expression obtained
 521 by fitting our data with Sprengnether et al's data at 230-385 K is as follows:
 522 $k_{2\text{-Methylhexane}}(T) = (1.82 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-11} \exp[-(321 \pm 16)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. Expert-evaluated Arrhenius
 523 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
 524 comparison, it can be clearly seen that the two are highly consistent, indicating that the obtained Arrhenius
 525 expression has certain reference value. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first investigation of the

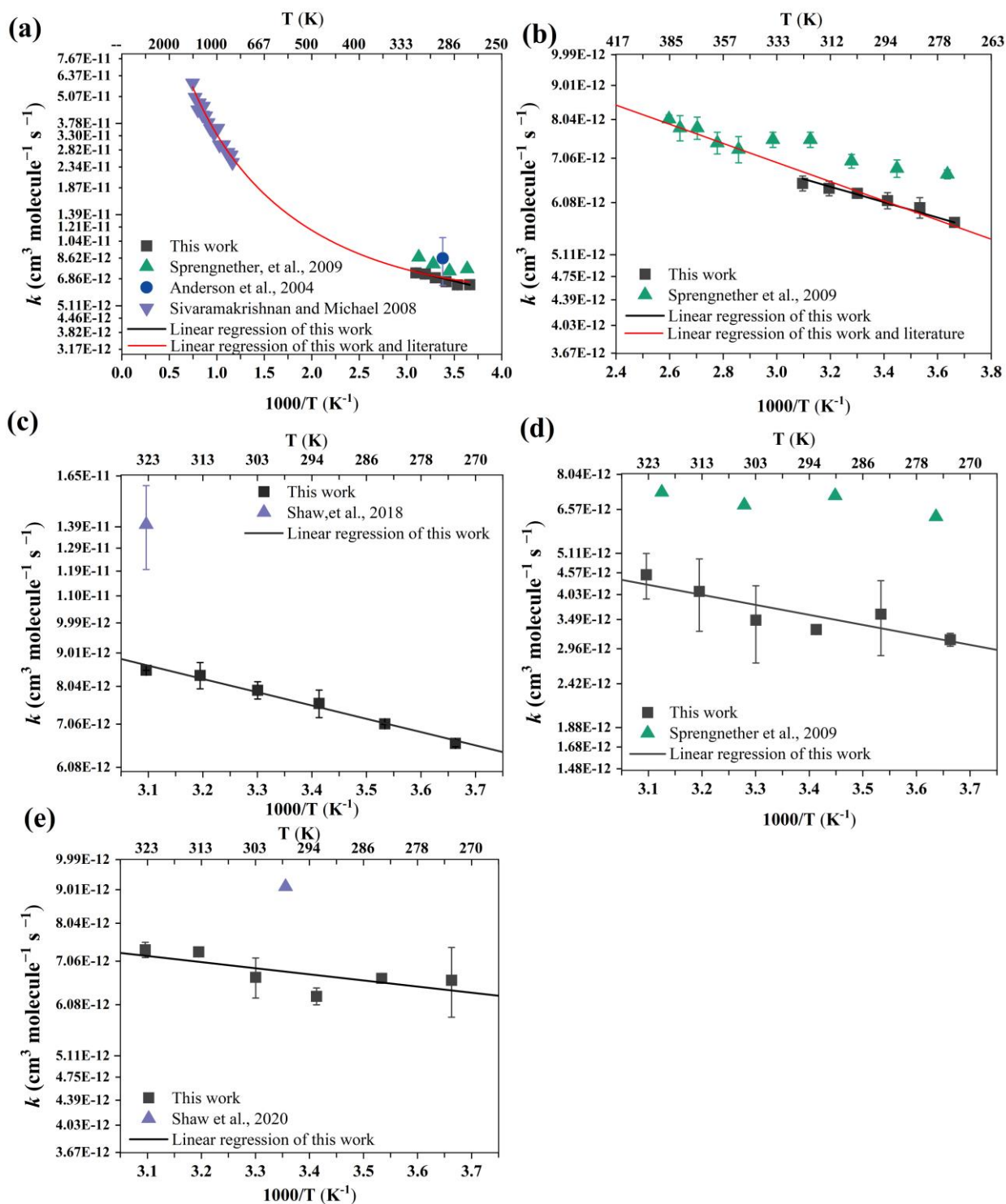
526 temperature-dependent kinetics for the reaction of methylcyclopentane and 2-methylhexane with OH
527 radicals utilizing the relative rate technique.

528 **F. OH+ 3-Methylheptane.** In Figure 6 (c), the Arrhenius plot presents the reaction between 3-
529 Methylheptane and OH radicals, spanning a temperature range of 273 to 323 K. A linear regression
530 analysis of our data yields the following Arrhenius expressions:
531 $k_{3\text{-Methylheptane}}(T) = (2.72 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(456 \pm 28)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{molecule}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. We believe this study to be
532 the first investigation of the temperature-dependent kinetics for the reaction between 3-Methylheptane
533 and OH radicals. The only previous study on this reaction, reported by Shaw et al. (Shaw et al., 2020)
534 utilizing the relative rate method in nitrogen at 323 K, demonstrates significantly higher data (>65%)
535 compared to our results. Possible explanations for this discrepancy lie in the different reference
536 compounds used and potential sample loss during sampling in the enrichment tube in Shaw et al.

537 **G. OH+ 3-Methylhexane (Figure 6 (d)).** This is the first temperature-dependence relative data. It
538 can be seen from the figure that this data is significantly lower by approximately 80%
539 compared to the absolute data. The Arrhenius expression at 273-323 K is as follows:

$$540 \quad k_{3\text{-Methylhexane}}(T) = (2.53 \pm 1.45) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(575 \pm 161)/T] \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

541 **H. OH+ 2-Methylheptane (Figure 6 (e)).** There are no previous temperature dependence data on
542 this compound. Similar to 3-Methylhexane, this data is lower by approximately 37% compared to Shaw
543 et al. at room temperature. Furthermore, the data obtained at 273-283 K shows an increase. The obtained
544 Arrhenius expression is as follows: $k_{2\text{-Methylheptane}}(T) = (1.37 \pm 0.48) \times 10^{-11} \exp [-(209 \pm 100)/T] \text{ cm}^3$
545 $\text{molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.



546

547 Figure 6. Arrhenius plots for the reaction of Methylcyclopentane (a), 2-Methylhexane (b), 3-

548 Methylheptane 3-Methylheptane (c), 3-Methylhexane (d) and 2-Methylheptane 2-Methylheptane (e) with

549 OH radical along with available literature data. The error bar was taken as 2σ .

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

Figure 7 presents a log–log correlation plot between the Cl atoms and OH radical rate coefficients with the series of C_3-C_{11} studied above. A very clear correlation ($R^2 = 0.86$) described by the relation $\log_{10}[k_{(Cl+alkanes)}] = 0.569 \times \log_{10}[k_{(OH+alkanes)}] - 3.111$ was obtained. Although the correlation between propane and isobutane is relatively discrete weak, the reactivity of saturated alkanes with OH radicals and chlorine atoms is still clearly related to the saturated alkane series. In addition, the log–log correlation for the series of saturated alkanes with these two oxidants presented by Calvert et al. (2011) described 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 with the log–log correlations obtained in this study for saturated alkanes. This correlation can be utilized to predict rate coefficients for unmeasured reactions, such as the reaction of 2,2,3-trimethylpentane with chlorine atoms. It is currently known that the rate coefficient for the reaction of 2,2,3-trimethylpentane with OH radical at room temperature is $4.84 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, according to the above correlation equation, it can be inferred that the rate coefficient with Cl atoms is $2.72 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

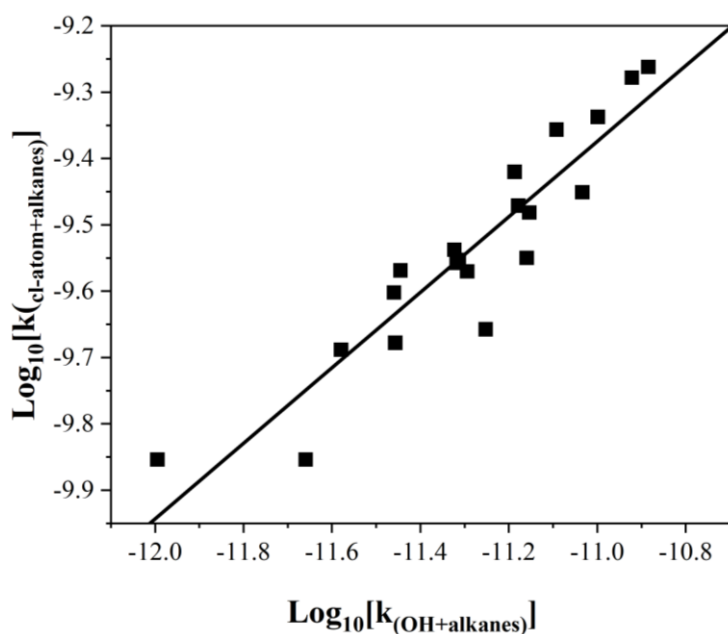


Figure 7. Double logarithmic plot (\log_{10}) of the rate coefficients for the reaction of Cl-atoms versus the reaction of OH radicals with the saturated alkanes (C_3-C_{11} alkanes studied above). The solid line represents the unweighted least-squares fit to the data.

3.5 Atmospheric lifetime and implications

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

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

where τ_{alkane} is the atmospheric lifetime of the alkane due to OH removal, $k_{\text{alkane}+\text{OH}}$ is the rate-constant coefficient for the reaction of the alkane with OH radical at the typical tropospheric temperature of 298 K, and [OH] is the atmospheric concentrations of the hydroxyl radicals. The average tropospheric hydroxyl radical concentration has been previously reported in the literature as 1×10^6 molecules cm^{-3} (Li et al., 2018) (Lawrence et al., 2001). Using the $k_{\text{alkane}+\text{OH}}$ (298 K) values determined in the present work, the atmospheric lifetime for 25 alkanes was estimated and listed on the in Table S4. As can be seen from the table, the atmospheric lifetimes of C₃-C₁₁ alkanes reacting with OH radicals are about 1-11 days. As the carbon chain grows, the atmospheric lifetimes are reduced, especially for long-chain alkanes with carbon atoms of 8-11, the residence time in the atmosphere is only about 1 day. They are emitted into the air and degraded quickly to generate alkyl radicals, which are immediately converted into alkyl peroxy radicals by reacting with abundant O₂ in the atmosphere. The subsequent reaction of alkyl peroxy radicals enhances the conversion of NO to NO₂ by HO₂ radicals, Alkyl peroxy radicals will serve to convert NO to NO₂ directly, leading to the production of tropospheric ozone. For short-chain alkanes that stay in the atmosphere for a long time Longer atmospheric residence time of short-chain alkanes compared to long-chain C₈-C₁₁ alkanes, such as propane, the lifetime is 11 days. It should be noted that because the OH concentration is the global average estimated concentration, the applicability of the lifetime may be different in the atmosphere with different OH radical concentrations.

4. Conclusions

The use of the multivariate relative rate method in this study allowed for the simultaneous determination of reaction rate constants of C₃-C₁₁ alkanes and OH radicals in different bath gases, which significantly improved the efficiency of determination. New data and Arrhenius expressions for the reaction of Methylcyclopentane, 2-Methylheptane, 3-Methylheptane, 2-Methylhexane and 3-Methylhexane with OH radicals were obtained for the first time in the temperature range of 273-323 K, expanding the existing database. The measured relative rate constants of air bath gases in the temperature

596 ~~range studied at the room temperature were found to be highly consistent with values obtained in N₂,~~
597 ~~suggesting that the rate constants obtained in this experiment can reasonably represent the rate constants~~
598 ~~in the actual atmosphere. The structure-additivity method for rate constant estimation is mostly consistent~~
599 ~~for the prediction of k_{OH} (298 K) for the studied n-alkanes, but its do not seem to be able to reasonably~~
600 ~~estimate the rate constant coefficients of 2,3-dimethylbutane. Additionally, there is a big discrepancy in~~
601 ~~the case of several cycloalkanes (cyclopentane, methylcyclopentane, cyclohexane) and branch alkanes~~
602 ~~(2,2,4-Trimethylpentane) with this experiment for estimation parameters' overestimate.~~ The use of the
603 multivariate relative rate method in this study allowed for the simultaneous determination of reaction rate
604 coefficients of C₃-C₁₁ alkanes and OH radicals, which significantly improved the efficiency of
605 determination. A total of 25 relative rate coefficients at room temperature were obtained, including the
606 determination of a previously unreported room temperature relative rate coefficient for 3-methylheptane.
607 For the studied n-alkanes, the obtained rate coefficients (k_{OH}) were found to be consistent with results
608 estimated by the SAR methods using parameters provided by various positional groups, such as Atkinson
609 and Kwok, Neeb, Wilson, Jenkin, and McGillen. However, it is important to note that parameters other
610 than those provided by Wilson group do not appear to reasonably estimate the rate coefficients of 2,3-
611 dimethylbutane. Additionally, SAR estimates for several cyclic alkanes (cyclopentane,
612 methylcyclopentane, cyclohexane) and branched alkanes (2,2,4-trimethylpentane) appear to be
613 overestimated compared to our measurements. This raises reasonable suspicion that these methods may
614 still lack consideration of additional factors. Arrhenius expressions for the reaction of 2-Methylhepane
615 and 3-Methylheptane with OH radicals were obtained for the first time in the temperature range of 273-
616 323 K, expanding the existing database. In addition, correlation equations for the rate coefficients of
617 alkanes reacting with OH radicals and chlorine atoms were obtained, and the rate coefficient of 2,2,3-
618 trimethylpentane with chlorine atoms, which has not yet been reported, was deduced. The atmospheric
619 lifetimes of the alkanes were also obtained for further prediction of their environmental impact.

620 **Data availability**

621 Raw data are available upon request.

622 **Author contributions**

623 YM and CL planned the campaign; YX performed the measurements; YX, CL, YM and XL analyzed the
624 data; YX and CL wrote the manuscript draft. SX and JL provided technical support.

625 **Competing interests**

626 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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